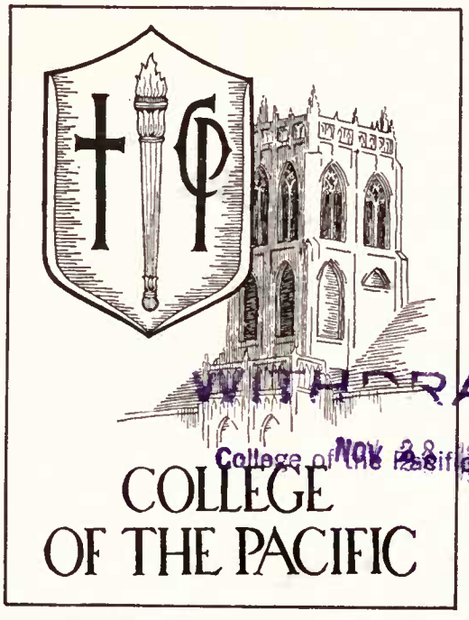


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A New English Dictionary on Historical Principles

Vol. VI

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M

By HENRY BRADLEY

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PREFACE TO THE LETTER M.

THE portion of the Dictionary which treats of the words beginning with M contains 12,988 Main words, 2,986 Special Combinations explained under these, 6,422 Subordinate entries, and 3,636 Obvious Combinations; in all 26,032 words. Of the Main words, 2,838 are marked † as obsolete, and 866 are marked ‖ as alien or not fully naturalized.*

Etymologically considered, the words beginning with M form a typical portion of the English vocabulary, every one of the many sources of our composite language being represented, while none is overwhelmingly predominant. The words inherited from Old English are relatively less numerous than in some other letters, but some of them occupy unusually large space in the Dictionary on account either of their great variety of senses and applications, or of the multitude of their combinations. Among them is the verb *make*, the article on which fills eleven pages, and would have been much longer if every subtle variety of meaning had been explained and illustrated. Other native words of importance are *man*, *meet* vb., *mind* sb. and vb., *moon*, *month*, *mother*, *much*, *more*, *most*. The articles on the pronouns *me*, *mine*, *my*, *myself*, and the auxiliaries *may* and *must*, contain much that is instructive as bearing on the history of English syntax and idiom. The Scandinavian element is very sparsely represented, chiefly by words of local or dialectal currency, such as *marram*, *maugh*, *may* (a maiden); but there are also *meek*, *mire*, and a few other words in general use. The Latin and French derivatives surpass the native words both in number and in the amount of space required for their treatment, and a very large proportion of them have an interesting history. Such instances as *manner*, *market*, *master*, *matter*, *measure*, *medicine*, *memory*, *mend*, *mischief*, *mission*, *mode*, *model*, *moment*, *monster*, *mount* vb., *move*, *movement*, *multiply* (to mention only a few of the more prominent) show how indispensable a part of the word-store of modern English has come from French. Greek derivatives are present in more than average proportions. Besides those which were introduced in the Middle Ages through the medium of Latin and French, such as *magic*, *mathematics*, *metaphysics*, *muse* sb.[1], *music*, *mystery*, there are many later formations, especially with the prefixes *mega-*, *meso-*, *meta-*, *micro-*, *miso-*, *mono-*; and the words beginning with *my-* are also mainly of Greek origin. Of words from Celtic there are nearly a score, but few, if any, of them would be recognized as familiar by Englishmen generally. The adoptions from Continental Teutonic, and from Italian and Spanish, are somewhat numerous. One very characteristic feature of the M portion of the Dictionary is the multitude of words from Oriental, African, Australian, and American languages. It may be noted that in Arabic *ma-*, *mi-* (or *me-*), and *mu-* (or *mo-*) are prefixes forming participia and other derivatives; formations of this kind, which have been adopted into English from Arabic through the medium either of European or Indian languages, are *macramé*, *magazine*, *mahal*, *marabout*, *Maugrabi*, *minaret*, *miskal*, *Mofussil*, *monsoon*, *Moslem*, *mosque*, *Mozarabic*, *muezzin*, *mufti*, *mullah*, *musellim*, *Mussulman*. As the sound of the letter M is one that lends itself easily to echoic use, the number of onomatopœic words with this initial is considerable.

Among the many words the etymology of which is here more fully or more accurately treated than in other English dictionaries are *macaronic*, *mad-apple*, *madrepore*, *maelstrom*, *magic lantern*, *major* sb.[1], *malignant*, *malmsey*, *mammon*, *mammoth*, *melanochroi*, *menstruum*, *meter* sb.[3], *methyl*, *middling*, *minus*, *minute*, *mire* sb.[1] and sb.[2], *mire-drum*, *miss* sb.[1], *mix* vb., *mohair*, *moor* vb.[1], *mother* sb.[2], *mould* sb.[2], *moxa*, *muckender*, *mustachio*, *mutton*, *mystery*.

The material for MA- was sub-edited (before 1888) and subsequently revised (before 1900) by Mr. Joseph Brown, M.A., of the Grammar School, Kendal, who has since sub-edited some part of S, and is now working at U; ME- and MI- were sub-edited in 1884–5 by the late Rev. T. Sheppard, Exeter College, Oxford; MO- to MOND- in 1885 by the late Hon. and Rev. S. W. Lawley, Spurfield, Exminster; MONE- to MUCE- by the late Mr. J. Anderson, Markinch, Fife; and the remainder of the letter (MUCH to the end) in 1894 by the late Rev. J. Smallpeice, M.A., then of St. Bees. In 1899–1904 the whole of the material from ME- to MYZ-, which in the interim had more than doubled in quantity, was laboriously re-subedited by Mr. James Bartlett, B.A., Cloverlea, Bramley, near Guildford.

Among those who have rendered help of various kinds in the later stages of preparation of this portion of the Dictionary, it is fitting to mention in the first place three honoured workers who are no longer living to receive the grateful acknowledgement which is their due. Lord Aldenham, who had been a zealous and able collaborator in the work from its beginning, continued, in spite of his advanced age, to read the proofs, and to furnish valuable suggestions, until very shortly before his death. Dr. W. Sykes, F.S.A., who died in September, 1906, had read the proofs for the greater portion of the letter M, supplying a great number of

* For the letter M the comparative scale of this work and of certain other Dictionaries is shown by the following figures:—

	Johnson.	Cassell's 'Encyclopædic' (including the Supplement).	'Century' Dict.	Funk's 'Standard'.	Here.
Words recorded	2,090	12,510	12,932	13,570	26,032
Words illustrated by quotations	1,482	3,645	4,108	1,143	18,198
Number of quotations	5,061	5,120	9,134	1,506	99,255

The number of quotations in the M part of Richardson's Dictionary is 5,121.

additional instances of the words relating to medicine and the kindred sciences. Mr. E. L. Brandreth, whose abundant work for the Dictionary has been acknowledged in the prefaces to former issues, had latterly devoted himself to the verification at the British Museum of quotations from works not accessible in Oxford, a service which since his death has been performed by Mr. W. W. Jenkinson. In the revision of the proofs continued aid has been received from Mr. A. Caland, of Wageningen, Holland, the Rev. Canon Fowler, D.C.L., of Durham, Mr. H. Chichester Hart, the Rev. Professor Skeat, and the Rev. W. B. R. Wilson, of Dollar. For information on etymological questions thanks are due to Professors Margoliouth, Morfill, Napier, and Wright, of Oxford; Prof. A. Salmon, of Reading; Hr. Verner Dahlerup, of Copenhagen; Dr. A. Kluyver, of Leiden; and Mr. J. Platt, jun., whose extensive researches into the history of words from American Indian and other remote languages have been of great service. In the explanation of scientific terms valuable aid has been received from Professors Clifton and Love, Dr. V. H. Veley, Mr. A. E. Jolliffe, and Mr. C. Leudesdorf, of Oxford, and Prof. Sylvanus Thompson, of London. Among others who have rendered help on special points are Professors Bywater and Robinson Ellis, of Oxford; Sir W. R. Anson, Bart.; Sir Howard Elphinstone, Bart.; Mr. Horace Hart, M.A., Controller of the Oxford University Press; Mr. E. W. Hulme, of H.M. Patent Office; Sir F. Pollock, Bart.; Mr. W. H. Stevenson, M.A., of St. John's College, Oxford; Mr. R. J. Whitwell, B.Litt., Oxford; Mr. J. Maitland Anderson, St. Andrews University; and Mr. C. W. Ernst and Mr. Albert Matthews, of Boston, U.S.A. The constant assistance of Dr. F. J. Furnivall has, in this as in all former parts of the work, been of inestimable value. Special thanks are also due to Bodley's Librarian, Mr. Falconer Madan, Mr. A. E. Cowley, and the staff of the Bodleian Library generally; and to the Editor of *Notes and Queries* and the many correspondents of that periodical who have furnished replies to inquiries.

The members of the editorial staff who have been engaged on M are: Mr. Walter Worrall, B.A., Mr. C. T. Onions, M.A. (who has specially prepared the portions containing the words beginning with *Mis-*, *Multi-*, and *My-*), Mr. W. J. Lewis, Mr. H. J. Bayliss, Mr. James Dallas, Mr. G. R. Carline, and Miss E. S. Bradley.

OXFORD, JULY, 1908. HENRY BRADLEY.

ADDITIONS AND EMENDATIONS.

Machit, var. of MESQUITA 2.

Macute. The Rev. W. Holman Bentley, writing from the Congo Free State, informs us that *makuta* is the plural of **ekuta*, and denotes a bundle of ten mats of palm-fibre, still used as currency north of the Congo near the French frontier. Elsewhere the word survives only as the name of the Angola 'penny' piece or its value. Mr. Bentley says that it is derived from a Congo verb *kuta* to tie, now obsolete, but preserved in the reversing form *kutulula* to untie.

Mademoiselle. Earlier example:—*a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* (1868) 126 Madamoiselle! y praie you that ye ansuere not vnto this fole.

Maghoore, obs. variant of MOGUL.

Magnetician. Example:—1854 *Pereira's Polarized Light* (ed. 2) 65 The electrician and the magnetician have assumed, respectively, an electric and a magnetic fluid.

Mahone. Earlier example:—1572 MALIM in *Hakluyt's Voy.* (1599) II. I. 122 Great Hulkes called Maones.

Maidfeloun, obs. variant of MATFELLON.

Maim *sb.* Earlier example:—*c* 1475 *Partenay* 6356 That mariage no mahyme to his kinred.

Main-brace 2. Earlier example:—1680 SIR J. FOULIS *Acct. Bk.* 13 Aug. (Sc. Hist. Soc.) 487 To James Wilson, sadler, for . . helping ye main braces.

Mainmort. Earlier example:—1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 265.

Maiolica, var. form of MAJOLICA.

Man *sb.*[1] 15. The view that CHESS-MEN originated as a corruption of *chess-meinie* is untenable, the word for '(chess-)man' in AF. being regularly *hom*. Earlier instances of *man* in this sense are:—*c* 1400 *Beryn* 1820 The Burgeyse seid: 'comyth nere! ye shul se þis man, How he shall be matid, with what man me list!' He drouȝe, & seyd 'chek mate!' *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* xxi. 71 (Harl. MS.) The first man, þat goth afore hath not but oo poynt, but whenne he goth aside, he takith anoþer. . . The secund, *scil.* alphyn, renneth iij poyntes both vpward and douneward.

Mandarin 1 b. Earlier example:—1791 BOSWELL *Johnson* (ed. Hill) I. 31 From a man so still and so tame . . conversation could no more be expected, than from a Chinese mandarin on a chimney-piece.

Mandragne. Add etymology:—Corruptly a. F. *madragne*.

Mandrake 3. Earlier example:—1836 *Backwoods of Canada* 248 There is a plant in our woods, known by the names of man-drake, may-apple, and duck's-foot.

Mangy *a.* 1. Earlier example:—1526 SKELTON *Magnyf.* (E.E.T.S.) 1123 *Fol.* In faythe, there is not a better dogge. . . *Fan.* Ye, but trowest thou that he be not maungey?

† **Mantist.** *Obs.* [f. Gr. *μάντις* + -IST.] A seer, prophet. 1588 J. HARVEY *Disc. Probl.* I. 84 Without which felicitie, neither Persian Magician . . nor Athenian Mantist . . shall euer passe with me for a prophet.

Manumotive. Earlier example:—1825 *Mech. Mag.* V. 97 (*heading*) Idea for a manumotive carriage.

Maracaibo. Earlier example:—1843 HOLTZAPFFEL *Turning* I. 94 Maracaybo is a furniture wood of moderate size, as hard as good mahogany, and in appearance between it and tulip-wood.

Marble *sb.* 3. Earlier example:—1671 SALMON *Syn. Med.* III. 474 The reducing of any thing into a fine powder, by grynding it on a Marble.

Margent *sb.* 2. Additional form and earlier quot.:—1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) I. 41 Y schalle purpulle the mariantes [TREVISA margyns] . . with a dowble ordre of yeres.

Mariner 1 b. See also MASTER *sb.*[1] 29. *Mariner portage* (in MARINER 4): Delete the explanation; see PORTAGE.

Maritime. Add form and quot.:—1654 EARL MONM. tr. *Bentivoglio's Wars Flanders* 56 One of the most considerable Towns of all the Maretine part.

Mark *sb.*[1] 11 i. Earlier quot.:—1625 B. JONSON *Staple of News* IV. iv, Were he a learned Herald, I would tell him He can giue Armes, and markes.

Marriage 8. Earlier example of *marriage-rites*:—1621 BRATHWAIT *Natures Embass., Sheph. Tales* Egl. ii. 198 For I your patience might wrong, To stand vpon these marriage rites too long.—According to modern editors *marriage rite* or *rites* should be read in SHAKS. *Pericles* IV. Gower 17, where the first Quarto (1608) has 'Euen right for marriage sight'.

Masse(n)ger(e, -inger(e, obs. forms of MESSENGER.

Massy *a.* 5. The following quot. should have been given:—1632 MILTON *Penseroso* 158 With antick Pillars massy proof.

Master-hunt in MASTER *sb.*[1] 28. Read '**master-hunt** [see HUNT *sb.*[1]], a head huntsman' and transfer to 29, adding the following earlier instance:—*c* 1369 CHAUCER *Dethe Blaunche* 375 (Fairf. MS.) The mayster hunte anoon fote hote With a grete horne blewe thre mote.

Mere *a.*[2] 1 c. Earlier example:—*c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) XXV. 116 Bringand cowpez of gold full of meere mylk.

Mesquita[1]. Earlier example:—1477 CAXTON *Dictes* 58 b, Somme men saye that legmon is buried in a town called karauelle bitwene the mesquitte & the marche.

Mickle *v.* Additional example:—*a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 182 Sicnesse . . halt ine edmodnesse & mucheleð þe mede.

Minute *sb.*[1] 7. To the definitions of *minute-bell, -gun,* add:—'used as a sign of mourning or distress'.

Montanous *a.* Earlier example:—1658 ROWLAND tr. *Moufet's Theat. Ins.* 947 *Bombilophagus*, is a Fly, montanous, big, very black.

Moot *v.*[1] 1. Quots. 1642 ff. probably do not belong to this word: see MUTE *v.*[2]

Moquet. Delete this article, and substitute:—**Moquet,** obs. var. MUGOET 2.

Morhwell. The word (*morhuel*) is quoted as English by Rondelet *De Pisc. Mar.*, 1554, p. 280.

Motional *a.* Earlier quot.:—1679 tr. *Willis' Pharmac. Rationalis* I. I. ii. 7 This Coat contains manifold orders of motional Fibres.

Motor *sb.* 1 a. (*a*) The explanation given is erroneous; read:—'in mediæval astronomy, = PRIMUM MOBILE 1.'

Moustache 6. *Mustache monkey* occurs in Pennant *Syn. Quadrup.*, 1771, p. 114.

M.

M (em), the thirteenth letter of the modern and twelfth of the ancient Roman alphabet, represents historically the Greek *mū* and the Semitic *mēm*. The Phœnician form of the letter is 𐤌, whence the early Gr. and L. 𐌌, ⋏, **M**. Its phonetic value has varied little; in Eng. it has always expressed what was doubtless its original sound, that of the bilabial nasal consonant, which is normally voiced, though when it is followed by an unvoiced consonant it has an unvoiced ending. Like the other nasals, *m* is capable of being used as a sonant or vowel, denoted by (ˈm) in the phonetic notation here employed; but in Eng. this occurs only after ð and z at the end of words (of Gr. etymology), as *rhythm*, *spasm*, *schism*, and the suffix *-ism*; in these words many speakers substitute (-əm). The letter is never silent, exc. initially before *n* in Gr. derivatives, as *mnemonic*.

I. 1. The letter and its sound.

c 1000 Ælfric *Gram.* iii. (Z.) 6 *Semivocales* syndon seofan : f, l, m, n, r, s, x. **1530** Palsgr. Introd. 17 These thre letters M, N or E fynall..be the very and onely causes why these thre vowelles A, E, O, be formed in the brest and sounded by the nose. *a* **1637** B. Jonson *Eng. Gram.* iv, M . . is pronounc'd with a kind of humming inward, the lips clos'd. Open, and full in the beginning : obscure in the end : and meanly in the midd'st. **1710** Steele & Addison *Tatler* No. 260 ₱ 5 Which would . . pronounce the Letters M or N and in short, do all the Functions of a Genuine and Natural Nose. **1727–41** Chambers *Cycl.* s.v., Quintilian observes, that the M sometimes ends Latin words, but never Greek. **1854** Bushnan in *Circ. Sci.* (*c* 1865) I. 288/1 The mouth is closed by the lips while *m* is pronounced. **1900** *Pilot* 3 Mar. 28 The middle stage of the evolution of the eagle, namely, its transformation from the Gothic M to the fleur-de-lis.

b. **M roof**: see quot. 1825.

1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) II. 246/2 Fig. 2. Exhibits an *M* roof. **1825** J. Nicholson *Operat. Mechanic* 573 In roofs of rectangular buildings. .a valley is introduced, which makes the vertical section in the form of the letter M, or rather an inverted W; hence it has obtained the name of an M roof. **1842–59** Gwilt *Encycl. Archit.* Gloss.

2. *Printing.* = Em. *Comb.* **m-thick**: see quot.

1683 Moxon *Mech. Exerc., Printing* xiii. § 1 Some [types] are m thick; by m thick is meant m Quadrat thick, which is just so thick as the Body is high. **1868** *Daily News* 10 Aug., Compositors are allowed 60 cents per thousand m's (not reckoning by n's as in England). **1892** *Academy* 3 Sept. 199/3 (advt.), 49,000 American ems (equal to 98,000 English ens) were set in eight hours.

II. Symbolical uses.

3. Used like the other letters of the alphabet to denote serial order; applied e.g. to the thirteenth (or more usually the twelfth, either I or J being often omitted) group or section in classification, the twelfth sheet of a book or quire of a MS., etc.

1850 Forshall & Madden *Wyclif's Bible* Pref. 29 The MS. M (Queen's Coll. 23). **1899** *Blackw. Mag.* Sept. 354/1, I to M are the most original passages of the hymn. **1900** *Dundee Advert.* 21 Mar. 5, M Battery Royal Horse Artillery.

4. The Roman numeral symbol for: A thousand.

(In the 15–16th c. it could be substituted for the numeral word in any context; it is now rare exc. in dates.)

1412–20 Lyd. *Chron. Troy* I. ix, There came . . seuen M knightes. **1535** Coverdale *Judg.* xii. 6 There fell of Ephraim two & fortye M. **1553** *Short Catech.* 62 b, We be feble, weake, subiect to a thousand perils, a M. temptations. **1603** Owen *Pembrokeshire* (1892) 139 The M of oysters at the waterside is vsuallie sold for x^d^ or xij^d^.

III. 5. Abbreviations.

M. = various proper names, as Mark, Margaret, etc.; † = Majesty; used in ancient criminal procedure (see quots. 1487, 1727–41); = Member, as in M.P. (q.v.), M.C., Member of Congress (*U.S.*), M.R.C.P., Member of the Royal College of Physicians, M.R.C.S., Member of the Royal College of Surgeons; *Mus.* = metronome; *Math.* = modulus; (M. or m.) in astronomical tables, etc. = meridian or meridional; also (after the numeral *twelve*) = L. *meridies* noon (cf. A.M., P.M.); m. = mass, in *Mech.*; = molar, in dental formulæ; = minute, metre (mm. = millimetre); in log-books = mist; *Mus.* = It. *mano* or F. *main* (as *mano destra*, *main droite*, right hand), *mezzo* (as *mf* = *mezzo-forte*), in organ music, *manual*. See also M.B., M.D., MS.

1487 *Act 4 Hen. VII*, c. 13 Every suche persone so convicted for murdre, to be marked with a M. upon the brawne of the lefte thumbe. **1581** J. Hamilton in *Cath. Tract.* (S. T. S.) 75/3 His thankfull spreit tovart your M. **1599** A. M. tr. *Gabelhouer's Bk. Physick* 360 Take vnpeeled Barlye M iiij. **1727–41** Chambers *Cycl.*, *M*, in astronomical tables, . . is used for *Meridional* or southern, sometimes for *Meridies* or midday. *M*, in law, the brand or stigma of a person convicted of manslaughter, and admitted to the benefit of clergy. **1840** R. H. Dana *Bef. Mast* xxxiv. 129 At twelve M., it bore N.W. ½ N. **1869** D. G. Rossetti in Mackail *W. Morris* (1899) I. 204 The Ms [= Morrises] at Ems.

b. Abbreviation for Master: †(*a*) generally, and as a conventional title of address or mention = the later Mister, Mr. Phr. *To have* (or *carry*) *an M under one's girdle*: to use a respectful prefix (Mr., Mrs.) when addressing or mentioning a person. (*b*) Used for *master* or the L. *magister* in academical degrees, as M.A. or A.M. (*magister artium*), Master of Arts; M.Ch. (*magister chirurgiæ*), Master of Surgery; also in M.C., Master of the ceremonies; M.F.H., Master of fox-bounds.

a **1540** Barnes *Wks.* (1573) 349/1 Our M. Christ teaching al creatures to pray. **1549** *Latimer's 2nd Serm. bef. Edw. VI* To Rdr. (Arb.) 52 The deuourer of townes and countryes as M. Latimer tearmeth them rightly. *a* **1553** Udall *Royster D.* III. iii. (Arb.) 48 If faire fine mistresse Custance sawe you now Ralph Royster Doister were hir owne I warrant you. *R. Royster*, Neare an M hy your girdle? **1553** Eden *Treat. Newe Ind.* (Arb.) 39 Where . . the M. Pilate of this name lost his shippe. **1579** E. K. *Spenser's Sheph. Cal.* Epistle, Postscr., Now I trust, M. Harvey, that [etc.]. **1596** Spenser *Prothalamion* (heading), The two worthie Gentlemen M. Henry Gilford, and M. William Peter, Esquyers. **1605** B. Jonson, etc. *Eastw. Hoe !* IV, *Quick.* Must Golding sit upon us? *Con.* You might carry an M under your girdle, to Mr. Deputy's worship. **1712** *Great Britons Honycombe* (MS.) (N.), What, plaine Budwaies! have you nere an M. under your girdle. **1730–6** Bailey (folio), M, is an abbreviation of *Magister*, as *M.A.* or *A.M. Magister Artium*, i. e. *Master of Arts*. **1738** Swift *Pol. Conversat.* i. 28 You might have an M under your Girdle, Miss. **1811** Byron *Hints fr. Horace* 240 He. .retires M.A.; Master of arts! **1816** Scott *Old Mort.* xxix, Ye might hae had an M under your belt for Mistress Wilson of Milnwood. **1843** Surtees *Handley Cross* I. v. 92 The loose riding M.C. sitting like 'the Drunken Hussar' at the circus. *Ibid.* II. vii. 147 First public day as an M.F.H. **1869** 'Bradwood' *O. V. H.* I. iii. 33 He was not the man to violate modesty by proposing himself to a nearly strange Hunt as a new M.F.H.

‖ c. = Monsieur (q.v.) as prefixed title.

M-, a clipped form of Me sometimes found in Middle English before vowels.

c **1393** Chaucer *Scogan* 36, I mexcuse. **1426** Lydg. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 9802 Out off my shyp make maryne.

-m, in I'm = I am: see Be *v.*, A. I. 1.

Ma (mā). A childish and colloquial shortening of Mamma. Now often ridiculed as *vulgar*.

[**1823** Moor *Suffolk Words* s.v. *Pa*, It is sometimes rather comic to hear a great chuckle-headed lout—*paa*-ing his father—or *maa*-ing his mother.] **1829** *Censor* 225 These exhibitions, though affording wonderous delight to affectionate *Pas* and *Mas*, are productive of the most injurious results to their children. **1829** Lytton *Disowned* 20 How could he admire that odious cap of Ma's. **1836** T. Hook *G. Gurney* I. 196 Gussy, as her ma' called her. **1885** F. Anstey *Tinted Venus* 119, I've got to dine with aunt and meet Matilda and her ma.

Ma., obs. abbreviation of Majesty, Master.

1579 E. K. *Spenser's Sheph. Cal.* Epistle, Myne owne good friend Ma. Harvey. **1605** Bacon *Adv. Learn.* II. To King 1 Since wee have so bright and benigne a starre, as your Ma: to conduct and prosper us.

Ma: see Make *v.*, May *v.*, Me, Mo, My.

Maa, obs. f. Make *v.*; var. Mo *Obs.*, more.

Maac, maad: see Make *v.*

Maakins, variant of Mackin(g)s.

†**Maal.** *Obs. rare*⁻¹. Wyclif's transl. of L. *mālum* apple, taken by him to mean fir-tree, by confusion with *mālus* mast (see quot.).

1382 Wyclif *Joel* i. 12 Poumgarnet, and palme tree, and maal tree, or fir, of whom mastis ben maad.

Maale, obs. form of Mail.

Maam (mām). A South American bird, the Tinamou.

1825 Waterton *Wand. S. Amer.* 23 The forest contains an abundance of .. maams, maroudis and waracabas. *Ibid.* 32 The maam sends forth its plaintive note.

Ma'am (mām; usually unstressed məm, ˈm). Also 7 mam. In representations of vulgar speech written marm, mem, mim, mum, ˈm. A colloquial shortening of Madam.

1. Used *vocatively*, as the usual oral equivalent of Madam.

Now only used parenthetically or at the end of a sentence. Formerly the ordinary respectful form of address to a woman (originally only to a married woman) of equal or superior rank or station (unless entitled to be called 'my lady'). The present tendency is to confine it to the speech of servants or other persons of markedly inferior position. (Used at Court, instead of *madam*, in addressing the Queen or a royal princess.)

1668 Dryden *Evening's Love* III. i. (1671) 33 Madam me no Madam, but learn to retrench your words; and say Mam; as yes Mam, and no Mam, as other Ladies Women do. Madam! 'tis a year in pronouncing. **1765** Foote *Commissary* I. Wks. 1799 II. 8 Indeed, Ma'am, you'll kill yourself. **1838** Dickens *O. Twist* xvii, Mrs. Mann, ma'am, good morning. **1840** — *Barn. Rudge* xix, 'Here's master, mim', said Miggs. 'Oh, what a happiness it is when man and wife come round again!' *c* **1850** Lytton *Lionel Hastings* ii. in *Life* (1883) I. II. xi. 180 'Well, Marm—' Mr. Cotton preserved that broad pronunciation of the ellipsis *Ma'am*, from *Madame*, which was formerly considered high bred, and is still the Court mode. **1854** Dickens *Hard T.* I. xvi, 'Mrs. Sparsit ma'am', said Mr. Bounderby. 'I am going to astonish you'. **1885** F. Anstey *Tinted Venus* 116 'Dear me, mum, you don't say so!' exclaimed Leander. *Ibid.* 142 'Now, marm', he said, in a voice which trembled with repressed rage. **1887** *Gordonhaven* xi. 104 'What have you been doing?' 'Nothing, mem'. **1900** *Speaker* 23 June 324/2 In Thackeray's time every man among equals of a certain refinement was Sir, and every woman Ma'am.

2. Prefixed to a surname. *Obs.* exc. *U.S. vulgar.* (See Madam.)

1837 Haliburton *Clockm.* Ser. I. x, Marm Pugwash is as onsartin in her temper as a mornin in April.

†**3.** A person addressed as 'ma'am', a married woman. *Obs.*

1765 *Meretricind* (ed. 6) 43 Or when Mam walks, he, twenty steps behind. **1779** Sheridan *Critic* I. i, Then to be continually alarmed with misses and ma'ams piping hysteric changes on Juliets, and Dorindas.

4. *attrib.*: **ma'am-school** *U.S.*, a dame-school.

1857 S. G. Goodrich *Recoll. Lifetime* iv. I. 39, I found a girl. .keeping a ma'am-school for about twenty scholars.

Hence **Ma'am** *v. trans.*, to address as 'ma'am'.

1813 *Sketches Charac.* (ed. 2) I. 121 You should not 'sir' and 'ma'am' people as you do, unless you wish to keep them at a distance. **1887** G. R. Sims *Mary Jane's Mem.* 6 Don't ma'am me—I'm a miss. **1889** H. Johnston *Chron. Glenbuckie* v. 58 'Indeed, mem'. . .' Ye needna' "mem" me. . I'm a common body like yoursel'.

Ma'amselle. Corresponds to F. *mam'selle*, familiar abbreviation of Mademoiselle.

c **1794** *Search aft. Perfect.* I. i. in *New Brit. Theatre* (1814) III. 37 The first four out of the eleven were ma'amselles.

Maand, variant of Maund (basket).

Maane, obs. form of Mane.

Maarmor, erron. form of Maormor.

Maas, Maat, obs. forms of Mace, Mate.

†**Mab,** *sb. Obs.* [Cf. Mab *v.* and *map*, 17th c. form of Mop *sb.*; also *Mab*, short for *Mabel*.]

1. A slattern; a woman of loose character.

1557–8 *Jacob & Esau* V. vi. (1568) Gj, Come out thou mother Mab, out olde rotten witche. **1691** Ray *N. C. Words* 47 To *Mab*; to dress carelessly: *Mabs* are Slatterns. *a* **1700** B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew*, *Mab*, a Slattern. *Mab'd up*, Drest carelesly, like a Slattern. **1725** *New Cant. Dict.*, *Mob*, or *Mab*, a Wench or Harlot.

2. A mop.

1623 Whitbourne *Newfoundland* 75 Thrummes for Pitch mahs, 000*li.* 01*s.* 6*d.*

†**Mab,** *v. Obs.*⁻⁰ [Belongs to Mab *sb.* Cf. Mabble, Mob *vbs.*] *intr.* To dress untidily.

1691, *a* **1700** [see Mab *sb.*]. **1829** Brockett *N. C. Words*, *Mab*, v. to dress carelessly. Hence, *Mab-cap*, generally called *mob-cap*, a cap which ties under the chin—worn by elderly women.

†**Mabble,** *v. Obs.* Also **mable**. [Cf. Moble *v.*] *trans.* To wrap or muffle up (the head).

1615 G. Sandys *Trav.* 69 Their heads and faces so mabled in fine linnen, that no more is to be scene of them then their eyes. *Ibid.* 148 The elder mabble their heads in linnen.

Mac[1] (mæk). Also Mack. [Irish and Gaelic *mac*:—OCeltic **makko-s*, cogn. w. Welsh *mab*:—OWelsh *map*:—OCeltic **makwo-s*.] The Gaelic word for 'son', occurring as a prefix in many Scottish and Irish names of Celtic origin, and thus equivalent to the Eng. suffix *-son*. Hence: A person whose name contains the prefix *Mac*.

The prefix is written also *Mc*, *M^c^*, *M'*; e. g. *Macdonald*, *MacDonald*, *McDonald*, *M^c^Donald*, *M'Donald*.

1656 in Blount *Glossogr.* **1689** [Farewell] *Irish Hudibras* 108 The Champions of the Irish Cause, A numerous Train of Mac's and O's. **1730** Fielding *Tom Thumb* I. iii, Ireland her O's, her Mac's let Scotland boast. **1764** Wilkes *Corr.* (1805) III. 126 The list of the company (of the Macs and Sawneys not in the French service) would divert you. **1828** Scott *F. M. Perth* vi, If the son of some great Mac or O was to become an artizan. **1830** N. S. Wheaton *Jrnl.* 472 A feather or two stuck in his bonnet denotes his alliance in the 50th degree with some Highland Mac. **1887** [see O *sb.*²]. **1898** *Tit-Bits* 21 May 148/1 In the house of Commons the 'Macs' are numerically strong enough to form a considerable party of their own.

Mac[2] (mæk). *colloq.* Short for Macadam.

1851 Mayhew *Lond. Labour* II. 197 The Scavengers call mud all that is swept from the granite or wood pavements, in contradistinction to mac which is scraped and swept on the macadamized roads. **1886** *Pall Mall G.* 2 Oct. 2/2 The thousands of yards of old mac that were taken off the roads for use elsewhere.

Mac: see MACK, MAKE *v.*

Macabaa, -bao, variants of MACCOBOY.

Macaberesque (măkābərē·sk), *a.* [f. MACABRE + -ESQUE.] = MACABRE 2.

1876 *Encycl. Brit.* V. 104/1 A curious reaction is visible in the work of Peter Breughel (1510–1570) towards the grotesque *diablerie* and macaberesque morality of mediæval art.

‖ **Macabre** (makā·br), *a.* Also 5 **Machabree**, 7 **Machabray**, 9 **Macaber.** [The form now usual represents F. *macabre*, an error for OF. *macabré*, whence the earlier Eng. forms.

The OF. word occurs first in Jean le Fèvre's *Respit de la Mort* (1376), where the author, if he be correctly interpreted by M. Gaston Paris (*Romania* XXIV. 131), claims to have written a work called *la danse Macabré*. The etymology of the word is obscure; so far as its form is concerned it might be a popular corruption of OF. *Macabé* = Maccabæus (an example of 'Judas Macabré' has been found), and in the 15th c. the 'Dance of Death' was called *chorea Machabæorum* in Latin (Du Cange cites a Besançon document of 1453), and *Makkabensdans* in Du. M. Gaston Paris, however, thinks *Macabré* may have been the name of the artist who painted the picture which suggested the first poem on the subject.]

1. *Danse Macabre*, also in anglicized forms †*dance of Machabree*, *-bray* (obs.), *dance Macaber*: the Dance of Death (see DANCE *sb.* 6 c).

14.. LYDG. (*title*) The daunce of Machabree wherin is liuely expressed and shewed the state of manne, and howe he is called at vncertayne tymes by death, and when he thinketh least theron. *Ibid.* Prol. iii, I toke on me to translaten all, Out of the Frenche Machabrees daunce. 1598 STOW *Surv.* 264 About this Cloyster was artificially & richly painted the dance of Machabray, or dance of death, commonly called the dance of Pauls. 1833 J. DALLAWAY *Disc. Archit. Eng.* 137 The Dance of Macabre (Holbein's Dance of Death) was painted on the walls of the cloisters. 1851 LONGF. *Gold. Leg., Nativ.* v. 12 *Elsie.* What are these paintings on the walls around us? *Henry.* The Dance Macaber! *Elsie.* What? *Henry.* The Dance of Death.

2. Characterized by the gruesomeness of the *danse Macabre* (see 1): applied chiefly to literary or artistic productions.

1889 *Athenæum* 14 Sept. 347/2 One Dance of Death circles uninterruptedly from end to end...The book is macabre, but unaffectedly macabre. 1892 *Speaker* 29 Oct. 528/1 It was the material representation..of the ghastly, the grim, and the macabre which Webster intended. 1902 *Spectator* 12 Apr. 557 Her habits are bizarre, even macabre.

Macac, variant of MACAQUE.

Macaco[1] (măkē·lko). Also 7–8 **macaquo**, (*errón.* **-guo**), 9 **macauco**, *vulgar* **maccacco, murkarker.** [a. Pg. *macaco* monkey, ape (whence *macaquear* to ape); cited (in the form *macaquo*) by Marcgrave *Hist. Nat. Brazil* (1648) 227 as the name used in Congo for this species of monkey.]

1. Originally, a South African monkey incidentally described by Marcgrave in his *Natural History of Brazil*, and after him by various writers on zoology. Subsequently applied to any monkey of the genus MACACUS (either in its earlier or later extension); = MACAQUE.

[1693 RAY *Syn. Anim. Quad.* etc. 155 Cercopithecus angolensis major, Congensibus Macaquo Marcgr.] 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* IV. 233 Of the monkies of the ancient continent, the first, he [Buffon] describes, is the Macaguo; somewhat resembling a baboon in size. 1854 BUSHNAN in *Circ. Sci.* (c 1865) I. 290/2 In the mandril, pavian, and macacos, membranous sacs are observed. 1874 *Slang Dict.*, *Murkarker*, a monkey, vulgar Cockney pronunciation of Macauco... Jacko Macauco, or Maccacco, as he was mostly called, was the name of a famous fighting monkey, who used nearly fifty years ago to display his prowess at the Westminster Pit.

2. *Comb.*: **macaco-wood**, *Tococa guianensis*, a Brazilian shrub (Cassell); **macaco-worm**, the larva of a South American insect, *Dermatobia noxialis*, which infests the skin of animals.

1875 *Beneden's Anim. Parasites* viii. 175 A gadfly found at Cayenne is distinguished by the name of the Macaco Worm; it..usually attacks the skin of oxen and dogs.

Macaco[2] (măkē·lko). Also 8 **mococo**, 8–9 **maucauco**, 9 **macauco.** [a. F. (Buffon) *mococo*; ulterior origin obscure. Cf. MAKI.] A name applied to certain lemurs, *esp.* to the genus *Lemur*.

1751 G. EDWARDS *Nat. Hist. Birds*, etc. IV. 197 The Maucauco .. is about the Bigness of a middling sized Cat. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* IV. 239 The last of the monkey kind are the Makis...The first of this kind is the Mococo; a beautiful animal about the size of a common cat, but..of a longer make. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) IX. 785 Lemur, the Maucauco..1. The tardigradus, or tail-less maucauco. 1834 *Nat. Philos., Phys. Geog.* 54/2 (U. K. S.) The flying macauco or lemur. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XIII. 419/1 The Makis, or Macaucos, properly so called, *Lemur*. 1840 BLYTH tr. *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* (1849) 64 The Murine Macauco (*Lemur murinus*). 1884 *Riverside Nat. Hist.* (1888) I. 228 The Mongoose Lemur, or Woolly Macaco [*Lemur mongoz*].

‖ **Macacus** (măkē·lkŭs). Pl. **macaci** (măkē·lsəi). [mod.L., ad. F. *macaque*: see MACAQUE.] A genus of Old World catarrhine monkeys of the family *Cercopithecidæ*; originally including a great number of African and Asiatic species, but now restricted to species resembling the bonnet macaque or toque; a monkey of this genus.

1871 DARWIN *Desc. Man* I. i. 23 In .. baboons and some species of macacus the upper portions of the ear is slightly pointed. 1875 *Encycl. Brit.* II. 152/1 The *Macaci* present us with the most northern forms of apes. 1893 *Daily News* 8 June 5/3 A small monkey, a macacus, has been placed in his cell to keep him [an ourang-outang] company.

Macadam (măkæ·dăm). (Formerly with capital M; also Mac-Adam, M°Adam.)

1. The name of John Loudon M°Adam (1756–1836) used *attrib.* to designate the kind of roadway which he invented and the material used in making it: see MACADAMIZE.

Now apprehended as an attributive use of 2.

1824 MISS MITFORD *Village* Ser. I. 277 We shall see no more of him [our surveyor]; for the Mac-Adam ways are warranted not to wear out. 1878 *N. Amer. Rev.* CXXVI. 91 Closet warriors, in cozy studies, with smooth McAdam roadways before their doors. 1881 *Macm. Mag.* XLIV. 342 All piles of spare macadam material were carefully removed.

2. The material of which a macadamized road is made.

1826 J. WILSON *Noct. Ambr.* Wks. 1855 I. 178 What a.. rattle o' wheels!..intolerable aneuch ower the macadam, but Lord hae mercy on us, when you're on the causeway! 1831 MOORE *Summer Fête* 121 Where never gleam of gas must dare 'Gainst ancient Darkness to revolt, Nor smooth Macadam hope to spare The dowagers one single jolt. 1856 FONBLANQUE in *Life & Labours* (1874) 520 He may gravely serve out Macadam for rations, and supply biscuit for making roads. 1862 *Athenæum* 30 Aug. 268 The drab-coloured mud of the macadam. 1892 *Times* 20 Apr. 7/4 It is broken up into macadam, and forms a splendid material for making roads.

fig. 1871 R. H. HUTTON *Ess.* II. 126 He sprinkles a little macadam of stony fact along the fair upland path of his imagination. 1892 *Academy* 29 Oct. 382/3 It is an unfinished macadam of inverted commas and references.

3. *nonce-use* as *adj.* Level as macadam.

a 1845 HOOD *St. to Tom Woodgate* v, Does that hard, honest hand now..tug the oar, a gondolier On smooth Macadam seas?

Macadamite (măkæ·dăməit), *sb.* and *a.* Now *rare* or *Obs.* [f. MACADAM + -ITE.]

A. *sb.* One who practises or advocates M°Adam's system of road-making.

1821 *Monthly Mag.* LII. 104 Some incidental remarks of mine in a paper I sent you in May last, have caused the Mackadamites to throw some of their spare dirt about. 1839 MURCHISON *Silur. Syst.* I. xxxix. 535 In certain districts..they [boulders] are fast disappearing through the labours of the Macadamites.

B. *adj.* Pertaining to M°Adam's system of road-making.

1824 MISS MITFORD *Village* Ser. I. 276 The Mac-Adamite enormity of the stony road. 1846 THACKERAY *Cornhill to Cairo* vii. Wks. 1900 V. 650 Roads were being repaired in the Macadamite manner.

Macadamization (măkæ·dăməizē·lʃən). (Formerly with capital M.) [f. next + -ATION.] The process, practice, or system of making macadamized roads; rarely *concr.* a macadamized road. Also, the converting of stone into road-metal.

1824 *Lond. Mag.* X. 350 Major-Taylorization against Macadamization any day! 1824 *Newcastle Mag.* III. 27 The only road in our neighbourhood on which something like Macadamization has been attempted. 1825 *Blackw. Mag.* XVII. 87 A long street under the process of Macadamization. 1826 MISS MITFORD *Village* Ser. II. 2 That..turnpike-road.. is now so perfect and so beautiful a specimen of Macadamization, that [etc.]. 1861 MUSGRAVE *By-roads* 75 Mac-adamization. 1869 'BRADWOOD' *O. V. H.* (1870) 184 Miss Warren ..was cantering down the turf border that fringed the macadamisation. 1871 L. STEPHEN *Playgr. Eur.* v. (1894) 121 The glacier..crushed into smaller fragments, producing .. a kind of incipient macadamisation.

fig. 1847 *Tait's Mag.* XIV. 746 So very strange a macadamization of parties has taken place.

Macadamize (măkæ·dăməiz), *v.* Also M'Adamise, -ize. [f. MACADAM + -IZE.]

1. *trans.* To make or repair (a road) according to J. L. M°Adam's system, which consists in laying down successive layers of stone broken into pieces of nearly uniform size, each layer being allowed to consolidate under the pressure of ordinary wheel traffic before the next is laid upon it.

See M°Adam's pamphlet, *Remarks on the Present System of Road-Making* (ed. 5, 1822). He did not approve of the placing of any kind of foundation under the layers of stone, of the use of sand or gravel as 'binding' material, or of the smoothing of the surface by heavy rollers; though the name of 'macadamizing' is now often given to methods in which some or all of these practices are admitted.

1826 *Lion Hunting* 78 The road..was what we now deemed a great luxury,—M'Adamized, instead of paved. 1828 SOUTHEY *To A. Cunningham* 23 A street not yet Macadamized. 1863 A. C. RAMSAY *Phys. Geog.* (1878) 613 Basalts..are ill adapted for macadamising roads. 1871 L. STEPHEN *Playgr. Eur.* (1894) 135 A heap of granite stones prepared for macadamising a road.

absol. 1871 M. COLLINS *Mrq. & Merch.* I. vi. 188 There is no hard stone nearer than Mount Sorel, so they macadamize with something almost as soft as loaf sugar.

b. *fig.* To render level or even; to level, raze.

1826 J. SHERMAN in *Mem.* (1863) 219 Grace indeed macadamises the road, makes the stones smaller. 1827 JELF *Let. to Pusey* in Liddon, etc. *Life P.* (1893) I. 117 Your mind is certainly macadamized; mine resembles the road between this [Berlin] and Strelitz. 1829 MARRYAT *F. Mildmay* iii, The enemy's centre should have been *macadamised* by our seven three-deckers. 1842 ORDERSON *Creol.* iv. 38 Our..Bishop has..macadamized the way for his successor. 1868 PEARD *Water-Farm.* ii. 14 Each successful labour of to-day will macadamise the road for to-morrow.

2. To convert into road-metal.

1841 J. T. HEWLETT *Parish Clerk* II. 154 Coarse, thick slates, that would certainly have been macadamized in these days as excellent materials for road-making.

b. *transf.* and *fig.* To break up (something hard or figured as being hard) *into* pieces. † *Obs.*

1825 GOOD *Study Med.* (ed. 2) V. 539 By grinding, or as we should now perhaps call it macadamizing the stone into granules. 1825 *New Monthly Mag.* XV. 296 In Macadamizing a few broad, simple, and impressive sounds into passages of numberless rapid notes, there is no time left for giving the emphasis required. 1852 SMEDLEY *L. Arundel* xxxvi. 270 Richard Frere..devoted himself to that indurated specimen of the original granite formation,..and by trying to macadamise her into small-talk [etc.]. 1855 — *H. Coverdale* i. 2 Fathers have flinty hearts, and even the amenities of the nineteenth century have failed to macadamise them.

Macadamized (măkæ·dăməizd), *ppl. a.* [f. MACADAMIZE + -ED[1].]

1. Of a road (see MACADAMIZE 1).

1827 *Blackw. Mag.* XXI. 791 We were not seen stumbling even upon a Macadamized road. 1837 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* I. 1/2 Filled in with broken stones, such as are used for M'Adamized roads. 1861 MUSGRAVE *By-roads* 282, I found even a Mac-adamized road, which crosses the plain, miry enough, in heavy rain. 1889 G. FINDLAY *Eng. Railway* 49 A well-constructed macadamized road.

fig. 1827 LYTTON *Falkland* 45 Neither in person nor in character was he much beneath or above the ordinary standard of men. He was one of Nature's Macadamized achievements. His great fault was his equality. 1863 COWDEN CLARKE *Shaks. Char.* xi. 291 The hard and macadamised road of dry duty and daily labour.

2. Broken up into road-metal. Also (*nonce-use*), strewn with broken stones.

1849 CAPT. C. STUART *Exped. Centr. Austral.* I. 238 We then proceeded .. down the creek, keeping close upon its banks to avoid the macadamized plains on either side. 1888 *Times* (weekly ed.) 23 Nov. 3/3 Some loose macadamised stones lying about.

Maca·damizer. [f. MACADAMIZE + -ER[1].]

1. One who makes macadamized roads.

1824 *Newcastle Mag.* III. 26 [The paviours] have..nothing to do but to transform themselves into Macadamizers. 1864 *Reader* 11 June 747/3 Our London macadamizers go about their work in a very unscientific way. 1881 *Instr. Census Clerks* (1885) 87 Paviour...Macadamiser.

2. One who rides on a macadamized road; *esp.* one who keeps to the roads when hunting.

1832 G. DOWNES *Lett. Cont. Countries* I. 11 Our little Gallic Macadamizer asked one of the Hibernians present [etc.]. 1838 SURTEES *Jorrocks's Jaunts* 55 A private road and a line of gates through fields now greet the eyes of our M'Adamisers. 1869 'BRADWOOD' *O. V. H.* I. xii. 219 'Here come all the roadsters!' growled the latter, as the hounds.. crossed a bye-road—along which in the rear clattered some fifty macadamisers.

Macada·mizing, *vbl. sb.* [-ING[1].] The action of the verb MACADAMIZE; macadamization.

1851–61 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* II. 181 The macadamizing of the latter thoroughfare. 1876 PAGE *Adv. Text-Bk. Geol.* vii. 136 Their extensive use in causewaying and macadamising.

Maca·damizing, *ppl. a.* [-ING[2].] a. That macadamizes. b. (Cf. MACADAMIZER 2.)

1826 BENTHAM in *Westm. Rev.* VI. 457 It performs the function of a Mac-adamizing hammer, in breaking down the aggregate mass. 1860 O. W. HOLMES *Prof. Breakf.-t.* i, This is the great Macadamizing place, always cracking up something. 1869 'BRADWOOD' *O. V. H.* I. 224 Jack Marshall, in the safe pursuit of pleasure, as far as compatible with macadamising action, had suddenly espied .. the Maule carriage.

Macaleb, obs. form of MAHALEB.

Macalive, variant of MACKALLOW *Obs.*

Macamethe, obs. form of MAHOMET.

‖ **Macana** (măkā·nă). *South American.* [Said by Humboldt to be Haytian.] An ironwood club.

1622 R. HAWKINS *Voy. S. Sea* § 27 (1847) 98 Their armes for the warre, which is a sword of heavie blacke wood... They [the Indians of Brazil] call it macana, and it is carved and wrought with inlayd works very curiously, but his edges are blunt. *Ibid.* § 41. 147 Their [the islanders of Mocha, Chile] weapons are bowes and arrowes and macanas. 1822 SARA COLERIDGE tr. *Dobrizhoffer's Hist. Abipones* [Paraguay] II. 360 The wooden club, *macana*. 1861 W. BOLLAERT tr. *P. Simon's Exped. Aguirre* (Hakl. Soc.) xix. 79 Darts and macanas (a sort of club). [The reference is to Peru.]

† **Maca·o.** *Obs.* Also **makao.** [f. the name of *Macao*, a Portuguese settlement on the coast of China, noted for gambling. In Fr. *macao.* • Cf. MACCO.] A gambling game at cards, 'a kind of vingt-et-un' (Littré).

1778 EARL MALMESBURY *Diaries & Corr.* I. 179 Macao, (a game much in vogue here at present). 1783 H. WALPOLE *Lett.* (1858) VIII. 388 When she wants to play at macao. 1794 C. PIGOT *Female Jockey Club* 109 We have beheld her ready to burst with rage, when the consequences have been against her at Macao. 1827 *Sporting Mag.* XX. 58 A diplomatic character and member of a fashionable Club at Brussels, has been accused of cheating at Macao. 1883 *Times* 11 July 7 He consorted much with .. needy players at..roulette, makao, and similar games of hazard.

Macao, obs. form of MACAW.

Macaque (măkā·k). Also 9 **macac.** [a. F. *macaque*, ad. Pg. *macaco*: see MACACO[1].]

† 1. Some Brazilian species of monkey. *Obs. rare*[−1].

1698 FROGER *Voy.* 115 We observed two sorts of Monkeys there [*viz.* Brazil], which they distinguished by the Names of Sagovins and Macaques [Fr. orig. *Macaqs*]...The Macaques are..of a brown Colour.

2. A monkey of the genus MACACUS.

1840 BLYTH tr. *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* (1849) 58 The Macaques (*Macacus*, Desm.). *Ibid.* 59 The Bonneted Macaque (*M. Sinicus*). *Ibid.*, The Pig-tailed Macaque... The Black Macaque. 1875 *Encycl. Brit.* II. 152/1 The Thibet Macaque (*Macacus thibetanus*). 1878 BROWNING *La Saisiaz* 590 What though monkeys and macaques Gibber 'Byron'? 1885 E. BALFOUR *Cycl. India* (ed. 3) II. 753/2 Macacus cynomolgus, common macac.

Macare, obs. form of MAKER.

Macarism (mæ'kărĭz'm). *rare.* Also **makarism.** [ad. Gr. *μακαρισμ-ός*, f. *μακαρίζειν*: see next and -ISM.] **a.** (Sec quot. 1818–60; and cf. next vb.) **b.** = BEATITUDE 2.

1818–60 WHATELY *Commpl. Bk.* (1864) 25 *note*, The words 'felicitate' and 'congratulate' are used only in application to events, which are one branch only of 'macarism'. *Ibid.* 28 To admiration, contempt seems to be the direct contrary; censure to commendation; pity to macarism. *a* 1860 J. A. ALEXANDER *Gosp. Matth.* (1861) 110 A series of *beatitudes* or macarisms [Footnote, *μακαρισμός*], so called from the word with which they severally open. 1882 A. B. BRUCE *Parab. Teach. Christ* 380 The makarisms and woes with which Luke's version of the Sermon on the Mount begins. 1889 — *Kingd. God* Introd. 10 Luke's .. form of the 'macarisms'.

Macarize (mæ'kărəiz), *v. rare.* Also **macarise, makarize.** [f. Gr. *μακαρίζειν*, f. *μάκαρ* happy: see -IZE.] *trans.* To account or call happy or blessed (cf. quot. 1816–60).

1816–60 WHATELY *Commpl. Bk.* (1865) 9 A man is admired for what he is, macarized for what he has, praised for what he does. *Ibid.* (1864) 25 If a man possess a genius, or a person that is admirable, he is himself admired; but not if he has an admirable horse or house; the sentiment we feel towards him is of a different nature, and we have no English word to express it; so much are we at a loss as to resort to the word 'envy'. I should like to introduce the word 'macarise'. 1840 ARNOLD *Let.* in Stanley *Life & Corr.* (1844) II. ix. 227 Therefore I 'macarize' you the more, for having both an inherited home, and in a county and part of the county per se delightful. *a* 1871 GROTE *Eth. Fragm.* v. (1876) 177 No man praises happiness, as he praises justice, but macarises (blesses) it as something more divine and better.

Macaron, variant of MACAROON.

Macaroni (mækărō'ni). Pl. **-ies.** Also 6–9 **maccaroni,** 8 **mac(c)arone, makarony,** 9 **mackerony.** [a. It. *maccaroni* (Florio 1598), earlier form of *maccheroni* (Florio 1611) pl. of *maccherone*; the ulterior etymology is obscure.

Some scholars have suggested connexion with Gr. *μακαρία*, explained by Hesychius to mean a sort of barley-broth. Diez regarded the word as a derivative of It. *maccare* to bruise, crush.]

1. A kind of wheaten paste, of Italian origin, formed into long tubes and dried for use as food.

The same 'Italian paste' is prepared also in the form of VERMICELLI, q.v.

1599 B. JONSON *Cynthia's Rev.* II. i, He doth learne..to eat ænchouies, maccaroni, bouoli, fagioli, and cauiare. 1750 CHESTERF. *Lett.* (1792) II. 345 You would do very well to take one or two such sort of people home with you to dinner every day; it would be only a little *minestra* and *macaroni* the more. 1769 MRS. RAFFALD *Eng. Housekpr.* (1778) 285 To dress Macaroni with Parmesan Cheese. 1813 SIR H. DAVY *Agric. Chem.* (1814) 142 The wheat of the south of Europe, in consequence of the larger quantity of gluten it contains, is peculiarly fitted for making macaroni. 1825 LYTTON *Zicci* 45 Merton had heard much of the excellence of the macaroni at Portici. 1893 *Spectator* 10 June 768 A Sicilian sawyer fed on macaroni and melons.

2. a. *Hist.* An exquisite of a class which arose in England about 1760 and consisted of young men who had travelled and affected the tastes and fashions prevalent in continental society. b. *dial.* A fop, dandy.

[This use seems to be from the name of the Macaroni Club, a designation prob. adopted to indicate the preference of the members for foreign cookery, macaroni being at that time little eaten in England. There appears to be no connexion with the transferred use of It. *maccherone* in the senses 'blockhead, fool, mountebank', referred to in 1711 by Addison *Spect.* No. 47 ¶ 5.]

[1764 H. WALPOLE *Let. Earl Hertford* 6 Feb. (1857) IV. 178 The Maccaroni Club (which is composed of all the travelled young men who wear long curls and spying-glasses).] 1764 — *Let. Earl Hertford* 27 May *Ibid.* 238 Lady Falkener's daughter is to be married to a young rich Mr. Crewe, a Macarone, and of our Loo. 1770 *Oxford Mag.* June 228/2 There is indeed a kind of animal, neither male nor female, a thing of the neuter gender, lately started up amongst us. It is called a Macaroni. It talks without meaning, it smiles without pleasantry, it eats without appetite, it rides without exercise, it wenches without passion. 1773 BOSWELL *Johnson* 21 Aug., You are a delicate Londoner; you are a maccaroni; you can't ride. 1773 [C. HITCHCOCK] *Macaroni* I. 5, I wanted you to be a man of spirit; your ambition was to appear a first-rate Macaroni; you are returned fully qualified, and determined, I see, to shew the world what a contemptible creature an Englishman dwindles into, when he adopts the follies and vices of other nations. 1783 MME. D'ARBLAY *Diary* 9 Dec., It is the custom, you know, among the Macaronies, to wear two watches. 1820 LAMB *Elia* Ser. I. *South-Sea House*, He wore his hair..in the fashion which I remember to have seen in caricatures of what were termed, in my young days, Maccaronies. 1854 A. E. BAKER *N'hampton Words* II, *Macaroni*, a fop. Equivalent to the modern *dandy*; now nearly, if not quite, obsolete. 1859 THACKERAY *Virgin.* (1879) I. 357 If he brags a little to-night .. and talks about London and Lord Marcb, and White's, and Almack's, with the air of a macaroni. 1881 *Athenæum* 5 Nov. 603/2 The weak chin,..resolute brow, and good forehead, portray Sheridan to the life, as he appeared, a macaroni and brilliant lounger in Carlton House. 1891 *Sheffield Gloss., Mackerony*, an overdressed, or gaudily-dressed person.

transf. 1778 [W. MARSHALL] *Minutes Agric.* 3 Feb. 1775 Harnessed the old oxen in all their new finery..; the Pantheon never saw two more ridiculous Macaronies.

3. A species of crested penguin, *Eudyptes chrysolophus.* In full *macaroni penguin.*

[App. so called because its crest was thought to resemble the coiffure of the 'macaronies'. The *Pall Mall Gazette Extra* of 24 July 1884, p. 29/2 gives from a print of 1777 two figures of head-dresses then in use, one of which is called 'the macaroni'. Cf. also quot. 1820 in 2.]

1838 POE *A. G. Pym* Wks. 1864 IV. 123 The maccaroni, the jackass and the rookery penguin. 1860 C. C. ABBOTT in *Ibis* 338 This bird is called in the Falkland Islands the Maccaroni Penguin...It has an orange-coloured crest. 1885 *Encycl. Brit.* XVIII. 492/1 *Eudyptes*, containing the crested Penguins, known to sailors as ..'Macaronis'.

4. A medley (such as a macaronic poem).

1884 ROGERS *Six Cent. Work & Wages* (1886) 166 Political songs in Latin or in a maccaroni of Latin and English.

5. In the West Indies, a coin of the value of a quarter of a dollar. ? *Obs.*

1834 M. G. LEWIS *Jrnl. W. Ind.* 403 Each grown person received a present of half a dollar, and every child a maccaroni. 1838 W. JAMESON in A. Robb *Gosp. Afr. ans* (1861) iv. 88 The masters began to offer a *macaroni*, or 15. sterling, a day.

†6. The name of a gambling-room at Newmarket. (Cf. MACCO.) *Obs.*

1771 P. PARSONS *Newmarket* I. 186 The Maccaroni is no other than a pretty large and whimsically painted room.

7. (See quot.)

1876 R. L. WALLACE *Canary Bk.* xiv. 165 Lizards [*sc.* canaries] are known among Scotchmen as 'macaronies'.

8. Short for *macaroni tool.*

1867 G. A. ROGERS *Wood Carving* 12 Now take the maccaroni and cut away the wood on either side of the vein... The maccaroni..is shaped to cut at both angles.

9. *attrib.*, as (sense 1) *macaroni dealer, -stall, wheat*; (sense 2) *macaroni cane, dress, intelligencer, marquis, philosopher, shrug, train*; †**macaroni fiddle,** ? some kind of small violin; †**macaroni gin,** a kind of colliery gin (E. D. D.); †**macaroni stake** (see quot.); **macaroni tool,** a square-cutting tool used in wood-carving.

1781 *Westm. Mag.* IX. 71 A supple-jack or a *macaroni cane, embellished with silk and gold tassels. 1851 in *Illustr. Lond. News* 5 Aug. (1854) 110/1 Occupations of the People, ..*Maccaroni-dealer. 1772 FOOTE *Nabob* I. (1778) 26 The waiter at Almack's has just brought him home his *macaroni dress for the hazard table. 1777 MME. D'ARBLAY *Early Diary* Apr.-July (1889) II. 185 First came a French horn,—..then a violin,—a bass,—a bassoon,—a *Macaroni fiddle. 1789 BRAND *Hist. Newcastle* II. 684 There is a sort of gins called *whim gins', and a kind known by the name of *macaroni gins'. 1769 *Public Advert.* 18 May 4/2 Thy Paper is the *Macarony Intelligencer. 1859 THACKERAY *Virgin.* xcii. (1878) 758, I never bargained to have a *Maccaroni Marquis to command me. 1797 *Monthly Mag.* III. 92 In this fanciful æra, when *macaroni philosophers hold flirtation with science. 1775 MME. D'ARBLAY *Early Diary* 21 Nov., 'It is not at all the ton to like her': .. (with a *Macarony shrug). 1823 'JON BEE' *Dict. Turf*, *Macaroni stakes*, those ridden by gentlemen, not jockies. 1814 *Sporting Mag.* XLIV. 103 You dash among the pots of a *maccaroni-stall. 1867 G. A. ROGERS *Wood Carving* 2 A *maccaroni tool. 1890 C. G. LELAND *Wood Carving* 10 The Macaroni Tool..is for removing wood on each side of a vein or leaf, or similar delicate work. *Ibid.* 42 The so-called 'macaroni-tool'..is really very little used, owing to the great difficulty of keeping it sharp, and its liability to break. 1773 GOLDSM. *Stoops to Conq.* Epil., Ye travell'd tribe, ye *macaroni train. 1901 *Westm. Gaz.* 23 July 7/3 The *macaroni wheat crop (a new venture in the United States).

†**Macaro'nian,** *a. Obs.* [f. prec. + -AN.]

1. = MACARONIC *a.* 1.

1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.*, *Macaronic*, or *Macaronian*, a kind of burlesque poetry...We have little in English in the Macaronian way. 1751 CAMBRIDGE *Scribleriad* II. 184 *note*, The Macaronian is a kind of burlesque poetry, consisting of a jumble of words of different languages, with words of the vulgar tongue latinized, and latin words modernized.

2. = MACARONIC *a.* 3.

1788 R. GALLOWAY *Poems* (1792) 16 Give ear ilk Macaronian beau, 'Tween George's Square an eke Soho.

Macaronic (mækărō'nik), *a.* and *sb.* Also 7 **makeronick,** 8 **maccaronic.** [ad. mod.L. *macrōnic-us* = It. (†*macaronico*) *maccheronico*, f. (†*macaroni*) *maccheroni* MACARONI.

The word seems to have been invented by Teofilo Folengo ('Merlinus Cocaius') whose 'macaronic' poem (*Liber Macaronices*) was published in 1517. He explains (ed. 2, 1521) that the 'macaronic art' is so called from macaroni, which is 'quoddam pulmentum farina, caseo, botiro compaginatum, grossum, rude, et rusticanum'.]

A. *adj.* 1. Used to designate a burlesque form of verse in which vernacular words are introduced into a Latin context with Latin terminations and in Latin constructions. Also, applied to similar verse of which the basis is Greek instead of Latin; and *loosely* to any form of verse in which two or more languages are mingled together. Hence of language, style, etc.: Resembling the mixed jargon of macaronic poetry.

1638 SIR J. BEAUMONT in *Jonsonus Virbius* 12 He Latin Horace found..Translated in the Macaronicke toung, Cloth'd in such raggs as [etc.]. 1711 *Drumm. of Hawth.'s Wks., Life* 5 For diverting himself and his Friends, he wrote a Sheet which he called *Polemo-Middinia*; 'Tis a sort of Macaronick Poetry, in which the Scots Words are put in Latin Terminations. 1778 JOHNSON 14 Apr. in *Boswell*, Maccaronick verses are verses made out of a mixture of different languages. 1837 HALLAM *Hist. Lit.* I. vi. § 31 I. 519 Maillard..whose sermons, printed if not preached in Latin, with sometimes a sort of almost macaronic intermixture of French. 1897 DOWDEN *Fr. Lit.* II. i. 90 The macaronic poet Folengo. 1898 STEVENSON *St. Ives* 236 Grace was said..in a macaronic latin.

†2. Of the nature of a jumble or medley. *Obs.*

1611 (*title*) Coryats Crambe, or his Colwort Twise Sodden, And Now serued in with other Macaronicke dishes, as the second course to his Crudities. 1806 J. DALLAWAY *Obs. Eng. Arch.* 222 Those Travellers who have seen the new buildings of Edinburgh and Glasgow will look on the architecture of Bath, as belonging to the maccaronick order. 1816 G. COLMAN *Br. Grins, Lament.* xiv. (1872) 271 My coarse, macaronic style may here and there excite a smile.

3. Pertaining to a macaroni. *rare*—⁰.

1828–32 WEBSTER, *Macaronic*, pertaining to or like a macaroni; empty; trifling; vain; affected.

B. *sb.*

1. a. Macaronic language or composition. b. *pl.* Macaronic verses.

a 1668 DENHAM *Dialogue* 33 You that were once so œconomick, Quitting the thrifty style Laconick, Turn Prodigal in Makeronick. 1693 *Apol. Clergy Scot.* 31 When some of his Party mounts the Desk and declaims their Maccaronicks. 1727 BAILEY vol. II, *Macaronicks* [among the Italians], a sort of Burlesque Poetry made out of their Language, and the Scraps and Terminations of divers other. 1839 HALLAM *Introd. Lit. Europe* II. v. 267 *note*, Folengo..sat down for the rest of his life to write Macaronics. *a* 1864 LUCY AIKIN in *Mem.* etc. 77 Our own people were turning Scotch without knowing it. We began to allow the macaronic of the Edinburgh Review for actual English!

†2. A jumble or medley. *Obs.*

1611 COTGR., *Macaronique*, a Macaronick; a confused heape, or huddle of many seuerall things.

†**Macaro'nical,** *a. Obs.* Also 6 **macheronicall.** [See prec. and -ICAL.] = MACARONIC *a.*

1585 E. D. *Prayse of Nothing* Hj b, The macheronicall phantasies of Merlinus Cocaius. 1596 NASHE *Saffron Walden* F, Who..hath translated my *Piers Pennilesse* into the Macaronicall tongue.

Macaro'nically, *adv.* [f. MACARONIC: see -ICALLY.] In the macaronic manner.

1821 W. TAYLOR in *Monthly Rev.* XCVI. 82 That strange mixture of Portuguese, Spanish, .. [etc.] names with which most European maps of South America are macaronically diversified. 1900 G. W. E. RUSSELL *Conferences* ii. 24 The earliest pieces .. are in the learned language, sometimes macaronically interspersed with the vernacular.

Macaronicism (mækărō'nisiz'm). [f. MACARONIC + -ISM.] Macaronic style.

1830 *Gentl. Mag.* C. II. 123 Moliere gives an amusing specimen of macaronicism, in the *troisième intermede* of Le Malade Imaginaire. 1845 *Encycl. Metrop.* XXI. 629/2 It may be doubted, however, whether the Ancients would be very solicitous to establish a prior claim to Macaronicism.

Macaronism (mækărō'niz'm). Also 8 **macaronyism,** 9 **maccaroni-ism.** [f. MACARONI + -ISM.] Behaviour characteristic of a macaroni; dandyism.

1775 MME. D'ARBLAY *Early Diary* 21 Nov., He is a good deal in the present ton, which is not Macaronyism. 1835 *Tait's Mag.* II. 20 His colonel..requited his maccaroni-ism by a week's arrest. 1863 SALA *Capt. Dangerous* II. viii. 252 We would have thought it vile poltroonery and macaronism to have worn wigs. 1868 CTESS MINTO *Mem. H. Elliot* I. 28 His maccaronism seems to have been a subject of jest among his friends.

Macaro'nyish, *a. rare*—¹. [f. MACARONI + -ISH.] Characteristic of dandyism.

1859 SALA *Two round Clock* (1861) 288 There is something supercilious, pragmatical, macaronyish, un-English, in the announcement, 'No half-price'.

Macaroon (mækărū'n). Also 7 **makeron(e, maquaroon, mackroom, mackroon,** 7–8 **mackeroon(e, mackaroon(e, macaron,** 8 **macaroun, macron,** 7–9 **maccaroon.** [a. F. *macaron* (16th c.), ad. It. *maccarone* (now *maccherone*) sing. of *maccaroni*: see MACARONI.]

1. A small sweet cake or biscuit consisting chiefly of ground almonds, white of egg, and sugar.

1611 COTGR., *Macarons*, Macarons; little Fritter-like Bunnes, or thicke Losenges, compounded of Sugar, Almonds, Rosewater, and Muske. 1611 MARKHAM *Country Content.* II. ii. (1668) 98 To make Jumbals more fine and curious .. and nearer to the taste of the Macaroon. 1630 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Gt. Eater Kent* Wks. I. 146/1 Whether it bee .. Fritter, or Flapiacke, or Posset, Galley-Mawfrey, Mackeroone, Kickshaw, or Tantablin. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. 83/2 Mackroons, a kind of roul of sweet Bread. 1725 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Tourte*, You may also put a pounded Macaroon into the Artichoke Cream. 1747 MRS. GLASSE *Cookery* xv. 141 To make Maccaroons. 1848 J. GRANT *Adv. Aide-de-C.* xxviii. (Rtldg.) 227 Little maccaroons, sweet as sugar and almonds could make them. 1875 A. R. HOPE *My School-boy Fr.* 138 We were regaling on macaroons.

attrib. 1783 MME. D'ARBLAY *Diary* 9 Dec., I had no more power to prevent it than this macaroon cake in my hand. 1836 T. HOOK *G. Gurney* I. 297 A Jew boy, selling macaroon cakes. 1898 GULLY in *Daily News* 21 July 7/5 A Marchpane is an edifice in macaroon work.

†2. = MACARONI 1. *Obs.*

1704 J. PITTS *Acc. Mahometans* iii. (1738) 24 What they call Mackaroon is some Paste made only with Flour and Water. 1738 [G. SMITH] *Curious Relat.* II. 302 A Sort of Pudding, which they [in Malta] call *Macron.* 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.*, *Macaron*, the name of a sort of vermicelli, a paste made of flour and water, and formed into the shape of the barrel of a quill, or the guts of small fowls.

†3. A buffoon; a blockhead, dolt. Also *dial.* a fop (= MACARONI 2). *Obs.* [Cf. It. *maccherone.*]

a 1631 DONNE *Sat.* iv. 117 Like a bigge wife, at sight of lothed meat..; so I sigh and sweat To heare this Makeron talke in vaine. *a* 1633 R. B. *In Mem., Donne's Poems* 401 A Macaroon And no way fit to speake to clouted shoone. *a* 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia, Macaroon,* a fop.

Macartney (măkā·ătni). [The name of George, Earl *Macartney* (1737–1806).] Used in *Macartney cock, pheasant,* and in shortened form *Macartney*: A pheasant of the genus *Euplocamus,* esp. *E. ignitus*; a fireback.

[1779. DR. SHAW in Sir G. Staunton *Macartney's Embassy to China* (1797) I. 248 It may be called the *fire-backed pheasant.* 1813 TEMMINCK *Hist. Nat. des Pigeons* etc. II. 273 Houpifère Macartney. Gallus Macartneyi. Mihi. .. Cette belle espèce de Gallinacé .. a été indiquée .. par sir Georges Staunton, d'après un individu qui fut offert à Lord Macartney, Ambassadeur Anglais auprès de l'Empereur de la Chine.] 1834 SIR W. JARDINE *Nat. Hist. Gallinaceous Birds* I. 214 The Macartney Cock. *Euplocamus ignitus.* Fire-backed Pheasant of Java. 1840 BLYTH tr. *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* (1849) 227 The Macartneys.

Macary bitter. 'A West Indian name for *Picramnia Antidesma*' (*Treas. Bot.* 1866).

a 1726 H. BARHAM *Hortus Americanus* (1794) 96 Majoe. ..It is also called Macary bitter from its growing in great plenty in the bay of Macary.

Macassar (măkæ·sɔɹ). [The name (in the native form *Mangkasara*) of a district in the island of Celebes.] **Macassar oil,** an unguent for the hair, grandiloquently advertised in the early part of the 19th century, and represented by the makers (Rowland and Son) to consist of ingredients obtained from Macassar. The name has subsequently been given commercially to various natural products imported from the East, e.g. to the oils expressed from the seeds of *Schleichera trijuga, Carthamus tinctorius,* and the berries of *Stadtmannia Sideroxylon.* (Hence **Macassar-oiled** *a.,* anointed with this oil.) **Macassar poison,** the gum of a tree, with which the Malays poison their arrows.

1666-7 *Phil. Trans.* II. 417 Whether it be true, that the onely Antidote hitherto known, against the .. Macassar-poison, is humane Ordure, taken inwardly? 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) X. 357/1 *Macassar Poison,*..called *ippo* in the Macassar and Malayan tongue. 1809 ALEX. ROWLAND jun. (*title*) Essay on..the Human Hair, with Remarks on the Virtues of the Macassar Oil. 1819 BYRON *Juan* I. xvii, In virtues nothing earthly could surpass her, Save thine 'incomparable oil,' Macassar! 1831 TRELAWNY *Adv. Younger Son* III. 280 [The author professes to have met in Celebes with] the oleaginous extract from a fruit-tree, since that period become so notorious in Europe, (by name I mean,) —Macassar oil. 1842 S. LOVER *Handy Andy* x. 99 He ran his fingers through his Macassar-oiled ringlets. 1896 BRANNT *Fats & Oils* (ed. 2) II. 82 Macassar oil .. is obtained from the seed of *Schleichera trijuga* .. Considerable quantities of the oil were formerly imported, but what at present comes into commerce under the name of 'macassar oil' is mostly a mixture of cocoa-nut oil and ylang-ylang extract, coloured red with alkannin.

Macauco, variant of MACACO.

Macaulayism (măkɔ̄·lɪ̆iz'm). [f. the name of Thomas Babington (Lord) *Macaulay* (1800–1859) + -ISM.] The characteristic historical method or literary style of Macaulay; an instance of this. So **Macau·layan, Macaulaye·sque, Macau·layish** *adjs.,* pertaining to or modelled upon Macaulay's method or style. **Macaulaye·se** (erron. *Macaulese*), Macaulay's kind of diction.

1846 POE *Cary* Wks. 1864 III. 68 Models of style in these days of rhodomontades and Macaulayisms. 1859 NAPIER *Life Visct. Dundee* I. 4 *note,* How often does he give us Macaulese for history! 1865 *Spectator* 492 Lord Derby does not talk leading articles after this Macaulayish fashion. 1871 M. ARNOLD *Friendship's Garland* 71 Why do you call Mr. Hepworth Dixon's style middle-class Macaulayese? 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 26 Sept. 3/1 There is something quite Macaulayesque in the description..of the way in which [etc.]. 1887 *Spectator* 27 Aug. 1159 Macaulayan and other historical —or at least other historians'—incrustations. 1892 *Athenæum* 11 June 758/3 Dressing up platitudes in a sort of faded Macaulayese.

Macaw[1] (măkɔ̄·). Also 7 **machao,** 7–8 **macao,** 7–9 **macaw,** 8 **maccau,** 8–9 **mackaw.** [a. Pg. *macao,* of obscure origin; a Tupi name for the bird is *macavuana.*

Cf. Sp. '*máca,* a Bird in the Province of Quito, in South-America, less than our Cocks, with a long Bill Red and Yellow, and its Feathers of such Variety of Colours as is admirable' (Pineda, 1740).]

1. The name for several species of large long-tailed birds of the parrot kind constituting the genus *Ara*; they inhabit tropical and subtropical America and are remarkable for their gaudy plumage.

1668 CHARLETON *Onomasticon Zoicon* 66 Great blew and yellow Psittat called the *Machao,* or *Cockatoon.* *a* 1672 WILLUGHBY *Ornithol.* II. xi. (1676) 73 Psittacus maximus alter Aldrov. Angl. Maccaw, seu Macao & Cockatoon. 1703 DAMPIER *Voy.* (1729) III. I. 405 The Red Maccaw. 1707 FUNNELL *Voy.* iv. 70 The Maccaw..is about the bigness of a Hawk. 1788 *New Lond. Mag.* 61 The larger Psittaci are called Macaos. 1802 BINGLEY *Anim. Biog.* (1813) II. 75 The Brasilian Green Macaw. 1821–30 LD. COCKBURN *Mem.* v. (1874) 257 [He] was walking..dressed like a mackaw, as the Commissioner's purse-bearer. 1870 DISRAELI *Lothair* XXXV, Upon gilt and painted perches also there were..macaws.

†**2.** Applied (? erron.) to some oriental bird. *Obs.*

1699 DAMPIER *Voy.* II. I. 128 In the [Achin] Woods there are many sorts of wild Fowls, viz. Maccaws, Parrots [etc.].

3. *attrib.,* as *macaw tribe*; †**macaw-fish,** some brightly coloured fish (cf. *parrot-fish*).

1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* s.v., With some it [cockatoon] is made the synonymous name of all the Macaw tribe. 1792 MAR. RIDDELL *Voy. Madeira* 69 The parrot-fish, the macaw-fish.

Macaw[2] (măkɔ̄). Also 7 **macow,** 7–8 **maccaw,** 8–9 **mackaw,** 9 **macca-.** [Prob. repr. one or more Carib words; cf. Arawak (Guiana) *mocaya, macoya,* the macaw-palm.] The West Indian name for palms of the genus *Acrocomia*; formerly also †the fruit of these palms. Now only *attrib.* in *macaw-berry, -palm, -tree*; also **macaw-bush,** a West Indian plant, *Solanum mammosum* (Treas. Bot. 1866); **macaw-fat,** a West Indian name for the Oil Palm, *Elaïs guineensis.*

1657 LIGON *Barbados* 72 The Macow is one of the strangest trees the Iland affords. 1672 R. BLOME *Jamaica,* etc. 73 [Descr. Barbadoes] Limes, Lemons, Macows, Grapes [etc.]. 1697 DAMPIER *Voy.* (1698) I. ii. 20 We got Macaw-berries.. wherewith we satisfied ourselves this day, though coursly. 1699 L. WAFER *Voy.* 16 We found there a Maccaw tree, which afforded us berries, of which we eat greedily. *Ibid.* 20 This being the 7th Day of our Fast, save only the Maccaw-berries before related. 1756 P. BROWNE *Jamaica* 343 The Mackaw Tree..is very common in most of the sugar-colonies. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Macaw-fat,* a West Indian name for oil palm, *Elais Guineensis. Macaw-palm,* the *Acrocomia sclerocarpa* of Martius. 1864 GRISEBACH *Flora W. Ind.* 785 Mackaw Tree, *Acrocomia sclerocarpa.* 1882 J. SMITH *Dict. Pop. Names Plants,* Macaw Palm or Gru-Gru (*Acrocomia fusiformis*). 1894 *Outing* (U.S.) XXIII. 380/2 The oil palm or macca-fat.

†**Maccarib.** *Obs.* [App. cogn. w. *caribou,* a. Micmac *kaleboo,* lit. 'shoveller' (N. & Q. 9th Ser. IX. 465). Cf. F. *macaribo* (Littré).] = CARIBOU.

1672 JOSSELYN *New Eng. Rarities* 20 The *Maccarib, Caribo,* or *Pohano,* a kind of Deer, as big as a Stag, round hooved, smooth hair'd and soft as silk.

Maccaroni, Maccase(e)ne, Maccaw: see MACARONI, MOCCASIN, MACAW.

Macche, obs. form of MATCH.

Macciavelian: see MACHIAVELLIAN.

Macco (mæ·ko). ? *Obs.* [? A variant spelling of MACAO.] A gambling game; = MACAO.

1809 BYRON in Moore *Life* (1875) 143 When macco (or whatever they spell it) was introduced. 1825 *Sporting Mag.* XVI. 277 A rubber of whist, or a game of Macco. 1859 THACKERAY *Virgin.* xli, He dines at White's ordinary, and sits down to macco and lansquenet afterwards.

attrib. 1825 T. HOOK *Man of Many Fr., Say. & Doings* Ser. II. II. 18 His uncle was still at the Macco table. 1859 THACKERAY *Virgin.* xliv, I..left it at the Macco-table.

Maccoboy (mæ·kŏboi). Also 8 **macabao, macauba,** 9 **maccaboy, maccubau, mac(c)ouba, mackabaw,** *Sc.* **macabaa, -baw, maccaba(w.** [Named from *Macouba,* a district in Martinique.] A kind of snuff, usually scented with attar of roses.

1740 *Wimble's List of Snuffs* in Fairholt *Tobacco* (1859) 269 Macabao. 1799 *Hull Advertiser* 27 July 4/4 You are famous .. For having the best Macauba [*rime* draw]. 18.. G. WUSHART in Mactaggart *Gallovid. Encycl.* (1824) 223 Ye maun bring me a teat o' this same Macabaa. 1823 J. BADCOCK *Dom. Amusem.* 99 The snuff of Martinico, celebrated under the term 'Macouba'. 1849 THACKERAY *Pendennis* II. ii. 14 [He] pocketted his snuff-box, not desirous that Madame Brack's dubious fingers should plunge too frequently into his Mackabaw. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Maccoboy, Maccubau,* a kind of snuff. 1893 STEVENSON *Catriona* xix. 218 Him I found already at his desk and already bedabbled with maccabaw. 1896 E. MARRIAGE tr. *Balzac's Old Goriot* 21 His snuff-box is always likely to be filled with maccaboy.

Mace (mēˑs), *sb.*[1] Also 4–5 **mas,** 4–7 **mase,** 5–6 **mais,** (5 **maas, mass, meyce,** 6 **maysse,** 6–7 **masse**). [a. OF. *masse, mace* = Pr. *massa,* It. *mazza,* Sp. *maza,* Pg. *maça*:—L. type **mat(t)ea* (prob. the origin of the rare *mat(t)eola* ? mallet).]

1. A heavy staff or club, either entirely of metal or having a metal head, often spiked: formerly a regular weapon of war. (Also called †*mace of arms* = F. *masse d'armes.*) †In early use also, a club of any kind.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 4219 Þis geant .. bigan is mace adrawe. *c* 1320 *Sir Beues* 3800 Þei leide on .. Wiþ swerdes and wiþ maces. *a* 1330 *Otuel* 1112 He cam wiþ a mase of bras. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XI. 600 The Ynglis men..Kest emang thame swerdis and mas. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Knt.'s T.* 1753 With myghty maces the bones they tobreste. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 359 And Hercules..Was ther, berende his grete Mace. 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 22171 And with this ylke sturdy Maas, I putte hem out a fful greet paas. *Ibid.* 23160 Then cam Treason with hir mas Hevy as a clobbe of leed. 1555 EDEN *Decades* 161 Laton whereof they make such maces and hammers as are vsed in the warres. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* III. v. 78 Vppon their saddle bow, their roundel & the Busdeghan (being the mase of armes). 1678 WANLEY *Wond. Lit. World* v. ii. § 86. 473/1 He would cast a Horseman's Mace of nine or ten pounds weight farther than any other of his Court. 1728 POPE *Dunc.* I. 85 Pomps without guilt, of bloodless swords and maces. 1825 SCOTT *Talism.* i, A steel axe, or hammer, called a mace-of-arms. 1834 PLANCHÉ *Brit. Costume* 244 The pistol superseded the mace in the hands of officers during this reign [Hen. VIII].

†**b.** Applied to the trident of Neptune. *Obs.*

1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* II. (Arb.) 63 Thee wals God Neptune, with mace threeforcked, vphurleth. 1590 SPENSER *Muiopotmos* 315 The God of Seas..strikes the rockes with his three-forked mace. 1791 COWPER *Iliad* XII. 29 Neptune with his tridental mace himself Led them.

c. *fig.*

1601 SHAKS. *Jul. C.* IV. iii. 268 O Murd'rous slumber! Layest thou thy Leaden Mace vpon my Boy? 1667 MILTON *P. L.* X. 294 The aggregated Soyle Death, with his Mace petrific, cold and dry, As with a Trident smote. 1840 LONGF. *Sp. Stud.* I. v, Hark! how the loud and ponderous mace of Time Knocks at the golden portals of the day! 1878 BROWNING *La Saisiaz* 385 As..Beethoven's Titan mace Smote the immense to storm.

2. A sceptre or staff of office, resembling in shape the weapon of war, which is borne before (or was formerly carried by) certain officials. † Also formerly = the sceptre of sovereignty.

For *Sergeant at* (or *of*) *Mace,* see SERGEANT. The mace which lies on the table in the House of Commons when the Speaker is in the chair is viewed as a symbol of the authority of the House (cf. b).

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 319/1 Mace of a seriawnt, *s[c]eptrum, clava.* 1471 RIPLEY *Comp. Alch.* v. xxviii. in Ashm. (1652) 155 Wyth Sylver Macys..Sarjaunts awayting on them every uwre. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 253 They gane hym a rede in his hande for a septer or a mace. 1559 *Mirr. Mag., Jas. I* xx. 5 My murdring uncle..That longed for my kingdome and my mace. 1580 *Nottingham Rec.* IV. 195 Payd to Towley for the other ij. maces mendyng. 1593 SHAKS. *2 Hen. VI,* IV. vii. 144 With these borne before vs, in steed of Maces, Will we ride through the streets. 1623–4 in Swayne *Churchw. Acc. Sarum* (1896) 177 The Iron wch holds the Mase at the end of Mr. Maiors pewe. 1677 E. SMITH in *12th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 37 Some mischievous persons to dishonour my Lord Chancellour..stole the mace and the two purses. 1708 J. CHAMBERLAYNE *St. Gt. Brit.* I. II. xiii. (1710) 100 The Mace, while the Speaker is in the Chair, is always upon the Table, except when sent upon any extraordinary Occasion into Westminster-Hall, and Court of Requests, to summon the Members to attend. 1758 JOHNSON *Idler* No. 96 ¶ 1 He..read the Gothick characters inscribed on his brazen mace. 1856 EMERSON *Eng. Traits, Ability* Wks. (Bohn) II. 45 The chancellor carries England on his mace. 1877 J. D. CHAMBERS *Div. Worship* 186 A Beadle, or other official, with a wand or mace, clearing the way.

b. *By (warrant of) the mace*: in House of Commons use, said of occasions when the Serjeant-at-Arms is sent with the mace as his warrant for demanding obedience to a command of the House.

1576 *Jrnl. Ho. Comm.* 22 Feb. I. 107 The said Committees found no Precedent for setting at large by the Mace any Person in Arrest; but only by Writ. *Ibid.* 27 Feb. I. 108 It is Resolved, That Edward Smalleye..shall be brought hither To-morrow, by the Serjeant; and so set at Liberty, by Warrant of the Mace, and not by writ.

c. A mace-bearer.

1663 *Flagellum or O. Cromwell* (1672) 26 And here upon a Mace was sent to bring Cromwell into the Court. 1670 MARVELL *Let.* 21 Mar. *Wks.* (Grosart) II. 315 Sir Thomas Clifford carryed Speaker and Mace, and all members there, into the King's cellar, to drink his health. 1753 GRAY *Long Story* iii, My grave Lord-Keeper led the brawls; The seals and maces danc'd before him. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xi. III. 1 Garter King at arms..was followed by the maces of the two Houses, by the two Speakers [etc.].

3. a. *Billiards.* A stick with a flat square head, formerly used for propelling the balls; now superseded by the cue. (Cf. MAST *sb.*[3]) **b.** A similar instrument used in *Bagatelle.*

1727 BOYER *Fr. Dict., Masse,* (Billard dont on joue) Mass, or Billiard Stick. 1734 R. SEYMOUR *Compl. Gamester* III. (ed. 5) 84 If a Person breaks a Stick, or the Mace, he must pay Six-pence for the Stick and two Shillings for the Mace. 1744 J. LOVE *Cricket* 4 The dull Ball trails before the feeble Mace. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) III. 229 [Billiards] is played with sticks, called *maces,* or with cues; the first consist of a long straight stick, with a head at the end, and are the most powerful instruments of the two..In England the mace is the prevailing instrument, which the foreigners hold in contempt. 1814 COL. HAWKER *Diary* (1893) I. 119 We .. enjoyed the novelty of playing with the Emperor's favourite cue, and Maria Louisa's mace. 1856 'CAPT. CRAWLEY' *Billiards* (1859) 8 The Mace, by the way, is seldom or never used by the present generation of billiard players. 1873 BENNETT & 'CAVENDISH' *Billiards* 4 Maces (called 'masts') only were used, made of lignum vitæ or some other weighty wood, and tipped with ivory. 1883 *Cassell's Sports & Past.* 329 [*Bagatelle*]. The balls are struck with either a cue or a mace; of these two the latter will be found the easier.

4. *Tanning.* (See quots.)

1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 378 The chief operations of the currier are four:—1. Dipping the leather, which consists in moistening it with water, and beating it with the mace, or a mallet upon the hurdle. 1852 MORFIT *Tanning & Currying* (1853) 462 The leather may either be beaten out with the feet, or with an instrument called the mace.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.,* as *mace-blow, head*; †**mace-proof** *a., nonce-wd.,* safe from arrest.

1879 G. MEREDITH *Egoist* II. v. 104 The effect .. was to produce an image of surpassingness in the features of Clara that gave him the final, or *mace-blow. 1899 *Daily News* 12 Sept. 7/2 Sargon of Accad..of whom a *mace head bearing his name is to be seen in the British Museum. 1633 SHIRLEY *Bird in a Cage* II. D 3 b, You shall..come vp to the face of a Sergiant,..and be *mace proofe.

Mace (mēˑs), *sb.*[2] Forms: α. 4–5 **macys,** 4–6 **macis, maces,** (4 **macz,** 5 **macez, masis,** 6 **mases**). β. 4– **mace,** (6 **mase**). [ME. *macis,* a. F. *macis* (14th c. in Godef.), of unknown origin; cf. F. (16th c.) *massia,* ? cinnamon flower. The form *macis* being in Eng. apprehended as a plural, the new singular *mace* was formed from it.

It is not likely that the word has any connexion with L. *maccis* (accus. *maccida*) occurring once in Plautus in a bombastic list of unknown and perhaps imaginary spices.]

1. A spice consisting of the dried outer covering of the nutmeg.

a 1377 *Abingdon Acc.* (Camden) 38 In farina xxviijs. In croco xls. In macys ijs. *xd.* [etc.]. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. ii. (1495) 595 The Mace is the flowre, and the Notmygge is the fruyte. *Ibid.* cix. 672 The rynde of Nux musticata, the notmygge, hight Macis. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xxi. 94 Þe macez er þe huskes of þe nutemug. *c* 1420 *Liber Cocorum* (1862) 13 Fors hit with clowes or macys gode. 1471 *Paston Lett.* III. 25 Sende me word qwat price a *li.* of peppyr, clowys, masis, gingyr [etc.]. 1527 R. THORNE in *Hakluyt's Voy.* (1589) 252 The Islands are fertile of Cloues, Nutmegs, Mace, and Cinnamom. 1544 PHAER *Regim. Lyfe* (1553) E j a, Mithridatum..wel tempered in a littel white wine with a fewe maces. 1594 BLUNDEVIL *Exerc.* v. xi. (1636) 554 But when the Nut waxeth dry, the Mace do sever from the Nut. *Ibid.* xii. 557 From the Ile Banda doth come Nutmegs and Maces. 1732 ARBUTHNOT *Rules of Diet* 259 Spices, as Cinnamon, Mace, Nutmeg. 1747 MRS. GLASSE *Cookery* ii. 32 Add some..Pepper and Salt, and a little beaten Mace. 1811 A. T. THOMSON *Lond. Disp.* (1818) 262 Oil of Mace. 1871 C. KINGSLEY *At Last* v, The nutmegs, the mace still clinging round them, lie scattered on the grass.

2. *attrib.*: †mace-ale, ale spiced with mace.

1611 BEAUM. & FL. *Four Pl., Triumph of Love* iv, She had more need of mace-ale..than your aged discipline. 1676 WISEMAN *Surg.* IV. v. 318 That night she took an anodyne Syrup in a draught of Mace-ale.

Mace (mēis), *sb.*[3] Forms: 6 mase, 7 mas(se, maz, mess, 8 masscie, 8– mace. [a. Malay ماس *mās* (also اماس *emās*); said to be repr. Skr. *māsha* a weight of about 17 grains.]

1. In Malay countries: A small gold coin weighing 9 grains and worth about 1*s.* 1*d.* Also, 'a weight used in Sumatra, being according to Crawfurd 1–16th of a Malay tael, or about 40 grains' (Y.).

1598 W. PHILLIP tr. *Linschoten's Voy.* 44 A Tael of Malacca is 16 Mases. 1600 J. DAVIS in Purchas *Pilgrimage* (1614) I. III. i. 117 That [coin] of Gold is named a *Mas*, and is nine pence halfe penie neerest. Those of Lead are called *Caxas*: whereof a thousand sixe hundred make one *Mas*. 1699 DAMPIER *Voy.* II. i. 132 Of these [cash] 1500 make a *Mess*, which ..is a small thin piece of Gold..It is in value 15 pence English. 1727 A. HAMILTON *New Acc. E. Ind.* II. xli. 109 At Atcheen they have a small Coin of Leaden Money called Cash, from twelve to sixteen hundred of them goes to one Mace, or Masscie. 1813 MILBURN *Oriental Comm.* (1825) 348 The currency here [Tringano, Malay Peninsula] consists also of the following:..16 mace equal to 1 tale. *Ibid.* 360 [Sumatra] The lesser weights are as follow:—4 Copangs equal to 1 Mace.

2. A Chinese money of account equivalent to one-tenth of a silver liang or tael.

1615 R. COCKS *Diary* (1883) I. 1 We bought 5 greate square postes..cost 2 *mas* 6 *condrins* per peece. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* II. 531 Although the terms candereen and mace are employed to certify a certain quantity of caxees, there are no coins..which bear that specific value. 1802 CAPT. ELMORE in *Naval Chron.* VIII. 382 At seven mace two candereen per head. 1896 *Blackw. Mag.* Apr. 580/2 The [poppy] tax is stated to be one mace or six-tenths of a mace the plot.

Mace (mēis), *sb.*[4] *slang.* Swindling, robbery by fraud. *On mace*: on credit, 'on tick'.

1781 G. PARKER *View Soc.* II. 34 The mace is a man who goes to any capital tradesman..in an elegant vis-à-vis [etc.]. 1879 J. W. HORSLEY in *Macm. Mag.* XL. 502 The following people used to go in there—toy-getters (watch-stealers).. men at the mace (sham loan offices). 1893 P. H. EMERSON *Signor Lippo* xxii. 100 Letting 'em have the super and slang on mace, for he gets to know their account and he puts the pot on 'em settling day.

b. *Comb.*: mace-cove, -gloak, -man = MACER[2].

1812 J. H. VAUX *Flash Dict.*, *Mace-gloak*, a man who lives upon the mace. 1823 'J. BEE' *Dict. Turf* s.v. *Mace*, The mace-cove is he who will cheat, take in, or swindle, as often as may be. 1859 SALA *Tw. round Clock* (1861) 160 The nightside of London is fruitful in 'macemen', 'mouchers', and 'go-alongs'. 1865 M. COLLINS *Who is the Heir?* II. 245 What is a maceman?..A person who buys anything he can get without paying for it, and sells it again at once for anything he can get. 1884 *Daily News* 5 Jan. 5/2 The victim appears to have entered an omnibus and to have been at once pounced upon by two 'macemen', otherwise 'swell mobsmen'.

Mace, *v.*[1] *rare*[−1]. [f. MACE *sb.*[1]] *trans.* To strike as with a mace.

1840 DICKENS *Barn. Rudge* iv, The 'prentices no longer carried clubs wherewith to mace the citizens.

†**Mace,** *v.*[2] *Obs. rare*[−1]. [f. MACE *sb.*[2]] *trans.* To season with mace. In quot. *fig.*

a 1640 DAY *Peregr. Schol.* (1881) 70 If anie of you come vnder there clowches theile pepper you and mace you with a vengeance.

Mace, *v.*[3] *slang.* [f. MACE *sb.*[4]] *trans.* and *intr.* To swindle. Hence **Ma·cing** *vbl. sb.*

1790 POTTER *New Dict. Cant.* (1795) *Mace*, to cheat. 1812 *Sporting Mag.* XXXIX. 138 A..party of inferior pugilists had been macing in the southern towns. 1819 J. H. VAUX *Mem.* I. 53, I sometimes raised the wind by..obtaining goods on credit, called in the cant language maceing. 1885 *Daily Tel.* 18 Aug. 3/2 Fancy him being so soft as to give that jay a quid back out of the ten be'd maced him of!

Ma·ce-bearer. One who carries a mace; *spec.* an official whose duty it is to carry a mace, as a symbol of authority, before some high functionary.

1552 HULOET, Mace bearer. *cliduchus.* 1683 *Addr. fr. Oxford* in *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1863/5 Our respective Mayor, Bayliffs,.. Town-Clerk, Mace bearer or any other Officers. 1687 Wooo *Life* 3 Sept., Afterwards the macebearer put the mace into the mayor's hands. 1763 H. WALPOLE *Catal. Engravers* (1765) 20 John bishop of Lincoln, with purse-bearer, mace-bearer [etc.]. 1823 DE QUINCEY *Incognito* Wks. 1862 X. 2 The chief-burgomaster .. turned the mace-bearer out of the room. 1835 *1st Munic. Corp. Comm. Rep.* App. III. 1686 Other officers of the Corporation [of Preston] are, Mace-Bearer, Beadle [etc.]. 1841 ELPHINSTONE *Hist. Ind.* II. 349 A mace-bearer called out to him, with mock solemnity, to receive the salutations of his servants. 1870 BRYANT *Iliad* I. VII. 210 The mace-bearer Areithous.

Macedon (mæ·sĭdŏn). [ad. L. *Macedon-em* (*Macedo*), Gr. Μακεδόν-α (*-ών*).]

†**1.** One of the people (to which Alexander the Great belonged) that inhabited Macedonia. *Obs.*

[1382 WYCLIF 2 *Cor.* ix. 4 When Macedonyes schulen come with me.] *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 934, 1179, 1253, etc., Messadones, Messedones, -edoyns, Masidons. 1594 KYD *Cornelia* I. 63 Macedons or Medes. 1632 MASSINGER *City Madam* IV. ii, The valiant Macedon..Lamented that there were no more [worlds] to conquer. 1700 DRYDEN *Fables, To Duchess of Ormond* 133 As once the Macedon, by Jove's decree, Was taught to dream an herb for Ptolemy.

†**b.** *appos.* or quasi-*adj.* = Macedonian. *Obs.*

1710 *The Tipling Philosophers* 17 Diogenes, Surly and Proud, Who Snarl'd at the Macedon Youth.

2. Anglicized name of Macedonia. *arch.*

1584 C. ROBINSON *Handf. Ples. Delites* (Arb.) 46 The famous Prince of Macedon. 1625 BACON *Ess., Prophecies*, Phillip of Macedon. 1871 S. J. STONE *Hymn*, Through midnight gloom from Macedon.

Macedonian (mæsĭdō·niăn), *a.*[1] and *sb.*[1] [f. L. *Macedoni-us* (= Gr. Μακεδόνιος, f. Μακεδών: see prec.) + -AN.] **A.** *adj.* Pertaining to Macedonia, a country north of Greece.

Macedonian Parsley: see PARSLEY.

1556 *Robinson's tr. More's Utopia* Printer to Reader (Arb.) 168 Seyng it is a tongue to vs muche straunger then the Indian,..the Macedonian,..etc. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 196 At one time is giuen them nine Macedonian Bushels, but..of drinke eyther wine or water thirty Macedonian pintes at a time. 1707 *Curios. in Husb. & Gard.* 257 To make Celery, and Macedonian Parsly grow very fast. 1844 THIRLWALL *Greece* lxvi. VIII. 419 It had received a Macedonian admiral in its port.

B. *sb.* A native of Macedonia.

1582 N. T. (Rhem.) 2 *Cor.* ix. 2, I know your prompt minde: for the which I glorie of you to the Macedonians. 1834 LYTTON *Pompeii* II. i, I will teach thee, young braggart, to play the Macedonian with me. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVIII. 75/2 He was stabbed by a young Macedonian of his own body-guard.

Macedonian (mæsĭdō·niăn), *a.*[2] and *sb.*[2] [ad. Eccl. L. *Macedoniān-us*, f. *Macedonius*: see -AN.] A follower of Macedonius, a heretical Bishop of Constantinople in the 4th century.

1577 VAUTROUILLIER *Luther on Ep. Gal.* 18 Arians, Eunomians, Macedonians, and such other heretikes. 1701 tr. *Le Clerc's Prim. Fathers* 232 He [Gregory] disputes about the Consubstantiality of the Holy Spirit against the Macedonians. 1727–52 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Semi-Arians*, A new branch of Macedonian Semi-arians, or Pneumatomachi. 1882–3 *Schaff's Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* II. 1578 They are Macedonians, esteeming the Holy Spirit as no person, but only an influence or emanation.

Hence **Macedo·nianism.**

1642 HALES *Schism* 9 Manichanisme, Valentinianisme, Macedonianisme, Mahometisme, are truly and properly Heresies. 1646 BP. MAXWELL *Bund. Issach.* 21 The grossest Heresies, Arianisme, Arminianisme, Macedonianisme [etc.].

[**Macegriefs,** 'such as willingly buy stolen flesh' (Cowell 1607, whence in later Law Dicts.), is a spurious word, due to misunderstanding of the AF. text of Britton I. xxx. § 3, which speaks of 'butchers (*macegriers*) who knowingly sell stolen flesh'.]

Macelency, obs. form of MACILENCY.

†**Macella·rious,** *a. Obs.*—° [f. L. *macellāri-us* (f. *macellum* meat market) + -OUS.]

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Macellarious*, pertaining to the Butchers Row or Shambles.

Macer[1] (mēi·sə). Also *Sc.* 5–6 maser(e, masar, 6 messer, measer, masser, 6–7 maissar, -er. [a. OF. *maissier*, *massier*, f. *masse* MACE *sb.*[1]: see -ER[2].] A mace-bearer; *spec.* in Scotland, an official who keeps order in courts of law.

13..*St. Erkenwolde* 143 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 269 Þe maire with mony maȝti mene & macers before hyme. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. III. 76 Meires and maceres that menes ben bitwene The kynge and the comune to kepe the lawes. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 319/1 Macer, or he þat berythe mace, *scept(r)iger*. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* VII. 304 Thar folowed him fyfteyn Wicht, wallyt men..With a maser [*ed.* 1570 maissar], to tach him to the law. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* III. 275 Sextie that tyme quhilk war summond aw Be ane masar for to cum to the law. 1546 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 26 Heraldis, pursevantis, masseries, and utheris officiaris of armes. 1550 *Ibid.* 105 Ane messer or uthir officiar of armes. 1583 *Leg. Bp. St. Androis* 1065 A measʳ vpon the gait him mett. 1679 *Royal Proclam.* in *Lond. Gaz.* No 1406/1 Charles by the Grace of God [etc.]..To Our Lyon King at Arms, and his Brethren Heraulds, Macers, or Messengers at Arms. 1709 STRYPE *Ann. Ref.* I. xxi. 237 Thomas Lever, S.T.B. formerly of S. John's College and sometime macer (as was the Bishop himself). 1710 *Chamberlayne's St. Gt. Brit.* II. III. (ed. 23) 662 Macers of Exchequer. Sal. 50*l.* per Ann. each. 1752 J. LOUTHIAN *Form of Process* (ed. 2) 7 The Justice-Court has three Macers...The Macer's chief Business is, to execute all Indictments, Criminal Letters, &c. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* v. *Non omnia*—as Mr. Crossmyloof said, when he was called by two macers at once, *non omnia possumus—pessimus—possimis*. 1893 STEVENSON *Catriona* 189 And the very macer cried 'Cruachan'.

b. *attrib.*: †**macer wand,** a mace.

1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* II. 677 [He] Arreistit thame, syne with ane maissar wand, Or tha passit out of Northumberland, Richt mony thousand of thame thair wes slane.

Hence **Ma·cership.**

1883 *Edinb. Daily Rev.* 6 June 2/5 Mr. G. G. has been appointed..to the vacant macership in the Court of Session.

Macer[2] (mēi·sə). *slang.* [f. MACE *v.*[3] + -ER[1].] A swindler.

1819 *Sporting Mag.* V. 123 The cup-and-ball Macers. 1870 STEINMETZ *Gaming Table* II. vii. 220 A well known macer, who was celebrated for slipping an 'old gentleman' (a long card) into the pack.

†**Ma·cerable,** *a. Obs. rare.* [as if ad. L. **mācerābilis*, f. *mācerāre* to MACERATE.] That may be macerated.

a 1631 DONNE *Serm.* i. (1634) 30 Miserable, unexpressible, unimaginable macerable condition, where the sufferer would be glad to be but a devil. 1742 EAMES in *Phil. Trans.* XLII. 33 The Auditory Bones are of a tartareous kind of friable and easily macerable Substance.

†**Ma·cerate,** *ppl. a. Obs.* [ad. L. *mācerāt-us*, f. *mācerāre* to MACERATE.] Wasted, weakened: = the later MACERATED.

1540–1 ELYOT *Image Gov.* 30 Macerate with labours, and made feeble with age. 1632 *Womens Rights* 332 Shee chuse..not a man macerate and dryed vp with study.

Macerate (mæ·sĕrēit), *v.* Also 6 7 masserate, 7 mascerate. [f. L. *mācerāt-*, ppl. stem of *mācerāre*, f. root *māc-*, perh. cogn. w. Gr. μάσσειν (:—**maky-*, *mnky-*) to knead. For the suffix cf. *tolerāre*, *recuperāre*. Cf. F. *macérer*.]

1. *trans.* To soften by steeping in a liquid, with or without heat; to wear away or separate the soft parts of, by steeping. Also with *away*. Applied also to the treatment of food in the process of digestion.

1563 T. GALE *Antidot.* II. 10 Macerate them [sc. lard and rose leaves] and let them stand together seuen dayes. 1620 VENNER *Via Recta* vii. 133 They [sc. Pine-Apple or Nut] must first be macerated the space of an houre in warme water, and then eaten. 1660 R. COKE *Power & Subj.* 120 Iron macerated with vinegar, so as it should be inflexible. 1691 RAY *Creation* (1714) 27 It is by the Heat thereof concocted macerated and reduced into a Chyle or Cremor. 1759 BROWN *Compleat Farmer* 79 The gizzard that macerates their food. 1773 COOK *Voy.* (1790) IV. 1418 The bark is rolled up, and macerated for some time in water. 1822 IMISON *Sci. & Art* II. 178 Soak, or macerate the rags sufficiently. 1835–6 TODD *Cycl. Anat.* I. 479/1 More complete mastication is performed after the food has been long macerated in the paunch. 1875 DARWIN *Insectiv. Pl.* vi. 88 The leaves were macerated for some hours. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 558 In the axillary, anal and scrotal region, where the scales are often macerated away.

fig. 1829 LANDOR *Imag. Conv.* Wks. 1846 II. 211 A good writer will not..macerate things into such particles that nothing shall be remaining of their natural contexture.

b. *intr.* for *pass.* To undergo maceration.

1610 B. JONSON *Alch.* II. v, Let 'hem macerate, together. 1641 FRENCH *Distill.* ii. (1651) 48 Beat the spices small and bruise the Hearbs, letting them macerate twelve houres. 1755 B. MARTIN *Mag. Arts & Sci.* III. viii. 329 The ignorant Farmer cuts down his Corn and his Hay..and leaves them to macerate..in the soaking Showers. 1816 ACCUM *Chem. Tests* (1818) 81 Suffering the whole to macerate for a few hours. 1889 J. M. DUNCAN *Lect. Dis. Wom.* v. (ed. 4) 22 If the liquor amnii is not discharged it is absorbed, and the contents of the uterus either macerate or become mummified.

2. *trans.* To cause (the body, flesh, etc.) to waste or wear away, esp. by fasting.

1547 BOORDE *Brev. Health* i. 7 Fastynge to much it dryeth and macerateth the body. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* v. xiv. 442 To..macerate his body for his owne sinnes. 1647 CLARENDON *Contempl. Ps.* Tracts (1727) 415 Macerating our bodies with imprisonments and torments. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 282 ₱ 5 The Happiness of him who is macerated by Abstinence. 1830 D'ISRAELI *Chas. I*, III. vii. 135 Her frame was macerated by her secret sorrows. 1860 T. MARTIN *Horace* 24 The fierce unrest, the deathless flame, That slowly macerates my frame. 1877 C. GEIKIE *Christ* XXXIII. (1879) 385 Men who lodged in tombs and macerated themselves with fasting.

†b. *fig.* To oppress, 'crush'. *Obs.*

1637 BASTWICK *Litany* 1. 4/1 They greatly dishonour his Cesarean Maiestie, & miserably afflict and macerate [*printed* macecrate] his poore subiects. 1640 H. PARKER *Case Ship Money* 46 Civill wars have..infected and macerated that goodly Country.

†c. *intr.* for *pass.* To waste, pine away. *Obs.*

1599 MARSTON *Sco. Villanie* I. ii. 176 Once to be pursie fat Had wont be cause that life did macerate.

†**3.** In immaterial sense: To fret, vex, worry. *Obs.*

1588 SPENSER *Virg. Gnat* 94 No such sad cares, as wont to macerate And rend the greedie mindes of covetous men. 1591 *Troub. Raigne K. John* (1611) 14 A viper, who with poysoned words Doth masserate the bowels of my soule. *a* 1695 *Z.* CRADOCK *Serm. on Charity* (1740) 8 Why do some Christians..macerate and torment themselves? 1761 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* III. iv, A city so macerated with expectation.

Macerated (mæ·sĕrēitĕd), *ppl. a.* [f. MACERATE *v.* + -ED[1].] In senses of the vb.

1587 FLEMING *Contn. Holinshed* III. 1399/1 Whether it were possible to find a bodie more withered, afflicted, macerated,..or pale. 1659 *Gentl. Calling* (1696) 98 It need not doubt to maintain the Field against poor macerated Chastity. 1706 HEARNE *Collect.* 4 Mar. (O. H. S.) I. 197 What might recruit his macerated Body. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 611 This application is repeated, and the macerated skin cleansed, every forty-eight hours.

absol. 1694 MOTTEUX *Rabelais* (1737) V. 232 Th' Opime you'd linquish for the Macerated.

Macerating (mæ·sĕrēitiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. MACERATE *v.* + -ING[1].] The action of MACERATE *v.*

1600 SURFLET *Country Farme* III. lxiii. 575 Infusion is nothing else but a macerating or steeping of the thing

intended to be distilled in some licour. 1630 BRATHWAIT *Eng. Gentlem.* (1641) 183 It is macerating of the flesh that fattens the spirit. 1775 in ASH, Suppl.

Macerating (mæ·sĕrĕltiŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. MACERATE *v.* + -ING².] That macerates (see the vb.).

1689 HARVEY *Curing Dis. by Expect.* xiv. 113 The Jesuit Confessor redoubles his macerating penance. 1836 J. M. GULLY *Magendie's Formul.* (ed. 2) 132 The disgusting odour arising from the macerating intestines. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 605 The macerating action of a plaster.

Maceration (mæsĕrēˈ·ʃən). [ad. L. *mācerātiōn-em*, n. of action f. *mācerāre* to MACERATE.]

1. The action or process of softening by steeping in a liquid; also, the state of being subjected to this process; an instance of this.

1612 WOODALL *Surg. Mate* Wks. (1653) 272 Maceration is preparation of things not unlike to Humectation. *a* 1652 J. SMITH *Sel. Disc.* iv. 75 The very grass..may,..after many refinings, macerations, and maturations .. spring up into so many rational souls. 1691 RAY *Creation* I. (1692) 121 For the maceration and dissolution of the Meat into a Chyle. 1794 SULLIVAN *View Nat.* II. 157 Decomposed by long maceration in water. 1861 BUMSTEAD *Ven. Dis.* (1879) 591 The constant maceration of the mucous membrane of the mouth. 1830 HUXLEY *Crayfish* iii. 100 When the exoskeleton is cleaned by maceration.

attrib. 1898 *Rev. Brit. Pharm.* 34 The maceration tinctures are not to be made up to a prescribed volume with the menstruum.

b. In smelting iron ore (see quot.).

1868 *Rep. to Govt. U. S. Munitions War* 120 It [the ore] is then allowed to remain exposed to the air for a time long enough to permit the small traces of sulphur to be dissipated, [etc.]..This process is termed maceration.

c. quasi-*concr.* A product of maceration.

1836 J. M. GULLY *Magendie's Formul.* (ed. 2) 153 He collects the different spirituous macerations in an alembic.

2. The process of wasting or wearing away (the body, flesh, etc.); mortification; an instance of this; also the condition of being macerated.

1491 CAXTON *Vitas Patr.* (W. de W. 1495) I. xl. 57 b/2 She gaaf..her body..to were the hayre, and other maceracyons of the flesshe. 1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* II. ix. § 3. 37 Fastings, abstinences, and other macerations and humiliations of the bodie. 1628 BP. HALL *Serm.* 30 Mar., Wks. 1808 V. 361, I speak of a true and serious maceration of our bodies by an absolute and total refraining from sustenance. 1827 HARE *Guesses* Ser. I. (1873) 178 The voluptuousness and the macerations of Oriental religions. 1856 EMERSON *Eng. Traits, Race* Wks. (Bohn) II. 31 In describing the poverty and maceration of Father Lacey. 1881 STEVENSON *Virg. Puerisque* 167 It should be a place for nobody but hermits dwelling in prayer and maceration.

†3. In immaterial sense: Fretting, vexation, worry; an instance of this. *Obs.*

1616 *Rich Cabinet* 142 b, Sorrow is the cause of..many melancholike maladies and macerations. 1645 BP. HALL *Remedy Discontents* 163 What maceration is there here with feares, and jealousies. 1669 CLARENDON *Ess.* Tracts (1727) 174 This maceration,..is a sawcy contradiction of God's wisdom in the creation.

Macerator (mæ·sĕrĕltər). Also macerater. [agent-n. f. MACERATE *v.*: see -OR.] a. One who macerates or mortifies (the body). *rare.* b. A vessel used for the process of maceration (*Cent. Dict.* 1891).

1891 AUGUSTA T. DRANE *Hist. St. Dominic* 167 A man of rare abstinence, the frequent macerator of his own body.

†**Ma·cery.** *Obs.* In 6 masarie. [f. MACER + -Y.] The functions of a macer.

1545 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 7 Dischargis all the saidis masseris of all using of thair offices of masarie in all tymes cuming.

Macfa·rlanite. *Min.* [Named by A. H. Sibley, 1880, after T. *Macfarlane*, who described it: see -ITE.] 'A mixture of huntilite, animikite and other minerals, which constitutes the ore of the mines at Silver Islet, Ontario' (A. H. Chester).

Mach, obs. form of MATCH *sb.* and *v.*

Machærodont (măkīəˈ·rŏdɒnt), *a. Zool.* [f. Gr. *μάχαιρα* sword, sabre + *ὀδοντ-*, *ὀδούς* tooth.] Characterized by teeth like those of the genus *Machairodus*; sabre-toothed.

1883 FLOWER in *Encycl. Brit.* XV. 435/2 Many modifications of this commonly-called 'machærodont' type have been met with. *Ibid.*, The sabre-toothed or machærodont dentition, the most specially carnivorous type of structure known.

†**Machæromancy.** *Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. Gr. *μάχαιρα* sword + *μαντεία* divination.] (See quot.)

1652 GAULE *Magastrom.* 165 Macharomancy [*sic*], [divining] by knives or swords.

‖ **Machairodus** (măkəiəˈ·rŏdŏs). *Palæont.* Also machærodus. [mod.L. (Kaup 1833), f. Gr. *μάχαιρα* sword, sabre + *ὀδούς* tooth.] A genus of extinct animals of the cat family, having the upper canines enormously developed.

1836 BUCKLAND *Geol. & Min.* (1837) I. 91 *note.* 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XIV. 244/1 The canine teeth of Machairodus are very far frum those of the bears. 1880 DAWKINS *Early Man* 31 The *Machairodus*, or sabre-toothed lion.

†**Macham.** *Obs. rare*⁻¹. (See quot.)

1689 [FAREWELL] *Irish Hudibras* 35 Some play the Trump, some trot the Hay, Some at Macham, some Noddy play. *marg. note* A Game at Cards.

Machamete, -ote, -yte, obs. ff. MAHOMET.

‖ **Machan** (mɅtʃăˑn). Also 9 muchán, mucharn. [Hindi *machān.*] An elevated platform; a scaffolding erected to watch for a tiger, etc.

1886 YULE *Hobson-Jobson, Muchán.* 1887 J. C. FIFE-COOKSON *Tiger Shooting* 41 W. at once arranged for a machan, or platform, to be made in a neighbouring tree from which he could watch the kill. 1890 SIR S. W. BAKER *Wild Beasts* I. 153 Branches..so arranged as to form a screen that will conceal the watcher...This arrangement is called a 'mucharn'. 1902 *Speaker* 6 Sept. 600/2 We struggle up the ravine to our machans or rather the trees they are to be slung in.

Machance: see MAYCHANCE *adv.*

Machanic, obs. form of MECHANIC *a.*

Machavil(l)ian, obs. form of MACHIAVELLIAN.

Mache, obs. form of MATCH *sb.* and *v.*

Macheat, variant of MATCHET.

†**Machecole,** *v. Obs.* Also 5 magecolle, matchecole. [a. OF. *machecoller*, connected with MACHICOULIS.] *trans.* To machicolate. Chiefly in *pa. pple.*

1412-20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* II. ii, The walles were..Magecolled without for sautes and assaye. 1470-85 MALORY *Arthur* VII. x. 226 They sawe a toure as whyte as ony snowe wel matchecold al aboute. *c* 1500 *Melusine* xix. 103 Forty-fyed round aboute with grete toures machecolyd. 1530 PALSGR. 616/2, I mage colle (Lydgate).

Machecollate, obs. form of MACHICOLATE *v.*

Machecoulis: see MACHICOULIS.

†**Maches.** *Obs.* Also 8 masches, maacheta, maskets. [a. F. *mâche.*] The plant corn-salad (*Valerianella olitoria*).

1693 EVELYN *De la Quint. Compl. Gard.* II. 197 Maches, are a sort of little Sallet..seldom..brought before any noble Company. They are multiplied by Seed which is gathered in July, and are only used towards the end of Winter. 1704 *Dict. Rust. & Urb.*, Maches or Maschets. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Maches* or *Masches*, a kind of Corn-Sallet. 1719 LONDON & WISE *Compl. Gard.* 221 Maches.

Machet(e, macheto, -ette: see MATCHET.

Machiavel (mæ·kiăvel). Also 6 Machivell, 6-8 Machiavell, 7-8 -vil(l, 7-9 Macchiavel. [Anglicized name of Niccolò *Machiavelli*, a celebrated Florentine statesman, who advocated in his work *Del Principe* the pursuit of statecraft at the expense of morality.] One who acts on the principles of Machiavelli; an intriguer, an unscrupulous schemer. †Also *appositive.*

1570 BUCHANAN *Admonitioun* Wks. (S. T. S.) 24 Proud contempnars or machiavell mokkaris of all religioun and vertew. 1597 J. PAYNE *Royal Exch.* 11, I wyshe you bannishe from your tables suche Atheists and machivells. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* III. i. 104 Am I politicke? Am I subtle? Am I a Machiuell? 1632 B. JONSON *Magn. Lady* I, The very Agat Of State and Politie: cut from the Quar of Macchiavel. 1691 NORRIS *Pract. Disc.* 20 Intreaguers and Projectors, the very Machiavels of their age. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 305 ₱ 15 These young Machiavils will, in a little time, turn their College upside-down with Plots and Stratagems. 1775 SHERIDAN *Duenna* II. iv, Oh, this little cunning head! I'm a Machiavel—a very Machiavel. 1863 READE *Hard Cash* xxix, This artful man, who had now become a very Machiavel.

Hence †**Machiavelize** *v. intr.* = *Machiavellianize.* †**Machiavelizing** *vbl. sb.*

1611 COTGR., *Machiavelizer*, to Machiauelize it; to practise Machiauellisme. 1617 MINSHEU *Ductor, Machevalize.* 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Machevalize* or *Machiavelianize.* 1775 ASH, Suppl., *Machiavelizing*, the act of practising the politics of Machiavel.

Machiavellian (mæ·kiăvelˑiăn), *a.* and *sb.* Forms: 6 Macciavelian, 6-7 Mac(h)avil(l)ian, Machevelian, -vilian, Machivil(l)ian, 7 Machiavilian, Matchia-, Matchievil(l)ian, 7-8 Machiavil(l)ian, 7-9 -velian, 6- Machiavellian. [f. MACHIAVEL or *Machiavelli* + -(I)AN.]

A. *adj.* Of, pertaining to, or characteristic of Machiavelli, or his alleged principles; following the methods recommended by Machiavelli in preferring expediency to morality; practising duplicity in statecraft or in general conduct; astute, cunning, intriguing.

1579 J. STUBBES *Gaping Gulf* C viij, Thys absurd manner of reasoning is very Macciauelian logick. 1592 GREENE *Groat's W. Wit* (1617) 35 Is it pestilent Machiuilian policie that thou hast studied? 1613 CHAPMAN *Revenge Bussy D'Ambois* Plays 1873 II. 159 These are your Machevilian Villaines. 1631 GOUGE *God's Arrows* I. xix. 26 What got that Machivillian politician Achitophell. 1637-50 ROW *Hist. Kirk* (1842) 162 *Divide et regna* is an old Matchiavilian maxime and trick. 1653 A. WILSON *Jas. I* 185 The true way of Treaties is with Christian, not Machiavelian policy. 1722 W. BOND *Ded. to Hartcliffe's Virtues* 5 The refined Matchiavillian thinkers have..altered the very nature of ethicks. 1790 BURKE *Fr. Rev.* Wks. V. 158 Where men follow their natural impulses, they would not bear the odious maxims of a Machiavelian policy. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xxiii, So this Machiavellian captain of infantry cast about him for some..stratagem. 1878 E. JENKINS *Haverholme* 63 Conducting his party with Machiavellian subtlety.

B. *sb.* A follower of Machiavelli; one who adopts Machiavelli's principles in statecraft or in general conduct.

1568 *Satir. Poems Reform.* ix. 113 This false Machivilian. 1598 MARSTON *Pygmal.* II. 145 A damn'd Machevelian Holds candle to the deuill for a while. 1608 WILLET *Hexapla Exod.* 320 Protagoras with the Machiauellians.. were doubtful whether there were any God. 1647 *Husbandman's Plea agst. Tithes* 91 Never any Machivilian, or cruell State Politician..could never have devised a more effectuall way. 1668 R. STEELE *Husbandman's Calling* vii. (1672) 187 He hath need of discretion..that he be neither monk nor Matchevillian. 1710 STEELE *Tatler* No. 193 ₱ 3 During this Retreat the Machiavilian was not idle, but secretly fomented Divisions. 1814 SCOTT *Let. to J. B. S. Morritt* 30 Apr., An awful lesson to sovereigns that morality is not so indifferent to politics as Machiavellians will assert.

Hence **Ma·chiave·llianism,** the principles and practice of Machiavelli or of the Machiavellians, the employment of cunning and duplicity in statecraft or in general conduct; an instance of this. †**Machiave·llianize** *v.*, to practise Machiavellianism (Blount *Glossogr.* 1656). †**Machiave·llianly** *adv.*, in a Machiavellian manner.

1626 BERNARD *Isle of Man* (1627) 104 The Bills of Inditement framed by those false informers..Formalitie..Machiavillianisme, Statisme..against Christian Conference. 1640 HOWELL *Dodona's Gr.* 173 Bebold a notable peece of machiavillianisme. 1660 EVELYN *News fr. Brussels* Misc. Writ. (1805) 198 This impress he hath so Machiavelianly, and with such art and cunning, besprinkled and scattered over the whole paper. 1711 W. KING tr. *Naude's Ref. Politics* i. 19 The courts..where these Machiavilianisms are so common. 1882 PALGRAVE in Grosart *Spenser's Wks.* IV. p. xxv, The Machiavellianism of the sixteenth century.

Machiavellic (mæ·kiăvelˑik), *a.* Also -velic. [formed as prec. adj. + -IC.] Machiavellian.

1838 *Blackw. Mag.* XLIII. 510 The Whigs indeed had concocted their schemes beforehand with all the Machiavelic forecast of veterans in the art of creating family broils. 1879 FARRAR *St. Paul* (1883) 350 The astute and machiavellic policy of Rome.

†**Machiave·lline,** *a. Obs. rare*⁻¹. In 7 Machiaveline. [formed as prec. + -INE.] = prec.

1602 PATERICKE tr. *Gentillet* 312 They have so well profited in their Machiaveline philosophie, that [etc.].

Machiavellism (mæ·kiăvelˑizm). Also 6-7 Machiaviliame, 7 -velism(e, matchiavellisme, 9 Mac(c)hiavelism. [formed as prec. + -ISM.] = MACHIAVELLIANISM.

1592 NASHE *P. Penilesse* (Shaks. Soc.) 68, I comprehend..vnder bypocrisie, al Machiavilisme. 1607 WALKINGTON *Opt. Glass* 66 b, A brocher of dangerous matchiauellisme. 1617 BP. HALL *Quo Vadis?* § 21 Where had we..the art of dishonestie in practicall Machiauelisme, in false equiuocations? 1810 BENTHAM *Offic. Apt. Maximized, Def. Econ.* (1830) 57 A Government, in which, under the guidance of upstart Machiavelism, titled and confederated imbecility should lord it over King and people. 1897 *Daily News* 3 June 6/1 What..is the history of the Italian Republics.. but the history of Machiavellism before Machiavelli?

Ma·chiavellist. Also 6 Machivelist, 7 Matchi(a)vel(l)ist, 8-9 Machiavelist. [formed as prec. + -IST.] One who practises or favours the principles of Machiavelli.

1589 NASHE *Martins Mouths Minde* To Rdr., I meddle not here with the Anabaptists, Famely louists, Machiauellists, nor Atheists. *Ibid.* H, Yee Machiuelists, Athiests, and each mischieuous hend. 1640 R. BAILLIE *Canterb. Self-Convict.* 7 The contrarie maximes of the Turkish Empire, wherewith Matchivelists this day every where are labouring to poyson the eares of all Christian Princes. 1799 *Hull Advertiser* 6 July 1/4 A profound Machiavelist. 1829 SOUTHEY *Sir T. More* II. 80 The art of directing enthusiasm ..is the most difficult which the Machiavellists of Papal Rome have ever been called upon to practise.

Machicolate (măt∫iˑkŏlēit), *v.* Also 8-9 machecollate, matchicolate. [f. ppl. stem of med.L. *machicol(l)āre* = OF. *machecoller*: see MACHECOLE *v.*] *trans.* To furnish with machicolations. Chiefly in **Machiˑcolated** *pa. pple.* and *ppl. a.*

1773 *Gentl. Mag.* XLIII. 536 The gate-house..is fortified with a port-cluse or port-cullis, and machecollated. 1814 BRITTON *Archit. Antiq.* IV. 181 Cæsar's-tower..is surmounted by a bold machicolated parapet. 1842 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg., Bloudie Jacke*, With iron it's plated And machecollated, To pour boiling oil or lead down. 1860 HAWTHORNE *Marble Faun* (1879) I. vi. 61 A mediæval tower,..battlemented and machicolated at the summit. 1890 *Times* 8 Apr. 11/3 The machicolated towers of Raglan Castle. *transf.* 1848 W. S. MAYO *Kaloolah* (1887) 7, I could see every stone of the towers, matchicolated with stork's nests.

Machicolation (măt∫ikŏlēiˑ∫ən). *Arch.* [f. prec.: see -ATION.]

1. An opening between the corbels which support a projecting parapet, or in the vault of a portal, through which combustibles, molten lead, stones, etc., were dropped on the heads of assailants. Also, a projecting structure containing a range of such openings.

1788 GROSE *Milit. Antiq.* II. 336 The grand entrance was mostly through a gate flanked by two large and strong towers, with a projection over the passage, called a machicolation. 1806 DALLAWAY *Observ. Eng. Archit.* 92 Lofty embattled walls..crested with hanging galleries and macchicolations which served the double purpose of military defence and great external beauty. 1832 G. DOWNES *Lett. Cont. Countries* I. 521 The antique castle is furnished with a machicolation. 1848 RICKMAN *Archit.* 119 Wakefield steeple..is singular for its machicolations in the top of the tower. 1871 MISS BRADDON *Lovels* v. 87 The crenellated roof, with its machicolations, is considered a great success.

2. The action of discharging missiles, etc., through such apertures. *rare*⁻⁰; perh. an error.

1828-32 in WEBSTER; and in later Dicts.

‖ **Machicoulis** (măſikūˑli). Also 9 machecoulis, machicouli, and in quasi-anglicized form machicoule. [F. *mâchecoulis, mâchicoulis*, OF. *maschecoulis.*] = MACHICOLATION 1.

1793 SMEATON *Edystone L.* Introd. 4 A lodgment, in fortification called a Machicoulis, is built upon the wall over the stairs. 1802 JAMES *Milit. Dict.* s.v., When a place is besieged, detached parties of the garrison may be posted in the several machicoulises. 1851 *Fraser's Mag.* XLIII. 154 A large granite block, formed like a machicoule, and

projecting from the front wall of the castle. 1859 PARKER *Dom. Archit.* III. i. 5 The bastions carried upon corbels, with open intervals between them for throwing down..missiles, and commonly known by the name of *machecoulis*. 1865 STREET *Gothic Archit. Spain* 193 A parapet boldly corbelled out on machicoulis from the walls. 1885 LADY HERBERT tr. *Lagrange's Life Dupanloup* I. 340 This picturesque old château, with its postern gate, its portcullis, and machicoulis.

attrib. 1834–47 J. S. MACAULAY *Field Fortif.* (1851) 151 The machicoulis gallery is made to project 2 feet from the wall. 1860 TRISTRAM *Gt. Sahara* xi. 180 Guardrooms with loopholes..and machicouli gallery.

‖ **Ma·china.** *Obs.* Pl. **machinas.** [L. *māchina* MACHINE.] = MACHINE in various senses.

1612 SHELTON *Quix.* I. v. I. 32 The Labourer grew almost mad for Anger to hear that Machina of Follies. 1622 MABBE tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* II. 97 So great a Machina, and such a masse of things. 1640 GLAPTHORNE *Hollander* IV. G 3, If I doe not second you confidently, may my tongue be cramped,..and the machina of my invention ruind perpetually. 1653 H. MORE *Antid. Ath.* III. xi. (1712) 124 To assert that Animals themselves were Machinas. 1676 HALE *Contempl.* I. 220 One poor unthought of accident.. breaks all to shivers the whole elaborate Machina.

† **Machinal,** *a. Obs.* [ad. L. *māchināl-is*, f. *māchina* MACHINE. Cf. F. *machinal.*] Of or pertaining to a machine or machines; mechanical.

1680 MOXON *Mech. Exerc., Turning* 236 But to make it move thus .. there are required several Machinal Helps. 1685 BOYLE *Eng. Notion Nat.* 330 Man is..like a Mann'd Boat, where, besides the Machinal Part,.. there is an Intelligent Being. 1760 *Projects* in *Ann. Reg.* 147/1 In the erection of the machinal crane-works.

† **Machinament.** *Obs.* [ad. L. *māchināment-um*, f. *māchinārī* (see next).] A contrivance, engine, machine, vehicle.

1413 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton) IV. xxix. (1859) 60 At the last I saw before me a wonder machynament, and meruaylous! *c* 1425 *Found. St. Bartholomew's* 37 And skippynge forth with all Iryne machynamentis he came to the doer. 1658 BROMHALL *Treat. Specters* IV. 255 A very stormy South-wind did .. palsie and shoulder-shake .. machinaments and fortifications. 1674 PETTY *Disc. Dupl. Proportion* 7 Materials applied..to Carts, or any other Machinaments intended for strength. 1727 in BAILEY vol. II.

Machinate (mæ·kine^{e}t), *v.* Also 7 machinat. [f. L. *māchināt-*, ppl. stem of *māchinārī* to contrive, f. *māchina* MACHINE.]

1. *intr.* To lay plots; to intrigue, scheme.

1600 W. WATSON *Decacordon* (1602) 243 Such persons as shall machinate and deuise to execute such outragious designements against their prince. 1689 *Def. Liberty agst. Tyrants* 130 A Tyrant conspires, machinates, and lays his plots and practises. 1830 *Fraser's Mag.* I. 101 The blackest treason may lurk and machinate at his very threshold. 1858 FABER *Bartoli & Maffei's Life Xavier* 312 Whilst the Portuguese had been preparing for their departure, the bonzes had been machinating against them.

2. *trans.* To contrive, plan, plot. Now *rare.*

1602 FULBECKE *2nd Pt. Parallel* 23 *Dolus bonus*, is when a man doth machinate or deuise anie thing to entrap a thiefe, or a traytour. 1643 PRYNNE *Romes Masterpeece* 14 He thought fit, that a desperate Treason, machinated against so many soules was to be revealed. 1651 HOWELL *Venice* 187 Which makes Urban the 8...to machinat violent means for to invest his Nephews in another Princes Estate. 1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) I. 122 The .. robberies, massacres, and assassinations, that the violent machinate against the peaceful. 1822 T. TAYLOR *Apuleius* 359 [He] injures himself in a greater degree than he injures him against whom he machinates destruction.

Machinating (mæ·kine^{e}tiŋ), *ppl. a.* [-ING ^{2}.] That machinates or plots; given to plotting.

1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1811) III. 355 Willingness to think well of a spirit so inventive, and so machinating. 1754 — *Grandison* (1781) V. xlii. 261 It was all open day, no dark machinating night, in the heart of the undissembling Olivia. 1900 O. ONIONS *Compl. Bachelor* v. 57 The machinating married woman! No bachelor is safe with her.

Machination (mækine^{e}·ʃən). Also 7 matchination. [ad. L. *māchinātiōn-em* (either directly, or through F. *machination*), n. of action f. *māchinārī* to contrive, MACHINATE.]

1. The action or process of contriving or planning; contrivance, intrigue, plotting. Now *rare.*

1549 *Compl. Scot.* xi. 90 There liberte..vas ane lang tyme in captiuite, be the machination of 3our ald enemes. 1605 SHAKS. *Lear* v. i. 46 If you miscarry, Your businesse of the world hath so an end, And machination ceases. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* I. xiii. 60 By secret machination, or by confederacy with others. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VI. 504 Some one .. inspired With dev'lish machination, might devise Like instrument. 1835 I. TAYLOR *Spir. Despot.* iv. 159 The machination in closets of interests that ought to be openly discussed is a treason against the community.

2. An instance of plotting or contrivance; an intrigue, plot, scheme. Usually in bad sense.

c 1477 CAXTON *Jason* 77 b, Some welwillars of the king .. tolde to bim the machinacion of Zethephius. 1539 CROMWELL *Let.* 286 in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) II. 168 Albeit his highnes dothe in no wise feare any of his Censures attemptates or other malicious & devilishe machinacions. 1656 J. HAMMOND *Leah & R.* (1844) 24 His Highnesse, (not acquainted with these matchinations), had [etc.]. 1678 WOOD *Life* 29 Sept., This machinacion fayling, another..was put on foote. 1713 STEELE *Englishman* No. 12. 81 Such Men would stand up .. against the Machinations of Popery and Slavery. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* XVI. iv, To defeat my wisest machinations by your blunders. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xiii. III. 306 Ludlow escaped unhurt from all the machinations of his enemies. 1867 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1876) I. iv. 224 The French and German writers know nothing of these machinations of Arnulf.

†3. The use or construction of machinery. *Obs.*

1641 EARL MONM. tr. *Biondi's Civil Warres* IV. 50 Hoping that time and hunger might effect that, which..by all their machinations and assaults they could not doe. 1711 W. SUTHERLAND *Shipbuild. Assist.* 21 Machination, or the forming Machines or Engines.

†4. Something contrived or constructed; *esp.* in material sense, e.g. a mechanical appliance for war, a framework or apparatus. *Obs.*

1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* I. vi. 14 The Edict .. was .. accounted a more pernitious engine and machination against the Christian faith, than [etc.]. 1613 R. CAWDREY *Table Alph.* (ed. 3), *Machinations*, war-like weapons. 1652 GAULE *Magastrom.* 108 Will not then their whole machination, or fabrick of judiciall Astrologie fall to the ground? 1680 MOXON *Mech. Exerc., Turning* 235 If the Puppet be made to it with the Machination described in Plate 17.

Machinator (mæ·kine^{e}tə(r). [a. L. *māchinātor*, agent-n. f. *māchinārī* to contrive, MACHINATE.] One who contrives or schemes; a contriver, intriguer, plotter, schemer; usually in bad sense.

1611 COTGR., *Machinateur*, a machinator, framer, deuiser, (especially of bad things). 1627 H. BURTON *Baiting Pope's Bull* 26 Their art infernall,..infused into them by that .. chiefe machinator of all mischiefe. 1760 C. JOHNSTON *Chrysal* (1822) II. 152 Not only escape the ruin meditated against him, but also retort it on the machinators. 1839 I. TAYLOR *Anc. Chr.* I. Pref. 7 Certain wary machinators around us. 1862 LATHAM *Channel Isl.* III. xvi. (ed. 2) 381 There were intrigues and divisions of all sorts: Lord Digby being the chief machinator. 1892 *Pall Mall G.* 3 May 2/2 The machinators of the Union .. destroyed nearly every document bearing on that shameful transaction.

Machine (măʃī·n), *sb.* Also 7–8 machin. [ad. F. *machine* (= Sp. *maquina*, Pg. *maquina*, *machina*, It. *macchina*), ad. L. *māchina*, ad. Gr. *μηχανή*, f. *μῆχος* contrivance, cogn. w. Teut. **magan* to be able (see MAY *v.*).

The Fr. word has passed into all the mod. Teut. langs.: G. *maschine*, Du. *machine*, Da. *maskine*, Sw. *maskin.*

In 17–18th c. the word was often stressed on the first syll.]

1. A structure of any kind, material or immaterial; a fabric, an erection. Now *rare.*

1549 *Compl. Scot.* Ep. to Queen 3 The maist illustir potent prince of the maist fertil & pacebil realme, vndir the machine of the supreme olimp. 1599 A. HUME *Hymnes* ii. 38 Be his wisdome..so wondrouslie of nocht, This machin round, this vniuers, this vther world he wrocht. 1674 PLAYFORD *Skill Mus.* Pref. 2 Disposing the whole Machine of the World. 1674 HICKMAN *Quinquart. Hist.* (ed. 2) 225 They that asserted Universal redemption by the death of Christ destroyed the whole Machine of the Calvinian predestination. 1682 N. O. tr. *Boileau's Lutrin* I. 239 Behind this Machine [a pulpit], cover'd as with a skreen, The Sneaking Chanter scarce could then be seen. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* III. 23 They put fire next to a Machine which seemed to be a blew Tree when it was on fire. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneid* II. 25 With inward Arms the dire Machine [*sc.* the wooden horse] they load. 1753 HANWAY *Trav.* (1762) I. v. lxii. 286 Her imperial majesty is drawn .. in a large machine, which contains her bed, a table, and other conveniences... This machine is set on a sledge, and drawn by twenty-four post horses. 1784 J. BARRY in *Lect. Paint.* V. (1848) 196 Had the whole of this great machine of the Fontana di Trevi been committed to any one of those sculptors. 1791 CHARLOTTE SMITH *Celestina* (ed. 2) I. 129 Her new laylock bonnet .. for the safety of which she was so solicitous that she would have taken the great machine in which it was contained into the coach, had it not been opposed by the coachman. 1829 R. HALL *Wks.* (1832) VI. 457 The mind casts its eye over the whole machine of society. 1878 BROWNING *La Saisiaz* 279 To each mortal peradventure earth becomes a new machine.

b. *spec.* A vehicle of any kind (usually wheeled). In the 18th and part of the 19th centuries commonly applied to a stage-coach or mail-coach. *Obs.* exc. *Sc.* Also short for *bathing-machine.*

1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* III. 54 They make use of an Engine which they call Palanquin...This Machine hangs by a long Pole [etc.]. 1704 SWIFT *Mech. Operat. Spirit* Misc. (1711) 275 Tho' there is not any other Nation in the World so plentifully provided with Carriages for that Journey .. yet there are abundance of us who will not be satisfy'd with any other Machine besides this of Mahomet. 1709 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4545/1 His Serenity, accompanied by .. the Boy who drew the Balls for the Election [of Doge] sitting in the same Machine, was carried out of the Church. 1769 *De Foe's Tour Gt. Britain* III. 106 A Machine going out to, and coming in from, London three Times a Week in the Summer. 1759 ADAM SMITH *Mor. Sent.* (1781) 267 The poor man's son..sees his superiors carried about in machines. 1772 BURKE *Corr.* (1844) I. 372 Your very kind letter of the 15th .. I received by the machine. 1791 MRS. GRANT *Lett. fr. Mountains* (1813) II. xxxvii. 184, I came in a little open machine we keep for these journies. 1822 *Acc. Establ. Gen. P.-O.* 8 in *Parl. Pap.* XVIII. 175 To loss by death of two horses before the machine commenced running. 1832 *Massachusetts Stat.* c. 75 § 4 Every cart, wagon, or other machine, drawn by two or four oxen. 1859 *All Year Round* No. 19. 446, I got into the wrong machine [*sc.* a bathing-machine] first. 1893 H. JOYCE *Hist. Post Office* xii. 215 In that year [1784], and for some little time afterwards, coaches which carried the mails were called diligences or machines. and the coachmen were called machine-drivers. 1894 BLACK *Highland Cousins* I. 37, I would bring a machine and drive you up to the Drill-Hall.

†c. Applied to a ship or other vessel. *Obs.*

1637 HEYWOOD *Royal Ship* 27 Shee [Pallas] hath (no doubt) raptured our Undertaker This Machine to devise first, and then make her. 1702 S. PARKER tr. *Cicero's De Finibus* V. 320 In vain upon the Canvas plays A wanton Gale. The Machin stays Becalm'd with Harmony. 1717 W. SUTHERLAND (*title*) Britain's Glory or Ship-building Unveil'd, being a General Director for Building and Compleating the said Machines. 1782 CREVECOEUR *Lett.* 220 [Slaves] carried in a strange machine over an ever agitated element, which they had never seen before. 1807 SOUTHEY *Espriella's Lett.* II. 155 We .. embarked upon the canal in a stage boat bound for Chester... The shape of the machine resembles the common representations of Noah's ark.

d. (See quot.) (Cf. sense 3.)

1883 S. PLIMSOLL in *19th Cent.* July 147 The box..is called by many names, as 'van', 'machine', 'tank', 'trunk', &c. *Ibid.* 162 The 'kit' haddocks are put loose into what are called machines. These machines are long boxes lined with lead..divided internally into four equal spaces.

2. A military engine, siege-tower, or the like. Now *rare.* Chiefly *Anc. Hist.* (= L. *machina*).

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Machine*, an instrument or engine of War. 1674 *Ch. & Court of Rome* 4 These are the goodly Machines .. recommended to batter down the Protestant Cause. 1732 LEDIARD *Sethos* II. IX. 277 He [raised] enormous machines round about the city. 1839 THIRLWALL *Greece* VI. xlix. 165 The besieged made many vigorous sallies for the purpose of setting fire to the machines.

†3. An apparatus, appliance, instrument. *Obs.*

1650 BULWER *Anthropomet.* 92 In the curious Machin of speech, the Nose is added as a Recorder. 1707 *Curios. in Husb. & Gard.* 27 The Microscope .. has been but lately discover'd: for the Naturalists .. were not aided by that Machine. 1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl., Racket* is also a machine, which the savages of Canada bind to their feet, to enable them to walk more commodiously over the snow.

†b. In immaterial sense: A device, machination. *Obs.*

1595–6 Q. ELIZ. *Let. to Jas. VI* (Camden Soc.) 113 In wordz .. of such waight, as, in honest dimars, bit may mar the façon of diuelische machines, and crase the harty of treason-mynding men. *Ibid.* 173 And how I mynde to kipe my owne dores from my ennemis malice; and so do wische that our solide amitie may overthawrt thes develische machines.

4. In a narrower sense: An apparatus for applying mechanical power, consisting of a number of interrelated parts, each having a definite function.

In recent use the word tends to be applied esp. to an apparatus so devised that the result of its operation is not dependent on the strength or manipulative skill of the workman; thus the term *printing-machine* does not in ordinary language include the hand-press, but is reserved for those apparatus of later invention in which manual labour is superseded by the action of the mechanism.

1673 RAY *Journ. Low C.* 5 This kind of Machin is generally used .. for raising up Water. 1756–7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) II. 250 For raising this obelisk out of the ground, .. Fontana contrived forty-one machines. 1822 ROBISON *Syst. Mech. Philos.* II. 48 It is certain that the account given in the 'Century of Inventions' could instruct no person who was not sufficiently acquainted with the property of steam to be able to invent the machine himself. 1851 CARPENTER *Man. Phys.* iii. (ed. 2) 96 Examining the component parts of the Machine,—its springs, wheels, levers, cords, pulleys, &c. 1881 SIR W. THOMSON in *Nature* No. 619. 434 Windmills as hitherto made are very costly machines. 1888 *Pall Mall G.* 12 Apr. 12/1 An Automatic Gas Machine. .. The machine is charged with one of the first products of petroleum, or gasolene.

fig. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* VI. ii, The great state wheels in all the political machines of Europe. 1801 WELLINGTON in Gurw. *Desp.* (1837) I. 342 More experience than we have yet had of the operation of the court (of the manner in which the machine works). 1809–10 COLERIDGE *Friend* XV. (1887) 64 To expose the folly and the legerdemain of those who have thus abused the blessed machine of language. 1876 L. STEPHEN *Eng. Th. in 18th Cent.* II. IX. iii. 19 The Church was excellent as a national refrigerating machine.

b. Used *spec.* for the particular kind of machine with which the speaker is chiefly concerned; e.g. short for *sewing-machine*, *printing-machine.* Also, in recent use, often for a bicycle or tricycle.

1841 *Penny Cycl.* XIX. 20/1 A sheet of paper is..put into the machine by one attendant and taken out printed on both sides by the other attendant. 1883 STURMY *Tricyclist's Ann.* (ed. 3) 126 A glance at the tricycle trade ..with full description of upwards of 250 machines. *Ibid.* 190 A well-made machine, and the easiest..folded tricycle in the market.

c. Applied to the human and animal frame as a combination of several parts. (Cf. sense 1.)

Now chiefly with metaphorical intention.

1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* II. ii. 124 Thine euermore most deere Lady, whilst this Machine is to him. 1687 *Death's Vis.* ix. 130 What Nobler Souls the Nobler Machins Wear. 1699 GARTH *Dispens.* V. 54 And shall so useful a Machin as I Engage in civil Broyls, I know not why? 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 387 ? 2 Cheerfulness is..the best Promoter of Health. Repinings .. wear out the Machine insensibly. 1722 QUINCY *Lex. Phys.-Med.* (ed. 2) 17 Until some Authors .. have demonstrated the Laws of Circulation in an Animal Machine. 1804 WOROSW. '*She was a Phantom of delight*' 22 And now I see with eye serene The very pulse of the machine. 1805 *Med. Jrnl.* XIV. 181 When a product of diseased action has been effected,..in consequence of which the machine becomes again sensible to the impressions of ordinary causes. 1876 PREECE & SIVEWRIGHT *Telegraphy* 114 The human machine tires, and as a consequence not only is the speed of working reduced, but [etc.].

d. A combination of parts moving mechanically, as contrasted with a being having life, consciousness and will. Hence applied to a person who acts merely from habit or obedience to rule, without intelligence, or to one whose actions have the undeviating precision and uniformity of a 'machine'.

1692 BENTLEY *Boyle Lect.* 59 If brutes be supposed to be bare engins and machins. 1779 A. HAMILTON *Wks.* (1886) VII. 565 The nearer the soldiers approach to machines, perhaps the better. 1809–10 COLERIDGE *Friend* (1865) 119 Man must be free; or to what purpose was he made a spirit of reason, and not a machine of instinct? 1820 BYRON *Mar. Fal.* I. ii. 302 They are .. mere machines, To serve the nobles' most patrician pleasure, 1830 CARLYLE in Froude

Life (1882) II. 90 Wherefore their system [Utilitarianism] is a machine and cannot grow or endure. 1866 GEO. ELIOT *F. Holt* (1868) 18 I'll have old Hickes. He was a neat little machine of a butler. 1890 'L. FALCONER' *Mile. Ixe* (1891) 108, I believe women think horses are machines, and made of cast-iron too. 1895 *Outing* (U. S.) Dec. 248/2 Too much preparation .. makes a man a mere machine, set to go off at a particular day.

5. *Mech.* Any instrument employed to transmit force, or to modify its application. *Simple machine*: one in which there is no combination of parts, e. g. a lever, or any other of the so-called *mechanical powers*. *Compound machine*: one whose efficiency depends on the combined action of two or more parts.

[An artificial extension of sense 4, the notion of complexity implied in that sense being treated as unessential.]

1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn., Machine*, or *Engine*, in Mechanicks, is whatsoever hath Force sufficient either to raise or stop the Motion of a Body. .. *Simple Machines* are commonly reckoned to be Six in Number, viz. the Ballance, Leaver, Pulley, Wheel, Wedge, and Screw. .. *Compound Machines*, or *Engines*, are innumerable. 1831 LARDNER *Hydrost.* ii. 10 By this singular power of transmitting pressure, a fluid becomes, in the strictest sense of the term, a machine. 1839 G. BIRD *Nat. Philos.* 60 By means of these simple machines it must not be supposed that we beget or increase force. 1866 DK. ARGYLL *Reign Law* ii. (ed. 4) 90 A man's arm is a machine.

6. *Theatr.* [=L. *machina*.] A contrivance for the production of stage-effects. Also in *pl.* = *stage-machinery*. *Obs.* exc. in occasional allusion to the ancient stage.

1658 *Hist. Q. Christina* 225 This play succeeded very well, especially for the admirable beauty and finenesse of the machins. 1681 COTTON *Wond. Peak* (ed. 4) 9 Like a Machine which, when some god appears, We see descend upon our Theaters. 1687 SETILE *Refl. Dryden* 56 The Poet if he had thought on't, might have introduced her by a Machin. 1712–14 POPE *Rape Lock* IV. 46 Now lakes of liquid gold, Elysian scenes, And crystal domes, and angels in machines. 1720 DE FOE *Duncan Campbell* (1895) 177 She .. descended into that room full of company, as a miracle appearing in a machine from above. 1741 BETTERTON *Eng. Stage* i. 9 Adorned..with all the Machines and Decorations, the Skill of those Times could afford. *a* 1845 HOOD *Vauxhall* vii, Time's ripe for the Ballet, Like bees they all rally Before the machine! 1873 BROWNING *Red Cott. Nt.-cap* 124 Forth steps the needy tailor on the stage, Deity-like from dusk machine of fog.

7. Hence in literary use: A contrivance for the sake of effect; a supernatural agency or personage introduced into a poem; the interposition of one of these.

1678 DRYDEN *Œdipus* Epil. 10 Terror and pity this whole poem sway; The mightiest machines that can move a play. 1693 — *Juvenal* Ded. (1697) 13 His [Milton's] Heavenly Machines are many, and his Human Persons are but two. 1700 — *Fables* Pref., Wks. (Globe) 498 Virgil never made use of such machines, when he was moving you to commiserate the death of Dido. 1705 ADDISON *Italy* 425 The Apparition of Venus comes in very properly .. for without such a Machine .. I can't see how the Heroe could .. leave Neoptolemus triumphant. 1712 — *Spect.* No. 351 ₱ 5 The changing of the Trojan fleet into Water-Nymphs .. is the most violent Machine of the whole Æneid. 1713 STEELE *Guardian* No. 130 ₱ 20, I come now to consider the machines; a sort of beings that have the outside and appearance of men, without being really such. 1715 POPE *Iliad* I. Pref. B 4 *b*, The Marvelous Fable includes whatever is supernatural, and especially the Machines of the Gods. 1716 LADY M. W. MONTAGU *Let. to Pope* 14 Sept., The story of the opera .. gives opportunities for a great variety of machines. 1727 POPE, etc. *Art of Sinking* 120 [Recipe] for the Machines; Take of deities, male and female, as many as you can use. 1756–82 J. WARTON *Ess. Pope* (ed. 4) I. iv. 230 These machines are vastly superior to the allegorical personages of Boileau and Garth. 1765 H. WALPOLE *Otranto* (ed. 2) Pref., The actions, sentiments, conversations, of the heroes and heroines of ancient days were as unnatural as the machines employed to put them in motion. 1774 WARTON *Hist. Eng. Poetry* III. xxiii. 83 It has nothing, except the machine of the chime, in common with Fabyll's Ghoste. 1897 W. P. KER *Epic & Romance* 36 The episodes of Circe, of the Sirens, and of Polyphemus, are machines.

8. *U. S. politics.* The controlling organization of a political party. Hence applied, with disparaging emphasis, to organizations of more or less similar character in England.

1876 H. V. BOYNTON in *N. Amer. Rev.* CXXIII. 327 In a word he encountered the combinations inside politics,—the machine. 1884 *L'pool Mercury* 18 Feb. 5/5 An election which gives to Lord Randolph Churchill the practical control of the Conservative electioneering machine. 1888 BRYCE *Amer. Commw.* II. III. lxvi. 498 The officials .. in whose gift this patronage lies place it at the disposal of the leaders of the Machine. Now there are three Machines in New York; two Democratic, because the Democratic party ..is divided into two factions.., and one Republican. 1890 *Review of Rev.* II. 602/1 His followers in Ireland, the men of the machine, the members whom he nominated to their constituencies, .. set about making noisy demonstrations in his favour. 1892 *Boston* (Mass.) *Jrnl.* 29 Nov. 3/1 (*heading*) The Machine Drops Senator Wm. S. McNary. 1901 *N. Amer. Rev.* Feb. 255 The Nationalist Party .. are working the machine with unflagging energy.

9. *attrib.* and *Comb.* **a.** simple attributive, as (sense 4) *machine-action*, *-drill*, *-electricity*, *-horse*, *-room*, *-strap*; (sense 4 d) *machine-society*; (sense 8) *machine-politician*, *-politics*; also *machine-like* adj.; **b.** objective, as *machine-breaking*, *-drawing*, *-maker*, *-minder*, *-monger*, *-operator*, *-overseer*, *-owner*, *-tender*; **c.** instrumental, with sense 'by or with a machine', esp. in contradistinction to what is done by hand, as *machine-drilling*, *-printing*, *-stitching*; *machine-closed*, *-cut*, *-divided*, *-driven*, *-ginned*, *-made*, *-planed*, *-ruled*, *-sewed*, *-stitched*, *-welted*, *-wrought* adjs.

1882 *Rep. to Ho. Repr. Prec. Met. U. S.* 593 The first of these conditions .. is the strains of *machine action. 1832 MISS MITFORD *Village* Ser. v. 11 Several men had been arraigned together for *machine-breaking. 1862 *Catal. Internat. Exhib.* II. xxvii. 55 *Machine-closed uppers. 1897 *Daily News* 29 Mar. 8/7 A supply of large files .. to be hand cut, *machine cut, or partly hand and partly machine cut. 1900 *Ibid.* 2 Nov. 9/1 Machine-cut tobacco is affected adversely by the heat engendered. 1902 MARSHALL *Metal Tools* 7 A *machine-divided steel rule. 1887 D. A. LOW *Machine Draw.* Pref., *Machine drawing is simply the application of the principles of descriptive geometry to the representation of machines. 1877 RAYMOND *Statist. Mines & Mining* 292 The company has also determined to use *machine drills in the mine. 1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 13 Oct. 7/3 Fine dust given off during the *machine-drilling operations. 1901 *Daily Chron.* 29 May 3/7 A *machine-driven vehicle naturally needs restrictions that do not apply to horse-driven vehicles. 1843 MILL *Logic* III. ix. § 2 (1856) I. 450 Common, or *machine electricity. 1883 *Times* 27 Aug. 9/6 Fine *machine-ginned Broach [cotton]. 1860 GEO. ELIOT *Mill on Fl.* I. viii, The depressed, unexpectant look of a *machine-horse. 1880 L. WALLACE *Ben-Hur* 117 The *machine-like unity of the whole moving mass. 1858 GREENER *Gunnery* 431 Enfield *machine-made arms. 1899 *Daily News* 27 Nov. 3/1 Above the level of what are known in America as 'machine-made plays'. 1813 *Examiner* 26 Apr. 262/1 B. Roberts, Pudsey, Yorkshire, *machine-maker. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Machine-maker* .. a constructive builder, who designs or supplies machines .. to order. 1835 URE *Philos. Manuf.* 213 From the hand-openers the flax is carried to the heckling machines. Young boys, called *machine-minders,..tend them. 1876 J. GOULD *Letterpress Printer* (1893) 130 The machine-minder must examine every sheet for some time. 1840 GEN. P. THOMPSON *Exerc.* (1842) V. 9 Every man is a *machine-monger when the question is of himself. 1896 *Indianapolis Typogr. Jrnl.* 16 Nov. 407 The man is a *machine-operator on a city daily. 1899 *Daily News* 23 May 10/6 Letterpress *machine overseer ..seeks permanency. 1817 COBBETT *Wks.* XXXII. 363 Violences against *machine owners. 1888 BRYCE *Amer. Commw.* III. IV. lxxix. 44 Committees are often formed in cities to combat the *Machine politicians in the interests of municipal reform. 1893 *Times* 26 Apr. 9/5 Irishmen exhibit a faculty for assimilating the baser elements in the *machine politics of America. 1897 *Chiswick Press* 4 They have obtained.. greater facilities for *Machine Printing. 1878 SALA in *Gentl. Mag.* May 565 Much of his [G. Cruikshank's] .. foreground work was..'*machine-ruled', instead of being free-handed. 1757 MRS. GRIFFITH *Lett. Henry & Frances* (1767) I. 8 When I am confined to such *machine society .. I fancy I am got into Powell's commonwealth. 1900 *Daily News* 19 May 6/5 White silk *machine-stitched in a pattern. 1899 *Ibid.* 28 Oct. 7/3 The coatbodice has *machine-stitching all round the outlines. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, **Machine-strap maker*, a manufacturer of leather and other connecting bands. 1890 *Spectator* 8 Feb., The Emperor .. forgets the *machine-tenders altogether. 1895 *Daily News* 16 Mar. 6/5 *Machine-welted work. 1867 W. FELKIN (*title*) A History of the *Machine-Wrought Hosiery and Lace Manufactures.

10. Special combs.: **machine-bolt**, a bolt with a thread, and a square or hexagonal head (Knight 1884); **machine-boy**, a boy who attends to a machine; † **machine-driver**, the driver of a mail-coach; **machine-gun**, a mounted gun which is mechanically loaded and fired, delivering a continuous fire of projectiles; **machine-head**, a head for a double-bass or guitar, having worms and pinions, instead of pegs, for tightening the strings; **machine-holder** (see quot.); **machine-man**, one who works a machine (esp. a printing-machine); also, a manager of the political machine (see 8), a 'wire-puller'; **machine-ruler**, a machine for ruling lines on paper (Ogilvie, 1882); **machine-shop**, a workshop for making or repairing machines or parts of machines; also *attrib.*; **machine-tool**, a machine for cutting or shaping wood, metals, etc., by means of a tool, esp. one designed for use in a machine-shop; **machine-twist** *U.S.*, a kind of silk twist, made especially for the sewing-machine (Knight *Suppl.* 1884); † **machine-vessel**, a fire-ship; **machine-whim** (see quot.); **machine-work**, † (*a*) poetic 'machinery' (see sense 7) as represented in art; (*b*) work done by a machine, as distinguished from that done by hand, esp. with reference to printing.

1875 SOUTHWARD *Dict. Typogr.*, **Machine-boy*, a boy engaged in the machine-room for laying-on and taking-off the sheets. 1893 *Machine-driver [see 1 b]. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl., **Machine Gun*. 1890 W. J. GORDON *Foundry* 26 We may as well say something here about the machine guns. 1844 G. DODD *Textile Manuf.* vii. 213 He lets them [lace making machines] out at so much a day to middlemen called '*machine-holders'. 1876 J. GOULD *Letterpress Printer* (1893) 125 My remarks must be taken as those of a workman, .. not as those of a *machine-man proper. 1883 *Nation* 21 June 520/3 The Republican Machine men are in possession of the regular party organization. 1890 *Daily News* 17 Feb. 3/3 For the last ten years I have been employed as machine man at the London and Tilbury Railway Works. 1897 *Literature* 13 Nov. 124/1 The 'machine-men' of the printing-houses of Edinburgh. 1901 *Daily Chron.* 10 Sept. 9/7 Pork and Beef Butcher.—Young man wants Situation as machineman. 1856 EMERSON *Eng. Traits, Wealth* Wks. (Bohn) II. 70 'Tis a curious chapter in modern history, the growth of the *machine-shop. 1898 *Engineering Mag.* XVI. 38 A pile of machine-shop scrap containing 149 different things. 1861 W. FAIRBAIRN *Address to Brit. Assoc.* 64 It is to the exactitude and accuracy of our *machine tools that our machinery of the present time owes its smoothness of motion and certainty of action. 1694 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) III. 342, 2 *machine vessells, wherein were lodged some 100 chests of powder to tear up all before it. 1811 *Self Instructor* 587 Vessels of war are .. a ketch, a machine-vessel. 1860 *Eng. & For. Mining Gloss.* (Cornwall Terms), **Machine-whim*, a rotary steam-engine employed for winding. 1711 SHAFTESB. *Charact.* (1737) III. 384 The separate ornaments, independent both of figures and perspective; such as the *machine-work or divinitys in the sky.

Machine (măʃī·n), *v.* Also 5–6 **machyne**. [In early use a. F. *machiner*, ad. L. *māchinārī*: see MACHINATE *v.* In later use f. MACHINE *sb.*]

† **1. a.** *trans.* To contrive, plot; also, to resolve *that*. **b.** *intr.* To plot, devise schemes (*against* a person). *Obs.*

c 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 523 Sho..machynd in hir mynde for thy þat it was best for hir to fly. 1456 SIR G. HAVE *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 64/6 The traytouris that had his dede machynit had ordanyt [etc.]. 1484 CAXTON *Curial* 12 Somme shal machyne by somme moyen to deceyue the. 1530 PALSGR. 616/1 He hath not onely machyned agaynst me to make me lese my good, but also he hath machyned my dethe. 1679 GAVAN in *Speeches Jesuits* 7 As I never in my life did machine, or contrive either the deposition or death of the King.

2. *trans.* To form, make, or operate upon (e. g. to cut, engrave, make, and esp. to print, to sew) by means of a machine.

1878 SALA in *Gentl. Mag.* May 565 Some of the..plates ..seem to be..machined. 1881 GREENER *Gun* 246 The work is fitted into slots machined under the body of breech-action. 1886 BESANT *Childr. Gibeon* II. xxv, Making shirts, machining men's coats [etc.]. 1892 *Times* 31 Dec. 12/4 A book put in type in America, and only 'machined' by them. 1896 *Living Topics Cycl.* (N. Y.) II. 260, 5 [rifled guns] were well advanced, and the parts for the remainder were nearly all forged and some of them machined. 1901 *Census Schedule, Instructions*, Sewing machinists should name the article they machine—as Boot Machinist.

3. To place (a tree) on the transplanting machine.

1827 STEUART *Planter's G.* (1828) 247 It is a material consideration so to machine the Tree, as that its lee-side branches,..should, if possible, be uppermost on the pole.

4. a. *nonce-use. fig.* To manage, work (a project, etc.) like a machine. **b.** To furnish (a tale) with the machinery of a plot.

1881 H. LABOUCHERE in *Daily News* 22 Mar. 6/3 The paper was machined by your father. 1889 *Academy* 1 June 374/2 It is not, as a story, very cunningly machined.

† **5.** *intr.* To appear, as a god, from a 'machine'; to serve the function of a poetic 'machine'. *Obs.*

1697 [see MACHINING *ppl. a.*].

Hence **Machi·ned** *ppl. a.*

1891 R. BUCHANAN *Coming Terror* 149 Highly finished, perfectly machined. 1891 *Wheeling* 25 Feb. 399 All sorts of lamps, bells, spanners, and machined parts. 1893 *Daily News* 13 June 5/6 The mechanically machined amendments not evoking any interest.

Machineel, -elle: see MANCHINEEL.

Machineful (măʃī·nful). *nonce-wd.* [See -FUL 2.] As much as a machine will hold.

1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Miner's Right* (1899) 66/2 Enough to complete a machineful of wash-dirt.

Machiner (măʃī·nəɹ). [f. MACHINE *sb.* + -ER 1.]

1. One who works a machine **a.** for transplanting trees; **b.** for sewing; **a sewing-machine.**

1827 STEUART *Planter's G.* (1828) 246 Whom [*sc.* the planter] I have ventured to denominate the Machiner...The Machiner ..at once ascertains the side, upon which the Tree can be best laid along the pole. 1888 *Times* 20 Sept. 7/4 Mr. M. never knew a good machiner who would work for less than six shillings a day.

2. A horse employed to draw a 'machine' or vehicle; a post-, stage-, coach-, or van-horse.

1835 SIR G. STEPHEN *Adv. Search Horse* XV. (1841) 210 Machiners, as they are called, that is, post-horses, or stage-horses. 1854 KNIGHT *Once upon a Time* I. 156 Hence stage-coach horses were called 'Machiners'. 1857 MUSGRAVE *Pilgr. into Dauphiné* I. xiii. 293 The Poncheron horse .. is .. the favourite 'machiner' in this part of the country. 1875 'STONEHENGE' *Brit. Sports* II. III. i. § 2, 518 The ordinary hunter .. comprehends every variety between the one described above and the heavy machiner.

Machinery (măʃī·nĕri). Also 8 **machinary**. [f. MACHINE *sb.* + -ERY. Cf. F. *machinerie*.]

1. *Theatr.* and *literary.* † **a.** Stage appliances and contrivances. (Cf. MACHINE *sb.* 6.) *Obs.* exc. as in **2. b.** The assemblage of 'machines' (MACHINE *sb.* 7) employed in a poem; supernatural personages and incidents introduced in narrative or dramatic poetry.

1687 WINSTANLEY *Lives Poets* 216 Vying with the Opera's of Italy, in the Pomp of Scenes, Marchinry [*sic*] and Musical performance. 1713 STEELE *Englishman* No. 52. 336 His Machinary is not a Jargon of Heathenism and Christianity. 1714 POPE *Rape Lock* Ded., The Machinery, Madam, is a term invented by the Critics, to signify that part which the Deities, Angels, or Dæmons, are made to act in a Poem. 1756–82 J. WARTON *Ess. Pope* (ed. 4) I. iv. 226 The insertion of the machinery of the sylphs .. is one of the happiest efforts of judgment and art. 1799 HAN. MORE *Fem. Educ.* (ed. 4) I. 40 Those who most earnestly deny the immortality of the soul are most eager to introduce the machinery of ghosts. 1848 MRS. JAMESON *Sacr. & Leg. Art* (1850) 129 The angels always allowable as machinery, have here a particular propriety. 1861 O'CURRY *Lect. MS. Materials*

Irish Hist. 242 The rules of these compositions permitted the introduction of a certain amount of poetic machinery.

2. Machines, or the constituent parts of a machine, taken collectively; the mechanism or 'works' of a machine or machines.

1731 in BAILEY vol. II. 1765 A. DICKSON *Treat. Agric.* (ed. 2) 219 The more machinery there is in any instrument, it is the more liable to be broken. 1776 ADAM SMITH *W. N.* I. xi. (1869) I. 256 In consequence of better machinery .. a much smaller quantity of labour becomes requisite. 1803 *Med. Jrnl.* IX. 291 The communication is then formed and interrupted alternately by means of machinery. 1872 YEATS *Techn. Hist. Comm.* 180 Lock-making was undoubtedly the parent of much of our machinery. 1878 JEVONS *Prim. Pol. Econ.* 73 Spinning machinery, which can do an immense quantity of work compared with the number of hands employed.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1770 *Junius Lett.* xl. 206 *note*, Luttrell, ..for whom the whole machinery is put in motion, becomes adjutant-general. 1788 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* l. (1846) V. 12 The nice and artificial machinery of the Greek and Roman republics. 1818 HALLAM *Mid. Ages* (1872) I. 461 The terrible and odious machinery of a police. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xiv. III. 409 The whole machinery of government was out of joint. 1859 DARWIN *Orig. Spec.* iv. (1878) 65 She [Nature] can act on the whole machinery of life. 1876 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* V. xxiv. 464 Nor does the machinery of the court seem to have been greatly altered.

c. A system or a kind of machinery. *lit.* and *fig.*

1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* iii. I. 290 The beacons .. were regarded rather as curious relics of ancient manners than as parts of a machinery necessary to the safety of the state. 1864 *Spectator* 438 The County franchise .. is .. a machinery for returning anybody the local peers choose to nominate. 1866 CARLYLE *Remin.* (1881) I. 138 Little .. sea villages, with their .. rude innocent machineries.

3. *attrib.*

1887 *Daily News* 8 July 2/5 There is now .. a machinery hall, an agricultural hall, and an armoury. 1898 *Engineering Mag.* XVI. 100 A machinery installation .. should be one source of energy.

Machining (mă·ʃĭnĭŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. MACHINE *v.* + -ING 1.] The action of MACHINE *v.* in various senses; also *attrib.*

1560 ROLLAND *Crt. Venus* II. 173 We Intend on vther machyning, In Musicall Airt, and diuers science. 1678 DRYDEN *Kind Keeper* Prol. 8 Now our machining lumber will not sell, And you no longer care for Heaven or Hell. 1714 POPE *Let. to Blount* 27 Aug., Wks. 1737 I. 140 The machining part of poetry. 1827 STEUART *Planter's G.* (1828) 246 The Tree, being in readiness .. for removal to its new site, the Machining of it (if I may be permitted the expression), is a work deserving of .. particular attention. 1887 G. R. SIMS *Mary Jane's Mem.* 298 Many girls give up service .. to work at shops and factories, and do machining. 1889 *Athenæum* 5 Oct. 453/2 The mistake .. of supposing that anything will do for the sixpenny public—old type, bad paper, and slovenly machining. 1890 *Nature* 11 Sept., The sole machining .. consisting in the formation of the hore and the drilling of the vent. 1891 *Econ. Jrnl.* I. 638 The machining of trousers and waistcoats in London is performed exclusively by women.

Machining (mă·ʃĭnĭŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. MACHINE *v.* + -ING 2.] That machines; †appearing, as a god, from a 'machine'; serving the function of a poetic 'machine'.

1697 DRYDEN *Æneid* Ded. (a) 3 b, If there had not been more Machining Persons than Humane in his Poem. *a* 1700 — *Ovid's Art of Love* I. 120 The stage with rushes or with leaves they strew'd, No scenes in prospect, no machining god.

Machinist (mă·ʃĭnist). Also 8–9 *erron.* **machinest.** [orig. ad. F. *machiniste*, f. *machine*; but prob. re-formed on MACHINE *sb.* + -IST.]

1. One who invents, makes or controls machines or machinery; an engineer.

1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Machinist*, an Inventer, or Manager of Engines. *a* 1774 GOLDSM. *Surv. Exp. Philos.* (1776) II. 29 The machinist that directed the whole was at a loss, till a countryman taught him to shorten the cords by the affusion of water. 1788 in *Titles Patents* (1854) I. 302 A grant unto Andrew Meikle .. engineer and machinist, of his new invented mill or machine for separating corn .. from the straw. 1817 J. BRADBURY *Trav. Amer.* 311 Prohibiting the emigration of manufacturers and machinists to the United States. 1873 J. RICHARDS *Wood-working Factories* 81 An operator of wood machinery should be a machinist. Good operators are generally able to do ordinary repairs. 1895 *Booth's Life & Labour* V. 86 The machinist's shop, for planing, moulding, mortising, and turning, being now an *annexe* of every large joinery works.

b. esp. with reference to the theatre: one who constructs or manages the mechanical appliances used for the production of scenic effects. Now *rare.*

1739 CIBBER *Apol.* (1756) II. 67 A manager is to direct and oversee the painters, machinists, musicians, singers, and dancers. 1751 *Beau-philosopher* 227 The Machinest of the Opera and his Wife, who were her Relations. *a* 1800 STEEVENS *Note on Macb., Plays Shaks.* (1803) X. 324 Has the insufficiency of machinists hitherto disgraced the imagery of the poet? 1806–7 J. BERESFORD *Miseries Hum. Life* (1826) v. Concl., The accumulated crimes of author, composer, machinist. 1837 HALLAM *Hist. Lit.* I. i. iii. § 107. 299 The decorations of this theatre must have appeared splendid... Nor was the machinist's art unknown. 1863 KIRK *Chas. Bold* I. 471 'Histories'—a kind of dramatic representation, in which the poet .. was forced to follow the inspirations of the machinest.

c. *fig.* (Cf. MACHINE 4 *fig.*)

1799 G. WAKEFIELD in *Mem.* (1804) II. 409, [I] am no political machinist, nor was ever occupied in .. the fraudulent intrigues of rival partisans.

2. One who works a machine, esp. a sewing-machine.

1879 *St. George's Hosp. Rep.* IX. 577 The laundress, the machinist, the signalman may be persons who work hard on scanty diet. 1888 *Times* 20 Sept. 7/4 A tailor's machinist. 1890 *Anthony's Photogr. Bull.* III. 349 Such .. hardly rank as photographers—they are machinists. 1901 *Census Schedule, Instructions*, Such terms as .. Machinist .. must not be used alone. Sewing Machinists should name the article they machine.

3. A painter who works mechanically and by rule.

c 1801 FUSELI in *Lect. Paint.* v. (1848) 461 Though the first and greatest, Correggio was no more than a machinist. 1879 *Encycl. Brit.* IX. 687/1 Franceschini .. is reckoned among those painters of the decline of art to whom the general name of 'machinist' is applied.

4. *U.S.* **a.** An engine-room artificer or attendant.

1890 in *Century Dict.*

b. A 'machine' politician (see MACHINE *sb.* 8).

1883 *Nation* 21 June 520/3 While the Machinists may be willing to nominate 'good men', the Independents are reminded of the fact that [etc.]. 1884 GOLDW. SMITH in *Contemp. Rev.* Sept. 320 The machine once fairly constructed and installed in power, the country is in the hands of the machinists. 1892 — in *19th Cent.* Sept. 347 There was a struggle between the thoroughly 'machinist' section of the party and the section less loyal to the machine.

Machinize (maʃ·nəiz), *v.* [f. MACHINE *sb.* + -IZE.] *trans.* To make into a machine; to reduce to the form and semblance of a machine. Hence **Machiniza·tion**, the action or process of making into a machine; the result of the process.

1856 EMERSON *Eng. Traits* iii. 41 The traveller .. reads quietly the Times newspaper, which, by its immense correspondence and reporting, seems to have machinized the rest of the world for his occasion. 1890 *Jrnl. Educ.* 1 Aug. 423/2 [Their] admirable discipline and organization almost amount to Machinization.

†**Machinous**, *a. Obs. rare*—1. [f. MACHINE *sb.* + -OUS. Cf. L. *māchinōsus.*] Cunningly contrived.

1633 MARMION *Fine Companion* v. ii. K 2 b, He .. stand in his defence against all machinous Engines that shall bee planted for the battery of his wit and fortune.

Machinule (mæ·kinĭūl). [As if ad. L. **māchinula*, dim. of *māchina* MACHINE *sb.*: see -ULE. Cf. F. *machinule* little machine.] A surveyor's instrument for obtaining a right angle.

In some mod. Dicts.

Machivell, obs. form of MACHIAVEL.

‖ **Macho** (mā·tʃo). *U. S.* [Sp. *macho* mullet.] The Californian mullet (see quot.).

1882 JORDAN & GILBERT *Fishes N. Amer.* (Bulletin U. S. Nat. Mus. no. 16) 403 *Mugil mexicanus* Steindachner. California Mullet; Macho .. Pacific coast.

Machomet, -an, etc.: see MAHOMET, -AN, etc.

Machopolyp (mæ·kopǫ·lip). *Zool.* Also -polype. [f. Gr. *μάχη* fight + POLYP.] A zooid modified to serve a defensive function. (See quots.)

1883 W. S. DALLAS [tr. Von Lendenfeld] in *Ann. & Mag. Nat. Hist.* Oct. 250 Hamann explains the contents of the nematophore as a modified polyp, for which he proposes the designation 'machopolyp'. 1888 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Forms Anim. Life* (ed. 2) 758 The structures known as nematophores, sarcothecæ, guard-polypes or macho-polyps [*sic*] which are confined to the .. Plumularidæ. *Ibid.*, In the genus *Aglaophenia* .. the machopolypes are usually disposed in a median and two lateral rows.

Machoun, obs. form of MASON.

Machoun(d, obs. form of MAHOUND.

Macht, obs. Sc. f. MIGHT *sb.* and *v.*, MAUGH *sb.*

Machumetan, -ist: see MAHOMETAN, -IST.

-machy, in actual use **-omachy** (ǫ·măki), represents the ending *-μαχία* of certain Gr. sbs. with the general sense 'fighting, warfare', which are derivatives of adjs. in *-μάχος* with the general sense 'that fights'; the root is that of *μάχεσθαι* to fight, *μάχη* battle. Of the Eng. words with this ending, some are adoptions of actual Gr. words, as *logomachy*; others have been formed from Gr. elements on Gr. analogies, as *angelomachy*; the ending has not been employed in hybrid formations.

†**Macia·tion.** *Obs.* [n. of action f. late L. *maciāre*, f. *maciēs* (see next): cf. EMACIATION.] 'A making lean' (Bailey 1727 vol. II).

‖ **Macies** (mē·si,īz). *Path.* [L.] Emaciation.

1801 *Med. Jrnl.* V. 65 The leading circumstance in diabetes is the macies. 1889 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

‖ **Macigno** (matʃī·nʲo). *Geol.* [It. *macigno.*] An Eocene sandstone from the Italian Alps.

1832 DE LA BECHE *Geol. Man.* (ed. 2) 325 It [brown sandstone] .. is one of the *macignos* of the Italians.

Macilence (mæ·silĕns). *rare.* [as if ad. L. **macilentia*, f. *macilentus* MACILENT: cf. F. *macilence.*] Thinness, leanness.

1852 *Fraser's Mag.* XLV. 31 A certain gentility of style .. derived from the excessive macilence of his face and figure. 1889 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Macilence*, extreme thinness of the whole or part of the body.

Macilency (mæ·silĕnsi). Now *rare.* [See prec. and -ENCY.] Leanness. *lit.* and *fig.*

1632 SANDYS *Ovid's Metam.* XIV. *Notes* 484 His [*sc.* a Heron's] vigilant feare, .. macilency, and pittiful screamings. 1633 T. ADAMS *Exp. 2 Peter* i. 6 These effects [of intemperance] are, .. 2. Macilency of grace. 1798 C. CAOWTHER in Beddoes *Contrib. Phys. & Med. Knowl.* (1799) 350 From a state of extreme macilency [she] became obese. 1822 *Blackw. Mag.* XII. 525 On recollecting the macilency of the Parisians, he justly inferred, that double the number of French people might inhabit London .. without inconvenience.

Macilent (mæ·silĕnt), *a.* Now *rare.* Also 6 **macilente.** [ad. L. *macilent-us* lean.] Lean, shrivelled, thin; **a.** in material sense.

1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* (1858) II. 512 With sic abundance of exceidand sweit, His cumlie cors .. lene wes maid, and macilent. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 181 If they [goats] be fat, they are lesse venereous then being macilent or lean. 1647 LILLY *Chr. Astrol.* clxxvi. 747 Other Significators represent a body somewhat dry, macilent, erect and straight. 1683 W. HARRIS *Pharmacologia* xiv. 260 By reason of the exanguious macilent condition of the Junctures after Feavers. 1755 in JOHNSON. 1865 *Reader* 28 Jan. 93/2 George I. seated at supper with the tall, macilent, and ill-favoured Duchess of Kendal standing bolt upright behind him. 1871 M. COLLINS *Inn Strange Meetings* 4 Not Mephistophiles is macilenter Than the man.

b. *fig.* Of verses: Jejune, poor.

1624 BP. MOUNTAGU *Gagg* 252 That jejune and macilent conceit of Zwinglius. 1658 J. R. tr. *Mouffet's Theat. Insects* 898 Balm: concerning which Macer sang these macilent verses. 1702 J. HOWE *Liv. Temple* II. xi. Wks. 1724 I. 240 So copious an effusion of the Holy Spirit, as will .. make it spring up, out of its macilent wither'd State, into its primitive Liveliness and Beauty.

Macintosh: see MACKINTOSH.

Macis: obs. form of MACE *sb.*2

† **Mack** *sb.*1 *Obs.* Some game at cards.

1548 FORREST *Pleas. Poesye* 221 At ale howse too sitt, at mack or at mall. 1592 CHETTLE *Kind-Harts Dr.* F, Macke, Maw, Ruffe, Noddy, and Trumpe. 1602 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* IX. xlvi. 217 Hence arrant Preachers, humming out a common-place or two, With bad, ill, naught, Pope, pots, play, mack, keeping of fowle adoe.

Mack (mæk) *sb.*2 *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Also 6 **meke**, 9 **macks.** [An unmeaning word, suggested either by 'by *Mary*' or by 'by the Mass' (see MASS *sb.*1). Cf. 'by the matte' (Udall *Roister D.* IV. vii. 118), also MACKINS and dial. *megs.*] In the phrase *By* (*the*) *mack!* (also simply *mack!* as quasi-*int.*), an exclamatory form of asseveration.

c 1560 *Misogonus* IV. i. 55 (Brandl) Bith meke, Isbell. 1598 B. JONSON *Ev. Man in Hum.* III. iv, Humour? mack, I thinke it be so, indeed. 1599 *Sir John Oldcastle* (1600) C 4, Now by the macke, a prettie wench indeed. 1638 WHITING *Hist. Albino* 130 Is not my daughter Maudge as fine a mayd, And yet, by mack, you see she troules the bowle. 1664 COTTON *Scarron.* I. 105 By the Mack.

† **Mack** *sb.*3 *Obs.* Variant of MAC 1. Used contemptuously for: A Celtic Irishman. Also *attrib.*

[1596 SPENSER *State Irel.* Wks. (Globe ed.) 677/1 The Oes and Macks, which the heads of the septs have taken to theyr names.] 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* II. 138, I cannot dissemble how confident I am, to beate these Spanish Dons, as well as euer I did our Irish Macks and Oes. 1681 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) I. 91 Another of these Mack Irish papists has sworn that [etc.]. *c* 1688 *New Letany* iii. in *Third Collect. Poems* 8/1 Who's Rid, and Impos'd on, by many a score Of Priests, Macks, and Footmen, his Q. and his Wh—.

Mack (mæk), *sb.*4 *slang.* Also **mac.** [Short for MACKEREL 2.] A pander.

1887 W. E. HENLEY *Villon's Straight Tip* ii. (F.), Fiddle, or fence, or mace, or mack. 1894 STEAD *If Christ came to Chicago* 372 The procurers, the souteneurs and the 'macs'.

† **Mack,** *a.* Also 5 **make**, 5, 9 **mak.** [a. ON. *mak-r* (found in compar. only). Cf. MACKLY *adv.*, and dial. *mackerly*, *mackly* adj., *mack-like*, *macky* seemly, etc.] **a.** Apt, convenient. **b.** Neat, tidy.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 321/1 Make, or fyt, and mete (*MS. K.* mak, fyt, or esy), *aptus, conveniens.* 1825–80 JAMIESON, *Mack, mak*, neat, tidy; Roxb.

Mack: see BLACK-MACK. **Mack,** obs. f. MAKE.

Mackabaw, variant of MACCOBOY.

† **Mackabroin.** *Obs. rare*—1. [Derived from *macabree*: see MACABRE.] An old hag.

1546 J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* (1867) 61 Such an olde witche, suche a mackabroyne, As euermore like a hog hangeth the groyne, On hir husbande, except he be hir slaue.

† **Mackallow.** *Sc. Obs.* Also 7 **mac(k)helve**, 8 **macalive.** [Gael. *macaladh* fostering.] Something handed over to a foster-parent along with a child for the benefit of the latter. Also *attrib.*

1580 in *Black Bk. Taymouth*, etc. (Bannatyne Club) 224 The said father and foster father giving between them of makhelve guddis in donation to the said bairn at Beltane thereafter the value of two hundred merks of ky [etc.]. 1671 *Contract* in *Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot.* XXX. (1896) 22 The makhelve is 9 ky. 1678 *Ibid.* 20 Whilk wholl mackallow goods .. the said Duncan and Margret oblidges them .. to gress and pastur and hird to the behoofe of ther said foster. 1775 JOHNSON *Western Isl.* Wks. X. 484 These beasts are considered as a portion and called Macalive Cattle.

Mackar, obs. Sc. form of MAKER.

Mackarel(l, variant of MACKEREL 1.

Mackaroon: see MACAROON.

Mackassin, obs. form of MOCASSIN.

Mackaw: see MACAW.

† **Ma·ckeler.** *rare*—1. [ad. Du. *makelaar*, f. *makelen* to negotiate. Cf. MACKLE *v.*2] A broker.

1682 SCARLETT *Exchanges* 9 Exchange is concluded, either by the Mackelers or Brogers, alone betwixt themselves, or by bringing the parties face to face.

† **Mackeleredge.** *Obs. rare*—1. [ad. Du. *makelarij*, f. *makelaar* MACKELER.] Brokerage.

1682 SCARLETT *Exchanges* 177 The Factor .. must place his Principal to account Courtagie and Mackeleridge.

† **Mackenboy.** *Obs.* Also 7 **mackenbory, mackinboy, makimboy**, 7–9 **makinboy.** [a. Irish *meacan buidhe* (*an t-sleibhe*) 'yellow root

(of the mountain)'.] An Irish spurge (*Euphorbia hiberna*) said to have powerful purgative properties.

1652 *Hartlib's Legacie* (ed. 2) App., Interrogatory, *Maccamboy*. Whether there be such a thing at all, that this herb should purge the body meerly by external touch, or whether it be a fable, [etc.]? 1670 RAY *Catal. Plant. Angliæ* 299 *Tithymalus Hibernicus*, Makinboy. 1672 PETTY *Pol. Anat.* (1691) 111 What is said of the Herb Mackenbory is fabulous. 1678 PHILLIPS, *Mackenboy*, or *Makinboy*, a kind of Spurge with a knotty Root, growing naturally in Ireland, which being but carried about one, causeth the party to go often to stool. 1687 ASHE in *Phil. Trans.* XX. 294 The famous Irish Herb called Mackenboy. 1816–20 T. GREEN *Univ. Herbal* I. 543 Euphorbia Hibernica, *Irish Spurge*...Native of Ireland..where it is known by the name of *makinboy*.

Mackerel[1] (mæ·kərel). Forms: 3–6 **makerel**(l, 5 **makerelle, makyrelle**, 4–7 **macrel**l, **makrel**l, 5 **macrelle**, 6 **macquerell**, 7 **maquerel**, 7–8 **macril**(l, **maycril**, 6–8 **mackrell**, 7–9 **mackrel**, 4–9 **mackerell**, 7–9 **mackarel**, 8 **mackarell**, 7– **mackerel**. [a. OF. *makerel* (F. *maquereau*) of unknown origin.]

1. A well-known sea-fish, *Scomber scomber*, much used for food, that approaches the shore in shoals in summer-time for the purpose of spawning.

c 1300 *Havelok* 758 Keling he tok, and tumberel, Hering, and þe makerel. *a* 1377 *Abingdon Acc.* (Camden) 38 In makerell, xxxiijs. *c* 1425 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 642/2 *Hic megarus*, makyrelle. *c* 1460 J. RUSSELL *Bk. Nurture* 558 Merlynge, makerelle. 1530 PALSGR. 241/2 Macquerell a fysshe, *macquerel*. 1573 TUSSER *Husb.* xii. (1878) 28 When Mackrell ceaseth from the Seas, John Baptist brings grassebeafe and pease. 1601 CHESTER *Love's Mart., Dialogue* lxxix, Sommer louing Mackrell. 1623 MIDDLETON & ROWLEY *Sp. Gipsy* III. ii, Bad fortunes are like mackerel at midsummer. *a* 1658 CLEVELAND *Poor Cavalier* 51 Thou shalt ..Bait Fishes Hooks to couzen Mackrels Lips. 1704 SWIFT *T. Tub* Conclus., A book that misses its tide, shall be neglected..like mackarel a week after the season. 1741 *Compl. Fam.-Piece* I. iii. 214 Slit your Mackrel in halves, take out the Roes, gut and clean them. 1789 MRS. PIOZZI *Journ. France* I. 2 Shoals of maycril. 1870 YEATS *Nat. Hist. Comm.* 321 Mackerel will bite at almost any bait.

b. In proverbs and proverbial expressions.

1760 FOOTE *Minor* I. Wks. 1799 I. 238 You can be secret as well as serviceable?..Mute as a mackrel. 1819 *Metropolis* III. 154 We were as mute as mackarel for exactly seven minutes and a half. 1890 HALL CAINE *Bondman* II. xiii, Was he throwing a sprat to catch a mackerel?

2. Applied with qualifying word to other fishes. †*Great mackerel*, ? the tunny. *Spanish mackerel*, †(*a*) the tunny, (*b*) in England the *Scomber colias*, (*c*) in U. S. the *Scomberomerus maculatus*. See also HORSE-MACKEREL.

a 1672 WILLUGHBY *Icthyogr.* (1686) Tab. M. 1 *Thynnus sive Thunnus Gesn.* Spanish Mackerel. 1709 DAMPIER *Voy.* (1720) III. I. 414 The Great Mackarell is 7 Foot long. 1832 COUCH in *Mag. Nat. Hist.* V. 22 Spanish Mackarel (*Scomber maculatus*). 1880 GÜNTHER *Fishes* 457 *S[comber] colias*..often called 'Spanish' Mackerel.

3. *Angling.* Short for *mackerel-fly*.

1799 G. SMITH *Laboratory* II. 311, 1. Mackarel. Dubbing, of light brown camel's hair. 1864 *Intell. Observ.* VI. 152 A fly known to anglers as the mackerel.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *mackerel-catcher, -fishery, -fleet, -gaff, -smack*; †**mackerel-back** *sb.* (see quot. *a* 1700); **mackerel-back, -backed** *adjs.*, †(*a*) *slang*, long-backed; (*b*) said of clouds, sky: see *mackerel-sky*; **mackerel-bait**, a fisherman's name for jelly-fish (*Cent. Dict.*); **mackerel-bird**, local name for the wryneck and the young kittiwake (see quots.); **mackerel-boat**, a boat for mackerel-fishing; 'a stout clinch-worked vessel, with a large fore-sail, spritsail, and mizen' (Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.*); **mackerel-bob**, a four-pointed fish-jig, for catching mackerel; **mackerel-breeze**, a breeze that ruffles the water, so as to favour the catching of mackerel (cf. *mackerel-gale*); hence **mackerel-breezy** *a.*; **mackerel-clouds** (see *mackerel-sky*); **mackerel-cock**, a local name for the Manx Shearwater (Newton); **mackerel-cry**, the hawker's cry of 'new mackerel'; **mackerel-fly** *Angling*, a species of May-fly, also an artificial fly imitating this; **mackerel-gale**, a strong breeze such as mackerel are best caught in; **mackerel-guide**, a local name for the gar-fish; **mackerel-gull**, a name in U.S. for the tern; **mackerel-midge**, the young of the rockling (*Motella*) (Günther); †**mackerel-mint**, common mint (*Mentha viridis*); **mackerel-pike**, any fish of the genus *Scombresocidæ*; a saury (*Cent. Dict.*); **mackerel-plough**, a knife used for creasing the sides of lean mackerel in order to improve their appearance (Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1884); **mackerel-scad**, an American fish, *Decapterus macarellus*; **mackerel-scout** = *mackerel-guide*; **mackerel-shark**, a name for the porbeagle; **mackerel-sky**, a sky dappled with small white fleecy clouds (cirro-cumulus); **mackerel-sture**, a northern name for the tunny.

a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew*, **Mackarel-back*, a very tall, lank Person. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. of Farm* I. 249 At other times it is..mottled like a mackerel's back, when it is called the 'mackerel-back sky'. 1888 *Pall Mall G.* 22 Sept. 1/2 In some places the clouds were what we sailors call 'mackerel back'. 1785 GROSE *Dict. Vulg. Tongue*, **Mackarel backed*, long backed. 1865 *Intell. Observ.* VIII. 257 *Cirro-cumulus*, or a 'mackerel-backed' sky. 1879 CECIL SMITH *Birds of Guernsey* 94 The Wryneck..arriving..about the same time as the mackerel, wherefore it has also obtained the local name of '*Mackerel Bird'. 1882–4 YARRELL *Brit. Birds* (ed. 4) III. 654 Mr. Cordeaux says that the Flamborough fishermen call the young Kittiwakes 'Mackerel-birds', because they usually appear at sea with their parents in August when the fish are approaching the coast. 1768 *Ann. Reg.* 120 A premium..for encouraging the *mackerel-boats to bring their fish to market. 1883 *Fisheries Exhib. Catal.* 195 *Mackerel boh formerly used by New England fishermen for the capture of mackerel without the use of bait. 1753 SMOLLETT *Per. Pic.* (1779) II. xiv. 209 They tacked to and fro in the river under the impulse of a *mackerel breeze. 1843 LE FEVRE *Life Trav. Phys.* III. III. i. 89 It was blowing a mackarel breeze only. 1834 R. MUDIE *Brit. Birds* (1841) I. 2 It is one of those *mackerel-breezy days on which the surface of the water just dances and dimples. 1614 *Engl. way to wealth* in *Harl. Misc.* (Malh.) III. 244 The fishermen-*mackarel-catchers. 1830 N. S. WHEATON *Jrnl.* 510 *Mackarel clouds..are hung around the horizon. 1772 RUTTY *Nat. Hist. Co. Dublin* I. 329 The *Makarel-Cock..a bird of passage coming to us in June and July, about the time of the Mackarels... It is commonly as big as a Cormorant [etc.]. 1714 GAY *Trivia* II. 310 Ev'n Sundays are prophan'd by *Mackrell Cries. 1883 HUXLEY *Addr. Fishery Congress* 18 June 16, I believe then that the..*mackerel-fishery, and probably all the great sea-fisheries, are inexhaustible. 1894 HALL CAINE *Manxman* 425 The *mackerel fleet were leaving for Kinsale. 1829 *Glover's Hist. Derby* I. 177 Lesser hackle fly, *mackerel fly [etc.]. 1883 *Fisheries Exhib. Catal.* 195 *Mackerel gaff..used by New England fishermen. 1577–87 HARRISON *England* I. x. in *Holinshed* I. 45/1 Scarse comparable to the *makerell gale. 1687 DRYDEN *Hind & P.* III. 456 The wind was fair, but blew a mackrel gale. 1769 PENNANT *Zool.* III. 222 This fish [mackrel] is easily taken by a bait, but the best time is during a fresh gale of wind, which is thence called a mackrel gale. 1835 JENYNS *Man. Brit. Vert. Anim.* 419 *Belone vulgaris*.. From its usually preceding the Mackerel, is sometimes called the *Mackerel-Guide. 1796 NEMNICH *Polygl.-Lex. Nat. Hist.* V. 820 *Mackarel gull *Larus ridibundus*. 1883 *Century Mag.* Sept. 653/1 Among the most common birds are the..tern or mackerell-gull. 1832 COUCH in *Mag. Nat. Hist.* V. 16 It is the *mackerel midge of our fishermen, to whom it is well known. 1860 GOSSE *Rom. Nat. Hist.* 149 The mackerel-midge..never surpasses an inch and a quarter in length. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. CCXV. 553 The third [Mint] is called..in English Speare Mint,..Browne Mint, and *Macrell Mint. 1880–4 F. DAY *Brit. Fishes* II. 148 In Ireland hora-eel (Belfast Bay); *mackerel-scout (Strangford Lough). 1669 WORLIDGE *Syst. Agric.* (1681) 295 In a fair day, if the sky seem to be dapled with white Clouds, (which they usually term a *Mackarel-sky) it usually predicts Rain. 1883 R. H. SCOTT *Elem. Meteorol.* 126 Small detached rounded masses [of cloud]..like the markings of a mackerel, whence the name 'mackerel sky'. 1697 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3295/3 An open Pinnace..came into the Downes, ..put on Board a *Mackrel Smack, and carried away the Master. 1772 BARRINGTON in *Phil. Trans.* LXII. 310 *note*, The tunny fish [are caught] on the coast of Argyleshire, .. where they are called *mackrel sture.

† **Ma·ckerel**[2]. *Obs.* Forms: 5–6 **makerel**(l, **makrel**(l, 5–7 **ma(c)querel**, 7 **maquerell**(e, **mackarel**(l, **-erel**(le, **macrell**; also in quasi-Italian form **maquerel**(l)**a**. [ad. OF. *maquerel* (F. *maquereau*, *maquerelle*) of unknown origin; possibly the same word as MACKEREL[1]; some have conjectured that it is from Du. *makelaar* broker.] One who ministers to sexual debauchery; a bawd, pimp, procurer or procuress.

1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 13478 *Glotonye*: Yiff thow me calle..Lyk as I am, A Bocheresse, Or in ffrench..I am callyd a Makerel, Whos offyce..Ys in ynglysshe bauderye. 1483 CAXTON *Cato* B vij, Nyghe hys hows dwellyd a maquerel or bawde. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* IV. Prol. 192 Sic poyd makrellis for Lucifer bene leche. 1585 JAS. I *Ess. Poesie* (Arb.) 27, I no wais can, vnwet my cheekes, beholde My sisters made by Frenchemen macquerelsolde. *a* 1600 MONTGOMERIE *Sonn.* lxx. 8 Quhy maks thou makrels of the modest Muses. *a* 1613 SIR T. OVERBURY *A Wife*, etc. (1638) 142 A Maquerela, in plaine English, a Bawde. 1630 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Gt. Eater Kent* Wks. I. 143/1 Some get their liuing..by tayles, as Maquerellaes, Concubines, Curtezanes [etc.]. *c* 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* II. xxiv, The Pander did his Office, but brought him a Citizen clad in Damoisells apparell, so she and her Maquerell were paid accordingly. 1658 in PHILLIPS. *a* 1700 in B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew.*

† **Mackerelage.** *Obs.* In 7 **maquorelage**. [a. F. *maquerelage*, f. **maquerel*, *maquereau*: see prec.] The services of a bawd or pander.

1602 FLORIO *Montaigne* II. vii. (1632) 211.

Mackereler (mæ·kərĕlər). [f. MACKEREL[1] + -ER[1].] **a.** One who goes mackerel-fishing. **b.** A boat used in mackerel-fishing.

1883 *Chamb. Jrnl.* 272 Here is a model of that vast net used by the mackereler. 1886 *Century Mag.* XXXII. 824 The mackerelers do not keep together so much as formerly.

Mackereling (mæ·kərĕlĭŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. MACKEREL[1] + -ING[1].] Fishing for mackerel.

1887 GOODE, etc. *Fisheries of U. S.* v. II. 604 Men who go mackereling.

Mackeroon, variant of MACAROON.

Mackinaw (mæ·kinɔ̃). The name (also written *Mackinac*) of an island in the strait between Lakes Huron and Michigan; occurring in the following collocations. **Mackinaw blanket**, also simply **Mackinaw**, a thick blanket, such as used to be distributed to the Indians of the North-west by the U.S. govemment. **Mackinaw (boat)**, a large flat-bottomed sharp-ended boat, used on the Great Lakes. **Mackinaw trout**, the *lake-trout* (see TROUT).

1841 CATLIN *N. Amer. Ind.* (1844) I. x. 73 A mackinaw-boat, capable of carrying 50 or 100 casks. 1851 MAYNE REID *Scalp Hunt.* iii. 22 My 'Mackinaw'..makes my bed by night and my great coat on other occasions. 1876 G. B. GOODE *Anim. Resources U. S.* 41 Lure-fish used in taking Mackinaw trout. 1903 *Longm. Mag.* Jan. 218 Sedate family boats with three pairs of oars, mackinaws with white sails light in the fresh breeze.

Mackinboy, variant of MACKENBOY *Obs.*

Mackins (mæ·kinz). *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Also 6 **meckiuse**, 7 **makin(g)s**, 7–8 **mackings**, 8 **maakins**, 9 *dial.* **macklins, makkers**, etc.: see E. D. D. [Formed as MACK[2] with suffix -KIN frequent in similar words.] Used in the asseverative exclamation *By (the) mackins*. (Cf. MACK *sb.*[2])

c 1560 *Misogonus* III. iii. 73 (Brandl) Bith meckiase. 1605 *Lond. Prodigal* II. ii. C, A by the mackins, good syr Lancelot. 1654 GAYTON *Pleas. Notes* III. ii. 75 'Twas well thought on, by the mackins. 1694 ECHARD *Plautus* 12 By the Mackins, I believe Phebus has been playing the Good-Fellow. 1697 VANBRUGH *Relapse* IV. i. (1708) 40 *Fashion.* Pray accept of this small Acknowledgment. *Nurse.* (Aside.) Gold, by makings, your Honour's goodness is too great. 1887 *S. Cheshire Gloss.* s.v. *By*, By the makkins.

Mackintosh (mæ·kintɒʃ). Also **macintosh.**

1. The name of Charles *Macintosh* (1766–1843), applied *attrib.* to designate garments made of the waterproof material invented by him (patent no. 4804, 17 June 1823), consisting of two or more layers of cloth cemented together with india-rubber. Now viewed as an attributive use of **3**, and written with small initial.

1836 *Murray's Handbk. N. Germ.* p. xx, A Mackintosh cloak is almost indispensable. 1849 *Brit. Q. Rev.* Feb. 5 Old port, tender mutton and Mackintosh capes are excellent things, no doubt. 1853 READE *Chr. Johnstone* 227 A fisherman's long mackintosh coat. 1859 W. COLLINS *Q. of Hearts* (1875) 39 Jessie put on my mackintosh cloak.

2. Short for *Mackintosh cloak, coat*, etc. Also *Comb.*, as *mackintosh-maker*.

1836 FRITH *Let.* 18 Oct. in *Autobiog.* (1888) III. 61, I like the mackintosh very much. 1840 LONGF. in *Life* (1891) I. 365 Sumner striding down Hancock Street in his white mackintosh. 1842 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg., Misadv. Margate* xiv, I could not see my Macintosh..Nor yet my best white beaver hat. 1851 *Illustr. Lond. News* 5 Aug. (1854) 119/1 Macintosh-maker. 1871 CARLYLE in *Mrs. Carlyle's Lett.* I. 141 Wrapt in an old dressing-gown with mackintosh buttoned round it. 1900 *Q. Rev.* July 56 The bodies of officers having been buried in mackintoshes had not so disappeared.

3. The material of which 'Mackintosh' garments are made; now applied to any cloth made waterproof by a coating of india-rubber. Also *attrib.*

1880 MACCORMAC *Antisept. Surg.* 170 The mackintosh should be dipped, shortly before use, in carbolic solution. 1889 *Lancet* 27 Apr. 830/1 The bed is covered with a mackintosh sheet. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 429 If necessary, a square of mackintosh is placed under the draw-sheet. 1899 *Ibid.* VIII. 579 India-rubber or mackintosh coverings are certainly effectual.

Mackle, macle (mæ·k'l), *sb. Printing.* [ad. F. *macule*, ad. L. *macula* spot. Cf. G. *makel* spot, stain.] A blur in printing; a doubling of the impression; also, a blurred sheet. (Cf. MACULE *sb.*)

1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Maculature*, or *Macle*, a waste Sheet of printed Paper. 1825 HANSARD *Typographia* 928 *Mackle*, when part of the impression on a page appears double, owing to the platten's dragging on the frisket. 1871 *Amer. Encycl. Printing* (ed. Ringwalt) s.v., If the frame of the tympan rubs against the platen, it will cause a slur or mackle. 1888 JACOBI *Printers' Vocab.*, *Mackle*, a printed sheet with a slurred appearance.

Mackle, macle (mæ·k'l), *v.*[1] *Printing.* [f. MACKLE *sb.*] **a.** *trans.* To blur, spot, or spoil (a sheet of paper); also (now usually) to print (a page) blurred or double. **b.** *intr.* Of the paper: To become blurred or spoiled. (Cf. MACULE *v.*) Hence **Ma·ckled** *ppl. a.*, **Ma·ckling** *vbl. sb.*

1594 R. ASHLEY tr. *Loys le Roy* 22 On a double tympan or parchmin (hauing a wollen cloth betwixt them) and a moyst linnen cloth to keepe the leafe from mackling. 1724 BAILEY, *Mackled*, blotted or daub'd in Printing. 1867 FRY *Playing-Card Terms* in *Philol. Soc. Trans.* 56 *To Mackle, To Macule*, v. a. To spot, stain, soil; to set off newly printed or painted work. *Mackled*, adj. Spotted, stained, soiled. *Macklings, Mackling-paper, Mackling-sheets*, soiling-paper; sheet of paper put between printed sheets of playing-cards, to prevent rubbing, setting-off, and soiling.

† **Ma·ckle,** *v.*[2] *Obs.*—[9] [ad. Du. *makelen* to offer for sale.] *intr.* 'To sell weavers' goods to shop-keepers' (Bailey 1724).

Hence † **Ma·ckler,** a seller of weavers' goods (Bailey 1731 vol. II).

Mackless, variant of MAKELESS *a.*[1] and [2].

† **Ma·ckly,** *adv. Obs.* In 5–6 **makly**. [f. MACK *a.* + -LY[2].] Evenly, aptly, easily.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 322/2 Makly, or esyly, *faciliter* (P. *apte*). 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* V. xiv. 32 The windis blawis full evin and rycht makly.

† **Mackni·nny.** *Obs. rare*—[1]. [a. It. *machinine*, pl. dim. of *macchina* MACHINE *sb.*] ? A puppet-show.

a 1734 NORTH *Exam.* III. viii. § 12 (1740) 590 He..could ..represent emblematically the Downfall of Majesty; as in his Raree-Show and Mackninny.

Mackrel, -ell, obs. forms of MACKEREL.

Macle (mæ·k'l). See also MASCLE. [a. F. *macle*, ad. L. *macula* spot, mesh.]

1. *Cryst.* A hemitropic or twin crystal. Also *attrib.* [After Romé de L'Isle's use of F. *macle*, 1783.]

1801 *De Bournon's Acc. certain Minerals* in *Phil. Trans.* XCI. 185 Whence results a kind of macle, the form of which is a rhomboidal tetraedral prism. 1829 *Nat. Philos., Polaris. Light* xvi. 60 (U. K. S.) The irregularities of crystallisation, which are known by the name of *Macle*, or *Hemitrope* forms. 1860 MAURY *Phys. Geog. Sea* ix. § 442 Crystals of ice, like macles of snow, were observed to form near the bottom. 1883 *All Year Round* 17 Nov. 535 A diamond at last, of macle shape, weighing some twenty carats!

2. *Min.* (See quot. 1865.)

1839 URE *Dict. Arts, Macle*, is the name of certain diagonal black spots in minerals, like the ace of diamonds in cards. *a* 1852 MACGILLIVRAY *Nat. Hist. Dee Side* (1855) 454 Orthoclase .. forms large macles in Ruhislaw quarries, near Aberdeen. 1865 WATTS *Dict. Chem., Macle* is the name given to certain spots in minerals of a deeper hue than the rest; sometimes proceeding from difference of aggregation, sometimes from the presence of a foreign substance: clay-slate, for example, may be macled with iron pyrites. 1872 PAGE *Adv. Text-Bk. Geol.* vii. 118 Felspar with large macles of mica.

3. = CHIASTOLITE.

[1821 JAMESON *Man. Mineral.* 318 Chiastolite, Macle, Haüy.] 1821 MAWE *Catal. Minerals* (ed. 4) 99 Chiastolite—*Macle*, is of a yellowish white colour. 1822 CLEAVELAND *Mineral. & Geol.* I. 427 The term Macle, as the name of a distinct species, applies to the whitish prisms only. 1862a DANA *Man. Geol.* § 60. 58 [Andalusite] often having the interior tesselated with black, in which case it is usually called macle or chiastolite. 1896 CHESTER *Dict. Min., Macle*, a syn. of chiastolite, alluding particularly to the black centre which a crystal often shows when cut transversely, similar to the mascle of heraldry.

4. *Her.* = MASCLE.

1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl., Mascle*, or *Macle*. 1828–40 BERRY *Encycl. Her.* I, *Macles* or *Mashes*. These terms occur in ancient books of armory, meaning the same as Mascles. 1847 *Gloss. Heraldry, Macle*, see *Mascle*.

Macle, *Printing*: see MACKLE.

Macled (mæ·k'ld), *ppl. a.* Also **maekled**. [f. MACLE + -ED.] **a.** Of a crystal: Hemitropic. **b.** Marked like chiastolite (Webster Suppl. 1880). **c.** *Her.* = MASCLED (Webster 1897).

1822 CLEAVELAND *Mineral. & Geol.* II. 793 Macled Crystal, a hemitrope crystal is sometimes thus called. *a* 1852 MACGILLIVRAY *Nat. Hist. Dee Side* (1855) 455 Garnet .. In pentagonal dodecahedrons, single or macled. 1858 MAURY *Phys. Geog. Sea* xiii. § 761 Organisms as delicate as the macled frost. 1862 G. P. SCROPE *Volcanos* 33 *note*, The crystals being .. many of them macled. 1865 [see MACLE 2].

Maclu·r(e)ite. *Min.* [Named after W. Maclure, U. S. geologist: see -ITE.] A name independently proposed in 1822 for two different minerals, now identified respectively with augite and chondrodite.

1822 NUTTALL in *Amer. Jrnl. Sci.* V. 246 Maclurite. 1822 SEYBERT *ibid.* 344 Maclureite. 1822 CLEAVELAND *Mineral. & Geol.* II. 783.

Macmi·llanite. [Named after John Macmillan (*died* 1753), the founder of the body: see -ITE.] A member of the body known as the Reformed Presbyterian Church of Scotland.

1799 *Statist. Acc. Scott.* XXI. Index 1, Macmillanites. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xvii, I only meant to say that you were a Cameronian, or MacMillanite.

Macock, var. MAYCOCK, kind of pumpkin.

Macomet, -it(e, -yt(e, obs. ff. MAHOMET.

Macon, obs. form of MAHOUND, MASON.

Maconite (mæ·kŏnəit). *Min.* [f. *Macon* name of a county in Georgia, U. S. A.: see -ITE.] A hydrous silicate of aluminium, iron and magnesium.

1873 F. A. GENTH in *Proc. Amer. Philos. Soc.* XIII. 396 Maconite, (a new species [of corundum]).

Macoute, variant of MACUTE.

Macquerel(l, obs. form of MACKEREL.

‖ **Macquignon.** *Obs.* [F. *maquignon.*] A horse-dealer.

1798 CHARLOTTE SMITH *Ving. Philos.* III. 126 'Lord who?' said the macquignon* in a surly tone. [*Foot-n.*] *A sort of jobber in horses who still calls himself a gentleman. [1834 JAMES *J. Marston Hall* x, I remember his turning off his chief ecuyer for merely whispering in the street with a maquignon, who was bringing him a horse for sale.]

Macramé (măkrā·mē). Also **macrami**. [App. a. Turk. *maqrama* towel, napkin, handkerchief, a. Arab. مقرمة *miqrama*? striped cloth.]

A fringe or trimming of knotted thread or cord; knotted-work; the art of making this. Also *attrib.*

1869 MRS. PALLISER *Lace* iv. 65 This art is principally applied to the ornamenting of huckaback towels, termed Macramé, a long fringe of thread being left at each end, for the purpose of being knotted together in geometrical designs. 1881 *Daily News* 16 July 2/7 Macrami laces continue to attract some attention. 1882 CAULFEILD & SAWARD *Dict. Needlewk.* 331 The basis of all Macramé Lace is knots. .. Macramé is celebrated for its durability and excellence. 1898 *Daily News* 8 Dec. 3/2 The girls had the result of their deft labours in woolwork, needlework, macramiwork.

‖ **Macrauchenia** (mæ:krɔ̃kī·niă). Also in anglicized form **macrauchene**. [mod.L. *Macrauchēnia* (Owen 1838), generic name f. Gr. *μακραύχην* long-necked, f. *μακρ-ός* long + *αὐχήν* neck.] A fossil animal of the order *Pachydermata* having some resemblance to a camel.

1838 OWEN *Fossil Mamm., Zool. Voy. Beagle* (1840) I. 35 The animal—which .. I propose to call Macrauchenia. *Ibid.* 42 The Macrauchene. 1859 DARWIN *Orig. Spec.* vii. (1878) 178 The camel, guanaco, and macrauchenia. 1903 *Q. Rev.* Jan. 59 The macrauchenia, a three-toed ungulate of the size and proportions of a camel.

Macrell, obs. form of MACKEREL[2].

† **Ma·crio.** *Obs. rare*—[1]. [?altered from F. *maquereau.*] = MACKEREL[2].

a 1627 MIDDLETON *Anything for Quiet Life* v. ii. (1662) G 3, Pander, Wittoll, Macrio, basest of knaves.

† **Ma·critude.** *Obs.*—[0]. [ad. L. *macritūdo*, f. *macer* lean.] Leanness.

1623 in COCKERAM (*machr-*). 1656 in BLOUNT *Glossogr.*

Macro- (mæ·krɔ), before a vowel **macr-**, repr. Gr. *μακρο-*, comb. form of *μακρός* long, large, used in many scientific terms (see also the main words).

a. *Phys.* and *Path.*, in sbs. of mod.L. form in *-ia* compounded with Gr. names for different parts of the body, and signifying excessive development of the part in question, as **Ma·crocepha·lia** [Gr. *κεφαλή* head] (also anglicized **Macroce·phaly**), excessive length or size of the head. **Ma·crochei·lia** [Gr. *χείλος* lip], an enlargement and thickening of the lips. **Ma·croglo·ssia** [Gr. *γλῶσσα* tongue], a progressive enlargement of the tongue, with protrusion from the mouth. **Ma·crome·lia** [Gr. *μέλος* limb], abnormal development of a limb. **Ma·crosto·mia** [Gr. *στόμα* mouth], abnormal extension of one or both angles of the mouth.

1889 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, **Macrocephalia*, *Macrocephaly*. 1883 *Ashhurst's Internat. Encycl. Surg.* III. 34 **Macrocheilia*. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 455 Macrocheilia is a similar condition to macroglossia. 1862 *Syd. Soc. Yearbk.* 117 Case of **Macroglossia*. 1870 *Holmes' Syst. Surg.* (ed. 2) IV. 216 Macro-glossia. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 452 They .. may occur on the limbs, giving rise to **macromelia*. 1854 JONES & SIEV. *Pathol. Anat.* (1874) 535 **Makrostomia*, is prolongation of the corners of the mouth.

b. in sbs. in which the combining form *macro-* is prefixed to a sb. to indicate either that the individual is of unusual size, or that it contains a number of smaller individuals (for the signification see the second member in each case); chiefly formed for antithesis with words beginning with *micro-* of earlier or simultaneous formation, as *macrococcus, macroconidium, macro-cyst, macro-farad, macrogamete, macrogametocyte, macro-gonidium, macromerozoite, macro-molecule, macro-nucleus, macroseptum, macro-somite* (hence *-somitic* adj.), *macrostylospore, macro-zoogonidium, macrozoospore.*

1887 GARNSEY & BALFOUR tr. *De Bary's Fungi* 458 Cocci .. are distinguished .. according to their dimensions into *micrococci*, **macrococci*, and *monad-forms*. 1874 COOKE *Fungi* 175 As early as 1860 he [Tulasne] recognized the large .. vesicles which originate the fertile tissue, but did not comprehend the part which these **Macrocysts* were to perform. 1884 H. M. WARD in *Q. Jrnl. Microscop. Sci.* XXIV. 279 Each pair consists of a macrocyst and a so-called paracyst. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 945 The female gametocyte, consisting of a single **macrogamete*. 1903 E. A. MINCHIN *Sporozoa* in Ray Lankester *Zool.* I. *Protozoa* 215 Since .. the gametes are differentiated into male elements or *microgametes*, and female elements or *macrogametes*, their mother cells must be distinguished further into *microgametocytes* and **macrogametocytes*. 1853 HENFREY [tr. *Braun's Rejuvenesc.*] *Bot. & Physiol. Mem.* (Ray Soc.) 137 Plants with two kinds of moving germ-cells, large (**macrogonidia*) and small (*microgonidia*). 1903 E. A. MINCHIN *Sporozoa* in Ray Lankester *Zool.* I. *Protozoa* 256 Within the cytocyst the schizont may break up into smaller micromerozoites or larger **macromerozoites*. 1892 J. A. THOMSON *Outlines of Zoology* 101 In the ciliated Infusorians there are two nuclear bodies. .. The smaller or micronucleus lies by the side of the larger or **macro-nucleus*. 1880 BESSEY *Botany* 223 The protoplasmic contents of certain cells [of *Hydrodictyon*] break up into a large number of daughter-cells (**macrozoogonidia*). 1875 *Q. Jrnl. Microscop. Sci.* XV. 396 **Macrozoospores* (which germinate asexually). 1888 *Amer. Nat.* XXII. 942 The head .. is divided into .. the primitive head-segment .. and the gnathophorous **macrosomite*. *Ibid.* 941 The .. primary or **macrosomitic* segmentation of the primitive body.

c. *Cryst.* **Macro-axis** = *macrodiagonal* sb. **Ma·crodia·gonal** *sb.* the longer of the diagonals of a rhombic prism; also *adj.*, pertaining to this diagonal. **Ma·crodome**, a dome (see DOME 5 b) parallel to the macrodiagonal; hence **Macrodoma·tic** *a.*, pertaining to the macrodome. **Macropi·nacoid**, a pinacoid parallel to the vertical and macrodiagonal axes. **Ma·croprism**, a prism of an orthorhombic crystal between the macropinacoid and the unit prism. **Ma·cropy·ramid**, a pyramid corresponding to the macroprism.

1898 DANA *Mineral.*, **Macro-axis*. 1848 WEBSTER, **Macrodiagonal*. 1858 THUDICHUM *Urine* 143 The planes .. of the macrodiagonal prism [are inclined] at an angle of 85° 14'. 1883 HEINDLE in *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 360/1 To the greater lateral axis the name macrodiagonal is given. *Ibid.* 360/2 When $n = \infty$ a *macrodome results. *Ibid.*, The limiting *macropinacoid. *Ibid.*, On the one side originate numerous *macroprisms. *Ibid.*, A new pyramid is produced, named a *macropyramid. 1878 LAWRENCE tr. *Cotta's Rocks Classified* 29 Cleavage prismatic, very perfect, *Macrodomatic perfect.

d. in adjs., with sense 'containing or possessed of some object in a largely developed form', as **Macra·ndrous** *a. Bot.* [Gr. *ἀνδρ-*, *ἀνήρ* man], having elongated male plants. **Macroda·ctyl** *a.* = next; *sb.* (see quot.). **Macrodacty·lic, -da·ctylous** *adjs.* [Gr. *δάκτυλος* finger, toe], having long fingers or toes. **Ma·crodont** *a.* [Gr. *ὀδοντ-*, *ὀδούς* tooth], having long teeth. **Ma·cropetalous** *a.* [Gr. *πέταλον* leaf], having long or large leaves or petals (Mayne *Expos. Lex.* 1856). **Macrophy·lline, -phy·llous** *adjs.* [Gr. *φύλλον* leaf], having long or large leaves. **Ma·cropleu·ral** *a.* [Gr. *πλευρά* rib, side], having long pleuræ. **Ma·crosty·lous** *a. Bot.*, having a long style (Mayne *Expos. Lex.* 1856). **Macro·tous** *a.* [Gr. *ὠτ-*, *οὖς* ear], having long ears. **Ma·crotypous** *a. Min.* [TYPE], having a long form.

1882–4 COOKE *Brit. Fresh-w. Algæ* I. 148 Male plants, dwarf (nannandrous) .. or elongated (**macrandrous*). 1837 PARTINGTON *Brit. Cycl. Nat. Hist.* III. 73 **Macrodactyles*, long toes. The last of the regular families into which Cuvier divides the stilt birds or waders. 1836— *Ibid.* II. 886 Cuvier's **Macrodactylic*, or long-toed family of *Echassiers*, or stilt birds. 1848 MAUNDER *Treas. Nat. Hist.* Gloss., **Macrodactylous*, furnished with long toes adapted for traversing floating leaves and aquatic herbage. 1891 FLOWER & LYDEKKER *Mammals* 745 [Negroid type.] Thick, everted lips; prognathous jaws; large teeth (*macrodont*). 1871 W. A. LEIGHTON *Lichen-flora* 55 Thallus **macrophylline*. 1856 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Macrophyllus* .. **macrophyllous*. 1881 in *Academy* 22 Oct. 315 The **macropleural* and brachypleural types. 1886 FORD in *Amer. Jrnl. Sci.* Ser. III. XXXII. 475 Reasons for believing that the Brachypleural species of the genus *Paradoxides* are more recent than the Macropleural. 1887 WARD tr. *Sachs' Physiol. Plants* 790 The pollen of the **macrostylous* flowers is transferred to the microstylous stigma of another plant. 1840 SMART, '*Macrotous*, long-eared. 1821 JAMESON *Man. Mineral.* 55 **Macrotypous* Limestone.

Macrobian (măkrō·biăn), *a.* [f. Gr. *μακρόβιο-ς* (f. *μακρό-ς* long + *βίος* life) + -AN.] Long-lived.

[1727 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Age*, 'The Macrobian Pills .. have their Name from a Greek Word which signifies long Life.] 1859 R. F. BURTON *Centr. Afr.* in *Jrnl. Geogr. Soc.* XXIX. 323 The race is still macrobian, arriving late at maturity.

Macrobiote (-bəi·ōut). *rare*—[1]. [ad. Gr. *μακροβίοτος*, f. *μακρό-ς* long + *βίοτος* life.] A long-liver.

1882 F. L. OSWALD in *Pop. Sci. Monthly* XXI. 590 The Thessalian mountaineers were the macrobiotes, the long-livers, par excellence, of the Roman Empire.

Macrobiotic (mæ:krɔbəiɒ·tik), *a.* and *sb.* [Formed as prec. + -IC.] **a.** *adj.* Inclined or tending to prolong life; relating to the prolongation of life. **b.** *sb. pl.* The science of prolonging life.

1797 *Hufeland's Art Prolong. Life* Pref. (1853) 11 Hence arises a particular science, the Macrobiotic, or the art of prolonging it [life], which forms the subject of the present work. 1822 *New Monthly Mag.* V. 351 Any of your readers .. of macrobiotic tendencies. 1862 DE QUINCY *Wks.* X. 251 *note*, A Greek work on the subject of macrobiotics. 1879 *Punch* 1 Nov. 201/2 Dr. Richardson .. is a great makrobiotic sage.

Macrocephalic (mæ:krɔsĭfæ·lik), *a.* [f. Gr. *μακροκέφαλ-ος* (f. *μακρό-ς* long + *κεφαλή* head) + -IC.] **a.** Pertaining to persons with long or large heads. **b.** Of a person: Having a long or large head.

1851 D. WILSON *Preh. Ann.* (1863) I. ix. 236 The macrocephalic skulls of the Crimea. 1877 BURNETT *Ear* 25 In macrocephalic heads we find large massive ears. 1898 TUNNICLIFFE in *Nature* 15 Dec. 150/1 To the physician the professional athlete is neither more nor less interesting than the macrocephalic dwarf.

Macrocephalous (mæ:krɔsĕfăləs), *a.* [f. Gr. *μακροκέφαλ-ος* (see prec.) + -OUS.] Long-headed. **a.** Having or pertaining to a long head. **b.** *Bot.* Said of dicotyledenous embryos whose cotyledons are consolidated.

1835 LINDLEY *Introd. Bot.* I. ii. (1839) 251 Those embryos which .. Richard [called] macrocephalous. 1865 THURNAM in *Nat. Hist. Rev.* V. 266 The macrocephalous skulls of the Crimea.

Macrocosm (mæ·krɔkɒzm). Also rarely in L. and quasi-Gr. forms: 7 **macrocosmus**, 9 **-cosmos**. [ad. F. *macrocosme* (*c* 1300), ad. med.L. *macrocosmus*, repr. Gr. **μακρὸς κόσμος* (*μακρός* long, great, *κόσμος* world). (Cf. MEGACOSM.)

Although med.L. *macrocosmus* has not been found earlier than in Higden (*c* 1350) it must be the source of the Fr. form recorded *c* 1300, and it seems to imply the prior existence of a Gr. phrase **μακρὸς κόσμος* formed in imitation of *μικρὸς κόσμος* MICROCOSM. For the idea expressed, cf. Macrobius *in Somn. Scip.* I. xii, 'Ideo physici mundum magnum hominem, et hominem brevem mundum esse dixerunt'. From the use of *brevem* here, and the gloss 'Microscosmum .. *petit monde, c'est l'homme qui pou dure*' (Du Cange), it may be suspected that *μακρός* was at first intended in the sense of 'long', interpreted with regard to duration; though the inference is not absolutely necessary, as the formal similarity of the word to *μικρός* would sufficiently account for its selection in an antithetic phrase. However this may be, the relation of the words *macrocosm* and *microcosm* has suggested the use of MACRO- with the sense 'on a large scale', in many modern words antithetic to words beginning with *micro-*.]

1. The 'great world' or universe, in contradistinction to the 'little world' or MICROCOSM, i. e. to man viewed as an epitome of the universe.

The earliest instances of the word in Eng. occur in Lydgate's *Assembly of the Gods* (*c* 1420; oldest MS. *a* 1500), where however it is a mistake (either on the part of Lydgate or of the scribe) for *microcosm.* (See, e.g., line 1828: And as for Macrocosme, hit ys no more to say But the lesse worlde.)

1600 W. WATSON *Decacordon* (1602) 274 Throughout all this vaste Macrocosme, they finde not one patterne..like to ours. 1794 G. ADAMS *Nat. & Exp. Philos.* IV. xlix. 353 Applied and determined by an Infinite Mind in the macrocosm or universe. 1867 FROUDE *Short Stud., Sci. Hist.* 9 He desires, first, to see the spirit of the Macrocosmos. 1881 HUXLEY in *Nature* No. 615. 346 The microcosm repeats the macrocosm.

2. *transf.* In various occasional applications, denoting some great whole, the structure of which is conceived to be imaged on a smaller scale by that of some constituent portion of it.

1851 SIR F. PALGRAVE *Norm. & Eng.* I. 347 No population ..is absolutely inert in the macrocosm of humanity. 1875 *N. Amer. Revi.* CXX. 256 The macrocosm of society can be inferred from the microcosm of individual human nature. 1896 J. R. HARRIS *Union with God* iii. 59 His life is the great life, and all our little lives are involved in it, Christ being the macrocosm, and ourselves the microcosm.

Hence **Ma·croco·smic** *a.* [-IC], of or pertaining to the macrocosm or universe. † **Macroco·smical** *a.* [-IC + -AL], = prec. **Macrocosmo·logy** [-(o)LOGY], a description of the macrocosm.

1625 GILL *Sacr. Philos.* IV. 53 There is some powerfull principle, for sending up such waters which naturally doe flee from heat, as this macrocosmicall Sun is for drawing of them upward. 1690 W. V. *Artif. Wines* To Rdr. A ij b, When the Macrocosmical World was finished. 1856 MAYNE *Expos. Lex., Macrocosmical, Macrocosmology.* 1871 TYLOR *Prim. Cult.* I. 316 It forms part of that macrocosmic description of the universe well known in Asiatic myth.

Macrocyte (mæ·krŏsəit). *Path.* [f. MACRO- + -CYTE.] An abnormally large red blood-corpuscle found in some forms of anæmia. Hence ‖ **Macrocythæmia, -emia** (-siþī·miă) [Gr. *αἷμα* blood], the presence of macrocytes in the blood.

1889 *Syd. Soc. Lex., Macrocyte.* 1894 GOULD *Illustr. Dict. Med., Macrocythemia.* 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 750 If..a further examination of the blood be made,.. both microcytes and macrocytes will have practically disappeared. 1898 *Ibid.* V. 414 This condition, named *macrocythæmia*, is apt to occur..in any case of severe anæmia.

Macrognathic (mæ·krŏgnă·þik), *a.* [f. MACRO- + Gr. *γνάθ-os* jaw + -IC.] Having long or protruding jaws. So **Macrognathism** (măkrɒ·gnăþiz'm), the peculiarity or fact of being macrognathic; protrusion of the jaws. **Macrognathous** (măkrɒ·gnăþəs) *a.* = MACROGNATHIC.

1856 MAYNE *Expos. Lex., Macrognathous.* 1864 HUXLEY in *Reader* 5 Mar., The jaws .. project more forward than in man, so that the chimpanzee is both macrognathous and prognathous. 1864 — *ibid.* 19 Mar. 364/3 The macrognathism and prognathism are carried to about the same extent. 1874 DAWKINS *Cave Hunt.* vi. 193 The entire maxillary apparatus is so largely developed, that the term 'macrognathic', introduced by Professor Huxley, is particularly applicable.

Macrography (mæ·krɒ·grăfi). [f. MACRO- + Gr. *-γραφία* writing.] Abnormally large writing (as a symptom of nervous disorder). Hence **Ma·crogra·phic** *a.*

1899 *Pop. Sci. Monthly* June 203 The macrography alternating with the micrography. *Ibid.* 205 Fig. 3, Macrographic and micrographic writing by the same epileptic.

Macrology (mæ·krɒ·lŏdʒi). [ad. L. *macrologia*, a. Gr. *μακρολογία*, f. *μακρολόγος* speaking at length, f. *μακρό-s* long + *-λόγος* speaking.] a. As a rhetorical figure: The use of redundant words or phrases. b. *gen.* Prolixity of speech.

[1586 A. DAY *Eng. Secretary* II. (1595) 82 *Macrologia* where a clause is finally added to the matter going before, in seeming more then needed.] 1616 BULLOKAR *Eng. Expos., Macrologie*, long and tedious talke. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr., Macrology*, prolixity in speaking. 1727 POPE, etc. *Art of Sinking* 105 The Macrology and Pleonasm are as generally coupled, as a lean rabbit with a fat one.

Macromere (mæ·krɒmiə1). *Embryology.* [f. Gr. *μακρό-s* long + *μέρος* part.] The larger of the two masses into which the vitellus of the developing ovum of *Lamellibranchiata* divides: cf. MICROMERE. Hence **Macrome·ral, Macrome·ric** *adjs.*, of or pertaining to the macromere.

1877 HUXLEY *Anat. Inv. Anim.* viii. 483 Those [blastomeres] which proceed from the macromere long remain larger and more granular than those which proceed from the micromere. *Ibid.* 484 The macromeral hemisphere next undergoes invagination. *Ibid.* 499 The macromeric part of the vitellus. 1895 J. A. THOMSON *Outlines Zool.* (ed. 2) 417 The third cleavage .. gives rise to four larger cells (or macromeres),..and to four smaller cells (or micromeres).

Macromeritic (mæ·krŏmĕri·tik), *a.* [f. MACRO- + Gr. *μέρ-os* part + -ITE + -IC.] Of granitoid rocks: Having a structure discernible by the naked eye; opposed to *micromeritic*.

[1882 GEIKIE *Text-book Geol.* II. II. iii. 90 This structure is characteristic of many eruptive rocks. Though usually distinctly recognizable by the naked eye ('macromerite' of Vogelsang), it sometimes becomes very fine ('micromerite').] In mod. Dicts.

Macrometer (mæ·krɒ·mĭtəɹ). [f. MACRO- + -METER.] An instrument for measuring distant or inaccessible objects.

1825 W. HAMILTON *Handbk. Terms Arts & Sci., Macrometer*, in Mathematics, an instrument contrived to measure the distance of inaccessible objects by means of two reflectors on a common sextant. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIII. 126/1 Porro's telemeter, Elliott's telescope, and Nordenfelt's macrometer illustrate the principle.

Macromyelon (mæ·krɒmə·iˈĕlɒn). *Anat.* [f. MACRO- + MYELON.] Owen's name for the medulla oblongata. Hence **Macromy·elonal** *a.*

1846 OWEN *Lect. Anat. Vertebrate Anim.* Contents 9 'Macromyelon' or Medulla Oblongata. 1868 — *Anat. Vertebrates* III. 83 The floor of the expanded macromyelonal canal.

‖ **Macron** (mæ·krɒn, mē·krɒn). [a. Gr. *μακρόν*, neut. of *μακρός* long.] A straight horizontal line (¯) placed over a vowel to indicate that it is 'long'.

1851 G. BROWN *Gram. of Gramm.* 810 *note*, The different uses made of the breve, the macron, and the accents. 1891 H. BRADLEY *Stratmann's M.-E. Dict.* Pref. viii, In my notation the macron is placed over an original long vowel which remained long in Middle-English.

Macrophage (mæ·krɒfēˈdʒ). *Phys.* [ad. mod.L. *macrophagus*, f. Gr. *μακρό-s* long + *φαγεῖν* to devour.] A name given to certain large leucocytes, from their supposed power of devouring other organisms, especially pathogenic microbes.

1890 RUFFER in *Q. Jrnl. Microsc. Sci.* Feb. 483 Cells to which he [Metschnikoff] has given the name of macrophages and microphages. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 7 These macrophages can destroy the tubercle bacilli.

Macrophagocyte (mæ·krɒfæ·gŏsəit). *Phys.* [f. MACRO- + PHAGOCYTE.] = prec.

1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 79.

Macropicide (măkrɒ·pisəid). *nonce-wd.* See next and -CIDE I.] A slayer of kangaroos.

1866 *Cornh. Mag.* Dec. 744 The stockmen..were decidedly the most efficient macropicides.

Macropine (mæ·krŏpəin), *a.* [f. mod.L. *macropus* (ad. Gr. *μακρόπους*: see next) kangaroo + -INE.] Of or pertaining to the kangaroo.

1888 O. THOMAS *Catal. Marsupialia Brit. Mus.* 122 The macropine characters of its lower jaw. 1891 FLOWER & LYDEKKER *Mammals* 162 The macropine characters of the mandible preponderate.

Macropod (mæ·krŏpɒd), *a.* and *sb.* [a. Gr. *μακροποδ-*, *μακρόπους* long-footed, f. *μακρό-s* long + *ποδ-*, *πούς* foot.] a. *adj.* Long-footed. b. *sb.* A long-footed animal, e. g. a spider-crab. (In recent Dicts.) **Macro·podal** *a. Bot.*, of a monocotyledonous embryo: Having the radicle large in proportion to the cotyledon. **Macropo·dian** *Zool.*, one of a tribe of brachyurous decapod crustaceans. **Macro·podous** *a.* = MACROPODAL.

1830 LINDLEY *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 253 The plants belonging to Alismaceæ .. and Butomeæ, have all a disproportionally large radicle, whence the embryos of such were called by the late M. Richard, macropodal. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XIV. 256/2 *Macropodians.* 1852 HENSLOW *Dict. Bot. Terms, Macropodous.* 1887 GARNSEY & BALFOUR tr. *Goebel's Classif. & Morphol. Plants* 431 In the Helobiae the axial portion forms the larger part of the embryo (macropodous embryo).

Macropterous (măkrɒ·ptĕrəs), *a.* [f. Gr. *μακρόπτερ-os* (f. *μακρό-s* long + *πτερό-ν* wing) + -OUS.] Long-winged.

1835-6 TODD *Cycl. Anat.* I. 280/2 Macropterous Sea-birds.

Macroscian (măkrɒ·ʃiăn), *a.* and *sb.* [f. Gr. *μακρόσκιος*, f. *μακρό-s* long + *σκία* shadow. Cf. ANTISCIAN.] a. *adj.* Having a long shadow. b. *sb.* One having a long shadow, an inhabitant of the polar regions. In some mod. Dicts.

Macroscopic (mæ·krɒskɒ·pik), *a.* [f. MACRO- + -SCOPIC.] Visible to the naked eye, in opposition to MICROSCOPIC.

1872 PEASLEE *Ovar. Tumours* 31 The macroscopic character of these two forms of cystoma depends on the number and size of their constituent cysts. 1897 *Athenæum* 7 Aug. 194/3 The structure of lavas, microscopic and macroscopic.

Hence **Ma·crosco·pical** *a.* = prec. **Ma·crosco·pically** *adv.*, by the naked eye, as studied by the naked eye without the aid of a lens.

1877 *Q. Jrnl. Microsc. Sci.* XVII. 228 Macroscopically and microscopically the retina, exposed to yellow light, behaves in the same way as after the operation of red light. 1878 T. BRYANT *Pract. Surg.* I. 388 Its macroscopical appearance was that of a fibrous tumour. 1879 DANA *Man. Geol.* (ed. 3) 66 A rock may be studied microscopically or macroscopically. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 236 At the autopsy, nothing pathological was found macroscopically. *Ibid.* 837 Macroscopical examinations of the central nervous system in uncomplicated cases of chorea.

Macrosma·tic, *a. rare.* [irreg. f. MACRO- + Gr. *ὀσμή* smell.] Capable of smelling at a distance.

1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 753 All that remains in man of the great rhinencephalon of macrosmatic mammals is the olfactory bulb and tract.

Macrosporange (mæ·krɒsporæ·ndʒ). Also in mod.L. form **-sporangium**. [f. MACRO- + SPORANGE.] The sporange or capsule containing the macrospores. (Cf. MEGASPORANGE.)

1875 BENNETT & DYER *Sachs' Bot.* 306 If a microsporangium is about to be formed, each of the mother-cells is broken up into four tetrahedral spores, which all develope into microspores; in the macrosporangium, on the contrary, the mother-cells remain, with one exception, undivided. 1882a *Gard. Chron.* XVIII. 40 Four of these macrospores occur in each macrosporange.

Macrospore (mæ·krɒspōəɹ). [f. MACRO- + SPORE.] a. *Bot.* One of the specially large (quasi-female) spores of certain flowerless plants. b. *Zool.* One of the spore-like parts into which a monad subdivides. (Cf. MEGASPORE.)

1859 TODD *Cycl. Anat.* V. 243/1 The development of the prothallium commences .. several months after the macrospore has been sown. 1870 HOOKER *Stud. Flora* 469 The macrospores of Selaginella and Isoetes develop a cellular prothallus. 1875 BENNETT & DYER *Sachs' Bot.* 335 The separation of the sexes is already prefigured by the two kinds of spores, the Macrospores being female, in so far as they develope a small prothallium.

Macrothere (mæ·krŏþīəɹ). Also in L. form **macrotherium**. [ad. mod.L. *macrothērium*, f. Gr. *μακρό-s* long + *θηρίον* wild beast.] A member of an extinct European genus of the sloth tribe.

1862 DANA *Man. Geol.* iv. 528 The Macrothere .. was related to the African Pangolin (the Anteater) but was six or eight times its size. 1884 G. ALLEN in *Longm. Mag.* June 192 The macrotherium, a monstrous ant-eater.

Ma·crotone. *rare*—°. [? f. MACRO- + TONE. Cf. Gr. *μακρότον-os* stretched out.] = MACRON.

1880 in WEBSTER; and in later Dicts.

Macrurous, macrourous (măkrū·rəs), *a. Zool.* [f. mod.L. *macrūra* neut. pl. (f. Gr. *μακρό-s* long + *οὐρά* tail) + -OUS.] Pertaining to the *Macrura*, or long-tailed tribe of the Decapod Crustacea, which includes the lobster and its congeners.

1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* xlviii. IV. 452 *Exochnata* (Macrurous Decapod Crustacea, Latr.). 1839-47 TODD *Cycl. Anat.* III. 445/1 The Macrourous Decapods .. are all organized for swimming. 1890 *Nature* 11 Sept., The descent of crabs from macrurous ancestors.

So **Macru·ral, -ou·ral** *a.* (also *sb.* one of the *Macrura*); **Macru·ran, -ou·ran** *a.* and *sb.*

1842 BRANDE *Dict. Sci.* etc., Macrourans. 1851 *Brit. Assoc. Rep., Sections* 81 On the Antennæ of the Annulosa, and their Homology in the Macrourals. By Dr. W. Macdonald. 1852 DANA *Crust.* I. 33 Corresponding precisely in its course to that of the Macroural suture. 1877 HUXLEY *Anat. Inv. Anim.* vi. 340 Nor are the antennules capable of being folded back into distinct chambers in any Macruran at present known. 1902 *Edin. Rev.* Jan. 202 It is not technically a crab but a Pagurid, a macruran hermit.

† **Mactate,** *v. Obs.*—° [f. L. *mactāt-*, ppl. stem of *mactāre* to slay.] *trans.* To kill or slay.

1623 in COCKERAM.

Mactation (mæktē·ʃən). [ad. L. *mactātiōn-em*, f. *mactāre* to slay.] The action of killing, *esp.* the slaughtering of a sacrificial victim.

1640 SIR E. DERING *Prop. Sacr.* (1644) 57 He..neither sacrificed by mactation or killing of beasts. 1711 HICKES *Treat. Christ. Priesth.* (1847) II. 111 To sacrifice or offer animals by slaughter, or mactation. 1838 M. RUSSELL *Hist. Egypt* vi. (1853) 192 The deity before whom the mactation is about to be performed. 1888 *Ch. Times* 24 Aug. 720 The view gained ground that each Mass is a separate mactation.

† **Macta·tor,** *Obs. rare*—°. [a. L. *mactātor*, agent-n. f. *mactāre* to slay.]

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr., Mactator*, a killer or murderer. (In recent Dicts.)

‖ **Macula** (mæ·kiŭlă). Pl. **-æ.** [L.] A spot or stain. Chiefly in scientific use: *Astron.* one of the dark spots in the sun; *Min.* a spot in a mineral due to the presence of particles of some other mineral; *Ent.* (see quot. 1826); *Path.* a spot or stain in the skin, now *esp.* one which is permanent.

c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 247 Macula is a wem in a mannys iȝe. 1690 T. BURNET *Th. Earth* III. xi. 97 The Body of the Sun may contract .. some Spots or *Macule* greater than usual. 1722 QUINCY *Lex. Physico-Med.* (ed. 2) *Macula*, is applied by Physicians to express any Spots upon the Skin, whether those in Fevers, or scorbutick Habits. 1766 *Ann. Reg.* 92/2 The spot or macula on the sun, mentioned to have appeared lately. 1802 PLAYFAIR *Illustr. Hutton. Theory* 298 Rectangular macule of feltspar. 1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* IV. 285 Macula (*Macula*), a larger indeterminately shaped spot. 1849 SAXE *Times* 152 Their honoured name Bears..some maculae of shame. 1867-77 G. F. CHAMBERS *Astron.* I. i. 7 In the equatorial zones of the Sun dark spots or maculæ. 1877 ROBERTS *Handbk. Med.* (ed. 3) I. 111 The maculæ on the skin which are observed during life are frequently persistent after death. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 640 In all cases a deeply pigmented macula remains.

Macular (mæ·kiŭlaɹ), *a. Biol.* and *Path.* [f. MACULA + -AR.] Of or pertaining to maculæ; characterized by the presence of maculæ.

1822 GOOD *Study Med.* IV. 679 Macular skin. 1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* IV. 289 Macular Fascia (*Fascia macularis*), a band consisting of distinct spots. 1880 J. W. LEGG *Bile* 468 The macular eruption was thought to be cured. 1897 *Brit. Birds* II. 175 Slightly macular along its inferior margin. 1898 P. MANSON *Trop. Diseases* XXVI. 389 The primary exanthem or macular stage. 1900 J. HUTCHINSON *Arch. Surg.* XI. 46 Macular leprosy.

Maculate (mæ·kiŭlēit), *ppl. a.* [ad. L. *maculāt-us*, pa. pple. of *maculāre*, f. *macula* spot.] = MACULATED; in early use occas. *pa. pple.* Now only in expressed or implied antithesis to *immaculate*.

1490 CAXTON *Eneydos* iv. 20 So departe thou thenne fro this londe, maculate, and full of fylthe and ordure. 1509 BARCLAY *Shyp of Folys* (1570) 144 The places that ye haue edified, Are nowe disordred, and with vices maculate. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* xiii. 150 That the honour of verteous gentil men be nocht maculat vitht the vice ande inciuilite of vicius pretendit gentil men. 1575-85 ABP. SANDYS *Serm.* vii. 122 Hauing cloathed ourselves with the maculate coate of sinne. 1612 *Two Noble K.* v. iii, Thy rare greene eye .. never yet Beheld things maculate. 1756-7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) I. 74 The cardinal of St. Clemente hurt himself by declaring for the maculate conception. 1878 *N. Amer. Rev.* CXXVII. 296 Unfortunately for her already maculate reputation. 1887 STEVENSON *Misadv. J. Nicholson* ii, Foul walls and maculate table linen.

Maculate (mæ·kiŭlēit), *v. Pa. t.* 5 maculate.

[f. L. *maculāt-*, ppl. stem of *maculāre*, f. *macula* spot.] *trans.* To spot, stain, soil, defile, pollute.

1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) V. 235 Whiche commynge to Affrike wastede hit, and maculate [*Trevisa* defouled] the feithe in bit. **1481** Caxton *Godfrey* clxxxvii. 274 The hethen men .. whiche had fowled and shamefully had maculated [the place] with theyr mahometry. **1490** — *Eneydos* viii. 35 Hir innocente blood whiche maculate & bysprange all theym that stode by. **1513** Bradshaw *St. Werburge* I. 2791 A sensuall prynce .. Purposed to maculate this vyrgyn gloryous. **1531** Elyot *Gov.* I. xxvi, They wolde nat maculate the honour of their people. ?*a* **1550** *Schole-house of Wom.* 914 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* IV. 140 Whose drops vncleen dooth maculate The finest vesture that any man weres. **1632** J. Hayward tr. *Biondi's Eromena* 28 Thou hast done too much in maculating our bloud. **1719** D'Urfey *Pills* (1872) IV. 166 They maculate Men's Blood, and make them silly.

Maculated (mæ·kiŭlēitĕd), *ppl. a.* [f. Maculate *v.* + -ed 1.]

1. Spotted, stained, defiled, polluted.

1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* V. xxi. 272 For Warts we ..commit any maculated part unto the touch of the dead. *a* **1661** Fuller *Worthies, Merionethsh.* (1662) IV. 43 Whu being casually cast into bad company .. keep their own innocency entire, not maculated with the mixture of their bad manners. **1841** D'Israeli *Amen. Lit.* (1867)660 A maculated man seeking to shelter himself in dejection and in shade. **1883** *Fortn. Rev.* Feb. 158 A variegated record of profitless extravagance and maculated victory.

2. In scientific use: Marked with maculæ.

1676 De Garencieres *Coral* 15 Red coral will grow.. maculated with several spots. **1819** G. Samouelle *Entomol. Compend.* 110 Body cinereous, maculated with fuscous. **1875** H. C. Wood *Therap.* (1879) 373 The gastric mucous membrane is .. maculated with patches of a deep-crimson.

Maculation (mækiŭlēi·ʃən). [ad. L. *maculātiōn-em*, agent-n. f. *maculāre* Maculate *v.* Cf. F. *maculation.*]

1. The action of spotting or staining; the condition of being spotted or defiled.

a **1450** *Cov. Myst.* xiv. (Shaks. Soc.) 138 If he be gilty, sum maculacion Pleyne in his face xal shewe it owth. *Ibid.* 141, I nevyr knew of mannys maculacion, But evyr have lyved in trew virginite. **1606** Shars. *Tr. & Cr.* IV. iv. 66, I will thruw my Gloue to death himselfe, That there's no maculation in thy heart. **1772** Nugent tr. *Hist. Fr. Gerund* I. 531 The nigresceut maculation of their pristine niveous candour. **1853** G. J. Cayley *Las Alforjas* I. 34, I waged a blind and ineffectual warfare all night, to the loss of my rest and the maculation of my countenance. **1887** Stevenson *Mem. & Portraits* vi. 102 It was from the maculation of sheep's blood that he had come..to cleanse himself.

2. In scientific use: The state of being marked with maculæ; a particular arrangement or pattern of maculæ.

1826 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* xxxv. III. 650 Numerous Libellulinæ emulate the Heliconian butterflies by their maculation. **1879** Proctor *Pleas. Ways Sci.* ii. 40 The doctrine that an intimate association exists between solar maculation (or spottiness) and terrestrial meteorological phenomena. **1884** *Science* IV. 44/2 The maculation is normally noctuidous, and the wings are ample. **1888** *Amer. Nat.* XXII. 642 Patches of vividly red Poppies, with fine black maculations, like eyes, edged with white.

† **Maculatory,** *a. Obs. rare* −1. [f. L. *maculāt-*, ppl. stem. + -ory.] Apt to spot or defile.

1614 T. Adams *Devil's Banquet* 17 The lutulent, spumy, maculatorie waters of Sinne.

† **Maculature.** *Obs.*−° [f. L. *maculāt-*, ppl. stem of *maculāre* to stain + -ure. Cf. F. *maculature* (Cotgr.), G. *makulatur.*] (See quots.)

1656 Blount *Glossogr., Maculatures*, blotting or waste papers. **1706** Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Maculature* or *Macle*, a waste Sheet of printed Paper. **1721** Bailey, *Maculature*, a Waste or blotting Paper.

Macule (mæ·kiul), *sb.* Also 6 *Sc.* macull, makle. [f. L. *macula*, either directly or through F. *macule.*] A blemish, spot. *Obs.* in general sense.

1483 Caxton *G. de la Tour* K v b, It is a perle whiche is ..without macule or spotte. **1490** — *Encydos* xxix. 113 The throte quycke, and without spotte or macule. **1500–20** Dunbar *Poems* xlviii. 152 But ony spot or macull doing spring. *Ibid.* lxxxv. 22 Haile, moder and maid but makle!

b. *Path.* = Macula.

1863 *Edinb. Med. Jrnl.* Jan. 599 Skin diseases..1. Macules and Deformities. **1899** *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 465 The eruption commonly consists of macules.

c. *Printing.* A blur causing the impression of a page to appear double; = Mackle *sb.*

1841 Savage *Dict. Printing* 775 Instead of its being a macule, it is nothing more than [etc.].

Macule (mæ·kiul), *v.* [f. F. *maculer*, f. *macule* a spot.] *trans.* To spot, stain. *Obs.* in general use.

1484 Caxton *Fables of Alfonce* (1889) 261, I byleue not that this poure [man] may be maculed ne gylty of the blame.

b. *Printing* = Mackle *v.* (*trans.* and *intr.*).

1841 Savage *Dict. Printing* s.v., If the joints of the tympan, or the head, or the nut of the spindle be loose, or any accident happen in pulling, so that the impression be somewhat doubled, and not clear, it is said to be maculed. *Ibid.* 775, I have heard many complaints of the middle pages of a twelves form maculing at a two-pull press.

Maculiferous (mæ·kiuli·fĕrəs), *a.* [f. Macule + -(i)ferous.] Bearing or marked by spots, spotty.

1853 Herschel *Pop. Lect. Sci.* II. xxxv. (1873) 77 The maculiferous belts of the sun.

Maculose (mæ·kiŭlōus), *a.* [ad. L. *maculōs-us*, f. *macula* spot.] Full of spots; spotted.

1727 in Bailey vol. II. **1819** G. Samouelle *Entomol. Compend.* 124 A .. maculose, dentated band. **1861** Hagen *Syn. Neuroptera N. Amer.* 341 (Smithsonian Collect. IV.).

Ma·culous, *a. rare*−°. [See -ous.] = prec.

1688 R. Holme *Armoury* II. 366/1 A Masculous [*sic*: *in the 'Table'* Maculous], or spotted Cramp-fish, hath the Eyes turned into black round spots. **1735** Dyche & Pardon *Dict., Maculous* or *Maculose*, troubled or affected with Spots, Defects, or natural Deformities. **1856** in Mayne *Expos. Lex.*

Macute (măkiū·t). Also 8 macuta, macute, macoute, 8–9 macuta. [ad. native African *macuta.*] At the beginning of the 18th c., said to be the name for one of the pieces of cloth used as money by the negroes of the Congo. Subsequently used in the W. African trade as the name for a money of account (= 2000 cowries), and hence adopted by the Portuguese at Angola as a denomination in their local coinage (= 50 reis); the Sierra Leone Company also issued (1791–1805) pieces of 1, 2, 5 and 10 macutes, the silver macute being worth about 4¾*d.* sterling. The account given by Montesquieu (quot. 1748), and adopted by Mill and other English writers on political economy, appears to be based on misapprehension.

1704 tr. *Merolla's Voy. Congo* in *Churchill's Voy.* I. 740 The current Coins here are the Maccuta's, being certain pieces of Straw-Cloth of about the largeness of a Sheet of Pastboard each. **1704** tr. *Acc. Gattina's Voy. Congo* ibid. I. 620 There is but little Mony passes in that Country, but instead of it they buy and sell with Maccutes.... The Maccutes are pieces of coarse Cotton Cloth..five Ells long, and cost 200 Reys the Piece. *Ibid.*, Two thousand of them [Zimbis] are worth a Maccute. **1748** Nugent tr. *Montesquieu's Spirit Laws* xxii. viii. (1752) 77 The negroes on the coast of Africa have a sign of value without money. It is a sign merely ideal...A certain commodity or merchandise is worth three macoutes; another six macoutes; another ten macoutes...The price is formed by a comparison of all merchandises with each other. They have therefore no particular money; but each kind of merchandise is money to the other. **1823** Crabb *Technol. Dict., Macuta.* **1848** J. S. Mill *Pol. Econ.* III. vii. § 1.

† **Mad,** *sb.*1 *Obs.* (? exc. *dial.*) [var. of Mathe.]

1. A maggot or grub; *esp.* the larva of the blowfly, which causes a disease in sheep. Also *pl.*, the disease so caused.

1573 Tusser *Husb.* I. (1878) 109 Sheepe wrigling taile hath mads without faile. **1641** Best *Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 6 Lambes that wriggle theyre tayles..are to bee .. searched, for fear of maddes breedinge. **1669** Worlidge *Syst. Agric.* 273 *Madds*, a Disease in Sheep. **1688** R. Holme *Armoury* III. 268/1 Keep Sheeps Tails from Maggots and Mads.

2. An earthworm.

1586 Warner *Alb. Eng.* II. ix. 41 Content thee, Daphles, mooles take mads. **1592** *Ibid.* VII. xxxvii. 180 Here maiest thou feast thee with a Made. **1601** Holland *Pliny* II. 361 Earth-worms or mads stamped and laid too are verie good to cure the biting of scorpions. **1674–91** Ray *S. & E. C. Words, Mad*, an earth-worm.

Mad (mæd), *sb.*2 *dial.* and *U. S. slang.* [subst. use of Mad *a.*] Madness, fury, anger.

1847–89 Halliwell, *Mad*, madness, intoxication. *Glouc.* **1884** *Century Mag.* Nov. 57/2 His mad was getting up. **1897** *Outing* (U. S.) XXX. 487/2 Let the pony get his mad up.

Mad (mæd), *a.* Forms: 1 ġemǽd(e)d, 3-4 med(d, medde, 3-6 madd(e, (5 made, maad), 3– mad. [Aphetic repr. OE. *ġemǽd(e)d* (see Amad), pa. pple. of **ġemǽdan* to render insane, f. *ġemād* insane ('*vecors*, ġemaad', Corpus Gl.), corresponding to OS. *gimēd* foolish, OHG. *gamcit*, *kimeit*, foolish, vain, boastful (MHG. *gimeit* merry, stately, handsome), Goth. *gamaiþs* crippled:—OTeut. **ga-maiđo-*, f. **ga-* prefix (Y-) + **maiđo-*:—pre-Teut. **moitó-*, pa. pple of the Indogermanic root **mei-* to change (cf. L. *mūtāre*). The primary sense of **maiđo-* changed, appears in the derivative Goth. *maidjan* to change, adulterate (*in-maideins* exchange); the corresponding ON. *meiðа* means to cripple (cf. the sense of the Goth. adj. above). The OE. *mād* adj., without prefix, app. occurs once in the compound *mādmōd* folly.

It is commonly stated that the OE. (*ge*)*mād* survived into ME. in the form *mād*, *mēd*. The examples cited are the following. *c* 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* viii. 31 For-thi on molde y waxe mot (riming with *blod* in the next line but one, with *wot*, *lot* in the previous quatrain). *c* 1425 *Seven Sages* (P.) 2091 To sla the childe he was ful rade, He ferde as man that was made. *c* 1460 *Lybeaus Disc.* (Ritson) 2001 Lybeaus began to swete, Ther he satte yn hys sete, Maad as he were (the earlier texts read quite differently). In the first quot. the text is certainly corrupt (? read *wod*: *blod*); the later quots. do not prove the length of the vowel.]

1. Suffering from mental disease; beside oneself, out of one's mind; insane, lunatic. In mod. use chiefly with a more restricted application, implying violent excitement or extravagant delusions: Maniacal, frenzied.

The word has always had some tinge of contempt or disgust, and would now be quite inappropriate in medical use, or in referring sympathetically to an insane person as the subject of an affliction.

a **1000** *Riddles* xii. 6 Ic þæs nowhit wat þæt heo swa ġemædde mode bestolene Dæde ġedwolene deoraþ mine Won wisan ġehwam. *c* 1050 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 347/19 *Amens*, ġemæd. *c* 1050 *Gloss.* ibid. 513/33 *Uecordem*, ġemædedne. **1390** Gower *Conf.* I. 46 For certes such a maladie .. It myghte make a wisman madd. *Ibid.* II. 144 And if .. hir list noght to be gladd, He berth an hond that sche is madd. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 319/1 Madde, or wood, *amens, demens, furiosus.* **1489** Caxton *Faytes of A.* III. xx. 213 Whyche duke or erle happeth to wex madde so that al alone as a fole he gothe renning by wodes and hedges. **1500–20** Dunbar *Poems* xix. 12 Gife I be sorrowfull and sad, Than will thay say that I am mad. **1590** Shaks. *Com. Err.* II. ii. 11 Wast thou mad, That thus so madlie thou didst answere me? **1590** Swinburne *Treat. Test.* 37 They did see him hisse like a goose or barke lyke a dogge, or play such other parts as madfolks vse to doo. **1611** Bible *John* x. 20 And many of them said, He hath a deuill, and is mad, why heare ye him? **1664–5** Pepys *Diary* 25 Jan., He told me what a mad freaking fellow Sir Ellis Layton hath been, and is, and once at Antwerp was really mad. **1726** Swift *Gulliver* II. viii, Some of them, upon hearing me talk so wildly, thought I was mad. **1791** Boswell *Johnson* an. 1729 (1847) 15/1 If a man tells me that he 'sees' this [a ruffian with a drawn sword] and in consternation calls to me to look at it I pronounce him to be mad. **1855** Tennyson *Maud* II. v. i, And then to hear a dead man chatter Is enough to drive one mad.

absol. **1728** Pope *Dunc.* I. 106 She saw slow Philips creep like Tate's poor page, And all the mighty Mad in Dennis rage.

b. Phrases, *To* † *fall, go, run mad.*

1589 Rider *Bibl. Schol.*, Running madde, *Bacchatus.* **1596** Shaks. 1 *Hen. IV*, III. i. 212 Nay, if thou melt, then will she runne madde. **1654** R. Codrington tr. *Justine*, etc. 567 Being troubled in his Conscience he did fall mad. **1670** G. H. *Hist. Cardinals* II. 191 Seeing Nini preferr'd, [he] was ready to run mad. *c* 1709 Lady M. W. Montagu *Let. to Mrs. Hewet* 12 Nov., You have not then received my letter? Well! I shall run mad. *a* **1850** Rossetti *Dante & Circ.* I. (1874) 27 A perversion of gospel-teaching which had gained ground in his day to the extent of becoming a popular frenzy. People went literally mad. *fig.* **1735** Pope *Prol. Sat.* 188 It is not Poetry, but Prose run mad. **1762** Wesley *Jrnl.* 6 Nov., That manner of writing, in prose run mad, I cordially dislike.

c. *Like mad*: literally, in the manner of one who is mad; hence, furiously, with excessive violence or enthusiasm. Also † *like any mad*, † *for mad.*

c **1420** *Anturs of Arth.* 110 (Thornton MS.) It marrede, it mournede, it moyssede for made. [**1530** Palsgr. 572/1, I go madde, I go up and downe lyke a madde body, *je cours les rues.*] **1653** H. More *Antid. Ath.* III. vii. (1712) 108 For she was then seen .. in her fetters, running about like mad. **1663** Pepys *Diary* 13 June, Thence by coach, with a mad coachman, that drove like mad. **1732** Fielding *Covent Gard. Trag.* II. xii, My reeling head! which aches like any mad. **1742** Richardson *Pamela* IV. 118 Several Harlequins, and other ludicrous Forms, that jump'd and ran about like mad. **1745** C. J. Hamilton in *Academy* 18 Nov. (1893) 410/3 They were Shooting at y° Standards Like Mad. **1824** Lady Granville *Lett.* (1894) I. 262 We are writing like mad for the post. **1893** Forbes-Mitchell *Remin. Gt. Mutiny* 101 We .. heard our fellows cheering like mad.

d. *transf.* of the effects of alcoholic drink.

1743 Bulkeley & Cummins *Voy. S. Seas* 19 Being drunk and mad with Liquor, they plunder'd Chests and Cabins.

† e. Causing madness. *Obs. rare.*

1567 Maplet *Gr. Forest* 41 b, There is another kind of the self same name which is called mad Dwale. Which being drunken sheweth wonders by a certain false shewe of imagination. **1658** Rowland tr. *Mouffet's Theat. Ins.* 909 There is also another kinde of pernicious honey made, which from the madness that it causeth, is termed Mad-honey. **1676** Dryden *Aureng.* IV. i. 1890 Pow'r like new Wine, does your weak Brain surprize, And it's mad Fumes, in hot Discourses rise.

2. Foolish, unwise. Now only in stronger sense (corresponding to the modern restricted application of sense 1): Extravagantly or wildly foolish; ruinously imprudent.

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) I. 412 *Ineptus*, ġemedid. *Ibid.* U. 36 *Uanus*, ġemaeded. *a* 1300 *Body & Soul* (MS. Laud 108) 100, I þolede þe and [dude] as mad to be maister and i þi cnaue. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 267 Me þynk þe put in a mad porpose, & busyez þe aboute a raysoun bref. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1864 Me meruellis of þi momlyng & þi mad wordes. *a* 1540 Barnes *Wks.* (1573) 349/1 Is not this a madde manner of prayer that men vse to our Lady? **1600** Shaks. *A. Y. L.* III. ii. 438, I draue my Sutor from his mad humor of loue to a liuing humor of madnes. **1608** Middleton (*title*) A Mad World my Masters. **1611** Bible *Eccl.* ii. 2, I saide of laughter, It is mad: and of mirth, What doeth it? **1743** Bulkeley & Cummins *Voy. S. Seas* Pref. 14 Our Attempt for Liberty in sailing .. with such a number of People, stow'd in a Long Boat, has been censur'd as a mad Undertaking. **1849** Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* V. I. 643 The chief justice .. was not mad enough to risk a quarrel on such a subject. **1864** Browning *Confessions* ix, How sad and bad and mad it was—But then, how it was sweet! **1878** B. Taylor *Deukalion* I. ii. 27 Was I mad, To fear, one moment, thou couldst ever die?

quasi-adv. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 1166 Hit payed hym nut þat I so flone, Ouer meruelous mierez su mad arayed.

† **3.** Stupefied with astonishment, fear, or suffering; dazed. *Obs.*

a **1300** *Cursor M.* 10310 For þat bright-nes was he sa radd, þat he stode still als he war madd. *Ibid.* 10851 Sant gabriel..said her till, 'Maria, quarfor es þou madd? Es þe na nede to be radd'. *Ibid.* 24886 All þaa þat in þat ferr cost fard War medd [*Gött.* mad; *Edin.* med] quen þai him [*sc.* the angel] sagh and herd. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 11542 Þus in pouert am I pyght, put vnder fote, þat makes me full mad, & mournes in my hert.

4. Carried away by enthusiasm or desire; wildly excited; infatuated. Const. *about, after, for,* † *of, on, upon.*

c 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 7604 Out of mesure was he glad, Opon þat mayden he wax al mad. **1601** Shaks. *All's Well* V. iii. 260 He loued her, for indeede he was madde for her. **1611** Bible *Jer.* l. 38 It is the land of grauen images, and they are madde vpon their idoles. **1614** B. Jonson *Barthol. Fair* I. (1631) 9, I thought he would ha' runne madde o' the blacke boy in Bucklers-bury. **1678** Rymer *Trag. Last Age* 7, I cannot be perswaded that the people are so very mad of Acorns, but that they could be well content to

eat the Bread of civil persons. 1690 W. Walker *Idiomat. Anglo-Lat.* 283 He began to be mad on her. 1692 Dryden *Cleomenes* Pref. A 4, The World is running mad after Farce, —the Extremitie of bad Poetry. 1700 — *Cinyras & Myrrha* 128 Mad with desire, she ruminates her Sin And wishes all her Wishes o'er again. 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* II. ix. (1840) 208 They were mad upon their journey. 1744 H. Walpole *Corr.* (ed. 3) I. cv. 350 We are now mad about tar-water. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* ii. I. 175 The people were mad with loyal enthusiasm. 1868 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* (1876) II. vii. 42 When all the world seemed mad after monks. 1881 Tennyson *Heavy Brigade* iii, O mad for the charge and the battle were we.

b. Wildly desirous *to* do something. Now *rare*.

a 1627 Middleton *Wom. beware Wom.* III. ii, This makes me madder to enjoy him now. 1732 Swift *Jrnl. Mod. Lady* 178 All mad to speak, and none to hearken. 1794 Miss Gunning *Packet* IV. ix. 166 Every honest cottager was so mad to pursue it after his own mode, that [etc.]. 1814 Southey *Roderick* I, Mad to wreak His vengeance for his violated child On Roderick's head.

c. Frequently used as the second element in combinations, as *music-mad, poetry-mad*.

5. 'Beside oneself' with anger; moved to uncontrollable rage; furious. Now only *colloq.* (In many dialects in Great Britain and the U. S. the ordinary word for 'angry'.)

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 17595 For-þi þaa Iuus war full medd, þair sandes come again vn-spedd. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 608 Þys lady Venus was al glad, Þe obere were for wrayth al mad. 14.. *Arthur* 234 Whan þis lettre was open & rad, þe bretouns & alle men were mad, And wolde þe messager sele. 1539 Bible *Ps.* cii. 8 They that are mad vpon me, are sworne together agaynst me. [Similarly, 1611; the Heb. word literally means 'insane'.] 1577 Hanmer *Anc. Eccl. Hist.* 75 They which for familiarity sake used moderation before, now were exceedingly moved and mad with us. *a* 1604 — *Chron. Irel.* (1633) 125 Roderic was mad, and in his rage, caused his pledges head .. to be cut off. 1622 Mabbe tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* II. 155 Whereat the merchant was so mad, and so transported with passion, that he knew not what to say. 1705 Hickeringill *Priest-cr.* III. Wks. 1716 III. 184 That makes them so mad at me, when I touch the Craft by which they get their Wealth. 1707 *Reflex. upon Ridicule* 350 You are mad to hear other's Works commended. 1766 Garrick *Neck or Nothing* I. ii, He was damned mad that he could not be at the wedding. 1806 *Simple Narrative* II. 9 I'll pump out of her how she got the book;—how deuced mad she will be. 1847 Marryat *Childr. N. Forest* vii, He thought .. you would be mad at the idea of this injustice. 1867 Trollope *Last Chron. Barset* (1869) II. i. 4, I am sometimes so mad with myself when I think over it all,—that I should like to blow my brains out.

6. Of an animal: Abnormally furious, rabid. Often said of bulls; also, in a more specific sense, of dogs, horses, etc. suffering from rabies.

The sense appears to be of late emergence; before the 16th c. it was expressed by Wood *a*.

1538 [implied in Madness 1]. 1565 Cooper *Thesaurus* s.v. *Furibundus, Canis furibundus*, a madde dogge. *Taurus furibundus*, a madde bull. 1579 Fulke *Heskins' Parl.* 463 Dogges after they had eaten the sacrament, .. ranne madde. 1590 Shaks. *Com. Err.* v. i. 70. 1702 in *12th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. III. 7 A great Mad Bull to be turned loose in the Game-place, with Fire-works all over him. 1766 Goldsm. *Elegy Mad Dog* 20 The dog, to gain some private ends, Went mad, and bit the man. 1769 Pennant *Zool.* III. 315 Fish thus affected the Thames fishermen call mad bleaks. 1800 *Med. Jrnl.* IV. 58 Keep the dogs, or other animals, supposed mad, shut up safely in a convenient place for five or six weeks. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* vi, A thundering alarm of 'Mad Bull' was raised.

† **b.** *Mad dog*: another name for Huff-cap. *Obs.*

1577 [See Huff-cap B 1].

7. Uncontrolled by reason; passing all rational bounds in demeanour or conduct; extravagant in gaiety; wild.

1597, 1635 Mad Greeke [see Greek *sb.* 5]. 1598 Marston in *Shaks. C. Praise* 29 Why, how now, currish, mad Athenian? 1605 Camden *Rem.* (1637) 377 A merry mad maker as they call Poets now, was he, which .. made this for John Calfe. 1655 *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) II. 338 You will heare mad work shortly, for the Jesuit is at worke. *a* 1715 Burnet *Own Time* (1724) I. 244 He .. was engaged in a mad-ramble after pleasure and minded no business. 1732 Berkeley *Alciphr.* II. § 10 The mad sallies of intemperance and debauchery. 1777 Mme. D'Arblay *Early Diary* 7 Apr., The sweet little thing was quite in mad spirits. 1852 G. Meredith *Marian* iii, She is steadfast as a star, And yet the maddest maiden. 1873 Ouida *Pascarèl* I. 69 They would play me all sorts of sweet little mad *canzoni*.

b. *transf.* Of storm, wind: Wild, violent.

1836 Mrs. Browning *Poet's Vow* I. xiii, Mad winds that howling go From east to west. 1863 Woolner *My Beautiful Lady* 50 Here the mad gale had rioted and thrown Far drifts of snowy petals.

8. Proverbs. *As mad as a buck, a hatter, a March hare* (see Hare *sb.* 1 b), etc.

a 1529 Skelton *Replycacion* 35 Thou madde Marche hare. 1529 [see Hare *sb.* 1 b]. 1590 Shaks. *Com. Err.* III. i. 72 It would make a man mad as a Bucke to be so bought and sold. 1609 *Ev. Wom. in Humor* I. in Bullen *Old Plays* IV. 314 If he were as madde as a weaver. 1626 Fletcher *Noble Gent.* I. ii, Monsieur Shattillion's mad...Mad as Maybutter, And which is more, mad for a wench. 1837–40, 1857 [see Hatter 1]. 1849 Thackeray *Pendennis* x, We were.. chaffing Derby Oaks—until he was as mad as a hatter. 1901 T. Ratcliffe in *N. & Q.* 9th Ser. VIII. 501/2 In Derbyshire .. there is no commoner saying to express anger shown by any one than to say that he or she was 'as mad as a tup'.

9. *Comb.*, parasynthetic, as *mad-blooded, -humoured, -mooded, -pated* adjs.; with adjs., indicating some condition that proceeds from, resembles, or results in madness, as † *mad-angry, -blazing, -drunk, -hardy* (hence † *mad-hardiness*), † *-hungry*; † *-merry*, † *-proud*, † *-red* adjs.; also *mad-like* adj. and in attributive combinations of the adj. used *absol.*, as **mad nurse** (*colloq.*) a nurse attending on insane patients; Mad-doctor, Madhouse.

1589 Rider *Bibl. Schol.*, *Madde angrie, or raging madde, *sævus, furiosus*. 1632 J. Hayward tr. *Biondi's Eromena* v. 142 Whose Prince mad angry for being discovered, assayling with a sudden furie the Granadan Galley, easily tooke her. 1837 Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* III. v. vii, *Mad-blazing with flame of all imaginable tints. 1885 Runciman *Skippers & Sh.* 84 He was a *mad blooded rip that cared for nothing. 1653 Baxter *Chr. Concord* 32, I have neighbours that go *mad-drunk about the streets. 1871 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* 33 He was mad drunk, and did not know what he was doing. 1534 Whitinton *Tullyes Offices* I. (1540) 28 Of the hye pride of herte whiche is in reproche, and maye be called *madhardynesse. *Ibid.* 35 *Madhardy men of our cyte of Rome. 1665 Pepys *Diary* 6 Dec., Knipp, who is .. the most excellent *mad-humoured thing, and sings the noblest that ever I heard. 1608 Chapman *Byron's Conspir.* Plays 1873 II. 233 Such *mad-hungrie men, as well may eate Hote coles of fire. 1836 [G. E. Inman] *Sir Orfeo* 6 With a *mad-like dreaminess crying. 1887 P. M'Neill *Blawearie* 144 The mad-like act would never have been heard of. 1599 *Sir John Oldcastle* (1600) C 4, Ye olde *mad merry Constable, art thou aduisde of that? 1609 Boys *Wks.* (1629) 30 The wicked are often merrie, sometime mad-merry. 1583 T. Watson *Centurie of Loue* lii. Poems (Arb.) 88 *Mad mooded Loue vsurping Reasons place. 1753 *The World* No. 23 P 7 After such hospitals are built, ..and doctors, surgeons, apothecaries and *mad nurses provided. 1771 T. Hull *Sir W. Harrington* (1797) II. 223 Your *mad-pated Julia. 14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 605/15 *Produculus*, *madprud. 1614 Lodge *Seneca, Life* ix, This Prince waxed *mad red with anger.

Mad (mæd), *v.* [f. Mad *a.*]

1. *trans.* To make mad, in various senses of the adj.; to madden, make insane; † to render foolish; † to bewilder, stupefy, daze; to infuriate, enrage. Now *rare* exc. *U. S. colloq.*, to exasperate.

1399 Langl. *Rich. Redeles* I. 63 And no soule persone to punnyshe þe wrongis; And þat maddid þi men. *Ibid.* II. 132 With many derke mystis þat maddid her eyne. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 8061 So full are þo faire fild of dessait, And men for to mad is most þere dessyre. 1561 T. Norton *Calvin's Inst.* IV. 125 The deuell hath with horrible bewitchyng madded their myndes. 1593 Nashe *Christ's T.* (1613) 44 Nothing so much doth macerate and mad mee. 1600 Holland *Livy* XXVIII. xv. 679 The Elephants also affrighted and madded .. ran from the wings. 1621 Burton *Anat. Mel.* II. iii. VII. 425 He plaid on his drumme and by that meanes madded her more. 1682 Southerne *Loyal Brother* IV. i, O Hell! it mads my reason but to think on't. 1810 Crabbe *Borough* viii, Again! By Heav'n, it mads me. 1850 Blackie *Æschylus* I. 22 Sin .. Mads the ill-counsell'd heart. 1863 J. Weiss *Life T. Parker* I. 191 You have madded Parker and in this way he shews his spite.

2. *intr.* To be or to become mad; to act like a madman, rage, behave furiously. Now *rare*.

a 1366 Chaucer *Rom. Rose* 1072 Richesse a robe of purpre on hadde, Ne trowe not that I lye or madde. 1382 Wyclif *Acts* xxvi. 24 Festus with greet vois seyde, Poul, thou maddist, or wexist wood. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Miller's T.* 373 Suffiseth thee, but if thy wittes madde To han as greet a grace as Noe hadde. *c* 1394 *P. Pl. Crede* 280 'Alas!' quaþ þe frier 'almost y madde in mynde, To sen houȝ þis Minoures many men begyleth!' *c* 1412 Hoccleve *De Reg. Princ.* 930, I .. muse so, that vn-to lite I madde. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 319/2 Maddyn, or dotyn, *desipio*. Maddyn, or waxyn woode, *insanio, furio*. 1529 Lupset *Charity* (1539) 23, I maye loue for my sensuall luste, as when .. I madde or dote vppon women. 1530 Palsgr. 616/1, I madde, I waxe or become mad, *je enrage*. I holde my lyfe on it the felowe maddeth. 1574 Hellowes *Guevara's Fam. Ep.* (1577) 310 He brawleth and maddeth with the maids. 1873 M. Arnold *Lit. & Dogma* (1876) 148 The unclean spirits..caine raging and madding before him.

† **b.** Phrase, *To go* or *run madding*. *Obs.*

a 1619 Fotherby *Atheom.* II. ii. § 5 (1622) 205 Wee runne madding after Gold. 1621 T. Williamson tr. *Goulart's Wise Vieillard* 25 Ouer violent passions of the minde.. ouerwhelme the soule,..making it to goe gadding and madding heere and there to and fro. 1650 Howell *Giraffi's Rev. Naples* I. 79 Going thus arming daily more and more, and madding up and down the streets. *a* 1691 Pocock *Theol. Wks.* (1740) II. 195/1 A..mad-headed, unruly heifer, that..runs wantonly madding about.

† **c.** To become infatuated. Const. *after, upon*.

1594 Kyd *Cornelia* I. 60 A martiall people madding after Armes. 1624 F. White *Repl. Fisher* 535 The practise of your people..madding vpon the merits of Saints, and contemning the merits of Christ..is intollerable.

Madagass. Also **Madegass, Madecass.** [Variant of Malagash.]

1. A native or inhabitant of Madagascar.

1793 Trapp tr. *Rochon's Voy. Madagascar* 33 The inhabitants of Madagascar call themselves indistinctly Malegashes, or Madecasses. 1815 A. Burn *Mem.* v. (1816) 208 It is lamentable that some attempts are not made to convert the Madagasses to Christianity. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XIV. 259/2 The Madegasses have made considerable progress in the arts of civilization.

2. A negro of Jamaica, having skin less black and hair less crisped than the ordinary negro.

1873 Gardner *Hist. Jamaica* II. iv. 97 The term Madagass is still applied to certain light complexioned negroes, especially those whose hair is less woolly than common.

Madam (mæ'dəm), *sb.* Forms: 3–6 **madame**, 4–5 **madam** *Sc.* **madem**(**e**, 5 **maydame**, 6 **maddamo**, 4–9 **madamo**, 4– **madam**. [a. OF. *ma dame* (in mod.Fr. written Madame), literally, 'my lady' (see Dame, Dam), corresp. etymologically to It. *madonna, monna*, med.L. *mea domina*.

The spelling *madame* is still preferred by some writers, but the more general and convenient practice is to write *madam* when the word is used as English, and Madame when it is used as a foreign title. For the plural (in sense 1) Mesdames is now used; the Eng. plural is obs. exc. in sense 3.]

1. A form of respectful or polite address (substituted for the name) originally used by servants in speaking to their mistress, and by people generally in speaking to a lady of high rank; subsequently used with progressively extended application, and now capable of being (in certain circumstances) employed in addressing a woman of whatever rank or position. (Corresponding to Sir.)

The early occurrence of Dame in the sense of mother suggests that in AF. and early ME. *ma dame* was very commonly used by children to their mother; but in the extant examples the mother so addressed is a queen or a lady of very high rank. In Chaucer's time (*C. T. Prol.* 376) to be addressed as *madame* was one of the advantages which a citizen's wife gained by her husband's being made alderman; this probably indicates the lowest social grade in which at that time the title could be claimed as a matter of customary right. In poetry of the 14th and 15th c. the lover often addresses his mistress as *madame*. Nuns (originally only the elder ones: see quot. *c* 1400) were called *madame* down to the Reformation.

While in France the title has (with certain customary exceptions) been confined to married women, in England no such rule has been generally adopted, though there are traces of a tendency in the 16–17th c. to address matrons as 'madam' and spinsters as 'mistress'.

From the 17th c. *madam* has been the title normally used in beginning or subscribing a letter to a woman of any station, except where the use of the name (as in 'Dear Mrs. A.' etc.) is permitted ('my lady', etc. not being admitted in epistolary usage). In oral use the title now rarely occurs; from the 18th c. it has been, except in very formal use, largely superseded by the contracted form Ma'am, which has itself in recent years been greatly restricted in currency; however, *madam* is in London and other towns still the word commonly used by salesmen to their female customers, and by persons in the position of servants to the public.

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 832 Heo [*sc.* Cordeille] sede..Mid hou mani knyȝtes he come, þe oþer aȝen sede, Ma dame bote mid o man. *Ibid.* 5858 Certes ma dame quaþ þe king [to his stepmother] so ne may it noȝt be. *a* 1300–1400 *Cursor M.* 4340 (Göttl.) In chamber hendely he [Joseph] hir grett, And said, 'madam [*Cott.* lauedi], cum to ȝour mett'. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 4644 (Kölbing) Þo bispac Wawain curteys [addressing his mother] Madame, purvaieþ ous harnais. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* I. (*Katerine*) 658 [T]hane purphir sad till hir [*sc.* the queen] alsone: 'dred nocht, mademe! It sall be done'. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 47 Ma dame, I am a man of thyne, That in thi Court have longe served. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 229 'Haile, modi qwene of Messidoyne' he maister-like said; Þare deyned him na daynte 'madame' hire to call. *Ibid.* 874 Þen airis him on Alexander to his awen modire; 'Bees not a-glopened, madame ne greued at my fadire'. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* 2210 'Damisel' þe ȝongest [mun] es, þe elder 'madame' & 'mastres'. Þe Priores als principall Es 'lady' & leder of þam all. *a* 1440 *Sir Degrev.* 785 'Maydame!' sche seid, 'gramercy of thi gret curtesy'. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* v. 1030 'Grace', scho cryit, 'for hym that deit on tre'. Than Wallace said; 'Mademe, your noyis lat be'. 1513 Bradshaw *St. Werburge* II. 1393 'Alas', he sayd, 'ma dame and patronesse, For sorowe I can nat my peynes expresse'. 1547 Earl Sussex in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. I. II. 137 [To his wife.] Madame..thies be to signifie [etc.]. *Ibid.* 138 Thus, good Madame albeit [etc.]. 1552 Lyndesay *Monarche* III. 4664 The seilye Nun wyll thynk gret schame, Without scho callit be Madame. 1597 Shaks. 2 *Hen.* IV, II. i. 109 And didst not thou..desire me to be no more familiar with such poore people, saying, that ere long they should call me Madam? 1602 — *Ham.* II. ii. 96 *Qu.* More matter, with lesse Art. *Pol.* Madam, I sweare I vse no Art at all. 1609 B. Jonson *Silent Woman* v. (1620) O 2, *Tru.* You see, what creatures you may bestow your fauours on, Madames. 1648 Milton *Sonn.* x. 11 *To the Lady Margaret Ley*, Though later born, than to have known the dayes Wherein your Father flourisht, yet by you Madam, me thinks I see him living yet. 1696 Phillips (ed. 5), *Madam*, a Title of Honour, which is given as well in Writing as Speaking, to Women of Quality, as Princesses, Dutchesses, and others; but grown a little too common of late. 1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* XVII. vi, 'If you will have patience, madam', answered Mrs. Miller, 'I will acquaint you who I am'..'I have no curiosity, madam, to know anything', cries Sophia. 1851 Tennyson *To the Queen*, Take, Madam, this poor book of song. 1884 J. Quincy *Figures of Past* 325 'So you've been over the farm, Colonel Pickering', said my mother... 'Why, yes, Madame', was the reply, 'I have been all over the farm, and a weary tramp I've had of it'. 1901 *Daily Chron.* 10 Dec. 5/2 The street-car conductors of Boston are compelled to address all their women passengers as 'madam'.

b. Non-vocatively, substituted for the name of a lady entitled to be addressed as 'madam'. ? *Obs.*

c 1500 *Melusine* 11 Sire, Madame the quene Pressyne your wyf.. is delyuered of thre doughtirs. 1605 Shaks. *Lear* I. ii. 9 Why Bastard?.. When my Dimensions are as well compact .. As honest Madams issue? 1716 Swift *Phillis* Wks. 1755 III. II. 159 Old madam, who went up to find What papers Phil had left behind. 1720 — *Fates Clergym.* ibid. II. II. 28 He kept a miserable house, but the blame was laid wholly upon madam; for the good doctor was always at his books. 1762 Bickerstaffe *Love in Village* I. ix. (1765) 18, I know what makes you false hearted to me, that you may keep company with young madam's waiting woman. 1839–41 Warren *Ten Thous. a Year* xvii. II. 93 It's very hard ma'am, that madam's maid is to go with her, and I'm not to go with *you*! ['Madam' is the lady of the house; the speaker is her sister-in-law's maid.]

c. Used in contempt or anger. Chiefly *dial.*

1854 Miss Baker *Northampt. Gloss.*, I'll give it you, madam, if you don't do as you're bid.

2. As a prefixed title. †**a.** Prefixed to a first or sole name. *Obs.*

c 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 121 She [the prioress] was cleped madame Eglentyne. 1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* II. i. 9 Goe to, sir, tell me: do you know Madam Siluia? *Ibid.* II. v. 8 But sirha, how did thy Master part with Madam Julia? 1613 HEYWOOD *Brazen Age* II. ii, *Iason.* Madam Medea. *Medea.* Leaue circumstance, away. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* VIII. viii, etc. [An unmarried young lady is referred to by servants and inferiors as 'Madam Sophia'.]

b. Prefixed to a surname: (*a*) Now in U.S., and perh. formerly in England, the style of a woman who has a married son (whose wife has the style of 'Mrs.'). (*b*) *dial.* The style of a married woman of position, such as the squire's wife. (*c*) *U.S.* (see quot. 1809).

1703 PETIVER *Musei Petiver.* 94 Madam Elizabeth Glanville. To this Curious Gentlewoman I am obliged for an hundred Insects. 1705 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4106/4 Madam Clark of Yeovil, Mrs. Jervice of Favent. *a* 1774 GOLDSM. *Elegy on Mrs. Blaize*, Good people all, with one accord Lament for Madam Blaize. 1809 KENDALL *Trav.* II. XXXVIII. 44 It has been, and still is the practice, to prefix to the name of a deceased female of some consideration .. the title of madam. *a* 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia*, *Madam*, a term of respect to gentlewomen; below *lady*, but above *mistress*. In a village, the Esquire's wife..must have *madam* prefixed to her surname. The parson's wife, if he be a doctor, or a man of..genteel figure, must be *madam* too. 1849 LYELL *2nd Visit U.S.* I. IX. 162 The title of Madam is sometimes given here [in Boston], and generally .. in the South, to a mother whose son has married, and the daughter-in-law is then called Mrs.

†**c.** *Madame regent* = queen regent. Also *fig.* *Obs.*

1523 SKELTON *Gart. Laurel* 53 [to Pallas] Prynces moost pusant .. All other transcendyng .. Madame regent of the seyence seuyn. *Ibid.* 951. *a* 1562 G. CAVENDISH *Wolsey* (1893) 84 Nowe was there lodged also Madame Regent, the kyng's mother, and all hir trayn of ladys and gentillwomen.

†**d.** In playful or derisive uses. *Obs.*

1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* I. ii. 43 Behold, behold, where madam Mitigation comes. 1624 HEYWOOD *Captives* IV. i. in Bullen *O. P.* IV, Naye, make his honest and chast wyfe no better Then a madam makarell. 1633 FORD *'Tis Pity* II. ii, 'Tis not your new Mistresse, Your goodly Madam Merchant, shall triumph On my deiection. 1670 EACHARD *Cont. Clergy* 28 After a lad has taken his leave of Madam University,..he is not likely to deal..with much Latine. 1687 DRYDEN *Hind & P.* II. 250 But madam Panther, you, though more sincere, Are not so wise as your adulterer. *a* 1806 H. K. WHITE *My Study*, The ideal flights of Madam Brain.

3. A woman who is addressed as 'madam'. †**a.** A lady of rank or station. Also *fig.* *Obs.*

1543 BALE *Yet a Course* 38 b, She [holy church] became a gloryouse madame of the earth. 1550 — *Image Both Ch.* Pref. A vj b, They have alwaies for lucres sake, gloriouslye garnished their holy mother, the madame of mischiefe and proude synagog of Sathan wt golde, siluer [etc.]. 1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* Epit. Preceptes A ij b, His grandmother a sober matrone and vertuous old maddame. 1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* III. i. (Arb.) 149 As we see in these great Madames of honour. 1616 R. C. *Times' Whistle*, etc. (1871) 134 'Tis certaine he had been a knight a[t] lest, And made his wife (what she hath lookt for long) A Madame.

appositively. 1632 MASSINGER *City Madam* I. i, The want of one [*sc.* a male heir] Swells my young Mistresses, and their madam mother With hopes above their birth, and scale.

b. The mistress of a house. Now only *U.S. vulgar.*

1824 GALT *Rothelan* II. xv, We shall..use a little more freedom with the madam of the mansion. 1879 TOURGEE *Fool's Err.* XV. 75 Well, Colonel, .. I've brought back the books I borrowed of the madam the other day.

c. In derisive or opprobrious use. (*a*) An affected fine lady. †(*b*) A kept mistress, a courtesan, prostitute (*obs.*). (*c*) Used as a general term of contempt for a female: a 'hussy', 'minx'.

These uses may perhaps, so far as origin is concerned, belong partly to MADAME, as being more or less due to prejudice against foreign women. Cf. '*Madam Van* [?i.e. a Dutchwoman: cf. MADAME 1] a whore' (*Dict. Cant. Crew*, *a* 1700).

(*a*) 1598 MARSTON *Sco. Villanie* In Lect. B 2, Let me alone, the Madams call for thee Longing to laugh at thy wits pouertie. 1623 MASSINGER *Dk. Milan* III. ii, Fine meeters To tinckle in the eares of ignorant Madams. 1664 POWER *Exp. Philos.* I. 11 Ovid's Lydian-Spinstresse, that proud Madam which Pallas, for her Rivalship transform'd into the Spider. 1682 O. N. *Boileau's Lutrin* I. Argt. 12 Thus Queasie Madams meat forbear Untill they read, The Bill of Fare. 1725 *New Cant. Dict.*, *Mistress Princum-Prancum*, such a stiff, over-nice, precise Madam. 1803 MARY CHARLTON *Wife & Mistress* III. 57 What should I care what those fine Madams says of me! 1840 HOOD *Kilmansegg*, *Honeymoon* xxii, She was far too pamper'd a madam.

(*b*) 1719 D'URFEY *Pills* IV. 139 Hide-Park may be term'd the Market of Madams, or Lady-Fair. 1721 AMHERST *Terræ Fil.* No. 28 (1754) 152 At Oxford .. several of our most celebrated and right beautiful madams would pluck off their fine feathers, and betake themselves to an honest livelihood. 1747 *Gentl. Mag.* 96 On a Gentleman who mistook a Kept Madam for a Lady of Fashion. 1761 *Ann. Reg.* II. 66 He indulged himself and madam with green peas at five shillings a quart.

(*c*) 1802 WOLCOT (P. Pindar) *Middlesex Elect.* ii. Wks. 1816 IV. 183 I'd make the madams squall. 1874 S. BEAUCHAMP *Grantley Grange* I. 68 'I do not think they [hop-pickers] are troubled with much shyness'. 'O, not a bit of it, Sir Charles..they're brazen madams, and quite above my hands'.

†**4.** *Comb.* (*appositive*). *Obs.*

1593 G. HARVEY *Pierce's Super.* 174 Floorishing London, the Staple of Wealth, & Madame-towne of the Realme.

Hence (*nonce-wds.*) **Ma'damish** *a.*, like a 'fine lady'; †**Ma'damship.**

1620 *Swetnam Arraigned* (1880) 62, I thanke your Madame-ship, Ime glad o' this. 1881 J. YOUNGER *Autobiog.* XV. 171 The mistress at home grew quite madamish.

Madam (mæ'dəm), *v.* [f. MADAM *sb.*] *trans.* To address as 'madam'. †Also with *up.*

1622 ROWLANDS *Good Newes & B.* 7 She .. would be Madam'd, Worship'd, Ladifide. 1668 DRYDEN *Evening's Love* III. i. (1671) 33 Madam me no Madam. 1741 RICHARDSON *Pamela* (1824) I. 58 In came the coachman.. and madamed me up strangely. 1748 — *Clarissa* Wks. 1883 VIII. 447, I am..Madam'd up perhaps to matrimonial perfection. 1829 *Examiner* 116/1 The sparring scene between her and Mrs. Chatterley, wherein they 'Madam' each other with genteel petulance.

‖ **Madame** (madam; often mădā'm, or anglicized mæ'dəm). Also **madam.** Pl. MESDAMES; †**madames.** [Fr.: see MADAM *sb.*

The uses in which the word is meant to represent a foreign title are treated in the present article, although in early examples the spelling is often *madam*. For *madame*, when it is a mere variant spelling of the Eng. word, see MADAM.]

1. The title prefixed to the surname of a French married woman (corresponding to the Eng. 'Mrs.', 'Lady', etc., according to degree of rank). Abbreviated *Mme.*; in Eng. books and newspapers *Mdme.* often occurs.

In English use it is very commonly applied to a married woman belonging to any foreign nation (substituted, e.g., for the Ger. *Frau* or the Du. *Mevrouw*). It is also frequently assumed (instead of 'Mrs.') by English or American professional singers or musicians, and by women engaged in businesses such as dressmaking, in which native taste or skill is reputed to be inferior to that of Frenchwomen.

a 1674 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* XV. § 155 One day he visited madam Turyn. 1699 PETIVER *Musei Petiver.* 46 Madam Margaretha Hendrina van Otteren, Widow to .. Dr. Oldenland. 1706 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* 18 May (1857) VI. 46 Mrs. Skelton, daughter to Madam Orfeur. 1838 DICKENS *Nich. Nick.* X, 'The Lady's name', said Ralph,.. 'is Mantalini—Madame Mantalini'. 1871 E. C. G. MURRAY *Member for Paris* I. 258 One of Madame Roderheim's plushed footmen. *Ibid.* 296 'Father Glabre never talks politics', answered Mdme. de Margauld. 1877 J. GRANT *Six Yrs. Ago* II. 188 Madame von Hohenthal. 1888 MAPLESON *Mem.* (ed. 2) I. 193 Mdme. Christine Nilsson.

b. Used (both vocatively and otherwise) with omission of the name, or in substitution for it.

1853 BRONTË *Villette* XIV, As soon as Georgette was well, Madame sent her away into the country. 1894 S. J. WEYMAN *Man in Black* 198 Presently madame followed her example.

†**2.** The title given to female members of the French royal family; a French princess; *spec.* the eldest daughter of the French king or of the dauphin; in the reign of Louis XIV, the wife of MONSIEUR, the king's only brother. *Obs.*

1670 G. H. *Hist. Cardinals* I. I. 14 In the presence of Madam Royall in Turin. 1679 *Marriage Charles II*, 7 Next to her followed Madam. 1701 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3714/3 Madame does not yet give Audience. *a* 1715 BURNET *Own Time* (1724) I. 302 The King of France had courted Madame Soissons, and made a shew of courting Madame [*sc.* the Duchess of Orleans]. 1765 *Ann. Reg.* 112 Don Philip, duke of Parma, .. has left issue, by the late madame of France, a prince and a princess. 1766 *Ibid.* II. 4 The Madames of France were much devoted to reading in their private apartments. 1798 R. C. DALLAS tr. *Clery's Jrnl. Occur. Louis XVI* 40 A small antichamber almost without light, was occupied by Madame Royale and Madame Elizabeth.

†**3.** A French married woman; a Frenchman's wife. *Obs.*

1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, I. i. 23 The Madams too, not vs'd to toyle, did almost sweat to beare The Pride vpon them. *Ibid.* III. v. 28 *Dolphin.* By Faith and Honor, Our Madames mock at vs. 1599 B. JONSON *Cynthia's Rev.* IV. i, I would tell you, which Madame lou'd a Monsieur. 1627 DRAYTON *Agincourt* cxlvii, In which [a Chariot] they meane to Paris him to bring, To make sport to their Madames and their Boyes. 1765 BICKERSTAFFE *Maid of Mill* I. vi. 11 When I was on my travels, among the madames, and signoras, we never saluted more than the tip of the ear.

Madamoiselle, obs. variant of MADEMOISELLE.

Madane, obs. form of MAIDEN.

Madapollam (mædăpɒ'lăm). Also **-polland, -polam.** [From *Madapollam* (*Mādhava-palam*), a suburb of Narsapur, Madras presidency.] A kind of cotton cloth, orig. manufactured at Madapollam, and afterwards imitated on the British looms, and exported in great quantities to India.

1832 in M. Russell *Egypt* viii. (1853) 327 He intends to send long-cloths, madapollands [etc.]. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, *Madapollam*, a kind of fine long cloth, shipped to the Eastern markets. 1882 CAULFEILD & SAWARD *Dict. Needlework*, *Madapolams*, a coarse description of calico cloth, of a stiff, heavy make, originally of Indian manufacture, where it was employed for Quilts. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 31 Dec. 4/4 Buff-end madapollams.

Ma'd-apple. [A translation of mod.L. *mālum insānum*, a corruption of the oriental word which appears variously as *melongena*, *badingan*, BRINJAL. Also called *raging* (*love*) *apple*: see RAGING *ppl. a.* 2.] The fruit of the EGG-PLANT.

1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. liv. 274 Madde or raging Apples. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* II. 82/2 An Assirian Made Apple. The pod is whitish green, and the cup jagged [etc.]. 1760 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* 318 Mad Apple, *Solanum.* 1785 MARTYN *Rousseau's Bot.* XVI. (1794) 202 Mad-Apple is also of this genus. 1864 GRISEBACH *Flora W. Ind.* 785 Mad-apple, *Solanum Melongena.*

Madar: see MUDAR.

‖ **Madarosis** (mædărō'sis). *Med.* [mod.L., a. Gr. *μαδάρωσις*, f. *μαδαρός* bald: see -OSIS.] Loss of hair; esp. of that of the eyebrows.

1693 in *Blancard's Physical Dict.* (ed. 2). 1706 in PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey). In mod. Dicts.

†**Ma'dbrain,** *sb.* (and *a.*) *Obs.*

A. *sb.* A mad-brained person; a 'scatter-brain'.

c 1570 *Marr. Wit & Sci.* V. i. E 1 b, Thou art some mad braine, or some foole. 1608 MIDDLETON *Mad World* I. A 3 Heer's a mad-braine a'th first, whose prankes scorne to haue presidents. 1616 J. DEACON *Tobacco Tortured* 57 Alas poore Tobacco..thou that hast bene hitherto accompted.. the mad-braines merriment,..and the vnthrifts pasport.

B. *attrib.* or *adj.* = MAD-BRAINED.

1592 G. HARVEY *Four Lett.* 45, I haue .. seene the madbraynest Roister-doister in a countrey dashte out of countenaunce. 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* III. ii. 10, I must forsooth be forst To giue my hand..Vnto a mad-braine rudesby. 1605 ROWLANDS *Hell's Broke Loose* 33 With..mad-braine heat, Munster they enter. 1631 WEEVER *Anc. Funeral Mon.* 295 That wilde madbraine Fakjues.

Mad-brained (mæ'dbrēnd), *a.* Having or manifesting a mad brain; hot-headed, uncontrolled.

1577 G. HARVEY *Letter-bk.* (Camden) 57 And Skelton that same madbraynd knave Look how he knawes a deade horse boane. 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* III. ii. 165 This mad-brain'd bridegroome tooke him such a cuffe, That downe fell Priest and booke. 1607 — *Timon* V. i. 177 Giuing our holy Virgins to the staine Of contumelious, beastly, mad-brain'd warre. 1649 G. DANIEL *Trinarch., Hen. IV*, cxlvii, The Mad-Brain'd Spartacus. 1751 ELIZA HEYWOOD *Betsy Thoughtless* I. 104 The heedless levities of the one sex, and the mad-brained passions of the other. 1819 SHELLEY *Peter Bell* VI. xx, A mad-brained goblin for a guide. 1894 G. M. FENN *Real Gold* 379 Your father's mad-brained ideas.

Madcap (mæ'dkæp), *sb.* and *a.* [f. MAD *a.* + CAP *sb.*; cf. *fuddlecap*, *huffcap.*]

A. *sb.* †**a.** In early use, a madman, maniac (*obs. rare*). **b.** One who acts like a maniac; a reckless, wildly impulsive person. In recent use often applied playfully to young women of lively and impulsive temperament.

1589 GREENE *Sp. Masquerado* C 3 b, This crue of popish Madcaps. 1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* II. v. 8 Come-on you mad-cap: Ile to the Ale-house with you. 1599 HAYWARD *1st Pt. Hen. IV* 19 There was .. Sir Hugh Linne, a good souldier, but a very mad-cap. 1607 DEKKER *Northward Hoe* IV. Wks. 1873 III. 57 What mad-caps haue you in your house [Bedlam]. 1667 DRYDEN *Secret Love* III. i. (1668) 34 Lord, that such a Mad-Cap as I should ever live to be jealous! 1711 *Country-Man's Let. to Curat* 12 There were..some Mad-caps *alias* High-Flyers, in the Council that opposed the granting of it. 1861 THACKERAY *Four Georges* ii. (1876) 53, I should like to have seen that noble old madcap [Peterborough]. 1869 PHILLIPS *Vesuv.* ii. 12 To be singing when Vesuvius was thundering .. was not unfitting the imperial madcap. 1885 MABEL COLLINS *Prettiest Woman* I. On the boards she was the merriest, gayest, madcap in the world.

B. *attrib.* and *adj.* Mad, 'crack-brained'; reckless, wildly impulsive.

1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* II. i. 215 That last is Berowne, the mery mad-cap Lord. 1598 E. GUILPIN *Skial.* (1878) 27 When thou hast read this mad-cap stuffe. 1619 FLETCHER *M. Thomas* I. iii, *Dor.* And is your hate so mortall? *Mar.* Not to his person, But to his qualities, his mad-cap follies. 1807 W. IRVING *Salmag.* (1824) 274 The thoughtless flow of mad-cap spirits. 1852 THACKERAY *Esmond* III. ii, The madcap girl ran up to her mother. 1887 BOWEN *Virg. Ecl.* IX. 43 Let the madcap billows in thunder break on the shore. 1893 VIZETELLY *Glances Back* II. XXXIII. 233 Madcap republicans bent on disturbing the emperor's pleasure.

Madded (mæ'dĕd), *ppl. a.* Now *rare.* [f. MAD *v.* + -ED [1].] Rendered mad, in various senses of the adj. **a.** Deprived of reason or intelligence. **b.** Excited to fury, enraged.

c 1580 SIDNEY *Ps.* XXII. vii, I am enclos'd with yong bulls madded rowt. 1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* IV. ii. 313 All Curses madded Hecuba gaue the Greekes. *a* 1641 BP. MOUNTAGU *Acts & Mon.* (1642) 290 The two Confitents..were by the madded multitude stoned to death. 1681 WHARTON *Disc. Soul World* Wks. (1683) 647 But Tycho-Brahe..shall..unfold to us this matter far different from the Madded Nursery of Peripateticks. 1766 NICOL *Poems* 240 Shall I so besotted be And madded, as to sell My soul to flames..? 1872 BLACKIE *Lays Highl.* 101 Downward Sheer the madded torrent pours.

Madden (mæ'd'n), *v.* [f. MAD *a.* + -EN [5].]

1. *intr.* To become mad.

1735 POPE *Prol. Sat.* 6 They rave, recite, and madden round the land. 1796 MRS. M. ROBINSON *Angelina* I. 8 My mind would madden at the retrospect of her injuries. 1802 *Noble Wanderers* II. 85, I saw her strength wasting..and maddened at the view! 1811 W. R. SPENCER *Poems* 19 My fierce steed maddens to be gone. 1855 MILMAN *Lat. Chr.* IX. vii. (1864) V. 369 Whole populations maddening to avenge the cause of the injured Son of God. 1858 H. LAW *Christ is All*, *Numbers* 79 Malignant passions maddened in opposing breasts.

2. *trans.* To make mad; to drive out of one's mind; to excite to frenzy or uncontrollable anger.

1822 GOOD *Study Med.* IV. 167 Opium maddens the head. 1833 HT. MARTINEAU *Loom & Lugger* II. v. 105 It was enough to madden the most gentle. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* II. I. 267 Fierce spirits, unrestrained by principle, maddened by fanaticism. 1879 FARRAR *St. Paul* (1883) 119 The raging passion which maddens a crowd of Eastern fanatics.

Hence **Ma'ddened** *ppl. a.*, **Ma'ddening** *ppl. a.* and *vbl. sb.* Also **Ma'ddeningly** *adv.*, in a maddening manner.

a 1743 SAVAGE *To J. Powell* 35 Calm, on the beach while maddening billows rave, He gains Philosophy from every wave. 1775 ASH Suppl., *Maddening*, the act of making mad. 1806 SUAR *Winter in Lond.* III. 79 The shrieks..of

its maddened mother .. did not arouse the sleeping nurse. **1822** Good *Study Med.* IV. 624 The burning and maddening pain..can rarely be alleviated but by opium. *a* **1861** Mrs. Browning *From Nonnus* Poems 1890 V. 85 She named her hero, and raged maddeningly Against the brine of waters. **1863** Woolner *My Beautiful Lady* Introd. 3 The wind Heaving the ocean into maddened arms That clutch and dash huge vessels on the rocks. **1891** T. Hardy *Tess* (1900) 117/2 There never was such a maddening mouth since Eve's!

Madder (mæ·dəɹ), *sb.*[1] Forms: 1 mædere, mæddre, mæderu, 3–7 mader, 4–5 madyr, (5 madur, maddyre, madre), 5–6 maddre, 6–7 mather, (8 maddar), 4– madder. [OE. *mædere* wk. fem. corresp. to ON. *maðra* in place-names (Sw. *madra*, dial. *mådra*, *måra*, Norw. *modra*, *maure*); app. related in some way are MDu., MLG. *mêde* (mod.Du. *mede*, *mee*), madder.

The word in OE. and ON. could not originally have denoted the exotic *Rubia*, but probably belonged to various species of the allied genera *Asperula* and *Galium*, some of which are still used as substitutes for madder. In Iceland, Sweden, and Norway, it is now applied chiefly to *Galium boreale*; in Sweden also to *Asperula tinctoria* (Dyer's Woodruff), while *Rubia tinctorum* is called *röd madra* and *krapp*. In the mod. Wiltshire dialect *madder* is used for the Sweet Woodruff (*Asperula odorata*); the *madder's* or *mather* applied in several dialects to the Stinking Camomile is prob. a distinct word (see Maythe).]

1. A herbaceous climbing plant, *Rubia tinctorum*, having rough hairy stems and bearing panicles of small yellowish flowers: cultivated, esp. in Holland and France, for the dye obtained from it (see 2). Called also *dyer's madder*.

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 154 Deos wyrt þe man gryas & oðrum naman mædere nemneð byð cenned fyrmust in lucania. *c* 1050 *Herbarium* in *Sax. Leechd.* I. 24 Herba gryas þæt is mæderu [*v.r.* mædere]. *c* 1265 *Voc. Plants* in Wr.-Wülcker 608/27 *Rubea*, mader. 14.. *Voc.* ibid. 576/22 *Cressula*, Mader. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 319/1 Madyr, herbe. **1562** Turner *Herbal* II. 118 The stalkes of madder are foure squared, longe, rough lyke vnto the stalkes of gooshareth. **1688** R. Holme *Armoury* II. 76/2 The Garden Madder hath a long rough leaf. **1758** P. Miller (*title*) The Method of cultivating Madder, As it is now practised by the Dutch in Zealand. **1846** M'Culloch *Acc. Brit. Empire* (1854) I. 109 Madder has been attempted to be raised [in England], but without success. **1882** Holden *Hum. Osteol.* (ed. 6) 33 The colouring principle of the madder (*Rubia tinctorum*) has a strong affinity for phosphate of lime.

b. With specific qualification, applied to other plants. **Bengal Madder,** *Rubia cordifolia* (Treas. Bot. 1866). **Field Madder** (see Field *sb.* 20). **Hog's Madder** (see Hog *sb.*[1] 13 d). **Indian Madder,** (*a*) *R. cordifolia*; (*b*) *Oldenlandia umbellata* (Treas. Bot.). **Petty Madder,** the genus *Crucianella*. **Wild Madder,** (*a*) *R. peregrina*, native to the south-west of England; (*b*) *Galium Mollugo*.

14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 570/10 *Candeo*, wylde madur. **1578** Lyte *Dodoens* IV. lxxiii. 537 There be two sortes of Madder, the tame Madder .. and the wild Madder. **1597** Gerarde *Herbal* 961, 1 *Rubia tinctorum*, Red Madder. 2 *Rubia sylvestris*, Wilde Madder. 3 *Rubia marina*, Sea Madder. **1760** J. Lee *Introd. Bot.* App. 318 Petty Madder, *Crucianella*. **1776** Withering *Bot. Arrangem. Vegetables* I. 81 Madder. Mollugo. Goosegrass...Wild Madder, Great Bastard Madder. **1813** Ainslie *Mat. Med. Hindostan* 87 Bengal Madder, *Rubia Manjith* Roxb.

2. The root of this plant, employed medicinally or as a sonrce of colouring matter; the dye-stuff or pigment prepared from this.

The chief colouring matters contained in madder are alizarin and purpurin. The 'Turkey red', used in dyeing cotton, is prepared from madder.

1347–8 *Rolls of Parlt.* II. 215/2 Come il ait fait avenir en Engleterre xi pokes de madder a Lenn. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Former Age* 17 No mader [*v.rr.* madyr, madder], welde, or wood no litestere Ne knew. **1389** in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 358 Euerych a cart y'lade w^t^ mader, þ^t^ comeþ to selle, twey pans. **1436** *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 180 Yit marchaundy of Braban and Selande, The madre and woode that dyers take on hande To dyne wyth. **1579** Langham *Gard. Health* (1633) 377 Madder. The root is sharp and bitter, and therefore purgeth the liuer and the milt. **1581** *Act* 23 *Eliz.* c. 9 § 3 Wherein no Mather shalbe used. **1601** R. Johnson *Kingd. & Commw.* (1603) 28 It bringeth forth great quantitie of mather, very perfect woade, but no great store. **1747** Cooke in Hanway *Trav.* (1762) I. IV. lv. 258 These Tartars trade..with the Russians with their madder. **1846** J. Baxter *Libr. Pract. Agric.* (ed. 4) II. 311 Sulphur and madder are the best alterants in foulness of the skin or habit. **1882** W. T. Suffolk in *Sci. Gossip* Mar. 50 Avoid .. cochineal colours; the madders are the only safe substitutes.

b. With defining word, indicating a special kind or quality, as *bale-*, *bunch-*, *fat-*, *pipe-madder*; sometimes with designation adopted from Du., as *mull*, *umbro madder*; **crap-madder** [Crap *sb.*[2]], corruptly *crop-*, *grape-madder*, the best quality of madder.

1640 in Entick *London* (1766) II. 168 Crop madder, and all other bale madder .. Fat madder .. Mull madder. *a* **1661** Fuller *Worthies, Kent* II. (1662) 57 Madder .. there are three kinds thereof. 1. Crop-Madder. 2. Umber-Owe. 3. Pipe or Fat-Madder. **1765** *Museum Rust.* IV. 176 The best umbro madder, imported from Holland. **1797** *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) X. 400/2 The commodity, when manufactured, is distinguished into different kinds, as grape-madder, bunch-madder, &c. The grape-madder is the heart of the root.

3. The colour produced by madder dyes or pigments; also with defining word, as *crimson madder*. Also *attrib.* or *adj.*

1861 Thornbury *Turner* I. 30 Of the yellow and madder sails..he took careful note. **1863** Kingsley *Water-Bab.* 12 A crimson madder petticoat. **1886** Ruskin *Præterita* I. 396 Shade cobalt through pink madder into yellow ochre for skies.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *madder-bath*, *-croft*, *-crop*, *-dye*, *-dyeing*, *-field*, *-grinder*, *-ground*, *-miller*, *-pit*, *-plant*, *root*, *-stove*, *style*, *tribe*; *madder-printed* adj. Also in names of colours produced by dyes or pigments in which madder is an ingredient, as *madder-black*, *-brown*, *-lake*, *-purple*, *-red*, etc. Also **madderwort** *Bot.*, Lindley's term for a plant of the N.O. *Galiaceæ*.

1763 W. Lewis *Philos. Comm. Arts* 420 The colour hence produced [*sc.* by madder upon blue cloth] is called *madder-black. **1897** Anne Page *Afternoon Ride* 63 Ineffaceable *madder brown—a pigment lost to art. **1** ... *Newminster Cartul.* (1878) 237 Juxta pontem de le *Madercroft. **1826** J. Smith *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 536 The use of archil gives a .. bloom to the *madder dye. **1899** Mackail *W. Morris* II. 34 Water..required for *madder-dyeing. **1901** *Westm. Gaz.* 30 Aug. 3/1 The *madder fields of Alsace, of Southern France, and of Algeria have practically ceased to exist. **1851** in *Illustr. Lond. News* 5 Aug. (1854) 119/1 *Madder-grinder. **1758** P. Miller *Cultiv. Madder* 35 The Dutch always sow Grain upon their *Madder Ground. **1822** Imison *Sci. & Art* II. 411 *Madder-lake. **1851** in *Illustr. Lond. News* 5 Aug. (1854) 119/1 *Madder-miller. **1616** Browne *Brit. Past.* II. iii. 59 The bowels of our mother were not ript For *Mader-pits. **1758** P. Miller *Cultiv. Madder* 7 A *Madder Plant, that has many of these [side] Roots, is called a well bearded Madder Plant. **1881** W. Morris in Mackail *Life* (1899) II. 53 The best hanging would be the inclosed *madder-printed cotton. **1838** T. Thomson *Chem. Org. Bodies* 302 Sulphuric acid .. throws down the *madder-purple. **1727–52** Chambers *Cycl.* s.v. *Red*, *Madder red is dyed with madder. **1744** *Phil. Trans.* XLI. 390 These Callicoe-printers make use of the *Rubia Tinctorum*, or *Madder-root. **1757** *Act* 31 *Geo. II*, c. 35 § 5 For preventing the stealing or destroying of Madder roots. **1758** P. Miller *Cultiv. Madder* 12 In the *Madder Stoves, the People work more by Night than Day. **1839** Ure *Dict. Arts* 224 The *madder style [of calico-printing] .. in which the mordants are applied to the white cloth..and the colours are afterwards brought up in the dye-bath. **1836** Lindley *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 249 Order cxxxix. Stellatæ, or Galiaceæ. The *Madder Tribe. **1845** — *Sch. Bot.* (ed. 14) 77 Order xxxiv. Galiaceæ—*Madderworts, or Stellates.

Madder (mæ·dəɹ), *sb.*[2] *Anglo-Irish.* Also **meadar, mether.** [a. Irish *meadar.*] A square wooden drinking vessel.

1720 Swift *Irish Feast* in *Misc.* (1735) V. 14 Usquebagh to our Feast In Pails was brought up, An hundred at least, And a Madder our Cup. **1832** Lady Morgan *Mem.* (1862) II. 337 The 'madder' so often mentioned in Irish song was a wooden Tankard, made square. **1886** Wood-Martin *Lake Dwellings Irel.* I. v. 103 'Meadar', or 'Mether', is the Irish designation for a species of drinking-cup.

Madder (mæ·dəɹ), *v.* [f. Madder *sb.*[1]] *trans.* To treat or dye with madder.

c 1461 *E. E. Misc.* (Warton Club) 90 To a dosyne of violettes viij pownde of Madyre..and loke ȝe madere theme as ȝe do ȝour redys. **1464** *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 562/1 That the same Wolle and Cloth be perfitly boyled and madered. **1530** Palsgr. 616/1, I madder clothe to be dyed...Your vyolet hath nat his full dye but he is maddered. **1763** W. Lewis *Comm. Philos. Techn.* 405 The..regulations for the French Dyers..require the cloth, after it has been blued, to be maddered. **1811** *Self Instructor* 539 They are maddered higher than black.

Hence **Ma·ddered** *ppl. a.*, **Ma·ddering** *vbl. sb.*

c 1462 *E. E. Misc.* (Warton Club) 88 At ȝoure Maderynge ȝe schall take of the same wateris. **1581** *Act* 23 *Eliz.* c. 9 § 2 Where Clothes Karsies & Hosen..have been died with ..a galled & mathered Black. **1808** *Nicholson's Jrnl.* XXI. 44 On the maddering of Cotton and Linen Thread. **1839** Ure *Dict. Arts* 787 There next follows..the galling, the aluming, the maddering.

Ma·dderish, *a.* [f. Madder *sb.*[1] + -ish.] Resembling the colour of madder.

1888 *Harper's Mag.* July 212 Some..seem .. to be made of gold vapor; others have a madderish tone.

† **Ma·dderlen.** *Obs. rare*[−1]. [f. Madder *sb.*[1] + *-len* (? = -ling[1]).] A name (perh. invented by Hill) for the genus *Sherardia*.

1770 Hill *Herb. Brit.* II. 153 *Sherardia.* Madderlen. *Ibid.* 154 *Sherardia arvensis.* Field Madderlen.

Madding (mæ·diŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. Mad *v.* + -ing[1].] The action of the vb. Mad; becoming or being mad, madness; mad behaviour. Now only in phrases (*arch.* or *dial.*) to *go*, † *run*, *set a-madding* (or † *on madding*).

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 1153 My manez mynde to maddyng malte. *a* **1400–50** *Alexander* 3546 Madding marrid has þi mode & þi mynd changid. **1526** Skelton *Magnyf.* 288 It is but a maddynge, these wayes that ye vse. **1565** Calfhill *Answ. Treat. Cross* Pref. 5 They..went a madding after their Idols. *a* **1586** Sidney *Arcadia* IV. (1598) 394 Poore Dametas began now to thinke, that .. a generall madding was falne. **1600** Holland *Livy* xxxvii. xli. 969 The dromedarie camels..were unruly and set a madding. **1612** Speed *Hist. Gt. Brit.* IX. xiii. (1623) 733 [They] forced sundry principall Gentlemen to attend them in their madding. **1614** Bp. Hall *Contempl., O. T.* VII. iii, All the world would be glad to runne on madding after their bait. **1627–77** Feltham *Resolves* I. xxix. 49 Our error of opinion,..and our madding after unnecessary gold, have brambled the way of Vertue. **1712** Arbuthnot *John Bull* I. viii, John had not run on a madding so long, had it not been for an extravagant bitch of a wife. **1775** Mme. D'Arblay *Early Diary* 21 Nov., Lady Edgecumbe..declared she was set a-madding. **1857** Mrs. Mathews *Tea-Table Talk* I. 205 Men..whose crazed brains go a madding after forbidden fruit. **1865** Mrs. Whitney *Gayworthys* viii. (1879) 79 To set all the urchins' brains a madding.

† **b.** *attrib.*, as *madding-day*, *month*, *time*.

16.. I. T. *Grim the Collier of Croydon* III. (1662) 50 Why how now man! is this your madding month! **1625** *Gonsalvio's Sp. Inquis.* 34 In all her madding time shee had nothing else in her mouth. **1691** Ludlow *Let. to Sir E. S.* title-p., Occasioned by the reading Dr. Pelling's Lewd Harangues upon the 30th of Janvary, being the Anniversary, or General Madding-Day. **1717** (*title*) A Rebuke to the High Church Priests for turning the 30th of January into a Madding-Day.

Madding (mæ·diŋ), *ppl. a.* Now *poet.* or *rhetorical.* [f. Mad *v.* + -ing[2].]

1. Becoming mad; acting madly; frenzied.

1579 Spenser *Sheph. Cal.* Apr. 26 But now from me hys madding mynd is starte, And woes the Widdowes daughter of the glenne. **1582** T. Watson *Centurie of Loue* lxxvi. *heading*, The Author being, as it were, in halfe a madding moode. **1614** Drumm. of Hawth. *Sonn.* 'Deare Wood' Farre from the madding Worldling's hoarse discords. **1635** Brathwait *Arcad. Pr.* 171 Observe the madding motion of his eyes. **1667** Milton *P. L.* VI. 210 The madding Wheeles Of brazen Chariots rag'd. **1697** Dryden *Æneid* VII. 539 She .. mixing with the throng Of madding matrons, bears the bride along. **1714** Addison *To Princess of Wales, with Cato* 38 Bid impious discord cease, And sooth the madding factions into peace. **1749** Gray *Elegy* 73 Far from the madding crowd's ignoble strife. [Cf. quot. 1614 above.] **1802** *Eng. Encycl.* VIII. 308/1 These [words] are poetical, but were never in common use..shook (shaken), madding [etc.]. **1822** Wordsw. *Eccl. Sonn.* II. xx. *Monastic Voluptt.*, High conceits to madding Fancy dear.

2. That makes mad; maddening.

c 1600 Shaks. *Sonn.* cxix, How haue mine eyes out of their Spheares bene fitted In the distraction of this madding feuer. **1644** Maxwell *Prerog. Chr. Kings* 67 Superstition is a mad and madding thing. **1650** Baxter *Saints' R.* IV. vi. § 7 (1651) 154 Are these such sadding and madding thoughts? **1871** R. Ellis tr. *Catullus* lxiv. 94 O thou cruel of heart, thou madding worker of anguish.

Hence † **Ma·ddingly** *adv.*

a **1625** Fletcher *Women Pleased* IV. i, Your poor neighbours Run maddingly affrighted through the Villages.

Maddish (mæ·diʃ), *a.* [f. Mad *a.* + -ish[1].] † **a.** Having the manner or ideas of a madman; like a madman in behaviour; appropriate to or befitting a madman (*obs.*). **b.** Somewhat mad.

1573 Tusser *Husb.* etc. (1580) 83 What with voluptuousnes, and other maddish toies. *c* **1638** Strafford in Browning *Life* (1891) 208 'Hypochondriack humours'..is to be civilly and silently maddish. **1642** Bp. Morton *Presentm. Schismatic* 6, I have reserved for the last place a Character ..called by Austen maddish obstinacy. **1655** M. Casaubon *Enthus.* iii. (1656) 109 Some..became (in a degree) maddish of the stage, and were perpetually acting some part of a Tragedy. **1740** tr. *De Monky's Fort. Country-Maid* (1741) II. 141 Do you know I am a little maddish. **1778** *Learning at a Loss* II. 161 A maddish looking Gentleman. **1815** Lamb *Let. to Wordsw.* in *Final Mem.* vi. 244 Excuse this maddish letter. **1829** Scott *Jrnl.* 20 Apr., [The] wit .. of Lord Erskine was moody and maddish.

Maddle (mæ·d'l), *v. Obs.* exc. *dial.* [f. Mad *a.*: see -le 3.] **a.** *intr.* To be or become crazy; to be confused in mind; to be dotingly fond *of*. **b.** *trans.* To craze; to confuse in mind, bewilder.

c 1540 tr. *Pol. Verg. Eng. Hist.* (Camden No. 29) 205 He was becoome feble by reason of sore and dayly siknes and began to maddle. **1570** Levins *Manip.* 8/18 To Maddle, *delirare*, *dissipere*. *Ibid.* 126/40 To Maddil, *delirare*. **1691** Ray *N. C. Words* 47 To *Maddle*; to be fond. She *maddles* of this Fellow, she is fond of him. **1829** J. Hunter *Hallamsh. Gloss.*, *Maddle*, to cause distraction of thought, confusion of mind, as by long continued and loud talking. *Ibid.* App., *Maddled*, puzzled. **1850** *Tales of Kirkbeck* Ser. II. 79 I'm afraid she's quite maddled. **1855** Robinson *Whitby Gloss.*, To *Maddle*, to be fond of to the extent of losing one's wits. **1864** T. Clarke in *Kendal Mercury* 30 Jan., A wes faer maddl't amang em.

† **Maddock** (mæ·dək). *Obs.* Also 3 **maðek.** See also Mawk. [Early ME. *maðek*, a. (or corresponding to) ON. *maðk-r* (Da. *madike*, Sw. *mask*), MLG. *medeke*, dim. (with *-k-* suffix: see -ock) of the word which appears in OE. as *maðu*, *maða*: see Mathe. There may have been an OE. **maðuc.*]

1. a. An earthworm. **b.** A maggot.

a **1240** *Sawles Warde* in *Cott. Hom.* 251 As meaðen [*MS. Titus* maðekes] in forrotet flesch. *c* **1400** *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 44 Maddockis—þat ben wormes of þe erþe. **14..** *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 594/3 *Lumbricus*, a maddock. *c* **1450** *ME. Med. Bk.* (Heinrich) 210 Item Euytes eyron & maddolkes, & openes, & wasche hem clene. *c* **1450** *Alphita* (Anecd. Oxon.) 87/30 Uermes siue lumbrici terreni. .. Angl. angeltwychches uel maddokkes. **1684** G. Meriton *Praise Yorks. Ale*, etc. Clavis, Mawks are Maddocks.

2. *north. dial.* A whim (Grose 1790). Cf. Maggot.

Ma·d-do·ctor. [f. Mad *a.* used subst.] A physician who treats mental diseases; an alienist.

1703 Farquhar *Inconstant* IV. iv, No mad-doctor in Christendom could have done it more effectually. **1818** Cobbett *Pol. Reg.* XXXIII. 363 His father was a mad-doctor. **1881** W. S. Gilbert *Foggerty's Fairy* III, Clear-headed, logical men of sense, these mad-doctors.

† **Ma·ddy,** *a. Obs.* [f. Mad *a.* + -y.] Somewhat mad.

1719 D'Urfey *Pills* II. 159 They must be .. drunk or maddy.

Made (mēd), *ppl. a.* [pa. pple. of Make *v.*[1]]

I. Produced or obtained by 'making' as distinguished from other modes of origin or acquisition.

1. Artificially constructed or produced, artificial as opposed to 'natural'. So *made earth*, *ground*;

solid ground that has been 'made' by filling up a marsh, embanking a river, etc.

a 1578 LINDESAŸ (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S. T. S.) II. 301 It was conclwdit that na salt nor wictuallis nor na maid wark sould be convoyit of the realme. 1590 SPENSER *Muiopotmos* 166 Arte .. doth aspire T'excell the naturall, with made delights. 1596–7 S. FINCHE in Ducarel *Hist. Croydon* App. (1783) 153 Findinge that grounde made and false, digged the trenche alonge the door. 1643 TWYNE in *Wood's Life* (O. H. S.) I. 96 The earth allso beinge found to be made ground all there abouts. 1687 B. RANDOLPH *Archipelago* 65 Where formerly was a made-way in the sea for people to pass over. 1691 T. H[ALE] *Acc. New Invent.* p. lxxi, It was all such as we call made Earth, and had been gain'd out of the Thames. 1699 R. L'ESTRANGE *Erasm. Colloq.* (1711) 76 How comes it that all your made-Hedges are green too? 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* II. xii. (1840) 252 This canal is a navigable made stream. 1878 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* xvii. 277 The successive beds of made ground. 1884 T. BROWN *Ann. Disruption* iv. (1890) 37 There was not a made road in the parish. 1895 *Outing* (U. S.) XXVI. 16/2 They were most of them gentlemen—I mean gentlemen born. 'And you', said Miss Harriman pleasantly, 'are a gentleman made'. 1897 MRS. LYNN LINTON *Geo. Eliot* in *Women Novelists* 114 Her whole life and being were moulded to an artificial pose, and the 'made' woman could not possibly be the spontaneous artist. 1902 A. E. W. MASON *Four Feathers* xii. 112 The hedged fields and made roads.

b. Of a story: Invented, fictitious. Of a word: Invented, 'coined'. Of an errand: Invented for a pretext. ? *Obs.* (Cf. *made-up.*)

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) II. 195 Hit is no made tale, but hit is sooþ as þe lettre is i-write. 1607 NORDEN *Surv. Dial.* II. 41 The word [mannor] is used among our Lawyers, as many other made words are, which haue bin termes raised by our Lawes, & are not elsewhere in use. 1629 *Orkney Witch Trial* in *County Folk-Lore* III. (1903) 78 Christane Reid in Clett cam in ane maid errand. 1655 *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) II. 273 These are but made stories to delude fooles. 1687 MIEGE *Gt. Fr. Dict.* II. s.v., A made Word, *Un Mot factice, imaginé, ou fait à plaisir.* 1843 J. H. NEWMAN *Miracles* 124 It reads like a made story.

c. Brought about by contrivance.

1594 LYLY *Mother Bombie* I. iii. 49 (Bond) She forsooth will choose her own husband; made marriages proue mad marriages. 1802–12 BENTHAM *Ration. Judic. Evid.* Wks. 1843 VII. 306 Made offices are partly the effects, partly the causes, of made business. Create useless work, you create the necessity of useless hands for the performance of it.

2. Formed by composition. In certain specific applications. **a.** Cookery. *Made dish*: a dish composed of several ingredients; so † *made meat. Made gravy*: a 'gravy' artificially compounded, as opposed to one consisting only of the juices exuding from meat in cooking.

1598 *Epulario* D j b, To make a kind of made meat in flesh time. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* I. ii. II. i. 96 An infinite number of compound artificiall made dishes. 1622 MABBE tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* I. 106 What made dishes; what hot, what cold, what boyld, what rost? 1632 B. JONSON *Magn. Lady* I. (1640) 17 A farragoe, Or a made dish in Court. 1747 MRS. GLASSE *Cookery* ii. 13 Force-Meat Balls are a great Addition to all Made-Dishes. 1796 *Ibid.* viii. 142 You may use made-gravy, if you have not time to use the bones. 1852 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* xlix, The made-gravy acquiring no flavor, and turning out of a flaxen complexion. 1858 MAYHEW *Upper Rhine* ii. § 1 (1860) 48 The subtle nicety of a French made-dish.

b. Naut. *Made mast*: one composed of several pieces of timber. *Made block*: a pulley-block composed of several parts joined together. *Made eye*: 'synonymous with flemish eye' (Adm. Smyth).

1627 Capt. SMITH *Seaman's Gram.* iii. 15 If it be a made Mast, that is greater than one Tree. 1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* I. 1 Masts..made of several trees joined together [are called] *made-masts. Ibid.* 153 Very large..blocks are formed of separate pieces,..when thus made, they are termed *made-blocks.* 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk., Made Masts*, the large masts made in several pieces. A ship's lower mast is a made spar. .. *Made block* is one having its sbell composed of different pieces.

3. Said occas. of articles of domestic or local manufacture, in contradistinction to those obtained from a distance. *Made wines*: a term applied to the so-called 'British wines' (as currant, ginger, gooseberry, etc. wine).

1750 T. SHORT (*title*) Discourses on Tea, Sugar, Milk, Made Wines, Spirits, Punch, Tobacco, &c. 1805 PIKE *Sources Missis.* (1810) 7 Gave them one quart of *made* whiskey, a few biscuit and some salt. 1806–7 J. BERESFORD *Miseries Hum. Life* (1826) XIX. ii. 216 Brewing at home what are curiously called 'made wines', (as if all foreign wines were self-existent!). 1884 S. DOWELL *Hist. Taxation* II. 289 The beverages termed British wines or made wines.

II. Of which the making has taken place.

4. Already framed or produced. *rare* in attributive use.

a 1635 CORBET *Poems* (1807) 121 Made lawes were uselesse growne To him, he needed but his owne.

5. That has undergone the process of manufacture. Also *occas.* prepared for use (cf. senses of MAKE *v.*). *rare.*

1428 *Burgh Recs. Edinb.* (1869) I. 3 Of the last of maid irne viij*d.* 1545 *Rates Custome Ho.* a vj, Corke made the laste, xl*s.* Corke made the barell, iij*s.* iiij*d.* 1582 *Ibid.* B iv b, Cork made for diers the last..iiij*l.* .. Cork made for shoomakers. 1795 J. AIKIN *Manchester* 239 The raw materials come from Manchester..and the made goods are sent thither. 1806 A. HUNTER *Culina* (ed. 3) 209 A tea-spoonful of made mustard.

6. Of soldiers, also of horses, hounds, etc.: Fully trained.

1673 BOYLE *Ess. Effluviums* III. iv. 28 To make a tryal whether a young Blood-hound was well instructed, (or as the Huntsmen call it, *made*) he caus'd one of his Servants ..to walk to a Country-town [etc.]. 1796 *Campaigns* 1793–4 I. i. vi. 45 None but made soldiers and serviceable horses would be employed. 1901 *Daily Chron.* 29 Apr. 6/2 In the 'made' class the best pony was Mr. Matherson's Lotus.

7. Of a person: Having his success in life assured. Chiefly in phr. *a made man.*

c 1590 MARLOWE *Faust* (1631) F 3 b, O, joyfull day, now am I a made man for euer. 1605 S. ROWLEY *When You See Me* C 3, Hele lafe, and be as merie as a magge pie, and thow't bee a mayd man by it. 1708 *Brit. Apollo* No. 38. 2/2 You are a Made Man. 1871 SMILES *Charac.* ii. (1876) 54 Teach a boy arithmetic thoroughly, and he is a made man.

b. *Golf.* (See quot.)

1897 *Encycl. Sport* I. 473 (Golf) *Made*, a player is said to be made when he is within a full shot of the green.

III. Combinations.

8. With prefixed sb., adj., or adv., forming combinations usually hyphened when used attributively, and in some instances also when used predicatively. **a.** With sb. in locative or instrumental relation, or adj., giving the general sense 'Made in a certain locality or by a certain class of agents', as in *country-, foreign-, English-, German-, London-, Swiss-made,* HOME-MADE; *God-, man-, self-, state-, tailor-made.* **b.** With adv. (or sometimes adj.) giving the sense 'made in a certain manner, having a certain quality or kind of make', as in *badly-, neatly-, well-made*; often with reference to the 'make' or 'build' of the body (= *-built*), as in *loosely-, powerfully-, stoutly-, strong(ly)-made.* Most of these combs. are treated under their first element, or in their alphabetical place as Main words.

9. In Comb. with adv. (hyphened in attributive use) corresponding to the similar combinations of MAKE *v.*, as *made-out, made-over*; made-up, † (*a*) consummate, accomplished (*obs.*); (*b*) put together; composed of parts from various sources; (*c*) artificially contrived or prepared, esp. for the purpose of deception or producing a favourable impression; (*d*) of a person's 'mind', resolved, decided.

1607 SHAKS. *Timon* v. i. 101 Know his grosse patchery.. Yet remaine assur'd That he's a made-vp Villaine. 1677 HUBBARD *Narrative* (1865) I. 82 They defended themselves under a small hastily made up Defence. 1773 GOLDSM. *Stoops to Conq.* II. (*near end*), Yes, you must allow her some beauty. *Tony.* Bandbox! She's all a made-up thing, mun. 1789 CHARLOTTE SMITH *Ethelinde* (1814) IV. 115 And as to that made-up antiquity, Mrs. Maltravers, she hates you. 1806 SURR *Winter in Lond.* (ed. 3) II. 95 Yours will be considered as a made-up character. 1820 T. CHALMERS *Congregat. Serm.* (1838) II. 14 The logical process which leads.. to the ultimate and made-out conclusion. 1859 *Eng. Cookery Bk.* 156 Chap. xiii.—Warmed-up Meats and Made-up Dishes or Entrées. 1863 MRS. GASKELL *Sylvia's Lovers* xx. II. 105 In a forced made-up voice she inquired aloud [etc.]. 1871 HOWELLS *Wedd. Journ.* (1892) 246 She bought and bought of the made-up wares. 1873 L. WALLACE *Fair God* v. viii. 311 Ye..are of made-up minds. 1896 A. DOBSON *18th Cent. Vign.* Ser. III. i. 14 This made-up face was not produced by stage paint. 1900 LD. ROBERTS in *Daily News* 4 May 5/2 Hamilton speaks in high terms of the good service performed by .. a made-up regiment of Lancers.

Made, obs. form of MAID *sb.*

† **Madefacient,** *a. Obs. rare*—°. [ad. L. *madefacient-em*, pr. pple. of *madefacĕre*, to MADEFY.]

1727 BAILEY vol. II, *Madefacient*, making moist, wetting.

Madefaction (mædĭfæ·kʃən). Now *rare* or *Obs.* [a. F. *madéfaction*, ad. L. *madefactiōn-em*, n. of action f. *madefacĕre*: see MADEFY.] A wetting; the action or process of making wet or moist.

1581 E. CAMPION in *Confer.* III. (1584) U iij, If it please God to take away the substance of water, and leaue the qualitie of madefaction, what hurt were it? 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 865 To all Madefaction there is required an Imbibition. 1657 TOMLINSON *Renon's Disp.* 121 Such parts .. are hurt with fluent madefactions.

humorously pedantic. 1859 THACKERAY *Virgin.* lxxvii, Aunt Lambert (who was indulging in that madefaction of pocket-handkerchiefs which I have before described).

† **Ma·defy,** *v. Obs.* Also madify (e, -ie. [a. F. *madéfier*, ad. L. *madefacĕre*, f. *madēre* to be wet: see -FY.] *trans.* To make wet; to moisten.

c 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* IV. 145 Her seed yf me reclyne In baume..other in masticyne, Or madifie it so in oil lauryne. 1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 18 b/2 A sponge which is madefied and wetted in wyne. 1599 — tr. *Gabelhouer's Bk. Physicke* 2/2 Madefye it with Rosewater. 1618 T. ADAMS *Rage Oppression* Wks. (1629) 609 The Bonners .. rode ouer the faces of Gods Saints, and madefied the earth with their bloods. 1671 J. WEBSTER *Metallogr.* xvi. 235 Being madefied, it doth most easily contract a rust.

Hence † **Madefica·tion** [see -FICATION], 'a moistening or wetting' (1727 Bailey vol. II, spelt *madification*); **Ma·defied, Ma·defying** *ppl. adjs.*

1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 31 b/1 With wett and madefyed cloutes. 1599 — tr. *Gabelhouer's Bk. Physicke* 84/1 Dipp therin a madefyed finger. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* VI. xii. 334 Any kinde of vaporous or madefying excretion.

Madeira[1] (mădī·ra). Also 6–8 **Madera.** [a. Pg. *Madeira*; the island was so called because formerly thickly wooded (Pg. *madeira* = Sp. *madera* wood, timber;—L. *māteria*: see MATTER *sb.*).]

1. (With capital M.) The name of an island situated in the Atlantic Ocean, about 400 miles from the N. W. coast of Africa. Used *attrib.* in the designations of various things produced in or connected with the island, as *Madeira lace, laurel, orchis, pear, tea, work* (see quots.); **Madeira chair,** a kind of wicker or cane chair; **Madeira mahogany,** Canary wood, the wood of *Persea* (formerly *Laurus*) *indica*; **Madeira nut** *U. S.* [perh. belongs to 2 c], the common European walnut, esp. the 'Titmouse' or thin-shelled variety (*Juglans regia tenera*); **Madeira wine** = sense 2; **Madeira wood** (see quot.; cf. MADEIRA[2]).

1889 RIDER HAGGARD *K. Solomon's Mines* 16 Sir Henry was sitting opposite to me in a *Madeira chair. 1882 CAULFEILD & SAWARD *Dict. Needlework*, *Madeira lace.* The lace made by the natives of Madeira is not a native production. .. The laces made are Maltese, Torchon, and a coarse description of Mechlin. 1796 NEMNICH *Polygl. Lex. Nat. Hist.* v. 820 *Madeira laurel, *Laurus foetens. Ibid.* 955 *Madeira mahogany, *Laurus indica.* 1829 LOUDON *Encycl. Plants* 334 *Laurus indica*..The wood..is called *Vigniatico* in the island of Madeira, and is probably what is imported into England under the name of Madeira mahogany. 1866 *Treas. Bot.*, Mahogany, Madeira, *Persea indica.* 1845–50 MRS. LINCOLN *Lect. Bot.* App. 116 *Juglans regia* (*madeira nut). 1882 *Garden* 11 Feb. 89/2 The *Madeira Orchis (*O. foliosa*) is remarkable .. for the readiness with which it doubles its bulb. 1664 EVELYN *Kal. Hort.* June (1679) 18 Pears, The Maudlin (first ripe), *Madera, Green-Royal [etc.]. 1892 WALSH *Tea* 33 Regular shipments of '*Madeira tea' are now being made to the London market. 1687 CONGREVE *Old Bach.* IV. ix, Why this same *Madera-wine has made me as light as a grasshopper. 1705 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4131/4, 69 Pipes and 9 Hogsheads of White Madera Wines, 13 Hogsheads of Red Ditto. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XIV. 262/1 The importation of Madeira wine into England in 1833 was 301,057 gallons. 1796 NEMNICH *Polygl. Lex. Nat. Hist.* v. 820 *Madeira wood, *Cedrela odorata.* 1882 CAULFEILD & SAWARD *Dict. Needlework*, *Madeira work.* This is white Embroidery upon fine linen, or cambric..made by the nuns in Madeira.

2. (Also *Madeira wine*: see 1.) A white wine produced in the island of Madeira.

It is of a deep amber tint, full body, and some sweetness, resembling a well-matured full-bodied brown sherry.

1596 SHAKS. *1 Hen. IV* I. ii. 128 A Cup of Madera, and a cold Capons legge. 1612 *Sc. Bk. of Rates* in *Halyburton's Ledger* (1867) 335 Sackes Canareis Malagas Maderais .. Teynts and Allacants. 1708 S. SEWALL *Diary* 12 Apr., We drank a Bottle of Madera together. 1787 M. CUTLER in *Life*, etc. (1888) I. 235 You cannot please him more than by praising his Madeira. 1823 BYRON *Juan* XIII. v, But then they have their claret and Madeira. 1861 DUTTON COOK *P. Foster's D.* viii, I think I could eat a chop..and a glass of Madeira.

b. with various qualifying prefixes.

East Indian madeira was madeira which had been sent on a sea voyage to the East Indies, to improve its quality.

1723 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 6173/3 There will be no other Malmsey Madera Wine landed this Year. 31 Pipes .. of..White Vidonia Madera Wine. 1819 SHELLEY *Peter Bell the Third* IV. xviii. 5 Venison, .. And best East Indian madeira.

c. *Comb.*, as *madeira glass; madeira-drinking* adj.; **madeira cake,** a kind of sponge-cake.

1800 *Asiat. Ann. Reg., Chron.* 123/2 A tea spoonful of the alkali in a Madeira glass half filled with water. 1845 MISS ACTON *Mod. Cookery* 515 A good Madeira Cake. 1902 *Munsey's Mag.* XXVI. 522/1 The interruptions..from the Madeira-drinking men of letters overhead.

Madeira[2] (mădī·rā). In 7–8 madera. [a. Sp. *madera* wood (= Pg. *madeira*: see prec.). The usual spelling is due to assimilation to MADEIRA[1].] A West Indian name for Mahogany (*Swietenia Mahagoni*). Also *madeira wood.*

1663 GERBIER *Counsel* 108 Precious Woods are to be had ..in the West-Indies, some..hard as Márble; besides rare Madera, and other variously figured. 1736 MORTIMER in *Phil. Trans.* XXXIX. 254 It is next in Beauty to what is here called Madera, which is the Mahogany of Jamaica. 1829 LOUDON *Encycl. Plants* 352 The trees on the Bahama islands .. are known in Europe as Madeira wood.

‖ **Mademoiselle** (mædəmwazɛ̆l; often anglicized mædəmŏze·l). Also 7–8 **madamoiselle,** (7 **-ella**). [Fr.; orig. two words *ma* my (fem.), *demoiselle* (see DAMSEL).]

1. The title (prefixed to the surname or the Christian name, or used *absol.* as a substitute for the name) applied to an unmarried Frenchwoman. In English use very often applied to unmarried women of foreign nationality other than French, instead of using the eqnivalent prefix (e.g.) in Dutch or Swedish, or substituting the English 'Miss'. Often used *absol.* as the designation of a French governess or the French teacher in a girls' school. Abbreviated *Mlle.*, in English often incorrectly *Mdlle.* Plural, **mesdemoiselles** (medəmwazɛ̆l), abbreviated *Mlles.*

In early Fr. use, the prefix *mademoiselle* was applied also to married women whose husbands were below the rank of knighthood.

1696 PHILLIPS (ed. 5), *Mademoiselle*, a Title of Honour given to the Daughters and Wives of born Gentlemen; much us'd in France. *a* 1734 NORTH *Exam.* III. vi. § 76 (1740) 479 The beautiful Mademoiselle Carwell, afterwards Duchess of Portsmouth. 1753 SMOLLETT *Ct. Fathom* ix. Wks. 1872 V. 47 She [the maid] took the first opportunity of going to mademoiselle, and demanding money for some necessary expense. 1794 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Myst. Udolpho* vii, Our cottage may be envied, sir, since you and Mademoiselle have honoured it with your presence. 1840 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg.*,

Spectre of Tappington, Mademoiselle boxed Mr. Maguire's ears, and Mr. Maguire pulled Mademoiselle upon his knee. 1850 JULIA KAVANAGH *Nathalie* ix. 213 Mademoiselle Dantin coughed, by way of opening the conversation. 1880 *Theatre* Feb. 118 Mademoiselle Lido sang well and tunefully as Irene. 1888 MAPLESON *Mem.* (ed. 2) I. 306 The duty, therefore, of singing fell to Mdlle. Dotti.

2. *French Hist.* The title (used as a substitute for the name) of the eldest daughter of 'Monsieur', the eldest brother of the king. Subsequently applied to the eldest daughter of the king, or, if he had no daughter, to the first princess of the blood, so long as she remained unmarried.

1679 *Marriage Chas. II* 3 It was .. time for her to bring Madamoiselle to him. 1768 *Ann. Reg.* 192/2 His Danish majesty handed mademoiselle to her place. 1783 *Ibid.* 240 Deaths. .. At Versailles, mademoiselle of France, aged five years, only daughter of the French king.

3. *occas.* A person usually referred to as 'mademoiselle', an unmarried Frenchwoman; *spec.* † a (foreign) serving-maid (*obs.*); a French governess.

Occas. in forms representing uneducated pronunciation.

1642 MILTON *Apol. Smect.* Wks. 1851 III. 268 Prostituting the shame of that ministery.. to the eyes of Courtiers and Court-Ladies, with their Groomes and Madamoiselles. 1765 BICKERSTAFFE *Maid of Mill* I. i. 2 She sits there all day .. dressed like a fine madumasel. 1833 M. SCOTT *Tom Cringle* xvi. (1842) 439 'De tout mon cœur', said a buxom brown dame, about eighteen stone. .. The extensive mademoiselle, suiting the action to the word, started up [etc.]. 1861 MRS. H. WOOD *East Lynne* III. iii, When I heard that Mrs. Carlyle had engaged a madmoselle for these children.

transf. 1712 BUDGELL *Spect.* No. 277 ¶ 2 This Wooden *Madamoiselle* [a dressmaker's lay-figure].

4. *U. S.* A sea fish (see quot.).

1882 JORDAN & GILBERT *Syn. Fishes N. Amer.* 570 (*Bull. U. S. Nat. Mus.* No. 16) *Sciæna punctata* .. Silver Perch; Yellow-tail; Mademoiselle.

Maden, obs. and dial. f. MAIDEN *sb.*

† **Madent.** *Obs. rare*—°. [ad. L. *madent-em*, pres. pple. of *madēre*, to be wet.] Wet, moist (Bailey vol. II, 1727).

Madeus, variant of MAIDEUX *Obs.*

† **Ma·dful,** *a. Obs. rare*—¹. [f. MAD *a.* + -FUL.] Mad.

14.. *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* 245 A madful mone may men make Quan þat suete Ihesu was take!

Madge [1] (mædʒ). [app. identical with *Madge*, pet-name for *Margaret.*]

1. The Barn-Owl, *Aluco flammeus.* Also *madge-howlet, -owl, -owlet.*

1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. v. 767 Thou lasie Madge That, fearing light, still seekest where to hide. 1598 B. JONSON *Ev. Man in Hum.* II. i, Ile sit in a barne, with Madge-howlet, and catch mice first. 1603 HARSNET *Pop. Impost.* 108 This must needes make the poore Madge Owlets cry out. 1606 DAY *Ile of Guls* II. iv. (1881) 54 The black swan of beauty and madg-howlet of admiration. 1635 SWAN *Spec. M.* (1670) 359 Ulula .. which we call the Howlet, or the Madge. 1637 B. JONSON *Sad Sheph.* II. i, Thou shoul'dst ha' given her a Madge-Owle. 1694 MOTTEUX *Rabelais* V. ix, Under his Cage he perceived a Madge howlet. 1823 LAMB *Lett.* xii. *To B. Barton* 119 A silent meeting of madge-owlets. 1848 *Zoologist* VI. 2191 The barn owl .. in Warwickshire.. is generally called a 'madge' or 'madge owlet'.

2. The Common Magpie, *Pica caudata.*

1823 MOOR *Suffolk Words, Madge, Mag, Meg*, a magpie. 1828 J. FLEMING *Hist. Brit. Anim.* 87 *P. caudata.* Common Magpie. .. *E.* Pianet, Madge. 1894 NEWTON *Dict. Birds* 720 *note*, 'Magot' and 'Madge', are names frequently given in England to the Pie.

Madge [2] (mædʒ). A leaden hammer covered thickly with stout woollen cloth, used in hard solder plating.

1870 *Eng. Mech.* 25 Feb. 573/1 A leaden hammer, clothed with kersey or woollen cloth, called a madge.

† **Ma·dhead** [1]. *Obs.* [See -HEAD.] Madness.

c 1375 *Cursor M.* 22865 (Fairf.) Þat to wene is bot madhede [*older texts* sothede]. *a* 1450 MYRC 1657 Lest þow do o3t on madhede.

† **Ma·dhead** [2]. *Obs.* [f. MAD *a.* + HEAD *sb.*] A mad person. Also *appos.* or *attrib.*

1600 BRETON *Pasquils Fooles-cap* (Grosart) 22/1 Such Madhead fellowes are but Fooles indeede. 1602 — *Merry Wonders* To Rdr., Hoping that some mad-head in the world might have as much leysure to read as I haue had [to] write.

Mad-headed, *a.* [f. MAD *a.* + HEADED *a.*] = MAD-BRAINED.

1567 R. EDWARDS *Damon & Pithias* (1571) E iv, For well I knewe it was some madheded chylde That inuented this name. 1596 SHAKS. *1 Hen. IV*, II. iii. 80. 1599 BRETON *Praise Vertuous Ladies* (Grosart) 56 For a few mad-headed wenches, they seek to bring..almost all women in contempt. 1793 SOUTHEY *Lett.* (1856) I. 20 Nor does it become a young mad-headed enthusiast to judge. 1809–10 COLERIDGE *Friend* (1865) 216 The inflammatory harangues of some mad-headed enthusiast. 1897 HENTY *On the Irrawaddy* 37 It seems to me a mad-headed thing to begin at the present time.

Madhouse (mædhaus). Now *rhetorical* or *derisive.* [f. MAD *a.* (used *subst.*) + HOUSE *sb.*] A house set apart for the reception and detention of the insane; a lunatic asylum.

1687 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) I. 407 He was severely reprimanded, and told he was fitter for a mad house. 1695 *Par. Reg., S. James, Clerkenwell* (Harl. Soc. V. 171) Burials. .. Ann Pallmer, widow, from Dr. Newton's Mad house. 1774 *Act* 14 *Geo. III*, c. 49 (title), An Act for regulating Madhouses. 1828 CARLYLE *Misc.* (1857) I. 234 Tasso pines in the cell of a madhouse. 1833 MARRYAT *P. Simple* lxiv, I was a prisoner in a madhouse. 1901 *Scotsman* 29 Nov. 5/4 The American Eagle screams like a madhouse.

‖ **Madia** (mē·diă). [a. mod.L. *madia*, a. Chilian *madi.*] The plant *Madia sativa*, a coarse, hairy, erect annual, allied to the Sunflowers. It is a native of Chili, and is cultivated for its seeds, which yield a valuable oil, and are made into cake for cattle. Also *attrib.* in *madia oil.*

[1809 (Italian original 1787) tr. *Molina's Hist. Chili* I. iii. 111 The madi (madia. gen. nov.). Of this plant there are two kinds, the one wild, the other cultivated. The cultivated, which I have called *madia sativa*, has a branching hairy stalk.] 1839 *Gardener's Mag.* XV. 143, 100 parts of the Madia oil consist of 45 parts of oleine [etc.]. 1846 LINDLEY *Veget. Kingd.* 707 Madia oil, expressed without heat, is described as transparent, yellow, scentless. 1855 STEPHENS *Bk. of the Farm* (ed. 2) II. 106 The madia is in the same botanical position as the sunflower.

Madid (mæ·did), *a.* Now *rare.* Also 7 **maddid.** [ad. L. *madid-us*, f. *madēre* to be wet.] Wet, moist.

1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* 425 Auicen..saith they [*sc.* the lungs] are not soft but maddid. 1627–77 FELTHAM *Resolves* I. lxii. 95 The madid South, sorrowful, and full of tears. 1657 TOMLINSON *Renou's Disp.* 146 No where save in wine cellars or such madid places. 1720 WELTON *Suffer. Son of God* I. v. 98 The very Ground..is madid and Bedew'd with Drops that distil from thine Eyes. 1762 FALCONER *Shipwr.* I. 356 Full from the madid south the winds arise. 1844 DISRAELI *Coningsby* I. iii, His large deep blue eye, madid and yet piercing. 1881 J. E. H. THOMSON *Upland Tarn* I. 92 The evening with its madid mantle grey Had shrouded all the sky.

† **Ma·didate,** *v. Obs.*—° [f. late L. *madidāt-*, ppl. stem of *madidāre*, f. *madid-us* moist.] *trans.* 'To wet or moisten' (Blount *Glossogr.* 1656).

† **Ma·didity.** *Obs.*—° [f. MADID + -ITY.] 'Moisture or fulness of moisture' (Blount *Glossogr.* 1656).

† **Ma·didness.** *Obs.*—° [f. MADID + -NESS.] 'Moistness, wetness'. 1731 BAILEY vol. II.

Madifie, -fy(e, variant forms of MADEFY *Obs.*

Madin, obs. form of MEDINE.

Madin(e, **madinne,** obs. forms of MAIDEN.

Madinhad, -heid, variants of MAIDENHEAD.

Madjoon, -oun, variant forms of MAJOON.

Madle, obs. variant of MALE *a.*

Madlie, variant of MAIDLY *a. Obs.*

Madling (mæ·dliŋ), *sb.*[1] [f. MAD *a.* + -LING [1].] A mad creature; one who acts wildly or foolishly.

c 1648–50 BRATHWAIT *Barnabees Jrnl.* I. (1818) 19 There another wanton madling Who her hog was set a sadling. 1841 *Lect.* in R. Oastler *Fleet Papers* I. viii. 58 Poor madlings! they are killing the goose, to get at the golden eggs. 1847 E. BRONTE *Wuthering Heights* xiii. 120 Gooid-for-nowt madling!.. flinging t' precious gifts uh God under foot i' yer flaysome rages.

† **Ma·dling,** *sb.*[2] [? Corruption of F. *Madeleine* a kind of small cake.] *attrib.* in *madling cake.*

1747 MRS. GLASSE *Cookery* xv. 141 Madling Cakes.

† **Ma·dling,** *a. Obs.* [? attrib. use of MADLING *sb.*[1] or *adv.*; ? or = *maddling* f. MADDLE *v.*] Mad.

1608 T. MORTON *Preamb. Encounter* 126 Why doe I trouble my selfe with these my Aduersaries madling conceits?

† **Ma·dling,** *adv. Obs.* [? f. MAD *a.* + -LING [2]; cf. *darkling.*] = MADLY.

1584 HUDSON *Du Bartas' Judith* VI. (1608) 93 Some madling runnes, some trembles in a traunce.

Madly (mæ·dli), *a. rare*—[1]. [f. MAD *a.* + -LY [1].] Characteristic of a mad person.

1816 BYRON *Parisina* xviii, It was a woman's shriek and ne'er In madlier accents rose despair.

Madly (mæ·dli), *adv.* [f. MAD *a.* + -LY [2].] In a mad, insane or foolish manner.

a 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 2083 Hwi motestu se medliche? *c* 1375 *Cursor M.* 14608 (Fairf.) Als witles men madli þai lete. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilzear* 22 Amang thay myrk Montanis sa madlie thay mer. 1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* lxxiv. 4, I sayde vnto the madde people: deale not so madly. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* II. i. 171 The iuyce of it, on sleeping eye-lids laid, Will make or man or woman madly dote. 1606 — *Tr. & Cr.* II. ii. 116 Or is your bloud So madly hot, that [etc.]? 1654 *Martini's Conq. China* 9 The men, though madly, use it [horse-hair] in tying up their hair. *a* 1717 PARNELL *Elegy Old Beauty* 33 And all that's madly wild, or oddly gay, We call it only pretty Fanny's way. 1778 MME. D'ARBLAY *Let.* 6 July, Half the flattery I have had would have made me madly merry. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* ix. II. 463 The help of that single power he had madly rejected. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* iii. § 5. 139 The young King drew his sword, and rushed madly on the Justiciary.

b. *Comb.*, as *madly-used, -wrested* adjs.

1601 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* v. i. 319 The madly us'd Maluolio. 1656 EARL MONM. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* I. xxviii. (1674) 30 The madly-wrested Reason of State which was now practised by many.

Madman (mæ·dmăn). [Originally two words: see MAD *a.* and MAN *sb.*] One who is insane; a lunatic. Also *transf.* and *hyperbolically*, one who behaves like a lunatic, a wildly foolish person.

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. IX. 69 Faderelees children; And wydwes, .. Madde men, and maydenes, þat helplees were. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilzear* 441, I am bot ane mad man. ? *a* 1500 *Chester Pl.* (Shaks. Soc.) II. 168 Madmen, maddmen, leeve on me, That am on god, so is not he. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* xxiii. 68 He wyll come after vs lyke a madd man. 1601 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* I. v. 115 Feteh him off I pray you, he speakes nothing but madman. 1611 BIBLE 1 *Sam.* xxi. 15 Haue I need of mad-men, that ye haue brought this fellow to play the mad-man in my presence? 1648 BOYLE *Seraph. Love* xiv. (1700) 84 The wicked's spite against God is but like a madman's running his head against the wall. 1674 MARVELL *Corr.* Wks. 1872–5 II. 424 Carleton the B[ishop] of Bristol hath played the madman in that City. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* I. 547 This hospital is the general receptacle of lunatics and madmen. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* II. xxxiv, Madmen, forbear your frantic jar! 1843 BETHUNE *Sc. Fireside Stor.* 75, I have been a madman and a fool. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 16 May 5/1 Policemen who find a half-naked madman howling at midnight.

† **Madme.** *Obs.* Forms: 1 **mǽð**(**ð**)**um, mǽðm, mádm,** 3 *pl.* **maðmes, madmes,** *Orm.* **maddmess.** [OE. *mǽðm* masc. corresponds to OS. *mēðmos* pl. gifts, MHG. *meidem*, ON. *meiðmar* pl., gifts, presents, Goth. *maiþm-s* gift (δῶρον):—O.Teut. **maiþmo-z*:—pre-Teut. type **moitmo-s* f. **moit-* to exchange (as in L. *mūtāre*:—**moitāre*).] A precious thing, treasure, valuable gift.

a 1000 *Boeth. Metr.* xxi. 20 Gylden maðm, sylofren sincstan..modes eaȝan æfre ne onlyhtað. *a* 1000 *Gnomic verses* (*Exeter Bk.*) 155 Maþþum oþres weorð, gold mon sceal ȝifan. *c* 1200 ORMIN 6471 & illc an king oppnede þær Hiss hord off hise maddmess. *c* 1205 LAY. 896 ȝeue us þe king & al his gold, & þa maðmes of his lond. *a* 1250 *Prov. Ælfred* 384 in *O. E. Misc.* 126 Vyches cunnes madmes to mixe schulen i-Multen.

† **Ma·dnep.** *Obs.* Also **-nip.** [f. MAD *a.* (cf. quot. 1686) + *nep, nip*, NEEP.] The Cow Parsnip, *Heracleum Sphondylium.*

1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. ccclxxvii. 856 Spondylium .. is called .. in English Cow Parsnep, meddowe Parsnep, and Madnepe. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 181 Spondylium, a kind of wild Parsnep or Madnep. 1652 CULPEPPER *Eng. Physic.* 161 The seed of the wilde Parsnipe being ripe about the beginning of August, and if they do flower for seed in the first year of sowing the Countrey people call them 'Madneps'. 1686 RAY *Hist. Plant.* I. 410 Nostrates asserunt Pastinacas ipsas vetustiores & annosas delirium..induecre, unde eas Madneps..vocant. 1712 tr. *Pomet's Hist. Drugs* I. 30 The Peasants call it the Mad Nip.

Madness (mædnés). [f. MAD *a.* + -NESS.] The quality or condition of being mad.

1. Mental disease, insanity; now applied *esp.* to insanity characterized by wild excitement or extravagant delusions; mania. Also (in animals) rabies.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* VII. vi. (1495) 226 And thise passions ben dyuers madnesse that hyghte Inania [*read* Mania] & madnesse that hyghte Malencolonia [*sic*]. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 319/2 Maddenesse, *amencia, demencia.* 1538 ELYOT *Dict., Rabies*, Madnesse of a dogge. 1567 MAPLET *Gr. Forest* 46 Henbane, hath the name to be a cause of madnesse or furie. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* III. iv. 187 Let him.. Make you to ruuell all this matter out, That I essentially am not in madnesse But made in craft. 1611 BIBLE *Zech.* xii. 4, I will smite euery horse with astonishment, and his rider with madnesse. 1687 MAYERN in *Phil. Trans.* XVI. 408 Doggs are Subject to these several sorts of Madness or rather diseases. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* s.v. *Mania*, Madness arising from immaterial causes is much more difficult to cure. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* iv. I. 524 This delusion becomes almost a madness when many exiles..herd together. 1879 LINDSAY *Mind in Lower Anim.* I. 16 Madness in lower animals may mean any one of several very different affections, including especially insanity and rabies.

2. Imprudence or delusion resembling insanity; extravagant folly.

1382 WYCLIF *Hos.* ix. 7 Yrael, wite thou thee a fool, a wood prophete, .. for the multitude of thi wickidaesse, and multitude of madnesse. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 368 What madnes were this, with his own mony .. to maintaine the force of his adversarye. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* IV. 642 What Madness cou'd provoke A Mortal Man t' invade a sleeping God? 1721 R. KEITH tr. *T. à Kempis' Solil. Soul* x. 173 Wander not forth, O my Soul, after Vanities, nor after lying Madnesses. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* v. I. 602 To advance towards London would have been madness. 1862 G. LONG *Thoughts of Antoninus* (1877) 113 To seek what is impossible is madness. 1885 J. PAYN *Talk of Town* II. 69 It would have been madness indeed to have any altercation.

3. Ungovernable anger, rage, fury.

1665 MANLEY *Grotius' Low C. Warres* 273 The baser sort of people cover'd nothing of their Madness, but shew'd their Fury in their Speeches. 1698 VANBRUGH *Prov. Wife* II. i, Now could I cry for madness, but that I know he'd laugh at me for it. 1781 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* XXX. III. 157 The madness of the people soon subsided. 1802 MRS. J. WEST *Infidel Father* III. 45 Sir Bronze absolutely stamped for madness at this intelligence.

transf. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 367 Not with more Madness, rolling from afar, The spumy Waves proclaim the watry War. 1884 W. C. SMITH *Kildrostan* 87 Then I see .. the waves Lashed into madness.

4. Extravagant excitement or enthusiasm; ecstasy.

1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* I. ii. 21 Such a hare is madness the youth, to skip ore the meshes of good counsaile the cripple. 1607 NORDEN *Surv. Dial.* I. 9 A kind of madness, as I may call it, but in the best sence it is a kind of ambitious .. emulation. 1775 JOHNSON *Tax. no Tyr.* 55 The madness of independence has spread from Colony to Colony. 1799 CAMPBELL *Pleas. Hope* I. 160 The smiling Muse..Shall ..breathe a holy madness o'er thy mind. 1820 SHELLEY *Skylark* 103 Such harmonious madness From my lips would flow. 1822 LAMB *Elia* Ser. I. *On Some Old Actors*, None.. possessed even a portion of that fine madness which he threw out in Hotspur's famous rant. 1879 SYMONDS *Shelley* 295 The Muses filled this man with sacred madness.

Madonna (mădɒ·nă). Also 7 **Maddona,** 6–9 **madona.** [a. It. *madonna*, orig. two words (*ma* OIt. unstressed form of *mia* fem., my; *donna* = F. *dame*:—L. *domina* lady) corresponding to F. *ma dame*: see MADAM.]

‖ **1. a.** As an Italian form of address or title: My lady, madam. *Obs.*

1584 R. W. *Three Ladies Lond.* I. B ij b, *Merca.* Madona, me be a Merchant and be cald senior Merkadorus. 1592 NASHE *P. Penilesse* 20 b, They drawe out a dioner with sallets,.. & make Madona Nature their best Caterer. 1601 SHAKS.

Twel. N. I. v. 72 Good Madona, why mournst thou? *a* 1626 Middleton *More Dissemblers* v. i. (1657) 67 *Crotch.* (Here they sing Prick-song) How like you this Madona? *Celia.* Pretty. 1632 Massinger *Maid of Hon.* v. ii, Gracious Maddona, Noble Generall, Brave Captaines, and my quondam rivalls, wear 'em. 1827 Macaulay *Song* Misc. Writ. (1860) II. 417 Oh stay, Madonna! stay.

†**b.** An Italian lady. *Obs.*

1602 Middleton *Blurt* II. ii. C2 b, *Hip.* Well Sir, you know..the flea-bitten fac'd Ladie. *Doit.* Oh Sir, the freckle cheeke Madona, I know her Signior, as well— *Hip.* Not as I doe, I hope Sir. *a* 1625 Fletcher *Fair Maid of Inn* III. i, A dancer .. that by teaching great Madonnas to foot it, has miraculously purchast a ribanded wastcote. 1639 Shirley *Gent. Ven.* v. ii. (1655) 64 De'e think to mount Madonas here, and not Pay for the sweet Carreere.

2. a. An Italian designation of the Virgin Mary; usually with *the*; occas. used vocatively. **b.** A picture or statue (esp. Italian) of the Virgin Mary.

1644 Evelyn *Diary* (1879) I. 122 A faire Madona of Pietro Perugino, painted on the wall. 1645 *Ibid.* I. 203 The miraculous shrine of the Madona wch Pope Paul III. brought barefooted to the place. 1717 Lady M. W. Montagu *Let. to Abbé Conti* 29 May, They shewed me .. a picture of the Virgin Mary, drawn by the hand of St. Luke, .. the finest Madonna of Italy is not more famous for her miracles. 1816 Byron *Siege Cor.* xxx, Madonna's face upon him shone, Painted in heavenly hues above. 1825–9 Mrs. Sherwood *Lady of Manor* V. xxxii. 338 A beautiful madonna in white marble which I had seen in a church in Rome. 1833 Tennyson *Mariana in South* 22 'Ave Mary' was her moan, 'Madonna, sad is night and morn'. 1849 James *Woodman* ii, A very early painting of the Madonna and Child. 1853 Froude *Eng. Forgotten Worthies* Short Stud. (ed. 2) 305 Whose pretences to religion might rank with the devotion of an Italian bandit to the Madonna. 1855 Browning *One Word More* ii, Rafael made a century of sonnets, .. Else he only used to draw Madonnas.

3. A mode of dressing a woman's hair, with the parting down the middle, and the hair arranged smoothly on each side. (Cf. 4.)

a 1839 T. H. Bayly *Songs & Ball.* I. 139 I've tried all styles of hair dressing, Madonnas, frizzes, crops.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.* (esp. with reference to pictures of the Madonna and the mode of dressing the hair), as *Madonna braid, coiffure, face, front, lid, style*; *Madonna-wise* adv.; **Madonna-braided** *a.*, (of the hair) arranged in smooth braids on each side of the face, after the manner of Italian representations of the Madonna; **Madonna lily**, the White Lily, *Lilium candidum*, often represented with the Madonna in pictures.

1829 *Souvenir* II. 317/2 (Stanf.) The hair is beautifully arranged in a *Madonna braid in front. 1849 Aytoun *Poems, Buried Flower* 83 Raven locks, *Madonna-braided O'er her sweet and blushing face. 1890 *Pall Mall G.* 26 Nov. 1/3 Her fair hair .. is simply parted in the centre, in the way which is now often playfully called the '*madonna coiffure'. 1790 Hel. M. Williams *Julia* I. i. 3 She had a *madona face. 1849 Thackeray *Pendennis* I. xvi. 143 She returned a rather elderly character with a *Madonna front and a melancholy countenance. 1863 Woolner *My Beautiful Lady* 95 O wan girl-mother with *Madonna lids Downcast. 1900 *Field* 23 June 903/3 The *Madonna lily (*Lilium candidum*). 1902 *Daily Chron.* 1 Apr. 2/1 Large branches of Madonna lilies. 1818 *La Belle Assemblée* XVII. 86 The hair is worn more in the *Madona style. 1830 Tennyson *Isabel* i, Locks not wide-dispread, *Madonna-wise on either side her head.

Hence **Mado·nnahood**, the character or quality of a Madonna. **Mado·nnaish** *a.*, like a Madonna.

1860 Ruskin *Mod. Paint.* V. IX. iv. 236 Brown gleams of gipsy Madonnahood from Murillo. 1891 *Athenæum* 24 Oct. 547/1 She is too Madonnaish in one way, too languishing and sentimental in another.

Madoqua (mædǫ·kwă). [Amharic.] A tiny antelope of Abyssinia, *Neotragus saltianus* (*N. madoqua*), of about the size of a hare.

[1681 J. Ludolf *Hist. Aethiop.* I. x. P 73 Amharice Madakua; animalia quae capris assimilabat Gregorius. Rupicaprae vel Ibices esse videntur.] 1790 Bruce *Trav. Source Nile* V. 83 Among the wild animals are prodigious numbers of the gazel or antelope kind; the bohur, sassa, feeho, and madoqua. 1885 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* III. 18.

‖ **Ma·dor.** *Med. Obs.* Also 7 madour. [L. *mador* moisture, f. *madēre*: see Madid.] Sweat.

1620 Venner *Via Recta* (1650) 296 If in sleep the body .. be sometimes in a little mador or light sweat. 1658 Phillips, *Madidity* or *Madour*, moistness or wetness. 1705 *Phil. Trans.* XXV. 2105 Without any offensive Smell, or fastidious Mador. 1856 Mayne *Expos. Lex., Mador*, ..Moisture that is superfluous or unnatural. Old term for that kind of sweat which takes place in syncope, whether warm or cold.

Mador, variant of Madar.

†**Madpash.** *Obs.* [f. Mad *a.* + Pash head.] A crack-brained person. Also *attrib.*

1611 Cotgr., *Mat*, a foole, fop, gull; mad-pash, harebrained ninnie. *a* 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. xxv, Let us leave this Madpash Bedlam, this hair-brained Fop.

Madras (mădra·s).

1. The name of a city of India and the province of which it is the capital; used *attrib.* in the names of things produced there or originally connected therewith: **Madras lace,** (net) **muslin** (see quots. 1882); **Madras stucco** = Chunam; **Madras work** (see quot.).

1864 *Chamb. Encycl.* VI. 251/1 Madras stucco, or *chunam*, is largely employed in the decoration of public buildings. 1882 Caulfeild & Saward *Dict. Needlewk., Madras Lace*, A school for lace making has lately been founded in Madras. The lace made is the black and white silk Maltese guipure. *Madras-net Muslin*, This is a handsome, but coarse make of Muslin, produced in several varieties .. They are all 72 inches wide. *Madras Work*, This is so called from its being executed upon the brightly coloured silk handkerchiefs that are known as Madras handkerchiefs. 1895 *Army & Navy Co-oper. Soc.* Price List 1105/1 Frilled Madras Muslin.

2. In full *Madras handkerchief*: A bright-coloured handkerchief of silk and cotton worn by the negroes of the West Indies as a head-dress, 'formerly exported from Madras' Yule).

1833 M. Scott *Tom Cringle* xvi. (1842) 437 The black officers, in general, covered their woolly pates with Madras handkerchiefs. 1881 Cable *Mad. Delphine*, etc. 97 Old Charlie..was sitting on his bench under a China-tree, his head, as was his fashion, bound in a Madras handkerchief. 1888 — *Bonaventure, An Large* i. 146 A black woman in ..red-and-yellow Madras turban,..crouched against the wall.

3. = *Madras-net muslin* (see 1).

1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 27 Aug. 8/1 The shirt, a fine madras, plaited *négligé* with square point narrow link cuffs.

‖ **Madrasah** (mădrǽ·sa), **medresseh** (medre·se). Also 7 mandresa, 9 madrasa, madrassah, -asseh, -asseo, -essé, medressé, *Dicts.* madressah, -issa(h. [The various forms represent Indian, Turkish, and Persian pronunciations of Arab. مدرسة *madrasah*, f. درس *darasa* to study.] A Mohammedan college.

1662 J. Davies tr. *Olearius' Voy. Ambass.* 214 We..found that it was a School or College, which they call Mandresa, of which kind there are very many all over Persia. 1819 T. Hope *Anastasius* (1820) III. xi. 271 His fortune was spent in placing me in a Medressé. 1834 Morier *Ayesha* I. xii. 269 The *medresseh*, or school, which adjoined the principal mosque. 1876 A. Arnold in *Contemp. Rev.* June 47 The Madrassee or mosque school of Ispahan. 1881 Hunter in *Encycl. Brit.* XII. 774/2 The Calcutta *madrasa* for Mahometan teaching. 1882 O'Donovan *Merv Oasis* xvi. I. 276 Within sight are three *medressés*, or collegiate institutions, for the instruction of Turcoman students for the priesthood.

†**Madrean.** *Obs.* Also 4 madryan, -am. [a. OF. *madrian* 'sorte de fruit' (Godef.).] A spice, ? a kind of ginger.

1357–8 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 124 In 4 cofynes de Anys comfeyt, madryan, et aliarum speciarum. *Ibid.* 560 In diversis speciebus .. videlicet .. anys Comfett, et Madryam, vijs. iiijd. 1390–1 *Earl Derby's Exped.* (Camden) 19 Pro ijlb. ginger madrean, ijs. iiijd. *a* 1400 in Henslow *Med. Wks. 14th C.* (1899) 122 To make conserue of madrian.

Madregal (mædrĭgæl). Also med-. [Of unknown origin.] A fish of the genus *Seriola*.

1884 G. B. Goode etc. *Nat. Hist. Aquatic Anim.* 331 *Seriola fasciata*, This fish, called in Cuba the 'Medregal' and in Bermuda the 'Bonito', has been observed in South Florida. 1896 Jordan & Evermann *Fishes N. & Mid. Amer.* 904 (*Bull. U. S. Nat. Mus.* No. 47) *Seriola fasciata* (Medregal). *Ibid.* 905 *Seriola falcata*..(Madregal: 'Rock Salmon'.)

Madre-perl. *rare*—1. [ad. It. *madreperla*, f. *madre* mother + *perla* Pearl.] Mother-of-pearl.

1878 Longf. *Kéramos* 175 Nor less Maestro Giorgio shines With madre-perl and golden lines Of arabesques.

Madreporacean (mædrĭpoərē·ĭăn). *Zool.* [f. mod.L. *Madreporacea*, f. *Madrepora*: see -acean.] A coral of the group *Madreporacea* or *Madreporaria*.

1878 *Encycl. Brit.* VI. 380/1 In the great coralliferous deposits of the Carboniferous, again, no representative of the group [*Perforata*] is known, save the single genus *Palæacis*, which appears to be a *Madreporacean*.

Madreporarian (mædrĭpoərē·rĭăn), *a.* and *sb. Zool.* [f. mod.L. *Madreporāria* (f. *Madrepora* Madrepore) + -an.]

A. *adj.* Pertaining to the group *Madreporaria* (the madrepores and related corals). **B.** *sb.* A coral of this group.

1881 *Athenæum* 6 Aug. 181/1 The true or Madreporarian corals. 1893 G. Brook (*title*), Catalogue of the Madreporarian Corals in the British Museum.

Madrepore (mædrĭpoə). [ad. mod.L. *madrepora* or F. *madrépore* (1710), ad. It. *madrepora*.

The Italian naturalist Ferrante Imperato (*Hist. Nat.*, 1599) uses *poro* as a name for 'a kind of vegetable the substance of which resembles that of coral, but differs in being porous'. He evidently regarded this word as identical with the ordinary It. *poro*, ad. L. *porus* Pore *sb.*; but perh. it really represented late L. *pōrus*, a. Gr. πῶρος calcareous stone, stalactite. Among the species of 'poro' he enumerates *millepora, frondipora*, and 'those plants by some called madrepores (here *madripore*, but elsewhere *madrepora* occurs), which are tubular growths, issuing from a common stem, and attached together at their roots, so that they resemble a honeycomb'. The word *madrepora* (which Imperato app. did not invent) seems to be f. *madre* mother + *poro*, the ending of the latter being changed to suit the gender of the sb. prefixed in apposition; on this view, the other words, *millepora, frondipora*, etc., must have been formed later in imitation of *madrepora*. A comparison of Imperato's woodcut of the 'madrepores' with those of the other species of *poro* seems to suggest that the prefix 'mother' may refer to the appearance of prolific growth characteristic of this 'plant'.]

1. Formerly applied loosely to most or all of the perforate corals (which, however, were not originally classed as corals); now usually in more restricted use, a polypidom of the genus *Madrepora* (or family *Madreporidæ*).

1752 Stack (tr. from French) in *Phil. Trans.* XLVII. 449 The several species of vermicular tubes found in the sea, the madrepores, millepores, lithophytons, corallines, sponges. *Ibid.* 460 They have denominated pora that class of them, which seem'd pierc'd with holes. Of these they found some, the holes of which were large; and these they call'd madrepora. 1802 Bingley *Anim. Biog.* (1813) III. 475 The Branching and Prickly Madrepore. 1832 Lyell *Princ. Geol.* II. 111 The madrepores or lamelliferous polyparia, are found in their fullest development only in the tropical seas of Polynesia and the East and West Indies. 1840 Blyth, etc. tr. *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* (1849) 658 When the Madrepore is branched, and the stars are confined to the extremities of each branch, it is the *Caryophyllia* of Lamouroux...*Madrepora*, or Madrepores properly so called, have the whole surface roughened by little stars. 1875 Huxley in *Encycl. Brit.* I. 130/2 In some madrepores the whole skeleton is reduced to a mere network of dense calcareous substance. 1882 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* VI. 297 The common so-called Madrepore of the Devonshire coast, and those which are dredged up out of moderately deep water in the North Atlantic, are common examples of the genus Caryophyllia.

2. The animal producing the madrepore coral.

1841 Emerson *Address, Method Nature* Wks. (Bohn) II. 224 Nature turns off new firmaments..as fast as the madrepores make coral. 1875 Merivale *Gen. Hist. Rome* xxiii. (1877) 160 The..instinct with which the madrepore extends his empire over the bottom of the ocean.

3. Limestone composed of fossil madrepores.

1809 Valentia *Voy.* III. 309 The houses in Jidda are far superior to those at Mocha. They are built of large blocks of very fine madrapore [*sic*].

4. *attrib.*, as *madrepore coral, hole, island*; madrepore marble, = sense 3.

1866–7 Livingstone *Last Jrnls.* (1873) I. iv. 85 The yellow plains .. look like yellow hæmatite with madrepore holes in it. 1869 tr. *Ponchet's Universe* (1871) 76 Twenty-six madrepore islands. 1876 Page *Adv. Text-Bk. Geol.* iii. 67 A branch of the common madrepore coral. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* II. 87 Many blocks are almost entirely formed of fossil corals, and known as madrepore marbles.

Madreporic (mædrĭpo·rik), *a.* [f. mod.L. *Madrepora* or Madrepore + -ic.]

1. Pertaining or related to, consisting or characteristic of, madrepore coral.

1817 *Q. Rev.* XVII. 240 The madriporic [*sic*] productions which have been found to exist..above the present level of the sea. 1833 Lyell *Princ. Geol.* III. 133 Part of the madreporic rock has been converted into silex and calcedony. 1887 H. H. Howorth *Mammoth & Flood* 360 The madreporic calcareous deposits surrounding Havana.

2. The distinctive epithet of certain structures in echinoderms (*madreporic body, canal, plate, tubercle*), so called because perforated with small holes like a madrepore.

1861 Dana *Man. Geol.* 160 To one side of the dorsal centre ..in the regular Echinoids, there is a small porous prominence on the shell, often called the madreporic body, from a degree of resemblance in structure to coral. 1862 Thomson in *Q. Jrnl. Microscop. Sci.* II. 139 The madreporic tubercle gradually increases in size and distinctness. 1870 Nicholson *Man. Zool.* 123 The madreporic canals and their tubercles depending freely from the circular canal into the perivisceral cavity. 1878 Bell *Gegenbaur's Comp. Anat.* 204 One of these [genital plates of the Desmosticha] is the madreporic plate.

Madreporid (mædrĭpō·rid), *sb.* and *a. Zool.* [ad. mod.L. *Madreporidæ*, f. *madrepora*: see Madrepore and -id.] **a.** *sb.* An animal of the family *Madreporidæ*, including the genus *Madrepora*. **b.** *adj.* Pertaining to the *Madreporidæ*. Hence **Madrepo·ridan** *a.*, characteristic of the *Madreporidæ*.

1899 Bernard in *Jrnl. Linn. Soc., Zool.* XXVII. 130 Porites is..related to the Madreporids. *Ibid.* 141 An exclusively Madreporid origin. *Ibid.* 142 There is no reason why further growth should not simply enlarge it without necessarily running it into ancestral Madreporidan lines.

Madreporiform (mædrĭpō·rifōm), *a.* [f. mod.L. *Madrepora* + -form.] Having the form or characters of madrepore coral; *spec.* = Madreporic 2.

1843 Forbes in *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* II. No. 11. 79 Madreporiform tubercle nearer the margin than centre. 1870 Nicholson *Man. Zool.* 125 One of the genital plates is larger than the others, and supports a spongy tubercle, perforated by many minute apertures..and termed the 'madreporiform tubercle'. 1877 C. W. Thomson *Voy. Challenger* II. iv. 237.

Madreporigenous (mædrĭpo·rĭ·dʒĭnəs), *a. rare. Zool.* [f. mod.L. *Madrepora* Madrepore + -genous.] Producing madrepore coral.

1847–9 Todd *Cycl. Anat.* IV. 33/1 Madreporigenous polypes can only exist at depths where they enjoy the influences of light and air.

Madreporite (mædrĭpō·rəit). [f. Madrepore + -ite. Cf. G. *madreporit*, F. *madréporite*.]

1. *Palæont.* Fossil madrepore.

1828–32 in Webster. 1843 Humble *Dict. Geol.*, etc., *Madreporite.* 1. Fossil madrepore.

2. *Min.* A calcareous rock of columnar structure marked by radiated prismatic concretions.

1802–3 tr. *Pallas's Trav.* (1812) I. 147 Its cells and tubes extend, as is the case with māandrites, or madreporites, in a parallel line from the surface. 1821 Ure *Dict. Chem.* s.v. *Limestone*, It [prismatic lucullite] was at one time called madreporite. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XIV. 271/2 *Madreporite.*—Anthraconite; Columnar Carbonate of Lime.

3. *Zool.* The madreporic tubercle in echinoderms.

1877 Huxley *Anat. Inv. Anim.* ix. 554 The madreporic tubercle or madreporite. 1884 Sladen in *Q. Jrnl. Microscop. Sci.* XXIV. 31 The madreporite or water-pore in Asterids usually punctures a basal plate.

‖ **Madrier** (mædriəɹ). *Fortif.* [Fr.] (See quot. 1704.)

1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn., Madrier*, in Fortification, is a thick Plank arm'd with Plates of Iron, and having a Concavity sufficient to receive the Mouth of the Petard when charged, with which it is applied against a Gate, or any thing else that you design to break down. This term is also appropriated to certain flat Beams, which are fix'd at the bottom of a Moat, to support a Wall. There are also Madriers lined with Tin, which are cover'd with Earth, to serve as a Defence against Artificial Fires. 1758 J. WATSON *Milit. Dict.* (ed. 5). 1826 SCOTT *Woodst.* xxxiii, The petard..is secured with a thick..piece of plank, termed the madrier.

Madrigal (mæ·drigăl), *sb.* Also 6-7 **-ale, -all.** [ad. It. *madrigale* (whence Fr., Sp. *madrigal*).

The origin of the It. word is obscure. On the ground of the occurrence in early It. of the variant forms *madriale, mandriale* (cf. obs. Sp. *mandrial, mandrigal*), Diez (followed by most later etymologists) accepts Ménage's derivation from It. *mandria* herd, f. L. *mandra*, a. Gr. *μάνδρα* fold; the primitive sense according to this view would be 'pastoral song' (cf. quots. 1597, 1614 in 3).]

1. A short lyrical poem of amatory character; chiefly, a poem suitable for a musical setting such as is described below (see 2).

1588 (*title*) Mvsica Transalpina, Madrigales translated of foure, fiue, and sixe parts, chosen oute of diuers excellent Authors. *Ibid.* A ij, I had the hap to find in the hands of some of my good friends, certaine Italian Madrigales, translated most of them fiue yeeres agoe by a Gentleman for his priuate delight. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* II. ii. VI. iii. (1651) 299 How to make Jigs, Sonnets, Madrigals in commendation of his Mistress. *a* 1637 B. JONSON *Underwoods* (1640) 209 He That chanc'd the lace, laid on a Smock, to see And straight-way spent a Sonnet; with that other That (in pure Madrigall) unto his Mother Commended the French-hood [etc.]. 1736 SHERIDAN in *Swift's Lett.* (1768) IV. 167, I know you love Alexandrines; for which reason I closed the above madrigal with one. I think it is of a very good proportion, which I hope you will set to musick. *a* 1771 GRAY *Metrum* Wks. 1843 V. 250 Madrigals of Eight [lines], on Three Rhymes. Sir T. Wyatt. 1774 WARTON *Hist. Eng. Poetry* (1840) III. 142 He [Clément Marot] was the inventor of the rondeau, and the restorer of the madrigal. 1888 *Murray's Mag.* July 43 Poetically speaking a madrigal may be defined as the shortest form of lyrical poetry.

2. *Mus.* A kind of part song for three or more voices (usually, five or six) characterized by adherence to an ecclesiastical mode, elaborate contrapuntal imitation, and the absence of instrumental accompaniment; also applied loosely to part songs or glees not bound by these conditions.

See *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 9) XV. 192/1, XVII. 84/1.

1588 [see 1]. 1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* 34 b, Their merry-running Madrigals, and sportiue Base-bidding Roundelayes. 1594 MORLEY (*title*) Madrigalles to foure Voyces, the first Booke. 1597 — *Introd. Mus.* 180 The light musicke hath beene of late more deepely diued into..the best kind of it is termed Madrigal..it is a kinde of musicke made vpon songs and sonnets...As for the musicke it is next unto the Motet, the most artificial and to men of vnderstanding most delightfull. 1644 MILTON *Areop.* (Arb.) 50 And who shall silence all the airs and madrigalls, that whisper softnes in chambers? 1674 PLAYFORD *Skill Mus.* I. 59 Your Madrigals or Fala's of five and six Parts, which were composed for Viols and Voices by many of our excellent English Authors, as Mr. Morley, Wilks, Wilbey, Ward, and others. 1789 BURNEY *Hist. Mus.* (ed. 2) III. ii. 201 The most chearful species of secular Music..was that of madrigals, a style of composition, that was brought to its highest degree of perfection about the latter end of the 16th century. 1811 L. M. HAWKINS *C'tess & Gertr.* I. 31 A little club, where catches, glees, motets, and madrigals, with the canon 'Non nobis' *in finale*, were 'done' in plain correctness. 1879 E. PROUT in Grove *Dict. Mus.* I. 306 The only difference between the canzona and the madrigal being that the former was less strict in style. 1879 J. HULLAH *ibid.* 598 The glee differs from the madrigal..in its tonality, which is uniformly modern.

3. *transf.* and *fig.* A song, ditty.

1589 GREENE *Menaphon* (Arb.) 25 If a wrinckle appeare in her brow, then our shepheard must put on his working day face, and frame nought but dolefull Madrigalls of sorrowe. *a* 1593 MARLOWE *Pass. Sheph. to his Love* ii, By shallow Rivers, to whose fals Melodious birds sing Madrigals. 1597 MIDDLETON *Wisdom of Solomon* xvii. 16 The merry shepherd ..Tuning sweet madrigals of harvest's joy. 1614 SIR W. ALEXANDER *Alexis to Damon* in Drumm. of Hawth. *Poems*, Those Madrigals we song amidst our Flockes. 1634 MILTON *Comus* 495 Thyrsis? Whose artful strains have oft delaid The huddling brook to hear his madrigal. *a* 1640 JACKSON *Creed* x. xxiii. § 8 Changing their late joyful hymns of Hosanna to the Son of David into sad madrigals of Crucifige, crucifige. 1800-24 CAMPBELL *O'Connor's Child* iii, And oft amidst the lonely rocks She sings sweet madrigals. 1821 CLARE *Vill. Minstr.* I. 178 Thrushes chant their madrigals. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* xli, Gentle Mr. Toots..hears the requiem of little Dombey on the waters, rising and falling in the lulls of their eternal madrigal in praise of Florence.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

1611 FLORIO, *Madrigáli, Madriáli*, Madrigall songs. 1877 W. A. BARRETT (*title*) English Glee and Madrigal Writers. 1880 MACKESON in *Grove's Dict. Mus.* II. 192 Founded in 1741 by John Immyns, a member of the Academy of Ancient Music, the Madrigal Society enjoys the distinction of being the oldest musical association in Europe. 1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XV. 192/1 The art of madrigal composition was never practised in Germany, and it died out in other countries early in the 17th century. 1888 J. A. F. MAITLAND in *Dict. Nat. Biog.* XVI. 327/1 The madrigal form as used by the Italians.

Hence **Ma·drigal** *v.* (*rare*) *intr.*, to write, compose, or sing madrigals. Also with *it.*

1593 G. HARVEY *Pierce's Super.* 48 When Elderton began to ballat, Gascoine to sonnet, Turberuile to madrigal, Drant to versify [etc.]. 1742 JARVIS *Quix.* II. lxviii. 272 Madrigal it as much as your worship pleases.

Madrigalian (mædrigē·liăn), *a.* [f. MADRIGAL *sb.* + -IAN.] Pertaining to, consisting or characteristic of, or dealing with madrigals.

1848 (*title*) Madrigalian Feast, a collection of twenty Madrigals. 1869 OUSELEY *Counterp.* xiv. 89 The old madrigalian composers. 1879 E. G. MONK in Grove *Dict. Mus.* I. 72 Anthems of the Madrigalian era. 1882 *Athenæum* No. 2854. 58 The English madrigalian writers being represented solely by a few songs and unimportant pieces.

Madrigalist (mæ·drigălist). [f. MADRIGAL *sb.* + -IST.] A writer or composer of madrigals.

1789 BURNEY *Hist. Mus.* III. 123 The best madrigalists of our country. 1888 J. A. F. MAITLAND in *Dict. Nat. Biog.* XVI. 328/1 In the next few years [after 1596] nearly all the masterpieces of the English madrigalists were issued.

Ma·drigaller. [f. MADRIGAL *v.* + -ER[1].] = prec.

a 1704 T. BROWN *Lett. Dead to Living* II. (1707) 33 Sonniters, Songsters, Satyrists, Panegyrists, Madrigallers. 1719 WYCHERLEY in *Pope's Lett.* (1735) I. 46 No Madrigaller can entertain the Head, unless he pleases the Ear.

‖ Madroño (madrōn·yo). Also **madrona, madrone.** [Sp.] A handsome evergreen tree of western North America, *Arbutus Menziesii*, having a very hard wood and bearing yellow berries. Also *attrib.*

1850 B. TAYLOR *Eldorado* xiii. (1862) 130 Clumps of the madrono—a native evergreen,..filled the ravines. 1882 J. HAWTHORNE *Fort. Fool* I. xxvi, The whisper of the breeze in the madroño. 1883 STEVENSON *Silverado Sq.* 71 Woods of oak and madrona, dotted with enormous pines. 1888 *Amer. Humor.* 5 May 12/1 Here and there a madrona tree grows, with its bark peeling off in its own peculiar way, leaving the tree bright red and as smooth as satin. *Comb.* 1900 R. KIPLING *From Sea to Sea* xxvi, There were the pines and the madrone-clad hills.

Madryam, -an, var. forms of MADREAN *Obs.*

† Ma·dship. *Obs.* In 3 **mad-, med-, meadschipe.** [f. MAD *a.* + -SHIP.] Madness.

a 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 327 Hwat is mare madschipe þen for to leuen on him & seggen ȝ he is Godes Sune? *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* 52 Ha is..mare amead, ȝef ha mei, þen is meadschipe seolf.

Madstone (mæ·dstōun). *U. S.* [f. MAD *a.* used subst. + STONE *sb.*] A stone supposed to have the power of allaying or curing the madness caused by the bite of a 'mad' animal.

1864 *Round Table* 18 June 2/2 We are not so ready with an explanation of the 'mad-stone' used to obviate ill effects from the bites of rabid animals. 1888 *Boston* (Mass.) *Jrnl.* 9 Aug. 2/4 The Orlando (Fla.) Record tells a remarkable story of the effects of a madstone in a case of snakebite.

Madura (mă·durä). The name of a district of Madras, used *attrib.* in **Madura foot,** a disease of the foot common in Madura and other parts of India; = MYCETOMA. Also *Madura disease.*

1863 W. T. FOX *Skin Dis. Parasitic Orig.* 15 In the Transactions of the Medical and Physical Society of Bombay for 1860, is a description by Dr. H. V. Carter, of a disease occurring in many parts of India, called variously 'Ulcus grave', 'Morbus tuberculosis pedis', 'Madura foot', 'Podelkoma', 'Mycetoma'. 1868 J. H. NELSON *Madura Country* I. iv. 91 Its classical name is *morbus pedis entophyticus*; but it is better known in this District by the name of 'the Madura foot'. 1871 BRISTOWE in *Trans. Pathol. Soc. Lond.* XXII. 326 The fungus of the Madura foot. 1874 *Q. Jrnl. Microscop. Sci.* XIV. 263 On the Etiology of Madura-foot.

Ma·dwoman. [f. MAD *a.* + WOMAN, after MADMAN.] An insane woman.

1622 T. SCOTT *Belg. Pismire* 15, I remember a witty madwoman..told a friend of hers [etc.]. 1842 DICKENS *Amer. Notes* iii, The rest of the madwomen seemed to understand the joke perfectly. 1844 MARG. FULLER *Wom. in 19th C.* (1862) 105 She..will not be pitied as a mad-woman, nor shrunk from as unnatural.

Madwort (mæ·dˌwɒɹt). [Cf. quot. 1597; the name is perh. a transl. of L. *alyssum*, a. Gr. *ἄλυσσον*, f. ἀ- (privative particle) + *λύσσα* rabies.]

1. A herb of the genus *Alyssum.*

Britten and Holland (*Plant-n.*) consider Gerarde's 'madwort' to be of doubtful identity, and assign his 'German madwort' to the genus *Stachys* or *Sideritis.*

1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. cxviii. 379 The Germaine Madwoort bringeth foorth from a fibrous roote, two broad, rough, and hoarie leaues; between which riseth vp a hoarie brittle stalke, diuided into sundrie small branches, whereupon do growe long, narrow leaues..; from the bosome of which leaues come foorth small roundles of purple flowers like those of the dead Nettle. *Ibid.* 380 Madwoort or Moonewort is called..of the Latines *Alyssum*: in English Galens Madwoort: of some Heale dog; and it hath the name thereof, bicause it is a present remedie for them that are bitten of a mad dog. 1611 COTGR., *Alysson*, the hearbe Madwort, Moonewort, heale dog. 1640 PARKINSON *Theatr. Bot.* 590 *Alyssum montanum Columnæ.* Mountaine Madwort of Columna. 1760 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* App. 313 Madwort, *Alyssum.* 1861 MISS PRATT *Flower. Pl.* I. 105 Alyssum, which is the Mad-wort of the ancients, and the plants of which were supposed to allay anger.

2. The Trailing Catchweed, *Asperugo procumbens.* (Also called *German madwort.*)

1760 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* App. 318 German Mad-wort, *Asperugo.* 1806 GALPINE *Brit. Bot.* 79 *Asperugo*, Madwort.

Madyn(e, -ynne, obs. forms of MAIDEN.

Mae (mē), *v. dial.* [Onomatopœic. Cf. *bae*, BA.] *intr.* Of a lamb: To utter its peculiar cry.

1728 RAMSAY *Robert, Richy, & Sandy* 124 While ewes shall bleat, and little lambkins mae.

Mae, variant of MO, more.

Mæander, etc.: see MEANDER, etc.

Mæcenas (misī·næs). Pl. **Mæcenases,** † **Mæcenates** (-ē·tīz). Also 6-7 **Mecenas,** 6- *erron.* **Mecænas.** The name of a Roman knight, the friend of Augustus and the patron of Horace and Virgil. Hence used for: A generous patron of literature or art; † occas. *gen.* a patron.

c 1561 VERON *Free-will* 7 This my rude labor, whiche..I offer unto youre honoure, as unto the Mecenas and patron of all godlye learninge. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* Verses addr. to Noblemen, This lowly Muse,..Flies for like aide unto your Patronage, That are the great Mecænas of this age. 1597 MORLEY *Introd. Mus.* III. 179 The composers of musick who otherwise would follow the deptb of their skill,..are compelled for lacke of mæcenates to put on another humor. 1611 CORYAT *Crudities* Ep. Ded., My illustrious Mecænas Sir Edward Philips Master of the Rolles. *c* 1620 T. ROBINSON *Mary Magdalene* Ded. 105 Yet some Mœcenases this age hath left vs. 1663 GERBIER *Counsel* b viij b, A Mecenas to all vertues. 1711 SHAFTESB. *Charact.* (1737) I. 216 The Muses..., with or without their Mæcenas's, will grow in credit and esteem. 1779 SHERIDAN *Critic* I. i, Are you not called..a mock Mæcenas to second-hand Authors? 1812 L. HUNT in *Examiner* 14 Dec. 787/2 This Mecænas of the Age. 1827 LYTTON *Pelham* xlvi, See what it is to furnish a house differently from other people; one becomes a *bel esprit*, and a Mæcænas, immediately. 1875 ESCOTT in *Belgravia* XXV. 80 The Mæcenas of the last century did influence literature and art; the Mæcenas of to-day cannot.

Hence **Mæce·nas** *v. trans.*, to act as a patron to. **Mæce·nasship,** the position of a Mæcenas.

1832 CARLYLE *Ess.* (1872) IV. 101 Neither..was the new way of Bookseller Mecænasship worthless. 1837 MARRYAT *Olla Podr.* xxx, Literary men are not *Mæcenased* by..the ..aristocracy.

† **Mæce·natism.** *Obs. rare*[−1]. [f. *Mæcēnāt-*, MÆCENAS + -ISM.] Patronage.

1606 BIRNIE *Kirk-Buriall* Ded., I strong-hold myself under your Marqueships Mecenatisme.

Maeht, obs. form of MIGHT.

Mael(e, Sc. form of MOLE (spot).

Maelstrom (mē·lstrŏm). Also 7 [**male-strand,**] **male stream,** 8 **malestrom,** 9 **mael-ström,** and in Gr. form **mahlstrom.** [a. early mod.Du. *maelstrom* (now *maalstroom*), whirlpool, f. *malen* to grind, also to whirl round + *stroom* stream.

The use of *maelstrom* as a proper name (also in Fr.) seems to come from Du. maps, e.g. that in Mercator's *Atlas* (1595). Dutch philologists are of opinion that the word is native. It is true that it is found in all the mod. Scandinavian langs. as a common noun, but it is purely literary, and Danish scholars regard it as adopted from Du. or LG. The earliest known instance of Da. *malstrøm* (formerly also written *malestrøm*) occurs in 1673 in Debes *Færoa reserata*, the author of which was a pastor in the Færöe Islands. Cf. Norw. dial. *malstraum* (admitted by Aasen to be 'little used', which prob. means that he had never heard it in actual popular use), Sw. *malström*, Færoic *mal(n)streymur* (Hammershaimb *Færøsk Anthologi*, Glossary; the vb. *mala* in Færoic means 'to grind', 'to whirl round').

The form *Malestrand* in quot. *c* 1560 can only be a blunder; probably Jenkinson bearing the name *Malestrøm* confused it with the name of Malestrand (? meaning 'pebbly shore'), now Marstrand, in South Sweden.]

A famous whirlpool in the Arctic Ocean on the west coast of Norway, formerly supposed to suck in and destroy all vessels within a long radius. Also *transf.* a great whirlpool.

[*c* 1560 A. JENKINSON in *Hakluyt's Voy.* (1589) 334 There is between the said Rost Islands, and Lofoote, a whirle poole, called Malestrand, which..maketh such a terrible noise, that it shaketh the rings in the doores of the inhabitants houses of the said Islands, ten miles of.] 1682 R. BURTON *Wond. Curios.* (1684) 229 Between the coast of Cathness and Orkney is a dreadful Frith or Gulf, in the Nortb end of which, by reason of the meeting of 9 contrary Tides or Currents, is a Male Stream or great Whirlpoul. 1701 C. WOLLEY *Jrnl. New York* (1860) 47 A dangerous Current,..as dangerous and as unaccountable as the Norway Whirl-Pool or Maelstrom. 1755 tr. *Pontoppidan's Nat. Hist. Norway* I. 77 There is another kind ol current..in the sea of Norway,..namely the Malestrom, or Moskoestrom [orig. 1752 *den vidtbkiendte Male-ström eller Moske-ström*],..near the island Moskoe. *a* 1844 POE (*title*) A descent into the Maelström. 1856 W. E. AYTOUN *Bothwell* (1857) 56 And if a ship should chance to pass within the maelstrom's sweep. 1860 MISS BRADDON *Trail Serpent* I. i, Every gutter in every one of these streets was a little Niagara, with a maelstrom at the corner.

b. *fig.*

1831 CARLYLE *Sart. Res.* I. iv. (1858) 19 Some single billow in that vast World-Mahlstrom of Humour. 1854 J. S. C. ABBOTT *Napoleon* (1855) II. iv. 69 An accumulated mass, in one wild maelstrom of affrighted men, struggling in frantic eddies. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* July 956/1 In the wild and glittering maelstrom of luxury and extravagance.

Mænad (mī·næd). [ad. L. *Mænad-, Mænās*, a. Gr. *Μαινάδ-, Μαινάς*, f. *μαίν-εσθαι* to rave.] A Bacchante.

1579 E. K. *Gloss. Spenser's Sheph. Cal.* Oct. 111 The Mænades (that is Bacchus franticke priestes). *c* 1620 T. ROBINSON *Mary Magdalene* 795 Like to ye Mænades y^t^ Euhœ crie. 1638-48 G. DANIEL *Eclog* iii. 153 The Women ..Like yauling Mænades, their loo's send To the full-fraught, lest drinking there should end. 1820 SHELLEY *Ode Liberty* vii, Like a wolf-cub from a Cadmæan Mænad, She drew the milk of greatness. 1882 *Athenæum* 7 Jan. 22/2 Another [nymph], furious as a mænad, is about to whirl on high the headless body of a kid.

Hence **Mæna·dic** *a.*, characteristic of a Mænad; resembling a Mænad, infuriated.

1830 CARLYLE *Misc.* (1872) III. 2 Phallophori and Mænadic women. 1830 *Fraser's Mag.* I. 587 There is a clapping of hands, and shouts of Mænadic glorification.

Maende, obs. form of MEND.

Mæne: see MEAN, MENE.

Maenial(l, obs. form of MENIAL.

Maer, Mære, obs. forms of MORE, MERE.

Maes, Maesse, obs. forms of MAIZE, MASS.

Maest, obs. form of MOST.

Mæstive, variant of MESTIVE.

‖ **Maestoso** (mæstō'sō). *Mus.* [It. = majestic.] A direction denoting that a composition is to be executed majestically.

1724 *Expl. For. Words Music, Maestoso,* or *Maestuoso.* 1815 *Europ. Mag.* LXVIII. 154 Var. 8 (*Maestoso*) in minor.

Maëstral, variant of MISTRAL.

Maestriss, obs. Sc. form of MISTRESS.

‖ **Maestro** (mæ'stro). [It. = 'master'.] A master in music; a great musical composer, teacher, or conductor.

1797 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Italian* vii, He might be a ghost, by his silence, for aught I know, Maestro. 1845 E. HOLMES *Mozart* 79 The archduke and his bride .. inclined their heads from their box and applauded the maestro. 1884 F. M. CRAWFORD *Rom. Singer* I. 22, I went to the Maestro's house and sat for two hours listening to the singing. 1891 *Speaker* 2 May 528/1 The performance of some musical maestro on an instrument that almost seems part of himself.

Maez, obs. form of MAIZE.

Ma fal (= *may fall,* perhaps): see MAY *v.*[1]

† **Mafey,** *int. Obs.* Also 5 mai-, mayfay, maffay, ma ffay, ma fa; maffeith, -feyth. [a. OF. *ma fei!* (mod.F. *ma foi!*) 'my faith': see FAY *sb.*[1]] An asseveration, lit. = 'my faith!'

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* III. 3 (52) Mafey þought he þus wole I sey. *c* 1400 *Pride of Life* (Brandl 1898) 451 Nou, maifay, hit schal be sene. 1401 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 75 A, lak, mafey, me merveilith moche of thin lewidheed! *c* 1412 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 3283 Maffeith! your lif stood þere in iupartie. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 319/2 Mafey, othe (*MS. S.* maffeyth), *medius fidius.* *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xxiii. 564 Ma-fay, I tell his lyfe is lorne. [1791 J. LEARMONT *Poems* 143 Mafoy! ye'll dwindle to a den. 1842 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. II. *Black Mousquetaire,* Stay! I have it—ma foi!]

Maffaisour, Maffia, var. ff. MALFEASOR, MAFIA.

Maffick (mæ'fik), *v.* [Back-formation from *mafficking* (i.e., the proper name *Mafeking* treated jocularly as a gerund or pres. pple.).] *intr.* Originally used to designate the behaviour of the crowds (in London and other towns) that celebrated with uproarious rejoicings the relief of the British garrison besieged in Mafeking (17 May 1900). Hence *gen.* to indulge in extravagant demonstrations of exultation on occasions of national rejoicing. Hence **Ma'fficking** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*; **Ma'fficker,** one who 'maffieks'; **Ma'ffick** *sb.,* an act of 'mafficking'.

The words appear to be confined to journalistic use; but we have a large number of examples from newspapers of all shades of political opinion.

1900 *Pall Mall G.* 21 May 2/2 We trust Cape Town..will 'maffick' to-day, if we may coin a word, as we at home did on Friday and Saturday. 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 25 May 2/3 The feathers..are sold for a penny each to enable 'Mafficking' revellers to tickle other revellers' noses. 1900 *Daily Chron.* 9 July 6/5 We have no wish to advocate the hysteria of which the name is 'mafficking'. 1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 4 June 7/3 The Peace 'maffick' has not yet been completely worked off. 1902 *Times* 11 June 12/1 [The 'Merry Wives of Windsor'] is..'a pure anticipated cognition', as Shelley would have said, of the mafficking spirit.

† **Ma'fflard.** *Obs.* [f. MAFFLE *v.* + -ARD.] A stammering or blundering fool.

c 1450 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 225 The churche of Chester, whiche crieth, alas! That to suche a mafflarde marryede she was.

Maffle (mæ'fl), *v. Obs.* exc. *dial.* Also 7 maffell. [Cf. early mod.Du. *maffelen* to move the jaws (Kilian). The Eng. word has a wide dialectal currency in several senses (see E. D. D.).]

1. *intr.* To stammer; to speak indistinctly, mumble. † Also with an obj.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) II. 91 ȝif Alfrede seiþ nay in þat, he wot nouȝt what he mafleþ. *Ibid.* V. 215. 1399 LANGL. *Rich. Redeles* IV. 63 Somme mafflid with þe mouþ and nyst what þey mente. 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus, Balbutio,* to maffle in the mouth, as not able to sounde his wordes. 1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 34 Those disciples who..would needs stut, stammer and maffle as Aristotle did. 1623 COCKERAM, *Maffell,* to stammer. 1875 *Lanc. Gloss., Maffle,* to hesitate, to falter, to stammer, to mumble.

2. To blunder, bungle; to delay, waste time.

1781 HUTTON *Tour to Caves.* 1837 [see MAFFLING *vbl. sb.*].

3. *trans.* To confuse, bewilder, muddle (see E. D. D. and MAFFLED *ppl. a.*).

Hence **Ma'ffling** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.,* **Ma'fflingly** *adv.* Also **Ma'ffler,** one who 'maffles'.

1552 ELYOT *Dict., Balbus,* that can not well pronounce wordes in speakyng, a mafflar. 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus, Balbe,* obscurely: mafflyingly: with no perfit sowne. 1577–87 HOLINSHED *Chron.* II. 13/1 It [Aqua Vitæ] keepeth .. the toong from lisping, the mouth from maffling. 1586 J. HOOKER *Hist. Irel.* in *Holinshed* II. 88/2 He deliuered his speeches by reason of his palseie, in such staggering and mafling wise, that [etc.]. 1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 653 They..go too far in their commandements..who enjoine stutters, stammerers and mafflers to sing. 1608 TOPSELL *Serpents* 252 They make a maffeling with their mouth and stammer so that they cannot distinctly be understood. 1609 BIBLE (Douay) *Isa.* xxxii. 4 The tongue of mafflers shal speake readely and plaine. *Ibid.* xxxii. Comm., This prophecie of maffling or unperfect tongues, to speake readily, is fulfilled in the Church of Christ. 1611 COTGR., *Bredouillement,* a faultering, or maffling; an ill-fauoured speaking, imperfect pronunciation. 1837 CARLYLE *Let. to Margaret* 22 Jan. in Froude *Life* (1884) I. iv. 94 After much higgling and maffling, the printers have got fairly afloat.

Maffled (mæ'fld), *ppl. a. dial.* [f. MAFFLE *v.* + -ED[1].] Confused, muddled.

1820 SOUTHEY *Lett.* (1856) III. 186 She was, what they call in the country, maffled; that is, confused in her intellect. 1845 DE QUINCEY *Coleridge & Opium-eating* Wks. 1859 XII. 92 The Westmorland people..expounded his condition to us by saying that he was 'maffled'; which word means 'perplexed in the extreme'. 1886 MRS. LYNN LINTON *Paston Carew* II. x. 211 She did not smell of drink, and was sober though decidedly maffled.

‖ **Mafia** (maf'ia). Also maffia. [Sicilian.] In Sicily, the spirit of hostility to the law and its ministers prevailing among a large portion of the population, and manifesting itself frequently in vindictive crimes. Also, the body of those who share in this anti-legal spirit (often erroneously supposed to constitute an organized secret society existing for criminal purposes). Hence ‖ **Maf|fio'so** (pl. -osi), one who sympathizes with the mafia.

1875 *Times* 9 June 5/4 The malevolent influence and oppression of the *Mafia* and the *Mafiosi.* 1902 *Encycl. Brit.* XXXI. 163/1 (art. *New Orleans*) He had been active in proceedings against certain Italians accused of crime, and it was popularly believed that his death was the work of a *mafia,* or sworn secret society. 1902 G. MOSCA *Ibid.* XXXII. 618/1 (art. *Sicily*) The Mafia is not, as is generally believed, one vast society of criminals, but is rather a sentiment akin to arrogance which imposes a special line of conduct upon persons affected by it..The *mafioso* considers it dishonourable to have recourse to lawful authority to obtain redress for a wrong or a crime committed against him.

Mafortune: see MAY *v.*[1]

Mag (mæg), *sb.*[1] *colloq.* [f. MAG *v.*]

a. Chatter, talk. b. A chatterbox.

a. 1778 MME. D'ARBLAY *Diary* Sept., *Mrs. Thrale:* Oh, if you have any mag in you, we'll draw it out! 1875 MRS. LYNN LINTON *Patricia Kemball* II. iv. 78 Hold your mag on things you don't understand. 1885 E. C. SHARLAND *Ways Devonsh. Village* ii. 26 You go away for a while, my dear, and let me have a little mag with Emma.

b. 1892 F. ANSTEY *The Talking Horse,* etc. 46 'Alick does call me a "mag",' said Priscilla; 'but that's wrong, because I never speak without having something to say'.

Mag (mæg), *sb.*[2] Cf. MEG. [Playful shortening of the female name *Margaret.*]

1. Used as a personal name in various proverbial phrases. † *Mag's tales:* nonsense, trifling. *Mag's diversion* (also *Meg's*: see MEG).

c 1410 LOVE *Bonavent. Mirr.* xxxix. 85 (Sherard MS.) [The Lollard] scorneth..suche miracles haldynge hem but as magges tales [*B.N.C. MS.* magge tales, *W. de W.* (eds. 1517–30) madde tales] and feyned illusiouns. 1834 M. G. DOWLING *Othello Travestie* I. iii, The galley slaves Are playing mag's diversion on the waves. [1837 SOUTHEY *Doctor* IV. cxxv. 250 Who was Magg? and what was his diversion?] 1849 DICKENS in Forster *Life* (1872) II. xx. 432 Mag's Diversions. Being the personal history of Mr. Thomas Mag the Younger, Of Blunderstone House.

2. Used as a proper name for a magpie. Also as a common noun = MAGPIE.

1802 G. MONTAGU *Ornith. Dict.* (1833) 311. 18.. CLARE *Life & Rem.* (1873) 245 While mag's on her nest with her tail peeping out. 1885 SWAINSON *Prov. Names Birds,* Magpie (*Pica rustica*)..Familiar names. Mag, or Madge.

3. *Rifle-shooting.* = MAGPIE.

1895 *Pall Mall G.* 29 July 11/2 If Winans made a 'mag' with his first shot he would probably cease firing.

4. *Long-tailed Mag* (dial.): the Long-tailed Titmouse, *Acredula rosea.*

1851 MORRIS *Hist. Brit. Birds* I. 275.

Mag (mæg), *sb.*[3] *slang.* Also meg. [Of obscure origin: cf. the synon. MAKE *sb.*] A halfpenny.

1781 G. PARKER *Life's Painter* 129 Mag is a halfpenny. *Ibid.* 161 Halfpenny—A meg. 1813 *Sporting Mag.* XLII. 219 Neither of these forsaken damsels had one single mag, or piece of any kind of coin. 1852 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* xxiii, It can't be worth a mag to him. 1862 H. KINGSLEY *Ravenshoe* I. ix. 111 As long as he had a 'mag' to bless himself with, he would always be a lazy, useless humbug.

b. *Comb.* **Ma'gflying** *vbl. sb.,* playing 'pitch and toss'; **Ma'gflyer.**

1882 *Standard* 8 Aug. 3/7 There were usually three or four in a gang, one acting as the 'magflyer', the 'mag' being the coin, another as the caller of the odds or amounts, a third as treasurer. 1883 *Daily Tel.* 26 Mar. 2/8 (Farmer) Of the twenty-nine 'night-charges', by far the greater number were of..boys for mag flying, i. e., 'pitch and toss'.

Mag (mæg), *sb.*[4], abbrev. of MAGAZINE (sense 5 b).

1801 WOLCOT (P. Pindar) *Tears & Smiles* Wks. 1812 V. 55 Who wrote in mags for hire. 1869 *Chamb. Jrnl.* 8 May 303/2 Why don't you fellows write something for the mags? 1888 JACOBI *Printer's Voc., Mag,* an abbreviation very generally used by printers for 'magazine'.

Mag (mæg), *v.* Also meg. [f. MAG *sb.*[2]] *intr.* To chatter; also with *away.*

1810 *Splendid Follies* I. 68 Don't you think she magged away pretty sharply! That's the worst of the young ones—they will cackle so confoundedly. 1885 RUNCIMAN *Skippers & Sh.* 248 I'll snap your backbone across my knee if you meg half a second more.

Maga (mæ'gă). [Shortened form of MAGAZINE.] A familiar abbreviation for Blackwood's Magazine.

1825 *Blackw. Mag.* XVII. 384 Two Numbers of Maga, you dog. 1886 SAINTSBURY *Ess. Eng. Lit.* (1891) 301 The monkey tricks of mannerism which..were incumbent on a reviewer in 'Maga'. 1899 *Literature* 4 Feb. 123 With more than the lightness and speed of the Quagga, She'll .. show them a clean pair of heels, will our Maga!

† **Magade.** *Obs. rare.* Also 5 magada. [ad. med.L. *magada* fem., f. Gr. *μαγάς* (accus. *μαγάδα*).] The bridge or fret of a stringed instrument.

1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) III. 211 The wire extendede on a holowe body is distreynede diametrally by an instrumente restreynenge the wyre to a certeyne acorde callede magada [L. *magada*]. 1609 DOWLAND *Ornith. Microl.* 22 That shall be the first Magade of the Instrument. *Ibid.* 23 In the extreame point of the Magades, set little props.

‖ **Magadis** (mæ'gădis). *Ancient Music.* [Gr. *μάγαδις.*] An instrument with twenty strings, arranged in octaves. Also, the Lydian flageolet (Liddell & Scott).

1721 A. MALCOLM *Treat. Mus.* 473 The Psalterium, Trigon, Sambuca, Pectis, Magadis, Barbiton. 1763 J. BROWN *Poetry & Mus.* v. 69 One Instrument they [the Ancients] used, which had two Strings to every Note..called the Magadis. 1864 ENGEL *Mus. Anc. Nat.* v. 200 Of the Magadis it is even not satisfactorily ascertained whether it was a stringed or a wind instrument. 1884 *Encycl. Brit.* XVII. 79/1 Anacreon (540 B. C.) sang to the accompaniment of the magadis (doubling bridge), an instrument imported from Egypt to Greece.

Magadize (mæ'gădaiz), *v. Ancient Mus.* [ad. Gr. *μαγαδίζειν,* f. *μάγαδις* MAGADIS: see -IZE.] a. *intr.* To play or sing in octaves. b. To play upon the magadis. Hence Ma'gadized *ppl. a.,* Ma'gadizing *vbl. sb.*

1776 BURNEY *Hist. Mus.* (1789) I. viii. 132 It appears that the union of two voices in octaves was called Magadizing, from a treble instrument of the name of Magadis, strung with double strings tuned octaves to each other. 1898 STAINER & BARRETT *Dict. Mus. Terms* s.v., To Magadize. (1) To play upon the magadis. (2) To play in octaves. 1901 H. E. WOOLDRIDGE *Oxf. Hist. Mus.* I. 44 The Greek practice of magadizing, in which..lay the fundamental principle of Polyphony. *Ibid.* 47 In addition to the old magadized octave the consonances of the fourth and fifth were now sung in parallel movement.

† **Magar.** *Obs. rare*[−1]. Some kind of ship.

1590 GREENE *Orl. Fur.* (1599) 4 Stately Argosies, Caluars, and Magars, hulkes of burden great.

Magaseine, -sin, -son, obs. ff. MAGAZINE.

† **Maga'stromancy.** *Obs. rare.* [f. L. *magus* (see MAGE, MAGIC, MAGUS) + ASTROMANCY.] A name invented by Gaule for: 'Magical astrology'.

1652 GAULE *Magastrom.* 202 If there were any congruity or consistency betwixt prophecy and magastromancy.

So **Maga'stroma·ncer,** one who practises 'magastromancy'. **Maga'stroma·ntic** *a.,* pertaining to 'magastromancy'.

1652 GAULE (*title*) Μάγαστρο-μαντία. The Mag-astro-mancer, or the Magicall-Astrologicall-Diviner Posed, and Puzzled. *Ibid.* 223 To what end serve the feigned mirables of nature but to feigne the magastromantick art for the greatest mirable? *Ibid.* 369 Examples of the magastromancers fatall miseries..are too many to be instanc't in at large.

Magatapie, obs. form of MAGGOT-PIE.

Magazan, erron. form of MAZAGAN.

† **Magazinage.** *Obs. rare*[−0]. (See quot.)

1730–6 BAILEY (folio) Pref., *Magazinage*..the Hire or Rent of a Warehouse or Place for laying up Goods or Stores; also the Warehouse, &c. itself.

Magazinary (mægăzi'nări). *nonce-wd.* [f. MAGAZINE *sb.* + -ARY.] The office or place of production of a magazine.

1825 *Blackw. Mag.* XV. 445 He In editorial gloom, In Colburn's magazinary, Gives each his destined room.

Magazine (mægăzī'n), *sb.* Forms: 6 magason, magosine, 6–7 magasin, -zin, 7 magazen, (maggezzine, megazin(e, magaseine, magozin), 7–8 magazeen(e, 6– magazine. [a. F. *magasin* (OF. *magazin*), It. *magazzino* (Sardinian *magasinu,* metathetically *camasinu*), Sp. *magacen,* a. Arab. مخازن *makhāzin,* pl. of مخزن *makhzan* storehouse, f. خزن *khazana* to store up. The Arab. word, with prefixed article *al-,* appears as Sp. *almagacen, almacen,* Pg. *armazem* warehouse.]

1. A place where goods are laid up; a storehouse or repository for goods or merchandise; a warehouse, depot. Now *rare.*

1583 J. NEWBERY *Let.* in Purchas *Pilgrims* (1625) II. 1643 That the Bashaw, neither any other Officer shall meddle with the goods, but that it may be kept in a Magosine. 1588 T. HICKOCK tr. *Frederick's Voy.* 27 The merchants haue all one house or Magason..and there they put all their goods of any valure. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* VI. x. 511 Vnder which Porches or Galleries [of the Church] are Magazines or Store-houses, wherein are kept lampes, oile, mats, and other necessaries. 1731 *Gentl. Mag.* I. Introd., This Consideration has induced several Gentlemen to promote a Monthly Collection to treasure up, as in a Magazine, the most remarkable Pieces on the Subjects abovementioned. 1768 STERNE *Sent. Journ.* (Rtldg.) 304 (*The Remise*) Mons. Dessein came up with the key of the remise in his hand, and forthwith let us into his magazine of chaises. 1793 BURKE *Corr.* (1844) IV. 143 No magazine, from the warehouses of the East India Company to the grocer's and the baker's shop, possesses the smallest degree of safety. 1808 PIKE *Sources Mississ.* III. App. 23 A public magazine for provisions, where every farmer brings whatever grain and produce he may have for sale. 1875 STANLEY in *Contemp. Rev.* XXV. 489 Imported..from the magazines of France and of Belgium, according to the last fashions of Brussels or Paris.

fig. 1599 B. JONSON *Ev. Man out of Hum.* II. iii, What more than heauenly pulchritude is this? What Magazine, or treasurie of bliss? *a* 1610 HEALEY *Theophrastus* (1636) To Rdr., That great Magazine or Storehouse of all learning

M. Cassaubon. 1738 [G. Smith] *Curious Relat.* II. 216 My Friend! the Rich are the Poor Man's Magazine. 1817 *Parl. Debates* 352 A magazine of petitions had been opened in Scotland.

b. *transf.* esp. of a country or district with reference to its natural products or of a city, etc., as a centre of commerce.

1596 Raleigh *Discov. Guiana* 3 Guiana (the Magazin of all rich mettels). 1632 Lithgow *Trav.* IV. 165 Constantinople..Aleppo..and grand Cayro..are the three Maggezzines of the whole Empire. 1640 Digby in *Lismore Papers* Ser. II. (1888) IV. 133 He conceaued that the City of London was the Magazine of money. 1650 Fuller *Pisgah* III. i. 410 Timber they fetched from Mount Libanus (the magazeen of cedars). 1705 Addison *Italy* (1767) 196 (*Rome*) The great magazine for all kinds of treasure, is supposed to be the bed of the Tiber. 1787 *Gentl. Mag.* LVII. II. 1115/2 The Dutch islands of Curaçoa and St. Eustatius are now converted into complete magazines for all kinds of European goods. 1833 L. Ritchie *Wand. by Loire* 109 The..bourg of Chouzé, set down in a perfect magazine of fruit and vegetables, grain and wine.

c. A portable receptacle containing articles of value. Now *rare*.

1768 Sterne *Sent. Journ.* (Rtldg.) 341 (*Case Conscience*) She opened her little magazine, and laid all her laces.. before me. 1779–81 Johnson *L. P., Thomson*, He had recommendations..which he had tied up carefully in his handkerchief; but..his magazine of credentials was stolen from him. 1861 Holland *Less. Life* viii. 120 The great army of little men that is yearly commissioned to go forth into the world with a case of sharp knives in one hand, and a magazine of drugs in the other.

2. *Mil.* a. *gen.* A building in which is stored a supply of arms, ammunition and provisions for an army for use in time of war. b. *spec.* A place in which gunpowder and other explosives are stored in large quantities; a powder magazine.

1596 Spenser *State Irel.* Wks. (Globe) 669/2 Then would I wish that there should be good store of howses and magasins erected in all those greate places of garrison, and in all great townes, as well for the vittayling of souldiours and shippes, as for..preventing of all times of dearthe. 1644 Nye *Gunnery* 1647 72 A barrell of the best powder in the Magazine. 1667 Milton *P. L.* IV. 816 A heap of nitrous Powder, laid Fit for the Tun som Magazin to store Against a rumord Warr. 1709 Pope *Ess. Crit.* 671 Thus useful arms in magazines we place. *a* 1744 Swift *Epigram* Wks. 1824 XIV. 399 Here Irish wit is seen! When nothing's left that's worth defence, We build a magazine. 1769 Falconer *Dict. Marine* (1780), *Magazine*, a..store-house, built in the fore, or afterpart of a ship's hold, to contain the gunpowder. 1800 Wellington in Gurw. *Desp.* (1837) I. 213, I have no power to order the repair of magazines, storerooms, &c. 1849 Prescott *Peru* (1850) II. 23 In another quarter they beheld one of those magazines destined for the army, filled with grain and with articles of clothing. 1868 *Regul. & Ord. Army* ¶ 1238 The reserve Ammunition will be kept in the Magazine. 1877 A. B. Edwards *Up Nile* ix. 239 To provide a safe underground magazine for gunpowder.

fig. 1653 R. Sanders *Physiogn.* 25 The Heart is the Magazine and Arsenal of Life. 1715–20 Pope *Iliad* XII. 332 As when high Jove his sharp artillery forms, And opes his cloudy magazine of storms. 1750 Johnson *Rambler* No. 76 ¶ 6 He has stored his magazine of malice with weapons equally sharp. *a* 1764 Lloyd *Law Student* Poet. Wks. 1774 I. 23 While armed with these, the student views with awe His rooms become the magazine of Law.

3. a. *Mil.* The contents of a magazine; a store. Also *collect. pl.* († rarely *collect. sing.*): Stores, provisions, munitions of war; armament, military equipments.

1589 *Voy. Spaine & Portingale* 17 Aboundant store of victualls..which was confessed..to be the beginning of a *Magasin* of all sorts of prouision for a new Voiage into England. 1591 Raleigh *Last Fight Rev.* (Arb.) 16 Of which [Armada] the number of souldiers..with all other their magasines of prouision, were put in print. *a* 1613 Overbury *Observ. Trav.* (1626) 11 Megazins of powder. 1644 in Rushw. *Hist. Coll.* III. II. 670 The Kings forces..marcht away with their Artillery and Magazeen towards Oxford. 1666 Dryden *Ann. Mirab.* cclxxi, And bade him swiftly drive the approaching fire From where our naval magazines were stored. 1671 Milton *Samson* 1281 Thir Armories and Magazins. 1774 T. West *Antiq. Furness* (1805) 48 They took most part of their arms..with a coup laden with magazeen, drawn by six oxen. 1781 Gibbon *Decl. & F.* xxxi. III. 259 He used, with so much skill and resolution, a large magazine of darts and arrows, that [etc.]. 1810 Wellington in Gurw. *Desp.* (1838) VI. 27 A corps of 5000 men..had carried away a magazine of arms. 1813 *Ibid.* X. 419 Whenever a magazine of provisions shall be taken from the enemy by the troops.

fig. 1638 Baker tr. *Balzac's Lett.* (vol. III.) 242, I take not upon me to contend with you in complements..who.. have whole magasins of good words. 1663 Cowley *Misc., Chronicle*, The Lace, the Paint, and warlike things That make up all their Magazins. 1742 Young *Nt. Th.* II. 478 Speech burnishes our mental magazine; Brightens, for ornament; and whets for use. 1836 Emerson *Nature, Language* Wks. (Bohn) II. 154 That which was unconscious truth, becomes ..a new weapon in the magazine of power.

b. *gen.* A store, heap (of provisions, materials, etc.); † a stock of clothing, wardrobe.

1615 H. Crooke *Body of Man* 61 Next vnder the Skin lyeth the Fat..a Stowage or Magazine of nourishment against a time of dearth. 1624 Heywood *Captives* II. ii. in Bullen *O. Pl.* IV. 145 That have no more left of a magazine Then these wett cloathes upon mee. 1637— *Loud. Mirr.* Wks. 1874 IV. 314 By which small mites to Magazines increase. 1661 Evelyn *Fumifugium* To Rdr., The Deformity of so frequent Wharfes and Magazines of Wood, Coale, Boards, and other course Materials. 1669 J. Rose *Eng. Vineyard* (1675) 34 A load of lime, to every ten loads of dung, will make an admirable compost..but your magazine will require the maturity of two, or three years. 1712 Arbuthnot *John Bull* II. iv, She [Usury] had amassed vast magazines of all sorts of things. 1714 Gay *Fan* I. 243 Should you the Wardrobe's Magazine rehearse, And glossy Manteaus rustle in thy Verse. 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* I. x. (1840) 182 A.. magazine of flesh, milk, butter, and cheese. 1771 Goldsm. *Hist. Eng.* III. 165 A magazine of coals were usually deposited there. 1790 Bewick *Hist. Quadrupeds* (1807) 419 Each Beaver forms its bed of moss, and each family lays in its magazine of winter provisions. 1828 Syd. Smith *Wks.* (1859) II. 21/1 Distillation, too, always insures a magazine against famine. .. It opens a market for grain. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* ix. II. 437 In every asylum were collected magazines of stolen or smuggled goods.

fig. 1709 Sacheverell *Serm.* 15 Aug. 15 What a Magazine of Sin, what an Inexhaustible Fund of Debauchery,.. does any Author of Heresie..set up! 1795 Burke *Let. to W. Elliot* Wks. VII. 348 The magazine of topicks and common-places which I suppose he keeps by him. 1836–7 Sir W. Hamilton *Metaph.* (1877) I. ii. 23 An individual may possess an ample magazine of knowledge, and still be little better than an intellectual barbarian.

†4. A ship laden with stores, a victualling ship; more fully *magazine(s ship.* (Cf. F. *magasins*, 'the store-ships which attend on a fleet of men of war', Falconer *Dict. Marine, Fr. Sea-Terms* 1780.)

1624 Capt. Smith *Virginia* IV. 155 Some pety Magazines came this Summer. *Ibid.* v. 189 About this time arriued the *Diana* with a good supply of men and prouision, and the first Magazin euer seene in those Iles. *Ibid.* 194 The Magazin ship..came into the Harbour. *Ibid.* 195 He made..a large new storehouse of Cedar for the yeerely Magazines goods. *Ibid.* 196 The Magazins ship. *Ibid.* 198 Constrained to buy what they wanted, and sell what they had at what price the Magazin pleased.

5. †a. Used in the titles of books, with the sense (*fig.* from 1 and 2): A storehouse of information on a specified subject or for a particular class of persons. *Obs.*

1639 R. Ward, Animadversions of Warre; or, a Militarie Magazine of the trvest rvles..for the Managing of Warre. 1669 Sturmy, The Mariners Magazine. 1705 G. Shelley, The Penman's Magazine: or, a New Copy-book, of the English, French and Italian Hands. 1719 R. Hayes, Negociator's Magazine. 1802 J. Allen, Spiritual Magazine, or Christian's Grand Treasure.

b. A periodical publication containing articles by various writers; *chiefly*, a periodical publication intended for general rather than learned or professional readers, and consisting of a miscellany of critical and descriptive articles, essays, works of fiction, etc.

1731 (*title*) The Gentleman's Magazine: or, Monthly Intelligencer. [Cf. quot. 1731 in sense 1.] 1742 Pope *Dunc.* I. 42 Hence Journals, Medleys, Merc'ries, Magazines;..and all the Grub-street race. 1748 Lady Luxborough *Let. to Shenstone* 28 Apr., Nothing can be more just than the criticism upon the Play in the Magazine. 1758–65 Goldsm. *Ess., Spec. Mag.*, It is the life and soul of a magazine never to be long dull upon one subject. 1798 A. Tilloch (*title*) The Philosophical Magazine. 1819 Byron *Juan* I. cclxi, All other magazines of art or science, Daily, or monthly, or three monthly. 1823 (*title*) The Mechanics' Magazine. 1857 Mrs. Mathews *Tea-Table T.* I. 2 A Magazine is the fancy fair of literature—a reader's veritable bazaar. 1860 (*title*) Baily's Monthly Magazine of Sports and Pastimes. 1880 M'Carthy *Own Times* IV. lix. 304 He wrote largely on the subject in reviews and magazines.

6. In various transferred uses of sense 2. †a. A chamber for a supply of bullets in a 'magazine wind-gun'. b. A chamber in a repeating rifle, machine-gun, etc., containing a supply of cartridges which are fed automatically to the breech. c. A case in which a supply of cartridges is carried. d. A reservoir or supply-chamber in a machine, stove, battery, etc. e. *Magnetic magazine*: see quot.

a. 1744 Desaguliers *Exper. Philos.* II. 399 The small or shooting Barrel, which receives the Bullets one at a time from the Magazine, being a serpentine Cavity, wherein the Bullets..nine or ten, are lodged.

b. 1868 *Rep. to Govt. U. S. Munitions War* 28 Drop the cartridges into the outer magazine, ball foremost, to the number of seven. 1884 H. Bond *Treat. Small Arms* 89 Magazine arms in which the cartridges are placed in a tube or magazine under the barrel. 1890 Henty *With Lee in Virginia* 153 Many of the men carried repeating rifles, and the magazines were filled before these were slung across the riders' shoulders.

c. 1892 Greener *Breech Loader* 184 Cartridges are best carried in a magazine of solid leather.

d. 1873 J. Richards *Wood-working Factories* 45 Exhausting the air from the magazine by fans. 1884 Knight *Dict. Mech., Suppl.* 570/2 As in the Daniells' battery, which has a magazine of sulphate of copper crystals. 1893 Bothamley *Ilford Man. Photogr.* xix. 136 Hand-cameras..in which the plate-reservoir or magazine is detachable.

e. 1870 Atkinson tr. *Ganot's Physics* (ed. 4) 602 A magnetic battery or magazine consists of a number of magnets joined together by their similar poles.

7. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as (sense 5 b) *magazine article, -editor, -monger, paper, verse, world, -writer, writing*; (senses 1, 2) †*magazine house*, †*store-house*; (sense 1 c) †*magazine bag*; (sense 6 b) *magazine arms, rifle, weapon*; **magazine battery**, a voltaic battery with a magazine containing crystals to keep the solution saturated (Knight *Dict. Mech.* Suppl. 1884); **magazine camera**, a camera in which the plates for exposure are put in in batches; **magazine clothing**, woollen clothing to be put on before entering a powder magazine; **magazine day**, the day upon which periodical magazines are issued to the trade; **magazine gun**, † (*a*) (see quot. 1744), also called *magazine wind-gun* (obs.); (*b*) a gun (i. e. either a cannon or a rifle etc.) provided with a 'magazine' (sense 6 b); † **magazine ship** (see 4); **magazine stove** (see quot.); **magazine work**, (*a*) writing for magazines; (*b*) *Printing*, setting up type for magazines.

1868 *Rep. to Govt. U. S. Munitions War* 19 These cartridges cannot with safety be used in *magazine arms. 1884 [see 6 b]. 1854 S. Lover *Handy Andy* (ed. 4) Pref., The early pages were written..as a *magazine article. 1681 Chetham *Angler's Vade-m.* xxxiv. (1689) 185 The Angler must always have in readiness a large *Magazine Bag or Budget plentifully furnished with the following materials. 1893 *Beginner's Guide to Photogr.* (ed. 5) 130 The .. *Magazine Camera was highly extolled..as least complicated of Reservoir Cameras. 1876 Voyle & Stevenson *Milit. Dict.* 558 All persons employed in magazines..will.. change their own clothes and boots for *magazine clothing and slippers. 1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade*, **Magazine-day*. 1872 Forster *Life Dickens* I. 129 The magazine-day of that April month, I remember, fell upon a Saturday. 1877 W. T. Thornton *Word for Word fr. Horace* Pref. 8 Failing to discover a *Magazine-Editor good-natured enough to print any of my versions. 1744 Desaguliers *Exper. Philos.* II. 399 An ingenious Workman call'd L. Colbe has very much improv'd it [*sc.* the old Wind-Gun], by making it a *Magazine Wind-Gun; so that 10 Bullets are so lodg'd in a Cavity .. that they may be .., successively shot. *Ibid.*, The Magazine-Gun, as he calls it. 1880 *Encycl. Brit.* XI. 284/2 The Vetterli gun..is a repeater or magazine gun. *a* 1649 Drumm. of Hawth. *Consid. to Parlt.* Wks. (1711) 185 That..the town's *magazine-houses be furnished with arms. 1767 S. Paterson *Another Trav.* II. 134 A noted book-maker, *magazine-monger, and anti-critic of the eighteenth-century. 1833 *Fraser's Mag.* VIII. 482/1 He had written some smart *magazine papers, bound up in a volume called *Pelham*. 1876 Voyle & Stevenson *Milit. Dict.* 344/2 The best known *magazine rifles are the Spencer, the Winchester, and the Vetterli rifles. *a* 1654 in Wotton *Lett.* (1654) II. 91 To erect and set up..a Company, to be called The East Indian Company of Scotland, making their first *Magazin Storehouse..in some parts of our Realm of Ireland. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.*, **Magazine-stove*, one in which is a fuel-chamber which supplies coal to the fire as that in the grate burns away. 1891 E. Peacock *N. Brendon* I. 49 Please don't quote silly *magazine verses. 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 28 Aug. 5/1 The information as to *magazine or repeating weapons is very meagre. 1831 Carlyle in Froude *Life* (1882) II. 151 *Magazine work is below street-sweeping as a trade. 1891 *Labour Commission Gloss., Magazine Work*, printing work paid by the 100 lines. 1833 *Fraser's Mag.* VIII. 482/1 He {Bulwer} came into our *magazine world with an impertinent swagger. 1787 P. Maty tr. *Riesbeck's Trav. Germ.* II. xlv. 206 Reviewers, *magazine-writers. 1835 Marryat *Olla Podr.* xxx, *Magazine writing..is the most difficult of all writing.

Magazine, *v.* Now *rare*. [f. Magazine *sb.*] 1. *trans.* To lay up in or as in a magazine or storehouse. Also with *up*.

1643 *Let.* in Boys *Sandwich* (1792) 754 Those arms..shall be magazined up, in such convenient place as shall be thought fit. 1651 R. Child in *Hartlib's Legacy* (1655) 93 It is a great Deficiency in England, that we do not magazine or store up Corn. 1656 S. H. *Golden Law* 97 Thus the Sweden King, so the great Alexander,..did contract and magazine al the Honour &c. in their own names, which.. their Commanders, Officers, and Souldiery had a great share in. *a* 1734 North *Exam.* I. iii. (1740) 222 Such Secrets.. that, being magazined up in a Diary, might serve for Materials, as..might serve to build up his Plot.

2. *intr.* To conduct a magazine.

a 1763 [implied in the *ppl. a.* below].

Hence **Magazi·ning** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

a 1763 Byrom *Pass. Particip. Petit.* i. Poems 1773 I. 106 Urban or Sylvan,..thou foremost in the Fame Of Magazining Chiefs. 1862 Dana *Man. Geol.* iv. 747 The Vegetable Kingdom is a provision for the storing away or magazining of force for the Animal Kingdom.

Magaziner (mægăzī·nəɹ). *rare.* [f. Magazine *sb.* + -er¹.] One who writes articles for a magazine.

1758–65 Goldsm. *Ess., Spec. Mag.*, If a magaziner be dull upon the Spanish war, he soon has us up again with the Ghost in Cock-lane. 1834 *Fraser's Mag.* IX. 124 Considering Macaulay as a magaziner, his papers in Knight's *Quarterly* were in general full of talent.

Magazi·nery. *rare.* [f. as prec. + -ery.] The profession of a magazine-writer.

1833 *Fraser's Mag.* VIII. 482/1 We, the old long-trained veterans of magazinery.

Magazinish (mægăzī·nĭʃ), *a.* [f. as prec. + -ish¹.] Having the characteristics of what is usually found in magazines.

1794 Coleridge *Lett.* (1895) I. 117 The mediocrity of the eight first lines is most miserably magazinish. 1883 Black *Shandon Bells* xxvi, 'It is very magazinish', he said. 'Why should the magazines monopolize literature?' she answered.

Magazinism (mægăzī·nizm). [f. as prec. + -ism.] The profession of writing for magazines.

1882 *Spectator* 22 Apr. 533 Magazinism..is threatening now-a-days to become merely journalism writ large. 1889 *Sat. Rev.* 22 June 761/1 Is editing and conducting a magazine magazinism?

Magazinist (mægăzī·nist). [f. as prec. + -ist.] One who writes for magazines.

1821 *Blackw. Mag.* X. 557 Christopher, Cock of the North, Prince of Periodicals, and Monarch of Magazinists. 1823 De Quincey *Lett. Ymg. Man* iii. Wks. 1890 X. 43 Reviewer, magazinist and author of all work. 1880 M. Collins *Th. in Garden* I. 102 The modern magazinist is a pitiable poetaster.

Magaziny (mægăzī·ni), *a.* [f. as prec. + -y¹.] Of the nature of, or suitable for, a magazine.

1885 *Sat. Rev.* 9 May 621/2 Not unamusing, though a

little 'magaziny', to use a word of reproach. 1894 *Athenæum* 22 Sept. 383/2 We have heard his writings called 'shallow' and 'magaziny'.

Magdala (mæ·gdălă). The name of a town in Abyssinia, where a victory was gained in 1868 by General Napier. Used *attrib.* for the name of a red aniline dye.

1875 *Ure's Dict. Arts* (ed. 7). 1890 THORPE *Dict. Appl. Chem.* I. 233/2 Magdala red...This old and very beautiful colouring matter is the saffranine of the naphthalene series.

Magdalen, Magdalene (mæ·gdălĕn, -lĭn). [ad. Eccl. Latin (*Maria*) *Magdalēna*, *-lēnē*, a. Gr. (Μαρία ἡ) Μαγδαλήνη, (Mary) of Magdala (a town on the Sea of Galilee). The vernacular form of the word (adopted through Fr.) is MAUDLIN; the pronunciation (mɔ̄·dlin) represented by this spelling is still current for the names of Magdalen College, Oxford, and Magdalene College, Cambridge.]

1. a. *The Magdalen(e*: the appellation of a disciple of Christ named Mary, 'out of whom went seven devils' (Luke viii. 2). She has commonly been supposed to be identical with the unnamed 'sinner' of Luke vii. 37, and therefore appears in Western hagiology as a harlot restored to purity and elevated to saintship by repentance and faith. (In the full designation *Mary Magdalen'e* the article is omitted.) For early examples see also MAUDLIN *sb.*

c 1386 CHAUCER *Pars. T.* ¶ 428 As Iudas grucched ayeines the Magdaleyne. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xxxvii. 18 The Magdalene and Mare Salamee Abasit wer in spirit. 1850 S. DOBELL *Roman* ii, Heaven, Where angels hail the Magdalen. 1865 PLUMPTRE *Master & Scholar* 93 The twain, The sinner and the Magdalene, they joyed To think that [etc.].

b. A representation of Mary Magdalen in art.

1661 EVELYN *Diary* 9 Aug., Many excellent pictures, especialy the Magdalen of Caracci. 1851 RUSKIN *Stones Ven.* (1894) I. 160 But a smooth Magdalen of Carlo Dolci with a tear on each cheek..rarely fails of being verily, often deeply, felt for the time.

2. *transf.* One whose history resembles that of the Magdalen; *esp.* a reformed prostitute.

1697 DENNIS *Plot & no Plot* Epil., I, your young, buxom Magdalens despise, She-Saints, that have sev'n Devils in their eyes. [1737 BAILEY vol. II, *Magdalens*, an order of nuns, or rather worn out and penitent courtesans at Rome, upon whom a revenue was settled by Pope Clement VIII.] 1758 *Plan for establishing Magdalen-Charity* 36 The General Committee shall empower three of their number to visit the wards, to enquire into the behavior of the Magdalens [etc.]. 1777 SHERIDAN *Trip Scarb.* Prol., Those writers well and wisely use their pens Who turn our wantons into Magdalens. *a* 1882 TROLLOPE *Autobiog.* xviii. (1883) II. 180 A poor abased creature..with very little of the Magdalene about her—because though there may be Magdalenes they are not often found.

3. A home for the refuge and reformation of prostitutes. [Short for *Magdalen hospital.*]

1766 ENTICK *London* IV. 311 In Prescot-street..we find a modern institution..founded by the name of the Magdalen. 1792 MARY WOLLSTONECR. *Rights Wom.* iv. 155 Many innocent girls..are..'ruined' before they know the difference between virtue and vice...Asylums and Magdalenes are not the proper remedies for these abuses. 1859 C. BARKER *Assoc. Princ.* i. 1 The numerous temples, hospitals,..and magdalens which then covered our land.

4. The name of a kind of peach. [Cf. MAUDLIN.]

1706 LONDON & WISE *Retir'd Gard'ner* I. i. viii. 38 The White Magdalen has a..sugar'd winy Taste. 1719— *Compl. Gard.* p. viij. There are sometimes..but scurvy Peaches among the Minions, Magdalens, Violets, Admirables, &c. 1765 *Museum Rusticum* IV. iv. 17 The magdalene is generally a vigorous tree.

†5. Some plant. *Obs.* [Cf. MAUDLIN.]

c 1590 J. ELDRED in *Hakluyt's Voy.* (1599) II. i. 270 These camels will liue very well two or three dayes without water: their feeding is on thistles, worme-wood, magdalene, and other strong weeds.

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as (sense 1) *Magdalen-like* adj., *-look*, *-style*; **Magdalen day**, the feast of St. Mary Magdalen, 22 July; **Magdalen asylum, charity, home, hospital, house** = sense 3; **Magdalen** (also MAUDLIN) **pear**, some variety of pear; **Magdalen ward**, the ward (in a hospital) devoted to the reception of 'Magdalens'.

1869 LECKY *Europ. Mor.* iv. (1877) II. 98 *Magdalen asylums and foundling hospitals. 1758 (*title*) A plan for establishing a Charity-House..for the reception of repenting Prostitutes, to be called the *Magdalen Charity. 1485 *Certificate* in *Surtees Misc.* (1890) 46 The Sunday after þe *Magdaleyne day. 1901 *Daily Chron.* 14 Aug. 5/7 These institutions are *Magdalene homes. 1758 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 10 Aug. (1783) 104/2 The *Magdalen hospital in Goodman's fields..was opened. 1758 (*title*) The plan of the *Magdalen House for the reception of penitent Prostitutes. 1776 *Carlisle Mag.* 21 Sept. 169 Obtaining admittance into the Magdalen-house. 1794 CHARLOTTE SMITH *Wandering of Warwick* 169 With all her penitent looks, and *Magdalen-like graces. 1752 SIR H. BEAUMONT *Crito* 11 That *Magdalen-look in some fine Faces after weeping. 1741 *Compl. Fam.-Piece* II. iii. 388 And these Pears: [Aug.]..Gross Oignonet, *Magdalen Pear, Cassolette. 1765 *Ann. Reg., Charac.* 59/1 She wrote a letter to her husband d'Estiolles, in the true *Magdalen style; intreating him to receive her again.

†**Magdaleon.** *Pharmacy. Obs.* [ad. med.L. *magdaleōn-em*, *magdaleo* (whence F. *magdaléon*, 16th c.), also *magdalium*, f. Gr. μαγδαλιά, dough or bread-crumb (Galen), later form of *ἀπομαγδαλιά* soft bread to wipe one's hands upon at table, f. *ἀπομάσσειν* to wipe.] A cylindrical roll of plaster, salve, or any medicinal substance.

c 1450 *ME. Med. Bk.* (Heinrich) 182 When þou hast medled al þy poudre, þen forme þer of þy magdaleones in newe wyt leþer or in good pauper. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* II. iii. 74 Applying the magdaleon or roale unto the Needle it would both stir and attract it. 1670 W. SIMPSON *Hydrol. Ess.* 108 We..melted it, and in small lead pipes cast it into magdaleons..resembling common sulphur. 1673 E. BROWN *Trav. Germ.* etc. (1677) 168 We saw also the manner of casting the Brimstone into Rolls, or Magdaleons. 1725 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Sulphur*, They..liquify it [sulphur] by Fire, then pour it into Moulds, and form it into Sticks or Pieces, call'd abroad Magdaleons. 1731 BAILEY vol. II, *Magdaleon*, a roll of salve or plaister.

Magdeburg centuries, hemispheres: see CENTURY 8, HEMISPHERE 1 b.

Mage (mē·dʒ). *arch.* [Anglicized form of MAGUS. Cf. F. *mage* (OF. had *mague*).]

1. A magician; *transf.* a person of exceptional wisdom and learning.

c 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 95 We callen þe magis, þoo þat calculun bi þe sternis þingis to cum, wening as þei were Goddis gouernours. 1586 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* i. 157 Plato, after he was well instructed by Socrates, sought out the mages and wise men of Egypt, by whose meanes he saw the bookes of Moises. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* III. iii. 14 The hardy Mayd..the dreadfull Mage there fownd Depe husied bont worke of wondrous end. 1611 DONNE *Anat. World* 390 Th' Egyptian Mages. 1860 FORSTER *Gr. Remonstr.* 68 Though such circumstances worked well for the Mage [Henry VII] upon the English throne, he did not with all his craft [etc.]. 1869 TENNYSON *Coming of Arthur* 279 And there I saw mage Merlin.

†2. One of the magi: see MAGUS 1. *Obs.*

1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* IV. ii. 115 Their Mages..annoynted their sacrifice with oyle. 1594 R. ASHLEY tr. *Loys le Roy* 31 b, As we will declare hereafter when we speake of the Persians, and of their Mages.

Magecolle, variant of MACHECOLE *v. Obs.*

Mageirics, -istic: see MAGIRICS, -ISTIC.

†**Magel.** *Obs.* (Only in Trevisa.) Also **magg'ed, magil, magyl.** ? Fictitious, fabulous.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) V. 337 Here William telleþ a magel [*v. r.* maged] tale wiþ oute evidence. *Ibid.* 339 Madde men telle magel [*v. rr.* magil, magged] tales.

Magellan (măge·lăn). The Eng. form of the name of a famous Portuguese navigator, Fernão de Magalhães (? 1470–1521), the first European discoverer who passed through the channel now called the Straits of Magellan into the Pacific Ocean; used *attrib.* (or in possessive) = MAGELLANIC.

1638 J. CHILMEAD *Treat. Globes* II. vii. (Hakl. Soc.) 67 Our mariners used to call them Magellanes Clouds. 1671 OGILBY *Amer.* 474 *marg.*, Description of the Magellan Straights. 1696 PHILLIPS (ed. 5), *Magellan's Clouds*, two small Clouds of the same colour with *Via Lactea*, not far distant from the South Pole. 1840 R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast* v. 9 The Magellan Clouds consist of three small nebulæ in the southern part of the heavens. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk., Magellan Jacket*, a name given to a watch-coat with a hood, worn in bigh latitudes.

b. = 'Magellan's Straits', ? *nonce-use.*

1787 BURNS *To W. Simpson* vii, Or whare wild-meeting oceans boil Besouth Magellan.

Hence † **Magella·nian** *a.* = next.

1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 1 The Magellanian Clouds.

Magellanic (mægelæ·nik), *a.* [ad. mod.L. *Magellanic-us*, f. MAGELLAN: see -IC.] Pertaining to or named after Magellan (see prec.), used in the appellations of regions discovered by him, nautical objects, etc.

Magellanic bark, a kind of Peruvian bark. **Magellanic Clouds**, two large globular cloudy spots formed of vast numbers of nebulæ and clusters of stars, visible in the southern hemisphere. **Magellanic fox** (see quot.). **Magellanic jacket**, a sailor's watch-coat with a hood. **Magellanic regions**, those regions of Patagonia visited by Magellan. †**Magellanic Sea**, the South Pacific Ocean. **Magellanic Straits**, the straits through which Magellan passed from the Atlantic to the Pacific.

1775 SIR E. BARRY *Observ. Wines* 221 An equal quantity of the Peruvian and *Magellanic bark. 1685–6 MACKRITH *Let.* 5 Feb. in *Boyle's Wks.* (1744) V. 651 The *Magellanick clouds..consist of a greater and a lesser. 1880 PAOCTOR *Poetry Astron.* xii. 434 The Magellanic Clouds are roughly spherical in shape. 1837 J. E. GRAY in *Mag. Nat. Hist.* Nov. 578 *Vulpes magellanica* (*Magellanic Fox). Greyish, varied with black on the back [etc.]. Inhabits Magellan's Straits. 1773 HAWKESWORTH *Voy.* II. 40 Each of them received what is called a *Magellanic jacket and a pair of trowsers. The jacket is made of a thick woollen stuff called Fearnought. 1771 *Ann. Reg.* 2/2 That..right which they [the Spaniards] pretend to all the *Magellanic regions. 1602 *Metamorph. Tabacco* (1863) 17 The *Magellanick sea her visions brought. 1708 *Brit. Apollo* No. 91. 2/2 The Magellanic Sea. 1696 J. EDWARDS *Demonstr. Exist. & Provid. God* I. 231 The people about the *Megallanick Streights are white.

Magenta (mădʒe·ntă). The name of a town in Northern Italy where, in 1859, the Austrians were defeated by the French and Sardinians. Used for the name of a brilliant crimson aniline dye, discovered shortly after the date of the battle.

1860 *R. Smith's Patent* 11 Aug. in *Newton's Lond. Jrnl. Arts & Sci.* (1861) XIII. 225 What is called 'Magenta red',..may be obtained as follows. 1861 R. HUNT in *St. James's Mag.* I. 43 The much-admired tones of the Mauve and Magenta. 1863 W. ROBERTS in *Proc. Roy. Soc.* XII. 481 On Peculiar Appearances exhibited by Blood-corpuscles under the influence of Solutions of Magenta and Tannin. 1891 *Truth* 10 Dec. 1240/2 Velvet of a peculiarly bright and daring tone of dahlia red, almost a magenta.

b. *attrib.* passing into *adj.*

1875 HUXLEY & MARTIN *Elem. Biol.* (1877) 7 Run in magenta solution under the cover-glass. 1877 READE *Wom. Hater* ix. I. 208 He wore..a magenta tie that gave Zoe a pain in the eye. 1896 BARRIE *Marg. Ogilvy* ix. 178, I used to wear a magenta frock and a white pinafore.

c. Qualifying other designations of colour.

1882 *Garden* 29 Apr. 288/2 Tulips..Proserpine, magenta-pink. *Ibid.* 298/3 The flowers..a glowing magenta-crimson.

Mager, variant of MAUGRE.

Mageram, obs. form of MARJORAM.

Magery, obs. form of MAUGRE.

Mageste, -ical, obs. ff. MAJESTY, MAJESTICAL.

Magest-: see MAGIST-.

†**Magg**, *v.*[1] *Obs. rare* −[1]. [Cf. MAGGLE.] *trans.* To mangle.

a 1400–50 *Alexander* 1268 (Ashm. MS.) Þen mournes all þe Messedones..For maistris & mynistris menere & grettir, Þat was in morsels magged (*Dublin MS.* made) & martrid a hundreth.

Magg (mæg), *v.*[2] *Sc.* [? f. MAG *sb.*[2], magpie.] *trans.* To pilfer.

1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Mid Lot.* xlii, I hae made a clean house o' Jenny Balchristie and her niece. They were a bad pack—steal'd meat and mault, and loot the carters magg the coals.

Magged (mægd), *a. Naut.* (See quot.)

1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk., Magged*, worn, fretted, and stretched rope, as a magged brace.

Magger, Magget, variants of MAUGRE, MAGGOT.

Maggezzine, obs. form of MAGAZINE.

Maggie (mæ·gi). [f. MAG *sb.*[2] + -IE.]

1. *Sc.* A girl.

1603 *Philotus* cxxxvi, Ze trowit to get ane burd of blisse, To haue ane of thir Maggies. 1819 G. BEATTIE *Ketty Fert* Poems (1826) 83 Troth, little profit has she made By fisher maggies.

2. *Sc.* Local name for the Common Guillemot (*Alca troile*).

1885 in SWAINSON *Provinc. Names Birds.*

3. *Rifle-shooting.* = MAGPIE 7, MAG *sb.*[2] 3.

1901 *Daily Chron.* 22 July 7/2 The Englishman fired again, and once more it was only a 'maggie'.

Magging (mæ·gĭŋ), *vbl. sb. slang.* [f. MAG *v.* + -ING[1].] Chattering, talking.

1814 PEGGE *Suppl. to Grose, Magging*, prating, chattering. *a* 1845 HOOD *Sweep's Complaint* 34 But I'm bound the members as silenced us, in doing it had plenty of magging. 1849 ALB. SMITH *Pottleton Leg.* vii. 48 'It's a pity she's so deaf'. ..'Oh, it's a great comfort, sir. .. It stops all magging'. 1864 E. YATES *Broken to Harness* xxx, The chatter and magging of these silly women.

†**Mag·gle,** *v. Sc. Obs.* Also 6 **maggill, magel,** 7 **maigle.** [Of obscure etymology: connexion with MANGLE *v.* is difficult to justify.] *trans.* To mangle, maul, damage.

1456 SIR G. HAVE *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 278 Gif it hapnyt ony..man to be slayn in felde, and sa maggilt that his visage mycht nocht be knawin. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* lix. 3 A refyng sone of rakyng Muris Hes magellit my making. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis, Time, etc. of Transl.* 24 Bot redis leill, and tak gud tent in tyme, Sche nowder maggill nor mismetir my ryme. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 10 26 To Maggle, *mactare, excarnificare. Ibid.* 127/24 To Maggil, *mactitare.*

Hence **Ma·ggled** *ppl. a.*

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VI. viii. 30 King Priamus son, with body tore and rent, Thair he beheld, and creuell maglit face. *a* 1555 LYNDESAY *Tragedie* 385 Lyke doytit Doctoris new cum out of Athenis, And mummyll ouer ane pair of maglit matenis. 1603 *Philotus* cliii, My maiglit face maks mee to feill, That myne man be the same [i. e. a devil].

Maggot[1] (mæ·gŏt). Forms: 4, 6 **magotte,** 5 **magat, maked,** 5–6 **mag(g)ote,** 5–7, 9 **magot,** 6 **mag(g)ette, magot(t)e,** 7 **magget,** 6– **maggot.** [Prob. related in some way to the synonymous ME. *maðek* MADDOCK; but the exact formation is not easy to determine.

The 15th c. form *maked* (only once, in a glossary) may be a metathetic alteration of *maðek*, *madek*; but even if so, it may be only an individual blunder, and in any case it seems unlikely to be the source of the mod. form; more probably it represents an occasional pronunciation of *maggot* (cf. mod. Somerset *macket* for MAGGOT[2]). Possibly the form *mak*, MAWK (a variant of MADDOCK) may have suggested a jocular application of the female nickname *Maggot* for Margaret (cf. MAGGOT[2] and the north midland dial. *dick* for a louse).]

1. a. A worm or grub of the kind formerly supposed to be generated by corruption; chiefly applied to the larva of a dipterous fly, *esp.* those of the cheese-fly and the flesh-fly or 'blue-bottle'. *Red maggot*: the larva (destructive to corn) of the wheat-midge.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVIII. CXV. (1495) 856 Magottes ben wormes that brede of corrupt and rotyd moysture in flesshe. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 321 (s.v. *Make*) *Winchester MS.*, Magat, may, or math, *tarmus*, *cimex* [*Phillipps MS. and Pynson c* 1500 *have* magot]. *c* 1475 *Pict. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 767/5 *Hic tarinus* [read *tarmus*], *hic simax* [? = *cimex*], a maked. 1496 *Fysshynge w. Angle* (1883) 29 In Juyll take..the codworme & maggotes vnto Mighelmas. *c* 1515 *Cocke Lorell's B.* 2 His hosen gresy upon his thyes, That place for magottes was very good. 1542 BOORDE *Dyetary* xiii, In High Alemen the chese whiche is full of magotes is called there the best chese. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* IV. iii. 24 Your worm is your onely Emperor for diet. We fat all creatures else to fat vs, and we fat our

selfe for Magots. 1663 BUTLER *Hud.* I. iii. 1276 But I deny they are the same, More then a Maggot and I am. 1698 G. THOMAS *Pensilvania* (1848) 22 Sheep..are generally free from those infectious Diseases..the Rot, Scab, or Maggots. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) VIII. 4 Caterpillars may be easily distinguished from worms or maggots, by the number of their feet. 1859 DARWIN *Orig. Spec.* xiv. (1873) 387 The larva or maggot of a fly, namely the Cecidomyia, producing asexually other larvæ. 1867 F. FRANCIS *Angling* i. (1880) 27 Maggots, or gentles, as they are more commonly called by metropolitan anglers. 1871 TYNDALL *Fragm. Sci.* (1879) II. xiii. 293, I jumped to the conclusion that these maggots had been spontaneously generated in the meat. 1886 *Times* 18 Aug. 10/6 The wheat midge ..produces the red maggots which so seriously damage the ripening ears of corn.

fig. 1649 G. DANIEL *Trinarch., Hen. IV* ccclxxi, The Maggots of the Court Eate into favour; where they bred, they bite. 1780 COWPER *Progr. Err.* 326 Ye pimps..Who fasten without mercy on the fair, And suck, and leave a crawling maggot there. 1809 E. S. BARRETT *Setting Sun* II. 123 The disgusting scene of the maggots of avarice, corruption, and meretricious influence preying on the state.

2. A whimsical or perverse fancy; a crotchet.

a 1625 FLETCHER *Women Pleased* III. iv, Are not you mad, my friend?..Have not you Maggots in your braines? *c* 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* (1688) II. 328 There's a strange Magot hath got into their Brain. 1678 DRYDEN *Limberham* v. i, What new maggot's this; you dare not, sure, be jealous! 1685 S. WESLEY (*title*) Maggots; or Poems on several subjects. 1693 SHADWELL *Volunteers* v. Wks. 1720 IV. 480 *Blunt.* Ha Fellow! what dost thou mean by a maggot? *Hob.* Sir, a little concern of mine in my way, a little whim, or so, Sir. 1717 PRIOR *Alma* I. 400 Your Horace owns, he various writ, As wild or sober maggots bit. 1784 BURNS *Common Pl. Bk.* August, One who spends the hours..with Ossian, Shakspeare, .. &c.; or, as the maggot takes him, a gun, a fiddle, or a song to make or mend. 1802 WOLCOT (P. Pindar) *Pitt & his Statue* Wks. 1812 IV. 501 Soon as a maggot crept into my head I caught a stump of pen and put it down. 1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* xxxviii, For a' the nonsense maggots that ye whiles take into your head, ye are the maist wise and discreet o' a' our country gentles. 1898 D. C. MURRAY *Tales* 255 She's got some maggot in her head about being loved for her own sake.

† b. Fancifulness. *Obs. rare.*

1701 COLLIER *M. Anton.* etc. 257 A handsome young Lady ..dress'd like Quality, but not to any degree of Magot or Curiosity.

c. *Proverb.*

1687 MIEGE *Gt. Fr. Dict.* II. s.v., I shall do it, when the magget bites. *Je le ferai, quand il m'en prendra envie.*

† d. Used in the names of many dance tunes. *Obs.*

1716 *Dancing-Master* (ed. 16) 179 Betty's Maggot. *Ibid.* 180 Mr. Beveridge's Maggot. *Ibid.* 191 Huntington's Maggot. *Ibid.* 203 Drapers Maggot. *Ibid.* 211 Mr. Lane's Maggot. *Ibid.* 224 Captain's Maggot. *Ibid.* 245 My Lord Byron's Maggot. *Ibid.* 258 Carpenters Maggot. *Ibid.* 264 George's Maggot [etc.]. 1719 *Ibid.* II. 75 [ten similar titles].

3. A whimsical or capricious person.

1681 T. FLATMAN *Heraclitus Ridens* No. 39 (1713) I. 259 Whose britch has most Fire in it, Harry's, or the Maggots and Whigs? *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Maggot*, a whimsical Fellow, full of strange Fancies. 1725 BAILEY *Erasm. Colloq.* (1733) 230 You were as great a Maggot as any in the World when you were at Paris. 1735 DYCHE & PARDON *Dict., Maggot*,..a whimsical Fellow that is full of strange freakish Fancies.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *maggot ostentation*; *maggot-eaten*, (sense 2) *-headed*, *-pated* adjs.; **maggot-boiler** *slang*, a tallow-chandler; **maggot-fishing**, angling with a maggot for bait; †**maggot-monger**, a crotchetcer; †**maggot-pate**, a silly whimsical person; **maggot-pimple**, a form of acne (*Acne punctata*); **maggot-race**, a race between maggots or grubs.

1796 *Grose's Dict. Vulgar Tongue*, **Maggot-boiler*, a tallow chandler. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* Democr. to Rdr. (1651) 28 Going barefoot to..our Lady of Lauretts..to creep to those counterfeit and *Maggot-eaten Reliques. 1804 *Kentish Angler* title-p., Worm, Minnow, Cadis, and *Maggot Fishing. *a* 1695 WOOD *Life* (O. H. S.) I. 273 A *maggot-headed person and humourous. 1660 *Bibliotheca Fanatica* 2 Jeremy Ives, the gifted *Maggot-Monger. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* v. ii. 409 These summer flies, Haue blowne me full of *maggot ostentation. 1622 FLETCHER *Sp. Curate* IV. v, Did you thinke, had this man been rich, ..He would have chosen such a Wolfe, a Cancker, A *Maggot-pate, to be his whole Executor. 1681 T. FLATMAN *Heraclitus Ridens* No. 39 (1713) I. 259 The *Maggot-pated Whigs, who would..set us all on Fire at Home. 1687 KIRBY & BISHOP *Marrow of Astrol.* I. 60 Nice conclusions, and maggot pated whimsies, to no purpose. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Bully-fop*, a Maggot-pated, huffing, silly, ratling Fellow. 1822 GOOD *Study Med.* II. 292 It is necessary to make the pressure harder than for the discharge of the mucus in the *maggot-pimple. 1856 MAYNE *Expos. Lex., Maggot Pimple*, a common name for the *Varus punctatus*. 1792 W. ROBERTS *Looker-on* No. 28 (1794) I. 400 To run a *maggot-race with Jack Smoaky. 1810 *Sporting Mag.* XXXV. 69 Lost fifty pounds with Jack Frolic on a maggot race.

Maggot[2] (mæ·gŏt). [A use of *Magote* (Cursor M. 25455), a. F. *Margot*, pet name for *Marguerite* Margaret.] †**a.** Applied as a proper name to (*a*) a magpie; (*b*) a sow. *Obs.* **b.** A magpie (see also MAGGOT-PIE). Now *dial.*

1573, etc. [see MAGGOT-PIE]. 1608 H. CLAPHAM *Errour on Left Hand* 49 Maggot my sow. 1791 WOLCOT (P. Pindar) *Magpie & Robin* Wks. 1812 II. 475 All on a sudden, Maggot starts and stares. 1848 *Zoologist* VI. 2290 The magpie is a 'maggot' [in Worcestershire].

Ma·ggotiness. [f. MAGGOTY + -NESS.] Maggoty condition. 1727 BAILEY vol. II, *Maggottiness.*

†**Ma·ggotish,** *a. Obs.* [f. MAGGOT[1] 2 + -ISH.] Crotchety.

a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Whimsical*, maggotish. 1731 BAILEY, *Freakish, freaked*, whimsical, maggottish.

Ma·ggot-pie. *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Forms: 6 **maggot the py**, 6–7 **mag(g)ot-a-pie**, 7 **magot o' pie, magata-, meggata-, maggotte-, maggoti-pie, pye, maggot-pie, -pye**, 9 *dial.* **maggotty-pie.** [f. MAGGOT[2] (as quasi-proper name) + PIE; the middle syllable of some forms represents *the*; cf. F. *Margot la pie.*] A magpie.

1573 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 108 If gentils be scrauling, call magget the py. 1598 FLORIO, *Garzetta*, a magot a pie, or piot..*Gazzotto*, a maggot-a-pie. 1604 BRETON *Grimellos Fortunes* D 4 b, His wife..had in her house a young Pie; (which we call a Magot-a-Pie). 1605 SHAKS. *Mach.* III. iv. 125 Maggot Pyes, & Choughes, & Rookes. 1605 CAMDEN *Rem.* (1637) 166 So an Hare on a bottle for Harebottle; a Maggot-pie upon a Goate for Pigot [etc.]. 1611 COTGR., *Agasse*, a Pie, Piannet, or Magatapie. *Ibid., Pie*, a Pye, Pyannat, Meggata-pye. 1632 CHAPMAN & SHIRLEY *Ball* I. i, At the Maggot-a-pie in the Strand, Sir. 1681 HICKERINGILL *Black Non-Conf.* Introd., Wks. 1716 II. 2 Did you never see a Crow or a Maggottepye sit pecking, and cawing..upon an Asses back? 1893 *Wilts. Gloss., Maggotty-pie*.. still in use.

†**Ma·ggotry.** *Obs.* [f. MAGGOT[1] + -RY.] Folly, absurdity.

1706 *Reflex. upon Ridicule* 326 The maggotry of some people is inconceivable. 1731 MEDLEY *Kolben's Cape G. Hope* I. 309 The magotry is this.

Maggoty (mæ·gŏti), *a.* [f. MAGGOT[1] + -Y.]

1. Full of maggots.

1727 BAILEY vol. II, *Maggotty*, full of Maggots. 1787 FARLEY *Lond. Art Cookery* (ed. 4) 13 If it [cheese] be ..full of holes, it will give reason to suspect that it is maggotty. 1844 *P. Parley's Ann.* V. 293 Jack..was fed with maggoty biscuit and bilge water. 1867 *Morn. Star* 9 Sept., A man was let off lightly for working up maggoty meat into polonies.

2. Full of whims and foolish fancies; freakish.

1678 NORRIS *Coll. Misc.* (1699) 136 To pretend to work out a neat Scheme of Thoughts with a maggoty unsettled Head is..ridiculous. 1706 FARQUHAR *Recruiting Officer* II. ii, Then should I have some rogue of a builder...Transform my noble oaks and elms into cornices..to adorn some maggoty, new-fashioned bauble upon the Thames. 1707 *Reflex. upon Ridicule* 304 He borrows an apish and magotty Carriage. 1816 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* (1843) I. 126 The common saying that a whimsical person is maggoty..perhaps arose from the freaks the sheep have been observed to exhibit when infested by their bots. 1834–43 SOUTHEY *Doctor* xxiv. (1862) 62 His son proved as maggoty as the father. 1864 R. REID *Old Glasgow* 381 A maggoty fancy.

b. *Comb.*, as *maggoty-headed*, *-pated* adjs.

1667 WOOD *Life* 31 Aug., He [Aubrey] was a shifiless person, roving and magotie-headed. 1850 *N. & Q.* 1st Ser. II. 173/2 A maggoty-pated fellow is often used to express a whimsical man.

Magh(e, variant of MAUGH, MAW.

†**Magha.** *Obs. rare*[−1]. [App. misspelling of L. *maga*, fem. of MAGUS.] A sorceress.

1609 DANIEL *Civ. Wars* VIII. cv, And doth with idle rest deforme vs more Than any Magha can or sorceresse.

Maght, maȝt, etc.: see MIGHT, etc.

Magi (mē·ldʒi), *sb. pl.*: see MAGUS.

Magian (mē·ldʒiăn), *a.* and *sb.* [f. L. MAG-US + -IAN.] **A.** *adj.* **a.** Of or pertaining to the Magi.

1716 PRIDEAUX *O. & N. Test. Connect.* I. IV. (1718) 170 Another reformation which he [Zoroaster] made in the Magian religion, was [etc.]. 1796 BP. WATSON *Apol. Bible* 160 Addicted to the magian superstition of two independent Beings. 1875 LIGHTFOOT *Comm. Coloss.* 151 It was then.. that the magian system took root in Asia Minor.

b. Magical. (*poet. rare.*)

1818 KEATS *Endym.* III. 264 Will he..keep me as a chosen food to draw His magian fish through hated fire and flame?

B. *sb.* One of the Magi; a follower of or believer in the Magi; a magician, wizard.

1578 *Bk. Com. Prayer* New Calendar 6 Jan., The Magians as vpon this day..worshipped Christ. 1716 PRIDEAUX *O. & N. Test. Connect.* I. IV. (1718) 174 It is not to be understood that all Magians, that is, all of the sect, were thus learned. 1768–74 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 471 His star appeared in the East, filling the Magians there with exceeding great joy. 1817 BYRON *Manfred* II. iv. 31 A Magian of great power, and fearful skill! 1861 GOLDW. SMITH *Lect. Mod. Hist.* 61 It little avails the king to rule the people if the Magian is to rule the king. 1877 *Outlines Hist. Relig.* 165 The Magians were..a pre-Semitic and pre-Aryan priestly tribe in West Asia.

Magianism (mē·ldʒiăniz'm). [f. MAGIAN + -ISM.] The tenets or doctrines of the Magi.

1716 PRIDEAUX *O. & N. Test. Connect.* I. IV. (1718) 171 His [Zoroaster's] reformation of Magianism. 1841 *Blackw. Mag.* XLIX. 233 Some .. were so deeply tainted..with mysticism and Magianism, as to retain but little trace of the primitive doctrines of Islam. 1864 PUSEY *Lect. Daniel* vi. 325 He had the..prejudice, that the Bible was indebted to Magianism for the belief in the life to come. 1880 HUXLEY in *19th Cent.* June 932 His mode of divination was fraught with danger to magianism in general.

Magic (mæ·dʒik), *sb.* Forms: 4–6 **magike, magyke**, (5 **malgyk, 6 magict, magika**), 4–7 **magique, 7–8 magick, 7 magic.** [ad. OF. *magique*, ad. late L. *magica* (Pliny has *magicē* = Gr. μαγική sc. τέχνη), subst. use (by ellipsis of *ars* art) of the fem. of *magicus* MAGIC *a.*

In the mod. Rom. langs. the place of the word is taken by the cognate F. *magie*, It., Sp., Pg. *magia*, ad. med.L. *magia*, a. Gr. μαγεία f. μάγος MAGUS.]

1. The pretended art of influencing the course of events, and of producing marvellous physical phenomena, by processes supposed to owe their efficacy to their power of compelling the intervention of spiritual beings, or of bringing into operation some occult controlling principle of nature; sorcery, witchcraft. Also, the practice of this art.

The 'magic' which made use of the invocation of evil or doubtful spirits was of course always regarded as sinful; but *natural magic*, i. e. that which did not involve recourse to the agency of personal spirits, was in the Middle Ages usually recognized as a legitimate department of study and practice, so long as it was not employed for maleficent ends. Of 'natural magic' as understood by mediæval writers, typical examples are the making of an image, under certain astrological conditions, in order to injure or benefit the health of the person represented; and the application of a medicament to a weapon in order to heal the wound made by it. These things, if now practised, would still be called 'magic', though the qualification 'natural' would seem quite inappropriate. On the other hand, the 'natural magic' of the Middle Ages included much that from the standpoint of modern science is 'natural', but not 'magical', the processes resorted to being really, according to the now known laws of physical causation, adapted to produce the intended effects.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Man of Law's T.* 116 They speken of Magyk and Abusion. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 46 Magique he useth forto winne His love. 1447 BOKENHAM *Seyntys* (Roxb.) 268 The myht of malgyk or enchauntement. 1490 CAXTON *Eneydos* xxiv. 88 She inuoqued..the moder of magyque in her triple proporcyon. 1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* xxxvi. (Percy Soc.) 189 My swerde..set with magykes arte. 1569 BP. PARKHURST *Injunctions* Articles to be inquired of P 29 Whether ye know any that vse any sorcerie Inchantments, Magika [etc.]. 1581 N. BURNE *Disput.* xxii. 102 b, As for the practeis of magict I micht obiect vnto you Willox, quhais sone raised the deuil. *c* 1590 MARLOWE *Faust* Prol., Nothing so sweete as magicke is to him. 1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* II. x. 89 When they cannot flie up to heaven to make it a Miracle, they fetch it from hell to make it Magick. 1776 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xxiii. (1869) I. 649 The arts of magic and divination were strictly prohibited. 1867 W. W. SMYTH *Coal & Coal-mining* 194 It is like an effect of magic to pass, with the safety-lamp in hand, into a fiery stall. 1884 H. JENNINGS *Phallicism* ii. 8 Magic, which means the unnatural interference with nature.

b. With defining adj. *Black magic* [= F. *magie noire*]: a designation given by modern writers to the kind of magic that was supposed to involve the invocation of devils; opposed to *white magic* [= F. *magie blanche*]. *Natural magic*: see above.

c 1384 CHAUCER *H. Fame* III. 176 And Clerkes eke which konne wel Alle this magikes naturel That craftely doon her ententes To maken in certeyn ascendentes Ymages, lo, throughwhich magike To make a man ben hool or syke. *c* 1386 — *Prol.* 416. 1477 NORTON *Ord. Alch.* i. in Ashm. (1652) 21 And also of Magique naturall. 1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* I. iv. § 11 Natural magic pretendeth to call and reduce natural philosophy from variety of speculations to the magnitude of works. 1718 BP. HUTCHINSON *Witchcraft* ii. (1720) 34 White Magic, that pretends to deal only with Good Angels. 1871 TYLOR *Prim. Cult.* I. 125 What with slavery and what with black-magic, life is precarious among the Wakhutu.

† c. A magical procedure or rite; also *concr.* a magical object, a charm, fetish. *Obs.*

c 1386 CHAUCER *Sqr.'s T.* 210 It is rather lyk An apparence ymaad by sŏm Magyk. 1573 L. LLOYD *Pilgr. Princes* 37 There are diuers kindes of these Magicks, whereby they bragge and boast that they are able to do any thing, and that they know hereby all things. 1603 DRAYTON *Bar. Wars* II. xi, To sing..Of gloomie Magiques, and benumming Charmes. 1814 BRACKENRIDGE *Jrnl.* in *Views Louisiana* 256 Besides their public resident lodge, in which they have a great collection of magic, or sacred things, every one has his private magic in his lodge about his person. *Ibid.* 257 On these occasions, each one suspends his private magic on a high pole before his door.

2. *fig.* A secret and overmastering influence resembling magic in its effects.

1611 SHAKS. *Winter T.* v. iii. 39 Oh Royall Peece: There's Magick in thy Maiestie. *a* 1631 DONNE *Poems* (1650) 19 All such rules, loves magique can undoe. 1702 *Eng. Theophrast.* 104 Civility is a strong Political magick. 1792 S. ROGERS *Pleas. Mem.* II. 26 The Moon..gilds the brow of night With the mild magic of reflected light. 1805 FOSTER *Ess.* IV. v. 192 A transforming magic of genius. 1822 W. IRVING *Braceb. Hall* iii. 28 The work of the house is performed as if by magic, but it is the magic of system. 1837 DISRAELI *Venetia* I. xviii, What mourner has not felt the magic of time? 1869 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1876) III. xi. 60 Won over by the magic of his personal presence.

3. *transf.* The art of producing (by legerdemain, optical illusion, or devices suggested by knowledge of physical science) surprising phenomena resembling the pretended results of 'magic'; conjuring.

1831 BREWSTER (*title*) Natural Magic. *Mod. Advt.*, Professor —'s Home of Magic and Mystery.

4. *Comb.*, as *magic-monger*; *magic-gifted*, *-like*, *-planted*, *-tempered* adjs.

1811 W. R. SPENCER *Poems* 49 [Painting's] *magic-gifted hand. 1862 LYTTON *Str. Story* II. 223 That wand, of which I have described to you the *magic-like effects. 1635–56 COWLEY *Davideis* I. 519 *note*, Which Texts..are ill produc'd by the *Magick-mongers for a Proof of the Power of Charms. 1852 J. H. NEWMAN *Callista* (1856) 168 Mere atheists and magic-mongers. 1759 MASON *Caractacus* 2 These mighty piles of *magic-planted rock. 1777 WARTON *Poems* 71 The monarch's massy blade Of *magick temper'd metal made.

Magic (mæ·dʒik), *a.* [a. F. *magique* (= Pr. *magic*, Sp. *mágico*, It., Pg. *magico*), ad. L. *magic-us*, ad. Gr. μαγικός, lit. pertaining to the Magi, f. μάγος: see MAGUS.]

1. Of or pertaining to magic (freq. in phr. † *art magic, magic arts,* etc.). Also, working or produced by enchantment. Not in predicative use.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 259 Jason..Upon Medea made him bold, Of art magique, which sche couthe. *a* 1547 SURREY *Æneid* IV. (1557) F iij, To magike artes against my will I bend. *c* 1590 GREENE *Fr. Bacon* iv, Set him but Non-plus in his magicke spels. 1591 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. VI*, I. i. 26 Sorcerers ..By Magick Verses haue contriu'd his end. 1634 MILTON *Comus* 798 Till all thy magick structures rear'd so high, Were shatter'd into heaps o're thy false head. 1658 WALLER *Æneis* IV. Poems (1664) 189 With loose hair The Magick Prophetess begins her prayr. 1679 DRYDEN *Troilus & Cr.* II. iii, He may know his man without art magic. 1695 LD. PRESTON *Boeth.* IV. 175 Whilst into various Forms her Magick Hand Doth turn those Men. 1736 GRAY *Statius* I. 54 The sun's pale sister, drawn by magic strain. 1767 SIR W. JONES *Seven Fount.* in *Poems* (1777) 41 A..joyless place, A scene of nameless deeds, and magick spells. 1830 PUSEY *Hist. Eng.* II. 289 By some magic process [to] form the dissevered members into a frame of more youthful vigour.

b. Of a material object, a diagram, etc.: Employed in magic rites, endued with magic powers, enchanted. *Magic glass, mirror*: one in which the spectator is supposed to see the representation of future events or distant scenes; often *fig.*

1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 446 This..With noxious Weeds..Dire Stepdames in the Magick Bowl infuse. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 332 P 1 They describe a sort of Magick Circle. 1786 BURNS *To J. S.* xii, Where Pleasure is the Magic-wand, That, wielded right, Maks Hours like Minutes [etc.]. 1792 S. ROGERS *Pleas. Mem.* I. 91 Memory—What softened views thy magic glass reveals. 1843 CARLYLE *Past & Pr.* II. i, And in this manner vanishes King Lackland; traverses swiftly our strange intermittent magic-mirror. 1870 L'ESTRANGE *Life Miss Mitford* I. vi. 185 The possessor of a magic crystal ball. 1877 W. JONES *Finger-ring* 107 A portrait of Hadrian, engraved with Mercury in a magic ring. 1903 F. W. H. MYERS *Human Personality* I. 158 Just as the magic mill of the fable continues magical.

† c. Addicted to magic. *Obs. rare.*

1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 24 A Magique Nation.

2. Producing wonderful appearances or results, like those commonly attributed to sorcery.

1696 [see MAGIC LANTERN]. 1744 AKENSIDE *Pleas. Imag.* I. 16 The glances of her magic eye, She blends and shifts at will. 1826 SCOTT *Rev. Life Kemble* in *Lockhart* ii. (1839) 22/1 The vain longings which we felt that..the magic curtain [would] once more arise. 1842 TENNYSON *Day Dream, Arrival* iv, The Magic Music in his heart Beats quick and quicker. 1877 C. GEIKIE *Christ* xlix. (1879) 589 Water at all times is a magic word in a sultry climate like Palestine.

3. *Magic square*: a diagram consisting of a square divided into smaller squares, in each of which a number is written, their position being so arranged that the sum of the figures in a row, vertical, horizontal, or diagonal, is always the same. *Magic circle*: an arrangement of numbers in concentric circles with radial divisions, with arithmetical properties similar to those of the magic square; invented by Benj. Franklin in 1749.

1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn., Magick Square.* 1749 FRANKLIN *Let.* Wks. 1887 II. 159 You will readily allow this square of sixteen to be the most magically magical of any magic square ever made by any magician. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) X. 422 Dr. Franklin..has constructed, not only a magic square of squares, but likewise a magic circle of circles. [Description follows.] 1892 BARNARD SMITH & HUDSON *Arithm. for Sch.* 19 Magic and nasik squares.

Magical (mæ·dʒikăl), *a.* [f. MAGIC *a.* + -AL.]

1. Of or pertaining to magic; = MAGIC *a.* 1.

1555 EDEN *Decades* 181 They..vsed certeine secreate magicall operations. *c* 1590 MARLOWE *Faust* i, Come, shewe me some demonstrations magical. *c* 1610 *Women Saints* 146 The superstition of the Christians, whose magicall artes do make them verie bragge. 1665 GLANVILL *Def. Vanity Dogm.* 35 Those strange operations are not Mechanical but Magical. 1692 LOCKE *Toleration* III. x. Wks. 1727 II. 427 To confound the magical delusions of the Hereticks of that time. 1727 DE FOE *Syst. Magic* I. iii. (1840) 63 Two things..naturally made way for these magical studies. 1762–71 H. WALPOLE *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1786) III. 253 Some thought his musical assembly only a cover..for magical purposes. 1863 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* VII. 74 The service of God was asserted to be a reasonable service of the mind and heart, and not a magical superstition.

† b. = MAGIC *a.* 1 b. *Obs.*

1623 WEBSTER *Duchess Malfi* IV. i, It wastes me more, Than were't my picture, fashion'd out of wax, Stucke with a magicall needle, and then buried. 1624 MIDDLETON *Game at Chess* III. ii, This is the room he did appear to me in; And, look you, this the magical glass that show'd him. 1652 ASHMOLE *Theat. Chem.* Prol. 8 By the Magical] or Prospective Stone it is possible to discover any Person in what part of the World soever. 1750 tr. *Leonardus' Mirr. Stones* 100 Fastened over the heart with magical bands.

† c. = MAGIC *a.* 1 c. *Obs.*

1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 24 They [of Mohelia] are superstitious and Magicall.

2. Resembling magic in action or effect. Also, produced as if by magic.

1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* III. i. 31 He humbly signifie what in his name, That magicall word of Warre we haue effected. ?1750 FRANKLIN *Lett.* Wks. 1840 VI. 103 The most magically magical of any magic square. 1818 BYRON *Ch. Har.* IV. xxix, All its hues Their magical variety diffuse. 1824 MISS MITFORD in L'Estrange *Life* (1870) II. ix. 183 Some little hay was got in in a magical sort of way between the showers. 1851 NICHOL *Archit. Heav.* 13 The almost magical velocity of light. 1877 BLACK *Green Past.* ii. (1878) 14 The magical disappearance of about fifty or sixty rabbits. 1884 *Nonconf. & Indep.* 12 June 577/2 The warm and abundant rain-showers..have already had a magical effect upon the face of the country.

† 3. *Magical circle, square*: see MAGIC *a.* 3. *Obs.*

1749 FRANKLIN *Lett.* Wks. 1887 II. 160, I am glad the perusal of the magical squares afforded you any amusement. I now send you the magical circle.

Hence **Ma·gicalize** *v. trans.*, to give a magical character to.

1867 M. ARNOLD *Celtic Lit.* 161 The landscape..is suddenly magicalised by the romance touch.

Magically (mæ·dʒikăli), *adv.* [f. MAGICAL + -LY 2.] In a magical manner; by or as if by magic.

1605 CAMDEN *Rem.* (1657) 244 A ring magically prepared. 1701 GREW *Cosm. Sacra* IV. viii. 269 It was believed, that unless they were Magically used, they would do more hurt, than good. 1707 J. STEVENS tr. *Quevedo's Com. Wks.* (1709) 454 Others more Superstitious, and Magically inclined. 1727–52 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v. *Magic Square*, This done, with the first progression repeated, he fills the square of the root 7 magically. 1870 HUXLEY *Lay Serm.* xiv. 352 There are other men who attain greatness because they embody the potentiality of their own day, and magically reflect the future. 1879 FARRAR *St. Paul* (1883) 680 The stratagem was for the time almost magically successful.

Magician (mădʒi·ʃăn). Forms: 4 magicien, 6 (*Sc.*)–7 magitian, 6 magission, 7– magician. [a. F. *magicien*, f. L. *magic-a* MAGIC *sb.*] One skilled in magic or sorcery; a necromancer, wizard. Also *occas.* a practitioner of legerdemain, a conjuror.

c 1384 CHAUCER *H. Fame* III. 170 Ther saugh I pley Magiciens and tregetours. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 230 Protheüs ..was an Astronomien And ek a gret Magicien. *c* 1560 *Misogonus* III. iii. 43 (Brandl), I am also a very scilfull southsaier and magission. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 122 Burne ane and al Juglaris, magitianis, familiars wt wicked and euill spirits. 1611 BIBLE *Exod.* viii. 18 The Magicians did so with their enchantments. 1687 DRYDEN *Hind & P.* III. 721 The dire magicians threw their mists around. 1780 HARRIS *Philol. Enq.* Wks. (1841) 499 Virgil himself had been foolishly thought a magician. 1822 BYRON *Werner* III. i. 341 A wise magician who has bound the devil. 1831 BREWSTER *Nat. Magic* vi. (1833) 148 Even the most ignorant beholder regards the modern magician as but an ordinary man. 1878 MACLEAR *Celts* ii. 25 The monarch of Ireland..having in his service his..magicians.

b. *fig.* One who exercises a power compared to that of magic.

18.. LOCKHART *Life Scott* (1869) IV. xxv. 40 A set of beautiful stanzas, inscribed to Scott by Mr. Wilson [in 1812] under the title of the 'Magic Mirror', in which..he designated him [Scott] for the first time by what afterwards became one of his standing titles, that of 'The Great Magician'. 1831 CARLYLE *Sart. Res.* III. ix, The Magician, Shakespeare. 1877 LD. W. P. LENNOX *Celebrities* Ser. II. II. 22 All have done equal justice to the genius of the Magician of the North [i.e. Walter Scott].

Hence † **Magi·cianess,** a female magician. *rare*–1.

1651 J. F[REAKE] *Agrippa's Occ. Philos.* 74 Which the Egyptians seeing called Nature a Magicianess.

‖ **Magicienne.** *Obs. rare*–1. [Fr., fem. of *magicien*: see prec.] A female magician.

1490 CAXTON *Eneydos* xxiv. 88 The vierge dyane, wherof maketh her Iauocacion this lady olde magicienne.

Ma·gic la·ntern. [transl. of mod.L. *lāterna magica*: cf. F. *lanterne magique* (also, † *lanterne vive*), G. *zauberlaterne.*

De Chales *Curs. Math.* 1674 II. 655, 665, says that in 1665 'a learned Dane' exhibited at Lyons a contrivance 'sub nomine Laternæ magicæ', which his description shows to be identical with the instrument now so called. The common statement that the magic lantern is described by Kircher *Ars Magna Lucis et Umbræ* (1646) appears to be incorrect.]

An optical instrument by means of which a magnified image of a picture on glass is thrown upon a white screen or wall in a darkened room.

1696 PHILLIPS s.v. *Lanthorn*, A *Magic Lanthorn*, a certain small Optical Macheen, that shews by a gloomy Light upon a white Wall, Spectres and Monsters so hideous, that he who knows not the Secret, believes it to be perform'd by Magick Art. 1753 SMOLLETT *Ct. Fathom* (1784) 172/2 The travelling Savoyards who stroll about Europe, amusing ignorant people with the effects of a magick-lanthorn. 1894 *Engineer* 23 Nov., The first to make magic lanterns in this country was Philip Carpenter, about 1808.

attrib. 1784 J. BARRY in *Lect. Paint.* v. (1848) 183 That appearance of magic-lanthorn-like..contrivance which sometimes offends in the works of Rembrandt. 1802 MAR. EDGEWORTH in A. J. C. Hare *Life* I. 105 Push on the magic-lanthorn slide. 1817 KEATS *Wks.* (1889) III. 4 To him they are mere magic-lantern horrors. 1874 W. CORY *Lett. & Jrnls.* (1897) 368 The jerky magic-lantern-slide manner of introducing scenes.

Hence **Ma·gic-la·nternist,** one who gives an exhibition with a magic lantern; **Magic-lantern** *v.* (*nonce-wd.*), to exhibit as in a magic lantern.

1859 *Athenæum* 12 Feb. 219 That devil, whom the monks magic-lanterned till he grew so large as to be [etc.]. 1891 S. MOSTYN *Curatica* 165 After the tea they were handed over to a Punch, a Magic Lanternist, and a Conjuror.

† **Ma·gicly,** *adv. Obs. rare*–1. [f. MAGIC *a.* + -LY 2.] = MAGICALLY.

1683 E. HOOKER *Pref. Pordage's Mystic Div.* 79 Wisdom doth sometimes as it were magicly transfigure a man.

† **Magie.** *Obs. rare*–1. [? ad. late L. *magia* (whence F. *magie*): see MAGIC *sb.* (But perh. only a misprint.)] = MAGIC *sb.*

1592 G. HARVEY *Four Lett.* 56 Naturall Magie.

Magilp, variant of MEGILP.

‖ **Magilus** (mæ·dʒilŏs). *Conch.* Pl. **magili.** [mod. Latin (D. de Montfort, 1810; the authorities cited by him do not contain the name, the origin of which is unexplained.)] A gasteropod mollusc (*Magilus antiquus*) found in the Red Sea, parasitic upon living coral.

1824 DUBOIS *Epit. Lamarck's Arrangem. Testacea*, 21 The animal of the Magilus. 1851–6 WOODWARD *Mollusca* 12. 1876 *Beneden's Anim. Parasites* 38 A mollusc called *Magilus*, which naturalists considered for a long time to be the calcareous tube of an annelid. *Ibid.*, All conchologists know the shell of the Magili, so valued by collectors.

† **Maginate,** *v. Obs. rare*–0. [? Shortened form of IMAGINATE *v.*] (See quot.)

1623 COCKERAM, *Maginate*, to trifle.

† **Magine,** *v. Obs.* Aphetic variant of IMAGINE.

1530 PALSGR. 616/2, I magyne, declared in 'I ymagyn'.

Magir, variant of MAUGRE.

Magiric (mădʒəi·rik), *a.* and *sb. rare.* Also **mageiric.** [ad. Gr. *μαγειρικός*, f. *μάγειρος* cook.]

A. *adj.* Of or pertaining to cookery.

1853 SOYER *Pantroph.* 173 The magiric science, therefore, began in the year of the world 1656.

B. *sb. pl.* The art of cooking.

1889 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Mageirics.*

Magirist (mădʒəi·rist). *rare*–1. [f. Gr. *μάγειρ-ος* cook + -IST.] An expert in cookery. So **Magiri·stic** *a.* (in quot. *mageir-*), pertaining to cookery. **Magi·rolo·gical** *a.*, skilled in cookery. **Magiro·logist** = MAGIRIST. **Magiro·logy** [see -OLOGY], the art or science of cookery.

1814 *Sch. Gd. Living* 53 To their Magirists was given an appointment of culinary artists. *Ibid.* 59 From the very first appearance of magirology in Greece, it produced effects absolutely magical. *Ibid.* 72 Peace to your shades, ye noble magirologists. *Ibid.* 107 Roberto da Nola, a magirological artist of the most transcendent genius. 1892 *Punch* 21 May 249/1 Immortal contributions to mageiristic lore.

Magism (mē·dʒiz'm). [f. *mag-us* + -ISM.] The beliefs, principles and practices of the Magi.

1844 W. KAY *Fleury's Eccl. Hist.* III. 232 *note*, This may be another trace of Magism: for Mithra had his 'oblation of bread'. 1852 BADGER *Nestorians* I. 331 The connection of some of their doctrines and rites with Sabianism and Magism. 1864 PUSEY *Lect. Daniel* 539 It is then a mere myth, to speak of the relative purity of early Magism.

‖ **Magister** (mădʒi·stəɹ). [L.: see MASTER *sb.*] A mediæval and modern Latin title of academic rank, usually rendered by MASTER, but occas. employed *Hist.* or in speaking of foreign universities.

1756–7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) I. 125 The first two years are again employed in..exercises, introductory to the degree of *magister*. 1864 BURTON *Scot Abr.* I. v. 255 Of old, when every *magister* was entitled to teach in the university, the regents were persons selected from among them.

Magisterial (mædʒistī·riăl), *a.* Also 7 **mages-, magisteriall.** [ad. med.L. *magisterialis*, f. late L. *magisterius*, f. L. *magister* MASTER *sb.*] Of or pertaining to a master or a magistrate.

† 1. Of or pertaining to a master-workman; displaying a master's skill; also, having the qualifications of a master. *Obs.*

1643 SIR T. BROWNE *Relig. Med.* I. § 34 These are certainly the Magisterial and master-pieces of the Creator. 1664 EVELYN tr. *Freart's Archit.* II. i. 90 Though it concede somewhat to it in the execution and magisterial handling. 1683 PETTUS *Fleta Min.* I. (1686) 343 These [Engravings] are not designed for Magisterial Artists.

2. Of, pertaining, or proper to a master or teacher, or one qualified to speak with authority. Of opinions, utterances, etc.: Authoritative. Of persons: Having the bearing of a master; invested with authority. Sometimes in unfavourable sense: Assuming authority, dictatorial.

1632 SANDERSON *Serm. ad Pop.* (1681) 293 [They] exercise a spiritual Lordship over their disciples..by imposing upon their consciences sundry Magisterial conclusions. 1644 MILTON *Judgm. Bucer* To Parlt., Wks. 1851 IV. 299 Where they thought to be most Magisterial, they have display'd their own want, both of reading, and of judgment. *c* 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* (1650) I. 427 Not to make any one's opinion so magisterial and binding, but that I might be at liberty to recede from it. 1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* III. ix. § 23 It would become us to be..less magisterial, positive, and imperious, in imposing our own Sense and Interpretations. 1697 COLLIER *Ess. Mor. Subj.* II. (1698) 86 These Magisterial Propositions don't Dispute for Belief, but demand it. 1699 BENTLEY *Phal.* Pref. 101 A Magisterial Air and 100 much Heat and Passion appear in their Writings. 1819 BYRON *Juan* II. lvi, For Juan wore the magisterial face Which courage gives. 1838–9 HALLAM *Hist. Lit.* III. III. vi. § 54. 317 There is something magisterial in the manner wherein he dismisses each play like a boy's exercise. 1903 *Class. Rev.* XVII. 131/2 His magisterial method of criticism as exhibited in the castigation of Thucydides.

3. Of, pertaining to, or proper to a magistrate or magistrates. Of persons: Holding the office of a magistrate. Of an inquiry: Conducted by magistrates.

1660 R. COKE *Power & Subj.* 31 When the laws or higher powers enable such men to nominate their magistrate, there the nominators are the instruments by which the law does transfer this magisterial power. 1711 SHAFTESB. *Charac.* VI. iii. (1737) III. 363 We need give her only in her hand the .. Magisterial Sword. 1775 ADAIR *Amer. Ind.* 288 While this military man acted in the magisterial office. 1795 COLERIDGE *Plot Discovered* 27 Any man, whom a magisterial neighbour chooses to insult under pretext of suspicion. 1883 *Fortn. Rev.* May 693 The progressive extension of magisterial jurisdiction. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 20 Feb. 4/6 The magisterial inquiry into the charge of arson.

†4. *Alch.* and *Med.* Pertaining to a magistery; also, = MAGISTRAL 2. *Obs.*

1658 PHILLIPS *s.v.*, A pill or plaister, &c. prepared after the best manner is called Magisterial. 1683 PETTUS *Fleta Min.* II. 3 It [the word *kern*] may intend also that magisterial pouder of Projection. 1722 QUINCY *Lex. Physico-Med.* (ed. 2), *Magisterial Remedy*, is yet sometimes retained in the Cant of Empiricks, more for its great Sound than any Significancy.

†5. quasi-*sb.* or *sb.* = MAGISTERY 3. *Obs.*

1638 H. SHIRLEY *Mart. Soldier* III. iv. in Bullen *O. Pl.* I. 217 With it was dissolv'd the Magisterial Made of the Horne Armenia so much boast of. 1657 TOMLINSON *Renou's Disp.* Pref., Every man must have his own Compositions and Magisterials. 1658 OSBORN *Jas. I*, Wks. (1673) 533 This Monster in excess, eat..a whole Pie..composed of Amber-Greece, Magesterial of Pearl, Musk, &c. 1662 J. CHANDLER *Van Helmont's Oriat.* 215 Magisterials among Chymists, do indeed melt the body of a thing, and do open it with a seperating of some certain dregs also.

†**Magisteriality.** *Obs.* Also 7 **majesterialty.** [f. prec. + -ITY.] The quality or condition of being magisterial; mastership, authoritative position.

1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* IX. iv. § 11 When these Statutes were first in the state, or magisteriality thereof, they were severely put in practice on such offendours as they first lighted on. *a* 1661 — *Worthies, Leicestersh.* II. (1662) 132 He [William de Leicester] was also known by the name of Mr. William an evidence.. sufficient to avouch his Majesterialty in all Learning.

Magisterially (mædʒɪstĭəˑrĭăli), *adv.* [-LY 2.] In a magisterial manner.

1. In the manner of a master: a. like a schoolmaster; with superior knowledge or the assumption of it; b. like a lord over subjects; domineeringly.

1647 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* VI. § 126 Whilst the King was at Nottingham..they gave orders Magisterially for the War. 1651 in E. D. Neill *Virginia Carolorum* (1886) 213 The reason why they talk so Magisterially to us, is this, we are forsooth their worships slaves. 1693 EVELYN *De la Quint. Compt. Gard., Refl. Agric.* 50, I do not pretend Magisterially to Determine, whither of the two Opinions has the more of .. Reason on its side. 1729 BUTLER *Serm. Hum. Nat.* ii. Wks. 1874 II. 24 Conscience .. without being advised with, magisterially exerts itself. 1761–2 HUME *Hist. Eng.* (1806) III. xlv. 645 He [James I] was employed in dictating magisterially to an assembly of divines. 1865 M. ARNOLD *Ess. Crit.* i. (1875) 40 When Protestantism .. gives the law to criticism too magisterially.

2. In the capacity of a magistrate; also, by a magistrate or magistrates.

1875 POSTE *Gaius* I. (ed. 2) 138 A magisterially appointed guardian is called by modern commentators tutor dativus. 1883 *Pall Mall G.* 30 May 8/2 The men arrested .. were magisterially examined at Castlebar to-day.

†**Magisteˑrialness.** *Obs.* [-NESS.] The quality or condition of being magisterial; assumption of authority.

1651 H. MORE *Second Lash* in *Enthus. Tri.*, etc. (1656) 168 Those two famous Philosophers .. whom your Magisterialnesse has made bold to use at least as coursely as I seem to have used you. 1674 *Govt. Tongue* xi. § 1 A magisterialness in matters of opinion. 1713 NELSON *Life Dr. Bull* 225 He chargeth him with too much precipitancy and magisterialness in judging.

†**Magisteˑrical,** *a. Obs. rare.* Also 7 majesterical, -yeall. [f. L. *magister* + -IC + -AL.] Pertaining or proper to a magistrate.

1646 LILBURNE & OVERTON *Out-cryes Oppressed Comm.* (ed. 2) 16 In case of Forfiting the Majesterycall trust, the trusters (the people) are disobleged from their obedience. 1670 BAXTER *Cure Church-div.* 288. 1680 HICKERINGILL *Meroz* 31 A Style..more Magisterical, Dictator-like.

†**Magisteˑrious,** *a. Obs.*—° [f. late L. *magisteri-us* (see MAGISTERIAL) + -OUS.] Exercising the authority of a master. Hence †**Magisteˑriously** *adv.*, with an assumption of authority. †**Magisteˑriousness,** assumption of authority.

1650 R. HOLLINGWORTH *Exerc. Usurped Powers* 54 He delivering it (as he doth other odd and unsound stuffe) with a pythagoricall magisteriousnesse. 1673 *Lady's Call.* I. i. § 9 He that ingrosses the talk, enforces silence upon the rest, and so is presumed to look on them only as his Auditors and Pupils, whilst he magisteriously dictates to them. 1684 N. S. *Crit. Enq. Edit. Bible* xv. 148 He censures the generality of Divines, who take upon them Magisteriously to judge of the matter in hand.

‖**Magisterium** (mædʒɪstĭəˑrĭŭm). [L.: = next.]

†1. *Alchemy.* = MAGISTERY 3 a. *Obs.*

1593 G. HARVEY *Pierce's Super.* 30 Hee is a Pythagorean, and a close fellow of his tongue, and pen, that hath the right *magisterium* indeede. 1610 B. JONSON *Alch.* I. iv, This is the day, I am to perfect for him The magisterium, our great worke, the stone. 1654 GAYTON *Pleas. Notes* II. ii. 39 Which without doubt hath a villanous *contagium* upon the grand *magisterium* of the Stone.

2. *R. C. Theol.* The teaching function of the Church.

1866 *Dublin Rev.* Apr. 422 Roman Catholics, throughout the world, are instructed in certain *doctrines*; are exhorted to certain *practices*; are encouraged and trained in certain *tempers* and *dispositions*. The Church's office in providing for this is called her 'magisterium'. 1893 *Tablet* 11 Feb. 205 Catholic obedience is due to the Church's magisterium, namely, the authoritative teaching of the Pope and the Bishops. 1899 *Dublin Rev.* Apr. 262 Opposed to the ordinary teaching magisterium of the Catholic Church.

Magistery (mæˑdʒɪstĕri). *Obs.* exc. *Hist.* Also 7 **majestry, magestry, magistry.** [ad. L. *magisterium*, (1) in classical L. the office of a master, (2) in med.L. the philosopher's stone; f. *magister* MASTER *sb.*]

†1. a. = MAGISTRACY 2. b. = MAGISTRACY 4. *Obs.*

1566 PAINTER *Pal. Pleas.* (1575) I. 18 A goodlie document to men of like calling, to moderate them selues, and their magisterie with good and honest life. 1585 STUBBES *Anat. Abus.* I. 16 It is lawfull for the nobilitie, the gentrie, and the magisterie, to weare riche attire.

†2. a. The quality or functions of a master; mastership, authority, authoritative appearance. b. The office of a (Grand) Master. *Obs.*

1642 *Fuller Answ. to Dr. Ferne* 1 Blowing aside the Magistery of the Title, Author, Style of this Treatise, as but the pindust of it, that gilds but intercepts the Letter. 1644 J. GOODWIN *Innoc. Triumph.* (1645) 7 Resigne up his .. conscience to be ordered, obliged, and tied, by the meere authority and magistery of men. 1660 JER. TAYLOR *Duct. Dubit.* III. iv. rule 22 § 1 To give them [General Councils] a legislative power and magistery in faith. 1670 G. H. *Hist. Cardinals* II. II. 142 Francisco began .. to manage it [the Church] with great Magistery and Dominion. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Magistery*, Mastership; especially the Office of the great Master of Maltha.

3. *Alchemy, Medicine*, etc. a. A master principle of nature; a potent transmuting or curative quality or agency; *concr.* a substance that has the power of transmuting or changing the nature of other substances, e. g. the philosopher's stone.

1594 PLAT *Jewell-ho., Chem. Concl.* 37, I wil not..discover any magistery upon so base an occasion. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 165 Moreouer, they made proofe of the said floures dried, and this high magistery they found, That being beaten to pouder, they cured [etc.]. *c* 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* VI. xli. (1650) 232 He that hath water turn'd to ashes, hath the Magistery, and the true Philosophers stone. 1670 *Moral State Eng.* 43 That great Magistery of Nature (as they call it) the Philosophers stone. 1678 R. R[USSELL] *Geber* II. i. I. v. 31 For there is one Stone, one Medicine in which the Magistery consists. 1723 (*title*) The Hermetical Triumph, or, Victorious Philosophical Stone: a Treatise..concerning the Hermetical Magistery. 1837 WHEWELL *Hist. Induct. Sci.* (1857) I. 232 There existed preparations which possessed the power of changing the whole of a body into a substance of another kind: these were called magisteries.

fig. *a* 1677 HALE *Contempl.* II. 179 This is the great Engine of a Christian, a Magistery, that was never attained by the most exquisite Philosopher.

b. A product or result of transmutation.

1605 TIMME *Quersit.* I. i. 3 Which meale or flower we mixe with water, we leaven and bake; whereof ariseth a great magistery, namely bread. 1655 in Hartlib *Ref. Commw. Bees* 35 Honey is a Vegetable Magistery, in part perfected by the Specifick virtue of the flour,..compleated by the peerlesse virtue of the Bee, which doth transmute that sweetnesse into a new Creature, which is Honey. 1671 J. WEBSTER *Metallogr.* xii. 190 By this solvent the whole Metal is brought into another disposition, (which he calls a magistery).

c. The concentrated essence of a substance.

1641 FRENCH *Distill.* i. (1651) 26 Thou shalt have the true magistery or Spirit of Wine. 1658 tr. *Porta's Nat. Magic* x. xiv. 270 A Magistery .. is what can be extracted out of things without separation of the Elements. 1668 *Phil. Trans.* III. 787 The volatile Salt, Spirit, Oyle, Magistery, made of the several parts of the Stagg.

d. The residuum obtained by precipitation from an acid solution, e. g. *magistery of bismuth, pearls*, etc.; a precipitate. Applied also to a resinous extract.

1602 F. HERING *Anatomyes* 15 Vnicornes horne,..Magistery of Pearles, and Forreine Bugges and Drugges. 1663 BOYLE *Usef. Exp. Nat. Philos.* II. ii. 159 The magistery prepared by dissolving them [pearls] in acid spirits. 1678 SALMON *Lond. Disp.* 852/1 Magisteries of Bones...They are dissolved with Acids..and precipitated with Alkalies. 1712 tr. *Pomet's Hist. Drugs* I. 29 The Resin or Magistery of Jalap is made with Spirit of Wine. 1756 C. LUCAS *Ess. Waters* I. 60 The metals are suddenly precipitated in the form of a magistery. 1794–6 E. DARWIN *Zoon.* IV. 96 A calx, or magistery, of bismuth. 1822 IMISON *Sci. & Art* II. 116 The magistry of bismuth, or pearl white. 1861 HULME tr. *Moquin-Tandon* II. III. ii. 89 The old practitioners .. made use of a magestry or precipitate of coral.

e. A specially prepared medicine; a specific.

1669 W. SIMPSON *Hydrol. Chym.* 162 It would have proved a very good magistery for a horse. *c* 1720 W. GIBSON *Farrier's Dispens.* III. II. (1734) 112 There is a magistery made from Calamine.

†4. An art, craft, or employment. *Obs.*

1647 LILLY *Chr. Astrol.* lxxxiv. 450 These two Planets are the Significators of Magistery, Trade or Profession. 1669 *Addr. hopeful young Gentry Eng.* 72 These mistresses of the Magistery of dissimulation are the greatest enemies to the convers of the world.

Magistracy (mæˑdʒɪstrăsi). Also 6–7 **magistracie, 7 magistratie.** [f. MAGISTRATE: see -ACY.]

†1. The existence of magistrates; the condition of being a magistrate. *Obs.*

c 1585 R. BROWNE *Answ. Cartwright* 3 As for the Maiestracie of Byshops there is no lawe to warrant it. 1587 *T. Norton's Calvin's Inst.* IV. xx. 496 *marg.*, Magistracy [is] not taken away by the libertie which is promised in the gospell. 1612 T. TAYLOR *Comm. Titus* ii. 12 We..in magistracie and subjection, must shew what price we set on Gods mercie. 1644 A. BURGESSE *Magistr. Commiss. fr. Heaven* 2 He was convinced the state of Magistracie he lived in to be pleasing to God. 1693 DRYDEN *Persius* (1697) 455 Young Noblemen..were too forward in aspiring to Publick Magistracy.

2. The office of the magistrate; magisterial power or dignity; *accas.* conduct in office as a magistrate. Now *rare.*

1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* (1592) 169 The Magistracie (that I may henceforwarde vse this worde of the magistrates power and place) is an office, and an action in executing the same. 1697 C. LESLIE *Snake in Grass* (ed. 2) 131 Their ..open Contempt of Magistracy and the Laws. 1765 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* I. ii. 142 In all tyrannical governments the supreme magistracy, or the right both of making and of enforcing the laws, is vested in one and the same man. 1782 *Gentl. Mag.* LII. 597 [They] were both committed to New Bridewell .. for contempt of magistracy. 1835 I. TAYLOR *Spir. Despot.* III. 112 A principal portion of the .. spiritual magistracy had been usurped. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* viii. II. 277 Literature and science were, in the academical system of England,..armed with magistracy. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) V. 169 All magistrates..must give an account of their magistracy.

3. The office, dignity, and functions of some magistrate (e.g. a consul, justice of the peace, etc.) contextually indicated.

1600 HOLLAND *Livy* x. xv. 361 To plucke the Consulship out of the mire .. and to restore the auncient majestie .. to the Magistracie. 1695 LD. PRESTON *Boeth.* I. 17, I had no other end in aspiring to the Magistracy, than that one, of doing good to all. 1715 LEONI *Palladio's Archit.* (1742) II. 65 The Candidates, who put in for any Magistracy. 1790 BURKE *Fr. Rev.* 18 A popular choice is necessary to the legal existence of the sovereign magistracy. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* i. I. 74 The public regarded them merely as eminent citizens invested with temporary magistracies. 1868 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1876) II. vii. 136 A town over which he exercised the powers of the highest civil magistracy.

4. Magistrates collectively; the whole body of magistrates.

1601 DENT *Pathw. Heaven, Morn. Prayer* (1631) Dd 5 b, We pray thee blesse Magistracie, Ministerie, & Commonalty. 1651 BIGGS *New Disp.* Pref. 9 So grave a Magistracie sitting in Parliament. 1755 MAGENS *Insurances* II. 276 A just Valuation, which must be confirmed by a Sentence of the nearest Magistracy or other competent Tribunal. 1758 J. BLAKE *Plan Mar. Syst.* 52 Our sea-ports, to the shame of magistracy, abound with lewd..women. 1800 COLQUHOUN *Comm. Thames* viii. 265 Checks established under the control of a vigilant magistracy. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* x. II. 555 The peers repaired to Guildhall, and were received there with all honor by the magistracy of the city. 1883 *Fortn. Rev.* May 700 Guardians have come to be regarded with almost as much respect as the magistracy.

5. a. A district under the government of a magistrate. b. A magistrate's residence or station.

1888 *Athenæum* 7 Apr. 439/1 Dividing the country into magistracies, and instituting local courts and officials. 1895 SCULLY *Kafir Stories* 189 The Kwesa clan of Pondos dwelt ..within thirty miles of the Magistracy.

Magistral (mădʒiˑstrăl), *a.* and *sb.* Also 6–7 **magistrall.** [a. F. *magistral* or ad. L. *magistrālis*, f. *magister* MASTER *sb.*] **A.** *adj.*

1. Of or pertaining to, or befitting a master; authoritative, dogmatic. Now *rare.*

1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* I. v. § 9 Another Error is in the manner of the tradition and deliverie of knowledge, which is for the most part Magistrall and peremptorie; and not ingennous and faithfull. 1626 T. H[AWKINS] *Caussin's Holy Crt.* 149 We must haue an authority mooving, magistrall, and decisiue. 1641 *Answ. Vind. Smectymnuus* 27 Your assertion .. is more Magistrall, then true. 1862 RUSKIN *Munera P.* (1872) 110 Magistral powers, of the More over the less, and the forceful and free over the weak and servile elements of life.

†b. Of a problem, a point of instruction: ? Handed down from the masters of a science; forming part of the accepted course of teaching. *Obs.*

1572 DEE *Math. Pref.*, Which thing, I leaue to your consideration: making hast to despatch an other Magistrall Probleme: and to bring it, nerer to your knowledge, ..then the world (before this day) had it for you. 1644 BULWER *Chiron.* 80 This action is Magistrall in Rhetorique, but grounded upon Nature.

2. *Pharmacy.* Of a remedy, a formula: Devised by a physician for a particular case; not included in the recognized pharmacopœia; opposed to OFFICINAL.

1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* II. x. § 8 Here is the deficience which I finde, that Physitians haue not..set downe and deliuered ouer, certaine Experimentall Medicines, for the Cure of particular Diseases; besides their own Conjecturall and Magistrall Descriptions. 1635 A. READ *Tumors & Ulcers* 271 Some magistrall compositions are required in the curation of these griefes. 1638 RAWLEY tr. *Bacon's Life & Death* (1651) 29 Some Magistrall Opiate weaker than those that are commonly in use. 1710 T. FULLER *Pharm. Extemp.* 409 The Magistrall Decoction of Mallows. 1831 J. DAVIES *Manual Mat. Med.* Pref. 11 Some magistral formulæ to serve as examples of the manner of prescribing it. 1875 H. C. WOOD *Therap.* (1879) 582 Cacao Butter..is..very largely used in the preparation of suppositories, both officinal and magistral. 1878 tr. *von Ziemssen's Cycl. Med.* VIII. 419 *note*, The curious magistral formula for this tincture is the following.

†b. By some writers app. taken to mean: 'Sovereign', supremely effective. *Obs.*

1592 G. HARVEY *Pierce's Super.* 37 Who knoweth not that Magistrall vnguent [cf. *magistralis unctio* in Du Cange], knoweth nothing: and who hath that magistral vnguent, feareth no gunshott. 1641 SHIRLEY *Cardinal* v. iii, Receive This ivory box; in it, an antidote 'Bove that they boast the great magistral medicine. 1678 SALMON *Lond. Disp.* 645/2 A magistral pouder against worm.

3. *Fortification.* Leading, principal, 'master-'.

1828 J. M. SPEARMAN *Brit. Gunner* (ed. 2) 302 The principal or magistral gallery runs all round the work, under the banquette of the covered-way. 1838 *Penny Cycl.* X. 375/2 The line which on the plan indicates the directions of the faces, flanks, etc., of the works is called the magistral line. 1872 VOYLE & STEVENSON *Mil. Dict., Magistral line*...In field fortifications, this line is the interior crest line. In permanent fortifications, it is usually the line of the top of the escarp of each work.

4. In occasional uses: Having the title of 'Master'; of or pertaining to a 'master' or 'masters' (in various applications of the word).

1837 G. S. Faber *Prim. Doctr. Justif.* 268 Thomas Aquinas .. and his magistral predecessor [*sc.* the Master of the Sentences]. 1878 Ruskin *Fors Clav.* lxxxvi, The men are rebuked, in the magistral homilies, for their ingratitude in striking. 1881 F. E. Hulme *Town, College, & Neighb. Marlborough* 91 The magistral staff is composed of the Master and about thirty assistant masters. 1882 *Gentl. Mag.* May 570 According to the masters [*sc.* the Meistersingers], the institution of the school of magistral song was of the remotest antiquity.

5. Used for: Masterly. [So in Fr.] *rare*—1.

1889 J. M. Robertson *Ess. Crit. Method* 256 Magistral as Milton at his greatest, but subtle beyond his scope.

B. *sb.*

†1. *Pharmacy.* A magistral preparation or formula. *Obs.*

1621 Burton *Anat. Mel.* II. iv. I. v, Every Citty, Towne, almost euery priuate man hath his owne..receits, magistralls, precepts, as if hee scorned antiquity. 1654 Whitlock *Zootomia* 103 Hee pretendeth to Magistralls, that none but his Apothecary and he must understand. 1670 *Lex Talionis* 29 He shall..prescribe so many of his Nostrums and Magistrals, as he calls them.

fig. 1647 Hammond *Serm.* x. Wks. 1683 IV. 535 But for the magistrals of nature and art, such are Gods smitings and punishments, which cost God dear, as it were, he is fain to fetch them from far.

2. *Fortification.* = *Magistral line.* (See A. 3.)

1853 Stocqueler *Milit. Encycl., Magistral,* the tracing or guiding line in fortification..from which the position of all the other works is determined. In field fortification the crest line of the parapet is the magistral; in permanent fortification the cordon..is the guide.

‖3. *Eccl.* A Spanish cathedral priest, with special duties as a preacher.

1772 Nugent tr. *Hist. Friar Gerund* II. 83 The Magistral..had purposely seated himself in the confessional of the parson of the parish.

‖4. *Min.* [Sp. (maχistra·l).] (See quot.)

1839 Ure *Dict. Arts, Magistral,* in the language of the Spanish smelters of Mexico and South America, is the roasted and pulverized copper pyrites, which is added to the ground ores of silver..for the purpose of decomposing the horn silver present. 1881 in Raymond *Mining Gloss.*

†**Magistra·lity.** *Obs.* [f. prec. + -ITY.] The quality or condition of being magistral. a. The standing of a master or mistress; the right to lay down the law or to dogmatize; authoritative character. b. quasi-*concr.* a dogmatic utterance; in *Med.* a special prescription.

a. 1603 *North's Plutarch, Seneca* (1612) 1213 Agrippina ..thinking she could by her magistralitie remedie this well inough. 1605 Bacon *Adv. Learn.* II. viii. § 5 To those that seeke truth and not Magistralitie it cannot but seeme a Matter of great profit. 1641 J. Jackson *True Evang. T.* I. 71 The authority and magistrality of the first assertor of it.

b. 1605 Bacon *Adv. Learn.* II. x. § 8 The phisitians haue frustrated the fruite of tradition & experience by their magistralities. 1691 Wood *Ath. Oxon.* II. 572 Humane Magistralities, self-weaved Ratiocinations, .. have laid .. claim to the highest advance of humane learning.

†**Magi·strally,** *adv. Obs.* [f. as prec. + -LY2.] In a magistral manner; authoritatively, dogmatically.

a 1603 T. Cartwright *Confut. Rhem. N. T.* (1618) 172 You haue put that magistrally which Ambrose maketh a *perhaps* of. 1656 Hobbes *Liberty, Necess.,* etc. (1841) 257 To assume..a licence to control so magistrally..the doctors of the Church in general.

Magistrand (mæ·dʒistrænd). *Sc.* Also 7 magestrand. [ad. med.L. *magistrand-us,* gerundive pple. of *magistrārī* to become a Master (of Arts).] Originally, in Scottish Universities, an Arts student in the fourth or highest class; subsequently, one in the fourth year. Now retained, in official use, only at Aberdeen. At St. Andrews it has recently been revived, among the students, as an unofficial designation. Also *attrib.* in *magistrand-class.*

16.. in *Cranford's Hist. Univ. Edin.* (1808) 24 The Magestrands (as now) conveened in the high hall. 1642 *Statutes Visitation* 8 Aug. (St. Andrews), The whole Magistrandes and Doctaloures in the two Colledges of Philosophy ..sall only haue voice in choyseing the Rector of the University. 1708 J. Chamberlayne *St. Gt. Brit.* II. III. x. (1710) 470 This is the last Year, after which they go out Masters of Arts; and for that reason this is called the Magistrand Class. 1812 W. Tennant *Auster F.* II. xiv. (1871) 25 Up from their mouldy books and tasks had sprung Bigent and Magistrand to try the game. 1879 G. Macdonald *Sir Gibbie* III. ix. 153 Although now a magistrand—that is, one about to take his degree of Master of Arts. 1889 *Univ. News Sheet* (St. Andrews) 11 Jan. 7 With us at St. Andrews the words *semi, tertian,* and *magistrand,* .. have long since entirely gone out of use. 1891 *College Echoes* (St. Andrews) 15 Jan., The present designations—Second-year man, Third-year man, and Fourth-year-man are colourless and awkward. Why should not Bejants become Semis, then Tertians, and close their career with the melancholy glory of Magistrand?

Magistrate (mæ·dʒistrĕt), *sb.* Forms: 4-6 magestrat(e, maiestrat(e, 4-7 magistrat, 5- magistrate. [ad. L. *magistrātus* (*u*-stem), orig. a magisterial rank or office, a magistracy; hence a person holding such an office; f. *magister* Master *sb.* (see -ate1 1 a). Cf. F. *magistrat.*]

†1. The office and dignity of a magistrate; magistracy. *Obs.*

c 1374 Chaucer *Boeth.* III. pr. iv. 57 (Camb. MS.) That thow woldest heren the magestrat with decorat. 1530 Palsgr. 241/2 Magistrate dignyte, *magistrat.*

2. A civil officer charged with the administration of the laws, a member of the executive government. *Chief magistrate, first magistrate*: in a monarchy, the sovereign: in a republic, usually the president.

1382 Wyclif *Luke* xxxiii. 14 The magestratis of the peple clepid to gidere, Pilat seide to hem. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) III. 255 The peple of Rome not suffrenge..the sedicion of þe magistrates, ordeynede x. men to write þe lawes. 1550 Crowley *Epigr.* 27 b, Woulde God the maiestrates woulde se men set a-worke. 1581 Pettie *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* II. (1586) 101 A discreet Magistrate ought not to ..alter his manners in respect of his dignitie. 1592 Davies *Immort. Soul* xxix. iv, The Common's Pence the Magistrates preserve. 1614 Raleigh *Hist. World* III. (1634) 72 Every Estate .. were governed by Lawes,..and by their owne Magistrates. 1681 Dryden *Hind & P.* I. 489 Suppose the magistrate revenge her cause, 'Tis only for transgressing human laws. 1761 Hume *Hist. Eng.* III. liv. 175 The king was too eminent a magistrate to be trusted with discretionary power. 1791 Jefferson in *Washington's Writ.* (1892) XII. 20 *note,* It is fortunate that our first chief magistrate is purely and zealously republican. 1821 Byron *Mar. Fal.* I. ii, Health and respect to the Doge Faliero, Chief magistrate of Venice. 1857 Toulmin Smith *Parish* 372 The Coroner himself is an elected Magistrate.

attrib. 1602 Patericke tr. *Gentillet* 26 The Paynim Lawyer may serue for a goodly example to condemne many Magistrate Lawyers of our time.

fig. 1612 Bacon *Ess., Custom* (Arb.) 370 Custome is the principal Magistrate of mans life.

3. *spec.* In England and Ireland, a more frequent synonym for 'justice of the peace' (see Justice *sb.* 10); also applied (chiefly with prefixed word, as in *police, stipendiary magistrate,* and, in Ireland, *resident magistrate*) to salaried officials having, like the justices of the peace, criminal jurisdiction of the first instance. In Scotland, applied to the provost and bailies of a burgh, as forming a court for police jurisdiction and the granting of licences.

The mayor of a town is sometimes referred to as its 'chief' or 'first magistrate'.

a 1688 G. Dallas *Stiles* 12 The said M. R... and the remanent Magistrats of the said Burgh .. The said R. M. Bailie of the said Burgh, and the Provost and remanent Bailies of the same. 1727 in Quincy *Hist. Harvard* (1840) I. 567 The signification of magistrate in England, and even now in New England, extends to every one of his Majesty's Justices of the Peace; but in the time when the act above-said was made [1642], .. the known signification extended only to those who were Assistants to the Governor in Council. 1752 Fielding *Amelia* I. ii, The worthy magistrate submitted to hear his defence. 1889 Doyle *Micah Clarke* xxiii. 237 This fellow would make two of the gauger, and leave enough over to fashion a magistrate's clerk.

†**Magistrate,** *v. Obs.*—0 [f. ppl. stem of L. *magistrāre*: see Magistration.] *intr.* To play the master (Cockeram 1623).

Ma·gistrateship. [f. Magistrate *sb.* + -ship.] The dignity, office, and functions of a magistrate; also, the term of a magistrate's office.

1574 *Life Abp. Parker* B viij b, He was wonte to rubbe his minde with the memorye off that sentence, that all fame, ..all magistratshippes .. shall perishe, and decaye. *a* 1656 Ussher *Ann.* (1658) 595 Rullus,..in the beginning of his magistrateship, published the Agrarian Law. 1884 J. Payne 1001 *Nights* VIII. 93 'Tis one of the duties of magistrateship, To hang up the chief of police o'er his door. 1886 *Athenæum* 10 July 47/2 He was something of a soldier, and (which was much rarer at the time than either soldiership or magistrateship) he was a bibliophile.

†**Magistra·tial,** *a. Obs. rare*—1. [f. as prec. + -ial.] = Magisterial 3.

1774 *Poetry* in *Ann. Reg.* 208 Hast thou .. seen..In the plain hall the magistrtial chair?

†**Magistra·tic,** *a. Obs.* Also 7 magistratique. [f. as prec. + -ic.] = prec.

1653 Gauden *Hierasp.* 458 Onely to look exactly to civill interests and safety; is to make Magistratick power, .. to concurre with the malice of the Divels. 1667 Waterhouse *Fire Lond.* 79 Publick places of Magistratique dispatch. 1677 Gale *Crt. Gentiles* IV. 206 Clemence also ought to be illustrious in magistratic administrations.

Magistratical (mæ·dʒistræ·tikăl), *a.* [f. prec. + -al.] Of or pertaining to, or befitting a magistrate or magistrates. (Cf. Magisterial 3.)

1638 *Div. & Pol. Observations* 55 A stile no lesse Magistrale, if not so Magistraticall as this Speech. 1644 J. Winthrop *New Eng.* (1826) II. 205 Whether the deputies in the general court have judicial and magistratical authority? *a* 1683 Sidney *Disc. Govt.* (1714) 383 The original of Magistratical Power. 1752a Fielding *Amelia* I. ii, Mr. Thrasher ..had some few imperfections in his magistratical capacity. 1769 *De Foe's Tour Gt. Brit.* II. 324 They are allowed the highest Marks of magistratical Honour. 1848 P. Macfarlane in *Mem. R. Craig* x. (1862) 244 God is the fountain, the first source of human magistratical power. 1850 *Tait's Mag.* XVII. 556/1 The magistratical and clerical orders. 1893 M. Hutchison *Ref. Presb. Ch. Scot.* v. 121 With such conceptions of magistratical powers..the Revolution settlement would appear to be deserving only of condemnation.

Hence **Magistra·tically** *adv.*, in a magistratical or magisterial manner.

1650 R. Hollingworth *Exerc. Usurped Powers* 82 That such things should be maintained Magistratically by a Tyrant. 1872 J. Walker *Theology & Theologians Scot.* v. (1888) 147 Unless..he acted in this sovereign way, with the sword behind all his enactments and injunctions, he did not act in the proper sense magistratically.

†**Magistra·tion.** *Obs. rare*—1. [ad. late L. *magistrātiōn-em,* n. of action f. *magistrāre* to rule, f. *magister* Master *sb.*] Command, direction.

1490 Caxton *Eneydos* I. 11 Agamenon .. hadde the magystracyon..of alle thexcersite and hoost to-fore Troye.

Magistrative (mæ·dʒistrătiv), *a. rare*—1. [f. *magistrāt-,* ppl. stem of *magistrāre* (see prec.) + -ive.] Proper to a magistrate, requisite for ruling.

1865 Bushnell *Vicar. Sacr.* III. iii. 241 A want of system and magistrative firmness.

Magistrature (mæ·dʒistrătiŭ). [a. F. *magistrature,* f. *magistrat* Magistrate *sb.*]

I. The dignity or office of a magistrate; magisterial office; occas. the exercise of the office; with *a* and *pl.* an individual office. (Cf. Magistracy 3.)

1672 *Essex Papers* (Camden) 23 That noe person whatsoever bee admitted into any Place of Magistrature or Government..till [etc.]. 1791 *State Papers* in *Ann. Reg.* 183* Incase .. of a collision between magistratures. 1824 Landor *Imag. Conv., Marcus Tullius & Quinctus Cicero* Wks. 1853 I. 238/1 Finding all our magistratures in the disposal of the senate. 1829 *Ibid., Diog. & Plato* ibid. 504/1 Giving to this one rightly what that one would hold wrongfully, is justice in magistrature. 1833 *New Monthly Mag.* XXXVII. 465 The family rose to the dignities of the magistrature. 1833 *Fraser's Mag.* VII. 650 With these some of the magistratures are now filled.

fig. 1796 Burney *Mem. Metastasio* II. 325 Does music aspire at this supreme magistrature?

b. The term of a magistrate's office.

1720 Ozell *Vertot's Rom. Rep.* I. I. 59 The two Consuls, whose Magistrature was expiring, appointed the Assembly for the Election of their Successors. 1824 Landor *Imag. Conv., Leopold & Presid. du Paty* Wks. 1853 I. 68/2 A.. man, who can reproach himself with no perversion or neglect of justice, in a magistrature of twenty years.

2. *collect.* The body of magistrates; = Magistracy 4.

1679 Evelyn *Diary* 21 Nov., I dined at my Lord Mayor's .. Such a..splendid magistrature does no city in the world show. 1830 *Examiner* 548/1 The magistrature continued. The very men who had opposed the liberty of the press .. continued in their positions. 1859 *Sat. Rev.* VII. 273/2 That illustrious magistrature which, in former days, guided France by their counsels. 1898 A. W. Ward in *Eng. Hist. Rev.* Jan. 175 The conservative tendencies of the Belgian magistrature.

Magi·stricide. *nonce-wd.* [f. as if L. **magistricīda* (after *parricīda,* etc.: see -cide 1), f. *magister* master.] A murderer of one's master or teacher.

1670 Lassels *Voy. Italy* II. 172 Nero the Magistricide, who put this rare man his master to death.

Magitian, obs. form of Magician.

Magma (mæ·gmă). [a. L. *magma* (sense 1), Gr. *μάγμα,* f. root of *μάσσειν* to knead.]

†1. The dregs that remain from a semi-liquid substance after the more liquid part has been removed by pressure or evaporation. *Obs.*

c 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* XI. 351 Taak aloen & mirre & magma with Saffron [L. *crocomagma* lees of saffron], of yche yliche. *a* 1648 Digby *Closet Open.* (1677) 18 You may squeze out the clear juyce and hang the Magma in a bag in the bung. 1694 Salmon *Bate's Dispens.* (1713) 38/2 By another Distillation, reduce the Magma at bottom, to the Consistency of Honey. 1730 Stack in *Phil. Trans.* XXXVI. 271 The Eggs..resemble a Magma of a brown Colour. 1737 Bracken *Farriery Impr.* (1756) I. 310 Apply the Magma (or Herbs after they are squeezed out of the Liquor) to the Wound. 1856 Mayne *Expos. Lex., Magma,* .. a squeezed mass of a certain consistence.

2. 'Any crude mixture of mineral or organic matters, in a thin pasty state' (Ure *Dict. Arts* 1839).

1681 tr. *Willis' Rem. Med. Wks.* Vocab., *Magma,* the blended dross and fæces of several metals, as also of chymical extractions. 1782 Kirwan in *Phil. Trans.* LXXIII. 17 [They] afford no crystals, but only a magma or mother liquor. 1806 Hatchett *ibid.* XCVI. 111 It formed with sulphuric acid a thick black magma. 1838 T. Thomson *Chem. Org. Bodies* 688 A concentrated solution of potash forms with bird-lime a whitish magma, which becomes brown by evaporation. 1854 J. Scoffern in *Orr's Circ. Sci., Chem.* 24 A magma of dark-coloured sugar. 1875 H. C. Wood *Therap.* (1879) 93 It .. should be so moist as to constitute a magma. 1894 Huxley *Wks.* IX. 8 Our earth may once have formed part of a nebulous cosmic magma.

3. *Geol.* a. One of two or more supposed strata of fluid or semi-fluid matter lying beneath the solid crust of the earth. b. The amorphous basis of certain porphyritic rocks.

1865 Haughton *Man. Geol.* 3 According to Durocher .. the first and second layers of the globe are composed of totally different materials. The outer layer, which he calls the Acid Magma, corresponds with the granites; and the inner or second layer, which he calls the Basic Magma, corresponds with the trap rocks and the greenstones. 1869 Phillips *Vesuv.* xii. 336 Whether these rocks .. constitute practically a solid basis, or float in a magma of slow fluidity. 1874 Dawkins in *Ess. Owen's Coll. Manchester* V. 148 Two distinct layers or magmas beneath the stratified rocks. 1882 Geikie *Text-bk. Geol.* II. II. iii. 87 Many crystalline rocks consist .. of a magma or paste, in which the crystalline particles are .. embedded. 1897 — *Anc. Volcanoes Gt. Brit.* I. 12 There will thus be a constant pressure of the molten magma into the roots of volcanoes.

4. *Pharmacy.* An ointment or confection of a softish consistence. (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1889.)

1855 Dunglison *Med. Lex.* (ed. 12), *Magma*..also, a salve of a certain consistence.

Hence **Magma·tic** *a.*, of or pertaining to the magma (sense 3). In recent Dicts.

†**Ma·gment.** *Obs. rare*—0. [ad. L. *magmentum.*] Great increase. 1623 in Cockeram.

Magmoid (mæ·gmoid), *a. Bot.* [f. MAGMA + -OID.] (See quot.)

1879 W. A. LEIGHTON *Lichen-flora* (ed. 3) 516 *Magmoid*, like an alga, consisting of spherical green cellules.

Magna Charta, Magna Carta (mæ·gnă kā·ătă). Also 7 *pl.* **magna chartaes.** [med.L., signifying 'great charter'.] The Great Charter of English personal and political liberty, obtained from King John in 1215, repeatedly confirmed, and appealed to in all disputes between the sovereign and his subjects, till the establishment of constitutional government.

[1279 *Rolls of Parlt.* I. 224 Quod tollatur magna carta de foribus Ecclesiarum.] 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 118 This Parliament king Edwards lawes were again restored, & Magna carta confirmed. 1641 LD. J. DIGBY *Sp. in Ho. Comm.* 19 Jan. 15 An Accumulation of all the publique Grievances since *Magna Carta*. 1766 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* II. v. 74 John was obliged to consent, by his magna carta, that [etc.]. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* I. v, Considered to represent the penn'orth appointed by Magna Charta.

transf. and *fig.* 1630 B. JONSON *New Inn* I. i, It is against my freehold, my inheritance, My Magna Charta .. To drink such balderdash, or bonny-clabber. 1643 PRYNNE *Sov. Power Parl.* I. (ed. 2) 22 Which you may reade in ancient Magna Chartaes. *a* 1686 T. WATSON *Body Divin.* (1692) 460 The Covenant of Grace is our Magna Charta, by vertue of which God passeth himself over to us to be our God. 1879 G. G. SCOTT *Lect. Mediæv. Archit.* II. 181, I have called the use of diagonal ribs the *Magna Charta* of the art of vaulting.

† **Magnæ·vous,** *a. Obs. rare*—°. [as if f. L. **magnæv·us* (f. *magn-us* great + *ævum* age) + -OUS.] Of great age. = GRANDEVOUS.

1727 in BAILEY vol. II.

‖ **Magna·le.** *Obs.* [as if a. L. **magnāle*, sing. of MAGNALIA.] A great or wonderful thing, a wonder.

1623 COCKERAM, *Magnalls*, great things to be wondered at. [1626 BACON *Sylva* § 747 To restore Teeth in Age, were Magnale Naturæ.] 1646 J. HALL *Horæ Vac.* 115 'Tis great art in dissimulation to dissemble the art of dissimulation, greater to performe that Magnale in Perspective. 1650 CHARLETON *Paradoxes* Ep. Ded. A 4 b, In the discovery of some Magnale in Knowledg. 1665 GLANVILL *Scepsis Sci.* vi. 24 We'l examine these Accounts of the Magnalé.

‖ **Magna·lia,** *sb. pl. Obs.* Also 7 *erron.* magnalia's. [L. *magnālia* neut. pl., f. *magnus* great.] Great or wonderful works; wonders.

c 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* (1892) II. 663 In Natures Cabinet .. there are divers mysteries and Magnalia's yet unknown. 1649 G. DANIEL *Trinarch., Hen. IV*, cvii, These the Magnalia, wch but some can find In Nature, Earth by Earth only Calcin'd. 1681 GLANVILL *Sadducismus* 82 He made no discovery of the Magnalia of Art or Nature.

† **Magnality.** *Obs.* [f. MAGNALIA + -ITY.] A great or wonderful thing.

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* II. iii. 70 Too greedy of magnalities, we are apt to make but favourable experiments concerning welcome truths. 1682 — *Chr. Mor.* III. § 14 Fill thy Spirit .. with the mysteries of Faith, the magnalities of Religion.

‖ **Magnanerie** (manʸanəri). [F., f. *magnan* silkworm.] A silkworm house.

1887 PATON in *Encycl. Brit.* XXII. 59/2 Small educations reared apart from the ordinary magnanerie, for the production of graine alone, were recommended. 1888 E. A. BUTLER *Silkworms* 53 In large establishments, or magnaneries, as they are called.

† **Magna·nimate,** *v. Obs. rare*—¹. [f. L. *magnanim-us* (see MAGNANIMOUS) + -ATE.] *trans.* To render high-souled; to cheer, inspirit.

1640 HOWELL *Dodona's Gr.* 9 Present danger magnanimats them, and inflames their courage.

† **Magnanime,** *a. Obs.* Also 6 **magnanyme.** [a. F. *magnanime*, ad. L. *magnanimus* : see MAGNANIMOUS.] High-souled, lofty, magnanimous.

1523 CROMWELL in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) I. 30 This high and Magnanyme enterpryse. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* Ep. Queen 2 Illustir princes, engendrit of magnanime genologie. 1590 R. HITCHCOCK *Quintess. Wit* 1 b, Neither to profitte, but to most magnanime and hautie endes.

Magnanimous, obs. form of MAGNANIMOUS.

Magnanimity (mæ:gnăni·mĭti). [a. F. *magnanimité*, ad. L. *magnanimitāt-em*, f. *magnanimus* MAGNANIMOUS.]

† **1.** Used (with somewhat vague meaning) as the name of one of the virtues recognized in mediæval ethics. *Obs.*

Primarily this represented the Aristotelian *μεγαλοψυχία* (see 3), but in scholastic descriptions the notion was modified in accordance with Christian ideals, and blended with elements suggested by the etymology of the L. word (*animus* being capable of the sense 'courage'); hence 'magnanimity' is often classed as a subdivision of 'fortitude' (so Aquinas, following Macrobius *In Somn. Scip.* I. viii. § 7).

1340 *Ayenb.* 164 Magnanimite is heȝnesse gratnesse and noblesse of wylhede .. þis uirtue heþ tuo delles: greate þinges onworþi, and wel grater to nime an hand. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Sec. Nun's T.* 110 Right so men goostly in this mayden free Seyen of feith the magnanymytee. *c* 1412 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 3900 Off magnanimite now wole I trete, þat is to seyn, strong herte or grete corage. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 136 Magnanimity is the vertue, wherby man or woman hath a discrete doughtynesse .. to speke or to do that thynge that they ought to do by right and reason for the loue of god.

† **2.** Lofty courage; fortitude. *Obs.*

(In some examples perh. the Aristotelian sense: see 3.)

1509 BARCLAY *Shyp of Folys* (1570) 206 For his strength and magnanimitie .. One founde on grounde like to him can not be. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 322 This .. magnanimiti in so great adversity [L. *in rebus adversis animi fortitudo*] got him great love every wher amongs al men. 1576 GASCOIGNE *Steele Gl.* Ded. (Arb.) 43 Shall I yelde to mysery as a iust plague apointed for my portion? Magnanimitie saith no. 1610 WILLET *Hexapla Daniel* 62 In courage and magnanimitie superiour to Hercules. 1744 HARRIS *Three Treat.* Wks. (1841) 107, I can bear whatever happens with manlike magnanimity. 1801 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Angelina* ii. (1832) 13 The courage and magnanimity with which she had escaped from her aristocratic persecutors.

3. In the Aristotelian sense of *μεγαλοψυχία* (see below). Also, loftiness of thought or purpose; grandeur of designs, nobly ambitious spirit. Now *rare.*

In Aristotle the word (by modern translators rendered 'greatsouledness', 'highmindedness') expresses the attitude of one who, rightly conscious of his own great merits, is indifferent to praise except from those whose approval is valuable, regards the chances of fortune with equanimity, and, while ready to confer benefits, will seldom condescend to accept them.

1598 BARCKLEY *Felic. Man* (1631) 167 Carolus Martellus shewed great magnanimitie in refusing principalitie. *c* 1651 HOBBES *Rhet.* (1840) 437 Magnanimity .. is a virtue by which a man is apt to do great benefits. 1717 L. HOWEL *Desiderius* 74 We are indued with a spiritual Magnanimity, that sets us above the Desire of temporal Goods. 1761 HUME *Hist. Eng.* II. xliv. 499 The queen's magnanimity in forming such extensive projects was the more remarkable. 1769 ROBERTSON *Chas. V*, XI. Wks. 1813 III. 267 That magnanimity of soul which delights in bold enterprizes.

4. Nobility of feeling; superiority to petty resentment or jealousy; generous disregard of injuries.

1771 BURKE *Lett., to Bp. of Chester* (1844) I. 271 It may be magnanimity in Lord Mansfield to despise attacks made upon himself. 1785 PALEY *Mor. Philos.* Wks. 1825 IV. 9 Forgiveness of injuries is accounted by one sort of people magnanimity, by another meanness. 1841 ELPHINSTONE *Hist. India* II. 219 The mean spirit of Mahmúd was incapable of imitating the magnanimity of his enemy. 1868 E. EDWARDS *Ralegh* I. xiii. 258 Ralegh .. on former occasions had shown towards Essex a wise and noble magnanimity. 1900 J. H. MUIRHEAD *Chapters fr. Aristotle's Ethics* 243 With regard to honour and dishonour, there is a mean called magnanimity, or high-mindedness, a species of excess called vanity, and a defect called pusillanimity or little-mindedness.

b. *pl.* Instances of magnanimity.

a 1639 WOTTON in *Reliq.* (1672) 241 Some seeming Magnanimities being indeed (if you sound them well) at the bottom, very Impotencies. 1844 MRS. BROWNING *Drama of Exile* Poems 1850 I. 73 Aspire Unto the calms and magnanimities, .. To which thou art elect.

† **5.** In occasional use: Affectation of grandeur; magnificence. *Obs.*

1658 SIR T. BROWNE *Hydriot.* 48 Pyramids, Arches, Obelisks, were but the irregularities of vain-glory and wilde enormities of ancient magnanimity.

† **6.** *Water of magnanimity*: any gently stimulating remedy. (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*) *Obs.*

1861 HULME tr. *Moquin-Tandon* II. III. 65 Distilled Ants (Water of Magnanimity).

Magnanimous (mægnæ·nimәs), *a.* Also 6–7 **magnanimious.** [f. L. *magnanim-us* (f. *magnus* great + *animus* soul: corresponding in formation to Gr. *μεγαλόψυχος*, and in scholastic Latin used as its translation) + -OUS. Cf. F. *magnanime.*]

1. Great in courage; nobly brave or valiant. Of qualities, actions, etc.: Proceeding from or manifesting high courage. ? *Obs.*

1584 *Mirr. Mag.* 1 b, The incouragement, that the magnanimious Cesar gaue vnto his souldiours. 1589 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* Prose Add. (1612) 332 Elisa (whom the Phœnicians for her magnanimious dying, did afterwardes name Dido). 1665 G. HAVERS *P. della Valle's Trav. E. India* 196 The first course seem'd safest and most considerate; the latter was more magnanimous, but with-all temerarious. *a* 1719 ADDISON *Evid. Chr. Relig.* iii. (1733) 25 The irreproachable lives and magnanimous sufferings of their followers. 1761 HUME *Hist. Eng.* II. xli. 430 When she saw an evident necessity she braved danger with magnanimous courage. 1770 *Junius Lett.* xxxviii. 189 *note*, All their magnanimous threats ended in a ridiculous vote of censure. 1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* xxxiv, The Douglas .. was too magnanimous not to interest himself in what was passing. 1858 LONGF. *M. Standish* iii, For he was great of heart, magnanimous, courtly, courageous.

2. High-souled; nobly ambitious; lofty of purpose; noble in feeling or conduct. Now chiefly: Superior to petty resentment or jealousy, loftily generous in disregard of injuries. (Cf. MAGNANIMITY 3, 4.)

1598 HAYDOCKE tr. *Lomazzo* II. 30 Ivstice being .. a masculine vertue, hath manlie, magnanimious, considerate and moderate actions. 1604 T. WRIGHT *Passions* v. § 4. 225 It cannot but proceede from a noble magnanimious minde to contemne all base iniuries offered. 1633 G. HERBERT *Temple, Ch. Porch* lvi, Pitch thy behaviour low, thy projects high; So shalt thou humble and magnanimous be. *c* 1665 MRS. HUTCHINSON *Mem. Col. Hutchinson* (1846) 33 He was so truly magnanimous, that prosperity could never lift him up in the least. 1769 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* IV. xxxiii. 416 Richard the first, a brave and magnanimous prince, was a sportsman as well as a soldier. 1802 WORDSW. *Sonn.*, '*Great men have been among us*', They knew .. what strength was, that would not bend But in magnanimous meekness. 1847 DISRAELI *Tancred* II. i, They think they are doing a very kind and generous and magnanimous thing. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* II. 167 The magnanimous frankness of a man who had done great things, and who could well afford to acknowledge some deficiencies.

Hence **Magna·nimously** *adv.*; **Magna·nimousness** *rare* = MAGNANIMITY.

1606 W. W[OODCOCKE] *Hist. Ivstine* XVIII. 71 They should .. see he had the like liberallity and magnanimousnesse of mind. 1611 COTGR., *Magnanimement*, magnanimously. 1614 EARL STIRLING *Domes-day* IV. lxxvii. (1637) 88 Who first from death by deeds redeem'd their names, And eminent magnanimously grew. 1796 BURKE *Regic. Peace* i. Wks. VIII. 159 With Hannibal at her gates, she [Holland] had nobly and magnanimously refused all separate treaty. 1851 D. WILSON *Preh. Ann.* (1863) II. III. iv. 126 A golden treasure which they magnanimously resolved should be equitably divided. 1862 MRS. OLIPHANT *Last of Mortimers* II. 257, I am not sure my great magnanimousness did not have a root in what Harry called 'feeling extravagant'. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 7 Feb. 5/2 The French journals magnanimously drop their querulous tone.

Magnase. *rare*—°. A workman's corrupt form of MANGANESE. (Cf. MAGNUS.) Only *attrib.* in *magnase black.*

1849–50 *Weale's Dict. Terms, Magnase black* is the best of all blacks for drying in oil without addition, or preparation of the oil. 1854 in FAIRHOLT *Dict. Terms Art.*

Magnate (mæ·gnēt). Chiefly *pl.* Also 8–9 **magnat.** [ad. late L. *magnāt-, magnās* (also *magnātus*), f. *magnus* great.]

1. A great man; a noble; a man of wealth or eminence in any sphere.

Not in Johnson or Todd. It is possible that all the examples before the 19th c. represent the L. plural *magnātes.*

1430–40 LYDG. *Bochas* IX. xxxiv. (1558) 35 The greatest states rulers of the toun Called Magnates. 1590 SIR J. SMYTH *Disc. Weapons* Ded. 15 Your Lordships (being the Nobilitie and Magnates of the Kingdome). 1654 TRAPP *Comm. Job* iii. 322 For Magnates are Magnetes, they draw many by their example. 1790 BURKE *Fr. Rev.* 39 The popular representative and .. the magnates of the kingdom. 1814 BYRON *Lara* I. vii, Born of high lineage .. He mingled with the Magnates of his land. 1844 LD. BROUGHAM *Brit. Const.* i. (1862) 5 A patrician body accustomed to consider themselves as the magnates in a country. 1850 W. IRVING *Goldsmith* xx. 220 The associate of Johnson, Burke, Topham Beauclerc, and other magnates. 1874 L. STEPHEN *Hours in Library* (1892) I. iv. 167 Unlike the irritable race of literary magnates .. [Scott] never lost a friend. 1883 *Fortn. Rev.* 1 Nov. 609 The small class of territorial magnates who possess the soil of the country.

transf. 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* xxxiii. (1856) 290 The stars, except one or two of the northern magnates, invisible at noonday.

2. *spec.* In Hungary, and formerly in Poland, a member of the Upper House in the Diet.

1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XV. 290/1 The bishops of Cracow and Kiow .. and several magnats declared that they would never consent to the establishment of such a commission. 1845 S. AUSTIN *Ranke's Hist. Ref.* I. 181 In Hungary some magnates and cities were quickly reduced to obedience. *Ibid.* II. 461 A few magnates collected around the king.

† **Magnatical,** *a. Obs.* [f. prec. + -ICAL.] ? Lordly, domineering.

1608 H. CLAPHAM *Errour on Left Hand*, To Rdr. A 2 b, Their magnaticall one-eard Inuectiues were set on fire from hell, for destroying the Church peace.

Magne- (mæ·gnĭ) an irregular combining form used instead of MAGNETO-, in certain scientific terms introduced by Faraday:—

Ma·gne-cry·stal, a crystal acted upon by magnetism. **Ma·gnecrysta·llic** *a.*, pertaining to the effect produced by magnetism upon a crystalline body. **Ma·gnele·ctric** *a.* = MAGNETO-ELECTRIC. **Ma·gne-o·ptic** *a.*, pertaining to the relation betwcen the optic axis of a crystal and the line of magnetic force through it.

1831 FARADAY [see MAGNETO-ELECTRIC]. 1848 — in *Phil. Trans.* CXXXIX. 4 They [*sc.* results] appear to present to us a new force .. which .. I will conventionally designate by a new word, as the magnecrystallic force. *Ibid.* 33, I .. could perceive no traces of any phenomena having either magneoptic, or magnecrystallic, or any other relation to the crystalline structure of the masses. 1870 BENCE JONES *Life Faraday* II. 348 The action of heat on magne-crystals. 1879 NOAD & PREECE *Electricity* 300 An impelling force distinct from the magnetic and the diamagnetic, and which he [Faraday] called the *magne-crystallic force.* 1881 MAXWELL *Electr. & Magn.* II. 46 Magnecrystallic phenomena.

Magnefy, obs. form of MAGNIFY.

Magnelle, obs. form of MANGONEL.

† **Magnes.** *Obs.* Also 4 *erron.* magnas. [L. *magnēs* = Gr. ὁ Μάγνης λίθος, the Magnesian stone, MAGNET.] A magnet, loadstone.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVI. vii. (1495) 557 Though the magnas drawyth yren to itself: the admas drawyth it away fro the magnas. *Ibid.* lxii. 573 It semyth that the ymage hangyth in the ayre by the myghte and vertue of the stone magnes. 1559 W. CUNNINGHAM *Cosmogr. Glasse* 161 Thys is a merveilous nedle, whiche beinge touched, (as I heare) onlye with the Magnes shoulde knowe to turne alwaye to the North pole. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* II. (1590) 113 b, As a perfect Magnes, though put in an iuorie boxe, will thorow the boxe send forth his inbraced vertue to a beloued needle. *a* 1677 HALE *Prim. Orig. Man.* IV. iv. 329 In this lower World there seems many things directed to the special use of Mankind .. the Metals of Silver, Gold, Copper, the very Situation of the Seas, the Magnes. 1750 tr. *Leonardus' Mirr. Stones* 206.

b. *attrib.*: **magnes-stone,** in the same sense.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVI. lxii. (1495) 573 There ben mountayns of suche magnes stones and they drawe to them and breke shippes that ben nayled with yren. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* III. (1590) 267 As if the sight of the eminie had bene a Magnes stone to his courage. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. xii. 4. 1625 PURCHAS *Pilgrims* II. 1487 There is neither Iron or Steele, or the Magnes Stone that should so make the Tombe of Mahomet to hang in the Ayre.

c. *transf.* Magnetic virtue.

1664 Evelyn *Sylva* 33 There is such a Magnes in this simple Tree as does manifestly draw to it self some occult, and wonderful virtue.

d. Applied to each of the poles.

a 1653 G. Daniel *Idyll* v. 164 His temper'd Earth, whips (as you Agitate The Ayre) to either Magnes, This, or That.

† **Magnesane.** *Chem. Obs.* [f. Magnes-ia: see -ane 2.] Chloride of magnesium.

1812 Sir H. Davy *Chem. Philos.* 353 It is evident that there exists a combination of magnesium and chlorine; though this body, which may be called magnesane, has never been examined in a separate state.

Magnesia (mægnī·ʃiă). Also 4 magnasia, 5 magnetia. [a. med.L. *magnēsia*, a. Gr. ἡ Μαγνησία λίθος, 'the Magnesian stone', a designation of two different minerals: (1) the loadstone; (2) a stone shining like silver, perhaps talc (Liddell & Scott).

It is not clear which of these two senses gave rise to the alchemical use; the brilliant lustre ascribed by the alchemists to 'magnesia' favours the latter view, and the substance seems not to have been identified with the loadstone, in spite of the resemblance of its name to the familiar word *Magnes*.]

† **1.** *Alchemy.* A mineral alleged by some alchemists to be one of the ingredients of the philosopher's stone. *Obs.*

c 1386 Chaucer *Can. Yeom. Prol. & T.* 902 Take the stoon that Titanos men name. Which is that quod he. Magnasia is the same, Seyde Plato. *Ibid.* 905 What is Magnasia, good sire, I yow preye. It is a water that is maad, I seye, Of elementes foure, quod Plato. 1472 Ripley *Comp. Alch.* Pref. in Ashm. (1652) 133 Our Stone ys callyd the lesse World one and three, Magnesia also of Sulphure and Mercury Proportionate by Nature most perfytly. 1477 Norton *Ord. Alch.* iii. ibid. 42 Another Stone .. you must have withall .. A Stone glittering with perspecuitie .. The price of an Ounce Conveniently Is twenty shillings; .. Her name is Magnetia, few people her knowe. 1610 B. Jonson *Alch.* II. iii, Your marchesite, your tutie, your magnesia.

fig. 1651 Biggs *New Disp.* Pref. b 2 b, We catch at onely painted Butter-flyes, and speculate not the Magnesia or substantiality of Physicks, but rather its Umbrage; not the Body, but the Bark, and superficial out side.

† **b.** Used by Paracelsus for: Amalgam. *Obs.*

1641 French *Distill.* vi. (1651) 185 Hang plates of gold over the fume of Argent vive, and they will become white, friable, and fluxil as wax. This is called the Magnesia of gold, as saith Paracelsus.

† **2.** = Manganese 1. Also *black magnesia*. *Obs.*

[This use prob. arose from the notion that manganese was a form of the 'magnesia' of alchemy. There may, however, have been some early confusion of manganese with loadstone: Pliny *N. H.* xxxvi. lxvi says that loadstone (*magnes lapis*) was used in making glass. In the Latin of early chemistry the word was applied to various other substances: e.g. *magnesia opalina* was a red sulphide of antimony (? = Kermes 3).]

1677 Plot *Oxfordsh.* 79 Magnesia (in the Glass-houses, called Manganese). 1712 tr. *Pomet's Hist. Drugs* I. 103/2 The last ingredient [*sc.* of Cristalline Glass] is Manganese, or Magnesia, so called from its Likeness in Colour, Weight and Substance to the Load-Stone. 1753 Chambers *Cycl. Supp.* s.v. *Magnissa*, Many have supposed the Magnissa to be the same with magnesia, that is, manganese, but this is an error. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) X. 427/1 *Black Magnesia.* See Manganese.

3. (In early use often † *white magnesia* = mod.L. *magnesia alba*, in contradistinction to *black magnesia*: see 2.) **a.** Originally, and still in popular language, applied to hydrated magnesium carbonate, a white earthy powder, used in medicine as an antacid and cathartic. *Calcined magnesia*: magnesium oxide (pure 'magnesia': see b) prepared by heating the carbonate. **b.** In modern *Chemistry*, an alkaline earth, now recognized as the oxide of magnesium (MgO).

[This application of the word seems not to be connected with the use in sense 1, but to have been suggested by the mod.L. *magnes carneus* 'flesh-magnet', applied *c* 1550 by Cardan (*De Subtilitate* VII, Opera III. 475) to a white earth resembling osteocolla, because it was found to adhere strongly to the lips, and was therefore supposed to have the same attraction for flesh that the loadstone has for iron. The mod.L. term *magnesia alba* seems to have been first employed by Hoffmann in 1722 (*Opera* 1740 IV. 479/2).]

1755 J. Black *Exper. Magnesia Alba* etc. (1893) 7, I have had no opportunity of seeing Hoffman's first magnesia. *Ibid.* 8 Those who would prepare a magnesia from Epsom salt may use the following process. 1794 Sullivan *View Nat.* I. 240 It exists in a state of combination, in lime-stone, common magnesia, alkalis, &c. 1799 *Med. Jrnl.* II. 206 Magnesia has long been a celebrated remedy for these [stomachic] complaints. 1812 Sir H. Davy *Chem. Philos.* 48 Hoffman, in the beginning of the 18th century, pointed out magnesia as a peculiar substance. 1823 Byron *Juan* x. lxxiii, These sodas and magnesias Which form that bitter draught, the human species. 1878 Huxley *Physiogr.* 80 The metal combines with the oxygen of the air to form oxide of magnesium or magnesia.

c. *attrib.*

1846 G. E. Day tr. *Simon's Anim. Chem.* II. 133 The magnesia salts would .. answer this purpose better. 1876 Preece & Sivewright *Telegraphy* 34 A solution of the magnesia sulphate ($MgSO_4$. Epsom salts).

Magnesian (mægnī·ʃăn), *a.* [f. Magnesia + -an.] Of or pertaining to, or containing magnesia.

1794 Sullivan *View Nat.* I. 434 The five simple earths are, the calcareous, the ponderous, the magnesian or muriatic, the argillaceous, and the siliceous. 1799 Tennant in *Phil. Trans.* LXXXIX. 309 Magnesian limestone may be easily distinguished from that which is purely calcareous, by the slowness of its solution in acids. 1807 T. Thomson *Chem.* (ed. 3) II. 476 Magnesia has a very marked affinity for alumina. .. This affinity was first pointed out by Mr. Chenevix in his analysis of magnesian stones. 1812 Sir H. Davy *Chem. Philos.* 33 In 1756 Dr. Black published his admirable researches on calcareous, magnesian, and alkaline substances. 1876 Page *Adv. Text-bk. Geol.* v. 102 Dolomite is a granular or crystalline variety of magnesian limestone. 1882 *Rep. to Ho. Repr. Prec. Met. U. S.* 622 This earth has a magnesian or chalky aspect.

b. Magnesian limestone *Geol.*, a name for the lower division of the New Red Sandstone rocks, now known as 'Permian'.

1836 T. Thomson *Outl. Min., Geol., & Min. Anal.* II. 142 The magnesian limestone begins at Tynemouth, and extends .. as far as Nottingham. 1865 Lyell *Elem. Geol.* (ed. 6) 456 For the lower, or Magnesian Limestone division of English Geologists, Sir R. Murchison proposed, in 1841, the name of Permian.

† **Magne·siated,** *a. Chem. Obs.* [f. Magnesia + -ate + -ed 1.] Combined with magnesia.

1796 Kirwan *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) II. 386 After dissolving the Magnesiated Iron in any acid.

Magnesic (mægnī·sik), *a.* [f. Magnes-ia and Magnes-ium + -ic.] **a.** Containing magnesia. **b.** In names of salts: Of or pertaining to magnesium.

1877 Kingzett *Alkali Trade* 208 This tendency to fuse on the part of the mixture is due to the magnesic chloride. 1881 S. P. Thompson in *Nature* XXIV. 465 Magnesic platinocyanide. 1894 *U. S. Tariff* in *Times* 16 Aug. 6/2 Magnesic fire-brick.

Magnesiferous (mægnĭsi·fĕrəs), *a.* [f. mod.L. *magnesi-a*: see -ferous.] Containing magnesia.

1856 Mayne *Expos. Lex.*

Magnesioferrite (mægnī·sioʃe·rəit. *Min.* [f. *magnesio-*, taken as combining form of Magnesia + Ferrite.] Black octahedral crystals of magnesia and oxide of iron, from Vesuvius.

1868 Dana *Min.* (ed. 5) 152.

Magnesite (mæ·gnĭsəit). *Min.* [f. Magnes-ia + -ite 1.] Carbonate of magnesium, occurring commonly in compact white masses, but occasionally crystalline.

Formerly applied also to the hydrous silicate of magnesium (sepiolite or meerschaum).

1815 W. Phillips *Outl. Min. & Geol.* (1818) 27 Magnesia is combined with the carbonic acid in the magnesite. 1862 Dana *Elem. Geol.* 63. 1877 Kingzett *Alkali Trade* 207 Neutralising the acid liquor .. with Greek stone or very nearly pure magnesite (carbonate of magnesium).

Magnesium (mægnī·siŭm, -ī·ʃĭŭm). *Chem.* [f. Magnesia, on the type of other names of metals in -um, -ium.]

† **1.** = Manganese. *Obs.*

1808 Sir H. Davy in *Phil. Trans.* XCVIII. 346, I shall venture to denominate the metals from the alkaline earths barium, strontium, calcium, and magnium: the last of these words is undoubtedly objectionable, but magnesium [*footnote refers to* Bergman *Opusc.* II. 200] has been already applied to metallic manganese.

2. A chemical element, one of the 'metals of the alkaline earths', being the base of magnesia.

Though one of the most widely diffused of elements it is found in nature only in composition, and was discovered by Sir H. Davy in 1807 and first successfully separated by Bussy in 1830, as a light silvery metal, ductile and malleable, which is stable in dry air but tarnishes when exposed to moisture, and burns with a blinding white light when held in a flame. Symbol Mg.

1812 Sir H. Davy *Chem. Philos.* 352 That magnesia consists of magnesium and oxygene, is proved both by analysis and synthesis. 1841 Brande *Man. Chem.* (ed. 5) 705. 1880 *Nature* XXI. 289 On the dichroitic fluorescence of magnesium-platinum-cyanide. 1881 Lockyer in *Nature* No. 617. 394 The spectra are as distinct as the spectrum of magnesium.

3. *attrib.*: **magnesium lamp,** a lamp constructed to burn magnesium; **magnesium light,** a brilliant light produced by the combustion of magnesium; **magnesium ribbon, thread, wire,** a thin strip or wire of magnesium prepared for burning.

1860 *Photogr. News* 8 June 70/2 A rival..to the strong lights hitherto used is like to spring up in Bunsen's *magnesium-lamp. 1871 M. Collins *Mrq. & Merch.* I. vi. 204 A magnesium lamp stood on the table. 1860 *Photogr. News* 8 June 70/2 The excellence of the *magnesium-light. 1871 Kingsley *At Last* vi, My host, .. by the help of the magnesium light, had penetrated further into the cave. 1890 *Anthony's Photogr. Bull.* III. 126 *Magnesium ribbon. 1860 *Photogr. News* 8 June 70/2 Notwithstanding the high price of the *magnesium thread. 1864 *Proc. Amer. Phil. Soc.* IX. 458 *Magnesium wire. 1878 H. S. Wilson *Alp. Ascents* iii. 94 The intense flame of the magnesium wire.

Magnet (mæ·gnĕt). Also 5–7 **magnete,** 6 **mangnet.** [a. OF. *magnete* (also *manette*), or directly ad. L. *magnēta*, accus. of *magnēs*: see Magnes.

The word has been superseded in mod. F. by *aimant*, but is current in the other Rom. and Teut. langs.: It., Sp., Pg. *magnete*, Ger., Da., Sw. *magnet*, Du. *magneet*.]

1. *Min.* = Loadstone; a variety of magnetite (proto-sesquioxide of iron) characterized by its power of attracting iron and steel, and by certain other associated properties (see 2).

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 325/1 Magnete, precyowse stone, *magnes*. 1447 Bokenham *Seyntys* (Roxb.) 14 Hym thowte that nevere in so lytyl space He had more seyn, wych his herte drow As the magnet doth iryn. 1555 Eden *Decades* 322 The Ilande of Magnete that is the Ilande of the lode stone which is vnder or near abowte the northe pole. 1601 Holland *Pliny* II. 515 Dinocrates began to make the arched roufe of the temple of Arsinoe all of Magnet or this Loadstone. *a* 1674 Milton *Hist. Mosc.* iii. Wks. 1851 VIII. 487 In midst of this white City stands a Castle built of Magnet. 1728 Pemberton *Newton's Philos.* 13 That any stone should have so amazing a property, as we find in the magnet [etc.]. *c* 1860 Faraday *Forces Nat.* v. 130 There are some curious bodies in nature .. which are called magnets or loadstones—ores of iron. 1861 C. W. King *Ant. Gems* (1866) 60 On Magnet, a black compact and hard iron-ore, I have seen rude intagli of the Lower Empire.

2. A piece of loadstone; also, a piece of iron or steel to which the characteristic properties of loadstone have been imparted, either permanently or temporarily, by contact with another magnet, by induction, or by means of an electric current. A magnet has an axis, at the extremities of which (the 'poles') the attractive power is greatest, and at the middle of which it becomes *nil*. When suspended freely, a magnet assumes such a position that one of its poles (hence called the north pole) points approximately north, and the other (the south pole) approximately south; the like poles of two magnets repel each other, while the unlike poles attract each other.

Bar magnet, a polarized rod of iron, now much used in the construction of electro-magnetic apparatus. *Horse-shoe magnet*, a magnet made of steel in the form of a horse-shoe. *Natural magnet*: one consisting of loadstone; opposed to *artificial magnet*. See also Electro-magnet.

1625 N. Carpenter *Geog. Del.* I. iii. (1635) 57 Let there bee cut out of a rocke of Load-stone, a Magnet of reasonable quantity. 1727 De Foe *Syst. Magic* I. ii. (1840) 58-9 What would have been said, to see him make a piece of iron dance round a table, while the agent held the Magnet underneath. 1777 Priestley *Matt. & Spir.* (1782) I. xiii. 151 We are not able to conceive how it is that a magnet attracts iron. 1832 *Nat. Philos.* II. *Magnetism* v. 53 (U. K. S.) These horse-shoe magnets .. may be rendered magnetic by the same process as a straight bar. 1839 G. Bird *Nat. Philos.* 146 Each portion will become a perfect magnet, each of the fractured ends exhibiting a polar state, as perfect as the entire magnet. 1894 Bottone *Electr. Instr. Making* (ed. 6) 136 A bar-magnet, around one pole of which is coiled about a hundred feet of .. copper wire. *Ibid.* 231 It is easily seen, that if (as in bell magnets, horseshoe magnets) the winding is not carried on [etc.].

b. In extended sense: A body possessing the properties characteristic of a magnet.

1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) X. 435/2 [Cavallo's hypothesis] is, that the earth itself is a magnet.

3. *fig.* Something which attracts.

1655 H. Vaughan *Silex Scint., Starre* vi, These are the Magnets which so strongly move And work all night upon thy light and love. 1687 Dryden *Hind & P.* III. 368 Two magnets, heaven and earth, allure to bliss, The larger loadstone that, the nearer this. 1691-8 Norris *Pract. Disc.* (1711) III. 12 God is the true great Magnet of our souls. 1777 Miss Burney *Evelina* xxi, They know the attraction of the magnet that draws me. 1800 Mrs. Hervey *Mourtray Fam.* II. 64 The lovely Emma was the magnet that attracted them both. 1821 Joanna Baillie *Metr. Leg., Columbus* i, The magnet of a thousand eyes. 1868 Lynch *Rivulet* cxli. iii, Let love your magnet be To draw him back to you.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *magnet-like* adj.; *magnet-wise* adv.; **magnet core,** the rod or bar of soft magnetized iron placed in the middle of an electro-magnet; **magnet-cylinder,** a metal cylinder, containing magnets, used for generating electricity; **magnet helix,** a coil of wire such as surrounds the core of an electro-magnet; **magnet house,** a house in which magnetic apparatus is kept.

1894 Bottone *Elect. Instr. Making* (ed. 6) 231 This is true whatever be the form of the *magnet core. 1866 H. Wilde in *Phil. Trans.* CLVII. 91 A compound hollow cylinder of brass and iron, hereafter called the *magnet-cylinder. 1879 Prescott *Sp. Telephone* 23 Whenever one part of a circuit is brought in proximity to another, as is the case in *magnet helices. 1900 *Daily News* 3 July 5/2 The *magnet house of the Observatory. 1821 Shelley *Prometh. Unb.* iv. 466 Borne beside thee by a power Like the polar Paradise, *Magnet-like of lovers' eyes. 1849 Mozley *Ess.* (1878) II. 201 The obliquity of this visible system is .. the one theme, which is ever drawing them *magnet-wise.

† **Magnetarian,** *a. Obs. rare*—1. [f. Magnet + -arian.] Conversant with the magnet.

1654 Charleton *Physiol. Epic.-Gass.-Charltoniana* 388 The Speculations and Observations of our Modern Magnetarian Authors, Gilbert, Cabeus, Kircher, &c.

Magnetarium (mægnĕtē·rĭŭm). [quasi-Latin, f. Magnet + -arium.] An instrument for the illustration of the phenomena of the earth's magnetism.

1894 H. Wilde in *Proc. Roy. Soc.* LV. 210 By means of some electro-mechanism, new to experimental science, which [in a paper read in June 1890] I termed a magnetarium, the period of backward rotation [etc.]. 1902 *Encycl. Brit.* XXX. 463/1 Wilde had succeeded in reproducing some of the most conspicuous features of the earth's magnetization by a contrivance called a magnetarium.

‖ **Magne·tes.** *Obs.* [L., a. Gr. μαγνήτης = μάγνης Magnet.] = Magnet.

c 1581 Lodge *Repl. Gosson's Sch. Abuse* (Shaks. Soc. 1853) 21 As the magnetes draweth iorne..so Musik [etc.].

Magnetic (mægne·tik), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. mod.L. *magnētic-us* (F. *magnétique*, Sp. *magnético*, It. *magnetico*), f. *magnēt-*: see Magnet and -ic.]

A. *adj.*

1. Having the properties of a magnet; pertaining to a magnet or to magnetism; producing, caused by, or operating by means of, magnetism.

Frequently forming phraseological combs. with sbs., as in *magnetic amplitude, azimuth, compass, core, declination, dip, equator, field, fluid, meridian, needle, north, pole, potential, separator, storm, telegraph, zenith*; see the sbs.

1634 HABINGTON *Castara* I. (Arb.) 23 Why doth the stubborne iron prove So gentle to th' magnetique stone? 1635 QUARLES *Embl.* I. xiii. (1718) 53 Like as the am'rous needle joys to bend To her magnetick friend. 1647 H. MORE *Philos. Poems* 385 Let the arrow K keep in BC the same line of the air or earthly magnetick spirit. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Magnetick*, belonging to the Lodestone. 1796 H. HUNTER tr. *St.-Pierre's Stud. Nat.* (1799) I. 64 Metals, which have magnetic powers, most of which are still unknown to us. 1796 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* II. 158 Common Magnetic Iron Ore. *Ibid.* 161 Magnetic Sand. 1851 CARPENTER *Man. Phys.* (ed. 2) 12 *note*, When iron rails, pokers, &c. become magnetic by the influence of the earth. 1884 A. DANIELL *Princ. Physics* xvi. 609 When an iron or cobalt bar is magnetised it..emits a slight sound—a 'magnetic tick'.

† b. Formerly applied to a healing plaster of which 'magnet' or loadstone formed an ingredient, and which was regarded as possessing occult attractive power similar to that of the magnet. *Obs.*

1658 A. FOX *Wurtz' Surg.* II. x. 86 Then is it requisite, that you have a good Medicine, which penetrate with its vertue, and that is the Magnetick plaister. 1658 tr. *Bergerac's Satyr. Char.* xii. 47, I teach them to find..the magnetique plaster. 1671 SALMON *Syn. Med.* III. lxxvii. 675 Apply the magnetick Emplaster..till it [the wound] is sufficiently cleansed.

† c. Said with reference to other attractive forces formerly confused with magnetism. *Obs.*

1667 MILTON *P. L.* III. 583 They [the Constellations] towards his all-chearing Lamp Turn swift their various motions, or are turnd By his Magnetic beam.

2. *fig.* Having powers of attraction; very attractive or seductive. Now often with some mixture of sense 4.

1632 B. JONSON (*title*) The Magnetick Lady. 1638 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (ed. 2) 55 Turk, Jew, and others, drawne thither by the magnetick power of gaine. 1658 ROWLAND *Topsell's Four-f. Beasts* Pref., There is such a magnetick force in Goodness, that it draws the hearts of men after it. 1778 MISS BURNEY *Evelina* xxiii, The magnetic power of beauty. 1845 M. PATTISON *Ess.* (1889) I. 9 That magnetic influence which irresistibly draws our feet to spots on which our imagination has long fed. 1880 *Spectator* 3 Nov. 1437 The Americans have invented, and Englishmen are slowly adopting into their political vocabulary, a new word, intended to account for the otherwise unaccountable popularity of some politicians. They say they are 'magnetic'. 1888 BRYCE *Amer. Commw.* II. III. lxxiv. 612 If he can join to them a ready and winning address, a geniality of manner if not of heart, he becomes what is called magnetic. 1901 *Scotsman* 7 Oct. 2/7, I found him one of the most magnetic and companionable of men.

b. Const. *to*, † *of*.

1667 WATERHOUSE *Fire Loud.* 107 Whose appositeness for Trade, was Magnetique of all Nations and Merchandises to it. 1864 TENNYSON *Aylmer's F.* 626 His face magnetic to the hand from which Livid be pluck'd it forth.

3. Applied to those bodies, as iron, nickel, cobalt, which are capable of receiving the properties of the loadstone, or of being attracted by it; also, = PARAMAGNETIC.

1837 BREWSTER *Magnet.* 9 He [Gilbert *c* 1600] applies the term magnetic to all bodies which are acted upon by loadstones and magnets. 1843 PORTLOCK *Geol.* 225 Magnetic pyrites occurs in considerable quantity in a greenstone dike. 1846 [see DIAMAGNETIC *a.*]. 1871 ROSCOE *Elem. Chem.* 239 Ferrous oxide and the ferrous salts are magnetic.

4. Pertaining to animal magnetism; mesmeric.

1800 *Med. Jrnl.* IV. 130 The magnetic influence of Mesmer. 1834 *Penny Cycl.* II. 33/1 The mode of bringing the magnetised under the influence of the magnetic fluid was peculiar. 1838 DICKENS *Nich. Nick.* vii, As if he had been in a magnetic slumber. 1855 SMEDLEY *Occult Sci.* 222 The magnetic awakening in the body.

B. *sb.*

† **1.** = MAGNET. *lit.* and *fig.* *Obs.*

1654 H. L'ESTRANGE *Chas. I* (1655) 60 They [alliances between princes] are not souldered by any magnetique of Love. 1658 J. WEBB *Cleopatra* VIII. II. 20 Retiring her eyes from a magnetick which even forceably attracted them. 1671 MILTON *P. R.* II. 168 Such object hath the power to.. lead At will the manliest, resolutest brest, As the Magnetic hardest Iron draws.

2. a. 'Any metal, as iron, steel, nickel, cobalt, &c., which may receive the properties of the loadstone' (Webster 1847–54 citing *Dana*). **b.** A paramagnetic body (*Cent. Dict.* 1890).

3. Magnetics: the science of magnetism.

1786 CAVALLO in *Phil. Trans.* LXXVII. 11 It is a proposition well established in magnetics, that soft iron, or soft steel, acquires magnetism very easily. 1881 MAXWELL *Electr. & Magn.* I. 12 In electrostatics and magnetics.

Magnetical (mægnē·tikăl), *a.* Now *rare*. [f. mod.L. *magnētic-us* (see prec.) + -AL.]

1. = MAGNETIC *a.* 1.

1581 BOROUGH (*title*) A Discours of the Variation of the Cumpas, or Magneticall Needle. 1581 — *Disc. Var. Compass* i. Bj, The magneticall meridian. 1625 N. CARPENTER *Geogr. Del.* I. iii. (1635) 46 A Magneticall Body by some is defined to bee that which seated in the Aire doth place it selfe in one place naturall, not alterable. 1633 T. JAMES *Voy.* Q ij b, The Magneticall Azimuths. 1696 WHISTON *Th. Earth* II. (1722) 109 Dr. Halley..has discover'd at least two Magnetical Poles. 1773 BRYDONE *Sicily* xl. (1776) I. 231 The needle .. entirely lost its magnetical power, standing indiscriminately at every point of the compass. 1794 G. ADAMS *Nat. & Exp. Philos.* IV. I. 382 You will find the iron appear more magnetical than the steel. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) X. 435/2 The variation of the compass first showed..that the earth had two magnetical poles by which the needle is influenced. 1876 DAVIS *Polaris Exp.* App. 639 The Coast Survey..has contributed astronomical and magnetical instruments.

† **b.** = MAGNETIC 1 c. Also const. *of*. *Obs.*

1626 BACON *Sylva* § 75 There is an Opinion, that the Moone is Magneticall of Heat, as the Sun is of Cold, and Moisture. 1642 H. MORE *Song of Soul* II. i. II. xxvi. All these be substances self-moveable: And that we call virtue magneticall..I comprehend it in the life plantall. 1671 GREW *Anat. Plants* I. iii. § 21 It will in its own magnetical tendency to ascend, reduce the Cortical Body to a compliance with it. 1686 GOAD *Celest. Bodies* II. i. 124 For who, almost, grants not..that the Planets are Magnetical Bodys touched by the Sun,..and thereupon move faster when in ☌ with him, direct.

† **c.** Of a writer: That treats of magnetism. *Obs.*

1676 BOYLE *Mech. Orig. divers Qual.*, *Magnetism* 20 But Magnetism is so fertile a Subject, that if I had now the leisure and conveniency to range among Magnetical Writers, I should scarce doubt of finding [etc.].

¶ **d.** In the 17th c. often applied to remedies for which a magical or occult virtue was claimed.

1628 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* II. i. I. i. (ed. 3) 209 Whether by these diabolical meanes..this disease and the like may be cured? and if they may whether it bee lawfull to make vse of them, those magneticall cures? 1632 *Ibid.* II. IV. (ed. 4) 281 Balsomes, strange extracts, elixars, and such like magico-magneticall cures. 1621 *Ibid.* III. II. v. IV. 651 Cardan ..reckons up many magneticall remedies. 1630 HALES *Gold. Rem.* I. (1673) 289 He tells of a great Person, who usually works such Magnetical Cures of that disease. 1663 BOYLE *Usef. Exp. Nat. Philos.* II. v. 226 Eminent physicians have both made use of and commended magnetical remedies. 1722 QUINCY *Lex. Physico-Med.* (ed. 2), *Magnetism*, and *Magnetical Virtues*, are much used by some who find their Account more in Amusement than useful Knowledge: and some affect to explain or recommend by such Terms, those Remedies, for the Application and Operation of which, they have no better Reasons at hand.

2. *fig.* = MAGNETIC *a.* 2.

a 1649 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Hist. Jas. V*, Wks. (1711) 96 That the king had a magnetical affection towards him. 1675 TRAHERNE *Chr. Ethics* 468 Modesty .. preferreth another above it self, and in that its magnetical and obliging quality much consisteth. *a* 1792 HORNE *Wks.* (1818) III. iii. 34 The virtue of his death, and the consequent 'power of his resurrection'.. compose a divine magnetical influence.

3. Pertaining to animal magnetism.

1794 GODWIN *Cal. Williams* 112 There was a magnetical sympathy between me and my master. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) X. 449/2 The room where the patients underwent the magnetical operations. 1802 ACERBI *Trav.* I. 273 The proficiency of the Baron in the magnetical science has not met with very great success.

† **B.** *sb. pl.* Magnetic properties. *Obs. rare.*

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* II. iii. 71 Men that ascribe thus much unto rocks of the north, must presume or discover the like magneticals in the south.

Magnetically (mægnē·tikăli), *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY².] In a magnetic manner; by means or in respect of magnetism.

1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* I. II. III. ii. 126 Many greene wounds magnetically cured. 1682 SIR T. BROWNE *Chr. Mor.* I. § 9 Stand magnetically upon that Axis, when prudent simplicity hath fixt there. *c* 1790 IMISON *Sch. Art* II. 166 The operator ought not to stop longer on the first bar than is necessary to open the pores, and to arrange them magnetically. 1873 MAXWELL *Electr. & Magn.* II. 45 Iron which is magnetically hard is..more apt to break. 1878 C. STANFORD *Symb. Christ* ii. 44 On a sudden they became magnetically conscious of supernatural presence.

† **Magnē·ticalness.** *Obs. rare*⁻¹. [-NESS.] Magnetic quality or condition.

1757 BIRCH *Hist. R. Soc.* IV. 253 It related not to the instances of the magneticalness of lightning.

Magnetician (mægnēti·shăn). [f. MAGNETIC + -IAN.] One skilled in magnetism; a magnetist.

18.. MURCHISON (Worc.).

† **Magnē·ticness.** *Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. MAGNETIC *a* + -NESS.] = MAGNETICALNESS.

1663 WATERHOUSE *Comm. Fortescue* 187 They fortified themselves against all incursions,..which the Magnetiqueness of their external success..might..occasion them.

Magnetico- (mægnē·tiko), used (*rarely*) as combining f. MAGNETIC to denote 'magnetic and ..'.

1816 BENTHAM *Chrestomathia* Wks. 1843 VIII. 145 There are—1. The Magnetic or Magnetico-spastic. 2. The Electric or Electrico-spastic [etc.].

Magneti·ferous, *a.* [f. MAGNET + -IFEROUS.] Producing or conducting magnetism.

1832 WEBSTER (citing *Journal of Science*). In mod. Dicts.

† **Magnē·tify**, *v. Obs.* [f. MAGNET + -IFY.] *trans.* = MAGNETIZE. Hence **Magnē·tified** *ppl. a.*

1650 CHARLETON *Paradoxes* Prol. 2 Like the Aguish magnetified Needle, reels to and fro. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) X. 450/1 Several persons in a higher sphere of life were magnetified and felt nothing. *Ibid.* XVIII. 621/1 The south pole of a small magnetified needle.

† **Magneti·meter.** *Obs.* [f. MAGNET + -METER, after *calorimeter*.] = MAGNETOMETER.

1821 W. SCORESBY Jun. in *Trans. Roy. Soc. Edinb.* (1823) IX. 243 Description of a Magnetimeter, being a New Instrument for Measuring Magnetic Attractions, and Finding the Dip of the Needle.

Magnetine (mæ·gnētin). [f. MAGNET + -INE.]

† **1.** A hypothetical imponderable substance regarded as the principle of magnetism. *Obs. rare*⁻¹.

1848 *Lond. Jrnl. Arts*, etc. XXXII. 64 [where also other related terms (*magnetide* etc.) are proposed].

2. A mixture of some magnetized material and cement, used in making magnetic belts, etc.

1890 in *Century Dict.*

Magnetipolar (mæ·gnētipōu·lăr), *a.* [f. MAGNET + POLAR *a.*] Having the property of magnetic polarity. 1890 in *Century Dict.*

† **Magnetish**, *a. Obs.* [f. MAGNET + -ISH.] = MAGNETIC.

1683 PETTUS *Fleta Minor* I. 317 Some of these Iron-stones are Magnetish, and draw the Iron apparently, which proceeds from their hidden heat.

Magnetism (mæ·gnētiz'm). [ad. mod.L. *magnētismus* (F. *magnétisme*, 1724 in Hatz.-Darm.), f. *magnēt-*: see MAGNET and -ISM.]

1. The characteristic properties of the magnet; magnetic phenomena and their laws. Also, the natural agency or principle concerned in the production of magnetic phenomena; formerly often supposed to be an 'imponderable fluid', but now regarded as a modification of energy.

Terrestrial magnetism: the magnetic properties of the earth, considered as a whole.

1616 W. BARLOWE *Magn. Aduert.* Ep. Ded. A 2, What I had built vpon his foundation of the Magnetisme of the earth. 1664 POWER *Exp. Philos.* III. 160 You shall thereby give it a most powerful Magnetisme, so that it will then as actively move the Needle .. as the Loadstone it-self. 1775 HARRIS *Philos. Arrangem.* Wks. (1841) 376 Are we to speak of those other motive powers, the powers of magnetism and electricity? 1816 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 164 A peculiar species of attraction, exerted by bodies called magnets or loadstones, receives the appellation of magnetism. 1837 WHEWELL *Hist. Induct. Sci.* (1857) III. 38 The subject of terrestrial magnetism forms a very important addition to the general facts. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XIV. 288/1 The mutual relations of the two magnetisms [Austral and Boreal], and those of positive and negative electricity. *c* 1865 J. WYLDE in *Circ. Sci.* I. 249/2 The magnetic effect remains for some time; and this is called *residuary magnetism*. 1871 TYNDALL *Fragm. Sci.* (1879) II. xvi. 423 A blue flame, which being usually bent by the earth's magnetism, received the name of the Voltaic Arc.

† **b.** In the 17th c. often confused with various phenomena of attraction not now recognized as immediately related to it. *Obs.*

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* II. iii. (1658) 85 Many other Magnetisms may be pretended, and the like attractions through all the creatures of Nature. 1671 GREW *Anat. Plants* I. ii. § 25 The two Contrary Tendencies of the Lignous and Cortical Bodies .. (being most probably external, and a kind of Magnetisme).

c. *fig.* Attractive power or influence, esp. personal charm or ascendancy. Sometimes with allusion to sense 3.

1655 H. VAUGHAN *Silex Scint.* II. *Cock-crowing* i, Their magnetisme works all night And dreams of Paradise and light. 1662 GLANVILL *Lux Orient.* xiv. 13 The bodies they have contracted..may by a kind of fatal magnetisme be chained down to their proper element. 1671 MARVELL *Corr.* Wks. 1872–5 II. 393 The magnetism of two souls, rightly touched, works beyond all natural limits. 1691 NORRIS *Pract. Disc.* 172 Nothing is more common than to see Men of singular Strictness .. who yet .. stoop and yield to the Magnetism of this dirty Planet. *a* 1711 KEN *Preparatives* Poet. Wks. 1721 IV. 64 The Magnetism of Heav'nly Love, Draws some to God above. 1753 RICHARDSON *Grandison* (1781) III. ix. 67 There is a kind of magnetism in goodness. 1859 KINGSLEY *Misc.* I. 28 He could draw round him..by the spiritual magnetism of his genius, many a noble soul. 1888 BRYCE *Amer. Commw.* II. III. lxxiv. 612 Now, magnetism is among the highest qualities which an American popular leader can possess.

2. The science which is concerned with magnetic phenomena.

1828–32 in WEBSTER. 1885 S. P. THOMPSON (*title*) Lessons in Electricity and Magnetism.

3. Short for *animal magnetism* (see ANIMAL C. 1) = MESMERISM.

[1784, etc.; see ANIMAL C. 1.] 1785 *Mesmer's Aphorisms* 13 It cannot be determined how long a tree may preserve the magnetism. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) X. 450/1 The principal application of magnetism..was by pressure of the hands..on the hypochondria. 1855 SMEDLEY *Occult Sci.* 224 Magnetism by the eye is indeed often more powerful than by the hands.

Magnetist (mæ·gnētist). [f. MAGNET + -IST.]

1. One skilled in the science of magnetism.

1761 T. H. CROKER *Syst. Magn.* 7 A noted Magnetist's Pretence of making steadier compasses. 1859 EACHE *Discuss. Magn. & Meteorol. Observ.* I. 14 The same distinguished magnetist.

2. One who practises 'animal magnetism'; a mesmerist. Also *animal magnetist* (see ANIMAL C. 1).

1802–12 BENTHAM *Ration. Judic. Evid.* (1827) V. 189 The operations .. of the magnetist .. in the expulsion of non-existent diseases. 1807 SOUTHEY *Espriella's Lett.* II. 397 The animal magnetists kept up this unnatural state of attention long enough .. to produce .. insensibility. 1846 *Blackw. Mag.* LX. 235 The magnetist..made the usual passes along the arm. 1855 SMEDLEY *Occult Sci.* 224 The will, after all, is the real power exercised by the magnetist.

Magnetite (mæ·gnētəit). *Min.* [ad. G. *magnetit* (Haidinger 1845): see MAGNET and -ITE.] Proto-sesquioxide of iron, which is readily attracted by the magnet; magnetic oxide of iron.

1851 D. WILSON *Preh. Ann.* (1863) II. 19 The most important iron ore wrought in Norway and Sweden is Magnetite. 1879 RUTLEY *Stud. Rocks* x. 153 Magnetite is frequently titaniferous.

Magnetizability (mæ·gnētəizăbi·lĭti). [f. next: see -ITY.] Capacity of being magnetized.

1880 *Nature* XXIII. 210 The magnetisability of iron at very high temperatures. 1881 MAXWELL *Electr. & Magn.* II. 412 Not exactly proportional to its diamagnetic or ferromagnetic magnetizability.

Magnetizable (mæ·gnėtəizăb'l), *a.* [f. MAGNETIZE + -ABLE.] Capable of being magnetized.

1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVIII. 623/2 These intervening masses of magnetisable iron-ore. 1837 BREWSTER *Magnet.* 92 The continuous parts of a magnetizable body. 1881 *Times* 11 Apr. 4 Diamagnetism, which gave indications that 'space'..is magnetizable.

Magnetization (mæ·gnėtəizē'·ʃən). [f. MAGNETIZE + -ATION.] The action of magnetizing or the condition of being magnetized.

1801 *Encycl. Brit.* Suppl. II. 133/2 The striking it with a key will..make the process of magnetization very quick. 1832 *Nat. Philos.* II. *Electro-Magnet.* x. 56 (U. K. S.) We shall call the action which produces an arrangement of poles similar to that resulting from a voltaic current, positive magnetization. 1845 TODD & BOWMAN *Phys. Anat.* I. 239 Further tests of the presence of galvanic action are found in the magnetization of a steel needle placed within a coil. 1849 S. R. MAITLAND *Illustr. Mesmerism* 74 M. Swedenborg being present, she begged him to increase the efficacy of the water, by joining in the magnetisation. 1868 *Athenæum* 14 Mar. 390/2 Dr. Tyndall repeated Faraday's marvellous experiment—the magnetization of light. 1871 TYNDALL *Fragm. Sci.* (1879) I. xiii. 373 Previous to magnetization, a dipping needle .. stands accurately level.

Magnetize (mæ·gnėtəiz), *v.* [f. MAGNET + -IZE.]

1. *trans.* To charge or supply with magnetic properties.

1801 *Encycl. Brit.* Suppl. II. 133/2 The most simple method of magnetising a steel bar. 1831 BREWSTER *Optics* x. 92 The violet rays..had the power of magnetising small steel needles. 1894 BOTTONE *Electr. Instr. Making* (ed. 6) 215 If, therefore, we wind our field magnets with about 6 lbs. No. 20=12·5 ohms, we shall get a sufficient number of turns on to magnetise them efficiently.

2. *intr.* To become magnetic. In mod. Dicts.

3. *trans.* To attract as a magnet does. Chiefly *fig.* (with mixture of sense 4), to subdue or win by personal charm.

1836 *Edin. Rev.* LXII. 310 The noblest associations, thus insensibly introduced into the mind, magnetize it anew. 1842 TENNYSON *Talking Oak* 255, I kiss it twice, I kiss it thrice, The warmth it thence shall win To riper life may magnetise The baby-oak within. 1847 DISRAELI *Tancred* IV. iii, You will magnetise the Queen as you have magnetised me. 1876 MOZLEY *Univ. Serm.* vi. 141 External Nature is..an enchantress who magnetises the human spirit.

4. To influence by 'animal magnetism'; to mesmerize. Also *fig.*

1785 *Mesmer's Aphorisms* 11 The operation must be repeated, till you have magnetized every side of the plant. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) X. 450/1 Seven of Deslon's patients were magnetised at Dr. Franklin's house. 1849 S. R. MAITLAND *Illustr. Mesmerism* 74 M. Renard..had requested that Adèle the clairvoyante might, while in her sleep, magnetise a little bottle of water for him. 1864 LOWELL *Fireside Trav.* 189 You must magnetize him many times to get him *en rapport* with a jest.

Hence **Ma·gnetized** *ppl. a.* (also *absol.*); **Ma·gnetizing** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1787 MME. D'ARBLAY *Diary* 19 June, He whispered..that ..he intended to introduce magnetizing. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) X. 450/1 A magnetised tree was said to produce convulsions. 1830 HERSCHEL *Stud. Nat. Phil.* 57 Masks of magnetized steel wire are .. adapted to the faces of the workmen. 1834 *Penny Cycl.* II. 33/1 The mode of bringing the magnetised under the influence of the magnetic fluid was peculiar. 1843 *Rep. Brit. Assoc.* 27 The magnetizing action of transitory electric currents. 1877 *Academy* 3 Nov. 428/1 In an article on the magnetising of animals, Herr Preyer investigates the physiological effects [etc.]. 1880 J. E. H. GORDON *Electr. & Magn.* I. 147 The magnetized bar.

Magnetizer (mæ·gnėtəizəɹ). [f. MAGNETIZE + -ER¹.]

1. One who magnetizes; in quots. one who practises 'animal magnetism', a mesmerist.

1802 ACERBI *Trav.* I. 270, I saw my fellow traveller..fall into a profound sleep by the mere motion of the magnetiser's fingers. 1834 *Penny Cycl.* II. 32/2 Hundreds were ready to attest the wonderful cures wrought upon their own persons by the great magnetizer [Mesmer]. 1867 CARLYLE *Remin.* (1881) II. 269 Two magnetisers, first a man, then a quack woman. 1886 *Pall Mall G.* 7 July 3/2 The Italian magnetizer Donato.

2. That which imparts magnetism. In mod. Dicts.

Magneto (mægnī·to), *sb.* Used colloq. as an abbreviation for *magneto-electric machine.*

1882 *Daily News* 27 Jan. 2/1 Various curious forms of early telegraphs are shown,..for instance .. Highton's gold-leaf and horseshoe needle, Henley's magneto, and others. 1893 PREECE & STUBBS *Man. Telephony* 129 For such a purpose commutated magnetos are made.

Magneto- (mægnī·to), formally repr. the combining form of Gr. *μάγνητ-*, *μάγνης* MAGNET, first occurring in quasi-Greek derivatives like MAGNETOMETER, and now used without restriction to form combinations (chiefly written with hyphen) denoting processes carried on by magnetic means, or the application of magnetism to particular departments of art or industry, as in *magneto-electro-telluric, -inductive, -optic, -optical* adjs.; *magneto-generator, -induction, -rotation.* Also in the following: **magneto-bell, magneto-call-bell,** an electric bell in which the armature of the electro-magnet is polarized; **magneto-dynamo** (see quot.); **magneto-instrument** (*Cent. Dict.* 1890), **-machine,** a magneto-electric machine; **magneto-optics,** that branch of physics which deals with the phenomena of the magnetization of light; **magneto-phonograph,** a sound-recording and producing instrument worked by means of magnetic electricity; **magneto-pointer** (in mod. Dicts.), the index of a magneto-electric dial telegraph; **magneto-printer** (in mod. Dicts.), a recording telegraph worked by magneto-electricity; **magneto-telegraph** (in mod. Dicts.), a telegraph worked by magneto-electricity; **magneto-telephone,** a magneto-electric sound transmitter; **magneto-therapy,** the treatment of disease by the external application of metal plates inducing magnetic electricity (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1889); **magneto-transmitter** (in mod. Dicts.), a magneto-electric machine for the transmission of (*a*) electric force, (*b*) sound.

1889 PREECE & MAIER *Telephone* Index, *Magneto Bell. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl., **Magneto Call-bell,* the sounder of a telephone circuit. 1884 S. P. THOMPSON *Dynamo-Electr. Machinery* 199 In *magneto-dynamos, in which the field is due to permanent magnets of steel. 1846 J. JOYCE *Sci. Dial.* VI. 423 The machine in this case has been termed the *magneto-electro-telluric machine. 1893 PREECE & STUBBS *Man. Telephony* 125 The Ericsson-Bell Company's *magneto generators. 1892 S. P. THOMPSON *Magneto-Electr. Machinery* 8 Within a few months machines on the principle of *magneto-induction had been devised by Dal Negro and by Pixii. 1879 G. PRESCOTT *Sp. Telephone* 259 The *magneto-inductive waves were superposed. *c* 1865 G. GORE in *Circ. Sci.* I. 229/1 The *magneto-machine being in some cases employed. 1891 S. P. THOMPSON tr. *Guillemin's Magn. & Electr.* 415 Gramme's magneto-machine. 1881 — *Elem. Electr. & Magnet.* § 387. 350 *Magneto-optic Rotation of the Plane of Polarisation of a Ray of Light. 1848 FARADAY in *Phil. Trans.* CXXXIX. 35 Plücker's *magneto-optical results. 1850 TYNDALL in *Rep. Brit. Assoc., Sections* (1851) 23 On the Magneto-Optical Properties of Crystals. 1902 J. J. THOMSON in *Encycl. Brit.* XXX. 464 *Magneto-Optics. 1902 *Harper's Mag.* Feb. 496 It has been variously designated as the 'telegraphone', the 'microphonograph' and the '*magneto-phonograph' in Europe. 1889 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, **Magneto-rotation.* 1883 S. P. THOMPSON *P. Reis* 9 In 1877, when the *Magneto-Telephones of Graham Bell began to make their way into Europe.

Magneto-crystallic (mægnī·to|kristæ·lik), *a.* [f. MAGNETO- + CRYSTALLIC.] Of or relating to the magnetic properties possessed by crystals.

1848 FARADAY in *Phil. Trans.* CXXXIX. 30 In that case the word magneto-crystallic ought probably to be applied to this force, as it is generated or developed under the influence of the magnet. *Ibid.* 40 Both the magnetic and magneto-crystallic forces are at the same time doubled or quadrupled.

†**Magnetod.** *Obs.* [See OD².] (See quot. 1889.)

1850 ASHBURNER tr. *Reichenbach's Dynamics* 224 We may name this product *crystallod*, .. that from electricity briefly as *elod*, from light *photod*, and so on, *magnetod, chymod, heliod* (etc.). 1889 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Magnetod*, Reichenbach's term for the odylic force found in magnets.

Magne·to-ele·ctric, *a.* Pertaining to electric phenomena involving electric currents induced in conductors by the relative motion of these conductors with respect to either permanent magnets or electro-magnets.

Introduced, in 1831, by Faraday, who employed it in its most general sense for describing the currents induced by motion of conduction in conjunction with any of the following kinds of magnet: permanent steel magnets, ordinary loadstones, electro-magnets, the earth. He used it tentatively at first in contradistinction to the term *volta-electric*, which he applied to the induction of electricity by turning on or turning off an electric current in a stationary coil.

1831 FARADAY in *Phil. Trans.* (1832) CXXII. 139 As a distinction in language is still necessary, I propose to call the agency thus exerted by ordinary magnets, *magneto-electric* or *magnelectric* induction. *Ibid.* 173 Upon the supposition that the rotation of the earth tended, by magneto-electric induction, to cause currents in its own mass. 1833 *Ibid.* CXXIII. 44, I had the pleasure..of making an experiment, for which the great magnet [a loadstone] in the museum ..and the magneto-electric coil described in my first paper, were put in requisition. 1834 — in *Philos. Mag.* V. 349 When I first obtained the magneto-electric spark it was by the use of a secondary magnet. .. My principal was an electromagnet; Nobili's was, I believe, an ordinary magnet; others have used the natural magnet. 1839 J. F. DANIELL *Introd. Chem. Philos.* 489 Magneto-electric is the converse to electro-magnetic action. 1854 G. BIRD & C. BROOKE *Elem. Nat. Philos.* xvii. (ed. 4) 421 *note*, Similarly, electro-magnetic induction would mean the development of magnetism by a current, and magneto-electric induction, that of a current by magnetism. 1881 MAXWELL *Electr. & Magn.* II. 208 This is the electromotive force which must be supplied from sources independent of magneto-electric induction.

b. Magneto-electric current. Used by Faraday to distinguish currents generated mechanically by magneto-electric induction from those generated in a voltaic battery.

1851 FARADAY in *Phil. Trans.* CXLII. (1852) 137 On the employment of the Induced Magneto-electric Current as a test and measure of Magnetic Forces.

c. Magneto-electric machine. First used by Faraday, in 1831, to denote a machine generating currents by magneto-electric induction. By later writers employed in variously limited senses.

The appellation continued to be used in Faraday's wide sense by various writers down to about 1867, when the improvements of Wilde, Wheatstone, Siemens, Ladd, Varley and others attracted much attention, and the term 'dynamo-electric machine' was introduced by Brooke. This term was defined by Brooke himself to denote in general a machine 'in which dynamic energy is employed to produce an electric current' (*Proc. Roy. Soc.* XV. 499, *footnote*); by others, however, it has been applied to signify only such machines as embodied the principle of self-excitation and did not contain any permanent magnets. Those who adopted the latter usage limited the meaning of 'magneto-electric machine'; some including under that term only the machines with permanent magnets of steel, while others included under the name both these and the machines with separately-excited electro-magnets. The present tendency is to confine the term strictly to the machines with permanent steel magnets. Some writers define magneto-electric machines as simply old-fashioned or rudimentary kinds of dynamos; others treat the terms as synonymous. On the other hand some writers treat 'magneto-electric machine' as a generic term, of which dynamo-electric machines form a sub-class.

1831 FARADAY in *Phil. Trans.* (1832) CXXII. 160 Two rough trials were made with the intention of constructing magneto-electric machines. *Ibid.* 163 [Under heading *Terrestrial Magneto-electric Induction,* describes as magneto-electric machines discs of copper caused to revolve, and thereby generate electric currents under the magnetic influence of the earth.] 1866 CROOKES in *Q. Jrnl. Sci.* XII. 504 Magneto-electric machines, with revolving armatures, in which electro-magnets had been substituted for permanent magnets, had been constructed. 1867 WHEATSTONE in *Proc. Roy. Soc.* XV. 369 The magneto-electric machines which have been hitherto described are actuated either by a permanent magnet or by an electro-magnet. 1878 *Proc. Inst. Civ. Engin.* LII. 63 M. Alfred Niaudet remarked that he did not agree with..the distinction between dynamo-electric and magneto-electric machines. In all these instruments mechanical power was converted into electricity by the action of magnetism; consequently all were both magneto-electric and dynamo-electric. 1878 J. N. SHOOLBRED *Pres. State Electric Lighting* 6 For the older form, where permanent magnets are employed, the term 'magneto-electric' machine has been retained. 1880 A. SIEMENS in *Jrnl. Soc. Telegr. Engin.* IX. 93 A constant and permanent magnetic field is, therefore, of paramount importance, and it can be produced in the way proposed by Mr. Wilde in 1863 for magneto-electric machines by employing a separate machine for exciting the field-magnets of one or more similar machines. 1882 S. P. THOMPSON in *Jrnl. Soc. Arts* XXXI. 120 The arbitrary distinction between so-called magneto-electric machines and dynamo-electric machines fails when examined carefully. In all these machines a magnet, whether permanently excited, independently excited, or self-excited, is employed to provide a field of magnetic force. And in all of them dynamic power is employed. 1887 W. B. ESSON *Magneto- & Dynamo-electric Machines* 22 In all the machines yet described, the electric currents were induced by means of steel magnets, or, as in Wilde's machine, by magnets that were magnetised by the current produced in another machine. Such machines are usually called 'magneto-electric' machines, to distinguish them from the 'dynamo-electric' machines. 1889 *Chambers's Encycl.* IV. 146/2 The term 'dynamo-electric' was at first applied to distinguish those machines which were self-exciting from 'magneto-electric' machines, which had permanent magnets to give the field; but this distinction is no longer maintained. 1891 J. W. URQUHART *Dynamo-Constr.* 2 A magneto-electric machine—an apparatus in which steel magnets are used to furnish the 'magnetic field'—is not strictly by common consent called a dynamo.

So **Magne·to-ele·ctrical** *a.*, in the same sense.

1836 MULLINS in *Lond. & Edinb. Philos. Mag.* Aug. 120 On certain Improvements in the Construction of Magneto-electrical Machines. 1873 F. JENKIN *Electr. & Magn.* xx. § 1. 280 It is convenient to retain the name magneto-electrical apparatus for those arrangements in which powerful electric currents are induced in wires moved across a magnetic field produced by permanent magnets or electro-magnets.

Magne·to-electri·city. Electricity generated by the relative movement of electric conductors and magnets of any kind. Also the branch of science concerned with this.

1832 FARADAY in *Phil. Trans.* (1833) CXXIII. 44, I have made many endeavours to effect chemical decomposition by magneto-electricity. 1842 W. R. GROVE *Lect. Progr. Phys. Sci.* 21 Here originates the Science of Magneto-electricity, the true converse of Electro-magnetism. 1845 JOULE in *Electr. Mag.* I. 138 The magneto-electricity developed in the coils of the revolving electro-magnet. 1853 F. C. BAKEWELL *Electric Sci.* 143 Electro-magnets..have been sometimes used instead of permanent magnets for the induction of magneto-electricity. 1866 H. WILDE in *Phil. Trans.* CLVII. 92 Waves of magneto-electricity were generated.

Magnetogram (mægnī·togræm). [f. MAGNETO- + -GRAM.] The automatic record of magnetic needles.

1884 C. MELDRUM in *Erupt. Krakatoa* (ed. Symons 1888) 473, I forwarded copies of magnetograms. 1902 *Encycl. Brit.* XXX. 460/2 Any number of examples are afforded by the magnetograms from stations such as Kew and Falmouth.

Magnetograph (mægnī·tograf). [f. MAGNETO- + -GRAPH.]

1. An instrument arranged to record automatically the movements of the magnetometer. Also *attrib.*

1847 RONALDS in *Phil. Trans.* CXXXVII. 113 The applicability of this system of self-registration to a magnetograph was sufficiently obvious. 1883 C. CARPMAEL in *Erupt. Krakatoa* (ed. Symons 1888) 474 The three magnetograph traces were unusually steady. 1902 *Encycl. Brit.* XXX. 460/2 The records from ordinary Kew pattern magnetographs not infrequently show a repetition of..small rhythmic movements.

2. = MAGNETOGRAM. (In recent U.S. Dicts.)

3. (See quot.)

1896 *Current Hist.* (Buffalo, N. Y.) VI. 467 Professor John S. McKay..has obtained interesting pictures, which he calls 'magnetographs'; resembling X-ray prints in being silhouettes of objects excluded from light.

Hence **Magne·togra·phic** *a.*, of or belonging to the magnetograph.

1887 *Science* (U. S.) 20 May 499/1 The earthquake was recorded automatically upon the magnetographic traces in the observatory.

Magnetoid (mægnĭ·toid), *a.* [f. MAGNET + -OID.] Resembling, or having the characteristics of, a magnet.

1851 RUTTER (*title*) Magnetoid Currents, their forces and directions; with a description of the Magnetoscope.

Magnetology (mægnĕtɒ·lŏdʒi). [f. MAGNET + -OLOGY. Cf. F. *magnétologie*.] A treatise on the magnet and magnetism. 1856 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*

Magnetometer (mægnĭtɒ·mĭtəɹ). [ad. F. *magnétomètre*, f. *magnéto-* MAGNETO- + *-mètre*, ad. Gr. *μέτρον* measure, -METER.] An instrument for measuring magnetic forces, esp. the force of terrestrial magnetism at any point.

1827 EATON in *Amer. Jrnl. Sci.* XII. 15 Delicately suspended needles, which might be called a suit of magnetrometers [*sic*]. 1839 *Proc. Amer. Phil. Soc.* I. 154 A magnetometer for the declination. 1902 *Encycl. Brit.* XXX. 453/1 Under Wilde's auspices a variety of forms of magnetometers and earth-inductors have been used.

Hence **Magne·to-me·tric, -me·trical** *adjs.*, of, pertaining to, or measured by the magnetometer. **Magneto·metry**, the measurement of magnetic force by means of the magnetometer (*Cent. Dict.*).

1847 Sir J. C. ROSS *Voy. S. & Antarctic Reg.* I. 91 A valuable series of hourly magnetometric observations was continued. 1902 *Encycl. Brit.* XXX. 433/2 A magnetizing coil such as is used in magnetometric experiments.

Magne·tomo·tive, *a.* [f. MAGNETO- + MOTIVE *a.*] *Magnetomotive force*: a term introduced by R. H. M. Bosanquet to denote the line integral of the magnetizing forces exerted around a magnetic circuit by an electric current interlinked with it.

1883 BOSANQUET in *Philos. Mag.* XV. 205, I shall use the expression 'magnetomotive force' to indicate the analogue of electromotive force. It is a difference of magnetic potential. 1896 S. P. THOMPSON *Dynamo-electric Machinery* (ed. 5) 119 The total magnetomotive-force in a magnetic circuit is the sum of the magnetomotive-forces separately produced by each coil of wire.

Magne·tomo·tor. [f. MAGNETO- + MOTOR.] 'A voltaic series of two or more large plates which produce a great quantity of electricity of low intensity, adapted to the exhibition of electro-magnetic phenomena' (Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1875).

1823 T. GILL *Techn. Repos.* III. 313 On the Magnetomotor;—a new form of the Voltaic Apparatus. By Mr. Pepys.

Magnetophone (mægnī·tofōn). [f. MAGNETO- + Gr. *φωνή* sound.] A magnetic instrument used for the production of musical tones.

1883 CARHART in *Science* II. 394 The intensity of the sounds obtained by the magnetophone is sometimes so great as to be painful to the ear when the telephone is held closely against it.

Magnetoscope (mægnī·tŏskōup). [f. MAGNETO- + -SCOPE.]

†1. An instrument used by mesmerists for detecting the supposed magnetism of the human body.

1851 [see MAGNETOIN]. 1852 LD. CARLISLE *Let.* 19 May in *Macaulay's Life & Lett.* (1878) II. 309 We talked a good deal about the magnetoscope.

2. 'A person supposed to see, or a thing supposed to aid in seeing, by means of magnetism; a clairvoyant, or a clairvoyant's device' (*Cent. Dict.*).

3. *Physics.* An apparatus for indicating the presence of magnetic force without measuring its amount. (In recent Dicts.)

Magnicaudate (mægnikɒ̄·dēt), *a. Zool.* [a. mod.L. *magnicaudāt-us*, f. *magn-us* great + *cauda* tail: see -ATE 2.] 'Having a long tail' (Mayne *Expos. Lex.* 1856). So **Magnicauda·tous** *a.* (*ibid.*).

Magnifiable (mæ·gnĭfəi,ăb'l), *a. rare.* [f. MAGNIFY + -ABLE.] Capable of being magnified.

1646 Sir T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* IV. xii. 208 Thus is it not improbable it hath also fared with number; which though wonderfull in it self, and sufficiently magnyfiable from its demonstrable affections [etc.].

Magnific (mægnĭ·fik), *a.* Now *literary* and *arch.* Also 5–7 **magnifique**; see also MAGNIFIQUE. [a. F. *magnifique*, ad. L. *magnific-us* (whence also Sp., Pg., It. *magnifico*), f. *magnus* great: see -FIC.]

†1. Renowned, glorious. (Cf. MAGNIFICENT 1.)

1490 CAXTON *Eneydos* vi. 25 This gentylman was..of name magnyfyque. 1512 *Helyas* in Thoms *E. E. Pr. Rom.* (1858) III. 38 The magnifike and excellent lignage. 1513 BRADSHAW *St. Werburge* Bal. to St. W. 13 Diuers of thy kynne magnifique Redact in the catholique papall. 1622 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Mem. Monarchs* (1630) F 8, In peace and warre, Magnifique, Glorious. 1669 GALE *Crt. Gentiles* I. II. vii. 85 This Adramelech signifies a magnific King.

†2. Nobly lavish or munificent; = MAGNIFICENT 2. *Obs.*

1611 SPEED *Hist. Gt. Brit.* VIII. iii. § 13. 385 And that this Kings zeale might be further seene, by his magnificke workes [etc.]. 1617 MURE *Misc. Poems* xxi. 45 A liberall hand, a most magnifick hart. 1655 Sir W. LOWER tr. *de Ceriziers' Innoc. Lord* 141 He [God] is just, if he ordain us punishment; he is magnifick, if he doth us good.

3. Sumptuous, splendid; = MAGNIFICENT 3, 4.

1490 CAXTON *Eneydos* xvi. 60 For whome folke of Moryenne haue..made an assemble magnyfyque of metes and of wynes for to a solempnelle feste. 1541 ELYOT *Image Gov.* 78 Finally the saied foure hospitalles..were builded on the riuer of Tyber, in the most ample and magnifike facion. 1550 J. COKE *Eng. & Fr. Heralds* (1877) 116 Considre the magnifique and decorate churches [of London]. *a* 1631 DONNE *Serm.* lvi. (1640) 569 Cover not thy extortions with magnifique buildings and sumptuous furniture. 1654 tr. *Scudery's Curia Pol.* 38 Tis true, thy life must be short, but thy Hearse shall be the more Magnificke. 1730–46 THOMSON *Autumn* 134 The pillared dome magnific heaved Its ample roof. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* IX. 852 And dare Earth's bold Inhabitants deny The sumptuous, the magnific Embassy A Moment's Audience? 1861 I. TAYLOR *Spir. Heb. Poetry* 239 Objects held forth in vision, for a symbolic purpose, may be stupendous, or they may be magnific or splendid.

4. Imposing by vastness or dignity. Of language, ideas, etc.: Exalted, sublime; *occas.* in derisive sense, pompous, grandiloquent.

1558–66 *Hist. Est. Scott.* in *Wodrow Soc. Misc.* (1844) 56 The Bishop sang a magnifick Mass. 1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* III. v. (Arb.) 164 They be matter stately and high, and require a stile to be lift vp..by choyse of wordes..high, loftie, eloquent, and magnifik in proportion. 1628 LE GRYS tr. *Barclay's Argenis* 57 A man of no common presence, which a mighty confidence made appeare more magnifique. 1676 GLANVILL *Ess.* III. 16 Astronomy, one of the grandest and most magnifique of all those that lie within the compass of Natural Inquiry. 1744 AKENSIDE *Pleas. Imag.* III. 140 He stalks, resounding in magnific phrase The vanity of riches. 1807 WORDSW. *Wh. Doe* III. 150 Magnific limbs of withered state; A face to fear and venerate. 1817 COLERIDGE *Satyrane's Lett.* I. in *Biog. Lit.* etc. (1882) 240 He commenced the conversation in the most magnific style. 1837 T. C. GRATTAN in *New Monthly Mag.* LI. 333 The magnific hill shooting far up above the clouds! 1864 *Gd. Words* 11/1 This magnific heaving of the bosom of the ocean. 1880 BROWNING *Clive* 34 Power..God's gift magnific, exercised for good or ill.

†5. Of compositions, also (with mixture of sense 4) of titles, expressions, etc.: Serving to magnify or extol; highly honorific or eulogistic. *Obs.*

1548 UDALL *Erasm. Par. Mark* xii. 84 What with theyr magnifike and hye titles. 1641 MILTON *Ch. Govt.* Wks. 1738 I. 30 Those magnific Odes and Hymns wherin Pindarus and Callimachus are in most things worthy, some others in their frame judicious, in their matter most an end faulty. 1644 MAXWELL *Prerog. Chr. Kings* 23 To say..that Soveraignty in the King is immediately from God by approbation or confirmation onely..doth not sort well with the magnifick expressions of Holy Scripture. 1649 EARL MONM. tr. *Senault's Use Passions* (1671) 355 The magnifique titles which Historians would give him in their Writings. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* V. 770 Thrones, Dominations, Princedomes, Vertues, Powers, If these magnific Titles yet remain Not meerly titular.

Magnifical (mægnĭ·fikăl), *a.* Also 6–7 **magnificall**. [f. prec. + -AL.]

†1. Eminent, renowned, glorious. *Obs.*

1557 N. T. (Genev.) Epistle *iv, The magnifical and triumphing Kyng Solomon. 1574 *Life Abp. Parker* To Rdr. C vj b, The magnifienge of that magnificall seignorie and Archipiscopall territorie off Canterburye. 1579 TWYNE *Phisicke agst. Fort.* I. xxxvii. 51 Pompeius..being then great in deede and magnificall.

†2. 'Royally' liberal or bountiful, munificent.

1586 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* I. 624 Neither must he be onely liberal, but magnifical also & sumptuous, provided alwaies that of magnificall, he become not prodigall. 1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 3 What is more magnificall and more divine, then to recreate the afflicted. 1623 in *Crt. & Times Jas. I* (1849) II. 357 Sheriff Hawford hath been very magnifical, and feasted all the king's servants.

3. Splendid, stately, sumptuous; = MAGNIFICENT 3, 4. *arch.*

1538 STARKEY *England* II. i. 176 Gudly cytes and townys, wyth magnyfycal and gudly housys. 1560 BIBLE (Genev.) 1 *Chron.* xxii. 5 We must buylde an house for the Lord, magnifical [1611 exceeding magnificall], excellent and of great fame. *a* 1577 Sir T. SMITH *Commw. Eng.* (1609) 26 August and Magnifical apparell both of stuff and fashion. 1599 SANDYS *Europæ Spec.* (1632) 152 Very magnificall and ceremoniall in his outward comportement. 1604 EDMONDS *Observ. Cæsar's Comm.* 25 Their funerals..are magnificall and sumptuous. *a* 1619 FOTHERBY *Atheom.* II. xi. § 3 (1622) 314 They daunce a most stately and magnificall daunce. 1890 Æ. PRINCE *Of Joyous Gard* III. 363 The sight magnifical, beyond desire.

4. = MAGNIFIC 4. *arch.* †Also, = MAGNIFIC 5.

1572 tr. *Buchanan's Detection* I j b, Now you luke to heare how this magnificall boaster of valiantnesse did acquit hymselfe. 1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 453 These be lofty, glorious, & magnificall speeches, but besides the bare sounde of wordes, no matter at all. 1582a BENTLEY *Mon. Matrones* III. 321 A magnifical Vow of a Queene consecrated to the King of heauen. 1582 G. MARTIN *Corrupt. Holy Script.* xiv. 214 What..could be spoken more magnifical of any Sacrament? 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* VI. xli. 247 A man that in the hearing of his souldiours, could onely make goodly and magnificall Orations. *a* 1626 BP. ANDREWES *Serm.* (1661) 429 We (no doubt) will rise straight in our magnifical, lofty style and say [etc.]. 1867 *Tracts for the Day, Purgatory* 2 A truly magnifical and stupendous act of worship. 1895 W. PATER *Wks.* (1901) VIII. 71 Certain distinguished, magnifical, or elect souls, vessels of election.

Magnifically (mægnĭ·fikăli), *adv. arch.* [f. MAGNIFICAL + -LY 2.] In a 'magnific' manner; magnificently, splendidly; in eulogistic terms.

1555 EDEN *Decades* 139 They frendely & magnifycally enterteyned owr men. 1578 T. N. tr. *Conq. W. India* 361 The Emperour received Cortes magnifically. 1579 FULKE *Conf. Sanders* 668 Chrysostome..speaketh magnifically of the crosse. 1609 BIBLE (Douay) *Ps.* cxxv[i]. 2 Our Lord hath done magnifically with them. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* III. 113 The Venetians live sparingly. The Siennesi magnifically. 1651 tr. *De-las-Coveras' Don Fenise* 247 Treating him magnifically; he began to qualifie him with the name of sonne-in-law. 1889 *Sat. Rev.* 11 May 562/1 A paragraph magnifically headed 'Mr. Harrison's Return to Oxford'.

‖ **Magnificat** (mægnĭ·fikæt). [L.; 3rd pers. sing. pres. ind. of *magnificāre* to MAGNIFY.]

1. The hymn of the Virgin Mary in *Luke* i. 46–55 (in the Vulgate beginning *Magnificat anima mea Dominum*), used as a canticle at evensong or vespers. Also, a musical setting of this canticle.

c 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 55 Đe hali woordes ðe ic habbe iwriten on *magnificat*. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 169 Gret criynge & ioly chauntynge þat..lettiþ men fro þe sentence of holy writt, as Magnyficat, sanctus & agnus dei, þat is so broken bi newe knackynge. ? 14.. *Stasyons of Jerus.* 724 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 365 Sche [Mary] knelyd after onne a stone Magnificat sche made anone. 1552 *Bk. Com. Prayer* Even. Pr. (Rubric), After that, *Magnificat*, in Englishe as followeth. 1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* V. xl. § 1 Of reading or singing..*Magnificat*, *Benedictus*, and *Nunc Dimittis* oftener than the rest of the Psalms. 1862 LONGF. *K. Robt. of Sicily* 6 Robert of Sicily..at vespers, proudly sat And heard the priests chant the *Magnificat*.

2. *transf.* A song of prnise; a 'pæan'.

1614 JACKSON *Creed* III. ix. 179 The faiuish Magnificates of present times. 1707 HEARNE *Collect.* 13 June (O. H. S.) II. 20 His magnificat upon Plato is a disparagement to his Cause. *a* 1711 KEN *Sion* Poet. Wks. 1721 IV. 422 Philothea, Mary-like, in Jesus joy'd And in Magnificats her days employ'd. 1896 *Daily News* 23 Apr. 5/4 M. Beurdeley delivered himself of a magnificat in honour of the Orleans and MacMahon families.

3. In various proverbial phrases (translated from Fr.: see Littré and Hatz.-Darm.). *To correct Magnificat*: a byword for presumptuous faultfinding. *To correct Magnificat before one has learnt Te Deum*: to attempt that for which one has no qualifications. *Magnificat at matins*: something out of place.

1533 ELYOT *Knowledge* Pref., Accomptyng to be in me no fyttell presumption, that I wylle in notynge other mens vices correct Magnificat. 1540 PALSGR. tr. *Acolastus* B iij, Thou Philyp fynde faute (which takest vppon the to correct Magnificat). 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 342 b, Suche..yᵗ will take vpon theim to bee doctours in those thynges in whiche theimselfes haue no skille at all, for whiche wee saie in Englyshe, to correcte Magnificat before he haue learned Te Deum. 1588 BP. ANDREWES *Serm. at Spital* (1629) 24 The note is heere all out of place..and so, their note comes in like Magnificat at Matins. 1622 MABBE tr. *Aleman's Guzman D'Alf.* II. 75 To looke to heare a Magnificat at Mattens, or to seeke after the man in the Moone. 1694 R. L'ESTRANGE *Fables* cccxiii. (1714) 329 Where Subjects take upon them to Correct the Magnificat, and to prescribe to their Superiors.

†**Magni·ficate,** *ppl. a. Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *magnificāt-us*, pa. pple. of *magnificāre* to MAGNIFY.] Made unduly great, exaggerated.

a 1592 H. SMITH *Serm.* (1592) 443 A magnificate opinion of themselues and an ouerweening of their owne gifts.

†**Magni·ficate,** *v. Obs.* [f. ppl. stem of L. *magnificāre* to MAGNIFY.] *trans.* = MAGNIFY *v.*

1598 MARSTON *Pygmal.* etc. *Sat.* ii. 42 [He] With that depaints a church reformed state, The which the female tongues magnificate. 1599 — *Sco. Villanie* II. Proem. 102, I cannot with swolne lines magnificate Mine owne poore worth. 1672 MARVELL *Reh. Transp.* I. 295 To Magnificate the Church with triumphal Pomp and Ceremony.

Magnification (mægnĭfikē·ʃən). [f. L. *magnificātiōn-em*, n. of action f. *magnificāre*: see MAGNIFY and -ATION.] The action of magnifying; the condition of being magnified.

1. The action of representing as great or greater; laudation, extolling.

1625 JACKSON *Creed* V. xxxii. § 3 The distempered zeale which the one bare vnto a Moses of his owne making and magnification did empoyson his soule [etc.]. 1663 JER. TAYLOR *Fides formata* Wks. 1850 VIII. 292 Those words so often used in scripture, for the magnification of faith, 'The just shall live by faith'. 1670 G. H. *Hist. Cardinals* I. I. 3 Of the Rodomontadoes which the Roman Theologues write in magnification of the Pope. *Ibid.* 25 Loosing themselves some times in magnifications of their virtues, as false as tedious. 1802–12 BENTHAM *Ration. Judic. Evid.* (1827) IV. 196 The unfeigned love and indefatigable magnification of that sham law. 1863 LYTTON *Caxtoniana* I. 60 That magnification which proverbially belongs to the unknown. 1879 CHR. ROSSETTI *Seek & F.* 62 Frost and cold..are invoked to render blessing, praise, and magnification, to the Lord their Ordainer. 1899 *Q. Rev.* Jan. 82 Next to the glorification of himself [Dumas], his mission was the magnification of his country.

2. The apparent enlargement of an object as seen through a lens.

1672 GREGORY in Rigaud *Corr. Sci. Men* (1841) II. 245 Neither is it probable to me that the errors of the object speculum are made more sensible (the magnification being always the same) by a concave or convex speculum and an eyeglass. *c* 1790 IMISON *Sch. Art* I. 253 If the diameters be multiplied into one another, the product will express the magnification of the whole visible area. 1867 J. HOGG *Microsc.* I. ii. 78 The Kelner eye-piece, while it increases the magnification detracts from the definition. 1881 LOCKYER in *Nature* No. 614. 319 A perfect photograph will bear a very considerable amount of magnification. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 83 Two giant-cells seen under high magnification (×1515 diam.).

b. *transf.* Also quasi-*concr.* a magnified reproduction.

1833 COLERIDGE *Table-t.* 10 Apr., America would then be..Great Britain in a state of glorious magnification! 1858 HAWTHORNE *Fr. & It. Note-bks.* (1871) I. 60 They looked like a magnification of some exquisite piece of Tunbridge

ware. 1874 M. Arnold *God & the Bible* (1875) Introd. 21 Its divinities are magnifications of nothing unworthy.

Magnificative (mægnɪ·fɪkătɪv). *Gram. rare.* [f. Magnificate *v.* + -ive.] = Augmentative *sb.*

1875 Whitney *Life Lang.* xi. 214 Distinguishing always the large, the medium, and the small individuals of a kind, by diminutives and magnificatives.

Magnificence (mægnɪ·fɪsĕns). Also 4, 6 **magnifience.** [a. F. *magnificence* (OF. also *magnifiance*), ad. L. *magnificentia*, f. *magnificent-*: see Magnificent and -ence.]

1. As the name of one of the 'moral virtues' recognized in Aristotelian and scholastic ethics; rendering Gr. *μεγαλοπρέπεια*, explained by Aristotle to mean liberality of expenditure combined with good taste.

1340 *Ayenb.* 168 Þe zixte stape of prouesse hi clepieþ magnificence. Þise uirtue hi descrimeþ þous. Magnificence is hi zigge þ of heze nyede y-blissede bleuinge. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Pars. T.* ¶ 662 Thanne comth Magnificence, that is to seyn, whan a man dooth and perfourneth grete werkes of goodnesse. 1506 [see Magnificential]. *a* 1679 Hobbes *Rhet.* ix. (1681) 22 Magnificence; which is a Vertue, by which a man is apt to be at great cost. 1691 Hartcliffe *Virtues* 103 Magnificence..is a Virtue, that teaches us how to observe a Decorum in the managing of great and costly Expences. 1879 Morley *Burke* 36 The noble mean of magnificence, standing midway between the two extremes of vulgar ostentation and narrow pettiness.

†**2.** Sovereign bounty or munificence. *Obs.*

14.. in *Tundale's Vis.* (1843) 122 Graunt vs thys day of thi magnyfycence The gold of love the franke of innocence. 1473 *Proclam. Edw. IV* 10 Nov. (Pat. Roll 13 Edw. IV, Pt. 2), For which we thank most humbly His infinite magnificence. *c* 1502 *Joseph Arim.* (E. E. T. S.) 51/456 Vnto the whiche god bryng bothe you & me Of his fauour, grace, and magnyfycence. 1508 Kennedie *Flyting w. Dunbar* 421 Traistand to haue of his magnificence Guerdon, reward, and benefice bedene. 1631 Massinger *Emperor East* III. ii, His exorbitant prodigality, How ere his.. flatterers call it Royall magnificence. 1647 Cotterell *Davila's Hist. Fr.* 10 That magnificence, he [Francis I] showed towards men.

†**3.** Glory; greatness of nature or reputation.

c 1386 Chaucer *Prioress' T.* 22 Lady thy bountee, thy magnificence, .. Ther may no tonge expresse in no science. 1509 Barclay *Shyp of Folys* (1570) 104 God by his power and hye magnificence Made him a beast. 1545 *Primer, Third Hour* E iij, Let tong & hart, strength and sense, Commende thy magnificence. 1611 Bible *Acts* xix. 27 So that.. the Temple of the great goddesse Diana should be despised, and her magnificence should be destroyed. 1667 Milton *P. L.* viii. 101 And for the Heav'ns wide Circuit, let it speak The Makers high magnificence.

4. Sumptuousness or splendour of surroundings or appointments.

1382 Wyclif *Dan.* iv. 33 [36], I am ordeyned in my kingdam, and my magnyfience [*sic*: *gloss* or gretenesse], is addid to me. *c* 1460 Fortescue *Abs. & Lim. Mon.* vii. (1885) 125 It shall nede þat the kyng .. mey make new bildynges whan he woll, ffor his pleasure and magnificence. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* lxxvii. 28 Thow gart the orient kingis thrie Offer to Chryst .. Gold, sence, and mir, .. Schawand him king with most magnificence. 1553 Eden *Treat. Newe Ind.* (Arb.) 25 In what pompe & triumphant magnificence he sheweth him self when he goeth to hauke or hunt. 1671 Milton *P. R.* iv. 111 Nor doth this grandeur and majestic show Of luxury, though call'd magnificence,..allure mine eye. *a* 1720 Sheffield (Dk. Buckhm.) *Wks.* (1753) I. 269 By these refin'd diversions, we perceive This town retains its old magnificence. 1796 Morse *Amer. Geog.* II. 17 The fur [of the ermine] forms a principal part even of royal magnificence. 1841 Trench *Parables* xii. (1877) 236 It was and is part of the magnificence of Oriental princes .. to have vast stores of costly dresses laid up. 1859 Tennyson *Enid* 296 His dress a suit of fray'd magnificence, Once fit for feast of ceremony.

†**b.** An instance or particular display of magnificence; a splendid ceremony. *Obs.*

a 1533 Ld. Berners *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) C vij, It is a greatte magnificence to a man, to haue diuers sortes of meates. 1615 tr. *De Monfart's Surv. E. Indies* 10 At this his entrie they made him a great triumph, with a long magnificence. 1652 J. Wright tr. *Camus' Nat. Paradox* xii. 365 Such Pomp, Tiltings, Masks, Banquets, and other Magnificences. 1670 Cotton *Espernon* II. viii. 415 The Ceremony of this Marriage was perform'd in the Marquis de Saint-Chaumont's House, .. but the Magnificences at the Duke's own Lodgings. 1674 *Govt. Tongue* ix. § 6 (1684) 151 With what gust and sensuality will they tell how such a jest of theirs took, or such a magnificence was admired?

5. Grandeur or imposing beauty of appearance. †Also *pl.* features constituting magnificence. *Obs.*

c 1430 Lydg. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 11 This tabernacle of most magnyfycence Whas of his byldyng. 1555 Eden *Decades* To Rdr. (Arb.) 49 They .. whiche in buyldynge of cities .. haue so ioyned magnificence with profecte. 1645 Evelyn *Diary* 6 May, That Cittie [Rome], with its Amphitheaters, Naumachia .. and other magnificences. 1667 Milton *P. L.* I. 718 Not Babilon, Nor great Alcairo such magnificence Equal'd in all thir glories. *a* 1703 Pomfret *Eleazar's Lament. Jerus.* i. 10 Where's now the vast Magnificence, which made The Souls of Foreigners adore Thy [Jerusalem's] wond'rous Brightness? 1860 Tyndall *Glac.* I. xxiv. 175 The weather had been fine, and towards evening augmented to magnificence. 1879 W. H. Bartlett *Egypt to Pal.* xxvii. 537 These ruins are remarkable, both for their great extent and magnificence [etc.].

b. of language or speech.

1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* III. 456 The mean Matter which my Theme affords, To embellish with Magnificence of Words.

6. As a title of honour, applied to kings and other distinguished persons. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.* and as rendering of a foreign title.

[1278 *Rolls of Parlt.* I. 1/2 Magnificentie Regis monstrant Abbas et Conventus Bordesleg'.] *c* 1420 Lydg. *Assembly of Gods* 82 Pluto to thy magnyfycence I shall reherse what thys creature Eolus hath doon to me out of mesure. 1598 Hakluyt *Voy.* I. 150 The said Master generall therefore maketh no doubt, that al the aboue written damages .. be altogether vnknown vnto your magnificence. *a* 1604 Hanmer *Chron. Irel.* (1633) 107 Your magnificence hath beene very carefull and studious how you might enlarge the Church of God here on earth. 1755 Magens *Insurances* I. 300 Illustrious Lords, Respected Patrons! We the underwritten skillful Calculators, chosen and appointed by your Magnificences [etc.]. 1901 *Times* 20 June 5/4 In reply to the toast of his health, proposed by the Burgomaster, the [German] Emperor .. spoke as follows:—Your magnificence .. gave us a sketch of the development of German yachting [etc.].

Magnificency. Also 6 **-centie, manyfycency.** [ad. L. *magnificenti-a*: see prec. and -ency.]

†**1.** = Magnificence in various senses. *Obs.*

1538 in *Lett. Suppress. Monasteries* (Camden) 243, I commend me unto your good lordship, ever more thanckyng you of your manyfycency and gret goodnes. *c* 1540 tr. *Pol. Verg. Eng. Hist.* (Camden No. 36) 219 In number of schollers and magnificentie of colliges it is not superior. 1604 T. Wright *Passions* v. § iv. 244 The necessity of the gift declared the magnificency of his mind. 1668 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 283/1 She has been since entertained with much State and Magnificency. 1686 F. Spence tr. *Varillas' Ho. Medicis* 113 His humour was naturally prone to magnificency.

2. With *a* and *pl.* A magnificent or imposingly beautiful object, ceremony, etc. *Obs.* or *arch.*

1585 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* I. xxi. 27 The castle, where for a magnificency were set vp 2. faire pauillions. 1645 Evelyn *Mem.* (1819) I. 178 This canopy or arch of water, I thought one of the most surprizing magnificiencies I had ever seene. 1653 H. Cogan tr. *Pinto's Trav.* xxiii. 86 The Portugals..could not sufficiently commend the excellent order and Gentilenesse of these Magnificencies. 1670 G. H. *Hist. Cardinals* II. III. 192 He delights in certain magnificencies and pastimes. 1670–98 Lassels *Voy. Italy* II. 52 It deserves to be mentioned among the rare Magnificencies of ancient Rome. 1839 J. Wilson in *Blackw. Mag.* XLV. 564 This Christian poet journeyed religiously among the magnificencies of nature.

Magnificent (mægnɪ·fɪsĕnt), *a.* and *sb.* Also 7 *erron.* **-ficient.** [a. OF. *magnificent*, f. L. *magnificent-*, altered stem (found in the comparative *magnificentior*, after *benevolentior* from *benevolens* = *benevolus*) of *magnificus*, lit. doing great deeds, f. *magn-us* great: see -fic. All the senses below were already approximately developed in Latin.]

A. *adj.*

1. Characterized by greatness of achievement or by the conduct befitting lofty position. *Obs.* exc. in the titular epithet *the Magnificent* (= L. *magnificus*) historically attached to the names of certain distinguished rulers, as Eadmund I of England, Sultan Solyman, Lorenzo de' Medici.

1513 More in *Grafton's Chron.* (1568) II. 878 Vet the King [Hen. VII] of his magnificent minde, pardoned the innocent and rurall people. 1602 Warner *Alb. Eng.* Epit. (1612) 356 Of whom many, and some of them heere-borne Incolents, became afterwards the most magnificent of the Emperors. 1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Magnificent*,..that atchieveth worthy acts,..acting great matters. 1717 *Hist. Acc. Hungary* 332 This was formerly the Bulwark of Hungary, 'till taken by Soliman the Magnificent. 1795 W. Roscoe (*title*) The Life of Lorenzo de' Medici, called The Magnificent. 1875 Fortnum *Maiolica* xi. 107 Lorenzo the magnificent.

†**b.** As the rendering of the customary title (usually L. *magnificus*) of certain foreign officials and official bodies. *Obs.*

1763 *Ann. Reg.* 86 The proceedings of the magnificent council [of Geneva].

†**c.** Proud, arrogantly ambitious. *Obs.*

1603 Knolles *Hist. Turks* (1621) 732 This Perenus was one of the greatest peeres of Hungarie, but of a most haughtie and magnificent mind.

2. Characterized by expenditure or munificence on a great scale; 'royally' lavish or munificent. Now *rare.*

1579 G. Harvey *Lett. to Spenser* (1580) 65 Your lauishe, and magnificent liberalitie. *a* 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* II. (1590) 169 b, If he were magnificent, he spent much with an aspiring intent. 1593 R. Harvey *Philad.* Ded. 21 Thus trusting to your Lordships magnificent .. fauour. 1631 Massinger *Emperor East* II. i, A Prince is neuer so magnificent, As when hee's sparing to inrich a few With th'iniuries of many. 1647 Clarendon *Hist. Reb.* I. § 126 Nor had his Heir cause to complain,..though his Expences had been very magnificent,..considering the wealth he left in Jewels, Plate, and Furniture. *a* 1661 Fuller *Worthies* (1840) II. 313 Hampton Court was built by .. Cardinal Wolsey; once so magnificent in his expenses. 1667 Milton *P. L.* ix. 153 Man he made, and for him built Magnificent this World, and Earth his seat. 1737 Whiston *Josephus, Antiq.* xv. ix. § 5 Herod .. bestowed presents on every one .. nsing his magnificent disposition, so as his kingdom might be the better secured. 1855 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xi. III. 24 He received from the private bounty of the magnificent Chamberlain a pension equal to the salary which had been withdrawn. 1868 Milman *St. Paul's* 332 He was munificent, almost magnificent.

3. Of conditions of life: Characterized by grandeur or stateliness. Of persons: Living in splendour; characterized by display of wealth and ceremonial pomp.

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 203 Delapsed and commynge downe from his magnifycent glory. 1585 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* I. ix. 12 b, Such was the beginning of the magnificent estate of Cariedin Barberousse. 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Magnificent*, that lives in great State; stately, noble, great, fine, costly, lofty. 1709 Atterbury *Serm.* (*Luke* x. 32) 4 Whether we are not too Magnificent and Sumptuous in our Table and Attendance. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* vii. II. 183 The magnificent king who, in more than one sense, represented France.

4. Sumptuously constructed or adorned; also, in wider sense, imposingly beautiful, splendid.

a 1540 Barnes *Wks.* (1573) 357 That magnificent Temple of Salomon. 1658 *Hist. Christina Alessandra Q. Swedland* 109 Of a modern structure and one of the magnificentest fabriques of Europe. 1667 Milton *P. L.* III. 502 Farr distant hee descries Ascending by degrees magnificent Up to the wall of Heaven a Structure high. 1687 T. Brown *Lib. Consc.* in *Dk. Buckingham's Wks.* (1705) II. 122 She did not delight in gaudy Liveries, and what the World calls a Magnificient Equipage. 1701 Addison *Let. fr. Italy* 72 When Rome's exalted beauties I descry, Magnificent in piles of ruine lye. 1725 De Foe *Voy. round World* (1840) 268 Two rooms..very magnificent in their way. 1756 Burke *Subl. & B.* II. xiii, A great profusion of things which are splendid or valuable in themselves, is magnificent. 1841 Lane *Arab. Nts.* I. 107 She then arose, and attired herself in the most magnificent of her apparel. 1894 J. T. Fowler *Adamnan* Introd. 51 Lord Dunraven's magnificent work entitled *Notes on Irish Architecture.*

5. Of immaterial things, conceptions, language, etc.: Imposing, exalted.

1639 N. N. tr. *Du Bosq's Compl. Woman* I. 3 There needes but a pleasing voice, a magnificent tone, a sweet accent,..to charme those who hearken. 1665 Boyle *Occas. Refl. Disc. Occas. Medit.* (1848) 76 Making good that magnificent Assertion of the Apostle, That all things work together for good to them that love God. 1701 *Stanley's Hist. Philos.* Biog. 4 Thales was thought to deserve the Magnificent Title of Wise for his Noble Discoveries. 1748 Hume *Ess.* ix. *Brit. Govt.* 72 These Considerations are apt to make one entertain a very magnificent Idea of the British Spirit and Love of Liberty. 1781 Cowper *Truth* 412 The song magnificent—the theme a worm! 1781 — *Table-t.* 593 Language..Was natural as is the flowing stream, And yet magnificent, a God the theme.

6. Used to express enthusiastic admiration: 'Splendid', wonderfully fine.

a 1704 T. Brown *Praise of Drunkenness* Wks. 1730 I. 37 Pray take notice of his belly, how plump and round it is, of what a magnificent circumference. 1704 Valden *On Sir Willoughby Aston* 348 Methinks I see a pompous tomb arise, Beauteous the form, magnificent the size. 1858 Ruskin *Arrows of Chace* (1880) I. 130 All the drawings so kept are in magnificent preservation. 1860 Tyndall *Glac.* I. xii. 90 The day was magnificent. 1867 W. W. Smyth *Coal & Coal-mining* 91 At Lehigh Summit mine the great coal-bed is a magnificent seam of 50 feet.

B. *sb.*

†**1.** An eminent personage. *Obs.*

1612 W. Parkes *Curtaine-Dr.* (1876) 20 The Courts and mansions of the Potentates and Magnificents of the World.

2. *pl. slang.* A mood of haughty indignation.

1836 Marryat *Midsh. Easy* xxvi, Nevertheless, Jack walked his first watch in the 'magnificents', as all middies do when they cannot go on shore.

Hence †**Magnificent** *v.* (*nonce-wd.*), *trans.* to make or proclaim great. **Magnificentness,** the state or condition of being magnificent (1727 in Bailey vol. II).

1656 S. H. *Golden Law* 2 His mercy is above all his works, and doth magnificent him.

†**Magnificential,** *a. Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. [f. L. *magnificentia* Magnificence + -al.] Magnificent.

1506 *Kalender Sheph.* (1892) 98 Magnyfycens is a Ioyeous clerenes of courage admynystrynge thynges laudable & magnyfycencyall, that is to saye, hye or grete.

Magnificently (mægnɪ·fɪsĕntlɪ), *adv.* [f. Magnificent *a.* + -ly^{2}.] In a magnificent manner.

1. With great splendour or stateliness.

1538 Leland *Itin.* I. 97 The Castel stondith magnificently and strongely on a Rok. 1599 *Life Sir T. More* in Wordsw. *Eccl. Biog.* (1853) II. 93 Charles the fifth .. was most magnificentlie received by the cittee of London. 1659 Hammond *On Ps.* lxxiii. 6 They set themselves out most magnificently. 1709 Steele *Tatler* No. 49 ¶ 7 No Persian Prince was ever so magnificently bountiful. 1717 Lady M. W. Montagu *Let. to C'tess Mar* 10 Mar., Her house was magnificently furnished. 1725 Pope *Odyss.* VIII. 494 And to the feast magnificently treads. 1816 Byron *Ch. Har.* III. xxviii, The Battle's magnificently stern array! 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* vi. II. 69 She loved to adorn herself magnificently. 1884 *Law Times* LXXVII. 402/1 The business meetings will be held in the magnificently furnished council chamber.

b. With grandeur or impressiveness.

1818 Shelley *Let. to Mr. & Mrs. Gisborne* 10 July, Scenery magnificently fine. 1856 Kane *Arct. Expl.* II. xxiv. 245 How magnificently the surf beats against its sides. 1877 Lady Brassey *Voy. Sunbeam* xv. (1878) 268 It was all terribly grand, magnificently sublime.

c. After a great or noble fashion.

1831 Lamb *Elia* Ser. II. *Ellistoniana*, Waiving his great loss as nothing, and magnificently sinking the sense of fallen material grandeur.

2. With reference to expression: In an elevated manner. †Also, in highly laudatory terms.

1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* A iij, In like manner hath Botero..beene suspected to have bad a feeling of the Spanish Pistolets, for that hee hath written so magnificently of that Nation. 1651 Baxter *Inf. Bapt.* 340 So that the Scripture speaks more magnificently of the Church of Christ for the extent of it, then Mr. T. doth. 1710 Dr. Whitby *Disc.* III. i. § 2 (1735) 209 That Duty of which the Scripture speaketh so magnificently. 1835 J. H. Newman *Par. Serm.* (1842) II. v. 61 Writers .. talk magnificently about loving the whole human race.

‖ **Magnificet.** *Obs.* [L.; 3rd pers. sing. pres. subj. of *magnificāre* to MAGNIFY.] (See quot.)

1841 HAMPSON *Medii Ævi Kalend.* II. 254 *Magnificet*, a name of Midlent Thursday, taken from the first word of the collect.

Magnificial, obs. form of MAGNIFICAL.

† **Magnificie.** *Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. MAGNIFIC *a.* + *-ie*: see -Y.] Greatness, importance.

1570 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xix. 109 And be that is of maist Magnificie 3our baner sall display.

† **Magnificly,** *adv. Obs.* [f. MAGNIFIC + -LY 2.] = MAGNIFICALLY.

1538 ELYOT *Dict.* Addit., *Ampliter*, largely, abundantly, magnifikely. 1591 SYLVESTER *Ivry* 273 That..can, as King, magnifikly advance His faithfull Servants. 1609 HUME *Admonit.* in *Wodrow Soc. Misc.* (1844) 572 Ye were not aschamed to ryde to parliament magnifickly mounted and apparrelled.

‖ **Magnifico** (mægnĭ·fiko). [It. *magnifico* adj. = MAGNIFIC.] An honorary descriptive title bestowed upon the magnates of Venice: *transf.* any person in an exalted position.

1573 G. HARVEY *Letter-bk.* (Camden) 175 A cumpanie of sutch Italian magnificoes. 1591 SPENSER *M. Hubberd* 665 Where the fond Ape.. stalketh stately hy, As if he were some great Magnifico. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* III. i. 282 The Duke himselfe, and the Magnificoes Of greatest port haue all perswaded with him. 1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 476 Hee must turne himselfe about, and not dare to looke this Magnifico in the face. 1745 ELIZA HEYWOOD *Female Spect.* No. 16 (1748) III. 183 The mechanics forsake their shops, to ride about the town in state like so many magnificoes. 1845 DISRAELI *Sybil* (1863) 15 Rockingham, a virtuous magnifico, .. resolved to revive something of the pristine purity .. of the old whig connection. 1891 *Spectator* 11 July, The reception..by the populace has been .. cordial, though it is doubtful if..they know who the magnificoes are.

b. *attrib.* or *adj.* = Magnificent, 'grand'.

1654 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 41 It is a Magnifico gate of spirit .. not to mend, or slack our pace, for all the barking Currs, great or small. 1808 SOUTHEY *Lett.* (1856) II. 75 The magnifico hook-case is greatly increased in *ricosity*.

Magni·ficous, *a. rare*⁻⁰. [f. L. *magnific-us* MAGNIFIC + -OUS.] = MAGNIFICENT. In mod. Dicts.

Hence † **Magni·ficously** *adv. rare*⁻¹.

1683 E. HOOKER *Pref. Fordage's Mystic Div.* 103 How magnificously soever wee bragg..of our Reason, or Faith.

Magnified (mæ·gnifəid), *ppl. a.* [f. MAGNIFY + -ED 1.]

† 1. Extolled, lauded. *Obs.*

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* I. vi. 22 The magnified Virgil. 1660 WATERHOUSE *Arms & Arm.* 190 The illustrious Copies drawn by their fair and magnified hands. 1664 H. MORE *Synopsis Proph.* To Rdr. 185 Those worthily magnified elucubrations of Mr. Joseph Mede. 1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* IV. vii. § 11 They are far enough from receiving any help from the Contemplation of these, or the like magnify'd Maxims.

2. Enlarged to the sight. *lit.* and *fig.*

1839 *Penny Cycl.* XV. 177/2 An instrument for enabling the eye..to see magnified images of small objects. 1852 ROBERTSON *Serm.* Ser. III. xii. 151 This is but prudence after all, it is but magnified selfishness carried on into eternity. 1876 GEO. ELIOT *Dan. Der.* II. xxviii. 217 Her hands showing curves and dimples like a magnified baby's. 1899 J. CAIRD *Fundamental Ideas Chr.* I. iii. 57 Ordinary thought finds no impossibility in representing to itself a personality who is simply a magnified man.

Magnifier (mæ·gnifəiəɹ). [f. MAGNIFY *v.* + -ER 1.]

1. One who or something which magnifies.

1550 J. COKE *Eng. & Fr. Heralds* v. (1877) 58 The Frenchemen be great braggers, bosters, and mangnifyers of them selves. 1570-6 LAMBARDE *Peramb. Kent* (1826) 281 These Monks were marveylous and monstruous magnifiers, of such deceivable trumperie. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* II. ii. VI. iv. (1676) 189 *Mens hilaris, requies, moderata diæta* .. is a great magnifier of honest mirth. *a* 1763 SHENSTONE *Ess.* (1806) 238 Imagination is a great magnifier and causes the hopes we conceive to grow too large for their object.

2. A lens or combination of lenses used to increase the apparent size of objects.

1665 BOYLE *Exp. Hist. Cold* ix. 249 One of our Microscopes..has been counted..as good a Magnifier, as perhaps any is in the world. 1759 KNIGHT in *Phil. Trans.* LI. 296 Some of them, when viewed with a microscope, required a third or fourth magnifier to see them distinctly. 1830 HERSCHEL *Stud. Nat. Phil.* 297 No examination with magnifiers is .. sufficient to detect the ingredients. 1856 KANE *Arct. Expl.* I. xiii. 144 We barely succeeded by magnifiers in reading the verniers.

fig. 1791 WASHINGTON *Lett.* Wr'. 1892 XII. 56 Each of whom .. looking through a magnifier, would speak of the greatest extent to which there was any probability of their numbers reaching. 1813 *Examiner* 22 Mar. 186/2 His Lordship may be permitted to examine the gallant Chieftain's actions through a magnifier. 1818 HAZLITT *Eng. Poets* iv. (1870) 95 The wrong end of the magnifier is, to be sure, held to everything.

‖ **Magnifique.** *Obs.* [Fr. = MAGNIFIC.] Profuse in expenditure.

1759 *Compl. Let. writer* (ed. 6) 225 The Considerable and the Magnifique in such Sorts of Assemblies. 1775 MME. D'ARBLAY *Early Diary* (1889) II. 110 He is handsome, tall, fat, upright, and *magnifique*. 1823 BYRON *Juan* x. lxx, Juan, though careless, young, and magnifique And rich in rubles, diamonds, casb, and credit.

Magnify (mæ·gnifəi), *v.* Also 4, 6 **magnifye**, 4–6 **magnefie, magnyfye**, 4–7 **magnifie**, 6 **magnifi, mangnify**, 4– **magnify**. [ad. L. *magnificāre* (partly through F. *magnifier*; cf. It. *magnificare*, Sp. *magnificar*), f. *magnificus*: see MAGNIFICENT and -FY. Sense 4 is purely Eng.; the Rom. langs. have the word chiefly in the biblical sense 'to extol'.]

1. *trans.* To speak or act for the honour or glory of (a person or thing); to glorify, extol. *arch.*

c 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* II. 2 For þei maken Cristis wordis unworshipid and magnifien þer owne wordis. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 2838 Obey þe to þe baratour þe best I con rede; Magnifie him with þi mouthe. 1430–40 LYDG. *Bochas* IX. ii. (1554) 197 b, This was the ende of false Machomete, .. whom Sarazins so greatly magnifie. 1508 DUNBAR *Poems* viii. 14 Quhois force all France in fame did magnifie. 1553 EDEN *Treat. Newe Ind.* (Arb.) 29 Columbus .. was .. greatlye magnified with innumerable glorious tittles. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 524 After this victorie, the Lorde Scales..returned to the siege, where he was..highly magnified and praysed. 1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* I. viii. § 6 If the invention of the ship was thought so noble,..how much more are letters to be magnified, which as ships pass through the vast seas of time. 1668–9 PEPYS *Diary* 10 Feb., Here he dined, and did mightily magnify his sauce. *a* 1715 BURNET *Own Time* (1724) I. 248 He had magnified him highly to the King, as much the greatest man in the Scotish Clergy. 1837 HT. MARTINEAU *Soc. Amer.* III. 64 Sunday-school teachers admire their pupils; and the scholars magnify their teachers. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* ii. I. 191 Everywhere men magnified his valour, genius, and patriotism.

b. *esp.* To praise, render honour to (God). *arch.*

1382 WYCLIF *Luke* i. 46 And Marie seide, My soule magnyfieth the Lord, and my spirit hath gladid in God, myn heelthe. *c* 1420 LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 2102 With heuynly spyrytes, hys name to magnyfy. 1535 COVERDALE *Ecclus.* xliii. 30 Prayse the Lorde, and magnifie him as moch as ye maye. 1864 SKEAT tr. *Uhland's Poems* 91 When on your knees ye humbly fell And magnified a Higher Power.

2. To make greater in size, status, importance, or qualities; to enlarge, augment. Now *rare.* † Also, to render magnificent. *Obs.*

1382 WYCLIF *Matt.* xxiii. 5 Forsothe thei alargen her filateries, and magnifie hemmys. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 143 Thanne he gan to syke For cloth of gold and for perrie, Which him was wont to magnefie. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Compl. Bl. Knt.* 428 And can hemselve now best magnify With feyned port and false presumption. 1535 COVERDALE *Job* xx. 6 Though he be magnified vp to the heauen. 1598 GRENEWEY *Tacitus, Ann.* XII. vii. (1622) 162 Agrippina also was magnified [L. *augetur*] with the surname of Augusta. 1611 BIBLE *Job* xix. 5 If indeed yee will magnifie your selues against me, and plead against me my reproch. 1701 GREW *Cosm. Sacra* II. v. 53 The least error in a Small Quantity, as in a Small Circle: will, in a great one, as in the Circles of the Heavenly Orbs, be proportionally Magnify'd. 1715 ADDISON *Freeholder* No. 10 P 3 Arbitrary Power ..creates [in a man] an Ambition of magnifying Himself, by the Exertion of such a Power in all its Instances. 1726 BUTLER *Serm. Rolls Chap.* ix. 159 The imagined Dignity of the Person offended would scarce ever fail to magnifie the Offence. *a* 1729 CONGREVE *To Cynthia* 54 Speak, ere my Fancy magnifie my Fears. 1784 COWPER *Task* IV. 542 Her head, adorned with lappets pinned aloft, And magnified beyond all human size. 1841 MYERS *Cath. Th.* IV. § 37. 369 The spirit of law is also represented as magnified by the very act of superseding its letter. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. XXVII. 210 The oblique arrangement of the crevasses also magnified the labour by increasing the circuits.

b. *intr.* To become greater. *nonce-use.*

1814 J. RANDOLPH 22 Mar. in *Life of Jos. Quincy* 350 The curse of slavery, however,—an evil daily magnifying, great as it already is,—embitters many a moment of the Virginian landholder.

3. *trans.* To represent (persons, actions, or things) as great or greater than they are; to exaggerate. Now often associated with sense 4.

1759 ROBERTSON *Hist. Scot.* VI. Wks. 1813 I. 399 Fame magnified the number and progress of their troops. 1766 GOLDSM. *Vic. W.* xvi, It must be owned my wife..used every art to magnify the merit of her daughter. 1784 COWPER *Tiroc.* 476 Each vainly magnifies his own success, Resents his fellows, wishes it were less. 1838 THIRLWALL *Greece* XXV. III. 397 But his enemies at home magnified the danger of Argos. 1839 YEOWELL *Anc. Brit. Ch.* ix. (1847) 93 Fame magnified his labours. 1841 MYERS *Cath. Th.* IV. 19. 276 Unquestionably external evidences..have been unduly magnified. 1862 SIR B. BRODIE *Psychol. Inq.* II. iii. 81 Small evils which cannot be avoided are magnified into great ones.

4. To increase the apparent size of an object by artificial means (as with a lens or microscope). Also *absol.* (often with advb. accusative, *to magnify ten, twenty*, etc. *diameters*).

1665 *Phil. Trans.* I. 60 It would magnifie but 600 times in Diameter. 1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* III. iii, Although their largest Telescopes do not exceed three Feet, they magnify much more than those of an hundred among us. 1776–96 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) IV. 3 When magnified they appear like ill-formed warts. 1812–16 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* I. 407 It is supposed that the ancient engravers used glass globes to magnify their figures. 1837 GORING & PRITCHARD *Microgr.* 57 You only wish to know exactly how much it magnifies. 1868 LOCKYER *Elem. Astron.* iii. (1879) 91 A powerful telescope will magnify an object 1,000 times.

fig. 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* xiv. (1856) 110 The effects of fogs upon our estimation of dimension..are well known: men are magnified to giants. 1862 MRS. H. WOOD *Mrs. Hallib.* III. xii. 155 Ill reports never lose by carrying: the two cats on the tiles, you know, were magnified into a hundred.

5. *intr.* 'A cant word for *to have effect*' (J.); to signify. Now *dial.*

1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 431 P 3 My Governess .. told him I was continually eating some Trash or other... But this magnified but little with my Father. 1733 *Gentl. Mag.* III. 532 Now may hap, zir, what doez ael this magnify? 1880 *Antrim & Down Gloss.* s. v., That hurt won't magnify.

Magnifying (mæ·gnifəi,iŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. MAGNIFY *v.* + -ING 1.] The action of the verb MAGNIFY.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 162 Þei meyntenen anticristis prestis and here lawis..& magnifyenge of mennus lawis & dispisynge of goddis lawis. 1382 — *Jude* 25 To God aloone oure sauyour, bi Jhesu Crist oure Lord, glorye and magnyfiying. *c* 1384 CHAUCER *H. Fame* I. 306 Of oon he wolde have fame In magnifying of his name. 1612 BACON *Ess., Praise* (Arb.) 354 Too much magnifying of man or matter, doth irritate contradiction. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* II. xxxi. 189 Praise, and Magnifying are signified but by Words, and Actions. 1868 J. M. CAMPBELL in *Mem.* (1877) II. xiii. 203 A growing magnifying of their office on the part of the clergy.

b. *attrib.*, in *magnifying power.*

c 1705 BERKELEY *Commonpl. Bk.* Wks. 1871 IV. 481 The magnifying power of glasses. 1774 M. MACKENZIE *Maritime Surv.* 110 Write down .. what Sort of Telescope you observed with, and its length and magnifying Power. 1807 J. E. SMITH *Phys. Bot.* 14 By the help of the highest magnifying powers.

Magnifying (mæ·gnifəi,iŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. MAGNIFY *v.* + -ING 2.] That magnifies, in various senses.

1650 ASHMOLE *Chym. Collect.* Proleg. 17 The airy and empty glory of Magnifying-Fame. 1901 *Munsey's Mag.* (U. S.) XXV. 641/1 The microbes of disease are such minute .. germs of life .. under the microscopist's three-hundred magnifying lens.

b. **Magnifying glass.** A glass lens, or combination of lenses, used to increase the apparent size of any object seen through it.

1665 BOYLE *Occas. Refl.* Disc. Occas. Medit. (1848) 28 Attention, like a magnifying glass, shews us .. divers particularities undiscerned by those who want that advantage. 1705 POPE *Let. to Wycherley* 23 June, 'Tis certain, the greatest magnifying Glasses in the World are a Man's own Eyes. 1859 REEVE *Brittany* 187 With a strong magnifying-glass the words..may be distinctly read.

Magniloquence (mægnĭ·lŏkwĕns). [f. MAGNILOQUENT: see -ENCE.] The quality of being magniloquent; loftiness of speech or expression.

1623 COCKERAM, *Magniloquence*, proud speeches. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Magniloquence*, .. a lofty manner of speaking, or a discourse of great matters. *a* 1670 HACKET *Abp. Williams* II. (1692) 65 He [Buckingham] magnified himself to serve the King, who did not foresee the envy that his magniloquence bred. 1713 BENTLEY *Rem. Disc. Freethink.* II. § 44. 28 And our Author might have seen, how all the Sects ridiculed this Magniloquence of Epicurus. 1859 I. TAYLOR *Logic in Theol.* 179 We must discharge a mass of magniloquence and affectation. 1863 COWDEN CLARKE *Shaks. Char.* xviii. 455 Cibber..foisted his own bombast into the company of Shakespeare's magniloquence. 1872 SPURGEON *Treas. Dav.* Ps. lxxiii. 8 Their language is colossal, their magniloquence ridiculous.

So † **Magni·loquency,** in the same sense.

1615 A. STAFFORD *Heav. Dogge* 38 Neyther was this onely Stoicall Magniloquency: hee did the great things he spake.

Magniloquent (mægnĭ·lŏkwĕnt), *a.* [f. L. *magniloqu-us* (of the same meaning), f. *magnus* great + *-loquus* speaking + -ENT.] Of persons, hence of utterances or compositions: Lofty or ambitious in expression, grandiloquent. Also, *occas.*, 'talking big', boastful.

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Magniloquent*, that useth a stately manner of speaking or writeing. 1659 GAUDEN *Slight Healers* (1660) 10 Really they are no other than imperious Hypocrites, magniloquent Montebanks. 1849 LONGF. *Kavanagh* XXI. Pr. Wks. 1886 II. 345 A large basket, containing what the Squire..in Don Quixote, called his 'fiambreras', —that magniloquent Castilian word for cold collation. 1854 THACKERAY *Newcomes* I. XXIII. 222 She was a trifle more magniloquent than usual, and entertained us with stories of colonial governors and their ladies. 1891 LOUNSBURY *Stud. Chaucer* I. IV. 426 If he meant intentionally to describe so slight a performance in so magniloquent a manner.

¶ b. Misused for: Pompous, 'mouthing'.

1850 KINGSLEY *All. Locke* viii, I read my verses aloud in as resonant and magniloquent a voice as I could command.

Hence **Magni·loquently** *adv.*

1849 *Fraser's Mag.* XL. 12 So be, magniloquently, as was his wont [etc.]. 1892 STEVENSON *Across the Plains* iii. 141 To finish a study and magniloquently ticket it a picture.

† **Magni·loquous,** *a. Obs.*⁻⁰ [f. L. *magniloqu-us* (see prec.) + -OUS.] = MAGNILOQUENT.

1727 in BAILEY vol. II.

Magniloquy (mægnĭ·lŏkwi). *rare.* [ad. L. *magniloqui-um.*] Magniloquence.

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* 1889 *Buck's Handbk. Med. Sci.* VIII. 520 Of many anatomical terms the chief characteristics are antiquity, magniloquy, and unintelligibility.

Magniot, obs. form of MANIOC.

† **Magnipend,** *v. Obs.*⁻⁰ [ad. L. phrase *magnī pendĕre* (*magnī* at a great price, *pendĕre* to esteem, lit. to weigh).] 'Much to esteeme or set by' (Cockeram 1623).

Magni·potence. *rare*⁻¹. [f. L. *magnipotent-em*: see next and -ENCE.] The quality of being 'magnipotent'; mighty power.

1861 PATMORE in *Macm. Mag.* V. 114 Jehovah's mild magnipotence Smiles to behold His children play.

† **Magni·potent,** *a. Obs. rare.* [ad. L. type **magnipotenti-em*, f. *magni-us* great + *potent-em*: see POTENT *a.*] Possessing great power.

1680 *Observ.* 'Curse Ye Meroz' 8 Though this be so magnipotent and all-sufficient a Sermon. 1727 DE FOE *Syst. Magic* I. iii. (1840) 84 Satan, as he is a spirit, is magnipotent, but he never was omnipotent.

Magnirostrate (mægnirɒ·strĕt), *a.* [ad. mod.L. *magnirostrāt-us*, f. *magn-us* great + *rostr-um* beak: see -ATE².] 'Having a long and strong beak' (Mayne *Expos. Lex.* 1856).

Magnisonant (mægni·sŏnănt), *a. rare.* [ad. late L. *magnisonant-em*, f. *magn-us* great + pr. pple. of *sonāre* to SOUND.] High sounding.

a 1843 SOUTHEY *Doctor, Cats Greta Hall* (1847) VII. 589 Rumpelstilzchen .. that strange and magnisonant appellation. 1843 CARDL. WISEMAN *Ess.* (1853) III. 442 A new city just starting from the mud, with some magnisonant name from Egypt or Greece.

Magnitude (mæ·gnitiud). [ad. L. *magnitūdo*, f. *magn-us* great, cogn. w. Gr. *μέγας*, OTeut. **mikilo-*: see MUCH. Cf. OF. *magnitude*.]

1. The quality or fact of being great, in various senses; = GREATNESS.

† **a.** Greatness of character, rank, or position. Also *jocularly*, as a title of address. *Obs.*

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* I. (1495) 3 Our wytte maye be led to the consyderacyon of the gretnesse, or magnytude, of the moost excellent bewteuous clarete dyuyne & Inuysyble. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) III. 117 This Nabugodonosor transcendede in magnitude and fortitude Hercules in his actes. 1609 B. JONSON *Masque Queens* Wks. 1616 I. 961 [Boadicea's] orations .. wherein is expressed all magnitude of a spirit, breathing to the libertie and redemption of her Countrie. 1620 SHELTON *Quix.* III. xxxii. 231 And, for proof of this, let me tell your Magnitudes [etc.]. 1647 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* I. § 141 The two Secretaries of State (which were not in those days officers of that magnitude they have been since..) were [etc.]. 1665 MANLEY *Grotius' Low C. Warres* 741 The United States did not omit forthwith to send an Embassy to congratulate him [King James] for his new access of magnitude.

b. In physical sense: Greatness of size or extent. † Of sound: Loudness. *Obs.*

c 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* I. 1066 To bey thy been biholde hem riche and fulle, Or preve hem by their murmurs magnitude. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) I. 127 Profitable waters and wholsome, whiche be callede sees what for the magnitude of theyme and for the copious multitude of fisches. 1640 WILKINS *New Planet* II. (1684) 149 'Tis said, that Magnitude does always add to the swiftness of a violent motion. 1650 BULWER *Anthropomet.* xxi. 230 That which fails in magnitude is called smal. 1727 DE FOE *Syst. Magic* I. i. (1840) 9 The heigbt, and strength, and magnitude of their building could only serve to make its fall .. more terrible. 1817 CHALMERS *Astron. Disc.* i. (1852) 22 We have something more than the mere magnitude of the planets to allege in favour of the idea that they are inhabited. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. xi. 82 And as our eye ranged over the broad shoulders of the mountain, .. the conception of its magnitude grew upon us.

c. Of immaterial things: Great amount or importance.

1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) II. 343 He [Saturnus] was .. namede as godde of alle goddes for the magnitude of his power. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 268 b, And how the effectes yt suche ioye of ye spiryt leoeth behynde it, sheweth y magnitude or greatnes therof. 1769 *Junius Lett.* xxiii. 108 A great man, .. even in the magnitude of his crimes, finds a rescue from contempt. *a* 1806 HORSLEY *Serm.* I. iv. (1816) 70 We commonly find in the ambitious man a superiority of parts, in some measure proportioned to the magnitude of his designs. 1844 THIRLWALL *Greece* lx. VIII. 29 The preparations .. were .. on a scale proportioned to the magnitude of the object he had in view. 1861 STANLEY *East. Ch.* vi. (1869) 189 No conversion of such magnitude [as that of Constantine] had occurred since the Apostolic age.

2. Size whether great or small; in geometrical use, the measure or extent of a particular line, area, volume, or angle.

1570 BILLINGSLEY *Euclid* I. i. 1 A signe or poynt .. is the beginning of magnitude. 1599 A. M. tr. *Gabelhouer's Bk. Physicke* 74/1 Mixe of this poolder the magnitude of a hasell-nutte amongst a little Cotten. 1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* 355 It is a Membrane enclosing the whole cauity of the Chest, wherefore his Figure and magnitude is answerable to that cauity. 1658 ROWLAND tr. *Monfet's Theat. Ins.* 1080 It is a small creature, and contemptible for its magnitude. 1725 DE FOE *Voy. round World* (1840) 284 As to the magnitude of those rivers, he could say little. 1754 SHERLOCK *Disc.* (1759) I. iv. 159 Reason can measure the Magnitudes and Distances of the heavenly Bodies. 1840 LARDNER *Geom.* v. 59 We can never obtain an arc of the precise value of any one of the usual denominations of angular magnitude. 1854 BREWSTER *More Worlds* v. 94 The creations of the material world, whether they be of colossal or atomic magnitude. 1885 WATSON & BURBURY *Math. Th. Electr. & Magn.* I. 119 Two infinite series of images, the magnitudes or values of which converge.

b. quasi-*concr.*

1570 DEE *Math. Pref.* 3 What Magnitude so euer, is Solide or Thicke, is also broade, and long. .. A long magnitude, we terme a Line. 1570 BILLINGSLEY *Euclid* v. ix. 141 Magnitudes which haue to one and the same magnitude one and the same proportion: are equall the one to the other. 1859 BARN. SMITH *Arith. & Algebra* (ed. 6) 192 The term Magnitude or Quantity is used in Mathematics to express whatever is capable of increase or diminution. Thus a sum of money is a magnitude or quantity. 1864 BOWEN *Logic* iv. 66 A Concept is a magnitude or Quantity.

3. A class in a system of classification determined by size. **a.** Each of the classes into which the fixed stars have been arranged according to their degree of brilliancy.

The stars 'of the first magnitude' are the most brilliant; the 'sixth magnitude' includes those that are barely visible to the naked eye; the seventh and lower magnitudes are telescopic only. The classification into 'magnitudes', originally somewhat loose, as depending on the estimate formed by the individual observer, is now a matter of photometric measurement. The word *magnitude* in this application is a literal rendering of the Gr. *μέγεθος*, used by Ptolemy. Formerly often denoted by the symbol m, as 2.m, 3.m.

[1594 BLUNDEVIL *Exerc.* IV. xxxi. (1636) 485 The fift sheweth the magnitude or greatnesse of the starre, whether it be of the first, second, or third bignesse.] *a* 1641 BP. MOUNTAGU *Acts & Mon.* (1642) 121 In the firmament of heaven be many Starres; .. of the first, second, third magnitude, as they use to speak. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VII. 357 He form'd the Moon Globose, and everie magnitude of Starrs. 1690 LEYBOURN *Curs. Math.* 383 A star of the 1 Magnitude may be seen when the Sun is but 12 deg. below the Horizon. 1796 HERSCHEL in *Phil. Trans.* LXXXVI. 171, 2.3 m, however, cannot be sufficiently kept apart from 3.2 m, or either of these expressions from 3 m, or from 2 m. 1893 SIR R. BALL *Story of Sun* 13 A star of about the eighth magnitude. 1902 *Daily Chron.* 11 Aug. 6/7 Eros will be detected by the naked eye as a sixth magnitude star.

† **b.** *Numismatics. Obs.*

1705 HEARNE *Collect.* 19 Dec. (O. H. S.) I. 133 The said Coyns are all Brass of the 3d magnitude.

c. Occas. in other applications. Also, *Of the first magnitude* (fig.): of the utmost greatness or importance.

1693 G. STEPNY *Juvenal Sat.* VIII. 47 Whatever be your Birth, you're sure to be A Peer of the First Magnitude to me. 1830 LYELL *Princ. Geol.* I. 413 In the following year there were one hundred and fifty-one [*sc.* earthquake shocks: they were registered in four classes], of which ninety-eight were of the first magnitude. *Mod.* To do this would be a blunder of the first magnitude.

Magnitudinous (mægnitiū·dinəs), *a.* [f. L. *magnitūdin-* (*-tūdo*) MAGNITUDE + -OUS.] Characterized by magnitude; involving greatness of scale.

1803 W. TAYLOR in *Monthly Mag.* XVI. 223 The inference .. is .., in its possible consequences, too magnitudinous, to be lightly stated in words. 1826 *Examiner* 120/1 His designs were bold, severe, magnitudinous. 1893 *Age* (Melbourne) 19 May, It has gone abroad .. that directors .. may plead positive ignorance of magnitudinous transactions.

† **Ma·gnity,** *a. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [ad. L. *magnitās* f. *magn-us* great: see -ITY.] = MAGNITUDE 1 b.

1790 *Bystander* 198 A fool .. excites no wonder though he commit every moment follies of the greatest magnity.

† **Magnium.** *Obs.* [f. MAGN(ESIA) + -IUM.] = MAGNESIUM; a name applied to the metal by Sir H. Davy in 1808 and withdrawn in 1812.

1808 [See MAGNESIUM 1]. 1812 — *Chem. Philos.* 348.

Magnolia (mægnō·liă), f. name of Pierre Magnol (latinized *Magnōlius*), professor of botany at Montpellier, 1638–1715.] A genus of large (rarely shrubby) trees (the typical genus of the N. O. *Magnoliaceæ*), cultivated for the beauty of their foliage and flowers.

1748 *Phil. Trans.* XLV. 166 The Magnolia .. tho' scarce in Virginia, has been since found to grow in great plenty in the North-West Parts of Pensylvania. 1751 BARTRAM *Observ. in Trav. Pensilv.* etc. 67 A great hill, cloathed with large Magnolia, 2 feet diameter and 100 feet high. 1799 WORDSW. *Ruth* xi, He told of the magnolia spread High as a cloud, high over head! 1823 RUTTER *Fonthill* 90 Here and there the beautiful magnolia displayed the exquisite whiteness of its large blossoms. 1858 HOGG *Veg. Kingd.* 24 The bark and fruit of all the Magnolias are possessed of the same medicinal properties.

b. 'The pharmacopœial name (U. S. A.) for the bark of several species of Magnolia' (Mayne *Expos. Lex.* 1856).

c. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

a 1821 SHELLEY *Fragm. Unfinished Drama* 146 Holding a cup like a magnolia flower. 1897 PULLEN-BURRY *Blotted Out* 11 Mrs. Aylesbury's magnolia-covered house.

Magnoliaceous (mægnōuliē·ʃəs), *a. Bot.* [f. mod.L. *Magnōliace-æ*, f. MAGNOLIA: see -ACEOUS.] Of or belonging to the N. O. *Magnoliaceæ*.

1852 TH. ROSS tr. *Humboldt's Trav.* I. vi. 213 *note*, Magnoliaceous plants.

Magno·liad. *Bot.* [f. MAGNOLIA + -AD.] Lindley's name for: A plant of the N. O. *Magnoliaceæ*.

1846 LINDLEY *Veg. Kingd.* 417 Winteraceæ, which do not seem to possess any solid distinction from Magnoliads.

Magnolite (mæ·gnŏlăit). *Min.* [f. the place-name *Magnolia* + -ITE.] A white tellurate of mercury found in minute acicular crystals, in the Magnolia district of Colorado.

1877 F. A. GENTH in *Proc. Amer. Philos. Soc.* XVII. 118 Magnolite, a new Mineral. This highly interesting mineral is the product of the oxydation of coloradoite.

Magnoperate (mægnɒ·pĕrĕt), *v. rare.* [Two formations: (1) f. L. *magnopere* greatly (short for *magnō opere*) + -ATE³; (2) f. L. *magn-us* great + *oper-*, *opus* work: after *operate*.]

† **1.** *trans.* To make greater. *Obs.*

1610 HOPTON *Baculum Geod.* Ep. Ded. (1614), Which will not a little magnoperate the splendour of your well knowne Honour, to these succeeding times.

2. *intr.* (*nonce-use.*) To work at a 'magnum opus'.

1821 BYRON *Let.* 22 June, That is right; keep to your magnum opus—magnoperate away.

Magnum (mæ·gnŭm). [sb. use of neut. sing. of L. *magnus* great.]

1. A bottle containing two quarts of wine or spirits; also, the measure of liquor contained in such a bottle.

1788 BURNS *Prose Wks.* 40 If you add a tankard of brown stout, and superadd a magnum of right Oporto. 1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* ii, Bearing in his hand an immense double quart bottle, or magnum, as it is called in Scotland. 1855 LD. HOUGHTON in *Life* (1891) I. xi. 505 Tell my father we had four magnums of 1841 claret on the table. 1893 VIZETELLY *Glances back* I. xvii. 328 [His] weakness was a too great partiality for .. magnums of old port. 1895 *Strand Mag.* X. 556/2 The party broached a magnum of whisky.

b. *nonce-use.* A large glass (of spirits).

1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xix, They .. ordered a glass of brandy and water all round, with a magnum of extra strength, for Mr. Samuel Weller.

2. Short for MAGNUM BONUM 2.

1889 *Daily News* 25 Nov. 7/6 Potatoes at wholesale Prices. —112 lb. Floury Magnums, *3s. 6d.*

Magnum bonum (mæ·gnŭm bō·nŭm). [neut. sing. of L. *magnus* great and *bonus* good.]

1. A particular kind of large yellow cooking-plum. Also *magnum bonum plum.*

1721 MORTIMER *Husb.* II. 298 The Bonum Magnum a fair yellowish green Plumb. 1769 MRS. RAFFALD *Eng. Housekpr.* (1778) 230 To preserve Magnum Bonum Plums. 1813 SIR H. DAVY *Agric. Chem.* (1814) 257 Two fruits can scarcely be conceived more different in colour, size, and appearance, than the wild plom and the rich Magnum bonum. 1879 MISS YONGE *Magnum Bonum* I. 183 A basket of plums .. as unlike magnum bonums as could well be.

2. A kind of potato.

1882 *Garden* 4 Feb. 75/2 In .. 1879 my employer wished me to plant half a rood of ground with Magnum Bonums.

† **3.** *Sc.* (Meaning not clear: ? = MAGNUM 1.)

1790 BURNS *Ball. Dumfries Election*, While Welsh, who ne'er yet flinched his ground High wav'd his magnum-bonum round With Cyclopean fury.

4. A large-barrelled steel pen.

1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* (1864) I. 287 The street-stationers do not go beyond *2s.* the gross, which is for magnum bonums.

‖ **Magnum opus.** See OPUS 2.

† **Ma·gnus.** *Obs.* [var. of MANGANESE: cf. MAGNASE.] Black oxide of manganese, used in the Staffordshire potteries.

1640 *Rates* in Northouck *London* (1773) 838/2 Malt, the quarter ½*d.* Magnus, the cwt. 1*d.* 1686 PLOT *Staffordsh.* 123 The Motley-colour .. is procured by blending the Lead with Manganese, by the Workmen call'd Magnus.

† **Mago-chemical,** *a. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. *mago-*, comb. form of Gr. *μάγος*: see MAGUS, MAGIC.] Pertaining to magic and chemistry.

1652 GAULE *Magastrom.* 307 Magicall or mago-chymicall arts, &c.

Magoll, obs. form of MOGUL.

Magonell, magonneaul, obs. ff. MANGONEL.

Magophony (măgɒ·fŏni). *rare.* [ad. Gr. *μαγοφονία*, f. *μάγος* MAGUS + *φόνος* slaughter.] The Massacre of the Magi, a famous event in Persian history. Hence *transf.* or *fig.*

1711 SHAFTESB. *Charac.* I. 86 Much less wou'd you (my Friend!) have carry'd on this Magophony, or Priest-Massacre, with such a barbarous Zeal.

Magor(e, Magosine, obs. ff. MOGUL, MAGAZINE.

‖ **Magot** (mæ·gŏt, mago). [Fr.]

1. A species of ape (*Macacus inuus*); the 'tailless' Barbary Ape of Gibraltar and North Africa.

1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 12 There was at Paris another beast called a Tartarine, and in some places a Magot (much lyke a Baboun). 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1862) I. VII. i. 498 The Cynocephalus, or the Magot of Buffon. 1882 A. R. WALLACE in *Contemp. Rev.* Mar. 423 In some few this stump is so very short that there appears to be no tail, as in the magot of North Africa and Gibraltar.

2. A small grotesque figure of porcelain, ivory, wood, etc. of Chincse or Japanese workmanship.

1844 THACKERAY *Barry Lyndon* xiii, Her rooms were crowded with hideous China magots. 1881 SAINTSBURY *Dryden* ii. 35 This [see *Ann. Mirab.* st. 29] cannot be considered the happiest possible means of informing us that the Dutch fleet was laden with spices and *magots*.

Magot, Magozin, obs. ff. MAGGOT, MAGAZINE.

Magpie (mæ·gpəi). Also 7 magge pye, megpye. [f. MAG *sb.*² + PIE 1. Cf. MAGGOT-PIE, MAW-PIE.]

1. A common European bird, *Pica caudata*, of the family *Corvidæ*, having a long pointed tail and black-and-white plumage. It is well known for its noisy chatter, and is often taught to speak; its habits of pilfering and hoarding are proverbial, and it is popularly regarded as a bird of ill omen.

1605 S. ROWLEY *When You See Me* C 3 As merie as a magge pie. 1634 PEACHAM *Gentl. Exerc.* II. i. 108 Dissimulation. A Lady wearing a vizard of two faces, .. in her right hand a magpye. 1647 R. STAPYLTON *Juvenal* 62 The nine daughters of Pierus .. were for that saucy ambition transformed into meg-pyes. 1664 H. MORE *Myst. Iniq.* 333 The Loquacity of the Magpie. 1720 GAY *Poems* (1745) I. 70 No magpie chatter'd, nor the painted Jay. 1751 in Hone *Every-day Bk.* II. 1457 No horseshoe nor magpye shall baffle our skill. 1821 CLARE *Vill. Minstr.* I. 159 And magpies that chattered, no omen so black. 1855 TENNYSON *To F. D. Maurice* 19 And only hear the Magpie gossip Garrulous under a roof of pine. 1859 DARWIN *Orig. Spec.* viii. (1873) 209 The magpie, so wary in England, is tame in Norway.

b. *Austral.* Applied to the black-and-white Crow-shrike (*Gymnorrhina*); also, in Tasmania, to the genus *Strepera*.

1859 H. KINGSLEY *G. Hamlyn* xviii. II. 4 A magpie was chanting his noble vesper hymn from a lofty tree. *Ibid.* xxxiii. II. 314 *note*, Magpie, a large, pied crow. Of all the birds I have ever seen, the cleverest, the most grotesque, and the most musical. 1886 T. HENEY *Fortunate Days* 47

The magpie swells from knoll or silent brake His loud sweet tune. 1898 MORRIS *Austral Eng.* 277.

2. *transf.* An idle or impertinent chatterer.

1632 MASSINGER & FIELD *Fatal Dowry* IV. i, I haue waited, sir, Three houres to speake w'ee, and not take it well, Such magpies, are admitted, whilst I daunce Attendance. 1791 BURKE *Let. to Chev. de Rivarol* (1844) III. 211 He will not care what .. the whole flight of the magpies and jays of philosophy, may fancy and chatter. 1838 *Lett. fr. Madras* (1843) 189 The Moonshee .. is not the little talkative magpie who told me about the language of the planets. 1895 SCULLY *Kafir Stories* 132 He was so fond of talking that his comrades nicknamed him 'magpie'.

3. †**a.** A derisive term for an Anglican bishop, from the black chimere and white rochet forming his ordinary ceremonial attire (*obs.*). **b.** In recent use, a jocular name for the episcopal costume consisting of these vestments.

[*c* 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* Verses to Rdr., Prelats, like magpies, in the Ayr had flown. 1663 KILLIGREW *Parsons Wedd.* III. v. 114 Have you not heard of the Scriveners Wife that ..was deliver'd of a Mag-Pie;..the Mid-wife cri'd out, 'twas born a Bishop, with Tippet and white-sleeves.] *a* 1704 T. BROWN *Wks.* (1730) I. 107 Root out of them all Anti-Christian Tyranny of most abominable Bishops; let not those Silk-worms and Magpies have dominion over us. *Mod.* Did he wear a cope, or only his magpie?

4. A kind of potato.

1794 BILLINGSLEY *Agric. Somerset* (1797) 116 The sorts [of potatoes] cultivated are the kidney,..magpie, rough red [etc.]. 1829 *Jrnl. of Naturalist* 31 Our chief sorts [of potato] are pink eyes,..magpies, and china oranges.

5. A name given to a particular variety of the domestic pigeon.

1868 TEGETMEIER *Pigeons* xxi. 174 Magpies are another variety of German Toys that are well known in England. 1895 *Times* 16 Jan. 11/6 For the rest, the Magpies, black, red, yellow, and blue..deserve to be mentioned. 1898 *Daily News* 5 Jan. 2 Mr. F. Warner has some excellent magpies.

6. *slang.* A halfpenny. Cf. MAG *sb.*3)

1838 DICKENS *O. Twist* viii, I'm at low-water-mark my self—only one bob and a magpie.

7. *Mil. slang.* A shot from a rifle which strikes the outermost division but one of a target, and is signalled by a black and white flag.

1884 *Times* 23 July 8/1 After running through the scoring gamut with an outer, a magpie, and a miss. 1894 *Ibid.* 14 July 10/1 He followed his first two bull's eyes with two more, then came a magpie.

8. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *magpie-like* adj.; **magpie diver,** (*a*) the Golden-eye Duck, *Clangula glaucion*; (*b*) the Smew, *Merganser albellus*; **magpie finch,** a bird of the genus *Spermestes*; **magpie goose** (see quot.); **magpie lark,** a small Australian bird, *Grallina picata*; **magpie-maki,** a species of lemur, *Lemur macaco* (Cent. Dict.); **magpie moth,** a white moth, patched with black and some yellow spots, *Abraxas grossulariata*; **magpie peroh** (see quot.); **magpie robin** = DIAL-BIRD; **magpie shrike,** a South American bird, *Cissopis leverianus.*

1796 NEMNICH *Polygl. Lex. Nat. Hist.* V. 820 *Magpie diver, the smew. 1882 PAYNE-GALLWEY *Fowler in Irel.* 107 Another local name [of the Goldeneye] is the 'Magpie Diver', a very descriptive one by reason of the black and white plumage of the adult male. 1869-73 T. R. JONES *Cassell's Bk. of Birds* I. 158 The *Magpie Finch is an inhabitant of the countries in the vicinity of the river Gambia. 1898 MORRIS *Austral Eng.* 278 **Magpie-Goose,* a common name for the Australian Goose, *Anseranus melanoleuca.* 1888 *Cassell's Pict. Australasia* II. 235 The little *magpie-lark. 1805 T. HARROL *Scenes of Life* III. 104 What was before black had now assumed a *magpie-like appearance. 1796 NEMNICH *Polygl. Lex. Nat. Hist.* V. 820 The large *Magpie moth, *Phal. grossulariata.* The small Magpie moth, *Phal. urticata.* 1819 G. SAMOUELLE *Entomol. Compend.* 252 Magpie moth (*Abraxas grossulariata*). 1890 E. A. ORMEROD *Injur. Insects* (ed. 2) 310 The caterpillars of the Magpie Moth sometimes do a great deal of mischief. 1898 MORRIS *Austral Eng.* 278 **Magpie-Perch,* a West Australian, Victorian, and Tasmanian fish, *Chilodactylus gibbosus.* 1839 JERDON in *Madras Jrnl.* X. 263 Dial bird...Large or *Magpie Robin. 1781 LATHAM *Gen. Syn. Birds* I. 192 *Magpie Shrike. Size of a Song-thrush: length ten inches.

Hence (*nonce-wds.*) **Ma·gpied** *ppl. a.*, made like a magpie; **Ma·gpieish** *a.*, magpie-like.

1845 E. WARBURTON *Crescent & Cross* I. 64 Black slaves, magpied with white napkins round their head and loins. 1880 *Daily News* 9 Aug. 2/2 Money, which..had been abstracted and disposed of in a magpieish spirit of mischief.

Magpiety (mægpəi·ĕti). *nonce-wd.* [jocular f. MAGPIE, after *piety.*] (Cf. quots.)

a 1845 HOOD *Jarvis & Mrs. Cope* ii, Not pious in its proper sense, But chattring like a bird, Of sin and grace—in such a case Mag-piety 's the word. 1891 *Blackw. Mag.* CL. 400/2 Conceive the agony of suppressed speech when a man is as garrulous as a magpie by nature; and my friend is that, though his magpiety is of an elevated sort.

Magre, variant of MAUGRE.

Magrei, -rey, -rie, -ry: see MAUGRE.

Magryme, obs. form of MEGRIM.

Magsman (mæ·gsmăn). *slang.* [f. MAG *sb.*1]. A street swindler, 'confidence man'.

1838 *The Town* 27 Jan. 276 A *magsman* must of necessity be a great actor and a most studious observer of human nature. 1866 DICKENS *Reprinted Pieces, Detective Police* (1868) 241 Tally-ho Thompson was a famous horse-stealer, couper, and magsman. 1897 M. DAVITT in *Westm. Gaz.* 30 Sept. 2/1 Almost every possible kind of convict, from the sneak-thief..to professional magsmen.

‖ **Maguari** (măgwā·ri). [Tupi *mbaguári* (Ruiz de Montoya *Tesoro de la Lingua Guarani* 1639).] A South American Stork, *Euxenura maguari*, with a forked tail.

1678 RAY *Willughby's Ornith.* 287 The American Stork, called by the Brasilians Maguari of Marggrave. 1824 LATHAM *Gen. Hist. Birds* IX. 54 The Spaniards call it Cicogne; the Guarinis Baguari and Maguari. 1889 P. L. SCLATER *Argentine Ornith.* II. 107 The Maguari Stork is a well-known bird on the pampas.

Maguder, variant of MAGYDARE. *Obs.*

‖ **Maguey** (mæ·gwe; Sp. magē·y). Forms: 6 **magueans, magueis, -eiz, -aiz, maguay, 7 manguay, maugouay,** 8 **ma(y)quey.** [Sp., a. Haytian.] The American aloe, *Agave Americana.*

1555 EDEN *Decades* 135 Magueans which is an herbe muche lyke vnto that which is commonly cauled Sengrene or Orpin. [The Latin has *palmarum puta Magueiorum, quæ est herba*, etc.] 1586 *Chiltone's Voy.* in *Hakluyt*, About Mexico.. there groweth a certeine plant called magueis which yeeldeth wine [etc.]. 1589 PARKE tr. *Mendoza's Hist. China*, etc. 320 A plant called Maguey. .. They take out of this plant wine, which is that which the Indians doo drinke ordinarily, and the Negros. 1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* v. xxix. 420 They strewd round about a great quantitie of the boughes of Manguay, the leaves whereof are large and pricking. 1660 F. BROOKE tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 363 There are some that furiously lash their bare shoulders with thorns of Mangouay. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Maquey* or *Mayquey*, an admirable Tree in New Spain, in the West-Indies. 1712 W. ROGERS *Voy.* (1718) 318 Their most remarkable plant is that call'd Maguey. 1899 *Atlantic Monthly* LXXXIII. 758/1 He who has once slept upon a mass of the shredded fibres of the maguey, or Spanish bayonet, will not be envious of the down couches of kings.

b. *attrib.*, as *maguey fibre, leaf, tree.*

1745 P. THOMAS *Jrnl. Anson's Voy.* 128 They call it a Maguey Tree, and from it they get Wine, Vinegar, Honey, Thread, Needles, Stuffs for cloathing, or Sails for Canoes and Small Boats, and Timber for building. 1893 *Outing* (U.S.) XXII. 111/1 A small roll made from the fiber of the maguey leaf. 1901 *Westm. Gaz.* 21 Oct. 5/1 All the maguey fibre Mexico can produce will be taken at good prices.

‖ **Magus** (mē·gŏs). Pl. **Magi** (mē·dʒəi); also 4 **magy.** [L., a. Gr. μάγος, a. OPersian *magu-s.*]

1. *Hist.* A member of the ancient Persian priestly caste, said by ancient historians to have been originally a Median tribe. Hence, in wider sense, one skilled in Oriental magic and astrology, an ancient magician or sorcerer.

sing. [*c* 1384 CHAUCER *H. Fame* III. 184 Ther saugh I Hermes Ballenus, Lymote, and eek Simon Magus.] 1621 QUARLES *Div. Poems, Esther* (1638) 93 Tyrant Cambyses being dead and gone,..Mounts up a Magus, with dissembled right. 1638 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 214 Let me rather busie my brains in quest of what a Magus was .. under which Title, many Witches, Sorcerers .. and other Diaboliques have cloakt their trumperies. 1742 POPE *Dunc.* IV. 516 Thy *Magus*, Goddess! shall perform the rest. 1805 H. K. WHITE *Let.* 10 Nov. *Remains* (1816) I. 207, I have as much expectation of gaining it, as of being elected supreme magus over the mysteries of Mithra. 1821 SHELLEY *Prometh. Unb.* I. 192 The Magus Zoroaster.

plur. [*c* 1400 *Three Kings Cologne* 49 Seynt Austyn seiþ þat þis word Magi in the tung of Chaldee is as moche to seye as a Philosophre.] 1555 WATREMAN *Fardle of Facions* II. vii. K iv b, [In Persia] their Magi (that is to say men skylfull in ye secretes of nature). 1609 HOLLAND *Amm. Marcell.* XXIII. vi. 231 In these tracts lye the fertile fields of the Magi. 1614 SYLVESTER *Bethulias Rescue* V. 301 You Parthians, Cossians, and Arabians too, By your sad Magi's deep prophetlike Charms Sacredly counsell'd. 1711 POPE *Temp. Fame* 97 There in long robes the royal Magi stand, Grave Zoroaster waves the circling wand. 1864 PUSEY *Lect. Daniel* vii. 418 Among the Persians, those who are wise as to the Deity, and are its ministers, are called Magi.

b. Applied by Irish historians to the heathen sorcerers who opposed St. Patrick.

1822 LANIGAN *Eccl. Hist. Irel.* I. 224 Leogaire..set out.. with a considerable number of followers and one or two of the principal Magi. 1845 PETRIE *Round Towers Irel.* II. ii. 132 Quoted as the composition of a certain magus of the name of Con, in the ancient Life of St. Patrick. 1887 SIR D. O. HUNTER BLAIR tr. *A. Bellesheim's Hist. Cath. Ch. of Scotl.* I. 72 Thereupon the Magi, or *Druadh*, bitterly reproached the parents for their adoption of Christianity. *Ibid.* I. 73 Broichan, the Magus of King Brude.

c. *transf.*

1851 CARLYLE *Sterling* II. ii. (1872) 94 His Father, .. the magus of the *Times*, had talk and argument ever ready.

2. *spec. The (three) Magi:* the three 'wise men' who came from the East, bearing offerings to the infant Christ.

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XIX. 81 Wherfore and whi wyse men that tyme, Maistres and lettred men Magy [*C.* Magi] hem called. 1652 GAULE *Magastrom.* 13 The Magi that came to Christ. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr., Balthasar*, ..one of the *Magi*, or wise-men, vulgarly called the three Kings of Collein. 1756-7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) I. 405 A golden medal, said to be among the offerings of the eastern *magi* to Jesus Christ. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XIV. 281 Whence the wise men of the East who came to see Christ are called simply Magi.

†**Magusian.** *Obs. rare*—1. [f. prec. + -IAN.] A magian; a follower of the magi.

1587 GOLDING *De Mornay* XXXIII. 530 The Magusians .. are giuen to Incest after the custome of their Mother country Persia.

Magyar (ma·dʲar), *sb.* and *a.* [The native name.]

A. *sb.*

1. An individual of that Mongoloid race, now forming, numerically and politically, the predominant section of the inhabitants of Hungary.

1797 TOWNSON *Trav. Hungary* 141 An old Magyar to be *obliged* to learn, and to learn the *German* language! 1828 *Foreign Q. Rev.* III. 29 That the Magyars settled in Hungary during the ninth century is certain. 1864 *Spectator* 438 The moment it [a British fleet] threatens Trieste the Magyar will be in arms. 1878 *N. Amer. Rev.* CXXVI. 557 The Magyars received the knowledge of southern products and of agriculture from their Turkic neigbbors.

2. The language of the Magyars; Hungarian.

1828 *Foreign Q. Rev.* III. 73 Volumes written in Latin, German and Magyar. 1866 CHARNOCK in *Anthrop. Rev.* IV. 172 In the Magyar there is only one conjugation for all regular verbs. 1884 EM. DE LAVELEYE in *Contemp. Rev.* Dec. 820 He..translated Stuart Mill's 'Liberty' into Magyar. *Comb.* 1886 W. J. TUCKER *E. Europe* 231 The Hungarian stage, being thus limited to the Magyar-speaking population..can never enjoy European fame.

B. *adj.* Of or pertaining to the Magyars, or to the language of the Magyars.

1828 *Foreign Q. Rev.* III. 34 The letters of the Magyar alphabet which require particular notice are ö [etc.]. *Ibid.* 30 Scarcely a fragment remains of old Magyar minstrelsy. 1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* I. 25 The Magyar noblesse. 1888 L. OLIPHANT *Episodes in Life Adventure* 180 Divers hospitable Magyar country-houses.

Hence **Ma·gyarism,** the principles of Magyar patriotism; **Ma·gyarize** *v. trans.*, to assimilate to the Magyar type; to translate (names) into Magyar; hence **Ma·gyarized** *ppl. a.*; **Ma·gyarization; Ma·gyarizing** *vbl. sb.*

1862 *Sat. Rev.* 8 Feb. 158 Magyarism once meant a tyranny of race. 1879 W. R. MORFILL in *Westm. Rev.* Oct., How long this small nationality [of Slovaks] will be able to resist Magyarisation is doubtful. 1880 *Echo* 23 Oct. 1/5 The Chauvinist agitators for the 'Magyarising of Commerce'. 1884 EM. DE LAVELEYE in *Contemp. Rev.* Dec. 826 Austria Hungary can neither Magyarize nor Germanize Bosnia. 1886 W. J. TUCKER *E. Europe* 48 Those amongst us bearing German names Magyarise them. *Ibid.* 133 Government, in the frenzy of its Magyarizing hallucinations, heralds the Magyarizing of the name with applause. 1889 *Daily News* 21 Nov. 5/3 The..completely Magyarised family of the Archduke Joseph. 1897 *Contemp. Rev.* Jan. 13 The Roumanian subjects..refuse to be Magyarised.

†**Magydare.** *Obs.* Also 6 **maguder.** [ad. L. *magudaris, magydaris, -deris*, a. Gr. μαγύδαρις.] The root of the plant laserwort; the plant itself.

1530 PALSGR. 241/2 Maguder a stalke of an herbe, *chion.* 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. cccLXXV. 854 It is called in Latin *Laserpitium*: in English Laserwoort and Magydare: the gum or liquor that issueth out of the same is called Lacer. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Magydare*, a sort of Herb.

Mahadee, obs. form of MAHDI.

‖ **Mahajun** (măhā·dʒʊn). [Hindī *mahājan*, repr. Skr. *mahājana* great man, head of tribe or caste.] A money-lender, usurer.

1858 J. B. NORTON *Topics* 245 The mahajun kindly undertakes to advance the money. *c* 1861 A. C. LYALL *Old Pindaree* (Y.), Down there lives a Mahajun—my father gave him a bill, I have paid the knave thrice over, and here I'm paying him still.

‖ **Mahal** (măhā·l). *Indian.* Also 7 **mahael, moholl, 8–9 mahl, 9 muhal.** [Urdū (Arab.) محل *maḥall*, f. Arab. root *ḥalla* to lodge.]

1. Private apartments or lodgings.

1638 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 71 Who..leads him into the Mahael (or private lodging). 1662 J. DAVIES tr. *Mandelslo's Trav.* 76 He went to the *Mahael*, or Queens Lodgings. 1793 T. MAURICE *Ind. Antiq.* I. 67 The mahls, the courts, the galleries, the rooms of state, are almost endless. 1799 WELLINGTON *Suppl. Desp.* (1858) I. 322, I beg that you will desire my moonshee to write a letter to the ladies in the mahal. 1800 *Asiat. Ann. Reg., Misc. Tracts* 294/1 These inner apartments are said to have been the mahl, or private chambers of Gundrufsein.

2. A summer house or palace.

1625 PURCHAS *Pilgrims* I. IV. 428 A Garden, and Moholl or Summer house of the Queene Mothers. 1638 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 159 An even delicate street .. bestrew'd with Moholls or Summer houses. 1800 *Asiat. Ann. Reg., Misc. Tracts* 162/2 Rajah Ragonaut's old mahal or house under Goosapahar. 1834 *Baboo* I. xi. 200 This old dwelling is not like the ancient Muhal of my fathers.

3. A territorial division in India; a ward of a town. Also, a division of an estate or tract of land for farming or hunting purposes.

1793 T. MAURICE *Ind. Antiq.* I. 106 The soobah of Bengal is said to consist of twenty-four circars and seven hundred and eighty-seven mahls. 1800 *Asiat. Ann. Reg., Char.* 3/1 Colar is a mahl of Sera. 1815 SIR J. MALCOLM *Hist. Persia* II. 177 *note*, He was made magistrate of all the Hyderee mâhâls, or wards termed Hyderee, which included more than half the city. 1823 — *Mem. Central India* I. 146 *note*, The first grants of twelve Mahals to Mulharjee Holkar. 1883 *19th Cent.* Sept. 424 The supervisors were instructed to prepare rent-rolls of each mahal, or farm. 1885 SIR W. HUNTER *Imp. Gaz. India* I. 349 The elephant hunting-grounds..are divided into several mahals, which are leased out.

Mahaleb (mā·hăleb). Also 6–8 **macaleb,** 8 **mahalep,** 9 **mahlib, melub.** [a. F. *macaleb, -lep* (Cotgr.), a. Arab. محلب *maḥlab.* Cf. It. *macalepo* 'a kinde of perfume or sweete smell' (Florio 1598).] A kind of cherry, *Prunus Mahaleb*, the kernels of which are used by perfumers; the tree itself is used as a dwarf grafting-stock for cherries.

1558 WARDE tr. *Alexis' Secr.* 50 Take the Macaleb, whiche are litle soote and odoriferous graynes so called. 1597

GERAROE *Herbal* III. lv. 1211 This shrubbie tree called Macaleb or Mahaleb is also one of the Priuets. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Macaleb*, the bastard Coral or Pomander; of whose sweet and shining black berries, chains, and bracelets are made. 1712 tr. *Pomet's Hist. Drugs* I. 13 Mahalep is the Kernel of a small Berry, almost like a Cherry-Stone. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Mahlib, melub*, the fragrant kernels of *Prunus Mahaleb* of Linnæus, strung as necklaces, which are much valued by the women of Sinde and other parts of India. 1892 J. WRIGHT *Fruit Grower's Guide* II. 120 The Mahaleb is the principal dwarfing stock.

Mahammudan, obs. form of MOHAMMEDAN.

Mahan, obs. form of MAUND, Indian weight.

‖ **Mahant** (mähv·nt). *Indian.* Also 9 **mehunt.** [Hindī.] A religious superior.

1800 *Asiat. Ann. Reg., Misc. Tr.* 247/1 The ruling power was..held by the priests of the Goosaigns, distinguished by the appellation of Mehunts. 1896 MRS. B. M. CROKER *Village Tales* 160 A venerable Mahant, or high-priest of the Gosains, now advanced.

‖ **Maharaj** (maharā·dʒ). [Hindī *mahārāj*, f. *mahā* great + *rāj* sovereignty, (in compounds) sovereign.] =next.

1826 HOCKLEY *Pandurang Hari* I. 11 A small tent through which all must pass before they could enter the presence of the Ma,ha,raj. 1903 *Westm. Gaz.* 13 Aug. 8/2 Calcutta Corporation..the following resolution was proposed by the Maharaj Kumar Prodyat Tagore.

‖ **Maharaja(h)** (maharā·dʒa). Also 7 **mau raja(h.** [Hindī *mahārājā* great king, f. *mahā* great + *rājā* RAJA(H.] The title of certain Indian princes.

1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 76 Seva Gi..is preparing to be install'd Mau Raja, or Arch Raja, at his Court at Rairee. *Ibid.* 174 Mau Rajah. 1776 *Trial of Joseph Fowke* 2/1, I went to Maha Rajah Nundocomar. 1859 LANG *Wand. Ind.* 38 The Maharajah with his suite appeared.

‖ **Maharanee** (maharā·nī). [Hindī *mahārānī*, f. *mahā* great + *rānī* queen.] The wife of a maharajah.

1862 BEVERIDGE *Hist. India* III. viii. vi. 472 The maharajah was..childless. His wife, the maharanee, was..only twelve years of age.

Mahaseer, -sur, variants of MAHSEER.

Mahatma (mähæ·tmä). [ad. Skr. *mahātman* 'great-souled', f. *mahā* great + *ātman* soul.] In 'Esoteric Buddhism', one of a class of persons with preternatural powers, imagined to exist in India and Tibet.

1884 *Pall Mall G.* 19 Aug. 1/1 One of Madame Blavatsky's Mahatmas. 1888 MME. BLAVATSKY *Secr. Doctr.* II. 173 The Third Race had thus created the so-called Sons of Will and Yoga, or the 'ancestors'..of all the subsequent and present Arhats, or Mahatmas, in a truly immaculate way.

Mahayme, obs. form of MAIM.

‖ **Mahdi** (mä·di). Also 9 **mohdi, mahadi, -dee, mehdi, mehdee.** [Arab. مهدي *mahdīy*, lit. 'he who is guided aright', passive pple. of هدى *hadā* to lead in the right way.] A spiritual and temporal leader expected by the Mohammedans to appear in the latter days. In recent use chiefly applied to certain insurrectionary leaders in the Soudan from about 1880, who are alleged to have claimed to be the predicted 'Mahdi'.

1800 *Asiat. Ann. Reg., Misc. Tr.* 125/1 Mahommed, who was proclaimed Khalif at Medina in the year of the Hejira 145, and who assumed the title of Mohdi or Mahadi. 1803 T. WINTERBOTTOM *Sierra Leone* I. xiv. 246 Some years ago a celebrated impostor, who called himself Mahadee,..made his appearance among the Soosoos and Mandingos. 1868 J. P. BROWN *Dervishes* ii. 74 It is from among the descendants of 'Alee that the more devout Moslems expect the Mehdee. 1885 *Times* 20 Mar. 5/5 The desert Arabs state that a new Mahdi has appeared in Kordofan.

Hence **Ma'hdiship,** the dignity or position of a Mahdi; **Ma'hdism, Ma'hdi-ism,** the rebel movements in the Soudan about 1880–1885, and subsequently, under leaders claiming to be the Mahdi; **Ma'hdian, Ma'hdist, Ma'hdi-ist,** an adherent of a pretended Mahdi.

1884 *19th Cent.* May 816 The impostor who has .. laid claim to the Mahdiship. 1884 *Times* (weekly ed.) 29 Aug. 1 Mâhdism is essentially a Shiya doctrine. 1885 *Pall Mall G.* 10 June 3/1 Mahdi-ism is in his eyes a real danger. 1885 *Daily Tel.* 19 Feb. 5/2 A demonstration .. was .. made against Metemneh, in order to draw the Mahdists off. 1885 *Ibid.* 21 Mar. 5/1 No hardy Mahdian got nearer than twenty yards. 1891 *Daily News* 18 Dec. 6/1 The invasion of Egypt by the Mahdiists in August, 1889. 1897 *Ibid.* 22 Sept. 6/4 Gordon, and Sir Samuel Baker .. were even more responsible for the rise of Soudanese Mahdism than the Mahdi himself.

Mahe, Mahem, obs. ff. MAW *sb.*[1], MAIM.

Mahen, Maheym, obs. ff. MAY *v.*, MAIM.

Mahiz, obs. form of MAIZE.

Mahlstick, variant of MAULSTICK.

Mahlstrom, Ger. form of MAELSTROM.

‖ **Mahmu·di.** *Obs.* Also 7 **mammotheo, mamudee, mahomedee, mamoodo, mammo(o)da, mam(m)oodee, mahmoudi, -y,** 7–8 **mamooda,** 8 **mahmoodee, mahmudie, mahmoude.** [Pers. محمودي *maḥmūdī*, f. the name of Shah *Maḥmūd*.] A Persian money of account, orig. a silver coin of the approximate value of twelve pence. Also, a gold coin formerly circulating in India.

1612 R. COVERTE *True Rep.* etc. 34 A Mammothee..being nine pence English. 1625 PURCHAS *Pilgrims* I. 523 Their moneyes in Persia of Siluer, are the Abacee, the Mahomedee [etc.]. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* II. 63 An Abassi and a Mahmoudi, which is asmuch as a Chai, and a Para. *Ibid.* III. 18 There is also a Mogole Silver-Coin, called Mahmoudy, which is worth about eleven Sols and a half. 1783 GLADWIN *Ayeen Akbery* I. 17 The Mahmoodee and Mozuffery of Guzerat and Malwah. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XIV. 176/1 An abassee is worth two mahmoudes. 1878 *Note* in *Hawkins' Voy.* (Hakluyt Soc.) 407 The Mahmudi was a gold coin of Gujrát.

Maho, variant of MAHU *Obs.*

‖ **Mahoe**[1] (mähō·ē). *Bot.* Also 7–8 **mahot, maho,** 8 **moho,** 9 **mohoe, mohaul.** [Carib *mahou*; the early spelling *mahot* is Fr.]

1. The name of several trees. (Also *mahoe-tree.*

a. A sterculiaceous tree or large shrub (*Sterculia caribæa*), a native of the West Indies. b. A malvaceous shrub or tree (*Paritium tiliaceum* and *P. elatum*), with a wide range through tropical countries. c. Applied with qualifications to similar plants of various genera. (See quot. 1866.)

1666 J. DAVIES *Hist. Carib. Isl.* I. viii. 49 [tr. Rochefort 1658] Of the Tree called Mahot there are two kinds, Mahot-franc, and Mahot d'herbe. 1671 OGILBY *America* 348 The Mahot-Tree, of the Bark of which are made Laces and Points. 1697 DAMPIER *Voy.* (1729) I. iii. 37 They make their Lines both for fishing and striking with the Bark of Maho. 1756 P. BROWNE *Jamaica* 284 The Mountain Mohoe..grows to a considerable size,..and is generally reckoned an excellent timber-tree. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1824) III. 162 Having fed upon the flowers of the mahot..it [the iguana] goes to repose upon the branches of the trees. 1838 *Penny Cycl.* XII. 193/1 In the West Indies the whips with which the slaves are lashed are made from the fibres of *H[ibiscus] arboreus* (mohoe or mohaul). 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 711/1 Mahoe, blue or common, *Paritium elatum.* —, bombast, *Ochroma Lagopus.* —, Congo, *Hibiscus clypeatus.* —, grey or mountain, *Paritium elatum.* —, seaside, *Thespesia populnea.*

2. The wood or the fibre of some of these trees.

1897 *Daily News* 10 Mar. 6/3 In rods alone there was an almost endless variety, whether of built cane,..blue mahoe, .. or any other material.

3. *attrib.*, as *mahoe bush*; **mahoe-piment,** *Daphnopsis caribæa* (Grisebach *Flora W. Ind.* 1864, p. 785).

1827 ROBERTS *Voy. Centr. Amer.* 127 Some of the very low land is covered with water..producing only rank coarse grass and Mohoe bushes.

‖ **Mahoe**[2] (mähō·ē). [Maori.] The New Zealand Whitewood-tree, *Melicytus ramiflorus.*

1835 W. YATE *Acc. N. Zealand* (ed. 2) 49 Mahoe (*Melicytus ramiflorus*)..grows to a height of not more than fifty feet. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* s.v. *Melicytus, M. ramiflorus* is the Mahoë of the New Zealanders, which must not be confounded with the Mahoe of the West Indies.

† **Maho·ganite.** *slang. Obs.* [f. MAHOGANY + -ITE.] (See quot.)

1825 *Sporting Mag.* XVI. 9 *note*, A mahoganite is one who rides at a most infernal pace about the introduction of the second bottle .. with his knees under any semicircular mahogany fire table.

Mahoganize (mähp·gănəiz), *v. U. S.* Also **mahoganyize.** [f. MAHOGANY + -IZE.] *trans.* (See quot.)

1848–59 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer., Mahoganyize*, to paint wood in imitation of mahogany. 1855 OGILVIE, *Mahoganize.* (American.)

Mahogany (mähp·găni). Also 7 **mohogeney,** 8 **mohog(g)ony, mahogena, mahogon(e)y.** [Written *mohogeney* in 1671; of unknown origin. The Eng. word was adopted into botanical Latin by Linnæus (1762) as *mahagoni*, and is prob. the source of the continental forms: F. *mahagoni, mohogon* (rare), It. *mogano* (*mogogane, mogogon*, etc.), Pg. *mogno*, G. *mahagoni*, Du. *mahonie*, Sw. *mahogny*, Da. *mahogni.*

The statement that the word is Carib is founded on a misreading by Von Martius: see J. Platt, Jr. in *N. & Q.* 9th Ser. VIII. 201. The only known name in the Carib language is *caoba*, which has been adopted in Sp.]

1. The wood of *Swietenia Mahagoni* (N. O. *Cedrelaceæ*), a tree indigenous to the tropical parts of America, esp. Mexico, Central America, and the West Indies. It varies in colour from yellow to a rich red brown, is remarkably hard and fine-grained, and takes a high polish. Also with qualification denoting the special variety or place of origin, as *Baywood, Cuba, Honduras, Jamaica, Spanish mahogany.*

1671 OGILBY *America* 338 Here [in Jamaica] are..the most curious and rich sorts of Woods, as Cedar, Mohogeney, Lignum-vitæ, Ebony [etc.]. 1703 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3891/3 On Wednesday.., will be..exposed to Publick Sale.., the Cargo of the Galeon called the Tauro .., consisting of .. Cocoa, .. Brazelletto, Mohogony. 1733 BRAMSTON *Man of Taste* 15 Say thou that do'st thy father's table praise, Was there Mahogena in former days? *a* 1746 T. WARTON *Poems* (1748) 109 Odious! upon a walnut-plank to dine! No—the red-vein'd Mohoggony be mine! 1817 BYRON *Beppo* lxx, He was a Turk, the colour of mahogany. 1842 GWILT *Archit.* (1859) 487 The variety called Spanish Mahogany, and imported from Cuba, Jamaica, Hispaniola, and other West India islands [etc.]. *Ibid.* 996 The Jamaica mahogany is the hardest and most beautiful. 1860 JEAFFRESON *Bk. about Drs.* I. 185 He [Gibbons] brought into domestic use the mahogany with which one has so many pleasant associations. 1875 *Carpentry & Join.* 15 Oak, teak, and mahogany should find a place in the workshop more often than they do, the mahogany being what is often called cedar, to distinguish it from the very hard Spanish wood. The softer and more common kind is from Honduras. 1892 *Mod. Trade Circular*, Mahogany, Mexican, 5*d.* to 6*d.* per foot, superficial. Do., Tobasco, 5½*d.* to 7*d.* per foot, superficial.

b. The tree itself.

1759 MILLER *Gard. Dict.* (ed. 7) s.v. *Cedrus.* The second Sort is the Mahogony, whose Wood is now well known in England. 1846 LINDLEY *Veg. Kingd.* 462 The bark..of Mahogany (*Swietenia Mahagoni*) is also accounted febrifugal.

2. *transf.* Applied, chiefly with qualification, to various woods resembling mahogany, and to the trees producing them. In Australia mainly used for various species of *Eucalyptus*, esp. the Jarrah (*E. marginata*), and for *Tristania conferta* (N. O. *Myrtaceæ*): see Morris *Austral Eng.* (1898) 278–9.

African mahogany, *Khaya Senegalensis*; **Bastard mahogany,** *Matayba* (*Katonia*) *apetala*; also *Eucalyptus botryoides* and *E. marginata*; **East India mahogany,** *Soymida febrifuga*; **Forest mahogany,** *Eucalyptus resinifera* and *E. microcorys*; **Indian mahogany,** *Cedrela Toona*; **Madeira mahogany,** *Persea indica* (see MADEIRA[1] 1); **Mountain mahogany,** *Betula lenta* and *Cercocarpus ledifolius*; **Red mahogany,** *Eucalyptus resinifera*; **Swamp mahogany,** *Eucalyptus robusta* and *E. botryoides*; **White mahogany,** (in Jamaica) *Stenostomum bifurcatum*; (in Australia) *Eucalyptus robusta*; also *E. pilularis.* (See *Treas. Bot.* 1866.)

1842 *Penny Cycl.* XXIII. 404/2 *S[wietenia] Senegalensis* has also been formed into a new genus, Khaya, and is the tree yielding African mahogany. 1846 STOKES *Discov. Australia* II. iv. 132 Mahogany—Jarrail—Eucalyptus—grows on white sandy land. 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 22 Aug. 3/1 The main saloon is finished in white mahogany throughout.

3. *colloq.* A table, esp. a dining-table.

1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* lxvi, I had hoped..to have seen you three gentlemen..with your legs under the mahogany in my humble parlour. 1846 THACKERAY *Bk. Snobs* xxxi, Other families did not welcome us to their mahogany. 1848 — *Van. Fair* xiii, George was going .. to bring the supply question on the mahogany. 1850 *Florists' Jrnl.* 149 Nearly forty gathered round Mr. Lidgard's mahogany after the exhibition. 1891 MRS. WALFORD *Mischief of Monica* III. 90, I could have put my feet under his mahogany.. with the very greatest satisfaction.

4. *slang* and *dial.* a. A Cornish beverage compounded of gin and treacle. b. A strong mixture of brandy and water.

1791 BOSWELL *Johnson* an. 1781, 30 Mar., They [the Cornish fishermen] call it Mahogany; and it is made of two parts gin and one part treacle well beaten together. 1816 'QUIZ' *Grand Master* II. 54 *note*, It is believed that drinking mahogany (a strong description of brandy pauny) is the best preventive against the sun's heat. The remedy is in general repute in Bombay. 1823 T. BOND *Hist. E. & W. Looe* 82 *note*, At a trial at the Cornish Assizes some years ago, a witness .. puzzled his lordship and the council, by telling them he was..'eating Fair maids and drinking Mahogany'. 1852 C. J. MATHEWS *Little Toddlekins* 20 *Capt. Littlepop.* I've been obliged to..diet myself on stiff brandy and water. *Brownsmith.* Mahogany? I have got some, .. black as coffee, strong as mustard.

5. A kind of moth, *Noctua tetra.*

1819 G. SAMOUELLE *Entomol. Compend.* 370 *Noctua tetra*, the Mahogany.

6. *attrib.* and quasi-*adj.* a. Made of mahogany.

1730 W. WARREN *Collectanea* in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) I. 225 Mohogany window Seats: A Marble Table for y[e] Side-board on a Mohogany Stand. 1763 *Museum Rusticum* (ed. 2) I. 179 The world of England has been, for some years past, running mad after mahogany furniture. 1773 GOLDSM. *Stoops to Conq.* iv, Then there's a mahogany table. 1864 SALA *Quite Alone* I. v. 75 In a recess were three handsome mahogany desks. 1885 R. BUCHANAN *Annan Water* ix, At one side of the room stood a large mahogany bed.

b. Of the colour of polished mahogany, reddish-brown. Also *absol.*

1737 W. SALMON *Country Builder's Estim.* (ed. 2) 101 Chocolate-Colour, Mahogony-Colour, Cedar and Walnut-tree-Colour. 1751 SMOLLETT *Per. Pic.* II. lxix, Their natural colour..degenerated into a mahogany tint. 1761 *Brit. Mag.* II. 44/2 To stain Wood of a Mahogony Colour. 1823 *Spirit Publ. Jrnls.* (1825) 292 Molly Lowe, suffused with mahogany blushes. 1834 *Tait's Mag.* I. 384/1 His testy temper and mahogany complexion obtained him credit for being an American. 1839 tr. *Lamartine's Trav. East* 103/1 Their legs and hands were .. painted a mahogany colour. 1855 DICKENS *Dorrit* I. xxiv, Travelling people usually get more or less mahogany. 1893 STEVENSON *Catriona* 359 We saw he was a big fellow with a mahogany face.

7. *attrib.* and *Comb.*: simple attrib., as *mahogany-dust, -plank, -trade, -wood*; *mahogany-brown, -red* adjs.; parasynthetic, as *mahogany-coloured, -faced* adjs. Also **mahogany-birch,** *Betula lenta*; **mahogany cutter,** a workman employed in felling and trimming mahogany; **mahogany gum,** *Australian,* the jarrah; **mahogany scrub,** *Australian,* a tract thickly covered with 'mahogany' or jarrah trees; **mahogany tree,** (*a*) the *Swietenia Mahagoni*, or any of the trees to which the name is transferred (see 2); (*b*) *jocularly,* a dining table.

1850 CHALONER & FLEMING *Mahogany Tree* 42, 1st of April, when the *Mahogany Cutters' harvest may be said to commence. 1875 *Carpentry & Join.* 79 By *mahogany dust and glue a nail hole may be partially hidden. 1739 *Will* in Payne *Eng. Cath.* (1889) 53 My coffin to be of *mahogany plank. 1843 PORTLOCK *Geol.* 513 The paste, .. is of a dark red, frequently *mahogany-red, felspar. 1846 STOKES *Discov. Australia* II. vi. 231 Part of our road lay through a thick

*mahogany scrub. 1850 CHALONER & FLEMING *Mahogany-Tree* Pref., The promotion of the interests of the *Mahogany trade. 1747 MORTIMER in *Phil. Trans.* XLIV. 599 He begins this Set with the *Mahogony-Tree. 1847 THACKERAY *Mahogany Tree* i, Little we fear Weather without, Sheltered about The Mahogany Tree. 1875 T. LASLETT *Timber & Timber Trees* 189 The Jarrah or Mahogany tree .. is also found in Western Australia. 1703 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3891/3 On Wednesday.., will be exposed to Publick Sale Goods .. consisting of .. Nicaragua and *Mohogony Wood, ..&c.

Mahoganyize: see MAHOGANIZE.

† **Mahoitre.** *Obs.* [ad. OF. *mahustre, -hoitre, -heutre.*] A padding placed in the upper part of the sleeve of a garment for the purpose of increasing the apparent breadth of the shoulders.

1834 PLANCHÉ *Brit. Costume* 201 The shoulders were padded out with large waddings called mahoitres. 1860 FAIRHOLT *Costume* (ed. 2) Gloss., *Mahoitre*, .. the wadded and upraised shoulders in fashion during the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries.

† **Mahomery.** *Obs.* In 4 mameri, 5 mahom(m)erye. [a. OF. *mahomerie*, f. *Mahom* MAHOUND.] A mosque.

c 1320 *Sir Beues* 1350 Aboute þe time of middai Out of a mameri a sai Sarasins come gret foisoun, þat hadde anoured here Mahoun. 1481 CAXTON *Godfrey* civ. 157 Our barons had aduysed to make a grete fortresse..in a mahommerye that the turkes had. *Ibid.* cvi. 162 Oute of theyr graues in the mahomerye.

Mahomet (mähǫ·mét; in verse occas. mē·homet). Forms: 4 Macamethe, 4–5 Machamete, Mac-, Makomete, Makamete, 4–6 Machomete, 5–6 Machomet, 6 Machamyte, Macomit e, -yt e, Mahomet t e, -ite, 6–7 Mahumet, 6– Mahomet. See also MAHOUND, MAUMET. [Cf. F. *Mahomet*, med.L. *Machometus, Mahumetus, Mahometus.*]

1. The popular rendering of the Arabic name *Muhammad*, borne by the founder of the religion of Islam (*died* 632). In literary use now largely superseded by the more correct form MOHAMMED.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 301 Þe seete of macamethe. *c* 1380 — *Sel. Wks.* III. 364 Alsif þe fende .. medle good wiþ þe yvel: for þus dide Machamete in his lawe. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Man of Law's T.* 235 The hooly lawes of oure Alkaron, Yeuen by goddes message Makomete [*v.r.* Makamete]. *Ibid.* 238 Makometes lawe [*v.r.* Macometis]. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) I. 33 Þe fifte leuynge [L. *ritus*] of Sarazynes bygan vndir Makomete [1432–50 Machomete]. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) xii. 131 Alkaron..the whiche Book Machamete toke hem. *Ibid.* 135 Machomet. 1547 BOORDE *Introd. Knowl.* xxxvii. (1870) 214, I am a Turk, and Machamytes law do kepe. [Also: Macomytte, -itte.] 1600 J. PORY tr. *Leo's Africa* III. 151 Mahumets law affirmeth all kinde of diuinations to be vaine. 1625 BACON *Ess., Of Boldness* (Arb.) 519 If the Hill will not come to Mahomet, Mahomet wil go to the hil. 1678 BUTLER *Hud.* III. ii. 605 To hang, like Mah'met in the air, Or St. Ignatius, at his prayer. 1821 SHELLEY *Hellas* 221 The moon of Mahomet Arose, and it shall set. 1881 SIR W. HUNTER in *Encycl. Brit.* XII. 792/1 Muhammad commonly known as Mahomet.

† 2. A quasi-deity. *Obs. rare*⁻¹.

1553 EDEN *Treat. Newe Ind.* (Arb.) 25 Whom they honoure & reuerence as a great God & mighti Mahumet.

† 3. An idol. *Obs.* (Cf. MAUMET.)

[*c* 1205 etc.: see MAUMET.] ? *a* 1500 *Chester Pl.* x. 285 For Mahometis, both one and all, that men of Egipt Gods can call, at your coming downe shall fall. *c* 1530 LD. BERNERS *Arth. Lyt. Bryt.* (1814) 147 At the laste .. Arthur founde two ymages of coper .. and whan Arthur sawe them, he toke his swerde in his hande, & layde on with all his myght on these mahomettes. 1553 BECON *Reliques of Rome* (1563) 88 Afterwarde thys doung-hel of Idolatry .. set vp agayne her Idoles and mahomets. *Ibid.* 93ᵇ Brought into our Churche Idolles and Mahomettes.

† 4. = MAHOMETAN, MOHAMMEDAN. *Obs.* (Cf. MAHOMITE.)

1508 KENNEDIE *Flyting w. Dunbar* 526 Sarazene, symonyte,..Mahomete, manesuorne. 1533 GAU *Richt Vay* (1888) 105 The machometis and the turkis, the iowis and oder infidelis. 1601 W. PARRY *Trav. Sir A. Sherley* 10 They are damned Infidels and Zodomiticall Mahomets. 1747 *Mem. Nutrebian Crt.* II. 197 From all parts of the neighbouring kingdom had drawn mahomets, coptics, and idolaters.

5. A kind of pigeon. ? *Obs.*

[So called in allusion to the story that Mohammed had a pigeon which used to peck corn out of his ear, in order to make his followers believe that he received communication from the Holy Ghost in the form of a dove.]

[1678: see MAUMET.] 1735 J. MOORE *Columbarium* 51 *Columba Numidica Alba.* The Mahomet. This Pigeon is no more in Reality than a white Barb. 1765 *Treat. Dom. Pigeons* 141 It is the opinion of many fanciers, that the Bird called a mahomet is nearly of a cream colour.

Mahometan (mähǫ·métăn), *a.* and *sb.* Also 6 Machometan, Machumetan, 7–8 Mahumetan(e, 6– Mahometan. [ad. med.L. *Machometān-us, Mahometānus*, f. *Machometus, Mahometus*: see prec. Cf. F. *mahométain.*]

A. *adj.* 1. = MOHAMMEDAN *a.*

1600 J. PORY tr. *Leo's Africa* I. 10 The Mahumetan priestes alwaies forbad the Arabians to passe over Nilus with their armies. *Ibid.* III. 165 No Mahumetan king or prince may weare a crowne. 1714 *Spect.* No. 631 ℙ 7 The Jewish Law, (and the Mahometan, which in some things copies after it) is filled with Bathings .. and other Rites. 1777 WATSON *Philip II* (1839) 161 Putting to death .. all the priests and other Christians who refused to embrace the Mahometan religion. 1850 ROBERTSON *Serm.* Ser. III. ii. (1872) 25 The anticipated rewards and punishments must be of a Mahometan character.

† 2. = TURKISH. *Obs.*

1600 R. CARR (*title*) The Mahumetane or Turkish Historie, in three Bookes.

B. *sb.* A MOHAMMEDAN.

1529 MORE *Dyalogc* IV. Wks. 260/1 The Machometanys beyng a sensual sect, dyd in fewe yeres draw the great part of the world vnto it. 1600 J. PORY tr. *Leo's Africa* III. 160 In old Fez neither gold nor siluer is coined, nor any Mahumetans are suffered to be goldsmiths. 1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Mahometanism*, The Mahometans account all such as own anything of number in the divinity, to be infidels or idolaters. 1841 ELPHINSTONE *Hist. Ind.* I. 147 It is these three descriptions of persons, together with others who have risen under the Mahometans [etc.].

Hence † **Mahometa·nical** *a.* = MOHAMMEDAN *a.*; **Maho·metanize** *v. trans.*, to convert to Mohammedanism.

1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* IV. 147 The Alcoran, .. whereupon dependeth the whole Mahometanicall Law. 1779 SWINBURNE *Trav. Spain* xliv. 419, I am inclined to suspect that our old structures have been new-named, and Mahometanised without sufficient proof of their Arabic origin.

Mahometanism (mähǫ·métăniz'm). Also 7 Mahumetanism. [f. MAHOMETAN + -ISM. Cf. F. *mahométanisme.*] = MOHAMMEDANISM.

1612 BREREWOOD *Lang. & Relig.* x. 83 In Africk, all the regions in a manner, that Christian religion had gained from idolatry, Mahumetanism hath regained from Christianity. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* IV. 144 They were..initiated in Mahometanisme. 1756–7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) I. 103 Even Mahometanism was preferable to Calvinism. 1840 CARLYLE *Heroes* (1853) 216 Mahometanism among the Arabs.

† **Maho·metant.** *rare*⁻¹. Corrupt form of MAHOMETAN, after sbs. in -ANT. = MOHAMMEDAN. So † **Maho·metantism** (also *Mahu-*) = MOHAMMEDANISM.

1635 PAGITT *Christianogr.* I. ii. (1636) 46 The Mahometants have but three Temples or Meskites. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Mahumetism*, or *Mahumetantism*, the Religion and profession of Mahumet and the great Turk.

† **Mahometic,** *a. Obs. rare.* Also 7 Mahumetic. [a. med.L. *mahometic-us*, f. *Mahomet-us.* Cf. OF. *mahométique.*] Mohammedan.

1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* 165 Doctours of the lawe Mahometicke. 1648–99 J. BEAUMONT *Psyche* XVII. xii. (Grosart) II. 96 The Land of Milk and Honey lay .. overflown With Mahumetick Poison.

† **Mahome·tical,** *a. Obs.* [f. med.L. *mahometic-us* (see prec.) + -AL.] = prec.

1561 DAUS tr. *Bullinger on Apoc.* (1573) 126 The Papisticall and Mahometicall conception, wickednes and tyranny. 1601 R. JOHNSON *Kingd. & Commw.* (1603) 227 The slaughter of the Moores by the Christians spoken of in their Mahometicall legend. 1647 FARINGDON *Serm.* IV. 72 A Mahometical Paradise of all sensual delights. 1713 *Gentl. Instr.* III. viii. (ed. 5) 435 Those Obscenities that make up here the Mahometical Elysium of Libertines.

† **Mahometi·cian.** *Obs.* [f. MAHOMET: see -ICIAN. Cf. OF. *mahommeticien.*] A MOHAMMEDAN.

1588 J. HARVEY *Disc. Probl.* 49 There continue euen to this day..certaine furious creatures, or mad rauing wizardes amongst the Mahometicians.

† **Mahometish,** *a. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. MAHOMET + -ISH.] = MOHAMMEDAN *a.*

1583 STOCKER *Civ. Warres Lowe C.* II. 42 a, To the ende the Mahometishe and Jeweshe religion, myght not any way derogate from the Catholique Religion.

† **Maho·metism.** *Obs.* Also 6–7 Mahumetism(e, Mahumatism. [f. MAHOMET + -ISM.] = MOHAMMEDANISM.

1597 BEARD *Theatre God's Judgem.* (1612) 158 Their detestable Mahumetisme and Turkish religion. 1600 W. WATSON *Decacordon* (1602) 301 This is right Mahumetisme, and tendeth to the ouerthrow of the Gospel and church Catholike. 1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 59 Mahometisme had not yet vtterly extinguished all good literature. 1715 J. CHAPPELOW *Rt. way Rich* (1717) 164 Far more frightful.. than popery, slavery, mahometism, or the devil himself. 1793 TRAPP tr. *Kochon's Voy. Madagascar* 48 It is surprising that Mahometism should not have made more progress in this island.

† **Maho·metist.** *Obs.* [f. MAHOMET + -IST.] Also 6 Machumetiste, -hometiste, 6–7 Mahumetist, 7 Mohammetist, Mahumatist. [f. MAHOMET + -IST.] A MOHAMMEDAN.

1553 EDEN *Treat. Newe Ind.* (Arb.) 27 Amonge certayne Mahumetistes are found a few Christian men. 1555 — *Decades* 226 If they had byn Moores (that is Machumetistes). 1594 BLUNDEVIL *Exerc.* V. viii. (1636) 549 Now as touching their religion they be Mahometists. 1602 FULBECKE *1st Pt. Parall.* Introd. 21 The Portugallians make villaines of the Mahometistes. 1603 FLORIO *Montaigne* II. xxix. (1632) 398 The Assassines .. are esteemed among the Mahometists of a soveraigne devotion and puritie of manners. 1650 BULWER *Anthropomet.* 205 They educate them very delicately, and afterwards sell them to the Persians and other Mahumatists. 1654 VILVAIN *Epit. Ess.* III. 27 Christians, Mahometists.

† **Maho·metize,** *v. Obs.* Forms: see MAHOMET; also **Mahemat-, Mehemetize.** [f. MAHOMET + -IZE.] a. *trans.* To convert to Mohammedanism. b. *intr.* To act like a Mohammedan.

1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* I. viii. 8 The most part..are Christians renied, or Mahumetised. *Ibid.* II. xxi. 58 In Constantinople as also in all the other cities Mahematised in Græcia. 1656 H. MORE *Enthus. Tri.* 22 Though born a Christian, yet he did Mahomitise [*ed.* 1712 Mahometize] in this that he also did iodulge plurality of wives.

Hence † **Maho·metized** *ppl. a.*

1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* II. xxi. 59 The Turks, Moors, and generally al the Mehemetised frequent thither most often.

Mahometry (mähǫ·métri). *Obs.* exc. *arch.* See also MAUMETRY. [f. MAHOMET + -RY.] = MOHAMMEDANISM. In the 16th c. sometimes misused for 'false religion', 'idolatry'.

1481 CAXTON *Godfrey* clxxxvii. 274 Theyr mahometry and fowle lawe of machomet. 1530 TINDALE *Answ. More's Dial.* Wks. (1573) 256/1 The sacrifices which God gaue Adams sonnes were no dumme popetrie or superstitious Mahometrie. 1561 DAUS tr. *Bullinger on Apoc.* (1573) 121 b, The sixt conflict or fight is of Mahometrie by the Saracenes, Turkes, and Tartarians. 1579 FULKE *Ref. Rastel* 752 It is wholesome diuinitie, to iustifie all superstition, Mahometrie and Idulatrie in the world..to be excusable. 1804 SOUTHEY in Robberds *Mem. W. Taylor* I. 502 Fatalism is the corner-stone of Mahometry. 1890 E. JOHNSON *Rise Christendom* 339 Their mission was to..denounce destruction against Mahometry and Jewry.

† **Mahomite.** *Obs.* [f. MAHOM(ET + -ITE.] A Mohammedan. (Cf. MAHOMET 4.)

1559 W. CUNNINGHAM *Cosmogr. Glasse* 197 Christians, Turkes, Mahomites, Caffranans, Idolaters. 1564 tr. *Jewel's Apol. Ch. Eng.* H ij, The Mahomytes at this day .. chuse rather to be caled Saracenes, as though they came of Sara, the free woman, and Abraham's wyfe. *a* 1618 SYLVESTER *Mirac. Peace* Sonn. xxxviii, The Mahomite..His mooned Standards hath already pight.

‖ **Mahone.** *Obs.* Also 6 mahume, 7 mahoon, 9 maon, mahonna. [Occurs as F. *mahonne*, Sp. *mahona*, It. *maona*, Turk. ماونه *māwuna.*] A flat-bottomed sailing vessel formerly used by the Turks.

1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* I. xxi. 27 The gallies, foists and galliots.., besides the great gallion and 2. Mahumez [Fr. *Mahomez*]. 1651 HOWELL *Venice* 197 Meeting with a great Fleet of Turkish Gallies and Mahoons in the Egean Sea. 1658 EARL MONM. tr. *Paruta's Wars Cyprus* 204 Vluzzali, and Piali Bashaw, put to sea..with 150 Gallies, 30 Fliboats, and ten Mahones. 1696 PHILLIPS (ed. 5), *Mahoon.* 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade.* 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Mahone, Mahonna*, or *Maon.*

Hence † **Maho·nnet** [see -ET].

a 1599 *Hakluyt's Voy.* II. 78 The number of the ships were these: 30 galliasses, 103 gallies, as well bastards as subtill mahonnets.

‖ **Mahonia** (mähōu·niă). *Bot.* [mod.L., f. the name of Bernard M^c*Mahon*, an American botanist + -IA.] A genus of *Berberidaceæ*, having evergreen pinnate leaves; a plant of this genus.

1829 LOUDON *Encycl. Plants* 1055 The Berberises .. especially the species with pinnated leaves, which are sometimes called Mahonias. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Apr. 731/1 Mahonias from Japan.

Mahoot, Mahot(e: see MAHOE, MAHOUT.

Mahound (măhū·nd, măhou·nd). Forms: α. 3 Mahum, Mahun, 4, 6 Mahoune, 4–6, 8 Mahoun, 5 Mahon(e, Mawhown, Machoun, 5, 7 Mahown(e, 6–7 Macon; β. 4 Mahount, 6 Mahownd(e, Machound, 7 Mauhound, 6– Mahound. [Early ME. *Mahun, Mahum*, a. OF. *Mahun, Mahum, Mahom*, shortened form of *Mahomet.* Cf. MAHOMET, MAUMET.]

1. The 'false prophet' Mohammed; in the Middle Ages often vaguely imagined to be worshipped as a god. (Cf. MAHOMET 1.) Now only *arch.*

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* 187/101 Þes þef us wole ouer-come; Mahun, 3ware is þi mizte? *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 7458 Moght i euer wit me wit him ming .. I suld him sla, bi sir mahun! [*Gött.* saint mahoune]. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 4939 Þe ymage of Mahoun y-mad of golde Wiþ þe axe smot he oppon þe molde. *a* 1400 *Octouian* 1092 The Sarsyns cryde all yn fere To hare God Mahone To help her geaunt in that fyght. 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xxii. 408 Now by mahowne, oure heuen kyng. *c* 1540 J. REUFORD *Mor. Play Wit & Sci.* (Shaks. Soc.) 11 By Mahowndes bones,..by Mahowndes nose. 1591 HARRINGTON *Orl. Fur.* XVI. liv. 125 By Macon and Lanfusa he doth sweare. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* VI. vii. 47 The Carle did fret And fume .. And oftentimes by Turmagant and Mahound swore. 1600 FAIRFAX *Tasso* XII. x. 215 Praised (quoth he) be Macon, whom we serue. 1605 *Tryall Chev.* V. ii. in Bullen *O. Pl.* (1884) III. 344 And Mahound and Termagant come against us, weele fight with them. 1735 POPE *Donne Sat.* IV. 239 The Presence seems, with things so richly odd, The mosque of Mahound, or some queer Pagod. 1825 SCOTT *Talism.* iii, Down with Mahound, Termagaunt, and all their adherents. 1849 JAMES *Woodman* IV, The very approach of a follower of Mahound, however, was an abomination to the good nun.

† 2. *gen.* A false god; an idol. (Cf. MAUMET.) *Obs.*

c 1205 LAY. 230 Ah heo non þene mahum [*c* 1275 mahun], þe heo tolden for godd. *Ibid.* 8079 Þer stoden in þere temple ten þusend mounen..bi-foren heore mahun. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 4312 The false goddes in fere fell to þe ground; Bothe Mawhownus & maumettes myrtild in peces. 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 17224 [Avarice *loq.*] Ley doun thy skryppe and thy bordoun, And do homage to my Mahown! *c* 1450 *Mirour Saluacioun* 1554 A grete dragon Wham alle that landes folk held god and thare mahon.

† 3. A monster; a hideous creature. *Obs.*

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 7758 There met hym þis Mawhown, þat was so mysshap, Euyn forne in his face, as he fle wold. 1598 FLORIO, *Mamau*, a machound, a hugbeare, a raw-head and bloodie bone.

† 4. *Sc.* Used as a name for the devil. Also *transf.* as a term of execration applied to a man. *Obs.* (? exc. *dial.*).

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XIII. 82 And wisshed..That disshes and dobleres bifor this ilke doctour, Were molten led in his maw and Mahoun amyddes. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* XXVI. 6 Me thocht, amangis the feyndis fell, Mahoun gart cry ane dance Off schrewis. *Ibid.* XXVII. 3 Nixt that a turnament wes tryid, That lang befoir in hell wes cryid, In presens of Mahoun. 1578 N. BAXTER *Calvin on Jonah* Ep. Ded. 3 Io

the pestilent pollicies of that Mahound Matchiavile. 1794 BURNS *The De'il's awa* 3 The De'il cam fiddlin̄ thro' the town, And danc'd awa wi' the Exciseman; And ilka wife cry'd, 'Auld Mahoun, We wish you luck o' your prize, man'.

† **5.** *attrib.* or *adj.* Mohammedan, heathen.

1624 FLETCHER *Rule a Wife* IV. iii, My pagan cozen, My mighty Mahound kinsman, what quirk now? *Ibid.* v. v, Who's this? my Mauhound cousin?

‖ **Mahout** (măhau·t). *Indian.* Also 9 mahote, mahoot, mohaut, mahouhut, mohout. [Hindī *mahāut*, *mahāwat*.] An elephant-driver.

1662 J. DAVIES tr. *Mandelslo's Trav.* 81 The *Serriewan* hath the oversight of the Camels, and the *Mahout*, that of the Elephants. 1799 CORSE in *Phil. Trans.* LXXXIX. 36 *note*, I sent for the driver [*note*, Or *Mahote*, as he is generally called] to ask some questions concerning this elephant. 1819 *Sporting Mag.* IV. 174 The scuffle between the elephant and the Mahout. 1826 HOCKLEY *Pandurang Hari* I. 6 A *Mahouhut*, or elephant driver. 1859 LANG *Wand. India* 90 The mahoot, or elephant-driver, was attired in the most gorgeous manner. 1891 R. KIPLING *Life's Handicap* 307 The very best of the elephants belonged to the very worst of the drivers or mahouts.

Mahova, mahower, var. forms of MAHWA.

‖ **Mahratta** (măræ·tă). Also 8 Moratta, Maharattor, Morattoe, Mar(h)atta, Merhattah, 8–9 Mharatta, 9 Maratha. [Hindī *Marhaṭṭa*.]

1. One of a warlike Hindu race occupying the central and south-western parts of India.

1763 SCRAFTON *Indostan* (1770) 36 He was suddenly alarmed with an invasion of eighty thousand Mharattas. 1765 HOLWELL *Hist. Events Bengal* I. (1766) 105 These united princes and people are those which are known by the general name of Maharattors. 1778 R. ORME *Hist. Milit. Trans.* II. I. 32 An army of 80,000 Morattoes. 1844 H. H. WILSON *Brit. India* I. 3 In the outset of the contest, native opinion had inclined to the Mahrattas.

2. The language of the Mahrattas. = MAHRATTI.

1837 COLEBROOKE *Misc. Ess.* II. 29 The Mahārāshtra, or Mahrátta, is the language of a nation which has in the present century greatly enlarged its ancient limits.

3. *attrib.* or *adj.* Pertaining to the Mahrattas.

Mahratta Ditch (or *Entrenchment*): a ditch made in 1742 to protect Calcutta from invasion by Mahrattas; a similar ditch made at Madras in 1780.

1758 *Ann. Reg.* 285 There was a man who carried a large Moralta battle-ax on his shoulder. 1778 R. ORME *Hist. Milit. Trans.* II. I. 45 The Morattoe ditch. 1782 *Indian Gaz.* 10 Aug. (Y.), To the Proprietors and Occupiers of Houses..within the Mahratta Entrenchment. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) X. 563/2 Rajah Sahou, who considerably extended the Marhatta dominions. 1823 SIR J. MALCOLM *Mem. Central India* II. 115 The Mahratta Brahmins. 1842 TENNYSON *Locksley H.* 155 Where in wild Mahratta-battle fell my father evil-starr'd. 1858 J. M. MITCHELL *Mem. R. Nesbit* iii. 65 The Maratha chiefs soon claimed to be the lords paramount of India. 1874 LAL BEHARI DAY *Govinda Samanta* I. iv. 25 The Calcutta cockney, who glories in the Mahratta Ditch.

‖ **Mahratti** (măræ·ti). Also 7 moratty, 9 marathi, -ee, murathee. [Hindī *Marhaṭṭī*, f. *Marhaṭṭa*: see prec.] The language of the Mahrattas. Also *attrib.*

1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 174 They tell their Tale in Moratty. 1827 R. NESBIT in *Mem.* iii. (1858) 82, I attended the Marathi worship...I performed worship with the servants in Marathi. 1831 J. T. MOLESWORTH (*title*) A Dictionary Murathee and English. 1868 BELLAIRS & LAKSHMAN (*title*) A Grammar of the Marathi Language. 1878 G. SMITH *Life J. Wilson* ii. (1879) 34 The New Testament in the Vernacular Marathee.

‖ **Mahseer** (mā·sio·r). Also mahase(e)r, mahsir, marseir, *Dicts.* mah(a)sur, maseer. [Hindī *mahāsīr*, believed to represent Skr. *mahāçiras* 'big-head'. Another Hindī name is *mahāsaula*, of obscure origin.] A large Indian freshwater cyprinoid fish, *Barbus tor*, resembling the barbel.

1854 HOOKER *Himalayan Jrnls.* I. xvii. 398 A fine 'Mahaser' (a very large carp). 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Mahaseer.* 1859 LANG *Wand. India* 3 In the broad tributaries to the Ganges and the Jumna, may be caught [with a fly] the mâhseer, the leviathan salmon. 1880 GÜNTHER *Fishes* 594 The 'Mahaseer' of the mountain streams of India. 1894 POLLOK *Incid. For. Sport* 355 Mahseer Fishing. *Ibid.* 366, I got 277 pounds of mahseer.

† **Ma·hu.** *Obs.* Also 7 Maho. [Perh. suggested by MAHOUND.] Used as the name of a devil.

1603 HARSNET *Popish Impost.* x. 50 Maho was generall Dictator of hell: and yet for good manners sake, hee was contented of his good nature to make shew, that himselfe was vnder the check of Modu. 1605 SHAKS. *Lear* III. iv. 149 The Prince of Darknesse is a Gentleman. Modo he's call'd and Mahu. *Ibid.* IV. i. 63 (1608 Qo.) Hobbididence Prince of dumbnes, Mahu of stealing, Modo of murder.

Mahume, variant of MAHONE *Obs.*

Mahumetan(e, variant of MAHOMETAN.

‖ **Mahwa** (mā·wa). Also 7 mahova, mahoua, máwee, 8–9 mahwah, 9 mowah, mahva, mhowa, mahúa, muohwa, mahower. [Hindī *mahwa*, also *mahŭa*, repr. Skr. *madhŭka*, f. *madhu* sweet.]

1. An East Indian timber tree, *Bassia latifolia* (N. O. *Sapotaceæ*); also *Bassia butyracea*; both species are cultivated for their flowers and seeds. Also *mahwa-tree*.

1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* III. 73 Manguiers, Mahova, Quieson, Caboul, and other sorts of Trees. *Ibid.* 94 They are Trees which they call Mahoua. 1785 C. HAMILTON in *Asiat. Researches* (1799) I. 300 There is a very curious and useful tree called by the Natives of Bahar ..the Máhwah or Máwee .. the Sanscrit name is Madhúca or Madhudruma. *Ibid.*, A description of the Mahwah tree. 1803 J. T. BLUNT *ibid.* VII. 58 We encamped at a tank and grove of Mowah trees. 1813 J. FORBES *Orient. Mem.* II. 451 The mowah (*bassia butyracea*)..attains the size of an English oak. 1854 SIMMONDS *Commerc. Prod. Veget. Kingd.* 538 Mahower (*Bassia latifolia*) is common in most parts of the Bengal Presidency. The oil a good deal resembles that last described. 1879 E. ARNOLD *Lt. Asia* VI. (1881) 140 Beneath broad-leaved mahúa trees.

2. An ardent spirit distilled from the flowers of the Mahwa tree.

1810 V. M. WILLIAMSON *E. India Vade Mecum* II. 153 Shops where..Mowah, Pariah Arrack, &c., are served out.

3. *attrib.*, as *mahwa-arrack, -butter, -flower, -oil.*

1813 J. FORBES *Orient. Mem.* II. 451 This by way of distinction is called mowah-arrack. 1854 SIMMONDS *Commerc. Prod. Veget. Kingd.* 511 Illiepie oil .and Muohwa oil. 1873 DRURY *Usef. Plants India* 70 In 1848 a quantity of Mahwah oil was forwarded to the Secretary of the E. I. and China Association. 1876 *Cornh. Mag.* Sept. 321 A great cup of liquor distilled from the Mhowa flower. 1889 *Syd. Soc. Lex., Mahwah butter*, a greenish or yellowish concrete oil obtained from the seeds of *Bassia latifolia*.

‖ **Maia** (mē·ă, mai·ă). *Zool.* [L. *maia*, Gr. μοῖα.] A spider-crab.

1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Maia*,..a kind of Sea Crab-fi-h. 1865 GOSSE *Land & Sea* (1874) 81 The spider-crab, or maia; of little value as food, though occasionally eaten.

Maian (mē·ăn). *Zool.* [f. prec. + -AN.] A crustacean of the family *Maiidæ*. (Cf. MAIOID.)

1839 *Penny Cycl.* XIV. 296 *Maiidæ* or *Maians*, the second tribe of the family of *Oxyrhynchi*, according to the system of M. Milne Edwards.

Maich, Sc. form of MAUGH.

Maid (mēd), *sb.*[1] Forms: 2 meide, 2–3 mede, 3 mæide, 3–6 meyde, mayde, 3–7 maide, 5–7 mayd, (6 mayed, 7 made), 6– maid. [Shortened from MAIDEN: not identical with OE. *mægd* G. *magd*.]

1. A girl; a young (unmarried) woman. = MAIDEN 1. Now only (exc. *dial.*) *arch.* or *playful.*

c 1205 LAY. 256 Þa þis child was feir muche Þa luuede he a maide. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 297 Þis mayde ispoused was of so heye blode. *c* 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 2702 Þe maide answerd in lede, 'Per of haue þow no care'. *c* 1407 LYDG. *Reas. & Sens.* 151 Faire and fresh of hewe, As a mayde in hir beaute. 1546–7 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees Soc.) VI. 252 Desiringe her to be good ladie to my litle meyde, her god doughter. 1571 ABP. GRINDAL *Articles* § 54 Legacies giuen .. to other .. godly vses as to..poore Maydes marriages. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* VI. xii. 20 She found .. That this young Mayd .. Is her owne daughter. 1629 MILTON *Hymn Nativ.* xxii, In vaia the Tyrian Maids their wounded Thamuz mourn. 1782 COWPER *'Sweet stream'*, Sweet stream...Apt emblem of a virtuous maid! 1800 COLERIDGE *Christabel* II. 238 Sweet maid,..Thy sire and I will crush the snake! 1830 TENNYSON *Poems* 142 There are no maids like English maids, So beautiful as they be. 1886 KIPLING *Departm. Ditties*, etc. (1888) 64 'By all I am misunderstood!' if the Matron shall say, or the Maid.

b. *poet.* in personifications. (Freq. in the 18th c.)

1742 GRAY *Adversity* 27 Melancholy, silent maid, With leaden eye. 1747 COLLINS *Ode Passions* 1 When Music, heavenly maid, was young.

2. A virgin; *spec.* of the Virgin Mary († *maid Mary*); = MAIDEN 2. *Obs.* or *arch.*

a 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 227 To ane mede þe was Maria zehaten. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 77 Þet halie meide [*sc.* Maria]. *c* 1275 *Passion our Lord* 597 in *O. E. Misc.* 54 Vre louerd ihesu crist þe wes ibore of þe meyde. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* 79/57 I-bore of mayde marie. *c* 1320 *Sir Beues* 2197 Þat i ne tok neuer wif, Boute zhe were maide clene. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Knt.'s T.* 1470 Thou art mayde and kepere of vs alle..And whil I lyue a mayde I wol thee serue. *c* 1410 HOCCLEVE *Moder of God* 11 Humble lady mayde modir and wyf. *c* 1483 CAXTON *Dialogues* 48/17 Who serueth our lord, And the mayde marye. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* lxx. 4 Thow .. Gabriell send with the salutatioun On-to the mayd of maist humilite. *a* 1529 SKELTON *Replyc.* 47 Wks. 1843 I. 210 Wotte ye what ye sayed Of Mary, mother and mayed? 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* IV. 479 Cydippe with Licorias, one a Maid, And one that once had call'd Lucina's Aid. 1834 SIR H. TAYLOR *2nd Pt. Philip van Artevelde* v. i. (*song*), Quoth tongue of neither maid nor wife To heart of neither wife nor maid.

b. *Hist.* As a title of Joan of Arc, *The Maid (of God, of Orleans)*, a rendering of F. *la Pucelle*.

a 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VI* (1809) 157 This wytch or manly woman, (called the maide of God) the Frenchemen greatly glorified. 1691 J. HEATH *Eng. Chron.* 164 Joan, called by the French, the Maid of God. 1762 HUME *Hist. Eng. to Hen. VII*, II. 335 *marg.*, The maid of Orleans. 1849 LINGARD *Hist. Eng.* (1855) IV. i. 17/2 The maid of Orleans..led the assailants. 1875 J. GAIRDNER *Lancaster & York* vii. (ed. 2) 130 Rumours of the..miracles of the Maid were repeated even in the English camp.

† c. *transf.* A man that has always abstained from sexual intercourse. (Cf. Gr. παρθένος and patristic L. *virgo*.) *Obs.*

1340 *Ayenb.* 230 Saint Ion þe ewangelist þet wes mayde wes amang þe apostles þe meste beloued of oure lhorde. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) I. 365 A preost þat is clene mayde. 1460 CAPGRAVE *Chron.* (1858) 5 Abel,..a mayde, a martire, killid of his brothir of pure envy. 1525 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* II. cxv. [cxi.] 331 He was swete, courtesse, meke, and a mayde of body. 1601 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* v. i. 270 You are betroth'd both to a maid and man. 1606 B. JONSON *Hymenæi* 94 View two noble Maids Of either sexe, to Union sacrificed. *a* 1641 BP. MOUNTAGU *Acts & Mon.* (1642) 542 Joseph was .. a maid, never knowing woman, as never being married before. 1710 *Brit. Apollo* III. No. 60. 2/2 He Dy'd a *Maid*.

3. An unmarried woman, spinster. † *To stand on the maid*: (of a woman) to remain single. (Now *rare* exc. in OLD MAID.)

1603 DEKKER *Wonderfull Yeare* E, To die maides! O horrible! 1615 CHAPMAN *Odyss.* VI. 52 Because thou shalt no more stand on the Maid [ἐπεὶ οὔτοι ἔτι δὴν παρθένος ἔσσεαι]. 1648 *Par. Reg. St. John Maddermarket, Norwich* (MS.), A maid almost a hundred yeare old, buried 14 Nov. Anno dni 1648. 1700 DRYDEN *Sigis. & Guisc.* 16 For this, when ripe for marriage, he delayed Her nuptial bands, and kept her long a maid. 1747 *General Advertiser* 4 July, The Match [at Cricket] .. between the Maids of Charlton and the Maids of Singleton..will be play'd in the Artillery-Ground. 1814 SCOTT *Wav.* v, Miss Lucy St. Aubin lived and died a maid for his sake.

4. A female servant or attendant; a MAID-SERVANT; often with defining word prefixed as *bar-, chamber-, farm-, house-, nurse-, servant-maid*, etc., q.v.; *lady's maid* (see LADY 17).

1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 128 Sche..goth to chambre and hath compleigned Unto a Maide which she triste. 1513 MORE *Rich. III* (1883) 59 That it was not princely to marry hys owne subject,..onely as it were a rich man that would marry his mayde. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* ix. (S. T. S.) 9 Thy nychtbouris wyfe .. Thow couet not to the, .. his oxe, his maide nor page. 1658 EVELYN *Diary* 27 Jan., He [a child] would .. select the most pathetic psalms, .. to reade to his mayde during his sickness. 1698 WANLEY in *Lett. Lit. Men* (Camden) 253 The maid told me that Dr. Smith had been there since I went. 1794 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Myst. Udolpho* XXV, You must dismiss your maid, lady. 1835 *Gentl. Mag.* Nov. 491 We kept no maid:—and I had much to do. 1860 Q. VICTORIA *Life Highl.* (1868) 138 The two maids had driven over by another road in the waggonette. 1880 OUIDA *Moths* I. 39 My maid must run up something for you to wear by to-morrow.

b. *Maid-of-all-work*, a female servant who does all kinds of house-work.

1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* IV. vii. 78 An old abigail, whom I had formerly known as maid-of-all-work to an actress. 1848 THACKERAY *Trav. Lond.* Wks. 1886 XXIV. 350 The red-haired maid-of-all-work coming out with yesterday's paper. 1887 *Spectator* 16 Apr. 534/2 First she is a maid of-all-work in the family of a poor clergyman.

transf. 1858 HUXLEY in *Life* (1900) I. xii. 158 Non-official maid-of-all-work in Natural Science to the Government.

5. In certain American universities used as a degree-title in correspondence to *Bachelor*.

1885 *Pall Mall G.* 5 Mar. 3/2 The Americans .. talk of Miss Bluestocking .. as 'Maid of Philosophy', 'Maid of Science', 'Maid of Arts'. 1888 BRYCE *Amer. Commw.* III. VI. cii. 445 *note*, Mr. D. C. Gilman..mentions the following among the degree titles awarded in some institutions to women..Laureate of Science, Proficient in Music, Maid of Philosophy.

6. Applied *dial.* to various inanimate objects (see also E. D. D.). a. = MAIDEN *sb.* 5. b. = MAIDEN *sb.* 6. c. A clothes-horse; = MAIDEN *sb.* 7 b. d. A washerwoman's dolly; = MAIDEN 7 c.

a. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Kissing the Maid*, an Engine in Scotland, and at Halifax in England.

b. 1786 *Harv'st Rig* cxlii. (1794) 43 Lang was the Harv't and little corn! And, sad mischance! the Maid was shorn After sunset.

c. 1795 *Lond. Chron.* 23 July 78 As if a horse, or maid for clothes, had been thrown with violence to the ground.

d. 1882 *W. Worc. Gloss.* 36.

7. A name given to the Skate and Thornback (*Raia batis* and *R. clavata*) when young. Also to the Twait Shad, *Alosa finta* (in Fr. similarly called *pucelle*). Cf. MAIDEN *sb.* 8.

1579 J. JONES *Preserv. Bodie & Soule* I. xiv. 26 Of fishes, .. Whiting, Smelt, Maids, Loch, Sammon. 1598 *Epulario* F iiij, Take out the guts of maids or Thornebackes by the gils with a forke or string. 1655 MOUFET & BENNET *Health's Improv.* 157 Maides are as little and tender Skates. 1714 GAY *Trivia* II. 292 The golden-belly'd Carp, the broad-finn'd Maid. 1769 PENNANT *Brit. Zool.* III. 70 Their [the thornbacks'] young..which (as well as those of the skate) before they are old enough to breed, are called maids. 1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* I. 65 Piles of huge maids, dropping slime from the counter, are eagerly examined and bartered for. 1862 COUCH *Brit. Fishes* IV. 122 Twait Shad. Maid.

8. *Comb.*: a. appositive, as *maid-attendant, -mother, -nurse, -slave, -widow*, † *-woman*; b. attribntive, as *maid-face*; c. originative, as *maid-birth, -born* adjs.; d. parasynthetic, as *maid-faced* adj.; e. similative, as *maid-like, -pale* adjs.; also **maid-fish** = sense 7; † **maids' ale**, the festival of the maidens' guild; † **maid's hair**, *Galium verum*; **maid's sickness** = GREEN-SICKNESS.

1896 *Daily News* 30 Oct. 10/7 *Maid-Attendant to an elderly or invalid lady. 1855 BAILEY *Mystic*, etc. 91 The pearl conceived of dew and lightning, type Of that pure *maid-birth yet to bless the world. *a* 1649 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Poems* Wks. (1711) 24 Mild creatures, in whose warm crib now lies That..holy *maid-born Wight. *c* 1407 LYDG. *Reas. & Sens.* 3629 Euerych bath a *mayde face Of syghte lusty to enbrace. 1610 HEALEY *St. Aug. Citie of God* 686 Sphinx *maid-fac'd, fetherd-foule, foure-footed beast. 1810 *Splendid Follies* I. 130 Distorting her countenance to the semblance of a *maid-fish. 1606 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iv. II. *Magnif.* 1417 A Mars-like Courage in a *Maid-like blush. 1839 BAILEY *Festus* iii. (1852) 28 Seven fair maidlike moons attending him Perfect his sky. 1830 TENNYSON *Palace of Art* XXIV, The *maid-mother .. Sat smiling, babe in arm. 1895 *Daily News* 15 May 10/6 Mrs. H. wishes to recommend her maid .. as *Maid-Nurse. 1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II*, III. iii. 98 Ten thousand bloody crownes of Mothers Sonnes Shall..Change the complexion of her *Maid-pale Peace To Scarlet Indignation. 1547 *Croscombe Ch.-wardens' Accts.* (Som. Rec. Soc.), [Received from] The *maydes ayll xxijs. vjd. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. ccccxlviii. 968 In English our Ladies Bedstraw, Cheese renoing, *Maides Haire, and petie Mugwet. 1657 COLES *Adam in Eden* cccxliii, It is called ..in English Ladies Bedstraw, and sometimes Maids baire, from the finenesse

of the Leaves. 1633 FORD *'Tis Pity* III. ii, May bee, 'tis but the *Maides sicknesse, an ouer-flux of youth. 1603 *North's Plutarch, Camillus* (1612) 150 Faire *maide slaues dressed vp like gentlewomen. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* II. ii. § 92 He stayed so long, that his Church presumed him dead, and herself a *Maid-Widow, which lawfully might receive another Husband. *c* 1320 *Sir Beues* (MS. A) 2203 And bonte þe finde me *maide wimman .. Send me aȝen to me fon.

† **Maid,** *sb.*[2] Corrupt form of MEDINE, Egyptian coin. *Obs.*

1674 JEAKE *Arith.* (1696) 134 At .. Alexandria, They accompt by Ducats, either Ducat de Pargo, of 120 Maids, .. or Italian Ducat of 35 Maids.

Maid, *v.* [f. MAID *sb.*[1]]

1. *intr.* To do maids' work; to act as a maid.

1900 PINERO *Gay Ld. Quex* I. 14 And when I got sick of maiding, I went to Dundas's opposite, and served three years at the hairdressing.

2. *dial.* = MAIDEN *v.* 2. Hence *maiding-tub.*

1882 *IV. Worc. Gloss.*

Maid, obs. pa. t. and pa. pple. of MAKE *v.*

‖ **Maidan** (məidā·n). *Indian.* Also 7 **maydan, medon, mei-, m(e)ydan, midan,** 9 **maidaun.** [Pers. ميدان *maidān.*] An open space in or near a town; an esplanade or parade-ground.

1625 PURCHAS *Pilgrims* I. IV. 423 The Medon, which is a pleasant greene, in the middest whereof is a May-pole to hang a light on. 1662 J. DAVIES tr. *Olearius' Voy. Ambass.* V. (1669) 172 The Meydan, that is the great Market-place. *Ibid.* 178 The Market-place, or Maydan, is large and noble. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 249 The Midan, or open space before the Caun's Palace. 1845 STOCQUELER *Handbk. Brit. India* (1854) 189 Dum Dum .. is a spacious cantonment, with an extensive maidaun, or esplanade. 1879 A. FORBES *Camps, Quarters,* etc. (1896) 283 Before me on the maidan is the plain monument to Sir Mountstuart Jackson.

† **Maid-child.** *Obs.* = MAIDEN-CHILD.

c 1205 LAY. 14378 He bad Hengest his dring ȝiuen him þat maide-child. *Ibid.* 24529 Moni mæide child wes þere. *c* 1375 *Cursor M.* 11299 (Laud) For maide child [*other texts* maiden child] as long also. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Shipman's T.* 95 A mayde child cam in hire compaignye. *a* 1450 MYRC 217 Also thys mote ben hem sayde, Boþe for knaue chyldere & for mayde, That [etc.]. 1535 COVERDALE *Lev.* xii. 5 But yf she beare a maydechilde [1611 maid child]. 1608 SHAKS. *Per.* V. iii. 6 [She] brought forth a Mayd child calld Marina.

Maiden (mē·d'n), *sb.* and *a.* Forms: 1 mæȝden, mæden, *Northumb.* mai(ȝ)den, 2 mæȝdɔn, 2–3 mei-, meyden, 3 mæiden, *Orm.* maȝȝdenn, 4–7 mayden, (4 maþen, 4–6 ma-, mai-, maj-, maydan, -din(e, -don, -dun, -dyn, 6 madne, 9 maden), 3– maiden. [OE. *mægden* str. neut. = OHG. *magatîn* (MHG. *magetîn*; the mod.G. *mädchen* is not identical):—OTeut. type **magadino*[m]:—pre-Teut. **mogh*[w]*otino-m,* a dim. formation (see -EN) from **mogh*[w]*óti-s* maiden, girl, represented by Goth. *magaþ-s,* OHG. *magad* (MHG. *maget,* mod.G. *magd,* maidservant), OS. *magath* (MDu. *maghet,* Du. *maagd*), OE. *mæġeð, mæġð* maid, virgin; related to pre-Teut. **moghu-s* boy, young man (OIrish *mug* slave, Avestic *magu* young man), whence Goth. *magu-s,* ON. *mǫg-r,* OS., OE. *magu.* Cf. MAY *sb.*[1]]

A. *sb.*

1. A girl; a young (unmarried) woman; = MAID 1. (Not now in colloquial use exc. *dial.*)

c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. ix. 24 Gað heonun nys þys mæden [*c* 1160 *Hatton* mæȝdon] dead soðlice ac heo slæpð. *a* 1100 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 310/9 *Puella,* mæden, oððe ȝeong wifman. *c* 1205 LAY. 2214 He nom of þan monkunne þreo swiðe feire mæidene. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2749 Hirdes wulden ðe maidenes deren, Oc moyses ðor hem gan weren. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Conse.* 4966 Alle men sal ryse þan þat ever had life, Man and woman, mayden and wyfe. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* vi. (*Thomas*) 58 A madyne com amange þam all of hebrow borne In-to þe land. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1363 Maydons for mornyng haue þere mynde loste. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* v. 580 In Lanryk duelt a gentill woman thar, A madyn myld. 1559 *Mirr. Mag., Dk. Clarence* vii, A maiden of a noble house and old. 1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* I. iii. 155 (Gods mercie maiden) dos it curd thy blood To say I am thy mother? 1710 *Tatler* No. 252 P 5 We .. have a Boy and a Girl: The Lad Seventeen, the Maiden Sixteen. 1853 M. ARNOLD *Scholar-Gipsy* ix, Maidens, who from the distant hamlets come To dance around the Fyfield elm in May. 1855 *Cornwall* 227 'Maidens', as the Cornish people term girls from 16 to 17 years of age. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. xxiv. 173 A vigorous English maiden might have ascended the [ice] fall without much difficulty. 1887 BOWEN *Virg., Æneid* II. 238 Round it advance in procession unwedded maiden and boy.

b. A female child. *Obs.* exc. *dial.*

c 1200 ORMIN 4107 To clippen swa þe cnapess shapp, & toffrenn lac forr maȝȝdenn.

2. A virgin; *spec.* of the Virgin Mary († *maiden Mary*); = MAID 2. Now *rare.*

a 1035 *Laws of Cnut* II. c. 52 (53) Gif hwa mæden nydnæme, *si quis violenter virginem opprimat.* *a* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 77 Þet halie meiden onswerede and seide Quomodo [etc.]. *c* 1200 ORMIN 2102 Þe33 wenndenn þatt ȝho wære wif, Acc ȝho wass maȝȝdenn clene. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* 3/68 I-bore he was of þe maydene Marie I *c* 1300 *Cursor M.* 28483 (Cott.), I..forced sum woman with nede, and maþens reft þair maþenhede. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 319 Þe kyng ȝaf here lond for to bulde tweie abbayes of maydons. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 2940 Þat comes but to harme, Gers maidnes be mart, mariage fordone. *a* 1400 *Relig. Pieces fr. Thornton MS.* 27 Goddes sone tuke flesche and blode of þe blyssed maydene Marie. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* XVIII. xix. 760 A clene mayden I am for hym and for alle other. 1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* IV. i. 88 Why then you are no maiden.

b. *transf.* A man that has always abstained from sexual intercourse; = MAID 2 c. *Obs.*

c 1300 *Havelok* 995 Of bodi was he mayden clene. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. IX. 173 Maydenes and maydenes macche ȝow togideres. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 277 He was a munk and priour of his hows, & a clene mayden. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* XI. xiv, Syre Percyuale..was a parfyte clene mayden. 1497 BP. ALCOCK *Mons Perfect.* D iij, Y° grete nombre of his apostles were maydens.

3. An unmarried woman, spinster; = MAID 3. *Obs.* exc. *dial. Old maiden* (rare) = OLD MAID. *To go maiden*: to remain single.

1775 *Tender Father* I. 139 This gentlewoman was an old maiden, and possessed many particularities. *a* 1802 *Cruel Sister* xiv. in Child *Ballads* I. 128/2 Your cherry cheeks and your yellow hair Garrd me gang maiden evermair.

4. A maid-servant, a female attendant. (Cf. MAID 4.) *arch.* and *dial.* † *Maiden of honour* = MAID OF HONOUR.

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 159 Forþon þu nu sceawa þines mæȝ-(d)enes eaþmodnesse. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 8965 Hire maidens broȝte hire clene water euere wanne heo lete. 13.. *Coer de L.* 880 The kynges doughter lay in her bower, With her maydenys of honour. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. v. 630 Charite and Chastite ben his chief maydenes. 1434 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 97 To Aneys hir mayden, a russet kyrtell. *a* 1550 *Freiris of Berwik* 251 in *Dunbar's Poems* 293 He bad the madin kindill on the fyre. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* II. 113 He requyres in mariage ane of the Quenes madnes. 1611 BIBLE *Ps.* cxxiii. 2 As the eyes of a maiden [looke] vnto the hand of her mistresse. 1631 WEEVER *Anc. Funeral Mon.* 446 The Ladies of the Court, and Maydens of Honor.

5. The instrument, similar to the guillotine, formerly used in Edinburgh for beheading criminals; applied occas. to the *Halifax gibbet* (see GIBBET 1 c).

1581 in Row *Hist. Kirk* (1842) 86, June 2, 1581.—The Earle of Morton was beheaded with the axe of the Maiden he himself had caused make. 1721 RAMSAY *Genty Tibby* iii, My wyzen with the maiden shore. 1722 WODROW *Hist. Suffer. Ch. Scot.* II. 545 Falling down on his Knees upon the Stool, [the Earl of Argyle] embraced the Maiden..very pleasantly. 1810 BENTHAM *Packing* (1821) 121 The Guillotine ..(a French edition of our Halifax Maiden). 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* V. I. 565 The rude old guillotine of Scotland, called the Maiden.

6. *Sc.* The last handful of corn cut in the harvest-field, often rudely shaped into the figure of a girl and decorated with ribbons (cf. KIRN-BABY). Also *harvest maiden.*

1786 *Har'st Rig* CXXXVI. (1794) 42 For now the Maiden has been win, And Winter is at last brought in. 1797 *Statist. Acc. Scott.* XIX. 550 The fortunate lass who took the maiden was the Queen of the feast. 1814 J. TRAIN *Mountain Muse* 95 A former neighbour ..Who had with them for wedding bruises run, And from them oft the harvest maiden won.

b. The harvest-home and the feast with which it was celebrated.

1806 A. DOUGLAS *Poems* 144 (Jam.) The master has them bidden Come back again, be't foul or fair 'Gainst gloamin', to the Maiden. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 13 Mar. 2/1 We speak always of our Harvest Homes as 'Maidens'.

7. † a. (See quot. 1688.) b. *dial.* A clothes-horse. c. *north. dial.* A washerwoman's dolly.

a. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. 286/2 The Maidens or Damsels, the two Stands in which the Spindle turns.

b. 1859 F. WAUGH *'Come whoam to thi Childer & Me'* 28 Poems 55 So aw iron't o my clooas reet weel, An' aw hang'd 'em o' th maiden to dry. 1881 [see *maiden-maker* in 10].

c. 1752 *Gentl. Mag.* XXII. 32 A Machine for washing of Linnen, called a Yorkshire Maiden. 1781 REES *Cycl., Maiden*..the name of a machine first used in Yorkshire, and since introduced into other places, for washing of linen. [The apparatus as described consists of a dolly fitted to a covered wooden tub. This use of the name has app. not survived.] 1829 J. HUNTER *Hallamsh. Gloss., Maiden,* an instrument used in the laundry. 1888 *Sheffield Gloss.* s.v., The maiden is sometimes called a peggy or dolly.

† 8. The name of a fish. (? = MAID *sb.* 8.) *Obs.*

1555 EDEN *Decades* 269 Dryed fysshe as soles maydens playces. [1624 HEYWOOD *Captives* II. ii. in Bullen *Old Plays* (1885) IV. 145 For whom weare you a fishinge? *Mild.* Marry, for maydens; .. But, my gutts, Howe they are sweld with sea brine !]

9. Short for *maiden horse, over, race, tree* (see B).

1807 SIR J. MALCOLM in *Life* (1856) I. xiv. 379 *note,* Grant and I have two horses for the two first maidens. 1880 *Times* 28 Sept. 11/5 [Cricket] Shaw joined Selby, and when a couple of maidens had been sent down luncheon intervened. 1894 *Field* 9 June 850/2 A plantation of young apple trees, .. mostly maidens and two-year-olds, was badly attacked by green aphis. 1898 *Stratford-on-Avon Herald* 11 Feb. 4/4 The Warwickshire Hunt Cup. .. For horses five years old and upwards, maidens at the time of closing.

10. *attrib.* and *Comb.,* as *maiden-blush*; **maiden-faced, -tongued** adjs.; *maiden-maker, -monger*; **maiden-bark,** ? the bark of saplings; **maiden-feast,** the feast after cutting the maiden (sense 6); †**maiden-gear,** †**-gem,** virginity; †**maiden-heart,** a variety of pear; **maiden-meek** *a.,* meek as befits a maiden; †**maiden-nut** (see quot.); **maiden-rip** *Sc.* = 6; **maiden-servant** = sense 4; **maiden-skate** *Sc.* (see quot.); †**maidens' light,** a light (in a church) maintained by maidens; †**maidens' milk** = LAC VIRGINIS; **maiden-widowed** *a., nonce-wd.,* widowed while still a maiden.

1832 *Planting* 92 in *Lib. Usef. Knowl., Husb.* III, Tiller or Tellar, a shoot selected .. to stand .. for *maiden bark. 1605 BRETON *Soules Immort. Crowne* (Grosart) 7/2 She shewes her there the *Maiden-blush complection, Betwixt the cherrie Red, and snowie White. 1655 GURNALL *Chr. in Arm.* verse 14. IX. (1669) 36/2 His Maiden-blush modesty will not suffer him to declare his sin. 1861 J. RUFFINI *Dr. Antonio* i, The maiden blush clearness of the skin. 1567 GOLDING *Ovid's Met.* VII. (1593) 151 Boreas sonnes had chaste Away the *maiden-faced foules that did the vittels waste. 1797 *Statist. Acc. Scott.* XIX. 550 It was, till very lately, the custom to give what was called a *Maiden Feast, upon the finishing of the harvest. 1719 D'URFEY *Pills* I. 130 My father takes me for a Saint, Tho' weary of my *Maiden Geer. 1612 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* X. 148 Chaste Winifrid: who chose Before her *mayden-gem she forcibly would lose [etc.]. 1721 MORTIMER *Husb.* II. 295 The Lewis Pear, or by some the *Maiden-heart. 1881 *Instr. Census Clerks* (1885) 143 *Maiden Maker (Clothes Horse). 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* III. 118 Yet *maiden-meek, I prayed Concealment. *a* 1625 FLETCHER *Custom of Country* I. i, This thing you study to betray your child to. This *Maiden-monger. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl., **Maiden Nut,* the inner one of two nuts on the same screw; the outer is the jam-nut. 1882 J. WALKER *Jaunt to Auld Reekie,* etc. 12 She grips some stalks and twists the *maiden-rip In triple strands. 1533 GAU *Richt Vay* (1888) 11 Thou sal noth desir thy nichtburs wiff *madin seruand beist or ony thing quhilk pertenis to hime. 1741 RICHARDSON *Pamela* (1824) I. iv. 19 If the wench, (for so she calls us maiden-servants) takes care of herself she'll improve. 1547–8 in Swayne *Sarum Church-w. Acc.* (1896) 275 For viij li. of wex for the *Maydens light *vs.* 1810 NEILL *List Fishes* 28 (Jam.) The young both of the Thornback and the Skate are denominated *Maiden-skate. *a* 1400–50 *Stockh. Med. MS.* 4 A water þat is clepyd *maydinis mylke. 1597 SHAKS. *Lover's Compl.* 100 *Maiden tongu'd he was, and thereof free. 1592 — *Rom. & Jul.* III. ii. 135, I a Maid, die *Maiden-widowed.

b. In various plant-names; †**maiden-lip** (s, *Echinospermum Lappula*; †**maiden mercury,** a name for male plants of *Mercurialis annua*; **maiden oak,** *Quercus sessiliflora*; **maiden pink,** *Dianthus deltoides*; **maiden plum (tree),** a name given to two West Indian trees, (*a*) *Comocladia integrifolia,* (*b*) *Chrysobalanus*; **maiden rose** = MAIDEN'S BLUSH; †**maidens' honesty,** *Clematis vitalba.* Also MAIDENHAIR, MAIDENWEED.

1589 RIDER *Bibl. Schol.* 1748 *Maiden lips, or tasil, *lapago.* 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* I. lii. 78 This kinde may be called in English..Daughters Phyllon, or *Mayden Mercury. 1848 *Phytologist* III. 883 *note,* The Quercus sessiliflora they [woodmen] call White Oak and *Maiden Oak. 1755 B. STILLINGFL. *Cal. Flora* 7 July, Pinks, *maiden, *Dianthus deltoides.* 1776–96 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) II. 410 *Maiden Pink.* Sandy meadows, pastures, and heaths. 1882 J. HARDY in *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* IX. 476 At Makerstoun Crags .. the spindle-tree, maiden-pink, .. and the common feverfew grew. 1725 SLOANE *Jamaica* II. 131 The *Maiden-Plumb-Tree. 1760 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* App. 318 Maiden Plumb, *Chrysobalanus.* 1864 GRISEBACH *Flora W. Ind.* 785 Maiden-plum, *Comocladia integrifolia.* 1827 G. DARLEY *Sylvia* 102 Here's a garland of red *maiden-roses for you. 1832 MISS MITFORD *Village* Ser. V. 89 She has just as much colour as any woman ought to have—the maiden-rose tint. *a* 1691 AUBREY *Nat. Hist. Wilts* (1847) 49 Wild vetch, *maiden's honesty, polypodium [etc.]. 1691 RAY *Ibid.* 50 Calver-keys, hare's-parseley, mayden's-honesty, are countrey names unknown to me.

B. *adj.* (from appositive and attributive uses of the sb.). Cf. VIRGIN.

I. Literal uses.

1. Appositive uses. a. Unmarried; now chiefly in *maiden aunt, lady, sister.* † b. Of a child: Female; see MAIDEN-CHILD (*obs.*). † c. Virgin; sometimes said of men (*obs.*).

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 5546 (Cott.) Þe knau barns .. þai suld .. sla, Þe maiden barns þai suld lat ga. 1300–1400 *Ibid.* 21019 (Gött.) Iohn, maiden saint, iam broþer, [was] mar luued wid crist þan ani oþer. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 6080 3yf an husbond chyldryn haue, One or two, mayden or knaue. *c* 1314 *Guy Warw.* (A.) 196 And euerich knigt [ches] his leman Of þat gentil maiden wiman. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* I. viii. 8 b, The Moorishe women and mayden slaues. 1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* III. (Arb.) 192 To blazon foorth the Brytton mayden Queene. 1591 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. VI,* IV. vii. 38 Thou Maiden youth, be vanquisht by a Maide. 1640 *Wits Recreat.* § 166 She will..sit at dinner like a mayden-bride. 1647 TRAPP *Comm. Matt.* XXVII. 60 A new tomb it was, and fit it should be for that virgin body, or maiden-corpse, as one calls it. 1758 JOHNSON *Idler* No. 24 P 5 Maiden aunts with small fortunes. 1765 in Waghorn *Cricket Scores* (1899) 59 A cricket-match was played .. by eleven married against eleven maiden women. 1777 SHERIDAN *Sch. Scand.* IV. i, Here, now, is a maiden sister of his. 1798 *Monthly Mag.* VI. 75 [Died] At Windsor Castle, Mrs. Hannah Corbett, a maiden lady. 1852 ROCK *Ch. of Fathers* III. i. 269 The girl-like maiden-mother bowed down before the crib.

2. Of or pertaining to a maiden, or to maidenhood; befitting a maiden, having the qualities of a maiden. *Maiden name*: the surname borne by a married woman before her marriage.

1591 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. VI,* II. iv. 47, I pluck this pale and maiden blossom here. *Ibid.* V. iv. 52 Joan of Arc..Whose Maiden-blood, thus rigorously effus'd, Will cry for Vengeance at the Gates of Heauen. 1592 — *Rom. & Jul.* II. ii. 86 The maske of night is on my face, Else would a Maiden blush bepaint my cheeke. 1601 — *Twel. N.* V. i. 262 Ile bring you to a Captaine in this Towne, Where I'e my maiden weeds. 1613 — *Hen. VIII,* IV. ii. 169 Strew me ouer With Maiden Flowers, that all the world may know I was a chaste Wife, to my Graue. 1648 HERRICK *Hesper., To Anne Soame,* The meanest part of her Smells like the maiden-pomander. 1700 DRYDEN *Cinyras & Myrrha* 113 The tender sire who saw her blush and cry Ascrib'd it all to maiden-modesty. 1773 *Life N. Frowde* 5, I was baptized by her [the mother's] maiden Name Neville. 1814 SCOTT

Ld. of Isles I. iv, Wake, Maid of Lorn! the moments fly, Which yet that maiden-name allow. **1844** DISRAELI *Coningsby* V. vi, Not..a word that could call forth a maiden blush.

3. Of female animals: Uncoupled, unmated.

1840 *Boston Advertiser* 30 June 3/4, I killed two sheep; one was a maiden ewe, and the other a wether. **1885** *Bell's Life* 15 June 1/1 To be Sold, Two Maiden Three Year Old Fillies. **1892** *Stratford-on-Avon Herald* 18 Nov. 4/1 To the owner and feeder of the best Pair of..Maiden Sows.

II. Figurative uses.

4. That has yielded no results. **a.** Of an assize, circuit, session: Formerly, one at which no prisoner was condemned to death; now, one at which there are no cases for trial. **b.** Of a game, esp. *Cricket* of an over: One in which no runs are scored. **c.** Of a tide: One on which no vessels enter or leave the dock. **d.** (See quot.)

a. *a* **1700** B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew*, *Maiden-sessions*, when none are Hang'd. **1742** *Gentl. Mag.* July 386 Ended the sessions at the Old Bailey, which proved a maiden one, none having been capitally convicted. **1826** SCOTT *Jrnl.* 17 Apr., The judge was presented with a pair of white gloves, in consideration of its being a maiden circuit. **1847** HALLIWELL s.v., Maiden-assize. **1868** *Daily Tel.* 16 Apr., It is nearly half a century since there has been a maiden sessions at Oxford.

b. **1598** FLORIO s.v. *Marcio*,..a lurch or a maiden set at any game. **1864** *Daily Tel.* 16 May, Half-a-dozen 'maiden overs' in succession, every ball dead on the middle stump, and yet played steadily back again to the bowler. **1893** W. S. GILBERT *Utopia* II, An occasional 'maiden over'.

c. **1897** *Daily Tel.* 30 Nov. 10/2 Hull.—There was to-day a maiden tide, no vessel being able either to enter or to leave, owing to the storm and flood.

d. **1900** *New Cent. Rev.* VII. 374, 7 was called the maiden number, because within the decade it has no factors or product.

e. Of a horse, etc.: That has never won a prize. Hence of a prize or a race: Offered or open to maiden horses, etc.

1760 R. HEBER *Horse Matches* ix. 40 All Maiden Horses favoured 2 lb. **1856** 'STONEHENGE' *Brit. Sports* II. I. xiii. (ed. 2) 364 A Maiden horse or mare is one that has never won. **1886** *York Herald* 10 Aug. 7/5 Two Miles Maiden Bicycle Handicap. **1896** *Daily News* 17 July 3/4 The maiden class for horses that have never won a first prize before.

5. That has not been conquered, tried, worked, etc. **a.** Of a town, castle, fortress, etc.: That has never been taken, 'virgin'.

The appellation *Maiden Castle* (quot. 1639) given to Edinburgh prob. did not originally mean 'virgin fortress', as in Geoffrey of Monmouth (12th c.) it appears as *Castrum Puellarum*, 'maidens' castle'. Several ancient earthworks in England are also called Maiden Castle: the sense may possibly be 'a fortress so strong as to be capable of being defended by maidens'; there may have been an allusion to some forgotten legend. Cf. the equivalent Ger. name *Magdeburg*.

1593 SHAKS. *Lucr.* 408 Her breasts .. A paire of maiden worlds vnconquered. **1601** J. WHEELER *Treat. Comm.* 30 Tournay..at that time termed the Maiden Citie. **1631** J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Turn Fort. Wheel* (Halliw.) 9 Victorie forsook him for ever since he ransacked the maiden town of Magdenburg. **1639** DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Sp. for Edinburgh* Wks. (1711) 216 Relieving king James III. when he was beleaguer'd in his maiden-castle. **1648** J. BOND *Eschol* 27 Those parts of the Kingdome which had hitherto been untoucht, the Mayden Counties, as they call them, have been now most of all defloured. **1756** NUGENT *Gr. Tour, France* IV. 26 [Abbeville] is called *The maiden town*, because it was never taken by an enemy. **1802** WORDSW. *Sonn. Extinct. Venet. Repub.*, She was a maiden City, bright and free.

b. Of a plant or tree: (*a*) That has grown from seed, not from a stock; (*b*) That has not been budded, lopped, pruned, or transplanted.

a **1649** DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Poems* Wks. (1711) 22/1 Though envy, avarice, time, your tombs throw down, With maiden-lawrells nature will them crown. **1655** MOUFET & BENNET *Health's Improv.* (1746) 320 The unset Leek, or Maiden-leek, is not so hot as the knopped ones. **1763** BURN *Eccl. Law* II. 413 Maiden trees of beech proceeding from stools above 20 years growth. **1805** R. W. DICKSON *Pract. Agric.* 1095 In cutting-wood one *maden* standard is left to each *lugg* or forty-nine square yards. **1832** *Planting* 91 in *Lib. Usef. Knowl., Husb.* III. Maiden-plant.—A young tree raised from seed, in opposition to one produced from an old root or stub. **1900** *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* No. 2080. 1367 The child so suffering [from congenital hernia] is passed naked through a cleft maiden ash on a Sunday morning at sunrise.

c. Of soil, metals, etc.: That has never been disturbed, ploughed, or worked. Also maiden-wax, 'virgin' wax (=F. *cire vierge*, Du. *maagden-was*), wax taken from the comb without melting.

1622 MALYNES *Anc. Law-Merch.* 259 There is Maydengold so called because it was never in the fire. **1726** LEONI *Alberti's Archit.* I. 50/2 Cramps done over with Maiden-wax ..never rot. **1776** G. SEMPLE *Building in Water* 34 You work on fresh maiden Ground, that has not been fouled or incumbered with Stones. **1812** SIR R. HOARE *Anc. South Wilts.* 16 Maiden downs, by which I mean all land untouched by the plough. **1849** *Florist* 43 Refreshing my beds annually with a few barrowfuls of maiden earth mixed with pig or horse dung. **1878** *Archæol. Cantiana* XII. 8 I found the earth was almost entirely maiden soil. **1897** *Daily News* 23 Apr. 3/1 Much of it [coal] was in its 'maiden state'—that is, had not been worked over in the past.

d. Of a soldier, etc.; also of a weapon: Untried.

1603 DRAYTON *Odes* xvii. 102 Though but a Maiden Knight. **1647** CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* VI. § 291 The Horse he put under the Command of his Brother, the Lord John Somerset, a maiden Soldier too. **1834** L. RITCHIE *Wand. by Seine* 15 He had not as yet fleshed his maiden sword. **1838** LYTTON *Alice* IV. v, The air rather of a martyr than a maiden placeman. **1842** TENNYSON *Sir Galahad* 61 A maiden knight—to me is given Such hope, I know not fear.

6. That is the first of its kind; made, used, etc. for the first time. Occas. in sense *early, earliest*. *Maiden-speech*: the first speech delivered in the House by a member of parliament.

1555 W. WATREMAN *Fardle Facions* Pref. 20 He but borowyng their woordes, hryngeth it foorthe for a mayden booke. **1622** CULLIS *Stat. Sewers* v. (1647) 219 Your Reader took in hand to read upon a Maiden-law, which never before this time abide [*sic*] his Exposition in any Inns of Court. *c* **1645** HOWELL *Lett.* (1650) II. 122, I send one of the maiden Copies heerwith to attend you. **1786** WOLCOT (P. Pindar) *Odes to R. A.'s* ii, But not a single maiden dish, poor gentleman, of flesh or fish. **1794** *Hist.* in *Ann. Reg.* 61 Mr. Canning, in his maiden speech (according to the technical language of the house) said [etc.]. **1798** *Sporting Mag.* XII. 4 A maiden deer was turned out at Tower Hill. **1799** G. SMITH *Laboratory* II. 261 The usual baits are the tail-part of a maiden lob-worm. *a* **1813** A. WILSON *Foresters* Poet. Wks. (1846) 211 Fresh on his maiden cruise to see the world. **1813** VANCOUVER *Agric. Devon* 213 The maiden bite of the artificial grasses and white clover. **1825** COL. HAWKER *Diary* (1893) I. 284 This was my maiden day at English black game shooting. **1842** H. ROGERS *Ess.* (1874) I. i. 4 The same year was signalised by his maiden publication. **1843** LE FEVRE *Life Trav. Phys.* I. i. i. 20 It was at this time..that I took my maiden fee. **1883** *Cassell's Fam. Mag.* Aug. 527/2 In the second year the planter gets a very small crop called the maiden-crop. **1884** *Times* (weekly ed.) 31 Oct. 19/4 The..new steamship..sailed from Plymouth.. on her maiden trip to the Antipodes. **1901** *Scotsman* 11 Mar. 8/7 The..steamer..was on her maiden voyage from London to China.

Maiden (mē·d'n), *v.* [f. MAIDEN *sb.*]

†**1.** In phr. *To maiden it*: to act like a maiden; to be coy. *Obs.*

1597–8 BP. HALL *Sat.* III. iii. 5 For had I mayden'd it, as many use, Loath for to graunt, but loather to refuse.

2. *trans.* (*dial.*) To wash clothes with a 'maiden'. Hence *maidening-pot, -tub*.

1839 BYWATER *Sheffield Dial.* 132 Salla do yo pull toud maidnin tub tot table. **1890** *Sheffield Daily Tel.* 11 Apr. 7/1 The child was standing near a maidening pot half full of water.

†**Maiden-child.** *Obs.* A female child. (Cf. MAID-CHILD.)

c **893** K. ÆLFRED *Oros.* I. x. § 2 Eft þonne þa wif heora bearn cendon, þonne feddon hie þa mædencild. *c* **1200** ORMIN 7897, & mazzdennchild bitacneþþ uss Wac mahht i gode dedess. *c* **1250** *Gen. & Ex.* 2574 Do bad monophis pharaun ..leten ðe mayden childre liuen. *c* **1440** *Bone Flor.* 31 A feyre lady he had to wyfe, That..dyed of a maydyn chylde. **1587** FLEMING *Contn. Holinshed* III. 1999/1 Leaving but one maiden-child and princesse. **1643** J. STEER tr. *Exp. Chyrurg.* ix. 42 There was a Maiden childe, of the age of two yeares.

Maidenhair (mē·d'nˌhĕə(r)). Also 6–7 maiden's hair. [f. MAIDEN *sb.* + HAIR.]

1. The name of certain ferns having fine hair-like stalks and delicate fronds. **a.** *Adiantum Capillus-veneris*, called also Black or True Maidenhair; formerly much used in medicine.

c **1450** *ME. Med. Bk.* (Heinrich) 102 Take .. veruеyne, maydenher [etc.]. **1549** *Compl. Scot.* vi. 67, I sau madyn hayr, of the quhilk ane sirop maid of it is remeid contrar the infectione of the melt. **1562** TURNER *Herbal* II. 157 b, Trichomanes (that is our English Maydens heare) is supposed to haue the same vertue that the Lumbardy Maydens heare hath. **1597** GERARDE *Herbal* II. cccclvii. 982–3 True Maiden haire. .. The right Maiden haire groweth vpon wals .. it is a stranger in Englande. .. In English black Maiden haire, and Venus haire. **1697** TRYON *Way to Health* xv. (ed. 3) 368 Take .. a pint and half, Tincture of Saffron, and Syrup of Maidenhair. **1785** MARTYN *Rousseau's Bot.* xxxii. (1794) 491 True Maiden-hair..is used or supposed to be so, in the syrup of capillaire. **1887** E. LVALL *Knight-Errant* (1889) 87 A little lizard..plunged into the maidenhair that fringed the altar.

b. *Asplenium Trichomanes*, called also Common or English Maidenhair.

a **1400–50** *Stockh. Med. MS.* 176 Maydenheer or watirwourt, *capillus virginis*. **1562a** [see a]. **1579** LANGHAM *Gard. Health* (1633) 379 Tricomanes, Polytricon or English Maidenhaire hath ye same vertues that Capillus Veneris hath. **1597** GERARDE *Herbal* II. cccclviii. 984 Of English or common Maiden haire. **1634** PEACHAM *Gentl. Exerc.* III. II. vii. 144 June in a mantle of darke grasse greene, upon his head a garland of Bents, King-cups, and Maidens haire. **1688** R. HOLME *Armoury* II. 74/1 The English Maiden-hair is a small spiry stalk with two round leaves fixed to the side [etc.]. **1760** J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* App. 318 Maiden-hair, English black, *Asplenium*.

c. *Asplenium Ruta-muraria*, White Maidenhair.

1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. cccclvii. 983 Wall Rue, or Rue Maiden haire..White Maiden haire. **1718** QUINCY *Compl. Disp.* 115 White Maidenhair.—It is used in Decays of the Lungs. **1760** J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* App. 318 Maiden-hair, White, *Asplenium*. **1861** MISS PRATT *Flower. Pl.* VI. 213.

2. In other plant-names. **a.** Golden Maidenhair, the moss *Polytrichum commune*.

1578 LYTE *Dodoens* III. lxxi. 412 Goldylockes, *Polytrichon*, or Golden Maydenheare. **1785** MARTYN *Rousseau's Bot.* xxxii. (1794) 493 Greater Golden Maidenhair .. is a large sort of moss and abundant in woods, heaths and bogs.

b. The Lancashire Asphodel, *Narthecium ossifragum* (see quot.).

1633 JOHNSON *Gerarde's Herbal* I. lxxi. 96 Another water Asphodill, which..in Lancashire is vsed by women to die their haire of a yellowish colour, and therefore by them it is termed Maiden-haire, if we may beleeue Lobell.

c. Yellow Bedstraw, *Galium verum*.

1548 TURNER *Name of Herbes* (E.D.S.) 39 Galion or gallion is named in English in the North countrey Maydens heire. **1562** — *Herbal* II. 6 b.

d. Ground Ivy, *Nepeta Glechoma*.

1657 COLES *Adam in Eden* xxvi. 53 Some Country people that would have the barren Ivy to be the true Ground-Ivy, call the other Maiden-hair.

†**3.** Some textile fabric. *Obs.*

1359 *Will of Agnes Selby* in *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) I. 71 Lego Anabillæ quondam servienti meæ..unam tunicam de maydenhare.

†**4.** ?Some kind of marking on flowers. *Obs.*

?**1607** DAY *Parl. Bees* xi. (1641) G 3 b, July-flowers, and Carnations weare Leaves double streakt with Maiden haire.

¶**5.** In literal sense: A maiden's hair. *rare*[−1].

1648 HERRICK *Hesper., Dissuas. fr. Idleness*, Play not with the maiden-haire For each ringlet there's a snare.

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as †*maidenhair-syrup*; maidenhair fern = 1; maidenhair grass, *Briza media*; (golden) maidenhair-moss = 2 a; maidenhair-spleenwort, a book-name for various plants of the genus *Asplenium* (see quot. 1837); maidenhair-tree, a name for the GINGKO.

1833 *Penny Cycl.* I. 120/1 The A[diantum] Capillus Veneris, or the *maiden-hair fern. **1640** PARKINSON *Theatr. Bot.* 1165 *Gramen tremulum medium*. *Maidenhaire grasse, or the lesser quaking grasse. **1597** GERARDE *Herbal* III. clvii. 1371 *Muscus capillaris*..Goldilocks, or Golden *Maiden haire Mosse. **1837** MACGILLIVRAY *Withering's Brit. Plants* 383 *Asplenium Trichomanes*. Common *Maidenhair Spleenwort. .. *A. viride*. Green Maidenhair Spleenwort. .. *A. Adiantum-nigrum*. Black Maidenhair Spleenwort. **1862** ANSTED *Channel Isl.* II. viii. (ed. 2) 183 The *a. trichomanes* or maiden-hair spleen-wort, is the most delicate of the group. **1711** *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4845/4 200 half pint Bottles of *Maidenhair Sirrup. **1773** *Gentl. Mag.* XLIII. 338 The Ginkgo, or *Maiden-hair tree, from China, ..has been propagated by Mr. Gordon, of Mile-End. **1882** *Garden* 12 Aug. 145/3 The leaves bear a good deal of resemblance to those of the Maidenhair tree.

Maidenhead[1] (mē·d'nhed). *arch.* [f. MAIDEN *sb.* + -HEAD.]

1. The state or condition of a maiden; virginity; said occas. of a man (see MAIDEN *sb.* 2 b).

a **1300** *Cursor M.* 10880, I herd it neuer in lijf ne ledd Woniman ber barn in maiden-hedd. *Ibid.* 12706 Sent Ion, þe wangelist..he liued in maiden-hede. **1357** *Lay Folks Catech.* 125 Iesu crist..was sothefastely cousayned of the maiden mari,..Withouten ony mynnyng of hir maidenhede. **1423** JAS. I *Kingis Q.* 55 Pitee was to here The cruelltee of that vnknyghtly dede, Quhare was fro the bereft thi maidenhede. **1535** COVERDALE *Judg.* xi. 38 Then wente shee with her playefeeres, and bewayled hir mayden heade vpon the mountaynes. **1613** SHAKS. *Hen. VIII*, II. iii. 23 By my troth, and Maidenhead, I would not be a Queene. **1697** DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* Ded., He who carries a Maidenhead into a Cloyster, is sometimes apt to lose it there. **1749** FIELDING *Tom Jones* XVIII. xiii, A merry song which bore some relation to matrimony and the loss of a maidenhead. **1796** PEGGE *Anonym.* (1809) 457 To be able to look upon the sun, they say, is a sign of one's having a maidenhead. **1885–94** R. BRIDGES *Eros & Psyche* Feb. xxiv, His earthly bride, Who won his love, in simple maidenhead.

†**b.** Phrases: *to enjoy, get, have, prove, take, win (a woman's) maidenhead*; also of a woman (*rarely* of a man), *to keep, lose* (Sc. *tine*) *one's maidenhead*. *Obs.*

c **1250** *Gen. & Ex.* 1852 Sichem tok hire maiden-hed. *c* **1320** *Sir Tristr.* 2134, V loued neuer man wiþ mode Bot him þat hadde mi maidenhede. *c* **1330** *Amis & Amil.* 767 So thai plaid in word and dede, That he wan hir maidenhede. *c* **1375** *Sc. Leg. Saints* xviii. (*Egipiciane*) 446 Myn madynned quhow I first tynt þar. *c* **1400** *Destr. Troy* 3997 Most was hir mynde hir maidonhede to kepe. *c* **1450** *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 204 Sho wepid..þat wyked dede þat made hir lose hir maydenhede. **1567** *Gude & Godlie B.* (S. T. S.) 146 Zit keipit scho hir madinheid vnforlorne. **1591** LYLY *Sappho* II. i, Phœbus in his godhead sought to get my maidenhead. **1663** DRYDEN *Wild Gallant* Prol., As some raw squire, by tender mother bred, 'Till one-and-twenty keeps his maidenhead. **1697** VANBRUGH *and Ft. Æsop* iii. 51 *Æsop.* How long did you stay? *Beau.* Till I had lost my maidenhead.

†**2.** *transf.* and *fig.*, *esp.* the first stage or first-fruits of anything; the first example, proof, trial, or use; also in phrases (see 1 b). *Obs.*

c **1412** HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 3036 Þou..be maydenhede of this Iuel Shalt preue anone. *a* **1550** *Tales & Quick Answ.* xcv. (1814) 98 That he wolde gyue him leaue to haue the maidenheed of the pyllory. **1591** FLORIO *2nd Frutes* Ep. Ded., The maiden head of my industrie I yeelded to a noble Mecenas (renoumed Lecester) the honor of England. *a* **1592** H. SMITH *Serm.* (1599) 536 God requiring the first labours of his seruants, and (as I may say), the maidenhead of euery man. **1612** (*title*) Parthenia, or the Maydenhead of the first musicke that euer was printed for the Virginalls. *a* **1687** PETTY *Pol. Arith.* i. (1691) 20 One sort of Vessels, and Rigging, where haste is requisite for the Maidenhead of a Market. **1755** SMOLLET *Quix.* (1803) I. 19 Others affirm, that the windmills had the maidenhead of his valour. **1775** S. J. PRATT *Liberal Opin.* CXXXVII. (1783) IV. 260 He had received a present, of which, he insisted upon it, we should have the maidenhead.

†**Maidenhead**[2]. *Obs.* [f. MAIDEN *sb.* + HEAD.] A representation of the head or bust of the Virgin Mary. **a.** As an ornamental finish to the handle of a spoon; *occas.*, the spoon itself.

[**1446** *Wills & Inv.* (Surtees Soc.) I. 92 In Promptuario sunt ij Coclearia argentea et deaurata .. cum ymaginibus Beatæ Mariæ in fine eorundem.] **1495** in Wadley *Notes Wills in Gt. Orphan Bk. Bristol* (1886) 170 [Six silver spoons] cum Maidenheddis. [Six silver spoons] de Maidenheddis. **1522** *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) V. 162 Mariæ Evers sex cochlaria

de arg. cum le madynheddes. 1538 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 134 Allso I bequeth to Nycholas Esthaw my sylver pece and iij sylver sponys wt mayeden hedes. 1567 *Richmond Wills* (Surtees Soc.) 198, xiij postle spones..½ dossone lyones and ½ doss. madinehedes.

b. *Her.* As a bearing on a shield, etc.

1615 Heywood *Foure Prentises* Wks. 1874 II. 229 Godfreyes shield, hauing a Maidenhead with a Crowne in it. 1618 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Pennyless Pilgr.* A 4 b, I..went that night as farre as Islington, There did I finde..A Maydenhead of twenty fiue yeeres old, But surely it was paindes, ..And for a signe or wonder, hang'd at' dore. 1728 S. Kent *Banner Display'd* II. 764 Crest, on a Torce of his Colours, a maidenhead proper, enclos'd in a Ring of Gold.

Maidenhood (mēi·d'nhud). Forms: see Maiden *sb.* and -hood. [OE. *mægdenhād*, f. *mægden* Maiden + *-hād* -hood.] The condition of being a maiden; the time of life during which one is a maiden. Formerly also = Maidenhead 1 1 b and 2, in phrases *to have, hold, keep, lose*, etc. (*one's*) *maidenhood.*

a 900 Cynewulf *Crist* 1419 Þa ic sylf ȝestaȝ maȝa in modor, þeah wæs hyre mæȝdenhad æȝhwæs onwalȝ. *c* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 55 Þat hie ne behiet hire maidenhad æure mo to healden. *c* 1200 Ormin 46 Forr maȝȝdenhad & widdwesshad & weddlac birrþ ben clene. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 54 Heo leas hire meidenhod, & was imaked hore. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* 380/137 For ȝe habbez ȝeot ouwer Maidenhod. 1361 Langl. *P. Pl. A.* i. 158 Ȝe naue no more merit In Masse ne In houres þen Malkyn of hir Maydenhod, þat no Mon desyreþ. 1388 Wyclif *Luke* ii. 36 [She] hadde lyued with hir hosebonde seuene ȝeer fro hir maydynhod. *c* 1450 Lonelich *Grail* xxix. 150 For Maydenhod is In this maner trewly, that felte neuere man fleschly,..but virginite is An heighere thing. *c* 1575 *Balfour's Practicks* 678 The Lord of the ground sall have the maidenehood of all maidenis ..dwelland on the ground. 1591 Shaks. 1 *Hen. VI*, IV. vi. 17 The irefull Bastard Orleance, that drew blood From thee my Boy, and had the Maidenhood Of thy first fight, I soone encountred. *a* 1603 [see Maidenless]. 1641 Earl Monm. tr. *Biondi's Civil Warres* II. 83 No maidenhood was undeflowred, nor marriage bed unviolated. 1846 C. G. Prowett *Prometheus Bound* 40 In loveless maidenhood outworn. 1858 Hawthorne *Fr. & It. Jrnls.* I. 226 There is .. a very pleasant atmosphere of maidenhood about her. 1863 Woolner *My Beautiful Lady* Introd. 5 A man..who has found His..daughter..Fallen from her maidenhood.

Maidenish (mēi·d'niʃ), *a.* [f. Maiden *sb.* + -ish.] Resembling a maiden, characteristic of a maiden. Used in depreciatory sense.

1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* VI. vii, 'Come, come', says Western, 'none of your maidenish airs'. 1815 *Zeluca* I. 172 Do not let one word of this rhodomontade come within ken of your maidenish aunts. 1825 *New Monthly Mag.* XV. 299 A pretty affectation of maidenish coyness. *Comb.* 1789 Anna Seward *Lett.* (1811) II. 250 But, Lord! what a pale, maidenish-looking animal for a voluptuary!

Maidenism (mēi·d'niz'm). *rare.* [f. Maiden *sb.* + -ism.] Maidenish bearing and behaviour; a maidenish notion or peculiarity.

1790 Anna Seward *Lett.* (1811) III. 38 When he confessed these maidenisms, I despaired of his suiting the pleasant, prancing, pop-gun situation of butler at Prior's Lea. 1825 *Gentl. Mag.* XCV. i. 626 The elegant simplicity and delicate maidenism of the pretty Miriam Gray.

† **Mai·denkin.** *Obs.*–1 [f. Maiden *sb.* + -kin.] = Maidkin.

c 1330 *Arth. & Merlin* 671 (Kölbing) To ligge bi a maidenkin & bigeten a child her in. *c* 1440 [see Maidkin].

† **Mai·denless,** *a. nonce-wd.* [f. Maiden *sb.* + -less.] Not truly 'maiden'.

a 1603 T. Cartwright *Confut. Rhem. N. T.* (1618) 39 The Greeke Church, which neuer liked of the maidenlesse maidenhood of their Priests.

Mai·denlike, *a.* and *adv.* [f. Maiden *sb.* + -like.] a. *adj.* Such as is usual with maidens; befitting a maiden. † b. *adv.* After the manner of maidens. *Obs.*

15.. *Robin Conscience* 318 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* III. 246 To clatter and flatter is no maidenlike way. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VI* 183 The yong erle of Rutland..scace of ye age of .xii. yeres, a faire gentleman and a maydenlike person. 1589 Fleming *Virg. Georg.* I. 15 If she ouercast vpon hir face a virgins rednesse Or blushing maidenlike. 1632 Lithgow *Trav.* III. 96 He was maiden-like brought vp amongst the Kings daughters. 1825 J. Neal *Bro. Jonathan* II. 179 Our boy contrived .. to do a multitude of .. pretty, maiden-like things. 1834 Lytton *Pompeii* 23 Her manners are not maidenlike. 1847 Tennyson *Princess* IV. 73 And maidenlike as far As I could ape their treble, did I sing.

Maidenliness (mēi·d'nlinés). [f. Maidenly + -ness.] The quality of being maidenly; the behaviour proper to a maiden.

1555 W. Watreman *Fardle Facions* App. 326 Any man of a shamefaced maindenlines [*sic*]. 1583 Babington *Commaundm.* (1615) 42 Silence is ignorance, modesty is too much maidenlinesse. 1617 *Rider's Dict., Virginalitas*, Maidenlinesse. 1868 Pusey *Serm. Pharisaism* 13 Those who used to furnish our ideal of maidenliness and purity. 1879 G. Meredith *Egoist* I. x. 193 That fair childish maidenliness bad ceased.

Maidenly (mēi·d'nli), *a.* and *adv.* [f. Maiden *sb.* + -ly.] A. *adj.*

1. Of or pertaining to a maiden, or to maidenhood. In early use = Virgin *a.*

1450–1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* 112 Whyche shulde be conceyued and borne of thy maidenly body. 1582 Bentley *Mon. Matrones* Pref. Bj, Even from their tender and maidenlie yeeres, to spend their time..in the studies of noble and approved sciences. 1871 R. Ellis tr. *Catullus* lxiv. 78 Taxed of her youthful array, her maidenly bloom fresh-glowing. 1892 *Temple Bar* May 114 The maidenly curve of her bust.

b. *nonce-use.* (Cf. Maiden *a.* 6.)

1823 Byron *Juan* XIII. xc, An orator,..Who had deliver'd well a very set Smooth speech, his first and maidenly transgression.

† 2. Of persons: Resembling a maiden in action or bearing. Characterized by a maiden's qualities, e. g. gentleness, modesty, timidity. *Obs.*

1523 Skelton *Garl. Laurel* 865 Lyke to Aryna maydenly of porte. 1549 Chaloner *Erasmus on Folly* A ij, Shall one of those shamefast and maidenly men not sticke than to displaie his pecockes fethers? 1592 Greene *Groatsw. Wit* (1617) D 3 b, My brother is a maidenly Batcheler. 1597 Shaks. 2 *Hen. IV*, II. ii. 82 Wherefore blush you now? what a Maidenly man at Armes are you become? 1655 Gurnall *Chr. in Arm.* verse 14. iii. (1669) 8/2 They..were so maidenly and fearful, as not to venture down their hills, for fear of drowning. 1672 Marvell *Reh. Transp.* I. 4 Our author is very maidenly, and condescends to his Bookseller not without some reluctance.

3. Of qualities, actions, etc.: Proper to, or characteristic of a maiden.

1532 More *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 626/1 To learne of hys lemman some very maidenly shamefastenes. 1590 Shaks. *Mids. N.* III. ii. 217 And will you rent our ancient loue asunder, To ioyne with men in scorning your poore friend? It is not friendly, 'tis not maidenly. 1748 Richardson *Clarissa* (1811) II. 68 A confession, that all your past behaviour was maidenly reserve only. 1849 James *Woodman* xxii, She..with maidenly modesty retired till she had the sanction of her guardian's presence. 1884 *Contemp. Rev.* Oct. 547 The manner in which Miss Victoria Dare.. captures Lord Dunbeg..is not exactly maidenly.

B. *adv.* After the fashion of a maiden; in a maidenly manner.

1596 Harington *Metam. Ajax* (1813) 20, I that maidenly to write was wont. 1625 *Gonsalvio's Sp. Inquis.* 59 Bending her head downeward maidenly. 1844 Mrs. Browning *Crowned & Wedded*, Her looks turned maidenly to ground. 1889 F. M. Crawford *Greifenstein* I. ii. 39 She was..away from the world,..and maidenly ignorant of all it contained.

† **Mai·denman.** *Obs.* [f. Maiden *sb.* + Man *sb.*1] A maiden, virgin.

c 893 K. Ælfred *Oros.* I. xiv. § 1 Mesiane noldon ðæt Lædemonia mæȝdenmenn mid heora ofreden. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* III. 42 Ga þænne an mæden man to and ho hit on his sweoran. *c* 1200 Ormin 2085 Sannte Marȝe..wass æfre maȝȝdennmann. *a* 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* 82 For nou thou wost of moder fare thou thou be clene mayden mon.

Maiden's blush.

1. Used as a name for a delicate pink colour. Hence, a rose of this colour.

Cf. *maiden blush*, s.v. Maiden A. 10.

1648 Herrick *Hesper., Epithal. Sir C. Carew*, But for prick-madam, and for gentle-heart, And soft maidens-blush, the bride Makes holy these. 1661 Peacham *Compl. Gent.* (ed. 3) 156 Of the signification of Colours. Maidens-blush, [signifieth] Envy. 1750 G. Hughes *Barbadoes* 226 From which Place rise several many-leav'd Flowers, of a Maiden's-blush. 1882 *Garden* 19 Aug. 168/2 The Maiden's Blush Rose, once so popular, but now seldom met with.

2. A small geometrid moth, *Ephyra punctaria.*

1869 E. Newman *Brit. Moths* 73.

Maidenship (mēi·d'nʃip). [f. Maiden *sb.* + -ship.] The personality of a maiden; chiefly in *Your Maidenship*, as a playful form of address.

1602 Rowlands *Tis Merrie* 22 Your Mayden-ship takes Liquor in too nice. 1637 Heywood *Royall King* III. i. E 2 b, Yes if it please your Maidenship. 1756 Mrs. F. Brooke *Old Maid* No. 9. 64 Your maidenship has opened a channel, through which my thoughts may flow. 1831 *Fraser's Mag.* IV. 183 We trust that their chaste maidenships the Muses will not suffer much of this metrical rubbish to fall in our way.

† **Maidenweed.** *Obs.* [In sense 1 for **maythenweed* (see Maythen); in sense 2 f. Maiden *sb.*]

1. = Maidweed.

1499 *Promp. Parv.* (Pynson) [see Maidweed quot. *c* 1440]. 1530 Palsgr. 241/2 Maydenwede. 1591 Percivall *Sp. Dict., Ervato*, maidenweeds, hogfenell, *Pencedanum.* 1592 R. D. *Hypherotomachia* 29 A garland..of hitter alisander commixt with dead leaves of maydenweede. 1607 Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 39 Castoreum..procureth sleep, they being anointed with it, maiden-weed, and conserve of roses. 1718 Rowe tr. *Lucan* 404 Wound-wort and Maiden-weed perfume the Air.

2. = Maidenhair 1 a.

1524 *Grete Herball* xxxvii, Adianthos. Maydenweede.

† **Maideux.** *Obs.* Also 5 madeus, maydese, ma aydeus. [OF. *m'aide deus* 'God help me'.] In phrase *So maideux* = 'so help me God'.

a 1400–50 *Alexander* 729 'So madeus' [*Ashm. MS.* Sa ma aydeus], quod þis oþer man. *Ibid.* 4446 And maydese ȝit. *Ibid.* 5024 'So maideux', quod þe mone-tree.

† **Mai·dhead.** *Obs.* [f. Maid *sb.* + -head.] = Maidenhead 1.

1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 341 The beaute of his face streited He hath, and threste out bothe hise yhen, That alle wommen whiche him syhen Tbanne afterward, of him ne roghte. And thus his maidehiede he boghte. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S. T. S.) 146 *note*, Yet keipit shee her maid-heid vnforlorne.

Maidhood (mēld,hud). [f. Maid *sb.* + -hood. In the earliest examples repr. OE. *mæg(e)þ-hād*, f. *mæg(e)þ* (see Maiden *sb.*).] = Maidenhood.

a 900 *O. E. Martyrol.* 31 May 88 Heo on mægðhade hire lif geendade. *c* 1200 Ormin 2497 Baþe leddenn i maȝȝþhad All þeȝȝre lif till ende. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 21 Ne hire maidhod ne was awemned. *a* 1225 *St. Marher.* 3 Ich habbe a deore ȝimstan ant ich hit habbe iȝeuen þe mi meidhad ich meane. 1601 Shaks. *Twel. N.* III. i. 162. 1604 — *Oth.* I. i. 173 Is there not Charmes, By which the propertie of Youth, and Maidhood May be abus'd? 1800 Helena Wells *Constantia Neville* (ed. 2) II. 159 As by a matron the airs and graces of maidhood would be relinquished. 1881 W. Wilkins *Songs of Study* 154 The innocence of her maidhood.

Maidie: see Maidy.

Maidish (mēi·diʃ), *a.* [f. Maid *sb.* + -ish.] = Maidenish.

1872 Grosart *Donne's Poems* I. 22 *note*, The delays of maidish indecision. 1895 Crockett *Men of Moss Hags* xxxvi. 258 From a maidish and natural liking for a young and unmarried man.

† **Mai·dkin.** *Obs.*–° In 5 maydekin. [f. Maid *sb.* + -kin.] A little maid.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 319/2 Maydekin, or lytylle mayde (*H., P.*, maydyn kyn), *puella.*

Maidling (mēi·dliŋ). *nonce-wd.* [f. Maid *sb.* + -ling.] A little maid.

In quot. 1831 coined to render MHG. *magetlein*, which is not really equivalent in formation.

1831 Carlyle *Misc. Ess.* (1857) II. 226 She let it [her hair] flow down, The lovely maidling. 1896 *Pall Mall Mag.* Sept. 30 The dissonant pipings of ten charity maidlings.

† **Mai·dly,** *a. Obs.* [f. Maid *sb.* + -ly 1.] Resembling a maid.

1563 B. Googe *Eglogs*, etc. (Arb.) 71 O Cowards all, and maydly men of Courage faynt and weake. 1565 *Satir. Poems Reform.* i. 376 Howe the Frenshe Kinge in marag did endowe me wth Royall right, a madlie wydowe.

Maid Marian. Also 6 mayd(e-, mawd-, -marion, 7 -marrian, -marrion, -morion. A female personage in the May-game and morris-dance. In the later forms of the story of Robin Hood she appears as the companion of the outlaw, the association having prob. been suggested by the fact that the two were both represented in the May-day pageants.

c 1525 Barclay *Eclog* iv. (1570) C vj, Yet would I gladly heare nowe some mery fit Of mayde Marion, or els of Robin hood. 1575 Laneham *Let.* (1871) 22 A liuely morisdauns according too the auncient manner, six daunserz, Mawdmarion, and the fool. 1589 *Pasquil's Ret.* B iij b, Martin ..is the Mayd-marian, trimlie drest vppe in a cast Gowne, and a Kercher. 1596 Shaks. 1 *Hen. IV*, III. iii. 129 For Wooman-hood, Maid-marian may be the Deputies wife of the Ward to thee. 1652 C. B. Stapylton *Herodian* 65 Train'd Bands are Pamp'red like unto Maidmarians. 1656 Blount *Glossogr.* s.v., *Morisco*, a Boy dressed in a Girles habit, whom they call the Maid Marrian. 1696 Phillips, *Maid Marrion*, or *Morion.* *a* 1699 Temple *Of Health & Long Life* Wks. 1720 I. 277 A Sett of Morrice Dancers, composed of Ten Men who danced, a Maid Marian, and a Tabor and Pipe. [Misquoted by Johnson, who in consequence explains *Maidmarian* as 'a kind of dance', an error which is copied in later Dicts.]

Maid of honour.

1. An unmarried lady, usually of noble birth, who attends upon a queen or princess.

c 1586 C'tess Pembroke *Ps.* xlv. vii, Her maides of honor shall on her attend. 1646 Crashaw *Sosp. d'Herode* xlii, The foul queen's most abhorred maids of honour..stand to wait upon her. 1711 Steele *Spect.* No. 109 ¶ 4 The Action at the Tilt-yard you may be sure won the fair Lady, who was a Maid of Honour. 1756–7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) IV. 189 Another court-festivity is at the marriage of one of the empress's maids of honour. 1842 Tennyson *Day Dream* 80 The maid-of-honour blooming fair.

2. A kind of cheesecake sold at Richmond, Surrey.

1769 *Public Advertiser* 11 Mar. 3/3 Almond and Lemon Cheescakes, Maid of Honour, Sweetmeat Tarts. 1836 T. Hook *G. Gurney* I. 110 What are called cheesecakes elsewhere, are here called maids of honour. 1865 *Reader* 16 Sept. 311/2 A maid-of-honour, fresh from the *cuisine* of the Star and Garter, is relishable with its ndjuncts.

Hence **Maid-of-honourship** *nonce-wd.*

1896 A. Dobson in *Longm. Mag.* Sept. 456 Her Maid-of-Honourship came to an end with her marriage.

Mai·dservant. [f. Maid *sb.* + Servant.] A female servant, usually a domestic servant.

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 83 A mayde seruaunt, thrall and bonde, all naked, fylthy, and deformed. 1600 J. Pory tr. *Leo's Africa* vii. 287 All the women of this region except maid-seruants go with their faces couered. *a* 1687 Petty *Pol. Arith.* (1690) 101 The Wages given to the poorest Maid-Servant in the Countrey .. is 30*s.* per annum. 1849 Mrs. Carlyle *Lett.* II. 68 The maid-servant met me at the front door. 1876 T. Hardy *Ethelberta* (1890) 395 One of the pretty maid-servants.

Maidsweet: see Meadsweet.

† **Maidweed.** *Obs.* Also 5–6 mayde-, 6 mayd-, made-. [For **maithe-*, **maythe-weed*: see Maythe.] a. Stinking Camomile, *Anthemis Cotula.* b. *Red Maidweed*, Red or Purple Camomile, *Adonis autumnalis.* (Cf. Mayweed.)

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 319/2 Mayde wede, herbe, or maythys (*MS. S.* maydewode, *P.* maydenwede), *melissa, amarusca.* 1548 Turner *Names of Herbes* (E.D.S.) 14 They call it in Englishe red mathes, alij, red mayde wed, alij purple camomyle. *Ibid.* 60 Stynkyng maydweede. 1551 — *Herbal* I. D ij, Dyuers thynke, that heranthemon is the herbe: whych is called of the herbaryes, amarisca rubra: and of oure countre men, red mathe, or red made wede. 1660 Lupton 1000 *Notable Things* VIII. § 46. 202 Which Maidweed is a stinking herb, having a flower like a Daysie.

Maidy (mēi·di). *dial.* Also **maidie.** [f. Maid *sb.*: see -ie and -y.] A little maid.

1880 T. Hardy *Trumpet-Major* I. iii. 57 You and maidy Anne must come in, if it be only for half an hour. 1882 W. S. Gilbert *Iolanthe* (1886) 32 If you go in You're sure to win—Yours will be the charming maidie. 1891 T. Hardy *Tess* (1900) 47/2 'Is it so, maidy?' he said.

Maied, obs. f. Mead *sb.*1; pa. ppl. of May *v. Obs.*

Maierom(e, obs. form of Marjoram.

Maiest-: see MAJEST-.

Maiester, obs. form of MASTER.

Maieutic (mēi·iū·tik), *a.* (and *sb.*). Also 7 majeutic. [ad. Gr. *μαιευτικ-ός* (*lit.* 'obstetric': used *fig.* by Socrates), f. *μαιεύεσθαι* to act as a midwife, f. *μαία* midwife.] Pertaining to (intellectual) midwifery, *i.e.* to the Socratic process of assisting a person to bring out into clear consciousness conceptions previously latent in his mind.

1655 STANLEY *Hist. Philos., Plato* xv. 46 Of Platonick Discourse there are two kinds, Hyphegetick and Exegetick [of which a sub-division is called] Majeutick. 1856 W. A. BUTLER *Hist. Anc. Philos.* I. 374 The method of Socrates is..essentially a 'maieutic' or obstetric method. 1868 *Contemp. Rev.* VII. 12 Teaching botany..by what he truly calls a *maieutic* process, drawing out intelligence before communicating knowledge. 1882 *Sat. Rev.* 23 Sept. 415/2 Examples of Mr. Cory's stimulating and maieutic method of dealing with history. 1886 SYMONDS *Renaiss. It., Cath. React.* (1898) VII. xi. 176 Their maieutic ingenuity was vain.

b. *sb. pl.* The maieutic method.

1885 W. H. PAYNE tr. *Compayré's Hist. Pedagogy* 23 Maieutics, or the art of giving birth to ideas.

†**Maieutical**, *a. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. prec. + -AL.] = prec. adj.

1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* I. v. 693 Yet is all humane teaching but maieutical or obstetricious.

Maigne, Maigné, -ie, obs. ff. MAIN *a.*, MEYNIE.

Maigre (mē·gəɹ), *sb.* Also 9 meagre. [a. F. *maigre.*] A large fish, *Sciæna aquila*, common in the Mediterranean.

The MEGYR of *Promp. Parv.* is prob. unconnected.

1835 JENYNS *Man. Brit. Vert. Anim.* 352 *Sciæna Aquila* Cuv. (Maigre). 1836 YARRELL *Brit. Fishes* I. 90 The Maigre. *Ibid.* 92 Three fishermen once took twenty Maigres by a single sweep of their net. 1880 GÜNTHER *Fishes* 430 *Sciæna aquila*.. not rarely reaches the British coasts, where it is known as 'Meagre'. 1883 *Fisheries Exhib. Catal.* (ed. 4) 118 Skeleton of Maigre or Royal Fish.

‖ **Maigre** (mē̆gr, mēi·gəɹ), *a.* [F. *maigre*, lit. lean: see MEAGRE *a.*]

1. Of articles of diet, esp. soup: Not containing flesh or the juices of flesh; proper for 'maigre' days.

1787 P. BECKFORD *Lett. fr. Italy* (1805) I. 365 A common maigre dish in this country. 1806 H. HUNTER *Culina* (ed. 3) 58 For want of this precaution, the soup has a maigre taste. *Ibid.* 122 In this receipt for a maigre soup, much is left to the taste of the Cook. 1831 SCOTT *Q. Durw.* Introd. 57 The soup, although bearing the term *maigre*,..was most delicately flavoured.

2. Applied to those days on which, in the Roman Church, abstinence from flesh is enjoined.

1683 ROBINSON in *Ray's Corr.* (1848) 132 Most of the inhabitants here, do generally eat it in Lent, and upon maigre days. 1768 PENNANT *Zool.* I. 68 The Romish church permits the use of it [otter] on maigre-days. 1879 R. LUBBOCK *Fauna of Norfolk* 77 Sustenance upon maigre days.

†3. *To eat, keep, live maigre*: to live on 'maigre' diet. *Obs.*

1739 H. WALPOLE *Corr.* (1820) I. 18 A greater penance than eating maigre. 1764 — *Lett., to G. Montagu* 18 June (1846) IV. 429, I must keep maigre. 1764 SMOLLETT *France & Italy* xxii. (1766) 340 A good catholic, who lives *maigre* one half of the year. 1778 HAN. MORE *Let.* in W. Roberts *Mem.* (1834) I. 136 At last he [the doctor] consented on condition that I should..live maigre and drink no wine.

Maigre, obs. form of MEAGRE.

Maii, -ij, obs. forms of MAY (the month).

Maik, Maikless, Sc. ff. MAKE *sb.*, MAKELESS.

Mail (mēil), *sb.*¹ Forms: 4–7 maill(e, maile, 4–5 mayll(e, *Sc.* mailȝe, (5 mailye, 6 *Sc.* mailyie), 5 mayl, 5–8 mayle, 4– mail; *pl.* 4 mailez, 5 maylez, -is, -us, malys, *Sc.* maily(h)eis, 5–6 mailȝeis, -ȝies. [a. F. *maille* (whence MDu. *maelge*, Du. *malie*):—L. *macula* spot, mesh of a net.]

†1. One of the metal rings or plates of which mail-armour was composed. *Obs.*

c 1320 *Sir Beues* 2836 Al to-brosten is ventaile, And of his hauberk a þosend maile. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 13807 Ne hauberk [was þer] non, wyth maille gret, þat his spere ne þorow schet. *c* 1420 *Anturs of Arth.* (Camden Soc.) xl, Syxti mayles and moe, The squrd squappes in toe. 1460 *Lybeaus Disc.* 252 (Kaluza) And an hauberk brist þat richely was adiȝt With mailes þikke and smale. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* v. ii. 91 As golden mailȝeis hir scalis glitterand brycht. 1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 13 b/2 To drawe out any..Mayles which mighte remayne stitckinge [*sic*] in the Wounde. 1611 COTGR., *Annelet*, a mayle, or a ring of mayle. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Mail*, a little Iron-ring for Armour.

fig. 1549 COVERDALE, etc. *Erasm. Par. Eph.* vi. 10–17 For the hreste plate, put on innocencie and righteousnes, to kepe the inward partes of your mynd safe and sure with the mayles of vertue and godlines.

†b. *Proverb.* (Literally from OFr.) *Obs.*

1597 SKENE *De Verb. Sign.* s.v. *Hawbert*, The common proverb, manie mailzies makis an haubergion, monie littles makis an meikle.

†c. *transf. pl.* The scales (of a fish). *Obs. rare.*

1484 CAXTON *Fables of Poge* v. (1889) 303 And at the bothe his elbowes he [the monstre] hadde wynges ryght brode and grete of fysshes mayles wherwith he swymmed.

2. *collect.* Armour composed of interlaced rings or chain-work or of overlapping plates fastened upon a groundwork. *Coat of mail*: see COAT *sb.* 5. (Cf. CHAIN-*mail*, PLATE-*mail*, RING-*mail*.)

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* v. 1559 Achilles thorwgh the maylle, And thorwgh the body gan hym for to ryve. *c* 1386 — *Clerk's T.* 1146 Though thyn housbonde armed he in maille. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 11107 Sho was bare of hir breast to þe bright mayll. 1460 *Lybeaus Disc.* 1230 (Kaluza) Hys fomen wer well boun, To perce his acketoun, Gipell, maile and plate. 1465 MARG. PASTON in *P. Lett.* II. 190 A standard of mayle. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* XII. ii. 95 Ahowt his schuldris assais his hawbryk syne, Of burnist maill. 1552 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 130 A jack of plett, steilbonet, splent slevis, of mailyie or plait. 1600 J. PORY tr. *Leo's Africa* 21 Their armour..certaine shirts of male verie long and streight. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VI. 368 Mangl'd with gastly wounds through Plate and Maile. 1810 CAMPBELL *Ballads* vii, Every bosom shook Beneath it's iron mail. 1838 LYTTON *Leila* V. i. 49 The king was armed *cap-a-pied* in mail. 1877 MORRIS *Sigurd* 4 Through the glimmering thicket the linked mail rang out.

†b. A piece of mail-armour. *Obs.*

1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* III. iii. 152 To hang Quite out of fashion, like a rustie male. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 200 The trunk of the elephant was couered with a maile for defence. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* III. 25 They presently arme al their bodies, and..their very shinbones, and hinder parts, with males of Iron.

c. *transf.* of the protective shell or scales of certain animals.

1714 GAY *Fan* III. 179 For this .. His clouded Mail the Tortoise shall resign. 1833 TENNYSON *Two Voices* iv, Today I saw the dragon-fly.. From head to tail Came out clear plates of sapphire mail. 1849 M. ARNOLD *Forsaken Merman*, Where the sea-snakes coil and twine, Dry their mail and bask in the brine. 1885 R. L. & F. STEVENSON *Dynamiter* 106 The mail of a boiled lobster.

d. *fig.*

1813 J. N. BREWER *Beaut. Eng.* II. 77 The antiquaries who have entered the lists, have come cased up in the mail of prejudice. 1866 B. TAYLOR *Poems, Autumnal Vespers* 38 In stiff December's mail. 1866 G. MACDONALD *Ann. Q. Neighb.* xxxii. (1878) 547 She was clad in the mail of endurance.

3. A 'web' in the eye. [So F. *maille* (Cotgr.); cf. MACULA quot. *c* 1400.] *Obs.* exc. *dial.*

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* (1634) II. 312 Which eie-salue they say, serues also for the mailles or spots [L. *argema*]..in the eies. 1847 HALLIWELL, *Mail*, a defect in vision. *Devon.*

†4. A hole for the passage of a lace, clasp, or other fastening of a garment; an eyelet-hole, 'eye'. Also *fig.* *Obs.*

c 1470 HENRYSON *Garm. Gude Ladeis* 15 Poems (1865) 8 Hir kirtill suld be of clene constance, Lasit with lesum lufe, The mailyheis of continuance For nevir to remufe. 1530 PALSGR. 241/2 Mayle that receyveth the clasped of a gowne into it, *porte.* 1572 *Satir. Poems Reform.* XXXIII. 25 My Sleifis wer of to borrow and len ghidlie; My Lais and Mailzies of trew permanence. 1588 THOMAS *Dict.* (1606), *Orbiculus*, the male or rundle thorough which the latchet of the shoe passeth. 1607 *Barley-Breake* (1877) 16 And day by day this lace a mayle doth bate.

b. *spec.* in *Weaving.* (See quots.)

1731 MORTIMER in *Phil. Trans.* XXXVII. 106 Every Thread of the Warp goes through a small Brass Ring called a Male. 1831 G. R. PORTER *Silk Manuf.* 216 A modern improvement substitutes for the loops small metallic eyes, through which the warp threads are passed,..these eyes are called mails. 1835 WEBSTER *Rhymes* 152 (E. D. D.) Temper yer ilka thrum and thread, Yea, whether they wimple thro' a head, Or thro' a mail.

5. *Hawking.* The breast-feathers of a hawk when the feathers are full-grown. Occas. applied to the plumage of other birds.

1486 *Bk. St. Albans* A vij, Hawkes haue White maill, Canuas maill or Rede maill. And soni call Rede maill Iren mayll. White maill is soone knawe. Canuas maill is betwene white maill and Iron maill. And Iron maill is varri Rede. *Ibid.* A vij b, A Goshawke nor a tercell in thare sore aage haue nott thair mayles named bot it is calde their plumage, and after the cote it is calde theyr Maill. 1530 PALSGR. 241/2 Mayle of a hauke, *greuelure.* 1575 [see MAILED *ppl. a.* 4]. 1614 MARKHAM *Cheap Husb.* (1623) 135 His [a dunghill cock's] eyes round and great, the colour answering the colour of his plume or male. 1655 WALTON *Angler* (1661) 107 The wings made of the blackish mail of the Drake. 1678 *Willughby's Ornithol.* App. 398 The Mail of a Hawk is the Breast or Plumage of the Breast in reference to its colour: So they say a Hawk changes the mail, or is white-maild, &c. 1686 BLOME *Gentl. Recr.* II. 182/1 The little Dun-flye hath his Body made of Dun-Woull, and his Wings of the Mayle of a Partridge. 1852 R. F. BURTON *Falconry Valley of Indus* viii. 76 Full breast, covered with regular mail. *Note.* The 'mails' are the breast feathers.

b. (See quot.: cf. MAILED *ppl. a.* 4 b.)

1727 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Mail*, a Speck on the Feathers of Birds.

6. *Rope-making.* (See quot. 1794.)

1750 BLANCKLEY *Nav. Expositor, Mails*, are made of Iron, and interwoven, not unlike a Chain; they are for rubbing off the loose Hemp which remains on Lines or white Cordage after it is made. 1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* 55 *Mail*, to rub off the loose hemp that remains on white cordage, is a kind of steel chain-work, flat, and fastened upon leather, about nine-inches long and seven-inches broad. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*

7. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *mail-armour, -coat, -plate, -quilt, -sark, -shirt, -work*; instrumental, as *mail-clad, -covered, -sheathed* adjs.; **mail net** (see quot.); **mail-shell**, a name for the genus *Chiton* (Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.* 1867).

1868 G. STEPHENS *Runic Mon.* I. 184 The ring-like dots—which I take to be a conventional representation of *mail-armour. 1777 R. POTTER tr. *Æschylus, Persians* 515 Thy *mail-clad horse. 1805 SCOTT *Last Minstr.* I. v, Ten squires, ten yeomen, mail-clad men. 1862 ANSTED *Channel Isl.* I. ii. (ed. 2) 24 Should an attack be made with mail-clad ships. 1653 URQUHART *Rabelais* I. xi, He .. would have the *Mail-coats to be made link after link. 1803 BYRON *On Leaving Newstead Abbey* ii, The *mail-cover'd Barons. 1773 J. CAMPBELL *Mod. Falconry* 262 **Male-feathers*, those on the breast. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, **Mail-net*, a form of loom-made net, which is a combination of common gauze and whip-net in the same fabric. 1771 MICKLE tr. *Camoens' Lusiad* III. (1776) 128 Vain were the *mail-plates of Granada's bands. *Ibid.* I. 47 There clasping greaves, and plated *mail-quilts strong. 1838 LONGF. *Beowulf's Exp. Heort* 76 The Weather people .. their *mail-sarks shook. 1850 OGILVIE, **Mail-sheathed.* 1817 SCOTT *Harold* I. ix. 16 Wilt thou .. Lay down thy *mail-shirt for clothing of hair. 1869 BOUTELL *Arms & Arm.* vii. 107 This mail shirt, or hauberk, was fitted almost tightly to the person. *Ibid.* ii. 18 The cuirass..was formed..of interwoven *mail-work.

Mail (mēil), *sb.*² Now only *Sc.* Forms: 1–3 mal, 3 mol, 3–6 male, 5 maile, 7 maille, 7–8 meal, 5–7, 9 maill, 6- mail. [Late OE. *mál*, a. ON. *mál* neut., speech, agreement = OE. (poet.) *mǽl* speech; prob. a contracted form of the word which appears as OHG., OS. *mahal* assembly, judgement, treaty, OE. *mǽdel* meeting, discussion, Goth. *mapl* meeting-place. (Cf. MALLUM.) In sense, however, the Eng. word seems rather to represent the ON. derivative *mále* wk. masc., contract, stipulation, stipulated pay; cf. Ormin's *mále* accus.

The word has survived only in Sc. and northern dialects, and hence its phonetic form is northern. If it had come down in midland or southern use its form would have been *mole* (mōul).]

1. Payment, tax, tribute, rent. *Mails and duties* (see quot. 1861). Cf. BLACK MAIL.

O. E. Chron. an. 1086 Se cyng scalde his land swa deore to male swa heo deorost mihte. *c* 1200 ORMIN 10188 Forrþi badd hemm Samnt Johan..samnnenn lahelike & rihht þe kingess rihhte mále. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 179 And giet ne wile þe louerd ben paid mid his rihte mol. *c* 1275 *Vl Pains Hell* 161 in *O. E. Misc.* 151 Of heoni hi token vnriht mol. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 5376, I giue him woningsted to wale For euer-mare, wit-outen male. 1396 in *Scottish Antiq.* XIV. 217 The forsayd Scher Jone sal haf the malys of Ouchtyrtyre. 1430–31 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 376/1 That no maile of siche certificate made..put to ony prejudice..any persone. *c* 1480 HENRYSON *Mor. Fab.* XII. (*Wolf & Lamb*) XX, Scantlie may he purches by his maill To leif vpon dry breid. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* xv. 123 The malis and fermis of the grond..is hychtit to sic ane price. 1746–7 *Act 20 Geo. II*, c. 43 § 17 Recovering and uplifting from the vassals..the mails and duties or rents and profits thereof. *a* 1768 ERSKINE *Inst.* III. vii. § 20 (1773) 529 The arrears of rent, or, in our law-style, of mails and duties, prescribe, if [etc.]. 1824 SCOTT *Redgauntlet* Let. xi, The rental-book..bore evidence against the Goodman of Primrose-Knowe, as behind the hand with his mails and duties. 1861 W. BELL *Dict. Law Scot.* s.v., Maills and Duties are the rents of an estate, whether in money or grain; hence, an action for the rents of an estate ..is termed an action of maills and duties. 1900 CROCKETT *Little Anna Mark* viii, He carried a great sum about with him, being the rents and mails of all his New Milns property.

b. With word prefixed, as *borough, feu, grass, house mail*; **land mail**: see LAND *sb.* 12; **silver mail**, rent paid in money.

1424 *Sc. Acts Jas. I*, c. 8 All þe gret and smal custumys & burowmaills of þe Realme. 1479–1752 Grass mail [see GRASS *sb.*¹ 12]. 1566–67 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 499 He..wes in possessioun..of the hous maill occupiit be the saidis tennentis. 1585 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* Ser. I. IV. 14 To mak pament of his few maills. 1597 SKENE *De Verb. Sign.*, s.v. *Firmarius, Firma* signifies the duty quhilk the tennent paies to the landis-lord, quhidder it be siluer-maill, victuall, or vther duetie. 1609 — *Reg. Maj.* 125 Gif thy mail-man will not pay to thee the house maill at the terme. 1640 BAILLIE *Lett.* (1841) I. 272 Our house mailles everie week above eleven pound Sterling.

c. *fig. To pay the mail* = to pay the penalty.

1807 HOGG *Mount. Bard* 199 Poet. Wks. (1838) II. 263 My sister..By Lairistan foully was betrayed, And roundly has he payed the mail.

2. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *mail-payer, paying*; **mail-duty**, rent; **mail-free** *a.* and *adv.*, free of rent, exempt from payment of rent; **mail garden**, 'a garden, the products of which are raised for sale' (Jam.) (hence *mail-gardener*); **mail-man**, one who pays rent, a tenant; **mailmart**, a cow sent in payment of rent; **mail-rooms** *pl.*, rented rooms.

1638 *Extracts Burgh Rec. Glasgow* (1876) I. 392 That na burges .. sett or promeis to sett for *maill dewtie or vther-wayes,..wntill [etc.]. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* viii, Deans .. contrived to maintain his ground upon the estate by regular payment of mail-duties. 1471 *Acta Dom. Audit.* 10/2 *Male fre fore þe formale pait be him to þe said Alexander. 1638 RUTHERFORD *Lett.* iii. (1664) 14 Many..of you..have been like a tennent that sitteth mealfree. 1798 J. NAISMYTH *Agric. Clydesd.* VI. 101 The *mail gardens around the city of Glasgow. 1820 SCOTT *Abbot* XXXV, The candle shines from the house of Blinkhoolie, the *mail-gardener. *c* 1480 HENRYSON *Mor. Fab.* XII. (*Wolf & Lamb*) XIV, The pure people..As *maill-men, marchandis, and all lawboreris. 1609 SKENE *Reg. Maj.* 113 Na Mail-man, or Fermour, may thirle his Lord of his frie tenement. 1445 *Exch. Rolls Scot.* V. 213 Lez *mailmartis insule de Bute. 1597 SKENE *De Verb. Sign., Firmarius*, ane *mail-payer, ane mailer, or mail-man. 1724 RAMSAY *Vision* ix, Mailpayers wiss it to the devil. 1581 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* Ser. I. III. 417 Throw the quhilk waist, *maill-paying, and tyning of the proffites of the saidis landis, he is utterlie wrakkit. *c* 1626 in W. K. Tweedie *Sel. Biog.* (1845) I. 351 He warned me from the rest of my *mail-rooms in Salt-coats and East Mains.

Mail (mēil), *sb.*³ Forms: 3–8 male, 5 maylle, 5–6 mayle, malle, 6 maale, 6- mail. [ME. *male*, a. OF. *male* (F. *malle*) = Pr., Sp., Pg., It.

mala; of Teut. origin: cf. OHG. *malha* (MHG. *malhe*), MDu. *male* (Du. *maal*).]

1. A bag, pack, or wallet; a travelling bag. Now only *Sc.* and *U.S.* in *pl.* = baggage.

c 1205 LAY. 3543 Ich þe wulle bi-tache a male riche. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 48 A man that bore..gold upon hijs bac, In a male with or blac. *c* 1320 *Sir Beues* 1297 Inoug a leide him before, Bred and flesc out of is male. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Can. Yeom. Prol.* 13 A male tweyfold on his croper lay. 1489–90 *Plumpton Corr.* 89 Robart, my servant.. is large to ryde afore my male, and ouer weyghty for my horse. 1552 *Act* 5 & 6 *Edw. VI*, c. 15 § 2 Such as make Males, Bougets, Leather Pots,..or any other Wares of Leather. 1567 R. EDWARDS *Damon & Pithias* F ij, Who inuented these moasters [breeches] first, did it to a gostly ende, To haue a male readie to put in other folkes stuffe. 1609 BIBLE (Douay) 1 *Kings* ix. 7 The bread is spent in our males. 1632 DELONEY *Thomas of Reading* xi. G 4, They..take away the mans apparell, as also his money, In his male or cap-case. 1670 COTTON *Espernon* II. VII. 335 His Jewels ..were lock'd up in a little iron Chest, and carried in a Male. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Mail*,..also a kind of Port-mantle, Sack or Trunk to travel with. 1820 SCOTT *Abbot* xxxviii, They charged me with bearing letters for the Queen, and searched my mail. 1893 STEVENSON *Catriona* xvii. 190 He..emptied out his mails upon the floor that I might have a change of clothes.

†**b.** As a measure of quantity. *Obs. rare*—1.

1502 ARNOLDE *Chron.* (1811) 191 Wulle is bought by the sacke by the tod by the stone and by the mayle.

†**c.** *transf.* and *fig. Obs.*

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 22 Quhu lucifer..[Bro3te mankiade in sinne and bale] And held hem sperd in helles male. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Parson's Prol.* 26 Vnbokele and shewe vs what is in thy Male. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Bochas* IX. iii. (1494) E vij/1 If ye shall tell youre owne tale..Ve wyll vnclose but a lytyll male, Shewe of youre vices but a small parcele. 1450 MYRC 1343 Art thou I-wonet to go to the ale To fulle there thy fowle male.

2. A bag or packet of letters or dispatches for conveyance by post, more fully *mail of letters*; †hence, the letters or dispatches so conveyed (*obs.*). *The mail*, the postal matter, collectively, conveyed from office to office.

1654 *Ord. Office Postage Lett.* § 8 To have in readiness one good Horse or Mare to receive and carry the Male of Letters.. That no other person (besides the Post that carrieth the Male) be suffered to ride Post with the Male. 1684 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1900/2 Our Pacquet-Boats put to Sea yesterday with the Mails for Calais. 1692 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) II. 489 Yesterday a Flanders mail of an old date, confirms the several repulses of the enemy. 1746 SMOLLETT *Reproof* 160 With all the horrors of prophetic dread That rack his bosom while the mail is read. 1767 COLMAN *Eng. Merch.* I. i, I collect the articles of news from the other papers,..translate the mails, write occasional letters [etc.]. 1776 C. CARROLL *Jrnl.* (1845) 53 Dr. Franklin found in the Canada mail, which he opened, a letter for General Schuyler. 1782 COWPER *Expostulation* 606 Now think,.. If the new mail thy merchants now receive, Or expectation of the next, give leave. 1792 *Stat. U. S.* I. vii. § 17 (1856) I. 237 That if any person..shall rob any carrier of the mail ..of such mail, or if any person shall rob the mail, in which letters are sent to be conveyed by post..or shall steal such mail. 1794 *Ibid.* I. xxiii. § 26 (1856) I. 365 And the letters so received shall be formed into a mail, sealed up, and directed to the postmaster of the port. 1838 *Act* 1 & 2 *Vict.* c. 98 § 5 The Mails or Post Letter Bags so to be carried ..by Railways. 1852 HAWTHORNE *Amer. Note-Bks.* (1883) 424 The regular passenger-boat is now coming in, and probably brings the mail. 1873 BLACK *Pr. Thule* vii, Everything will be as right as the mail. 1883 *Whitaker's Almanack* 384 [Postal Guide.] India.—Mails made up every Friday evening at the rate of 5*d.* per ½ oz. 1893 *Daily News* 22 Sept. 6/5 Little incidents of camp life in the East, as the arrival and distribution of a mail of letters.

b. *U. S.* (A person's) batch of letters.

1890 T. L. JAMES in *Railways Amer.* 319 That official was opening his mail. 1901 *Harper's Mag.* CII. 784/1 Stormfield in his mail that day..found a despatch: 'Unexpectedly called home'.

3. The person, vehicle, or train that carries the mail or postal matter; often short for *mail coach*, *mail train*, etc. Hence, the method or system of transmission of letters by post; the official conveyance or dispatch of postal matter; the POST.

So used now in *U. S.* In England the word in ordinary use is limited to the dispatch of letters abroad, as the *Indian mail*, etc., or as short for mail-train, as the *down mail*, *night mail*. It is retained as the official word for the dispatch and delivery of inland letters where the general public use POST.

1654 *Ord. Office Postage Lett.* § 2 The said John Manley ..shall..safely and faithfully carry all..Letters and Dispatches..and that by the Common, Ordinary Male or other speedy and safe passage. 1692 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) II. 489 One letter by the last mail sayes, the king intended to fight the enemy Satturday 7 night last. 1720 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5850/2 The Bristol Mail was robbed. 1778 ABIGAIL ADAMS in *Fam. Lett.* (1876) 343 Four or five sheets of paper, written to you by the last mail, were destroyed when the vessel was taken. 1794 COLERIDGE *Lett.* 26 Sept. (1895) I. 86, I..sent them off by the mail directed to Mrs. Southey. 1822–56 DE QUINCEY *Confess.* Wks. 1890 III. 348 The mails were..made so strong as to be the heaviest of all carriages. 1831 in *Parl. Papers* (1831–2) XLV. 128 b, When it is permitted in England for the mails to take parcels on the road. 1842 TENNYSON *Walking to the Mail* 102, I fear That we shall miss the mail. 1864 J. H. NEWMAN *Apologia* 96 While waiting for the down mail to Falmouth. 1880 *Print. Trades Jrnl.* No. 30. 34 Tender and brittle, and hardly bears its journey through the mail. 1886 P. ROBINSON *Valley Teetotum Trees* 71 Just in time to catch the night-mail to London. 1888 *Amer. Humorist* 2 June 3/2 Why didn't he send his poem by mail? 1891 *37th Rept. Postm.-General* 5 Sixty-four additional direct Parcel Mails between London and other places have been established in the year. 1900 *Post Office Guide* 1 Jan. 14 When intended for despatch by a particular mail they should..be presented for registration half an hour before the closing of the letter-box for that mail.

b. Short for *mail coach* or *van* (on a railway).

1862 *Building News* 6 June 389/2, 555 Locomotives and Tenders. 494 First Class Mails.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*: **a.** (sense 1) simple attrib., chiefly obsolete, as *mail-band*, *-girt*, *-girth*, *-horse*, *-lock*, *-man*, *-panel*, *-pillion*, *-saddle*, *-trunk*; also objective, as *mail-maker*.

1515 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) V. 69 A male wyth ij *male bandys. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 155 The females [*sc.* elephants] carry over their calves upon their snowts,.. binding them fast with their trunncks, like as with ropes or *male girts. 1673 *12th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. VII. (1890) 384 For a *male-girth and tabbs 15. 6*d. c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 323/1 *Male horse, *gerulus*. 1469 *Househ. Ord.* (1790) 97 A maile horse and a botell horse whiche the maile-man shall keepe. 1673 *12th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. VII. (1890) 384 For a *male-lock and a letter, 8*d.* 1311 *Cal. Lett.-Bks. Lond., Lett-Bk.* D. (1902) 74 [The same day, John Morice] *melmakere, [admitted]. *c* 1515 *Cocke Lorell's B.* 9 Masones, male makers, and merbelers. 1469 *Maile-man [see *mail horse*]. 1392 *Earl Derby's Exp.* (Camden) 152 Pro iij capistris et *male panel. 1639 T. DE GREY *Compl. Horsem.* 216 A galled backe commeth..with the..pack-saddle or *male-pillion. 1686 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2130/4 A black Gelding..a little hurt of his back with a Mail-pillion. 1833 M. SCOTT *Tom Cringle* xi. (1842) 257 His portmanteau behind him on a mail-pillion. 1378–9 *Durh. Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 388 In una *malesadill empt. ixs. iijd. 1414–15 *Ibid.* 184, j Malesadil. *a* 1726 VANBRUGH *Journ. Lond.* I. i. 81 My lady..laid on four *mail-trunks, besides the great deal-box.

b. (sense 2) simple attrib., e. g. in the names of vehicles employed to carry the mail, as *mail boat*, *diligence*, *gig*, *packet*, *schooner*, *ship*, *steamer*, *wagon*; also *mail-carrier*, *letter*, *matter*, *room*, *time*; **mail-bag**, a large bag in which the mail is carried; **mail-box**, (*a*) a box in which the mail-bags were placed on a mail-coach; (*b*) *U. S.*, a letter-box; **mail-car**, (*a*) a railway car in which the mail is carried; (*b*) *Ireland*, an 'outside car' used for conveyance of the mails; **mail-cart**, (*a*) a vehicle in which the mail is carried by road; also *attrib.*; (*b*) a light vehicle to carry children, made with shafts to be drawn or pushed by hand; **mail-catcher** *U. S.* (see quot. 1890); **mail contractor**, one who contracts with the government for the conveyance of the mail; **mail-guard**, the guard of a mail-coach; **mail horn**, a long horn used by the guard of a mail-coach; †**mail-maker**, an official in the General Letter-Office; **mail-man**, one who carries the mail; **mail-master** *U.S.*, **-officer** (see quot. 1855); **mail-phaeton**, a high two-seated phaeton (q.v.) drawn by a pair of horses; **mail-pouch** (*U.S.*), a locked leather mail-bag; **mail-rack** (*U.S.*), a letter-rack; **mail-rider**, a mail-carrier; **mail-road, -route**, the road or route by which the mail is regularly conveyed; **mail-runner**, a mail-carrier (in India); **mail sack** (*U.S.*), a canvas bag used for the conveyance of the mail; †**mail-setting** *a.*, that robs the mail; **mail-stage** (*U.S.*) = MAIL-COACH; **mail-train**, a fast train which carries the mails. Also MAIL-COACH.

1840 LONGF. in *Life* (1891) I. 358 There were three insides besides myself, and a dozen *mail-bags. 1855 HYDE CLARKE *Dict.*, *Mail-boat*. 1895 A. H. NORWAY *P.-O. Packet Service* i. 3 The Post-Office selected Falmouth in 1688 as the point of embarkation..for the..mail boats. 1810 in J. W. Hyde *Roy. Mail* iii. (1885) 34 The bags of letters..were stolen from the *mail-box..whilst the horses were changing. 1842 S. C. HALL *Ireland* II. 77 *Mail-cars. 1889 *Ch. Times* 27 Dec. 1227 The regular train consists of two sleepers,..and enough mail-cars to contain the mail. 1799 *Stat. U. S.* III. xliii. § 13 (1856) I. 736 The receipt and delivery of letters on the way, between post-offices, shall not be required of the *mail-carriers. 1901 *N. Amer. Rev.* Feb. 289 The usefulness of fast steamships as mail-carriers. 1837 *Act 7 Will. IV & 1 Vict.* c. 33 § 18 No Mail Coach, Mail Diligence, or *Mail Cart conveying..any Mail or Bag of Letters in Ireland. 1893 H. JOYCE *Hist. Post Office* xiii. 316 The London Mail-Cart and Van Service. 1903 *G. W. R. Time Tables*, Parcels and Goods Arrangem., Perambulators and Children's Mail Carts. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl., **Mail-catcher*. 1890 T. L. JAMES in *Railways Amer.* 326 The letter car is provided with a 'mail catcher', which is placed at a small door through which mail pouches are snatched from conveniently placed posts at wayside stations where stops are not made. 1830 *Act* 11 *Geo. IV & 1 Will. IV*, c. 68 *Mail Contractors, Stage Coach Proprietors [etc.]. 1837 *Mail Diligence [see *mail-cart*]. 1887 C. F. HOLDER *Living Lights* 119 John Stewart, who for many years drove a *mail-gig between Dunkeld and Aberfeldy. 1790 WOLCOT (P. Pindar) *Advice to Future Laureat* Wks. 1812 II. 341 The *Mail guard To load his blunderbuss and blow his horn. 1844 Mail Guard [see *mail-train*]. 1852 R. S. SURTEES *Sponge's Sp. Tour* (1893) 299 The shrill twang, twang, twang, of the now almost forgotten *mail-horn. 1799 *Stat. U. S.* III. xliii. § 15 (1856) I. 737 If any person..shall secrete, embezzle or destroy any such *mail letter or packet. 1735–55 J. CHAMBERLAYNE *St. Gt. Brit.* II. iii, List of Officers in General Letter-Office. [Two] *Mail-makers. 1881 MRS. C. PRAED *Policy & P.* I. i. 9 Tom Dungie, the *mail-man,..had just removed his saddle with its load of brown leather post-bags. 1889 *Westm. Gaz.* 5 Sept. 8/1 The mails are still conveyed for the most part upon the heads and backs of native mailmen. 1855 HYDE CLARKE *Dict.*, **Mail-master*, officer having charge of the mail. 1875 *Atlantic Monthly* XXXV. 98/1 The *mail matter can be classified into letters, daily papers [etc.]. 1882 FLOYER *Unexpl. Baluchistan* 138 The *mail-officer passed us with the mails [in a boat]. 1844 ROWLAND HILL *State Penny Postage* 16 The net expense of the *Mail packets to these Islands..amounted in 1840–41 to about 70001. 1857 G. A. LAWRENCE *Guy Livingstone* viii. 64 We were driving over in his *mail-phaeton. 1890 T. L. JAMES in *Railways Amer.* 312 The *mail pouch just thrown from the car. 1896 *Cosmopolitan* XX. 406 Near one of the doors..is..the *mail-rack. 1897 *Outing* (U. S.) XXIX. 385/1 These Turkish *mail-riders..drive two horses loaded with the mail-bags at a gallop in front of them. 1837 ROWLAND HILL *P. O. Reform* 29 The cost of transit along the *mail-roads..being so trifling. 1882 OGILVIE, **Mail-room*. 1891 *Pall Mall G.* 27 Aug. 7/2 The mail-room occupies the place of what was formerly the second saloon. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVIII. 457/2 Sorting [letters] according to the different *mail-routes. 1892 R. KIPLING *Barrack-r. Ballads* 121 Up the hill to Simoorie..The bags on his shoulder, the *mail-runner trudges. 1822 *Acc. Establ. Gen. P.-O.* Parl. Pap. XVIII. 166 b, Hire of Seven *Mail Schooners in the West Indies £5,100. *c* 1688 *New Letany* viii. in *Coll. Poems Popery* (1689) 8/1 A Turncoat, *Mail-setting, King-killing Rascal. 1891 *Act* 54 & 55 *Vict.* c. 31 § 2 The master of a British *mail ship..when carrying mails to or from any port [etc.]. *Ibid.* § 10 This Act may be cited as the Mail Ships Act, 1891. 1803 M. CUTLER in *Life, Jrnls. & Corr.* (1888) II. 135 At 8 o'clock at night, set out in the *mail stage. 1866 SALA *Let.* 11 Apr. in Frith *Autobiog.* (1888) III. 255 All the wonderful people you see on board the *mail-steamer. 1841 THACKERAY *Fatal Boots* xi, In the evening, after *mail-time, I [a letter-carrier] went back to my mamma and sister. 1844 *Act* 7 & 8 *Vict.* c. 85 § 11 It shall be also lawful for the Postmaster General to send any Mail Guard with Bags..by any Trains other than a *Mail Train. 1890 T. L. JAMES in *Railways Amer.* 325 The big lumbering *mail wagons which are familiar sights in the streets of the metropolis [New York].

Mail, *sb.*[4] *Obs.* exc. *Hist.* Also 6 *Sc.* malȝe, 9 maille. [a. AF. *mayle*, OF. *maille*, *meaille* (whence MDu. *maelge*):—late L. **metallea*: see MEDAL.]

1. A halfpenny.

[1292 BRITTON I. xxxi. § 2 Quant a ii. s. vi. d. dunc soit le poys iiiii. s. iiii. d. mayle ferling. 1379 *Rolls of Parlt.* III. 64/2 De faire ordeiner Mayles & Ferthinges, pur paier pur les petites mesures. 1415 *Act* 3 *Hen. V*, Et ces quest trove boa argent p^r estre illoeques ferrez & coynez en mayls Engleys.] 1570 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xiii. 125 3e left him nocht ane Malȝe or Deneir. 1707 FLEETWOOD *Chron. Prec.* Pref., Till about 1544, the Silver Money of England consisted of Groats, Half-Groats, Pence, Half-Pence (called, of old, Mails) and Farthings. 1890 SERVICE *Thir Notandums* ix. 67 Gold Pennies and Mailles, Lozenge Lions [etc.].

2. *Maille noble*: a gold coin of the reign of Edw. III; a half-noble.

[1344 in Rymer *Fœdera* (1708) V. 416/1 Et une autre Monoie d'Or, Currante la piece pur Quarante Deners d'Esterlings, que serra appelle Maille Noble.] 1884 KENYON *Gold Coins* 18.

†**Mail**, *sb.*[5] *Obs.* exc. as alien word (māy). Also 7 maill(e; and see MALL. [a. F. *mail*:—L. *malleus* hammer. Cf. Du. *malie*.] The game of pall-mall; a place where the game was played; hence (from the 'Mail' at Paris), a public promenade bordered by trees. *The Mail* (in St. James's Park, London): now called the MALL.

1644 EVELYN *Diary* 8 May, Recreatiag myself sometimes at the maill, and sometymes about the towne. [See *ante*, 2 May, where the word appears as *mall*.] 1670 LASSELS *Voy. Italy* I. 29 Going out of the house, you find a handsome Mail, and rare Ponds of water. 1705 ADDISON *Italy* 217 A Highway .. near as long and as broad as the Mail in St. James's Park. [1903 *Westm. Gaz.* 11 Feb. 1/3 A long *mail* of elms looks down into the gulf.]

b. *High Mail*: = *high Mall* (see MALL *sb.*[1] 4).

1676 ETHEREDGE *Man of Mode* III. iii, 'Tis now but high Mail, Madam, the most entertaining Time of all the Evening.

Mail (mēl), *v.*[1] [f. MAIL *sb.*[1]; partly back-formation from MAILED *a.*] *trans.* To clothe or arm with or as with mail.

1795 SOUTHEY *Joan of Arc* V. 4 The martial Maid arose. She mail'd her limbs; The white plumes nodded o'er her helmed head. 1848 LYTTON *Harold* (1862) 58, I will .. ask what Englishmen are there who will aim shaft or spear at this breast, never mailed against England. 1858 LONGF. *Warden Cinque Ports*, A single warrior, In sombre harness mailed.

Mail (mēl), *v.*[2] *Sc.* [f. MAIL *sb.*[2]] *trans.* To rent, pay rent for. Hence **Mailed** *ppl. a.*

1425 *Sc. Acts Jas. I* (1814) II. 12/2 Ande gif it be a man at malis þe hous & birnis it reklesly he sal amende þe scaith efter his power. 1877 ALEXANDER *Notes & Sk.* 8 (E.D.D.) A lone woman or two in a 'mailt-house'.

Mail (mēl), *v.*[3] [Of obscure origin: sense 2 may possibly be the original use. Cf. MAIL *sb.*[1] and *sb.*[3]]

†**1.** *trans.* To tie (*up*), wrap up (goods, a parcel, etc.); to envelop. Also *fig. Obs.*

In the early 17th c. often in expressions like 'mailed in armour', with allusion to MAIL *sb.*[1]

[1548–78 implied in MAILING *vbl. sb.*[1]] 1570 FOXE *A. & M.* (ed. 2) III. 1644/1 It [gold and silver] was matted about with mattes and mayled in littell bundels about ij. foote long. 1588 PARKE tr. *Mendoza's Hist. China* 209 [A present] was mailed and sealed and so sent vnto the viceroy of Aucheo. 1593 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. VI*, II. iv. 31 Me thinkes I should not thus be led along, Mayl'd vp in shame, with Papers on my back. 1598 DRAYTON *Heroic. Ep.* xiii. 59 How could it be, those that were wont to stand, To see my pompe..Should after see mee mayld vp in a sheete, Doe shamefull penance. 1601 WEEVER *Mirr. Mart.* C iv, Then ledde I warre mailde vp in sheetes of brasse. 1619 *Let. fr. Factors at Surat to the E. I. C.* in *Embassy Sir T. Roe* (Hakl.) 517 To whom wee have delivered a box sealed, mailed, and covered. 1653 in T.

Stockton, Calif.

Fowler *Hist. C. C. C.* (O. H. S.) 228 A basket mal'd up with Cords. 1657 TRAPP *Comm. Ezra* ix. 11 Who .. do miserably mail themselves in the filthiness of leudnesse. 1660 F. BROOKE tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 225 Three hundred Elephants follow richly mail'd with Sea-wolf skins.

2. *spec.* in *Hawking.* (See quot. 1883.)

1575 TURBERV. *Faulconrie* 295 Mayle your hawke fast. *c* 1610 BEAUM. & FL. *Philaster* v. iv, Prince, by your leave I'le have a Sursingle, And Male you like a Hawke. 1623 FLETCHER & ROWLEY *Maid in Mill* III. iii, If you had .. handled her as men do unmand Hawks, Cast her, and malde her up in good clean linnen. 1883 HARTING *Gloss. Perf. Bk. Kepinge Sparhawkes* 44 To mail a hawk, i. e. to wrap her up in a handkerchief..either to tame her,..or to keep her quiet during an operation.

Mail (mēl), *v.*[4] *U. S.* [f. MAIL *sb.*[3] (senses 2, 3).] *trans.* To send by post, to post.

1828–32 WEBSTER, *Mail*, to inclose in a wrapper and direct to a post-office. We say, letters were *mailed* for Philadelphia. 1850 OGILVIE, *Mail*, to post letters, papers, &c. 1862 *Morn. Star* 14 Oct., The Federal Post-office department has issued a notice that any letter mailed with stamps at all soiled or defaced will be treated as unpaid. 1872 O. W. HOLMES *Poet Breakf.-t.* iii. 89 Those creatures..who mail the newspaper which has the article we had much better not have seen. 1875 *Atlantic Monthly* XXXV. 98/2 They mail 244,000,000 letters a year.

Mail, dial. var. MEAL; Sc. f. MOLE (spot).

Mailable (mē·lăb'l), *a. U. S.* [f. MAIL *v.*[4] + -ABLE.] That may be sent through the post.

1845 *Stat. U. S.* II. xliii. § 10 (1856) V. 736 Any letter .. or other mailable matter whatsoever. 1886 *Pall Mall G.* 3 Sept. 14/1 Any one in the United States can send any mailable matter to any post-office..for immediate delivery.

Mail-coach. [MAIL *sb.*[3] 2.]

1. A stage-coach used primarily for the conveyance of the mail. In recent use, a coach employed by the Post Office for carrying parcels by road.

The mail-coach system was introduced by John Palmer in 1784, and was superseded by the railway.

1787 HAN. MORE *Let. Walpole* July *Mem.* (1834) II. 77 Mail coaches, which come to others, come not to me. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) V. 86/2 Mail-coaches, are stage-coaches of a particular construction to prevent overturns; and for a certain consideration carry his majesty's mails. 1813 *Act* 53 *Geo. III*, c. 68 § 6 All letters and Packets which he shall convey, carry or send Post, in or by any Mail Coach or Carriage. 1896 *42nd Rept. Postm.-General* 5 There has been no extension this year of the system of night mail coaches for the conveyance of parcels. 1899 *Cassell's Mag.* 404/2 The mail-coaches [for 'road-borne' parcels]..with their swiftly trotting teams and armed guards.

attrib. 1813 BYRON *Let. to Moore* 22 Aug., In a 'mail-coach copy' of the *Edinburgh*, I perceive *The Giaour* is second article. The numbers are still in the Leith smack. 1815 *Ibid.* 10 Jan., Scott's 'Lord of the Isles' is out—'the mail-coach copy' I have, by special licence, of Murray. 1822 *Acc. Establ. Gen. P.-O.* Parl. Pap. XVIII. 175 To eight pair of best mail coach lamps £12 12*s.* 1885 J. W. HYNE *Roy. Mail* iii. (ed. 2) 65 Yet the mail-coach days had charms and attractions for travellers.

2. A railway carriage carrying the mail.

1838 *Act* 1 & 2 *Vict.* c. 98 § 12 If the Company..shall refuse to carry on their Railway any Mail Coaches [etc.]. 1890 T. L. JAMES in *Railways Amer.* 335 The fifth..car is the last mail coach on the train.

Mailed (mēld), *a.* [f. MAIL *sb.*[1] + -ED 2.]

†**1.** Covered with or composed of mail or plates of metal. *Obs.*

1382 WYCLIF 1 *Sam.* xvii. 5 And he was clothid with a maylid [Vulg. *squamata*] hawberioun. — 1 *Macc.* vi. 35 A thousand men stoden nij in mailid to gidre hauberiownes [Vulg. *in loricis concatenatis*]. 1450 W. LOMNER in *Paston Lett.* I. 125 Oon .. toke awey his gown of russet, and his dobelette of velvet mayled. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* IX. xi. 92 The dowbyll malyt traste hawbryk. 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* III. (Arb.) 85 A shirt mayled with gould. 1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 7/2 We muste consider, if it be a mayled doublete, how manye mayles are wantinge. 1856 R. A. VAUGHAN *Mystics* (1860) I. 170 The mailed glove [is] manfully hurled in his teeth.

2. Armed with mail, mail-clad. Of a vessel: Iron-clad.

1596 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. IV*, IV. i. 116 The mayled Mars shall on his Altar sit Vp to the eares in blood. 1607 — *Cor.* I. iii. 38 His bloody brow With his mail'd hand, then wiping, forth he goes. 1773–83 HOOLE *Orl. Fur.* XLVI. 1001 He..stands with point addrest To pierce the mailed side or plated brest. 1827 KEBLE *Chr. Y.* Adv. Sund., A crown'd monarch's mailèd breast. 1860 TENNENT *Story Guns* III. i. (1864) 229 None of the mailed gun-boats..were ready in time. 1863 WOOLNER *My Beautiful Lady* 137 When Norman William .. with charge of mailèd horse and showers Of steel won England. 1897 *Times* 17 Dec. 7/1 [tr. Emp. Will. II of Germany] But should any one essay to detract from our just rights or to injure us, then up and at him with your mailed fist [G. *Jahre darein mit gepanzerter Faust*].

fig. 1799 CAMPBELL *Pleas. Hope* II. 10 In self-adoring pride securely mail'd. 1850 BLACKIE *Æschylus* II. 230 With constancy mailed for the fight. 1870 BRYANT *Iliad* I. I. 9 Thou mailed in impudence [I. 149 ἀναιδείην ἐπιειμένε].

3. *transf.* of animals, etc.: Having a skin or protective covering resembling mail-armour.

Mailed-cheeks, the family *Sclerogenidæ* of fishes.

1681 GREW *Museum* 117 The Mailed-fish, *Cataphractus Schonveldi*. 1828 STARK *Elem. Nat. Hist.* I. 489 *Centriscus*, Lin. Back mailed with long scaly plates. 1834 MCMURTRIE *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 195 Buccæ Loricatæ. The family of the Mailed-Cheeks. 1838 SWAINSON *Nat. Hist. Fishes*, etc. I. 330 The *Loricarinæ* or mailed cat-fish. 1839 *Ibid.* II. 21 The *Holocentrinæ*, or mailed-perches. 1854 OWEN *Skel. & Teeth* 3 The ball-proof character of the skin of the largest of these mailed examples. 1860 GOSSE *Rom. Nat. Hist.* 290 The mailed and glittering beings that shoot along like animated beams of light.

4. Of a hawk: Having mail or breast-feathers (of a specified colour).

1575 TURBERV. *Faulconrie* 34 They are ordinarily of foure mayles, eyther blancke, russet, browne, or turtle maylde, and some pure white maylde. 1672 JOSSELYN *New Eng. Rarities* 11 The Osprey, which in this Country is white mail'd. 1683 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1799/4 A large black Mayled, whole Feathered, and thorough mewed Falcon.

†**b.** Speckled or spotted. *Obs.*

1611 COTGR. s. v. *Maillé, Perdrix maillée*, a maylde, menild, or spotted Partridge. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Mailed*, full of Specks, or speckled, as the Feathers of Hawks, Partridges, &c. or as the Furrs of some wild Beasts are. [So 1726 *Dict. Rust.* (ed. 3); 1727 Bailey vol. II.]

Mail eiss, Sc. variant of MALEASE *Obs.*

Mailer[1] (mē·lər). *Sc.* Also 5–6 mailler, malar, 8 mealler. [f. MAIL *sb.*[2] + -ER 1.]

1. One who pays rent; also, see quots. 1792–3.

1452 in Tytler *Hist. Scot.* (1864) II. 387 All the tenants and maillers being within my lands quatsomever sall remane with thair tacks and maling quhile Whitsonday come a year. *c* 1470 HENRYSON *Mor. Fab.* XII. (*Wolf & Lamb*) six, Lordis, that hes land be goddis lane, And settis to the mailleris ane village. 1565 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 358 Gif ony malaris, takkismen, rentalaris or communis sal happin to be slane. 1597 SKENE *De Verb. Sign., Firmarius*, ane mail-payer, ane mailer. 1792 *Statist. Acc. Scotl.* II. 560 A species of cottagers, here [*sc.* co. Ross] called meallers, who build a small house for themselves, on a waste piece of ground, with the consent of the proprietor, and there, are ready to hire themselves out as day-labourers. 1793 *Ibid.* VII. 254 Two classes, tenants and cottagers; or, as the latter are called here [co. Ross and Inverness] mailers. 1894 *Liberal* 1 Dec. 69 His farm stock was better cared for than those of any other mailer in Netherclugh.

†**2.** ? = Landlord. *Obs.*

1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 103 Cristin men that ar duelland in the mistrowand menis housis under malis suld be lele to thair malaris and obeisand.

Mailer[2] (mē·lər). *U. S.* [f. MAIL *v.*[4] and *sb.*[3] + -ER 1.]

1. One who mails or dispatches by post.

1884–94 J. T. PERRY in W. F. Crafts *Sabb. for Man* (ed. 7) 328 Editors and compositors are kept up until the small hours on Sunday morning; pressmen and mailers for an hour or two later. 1887 *Bureau Statist. Labour, New York* 490 Newspaper mailers.

2. A boat which carries the mail; a mail-boat.

1883 *Century Mag.* Nov. 160/1 Showing the skill and good control On Transatlantic Mailers.

3. = *Mailing machine.* 1902 in WEBSTER *Suppl.*

Mail ess, Sc. variant of MALEASE *Obs.*

Mailet, obs. form of MALLET.

Mailhouris, Sc. variant of MALEUROUS *Obs.*

Mailing (mē·liŋ), *sb. Sc.* Also 5 malyn, 5–7 mailling, 6 maling, 8 mealing, 8–9 mailin, mailen. [f. MAIL *sb.*[2] + -ING 1.]

1. A rented farm.

1452 [see MAILER[1] 1]. 1459 *Peebles Charters*, etc. (1872) 132 That neuir nan of hym na his sed com in that malyn agan. *c* 1470 HENRYSON *Mor. Fab.* XII. (*Wolf & Lamb*) xvii, Thay gif na rak, Bot ouer his heid his mailling will thay tak. 1562 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 222 Thair landis, fischeingis, malingis, rowmes, and possessionis. 1674 W. CUNNINGHAM *Diary* 24 Aug. (1887) 3 John Murdie who dwells in a mailling neir by. 1725 RAMSAY *Gentle Sheph.* v. iii, And to your heirs, I give, in endless feu, The mailens ye possess. *a* 1818 MACNEILL *Poems* (1844) 78 Greenswaird hows, and dainty mealing. 1824 SCOTT *Redgauntlet* ch. xx, I had two or three bonnie bits of mailings amang the closes. 1843 HARDY in *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* II. No. 11. 64 The farmer and his family..managed their limited mailings, without extrinsic aid.

2. The rent paid for a farm.

1725 RAMSAY *Gentle Sheph.* II. i, Nor shor'd to raise Our mailens when we put on Sunday claes. 1768 ROSS *Helenore* I. 13 Our house is happed, an' our mailen paid. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* viii, Let the creatures stay at a moderate mailing.

3. The term during which a tenant possesses a farm (Jam.).

1609 SKENE *Reg. Maj.* 113 Nor ȝit is he prejudged in his right be the deed of his Fermour, done be him in the time of his mailling.

†**Mai·ling,** *vbl. sb.*[1] *Obs.* [f. MAIL *v.*[3] + -ING 1.] The action of tying or wrapping up. (*attrib.*)

1531 *Privy Purse Exp. Hen. VIII* (1827) 159 Item for mayling Clothes and Cordes to trusse the same stuf. 1548 *Ludlow Churchw. Acc.* (Camden) 35 Item, for iij. maylinge coordes to hange up the vaile in the quyre afore the alter. 1558 *Lanc. Wills* (1857) I. 177 On malinge sheete of canvas xij[d]. 1569 *Bury Wills* (Camd. Soc.) 155 A malyn lyne withe my woadfat coveryings. 1578 *Richmond Wills* (Surtees) 282 A capp case, a malynge cover.

Mailing (mē·liŋ), *vbl. sb.*[2] *U. S.* [f. MAIL *v.*[4]] The action of sending by mail; posting. Also *attrib.*, as *mailing machine, table.*

1871 *Amer. Encycl. Print.* (ed. Ringwalt) 292/2 *Mailing Machines*, contrivances..to facilitate the operation of directing newspapers. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl., *Mailing Table*, a table at which mail matter is distributed to the mail bags. 1900 *Daily News* 8 Jan. 3/1 Up to the time of mailing no particulars are to hand.

Maill(e, obs. f. MAIL, MALE; obs. Sc. f. MEAL.

‖ **Maillechort** (may'ʃŏr). [Fr.; said to be f. the names of the inventors, Maillot and Chorier.] An alloy of zinc, copper, and nickel.

1851 WATTS tr. *Gmelin's Handbk. Chem.* V. 497. 1895 *United Service Mag.* Feb. 456 Bullet, No. 12. Material, Maillechort.

Mailless (mēl,lĕs), *a.* [f. MAIL *sb.*[1] + -LESS.] Without mail-armour; not protected with mail.

1817 SCOTT *Harold* III. viii, Unshielded, mail-less, on he goes. 1848 LYTTON *Harold* IX. iii, Let each shaft be aimed at whatever space in my mailless body I leave unguarded.

Maillet, obs. form of MALLET.

†**Maill(e)y.** *Obs.* [Cf. OF. *maillie gravele* (? fine gravel), *mail* marl, *maillier* to marl (land).]

1747 HOOSON *Miner's Dict.* s.v. *Stone*, Mailly Stone... *Mailey*, is a softer sort of Lime very dusty, and will cut pritty well.

Maill eys, Sc. variant of MALEASE *Obs.*

Mailteth, var. MELTITH *Sc.*

†**Mailure.** *Obs. rare*—[1]. [f. MAIL *sb.*[1] + -URE, after OF. *emmaillcure.*] Mail-armour, mail.

c 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* I. CXX. (1869) 62 Thou shuldest wite that this armure [the gorgeer] is maad of double mailure [1426 *Lydg.* maylle; F. *emmaillcure*].

†**Maily,** *a. Obs. rare*—[1]. [? a. OF. *maillié* speckled. But cf. MEALY *a.*] (Sense uncertain.)

1610 MARKHAM *Masterp.* I. x. 27 His [the horse's] colour is..darke bay, with mayly nose [edd. 1636–75 mayly mouth].

Mailyeis, obs. form of MALICE.

Maim (mēm), *sb. Obs.* or *arch.* Forms: *α.* 4 maheym, 4, 6–8 maime, 5 maym, 5–7 mayme, 6 mame, mahayme, 6– maim; *β.* 5–6 mayne, 6–7 mainc. See also MAYHEM and MANYIE. [ME. *maheym, mayne*, a. OF. *mayhem, mahaing, main*, etc. (for the forms see Godef.), also fem. *meshaigne, maaigne*; vbl. sb. related to *mahaignier* MAIM *v.* Cf. It. *magagna.*] An injury to the body which causes the loss of a limb, or of the use of it; a mutilation, or mutilating wound. † In early use more widely, any lasting wound or bodily injury.

1340 *Ayenb.* 135 He is ase þe y-maymed ate porche of þe cherche þet ne heþ none ssame nor to sseawy alle his maimes to alle þon þet þer guoþ. *c* 1430 *Syr Gener.* (Roxb.) 3432 In werre somtyme a wound had he, A mayme in the hamme behind the kne. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 320/1 Mayne, or hurte (*H., P.*, mayme), *mutilacio*. *a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* (1868) 9 Thorughe whiche misauenture the lady was one-yed. And for that foule mayme her husbonde kiste away his herte from his wyff. 1496 *Dives & Paup.* (W. de W.) V. xviii. 221/2 Ther sholde no man serue at goddes aulter that had ony greate foule mayme. 1519 HORMAN *Vulg.* 14 b, No man that ..hath a mahayme or a blemmysshe, that maketh hym vngoodly, shall take orders. 1552 ELYOT *Dict., Coloboma*, the mayme or lacke of any membre of the body. *a* 1568 ASCHAM *Scholem.* II. (Arb.) 148 As a foote of wood is a plaine shew of a manifest maime. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 170 His Colleagues..would not permit him to be at the solemne sacrifices, because he had a maim, and wanted a lim. 1653 HOLCROFT *Procopius* I. 26 The Law excluded him, for his mayme of an eye. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 474 ¶ 3 The more Maims this Brotherhood [of huntsmen] shall have met with, the easier will their Conversation flow. 1741 RICHARDSON *Pamela* (1824) I. 87 These bruises and maims that I have gotten. 1764 FOOTE *Mayor of G.* I. Wks. 1799 I. 162 Maims, bruises, contusions, dislocations,..may likely ensue.

b. In generalized sense: Loss or permanent disablement of a limb. In early use, any serious bodily injury.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Pars. T.* ¶ 551 For peyne is sent by the rightwys sonde of god,..be it Meselrie, or Maheym or maladie. 14.. in *Tundale's Vis.* (1843) 91 Hyt cureth sores hyt heleth euery wownd And saveth men fro maym of swyrd and sper. *c* 1450 *Merlin* 161 God vs deffende fro deth this day and fro mayme. 1529 in *Vicary's Anat.* (1888) App. xiv. 255 Persones ..whiche ys in perell of deth or mayne. 1876 BANCROFT *Hist. U.S.* I. x. 326 A crowd gathered round the scaffold when Prynne and Bastwick and Burton were to suffer maim.

c. *transf.* and *fig.* Mutilation or loss of some essential part; a grave defect, blemish, or disablement; an injury or hurt of any kind.

1543 GRAFTON *Contn. Harding* Pref. xii, Whiche bookes, if they had neuer been set out, It had been a greate maime to our knowlage. 1577 HARRISON *England* II. v. (1877) I. 111 It is accounted a maime in anie one of them [the cleargie] not to be exactlie seene in the Greeke and Hebrue. 1594 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* IV. xii. § 6 It was a weakenes in the Christian Iewes, and a maime of iudgement in them, that they thought the Gentiles polluted by the eating of those meates [etc.]. 1596 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. IV*, IV. i. 42 *Wor.* Your Father's sicknesse is a mayme to vs. *Hotsp.* A perillous Gash, a very Limme lopt off. 1602 MARSTON *Antonio's Rev.* I. iv, Cast my life In a dead sleepe, whilst lawe cuts off yon maine, Yon putred ulcer of my roiall bloode. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 679 This without any maime of the name is called at this day Bod-vari, that is Mansion-Vari. *a* 1627 HAYWARD *Edw. VI* (1630) 47 A noble writer in our time esteemes it to be a mayme in historie that acts of Parliament should not bee recited. *a* 1661 FULLER *Worthies* (1840) I. xxv. 99 They are so eminent in their generations, that their omission would make a maim in history. 1689–90 TEMPLE *Ess., Learning* Wks. 1731 I. 168 The last Maim given to Learning, has been by the Scorn of Pedantry. 1704 SWIFT *T. Tub* i, But the greatest Maim given to that general reception, which the writings of our society have formerly received..hath been a superficial vein among many readers.

Maim (mēm), *a. rare.* Also 5 mayn, 7 maime. [Related to prec.: cf. OF. *mehaigne*, mod.F. dial. *mécaigne* (Godef.).] = MAIMED.

Not in any Eng. Dict.

c 1475 *Pict. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 791/18 *Hic mutulatus*, a mayn. 1653 HOLCROFT *Procopius* Pref. A 3, It hath since been the fate of this .. to be exposed maime, and mangled to the world. 1687 MIÉGE *Eng.-Fr. Dict.*, Maim, curtailed of any member, *manchot, estropié*. 1760 BARETTI *Eng.-Ital. Dict.* 1865 tr. *Strauss's New Life Jesus* I. I. 352 Such a thing could not properly be expected of the poor and the maim. 1880 *World* 19 May 6 Refuges for the halt, the maim, the sick, and the blind. 1881 STEVENSON *Moral. Profess. Lett.* in *Fortn. Rev.* Apr., His own life being maim, some of them are not admitted in his theory.

Maim (mēm), *v.* Forms: *α.* 3–7 mayme, 4 mahayme, 5 mayheime, 5–6 maym, meyme, 6 meyheme, mayhime, mayhme, 6–7 maihme, 5– maim. *β.* 4 maynhe, 5 meygne, 5–7 mayn(e, 6–7 main(e; see also Sc. MANYIE *v.* [ME. *maynhe, mayn*, etc. (and, with assimilation to MAIM *sb.*, *mahayme, mayme*, etc.), a. OF. *mahaignier, mayner*, etc. (see Godef. for forms) = Pr. *maganhar*, It. *magagnare*, med.L. *mahemiare*. The ulterior origin is uncertain: the conjectures of Diez and others have little probability.] *trans.* To deprive of the use of some member; to mutilate, cripple. † In early use more widely, to disable, wound, cause bodily hurt or disfigurement to.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 5833 Hii velle & to brusede some anon to depe & some ymaymed [*v.r.* maymed] & some yhurt. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 305 Was no man Inglis maynhed no dede þat day. *a* 1350 *St. Andrew* 38 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 132 And eghen sight þai toke fro sum, And sum croked, þat þai might noght ga: And all þat thai mahaymid swa [etc.]. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. XXI. 387 Ho so hitteth out a mannes eye .. Othere eny manere membre maymeth other hurteth. *c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 313 A mannes nose is sumtyme to-broken, .. & if it be longe or he haue ony help, þanne he schal be maymed for euermore. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* XXV. 10012 Mony of þo Mirmydons maynet for euer. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 7843 Some þai hedid, some þai mayne. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* II. x, Kynge Arthur slewe that daye xx knyghtes & maymed xl. 1528 MORE *Dial. Heresyes* IV. xiv. Wks. 277/2 And destroy as that sect hath done many a good religious house, spoyled, meyhemed, & slaine many a good vertuous man [etc.]. 1530 PALSGR. 617/1, I mayne, or I mayne one, I take the use of one of his lymmes from hym. 1574 tr. *Littleton's Tenures* 40 b, The Lorde maye not mayme hys villayne. 1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* v. i. 27, I am maym'd for euer: Helpe hoa: Murther, murther. 1622 R. HAWKINS *Voy. S. Sea* lix. 137 Sometimes the winde of the shott ouerthroweth one, and the splinters .. mayne and hurt others. 1635 R. N. *Camden's Hist. Eliz.* Introd., Better it is that a member be joyned to the head, though it be maymed, then quite cut off. *a* 1674 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* XIV. § 140 Who had lost his father and had been himself maimed in the King's service. 1769 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* IV. XV. 206 By the antient law of England he that maimed any man, whereby he lost any part of his body, was sentenced to lose the like part. 1792 BURKE *Let. Sir H. Langrishe* Wks. 1842 I. 546 Nocturnal assemblies for the purpose of pulling down hedges, .. firing barns, maiming cattle. 1867 LADY HERBERT *Cradle L.* i. 26 They maim themselves in every way to escape it [conscription]. 1868 *Rep. to Govt. U. S. Munitions War* 182 Thousands who have lost limbs altogether, .. have done the State .. good service after they were maimed.

b. *fig.* To mutilate, cripple, render powerless or essentially incomplete; † to deprive *of*.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Wife's T.* 276 For of oure eldres may we no thyng clayme, But temporel thyng, þat man may hurte and mayme. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 5317 For it maymeth, in many wyse, Syke hertis with coveityse. 1562 COOPER *Answ. Def. Truth* iii. 21 b, Hee that altereth or taketh away any doth alter and maime christes institution. 1563 B. GOOGE *Eglogs*, etc. (Arb.) 102 A Creature maymde of Reasons parte. 1593 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. VI*, IV. ii. 172 Thereby is England main'd And faine to go with a staffe. 1613 — *Hen. VIII*, III. ii. 312 You wrought to be a Legate, by which power You maim'd the Jurisdiction of all Bishops. 1682 DRYDEN *Religio Laici* 279 For since the original Scripture has been lost, All copies disagreeing, maimed the most. 1759 FRANKLIN *Ess.* Wks. 1840 III. 399 To abridge would be to maim one of the most lively pieces that liberty ever inspired. 1767 HARTE *Medit. T. à Kempis* 117 But ah! their neighbour's pittance maims their field. 1823 SCOTT *Peveril* xv, That .. act of royalty and supreme jurisdiction, the consequences of which maimed my estate so cruelly. 1868 M. PATTISON *Academ. Org.* 6 The House passed the Government Bill, maiming it in vital points in its passage through Committee.

Maimed (mēmd), *ppl. a.* [f. MAIM *v.* + -ED 1.] Mutilated, crippled, injured: see the verb.

a 1400–50 *Alexander* 4544 Lo, to so many mayned gods 3our menbris 3e dele. 1578 *Nottingham Rec.* IV. 176, iiij. meymed men that cum fourth of Eyrland. 1591 SPENSER *M. Hubberd* 272 But my late maymed limbs lack wonted might To doo their kindly services. 1625 BACON *Ess., Greatness Kingd.* (Arb.) 491 Hospitals for Maimed Soldiers. 1638 JUNIUS *Paint. Ancients* 42 They stand and stare upon such maimed creatures as want either legges or armes. 1720 DE FOE *Capt. Singleton* xi. (1840) 198 This maimed man. 1864–7 GEO. ELIOT *Sp. Gipsy* I. (1868) 4 A maimed giant in his agony.

b. *fig.*

1570 BILLINGSLEY *Euclid* VII. Introd. 183 Geometrie boroweth of it [Arithmetic] principles, .. and is as it were maymed without it. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* v. i. 242 Who is that they follow, And with such maimed rites? 1877 J. D. CHAMBERS *Divine Worship* 308 In such a maimed and dislocated form. 1900 S. PHILLIPS *Paolo & Francesca* I. 26 All these maimed wants and thwarted thoughts.

c. *absol.*

1340 *Ayenb.* 135 [see MAIM *sb.*]. *Ibid.* 141 Þo he hedde y-preched and y-ued þet uolk and þe zike and þe ymamed y-held. *c* 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 1098 For leuer here was þe pore to fede, þe maymot, þe seke to wasshe & hele. 1526 TINDALE *Matt.* xv. 31 In so moche that the people wondred, to se .. the maymed whole. 1764 FOOTE *Mayor of G.* I. Wks. 1799 I. 162 Is it your Worship's will that I lend a ministring hand to the maim'd? 1848 MRS. JAMESON *Sacr. & Leg. Art* II. 298 The sick and maimed who are healed by her intercession.

† Mai·medly, *adv. Obs.* [-LY 2.] In a maimed manner.

1596 NASHE *Saffron Walden* Wks. (Grosart) III. 47 Being aboue 2 yeres since maimedly translated into the French tongue. 1598 *Hakluyt's Voy.* I. 614, I rather leaue it out altogether, then presume to doe it maymedly. 1680 H. MORE *Apocal. Apoc.* 154 Some strictures there were, .. but hinted very maimedly, obscurely and interruptedly.

Maimedness (mēi·médnės). [-NESS.] The condition of being maimed (*lit.* and *fig.*).

1607 HIERON *Wks.* I. 122 He will see such weakenesse, .. such maimednesse, such imperfection, in his best performances. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* II. vii. (1614) 135 The conditions required in the High Priest, as that he should not haue the bodily defects of Blindnesse, lamenesse, maymednesse, &c. 1886 RUSKIN *Præterita* I. xii. 425 So much did its sullenness and maimedness pollute the meagre sacrifice.

Maimer (mēi·mər). [f. MAIM *v.* + -ER 1.] One who maims or mutilates.

1530 PALSGR. 241/2 Maymer of men, *mutilateur*. 1769 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* IV. 13 If a man maliciously should put out the remaining eye of him who had lost one before, it is too slight a punishment for the maimer to lose only one of his. 1884 *Athenæum* 9 Feb. 182/1 Terrorists and maimers of cattle.

Maiming (mēi·miŋ), *vbl. sb.* [-ING 1.] The action of the verb MAIM.

a 1400–50 *Alexander* 4088 Þan wald his pepill & his princes haue past ouir þe bourne, And mist nost for þe morsure & maynyng of bestis. *a* 1568 ASCHAM *Scholem.* II. (Arb.) 99 To the marring and mayning of the Scholer in learning. 1602 FULBECKE *1st Pt. Parall.* 78 The opinion of M. Brooke is that hee may beate him if hee cannot otherwise escape without stripes or wounds or mayming. 1727 SWIFT *Let. Eng. Tongue* Wks. 1755 II. i. 188 Another cause .. which hath contributed .. to the maiming of our language, is a foolish opinion, .. that we ought to spell exactly as we speak. 1768–74 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 43 Inevitable evils are .. such as sudden deaths, maimings, or other bodily hurts by the stroke of lightning.

Maimonidean (məimǫnidī·ăn), **Maimonidian** (məimǫni·diăn), *a.* (*sb.*). [f. L. *Maimonid-ēs* + -AN, -IAN.] **a.** Pertaining to the Jewish theologian *Maimonides* (*Mōsheh ben Maymōn* 1135–1204). **b.** *sb.* An adherent of Maimonides.

1864 *Chambers's Encycl.* VI. 273 The .. spiritualistic Maimonidian and the 'literal Talmudistic' schools. 1876 SCHILLER-SZINESSY *Catal. Hebr. MSS. Cambr.* I. 187 The so-called Maimonidean school. 1882–3 SCHAFF *Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* II. 1388 Judaism was soon divided into the Maimonidians and Anti-Maimonidians. 1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XX. 283/2 The Maimonidean controversy.

Maimonist (məi·mǫnist). [f. *Maimon-ides* (see prec.) + -IST.] An adherent of Maimonides.

1881 FRIEDLÄNDER *Maimonides' Guide of Perplexed* I. Life 35 The controversy between Maimonists and anti-Maimonists.

Main (mēin), *sb.*1 Forms: 1 mægen, mægn, 2–4 mein, (3 *Lay.* mæin), 3–4 meyn, 3–6 mayn, 4–6 *Sc.* mane, 4–7 maine, mayne, 3– main. [OE. *mægen*, = OS. *megin*, OHG. *magan, megin*, ON. *magn, megn, megin*, f. root **mag-*: see MAY *v.*, MIGHT *sb.*]

I. 1. Physical strength, force, or power. *Obs.* exc. in phr. *with might and main* (see 2).

Beowulf 789 Se þe manna wæs mægene strengest. *c* 1205 LAY. 26698 Þer he finden mihte þe his main wolde fondien hond azan honde. *c* 1275 *Lune Ken* 69 in *O. E. Misc.* 95 Ector wiþ his scharpe meyne. ?*c* 1325 *Old Age* x. in *E. E. P.* (1862) 149, I spend, an marrit is mi main. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* I. 444 The king .. went till Ingland .. With mony man off mekill mayn. *Ibid.* VI. 318 Thair chiftane Wes of sic hert and of sic mane, That [etc.]. 1460 *Lybeaus Disc.* (Kaluza) 560 He nadde main ne mist. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* I. 320 Hyr eldest son, that mekill was of mayn. 1501 DOUGLAS *Pal. Hon.* III. lxxvi, Thay with speir, with swordis, and with knives, In just battell war fundin maist of mane. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. vii. 11 He gan aduaunce With huge force and insupportable mayne.

† **b.** *fig.*, and in immaterial applications. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 21051 (Cott.) O treind wandes gold he wroght .. And efter-ward wit crists main þam turnd to þair kind egain. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 4 Love is of so gret a main, That .. Ther mai nothing his miht withstonde. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* XX. 123 Þou arte nowthir of myght ne mayne To kenne it as a clerke may knawe. 1549–62 STERNHOLD & H. *Ps.* xciii. 1 And he to shew his strength and maine, hath girt himselfe with might.

† **c.** *transf.* Of things: Power, virtue, efficacy.

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 94 Þonne ys seo ærre [wyrt] hwitre, & heo hæfð þas mægnu. *c* 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 1581 Sche com wiþ adrink of main.

2. Phrases. † *With* (*mid*) or *in all one's main, with main, with all, great* or *mickle main* (in ME. poetry often used as a metrical stopgap or tag): with the utmost strength or vigour one is capable of. † *To set one's main to*: to apply all one's energies to. † *To do one's main*: to do one's utmost, one's best. *With might and main*, † *with main and might*, † *with mood and main*, etc.: see MIGHT *sb.*, MOOD *sb.* See also AMAIN.

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 123 Lunian we hine mid alre heorte .. mid alle meine. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 104/113 A þousend men with al heore main on hire gonne drawe. *c* 1314 *Guy Warw.* (A.) 884 Gii .. þe stede toke bi the reyn, & lepe vp wiþ gret meyn. *c* 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 1083 Tristrem smot wiþ main. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* iv. (*Jacobus*) 299 He gert fele knychtis .. pryk efter þaime in al þar mayne. *Ibid.* xxvii. (*Machor*) 8, I wald fayne, .. set my mayne sume thing to say of sancte moryse. *c* 1375 *Cursor M.* 1076 (Fairf.) Quen he [*sc.* Cain] had his broþer slayne To hide him he dide his mayne. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 4048 He thanked god with all his mayne. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* XV. 101 Tell me, Ioseph, with mayn, youre red. 1542 BECON *Potat. Lent* Div b, That ye cleue stedfastly with all mayne to the promyses which [etc.]. *a* 1568 *Wyfe of Auchtermuchty* vii, Than owt he ran in all his mane.

† **3.** A host of men; a (military) force. *Obs.*

a 1000 *Andreas* 876 We ðær heahfæderas halize oncneowon & martyra mægen unlytel. 10.. *O. E. Chron.* an. 1004 Dær wærð East Engla folces seo yld of slagen, ac zif þet fulle mægen þære wære, ne eodan hi næfre eft to scipon swa hi sylfe sædon. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 8999 William courtehese he made of þe verste wardein & in þe oþer bihinde he was him sulf mid al is main.

II. Senses arising from absol. uses of MAIN *a.*

4. *ellipt.* for *main land*, MAINLAND. *arch.*

1555 EDEN *Decades* 351 At three leaques off the mayne, there is xv. fadome. 1577–87 HOLINSHED *Chron.* I. 43/2 This Iland, which for the quantitie thereof maie well be called a maine, although it be inuironed about with the Ocean sea. 1600 J. PORY tr. *Leo's Africa* 50 Not far from the main are certaine dry and rockie isles. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 14 The most traded Empories here, are St. Augustine on the Island [Madagascar], and Mosambique on the Main. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 11 ₱ 5 The *Achilles*, in some distress, put into a Creek on the Main of America. 1823 BYRON *Juan* VII. XXXI, Their Delhis mann'd some boats and .. tried to make a landing on the main. 1839 THIRLWALL *Greece* VI. I. 196 The island .. was separated from the main by a channel half a mile broad. 1891 J. WINSOR *Columbus* xiii. 290 He was anxious to make a thorough examination of Cuba, which was a part of the neighboring main of Cathay, as he was ready to suppose.

b. Short for SPANISH MAIN, q. v.

1890 CORBETT *Sir F. Drake* iii. 33 Drake .. sailed once more for the Main. 1897 HENLEY *Hawthorn & Lavender*, etc. (1901) 95 The trim Slaver .. Held .. Her musky course from Benin to the Main, And back again for niggers.

5. *ellipt.* for MAIN SEA: The high sea, the open ocean. Now *poet.*

1579 80 NORTH *Plutarch, C. Marius* (1595) 468 The winde stoode full against them comming from the maine [F. *le vent se tourna du costé de la pleine mer*]. 1601 R. JOHNSON *Kingd. & Commw.* (1603) 211 They dare not venter into the maine, but houering by the shore, timerously saile from one place to another. 1695 WOODWARD *Hist. Earth* I. 27 The Tides and Storms .. affect only the superficial parts of the Ocean, .. but never reach the greater Depths, or disturb the bottom of the Main. 1698 FROGER *Voy.* 65 A gentle Breeze came off from the Main [F. *du large*]. 1731 POPE *Ep. Burlington* 198 Bid the broad Arch the dang'rous Flood contain, The Mole projected break the roaring Main. 1764 GOLDSM. *Trav.* 410 To traverse climes beyond the western main. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* VII. 21 As one that climbs a peak to gaze O'er land and main. *fig.* 1597 R. JOHNSON *Champions* (1608) II. Addr., But having better hope I boldly leade thee to this mayne from this doubtfull floude where I rest. 1602 MARSTON *Ant. & Mel.* IV. Wks. 1856 I. 46 Launched out Into the surgy maine of government. 1839 LONGF. *Ps. of Life* viii, Sailing o'er life's solemn main.

† **b.** *transf.* A broad expanse. *poet. Obs.*

c 1600 SHAKS. *Sonn.* lx. 5 Natiuity once in the maine of light, Crawles to maturity. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* x. 257 Adventrous work, .. to found a path Over this Maine from Hell to that new World Where Satan now prevailes.

6. The most important part of some business, subject, argument, or the like; the chief matter or principal thing in hand. (Cf. MAIN *sb.*3 1 b.)

1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* II. ii. 56, I doubt it is no other, but the maine, His Fathers death, and our o'er-hasty Marriage. 1615 tr. *De Monfart's Surv. E. Indies* Pref. B iij, Neyther doth he stand vpon any other vayne particulars, but directly goeth to the maine. 1650 BAXTER *Saints' R.* I. ii. § 1 (1651) 192 If I should here enter upon that task .. I should make too broad a digression, and set upon a work as large as the main, for whose sake I should undertake it. 1663 COWLEY *Country-Mouse* 5 Frugal, and grave, and careful of the Main. 1702 *Eng. Theophrast.* 132 We let the Main go, while we grasp at the accessories. 1716–20 *Lett. fr. Mist's Jrnl.* (1722) I. 244 She complied with your last Advice, as to the Main.

b. Phrases: *in*, † *for*, † *on*, † *upon the main*: for the most part; in all essential points; mainly.

a 1628 PRESTON *New Covt.* (1634) 12 Holy men have that apprehension in the maine, but not in a constant tenour at all times. 1639 FULLER *Holy War* I. xvi. (1840) 28 As long as they agree in the main, we need not be much moved with their petty dissensions. 1662 H. MORE *Philos. Writ.* Pref. Gen. p. vi, Being carried captive by the power of reason into a true belief of things for the maine. 1697 J. SERGEANT *Solid Philos.* 80 Whence, upon the main, is clearly discovered, how all true Philosophy is nothing but the knowledge of Things. 1699 BENTLEY *Phal.* 49 Generally and for the maine he resided at Crotona. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 118 ₱ 3, I do not know whether in the main I am the worse for having loved her. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1811) II. 145 If Nancy did not think well of you upon the main. 1799 in *Spirit Pub. Jrnls.* III. 394 John is, upon the main, no fool. 1832 J. C. HARE *Philol. Mus.* I. 163 *note*, Since writing the above I have found a reading agreeing on the main with mine in the edition of Asconius by Paulus Manutius. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* lvi, Mr. Swiveller being in the main a good-natured fellow. 1893 R. WILLIAMS in Traill *Social Eng.* I. 31 In the main, therefore, the leading ideas of the heathen Celt were those of heathen nations generally.

c. Const. *of*. The chief or principal part (*of* some whole, material or immaterial); the important or essential point. Phr. † *the main of all*.

1595 DANIEL *Civ. Wars* III. XXXVII, I know you know how much the thing doth touch The maine of all your states, your blood, your seed. 1601 SIR W. CORNWALLIS *Disc. Seneca* (1631) M m 2, It is no charity to giue so violently as may waste the maine of an estate. 1631 HEYWOOD *2nd Pt. Maid of West* II. Wks. 1874 II. 363 Why that's the main of all: all witbout his freedome That we can aime at's nothing. 1647 MAY *Hist. Parl.* I. viii. 104 It was not onely agreed that their Ships .. should be restored .. but for the maine of all, it was resolved upon by both houses, to give the full summe of

£300000. 1653 HOLCROFT *Procopius* II. 38 But the maine of all: studies he not [etc.]? 1683 CAVE *Ecclesiastici, Chrysostom* 501 The main of the Church was destroyed [by fire] in three hours space. 1693 *Mem. Cnt. Teckely* IV. 49 He assaulted them in the Front with the main of his Army. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 47 ¶ 9 The Persons we laugh at may in the main of their Characters be much wiser Men than our selves. 1750 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 68 ¶ 3 The main of life is composed of small incidents. 1781 WESLEY *Wks.* (1872) IV. 215 He has sufficiently proved the main of his hypothesis. 1845 STEPHEN *Comm. Laws Eng.* (1874) I. 119 If a lord had a parcel of land detached from the main of his estate. 1880 BLACKMORE *Mary Anerley* II. xvi. 279 The main of their cargo was landed. 1880 ANNIE R. ELLIS *Sylvestra* II. 275 She told him the main of the morning's news. 1903 *Contemp. Rev.* Feb. 190 The main of us have never set eyes upon a Dane before.

†**7.** The object aimed at; end, purpose. *Obs.*

Perh. orig. a term of archery. Cf. MAIN *sb.*[3] 2.

a 1610 HEALEY *Epictetus' Man.* (1636) 6 The ayme of appetite, is to attaine what it affecteth, and the maine of dislike is to avoide what it disliketh. 1610 W. FOLKINGHAM *Art of Survey* To Rdr. 3, I ayme not at the Racke nor the Slack, the qualified Meane is the Maine of my Marke. 1623 WEBSTER *Duchess Malfi* II. i, *Bos.* You say you would fain be taken for an eminent courtier? *Cast.* 'Tis the very main of my ambition. 1633 B. JONSON *Tale of a Tub* III. iv, Wee have by this meanes disappointed him, And that was all the maine I aimed at. 1652 R. BOREMAN *Countrymans Catech.* i. 1 This Happinesse (or the Salvation of our Soules) being the maine of all our enlarged desires. 1657 SPARROW *Bk. Com. Prayer* 173 Therefore differing so much in the main of the Feast, they would not comply with them.

8. A principal channel, duct, or conductor for conveying water, sewage, gas, or electricity, e. g. along the street of a town. (Cf. *main drain*, 1707–12 s.v. MAIN *a.* 8 b.)

1727 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Building*, Where any Stock-Blocks of Wood with Plugs, or any Fire-Cocks, were made and fix'd on any Mains [etc.]. 1762 *Ann. Reg.* 120/1 Wooden pipes were inserted into the mains in almost every street. 1808 MURDOCH in *Phil. Trans.* XCVIII. 125 The gas..is conveyed by iron pipes into .. gazometers, .. previous to its being conveyed through other pipes, called mains, to the mill. 1825 LOUDON *Encycl. Agric.* 658 The use of both the large and small mains is to feed the various trenches with water, which branch out into all parts of the meadow. 1871 TYNDALL *Fragm. Sci.* (1879) II. xvi. 449 The electric main carrying the outgoing current. 1894 *Nat. Observer* 189/2 Take the case of a lead-pipe led into a block of houses from the iron main. 1895 S. P. THOMPSON & E. THOMAS *Electr. Tab. & Mem.* 4 In factory wiring it is often preferred to keep the positive and negative mains far apart.

fig. 1865 MASSON *Rec. Brit. Philos.* i. 15 It is not only Britain..that the writer accuses of this folly of not drawing its philosophy from the main.

b. In jocular phr. *To turn on the main*, to begin to weep copiously.

1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xvi, Blessed if I don't think he's got a main in his head as is always turned on. 1857 BRADLEY (C. Bede) *Verdant Green* III. xi. 90 You've no idea how she turned on the main, and did the briny! 1878 M. C. JACKSON *Chaperon's Cares* I. x. 128 The mains were turned on, and tears flowed until weeping became infectious.

9. Short for *mainsail* (obs.), *mainmast*.

1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* I. 373 Tha led thame in with musall, fuk, and mane. 1894 *Times* 7 Apr. 7/3 All the ships .. were gaily decked with bunting, the German flag flying at the main. 1903 *Blackw. Mag.* Apr. 523/1 Skiffs with well-reefed mains scudded for sheltering creeks.

10. *techn.* a. ? A principal vein of mineral. b. A main line of railway.

1867 MUSGRAVE *Nooks & Corners* II. 2 A wide main of this mineral lies beneath the stupendous masses of dark blueish rock. 1892 *Daily News* 8 June 2/3 The railway will be a double main.

Main (mēin), *sb.*[2] *Se.* and *north.* Also 5 mayn; *pl.* 6 maynis, manis, maines, 7 maynes, mainnes, 8 mainse. [Aphetic f. DOMAIN, DEMESNE.]

†**1.** *Mains* or *main lands* = demesne lands. *Obs.*

1454 in *14th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. III. 10 The sayde Androw Ker sal gyff..eyl the sayde Thom Robson.. his mayn landis of Hownum. 1577–95 *Descr. Isles Scot.* in Skene *Celtic Scot.* III. App. 436 The said John Stewart hes it all under maynes.

2. *pl.* The farm attached to a mansion house; a home farm. (Now esp. retained in Scotland in the names of farms, e. g. the Mains of Forthar.)

1533 CLYFFORD in *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, IV. 633 Wher we brynt theis townes that is to wite, Sesfurth .. Sesfurth Mayns, Mows Mayns .. Cavertone Mayns [etc.]. 1573–4 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* Ser. I. II. 320 The landis mains and cornis of Sanct Thomas Chapell. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 226 ȝe sall haue the manis of Kirkforther for it. 1589 *Wills & Inv. N. C.* (Surtees 1860) 164, I geue to Mathew Forster,..Edderstoun east hall, and the maynis thairoff. 1597 SKENE *De Verb. Sign.*, *Manerium*, .. ane mainnes, or domaine landes, .. Because they ar laboured and inhabited be the Lorde, and proprietar of the samin. 1606 in *North Riding Rec.* (1884) I. 48 John Dodsworth of Massam Maynes. 1766 W. GORDON *Gen. Counting-ho.* 468 The tenants and Mainse fall now to be debited for crop 1765. 1769 *De Foe's Tour Gt. Brit.* IV. 72 Every Nobleman's House [in Scotland] hath what they call the Mains, where their Land-labourers, Grooms, and every Body belonging to the Stable and Poultry, reside. 1814 SCOTT *Wav.* xv, That the Baillie should send his own three milk cows down to the mains for the use of the Baron's family. 1834 H. MILLER *Scenes & Leg.* xxvii. (1857) 398 He was employed..at the Mains of Invergordon.

Main (mēin), *sb.*[3] Also 6–7 maine, mayne. [Of obscure history.

From the early use in antithesis with *by* (which seems in the game of hazard to have meant the same as *chance* in the later language) the word would appear to be an absolute or elliptical application of MAIN *a.* (Cf. MAIN CHANCE.) The usual view that the word is a. F. *main* 'hand' has no evidence; quot. *c* 1685–8 in sense 3 prob. embodies a mere etymological speculation.]

1. In the game of hazard, a number (from five to nine inclusive) called by the 'caster' before the dice are thrown.

'If he "throws in", or "nicks", he wins the sum played for from the banker or "setter"...If the caster "throws out" by throwing aces, or deuce, ace (called crabs), he loses...If the caster neither nicks nor throws out, the number thrown is his "chance", and he keeps on throwing till either the chance comes up, when he wins, or till the main comes up, when he loses' (*Encycl. Brit.* s.v. *Hazard*).

1580 LD. OFFALEY in Stanyhurst *Æneis*, etc. (Arb.) 153, I loathe too see them [*sc.* dice-players] sweare..,When they the mayne haue lost; Forgetting al thee byes, that weare With God and holye goast. 1580 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 289 Not vnlyke the vse of foule gamesters, who hauing lost the maine by true iudgement, thinke to face it out with a false oath. 1598 BARCKLEY *Felic. Man* Pref., Diceplayers, that gaine more by the bye then by the maine. *a* 1635 CORBET *Poems* (1807) 128 Amongst the gamsters, where they name thee [the pox] thicke At the last maine, or the last pocky nicke. 1665 EARL DORSET *Song written at Sea* vii, To pass our tedious Hours away, We throw a merry Main. 1684 OTWAY *Atheist* III. i, The Main was Seven, and the Chance Four. 1726 *Art & Myst. of Gaming Exposed* 29 Loaded or Scooped Dice are..changed as often as the Main and Chance, or Occasion requires. 1731 FIELDING *Mod. Husb.* II. x. *La. Char.* Eleven mains together, Modern; you are a devil. *Mr. Gayvit.* She has always great luck at Hazard. 1777 COLMAN *Epil. Sheridan's Sch. Scand.* (1883) 76 Seven's the main. 1837 THACKERAY *Ravenswing* viii, He likes to throw a main of an evening. 1881 SHORTHOUSE *J. Inglesant* (1882) II. 306 Come and take your chances in the next main. 1894 MASKELYNE *Sharps & Flats* 255 The first throw made by the player is called the 'main'.

†**b.** *fig.* esp. coupled with or in antithesis to *by* (see BY *sb.*[2] 1). *Obs.*

1567, 1580 [see BY *sb.*[2] 1]. 1589 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* Prose Addit. 155 Whatsoeuer thy play be in Affrick, let henceforth the Mayne be Italie. 1593 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. VI*, I. i. 208 Then lets make hast away, And looke vnto the maine. 1595 *Marocchus Ext.* (Percy Soc.) 12 *Horse.* No, no, his minde was on the twentieth daie of the moneth following, when his money was due. *Bankes.* Tis good to haue an eie to the maine. 1596 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. IV*, IV. i. 47 To set so rich a mayne On the nice hazard of one doubtfull houre. 1602 DANIEL *Civ. Wars* VII. XXV, The doubtful Dye of War cast at the Main Is such as one bad Chance may lose you all. 1612 R. DABORNE *Chr. turn'd Turke* 8 Deale Merchant-like, put it vpon one maine, And throw at all. 1676 TOWERSON *Decalogue* 462 Recreations .. must consequently be..used as things on the by and not as the main. 1781 *Westm. Mag.* IX. 604 When each grave Senator the sport promotes, And throws the main with—cogg'd and loaded votes.

†**2.** A match (at archery, boxing, bowls). *Obs.*

Cf. MAIN *sb.*[1] 7. But in the first quot. *a maine* may possibly be AMAIN *adv.*

1589 NASHE *Martins Months Mind* To Rdr. C 3 b, To shoote a maine for the vpshot, at the fairest markes of all. 1812 *Sporting Mag.* XXXIX. 19 The champion has won a main, and certainly Molineux could have no chance in any combat with him. 1886 *Cheshire Gloss.* s.v., A main at bowls is a match played by a number of couples, the winners again playing in couples against each other till one man is left the victor. [Cf. *Welsh main* in 3.]

3. A match fought between cocks. Hence *occas.* a number of cocks engaged in a match. *Welsh main* (see quot. 1770); *transf.* (see quot. 1886).

[*c* 1685–8 *MS. Life of Alderman Barnes* in Brand *Pop. Antiq.* (1813) I. 481 His chief Recreation was Cock-fighting. ..One Cock particularly he had, called 'Spang Counter', which came off victor in a great many battles *a la main.* 1716 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5429/4 There will be By-Battles, .. And in the Afternoon will begin the main Match.] 1760 R. HEBER *Horse Matches* ix. 154 A Main of Cocks were fought between the D. of Cleveland and Ld. Northumberland. 1770 S. PEGGE in *Archæologia* (1775) I. 149 The Welsh-main consists, we will suppose of sixteen pair of cocks; of these the sixteen conquerors are pitted a second time; the eight conquerors of these are pitted a third time; the four conquerors the fourth time; and lastly, the two conquerors of these are pitted a fifth time. 1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* xxi, Laying schemes for massacring men on Palm Sunday, as if he were backing a Welsh main, where all must fight to death. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xvii. IV. 57 The dexterity with which he .. turned conversation away from matters of state to a main of cocks or the pedigree of a racehorse. 1880 JEFFERIES *Gr. Ferne F.* 59 He could swear and drink no more, nor fight a main of cocks every Sunday afternoon on his dining room table. 1886 *Cheshire Gloss.* s.v., There is also the term *Welsh main*, applied in a secondary sense to voting: voting until two only are left in, and then for those two alone. 1890 H. FREDERIC *Lawton Girl* 33, I've seen dog-fights and cock-mains in England.

Main (mēin), *sb.*[4] Also 7 meane. [a. F. *main.*]

†**1.** *Her.* The hand. *Obs.*

1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* I. 103/2 Our old English terms were..Maine for Hand. Meane Dexter for R. Hand.

2. 'A banker's shovel for coin' (Knight 1875).

Cf. F. *main*, 'pelle de tôle, à manche de bois très-court' (Littré).

Main (mēin), *a.* Forms: [1 mægen-], 3 mæin, 4–7 mayn, 5 *Sc.* mane, 5–7 mayne, 6–7 maine, maigne, 5– main. [Prob. partly repr. OE. *mægen-* (MAIN *sb.*[1]) in compounds, and partly an adoption of the cognate ON. *megenn*, *megn* adj., strong, powerful; in some uses (e. g. in MAIN SEA = ON. *megensiór*) it seems to represent ON. *megen-* (= MAIN *sb.*[1]) in compounds.

It is doubtful whether the development of the Eng. word owes anything to the influence of OF. *maine*, *maigne* great:—L. *magnus*. The OFr. word is purely poetical, and occurs chiefly as an epithet of kings and nobles; it may prob. have influenced the use of *main* by ME. poets, but the only unequivocal evidence of its adoption is the 15th c. Sc. *Alexandir the mane*, *Charlis the mane* (see MANE *a.*).]

1. Strong, vigorous, mighty; possessed of, manifesting, or exerting, great physical strength or force. †**a.** Said of acts or activities which imply force or energy. *Obs.*

[*Beowulf* 1519 (Gr.) Mæȝenræs forȝeaf hildebille.] 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 336 No more mate ne dismayd for hys mayn dintez. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 6915 He myst of þe mon with his mayn dynt. *c* 1600 in *Boys' Wks.* (1629) 626 Jesu thy loue within me is so maine, .. That with thy loue my heart is well nigh rent. 1629 MAXWELL tr. *Herodian* (1635) 273 If they be driven to fly, or pursue the enemie, their long loose garments are a maine let to them. 1641 BAKER *Chron.* (1660) 87 This was a main blow to Prince Lewis, and the last of his battels in England. 1644 DIGBY *Mans Soul* (1645) 33 These two powerfull motives .. have so maine an influence in mens actions. 1653 H. MORE *Antid. Ath.* II. viii. (1712) 62 Without main violence done to our Faculties we can in no wise deny it. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VI. 243 Soaring on main wing. 1671 — *Samson* 1634 Those two massie Pillars That to the arched roof gave main support. 1671 H. FOULIS *Hist. Rom. Treasons* III. ii. 136 She also gave a main stroke against Cecchino.

b. As an epithet of *force*, *strength*, etc.: Exerted to the full, sheer. Esp. in phr. *by* (or †*with*) *main force*; †similarly, *by* or *with main strength*, *dint*, *power*, *courage*, *importunity*, *labour*. †*With main logic* = by sheer force of reasoning.

[*Beowulf* 2678 (Gr.) Þa ȝen guðcyning mærða ȝemunde, mæȝenstrengo, sloh hildebille. *a* 1000 *Guthlac* 1105 (Gr.) Þæs weres stihtung, mod & mæȝencræft.] 1542 BECON *Christmas Banq.* F viij, Therfore ought all men..with all mayne & francke courage to apply themselues to the diligent practyse of good workes. 1579 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 111 Loue creepeth into the minde by priuie craft, and keepeth his holde by maine courage. 1579 FULKE *Ref. Rastel* 734 M. R. hath gotten the day, and that with maine logike. 1593 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. VI*, I. i. 208 That Maine, which by maine force Warwicke did winne. 1605 VERSTEGAN *Dec. Intell.* iii. (1628) 56 By meere valour and maine force of armes they attained vnto their desired habitation. 1613 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII*, II. ii. 7 A man of my Lord Cardinalls, by Commission, and maine power tooke 'em from me. 1651 HOBBES *Govt. & Soc.* iii. § 9. 43 Each one..is supposʼd, with all his main might, to intend the procurement of those things which are necessary to his own preservation. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* II. v. § 46 Next Night they on afresh; and, with main Force, plucked up the ponderous Coffin upon the Pavement. *a* 1680 BUTLER *Rem.* (1759) II. 68 To prosecute his suit, till he recover it against him by main Importunity. 1687 LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 18 They [old Galleys] were carried by main strength over the Isthmus of Corinth. 1697 tr. *Le Comte's Mem. & Rem. China* iv. (1737) 103 By main labour they drained the water. 1755 SMOLLETT *Quix.* (1803) II. 182 We were..by main dint of rowing kept from running a-ground. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* I. XXIV, Yet with main strength his strokes he drew. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* i. I. 123 To restrain his musqueteers and dragoons from invading by main force the pulpits of ministers.

†**c.** Of motion, etc.: Swift, speedy, rapid. *A main pace* or *speed* = at full speed. *Obs.*

1577–87 HOLINSHED *Chron.* (1807–8) II. 254 They were constraind..to run awaie a maine pase. 1581 SAVILE *Tacitus*, *Hist.* IV. xi. (1591) 175 With a maine course [he] drewe the whole manage of affaires into his owne handes. 1607 MARKHAM *Caval.* III. x. 51 Some Horsemen..wil..breake into a maine chace and so giue their Horse a sweate. 1609 DEKKER *Raven's Alm.* C, Citizens, Schollers and Saylers thinke a horse neuer goes fast enough though he run a maine gallop. *a* 1625 FLETCHER *Cust. Country* I. i, We saw e'm Making with all maine speed to 'th port. 1632 J. HAYWARD tr. *Biondi's Eromena* 4 Galloping a maine speede out of the Quirie.

†**d.** *By* or *with main hand*: with a strong hand, forcibly. *Obs.*

1567 FENTON *Trag. Disc.* Ep. Ded., Yet, brydlinge wythe maine hand, the humour of theyr inordinate luste. 1583 GOLDING *Calvin on Deut.* lxxii. 444 God therefore must be faine to ouermaster vs, and to tame vs by maine hande.

†**e.** Of drink: Potent. Of a voice or cry: Loud. Of a fit, a storm: Violent. *Obs.*

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 497 Þa3 men ben mery in mynde, quen þay han mayn drynk. 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* III. (Arb.) 72 With mayne noise lifted to the slayne soule lastlye we shouted. 1611 SPEED *Hist. Gt. Brit.* IX. XV. (1623) 810 [He] made towards his Pages with a maine cry. 1627 ABP. ABBOT *Narr.* in Rushw. *Hist. Coll.* (1659) I. 449 My main fit of the Stone did call upon me to get me to the Countrey. 1628 DIGBY *Voy. Medit.* (1868) 51 It was a maine storme.

†**2.** Of an army, host, multitude: Great in numbers; numerous; 'mighty'; powerful in arms. In 16–17th c., the usual epithet distinctive of a complete and equipped army, as opposed to small or irregular forces. *Main battle*: a pitched battle, as opposed to mere skirmishing. *Obs.*

[*a* 900 CYNEWULF *Crist* 877 (Gr.) Swa on syne heorȝ somod up cymeð mæȝenfolc micel.] *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 3018 He had of men out of mynde many mayn hundreth. 1529 MORE *Dyalogue* III. Wks. 227/2 That company, wherof there is such a main multitude. *c* 1540 tr. *Pol. Verg. Eng. Hist.* (Camden No. 29) 42 Returned againe with a mayne hoste to relieve his people. 1555 EDEN *Decades* 116 They goo foorth .. with a mayne armye of purpose to hunt for men. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 497 And first the warre beganne by light skirmishes, but after it proceeded into mayne battles. 1583 STOCKER *Civ. Warres Lowe C.* I. 29 King Philip..determined..to come downe..with a mayne force. 1602 MARSTON *Ant. & Mel.* III. Wks. 1856 I. 33 Huge troups of barbed steeds, Maine squares of pikes, millions of hargue-

bush. 1602 CAREW *Cornwall* (1769) 149 To withstand any great Navie or maigne invasion. 1612 DAVIES *Why Ireland*, etc. 19 This young Prince..with a traine of yong Noblemen and Gentlemen,..but not with any maine army, came ouer to take possession of his new Patrimony. 1620 SHELTON *Quix.* IV. iii. II. 34 My Father knew that this Giant..would pass with a main power into my Land.

3. Of material things, animals, etc.: Of great size or bulk. (Sometimes connoting strength, resisting power, or the like.) *Obs.* exc. *dial.*

[*Beowulf* 3091 (Gr.) Ic on ofoste ȝefeng micle mid mundum mæȝenbyrðenne hordȝestreona. *a* 1000 *Boeth. Metr.* v. 16 Oð him on innan feld muntes mæȝenstan.] *c* 1205 LAY. 15292 Ænne muchelne mæin clubbe he bar an his rugge. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 187 Þe mane of þat mayn hors. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 8748 The triet stones..lemet so light, þat ledes might se Aboute midnyght merke as with mayn torches. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 3932 Þan mys out of þis marras as any mayn foxes Come furth. 1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* IV. iv. 212 In their Temples they set vppe maine Images of pure golde. 1607 WALKINGTON *Opt. Glass* 125 Hoist vp to the ridge of a maine billow. *c* 1630 RISDON *Surv. Devon* § 329 (1811) 340 A man of extraordinary strength and stature. A main stone,..by him thrown a far distance, witnesseth the one. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VI. 654 Themselves invaded next, and on thir heads Main Promontories flung. 1850 *Gower Dial.* in *Proc. Philol. Soc.* IV. 222 *Main*, strong, fine (of growing crops). 1883 *Hampshire Gloss.* s.v., 'What a great main pond!'

b. Of quantity or amount: Large. *Obs.* exc. *dial.*

1609 HOLLAND *Amm. Marcell.* XXII. vii. 199 A maine deale of water breaketh forth. 1868 in *N. & Q.* 4th Ser. II. 287 My vowles eat a main deal of barley. 1894 RAYMOND *Love & Quiet Life* iv. 34 He axed a main lot o' questions.

4. Said of a considerable, uninterrupted stretch of land or water; occas. also of void space. See MAINLAND, MAIN SEA.

a 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII* (1550) 258 The army..so returned home by land, through all the mayn contry of Scotlande. 1553 EDEN *Treat. Newe Ind.* (Arb.) 7 The mayne South sea. 1577 R. WILLES *Eden's Decades* Pref. 1 The discouery of Peru, in the maigne west Indish lande. 1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 119 Upon the West, the South, and the North, the maine Ocean incompasseth it. 1660 tr. *Amyraldus' Treat. conc. Relig.* III. viii. 481 An infinite essence..diffus'd infinitely in the mane space, beyond the world. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* III. 83 Whom no bounds Prescrib'd, no barrs of Hell..nor yet the main Abyss Wide interrupt can hold. *Ibid.* VII. 279 Over all the face of Earth Main Ocean flow'd. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk., Maine*, a body of impenetrable ice apparently detached from the land, but immovable.

†b. Of earth, rock: Forming the principal or entire mass; 'solid'. *Obs.*

1538 LELAND *Itin.* V. 79 Penbroke..standith on a veri maine Rocki Ground. 1586 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* I. vi. (1589) 18 The entrance is so straite, Cut ont the rough maine stonie Rocke. 1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 174 In the vineyards are sundry places of buriall hewne out of the maine rocke. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* II. 56 The large promontore..eight miles in length, being the face of a square and maine Rocke. 1638 JUNIUS *Paint. Ancients* 68 Fountaines gushing forth out of a main rock. 1647 SPRIGGE *Anglia Rediv.* III. i. (1854) 133 Sir Charles Lloyd..had added to the strength of its natural situation..having cut out of the main earth several works.

†c. *Of main white*: mainly of white. *Obs.*

1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 68 Put..to your coloured mares of mayne whyte, a horse of colour of mayn whyte.

†**5.** Of an affair, event, etc.: Highly important; having great results or important consequences; momentous. Rarely const. *to*. *Obs.*

1581 MULCASTER *Positions* Ep. Ded. (1887) 4 Many and maine affaires of your estate. 1602 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* Epit., Hasten we to our purposed prosecution of State matters, mainer, and of more note. 1613 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII*, III. ii. 215 What croste Diuell Made me put this maine Secret in the Packet I sent the King? *a* 1619 FLETCHER *Mad Lover* III. i, 'Tis a maine worke and full of feare. *a* 1626 BACON *New Atl.* (1900) 19 So you see, by this maine Accident of Time, wee lost our Traffique with the Americans. 1643 MILTON *Divorce* II. ix. Wks. 1851 IV. 85 In competition with higher things, as religion and charity in mainest matters. 1667 — *P. L.* VI. 471 That, which thou aright Beleivst so main to our success. 1671 — *P. R.* I. 112 They all commit the care And management of this main enterprize To him their great Dictator.

b. Of a person: Great, mighty (in power, rank or position). *rare.*

[*a* 900 CYNEWULF *Crist* 917 (Gr.) Waldendes cyme, mæȝencyninges.] *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 10290 The Mirmydons hade mynd of þe mayne troiell. *Ibid.* 10294 But mony of þo Mirmydons þe mayn knight slogh. 1623 FLETCHER & ROWLEY *Maid in Mill* III. ii, How dare you (Sirrha), 'gainst so main a person, A man of so much Noble note and honour, Put up this base complaint?

6. Of things in general, qualities, conditions, actions, etc.: Very great (in degree, value, etc.); highly remarkable (for some quality indicated by the sb.); very great or considerable of its kind. (Occas. in *superlative*.) *Obs.* exc. *dial.*

[*c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. XXV. 31 Þonne mannes sunu cymð on hys mæȝen-þrymme.] 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 94 Of sum mayn meruayle, þat he myȝt trawe. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 8807 Þen þos maisters gert make, all with mayn craſte, Fovre lampis full light. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 3777 Þai wiȝtly him sente .. Of mony & of mekill quat mayn giftis. 1565 JEWEL *Def. Apol.* (1611) 41 And this he reckoneth for a great maine lie. 1573 G. HARVEY *Letter-bk.* (Camden) 23 Main evils you know must have main remmedies. 1600 HEYWOOD *1st Pt. Edw. IV*, Wks. 1874 I. 32 Affaires, I mean, of so maine consequence. *a* 1619 FLETCHER *Mad Lover* II. ii, And to purchase This day the company of one deare Custard, Or a messe of Rice ap Thomas, needs a maine wit. 1634 *Relat. Ld. Baltimore's Plantat.* (1865) 8 The losse of much linnen, and amongst the rest, I lost the best of mine which is a very maine losse in these parts. 1638 FEATLY *Strict. Lyndom.* II. 11 And indeed this is one of our mainest exceptions against the Roman Church. *a* 1656 USSHER *Ann.* vi. (1658) 96 Cyaxares and Cyrus, march against the Babylonian King and Croesus, and gain a main Victory against them. 1668 H. MORE *Div. Dial.* II. 437 He professes he understands clearly the truth of severall Prophecies of the mainest concernment. 1672 MARVELL *Reh. Transp.* I. 80 We shall find ere we have done that there is still a mainer reason. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* v, It's a main untruth. 1883 STEVENSON *Treas. Isl.* II. xii. (1886) 95 It [the island] were a main place for pirates once.

b. With sb. indicating a person or agent: Great, remarkable, or pre-eminent for the quality or characteristics indicated. *Obs.* exc. *dial.*

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 12260 Thelamon..manast hom mightily as his mayn fos. 1642 ROGERS *Naaman* 346 That carnall reason is a maine enemy to all the matters of revealed truths. 1654 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 497 Many a one that in his own conceit is a main Husband, and is forward enough to call some..prodigall, will bee found to live, as I said, but in another Street of it. 1691 WOOD *Ath. Oxon.* II. 328 Mathew Hazard..a main Incendiary in the Rebellion. 1777 SHERIDAN *Trip Scarb.* v. ii, I am a main bungler at a long story. 1860 PENRUDDOCKE *Content* 31 (E. D. D.) Vow be a main fool.

¶c. *Main and . . .* = MAIN *adv.* (Cf. *fine and . ., nice and . . .*) *dial.*

1762 COLLINS *Misc.* 13 (Halliw.) Observing Dick looked main and blue. 1863 MRS. GASKELL *Sylvia's L.* XXI. II. 121 T'shop is doing main an' well. 1895 'ROSEMARY' *Chilterns* V. 163 He 's a main an' bad, and I believe as 'ee's took for death.

7. Chief in size or extent; constituting the bulk or principal part; the chief part of (that which is denoted by the sb.). *Main body*, † *battle*, the body of troops which form the bulk of an army or armed force, marching between the vanguard and the rear.

1593 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI*, I. i. 8 Lord Clifford and Lord Stafford all a-brest Charg'd our maine Battailes Front. 1600 — *A. Y. L.* III. v. 103 To gleane the broken eares after the man That the maine haruest reapes. 1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turks* (1621) 195 In the maine battell he stood himselfe; the vauntgard was conducted by Temurtases. 1640 FULLER *Joseph's Coat* (1867) 11 The apostle, commending the Corinthians, meaneth the main and general body of the church, though there might be many stragglers justly to be reproved. 1642 ROGERS *Naaman* To Rdr., Into which the maine sap of the root is carried. 1670 COTTON *Espernon* I. III. 111 The King of Navarre commanded the Vant-Guard of the Army, and his Majesty himself the main Battel, reserving the command of the Rear for the Duke of Espernon. 1687 T. BROWN *Saints in Uproar* Wks. 1730 I. 78 Whether you march'd in one main body, or in several columns. 1761 HUME *Hist. Eng.* II. xxvii. 131 Lord Howard led the main body of the first line. 1775 JOHNSON *Let. to Mrs. Thrale* 1 Aug., Our business is to pursue their main army, and disperse it by a decisive battle. 1807 SOUTHEY *Espriella's Lett.* I. 277 Of the baptismal names the main proportion are Saxon and Norman. 1812 WELLINGTON *Disp.* 28 July in *Examiner* 24 Aug. 535/2 The main body of the allied army is..on the Adaja and Zapardiel rivers. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* iv. I. 456 The sturdy country gentlemen who formed the main strength of the Tory party.

†b. Referring or pertaining to all or the majority; general. *Obs.*

1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, I. ii. 144 We do not meane the coursing snatchers onely, But feare the maine intendment of the Scot. 1602 — *Ham.* I. iii. 28 Which is no further, Then the maine voyce of Denmarke goes withall. 1613 — *Hen. VIII*, IV. i. 31 By the maine assent Of all these Learned men, she was diuorc'd. *c* 1618 FLETCHER *Queen of Corinth* II. iii, For I am nothing now but a maine pestilence Able to poyson all. *a* 1638 MEDE *Wks.* (1672) 761 There may be some Præludia of some particulars converted upon other motives, as a forerunner of the great and main Conversion.

8. Great or important above others of the kind; of pre-eminent importance; principal, chief, leading.

1588 J. UDALL *Demonstr. Discipl.* (Arb.) 42 They fight hard against this, because it striketh at a maine pillar of their kingdome. 1594 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* IV. i. § 2 In every grand or main public duty which God requireth at the hands of his Church. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* I. i. 105 And this (I take it) Is the maine Motiue of our Preparations. 1618 BOLTON *Florus* (1636) 47 Capua..once accounted after Rome, and Carthage, the third maine City of the World. 1633 BP. HALL *Occas. Medit.* 138 Every parcell thereof shall seeme maine and essentiall. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* III. XXXIV. 210 Submission to that main Article of Christian faith, that Jesus is the Christ. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* II. 121 If what was urg'd Main reason to perswade immediate Warr, Did not disswade me most. 1732 LAW *Serious C.* i. (ed. 2) 15 They are like Heathens in all the main and chief articles of their lives. 1779 SHERIDAN *Critic* II. ii, Let your under-plot have as little connection with your main-plot as possible. 1852 H. ROGERS *Ecl. Faith* (1853) 166, I went carefully over all the main points of the argument. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* II. XXI. 341 Mr. Thomson's main thought was familiar to me long before his first communication..appeared. 1865 LECKY *Ration.* II. v. 178 The main champions of tyrannicide were the Jesuits. 1867 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1876) I. App. 779 The statements may be grouped under two main heads.

b. Chief or principal in permanent relation to others of the same kind or group. In many collocations, e. g. *main drain, road, street, sewer, pipe, stream, root, line* (of a railway), sometimes written with a hyphen.

a 1490 BOTONER *Itin.* (Nasmith 1778) 260 The hyest toure called the mayn, id est myghtyest toure aboue all the iiii towres. 1551–60 *Inv.* in H. Hall *Eliz. Soc.* (1887) 151 Twoo grent standing chestes withe one mayne cheste. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 23 The maine roofe of the great Church of Sarisbury was consumed and brent with lightnyng. 1610 W. FOLKINGHAM *Art of Survey* II. v. 55 Plant not the Table at euery Angle, but,..extend from some fewe Maine Angles ..Base lines..for Boundaries. 1615 W. LAWSON *Country Housew. Gard.* (1626) 15, I vtterly dislike the opinion of those great Gardiners, that..would haue the maine roots cut away. 1617–18 in Swayne *Sarum Church-w. Acc.* (1896) 167 Mendinge one of the maine pypes of the Organ. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IV. 233 The neather Flood,..now divided into four main Streames. 1707–12 MORTIMER *Husb.* (1721) I. 23 Make your main Drains wide and deep enough to carry off the Water from the whole Level. 1741–3 WESLEY *Extract of Jrnl.* (1749) 117 They made no more stop 'till they had carried me thro' the main-street, from one end of the town to the other. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* vii, Opening..the wicket of the main-gate. 1820 W. IRVING *Sketch Bk.* I. 50 After turning from the main road up a narrow lane. 1840 DICKENS *Barn. Rudge* lxvii, They meant to cut off the main-pipes, so that there might be no water. 1858 LYTTON *What will he do* I. i, The main street was lined with booths. 1865 TROLLOPE *Belton Est.* vii. 74 At Taunton there branched away from the main-line that line which was to take her to Perivale. 1876 *Encycl. Brit.* IV. 467/2 A rate of fall of 1 in 120..is desirable..for a main sewer. 1878 *Act* 41 & 42 *Vict.* c. 77 § 15 Where it appears to any highway authority that any highway..ought to become a main road by reason of its being a medium of communication between great towns [etc.]. 1879 SIR G. SCOTT *Lect. Archit.* I. 195 An eastern transept, in addition to that at the main crossing. 1884 BOWER & SCOTT *De Bary's Phaner.* 357 The subsidiary roots..in this class..usually far exceed the main-roots in thickness. 1889 *Spectator* 9 Mar. 331/2 The burglar who leaves the back-door open for escape in case the policeman should enter by the main entrance.

†**9.** *Main flood*: a. High water. b. A large or full-flowing body of water. Also *main tide* (in quot. *fig.*). c. The ocean or MAIN SEA. *Obs.*

c 1303 *Reg. Pal. Dunelm.* (Rolls) III. 40 Et eadem aqua mensurari debet a le mainflod, quando eadem aqua ita fluit ut sit plena de bank' en bank'. 1311 *Ibid.* I. 8 Eadem aqua mensurari debet ad mayne flod. 1549–62 STERNHOLD & H. *Ps.* cxiv. 8, I meane the God which from hard rocks Doth cause mayne flouds appeare. 1555 W. WATREMAN *Fardle Facions* Pref. 11 Riuers, and maigne floudes, whiche..ouerflowed the neighboured aboute. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* IV. i. 72 You may as well go stand vpon the beach, And bid the maine flood baite his vsuall height. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 35 Quhatevir land is betueine thir twa mane fludes Forth southward, and Tai northward, Fife is called. 1605 CAMDEN *Rem.* (1637) 13 If I should but enter into consideration thereof, I should be over-whelmed with maine tides of matter.

10. *Naut.* in the sense 'pertaining to, connected with, or near the mainmast or mainsail', as *main-bonnet, -boom, -bowlines, -bridles, -capstan, -chains,* †*-drynge* (?), *-hatch, -hatchway, -hold, -jeers,* †*-knight, -lifts, -parrels, -pendant, -rigging, -royal, -royal-mast, -shrouds, -spencer, studding-sail, -tack, -tackle, -truck, -truss, -tyes.* Also MAIN-BRACE, etc.

1485 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 37 Mayne shrowdes. *Ibid.* 39 Maine perells. *Ibid.* 47 Mainestaies..Maynetyes. *Ibid.* 48 Mayne trusses. *Ibid.*, Mayne takkes. *Ibid.*, Mayne lyfts. *Ibid.*, Mayne Bowlynes. *Ibid.* 53 Mayne drynges. 1495 *Ibid.* 198 Mayne Jeres. 1626 CAPT. SMITH *Accid. Yng. Seamen* 14 The maine-shroudes and chaines. *Ibid.* 15 The maine bowling and bridles. 1635 BRERETON *Trav.* (Chetham Soc.) 125 The Sailors did in all haste take down the lower part of the main-sail and the foresail, which they call the main-bowline or main bonnet. 1678 PHILLIPS (ed. 4) s.v., *Fore-knight and Main-knight*, in Navigation are two short thick pieces of Wood carved, with the head of a Man fast bolted to the Beams upon the second Deck. 1712 W. ROGERS *Voy.* 34 He was lash'd to the Main-Gears and drub'd. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* I. viii. 80 Two of our main-shrouds..broke. *Ibid.* x. 99 We..lost a main studding-sail-boom. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1780) Bbb 3 b, The main-boom of a brig, sloop, or schooner. 1772–84 COOK *Voy.* (1790) V. 1914 The main-tack of the Discovery gave way. 1833 MARRYAT *P. Simple* XV, The second lieutenant went up the main-rigging. 1835 SIR J. ROSS *Narr. 2nd Voy.* VI. 87 The main and fore hatchway. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Chain-plates*..take their name from the mast and are hence called fore-chains, main-chains, or mizen-chains. 1861 *Sat. Rev.* 22 June 635 Entire freedom from dizziness..is possessed by every sailor who mounts to the maintruck of a man-of-war. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk., Main-tackle*, a large and strong tackle, hooked occasionally upon the main pendant. 1872 BLACKMORE *Maid of Sker* (1881) 46 The ship had no canvas left, except some tatters of the fore-topsail, and a piece of the main-royals. 1897 R. KIPLING *Captains Courageous* iii. 62 Uncle Salters ..sat stiffly on the main-hatch.

11. Special collocations in technical use (mostly hyphened): **main-bar** (see quot.); **main-breadth, main half-breadth** (see quots.); **main centre** (see quot.); **main couple** *Arch.*, the principal truss in a roof; **main earth**, the chief 'earth' in which the fox kennels; †**main-holder** (see quot.); **main keel**, the principal keel of a ship, as distinguished from the false keel and the kelson; **main-master** (? supposed by Disraeli to be a miner's word for a colliery owner); **main-piece** *Shipbuilding*, (*a*) 'the principal piece of timber in a rudder'; (*b*) 'the strong horizontal beam of a windlass' (Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.* 1867); (*c*) 'the principal piece of the head' (Knight 1875); **main-plate**, the principal plate of a lock; **main-post** *Shipbuilding*, the stern-post; †**main-shire**, ? an old name for Warwickshire; **main-transom** *Shipbuilding* = wing-transom (Smyth); **main-wale** *Naut.*, the lower wale (Smyth); **main-way**, the gangway or principal passage in a mine; **main word**, the term adopted in this

dictionary to designate a word of sufficient importance to be regarded as a principal word, as distinguished from a subordinate word or a combination (see *Preface* pp. xviii–xix); **main-work** *Fortif.*, 'the enceinte or principal works inclosing the body of the place' (Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1875).

1897 *Encycl. Sport* I. 341 (Driving), **Main-bar*, the cross timber fixed to the pole-head, from which hang the swing-bars or leading bars. *c* 1850 *Rudim. Navig.* (Weale) 130 **Main-breadth*, the broadest part of the ship at any particular timber or frame. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVII. 378/1 **Main half breadth*, is a section of the ship at its broadest part. *c* 1850 *Rudim. Navig.* (Weale) 130 *Main half-breadth*, half of the main breadth. 1858 R. MURRAY *Marine Engines* (ed. 3) 231 **Main centre*, in side-lever engines, is the strong shaft upon which the side levers vibrate. 1842 GWILT *Archit.* Gloss. 958 The **main* couples answer to the trusses. 1897 *Encycl. Sport* I. 582 (Hunting), **Main earth*, the fox's own lair and breeding place. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* II. 84/1 In the Root there is The **Main*-holder, which is that part of the root next the tree. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1780) s.v. *Keel*, The false-keel, which is also very useful in preserving the lower side of the **main* keel. 1845 DISRAELI *Sybil* III. i, It's as easy for a miner to speak to a **main*-master, as it is for me to pick coal with this here clay. *c* 1850 *Rudim. Navig.* (Weale) 144 It [the rudder] is formed of several pieces of timber, of which the **main* piece is generally of oak. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Main-piece*, the strong horizontal beam of the windlass. 1677 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* 22 Cut out of an Iron plate with a Cold Chissel the size and shape of the **Main*-Plate. *c* 1850 *Rudim. Navig.* (Weale) 131 **Main post.* 1626 B. JONSON *Masque of Owls*, Though that have been a fit Of our **main*-shire wit. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1780) s.v. *Wales*, They are usually distinguished into the **main*-wale and the channel-wale. 1881 RAYMOND *Mining Gloss.*, **Mainway*, a gangway or principal passage. 1892 *Daily News* 3 Mar. 5/7 Counting 'mainways', passages, and cuttings of all descriptions. 1833 STRAITH *Fortif.* 3 Detached works are those which it sometimes becomes necessary to construct beyond the range of the defensive musketry of the **main* works.

Main (mēn), *adv.* Now *dial.* [f. MAIN *a.* Cf. similar use of *mighty*; also the use of ON. *megen-* (= MAIN *sb.*[1]) in *megenkátr* very cheerful, *megenmildr* very mild, *megenvel* very well.] Very, exceedingly. (After the 17th c. chiefly in representations of rustic or illiterate speech.)

1632 *St. Papers Chas. I*, 17 May No. 216 fol. 56 I (Hampsh. Gloss.), Sparing the Toppes of the Trees, which yeeld maine good knees. 1647 LILLY *Chr. Astrol.* XXXVIII. 220 A maine strong argument. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew* s.v., *Maingood*, very good. 1741 RICHARDSON *Pamela* I. 201 Ay, said the Idiot, she is main good Company, Madam; no wonder you miss her. 1754 FOOTE *Knights* II. i. (1765) 40 *Waiter.* Would you chuse any refreshment? *Suck.* A draught of ale, friend, for I'm main dry. 1794 GODWIN *Cal. Williams* 40, I know, your honour, that it is main foolish of me to talk to you thus. 1828 SCOTT *Jrnl.* II. 149, I was main stupid indeed, and much disposed to sleep. 1872 *Punch* 31 Aug. 91/1 Beg your pardon, sir; but I be main deaf, to be sure. 1897 BARING-GOULD *Bladys of the Stewponey* viii, The Stewponey is a great house, and ours is a main little one.

Main, obs. f. MANE, MOAN. **Maina**, var. MINA[2].

Mai'n-brace[1]. *Naut.* [See MAIN *a.* and BRACE *sb.*[3]] The brace attached to the main-yard.

1487 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 67 Mayne brases. 1626 CAPT. SMITH *Accid. Yng. Seamen* 28 Ease your mayne brases. 1801 COL. STEWART *Narr.* in Nicolas *Disp. Nelson* (1845) IV. 309 By another shot several of the Marines, while hauling on the main-brace shared the same fate. 1840 R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast* xxiii. 69 All the rest of the crew.. tallied on to the main brace.

b. *Naut. slang. To splice the main-brace*: to serve out 'grog'; hence, to drink freely.

1805 *Naval Chron.* XIII. 480 Now splice the main brace. 1833 MARRYAT *P. Simple* xv, Mr. Falcon, splice the main-brace, and call the watch. 1836 HT. MARTINEAU *Autobiog.* (1877) II. App. 480 Yesterday the captain shouted, for the first time, 'Splice the main-brace'.

Mai'n-brace[2]. [See MAIN *a.* and BRACE *sb.*[2]] A principal brace; *Mech.* in a system of braces, that which resists the main strain.

1794 W. FELTON *Carriages* (1801) I. 210 Main braces..Are what the body [of the coach] hangs by. 1870 *Spon's Dict. Engin.* II. 679 (*Bridges*) In Fig. 1394, U is the upper chord ..M, main-brace.

Main chance. [MAIN *a.*]

†1. A term in the game of Hazard; = MAIN *sb.*[3] 1. In quots. only *fig.* or *allusive*. a. The venture or course of action from which most is hoped; the likeliest course to obtain success. *To stand to the main chance*: ? to take one's own risk. *To look, have an eye*, etc., *to the main chance*: to use one's best endeavours, be solicitous (for some object). b. The general probability with regard to a future event or the success of an undertaking. c. The most important point risked or at stake; also, the general outcome of a series of events; the whole fortunes of a person, a nation, etc. *Obs.*

1579 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 104 Good Father either content your selfe with my choice [*sc.* of a husband], or lette mee stande to the maine chaunce. 1587 HOLINSHED *Chron. Scot.* 300 Nothing could be either more fond or foolish, than to fight at pleasure of the enimie, and to set all on a maine chance at his will and appointment. 1591 GREENE *Disc. Coosnage* (1592) C 3 When their other trades fail..then to maintaine the main chance, they vse the benefite of their wines or friends. 1593 NASHE *Four Lett. Confut.* 84 Haue an eie to the maine-chaunce, for so sooner shall they vnderstand what thou hast said by mee of them, but theyle goe neere to haue thee about the eares for this geare. 1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV*, III. i. 83 A man may prophecie With a neere ayme, of the maine chance of things, As yet not come to Life. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* IX. xviii. 327 Every one should have lived and died according to the fatall course of his owne severall destinie, without the hazard of the whole and maine chance [L. *summa rerum*]. *Ibid.* XXI. xvi. 402 So ashamed in themselves they were,..and so mightily feared the losse of the verie maine chance at home, as if the enemie had beene already at the gates of the cittie. 1610 — *Camden's Brit.* I. 22 With whom the Romans for many yeeres maintained war,..for the very main-chance of life and living. 1625 PURCHAS *Pilgrims* II. 1822 It behoued the Bashaw to looke to the main chance for the quenching of the Fire. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* III. i. § 5 Yet withall he was carefull of the main chance to keep the essentials of his Crown. 1703 COLLIER *Ess.* II. 67 None so fit to prescribe, to direct the enterprise, and secure the main-chance.

2. That which is of principal importance in life; now *esp.* the opportunity of enriching oneself or of getting gain; one's own interests. (Often in phr. *to have an eye to, be careful of, the main chance.*)

1584 R. W. *Three Ladies Lond.* I. E ij b, Trust me thou art as craftie to haue an eye to the mayne chaunce: As the Taylor that out of seuen yardes stole one and a halfe of durance. 1644 BP. HALL *Serm.* Rem. Wks. (1660) II. 136 Shall we be lesse carefull of the main-chance, even of the eternal inheritance of Heaven? 1693 DRYDEN *Persius* vi. (1697) 497 Be careful still of the main Chance, my Son. 1698 COLLIER *Ess. Mor. Subj.* II. (ed. 3) 136 Wise men will..take care of the main Chance, and provide for Accidents and Age. 1751 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 116 ¶ 6 My Master..had all the good qualities which naturally arise from a close and unwearied attention to the main chance. 1767 GRAY in *Corr. w. Nicholls* (1843) 69 Come quickly, if the main chance will suffer you, or I will know the reason why. 1828 *Lights & Shades* II. 159 A Scotchman looks only to the main-chance. 1902 L. STEPHEN *Stud. Biographer* IV. i. 36 It..cannot be said that an eye for the main chance is inconsistent with the poetical character.

Maincheat, obs. form of MANCHET.

Main-course. *Naut.* ? *Obs.* [See MAIN *a.* and COURSE *sb.* 32.] = MAINSAIL.

c 1515 *Cocke Lorell's B.* (Percy Soc.) 12 Some y[e] longe bote dyde launce, some mende y[e] corse, Mayne corfe [*read* corse] toke in a refe byforce. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* I. i. 38 Down with the top-Mast; yare, lower, lower, bring her to Try with Maine-course. 1626 CAPT. SMITH *Accid. Yng. Seamen* 16 The maine course or a paire of courses. 1687 B. RANDOLPH *Archipelago* 102 Towards break of day we handed our main course, but before it was well secured the storm came. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* (1858) II. ii, Having no sails to work the ship with, but a main course [etc.]. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*

Main-deck. *Naut.* [See MAIN *a.* and DECK *sb.* 2, 2 b.] a. In a man-of-war, the deck next below the spar-deck. b. In a merchantman, that part of the upper deck which lies between the poop and the forecastle.

1748 *Anson's Voy.* III. vii. 360 The crew..were drawn up under arms on the main-deck. 1798 *Anti-Jacobin* No. 33 (1852) 189 We walk the main-deck. 1824 W. IRVING *T. Trav.* (1849) 416 There was a shout of victory from the main-deck. 1833 MARRYAT *P. Simple* vi, Washing down the main-deck. *attrib.* 1868 *Rep. to Govt. U. S. Munit. War* 267 That part of the ship supported by and below the main-deck beams.

c. *fig.* Used for: The main body or chief representatives (of).

1847 DE QUINCEY *Secret Societies* Wks. 1863 VI. 258 No round-robins, signed by the whole maindeck of the Platonic Academy.

†**Maine**, *sb. Obs.* Also 5–6 mayne, *Sc.* mane, 6–7 mayn. [Aphetic f. *demaine* in PAIN-DEMAINE, DEMEINE. (Cf. MANCHET.)] Used attrib. in the following terms: a. **Maine bread**, occas. (Sc.) *breid of mane* (? also simply *mane*, quot. *c* 1470), bread of the finest quality; = PAIN-DEMAINE, DEMEINE. (The city of York was once famous for a kind of bread so called.)

1443 *Burgh Rec. Edinb.* (1869) I. 7 It is..ordanit that na baxter baik na mayne breid to sell fra hine furthwart, saiffing allenarly at Witsounday [etc.]. *c* 1470 HENRYSON *Mor. Fab.* II. xviii. (ed. Laing), And mane full fyne scho brocht in steid of geill. 1509 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) V. 5 And at tharbe skallapis of mayne breid. ? *a* 1550 *Freiris Berwik* 160 in *Dunbar's Poems* (1893) 290 And eik ane creill full of breid of mane. *Ibid.* 376 Mayne breid. 1572 J. JONES *Bathes Buckstone* 9 b, But these and all other the mayne bread of York excelleth, for that it is of the finest floure of the Wheat well tempered. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S. T. S.) I. 337 Quhyte breid, maine breid, and gingebreid. 1584 COGAN *Haven Health* iv. (1636) 25 Good bread is made thereof, especially that of Yorke, which they call Maine bread. 1622 in J. J. Cartwright *Chapt. Hist. Yks.* (1872) 281 Bakers..disobedient in not bakeinge of mayn bread beinge an auncient mistery used in this cittie and in no other cities of this kingdome.

b. **Maine flour**, flour of the finest quality. **Maine multure**, the portion of 'maine flour' payable as multure.

a 1483 *Liber Niger* in *Househ. Ord.* (1790) 70 One yoman in this office [of Bakehouse] for the kinge's mouthe recevyng the mayne floure of the Sergeannt, by tayle. 1523 *Burgh Rec. Edinb.* (1869) I. 217 The baillies and counsall ordanis all the maisteris of the baxter craft till content and pay to the fermoraris thair mayne mutter, that is to say, of ilk iiij laid tbat thai brek abone ane pek of mayne flour, and gif thai brek les to pay na thing. 1524–5 *Ibid.* 220 Als thai ordane the saidis baxteris to pay the mayne flour to the saidis fermoraris as vs and wont hes bene in tymes bygane.

†**Maine**, *v. Naut. Obs.* Also **mayne**. [Aphetic f. AMAIN(E *v.*] *trans.* To lower (a sail).

1517 TORKINGTON *Pilgr.* (1884) 59 He made vs to mayne, that ys to sey stryk Downe ower sayles. 1579 T. STEVENS in *Hakluyt's Voy.* (1599) II. II. 99 When it is tempest almost intollerable for other ships, and maketh them maine all their sailes, these hoise vp, and saile excellent well.

Maine, obs. form of MANE, MEINIE.

Maineath, variant of MANATH *Obs.*

Mainfe'rre. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.* Also 5 maynefere, 7 mainefeere, mainefaire, (8–9 *Hist.* mane-, manifaire). [Perh. repr. F. *main ferrée* (iron-clad hand) or *main-de-fer* (hand of iron): the latter occurs in this sense in Viollet-le-Duc *Dict. Mobilier français* (1874) V. 449.] Some piece of armour; prob. the gauntlet for the left arm, of which examples are preserved.

c 1470 in *Archæologia* XVII. 292 A maynefere with a ryngge. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. IV* 12 Some had the mainferres, the close gantlettes the quissettes the flancardes dropped & gutted with red. 1631 in *Archæologia* XXXVII. 486 The horse's furniture being a saddle, barbe, crinett,.. and for the man 2 grangardes, 2 pasgardes, 2 mainefeeres, 2 peer of vambraces [etc.]. 1660 *Surv. Armoury Tower* in *Archæologia* XL. 99 Masking armor complete, reported to be made for king Henry the Seventh. .. Mainefaires, russet, white. 1786 GROSE *Anc. Armour* 30 [Writes the word as *manefaire*, and erroneously refers it to MANE *sb.*; hence he treats it as synonymous with CRINIERE. So in MEYRICK 1824.] 1830 JAMES *Darnley* x, With his chanfron, snaffle-bit, manifaire, and fluted poitrel. 1844 — *Agincourt* I. 77.

†**Mainful**, *a. Obs.* In 3 meinful(e, 4 maynful. [f. MAIN *sb.*[1] + -FUL.] Powerful, mighty.

a 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1097 Þurh ☩ he is drihtin meinful & almihti. *a* 1225 *Juliana* 35 Lef me þat ich mote mihti meinfule godd iseon him icheomet. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 1093 Ryȝt as þe maynful mone con rys, Er þenne þe day glem dryue al doun. *Ibid.* B. 1730.

Main-guard.

1. *Fortif.* The keep of a castle; also, the building within a fortress in which the 'main-guard' (sense 2 b) is lodged. Also *fig.*

1653 E. WATERHOUSE *Apol. Learn.* Pref., Nothing..is so great a security to the main-guard of Religion, as well to provide for her out-ports & lines of learning. 1662 PEPYS *Diary* 19 Dec., With the Lieutenant's leave set them to work in the garden, in the corner against the mayneguard. 1690 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2544/2 They passed the Ditch, and made themselves Masters of the Main-guard. 1778 *Eng. Gazetteer* (ed. 2) s.v. *Marlborough*, The keep or main guard of the castle. 1902 *Daily Chron.* 3 Mar. 3/1 The hideous new main-guard which has been built close to the White Tower.

2. *Mil.* a. = GRAND GUARD 2. b. (See quot. 1876.)

1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey) s.v. *Guard, Main Guard*, (in the Field) is a considerable Body of Horse sent out to the Head of the Camp to secure the Army, by diligently guarding all the Avenues or Passages that lead to it. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) VIII. 170/2 *Main Guard*, is that from which all other guards are detached. 1876 VOYLE & STEVENSON *Milit. Dict.* (ed. 3) s.v., Large forts or fortresses have a main guard chosen from the troops garrisoning them, under which guard all disturbers of the peace, drunkards, &c., are placed.

Maingy, obs. form of MANGY *a.*

Mainland (mē'nlănd). Forms: see MAIN *a.* and LAND *sb.*[1]; also 4–5 *Sc.* manland. [See MAIN *a.* 4. Cf. ON. *megenland.*]

1. That continuous body of land which includes the greater part of a country or territory, in contradistinction to the portions outlying as islands or peninsulas. † Formerly *occas.* = land as opposed to sea, *terra firma*; also in ME. poetry, great extent of country, wide territory.

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* III. 389 And then he thocht, but mar delay, In-to the manland till arywe. ? *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 427 And merke sythene over the mounttez in-to his mayne londez. *Ibid.* 4071 This was a mache vn-mete,..To melle with that multitude in thase man londis. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* x. 1015 Na man was left all this mayn land [= Scotland] within. *a* 1490 BOTONER *Itin.* (Nasmith 1778) 153 Insula Prestholm .. distat a le mayn lond circa spacium duarum arcuum. 1511 GUYLFORDE *Pilgr.* (1851) 11 There be ij. stronge castelles stondynge upon two rokkes .. and the Turkes mayne lande lyeth within .ij. or .iij. myle of theym. 1527 R. THORNE in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1589) 253 It appeareth the said land that we found and the Indies to be all one maine land. 1530 PALSGR. 242/1 Mayneland, *terre ferme.* 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* (1858) I. 100 Befoir wes medow and mane land, Quhair now is nocht bot salt water and sand. 1600 E. BLOUNT tr. *Conestaggio* 2 It contains in circuit 850 miles, whereof 400 run along the Sea shore, the rest is maine land. 1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* I. vi. 20 The Isles of Acores, Cape Verd and others,..are not above three hundred leagues or five hundred from the Mayne land. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. xv, Friday, the weather being very serene, looks very earnestly towards the main land. 1838 THIRLWALL *Greece* II. xii. 83 The ancient Æolian cities on the main-land..amounted to eleven. 1878 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* 168 Pillars of chalk have thus been separated from the mainland.

b. Applied to the largest island of the Shetlands and to the largest island of the Orkneys (Pomona).

1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 63 Pomonia, quhilke is of sik a boundes that the inhabitouris calles it the mayne land. 1822 SCOTT *Pirate* i, That long, narrow, and irregular island, usually called the Mainland of Zetland. 1846 MCCULLOCH *Acc. Brit. Empire* (1854) I. 315 There are about a dozen principal islands: Pomona, or the mainland, being decidedly the largest.

2. *attrib.*

1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* III. xii, When it [*sc.* the boat] had

neared the mainland hill. 1867 *Syme's Eng. Bot.* (ed. 3) VII. 49 Extending east to Sussex and mainland Hants. 1895 *Westm. Gaz.* 24 Oct. 4/2 The possible recognition by mainland Powers of the Cubans as belligerents.

†3. (See quot.) *Obs.*

1686 Plot *Staffordsh.* ix. 341 A mixt sort of land, either of Clay and Gravel, or Clay and Sand..this..they call in the Moorelands their Main-land, which is indeed the best they have.

Hence **Mai·nlander**, a dweller on the mainland.

1860 Palfrey *Hist. New Eng.* II. 359 The mainlanders and the islanders. 1882 A. J. Evans in *Archæologia* XLVIII. 17 We find a self-governing community, waging war with the Illyrian mainlanders. 1897 Mary Kingsley *W. Africa* 56 A thing that differentiates them more than any other characteristic from the mainlanders.

†**Mai·nless**, *a. Obs.* [f. OE. *mægenléas*, f. *mægen* Main *sb.*[1] + *-léas* -less.] Powerless.

c 1000 Ælfric *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 162/24 *Enervis*, mægenleas. *c* 1220 *Bestiary* 128 He is lene and mainles.

‖ **Main levee.** [Fr. = (literally) 'raised hand'.] Replevin.

1653 Sir R. Browne in *Evelyn's Diary*, etc. (1879) IV. 291 Captain Anthonio hath..by this means obtained mainlevee of all the goods arrested.

Mainly (mē·nli), *adv.* Forms: 3 mainliche, 5 maineliche, manly, 4–7 maynly, 5–6 maynely, -lie, 6–7 mainely, 7– mainly. [f. Main *a.* + -ly [2].]

†1. Of physical actions: With force, vigour, or violence; mightily, vigorously, violently. *Obs.*

c 1275 Lay. 1915, I grop hine bi þan gurdle, and hine mainliche heof. *Ibid.* 14705 To-gadere hii come and mainliche on-slowe. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 2042 Fra morne to þe mirke nizt maynly þa cocken [*Dubl. MS.* manly þai feghtyn]. 1582 Stanyhurst *Æneis* IV. (Arb.) 103 Not to the sky maynely, but neere sea meanelye she [*sc.* a bird] flickreth. 1586 Marlowe *1st Pt. Tamburl.* II. i. (1590) B 2 b, Such breadth of shoulders as might mainely beare Olde Atlas burthen. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* I. vii. 12 The geaunt strooke so maynly mercilesse, That could have overthrowne a stony towre. 1603 Holland *Plutarch's Mor.* 163 When he would rid the ground of some wilde bushes,..he laieth at them mainely with his grubbing hooke or mattocke. 1621 Lady M. Wroth *Urania* 553 A terrible, fierce and mighty boare, issued out of the wood, running mainly at Amphilanthus. 1640 tr. *Verdere's Rom. Rom.* III. 50 One of them took his Scimitar..and..strook so mainly at his head, that [etc.]. 1656 M. Ben Israel *Vind. Judæorum* in *Phenix* (1708) II. 396 Every day the Jews [they] mainly strike, and buffet, shamefully spitting on them.

b. Of the production of sound: Lustily, loudly.

c 1275 Lay. 808 He..his horn mainliche bleu. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1427 Maynly his marschal þe mayster vpon calles. 1563 *Homilies* II. *Passion* II. (1640) 184 He cried mainely out against sinners. 1631 Weever *Anc. Funeral Mon.* 15 They..cried out mainly. 1881 Slow *Wiltsh. Rhymes* 123 Mainly he did roar.

†c. Of expression, thought: Vehemently, strongly; earnestly, eagerly. *Obs.*

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 13860 This mild of his moder so mainly dessiret, þat [etc.]. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 1217 Þan was ser Meliager moued & maynly [*Dubl. MS.* manly] dehatis. *Ibid.* 3424 My mekill mi3tfull gods I maynly 3ow swere. 1588 J. Udall *Demonstr. Discipl.* (Arb.) 76 Men mainly suspected of notorious traasgressions. 1611 Speed *Hist. Gt. Brit.* IX. xvi. (1623) 847 His..opinion..was as mainely opposed by the Cardinall.

†2. In a great degree; greatly, considerably, very much, a great deal. Also *occas.* entirely, perfectly. *Obs.*

c 1400–50 *Alexander* 934 His men & all þe Messadones full maynly ware stourbed. 1562 J. Heywood *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 111 Thou fleest that vice not meanly nor barely, But mainely, scrupulously. 1602 Shaks. *Ham.* IV. vii. 9 As by your Safety, Wisedome, all things else, You mainly were stirr'd vp. 1605 — *Lear* IV. vii. 65, I am mainely ignorant What place this is. 1616 Beaum. & Fl. *Scornful Lady* II. i, The people are so mainely giuen to spoonemeate. 1617 Fletcher *Mad Lover* III. iv, Still she eyes him mainlie. 1628 Digby *Voy. Medit.* (1868) 6 Perceiuing she [*sc.* a ship] gott mainely of vs wee gaue ouer our chace. 1702 Farquhar *Inconstant* II. i, I like her mainly. 1772 Foote *Nabob* III. Wks. 1799 II. 318 Things are mainly changed since we were boys. 1800 Lamb *Lett.* vi. *to Manning* 51, I think we should suit one another mainly.

†b. Abundantly, copiously; lavishly. *Obs.*

1618 J. Bullokar in Farr *S. P. Jas. I* (1847) 291 This precious liquor..Whose sweet-distilling drops full mainly showres Adowne his neck. 1632 Lithgow *Trav.* I. 25 This Prouince is mainely watered through the middle with stately Po. *Ibid.* IX. 381 Danser tooke the presence of the Bashaw for a great fauour, and mainely feasted him with good cheare.

c. Used as an intensive with adjs. and advs. = Very, exceedingly. = Main *adv.* Now *dial.*

1670 Eachard *Cont. Clergy* 127 This invention pleases some mainly well. 1684 Bunyan *Pilgr.* II. 191 She loveth Banqueting, and Feasting mainly well. 1718 D'Urfey *Grecian Heroine* V. ii, I like mine mainly well, faith. 1748 Smollett *Rod. Rand.* XXIV. (1760) I. 193 The captain was mainly wroth, and would certainly have done him a mischief. 1890 *Glouc. Gloss., Main, Mainly*, very, exceedingly.

3. For the most part; in the main; as the chief thing, chiefly, principally.

1667 Milton *P. L.* XI. 519 Ungovern'd appetite,..a brutish vice, Inductive mainly to the sin of Eve. 1695 Woodward *Nat. Hist. Earth* IV. 188 The metallick..matter..was..originally..interspersed..amongst the..Matter, whereof the said Strata mainly consist. 1820 Marshall *Const. Opin.* (1839) 218 The cause depends mainly on the validity of this act. 1874 Green *Short Hist.* IV. § 3. 183 The body of commissioners which the King nominated were mainly Scotch. 1894 J. T. Fowler *Adamnan* Introd. 15 It is with Ireland that we are mainly concerned.

Mainmast (mē·nmɑst, -məst). [f. Main *a.* (sense 10) + Mast.] The principal mast in a ship.

15.. [see b]. 1596 Spenser *Pres. St. Ireland* Wks. (Globe) 666/2 So that he might sitt, as it were, at the very mayne mast of his shipp. 1611 Shaks. *Wint. T.* III. iii. 94 The Shippe boaring the Moone with her maine Mast. 1634 Brereton *Trav.* (Chetham Soc.) 169 The main-mast which is placed almost in the middle of the ship. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. iv. 161 We converted the fore-mast of the Victualler into a main-mast for the Tryal Sloop. 1764 Veitch in *Phil. Trans.* LIV. 287 Sometimes the name of main-mast is applied to all the three pieces as they stand erected, and sometimes to the lower piece, or part of the mast only: and when they are distinguished severally, they are called the main-mast, main-top-mast, and main-top-gallant-mast. 1855 Browning *By the Fireside* iii, Out we slip To cut from the hazels by the creek A mainmast for our ship.

b. *attrib.*, as *mainmast-top, -tree.*

15.. *Sir Andrew Barton* xxii. in *Surtees Misc.* (1888) 70 I'le hange them al on my mayn mast tree. 1768–74 Tucker *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 18 A sailor ordered up the main-mast top to descry ships.

†**Mainmission.** *Obs. rare*—[1]. [a. OF. *mainmission* (1461), refashioning of *manumission* after *main* hand.] = Manumission.

c 1500 Medwall *Nature* (Brandl) 166 Thou hast now lybertye and nedest no mayn-myssyon.

†**Main-mi·zen.** *Naut. Obs.* [f. Main *a.* (sense 10) + Mizen.] a. ? A spanker. b. The foremost of the two mizen masts formerly in use. (Also *main mizen mast, sail.*)

1486 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 14 A Mayne Meson mast for the said Ship. *Ibid.* 43 Mayne meson sailes. *c* 1515 *Cocke Lorell's B.* (Percy Soc.), Some pulde at the beryll, some sprede y^e^ mayne myssyll. 1704 J. Harris *Lex. Techn.* s.v. *Missen-Mast*, Some great Ships require two [mizens]; then that next the Main-mast is the Main-missen.

†**Mainmort.** *Obs.* [a. F. *mainmorte* = Dead-hand.] a. = Mortmain. b. *French Feudal Law* (see quot. 1727–41).

1598 Dallington *Meth. Trav.* F iij b, Nominations of Chappels, goods of Main-mort, fifts of Lands sold. [1727–41 Chambers *Cycl., Main-Morte*, a term in some antient customs, still obtaining in Burgundy, signifying a right which the lord has, on the death of the chief of a family that is *Mainmortable*, of taking the best moveable in the house.]

Mainmortable (mē·nmē·ɑtăb'l), *a.* and *sb. Hist.* [a. F. *mainmortable*, f. *mainmorte*: see prec.] A. *adj.* Applied to serfs (in France) who were not at liberty to alienate their possessions if they died childless; also to their possessions.

[1727–41: see prec.] 1779 *Gentl. Mag.* XLIX. 544 The mainmortable heritages, situated in our lands and signiories. 1889 M. Betham-Edwards *Introd. A. Young's Trav. France* 21 These bond-servants..were up to that time mainmortable.

B. *sb.* A 'mainmortable' serf.

1779 *Gentl. Mag.* XLIX. 545 We ordain that the Droit de Suite over mainmortables shall henceforth be abolished and suppressed. 1882 W. B. Weeden *Soc. Law Labor* 84 The lords..held the right of pursuit, by which they could follow a mainmortable who had abandoned the land.

Mai·nour, ma·nner. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.* or *arch.* Forms: 5 menowr, manor, 6–8 maner, (6 mayner, -ure, 6–7 maynour, 7 manoir), 7–8 *Law Dicts.* manour, meinor, -our(e, 6– mainour, manner. [a. AF. *meinoure, mainoure, mainoevere*, a. OF. *maneuvre*, lit. 'hand-work': see Manœuvre.

From the etymology, it would seem probable that the original sense was 'the act or fact (of a crime)', as in 2 below. The AFr. examples, however, already show the concrete sense as in 1. The phrase *pris ov mainoure* ('taken with the mainour'; = *capta cum manuopere*, Fleta, *c* 1290) seems to have been framed to render the OE. *æt hæbbendre handa gefangen*: see Hand-habend *a.* Since the 16th c. the word has in non-technical use often been confused with Manner *sb.*, and assimilated to that word in spelling.]

1. *Law.* The stolen thing which is found in a thief's possession when he is arrested: chiefly in phr. *taken, found with the mainour.*

[1275 *Act* 3 *Edw. I, Stat. Westm.* I. c. 15 Toz que sunt pris ov meinoure. 1311 *Act* 5 *Edw. II, Ordin.* c. 19 Qe desormes nul ne soit pris ne enprisone pur vert ne pur veneson, si il ne soit trove ove mainoure. 1399 *Liber Cust.* 487 Et quod prædictus Dux..haberet quæcunque bona et catalla vocata 'manuopera' capta vel capienda cum quacunque persona infra..feoda prædicta.] ?1472 *Plumpton Corr.* (Camden) 26 One Richard of the Burgh, that had take and led away feloniously certaine ky and other cattell..was take and arested with the said manor att Spofford, whearat they yett remaine. 1481 Caxton *Reynard* (Arb.) 8 Yet al had he courtoys hanged whan he fonde hym with the menowr, he had not moche mysdon ne trespaced. 1550 Latimer *Serm. bef. Edw. VI*, Div, Euen as a theefe that is taken with the manner when [*ed.* 1584 that] he stealeth. 1551 Robinson tr. *More's Utop.* I. (1895) 69 Moneye fownde abowte them shoulde betraye the robberye. They shoulde be no soner taken wyth the maner, but furth wyth they shoulde be punysshed. 1597 Shaks. 2 *Hen. IV*, II. iv. 347 O Villaine, thou stolest a Cup of Sacke eighteene yeeres agoe, and were taken with the manner. 1607 Cowell *Interpr.*, *Mainour*, alias *Manour*, alias *Meinoure*, signifieth in our common lawe, the thing that a theefe taketh away or stealeth. 1769 Blackstone *Comm.* IV. 303 When a thief was taken with the mainour, that is, with the thing stolen upon him, *in manu*. 1838–42 Arnold *Hist. Rome* (1846) I. xiv. 293 *note*, No power could bail a thief taken with the manner, that is, with the thing stolen upon him. 1867 Pearson *Hist. Eng.* I. 274 The thief overtaken with the mainour might be killed.

2. *With* (later *in*) *the mainour* (usually *manner*): in the act of doing something unlawful, 'in flagrante delicto'.

1530 Palsgr. 752/1, I take with the maner, as a thefe is taken with thefte, or a person in the doyng of any other acte, *je prens sur le faict.* 1566 *Pasquine in a Traunce* 107 Whether fryers..haning bene so often taken with the maner to vse deceyte,..be therefore any more to be trusted afterwarde. 1579 *Termes of the Lawe* 144 b (s.v. *Maynour*), We commonlye vse to saye when we finde one doing of an vnlawfull act, that wee tooke him wyth the mainour, or manner. 1597 Beard *Theatre God's Judgem.* (1612) 46 Being taken in the manner, the Christians stoned him to death. 1609 Holland *Amm. Marcell.* XXI. ii. 168 [He] committed those and such like outrages..but being taken with the manoir and convict, he forbare and abstained. 1611 Bible *Num.* v. 13 If..a man lye with her carnally,..and there be no witnesse against her, neither she be taken with the maner [etc.]. 1615 Crooke *Body of Man* 282 They feigne that when Venus and Mars were in bed together, they were deprehended or taken in the manner, as we say, by Mercury. 1760–72 H. Brooke *Fool of Qual.* (1809) IV. 124, I held it beneath me to be caught in the manner. 1828 Scott *F. M. Perth* xii, 'Ha! my jolly Smith', he said, 'have I caught thee in the manner?' 1866 *Chamb. Jrnl.* No. 28. 261 If he were taken in the act or mainour.

†**Mainpernable**, *a. Obs.* [a. AF. *mainpernable*, **mainprenable*, f. *mainprendre*: see Mainprize *sb.*] Capable of being mainprized.

[1330 *Act* 4 *Edw. III*, c. 2 Sils ne soyent meynpernables par la lei.] 1487 *Act* 3 *Hen. VII*, c. 3 Dyverse persones such as wer not maynpernable ware oftymes leten to baille and maynprise. 1630 in Rushw. *Hist. Coll.* (1659) I. 27 Although he did nothing, he is not main-pernable until the King sent his pleasure, because he was armed and furiously disposed. 1647 Sir R. Holbourne *Freeholders' Grand Inquest* 34 The penalty for detaining a Prisoner that is mainpernable is a Fine at the Kings Pleasure. 1772 *Junius Lett.* lxviii. 342 In the two preceding statutes, the words bailable, replevisable, and mainpernable, are used synonymously.

Mainpernor. *Law. Obs.* exc. *Hist.* or *arch.* Forms: 3–4 moynpernour, 4 mein-, menepernour, 4, 7, 8 mainpernor, 5 maynpernour, meynpurnour, 5–7, 9 mainpernour, 6 maynepernour, 6–7 mainperner, 7 mainepernour, manipernor. [a. AF. *mainpernour* = OF. **mainprenor, -preneur*, agent-n. f. *mainprendre*: see Mainprize *sb.* Cf. Manucaptor.] A surety for a prisoner's appearance in court on a specified day; one who gives mainprize for another. (Also *fig.*)

For the alleged distinction between *mainpernor* and *bail* see quot. 1768. With regard to the etymological misapprehensions in quots. 1607 and 1768, see Mainprize 2.

[1292 Britton I. ii. § 6 Les nouns des meynpernours, solom ceo qe il troverunt par le verdit, face enrouler. 1326–7 *Act* 1 *Edw. III, Stat.* I. c. 8, & le nouns des meinpernours face liverer a mesmes les verders, a respoundre en eir devant Justices.] 1362 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. IV. 99 That Meede moste be meynpernour Resoun heo bi-soughte. *c* 1412 Hoccleve *De Reg. Princ.* 2399 And to prison he gooth; he gette no beitre, Til his mainpernour his arrest vnfettre. 1459 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 368/1 Unto the tyme that they have founde suerte of iiii Meynpurnours. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. IV* 12 b, Thou knowest wel enough that I am thy pledge borowe and mayneperner, body for body, and land for goodes in open parliament. 1586 J. Hooker *Hist. Irel.* in *Holinshed* II. 72/1 [They] became mainpernours for the said earle of Desmond, that he should come into England, and abide such triall as the law would award. 1607 Cowell *Interpr.* s.v. *Mainprise*, They that do thus vndertake for any, are called Mainpernours, because they do receiue him into their hands. 1647 N. Bacon *Disc. Govt. Eng.* I. liii. (1739) 94 Mainperners are not to be punished as Principals, unless they be parties or privies to the failing of the Principal. 1768 Blackstone *Comm.* III. 128 Mainpernors differ from bail, in that a man's bail may imprison or surrender him up before the stipulated day of appearance; mainpernors can do neither, but are barely sureties for his appearance at the day: bail are only sureties, that the party be answerable for the special matter for which they stipulate; mainpernors are bound to produce him to answer all charges whatsoever. 1857 Sir F. Palgrave *Norm. & Eng.* II. 691 If any friend had pledged himself to the assurance that..the fine young Duke had always conducted himself with strictly edifying propriety we should say..a bold mainpernour was he.

¶ See quot. (Prob. some error.)

1631 Weever *Anc. Funeral Mon.* 342 Officers belonging to these Staples, were Maiors, Constables, Manipernors.

†**Mainport.** *Obs.* Also 7 manport, maineporte, maynport. [Of obscure origin: possibly f. F. *main*, L. *manus* hand, and F. *porter*, L. *portāre* to carry.] (See quot. 1670–91.)

1664 Spelman *Gloss.* s.v., Vicaria de Wragby consistit in toto Altaragio & in ceragio vulgariter dict. *Waxshot*, in panibus vulgariter dict. Manport. *Ibid.*, Mainport. 1670–91 Blount *Law Dict.*, *Maine-porte* (*in manu portatum*), is a small tribute (commonly of Loaves of Bread) which in some places the Parishioners pay to the Rector of their Church, in recompence for certain Tythes. 1677 Thoroton *Antiq. Nottingh.* 474 They also..assigned him [the Vicar of Blyth] many small matters in which the Vicarage was to consist, as..in the Bread which is called Maynport.

Mainprize (mē·nprəiz), *sb. Obs.* exc. *Hist.* Forms: 4 meynprize, 4–5 meyn-, maynprise, -pryse, 5 main-, maympris, maynprice, ?maunprese, 5–6 maynpris(e, 6 -prize, mempris, 6–7 main(e)prise, 7– mainprize. [a. AF., OF. *mein-, mainprise*, n. of action f. *mainprendre* (f.

main hand + *prendre* to take: see PRIZE *sb.*), the equivalent of the med.L. *manūcapĕre*, lit. 'to take in the hand', hence 'to assume responsibility, pledge oneself'.

The Latinized form *meinprisa*, in the general sense 'undertaking, promise under penalties', is cited by Du Cange from an English charter of 1174.]

1. *gen.* The action of making oneself legally responsible for the fulfilment of a contract or undertaking by another person; suretyship.

1447 *Waterf. Arch.* in 10*th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 297 No citsayn or freman shal receve none estraungers in pledge or maynprice for ony bargaine. *?a* 1500 in ARNOLDE *Chron.* (1811) 24 That .. an English Marchaunt bee not amytted into the fraunches of ye cite of any crafte but be Mempris of vi good men and sufficyent of the crafte.

2. *spec.* The action of procuring the release of a prisoner by becoming surety ('mainpernor') for his appearance in court at a specified time. Chiefly in phr. *to let* or *receive to* (or *in*) *mainprize*, *to deliver upon* (or *by*) *mainprize*, *to nim under mainprize* [= AF. *laisser par*, *mettre par meynprise*]. *Without bail or mainprize*: with no permission to obtain release by finding sureties. *Writ of mainprize*: see quot. 1768.

By the legal antiquaries of the 16th c., the 'taking in hand' etymologically implied by AF. *mainprise*, med.L. *manucaptia*, was supposed to denote the act of 'receiving into friendly custody' the person who would otherwise have been committed to prison (cf. BAIL *sb.*[1] 3), and the later definitions of *mainprize* and *mainpernor*, e.g. those of Cowell and Blackstone (see MAINPERNOR) are worded in accordance with this misapprehension.

[1292 BRITTON I. xviii. § 1 Les aloygneours soint mis par meynprise jekes en heyre des Justices.] 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. xx. 17 Nede anon rişte nymeth hym vnder meynpryse. *a* 1400 *Pride of Life* (Brandl, 1898) 370 Per [in hell] ne fallit ne maynpris ne supersidias. *c* 1400 *Gamelyn* 744, I bidde him to maynpris [*v.r.* maympris] that thou graunte him me Til the nexte sitting of deliveraunce. 1414 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 57/2 Sith the tyme that I was resseyved to meynpryse. 1423 *Ibid.* 258/2 Imprisnement of a moneth, withoute baille or mainpris. 1444 *Ibid.* V. 107/1 To abide in Prison.. withoute lettyng to maynprise, or in any other wise to go at large. 1509 BARCLAY *Shyp of Folys* (1570) 4 There shall he no bayle nor treating of mainprise. 1554 *Act* 1 & 2 *Phil. & Mary* c. 13 § 1 The same Justices to be presente together at the tyme of the said Bailement or Mayneprise. 1577 NORTHBROOKE *Dicing* (1843) 137 They should bee committed to the gaole without bayle or mainprise, for the space of three monethes. 1586 J. HOOKER *Hist. Irel.* in *Holinshed* II. 71/2 He afterward delivered him vpon mainprise of these sureties whose names insue. 1612 DAVIES *Why Ireland*, etc. 202 Though the Earle of Desmond were left [*sic*] to Mainprize, vpon condition hee should appeare before the King by a certain day. *a* 1625 SIR H. FINCH *Law* (1636) 446 At writ of mainprise to set at liberty one baileable finding baile. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* IV. ii. § 4 (Petit. agst. Lollards) That they..be..put in Prison, without being delivered in Bail, or otherwise, except by good and sufficient mainprise, to be taken before the Chancellour of England. 1744 *Act* 17 *Geo. II*, c. 40 § 10 There to remain without Bail or Mainprize, until Payment be made. 1768 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* III. 128 The writ of mainprize..is a writ directed to the sheriff..commanding him to take sureties for the prisoner's appearance, usually called mainpernors, and to set him at large. *a* 1845 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. III. *House Warming*, Taken to jail..without mainprize or bail.

b. *fig.* and in fig. contexts.

1412–20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* III. xxv, That of the death stode tho vnder a reste, Without maynpryse sothly as of lyfe. 1631 HEYLIN *St. George* 42 Without hope of Bayle, or any mercie of mainprise; he must be in Hell. 1636 FEATLY *Clavis Myst.* xxii. 290 No baile or mainprize from this common prison of all mankinde, the grave. 1663 COWLEY *Cutter Colman St.* II. iv, Come on; I'll send thee presently to Erebus; Without either Bail or Main-prize. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 13 Had she [the ship] given way never so little, we must have sunk without Bail or Mainprize.

3. *concr.* One's mainpernor or mainpernors.

1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. IV. 75 And he amendes make let meynprize him haue. 1678 BUTLER *Hud.* III. i. 60 He therefore..Resolv'd to leave the Squire for Bail And Mainprize for him to the Goal. 1847 SIR H. TAYLOR *Eve of Conquest* Wks. 1864 III. 211 He greatly grudged This mainprize of my loyalty to let loose.

† Mai·nprize, *v. Law. Obs.* Forms: 4 maynpris, 4–5 -prise, -pryse, meynprise, (5 maynprice, -prese, meyme-, maym-, mempryse, mem-, menprise, maynsprise), 7 mainprise, -prize. [f. prec.] *trans.* To procure or grant the release of (a prisoner) by mainprize; to accept mainpernors for the appearance of. Often *fig.*

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 138 Bot if he to þer baylifes mak his sikernesse, þat þei wille him maynp[r]is. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. IV. 179 Mede shal nou3te meynprise 30w bi the Marie of heuene! 1393 *Ibid.* C. XXI. 189 God hath .. graunted to al mankynde, Mercy, my suster, and me to maynprise hem alle. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 320/1 Maynprysyd, or menprisyd (*MS. K.* maynsprisid, *MS. S.* maymprysyd, or memprisyd), *manucaptus*, *fidejussus*. *a* 1500 MEDWALL *Nature* (Brandl) II. 1123 God .. Dyd vs .. wyth hys own blode maynpryce And vs redemed fro paynes endles. 1598 MANWOOD *Lawes Forest* I. 167. 1681 W. ROBERTSON *Phrascol. Gen.* (1693) 857 To mainprize, *vadimonio obstringere*.

¶ Erroneously used for MISPRIZE.

[The error prob. arose from association of the first syllable with OF. *meins*, *moins* less; cf. the spelling *maynsprisid* in the King's College MS. of *Promp. Parv.*]

c 1450 LYDG. & BURGH *Secrees* 2219 He is so trewe no good man may hym mempryse.

Hence **† Mai·nprizing** *vbl. sb.* = MAINPRIZE *sb.* Also **† Mai·nprizer** = MAINPERNOR.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 320/2 Maynprisynge, *manucap(t)io. Ibid.*, Maynprisowre, *mancipator* [? *manucaptor*], *fidejussor*. 1610 *Holland's Camden's Brit.* II. 176 There was the Earle of Vlster enlarged, who .. found mainprisers or sureties to answer the writs of law.

Mainrent, Mains *Sc.*: see MANRED, MAIN *sb.*[3]

Mainsail (mē·nsēil, mē·ns'l). *Naut.* [See MAIN *a.* 10.] The principal sail of a ship. **a.** In square-rigged vessels, the sail which is bent to the main-yard. **b.** In fore-and-aft rigged vessels, the sail which is set on the after part of the mainmast.

1485 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 40 Mayne sailes. *c* 1515 *Cocke Lorell's B.* (Percy Soc.) 12 Some howysed the mayne sayle. 1526 TINDALE *Acts* xxvii. 40 They .. hoysed vppe the mayne sayle to the wynde. 1626 CAPT. SMITH *Accid. Yng. Seamen* 6 The Younkers are the yong men called Foremast men, to..Furle, and Sling the maine Saile. 1772 84 COOK *Voy.* (1790) I. 151 It blew a storm from the east,.. which compelled us to bring the ship to, under her mainsail. 1783 WOLCOT (P. Pindar) *Odes to K. A.'s* vii. Wks. 1812 I. 65 Broad as the Mainsail of a man of war. 1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* II. 319 Raise tacks and sheets, and main sail haul. 1835 SIR J. ROSS *Narr. 2nd Voy.* iii. 33 The close-reefed mainsail. 1873 BLACK *Pr. Thule* (1874) 5 There was just enough wind to catch the brown mainsail.

attrib. 1549 *Compl. Scotl.* vi. 40 Hail out the mane sail boulene.

fig. 1579 FULKE *Heskins' Parl.* 29 He inueyeth with mayn sayle of open rayling against the people.

Mainschot, Sc. variant of MANCHET.

Main sea. *arch.* [See MAIN *a.* 4. Cf. ON. *megensiō-r.*] The high sea; = MAIN *sb.*[1] 5.

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 181 b, No more..than a particular ryuer is to be compared to y^e mayne see. 1573 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 30 At change or at full, come it late or else soone, Maine sea is at highest, at midnight and noone. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 212 In the maine Sea, greater Dolphins, and in greater number, did play about our ship. 1623 COCKERAM, *Ocean*, the vniuersall maine Sea. 1695 WOODWARD *Nat. Hist. Earth* 27 The *Pelagia*, or those kinds of Shells which naturally have their abode at main-sea, and which therefore are now never flung up upon the Shores. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 12 ¶ 22 The starving Wolves along the main Sea prowl. 1876 SWINBURNE *Erechtheus* 1699 Who shall meet The wind's whole soul and might of the main sea Full in the face of battle.

fig. 1570–6 LAMBARDE *Peramb. Kent* 236 The maine Seas of sinne and iniquitie, wherein the worlde .. was almost whole [*sic*] drenched. 1575–85 ABP. SANDYS *Serm.* xviii. 211 Through the middest of sundrie maine seas of troubles and afflictions.

Main-sheet, mai·nsheet. *Naut.*

1. The rope which secures the mainsail when set.

1485 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 48 Mayne shetes. *a* 1637 B. JONSON *Discov., De orationis dign.*, The main-sheet and the boulin. 1694 *Acc. Sev. Late Voy.* I. (1711) 163 We .. veered out the main-Sheet to ware the Ship. 1762 FALCONER *Shipwr.* II. 27 Let the main-sheet fly! 1862 MARSH *Eng. Lang.* xi. 164 A sailor will not be likely to interlard his go-ashore talk with clew-lines, main-sheets, and halliards.

fig. *a* 1575 GASCOIGNE *Dan Bartholomew* Posies *Flowers* 80 Yet hauld I in the mayne-sheate of the minde.

b. *attrib.*, as *main-sheet-block*, *-horse*.

1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Mainsheet-horse*, a kind of iron dog fixed at the middle of a wooden beam, stretching across a craft's stern, from one quarter stanchion to the other; on it the mainsheet-block travels.

2. *Jamaica slang.* (See first quot.)

1882 *Pall Mall G.* 20 May 4/2 Main-sheet is weak rum-and-water .. and it seems to derive its quaintly expressive name from the native habit of taking constant pulls at it all day long. 1890 *Blackw. Mag.* June 784 An old man invited to have a drink of mainsheet.

Mainspring (mē·nˌsprin). [MAIN *a.* 8 b.]

1. A principal spring in a piece of mechanism. **a.** In a gun-lock, the spring which drives the hammer. (Also *fig.*)

a 1616 BEAUM. & FL. *Custom of Country* III. iii, Hee's foule i'th touch-hole; and recoiles againe, The main spring's weakned that holds up his cock. 1824 COL. HAWKER *Instr. Yng. Sportsm.* (ed. 3) 42 The mainspring to be well regulated should at first pull up very hard. 1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* vi, How now, Smith, is thy mainspring rusted?

b. The principal coiled spring of a watch, clock, or other piece of mechanism.

1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. vii. 162 God's the main spring, that maketh every way All the small wheels of this great Engin play. 1763 T. MUDGE *Th. Improv. Watches* (1799) 12 The wheel that communicates the force of the main-spring to the balance. 1830 KATER & LARDNER *Mech.* xiv. 195 In watches and portable chronometers,..a spiral spring, called the mainspring, is the moving power. 1869 NOAD *Electricity* 381 Levers are released, and the machinery of the telegraph worked by mainsprings, are [*sic*] left free to rotate.

2. *fig.* The chief motive power; the main incentive.

c 1695 J. MILLER *Descr. New York* (1843) 30 It being proposed that the bishop himself who shall be sent over he the main-spring and mover in this work. 1799 NELSON 21 Apr. in Nicolas *Disp.* (1846) VII. p. clxxx, I am here the mainspring which keeps all things in proper train. 1823 BYRON *Juan* IX. lxxiii, Some heathenish philosophers Make love the main-spring of the universe. 1850 MERIVALE *Rom. Emp.* (1865) I. i. 23 The cupidity which animated individuals was .. the mainspring of the political factions of the time. 1888 BURGON 12 *Gd. Men* II. x. 287 Truth..was the very mainspring..which actuated everything he thought, or said, or did.

3. *attrib.*, as *mainspring cramp* (in a gun-lock), *hook*, *punch*, *winder* (in a watch).

1844 *Regul. & Ord. Army* 96 *note*, One Main-Spring Cramp. 1884 F. J. BRITTEN *Watch & Clockm.* 105 Main Spring Hook..Main Spring Punch..Main Spring Winder.

Mainstay (mē·nˌstēi). [See MAIN *a.* 8, 10.]

1. *Naut.* The stay which extends from the main-top to the foot of the foremast.

1485 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 37 Cablettes for the mayne stay. 1626 CAPT. SMITH *Accid. Yng. Seamen* 14 The tacklings are the fore stay, the maine stay. 1709 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4521/2 Having..our Shrouds and Back-stays cut to pieces; as also our Main and Fore-stay.

b. *attrib.*: **mainstaysail,** a storm-sail set on the mainstay.

1742 WOODROOFFE in *Hanway's Trav.* (1762) I. II. xxiii. 100 We furled the foresail, and lay to under a mainstaysail. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Main-staysail*.

2. Chief support; that on which one mainly relies.

1787 JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1859) II. 163 The points of contact and connection with this country, which I consider as our surest mainstay under every event. 1839 40 W. IRVING *Wolfert's R.* (1855) 207 This maxim, which has been pretty much my mainstay throughout life. 1861 HUGHES *Tom Brown at Oxf.* iv. (1889) 30 The host..was one of the mainstays of the College boat-club. 1865 TYLOR *Early Hist. Man.* vii. 150 Direct record is the mainstay of History. 1867 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1876) I. vi. 458 The Norman Duke was the mainstay of the French kingdom.

† Mainstrong, *a. Obs.* [OE. *mægenstrang*: see MAIN *sb.*[1] and STRONG *a.*] Strong in power.

a 1000 *Riddles* lxxxvii. 3 (Gr.) Þegn folgade mægenstrong & mundrof. *c* 1205 LAY. 27731 Þeos weoren on moncunne eorles main stronge.

Mainswear, obs. form of MANSWEAR.

Maint (mēint), *a. rare.* (*pseudo-arch.*) [a. F. *maint.*] Many, numerous.

1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Maint*, .. an old Word for many, several. 1801 MOORE *Ring* 170 Now Austin was a reverend man, Who acted wonders maint. 1866 J. B. ROSE *Ecl. & Georg. Virg.* 79 View the wide world and races maint of man. — tr. *Ovid's Met.* 77 Ah me, ah me, there's maint an honest dame, Brought by fictitious Joves to grief and shame.

† Maintain, *sb. Obs.* In 5 maynten(e, -teyn e, -teygne, -tyen(e, -tiene, 6 maintene, -taine. [f. next vb., after F. *maintien*.]

1. Bearing, deportment, behaviour.

1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* v. ii. 163 He..holdeth the most noble courte of the world, alle other kynges ne prynces maye not compare vnto his noble mayntene. 1471 CAXTON *Recuyell* (ed. Sommer) 124 He had not the maynteygne of a yoman or of a seruaunt. *Ibid.* 130 [She] began to wexe reed and to lese her mayntyene and contenance whan she sawe hym. 1481 — *Myrr.* III. x. 153 Atte longe, Nature may not suffre dyuerse mayntenes vnresonable. *c* 1500 *Melusine* 202 The king recomforted his peuple by his wo[r]thy contenaunce & valyaunt maynten. 1578 *Proctor's Gorg. Gallery* N iv, Joy were to here their prety wordes, and sweet maintain [? *read* maintain] to see, And how all day they passe the time, til darknes dimmes the skye.

2. Maintenance, support.

1483 in Rymer *Foedera* XII. (1711) 174/1 To the upholde, maynteyne and encrease of their both Estatis against alle Persones. 1599 PORTER *Angry Wom. Abingt.* (Percy Soc.) 16 The mettell of our minds, Having the temper of true reason in them, Affoordes a better edge of argument For the maintaine of our familiar loues Then the soft leaden wit of women can.

Maintain (mēntē·n, mēntē·n), *v.* Forms: 3–6 mainten(e, maynten(e, 4–5 maynetene, 4–6 mein-, meyntene, 4–5 meynetene, 4–6 mantene, 6 *Sc.* manteane, 4–5 mentene, -teene; 3–7 main-, mayntein(e, -teyn(e, 5–6 mainteigne, 4–6 mein-, meyntein(e, -teyn(e, 4–5 meyneteyne, 3–6 mantein(e, -teyn(e, 6 manteigne, 4–6 menteyn(e, -teine; 4–5 mayntyn(e, maintiene, meintiene, 6–7 *Sc.* mantine; 4–6 *Sc.* man-, maynteme, -teym(e; 5 mayntan; 5–7 main-, mayntayn(e, -taine, 6 man-, mainetayne, 4–6 mentayne, 8 *Sc.* mentain, 6– maintain. [ME. *maintene*, *-teine*, a. F. *maintenir* (OF. 3 sing. pres. ind. *-tient*, *-tent*, subj. *-teigne*, *-tiegne*), = Pr. *mantener*, *mentener*, Sp. *mantener*, Pg. *manter*, It. *mantenere*:—L. phrase *manū tenēre*, lit. 'to hold in one's hand' (*manū* abl. of *manus* hand; *tenēre* to hold). Cf. Du. *mainteneren* (from Fr.).]

† 1. *trans.* To practise habitually (an action, a virtue or vice); to observe (a rule, custom). *Obs.*

a 1250 *Owl & Night.* (Cotton) 759 Ich kan wit and song manteine [*Jesus MS. reads* mony eine] Ne triste ich to non oþer maine. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 6558 Þou art vnbuxum, And manteynest an euyl custum. *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* xxvii. 5 Þa sall þai be punyst þat first fyndes þaim, and all þat oyses þaim & mayntens þaim [*sc.* ill deeds]. *c* 1375 *Cursor M.* 2454 (Fairf.) Þa folk ware fulle of misdede and mayntened wrang and wikkedhede. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 2049 How þai maintene þere malis with manas & pride. 1550 CROWLEY *Last Trumpet* 1287 Thou wilt.. mayntayne outragiouse playe, Tyl thou haue spent both lande and fee. 1611 BIBLE *Titus* iii. 14 And let ours also learne to maintaine good workes [Gr. καλῶν ἔργων προϊστασθαι] for necessarie vses, that they be not vnfruitfull.

2. † a. *gen.* To go on with, continue, persevere in (an undertaking). Also *occas.* to go on with the use of (something). *Obs.*

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* II. 189 Frendis, and frendschip purchesand, To mayntenym that he had begunnyn. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Knt.'s T.* 920 A proud despitous man That wol mayntenye that he first bigan. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 14 Lest they sholde waxe feble afterwarde, and

so to be not able to mayntayne theyr iourney. 1545 ASCHAM *Toxoph.* To Gentlem. Eng. (Arb.) 19 Some shooters take in hande stronger bowes, than they be able to mayntayne.

b. To carry on, keep up, prosecute (a war, fight, siege, contest).

c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 3002 How here walles were broke .. þat þei miȝt no more meintene þe sege. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* x. 184 Quhill at thar rout, .. Cum for to maynteme the melle. *Ibid.* XIII. 280 Thai that wicht war and hardy, ..At gret myschef mantemyt the ficht. *a* 1400 *R. Brunne's Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 5464 Y schal vndertake [*Petyt MS.* sall maynten forþe] þys were. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 3550, I pray you .. For to mayntene no lenger here, Such cruel werre agayn your man. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 137 Than had Charles Duke of Savoye, a certen space maynteyned warre against the Citie of Geneva. 1665 MANLEY *Grotius' Low C. Warres* 277 To..raise a Siege which is so strongly setled and maintained. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* IV. 128 Long the doubtful Combat they maintain, 'Till one prevails (for one can only Reign). 1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* xxix, It is false..I..will maintain the combat with him that shall call it true.

c. To carry on (an action at law); to have ground for sustaining (an action).

1463–4 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 506/2 To haue and maynten Action or Actions of Dette. 1512 *Act* 3 *Hen. VIII*, c. 1 § 4 Any maner of accion .. to be .. mayntened ayenst any of the Kingis Subgiettes. 1620 J. WILKINSON *Coroners & Sheriffes* 67 No sherife shall suffer a Barreter to maintaine any actions or quarrels in their countie courts. 1818 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) II. 417 This Court granted an injunction against him, though no action whatsoever could be maintained at law. 1892 *Law Times Rep.* LXVII. 142/1 In order to maintain an action of deceit there must be moral delinquency on the part of the person proceeded against.

d. To continue in, preserve, retain (a physical or mental condition, a position, attitude, etc.), in spite of disturbing influences.

1837 DISRAELI *Venetia* I. x, Lady Annabel for some time maintained complete silence. 1856 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* (1858) I. i. 10 The old English organization maintained its full activity. 1869 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1876) III. xi. 3 The English writers maintain a sort of sullen silence. 1879 R. K. DOUGLAS *Confucianism* iii. 72 The Sage..maintains a perfect uprightness and pursues the heavenly way without the slightest deflection. 1898 [G. W. E. RUSSELL] *Coll. & Recoll.* x. 131 Amidst all this hurly burly Pitt maintained a stately..reserve.

e. To keep up (friendly relations, correspondence).

1622 BACON *Hen. VII* 240 When they [*sc.* ambassadors] were returned, they did commonly maintaine Intelligence with him. 1706 HEARNE *Collect.* 2 Apr. (O. H. S.) I. 215 He is .. much addicted to maintain Correspondence. 1718 *Freethinker* No. 79 P 5 A brotherly Correspondence was maintained with all the Foreign Protestant Churches.

†**3.** To keep a stock of. *Obs. rare*⁻¹. [A frequent sense in OFr.]

c 1483 CAXTON *Dialogues* 6/29 Who wyne wyll mayntene Behoueth to haue selers And a lowe chambre.

4. To keep up, preserve, cause to continue in being (a state of things, a condition or activity, etc.); to keep vigorous, effective, or unimpaired; to guard from loss or derogation.

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 60 Eldolf, bisshop of Bath, þe pes mayntend & helde. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 2676 Meyntenes ȝit ȝoure manchip manli a while. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XX. 605 The law sa weill mantemyt he, And held in pess swa the cuntre. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xvii. 310, I rede we reste a thrawe, For to mayntenye our myght. *a* 1535 MORE *Edw. V* (1641) 29 He .. had holpe to maintaine a long continued grudge. 1581 MULCASTER *Positions* vi. (1887) 42 How health is maintained, and disease auoided. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* II. XXX. 175 It is the Office of the Soveraign, to maintain those Rights entire. 1675 H. NEVILE tr. *Machiavelli's Prince* iii. (1883) 16 Maintaining to them their old condition. 1742 HUME *Ess.* I. v. (1777) I. 35 All men are sensible of the necessity of justice to maintain peace and order. 1855 BAIN *Senses & Int.* II. i. § 6 (1864) 77 Nervous influence is required for maintaining the breathing action. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xi. III. 43 All that was necessary for the purpose of maintaining military discipline. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 28 As he had a reputation to maintain.

b. With concrete obj.: To preserve in existence.

1659 PEARSON *Creed* (1839) 220 We are still preserved by his power, and as he made us, so doth he maintain us. 1715 DE FOE *Fam. Instruct.* I. i. (1841) I. 17 And the same power preserves and maintains all things.

5. To cause to continue in a specified state, relation, or position, † to secure the continuance of (a possession) *to* a person (*obs.*); to secure (a person) *in* continued possession of property.

1300–1400 *R. Gloucester's Chron.* (Rolls) App. XX. 70 þe amperesse..made him oþ swere To meinteini engelond to hure. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 24 To procure, norische, & meyntene cristen soulis in good gouernaile and holy lif. 1800 ADDISON *Amer. Law Rep.* 274 Young contended that M'Culloch..ought to be maintained in possession of the land. 1874 CARPENTER *Ment. Phys.* I. ii. § 68 (1879) 71 The limb was maintained in this state of tension for several seconds. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 72/2 That the tools shall be maintained in proper position upon the rest.

b. *Comm.* To keep (stock) from decline in price.

1881 *Daily News* 8 July 6/1 American railroads are not quite maintained. 1892 *Daily Tel.* 5 Sept. 4/6 Consols rose ⅛ per cent. and English railways were maintained.

†**6.** To keep in good order, to rule, sway (a people, country); to preserve *in* (a state of peace, etc.). *Obs.*

c 1375 *Lay Folks Mass Bk.* (MS. B.) 365 þat þai be wele mayntenande hore states in alle godnesse, and reule þo folk in rightwisnesse. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XIII. 709 God grant that thai..mayntevme the land, And hald the folk weill to warrand. *Ibid.* XVI. 34 Vardanis in [his] ahsens maid he, For till manteym weill the cuntre. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* lxvi. 228, I have..mayntenyed the countre in peace & rest and good iustyce. 1535 COVERDALE *Ecclus.* XXXVIII. 32 Without these maye not the cities be manteyned, inhabited ner occupied. 1602 S. PATERICKE (*title*) A Discovrse vpon the meanes of wel governing and maintaining in good peace, a Kingdome, or other Principalitie.

†**7.** *refl.* **a.** To bear or conduct oneself (in a specified manner). *Obs.*

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* II. 486 Bot always, as A man off mayn,-He mayntemyt him full manlyly. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) xiv. 155 Thei gon often tyme in sowd, to help of other Kynges, in here Werres ..; and thei meyntenen hem self right vygouresly. 1481 CAXTON *Godfrey* lxxvi. *heading*, How Tancre mayntenyd hym moche wel in conqueryng contrees. 1530 PALSGR. 617/1 You shall se me mayntayne my selfe so honestly that you shall prayse me.

†**b.** To continue *in* an action or state; to keep oneself resolutely in a specified state (indicated by adj. complement). *Obs.*

1481 CAXTON *Godfrey* clxxviii. 262 They shold alle goo vnto the mount of Olyuet, And they shold mayntene them this day in fastyng. 1597 BACON *Ess., Faction* (Arb.) 76 Great men that haue strength in themselues were better to maintaine themselues indifferent and neutrall.

8. a. To support (one's state in life) by expenditure, etc. **b.** To sustain (life) by nourishment.

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* X. 779 The king,..to manteym his stat, him gaff Rentis and landis fair eneuch. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Kn.'s T.* 583 Of his chambre he made hym a Squier And gaf him gold to mayntene his degree. 1495 *Act* 11 *Hen. VII*, c. 39 He hath not yerely revenues to mayntyen honorably and conveny ently the astate of a Duke. 1584 COGAN *Haven Health* iii. (1636) 23 Nature hath taught all living creatures to seeke by sustenance to maintaine their lives. 1592 *Nobody & Somebody* in Simpson *Sch. Shaks.* I. 289 Nobody takes them in, provides them harbor, Maintaines their ruind fortunes at his charge. 1593 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. VI*, IV. x. 24 Sufficeth, that I haue maintaines my state. 1614 EARL STIRLING *Doomes-day* VIII. xii. (1637) 169 Whil'st old (and poore perchance) with toyle and strife, Glad (by his labour) to maintaine his life. 1647–8 COTTERELL *Davila's Hist. Fr.* (1678) 11 Finding the narrowness of his fortune could not maintain the greatness of his Birth. 1856 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* (1858) I. i. 52 The first condition of a worthy life was the ability to maintain it in independence. 1856 SIR B. BRODIE *Psychol. Inq.* I. v. 187 Food is required because life cannot be maintained without it.

†**c.** To bear the expense of, afford. *Obs.*

?*a* 1366 CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 1144 And Richesse mighte it wel sustene And hir dispenses wel mayntene. 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* v. i. 79 What cernes it you, if I weare Pearle and gold: I thank my good Father, I am able to maintaine it. 1605 *Lond. Prodigal* I. i, But honesty maintains not a French hood, Goes very seldom in a chain of gold.

9. To provide with livelihood; to furnish with means of subsistence or necessaries of life; to bear the expenses of (a person) for living, education, etc. Also, † to keep (a person) *in* (clothing).

a 1400 *Cursor M.* 28961 (Cott. Galba) For ay þe more man is of elde, þe more men aw..for to do him almus dede and mayntene him for sawl mede. 1487 *Dictary* 60 in *Barbour's Bruce*, etc. (1870) 539 Eftir thi power maynteme ay thi houshald. 1546 *Supplic. Poore Commons* (E. E. T. S.) 80 Suche possessioners as..vsed to maintain their owne children, and some of ours, to lernyng. 1582 N. LICHEFIELD tr. *Castanheda's Conq. E. Ind.* I. ii. 6 These people doe mainteine themselues with rootes of hearbes,..and whale fish. 1676 LADY CHAWORTH in *12th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 31 [It] frights Sir Carr Scrope..from marying her, saying his estate will scarce maintaine her in clothes. 1709 *Tatler* No. 101 P 1, 150*l.* per Annum, which would very handsomely maintain me and my little family. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* XVIII. vii, I believe you bred the young man up, and maintained him at the university. 1770 GOLDSM. *Des. Vill.* 58 A time there was, ere England's griefs began, When every rood of ground maintained its man. 1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* XXVI, I mann hae a man that can mainteen his wife. 1838 JAMES *Robber* vii, Sufficient to maintain me in comfort and independence as a gentleman.

†**b.** To provide for the 'keep' of (an animal).

1576 FLEMING tr. *Caius' Dogs* iv. (1880) 28 And therfore were certain dogges founde and maintained at the commun costes and charges of the Citizens of Rome in the place called *Capitolium.* 1672 PETTY *Pol. Anat.* (1691) 53 An Ox of 6 or 7 years old..will be maintained with two Acres of good Pasture.

10. To pay for the keeping up of, bear the expense of; to keep supplied or equipped (e.g. a ship, a garrison); to keep (a light) burning by supply of fuel; to keep (a road, building) in repair.

1389 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 27 Þis light þey hoten & a-vowed to kepyn & myntenyn [*sic*]. *Ibid.* 62 To meyteyn [*sic*] wit-al a lythe brennynge in ye chyrche of sent Jame. 1533–4 *Act* 25 *Hen. VIII*, c. 8 Euerie person .. hauinge anie of the saide landes..shall..sufficiently meintein the pauement of the said waye. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S. T. S.) I. 227 Witht tua schipis weill mantenitt and artaillzeit. 1600 J. PORY tr. *Leo's Africa* v. 237 Here is an hospitall maintained at the common charges of the towne, to entertaine strangers that passe hy. 1611 BIBLE 1 *Esdras* iv. 52 Tenne talents yeerely, to maintaine the burnt offerings vpon the Altar euery day. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 55 The States maintained some men of warre in this Inland Sea. *a* 1687 PETTY *Pol. Arith.* (1690) 77 The annual charge of maintaining the Shipping of England, by new Buildings and Preparations. 1707 J. CHAMBERLAYNE *St. Gt. Brit.* III. ix. 341 They..maintain Lectures upon the Holy Sacrament of the Lord's Supper, almost every Lord's Day Evening. 1725 DE FOE *Voy. round World* (1840) 280 Strong forts erected .. and strong garrisons maintained in them. 1846 J. BAXTER *Libr. Pract. Agric.* (ed. 4) II. 233 Stone, wood, and iron, are the materials principally employed in making and maintaining roads. 1861 M. PATTISON *Ess.* (1889) I. 48 The Germans..maintained in it [this church] an altar.

b. To furnish the means for conducting (a suit or action at law). Cf. 12 d.

[*c* 1380: see 11.] 1540 *Act* 32 *Hen. VIII*, c. 9 § 3 That no maner of personne..doo herafter unlaufully maineteyne or cause or procure any unlaufull mayntenance in any action. 1769 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* IV. 134 A man may however maintain the suit of his near kinsman, servant, or poor neighbour, out of charity and compassion, with impunity. 1843 *Meeson & Welsby's Exchq. Rep.* (1844) XI. 676 The defendants resisted and maintained, supported, &c. such defences and resistance.

11. To back up, stand, give one's support to, defend, uphold (a cause, something established, one's side or interest, etc.).

c 1320 *Sir Beues* (A.) 4123 We redeþ meintene ȝour parti. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 6528 þe Frensche ..rysen aȝeyn Conan to fight; Bot Conan meyntende wel his right. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* X. 289 He hyet honor and largess, And ay mantemyt richtwisnes. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 322 Alle þat taken and meyntenen false causes ben cursed grevously... Also lordis holdynge grete lovedaies, and bi here lordischip meyntenenge þe fals pert, for money frendischip or favour, fallen opynly in þis curs, and so don men of lawe, wiþ alle false witnesses þat meyntenen falsenesse aȝenst treuþe, wityngly or unwityngly. *c* 1420 LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 747 Vertew dyd hys besy peyne Pepyll to reyse hys quarell to menteyne. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* XXXVIII. 11, 13 þat we mayntayne and stand þerby þat werke all-way. *Cayph.* Sis, sir, þat dede schall we mayntayne, By lawe it was done all be-dene. 1482 *Surtees Misc.* (1888) 40 Every trew Cristen man .. is bunden forto supporte and maynteyn ye trewth. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* XI. xii. 114 By hurtis feill for to manteym thar rycht. 1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* IX. 4 For thou hast manteyned my right and my cause. 1558 KNOX *First Blast* (Arb.) 8 Suche as oght to mainteine the truth and veritie of God. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 122 The true & holsome doctrine is..every where oppressed,..and open crymes mainteined. 1638 R. BAKER tr. *Balzac's Lett.* (vol. II.) 16 The cause I maintaine is the cause of my Prince and Country. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VI. 30 Who single hast maintaind Against revolted multitudes the Cause Of Truth. 1678 BUTLER *Hud.* III. iii. 584 H' had..us'd two equal ways of gaining: By hindring Justice, or maintaining. 1792 BURKE *Let. to Sir H. Langrishe* Wks. 1842 I. 548 First, the king swears he will maintain, to the utmost of his power, 'the laws of God'.

12. To uphold, back up, stand by, support the cause of (a person, party, etc.); to defend, protect, assist; to support or uphold *in* (an action). *arch.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 7374 His sede and his barntem Ouer al men i sal maintein. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 16661 Cadwaladre bad Inor his sone, & Iny his neuew, 'wende & wone In to Bretaigne, & meintene efte þo þat were of Bretons lefte'. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 1108 Or he sal þe tane of þam mayntene And þe tother despyse [Matt. vi. 24]. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 2698 Sche..preyed ful pitousli to þe prince of heuene,..to mayntene hire & help, þat hire foos for no cas wiþ fors hire conquerede. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* XXVI. 96 To mayntene vs euermore ye aw. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* XV. i, To mayntene his neuewe ageynst the myghty Erle. 1530 PALSGR. 438/2, I assyste, or stande by, or mayntayne a person in doynge of a dede. *a* 1553 UDALL *Royster D.* V. v. (Arb.) 84 We must to make vs mirth, maintaine hym all we can. 1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 383 One frend to take another frendes part, to defend and maintaine him against backbiting. 1593 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. VI*, I. i. 161 Iesu maintaine your Royall Excellence. *a* 1604 HANMER *Chron. Irel.* (1633) 31 His three sonnes..formerly went into Ireland to maintaine one of the factions. 1625 BACON *Ess., Friendship* (Arb.) 171 He..would often maintaine Plantianus, in doing Affronts to his Son. 1883 GARDINER *Hist. Eng.* II. xix. 328 In spite of all, James was still ready to maintain Somerset against his ill-willers in public, if he expostulated with him in private.

†**b.** In bad sense: To give support or countenance to evil-doers; to aid or abet *in* (wrong-doing); to back up *in* (error or wickedness). *Obs.*

1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* III. 232 To meyntene misdoers meede thei taken. 1377 *Ibid.* B. III. 90 Of alle suche sellers syluer to take,..Ringes or other ricchesse, the regrateres to maynetene. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 323 Officeris þat meyntenen opere men in synne. 1399 LANGL. *Rich. Redeles* III. 311 Thus is the lawe louyd thoru myȝhty lordis willys, That meyneteyne myssdoers more than other peple. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) XXXIV. 155 A fende .. telle3 þam many thinges,..for to mayntene þam in þaire mawmetry and þaire errour. *c* 1430 *Freemasonry* 255 To lere him so that for no mon No fals mantenans he take hym apon Ny mayntenie hys felows yn here synne For no good that he myȝht wynne. 1528 NORTHUMBERLAND in *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, IV. 514 Also I can not perceyve that any redresse can be maid uppon the Borders, for the Kyng of Scottes doth maynteyn all the theves and rebelles of the same. 1552 LATIMER *Serm. Lincolnsh.* iii. (1562) 81 O crafty deuil: he went away, not for feare of the holy water, but because he would mayntaine men in errour and foolishnes.

†**c.** With *inf.*: To assist, encourage, incite (to do something, *esp.* something evil), to support or uphold (in doing it). *Obs.*

c 1325 *Poem times Edw. II* (Percy Soc.) XXXVII, He shal be maintend full wel To lede a sory life. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* III. 145 Prouendreres, persuns, preostes heo meynteneth, To holde lemmons and lotebyes al heor lyf-dayes. *Ibid.* A. IV. 42 He meynteneth his men to morthere myn owne. 1393 *Ibid.* C. XVIII. 234 The pope..That with moneye menteyneth men to werren vp-on cristine. 1546 J. ALEN in *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, III. 577 The Justices nephew maynteyned the burgesses of the Newcastell, to take from me a parcell of pasture. 1626 *Scogin's Jests* in Hazl. *Shaks. Jest-bks.* (1864) 124 When the king's servants had espied him, they did maintaine their dogges to runne at Scogin.

d. *Law.* To give support to (a suitor) in an action in which one is not concerned. Cf. 10 b; also MAINTENANCE 6.

1716 W. HAWKINS *Pleas Crown* I. 249 Of this second kind

of Maintenance there seem to be three Species:.. 2. Where one maintains one Side, to have Part of the Thing in Suit, which is called Champerty. *Ibid.* 252 A Man may lawfully maintain those who are infeoffed of Lands in Trust for him in any Action concerning those Lands. **1836** *Bingham's New Cases Comm. Pleas* II. 650 The Defendant .. has voluntarily and officiously undertaken to maintain the Plaintiff in a suit with which the Defendant has no connection. **1886** *Law Rep.* 17 *Q. B. D.* 504 The present action was brought by the plaintiff against the defendant to recover the rent of the ground that he had 'maintained' Nailer in the former action.

13. To hold, keep, defend (a place, position, possession) against hostility or attack, actual or threatened. Phr. *To maintain one's ground* (often *fig.*). Also *refl.* = to make a stand, defend one's position; similarly † *to maintain one's own.*

c **1350** *Will. Palerne* 3642 William say þer oþer side of fers & so breme, þat his men miȝt noȝt meyntene here owne. *a* **1400–50** *Alexander* 1972 Miȝt þou þe marches so Messedoyne mayntene þi-selfe. **1513** Douglas *Æneis* IV. v. 81 And now that secund Paris, .. By reif mantemys hir suld ouris be. **1595** Daniel *Civ. Wars* IV. xlvi. 75 b, Bedford who our onely hold maintaind. **1595** Shaks. *John* III. iv. 136 A Scepter snatch'd with an vnruly hand Must be as boysterously maintain'd as gain'd. **1599** — *Hen. V*, III. vi. 95 *Flu.* The Duke of Exeter ha's very gallantly maintain'd the Pridge. **1615** G. Sandys *Trav.* 217 A fort maintained by a small garrison of Moores. **1624** Fletcher *Rule a Wife* III. v. (1640) 37 *Leon.*.. I stand upon the ground of mine own honor, And will maintaine it. **1660** F. Brooke tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 15 There are four avenues cut through the Mountain, easie to be maintained. **1736** Butler *Anal.* I. iii. Wks. 1874 I. 63 In this case then, brute force might more than maintain its ground against reason. **1748** Gray *Alliance* 88 An Iron-race the mountain cliffs maintain. **1792** *Anecd. W. Pitt* I. xviii. 283 The King of Prussia, though surrounded by his numerous enemies, maintained himself with astonishing skill and valour. **1849** James *Woodman* iv, She maintained her ground, although the Moor rode close up to her with his companions. **1853** J. H. Newman *Hist. Sk.* (1873) II. I. iv. 178 Venice .. by a system of jealous and odious tyranny, .. continued to maintain its ground. **1893** Sir L. Griffin in *19th Cent.* Nov. 684 Our subsidies and open support have enabled Abdur Rahman Khan to maintain himself against his many enemies.

14. To support or uphold in speech or argument; to defend (an opinion, statement, tenet, etc.); to assert the truth of, contend to be true or right.

1340 Hampole *Pr. Consc.* 3080 Yhit has men herd som clerkes mayntе[ne] Swilk an opinion, als I wene, þat a saule [etc.]. *c* **1380** Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* III. 323 Clerkis þat don evyl and meyntene it bi sotilte of word. *c* **1449** Pecock *Repr.* I. i. 5 Alle the othere vntrewe opiniouns and holdingis .. muste needis..lacke it wherbi thei miȝten in eny colour or semyng be mentened, holde, and supported. *c* **1450** *Pistill of Susan* (MS. I) 220 þies wordes þat we say, On þis woman verray, þat wil we mayntan for aye. **1512** *Act* 4 *Hen. VIII*, c. 19 *Preamble*, The seid Frensche Kyng .. alway erronyously defendyng & maynteynyng his seid obstynate opynyons agayne the unitye of the holye Churche. **1530** Palsgr. 617/1 And he ones saye a thyng, he wyll mayntayne it to dye for it. **1616** R. C. *Times' Whistle* v. 2120 What phisitian .. would .. such a lye maintaine? **1651** Hobbes *Leviath.* II. xxx. 180 The doctrines maintained by so many Preachers. **1686** Horneck *Crucif. Jesus* xi. 205 This point they do so stiffly, and so uncharitably maintain. **1772–84** Cook *Voy.* (1790) V. 1649 They also, in some degree, maintain our old doctrine of planetary influence. **1856** Whately *Bacon's Ess.* I. 10 It is not enough to believe what you maintain; you must maintain what you believe, and maintain it *because* you believe it.

b. With clause: To affirm, assert, or contend (*that*). With obj. and infin.: To assert (something) *to be* (etc.); † also in passive.

c **1380** Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 10 ȝif þei seyn and meyntenen in scole and oþere placis þat þe wordis of holy writt ben false. **1594** Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* III. viii. § 13 Because we maintaine that in scripture we are taught all things necessary vnto saluation. **1605** Shaks. *Lear* I. ii. 77, I haue heard him oft maintaine it to be fit, that [etc.]. **1646** Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* III. xxiv. 169 Some [animals] there are in the Land which were never maintained to be in the Sea, as Panthers, Hyæna's [etc.]. **1652** Needham tr. *Selden's Mare Cl.* 203 It is mainteined by divers learned Men that these were the ruins of the same Tower. **1682** Dryden *Medal* 86 He .. Maintains the Multitude can never err. **1729** Butler *Serm.* Wks. 1874 II. Pref. 24 The Epicureans.. maintained that absence of pain was the highest happiness. **1849** Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* ii. I. 195 The country, he maintained, would never be well governed till [etc.]. **1875** Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) V. 222 Pleasure and pain I maintain to be the first perceptions of children.

† **15.** ? To hold upright. *Obs. rare*—[1].

1661 Morgan *Sph. Gentry* III. vi. 61 Vert, a Flower-pot Argent maintaining Gilliflowers Gules.

† **16.** ? To stand for, represent. *Obs. rare*—[1].

1588 Shaks. *L. L. L.* v. ii. 902 This side is *Hiems*, Winter, This *Ver*, the Spring: the one maintained by the Owle, Th' other by the Cuckow.

Maintainable (mēⁱn-, mēntēⁱ·năb'l), *a.* Also 5 mayntenable, 6 mayn-, mainteinable, 7 maintenable. [f. Maintain *v.* + -able.]

1. That can be maintained, kept up, held, defended, etc.; *esp.* of an opinion, an action at law.

1439 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 22/1 No action to be mayntenable ayenste the seid named Executours. **1541** *Act* 33 *Hen. VIII*, c. 21 § 1 Wordes vttered by them .. not mainteinable in your lawes. **1559** in Strype *Ann. Ref.* (1824) I. II. App. viii. 427 No suite for any cause rysinge within the realme, mayntеinable in any place out of the realm. **1586** A. Day *Eng. Secretary* I. (1625) 88 A matter sinisterly suggested unto you against mee without any maintainable reason. **1602** Fulbecke *1st Pt. Parall.* 68 Your exception is good, and maintenable by our Law. **1648** tr. *Senault's Paraphr. Job* 338 Doe you thinke that your Propositions are maintaineable? **1680** *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1522/3 His Excellency called a Council of War, where it was judged, That the Out Forts were not maintainable. **1777** Hamilton *Wks.* (1886) VII. 483 To effect this would require a chain of posts, and such a number of men at each as would never be practicable or maintainable, but to an immense army. **1826** Southey *Lett.* (1856) III. 527, I think he extends the inspiration of Scripture further than is maintainable. **1837** Sir N. C. Tindal in *Bingham's New Cases* I. 99, I think this action is maintainable against the husband and wife jointly. **1873** M. Arnold *Lit. & Dogma* (1876) 350 It is a maintainable thesis that the allegorising of the Fathers is right.

† **2.** Affording a livelihood. *Obs. rare.*

1583 Stubbes *Anat. Abus.* II. (1882) 84 May a pastor .. (having a maintainable liuing allowed him of his flock) preach in other places for monie? *Ibid.* 88.

Hence **Maintainableness.**

1727 in Bailey vol. II. **1865** *Pall Mall G.* 11 Nov. 6 The point in favour of the maintainableness of the action .. had been argued by two able counsel.

Maintainer (mēⁱn-, mēntēⁱ·nəɹ). Forms: 4–5 mayn-, moyntenour(e, 4–6 -tener, 5 -tenowre, -tenor, -tynour, -teynour, 6 maintener, -tenour, main-, mayntayner, -teinour, -teiner, -teyner, *Sc.* main-, man-, menteiner, -teinar, -tenar, -teaner, 7 *Sc.* mainteener, 9 (*Law*) maintainor, 6– maintainer. [ME. *mayntenour*, a. AF. *mayntenour*, OF. *maintenëor*, agent-n. f. *maintenir* Maintain *v.*; the mod. word is a new formation on Maintain *v.* + -er [1].]

1. One who upholds, defends, guards, keeps in being, preserves unharmed (a cause, right, state of things, etc.).

c **1420** Lydg. *Assembly of Gods* 918 Mayntenours of ryght, .. Distroyers of errour. **1447** Bokenham *Seyntys* (Roxb.) 186 Of crystene feyth a meynteynour. **1514** Barclay *Cyt. & Uplondyshm.* (Percy Soc.) 34 O where be rulers meynteyners of justycе. **1526** Tindale *Matt.* v. 9 Blessed are the mayntayners of peace. **1579** E. K. in *Spenser's Sheph. Cal.* Ep. Ded., Ma. Phi. Sidney, a special fauourer & maintainer of all kind of learning. *c* **1635** Mure *Ps.* xvi. 6 Mainteener of my lote thow art. **1639** Cokaine *Masque* Dram. Wks. (1874) 11 A great maintainer Of our great-grand-father's virtue—hospitality. **1749** Fielding *Tom Jones* III. iii, The maintainers of all the different Sects in the world. **1781** Johnson *Life Cave* Wks. IV. 529 A tenacious maintainer, though not a clamorous demander of his right. **1824** Miss Mitford *Village* Ser. I. 66 She a school-mistress, a keeper of silence, a maintainer of discipline! **1840** Thirlwall *Greece* lix. VII. 321 Polysperchon..appears as the maintainer of the rights of Hercules. **1875** Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) III. 124 The maintainer of justice..is aiming at strengthening the man.

b. In bad sense: One who fosters or supports (wrong-doing, sedition, false quarrels, etc.).

1393 Langl. *P. Pl. C.* IV. 288 Mede ys euermore a meyntenour of gyle. **1413** *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton 1483) III. iv. 53 Ye laweours and maynteners of wrong. *c* **1420** Lydg. *Assembly of Gods* 677 Meyntenours of querelles, horryble lyers. **1502** Arnolde *Chron.* (1811) 90 Mayntener of quarels ..or other comon mysdoers. **1545** Brinklow *Complaynt* 19 b, Thei be mayntеyners of discord for their priuate lukers sake. **1567** *Satir. Poems Reform.* iv. 88 Fostararis of falset .. Mantenaris of murther. **1575–85** Abp. Sandys *Serm.* iv. 74 All breeders and maintainers of sedition.

c. Something which maintains or preserves.

1574 Newton *Health Mag.* 23 Breade and Wyne, two of the cheefest maintainers of mans life. **1655** Mouffet & Bennet *Health's Improv.* (1746) 374 Outward Heat draweth out their inward Moisture, which should be the Maintainer and Food of their Heat natural. **1696** Tryon *Misc.* I. 3 The Volatile Spirit .. is the Essential Life of every thing, and is the maintainer of its Colour.

2. One who upholds or supports in speech or argument, one who contends for the truth or validity of (a doctrine, assertion, tenet, etc.).

1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 82 The maynteners of that doctrine, are nother called nor hearde. **1561** T. Norton *Calvin's Inst.* III. 306 This opinion..hath had greate mainteiners. **1691** Wood *Ath. Oxon.* I. 349 He was..a principal maintainer of Protestancy. **1738** Warburton *Div. Legat.* I. 404 The Maintainers of the Immateriality of the Divine Substance were likewise divided into two Parties. **1754** Edwards *Freed. Will* IV. xii. 275 Epicurus..maintained no such Doctrine of Necessity, but was the greatest Maintainer of Contingence. **1845** Jebb *Gen. Law* in *Encycl. Metrop.* (1847) II. 702/1 To quiet the violent contest of two honest maintainers of contrary opinions. **1868** M. Pattison *Academ. Org.* v. 154 The conservative maintainers of the 'status in quo' ought to have been called upon to justify.. what had actually taken place.

† **3.** One who gives aid, countenance, or support to another; a defender and helper. *Obs.*

c **1330** R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 3222 Now þou comest to reue vs our [socour], þat scholdest ben oure maynteour. *c* **1400** *Laud Troy Bk.* 17056 For now lesen thei her mayntenoure And alle the gode that thei owe. *c* **1440** *Promp. Parv.* 320/2 Mayntenowre, *manutentor, defensor, supportator, fautor.* **1535** Coverdale *Ezek.* xxx. 6 The mayntеyners of the londe of Egipte shal fall. **1578** *Chr. Prayers* in *Priv. Prayers* (1851) 504 Thou, Lord, art my maintainer, and the holder up of my head. **1686** Goad *Celest. Bodies* I. ix. 28 Seeing he acts by dependance on Him, as all the Rest do, we must compare None of them to their Maintainer.

† **b.** In bad sense: One who aids and abets another in wrong-doing or error. *Obs.*

c **1330** R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 255 Edward þei cald & teld, þat he was mayntenoure, þe robbed be all held, as a resceyuour. *c* **1380** Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* III. 318 Alle ressettours and meynteneris of siche [*sc.* thieves] wityngly ben cursed. *c* **1440** *Jacob's Well* 59 Heretykes .. & alle here mayntenourys or fauourerys. **1495** *Act* 11 *Hen. VII*, c. 10 § 2 The mayntenours of him or theym so mysdoing. **1560** Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 456 b, The counsell of Calcedonie deposed Dioscorides the maynteyner of Eutyches from his Byshoprike. **1566–7** *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 497 Ane mantenar of wickit and brokin men. **1570** *Act* 13 *Eliz.* c. 2 § 2 All..Aydors, Comforters, or Maynteyners of anye the said..Offendors. **1588** A. King tr. *Canisius' Catech.* 141 Maintenars and patrons of euil doars. **1614** Raleigh *Hist. World* II. (1634) 467 The Conspirators had neither any mighty partakers in their fact, nor strong maintainers of their persons. **1660** R. Coke *Power & Subj.* 233 The aiders, maintainers and concealers, who shall not within twenty daies.. disclose the same to some Justice of Peace.

4. *Law.* One who unlawfully supports a suit in which he is not concerned. Cf. Maintenance 6.

1399 Langl. *Rich. Redeles* II. 78 That no manere meyntenour shulde merkis bere, Ne haue lordis leuere the lawe to apeire. **1503** *Act* 19 *Hen. VII*, c. 13 Punishment of the Maintainers and Embracers of the Jurors. **1531–2** *Act* 23 *Hen. VIII*, c. 3 Vnlawfull maintenours embrasours and Jurours. **1875** Stubbs *Const. Hist.* (1896) III. xxi. 550 The maintainers of false causes, whether they were barons or lawyers, became very early the object of severe legislation. **1898** *Encycl. Laws Eng.* (ed. Renton) VIII. 74 The maintainor must have some special interest other than that of the public at large.

5. One who provides (a person) with the requisites of life; † one who keeps a mistress.

1632 Massinger *City Madam* IV. ii, Be assur'd first Of a new maintainer e're you cashire the old one. **1650** Bulwer *Anthropomet.* 199 The Clergie, who are the chief maintainers of these Ganimedes. **1692** Washington tr. *Milton's Def. Pop.* III. Wks. 1851 VIII. 76 Plato would not have.. the People [called] Servants, but Maintainers of their Magistrates, because they give Meat, Drink, and Wages to their Kings themselves. **1870** *Echo* 12 Nov., Every thief his own maintainer, every prisoner his own reformer.

† **6.** ? A mine-owner. *Obs.*

1747 Hooson *Miner's Dict.* V iij, I could wish that some of the Cross Carping Maintainers might try the difference of these two Airs.

7. *Watch-making.* An apparatus for keeping the movement of a clock or watch from being interrupted during the process of winding.

1884 F. J. Britten *Watch & Clockm.* 167 In some of Arnold's watches is a continuous maintainer.

Maintaining, *vbl. sb.* [-ing [1].]

1. The action of the verb Maintain; maintenance, support, etc.

c **1330** R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 100 þorgh Anselm may[n]tenyng was þe contek ent. *c* **1380** Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* III. 322 In alle þis fals meyntenyng þei holden wiþ þe fend agenst God. **1395** Purvey *Remonstrance* (1851) 87 Vnworthi to haue ony benefice othir mayntenynge in the rewme. **1490–91** in Swayne *Sarum Church-w. Acc.* (1896) 37 To the mayntеynynge of the light before the rode, xxijs. jd. ob. **1592** Greene *Art Conny-catch.* III. 2 Except they applied themselues to such honest trades..as might witnesse their maintaining was by true and honest meanes. **1643** Milton *Divorce* viii. Wks. 1851 IV. 21 To the strict maintaining of a generall and religious command. **1794** S. Williams *Vermont* 232 They were at all times ready..to contribute their full proportion towards the maintaining the present just war. **1890** 'R. Boldrewood' *Col. Reformer* (1891) 107 The teaching and maintaining of an independent pastoral position.

† **2.** Bearing, demeanour, behaviour. *Obs.*

c **1477** Caxton *Jason* 5 The broder of kyng Eson..there beyng present could not holde ne kepe his mayntening. **1483** — *G. de la Tour* Prol., A fayr wyf .. whiche had knowleche of alle honoure, alle good, and fayre mayntenyng. **1530** Palsgr. 241/2 Mayntenyng, *port.*

3. *attrib.*: maintaining power, in a watch or clock, the power which keeps the motion continuous (cf. Maintainer 7); so maintaining wheel = *going-wheel* (Knight *Dict. Mech.* Suppl. 1884).

1766 A. Cumming *Clock & Watch Work* 138 Care is to be taken to acquire in all watches as great a maintaining power as circumstances can admit. **1825** J. Nicholson *Operat. Mechanic* 519 The swing-wheel..is constantly urged forward by the maintaining power, which is supplied by a small weight. **1884** F. J. Britten *Watch & Clockm.* 123 Another feature of Huyghens' clock is the maintaining power.

† **Maintainment.** *Obs. rare.* [f. Maintain *v.* + -ment.] Maintenance.

c **1485** *Digby Myst.* (1882) v. 708 Therfor thei be expedient to these meny of mayntе[n]ment. **1543** *Plumpton Corr.* (Camden) 244 Sir Christopher Eird, person, who honestly did kepe the cure under the forsaid late person, and the maintenment of God service.

Maintenance (mēⁱ·ntənăns). Forms: 4–5 meyn-, meintenaunce, -ance, meyntynaunce, menteynaunce, 4–6 mayntenaunce, -ance, 5 mayntenanse, mayntnaunce, mantenans, 5–6 maynetenance, 6 maintaynance, main-, mayntenans, -tennance, -tennence, mantei(g)nance, 6–7 mantenance, 6–8 maintainance, 4- maintenance. [a. F. *maintenance*, f. *maintenir*: see Maintain *v.* and -ance. Cf. Pr. *mantenensa*, Sp. *mantenencia*, Pg. *mantença*, It. *mantenenza.*]

† **1.** Bearing, deportment, demeanour, behaviour.

c **1369** Chaucer *Dethe Blaunche* 834 She had so stedfaste countenaunce, So noble porte and meyntenaunce. **1430–40** Lydg. *Bochas* VIII. (1494) D v b, Where there be summe that wrongly it werrey, Holde theragеyne by frowarde mayntе[n]aunce. **1579** Spenser *Sheph. Cal.* Sept. 169 For all their craft is in their countenaunce, They bene so graue and full of mayntenaunce. **1596** Shaks. *1 Hen. IV*, v. iv. 22, I saw him hold Lord Percy at the point, With lustier maintenance then I did looke for Of such an vngrowne Warriour.

2. The action of upholding or keeping in being (a cause, right, state of things, government, etc.); the state or fact of being upheld or sustained; † that which upholds, means of sustentation.

1413 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton 1483) IV. xxxii. 81 Neither *of* them shalle be the lift hand to mayntenaunce of wrong. 1529 More *Dyalogue* I. Wks. 109/1 For the maintenaunce of theyr authorite. 1538 Starkey *England* I. i. 25 To apply and indeuor myselfe to the mayntennance and setting forward of the true commyn wele. 1548–9 (Mar.) *Bk. Com. Prayer, Communion*, The maintenaunce of Goddes true religion and vertue. 1570 *Homilies* II. *Agst. Rebellion* IV. (1640) 302 So hath a frantick Religion need of such furious maintenances as is Rebellion. 1579 Lyly *Euphues* (Arb.) 111 Idlenesse is .. ye sole maintenaunce of youthfull affection. 1591 Spenser *Teares of Muses* 338 So every where they rule and tyrannize, For their usurped kingdomes maintenaunce. 1681 *Addr. fr. Helstone* in *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1629/7 Whatever we can do for and towards the Support, Preservation, and maintainance of the just Rights and Prerogative of Your Majesty. 1871 Earle *Philol. Eng. Tongue* § 88 Where there is a central literature, there is a constant provision for the maintenance of uniformity even though words are changing their sense.

3. The action of keeping in effective condition, in working order, in repair, etc.; the keeping up of (a building, light, institution, body of troops, etc.) by the supply of funds or needful provision; the state or fact of being so kept up; means or provision for keeping up.

c 1460 Fortescue *Abs. & Lim. Mon.* vi. (1885) 120 It is necessarie that the kynge be alway riche, wich may not be withowt he haue reuenues sufficiant for the yerely mayntenance of his estate. 1481–90 *Howard Housch. Bks.* (Roxb.) 149 For the mayntenance of the lampe .. spent xiiij. quartes of oyle iij.*d.* ob. 1546 *Mem. Ripon* (Surtees) III. 23 Certen landes belongynge .. to the Mayntenaunce of divers and syndrye Chauntriez in the same Churche. 1587 Fleming *Contn. Holinshed* III. 1537/1 That which was doone .. made an excellent rode or harborough for the time it continued, and had maintenance. 1611 Bible *Transl. Pref.* ¶ 2 Against Church-maintenance and allowance, in such sort, as the Embassadors and messengers of the great King of Kings should be furnished. 1616 Surfl. & Markh. *Country Farm* 10 Your House .. will be .. of greatest maintenance, preservation, and safetie, if you environ it round about with water. 1665 Bunyan *Holy Citie* 250 Having thus shewed us this City .. he now comes to shew us her Provision and Maintenance, wherewith she is kept in safety, life, peace and comfort. 1775 Burke *Concil. Amer.* Wks. III. 100 Secondly, that they had acted legally and laudably in their grants of money, and their maintenance of troops. 1844 H. H. Wilson *Brit. India* III. 497 A further sequestration was subsequently authorised, in order to ensure the maintenance of the contingent horse, which the Gaekwar was bound by treaty to keep up for the service of the British Government. 1861 M. Pattison *Ess.* (1889) I. 47 The maintenance and repair of the northern gate, Bishopsgate, was assigned to them.

†4. The carrying on (of a war) by furnishing supplies. *Obs.*

1496 7 *Act* 12 *Hen. VII*, c. 12 § 6 The seid xvme .. shalbe levyed and paied for mayntenance of the same Werre. 1543 4 *Act* 35 *Hen. VIII*, c. 12 Inestimable costes charges and expences .. for the maintenaunce of his warres.

†5. The action of giving aid, countenance, or support to (a person in what he does). *Obs.*

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 186 For marryng of maryagez & mayntnaunce of schrewez. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. v. 253 Lentestow euere lordes for loue of her mayntenaunce? *c* 1425 *Eng. Conq. Ire.* 20 Al oure enemy .. hath I-brought vnkel folk vp-on vs, that the harme wich he had no power to don vs hym-self, throgh helpe of ham & mayntenaunce, the better myght bryngе to end. 1592 Greene *Upst. Courtier* E, Sildome was there any pleas put in before that vpstart velvet breeches, for his maintaynance inuented strange controuersies. *a* 1600 Montgomerie *Misc. Poems* xxv. 14 And I sall be thy seruand, in sik sort To merit thy mantenance, if I may.

6. The action of wrongfully aiding and abetting litigation; *spec.* sustentation of a suit or suitor at law by a party who has no interest in the proceedings or who acts from any improper motive. (Cf. Maintain *v.* 2 d.)

[1321–2 *Rolls of Parlt.* I. 398/2 Q'il voille enquerre coment p la mayntenaunce le dit Conte ele pert son Manoir.] 1389 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 39 Pei shullen makyn no meyntenaunce ne confideracie ageyn be kyngis right ne be comoun lawe. 1399 *Rolls of Parlt.* III. 452/2 Some men .. have taken mych more by extorsion .. and by mayntenance of quereles. *c* 1420 Lydg. *Assembly of Gods* 659 Hoordam, Bawdry, False Mayntenaunce, Treson, Absusion, & Pety Brybry. *c* 1430 *Freemasonry* 254 That for no mon, No fals mantenans he take hym apon. 1447 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 130/1 By grete might, mayntenaunce, and other undue meones. 1460 *Ibid.* 374/2 In an action of mayntenaunce. 1467 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 400 Alle the attorneys .. truly to execute ther office as the lawe requirith w'out mayntenaunce, or champertye, or conselfynge ther clianntes to vse eny fals accyons. 1591 Lambarde *Archeion* (1635) 127 That he shall not by himselfe, or by any other, commit Maintenance, or other thing, which may disturbe the course of the Common Law. 1628 Coke *On Litt.* 368 b, Maintenance .. signifieth in Law, a taking in hand, bearing vp or vpholding of quarrels and sides, to the disturbance or hindrance of common right. 1787 Bentham *Def. Usury* xii. 118 Champerty is but a particular modification of this sin of Maintenance. 1836 *Bingham's New Cases Comm. Pleas* II. 639 If the Defendant was not privy to the publication of the libel, he was a stranger to the action brought against the Plaintiff, and in undertaking to indemnify the Plaintiff against the costs was guilty of maintenance. 1875 Poste *Gaius* IV. (ed. 2) 611 Unless the assignment savour of Maintenance, i. e. be made with the design of fomenting litigation. 1883 *Law Rep.*, 11 *Q.B.D.* 1 Bradlaugh v. Newdegate .. The action was for maintenance. 1886 *Law Rep.*, 17 *Q.B.D.* 504 The action was brought to recover damages occasioned to the plaintiff by reason of the defendant's 'maintenance' of one Nailer in an action which he had brought against the plaintiff. 1901 Sir F. Pollock *Law of Torts* 321 The wrong of maintenance, or aiding a party in litigation without either interest in the suit, or lawful cause of kindred, affection, or charity for aiding him, is .. akin to malicious prosecution and other abuses of legal process .. Actions for maintenance are in modern times rare though possible.

7. The action of providing (a person) with the requisites of life; the fact or state of being so provided. Also, that which supports or maintains a person with livelihood, means of subsistence; the amount provided for a person's livelihood.

1389 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 4 He schal 3eue somwhat in maintenance of þe bretherhede. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 1179 Rather to thole þe mayntenance of the Messedoyns & of þe meri Grekis, þan þaim of Persy to pay. 1540 *Act* 32 *Hen. VIII*, c. 14 The nauy .. is .. the maintenaunce of many masters mariners and sea men. 1581 Mulcaster *Positions* xxxvii. (1887) 148 Will ye haue the multitude waxe, where the maintenance waines? 1591 Shaks. *Two Gent.* I. iii. 68 What maintenance he from his friends receiues, Like exhibition thou shalt haue from me. 1592 Babington *Notes Genesis* I. Wks. (1622) 6 The pride of some, who cannot abide to haue any .. come neere them in any circumstance of life or maintenance. 1600 Hakluyt *Voy.* (1810) III. 555 This Maiz is the greatest maintenance which the Indian hath. 1612 Woodall *Surg. Mate* Wks. (1653) Ep. Salut. 2, I was forced for my maintenance to follow the practice of the cure of the Plague. 1645 Featly *Dippers Dipt* (1646) 133 Some lands, profits, and emoluments .. assigned for the maintenance of the Ministery. *c* 1701 Cibber *Love Makes a Man* II. i. 22 Enough to give him Books, and a moderate Maintainance. 1709 Swift *Adv. Relig.*, They are not under a necessity of making learning their maintenance. 1732 Law *Serious C.* viii. (ed. 2) 114 The parish allowance to such people, is very seldom a comfortable maintenance. 1818 Cruise *Digest* (ed. 2) VI. 117 In case he should have any children by her, to provide for their maintenance. 1840 Macaulay *Ess., Clive* (1887) 560 The civil servants were clearly entitled to a maintenance out of the revenue. 1863 Mary Howitt *F. Bremer's Greece* II. xxi. 297 The Greek convent houses are chiefly houses of maintenance for poor men and women.

b. *Separate maintenance*: support given by a husband to a wife when the parties are separated.

1722 De Foe *Col. Jack* (1840) 211 She demanded a separate maintenance. 1777 Sheridan *Sch. Scand.* I. i, She has been the cause of six matches being broken off, .. nine separate maintenances, and two divorces.

8. The act of supporting or upholding in speech or argument; assertion of the truth or validity of (an opinion, plea, tenet).

1533 More *Debell. Salem* Wks. 990/2 For herein see I none other shyft for this good man, but for the maintenance of his matter to say, that in the common law [etc.]. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 22 b, The Duke .. aunswereth, that it was never his intent to defende Luthers doctrine by his maintenance. 1562 *Child-Marriages* 195 This deponent did colourably declare (for the maintenaunce of his matter) that he had sondry witnesses. 1691 T. H[ale] *Acc. New Invent.* 29 What has been severally offered and asserted .. in Maintenance of their different Conceptions touching the Evil now enquired into. 1875 H. R. Reynolds in *Expositor* I. 308 He could never have appealed, as he did, to the authority of Paul in maintenance of his own peculiar opinions.

9. *Cap* (or †*hat*) *of maintenance*: a kind of hat or cap formerly worn as a symbol of official dignity or high rank, or carried before a sovereign or a high dignitary in processions.

The sense of *maintenance* here is obscure. Cf. the app. equivalent *cap of estate*, *cap of dignity* (see Cap *sb.* 4 f). In the earliest example (*c* 1485) the *hat of maintenance* is worn by the members of the Holborn Quest. Afterwards the *cap of maintenance* is mentioned by contemporaries as having been given by the Pope thrice to Henry VII and once to Henry VIII; in 1551 it is referred to as one of the insignia of a prince. In the 17th c. and later it appears chiefly as borne, together with the sword, before the Lord Mayor, and before the Sovereign at his coronation. A kind of cap, with two points like horns behind, borne in the arms of certain families either as a charge or in the place of a wreath, is described by heralds as a 'cap of maintenance'; cf. quot. 1700.

c 1485 *Digby Myst.* (1882) v. 727 (*Stage direct.*) Here entrithe vj. lorours in a sute gownyde with hoodes a-bowte her nec[kes], hattes of mayntenaunce ther-vpone. 1489 Wriothesley *Chron.* (1875) I. 2 A capp of mayntenance brought from Rome to the Kinge. 1551 Robinson tr. *More's Utop.* II. (1895) 233–4 Nor the prince hymselfe is not knowen from the other .. by a crown or diademe or cappe of maintenance. 1577–87 Holinshed *Chron.* III. 1122/1 They had two caps of maintenance likewise borne before them: whereof the earle of Arundell bare the one, and the earle of Shrewesburie the other. 1614 R. Tailor *Hog hath lost Pearl* III. E 3 b, As if a females fauour could not be obteyn'd by any, but he that weares the Cap of maintenance. 1622 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Very Merry Wherry-Ferry Voy.* Wks. (1630) II. 153/2 A Sword, a Cap of maintenance, a Mace .. Are borne before the Maior, and Aldermen. 1632 Massinger *City Madam* IV. i, I see Lord Mayor written on his forehead; The Cap of Maintenance and Citie Sword Born up in state before him. 1639 Mayne *City Match* I. iii, Think, man, how it may In time .. raise thee To the sword and cap of maintenance. 1656 in Jewitt & Hope *Corporation Plate* (1895) I. p. lxxviii, [Cromwell granted to Salisbury that the Swordbearer should bear a sword and weare a Cap of Mayntenance before the Maior of the said Citie for the tyme being. 1698 Fryer *Acc. E. India & P.* 358 A high Red Velvet Cap, plaited at Top like a Cap of Maintenance. 1700 Congreve *Way of World* III. xviii, They [a pair of horns] may prove a cap of maintenance to you still. 1714 Mandeville *Fab. Bees* (1725) I. 177 If my lord mayor had nothing to defend himself but his great two-handed sword, the huge cap of maintenance, and his gilded mace. 1736 Drake *Eboracum* I. vi. 223 The sword-bearer hath a hat of maintenance, which he wears only on Christmas day, .. and on the high days of solemnity. 1808 Scott *Marm.* IV. vii, His cap of maintenance was graced With the proud heron's plume. 1875 Stubbs *Const. Hist.* III. xx. 434 It became the rule for a duke to be created by the girding on of the sword, the bestowal of a golden rod, and the imposition of a cap of maintenance and circlet of gold. [Under Edw. III; but the document cited has *per impositionem capparum*.]

†b. *jocularly* (with allusion to sense 7). *Obs.*

1597 *1st Pt. Return fr. Parnass.* I. i. 389 Take us with thee; for wee muste provide us a poore capp of mantenance.

†**Maintenant,** *adv. Obs.* Forms: 4 meigntenaunt, 5 meyn-, mayntenaunt(e, 6 manteynent, maintenaunt. [a. OF. *maintenant* in the same sense (in mod.F. = now), f. *main* hand + *tenant*, pr. pple. of *tenir* to hold.] At once, immediately.

13.. *K. Alis.* 5302 That on lep on a lyoun, And to ground hym threw adoun, And hym astraogled meigntenaunt. ?*a* 1400 *Arthur* 383 [They] broute Arthour Meyntenaunt Euen hy-fore þe gyant. *a* 1470 Tiptoft *Cæsar* iv. (1530) 6 They delyvered mayntenaunte one parte and the remnaunt wyth in few dayes. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron.* (1809) 660 The Frenchmen .. alighted as though they would geve assaut maintenant. 1592 West *1st Pt. Symbol.* § 44 C, Enerie estate is either executed maintenant, or executorie by limitation of vse. 1598 *Child-Marriages* 166, 2 packetes, .. which were maintenaunt .. deliuered to Mr. John Francis to be posted hens.

†**Maintenantly,** *adv. Obs.* [-ly 2.] = prec.

1528 *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, IV. 497 If thaye maye chace theim ons out of Scotland, thoughe thaye .. manteynentlie retourne again after he be departed, yet [etc.]. 1577–87 Holinshed *Chron.* III. 822/1 Monsieur de la Palice, and monsieur de Imbrecourt .. were put to their ransomes, and licenced maintenanthe to depart vpon their word.

¶ Used with etymological allusion.

1552 Huloet, Sell a thing before wytnesse, or hy delyuerynge possession mayntenantly to the buyer .., *mancipio dare.*

‖ **Maintenon** (mæ̃tənɔ̃n). The name of the Marquise de Maintenon, secretly married to Louis XIV in 1685; used *attrib.* in names of things arbitrarily called after her, as *Maintenon bonnet, chop, cutlet*; **Maintenon cross** [= F. *maintenon*], a cross with a diamond at the extremity of each limb, worn as an ornament.

[1710 Swift *Jrnl. to Stella* 8 Oct., We had a neck of mutton dressed *à la Maintenon*, that the dog could not eat.] 1805 *Sporting Mag.* XXV. 226 Veal cutlets, haricoed mutton, maintenon chops. 1836 Marryat *Three Cutters* v, 'And what else, sir?' 'Maintenon cutlets, my lord.' 1836–7 Dickens *Sk. Boz, Tales* viii, Mr. Alexander Trott sat down to a fried sole, maintenon cutlet, Madeira, and sundries. 1884 *West. Daily Press* 13 June 7/6 The popular form of bonnet is that called 'Maintenon'.

Maintenous (mē̱·ntənəs), *a. Law. rare.* [irreg. f. Maintain(ance) + -ous.] Relating to, or of the nature of, maintenance.

1898 *Encycl. Laws Eng.* (ed. Renton) VIII. 75 A maintenous agreement is illegal and therefore void.

†**Maintenue.** *Obs. rare*—[1]. [a. F. *maintenue*, f. *maintenir* to Maintain.] = Maintenance 6.

1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 380 To seche and loke how that it is Touchende of the chevalerie, .. That of here large retenue The lond is ful of maintenue, Which causith that the comune right In fewe contrees stant upright.

Main-top (mē̱·ntɒp). *Naut.* [See Main *a.* 10.] The Top of a mainmast; a platform just above the head of the lower mainmast. Often used loosely for *main-topgallant-masthead.*

1485 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 48 Mayne toppes. 1582 N. Lichefield tr. *Castanheda's Conq. E. Ind.* I. xxviii. 70 b, The king with his owne hand did deliver it unto the Captaine Generall, for to bestowe it in his maine toppe. 1627 Capt. Smith *Seaman's Gram.* xiii. 62 The Admirall of each squadron .. doth carry in their maine tops, flags of sundry colours. 1725 De Foe *Voy. round World* (1840) 308 The man at the main-top, who was ordered to look out. 1835 Marryat *Jac. Faithf.* xvii, When I was captain of the maintop in the La Minerve. 1887 *Standard* 21 Sept. 5/7 The war vessels .. each flying the British ensign at the maintop.

b. *attrib.* (sometimes = 'belonging to the maintopsail'), as *main-top bowline, -man, shroud.*

1626 Capt. Smith *Accid. Yng. Seamen* 14 The maine top shroudes. *c* 1860 H. Stuart *Seaman's Catech.* 79 The duties of fore or main-topmen in their respective tops are much the same. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk., Main-top Bowline*, the bowline of the main-topsail. 1882 *Standard* 1 Dec. 3/6 There were no maintopmen on deck.

Main-topgallant (mē̱·ntɒpgæ·lənt). *Naut.* [See Main *a.* 10 and Topgallant.] Used *attrib.* in **main-topgallant-mast**, the mast above the main-topmast; similarly in *main-topgallant-masthead, -sail* (*-yard*), *-yard*, etc.

1626 Capt. Smith *Accid. Yng. Seamen* 13 The maine top gallant sayle yeard. 1693 Oliver in *Phil. Trans.* XVII. 912 Our Main Top-Gallant Mast was split in pieces. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. x. 239 One of the Captains .. carries the royal standard of Spain at the main-top gallant mast-head. 1760 C. Johnston *Chrysal* (1822) II. 233 To hand the main-top-gallant sail in a storm at midnight. 1790 Beatson *Nav. & Mil. Mem.* II. 411 The man on the main-top-gallant-yard of the Rochester. 1876 *Encycl. Brit.* XXI. 153/1 On the main-mast we have the main-course or main-sail, main-top-sail, main-top-gallant-sail, and the main-royal.

Main-topmast (mē̱·ntɒpmast, -məst). *Naut.* Also 5 mane-. [See Main *a.* 10 and Topmast.] The mast next above the lower mainmast.

1495 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 269 The mane toppe maste. 1626 Capt. Smith *Accid. Yng. Seamen* 12. 1634 Brereton *Trav.* (Chetham Soc.) 169 Upon the mainmast .. there is also placed .. the main top mast. 1762 Falconer *Shipw.* III. 584 While, in the general wreck, the faithful stay Drags the main-topmast from its post away. 1833 M. Scott *Tom Cringle* xvi. (1859) 424 Her maintopmast was gone close by the cap.

b. *attrib.*: *main-top-mast-head, -staysail.*

1672 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 683/3, 3 English Seamen ran up to his Main-top-mast-head, and took down his Pendant. 1779 F. HERVEY *Nav. Hist.* II. 157 He is said to have passed through the Channel, with a broom at his main-top-mast head. 1866 *Daily Tel.* 6 Feb. 3/3 At eight o'clock the maintopmast-staysail was carried away.

Main-topsail (mēⁱnˌtɒpsēⁱl, -s'l). *Naut.* [See MAIN *a.* 10.] The sail above the mainsail.

1618 *News of Ranleigh* (1844) 16 If the Maister..bid heaue out the maine Top-saile. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. v. 170 The weather proved squally, and we split our maintop-sail. 1884 PAE *Eustace* 137 Her main topsail is shivering.

b. *attrib.*, as *main-topsail bowline, brace, halyard, rigging, sheet, tye, yard.*

1626 Capt. SMITH *Accid. Yng. Seamen* 12 The maine top sayle yeard. *Ibid.* 14 The maine top sayle hallyards,..the maine top sayle sheats,..the maine top sayle braces. *Ibid.* 15 The maine top sayle bowlin. 1800 *Asiat. Ann. Reg., Chron.* 66/1 Our maintop-sail tye was shot away. 1813 *Examiner* 26 Apr. 261/2 The [American frigate] Constitution suffered severely,..having..both maintopsail-yards.. badly shot. 1854 Mrs. GASKELL *North & S.* xiv, Some sailors being aloft in the maintopsail rigging.

Main-ward, mainward. [MAIN *a.*]

†**1.** The main body of an army. *Obs.*

1563-87 FOXE *A. & M.* (1596) 46/2 As well my vaward, mainward, as rereward. 1581 STYWARD *Mart. Discipl.* II. 122 The which..are to be diuided into three battailes: the Voward, the Maineward, and the Rereward battaile. 1591 *Garrard's Art Warre* 184 When the fronts were wearied the Mainward and Rereward succeeded.

2. The principal ward of a lock, fastened to the main-plate.

1677 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* No. 2. 23 The true Place of the Main-ward. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. 301/2 The Maine ward [of a key] is that on the lower side the Bit. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 1339/1, G is a ward-lock key..The various parts are,—*a*, the main-ward, or bridge-ward.

Mainy, variant of MEINIE, company.

Main-yard (mēⁱnˌyārd). *Naut.* [See MAIN *a.* 10.] The yard on which the mainsail is extended.

1485 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 37 Brasse pendaunts for the mayne yerdes. *c* 1572 GASCOIGNE *Mask* Posies (1575) *Flowers* 48 His eares cut from his head, they set him in a chayre, And from a maine yard hoisted him aloft into the ayre. 1627 Capt. SMITH *Seaman's Gram.* iii. 16 Suppose the ship be 76. foot at the Keele, her maine yard must be 21. yards in length, and in thicknesse but 17. inches. 1824 J. SYMMONS tr. *Æschylus' Agam.* 59 Ship against ship, with crashing mainyards roll'd. 1840 R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast* xvii. 46 We got a whip on the main-yard.

b. *attrib.*, as *main-yard-arm, -rope*; **main-yard man** *Naut. slang* (see quot.).

1497 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 307, ij mayne yerde Ropes. 1762 FALCONER *Shipwr.* III. 665 Some, from the main-yard-arm impetuous thrown. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk., Main-yard Men*, those in the doctor's list.

Maioid (mēⁱ·oid), *a.* and *sb. Zool.* [f. MAIA + -OID.] **A.** *adj.* Of or pertaining to the genus *Maia* or family *Maideæ* or superfamily *Maioidea* of crabs. **B.** *sb.* A maioid crab.

1851 DANA in *Amer. Jrnl. Sci.* Ser. II. XI. 425 On the Classification of the Maioid Crustacea or Oxyrhyncha. 1852 — *Crust.* I. 48 Small antennary space, as in the Maioids. Hence **Maioi·dean** *a.* and *sb.* = prec.

1852 DANA *Crust.* I. 51 The Maioidean series passes down from the Parthenopinea.

Maior, obs. form of MAJOR and MAYOR.

Maioral, -alitie, obs. ff. MAYORAL, -ALTY.

Maioram, -ane, -on, obs. forms of MARJORAM.

Maiour, obs. form of MAJOR and MAYOR.

Mair, northern form of MORE, and (NIGHT)MARE.

Mair, Mair-: see MAYOR, MAYOR-.

†**Mairatour,** *adv. Sc. Obs.* Forms: see ATOUR. [f. *mair* MORE + ATOUR.] Moreover.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* III. vi. 148 And mairatour, gif outhir wit, or fame, Or traist may be [etc.]. 1552 LYNDESAY *Monarche* 6155 And, mairattour, thay sall feill sic ane smell Surmountyng far the fleure of earthly flowris. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* IV. 225 He mairattouer honouret christe in his Preistes. 1819 W. TENNANT *Papistry Storm'd* (1827) 77 And mairattour,..He did dislike baith Pape and Deil.

Mairch, obs. Sc. form of MARCH *sb.* and *v.*

‖**Maire** (mā·ire). Also **mairi.** [Maori.] A name for several New Zealand trees with heavy close-grained wood: a. *Santalum cunninghamii*; b. *Olea* of various species; c. *Eugenia maire.*

1835 W. YATE *Acc. N. Zealand* (ed. 2) 41 Mairi—a tree of the Podocarpus species, growing from forty to sixty feet high. 1883 J. HECTOR *Handbk. N. Zealand* 132, 133 (Morris) Maire—a small tree ten to fifteen feet high;..wood hard, close-grained, heavy..Black maire, N.O. *Jasmineæ*; also Maire-rau-nui, *Olea Cunninghamii.*

Maire, obs. form of MAYOR, MORE.

Mairmaid, Mairman: see MERMAID, -MAN.

Mairouer, -ir, obs. Sc. forms of MOREOVER.

Mairt: see MART.

Mais, Maischloch, obs. ff. MESS, MASHLOCH.

Maise, variant of MEASE *sb.*[3]

Maise, Maisels, obs. ff. MAIZE, MEASLES.

†**Maison.** *Sc. Obs.* Also 6 **maisoun.** [a. F. *maison.*] A house.

1570 *Satir. Poems Reform.* x. 412 With all foull vice thou hes defylde yair Maisoun. *a* 1625 Sir J. SEMPLE *Picktooth for Pope* in *Harp Renfrew.* Ser. II. (1873) 19, I can but..seek my meat through many an unknown Maison.

Maison, obs. form of MASON.

Maison-dieu: see MEASONDUE *Hist.*, hospital.

‖**Maisonnette** (mēⁱzŏnĕ·t). Usually misspelt *maisonette.* [Fr., diminutive of *maison* house.] A small house.

1818 Lady MORGAN *Autobiog.* (1859) 27 The Charlevilles have exchanged their maisonette in Berkeley Square for Queensberry House. 1880 OUIDA *Moths* I. 234 They all lived in a little maisonette in the park.

Maiss, variant of MEASE *v. Sc.*, to soothe.

Maist, northern form of MOST.

Maister: see MASTER.

†**Maisterell.** *Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. *maister*, MASTER + -EL[2].] An imp or familiar.

1652 GAULE *Magastrom.* 25 Who is a consulter with familiar spirits? What? he that hath..confariation with a petty Maisterell? *Ibid.* 179 How many magicians,..have had their..maisterels, and ministrels, their imps, and familiars.

Maisteresse: see MAISTRICE *Obs.*, MISTRESS.

Maistery, maistir: see MASTERY, MASTER.

Maistre, obs. form of MASTER, MASTERY.

Maistres(se, obs. form of MISTRESS.

Maistri, obs. form of MASTERY.

†**Maistrice.** Chiefly *Sc. Obs.* Forms: 4–5 mastrice, -is, mais-, maystries, -yes, -yse, 5–6 mastres, 4–6 maistres, 5–6 maistrice, 7 maisteresse. [a. OF. *maistrise* (mod.F. *maîtrise*), f. *maître* MASTER. In 16–17th c. confused with the pl. of MASTERY, q. v.] = MASTERY in various senses; superiority, superior force or skill; a deed of might or skill, a feat. *To make maistrice*: to display one's power or skill.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 14611 Quar es nu..þis prophete..Nu sal he sceu vs his maistris. 13.. *K. Alis.* 5591 Hy maistres, be werres he conquerde. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* IV. 524 And it, that ouris suld be of richt, Throu thair mastrice thai occupy. *Ibid.* VI. 566 The hund did than sa gret mastris, That he [etc.]. *a* 1400 *Pistill of Susan* 227 He was..More miȝti non þen we his Maistris to Make. *c* 1400 *Sowdone Bab.* 3117 Lenger durste thay no maystryes make, Thai were so sore agaste. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 4172 And eck amidde this purpryse Was maad a tour of gret maistryse. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 333 Þe renke..Gase him doune.. Furthe to make his maistryse and mose in his arte. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* XXV. 232 Tell me in this tyde what mastres thou makys here. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* X. 696 Quhat Sotheroun thai ourtak Contrar the Scottis com neuir maistrice to mak. 1526 TINDALE 1 *Cor.* IX. 25 Every man that proveth mastres abstaineth from all thynges. *c* 1560 A. SCOTT *Poems* (S. T. S.) VI. 8 So luve garris sober wemen small Get maistrice our grit men of gud. 1680 AUBREY in *Lett. Emin. Persons* (1813) III. 566 Notwithstanding his great witt and maisteresse in rhetorique etc. he will oftentimes be guilty of mispelling in English.

†**Mai·strie,** *v. Obs.* [ad. OF. *maistrier*, f. *maistre* MASTER *sb.*] *trans.* = MASTER *v.*

c 1412 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 1845 Naght is his goost maistried With daunger. *Ibid.* 4603 Of so seekly a condicioun, That it may by no cure be maistryed. 1481 CAXTON *Myrr.* I. v. 26 They [*sc.* unlearned clerks] be called maistres wrongfully, for vanyte maistryeth them. *c* 1532 DU WES *Introd. Fr.* in Palsgr. 950 *Maistrier*, to mastry.

Maistrie, obs. form of MASTERY.

Maistry (mēⁱ·stri). *Indian.* Also maistri, mistry. [Hindī *mistrī*, corruption of Pg. *mestre* master.] A master-workman, a foreman; applied also to a skilled workman, e. g. a cook, a tailor.

1798 WELLINGTON in Owen *Mrq. Wellesley's Desp.* (1877) 765 These are to be had in any number by making advances to the bullock owners or maistries. 1849 E. B. EASTWICK *Dry Leaves* 135 The head maistri, or builder, had discovered.. that some of the workmen had deserted. 1880 C. R. MARKHAM *Peruv. Bark* 362 The usual method of obtaining labourers is to employ a native *maistry*, who engages to enlist a fixed number of coolies.

Maistry(e,Maistur, obs. ff. MASTERY, MASTER.

Mait, Sc. form of MATE *sb.*, *a.*, and *v.*

Maiter, Maith, obs. ff. MATTER, MAIZE.

Maith, Sc. variant of MATHE, maggot.

Maithen, Maithes: see MAYTHEN, MAYTHE.

Maitles, obs. variant of MIGHTLESS.

‖**Maître d'hôtel** (mē̤tr' dōtē̤l). Also 6 **maistre d'hostell.** [Fr. phrase = 'house-master'.] A head domestic, a major-domo, a steward or butler.

1540 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. III. III. 252 Tannagel, the maistre d'hostell with vij persons. 1695 Earl of PERTH *Lett.* (Camden) 64 A marquise who is his maitre d'hôtelle [Meant for a fem. !]. 1704 ADDISON *Italy* (1705) 488 His chief Lay-Officer is the Grand *Maître d'Hôtel* or High Steward of the Houshold. 1769 *Ann. Reg.* 104 His royal highness gave to the maitre de hotel who was charged with it [a present] a gold snuff-box. 1849 THACKERAY *Pendennis* LXXV (*init.*), Frederic Lightfoot, formerly *maître d'hôtel* in the service of Sir Francis Clavering.

†**Maitrise,** *v. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [ad. F. *maîtriser*, f. *maître*: see MAISTRICE.] *trans.* To make oneself master of, to conquer.

1636 BRATHWAIT *Rom. Emp.* 125 Hee recovered France newly over-run and maitrised by the Barbarians.

Maize (mēⁱz). Forms: 6 **maith, mayis,** 6–8 **mais, maiz,** (7 **maes, maix, maijs, maze, mass,** 8 **maez**), 7–8 **mayz(e,** 7–8 **mays,** (9 **mais(e**), 7– **maize.** Also 6 in mod.L. form **maizium.** [a. Sp. *maiz* (formerly also *mahiz, mahis, mayz*), a word of the Cuban dialect, the pronunciation of which is rendered by Oviedo in Sp. orthography as *maisi* or *majisi*; prob. identical with the Arawak (Guiana) *marisi*, and the Carib '*márichi*, bled d'Inde' (Breton, *Dict. Caraïbe*, 1665). Cf. F. *maïs*, in 16th c. *mahiz* (1555 in Hatz.-Darm.).]

1. An American graminaceous plant (*Zea Mays*) or the grain produced by it; = INDIAN CORN.

a. The plant.

1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* I. xviii. 21 In steed of corn they sow Maith [Fr. *ils sement du Maith*], which is a kind of grosse Mill. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* VI. i. 561 The fields of Mais the great stalkes whereof were trodden downe. 1613 R. HARCOURT *Voy. to Guiana* 28 There is a kind of great wheat, called Maix, of some it is called Guinea wheat. 1672 JOSSELYN *New Eng. Rarities* 17 They [Racoons] feed upon Mass, and do infest our Indian Corn very much. 1674 — *Voy. New Eng.* 73 Maze, otherwise called Turkie-wheat, or rather Indian-wheat, because it came first from thence. 1742 COLLINS *Ecl.* iii. 6 'Tis sweet..to..scent the breathing maize at setting day. 1861 TYLOR *Anahuac* ix. 228 The Mexicans were cultivating maize and tobacco when the Spaniards invaded the country.

b. The grain.

1555 EDEN *Decades* 3 This kynde of grayne they call maizium. *c* 1565 SPARKE *Sir J. Hawkins' 2nd Voy.* in *Hakluyt* (1589) 540 Mayis maketh good sauory bread. 1594 R. ASHLEY tr. *Leys le Roy* 15 b, Throughout the western Islands they make bread of a kind of wheat called Mahiz. 1596 RALEIGH *Discov. Guiana* 3 It hath also for bread sufficient Mais, Cassaui. 1600 HAKLUYT *Voy.* (1810) III. 602 A corne called Maiz, in bignesse of a pease, the eare whereof is much like to a teasell. *a* 1626 BACON *Med. Rem.* Wks. 1857 III. 828 Take of Indian maiz half a pound. 1732 ARBUTHNOT *Rules of Diet* i. 250 Mays is not so easily brought to Fermentation. 1832 *Veg. Subst. Food* 101 Maize is said to contain no gluten, and little..saccharine matter. 1855 LONGF. *Hiaw.* XVII. 159 They..Beat to death poor Pau-Puk-Keewis, Pounded him as maize is pounded. 1894 *Century Mag.* Apr. 849 The first generations of English-Americans subsisted mainly on maize.

2. Water maize [Sp. *maiz del agua*], the *Victoria regia*, so called because of its farinaceous seeds (*Treas. Bot.* 1866); **Mountain maize,** the genus *Ombrophytum* (Miller *Plant-n.* 1884).

3. Adopted as the name of one of the coal-tar colours, a pale yellow resembling that of maize.

1890 THORPE *Dict. Appl. Chem.* I. 265 The sodium salt of azoxystilbene-disulphonic acid..known in commerce as 'sun yellow' or 'maize'.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *maize-beer, -bread, -cob, -colour, -cutter, -ear, -field, -flour, -garden, -grain, -grits, -harvest, -meal, -oil, -plant, -stalk, -starch, -straw, -trough, -whiskey*; *maize-coloured, -fed* adjs.; *maize-husking, maize-poisoning* vbl. sbs.; **maize-bird,** an American blackbird of the subfamily *Agelæinæ*, esp. *Agelæus phœniceus*, so called from its fondness for maize; **maize-cream,** a decoction or gruel of maize or maize-meal; **maize-eater,** a South American maize-bird; **maize-smut,** a destructive fungus (*Ustilago Maydis*) attacking the maize-plant; **maize-thief** = *maize-bird*; **maize-yellow,** a yellow like that of maize.

1887 MOLONEY *Forestry W. Afr.* 450 In South America a kind of beer called Chica or *Maize beer is made from the grain. 1837 SWAINSON *Nat. Hist. Birds* II. 100 The Agelainæ, or *maize-birds. 1855 KINGSLEY *Westw. Ho!* XXV, Baskets..freighted with..*maize-bread. 1890 O. CRAWFURD *Round Cal. Portugal* 197 Now the broad fields of maize are cut and the *maize-cobs garnered. 1862 O'NEILL *Dict. Calico Printing*, etc., *Maize colour*, a low toned yellow orange. 1861 *Englishwom. Dom. Mag.* III. 263/1 One skein of gold or *maize-coloured Russia braid. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 49 Indian Maiz..must be throughly boyled, and made into a *Maiz-Creame, like a Barley Creame. 1855 LONGF. *Hiaw.* XIII. 41 Wagemin, the thief of cornfields! Paimosaid, who steals the *maize-ear! 1894 *Times* (weekly ed.) 2 Feb. 89/3 The wheat-fed pork of the North West may yet compete with the *maize-fed pork of Chicago. 1771 J. R. FORSTER tr. *Kalm's Trav. N. Amer.* II. 77 They [birds] assemble by thousands in the *maize-fields, and live at discretion. 1855 LONGF. *Hiaw.* XIII. 21 All around the happy village Stood the maize-fields. 1843 PRESCOTT *Mexico* (1850) I. 131 Pastry, for which their *maize-flour and sugar supplied ample materials. 1899 WERNER *Capt. of Locusts* 263 They.. carried her to the grove beyond the *maize-gardens. 1880 C. R. MARKHAM *Peruv. Bark* 479 The grains [of Cuzco maize] are four or five times the size of ordinary *maize grains. 1901 *Oxford Times* 9 Mar. 7/1 [The advertisers] have never used any..*maize-grits, or any other substitute for either malt or hops. 1828 P. CUNNINGHAM *N. S. Wales* (ed. 3) II. 22, I chanced to stop for the night at the house of a gentleman during the *maize-harvest. *Ibid.* 293 Their diet.. [should] consist principally of *maize meal. 1871 KINGSLEY *At Last* xvi, The Red Indians looked on Mondamin, the *maize-plant, as a gift of a god. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 801 The special characters of *maize poisoning may be due to some peculiarity in the chemical structure of this grain itself. 1896 P. A. BRUCE *Econ. Hist. Virginia* I. 167 Except the juice sucked from the crushed fibre of the *maizestalk, they had no knowledge of any spirits. 1887 MOLONEY *Forestry W. Afr.* 450 The finer qualities of *Maize starch are largely used as a substitute for arrowroot. 1886 W. J. TUCKER *E. Europe* 299 A hole in the *maize-straw thatched roofs served as chimney. 1772 J. R. FORSTER tr. *Kalm's Trav. N. Amer.* I. 372 The laws of Pensylvania..have settled a premium of three-pence a dozen for dead *maize thieves. 1853 F. O. MORRIS *Hist. Brit. Birds* III. 9 Red-winged maize-bird..Maize-thief. 1851 MAYNE REID *Scalp Hunt.* xiii. 98 Your horse is standing at the *maize-trough. 1893 LELAND *Mem.* I. 13 *Maize-whiskey could be bought then for fifteen cents a gallon.

Maizena (mēⁱzī·nă). [Arbitrarily f. MAIZE.] Maize-starch prepared for use as food. Also *attrib.*

1862 in *Rep. Juries Exhib.* 1862 (1863) III. A. 13. 1862

Mrs. Hawthorne in *N. Hawthorne & Wife* (1885) II. 326, I carried to Mrs. Alcott early this morning some maizena blanc-mange. *a* 1875 F. Oates *Matabele Land* (1889) 24 Made into a pudding with maizena.

Mai·zer. [f. Maize + -er 1.] A maize-bird.

1837 Swainson *Nat. Hist. Birds* II. 275 Subfam. *Aglainæ* [i. e. *Agelæinæ*] Maizers.

‖ **Maja** (ma·χa). [Sp., fem. of Majo 1.] A Spanish woman who dresses gaily. Also *attrib.*

1832 [see Majo 1]. 1840 Longf. *Sp. Stud.* II. i, Now bring me, dear Dolores, my basquiña, My richest maja dress.

Majerom, obs. form of Marjoram.

Majesta·rian, *a. nonce-wd.* [f. Majesty + *-arian.*] Used humorously for: (Her) Majesty's.

1857 Clough *Poems*, etc. (1869) I. 115 He is to have a deer-stalking party to-morrow, Lord Adolphus Fitzclarence, and other majestarian officers.

†**Majestate.** *Obs. rare*—1. [ad. L. *mājestātem* Majesty.] Majesty.

1533 Gau *Richt Way* (1888) 32 Thir iii persons ar equal in power maiestate and in ewer lestyng.

Majestatic (mædʒèstæ·tik), *a.* Now *rare.* [ad. med.L. *mājestātic-us*, f. *mājestāt-* Majesty.] Pertaining to the majesty of God. Cf. Majestical 2.

1659 Hammond *On Ps.* lxxxv. 9 The glorious majestatick presence or inhabitation of God. 1695 Bp. Patrick *Comm. Gen.* iii. 8 They heard the Voice of the Lord...The Sound of the Majestatick Presence, or the Glory of the Lord. *a* 1711 Ken *Hymns Evang.* Poet. Wks. 1721 I. 14 To gain a transient beatifick sight, Of Jesus rob'd in Majestatick Light. 1756 Amory *Buncle* (1770) II. 53 We must distinguish .. between the essential and the majestatic presence of God.

So †**Majesta·tical** *a.*, in the same sense.

a 1694 J. Scott *Wks.* (1718) II. 493 He placed a great Part of the Glory of his Majestatical Presence in the Tabernacle.

†**Majestative,** *a. Obs.*—° [ad. late L. *mājestātīv-us*, f. *mājestāt-* Majesty: see -ive.] Majestic.

1656 in Blount *Glossogr.*

Hence †**Majestativeness.** *Obs.*—°

1727 in Bailey vol. II.

Majesterialty, Majesterycall: see Magist-.

Majestic (mădʒe·stik), *a.* [f. Majesty + -ic.] Possessing or characterized by majesty; of imposing dignity or grandeur. **a.** Of persons, their attributes, etc.

1610 G. Fletcher *Christ's Vict.* I. xvi, Bowing her self with a majestique air. *a* 1652 Brome *Queene's Exch.* I. i. Wks. 1873 III. 458 Your no less prudent than Majestick Father With power & policy enricht this Land. *a* 1700 Dryden *Flower & Leaf* 176 But in the midst was seen A lady of a more majestic mien. 1725 De Foe *Voy. round World* (1840) 132 He was grave and majestic, and carried it something like a king. 1807 Crabbe *Par. Reg.* III. 812 His stride majestic and his frown severe. 1856 Froude *Hist. Eng.* (1858) I. ii. 173 Amidst the easy freedom of his address, his manner remained majestic. 1866 Liddon *Bamp. Lect.* v. (1875) 225 St. John is spiritually as simple as he is intellectually majestic. 1871 R. Ellis tr. *Catullus* lxxxvi. 1 Lovely to many a man is Quintia; shapely, majestic, Stately, to me.

Comb. 1870 L'Estrange *Miss Mitford* I. vi. 168 A fine majestic-looking old woman of sixty.

b. Of things material and immaterial.

1601 Shaks. *Jul. C.* I. ii. 130 It doth amaze me, A man of such a feeble temper should So get the start of the Majesticke world. 1610 — *Temp.* IV. i. 118 This is a most maiesticke vision. 1664 Evelyn *Sylva* iv. (1679) 33 No Tree whatsoever, becoming long Walks and Avenues, comparably to this Majestick plant [the Elm]. *a* 1704 T. Brown *Prol. 1st Sat. Persius* Wks. ed. 1730 I. 51 Virgil's great majestick lines. 1742 Young *Nt. Th.* III. 193 This Heav'n-assum'd majestic Robe of Earth, He deign'd to wear. 1794 Mrs. Radcliffe *Myst. Udolpho* i, The view was bounded by the majestic Pyrenees. 1833–6 J. H. Newman *Hist. Sk.* (1873) I. iv. i. 360 There they [Ambrosian chants] are in use still, in all the majestic austerity which gave them their original power. 1879 Geo. Eliot *Theo. Such* ii. 32 Clad in the majestic folds of the *himation.*

Hence †**Maje·sticness,** majesty.

a 1643 Cartwright *To C'tess Carlisle* 24 Such a..Lovely, self-arm'd, naked Majesticknes. 1685 H. More *Illustr.*, etc. 263 Which is a marvellous manner of Transition .. sutable to the usual Majestickness of this Book of the Apocalypse.

Majestical (mădʒe·stikăl), *a.* Now chiefly *poet.* [Formed as prec.: see -ical.]

1. = Majestic. **a.** Of persons, their attributes, etc. (*occas.* ironical).

1589 Horsey *Trav.* (Hakl. Soc.) App. 295 Kynore [?*read* Kynore = cover] my good lord, with thy princely wisdome and majestyecall clemency this unwillinge faulte comytted. 1593 Nashe *Christ's T.* Ded. 2 All those maiesticall wit forestalling worthies of your sexe. 1617 Morvson *Itin.* II. 99 His person and carriage was most comely, and (if I may use the word) Maiesticall. 1652–62 Heylin *Cosmogr.* I. (1682) 207 Their gate is..very stately and majestical. 1663 Cowley *Ess., Greatness* (1688) 121 If I were ever to fall in love again .. it would be, I think, with Prettiness, rather than with Majestical Beauty. 1781 Justamond *Priv. Life Lewis XV*, II. 214 His entrance .. was splendid and majestical. 1821 Byron *Sardan.* II. i. 532 His marble face majestical Frowns. 1866 J. H. Newman *Gerontius* iv. 30 And therefore is it, in respect of man, Those fallen ones show so majestical. 1876 Bancroft *Hist. U. S.* I. iv. 101 A grave and majestical countenance.

b. Of things material and immaterial.

1579 Lyly *Euphues* (Arb.) 161 What can we beholde more noble then the world..? what more maiesticall to the sight, or more constant in substance? *a* 1586 Sidney *Apol. Poetrie* (Arb.) 65 Theyr Playes .. thrust in Clownes by head and shoulders, to play a part in maiesticall matters. 1621 Burton *Anat. Mel.* I. i. II. iv. (1651) 17 Suppose you were now brought into some..Majestical Palace. 1651 N. Bacon *Disc. Govt.* II. xi. (1739) 58 War is ever terrible, but if just and well governed, majestical. 1693 Dryden *Ess., Orig. Satire* (ed. Ker) II. 107 The first six lines of the stanza seem majestical and severe. 1851 Longf. *Gold. Leg.* v. *Inn at Genoa* 4 It is the sea,..Silent, majestical and slow. 1867 M. Arnold *Celtic Lit.* 61 An older architecture, greater, cunninger, more majestical.

†**2.** = Majestatic. *Obs.*

1581 E. Campion in *Confer.* III. (1584) R ij, S. Augustine excludeth not by maiestical presence al bodily presence. 1597 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* v. lv. § 6 If his Maiesticall body haue now any such new property. 1633 Bp. Hall *Hard Texts, O. T.* 291 It pleased the Lord to represent unto me a cleare signe of the majesticall presence of the Sonne of God, sitting on high, upon a glorious throne. *a* 1638 Mede *Wks.* (1672) 639 The proper place where the Majestical Glory is revealed, is the Heavens. 1675 Brooks *Gold. Key* Wks. 1867 V. 526 The presence of God with his people is very majestical. *a* 1680 Charnock *Attrib. God* (1682) 257 [Heaven] 'Tis the Court of his Majestical presence.

Hence †**Maje·sticalness,** majesty.

1613 *Decl. Arriv. C. Haga at Constantinople* 14 The Maiesticalnesse of Onr Royall and Princely State. 1652 Kirkman *Clerio & Lozia* 78 This splendid greatness of a maid surpassed the magesticalness of the purest French Lillies of King Henry the third. 1727 Bailey vol. II.

Majestically (mădʒe·stikăli), *adv.* [f. Majestic, -ical: see -ically.] In a majestic manner; with majesty, imposing dignity or grandeur.

1596 Shaks. 1 *Hen. IV*, II. iv. 479 If thou do'st it halfe so gravely, so majestically [etc.]. 1670 Clarendon *Contempl. Ps.* Tracts (1727) 568 If princes would .. majestically suppress haughty and impetuous transgressors. 1697 Dryden *Æneid* IX. 35 Silent they move; majestically slow, Like ebbing Nile, or Ganges in his flow. 1725 Pope *Odyss.* VI. 158 He bends his way Majestically fierce, to seize his prey. 1853 J. H. Newman *Hist. Sk.* (1873) II. I. iii. 126 The great stream of the Po .. flows majestically through its length. 1896 *Law Times* C. 489/2 Inglis .. stalked majestically out of Court, looking neither to the right hand nor to the left.

†**Maje·stify,** *v. Obs. rare*—1. [f. Majesty + -fy.] *trans.* To make majestic.

1616 Lane *Cont. Sqr.'s T.* XII. (1887) 24 Vppon his helme a plume of white and redd maiestifyed his pace.

Maje·stuous, *a. rare.* Also ? **majestious.** [a. F. *majestueux*, f. *majesté* Majesty, after *voluptueux* Voluptuous.] Majestic.

1685 *Gracian's Courtiers Orac.* 65 The other [employments] are more majestuous, and as such, attract more veneration. 1864 Carlyle *Fredk. Gt.* IV. 252 That voice 'sombre and majestious'.

Majesty (mæ·dʒĕsti). Forms: 4–5 magestee, 4–6 mai-, maj-, mageste, (5 maiestee, magiste), 5–6 magestie, -y, 5–7 maiesty, majestie, (6 maiestye, majistye), 6–7 maiestie, (7 majiste), 6– majesty. [a. F. *majesté*, ad. L. *mājestāt-em*, *mājestās*, f. **mājes-*, ablaut-var. of **mājos-* (*mājus*, *mājōr-em* greater: see Major) + *-tāt-*: see -ty. Cf. Pr. *mai-*, *majestat*, It. *magestà*, *maestà*, Sp. *majestad*, Pg. *magestade*; also G. *majestät*, Du. *majesteit.*]

1. The dignity or greatness of a sovereign; sovereign power, sovereignty. Also *concr.* or semi-*concr.* The person or personality of a sovereign.

1375 Barbour *Bruce* I. 431 [Edward I loquitur] Hys fadyr ..wes agayne my maieste. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 2632 A! nohill kyng & nomekowthe! .. Let mene to your maiesty þe mynde of my tale. *c* 1460 Fortescue *Abs. & Lim. Mon.* vii. (1885) 125 He [*sc.* the king] woll .. bie also horses off grete price .. and do other suche nobell and grete costes, as hisitith is roiall mageste. 1489 Caxton *Faytes of A.* I. vi. 13 The subget fereth to offende the mageste of his souerayn lorde. 1523 Ld. Berners *Froiss.* I. ccxliii. 362 By our ryall magesty and segnory, we commaunde you [etc.]. 1528 Roy *Rede me*, etc. (Arb.) 29 Fye apon his maieste and renowne Clayminge on erthe to be in Christis stead. 1595 Shaks. *John* II. i. 480 Why answer not the double Maiesties, This friendly treatie of our threatned Towne. 1606 — *Ant. & Cl.* III. iii. 2 Good Maiestie: Herod of Iury dare not looke vpon you. 1726–31 Tindal *Rapin's Hist. Eng.* (1743) II. xvii. 126 She was a sovereign queen and would do nothing prejudicial to Royal Majesty. 1782 Wolcot in J. J. Rogers *Opie & Works* (1878) 22 The King came in after, with a skip; (not a very proper pace I think for Majesty). 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* iv. I. 508 A man who was daily seen at the palace, and who was known to have free access to majesty. 1883 Earl Rosebery *Sp. at Edinb.* 21 July, The buried paraphernalia of dead majesty.

b. *spec.* The greatness and glory of God. (The earliest use in Eng.)

a 1300 *Sarmun* lvi. in *E. E. P.* (1862) 7 Boþe god and man in mageste þe hei3 king aboue vs alle. *a* 1340 Hampole *Psalter* xx. 5 He sall appere in mageste. ?*a* 1366 Chaucer *Rom. Rose* 1339 God that sit in magestee. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 195 O hihe mageste, Which sest the point of every trowthe. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* XVII. xxi. 721 To see the blessid Trynyte..and the mageste of oure lord Ihesu Cryst. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 18 b, He y^t wyll serche the secrete Maiestye of God by naturall reason. 1611 Bible *Heb.* viii. 1. 1629 Milton *Christ's Nativ.* ii, That farbeaming blaze of Majesty. 1695 Bp. Patrick *Comm. Gen.* iii. 8 The Voice of the Lord...The Sound of the Divine Majesty's approach. *a* 1729 S. Clarke *Serm.* lxxxiii. Wks. 1738 I. 517 The Superemiuent Glory and Majesty of God. 1881 Bible (R. V.) *Luke* ix. 43 And they were all astonished at the majesty [*Gr.* μεγαλειότητι, Tindale, etc. mighty power] of God. 1892 Westcott *Gospel of Life* Pref. 22 The incomprehensible majesty of God and His infinite love.

c. *transf.* and *fig.*

1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S. T. S.) 78 Christ come full humill and full low, Us to exalt in Maiestie. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* x. 382 To contemne the Maiestie, diminise the authoritie of the Kirk. 1663 Charleton *Chor. Gigant.* 13 So great devotion and reverence toward the majesty of Truth. 1668 Culpepper & Cole *Barthol. Anat.* II. vi. 106 It were contrary to the Majesty of the principal Part, to be moved by another whether it will or no. 1712 Addison *Spect.* No. 327 P 14 The natural Majesty of Adam. 1863 Woolner *My Beautiful Lady* 135 The worth and majesty of England's name.

d. *Rom. Hist.* Used to render the equivalent L. *majestas* in the sense: The sovereign power and dignity of the Roman people, *esp.* considered with reference to offences against it. (Cf. Lese-majesty.)

1565 Cooper *Thesaurus*, *Actio maiestatis*, an action for the breakyng of the bononr and maiestie of any great or heade officer. 1581 Savile *Tacitus*, *Hist.* I. lxxvii. (1591) 43 Crime of Majesty and treason. 1862 Merivale *Rom. Emp.* xliv. (1865) V. 248 Under the empire the law of majesty was the legal protection thrown round the person of the chief of the state.

2. Preceded by a possessive, *your, his, her, the king's, the queen's*; sometimes with a qualifying epithet, as (*most*) *sacred, gracious,* †*royal.* Used as an honorific title in speaking to or of a king, queen, emperor, or empress. In this use *Your Majesty* is a respectful substitute for the pronoun *you*, and *His, Her Majesty* (abbreviated H. M.) may be either prefixed to such designations as *the King, the Queen, King Edward VII*, etc., or substituted for them; so, in modern use, *Their Majesties*, when more than one royal person is meant. Also, with distinguishing epithet: *His, Her Imperial Majesty* (abbreviated H. I. M.), said of an emperor or empress; *His Britannic Majesty* (abbreviated H. B. M.), the King of Great Britain (and Ireland); *His Catholic Majesty*, the King of Spain; *His Most Christian Majesty* (Hist.), the King of France; in jocular language, *His Satanic Majesty*, the Devil, Satan.

This use, common to all the Rom. langs., and from them adopted into all the living Tent. langs., descends from the Latin of the later Roman empire (*tua, vestra majestas*). In England it occurs, in its Latin form, from the 12th c., though examples of the vernacular form are not met with before the 15th c. It was not until the 17th c. that *your majesty* entirely superseded the other customary forms of address to the sovereign. Henry VIII and Queen Elizabeth were often addressed as 'Your Grace' and 'Your Highness', and the latter alternates with 'Your Majesty' in the dedication of the Bible of 1611 to James I.

The English syntax of this word (as of the other abstract nouns similarly employed as titles, e. g. *highness, lordship, grace, excellency*) is somewhat inconsistent. Although *Your Majesty*, like *His, Her Majesty*, requires the following verb to be in the 3rd person sing. to agree with the sb., this principle of concord is not applied to the pronouns, as in Fr. and some other langs. The neuter pronouns *it, its, which*, cannot be used with reference to a foregoing (*Your, His, Her*) *Majesty*; either the titular phrase must be repeated, or the pronoun must be the same as if the simple form ('you', or 'the king', 'the queen') had been used instead of the periphrastic form.

[1171 *Addr. King's Clerks to Hen. II* in *Mat. Hist. T. Becket* (1885) VII. 471 Noverit vestra Majestas, quod (etc.).] 1433 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 444/2 Plese it to your Rial Mageste. 1536 in Speed *Hist. Gt. Brit.* (1632) 1025 The Kings most roiall Magesty. 1585 Whitgift in Fuller *Ch. Hist.* IX. vi. § 24 To the Queens most excellent Majesty. May it please your Majesty to be advertised that notwithstanding the charge of late given by your Highness to the lower House of Parliament [etc.]. 1596 Spenser *State Irel.* (Globe) 661/1 The great good which shall growe to her Majestie, should .. readely drawe on her Highnes to the undertaking of the enterprise. 1624 in *Archæologia* XLVIII. 211 Given by the King's Matie .. to one Bonner. 1660 Blount (*title*) Boscobel or the History of His Sacred Majesties most miraculous preservation after the Battle of Worcester. 1678 Bunyan *Pilgr.* I. 143 One of his Majesties Judges. 1761 Cauden *Conc. Bib.* Ded. to King, I doubt not but your Majesty will pardon my forbearing to enter upon your valuable personal accomplishments. *c* 1777 Burke *Addr. to King* Wks. IX. 183 Your Majesty was touched with a sense of so great a disaster. 1804 M. Cutler in *Life, Jrnls. & Corr.* (1888) III. 171 This morning, paid the high homage of my respects to his Democratic Majesty, the President. 1881 Jas. Grant *Cameronians* I. ii. 23 Before summoning his sable majesty. 1884 G. Fleming (Julia Fletcher) *Vestigia* I. iv. 131 His Majesty, King Humbert, will hold a grand review of his troops. 1888 Mapleson *Mem.* (ed. 2) I. 295 His Majesty the King of Hawaii.

†**3.** The external magnificence befitting a sovereign. *Obs.*

1481 Caxton *Godfrey* xxxix. 77 Themperour satte in his mageste, and the barons aboute hym. 1667 Milton *P. L.* II. 266 Heav'ns all-ruling Sire..with the Majesty of darkness round Covers his Throne.

4. Kingly or queenly dignity of look, bearing, or appearance; impressive stateliness of aspect or demeanour.

1531 Elyot *Gov.* II. ii, The fountaine of all excellent maners is Maiestie, which..is proprelie a beautie or comelynesse in his countenance, langage and gesture apt to his dignite, and accomodate to time, place, and company. 1549 Coverdale, etc. *Erasm. Par.* 2 *Cor.* 58 A weake bodye, wherin there is no maiestye. 1603 Knolles *Hist. Turks* (1621) 1161 With a faire countenance, and a majestie full of mildnesse. 1667 Milton *P. L.* XI. 232, I descrie..One of the heav'nly Host, and by his Gate .. some great Potentate .. such Majestie Invests him coming. 1710 Steele *Tatler* No. 115 P 1 [Nicolini] commanded the Attention of the Audience with the Majesty of his Appearance. 1836 Kingsley *Lett.* (1878) I. 34 His looks were majesty, and his tongue justice. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* xxx, Edith was there in all her majesty of brow and figure.

b. *transf.* Of natural objects, buildings, etc.

1555 EDEN *Decades* To Rdr. (Arb.) 50 The contemplation of goddes workes & maiestie of nature. 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus* s.v. *Maiestas*, the maiestie and goodly sight of a place. 1570-6 LAMBARDE *Peramb. Kent* (1826) 281 A shrine, of golde and of great Maiestie. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IV. 607 The Moon Rising in'clouded Majestie. 1822 BYRON *Heaven & Earth* I. iii, Your rugged majesty of rocks And toppling trees. 1830 J. G. STRUTT *Sylva Brit.* 6 The funereal majesty of the cedar or the yew. 1879 JENKINSON *Guide Eng. Lakes* (ed. 6) 159 At the foot of Skiddaw, which stands forth in all its majesty.

c. *sarcastically.*

1588 GREENE *Pandosto* (1607) 21 The goodman seeing his wife in her maiestie, with her mace in her hand, thought it was time to bowe for fear of blowes.

5. Impressive stateliness of character, expression, or action.

1597 MORLEY *Introd. Mus.* 114 Those *per arsin & thesin*, which of all other Canons carie both most difficultie, and most maiestie. 1662 STILLINGFL. *Orig. Sacr.* III. i. § 2 Hence it is that Moses with so much Majesty and Authority begins the History of the Creation, with, In the beginning [etc.]. 1709 FELTON *Classics* (1718) 16 The Romans have left no Tragedies behind them, that may compare with the Majesty of the Grecian Stage. 1809-10 COLERIDGE *Friend* (1865) 131 Imposing only by the majesty of plain dealing. 1871 H. MACMILLAN *True Vine* vi. (1872) 260 Every thing in nature partakes of the majesty of measured progressiveness and slowness.

6. A canopy over a hearse. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.*

1483 *Funeral of Edw. IV* in *Lett. Rich. III* (Rolls) I. 7 A blacke magestie, clothe of sarsenet drawen with vj coursers traped with blacke velvet. 15.. *MS. Cott. Tib.* E viij. in Strutt *Mann. & Customs* (1776) III. 162 If he be an earle he must have a majeste and valence fringed. 1546 in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* II. ii. App. A. 6 [A] stately herse of nine principals with double stories and a costly Majesty. 1849 ROCK *Ch. of Fathers* II. vii. 498 This tester-like covering [of the hearse] was known as the 'majesty'. 1850 *Gloss. Terms Archit.* I. 250.

7. *Religious Art.* (See quots.)

Cf. med.L. *majestas* (see Du Cange), OF. *maysté*, 'image de la Vierge' (Godefroy), It. *maestà*.

1485 CAXTON *Paris & Vienne* (Roxb. Libr. 1868) 27 A lytel chamber whyche .. was an oratory, where as was the mageste [F. *la maiesté*] of our Lord Ihesu Cryst vpon a lytel aulter. 1847 EASTLAKE *Mater. Hist. Oil Painting* I. 171 *note*, The only existing document relating to Cimabue shows that he was employed in 1301 .. on a mosaic 'Majesty' in the tribune of the Duomo at Pisa. *Ibid.* 480 The central picture .. generally represented a 'Majesty', or enthroned Madonna. 1850 NEALE *East. Ch.* Introd. I. 238 The dome [of St. Sophia at Constantinople] was covered with mosaic of glass: the summit, as usual, representing a Majesty. 1854 FAIRHOLT *Dict. Terms Art, Majesty*, .. a representation of the Saviour seated in glory on a throne, and giving his benediction, encompassed with the nimbus called *Vesica Piscis*, and surrounded by cherubim and the four evangelistic symbols, with the A and Ω. 1872 *Gloss. Eccl. Terms* (ed. Sbipley), *Majesty*, a picture of God the Father enthroned as a pope, with a tiara on His head, and with the other persons of the Blessed Trinity portrayed or symbolized. 1883 J. G. WALLER in *Archæologia* XLIX. 200 'The Majesty', a term of ancient use, is given to the figure of Our Lord seated within an aureole, holding up the right hand in act of benediction, in the other a book or orb.

8. *Her.* (See quot.)

1828-40 BERRY *Encycl. Her.* I, *Majesty*, this term is applied to the eagle when crowned, and holding a sceptre. It is then blazoned an eagle in her Majesty.

9. *attrib.*: †**majesty scutcheon,** (app.) an escutcheon bearing the royal arms.

1722 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 6084/2 A Chair of State .. with a Majesty Scutcheon over it.

Hence †**Majestyship** *nonce-wd.* = MAJESTY 2.

1594 LODGE & GREENE *Looking Glasse* (1598) E 3 b, Nay and please your maiesti-ship for proofe he was my childe, search the parish booke.

Majeutic, variant of MAIEUTIC.

Maji, variant of *magi*, pl. of MAGUS.

‖ **Majo**[1] (mă·χo). [Sp.; cf. MAJA.] A Spanish dandy of the lower classes. Also *attrib.*

1832 W. IRVING *Alhambra* (1896) 134 (*The Balcony*), *Majos* and *majas*, the beaux and belles of the lower classes, in their Andalusian dresses. 1845 FORD *Handbk. Spain* I. 146 The *Majo*, the *Figaro* of our theatres, is entirely in word and deed of Moorish origin; .. he is the local dandy... The *Majo* glitters in velvets and filigree buttons, tags and tassels. 1883 LD. SALTOUN *Scraps* I. ii. 192, I had bought a full Spanish *majo* costume .. and at a distance might have been mistaken for a Spanish dandy.

Majo[2] (mē·dʒo). Also 8 **murjoe,** 8-9 **majoe.** A West Indian shrub, *Picramnia Antidesma. Majo bitters* (see quot. 1866).

a 1726 H. BARHAM *Hortus Americanus* (1794) 96 Majoe, or Macary Bitter. This admirable plant hath its name from Majoe, an old negro woman, .. who, with a simple decoction, did wonderful cures. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XIV. 727/2 There is only one species [of Picramnia], viz. the antidesma, or murjoe bush. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 886/2 In the West Indies the negroes use an infusion of *Picramnia Antidesma*, a shrub about eight feet high, as a cure for colic and other complaints, under the name of Majo-bitters.

Majolica, maiolica (mădʒo·likă, măyo·likă). Also 6 **maiolique.** [a. It. *maiolica* (whence F. *majolique, maiolique*).

According to J. C. Scaliger *Exoteric. Exercit.* (1557) 136, the best ware of this kind was said to be made in the island of Majorca (called *Majolica* in the 14th c.: see Du Cange); if this statement be correct, the word is prob. derived from the name of the island.]

1. A term applied originally to a fine kind of Italian pottery coated with an opaque white enamel ornamented with metallic colours; but later applied to all kinds of glazed Italian ware, beautifully ornamented and richly coloured, also called *faience* and *Raffaelle* ware. Also, a modern imitation ware coated with a coloured enamel and decorated.

1555 EDEN *Decades* 238 The fine whyte earthe cauled Porcellana, of the which are made the earthen dysshes of the woorke of Maiolica. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* I. xi. 13 Two great platters of Maiolique [*printed* Macolique]. 1856 J. C. ROBINSON *Soulages Collect.* 50 The pieces .. which, in the fifteenth century, were curtly termed by the Italians 'Majorca' or 'Majorica', and thence by corruption 'Majolica', a term which .. ultimately obtained a place in the language, and was applied indiscriminately to all kinds of glazed earthenware. 1875 FORTNUM *Maiolica* 20 The general term 'Maiolica', also spelt 'Majolica', has long been and is still erroneously applied to all varieties of glazed earthenware of Italian origin. We have seen that it was not so originally but that the term was restricted to the lustred wares.

attrib. 1861 *Our English Home* 153 Majolica dishes were every day more in request. 1862 *Catal. Internat. Exhib.* II. xxv. 120/2 Modern Majolica Ware. 1873 MRS. PALLISER tr. *Jacquemart's Ceramic Art* 245 In the first years of the sixteenth century, a Florentine artist carried the majolica art into Spain.

† b. (See quot.) *Obs.*

1598 R. HAYDOCKE tr. *Lomazzo* III. iv. 99 Reddes are made .. of the red earth called Maiolica, otherwise browne of spaine.

2. (See quot.)

1866 LAWRENCE tr. *Cotta's Rocks Class.* 283 Majolica, a white compact limestone.

‖ **Majoon** (mădʒū·n). Also 8 **majum,** 9 **majun, madjoon, -oun.** [(Urdū and Turk.) a. Arab. معجون *maʕjūn.*] An intoxicating confection made of the leaves of the Indian hemp, poppy-seed, nux vomica, and other ingredients.

1781 *Let.* in Ld. Lindsay *Lives Lindsays* (1840) IV. 222 Our ill-favoured guard brought us a dose of majum each, and obliged us to eat it. 1819 T. HOPE *Anast.* (1820) I. xi. 216 The ample dose of madjoon he had just swallowed. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Majoon.* 1883 H. H. KANE in *Harper's Mag.* Nov. 946/1 Small black lozenges, consisting of the resin of hemp, henbane, crushed datura seeds, butter, and honey, and known in India as *Majoon*, amongst the Moors as *El Mogen.*

Major (mē·dʒəɹ), *sb.*[1] [a. F. *major*, short for *sergent-major*, SERGEANT-MAJOR, which like some other military titles originally designated a much higher grade than at present.]

1. In the army: An officer next below the rank of a lieutenant-colonel and above that of a captain. *Major of* (*a*) *brigade* = brigade-major.

[1579 DIGGES *Stratiot.* 105 Item, the Sergeant Maior, by his office, is to appoint euerie Captayne his place.] 1643 WHITELOCKE *Mem.* 70 Major Gunter was shot dead in the place. 1647 CLARENDON *Hist. Rebell.* VII. § 34 Whereof the lord Digby .. colonel Wagstaffe, and major Legg, were the chief of the wounded. *a* 1671 LD. FAIRFAX *Mem.* (1699) 88 Major Fairfax, who was Major to his regiment, had at least 30 wounds, of which he dyed at Yurk. 1675 BAXTER *Cath. Theol.* II. XIII. 294 Major Danvers, an Anabaptist. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Major of a Brigade*, an Officer, either of Horse or Foot, who receiving Orders, and the Word from the Major General, gives them to the Major of each Regiment. 1781 T. SIMES *Milit. Guide* (ed. 3) 9 The Majors of Brigade go every day to receive the orders from the Adjutant-general. *Ibid.* 11 When the encampment is to be formed, the General Officers, Brigade-majors, Aid-de-camps, &c. are appointed in public orders to their several posts and stations. 1833 MARRYAT *P. Simple* XX, The major commandant and the officers retired to consult. 1844 *Regul. & Ord. Army* 69 No Officer shall be promoted to the Rank of Major, until he has been six years in the Service.

b. *Brigade-, Fort-, Town-major*, etc.: see the prefixed words.

2. A kind of wig (see quot. *c* 1770). Also *major wig. Obs.* exc. *Hist.*

1753 SMOLLETT *Cnt. Fathom* (1784) 162/1 His tye-wig degenerated into a major. *c* 1770 *J. Granger's Lett.* (1815) 280 A full wig tied back in one curl is a Major, in two curls is a Brigadier. 1785 MACKENZIE *Lounger* No. 4 An embroidered waistcoat with very large flaps, a major wig, long ruffles nicely plaited. 1823 *Mirror of Lit.* 12 July II. 115/1 Lander made his [the poet Thomson's] majors and bobs.

3. *Angling.* The name of an artificial salmon fly.

1867 F. FRANCIS *Angling* X. 302.

Major (mē·dʒəɹ), *a.* and *sb.*[2] Also 4 **maiour,** 6-7 **maior.** [a. L. *mājor* nom. sing. masc. and fem. (neut. *mājus*; declension stem *mājōr-*), used as comparative of *magnus* great, to the root of which it is referred by most philologists, though the phonology is not quite clear.

Cf. OF. *maire*, obj.-case *maor, maiour*, Pr. *major, maer*, obj.-case *major*, Sp. *mayor*, Pg. *maior, mor*, It. *maggiore*; also the learned forms F. *majeur, major*, used in certain specific senses, and perh. the proximate source of some of the Eng. uses below. Cf. MAYOR.]

A. *adj.*

I. = GREATER in certain applications. (Not followed by *than.*)

1. Used as the distinctive epithet of the greater (in various senses) of two things, species, etc., that have a common designation; also applied to those members of a class that form a subdivision on the ground of being greater than the rest; opposed to *minor*. Chiefly in certain special collocations which originated in med. or mod.L.; in most of these *greater* may be substituted, e.g. in *major excommunication, orders, prophets* (see those sbs.). † *Major Fellow* (Cambridge): a senior Fellow. *Major epilepsy*: epilepsy proper, as distinguished from the 'petit mal'.

Much less common than the corresponding use of MINOR. Occasional uses (as 'major poet') are sometimes suggested by antithesis with the recognized collocations of *minor.*

a 1400 *Stac. Rome* 475 At seinte Marie þe maiour [= Santa Maria Maggiore, Rome] þer is a chirche of gret honour. 1597 SKENE *De Verb. Sign.* s.v. *Homagium*, [Homage] sulde be maid be the vassail being *minor*, or *maior*, to his ouer-lorde. 1660 TRAPP (*title*) A Commentary or Exposition upon The four Major Prophets. 1670 WALTON *Lives* IV. 21 He was made Minor Fellow in the year 1609... Major Fellow of the Colledge, March 15. 1615. 1727-41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Orders*, Sacred, or Major Orders, we have already observed, are three: viz. those of deacon, priest, and bishop. 1883-5 *Catholic Dict.* (ed. 3) s.v. *Excommunication*, The major excommunication deprives of all ecclesiastical communion, and is equivalent in substance to *anathema. Ibid.* s.v., The superior ranks of the sacred ministry—bishops, priests, deacons, and subdeacons—are said to have major orders. Before the thirteenth century the subdiaconate was one of the minor orders. 1887 FREEMAN *Exeter* iii. 63 There is not much to note in the nomenclature of these churches... Saint Mary Major .. takes also the English shape of St. Mary More. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 846 An increased circulation in the cutaneous area and sweating, as we see in the major epilepsy. 1901 *Scotsman* 9 Sept. 7/1 Miller made a declaration before the sheriff, but will probably have to make another on the major charge of causing Durham's death.

b. *Prosody.* Used to distinguish the longer of two types of verse bearing a common name.

1883 G. A. SIMCOX *Hist. Lat. Lit.* II. 356 St. Agnes, whose legend is given in very spirited major alcaics.

c. *Football. Major point*: a goal (opposed to *minor point*, i.e. a try).

1896 *Field* 4 Jan. 22/2 McIlwaine registered a try and Boas bringing off the major point, Belfast left off winners by a goal and a try to a goal.

2. *Logic. Major term*: the term which enters into the predicate of the conclusion of a syllogism. *Major premiss, proposition*: that premiss of a syllogism that contains the major term.

a 1533 FRITH *Wks.* 147/1 Now of this maior or first proposition thus vnderstand, doth the conclusion folowe directly. 1661 COWLEY *Verses & Ess., Cromwell* (1669) 66 Your last argument is such (when reduced to Syllogism) that the Major Proposition of it would make strange work in the World if it were received for truth. 1860 ARP. THOMSON *Laws Th.* § 93. 164 That premiss in which the predicate (major term) is compared with the middle, was formerly called the Major premiss. 1871 MORLEY *Crit. Misc.* Ser. I. *Carlyle* (1878) 168 A man of genius is at liberty to assume all his major premisses.

3. *Math.* and *Astron.* †**a.** (See quot. 1571.) *Obs.*

b. *Major axis*: the axis (of a conic section) which passes through the foci; also called *transverse axis.* † *Major circle* = great circle (see CIRCLE 2).

1571 DIGGES *Pantom.* IV. X iv b, If the side of Icosaedron be a line rationall, the dimetient of the comprehending sphere shalbe an irrationall line called *Maior. Ibid.*, The semi-dimetiente of that circle wheron the body is framed will be an irrationall, called of Euclide *Maior.* 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* II. ii. 62 The true meridian is a major circle passing through the poles of the world, and the Zenith or Vortex of any place, exactly dividing the East from the West. 1854 MOSELEY *Astron.* Ixxxviii. (ed. 4) 231 The larger axis of the ellipse, which is the orbit of a planet, being called its axis major. 1862 *Catal. Internat. Exhib.* II. xi. 15 The difference between major and minor axis being ·012 of an inch. 1885 LEUDESDORF *Cremona's Proj. Geom.* 275 The polar reciprocal of an ellipse (hyperbola) with respect to a circle having its centre at a focus and its radius equal to half the minor (conjugate) axis is the circle described on the major (transverse) axis as diameter.

4. *Mus.* a. Applied to intervals greater by a chromatic semitone than those called *minor*, i.e. to the normal or perfect intervals; as *major third, sixth, seventh* (and, in occasional recent use, *major fourth* and *fifth*), commonly called *perfect fourth* and *fifth*). Hence also applied to the note distant by a major interval from a given note. Also, in acoustical theory, applied to the larger of two intervals differing by a minute quantity, as *major tone* (vibration-ratio $\frac{9}{8}$, being greater by a comma than the *minor tone*, $\frac{10}{9}$). b. Applied to a common chord or triad containing a major third between the root and the second note; hence to a cadence ending on such a chord. c. Denoting those keys, or that mode, in which the scale has a major third (and also a major sixth or seventh). (In naming a key, *major* follows the letter, as *C major.*)

1694 W. HOLDER *Harmony* (1731) 49 If A to B be as 5 to 4, they sound a Ditone, or Third Major. *Ibid.* 50, $\frac{4}{5}$ sound a Third Major, .. $\frac{5}{8}$ a Sixth Major. *Ibid.* 114 In Diatonic Music there is but one sort of Hemitone .. call'd Hemitone Major, whose Ration is 16 to 15... There are two sorts of Tones; viz. Major, and Minor. *Ibid.* 130 Seventh Major, 15 to 8. *a* 1734 NORTH *Lives* (1742) 298 He makes great Ado about dividing Tones Major, Tones Minor, Dieses and Commas, with the Quantities of them. 1806 CALLCOTT *Mus. Gram.* II. i. 98 The Major Second .. does not consist of two equal parts. 1811 BUSBY *Dict. Mus.* s.v. *Key*, The natural keys of C major and A minor. 1848 RIMBAULT *First Bk. Piano.* 37 Every Major Key has its relative Minor; that is to say, a piece with the same signature may be written either in a Major or a Minor mode,

according to the position of the Key-note. 1866 ENGEL *Nat. Mus.* ii. 25 The major and minor scales. 1887 BROWNING *Parleyings, Ch. Avison* xiii, Blare it forth, bold C major! 1898 STAINER & BARRETT *Dict. Mus. Terms* s.v. *Interval*, The pertinacity with which professors adhere to the expression *perfect* fifth and *perfect* fourth, and abhor the term *major* fifth and *major* fourth.

5. That constitutes the majority; now only with *part, portion*, or other sbs. of like meaning. Formerly (*rare*) in predicative use: † Preponderating in quantity.

1594 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* IV. xiii. § 9 When they are the major part of a general assembly. 1599 B. JONSON *Cynthia's Rev.* II. iii, The more generall, or maior part of opinion goes with the face, and (simply) respects nothing else. 1621 ELSING *Debates Ho. Lords* (Camden) 85 The House to dehate the doubte, .. and, if the major part doubte, yt may be re-comitted. 1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 118 For the Major part it is barren. 1649 N. BACON *Disc. Govt. Eng.* I. xlvii. (1739) 79 That they all had votes, and that the major number concluded the matter. 1703 MAUNDRELL *Journ. Jerus.* (1732) 26 The major part of the City lies between two Hills. 1743 *Lond. & Country Brew.* III. (ed. 2) 243 Not only the *Fæces*, but the whole Body of the Drink will consequently oppose the Remedy, and if they be Major, the Attempt will prove abortive. 1774 T. HUTCHINSON *Diary* 3 Oct. (1884) I. 254 A person had the major vote for Alderman... Another person .. had the minor vote in the election. 1790 UMFREVILLE *Hudson's Bay* 16 After wandering about .. for the major part of the day. 1818 JAS. MILL *Brit. India* I. v. ii. 374 The major party deemed it an important article of the duty of the Supreme Council. 1866 CRUMP *Banking* i. 25 It will be found, in by far the major part of these failures.

† **6.** Used for: Paramount to all other claims.

1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* v. i. 49 My maior vow lyes heere; this Ile obay.

7. Following the sb. qualified. **a.** In certain combinations adopted from Fr., as in *Quart, Quint, Tierce major*: see QUART *sb.*3, QUINT *sb.*2, TIERCE, and in military titles, as DRUM-MAJOR, SERGEANT-MAJOR, *surgeon-major*. So (jocularly) *poet-major*. **b.** *Bob-major* (Bell-ringing): see BOB *sb.*5 **c.** In boys' schools, appended to a surname to distinguish the elder (or the one who has been longest in the school) of two namesakes.

1616 B. JONSON *Ev. Man in Hum.* I. i, One is a Rimer sir, o' your owne batch, your owne leuin; but doth think himselfe Poet-maior, o' the towne. 1866 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* Mar. 146 Brown major had a trick of bringing up unpleasant topics.

II. 8. Of full age; out of (one's) minority.

1646 HOWELL *Lewis XIII* 27 [It] was an open .. attempt upon his authoritie now that he is declar'd *Major*. *a* 1649 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Hist. Jas. II*, Wks. (1711) 21 A king of France is declared to be of full years and major the fourteenth of his age. 1745 *De Foe's Eng. Tradesman* (1841) I. ii. 12 At which time I arrived to Man's estate, and became Major. 1787 CHARLOTTE SMITH *Rom. Real Life* I. 162 The Chevalier de Villiers being major, might marry Julie de Lalande. 1840 THACKERAY *Yellowplush Mem., Mr. Deuceace at Paris* viii, We are both major, you know; so that the ceremony of a guardian's consent is unnecessary. 1892 GILLESPIE *Bar's Priv. Intern. Law* (ed. 2) 312 A Dutch minor, who is by the law of Belgium major, cannot dispose of his real property in Belgium without [etc.].

b. *fig.* in *Sc. Proverb.*

1808 FORSYTH *Beauties Scotl.* V. 220 The double stone dike or wall .. makes at once a complete fence, or, as is sometimes said, 'it is major the day it is born'.

B. *sb.*

1. In occasional uses: A 'major' individual of a specified class. Cf. A. 1.

1626 BACON *Sylva* § 839 *marg.*, Experiment Solitary, touching Alterations, which may be called Maiors. 1660 *Trial Regic.* 12 If He [the King] be Supreme, there is neither Major, nor Superior. 1897 *Daily News* 20 Mar. 5/2 The minors [*sc.* poets], and many who esteem themselves majors, are constantly on offer.

2. *Logic.* The major premiss in a syllogism.

1530 PALSGR. 467/1 Of that major graunted he brought in foure or fyve conclusions. 1532 MORE *Answ. Frith* Wks. 840/2 In this argument hee begynneth with (shoulde) in the maior, and than in the minor and the conclusion turneth into (can). 1634 CANNE *Necess. Separ.* 91, I need not here take D. Laitons compasse, to fetch the Bishops Major, and the Separatists minor, to make vp an entire Syllogisme of separation. 1696 VANBRUGH *Relapse* v. iii, Thou art out in thy logic. Thy major is true, but thy minor is false. 1717 PRIOR *Alma* III. 78 Can syllogism set things right? No: majors soon with minors fight. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* x. II. 629 They cared little whether their major agreed with their conclusion.

3. *Mus.* Short for *major key, mode*, etc.: see A. 4.

1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XII. 547 *note*, Such another piece [is]..upon C, with sol, ut, and its major. 1818 BUSBY *Gram. Mus.* 360 The transition..from any Minor key to its relative Major. *Ibid.* 363 A Minor key [may be said to be related] to the same key in the Major.

4. One who has 'come of age'.

1616 J. CASTLE in *Crt. & Times Jas. I* (1848) I. 431 Every man that is once knighted is *ipso-facto* made a major, and *sui juris*. 1754 SHEBBEARE *Matrimony* (1766) II. 280 In France .. the Major, whether Man or Woman, who marries a Minor, is punished with Death. *a* 1845 HOOD *Sniffing a Birthday* vii, I'm free to give my I O U, Sign, draw, accept, as majors do.

5. As an official title. (Cf. MAJOR *sb.*1) ‖ **a.** The (Latin) designation of the superior in certain brotherhoods. **b.** The designation of some university official at Oxford. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.*

a. 1882–3 SCHAFF *Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* II. 1025 Even the smaller ones [brotherhoods] had their superior or major.

b. 1726 AMHERST *Terræ Fil.* No. 10. 51 Having saunter'd a pretty while along the quadrangle, impatient of the lecturer's delay, I ask'd the *major* (who is an officer belonging to the schools) whether it was usual now and then to slip a lecture or so.

Major (mē·dʒəɹ), *v. dial.* [f. MAJOR *sb.*1]

1. *intr.* To walk with an important air; to strut. Also with *about, up and down*.

1814 SCOTT *Wav.* xlii, Mr. Waverley's wearied wi' majoring yonder afore the muckle pier-glass. 1822 — *Pirate* xxx, She..majors up and down my house as if she was mistress of it. 1832 — *St. Ronan's* xx, Can it be for the puir body M'Durk's health to major about [1824 to gang about] in the tartans like a tobacconist's sign in a frosty morning? 1892 *Monthly Packet* May 548 The African dove..goes 'majoring' about to very lively tunes of its own.

2. *trans.* To bully, domineer over.

1829 *Examiner* 17/1 In majoring, hectoring, and bullying subalterns, he will be found peremptory enough.

Major, -al(i)ty, obs. ff. MAYOR, MAYORALTY.

Majoram, -an(e, obs. ff. MARJORAM.

‖ **Majorat** (maʒora). *Continental Law.* [Fr., ad. med.L. *mājōrātus* (*u*-stem), f. L. *mājōr-em* MAJOR *a.* in the sense 'elder': see -ATE 1.] The right of primogeniture; also, an estate attached to the right of primogeniture.

1841 W. SPALDING *Italy & It. Isl.* III. 83 That restoration of hereditary aristocracy which was effected in France, took place in Italy likewise, by a decree of 1808, bestowing on the sovereign the power of conferring titles, and allowing the nobles so created to institute majorats, or devises of lands in favour of their eldest sons, or others whom they might select to transmit their honours. 1853 WHEWELL *Grotius* 1. 379 The same rule holds with regard to the majorats in that kingdom [Castile]. 1879 BARING-GOULD *Germany* I. 54 In Bavaria, the noble families are allowed by law to found fresh majorats, *i.e.* fresh families with entailed estates.

Majorate (mē·dʒəɹēit), *sb. rare*—°. [f. MAJOR *sb.*1 + -ATE 1; cf. F. *majorat* in the same sense.] The rank or office of a major; a majority.

1822 BOOTH *Analyt. Dict.* 127 That [*sc.* the rank or office] of a Major is a Majorate, or a Majority.

† **Majorate,** *v. Obs. rare*—1. [f. med.L. *mājōrāt-*, ppl. stem of *mājōrāre*, f. L. *mājōr-em* greater: see MAJOR *a.*] *trans.* To make greater; to cause to increase or develop.

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Majorate*, to make greater. 1660 HOWELL *Parley* 142 The Embryo .. proceeds to majoration and augmentation accordingly; And it is .. an absurdity to think, that the Infant after conception should be majorated by the influence of any other Soul then that from whom he received his formation.

† **Majora·tion.** *Obs.* [a. med.L. *mājōrātiōn-em*, n. of action f. *mājōrāre*: see prec.] The action of increasing or intensifying; *esp.* in *Med.*

1626 BACON *Sylva* § 154 So that there be five wayes..of Majoration of Sounds. 1659 *Gentl. Calling* viii. § 16 The Physicians indeed talk of a method of curing some Diseases by Majoration. 1660 [see MAJORATE *v.*]. 1673 *Lady's Call.* II. ii. § 9 Some..as if they thought Jealousy were to be cured by majoration, have..don things to inflame it.

Major-domo (mē·dʒəɹdō·mo). Forms: 6 maiordome, -domo, mayordome, 7 mayordomo, (7 major-dome, mayordom), 7– major domo. [ad. Sp. *mayordomo*, It. *maggiordomo* (whence F. *majordome*), ad. med.L. *mājor domūs* 'chief of the house' (*mājor* subst. use of *mājor* greater, MAJOR *a.*; *domūs* gen. of *domus* house), the title of the highest official of the royal household under the Merovingians, commonly rendered 'mayor of the palace' (see MAYOR).] In early use, the chief official of an Italian or Spanish princely household, often discharging some of the functions of a minister of state. Subsequently applied also (in accordance with later It. and Sp. use) to the head servant of a wealthy household in foreign countries, and in more or less playful use to an English house-steward or butler.

1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* III. iv. (Arb.) 20 How was it possible that Homer .. should so exactly set foorth .. as some great Princes maiordome .. the order .. of royal bankets [etc.]? *Ibid.* 158 *Maior-domo*: in truth this word is borrowed of the Spaniard and Italian, and therefore new and not vsuall, but to them that are acquainted with the affaires of Court... A man might haue said in steade of *Maior-domo* .. the right English word (*Lord Steward*). 1598 BARRET *Theor. Warres* Gloss. 251 Mayordome, is with the Italian and Spaniard, the steward of a house; but in war he is the steward and Guardian of the munition for warre. *c* 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* III. viii. (1650) 50 He is *Mayordomo* Lord steward to the *Infante* Cardinall. *Ibid.* III. xv. 60 As one to be his Mayordom (his Steward), another to be Master of the Horse. 1674 *Govt. Tongue* viii. § 11 Whose designs are so humble, as not to aspire above a major-domo, or some such domestic preferment. 1692 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2820/3 The Marquis de la Puebla, Major-Dome to the King of Spain. 1725 DE FOE *Voy. round World* (1840) 253 He and his major-domo would go along with me. 1814 SCOTT *Wav.* ix, The major-domo, for such he was, and indisputably the second officer of state in the barony,..laid down his spade. [1823 BYRON *Juan* x. lxx, His Maggior Duomo, a smart, subtle Greek. 1845 DARWIN *Voy. Nat.* xii. 255 The mayordomo of the Hacienda was good enough to give me a guide.] 1855 MOTLEY *Dutch Rep.* (1861) II. 260 His Major-domo had previously been permitted to furnish his master's table with provisions dressed by his own cook. [1876 *N. Amer. Rev.* CXXIII. 45 A king, averse to marriage, commanded his maggiordomo to remain single.]

¶ **b.** In etymological sense 'chief of the house'.

1649 JER. TAYLOR *Gt. Exemp.* Pref., [Mankind] were forced to divide their dwellings, and this they did by families especially, the great Father being the Major domo to all his minors. *Ibid.* II. vii. 34 God was the Major domo, the Master of those assemblies. *a* 1716 SOUTH 12 *Serm.* (1727) VI. 340 Let him have nothing to do with any House or Family (tho' never so great and so much in Power) where the Devil is Major Domo and governs all.

Hence **Ma·jor-do·moship,** the office of major-domo.

1772 NUGENT tr. *Hist. Friar Gerund* I. 87 When the uncle of the house served any majordomoship [Sp. *servia alguna mayordomia*]. 1889 *Pall Mall G.* 30 Jan. 6/1 A successor to whom he could hand over the Imperial Major-domoship.

Majoress, obs. form of MAYORESS.

Ma·jor-ge·neral. *Mil.* [a. F. *major-général*, where *major* is the sb. and *général* the adj. Cf. G. *generalmajor*. The fuller form *sergeant-major general* is earlier in Eng. use; *sergeant major major* occurs in Sir J. Smyth *Instr. Observ. & Orders Milit.* (1595) 60, 61.]

1. An officer of the lowest grade of general officers, ranking below a lieutenant-general.

1642 WHITELOCKE *Mem.* 65 The city bands marched forth.. under the command of major-general Skippon. 1647 CLARENDON *Hist. Rebell.* VII. § 86 James Chudleigh, the major general of the rebels. 1710 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4723/2 The Brigadiers Juel and Daa were created Majors-General. 1806 *Gazetteer Scotl.* (ed. 2) Introd. 35 The military establishment of Scotland consists of a lieutenant general, three major generals [etc.]. 1849 W. IRVING *Goldsmith* 279 He had .. been promoted to the rank of major-general in 1745.

2. *Hist.* The title given to the officers placed in command of the twelve administrative districts into which England was divided in Cromwell's system of military government (1655–1657).

1655 WHITELOCKE *Mem.* 634 The protector told them [the mayor and common council] the reasons of his appointing major-generals in the several counties, as a means to preserve the peace, to suppress wickedness [etc.]. 1655 CROMWELL in *Thurloe's St. Papers* (1742) III. 486 We..do hereby constitute..you the said major general Disbrowe to be major general of all the militia forces raised and to be raised within the counties of Cornwall, Devon, Somerset, Dorset, Wilts, and Gloucester.

Hence **Ma·jor-ge·neralcy,** the office or rank of major-general; **Ma·jor-ge·neralship** = prec.; also *Hist.* the district commanded by a major-general.

1670 HOBBES *Behemoth* IV. (1682) 307 He [Cromwell] divided England into eleven Major-Generalships. 1845 CARLYLE *Cromwell* (1871) IV. 245 Now their Major Generalcies have all proved failures. 1885 U. S. GRANT *Mem.* II. xlv. 98, I.. strongly recommended him for a major-generalcy. 1898 *Daily News* 28 Nov. 5/1 His bravery on the field of Omdurman has won him his Major-Generalship.

Majoris, obs. form of MAYORESS.

Majorism (mē·dʒərizm). [f. *Major* (see below) + -ISM.] The opinions held by Georg Major (1502–74), a German Protestant, who maintained that good works are necessary for salvation. So **Ma·jorist,** a follower of Major. **Majori·stic** *a.*, pertaining to Majorism or to the Majorists.

1845 *Encycl. Metrop.* XIII. 475/1 These which are called the *Majoristic* and *Synergistic* controversies greatly agitated the Lutheran body. 1857 PUSEY *Doctr. Real Presence* (1869) 77 At the Conference at Worms A.D. 1557,..Flacius wrote to Christiern King of Denmark: 'another maintains Majorism on the necessity of works to salvation'. 1874 BLUNT *Dict. Sects* etc., *Majorists*, the followers of Major in his controversy with Amsdorf. 1882–3 SCHAFF *Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* III. 1827 The Weimar *Confutatio* (1559) in which synergism, majorism, adiaphorism, etc., are confuted.

Majority (mădʒo·rĭti). [a. F. *majorité*, ad. med.L. *mājōrităt-em*, f. L. *mājōr-em* MAJOR *a.* Cf. Sp. *mayoridad*, Pg. *maioridade*, It. *maggiorità*.]

† **1.** The state or fact of being greater; superiority; pre-eminence. *Obs.*

1552 LATIMER *Serm. SS. Simon & Jude's Day* (1584) 267 Nowe abideth fayth, hope, and loue, euen these three; but the chiefe of these is loue. There be some learned men whiche expound this maioritie of which S. Paule speaketh here for diuturnitie. 1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* (1592) 866 It may be prooued that that maiority [i. e. the primacy of Rome] as they call it, hath not the originall from the sonne of God. 1596 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. IV*, III. ii. 109. 1597 BACON *Colours Good & Evill* v. E 5 b, It is not plurality of partes without maiority of partes that maketh the totall greater. 1641 'SMECTYMNUUS' *Answ.* (1653) 53 This particularization of Peter did not import any singular preheminence or majoritie of power to Peter more then to the other Apostles. 1677 GALE *Crt. Gentiles* IV. 280 In Eternitie there is no divisibilitie: no majoritie or minoritie. 1690 LEYBOURN *Curs. Math.* I. 335 Of Algebra. Symbols of Majority >, Minority <, Æquality = [etc.]. 1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v. *Character*, > Is the sign of majority, or of the excess of one quantity beyond another.

2. The state of being major or of full age.

1565 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 370 Quhen we ar at oure full majoritie, sall we be brocht bak to the stait of pupillis and minoris. 1579 FENTON *Guicciard.* I. (1599) 19 At what time Phillip being risen to his maioritie, might in good validitie confirme the accord past. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* A 2 b, [These] being begunne in Your hopefull Infancy, are now finally accomplished in the fulnesse of Your thrice blessed Majority. 1842 J. D. CHAMBERS *Jurisd. High Crt. Chancery over Infants* III. 506 So where the settlement executed is the completion of a treaty entered into during minority, without the sanction of the Court, there is jurisdiction to control that after majority. 1867 *John Bull* 7 Sept. 628/2 The Majority of Mr. C. L. A...has been celebrated during the week in the good old English style at the family seat. 1892 GILLESPIE *Bar's Priv. Intern. Law* (ed. 2)

311 A Cuban of twenty-two years of age, who by the law of his own country would not attain majority till twenty-five.

3. The greater number or part; a number which is more than half the whole number; *spec.* the larger party voting together in a deliberative assembly or electoral body.

Absolute majority: A number of votes received by one candidate which is more than half the total number polled, or than half the number of electors.

1691 Norris *Pract. Disc.* 102 Measures of Right and Wrong are not always to be concluded from the consent of Majority; for you see here, that Vice has by much the Majority of its side. *c* 1714 Pope, etc. *Mem. M. Scriblerus* xii. Wks. 1741 II. 47 In a House of Commons all things are determin'd by a Majority. 1714 Swift *Pres. State Affairs* Wks. 1751 IV. 264 The Queen, finding herself and the Majority of her Kingdom grown weary of the Avarice and Insolence..of her former Ministers. 1759 Robertson *Hist. Scot.* VI. Wks. 1813 I. 413 War was chosen by a majority of voices. 1793 *Blackstone's Comm.* I. 181 In the house of commons the speaker never votes but when there is an equality without his casting vote, which in that case creates a majority. 1821 Byron *Two Foscari* I. i, The majority In council were against you. 1844 Lu. Brougham *Brit. Const.* xv. (1862) 228 A majority of seven to five soon after [1640] decided that the levying ship money was legal. 1856 Froude *Hist. Eng.* (1858) I. iii. 247 The clergy commanded an actual majority in that [Upper] House from their own body. 1860 Mill *Repr. Gov.* (1865) 167 At some period .. almost every people, now civilized, have consisted, in majority, of slaves. 1882 *Nature* XXVI. 389 The majority of the coral which I [Haeckel] collected was obtained by divers.

b. with adj., as *great, vast*, etc.

1710 Hoadly *Orig. Civ. Govt.* 154 The People of the Earth, that is, a vast Majority of Mankind, are represented by Moses, as voluntarily journeying from one part of the Earth to another. 1759 Robertson *Hist. Scotl.* I. II. 97 A considerable majority declared for the treaty. 1818 Cruise *Digest* V. 244 It was determined by a great majority of all the Judges..that [etc.]. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* II. 315 In the great majority of those towns..no courtly candidate could dare to show his face. 1875 Scrivener *Lect. Text N. Test.* 5 Nor in the vast majority of instances does it exist. 1903 Jos. Conn *Fulness of Time* xi. 161 What supported..the claims of Holy Church did not to the great majority require proof.

c. *The majority*: the dead. Chiefly in the phrases *to join the majority, to go* or *pass over to the majority*. [After L. phrase *abiit ad plures*.]

1719 Young *Revenge* IV. i, Life is the desart, life the solitude; Death joins us to the great majority. 1764 *Lond. Mag.* Nov. 581 'Oh, no, it is all over with me; I am going, as fast as possible, to join the majority.'—*Ad plures.* 1837 Carlyle *Misc. Ess., Mirabeau* (1840) V. 200 This Mirabeau's work then is done... He has gone over to the majority: *Abiit ad plures.* 1883 *Longm. Mag.* Dec. 179 He had passed over to the majority..we should see his face no more. 1889 T. A. Trollope *What I remember* III. 61 He, too, alas! has joined the majority.

4. The number by which, in voting, the votes cast on one side exceed those cast on the other.

a 1743 Ld. Hervey *Mem.* (1848) II. 253 All the lists made by the Prince's people gave him a majority of near forty. 1765 *Ann. Reg.* 41/1 This motion .. passed in the negative by a very large majority. 1775 *Ibid.* 118*/2 The motion .. was carried upon a division..by the majority of sixty. 1838 Thirlwall *Greece* xxx. IV. 135 This motion was carried, ..by a very small majority. 1879 McCarthy *Own Times* II. xix. 59 A majority of forty-six was given for the resolution.

†**5.** Ancestry. [After L. *majores* ancestors.]

1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* III. xvi. 146 Of evill parents, an evill generation, a posterity not unlike their majority.

6. [Properly a distinct word: ad. F. *majorité*, f. *major* Major *sb.*1] The rank or office of a major.

1776 in *Harper's Mag.* (1883) Sept. 546/2 Appointed to the Majority in the 2d Regt. 1800 *Asiat. Ann. Reg., Char.* 45/2 M. D'Auband had been named to a Majority in the isle of Bourbon. 1814 Scott *Wav.* xli, I am surprised that the Prince should have offered you a majority, when he knows very well that nothing short of lieutenant-colonel will satisfy others. 1900 *Daily News* 11 Sept. 5/7 He was ..promoted to a half-pay majority.

7. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

1891 W. S. Lilly *Shibboleths* 113 Party politics..are mere majority-mongering. 1903 *Daily Chron.* 17 Jan. 3/2 A majority dinner at which our hero .. is entertaining the élite of London.

Majorize (mē·ɪdʒərəiz), *v.* [f. Major *sb.*2 + -ize.]

1. *intr.* To attain (one's) majority; to come of age.

1896 C. F. Keary *Herbert Vanlennert* I. 5, I didn't know you had regularly come of age..I imagined that you didn't majorize till twenty-five or something of that sort.

2. *Rugby Football.* To convert a try into a goal, i.e. to increase the points from three to five.

Majorlame, Majoron, obs. ff. Marjoram.

Majorship (mē·ɪdʒəɹʃip). [f. Major *sb.*1 + -ship.] The office or rank of a major; majority.

1717 *New Hampsh. Prov. Papers* (1868) II. 710 Majr Peter Wear .. asked pardon for his so doing: whereupon the Govr pronounced him restored to his Major-ship. 1865 *Cornh. Mag.* Aug. 172 This provost of Dublin is said, in a political crisis, to have squeezed from Lord Townshend a majorship of dragoons. 1875 Howells *Foregone Concl.* xviii. 294 The colonelcies are .. inaccessible, .. and so are the lieutenant-colonelcies; but a majorship, now—.

¶ Used jocularly as a title.

1795 *Jemima* I. 108 What I know must not be known to man..until his Majorship..has had some sport with his son.

Majum, majun : see Majoon.

Majuscular (mădʒʊ·skiʊlăɹ), *a. Palæogr.* [f. L. *majuscul-us* : see next and -ar.] Of the nature of a majuscule; composed of majuscules.

[1825 L. Hunt *Redi's Bacchus in Tuscany* 21 In the beverage bold Let's renew us and grow muscular; And for those who're getting old, Glasses get of size majuscular (orig. *vetri majusculi*).] 1864 W. H. Black *Anc. Bibl. Chronogr.* 8 The great or (as they are called by critics) majuscular letters. 1895 H. Reynolds *Anc. Dioc. Exeter* iv. 111 It is impossible to mistake that firm majuscular sign manual.

Majuscule (mădʒʊ·skiʊl), *a.* and *sb.* [a. F. *majuscule*, ad. L. *mājuscula* (sc. *littera*), fem. of *mājusculus* somewhat larger, dim. of *mājor* (neut. *mājus*) : see Major *a.*]

A. *adj.* †**a.** *Printing.* Of a letter: Capital. *Obs.*

b. *Palæogr.* Of a letter: Large (whether capital or uncial). Also, written in majuscules.

1727–41 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v. *Letter*, Printers distinguish their letters into capital, majuscule, initial or upper-case letters .. and minuscule, small, or under-case letters. 1850 Madden tr. *Silvestre's Univ. Palæogr.* I. 140 To the first class [inscriptions] belong the capital or square majuscule characters; to the second [books], the uncial characters (which are majuscules intermixed with rounded letters); and to the third [documents], the conjoined, cursive writing. 1885 E. M. Thompson in *Encycl. Brit.* XVIII. 145 In Latin majuscule writing there exist both capitals and uncials. 1892 — *Gr. & Lat. Palæogr.* xiv. 196 Early majuscule MSS.

B. *sb.* †**a.** *Printing.* A large or capital letter. *Obs.* **b.** *Palæogr.* A large letter, whether capital or uncial.

1825 W. Hamilton *Dict. Terms Arts & Sci.*, *Majuscules*, in *Printing*, large letters, sometimes ornamented, usually placed at the beginning of chapters. 1850 [see A above]. 1851 Sir F. Palgrave *Norm. & Eng.* I. 433 A few firm majuscules inscribed by Roman Power. 1892 E. M. Thompson *Gr. & Lat. Palæogr.* viii. 117 In both Greek and Latin palæography, large letters are called 'majuscules'; small letters, 'minuscules'.

Mak, obs. and dial. variant of Make *sb.* and *v.*

Makable (mē·kăb'l), *a.* Also **makeable.** [f. Make *v.* + -able.] That can be made.

c 1449 Pecock *Repr.* II. i. 134 It is a treuthe doable or makeable. 1678 Cudworth *Intell. Syst.* I. ii. § 9. 70 The Accidents .. are all makeable and destroyable, generable and corruptible. 1832 *Westm. Rev.* XVII. 22 The quantity of goods makeable, is quite a distinct thing from the quantity of goods saleable. 1865 Carlyle *Fredk. Gt.* XVI. xi. (1872) VI. 273 Plenty of editions made or makable by a little surreptitious legerdemain.

Mak-a-doo : see Make-a-do *Obs.*

Makadowe, variant of Mockado *Obs.*

†**Ma·kande.** *Obs.* [a. ON. *makindi*; cf. mod. Icel. *í makindum* at one's ease.] Comfort, ease.

a 1400 *Parlt.* 3 *Ages* 278 And aftir irkede me with this and ese was me leuere As man in bis medill elde his makande wolde haue.

Makar(e, obs. form of Maker.

Makdome: see Makedom *Sc.*

Make (mēk), *sb.*1 *Obs. exc. dial.* Forms: *α.* 1 ȝemaca, 2 ȝemace, 3 imake. *β.* 2– make; also 4–9 *north.* mak, (5 mac, 6 mack, maike), 6–9 *Sc.* maik. [OE. *gemaca* wk. masc. corresponds to OS. *gimaco*, fellow, equal, OHG. *gimahho* 'socius' (fem. *gimahha* wife):—OTeut. type **gamakon-*, subst. form of **gamako-* adj. (OE. *gemæc* equal, well-matched, OHG. *gimah* fit, matched, convenient, MHG. *gemach* appertaining, belonging, like, mod.G. *gemach* easy, comfortable, MDu. *gemac* appertaining, also agreeable, quiet, calm), f. **ga-* Y- prefix (expressing the notions of conjunction and mutual relation) + **mako-*, app. primarily meaning 'fit, suitable', whence **makôjo-* Make *v.* The simple stem occurs (though perh. through loss of the prefix) in ON. *mak-r* (only in compar. and superl.) fitting, easy, comfortable, *make* wk. masc., mate, match, equal (Sw. *make*, Da. *mage* consort, like), mod.Du. *mak* tame, docile, gentle. The root has not been traced outside Teut.

As the prefix *y-* of sbs. was universally lost in early ME., the mod. form is the normal representative of OE. *gemaca*. The currency of the word may, however, esp. in northern dialects, be due to adoption of ON. *make*. Cf. the cognate Match *sb.*]

1. An (or one's) equal, peer, match; (one's) like. In ME. freq. in phr. *but* (*any*) *make*.

α. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Gram.* ix. (Z.) 43 *Hic et hæc et hoc par*, ȝemaca. *a* 1300 *Floris & Bl.* 77 (Cott. Vitell. MS.) In worle nes nere non þine imake of no wimmon.

β. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 19656 O preching had he [*sc.* Saul of Tarsus] na mak. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xviii. (*Egipciane*) 543 For I wes gyrne but ony mak þat sawlis put to lestand vrak. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* ii. 442 Yit knew I neuer thi make. 1509 Barclay *Shyp of Folys* (1874) II. 235 Lo yonder same is he Whiche without make thynketh hym wyse to be. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 45 Elgin, quhair is sa noble and notable a kirke in beutie and decore that with vs it hes na make. *c* 1620 Mure *Sonn.* i, Admir'd, but maik, euin in a thowsand thingis. 1717 Ramsay *Elegy on Lucky Wood* ix, She has na left her mak behind her. 1724 — *Tea-t. Misc.* (1733) I. 28 Your Tocher it sall be good There's nane sall hae it's maik. 1893 *Northumbld. Gloss., Make*, an equal, one that is matched or mated with another.

†**b.** *The make* : the like. *Sc. Obs.*

1535 Stewart *Cron. Scot.* III. 436 Traist weill..sen God can do the maik Onto 3our self. 1539 *Extracts Aberd. Reg.* (1844) I. 160 Gif euer scho dois the maik in tyme cumyng. 1560 Rolland *Crt. Venus* II. 896 In mappamond the maik is not perchance.

2. An image. *rare.*

α. *c* 1205 Lay. 18206 Þe king lette wurchen tweien imaken [*c* 1275 ymages], tweien gulden draken.

β. 1890 J. Service *Thir Notandums* xiv. 101 They made wee maiks oot o' clay..of them that had thortered them.

3. A mate, companion. (*occas.* applied to the opponent with whom a fighter is matched.)

α. *a* 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 221 Uton wircan him ȝemace him to fultume and to froure.

β. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 114 Ne beo þu nout Gius fere ne Gius make uorte birlen him so. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Knt.'s T.* 1698 And if so be the chieftayn be take On outher syde or elles sleen his make. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 5430 A turne þai turnay to-gedire, Ilkane mellis with his make & so þare many dies. 1598 Florio, *Sótio*, a companion, a fellow, a make. 1721 Ramsay *Answ. Burchet* 18 When honour'd Burchet and his maikes are pleas'd .. With my corn-pipe. 1886 *Cheshire Gloss., Make*, a mate or companion.

4. Of animals, esp. birds: A mate (male or female).

α. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Gen.* vi. 19 And of eallum nytenum ealles flæsces twezen ȝemacan þu latst in to þam arce. *a* 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 225 Ic ȝegaderi .. of fugel cynne simle ȝemacan þat hi eft to fostre bien.

β. *c* 1200 Ormin 1276 Fra þatt hire make iss dæd Ne kepeþþ ȝho [þe turtle] nan oþerr. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 45 That was in the Monthe of Mai, Whan every bird hath chose his make. *c* 1430 Lydg. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 153 Nyghtyngales al nyght syngen and wake, For long absence .. of his make. 1542–5 Brinklow *Lament.* (1874) 117 The vypar .. destroyeth her make or male in the concepcyon. 1579 Lyly *Euphues* (Arb.) 97 The Wolfe chooseth him for hir make that hath or doth endure most travayll for hir sake. 1611 Cotgr. s.v. *Muge*, The female Mullet will rather be caught by fishermen then abandon her Make.

5. Of human beings: A mate, consort; a husband or wife, lover or mistress.

a 1240 *Lofsong* in *Cott. Hom.* 209 Iesu .. of þe eadie meiden iboren Maria þet is meiden and bute make moder. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1159 Oþer þat wif leost hire make. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 4668 Þe king him did a wijf to tak, Hight assener, a doghti mak. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Compl. Mars* 154 God yif every wyghte joy of his make! *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 2086 Wolde he be my worldly make & wedde me to wyue. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* i. 187 A rib I from the take, therof shall be maide thi make. *a* 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* I. (1590) 4 b, Like a widdow hauing lost her make. 1596 Spenser *F. Q.* IV. ii. 30 And each not farre behinde him had his make, To weete, two ladies of most goodly hew. 1626 B. Jonson *Masque of Owls*, Where their Maides, and their Makes, At dancings, and Wakes, Had their Napkins and poses. 1725 Ramsay *Gentle Sheph.* I. ii, Whensoe'er they [*sc.* men] slight their maiks at hame. 1890 *Glouc. Gloss., Make*, mate, companion, lover. 1893 *Northumbld. Gloss., Maik, make*, .. a companion, consort, mate.

Make (mēk), *sb.*2 Also (*Sc.* and *north.*) 4–9 mak, 6 mayck, 7–9 mack, 9 maik. [f. Make *v.*1]

†**I.** Doing, action; *esp.* (*Sc.*) manner, style (of action, behaviour, speech). *Obs.*

a 1300–1400 *Cursor M.* 18788 (Göt.) His kin ne will he noght forsake, Bot it be thou vr auen make [*Cott.* sake]. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* iii. (*Andreas*) 790 Quhen scho saw þe haly man one þat mak de. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* x. 554 To rewll the ost on a gud mak. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* xiii. 1 Ane morlandis man of vplandis mak. 1535 Stewart *Cron. Scot.* I. 614 Commanding him opone the samin mak [etc.].

2. The manner in which a thing is made. **a.** Of a product of art or manufacture: Style of construction, kind of composition.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* ix. (*Bertholomeus*) 224 Bundyne with chenȝeis of fule mak. 1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 204 He let tuo cofres make Of o semblance and of o make. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 3218 [He] was on þe make of þat mote noȝt mervalled a litill. *a* 1500 Meowall *Nature* 1065 (Brandl) A doublet of the new make. 1699 L. Wafer *Voy.* (1729) 306 The other houses and churches are pretty handsome after the Spanish make. 1710 Hearne *Collect.* 7 May (O. H. S.) II. 387 The make of the Letters .. appear not .. ancient. 1760 Brown *Compl. Farmer* II. 8 This depends much upon the make of the plough. 1833 Ht. Martineau *Brooke Farm* viii. 104 The caps and bonnets were of quite a new make. 1854 W. Collins *Hide & Seek* III. 186 After suggesting that the candle might have gone out through some defect in the make of it. 1868 Joynson *Metals* 32 A great variety of what are technically called 'makes' of iron are produced in a wide range of degrees of hardness. 1889 *Anthony's Photogr. Bull.* II. 80 Use a slow make of bromide paper.

b. Of a natural object: Form or composition, structure, constitution. Often of the body: 'Build'.

14.. *How Good Wife taught Dau.* 126 in *Barbour's Bruce*, etc. (1870) 529 Flawm nocht na fluriss that vill fade, To mend the mak that god has made. *a* 1600 Montgomerie *Misc. Poems* li. 37 Gif she had bene into the dayis auld, Quhen Jupiter the schap of bull did tak.. Sum greater mayck, I wait, he had gart mak, Hir to haue stollin be his slichtis quent. 1665 Boyle *Occas. Refl.* Disc. (1848) 64 The Leaves .. of a Tree, .. are of a more solid Texture .. than the Blossoms, which seem to be of a slighter make. 1697 Dampier *Voy.* (1729) I. 537 Their Faces are of a flat oval Figure, of the Negro make. 1719 *Freethinker* No. 148 P 2 A Greek virgin, of exquisite Make and Feature. 1742 Young *Nt. Th.* IX. 868–9 Nature .. gave A Make to Man directive of his Thought; A Make set upright. 1751 D. Jefferies *Treat. Diamonds* (ed. 2) 23 A right knowledge of the true make of Diamonds. 1792 Burns *Lady Mary Ann* iv, Young Charlie Cochran was the sprout of an aik, Bonie, and bloomin' and straught was its make. 1812 Byron *Juan* v. xi, He had an English look; that is, was square In make, of a complexion white and ruddy. 1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) III. 32 The apparently isolated molecules found in the make of the polype and various worms. 1832 Ht. Martineau *Life in Wilds* iv. 46 Look at his delicate hands and slight make. 1886 Ruskin *Præterita* I. 291 The Jura rock, balanced in the make of it between chalk and marble. 1894 Mrs. H. Ward *Marcella* II. 301 A huge man, with the make and muscles of a prize-fighter.

c. Of immaterial things: Form, fashion; hence, sort, character, nature (passing into 4).

1660 COWLEY *Ode Restoration* xiv, All the Weapons malice e'r could try, Of all the sev'ral makes of wicked Policy. 1673 *Lady's Call.* I. iv. § 9 Mutual visits..should flow from a real kindness, but if those now in use be sifted, how few will be found of that make? 1679 J. GOODMAN *Penit. Pard.* I. i. (1713) 15 The make and fabrick of a Parable. 1857 BUCKLE *Civilis.* I. vii. 397 A corresponding change, in the very form and make of our literature. 1890 *Harper's Mag.* Mar. 524/2, I did not know just the make and manner of his trouble.

†d. *All of a make, of one make*: of the same character throughout. *Obs.*

1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* 72 There being nothing in the Tube to hinder, Why should not the man fall further, the air of the Well being all of a make? 1682 GREW *Exp. Luctation* Introd., The Experiments may seem too numerous to be of one make. 1684 N. S. *Crit. Enq. Edit. Bible* xxvii. 241 St. Jerom's Translation .. is not all of a make, but hath some little mixture of the Ancient or Italian.

3. Mental or moral constitution, disposition, or character.

1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* To Rdr., Deeming there were more in the World of my make. 1676 TOWERSON *Decalogue* 89 A gesture .. us'd even by good men towards those of the same make with themselves. 1713 STEELE *Guard.* No. 13 ¶ 4 Mr. William, the next brother, is not of this smooth make. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* IV. 153, I, who, as to my will, and impatience, and so forth, am of the true lady-make! 1765 LD. HOLLAND *Let.* 19 July in Jesse *G. Selwyn* (1843) I. 387 You are not of a make to be a confidant there. 1806-7 J. BERESFORD *Miseries Hum. Life* (1826) I. x, You are happily of a hardy and contentious make. 1877 RUSKIN *Fors Clav.* vii. 106 Giotto was, in the make of him, and contents, a very much stronger .. man than Titian.

4. Kind, sort, species. *dial.*

1740 J. COLLIER (Tim Bobbin) *View Lanc. Dial.* Wks. (1862) 62 I'r freetn't aw macks o weys. 1785 *Span. Rivals* 8 Why, mun, he's of all macks of sorts. 1788 W. MARSHALL *Yorksh.* II. 341 Gloss., *Mack*, sort, species; as, what mack of corn, or stock? 1829 BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Macks*, sorts, fashions—makes. 'A little o' a' macks'.

5. The action or process of making or manufacture. Now *rare* exc. *techn.*

1743 J. MORRIS *Serm.* ii. 38 He created the vast universe, that he might impart such degrees of happiness and perfection to the several orders of beings, as are suitable to the end of their make. 1805 W. TAYLOR in *Ann. Rev.* III. 47 It appears that the make of linen began in Spain. — in *Monthly Mag.* XX. 147 One of your correspondents inquired concerning the make of marbled soap. 1879 BROWNING *Ned Bratts* 132 He taught himself the make Of laces, tagged and tough. 1890 JACOBI *Printing* xxxi. 250 Papers .. torn or broken in the 'make'—as the manufacture is technically termed.

b. Qualified by an adj. or possessive denoting the source of manufacture or the manufacturer, often with mixture of sense 2 a implying the style or quality associated with such an origin.

1873 *Athenæum* 19 Apr. 508/3 A cast-iron chain of the old Sussex make. 1884 *Times* (weekly ed.) 29 Feb. 5/7 A pocket .. of American make. *Mod.* Are these shoes your own make?

6. Amount manufactured; quantity produced.

1865 *Pall Mall G.* 27 June 5 The make of puddled iron has been materially reduced at many of the works. 1884 W. H. GREENWOOD *Steel & Iron* viii. 174 The economy in fuel and increased make per furnace, effected by the introduction of the hot blast. 1886 *Times* 20 Aug. 11/2 The make of pig iron in the United Kingdom over the first six months of the year shows a decrease of 270,321 tons.

7. *slang.* 'A successful theft or swindle' (*Slang Dict.* 1860). Cf. MAKE *v.*[1] 29 b.

8. *On the make*: intent on profit or advancement. *slang.* (orig. *U. S.*)

1890 *Pall Mall G.* 6 Sept. 2/1 Suppose..that I am a man, as our American cousins say, 'on the make'—suppose that I have parliamentary ambitions. 1893 *Nation* (N. Y.) 9 Mar. 172/2 The men who wanted offices rather than the triumph of great principles, those who were 'on the make' in politics. 1898 HENLEY *Lond. Types, Bus-driver*, Being stony broke, Lives lustily; is ever on the make.

9. *Electr.* The action of making contact in an electric circuit; the position in which contact is made (in phr. *at make*).

1875 F. GUTHRIE *Magn. & Electr.* § 235 The automatic make and break. 1892 *Gloss. Electrical Terms* in *Lightning* 7 Jan. (Suppl.), *Make* and *Break*. .. The words are sometimes used as substantives denoting the action of making or breaking contact thus 'at make', 'at break'. 1898 *Engin. Mag.* XVI. 120/2 The interruptions corresponding to the make and break of a telegraph key.

Make, *sb.*[3] *slang* and *dial.* Also 6 meke, 9 *Sc.* maik, maick. [Cf. MAG *sb.*[3]] A halfpenny.

a 1547 *Hye Way to Spyttel-ho.* in Hazlitt *E. P. P.* IV. 69 Docked the dell for a coper meke. 1567 HARMAN *Caveat* G iij, A make, a halfepenny. 1618 B. HOLYDAY *Technogamia* II. vi, Good Sir, if you be a *Gentry cone*, vouchsafe some small *Win* or but a *Make*, for wee haue neither *Lowre*, nor *Libbeg*, nor *Libkin*. 1826 SCOTT *Woodst.* xxxvi, I take it; for a make to a million. 1852 in Beveridge *Poets Clackmannan.* (1885) 66 That was ca'd threepence, twa maiks frae a groat. 1880 JAMIESON, *Maik*, ..still a cant term in the West of S., especially among boys when bargain-making.

Make (mēk), *v.*[1] Pa. t. and pa. pple. made (mēd). Forms: *Inf.* α. 1 macian, (1 macan, 2 macen, macie), 2-3makian, -ie(n, 3-4maky(3)e, -ije, maki, (*imper.* mac), 3-5 maken (*Ormin* makenn), 4-6 (9 *dial.*) mak, (5 makyn, also 9 *dial.* mnak), 5-6 mack, (6 *Sc.* maik(e, mek), 3- make. β. 4-6 ma, (4 man), 9 *dial.* maa, may. *Pres. ind. 2nd and 3rd sing.*; and *pl.* (contracted northern forms) 4-5 mas(s, mays(s, maiss, 4-6 mais, (5 mase, mace, maise). *Past. ind.* α. 1-2 macode, 2-3 makede, (2 mac(h)ede, 3 makode), 2-5 maket, 3-5 (7) maked, (4 makked). β. 3- made; also 3 maude, 4-5 mad, maad(e, 4-6 *Sc.* maid, (3 mede, 4 madde, 6 mayd). *Pa. pple.* α. 1 ȝemacod, 2-3 imaked(e, (2 ȝemaked, imacad, 3 imaket), 3-5 ymaked, (4 -yd, imake); 2 makiet, 3 *Ormin* makedd, 3-5 maked, (4 maket, *strong* makyn), 4-5 makid. β. 3-4 imad, ymad, 4-5 ymaad, 4-5 (7) ymade; 3-5 mad, 4-5 maad, 4-6 *Sc.* maid, (5 madde, 6 *Sc.* maed, maide), 4- made. [Com. WGer.: OE. *macian* = OFris. *makia*, OS. *macon* (LG., Du. *maken*), OHG. *mahhôn* (MHG., mod.G. *machen*), app. f. **mako-* fit, suitable (see MAKE *sb.*[1]). On this view the primary sense would be 'to fit, arrange'; but in the earliest known stages of the WGer. tongues the verb corresponded generally to the L. *facere* in such of its senses as were not expressed by Do. The MSw. *maka* to make, construct (mod.Sw. *make* to move), Da. *mage* to manage, arrange, appear to have been adopted from LG.

Many senses which later Eng. shares with continental Teut. are not recorded in OE., or not until near the end of that period; possibly the vb. originally had some of these meanings, but was displaced in the literary dialect by synonyms. Materials are wanting for a genealogical arrangement of the senses; the order of the main branches in the following scheme has been adopted on grounds of convenience. The word is not very frequent in OE.; the most prominent uses are in causative and factitive applications (see 48, 49, 52) and in the phrase *hit macian* 'to make it'= to act, behave (see 68).]

I. Senses in which the object of the verb is a product or result.

*To bring into existence by construction or elaboration. (Not common until late in OE.; the L. *facere* is usually rendered by *gewyrcan*.)

1. *trans.* To produce (a material thing) by combination of parts, or by giving a certain form to a portion of matter; to construct, frame, fashion.

Formerly common in various applications in which vbs. of more specific meaning are now almost universally employed; used, e.g. for to build or erect a house, town, column, ship, to paint a picture, to carve or sculpture a statue.

1056-66 *Inscr. Kirkdale Ch., Yks.*, He hit let macan newan from grvnde. *a* 1100 *Gerefa* in *Anglia* (1886) IX. 261 Fiscwer and mylne macian. *c* 1154 *OE. Chron.* an. 1137 In mani of þe castles wæron lof & grin .. þat was sua maced [etc.]. *c* 1205 LAY. 1937 Heo makeden tunes. *Ibid.* 27876 He .. lette makien beren riche and swiðe maren. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3541 Mac vs godes foren us to gon. *c* 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 2765 Þis forest wil y felle And castel wil y ma. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 336 He mad a corneu kyng. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XI. 368 Ane vax-cayme that beis mais. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. VI. 191 An heep of heremites..ketten here copes and courtpies hem made. 1382 WYCLIF *Ps.* ciii. [civ.] 17 There sparewis shul make nestis. *a* 1400-50 *Alexander* 2587 He..mas a brig ouire þe bourne of Barges with cheynes. 1432-50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) I. 163 Men off Phenicia .. made [L. *condiderunt*] the cites of Sidon and of Tyrus. 1470-85 MALORY *Arthur* Table (II. vii.), Kyng Marke .. maad a tombe ouer them. 1530 PALSGR. 617/1, I make bym a gowne, a house, a cappe, or suche lyke. *Ibid.* 621/2, I make cockes of haye. 1571 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xxviii. 99 To Magnifie my name I maid ane Stepill. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 208 The Franciscan Friars had made some Rooms there for the convenience of Pilgrims. 1686 AGLIONBY *Painting Illustr.* Explan. Terms s. v. *Antique*, All the Works of Painting, Sculpture, and Architecture that have been made in the Time of the Antient Greeks. 1751 R. PALTOCK *P. Wilkins* xlv. (1883) 132/2 One of the colambs being making a house to reside in. *a* 1774 GOLDSM. *Hist. Greece* I. 172 They caused a statue of Jupiter to be made at the general expence. 1774 — *Nat. Hist.* (1776) VIII. 41 As birds sometimes are seen to make their nests. 1849 *Chambers's Inform.* II. 719/2 The machine being..composed of the parts in ordinary use, only made circular. 1852 ROBERTSON *Serm.* Ser. III. xii. 147 The beaver makes its hole, the bee makes its cell. 1865 M. ARNOLD *Ess. Crit.* vi. 195 That dress, made full, as you've got it, suits you.

¶ An apparent sense 'to represent by graphic or plastic art' occasionally arises from the practice of applying the name of the thing portrayed to its representation.

a 1300-1400 *Cursor M.* 23216 (Gött.) Na mar..þan painted fire .. þat on wagh wit man war mad rigbt [*Cott.* þat apon awagh war wroght]. 1850 DICKENS *Dav. Copp.* xx, It was a startling likeness..The painter hadn't made the scar, but *I* made it. 1859 TENNYSON *Vivien* 329, I took his brush and blotted out the bird, And made a Gardener putting in a graff.

b. Const. *of, out of, with* (the material or component parts). See also 4.

13.. *Coer de L.* 2648 Torches maad with wex ful cleer. 1382 WYCLIF *Exod.* xxxii. 4 He..made of hem a ȝotun calf. 1633 P. FLETCHER *Poet. Misc.* 62 My little pipe of seven reeds ymade. *a* 1774 GOLDSM. *Surv. Exp. Philos.* (1776) II. 239 Burning instruments .. are usually made with glass. — tr. *Scarron's Com. Romance* (1775) I. 31 A..pair of breeches .. which he had given to this botcher, to make out of them a more fashionable suit. 1791 J. TOWNSEND *Journ. Spain* (1792) III. 118 Buskins .. which are made with the esparto rush. 1859 H. T. ELLIS *Hong Kong to Manilla* 148 An Indian can make almost anything out of bamboo.

c. *absol.* in phr. *make or mend.* Also, of a craftsman: To make the article which he produces *for* specified persons.

1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* (1864) II. 34/1 Those who make or mend, and who must make or mend so cheaply that the veriest vagrant may be their customer [etc.]. 1856 *Househ. Words* XIV. 420/2, I do not make, or mend, or mar. 1862 *Temple Bar* VI. 482 He makes for Count This and Prince That, and they never want their coats altered.

d. *slang. As good* (or *clever*, etc.) *as they make them*: as good (etc.) as possible.

1887. *Broadside Ball.* title (Farmer), As good as they make 'em. 1889 G. ALLEN *Tents of Shem* iii. I. 51, I like them—thorough ladies,..and as clever as they make them.

e. In various trades, applied *spec.* to some one of the operations constituting the process of manufacture.

1888 *Arts & Crafts Catal.* 82 The volume passes into the hands of the 'forwarder', who 'makes' the back. 1900 *Eng. Dial. Dict., Make*, to put the soles on boots or shoes.

2. With a substance as object: To produce by the combination of ingredients, by extraction from a source, or by the modification of some other substance by mechanical or chemical processes. Const. *from, out of* (the source or original substance), *of*, † *with* (the ingredients).

c 1200 ORMIN 1480 ȝiff þatt tu willt makenn laf, þu þresshesst tine shæfess. *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* 33 Hit greneð þe se swiðe þat tu wilt .. makien puisun. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Can. Yeom. Prol. & T.* 259 Cley maad with hors and mannes beer, and oille Of Tartre. *c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 14 A medicyn maad in con maner þat worchiþ dyuers effectis. 1471 RIPLEY *Comp. Alch.* Adm. viii. in Ashm. (1652) 191 Many Amalgame dyd I make. 1552 HULOET, Make mortar, *concinnare lutum*. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* I. xiv. 15 A small round fruite ..Of which the Inhabitants .. make oyle. 1611 BIBLE *Ecclus.* xlix. 1 The perfume yt is made by the arte of the Apothecarie. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* v. xii. 67 To make Red Powder. 1698 *Phil. Trans.* XX. 291 The way of making Pitch, Tarr, Rosin and Turpentine. 1710 HEARNE *Collect.* (O. H. S.) III. 30 Mr. William Stallenge..was the first Author of making silk in England. 1853 URE *Dict. Arts*, etc. II. 728 The patent plan of Mr. William Onions of making cast steel seems worthy of adoption.

b. *spec.* To produce (an article of food or drink) by culinary or other operations. *To make meat* (obs. exc. dial.): to prepare food.

Some of the examples placed here might appear to belong to branch II; but originally *meat* was taken to mean the food as prepared. (Similarly in *to make tea* or *coffee*.)

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gen.* xxvii. 9 Bring me twa þa betstan tyccenu, þæt ic macize mete þinum fæder þær of (Vulg. *ut faciam ex eis escas patri tuo*). 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 8339 Wo þat mi3te .. sepe & Make potage. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 3497 þe hus to kepe and ma þe mett. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 625 Þre mettez of mele menge & ma kakez. *c* 1440 in *Housch. Ord.* (1790) 461 As men maken ruschewes. 1463 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 32 In leeffull tyme to make her mete in the chymeny. *a* 1589 R. TOMSON in *Hakluyt's Voy.* 581 The bread they make there, is certaine cakes made of rootes. 1603 DEKKER & CHETTLE *Grissil* IV. ii. (Shaks. Soc.) 59 Grissil shall go make pap, and I'll lick the skillet. 1747 MRS. GLASSE *Cookery* (1767) 215 To make a boiled loaf. 1846 DICKENS *Cricket* I. 15 Only let me make the tea first, John. 1850 — *Dav. Copp.* xxiii, I then made her..a glass of hot white wine and water, and a slice of toast cut into long thin strips. 1886 BESANT *Children Gibeon* II. xix, The cloth was spread, and she was making the tea.

3. Said of God as Creator; with reference both to material and to spiritual objects. Also *occas.* of Nature, and in *passive* with the agent unspecified.

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 139 Sunnendai weren engles makede of godes muðe. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 222 He makeð þe fisses in þe sa þe fueles on þe lofte. *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* 45 Ich chulle halde me hal þurh þe grace of godd, as cunde me makede. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 478 Þre þousend & four score & þre ȝer Fram þat þe world was verst imad. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 345 He þat mad [*c* 1375 *Fairf.* maket] al thing o noght. 1382 WYCLIF *Gen.* i. 16 And God made two greet liȝt ȝyuerys. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* II. 146 God that made the world and alle thingis that ben in it. 1609 BIBLE (Douay) II. Index, Light, an accident made the first day. 1660 tr. *Amyraldus' Treat. conc. Relig.* II. vi. 241 Nature ha's not made us of Iron. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IX. 137. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* IV. 828 Truth, eldest Daughter of the Deity; Truth, of his Council, when he made the Worlds. 1852 MRS. STOWE *Uncle Tom's C.* xx. 205 'Do you know who made you?' 'Nobody, as I knows on,' said the child..'I spect I grow'd. Don't think nobody never made me.'

b. With compl. or advb. phrase denoting the form or condition of the creature, or the purpose or object of creation. Hence in *passive*, to be naturally fitted or destined (const. *for, to* with inf.).

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 79 þo þet weren imakede engles in hoñene, and fellen ut for hore wrechede. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 122 Of euerilc ou3t, of euerilc sed, Was erðe mad moder of sped. *a* 1300-1400 *Cursor M.* 12370 (Gött.) ȝe þat he has made to men,..And þat eftir his aunen ymage. 1382 WYCLIF *Mark* ii. 27 The Sabote is maad for man, and nat a man for the Sabote. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 121 Highe and lowe were made of oo nature. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* lix. 206 We be all made to dye. 1593 SHAKS. *2 Hen. VI*, v. i. 7 This hand was made to handle nought but Gold. 1607 — *Cor.* I. i. 211 They said .. that dogges must eate, That meate was made for mouths. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 259 The Calf, by Nature .. made To turn the Glebe. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 515 ¶ 6 Indeed, Gatty, we [*sc.* women] are made for Man. 1715 DE FOE *Fam. Instruct.* I. i. (1841) I. 13 Did God make me to serve him? 1732 POPE *Ess. Man* I. 39 Ask..why oaks are made Taller or stronger than the weeds they shade. 1784 BURNS (*title*) Man was made to mourn. 1822 COBBETT *Weekly Reg.* 30 Mar. 778 It is true enough, that God made all the women; but he did not make them all players. 1854 BREWSTER *More Worlds* xiii. 202 Man was not made for the planet

—but the planet was made for man. 1870 DICKENS *E. Drood* ii, She..said that she had become your pupil, and that you were made for your vocation.

c. *pass. To be* (*well*, etc.) *made*: said of the bodily frame.

a 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* 36 Heo hath .. Body ant brest wel mad al. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* I. 385 Bot off lymmys he wes weill maid. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 3921 Then come a heste .. Mad & merkid as a Meere. *c* 1402 LYDG. *Compl. Bl. Knt.* 163 Of brede and lengthe So wel y-mad by good proporcioun. 1483 CAXTON *G. de la Tour* (1868) 168 To seme to the folkes syght better maad and fayrer of body. 1886 ADEL. SERGEANT *No Saint* I. i. i. 3 His frame was broad and strongly made.

4. *To be made of*: to have been fashioned (whether by art or nature) out of (certain materials); to have as its material, constituents, or component parts; to consist or be composed of.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 145 Ane box ȝemaked of marbelstone. *c* 1290 *St. Michael* 666 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 318 Of þis foure elemenz ech quic þing I-make is. 1307 *Elegy Edw. I*, viii, The holy crois ymad of tre. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* I. pr. i. 2 (Camb. MS.) Hyr clothes weren maked of riht delye thredes. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) ii. 6 þe table..was made of olyue. 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* I. 8 An argument if he be ful and foormal, which is clepid a sillogisme, is mad of twey proposicioun̄s. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xxi. 46 Toungis now are maid of quhyte quhaill bone, And hairtis ar maid of hard flynt stone. 1530 PALSGR. 318/1 Made of cristall, *cristalin.* 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 255 b, I found Rome made but of bricke, and I will leaue it of marble. 1633 MASSINGER *Guardian* I. i, I am made of other clay. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* v. xii. 66 Cords made of Hemp. 1827 *Mirror* II. 164/1 Books aren't made of Stilton cheese. 1892 *Argosy* Oct. 312 The drums were made of metal.

†b. To be 'compact' of (certain qualities). *Obs.*

c 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* II. pr. iv. 27 (Camb. MS.) A man maked alle of sapyence and vertu. 1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* III. v. 33 She looke[s] vs like A thing more made of malice, then of duty.

5. To compose, write as the author (a book, poem, or other literary work, †a letter). Formerly often (now only as a rare archaism) with the title of a work as obj.; in mod. use chiefly in the phrase to *make verses* (*poetry*, etc.). Also said with reference to musical composition.

The mod. usage is difficult to reduce to rule. It is common to speak of 'making' a sonnet or an epigram; but it would sound odd to speak of 'making' a tragedy or a novel, except with some added phrase, as in 'Some one has made a tragedy on this subject'.

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 125 Ða songes..boð makede of þere heouenliche blisse þe us wes iopenad on þisse timan. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 71 On þe godspelle þe sein lucas makede. *c* 1205 LAY. 32 He nom þa Englisca boc þa makede seint Beda. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 87 Of hir to mak bath rim and sang. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* I. 33 Off thaim I thynk this buk to ma. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. v. 415 I haue leuere here an harlotrie..þan al þat euere Marke made, Mathew, John, & lucas. 1485 CAXTON in *Malory's Arthur* Pref. 2 Alle suche bookes as been maad of hym ben fayned and fables. 1508 DUNBAR *Poems* iv. 66 Clerk of Tranent..That maid the anteris of Gawane. 1530 PALSGR. 617/2, I make a booke, as a clerke dothe...Is your boke made yet? *Ibid.* 625/1, I wyll go make a letter. *Ibid.* 630/2, I make the dytie of a songe. 1612 BACON *Ess., Beauty* (Arb.) 210 As a Musitian that maketh an excellent aire in Musick. 1612 BRINSLEY *Lud. Lit.* xiv. (1627) 190 How to make Verses with delight and certainety. 1650 HOWELL *Giraffi's Rev. Naples* I. 127 Cavalier Cosmo Fonseca.. who us'd to make epitaphs. 1699 BENTLEY *Phal.* 211 *Philoctetes*, which was not made till sixscore years after Phalaris's death. 1787 J. RAMSAY in *Burns' Wks.* II. 117 He has made words to one or two of them [*sc.* tunes]. 1803 tr. *P. Le Brun's Mons. Botte* I. 6 Would you .. have me marry a woman that makes verses? 1819 CRABBE *T. of Hall* x, I penn'd some notes, and might a book have made, But I had no connection with the trade. 1889 D. HANNAY *Capt. Marryat* 100 Travellers who came to spy out the land, and make a book about it. 1894 W. MORRIS *Wood beyond World* colophon, Here ends the tale of the Wood beyond the World made by William Morris.

†b. *absol.* or *intr.* To compose verses; to write poetry; to rime. (Cf. MAKER 5.) *Obs.*

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XII. 22 To solacen hym sum tyme as I do whan I make. *c* 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* Prol. 69 Ye lovers that can make of sentement. *c* 1392 — *Compl. Venus* 82 Graunson, flour of hem that make in Fraunce. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* lxxviii. 2 My heid did ȝak ȝesternicht, This day to mak that I na micht. 1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* Apr. 19 And hath he skill to make so excellent? 1612 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* iv. 59 Those who scarce have seene a booke Most skilfully will make. 1622 WITHER *Mistr. Philar.* Postscr. N 8, I make to please my selfe, and not for them. 1864 DASENT *Jest & Earnest* (1873) II. 303 Thou art a good skald..if thou canst 'make' no worse than Glum.

†c. *To make Latin* or *Latins*: to write Latin composition. *Obs.*

c 1500, *a* 1568, 1607 [see LATIN *sb.* 4]. 1612 BRINSLEY *Pos. Parts* (1669) 130 Directions to make Latine. 1675 E. COLES (*title*) Nolens volens, or you shall make Latin whether you will or no.

d. To draw up (a legal document).

1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. II. 58 Now Simonye and Siuyle stondeþ forþ boþe, Vn-Foldyng þe Feffement þat Falsnes made. 1476 *Surtees Misc.* (1890) 35 Made in the yere of our Lorde millesimo cccclxxvj. 1484 CAXTON *Fables of Poge* vi, Whanne he was .. at the poynt of dethe he wold make his testament. 15 .. *Doun by ane Rever as I red* 71 in *Dunbar's Poems* 307 Quhill Deid he hint him be the back, .. And lute him nocht his testment mack. 1519 *Rec. All-hallows' Barking* in Rimbault *Hist. Organ* 56 This endenture made the yere of our lorde god m¹ v^c xix. 1658–9 *Burton's Diary* (1828) IV. 45 Put the case, that none but servants be at making their master's will. 1697 G. DALLAS *Syst. Stiles* 1 The foresaid Clause made anent payment of Annual rents. *Ibid.* 7 [A] Writ made by way of Contract. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVIII. 395/1 If he recovers, he may alter his dispositions, and have time to make a written will. 1823 GREVILLE *Mem.* (1875) I. 64 In 1810 the King made another will, but..he always put off signing it. 1903 *Spectator* 31 Oct. 704/2 Daulac..and his companions made their wills, confessed, and received the sacrament.

6. To put together materials for (a fire) and set them alight.

c 1205 LAY. 1186 He makede bi þon weofede a swiðe wunsum fur. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* IV. 561 Luk on na viss the fyre he ma. 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus* s.v. *Facere*, *Bustum*, to make a funeral fyer. ?*c* 1558 [see FIRE *sb.* 3]. 1603 DEKKER & CHETTLE *Grissil* I. i. (Shaks. Soc.) 15 Master, I have made a good fire. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 225 They made great Fires all along the Coast. 1844 E. WARBURTON *Cresc. & Cross* II. 101, I .. ordered the other [Arab] to make a fire instantly.

7. To set apart and prepare the site for (a garden, park, road, etc.).

1382 WYCLIF *Amos* ix. 14 Thei shuln make gardyns. 1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Road*, Artificial Road is that made by labour of the hand, either of earth or masonry. 1804 CHARLOTTE SMITH *Conversations*, etc. I. 93 We had made gardens of our own. 1818 *Order* in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) I. 573 The making a walk from the New Bridge along the new Plantation. 1866 M. ARNOLD *Thyrsis* i, How changed is here each spot man makes or fills!

** In wider sense: To cause to exist, to produce.

8. To cause the existence of (a material thing or a physical phenomenon) by some action; to inflict (a wound); to produce (a hole, a mark, a sound, etc.). So *to make melody*, *minstrelsy*; *to make a noise*, etc.: see the sbs.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 33 þe wundes þat hie on him makeden. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 17288+101 þe eithe quoke & made sown. *c* 1420 *Anturs of Arth.* 125 (Douce MS.) þe grisly goost made a gryme here. 1530 PALSGR. 617/2 The droppes of water with ofte fallynge make the hole in a marbyll stone. *Ibid.*, What a cherme these byrdes make. 1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* II. xl[i]. (Arb.) 103 Make me.. so many strokes or lines with your pen as ye would haue your song containe verses. 1601 SHAKS. *Jul. C.* I. i. 49 Haue you not made an Vniuersall shout? 1680 COTTON *Compl. Gamester* x. (ed. 2) 85 Although the best of other eyes shall not discern where any mark was made. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 111 Great claps of Thunder, which .. made with the beating of the waves, a fearful noise. 1820 J. GIFFORD *Compl. Eng. Lawyer* II. xiii. 219 If any person shall make a hole in such ship. 1842 TENNYSON *Morte d'Arthur* 137 The great brand Made lightnings in the splendour of the moon. 1886 *Pall Mall G.* 15 July 6/1 To make his cross upon the ballot paper.

†b. *impers.* with reference to weather. [Cf. F. *il fait chaud, il fait obscur.*] *Obs. rare.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 11658 Gret hete in wildernes it made. 1654 WHITELOCKE *Sweed. Ambassy* (1772) I. 165 Vett made it darke before they were from table.

9. To produce by action, bring about (a condition of things, a state of feeling).

For *to make ado*, †*a coil*, (*a*) *commotion*, *fun*, *a fuss*, *game*, *an impression*, † *a matter*, *a pother*, *a row*, *a sensation*, *sport*, *a stir*: see the sbs.

c 1122 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1052 (MS. E.) Hi macodon mæst þet unseht betweonan Godwine eorle & þam cynge. 1352 MINOT *Poems* viii. 34 þe Franche men..mase grete dray when þai er dight. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Sqr.'s T.* 210 It is rather lyk An apparence y-maad by som Magyk. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 4213 Lamydon..was fader to the freike that offens mas. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* Prol. 3 Tho blamers..han therbi maad ful miche indignacioun. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilȝear* 172 Mak na mair stryfe. 1530 PALSGR. 619/1, I make a revell, I make a do. 1573 BARET *Alv.* M 48 To make strife and debate, *concire vel concitare lites*. 1611 COTGR., *Faire le Diable de vauvert*, .. to make a hurlyburly. 1650 BAXTER *Saints' R.* IV. (1651) 36 The sufferings which we do make our selves, have usually issues answerable to their causes. 1813 BYRON *Br. Abydos* II. xx, He makes a solitude, and calls it—peace! 1897 A. D. INNES *Macaulay's Ess. Clive* (Pitt Press) 128 Buying up all the rice—in the trade-jargon of to-day 'making a corner'.

†b. Const. dat. of the person or with *to*, *unto*: To cause (something) to happen to or fall to the lot of (a person); to cause (a person) to experience (something); to bring into a person's possession or power. *Obs.*

a 1000 *Cædmon's Gen.* 755 (Gr.) Eac is hearm gode modsorȝ ȝemacod. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Judg.* xvi. 25 þa bædon hiȝ sume þæt Samson moste him macian sum gamen. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 3939 Syf þou make one so hard stresse þat hys godnesse wexe þe lesse. *a* 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* 31 Al wrong y wrohte for a wyf, that made us wo in world ful wyde. *c* 1375, *c* 1386 [see GAME *sb.* 1]. *a* 1400 *Cursor M.* 28630 (Cott. Galba) Two maners of mending makes men mede. 1483 CAXTON *G. de la Tour* F vij, This quene..made unto the peple grete dyuersytees. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. viii. 34 He..Then..from his arme did reach Those keyes, and made himselfe free enterance. 1610 B. JONSON *Alch.* III. ii, Euen the med'cinall vse shall make you a faction, And party in the realme. 1629 R. HILL *Pathw. Piety* I. 184 If we have made them any offence. 1690 LOCKE *Govt.* II. v. § 39 Labour could make Men distinct titles to several parcels of it [*sc.* the World]. 1725 RAMSAY *Gentle Sheph.* II. iii, The last wind made Glaud a roofless barn.

c. *To make peace*, †*grith*, †*sib*: (*a*) to bring about a condition of peace; (*b*) to conclude a treaty of peace.

c 1122 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1086 (MS. E.) Betwyx oðrum þingum nis na to forgytane þæt gode frið þe he macode on þisan lande. *c* 1154 *Ibid.* an. 1140 P 11 He dide god iustise & makede pais. *a* 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 243 Wið wam we ne muȝe grið ne sibbe macie. *a* 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* 100 Jesu Crist, thou be mi bote, so boun icham to make my pees. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 12 To make pes betwen the kynges After the lawe of charite. *c* 1410 HOCCLEVE *Mother of God* 78 By thee, lady, y-makid is the pees Betwixt Angels and men. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. iii. 9 So happy peace they made and faire accord. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* III. xl. 253 The Supreme Power of making War and Peace, was in the Priest. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* vii. II. 224 He now made his peace, and went as far in servility as he had ever done in faction. 1863 H. COX *Institt.* III. ii. 596 The sole prerogative of the Crown of making peace and war.

d. *To make place*, *room*, *way*: see the sbs.

¶ e. In the 14–15th c. the passive often renders L. *fieri* 'to begin to exist', 'to take place', or (after Hellenistic Gr. γίγνεσθαι) 'to be'. Cf. 48 f, 49 e.

1382 WYCLIF *Luke* iii. 3 The word of the Lord is maad on John. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) v. 40 That gret Babyloyne, where the Dyversite of Langages was first made.

10. To give rise to; to have as a result or consequence; to be the cause of. Very common in proverbs. Also in phrases *to make a difference*, †*a wonder*. *To make work*: to occasion the necessity for work to be done; to give trouble.

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 103 *Auaricia*..heo macað reatlac..and lesunge. *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* 17 Eise makeð þeof. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* II. 330 God may rycht weill our werdis dele; For multitud maiss na victory. 1533 ELYOT *Cast. Helthe* (1539) 54 The meate that shall make syckenesse, muste nat a lyttell excede the exquisite measure. 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus* s. v. *Facere*, Vse maketh a custome. 1573 BARET *Alv.* M 49 Old age maketh wrinckles. 1597 BACON *Coulers Good & Evill* (Arb.) 154 The second blow makes the fray, The second word makes the bargaine. 1630 B. JONSON *New Inn* I. (*init.*) A heavy purse makes a light heart. 1655 WOOD *Life* 12 Oct. (O.H.S.) I. 199 It made a great wonder, that a maid should be in love with such a person as he. 1662 GERBIER *Principles* 14 Too many Staires and back-Doores makes Thieves and Whores. 1668 R. STEELE *Husbandman's Calling* vi. (1672) 176 Except infants that make work, he will have all the rest do some work or other. 1738 SWIFT *Pol. Conversat.* 39 One Fool makes many. 1759 BROWN *Compl. Farmer* 91 Dry weather makes plenty of honey. 1791 *Gentl. Mag.* 22/2 It makes very little difference, with which of the acids the ether is composed. 1834 *Brit. Husb.* I. 56 (U.K.S.) A very common opinion among farmers, that 'high rents make good farmers'.

†b. With *it* as obj.: To be the cause of the fact stated or supposed. *Obs.*

c 1375 *Cursor M.* 18788 (Fairf.) His kin ne wille he nost forsake bot if þai hit ham-seluen make [*Cott.* bot it be thoru þair aun sake]. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. x. 55 In Monnes Brayn ..he [*sc.* Inwit] is Bremest, But ȝif blod hit make. 1377 *Ibid.* B. v. 420, I nam nouȝte shryuen some tyme but if sekenesse it make. 1393 *Ibid.* C. xi. 157 Man is..semblable in soule to god bote yf synne hit make. *Ibid.* XXI. 326.

11. *Gram.* Of a word: To 'form' (a certain case, tense, etc.) in a specified manner; to change into (a specified form) when inflected. [After L. *facere*.]

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gram.* viii. (Z.) 21 Seo forme declinatio.. macað hire genitivum on *ae*. 1886 T. LE M. DOUSE *Introd. Gothic* 167 *Wahsja*..makes in the present 2 p[erson] s[ingular] *wahseis*.

12. To establish (a rule, ordinance); to enact (a law); to impose (a rate); †to found, institute (a religious order, etc.).

c 1124 *O. E. Chron.*, an. 963 (Laud MS.) He macode þær twa abbotrice, an of muneca oðer of nunna. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 6 Þeos riwle is imaked nout of monnes fundeleas, nuh is of godes hestes. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 31 Gode lawes He dede maken, an ful wel holden. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 11189 Ouer al þe werld he mad statut. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 2 Here ordris maad of synful men. 1423 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 257/2 To graunte, ordeyne, and mak by estatut. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 275 [They] made a lawe that [etc.]. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 517 Certeine ordinaunces, made by the Maior and Aldermen of London. 1765 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* I. ii. 142 In all tyrannical governments.. the right of both making and enforcing the laws, is vested in one and the same man. 1845 STEPHEN *Comm. Laws Eng.* II. 356 Poor rates made in respect of the premises. 1875 STUBBS *Const. Hist.* (1896) II. xvii. 614 The theory that the laws were made or enacted by the king with the consent of the lords and at the petition of the commons. 1898 *Encycl. Laws Eng.* VIII. 70 A receiving order is 'made' on the day it is pronounced, not when it is drawn up.

†b. To arrange, fix the time and place for (a match); to institute (games). *Obs.*

a 1568 ASCHAM *Scholem.* II. (Arb.) 125 The games running, wrestling, and shoting, that Achilles maketh in Homer, with the selfe same games that Æneas maketh in Virgil. 1676 LADY CHAWORTH in *12th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 32 They have made four matches to be run at Newmarket. 1703 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3905/4 There is a Cock-Match made between the Counties of Surrey and Sussex. 1752 AINSWORTH *Lat. Eng. Dict.* s.v., To make a match for fighting, *Certamen instituere*.

13. Uses arising from ellipsis of obj. in the factitive senses (branch III). a. To create by election, appointment, or ordination; to appoint (an officer), ordain (a priest, etc.).

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 58 Voure kinges hii made þo in þis kinedom. 1340 *Ayenb.* 42 Dingnetes þet me makeþ be chyezinge. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* 145 The Method of makeing a Nunn. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 3441 þe prouynce pist is in pes & princes ere maked. 1422 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 176 Such officers, and all othre, be maad by advys. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xiv. 46 Sa mony jugeis and lordis now maid of lait. 1552a *Bk. Com. Prayer* Ordination, The fourme and maner of makynge and consecratynge, Bishoppes, Priestes, and Deacons. 1585 *Act* 27 *Eliz.* c. 2 § 1 Priestes, which have bene..made..beyonde the Seas, by or according to the Order..of the Romishe Church. 1641 BAKER *Chron.* (1660) 148 He [Rich. II] then made nine Knights, and created four Earls. 1762 GOLDSM. *Cit. W.* lxxiv, When the Tartars make a Lama, their first care is to place him in a dark corner of the temple. 1810 WELLINGTON *Let. to Lt. Col.*

Torrens in Gurw. *Desp.* (1838) VI. 326, I .. have not the power of making even a Corporal.

b. *Naut.* To promote in rank: occas. *into* a particular ship.

1795 Nelson 26 Dec. in Nicolas *Disp.* (1845) II. 123 My late First-Lieutenant is now a Captain, made by the Admiralty, for the services of the Agamemnon. 1798 Jane Austen *Lett.* (1884) I. 190 Frank is made. He was yesterday raised to the rank of Commander. *a* 1817 — *Persuas.* I. 256 When he came home from the Cape,—just made into the Grappler. 1833 Marryat *P. Simple* xxxviii, I had now served my time as midshipman, ..and I thought that I had a better chance of being made in England than abroad. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk., Made*, a professional term for having obtained a commission, or being promoted.

c. *gen.* To cause a person or persons to become (what is specified by the object).

To make friends is first recorded in idiomatic phrases (see Friend *sb.* 6 b) in which the (presumably) original force of the verb is obscured.

1594 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* III. i. § 9 If they be no Christians, how make they Christians [by baptism]? 1597 Shaks. 2 *Hen. IV*, I. i. 214 Get Posts, and Letters, and make Friends with speed. 1610 B. Jonson *Alch.* III. ii, There you haue made a friend. 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 47 ¶ 7 For these Ten Years successively he has not made less than an Hundred April Fools. 1720 Ozell *Vertot's Rom. Rep.* I. VI. 343 [He] made a great Number of Prisoners. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* vi. II. 97 He..tried..to make as few enemies as possible. 1859–60 J. H. Newman *Hist. Sk.* (1873) III. II. ii. 237 He was..a man to make both friends and enemies.

†d. To translate, 'render'. *Obs.* (Cf. *make English*, 48.)

1529 More *Dyalogue* III. Wks. 233/2 The clergie hath not forboden the byble to bee made and readde in englishe. 1612 Brinsley *Pos. Parts* (1669) 130 This word *of*, coming after a verb, is made by a Preposition.

e. To fix (a price). Now only *Comm.*

1567 *Gude & Godlie Ball.*, '*The Wind blawis cauld*', The theif Judas did greit trespas, That Christ for siluer sauld: Bot Preistis will tak, and his price mak, For les be mony fauld. 1752 Ainsworth *Eng.-Lat. Dict.* s. v., To make a price, *Pretium alicui rei facere vel indicere.* 1895 A. J. Wilson *Gloss. Terms Stock Exch., To make a Price.* A dealer is said to 'make a price' when he states the price at which he is prepared to buy and the one at which he is ready to sell a particular security.

14. To prepare or provide (a meal, feast) for guests; to give (a dinner, etc.). *Obs.* exc. *arch.*

c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xxii. 2 Heofona rice ys ȝelic ȝewurden þam cyninge þe macude hys suna gyfata [*qui fecit nuptias filio suo*]. *c* 1205 Lay. 14425 Þe king makede ueorme, swiðe store [*c* 1275 feste]. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* III. 416 In his two feestis þat he maked by myracle, he fed þo puple. 1382 — *Luke* xiv. 12 Whanne thou makist a mete, ether souper. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 831 Þou mas þe slike a mangery & macchis changis. 1483 Caxton *G. de la Tour* G viij b, She made grete dyners to the poure peple. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VIII* 21 So he made them a banket and thei departed. 1682, 1814 [see Feast *sb.* 3]. 1762 Goldsm. *Nash* Wks. (Globe) 525/1 People of fashion make public breakfasts at the assembly-houses, to which they invite their acquaintances. 1867 M. Arnold *Obermann once more*, He made a feast, drank fierce and fast, And crown'd his hair with flowers.

15. To form by collection of individuals.

†a. To get together (a party, a force); to muster or raise (troops). Also *to make a head*: see Head *sb.* 52 b. *Obs.*

13.. *Coer de L.* 1251 The kyng comaundyd .. At London to make a parlement. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 111 At Oxenforde he made a parlement. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 2210 Alexander..all a-boute þe cite, Makis foure thousand with flanes & bowis. *c* 1420 Lydg. *Assembly of Gods* 1055 He seyde pleynly he Vertu wold forsake, And in Vyce hys quarell all hys power make. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* xxi. xxii. 839 Wherfore Syr Mordred made a parlemente and called the lordes togyder. 1523 Ld. Berners *Froiss.* I. xxviii. 42 These lordes be thei that may make moost men of warre in short space of any that I know. 1594 Shaks. *Rich. III*, IV. iv. 449 The greatest strength and power that he can make. 1607 — *Cor.* v. i. 37. 1617 Moryson *Itin.* III. 266 The Sweitzers can make six score thousand foote for the defence of their owne Country. 1647 Cotterell tr. *Davila's Hist. Fr.* I. 50 The Duke of Guise sent forth Jaques d'Aubon..and James Savoy..with all the horse they could make. *a* 1715 Burnet *Own Time* (1724) I. 407 Lord Danby saw his error, of neglecting the leading men, and reckoning upon a majority, such as could be made.

b. In parliamentary phrase, *To make a House*: to ensure the presence of the number (now 40) of members required for a regularly constituted sitting of the House (of Commons). Also said of the members. Similarly, *to make a quorum.*

1648 Dr. Denton 7 Dec. in F. P. Verney *Mem. Verney Family* (1892–9) II. 395 Most of the secured members lay in Hell last night, and are now gone to the generall. There is scarce enough left free to make a house. 1775 [see House *sb.*1 4 d]. 1830 *Examiner* 409/2 Twice this week have Ministers failed to make a House of Commons. 1864 *Spectator* 7 May 529 A Bill which .. will before long interest every taxpayer, was interrupted by mere official carelessness as to 'making a House'. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 15 May 5/4 A House was made to-day promptly at a quarter-past 12 o'clock.

c. *Sporting. To make a bag*: to kill a number of game on a shooting expedition. *To make the bag*: said of the sportsman who contributes most to the total of game killed.

1863, 1867 [see Bag *sb.* 9]. 1889 *Cornhill Mag.* XIII. 209 Sir Allan is making the bag. That is the third time he has wiped Sir Joseph's eye.

d. *Betting. To make a book*: to arrange a series of bets referring to one and the same race or 'event', with odds calculated with a view to a probable gain on the whole transaction.

1828 Hood *Miss Kilmansegg, Honeymoon*, Of making a book how he made a stir. 1856 'Stonehenge' *Brit. Rural Sports* II. I. xiii. § 137 It does not always happen that the person laying the odds makes a book. 1892 *Cassell's Sat. Jrnl.* 28 May 859/1 There certainly is a way of 'making a book' by which the layer of odds must win.

†16. To bring forth (fruit, blossom); to have as a product. *Obs.*

1375 Barbour *Bruce* v. 9 The treis begouth to ma Burgeonys and brycht blwmys alsua. 1382 Wyclif *Matt.* vii. 17 So euery good tree makith good fruytis. *c* 1380 — *Serm.* Sel. Wks. I. 166. *c* 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 4. 1604 E. G[rimstone] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* IV. xxxii. 296 In new Spaine, there are some vignes which beare grapes, and yet make no wine.

b. *To make water*, †*urine* [= F. *faire de l'eau*]: to urinate. (See the sbs.)

†17. Of a mother: To give birth to (young). Of a father: To beget. *Obs.* [So F. *faire.*]

1362 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. x. 164 Þe cursede blod þat Caym haþ I-maket. 1483 Caxton *G. de la Tour* G viij b, This good lady Rachel as she had made a child she forthwith ..gaf thankyngis of it to god. 1484 — *Fables of Æsop* II. iv, A sowe whiche wepte..for the grete payne that she felte by cause she wold make her young pygges. *c* 1500 *Melusine* 102 She made a fayre child that was her second sonne.

18. Used with const. *of* or *out of* (by extension of the notion in sense 1 b), to designate the action of causing what is denoted by the regimen of the prep. to become what is denoted by the object of the verb.

So in many phrases, as *to make a business, practice, trade of*; *to make an example, a fool of*; *to make an ass, a beast, an exhibition of oneself*: for illustration see the sbs.

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 103 Þa..scinne..þet is ihaten *fornicatio*..maceð of cristes leoman heoranna leoman. *c* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 137 Of here wombe hie makieð here godd. *c* 1205 Lay. 13674 Heo..wulleð..makien king of ane Peohte. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 13419 Vr drightin..made þam of þair water win. *Ibid.* 18790 Þat we vr fa mak of vr freind. *c* 1330 *Assump. Virg.* 671 Ihesu crist..Of a wilde hounde haþ made a lomb. 1530 Tindale *Pract. Prel.* Ciij, And thus of one empyre was made twayne. 1563 Foxe *A. & M.* 1711/1 There was no more behinde, to make a very Iphigenia of her, but her offeryng vp vpon the aultar of the scaffolde. 1610 Shaks. *Temp.* I. ii. 101, 169. 1611 Cotgr., *Faire estat de*..to vse, or make a practise of. 1667 Milton *P. L.* I. 255 The mind..Can make a Heav'n of Hell, a Hell of Heav'n. 1686 Horneck *Crucif. Jesus* xiv. 331 Such a person must not make a trade of repenting and sinning. 1707 *Curios. in Husb. & Gard.* Pref. 5 The Heathens, who made Gods of the very Onions that grew in their Gardens. 1759 Sterne *Tr. Shandy* II. ii, I beg only you will make no strangers of yourselves. 1859 Tennyson *Lancelot & Elaine* 912 Such service have ye done me, that I make My will of yours. 1889 J. K. Jerome *Three Men in Boat* 206 Montmorency made an awful ass of himself. 1892 Mrs. H. Ward *D. Grieve* II. vii, He was making a friend of her. 1894 Emily Lawless *Maelcho* I. ii. 32 He was not going to make a show of himself.

b. in *indirect passive.*

1715 [see Fool *sb.*1 3]. 1742 Richardson *Pamela* III. 92 I will attend you,..altho' I doubt I am to be made a Shew of. 1766 Goldsm. *Vic. W.* xxxi, She was now made an honest woman of. 1803 *Pic Nic* No. 4 (1806) I. 140 They must be made an example of.

c. With idiomatic *of it.*

1660 Ingelo *Bentiv. & Ur.* I. (1682) 55 They were going to make a Day of it in Sports and Musick upon the Water. 1752 Ainsworth *Eng.-Lat. Dict.* s. v., You have made a good day's work of it. 1789 Charlotte Smith *Ethelinde* (1814) III. 162 A bad history, a bad history, I am afraid, that young man has made of it. 1809 Malkin *Gil Blas* IV. vi. ¶ 8 He is going to make a night of it. *Ibid.* X. x. ¶ 12, I made but one nap of it all night. 1844 Dickens *Mart. Chuz.* v, I always supposed that Mrs. Lupin and you would make a match of it. 1855 Costello *Stor. Screen* 90, made a clean breast of it to Desirée. 1856 Whyte Melville *Kate Cov.* vi, I..had a great mind to make a bolt of it and run up-stairs.

d. *To make* (*much, little, something, nothing*, etc.) *of*: to derive (much or little) advantage from; to turn to (much or little) account.

To make the best, the most of: see Best *sb.*, Most *sb.*

1643 Trapp *Comm. Gen.* xxxii. 12 A flye can make little of a flower; but a bee will not off, till he hath the sweet thyme out of it. 1687 A. Lovell tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 229 They Boarded her again the third time, but could make nothing on't. 1707 *Curios. in Husb. & Gard.* 202, I set about the work..resolv'd to..be certain whether I could make anything of it or not. 1732 Ld. Tyrawly in *Buccleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 381 Unless you have two Molettamen..you won't be able to make anything at all of her [*sc.* a boat], with any hands you'll get. 1870 Rogers *Hist. Gleanings* Ser. II. 246 Calumny made something of his relations with William Tooke. 1884 W. C. Smith *Kildrostan* 59 They hold the place which once the chieftain held, And what have they made of it?

e. *To make a hash, mess, muddle of*: to fail grossly in, bungle (a business). See the sbs.

f. *To make . . of*: to do . . with. *Sc.* [Cf. F. 'qu'avez-vous fait *de* . . '.]

1824 Miss Ferrier *Inher.* lxxiii, It was inconceivable, too, what he made of himself all day.

*** To frame in thought or representation.

19. To form within the mind; to give conceptual existence to. a. To entertain (doubt, scruple, question, etc.) in the mind; to formulate mentally; to form (a judgement).

To make conscience: see Conscience 11. *To make a difference*: see Difference *sb.* 5.

1375 Barbour *Bruce* I. 249 Than mayss clerkis questioun, ..That [etc.]. *a* 1425 *Cursor M.* 23846 (Trin.) From hit may we no way scape for no wile þat we con make. 1565 Cooper *Thesaurus* s. v. *Facere, Controuersiam*, to propose as doubtfull: to make doubt of. 1583–1875 [see Question *sb.* 5]. 1586–1875 [see Doubt *sb.*1 4 a]. 1661 Boyle *Style of Script.* (1675) 228 The more scruple I would make to rob them. 1709 Berkeley *Th. Vision* § 3 The estimate we make of the distance of objects. 1721 Perry *Daggenh. Breach* 4 Persons, who may be able to make a Judgment of the Truth of what I relate. 1844 *Fraser's Mag.* XXX. 98/1, I make no doubt every one ..has practised similar stratagems. 1870 Lowell *Study Wind.* 229 The judgement of him [Chaucer] which we make from his works. 1885–94 R. Bridges *Eros & Psyche* May xiii, She made no wonder how the wonder was.

b. *To make* (*great*, etc.) *account*, †*count*, †*esteem*, †*estimation*, †*reckoning*, †*regard*, †*store of*: to have a high opinion of, set store by. (Chiefly *obs.* or *arch.*)

1393, etc. [see Account *sb.* 12]. 1484, etc. [see Count *sb.*1 5]. 1539 Cromwell in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) II. 244 His Maieste wold neither make store of them ne bestowe a two penys for their conveyance hither. 1576 Fleming *Panopl. Epist.* 95, I would haue you make ful reckoning of al my counsel. *c* 1586 C'tess Pembroke *Ps.* cxix. ii, Such regard of thee I make, For feare of thee my flesh doth quake. 1605 Bacon *Adv. Learn.* II. xv. § 2, I make no more estimation of repeating a number of names or words upon once hearing..than [etc.]. 1652 J. Wright tr. *Camus' Nat. Paradox* XI. 308 The same cause made Amiclea disdain the esteem which Liante made of her. 1654–66 Earl Orrery *Parthen.* (1676) 508 You will demonstrate how little esteem you make of a Wife. 1877 Spurgeon *Serm.* XXIII. 402 What fools we were to make such count of momentary, transient pleasures! 1884 Mrs. Oliphant *Sir Tom* II. vii. 114 A poor girl .. unnoticed, made no more account of than the chair upon which she sat.

c. To recognize in classification (a certain number of kinds, species, etc.).

1562 Winjet *Cert. Tractates* Wks. 1888 I. 12 The wickit dum pastour, of the quhilk we mak thre kyndis. 1617 Moryson *Itin.* I. 90 It aboundeth with sea birds, whereof the Venetian writers make two hundred kinds. 1621 Burton *Anat. Mel.* I. ii. I. ii. (1676) 26/2 Our School-men.. make nine kinds of bad Spirits. 1678 Cudworth *Intell. Syst.* 37 Anaxagoras .. made Bony and Fleshy Atoms, .. which he supposed to exist..alwaies immutably the same.

d. *legal.* To formulate, set out (a case, title).

1883 Cotton in *Law Rep.*, 9 *Prob. Div.* 25 It would be better..for the party alleging undue influence to..shew with reasonable particularity the nature of the case he intends to make. 1891 *Law Rep., Weekly Notes* 77/2 The new trustees were therefore validly appointed, and could make a good title.

20. Used with const. *of* (cf. 18, of which this may be viewed as a figurative application): To regard (what is denoted by the regimen of the prep.) as being (what the object of the verb denotes); to arrive at (a particular amount or quantity) as the result of calculation or estimation; to assign (a meaning) to a statement, expression, representation, etc., or (a cause, motive, or reason) for actions or phenomena. Often with interrog. or indef. pronoun as obj.

For *to make head or tail* (also *top or tail*) *of*, *to make sense of*, see the sbs.

1531 Tindale *Exp. 1 John* v. (1538) 59 b, Yf thou burnest bloude and fat together to please God, what other thynge doest thou make of God, than one that had lust to smell to burnt flotesse? 1565 Randolph in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. I. II. 203 Suspicious men, or suche as are geven of all thyngs to mayke the worst. 1609 Holland *Amm. Marcell.* 316, I wote not wel what to make of this: the text I suspect be faultie. *a* 1654 Selden *Table-t.* (Arb.) 20 When it comes among the Common People, Lord, what Gear do they make of it! 1776 C. Lee in Sparks *Corr. Amer. Rev.* (1853) I. 157, I know not what to make of this apathy on so important a subject. 1833 D. Macmillan in *Life* II. (1882) 16 He has gone to Edinburgh now. I don't know what to make of him. 1861 Dickens *Gt. Expect.* xxiv, What do you make of four times five? 1887 L. Carroll *Game of Logic* I. § 1. 10 What would you make of such a Proposition as 'The Cake you have given me is nice'? Is it Particular or Universal?

21. *To make* (much, little, nothing, etc.) *of*: to have a (high, low, etc.) opinion of; to value at a (high, low, etc.) rate; to treat with (much, no, etc.) consideration. *To make much of*: often, to treat with marked courtesy and show of affection; also in *indirect passive. To make nothing of* (doing something): to find no difficulty in or feel no scruples at (cf. 51 c).

To make light of, †*to make slight of*: see Light *a.*1 13 d (*b*), Slight.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 23860 Quen noght es mad of erists word. *c* 1305 *St. Dunstan* 46 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 35 A gret ordeynour he was And makede moche of gode reule. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* IX. xviii. 365 The more she made of hym, the more was his payne. *c* 1500 *Melusine* 302 Whan geffray with the grete toth herd that the geaunt made so lytel of hym. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Edw. IV* 220 She had nothyng more to be beloved, nothyng more derer, nor nothynge to be made more of. 1610 Shaks. *Temp.* I. ii. 333. 1612 Shelton *Don Quix.* IV. i. (1620) 282, I was one of the most made of and cherished daughters that euer father brought vp. 1622 Bacon *Hen. VII* (ed. Lumby) 40 He was very honourably entertained, and extremely much made on by the Pope. 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 57 ¶ 3 She talks of Hounds and Horses, and makes nothing of leaping over a Six-bar Gate. 1823 Byron *Juan* x. lvi, Whate'er the cause, the church made little of it. 1838 Lytton *Alice* II. ii, No queen could be more made of. 1888 W. J. Knox Little *Child of Stafferton* I. 12 The child was petted and made much of.

b. intr. *To make of*: †(*a*) To esteem (well or ill); to treat *as if*... *Obs.* (*b*) To value highly; to treat with great consideration; = *to make much of*; also in indirect passive. *Obs.* exc. *dial.*

1375 Barbour *Bruce* XVI. 592 The king aucht weill to ma Of 30w. *c* 1449 Pecock *Repr.* I. xiii. 69 Thou3 the oold lawe was good to the kepers therof, 3it was not so good as thei maden therof. *a* 1529 Skelton *Magnyf.* 174, I am Lyberte, made of in euery nacion. *a* 1533 Ln. Berners *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) KK j b, And that that some setteth littelt by, other make of. *a* 1546 Bale *Latter Exam. A. Askew* (1547) 22 b, It was an abhomynable shame vnto hym to make no better of the eternall worde of God, than of his slenderlye conceyued fantasye. 1601 Dent *Pathw. Heaven* 77 An .. Hawke, which a man holdeth upon his fist, stroketh her, maketh of her. 1607 Shaks. *Cor.* IV. v. 203. 1631 *Celestina* (1894) 142 Vou make of me, as if I had been borne but yesterday. 1725 Ramsay *Gentle Sheph.* I. ii, Their greatest wish, Is to be made of, and obtain a kiss. *a* 1825 Forby *Voc. E. Anglia* s. v., To make on, to caress, to distinguish by particular attention. 1828 Mrs. Carlyle 20 Aug. in *New Lett.* (1903) I. 29 Everyone here is trying to make my stay agreeable to me! Indeed, I have not been so made of since very long ago.

22. *Naut.* To descry or discern as from the top of a mast or tower; to come in sight of; = *make out* (91 l). † *To make* (an object) *for*: to discern it to be (something). † Also *to make .. to be.*

c 1565 Sparke in *Hakluyt's Voy.* (1589) 536 Wee had sight of an Island, which we made to be Iamaica. *c* 1600 Norden *Spec. Brit., Cornw.* (1728) 96 A place whence they discouer ships at sea which they call makinge a sayle. 1628 Digby *Voy. Medit.* (1868) 4 Which afterwardes wee made to be a small Frenchman. *Ibid.* 33, I descryed a sayle which I made for a sattie. 1666 Pepys *Diary* 3 June, At his coming into port, he could make another ship of the King's coming in. 1669 Sturmy *Mariner's Mag.* To Rdr., The Lizard being..the first Land made at their return home. *Ibid.* IV. i. 139 [He] at last made the Coasts of Erasilia. 1708 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4422/7 It was thought proper that this Ship should go down to make them perfectly. 1712 W. Rogers *Voy.* (1718) 292, I order'd the pinnace to be mann'd and arm'd, and sent her away to make what she was. 1725 De Foe *Voy. round World* (1840) 7 We .. made the Coast of Galway, in Ireland, the 10th. 1760 C. Johnston *Chrysal* (1822) II. 250 The man at the masthead had made the land. 1833 Marryat *P. Simple* li, We made Barbadoes without any further adventure, and were about ten miles off the bay. 1840 R. H. Dana *Bef. Mast* xxxii. 124 If we could make land, we should know where we were. 1890 'R. Boldrewood' *Col. Reformer* (1891) 171 Poor Grant made the light, sometime after nightfall.

**** Said of constituent parts or material.

23. To amount to. Also, of the latest item in an enumeration, to bring up the sum to (a certain amount).

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 96 (Corpus MS.) Þreo halpenes makeð a peni. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Parson's T.* Þ 288 The proverbe seith: that manye smale maken a greet. *c* 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) xx. 90 Of whilke mynutes LX. makez a degre. 1545 *Rates of Custome Ho.* d iij b, One Flemisshe elle makithe iii. quarters of a yarde englisshe. 1589 Puttenham *Eng. Poesie* II. x[i.] (Arb.) 99 These ten litle meeters make but one Exameter at length. 1596 Shaks. *1 Hen. IV*, IV. ii. 6 This Bottle makes an Angell. 1601 ? Marston *Pasquil & Kath.* I. 66 Many a small make a great. 1672 Villiers (Dk. Buckhm.) *Rehearsal* III. i. (Arb.) 69 Nine Taylors make but one man. 1724 De Foe *Mem. Cavalier* (1840) 35 All which did not make thirty thousand men. 1825 *New Monthly Mag.* XIV. 330 How many birds would this make in the course of the day? 1875 J. Southward *Dict. Typogr.* s.v., In casting-off copy or matter it is said that it 'makes' so much—a galley, a stickful, &c.—that is occupies so much space. 1892 *Sat. Rev.* 12 Nov. 562/1 Twice one makes two. 1897 Fl. Marryat *Blood Vampire* iv, 'E's a regular business man and knows 'ow many beans make five!

24. Of an adjunct or feature: To be sufficient to constitute; to be the essential criterion of. In proverbial or quasi-proverbial uses, mainly in negative contexts.

1340 *Ayenb.* 165 Þe clopinge ne makeþ nazt þane monek, ne þe armes þane knyzt. *c* 1430 *Freemasonry* 726 Gode maners maken a man. 1546 Heywood *Prov.* (1867) 57 One swalowe maketh not sommer. 1611 Cotgr. s. v. *Moine*, The Cowle makes not the Monke. 1649 Lovelace *Poems* (1864) 119 Stone walls doe not a prison make, Nor iron bars a cage. 1734 Pope *Ess. Man* IV. 203 Worth makes the man, and want of it, the fellow. 1859 Tennyson *Guinevere* 479 And courtliness, and the desire of fame, And love of truth, and all that makes a man. 1861 *Temple Bar* III. 256 A long beard does not make a philosopher. 1893 *National Observer* 7 Oct. 531/2 One actress does not make a play.

25. To amount to, count as, avail, signify (much, little, nothing, etc.) in relation to the question under consideration. (Cf. 74.) Const. *for*, *to*. Now *rare*. *To make no matter* (somewhat *arch.*): to make no difference, not to matter. † *What maketh matter but that* .. ? = 'What hinders that .. ?'

1456 Sir G. Have *Law Arms* (S. T. S.) 283 And suppos sum ignoraunt men wald say gold is metall and na coloure, that makis nocht. 1478 W. Paston in *P. Lett.* III. 237, I beseche yow to sende me a hose clothe, .. how corse so ever it be it makyth no matyr. 1535 Stewart *Cron. Scot.* II. 383 Quhat makis that to the? 1549 Latimer *Serm. Ploughers* (Arb.) 18 In deede it toucheth not monkerie, nor maketh any thyng at all for any such matter. 1563 Man *Musculus' Commonpl.* 284 What maketh matter but that the Jewe, which is so often washed in the lawe, might be washed agayne if he come to Christ? 1574 Whitgift *Def. Answ.* ii. 106 Those things which..make something to exhort vnto a better life. 1606 Shaks. *Ant. & Cl.* II. vi. 126, I thinke the policy of that purpose, made more in the Marriage, than the loue of the parties. 1611 Bible *Transl. Pref.* Þ 3 The course which he intended made much for the glory of God. 1631 Gouge *God's Arrowes* III. § 9. 202 Circumstances make much to the goodnesse or badnesse of an action. 1697 C. Leslie *Snake in Grass* (ed. 2) 299 That he was a Loose Man, &c. which makes nothing to the business. 1728 Ramsay *Last Sp. Miser* xxix, Away his wretched spirit flew, It maksnae where. 1768 Sterne *Sent. Journ.* (1778) II. 70 (*Passport*) By what magic he could [etc.] makes nothing in this account. 1768 Ross *Helenore* (1789) 85 Maksna, quo she, gin I my hazard tak. 1808–80 Jamieson s.v. *Mak*, *It makes na*, it does not signify, it is of no consequence; sometimes as one word, *maksna*. 1862 Trench *Mirac.* xxxiii. 456 It makes something for the current opinion that..Nathanael..is Bartholomew..thus to find him named..in the midst of some of the very chiefest Apostles.

† b. Of arguments or evidence: To avail (much, little, etc.) *for*, *against* (an opinion or a disputant).

1579 Fulke *Heskins' Parl.* 333 These..sentences..make nothing for him, but much against him. *a* 1649 Charles I. *Wks.* 177, I believe this argument makes little for you. 1660 tr. *Amyraldus' Treat. Religions* III. ii. 331 That makes nothing against us. 1690 Locke *Hum. Und.* I. iii. § 3 Wks. 1727 I. 13 But this makes nothing for Innate Characters on the Mind.

26. To count as, have the position of, 'form', be (a part or unit in an aggregate, a particular member in an ordinal series). *To make one* (*of*): often, to take part in a combined action, be present at a meeting, etc.; also, to assimilate oneself to the company one joins.

1375 Barbour *Bruce* XI. 340 He said, the rerward he vald ma. 1523 Fitzherb. *Husb.* § 120 Whan these three be mette, if ye hadde a potycanye to make the fourthe [etc.]. 1542 Udall *Erasm. Apoph.* 86 He would .. not refuse to make one at a mannes table. 1634 Ford *P. Warbeck* II. iii, There have been Irish hubbubs, when I have made one too. 1658 Jer. Taylor *Let.* in *12th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 5 Her duty to you .. does apparently make a very great part of her religion to God. 1711 Budgell *Spect.* No. 77 Þ 5, I always make one of the Company I am in. 1826 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* III. xxxiv. 485 It is marked out into three triangles, the *postnasus* making a fourth. 1850 Dickens *Dav. Copp.* xx, It would be worth a journey.. to see that sort of people together, and to make one of 'em. 1869 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* (1876) III. xii. 179 To make one of the illustrious gathering. 1892 *Cornh. Mag.* Dec. 566, I was number thirteen, and you came in and made the fourteenth.

27. To be the material or components of; to be made or converted into; to serve for.

1620–55 I. Jones *Stone-Heng* (1725) 45 The Stones making the Portico within. 1661 Boyle *Style of Script.* (1675) 53 Where there's nothing but choice flowers, .. they will make a good posie. 1699 T. Brown in R. L'Estrange *Erasm. Colloq.* 20 She was fit to have made a Spouse for Jupiter himself. 1703 Moxon *Mech. Exerc.* 114 Pieces that are intended to make the Frames for small Pictures. 1712 Addison *Spect.* No. 414 Þ 4 Fields of Corn make a pleasant Prospect. 1724 Swift *Stella's Birthday*, Merry folks, who want by chance A pair to make a country dance. 1768 Goldsm. *Good-n. Man* I. (end), I am told he makes a very handsome corpse and becomes his coffin prodigiously. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) VIII. 485/2 Such as are kept to make red herrings are washed in great vats in fresh water. 1838 Lytton *Leila* III. iii, One of the vaults which made the mighty cemetery of the Monarchs of Granada. 1887 A. Birrell *Obiter Dicta* Ser. II. 70 Poor authors .. with their pockets full of the bad eggs that should have made their breakfasts. 1890 'R. Boldrewood' *Col. Reformer* (1891) 94 He's steady enough to make a wheeler in a coach. 1890 *Standard* 5 Nov. 5/1 [He] had much to say that will make unpleasant reading for the Liberal wirepullers.

b. To admit of being made into.

c 1420 *Palladius on Husb.* IV. 457 The gourde is good this citur nygh to sowe, Whos vynes brent maath askes for hem sete. 1577 B. Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* III. (1586) 152 Neither is their..a beast that makes more dishes. 1592 Kyd *Sp. Trag.* III. vi. 69 Doost thou think to liue till his olde doublet will make thee a new trusse? 1598 Shaks. *Merry W.* I. iii. 18 An old Cloake makes a new Ierkin. 1605 *1st Pt. Jeronimo* III. i. 43 My hose will scarse make thee a standing coller. 1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* II. v. 87 A pint of salt of tartar, exposed unto a moist aire,..will make far more liquor..then the former measure will contain. 1787 Beckford *Lett. fr. Italy* (1805) I. 365 They [frogs] make a good soup, and not a bad fricassée.

28. Of persons: To become by development or training. Also, with obj. a sb. qualified by *good*, *bad*, or other adj. of praise or the contrary: To perform (well, ill, etc.) the part or function of.

1572 Middelmore in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. III. 8, I think he [the Duke of Anjou] will make as rare a prince as any is in Christendome. 1591 Shaks. *1 Hen. VI* IV. vii. 44 Doubtlesse he would haue made a noble Knight. 1677 Miege *Eng.-Fr. Dict.* s.v., These men might make good Soldiers if they were well disciplined. 1726–7 Pope *Th. var. Subj.* in *Swift's Wks.* (1751) V. 262 For a King to make an amiable character, he needs only to be a man of common honesty, well advised. 1736 Berkeley *Disc. to Magistr.* Wks. III. 412 The young rake makes an old infidel. 1828 *Examiner* 244/1 Mr. Kean, jun. will never make so great an actor as his father. 1844 H. Stephens *Bk. of Farm* II. 89 The shepherd knowing the flock makes their best drover. 1870 E. Peacock *Ralf Skirl.* III. 25 As the times then went, Mr. Earl made a very fair pastor. 1885 J. Payn *Luck of Darrells* I. viii. 125 She will make him a good wife.

***** To gain, acquire.

29. To gain, acquire, or earn (money, reputation, etc.) by labour, business, or the like. Const. *of*, *out of*. Phr. † *to make* (*one's*) *advantage* (see Advantage *sb.* 5 b), *increment of*; *to make a* (or *one's*) *fortune* (see Fortune *sb.* 6); *to make capital out of* (see Capital *sb.* 3d); *to make a living* (see Living *vbl. sb.* 3); *to make a name* (for oneself). See Name *sb.*

c 1315 Shoreham iii. 294 In londe suche his many a þef Þat y-now hym maketh. 1382 Wyclif *Jer.* xxxii. 20 Thou madist to thee a name. 1472 *Paston Lett.* III. 71, I truste be Ester to make of money..at the leest I. marke. 1546 O. Johnson in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. II. 175 Besides the monney that I shal make of the said wares. 1583 Stockler *Civ. Warres Lowe C.* II. 64 [They] furnished him with all the money they were able to make. 1588 Parke tr *Mendoza's Hist. China* 45 Then may the husband afterwardes sell his wife for a slave, and make money of her for the dowrie he gaue her. 1604 Shaks. *Oth.* I. iii. 361. 1632 Lithgow *Trav.* I. 64 This little Ile maketh yearely..onely of Currants 160000 Chickins [=sequins]. 1632 Sherwood, To make money of, *vendre*. 1706 E. Ward *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) Advt., Making a Profit at the Expence of other Men. 1821 Byron *Juan* III. lxxxv, His muse made increment of anything, From the high lyric down to the low rational. 1823 J. Badcock *Dom. Amuseм.* 28 More than he could probably hope to make by any transaction in the Alley. 1840 Macaulay *Ess., Clive* (1887) 555 A great quantity of wealth is made by English functionaries in India; .. and what is made is slowly, hardly, and honestly earned. 1842 Borrow *Bible in Spain* xiii. (Pelh. Libr.) 97 [They] had buried..a great booty which they had made in Portugal. 1863 *Edin. Rev.* CXVII. 417 The men complain that without it [sc. blasting] they cannot 'make wages'. 1887 Ruskin *Præterita* II. 332 [He] would often, for the mere pleasure of playing a trick, lose a customer without making a penny by him. 1889 T. Gift *Not for the Night-time* 83, I made a name as a successful artist. 1895 *Bookman* Oct. 16/2, I know several gentlemen in Paris..who make a very good living by hawking these nightingales round the cafés.

b. *slang* and *dial.* To steal.

a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Made*, Stolen. *I Made this Knife at a bout*, I stole it cleaverly. 1740 Dyche & Pardon *Dict., Make* .. also to steal or convey privately away. 1865 *Daily Tel.* 27 Oct. 5/1 'The same day', he continued, 'we only made [*i.e.* stole] a leg of pork from 12, Harrow-road' [etc.]. 1866 Mansfield *Sch. Life* (1870) 40 In the matter of certain articles .. supplied by the College [Winchester], we used to put a liberal interpretation on the eighth commandment..and it was considered fair 'to make' (*i.e.* take) them if you could. 1881 *Leicestersh. Gloss.*

c. To fetch (a certain price).

1868 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* Ser. II. IV. ii. 289 One [bullock] .. made 60*l.* in a Woburn auction. 1896 *Athenæum* No. 3569. 382/1 Matthew's Bible, 1537, made 11*l.* 15*s.*

30. *Cards.* To win or 'take' (a trick); to play to advantage (a certain card). Also *intr.* of a card: to take a trick.

1608 L. Machin *Dumb Knight* IV. H 4 You are a double game, and I am no lesse, theres an hundred, & all cards made but one knaue. 1742 Hoyle *Whist* 39 In the third round you make your Queen. *Ibid.* 50 You probably make two Tricks in it by this Method of Play. 1876 'Capt. Crawley' *Card Players' Man.* 61 If your partner hold the ace and another, you have a good chance of making the entire suit. 1878 II. II. Gibbs *Ombre* 24 He will endeavour to make one trick only. 1879 Cavendish *Card Ess.*, etc. 160 His partner .. has his last trump drawn, and the ace and king of diamonds make. *Ibid.* 197 The fourth hand made the king.

b. Various uses in games: To secure (a certain score); to score (a point in the game); to perform (a particular stroke) successfully.

1680 Cotton *Compl. Gamester* (ed. 2) 78 You may make Pairs, Sequences, Flush, Fifteens, Pair-Royals, [etc.] *Ibid.* 89 If one and thirty be not made, then he that play'd last and is nearest one and thirty without making out, must set up one. 1825 Hone *Every-day Bk.* I. 868 Give him a foot of wall, and he was sure to make the ball. 1849 *Chambers's Inform. People* II. 652/1 The game is determined by the number of runs made in two innings by each player. 1857 Hughes *Tom Brown* II. viii, Johnson's batting [is] worthy of the occasion. He makes here a two, and there a one, managing to keep the ball to himself. 1873 Bennett & 'Cavendish' *Billiards* 339 To make the hazard, play at the shoulder of the pocket. 1874 J. D. Heath *Croquet Player* 53 It being much easier to roll up to and make the peg, than to get into position for a hoop, from a long distance. 1890 *Field* 31 May 784/3 He made ten fours, six threes, and two twos.

31. To gain, 'put on' (weight). Also of a tree, to produce a growth of (timber). *To make water* (Naut.): to take in water by a leak: see Water *sb.*

1832 Withers in *Planting* (L. U. K.) vii. 78 *note*, The manured tree made .. one foot one-third of timber in each year. 1846 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* VII. II. 393 Two of them made twenty stones each in sixteen weeks.

II. To subject to operation; to elaborate; to put in order.

† **32.** To handle, manage, use (OE. only); to treat, deal with in a particular way. *Obs.*

c 1000 Ælfric *Gen.* iv. 21 Iubal, þe wæs fæder .. þæra þe organan macodun [Vulg. *canentium cithara et organo*]. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 121 Þet folc þe hine þus makede knewede to-foren him on hismer. *a* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2515 Hise liche was spice-like maked, And longe egipte-like waked.

† **33.** To bring *to* a specified condition, reduce *to*. Phr. *to make to death*; *to make away* (see 84 a–c), *make out of the way*, *make hence* = make away with. *Obs.*

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 85 Hwense we habbeð imaked þene licome to þer saule bihoue. *c* 1220 *Bestiary* 154 Redi..to deren er to ded maken. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 13 Whan thei to thilke astat ben made. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 2741 Þare mas þou þe to malicole. 1530 Palsgr. 631/1, I make to the bowe, as we make a yonge persone to our mynde. 1535 Coverdale 2 *Chron.* xxxiv. 4 Molten ymages brake he in peces and made them to dust. 1551 Robinson tr. *More's Utop.* II. vii. (1895) 230 If they should hastely put them to death, and make them out of the waye. 1603 B. Jonson *Sejanus* II. ii, It is as daungerous to make them hence, If nothing but their birth be their offence. 1605 — *Volpone* IV. v, Haue they made you to this! 1692 R. L'Estrange *Jose-*

phus, Antiq. XII. xv. (1733) 325 [He] told him that .. that Man must be made out of the way.

34. †**a.** *refl.* To set oneself, get ready (*to do* something); to prepare *for*. *Obs.* (Chiefly *Sc.*)

1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. VII. 103 Vche mon in his maner made him to done. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XII. 252 Thai .. Mais thame to ficht. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 188 And to the bed with that he yede..And made him there forto seche. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* VII. 846 The Irland folk than maid thaim for the flycht. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* liii. 46 To the danceing soun he him maid. 1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* cxix. [cxx.] 7, I laboured for peace, but when I spake therof, they made them to battayl. — *Ezek.* xx. 8 Then I made me to poure my indignacion ouer them. *a* 1572 KNOX *Hist. Ref.* Wks. 1846 I. 175 Whill the portar maid him for defence, his head was brokin. 1630 RUTHERFORD *Lett.* (1860) I. 64 Christ is putting on His clothes and making Him, like an illhandled stranger, to go to other lands.

b. *intr.* To attempt or 'offer' (*to do* something).

1880 *Antrim & Down Gloss.* s.v., He made to strike me. 1889 *Universal Rev.* Oct. 256 The beauty of this blossom drew the man's soul, and he made to pluck it. 1900 S. PHILLIPS *Paolo & Franc.* II. ii. (*Stage dir.*), He makes to follow, then stops. 1902 *Daily Chron.* 25 Aug. 9/3 He got very excited, and made to catch hold of her dress.

35. With ellipsis of verb of motion: To prepare to go; to proceed in a certain direction. †**a.** *refl.*

1535 COVERDALE 1 *Sam.* xvii. 41 The Philistyne wente forth, and made him to Dauid. — *Nahum* ii. 3 His charettes are as fyre, when he maketh him forwarde. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* VI. 261 At the breach of day, we sixe made vs for the mountaine.

b. *intr.* for *refl.*, with adv. or advb. phr. (Often, *to make towards* —.) See also *make away*, *make forth*, etc.

1488 [see *make over*, 92 e]. 1542 [see *make upon*, 81]. 1558 [see *make out*, 91 m]. 1570 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xii. 174 Mak of the towne. 1573 *Ibid.* xlii. 16 Thir twa vnto Sanctandrois maid. 1586–93 MARLOWE *Dido* I. ii, There is a place, Hesperia..Thither made we. 1588 *Honsh. Philos.* in *Kyd's Wks.* (1901) 242 But making neerer to his Father, he whispred to him [etc.]. 1611 BIBLE *Acts* xxvii. 40 They.. made toward shore. 1639 FULLER *Holy War* II. xxviii. (1647) 80 Hence Conrade made forward to Iconium. 1645 R. BAILLIE *Lett. & Jrnls.* (Bannatyne Club) II. 305 Our army.. is in good case. They are now making over the Severne. 1694 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2961/1 The Weymouth .. left the rest of the homeward bound .. Fleet .. off the Lizard, making up the Channel. 1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) II. 93 Let us make home the best we can. 1790 BEATSON *Nav. & Milit. Mem.* II. 194 Notwithstanding that the ship of the line and the frigate .. were now within a league of him, and making to his assistance. 1812 CAPT. HILLYAR in *Examiner* (1813) 18 Jan. 43/2 Twelve .. were thrown overboard when making from us. 1840 DICKENS *Barn. Rudge* lix, He .. made straight towards a distant light. 1878 W. BLACK *Green Past.* xliv. 356 We see an immense flock of geese making up the stream. 1883 STEVENSON *Treas. Isl.* III. xiv. 112, I made steadily but slowly towards them.

36. To prepare (a bed) for sleeping in.

[Cf. G. *ein bett machen*, F. *faire un lit*. In this use the vb. had originally the sense of branch I, as the sb. meant not a permanent article of furniture, but a prepared place for repose, which does not exist until 'made'.]

c 1290 *S. Brendan* 128 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 223 Beddes þer were al 3are ymaked er here soper were ido. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 658 Hwan he hauede eten, and was fed, Grim dede maken a ful fayr bed. *c* 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* Prol. 205, I bad men shulde my couche make. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xlviii. 298 3e brought me of þe beste, And made my bedde full esyly. 1530 PALSGR. 617/2 Make your bedde a dayes or you go out of your chamber. 1750 J. RAY *Rebell.* (1758) 145 After I was gone..the Chambermaid went to make my Bed. 1784 ABIGAIL ADAMS *Lett.* (1848) 157 Not one of us could make her own bed, put on or take off her shoes, or even lift a finger. 1889 MRS. E. KENNARD *Landing a Prize* III. iv. 78 She knows how to make a bed..and cook a dinner.

37. To shut, close, bar (a door). Now *arch.* and *dial.*

c 1190 *Beket* 2062 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 165 Some wolden makien þe doren þo heo þat folk i-seize. 1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* III. i. 93 Why at this time the doors are made against you. 1600 — *A. Y. L.* IV. i. 162 Make the doores vpon a womans wit, and it will out at the casement. 1613 CHAPMAN *Rev. Bussy D'Ambois* Plays 1873 II. 175 All dores are sure made. 1641 HINOE *J. Bruen* Ixiii. 210 Leaving neither Cooke nor Butler behinde him, nor any of his servants, but two or three to make the doores, and tend the house. 1871 R. ELLIS tr. *Catullus* xxxii. 5 See no jealousy make the gate against me.

38. In the phrase *to make hay*, primarily used in sense 2, but also applied *spec.* to that part of the operation which consists in turning over and exposing to the sun the grass after it is mown. (See HAY *sb.*[1] 3 for the phrase and its uses.) Hence by extension, to subject (certain kinds of crops) to this treatment. Also *intr.* for *passive*.

1523 FITZHERBERT *Husb.* § 25 Good teddynge is the chiefe poynte to make good hey. 1546, 1673, 1703 [see HAY *sb.*[1] 3]. 1707–12 MORTIMER *Husb.* (1721) I. 35 They seldom have Weather good enough to make the last Crop well. 1778 [W. MARSHALL] *Minutes Agric.* 26 July 1775 Perhaps, hay makes faster in heaps .. than is generally imagined. *a* 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia* s.v. *Make, sb.*, We .. talk of '*making* the crop of peas'. Indeed, every crop, howsoever severed from the soil, and left upon it to dry, is said to be *made* when it is in a fit state to be carried. 1847 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* VIII. II. 300 If it is not made too much, it will be pretty good hay. 1862 *Ibid.* XXIII. 63 The swampy meadows are chiefly 'made' in that month. 1865 *Ibid.* Ser. II. I. II. 248 The straw must be carefully 'made'. 1892 *Field* 19 Mar. 424/2 The man who expects one variety of ..corn, to 'make'—*i.e.*, to get fit for stacking exactly as another would, will be rewarded by a 'rick afire'.

†**39.** To prepare (fish) for the market, by curing or packing. *Obs.*

1555 *Sc. Acts Mary* (1814) II. 498/1 The haill burrowis of the west cuntrie .. hes .. resortit to the fisching of Loch Fyne .. for making of hering .. certaine cuntrie men .. hes rasit ane greit custume of euerie last of maid hering that ar tane in the said Loch. 1690 CHILD *Disc. Trade* (1694) 3 The fish which our English make in Newfoundland..often prove false and deceitfully made; and our pilchards from the West-Country false packed. 1809 [see MAKING *vbl. sb.*[1] 2].

†**40.** *To make a man's beard*: see BEARD *sb.* 1 e.

41. *dial.* To hew or shape (timber); to cut up (wood) into faggots or for firewood.

14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 582/6 *Faculo*, to make faget. 1466 *Yatton Church-w. Acc.* (Som. Rec. Soc.) 104 For makyng tymbyr, and makyng of steches. 1607 T. COCKS *Diary* (1901) 2/1 Payde to Wm. Tybbold..for felling and making my wood, XVS. 1886 in ELWORTHY *W. Som. Word-bk.* 1891 *Hartland Gloss., Make wood*, to make wood into faggots.

42. *Eccl.* To 'mix' (the chalice) at the offertory in the Eucharist.

? 1540 *Bk. Ceremonies* (MS. Cott. Cleop. E. 5. lf. 280) Offertory..at which tyme the Mynyster..maketh the chalice, myxyng the water with the wyne. 1892 J. WICKHAM LEGG in *Trans. St. Paul's Ecclesiol. Soc.* III. 78 The liturgical moment of the making of the chalice in certain western rites.

43. *Cards.* To shuffle. [Cf. F. *faire.*]

1876 A. CAMPBELL-WALKER *Correct Card* (1880) Gloss. p. xii, *To make the cards* means to shuffle. 1902 LD. ALDENHAM *Game of Ombre* 85 The Baron makes the cards, and hands them to Belinda.

44. Naut. *To make sail*: (*a*) to spread a sail or sails; hence, to start on a voyage; to set sail, to sail; (*b*) to spread additional sails in order to increase the ship's speed. (See also SAIL *sb.*) Also † *to make the tackling.*

c 1450 *Pilgrims' Sea-Voy.* in *Rel. Ant.* I. 2 The mastyr commaundeth .. To hys shypmen .. To dresse hem sone about the mast, Theyr takelyng to make. 1517 TORKINGTON *Pilgr.* (1884) 15 We mad sayle with scace Wynde. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 182 Both rowing and making large saile. 1890 CLARK RUSSELL *Ocean Trag.* I. iii. 50 The men ..were making sail upon the yacht nimbly.

45. To train (a hawk, dog, horse). Also with defining phr., as *for the river, to the hood.* †Also (in Turbervile) *To make* (a hawk) *flying* (cf. the factitive sense 48).

c 1400 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) xiii, Forto entre and make houndes. *c* 1450 *Bk. Hawkyng* in *Rel. Ant.* I. 297 Then is your hawke made as towchyng to perteriches. 1530 PALSGR. 645/1, I have nosylled my yonge dogge to daye at a beare, he his made for ever. 1575 TURBERV. *Faulconrie* 121 If you would make your hawke to the Crane, take a Nyasse Falcon gentle. ..And when you would make hir fleeing, lette hir flee from the fiste, and succour hir quickely. For you muste haue dogges made for the purpose, whiche may helpe and succoure hir sooner than a man can doe. *Ibid.* 122 If you woulde make your hawke fleing to the Partridge, or Feasant, when she is reclaimed and made, then [etc.]. 1590 COKAINE *Treat. Hunting* B j b, Stopping all the holes, saving two or three, which must be set with Foxe pursenets, to take a yong Cubbe, to make your Terriars withall. 1673 BOYLE *Ess. Effluviums* III. iv. 29 A studious person that was Keeper of a Red-dear-park and vers'd in making Blood-hounds. 1696 SIR W. HOPE tr. *Solleysell's Compl. Horsem.* title-p., The best method of Breeding and Backing of Colts, Making their Mouths [etc.]. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 108 P 3 A Setting-dog that he has *made* himself. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) VIII. 345 If she [a hawk] be made for the river. 1879 JEFFERIES *Wild Life in S. C.* vii. 136 Some of the lesser men who 'make' hunters, and ride not only for pleasure but possible profit from the sale. 1897 *Encycl. Sport* I. 373 (Falconry) *Make to the Hood*, to accustom a hawk to the hood.

transf. 1526 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 1592 Wolde money, trowest thou, make suche one to the call? *c* 1600 BACON *Disc. Helps Intell. Powers* Wks. (Spedding) VII. 100 It was many degrees too hot for any man, not made to it, to breathe or take in.

†**b.** To prepare (a person) for a business; to make acquainted, initiate, 'prime'. *Obs. rare.*

1598 B. JONSON *Ev. Man in Hum.* IV. ix, Come, let's before, and make the Iustice, Captaine. 1603 — *Sejanus* II. i, But let Drusus drug Be first prepar'd. *Evd.* Were Lygdus made, that's done. 1624 *Nero* II. in Bullen *O. Pl.* I. 41 Rufus, the Captaine of the Guard, 's with us, And divers other oth' Prætorian band Already made.

46. To effect or secure the success or advancement of; to 'be the making of'; *chiefly*, to endow (a person) with fortune or prosperity; to render independent, set up (*esp.* in *pass.*; cf. MADE *ppl. a.* 7).

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* I. 510 And rycht mayss oft the feble wycht. 1460 *Paston Lett.* I. 535 That yf the Lords .. now discessid myte haf standyn in governans, that Fortesku .. and he, schuld be made for evir. 1579 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 104 It is the eye of the master that fatteth the horse, and the loue of the woeman, that maketh the man. 1598 B. JONSON *Ev. Man in Hum.* II. ii, *Veni, vidi, vici*, I may say with Captayne Caesar, I am made for euer, ifaith. 1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* V. i. 127. *a* 1614 D. DYKE *Myst. Self-deceiving* (ed. 8) 51 If riches bee that that makes men happy (according to the foolish phrase men vse when such things befall one, *O he is made!*). 1675 BROOKS *Gold. Key* Wks. 1867 V. 182 If you embrace him, you are made for ever; but if you reject him, you perish for ever. 1732 BERKELEY *Alciphr.* II. § 2 [That] what one man loses another gets, and that, consequently, as many are made as ruined. 1854 J. S. C. ABBOTT *Napoleon* (1888) II. xxi. 396 Victory made Napoleon, Victory unmade him. 1888 B. W. RICHARDSON *Son of a Star* II. ii. 6 Let him take up a person, and that person is made. 1890 *Sat. Rev.* 8 Feb. 161/2 Bismarck has made Germany.

b. Proverbial phrase. *To make or mar* (occas. *make or break*): to cause either the complete success or the ruin of (a person or thing). Also *absol.*

c 1420 LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 556 Neptunus, that dothe bothe make & marre. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 267 b, Declaring that he was vtterly mynded to put al in hasards to make or marre, & to bee manne or mous. 1591 HARINGTON *Orl. Fur.* V. xix. 33 In vaine I seeke my dukes one to expound, The more I seeke to make the more I mard. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* IV. i. 29 That one did make the other mard againe. 1613 DAY *Festivals* vii. (1615) 206 That Part of a Woman which either makes all, or marres all, I meane her Tongue. 1650 TRAPP *Comm. Lev.* xvi. 33 It beeing the manner that either make's, or mar's an action. 1840 DICKENS *Barn. Rudge* iii, I always tell my girl to make sure beforehand that she has a good man and true, and the chance will neither make her nor break her. 1885 MRS. C. PRAED *Affinities* II. xii. 5 As for Lady Romer's scheme, it is not my business to make or mar it. 1889 STEVENSON *Master of B.* x. 267 Not that you should make and mar behind my back. 1892 *Chamb. Jrnl.* 2 Apr. 216/1 A man is made or marred by his wife.

c. *dial.* To bring up, provide for children.

1725 RAMSAY *Gent. Sheph.* I. ii, To mak' them brats then ye maun toil and spin. 1893 *Eng. Dial. Dict.*, *Make* 23, to foster (Warwicksh.).

47. *To make one's soul* (Anglo-Irish): to devote one's efforts to the saving of one's soul; to repent and be converted.

1836 in C. Forster *Life Bp. Jebb* II. (ed. 2) 112 'Make your soul; there is no time to lose; you will die next November.' 1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* (1864) II. 51 'What's all you can get here compared to making your sowl?'

III. To cause to be or become (something specified).

48. With adj. as compl.: To cause to be, render.

To make English: to translate into English. For *to make even, fast, good, ready, sure, unready, void, waste*; *to make it hot, warm, make things lively*: see the adjs.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* II. 88 Hi..heora lufigendne gemaciaþ weligne ecelice. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 101 Þe oferlifa on hete and on wete macað þene mon unhalne. *c* 1200 ORMIN 995 Smeredd wel wiþþ elesæw & makedd fatt & nesshe. *c* 1205 LAY. 10591 Al þat lond heo makeden west. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 412 Þo hii adde al bar imad þe contrei al aboute. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 11567 Idelnesse makeþ man ful slow. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Pars. T.* P 75 Thrugh synne ther he was free now is he maked bonde. 1483 CAXTON *G. de la Tour* F vij b, At theyr requeste god maad her hole ageyne. 1530 PALSGR. 617/2 He made me more a frayde than I was these twelve monethes. 1549 LATIMER *Serm. Ploughers* (Arb.) 20 Making them supple herted. 1620 T. GRANGER *Div. Logike* A iv b, Each Reader may this Garden make his owne. 1664 EVELYN (*title*) Parallel of the Antient Architecture with the Modern, written by Roland Freart, made English for the benefit of builders by J. Evelyn. 1693 DRYDEN *Juvenal* (1697) Ded. 54 In making these two Authors English. 1709 BERKELEY *Th. Vision* § 119 Any theories of vision hitherto made public. 1768 GOLDSM. *Good-n. Man* III, What makes the bread rising?..What makes the mutton fivepence a pound? 1781 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* XVIII. (1869) I. 496 The elephants, made furious by their wounds, encreased the disorder. 1829 SCOTT *Jrnl.* 8 June, God make me thankful for so cheering a prospect! 1847 MARRYAT *Childr. N. Forest* XVII, On that score you may make your mind easy. 1883 *Century Mag.* XXVI. 239/1 You'll only make bad worse.

b. with pa. pple. as compl. Now chiefly with *known, acquainted, felt, heard, understood*; a pa. pple. which implies the performance of an action is now rarely used without a preceding *to be*.

a 1300 *E. E. Psalter* cii[i]. 7 Kouthe made he to Moises his waies wele. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 26666 Propre þat es þat þou ma knaun nan oþer plighteS bot þin aun. *c* 1384 CHAUCER *H. Fame* I. 155 The greke Synon With his fals forsweryngе ..Made the hors broght in-to troye. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) V. 391 He made alle þe hedes and lymes of mawmettes i-kut of. *c* 1500 *Melusine* (1895) 153 Thus makyng his wounde opend. 1647 W. BROWNE *Polexander* II. IV. P P P 2 b, Polexander..going away, as if afraid, strove to make it believed he had had no advantage ore Almanzor. *a* 1641 BP. MOUNTAGU *Acts & Mon.* (1642) 263 She..secretly made Cleopatra acquainted with it. 1759 JOHNSON *Rasselas* xvi, His generosity made him courted by many dependents. 1812 SIR H. DAVY *Chem. Philos.* 24 Glauber at Amsterdam about 1640 made known several neutral salts. 1818 HOBHOUSE *Italy* (1859) II. App. B. 319 The opposition of a whole life against the nobles made him regarded by all the lower classes, as the great partizan of the democracy. 1827 SOUTHEY *Hist. Penins. War* II. 208 The neighbourhood of Ferrol has made it [Vigo] neglected as a naval station. 1836 J. H. NEWMAN *Lett.* (1891) II. 202 Their coming from you will make them [*sc.* sermons] read. 1892 *Leeds Merc.* 27 Apr. 4/4 If the miners made their power felt.

†**c.** with predicative phr. as compl. *To make* (a place) *in one's way*: to direct one's journey so as to pass by or through it. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 2605 Agar was made wit child in hi. *Ibid.* 9744 For sothfastnes algat sal i At an a-cord mak wit merci. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* XVIII. xx. 761 Now hath dethe made vs two at debate for your loue. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. cl. 73 b, I thynke he neuer made the frenche kyng of knowledge therof. 1530 PALSGR. 627/1 It were a good dede by policye to make them of affynite. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 428 He was not as yet made at one with him. 1601 LYLY *Loues Metam.* V. iv. 12 (Bond) You might haue made me a [=of] counsell of your loues. 1611 BIBLE *Rom.* iv. 14 Faith is made voide, and the promise made of none effect. 1673 NEWTON in Rigaud *Corr. Sci. Men* (1841) II. 361 Mr. Gregory is at London, and intends to make Cambridge in his way into Scotland. 1676 HALE *Contempl.* I. 186 This makes him at a point with these sollicitations, peremptory to conclude [etc.]. 1767 S. PATERSON *Another Trav.* I. 51, I made every bookseller's shop in my way. 1800 LAMB *Let. to Manning* 16 Oct. (Ainger 1888) I. 144, I wish you had made London in your way.

d. *absol.* or with obj. omitted. (For idiomatic phrases with adjs., as *make ready*, † *short*, *sure*, see these words.)

c 1330 *Spec. Gy de Warewyke* 835 Anoþer manere wasshing Makeþ clene of alle þing. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XIX. lxiii. (1495) 899 The substaunce of wheye is watry and makyth thynne. *c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 6 Of resolueres & manere of vndoynge & makynge nessche. 1535 COVERDALE *Prov.* x. 4 An ydle hande maketh poore, but a quycke laboringe hande maketh riche. 1754 RICHARDSON *Grandison* IV. iv. 29 Make happy; and be happy.

e. with refl. pron. as obj. *To make oneself scarce*: see SCARCE *a.*

a 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 233 Se hlaford..dranc and macede hine wel bliðe mid his. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1591 For-ði he maked him stið & strong. *c* 1320 *Sir Trist.* 144 Þai busked and maked hem boun. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1885 He mace hym as mery among þe fre ladyes,..As neuer he did bot þat daye. 1496 *Dives & Paup.* VII. iv. (W. de W.) 280/1 Make the plesaunt in speche to the congregacyon of poore folke. 1621 T. WILLIAMSON tr. *Goulart's Wise Vieillard* Ep. Ded. A iij, That I may not make my selfe otherwise knowne vnto your worship, then by [etc.]. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* III. 199 I'me there arriud, and eftsoones made me bound For the Venetian Consul. 1647 W. BROWNE *Polexander* I. II. 54 Concealing his .. Countrey, [he] made himselfe taken for a kinsman of the last Cacique. 1773 GOLDSM. *Stoops to Conq.* IV, With cunning and malice enough to make himself merry with all our embarrassments. 1779 SHERIDAN *Critic* I. ii, Here are two very civil gentlemen trying to make themselves understood. 1846 DICKENS *Cricket* i. 15 Take the precious darling, Tilly, while I make myself of some use. *a* 1859 DE QUINCEY *Posth. Wks.* (1891) I. 108 This Parker had a 'knack' at making himself odious. 1876 A. S. PALMER *Leaves fr. Wordhunter's Notebk.* xi. 266 Many diseases first make themselves felt in the 'dead of night'. 1888 B. W. RICHARDSON *Son of a Star* II. v. 72 They make themselves quite at home.

¶ f. In *passive* as a literalism for L. *fieri* = to become. (Cf. 9 e, 49 e.)

a 1300 *E. E. Psalter* ci. 7 Like am I made to pellicane of annesse. 13.. *Prose Psalter* lii. 4 Hij ben made improfitable.

49. With sb. as complement. a. To cause (a person or thing) to be or become (what is denoted by the complement).

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* II. 82 Þone ðe he ær ehtende martyr gemacode. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 61 Þo þe was turnd fro him and makede him fieme þere he hadde er louerd iben. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 54 Heo leas hire meidenhod, & was imaked hore. *c* 1305 *St. Andrew* 5 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 98 Come, he seide, after me and ic wole 3ou make Manfischers. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. Prol. 36 Bote Iapers and Iangelers Iudas Children, Founden hem Fantasyes and fooles hem maaden. 1382 WYCLIF *Matt.* xxi. 13 Forsothe 3e han made it a denne of thefes. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Chichev. & Byc.* vii, These husbandes, whiche theyr wyfes Maken maystresses of theyr lives. 1571 *Reg. Gild Co. Chr. York* (1872) 230 *note*, That he may bringe him upp, and maike him a man. 1583 STOCKER *Civ. Warres Lowe C.* IV. 6 The true enheritors .. are disturbed, made no bodies, or vtterly dishenerited of their due succession. 1603 DEKKER & CHETTLE *Grissil* v. ii. (Shaks. Soc.) 81 It's pity that fellow was not made a soldier. *a* 1708 BEVERIDGE *Thes. Theol.* (1711) III. 298 To make onesself a slave for he knows not whom. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* ii. I. 171 The defeat which made him again a wanderer. 1890 T. F. TOUT *Hist. Eng. fr.* 1689, 26 This sentence made the noisy doctor a popular hero.

b. *spec.* To appoint to the office of; to raise to the dignity of; to create (a person) a noble, etc.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 59 He hadde maked adam louerd ouer þis middelherd. *c* 1290 *Beket* 241 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 113 He makede him chanceler. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* II. pr. iii. 25 (Camb. MS.) The remenbraunce of thilke day þat thow saye thi two sones makyd conseileres. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* Table (IX. ix), How..Syr Launcelot ..was made knyght of the rounde table. 1564 *Child Marr.* 132 He askid hym..whom he wold make his executour. *a* 1568 ASCHAM *Scholem.* II. (Arb.) 136 Therefore did som .. cause hedge priestes fette oute of the contrie, to be made fellowes in the vniuersitie. *a* 1715 BURNET *Own Time* (1724) I. 147 One Sir George Mackenzie, since made Lord Tarbot and Earl of Cromarty. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* IV. I. 447 He was made Chamberlain to the Queen. 1890 T. F. TOUT *Hist. Eng. fr.* 1689, 18 She made Marlborough a duke.

c. To determine (a thing, occas. a person) to be (what is expressed by the compl.); to establish or set down as (a law, penalty, etc.). Often with the compl. qualified by a possessive: To take as (one's business, boast, prey, abode, object, etc.).

Sometimes with *it* as formal obj., explained by a following inf. or clause.

1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xi. 46 Thy Ransonner, with woundis fyve, Mak thy plycht anker. 1594 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* I. xi. § 2 Unless the last good of all .. be also infinite, we do evil in making it our end. 1611 BIBLE *Gen.* xlvii. 26 And Ioseph made it a law .. that Pharaoh should haue the fift part. 1630 USSHER *Lett.* (1686) 434 If he fail, I must make you my last refuge. 1659 *Burton's Diary* (1828) IV. 442 No reasoning by scripture will convince them; for they make that but a nose of wax. 1663 *Flagellum or O. Cromwell* (ed. 2) 10 He made it no Punctilio to invite his Roysters to a Barrel of Drink, and give it them at the charge of his Host. 1683 *Apol. Prot. France* Pref. 1 They..make it the utmost penalty..so much as to attempt a departure. 1738 GRAY *Imit. Propertius* II. i. 14 That the soft Subject of my Song I make. 1821 CLARE *Vill. Minstr.* I. 177 Make my cot thy home. 1842 BORROW *Bible in Spain* xii. (Pelh. Libr.) 88, I am not one of those who..make it a constant practice to disparage the higher orders. 1882 STEVENSON *New Arab. Nts.* (1884) 179, I made it my pride to keep aloof. 1885 EDGAR *Old Ch. Life Scotl.* 273 The malediction of a parent was made a capital offence. 1893 LIDDON, etc. *Life Pusey* I. xv. 342 To make the reality and value of sacramental grace a main interest of his life.

d. To transform, transmute, or fashion into something else. Chiefly in *passive*, after L. *fieri. Obs.* or *arch.*: the notion is usually expressed by *to make .. into* (see 50), or, with reversed construction, *to make .. of* (see 18).

c 1200 ORMIN 19201 Godess Word iss makedd flæsh. 1382 WYCLIF *Matt.* iv. 3 3if thou be Goddis sone, say that these stoons be made looues. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Knt.'s T.* 1207 There saugh I Attheon an hert ymaked. 1611 BIBLE *Isa.* xlii. 15, I will make the riuers Ilands. *a* 1708 BEVERIDGE *Thes. Theol.* (1710) II. 222 The Word .. how made flesh?

¶ e. In *passive* as a literalism for L. *fieri* = to become. (Cf. 9 e, 48 f.)

1382 WYCLIF 1 *Cor.* xiii. 11 Whanne I was maad man.

† f. In early use, a dative preceded by *to* (in OE. rarely a simple dative) occurs in place of the complementary accusative. *Obs.*

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *De Vet. Test.* (Gr.) 2 [Lucifer] wolde .. þurh modignesse hine macian to gode. — *Gen.* xii. 2 Ic macize þe mycelre mæzðe [Vulg. *faciam te in gentem magnam*]. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 103 Heo [*sc.* pride] macode englas to ateliche deoflan. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 193 Talewise men .. maken wrong to rihte and riht to wronge. *c* 1205 LAY. 29985 Heo makeden to kinge Cadwan þene kene. 13.. *K. Horn* 522 (Ritson) Horn .. made hem alle to knyhte.

50. Const. *into.* To convert by process of manufacture or otherwise into something else; to work upon (materials) so as to produce (something).

1583 *Leg. Bp. St. Androis* 568 He causit an talyeour turne it [a cloak] and mak it Into wich maill [='into the said portmanteau']. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* III. 115 Fresh curds newly pressed, and made into little cheeses. 1710 PRIDEAUX *Orig. Tithes* ii. 76 The Grapes made into Wine, the Olives into Oyl. 1791 in R. W. Dickson *Pract. Agric.* (1805) I. 486 Mowing the first crop o 2 6. Making it into hay o 2 6. 1820 W. IRVING *Sketch Bk.* (1849) 286 *note*, Sometimes it [the peacock] was made into a pie. 1895 *19th Cent.* Aug. 329 You think that *The Wages of Sin* might be made into a play. 1900 JENKS *Hist. Politics* vii. (ed. 2) 60 The wife and daughters of the shepherd..make the milk of the herds into butter and cheese.

intr. for *passive.* 1893 *Illustr. Sport. & Dram. News* 8 Apr. 165/2 A little corner flap-table which makes into a good-sized square when the flap is up.

b. To arrange, divide, or combine so as to form.

1849 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* X. I. 134 The wheaten straw is carefully made into bundles. 1879 MISS VONGE *Cameos* Ser. IV. xvi. 169 Worcester was suppressed and made into an archdeaconry. 1888 G. GISSING *Life's Morning* III. xix. 110 The shopman put them aside, to be made into a parcel.

51. To regard as, consider or compute to be; to describe or represent as (so-and-so); to cause to appear as. (Cf. 56.) a. with sb. as compl.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 224 Seinte Powel cleopeð hine 'angelum lucis' þet is, engel of liht vor swuch he makeð him ofte. *a* 1400 *Sir Perc.* 1086 What knyghtees that,..That thou mase of thy menynge? 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xxii. 36 Thocht I in court be maid refuss. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 3 In graunting of the same [he] maketh the byshop of Rome a great Prince. 1649 MILTON *Eikon.* v. Wks. (1847) 289/1 Was this becoming such a saint as they would make him? 1699 T. BAKER *Refl. Learning* xiii. 161 He is not that Goose and Ass that Valla would make him. *a* 1700 DRYDEN *Ovid's Met.* xv. Argt. *Fables* (1700) 503 Ovid..makes Numa the Schollar of Pythagoras. 1707 *Curios. in Husb. & Gard.* Pref. 5 The Peripateticks..made Nature a Goddess. 1849 *Tait's Mag.* XVI. 279/2 Some argue that they are Picts, and some make them Northmen. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* III. xiii, What time may you make it, Mr. Twemlow? 1892 *Field* 27 Feb. 302/1 The distance travelled I make by the map five miles.

b. with adj., † pa. pple., or † phrase as compl.

1581 PETTIE *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* I. (1586) 17 b, To saie, y^t euerie man should haue an eie onelie to his owne affaires, is nothing else but to make man like to beasts. 1599 THYNNE *Animadv.* (1875) 32 Not withstandinge that Hollybande, in his frenche-Englishe dictionarye, make yt of the valewe of a duckett. 1676 HOBBES *Iliad* Pref. (1686) 4 Homer begins not his Iliad with the injury done by Paris but makes it related by Menelaus. *a* 1687 PETTY *Pol. Arith.* x. (1690) 117 The King's Subjects are not in so bad a condition as discontented Men would make them. 1736 LEOIARD *Life Marlborough* II. 201 The Enemy's Army is not so numerous as they make it. 1863 LOCKYER *Guillemin's Heavens* (ed. 3) 493 This climate .. is not so bad .. as some Anglophobes would make it. 1879 M. J. GUEST *Lect. Hist. Eng.* xiv. 128 Macbeth is not half so bad as the play makes him.

c. *To make nothing* (*to do* something): to look upon it as no great thing, not to stick at it. (Cf. 21.)

1675 H. MORE in R. Ward *Life* (1710) 245 If a Man make nothing to halt and faulter in the first..Sin. *a* 1716 SOUTH *Serm.* (1843) II. vii. 105 One of the greatest..courage, who makes nothing to look death and danger in the face. 1720 DE FOE *Capt. Singleton* v. (1840) 89 Ten men..took up one of the canoes, and made nothing to carry it.

† d. *refl.* with sb. or adj. as compl.: To maintain or pretend that one is (so-and-so). *Obs.* (Cf. *make out*, 91 j.)

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 128 Ant te valse ancre..makieð ham [*sic*] oðre þen ha beoð. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 14684 Þou mas þe godd, and þou art man. 1382 WYCLIF *John* viii. 53 Whom makist thou thi silf? *c* 1440 *Floris & Bl.* 76 (Trentbam MS.) V rede eke þat þe maydens moder make hur seek. 1533 in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* (1721) I. I. xxi. 152 The same Act may be ..set up on every church door..to the intent that no parson ..nor any other of the king's subjects, shall make themselves ignorant thereof. 1535 COVERDALE 2 *Sam.* xiii. 6 So Ammon layed him downe, and made him sicke. 1648 JENKYN *Blind Guide* I. 13 He makes himself a ballad-maker.

e. *Make it so* (Naut. phr.): see quot. 1867. Also *to make noon*, etc.

1835 MARRYAT *Olla Podr.* xiv, The master reported that the heavens intimated that it was twelve o'clock; and..I ordered him to 'make it so'. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk., Make it so*, the order of a commander to confirm the time, sunrise, noon, or sunset, reported to him by the officer of the watch. 1892 STEVENSON & OSBOURNE *Wrecker* xii. 203 Noon was made; the captain dined.

IV. Causative uses.

52. With dependent clause: To cause (something to happen); to bring it about (*that* something happens). *Obs.* exc. *arch.*

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Exod.* v. 21 Ze habbað..gemacod þat hiz wyllað us mid hyra swurdum ofslean. *c* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1075 Þæt landfolc him togeanes comen & gemacodon þæt he naht ne dyde. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 31 Ðus deuel egged ælch man on his herte, and macað þat he wule do þat he him to teihte. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Sompn. T.* 176 The clennesse and the fastynge of vs freres Maketh þat crist accepteth oure preyeres. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* x. 141 This makis it, thow art cled with our men. *c* 1485 *Digby Myst.* v. 581 That mase, that all vnkunnynge I disdeyne. 1526 TINDALE *John* xi. 37 Conlde not he which openned the eyes of the blynde have made also that this man shulde not haue deyed? 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* IX. 381 This..maketh that the Hennes with them are so innumerable. 1674 MARVELL *Corr.* Wks. 1872–5 II. 418 Sir Jeremy being out of town..makes that I can not returne any proper or perfect answer. *a* 1715 BURNET *Own Time* (1724) I. 197 The Convocation being no more necessary to the Crown, this made that there was less regard had to them afterwards. 1885 MRS. LYNN LINTON *Chr. Kirkland* III. viii. 271 That well-known law, so disastrous to stock-raisers, which makes that, when the breed has been brought to the highest possible point of perfection, it stops.

53. With obj. and inf.: To cause a person or thing to do something; to have something done to a person or thing. a. const. inf. without *to*: now normally used only when both *make* and the dependent verb are in the active voice; otherwise *arch.*

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 159 Swa makeð þe halie gast þe Mon bi-halden up to houene. *a* 1225 *Juliana* 38 Ich makede þen wittie ysaye beon isahet þurh ant þurh to deaðe. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 7669 King willam adauntede þat folc of walis & made hom bere him truage. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 8175 Als a fische þou made me fere. 1340 *Ayenb.* 47 Hy..diȝtep ham þe more quayntelichе..uor to maki musi þe soles to ham. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 202 At Knaresburgh be nyhtes two The kinges Moder made him duelle. *c* 1450 *Merlin* 29 The kynge made hem alle be Shett in a stronge house. 14.. in *Hist. Coll. Citizen Lond.* (Camden) 194 The carte was made stonde stylle. 1502 *Ord. Crysten Men* (W. de W. 1506) I. iii. 21 Our lorde y^t..this present worlde shall make brenne by fyre. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 64 Trew Faith, Lord, mak vs fang. 1600 W. WATSON *Decacordon* (1602) 343 Pius Quintus..was made beleeue that the Duke of Norfolke was a Catholike. 1650 BAXTER *Saints' R.* IV. (1651) 36 What made Peter deny his Lord? 1680 BURNET *Rochester* 142 He had made it be read so often to him that he had got it by heart. 1736 BUTLER *Anal.* I. v. P 8 Their character is formed and made appear. 1738 SWIFT *Pol. Conversat.* 29, I wonder what makes these Bells ring. 1814 MRS. J. WEST *Alicia de Lacy* IV. 275 He made quail the courage of the heroic prince. 1847 MARRYAT *Childr. N. Forest* iii, Now I'll cut up the onions, for they will make your eyes water. 1896 A. E. HOUSMAN *Shropshire Lad* iii. You will..make the foes of England Be sorry you were born.

b. const. inf. with *to*, † *for to*: now normally used only when *make* is in the passive voice; otherwise somewhat *arch.*

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 11 Þe deuel..makeð þe unbilefulle man to leuen swilche wiȝeles. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 224 Of þen oðer holie monne þet he makede uorte ileuen þet he was engel. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. Prol. 113 Miȝt of þe comunes made hym [a king] to regne. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Pars. T.* P 540 Flaterye..maketh a man to enhauncen his herte. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* Prol. 2 [They] han therbi maad ful miche indignacioun .. forto rise and be contynued in manie persoones. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Blanchardyn* xlviii. 185 He shal to morowe make hym to be hanged. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* lviii. 196 He made to be cryed through the cyte, that euery man sholde make him redy. 1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* V. xxxv. 72 He therefore which made vs to liue hath also taught vs to pray. 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* III. ii. 254, I am made to vnderstand, that you haue lent him visitation. 1616 S. WARD *Coale fr. Altar* (1627) 62 Violent affections haue made the dumbe to finde a tongue. 1746 W. LEWIS *Chem.* 31 *note*, Many such phænomena may be easily made to appear..by exposing solutions of..metals [etc.]. 1859 F. E. PAGET *Curate of Cumberworth* 153 Making the dust to fly in all directions. 1889 FROUDE *Two Chiefs Dunboy* ix. 110 A bath..made the lame to walk and the blind to see. 1893 *Graphic* 29 Apr. 458/1 A Budget which maketh the Opposition to jeer. 1896 A. E. HOUSMAN *Shropshire Lad* xxxiii, I think the love I bear you Should make you not to die. *Mod.* The two statements can hardly be made to agree.

c. In proverbial phrases: *to make both ends meet* (END *sb.* 24), *one's hair stand on end*, etc.

1534 MORE *Comf. agst. Trib.* II. v. (1847) 100 He made my own hair stand up upon my head. 1623 HEMINGE & CONDELL *1st Folio Shaks.* To Rdr., Censure will not driue a Trade, or make the lacke go. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* IV. 92 And thus went he on for twelve years, and tho' he had a good estate, hardly making both ends meet. *Ibid.* 187 Money makes the mare to go. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* VI. ii. P 1 With such a sum .. it might be said, without boasting, that we knew how to make both ends meet. 1825 J. NEAL *Bro. Jonathan* I. 94 He'd make the feathers fly..I believe.

† d. with ellipsis of an indef. obj. (e.g. *one*). (Cf. Do *v.* B. 23, GAR *v.* 2 d.) *Obs.*

c 1302 *Pol. Songs* (Camden) 191 We sbule flo the Conyng, ant make roste is loyne. *c* 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 2166 (*Ariadne*) He made his ship a londe for to sette. *a* 1425 *Cursor M.* 6615 (Trin.) Þis golden calf he made [*other texts* did, gart] to brest to peces. *a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* (1868) 6 Whanne her fader wost she was with childe, he made cast ber in to the riuer. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* lxiv. 14 This gentill herte..Quhois petewous deithe dois to my hart sic pane That I wald mak to plant his rute agane. 1560 WHITEHORNE *Arte Warre* (1573) 71 Many times tbe saying backe, backe, hath made to ruinate an armie.

e. *To make believe*: † (*a*) [after F. *faire croire*] to cause people to believe (chiefly with clause) (*obs.*); (*b*) in mod. use, to pretend *to do* something; to simulate a belief *that*; now often (said, e.g., of children in play), to subject oneself voluntarily to the illusion *that*. (Now often hyphened.)

1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 231 And thus Fa crere makth believe So that fulofte he hath deceived. 1643 TRAPP *Comm. Gen.* xix. 2 If Solomon sinned not in making beleeve he would do that which was unlawful to be done. 1716 C'TESS COWPER *Diary* (1864) 64 Some Passages were wrote on purpose to make believe it was Sir R. Steele. 1738 tr. *Guazzo's Art Conversation* 31 Solitude..makes believe Things that have no Existence but in the Brain. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1811) III. 250 A false letter..macking believe as how her she-cuezen ..was coming to see her. 1773 GOLDSM. *Stoops to Conq.* IV, You were so nice and so busy with your Shakebags and Goose-greens, that I thought you could never be making believe. 1806 SURR *Winter in Lond.* I. 141 He makes believe to work a little now and then, when he's well enough. 1840 DICKENS *Barn. Rudge* xvii, When I shut my eyes and make-believe to slumber. 1862 KINGSLEY *Water-Bab.* ii, We will make believe that there are fairies in the world. 1874 MICKLETHWAITE *Modern Par. Churches* 99 Do not make-believe with a shabby-genteel substitute. 1890 *Spectator* 15 Mar., To make believe that the country is excited about a discussion which [etc.].

54. To constrain (a person) *to do* something, by an exercise of influence, authority, or actual or threatened violence; to compel, force. (*To* is now always omitted before the inf. when *make* is active; in 16–17th c. this rule was not always followed.)

c 1592 MARLOWE *Jew of Malta* IV. iv, I'le make him send me half he has, & glad he scapes so too. 1592 GREENE *Upst. Courtier* Wks. (Grosart) XI. 227, I will make thee do me homage. 1593 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI*, I. i. 142 He rose against him, being his Soueraigne, And made him to resigne his Crowne perforce. 1646 FULLER *Wounded Consc.* (1841) 311 Man can neither make him to whom he speaks, to hear what he says, or believe what he hears. 1662 STRYPE in *Lett. Lit. Men* (Camden) 179 He made me stay and sup with him. 1721–2 WODROW *Suffer. Ch. Scot.* (1837) II. II. xiii. § 5. 456/2 Sir, we will cause a sharper thing make you confess. 1852 THACKERAY *Esmond* I. v, Harry..made her bring a light and wake my lady. 1879 M. J. GUEST *Lect. Hist. Eng.* x. 89 The Church made him do penance for it.

b. with ellipsis of the inf. Common *colloq.*

1888 *Times* 11 Aug. 9/5 The enemy will not play the game according to the rules, and there are none to make him.

† 55. With ellipsis of the vb. of motion: To send or cause to go in a specified direction. *Obs. rare.* Cf. *make forth* 87 b, *make out* 91 a (*c*).

13.. *Evang. Nicod.* 86 in Herrig *Archiv* LIII. 393 Tyll Alexander .. In message was I made. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 195 Anniball..made [L. *misit*] after him certaine light horsemen to ouertake him.

56. To consider, represent, or allege *to* be or do something. (Cf. 51.)

1594 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* I. viii. § 5 This did the very heathens themselves obscurely insinuate, by making Themis ..to be the daughter of heaven and earth. 1662 STILLINGFL. *Orig. Sacr.* I. i. § 20 Parius..makes his coming to Greece to be in the time of Hellen. 1687 BURNET *Repl. Varillas* 144 Varillas must be Sublime in every thing, so he makes him to have lived till he was 99. 1724 RAMSAY *Some Contents of 'Evergreen'* i, Balantyne..Makis Vertew triumph. 1825 *New Monthly Mag.* XIV. 543 Your sight is better than mine, what do you make that bird to be? 1868 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1876) II. App. 631 Most of the Chronicles make Richard die in 1026. 1875 SAYCE in *Encycl. Brit.* III. 182/2 Even the estimate of Ctesias, however, would make Babylon cover a space of about 100 square miles.

† b. To show or allege *that* something is the case.

1555 WATREMAN *Fardle of Facions* I. v. 50 All whiche their doynges, dooe manifestly make, that thei came of the Aethiopes. 1586–7 Q. ELIZ. *Let. to Jas. VI* (Camden Soc.) 44 Yet the[y] wyl make that her [Mary's] life may be saved and myne safe, wiche wold God wer true.

V. To do, perform, accomplish.

57. From the 12th c. *make* (corresponding to L. *facere*, F. *faire*) has been extensively used with a noun of action as object, where the older language would have used the verb *gewyrcan* (WORK) or *dón* (Do). † a. In various obsolete uses: To work (a miracle); to commit (a sin, crime, fault), 'tell' (a lie); to do (justice, mercy); to give (alms). *Obs.*

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Jos.* ii. 12 Swerias me..þæt ge don eft wið me swilce mildheortnisse, swa ic macode wið eow [L. *quomodo ego misericordiam feci vobiscum*]. *c* 1154 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1137 P 7 He maket þur ure Drihtin wunderlice & manifældlice miracles. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 29 þenne þu almesse makest. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 163 Telle me ssal herafterward of þes wondres .. & hou hii were verst imaked. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 28120 And titter wald i lesyng make, þan man my worde vn-treu to take. *Ibid.* 28777 Vnnait is þat almusthing þat þou þe mas of reuid thing. *c* 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 343 A tresoun þer was made. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. v. 73 On owre lady be cryed, To make mercy for his mis-dedes. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* (E.E.T.S.) 10478 He made Achilles lene his chace, That he no lenger mordur mace. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) xxv. 261 That was a gret Myracle, that God made for hem. 1459 *Peebles Charters* etc. (1872) 133 Thai haf ordanit .. for the faut that he made, that he pay to the tolbuth xs. 1483 CAXTON *G. de la Tour* F v b, That such justyce should be made of Aman as [etc.]. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xlix. 43 The murtherer ay mvrthour mais. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* xxxvii. 116 Huon thus beyng in dyspleasure with hym selfe for the lye that he made. 1621 BOLTON *Stat. Irel.* 16 The Sheriffe of the county shall..make levy of the money aforesaid. *a* 1715 BURNET *Own Time* (1724) I. 149 His design being..to..save himself from the malice and lies of others, and not to make lies of any.

b. To wage (WAR). So *to make* † *battle*, (*a*) *fight*, † *an army* (= expedition). Also, † to serve or take part in (a campaign).

c 1205 LAY. 627 Stal fiht heo makeden. *c* 1460 FORTESCUE *Abs. & Lim. Mon.* vi. (1885) 123 For the brekynge off an armye when any shall be made ayen hym apon þe see. 1530 PALSGR. 620/1 He made batayle agaynst hym tenne yeres. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 262 b, Sylla..who made ciuile battail wt Marius. 1594 KYD *Cornelia* IV. i. 131 These Nations did he purposely prouoke, To make an Armie for his after-ayde Against the Romans. 1647 [see CAMPAIGN *sb.* 3]. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* VII. xi, [He] told the latter many entertaining stories of his campaigns, though in reality he had never made any. 1814 SCOTT *Wav.* x, Mr. Bradwardine..made some campaigns in foreign service. 1858 THACKERAY *Virgin.* vii, To make the campaign was the dearest wish of Harry's life.

c. To perform (a bodily movement or gesture, e.g. one expressive of respect or of contempt).

For *to make a* (or *one's*) *bow*, *make courtesy*, *make a curtsy*, *make a face* (*at*), *make horns at*, *make a leg*, *make* (*an*) *obeisance*, *a salaam*, see the sbs.

c 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xxvi. 122 Þai do grete wirschepe also to þe sonne, and mase many knelinges þerto. 1484, etc. [see OBEISANCE 3]. 1508 DUNBAR *Tua Mariit Wemen* 117 Quhen I heir nemmyt his name, than mak I nyne crocis. 1570, etc. [see FACE *sb.* 6 b]. 1583 GOLDING *Calvin on Dent.* clxii. 1003 They make but a figge at it. 1632 MASSINGER & FIELD *Fatal Dowry* v. ii, The people, apt to mocke calamity, ..made no hornes at me. 1719–1805 [see HONOUR *sb.* 5 b]. 1734 tr. *Rollin's Anc. Hist.* (1827) I. 66 Jumping, skipping and making variety of strange unnatural motions. 1776 *Trial of Nundocomar* 70/2, I..made my salam to him. 1847 MARRYAT *Childr. N. Forest* XXVII, The King .. made a low obeisance to the window where they were standing.

d. To enter into, conclude (a bargain, contract). So, *to make a marriage* (now only *legal*).

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1269 He bad him maken siker pliȝt Of luue and trewðe. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 10781 Þe spusail þat was mad þar. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. II. 26 To-Morwe worth þe Mariage I-mad. 1508 DUNBAR *Tua Mariit Wemen* 56 God gif matrimony were made to mell for ane yeir. 1530 PALSGR. 586/2, I holde it, as we saye whan we make bargen. 1535 COVERDALE 1 *Kings* iii. 1 Salomon made mariage with Pharao the kynge of Egipte, & toke Pharaos doughter. 1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* II. iii. 39 Though I make this marriage for my peace. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* Rev. & Concl. 391 A Contract lawfully made, cannot lawfully be broken. *a* 1715 BURNET *Own Time* (1724) I. 562 The marriage that was now made with the brother of Denmark. 1722 DE FOE *Relig. Courtsh.* I. i. (1840) 8 Have you been both making your bargains? 1845 STEPHEN *Comm. Laws Eng.* (1874) II. 261 Having thus shown how marriage may be made.

e. *Eccl.* in certain phrases, as *to make* (*one's*) *confession*. † *To make the sacrament*: to celebrate the Eucharist (*obs.*). *To make one's Communion*: to communicate. Also, to perform, 'do' (penance).

[*c* 1320 R. BRUNNE *Medit.* 196 He seyd, 'make þ ys yn my mende'.] *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 327 Confessioun þat man makiþ of synne is made of man in two maners. Summe is mad oonly to god...And sum confessioun is made to man. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) vii. 80 Thei maken here Sacrement of the Awtier, seyenge, *Pater noster*, and other Preyeres. *c* 1511 *1st Eng. Bk. Amer.* (Arb.) Introd. 31/1 They make the sacrament in bronne brede. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* IV. xix. 133 b, Making their sacrament according to the Roman maner, with a round cake. 1705 BP. WILSON in Keble *Life* vii. (1863) 233 To make one Sunday's penance apiece in penitential habit in Kirk Michael Church. 1888 W. J. KNOX-LITTLE *Child of Stafferton* xii. 151 He intended to make his confession that night and to make his Communion in the morning.

f. With reference to locomotion or travel, in phrases *to make an excursion*, *an expedition*, *a journey*, *a pace*, *a passage*, *a progress*, *a step* (now rare), *a tour*, *a trip*, *a voyage*, † *to make one's course*, † *to make return* (= to come back), *to make one's way*, *to make a circuit*: see the sbs.

English idiom is app. capricious in excluding many locutions which would seem to be parallel with these; we cannot, e. g. use *make* with obj. *a ride*, *a walk* (cf. G. *einen Spaziergang machen*).

c 1290 [see COURSE *sb.* 2]. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 6377 Þe son and þe mone þair course mas. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron. Edw. IV* 209 And as the kyng with sayle and ower was makynge his course as fast as coulde be possible. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* VI. v. 291 If we imagine the Sun to make his Course out of the Eclyptick. 1828 J. H. MOORE *Pract. Navig.* (ed. 20) 102 A ship from the Lizard makes her course S. 39° W.

g. To deliver orally. Now only *to make a speech*, *an oration*; formerly also † *to make* (*a*) *sermon*. (See the sbs.)

† h. *To make memory* (*min*, *mind*, *minning*): to commemorate, record (see the sbs.). *Obs.*

† i. ? *absol.* To have effect, operate. *Obs.*

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 557 Beleue wyl make þere þe wurde no myȝt may take.

58. In questions introduced by an objective *what*, e.g. *What make you here?* = What are you doing here? What is your business, right, or purpose? Now *arch.* (Common in 16–17th c.)

13.. *Cursor M.* 10990 (Cott.) Þe folk ...Thoght ferli quat wit þis he madde [*Fairf.* Wondird what he was a-bowte]. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 2908 Bedis buske þe to batell quat makis [*v. r.* mase] þou here? *c* 1435 *Torr. Portugal* 2151 What makist thou in this contre? 1535 COVERDALE *Judg.* xviii. 3 Who broughte yᵉ hither? What makest thou here? 1601 MARSTON *Pasquil & Kath.* II. 66 Alas, good aged sir, what make you vp? 1602 KYD *Sp. Trag.* III. xii. (A). 24 *Hier.* What make you with your torches in the darke? *a* 1616 BEAUM. & FL. *Cust. Country* III. iii, What made you wandring So late i' th' night? 1677 WOOD *Life* (O.H.S.) II. 399 The proctor met him and ask'd him what he made out so late. 1693 DRYDEN *Persius* v. (1697) 482 Friend, What dost thou make a Shipboard? 1715–20 POPE *Iliad* XVI. 247 If that dire fury must for ever burn, What make we here? 1823 SCOTT *Quentin D.* xxi, What should my daughter make here at such an onslaught? 1842 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. II. *Misadv. Margate*, I saw a little vulgar Boy—I said, 'What make you here?'

b. Hence, by inversion of the preceding construction: *What makes you here?* taken as if = 'What causes you to be here?' (Cf. branch IV.)

1658 R. FRANCK *North. Mem.* (1694) 28 What makes him there? 1676 ETHEREDGE *Man of Mode* v. i, *Footman*. Madam, Mr. Dorimant! *Lov.* What makes him here? 1688 SHADWELL *Sqr. Alsatia* 1, What makes you abroad so early? 1797 COLERIDGE *Christabel* 1, What makes her in the wood so late A furlong from the castle gate?

59. With sbs. expressing the action of vbs. (whether etymologically cognate or not), *make* forms innumerable phrases approximately equivalent in sense to those verbs. In some of these phrases the obj.-noun appears always without qualifying word; in others it may be preceded by the indefinite article, or by a possessive adj. relating to the subject of the sentence. When standing alone, the combination of *make* with its object is equivalent to a verb used *intr.* or *absol.*; but in many instances the obj.-noun admits or requires construction with *of*, and this addition converts the phrase into the equivalent of a transitive verb. In this Dictionary these phrases are usually illustrated (and if necessary explained) under their respective sbs.; but a selection of them is given here in order to exhibit the variety of applications. (For the illustration of those phrases which are enumerated without quotations, see the sbs.)

Many of the ME. phrases of this type are literal renderings of phrases with L. *facere* or F. *faire*, the sb. being often adopted from one of those languages. In early use a gerund in *-ing* was often the obj. of *make*, but this is now rare.

a. The following are still more or less in use: *To make an abatement*, (*one's*) *abode*, *abstraction*, *an acknowledgement*, *an acquisition*, *an address*, *an advance*, (*an*) *affirmation*, *an allegation*, (*an*) *allowance*, *an animadversion*, (*an*) *answer*, *an appeal*, *an* (also *one's*) *appearance*, (*an*) *application*, *an ascent*, *an assault*, *an assay*, *an assertion*, (*an*) *assurance*, *atonement*, *an attack*, *an attempt*, (*an*) *avowal*, *an award*, *a beginning*, *a bid*, *a blunder*, (*a*, *one's*) *boast*, *a calculation*, *a call*, *a challenge*, *a change*, (*a*) *choice*, (*a*) *claim*, *a climb*, *a comment*, *a comparison*, *a complaint*, *a computation*, *a cut*, *a dash*, *a defence*, *delay*, *a demonstration*, *a discovery*, *a donation*, *an endeavour*, *an entrance*, *an error*, *an essay*, *an excavation*, (*an*) *exception*, (*an*) *exchange*, (*an*) *excuse*, *an experiment*, *an explanation*, *a find*, *a gift*, *a grant*, *haste*, *an incision*, (*an*) *inquiry*, *inquisition*, *intercession*, *a joke*, *lamentation*, *a landing*, *mention*, *a mistake*, *a motion*, *mourning*, *a move*, *narration*, (*an*) *oath*, (*an*) *objection*, *an observation*, *an offer*, *an offering*, *a* (*one's*) *petition*, *pretence*, *pretension*, (*a*) *proclamation*, (*a*) *profession*, *a proffer*, *progress*, *a promise*, *proof*, *a proposal*, *a proposition*, *a protest*, *provision*, *a recovery*, *a remark*, (*a*) *reply*, *reprisals*, (*a*) *request*, *resistance*, *restitution*, (*a*) *retreat*, *a sacrifice*, *a sale*, (*a*) *search*, (*a*) *shift*, *a shot*, *slaughter*, *a slip*, *a stand*, *a start*, *a stay*, *a surrender*, *a transition*, *a translation*, (*a*) *trial*, *use*, *one's vaunt*, *a venture*, *a vow*.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 6 Non ancre bi mine read ne schal makien professiunn..bute þreo þinges. *c* 1320 *Sir Beues* 215 (MS. A.) A prikede out be-fore is ost, For pride and for make bost. *c* 1384 CHAUCER *H. Fame* II. 416 For whom was maked moch complеynt. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* ix. 85 To proper curat to mak confessioun trew. 1530 PALSGR. 621/1, I make clayme to a thyng by processe of the lawe. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* xxxii. 96 Agaynst that Gyaunt thou canst make no resystence. 1563–4 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 256 In presence of the Queins Majestie..comperit Johne Erle of Athole, and maid this offer underspecifiit. 1616 R. C. *Times' Whistle* v. 1886 Let's make a challenge. 1640 HABINGTON *Edw. IV* 3 Hee..lookt about, where he might on the best advantage make experience of his fortune. 1660 INGELO *Bentiv. & Ur.* II. (1682) 164 The obedient Theoprepians made appearance at the time appointed. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* I. ii. 25 This Observation was first made by Thales Milesius. 1680 AUBREY in *Lett. Eminent Persons* (1813) III. 386 'Twas a minute watch, wᵗʰ wᶜʰ he made his experiments. *a* 1687 SIR W. PETTY in *Hale's Acc. New Invent.* 132 We shall..make some animadversions upon each of the three great branches of that Expence. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 1 P 5 There is no Place of general Resort, wherein I do not make my Appearance. *a* 1715 BURNET *Own Time* (1724) I. 361 The House of Commons resolved..to make an address to the King. 1796 NELSON 11 Sept. in Nicolas *Disp.* (1846) VII. p. cxi, To make reprisals for the value of the property. 1836 CALHOUN *Sp.* 9 Mar., Wks. 1864 II. 483 Whenever the attempt shall be made to abolish slavery. 1842 BORROW *Bible in Spain* xxvii. (Pelh. Libr.) 192 He advised me to..obtain permission to make excavations. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* iii. I. 340 *note*, I have made allowance for the increase. 1867 MILL *Subj. Women* (1869) 98 Let us at first make entire abstraction of all psychological considerations tending to show, that [etc.]. 1870 E. PEACOCK *Ralf Skirl.* III. 199 No explanation had been made. 1870

DICKENS *E. Drood* iii, The rest [of the streets] being mostly disappointing yards with..no thoroughfare—exception made of the Cathedral-close. **1879** M. ARNOLD *Mixed Ess.* 340 That astonishing recovery which France has made since her defeat. **1883** *Century Mag.* XXVI. 245/1 [He] made a cut at something in the water. **1887** RIDER HAGGARD *Jess* xxviii, Still the old man made no comment.

†**b.** The following are examples of the obsolete uses: *To make abode* (but cf. *to make one's abode*), *abstinence, (an) assembly, one's avaunt, avauntment, baptizing, bodeword, a boon* (= prayer), *cease, delaying, ending, experience, an exposition, one's flitting, a gathering, greeting, hesitation, a hunt, information, an invitation, a kneeling, a meeting, menace, mourning, muster, ockering, an operation, (one's) orison, overdoing, parlage, plaint, prayer, process, procession, ransoming, one's recourse, refuge, residence, revenge, roos, rosing, show, showing, sojourn, spare, speaking, store, supply, supplying, tarrying, watch, witnessing, yelp* (*yelp* = boast).

c 1154 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1137 ☞ 2 þa macod he his gadering æt Oxene ford. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 91 Elhc cristene man makeð þis dai procession fro chirche to chirche. *c* 1205 LAY. 26451 For æuere heo ȝelp makieð. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 8126 Þei..made ilkan þair orison. *Ibid.* 12274 Quen þe angell hir bodeword made. *Ibid.* 12518 Þai..to bethleem þair flitting made. *Ibid.* 12776 Þat he now suilk baptiszing mass. *Ibid.* 13104 For to mak ending o mi tale. *Ibid.* 14334 Til fader his he made a bon. *Ibid.* 28817 Þou þat okering mas wit man. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (Rolls) 11669, & of þis þey make auauntement. 1340 *Ayenb.* 240 Sobrete lokeþ mesure ine mete and ine drinke þet me ne maki overdoinge. 13.. *Childh. Jesus* 1527 Þat noman ne miȝte make delayinge Of þing þat he wolde don. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxxiii. (*George*) 797 Ambrose to þis mais witnesing. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) v. 44 There he made the Expositioun of Dremes. 1449 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 147/2 Of the which offenses, they hadde be..required..to make cesse. 1483 CAXTON *G. de la Tour* H iij, They..fasted and made abstynence. 1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* xl. 17 Make no longe tarienge o my God. 1563 *Homilies* II. *Rogat. Week* II. (1859) 480 The Wise Man..made his recourse to God for it. 1632 HOLLAND *Cyrupædia* 102 As touching the money in coine .. they would then make partage thereof. 1715 DESAGULIERS *Fires Impr.* 137 Make several Chymical Operations. *a* 1715 BURNET *Own Time* (1724) I. 595 The Pope..made great returns of money into Germany. 1769 GOLDSM. *Hist. Rome* (1786) I. 106 Veturia, the mother of Coriolanus, at first made some hesitation to undertake so pious a work. 1771 — *Hist. Eng.* IV. 161 A French officer, who had made some useful informations relative to the affairs of France. 1821 J. FOWLER *Jrnl.* (1898) 69 To morrow the Indeans make a Hunt.

60. To eat (a meal).

1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 127 On a tyme Diogenes made al his dyner with Olines onely. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* I. (1586) 15 That they make not to great meales, but eate little and often. 1662 J. DAVIES tr. *Olearius' Voy. Ambass.* 270 Some times our people made but one meal a day. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* V. 465 There take large draughts; make her chief banquet there. 1859 JEPHSON *Brittany* xix. 311 As I made my delicious and refreshing luncheon of green figs. 1864 LEMON *Loved at last* I. vi. 145, I never made a better dinner in my life. 1890 *Longm. Mag.* July 254 He made his simple morning meal.

61. To offer, present, render. †Formerly in many specific applications: to 'do' (homage, fealty); to 'pay' (some mark of respect); to render (support, aid); to present (a person's 'compliments'); to propound (a question); to give (an instance, notice, a reason, warning) (*obs.*). Also in *to make amends*, † *asseth, satisfaction*: see the sbs. Const. *to* or *dative.*

The phr. *to make love* (see LOVE *sb.* 6 g) may perh. be referred to this sense.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 20620 Al heuen court sal serue þe, To mak þe manred. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 6461 Conan made hym þer fewte. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* v. 297 And he him-self first homage maid. *Ibid.* 502 Thai maid him mony tyme varnyng. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxxvi. (*Baptista*) 352 He bad þaim..sic demand hym ma [etc.]. *c* 1400, etc. [see FEALTY 2]. 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 3298 Makynge to hyr thys questyoun. 1450 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 212/1 Therof made notice to the seid Evan Aprice. 1473 SIR J. PASTON in *P. Lett.* III. 84, I made yowr answer to the ffrends off Mestresse Jane Godnoston accordyng to yowr instrucions. 1500–20 KENNEDIE *Flyting w. Dunbar* 410 Homage to Edward Langschankis maid thy kyn. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. ccxxxviii. 344 They..came..and made homage to kynge Dampeter. 1539 CROMWELL 21 Jan. in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) II. 169 To make supporte subvention and confort unto them to resist his malice. 1582 G. MARTIN *Discov. Corrupt. Script.* ii. 29 And make vs a good reason why you put the word, traditions, here. 1599 B. JONSON *Ev. Man out of his Humour* II. i, Why He make you an Instance: your Citie wines [etc.]. 1654–66 EARL ORRERY *Parthen.* (1676) 660 He had but one desire more to make me. 1719 JAMES (the Pretender) *Let.* in *Pearson's 76th Catal.* (1894) 33 Pray make him my kind compliments. 1761 HUME *Hist. Eng.* II. xxvii. 127 He made warning of the danger to his master. 1800 ADDISON *Amer. Law Rep.* 286 Brackenridge..made two questions.

b. *To make head* [= F. *faire tête*]: see HEAD *sb.*

a 1569 KINGESMYLL *Confl. Satan* (1578) 8 If thou couldest make head against him. 1577–87, etc. [see HEAD *sb.* 52 a].

c. *Law.* Of a court, a judge: To render, give (a decision, judgement).

'Now unusual in England; still common in America' (Sir F. Pollock).

1804 LD. ELDON *Vesey's Rep.* X. 121, I am not aware that such a decision has been made since that case.

†**62.** To entertain or manifest (certain emotions). *To make gladness, glee, joy, merriment, mirth*: to rejoice, be merry. *To make care*: to be careful or anxious. *To make dole, sorrow*: to mourn. *Obs.*

c 1205 LAY. 1795 Muchel wes þa murðe þe þat folc makode. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 7820 He him sulf deol inou & sorwe made al so. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 11031 (Cott.) Again him [he] mad gladnes an giu. *a* 1300–1400 *Ibid.* 17974 (Göt.) Ful mekil ioy þai made i-wis. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* (E.E.T.S.) 9957 Knyȝtes kene that ben of Troye, Now make murthe and mochel ioye. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* vi. 140 The grete sorowe that the poure Knightes made for theyr brother. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* x. i. 107 As for Ene, forsuyth, I mak na cayr. 1570 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xii. 200 The Feynd mak cair, I say na mair. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* III. i. 57 Some to make loue, some to make meryment.

b. *To make* (*a*) *mock*, † *scorn* (*at, of*): see the sbs.

63. To put forth (an effort). Also, † *to make labour, pain.* † *To make force* (*at*, etc.): see FORCE *sb.*[1] 22 b.

1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 38 He maid grete payne to ger that langage of Latyne sprede. *c* 1489, etc. [see EFFORT *sb.* 2]. 1491, etc. [see LABOUR *sb.* 5 b]. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 6 Gif mair labour and industrie war maid. 1597 BEARD *Theatre God's Judgem.* (1612) 297 The dog..instantly made force at him..as a man would doe at his mortall enemie. 1871 SMILES *Charac.* i. (1876) 11 Every honest effort made in an upward direction.

64. In certain phrases, used for: To incur, suffer (something undesirable). So *to make* † *expense*, † *wreck, shipwreck* (arch.), *a loss* (? obs. exc. in commercial use: cf. sense 29).

For *to make* (*good* or *bad*) *weather* (Naut.), see WEATHER.

1453 *Rolls Parlt.* V. 268/1 All theire costes, expenses and lostez, made and suffred by hem in this partie. 1526 TINDALE 1 *Tim.* i. 19 Some..as concernynge fayth have made shipwracke. 1563 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 239 All expensissis maid in..pleying of the said cans. 1577–87 HOLINSHED *Chron.* (1807–8) II. 218 Everie person making wrecke by sea, and comming alive to land. 1609 G. BENSON *Serm.* 7 *May* 5 If you .. make wrack neyther vpon the Rockes, nor vpon the Sandes, neyther vppon open nor secret sinnes. 1626 C. POTTER tr. *Sarpi's Hist. Quarrels* 99 They could not continue to make such expence, nor to furnish so many persons with Vestiments. 1640 tr. *Verdere's Rom. Rom.* III. 109 They could not learn any news of the losse they had made. *a* 1715 BURNET *Own Time* (1724) I. 251 Both England and Holland had made a great loss both in ships and treasure.

†**b.** Hence (chiefly *Sc.*), to defray, provide for (expenses, costs). *Obs.*

c 1460 FORTESCUE *Abs. & Lim. Mon.* v. (1885) 118 Vff a kynge be pore, he shall bi necessesite make his expences.. by creaunce and borowynge. 1473 *Ld. Treas. Acc. Scot.* (1877) I. 46 Gevin to Wil Oliphant .. to mak his expensis xx *li.* 1574 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* II. 388 The said Robert oblist him to mak the said Williames reasonable expensis, and to pay the same to him.

65. To accomplish (a distance) by travelling, etc.

1564–5 N. WOTTON in Burgon *Life Gresham* (1839) II. 70, I made a-foote vi myles ere I came to Dunkerke. 1662 J. DAVIES tr. *Olearius' Voy. Ambass.* 2 It's violence hindred us not from keeping on our course, and making fifteen Leagues that night. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 270 When the Wind blew so hard, that we made nine or ten Miles an hour. 1768 BOYER *Eng.-Fr. Dict.* s.v., They make sometimes ten fathom at one leap. 1856 OLMSTED *Slave States* 16 The boat makes 55 miles in 3½ hours. 1899 *Pall Mall Mag.* Mar. 373, I could get no boat farther than Kirkcaldy, so I must make the distance on foot.

b. orig. *Naut.* To reach (a place) in travelling, come to, arrive at; *slang* to catch (a train, etc.).

c 1624 WALLER *Pr. Charles at Sant' Anders* 148 From the stern of some good ship appears A friendly light..New courage..they take, And, climbing o'er the waves, that taper make. 1641 EVELYN *Diary* 12 Oct., Tho' not far from Dover, we could not make the Peere till 4 in the afternoon. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneid* I. 227 The weary Trojans ply their shatter'd Oars To nearest Land, and make the Libian Shoars. 1708 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4481/3 The West-India Fleet and Coasters, .. not being able to make Torbay, .. were all forced .. to the Westward. *a* 1774 GOLDSM. tr. *Scarron's Com. Romance* (1775) II. 103 We forced open the prison gates, and..made the mountains on the borders of Valentia. 1805 PIKE *Sources Mississ.* (1810) 39, I determined to attempt to make the river, and for that purpose took a due south course. 1827 J. F. COOPER *Prairie* I. xvii. 245 It will be wise to make a cover, lest the Sons of the Squatter should be out skirting on our trail. 1828 *Sporting Mag.* XXI. 322 She [a coach] .. started at ten, and made the White Horse, Fetter Lane, at four precisely. 1882 SALA *Amer. Revis.* (1885) 360 We made Chicago at 7.30 on Sunday morning. 1885 HOWELLS *Silas Lapham* (1891) I. 137 He..jumped on board the steamboat .. 'Just made it', he said.

66. In phrases like *to make long hours* (i.e to work many hours in the day). Also, *to make good time*: to accomplish a distance in a short time.

1887 I. R. *Ranche Life Montana* 140 We drove to Three Forks..in an hour and twenty minutes. Jem calls it fourteen miles, so I think we made good time. 1890 *Standard* 17 Mar. 3/1 At present..the colliers..make very short time. *Mod.* I made a very long day last Friday.

¶ **67.** †**a.** To 'play' (the fool) (*obs.*) **b.** = Do *v.* 11 j, in *to make the agreeable* (? *obs.*) [After F. *faire.*]

1529 LYNDESAY *Complaynt* 236 Sum maid the fule, and sum did flatter. 1841 LEVER *C. O'Malley* vi. 31 Sir George Dashwood was 'making the agreeable' to the guests. 1867 H. KINGSLEY *Silcote of S.* xviii, The best thing you can do is to..begin to make the agreeable to the eldest Miss Granby.

VI. To behave, act, or move (in a specified way).

†**68.** *To make it* (with adv. or advb. phr. denoting manner): to act, behave. *Obs.*

c 888 K. ÆLFRED *Boeth.* Tit. vii, & sæde him bispell hu he hit macian sceolde ȝif he heora þeȝen beon sceolde. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* II. 354 Swa he hit macode on his life. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 27 Þe kyng .. made it as þey were nouȝt wrooþ [L. *dissimulato odio*]. ? *a* 1500 *Peblis to the Play* viii, Quhat neidis you to maik it sua?

†**b.** With adj. as complement. *To make it coy, nice, proud, quaint, stout, strange, tough*: to behave in a coy, proud, etc., manner (see the adjs.). *To make it goodly*: to give oneself airs.

1611 COTGR., *Faire la petite bouche*, to mince, or simper it; to make it goodly.

69. Hence *intr.* (the obj. *it* being omitted); in OE. with *adv.*; later with adj., in *to make bold, free*, † *glad, merry*, † *nice*, † *strange* (see the adjs.).

a 1000 *Institutes of Polity* xv. in Thorpe *Laws* II. 322 Riht is þat mynecena mynsterlice macian.

70. *To make as if, as though* (arch. *as*): to behave as if; hence, to pretend that. Cf. 34 b.

[1387: see 68.] *a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* (1868) 77 The prince..made as they he hadde take none hede therof. 1530 PALSGR. 655/2, I patter with the lyppes, as one dothe that maketh as though he prayed and dothe nat. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* lxv. 222 Make as though ye were dyspleasyd with hym. *a* 1553 UDALL *Royster D.* I. ii. (Arb.) 13, I wyll make as I sawe him not. 1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turks* (1621) 41 Which reproachfull speech the Emperour put up in silence, making as if hee had not heard it. 1611 BIBLE *Josh.* viii. 15 And Ioshua and all Israel made as if they were beaten before them, and fled. 1720 DE FOE *Capt. Singleton* xvii. (1840) 290 Thou makest as if those poor savage wretches could do mighty things. 1752 CHESTERF. *Lett.* (1792) III. 264, I am very glad (to use a vulgar expression) that *you make as if you* were not well, though you really are. 1851 LONGF. *Gold. Leg.* III, He..beckons, and makes as he would speak. 1889 *Dict. Nat. Biog.* XVII. 59/2 Edward at first intended, or made as though he intended, to [etc.]

71. To have to do *with* (a person or thing); to interfere *in* (a matter); chiefly in collocation with *meddle, dial.*

1564 *Child Marr.* (1897) 123, I will neither make nor meddle with her. 1661 PEPYS *Diary* 7 Nov., Pegg Kite now hath declared she will have the beggarly rogue the weaver; and so we are resolved neither to meddle nor make with her. 1662 LIVINGSTONE in *Wodrow Sel. Biog.* (1845) I. 208 He thinks he will only preach against Poprie, and not make with other controversies. 1756 TOLDERVY *Hist. 2 Orphans* I. 146 And so, Sir, pray don't meddle nor make with the maids. 1834 LANDOR *Exam. Shaks.* Wks. 1853 II. 298/1 The business is a ticklish one: I like not overmuch to meddle and make therein. 1849 C. BRONTË *Shirley* xxi, Moore may settle his own matters henceforward for me; I'll neither meddle nor make with them further.

72. *Naut.* Of the flood or ebb tide († in early use *passive*, or perh. *intr.* conjugated with *be*): To begin to flow or ebb respectively; also, to be in progress. Hence of the tide: To flow towards the land; to rise; also, to flow in a specified direction.

1651 CHAS. II in Hone *Every-day Bk.* I. 1716 Just as the tide off ebb was made. 1708 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4422/7 The Tide of Flood being made, and there proving little Wind, we were oblig'd to Anchor. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. xiii, The tide made to the westward. *Ibid.*, The tide beginning to make home again. 1776 C. CARROLL *Jrnl.* (1845) 40 About nine o'clock at night, the tide making, we weighed anchor. 1840 MARRYAT *Poor Jack* I, The flood tide made. *a* 1861 CLOUGH *'Say not the Struggle'* II Far back, through creeks and inlets making, Comes silent, flooding in, the main. 1875 BEDFORD *Sailor's Pocket Bk.* v. (ed. 2) 169 When the stream makes to the Eastward at Spithead, the water falls at Southampton. 1883 STEVENSON *Treas. Isl.* IV. xvii. (1886) 135 The ebb was now making.

73. Of land, landscape, etc.: †**a.** *Naut.* To have a certain form or appearance; to look *like* (*obs.*). **b.** *U.S.* and *Colonial.* To extend in a certain direction. (Cf. 91 n.)

1743 BULKELEY & CUMMINS *Voy. S. Seas* 151 Two Ledges of Rocks, running two Leagues out from a Point of Land which makes like an old Castle. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. xii. 260 There appears a hummock, which at first makes like an island. 1770 SIR J. BANKS *Jrnl.* 17 May (1896) 270 At sunset the land made in one bank, over which nothing could be seen. 1787 JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1859) II. 136 Spurs, or ramifications of high mountains, making down from the Alps. 1808 PIKE *Sources Mississ.* II. (1810) 192 A copse of woods, which made down a considerable distance from the mountains. 1890 *Melbourne Argus* 16 June 6/1 Wherever slides are abundant, or two make from east and west.

74. Of arguments, evidence, influences: To be effective, 'tell' (on one side or the other). (Cf. 25, 25 b.) Chiefly with *for* († *to, with*), *against* (see 76 a, 78 a, 79 a, 82 a). [Cf. L. *facere cum, facere contra.*]

1892 *Sat. Rev.* 2 Jan. 1/1 He had the highest opinion of .. precedents—when they made in his own favour. 1893 *Sketch* 1 Feb. 14/1 All these things .. make in favour of Mr. Gladstone.

VII. With prepositions in specialized senses (all intransitive).

75. Make after —. To go in pursuit of, to pursue, follow. *arch.* (Cf. 35 b.)

1590 GREENE *Orpharion* Wks. (Grosart) XII. 54 Acestes ..made after the King of Lidia, as fast as his men were able to march. 1600 ABP. ABBOT *Exp. Jonah* 177 When they were so pursued and made after by the chariots and horsemen of the Egyptians. 1688 BUNYAN *Heav. Footman* (1886) 148 There is never a poor soul that is going to heaven, but the devil, the law, sin, death and hell makes after that soul. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* III. v. 336 His people made after them, in hopes of finding out their retreat. 1856 VAUGHAN *Mystics* (1860) I. vi. viii. 261 As he flounders about, out tumbles the book; he lets go his staff, and makes after it.

76. Make against —. **a.** To be unfavourable to; to militate or 'tell' against. (Cf. 74.)

a 1540 BARNES *Wks.* (1573) 315/1 The texte maketh agaynst the Pope. 1648 MILTON *Observ. Art. Peace* Wks. 1738 I. 355 The third Reason which they use, makes against them. 1668 CULPEPPER & COLE *Barthol. Anat.* I. xxviii. 65 Ocular Experience makes against this. 1713 BERKELEY *Hylas & Phil.* iii. Wks. 1871 I. 345 That which makes equally against two contradictory opinions can be a proof against neither. 1855 PRESCOTT *Philip II*, I. II. iii. 179 He sought out whatever could make against the orthodoxy of the new prelate. 1890 *Sat. Rev.* 8 Feb. 165/2 Figures, if you carefully select those which make for you, and as carefully ignore those which make against you, can.. be made to prove anything.

†**b.** To make a hostile movement towards; to go to attack. *Obs.* (Cf. 35 b.)

1628 HOBBES *Thucyd.* I. (1629) 26 The Corcyræan's vnderstanding that they [the Corinthians] made against them [ὡς ἤσθοντο αὐτοὺς προσπλέοντας].

77. Make at —. To approach in order to or as if to attack or seize; to make a hostile movement towards. (Cf. 35 b.) Now somewhat *arch.*

1637 R. ASHLEY tr. *Malvezzi's David Persecuted* 247 There hath beene one, that seeing no other remedy, made at the soveraignty it selfe. 1671 *Hatton Corr.* (Camden) 61 Immediately, the cowe made at him. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 162, I was made at by an unsizable Snake. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 450 ₱ 1 All men..make at the same common thing, Mony. 1787 BEST *Angling* (ed. 2) 24 When you dip for chub, roach, and dace, move your fly very slow when you see them make at it. 1858 THOREAU *Maine W.* ii. (1869) 153 A very small black puppy rushed into the room and made at the Governor's feet. 1867 J. B. ROSE tr. *Virgil's Æneid* 261 Volscens.. with his unsheathed sword Made at Euryalus. 1889 FR. A. KEMBLE *Far Away* vi. 55 He made at me with an evident intention of striking me.

78. Make for —. **a.** To operate in favour of, be favourable to; to tend to the advancement or progress of; to favour, further, aid. (Cf. 74.)

1517 TORKINGTON *Pilgr.* (1884) 59 The wynde made well for vs in ower way. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 1 b, loynynge also therto the goostly exercyse and experyence of goostly fathers, as I thought them to make moost for my purpose. 1526 TINDALE *Rom.* xiv. 19 Let vs folowe tho thinges which make for peace. 1593 NASHE *Foure Lett. Conf.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 201 But, say wee should beleeue it, what doth it make for thee? 1612 BACON *Ess., Atheism* (Arb.) 332 None denie there is a God, but those for whom it maketh that there were no God. 1639 N. N. tr. *Du Bosq's Compl. Woman* 1. Pref. F iv b, Is there any thing that makes more for him, then that they upbrayd him with? 1684 T. GODDARD *Plato's Demon* 273 How our Author augments, or diminisheth..the truth of things, as they make most convenient for his purpose. 1690 NORRIS *Beatitudes* (1694) I. 103 A Doctrin .. such as makes neither for the Honour of God, nor for the Safety of Man. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 158 ₱ 1 Out of a firm Regard for Impartiality I print these Letters, let them make for me or not. 1754 RICHARDSON *Grandison* (1781) II. xxi. 219 The behaviour makes not for your honour. 1831 T. L. PEACOCK *Crotchet C.* vii. 140 Your story makes for my side of the question. 1881 STEVENSON *Virg. Puerisque* 24 Whatever makes for lounging and contentment, makes just so surely for domestic happiness. 1890 [see *Make against* 76a]. 1894 *Times* 25 May 9/5 The forces and conditions which make for sea power.

b. To proceed or direct one's course towards; to go in the direction of; also, to assail, 'go for'. Not frequent before the 19th c.

1590 MARLOWE *Edw. II*, IV. vi, I see our soules are fleeting hence; Make for a new life, man. 1633 P. FLETCHER *Elisa* I. xli, And glorious Angels on their wings it [*sc.* a soul] taking,.. for heaven making. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. v. 170 One of these [ships] .. made directly for us. 1791 MRS. INCHBALD *Simple Story* IV. xii. 151 Sandford, ..without a word in reply, made for the door. 1831 CARLYLE *Sart. Res.* II. vi, The wounded eagle is said to make for its own eyrie. 1859 H. KINGSLEY *G. Hamlyn* xxii. (1860) 169 Don't .. get frightened; make for the shore. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* iii. § 6. 145 They had hardly landed at Dover before they made straight for London. 1878 BROWNING *La Saisiaz* 55 We made for home together. 1893 *Chamb. Jrnl.* 15 July 434/1 They will at once 'make for' each other's eyes.

†**c.** To pretend, assert. (In quots. *absol.* and in *indirect pass.*) *Obs.*

1522 MORE *De quat. noviss.* Wks. 72/2 This medicyne thoughe thou make a sowre face at it, is not so bytter as thou makeste for. 1529 — *Dyalogue* III. Wks. 222/1 Whyther Luthers matters bee so madde as they bee made for, that shall we see hereafter.

79. Make to —. †**a.** To tend or contribute to; to be favourable or conducive to; to go to support. (Cf. 74.) *Obs.*

1528 GARDINER in Pocock *Rec. Ref.* I. li. 124 Such reasons as seemed to make to the contrary. 1561 DAUS tr. *Bullinger on Apoc.* (1573) 97 All thynges that may make to life and saluation. 1585–7 T. ROGERS 39 *Art.* xix. (1625) 92 This maketh to the strengthning of vs against those Popish assertions of Viguerius. 1638 RAWLEY tr. *Bacon's Life & Death* (1651) 12 In every corruptible Body, Quantity maketh much to the Conservation of the whole. 1732 NEAL *Hist. Purit.* I. 159 Making more to seemliness..or edification.

†**b.** To be pertinent or applicable to. *Obs.*

c 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* I. I. xxxi, That Hair is but an excrementitious thing, and makes not to this purpose. 1726 LEONI tr. *Alberti's Archit.* II. 84/2 Those things which are most obvious, and make more immediately to the subject in hand.

†**c.** To go in the direction of, proceed towards.

a 1568 *Wyfe of Auchtermuchty* 114 Then vp scho gat ane mekle rung, And the gudman maid to the dur. 1600 *Disc. Gowrie Consp.* in Moyses *Mem.* (1755) 266 The court making to their horses, as his highnesse selfe was. 1602 MARSTON *Antonio's Rev.* I. i, Maria, Genoas dutchesse, makes to court. 1694 *Acc. Sev. Late Voy.* II. (1711) 20 When the Ice comes floating in too hard,..then the Ships make to the Harbours. 1780 COXE *Russ. Disc.* 192 He cut his way through the troops..and made to the banks of the Irtish.

Make toward(s —: see 35 b.

80. Make unto —. = *make to*, 79 c.

1570–6 W. LAMBARDE *Peramb. Kent* (1826) 131 Since Dover is not many myles off..let us make unto it. 1592 SHAKS. *Ven. & Ad.* 5 Sick-thoughted Venus makes amaine vnto him. 1603 DRAYTON *Heroic. Ep.* xxi. 31 Unto the Ship she makes, which she discovers.

†**81. Make upon —.** = *make at*, 77. *Obs.*

1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 264 b, He made vpon these pirates, whom .. he tooke and subdued. 1606 G. W[OODCOCKE] *Hist. Iustine* II. 8 The king vnderstanding .. that they made vpon him in such speedy manner, fledde for feare. 1727 *Philip Quarll* (1816) 37 Seeing themselves made upon by a pirate.

82. Make with —. †**a.** To side with, make common cause with. Of things: To tell in favour of. (Cf. 74.) *Obs.*

1559 MORWYNG *Evonym.* 250 The description following maketh with me [L. *mecum ferè facit*]. 1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* v. vii. § 3 Antiquity, custom, and consent .. making with that which law doth establish, are themselves most sufficient reasons to uphold the same. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* VIII. xxxiv. 306 There made with young Fabius, and tooke his part, the majestie and countenance of the Senat [L. *stabat cum eo senatus maiestas*]. 1608 D. T. *Ess. Pol. & Mor.* 19 b, It is the nature, and propertie of Passions, euen to make those thinges make with them. *a* 1617 BAYNE *Lect.* (1634) 273 So farre as outward things make with salvation.

†**b.** To grapple with, select as one's adversary.

a 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII* 21 b, The Lorde Admirall made with the greate ship of Depe, and chased her stil. *Ibid.* 122 The vj shippes perceiuyng that, left their chace & made with the Barke of Sandwyche.

†**c.** (See sense 71.) *Obs.*

VIII. With adverbs in specialized senses.

†**83. Make again.** *trans.* To make good, repair, restore. *Obs.*

c 1433 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) II. 429 That [they] .. do make ayein the grete pipe of the said conduyt in wyse as was afore. 1471 CAXTON *Recuyell* (ed. Sommer) 149 The harnoys broken was made agayn and amended. 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus, Reparator*, one that repayreth or maketh agayne.

84. Make away. (Now superseded in the transitive senses by *make away with*.) †**a.** *trans.* To put (a person) out of the way, put to death; also, to put an end to (a person's life). (Cf. 33.) *Obs.* Common in 16–17th c.

1566 *Pasquine in Traunce* 58 b, Saint Dominick .. was treating with them for the burning of Heretiques, or how by some other deuise to make them away. 1590 MARLOWE *Edw. II*, II. ii, Why then weele haue him priuily made away. 1593 SHAKS. *2 Hen. VI*, III. i. 167 To make away my guiltlesse Life. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* III. ii. v. i. (1651) 544 Constantine Despota, made away Catharine his wife .. for the love of a base Scriveners daughter. *a* 1656 BP. HALL *Rem. Wks.* (1660) 415 Wicked harlots who .. have made away their stolen birth. 1713 ADDISON *Guard.* No. 105 ₱ 4 What Multitude of Infants have been made away by those who brought them into the World. 1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) I. 142 They would..make him away by pistol, or poison.

refl. 1581 PETTIE *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* I. (1586) 4 b, Other sortes .. that haue made themselues awaie by the meanes either of water, or fire, or sword. 1654 GATAKER *Disc. Apol.* 58, I was there told by the Physician, that I must whollie forbear Preaching, unless I would wilfullie make away my self. *c* 1684 *Roxb. Ball.* (1886) VI. 621 She, for love of the Groom, fell into Despair, and in conclusion made herself away. 1698 *Christ Exalted* § 61. 50 They would make away themselves immediately, if possible.

†**b.** To destroy (a thing). *Obs.*

1566 in Peacock *Eng. Ch. Furniture* (1866) 66 A Mass book wᵗʰ all such books of papistrie ar abolished made awaie and defaced. *c* 1600 SHAKS. *Sonn.* xi, If all were minded so, the times should cease And threescoore yeare would make the world away. 1650 TRAPP *Comm. Lev.* xiii. 47 Instruments of idolatrie .. are to bee destroied, and made awaie.

†**c.** To alienate or transfer to another's possession; to dispose of, get rid of. *Obs.*

1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong, Alienation*, alienation or making away. 1600 J. PORY tr. *Leo's Africa* Introd. 41 Their slaues which they cannot make away for a good round price, they sell vnto the butchers. *a* 1640 WALLER *On Friendship betw. Sacharissa & Amoret* 16 Debters .., When they never mean to pay,.. To some friend make all away. 1741 RICHARDSON *Pamela* II. 21 Will you, said he, on your Honour, let me see them uncurtail'd, and not offer to make them away? 1855 MILMAN *Lat. Christ.* XIV. i. (1864) IX. 15 If usurped, or its usufruct, if not the fee, fraudulently made away, it [Church property] had in many cases widely extended itself by purchase.

d. *intr.* To go away suddenly or hastily, run away; = *make off*, 89 d.

1600 B. JONSON *Cynthia's Rev.* I. i, Deare sparke of beautie, make not so fast away. 1639 FULLER *Holy War* V. v. (1640) 237 If there be five to one, it is interpreted wisdome not cowardlinesse, to make away from them. 1787 'G. GAMBADO' *Acad. Horsemen* 42 His horse made away with him whilst Gimcrack was running a match. 1883 BLACK *Yolande* II. xii. 217 Then they set out for home; Duncan and the gillies making away for a sort of ford. 1891 *Cornh. Mag.* Jan. 108 The people..are making away as fast as they can.

85. Make away *with*. **a.** To put out of the way; = 84 a. Often *euphemistic* for: To kill.

1502 TOWNLEY in *Plumpton Corr.* (Camden) 164 There was a servant of yours, and a kynsman of myoe, was myschevously made away with. 1583 STUBBES *Anat. Abus.* II. (1882) 55 For mony I am persuaded they [physicians] can make away with any whom they haue accesse vnto. 1628 tr. *Mathieu's Powerf. Fav.* II Tiberius had resolued to make away with Germanicus. 1756–7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) I. 108 His relations pretend that he was made away with by poison. 1862 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* XXIII. 242 The owl nightly makes away with more mice than the very best of cats. 1886 STEVENSON *Dr. Jekyll* viii, He was made away with, eight days ago, when we heard him cry out upon the name of God.

refl. 1666–7 PEPYS *Diary* 24 Feb., It seems she .. hath endeavoured to make away with herself often. 1768 GOLDSM. *Good-n. Man* I, These were the very words of Dick Doleful to me not a week before he made away with himself. 1856 READE *Never too Late* xii, He was a lunatic, and would have made away with himself anywhere.

b. To remove from its rightful place or ownership; to get rid of; to dissipate, squander (= 84 c); to destroy fraudulently.

1691 tr. *Emilianne's Frauds Rom. Monks* (ed. 3) 407 It will not be difficult to conceive, how the Roman Clergy can make away with these vast Revenues they are possessed of. 1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) I. 142 They would ..make away with the effects. 1781 D. WILLIAMS tr. *Voltaire's Dram. Wks.* II. 132, I will make away with my castle and dowry to support the cause. 1843 CARLYLE *Past & Pr.* II. I, 'Thirteen pence sterling', this was what the Convent got from Lackland, for all the victuals he and his had made away with. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* x. II. 572 He had burned the writs, made away with the seal [etc.]. 1873 *Act* 36 & 37 *Vict.* c. 77 § 26 If any person designedly makes away with..any thing issued to him as a volunteer. 1883 KATH. S. MACQUOID *Her Sailor Love* III. VII. iv. 115 It's an ugly thing to make away with a letter. 1892 *Temple Bar* Nov. 298 Hendrik had made away with his stepbrother's money.

86. Make down. **a.** Sc. *To make down a bed*: 'to fold down the bed-clothes, so as to make it ready for being entered' (Jam.).

1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* XXV, We'se mak ye down a bed at the lodge. *a* 1835 HOGG *Tales & Sk.* (1837) III. 199 Betty, my dear, make down the bed.

b. *colloq.* To refashion so as to fit a smaller wearer. *Mod.* The eldest girl's frocks can be made down for her sisters.

87. Make forth. †**a.** *trans.* To complete the preparation or equipment of. *Sc.*

1496 *Ld. Treas. Acc. Scot.* (1877) I. 261 Item, gevin be the Lard of Balgony to maik furth this coit, iij ellis of vellous. 1497 *Ibid.* 339 Item, giffin to Thom Barkar and Johne Lam to pas to Home, to mak furth the artaillery there iiij lib. iiij s.

†**b.** To send forth. (Cf. sense 55.) *Obs.*

c 1470 *Gaw. & Gol.* 120, I rede ye mak furth ane man, mekar of mude.

†**c.** To issue (a commission, debenture). *Obs.*

1640 tr. *Verdere's Rom. Rom.* III. 213 This great Monarch ..made forth Commissions. 1666 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 6 His Majestie's Auditor-Generall shall make forth debentures for what is due to the petitioner.

†**d.** *intr.* To go forward, advance, set out; (of a boat) to put out. *Obs.*

1594 KYD *Cornelia* v. 241 When Wolues..Make forth amongst the flock. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, II. iv. 5. 1601 — *Jul. C.* v. i. 25. *a* 1610 HEALEY *Cebes* (1636) 149 As shippes doe, that having unlaided their fraught make presently forth for a new voiage. 1625 BACON *Ess., Usury* (Arb.) 542 To prouide, that while we make forth, to that which is better, we meet not, with that which is worse. *a* 1626 — *New Atl.* (1900) 2 Ther made forth to us a small Boate.

88. Make in. †**a.** *trans.* ? To carry in. (Cf. *make out*, 91 a.) *Obs.*

a 1483 *Liber Niger* in *Househ. Ord.* (1790) 25 Lett it alwey be remembered to make in the Kinges doggettes..as often as it pleseth the King the prince to come or goe.

b. *intr.* To go in towards a particular point; to intervene in an action; to join in a fray; † to strike in in a conversation; in *Hawking* (sec quot. 1897).

1575 TURBERV. *Faulconrie* 161 Unhood your Hawke, to the end that when she espieth the Hearon she may flee hir: and if she do so, make in apace to succour hir. *c* 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* XV. 492 While these made-in [Gr. ἐεισάσθην], to spoyle his armes. 1612 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* viii. 456 Small Marbrooke maketh-in, to her [*sc.* the Severn's] inticing Deepe. 1620 BEAUM. & FL. *Sea Voy.* I. i, We have discover'd the land, sir; pray let's make in! 1634 MASSINGER *Very Woman* V. iii, Make in, loggerhead; my son fights like a dragon. 1656 EARL MONM. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* II. lvii. (1674) 209 To the succor whereof, all the inhabitants along the River side made in. 1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* XXX, During this moment of delay, Ramorney whispered to Dwining, 'Make in, knave, with some objection'. 1865 G. F. BERKELEY *Life* II. 281 It is ever a gallant gentleman who thus makes in. 1891 *Longm. Mag.* Sept. 500 The larger galleons made in at once for Corunna. 1897 *Encycl. Sport* I. 373 (Falconry) *Make in* (of the falconer), to go up to a hawk after it has killed.

89. Make off. †**a.** *trans.* To dispose of. *Obs.*

a 1649 WINTHROP *New Eng.* (1853) II. 15 He could not subsist here, and thereupon made off his estate.

b. *Whaling.* (See quot.)

1820 SCORESBY *Arctic Reg.* II. 304 The operation of *making-off*..consists of freeing the fat from all extraneous substances,..then cutting it into small pieces, and putting it in casks through the bung-holes.

c. *Farming.* To fatten (lambs) for the market.

1851 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* XII. II. 395 Whenever farmers make off their own flock instead of selling their lamb-hogs to feeders, they choose a small breed. 1852 *Ibid.* XIII. I. 60 The lambs are..made off fat, early in the summer. 1868 *Ibid.* Ser. II. IV. II. 264 No store stock..is ever sold, everything being made off for the butcher.

d. *intr.* To depart or leave a place suddenly, often with a disparaging implication; to hasten or run away; to decamp, 'bolt'.

1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 85 ₱ 5 My Sister took this Occasion to make off. 1787 'G. GAMBADO' *Acad. Horsemen*

(1809) 29 Should your horse prove, what is properly termed too many for you, and make off. 1805 *Log of H. M. S. Belleisle* 21 Oct. in Nicolas *Disp. Nelson* (1846) VII. 164 *note*, Several of the Enemy's ships making off to leeward. 1847 Marryat *Childr. N. Forest* xi, [He] perceived that the bull had not made off with the rest of the cattle. 1889 G. Gissing *Nether World* I. xii. 272 He..made off at a run.

e. *To make off with*: to decamp with (something) in one's possession. Also, *to make off with oneself* = d.

1820 J. Gifford *Compl. Eng. Lawyer* II. xiii. 216 Although the thief do not quite make off with them. 1856 J. H. Newman *Callista* xxviii. 249 He was quite easy about Agellius, who had, as he considered, successfully made off with himself. 1865 Dickens *Mut. Fr.* III. vii, Mr. Wegg had seen the minion surreptitiously making off with that bottle. 1890 *Standard* 14 Apr. 2/6 The girl had made off with her employer's money.

90. Make on. a. *trans.* To make (a fire). *dial.*

1634 Rutherford *Lett.* (1862) I. 110 The Lord is making on a fire in Jerusalem. 1777 Sir M. Hunter *Jrnl.* (1894) 26 We had got..a fire made on in our little room. 1885 Howells *Silas Lapham* (1891) I. 65 I'll be the death of that darkey..if he don't stop making on such a fire. 1893 *Illustr. Lond. News* Christm. No. 23/2 To 'make on' a good fire at nightfall.

b. *intr.* To go forward, proceed; to hasten on.

1608 *Yorksh. Trag.* I. viii. 214 Up, up and struggle to thy horse; make on. 1622 Bacon *Hen. VII* 33 The Earle of Lincolne..resolued to make on where the King was, and to giue him battaile. *a* 1677 Barrow *Serm.* Wks. 1716 I. 2 He that knows his way..makes on merrily and carelessly.. to his journey's end. 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* I. iii, We made on to the southward. 1849 M. Arnold *Sick King Bokhara*, Send him away, Sirs, and make on. 1890 *Graphic* Summer No. 24/2 He made on in his headlong flight.

91. Make out. †a. *trans.* In various physical senses: (*a*) tr. L. *exstruere*, to build up; (*b*) to take or carry out (cf. *make in*, 88 a); (*c*) to send out (cf. sense 55); (*d*) to throw out (cards) from one's hand = *lay out* (Lay *v.*[1] 56 k). *Obs.*

1382 Wyclif *Prov.* xiv. 1 The wise womman bildeth vp hir hous; the vnwise the maad out [Vulg. *exstructam*]..shal destroȝe. *a* 1483 *Liber Niger in Househ. Ord.* (1790) 71 Noe yoman of this office..to bere or make oute of this office any breade but by knowledge of the brevour. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 109 He fel into the lappes of our horsemen, which were made out [L. *fuerant emissi*] to kepe hym from the spoyle. 1568 Grafton *Chron.* I. 142 The Londoners hearing of their doings, made out a certaine number of men of armes, who..put the Danes from that Tower. 1603 Holland *Plutarch's Mor.* 343 He..made out certaine pinnaces..for to observe what..landing places there were. 1680 Cotton *Compl. Gamester* viii. (ed. 2) 76 He that deals makes out the best Cards he can for his Crib, and the other the worst.

b. To draw up (a list, a document, etc.); to make a draft of; to write out (a bill, cheque, etc.).

1465 Marg. Paston in *P. Lett.* II. 218 They have mad oute bothe warantes and *supersedias*. 1472–3 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 42/1 So alwey that every of the seid Writtes be made oute xx daies or more, afore the seid day of apparaunce lymyted. 1770 P. Burton *Pract. Crt. Excheq.* 18 The Inquiry is made out by the Clerk in Court, who pays only Two Shillings to the Master for signing, &c. 1793 Smeaton *Edystone L.* § 278, I was myself forming and making out the necessary designs for..the balcony. 1801 tr. *Gabrielli's Myst. Husb.* I. 125 His Lordship..inquired whether he had paid the bill. 'It is being made out, I am informed, Sir.' 1825 *New Monthly Mag.* XVI. 557 The Duke had obliged the Duchess to receive Lady Denham as one of her ladies of the bedchamber; but just before her appointment was made out, she died. 1885 Mrs. C. L. Pirkis *Lady Lovelace* I. xvi. 237 The cheque which I had made out. 1893 *Law Times* XCV. 34/2 The accounts generally took some three or four weeks to make out.

c. (*a*) To succeed in accomplishing; to effect, achieve. Now *Sc.* Also *absol.* in certain games: To make the score prescribed by the rules as bringing the game to an end.

1535 Coverdale *Ecclus.* xxxviii. 28 He hath set his minde there vpon, that he wyll make out his worke. 1634 Massinger *Very Woman* III. v, Now she is at a cold scent. Make out your doubles, Mistress. O well hunted, That's she. 1680 Cotton *Compl. Gamester* (ed. 2) 89 And if one and thirty be not made, then he that play'd last and is nearest one and thirty without making out, must set up one. 1706 De Foe *Jure Div.* I. 17 *note*, To implore the Gods that he might never enter that City, which they foresaw he would act the Fury in, and fill it with Blood and Slaughter, which he effectually made out. 1774 Kames *Hist. Man* II. xi. II. 65 People there [in a populous city] seldom make out the usual time of life. 1824 Miss Ferrier *Inher.* xxiv, I shall make out my visit to you yet. 1827 *Examiner* 246/1 Harley, as too frequently happens to this mercurial comedian, has to make out his own part of a roguish innkeeper as well as he is able. 1840 Carlyle *Heroes* v. (1858) 309 Byron, born rich and noble, made-out even less than Burns, poor and plebeian.

(*b*) To manage, make shift, *to do* something. Also *absol.* to make shift, get along; to succeed, thrive; to get on (well, badly). Also *to make it out*. Chiefly *U. S.*

1609 Jonson *Silent Woman* v. i, It is the price and estimation of your vertue only, that hath embarqu'd mee to this aduenture; and I could not but make out to tell you. 1776 Abigail Adams in *Fam. Lett.* (1876) 180, I would not have you anxious about me. I make out better than I did. 1776 J. Adams *ibid.* 231 Amidst these interruptions, how shall I make out to write a letter? 1807 P. Gass *Jrnl.* 92 We.. made out to get enough of drift wood to cook with. 1809 W. Irving *Knickerb.* (1861) 42 She made out to accomplish her voyage in a very few months, and came to anchor at the mouth of the Hudson. 1820 — in *Life & Lett.* (1864) II. 30, I wish you would..let me know..how you and Murray make out together. 1851 Hawthorne in *N. Hawthorne & Wife* (1885) I. 396 To whom is Dora married, and how is she making out? 1861 Dickens *Gt. Expect.* xxi, I am rather bare here, but I hope you'll be able to make out tolerably well till Monday. 1891 *Harper's Mag.* Mar. 574/1, 'I don't believe you will be satisfied in heaven; you will find it too monotonous'. 'Oh, I shall make out, I'm sure'. 1894 *Outing* (U. S.) XXIV. 253/2, I have made out to sleep with tolerable comfort in a cave.

d. †To compensate (a lack, defect, disadvantage); to supply (what is wanting; to supply the deficiencies of, to eke out. *Obs.* Also *intr.* (? rare) to make up, compensate *for*.

1629 Earle *Microcosm.*, *Insolent Man* (Arb.) 85 Such men are of no merit at all: but make out in pride what they want in worth. 1642 Sir T. Browne *Relig. Med.* I. (1896) 19 Our wills must be our performances, and our intents make out our Actions. 1649 Milton *Eikon.* xxiv. 196 One mans defects cannot be made out..by another mans abilities. 1665 Dryden *Ind. Emp.* IV. i. (1668) 39 Make out the rest,—I am disorder'd so I know not farther what to say or do:—But answer me to what you think I meant. 1699 T. Brown in R. L'Estrange *Erasm. Colloq.* 42 And if such a Disaster happen'd to him, he did not fail to make it out one way or other at Home. 1700 Tyrrell *Hist. Eng.* II. 847 When the Lyon's Skin alone would not serve turn, he knew how to make it out with that of the Fox. 1709–10 Steele *Tatler* No. 128 ₱ 5 What I want in Length, I make out in Breadth. 1801 tr. *Gabrielli's Myst. Husb.* III. 104 [She] only lamented she had not something better to offer them, but promised to make it out at dinner. 1850 L. Hunt in *Tait's Mag.* XVII. 570/2 Conscious of not having all the strength he wished, he endeavoured to make out for it by violence and pretension. 1891 *Leeds Merc.* 3 Oct. 3/7 [They] are becoming listless and indifferent, supposing that someone will make out for them.

†e. Of an item in a series: To complete (a certain total); also, of several items, to amount collectively to. *Obs.*

1535 Coverdale *Ezek.* i. 2 The fifth daye off the Moneth made out the fyfth yeare off kynge Ioachims captiuyte. 1571–2 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* Ser. I. II. 112 The sowme of fyve hundrith and fifty merkis, with the thrid of the provestrie of Methven, makand out in the haill V^m merkis.

f. To make complete; to get together with difficulty or by degrees.

1791 Burke *App. Whigs* Wks. VI. 48 They..must make out a scanty subsistence with the labour of their hands. 1828–32 Webster s.v., He promised to pay, but was not able to make out the money or the whole sum. 1861 Dickens *Gt. Expect.* xxxvii, He by little and little made out this elegant and beautiful property. 1879 M. Pattison *Milton* xii. 162 Adding to them, with a view to make out a volume, his college exercises.

g. To fill up or while away (the time) with some occupation. ? *Obs.*

1809 Malkin *Gil Blas* III. vi. ₱ 1 To make the most of the precious moments, and..to make out the time agreeably. 1813 Jane Austen *Lett.* (1884) II. 196 We were obliged to saunter about anywhere..to make out the time. 1849 Alb. Smith *Pottleton Leg.* (repr.) 76 To doze, or otherwise make out the time, until the first train went back.

h. To represent or delineate clearly or in detail; now only in *Art*. †Also of things: To form the figure of (*obs.*).

1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* III. xxiv. 170 Hippopotamus..so little resembleth an horse, that..in all, except the feet, it better makes out a swine. 1647 Saltmarsh *Spark. Glory* (1847) 127 God..would make out himself in an image in this Creation. 1674 N. Fairfax *Bulk & Selv.* 117 It may be objected, That a wheel of manifold rims whirl'd upon its axletree, would make out uneven bows of circles. 1784 J. Barry in *Lect. Paint.* V. (1848) 179 All the parts of objects exposed to the light..appear more made out and determined, than the parts in shadow. 1825 *New Monthly Mag.* XV. 534 Its dumb show is very eloquent and impressive; its story is fully made out to the eye. 1862 Thornbury *Turner* I. 199 The foliage of the ash-trees in the foreground is not at all made out, but is washed in .. with hardly any details. 1875 Tyrwhitt *Handbk. Pict. Art* (ed. 2) 194 Proceed to make out the two distant hills by putting in quick triangular ..touches. *Ibid.*, That want is expressed by the words 'making out'. That is to say, you want additional facts, principally of form.

i. To establish by evidence, argument, or investigation; to demonstrate, prove. Also *colloq.* esp. in *How do you make that out?* = By what process do you arrive at that conclusion? Also with clause as obj.

1658 Sir T. Browne *Hydriot.* I. ₱ 5 If it could be made out that Adam was buried near Damascus. 1660 tr. *Amyraldus' Treat. conc. Relig.* II. iii. 197 They are..at a loss ..to make out whence they learn't that God is powerful. 1662 Stillingfl. *Orig. Sacr.* III. iv. § 13 What they only touch at, we shall endeavour to make out more at large. 1664 Power *Exp. Philos.* I. 29 That all Vegetables have a constant perspiration, the continual dispersion of their odour makes out. 1794 Paley *Evid.* II. vi. § 36 (1817) 165 That in truth it was so, is made out by a variety of examples which the writings of Josephus furnish. 1803 *Pic Nic* No. 4 (1806) I. 144 How do these gentlemen make out their case? 1883 *Law Rep.* 11 *Q. Bench Div.* 597 A subordinate judge is liable to an action for slander, if malice is clearly made out. 1887 L. Carroll *Game of Logic* iv. 93 'That lets me into a little fact about you, you know!' 'Why, how do you make that out? You never heard me play the organ?' 1892 *Sat. Rev.* 8 Oct. 419/2 It would be easy to make out a strong case for the contention.

j. To claim to have proved, or to try to prove (something to be true); to make to appear, to represent, pretend. With clause as obj., or with obj. and complement, or *inf.*

1658–9 *Burton's Diary* (1828) IV. 43 There is a Petition in some person's hands touching this business. They make it out that their right was in the time of Henry VI. 1832 *Examiner* 17/2 What, Sir, would you make me out a Radical? 1855 Prescott *Philip II*, iv. (1857) 65 Making him out..as much of an Englishman as possible. 1861 Mrs. H. Wood *East Lynne* III. xiii, It seems they want to make out now that Dick never murdered Hallijohn. 1872 Butler *Erewhon* viii. 68, I certainly did not make myself out to be any better than I was. 1873 Black *Pr. Thule* xi. 177 She is not nearly so soft as she tries to make out. 1891 *Spectator* 30 May, Mr. Hutton was certainly careless as to figures, though not so careless as Dr. Abbott makes out. 1902 A. E. W. Mason *Four Feathers* xiv. 133, 'I was not thinking of that', Ethne exclaimed, 'when I asked why we must wait. That makes me out most selfish'.

k. To find out the meaning of; to discover the drift of; to arrive at an understanding of; to interpret for oneself; to decipher, succeed in reading; †to understand or 'take' (an author) in a particular way (*obs.*); to understand the behaviour of (a person). Also (with clause or obj. and inf.), to discover, find out.

1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* VI. i. 277 By this Chronology are many Greeke authors to be understood; and thus is Martinus Crusius to be made out, when [etc.]. 1688 Boyle *Final Causes Nat. Things* iv. 141 To suppose Him to have made such things for a particular end, which we cannot make out to be in any considerable measure worthy of his wisdom. 1709 Felton *Dissert. Classicks* (1718) 145 Your Antiquaries make out the most ancient Medals from a letter and some Pieces of Letters, .. with great Difficulty to be discerned upon the Face or Reverse. 1773 Goldsm. *She Stoops to Conq.* IV. (Globe) 669/1, I would not lose the rest of it [sc. a letter] for a guinea. Here, mother, do you make it out. 1794 'G. Gambado' *Ann. Horsemen* xvii. (1809) 135 His shouts (which, from what I can make out from the Girl's imitations of them, much resembled the war-hoops of the Indians). 1859 Jephson *Brittany* iii. 35 He could not make out what the police wanted. 1863 Bagehot *Biog. Stud.* 208 To those who had an opportunity of accurately observing Sir George Lewis there was no difficulty in making him out. 1867 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* (1876) I. vi. 528 As far as it is possible to make out anything from the tangled mazes of history and legend. 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 193, I made out, as I thought, that he was a stranger with whom you were talking. 1883 Sir N. Lindley in *Law Times Rep.* (1884) XLIX. 727/1 They are clearly inviting the public to come and buy, both wholesale and retail, as far as I can make out.

l. To discern or discover visually; to succeed in perceiving or identifying (something not easily visible). Also with clause as obj., and with obj. and inf. or complement. (Cf. 22.)

1754 Richardson *Grandison* (1776) VI. 193, I always think when I see those badgerly virgins fond of a parrot,..or a lap dog, that their imagination makes out husband and children in their animals. 1805 Sir E. Berry 13 Oct. in Nicolas *Disp. Nelson* (1846) VII. 117 *note*, The ship that bore down to us I soon made out to be a Three-decker. 1847 Marryat *Childr. N. Forest* xi, At last he thought that he could make out a human figure lying at the bottom [of the pit]. 1872 Black *Adv. Phaeton* xxx. 406 Minute dots that you can make out to be sheep. 1889 Doyle *Micah Clarke* xxxi. 325 By the aid of a glass I was able to make out their lines and camp. 1891 *Temple Bar* Dec. 581 In the darkness he made out a shed by the path.

m. *intr.* To go, start, or sally forth; to get away, to escape. ? Now only *dial.*

1558 Phaer *Æneid* IV. (1573) L ij b, Set sailes aloft, make out with ores, in ships, in boates, in frames. *c* 1583 Hayes in *Hakluyt's Voy.* (1589) 692 Making out from this danger, we sownded one while seuen fathome, then fiue fathome, then [etc.]..At last we recouered..in some despaire, to sea roome enough. 1601 Shaks. *Twel. N.* II. v. 65 Seauen of my people with an obedient start, make out for him. *a* 1632 T. Taylor *God's Judgem.* I. II. xviii. (1642) 240 The Lion made out for his prey. *a* 1703 Burkitt *On N. T., Luke* ii. 20 A gracious soul no sooner hears where Christ is, but instantly makes out after him. 1847 L. Hunt *Men, Women, & B.* I. ix. 153 Poor Abbott..rushes forth for the second time, and makes out as fast as he can for a third coffee-house. 1884 'R. Boldrewood' *Melb. Memories* xxii. 157 The ruder portion of the herd 'made out' that way.

n. To extend in a particular direction or for a specified distance. (Cf. 73 b.) *rare.*

1743 Pococke *Descr. of East* I. 25 From the north end .. the foot of the hill makes out to the river. 1860 *Merc. Marine Mag.* VII. 198 At the N. W. end of San Nicolas heavy breakers make out 2½ miles.

92. Make over. a. *trans.* To hand over (*properly*, by a formal agreement); to transfer the possession of (a thing) from oneself *to* another.

1546 O. Johnson in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. II. 178 When she doeth intend to occupie her monney she will lett me knowe for to write to Robert Androwe to make it over. 1651 Baxter *Inf. Bapt.* 13 The mercies that Christ hath purchased for their Children, and made over to them. 1762–71 H. Walpole *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1786) III. 270 Being persuaded to make it [a fortune] over to his son. 1879 M. J. Guest *Lect. Hist. Eng.* xxi. 206 He made over the whole free kingdom of England to the Pope. 1883 Black *Yolande* III. xiii. 249 It is all settled now, and the land made over to its rightful possessor. 1893 Forbes-Mitchell *Reminl. Gt. Mutiny* 180 My prisoner had no sooner been made over to me than [etc.].

†b. *spec.* 'To settle in the hands of trustees' (J.); also *absol. Obs.*

1650 May *Old Couple* IV. (1658) 33 All your widowes of Aldermen, that marry Lords, of late, Make over their estates, and by that meanes, Retaine a power to curbe their lordly husbands. 1678 Butler *Hud.* III. i. 670 And Widows, who have try'd one Lover, Trust none again, 'till th'have made over. *Ibid.* 1193.

†c. To remove from one place to another. *Obs.*

1713 Addison *Guard.* No. 121 ₱ 5 My waist .. is reduced to the depth of four inches by what I have already made over to my neck.

d. To remake, refashion. Now only *U.S.*

1698 COLLIER *Ess. Mor. Subj.* II. (1703) 59 Age and youth can never be made over or adjusted. Nothing but time can take away years or give them. 1883 HOWELLS *Woman's Reason* xii. II. 4 She made over all her bonnets and dresses. 1884 LOWELL *Democr.*, etc. (1887) 26 We have taken from Europe .. the most turbulent of her people, and have made them over into good citizens. 1899 R. W. TRINE *In Tune with the Infinite* (1903) 50 That the entire human structure can be completely changed, made over, within a period of less than one year.

† e. *intr.* = *come over* (COME 66 a). *Obs.*

1488 *Paston Lett.* III. 344 And they had nott seylyd not paste vj. leges butt they aspied a Frencheman, and the Frencheman mad over to them.

† 93. **Make through.** *intr.* To go through. *Obs.*

1606 MARSTON *Sophonisba* II. ii. Wks. 1856 I. 172 Then amaine Make through to Scipio; he yields safe abodes. 1628 RUTHERFORD *Lett.* (1862) I. 42, I doubt not but that, if hell were betwixt you and Christ, as a river which ye behoved to cross ere you could come at Him, but ye would willingly put in your foot and make through to be at Him. 1825 80 JAMIESON, *To Mak throw wi'*, to finish, to come to a conclusion, after surmounting all difficulties; as, 'He maid throw wi' his sermon after an unco pingle'.

† 94. **Make to.** *intr.* To set to work. *Sc. Obs.*

1563 WINZET *Wks.* (1890) II. 4 Quhilkis being done .. makis he to without delay. 1570 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xii. 91 First on the feildis mak schortly to. 1572 *Ibid.* xxxi. 12 How sone I vnderstude the cace, I maid me to frahand. *a* 1662 R. BAILLIE *Lett.* (1775) II. 36 (Jam.) Sundry other shires are making to.

† 95. **Make together.** *trans.* To compound.

1535 COVERDALE *Ecclus.* xlix. 1 Whan the Apotecary maketh many precious swete smellynge thinges together.

96. **Make up.** † a. *trans.* To build, erect (a tower, city, etc.). *Obs.*

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 275 Argus made vp a mekyll ship. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 7060 And he couthe thurgh his sleight Do maken up a tour of height. *c* 1450 *Merlin* 39 Than comaunded Vortiger the werkemen to make vp the toure the strengest that myght be devised. 1490 CAXTON *Eneydos* xvi. 63 He fonde eneas .. all ocupyed for to make vp the cytee of cartage.

† b. To build up (a bank, etc.) again where it has fallen away; to repair (an earthwork, fence, etc.) by filling up gaps. *Obs.*

1468 *Peebles Charters* etc. (1872) 158 Mychell of Forest sall mak vp hys syd dyk fra his bern to the yet wythin viij dayis. 1553 WRIOTHESLEY *Chron.* (Camden) II. 102 The worke..was begun to be made up agayn with breke. 1576 in W. H. Turner *Select. Rec. Oxford* 385 By the default of the .. Cytie in not meakinge up the .. bancks. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* I. xix. 22 b, That whiche was beaten downe .. the assieged made vp againe. 1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turks* (1621) 863 The Christians in the meane time made up their breaches with earth, [etc.] 1611 BIBLE *Ezek.* xiii. 5 Yee haue not gone vp into the gaps, neither made vp the hedge for the house of Israel.

c. To supply (deficiencies); to make complete.

(*a*) To fill up what is wanting to; to supply the deficiencies of; to complete (a given number, quantity, period, etc.). † Also pass. *to be made up*, to be completed in form or growth.

a 1568 ASCHAM *Scholem.* II. (Arb.) 138 Now to know, what Author doth medle onelie with some one..member of eloquence, and who doth perfitelie make vp the whole bodie. 1594 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* I. xiv. § 2 Before the full and complete measure of things necessarie be made vp. *Ibid.* II. viii. § 5 Whatsoeuer to make vp the doctrine of mans saluation is added, as in supply of the scriptures vnsufficiencie, we reiect it. 1579 BEARD *Theatre God's Judgem.* (1612) 490 [He] passing that night in great distresse, the next day made vp his wicked and miserable end. 1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III*, I. i. 21 Sent before my time Into this breathing World, scarse halfe made vp. 1611 — *Cymb.* IV. ii. 109 Being scarse made vp, I meane to man. 1612 BACON *Ess., Beauty* (Arb.) 212 For no youth can be comely, but by pardon, and considering the youth, as to make vp the comlinesse. 1629 MILTON *Hymn Nativ.* xiii, And with your ninefold harmony Make up full consort to th' Angelike symphony. 1641 J. JACKSON *True Evang. T.* II. 137 Lastly, I will make up the Decade with a meaner person, ..Elizabeth Folks. 1651 *Life Father Sarpi* (1676) 28 Not only from being verst, but consummate, and made up in all sorts of Learning. 1656 COWLEY *Davideis* I. Note 14 There are some Places in him [Virgil], which I dare almost swear have been made up .. by the putid Officiousness of some Grammarians. 1793 *Regal Rambler* 47 Paper is thrown in to make up the weight. 1879 'CAVENDISH' *Card Essays*, etc. 189 When people are asked to make up a rubber. 1888 J. PAYN *Myst. Mirbridge* I. v. 84 He will make up our game of lawn tennis .. three is always an awkward number. 1892 *Monthly Packet* May 575 They..decided to sell the cow in order to make up the rent. 1894 R. BRIDGES *Feast of Bacchus* I. 234 'Twill make our numbers up.

(*b*) † To bring up to (a given number, expressed by numeral compl.) (*obs.*). Also, to raise (a sum) *to* a larger sum.

1629 J. COLE *Of Death* 195 His deceased children were alive still in heaven; and the ten more given him here, made them up twenty. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* (1840) II. vi. 124 At first, I distributed linen sufficient to make every one of them four shirts; and, at the Spaniard's request, afterwards made them up six. 1890 *Illustr. Lond. News* 28 June 814/3 He makes up the income of his wife..to £2000 per annum.

(*c*) To make good, to compensate for (something that is wanting); to supply (a deficiency). Phrases, *to make up* (*lost*) *ground, leeway.*

1538 ELYOT *Dict., Suppleo* .. To make vp that whiche lacketh. 1660 INGELO *Bentiv. & Ur.* I. (1682) 27 This he performed with such accurate Skill, that it made up whatsoever he wanted of Force. 1688 BURNET *Lett. Pres. St. Italy* 122 The Clergy..had neither learning nor vertue but made up all Defects by a slavish Obsequiousness. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 127 ₱ 2 What they have lost in Height they make up in Breadth. 1766 GOLDSM. *Vic. W.* iv, What the conversation wanted in wit was made up in laughter. 1812 L. M. HAWKINS *C'tess & Gertr.* IV. lxviii. 25 [The Almighty] never forgets us; it's all made up to us one time or the other. 1837 *Ord. & Reg. Harvard Univ.* 10 Recitations omitted may be made up with the assent of the Instructer, at any time within the term, in which they occur. 1862 *Temple Bar* VI. 397 Should the confessor order him to make up the injury done to the treasury? 1882 EDNA LYALL *Donovan* xlii, He had large arrears of sleep to make up. 1890 *Sat. Rev.* 31 May 668/2 After getting a very indifferent start, she made up ground at the Bushes. 1890 *Illustr. Sport. & Dram. News* 10 May 279/2 The huntsman .. is now rapidly making up lost ground.

(*d*) *intr.* To compensate *for*, atone *for*.

1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 33 ₱ 1 Daphne..found her self obliged to acquire some Accomplishments to make up for the want of those Attractions. 1774 FOOTE *Cozeners* III. ii. (1778) 70 You may renew hostilities and make up for lost time, as soon as you are out of the house. 1856 J. H. NEWMAN *Callista* (1885) 274 If we have been wanting in due consideration for him, we now trust to make up for it. 1859 JEPHSON *Brittany* ii. 16 A lovely view made up to me for the sights and smells. 1879 DOWDEN *Southey* v. 132 Southey made up in weight for what was wanting in measure. 1889 MRS. E. KENNARD *Landing a Prize* I. xi. 191 She does not attempt to make up for lost ground.

d. *trans.* To fill up (an opening or gap); to stop up (a hole or passage); to shut or fasten up (a door, a house). Now chiefly *dial.*

1582 in W. H. Turner *Select. Rec. Oxford* 435 Nayles and woorkmanshippe to make uppe the hole in the walle. 1603 B. JONSON *Sejanus* I. ii, We must make up our eares 'gainst these assaults Of charming tongues. 1655 STANLEY *Hist. Philos.* (1687) 12/2 Some say that the old channel was quite made up. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. iv, I made up the entrance, which till now I had left open. 1841 TRENCH *Parables* (1893) 334 The house is made up for the night, barred and bolted. 1886 *Chesh. Gloss., Make up..*(3) to repair, to close up. 'You mun mak yon gap up'. 1886 *S. W. Linc. Gloss.* s.v., 'The silt soon maks up the pipes'. 1889 *N. W. Linc. Gloss., Make up.* (1) To fasten up. To shut up. 1891 *Law Times* XC. 395/1 The hind proceeded to make up the gap by placing wooden rails on the side next the glebe land.

e. † To close up (a letter); to wrap up (an article); to put together (a parcel) *of* goods.

1626 MASSINGER *Rom. Actor* IV. i, I brib'd the boy that did conuey the letter, And, hauing perus'd it, made it vp againe. 1709 *Brit. Apollo* II. No. 70. 3/2 [Paper] to make up Soap in. 1823 *Examiner* 802/2, I was making up a parcel. 1832 *Ibid.* 617/1 Mails will be made up at the Post-office for..Lisbon every Tuesday. 1889 STEVENSON *Master of B.* x. 277 Making up his portmanteau for a voyage.

f. To put together, construct, compound.

(*a*) To put together a substance or material into a particular form: the obj. being either the word denoting the substance or that denoting the form.

1530 PALSGR. 632/1 Nowe that I have made up my cockes I wyll carye in as fast as I can. 1727 ARBUTHNOT *Tables Anc. Coins* etc. 304 A Catapotium is a Medicine that is.. most commonly made up in Pills. 1852 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* XIII. I. 40 If proper care is taken in 'making up' the butter formed from cream slightly acescent. 1859 *Ibid.* XX. I. 45 The hay is sometimes made up into bundles. 1861 *Temple Bar* III. 250 Some curious tricks of the trade are practised in making up false hair. *Ibid.* 254 The best *coiffeurs*..having a secret of making up a lady's head to last for three months.

(*b*) To make (a garment, etc.) by fitting and sewing pieces of material cut out for the purpose; also, to fit together (pieces of material) to form a garment, etc.; to make (cloth) into clothing.

1672 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) II. 295 For making up ye Sarcenet Curtain. 1672 VILLIERS (Dk. Buckhm.) *Rehearsal* III. i. (Arb.) 69 [A tailor says] If I can't make up all the work I cut out, I shan't want Journeymen to help me. 1709 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4577/4 A wrought Gown stitch'd upon East-India Dimety,..not..made up. 1789 MRS. PIOZZI *Journ. France* I. 184 A skeleton wire upon the head, such as we use to make up hats. 1789 WOLCOT (P. Pindar) *Expost. Odes* xi, Like mercers had variety of stuff For such whose turn it was to be made up. 1855 MRS. CARLYLE *Lett.* II. 268 Took the black silk..to Catchpool..that it might be made up. 1863 EARL LYTTON *King of Amasis* vii. (1890) 135 Mother was making up some bandages for his hand. 1879 M. J. GUEST *Lect. Hist. Eng.* xxx. 301 They pay twenty-five times as much for making up the dress as the cloth cost at first.

(*c*) quasi-*passive*. To admit of being made up.

1861 MRS. H. WOOD *E. Lynne* II. vii, Her striped silk, turned, will make up as handsome as ever. 1892 *Sat. Rev.* 10 Dec. 682/1 It is a modest, unobtrusive stone, and makes up so well with diamonds, that [etc.].

(*d*) *trans.* To compound (a substance, medicine, etc.) of different ingredients; to mix (dough).

1649 CULPEPPER (*title*) Physical Directory; a Translation of the Dispensatory .. imposed upon all the Apothecaries of England to make up their Medicines by. 1699 EVELYN *Acetaria* 18 Omlets, made up with Cream. 1718 *Freethinker* No. 97 ₱ 8, I make up my own Medicines. 1824 *Examiner* 10/1 [She] is in the habit of making up medicines for the poor. 1829 *Ibid.* 589/2 The prescription was made up by Mr. Snow's assistant. 1844 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* V. I. 3 A description of flour called 'cowens,' used by the bakers for making up their dough. 1852 MRS. STOWE *Uncle Tom's C.* xiii. 115 Rachel now took down a snowy moulding-board, and..proceeded quietly to make up some biscuits. 1883 HOWELLS *Woman's Reason* xi. I. 216 I'll give you a tonic. Make you up a bottle and send it to you.

(*e*) To get together, collect (a company, a sum of money); to furnish by contributions from different sources.

1593 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. VI*, II. i. 40 Make up no factious numbers for the matter. 1654 tr. *Scudery's Curia Pol.* 106 To imbezell the treasure of the State, and so make up Bankes for private uses. 1691 LOCKE *Consid. Lower. Interest* (1692) 92 How will the Farmer be able to make up his Rent at Quarter Day? *c* 1718 PRIOR *Ladle* 158 The miser must make up his plum. 1837 *Penny Cycl.* IX. 435/1 Nor was this an expensive company made up for the new house; for all, or nearly, all of the performers..had belonged to the old one. 1846 C. ST. JOHN *Wild Sports Highl.* 27 It requires quick shooting and good walking to make up a handsome bag. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xv. III. 547 To contribute of their substance in order to make up a purse for Jeffreys. 1880 GOLDW. SMITH *Cowper* ii. 22 His relations .. combined to make up a little income for him. 1887 BARING-GOULD *Gaverocks* II. xxv. 59 We used to make up parties to read plays, each taking a part.

(*f*) *Printing.* To arrange into columns or pages.

1771 LUCKOMBE *Printing* 380 Having made up the Head of the first page, we cut it off by a rule. *Ibid.*, The first page being made up to the length of the number of lines of which it is to consist. 1896 T. L. DE VINNE *Moxon's Mech. Exerc., Printing* 421 The compositor was required to make up his page as soon as it was composed.

(*g*) To put (coaches, etc.) together to form a train; also, to put (a train) together.

1864 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* XXV. II. 372 The waggons .. were made up into trains. 1889 *Scribner's Mag.* May 581/2 The train once made 'up',..its progress..is comparatively simple.

(*h*) † Formerly, to lay and light (a fire). Now, to add fuel to (a fire already burning) so as to keep it at a proper 'height'.

1785 MRS. FLETCHER in *Wesley's Serm.* lvii. Wks. (1827) IX. 28 The servant came in to make up the fire. 1801 CHARLOTTE SMITH *Lett. Solit. Wand.* I. 93 The usual hour of bringing candles, and making up the fire, was certainly past. *Ibid.* II. 168 The daughter of the poor man under whose roof she was made up a fire in the wretched room assigned to her. 1861 DICKENS *Gt. Expect.* liii, I made up the fire which was still burning. 1889 MRS. OLIPHANT *Poor Gentleman* II. x. 172, 'I might at least find a decent fire.' 'I'll make it up in a moment, Edward. A little wood will make it all right'.

g. To compose, compile.

(*a*) To put together in due form; to compile, draw up (a list, document, etc.).

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* III. 291 (340) And day is set, the chartres up to make. 1552a HULOET, Make vp, *scribo.* 1613 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII*, I. i. 75 He makes vp the File Of all the Gentry. 1662a GRAUNT *Bills of Mortality* 11 On Wednesday the general Accompt is made up, and Printed. 1885 *Act* 48 *Vict.* c. 16. § 6 Every future valuation roll to be made up in any county. 1891 *Sat. Rev.* 8 Aug. 163/1 The averages of the season, made up to Saturday last.

(*b*) To compose (a book, sermon). *Obs.* or *dial.*

1630 USSHER *Lett.* (1686) 434 The History of Gottes-chalcus,..which I am now a making up. 1825–80 JAMIESON, *To mak up..* 4. To compose; as, 'The minister's thrang makin' up his sermon.'

(*c*) To concoct, invent, fabricate (a story, lie). Also, to compose (verses, etc.) impromptu; to improvise.

1825–80 in JAMIESON. 1847 MARRYAT *Childr. N. Forest* xiv, Well, the story was not badly made up. 1879 M. J. GUEST *Lect. Hist. Eng.* iv. 28 People began to make up a history of the Britons. 1889 MRS. H. L. CAMERON *Lost Wife* II. iv. 47 One can easily make up some plausible reason. 1891 MRS. S. EDWARDS *Secr. Princess* II. i. 2 He sang his verses as he made them up. 1891 *Strand Mag.* II. 502/2 Make it up out of your head. 1893 R. KIPLING *Many Invent.* 98, I made up a whole lot of new things to go into the story.

h. Said of component parts. (*a*) Of quantities, individuals: To form (a certain sum or total) either by themselves or with others. Now *rare.*

1504 in *Bury Wills* (Camden) 96 As mych lond more as shall makuppe the valor of xj marc by yeer w^t^ the seid londes in Watton. 1542–3 *Act* 34 & 35 *Hen. VIII*, c. 5. § 12 As muche of the two partes residue, as shall accomplishe and make vp a full thirde parte. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* IV. iii. 207 That you three fooles, lackt mee foole, to make vp the messe. 1602 MARSTON *Ant. & Mel.* II. Wks. 1856 I. 27, I have nineteene mistresses alreadie, and I not much disdeigne that thou shold'st make up the ful score. 1641 BROME *Jov. Crew* I. Wks. 1873 III. 358 Cash; which added Unto your former Banck, makes up in all ..Twelve thousand and odd pounds. 1662 STILLINGFL. *Orig. Sacr.* I. v § 2 Reckoning three Generations to make up a century. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* III. 321 These four [gentlemen], with Mrs. Sinclair, Miss Partington,..Mr. Lovelace, and myself, made up the company. 1860 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* XXI. II. 450 The sums..do not quite make up 100.

(*b*) To form the components of; to constitute, compose; to contribute to the formation of; to go to form or produce. Freq. in passive *to be made up* (of certain parts).

1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* v. i. 48 Old cakes of Roses Were thinly scattered, to make vp a shew. 1593 — 3 *Hen. VI*, I. iv. 25 The Sands are numbred, that makes vp my Life. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 2 Men and manners, which make up a Librarie to themselves. 1660 F. BROOKE tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 63 The River .. is pleasant and large, and helps to make up a good haven. 1688 BURNET *Lett. Pres. St. Italy* 129, I have writ you a very loose sort of a Letter, all made up of digressions. 1693 DRYDEN *Disc. Satire* Ess. (ed. Ker) II. 45 Satyrus, that mixed kind of animal, .. made up betwixt a man and a goat. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 152 ₱ 3 These are the People who make up the Gross of the Soldiery. 1711 SWIFT *Let. conc. Sacram. Test* Misc. 335 The Parties among us are made up on one side of Moderate Whigs, and on the other, of Presbyterians. 1712 BERKELEY *Pass. Obed.* Wks. III. 107 An audience almost wholly made up of young persons. 1713 ADDISON *Cato* IV. iii. 48 He was all made up of Love and Charms. 1834 J. H. NEWMAN *Par.*

Serm. (1837) I. xxi. 316 Soul and body make up one man. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* i. I. 131 The few members who made up what was contemptuously called the Rump of the House of Commons. 1861 MRS. CARLYLE *Lett.* III. 81 Ramsgate .. is made up of narrow, steep, confused streets. 1867 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1876) I. App. 756 The force was made up of men of all nations. 1889 KATH. S. MACQUOID *Roger Ferror* I. 122 Life is made up of tiny trifles. 1890 *Temple Bar* Feb. 168 All in short that goes to make up ..an Englishman's ideal of felicity.

i. To prepare.

†(*a*) To attire (a person) suitably for receiving guests, etc. *Obs.*

1602 DEKKER *Satirom.* K 4 b, Wat Terrill, th'art ill suited, ill made vp, In Sable collours. 1633 B. JONSON *Tale of Tub* i. iv, The bravest, richest, and the properest, man A Taylor could make up. 1634 MASSINGER *Very Woman* I. i, *Ped.* 'Morrow sister, Do I not come unseasonably? *Al.* Why good brother? *Ped.* Because you are not yet fully made up, Nor fit for visitation.

(*b*) (esp. *Theatr.*) To prepare (an actor) for the impersonation of a character by dressing him in an appropriate costume and disguising his features by means of false hair, cosmetics, etc. (chiefly *refl.* and *pass.*).

1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* III. ix. ¶ 2, I made myself up, .. with the barber's aid, as a sort of middle man between Don Cæsar and Gil Blas. *Ibid.* IV. vii. ¶ 5 Just as he had done making himself up [said of an old beau at his toilette]. 1844 *Puck* 30 (Farmer) My young ambition sadly I resign,—My mind and face made up for first old men. 1859 LANG *Wand. India* 362 The General was very old, close upon eighty; but he was 'made up' to represent a gentleman of about forty. 1862 *Temple Bar* VI. 339 His face is marvellously 'made up'. 1891 *New Rev.* Aug. 176 They have no teeth; they have skins that would make a lemon look white ;..But the maid makes them up; and people say how handsome they are.

(*c*) *intr.* for *refl.*

1838 DICKENS *Nich. Nick.* xxv, Mr. Crummles .. had .. 'made up' for the part by arraying himself in a theatrical wig [etc.]. 1862 *Temple Bar* VI. 340 Mr. Sothern 'makes up' so very darkly as to appear almost Jewish. 1879 SALA *Paris herself again* (ed. 4) II. ii. 28 He had 'made up' for the part of a distressed poet. 1890 *Sat. Rev.* 22 Nov. 591/2 When she went off with Paris, he had hy magic arts made up as Menelaus, and she thought he was her husband.

(*d*) To arrange (the features) so as to produce a particular expression. *To make up one's mouth*: see MOUTH *sb.* Now *U. S.*

1641 BROME *Joviall Crew* IV. i, Make up your face quickly. [The person addressed has been weeping.] Here comes one of the Servants, I suppose. 1828-32 WEBSTER s. v., To assume a particular form of features; as, to make up a face; whence, to make up a lip, is to pout.

(*e*) To get (a horse, etc.) into good condition for selling; to fatten. Also *intr.* for *pass.* (Cf. *make off*, 89 c.)

1794 *Sporting Mag.* IV. 208 He thoroughly understands (what is termed by dealers) *making up a horse.* 1842 *Trnl. R. Agric. Soc.* III. II. 217 All the lambs being made up for the butcher. 1857 *Ibid.* XVIII. I. 19 The majority .. buy them as colts; when fit for the collar, .. make them up for the London brewers. 1867 *Ibid.* Ser. II. III. II. 533 If they [fowls] have been 'sent along' with Indian corn [etc.], .. they will make up to nearly 2 lbs. heavier.

(*f*) To prepare, put in order (a bed) for a particular occasion. Also, to put (a room) in order; to 'do up' (? *local*).

1824 *Examiner* 45/2 [She] desired witness to make up the bed in her room. 1879 MISS YONGE *Cameos* Ser. IV. xxxii. 346 She had a couch made up for her on deck. 1889 W. WESTALL *Birch Dene* I. xiii. 178 We might..make you up a bed on the office floor. 1891 *Blackw. Mag.* CL. 506/2 'Where have you made up Mr. Smith's room'? 'In the north wing, sir'. 1894 G. MOORE *Esther Waters* 102 Esther said she would make up her room, and when that was done she insisted on helping her mother with the housework.

(*g*) To get up (linen). *rare.*

1890 *Blackw. Mag.* CXLVIII. 56/1 They can make up linen execrably.

(*h*) To bring (spirits) to a required degree of strength by adding water; to 'lower'.

1725 G. SMITH *Distilling* 77 When you have made up your goods to the quantity and quality you intend. 1731 P. SHAW *Ess. Artif. Philos.* 89 To keep out of the Spirit the grosser Oil of the Faints; and instead of these, to *make up*, as they call it, to Proof, with pure distill'd or simple water. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* s. v. *Making-up*, When it is necessary to make up waters lower than proof, they are generally cloudy.

j. To set out the items of (an account) in order; to add up and balance (an account).

1472 J. PASTON in *P. Lett.* III. 32, I porpose to make up my byllys clere, and send yow the copyse. 1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* I. i. 148 Yet I can make my Awdit vp, that [etc.]. *a* 1729 J. ROGERS 19 *Serm.* ii. (1735) 33 He was to make up his Accounts with his Lord. 1742 RICHARDSON *Pamela* III. 250 A Desk, at which sometimes Mr. Jonathan makes up his running Accounts to Mr. Longman. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* v. viii, Who but an atheist could think of leaving the world without having first made up his account? 1858 *Trnl. R. Agric. Soc.* XIX. I. 123 A farmer's accounts should be made up once a year. 1889 MARY E. CARTER *Mrs. Severn* I. I. i. 27 Her husband..made up the tradesmen's books. 1892 J. ADAM *Commerc. Corresp.* 22 It is customary for the banker to make up, or balance, the current account at the end of each half-year.

k. *To make up one's mind*: to come to a decision or conclusion; often const. inf. or clause. Also (nonce-uses), *to make up one's resolution*, † *a determination.* Hence, with extended meaning, *to make up one's mind for, to*, or *to do* (something): to be reconciled to the thought of, to be prepared for. † Also in *passive*: ? = 'to have one's mind made up' *for.*

1595 SHAKS. *John* II. i. 541, I know she is not for this match made vp. [Otherwise in modern editions.] 1606 — *Tr. & Cr.* II. ii. 170 To make vp a free determination 'Twixt right and wrong. 1821 *Examiner* 363/1 In winter people make up their minds for the worst and go. 1830 *Ibid.* 663/2 The King has quite made up his mind to the loss of Belgium. 1847 MARRYAT *Childr. N. Forest* xiv, Edward made up his resolution to join the army. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* i. I. 107 He..had wisely made up his mind to what could no longer be avoided. 1859 MILL *Liberty* v. (1865) 62/2 If the government would make up its mind to require for every child a good education. 1883 STEVENSON *Treas. Isl.* IV. xvii. We had all quietly made up our minds to treat him like one of ourselves. 1887 RUSKIN *Præterita* II. 189, I believe he made up his mind that I was heartless and selfish.

† (*b*) *absol.* ? 'To come to a decision' (Schmidt). 1605 SHAKS. *Lear* I. i. 209 Pardon me, Royall Sir, Election makes not vp in such conditions.

l. To settle, arrange. (*a*) To arrange, settle (a marriage, etc.); to conclude (a treaty).

1562 *Child-Marr.* (1897) 75 Bie the consent of their frendes, who made vp the mariage betwixe them. 1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* v. iii. 140 Be Blest For making vp this peace. 1879 M. J. GUEST *Lect. Hist. Eng.* XXXVIII. 384 Edward tried to make up a kind of peace between them. 1890 *Univ. Rev.* Feb. 282 The best marriages are those which are made up by sympathetic and understanding friends.

(*b*) To settle (a dispute, etc.); to end (a quarrel) by reconciliation.

1699 T. BROWN *Erasm. Colloq.* 67 What passes between two People is much easier made up, than when once it has taken Air. 1727 A. HAMILTON *New Acc. E. Ind.* II. XXXVII. 62 Mediators in making up Cases of Debate and Contention. 1773 FOOTE *Bankrupt* III. Wks. 1799 II. 133 And now this difference is whole and compos'd, let me try if I can't make up the other. 1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* xxi, Perhaps the feud may be made up without farther fighting or difficulty. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* XIX. IV. 301 That two..gentlemen should be deputed to wait on Her Majesty and try to make matters up. 1870 ROGERS *Hist. Gleanings* Ser. II. 230 He had made up his differences with Fox.

(*c*) *intr.* (also often *to make it up*). To be reconciled after a dispute; to become friends again.

1669 R. MONTAGU in *Buccleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 441 You had made up with the Duke of York without his knowledge. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* IV. 26 If I should be obliged to make up with him again, I shall think I am always doing myself a spight. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* VII. v, I beseech you..that you will endeavour to make it up with my aunt. 1837 THACKERAY *Yellowplush* i, There we were, quarrelling and making up..by turns. 1887 MRS. C. L. PIRKIS *Dateless Bargain* II. xviii. 232 We've kissed and made it up again. 1892 STEVENSON & L. OSBOURNE *Wrecker* xix. 288 We..had quarrelled and made up.

m. To make the fortune of, enrich. *dial.*

1786 *Scotland's Glory & Shame* II. 53 He'll make you up for ever. 1829 HOGG *Sheph. Cal.* viii. I. 230 Your master will soon be sic a rich man now, that we 'll a' be made up.

n. *intr.* (*a*) To advance in a certain direction; now only in *to make up to*, to draw near to, approach. Also *occas.* of the tide: To flow up a river (cf. 72).

1595 SHAKS. *John* III. ii. 5 Philip make vp. 1596 *Edw. III*, IV. vii. 31 Make up once more with me; the twentieth part Of those that line, are men inow to quaile The feeble handfull on the aduerse part. 1611 HEYWOOD *Gold. Age* v. Wks. 1874 III. 75 Let's make vp to his rescue. 1622 FLETCHER *Span. Cur.* I. i, There I would follow you as a guid to honour, Though all the horrours of the Warre made up To stop my passage. 1632 MASSINGER *Maid of Hon.* IV. i, Hell, stoppe their brawling throats; againe! make up And cudgel them into jelly. 1678 BUNYAN *Pilgr.* I. 38 He espied two Men come tumbling over the Wall,..and they made up a pace to him. 1725 DE FOE *Voy. round World* (1840) 104 With intent to have endeavoured to make up into the latitude of 50 or 60°. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* X. viii. ¶ 9 Impatient to know, .. he made up to me immediately. 1855 COSTELLO *Stor. Screen* 87, I saw her make up to the lady I have described. 1898 *Daily News* 25 March 8/3 There was very little water in the river as the tide was only just beginning to make up.

(*b*) *To make up to* (fig.): to make advances to (a person); to pay court or make love to.

1781 D. WILLIAMS tr. *Voltaire's Dram. Wks.* II. 25 She ogles me still, or I'm mistaken; I'll e'en make up to her. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* VII. i. ¶ 2 They made up to Don Cæsar or his son at once, without currying my favour as the channel of all good graces. 1842 S. LOVER *Handy Andy* ii. 22 Tom's making up to the widow. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xii, Young Bullock,..who had been making up to Miss Marin the last two seasons. 1889 STEVENSON *Master of B.* i. 8, I have it by all accounts that Mr. Henry was more made up to from that hour.

☞ *Key to phrases, etc.*

Uses of *passive* 3, 3 b, 3 c, 4; (=L. *fieri*) 9 e, 48 f, 49 d, e; *refl.* (with *for* or inf.) 34 a, 35; *impers.* (of the weather) 8 b; (it) maksna *Sc.* 25; *intr.* (=compose poetry) 5 b, (=go) 35 b; see also 69–74.

What make you here? 58; what do you make of..? 20. ¶ Make or mar, make or break 46 b; make or mend 1 c; meddle or make with 71. ¶ Proverbs and proverbial phrases occur in senses 1 d, 10, 24, 53 c.

Make account of 19 b; *m* acquainted 48 b; *m* ado 9; *m* after 75; *m* again 83; *m* against 76; *m* the agreeable 67; *m* alms 57 a; *m* amends 61; *m* an army 57 b; *m* as if, as though 70; *m* an ass of oneself 18; *m* asseth 61; *m* at 77; *m* away 84; *m* away with 85; *m* a bag 15 c; *m* a bargain 57 d; *m* battle 57 b; *m* one's beard 40; *m* a beast of oneself 18; *m* a bed 36; *m* believe 53 e; *m* the best of 18 d; *m* bold 69; *m* a book 5, 15 d; *m* a (or one's) bow 57 c; *m* a business of 18; *m* (it) one's business 49 c; *m* a campaign 57 b; *m* capital out of 29; *m* (=score with) a card 30; *m* the cards 43; *m* care 62; *m* a case 19 d; *m* the chalice 42; *m* a child 17; *m* a circuit 57 f; *m* coffee 2 b; *m* a coil, a commotion 9; *m* one's Communion 57 e; *m* one's compliments 61; *m* (one's) confession 57 e; *m* conscience 19 a; *m* a contract 57 d; *m* a corner (in) 9; *m* count of 19 b; *m* one's course 57 f; *m* a covenant 57 d; *m* it coy 68 b; *m* a decision 61 c; *m* a difference 10, 19 a; *m* (=eat) a dinner 60; *m* (=train) a dog 45; *m* dole 62; *m* (=shut) a door 37; *m* (no) doubt 19 a; *m* down 86; *m* an effort 63; *m* English 48; *m* esteem, estimation (of) 19 b; *m* even 48; *m* an example of 18; *m* an excursion 57 f; *m* an exhibition of oneself 18; *m* an expedition 57 f; *m* expense 64, one's expenses 64 b; *m* a face (at) 57 c; *m* fast 48; *m* a fault 57 a; *m* fealty 61; *m* a feast 14; *m* felt 48 b; *m* (a) fight 57 b; *m* a fire 6; *m* (=prepare) fish 39; *m* a fool of 18; *m* for 25, 25 b, 78; *m* force (at) 63; *m* forth 87; *m* a fortune 29; *m* free 69; *m* friends 13 c; *m* (something) from 2; *m* (=bring forth) fruit 16; *m* fun, a fuss, game 9; *m* games 12 b; *m* a garden 7; *m* glad 69; *m* gladness, glee 62; *m* good 48; *m* it goodly 68 b; *m* a hash of 18 e; *m* (=train) a hawk 45; *m* hay 38; *m* head 61 b; *m* a head 15 a; *m* head or tail of 20; *m* heard 48 b; *m* hence 33; *m* a hole 8; *m* homage 61; *m* horns 57 c; *m* (=train) a horse 45; *m* it hot 48; *m* (long) hours 66; *m* a House 15 b; *m* an impression 9; *m* in 88; *m* in one's way 48 c; *m* (=give) an instance 61; *m* (something) into 50, 50 b; *m* it (=cause it to be so) 10 b; *m* it one's boast, business, etc. 49 c; *m* it (coy, etc.) 68, 68 b; *m* it so 51 e; *m* a journey 57 f; *m* joy 62; *m* a judgement 19 a, 61 c; *m* known 48 b; *m* labour 63; *m* Latinus 5 c; *m* a law 12; *m* a leg 57 c; *m* a lie 57 a; *m* light of 21; *m* like (=look like) 73 a; *m* little of 18 d, 21; *m* things lively 48; *m* a living 20; *m* a loss 64; *m* love 61; *m* a mark 8; *m* a marriage 57 d; *m* (=arrange) a match 12 b; *m* (no) matter 25; *m* a meal 60; *m* (=prepare) meat 2 b; *m* melody 8; *m* memory 57 h; *m* mercy 57 a; *m* merriment 62; *m* merry 69; *m* a mess of 18 e; *m* mind 57 h; *m* minstrelsy 8; *m* a miracle 57 a; *m* mirth 62; *m* (a) mock (of) 62 b; *m* money 29; *m* the most of 18 d; *m* much of 18 d, 21; *m* a muddle of 18 e; *m* a name (for oneself) 29; *m* (it) nice 68 b, 69; *m* a noise, a note 8; *m* nothing of 18 d, 21; *m* nothing to do (=not to hesitate) 51 c; *m* (=give) notice 61; *m* (an) obeisance 57 c; *m* .. of 1 b, 2, 4, 4 b, 18; (=esteem) 21 b; *m* .. of it 18 c; *m* off 89; *m* on 90; *m* one (of) 26; *m* an oration 57 g; *m* an order, ordinance 12; *m* out 91; *m* .. out of 1 b, 2, 18; *m* out of the way 33; *m* over 94; *m* a pace 57 f; *m* pain 63; *m* a park 7; *m* a passage 57 f; *m* peace 9 c; *m* penance 57 e; *m* place 9 d; *m* a practice of 18; *m* a profit 29; *m* a progress 57 f; *m* it proud, quaint 68 b; *m* question 19 a; *m* (=propound) a question 61; *m* a quorum 15 b; *m* (=impose) a rate 12; *m* ready 48, 48 d; *m* (=give) a reason 61; *m* reckoning, regard of 19 b; *m* (a) reputation 29; *m* return (=come back) 57 f; *m* a road 7; *m* room 9 d; *m* a row 9; *m* a rule 12; *m* runs 30 b; *m* the sacrament 57 e; *m* sail 44; *m* a sabaam 57 c; *m* satisfaction 61; *m* oneself scarce 48 e; *m* a score 30 b; *m* scorn (of) 62 b; *m* scruple 19 a; *m* a sensation 9; *m* sense of 20; *m* a sermon 57 g; *m* shipwreck 64; *m* short 48 d; *m* slight of 21; *m* something of 18 d; *m* sorrow 62; *m* one's soul 47; *m* a sound 8; *m* a speech 57 g; *m* sport 9; *m* a step 57 f; *m* a stir 9; *m* store of (=value highly) 19 b; *m* (it) stout, strange 68 b, 69; *m* sure 48, 48 d; *m* the tackling 44; *m* tea 2 b; *m* that..(=bring it about that) 52, (=show or allege that) 56 b; *m* through 93; *m* timber 31, 41; *m* (good, short, etc.) time 66; *m* a title 19 d; *m* to (*prep.*) 79, (*adv.*) 94; *m* (=bring or reduce) to (a condition) 33; *m* (one) to (king, etc.) 49 e; *m* (=attempt) to do 34 b; *m* together 95; *m* top or tail of 20; *m* it tough 68 b; *m* a tour 57 f; *m* towards 35 b; *m* a trade of 18; *m* a trick 30; *m* a trip 57 f; *m* understood 48 b; *m* unready 48; *m* unto 80; *m* up 96; *m* upon 81; *m* urine 16 b; *m* verses 5; *m* void 48; *m* a voyage 57 f; *m* war 57 b; *m* it warm 48; *m* (=give) warning 61; *m* waste 48; *m* water 16 b, 31; *m* way 9 d; *m* one's way 57 f; *m* weight 31; *m* a will 5 d; *m* with 82, 71; *m* .. with 1 b, 2; *m* a wonder 10; *m* wood 31, 41; *m* work 10; *m* a wound 8; *m* wreck 64.

For many other phrases, with nouns expressing the action of a verb, see the lists in 59 and 59 b.

† **Make,** *v.*[2] *Obs.* Also 6 *Sc.* maik. [f. MAKE *sb.*[1]] *trans.* and *intr.* To mate, pair, match.

1463 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 23, I wille she haue..my flat pece enchased to make with a salt saler of sylver. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* IV. Prol. 53 The snaw quhite dow oft to the gray maik will. 1522 *Mundus et Infans* (Manly) 262 So fell a fyghter in felde was there neuer yfounde. To me no man is makyde.

Make: see MAWK, MEAK, MEEK.

Make-, the stem of MAKE *v.*[1] in combination, chiefly with a sb. as the second element, occas. with an adj. or adv., as in the following (chiefly nonce-wds.): † **make-braser** [? cf. BRACE *v.*[2]], ? one who domineers or blusters; † **make-debate** = MAKEBATE; **make-faith** *nonce-wd.*, something that serves for faith; **make-falcon** = MAKE-HAWK; † **make-fire,** an incendiary; † **make-fray,** a raiser of quarrels; † **make-God** *a.*, applied as a derisive term to Romish priests; † **make-king** = KINGMAKER; † **make-law** *a.*, law-giving; † **make-mirth** = MAKE-SPORT; **make-play** = MAKE-SPORT; **make-queen,** a queen-maker; **make-rime,** a phrase introduced merely for the sake of rime; **make-shame** *a.*, causing shame; † **make-strife** = MAKEBATE; **make-talk,** something said for the mere sake of talking; **make-wages** (see quot.); **make-way,** an event which leads up to another.

c 1515 *Cocke Lorell's B.* 11 Surmowsers, yll thynkers, and *make brasers. 1741 RICHARDSON *Fam. Lett.* lv. (ed. 7) 68 The busy Whisperings of officious *Make-debates. 1825 COLERIDGE *Aids Refl.* (1848) I. 336 Thousands of sober, and in their way pious, Christians will echo the words,..and adopt the doctrine for their *make-faith. 1575 TURBERV. *Faulconrie* 160 By..calling of them to the lewre with other *make Falcons, that is to say, a cast at once, to the end they may accustom and aquaint themselues one with another. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 179 The seuerall confession of euery one of these *make fyers [L. *incendiarii*]. 1598

Bp. Hall *Sat.* iv. iv. 31 If brabling *Make-fray, at ech Fayre and Sise, Picks quarrels for to shew his valiantise. 1705 Hickeringill *Priest-cr.* i. (1721) 12 Not only the *Make-God Pope, but the Make-God Priest. 1611 Speed *Theat. Gt. Brit.* xxvii. (1614) 53/1 That stout *make-king Richard Nevil Earle of Warwicke. 1631 Weever *Anc. Funeral Mon.* 705 Warwicke (the Mars and Make-King of England). 1582 Stanyhurst *Æneis* iv. (Arb.) 96 First to Ceres *Makelaw [L. *legiferæ*], too Phoebus, then to Lyæus. 1656 Earl Monm. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* 228 Court officers, princes favorits, *make-mirths, flatterers. 1592 Nashe *P. Penilesse* Wks. (Grosart) II. 69 Our Poets and Writers about London whome thou hast called piperly *Make-plaies and Make-bates. 1655 Fuller *Hist. Camb.* (1840) 186 As Neville earl of Warwick was the make-king, so this Dudley earl of Warwick..was the *make-queen. 1893 *Athenæum* 14 Oct. 516/2 The sorry *make-rhymes 'I wis', 'I trow', 'I weet', make their appearance now and again. 1850 S. G. Osborne *Glean.* 78 This make-shift, *make-shame system. 1617 Minsheu *Ductor* s.v., A Make-bate, *make-strife, or contentious person. 1856 Archd. Allen *Lect. Ladies* 211 A sort of complimentary observation, mere words of course, an unreal piece of *make-talk. 1884 H. Spencer in *Contemp. Rev.* Apr. 463 There had grown up the practice of paying out of the rates a part of the wages of each farm-servant—'*make-wages', as the sum was called. 1894 Creighton *Hist. Papacy* (1897) V. v. xv. 151 The intrigues of Cardinal Rovere..led to the election of Pius III as a *make-way to his own election.

† **Make-a-do.** *Obs.* [f. Make *v.*[1] + Ado.]

1. A 'to-do', uproar, stir.

1575 *Gamm. Gurton* i. iii, What deuyll make-a-doe is this betweene our dame and thee?

2. One who is fond of making a to-do.

1589 R. Harvey *Pl. Perc.* (1590) 8, I will nicke-name no bodie: I am none of these tuft mockadoo mak-a-dooes.

Makebate (mēˑkbēˑt). Also 8 **makebait.** [f. Make *v.*[1] + Bate *sb.*[1].]

1. One who or something which creates contention or discord; a breeder of strife. (Common in 16th–17th cent.) *arch.*

1529 More *Suppt. Soulys* Wks. 296/2 They agree better together, then to fal at variance for ye wild wordes of suche a malicious make-bate. *a* 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* II. (1590) 221 Disdaining this fellow should play the preacher, who had bin one of the chiefest make-bates. 1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* vi. iv. 576 It was not likely they would joyne in conspiracie, whom Religion (the most mortall make-bate) had disioyned. 1655 Gurnall *Chr. in Arm.* i. 145 Satan, who is the great make-bate between God and the soul. *a* 1703 Burkitt *On N. T., Jas.* iv. 1 Lust within is the make-bait of all societies and communities without. 1710 Swift *Examiner* No. 15 ¶ 5 Like a couple of makebates, who inflame small quarrels by a thousand stories. 1821 Scott *Kenilw.* xxxvi, I thank Heaven, I am no make-bate or informer. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* vi. II. 22 Barillon was..directed to act, with all possible precautions against detection, the part of a makebate. 1896 Saintsbury *Hist. 19th Cent. Lit.* iv. 185 He (Hazlitt) appears to have played the part of firebrand and makebate in the John Scott duel referred to.

† 2. The breeding of quarrels, mischief-making.

1626 Bernard *Isle of Man* (1627) 207 Selfeloue, Makebate, and Vnmercifulnesse.

† 3. a. Gerarde's name for the Yellow Jasmine, *Jasminum fruticans.* b. A book-name for Greek Valerian, *Polemonium cæruleum. Obs.*

1597 Gerarde *Herbal* III. xiv. 1128 Of the shrub Trefoile, called also Makebate. 1611 Cotgr. s.v. *Polemoine.* 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 711/2 Makebate, *Polemonium cæruleum.*

† 4. *attrib.* passing into adj. *Obs.*

1582 Stanyhurst *Æneis* II. (Arb.) 62 Thee bane of vs Troians, of Greeks thee mak bate Erinnys. 1622 Rowlands *Gd. Newes & Bad* 31 Which she in memorie would still retaine, And cross the deuill in his make-bate veine. 1675 T. Tully *Let. to Baxter* 14 Your own make-bate Novelties.

Ma·ke-belie·f. *rare.* =next.

Substituted by some writers for Make-believe; the formation of the latter, being misunderstood, was imagined to be incorrect.

1833–40 J. H. Newman *Ch. of Fathers* (1842) 372 Evil Spirits..are but actors in a play, changing their appearance and frightening children by their tumult and their make-belief. 1854 *Lett. of American* (ed. Landor) 17 Creeds and lichens grow in the extremities of his [the Tzar's] frozen regions; farther to the southwest, beliefs are make-beliefs. 1858 Freeman *Hist. Ess.* Ser. II. ii. (1873) 85 The early institutions of a nation may fail of fully carrying out their ends, but there is no make-belief as to what those ends are. 1873 Hamerton *Intell. Life* VII. i. (1876) 229 A sort of make-belief lady.

Ma·ke-belie·ve. [The phr. *make believe* (see Make *v.*[1] 53 e) used subst. (Cf. Facrere.)]

1. Pretence.

1811 L. M. Hawkins *C'tess & Gertr.* (1812) IV. 62, I was drest like Minerva,..and then the little ones came and worshipped me: 'twas all make-believe, you see. 1811 *Morn. Chron.* 9 Apr., Her mourning is all make-believe, She's gay as any linnet. 1818 Lamb *Three Friends,* Not that she did really grieve It was only make-believe. 1855 H. Rogers *Ess.* (1874) II. vii. 331 This great empire is rotten ..ceremony, etiquette, conventionality, insincerity,—'make believe', in short,—constitute it. 1888 *Times* 23 June 17/2 The public does not object to magic in small quantities. It is quite ready to join in the game of 'make-believe'.

b. in particularized sense.

1825 Coleridge *Aids Refl.* (1848) I. 56 [To practise praying] as a species of animal-magnetism to be brought about by ..a temporary make-believe on the part of the self-magnetizer! 1862 Sala *Accepted Addr.* 191 The world is full of make-believes. 1887 Jessopp *Arcady* viii. 234 That old-fashioned place of resort..the village green, has become a mere make-believe now.

2. One who makes believe or pretends.

1863 S. Wilberforce *Sp. Missions* (1874) 2 Do not be an idler and make-believe in the work. 1865 Trollope *Belton Est.* xv. 171 The ordinary make-believes of society, saying little civil speeches and not going beyond them.

3. *attrib.* passing into *adj.* Of the nature of make-believe.

1824 Miss Mitford *Village* Ser. I. 248 That was a make-believe thing, compared with this. 1852 Gladstone *Glean.* IV. xlii. 96 Here again I am met with a make-believe reply. 1877 T. A. Trollope *Life Pius IX,* II. III. iii. 3 The republicans and their make-believe government. 1890 'R. Boldrewood' *Col. Reformer* (1891) 138 The hour's talk and make-believe school.

So **Make-believer, -believing** [f. phrase *make believe*].

1884 *N. Amer. Rev.* CXXXVIII. 443 A volume which believers, unbelievers, misbelievers, and make-believers would unite in neglecting or condemning. 1899 Miss Harraden *Fowler* 125 Children..not tiring easily of their many make-believings.

Ma·kedom. *Sc.* ? *Obs.* Also 5–6 **makdome.** [App. f. either Mack *a.* or Make *sb.*[1] + -dom; but the formation is somewhat anomalous, esp. for so early a period.] Form, shape; *esp.* elegant form, shapeliness, comeliness; rarely *concr.*

c 1470 Henry *Wallace* IX. 358 Bathe statur and curage, Maner, makdome, thar fassona and thar wesage. 1508 Dunbar *Tua Mariit Wemen* 73 To manifest my makdome to multitude of pepill. 1535 Stewart *Cron. Scot.* II. 125 Without makdome vther of lym or lith. 1585 Jas. I, *Ess. Poesie* (Arb.) 65 Be warre ze descryue zour Loues makdome, or her fairnes. *a* 1586 Montgomerie *Misc. Poems* I. 13 Fair forme, and face angelicall,..Makdome, and proper memberis all Sa perfyte. *a* 1810 Findlay in Ford *Harp Perthsh.* (1893) 419 Von stalwart makedom I ken richt weel.

† **Make-fare.** *Obs.*—° An alleged name for the hare.

c 1300 *Names of Hare* in *Rel. Ant.* I. 134.

Ma·ke-game. [Cf. Make-sport.] One who or that which furnishes matter for amusement; hence, a laughing-stock, butt.

1762 Bickerstaffe *Love in Village* II. x. (1765) 44, I am the make-game of the whole village upon your account. 1797 Mrs. M. Robinson *Walsingham* I. 280, I thought myself the mere make-game of a giddy girl. 1806 *Sporting Mag.* XXVII. 197 A new discovery or invention, by way of make-game I suppose. 1817 Godwin *Mandeville* I. 263 I was treated as nothing, a flouting-stock and a make-game.

Ma·ke-hawk. *Falconry.* [See Make *v.*[1] 45.] A hawk employed to teach young ones.

1575 Turbery. *Faulconrie* 113 If at þe first you inure hir with a make hawke a good Hearoner. 1674 N. Cox *Gentl. Recreat.* (1677) 205 Never fly your Faulcon again at a Hern unless with a Make-hawk well entred. 1773 J. Campbell *Mod. Falconry* 262. 1852 R. F. Burton *Falconry in Valley Indus* v. 61 *note,* A make-hawk is a staunch bird, or one accustomed to fly at a particular kind of game, used to 'head the pack' when more than a cast are thrown up at once. 1891 Harting *Bibl. Accipitr.* 226.

Ma·keless, *a. Obs.* exc. *dial.* Forms: see Make *sb.*[1] [f. Make *sb.*[1] + -less.]

1. Without an equal; matchless, peerless.

a 1225 *St. Marher.* 17 Þis is ure cunde, makelese meiden. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 12119 And þof þou wen make-less to be, þat nan in lare sal teche þe. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* I. 116 (172) In bewte erst so stood she makeles. *c* 1450 Holland *Howlat* 902 He thocht him maid on the mold makless of mycht. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* X. lxxiii. 540 It is quene Isoud that oute taken my lady your quene she is makeles. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* lxxv. 52 Wylcum! my golk of maireland, My chirrie and my maikles maneoun. 1563 *Mirr. Mag., Buckingh.* xiii, A makeles pryncе in ryches and in myght. *c* 1615 Mure *Misc. Poems* ii. 33 Mackles dame, quhom all ye world admires. 1674–91 Ray *N. C. Words, Make,* match; *makeless,* matchless. 1829 Brockett *N. C. Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Makeless,* matchless, without an equal.

2. Mateless; wifeless, husbandless, widowed.

c 1425 *Seven Sag.* (P.) 3307 The ȝonge that helpe hyr for to lyve, He schal have that he ches, And the holde go makeless. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* VIII. Prol. 32 To mak her maikles of hir man. *c* 1600 Shaks. *Sonn.* ix, The world will waile thee like a makelesse wife. 1825–80 Jamieson, s.v. *Maikless,* The mother's a makeless bird.

Ma·ke-peace. [See Make *v.*[1] 9c.] One who or something which makes peace; a peace-maker. Also *attrib.*

1516 Fabyan *Chron.* (1812) II. 439 It was not longe after or the Scottis..callyd hir lane make peace. 1552 T. Barnabe in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. II. 202, I knowe a towne in Normandye .. is now a second Rone, & yt is the verye gulfe, gulet and mouthe of the See, and a make-peace yf we hadde yt. 1593 Shaks. *Rich. II,* I. i. 160. 1601 Daniel *Civ. Wars* VI. xliv. (1609) 154 When make-peace Hymen shall Bring the conioyned aduerse powers to bed. 1657 W. Coles *Adam in Eden* cccxx. 594 The civill uses whereunto the Birch tree serveth are many, as for the punishment of Children..for it hath an admirable influence upon them, to quiet them when they are out of Order, and therefore some call it Make-peace. 1836 [G. E. Inman] *Sir Orfeo* 13 Sir Orfeo might have gone To seek his make-peace wife alone. 1855 Miss Sewell *Cleve Hall* I. 388 Fanny, who was the make-peace of the family, found a place for him at the table.

Maker (mēˑkəɹ). Also (4 **makiere, -yere**), 4–5 **macare, makare, -ere,** 4–6 **makar,** (6 *Sc.* **mackar, makkar, makker**). [f. Make *v.*[1] + -er 1.]

1. One who fashions, constructs, prepares for use, or manufactures; a manufacturer, *spec.* in certain trades (see, e. g., quot. 1892).

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 11036 Hijs lauerd he kneu welwel bifora þat he was of his moder born [cf. *Luke* i. 41]..þe maker kneu his hand-werc. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* I. 685 (741) It is seyd man maketh ofte a yerde With which þe makere is hym self beten. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxxiii. (*George*) 403 Þi godis..ar mad bot of handis of men..þar makaris nobir gifand na hele. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 319/1 Macare, *factor, plasmator.* 1511–2 *Act* 3 *Hen. VIII,* c. 6 § 3 The maker merchaunt or byer of eny wollen clothes called Bastardes. 1530 Palsgr. 242/1 Maker of haye to cockes. *Ibid.,* Maker of naylles. 1550 Latimer *Last Serm. bef. Edw. VI* (1562) 129 They be bothe Woodmongers and makers of cooles. 1611 Bible *Isa.* xlv. 16 Makers of idoles. 1672 Petty *Pol. Anat.* (1691) 65, I valued an Irish Cabbin at the number of days food, which the Maker spent in building of it. 1726 tr. *Gregory's Astron.* I. 259 The Makers of these Instruments have fitted an Ecliptic to it. 1858 Greener *Gunnery* 314 The display of artistically constructed guns by the French makers in their Great Exposition of 1855. 1859 Lang *Wand. India* 384 We procured some honey, which is taken from its makers in a very singular manner. 1873 J. H. Newman *Idea University Def.* 47 The maker of a bridle or an epaulet. 1892 *Labour Commission Gloss., Makers,* the workmen who receive the tops and then complete the making of hand-sewn boots and shoes. The term is also applied to those who make the bottom (with the exception of the finishing) of a rivetted or machine-made boot.

b. with prefixed sb., forming many compounds, q. v. under the first element or as Main words.

14.. *Nom.* in Wr.-Wülcker 685/15 *Hic campanarius,* a belmaker. *Ibid.* 686/35 *Hic annularius,* a ryngmaker. 1502 in *Cov. Corp. Chr. Plays* (E.E.T.S.) App. ii. 104 The wholl body of the craft of the tylmakers of Stoke. 1696 W. Derham (*title*) The Artificial Clock-maker. 1711 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4833/3 Tho. Morse, .. a Mathematical Instrument-maker. 1902 *Daily Chron.* 17 Sept. 6/6 The necktie-makers and the artificial-flower-makers.

2. Qualified by *the,* a possessive, or an attrib. phr.: Applied to God as the Creator of the universe. (Now with capital M.)

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 17875 Þis ilke liȝt forsoþe is he þat maker is of lastyng liȝt. 1340 *Ayenb.* 251 Þe herte..y-ziȝþ hire zelue and hire makiere. *Ibid.* 262, I leue ine god nader almiȝti makere of heuene and of erþe. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* Prol. 1 Maistur in mageste, maker of Alle. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 319/1 Macare of noghte, as God only, *creator. c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* v. 229 Flayt by him self to the Makar off buffe. ?1507 *Communyc.* (W. de W.) B ij, I was made to knowe my maker And to loue hym ouer all thynge. 1535 Coverdale *Ps.* xciv. [xcv.] 6 Let vs knele before the Lorde oure maker. 1599 Sir J. Davies *Nosce Teipsum* 54 O what is man (great maker of mankind). 1629 Milton *Hymn Nativ.* ii, Confounded, that her Makers eyes Should look so neer upon her foul deformities. 1718 Watts *Hymn* i, Nature with open volume stands, To spread her Maker's praise abroad. 1827 Keble *Chr. Y., Septuag.* iii, The glorious sky embracing all Is like the Maker's love. 1871 Carlyle in *Mrs. C.'s Lett.* II. 221 Pious to God the Maker and to all He had made.

† b. *To receive one's Maker*: to receive the Communion. Hence applied to the consecrated Host in the mass. *Obs.*

1539 T. Peay in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. II. 145 That bys Grace .. recewythe hys maker yerlye acording to the lawdehwll usse..of owr holly mother Chwrche. 1634 *Malory's Morte Arthur* (1816) II. 100 Then he received his Maker [*Malory* x. lxii. 520 his creatoure]: and, when he was dead [etc.]. 1635 Pagitt *Christianogr.* 51 Henry Stephens writeth of a Dogge, that did eat 80 of their Hoasts, or Makers, in one morning.

3. One who composes a book, draws up a document, frames a law, or the like.

a 1340 Hampole *Psalter* xvii. 13 Þe haly gast .. þat is makere of haly writ. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* x. (*Mathou*) 566 Makare of þe saltere. 1485 *Act* 1 *Hen. VII,* c. 7 The Maker of any such Warrant. 1495 *Act* 11 *Hen. VII,* c. 8 Which acte..is so obscure..that the true entent of the makers therof cannot..be undrestond. 1594 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* III. ix. § 1 Lawes for the Church are not made as they should be, vnles the makers follow such direction as they ought to be guided by. 1818 Cruise *Digest* (ed. 2) V. 229 The makers of the act.

b. with prefixed sb. (Cf. 1 b.)

1678 Butler *Hud.* III. ii. 274 Sp'ritual Affidavit makers. 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* II. xv, Our map-makers..do not agree. 1902 Greenough & Kittredge *Words* 181 A controlling effect on the action of the early language-makers.

4. In various immaterial senses: One who brings about or produces a condition, effect, state of mind, etc.; a creator or producer (*of*); † one who appoints to an office; † a contriver.

c 1430 *Syr Gener.* (Roxb.) 2682, I dar wel swere That Malachias is chief maker With som treason vs to betray. *c* 1522 Bp. Fox in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. II. 6 The Kyng that was my maker and promotor to the dignytie that I..doo occupye. *a* 1568 Ascham *Scholem.* I. (Arb.) 68 You be in deed, makers or marrers, of all mens maners within the Realme. *Ibid.* 85 The greatest makers of loue, the daylie daliers. 1568 Grafton *Chron.* II. 751 They..perceiuyng that the Castell of Barwicke was the onely maker of the peace. 1617 Morvson *Itin.* I. 205 The maker of the bargaine. *a* 1625 Sir H. Finch *Law* (1636) 409 All mainteyners, conspirators, makers of confederacie. 1714 Pope *Let. to Mrs. T. Blount* Lett. (1737) 133 Her makers of visits and complements. 1858 Longf. *M. Standish* II. 66, I am a maker of war, and not a maker of phrases. 1871 Smiles *Charac.* I. 22 Great workers and great thinkers are the true makers of history.

b. with prefixed sb. (Cf. 1 b.)

1601 Sir W. Cornwallis *Disc. Seneca* (1631) 56 Death or destiny or any of those period makers. 1719 D'Urfey *Pills* II. 341 Who dully think all Foreigners Man-makers, Send out their Booby Sons to France, to Dress. 1827 Hone *Every-day Bk.* II. 12 Drink is..the widow-maker of their wives. 1876 Ouida *Winter City* II. 16 The calumny-makers.

5. A poet. *Obs.* exc. *arch.* (Cf. Gr. ποιητής.)

1387–8 T. Usk *Test. Love* III. iv. (Skeat) I. 258 In wit and in good reason of sentence, he [Chaucer] passeth al other makers. *c* 1400 *Beryn* 2462, I woll nat feyn oon woord, as makers doon to ryme. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* X. lxxxiv. 562 There is no maker can reherce the tenthe parte. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* iv. 45, I see that makaris amang

the laif Playis heir ther pageant, syne gois to graif. *Ibid.* liii. 22 Than cam in Dunbar the Mackar [*v. r.* makker]. 1577-87 HOLINSHED *Chron.* II. 42/2 Owen Odewhee, a preacher, and a maker in Irish. 1581 SIDNEY *Apol. Poetrie* (Arb.) 24 Wherein I know not, whether hy lucke or wisedome, wee Englishmen haue mette with the Greekes, in calling him a maker. 1756-82 J. WARTON *Ess. Pope* II. 98 Here all is in life and motion; here we behold the true Poet or Maker. 1876 BESANT & RICE *Gold. Butterfly* iii. 27 'You find your pleasure in reading divine poetry', said the Maker softly. 1878 GROSART *Introd. H. More's Poems* 46/1 To reinscribe the venerable name of Henry More among our real Makers and Singers.

†**6.** *Cards.* (See quot. 1754.) *Obs.*

1753 *Scots Mag.* XV. 74/2 You'd rather hold—two aces and a maker. 1754 'GYLES SMITH' *Refl. Card-playing* 14 (Brag) Here the Power of the Knave is so great, that he is usually called a Maker. The Meaning is, that, whatever Company he comes into, he is enabled to make himself one of them. He is a Queen, with Queens; a King, with Kings; and an Ace, with Aces.

7. 'The person who signs a promissory note' (Wharton *Law Lex.* 1848).

8. With an adv.: **maker-up**, one who 'makes up' in various senses (esp. in technical use).

1535 COVERDALE *Isa.* lviii. 12 Thou shalt be called the maker vp of hedges. 1846 TRENCH *Mirac.* xxix. (1862) 412 A maker-up of the narrative from later and insecure traditions. 1884 W. S. B. MCLAREN *Spinning Woollen & Worsted* 64 One or two men, called 'makers-up', are employed for each box to keep drawing the wool through their hands, making it into a kind of 'lap'. 1891 *Daily News* 16 Jan. 8/4 Wanted, overseer, in country printing office... Good maker-up. 1892 *Labour Commission Gloss.* s.v., After the bodies and parts of Britannia metal goods have been shaped..the maker-up puts them together.

Hence (nonce-wds.) **Ma·keress**, a female maker of something (in comb. *brick-makeress*); **Ma·kership**, the office of a maker or creator.

1857 *Househ. Words* XVI. 421/2 Brick-makers and brick-makeresses jolting up and down on planks. 1863 F. HALL in *Reader* 24 Jan. 95 We should much like to know..whether the Magian sage [Zoroaster] seems to have had any idea of Makership apart from a material cause.

Make-ready. [f. phr. *to make ready* (see READY *a.* III).]

1. = READY C. 2.

1830 MARRYAT *King's Own* ii, The captain..brought his men to the 'make ready', and they were about to present.

2. *Printing.* (*U. S.*) The operation of 'making ready' (see READY *a.* 15 b); the result thereby obtained; the sheet on which the overlays are pasted for printing a particular form of type.

1887 *Sci. Amer.* 25 June 405/1 It is a safe rule to keep the make-ready of every type job until the job has been distributed.

Makerell(e, obs. form of MACKEREL.

Makeshift (mē·kˌshift). [f. phr. *to make shift* (see SHIFT *sb.*).]

†**1.** One who is given to making shifts; a shifty person, a rogue. *Obs.*

1565 J. HALLE *Hist. Expost.* B hh iij, Not longe after came thither a makeshifte, with two men wayghting on hym, .. bragging that he was a profounde phisicien. 1573 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 43 At night if it shine, out trudgeth Hew make shift, with hooke and with line. 1598 BARRET *Theor. Warres* I. i. 7 The subtill make-shift, is preferred before the silent man. 1602 F. HERRING *Anatomyes* 23 The Colledge is now become the Common Inne of Make-shifts and Impostors. 1608 MIDDLETON *Trick to catch Old one* II. i, [He] whom but last day he proclaimed rioter, penurious make-shift, despised brothel-master.

2. That with which one makes shift; a temporary substitute of an inferior kind. (Cf. B. 2.)

1802-12 BENTHAM *Ration. Judic. Evid.* (1827) V. 408 Jurisprudential law is the miserable makeshift of inexperienced ages. 1822 LAMB *Elia* Ser. I. *Roast Pig*, The cottage was a sorry antediluvian make-shift of a building. 1850 W. IRVING *Goldsmith* xiii. 153 Goldsmith continued to consider literature a mere make-shift. 1873 BURTON *Hist. Scot.* I. i. 27 They hated patchwork and makeshifts. 1899 BARING-GOULD *Bk. of West* I. xiii. 230 The Maypole is a makeshift for an actual tree.

3. The action of making shift.

1870 *Daily News* 27 Oct., There is..so much clever makeshift to be accomplished that [etc.].

B. *attrib.* or as *adj.*

†**1.** Of persons: Shifty, roguish. *Obs.*

1592 GREENE (*title*) Groatsworth of Witte: bought with a million of Repentance: Describing the Folly of Youth, the falshood of Make-shift Flatterers.

2. With which one makes shift; serving as a temporary and inferior substitute.

1683 MOXON *Mech. Exerc., Printing* x. *ad init.*, A make-shift slovenly contrivance. 1757 MRS. GRIFFITH *Lett. Henry & Frances* (1767) III. 44, I readily grant, that these make-shift Pleasures fall short..of mutual Delight. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* VII. v. P 5 After our make-shift dinner..I will treat you with a couple of bottles. 1876 GEO. ELIOT *Dan. Der.* I. iii, With .. everything make-shift about us, .. what was the use of my being anything?

b. *transf.* Characterized by makeshifts.

1824 LAMB *Elia* Ser. II. *Capt. Jackson*, Your honest aims at grandeur, your makeshift efforts of magnificence. 1854 MRS. GASKELL *North & S.* xvi, How will Margaret bear our makeshift poverty after the thorough comfort and luxury in Harley Street? 1887 HISSEY *Holiday on Road* 333 Patched and repaired in a happy makeshift way.

Hence **Ma·ke-shiftness,** the condition of being a makeshift; **Ma·ke-shifty** *a.*, of the natnre of or characterized by makeshift; whence **Ma·ke-shi·ftiness.**

1858 LADY CANNING in Hare *Two Noble Lives* (1893) II. 422 The hospitals at Allahabad are rather make-shifty. 1866 *Q. Rev.* July 224 The make-shifty and hap-hazard looseness with which some 800,000 black semi-barbarians were.. admitted to the full civil rights of English citizens. 1887 RUSKIN *Præterita* II. 267 Partly through laziness and make-shiftiness..I never opened the midmost wall, though it considerably fretted me. 1892 *Black & White* 12 Mar. 346/1 He hated..the make-shiftness of poverty.

†**Make-sport.** *Obs.* [See MAKE *v.*[1] 9.] One who or something which provides sport for others; hence, a laughing-stock.

1611 SPEED *Hist. Gt. Brit.* VIII. ii. § 12. 381 To aduenture himselfe among the Danish Host, as a base Minstrell and contemptible Make-sport. *a* 1625 FLETCHER *Chances* III. i, My patience..must be your make-sport now. 1640 QUARLES *Enchirid.* III. xliv, Let not mirth be thy profession, lest thou become a Make-sport. *a* 1661 FULLER *Worthies* (1840) II. 455 Being made the make-sport in all plays for a coward.

b. *attrib.* or as *adj.* Providing sport; mocking.

1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* I. (Arb.) 41 Let make sport Bacchus [L. *lætitiae Bacchus dator*]..be present. 1600 T. WEELKES *Madrigals of 5 & 6 Parts* ix. C i, The make sport Cuckow, and the Quaile. 1621 BP. MOUNTAGU *Diatribæ* II No..mad prankes play'd by any toyish or make-sport diuels in the vault.

Ma·ke-up. [f. phr. *make up* (see MAKE *v.*[1] 96 *f.*)]

1. The manner in which something is made up, put together, or composed; composition, constitution.

1821 *Examiner* 708/1 Some national distinctions in the make-up of French and English minds. 1864 H. SPENCER *Illustr. Univ. Progr.* 62 Something in the pattern or make-up of their clothes. 1891 *Field* 5 Dec. 865/3 Our Cambridge correspondent describes the practice..and gives the make up of the crews. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 169 There may be an inherited defect in the 'make-up' of one particular tissue.

2. Chiefly *Theatr.* An appearance of face, dress, etc. assumed in order to impersonate a character.

1858 GEO. ELIOT in Cross *Life* (1885) II. 61 The Zouaves, with their wondrous make-ups as women. 1862 DICKENS *Lett.* 16 Mar. (1880) II. 177 Add to this a perfectly picturesque and romantic 'make up'..and you have the leading virtues of the impersonation. 1872 *Punch* 19 Oct. 163/1 His make-up was admirable, his playing of the first and last act well-nigh faultless. 1882 BESANT *Revolt of man* iii. 61 In her make-up she studiously affected .. the vigour and strength of middle life.

b. *concr.* Cosmetics, paint, etc. used by actors in making up.

1886 *All Year Round* 28 Aug. 78 The whole tribe of Cosmetics, curtly designated in theatrical parlance as 'make-up'. 1888 *Pall Mall G.* 27 Jan. 2/1, 1 .. asked for a towel and soap to wash my make-up off.

c. Style of costume, get-up. *rare.*

1883 *Daily News* 6 Sept. 2/2 The mongrel cross-country make-up indulged in for the Spa promenade.

3. *Printing.* The process of making up type into columns or pages; the matter so made up. Also, an editor's selection of articles to form a number of a periodical.

1852 SMEDLEY *L. Arundel* xv, That is the 'make-up', as we call it, of the third and fourth sheets of the Magazine. 1884 in *Cassell's Encycl. Dict.* 1899 *Daily News* 23 May 10/5 Compositor (Society) seeks situation. All-round jobbing, posters, make up, etc.

4. A made-up story; an invention or fiction.

1844 ALB. SMITH *Adv. Mr. Ledbury* lv. (1886) 167 The whole story is one of the most singular make-ups that ever attained universal credence. 1877 SPURGEON *Serm.* XXIII. 101 Have you undergone a great transformation? The necessity for it is no make-up of mine, remember.

5. A compensation. *rare.*

1859 W. CHADWICK *Life De Foe* vi. 309 He was taken into diplomatic service by Harley, as a make-up..for his forced neglect of his pamphleteer while confined in Newgate.

6. *attrib.* in theatrical use, as (sense 2) *make-up man, room,* (sense 2 b) *make-up box, tray.*

1885 J. K. JEROME *On the Stage* 93 A 'make-up' box, a dressing-case, writing-case, etc., etc., made a pretty big pile. 1889 *Pall Mall G.* 29 Oct. 3/1 On it are placed candles, a looking-glass, a 'make up' tray [etc.]. 1896 *Living Topics Mag.* (N. Y.) Jan. 105 The best stage manager in England, as well as the best make-up man and character delineator. 1900 *Daily News* 15 Nov. 6/1 Some curious illustrations are derived from the 'make-up room'.

Make-weight, makeweight (mē·kˌwēıt). [See MAKE *v.*[1] 23.]

1. A comparatively small quantity added to make up a certain weight; *spec.* a small candle. (See early quots.)

1695 KENNETT *Par. Antiq.* Gloss. s.v. *Putta*, In the North a Puttock-candle is the least in the pound, put in to make weight, call'd..in Kent a make-weight. 1764 *Oxf. Sausage* 56 Dire Want of .. chearful Candle (save the Make-Weight's Gleam Haply remaining). 1787 GROSE *Prov. Gloss., Make-weight*, a small candle thrown in to complete the pound. N. 1866 JEVONS *Coal Quest.* (ed. 2) 261 A large part of our shipping would thus have to leave our ports half empty, or in ballast, unless there were some makeweight or natural supply of bulky cargo as back carriage.

transf. 1785 GROSE *Dict. Vulg. Tongue, Make weight*, a small candle, a term applied to a little slender man.

2. *fig.* A person or thing of insignificant value thrown in to make up a deficiency or fill a gap.

1776 PAINE *Com. Sense* (1791) 33 By her dependence on Britain she [America] is made the make-weight in the scale of British politics. 1796 BURKE *Regic. Peace* iii. Wks. VIII. 418 The mines..are now thrown in as a make-weight in the scale. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* VII. vii. P 21 She praised me up to the skies, and held all the actresses in Madrid as mere makeweights in the scale. 1825 COLERIDGE *Aids Refl.* (1848) I. 188 Those semi-pagan Christians who regarded revelation as a mere make-weight to their boasted religion of nature. 1838 DICKENS *Nich. Nick.* xix, The colonel was in conversation with somebody, who appeared to be a make-weight, and was not introduced at all. 1838-9 HALLAM *Hist. Lit.* IV. iv. vi. § 43. 284 An incestuous passion brought forward as the make-weight of a plot, to eke out a fifth act. 1864 PUSEY *Lect. Daniel* vi. 393, I cannot ..use Divine authority as a makeweight to human proof.

3. A counterbalancing weight, counterpoise.

1787 JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1853) II. 108 His devotion to the principles of pure despotism, renders him unaffectionate to our governments. His fear of England makes him value us as a make weight. 1855 KINGSLEY *Westw. Ho!* xxviii, 'But the prize?' 'Ah! that was no small make-weight to our disasters, after all'. 1886 SYMONDS *Renaiss. It., Cath. React.* II. xi. 307 Perhaps it may be argued that the fulsome promises on which those miserable vassals found their hopes, are make-weights for such miseries.

4. *attrib.* or as *adj.* Serving as a make-weight.

1701 J. PHILIPS *Splendid Shilling* 98 The glimmering light Of make-weight candle. 1793 ANNA SEWARD *Lett.* (1811) III. 248 It is no custom of Shakespeare's to give us merely makeweight epithets. 1852 R. S. SURTEES *Sponge's Sp. Tour* xl. 219 Men..admit of no makeweight, or merely ornamental dishes.

Maki (mā·ki, mæ·ki). [repr. Malagasy '*maka*, a species of lemur' (Richardson *Malag. Dict.* 1885).] The French name of the LEMUR, formerly current in English. (Cf. MACACO 2.)

1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1824) II. 160 The maki kind in some measure seems to unite the fox and the monkey. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) IX. 785/2 The catta, or ring-tailed maki, inhabits Madagascar and the neighbouring isles. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XIII. 419/1 The Makis, or Macaucos, properly so called, *Lemur.*

Makiere, obs. form of MAKER.

Makim-, makinboy: see MACKENBOY.

Making mē·kiŋ), *vbl. sb.*[1] [OE. *macung*, f. *macian*: see MAKE *v.*[1] and -ING [1].]

1. The action of MAKE *v.*[1] in its various senses: fabrication, production, preparation; institution, appointment; doing, performance (of a specified action); conversion into, causing to become something; etc. (See the vb.) Also occas. the process of being made.

a 1123 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1101 Purh þes macunge..se eorl Rotbert..his land mid unfriðe ʒesohte. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 1551 Quen sa fele yeier ar wroken oute..þe planetes all ar went again O þair first making in to þe state. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. III. 62, I shal..Wowes do whitten and wyndowes glasen, Do peynten and purtraye and paye for þe makynge. *c* 1440 HYLTON *Scala Perf.* (W. de W. 1494) II. xxxiv, We be heholde to loue Ihū moche for oure makynge but more for our ayenbynge. 1483 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 254/1 Sith the tymes of makynge of the seid Acts of Atteinders. 1529 RASTELL *Pastime of People* (1811) 148 The makynge of Westmyster halle. 1553 CRANMER *Let. to Q. Mary* in Coverdale *Lett. Martyrs* (1564) 1 If by any meanes it had bene in me to haue letted the makyng of that will. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* I. vii. 13 Of this herbe they make Axsen, whiche is vsed for the making of glasses. 1611 BIBLE *Transl. Pref.* 1 To motion the making of a new Law for the abrogating of an old. 1625 HART *Anat. Ur.* II. i. 55 Whether the vrine were thinne at the first making or not. 1662 STILLINGFL. *Orig. Sacr.* III. iv. § 5 Many causes concurred to the making of this Deluge. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* III. 123. 1703 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* 239 Most Counties in England afford Earth for the making of Bricks. *a* 1715 BURNET *Own Time* (1724) I. 320 They set it ..up for a maxim, that the making of a Stadtholder was the giving up their liberty. 1738 SWIFT *Pol. Conversat.* 52, I think she was cut out for a Gentlewoman, but she was spoil'd in the making. 1823 J. BADCOCK *Dom. Amusem.* 29 Whitening and plaister of Paris..whiten the flour, and contribute to its adhesion in making. 1828 in Picton *L'pool Munic. Rec.* (1886) II. 343 In the making of the purchases. 1842 TENNYSON *Morte D'Arthur* 203 Since the making of the world. 1875 F. GUTHRIE *Magn. & Electr.* § 236 If it be desired to get a still more nimble making and breaking of the circuit. 1891 *Law Rep.* Weekly Notes 138/1 The making of the Codicil. 1897 *Daily News* 4 Jan. 3/4 There was a general move up in all the ranks of the force, accompanied by the 'making' of several engineers.

b. Often used gerundially as the second member of an objective combination, as *biscuit-, carpet-, debate-, gift-, ice-, imposition-, war-making*, etc. See also BOOK-MAKING, HAYMAKING, etc.

c 1400 *Laud Troy-bk.* 3113 In sorwe and dele-makyng Lenges non honour. *Ibid.* 14538 With-oute any debate-makyng. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* (Rolls) II. 552 With this trust thei helden hem content and paied in her ʒifte making. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. clv. 187 Such as were at the imposicion makyng. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 116 b, They take in hande also an other peace making. 1614 T. GODWIN *Moses & Aaron* (1641) 142 Their Apotheosis, or god-making Ceremonies. 1768 STERNE *Sent. Journ., Montriul* iii, His talents of drum-beating and spatterdash-making. 1863 TREVELYAN *Compet. Wallah* (1866) 182 An early effort of the Public Works Department in the canal-making line. 1880 MORRIS in Mackail *Life* (1899) II. 5 The art of Carpet-making is dead, or dying fast. 1891 T. HARDY *Tess* xxix, At skimmings, at butter-makings, at cheese-makings.

c. Qualified by a possessive, in phr. *of* (so-and-so's) *making* = made by (so and so). In predicative use sometimes with omission of *of*.

1470-85 MALORY *Arthur* x. lxii. 519, I kyng Hermaunce.. am slayn..thurȝ two knyghtes..of myn own bryngyng vp and of myn owne makyng. 1500-20 DUNBAR *Poems* xlvi. 55 His creature of his awin making. ?*c* 1526 FRITH *Disput. Purgat.* To Rdr. (? 1533) A iv b, I haue sent you such bokes as you wrote for, and one moo of Rastels makinge. 1611

Bible *Transl. Pref.* ¶ 13 [They] doe either make new Translations themselues, or follow new ones of other mens making. *a* 1654 Selden *Table-t.* (Arb.) 35 The Laws of the Church are most Favourable to the Church, because they were the Churches own making. 1676 Lady Chaworth in *12th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 28 'Twas a match of his friends and not his owne making. *a* 1700 Dryden *Cinyras & Myrrha* 52 Man a Slave of his own making lives. 1709 Steele *Tatler* No. 44 ¶ 3 The Statuary, who fell in Love with the Image of his own making. 1828 Carlyle *Misc.* (1857) I. 206 A poet of Nature's own making. 1894 Hall Caine *Manxman* III. xvii. 183 The marriage was not of her making.

d. (*To be*) *in making, a-making*, now usually *to be making*: (to be) in course of being made.

c 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* (1869) 19 All manere of fardelles maad and in makinge. 1480 Caxton *Chron. Eng.* ccviii. 190 That bisshop had in london a fayre toure in makynge. 1535 Coverdale 2 *Macc.* i. 23 All the prestes prayed, whyle the sacrifice was a makynge. 1605 Shaks. *Macb.* III. iv. 34 The Feast is sold That is not often vouch'd, while 'tis a making. 1702 *Royal Proclam.* 8 Mar. in *Loud. Gaz.* No. 3790/4 Corn or Grain making into Malt. 1761 Hume *Hist. Eng.* III. liv. 171 Provisions of arms were making beyond the sea. 1767 Mrs. S. Pennington *Lett.* III. 177 This .. gentleman .. informed her of the use that was making of her letters. 1791 Washington *Lett.* Writ. 1892 XII. 54 Those changes, which are either making, or contemplated. 1793 *Copper-Plate Mag.* No. 22 This ancient place..is watered by the River Soar,..now making navigable. 1816 Shelley *Lett.* Pr. Wks. 1888 I. 341 The hay was making under the trees. 1857 Kingsley *Misc., Th. Gravel-pit* II. 381 When the South-Western Railway was in making. 1891 *Graphic* 31 Oct. 526/3 That good prices are making for English cheese argues good quality.

e. *In the making*: used adjectively (in imitation of Milton) to designate something as existing in an undeveloped state.

1644 Milton *Areop.* (Arb.) 69 Opinion in good men is but knowledge in the making. 1876 Geo. Eliot *Dan. Der.* lxiv, His opinion .. may be our virtue in the making. 1879 Maudsley *Pathol. Mind* vi. 282 Evil is good in the making as vice is virtue in the making. 1889 D. Hannay *Capt. Marryat* vii. 99 Unless the [newspaper] correspondent has seen history in the making. 1890 *Guardian* 26 Nov. 1892/3 It is a great soul in the making.

2. *spec.* in technical uses: The training or bringing to the required condition (of an animal); the preparation (of hay); the curing (of fish).

1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 161 He tawhte men .. the makinge Of Oxen, and of hors the same. 1523 Fitzherb. *Husb.* § 25 A man maye speke of makynge of hey, and gettynge of corne, but god disposeth and ordreth all thynge. 1615 Latham *Falconry* (1633) 12 Forget not all this time of her making ..to walke round about her, using your voice, and giving her many bits with your hand. 1809 Kendall *Trav.* II. xlvii. 154 The curing, or as it is called, the making of the fish. 1893 *Field* 17 June 904/3 The light swath is converted from grass to hay in a few hours without any 'making'. 1902 *Daily Chron.* 21 July 3/1 Ponies that only require 'making' in order to become valuable.

†**3.** Poetical composition; poetizing, versifying. Also *pl.* = poetical compositions, poems. *Obs.*

c 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 129 For þis makyng I will no mede hot gude prayere when 3e it rede. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* v. 1789 But litel bok no makyng þow nennye But subgit be to alle poesye. *c* 1375 *Sir Paius Hell* 352 in *O. E. Misc.* 222 Meruel 3e not of þis makyng. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xii. 16 þow medlest þe with makynges and myztest go sey þi sauter. *c* 1430 Lydg. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 128, I the refreyn tooke, Of hym that was in makyng soverayne, My maister Chaucier. 1567 Drant *Horace, Ep.* To Rdr. *v, Flim flames, and gue gawes, .. are soner rapte vp thenne are those which be lettered and Clarkly makings. 1589 Puttenham *Eng. Poesie* III. xix. (Arb.) 247 A noble gentleman and much delighted in vulgar making. 1614 J. Davies *Eclogue* 19 (Grosart) For, fro thy Makings, milke, and mellie, flowes To feed the Songster-swaines with Arts soot-meats.

†**4.** Testamentary disposition. [= MDu. *makinge.*] *Obs.*

1621 in *Brasenose Coll. Muniments* (MS.) 22/12, I charge myne executors that the same [money] bee payed according to my makinge.

5. Advancement, success. *Obs.* exc. in phr. *To be the making of*: to be what ensures the success of (a person or thing).

c 1470 G. Ashby *Active Policy* 731 A man to be preferred to honour Of fee or office to his grete makyng. 1496–7 *Plumpton Corr.* (Camden) 124 Your good and discret answere may be my making. 1622 Mabbe tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* II. 215 They [women] are the making or the marring of their house. *a* 1680 Butler *Rem.* (1759) II. 31 A lucky Repartee hit upon by Chance may be the making of a Man. 1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* VIII. xi, The fine gentleman, .. who doth so much honour to his family and is to be the making of it. 1871 Smiles *Charac.* xi. (1876) 324 A wife may be the making or the unmaking of the best of men.

†**6.** The way in which a thing is made; style of construction; conformation, form, shape, build, 'make'. *Obs.*

1393 Langl. *P. Pl.* C. xiv. 193 þer-fore meruaileþ me for man, as in makynge, Is most yliche þe in wit and in werkes, Whi [etc.]. 1398 Trevisa *Earth. De P. R.* xviii. ix. (1495) 763 Congres and Elys ben lyke to serpentes in makynge. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 9774, I .. am febiller be fer þen þe fre prinse, Both of myght, & of makyng, & of mayn strenkith. 1466 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) III. 93 The same dores and wyndowes shalbe like of strength and makyng of the dores and wyndowes of the other new scoles. 1494 in *Somerset Medieval Wills* (1901) 323 A newe metecloth of Lankeshire making. 1523 Fitzherb. *Husb.* § 2 There be plowes of dyuers makynges in dyuers countreys. 1534 More *On Passion* Wks. 1304/1 That oyntment truly made was veri costly: which was the cause that the true making was lesse vsed. 1599 Hakluyt *Voy.* II. i. 103 In colour, eating, and making like a Makarell. 1642 Shirley *Sisters* v. i. (1652) 49, I see the greatest men are flesh And blood, our souls are much upon a making. 1656 Heylin *Surv. France* 54 There are erected..[nine] hansome Crosses of stone; all of a making. 1660 *Act* 12 *Chas. II*, c. 4. Sched. s.v. *Buckrams*, Buckrams of French making. 1662 J. Davies tr. *Olearius' Voy. Ambass.* 263 Another sort of insect of a making much like a Spider. 1669 Sturmy *Mariner's Mag.* II. 45 A general and particular Description, Making, and Use of all the..Instruments.

†**b.** with reference to a literary production; in quots. = version, edition. *Obs.*

1382 Wyclif *Prov.* Prol., Masloch, that Ebrues Parablis, the comun making [St. Jerome *vulgata editio*] Prouerbis clepeth. 1482 Caxton *Higden's Polychron.* Prohemye, Polychronicon..emprynted & sette in forme by me William Caxton and a lytel embelysshed fro tholde makyng.

†**c.** Of persons: Bodily form or appearance; build, 'make'. *Obs.*

c 1430 *Generydes* 4555 By his making He is ful like to my derling. 1587 Fleming *Cont. Holinshed* III. 355/1 Some ..esteemed him a man for making well proportioned. 1590 Shaks. *Com. Err.* IV. ii. 22 Stigmaticall in making worse in minde. 1609 Holland *Amm. Marcell.* 282 Bigge he was of making, and withall verie tall. *c* 1640 *Lovely North. Lasse* iii. in Child *Ballads* IV. 208/2, I was so greatly taken with his speech, and with his comely making.

†**d.** Mental or moral character; = Make *sb.*[2] 3.

1647 Clarendon *Hist. Reb.* I. § 120 William earl of Pembroke was next, a man of another mould and making.

7. *concr.* Something that has been made; †a created thing, creature (*obs.*); a product of manufacture. Also, the quantity made at one time.

1340 *Ayenb.* 92 Þet þet body of man is þe meste poure makynge .. and þe spirit of man .. ys .. þe hezeste sseppe þet may hy. 1645 *Shetland Witch Trial* in Hibbert *Descr. Shetl. Isles* (1822) 594 You did thereby marr and undo twa whole makings of the said bear, quhilk never did good. 1823 J. Badcock *Dom. Amusem.* 139 Whatever quantity is required for any particular job of work should be made all at one time; no two makings coming away alike, but depending entirely upon accident. *Ibid.* 150 Cut your making into cakes. 1882 Ogilvie, *Making* .. 2. What has been made, especially at one time; as, the whole making is before you. 1890 *Century Dict.* s.v., A making of bread.

b. *pl.* Earnings, profits. *colloq.*

1837 Ht. Martineau *Soc. Amer.* III. 122 That a wife shall possess half, or a large part, of her husband's earnings or makings. 1892 *Cassell's Sat. Jrnl.* 21 Sept. 13/3 My makings in the way of tips bringing in on an average about twice that sum. 1900 *Daily News* 10 Feb. 2/4 'Makings', in the way of tips, had been very poor.

8. The material out of which something may be made; the potentiality of becoming something; in phr. *to have* or *be the making(s of . . .*

1613 Shaks. *Hen. VIII*, IV. i. 87 She had all the Royall makings of a Queene. 1837 Dickens *Pickw.* xxxvii, He seemed to have the makings of a very nice fellow about him. 1857 Lawrence *Guy Liv.* iii. 17 There was the making of a good rider in many of them. 1858 Trollope *Dr. Thorne* I. v. 124 He's the making of a very nice horse, I don't doubt. 1861 W. H. Russell in *Times* 24 Sept., They are not an army, but they are the making, as we say, of a splendid one. 1886 *American* XII. 134 This Bavarian king was the making of a fine man when he was young. 1887 H. Smart *Cleverly won* ii. 16 There was possibly the makings of a great cross-country horse in her.

9. *pl.* in *Coal-mining.* (See quots.)

1851 Greenwell *Coal-trade Terms Northumb. & Durh.* 36 *Makings.*—The small coals hewed out in kirving. 1883 Gresley *Gloss. Coal Mining, Makings*, the slack and dirt made in holing.

10. *Comb.* **a.** attributive: **making-cylinder**, in a paper-making machine, the cylinder on which the pulp is felted into a sheet (distinguished from the *beating cylinder* and the *drying cylinder*); **making-felt**, 'that felt of a cylinder paper-machine on which the web of pulp is taken from the making-cylinder' (Knight); **making-iron** (now often confused with *meaking-iron*: see Meaking), a kind of grooved chisel used by caulkers to finish off seams.

1769 Falconer *Dict. Marine* (1780) II, *Calfat double*, a caulker's making-iron. 1846 Young *Naut. Dict.* s.v. *Caulk.*

b. With following adv. or adj., forming nouns of action corresponding to phrasal combinations of the sb., as *making-off, -out, -over*, Making-up; *making-good*; **making-merry** *rare* = Merry-making; **making-ready**, preparation (for technical uses see Ready *a.* III); also *attrib.* Also **making-as-if** *nonce-wd.* (cf. Make *v.*[1] 70), pretence, make-believe.

1382 Wyclif *John* xix. 14 It was the makinge redy, or euyn, of pask. 1530 Palsgr. 242/1 Makyng redy, *parure.* 1674 N. Fairfax *Bulk & Selv.* 118 For the better making out of which, we are to bethink our selves, that [etc.]. *Ibid.* 129 We shall find that begetting the like, is making over of springs. 1813 L. Hunt in *Examiner* 3 May 273/2 That ordinary and vulgar state-cunning,—that wretched *making-as-if.* 1815 J. Laing *Voy. Spitzbergen* (1822) 99 The process of paring and barrelling up the blubber, is termed *making off.* 1822 Scott *Peveril* iv, A making-merry in the house of Tirzah. 1846 Young *Naut. Dict.* s.v. *Flensing*, The blubber .. is cut into square pieces and stowed in the bold; afterwards, these are..cut into smaller pieces to be stowed away in casks; this latter process is termed *making-off.* 1874 Southward *Pract. Print.* xlv. (ed. 4) 413 Place the sheet [of paper]..on the making-ready board. 1881 Young *Every Man his own Mechanic* § 1386 All *making good* as it is technically called—i. e. patching up holes in old plastering—used to be done with plaster. 1887 Goode, etc. *Fisheries U. S.* Sect. v. II. 286 Paring and barreling blubber, termed making-off.

†**Ma·king,** *vbl. sb.*[2] *Obs.* [f. Make *v.*[2] + -ing [2].] Mating, matchmaking.

1608 Middleton *Trick to Catch Old One* III. iii, My Vncle comes with Gentlemen, his friends, And tis vpon a making.

Making (mēi·kiŋ), *ppl. a. rare.* [f. Make *v.*[1] + -ing [1].] That makes (in various senses); †productive, creative; †money-making, prosperous.

1434 Misyn *Mending Life* 126 With swetnes of þe godhede & warmnes of Makand lyght. 1592 West *1st Pt. Symbol.* § 46 A, Instruments..of their effects be either constitutiue and making, or remissorie and liberatorie. 1760–72 H. Brooke *Fool of Qual.* (1809) III. 118 You are an industrious and a making young man. *a* 1774 Goldsm. *Surv. Exp. Philos.* (1776) I. 31 When artificial magnets are made by rubbing, each pole in the making magnet begets its sympathetic pole of a different name in the newly made magnet. 1903 *Daily Chron.* 18 Nov. 8/6 Artificial Florist.—Wanted a good making forewoman.

Makings, obs. form of Mackins.

Making-up. In the various senses of *make up* (see Make *v.*[1] 96); completion; compounding, composition; reconciliation; dressing up and disguising for the impersonation of a character; the balancing of accounts at the end of a certain period.

1593 Abp. Bancroft *Daung. Posit.* IV. x. 168 Of purpose to haue drawen Lancaster vnto them, for the making vp of a quaternion. 1620 Massinger & Field *Fatal Dowry* III. i, Thy Taylor,..Can bring more to the making vp of a man, Then can be bop'd from thee. 1671 Blagrave *Astrol. Physick* (title-p.), Directing the way to Distil and Extract their Vertues and making up of Medicines. 1674 N. Fairfax *Bulk & Selv.* 39 The finites that go to the making up of an infinite. 1753 Chambers *Cycl. Supp., Making Up*, a term used by the distillers to express the bringing spirits up to a certain standard of strength by the addition of water. 1840 Carlyle *Heroes* ii, Any making-up of his mind. 1864 D. W. Thompson *Day Dreams Schoolm.* (ed. 2) 231 Then will we promise to be good; we will throw tiny arms half round papa's neck .. O the bliss of making up! 1869 Mrs. H. Wood *R. Yorke* XXV. II. 226 That lady..had absolute need of artistic aid in the matter of making-up. 1884 McLaren *Spinning Woollen & Worsted* 65 The master should therefore insist on his 'making up' being done thoroughly. 1890 *Daily News* 23 Dec. 5/4 The herring boats came in from sea at Lowestoft last week, and the process of 'making-up' being now concluded [etc.]. 1892 *Ibid.* 10 May 7/3 From ten to twenty millions have been added to the market value of Stock Exchange securities since the last making-up.

b. *attrib.*

1883 Howells *Woman's Reas.* x. I. 206 I've written him a making-up letter. 1887 *Pall Mall G.* 12 Oct. 12/1 The following table shows the drop since the last making-up price. 1890 *Ibid.* 8 Sept. 7/2 Since the last 'making up' day most of the movements in the Home Railway market have been favourable to operators for the rise. 1895 A. J. Wilson *Gloss. Terms Stock Exch., Making up Prices*, the prices fixed on the first and second days of the settlement for the purposes of continuing or carrying over transactions. The prices at which transactions continued to the following account are settled. 1900 *Daily News* 3 Dec. 2/5 The shirt and making-up factories are..very well engaged.

Makins, obs. form of Mackins.

Makkar, -er, obs. Sc. forms of Maker.

Makkers, dial. form of Mackins.

Makrel(l, obs. form of Mackerel [1] and [2].

†**Makrelty.** *Obs.* Also **makrellty, maclarte.** [Metathetic alteration of MDu. *makelardie*, f. *makelare* broker: see Mackeler.] Brokerage.

1495 in *Halyburton's Ledger* (1867) 106 Item makrellty 8 g. 1498 *Ibid.* 124 Item for makrelty of the 2 sekis to Peter Rekeyr, 5s. 1499 *Ibid.* 225 Item for maclarte, ilk sek xxx g.

†**Makron.** *Obs.*–[o] [? corruption of Malkin.] = Malkin 3.

1573 Baret *Alv.* M 56 A Makron or colerake. *Rutabulum.*

Makyere, obs. form of Maker.

‖**Mal.** *Obs.* [F. and It. *mal.*] = Evil *sb.*[1] 7 b.

1745 Pococke *Descr. East* II. i. 151 Among the English it [a disorder in which blotches break out on the body] goes by the name of the Mal of Aleppo. 1756 A. Russell *Nat Hist. Aleppo* [262 A cutaneous disease .. has acquired the name of *Il mal d'Aleppo* or *Aleppo evil.*] 264 The third kind of Mal..begins like the two others, but [etc.].

Mal- (mæl), *prefix*, formerly often written male- (but pronounced as one syll.), chiefly represents the F. *mal* adv.:—L. *male* ill, badly; rarely, as in *maltalent*, it represents the OF. *mal* adj.:—L. *malus* bad. In its advb. use the prefix occurs in many adoptions from Fr., which are sometimes combinations with vbs., as *maltreat*; sometimes nouns of action formed from such combinations, as *malfeasance*; and sometimes combinations with adjs., where the prefix serves to reverse the favourable connotation of the word, as *maladroit, malcontent.* In imitation of these adopted words, *mal-* has from the 16th c. been prefixed to many Eng. words, to convey the sense 'ill', 'wrong', 'improper(ly)'. The words thus modified are chiefly nouns of action, as in *malpractice*, and many physiological terms, as *malassimilation, malformation*; occasionally adjs. and vbs., as in *malodorous, malappropriate.* The formations that have a permanent character are treated in their alphabetical places; examples of the frequent use of the prefix in the creation of nonce-words are *mal-accident, -application, -appointment, -associa-*

tion, -cultivation, -development, -direction, -feeling, -hygiene, -identification, -institution, -instruction, -operation, -publication, -reasoning, -use, -volition; mal-adjusted, -conceited, -created, -discontented, -shapen adjs.

1608 H. Clapham *Errour on Left Hand* 29 Master Malcontent, me thinks you are malconceited. 1692 *Rhode Island Col. Rec.* (1858) III. 288 Some male-discontented persons. 1714 J. Fortescue-Aland *Fortescue's Absol. & Lim. Mon.* Pref. 13 It is owing to Passion and Interest, and not to the Male-Institution of the Law. 1715 M. Davies *Athen. Brit.* I. 10 The Expression and Malepublication of the respective criminal Contents of such Scandalous Libels. 1799 R. Warner *Walk* (1800) 6 There are no limits to the vicious conceptions, malassociations, and wild incongruities of false taste. 1803 *Spirit Pub. Jrnls.* VII. 22 If, however, it so happens that either mal-accident or your own discretion .. has prevented [etc.] 1808 E. S. Barrett *Miss-led General* 125 These malappointments took place .. when the army had ceased to be a matter of mere parade. 1822 Mrs. E. Nathan *Laugreath* I. 81 This maloperation of the affections .. may be best prevented .. by that wholesome species of dissipation. 1824 *Examiner* 423/2 A man I never saw, and therefore could have no malfeeling towards. 1839 *Blackw. Mag.* XLV. 812 Fearful gropings to imitate what they render malcreated and hideous. 1840 Mill *Diss. & Disc.* (1859) I. 94 The question often is, what is least prejudicial to the intellect, uncultivation or malcultivation. 1841 Gen. P. Thompson *Exerc.* (1842) VI. 161 That mal-reasoning which makes men expect [etc.]. 1843 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* IV. 1. 192 The abuse, however, or rather mal-use, of an article is no argument against it. *a* 1849 Poe *Wks.* 1864 III. 369 The heart is stirred, and the mind does not lament its mal-instruction. 1855 Miss Cobbe *Intuit. Mor.* 155 He proceeds .. to guard against its malapplication by arguing that [etc.]. 1870 O. W. Holmes *Mechanism in Th. & Mor.* in *Old Vol. Life* (1893) 305 So to rate the gravity of a mal-volition by its consequences is the merest sensational materialism. 1886 W. Graham *Soc. Problem* 18 Society .. maladjusted and 'out of joint' in its social relations and parts. 1887 *Harper's Mag.* May 952 Beggars abound, hideously malshapen. 1888 T. Gill in *Amer. Naturalist* Oct. 926 Incredible as such a maldentification on the part of Pictet must appear. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 614 Intensified and fostered by conditions of malhygiene. 1899 *Ibid.* VII. 116 The maldirection of movement is much increased when the aid of the sight is denied. *Ibid.* 732 The altered shapes of cells, regarded by Sachs as evidence of congenital maldevelopment.

Malabar (mæ·lăbāɪ), the name of a sea-board district in the S.W. of Hindostan, used attributively in the names of various plants, vegetable products, etc. **Malabar bark**, the genus *Ochna* (*Cassell's Encycl. Dict.* 1885); **Malabar catmint**, a labiate plant, *Anisomeles malabarica*, used in India as a tonic and febrifuge; **Malabar laurel**, *Melastoma malabathrica* (see quot.); **Malabar leaf**, *Cinnamomum malabathrum*; **Malabar nightshade**, the chenopodiaceous genus *Basella*; **Malabar nut**, an acanthaceous plant, *Justicia Adhatoda*; **Malabar oil**, an oil obtained from the livers of various fishes found on the Malabar coast; **Malabar plum**, the jamrosade or rose-apple, *Eugenia jambos* (*Jambosa vulgaris*); **Malabar rose**, a shrubby East Indian rose-mallow, *Hibiscus rosa-malabarica*.

1753 Chambers *Cycl. Supp.* App., *Malabar-nut*, .. the English name of a genus of plants, called by botanists *Adhatoda*. 1787 tr. *Linnæus' Fam. Plants* I. 202 *Basella*. Malabar Nightshade. 1813 Ainslie *Mat. Med. Hindostan* 99 Malabar Cat Mint. *Nepeta Malabarica*. Lin. 1816–20 T. Green *Univ. Herbal* I. 162 *Basella Rubra*, Red Malabar Nightshade. *Ibid.* 777 *Justicia Adhatoda*, Malabar Nut. 1840 Paxton *Bot. Dict.*, Malabar Leaf, see *Cinnamomum Malabatrum*. .. Malabar Rose, see *Hibiscus Rosa malabarica*. 1855 Ogilvie *Suppl.*, *Malabar Plum*. 1882 *Garden* 1 Apr. 215/1 Melastoma malabathrica .. is a common plant in Malabar, where it is used in much the same way as the common Laurel is here; hence the name Malabar Laurel. 1883 Simmonds *Dict. Usef. Anim.*, *Malabar Oil-Sardine* (*Clupea longiceps*). Large quantities of oil are made from this fish on the coast of Malabar.

‖ **Malabathrum** (mælăbæ·þrŭm). *Hist.* Also malobathrum, mala-, malobathron. [L. *mălа-, mălobathrum, -on*, a. Gr. *mălă-, mălóβaθρον*, a. Skr. *tamālapattra*, f. *tamāla* (Hindī *tamāl*) the name of various trees (see below) + *pattra* leaf.] An aromatic leaf mentioned by ancient writers; a perfumed ointment prepared from this.

The Hindī *tamāl*, Skr. *tamāla* (which is the source of the Gr. and L. word), is applied to the tree *Xanthochymus pictorius*, and also to various species of *Cinnamomum*, two of which have been named *C. Malabathrum* and *C. Tamala*. The 'malabathrum' of antiquity was prob. the leaf of one or more species of *Cinnamomum*. The identification with the betel leaf (Skr. *tāmbūla*, Hindī *tambōl*) is erroneous.

1601 Holland *Pliny* I. 378 We are beholden moreover to Syria for Malobathrum. .. Ægypt is more fruitfull of this hearbe than Syria. And yet there commeth a better kind thereof from India than both of these countries. *Ibid.* 379 The perfume or smell that Malobathrum or the leafe yeeldeth when it is boiled in wine, passeth all others. 1625 Purchas *Pilgrims* I. I. i. 43 Amomum, Ginger, Malabathrum, Ammoniake. 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Malobathrum*. 1883 tr. *Wellhausen's Proleg. Hist. Israel* 391 The cultivation of the malabathron in Syria. 1886 Sheldon tr. *Flaubert's Salammbô* 16 For your enjoyment bread, meat, oil, and malobathrum were provided from the storehouses.

Malable, obs. form of Malleable.

† **Malacado·nian.** *Obs.* [app. f. some corruption of Melocoton + -ian.] = Myrobalan.

1608 *Closet for Ladies* 4 To preserue Mirabolans or Malacadonians. Take your Malacadonians and stone them.

Malaca-tawney, obs. f. Mulligatawny.

Malacaton, -catoon, var. ff. Melocoton.

Malacca (mălæ·kă). The name of a town and district on the Malay peninsula in the S.E. of Asia; used *attrib.* in some names of plants and vegetable products. **Malacca apple** = *Malay apple* (see Malay *a.*); **Malacca bean**, the fruit of the *Semecarpus Anacardium* or marking-nut of India (see also Molucca); **Malacca cane** (also simply *Malacca*), a walking-cane of a rich brown colour, often clouded or mottled, made of the stem of the palm *Calamus Scipionum*.

1611 Cotgr., *Anacarde*, th' East Indian fruit called Anacardium, or Beane of Malaca. 1855 Ogilvie *Suppl.*, *Malacca bean*. 1856 Seemann *Hist. Palms* 131 The well-known 'Malacca Canes' .. do not occur about Malacca itself, but are imported from Siak, on the opposite coast of Sumatra. 1871 *Good Words* XII. 431 It takes an expert to detect a real from a painted Malacca. 1871 Kingsley *At Last* xvi, That with .. bright flesh-coloured fruit, [is] a Malacca-apple, or perhaps a Rose-apple. 1885 Lady Brassey *The Trades* 135 The malacca apple with its bright magenta flowers.

† **Malace.** *Obs. rare*—°. [ad. L. *malacia* a calm at sea, a. Gr. *μαλακία*; cf. Malacia.] 'A calme at Sea' (Cockeram 1623).

Malachatauni, variant of Mulligatawny.

Malachite (mæ·lăkəɪt). Forms: *α*. 4 melochites, 8 malachites, molochites. *β*. 6–7 melochite, (8 malachquite), 7– malachite. [a. OF. *melochite*, F. *malachite*, ad. L. **malachītēs, molochītēs*, Gr. **μαλαχίτης*, **μολοχίτης*, a stone (perh. our malachite) resembling the leaf of the mallow in colour, f. *μαλάχη, μολόχη* the mallow.] Hydrous carbonate of copper, occurring as a mineral of a beautiful green colour, susceptible of a high polish; it is often made into ornamental articles. Also, an example or specimen of this mineral.

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xvi. lxvii. (1495) 574 Melochites is a grene stone lyke to Smaragdus and hath that name of the colour of malewes. 1567 Maplet *Gr. Forest* 15 b, The Melochite is a greene Gem, much like to the Smaragde. 1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, Malachite (*malachites*), a stone of a dark green colour. 1756–7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) I. 56 Remarkable stones, .. as crystal, dragons-blood, malachites, asteria's. 1844 Disraeli *Coningsby* I. iv, Colossal vases of malachite presented by emperors.

b. *Blue malachite* = Azurite 1.

1821 Jameson *Man. Mineral.* 98 Blue Malachite, or Blue Copper.

c. *attrib.*; sometimes quasi-*adj.* = of the colour of malachite. **Malachite-green**, (*a*) = malachite; (*b*) a dye of the colour of malachite.

1880 Friswell in *Soc. of Arts Jrnl.* 445 The well-known methyl green .. is now .. replaced by the malachite green, discovered by Oscar Doebner. 1899 Cagney tr. *Jaksch's Clin. Diagn.* v. (ed. 4) 157 Köster has recently employed malachite-green with good results as a test for hydrochloric acid. 1900 F. Anstey *Brass Bottle* I. 3 Against a background of lapis lazuli and malachite sea.

‖ **Malacia** (mălē·ʃiă). *Path.* [L. *malacia* (*stomachi*), Gr. *μαλακία* softness, f. *μαλακός* soft.] a. Morbid softening of a tissue or part. b. Depraved or fanciful appetite, as in chlorosis or pregnancy or dirt-eating. (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1889.)

1657 *Physical Dict.*, *Malacia*, .. a corrupt appetite, .. which is the cause of longings in women. 1706 Phillips, *Malacia*, .. a queasiness, or squeamishness of Stomach. .. Also a tenderness of Body. 1866 A. Flint *Princ. Med.* (1880) 511 Malacia denotes a morbid craving for certain articles of food or articles which are not devoid of nutrition, whereas pica denotes a desire for innutritious substances.

Malacic (mălæ·sik), *a.* [f. Malac-ia + -ic.] Of or pertaining to malacia. 1890 in *Century Dict.*

† **Malaci·ssant,** *a. Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *malacissant-em*, pres. pple. of *malaciss-āre*, ad. Gr. *μαλακίζ-ειν*, f. *μαλακός* soft.] Softening.

1638 Rawley tr. *Bacon's Life & Death* (1651) 64 The Diet Malacissant or Suppling. 1640 G. Watts tr. *Bacon's Adv. Learn.* IV. ii. 203 Malacissant and mollifying Qualities.

† **Mala·cissa·tion.** *Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *malacissātiōn-em*, n. of action f. *malacissāre*: see prec.] The action of making soft or supple.

1638 Rawley tr. *Bacon's Life & Death* (1651) 48 As touching the Malacissation, or Mollifying of the Members, we shall speak afterward. *Ibid.* 50.

Malacoderm (mæ·lăkodəɪm), *a.* and *sb. Nat. Hist.* [f. Gr. *μαλακό-s* soft + *δέρμα* skin.] **A.** *adj.* Having a soft skin. **B.** *sb.* A soft-skinned animal; an animal of any of the various groups called *Malacodermata* (*-derma, -dermi*), viz.: a. one of the two divisions of Reptiles, opposed to *Scleroderma*ta; b. a tribe of beetles, including the fireflies; c. the sea-anemones.

1835 Kirby *Hab. & Inst. Anim.* II. xxii. 414 Though the Malacoderm, or soft-coated Reptiles, appear the legitimate successors of the Fishes. 1866 *Intell. Observ.* No. 56. 134 This curious elongate Malacoderm [an insect]. 1880 Pascoe *Zool. Classif.* (ed. 2) 139 The Malacoderms [= Telepboridæ].

Malacodermatous (mæ·lăkodə·ɪmătəs), *a. Nat. Hist.* [f. mod.L. *Malacodermata* neut. pl. (f. Gr. *μαλακός* soft + *δέρμα* skin) + -ous.] Pertaining to the *Malacodermata*, in any of the applications of the term: see prec.

1856 in Mayne *Expos. Lex.*; and in recent Dicts.

Malacodermous (mæ·lăkodə·ɪməs), *a. Nat. Hist.* [f. Gr. *μαλακόδερμος* soft-skinned (f. *μαλακός* soft + *δέρμα* skin) + -ous.] Soft-skinned; = Malacoderm A.

1856 in Mayne *Expos. Lex.*; and in recent Dicts.

Malacolious, variant of Melancholious *Obs.*

Malacolite (mæ·lăkŏlaɪt). *Min.* [ad. F. *malacolithe* (Abildgaard 1800 in *Ann. de Chimie* xxxii. 196: 'pierre molle'), f. Gr. *μαλακό-s* soft + *λίθος* stone: see -lite.] A synonym of diopside.

1823 Phillips *Mineral.* Index, *Malacolite*. 1859 Page *Handbk. Geol. Terms*, *Malacolite*, known also as Sahlite; a variety of augite of various shades of green, and of a vitreous or sub pearly lustre.

Malacology (mælăkp·lŏdʒi. [a. F. *malacologie* (De Blainville 1825, who says that it is short for *malacozoologie*), f. Gr. *μαλακό-s* soft + -logy.] The science which treats of the formation and habits of soft-bodied animals or molluscs.

1836 *Blackw. Mag.* XXXIX. 306 We have also seen your book upon shells, or rather upon malacology. 1857 Woodward *Comm. Obj. Sea-shore* 14 This branch of Natural History has leaped at once out of the mere childish toy of conchology into the maturer science of malacology.

b. *humorously.* The substance of a mollusc.

1854 Badham *Halieut.* 38 Men took a great pride .. in fattening their different coquillages, not so much .. with a view to the increase of the malacology within, as to produce enormous shells. 1855 *Fraser's Mag.* LI. 548 Sometimes after mousing a snail till it has put its head out .. they fly at and peck off a little mouthful of its malacology.

Hence **Malacolo·gical** *a.*, pertaining to malacology. **Malaco·logist,** one versed in malacology.

1847–54 Webster, *Malacologist*. 1881 *Amer. Naturalist* Sept. 704 Papers bearing on malacological topics. 1895 *Edin. Rev.* Oct. 358 The recently instituted Malacological Society of London. *Ibid.*, A malacologist is concerned first with the molluscous animal.

Malacopterygian (mæ·lăkɒptĕri·dʒĭăn), *a.* and *sb.* [f. mod.L. *malacopterygi-i* (f. Gr. *μαλακό-s* + *πτέρυγ-, πτέρυξ* wing) + -an.] **a.** *adj.* Of or pertaining to the *Malacopterygii* or soft-finned fishes. **b.** *sb.* One of the *Malacopterygii*.

1835 Kirby *Hab. & Inst. Anim.* II. xxi. 392 Malacopterygian or soft-rayed Fishes. *Ibid.*, Apode Malacopterygians. 1843 Lowe *Fishes Madeira* Introd. 13 The second series of the true fishes, called Malacopterygians or Soft-finned. 1876 *Beneden's Anim. Parasites* 7 A sea anemone living on good terms with a Malacopterygian fish.

Malacopterygious (mæ·lăkɒptĕri·dʒəs), *a.* [formed as prec. + -ous.] = Malacopterygian *a.*

1753 Chambers *Cycl. Supp.* s.v. *Ammodytes*, The fish is of the malacopterygious or soft-finned kind. 1875 *Encycl. Brit.* I. 31/1 *Abdominales* or *Abdominal Fishes*, a subdivision of the Malacopterygious Order.

‖ **Malacosteon** (mælăkp·stĭɒn). *Path.* [mod.L. f. Gr. *μαλακ-ός* soft + *ὀστέον* bone.] = Osteomalacia.

1801 *Med. Jrnl.* V. 50 In .. cases where malacosteon has made such dreadful ravages in the female constitution. 1877 tr. *von Ziemssen's Cycl. Med.* XVI. 226.

Malacostomous (mælăkp·stŏməs), *a.* [f. mod.L. *malacostom us* (Ray's *Willughby* 1686; f. Gr. *μαλακό-s* soft + *στόμ-α* mouth) + -ous.] Of fishes: Having a soft mouth (i. e. toothless jaws); leather-mouthed.

1753 in Chambers *Cycl. Supp.* 1775 in Ash; and in mod. Dicts.

Malacostracan (mælăkp·străkăn), *a.* and *sb.* [f. mod.L. *malacostraca* pl., Gr. *μαλακόστρακα*, neut. pl. of *μαλακόστρακος* soft-shelled (f. *μαλακός* soft + *ὄστρακον* shell) + -an.] **a.** *adj.* Of or belonging to the *Malacostraca*, one of the orders of the *Crustacea*. **b.** *sb.* An individual of this order.

1835 Kirby *Hab. & Inst. Anim.* II. xiv. 18 He [Dr. Leach] further subdivides .. the Crustaceans into Entomostracans and Malacostracans. 1859 Darwin *Orig. Spec.* xiv. (1878) 390 The whole great malacostracan order. 1893 Shipley *Zool. Invertebrata* 280 The characteristic Malacostracan excretory gland is found opening on the second antennæ.

Malacostracology (mæ·lăkp·străkp·lŏdʒi). [f. mod.L. *malacostraca* (see Malacostracan) + -ology.] The science which treats of the *Malacostraca*. 1847–54 in Webster. 1855 in Ogilvie *Suppl.*

Hence **Malaco·stracolo·gical** *a.*, pertaining to malacostracology; **Malaco·straco·logist,** one versed in this science. 1890 in *Century Dict.*

Malacostracous (mælăkp·străkəs), *a.* [f. mod.L. *malacostraca* (see Malacostracan) + -ous.] = Malacostracan *a.*

1845 *Encycl. Metrop.* XXV. 2 The Malacostracous Crustaceans of Latreille and Edwards. 1877 Huxley *Anat. Inv. Anim.* vii. 375 A malacostracous crustacean.

Malacotomy (mælăkp·tŏmi). [f. Gr. *μαλακό-s* soft + *-τομία* cutting.] The anatomy of soft-bodied animals, e. g. the Mollusca.

1879 in Rossiter *Dict. Sci. Terms*.

Hence **Malacoto·mic** *a.*, pertaining to malacotomy; **Malaco·tomist,** one versed in malacotomy. In some recent Dicts.

Malacoton, -oon, -oun, var. MELOCOTON.

Malacozoic (mælăkozō·ĭk), *a.* [f. mod.L. *malacozōa* (f. Gr. μαλακό-ς soft + ζῷον an animal) + -IC.] Of or pertaining to the *Malacozoa* or soft-bodied animals, e. g. the Mollusca. *Malacozoic series*: Huxley's term for the series of animals from the lowest *Polyzoa* to the highest molluscs.

1877 HUXLEY *Anat. Inv. Anim.* xii. 679.

Ma·lacozo·oid. [formed as prec. + -OID.]

1862 DANA *Man. Geol.* (1863) 749 Malacozōoids; or Mollusk-like Protozoans, as the Rhizopods.

Malaco-zoology (mæ·lăkŏ,ĭzŏq·lŏdʒi). [a. F. *malacozoologie* (De Blainville 1825), f. mod.L. *malacozōa* (see MALACOZOIC and -OLOGY); cf. ZOOLOGY.] = MALACOLOGY.

1856 in MAYNE *Expos. Lex.* 1902 *Catal. Lib. Univ. Museum, Oxford.*

† **Mala·ctic,** *a.* and *sb.* ? *Obs.* [ad. Gr. μαλακτικ-ός, f. μαλακ-, stem of μαλάσσειν to soften, cogn. w. μαλακός soft.] a. *adj.* Adapted to soften; emollient. b. *sb.* An emollient medicine. Hence **Mala·ctical** *a.*, in the same sense.

1541 R. COPLAND *Galyen's Terap.* 2 C ij, A salue malactyke. 1657 TOMLINSON *Renou's Disp.* 35 Some [purge] by mollifying as most malacticks. *Ibid.* 200 A malactical and mollitive medicament and a Malagm do not at all differ. 1684 tr. *Bonet's Merc. Compit* VII. 253 Ammoniack, or some other Malactick, must be applied. 1727 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Gargarism*, Others [Gargarisms]..are malactick and digestive. 1889 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

† **Malacy,** anglicized form of MALACIA.

1656 in BLOUNT *Glossogr.* 1658–96 in PHILLIPS.

Maladaptation (mæ lædæptēi·ʃən). [f. MAL- *prefix* + ADAPTATION.] Faulty adaptation.

1877 W. K. CLIFFORD *Lect. & Ess.* (1879) II. 273 The silly maladaptations in organic nature are seen to be steps towards the improvement or discarding of imperfect organs.

Maladdress, anglicized form of MALADRESSE.

† **Malade.** *Obs.* [a. F. *malade*: see MALADY.] A sick person, an invalid.

1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 271 b/2 And the malades and seke men refused their medycyne and heler. 1651 tr. *De-las-Coveras Don Fenise* 8 They carried the Malade unto Poleron's house.

Maladerie. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.* In 5 maledery, mallardri. [a. OF. *maladerie* (mod.F. corruptly *maladrerie*, after *ladre* leper), f. *malade* sick.] A hospital, esp. for lepers.

A leper hospital near Sandwich is mentioned in various 15th c. wills as 'le Maldrye' (1408), 'the Maldery' (1492), 'the Mullery' (1499); a modern lease has 'Mauldry'.

1461 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 472/2 The Hospitall of the holy Innocentes called the mallardri. 1494 FABYAN *Chron.* VII. 470 The maledery of Le Longe Iumell. 1903 JEANS *Murray's Handbk. Lincsh.* (ed. 2) 64 Just outside the gate [*sc.* Bar Gate, Lincoln] is 'Malandery field', so called from the Maladerie, or Hospital for lepers, founded by Remigius.

Maladichte, -dicte: see MALEDIGHT.

† **Mala·dious,** *a. Obs.* [f. MALADY + -OUS; cf. OF. *maladieux*.] = next.

1607 WALKINGTON *Opt. Glass* 18 The soule her selfe as maladious feeles some want of her excellencie.

Maladive (mæ·lădiv), *a rare.* Also 5 **-if.** [a. F. *maladif, -ive*, f. *malade*: see MALADY.] Of, pertaining to, or affected with sickness, sickly.

1481 BOTONER *Tulle on Old Age* (Caxton) C j, They haue their bodyes seke & maladif. 1605 DANIEL *Queen's Arcadia* I. i. (1606) B, Our holesome climate growne more maladiue. 1865 *Argosy* I. 33 He can confound nervousness with indigestion, and make it odious by maladive associations innumerable. 1879 FARRAR *St. Paul* II. 216 *note*, The Arminian [theory], which regards hereditary corruption not as sin or guilt, but as infirmity, a maladive condition.

† **Maladize,** *v. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. MALADY *sb.* + -IZE.] *trans.* To affect with a malady or maladies. Only in *pa. pple.*

1790 J. WILLIAMS *Shrove Tuesday* in *A Cabinet.* etc. (1794) 28 In Courts or Camps, or Maladis'd or Sound.

Mal-adjusted: see MAL- *prefix.*

Maladjustment (mælădʒv·stmĕnt). [f. MAL- + ADJUSTMENT.] Faulty adjustment.

1833 CHALMERS *Const. Man* I. vii. (1834) II. 7 This maladjustment between the voice that nature gives forth on the right of property, and the voice that arbitrary law gives forth upon it. 1878 NEWCOMB *Pop. Astron.* III. iii. 297 They may also arise from a slight maladjustment of the lenses of the eye-piece. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 274 Whether the maladjustment is corrigible.

Maladminister (mæ lædmi·nistəɹ), *v.* [f. MAL- *prefix* + ADMINISTER.] *trans.* To administer, execute, or manage inefficiently or badly.

1705 HARCOURT in Ld. Campbell *Chancellors* (1857) V. cxviii. 365 The government is mal-administered by corrupt persons. 1808 G. EDWARDS *Pract. Plan* iii. 45 As those interests might be mal-administered. 1895 ROOSEVELT in *Atlantic Monthly* Feb. 245 We will never allow the cry of party to be used as a shield in the defense of a man who maladministers the law.

Maladministration (mæ·lădmĭnistrēi·ʃən). Also 7–9 male-. [f. MAL- *prefix* + ADMINISTRATION.] Faulty administration; inefficient or improper management of affairs, *esp.* public affairs.

1644 HEYLIN *Stumbling-block* Tracts (1681) 681 The people had not only power to elect their Magistrates, but to call them also to accompt, in case of mal-administration. 1647 SALTMARSH *Spark. Glory* (1847) 161 Independency, Presbytery, Baptism,..and all other male-administrations. 1735 BOLINGBROKE *Lett. Hist.* ii. (1752) 36 King James's mal-administration rendered a revolution necessary and practicable. 1809 KENDALL *Trav.* I. iv. 26 Call any court or magistrate ..to an account for any misdemeanor or male administration. 1863 H. COX *Instit.* III. viii. 711 The maladministration of the army had been the subject of complaints.

b. *occas.* The irregular administration of a religious rite.

a 1655 VINES *Lord's Supp.* (1677) 259 So that their maladministration bring not epidemick judgements upon us.

So **Maladministrator,** one who is guilty of maladministration.

1866 *Q. Rev.* Oct. 547 Maladministration in every department begins..the moment the maladministrators can say, 'Blame us as you please, but you cannot supplant us'.

‖ **Maladresse** (mælădre·s). Also in anglicized form **maladdress.** [a. F. *maladresse*, noun of quality to *maladroit*: see MALADROIT.] Want of dexterity or tact; awkwardness.

1804 EUGENIA DE ACTON *Tale without Title* II. 192 Without the least *maladresse*, they visited in the family, as if nothing material had occurred. 1862 MERIVALE *Rom. Emp.* xlii. (1865) V. 149 His behaviour was in striking contrast both with the reserve of Augustus and the mal-address of Tiberius. 1870 Miss BROUGHTON *Red as Rose* I. viii. 158 An unlucky footman..had the *maladresse* to drop three spoons that he was carrying upon a tray.

Maladroit (mæ·lădroit), *a.* [a. F. *maladroit*: see MAL- and ADROIT *a.*] Wanting in adroitness or dexterity; awkward, bungling, clumsy.

1685 COTTON tr. *Montaigne* I. xxiv. (1711) I. 179 When he comes back from School..there is nothing so aukward and maladroit. 1731 in BAILEY vol. II. 1845 CARLYLE *Cromwell* (1871) IV. 79 Maladroit ship-carpenters. 1848 CLOUGH *Amours de Voy.* I. 205 My bookish and maladroit manners. 1898 J. E. C. BODLEY *France* II. IV. iv. 380 The fortunes of a maladroit faction.

Hence **Ma·ladroitly** *adv.*, **Ma·ladroitness.**

1673 DRYDEN *Marr. à la Mode* II. i, Doing all things so *mal a droitly* [sic]. 1781 JUSTAMOND *Priv. Life Lewis XV*, II. 212 His maladroitness was soon the cause of his Sovereign's losing the castles. 1827 CARLYLE *Misc., Richter* (1869) 4 They rather testify, however maladroitly, that the Germans have felt their loss. 1862 MERIVALE *Rom. Emp.* xlv. (1865) V. 318 With his usual maladroitness, the terms he used were such as seemed to imply a feeling of jealousy.

† **Maladve·nture.** *Obs.* Also 5 male aventure, 9 mal-aventure. [OF. *malaventure*: see MAL- and ADVENTURE.] a. A lawless proceeding, an escapade. b. An unlucky undertaking; a misadventure.

c 1470 HARDING *Chron.* CLXVII. iii, Ryotous lyuyng and male auentures. 1471 CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) I. 293 [He] ran vnto the rescouse to his maleauenture. 159a NASHE *P. Penilesse* (Shaks. Soc.) 33 Trye if you can tempt Enuie to embark himselfe in the maladuenture. 1800 A. CARLYLE *Autobiog.* 305 Youth and good spirits made us convert all maladventures into fun. 1815 *Zeluca* II. 2 Charged with all the mal-aventures, it seemed to be considered in the duties of her post to have overcome.

Malady (mæ·lădi). Forms: 3–7 maladi(e, -ye, (5 malade, -idy), 4–6 maledie, -dy(e, 6 melady, 6– malady; *pl.* 5 maledius, 6 maladeis, 4– maladies. [a. F. *maladie*, f. *malade* sick = Pr. *malapte, malaute*:—late L. *male habitus* (L. *male* ill, *habitus* pa. pple. of *habēre* to have); cf. the Vulgate *male habens* (= Gr. κακῶς ἔχων) Luke vii. 2.]

1. † a. Ill health, sickness, disease (*obs.*). b. A specific kind of ill health, an ailment, a disease.

c 1250 *Kent. Serm.* in *O. E. Misc.* 31 He was i-warisd of his maladie. *c* 1320 *Sir Beues* (MS. A.) 3921 God..heled him of his maladie. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 701 Fevyr, dropsy, and launys, Tysyk, goute, and other maladys. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 2127 Amendid of hire malidy his moder be fyndis. 1433 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 424/1 For maladie, or for any other resonable cause. *c* 1440 LONELICH *Grail* xxxvi. 200 They knew not fulliche his Malade. 1480 CAXTON *Chron. Eng.* V. (1520) 44 b/1 He sayd he wolde helpe the kynge of his malady *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* lx. 210 She tooke there such a maladye that she dyed therof. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* vi. 57 In dangeir of diuers maladeis, as of fluxis, caterris, collic, and gut. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* IV. iii. 295 Abstinence engenders maladies. 1647 TRAPP *Marrow Gd. Authors* in *Comm. Ep.* 614 Q. Elizabeth..knew, that much meat, much malady. 1789 W. BUCHAN *Dom. Med.* (1790) 137 Those who breathe the impure air of cities, have many maladies to which the more happy rustics are entire strangers. 1871 NAPHEYS *Prev. & Cure Dis.* III. ii. 619 The vast number of maladies which may attack our bodies.

personified. 1563 SACKVILLE *Induct. Mirr. Mag.* xlix, And fast by him pale Maladie was plaste, Sore sicke in bed, her colour al forgone.

2. *fig.* A morbid or depraved condition (e. g. of mind, morals, social arrangements, etc.); something that calls for a remedy. (Cf. DISEASE 2.)

13.. *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* 239/686 To helen vs of seuen Maledius. *c* 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 1379 *Hypsip.*, Thow ne feltist malady Save foul delyt. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 142 That ilke unsely maladie, The which is cleped Jelousie. *c* 1410 HOCCLEVE *Mother of God* 117 Beeth leches of our synful maladie. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xxii. 56 May nane remeid my melady Sa weill as ȝe, schir, veraly. 1563 *Homilies* II. *Rebellion* I. (1859) 555 Such lewd remedies being far worse than any other maladies and disorders that can be in the body of a commonwealth. 1647 MAY *Hist. Parlt.* I. iv. 41 Not hoping ..so quick a call of a nationall Synod, as the present malady required. 1687 DRYDEN *Hind & P.* III. 69 The matron was not slow to find What sort of malady had seized her mind. 1751 JOHNSON *Rambler* No 87 ¶ 6 The cure of our intellectual maladies. 1786–7 BONNYCASTLE *Astron.* I. 5 Astrology is another malady of weak minds. 1829 CARLYLE *Misc.* (1857) II. 116 Our spiritual maladies are but of Opinion. 1891 E. KINGLAKE *Australian at H.* 17 A clerk's calling is not the only one overdone. That of the governess suffers from the same malady.

‖ **Mala fide** (mēi·lə fəi·dī), *adv.* and *a.* [L. *malā fidē* = 'in bad faith'. Cf. BONA FIDE.] A. *adv.* In bad faith. B. *adj.* Chiefly with agent nouns: Acting in bad faith; pretended, not genuine, sham. *Mala fide possessor*: one who holds by a title which he knows to be bad.

[1561 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 180 The said Thomas was in mala fide be intrometting with the gudis libellit.] 1681 VISCT. STAIR *Instit.* I. vii. (1693) 64 It extends to the Fruits which he hath enjoyed, *mala fide.* 1808 BENTHAM *Sc. Reform* 7 On the part of malâ fide suitors (suitors conscious of being in the wrong). 1875 POSTE *Gaius* II. (ed. 2) 203 The mala fide possessor..acquires no property in the consumed fruits. 1901 *Scotsman* 2 Oct. 9/3 The authorities of the Excise have taken no action..to deal with the mala-fide and proprietary clubs.

‖ **Mala fides** (mēi·lă fəi·dīz). *Law.* [L. *mala fidēs* bad faith.] Bad faith, intent to deceive.

1681 VISCT. STAIR *Instit.* II. xii. (1693) 354 *Bona fides* is presumed, unless a contrary Probation, or vehement Presumption be for *mala fides.* 1802–12 BENTHAM *Ration. Judic. Evid.* (1827) III. 623 At the peril of extra costs in case of mala fides. 1885 LD. COLERIDGE in *Law Rep.* 15 Q. Bench Div. 137 Absence of mala fides..is not enough.

Malafiges, *sb. pl.* ? *U. S.* [a. Du. *malefijtje, malefietje*, dim. of *malefijt*, of obscure origin: ? connected with F. *malefique* MALEFIC *a.*] 'A sailors' name for a small sea-bird supposed to appear before a storm: apparently, the stormy petrel or Mother Carey's chicken' (*Cent. Dict.*).

Malaga (mæ·lăgă). Also 7 **malaca, mal(l)igo, mallago(e, -egoe, -igo(e,** 8 **malago.** The name of a seaport in the south of Spain. Used *attrib.*, as in *Malaga raisins, sack, wine.* Also as sb. (short for *Malaga wine*), a white wine exported from Malaga.

1608 DAY *Law Trickes* I. ii. (1881) 21 Ile put al my loue into one quart of Maligo. 1623 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Praise Hempseed* Wks. (1630) III. 65/1 Braue Wine Merchants, little were your gaine, By Mallegoes, Canaries Sacke from Spaine. 1623 MIDDLETON & ROWLEY *Span. Gipsy* III. i. (1653) E 1 b, Peter see me shall wash thy nowle, And Malligo Glasses fox thee. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Malaga* or *Malaca Sack.* 1686 WOOD *Life* (O.H.S.) III. 199 Before the warr nothing but sack and mallagoes were drunk and claret not at all. 1698 *Phil. Trans.* XX. 291 A Grocer's Basket, such as they put up their Malaga Raisins in. 1768 PIGOTT in *Phil. Trans.* LXI. 287, I exposed..a wine glass half full of Malaga wine. 1806 A. HUNTER *Culina* (ed. 3) 45 To each gallon put two pounds of Malaga raisins a little chopped. 1887 PATEA *Imag. Portr.* 2 The lad..left untasted the glass of Malaga which was offered to him.

Comb. 1898 P. MANSON *Trop. Diseases* ii. 64 His urine has become very dark in colour, perhaps malaga-coloured.

Malagash (mæ·lăgæʃ), *a.* and *sb.* Also **Mal(l)egass,** 8–9 **Malegash.** See also MADAGASS. [var. of next. Cf. F. *Malgache.*] a. *adj.* Of or pertaining to Madagascar. b. *sb.* A native of Madagascar; also as *plural.*

1711 tr. *Cauche's Voy. Madagascar* 40 In the Province of Matatan, Neighbouring on that of the Mallegasses or Madegasses. *Ibid.* 56 The Malegasses. 1793 TRAPP tr. *Kochon's Voy. Madagascar* 40 The Malegashes know but two ways of dressing their meat. *Ibid.* 52 The Malegash language. 1833 OWEN *Voy. Afr., Arabia & Madagascar* II. ix. 100 A large population of Malegash and Arabs. *Ibid.*, The style of their buildings..is one-half Arab and the other Malegash.

Malagasy (mælăgæ·si), *a.* and *sb.* [Used in the native lang., but believed to be an altered form of a foreign appellation (of obscure origin) represented by the variants *Madecass, Madagass*, whence the name *Madagascar.*

In the Malagasy language the unstressed vowels are 'whispered', and the *s* before *i* or *y* approaches the sound of ʃ; hence the European form MALAGASH.]

A. *adj.* Of or pertaining to Madagascar, its inhabitants, language, etc. B. *sb.* a. A native of Madagascar; also as *plural.* b. The language spoken there.

1835 J. J. FREEMAN (*title*) A Dictionary of the Malagasy language. 1839 W. ELLIS *Hist. Madagascar* I. 112 The floors of the Malagasy houses are generally covered with red and yellow rush mats. *Ibid.* 145 The physical, moral and intellectual peculiarities of the Malagasy. *Ibid.* 184 This ..conveys as much to a Malagasy as the heartiest thrice-repeated cheer does to an Englishman. 1839 J. J. FREEMAN *ibid.* 496 A prefix, in Malay, *pen*, in Malagasy, *mpan.* 1878 W. E. COUSINS *Malagasy Lang.* in *Phil. Soc. Trans.* 311 The Malagasy is undoubtedly a genuine member of the Malayo-Polynesian family. 188a *Illustr. Miss. News* Mar. 27 The Malagasy Christians may truly be called 'Bible Christians'. Show the Malagasy chapter and verse..and they are satisfied. 1898 A. LANG *Making of Relig.* v. 92 The Malagasies..divine by crystals.

Malagatany, -tawny, obs. ff. MULLIGATAWNY.

† **Mala·gma.** *Med. Obs.* Pl. **malagmata.** Also in anglicized form 6–7 **malagme,** 7 **malagm.** [late L., a. Gr. μάλαγμα, f. μαλάσσειν to assuage.] An emollient plaster.

1541 R. COPLAND *Galyen's Terap.* 2 C ii, A malagme (that is to wyt a salue malactyke). 1643 TUCKNEY *Balme of G.* 12 Their Malagmata and Lenitives. 1657 TOMLINSON *Renou's Disp.* 200 A malactical and mollitive medicament and a Malagm do not at all differ. 1748 tr. *Veg. Renatus' Distemp. Horses* 188 You should make use of a Malagma, or of

a Caustick. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp., Malagma*,..very often the malagma's consisted only of gums dissolved in wine.

Malagru·g(o)rous, *a. jocular.* [? Distortion of It. *malaguroso*, unfortunate. But cf. Sc. *malagruized* 'rumpled, disordered' (E.D.D.).] Dismal, lugubrious. Hence **Malagru·gously** *adv.*

1818 LOCKHART in *Blackw. Mag.* III. 407 He writes more malagrugously than Dante. 1826 *Ibid.* XX. 327 He looketh malagrugorous and world-wearied. 1839 LOCKHART *Ballantyne-humbug* 106 A certain malagrugrous exposition of his own views..drawn up by James Ballantyne in..1826.

Malaguetta (mælăge·tă). Forms: 6 mangnetta, manegete, 7 mellegette, 7–8 malegutta, 8 malaget, malaghetta, malagato, malegetta, 8–9 malaguette, 9 maniguette, malaguet(a, meleguet(t)a, 7– malaguetta. [Of obscure origin.

App. identical with the med.L. *melegeta*, the name of a spice mentioned *c* 1214 in connexion with cloves and cardamoms, and said *a* 1331 to be among the productions of Java (see Du Cange). Both the authors cited are Italian, and in 1486 Simon a Cordo (*Clavis Sanationis*) explains the word as a dimiautive of It. *melica* millet, remarking that the grains resemble those of millet. This seems probable; but if the word be of European origin, it has either been adopted in a corrupt form into some West African langs., or confused with a native word, the source of the earliest Eng. form and of the F. *maniguette*. In 1599 Towrson (Hakl. *Voy.* II. ii. 27), in a list of phrases from the lang. of Guinea, gives '*manegete afoye*, graines ynough'. Miss M. Kingsley, *West Afr. Studies* (1899) ii. 57, says that in the native lang. at Cape Palmas the name is *emanequetta*, but that as the name is very local (the more usual word is *waizanzag*), a European origin is possible.]

The capsules or seeds of *Amomum Meliguetta* of West Africa, used as a spice and in medicine; also known as *Grains of Paradise* and *Guinea Grains*. (Cf. CARDAMOM.)

1568 M. HACKET tr. *Thevet's New Found World* 26 In Ginney the fruit that is most rife and common..is named Manguetta. 1670 OGILBY *Africa* 413 Graines of paradise ..which the natives call Mellegette. 1670 tr. *Villaut's Guinea* 101 They call not Pepper .. Grain, with the Hollanders, but Malaguetta, with us. 1705 BOSMAN *Guinea* xiii. (1721) 216 Malaget, otherwise called the Grains of Paradise. *Ibid.* xvi. 285 Malagueta, otherwise called Paradice-Grains, or Guinea Pepper. 1788 CLARKSON *Impol. Slave Tr.* 13 The first [pepper] that was discovered or imported, was malaguetta, or grains of Paradise.

b. *attrib.*, as *malaguetta pepper*.

1745 *Astley's Voy.* II. 520 The Malaghetta, Grain, or Pepper Coast. 1788 J. MATTHEWS *Sierra Leone* 58 The Malagato Pepper, or Grains of Paradise. 1863 R. F. BURTON *Wand. W. Afr.* II. 37 By the Dutch they were called Guinea Grains; by the trade Malaguetta Pepper. 1877 R. H. MAJOR *Discov. Pr. Henry* xi. 170 The natives .. brought..Malaguette pepper in grain and in its pods as it grew. 1899 MARY KINGSLEY *West Afr. Stud.* ii. 57 Meleguetta pepper.

Malahack (mæ·lăhæk), *v. dial. trans.* To cut or carve badly.

a 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia, Malahack v.*,..to cut or carve in an awkward and slovenly manner. 1866 LOWELL *Biglow P.* Introd., [Words New Eng. dial.] *Malahack*, to cut up hastily or awkwardly. 1893 *Broad Norf.* (ed. Cozens-Hardy) 54, I heard of a donkey purchased for little money on account of some injury; but 'it was not so malabacked as to be jammucked for all that'.

‖ **Malahane.** *Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. [Irish *mulachán* a kind of soft cheese.]

1656 S. HOLLAND *Zara* 17 Stewd Prunes, bread made of Malabane [*margin*, Bread made of Cruds. See the Irish Dictionary], And Honey fetcht from Sugar Cane.

‖ **Malaise** (mælē·z, Fr. malɛ̄z). [F. *malaise*, f. OF. *mal* adj., bad, ill + *aise* EASE *sb.*] A condition of bodily uneasiness or discomfort, esp. a condition of bodily suffering or lassitude, without the development of specific disease. (Cf. MALEASE.)

1768 LD. CHESTERF. *Let. to Bp. Chenevix* 25 June *Misc. Wks* (1777) II. 532, I feel what the French call a general *mal-aise*, and what we call in Ireland an *unwellness*. 1857 *G. Bird's Urin. Deposits* (ed. 5) 211 A young man..who ..became a patient of Dr. Garrod's for general malaise. 1870 *Holmes' Syst. Surg.* (ed. 2) IV. 218 Loss of appetite and a general sensation of *malaise*. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 740 The illness begins .. with general malaise and feverishness.

b. *fig.*

1883 *St. James's Gaz.* 27 Dec. 3/1 There will be, first, a universal *malaise*; then the loss of the faculties of government and self-defence. 1885 *Wool Trade Circular*, The Wool Market has not escaped the influence of an almost universal commercial malaise.

Malakatoon(e, variant of MELOCOTON.

Malakoff (mæ·lăkɒf). [The name of a fortification erected by the Russians at Sevastopol, and captured by the French, 8 Sept., 1855.]

†**1.** A crinoline. *Obs.* [So in Fr. : see *Le Figaro* 22 Sept. 1885, 1/3.]

1861 LADY CHATTERTON *Mem. Ld. Gambier* I. ii. 27 Englishwomen have witnessed the superior circumference of their Gallic sisters, in the palmy days of 'Malakoffs'.

2. A particular form of four-handed dominoes.

1870 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* Nov. 671 Calling the restricted game the 'Malakoff', leaving the wider game the old title of Sebastopol.

3. (See quot.)

1883 SIMMONDS *Dict. Useful Anim., Malakoff*, a small round cream cheese made in Gournay, France.

Malambo (mălæ·mbo). The aromatic bark of *Croton malambo*, a euphorbiaceous shrub of Venezuela and New Granada, used in medicine and perfumery. Also *malambo bark*.

1816 *Jrnl. Sci. & Arts* I. 59 The Malambo bark, which the French have lately introduced into their materia medica.

Malancolius, Malanc(h)oly(e, obs. ff. MELANCHOLIOUS, MELANCHOLY.

Malander, mallender (mæ·lĕndəɹ). Now only *pl.* Forms: 5 malawnder, 6 malandre, malandrie, 6–8 malender, 7 mallander, 8 mallendar, 6– malander, 7– mallender. [a. F. *malandre* a sore in a horse's knee, ad. L. *malandria* (neut. pl. and fem. sing.).] A dry scabby eruption behind the knee in horses. † a. *sing. Obs.*

c 1400 *Promp. Parv.* 323/1 Malawnder, sekeness. *morbus.* 1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 94 A malander is an yl sorance.. and appereth..in the bendynge of the knee behynde. 1530 PALSGR. 176 *Malendre*, a malandre, a sore. *Ibid.* 242/1 Malandrie, sicknesse, *malandre*. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 313 A Malander is a kinde of Scab growing.. overthwart the bent of the knee. 1614 MARKHAM *Cheap Husb.* 32 Of the Mallandar, Sellander...Crowne-scabs, and such like. 1639 T. DE GREY *Compl. Horsem.* 6 Subject to mainge, mallender, sellender..or any other the like sorances. 1759 BROWN *Compl. Farmer* 18 For a Mallendar. Take bay-salt, gunpowder [etc.]. 1835 *Penny Cycl.* III. 422, 1 Spavin and mullender [*sic*] are of very rare occurrence.

attrib. 1688 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2408/4 The hair clipped close on the Mallender place of the near Leg.

b. *pl.*

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 335 *marg.*, Lichenes: some take them for the Malanders. 1607 MARKHAM *Caval.* I. (1617) 20 The best keepers cannot preserve them from scratches, paines and mallanders. 1762 *Crazy Tales* 74 Withouten splint, or malanders, or grease. 1884 *Sat. Rev.* 5 July 27/2 It is a breach of a warranty of soundness if the warranted horse suffers from..mallenders.

Hence **Ma·landered** *ppl. a.*, affected with malanders.

1696 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3248/4 A strong..Rigil Horse,..malender'd on the near leg.

†**Malandryn.** *Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. [a. F. *malandrin* = It. *malandrino.*] A highwayman, a robber.

1460 CAPGRAVE *Chron.* (Rolls) 309 Jon was broute to the Councelle in the same aray thei toke him, in schort clothis, lich a Malandryn.

Malapert (mæ·lăpɔ̄ɹt), *a.* and *sb. Obs.* exc. *arch.* Forms: 5 maleapert, maleperte, 5–7 malapart, 6 malaperte, malepeirt, maloperte, mallaparte, 6–7 malepart, malipert, malipart, mallapert, 6–8 malepert, 7 maleparte, mallepart, mallipart, mally part, malapart, 5– malapert. [a. OF. *malapert*, used by E. Deschamps as the contrary of *appert* = *espert* clever, able (:—L. *expertus* EXPERT *a.*). Here *mal* has (as in *maladroit, malcontent*) the effect of reversing a favourable signification; but the Eng. sense of the compound points to its having been apprehended as if f. *mal* (in the sense 'improperly') + *apert* bold, outspoken, insolent (see APERT *a.* 5).]

A. *adj.* Of persons, their qualities, actions, etc.: Presumptuous, impudent, 'saucy'.

c 1420 LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 503 They swere gret othes for the noonys Her lawe to dyspyce, that was so malapert. *c* 1430 — *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 166 Maleapert of chiere and of visage. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 148 Þe secunde is veyn woordys, male-apert, in iangeling. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* IX. i. 7 Hir madyne Iris from hevin sendis sche To the bald Turnus, malapert and stout. 1529 MORE *Dyalege* III. Wks. 227/1 His malepert boldnes might peraduenture be punished. 1567 DRANT *Horace, Ep.* I. xviii. F vj, Be perte, and cleare in conatinaunce, not malipert, and light. 1601 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* IV. i. 47, I must haue an Ounce or two of this malapert blood from you. 1609 BIBLE (Douay) *Prov.* vii. 15 Taking the yong-man she kisseth him, and with malepert countenance speaketh fayre. 1633 T. STAFFORD *Pac. Hib.* I. iii. (1810) 253, I haue iuterly rooted those malepart bowes out of the orchard of my country. 1640 BROME *Sparagus Garden* II. iii. Wks. 1873 III. 141 Witb dry jests to maule the mallipart's lesser ones..out o' the pit of wit. *Ibid.* II. v. 148 Yes Malipert Jack, I have heard that he has seene her. 1671 H. FOULIS *Hist. Rom. Treas.* VI. iii. 382 In the mean time the Presbyterian Kirk grow very mallypart. 1738 tr. *Guazzo's Art Conversation* 151 b, They ought not to suffer the Honour and Degree of Gentry to be disgraced by the Presumption of malapert Clowns. 1763 *Brit. Mag.* IV. 296 The officer who uttered the first malapert sentence, was put under arrest. 1825 SCOTT *Betrothed* viii, You are too malapert for a young maiden. 1884 W. C. SMITH *Kildrostan* 40 If I was malapert, 'Twere fitter to rebuke than second me.

quasi-*adv.* 1609 B. JONSON *Sil. Wom.* IV. iv, It angred me to the soule, to heare 'hem beginne to talke so malepert.

B. *sb.* A presumptuous or 'saucy' person.

1622 R. HAWKINS *Voy. S. Sea* (1847) 165 Such malaperts deserve..to have their spoyle taken from them. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 143 ₱ 1 The Malapert knew well enough I laughed at her. 1765 G. COLMAN *Comedies of Terence* 292 Away, you malapert! Your frowardness Had well nigh ruined me.

Ma·lapertly, *adv. Obs.* exc. *arch.* [f. as prec. + -LY^{2}.] In a malapert manner.

1447 BOKENHAM *Seyntys* (Roxb.) 252 How darst thou..so malapertly Hym nemelyn ageyn in my presence. *c* 1460 *Play Sacram.* 637 Syr thu art ontawght .. to pere in my presence thus malepertly. 1563–87 FOXE *A. & M.* (1596) 38/1 He, not reuerentlie, but more malipertlie than was requisite..rushed into the judgment place. 1643 BURROUGHES *Exp. Hosea* i. (1652) 152 They should..not speak mallapertly, but with all reverence and submission. 1725 KIRPATRICK *Relig. Ord. Norwich* (1845) 191 They talked malapertly to several prelates.

Ma·lapertness. *Obs.* exc. *arch.* [f. MALAPERT *a.* + -NESS.] The quality of being malapert.

1430–40 LYDG. *Bochas* IV. xv. (1494) p vi b, Moost cruelte and vengeaunce in lowe blode with malapertnesse and indiscrecion. 1563 N. WINZET *Wks.* (1890) II. 24 The malepeirtnes of prophane noueltie. 1579–80 NORTH *Plutarch, Alex. Gt.* (1595) 745 Clitus..would not giue ouer his impudencie and malapertenesse. 1657 THORNLEY tr. *Longus' Daphnis & Chloe* 17 Daphnis was vext to see the horn broke, and that kind of malepertnesse of the Goat. 1682 BUNYAN *Holy War* 92 Yet he had for his malapertness, one of his legs broken. 1752 CARTE *Hist. Eng.* III. 422 Such was their malapertness that great disorders would have ensued.

Malapplication: see MAL- *prefix.*

Malappropriate (mælăprōu·prĭ,ēt), *a.* [f. MAL- + APPROPRIATE *a.*] Ill-suited, inappropriate.

1851 DE QUINCEY *Ld. Carlisle on Pope* Wks. 1859 XIII. 13 If a prize had been offered for a bad and malappropriate subject, none worse could have been suggested. 1883 *St. James's Gaz.* 28 Apr. 4 Much eloquent (if rather malappropriate) language about religious liberty.

Malappropriate (mælăprōu·prĭ,ēit), *v.* [f. MAL- + APPROPRIATE *v.*] *trans.* To misapply.

1847 E. BRONTE *Wuthering Heights* xxxii. (1850) 268 She thrust the hearth-brush into the grates in mistake for the poker, and mal-appropriated several other articles of her craft.

Malappropriation (mælăprōu·prĭ,ēi·ʃən). [f. MAL- + APPROPRIATION.] The action of malappropriating; misapplication.

1848 LYTTON *Harold* XI. vi. 283 A charge of mal-appropriation, whether of pay or of booty, was brought against him. 1855 MILMAN *Lat. Chr.* IX. vii. IV. 132 The mal-appropriation of a large sum deposited in another quarter.

‖ **Mala praxis** (mē·lă præ·ksis). *Law.* [mod. L. *mala*, fem. of *malus* bad, wrong + *prāxis*: see PRAXIS. Cf. MALPRAXIS.] = MALPRACTICE 1 a.

a 1733 RAYMOND *Cases King's Bench* (1775) I. 214 The court resolved, that *mala praxis* is a great misdemeanor and offence at common law..because it breaks the trust which the party has placed in the physician, tending directly to his destruction. 1768 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* III. 122. 1865 A. S. TAYLOR *Pract. Med. Jurispr.* (1873) I. 15 A charge of malapraxis is sometimes raised against a medical man in consequence of the death of a patient.

Malaprop (mæ·lăprɒp), *sb.* and *a.* [from the name of Mrs. *Malaprop* (suggested by MALAPROPOS), a character in Sheridan's play of *The Rivals* (1775), remarkable for her misuse of words.] **a.** *sb.* = MALAPROPISM. **b.** *adj.* = MALAPROPIAN.

1823 *Edin. Rev.* XXXIX. 171 An agreeable intermixture of malaprops. 1840 DE QUINCEY *Style* I. Wks. 1890 X. 152 But observe..the total absence of all malaprop picturesqueness that might have defeated its deadly action upon the nervous system. 1878 BAIN *Educ. as Science* IX. 329 A malaprop use of words. 1887 *Athenæum* 5 Feb. 189/1 The expression 'on suffrage', a delightful malaprop for 'on sufferance'.

Malapropian (mæ·lăprɒ·pĭăn, -prōu·pĭăn), *a.* [f. prec. + -IAN.] Of the nature of a malapropism; given to malapropisms.

1860 GEO. ELIOT in Cross *Life* (1885) II. 263 Mr. Lewes is sending what a Malapropian friend once called a 'missile' to Sara. 1898 *Spectator* 16 Apr. 539/2 There is a latent shrewdness in his malapropian talk which is quite delightful.

Malapropism (mæ·lăprɒpiz'm). [f. MALAPROP + -ISM.] Ludicrous misuse of words; an instance of this.

1849 C. BRONTE *Shirley* II. vi. 115 A malapropism which rumour had not failed to repeat. 1887 *Spectator* 9 Apr. 492/1 That mental haziness which has its outcome in malapropism. 1890 *Harper's Mag.* Apr. 664/1 Lemaître has reproached Shakespeare for his love of Malapropisms.

Malapropoism (mælæprɒ·pō·iz'm). *nonce-wd.* [f. next + -ISM.] Ludicrous misapplication of language; an instance of this; = MALAPROPISM.

1834 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Helen* XXV, Sadly annoyed he is sometimes by her mal-apropoisms. 1893 A. DOBSON in *Longm. Mag.* Aug. 371 Not even the Malapropoisms of Sheridan or Dickens is quite as riotously diverting.

‖ **Malapropos** (malapropo, mælæprɒpōu·), *adv., a.* and *sb.* Variously written **mal à propos, mal a propos, mal-a-propos,** † **malapropo, mal apropos, malapropos.** [F. *mal à propos*, f. *mal* ill + *à* to + *propos* purpose: see MAL- and APROPOS.]

A. *adv.* In an inopportune or awkward manner; unseasonably, inappropriately.

1668 DRYDEN *Ess. Dram.* 28 They do it not so unseasonably, or *mal a propos* as we. 1673 — *Marr. à la Mode* V. i, How durst you interrupt me so *mal a propos*. 1679 MRS. BEHN *Feign'd Curtizan* IV. i, Thou dost come out with things so malapropo. 1750–1 MRS. DELANY *Let. to Mrs. Dewes* 5 Jan., Family affairs .. sometimes will break in malapropos. 1823 BYRON *Juan* VI. lxxxiv, One who had no sin to show Save that of dreaming once 'mal-à-propos'. 1831 PRAED *Bridal of Belmont* Poems (1864) I. 175 Some people have a knack, we know, Of saying things mal-à-propos.

B. *adj.* Inopportune, inappropriate.

1711 BUDGELL *Spect.* No. 77 ₱ 5 Doing and saying an hundred Things which..were somewhat *mal a propos* and undesigned. 1735 FIELDING *Eurydice* Wks. 1771 III. 219 Considering where the scene lies, I think these sentiments are not *mal-à-propos*. 1802 MRS. J. WEST *Infidel Father* II. xi. 4 His malapropos answers indicated that one important subject engrossed his thoughts. 1894 H. NISBET *Bush Girl's Rom.* 41 Feeling very bitter..towards this intruder for coming at such a *mal-à-propos* moment.

C. *sb.* Something inopportune or inappropriate.

1868 BAIN *Ment. & Mor. Sci.* 488 Aristotle is happily unembroiled with the modern controversy. The *mal-apropos* of 'Freedom' had not been applied to voluntary action.

‖ **Malapterurus** (mælăptĕrū·rŭs). *Zool. Pl.* -uri (-ū·rəi). [mod.L. (Lacépède 1803), badly f. Gr. *μαλακός* soft + *πτερόν* wing + *οὐρά* tail.] A genus of catfishes, certain species of which (esp. *M. electricus* of the Nile) have the property of giving an electric shock when handled.

1834 tr. *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* II. 187. 1848 CARPENTER *Anim. Phys.* ix. (1872) 341. 1892 *Daily News* 11 Jan. 3/2 Malapteruri, or 'thunder fishes' as they are called by the Arabs.

Malar (mē·lăr), *a.* (and *sb.*) *Anat.* [ad. mod.L. *mālār-is*, f. L. *māla* jaw, cheek bone, cheek, prob. related to the synonym *maxilla* as *āla* (:—**ak-slā*) to *axilla*. Cf. F. *malaire*.]

A. *adj.* Of or belonging to the cheek. *Malar bone*, the cheek bone.

1782 A. MONRO *Anat.* 97 A very rough triangular surface is extended downwards and outwards, to be connected to the cheek-bone; and therefore may be called the *malar* process. 1840 G. V. ELLIS *Anat.* 99 The nerve divides into two branches, a malar and temporal. 1870 ROLLESTON *Anim. Life* 6 The whole length of the malar arch. 1892 MIVART *Elem. Ornithol.* 142 At the lower margin of the cheek is a narrow linear space known as the malar region.

B. *sb.* (or *absol.*) The cheek bone.

1866 HUXLEY *Phys. Rem. Caithn.* 120 The facial bones short and small; the malars flat. 1881 MIVART *Cat* 74 The malar is a rather small, lamellar bone which forms the most prominent part of the cheek.

Malar, variant of MAILER[1] *Sc.*

Malard(e, obs. form of MALLARD.

Malaria (mălē·riă). [a. It. *mal'aria* for *mala aria*, lit. 'bad air'.] The unwholesome condition of the atmosphere which results from the exhalations of marshy districts. Hence used as the name of a class of intermittent and remittent fevers formerly supposed to proceed from this cause, but now known to be caused by the bite of a mosquito of the genus *Anopheles*, by which the germs of the disease are conveyed.

1740 H. WALPOLE *Corr.* (1820) I. 68 A horrid thing called the mal'aria, that comes to Rome every summer and kills one. 1801 CHARLOTTE SMITH *Lett. Solit. Wand.* II. 56 He had prolonged our stay at the season of the mal-aria. 1813 J. FORSYTH *Rem. Excurs. Italy* 266 This mal'aria is an evil more active than the Romans, and continues to increase. 1843 PRESCOTT *Mexico* III. i. (1864) 131 The same burning sun..calls forth the pestilent malaria, with its train of bilious disorders. 1866 A. FLINT *Princ. Med.* (1880) 110 Periodical fever, commonly known as malaria. 1875 MERIVALE *Gen. Hist. Rome* lxxviii. (1877) 656 The malaria of the Campagna..induced the citizens..to reside permanently within their walls.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1829 SOUTHEY *Sir T. More* II. 94 Practical irreligion is thus produced even in those who escape the malaria of infidelity. 1855 THACKERAY *Newcomes* II. 19 She was a malaria to him, poisoning his atmosphere. 1862 T. C. GRATTAN *Beaten Paths* II. 350 A sort of moral malaria pervading society and carrying off many victims.

c. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *malaria season*, etc.; *malaria bearing, infected* adjs.; **malaria fever**, an intermittent or remittent fever prevalent in marshy or swampy districts, esp. in tropical countries; **malaria germ**, a protozoal organism capable of becoming parasitic and causing the disease known as malaria; so **malaria parasite**.

1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 947 The *malaria-bearing mosquito. 1818 SHELLEY *Ess. & Lett.* (1852) II. 106 A *malaria fever, caught in the Pontine Marshes. 1832 *Blackw. Mag.* Oct. 525/2 Life [in Padua] creeps away.. in having the Malaria fever in summer, and the pleurisy in winter [etc.]. 1898 P. MANSON *Trop. Dis.* v. 97 The mosquito, ..the alternative host of the *malaria germ. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 947 Mosquitoes reared from the eggs of *malaria-infected insects. 1898 P. MANSON *Trop. Dis.* i. 1 The *malaria parasite. This organism is by far the most important disease agency in tropical pathology. 1821 BYRON *Let.* 1 Oct. in Moore *Lett. & Jrnls.* (1830) II. 542, I staid out too late for this *malaria season.

Malarial (mălē·riăl), *a.* and *sb.* [f. prec. + -AL.] **A.** *adj.*

1. Infected with malaria; malarious.

1847 in WEBSTER. 1870 *Pall Mall G.* 26 Aug. 5 The malarial plains of India. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Feb. 419/1 Malarial swamps made it unsafe for him to stay there. 1900 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* No. 2041. 301 In this circulation of the contagion the presence of malarial man is indispensable.

2. Belonging to, or of the nature of, malaria.

1861 H. MACMILLAN *Footn. Nature* 222 Malarial and epidemic fevers. 1871 NAPHEYS *Prev. & Cure Dis.* I. iii. 100 The malarial poison in the atmosphere. 1875 H. C. WOOD *Therap.* (1879) 75 The wonderful power quinia has upon all forms of malarial disease.

B. *sb.* One who suffers from or is subject to attacks of malaria.

1898 P. MANSON *Trop. Dis.* iii. 86 In many malarials depressing influences..are sufficient to provoke relapse of fever.

Malarialist (mălē·riălist). *rare.* [f. prec. + -IST.] One who studies malarial diseases.

1884 *Harper's Mag.* Aug. 441/2 According as one is a sanitarian, a chemist, or a malarialist.

Malarian (mălē·riăn), *a.* [f. MALARIA + -AN.] Pertaining to or causing malaria; malarial.

1834 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) I. 573 The peculiar effect of a malarian poison. 1870 TENNYSON *Golden Supper* 151 A flat malarian world of reed and rush! 1887 RUSKIN *Præterita* II. 256 There was no malarian taint or other malignity in it [the fever].

Malariated (mălē·rieitèd), *ppl. a.* [f. MALARIA + -ATE[3] + -ED[1].] Infected with malaria.

1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 729 *note*, He has succeeded in giving malarial fever to healthy men by administering to them water in which malariated mosquitoes had died.

Malari·genous, *a. rare.* [Badly f. MALARIA + -GEN + -OUS.] That carries or spreads malaria.

1900 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* No. 2041. 301 The malarigenous mosquitos.

Mala·rioid, *a. rare*—°. [f. MALARIA + -OID.] 'Resembling malaria' (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1889).

Malario·logist, *rare.* [f. MALARIA + -(O)LOGIST.] One who studies malaria.

1900 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* No. 2041. 324 The importance of these labours of the Roman malariologists is beginning to be appreciated by the Italian Government.

Malarious (mălē·riəs), *a.* [f. MALARIA + -OUS.] Infected with malaria; of the nature of or producing malaria.

1834 *Cycl. Pract. Med.* III. 61/1 Jungle-fever is as common a name for malarious disease in southern latitudes as marsh-fever is in Europe. 1847 WEBSTER, *Malarious*, pertaining to, or infected by malaria. 1861 MISS BEAUFORT *Egypt. Sep. & Syr. Shr.* I. vii. 153 Deadly the fever of the malarious plain on which the little town stands. 1864 *Gd. Words* Feb. 123 F. E. Barnard caught a malarious fever. 1871 KINGSLEY in *Life* (1877) II. 370 To enforce..a sanitary reform in town and country .. till there is not a fever alley or a malarious ditch left in any British city. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 1085 If..the patient [is]..neither malarious, anæmic nor scorbutic. 1899 *Ibid.* VIII. 942 When a mosquito ingests the blood of a malarious subject.

fig. 1870 LOWELL *Among my Bks.* Ser. I. 341 In judging Rousseau, it would be unfair not to take note of the malarious atmosphere in which he grew up.

Malarra·ngement. [f. MAL- + ARRANGEMENT.] Faulty arrangement.

1853 F. W. NEWMAN *Odes of Horace* Pref. 7 Nothing but the fact that Horace is chiefly read..for the mere language ..can make the existing malarrangement endurable. 1865 *Athenæum* 16 Sept. 365/1 Here is another specimen of malarrangement [of facts].

† **Malasade.** *Cookery. Obs.* Also 5 malesade, mes(e)lade. [f. OF. *malaxé*, f. *malaxer* 'to blend, and beat together, as eggs' (Cotgr.: see MALAXATE *v.*) + -ADE.] An old dish composed chiefly of fried eggs softened with butter.

c 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 42–3 Meselade. Take Eyroun [etc.]..An to euery good mesiade take a þowsand [*read* dd = 12] Eyroun or mo. *c* 1450 *Ibid.* 83–4 Malasade... And to euery malesade, take [etc.]. [Cf. quot. 1753 s. v. MALAX *v.* 2.]

Ma·lassimila·tion. [f. MAL- + ASSIMILATION.] Imperfect assimilation; *esp.* in *Path.* imperfect absorption of nutriment into the system.

1865 *Reader* 29 July 125/2 Viewed in the light of the science of nature or a true physiology, it [the doctrine of substitution] is at best only mal-assimilation. 1875 B. MEADOWS *Clin. Observ.* 43 'Eczema', .. associated with dyspepsia, mal-assimilation, and hepatic disorder. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 484 A malassimilation of oxygen by the nervous system.

Malasso(e)s, -assus, obs. forms of MOLASSES.

Malate (mē·lēt). *Chem.* Also 8–9 -at. [f. MAL-IC *a.* + -ATE[4].] A salt of malic acid.

1794 G. ADAMS *Nat. & Exp. Philos.* I. App. 547 Malats—but little known. 1801 *Med. Jrnl.* V. 198 Cit. Vaquelin has discovered in the common house leek .. a great quantity of malat of lime (*malate de chaux*). 1807 THOMSON *Chem.* (ed. 3) II. 309 Malic acid..forms salts known by the name of *malates*. 1876 HARLEY *Mat. Med.* (ed. 6) 214 Malate of Iron is..prescribed in the old Prussian Pharmacopœia.

Malato, obs. form of MULATTO.

† **Malax**, *v. Obs.* Also 5–7 malaxe. [ad. L. *malax-āre*: see MALAXATE. Cf. F. *malaxer*.]

1. *trans.* To rub or knead (a plaster, etc.) to softness.

c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 132 Whanne þin houdis ben anoyntid wiþ oile of rosis, malaxe it [*sc.* a plaster] longe tyme togidere. 1543 TRAHERON *Vigo's Chirurg.* III. i. vi. 93 Strayn them, and make a cerote wyth whyte waxe, and malaxe it in cowes mylke. 1597 LOWE *Chirurg.* (1634) 322 Using on the wound the emplaister Diacalciteos malaxed in wine. 1639 J. W. tr. *Guibert's Char. Physic.* II. 117 Powder all the medicaments severally, then mixe .. and beate and malaxe them into a mass. 1693 N. STAPHORST tr. *Rauwolf's Trav. East* in *Ray's Journ. Low C.* (1738) II. 21 He ..toucheth and stretcheth your joints again in such a manner, as if he did malax a plaister. 1754–64 SMELLIE *Midwif.* I. Introd. 36 A poultice of barley-meal malaxed with oil must be applied.

2. To soften. (Said of a material agent.)

1634 T. JOHNSON *Parey's Chirurg.* XXVI. xiii. (1678) 637 A mollifying Medicin .. malaxeth or softeneth hardned bodies. 1753 SMOLLETT *Ct. Fathom* (1784) 116/1 The major, who complained that his appetite had forsaken him, amused himself with some forty hard eggs, malaxed with salt butter.

Hence † **Malaxing** *ppl. a.*

1638 A. READ *Chirurg.* ii. 12 Unlesse fomentation with some moystning and malaxing liquor be used.

† **Malaxable**, *a. Obs.* [f. MALAX *v.* + -ABLE.] That may be softened.

1762 tr. *Busching's Syst. Geog.* I. 41 These are firm, compact bodies, which are not malaxable in water or oil.

‖ **Malaxage** (malaksāj). [Fr.; f. *malaxer* MALAX *v.*] 'The operation of kneading and working the unbaked clay of which pottery is to be made' (*Cent. Dict.* 1890).

Malaxate (mæ·lăksēit), *v.* [f. ppl. stem of L. *malaxāre*, ad. Gr. *μαλάσσειν*, to make soft, related to *μαλακός* soft: see -ATE.]

1. *trans.* To knead to softness; to make soft by mixing or rubbing.

1657 TOMLINSON *Renou's Disp.* 126 Materials malaxated in honey. 1755 in JOHNSON. 1853 SOYER *Pantroph.* 172 As soon as it has been malaxated .. it is put into brown freestone pots.

† **2.** To soften by means of an emollient. *Obs.*

1735 FERGUSON in *Phil. Trans.* XL. 426 The Abdomen was stuped twice a Day.., and after stuping it was always malaxated with an emollient Liniment.

Malaxation (mælăksēi·ʃən). [ad. L. *malaxātiōn-em*, n. of action f. *malaxāre* to MALAXATE. Cf. F. *malaxation*.] The action of reducing to a soft mass by kneading or rolling.

1657 TOMLINSON *Renou's Disp.* 126 Being by malaxation congulated. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Malaxation*, the working of Pills, and especially Plaisters, with other things, with the hand; a Pestle, or other Instrument. 1894 *Times* 1 Feb. 5/4 He said 'malaxation', or mixing by rolling, was practically the same as kneading.

b. *Ent.* (See quot.)

1898 PECKHAM *Solitary Wasps* 11 The stinging being completed, she [a wasp] proceeded to the process known as *malaxation*, which consists in repeatedly squeezing the neck of the caterpillar, or other victim [to be used as living food for young wasps], between the mandibles.

Malaxator (mæ·lăksēi·tə(r)). [f. MALAXATE *v.* + -OR.] 'A mixing-mill. A cylinder having a rotating shaft and stirring arms to incorporate materials' (Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1875).

1884 in *Cassell's Encycl. Dict.* 1890 in *Century Dict.*

Malaxe, variant of MALAX *Obs.*

Malay (mălē·), *sb.* and *a.* Also 6 Malayo, Melayo, 8 Malaya. [repr. the native name, Malay ملايو *malāyu*.] **A.** *sb.*

1. One of a race predominating in Malacca and the Eastern Archipelago, a Malayan; more strictly one of those who call themselves by this name and speak the Malay language.

1598 W. PHILLIPS tr. *Linschoten* xviii. 31/2 The Malayos [Du. *De Malayos*] of Malacca say, that the first originall or beginning of Malacca hath bene but of late yeares. 1727 A. HAMILTON *New Acc. E. Ind.* II. xliii. 121 The Natives of the Island are, as most other Malayas, very treacherous. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVIII. 328/1 In person the Malays are short, squat, and robust. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* II. 142 The highest is the measure of the man, And not the Kaffir, Hottentot, Malay. 1867 *Spectator* 26 Jan. 101/1 As.. murderous as a quick-tempered Malay. 1883 MISS BIRD *Golden Chersonese* Introd. 17 The Malays proper inhabit the Malay Peninsula, and almost all the coast regions of Borneo and Sumatra.

2. The language spoken by the Malays; the Malay language. (Cf. MALAYS.)

1598 W. PHILLIPS tr. *Linschoten* xviii. 31/2 And this speech called Melayo [Du. *Malayo*] is reported to be the most courteous and seemelie speech of all the Orient. 1883 MISS BIRD *Golden Chersonese* Introd. 19 Malay is the *lingua franca* of the Straits Settlements. 1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XV. 325/1 Malay is essentially..a dissyllabic language.

3. Short for *Malay fowl*.

1830 'B. MOUBRAY' *Dom. Poultry* (ed. 6) 17 The Chittagong or Malay, another Indian variety. 1867 TEGETMEIER *Poultry Bk.* 76 The plumage in Malays is short and close.

B. *adj.* Of, pertaining to, or characteristic of, the Malays or their country.

1779 FORREST *Voy. N. Guinea* 8 They knew not a word of the Malay tongue. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVIII. 328/1 Words ..derived from the Malay language. 1850 GURDON CUMMING *S. Africa* (1902) 34/2 Handkerchiefs..of a striped red and green colour, usually called Malay handkerchiefs. 1883 MISS BIRD *Golden Chersonese* Introd. 23 Cock-fighting..is the popular Malay sport.

b. In the names of plants, animals, etc. native in the Malay Peninsula, e.g. **Malay apple**, a myrtaceous tree, *Jambosa* (*Eugenia*) *malaccensis*, with an edible fruit; **Malay camphor**, Borneo camphor (see BORNEO); **Malay cat** (see quot. 1881); **Malay fowl**, a large variety of domestic fowl introduced from the Malay peninsula; **Malay porcupine**, *Atherura fasciculata*; **Malay tapir**, the Asiatic or Indian Tapir, *Tapirus malayanus*.

1820 SIR S. RAFFLES in *Trans. Linnean Soc.* (1822) XIII. 270 The Malay Tapir resembles in form the American. 1829 LOUDON *Encycl. Plants* 416 *Eugenia malaccensis*. Malay Apple-tr. 1833 W. B. DICKSON *Poultry* (1847) 9 The Malay, or Chittagong Fowl. These fowls have remarkably long legs, and large bones..The colour of the feathers is black, or very dark brown, streaked with yellow. 1837 *Penny Cycl.* IX. 163/1 It is commonly called Malay Camphor, or Camphor of Barus, from the port of Sumatra whence it is mostly shipped. 1840 PAXTON *Bot. Dict.*, Malay Apple, see *Jambosa malaccensis*. 1849 D. J. BROWNE *Amer. Poultry Yard* 37 The Kulm, or Great Malay Fowl. 1873 L. WRIGHT *Illustr. Bk. Poultry* xxi. 297 The finest breed of Malay Game cock (using the word Malay in this case to express locality, and *not* the breed now so-called). 1881 MIVART *Cat* i. 7 In Pegu, Siam, and Burmah, there is a race of cats—the Malay Cat—with tails only of half the ordinary length.

Malayan (mălē·ăn), *a.* and *sb.* [f. MALAY + -AN.] **A.** *adj.*

1. Of or pertaining to the Malays or the Malay archipelago.

1668 WILKINS *Real Char.* I. ii. 10 That which seems to be

the newest Language in the World, is the Malayan. 1668 T. Hyde *Let. to Boyle* 23 Feb. in *B.'s Wks.* (1744) V. 592/2 The printing of St. Luke and the Acts in the Malayan letter, would make about thirty sheets. 1842 Prichard *Nat. Hist. Man* 22 The Malayan or Polynesian race. 1847 Tennyson *Princess* 21 The cursed Malayan crease, and battle-clubs From the isles of palm. 1864 — *Aylmer's F.* 463 My lady's cousin..Ran a Malayan amuck against the times.

b. in the names of various animals, products, etc. of the Malay archipelago, as **Malayan (Sun) Bear**, *Helarctos* (*Ursus*) *malayanus*; **Malayan camphor, porcupine, tapir** = *Malay camphor*, etc.

1824 T. Horsfield *Zool. Researches Java, Tapirus Malayanus*. .. In the month of September, 1820, the first specimen of the Malayan Tapir was received in England from Sir Thomas Stamford Raffles. 1826 — in *Zool. Jrnl.* II. 222 In the year 1819 a specimen of the Malayan Bear, obtained at Bencoolen, was brought to England. 1855 W. S. Dallas *Zool.* II. 486 The Malayan Sun Bear.

2. Of or belonging to the variety of domestic fowl known as the Malay.

1885 Tegetmeier in *Encycl. Brit.* XIX. 645/1 *Malayan Fowls.*—The Malayan type has been long recognized as of Eastern origin.

B. *sb.* **1.** = Malay *sb.* 1.

1598 W. Phillips tr. *Linschoten* xviii. 31/2 And all the Malaiens [Du. *die Malayen*], as well men as women, are very amorous. .. And hee that dwelleth in India, and can not speake the Malayans [Du. *dese Malayen men*] speach, wil hardly with vs learne the French tongue. 1796 Morse *Amer. Geog.* II. 561 The inhabitants..go under the name of Malayans. 1902 *Blackw. Mag.* Nov. 620/2 The one Malayan who has ever displayed commanding ability.

2. = Malay *sb.* 2.

1688 T. Hyde *Let. to Boyle* 25 Oct. in *B.'s Wks.* (1744) V. 592/1 We have in Dutch and Malayan a grammar and two vocabularies. 1883 Miss Bird *Golden Chersonese* Introd. 15 There is a very strong resemblance between their dialects and pure Malayan.

Mala·yo-, used as combining form of Malay; chiefly in **Malayo-Polynesian** *a.*, the designation of the race to which the Malays and most of the Polynesians belong, and of the group of allied languages including Malay and the Polynesian dialects.

1842 Prichard *Nat. Hist. Man* 327, I shall term these people the Malayo-Polynesian..race. 1878 W. E. Cousins *Malagasy Lang.* in *Trans. Phil. Soc.* 303 The Malayo-Polynesian languages. *Ibid.* 426 ff.

Malayo, obs. form of Malay.

† Malays. *Obs.* [a. Du. *Maleisch*. Cf. F. *malais*.] The Malay language.

1779 Forrest *Voy. N. Guinea* 8 They soon learnt to speak Malays.

Malaysian (mălē·shiăn), *a.* [f. *Malaysia*, a name given by some geographers to the Malay archipelago + -an.] Of or belonging to Malaysia.

1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XV. 324/2 This astonishing expansion of the Malaysian peoples throughout the Oceanic area. 1884 *Q. Rev.* Apr. 332 The principal..actors in the life drama of the Malaysian stage.

† Mal-behaviour. *Obs. rare.* In quots. *male-*. Improper behaviour.

1721 Amherst *Terræ Fil.* No. 45 (1726) 247, I am the only person..who has forfeited his fellowship for male-behaviour. 1736 *Eng. into Frauds of Factors of S. S. Co.* 56 And as to the present Directors, the Male Behaviour of Mr. Woolley, and others, plainly declare, that [etc.].

Malbouche, variant of Malebouche *Obs.*

Malchus (mæ·lkŭs). *Antiq.* [a. F. *malchus*, in both senses a use of the name of *Malchus* (John xviii. 10) whose ear St. Peter cut off with a sword.]

1. 'A short cutting-sword' (*Cent. Dict.* 1890).

2. (See quot.)

1883 Mollett *Dict. Art & Archæol., Malchus*, an old term for a confessional having only one stool for penitents; it signified that which has only one ear, from the fact that Malchus, Caiaphas' servant, was deprived of his right ear by Peter.

Malconduct (mæl,kŏ·ndŭkt), *sb.* Also 8 male-. [f. Mal- + Conduct *sb.*] Improper conduct; *esp.* improper or dishonest administration of an office, business, etc.

1741 Johnson *Parl. Deb.* in *Gentl. Mag.* XI. 414 The Male-conduct of the Right Hon. Gentleman. 1757 *Monitor* No. 92 II. 395 To distinguish between men disgraced for mal-conduct; and ministers displaced who [etc.]. 1778 Gouv. Morris in Sparks *Life & Writ.* (1832) I. 201 He must be convicted of malconduct, before he can be removed. 1798 Nelson 13 Nov. in Nicolas *Disp.* (1845) III. 171 Instances of the greatest mal-conduct of persons in office. 1799 *Ibid.* 4 Feb. 255 The malconduct of the Maltese has caused the enterprise to fail. 1804 M. Cutler in *Life*, etc. (1888) II. 157 Some evidence, of mal-conduct or specific charges, was called for.

Hence **† Malconduct** *v. intr. rare*, to be guilty of malconduct.

1801 E. Gerry in *N. Eng. Hist. & Gen. Register* (1896) L. 27 Its own government .. having removed from office, such as it conceived had malconducted.

Ma·lco·nforma·tion. [See Mal-.] Bad or faulty conformation.

1776 T. Percival *Ess.* III. 282 The disease is neither owing to inflammation, nor to any mal-conformation of the parts. 1851 Sir F. Palgrave *Norm. & Eng.* I. 136 The inherent malconformation of the Carlovingian Empire. 1858 De Quincey *Language* Wks. IX. 91 A sentence..is capable of multiform beauty, and liable to a whole nosology of mal-conformations. 1871 Darwin *Desc. Man* I. i. 9 Is man subject to similar malconformations?

Ma·lconstru·ction. [See Mal-.] Faulty construction.

1809 in *Spirit Pub. Jrnls.* XIII. 65 'A roarer'; that is, a horse, which, owing to a mal-construction of the organs, makes a roaring noise. 1858 Greener *Gunnery* 105 The only failures Mr. Krupp has made..have arisen from mal-construction. 1897 *Trans. Amer. Pediatric Soc.* IX. 110 There is a very material malconstruction of the diaphragm.

Malcontent (mæ·lkŏntent), *a.* and *sb.* Also 6–9 malecontent. [a. OF. *malcontent*: see Mal- and Content *a.*]

A. *adj.* Discontented, dissatisfied. Now chiefly in political use: Actively discontented; indisposed to acquiesce in the existing administration of affairs (e.g. of the state, of a party, etc.); inclined to rebellion or mutiny; restless and disaffected.

1586 B. Young *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* IV. 201 b, If the Ape is malecontent for want of a taile. 1593 Shaks. 3 *Hen. VI*, IV. i. 10 How like you our Choyce, That you stand pensiue, as halfe malecontent? 1601 F. Godwin *Bps. of Eng.* 116 He quickly began to grow malcontent, and..entred at last into a conspiracie. 1673 Temple *Observ. United Prov.* Wks. 1731 I. 19 At this time began to be form'd the Male-content Party in the Low-Countries. 1679 J. Goodman *Penit. Pard.* I. iv. (1713) 86 He presently grows male-content with his condition. 1769 *Ann. Reg.* 4/2 This malcontent temper of the Grecian Christians. 1816 Scott *Old Mort.* vii, Lady Margaret Bellenden had returned, in romantic phrase, male-content, and full of heaviness. 1827 Hallam *Const. Hist.* (1876) III. xv. 146 The malecontent whigs were now [1701] so consolidated with the tories as in general to bear their name. 1892 Stevenson *Across the Plains* 234 He has ever since been malcontent with literature.

B. *sb.*

1. A malcontent person (see A).

1581 L. Aldersey in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1589) 177 Besides the perill of the Malcontents, who were vpon both sides of the riuer [Rhine]. 1581 Pettie *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* III. (1586) 152, I thinke they haue iust cause to be mal contents, who knowing themselues to be sufficient men..are..vsed by their father like children. 1587 Holinshed *Chron.* III. 10/2 The onelie place wherein all the mal-contents [*ed.* 1577 Rebels] of his realme had their refuge. 1668 R. Steele *Husbandman's Calling* v. (1672) 67 No, sayes the male-content, if things had sorted to my mind, it had been far better than it is. 1687 Dryden *Hind & P.* III. 662 Your sons are male-contents, but yet are true, As far as non-resistance makes 'em so. 1759 Robertson *Hist. Scot.* III. Wks. 1813 I. 258 The malecontents had not yet openly taken up arms. 1841 Trench *Parables* (1860) 416 He expostulates with the malcontent. 1874 Green *Short Hist.* IX. § 7. 662 The leading malcontents..were already calling on him to interfere in arms.

† 2. The state of being discontented. *Obs.*

[Really a distinct word: see Content *sb.*]

1591 *Troub. Raigne K. John* (1611) 39 We must obscure this mone with melodie, Least worser wrack ensue our male-content. 1632 Lithgow *Trav.* I. 6 Let me enter into consideration of the intractable passage of my malecontents past. 1643 Milton *Divorce* II. xx. Wks. 1851 IV. 119 A necessity of sadnesse and malecontent. 1658 Sir T. Browne *Hydriot.* v. 25 Content to be nothing, or never to have been, which was beyond the *male*-content of Job, who cursed not the day of his life, but his nativity. 1663 *Flagellum or O. Cromwell* (1672) 29 Rash and blind Furies, that made way to the unobserved advancement of this private Male-content.

† Malconte·nted, (*pa. pple.* and) *a. Obs.* Also male-. [Partly f. prec. adj. + -ed [1]; partly f. Mal- + Contented *a.*]

1. As *pa. pple.* Made malcontent. *rare*—[1].

1584 *Leycesters Commw.* (1641) 150 Noble men of the Realm, who live abroad..much iniured and malcontented by his insolencie.

2. = Malcontent *a.*

c 1586 C'tess Pembroke *Ps.* lxxiii. vi, For what purpose was it..For me to fume with malecontented heart? 1593–4 Sylvester *Profit Imprisonm.* 541 Murmuring 'gainst the Lord, with male-contented voyce. 1600 Heywood *1st Pt. Edw. IV* (1613) A 4, To him the malcontented commons flocke, From euery part of Sussex. 1614 Jackson *Creed* III. xxxii. § 3 If men male-contented with this present, may haue sweete promises of euerlasting happinesse in the life to come. 1622 Bacon *Hen. VII* 39 For the better securing of his estate, against mutinous and malcontented Subiects. 1696 Luttrell *Brief Rel.* (1857) IV. 119 The restlesse attempts of the malecontented party. *a* 1716 South *Serm. Sev. Occas.* (1744) VII. 289 To satisfy or silence this malecontented Enquiry.

Hence **† Malconte·ntedly** *adv.*

1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 231 The Portugals.. live male-contentedly under his obedience and government. 1755 Johnson, *Malecontentedly.*

† Malconte·ntedness. *Obs.* Also male-. [See -ness.] The state of being malcontented.

1601 Deacon & Walker *Spirits & Divels* 349 In an onelie malcontentednes, rather against the persons of some in authoritie then in any true mindednes towards reformation. *a* 1639 Wotton in *Reliq.* (1685) 659 The Pope appear'd not publickly,..for a kind of malecontentedness with his own action. 1712 Addison *Spect.* No. 445 ⁋ 5, I fear they would ascribe the laying down my Paper, on such an Occasion, to a Spirit of Malcontentedness.

Personified. 1626 Bernard *Isle of Man* (1627) 67 Where sullen Male-contentednesse sits.

Ma·lcontentism. *rare*—[1]. [-ism.] = prec.

1813 *Examiner* 3 May 288/1 A sign of malcontentism.

Ma·lcontently, *a. rare*—[0]. [f. Malcontent *a.* + -ly [2].] In a malcontent manner.

In some recent Dicts.

† Malcontentment. *Obs.* Also male-. [a. OF. *malcontentement*; cf. Mal- and Contentment.] The condition of being malcontent.

1587 Holinshed *Scot. Chron.* 446/2 They had..by vniuersall male-contentment of the people..procured a great distraction of the kings leeges hearts. 1588 Kyd *Housch. Phil.* Wks. (1901) 252 Vppon the malcontentment of the minde follows the..weakenes of the bodie. 1606 Bp. W. Barlow *Serm.* 21 Sept. E, Their ground was Malecontentment,..because they could not be made Bishops. 1637–50 in Row *Hist. Kirk* (1842) 288 So he put in fifty merks with shame and great malcontentment.

Mal-co·nvenance. *rare.* [quasi-Fr., f. phr. *mal convenir* to be unsuitable.] Defective adaptation.

1835 Chalmers *Nat. Theol.* (1849) I. II. iii. 266 Any mal-convenance which is incompatible with life cannot..be presented to observation.

‖ Mal-crasis (mæl,krē·sis). *Path. rare.* [f. Mal- + Crasis.] A faulty combination of constituents.

1854 Jones & Siev. *Pathol. Anat.* 115 Inflammations which arise in consequence of a mal-crasis of the blood.

† Maldathait. *Obs.* Also 4 maldat. [a. OF. *maldehait*: see Mal- and Dahet.] 'May he have misfortune'; = Dahet.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 16290 (Cott.) For þi mis-sau þat all has herd maldathait [*Gött.* maldat] qua þe spare.

‖ Mal de flanc. *Obs.* [Fr.] Disease of the side.

c 1290 *Becket* 901 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 132 Þe bischop thomas lay, In þe syknesse of maldeflanke.

‖ Mal de mer. [Fr.] Sea-sickness.

1778 J. Adams *Diary* 19 Feb., Wks. 1851 III. 98 The *mal de mer* seems to be merely the effect of agitation. 1899 Godley *Lyra frivola* 6 He notes his qualms with care, And bids the public know 'em In 'Thoughts on Mal de Mer' Or 'Nausea: a Poem'.

† Maldisant. *Obs.* Also 6 maledizant. [a. F. *maldisant*, f. *mal* ill + *disant*, pr. pple. of *dire* to say.] An evil-speaker, slanderer.

1598 Florio *Ital. Dict.* a 6 He is to blame..that will be wittie in another mans booke. How then will scoffing readers scape this marke of a maledizant? 1617 Minsheu *Ductor* s. v., A Maldisant or euill speaker. 1661 Blount *Glossogr.* (ed. 2), *Maldisant*, an evil speaker, a backbiter.

Maldonite (mō·ldŏnəit). *Min.* [Named in 1876 by Ulrich, from *Maldon*, Victoria, its locality: see -ite.] A variety of gold, containing bismuth.

1870 *Amer. Jrnl. Sci.* Ser. II. L. 272 Maldonite, or Bismuthic Gold.

Malduck (mældŭk). [? f. *mall* = Maw *sb.*[2] + Duck *sb.* But cf. Mallemuck.] A name, in the Shetland Isles, for the Fulmar.

1802 G. Montagu *Ornith. Dict.* (1833) 315 *Malduck.* 1806 P. Neill *Tour Orkney & Shetl.* 198 Malmock, Mallemock, or Mallduck, Fulmar, Procellaria glacialis.—Appears in the friths of Orkney, and voes of Shetland.

Maldy. *Sc.* ? *Obs.* 'A coarse woollen cloth of grey or mixed colour' (Jam. *Suppl.*). Also *attrib.*

1588–9 *Extracts Rec. Glasgow* (1876) 128 In the first, ane cloik of maldy, price thrie pundis: .. ane pair of maldy schankis [etc.].

† Male, *sb.*[1] *Obs.* Also Mele. [ad. L. *māl-us* apple-tree, *māl-um* apple.] An apple; an apple-tree. Also *Comb.* as *male-apple, -apple-tree.*

a 1400 *Song Solomon* [ii. 3] in *Rel. Ant.* I. 40 As the male is plentiuouse of apples .. so is my derlyng among sones. *c* 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.*, Tabula, Male appeltreen. Male applis. *Ibid.* XI. 259 This mone also the male [orig. *mali*] is sett to sprynge; This male is sette in londis hoot & drie.

Male (mēil), *a.* and *sb.*[2] Forms: 5, 7 masle, 4 madle, mawl, maal, maule; *Sc.* 5–6 maill, 6 mail, 7 maile; 4– male. (See also Mascle *a.*) [a. OF. *male, masle* (mod.F. *mâle*), earlier *mascle*:—L. *masculus* (f. *mās* male person, male), whence Masculine *a.* Cf. Pr. *mascle*, Sp., Pg. *macho*, It. *maschio.*

The spelling *masle* was the prevailing one in Law French, and in legal use appears in Eng. down to the 17th c. Sir T. Browne is the only non-legal writer of the 17th c. who uses it: doubtless as suggesting the original Latin etymon.]

A. *adj.*

I. Of or belonging to the sex which begets offspring, or performs the fecundating function of generation.

1. a. of persons. In *Law*: *Heir, issue, line, tail male.* (In early, *esp.* legal use, often pl. *ma·les.*)

1375 Barbour *Bruce* XX. 130 Gif it fell that his sone Davy Deit but air male of his body Gottyn. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. XVI. 236, I circumcised..my meyne and alle þat male were. 1382 [see Female *a* 1]. *c* 1450 *Merlin* 88 She is now leide down in his bedde of a childe male. 1450 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 188/1 To hym and to his heires masles of his body lawfully begoten. 1463 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 25 And for defawte of yssew male of the seid Robert than I wil John Baret..haue it, to hym and to his eyres male. ? *a* 1500 *Sir Beues* 3392 (Pynson) Vonge male chyldren two. *c* 1500 *Melusine* 18 He begate on her many children males. 1563 Winjet *Four Scoir Thre Quest.* Wks. 1888 I. 82 The maill barne nocht circumcidit the auchtin day. 1595 Shaks. *John* III. iv. 76 Caine, the first male-childe. 1613 — *Hen. VIII*, II. iv. 189 My Ladies wombe..conceiu'd a male-child by me. 1614 Selden *Titles Hon.* 196 Reseruing..the reuersion to themselues in default of heires masles. 1647–8 Cotterell *Davila's Hist. Fr.* (1678) 6 In the male-line of their Predecessors. 1752 Hume *Pol. Disc.* X. 166 All masters discourage the marrying of their male servants. 1818 Cruise *Digest* (ed. 2) VI. 315 An estate in tail male was vested in Edmund Hicks, as heir male of the body of Launcelot Hicks. 1847 Tennyson *Princess* Prol. 151, I would make it death For any male thing but to peep at us.

b. of animals.

c 1400 *Master of Game* xxxiv. (MS. Digby 182), She [the hare] oþer while is male..and oþere while is female. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 323/1 Male, best or fowle, no femel, *masculus*. *a* 1500 [see Female *a.* 1 b]. 1530 Palsgr. 242/1 Male gote,

bove. 1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* v. iv. 30 There is no more mercy in him, then there is milke in a male-Tyger. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) VII. 258/1 This operation [castration] may be performed both on male and female fish. 1855 W. S. DALLAS *Syst. Nat. Hist.* I. 348 In the autumn, male and female insects are found, furnished with perfect generative organs. 1902 *Oxford Times* 22 Feb. 2/1 For sale..3 hens and 1 male bird.

absol. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 45 Sche sih the bestes in her kinde,..The madle go with the femele.

c. In *male* † *kind* (also *attrib.*), *sex* (see SEX).

1382 WYCLIF *Luke* ii. 23 For ech male kynde openynge the wombe to go out, schal be clepid hooly to the Lord. 1530 PALSGR. 318/1 Male of the male kynde, *masle*. 1598 GUILPIN *Skial.* Sat. iv. (Grosart) 51 A male-kind sparrow once mistooke his nest And fled for harbour to faire Liuias breast. 1611 COTGR., *Masculeyté*, Manhood, or the male kind. 1681 R. KNOX *Hist. Ceylon* 41 The Malekind may come and see him, but no Women are admitted. *a* 1682 SIR T. BROWNE *Tracts* 119 A smaller bird Tercellene or Tassel of the masle sex. 1727 BAILEY vol. II, *Male-kind.*

d. Said of the reproductive organs of this sex.

1607 TOPSELL *Fourf. Beasts* (1658) 254 They took from them [stoned horses] their male parts. 1836–9 TODD *Cycl. Anat.* II. 140/1 The male-duct..terminates at the anterior extremity of the body. 1888 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* 472 *Neomenia carinata* [a mollusc] has been said to possess lateral male ducts.

e. Used jocularly to qualify female designations, e.g. male aunt = uncle; male bawd = pander, etc.; also to qualify female conditions, as male widowhood, the condition of being a widower.

1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV*, IV. iii. 100 They fall into a kinde of Male Greene-sicknesse. 1607 TOURNEUR *Rev. Trag.* I. ii, When base male-Bawdes kept Centinell at staire-head. 1681 OTWAY *Soldier's Fort.* II. i, Your Go-between, your Male-Baud there. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 288 ₱ 1 Which has given me Encouragement to describe a certain Species of Mankind under the Denomination of Male Jilts. *Ibid.* ₱ 2 They whom my correspondent calls Male Coquets, shall hereafter be called Fribblers. *Ibid.* No. 320 ₱ 1 You have published the Term Male-Coquets. 1712 FRANCHAM *ibid.* No. 520 ₱ 1, I cannot but recommend the Subject of Male Widowhood to you. 1755 J. SHEBBEARE *Lydia* (1769) I. 59 When a new work is advertised, the male and female ladies..immediately conclude it cannot be worth the reading. 1770–93 [see COQUETTE 1c]. 1781 MME. D'ARBLAY *Diary* II. 87 He is an actual Male prude! 1821 LAMB *Elia* Ser. I. *My relations*, Male aunts, as somebody calls them, I had none—to remember.

f. *Comb.*

1587 GOLDING *De Mornay* vi. 63 God..who is also Minde, & life and Light, and Malefemale [*marg.* ἀρρενόθηλυς], begat or bred Logon the Speach. 1603 B. JONSON *Sejanus* II. ii. (1605) D 3 b, That male-spirited Dame, Their Mother. 1774 *Westm. Mag.* II. 453 You will see behind a Perfumer's counter..a Male-Female Thing of this sort.

2. With reference to the vegetable kingdom. a. Said of certain plants (of diœcious genera) the flowers of which contain only the fecundating organs. Subsequently said also of the fecundating organs of plants, and of flowers containing only organs of this kind.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. ii. (1495) 597 Yf..the rynde of a male palme be put to the leuys of the female..the fruyte..shall be the sooner rype. *a* 1400 *Stockh. Medical MS.* ii. 715 in *Anglia* XVIII. 324 In a vessell..Putte hem, & þou schalt sene Wyche is femel & wyche is male. 1600 J. PORY tr. *Leo's Africa* VI. 268 Of date-trees some are male and some are female. 1789 G. WHITE *Selborne* v. (1853) 209 This is a male tree, which in the spring sheds clouds of dust, and fills the atmosphere around with its farina. 1791 *Gentl. Mag.* 2/2 The catkins which appear in January are the male parts of a nut-tree. 1796 WITHERING *Brit. Pl.* (ed. 3) I. 188 In the Ribes alpinum, the male and female flowers are sometimes found on different plants. 1871 KINGSLEY *At Last* I, In the midst of the yard grew, side by side,..a male and female Papaw. 1875 BENNETT & DYER tr. *Sachs' Bot.* 448 The resemblance of the male flowers to the inflorescence of Equisetum is as striking [etc.]. 1880 GRAY *Struct. Bot.* VI. § 1. 165 The Stamens are the male or fertilizing organs of a flower.

b. Applied to certain plants to which sex was formerly attributed on account of some peculiarity of habit, colour, etc. **Male fern**, *Asplenium* (*Nephrodium*) *Filix-mas*; also *attrib.*

1562 TURNER *Herbal* II. 3 The vertues of the male ferne. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. cclxix. (1633) 773 The male Mullein or Higtaper hath broad leaues. 1639 T. DE GREY *Compl. Horseman* 319 Take the root of male brake or fearn. 1718 QUINCY *Compl. Disp.* 133 Paul's Betony or Male Speedwell. 1779 M. UNDERWOOD *Dis. Childr.* (ed. 4) I. 147 The male fern alone is reckoned a specific [for worms]. 1838 LINDLEY *Flora Med.* 512 Purga Macho, or Male Jalap. 1871 KINGSLEY *At Last* v, Here and there a young one [palm] springing up like a gigantic crown of male-fern. 1877 tr. *von Ziemssen's Cycl. Med.* VII. 702 Male fern-root.

II. 3. Of or pertaining to a man or men, or to male animals; peculiar to or characteristic of men; composed or consisting of men.

a 1631 DONNE *Progr. Soul* I. 12 By thy male force is all wee have begot. 1682 R. BURTON *Admir. Curios.* (1684) 67 It was after altered into a Male-Nunnery. 1684 T. BURNET *Th. Earth* I. 198 The ancients..have suppos'd that there was something of an æthereal element in the male-geniture. 1710–11 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 26 Feb., They keep as good female company as I do male. 1784 COWPER *Task* VI. 233 Profaned,..under various names, Female and male. 1804–5 WOROSW. *Prelude* III. 56 Trinity's loquacious clock..told the hours Twice over with a male and female voice. 1871 DARWIN *Desc. Man* (1888) 393 The common drake..after the breeding season is well known to lose his male plumage for a period of three months. 1900 *Daily News* 18 Sept. 4/6 A case filled with moths whose right wings belong to the male coloration. 1903 *Westm. Gaz.* 3 Feb. 9/1 It is intended to form a male voice choir.

b. Appropriate or adapted to the use of a man.

1788 J. WARE in *Mem. Med. Soc.* II. 336 Strictures on the Use of the Male Catheter. 1828 SIR A. HALLIDAY *Pres. St. Lunatics* 98, 1 Matron for Male Hospital. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 986 A large soft rubber male catheter.

III. *transf.* Applied to various material and immaterial things, denoting superiority, strength, greatness, or the like.

† **4.** In occasional applications. *Obs.*

c 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* (1650) I. 371 As in France, so in all other wine countries, the white is called the female, and the claret or red wine is called the male, because commonly it hath more sulphur, body, and beat in it. 1649 BLITHE *Eng. Improv. Impr.* ix. (1653) 48, I shall provoke unto the best Improvement, and where there can be a Male-Improvement offer not to the Common-Wealth a Female. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VIII. 150 Other Suns perhaps With their attendant Moons thou wilt descrie Communicating Male and Female Light.

† **5.** a. Said of precious stones, on account of depth, brilliance or other accident of colour; also of other stones, with reference to their hardness or other esteemed qualities. [Gr. ἄρρην, L. *masculus.*]

c 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) xiv. 158 Thei [the dyamandes] growen to gedre, male and femele. 1681 GREW *Museum* 290 The Sardius or Cornelian,..The best, by some called The Male. *Ibid.* 297 The Florid Male Eagle-Stone. 1726 LEONI *Alberti's Archit.* I. 58/2 The Stones found in Rivers, which are call'd Male ones,..grow dry immediately when..taken out of the water. 1855 BROWNING *Saul* viii, Lordly male-sapphires.

† b. Used to distinguish the harder and more compact kind of sand or gravel. *Obs.*

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 409 The hard and compact gravell called the Male gravell [L. *sabulum masculum*]. 1610 W. FOLKINGHAM *Art of Survey* IV. Concl. 87 A faire Pond..springing from the West forth of a male grauell. 1726 LEONI *Alberti's Archit.* II. 105/2 The male-sand [It. *sabbione maschio*] and the hard grit are sure to afford the best of water. 1813 VANCOUVER *Agric. Devon* 65 The male or bastard tin-stone is found..on Dartmoor.

† **6.** Male incense. [So in L. and Fr.] A superior quality of incense, known by the greater size of the 'tears' in which it is collected; frankincense. *Obs.*

1598 W. PHILLIP tr. *Linschoten's Voy.* I. lxxii. 119 Frankinsence is of two sorts, one white, that is round and like vnto drops, which is the best, and called the masle; the other blacke. 1647 HERRICK *Noble Numb., Dirge Jephthah's Dau.* xiii, May Virgins, when they come to mourn, Male-Incense burn Upon thine Altar! 1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v. *Frankincense*, *Male incense*, or *olibanum.*

7. Of rime: = MASCULINE.

1581 SIDNEY *Apol. Poetrie* (Arb.) 71 The French..hath both the Male [ryme], as *Bon*, *Son*, and the Female, as *Plaise*, *Taise*. 1841 *Penny Cycl.* XIX. 486/1 These monosyllable or last-syllable rhymes are called male rhymes. 1896 S. W. BARNUM *Vocab. Eng. Rhymes* (ed. 2) Introd. 16 Part I consists of single or male rhymes.

8. Said of the external layer of bark on a tree.

1884 [see FEMALE A. 8].

IV. 9. A distinctive epithet for that part of an instrument or contrivance which is adapted to penetrate or fill the corresponding female part.

a 1856 H. MILLER in *Footpr. Creator* (1874) 342 The male half of the hinge belongs to the head, and the female half to the jaw. 1884 BRITTEN *Watch & Clockm.* 274 Steel runners with male centres are handy when turning bouchons. 1889 *Mayne's Med. Voc., Female*..the part of a double-limbed instrument which receives the male or corresponding part.

b. (See quot.)

1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. xii. 433/1 There is no difference between the male and female Trepan, but for the pin in the middle which the female wants.

c. *Male gauge*: the outer gauge or screw of a printing press. *Male screw*: the spiral pin or rod which fits the spirally bored circular socket of the 'female' screw.

1669 BOYLE *Contn. New Exp.* II. (1682) 11 A Female Screw, to receive the Male-screw of the Stop-cock. 1683 MOXON *Mech. Exerc., Printing* xix. 170 So as the Male-Gages may fall into the Female-Gages. 1822 IMISON *Sci. & Art* I. 48 The first is called the Male or outside screw. 1827 FARADAY *Chem. Manip.* xv. 361 Their use is to connect together stop-cocks..terminated by male screws. 1856 C. CAREY in *Abr. Specif. Patents, Writ. Instr.* (1869) 210 At each of the four angles of one is fixed an upright male screw.

B. *sb.*

1. A male animal.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 337 Ay þou meng with þe malez þe mete ho-bestez. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* VI. xii. (1495) 196 In all kynde of beestes the male is more crafti. 1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* II. i. 19 The beasts, the fishes, and the winged fowles Are their males subjects. 1596 NASHE *Saffron Walden* Ep. Ded. A 2, Musing Dick, that studied a whole yeare to know which was the male and female of red herrings. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* II. 236/1 A Boccaret [Hawk] is the Male of a Boccarell. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 420 The furious Mare, Barr'd from the Male, is frantick with Despair. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) III. 314 There are some of the males who attach themselves to the female. 1802 PALEY *Nat. Theol.* xix. (ed. 2) 363 The glow-worm is a female caterpillar; the male of which is a fly. 1857 *Househ. Words* 19 Dec. 16 No less than sixteen of these little animals (all males).

fig. 1871 MORLEY *Crit. Misc.* Ser. I. *Carlyle* (1878) 175 Carlylism is the male of Byronism.

2. A male person; a boy or man. Only in expressed or implied antithesis with *female.*

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 695 Vch male mas his mach a man as hymseluen. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* I. 60 For thar mycht succed na female, Quhill foundyn mycht be ony male. 1382 WYCLIF *Rom.* i. 27 The mawlis [*gloss* or men] the kyndeli vss of womman forsakyn. *c* 1412 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 565 The ende is deþ of male & of femele. 1593 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI*, II. i. 42 You loue the Breeder better than the Male. 1609 SKENE *Reg. Maj.* 36 Sic heires being mailes, the perfite age is twentie ane zeares. 1614 SELDEN *Titles Hon.* 73 That [crown] of Pharaoh was only for masles, not for feminin capacitie. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* XII. 168 Whence of guests he makes them slaves Inhospitably, and kills their infant Males. 1809 in *Earl Malmesbury's Lett.* (1870) II. 204, I am the only male here that is not gone hunting. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* XV. III. 574 Every male in the kingdom who had attained the age of sixteen. 1868 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1876) II. x. 481 Every male who resisted was put to the sword.

b. *occas.* A male plant. (Cf. A. 2, 2 b.)

1548 TURNER *Names of Herbes* (E.D.S.) 12 [Pimpernel.] The male hath a crimsin floure, & the female hath a blewe floure. 1600 J. PORY tr. *Leo's Africa* VI. 268 The flowers of the female will not open, vnlesse the boughes and flowers of the male be ioined vnto them. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* II. vi. 94 Herbalists..naming that the masle, whose leaves are lighter.

3. A 'male' precious stone. (Cf. A. 5 a.)

1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v. *Sapphire*,..Different colours constitute different kinds thereof; the deepest blues being esteemed males, and the whitest females. 1750 tr. *Leonardus' Mirr. Stones* 152 A milder flame is assigned to the females, but a yellower and more fervent to the males.

† **Male**, *sb.*[3] *Obs.* A word of obscure origin and meaning, occurring in certain phrases. *The male wryes* or *wrings*: something is wrong, there is a state of hardship. *To wring* (a person) *on the males*: to cause trouble to. (Quot. *a* 1500 is obscure, perh. textually corrupt.)

c 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 43 The male so wryes, That no kunnyng may prevayl..Ayens a wommans wytt. ?*a* 1500 *Wisdom* 669 in *Digby Myst.* 163 Ther pouert is the male wry, though right be, he shall neuer renewe. *c* 1522 SKELTON *Why nat to Court* 75, The countrynge at Cales Wrang vs on the males. — *Colyn Cloute* 688 And so they blere your eye, That ye can not espye Howe the male dothe wrye. — *Phyllyp Sparowe* 700 Yet there was a thyng That made the male to wryng.

Male, obs. form of MAIL, MEAL, MOLE.

Male-, *prefix*: see MAL-.

Maleadministration, Maleapert, etc.: see MALA-.

† **Malease.** *Obs.* Forms: 3 malees, malisce, 3–4 maless, 3–5 males, 4 malis, male-ese, *Sc.* mail eiss, mail ess, 4–5 mal ese, 5 male eese, mayll easse, male ease, 6 *Sc.* maill eys. [a. OF. *malaise*: see MALAISE.]

1. Absence of ease; uneasiness, discomfort; inconvenience, annoyance; disquiet; distress, trouble.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 6300 Wit þair danger, sir moyses, Oft þai did him haue malees. *Ibid.* 6788 Widues ne barns faderles Do yee na wrang, ne na males. *c* 1300 *K. Alis.* 7366 Beter is, lyte to have in ese, Then muche to have in malese. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XIII. 76 What myschief and malese Cryst for man tholed. *a* 1400 *Relig. Pieces fr. Thornton MS.* 18 Euer mare when þou erte at male-eese þan he comforthes þe. 1470–85 MALORY *Arth.* VIII. xli. 338 A syr yet shalle I shewe you faueour in your male ease.

2. Disease, sickness.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 23161 Oft i was wit malisce [*other texts* malese] mette, Bot for you was me neuer bett. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XX. 73, 75 Ane male ess tuk hym so sare,..His mail eiss of ane fundyng Begouth. 1388 WYCLIF *Matt.* iv. 24 Thei brouȝten to hym alle that weren at male ese. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xxix. 34 This malice, That with sic panis prickillis me. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* XII. i. 114 Quha wald wyth cuyr of medycyne hym meys, The moir encressys and growis his maill eys.

Male aventure: see MALADVENTURE.

‖ **Malebolge** (malebɒ·l,dʒe). [It. *Malebolge*, f. *male* pl. fem. of *malo* evil + *bolge* pl. of *bolgia* lit. 'budget'. (The sing. form **malebolgia** has occasionally been used by Eng. writers.)] The name given by Dante to his eighth circle in Hell, consisting of ten rock-bound concentric circular trenches, designated 'bolge'. Used *transf.*, chiefly with allusion either to the pool of filth in the second 'bolgia' (Canto xviii), or to the boiling pitch in the fifth 'bolgia' (Canto xxi).

1861 BERESF. HOPE *Eng. Cathedr. 19th C.* vii. 250 The malebolge of stock-brick and cement in which we have been so long wandering. 1884 *Q. Rev.* Apr. 350 We..look down into a boiling malebolgia of steam and sulphur. 1894 *Scotsman* 12 July, The channels that feed this devouring malebolge are the newspapers and the telegraph offices.

Hence **Malebo·lgian, Malebo·lgic** *adjs.*, of or resembling the Malebolge.

1883 *Harper's Mag.* June 121/1, I confess having felt a..reluctance to immerse myself in this malebolgian mass of peat mud. 1883 *Pall Mall G.* 16 Oct. 1/2 This Malebolgic pool of London's misery.

† **Malebouche.** *Obs.* Also 6 **Male boush.** [a. OF. *Malebouche* (lit. 'evil mouth'), the name of an allegorical personage in *Le Roman de la Rose* (*c* 1200–30); called 'Wikkid-Tonge' in *Rom. Rose* 7357.] Evil speaking personified.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 172 Malebouche, Whos tunge neither pyl ne crouche Mai hyre, so that he pronounce A plein good word. *c* 1402 LYDG. *Compl. Bl. Knt.* 260 And Malebouche gan first the tale telle. *c* 1460 SIR R. ROS *La Belle Dame* 741 Male-bouche in courte hath gret comaundement. 1593–4 CHURCHYARD *Rebuke to Rebellion* in Nichols *Progr.* III. 239 Ne wit nor skill, can scape the scowling scorne Of bold male boush, that like ban-dog doth ball.

Malece, obs. form of MALICE.

Malecontent, etc.: see MALCONTENT, etc.

Malecoto(o)n, variant of MELOCOTON.

Maledery, variant of MALADERIE.

†Maledi·cency. *Obs. rare.* [f. next: see -ENCY.] The practice or habit of speaking evil.

1653 R. BAILLIE *Dissuas. Vind.* (1655) 57 *marg.*, One ground of my patience of M. Ts. maledicency. 1723 ATTERBURY *Answ. Consid. Spirit Luther* 69 We are now to have a Tast of the maledicency of Luther's Spirit from his Book against Henry the 8th.

Maledicent (mælĭdəi·sĕnt), *a.* and *sb.* Now *rare.* Also 7 *erron.* -dicant. [ad. L. *maledīcent-em*, pr. pple. of *maledīcĕre* to speak evil of, orig. two words, *male* ill + *dīcĕre* to speak, say.]

A. *adj.* Given to evil-speaking. Also, of utterances: Of the nature of evil-speaking, slanderous.

1599 SANDYS *Europæ Spec.* (1632) 93 Possessed with .. so furious, so maledicent, and so slovenly spirits. 1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* I. iv. § 16. 284 You can boldly insert into her Verses, Many, and those Maledicent things of your own. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. VII. x, The maledicent Bodyguard, getting..better malediction than he gave. 1846 HARE *Mission Comf.* Pref. (1850) 12 Ignorance .. when it is maledicent, is sure to find a credulous auditory.

B. *sb.* One who speaks evil of another.

1657 HAWKE *Killing is M.* Pref. 1 Tiberius..who otherwise was merciful to Male-dicants.

Maledict (mæ·lĭdikt), *a.* (*sb.*) *arch.* [ad. L. *maledictus*, pa. pple. of *maledīcĕre*: see prec.] Accursed. Also as *sb.*, an accursed person.

a 1550 *Image Hypocr.* in *Skelton's Wks.* (1843) II. 441/1 For some be Benedictes With many maledictes. 1867 LONGF. tr. *Dante's Inferno* V. 42 As the wings of starlings bear them on In the cold season in large band and full, So doth that blast the spirits maledict.

Maledict (mæ·lĭdikt), *v.* [f. L. *maledict-*, ppl. stem of *maledīcĕre*: see MALEDICENT.] *trans.* To address with maledictions, curse, execrate.

1780 in F. Moore *Songs Amer. Rev.* (1856) 333 Thy name should now be maledicted. 1898 T. HARDY *Wessex Poems* 36, I can but maledict her. 1901 *Contemp. Rev.* Mar. 425 Their gods were..to be crushed, broken, maledicted.

Maledicted (mæ·lĭdiktĕd), *ppl. a.* [f. prec. + -ED [1].] Accursed; evil-spoken of.

1727 BAILEY vol. II, *Maledicted*, cursed or banned. 1864 SALA in *Daily Tel.* 19 Oct., The scurvy maledicted money which never did any one any good. 1890 *Daily News* 13 Oct. 6/5 This much maledicted article of attire.

Maledi·ctine, *a.* and *sb.* Parody of BENEDICTINE, after *malediction*.

1641 R. BAILLIE *Parall. Liturgy w. Massbk.* Pref. 5 Till that cruell maledictine Monk..had massacred 2000..opposers. 1654 GAYTON *Pleas. Notes* I. viii. 31 And left poor Sancho ..a Monke, but of the order of the Maledictines.

Malediction (mælĭdi·kʃən). Also 5 **maledicyoun, -dyccion,** 5–6 **-diccion,** 6 **-dicyon.** [ad. L. *maledictiōnem*, n. of action f. *maledīcĕre*: see MALEDICENT *a.* Cf. MALISON.]

1. The utterance of a curse; the condition of being under a ban or curse.

1447 BOKENHAM *Seyntys* (Roxb.) 49 Tyl assoylled thou be Of this legal maledicyoun. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 179/2 He was moche angry & gaue his maledicción & curse to the temple. 1526 TINDALE *Gal.* iii. 10 For as many as are under the dedes of the lawe are vnder maledicción. 1528 MORE *Dyalogue* I. xvii. Wks. 139 And after he sheweth the malediccions that shall fall therevpon. 1599 HAKLUYT *Voy.* II. I. 93 He gaue his malediction or curse to his children and successours. 1605 SHAKS. *Lear* I. ii. 160 (1608 Qo.) Menaces and maledictions against King and nobles. 1671 MILTON *Samson* 978. 1796 H. HUNTER tr. *St.-Pierre's Stud. Nat.* (1799) III. 485 They tried to persuade her to pronounce a malediction upon Alcibiades. 1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* xix, I taunted him, ridiculed him, loaded him with maledictions. 1851 LONGF. *Gold. Leg.* I, The malediction Of my affliction Is taken from me. 1855 MILMAN *Lat. Chr.* IX. VI. (1864) V. 292 His progress instead of being a blessing to the land was deemed a malediction.

2. Reviling, slander; the condition of being reviled or slandered.

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 182 b, Thou art and euer hast ben free from all maledyccyon and opprobry. 1659 STANLEY *Hist. Philos.* XIII. (1701) 618/2 Giving no man a just cause of contumely or malediction. 1885 EDGAR *Old Ch. Life Scotl.* 273 In the year 1661 the malediction of a parent was made a capital offence in Scotland.

Maledictory (mælĭdi·ktəri), *a.* [f. L. *maledict-* (see MALEDICTION) + -ORY.] Of the nature of, or resembling a malediction.

1822 *Blackw. Mag.* II. 593 This manful and maledictory Manifesto. 1887 *Temple Bar* Apr. 478 With maledictory groans and ejaculations.

†Maledight, *a.* and *pple. Obs.* Also 3 **maledith,** 4–5 **malediht,** 5 **maladichte, malediȝt, maladicte.** [ad. L. *maledictus*, pa. pple. of *maledīcĕre*: see MALEDICENT. The form is perh. influenced by association with ME. *diht*, pa. pple. of *dihten* DIGHT *v.*] Cursed, accursed.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 891 (Cott.) þou worm, þou sal be maledight. *Ibid.* 2074 Þu art and sal be maledith [*rime-word* sith = sight]. *Ibid.* 2136 Cham þe maledight. *Ibid.* 10266 Biclepis þat man for maledight [*c* 1375 *Fairf.* maladicte; *a* 1300–1400 *Gött.* malediht] þat has na barn. *Ibid.* 13336 Na wrenches o þe maledight [*c* 1375 *Fairf.* maladicte]. *Ibid.* 22034 Maledight [*a* 1400 *Edinb.* maladichte].

Hence **†Maledight** *v.* (in pa. t. *maledight*), *trans.* to curse.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 2478 Þai war put in a fole plight þat god and man þam maledight.

Maledius, obs. pl. of MALADY.

Maledizant, variant of MALDISANT *Obs.*

Mal-educa·tion. *rare.* [See MAL-.] Imperfect or misdirected education.

1848 tr. *Richter's Levana* 8 Mere establishments for mal-education. 1867 EMERSON *Lett. & Soc. Aims, Progr. Cult.* Wks. (Bohn) III. 233 The obstructions of their mal-formation and mal-education shall be trained away.

Male ease, eese, variants of MALEASE *Obs.*

Male engin(e, engyne, var. ff. MALENGIN *Obs.*

†Male entente. *Obs.* [a. OF. *male entente*: see MAL- *prefix* and INTENT *sb.*] Evil intention.

c 1450 *Guy Warw.* (Camb.) 5370 That the dewke in hys parlement Hym forgeue hys maleentente.

Malees, male-ese, variants of MALEASE *Obs.*

†Malefact. *Obs.* [ad. L. *malefactum*, neut. pa. pple. of *malefacĕre* to do wrong, f. *male* ill + *facĕre* to do.] A malefaction, offence.

1534 *Act* 26 *Hen. VIII*, c. 6 § 1 Wilful burning of houses, & other scelerous dedes and abhominable malefactis. 1556–7 *Act* 3–4 *Phil. & Mary* in Bolton *Stat. Irel.* (1621) 256 Brought to answer to the law for that malefact. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* x. 457 Hee demanded me..what malefact I was guilty of?

Malefaction (mælĭfæ·kʃən). [ad. L. *malefactiōnem*, n. of action f. *malefacĕre*: see prec.] Evil-doing; an instance of evil-doing, a criminal act.

1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* II. ii. 621 Guilty Creatures .. Haue .. Bene strooke so to the soule, that presently They haue proclaim'd their Malefactions. 1624 HEYWOOD *Captives* III. ii. in Bullen *O. Pl.* IV. 162 And all thy malefactions crownd with lyes. 1793 J. WILLIAMS *Mem. W. Hastings* 20 That overbearing tide of prejudice, which would .. come rushing down even upon innocence when charged with malefactions. 1805 T. HOLCROFT *Bryan Perdue* I. 70 The vice of gaming was not the only malefaction of my father. 1900 *Daily Tel.* 27 Aug. 6/2 The misery caused by their malefaction.

b. *occas.* An act of wrong or injury *to* a person.

1879 H. SPENCER *Data of Ethics* xi. § 72. 194 Such disregard of self as brings on suffering, bodily or mental, is a malefaction to others.

†Malefactious, *a. Obs.*—° [f. MALEFACTION + -OUS.] Wicked, criminal.

1660 HEXHAM, *Misdadigh*, Ill-doing, Malefactious, Offensive, or Criminall.

Malefactor (mælĭfæktəɹ). Also 5 **malfacteur,** 5–7 **malefactour,** 6 **mallefactore.** Cf. MALFETOUR. [a. L. *malefactor*, agent-n. f. *malefacĕre*: see MALEFACT.]

1. One guilty of a heinous offence against the law; a felon, a criminal.

c 1440 *Gesta Rom.* I. xvi. 56 (Add. MS.) Anon thei entred the forest and sone the malefactours mette hem. 1471 CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) I. 16 He dyde iustyce on malfacteurs. 1582 BIBLE (Rheims) *Luke* xxiii. 32 And there were led also other two malefactours with him, to be executed. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* I. xvi. 17 The great place .. wher the malefactors are punished. 1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* II. v. 53. 1649 BP. REYNOLDS *Hosea* iv. 88 Leade them forth..as ..malefactours to execution. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. iii, A Malefactor, who has the Halter about his Neck. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* II. 27 For the most atrocious crimes .. the malefactor is broken upon the wheel. 1862 H. SPENCER *First Princ.* II. xix. § 153 (1875) 421 By a malefactor, we now understand a convicted criminal, which is far from being the acceptation of evil-doer.

transf. 1693 DRYDEN *Juvenal* vi. (1697) 144 If their Barking Dog disturb her ease .. Th'unmanner'd Malefactor is arraign'd. 1697 — *Virg. Georg.* II. 523 For this the Malefactor Goat was laid On Bacchus' Altar, and his Forfeit paid.

2. An evil-doer; one who does ill towards another; esp. in antithesis with *benefactor*.

1483 CAXTON *Cato* G vj, Hit is better that the malefactour juge hym selfe than that another shold juge hym. 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* II. i. 52 Benefactors? Well; What Benefactors are they? Are they not Malefactors? 1634 W. TIRWHYT tr. *Balzac's Lett.* (vol. I) 45 God .. doth sometimes punish Malefactors, without observing the formes of justice. 1655 FULLER *Hist. Camb.* V. § 19 *margin*, King Edward the fourth a malefactour to this Colledge. 1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* xi. (1792) II. 121 Goodman Warmhouse .. rode much at his ease by the chariot of his malefactor. 1860 EMERSON *Cond. Life, Considerations* Wks. (Bohn) II. 414 Mankind divides itself into two classes,—benefactors and malefactors. 1864 PUSEY *Lect. Daniel* vi. 276 That later king, who .. was called from his deeds, Kakergetes, 'malefactor'.

Malefactory (mælĭfæ·ktəri), *a. rare*—[1]. [As if ad. L. **malefactōrius*, f. *malefactor*: see prec. and -ORY.] Evil-doing.

1871 G. MEREDITH *H. Richmond* III. 122 The Grange lived on its own solid substance, defying malefactory Radical tricksters.

Malefactress (mælĭfæktrĕs). [f. MALEFACTOR + -ESS.] A female malefactor.

1647 FANSHAWE tr. *Pastor Fido* (1676) 123 She dies a Malefactress. 1797 MARK NOBLE *Mem. Ho. Medici* XV. 285 Bianca [was buried] with the ignominy and contempt of a malefactress, and a beggar. 1850 HAWTHORNE *Scarlet L.* ii. (1883) 71 We women .. should have the handling of such malefactresses as this Hester Prynne.

†Malefacture. *Obs.* [f. L. *malefact-*, *malefacĕre*: see MALEFACT and -URE.] = MALEFACTION.

1635 HEYWOOD *Hierarch.* VII. 412 The Putred Fountaine and bitumenous Well, From whence all Vice and Malefactures swell. 1652 GAULE *Magastrom.* 57 Whether it be in all their Art to elude them, as concerning the obnoxiousness of guilt, crime, offence or malefacture?

Malefeazance,-fesour: see MALFEASANCE,-OR.

†Mal-effe·ct. *Obs.* [See MAL-.] Evil effect.

1686 GOAD *Celest. Bodies* III. iii. 473 The Mal-Effects of Discord being Infinite.

Malefic (mălē·fik), *a.* and *sb.* Also 7, 9 **malefick,** 7 **malefique.** [ad. L. *malefic-us* (also *malificus*), f. *male* ill + *-ficus*: see -FIC. Cf. F. *malifique*, Sp. *malífico*, Pg., It. *malefico*.]

A. *adj.* Productive of disaster or evil; baleful in effect or purpose. Said *esp.* of stellar influences and magical arts or practices.

1652 GAULE *Magastrom.* 263 Neither could the malefick starres impell the Brachmans to malefice or malefacture. 1686 GOAD *Celest. Bodies* III. i. 388 We shall point out .. Constellations .. that are Malefique. 1796 H. HUNTER tr. *St.-Pierre's Stud. Nat.* (1799) I. 584 Whether the embryons of their fruits do not disclose .. harsh oppositions, which give warning of their malefic characters. 1809 A. HENRY *Trav.* 124 A man who charged him with having brought his brother to death by malefic arts. 1841 BORROW *Zincali* I. viii. 1. 145 Practices equally malefic as the crime imputed to them. 1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* I. 105 The slackness of certain periodic trades..[and] want of employment..have a doubly malefic effect. 1879 FARRAR *St. Paul* I. 383 It belonged to the malefic arts of which they may well have heard from Roman visitors.

B. *sb.* a. *Astrol.* A malefic aspect or body. †b. One who practices malefic arts; a malign wizard. *Obs.*

1652 GAULE *Magastrom.* 139 A conjunction of all the malefick's that are named in their [planetarians] art. *Ibid.* 174 Most arrant inchanters, sorcerers, veneficks, malefick's, wizzards, and witches in the world. 1819 J. WILSON *Dict. Astrol., Malefics*, doers of evil: Saturn and Mars. *Ibid.*, A retrograde malefic would be rendered by it [*sc.* retrogradation] more innoxious.

Hence **†Male·ficness.**

1727 BAILEY vol. II, *Malefickness*, injuriousness.

†Male·fical, *a. Obs. rare.* [Formed as prec. + -AL.] = MALEFIC *a.*

1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* 342 The threatnings of the Starres and their maleficall influence. 1647 LILLY *Chr. Astrol.* lxvii. 411 Whether there arise..any maleficall fixed Starres. 1652 GAULE *Magastrom.* 349 A certaine maleficall sorcerer..made all the locks fall off and doors fly open.

Hence **Male·fically** *adv.*, in a malefic manner.

1652 GAULE *Magastrom.* 279 Magicians..malefically impr ecating, and venefically murdering [etc.]. 1881 R. A. PROCTOR in *Cornh. Mag.* Dec. 700 Believing..that comets act malefically by their direct influence on the air.

Maleficate (mălē·fikeit), *v. rare*—[1]. [f. MALEFIC *a.* + -ATE; cf. med.L. *maleficāre*. Cf. MALEFICIATE *v.*] *trans.* To bewitch.

1827 SIR H. TAYLOR *Isaac Comnenus* II. iv. 87 What will not a man do when once he is maleficated?

Malefice (mæ·lĭfis). Also 5 **-fyce.** [ad. L. *maleficium*, f. *malefic-us* MALEFIC. Cf. F. *malefice*.]

1. A wicked enchantment; sorcery. *arch.*

c 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* I. pr. iv. 12 (Camb. MS.) They trowen þat I haue had affinite to malefice or enchauntement [L. *affines fuisse videmur maleficio*]. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 203/2 Seynt Peter..disclosed all his [Simon Magus'] malefyces. 1652 GAULE *Magastrom.* 100 Malefice and sorcery. 1700 G. HICKES *Let.* 19 June *Pepys' Diary* (1879) VI. 202 The discovery of witches, and their malefices and enchantments. 1865 *Cornh. Mag.* XI. 471 That he should die by the malefice of a sorcerer.

2. An evil deed; mischief. *Obs.* or *arch.*

1591 SPENSER *M. Hubberd* 1153 He crammed them with crumbs of Benefices, And fild their mouthes with weeds of malefices. 1611 J. DAVIES (Heref.) *Sco. Folly* (Grosart) 38/1 So to the curat tis a malefice, But to the patron still a benefice. 1689 tr. *Buchanan's De Jure Regni* 52 They use to be highly offended with robbers, and that very justly, if any of them in their malefices pretend the King's name. 1867 P. B. ST. JOHN *Snow Ship* V. 47 Of man, his tricks and malefices, there was no sign.

†3. In astrological sense: Malefic character. *Obs.*

1652 GAULE *Magastrom.* 77 Made to consist by the stars, and to thrive, or dwindle away, according to the benefice, or malefice, of their influence.

Maleficence (mălē·fisĕns). [ad. L. *maleficentia*, f. *maleficus* MALEFIC: cf. MAGNIFICENCE.]

1. Evil-doing; *rarely*, an act of evil-doing.

1598 J. KEEPER tr. *Romei's Court. Acad.* 252 Povertie bringeth foorth seditions and maleficences. *a* 1670 HACKET *Abp. Williams* II. (1692) 85 The Bishop of Lincoln..fell into trouble .. for want of a parliament to keep him from maleficence. 1830 BENTHAM *Offic. Apt. Maximized* Pref. 25 *note*, The correspondent closeness of connection between maleficence..and punishment. 1865 J. GROTE *Treat. Mor. Ideas* xi. (1876) 244 By 'maleficence' I mean the attempt to give pain, as such, to others. 1865 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* XIX. VIII. (1872) VIII. 249 Who the perpetrator of this Parisian maleficence was, remained dark.

2. Malefic character; harmfulness.

1796 H. HUNTER tr. *St.-Pierre's Stud. Nat.* (1799) II. 32 In order to express the maleficent character of a venomous plant, she combines in it clashing oppositions of the forms and colours which are the indications of that maleficence. 1830 *Westm. Rev.* XIII. 428 He takes in hand Matchless Constitution's plan. Not sufficient for him is its maleficence—he adds to it [etc.]. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 884 There is still in such [formerly malarious] districts some remnant of maleficence.

Maleficent (mălē·fisĕnt), *a.* [f. L. *maleficent-*, altered stem (cf. MAGNIFICENT) of *maleficus* MALEFIC *a.*]

1. Of things and spiritual agencies: Working harm, hurtful, malefic. Const. *to*.

1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* I. iv. § 13. 219 That before the ..Formation of the World, there was Unformed and disorderly Matter existing (from Eternity) together with a Maleficent Soul. 1786 tr. *Beckford's Vathek* (1868) 107 Our people have fled, and left us at the mercy of maleficent spirits. 1793 *Hist. in Ann. Reg.* 182 Principles maleficent to all government and order. 1835 KIRBY *Hab. & Inst.*

Anim. II. xvi. 86 Whether these animals are really as venemous and maleficent as they were said to be of old..seems very doubtful. 1846 GROTE *Greece* I. xvi. I. 565 Beneficent and maleficent demons. 1867 SALA *Fr. Waterloo to Penins.* I. 255 It dispenses maleficent gases, and is always going out at the wrong time. 1900 W. L. COURTNEY *Idea Trag.* 67 The mundane sphere in which the beneficent and maleficent forces are warring.

2. Of persons, their acts and dispositions: Wrong-doing, criminal.

1760 tr. *Vattell's Law Nat.* II. v. § 70 Let us apply to the unjust, what we have said above of a mischievous, or maleficent nation. 1811–31 BENTHAM *Ess. Lang.* Wks. 1843 VIII. 316 The sort of act thus described is a maleficent act. 1829 — *Justice & Cod. Petit.* 50 No man is maleficent without a motive.

† **Malefi·cial,** *a. Obs.* [f. L. *malefici-um* (see MALEFICE) + -AL.] Malefic, maleficent.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 231 Such sorceries and maleficiall poisons, as men haue denised..to the mischiefe of their own kind. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* III. vi. § 14 A law so maleficial unto them. 1811–31 BENTHAM *Ess. Lang.* Wks. 1843 VIII. 319/1 Formation of new words on the ground of analogy. Example..from beneficial, maleficial.

† **Maleficiate,** *ppl. a. Obs.* [a. med.L. *maleficiāt-us*, pa. pple. of *maleficiāre*: see next.] Bewitched; *spec.* rendered impotent by spells.

a 1613 OVERBURY *A Wife*, etc. (1638) 317 This cures the Maleficiate. 1626 RAWLEY in *Bacon's Sylva* To Rdr., Mens mindes, being bound; and (as it were) Maleficiate, by the Charmes of deceiuing Notions and Theories. 1649 J. H. *Motion to Parl. Adv. Learn.* 4 You being loosed from those charmes wherewith you .. were maleficiate, began to act powerfully. 1653 R. SANDERS *Physiogn.* 171 Unable for Venery, cold and maleficiate as to generation.

† **Malefi·ciate,** *v. Obs.* [f. med.L. *maleficiāt-*, ppl. stem of *maleficiāre*, f. L. *malefici-um* MALEFICE.] *trans.* To bewitch; *spec.* to render impotent by spells. Hence † **Maleficiated** *ppl. a.*, † **Maleficiating** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* I. iii. I. ii, A third..fears all old women as witches,..every person comes near him is maleficiated. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 888 *marg.*, Experiment Solitary touching Maleficiating. 1646 GAULE *Cases Consc.* 174 Not only in regard of their Maleficiating mischiefes, but also of Gods judgments. 1651 BIGGS *New Disp.* 179 To maleficiate a humor in any part of the Head. *a* 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. xxxi. 257 Drugs..which make the Taker cold, maleficiated.

† **Maleficia·tion.** *Obs.* [n. of action f. prec. vb.: see -ATION.] The action of 'maleficiating'.

1649 BP. HALL *Cases Consc.* (1650) 379 A preceding, irremediable impotency, .. whether by way of perpetuall maleficiation, or casualty. 1902 KONRATH *Shoreham's Poems* 214 [Accidental impotence] was generally ascribed to maleficiation.

† **Malefi·cious,** *a. Obs. rare.* [f. L. *malefici-um* MALEFICE + -OUS.] Of the nature of witchcraft. Hence † **Malefi·ciousness.**

1547 BOORDE *Brev. Health* § 119 Which herbe .. doth repell suche malyfycyousnes or spirites. 1684 tr. *Bonet's Merc. Compit.* IX. 326 If any thing superstitious or maleficious come from the wickedness of the Devil.

† **Male-fidian.** *nonce-wd.* [f. L. *male* amiss + *fid-ēs* faith + -IAN.] A misbeliever.

1659 H. L'ESTRANGE *Alliance Div. Off.* 447 Against malefidians, as well as against nulli-fidians, and soli-fidians heaven's gates are certainly kept close barred.

Malefique, obs. form of MALEFIC *a.*

† **Male fortune.** *Obs.* [a. F. *male fortune* (*male* fem. of *mal* adj., evil).] = MISFORTUNE.

1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* IX. xii. 356 Somtyme he was putte to the werse hy male fortune. *Ibid.* IX. xxxiv. 392 Syr launcelot by male fortune stroke sir Tristram on the syde.

† **Malegerent,** *a. Obs. rare*—°. [f. L. *male* ill + *gerent-*, pr. pple. of *gerĕre* to conduct (oneself).]

1727 BAILEY vol. II, *Malegerent*, ill-behaving, unthrifty, improvident.

Malegetta, -gutta, obs. ff. MALAGUETTA.

Malegrefe, -greve: see MAUGRE.

Ma-lé-grubbles, obs. form of MULLIGRUBS.

Maleheur(e, variant of MALHEUR *Obs.*

Maleheureux, variant of MALEUROUS *Obs.*

Maleheurte, -hurte, var. ff. MALEURTE *Obs.*

Maleic (mălī·ik), *a. Chem.* [ad. F. *maléique* (Pelouze 1834); formed by alteration of *malique* MALIC, to indicate that this acid was related to malic acid.] *Maleic acid*: a product of the dry distillation of malic acid.

1838 T. THOMSON *Chem. Org. Bodies* 55. 1873 WATTS *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 11) 725 The volatile acid produced with fumaric acid is called maleic acid.

Also **Maleï·nic** = MALEIC. (Cf. G. *maleïnsäure.*)

1889 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

Male ingine, ingyne, var. ff. MALENGIN *Obs.*

Male-institution: see MAL- *prefix.*

† **Male journey.** *Obs.* [a. OF. *male journee* 'evil day'.] An unfortunate battle.

1455 *Paston Lett.* I. 345 The Lord Cromwell wold have excused hym self of all the steryng or moevyng of the male journey of Seynt Albones. 1461 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 492/1 Your true Liegemen..which were not ayen..youre..Fader, at the Felde and male journey of Wakefeld.

Malekin, variant of MALKIN.

† **Male morte.** *Obs.* [? a. AF. **mal mort* lit. 'dead evil'.] = MORMAL.

c 1400 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) xii, Houndes .. haue þe male morte in hir nosethrylles.

Malene(h)olye, -li(e,-lia, obs. ff. MELANCHOLY.

Maleneoleous, -lious, obs. ff. MELANCHOLIOUS.

Malender, obs. form of MALANDER.

Maleness (mēl·nés). [f. MALE *a.* + -NESS.]

† **a.** 'Masculine' or vigorous character; masculinity (*obs.*). **b.** The quality of being of the male sex.

1663 SIR G. MACKENZIE *Relig. Stoic* 144 The vatican of paganism cannot, for the male-ness of its stile, match that matchless Book of Genesis. 1889 GEDDES & THOMSON *Evol. Sex* xiii. 179 The [parthenogenetic] female cell has a certain maleness about it. 1900 *Pop. Sci. Monthly* Feb. 486 The differences are the external expression of maleness and femaleness.

† **Malengin.** *Obs.* Forms: 4–7 malengin, 5 male ingyne, 5–6 male engyne, malengyne, 5, 7 malengyn, 6 male engin, mallengyn, malingen, male-ingine, malengine, 6–7 male engine. [a. OF. *malengin*, f. *mal* evil (see MAL-) + *engin* contrivance, ENGINE *sb.*] Evil machination, ill-intent; fraud, deceit, guile.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 138 So mai men knowe, how the florin Was moder ferst of malengin. 1426 in *E. E. Wills* (1882) 70 Withoute fraude or male engyne. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* XVIII. v. 733 For good loue she had vs to dyner and not for no male engyne. 1502 ARNOLDE *Chron.* 88 b/1 He was a good & an honest marchaunt without fraude or malengyne. 1529 *Act* 21 *Hen. VIII*, c. 13 By any Manner of Means, Fraud, or Male Engine. *c* 1540 tr. *Pol. Verg. Eng. Hist.* (Camden No. 36) 226 Whoe, preventinge his Male Engine, invaded his bowndes. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* III. i. 53 Priefe Of such malengine and fine forgerye. 1611 SPEED *Hist. Gt. Brit.* IX. vii. § 5. 514 The same in good faith keepe, and without mal-Engyn. 1641 MILTON *Reform.* I. Wks. 1851 III. 8 When the Protectors Brother .. through private malice and mal-engin was to lose his life. 1726 AYLIFFE *Parergon* 315 All Presumption of Fraud and Male-engine ceases through the authority of the Judge.

¶ **b.** Misused for: ? Ruin; ? evil genius.

1601 BP. W. BARLOW *Defence* 59 An opinion which is the verie male-engine of all sound diuinitie.

‖ **Mal-entendu** (malañtañdü), *a.* and *sb.* [Fr., f. *mal* ill + *entendu* understood.] † **a.** *adj.* Mistaken, misapprehended. *Obs.* **b.** *sb.* A misunderstanding.

?1616 RALEIGH *Let.* in E. Edwards *Life* (1868) II. Introd. p. lxii, I take it..for a libertie mal entendu to be removed out of this steddy Tower into a rowling shipp. 1780 H. WALPOLE *Lett.* (1858) VII. 448 By some mal-entendu it was packed up in his heavy baggage. 1824 HEBER *Narrative* (1828) II. xvi. 127, I suspect that several mal-entendus of this kind have occurred. 1893 F. ADAMS *New Egypt* 217 Things culminated in a stupid mal-entendu with the *Times* correspondent.

‖ **Maleo** (mæ·lĭ,o). [Native name, applied to various megapode birds in the Malay Archipelago. Written by Valentijn 1726 in Du. spelling *moelcoe, malleoe.*] A megapode bird, *Megacephalon maleo*, inhabiting Celebes.

1869 A. R. WALLACE *Malay Archip.* I. 413 One specimen of the large and interesting Maleo.

† **Maleolent,** *a. Obs. rare*—¹. [ad. L. *male olent-em* (*male* ill + pr. pple of *olēre* to smell).] 'That hath an ill smell' (*Phys. Dict.* 1657).

1657 TOMLINSON *Renou's Disp.* 212 Those that are not familiar, unpleasant and maleolent. 1727 in BAILEY vol. II.

Male-ominous, variant of MAL-OMINOUS.

Malerde, obs. form of MALLARD.

Malerous(e, variant of MALEUROUS *Obs.*

Males, Malescun: see MALEASE, MALISON.

Mal ese, variant of MALEASE *Obs.*

Maleson(e, -esoune, obs. forms of MALISON.

Maless, Malesse: see MALEASE *Obs.*, MALICE.

Male stream, -strom, obs. ff. MAELSTROM.

† **Malesuete,** *a. Obs. rare*—°. [ad. quasi-L. **male suēt-us* (*male* ill, *suētus* accustomed).]

1727 BAILEY vol. II, *Malesuete*, that has contracted an ill Habit or Custom.

Malesun, obs. form of MALISON.

Malet, variant of MALLET.

Maletalent, -if, var. ff. MALTALENT, -IVE.

[**Maletent,** bad reading for next in the transl. (1543) of *Act* 25 *Edw. I*, c. 7 (the AF. orig. has *male toute*); thence copied into various Law Dicts.]

† **Maletolt.** *Law. Obs.* Forms: 6 maltot, 6, 9 maltote, 7 maletot, 7, 9 maltolt, 7 maletool, 8–9 maletolt, maltolte, 9 maletote, maletoute. [a. AF. *maletoute*, OF. *maltolte, maletoute* (mod.F. *maltôte*; hence Du. *maltoot*), repr. med.L. *mala tolta* (*mala* fem., evil, *tolta* tax, f. *tolt-*, med.L. ppl. stem of L. *tollĕre*, OF. *tolir, toudre* to take); cf. It. *malatolta*, OPg. *malatosta.*] An unjust or burdensome tax.

1514 *Mem. Constables Tournay* in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* (1721) I. App. iv. 8 In Calais..no maltot is demaunded..: wheras we of the king's garrison of Tournay pay for every tun of wine 40*s.* sterling maltot. *a* 1618 RALEIGH *Prerog. Parl.* (1628) 32 The King [Richard II] had giuen him a subsedy upon wools, called a Maletot. 1627 SIR R. COTTON *View Reign Hen. III* 23 They blame him..to haue vndone the trade of Merchants by bringing in Maletools and heauy customes. 1844 LD. BROUGHAM *Brit. Const.* xiii. (1862) 180 [Richard II] had recourse to forced loans, and to..the Maletolte of his grandfather. 1884 DOWELL *Taxation* V. ii. I. 133 The King and counsel authorised an impost; but this subsequently formed the subject of complaint as a maletoute.

1901 ROSA GRAHAM *S. Gilbert of Sempringham* 126 The maltôtes..levied on the export of wool by the Crown.

Maleure, variant of MALHEUR *Obs.*

† **Maleured,** *a. Obs.* In 6 male vryd. [f. **maleur* MALHEUR + -ED 2.] Ill-fortuned.

a 1529 SKELTON *Agst. Scottes* 111 Wks. 1843 I. 185 Male vryd was your fals entent.

Maleureus, Maleurite: see MALEDROUS, MALEURTEE.

† **Maleurous,** *a. Obs.* Forms: 5 maleureus, malewreus, malerouse, maleurouse, 5–6 malerous, maleheureux, 6 *Sc.* malewrus, mailhouris, malheurius. [a. OF. *maleuros, -eus, -ous* (mod.F. *malheureux*), f. *maleur* (mod.F. *malheur*): see MALHEUR. Cf. BENEUROUS.] Unhappy, unfortunate.

1471 CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) I. 162 The maleureus & vnhappy saturne. *c* 1475 *Partenay* 6473 All glorius patriarkes in breue,..Iff I thaim for-gatte I were malerous. *c* 1477 CAXTON *Jason* 17 The right malerouse king was constrayned to..calle his knightes untó his ayde. *Ibid.* 110 What wil ye don with this malerous and pyteus childe. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* XI. Prol. 150 Rycht so, quha vertuus was, and fallis tharfro, Of verray ressoune malewrus hait is he. 1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* I. viii. (S.T.S.) I. 47 Vtheris sa mailhouris þat na felicite mycht follow be þare operacioun. 1553 KENNEDY *Compend. Tract.* in *Wodrow Soc. Misc.* (1844) 152 The malheurins prince sall warie the tyme.

† **Maleurtee.** *Obs.* Also 5 maleurte, male-h(e)urte, maluerte, 6 mallewrite, maleurite, -itie, malurit(e. [OF. *maleurté* misfortune, f. *maleur*: see MALHEUR and -TY.] Misfortune.

1471 CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) II. 690 Hys malehurte and grete vnhappynesse. 1474 — *Chesse* II. v. D viij b, This cyte of rome..is peruerted and torned in to malehurte and thyse euylles. *Ibid.* III. vii. Ij, Thys drede surmounteth alle other maleurtees and euylles, for it is maleurte of drede nyght and day. 1481 — *Godfrey* (1893) 203 They vnderstonde not yet the malheurte that they be in. 1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* IV. xii. (S.T.S.) II. 86 Dredand þe sammyn chance & mallewrite [*v.r.* maleurite] to fall to þare town. *Ibid.* 96 Repreving þame þat þai loist þare curage for sa small trubill and maluritee [*v.r.* malurite] of fortoun. 1546 THIRLBY in *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, XI. 397 This is my maleurtie.

Malevesyn, obs. variant of MALVOISIE.

Malevolence (mălē·vŏlĕns). Also 5–6 mali-, malyvolence, 6 malevolens. [a. OF. *mali-, malevolence*, ad. L. *mali-, malevolentia*, f. *malevolentem*: see MALEVOLENT.] The attribute of being malevolent; the wishing or the disposition to wish evil to others; ill-will.

c 1489 CAXTON *Blanchardyn* xli. 153 The grete malyuolence or euyll wylle that he had. 1509 BARCLAY *Shyp of Folys* (1570) 16 Wo be to them who by malinolence Slaunder or defame any creature. 1575 LANEHAM *Let.* 65 Too him that..either of ignorauns..or els of maleuolens woold make any doout. 1605 SHAKS. *Macb.* III. vi. 28 The maleuolence nf Fortune. 1688 NORRIS *Theory Love* I. ii. 15 A willing evil to some person or tbing, which we call Malice or Malevolence. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 422 ₱ 4 The Malevolence, which is too general towards those who excell. 1789 BELSHAM *Ess.* II. xl. 510 The reputation of Hooker .. rises far above the reach of Mr. Burke's malevolence. 1838 LYTTON *Calderon* i, This prudent frankness disarmed malevolence on the score of birth. 1885 *L'pool Daily Post* 1 June 5/3 Every obstacle which partisan malevolence could create he has had to encounter.

b. Sarcastically suggested as a more appropriate term for BENEVOLENCE 4.

[*a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Edw. IV.* 226 b, The kyng..called this graunt of money a benevolence, not withstanding that many with grudge and maleuolence gaye great summes toward that new founde benevolence.] 1592 STOW *Ann.*, an. 1473. 701 The king..called this grant of money a Beneuolence, notwithstanding that many grudged therat and called it a Maleuolence. 1640 LD. J. DIGBY *Sp. in Ho. Com.* 9 Nov. 4 The granting of Subsidies, and that under so preposterous a name as of a *Benevolence*, for that which is a *Malevolence* indeed.

† **Malevolency.** *Obs.* [ad. L. *malevolentia*: see prec. and -ENCY.] = MALEVOLENCE.

a 1662 HEYLIN *Laud* I. III. (1668) 240 This was the first taste which they gave the King of their malevolency towards his Person. 1714 POPE *Let. to Addison* 10 Oct., May I hope that some late malevolencies have lost their effect?

Malevolent (mălē·vŏlĕnt), *a.* and *sb.* Also 6 maly-, malivolent, ad. L. *mali-, malevolent-em*, f. *male* ill + *volent-em* willing, pr. pple. of *velle* to will, wish.] **A.** *adj.*

1. Of persons, their feelings and actions: Desirous of evil to others; entertaining, actuated by, or indicative of ill-will; disposed or addicted to ill-will.

1509 BARCLAY *Shyp of Folys* (1874) II. 216 The honour of hym that is absent .. Is hurt and distayned by worde malyuolent. 1528 ROY *Rede me*, etc. (Arb.) 118 Iudas the traytour malivolent Whiche betrayed Christ to the Ines. 1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* 66 Malicious and maleuolent are they, that will exclude any one Arte..from bearing witnesse of God. 1645 PAGITT *Heresiogr.* (1661) 72 They are as malevolent to Dutch and French Churches as to us. 1664 H. MORE *Myst. Iniq., Apol.* 561 [To] disenable malevolent men from doing the free and ingenuous undeserved mischief. 1689 in *Wood's Life* 21 Nov. (O. H. S.) III. 314 Some malivolent people have lately defaced King William's picture in the Guild-hall. 1751 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 172 ₱ 4 Whoever rises..will have many malevolent gazers at his eminence. 1833 KEBLE *Serm.* vi. (1848) 143 The .. malevolent feeling of disgust,..which is apt to lay hold on sensitive minds. 1841 MACAULAY *Ess., W. Hastings* (1851) 599 The keen, severe, and even malevolent scrutiny to which his whole public life was subjected. 1894 S. WEY-

MAN *Under Red Robe* v. (1897) 133 His lean malevolent face..chilled me.

† b. *transf.*

1719 LONDON & WISE *Compl. Gard.* xxv, For securing of ..tender Greens and Plants from malevolent Winds.

†2. *Astrol.* Exercising an evil or baleful influence.

1593 R. HARVEY *Philad.* 56 Some infortunate and malevolent configuration of mouable skies and starres. 1691 DRYDEN *K. Arthur* v. 44 At length I have thee in my Arms; Tho our Malevolent Stars have struggled hard, And held us long asunder. 1696 PHILLIPS (ed. 5), *Malevolent Planets*, Saturn and Mars.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1596 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. IV*, I. i. 97 This is Worcester, Malevolent to you in all Aspects. 1672 SIR T. BROWNE *Lett. Friend* § 4 Death hath not only particular Stars in Heaven, but Malevolent Places on Earth. 1685 BOYLE *Eng. Notion Nat.* iv. 83 The malevolent aspect, that the vulgar notion of nature..may have on religion.

B. *sb.*

† 1. A person of evil wishes or designs. *Obs.*

1595 DANIEL *Civ. Wars* IV. xxxi. (1609) 95 They durst not..present..their defences, in respect He was incenst by some malevolent. 1637 LAUD *Sp. in Starr Chamber* Ded. a 2, Mr. Prinn..[will] scarce find such a Malevolent as himselfe against State and Church. 1654 H. L'ESTRANGE *Chas. I* (1655) 127 Notwithstanding .. these close insinuations hy these turbulent malevolents, the Act passed. 1670 in Somers *Tracts* I. 3 Which his malevolents affirmed to be an emblem of himself.

†2. *Astrol.* An evil influence. *Obs.*

1651 CULPEPPER *Astrol. Judgent. Dis.* (1658) 150 They are both afflicted by malevolents, the Moon by Conjunction of Saturn, and the Sun by Conjunction of Mars.

Malevolently (mălē·vŏlĕntlĭ), *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY 2.] In a malevolent manner.

1615 T. ADAMS *White Devill* 16 If a levy..wold force your benevolence it comes malevolently from you. 1640 HOWELL *Dodona's Gr.* 114 The gracious Oke..did vindicat him from those aspersions malevolently cast upon him. 1792 GEDDES tr. *Bible* Pref. 7 The serpent..malevolently persuaded the woman to eat of the fruit. 1897 MARY KINGSLEY *W. Africa* 585 They stagger about on the ground, buzzing malevolently.

Male·volentness. *rare*—°. [f. MALEVOLENT + -NESS.] = MALEVOLENCE. 1727 in BAILEY vol. II.

† **Malevolo.** *Obs. rare*—1. [a. It. *malevolo*, ad. L. *malevolus*: see next.] A malevolent person.

1648 *Brit. Bellman* 2 Many Plots were discovered .. in which..ye Malevolos, might have claimed the chiefest Livery, as Beelzebubs nearest Attendants.

† **Male·volous,** *a. Obs.* Also 6 malivolus, malyvolus. [f. L. *malevol-us* (f. L. *male* ill + *vol*, *velle* to wish) + -OUS.] = MALEVOLENT 1.

1536 BELLENDEN *Cron. Scot.* (1821) II. 274 Ane wickit and malivolus man, namit Edrik. 1547 BOORDE *Brev. Health* lxix. 29 b, This impediment doth come..of some malyvolus humoure. 1588 J. HARVEY *Disc. Probl.* 108 We neede not greatly recke, or care for his malenolous intention. 1652 GAULE *Magastrom.* 223 They caution straitly to observe the planet, benevolous or malevolous. 1679 C. NESSE *Antid. agst. Popery* 102 Satan is a malevolous adversary. 1727 WARBURTON *Tracts* (1789) 128 These malevolous Critics.

Malewe, obs. form of MALLOW.

Malewr(e)us, variant of MALEUROUS *a. Obs.*

Malexecution. Also 7 male-execution. [See MAL-.] Bad execution or administration.

1689 *Trial Pritchard v. Papillon* 6 Nov. an. 1684. 9 That were a Misfesance, or a Male-execution of their Office. 1848 in CRAIG. *a* 1852 D. WEBSTER cited in Webster 1854.

Maleyce, -ys, obs. forms of MALICE.

Malfeasance (mælfī·zăns). Also 7 malefeazance, 8 malefeasance, 8–9 malfaisance, 9 malfesance. [a. AF. **malfaisance* (cf. mod.F. *malfaisance*), f. OF. *malfaisant*: see next.]

1. *Law.* Evil-doing; *spec.* official misconduct on the part of one in public employment.

1696 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3242/4 Special Bars in Case, viz... Slander,..Mis feazance, Male-feazance [etc.]. 1765 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* I. 393 Statutes, which declare the benefice void, for some nonfeasance or neglect, or else some malefeasance or crime. 1827 HALLAM *Const. Hist.* (1876) II. viii. 32 Thus corruption, breach of trust, and malfeasance in public affairs .. came .. under the cognizance of the star-chamber. 1839 J. STORY *Law Bailments* 123 The same rule which is applied by the common law to cases of malfesance, governs also cases of negligent execution of a gratuitous trust or agency. 1885 *Spectator* 8 Aug. 1041/1 The protection of Hastings, whom he had charged with various malfeasances. 1892 *Times* (weekly ed.) 4 Nov. 4/1 Various charges of malfeasance.

2. *gen.* Wrong-doing; an instance of this. *rare.*

1856 EMERSON *Eng. Traits* xv. 260 A relentless inquisition ..turns the glare of this solar microscope [the newspaper] on every malfaisance. 1860 — *Cond. Life, Consid.* Wks. (Bohn) II. 415 Nature turns all malfaisance to good.

Malfeasant (mælfī·zănt), *a.* and *sb.* Also 9 malfaisaut. [a. F. *malfaisant*, f. *mal* ill, MAL-, + *faisant*, pr. pple. of *faire* to do.] a. *adj.* Evil-doing. b. *sb.* An evil-doer, a criminal.

1809 E. S. BARRETT *Setting Sun* I. 31 Christians (soi-disant but mal-faisant followers of the mild doctrines of Christ). 1882 MORLEY *R. Cobden* xxiv. (1902) 84/1 Malfeasants on board a British ship should not be seized but.. demanded from the Consul.

† **Malfeasor.** *Obs.* Forms: 4–5 mal(e)fesour, mau-, mawfesour, 5 maffaisour. [a. OF. *malfaisor*, agent-n. f. *mal faire*: see prec.] An evil-doer, a malefactor.

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 211 þe maufesours ateynt, & cursed ouer þe nape. 14.. in *Hist. Coll. Citizen London* (Camden) 99 Hoolye for to forgevyn alle the malefesourys or evylle doers of hem dwellynge in the same cytte. 1401 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 85 Al maner mawfesours shulden ben unponnishid. 1424 *Paston Lett.* I. 12 Certeyns maffaisours, felons, and brekeres of the kynges peas vnknowyn.

† **Malfetour.** *Obs.* [a. OF. *malfetor* (mod. F. *malfaiteur*) :—L. *malefactor-em.*] = MALEFACTOR.

c 1450 LONELICH *Grail* xxxvi. 335 They supposide Everychon..that it hadde be sum Malfetour that was for-logged.

Malforma·tion. [f. MAL- + FORMATION.] Faulty or anomalous formation or structure of parts, esp. of a living body.

1800 *Med. Jrnl.* III. 397 Case of extraordinary Malformation in a Foetus..by T. Pole. 1844 DUNTON *Deafness* 116 Where the auditory nerve is perfect, and there is no congenital malformation. 1872 T. BRYANT *Pract. Surg.* 126 A malformation of the septum nasi.

fig. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xiii. III. 377 It [the army] ceased to exist,..not in consequence of any great blow from without, but by a natural dissolution, the effect of internal malformation.

Malfo·rmed, *a.* [f. MAL- + FORMED *ppl. a.*] Badly formed; marked by malformation.

1817 LAWRENCE *Lect.* (1823) 110 It is admitted that an ideot with a malformed brain has no mind. 1836–9 TODD *Cycl. Anat.* II. 633/1 Children with hearts so malformed live three, four, or five days. 1872 O. W. HOLMES *Poet Breakf.-t.* viii. (1885) 205 Malformed salmon..can be supplied. 1879 *St. George's Hosp. Rep.* IX. 631 Both the teeth were malformed, hollow, and smaller than natural.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1867 SWINBURNE *Ess. & Stud.* (1875) 112 These first poems of Mr. Morris were not malformed. 1872 O. W. HOLMES *Poet Breakf.-t.* viii. 264 You do not get such a malformed character as that without a long chain of causes. 1899 *Daily News* 21 July 8/6 Malformed and tainted human nature.

† **Malgo·vernance.** *Obs. rare*—1. In 7 male-governance. [f. MAL- + GOVERNANCE.] = next.

1673 H. STUBBES *Further Vind. Dutch War* App. 92 They saw disorders to encrease there upon the male-governance of that pretended Parliament.

Malgo·vernment. Also 7 male-. [f. MAL- + GOVERNMENT.] Bad government.

a 1653 GOUGE *Comm. Heb.* xi. 32 Yet doth not that phrase intend, that he gave over the whole government to them, much lesse that he justified them in their male-government. 1848 *Fraser's Mag.* XXXVII. 146 Any degree of malgovernment and misery. 1880 V. L. CAMERON *Our Future Highway* II. xv. 340 The country is much richer..notwithstanding its mal-government.

Malgrace (mælgrē·s). [Orig. two words, a. OF. *male grace* (*male* fem. of *mal* evil, *grace* GRACE *sb*).]

† 1. Disfavour. *Obs.*

c 1425 *Seven Sag.* (P.) 2108 And he answerd ryght in the place, 'Maugré have thou and male grace!' 1639 SPOTTISWOOD *Hist. Ch. Scot.* VI. (1677) 326 The Rebels or others known to be in his Majesties mal-grace. 1714 FORTESCUE-ALANO Note in *Fortescue's Abs. & Lim. Mon.* 75 *Magre*.. signifies the same as mal-grace, disfavour, or ill-will.

2. Something unbecoming. *pseudo-arch.*

1882 G. MACDONALD *Weighed & Wanting* iv. I. 57 May these not see in us some malgrace which it needs the gentleness of Christ to get over and forget?

† **Malgra·cious,** *a. Obs. rare.* Also 5 maugracious. [a. OF. *malgracieux*, *maugracieux*: see MAL- and GRACIOUS *a.*] a. Ill-favoured, uncomely. b. Ungracious, disobliging.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 149 His [Vulcanus'] figure Bothe of visage and of stature Is lothly and malgracious. *c* 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* II. lxxxv. (1869) 106 A vile old oon, and maugracious [F. *maugracieuse*] and hideous, that j sih not bifore. 1471 CAXTON *Recuyell* (ed. Sommer) I. 68 The moo prayers that they made vnto Tytan, the more fonde they hym vncourtoys felon and malgracyous. *a* 1500 *Colkelbie Sow* 131 A malgratious millare, A berward, a brawlar.

‖ **Malgra·do,** *prep. Obs.* [It. *malgrado*: see MAUGRE and cf. next.] In spite of. Also with *of.*

1590 MARLOWE *Edw. II*, II. v, Malgrado all your beards. 1590 LODGE *Rosalind* (1887) 166 To force Phoebe to fancy the shepherd, malgrado the resolution of her mind. 1590 GREENE *Orl. Fur.* (1599) H, What I haue said, Ile pawne my sword, To seale it on the shield of him that dares Malgrado of his honour, combate me.

‖ **Malgré** (malgre), *prep.* [Fr.: see MAUGRE.] In spite of, notwithstanding. (In first quot. without regimen.)

1608 BP. HALL *Epist.* IV. iv. 363 Woe were vs, if our safetie depended vpon your hopes, or his [*sc.* the pope's] mercies. Blessed be that God, which malgrè hath made and kept vs happie. *a* 1734 NORTH *Exam.* I. i. § 29 (1740) 28 Our late Sovereign, who, malgre all his endeavours to the Contrary is yet..of glorious Memory. 1769 HIRST in *Phil. Trans.* LIX. 232 To..acknowledge conviction, *malgré* all prejudice and preconceived opinion. 1814 SIR R. WILSON *Priv. Diary* (1861) II. 302, I went .. to the opera, *malgré* the gutters and spouts. 1815 BYRON in Moore *Life* (1838) 281/2, I went (*malgré* that I ought to have stayed at home in sackcloth..) to..my private box. 1878 L. W. M. LOCKHART *Mine is Thine* II. xxxv. 313 The 'fowler'..went forth, accordingly, *malgré* his sister's remonstrances.

Malgyk, obs. form of MAGIC.

‖ **Malheur.** *Obs.* Also 5 maleheure, maleure, malure, 6 mallure, 7 malheure, maleheur. [Fr., earlier *maleur*, f. *mal* evil + *eur* fortune :—L. *augurium* AUGURY.] Misfortune.

1471 CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) I. 268 Yf my maleheure and mysauenture renne vpon me. *Ibid.* II. 490, I haue maleure and mysbappe. *a* 1500 *Chaucer's Dream* 601, I wofull wight full of malure, Am worse than dead. 1560 A. SCOTT *Poems* xvi. 3 The mornyng and the grit mallure Can nane devyne. 1602 J. CECIL in *Archpriest Controv.* (Camden) II. 206 We recurred to God and our blessed ladye that they woulde diverte this malheure from vs. 1673 DRYDEN *Marr. à la Mode* v. i, Ay, 'tis long of you that this *Malheur* is fall'n upon me. 1682 C. IRVINE *Hist. Scott. Nouvelt.* Ded. *vj b, Seldome ever any Malchear befell them. 1770 FITZPATRICK in J. H. Jesse *G. Selwyn & Contemp.* (1843) II. 306, I am heartily sorry for your *malheur*. 1792 *Elvina* II. 65, I had no opportunity to acquaint her with my malheur.

Malheurius, Sc. variant of MALEUROUS *Obs.*

Malic (mæ·lĭk), *a. Chem.* [a. F. *malique*, f. L. *māl-um* apple.] *Malic acid*: an acid ($C_4H_6O_5$) derived from the apple, the berries of the mountain-ash, and many other fruits.

1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVIII. 871/1 The citric and malic acids which I have found in wine. 1801 *Encycl. Brit. Suppl.* (ed. 3) I. 326/1 Scheele discovered a peculiar acid..which, because it is found most abundantly in apples, has been called malic acid. 1813 SIR H. DAVY *Agric. Chem.* (1814) 107 Malic Acid may be obtained from the juice of apples, barberries, plums, elderberries [etc.]. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 843 Cider contains malic acid.

Malice (mæ·lis), *sb.* Forms: 4 malyes, maleys, 4–5 malis, malece, 4, 6 maliss, maleyce, 4–6 malys, malyce, 5 malyhs, mailyeis, 5–6 malesse, malise, malles, 6 mallyce, maleis, e, 6–7 mallice, 3– malice. [a. F. *malice* (recorded from 12th c.), ad. L. *malitia*. f. *mal-us* bad. (Cf. Sp., Pg. *malicia*, It. *malizia*.)

Some of the early forms are coincident with those of MALEASE; in some senses the two words seem to have been sometimes confused.]

† 1. Bad quality, badness; chiefly in moral sense, wickedness. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 1555 Mikel malice was first in man Bot neuer forwit sua mikel as þan. *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* v. 1 Halykirke þat prayes to be departid fra þe malice of þe warld. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 518 Al is þe mynde of þe man to malyce enclyned. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* I. (*Katerine*) 74 Scho 3ed and sad..sir king, Resone requeris ..þat þu knaw þi malyes & with-draw now sic seruice fra þis goddis fals, þat þe dissawis. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. ii. (1495) 596 To make a wylde tree chaunge out of malyce in to goodnes. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) ix. 33 Þai er .. fall of all maner of wickedness and malice. *c* 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* I. 264 The malice of that lond, or cause of drede, That wyntir with his shouris may of dryue. 1477 EARL RIVERS (Caxton) *Dictes* 14 Make your children lerne good in their youthe or they falle to malice. 1594 CAREW *Huarte's Exam. Wits* (1596) 278 In man there is no power which hath tokens to descry the goodnesse or malice of his object. 1600 ABP. ABBOT *Exp. Jonah* 19 When..they returned to their malice as a dog to his vomit, it [Nineveh] was destroyed. 1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* I. v. § 1 It seemeth the children of time do take after the nature and malice of the father.

† 2. Power to harm, harmfulness; harmful action or effect. Of a disease, a poison, etc.: Virulence.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 457 Neþer þe word of þer prelat ne þe word of þer somenour han so myche maliss wiþ hem þat [etc.]. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 266 The water of a welle Of fyr abateth the malice. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) I. 339 Venym and poysoun..leseþ his malys anon as he passeþ þe myddel of þe see. 1528 PAYNEL *Salerne's Regim.* O ivb, Suche wyne doth alay the malice of ye meate. 1544 PHAER *Regim. Lyfe* (1560) S viij b, It is a singular remedy, to remove ye malice [of a canker] in a short while. 1555 W. WATREMAN *Fardle Facions* II. i. 114 Myrrhe, whose smoke is so unholsome, that excepte thei withstode the malice therof with the perfume of styrax [etc.]. 1595 SHAKS. *John* II. i. 251 Our Cannons malice vainly shall be spent. 1614 RALEIGH *Hist. World* II. v. iii. § 6. 374 The malice of a great Armie is broken .. in a great Siege. *a* 1619 FOTHERBY *Atheom.* II. v. § 4 (1622) 242 The malice of the sicknesse surpassing all the helpe of the most approved medicines. 1655 CULPEPPER, etc. *Riverius* IV. vii. 116 These Evacuations..come..from the malice of the matter of the Disease. 1685 DRYDEN *Threnod. August.* 177 Undaunted Cæsar underwent The malice of their [*sc.* the physicians'] art.

† 3. *Astrol.* The baleful influence of certain stars.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* VIII. xxii. (Helmingham MS.), þe malice of a malicious sterre is y-temprid..by presence of a goodly sterre. 1563 HYLL *Art Garden.* (1593) 20 Throgh some malice of the celestial bodies.

4. The desire to injure another person; active ill-will or hatred. In mod. use sometimes in weaker sense: Sportively 'mischievous' intent, desire to tease (cf. F. *malice*).

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 12027 He ne dude it vor non vuel ne malice bi speke er. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 62 He that was a Lomb beforn Is thanne a Wolf, and thus malice Under the colour of justice Is hid. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 23 The wolf of malys..Upon the lambe compleynyd ageyn reson. 1477 *Surtees Misc.* (1890) 35 A man..was notyd and diffamyd..be veray malesse, yt he shud be a Skotte. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* lix. 3 A refyng sone of rakyng Muris Hes magellit my making, throw his maliss. 1593 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. VI*, III. ii. 23 God forbid any Malice should prenayle. 1601 BP. W. BARLOW *Serm. Paules Crosse* Pref. 7 Malice marres logike and charitie both. 1691 HARTCLIFFE *Virtues* 381 When we think of .. the malice of our Spiritual Adversaries; we are apt to despond. 1781 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xix. II. 132 He furnished the malice of his enemies with the arms of truth. 1825 COLERIDGE *Aids Refl.* xxxi. (1836) 100 The slanders .. may be the implements, not the inventions of Malice. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* ix. II. 495 Then the archbishop, with that gentle and temperate malice which inflicts the deepest wounds, said [&c.]. 1871 MORLEY *Voltaire* (1886) 5 The rank vocabulary of malice and hate.

b. Occas. personified.

1601 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* I. v. 196 Yet (by the verie phangs of malice, I sweare) I am not that I play. 1781 COWPER *Hope* 559 The blot For every dart that malice ever shot.

c. Phrase. *To bear malice*: to feel ill-will; now

usually, to cherish revengeful or unfriendly feelings on account of some injury. Const. *to* or dative; also †*against*, †*toward*.

1530 PALSGR. 450/1, I beare grutche or malyce agaynst a person, *je porte malice*. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 112, I have tolde you..howe Duke George of Saxony, bare malice. 1572 *Lament. Lady Scot.* 43 in *Satir. Poems Reform.* xxxiii, The malice greit, that ilk to vther beiris. 1613 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII*, II. i. 62 The Law I beare no mallice for my death. 1838 LYTTON *Calderon* iii, I bear no malice to him for that, your highness. *a* 1846 LANDOR *Imag. Conv.* Wks. I. 15, I never bear malice toward those who try to reduce me to their own dimensions. 1875 MRS. RANDOLPH *W. Hyacinth* I. 72, I believe you bear malice still.

d. *fig.* Attributed to fortune, or impersonal agencies.

1660 F. BROOKE tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 268 Often exposed to the malice of weather, but more to the malice of men. 1797 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Italian* ii. (1826) 15 He defied the utmost malice of future fortune. *a* 1859 DE QUINCEY *Dream Fugue* Wks. 1897 XIII. 320 The deeps opened ahead in malice to receive her.

¶ **e.** Misused for: Anger. *Obs. rare*—[1].

1538 BALE *God's Promises* in Dodsley *O. Pl.* (1780) I. 19 Tell me, blessed Lorde, where wyll thy great malyce light.

†**5.** Malicious conduct; a malicious act or device.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 207 A thousendfold welmore he soghte Thanne afterward to do malice. 14.. *Story of Alexander* 7 in *Wars Alex.* (E. E. T. S.) 279 But I schewe to you þat I hate frawdez & maleces. 1413 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton 1483) I. ii. 3 The performyng of malyce standyth nought in thy power, but the purposyng of malyce is thyne owne properte. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xvii. 317 Herowde the kyng has malise ment. 1454 *Paston Lett.* I. 273 Thes vengeable malics don to hir and me. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* IX. 562 He..now agayn begynnys a malice new. 1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* II. ii. 36 To report otherwise, were a Mallice, that..would plucke..rebuke from euery Eare that heard it. 1669 R. MONTAGU in *Bucclench MS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 449 The French look upon this as an art and malice of the Spaniard to destroy the trade.

6. *Law.* **a.** Wrongful intention generally. **b.** That kind of evil intent which constitutes the aggravation of guilt distinctive of certain offences (*esp.* of murder), or which deprives some act, on the face of it unlawful, of a justification or excuse that might otherwise have been allowed.

The first meaning mentioned under b was originally expressed by the A.F. phrase *malice purpensé* or *prepense*, which in modern legal language appears as *malice prepense* (see PREPENSE *a.*) and in the translated form *malice aforethought*. In early use the phrase occurs in many anglicized forms: *malice prepensed, purpensed, pretensed* (also *prepensed*, etc. *malice*); occasional variants found in non-technical writers are *malice propense* (17th c.), *malice prepensive* (Fielding), *malice perpended* (Charles Lamb). For examples see the various adjs.

See also quots. 1825–1901 below, and quot. 1889 s.v. MALICIOUSLY 4. It is not possible to frame any such general definition as would show what legally constitutes 'malice' or proof of 'malice' in particular kinds of cases.

1547 *Act* 1 *Edw. VI*, c. 12 § 9 No parsone..convicted of murder of malyse prepensed. *Ibid.*, Or shall stande willfullie or of malyce muett. *a* 1625 SIR H. FINCH *Law* (1636) 215 Murder is Man-slaughter upon former malice: which wee call prepensed malice. 1670–1 *Act* 22 & 23 *Chas. II*, c. 1 § 6 If any person .. on purpose and of malice forethought .. shall [etc.]. 1716 W. HAWKINS *Pleas Crown* I. 88 The Murther of a Person by one who was his Servant, upon Malice conceived during the Service. 1817 W. SELWYN *Law Nisi Prius* (ed. 4) II. 997 To support this action, malice ..must be alleged and proved. 1825 JUSTICE BAYLEY *Barnewall & Cresswell Rep.* IV. 235 Malice in common acceptation means ill-will against a person, but in its legal sense it means a wrongful act done intentionally without just cause or excuse. 1871 MARKBY *Elem. Law* (1874) § 226 In the best known definitions of malice it is scarcely distinguishable from intention. 1898 W. F. CRAIES in *Encycl. Laws Eng.* VIII. 77 The meaning of the term malice (*malitia*) in English law has been a question of much difficulty and controversy... It certainly has different meanings with respect to responsibility for civil wrongs and responsibility for crime. 1901 SIR F. POLLOCK *Law of Torts* (ed. 6) 24 Such abuse [of privilege allowed by law on special occasions and for special purposes, where the act is done not in good faith or for the advancement of justice, but from evil motives such as personal enmity] is called 'malice' or 'express malice', and deprives the act of justification... The words 'malice', 'malicious', and 'maliciously' were formerly used in pleading, and thence in forensic and judicial language, in many places where they were superfluous.

†**Ma·lice,** *a. Obs. rare.* [f. prec. Cf. OF. *malicement* maliciously.] Full of wrath or ill-will.

c 1475 *Partenay* 3446 So inly malice, full of wrath and yre. *Ibid.* 3537 But Raymounde malice And full angry was.

†**Ma·lice,** *v. Obs.* [f. MALICE *sb.*]

1. *trans.* To regard with malice; to seek or desire to injure.

a 1547 SURREY *Compl. louer that defied loue* in *Tottel's Misc.* (Arb.) 8 Thou blinded god (quoth I) forgeue me this offense, Vnwillingly [*ed.* 2 Vnwittingly] I went about to malice thy pretense. 1552 LATIMER *Serm. 3rd Sund. aft. Epiph.* (1584) 314 They would not beleue in hym, but despised and maliced him. 1599 B. JONSON *Ev. Man out of Hum.* v. vii. (1600) Q iiij b, I am so farre from malicing their states That I begin to pittie them. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* XLII. xv. 1124 But above all other he maliced Eumenes most [L. *Eumeni ante omnes infestus erat*]. 1621 LADY M. WROTH *Urania* 183 At last his sister grew to malice his respect to me. 1653 BAXTER *Chr. Concord* 47, I know they will malice our Union in this Country. 1659 FULLER *App. Inj. Innoc.* (1840) 299 For the Papists, though I malice not their persons, .. yet I do..dislike their errors. 1686 W. DE BRITAINE *Hum. Prud.* xvii. 80 None are less Maliced or more applauded than he, who is thought rather happy than able. 1694 E. ELYS in *Lett. Sev. Subj.* 94 To have an Aversion to the Notion .. is to Malice or Hate God.

2. *intr.* To entertain malice. Also const. *at.*

1587 TURBERV. *Trag. T.* (1837) 243 Vet fortune seemde to grutche And malice at her featurd shape. 1592 KYD *Sp. Trag.* III. i, My guiltles deatb will be aueng'd on thee,..that hath malisde thus.

Hence **Ma·liced** *ppl. a.*, **Ma·licing** *vbl. sb.*

1601 B. JONSON *Poetaster* Induct. 10 Vour forc't stings Would hide them selues within his malic't sides. 1604 DANIEL *Funeral Poem Earl Devonsh.*, Without any private malicing, Or public grievance. *a* 1640 W. FENNER *Sacrifice Faithf.* (1648) 50 Go on in drinking, whoring,..and dicing, hating and malicing, fretting and chafing. 1643 'F. GREVILLE' *Five Yrs. Jas. I* 73 It concerneth not onely the destruction of the maliced man, but of every man.

Malice, variant of MALEASE *Obs.*

Maliceful (mæ·lisfūl), *a.* Chiefly *dial.*: see E.D.D. [f. MALICE *sb.* + -FUL.] = MALICIOUS.

1839 POE *Fall Ho. Usher* Wks. 1864 I. 306 The hermit .. was of an obstinate and maliceful turn. 1893 *Nat. Observer* 25 Mar. 468/1 Being maliceful of humour I praised that smile.

†**Ma·liceless,** *a. Obs.* [f. MALICE *sb.* + -LESS.] Without malice.

a 1618 SYLVESTER tr. *Panaretus* 827 Wks. (Grosart) II. 131 When..bad advice (though malice-lesse) Ruins the Friend to whom it meant Redresse. *a* 1684 LEIGHTON *Comm. 1 Pet.* (1850) 204 How few there are that have truly maliceless hearts.

Malicho: see MICHING MALICHO.

Malicious (mălĭ·ʃəs), *a.* Forms: 3 malicius, 4 malycyouse, 4, 6 maliciouse, 5 malicous, malycyowse, malecioase, 5–6 malycyous, malitius, 5–7 malycious, 6 malysyous, malyciouse, malycieux, maliciyous, 6–7 malitious, 4– malicious. [a. OF. *malicius* (mod.F. *malicieux*), ad. L. *malitiōsus*, f. *malitia*: see MALICE *sb.* and -OUS. Cf. Sp. *malicioso*, It. *malizioso*.]

1. Of persons, their dispositions, etc.: Given to malice; addicted to sentiments or acts of ill-will. Now sometimes in milder sense: Given to sportive mischief; inclined to tease.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 210 Þe attri neddre [sleað] alle þeo ontfule, & alle þeo luðere iðoncked [*MS. Titus* þat beon malicius & liðere aʒain oðere]. *a* 1325 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1878) 143 Why artow so malicious Toward god & toward ous. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 90 Þe angry, fell, & malycyous man wayteth his leysere, to wrekyn his tene at wylle. 1551 T. WILSON *Logike* (1580) 17 When one for lucre beareth a faire face outwardly, and feedeth inwardly a malicious stomacke. 1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* I. i. 91 Either you must Confesse your selues wondrous Malicious, Or be accus'd of Folly. 1623 BINGHAM *Xenophon* 20 In case any man shewed him kindnesse, or were malitious against him, he would doe all he could, to goe beyond him in eitber of both. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IX. 253 Thou knowst ..what malicious Foe.. seeks to work us woe and shame By sly assault. 1689–90 WOOD *Life* 12 Mar. (O. H. S.) III. 327 Two malitious fellowes were found sticking up a libell reflecting on the fast. 1727 DE FOE *Hist. Appar.* iii. (1840) 23 He is still in being, and still the same malicious Devil. 1880 OUIDA *Moths* xiii. II. 57 She was not very clever, but she was very malicious, which is more successful with society.

Comb. 1642 VICARS *God in Mount* (1644) 55 A most impious and malicious-hearted fellow. 1842 BORROW *Bible in Spain* xxi, A..malicious-looking urchin of about fifteen.

†**b.** Wicked, evil-disposed. *Obs.*

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* C. 508 So mony malicious mon as mournez þer-inne. *c* 1440 *Alph. Tales* (E.E.T.S.) 58 Amicus hard tell þat his fadur was dead, & att malicious men wold take his heritage fro hym. *c* 1477 CAXTON *Jason* 43 Women one and other properly to speke ben malicious in her werkes.

c. *absol.*

1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* ix. [x.] 15 Break thou yᵉ arme off the vngodly and malycious, search out the wickednesse which he hath done. 1563 *Homilies* II. *Disobedience* v. (1859) 585 A few ambitious and malicious are the authors..of rebellion. 1581 PETTIE tr. *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* I. (1586) 17 The high judgement of God wil not faile you,..against the malitious. 1745 H. WALPOLE *Lett.* (1846) II. 27 A few malicious, who would have countenanced her to vex him. 1814 CARY *Dante's Purgatory* VI. 84 While now thy living ones In thee abide not without war; and one Malicious gnaws another.

2. Of things, qualities, etc.: Proceeding from or characterized by malice. In early use often: †Evil, wicked. Now sometimes used in a weakened sense: Sportively 'mischievous'. (Cf. MALICE *sb.* 4.)

a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* iii. 7 Þe tethe of synful ere þe malycyouse gnawyngs of bakbiters. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 21 Þe malicious bisynes of þis world. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 4894 We..manast his messanger with malicous pride. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* lxxxiii. 261 Gerarde, who by his malysyous entent hath done this treason. 1573 G. HARVEY *Letter-bk.* (Camden) 48 A mani of sutch glorius brags and malitius words, utterid of purpose. 1591 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. VI*, IV. i. 7 Esteeme none..your Foes, but such as shall pretend Malicious practises against his State. 1651 *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) 273 The private whisper of a malicious groundlesse lye. 1727 DE FOE *Syst. Magic* I. iv. 97 We are sure the Devil does communicate his malicious Proposals of Mischief to Mankind. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xxii. IV. 733 Those who felt thus had learned with malicious delight that the First Lord of the Treasury was named in the confession.

†**b.** Stern, fierce. *Obs.*

1485 CAXTON *Chas. Gt.* 26 He..had hys syght and regarde fyers & malycyous.

3. *Law.* Characterized by 'malice prepense', as in *malicious damage, mischief, prosecution, slander, striking, waste.*

[1312 *Rolls of Parlt.* I. 282/2 Qi amercient les malicious Pleintifs.] 1530–1 *Act* 22 *Hen. VIII*, c. 11 Every suche perverse & malicyous cuttyng downe & brekyng up of any parte or partes of the sayde Dykes. 1541–2 *Act* 33 *Hen. VIII*, c. 12 § 1 Murders manslaughters and other malicious strikinges. 1765 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* I. viii. 126 A special action on the case for a false and malicious prosecution. 1769 *Ibid.* IV. xiv. 243 Malicious mischief, or damage, is the next species of injury to private property. 1785 PALEY *Mor. Philos.* III. II. xii. 236 Malicious slander is the relating of either truth or falshood, with a conscious purpose of creating misery. 1818 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) I. 156 Cutting down trees planted for shelter or ornament; or any other kind of malicious waste. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XIV. 333/1 Injuries to private property .. committed with the malicious intention of injuring the owner of such property. 1866 MR. BARON MARTIN in *L'pool Merc.* 18 Aug., Any wrongful act, done intentionally, without just cause or excuse, was a malicious act.

†**4.** *Astrol.* Of baleful promise. *Obs.*

1413 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton 1483) v. xi. 102 These seuen signes were malicious to oure glorious sonne.

†**5.** *Med.* Malignant, virulent. *Obs.*

c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 207 Þere comeþ manie pustulis, & summe þerof ben ful malicious after þe malice of þe matere. 1559 MORWYNG *Evonym.* 58 Thinges..destilled in lead I judge them altogether to be disalowed; because of the.. malicious qualities of the leade. 1598 FLORIO, *Tumore*,.. a rising of flesh by some malicious matter or ill humuur. *a* 1720 WOODWARD in *Stow's Surv.* (1720) I. I. xxviii. 240/2 Infested by those so fatal and malicious Maladies.

†**6.** Clever, artful. *Obs.*

a 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* (1868) 8 And thus she leued tille she was weddid to a knight, wyse and malicious, that had knowlache of her maners. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. viii. 23 As a Castle .. By subtile engins and malitious slight Is undermined.

Maliciously (mălĭ·ʃəsli), *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY[2].]

1. In a spirit of malice or ill-will; *occas.* with sportive 'malice'. In early use also: †Wickedly.

1382 WYCLIF *Dan.* xiii. 43 These thingus, whiche these maliciously maken to gydre aʒeinus me. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 14 We denounce acursed alle þo þat malycyously deprive of here ryght .. holy cherche. 1555 W. WATREMAN *Fardle Facions* Pref. 15 It hadde been much better for them, neuer..to haue knowen the waie of truthe, then..so rashely and maliciously to haue forsaken it. 1619 DALTON *Country Just.* lxxv. (1630) 191 Taunts or songs malitiously repeated or sung. 1710 *Tatler* No. 235 ¶ 2 This kind Parent ..is maliciously thankful that none of her Girls are like any of her Neighbours. 1838 DICKENS *Nich. Nick.* xiii, 'Well Nickleby', said Squeers, eyeing him maliciously, 'you think he has run away'. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* viii. II. 381 Wright maliciously told the counsel for the defence that they had only themselves to thank.

†**2.** Violently. *Obs.*

c 1470 *Lament. Mary Magd.* xviii, Thei him assailed so maliciouslie With their scourges and strokes beastiall. 1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* III. xiii. 179, I will be trebble-sinewed, hearted, breath'd, And fight maliciously. 1611 — *Wint. T.* I. ii. 321 A lingring Dram, that should not worke Maliciously, like Poyson.

†**3.** Unpropitiously, unfavourably. *Obs.*

1677 EARL ORRERY *Art of War* 100 Unless the Wind blows maliciously.

4. *Law.* With 'malice prepense'.

1421 in *Calr. Proc. Chanc. Q. Eliz.* I. (1827) Introd. 17 John Wethy..malycyouslych ymagenyd him to slee. 1530–1 *Act* 22 *Hen. VIII*, c. 11 Dyvers evyll dysposed personnes..maliciously at dyverse and sondry tymes hathe cutte cast downe and broken up dyvers parties of the Dyke. 1670–1 *Act* 22 & 23 *Chas. II*, c. 7 § 1 Where..any person.. shall in the night time malitiously unlawfully and willingly burne..any Ricks [etc.]. 1716 W. HAWKINS *Pleas Crown* I. 106 He may be indicted as having maliciously burned the House of B. 1885 *Law Rep.* Weekly Notes 72/1 The maliciously procuring a bankruptcy is not actionable unless the adjudication is set aside. 1889 LD. JUSTICE BOWEN 23 *Q. B. Div.* 612 'Maliciously'..implies an intention to do an act which is wrongful, to the detriment of another.

Maliciousness (mălĭ·ʃəsnĕs). [f. MALICIOUS *a.* + -NESS.] The quality or condition of being malicious; malevolence, spitefulness. †Of wounds or poison: Virulence, malignity.

a 1450 *Paston Lett.* I. 97 Other cause he had non to him as fer as I kan knawe, bot awnly for the malissiousness that he hath unto me. 1535 COVERDALE 1 *Macc.* vii. 42 Punysh him, acordinge to his maliciousnesse. 1555 EDEN *Decades* 53 The maliciousnes of the veneme consumed. *Ibid.* 122 The malyciousnesse of the venemous wounde. 1600 SURFLET *Country Farm* VI. xiii. 751 If there be many bay trees planted..all the maliciousnes of the mists will fall vpon their boughes. 1682 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) I. 238 The court being fully satisfied with..the maliciousnesse of the prosecution. 1791–1823 D'ISRAELI *Cur. Lit.* (1866) 291/1 Who seems much embarrassed by their tiny maliciousness.

Malicole, -coly, obs. forms of MELANCHOLY.

‖ **Malico·rium.** *Obs.* [L., f. *mâl-um* apple + *corium* skin, leather.] The rind of the pomegranate fruit (used medicinally and in the arts).

1727–41 in CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v. *Pomegranate.* 1866 in *Treas. Bot.* 712/1. In mod. Dicts.

Maliferous (mălĭ·fĕrəs), *a.* [f. L. *mal-us* bad: see -FEROUS.] Bringing, or producing evil; unwholesome, insalubrious.

1727 BAILEY vol. II, *Maliferous.* 1860 RUSSELL *Diary India* I. 72 That gallant, fine-hearted soldier who .. fell a victim to the maliferous climate of China. 1890 A. F. BAILLIE *Kurrachee* vii. 116 He is gazetted to another appointment..in some other District, where the climate is maliferous, and life is a misery. 1894 *Ten Yrs.' Work Outcast London* (Lond. Congreg. Union pamphlet) 44 Poor children..being fortified against the maliferous influences in the midst of which they have to live.

Maliform (mā·lĭfɒrm), *a.* [a. F. *maliforme* apple-shaped, f. L. *mâl-um* apple: see -FORM.] Having the form of an apple.

1856 in MAYNE *Expos. Lex.* 1889 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

†**Maligar.** *Obs.* [Cf. F. *malingre.*] A choice kind of apple. Also *attrib.*

1600 Surflet *Country Farm* III. xlix. 528 Apples .. of a pleasant smell and delightsome taste, .. the heroet, .. maligar, rambur [etc.]. 1611 Cotgr. (s.v. *Malingre*), *Pomme de malingre*, a sowrish apple, tearmed, the Maligar apple. 1664 Evelyn *Kal. Hort., May* (1679) 16 Apples...Pepins, ..Gilly-flower-apples, the Maligar, &c. 1707-12 Mortimer *Husb.* (1721) II. 369.

Malign (mălə·i'n), *a.* Forms: 4-7 maligne, 5 malyng, 6 malygne, 7- malign. [a. OF. *maligne, malin* (mod.F. *malin*), ad. L. *malignus* evil-disposed, f. *mal-us* evil. Cf. Benign *a.*]

1. Of persons and their dispositions: Characterized by ill-will; desiring, or rejoicing in, the suffering of others; malignant, malevolent. Now *rare.*

c 1450 *Mirour Saluacioun* 1602 Synnere vile & maligne. *c* 1485 *Digby Myst.* III. 428 Spirits malyngny. [? Meant for L. *spiritus maligni.*] *Ibid.* 434 How, how, spirits malyng. 1583 Stubbes *Anat. Abus.* I. Ep. Ded. (1877) 6 Whose gentle fanour..shall counterpoyse .. the maligne stomacks and stearn countenances of the other. 1667 Milton *P. L.* IV. 503, VII. 189. 1674 *Govt. Tongue* VI. § 10 Some tempers are so malign, that they wish ill to all, and believe ill of all. 1747 Wesley *Char. Methodist* 9 The Love of God has purified his beart..from every unkind Temper or malign Affection. 1790 Cowper *Odyss.* XX. 344 Guiltless of heart piercing scoffs Malign. 1862 Lytton *Str. Story* I. 190 Or whether he was actuated by a malign and impish desire to upset the established laws of decorum.

absol. 1557 *Sarum Primer, Dirige* I j, The maligne [L. *malignus*; Ps. v. 6] shall not dwell neare thee.

2. Of things: Evil in nature and effects; baleful, gravely injurious. †Of sin: Heinous.

c 1315 Shoreham *Poems* i. 411 So feawe stondeþ styf To fytte aȝenis senne Maligne. *Ibid.* 1909 Treuþe hys, þat þer no gile be þourwe spousebreche maligne. 1500-20 Dunbar *Poems* lxxxv. 17 All thing maling we dovne thring, Be sicht of his signakle. 1594 Plat *Jewell-ho.* III. 18 We shall finde tbe bop farre to exceede the wormwood in his maligne qualitie. 1603 Florio *Montaigne* III. xii. (1632) 586 It [War] is of so ruinous and maligne a Nature; that together with all things els, she ruineth her selfe. *a* 1716 South *Serm.* (1717) V. 434 A dark malign Shade always obscuring and eclipsing them. 1693 Sir T. P. Blount *Nat. Hist.* 116 Meconium is the courser and weaker [Gum], yet the more malign. 1727 Harte *Ps.* cvii. 13 Poems 236 The broad expance of heav'n Their canopy, the ground of damp malign, Their bed nocturnal. 1854 Longf. *Catawba Wine* ix, A poison malign Is such Borgia wine. 1871 R. Ellis tr. *Catullus* lxviii. 101 Tomb'd in Troy the malign, in Troy the unholy reposing. 1888 Bryce *Amer. Commw.* III. cxv. 663 A struggle between two forces, the one beneficent, the other malign.

3. Of diseases: Malignant.

1541 R. Copland *Galyen's Terap.* 2 D ij b, Suche an vlcere. I call it entyerly malygne & cacoethes. 1563 T. Gale *Antidot.* II. 12 Tbis vnguent is good against old and maligne vlcers. 1622 Bacon *Hen. VII* (1876) 12 A malign vapour flew to the heart, and seized the vital spirits. 1671 Salmon *Syn. Med.* III. xxii. 415 It quencheth thirst, and abates the heat of Malign Feavers. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 813 In cases of so-called 'precocious malign' syphilis.

4. *Astrol.* Having a baleful influence or effect.

1626 Bacon *Sylva* § 353 Saturn which is a planet Maligne. 1652 Gaule *Magastrom.* 85 Whether the planets have .. those prime elementary qualities..in such different measures ..as to make some of them benign, others of them malign in their influences [etc.]. 1667 Milton *P. L.* VI. 313 Two Planets rushing from aspect maligne Of fiercest opposition. 1738 Wesley *Ps.* cxxi. v, Thee the Moon's malignest Ray Shall never blast by Night.

b. *transf.*

1605 Bacon *Adv. Learn.* II. Ded. § 8 This dedicating of foundations and dotations to professory learning hath .. had a malign aspect and influence upon the growth of sciences. 1842 S. Lover *Handy Andy* xvi. 147 The Genius of Disaster, with aspect malign, waved her sable wand.

Malign (mălə·i'n), *v.* Forms: 5 malyngne, 5-6 -ygne, 5-7 -igne, 6 *Sc.* malligne, malyng, 6-7 *Sc.* maling, 6- malign. [a. OF. *malignier, maliner* to plot, deceive, ad. L. *malign-āre* to do or contrive maliciously, f. *malignus* Malign *a.*]

†1. *intr.* To speak evil, inveigh (*against*). *Obs.*

1426 Lydg. in *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 135 Ageins which noman may maligne, But that he stondith in the veray ligne, .. as descendid is Of the stok and blode of seint Lowys. — *De Guil. Pilgr.* 20391 And who that euere ageyn malygnes, They be but markys [etc.]. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 223 Luther and his adherentes, that moost of all maligneth agaynst this present article. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* iv. 30 Parchance sum inuyful detrakkers vil maling contrar me, sayand that [etc.].

†2. To entertain malice or ill-will. Const. *against, at. Obs.*

1494 Fabyan *Chron.* v. cxxiv. 103 Euer after they malygned agayne Theodobert. 1530 Palsgr. 632/1, I malygne agaynst one, I beare hym malyce. 1577-87 Holinshed *Chron.* III. 865/1, I nothing maligne for that you haue doone to me. 1652 C. B. Stapylton *Herodian* xvii. 142 Maligning much at this her Daughters Honour.

†3. To plot; to contrive (*against*). *Obs.*

1430-40 Lydg. *Bochas* ix. i. (1494) E v b, Whan any kingdom fyll in rebellyon Or gan malygne ageyn rome toun. *a* 1450 *Paston Lett.* I. 96 Hugh Wythom hath said he wold be in rest and peese with me, and not to maligne agayn me otherwise than lawe and right wold. 1494 Fabyan *Chron.* v. cii. 77 Thyse .ii. Bretherne newely maligned agayn theyr neuwe Theodobert,..and entendyd by theyr malyce to byreue hym of the Lordshyp of Austracy. 1539 Cromwell in Merriman *Life & Lett.* 21 Jan. (1902) II. 168 The said bishop .. contynually studyeth and maligneth, howe he migbt annoye or greve hym. *a* 1578 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S. T. S.) II. 85 They..still mallignit aganis the quene.

†4. *trans.* To regard with hatred or bitter dislike. Also, to resent, take amiss. *Obs.*

1513 More *Rich. III* Wks. 37/1 The Queene and the Lordes of ber bloode whiche highlye maligned the kynges kinred. 1560 Becon *Catech.* Wks. 1564 I. 411 b, S. Stephen..did so litle malign his enemies, that he did not only frely forgeue them, but he also prayed vnto God for them. *a* 1594 Kyd *Sp. Trag.* III. ii. 34 What cause had they Horatio to maligne? 1604 R. Cawdrey *Table Alph., Maligne*, to hate, with purpose to hurt. 1611 Speed *Theat. Gt. Brit.* xlvi. (1614) 92/1 The people of Dublin sent for him, and made him their king, which Mure-card King of Ireland maligning raised war. 1662 Stillingfl. *Orig. Sacr.* II. i. § 4 Can we think that a Nation and religion so maligned as the Jewish were, could have escaped discovery, if [etc.]. 1667 South *Twelve Serm.* (1697) II. 35 An ungrounded, odious, detestable Interest, so heartily, and so justly maligned.

†5. To regard with envy; to grudge, begrudge. Very frequent during the 17th c.

1590 Nashe *Almond for Parrat* 3 Didst thou so muche malign the successeful thriuings of the Gospell, that thou shouldst filche thyselfe..into our gouernement? 1594 Kyd *Cornelia* IV. ii. 75 And rendring thanks to heauen as we goe, For brideling those that dyd maligne our glory, Lets to the Capitoll. 1599 Hakluyt *Voy.* II. i. 285 The King of Spaine, .. maligning the quiet trafique which they vsed to and in the dominions..vnder the obedience of the Great Turke, had [etc.]. 1611 Bible *Ecclus.* xlv. 18 Strangers conspired together against him, and maligned [Gr. ἐζηλώσαν] him in the wildernesse. 1638 H. Shirley *Mart. Souldier* III. iv. in Bullen *O. Pl.* I. 218 No, no; the envious Gods Maligne our happinesse. 1645 Milton *Colast.* Wks. (1847) 228/2 This odious fool..maligning that anything should be spoke or understood above his own genuine baseness. 1653 H. Cogan tr. *Pinto's Trav.* lvi. 220 They reap no benefit by their maligning the prosperity of others. 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), To *Malign*, to envy; as *To malign one's Happiness.*

†b. *fig. Obs.*

1601 ? Marston *Pasquil & Kath.* II. 165 But now no more, bright day malings our loue. 1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* III. i. 188 The scarcitie of wood and water, with the barrennesse of the Soyle .. shew how it is maligned of the Elements. 1661 Boyle *Style of Script.* (1675) 87 Those Grounds, whose Surface bears no Fruit-Trees, (too much malign'd by the Arsenical and resembling fumes).

6. To speak ill of (one), to traduce, slander.

1647 Clarendon *Hist. Reb.* I. § 189 He was always maligned and persecuted by those who were of the Calvinian faction. 1718 *Entertainer* No. 30. 205 He is represented as a Tyrant and his Ministers malign'd of Persecution. *a* 1758 J. Edwards *Hist. Redempt.* III. ii. (1793) 350 No religion ever was so maligned, age after age. 1831 Brewster *Newton* (1855) II. xv. 47 The party who had first disturbed the tranquillity of science by maligning its most distinguished ornament. 1882 Miss Braddon *Mt. Royal* II. x. 238, I don't want to malign a man who has treated me with exceptional kindness and cordiality.

Malignance (mălī·gnăns). [f. Malignant *a.*: see -ance.] = Malignancy.

1641 Milton *Ch. Govt.* II. iii. Wks. 1851 III. 171 The minister..speeds him betimes to overtake that diffus'd malignance with some gentle potion of admonishment. 1743 Fielding *J. Wild* III. x, They discharge all their malignance outwardly. 1804 Anna Seward *Lett.* (1811) VI. 157 Its satire, which gratifies human malignance. 1895 *Chamb. Jrnl.* XII. 696/2 This is on a piece with Brant Dalton's cowardly malignance toward one who is fighting for him.

Malignancy (mălī·gnănsi). [f. Malignant *a.*: see -ancy.] The quality of being malignant.

1. Disaffection to rightful authority. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.* as the hostile designation for sympathy with the royalist cause. (Cf. Malignant B.)

1644 (*title*) Medicine for Malignancy: or Parliament Pill serving to Purge out the Malignant humours of men disaffected to the Republic. 1645 in Greenshields *Annals Lesmahagow* (1864) 153 The Lady Marquesse of Douglasse, ..being gravely examined anent her malignancie and obstinate continewance in the profession of poperie. 1647 May *Hist. Parl.* II. i. 3 The malignancy, which at that time began to appear in people. 1649 Milton *Eikon.* ix. Wks. 1851 III. 404 Many of the Lords and some few of the Commons, either intic'd away by the King, or overaw'd by the sence of thir own Malignancy not prevailing, deserted the Parlament. 1660 Burney Κέρδ. Δῶρον Ep. Ded. (1661) 2 Each holy text that mentioned a king, was then a note of Malignancy.

2. *Path.* Of a disease, morbid growth, etc. (Cf. Malignant A. 2.)

1685 Evelyn *Mrs. Godolphin* 148 There now appearing a kind of Erisypulus..the malignancy grew desperate. 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Malignancy*, malignant Nature or Quality; as *The Malignancy of a Feaver.* 1724 De Foe *Mem. Cavalier* (1840) 26 A slow..fever..turned to a burning malignancy. 1826 S. Cooper *First Lines Surg.* (ed. 5) 202 It cannot be cured without an operation; but it is quite free from malignancy. 1898 J. Hutchinson in *Arch. Surg.* IX. 295 The tumour..was..so suggestive of malignancy that amputation was contemplated.

3. Malign or baleful character; unpropitiousness; noxiousness, deleteriousness.

1601 Shaks. *Twel. N.* II. i. 4 My starres shine darkely ouer me; the malignancie of my fate, might perhaps distemper yours. 1656 Stanley *Hist. Philos.* V. (1701) 207/2 Jupiter [is placed] next Saturn, to abate his Malignancy. 1727 Swift *What passed in London* Wks. 1755 III. i. 187 There might be a pestilential malignancy in the air, occasioned by the comet.

4. Malignant or intensely malevolent disposition; envenomed hostility; desire to inflict injury or suffering.

1640 Howell *Dodona's Grove* 109 His eldest Graff succeeded him a while in Royall favour; but he quickly fell, by the malignancie of great ones. 1683 Dryden *Life Plutarch* 43 The meer malignancy of a spirit delighted naturally in mischief. 1706 *Reflex. upon Ridicule* 390 Penetration gives her more artifice and malignancy. 1782 Eliz. Blower *Geo. Bateman* III. 118 The malignancy of disappointed playwrights. 1856 Froude *Hist. Eng.* (1858) I. i. 17 A war unequalled in history for its fierce and determined malignancy. 1897 Mary Kingsley *W. Africa* 505 If a man were..shot with an arrow, the cause of death is clearly the malignancy of the person using these weapons.

5. An instance of malignancy; a malignant quality.

1652 Bp. Hall *Myst. Godl.* § 7. 34 O Saviour, abundantly justified in the spirit against all the malignancies of men and Devils! 1672 Grew *Idea Philos. Hist. Plants* § 8 What may best correct their Malignancies, or inforce their Virtues. 1869 Bushnell *Wom. Suffrage* vii. 141 They let in also little malignancies that are poisonous. 1899 *Daily News* 29 May 8/5 The merits of whose members compensate for the malignancies of their [golf] course.

Malignant (mălī·gnănt), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. late L. *malignant-em*, pr. pple. of *malignāre, -ārī* to do mischief, injure maliciously (see Malign *v.*). Cf. OF. *malignant.*

Sense 1 is derived from the use of *malignantes* in the Vulgate as the rendering of Heb. מְרֵעִים *mᵊrēʿîm*, pl. pple. of רָעַע *hērēʿ* to do evil (to): see Malign *v.* Senses 2-4 represent uses of the L. *malignus*: see Malign *a.*]

A. *adj.*

†1. Disposed to rebel against God or against constituted authority; disaffected, malcontent. *Obs.*

The church malignant: a patristic designation for the followers of antichrist, often applied by the early Protestants to the Church of Rome. Cf. F. *église malignante* in Godefroy. (Alluding to Ps. xxv[i]. 5, Vulg. *ecclesiam malignantium*, Eng. Bible 'the congregation of euill doers'.)

1542-5 Brinklow *Lament.* (1874) 116 Your other brethern of the Romishe churches, or church malygnant. 1548 Udall *Erasm. Par.* Pref. to Rdr., Whosoeuer is not of an extreme malignaunt stomake against the due settyng forth of Goddes woorde. 1553 Kennedy *Compend. Tract.* in *Wodrow Soc. Misc.* (1844) 115 The Kirk malignant. *a* 1563 Becon *God's Word & Man's Inv.* Wks. 1563 III. 394 Mans inuention is the execrable rule of the children of Satans kingdome, that is, of ye Church malignant. 1604 Shaks. *Oth.* V. ii. 353 In Aleppo once, Where a malignant, and a Turbond-Turke Beate a Venetian, and traduc'd the State. 1621 Bp. Mountagu *Diatribæ* 312, I have good cause to ranke you with the formost of those malignant ones. 1659 J. Arrowsmith *Chain Princ.* 173 Logicians say of this particle Not, that it is of a malignant nature; Divines know that the malignant Church is much built up by such negatives.

absol. 1778 Bp. Lowth *Transl. Isaiah* xxix. 24 (ed. 12) 54 The malignant [A.V. They that murmured] shall attend to instruction. 1846 J. Baxter *Libr. Pract. Agric.* (ed. 4) I. p. xvii, Excesses in which the malignant indulged under the guise of patriotism [*c* 1832].

b. *spec.* Applied between 1641 and 1660 by the supporters of the Parliament and the Commonwealth to their adversaries. (See B. b.)

1641 *Remonstr. St. Kingd.* 11 The unexpected reconciliation was most acceptable to all the Kingdome, except to the malignant partie, whereof the Archbishop and the Earle of Si[r]afford being heads, they and their faction begun [etc.]. *Ibid.* 24 Thus with Eliah, we are called by this malignant party the troublers of the State. 1642 J. M[arsh] *Argt. conc. Militia* 28 The Parliament defend the king and kingdom; and the malignant party use all their skill to make both miserable. 1659 *Clarke Papers* (Camden) IV. 169 Mannaged wholly by the Cavaleere Malignant party. 1708 Swift *Sacram. Test* Wks. 1755 II. i. 133 In those times, when the church of England was malignant.

c. In 1642 Charles I retorted the application of the epithet upon the Parliamentary party.

1642 Chas. I *Sp.* 27 Sept. in Rushw. *Hist. Coll.* (1721) V. 21 How I have been dealt with by a Powerful malignant Party in this Kingdom, whose Designs are no less than to destroy my Person and Crown. 1642 *Declar. Lords & Com.* ibid. 42 Whereas the Parliament, under the Name of a Malignant Party, is charged with an Endeavour to..corrupt the Allegiance of the King's Subjects.

2. Of a disease: Characterized by extreme virulence; exceptionally contagious or infectious. Now chiefly used as the distinctive epithet of a definite variety of a disease, as in *malignant cholera, malignant small-pox*, etc.

Malignant growth, tumour: in mod. use applied to carcinomata and sarcomata, forming a class 'characterized by their rapidity of growth, .. by the extension to the lymphatic glands, and by their recurrence in situ and in distant organs after removal' (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*).

1568 Skeyne *The Pest* A iij, Quhilk is generit within vs, or of vther causis [than the air] is callit ane Malignant feuer. 1601 Shaks. *All's Well* II. i. 114 Hearing your high Maiestie is toucht With that malignant cause. 1608 Topsell *Serpents* (1658) 629 The malignant symptomes were all evacuated. 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Malignant Disease*, is that which rages more vehemently, and continues longer than its Nature seems to incline. *Ibid.* s.v. *Tumour*, Malignant Tumours, those that are always accompany'd with extraordinary and dreadful Symptoms. *a* 1776 R. James *Diss. Fevers* (1778) 130 That species of sore throat which is ridiculously called malignant. 1799 *Med. Jrnl.* II. 499 The malignant small-pox, which prevailed..during the year 1798. 1804 Abernethy *Surg. Obs.* 45 The wound degenerated into a malignant ulcer. 1807-26 S. Cooper *First Lines Surg.* (ed. 5) 60 The malignant or gangrenous erysipelas. 1873 T. H. Green *Introd. Pathol.* (ed. 2) 108 The malignant properties of a tumour may manifest themselves either in the tissues immediately adjacent to it or..in more distant parts. *Ibid.* 157 'Cancerous' and 'malignant' have come to be regarded by many as synonymous terms. 1885 *West. Daily Press* 19 Jan. 7/5 The woolsorters' disease, known also as splenic fever, malignant pustule, and Siberian plague. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 104 Several forms of malignant measles are met with. 1898 J. Hutchinson in *Arch. Surg.* IX. 327 There was no definite history of tuberculosis or of malignant growths in the family.

b. *absol.* A malignant fever.

1825 Good *Study Med.* (ed. 2) II. 164 It is the *febris gastrico-nervosa* of Professor Frank, who justly regards it as an intense variety of the ordinary autumnal malignant of temperate climates.

3. Having an evil influence. Chiefly *Astrol.* and with reference to magical agencies = Malign (whence *transf.* in *malignant aspect*). Formerly also of material substances, plants, etc.: Poisonous, deleterious.

1591 Shaks. 1 *Hen. VI*, IV. v. 6 O malignant and ill-boading Starres. — *Two Gent.* III. i. 238 No more: vnles the next word that thou speak'st Haue some malignant power vpon my life. 1608 D. T. T[uvil] *Ess. Pol. & Mor.* 21 b, The malignant aspect of any person in authority towards his inferiour, is thought a sufficient warrant for euery man to wrong him. 1654 Bramhall *Just Vind.* vi. (1661) 146 Where the influence of Religion is malignant. 1667 Milton *P. L.* x. 662 Taught the fixt Thir influence malignant when to showre. 1691 Ray *Creation* I. (1692) 103 The noxious and malignant Plants. 1692 — *Disc.* ii. (1732) 106 Melted Snow which gives it [the water] that malignant Quality. 1704 Swift *Batt. Bks.* Wks. 1751 I. 210 An atramentous Quality of most malignant Nature was seen to distil from his Lips. 1752 Young *Brothers* I. i, A comet, with malignant blaze, Denouncing ruin. 1756 Burke *Vind. Nat. Soc.* Wks. I. 70 The close vapour of these malignant minerals. 1765 T. Hutchinson *Hist. Mass.* I. 150 A witch .. charged with having .. a malignant touch. 1799 Campbell *Pleas. Hope* I. 34 Every woe, Shot from malignant Stars to earth below. 1822 Good *Study Med.* II. 221 Attended by nurses or midwives, who had previously attended the latter [i. e. puerperal patients] without sufficiently changing their malignant dress. 1876 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* V. xxiv. 381 The malignant genius of Flambard. 1887 Ruskin *Præterita* II. 38 The bise, now first letting one feel what malignant wind could be.

absol. 1800 Coleridge *Piccolom.* I. ii, This is your Venus! and the sole malignant [orig. *der Maleficus*], The only one that harmeth you, is Doubt.

4. Characterized by malignity or intense ill-will; keenly desirous of the suffering or misfortune of another, or of others generally.

1592 tr. *Junius on Rev.* ix. 3 The malignant spirits invading the world. 1594 Shaks. *Rich. III*, II. ii. 52 Two Mirrors of his Princely semblance, Are crack'd in pieces, by malignant death. 1613 — *Hen. VIII*, I. ii. 141 His will is most malignant, and it stretches Beyond you to your friends. 1625 Bacon *Ess., Envy* (Arb.) 513 Cains Enuy, was the more vile, and Malignant, towards his brother Abel. 1667 Milton *P. L.* XII. 538 So shall the World goe on, To good malignant, to bad men benigne. 1751 Johnson *Rambler* No. 87 ¶ 12 An author cannot .. be often suspected of any malignant intention to insult his readers with his knowledge or his wit. 1778 Johnson in Boswell *Life* (1831) IV. 140 An old gentleman who was absolutely malignant. He really wished evil to others, and rejoiced at it. 1792 Burke *Lett., to R. Burke* (1844) III. 368 It is full of the most malignant insinuations. 1866 Dk. Argyll *Reign Law* vi. (1871) 278 The loving may become malignant: the simple-minded may become suspicious. 1897 Mary Kingsley *W. Africa* 505 Death was always the consequence of the action of some malignant spirit.

†b. Wickedly disposed, obstinately criminal.

1784 Cowper *Task* II. 158 But where all Stand chargeable with guilt, .. God .. May punish, if He please, the less, to warn The more malignant.

B. *sb.* One who is disaffected towards rightful authority, a malcontent. †In early use also: One who is ill-disposed toward true religion.

1597 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* v. ii. § 4 There are of these wise malignants some, who have vouchsafed it [religion] their marvellous favourable countenance. 1617 Hales *Serm.* 29 Diverse malignants there are, who lie in wait to espie where our reasons on which we build are weake. 1716 Addison *Freeholder* No. 8 ¶ 2 One may .. discover, among the Malignants of the Sex, a face that seems to have been naturally designed for a Whig lady... Would the pretty Malcontent be persuaded to love her King and Country, it would [etc.]. 1776 Trumbull in Sparks *Corr. Amer. Rev.* (1853) I. 269 Our internal malignants may be permitted to do many injurious and insidious things. 1862 Merivale *Rom. Emp.* (1865) VII. lix. 243 Once more he charged Josephus to summon the malignants. 1884 J. Colborne *Hicks Pasha* 115 It is suggested to us by the Egyptian officers that these woods are full of malignants.

b. Used by opponents as a designation for a member of the party which supported Charles I against the Parliament; a Royalist, Cavalier. Also, in religious sense, applied by Puritans and Covenanters to their ecclesiastical adversaries. (The two applications are often coincident.) Now *Hist.*

1642 Chas. I *Declar.* in Rushw. *Hist. Coll.* (1721) V. 76 That to be a Traitor (which is defined, and every Man understands) should be no Crime; and to be called a Malignant (which no Body knows the Meaning of) should be Ground enough for close Imprisonment? 1642–3 Earl of Newcastle *Declar.* ibid. 134 The second Charge is, That my Army consists of Papists and other Malignants. 1644 Quarles *Barnabas & B.* 128 His studied prayers shew him to be a high malignant. 1644 *Weekly Intell.* No. 68. 548 The country is full of Malignants. 1651 Baxter *Inf. Bapt.* 233, I undertake .. to defend the .. Dominion of my Lord, whose name is King of Kings .. (not onely the greatest of Kings, as some Malignants do interpret it, as if others were, though lesser, yet not subordinate). 1670 — *Cure Ch. Div.* Pref. II. § 6 He was no Malignant nor intended to gird at Godliness. 1743 J. Glas *Treat. Lords Supper* II. iii. 34 The holy One of God passed for a Deceiver and a Samaritan, or malignant. 1874 Green *Short Hist.* viii. § 10. 567 Catholics and 'Malignants', as those who had fought for the King were called, were alone excluded from the franchise.

Malignantly (mălĭ·gnăntlĭ), *adv.* [f. Malignant *a.* + -ly [2].] In a malignant manner.

1606 Warner *Alb. Eng.* XVI. ci. 401 Nor beate we here malignantly at sacred Beanties Luster. 1607 Shaks. *Cor.* II. iii. 191 If he should still malignantly remaine Fast Foe toth' Plebeij. 1634 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* 211 [One tree] I tasted of, which .. malignantly bit and wronged my mouth and lips. 1745 W. Thompson *Sickness* I. 337 Malignantly delighted, dire Disease Surveys the glittering pest, and grimly smiles. 1855 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xvii. IV. 50 Her powers of seduction and intimidation were malignantly extolled.

b. In the manner of a malignant.

1645 *Answ. Prynne's Quest. Ch. Govt.* in Prynne *Irish Discov. Wand. Blazing Stars* 42 The greatest part .. are thought to be Popishly or Malignantly inclined.

†**Mali·gnantness.** *Obs.*—[f. Malignant *a.* + -ness.] = Malignancy.

1727 Bailey vol. II, *Malignantness*, hurtfulness, mischievousness, malignant nature or quality, ill-will.

Malignation (mælignēi·ʃən). Also 5 malignacion, malynacyon. [n. of action f. late L. *malignāre*: see Malign *v.*]

†1. Feeling of dislike or ill-will. *Obs.*

c 1470 Harding *Chron.* VI. i, So stronge then was this generacion None durst it noye for theyr malignacion. *c* 1485 *Digby Myst.* (1882) III. 128 Þat .. ony moteryng aȝens me make with malynacyon.

†2. ? A malefic incantation. *Obs.*

1652 Gaule *Magastrom.* 269 Carpocrates .. used .. malignations, inductions, illictations, &c.

3. The action of maligning or slandering. *rare.*

1836 Mrs. Gore *Mrs. Armytage* III. 21 Mrs. Armytage .. suffered him to proceed with his malignations. 1843 G. S. Faber *Sacr. Calend. Prophecy* (1844) I. p. xvi, An Extensive Suppression of Evidence which stood opposed to the author's purpose of malignation.

†**Maligne.** *Obs.* Forms: 5 malygny, malynge, malyngne. [a. OF. *maligne* sb., f. *maligne* Malign *a.*] Malice, wickedness.

a 1460 *Gregory's Chron.* in *Hist. Coll. Citizen Lond.* (Camden) 125 Welle and trewly whythe owte any fraude or malygny [*Chron. in Julius B.* I *reads* malengyne]. *Ibid.* 150 With owte fraude, desepsyon, and malynge. *c* 1485 *Digby Myst.* (1882) III. 720 Þat we may com to your blysse glorvfyed from malyngne.

Maligner (mălə·nər). Also 5 malyngnour. [f. Malign *v.* + -er [1].] One who maligns, in various senses of the vb.; †one who bears ill-will (*obs.*); a traducer, slanderer.

c 1425 *Found. St. Bartholomew's* (E.E.T.S.) 16 [He] ȝaue sharpe sentence aȝenste contrary malyngnours. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 218 b, I have hated the congregacyon of maligners [= Ps. xxv. 17 Vulg. *ecclesiam malignantium*]. *c* 1557 Abp. Parker *Ps.* xxxvii. 102 Maligners all shall haue a fall, They shall be all deepe rooted out. [Cf. Vulgate: *qui malignantur, exterminabuntur.*] 1621 Br. Mountagu *Diatribæ* 483 Maligners at, and detayners of the Church-Portion in Tithes. 1624 Capt. Smith *Virginia* III. xi. 86 A most crafty fellow and his ancient Maligner. 1742 Richardson *Pamela* IV. 220 In a better Sense I speak it than the Maligner spoke it of Job. 1889 *Sat. Rev.* 23 Mar. 335/1 He might handle the maligners of quiet women and men as they deserve.

Malignify (mălĭ·gnifəi), *v. rare.* [f. L. *malign-us* malign + *-ficāre*: see -fy.] *trans.* To render malign.

1613 Jackson *Creed* I. xxx. § 4. 206 Stubbornenesse is but a strong hope malignified, or .. growne wilde and out of kinde. 1638 Chillingw. *Relig. Prot.* I. Answ. Pref. § 29 As they [errors] were qualified or malignified with good or bad circumstances. 1829 Southey *Sir T. More* I. 258 So dreadful are the effects of a strong faith malignified.

Mali·gning, *ppl. a.* [f. Malign *v.* + -ing [2].] That maligns (see the vb.).

c 1425 *Found. St. Bartholomew's* (E. E. T. S.) 49 The malignyng ennemy went bis way. 1687 Shadwell *Juvenal* X. 171 Vows from the maligning Gods obtein'd. 1871 R. Ellis tr. *Catullus* v. 2 Sour severity, tongue of eld maligning.

†**Mali·gnious,** *a. Obs. rare*—[1]. [f. Malign *a.* + -ious. Cf. It. *malignoso.*] Of malicious speech.

1578 Florio *1st Fruites* Ep. Ded., Being bold under your honours patronage to shield me with defence against such carping, blustering, and malignious tongues.

Malignity (mălĭ·gnĭti). Also 4 malignitee, malygnitee, 6 malygnyte, malignite, malygnitie, 7 malignitie. [a. OF. *malignité*, ad. L. *malignitās*, f. *malignus* Malign *a.*: see -ity.]

1. Wicked and deep-rooted ill-will or hatred; intense and persistent desire to cause suffering to another person; propensity to this feeling.

c 1386 Chaucer *Pars. T.* ¶ 439 Thanne comth malignitee thurgh which a man anoyeth his neighebor priuely. 1533–4 *Act* 25 *Hen. VIII*, c. 12 Persons .. whiche beare malice and malignite to al the kinges procedinges in the said deuorse. 1593 R. Harvey *Philad.* 17 Jealousie and malignity are two blinde guids. 1611 Bible *Transl. Pref.* ¶ 3 Neither is there any likelihood, that ennie and malignitie died, and were buried with the ancient. 1641 *Remonstr. St. Kingd.* 3 The Commons .. do yet finde an abounding Malignity, and opposition in those parties, and factions, who have been the cause of those evils. 1775 Johnson *Let. to Mrs. Thrale* 21 July, There are few things that are worthy of anger, and still fewer that can justify malignity. 1797 Mrs. Radcliffe *Italian* iv. (1826) 25 A dark malignity overspread the features of the monk. 1803 Wellington in Gurw. *Desp.* (1837) II. 300 The falsehood and malignity of the charge. 1818 Hazlitt *Eng. Poets* iii. (1870) 84 Satan is not the principle of malignity, or of abstract love of evil. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* I. I. 87 He .. felt towards those whom he had deserted that peculiar malignity which has, in all ages, been characteristic of apostates. 1862 Stanley *Jew. Ch.* (1877) I. v. 92 His flight is occasioned rather by the malignity of his countrymen than by the enmity of the Egyptians.

b. *pl.* Malignant feelings or actions.

a 1529 Skelton *Col. Cloute* 541 Raylynge haynously And dysdaynously Of preestly dygnytes, But theyr malygnytes. 1607 Carpenter *Plaine Mans Plough* 212 Nor would the Diuell .. surcease .. his cursed malignities against Christ. 1861 Holland *Less. Life* xv. 220 If they .. clothe these black malignities in silken phrases we hear them with a certain kind of pleasure.

2. Wickedness, heinousness. *arch.*

1534 More *Comf. agst. Trib.* II. Wks. 1199/2 We .. are consumed & wasted & come to nought in our malygnitie. 1654 Bramhall *Just Vind.* iii. (1661) 33 A title .. laid aside by Protestants, not so much for any malignity that was in it, as for the ill sounds sake. 1684 *Contempt. St. Man* II. x. (1699) 235 So great is the Malignity of a Mortal Sin. 1702 *Eng. Theophrast.* 180 We imitate the good out of emulation, and the bad out of our natural corruption and malignity. 1860 Pusey *Min. Proph.* 178 The more God reveals to any, what He Is, .. the more utter malignity it is .. to have indeed said to Him, 'On Thy terms I will have none of Thee'.

3. Noxiousness, deleteriousness. *arch.*

1605 Timme *Quersit.* I. xv. 77 Coagulated salts or tartar .. doe reach to the uppermost degree of their malignity. 1617 Moryson *Itin.* I. 250 They say, that the Owes of the Sea doe here much increase the malignitie of the aire. 1626 Bacon *Sylva* § 74, I conceive that Opium and the like, make the Spirits flie rather by Malignity, than by Cold. 1656 Evelyn *Diary* (1850) I. 316 Cinders .. deprived of their sulphur and arsenic malignity. 1705 Addison *Italy* 230 The Sides of the Grotto are mark'd with Green, as high as the Malignity of the Vapour reaches. 1712 — *Spect.* No. 457 ¶ 3 The Lady Blast .. has such a particular Malignity in her Whisper, that it blights like an Easterly Wind. 1707–12 Mortimer *Husb.* (1721) I. 251 Some propose to Macerate them [acorns] in Water first, to extract their Malignity. 1777 Burke *Lett. to Sheriffs of Bristol* Wks. III. 136 The other [statute] (for a partial suspension of the *Habeas Corpus*) appears to me of a much deeper malignity. 1858 Hawthorne *Fr. & It. Note-Bks.* (1872) I. 54 The atmosphere certainly has a peculiar quality of malignity.

4. Of diseases or wounds: Malignant character, malignancy.

1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* II. iii. 73 Wounds which are made with weapons excited by the Loadstone, contract a malignity, and become of more difficult cure. 1670 Walton *Lives* III. 225 He fell into a long and sharp sickness .. from the malignity of which he was never recovered. 1747 Berkeley *Tar-water in Plague* Wks. III. 481 An erysipelas, which sheweth a degree of malignity nearest to the plague. 1759 Robertson *Hist. Scot.* IV. Wks. 1813 I. 300 The vigour of his constitution surmounted the malignity of his disease. 1806 *Med. Jrnl.* XV. 311 The natural small-pox, which almost every year desolated Mexico and Peru, has lost its malignity in those climates. 1865 *Cornh. Mag.* XI. 599 Typhus fever .. has assumed unwonted activity and malignity. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV. 836 Early implication of neighbouring portions of the larynx .. points to malignity.

Malignly (mălə·nli), *adv.* [f. Malign *a.* + -ly [2].] In a malign manner.

1. With malicious or evil intention.

1543 Bale *Yet a Course Rom. Fox* 52 Soche are euermore the vnworthye wayes of thys worlde, malygnelye to blame menne for ther wele doynge. 1670 Milton *Hist. Eng.* v. *Ethelwolf*, The Eastern and worst part was malignly afforded to the Father. 1737 Pope *Hor. Epist.* II. i. 339 Yet lest you think I .. praise malignly Arts I cannot reach, Let me [etc.]. 1741 Shenstone *Judgm. Hercules* 117 Her thoughts, to other's charms malignly blind. 1876 G. Meredith *Beauch. Career* II. v. 74 The object malignly called the Briton. 1881 Mrs. C. Praed *Policy & P.* II. 36 The old man chuckled malignly.

2. Unpropitiously, pemiciously. 1828 in Webster.

Malignment (mălə·nmĕnt). *rare.* [f. Malign *v.* + -ment.] The act of maligning.

1885 *Century Mag.* XXX. 675 That recrimination and malignment of motive.

†**Mali·gnous,** *a. Obs. rare*—[1]. [f. L. *malignus* Malign *a.* + -ous.] = Malignant.

1610 Barrough *Meth. Physick* v. xi. (1617) 294 It mightily discusseth the malignous humour which exciteth the Carbuncle.

‖ **Malik** (mæ·lik). [Arab. ملك *mālik*, pr. pple. of *malaka* to possess, rule.] The chief or headman of a village or other community in parts of India and Central Asia.

1855 H. H. Wilson *Gloss. Judic. & Rev. Terms, Malik*, .. a master, an owner, .. or a person having a beneficial and hereditary interest in the revenue paid by the cultivators, and responsible to the government for its share; hence considered applicable, in Bengal, to Zamindars, and in the north-west provinces to the head man of a village. 1897 *Daily News* 14 June 5/7 Two maliks were sent ahead by him to Maizar. 1901 *Scotsman* 11 Mar. 9/1 Government has been giving a good round sum to the Maliks yearly.

Hence ‖ **Malikana** (mælikā·nă), a pension or retaining fee paid to an Indian chief or headman.

1846 H. H. Wilson *Brit. India* II. 140 He was accordingly allowed to reside at Puri, .. upon a yearly malikana.

Malilla, malillio, variant forms of Manille.

Malincolia, -coly (e, obs. ff. Melancholia, -ly.

Malincolyous, obs. form of Melancholious.

Mal-i·nfluence. [See Mal-.] Evil influence.

1792 Anna Seward *Lett.* (1811) III. 117 The mal-influence upon your nerves from marine damps. 1796 *Ibid.* IV. 289 The mal-influence of a violent cold. 1822 De Quincey *Confess.* App. 199 Opium .. having left the body weaker .. and thus predisposed to any mal-influence whatever.

†**Mal-info·rtuned,** *ppl. a. Obs.* [f. Mal- + (?) Enfortune *v.* + -ed [1].] Ill-fortuned.

1475 *Bk. Noblesse* (Roxb.) 17 The male-infortuned journey at Bougée. [Cf. Male-journey.]

Maling, obs. f. MAILING *Sc.*, MALIGN *v.*

Malingen, variant of MALENGIN *Obs.*

Malinger (mălĭ·ŋgəɹ), *v.* [f. F. *malingre* sickly, ailing (formerly 'sore, scabbie, ongbie, loathsome', Cotgr.); of obscure origin.] *intr.* To pretend illness, or to produce or protract disease, in order to escape duty; said *esp.* of soldiers and sailors.

1820 E. T. LUSCOMBE *Pract. Obs. Means Preserv. Health Sold.* 88 Formerly, it was ulcers of the legs, which were most usually produced by artificial means by soldiers.. disposed to malinger. 1844 MACAULAY *Ess., Chatham*, Some were half inclined to suspect that he was, to use a military phrase, malingering. 1872 BROWNING *Fifine* lxxvi, Be sick by stealth, Nor traffic with disease—malingering in health! 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 150 The question comes to be, whether the patient.. is malingering.

Malingerer (mălĭ·ŋgərəɹ). [f. MALINGER *v.* + -ER[1].] One who malingers.

1785 GROSE *Dict. Vulg. Tongue, Malingeror*, a military term for one who under pretence of sickness evades his duty. 1843 GAVIN *Feigned & Factitious Dis.* 13 Soldiers and sailors feigning disease are commonly designated as malingerers or skulkers. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 157 The crew of incapables and malingerers who infest our hospitals, our asylums, and our gaols.

Malingering (mălĭ·ŋgərĭŋ), *vbl. sb.* [See -ING[1].] The action of the verb MALINGER.

1861 T. J. GRAHAM *Pract. Med.* 602 There are three conditions from which it is important to distinguish it—from apoplexy, from hysteria, and..from malingering. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 150 Malingering is generally easily detected by one who is accustomed to examine nervous cases.

Malingering, *ppl. a.* [f. MALINGER *v.* + -ING[2].] That malingers.

1865 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* XIV. viii. (1872) V. 261 Karl Edzard, Prince of East Friesland, long a weak malingering creature, died, rather suddenly. 1894 H. NISBET *Bush Girl's Rom.* 60 [He] mopes about like a malingering lag.

Malingery (mălĭ·ŋgəri). [f. MALINGER *v.* + -Y.] = MALINGERING *vbl. sb.*

1847-54 in WEBSTER; and in later Dicts.

Malinowskite (mælĭnɒ·vskəit). *Min.* [Named in 1876 by A. Raimondi after E. *Malinowski*.] A variety of tetrahedrite, containing lead and silver.

1882 DANA *Man. Mineral. & Lithol.* (ed. 4) 136.

† **Mal-intentionee.** *Obs.* In quot. male-. [ad. F. *mal-intentionné*, f. *mal* (see MAL-) + *intentionné* intentioned.] An evil-intentioned person.

a 1734 NORTH *Exam.* III. vii. § 41 (1740) 532 There was another Agent..qualified to treat with the Male Intentionees in England.

Malipart, -pert, variant forms of MALAPERT.

Malipede (mælĭpīd). *Zool.* [f. mod.L. *mălæ* jaw + *ped-*, *pēs* foot.] Any one of the last two pairs of cephalic appendages in the chilopods.

1883 PACKARD in *Proc. Amer. Phil. Soc.* June 201 The second pair of malipedes, or last pair of mouth-appendages, are the poison fangs. — in *Ann. & Mag. Nat. Hist.* Nov. 342 We therefore propose the term malipedes..for the fourth and fifth pair of cephalic appendages.

Hence **Malipedal** (mălĭ·pĭdăl), *a. Zool.*, pertaining to the malipedes of chilopods.

1883 PACKARD in *Proc. Amer. Phil. Soc.* June 201 The tergum of the fourth segment, or second malipedal segment. — in *Ann. & Mag. Nat. Hist.* Nov. 343 The second malipedal tergite.

‖ **Malis** (mē·lis). *Path. Obs.* [mod.L. *mălis*, a. Gr. *μᾶλις* a disease in horses and asses (the late L. *malleus* 'glanders', may perh. be identical). In medical Latin, *malis* has been used as a generic term (with various specific designations) for parasitic skin diseases.] = GLANDERS.

1607 TOPSELL *Fourf. Beasts* (1658) 60 The Malis or Glaunders..The humors which annoy the body of oxen are many. The first is a moist one called Malis, issuing at the nose.

Malis, malisce, variant ff. MALEASE *Obs.*

Malis(e, obs. form of MALICE.

Malism (mē·liz'm). [f. L. *mal-us* bad, evil + -ISM, after *pessimism*.] The doctrine that this world is an evil one.

1883 EDGEWORTH in *Academy* 17 Mar. 182/3 Mr. Barlow decides in favour of Pessimism, or rather 'Malism', the preponderance of evil over good. 1883 H. GOODWIN *Sci. & Faith* 243 Malism, to use a convenient expression, is acknowledged on all hands; while against pessimism [etc.]. 1887 CHEYNE *Job & Solomon* 201 Koheleth, though theoretically perhaps an optimist, constantly relapses into a more congenial 'malism'. 1896 TOLLEMACHE *Jowett* 91 Jowett's optimism verges on pessimism, or, let us say, his bonism verges on malism.

Malison (mæ·lisən), *sb. arch.* and *dial.* Forms: 4 malisun(e, malysun, malesun, maliscun, malescun, malicun, malicoun, 4–5 malyson(e, malisoun(e, 4–6 malysoun, 5–6 maleso(u)n(e, 6 malisone, 7 mallison, 4– malison. [a. OF. *maleison* :—L. *maledictiōn-em* MALEDICTION.]

1. A curse, malediction.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 2051 His malison on þam he laid. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 426 Hnue he the malisun to-day Of alle þat eure speken may! *c* 1320 *Sir Beues* 3696, I praie Mahoun þar fore 3eue þe is malisoun. *c* 1450 *Mirour Saluacioun* 580 The malison of oure for-modere shuld torne to benedictionne. 1583 *Leg. Bp. St. Androis* 283 Scho endit, And left hir malisone, consider, To Lowrie, and the land together. 1586 *Durham Depos* (Surtees) 319 He answered, God's malison light on him, for he haith beggered me. 1691 RAY *Coll. Words, Gloss. Northanhymb.* 146 *Mallison*, q.d. *Malediction*, v. *Bennison*. 1721 RAMSAY *Lucky Spence* xvi, My malison light.. On them that drink and dinna pay. 1808 SCOTT *Marmion* v. xxv, A minstrel's malison is said. 1861 GOLDW. SMITH *Irish Hist.* 43 Their malison was almost as terrible as the curse of a priest. 1865 KINGSLEY *Herew.* xiii, Farewell, and my malison abide with thee!

† 2. The state or condition of being cursed. *Obs.*

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xliii. (*Cecile*) 277 Sa man, þat ves in malysone, mycht þar chese lestand benysone.

3. *dial.* A plague, torment. Also with sb. prefixed, as *cat-malison* (see CAT *sb.* 18), *horse-malison* one who is cruel to horses. (See E. D. D.)

† **Malison** (mæ·lisən), *v. Sc. Obs.* [f. prec. sb.] *trans.* To curse; to pronounce a malediction upon.

1588 A. KING tr. *Canisius' Catech.* in *Cath. Tract.* (S.T.S.) 215 To malesone any, by geuing thame to the deuil, in visching thame sicknes, deathe or any euill. 1675 in Edgar *Old Ch. Life Scott.* (1885) 273 *note*, [A woman confessed that she] malinsount [another woman].

Maliss, obs. form of MALICE.

Malist (mē·list). [f. L. *mal-us* bad, evil + -IST.] One who holds the doctrine of malism.

1882 J. W. BARLOW *Ultim. Pessimism* 5 So we see that Optimist and Pessimist are no longer suitable names..; and the positive forms Bonist and Malist would certainly be more appropriate. 1887 CHEYNE *Job & Solomon* 202 Bad as things are, he does not believe that the world is getting worse and worse..he is a 'malist'.

Malistic (mălĭ·stik), *a.* [f. MALIST + -IC.] Pertaining to or favouring malism.

1896 TOLLEMACHE *Jowett* 95 After putting side by side the bonistic and malistic sayings of Jowett.

Maliti(o)us, obs. form of MALICIOUS.

Malivolence, -ent, -us: see MALEVOLENCE, etc.

Malke, obs. form of MAWK.

Malkin, mawkin (mɔ̄·kin). *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Forms: *α.* 3 malekin, 4–7 malkyn, 5 malkyne, 6–8 maulkin, 7 maulken, malkiue, malking, mol-kin, 4- malkin. *β.* 6 maukyn, mawkine, 6–9 maukin, 6–8 mauking, 8 *Sc.* mawking, 6- mawkin. [A familiar diminutive of *Matilda*, *Maud* (ME. *Maalde*, *Malde*): see -KIN.]

† 1. Used as a female personal name; applied typically to a woman of the lower classes, esp. in various proverbial expressions. *Obs.*

c 1275 *Lutel Sermun* 54 in *O. E. Misc.* 188 Ne þeos prude 3ungemen þat luuieþ malekin, And þeos prude maidenes þat luuieþ Ianekin. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* I. 158 3e naue no more movit in masse ne in houres Then Malkyn of hire maydenhod that no mon desyreth. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Man of Law's Prol.* 30 It wol nat come agayn with outen drede Na moore than wole Malkynes maydenhede Whan she hath lost it in hir wantownesse. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 323/2 Malkyne, or Mawt, propyr name..*Matildis*. 1546 J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* (1867) 26 Whan I wyld the any other where to go, Tushe, there was no mo maydes but malkyn tho. 1564 MARTIALL *Treat. Cross* IV. 67 A goodly reason by S. Mary, not much vnlieke to an old mother Maukyns talk. 1579 GOSSON *Sch. Abuse* (Arb.) 37 There are more houses then Parishe Churches, more maydes then Maulkin. 1602 BRETON *Wond. worth Hearing* (Grosart) 8/2 Holding out her chinne and drawing in her mouth (lyke Malkins olde Mare). 1670 RAY *Prov.* 118 There are more maids then maukin.

† b. The proper name of a female spectre or demon. (In 17th. c. app. associated with sense 5 a.)

c 1207 RAD. DE COGGESHALL *Chron. Angl.* (Rolls) 120-1 [A spectre in the form of a female child said that it was called 'Malekin'.] 1604 MIDDLETON *Witch* III. iii, *Fire.* Hark, hark, the Catt sings a brave treble in Her owne language. *Hec.* (going up) Now I goe, now I flie, Malkin my sweete spirit and I. 1605 SHAKS. *Macb.* I. i. 9, I come, Gray-Malkin!

† c. = MAID MARIAN. *Obs.*

1619 FLETCHER *M. Thomas* II. ii, You must turne tippet, And suddenly..Put on the shape of order and humanity, Or you must marry Malkyn the May Lady.

2. An untidy female, esp. a servant or country wench; a slut, slattern, drab; *occas.* a lewd woman.

α. 1586 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* II. ix. (1612) 41 Euen Carters Malkines will disdaine when Gentrie will digest. 1604 MIDDLETON *Ant & Night.* To Rdr., None can iustly except at me but some riotous vomiting Kit, or some Gentleman-swallowing Mol-kin. 1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* II. i. 224 The Kitchin Malkin pinnes Her richest Lockram 'bout her reechie necke. 1652 J. WRIGHT tr. *Camus' Nat. Paradox* VI. 114, I should bee too long if I should relate in what manner those snbtile Wits inveagled the simplicity of those silly Maulkins. For I haue heard these Court-Ladies allow Large pensions to their Paramors. 1760 *Lond. Mag.* Apr. 205/1 Now monst'rous in hoop, now trapish, and walking With your petticoats clung to your heels, like a maulkin. 1871 TENNYSON *Last Tourn.* 629 The swineherd's malkin.

β. 1600 BRETON *Pasquill's Mad-Cappe* (1626) B, The Chuffe that sits and champes upon his chaffe May have his Mawkin kisse him like a mare. *a* 1625 FLETCHER *Chances* III. i, Thou took'st me up at every word I spoke, As I had been a Mawkin, a flurt Gillian. 1702 VANBRUGH *False Friend* I. i, The dull heavy-tail'd mankin melts him down with her modesty. *a* 1745 SWIFT *Ballyspellin* (Answ.) viii. Wks. 1765 XIV. 231 Your mawkins there, smocks hempen wear. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* V. 25 A draggled mawkin, ..That tends her bristled grunters in the sludge.

attrib. 1642 MILTON *Apol. Smect.* vi. 33 Her maukin knuckles were never shapen to that royall buskin.

† b. An effeminate man. *Obs.*

1468 *Medulla Gram.* in *Promp. Parv.* 323/2 *Gallinacius, i. homo debilis*, a malkyn, and a capoun.

3. A mop; a bundle of rags fastened to the end of a stick; *esp.* that used to clean out a baker's oven. *Obs.* exc. *dial.*

α. 14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 616/12 *Tersorium*, a swepelles (a malkyn). *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 323/2 Malkyne, mappyl, or oven swepare,..*dossorium, tersorium*. 1590 [TARLTON] *News Purgat.* (Shaks. Soc.) 59 He helde betweene both his hands a durty malkin, such as Bakers sweepe their ovens withall. 1596 NASHE *Saffron Walden* 135 Shee will..haue a handfull of his beard..for a maulkin or wispe to wype her shoocs with. 1611 COTGR., *Vnaudrée*, a maulkin, or the clowt wherewith an Ouen is made cleane. 1620 MARKHAM *Farew. Husb.* (1625) 96 Blacke, foule, and ugly like bakers malkins. 1792 WOLCOT (P. Pindar) *Royal Tour* Wks. 1812 III. 324 Of Royalty the Purple Robe so grand They to a Malkin turn, to wipe their shoes. 1796 *Grose's Dict. Vulg. Tongue* (ed. 3), *Malkin* or *Maulkin*,.. also a parcel of rags fastened to the end of a stick, to clean an oven. 1880 JEFFERIES *Gt. Estate* 153 The malkin, being wetted, cleaned out the ashes [from the oven].

β. 1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong., Waudrée*, or *escouillon*, the clout wherewith they clense or sweepe the Ouen, called a Maukin. 1598 R. BERNARD tr. *Terence, Eunuch* IV. vii, Dost thou think to fight with a mauking that thou bringst it hither. 1607 DEKKER *Knts. Conjur.* (1842) 42 A beard filthier then a bakers mawkin that he sweepes his ouen. 1630 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Jacke-a-Lent* Wks. I. 115/1 An Ensigne made of a piece of a Bakers mawkin fixed vpon a Broome-staffe. 1694 BURNABY *Sat. Petronius Arbiter* 84 Do you remember .. the Story of Ulysses, how a Cyclop put his Thumb out of Joint with a Mawkin? 1727 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict. s. v. Bake-house*, Peels, Cole-Rakes, Maukins.

b. *Naut.* 'A joint-staff sponge, for cleaning out a piece of ordnance' (Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.*).

4. A scarecrow (also *fig.*); a ragged puppet or grotesque effigy; a 'guy'. *Obs.* exc. *dial.*

α. 1633 T. ADAMS *Exp. 2 Peter* ii. 7 I. 632 A Malking frights a child, a man contemnes it. 1638 NABBES *Cov. Gard.* v. vi. 71, *Ralph.*.. What are you Sir? *Spruce.* A Gentleman Vsher. *Ralph.* You're a Malkin of mock-Gentry, made up of silke and vaine-glory. 1640 — *Bride* I. iv, You malkin of suburb authority set up only to fright crows. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant Crew, Malkin* or *Maukin*, a scarecrow. *a* 1734 NORTH *Exam.* II. iv. § 5 (1740) 233 Then he mounted up the Maulkin to be viewed round, though nothing was to be seen or understood of it from him, more than of a scare Crow, that is the Rags and Trumpery it was garnished with. 1748 *Earthquake Peru* I. 82 A Basket from which issued a Puppet, or Maulkin. 1866 KINGSLEY *Herew.* II. iv. 65 He must fight it out henceforth not with a straw malkin like thee.

β. 1687 CONGREVE *Old Bach.* III. vi, Thou Maukin, made up of the Shreds and Pairings of his [thy Master's] superfluous Fopperies. 1710 *Brit. Apollo* II. No. 86. 3/1 Were you hang'd for a Mauking on a Tree. 1710 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 13 Dec., Dressing up a hat on a stick and calling it Harley; then..discharging a pistol with the other [hand] at the mankin. 1712 *Pol. Ball.* (1860) II. 121 You for your bonfires mawkins dress'd On good Queen Bess's day. 1742 H. WALPOLE *Lett. H. Mann* (1834) I. 124 The first thing I beheld was a Mawkin in a chair, with three footmen and a label on the breast inscribed *Lady Mary.* 1776 S. J. PRATT *Pupil Pleas.* (ed. 2) I. lviii. 236 And Dost thou, after all, boggle at a shadow—a maukin at conscience? 1791 BECKFORD tr. *Pop. Tales Germans* II. 82 Just .. a mawkin suspended amongst pease to scare away the voracious sparrows. 1818 LAMB *Inconven, fr. being Hanged*, Like a maukin, fit only to scare away birds. 1859 GEO. ELIOT *A. Bede* vi, You knew no more .. than the mawkin i' the field. 1868 RIDER HAGGARD in *Longm. Mag.* Dec. 127 Hood promises to set up some mawkins to fright them.

Comb. a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew* s. v., Hence *Malkin-trash*, for one in a rueful Dress, enough to Fright one.

5. As a designation for certain animals: sometimes as quasi-proper name. a. A cat. *dial.*

Grimalkin occurs in Baldwin's *Beware the Cat*, 1561-82.

1673 COTTON *Voy. Irel.* II. Poems (1689) 182 We went, and e'er Malkin could well lick her ear..forsooth, we were there. 1785 GROSE *Dict. Vulg. Tongue, Malkin*, or *Maulkin*, a general name for a cat. 1876 *Whitby Gloss.*

b. *Sc.* and *north. dial.* A hare.

1724 RAMSAY *Tea-t. Misc.* (1733) I. 61 Skipping like a mawking. 1785 BURNS *Vision* I. i, The sun had clos'd the winter day,.. An' hunger'd Maukin taen her way To kail-yards green. 1786 — *Tam Samson's Elegy* vii, Ye Maukins, cock your fud fu' braw, Withonten dread. 1793 in Lockhart *Scott* vii, I'll send ye a maukin the morn, man. 1818 *Blackw. Mag.* IV. 65 He [a sportsman] would probably be as much gratified by the discovery of mawkin, as the Astronomer would be by the discovery of a constellation. 1895 CROCKETT *Men of Moss Hags* xlvii, Once they raised, as it had been a poor maukin, a young lad that ran from them.

Mall[1] (mɔ̄l). Also 7 mell, 8 maul. [A special application of *mall*, MAUL *sb.*[1], in the 17th c. taken to represent certain contemporary senses of the F. *mail*, which is etymologically identical with the Eng. word. Cf. PALL-MALL.]

1. The mallet (cf. MAUL *sb.*[1] 2) used in the game of 'mall' or 'pall-mall'; = PALL-MALL 1.

1662 *Order-bk. Gen. Monck* 26 Apr. in *N. & Q.* 9th Ser. VIII. 14/2 That noe persons shall after play carry their malls out of S. James's Parke without leave of the said keeper. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Mall*, .. the Instrument with which the Ball is struck is also called a Mall. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 195 ¶ 1 He took an hollow Ball of Wood..He likewise took a Mall. 1884 J. PAYNE *Tales fr. Arabic* I. 123 The king's son was playing in the exercise-ground with the ball and mall.

2. A certain game; = PALL-MALL 2.

1646 EVELYN *Diary* (Chandos ed.) 193 Having seene this field and play'd a game at Mall. 1675 COTTON *Scoffer Scoft* 103 But playing with the Boy at Mall,..I strooke the Ball .. A pretty height into the Air. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* II. 154 The diversion [goff] .. resembles that of the Mall, which was common in England in the middle of the last century. 1868 W. J. WHITMORE *Croquet Tact.* 4 The Mall received its name from having been appropriated to the purpose of playing at mall.

†b. Applied to polo; = PALL-MALL 2 b. *Obs.*
1662 J. DAVIES tr. *Olearius' Voy. Ambass.* 297 A certain Game, which the Persians call Knitskaukan, which is a kind of Mall. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* II. 79 There are two Banks..which serve for playing at the mall on horse back, and the bowl must go betwixt those Banks.

3. The alley in which the game of 'mall' was played. = PALL-MALL 3.
1644 EVELYN *Diary* 2 May, The mall [at Tours] without comparison is the noblest in Europe... Here we play'd a party or two. *a* 1687 WALLER *On St. James's Park* 64 No sooner has he touched the flying ball But 'tis already more than half the Mall. 1687 R. FERRIER *Jrnl.* 34 (Camd. Soc. Misc. IX.), There are several handsome walks, one whereof.. is a decayed Mell. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey) s. v., The Instrument .. is also termed a Mall, and the Place where the Gamesters play. 1812 CONBETT in *Examiner* 19 Oct. 671/1 Noble Ladies, who graciously condescended to become housekeepers and sweepers of malls.

4. *The Mall*: a walk bordered by trees in St. James's Park, London, which was originally a 'mall' in sense 3, and was a fashionable promenade in the 17–18th c. †*High Mall*: the time when the throng of promenaders in the Mall was at its height; also *transf.*, ? a fashionable assembly in the open air.
1674 J. D. (*title*) The Mall: or the Modish Lovers. A Comedy. *Ibid.* I. ii, I will be in the Mall, as soon as it begins to be dark, if I can get from my husband. 1676 D'URFEY *Mad. Fickle* III. i, You may repair that inconvenience in the Mall to night Sir. 1706 *Reflex. upon Ridicule* 128 We see them in the Maul and in the Park walking, giggling, with their sparks. 1710 PALMER *Proverbs* 203 The intrigues of the mall and the playhouse. 1712 *Spect.* No. 437 ₱ 4 Were you to see Gatty walk the Park at high Mall. 1727 FIELDING *Love in Sev. Masq.* I. iv, Well, gentlemen, are you for the Mall this morning? 1752 A. MURPHY *Gray's Inn Jrnl.* No. 9 In St. James's Park, at high Mall, on Sunday next. *Ibid.*, High Mall at the Bedford Coffee-House To-morrow Evening. 1775 SHERIDAN *Rivals* II. i, I've travelled like a comet, with a tail of dust..as long as the Mall. 1778 [W. MARSHALL] *Minutes Agric., Digest* 5 She resembles a..cottage-bred Country-housewife..parading the Mall of Taste amidst modern Petits-Maitres. 1816 J. SCOTT *Vis. Paris* (ed. 5) 64 He appeals to the smooth and level mall, and the carefully preserved canal of St. James's Park.
b. *transf.* A sheltered walk serving as a promenade; in some towns adopted as a proper name. [Cf. F. *mail*, used in various towns for a shaded walk, which in many instances was orig. an alley for playing mall.]
1737 EARL OF OXFORD in *Portland Papers* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) VI. 169 The churchyard is well planted, the walks gravelled; this is the Mall for the beaux and belles of Chelmsford. 1752 MRS. DELANY *Lett., to Mrs. Dewes* 134 It is the mall of Drogheda. 1808 *Norfolk Tour, Norwich* (ed. 6) 248 The new walk or mall from the bars by the workhouse to Gannock-gates. 1838 LONGF. in *Life* (1891) I. 298 Afterwards walked in the Mall [Boston, U. S.] in the cool of the evening. 1883 F. M. CRAWFORD *Mr. Isaacs* i. 7 Such of the changing crowd on the verandah and on the mall [at Simla] as caught my attention.

5. *Comb.*, as (sense 1) *mall-maker*; (sense 3) *mall-keeper*.
1708 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) VI. 354 Mrs. Masham, mall keeper of St. James's Park, worth 500*l.* per ann. 1901 T. J. JEAKES in *N. & Q.* 9th Ser. VII. 353/1 The mall-maker's shop was on the same road.

Mall[2]. *Hist. rare*[−1]. [ad. med.L. *mallum*, *-us*: see MALLUM and MAIL *sb.*[2]] A convention or assembly among the Franks.
1855 MILMAN *Lat. Chr.* IV. x. (1864) II. 441 Councils, which had been as frequent as diets or malls, ceased.

Mall: see MAUL, MAW.

Mallagatoon, obs. form of MELOCOTON.

Mallan, obs. form of MALM.

Mallancoly, obs. form of MELANCHOLY.

Mallander, Mallany: see MALANDER, MALMY.

Mallard (mæ·lărd). Forms: 4 **maular**, 4–5 **mawlard, maulard**(**e**, 4–6 **malardo**, 4, 8 **malard**, 5 **malerde, mavelard, maud-, mawdelard**(**e**, 5–6 **mallarde**, 6 **mallert, mallerde**, 7 **mallerd, mallet**, 4– **mallard**. [a. OF. *malart, mallart* wild drake; of obscure origin.
The conjecture given in Hatz.-Darm. that it represents the OHG. male proper name *Madelhart* is remarkably supported by the evidence of the Eng. form *maud-, mawdelard*, which, however, has not been found in OF. The bird may under this name have figured as a personage in some lost example of the Germanic 'beast-epic'. Another hypothesis is that the word is f. OF. *masle, male* MALE *a.* + *-art*, *-ARD*; but against this there is the objection that the form *maslart* does not occur until late, though the word is recorded from the 12th c.]

1. The male of the wild duck (*Anas boscas*). †Formerly often applied also to the male of the domesticated variety; = DRAKE[2].
c 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 4140 Þe cherl bent his bowe sone & smot a doke mididone, & wiþ a bolt afterward Anon he hitt a maulard. 14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 563/46 *Anatus*, a maallard. 1533–4 *Act* 25 *Hen. VIII*, c. 11 § 1 Duckes, mallardes, wigeons, teales, wildgeese and diuers other kinde of wildfowle. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 383 To stay a flux of the belly, the bloud of Mallards or Drakes is thought also to be singular good. 1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* III. x. 20 The Noble ruine of her Magicke, Anthony, Claps on his Seawing, and (like a doting Mallard)..flyes after her. 1776 *Ann. Reg.* 152 The old duck left them [the eggs], but soon after returned with the mallard. 1861 G. F. BERKELEY *Sportsm. W. Prairies* xx. 332, I walked to within shot of some straggling wild ducks, and killed a very fine mallard. 1893 NEWTON *Dict. Birds* 168 Technically the term Duck is restricted to the female, the male being called Drake, and in one species Mallard.

2. Used for either sex: A wild drake or duck. †Formerly also applied to the domestic variety.
1314 in *Wardr. Acc.* 8 *Edw. II* 21/12, 1 mallard 4½*d.* 1348 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 43 In v Mallard domestic. et v Mallard de Ryuer et xiiij perdicibus, iiij*s.* x*d.* ob. *c* 1400 *Siege of Troy* 1070 in *Archiv neu. Spr.* LXXII. 38 Plover, partriche and wyld Bores..With Malardes wylde and fesaunt. *c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 181 Anoynte þe place wiþ grece of a maulard. *c* 1420 *Liber Cocorum* (1862) 27 With þo grece of þo mawdelarde þou sethe hom. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 323/1 Malarde, byrde (or mavelarde). 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* d ij b, Take a tame Malarde and set hym in a fayr playn. 1502 ARNOLDE *Chron.* 91 Also yf ony persone kepe or norrysh hoggis oxen kyen or mallardis with in the ward in noyng of ther neyhbours. 1657 TOMLINSON *Renou's Disp.* I. viii. 13 The Mallet [rendering of L. *anas*]. 1751 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 138 ₱ 8 Shooting mallards in the fens. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* III. 283 The Mallard is probably the stock of which our tame breed is the product. 1860 GOSSE *Rom. Nat. Hist.* 199 Our own wild-duck or mallard is a shy bird. 1894 J. SKELTON *Table-t. Shirley* (1895) 64 The frost is so hard that woodcock and mallard are driven from inland copses and marshes to the open springs.
b. The flesh of this bird.
c 1440 *Donce MS.* 55 lf. 14 Cast it in a pott and fressh broth..and of canell and [dropping *Harl.* 4016] of the malarde & lete hem buille. 14.. in *Househ. Ord.* (1790) 441 Sause neyger for Maudelard roasted. 1513 *Bk. Kervynge* in *Babees Bk.* 278 In the fyrst course, potage, befe,.. with goose, capon, mallarde, swanne, or fesande. 1555 W. WATREMAN *Fardle Facions* I. v. 53 Quaile, and mallard, are not but for the richer sorte. 1607 DEKKER & WEBSTER *Westw. Hoe* I. i, They..loue Mallard and Teale in the fall, and Woodcocke in winter.
c. *attrib.*, as *mallard drake*.
1772 J. R. FORSTER in *Phil. Trans.* LXII. 419 Anas. 53 Boschas..Mallard Drake.

3. *The Mallard*: a festival celebrated on the 14th Jan. at All Souls College, Oxford (see quots.). Also *attrib.*
1632 ABP. ABBOT in M. Burrows *Worthies All Souls* viii. (1874) 126 Civil men should never so far forget themselves under pretence of a foolish Mallard as to do things barbarously unbecoming. 1722–3 HEARNE *Diary* 18 Jan., Last Monday, the 14th inst...was All Souls college Mallard, at which time 'tis usual with the fellows and their friends to have a supper, and to sit up all night drinking and singing. Their song is the mallard, and formerly they used to ramble about the college with sticks and poles, &c. in quest of the mallard. ..They tell you the custom arose from a swinging old mallard, that had been lost at the foundation of the college, and found many years after in the sink. 1801 BP. HEBER *Let.* 15 Jan. in *Life* (1830) I. 25 A very severe cold which I caught by getting out of bed..to see the celebration of the famous All Souls' mallard feast...I had thus a full view of the Lord Mallard and about forty fellows, in a kind of procession on the library roof. 1899 C. G. ROBERTSON *All Souls Coll.* 102 The song of the mallard (which is still sung at the college Gaudies).

Mallardite (mæ·lărdəit). *Min.* [Named by A. Carnot, 1879, after E. *Mallard*: see -ITE.] A hydrous sulphate of manganese, found in colourless, fibrous masses (Chester *Dict. Names Min.* 1896).
1883 HEDDLE in *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 401/2.

Mallassus, obs. form of MOLASSES.

Mallatto, obs. form of MULATTO.

Malle, obs. f. MAIL *sb.*[3], MAUL *sb.*[1], *sb.*[2] and *v.*

Malleability (mæ·lĭăbĭ·lĭti). [f. MALLEABLE + -ITY.] The property of being malleable.
1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* III. vi. § 6. 210 Supposing the nominal Essence of Gold, to be a Body of such a peculiar Colour and Weight, with Malleability and Fusibility. 1762 tr. *Busching's Syst. Geog.* I. 45 The Noble metals are bodies of the greatest Malleability. 1830 HERSCHEL *Stud. Nat. Phil.* 238 Malleability is again another quality of solids, especially metals, quite distinct from toughness. 1890 SIR F. ABEL *Pres. Addr. Brit. Assoc.* in *Nature* 4 Sept., The existence in steel of proportions [of manganese] ranging from 0·1 up to about 2·75 per cent. improves its strength and malleability.
b. *fig.* Capacity for being fashioned or adapted.
1877 BURROUGHS *Taxation* 402 Malleability..is one of the ..characteristics of the comaon law. 1880 OUIDA *Moths* I. viii. 190 You are old-fashioned, pedantic, unpleasant, .. you have no malleability.

Malleable (mæ·lĭăb'l), *a.* Also 4–6 **mallia**ble, 5 **malyable, mallyable**, 7 **malable**, 8 **mallable**. [a. OF. *malleable*, ad. L. **malleābil-is*, f. L. *malleāre* to MALLEATE: see -ABLE.]
1. Having the property (possessed by certain substances, esp. metals) of being deprived of form by hammering or pressure, without a tendency or capacity to return to it, or to fracture.
Malleable iron: iron which has been decarburized by oxidation under prolonged heat and rendered capable of being malleated in a slight degree.
c 1386 CHAUCER *Can. Yeom. Prol. & T.* 577 Make as good siluer and as fyn As ther is any in youre purse or myn..and make it malliable. *c* 1407 LYDG. *Reas. & Sens.* 6814 Men kan nat maken yt plicable Nor forge yt to be Malliable. *c* 1450 LYDG. & BURGH *Secrees* 2125 Science nor Crafft to hym was delectable, but to forge malyable mataylle. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* I. 123 A certeyn craftes man had found out the Art of..melting of Glasse in such sort, as he made the same malliable. 1692 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) II. 365 An invention to melt and make malleable a sort of oar found among the tina mines. 1794 SULLIVAN *View Nat.* I. 469 Metals are malleable or ductile under the hammer. 1822 IMISON *Sci. & Art* II. 95 Zinc is very little malleable, except when heated. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 650 The ease with which cast-iron can be made into any required shape has..given to rails of that material a decided superiority over those of malleable-iron. 1881 SIR J. EVANS *Anc. Bronze Impl.* 11 One alloy of copper and tin is rendered most malleable by rapid cooling. 1889 G. FINDLAY *Eng. Railway* 40 The first malleable iron rail was patented by J. Birkensbaw, in 1820. 1898 *Engineering Mag.* XVI. 105 Examples..are found in malleable-iron castings.
¶ b. In etymological sense. Of stone: That may be dressed with a hammer.
1665 J. WEBB *Stone-Heng* (1725) 209 When the Stones were once down, .. Men might, as they found them more or less malleable, for their own Advantage..make Use of them.

2. *transf.* and *fig.* Capable of being fashioned or adapted.
1612 LD. ROCHESTER in *Buccleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 119 Your enemies have objected..that you are too violent, which signifies in Court language not malleable to their use. 1663 BUTLER *Hud.* I. i. 182 He..could tell..Who first made Musick malleable. 1796 BURKE *Regic. Peace* iii. 32 We grow more malleable under their blows. 1802 WOLCOT (P. Pindar) *Horrors Bribery* Wks. 1812 V. 211 Courtiers .. Were made of very malleable matter. 1849 H. ROGERS *Ess.* (1874) I. 227 To seize a language in its rude state, and compel it..to become a malleable material of thought, is the exclusive prerogative of the highest species of minds. 1882 *Times* 21 July 10 The Chancellorship of the Duchy so remoulded would cease to be malleable; it would cease to be capable of discharging unappropriated duties.

Malleableize, malleablize (mæ·lĭăb'ləiz), *v.* [f. prec. + -IZE.] *trans.* To render malleable.
1882 in OGILVIE. 1884 C. G. W. LOCK *Workshop Receipts* Ser. III. 251/2 The castings will be full of small holes after they have been malleableized.

Malleableness (mæ·lĭăb'lnės). [Formed as prec. + -NESS.] = MALLEABILITY.
1644 *Prerogative Anatomized* 6 It was conceiv'd that the tame Kingdome of England..would quickly coole again, and be reduc'd to its former malleablenesse. 1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* III. x. (1695) 283 Malleableness..is inseparable from the real Essence of Gold. 1731 in BAILEY (vol. II.).

Mallear (mæ·lĭăr), *a.* [ad. mod.L. *malleāris*, f. MALLEUS.] Pertaining to the malleus.
1889 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

Malleate (mæ·lĭĕt), *a. Zool.* [ad. mod.L. *malleāt-us*, f. MALLEUS.] Furnished with a malleus.
1884 C. T. HUDSON in *Q. Jrnl. Microsc. Sci.* XXIV. 351. 1886 HUDSON & GOSSE *Rotifera* I. 31 *Hydatinadæ*..trophi malleate.

Malleate (mæ·lĭĕt), *v.* Now *rare.* [f. L. *malleāt-*, ppl. stem of *malleāre*, f. *malle-us* hammer.] *trans.* To beat with a hammer; *spec.* to beat (metal) thin or flat.
1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 51/1 Allthoughe the same [corslet] be beaten and malleated smothe agayne. 1599 — tr. *Gabelhouer's Bk. Physicke* 113/2 Take it out, and malleate it till it wexe as thin as the backe of a knife. 1659 GAUDEN *Slight Healers* (1660) 55 A crackt silver vessell, is sooner sodered and new burnished, then a new one malleated out of the rough mass or wedge of metal. 1713 DERHAM *Phys.-Theol.* v. i. 307 Tubal-Cain was .. the first that found the Art of Melting and Malleating Metals.
absol. 1659 STANLEY *Hist. Philos.* XIII. (1701) 580/1 Some Metals,..by reason of the solidity they had acquired, might be made fit to malleate, or to strike, or for other uses.
fig. 1627–47 FELTHAM *Resolves* II. xcix. 447 Many have been abused, by being malleated in their troublesome fear. 1660 GAUDEN *God's Gt. Demonstr.* 18 Some points may by long Orations be (like gold) malleated and extended to such great latitudes of diffused expressions, as make them very cumbersom. 1647 FARINGDON *Serm.* (1672) I. 413 We cannot find one [circumstance] which was not as a hammer to malleate and soften his stony heart. 1647 H. MORE *Song of Soul* III. App. xxx, And pox and pestilence do malleate.

Malleated (mæ·lĭeitĕd), *ppl. a. rare.* [f. prec. + -ED[1].] Wrought with a hammer; also, marked or dented as with a hammer.
1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Malleated*, .. wrought or beaten with the hammer or beetle. 1881 WATSON in *Jrnl. Linn. Soc.* XV. 246 The surface is faintly malleated in a somewhat disorderly fashion.

Malleation (mælĭei·ʃən). [ad. late L. *malleātiōn-em*, f. *malleāre*: see MALLEATE *v.*]
1. The action of malleating or condition of being malleated. Now *rare.*
1596 PLAT *Jewell-ho.* III. 85 Abiding both the touch, malleation, and coppell. 1610 B. JONSON *Alch.* II. v, *Sub.* What's the proper passion of Mettalls? *Fac.* Malleation. 1696 J. EDWARDS *Demonstr. Exist. God* I. 139 An ounce of it may be so extended by malleation, that it will take up ten acres. 1796 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) II. 104 An aglutinated mass susceptible of Malleation.
fig. 1654 GAYTON *Pleas. Notes* III. i. 67 His Squire, who by often malleations .. and threshings, might in good time be beaten out into the forme of a gentileman. 1792 SIR P. FRANCIS *Let.* 21 Jan. in *Burke's Corr.* (1844) III. 377 Some of us .. have been humming our brains for an inscription; but what signifies malleation without fire?

2. A mark or dent resembling one produced by hammering on metal.
1881 WATSON in *Jrnl. Linn. Soc.* XV. 246 Besides the larger system of malleations there is a second system a good deal smaller and more irregular.

3. *Path.* A convulsive disorder characterized by the hammering one part of the body against another; occurring as a symptom in chorea and insanity.
1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) III. 394 The convulsion is often accompanied with a peculiar kind of percussion .. resembling the malleation we have already had occasion to describe. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 106 A patient may be constantly making bowing movements (salutation spasm), or hammering (malleation).

Mallecho: see MICHING MALICHO.

‖ **Mallee**[1] (mŏ̄·lĭ). *Anglo-Indian.* Also 8–9 **molly**, 9 **mollie, mollee, mallie, mali, maul**(**ly**).

[Hindi *mālī*.] One of the gardener caste in India; hence any native gardener.

1759 *Wages tariff* in Long *Sel. Rec. Ft. William* (1869) 182 (Y.) House Molly..2 Rs. 1810 T. Williamson *E. Ind. Vade Mecum* I. 261 The Mauly, or gardener, next claims attention. *Ibid.* 263 It would surprize an European to see with what precision maullies sow and cover their seeds. *a* 1825 D. Johnson *Observ. Dis. India* in Good *Study Med.* (1825) III. 425 Such people as have their feet and hands frequently in cold water or earth, such as .. Dobys (washerwomen) and Mollies (gardeners) in the upper provinces of India. 1879 Mrs. A. E. James *Ind. Househ. Managem.* 63 We soon got a mallee, or gardener, and a gardencoolie. 1886 R. Kipling *Departm. Ditties* (1899) 34 He shall see the mallie steals the slab For currie-grinder, and for goats the grass.

Mallee [2] (mæ·lī). Also malle. [Native Australian.] Any one of several scrubby species of eucalyptus which flourish in the desert parts of South Australia and Victoria; esp. *Eucalyptus dumosa* and *E. oleosa*. Also, the 'scrub' or thicket formed by these trees. **Mallee bird, fowl, hen**, an Australian mound-bird, *Leipoa ocellata*.

1848 W. Westgarth *Austral. Felix* 73 Laap, a sweet exudation from the leaf of the mallee (*Eucalyptus dumosa*). 1857 Howitt *Tallangetta* xii. II. 2 This Mallee scrub..consists of a dense wood of a dwarf species of gum-tree. 1898 'R. Boldrewood' *Rom. Canvass Town* 37 Far off, amidst the sea-like expanse of the mallee..rise sombre, sharply-defined peaks and ranges.

Mallei, pl. of Malleus.

Malleiform (mæ·lī,ifɔm), *a.* [ad. mod.L. *malleiform-is*, f. *malleus* hammer: see -form.] Having the form of a hammer.

1856 in Mayne *Expos. Lex.* 1877 Huxley *Anat. Inv. Anim.* v. 238 In some species of Polynöe, the parapodia give rise..to large, richly ciliated, malleiform tubercles.

Mallein (mæ·lī,in). Also -ine. [f. L. *malle-us* glanders + -in.] A sterilized culture of the bacillus of glanders, used for the inoculation of that disease.

1892 *Daily News* 29 Sept. 6/6 They [*sc.* glandered horses] are inoculated by him with a virus called malleine. 1902 G. S. Woodhead in *Encycl. Brit.* XXXI. 532/1 The glanders bacillus grows best in the presence of oxygen;..it then appears to have the power of forming toxin..This poison (mallein) is used for the purpose of diagnosing the presence of glanders. *Ibid.*, The mallein test.

Mallemaro·king. *Naut.* [f. Du. *mallemerok* foolish woman, tomboy, f. *mal* foolish + *merok*, *marok*, *marot*, a. F. *marotte* 'object of foolish affection' (Littré).] (See quot.)

1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Mallemaroking*, the visiting and carousing of seamen in the Greenland ships.

‖ **Mallemuck.** Also 7–8 mallemucke, 9 mallemak, -muk(ke, mollymawk, -maulk, mallemoke, -mock, -muk, malmock. [a. Du. *mallemok*, f. *mal* foolish + *mok* gull; cf. the synonymous *mallemeeuw*. Hence G. *mallemuck* (1675), F. *malamoque*.] The fulmar, *Fulmarus glacialis*; also applied to other similar or nearly related birds.

1694 tr. *Marten's Voy. Spitzb.* (1711) 100 Of the Mallemucke. *a* 1705 Ray *Syn. method. Avium* (1713) 130 Wagellus Cornubiensium..Mallemuck. 1776 Pennant *Zool.* II. 464. 1815 J. Laing *Voy. Spitzbergen* (1822) 81 The Greenlanders account the flesh of the Mallemukke good food. 1880 *Standard* 20 May 3 Flocks of mallemokes. 1892 E. Reeves *Homeward Bound* 103 Cape pigeons and mollymawks. 1898 *Spectator* 13 Aug. 208 The 'mallymoke', which comes nearest to the albatross in size and beauty.

Mallender, obs. form of Malander.

Mallengyn, variant of Malengin *Obs.*

Malleo-incudal (mæ·lī,o|inkiū·dăl), *a. Anat.* [f. *malleo-*, Malleus + L. *incūd-em* Incus + -al.] Pertaining jointly to the malleus and the incus.

1877 Burnett *Ear* 75 The articulating surfaces for the malleo-incudal joint.

Malleolar (mălī·ŏlăr, mæ·lī,ŏlăr), *a. Anat.* [f. Malleol-us + -ar.] Pertaining to the malleolus.

1842 E. Wilson *Anat. Vade M.* (ed. 2) 325 The malleolar arteries are distributed to the ankle-joint. 1890 Gray *Anat.* (ed. 12) 591 The malleolar arteries supply the ankle-joint.

‖ **Malleolus** (mălī·ŏlŭs). Pl. -i. Also in Anglicized form malleol. [L. *malleolus*, dim. of *malleus* hammer.]

1. *Anat.* Either of the two bony eminences of the leg bone at the ankle. (The *internal malleus* belongs to the tibia, the *external m.* to the fibula.)

1693 *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Malleolus* or *Malleus*, is Twofold, *external*,..Or *internal*,..these make the Ancle. 1758 J. S. tr. *Le Dran's Observ. Surg.* (1771) 355 The external Malleol remained very large. 1879 *St. George's Hosp. Rep.* IX. 742 It is also very bad..behind the malleoli, especially the internal malleolus. 1893 A. S. Eccles *Sciatica* 9 Between the inner malleolus and the heel.

2. *Hort.* A layer which when separated from the parent stem presents a hammer-shape.

1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Malleolus*,..a Sprout growing out of a Branch, which grew out it self but the Year before. 1839 Lindley *Introd. Bot.* (ed. 3) 84 The layer was called malleolus, which literally signifies a hammer.

† **3.** *Antiq.* A kind of fire-dart. *Obs.*

1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Malleoli*, were certain Devices made of combustible Matter. 1753 Chambers *Cycl. Supp.* 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) X. 480/2.

Malleoramate (mælī,o|rē·mĕt), *a. Zool.* [f. *malleo-*, used as comb. form of Malleus + Ram-us + -ate [3].] In rotifers: Having the mallei fixed by unci to the rami.

1884 C. T. Hudson in *Q. Jrnl. Microsc. Sci.* XXIV. 352. 1886 Hudson & Gosse *Rotifera* I. 30 *Melicertidæ* .. trophi malleo-ramate.

Malles, obs. form of Malice.

Mallet (mæ·lĕt), *sb.*[1] Forms: 5 mailȝet, mailet, maylet(te, -leot, -lat, 5–6 maillet, 6 mayllet, mallette, 6–7 malet, 6– mallet. [a. F. *maillet* wooden hammer, dim. of *mail* Maul *sb.*[1]]

1. A kind of hammer, normally of wood, but sometimes of other materials, smaller than a maul or beetle. It has many diverse forms, according to the purpose for which it is used.

The mason's mallet is a broad, nearly cylindrical mass of wood, with a short handle set perpendicularly in the middle of the upper surface, and is used for driving a cold chisel; a similar implement is used for driving wedges. The carpenter's mallet for driving a chisel or gouge has usually a massive square or barrel-shaped head.

c 1425 Wyntoun *Chron.* III. i. 104 Þe nayl þan til his hewide scho set, And straik on fast wiþe þat mailȝet. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 323/1 Malyet, betyl. *c* 1475 *Pict. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 805/16 *Hic porticulus*, a maylat. 1523 Fitzherb. *Husb.* § 136 A mallet to dryue the knyfe and thy wedge in-to the tree. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 343 b, The bishop striketh on the gate with a golden mallet. 1577 B. Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* II. (1586) 108 b, For Pullies .. and Mallettes, the meetest are the wilde Oliue, the Boxe. 1600 Holland *Livy* xxvii. xlix. 664 A carpenters chissell and a mallet. 1660 Boyle *New Exp. Phys. Mech.* xx. 146 The Vessel..was warily..struck in divers places with a Wooden Mallet. 1666 Dryden *Ann. Mirab.* cxlvi, Their left hand does the caulking-iron guide, The rattling mallet with the right they lift. 1683 Moxon *Mech. Exerc.* II. 30 Printers Mallets have a Cilindrick Head, and a round Handle. 1720 Gay *Poems* (1745) I. 34 The weighty mallet deals resounding blows. 1828 Scott *Tales Grandfather* Ser. II. xviii, Mitchell..endured nine blows of the mallet with the utmost firmness. 1844 H. Stephens *Bk. Farm* 1269 The stake *e* is driven into the ground by the wooden mallet. 1860 *Eng. & For. Min. Gloss.* (Cornw. Terms), *Mallet*, an instrument used with the borer. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* II. 1749 s.v. *Plugger*, The electric mallet is an automatic dental instrument for condensing the filling or plug in a tooth by a rapid succession of strokes imparted by means of electro-magnetism. 1895 Arnold & Sons *Catal. Surg. Instr.* 107 Mallet for use with Osteotomy Chisel, boxwood.

b. *Games.* (*a*) The wooden hammer used for striking the balls in the game of croquet; also *transf.* (with qualifying adj.), one who wields the mallet, a croquet-player. (*b*) The 'stick' used at polo.

1868 *Chambers's Encycl.* X. 483/2 [Croquet] The Mallets should be light and handy; with ash shafts, and boxwood or ash heads. The heads of the mallets are of various shapes—as the dice-box, which is the most common shape; the plane-convex, the hammer-head, and the cue-shape. 1877 Mar. M. Grant *Sun-Maid* ix, Bébé was the 'crack' mallet of the [croquet] club. 1868 Holme Lee *B. Godfrey* lxi, She..dropped her mallet. 1897 *Outing* (U.S.) XXX. 483/1 The mallets or sticks [in Polo] are generally of malacca cane.

c. *slang.* The fist.

1821 *Sporting Mag.* VIII. 234 Powel..went to work with his mallets at a tremendous rate.

† **d.** Phrase. *As sad* (i.e. dull) *as any mallet.*

1645 Milton *Colast.* Wks. 1851 IV. 357, I amaze me, though the fancy of this doubt be as obtuse and sad as any mallet, how the Licenser could sleep out all this.

† **e.** *fig.* A person or agency that smites, beats down or crushes. *Obs.* [After L. *malleus*, F. *maillet*: cf. Hammer *sb.* 1 b.]

1525 Ld. Berners *Froiss.* II. clxxxvi. [clxxxii.] 232 The malettes were laide downe, to the entent to kepe vnder the parisyence. 1561 T. Norton *Calvin's Inst.* II. v. (1634) 138 Sometimes like a mallet, to strike the Israelites. 1577–87 Holinshed *Chron.* (1807–8) II. 430 A verie mallet of such strangers as sought preferment in this realme by the popes provisions. 1584 R. Scot *Discov. Witchcr.* xvi. i. (1886) 396 The booke called A Mallet to braine witches. 1823 [see Malleter].

† **2.** A mace. *Obs.*

c 1475 *Partenay* 4698 A [s]quare maillet the Geant gan hold. *Ibid.* 4716 No-thyng was he wurth, right noght myght he do, Where cursedly had done with his maillet soo. *c* 1500 *Melusine* 329 The Geaunt..held in his hand a gret mayllet. 1523 Lo. Berners *Froiss.* I. cccxcvii. 278 b, Also they had seruantes right well harnessed, bearynge great malettes of yron and stele, to confounde helmes.

† **3.** *Antiq.* = Malleolus 3. *Obs.*

1541 Paynel *Catiline, Cicero's Orat.* xviii. 32 b, Let them leaue lying in awayte about the consuls house,..to prepare mallettes and torches to set fyre on the citie. *Ibid. note*, Mallettes were lyke arrowes whiche were caste burnynge.

4. A distemper in cattle. ? *Obs.*

1600 Surflet *Country Farm* I. xxiii. 132 The stithie, hapning to the oxe, being otherwise called a mallet or hammer. 1688 R. Holme *Armoury* II. 172/2 Diseases in Cows..The Stithie, or the Mallet, or Hammer.

5. *Anat.* = Malleus 1.

1796 in Nemnich *Polyglotten-Lex.* v. 1877 Burnett *Ear* 68 The malleus, or mallet, received its name from Vesalius.

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *mallet-form, -head, -pate, -paw*; *mallet-shaped* adj.; † **mallet-fish** (see quot.); **mallet-flower**, any plant of the genus *Tupistra* (Cent. Dict.); **mallet-headed** (**oyster**), an oyster of the genus *Malleus*; **mallet-shoot**, a hammer-shaped slip of a tree or shrub for planting.

1611 Cotgr., *Cagnole*, the rauenous, and ougly dogfish, called (of the fashion of his head) the *Mallet-fish. a* 1697 Aubrey *Lives, Hobbes* (1898) I. 348 His head was .. of a *mallet-forme (approved by the physiologers). 1707–12 Mortimer *Husb.* (1721) II. 59 Which Wood is useful for.. *Mallet-heads [etc.]..being very hard and durable. 1897 *Outing* (U.S.) XXX. 483/1 The mallet-head now used [in Polo] is generally cigar-shaped, 2 inches thick and 8 or 9 inches long. 1753 Chambers *Cycl. Supp.* s.v. *Ostrea*, The malleum, or brachiated oister; called the *mallet-headed oister. 1823 *Blackw. Mag.* XIV. 520 As for the *mallet-pate, pig-eye Chinese. 1902 N. Howard *Kiartan* 50 What! Art thou mum? Old tramp, old *mallet-paw [*addressing Thor*]. 1901 *N. & Q.* 9th Ser. VIII. 215/1 A *mallet-shaped head for driving in the stakes of the sheepfold. 1745 tr. *Columella's Husb.* III. xvii, They so planted the *mallet-shoot, that some part of the old branch did stick to the young one. 1879 Lewis & Short *Lat. Dict.*, *Malleolus*,..a mallet-shoot for planting.

† **Ma·llet,** *sb.*[2] *Obs. rare*[−1]. In mod. Dicts. **malet.** [ad. Sp. *maleta* = F. *mallette*, dim. of *malle* Mail *sb.*[3]] A little bag or portmanteau.

1612 Shelton *Quix.* III. ix. (1620) 207 Sancho past ouer the mallet, without leauing a corner of it, or the cushion vnsearched. 1847 Webster (citing Shelton), *Malet*, a little bag or budget; a portmanteau.

Mallet (mæ·lĕt), *v. Obs. arch.* [f. Mallet *sb.*[1]] *trans.* To beat, hammer; *lit.* and *fig.*

1594 Lyly *Mother Bombie* II. i. 59 (Bond) My head is full of hammers, and they haue so maletted my wit, that I am almost a malcontent. *a* 1633 Austin *Medit.* (1635) 108 They Malletted him with their cruell Fists; as if he had bin Brasse indeede. *c* 1840 Mrs. Browning *Lett. to R. H. Horne* (1877) I. iii. 19 Your Elizabethan fashion of malleting down your metaphors..produces a diction of extraordinary power.

Mallet, erron. form of Mallard.

Malleted (mæ·lĕtĕd), *ppl. a.* [f. Mallet *v.* + -ed [1].] a. Fixed as if by hammering. b. Struck with a mallet.

1582 Stanyhurst *Æneis* III. (Arb.) 91 His oane light, That stood in his lowring front gloommish malleted onlye. 1833 Mrs. Browning *Prometh. Bound* Poems 1850 I. 145 The clank of the iron, the malleted blow.

Malleter (mæ·lĕtəɹ). *nonce-wd.* [f. Mallet *v.* + -er [1].] One who beats, as with a mallet.

1823 *Blackw. Mag.* XIV. 212 You ask me to be the ..reviewer of the reviews—the mallet of the malleters.

Malleting (mæ·lĕtiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. Mallet *v.* + -ing [1].] The action of striking with a mallet.

1872 L. P. Meredith *Teeth* (1878) 87 In filling very large cavities requiring a great deal of pressure and malleting, there is [etc.].

Malleurite, variant of Maleurte *Obs.*

‖ **Malleus** (mæ·lī,ŭs). *Anat.* Pl. -ei (-ī,əi). [L.: lit. 'hammer'.]

1. The outermost of the three small bones (*malleus, incus*, and *stapes*) in the ear of mammals, which transmits the vibrations of the tympanum to the incus or 'anvil': = Hammer 2 d.

1669 Holder *Elem. Speech* 162 The Malleus lies along fixed to the Tympanum. 1705 *Phil. Trans.* XXV. 1982 The head of the Malleus lyes hid in the beginning of the *Sinus Mastoideus*. 1761 P. Morant *ibid.* LII. 264 A young lad..had the malleus of each ear..dropt out. 1840 G. V. Ellis *Anat.* 284 The laxator tympani, or great external muscle of the malleus. 1881 Mivart *Cat* 299 One such suspends the Malleus from the wall of the tympanum.

2. One of two organs of the 'trophi' or mouth-apparatus in *Rotifera*, which work upon the incus.

1850 Gosse in *Trans. Microscop. Soc.* (1852) III. 94 The implements of mastication..consist of two bent jaws, which work upon a central table, and have been likened to a pair of hammers working on an anvil; I shall therefore name the working arms the *mallei*, and the central table the *incus*. 1877 Huxley *Anat. Inv. Anim.* iv. 188. 1888 Rolleston & Jackson *Anim. Life* 633.

3. *Zool.* A genus of molluscs of the family *Aviculidæ* (Hammer-shells or Hammer-oysters).

1839 *Penny Cycl.* XIV. 334/2. 1878 Bell *Gegenbaur's Comp. Anat.* 329 Malleus, Avicula, [etc.] .. have an organ [byssus-secreting gland] of this kind.

Mallice, obs. form of Malice.

Mallico: see Miching mallicho.

Malligo, Mallilla, obs. ff. Malaga, Manille.

† **Mallok(e.** *Obs.* [repr. Irish *mallacht*, a. L. *maledict-* (see Malediction): cf. ON. *bjannak* (once) from Irish *benmacht* benediction.] Cursing.

a 1300 *E. E. Psalter* ix. 28 Of whas mallok [*v. r.* malloke, malloc] his mouth ful is. *Ibid.* xiii. 3, cviii. 16.

Mallophagan (mælǫ·făgăn), *a.* and *sb. Zool.* [Formed as next: see -an.] a. *adj.* = next. b. *sb.* An individual of the group *Mallophaga*.

In mod. Dicts.

Mallophagous (mælǫ·făgəs), *a. Ent.* [f. mod.L. *mallophag-us*, pl. (f. Gr. μαλλός lock of wool + -φάγος that eats) + -ous.] Of an insect: Devouring wool, hair, feathers, etc.; applied to the *Mallophaga*, a group of apodous parasitic insects.

1890 *Athenæum* 11 Oct. 487/3 A specimen of *Ornithomyia avicularia*,..to which there were firmly adhering .. several specimens of a mallophagous insect.

Mallow (mæ·lǫu). Forms: 1 mealuwe, malwa, mealwe, mealewe, 1, 5 malue, 3–5 malue, 4–5 malve, 5 maloo, malewe, 6 mallo, malew, malowe, 6–7 mallowe, 6– mallow. [OE. *mealuwe* wk. fem., a. L. *malva*; prob. related in some way to the synonymous Gr. μαλάχη, μολόχη. Cf. Du. *malve, maluwe*, G. *malve*, OF. *malve* (mod.F. *mauve*), It., Sp., Pg. *malva*. Cf. Maul *sb.*[2], Maw.]

1. (Also *pl.*, const. as *sing.*) A common wild plant, *Malva sylvestris* (N. O. *Malvaceæ*), having hairy stems and leaves and deeply-cleft reddish-

purple flowers; it is very mucilaginous. Also called *Common, Field, Wild Mallow*. In extended use, any plant of the genus *Malva*.

c 1000 Ælfric *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 135/27 *Malua*, malwe, uel ȝeormenletic. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 194 Leahtric & mealwan & hænne flæsc. *Ibid.* 214 Eft wildre mealwan seawes þry lytle bollan fullan. *c* 1265 *Voc. Names Pl.* in Wr.-Wülcker 559/3 *Malua*, malue. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Serm.* Sel. Wks. II. 194 It growiþ to a tree, as done malues in sum contre. *c* 1420 *Liber Cocorum* (1862) 47 Redde nettel crop and malues grene. *c* 1450 *ME. Med. Bk.* (Heinrich) 151 Tak bausones grece, wylde malwe..& pimpernel. 1573 Tusser *Husb.* (1878) 72 Dig garden, stroy mallow. 1573–80 Baret *Alv.* M 77 Mallowes, this herb groweth in gardens, and in vntilled places. 1597 Gerarde *Herbal* II. cccxxxvii. 784 The wilde Mallowe hath broade leaues somewhat rounde [etc.]. 1605 B. Jonson *Volpone* I. i, A threshers..dares not taste the smallest graine, But feedes on mallowes. 1610 Shaks. *Temp.* II. i. 144. 1611 Cotgr. s. v. *Maulve*, The white Mallow. ..The field Mallow, wild Mallow; our ordinarie Mallow. 1783 Crabbe *Village* I, Hardy and high .. The slimy mallow waves her silky leaf. 1855 Tennyson *Brook* 46 Many a fairy foreland set With willow-weed and mallow. 1855 E. Smith *Bot.* in *Syst. Nat. Hist.* I. 117 In the Geranium and the Mallows the whole [of the stamens] are united. 1876 Harley *Mat. Med.* (ed. 6) 709 The Mallow is found in most parts of Europe.

2. With qualification applied to various malvaceous plants: † **Crisp(ed, Curled(-leaved) mallow**, *Malva crispa*; † **Cut mallow** = *Vervain mallow*; **Dwarf mallow**, *M. rotundifolia*; **French mallow**, *Lavatera Olbia*; **Indian mallow**, (*a*) *Abutilon Avicennæ*; (*b*) any plant of the genera *Urena* or *Sida*; **Rose mallow**, (*a*) see 5; (*b*) the genus *Hibiscus*, esp. *H. Moscheutos*; **Shrub** († **Shrubbed**, † **Shrubby**) **mallow**, *Hibiscus syriacus*; † **Thorny mallow**, *Hibiscus Sabdariffa*: **Tree mallow**, *Lavatera arborea*; **Venetian, Venice mallow**, *Hibiscus Trionum*; **Vervain mallow**, *M. Alcea*; **Yellow mallow** = *Indian mallow*. See also *Jews' mallow* (Jew 3 d), **Marsh mallow**, **Musk mallow**.

c 1265 *Voc. Names Pl.* in Wr.-Wülcker 558/1 *Malua cri[s]pia*, screpemalue (*sic*). *c* 1450 *ME. Med. Bk.* (Heinrich) 225 Tak þe rote of altea,..& þe crysp malwe, & boile alle in wyn or in ale. 1548 Turner *Names of Herbes* (1881) 10 It may be named Veruen mallowe, or cut mallowe. *Ibid.* 50 It is called in englishe french Mallowe. 1578 Lyte *Dodoens* v. xxiv. 581 The small wilde Hocke, or Dwarffe Mallowe. 1597 Gerarde *Herbal* II. cccxxxviii. 788 *Althæa arborescens.* Tree Mallowe. *Ibid.*, *Althæa frutex Clusii.* Shrubbed Mallowe. *Ibid.*, The shrubbie Mallowe riseth vp like vnto a hedge bush. *Ibid.* II. cccxxxix. 790 *Althæa lutea.* Yellow Mallowe... It is called *Abutilon. Ibid.* cccxl. 791 *Alcea Peregrina.* Venice Mallowe. *Sabdariffa.* Thorney Mallowe. 1611 Cotgr., *Maulve grande*, the great Mallow, or tree Mallow. 1620 Venner *Via Recta* vii. 144 The best and wholsomest of them is the curled Mallow. 1707–12 Mortimer *Husb.* (1721) II. 180 *Althæa Fruticosa*, or Shrub-Mallow. 1754 *Catal. Seeds* in *Fam. Rose of Kilravock* (Spalding Club) 427 Tree-mallow, a shrub. *Ibid.* 428 Curled-leaved mallow... Abutilon, (Indian mallow). 1760 J. Lee *Introd. Bot.* App. 318 Mallow, Yellow, *Sida.* 1785 Martyn *Rousseau's Bot.* xxiv. 344 Dwarf Mallow. *Ibid.* 345 Vervain Mallow. 1846–50 A. Wood *Class-bk. Bot.* 207 *M[alva] Crispa.* Curled or Crisped-leaved Mallow. 1866 *Treas. Bot.*, *Hibiscus*, the Rose-mallow family. *Ibid.* 665/1 *L[avatera] arborea*, the Sea or Tree Mallow, is a common south-west European plant.

3. = Marsh mallow, *Althæa officinalis.* Called also *Water, White Mallow.*

a 1387 *Sinon. Barthol.* (Anecd. Oxon.) 24 *Herba siriaca*, i. malve. *c* 1450 *Alphita* (Anecd. Oxon.) 111 *Malua siriaca*, ..malewe. 1754 *Catal. Seeds* in *Fam. Rose of Kilravock* (Spalding Club) 427 Ketmia, (Syrian mallow). 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) VIII. 498/2 *Hibiscus*, Syrian mallow.

5. *Garden* or *Rose Mallow*, the hollyhock, *Althæa rosea.*

1577 B. Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* II. (1586) 61 It is Hollioke, or Garden Mallow. 1597 Gerarde *Herbal* II. cccxxxvi. 782 Of the garden Mallow called Hollihocke. 1707–12 Mortimer *Husb.* (1721) II. 229 Mallows of the Garden, is a fair large Flower,..the time of its flowering is in August and September. 1753 Chambers *Cycl. Supp.* s. v. *Malva*, The rose Mallow, or, as we call it, the hollyoak.

6. The leaf or fibre of the mallow used for writing upon.

1656 Cowley *Davideis* I. Note 54 They did anciently write too upon Mallows. [1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) X. 504/1 Paper from the mallows may be used.]

7. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *mallow colour, family, flower, leaf, plant, tribe, water*; *mallow-flowered* adj.; **mallows red** (see quot.); **mallow rose**, *Hibiscus Moschentos*; **mallow tree** = *tree mallow* (see 2); **mallow wort**, a plant of the N. O. *Malvaceæ.*

1611 Cotgr., *Presme d'Esmaraude*, a..course Emerauld; ..some..of a thicke, or troubled *mallow colour. 1857 A. Gray *First Less. Bot.* (1866) 109 In the corolla of Geranium ..and of the *Mallow Family. 1611 Cotgr., *Gris violant*, *Mallow-flower colour. 1871 Kingsley *At Last* xvi, Ochro —a purple-stemmed *mallow-flowered plant. *c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 56 Take *malowe leues & leues of violet. 1816 Bentham *Chrestom.* 325 A *mallow plant, with a flower on it. 1862 O'Neill *Dict. Calico Printing*, etc. s.v. *Mallow*, The ordinary '*mallows red' is exactly the same as dark crimson. 1840 Paxton *Bot. Dict.*, *Mallow rose, see *Hibiscus moschatus* [sic]. 1741 *Compl. Fam.-Piece* II. iii. 374 Trees and Shrubs which are now in Flower, as..*Mallow Tree, *Arbor Judæ* [etc.]. 1846 J. Baxter *Libr. Pract. Agric.* (ed. 4) I. 125 The *mallow tribe are characterized by containing..mucilaginous matter. 1852 Henslow *Dict. Bot. Terms* (1856), *Malvaceæ*.. the Mallow Tribe. 1898 Eva Lückes *Gen. Nursing* x. (1900) 122 *Mallow water and camomile flower water are made in the same way. 1845 Lindley *Sch. Bot.* 45 *Mallowworts, or Malvads. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 665/1 Like the rest of mallowworts the Tree Mallow contains..mucilaginous matter.

‖ **Mallum** (mæ·lŏm), **mallus** (mæ·lŭs). *Hist.* [med.L. *mallum, -us*, ad. OFrankish **mall-*, contracted form of OTeut. **maþlo-* (Goth. *maþl* meeting-place, OE. *mæðel* meeting, discussion, OHG., OS. *mahal* assembly, judgement, speech). Cf. Mail *sb.*[2], Mall[2].] The hundred-court among the Franks. (By modern historians sometimes used as the name of a common Germanic institution, and so attributed to the Anglo-Saxons.)

1844 Ld. Brougham *Brit. Const.* iii. (1862) 54 There was a popular infusion occasionally in the King's mallum, or council. 1851 Sir F. Palgrave *Norm. & Eng.* I. 400 The mallum, the Shire-moot, could not be convened. 1874 Stubbs *Const. Hist.* I. iii. § 25. 55 From the decisions of the mallus there is no appeal, except to the king himself.

Mallure, variant of Malheur *Obs.*

† **Mally**, *a. Obs.* [Cf. Du. 'een regte malle moeder', 'malle, ouwe vader' (*Wb. d. nederl. Taal*, s.v. *Mal* adj.).] Foolishly fond.

1592 Babington *Notes Genesis* xxxiv. 5 (1596) 253 *Blanda patrum segnes facit indulgentia natos.* A mallie father maketh a wicked childe.

Mallyce, obs. form of Malice.

Malm (mām), *sb.* Also 4, 9 malme, 6 maund (?), 7 maume, mawme, mame, maln, 8 maum, mallan. [OE. *mealm-*, in comb. *mealmstán* (see 3) and in the deriv. *mealmiht* sandy; cogn. w. ON. *malm-r* (Icel. *málmr*, OSw. *malmber*, Sw., Da. *malm*) ore, metal, Goth. *malma* masc., sand; a parallel formation from another grade of the root is OS., OHG. *melm* dust; f. root **mel-*, *mal-* to grind: see Meal *sb.*]

1. a. A soft friable rock consisting largely of chalky material. **b.** The light loamy soil formed by the disintegration of this rock.

1477 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 189/2 The Vaynes called the Malme or Marle and Chalke, liyng comenly in the grounde. 1579–80 North *Plutarch, Alexander* (1595) 737 The earth spued out continually a kind of maund or chalkie clay somewhat lyquid. 1607 J. Norden *Surv. Dial.* v. 229 In part of Hamshire they haue another kind of earth,..the slub of the riuer of Anon, which they call Mawme. 1670 J. Smith *Eng. Improv. Reviv'd* 15 You shall lay or bestow 200 Cartload of the best slimy or fattest Marle or Mame on each or every Acre of Land. 1677 Plot *Oxfordsh.* iv. 69, I found a soft stone thereabout called Maume, of a whitish colour. *a* 1697 Aubrey *Nat. Hist. Wilts* (1847) 107 The soile of the downes I take generally to be a white earth or mawme. 1697 *View Penal Laws* 239 It shall likewise be tryed and severed from Stones, Maln, Marle, and Chalk. 1719 Strachey in *Phil. Trans.* XXX. 969 These Clives vary much in Hardness, in some places being little harder than Malm or Loom. 1743 Needham *ibid.* XLII. 634 This Bed of Malm lies in a Valley, at the Foot of a long Ridge of Chalky Downs. 1747 Hooson *Miner's Dict.* M ij, *Mallan*, this is of divers Colours, .. and always Soft. 1787 G. White *Selborne* I. 2 The gardens..consist of a warm, forward, crumbling mould, called black malm. *Ibid.* 4 A range of fair enclosures, consisting of what is called white malm. 1825 Cobbett *Rur. Rides* (1853) 207 The lanes were very deep; the wet malme just above the colour of rye-meal mixed up with water. 1851 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* XII. II. 481 *Marme*, a white marl containing an admixture of clay. 1881 Whitehead *Hops* 21 A peculiar fertile clay, known locally as 'malm'. 1885 Hinde in *Phil. Trans.* CLXXVI. 413 The beds..have been described under the local names of malm, firestone [etc.].

2. Short for *malm-brick.*

1858 *Skyring's Builders' Prices* (ed. 48) 66 Points to groins of common stocks .. Ditto of Malms. 1881 Young *Every Man his own Mechanic* § 1152 Malms are made of a finer clay. 1895 *Oracle Encycl.* I. 500/1 'Marls' or 'Malms' is the name given to the best bricks.

3. *attrib.*: **malm-brick**, the best kind of brick (so *malm cutter, pavior, stock*); **malm-rock** = sense 1 a; also *Geol.* = Greensand 1 c; **malm-stone** = sense 1 a.

c 893 K. Ælfred *Oros.* IV. xiii. § 5 Mon heardlice gnide þone hnescestan mealmstan æfter þæm [etc.]. 1824 *Mech. Mag.* No. 33. 77 Bricks .. which are used for facing buildings, called malm stock Bricks. *Ibid.* 78 The earth and other ingredients, with which the soil for malm Bricks are composed. 1833 Lyell *Princ. Geol.* III. 292 The upper green-sand ('firestone', or 'malm rock', as it is sometimes called) is almost absent. 1842 Malm cutter [see Cutter *sb.*[1] 7]. 1843 *Mech. Mag.* XXXIX. 192 The difference between malm paviors and stocks was fifteen or twenty shillings per thousand. 1858 *Skyring's Builders' Prices* (ed. 48) 65 Picked stock facings .. Seconds malm ditto. 1859 A. C. Ramsay *Catal. Rock Spec.* (1860) 53 A very fine .. sandstone, locally termed 'Malm-rock'. 1876 Page *Adv. Text-bk. Geol.* xviii. 349 'Malm rock', a soft silicious substance, containing a large percentage of soluble silica. 1889 *Q. Jrnl. Geol. Soc.* XLV. 406 In the more siliceous malmstones fragments of siliceous sponge-spicules are abundant. 1894 *Jrnl. Royal Agric. Soc.* June 391 The persistence of the Malmstone over a very wide extent of the Upper Greensand of England is a noteworthy fact.

Malm (mām, mōm), *a. dial.* Forms: 7–8 moam, 9 mome, 7–9 mawm, 7– maum. [f. root of Malm *sb.*; for the sense cf. the cognate Melch, Mellow adjs.] Mellow, soft.

1691 Ray *N. Cy. Words* (E. D. S.), *Moam*, vel *Maum*, maturomitis, mellow. 1788 Marshall *Rural Econ. E. Yks.* (E. D. S.), *Maum*, mellow, attended with a degree of dryness. 1829 Brockett *Gloss. N. Cy. Words* (ed. 2), *Maum, Maumy*, mellow, soft. *Mome*, soft, smooth, conjoining the idea of sweetness. 1869 *Lonsdale Gloss.*, *Mamm, Mawm*, (1) mellow. (2) Gentle, quiet. 1876 *Whitby Gloss.*, *Maum, Mome*, or *Maumy*, mellow; insipid.

Malm (mām), *v.*[1] Also 7 marm. [f. Malm *sb.*] *trans.* † **a.** To treat (land) with malm (*obs.*). **b.** To convert (clay) into artificial malm for brick-making; to cover (brick-earth) with artificial malm. Hence **Malmed** *ppl. a.*, **Ma·lming** *vbl. sb.*

1619–21 *Norden's Surv., Duchy of Lanc.* in *North Riding Rec. Soc.* (1894) I. 24 Fra Scappbow till the west ende of Langhow Bran even suth til tbe nether syde marmed land. 1850 Dobson *Manuf. Bricks & Tiles* I. 26 The malm or malmed brick-earth .. is turned over with the spade. *Ibid.* II. 3 The brick-earth..may be malmed, i. e. covered with artificial malm. 1876 A. B. Macdowall *Brick* in *Encycl. Brit.* IV. 280/1 The most common mode of preparing the clay, in the London district, is that of *malming*..an artificial malm is made by mixing chalk and clay, previously reduced to pulp, and allowing the mixture to consolidate by evaporation.

† **Malm,** *v.*[2] *Obs.* In 7 mawme, 9 maum. [f. Malm *a.*] *intr.* To become soft.

1641 Best *Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 107 Then they water it [earth), and lette it lye three or fower dayes to mawme. 1825 Jamieson, *Maum*, to soften and swell by means of rain, or from being steeped in water; to become mellow. Malt is said to *maum*, when steeped.

‖ **Malmag** (mæ·lmæg). [Appears as *malmay* in Blumentritt's vocabulary of the Sp. dialect of the Philippines, 1882.] The Spectre, *Tarsius spectrum*, a small lemuroid animal, native of Borneo and the Philippines.

1838 Cuming in *Zool. Soc. Proc.* VI. 67 The Malmag is a small animal living under the roots of trees [in the Philippines]. 1871 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* I. 248 The Spectre Tarsier, or Tarsius. The Malmag.

Malmaison (mælmĕ·zŏn). *Hort.* [Short for *Souvenirs de Malmaison* (Fr. 'recollections of Malmaison', the palace at which the empress Josephine held her court), originally (and still) the name of a delicate variety of blush rose, and transferred to the carnation from some notion of resemblance.] A variety of the carnation.

1892 *Carnation Manual* 149 The Malmaison Carnations can be classed with the tree or perpetual types. 1896 Ashby-Sterry *Tale Thomas* (1903) 53/2 The three ladies in their fresh crisp morning dresses, their Malmaison carnations, and their warm-coloured wraps. 1900 *Bk. Gardening* 708 Carnations are divided into three groups: (1) Show, (2) Tree or Perpetuals, and (3) Malmaisons. *Ibid.* 709 Malmaisons.. Sorts: These are all varieties obtained from the original Souvenir de la Malmaison. 1901 *Daily Chron.* 20 July 10/3 [The bridesmaids] carried conventional bouquets of pink and sulphur malmaisons.

† **Malmarsh.** *Obs. dial.* [? var. or corruption of Mallemuck.] = Fulmar.

1833 *Montagu's Ornith. Dict.* 315.

Malmaset, obs. form of Marmoset.

† **Malmeny.** *Obs.* Forms: 4 mawmenny, -menee, 5 momene, maumen(y)e, mawmene, -many, -meny, malmany(e, menye, malmens, mammenye, -ony, mameny, 5–6 mamony. [Of obscure origin. Connexion with F. *malmener* 'to maltreat' seems unlikely. The receipt might suggest derivation from Malmsey or its source.] A dish in old cookery.

?*c* 1390 *Forme of Cury* xx. (1780) 19 Mawmenee. Take a pottel of wyne greke and ii pounde of sugar [etc.]. *Ibid.* cxciv. 88 For to make Mawmenny. *c* 1420 *Liber Cocorum* (1862) 26 For to make momene. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 22 Maumenye ryalle. .. Mammenye bastarde. *Ibid.* 48 Malmenye Furnez...with the wete dyssche ley þe malmenye & þe cofyns. *a* 1450 *Tourn. Tottenham, Feest* v. in Hazl. *E. P. P.* III. 94 Ther was gryndulstones in gravy And mylstones in mawmany. 1513 *Bk. Keruynge* in *Babees Bk.* (1868) 275 And the seconde course, Iussell with mamony.

Malmignatte (mælminyæ·t). [ad. mod.L. *malmignattus*, ad. Corsican *malmignatto*, f. It. *malo* bad + *mignatto* (cf. '*mignatta* a horse-leach, a bloud-sucker, *mignatti* a kind of silke-wormes', Florio 1611).] A spider, *Theridion* (*Latrodectus*) *malmignattus.*

[1699 Ray in *Phil. Trans.* XXI. 57 The Island of Corsica ..breeds venemous Spiders, called by the Inhabitants Tarantola or Malmignatto.] 1882 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* VI. 176 The Malmignatte..is almost half an inch long [etc.]. *Ibid.* 383 Index, Malmignatte Spider.

† **Ma·lmish,** *a. Obs.* [f. Malm (? *sb.* or *a.*) + -ish.] ? Resembling malm; ? somewhat 'malm' or soft.

a 1722 Lisle *Observ. Husb.* 99 (E. D. S.) A heavy malmish sort of clay.

Malmoutrye, variant of Maumetry *Obs.*

Malmsey (mā·mzi). Forms: 5 malmesyne, 5–6 malmasye, 5–7 malmesey, 6 malmesay, malmyse, malmesye, mammesey, malmesee, mamulsye, mawlmsey, 6–7 malmesle, malmsie, 7 malmesy, 5– malmsey. [ad. (? through OF. or Pr. **malmesie*: cf. Béarnais *marmusie*) med.L. *malmasia* (Diefenbach), a corruption of

the Gr. place-name **Μονεμβασία** (Monemvasia); cf. MDu. *malemeseye*, MLG. *malmesie*, MHG. *malmasier* (in 15th c. latinized *malmasctum*), MDa. *malmesye*. The parallel corruption *Malvasia* has given rise to the OF. and ME. *malvesie* as a name for the wine: see MALVOISIE.]

1. A strong sweet wine, originally the product of the neighbourhood of Monemvasia (Napoli di Malvasia) in the Morea; but now obtained from Spain, the Azores, and the islands of Madeira and the Canaries, as well as from Greece.

14.. *Mann. & Housch. Exp.* (Roxb.) 456 A bote of malmesey and a federbed. *?c* 1475 *Sqr. lowe Degre* 754, Ye shall haue rumney and malmesyne [*rime* wyne]. 1513 MORE *Hist. Rich. III* Wks. 37/1 Attainted was hee by parliament and judged to the death, and thereupon hastely drouned in a Butt of Malmesey. 1531–2 *Act* 23 *Hen. VIII*, c. 7 No malmeseis Romeneis sackes nor other swete wynes ..shalbe reteiled aboue xii.d. the gallon. 1549–50 in Fowler *Hist. C. C. C.* (O.H.S.) 356 Several small charges for mammesey. 1572 J. JONES *Bathes Buckstone* 10 With Sugar, or whyte Mamulsyes of Madera, a myas of good Ale, a cawdell or Alebury. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* I. ii. I. i. 93 All black Wines..as Muscadine, Malmesie,..Broune bastard, Metheglen, and the like. 1772–84 *Cook's Voy.* (1790) IV. 1223 Canary sack..which the French call Vin de Malvesie, and we..name Malmsey. 1814 W. M. LEAKE *Researches in Greece* 197 *note*, The place [Monemvasia] being celebrated for the fine wines produced in the neighbourhood, Malvasia changed to Malvoisie in French, and Malmsey in English, came to be applied to many of the rich wines of the Archipelago, Greece, and other countries. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVII. 465/2 The original Malmsey of the Grecian Archipelago, that of Madeira [etc.]. 1871 E. C. G. MURRAY *Member for Paris* III. 115 A second brother statesman.. had just been treating himself to a glass of Malmsey. 1880 *Macm. Mag.* XLI. 236 Malmsey was formerly the produce of those parts only [Candia and Greece]. 1895 *Army & Navy Co-op. List* 166 Choice Old Malmsey.

b. *attrib.*, as *malmsey-butt*, *-cup*; **malmsey-face**, a face inflamed by drink; **malmsey madeira**, a malmsey wine made in Madeira; **malmsey-nose** (see quots. 1597, *a* 1700).

1588 *Lanc. & Chesh. Wills* III. 138 One Mawlmsey cupp wth cover all guylt. 1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III*, I. iv. 161 Throw him into the Malmesey-Butte. 1597 — 2 *Hen. IV*, II. i. 42 Yonder he comes, and that arrant Malmesey-Nose Bardolfe. 1611 COTGR. s. v. *Visage*, A mustulent, or maumsie face. 1684 OTWAY *Atheist* v. i, This Malmsey nose of mine. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew*, *Malmesey-nose*, a jolly, red Nose. 1723 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 6173/3 There will be no other Malmsey Madera Wine landed this Year. 1858 HOMANS *Cycl. Comm.* 1974/1 Malmsey Madeira.

2. A kind of grape, from which the wine Malmsey was originally made.

1511 GUYLFORDE *Pilgr.* (Camden) 12 Vpon that hyll is a cyte called Malsasia, where firste grewe Malmasye, and yet dothe. 1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turks* (1621) 868 It is now most famous..for the good Malmesey which there groweth. 1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 224 Muscadines and Malmesies, those kindes of grapes brought hither first from Arabia.

Malmy (mā·mi), *a.*[1] Also 7–8 maumy, 8 mallauy, 9 maulmy. [f. MALM *sb.* + -Y[1].]

1. Of a loamy character.

1677 PLOT *Oxfordsh.* ix. 240 If the Land be of that sort they call Maumy, consisting of a mixture of White-clay and Chalk, and somwhat of Sand. 1744–50 W. ELLIS *Mod. Husbandm.* I. i. ii. 36 The Chalk and Mould are so mixed together that in Hertfordshire we call it a Maumy Earth. 1858 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* XIX. II. 279 Parts of Norfolk—particularly the white malmy soils—were unkind for turnips. 1880 *Encycl. Brit.* XI. 430/2 The eastern portion [of Hampshire]..is a grey sandy loam provincially called 'malmy' land.

†**2.** Resembling a stratum or vein of malmstone.

1747 HOOSON *Miner's Dict.* M ij, Ore lying in it [mallan] is as Bullets and naked Lumps..and rare to be seen after the manner of a Rib; hence we say Mallany Gear, or Stuff, when the vein inclines to that kind.

Malmy (mā·mi, mǭ·mi), *a.*[2] *dial.* Also **maumy**. [f. MALM *a.* + -Y.] Mellow; soft and insipid; † also *fig.*

1728 *Wodrow Corr.* (1843) III. 403 You'll probably think I am too soft and malmy now. 1825 JAMIESON, *Maumie*, mellow. 1829, 1876 [see MALM *a.*].

Maln, obs. form of MALM.

Malnutrition (mælniutri·ʃən). [f. MAL- + NUTRITION.] Insufficient nutrition.

1862 *Cornh. Mag.* VI. 323 Diseases of which the starting point is mal-nutrition. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 183 Mental disorder may arise from temporary malnutrition of the fore-brain.

Malobathrum, variant of MALABATHRUM.

Mal-observance. [f. MAL- + OBSERVANCE.] Observance of a wrong kind.

1822 P. BEAUCHAMP (G. Grote) *Anal. Infl. Nat. Relig.* (1875) 75 Mal-observance, like unbelief, includes non-observance. 18.. DR. BEGG in *Crafts Sabb. for Man* (1894) 182 [Working men] wish for something more pungent than a museum in their malobservance of the Sabbath.

Mal-observation. Defective observation.

1886 MAUDSLEY *Nat. Causes & Supernat. Seemings* 50 The common malobservation which, taking note of agreeing, takes no note of contradicting, instances. 1895 J. N. MASKELYNE in *Daily Chron.* 29 Oct. 3/4 A charge of either malobservation or collective hallucination on the part of a large number of eminent men.

Malocotoon, variant of MELOCOTON.

Malodorous (mælō·dŏrəs), *a.* [f. MAL- + ODOROUS.] Evil-smelling, *lit.* and *fig.*

1850 CARLYLE *Latter-d. Pamph.* ii. 27 This malodorous phosphurescence of *post-mortem* sentimentalism. 1856 G. WILSON *Gateways Knowl.* (1859) 83 If..some mal-odorous body had been mixed with the incense. 1889 J. ASHTON *Fleet* xviii. 230 The river retaliated in such kind, as to become a malodorous and offensive nuisance. 1891 *Law Times* XC. 459/2 This malodorous litigation.

Hence **Malo·dorously** *adv.*, **Malo·dorousness.**

1886 GUILLEMARD *Cruise Marchesa* II. 124 As for malodorousness, it is perhaps one of the few points in which the resemblance between the two cities fails. 1903 *Blackw. Mag.* July 19/1 The missile malodorously discharged itself.

Malodour (mælō·dəɹ). [f. MAL- + ODOUR.] An evil smell, a stench.

1825 SOUTHEY in *Q. Rev.* XXXI. 380 In vain did the fair traveller hope to escape from that omnipresent mal-odour. 1858 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* v. ii. I. 544 Putrid fermentation ending, after the endurance of much malodour, in mere zero to you and to every one.

†**Mal-o·minous,** *a. Obs.* In 7 male-ominous. [f. MAL- + OMINOUS.] Of evil omen.

1658 tr. *Borgerac's Satyr. Char.* xii. 42, I saw it encompasst by a million of male-ominous creatures.

Malonic (mălǫ·nik), *a. Chem.* [a. F. *malonique* (Dessaignes 1858 in *Comptes Rendus* XLVII. 76), arbitrarily altered from *malique* MAL-IC.] In *Malonic acid*: an acid obtained by the oxidation of malic acid.

1859 WATTS tr. *Gmelin's Handbk. Chem.* XIII. 360. 1888 REMSEN *Org. Chem.* 204 Treated with an alkali, barbituric acid breaks up into malonic acid and urea.

Mal-organiza·tion. [f. MAL- + ORGANIZATION.] Faulty organization.

1841 GRESLEY *C. Lever* 130 He will not be condemned for his mal-organisation..but because he did not act according to his conscience. 1862 HELPS *Organiz. Daily Life* 37. 1889 *20th Century* (N. Y.) Apr. 13 The root of the evil is in the malorganization of society.

Mal-o·rganized, *a.* [f. MAL- + ORGANIZED *ppl. a.*] Faultily organized.

1862 HELPS *Organiz. Daily Life* 112 Of course a thing may be elaborate but yet mal-organized.

Malosses, Malotto, obs. ff. MOLASSES, MULATTO.

Malpighiaceous (mælpigi,ēi·ʃəs), *a. Bot.* [a. mod.L. *Malpighia* a genus of plants (f. name of Marcello *Malpighi* (1628–94) an Italian physician) + -ACEOUS.] Pertaining to or characteristic of the N. O. *Malpighiaceæ*.

1835 LINDLEY *Introd. Bot.* (1848) I. 156 Malpighiaceous and glandular hairs. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XIV. 341/1 In many species [of Malpighiaceæ] the hairs are attached to the leaves, &c. by the middle; so that hairs of that description have acquired the name of Malpighiaceous.

Malpi·ghiad. *Bot.* [See prec. and -AD.] Lindley's term for: A plant of the N. O. *Malpighiaceæ*.

1846 LINDLEY *Veg. Kingd.* 388.

Malpighian (mælpi·gĭăn), *a. Anat.* and *Bot.* [f. *Malpighi* (see MALPIGHIACEOUS) + -AN.]

1. *Anat.* The distinctive epithet of certain structures discovered by Malpighi, and of others connected with these.

Malpighian bodies, corpuscles: certain minute bodies in the substance of the kidney. *Malpighian corpuscles of the spleen*: the lymphatic corpuscles of that organ. *Malpighian capsules* (see quot. 1866). *Malpighian layer*: the inner layer of the epidermis. *Malpighian pyramids*: the medullary substance of the kidney, consisting of palish red-coloured, striated conical masses. *Malpighian tubules*: the uriniferous tubes of which the kidney is for the most part made up. *Malpighian tuft*: a vascular glomerule of convoluted capillary blood-vessels in the kidney.

1847–9 TODD *Cycl. Anat.* IV. 244 The Malpighian bodies consist of a rounded mass of minute blood-vessels. 1848 *Quain's Anat.* (ed. 5) II. 1088 These little vesicles or capsules, formerly known as the Malpighian corpuscles of the spleen, were discovered in the pig by Malpighi. *Ibid.* 1191 These [small round dark red points] are the Malpighian bodies or corpuscles of the kidney. *Ibid.* 1196 Others look on a Malpighian tuft as merely an example of an artery breaking up into a rete mirabile. 1866 HUXLEY *Phys.* v. § 9 The tubules [of the kidney]..terminate in dilatations.. called Malpighian capsules. 1877 — *Anat. Inv. Anim.* vii. 393 The intestine is provided with Malpighian tubules. 1878 FOSTER *Bk. Phys.* II. (1889) 687 The epidermis consists of ..an inner soft layer, the Malpighian layer [etc.]. 1890 H. GRAY *Anat.* (ed. 12) 942 The *tubuli uriniferi*..finally terminate at the apices of the Malpighian pyramids.

2. *Bot.* in *Malpighian cells*: see quot.

1900 B. D. JACKSON *Gloss. Bot. Terms* 152/1 *Malpighian Cells*, those which compose the outer layer of the seed in Malpighiaceae.

†**Malpleasant,** *a. Obs.* [f. MAL- + PLEASANT, after F. *malplaisant*.] Unpleasant, disagreeable.

c 1532 DU WES *Introd. Fr.* in Palsgr. 1077 Nat to be tedious nor malpleasant, I remitte it to an other tyme. 1592 CONSTABLE *Sonn.* VIII. ii, But I, that nowe haue draune Mal-pleasant breath [etc.].

Malposed (mælpōu·zd), *ppl. a.* [f. MAL- + *-posed*, after *transposed*, etc. Cf. next.] Wrongly placed.

1900 *Lancet* 31 Mar. 939/2 Mr. George J. Goldie demonstrated the usefulness of the x rays in..the regulation of teeth malposed in the jaw.

Malposi·tion. [f. MAL- + POSITION.] Misplacement; the condition of being wrongly placed.

1862 TROLLOPE *N. Amer.* I. 145 There are edifices..which cry aloud to the gods by the force of their own ugliness and malposition. 1868 PEARD *Water-farm.* xi. 110 These ..curiosities were often rendered..useless by malposition.

b. *spec.* in *Obstetrics.* Faulty position of a part or organ, *esp.* of the fœtus in the uterus.

1836–9 TODD *Cycl. Anat.* II. 631/1 The apex of the heart adhered to the palate; but..the malposition appears to have been owing to a morbid adhesion of the umbilical cord to the head. 1859 *Ibid.* V. 683/2 An extreme degree of anti-version [of the uterus]...This malposition materially impedes labour. 1881 LE CONTE *Sight* 20 Malpositions of the eye, such as squinting. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 735 The length and difficulty of the labour, due to deformity in the mother or to malposition of the child.

Malpra·ctice. [f. MAL- + PRACTICE.]

1. *Law.* **a.** Improper treatment or culpable neglect of a patient by the physician.

1671 MAYNWARING *Anc. & Mod. Pract. Phys.* 20 Well then, you Prescriber in the mode of male-Practice. 1694 W. SALMON *Bate's Dispens.* (1713) 252/1, I give this Relation.. to convince..those Homicides [Pretenders to Physick] of their Barbarity and Mal-Practice. 1751 SMOLLETT *Per. Pic.* (1779) II. lxx. 250 The malpractice of a surgeon. 1816 A. C. HUTCHISON *Pract. Obs. Surg.* (1826) 181 This boy is dangerously ill, and likely to die, in consequence of such malpractice. 1863 HOLLAND *Lett. Joneses* xx. 286 A professional brother, prosecuted for malpractice, is always sure you will do what you can to clear him.

b. Illegal action by which a person seeks to benefit himself at the cost of others, while in a position of trust.

1758 *Ann. Reg.* 85 He was charged for male-practices in the management of his command abroad. 1768 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* III. 408 King Edward..found it necessary..to prosecute his judges for their corruption and other mal-practices. 1773 *Gentl. Mag.* XLIII. 199 Charges of extortion, and other mal-practices, had been brought against a British subject. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xv. III. 528 The malpractices, which had done more than the exhalations of the marshes of Dundalk to destroy the efficiency of the English troops, were [etc.]. 1895 *Pop. Sci. Monthly* Sept. 717 Malpractices begin with the prospectus and continue till liquidation.

2. *gen.* A criminal or overtly mischievous action; wrong-doing, misconduct.

1772–84 *Cook's Voy.* (1790) I. 136 When another canoe was struck for their mal-practices, the natives behaved in the same manner. 1812 *Chron. in Ann. Reg.* 19 The outrages ..have assumed a more decided character than at any period since the commencement of the malpractises. 1848 CLOUGH *Amours de Voy.* II. 273, I tremble for something factitious, Some malpractice of heart and illegitimate process. 1851 THACKERAY *Kickleburys on Rhine* (ed. 2) 73 Fanny was almost ready to tell fibs to screen her brother's malpractices from her mamma. 1884 J. COLBORNE *Hicks Pasha* 79 We took pains..to correct the malpractice of the men.

Ma·l-practi·tioner. [MAL-+PRACTITIONER.] A corrupt or culpably incompetent practitioner (of law or medicine).

1800 DIBDIN *Jew & Doctor* I. i, The wisdom of our ancestors has provided a remedy for the mistakes of mal-practitioners in..an English jury.

Malpraxis (mælpræ·ksis). [f. MAL- + Gr. *πρᾶξις* PRAXIS. Cf. MALA PRAXIS.] **a.** = MALPRACTICE 1 a. **b.** = MALPRACTICE 1 b.

1860 *N. Syd. Soc. Year-bk. Med. & Surg. for* 1859. 431 A midwife and an accoucheur were accused of malpraxis. 1866 ARNOULD *Mar. Insur.* II. iii. (ed. 3) II. 594 Such malpraxis as amounts to a denial of justice. 1891 *Lancet* 3 Oct. 758 Served with a legal process by some scoundrelly man or woman for an alleged malpraxis.

Ma·lpresenta·tion. *Obstet.* [f. MAL- + PRESENTATION.] Abnormal presentation at childbirth.

1899 *Lancet* 14 Oct. 1021/1 If a malpresentation were diagnosed it might be necessary to correct it by manipulation.

Malpropri·ety. [f. MAL- + PROPRIETY.] Want of proper condition; disorderliness.

1888 E. EGGLESTON *Graysons* xvii. 188 The whole interior had a harmonious air of sloth, stupidity, and malpropriety.

Malscre, obs. form of MASKER *v.*

†**Ma·lshave.** *Obs.* Forms: 1 mælsceafa, 2 mæslesceafa, 4 malschave, 5 malschawe. [OE. *mælsceafa* (*?mæl-*); the first element may, if the vowel be short, be cogn. w. ON. *mǫl-r* (Sw. *mal-*, Da. *møl*), Goth. *malô* moth; the second element (cf. *sceafa* plane) is cogn. w. SHAVE *v.*, but the intended sense of the compound is not clear.] A caterpillar.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gram.* Gloss. (Z.) 310 *Eruca*, mælsceafa. *c* 1150 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 544/13 *Eruca*, mæslesceafa. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 19 Panne as þe grete flye folweþ þe tras of þe malschave [*MS. B* malshawe, *Caxton* malshawe, L. *erucam*] so after oþer woo com þe pestilence of þe Ismaelites.

Malshrag (mælʃræg). *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Forms (see E. D. D.): 9 maleshag, malley-, mallishag, maltshag, moleshag, 5, 9 *Yorksh.* malshrag. [App. a corruption of prec., after SHRAG. Other corrupt forms in mod. dialects, influenced by SCRAWL *v.* (= *crawl*) are *mawl-scrawl*, *malscral*, *maskell.*] A caterpillar.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVIII. xviii. (1495) 777 A malshrag that gnawyth caul leuys. *Ibid.* xlvii. 808 Of malshragges comyth and bredyth butterflyes. 1881 *Isle of Wight Gloss., Mallishag*, a caterpillar. 1883 *Hampsh. Gloss., Maleshag*, a caterpillar. 1890 *Glouc. Gloss., Moleshag*, a sort of grub or caterpillar.

Malskre, obs. f. MASKER *v. dial.*, to bewilder.

Malstick, variant of MAULSTICK.

Malt (mȯlt), *sb.* Forms: 1 mealt, 6–8 (9 *Sc.*) mault, 6 maulte, 5–6 malte, (7 mawlt), 8–9 *Sc.* and *north. dial.* maut, 1– malt. [Com. Teut.: OE. *mealt* = OS. *malt* (Du. *mout*), OHG. (MHG., mod.G.) *malz*, ON. (Sw., Da.) *malt*:—OTeut. **maltos-* neut., whence Finnish *mallas* (from

which the declension of the OTeut. word is inferred) and OSl. *mlato*; related to the adj. OTeut. **malto-* or **maltu-* (=Skr. *mṛdu*) represented in OHG., MHG. *malt* soft, ON. *malt-r* rotten; from the root of MELT, SMELT *vbs.*]

1. Barley or other grain prepared for brewing or distilling by steeping, germinating and kiln-drying, or by gelatinization, etc.

a 700 *Epinal Gloss.* 136 *Bratium*, malt. 835 *Charter* in *O. E. Texts* 448, Ic bidde & bebeode swælc monn se ðæt min lond hebbe ðæt he ælce ȝere aȝefe ðem hiȝum æt folcanstane l ambra maltes. 11.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 548/44 *Bracium*, malt. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* v. 398 All the vittale..As quhet, flour, meill, and malt, In the vyne-sellar gert he bryng. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. Prol. 197 For many mannus malt we mys wolde destruye. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Sompn. T.* 38 Yif hym a busshel whete, Malt, or Reye. 1455 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 324/2 All Bruers .. bought their malt in ye open marketts. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* III. 61 The starkest aill of malt that mycht be browin. 1589 *Pappe w. Hatchet* C ij, As honest a woman as euer burnt malt. 1605 SHAKS. *Lear* III. ii. 82 When Brewers marre their Malt with water. *a* 1618 SYLVESTER *Tobacco Battered* 748 Taverns, Tap-houses! .. Most sinfully hath Mault been sunken heer In nappy Ale, and double-double-Beer. 1696–7 *Act* 8 & 9 *Will. III*, c. 22 (*title*) An Act for granting to His Majesty certain Duties upon Malt[etc.]. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 269 ₱ 8, I allow a double Quantity of Malt to my small Beer. 1725 RAMSAY *Gentle Shep.* II. i, Yestreen I brew'd a bow of maut. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xlii, They were a bad pack—steal'd meat and mault, and loot the carters magg the coals. 1871 TYNDALL *Fragm. Sci.* (1879) II. xii. 256 The malt is crisp to the teeth, and decidedly sweeter to the taste then the original barley. 1885 H. STOPES *Malt & Malting* xii. 168 Gelatinised Malt. Until very recently malt was made, commercially, by germination solely, and almost exclusively from barley. Since the repeal of the Malt Duties numerous other methods of manufacture have been attempted, ..and many other varieties of grain have been malted.

b. with qualifying word, as *barley*, *oat*, *wheat malt*; *brown*, etc., *malt* (see quot. 1839); *patent malt* (see quot. 1830). *Blown malt* (see quot. 1876).

1532 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) VI. 34 A quarten barley mault. 1568 in W. H. Turner *Select. Rec. Oxford* (1880) 325 Ne any brewer..grinde their wheate malte in..any other mill. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* xii. 278 In Kent, where they commonly Brew with one half Oat-malt, and the other half Barly-malt. 1743 *Lond. & Country Brew.* III. (ed. 2) 179 It is a common Saying, that there is brought to London the worst of brown Malt, and the best of Pale. 1830 M. DONOVAN *Dom. Econ.* I. 87 The deep brown malt, now in use under the name of patent malt, is made by roasting malt..in the same manner as coffee is roasted, until it become blackish brown. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 95 According to the colour and the degree of drying, malt is distributed into three sorts; pale, yellow, and brown..The black malt used by the porter brewer..is partially charred. 1876 *Encycl. Brit.* IV. 270/1 Brown or porter malt..is sometimes called 'blown malt', from its distended appearance. *Ibid.* 271/1 Americans are now making beer largely from maize meal and maize malt.

c. *Extract of malt*, a preparation of malt used as a food for invalids. See *malt extract* in 5.

1872 W. AITKEN *Sci. & Pract. Med.* (ed. 6) II. 913 The extract of malt..may be prepared by any pharmaceutical chemist. 1889 *Syd. Soc. Lex.* s.v. *Extract of Malt*.. is prepared by digesting malt with water, straining, and evaporating the product to the consistency of thick honey. It contains diastase, and so acts as a digestive ferment, as well as being itself nutritious.

2. *Proverbs* and *Phrases*. *The malt is above the meal* (†rarely *wheat*, *bere*, *water*), said of a person under the influence of drink. *Soft fire makes sweet malt*, an admonition to be gentle or merciful.

1546 J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* (1867) 5 Soft fire maketh sweete malte. *Ibid.* 25 Malt is aboue wheate with him, market men saie. 1601 DENT *Pathw. Heaven* 249 Soft and faire, sir.. Soft fire maketh sweet mault. 1626 BRETON *Fantastickes* B 3 Haruest. Malt is now aboue wheat with a number of mad people. 1670 RAY *Prov.* 295 [Scottish Proverbs.] The malt is above the beir. 1678 *Ibid.* (ed. 2) 87 Proverbiall Periphrases of one drunk.. The malt is above the water. 1721 KELLY *Scot. Prov.* 320 The Malt's above the Meal with you. That is, you are drunk. 1816 SCOTT *Old Mort.* iv, When the malt begins to get aboon the meal..they are like to quarrel. 1858 M. PORTEOUS *Souter Johnny* 10 He was a sturdy stalwart chiel,..Fond o' his maut aboon his meal.

3. *transf.* Used for: Malt liquor, *slang* or *colloq.*

1718 RAMSAY *Christ's Kirk Gr.* III. xi, The bauld billy took his maut, And scour'd aff healths anew. 1823 'JON BEE' *Slang, Malt*, the chief ingredient of beer, has been used figuratively for the beer itself. 'A shovel of malt', is a pot of porter. 1828 LYTTON *Pelham* xxiii, I rejected malt with the air of his majesty, and formed a violent affection for maraschino. 1861 HUGHES *Tom Brown at Oxf.* i, I am naturally a thirsty soul, and cannot often resist the malt myself. 1861 LEVER *One of Them* xxvi, 'And will again, old boy', cried Hawke, finishing off the other's malt.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.* **a.** *attrib.* quasi-*adj.* in the sense 'brewed' or 'distilled from malt', as *malt-drink*, *-spirits*, *whisky*.

1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* xii. 276 To improve our English Liquors..in our Southern Parts where they have generally very bad Malt-drink. 1714 MANDEVILLE *Fab. Bees* (1725) I. 118 A beggar may make himself as drunk with stale-beer or malt-spirits, as a lord with Burgundy. 1731 P. SHAW *Ess. Artif. Philos.* 97 Malt-Low-wines, prepared in the common way, are exceeding nauseous. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 402 The distiller of malt whiskey calculates on obtaining two gallons of proof spirits from one bushel of malt.

b. Simple attrib., as *malt-bag*, *-barn*, *-barrow*, *-cellar*, *-chamber*, *-corn*, *-garner*, *-market*, *-meal*, *-rake*, *-shovel*, *-skep*, †*-spout*, *-store*, *-trade*.

1415–16 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 612 Item pro factura de lez *maltbagges, 1s. 6d. 1753 W. MAITLAND *Hist. Edinb.* II. 151/1 *Malt-barns, Breweries [etc.]. 1885 H. STOPES *Malt & Malting* xvi. 264 *Malt-barrows vary considerably in shape, manufacture, and use. 1576 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* Ser. I. II. 578 To sell thair malt..in thair *malt sellaris at hame. 1676 in Taylor *Wakefield Manor* (1886) 109 Cum.. brasio, anglice *malt chambers. 1581 W. STAFFORD *Exam. Compl.* ii. (1876) 46 It pleaseth vs..nothing at all, which buy most both breade-corne and *malt-corne for our peny. 1453–4 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 634 [Operantibus] super reparacionem..de le Whetgarner et le *Maltgarner. 1455 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 324/2 Thus is ye *Malt markett lost. 1622 MALYNES *Anc. Law-Merch.* 231 Casting *Mault meale, or Beane meale vpon the same. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl., **Malt Rake*, a hand tool used in stirring malt on the kiln floor. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. 331/1 He beareth Gules, a .. *Malt Shovel, Argent. 1577 in Rogers *Agric. & Prices* (1866) III. 580 *Malt skep. 1334–5 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 526 In I coreo equino empt. pro le *Maltspout in Bracina. 1885 H. STOPES *Malt & Malting* xiii. 183 *Malt-stores, and granaries. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* xii. 276, I shall .. for the Conveniency of the *Malt Trade, add a particular sort of Mill that [etc.].

c. objective, as *malt-making*, *-roasting*; *malt-carrier*, *-seller*. Also MALT-MAKER.

1708 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4447/4 A *Malt-Carrier. 1455 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 324/2 People..nowe..for noon occupation of *Malt makynge be in grete idelnesse. 1885 H. STOPES *Malt & Malting* xvii. 292 The monopoly of *malt-roasting, created by the numerous stringent Acts of Parliament.

d. instrumental (sense 3), as †*malt-conceived*, *-inspired*, *-mad* adjs.

1579 G. HARVEY *Letter-bk.* (Camden) 67 Sum newe devisid interlude, or sum *Maltconceived Comedye. 1838 RODGER *Poems* (1897) 24 (E.D.D.) A set o' *maut-inspired whims That end in perfect smoke. 1621 FLETCHER *Pilgrim* III. vi, Peace, thou heathenish Drunkard, Peace for shame. These English are so *Malt-mad;..when they have a Fruitful Year of Barly there, the whole Island's thus.

5. Special comb.: †**malt-book**, an account-book for the collections of malt-tax; †**malt boud** = MALT-WORM 1; **malt-bree** *Sc.*, malt liquor; **malt-bruiser**, a mill for bruising or crushing malt; †**malt-bug** = MALT-WORM 2; **malt-crusher**, a small crusher for testing samples of malt; **malt-distiller**, one who distils spirits from malt; so **malt-distillery**, †(*a*) the action or art of the malt-distiller (*obs.*); (*b*) a place where malt spirits are distilled; **malt-dryer** (see quot.); **malt extract**, a saccharine and mucilaginous substance obtained from wort; also = *extract of malt* (see 1 c); **malt-factor**, a dealer in malt; **malt-floor**, (*a*) a floor upon which the malt is spread to germinate; (*b*) (see quot. 1858); **malt food**, food composed of or combined with extract of malt; †**malt-gavel** = *malt shot*; **malt grid, grinder** (see quots.); **malt-kiln**, a kiln in which the malt is dried after 'steeping' and 'couching'; **malt liquor**, liquor made from malt by fermentation as opposed to distillation, as ale, beer, stout, etc.; **malt-loft**, the place where prepared malt is stored; **malt-lottery**, a lottery promoted by authority of Parliament in 1697 with the malt duty as security; †**malt-mare** (cf. MALT HORSE); †**malt master** = MALTSTER; **malt-mill**, a mill for grinding or crushing malt; †**malt-money**, money paid as a tax on the making of malt; **malt office**, a malt house, malting; †**malt-officer**, a collector of malt-tax; **malt-oil** (see quot.); †**malt-penny** = *malt money*; †**malt pie** *jocular*, drink, liquor; **malt ptough**, an implement for turning the malt when upon the malt-floor; **malt poultice** (see quot.); **malt-querns** *sb. pl.*, *dial.* (see quot. 1877); **malt roaster**, a machine for roasting malt on a small scale; **malt roller** (see quot.); **malt sack**, a sack of or for malt; **malt-screen**, a utensil for screening or sifting malt; †**malt shot**, a duty paid for the privilege of making malt [OE. *mealtgescot* (Wulfstan)]; **malt-sieve** = *malt-screen*; **malt-silver**, (*a*) = *malt-money*; (*b*) *Sc.* (see quot. 1825–80); †**malt-stiller** = *malt-distiller*; **malt-sugar** = MALTOSE; **malt-surrogate**, 'any substitute .. used in the manufacture of beer in place of a part of the malt' (*Cent. Dict.*); **malt-tails**, the roots and shoots of dried malt, = MALT-COMES; **malt-tap** (see quot.); **malt-tax**, a tax on malt, imposed by Parliament in 1697, repealed and superseded by the beer-duty in 1880; **malt tea**, 'the liquid infusion of the mash in brewing' (*Cent. Dict.* 1890); **malt ticket**, a ticket for a share in the malt-lottery; also *attrib.*; **malt trader, -turner** (see quots.); **malt vinegar**, vinegar made from the fermentation of malt; **malt wash**, the wash or wort obtained in distilling from grain. Also **MALT DUST, MALT HORSE**, etc.

1710 J. CHAMBERLAYNE *St. Gt. Brit.* II. III. 505 Edward, chief Examiner of the Country Officers *Malt-Books. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 323/2 *Malte bowde (or wevyl), *gurgulio*. 1780 W. FORBES *Dominie* 6 Keep very far frae Bacchus' reach, He drowned a' my cares to preach Wi' his *ma't-bree. 1796 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) X. 490/1 *Malt-bruiser, or Bruising-mill. 1577 HARRISON *England* I. II. xi. 85 b/2 It is incredible to say how our *Maultbugges lug at this liquor. 1885 H. STOPES *Malt & Malting* xvii. 284 Small *malt-crushers are very generally used. 1753 *Scots Mag.* Feb. 96/2 The *malt-distillers advertised, Feb. 19, that they would not receive or pay them [counterfeit halfpence] for the future. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.*, *Malt Distillery. ..The art is to convert fermented Malt liquors into a clear inflammable spirit. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 401 The..produce of malt distilleries. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, **Malt-dryer*, a device to hasten the drying of malt by artificial heat. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 100 The specific gravities of solutions of *malt extract. 1897 ROBERTS *Digest. & Diet* 223 Malt extracts are essentially infusions of malt concentrated by evaporation to the consistency of a thick treacle. 1704 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4035/4 Richard Haley and Samuel Wallis, *Maultfactors. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* xii. 259 Empty the Corn from the Cistern into the *Malt-floor. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, *Malt-floor*, a perforated floor in the .. malt-kiln, through which the heat ascends from the furnace below, and dries the barley laid upon it. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 403 If milk be rejected, *malt food is generally available. 1... *Custumal Mepham, Kent* in Somner *Treat. Gavelkind* (1660) 27 De xxj. sum. iiij. bush. de *Maltgavel. 1889 BARNARD *Noted Breweries* I. 62 The malt receiving room..contains two *malt grids..with strong wire screens at the bottom, through which the malt passes to the mills in the room below. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, **Malt-grinder*, a machine for crushing or cutting malted barley. 1538 LAYTON in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. III. III. 212 Therbe here..many *malte kylnes. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xiii. III. 324 Four or five hundred houses, two churches, twelve maltkilns, crowded close together. 1693 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2868/2 An Additional Excise upon *Malt Liquors. 1786 COWPER *Let to Unwin* Wks. (ed. Southey) VI. 5 Government is too much interested in the consumption of malt-liquor to reduce the number of venders. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 228 To those in the habit of drinking malt liquors, stout and bitter ale may be given. 1682 *True Protest. Mercury* No. 162. 2/1 *Mault-Lofts, Hop-Lofts [etc.]. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 110 The malt for the supply of the brewery is stored in vast granaries or malt-lofts. 1697 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3316/4 Lost.., two *10l.* Tickets belonging to the *Malt Lottery. 1594 LYLY *Moth. Bomb.* IV. ii, It was a verie good horse...If one ranne him, he woulde simper and mump, as though he had gone a wooing to a *maltmare at Rochester. 1612 T. ADAMS *White Devil* (1613) 49 The markets are hoysed vp, if the poore cannot reach the price, the *Mault-master wil. 1607 NORDEN *Surv. Dial.* III. 108 Any customarie Water-mill, ..Griest-mill, *Mault-mill..or any other kind of mill. 1707 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4293/3 Malt-Milne, and all Conveniencies fit for a Common Brewer. 1600 in *N. & Q.* 6th Ser. (1882) V. 88/2 Here followeth a general Rate of the *Malte Money due to the Church. 1800 *Hull Advertiser* 12 July 2/3 A.. brick and tiled *Malt-office..capable of steeping and drying at once fourteen quarters. 1737 J. CHAMBERLAYNE *St. Gt. Brit.* (ed. 33) II. 84 The Excise and *Malt-Officers Country Books. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* s.v. *Malt*, The odious taste of the *Malt oil will be distinguished. 1... *Rental Eastry Manor, Kent* in Somner *Treat. Gavelkind* (1660) 27 *Malt-peny. 1600 HEYWOOD *1st Pt. Edw. IV* (1613) B j b, See how S. Katherines smokes, wipe slaues your cies, And whet your stomackes for the good *moult pies. 1885 H. STOPES *Malt & Malting* xvii. 289 Several forms of *malt-ploughs are known and used. 1856 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, **Malt Poultice*, common name for the *Cataplasma hynes*. 1586 SPENSER *Will* in Grosart *S.'s Wks.* I. p. xvii, I give and bequethe unto Johon Spenser..one payre of *malt wyrnes. 1877 *N. W. Linc. Gloss.*, *Malt-quearns*, (1) stones for grinding malt; (2) a mill with steel crushers for the same purpose. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, **Malt roaster Maker*, a manufacturer of machines for roasting barley on a small scale. 1885 H. STOPES *Malt & Malting* xii. 164 Every brewer in Germany has his own malt-roaster. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 113 The *malt-rollers, or machines for bruising the grains of the malt. 1530 PALSGR. 601/2 She layde upon him lyke a *maulte sacke. 1885 H. STOPES *Malt & Malting* xvii. 293 Malt- and barley-sacks usually hold one comb or four bushels. 1... *Rental Eastry Manor, Kent* in Somner *Treat. Gavelkind* (1660) 27 De *Malt-shot termino circumcisionis Domini xxd. 1885 H. STOPES *Malt & Malting* xvii. 295 *Malt-screens for separation of all combes and other matters, and also for grading. 1388–9 *Abingdon Rolls* (Camden) 57, ij *maltsyues. *a* 1472 in *Cartul. Walt. de Norvico MS.* (White Kennett MS. note in *Cowell's Interpr.* 1701 (Bodl. copy) s.v. *Molsilver*, Dabit pro ..*Maltsilver ad festum Nat. Domini III d ob. 1825–80 JAMIESON, *Maut-siller*. 1. Literally, money for malt. 2. Most frequently used in a figurative sense; as, 'That's ill paid maut-siller'; a proverbial phrase signifying, that a benefit has been ill requited. 1731 P. SHAW *Ess. Artif. Philos.* 99 Which should encourage the *Malt-Stiller to be careful and intelligent in this business. 1862 MILLER *Elem. Chem.* III. 83 *Malt sugar ($C_{12}H_{12}O_{12}$). 1900 R. HUTCHISON *Food* 263 The remaining sugars of this group are malt-sugar, or maltose, and milk-sugar, or lactose. 1743 *Lond. & Country Brew.* III. (ed. 2) 179 By that and the Help of the *Malt Tails, he [the Maltster] fills the Bushel with a great deal of Show and little good Malt. 1854 Miss BAKER *Northampt. Gloss.*, **Malt-tap*, the wicker strainer that is put in the mash-vat, to prevent the grains passing through the tap. 1711 *Let. to Sacheverel* 11 The levying the Land-Tax and *Malt-Tax. 1840 THACKERAY *Jolly Jack* iv, When village Solons cursed the Lords, And called the malt-tax sinful. 1697 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3318/4 Lost or mislaid..four *Malt-Tickets. 1880 *Act* 43 & 44 *Vict.* c. 20 Interpretation of terms. '*Malt trader' means and includes a maltster or maker of malt, a dealer in malt, a roaster of malt, a brewer of beer for sale, and a vinegar maker. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl., **Malt Turner*, a mechanical arrangement for turning the malt while being heated in the kiln. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, **Malt-vinegar*. 1729 G. SMITH *Fermentation* 27 The practice of fermenting all Molosses and *Malt-wash, without any previous boiling. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 91 A peculiar volatile oil of a concrete nature, which is obtained during the process of distilling fermented malt wash.

Malt (mɔlt), *v.* [f. MALT *sb.*]

1. *trans.* To convert (grain) into malt. Also *absol.*

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 324/1 Maltyn, or make malt, *brasio*. 1608 *Nottingham Rec.* IV. 289 Order to be gyven to euerie maltster..to forbeare buyinge of barley to mawlt. 1616

Surfl. & Markh. *Country Farm* 559 These Oates being maulted, as you mault Barley, make a verie good mault. 1636 in *Buccleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 275 Sundry abuses by them in buying barley..and in malting it at unseasonable times. 1753 Chambers *Cycl. Supp.* s.v., The whole grain [of maize] will not this way be malted or rendered tender or floury. 1889 Barnard *Noted Breweries* I. 56 [These brewers] malt every week 7,600 quarters..of barley.

b. *intr.* To admit of being malted.

1766 *Compl. Farmer* s.v., Old barley, mixed with that of the last harvest, does not malt well. 1870 Yeats *Nat. Hist. Comm.* 48 Scotch barley..does not malt well.

2. *transf.* (*pass.* and *intr.*) Of seeds: To come to the condition of malt owing to germination being checked by drought.

1733 Tull *Horse-Hoeing Husb.* xiv. 166 If they [St. Foin seeds] are not cover'd, they will be Malted *Note.* We say it is Malted when it lies above Ground, and sends out its Root, which is killed by the Air. 1763 *Museum Rust.* (ed. 2) I. 210 Turnep-seed..if it is not covered as soon as sown.. will sprout prematurely, malt, or mould. 1861 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* XXII. II. 418 After the seeds have become saturated with moisture, the dry weather returns, and they become 'malted'. 1873 Moggridge *Ants & Spiders* 1 26 The seeds are thus in effect malted, the starch being changed into sugar.

3. *trans.* To make (liquor) with malt.

1605 Camden *Rem.* 235 A man of worship, whose beere was better hopped than maulted. 1621 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Taylors Goose* Wks. (1630) I. 105/1 She is..better two dayes salted For then she'll try if Ale or Beere be malted.

4. *intr.* To drink malt liquor. *vulgar.*

1813 Col. Hawker *Diary* (1893) I. 68 We..stopped to malt at all the hedge alehouses. 1825 *New Monthly Mag.* XIV. 180 Lord U— too declares he saw her malting the same evening. 1835 Marryat *Jac. Faithf.* xxv, 'Well, I malts', said Tom, reaching a pot of porter, and taking a long pull. 1840 Hood *Kilmansegg, Birth* xxi, She drank nothing lower than Curaçoa,..And, on principle, never malted.

Malt, obs. pa. t. of Melt *v.*

Malta (mɔ̱·ltă). The name of an island in the Mediterranean, now a dependency of Great Britain. Used *attrib.*, as **† Malta cross** = *Maltese cross*; **Malta fever,** a complicated fever of long duration, common in Malta and other places in the Mediterranean; **Malta fungus** (see quot. 1870; cf. *Maltese mushroom*).

1651 Malta cross [see Cross *sb.* 19]. 1725 J. Coats *Dict. Her., Malta-cross,* so call'd because worn by the Knights of that Order. 1866 Wood in *Edin. Med. Jrnl.* I. 60 Malta Fever. 1870 H. Seddall *Malta* 340 *Cynomorium coccineum* (L.) *Ærk el generàl* (Malt.), the curious so-called Malta fungus, which grows abundantly on the General's Rock, off Gozo. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 463 *note,* Some nosologists object to the term Malta Fever.

† Ma·ltalent. *Obs.* Forms: 4–5 **mautalent,** 5 **mautelent**; 5–6 **matalent,** 5 **matelent,** 6 **matilent, matulat**; 5 **maltalente,** 5–7 **maletalent,** (5 **male talente,** 6 *Sc.* **mailtalent**), 4–7 (9 *arch.*) **maltalent.** [a. OF. *maltalent* (*maut-, mat-*), f. *mal* evil (see Mal-) + *talent* disposition, temper (see Talent).] Ill-will, malevolence.

c 1320 *Sir Beues* (MS. A) 3978 Sire Beues þo, veraiment For-3af him alle is mautalent. 13.. *K. Alis.* 906 To his ost sone he went. Ful of ire and maltalent. *c* 1440 *Partonope* 4499 That my lady bath hyr maletalent Me forgyfen. *c* 1450 *Merlin* 339 The Geaunte..gnasshed his teth and rolled his iyen, that were grete swollen for ire and mautelent [*printed* mantelent] that he had. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* IV. 465 Vpon the hed him straik in matelent. 1481 Caxton *Godfrey* clxxviii. 262 And how they pardonned eche other theyr mal talentes and euyll wylles. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* I. i. (*title*), Junois wraith and mailtalent. 1560 Rolland *Crt. Venus* II. 332 Thay grew in matilent. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* III. iv. 61 With heavy look, and lumpish pace, that plaine In him bewraid great grudge and maltalent. *a* 1648 Lo. Herbert *Hen. VIII* (1683) 103 But not on this part only did the French shew their Mal-Talent. *a* 1649 Daumm. of Hawth. *Jas. I* Wks. (1711) 14 He had ever a maletalent against the king since the adjudging of the earldom of Strathern from his nephew Miles. 1828 Scott *F. M. Perth* xii, That is the lot of them that the Black Douglas bears mal-talent against.

¶ **b.** As *adj.* Ill-tempered.

a 1578 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) II. 43 King Harrie brunt as fyre and grew so matalat in anger that [etc.].

† Maltalentive, *a. Obs. rare.* In 5 **maletalentif, matelentif.** [a. OF. *maltalentif,* f. *maltalent*: see prec. and -ive.] Bearing 'maltalent'; malevolent.

c 1450 *Merlin* 219 Thei rode in a-monge theire enmyes wroth and matelentif. *Ibid.* 338 And ronne to-geder wroth and maletalentif that oon a-gein that other.

Maltase (mɔ̱·ltēis). *Chem.* [f. Malt *sb.* + *-ase,* after *diastase.*] (See quot.)

1899 *19th Cent.* No. 265. 412 *note,* It [sucrase] is now named maltase, the termination in *-ase* being reserved for the names of all liquid ferments, or rather enzymes.

Maltate (mɔ̱·ltēt). *Chem.* [f. Malt *sb.* + -ate 1.] (See quot.)

1885 H. Stopes *Malt & Malting* xi. 140 Maltose combines with lime to form calcic maltate, the solution of which is lævo-rotatory as are those of other maltates.

Malt-comes, *sb. pl.* (rarely *sing.*). The dried radicles which are separated from the grain in the kiln-drying process of malting; = Come *sb.*2

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 324/1 Malte comys. 1770–4 A. Hunter *Georg. Ess.* (1803) I. 427, I manured a piece of land with maltcombs. 1787 Marshall *E. Norfolk* (1795) I. 35 Rapecake is also in good esteem [as manure]..as are Maltcoombs. 1874 W. Williams *Vet. Med.* 555 Flatulent colic. ..Its causes are—food..such as..a mixture of maltcams and brewers grains. 1877 *N. W. Linc. Gloss, Malt-comb,* the dried sprouts, refuse used by some people to pack bacon in to keep flies away.

So **Malt-comings** *dial.* (in the same sense).

a 1728 Kennett *Lansd. MS.* 1033 (Promp. Parv. 324 *note*), Malt comes, or malt comings, the little beards or shoots, when malt begins to run, or come; *Yorkshire.* 1893 *Northumberld. Gloss., Malt-cummins.*

Malt-dust. The refuse, consisting chiefly of the dried radicles or 'comes', which falls from the grain in the process of malting.

1512 *MS. Acc. St. John's Hosp., Canterb.,* Payd for malt dowst for to dobe wyth. 1620 Markham *Farewe. Husb.* xiv. 110 Some are perswaded that this come or malt dust, is a great breeder of the worme or weenell. 1707 Mortimer *Husb.* vi. 94 Mault-dust is an enricher of barren Land. 1849 Cobden *Speeches* 20 One of the ablest farmers in the country ..told me he bought great quantities of malt-dust, which he mixes..with the food he gives to his lambs. 1875 Watts *Dict. Chem.* 2nd Suppl. 765 The malt is..screened to remove the radicle and plumule, which constitute malt-dust.

Malte, obs. pa. t. Melt.

Malted (mɔ̱·ltĕd), *ppl. a.* [f. Malt *v.* + -ed 1.]

1. Made into malt; *rarely* in narrower sense, that has germinated in the process of malting.

1676 Grew *Anat. Flowers* ii. § 15 As we use to dry Maulted Barly over a warm Killn. 1692 W. Y-worth *Distillation* 9 Others Ferment Malted Wheat and Malt, and so Distill. 1702 Luttrell *Brief Rel.* (1857) V. 249 The commons read a 2d time, and committed the bill for encouraging the consumption of malted corn. 1745 Dodsley *Agric.* I. 131 Trifles II. 104 To mash the malted barley, and extract Its flavour'd strength. 1844 T. J. Graham *Dom. Med.* 180 Beer made from an infusion of malted groats, or malted rye. 1846 J. Baxter *Libr. Pract. Agric.* (ed. 4) I. 133 Saccharine.. may be extracted either from malted or raw grain.

2. Combined with extract of malt.

1896 Yeo *Food* 536 And first, with regard to the use of Malt extracts and Malted food in general. 1898 *Daily News* 11 Aug. 5/6 A few jars of beef extract, malted milk, &c.

Malten (mɔ̱·ltn), *v. Sc. rare.* [f. Malt *sb.* + -en 5.] *intr.* To undergo malting, to malt.

1806 Forsyth *Beauties Scott.* IV. 67 When barley and common bear or big have been cultivated for some time in a mixed state, they spring and ripen and malten equally. 1825–80 Jamieson, To *Manten, Mawten,* to begin to spring; a term applied to grain, when steeped in order to be converted into malt.

Ma·lter. *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Also 5 maltar, 7 **maulter.** [f. Malt *v.* + -er 1.] A maltster.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 324/1 Malstere, or maltestere (*H., P.,* maltar), *brasiatrix, brasiator.* 1630 in J. Hutchins *Hist. Dorset* (ed. 3) II. 338/2 Brewers. Maulters. Bakers. 1848 W. Barnes *Poems Rur. Life* (ed. 2) Gloss., *Malter*; rightly used instead of *maltster,* which is properly a *woman matter.*

Maltese (mɔ̱ltī·z), *a.* and *sb. sing.* and *pl.* Also 9 *sing.* **Maltee** (*vulgar*), 7 *pl.* **Malteses.** [f. Malta + -ese. Cf. It. *maltese.*] **A.** *adj.*

1. a. Of or pertaining to Malta and its inhabitants. **b.** Pertaining to the Knights of Malta.

1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) X. 491/1 At the first landing of the Maltese knights. *Ibid.* 401/2 The attempt..proved unsuccessful through the base avarice of the Maltese forces. 1837 G. C. Lewis *Lett.* 3 Apr. (1870) 77 The vulgar adjective from Malta, used by sailors and others in the island is Maltee. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XIV. 350/1 The Maltese people at length obtained the fulfilment of their wishes. 1869 Rogers *Hist. Gleanings* I. 97 The legend of the Maltese money ran—*non æs sed fides.*

2. Special collocations: **Maltese cat,** a fancy variety of the domestic cat (see quot. 1902); **Maltese cross,** see Cross *sb.* 18; also, see quots. 1884 and 1890; **Maltese dog,** a fancy breed of spaniels (see quot. 1864); **Maltese guipure, lace** (see quots.); **Maltese mushroom,** the fungus *Cynomorium coccineum* (formerly *Fungus melitensis*), found in the islands of Malta and Gozo; **Maltese orange, stone, vulture** (see quots.).

1857 in *N. & Q.* 2nd Ser. IV. 247 A New York merchant recently sent for a cargo of *Maltese cats from that celebrated island. 1902 'Dick Whittington' *Cat Manual* ii. 32 There is a strain of short-haired blue cats known as Maltese cats, which used to be extremely popular in America. 1877 W. Jones *Finger-ring* 373 A *Maltese cross in red on a black ground. 1884 F. J. Britten *Watch and Clockm.* 247 The wheel of the going barrel stop work..is called indifferently a star wheel or a Maltese cross. 1890 Billings *Nat. Med. Dict., Maltese cross,* square compress cut out at the corners in form of a Maltese cross. 1796 Nemnich *Polyglotten-Lex.* v, The hairy *Maltese dog. *Canis Melitæus.* The small Maltese dog..*Canis brevipilis.* 1864 *Chambers's Encycl.* VI. 287/1 Maltese Dog, a small kind of spaniel, with roundish muzzle, and long, silky, generally white hair. 1902 *Mrs. Palliser's Hist. Lace* 392 At this time [1851] was introduced the *Maltese guipures,..a variety grafted on the old Maltese. 1882 Caulfeilo & Sawaro *Dict. Needlework* 340 The manufacture of *Maltese Lace is not confined to Malta. 1900 Mrs. F. N. Jackson *Hand-made Lace* 180 Maltese Lace. A bobbin-made lace, which has been made in Malta ever since the commencement of the sixteenth century. 1902 *Mrs. Palliser's Hist. Lace* 87 *note,* There is no corroboration of Mrs. Palliser's statement above that lace was ever made in Malta; if so, it would have been of the Genoese geometrical kind, of which Lady Hamilton Chichester adapted the designs and evolved what is now known as Maltese lace. 1816–20 T. Green *Univ. Herbal* I. 320/1 It is commonly said that the *Maltese red oranges are budded on the pomegranate. 1884 *Encycl. Brit.* XVII. 812/1 'Maltese' or 'Blood' oranges, much grown in southern Italy, are distinguished by the deep-red tint of the pulp. 1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade, *Maltese stone,* a soft stone quarried in Malta, used for carving, and for making large jars, &c. 1781 Latham *Gen. Synopsis Birds* I. 15 *Maltese Vulture. ..This bird inhabits many parts of Europe, chiefly the island of Malta. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVI. 472/1 *Neophron percnopterus*...This is the..Maltese Vulture of Latham.

B. *sb.*

1. a. A native or an inhabitant of Malta. **b.** A Knight of Malta.

1615 G. Sandys *Trav.* 227 With him a Maltese, whose father was an English man. *Ibid.* 234 The Malteses are little lesse tawnie then the Moores. 1624 Massinger *Renegado* II. v, Your fellow Pirats Sir, the bold Malteze Whom with your bookes you thinke to quell. 1651 Howell *Venice* 195 The Malteses [the Knights of Malta] having made prize of them, arriv'd afterwards in Candy. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) X. 492/2 The Maltese still continued to behave with their usual valour against the Turks. 1838 J. L. Stephens *Trav. Greece,* etc. 41/1 An old Maltese, who spoke French and Italian.

2. The language of the natives of Malta, a corrupt Arabic.

1828 *Foreign Q. Rev.* III. 321 The affinity between the Maltese and the languages of the neighbouring continent. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XIV. 346/1 The mother-tongue of the people, the Maltese, has continued in use.

3. Short for *Maltese lace.*

1900 Mrs. F. N. Jackson *Hand-made Lace* 180 In Ceylon the natives work a kind of Maltese. 1902 *Mrs. Palliser's Hist. Lace* 88 Much Maltese is made in the orphanage in .. Gozo.

Hence **† Malte·sian** *sb.,* a Maltese.

1656 Blount *Glossogr., Maltesian,* an Inhabitant of the Island Malta.

Maltha (mɔ̱·lthă). Also anglicized 5 **malthe.** [a. L. *maltha,* a. Gr. *μάλθα, μάλθη* mixture of wax and pitch.]

1. A kind of cement made by mixing pitch and wax, or lime and sand, with other ingredients.

c 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* I. 1115 Conuenyent hit is to knowe, of bathis..what malthis hote & colde Are able,..To make hit hool and watir wel to holde. 1601 Holland *Pliny* II. 595 Concerning Maltha, it was wont to be made of quicke and new lime: for they tooke the limestone and quenched it in wine, which done, presently they punned it with swines grease and figs. 1703 Moxon *Mech. Exerc.* 243 There is other Morter..very hard and durable, as may be seen at Rome,..which is called Maltha, from a kind of Bitumen Dug there;..But their Cement differs from both the Malthas in Composition and use. 1847 Smeaton *Builder's Man.* 123 Maltha, or Greek Mastic. This is made by mixing lime and sand..and making it into a proper consistency with milk or size, instead of water.

2. The name anciently given to some viscid form of bitumen; applied by Kirwan to the 'semi-compact' variety of 'mineral pitch' or asphaltum, and by later mineralogists variously to 'mineral tar' and to ozocerite (Kirwan's 'mineral tallow').

1601 Holland *Pliny* I. 46 In a citie of Comagene, named Samosatis, there is a pond, yeelding forth a kind of slimie mud (called Maltha) which will burne cleare. 1727–41 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v., Natural maltha is a kind of bitumen, wherewith the Asiatics plaster their walls. 1796 Kirwan *Elem. Min.* II. 46 Species IV. Mineral Pitch, Asphaltum... Second Variety. Semi Compact. Maltha. Erdiges Erdpech of Werner. Its colour dark reddish, or blackish brown... I shall denote it by the name of Maltha. 1799 W. Tooke *View Russian Emp.* I. 292, A watery vapour..which collected in pitchers is..so richly impregnated with naphtha, but still more with maltha, that the inhabitants take both and use the latter as tar. 1807 T. Thomson *Chem.* (ed. 3) II. 455 Sea wax, or maltha, is a solid substance found on the Baikal lake in Siberia. 1865 Watts *Dict. Chem., Maltha,* the mineral tallow of Kirwan, said to have been found on the coast of Finland. It resembles wax. 1868 *Proc. Amer. Philos. Soc.* X. 45 Maltha, or mineral tar,..is more nearly allied to tar..than to oil.

Malthacite (mæ·lpăsəit). *Min.* Also **malthazite.** [ad. G. *malthazit* (A. Breithaupt 1837), f. Gr. *μαλθακ-ός* soft: see -ite.] A variety of fullers' earth (Chester *Dict. Min.* 1896).

1849 Watts tr. *Gmelin's Handbk. Chem.* III. 419. 1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 424/2 Malthazite, from Steindörfel near Bautzen.

† Ma·lt-horse. *Obs.* A heavy kind of horse used by maltsters; used occas. as a term of abuse.

1561 T. Hoby tr. *Castiglione's Courtyer* I. E iij, To carie a mans head so like a malthorse for feare of ruffling his hear. 1590 Shaks. *Com. Err.* III. i. 32 Mome, Malthorse, Capon, Coxcombe, Idiot. 1596 — *Tam. Shr.* IV. i. 132. 1598 B. Jonson *Ev. Man in Hum.* I. iii, Why he has no more iudgement then a malt horse. 1603 Harsnet *Pop. Impost.* 82 A stiffe resty spirit, of kin (as seemes) to a malt-horse of Ware, that wil not out of his way. *c* 1616 S. Ward *Coal from Altar* (1627) 57 Such as hold onely a certaine stint of daily duties as malt-horses their pace, or mill-horses their round.

Malt-house (mɔ̱·lthous). A building in which malt is prepared and stored; a malting.

c 1050 *Suppl. Ælfric's Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 185/24 *Brationarium,* mealthus. 1360–1 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 563 Johanni lepemaker pro..4 sportis pro le Malthous. 1429 *Munim. Magd. Coll. Oxf.* (1882) 16 Item, j bakhous cum j malthous et le brewhous. 1577 Harrison *England* I. III. i. 95 b/2 Beare with me gentle reader..that leade thee... from a table delicately furnished, into a mustye mault bouse. 1692 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2800/4 A Large and convenient Brew-house and Malthouse. 1776 Adam Smith *W. N.* v. ii. 507 The opportunities of defrauding the revenue being much greater in a brewery than in a malt-house. 1885 H. Stopes *Malt & Malting* xiii. 183 Malt-houses (or maltings).

Malthusian (mælpiū·ziăn), *a.* and *sb.* [f. the proper name *Malthus* + -ian.] **A.** *adj.*

1. Pertaining to T. R. Malthus (1766–1835) or his teaching (see Malthusianism).

1821 SHELLEY *Lett.* Pr. Wks. 1880 IV. 195 In the comparison of Platonic and Malthusian doctrines. 1839 CARLYLE *Chartism* x. (1840) 109 How often have we read in Malthusian benefactors of the species: 'The working people have their condition in their own hands'. 1872 W. R. GREG *Enigmas* 56 Terms on which alone, according to the Malthusian theory, plenty can be secured for all.

2. Befitting or characteristic of a Malthusian.

1891 T. HARDY *Tess* I. v. I. 65 She felt Malthusian vexation with her mother for thoughtlessly giving her so many little brothers and sisters.

B. *sb.* A follower or supporter of T. R. Malthus in his views on population.

1812 R. SOUTHEY in *Q. Rev.* VIII. 324 The Malthusians observe..that the new discovery is matter of science. 1845 MILL *Diss. & Disc.* (1875) II. 187 We need not wonder that the epithets of 'Malthusians' and 'Political Economists' are so often considered equivalent to hard-hearted, unfeeling, and enemies of the poor. 1885 J. BONAR *Malthus* I. i. 4 A Malthusian is supposed to forbid all marriage.

Malthusianism (mælpiŭˑziănizm). [formed as prec. + -ISM.] The teaching of Malthus and his followers on the question of population.

T. R. Malthus in his *Essay on Population* (1798) contended that the rate of increase of the population being out of proportion to the increase of its means of subsistence, it should be checked, mainly by moral restraint. This has often been popularly viewed as a proposal to check marriage.

1848 MILL *Pol. Econ.* (ed. 5) I. 450 Even Boards of Guardians..will seldom hear patiently of anything which they are pleased to designate as Malthusianism. 1892 *Nation* (N. Y.) 21 Apr. 311/3 This religious Malthusianism is calculated to please the economists who think that the world is too small for mankind.

Malthuˑsianize, *v.* [f. MALTHUSIAN + -IZE.] *intr.* To adopt the principles of Malthus.

1893 *National Observer* 1 Apr. 485/2 If Britain had Malthusianised, where were our colonies?

Maltin (mɔˑltin). *Chem.* [ad. F. *maltin*, f. MALT *sb.*: see -IN 1.] (See quot. 1872.)

1871 WATTS tr. *Gmelin's Handbk. Chem.* XVIII. 455. 1872 — *Dict. Chem.* Suppl., *Maltin*, a nitrogenous ferment existing, according to Dubrunfaut, in malt, and much more active than diastase. 1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XV. 339/1.

Maltine (mɔˑltīn). [f. MALT *sb.* + -INE.]

1889 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Maltine*, a name given in commerce to an extract of malt which contains dextrin, glucose, and a variable quantity of diastase.

Malting (mɔˑltiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. MALT *v.* + -ING 1.] **1.** The action or process of making malt or of converting into malt.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 324/1 Maltynge, *brasiatura* (P. *brasiacio*). 1467, 1585 [see 3]. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 647 Barley, (as appeareth in the Malting,) being steeped in Water three dayes..will sprout. 1714 MANDEVILLE *Fab. Bees* (1725) I. 90 The variety of labour, required in husbandry, in malting, in carriage and distillation. 1813 VANCOUVER *Agric. Devon* 172 Malting is generally a business of itself. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 105 Maize..has also been employed to make beer; but its malting is somewhat difficult. 1885 H. STOPES *Malt & Malting* xiv. 224 A comparatively new form of malting is known as the 'pneumatic system'.

2. A MALT-HOUSE.

1846 M. A. RICHARDSON *Local Hist. Table Bk.* V. 30 A spacious malting..belonging to Mr. Richard Robinson, brewer. 1870 *Daily News* 18 June, An old malting, situated about nine miles from Cambridge, was burned down. 1887 W. RYE *Norfolk Broads* 77 A strange .. village .. chiefly composed of maltings and other buildings connected with beer brewing.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *malting barley, business, district, sample, time*, etc.; **malting-floor, house, kiln, office** = *malt floor, house*, etc.

1467 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 46 That the seid Denys haue.. esement in the maltynghows joyned therto. *Ibid.*, Duryng maltyng tyme. 1585 *Abingdon Rolls* (Camden) 167 The Maltinge House. 1637 *Documents agst. Prynne* (Camden) 84 The maulting business goes on, but with some restrictions. 1641 MILTON *Animadv.* 58 Though they keep back their sordid sperm..and turne them to their malting-kils. 1723 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 6196/5 A large Malting Office. 1764 *Museum Rust.* III. li. 219 Many of the farms have malting-offices annexed to them. 1813 *Examiner* 12 Apr. 240/2 Fine Malting Barley. 1834 *Brit. Husb.* I. 146 Inferior malting samples frequently fetch little more than feed oats of good quality. 1840 *Cottager's Man.* 10 in *Libr. Usef. Knowl. Husb.* III, The bruised grain..is said to be as complete as if it had lain a fortnight on the malting-floor. 1846 MCCULLOCH *Acc. Brit. Empire* (1854) I. 189 The malting business is extensively prosecuted at Ware.

Maltless (mɔˑltlĕs), *a.* [f. MALT *sb.* + -LESS.] Without malt, deficient in malt.

1828 *Blackw. Mag.* XXIV. 352 Weak small-beer, frothy and maltless.

Maˑltlong. *dial.* Also moltlong, -ling. = ANBURY 1, ANGLEBERRY.

1610 MARKHAM *Masterp.* II. cviii. 390 The maltlong, or as some Farriers call it, the maltworme, is a cankerous soarrance aboue the hoofe, iust vpon the cronet. 1704 *Dict. Rust.* 1847 HALLIWELL, *Moltling.* 1895 *E. Anglian Gloss.*, *Moltlong*, a sore or disease between or rather above the clees of cattle (Johnson).

Maˑlt-maker. A maltster.

1455 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 324/2 Thus is .. ye seid comuen peple that were wonte to be Malt makers grevously hurt. 1551 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 115 The maltmakaris, sellaris of malt, baxtaris. 1593 NORDEN *Spec. Brit., Mesex* II. 14 Baldock .. yeeldeth malt-makers not a few. 1691 TRYON *Art Brewing* (ed. 3) 52 These ill customs all Malt-Makers ought to understand and avoid. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* s. v. *Malt*, Our barley Malt-makers have tried all their skill to make good Malt of it [maize].

Maltman (mɔˑltmăn). A maltster.

1408 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 14 Iohn plot, Citaysyn and Maltman of london. 1500-20 DUNBAR *Poems* xxxiv. 51 The maltman sais, 'I God forsaik,..Gif ony bettir malt may be'. 1576 GASCOIGNE *Steele Gl.* H iij b, When maltemen make vs drinke no firmentie. *a* 1627 MIDDLETON *No Wit like Woman's* III. i, Let each man look to his part now, and not feed Upon one dish all four on's, like plain maltmen. 1724 DE FOE *Fort. Mistress* (1854) 5 He found money in cash to pay the malt-man and the excise. 1737-8 *Manch. School Reg.* (1866) I. 8 William son of Ellis Farmer of Salford, maltman. 1889 BARNARD *Noted Breweries* I. 55 A messroom and lavatory, etc., for the malt-men.

† **b.** *Proverbial phrases. Obs.*

c 1530 *Hye Way Spyttell House* 62 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* (1866) IV. 55 Make we Mery as longe as we can, And drynke a pace: the deuill pay the malt man! 1600 ROWLANDS *Lett. Humours Blood* Sat. vi. 53 For he that is in Malt-mans Hall inrolde, Cares not a poynt for hunger nor for colde.

Maˑlto-deˑxtrin. *Physiol. Chem.* (See quot.)

1900 GOULD *Dict. Med., Maltodextrin* $C_6H_{10}O_5$. A carbonhydrate, intermediate between starch and maltose.

Maltolt, variant of MALETOLT *Obs.*

Maltose (mɔˑltōus). *Chem.* [a. F. *maltose* (Dubrunfaut), f. MALT *sb.*: see -OSE.] (See quot.)

1862 WATTS tr. *Gmelin's Handbk. Chem.* XV. 338 Maltose. The sugar produced from starch-paste by the action of malt (or diastase) is, according to Dubrunfaut, different from dextro-glucose. 1883 *Standard* 29 Nov. 3/2 Maltose is the best..of the sugar compounds. 1885 H. STOPES *Malt & Malting* xi. 140 Maltose, when free from glucose sugars, crystallises like cane-sugar or sucrose.

Maltot(e, variant of MALETOLT *Obs.*

† **Maltout.** *slang. Obs.* (See quot.)

1785 GROSE *Dict. Vulg. Tongue, Maltout*, a nickname for a marine, used by sailors and soldiers of other corps, probably a corruption of matelot, the French word for a sailor.

† **Maltreat,** *pa. pple. Obs. rare*—1. In 6 maletrait. [? a. OF. *maltrait*, pa. pple. of *maltraire* to suffer.] ? Suffered.

1592 WYRLEY *Armorie, Ld. Chandos* 36 News him was brought..How Lord Clisson had lost his head they told And maletrait, the French kings ire t' appease.

Maltreat (mæltrīˑt), *v.* Also 8 **maltrait,** maletreat. [a. F. *maltraiter*: see MAL- and TREAT *v.*] *trans.* To abuse, ill-use; to handle roughly or rudely; to ill-treat.

1708 COLLIER *Further Vind. View Stage* 32 The Doctor [Filmer] agrees..the Clergy ought by no means to be *maltrated* [Dr. Filmer had used the word 'abus'd'] and ridicul'd on the Stage. 1739 CIBBER *Apol.* (1756) I. 61 This indignity cast upon a gentleman only for having maltreated a player was [etc.]. 1759 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* II. xvii, Yorick, indeed, was never better served in his life!—but it was a little hard to male-treat him after, and plunder him after he was laid in his grave. 1859 HOLLAND *Gold F.* iv. 49 It is against the law that she turn them out of doors, or kill them, or maltreat them in any way. 1868 MISS YONGE *Cameos* I. xxxiv. 290 The jurymen..were often liable to be beaten and maltreated in revenge. 1881 SAINTSBURY *Dryden* 172 The metre, though a well-known English critic has maltreated it of late, is a very fine one.

Hence **Maltreˑated** *ppl. a.*

1829 CARLYLE *Misc.* (1857) II. 28 The cheerful thraldom of this maltreated philosopher. 1864 *Reader* IV. 477/2 We cannot take leave of this maltreated book without [etc.]. 1901 *Spectator* 20 July 94/2 An unskilful physician was imprisoned by the family of a maltreated patient.

Maltreatment (mæltrīˑtmĕnt). Also 8 malo-treatment. [ad. F. *maltraitement*, f. *maltraiter*: see prec. and -MENT.] The action of maltreating; the state of being maltreated.

1721 AMHERST *Terræ Fil.* Pref. (1754) 14 Nature will sometimes rebel against principle, when it is long and grievously provoked by male-treatment and oppression. 1768 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* III. viii. 140 If the beating or other maltreatment be very enormous .. the law then gives him a separate remedy. 1816 COLERIDGE *Lay Serm.* (1817) 379 [They] after much contumely..and cruel mal-treatment on all sides, rushed out of the pile. 1845 CARLYLE *Cromwell* I. i. 8 From this source has proceeded our maltreatment of it [the 17th cent.], our miseditings, miswritings [etc.]. 1882 J. HAWTHORNE *Fort. Fool* I. xxxv, Thus had his deliberate maltreatment of another man's soul resulted in the loss of his own moral free-will.

Maltster (mɔˑltstəɹ). Forms: 4–5 maltestere, malstere, 6 maultster, 7 maulster, 7–8 malster, 7– maltster. [f. MALT *sb.* + -STER.] One whose occupation it is to make malt.

c 1370–80 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 328 Johannes Molend' Malstere. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 324/1 Malstere, or maltestere (*Harl., P.* maltar), *brasiatrix, brasiator.* 1577 HARRISON *England* I. III. i. 95 b/2 V^e making wherof [mault] I will her set in such order, as my skill therein may extend vnto, (for I am scarse a good maultster). 1608 *Nottingham Rec.* IV. 289 Euerie maltster in the towne to forbeare buyinge of barley. 1656 S. HOLLAND *Zara* (1719) 141 Dukes and Marquisses fall by the Bullet or the Ax, when Dunghil-Rakers and Maulsters out-live themselves. 1683 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) I. 262 The 23d [June] also came out a proclamation..for the apprehending..Richard Rumbold, malster [etc.]. 1729 SWIFT *Grand Question* Wks. 1751 X. 124 Sir Arthur the Malster! how fine it will sound! 1776 ADAM SMITH *W. N.* v. ii. (1869) II. 489 For the malster to get back eighteen shillings in the advanced price of his malt. 1830 M. DONOVAN *Dom. Econ.* I. 79 The brewer or distiller who is his own maltster can always protect himself. 1863 FAWCETT *Pol. Econ.* IV. ii. (1876) 537 The Malt Duty is nominally paid by maltsters.

Maˑlt-worm.

† **1.** A weevil which infests malt. *Obs.*

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 46/1 Bowde, malte-worme (*P.* boude of malte), *gurgulio.*

2. *transf.* One who loves malt-liquor; a toper.

c 1550 *Drinking Song* in *Skelton's Wks.* (1843) I. p. x, Then dothe she troule To me the bolle As a goode malte worme sholde. 1580 G. HARVEY *Three Lett.* 29 A morning bookeworm, an afternoone maltworm. 1596 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. IV*, II. i. 83 Mustachio-purple-hu'd Maltwormes. 1605 *Tryall Chev.* III. i, The whorson Mault-worm has a throat like the burning Clyme. 1859 R. F. BURTON *Centr. Afr.* in *Jrnl. Geog. Soc.* XXIX. 367 Many a gallon must be drunk by the veteran maltworm before intoxication. 1876 *Whitby Gloss.*, *Maut-worm*, a lover of beer.

† **3.** = MALTLONG. *Obs. rare*—1.

1610 [see MALTLONG].

Malt-wort (mɔˑltwɒɹt). Forms: 1 mealt-wurt, maltwyrt, 7 mault-, 8– malt-wort. [f. MALT *sb.* + WORT 2.] = WORT 2.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 129/6 *Acinum*, mealtwurt. *c* 1050 *Voc.* ibid. 356/33 *Acinum*, maltwyrt. 1630 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Wit & Mirth* Wks. II. 181/2 He .. dipped some small quantity of the Lye, which he supposing to be mault-wort, dranke vp. 1731 P. SHAW *Ess. Artif. Philos.* 41 The boiling down Malt-Wort to a Treacle. *c* 1796 SIR J. DALRYMPLE *Observ. Yeast-cake* 4, I can make molasses-worts as easily into cakes as malt-worts.

Malty (mɔˑlti), *a.* [f. MALT *sb.* + -Y.] *jocular.* Addicted to, affected by, or containing malt (in the form of malt liquor). Also *slang*, drunk.

1819 *Metropolis* III. 144 'Tis degrading to see..our malty ladies of quality. 1823 'JON BEE' *Slang* 117 'Malty'; drunk, with beer, or drunkish any how, stupidly so. 1852 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* xl, Those particular parts of the country on which Doodle is at present throwing himself in an auriferous and malty shower.

b. Of the nature of or resembling malt.

1830 M. DONOVAN *Dom. Econ.* I. 361 The bread would be soft, clammy, greyish, and malty. 1892 WALSH *Tea* (Philad.) 100 Japan Pekoe..smooth in liquor and 'malty' in flavor.

Maluerte, Malure: see MALEURTEE, MALHEUR.

Malurine (mælĭurəin), *a. Ornith.* [ad. mod.L. *Malūrīn-us*, f. *Malūrus* (see below).

The name *Malurus* (Vieillot 1816) was app. intended to mean 'soft-tailed (bird)', repr. Gr. μαλουρος (Hesych.), f. μαλός (Theocr., once) variously conjectured to mean 'white', 'shaggy', or 'soft' + οὐρά tail.]

Belonging to the *Malurinæ*, a small group of birds (chiefly Australian) of which the typical genus is *Malurus*, the Superb Warbler.

1862 WOOD *Illustr. Nat. Hist.* II. 274 Perhaps the most curious example of the Malurine birds is the beautiful little Emeu Wren of Australia.

Malurit(e, variant of MALEURTEE *Obs.*

Malvaceous (mælvēˑĭʃəs), *a. Bot.* [f. late L. *malvāceus* (whence mod.L. *Malvāce-æ*), f. *malva* mallow: see -ACEOUS.] Pertaining to the genus *Malva* (the Mallow), or to the N.O. *Malvaceæ*.

1699 *Phil. Trans.* XXI. 64 An exact Division of Mallows, or Malvaceous Plants. 1727 BAILEY vol. II, *Malvaceous*, like, belonging to, or made with mallows. 1861 BENTLEY *Man. Bot.* 209 *Althæa rosea*, and some other Malvaceous Plants. 1880 C. & F. DARWIN *Movem. Pl.* 232 The leaves in several Malvaceous genera sink at night.

Maˑlvad. *Bot.* [f. L. *malva* mallow + -AD.] Lindley's term for a plant of the N.O. *Malvaceæ*.

1845 LINDLEY *Sch. Bot.* 45 Mallowworts, or Malvads.

Malvady, corrupt form of MARAVEDI.

Malval (mæˑlvăl), *a. Bot.* [f. L. *malva* MALLOW + -AL.] Only in *Malval alliance, exogens*: in Lindley's classification, an 'alliance' embracing the N.O. *Malvaceæ* and other orders.

1836 LINDLEY *Nat. Syst. Bot.* (ed. 2) 92 The highest alliances in regard to structure are the Malval and Melial. 1846 — *Veg. Kingd.* 368 Malval exogens, with columnar stamens.

‖ **Malvasia** (malvasīˑa). Also **malvoisia.** [It.: see MALMSEY. Cf. Sp., Pg. *malvasia*, F. *malvoisie*: see MALVOISIE.] = MALMSEY. Also *attrib.*, as *malvasia sack*, and in Pg. phr. *malvasia de Madeira* (cf. *malmsey madeira*, s.v. MALMSEY).

1839 *Penny Cycl.* XIV. 262/1 The wine exported is Madeira wine and Malvasia de Madera. 1851 BORROW *Lavengro* xciii. (1893) 360 There is Malvoisia sack,..and partridge, and beccafico. 1895 *Chamb. Jrnl.* XII. 627/2 We entered the shanty and drank malvasia.

Malveisyn, variant of MALVOISIE.

Malversation (mælvəɹsēˑʃən). [a. F. *malversation*, f. *malverser*: see MALVERSE *v.*] Corrupt behaviour in an office, commission, employment, or position of trust; an instance of this.

1549 *Compl. Scot.* xix. 160 Quhen the pepil disobeyis thy gude doctryne throucht the euyl exempil of thy maluersatione, thou sal be mair doubil puneist nor tha sal be. 1669 MARVELL *Let. to Mayor of Hull* Wks. 1776 I. 121 The criminal part of what is reported by the commissioners concerning his malversation in his office. 1776-83 JUSTAMOND tr. *Raynal's Hist. Indies* I. 370 The malversations that prevail in the manufactures, magazines, docks and arsenals at Batavia..are scarcely to be paralleled. 1811 WELLINGTON *Let. to Gordon* 12 June in Gurw. *Desp.* (1838) VIII. 6 Those malversations in office; those neglects of duty..are passed unnoticed. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* viii. § ix. 561 Charges of malversation and corruption were hurled at the members of the House.

b. Corrupt administration *of* something.

1706 DE FOE *Jure Div.* Pref. 8 Bringing in a Foreign Power to question him for Malversation of Government. 1818 HALLAM *Mid. Ages* (1872) I. 229 The kingdom was reduced to the utmost danger..as much by malversation of its government, as by the armies of Edward III. 1839 JAMES *Louis XIV*, III. 133 The inquiry into the malversation of the finances. 1852 THACKERAY *Esmond* III. v, Cardonnel was turned out of the House of Commons..for malversation of public money. 1881 BLACK *Sunrise* III. xi. 172 Malversation of justice amongst those in a high grade.

†c. *gen.* Evil conduct. *Obs. rare.*

1752 J. Macspaaran *Amer. Dissected* (1753) 12 Though some of the Felons do reform, yet they are so few, that their Malversation has a bad Effect upon the Morals of the lower Class of Inhabitants.

†**Malverse,** *v. Obs. rare.* [ad. F. *malverser*, ad. L. *male versārī* (*male* wrongly, ill, *versārī* to behave, conduct oneself, passive freq. of *vertĕre* to turn).] *intr.* To act corruptly in a position of trust.

1671 *True Nonconf.* 13 He could not, *impunè*, without danger of punishment, mal-verse, much less subvert Religion. 1714 W. Forbes *Jrnl. Session* Pref. 8 The advocates are subject to the authority of the Lords, who..may censure, fine, or debar them from their imployment for disobedience or malversing in their office. 1733 P. Lindsay *Interest Scot.* 95 If any Judge shall neglect or refuse to execute the Law,..or Malverse in the Exercise of it, he is [etc.].

Malvoisia: see Malvasia.

Malvoisie (mæ·lvoizi). *Obs.* exc. *arch.* Forms: 4 malvesin, mauvesyn, 4–6 malvesye, 4 7 -vesie, 5 -veisyn, mal(e)vesyn, malveseye, -vaset, 5–6 -vasy, -vesey, 6 -vesy, -ie, -vase, -vese, -veseie, -vesyne, -weysy, *Sc.* mavasy, mawissie, mavasie, 7 malvasie, -ey, -vesie, 9 malvoisie. [a. OF. *malvesie*, ad. It. *malvasia*: see Malmsey. The forms with final *n* seem to represent an adj. formation in OFr.: cf. med.L. *vinum malvasinum*. The 19th c. form *malvoisie* is that of mod.Fr.]

1. = Malmsey 1.

1379–80 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 389 In uno pipe de Malvesin. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Shipman's T.* 70 With hym broghte he a lubbe of Maluesye And eek another, ful of fyn vernage. *a* 1440 *Sir Degrev.* 1415 And evere sche drow hom the wyn, Bothe the Roche and the Reyn, And the good Malvesyn. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* xl. 14 All wyne to test scho wald disdane Bot mavasy [*v. rr.* mawissie, mavasie], she had nane vder. 1508 *Extracts Aberd. Reg.* (1844) I. Pref. 21, ½ galloune of Maluasy, price iiiis. viiid. 1584 Cogan *Haven Health* (1636) 310 You shall take Rose water, white Rosevineger, Strong white Wine or Malvasie, of each like much; &c. 1828 Scott *F. M. Perth* viii, I hope you have no more grave errand than to try if the malvoisie holds its flavour. 1861 Dora Greenwell *Poems* 24 Flowing of the Malvoisie And largesse clinking loud.

2. = Malmsey 2.

1517 Torkington *Pilgr.* (1884) 20 Ther groweth the Voyne that ys callyd Malweysy and muskedell. 1883 Stevenson *Silverado Sq.* (1886) 21 He had broken ground up here with his black malvoisies.

Malwe, obs. form of Mallow.

Maly(e)s, -ysyous, etc.: see Malice, -icious.

Maly(n)coli, etc., obs. forms of Melancholy.

Malyvolus, variant of Malevolous *Obs.*

Mam[1] (mæm). *colloq.* Also 6 mame, 6–7 mamme. [Not recorded before the 16th c., the instance in one MS. of the Chester Plays being almost certainly due to a late alteration of the text. It is improbable that the word is adopted from the Welsh *mam* (:—Protoceltic **mammā*); it seems rather to have originated independently from a sound instinctively made by young children; similar words for 'mother' exist in many languages. See Mamma[1].] A childish (formerly also a familiar or vulgar) word for mother; corresponding to Dad *sb.*[1], but now more strictly confined to infantine use or allusions to this. †*Mam's loll*: see Loll *sb.* 3.

? *a* 1500 (*MS.* 1592) [see Dad *sb.*[1]]. 1573 Tusser *Husb.* (1878) 186 Yet cocking Mams, and shifting Dads from schooles, Make pregnant wits to proone vnlearned fooles. *c* 1580 Jefferie *Bugbears* I. ii. 99 in *Archiv Stud. neu. Spr.* XCVIII. (1897) 309 Oh, thies mammes are exigent, thier daughters prankes to bide. 1590 Greene *Never too late* I. (1600) H 2, When the boy sayes, Mam, where is my Dad, when will he come home? 1611 Cotgr., *Mammam* (the voice of infants), Mam. 1675 Cotton *Scoffer Scoft* 80 Then of this Child hee's Syre and Dam, And it may call him Dad and Mam. 1710 E. Ward *Brit. Hud.* III. 26 It stroaks Pappa, and beats the Mam. 1757 Eliz. Griffith *Lett. betw. Henry & Frances* (1767) II. 160 Has it [a child] a broad, good-humoured countenance, like dad; or a lively eye,..and saucy look, like mam? 1816 'Quiz' *Grand Master* Argt. I. 1 The hero of the tale appears, Leaving his dad and mam in tears. 1872 Hartley *Yorks. Ditties* Ser. II. 112 Whear is thi' Daddy doy? Whear is thi' mam?

†b. reduplicated. *Obs.*

1606 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. iv. III. *Schism* 777 And smiling sweet Mam-mam, mam-mam he cries [F. *crie me a mé me*].

†c. *attrib.* and *Comb. Obs.*

1599 Nashe *Lenten Stuffe* Wks. (Grosart) V. 269 The nurse or mother Mampudding..down she sunk to the earth. 1653 R. Carpenter *Anabapt. Washt* 21 These..Censurers know no other Language than Mam-English, or, their mother tongue.

†**Mam**[2]. *Obs. rare*—[0]. [ad. L. *mamma* breast.]

1611 Florio, *Mamma*, a pap, a dug, a mam, a breast.

Mam, obs. form of Ma'am.

Mama, variant of Mamma[1].

†**Mamalone.** *Obs. rare*—[1]. [Obscure; perh. a misreading for *mamaloue* (see Mameluke).]

1799 Jane Austen *Lett.* 8 Jan. (1884) I. 192, I am to wear a mamalone cap instead...It is all the fashion now.

Mamalucco, etc.: see Mameluco, Mameluke.

‖**Mamamouchi.** The mock-Turkish title pretended to have been conferred by the Sultan upon M. Jourdain, in Molière's play *Le Bourgeois Gentilhomme*, IV. iii. Hence occas. used for: A pompous-sounding title; also, one assuming such a title; a ridiculous pretender to elevated dignity.

1672 Dryden *Assign.* Prol. 30 You must have Mamamouchi, such a Fop As would appear a Monster in a Shop. *a* 1734 North *Exam.* II. iv. § 5 (1740) 233 So then he drops his mammamouchi Outside of Oates's Plot in the dark, no more to be heard of in that Reign. 1749 H. Walpole *Lett.* (1846) II. 287 This ridiculous Mamamouchi [The Duke of Newcastle, Chancellor of Cambridge University].

Comb. 1673 *Mem. Madam Charlton* 12 Charlton fancies nothing less than to be made a Duke, or some strange Mammamouchy-Titulado.

Mamanite (mæ·mănəit). *Min.* [f. *Maman*, in Persia, its locality + -ite: so named by A. Goebel in 1865.] 'A sulphate similar to polyhalite, but somewhat different in composition' (Chester *Dict. Names Min.* 1896).

Mamay, variant of Mammee.

Mamble (mæ·mb'l), *v. Obs.* exc. *dial.* Also 3–4 mamel. [ME. *mamelen*, possibly repr. an OE. **mamelian* = OHG. *mammalôn* to stammer, mutter, mod. Ger. dial. *memmeln* to mutter, also to chew slowly; an onomatopœic formation with frequentative suffix -le: cf. Mammer, Mumble *vbs.*]

1. *intr.* To mumble or mutter; to chatter.

c 1275 *Prov. Alfred* 492 in *O. E. Misc.* 132 Þanne mud mamelit more þanne hit solde. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. v. 21 Of þis matere I myȝte mamely ful longe. *Ibid.* XI. 408 Adam ..when he mameled aboute mete and entermeted to knowe þe wisdom and þe witte of god he was put fram blisse.

2. To eat lazily.

a 1825 Forby *Voc. E. Anglia, Mamble v.*, to eat with seeming indifference, as if from want of appetite.

†**Ma·mbler.** *Obs. rare*—[1]. In 5 mammlere. [f. Mamble *v.* + -er[1].] A voluble speaker.

a 1400–50 *Alexander* 4498 For marcure was manslaȝt a mammlere of wordis.

†**Ma·mbling,** *vbl. sb. Obs.* [f. Mamble *v.* + -ing[1].] ? = Mammering 2.

1640 Bp. Hall *Chr. Moder.* II. ii. 5 He could rather be content the Angell of the Church of Laodicea should be quite cold, then in such a mambling of profession. 1648 Manton *Spir. Languish.* 16 We content ourselves with a lukewarmnesse and a mambling of profession midling it between Christ and the world.

†**Mambu.** *Obs.* Also 8 mombu. [a. Ol'g. *mambu* Bamboo.] The bamboo.

1662 J. Davies tr. *Mandelslo's Trav.* 149 A sort of Canes, by the Iavians called Mambu. *Ibid.*, On the Coast of Malabar [etc.] this sort of Cane produces a drug called Sacar Mambus, that is, Sugar of Mambu. 1681 Grew *Musæum* II. 223 Part of a sort of Mambu, a great Indian Cane. *Ibid.* 225. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) II. 384/1 A substance called Tabaxir, or sugar of Mombu.

Mame, obs. form of Maim *sb.*, Malm, Mam[1].

Mamea, -ee, -eia, obs. ff. Mammee.

Mamel, variant of Mamble.

‖**Mamelière.** *Hist.* Also 9 mammelière, -illiere. [Fr.: f. *mamelle* breast.] A piece of armour consisting of a circular plate of metal covering either breast.

1824 Meyrick *Anc. Armour* III. *Gloss.*, *Mamillaria*, *Mamillieres.* 1834 Planché *Brit. Costume* 122 On the breast are fastened sometimes one, sometimes two round plates, called mamelières. 1885 Fairholt *Costume in Eng.* (ed. 3) II. 277 The surcoat has openings or slits over the mamelières to allow of a chain passing through.

Mamellated, variant of Mamillated *ppl. a.*

†**Mamelle.** *Obs.* Also mammill. [a. F. *mamelle*:—L. *mamilla*, dim. of *mamma* breast.] A woman's breast. Also *fig.*

c 1430 *Hymns Virg.* (1867) 1 Thi mammillis, moder, ful weel y meene, Y had to my meete þat y myȝt not mys. 1483 Caxton *Gold. Leg.* 135 b/2 Thenne Quyncianus..comanded that her brestis and mamellis shold be drawen & cutte of. *Ibid.* 419/1 Nouryssbed by the pappes and mamellys of the Scrypture of holy chyrche.

Mamelon (mæ·mĕlɒn). Also mammillon, mammelon. [a. F. *mamelon* nipple, f. *mamelle*: see prec.]

1. A rounded eminence or hummock.

1830 Lyell *Princ. Geol.* I. 206 This mammillon has been largely quarried for lime. 1848 D. Borrer *Campaign agst. Kabailes Algeria*, Upon the summit of two mammelons.. two French outposts were placed. 1893 E. H. Barker *Wand. South. Waters* 289 An isolated hill or mamelon in the valley of the Lot.

2. A small hemispherical tubercle.

1872 Nicholson *Palæont.* 105 Ordinarily the tubercle consists of a rounded ball or hemisphere (the 'mamelon').

Hence **Mamelonated** (mæ·mĕlɒneitĕd) *a.*, covered with rounded protuberances.

1857 Bullock *Cazeaux' Midwif.* 47 Like the latter, its two surfaces are flattened, and it is besides slightly lobular and mamelonated. 1872 Cohen *Dis. Throat* 243 This gives the part a rough mamelonated appearance.

‖**Mameluco** (mæmĕlū·ko). Also 9 mamalucco. [Pg., lit. a mameluke: see next.] A cross-breed between a white and a Brazilian Indian.

1863 Bates *Nat. Amazons* I. 35 *note*, Mameluco denotes the offspring of White with Indian; Mulatto, that of White with Negro. 1874 Burton *Captiv. Hans Stade* XV. (Hakl. Soc.) 45 Mamalucco, meaning the offspring of a white man by an Indian woman, is now obsolete in Sao Paulo, where Caboclo has taken its place. 1900 Deniker *Races of Man* xiii. 545 The Mamelucos or Paulists of the province of Sao Paulo (Brazil), European and Indian half-breeds.

Mameluke (mæ·mĕlūk). *Obs.* exc. *Hist.* Forms: 6 mam(m)oluke, mam(m)eluc(k, mammaluke, 6–8 mamaluk, 6–9 -luke, 7 mammeluke, mamaluch, mameluch, mammaluck, mamuluke, *pl.* after It. form mamaluchi, mamaluc(e)hy, 7–8 mamaluc(k, 8 mamaluque, mameluc, 6– mameluke. Also 9 mamlouk, mamluk(e, memlo(o)k. [Ultimately a. Arab. مماليك *mamlūk* slave, a subst. use of the pa. pple. of *malaka* to possess. The Turkish pronunciation is (memlūk); cf. med.L. *mameluc*, *mameluchus* (12th c.), OF. *mameluz*, *mamelos* (mod.F. *mameluk*, *mameloukˇ*), Sp., Pg. *mameluco*, It. *mammaluco*.]

1. A member of the military body, originally composed of Caucasian slaves, which seized the throne of Egypt in 1254, and continued to form the ruling class in that country until the early part of the 19th century.

The Mameluke sultans reigned from 1254 to 1517, when the Ottoman Sultan Selim I assumed the sovereignty. Subsequently Egypt was governed, under the nominal rule of a Turkish viceroy, by 24 Mameluke beys. In 1811 the Mamelukes remaining after the French war were massacred by Mohammed Ali, pasha of Egypt.

1511 Guylforde *Pilgr.* (Camden) 13 There was a grete Ambasset of the soldans towardes Venyce, that hadde in his companye many Mamolukes. 1529 More *Dyalogue* IV. Wks. 279/2 Mammolukes and Genisaries about ye Turk and Sowdan, haue vsed to christen their children of purpose. 1586 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* I. (1594) 598 Not long since the souldan of Cayre [was elected] out of the mammelucks. 1600 J. Pory tr. *Leo's Africa* VIII. 320 Certaine principall Mamalukes..euerie of whom was captaine of a thousand inferiour Mamaluks; and their office was to conduct the Soldans forces. 1648 C. Walker *Hist. Independ.* I. 145 [The Egyptians lived] under vassalage to their own Mamaluchi or Mercenaries. 1658 Earl Monm. tr. *Parruta's Wars Cyprus* 46 It was taken by the aid of the mamaluchy, by James son to the same King illegitimate. 1704 *Collect. Voy.* (Churchill) III. 587/2 Most of the *Mamaluques*..were slain. 1796 Bp. Watson *Apol. Bible* vi. 59 It [Egypt] became subject..to the Mamalues, and now is a province of the Turkish empire. 1796 H. Hunter tr. *St.-Pierre's Stud. Nat.* (1799) III. 463 The twelve Beys of Egypt, chosen from among the Mamelucs. 1801 Wellington *Memorandum* in Gurw. *Desp.* I. 314 Supposing that the Mamelukes should be inclined to shake off the French yoke and to co-operate with us. 1813 Byron *Br. Abydos* I. viii, With Maugrabee and Mamaluke, His way amid his Delis [he] took. 1845 Eliot Warburton *Cresc. & Cross* vii. 57 The Mamelukes were young Georgian or Circassian slaves.

attrib. 1772 *Ann. Reg.* 18 The Mamaluck system. 1856 Freeman *Saracens* IV. (1870) 158 The Mameluke Sultans.

2. A slave (in Mohammedan countries).

1600 Hakluyt *Voy.* III. 718, I shall presently banish all the Mamalukes and white men which dwell in any of those Indian townes. 1836 Lane *Mod. Egypt.* I. 163 Few of the Egyptians have memlooks, or male white slaves. 1844 *Mem. Babylonian P'cess* II. 179 His Mamelukes, both white and black. 1884 J. Payne *Tales fr. Arabic* I. 236 Now the Persian had a mameluke, as he were the full moon.

3. *fig.* A 'fighting slave' of the Pope, etc.

1531 Tindale *Exp. 1 John* (1538) 41 Many..are be come the Antichristes of Romes mamelukes. 1679 'Tom Tickle-foot' *Trials Wakeman*, etc. 9 When they were listed amongst the Pope's Mamalukes. 1680 Bolron *Papist's Oath Secrecy* 7 That Oath which Blessed Ignatius Loyola imposed upon his Spiritual Mamaluks. 1833 Coleridge *Table-t.* 18 Apr., So long as the Bishop of Rome remains Pope, and has an army of Mamelukes all over the world, we shall do very little. 1902 *Contemp. Rev.* Dec. 788 The Assumptionists are mere mamelukes of the Vatican.

4. *attrib.*: **mameluke-bit,** the heavy iron bit used by the Mamelucos of Brazil (see Mameluco); **mameluke point,** the long double-edged cutting point of the Mameluke sabre; **mameluke sleeve,** a fashion of sleeve worn by women in Paris under the First Empire.

1826 Sir F. Head *Pampas* 177, I..took the iron *mameluke-bit out of his mouth. 1809 I. o. Valentia *Voy.* III. 307 They [sabres] were all Persian, but some had been lengthened in Egypt at both ends, so as to give the *Mameluke point, which cuts both ways. 1898 Lady Mary Loyd tr. *Uzanne's Fashion in Paris* iii. 55 Towards the close of the [First] Empire, when..*mameluke sleeves, and hair dressed *à l'enfant*, struck a feudal and gothic note.

Hence **Ma·melukedom** *fig.*, the condition of being a Mameluke or fighting slave. **Ma·melukery** *fig.*, a body of 'Mamelukes', a party of enslaved depredators.

1824 Landor *Imag. Conv.*, *Leopold & du Paty* Wks. 1853 I. 53/1 Our spiritual Mamelukery is as ambitious of power and riches as if it had children to inherit them. 1900 *Contemp. Rev.* Mar. 455 The reduction of an entire nation to intellectual serfdom and moral Mamelukedom.

Mamente, Mameny: see Maumet, Malmeny.

Mamere, variant of Mammer *v.*

Mameri, variant of Mahomery *Obs.*, mosque.

Mamey: see Mammee.

Mamie, variant of Mammee, Mammy.

‖**Mamilla** (mæmi·lă). Also 7–9 mammilla. [L., dim. of *mamma* breast, teat.]

1. The nipple of the female breast; also, the male 'mamma'.

1693 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Mammilla.* 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Mammilla*, a little Breast, Tet, or Dug. 1889 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Mammilla*,..the nipple of the mammary gland. Also, the male breast, or mammary gland.

2. *transf.* (*Anat.*, *Bot.*, etc.) Any nipple-shaped organ or protuberance; a papilla.

1818 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* II. 279 In these apodous walkers the place of legs is supplied by fleshy and often retractile mamillæ or tubercles. 1828 R. KNOX tr. *Cloquet's Anat.* 454 There occurs on the surface of the brain .. a sort of whitish mammilla, which seemed to be concealed in the interior of the nerve. 1843 J. G. WILKINSON tr. *Swedenborg's Anim. Kingd.* I. i. 21 Glandular mammillæ or papillæ. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 714/2 (*Mamillaria*) The mamillæ..have little tufts of white hair between them. 1852 HENSLOW *Dict. Bot. Terms*, *Mamilla* (a little teat). Little granular prominences on the surface of certain pollen. 1889 BARON in *Q. Jrnl. Geol. Soc.* XLV. 322 The crystals of others [*sc.* stones] assume a mammillated form, the mamillæ being covered with minute crystals. 1889 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Mammillæ*, ..applied to the conical or cylindrical organs of the Arachnida,..Also, the papillæ or apices of the Malpighian pyramids in the kidney.

Mamillar (mæ·milăr), *a.* In quots. mammillar. [a. L. *mamillār-is*, f. *mamilla*: see MAMILLA.] = MAMILLARY 2.

1648 J. BEAUMONT *Psyche* IV. cxxi, [Osphresis loq.] By the Mammillar Processions, I Embrace those pleasures which my Sweets impart. 1832 MACGILLIVRAY tr. *Humboldt's Trav.* xviii. 251 Masses of rock..emerge from its bosom, some of a mammillar form. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV. 716 The surface is coarsely lobular or mammillar.

Mamillariform (mæmilæ·rifōm), *a. rare.* [f. L. *mamillāri-s* MAMILLAR + -FORM.] Mamilliform.

1869 *Eng. Mech.* 19 Nov. 225/1 A small mammillariform object.

Mamillary (mæ·milări), *a.* Also 7 mammillarie, mammilary, 7–9 mammillary. [f. L. *mamillāris*: see MAMILLA and -ARY [2].]

1. Of or pertaining to the breast; also, † having mammæ.

1669 W. SIMPSON *Hydrol. Chym.* 278 The..milky juyce, passing..through the mammilary conduits into the breasts. 1792 BELKNAP *Hist. New Hampsh.* III. 165 The only mammillary biped which we have, is the Bat. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 981 To the left of the mammillary or mid-thoracic line.

2. Of the form of a mamma; mammiform.

Mamillary process: (*a*) the mastoid process of the temporal bone; (*b*) *pl.* the metapophysis of the lumbar vertebræ; † (*c*) *pl.* the olfactory lobes.

1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* 433 The mamillary processes which are the Organes of smelling. 1650 BULWER *Anthropomet.* 16 The bottom of the Ear (in which place the Mammillary processe is). 1722 QUINCY *Lex. Physico-Med.* (ed. 2) 126/1 It is the Entry to the Sinus in the Mammillary Process. 1741 MONRO *Anat. Nerves* (ed. 3) 39 The Mammillary Processes of the Brain. 1797 M. BAILLIE *Morb. Anat.* (1807) 274 The mamillary portion of the kidney. 1865 LUBBOCK *Preh. Times* 230 Small mammillary elevations which are known as Indian corn-hills. 1881 MIVART *Cat* 39 The anterior process .. is termed the mammillary process, or Metapophysis.

b. Having mammiform protuberances.

1813 BAKEWELL *Introd. Geol.* 355 Mammillary, with a number of convex smooth surfaces. 1830 LYELL *Princ. Geol.* I. 202 Sometimes the travertin assumes precisely the botroidal and mammillary forms, common to similar deposits, in Auvergne. 1841 TRIMMER *Pract. Geol.* 348 The sides of the cells are coated with mamillary concretions. 1846 DANA *Zooph.* (1848) 265 Gibbous and coarsely mammillary.

c. *Mamillary brooch* (Antiq.): one consisting of two cup-shaped pieces connected by a handle.

1862 W. R. WILDE *Catal. Gold Antiq. R. Irish Acad.* 57 Mammillary Fibulæ—For the sake of distinction and arrangement, we have applied this term to a class of gold ornaments, of great diversity of size, found in abundance in Ireland. 1863 D. WILSON *Preh. Ann.* I. II. vi. 459 The dilated gold fibulæ styled..Mamillary Brooches.

Ma·millate, *a.* Also mamm-. [ad. L. *mamillāt-us*, f. *mamilla* MAMILLA + -ATE [1].] = next.

1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* IV. 311 Feelers (*Palpi*)..Mammillate..when the last joint is very short, smaller than the preceding one, and retractile within it. 1847 W. DARLINGTON *Amer. Weeds & Useful Pl.* (1860) Gloss., *Mamillate*, conical, with a rounded apex. 1875 BLAKE *Zool.* 38 The teeth in Mastodon mammillate, often numerous, and with every intermediate gradation.

Mamillated (mæ·milētĕd), *ppl. a.* Also 8–9 mammillated, 9 mammalated, mam(m)el-(l)ated, mammilated. [f. MAMILLATE *a.* + -ED [1].]

1. Having rounded protuberances or projections; covered with mammiform excrescences. *spec.* in *Path.* as a morbid condition of certain viscera; also *Geol.* and *Min.*

1741 STACK in *Phil. Trans.* XLI. 713 The inward Membrane had on its concave Surface a sort of Villosity wrinkled and mamillated. 1801 BOURNON *ibid.* XCI. 172 This ore frequently assumes a mamillated form. 1823 W. PHILLIPS *Introd. Mineral.* (ed. 3) p. lxxxv, A mineral presenting aggregations of large sections of numerous small globes is termed botryoidal; but when the globes are larger, and the portions are less, and separate, the appearance is expressed by the term mamillated. 1845 DARWIN *Voy. Nat.* iii. (1879) 46 The mammillated country of Maldonado. 1865 GEIKIE *Scen. & Geol. Scot.* vii. 176 The rocks are worn into smooth mammillated outlines. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 920 This a merely mammillated or corrugated surface will not do.

2. Having a nipple-shaped process or part.

1839 SOWERBY *Conch. Man.* 62 *Mammillated*, a term applied to the apex of a shell when it is rounded like a teat. 1851–6 WOODWARD *Mollusca* 119 Spire short, apex mammillated. 1861 HULME tr. *Moquin-Tandon* II. III. v. 156 The cases from the pistacias are..mammelated, light, with a turpentine flavour.

Mamillation (mæmilē·ʃən). In quots. mammillation. [f. MAMILLA + -ATION.]

1. The condition of being mamillated.

1856 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Mammillation.* Term applied to the appearances of little prominences like granulations on a mucous surface, as of the stomach sometimes in *Phthisis*, etc. 1877 ROBERTS *Handbk. Med.* (ed. 3) I. 120 The stomach occasionally presents..mammillation, softening [etc.].

2. *concr.* in *pl.* Rounded bosses.

1863 A. C. RAMSAY *Phys. Geog.* xxiv. (1878) 382 Smoothing those large mammillations the Cumbraes. 1880 *19th Cent.* Nov. 850 The mammillations of the surface suggest that the rocks have been..rounded by the passage of moving ice.

Mamilliferous (mæmili·fĕrŏs), *a.* [f. MAMILLA + -(I)FEROUS.] Having or bearing mamillæ.

1856 in MAYNE *Expos. Lex.* 1889 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1891 *Athenæum* 30 May 703/1 The division of the mammalia into a mammilliferous and a non-mammilliferous series.

Mamilliform (mæmi·lifōrm), *a.* Also mammilliform. [f. MAMILLA + -(I)FORM.] Shaped like or resembling a mamilla; nipple-shaped.

1843 FORBES in *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* II. No. 11. 79 Among which are .. interspersed numerous mammilliform tubercles. 1846 DANA *Zooph.* (1848) 423 With mammilliform prominences when contracted. 1888 A. S. WOODWARD in *Q. Jrnl. Geol. Soc.* XLIV. 147 The teeth upon this surface are quite mammilliform. 1880 GÜNTHER *Fishes* 162 The filaments..are beset with mamilliform appendages.

Mamilloid (mæ·miloid), *a.* In quot. mamm-. [f. MAMILLA + -OID.] Resembling a mamilla.

1849–52 TODD *Cycl. Anat.* V. 925/2 The first and second plates [of the molar] have two mammilloid summits.

Mamillose (mæ·milōs), *a.* [f. MAMILLA + -OSE.] Having mamilliform organs or parts.

1856 in MAYNE *Expos. Lex.* 1889 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

Mamio, obs. form of MAMMEE.

† **Ma·mish**, *a. Obs. rare*—[1]. [f. MAM *sb.*[1] + -ISH.] Uxorious.

?*a* 1641 BP. HALL *Women's Veil* Rem. Wks. (1660) 240 If the Crown be set upon the head (as the husband may give honour to the weaker vessel) yet it is a pittyful head that is not better then the crown that adorns it..None but some mamish Monsters can question it.

Mamlouk, mamluk(e, obs. ff. MAMELUKE.

Mamma[1], **mama** (māmă·). [A reduplicated syllable often uttered instinctively by young children, who are in many countries taught to use it as their word for 'mother' (esp. where the ordinary word in the language begins with *m*).

The Indogermanic type **mammā*, as a child's word for mother, is found as Gr. μάμμη, L. *mamma* (whence It. *mamma*), OSl., Russian МАМА, Lith. *mama*, Irish *mam* (O'Brien); also in Welsh *mam*, which is the only word for 'mother', though *modr-* survives in some compounds. The F. *maman* (Cotgr. 1611 *mammam*), like the earlier *mam-ma* (1534 in Hatz.-Darm.), appears to be an independent adoption of the instinctive infantine utterance; the Sp. *mamá*, Pg. *mamãe*, may perhaps be from French.

Apart from the two 16th c. quots. in which the word is used with reference to a child's first attempt to speak, the Eng. *mamma* has not been found earlier than near the end of the 17th c., after which time it rapidly became common. The Eng. word of the 17–18th c. (rimed by Shadwell with *awe*) prob. represents a spoken form adopted from the F. *maman*; the spelling may have been suggested by Latin or It., or it may possibly have been originally meant to express the native English form (ma·mă, mə·mă), which is still current in many dialects. In educated use, so far as is known, the stress has in England always been on the last syllable; in the United States, however, the stress *ma·mma* is the more usual; a prevailing U. S. pronunciation is represented by the spelling *momma*, occasionally used in novels. The spelling *mama*, sometimes used in the 18th c., became somewhat common after 1800, and is especially frequent in the novels printed *c* 1830–50. It is now rare.]

A word employed as the equivalent of *mother*: chiefly used in the vocative, or preceded by a possess. pronoun (as 'my mamma'); also without article in the manner of a proper name (e.g. 'Mamma is well'); less usually with *a*, *the*, or in *plural*.

The status of the word has always been the same as that of PAPA[1]. In the 18th c., although *ma·mma* as used by young children was probably common, *mamma* seems to have been confined to the higher classes, and among them to have been freely used not only by children but by adults of both sexes. In the 19th c. its use was much extended, and among the lower middle class was a mark of 'gentility'. Latterly it has in England become unfashionable, even as used by children.

[1555 EDEN *Decades* 44 They were turned into frogges, and cryed toa, toa, that is, mama, mama, as chyldren are wont to crye for the mothers pappe.] 1579 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 129 When the babe shall now begin to tattle and call hir Mamma, with what face can she heare it of his mouth, vnto whom she hath denyed Mamma? 1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* II. ii. § 7. 191 The Ideas of the Nurse, and the Mother are well framed in their Minds.. The names of Nurse and Mamma, the Child uses, determine themselves to those Persons. 1691 SHADWELL *Scowrers* Epil., How can one stand in awe Of a vain Tawdry, Amorous Mamma? 1710 E. WARD *Brit. Hud.* III. 26 So the sweet Babe of Early Wit, To please Mamma does Daddy beat. 1727 GAY *Begg. Op.* I. viii. (1729) 11 My Mama drinks double the quantity. 1728 P. WALKER *Life Alex. Peden* in *Biog. Presb.* (1827) I. 140 Our..old Scots Names are gone out of Request; instead of Father and Mother, Mamma and Papa, training Children to speak Nonsense. 1748 CHESTERF. *Lett.* (1792) II. clxxi. 132 At which I am uneasy not as a Mamma would be, but as a Father should be. 1758 ELIZ. ROSE in *Family Rose Kilravock* (Spald. Club) 431 Papa and mamma are well. 1773 GOLDSM. *Stoops to Conq.* v. (ed. 2) 94 *Tony.* Alack, mama, it was all your own fault. 1811 L. M. HAWKINS *C'less & Gertr.* (1812) I. 52 Poor Tom must shift with his outgrown Coat, because Papa has just given Mama a row of pearls. *a* 1814 *Fam. Politics* III. iv. in *New Brit. Theatre* (1814) II. 224 *Edw.* .. One more trial, my delightful mama. *Lady Jez.* How often have I told you not to apply that vulgar appellation to me? 1819 BYRON *Juan* I. xlviii, I can't but say that his mamma was right. 1838 LYTTON *Alice* I. vi, You should make your mamma take you to town. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* xxxv, Florence is ready to receive her father and her new mama. 1887 RUSKIN *Præterita* II. 241 [I read my] work to papa and mamma at breakfast next morning, as a girl shows her sampler.

b. Used as a prefixed title.

17.. SIR J. MARRIOT in Dodsley *Coll. Poems* (1755) IV. 289 The cruel Fates their rage relented, And mama Venus had consented.

c. *fig.* (jocular only).

1844 THACKERAY *May Gambols* Wks. 1900 XIII. 443 The exhibition of the New Society .. has grown to be quite as handsome .. as that of its mamma, the old Society in Pall Mall East.

d. *Comb.*: *mamma-in-law* jocular = MOTHER-IN-LAW; *mamma-pian* [F. *maman pian*], a 'mother' tubercle of the disease known as 'yaws'; a 'yaw'.

1855 THACKERAY *Newcomes* II. 259 Recalling some of mamma-in-law's dreadful expressions which make me shudder when I hear them. 1895 CLIVE HOLLAND *Jap. Wife* (ed. 11) 36, I do not altogether like my mamma-in-law. 1889 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Mama pian.* 1898 P. MANSON *Trop. Diseases* xxvii. 428 *note*, A large persistent yaw is sometimes known as the 'mother', 'grandmother' or 'mama-pian'.

Hence **Mamma**[1] *v.*, to call by the name of 'mamma'.

1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1811) III. 359 Pris. will Mamma-up Mrs. Sinclair.

‖ **Mamma**[2] (mæ·mă). *Pl.* -æ. [L.] The milk-secreting organ of the female in man and the other mammalia. Also the corresponding but non-secreting structure in males.

c 1050 *Prudentius Gloss.* in *Germania* (1878) XI. 401 *In papillas*, an mammaan. 1693 in tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Mamma*, a Breast, Pap, or Teat. 1727 BAILEY vol. II, *Mamma* [with anatomists], a Breast, Pap or Teat; also a Dug in Cattle. 1795 [see MAMMARY 1]. 1804 ABERNETHY *Surg. Obs.* 21 In the mamma they [the vessels] seem to be rather large than numerous. 1845 CHAMBERS *Vestiges* (ed. 4) 198 The mammæ of the human female..also exist in the male. 1871 DARWIN *Desc. Man* I. i. 17 The mammæ of male quadrupeds. 1887 BUTLIN in *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* I. 573/1 The very free removal of the mamma .. recommended by Mr. Banks [etc.]. 1887 *Athenæum* 8 Jan. 66/2 The pectoral position of the mammæ in the Sirenia..gave rise to the legend of the mermaid.

† **Ma·mmaday.** *Obs.* [Of obscure origin: cf. mod. dial. *mamady* (Linc.) 'a sweetmeat made of boiled sugar'.] ? Nurse's milk, 'pap' (*fig.*). Also *attrib.*

b. As a term of contempt: A 'milksop'.

1589 G. HARVEY *Pierce's Super.* (1593) 74 Nothing, but pure Mammaday, and a fewe morsels of fly-blowne Euphuisme, somewhat nicely minced for puling stomackes. *Ibid.* 136 This Mammaday hath excellently knocked himselfe on the sconse with his owne hatchet. 1603 HARSNET *Pop. Impost.* 29 If their Conies be Protestants..then some holy Ceremonies..must be solemnly used..to bring them to lie betweene the sweete breasts of their holy mother the Romish Church that the Mammaday, which shall be given them, may doe them the more good. 1618 N. B. *Courtier & Countrym.* D 4 b, Thy meat tasts all of mammaday pudding, which breaking at both ends, the stuffing runnes about the Pot.

Mammæform: see MAMMIFORM.

Mammal (mæ·măl), *sb.* [First used in pl. as an anglicized form of MAMMALIA.] An animal of the class mammalia.

1826 GOOD *Bk. Nat.* II. ii. 52 As we have no fair synonym for it [Mammalia] in our own tongue, I shall beg leave now, as I have on various other occasions, to render it mammals. 1845 CHAMBERS *Vestiges* (ed. 4) 199 The ornithorhynchus is a mammal receding to near the grade of birds. 1859 DARWIN *Orig. Spec.* x. (1873) 283 True mammals have been discovered in the new red sandstone. 1859 GEO. ELIOT *A. Bede* vii, There is one order of beauty which seems made to turn the heads..of all intelligent mammals, even of women.

b. *attrib.*, as *mammal fœtus, form, giant.*

1845 CHAMBERS *Vestiges* (ed. 4) 207 In the mammal fœtus, ..the organ has the form of a prolonged tube. *Ibid.*, It becomes a full mammal heart. 1879 tr. *Haeckel's Evol. of Man* I. i. 3 Amphibian and Mammal forms. 1902 T. GILL in *Pop. Sci. Monthly* Sept. 436 A whale may be alluded to as a gigantic mammal or a mammal giant.

† **Mammal**, *a. Obs. rare.* [ad. late L. *mammāl-is.*] Pertaining to the mammæ or breasts.

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* s. v. *Vein*, Mammal veine (*vena mammalis*) is double, an inward and an outward one, distributed among the parts of the brest. [From Cotgr., *Veine mammale.*]

Mammalated, obs. form of MAMILLATED *a.*

‖ **Mammalia** (mămē·liă), *pl.* [mod.L. *mammālia* (Linnæus), neut. pl. of late L. *mammālis* adj., f. *mamma*: see MAMMA[2].] A 'class' of the animal kingdom the members of which are characterized by the possession of mammæ in which milk is secreted for the nourishment of the young.

The *Mammalia* are divided into the *placental* and the *implacental* mammalia (see the adjs.), the latter comprising only the marsupials and monotremes. Except the monotremes, the mammalia are all viviparous.

1773 *Encycl. Brit.* III. 362/2 The First Class, Mammalia, is subdivided into 7 Orders. 1817 LAWRENCE *Lectures* (1823) 101 In the mammalia..we descend from man to the whale or seal. 1832 DE LA BECHE *Geol. Man.* (ed. 2) 297 The remains of mammalia have not yet been

detected in the cretaceous group. 1881 MIVART in *Nature* No. 615. 337 We and beasts constitute..the class *Mammalia*.

Mamma·lial, *a. nonce-wd.* = MAMMALIAN.

1835 T. HOOK *G. Gurney* in *New Monthly Mag.* XLIV. 167 Men, women, and children, not to speak of animals, ornithological and mammalial.

Mammalian (mămē·liăn), *a.* and *sb.* [f. MAMMALIA + -AN.]

A. *adj.* Of or belonging to the mammalia.

1851 D. WILSON *Archæol. & Prehist. Ann. Scotl.* I. i. 22 Extensive discoveries of mammalian remains. 1855 W. S. DALLAS in *Syst. Nat. Hist.* II. 375 Most of the bones in the Mammalian skeleton are solid. 1880 HAUGHTON *Phys. Geog.* iii. 81 The lower forms of Mammalian life.

B. *sb.* One of the mammalia.

1835 KIRBY *Hab. & Inst. Animals* II. xxiv. 515 The bears, the foxes, and other Mammalians. 1865 FARRAR *Chapt. Lang.* 15 The action is as instinctive to them as sucking is to every infant mammalian.

Mammaliferous (mæmăli·fĕrəs), *a. Geol.* [f. MAMMALI-A + -FEROUS.] Containing mammalian remains.

1851 *Richardson's Geol.* x. 356 The mammaliferous crag consists of shelly beds of sand [etc.]. 1857 H. MILLER *Test. Rocks* ii. 79 Not until the great mammaliferous period is fairly ushered in, do either the bats or the whales make their appearance in creation.

¶ Loosely used for MAMMALIAN.

1873 J. GEIKIE *Gt. Ice Age* xi. 150 The strata containing mammaliferous remains.

Mammality (mæmæ·lĭti), *rare*—[1]. [f. MAMMAL + -ITY.] The attribute of being mammalian.

1899 J. FISKE *Through Nature to God* II. xi. 125 The Australian duck-bill, a relic of the most ancient incipient mammality, is still oviparous.

Mammalogical (mæmălǫ·dʒikăl), *a.* [f. MAMMALOGY + -ICAL; after F. *mammalogique*.] Pertaining to mammalogy.

1856 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.* 1859 OWEN *Classif. Mammalia* 34 Mammalogical systems which..have been proposed. 1879 tr. *De Quatrefages' Human Spec.* 163 Agassiz thus destroys the homogeneity of the mammalogical fauna.

Mammalogist (mæmæ·lŏdʒist). [f. MAMMALOGY + -IST; after F. *mammalogiste*.] One versed in mammalogy.

1839 *Penny Cycl.* XIV. 353/1 Aldrovandus, Jonston, and the rest of that class of mammalogists, seem to have followed Gesner. 1883 *Academy* 1 Dec. 365/3 [Cites the word as a 'neologism' from *Encycl. Americana*].

Mammalogy (mæmæ·lŏdʒi). [irreg. f. MAMMALIA + -LOGY; after F. *mammalogie*.] The science of mammals.

1835 *Penny Cycl.* III. 229/1 Fischer, the most recent writer upon mammalogy, enumerates eleven different species of baboons. 1854 OWEN *Skel. & Teeth* in *Circ. Sci., Organ. Nat.* I. 301 The Systematic Mammalogies.

Mammaluck, -luke, obs. ff. MAMELUKE.

Mam-mam, reduplication of MAM[1].

Mammary (mæ·mări), *a.* [f. L. *mamma* (see MAMMA[2]) + -ARY[1].]

1. Of or belonging to the mamma or breast. Also *absol.* = mammary artery.

1682 T. GIBSON *Anat.* (1697) 21 It has Arteries and Veins from the Mammary, and Epigastrick, and from those of the Midriff, or the Phrenick. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Mammary Vessels*, the Arteries and Veins that pass thro' the Muscles and Glands, or Kernels of the Breasts. 1795 HOME in *Phil. Trans.* LXXXV. 230 The mammary branches run superficially under the false belly till they reach the mammæ. 1831 R. KNOX *Cloquet's Anat.* 831 The mammary gland. 1834 *Fraser's Mag.* X. 535 The women..are remarkable for the same mammary exuberance. 1862 H. W. FULLER *Dis. Lungs* 4 The mammary is bounded above by the third rib. 1901 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* No. 2097 Epit. Med. Lit. 38 The third left rib was resected, the internal mammary ligatured.

2. Having the form of a mamma. † *Mammary sarcoma* (see quot. 1889).

1804 *Med. Jrnl.* XII. 466 Below are small mammary projections about to be the outlets to the cysts beneath them. 1807-26 S. COOPER *First Lines Surg.* (ed. 5) 191 When the tumour is known..to be either a mammary, a tuberculated, or medullary sarcoma, care should be taken [etc.]. 1889 *Syd. Soc. Lex., Mammary sarcoma*, an old name for one of the denser varieties of sarcoma..from its resemblance on section to a portion of mammary gland.

Mammate (mæ·mĕt), *a.* [ad. L. *mammāt-us*, f. *mamma* MAMMA[2] + -ATE[2].] Having mammæ.

1856 MAYNE *Expos. Lex., Mammatus*,..having mammæ or breasts: mammate. [In mod. Dicts.]

Mammato- (mæmē·to), used as comb. form of L. *mammātus* (see prec.), in meteorological terms descriptive of clouds which have the form of rounded festoons, as *mammato-cirrus, -cumulus*.

1880 LEY in *Nature* 1 Jan. 211/1 In the first sketch 'cumulus' is shown with 'fracto-cumulus';.. in the third the characteristic base of 'mammato-cumulus'; and in the fourth that of 'mammato-cirrus'.

† **Mammeated,** *a. Obs.*—[o]. [f. L. *mammeāt-us* (irreg. f. *mamma* breast) + -ED[1].] = MAMMATE.

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr., Mammeated*, that hath Paps or Teats, or that hath great ones. [In mod. Dicts.]

Mammee (mæmī·). Forms: 6 mamea, mameia, mamio, 7 mamay(n, mamme, mammet, 8 mamie, mammey, 7-9 mamey, mamee, 9 maumee, mammy, 7- mammee. [In Sp. *mamey*, from Haytian; cf. F. *mamey*, *mammée* (the latter from mod.L. *Mammea*, introduced by Linnæus).]

1. A large tree (*Mammea americana*, N. O. *Guttiferæ*) of tropical America (now almost naturalized in parts of tropical Africa and Asia), which bears a large fruit with a yellow pulp of pleasant taste. Also, the fruit of this tree.

1572 HAWKS in *Hakluyt's Voy.* (1600) III. 464 Fruits of the countrey..as plantans, *sapotes*,..*mamios*, limons [etc.]. 1588 N. H. *Voy. T. Cavendish* in *Hakluyt* (1589) 811 Plantans, mameias, pineapples, oranges and limons. 1593 J. WHITE in *Hakluyt* (1600) III. 282 Yong plants of Orenges, Pines, Mameas, and Plantanos, to set at Virginia. 1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* IV. xxiv. 278 These Mamayes, Guayauos, and Paltos, be the Indians peaches, apples, and peares. 1672 R. BLOME *Descr. Jamaica* 25 Pome-granates, Cocar-Nuts, Limes, Guavars, Mammes, Alumee-Supotas [etc.]. 1684 *Bucaniers of America* I. ii. 11 Some of the most ordinary [Fruits]..are..Mamayns, Ananaes. 1685 L. WAFER *Voy.* (1729) 301 The Samballoes are low, flat, sandy islands, covered with a variety of trees; especially with Mammees, Sapadilloes, and Manchineel. 1697 DAMPIER *Voy.* (1729) I. 187 The Mammet is a large, tall, and straight-bodied tree [etc.]. 1760-72 *Juan & Ulloa's Voy.* (ed. 3) I. 76 The Mameis are of the same colour as the sapotes. 1764 GRAINGER *Sugar Cane* IV. 502 Thee, verdant mammey, first her song shall praise. 1852 TH. ROSS *Humboldt's Trav.* I. iv. 153 The Delta..is a fertile plain covered with Mammees, Sapotas (achras),..and other plants. 1866 MARY B. CLARKE *Mosses fr. Rolling Stone* 120 And zapotas, rough and brown, With the mamey and the mango, Cast their luscious sweetness down.

2. = *Mammee-sapota*.

1866 *Treas. Bot.* 715/1 Mammee, *Lucuma mammosum*.

3. *attrib.*, as *mammee-stone, -tree*: mammee-apple = sense 1; *African mammee-a.* (see quot. 1887); mammee-sapota, the marmalade tree, *Lucuma mammosa*, or its fruit.

1683 J. POYNTZ *Tobago* 9 The *Mamme Apple grows to the Magnitude of a Pound Pear...Then there's the Mamme Supporter, much of the same Nature with the former. 1796 STEDMAN *Surinam* II. xix. 73 Among many other excellent fruits, I observed one which is here called the Mammee apple. 1829 GEN. P. THOMPSON *Exerc.* (1842) I. 144 They will send a deputation..to give every honest woman a shaddock and a mamee-apple for her little boys. 1863 R. F. BURTON *Wand. W. Afr.* II. 34 Custard-apples, guavas,..maumee-apples. 1887 MOLONEY *Forestry W. Afr.* 280 African Mammee apple (*Ochrocarpus africanus*), a tree 40 to 50 feet high. 1683 *Mamme Supporter [see *mammee apple*]. 1697 DAMPIER *Voy.* (1729) I. 203 The Mammee-Sappota Tree is different from the Mammee described at the Island of Tobago. *a* 1726 H. BARHAM *Hortus Amer.* Index (1794), Mammee-sapota, *Achras sapota*. 1864 GRISEBACH *Flora W. Ind.* 785 Mammee-Sapota, *Lucuma mammosa*. 1681 GREW *Museum* II. 190 A Great *Mammee-stone .. A little Mammee-stone .. A round Mammee-stone. 1693 *Phil. Trans.* XVII. 620 The *Mammee-Tree of the West-Indies. 1725 SLOANE *Jamaica* II. 123 The Mammee-tree .. is above sixty Foot high [etc.]. 1871 TYLOR *Prim. Cult.* II. 56 The delicious fruit of the mamey trees.

Mammelated, variant of MAMILLATED.

Mammelière, variant of MAMELIÈRE.

Mammellated, obs. form of MAMILLATED *a.*

Mammelon, variant of MAMELON.

Mammeluck, -luke, obs. ff. MAMELUKE.

Mammenye, variant of MALMENY *Obs.*

† **Mamme·r,** *v. Obs.* Forms: 5 memere, mamere, 6 mamber, mam(m)or, 6- mammer. [An imitative formation (with frequentative suffix -ER); cf. *mamble, mumble, stammer*.

It is doubtful whether this has any connexion with the OE. *mamrian* occurring in Ps. (Thorpe) lxiii. 5 (þær hi mamriað man & unriht = Vulg. *scrutantes scrutinio*), app. meaning 'to devise, think of', or with the *manor* sb., found as a gloss on *sopor* sleep.]

intr. a. To stammer, mutter. b. To vacillate, waver, be undecided.

14.. *Anturs of Arth.* 110 (Douce MS.) Hit marred, hit memered, hit mused for madde. *c* 1425 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 668/26 *Mutulare*, to mamere [cf. *Ags. Glosses* ibid. 447/30 '*Mutulat*, stommeteð' i. e. stammers]. *a* 1555 BRADFORD in Coverdale *Lett. Mart.* (1564) 313 Tyl he [*sc.* Adam] forsoke god..began to mamber of the truth, & to frame hymselfe outwardly to doe that which his conscience reproued inwardly..til then, I say, god did not departe and leaue him to himselfe. 1566 DRANT *Horace, Sat.* II. iii. G v b. Yea when she daygnes to sende for hym, then mammeryng he dothe doute, What should I go? 1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* III. iii. 70, I wonder in my Soule What you would aske me, that I should deny, Or stand so mam'ring on? 1617 COLLINS *Def. Bp. Ely* II. vii. 254 Would you haue them to mammer, as Elias said merrily once of Baal, Perhaps he is gone to warre,..so perhaps he is gone to Purgatory? 1842 AKERMAN *Wiltsh. Gloss., Mammered*, perplexed.

† **Mamme·ring,** *vbl. sb. Obs.* [+ -ING[1].]

1. A stammering, muttering.

c 1425 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 668/27 *Hec mutulatio*, mameryng. 1567 HARMAN *Caveat* (1869) 72 [He] drank to his wyfe and fell to his mammerings and mounched a pace.

2. A state of doubt, hesitation, or perplexity; chiefly in phr. *in a mammering.*

1532 MORE *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 343/1 He was in a mamering whether he would retourne agayn ouer the sea. 1533 — *Apol.* xlii. ibid. 911/2 V° matter was in a mamering before y° change was made. 1537 *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, I. 527 The people in all partes..are very wylde,..at no stay, but in a mamoring, what they may do. 1579 W. WILKINSON *Confut. Familye of Love* 8 b, God..keepe us from falling away from the truth, or standing in mammering therof. 1609 [BP. W. BARLOW] *Answ. Nameless Cath.* 115 Hee..did protest euen while matters were in a mammering. 1612 R. CARPENTER *Soules Sent.* 72 The carnall man stands here at a mammering and maruelling how it can bee done. 1639 HORN & ROB. *Gate Lang. Unl.* xc. § 886 The one goes on forward..without respit, the other staggers (is in a mammering).

† **Ma·mmering,** *ppl. a. Obs.* [f. MAMMER *v.* + -ING[2].] Hesitating.

1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 358 This doctrine doth abolish quite the doctrine of the law, of repentaunce,.. and commaundeth a mammering doubtfulnesse.

† **Ma·mmery.** *Obs. rare*—[1]. In 6 mamorie. [f. MAMMER *v.* + -Y.] = MAMMERING *sb.*

1578 H. WOTTON *Courtlie Controv. Cupid's Cautels* To Rdr., My quill remayned long (as men say) in a mamorie, quiuering in my quaking fingers, before I durst presume to publishe these my fantasies.

Mammet, obs. f. MAMMEE; variant of MAUMET.

Mammetrous, -try, var. ff. MAUMETROUS, -TRY.

Mammey, Mammie, see MAMMEE, MAMMY.

Mammifer (mæ·mifəɹ). Now *rare*. [a. F. *mammifère*, orig. used in pl. as ad. mod.L. *mammifera*: see next.] = MAMMAL *sb.*

1832 LYELL *Princ. Geol.* II. 91 The terrestrial mammifers. 1877 DAWSON *Orig. World* 356 The carnivorous mammifer.

‖ **Mammifera** (mămi·fĕră). *rare.* [mod.L. neut. pl. of **mammifer* adj., f. L. *mamma* (see MAMMA[2]) + *-fer* bearing. (Substituted by French naturalists *a* 1800 for Linnæus' *mammalia*).] = MAMMALIA.

1827 R. JAMESON tr. *Cuvier's Theory Earth* (ed. 5) 294 Among all these mammifera..there has not been a single quadrumanous animal.

Mammiferous (mămi·fĕrəs), *a.* [f. as prec. + -OUS: see -FEROUS.]

1. = MAMMALIAN *a.*

1803 *Med. Jrnl.* IX. 495 The..larger mammiferous animals. 1833 LYELL *Princ. Geol.* III. 59 None of the associated mammiferous remains belong to species which now exist. 1850 H. MILLER *Footpr. Creat.* viii. (1874) 148 A more exact resemblance to the mammiferous tail. 1859 DARWIN *Orig. Spec.* x. (1878) 271 Mammiferous remains.

2. Of a part of the body: Bearing the mammæ.

1878 BELL tr. *Gegenbaur's Comp. Anat.* 422 The marsupium..encloses the mammiferous region of the abdomen.

Mammiform (mæ·mifɔm), *a.* Also *incorrectly* mammæform (*Treas. Bot.* 1866). [f. L. *mamma* MAMMA[2] + -(I)FORM: cf. F. *mammiforme*.] Having the form of a mamma or breast.

1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Mastoidei*,..the Mammiform, or Dug-like processes. 1843 FORBES in *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* II. No. 11. 79 The upper series bear from one to four mammiform tubercles. 1878 *Ann. & Mag. Nat. Hist.* Nov. 393 Numerous large mammiform tubercles.

Mammill, variant of MAMELLE *Obs.*

Mammilla, -ar, -ate, etc.: see MAMILL-.

Mammillon, variant of MAMELON.

Mammitis (mæməi·tis). *Path.* [f. MAMMA[2] + -ITIS.] Inflammation of the mammary gland.

1872 F. G. THOMAS *Dis. Women* (ed. 3) 103 At other times their proper tissue becomes inflamed, as we see that of the breast do in mammitis. 1889 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

Mammlere, variant of MAMBLER *Obs.*

Mammock (mæ·mək), *sb. arch.* and *dial.* (see E. D. D.). Also 6-7 mammocke, 7 mamock. [Of obscure origin: formed with the dim. suffix -OCK.] A scrap, shred, broken or torn piece. Also *fig.*

a 1529 SKELTON *Col. Cloute* 654 Whan mammockes was your meate, With moldy brede to eate. *c* 1600 DAY *Begg. Bednall Gr.* IV. i, Let me be torn into mammocks with wilde Bears if [etc.]. 1607 WALKINGTON *Opt. Glass* 62 Small mammocks of stone..of the bignesse of dice. 1633 T. ADAMS *Exp. 2 Peter* i. 5. 100 God regardeth not the mammockes of our sacrifices. 1651 OGILBY *Æsop* (1665) 137 Their Masking Sutes are all in mamocks tore. *a* 1722 LISLE *Husb.* (1752) 247 Large cattle..will make mammocks, that they will leave and not eat. 1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* xxxiii, I say, cut him to mammocks upon the spot! 1870 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* II. III. 40 This gangrel thief thought fit to tread The grass to mammocks by my head!

Mammock (mæ·mək), *v.* Now chiefly *dial.* (see E. D. D.). [f. MAMMOCK *sb.*] *trans.* To break, cut, or tear into fragments or shreds.

1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* I. iii. 71 Hee did so set his teeth, and teare it. Oh, I warrant how he mammockt it. 1641 MILTON *Reform.* I. Wks. 1851 III. 17 The obscene, and surfeted Priest scruples not to paw, and mammock the sacramentall bread. 1670 COVEL *Diary* (Hakl. Soc.) 262 This was ready mammockt and cut to our hands. 1764 *Francis Lett.* (1901) I. 65 After being all mammocked the fish were sent down to be boiled. 1852 *Fraser's Mag.* XLV. 523 The soft parts are cut..and mammocked in every conceivable way. 1888 *Jrnl. Amer. Folk-lore* I. No. 2 A colored man..frequently complains that the cows 'mammock the hay' so badly.

fig. 1806-7 J. BERESFORD *Miseries Hum. Life* (1826) VII. lxix, Hearing your favourite poem .. mammocked by the mouth of a forward Puppy. 1865 KNIGHT *Sch. Hist. Eng.* I. 660 He [Garrick] mangled Shakspere. And he patched the mammock'd plays with tawdry rags. 1890 *Athenæum* 29 Mar. 400/2 One or two lines have to be mammocked to fit them into the new arrangement.

Mammoda, variant of MAHMUDI *Obs.*

Mammodis, ? *pl.* ? *U.S.* ? *Obs.* [app. a. Urdū (Pers.) *mahmūdī* a sort of fine muslin, f. *Mahmūd*: see MAHMUDI.] (See quots.)

1828 WEBSTER, *Mammodis*, coarse, plain Indian muslins. 1889 *Century Dict., Mammodis*, n. pl., Cotton cloths from India; commonly applied to the plain ones only.

Mammoid (mæ·moid), *a.* [f. MAMMA[2] + -OID.] Resembling a mamma.

1774 DARWIN in *Phil. Trans.* LXIV. 349 The mammoid process of the temporal bone.

Mammole (mæ·mǫul). The edible fruit of *Opuntia Tuna* (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1889).

Mammoluke, obs. form of MAMELUKE.

Mammon (mæ·mən). Also 4, 6 **Mammona**, 6 **mammonde**, **mammony**. [a. late L. *ma(m)-mōna* masc. (Vulg.), *ma(m)mon* (Diefenb.), a. Gr. (N.T.) *μαμωνᾶς* (late texts *μαμμωνᾶς*), a. Aramaic מִמּוֹן *māmōn*, מַמּוֹנָא *māmōnā* riches, gain (frequent in the Targums). Hence also Syriac *māmūnā*, Goth. *mammōna* wk. masc., mod. F. *mammon*, *mammone*.

The N. T. phrase *μαμωνᾶς τῆς ἀδικίας* (Eng. version 'mammon of unrighteousness'; earlier versions, 'mammon of iniquity', 'wicked mammon', etc.) represents exactly the Aramaic *māmōn di-r'shaꜤ*, 'riches or gain of wickedness' (Targ. Hab. ii. 9), and approximately the more common *māmōn di-sh'qar*, 'riches of falsehood'.]

1. The Aramaic word for 'riches', occurring in the Greek text of Matt. vi. 24 and Luke xvi. 9–13, and retained in the Vulgate. Owing to the quasi-personification in these passages, the word was taken by mediæval writers as the proper name of the devil of covetousness. This use appears in English in the 14–16th c., and was revived by Milton (*P. L.* I. 678, II. 228). The word does not occur in the N. T. translations of Wyclif and Purvey (who substitute *richessis*), but it was used by Tindale (1526–34) and subsequent translators, with the exception of those of the Geneva version. From the 16th c. onwards it has been current in English, usually with more or less of personification, as a term of opprobrium for wealth regarded as an idol or as an evil influence.

1362 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. ix. 81 He..with Mammonas moneye hath maked him frendes. 1502 *Ord. Crysten Men* (W. de W. 1506) II. xi. 117 A deuyll named Mammona made unto the couetous man vi. commaundementes. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 281 b, No persone may serue god eternal, & also ye mammonde of iniquite, which is golde & sylue & other rychesse. 1530 Latimer *Let. to Hen. VIII* in Foxe *A. & M.* (1563) 1346/1 Thys wycked Mammon, the goodes of thys worlde, whyche is their God. 1618 Bp. Hall *Right. Mammon* 64 The foolish Siluer-smiths may shout out, Great is Mammon of the worldlings. 1620 T. Granger *Div. Logike* 102 He is the slaue of muddy Mammon. 1683 Tryon *Way to Health* xix. (1697) 418 Miserly Parents sacrificing their Children to Mammon is a wretched Idolatry. 1732 Pope *Ep. Bathurst* 171 Who sees pale Mammon pine amidst his store. 1773 *Observ. State Poor* 49 Eyes fascinated by Mammon the god of this world. 1781 Cowper *Charity* 45 Mammon makes the world his legatee Through fear, not love. 1836 Keble *Dissent* ii. in *Lyra Apost.*, A creed..By Mammon's touch new moulded o'er and o'er.

b. Sometimes jocularly for 'money'.

1706 E. Ward *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 101 While his Mammon lasts, he's a mad Fellow.

2. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *mammon gospel*, *worship*, *worshipper*; *mammon-blinded*, *worshipping* adjs.

1826 E. Irving *Babylon* II. 413 We..are now a Mammon-worshipping people. 1843 Carlyle *Past & Pr.* III. ii, We ..with our Mammon-Gospel, have come to strange conclusions. *Ibid.*, Verily Mammon-worship is a melancholy creed. *Ibid.* IV. viii, When Mammon-worshippers here and there begin to be God-worshippers. 1851 Kingsley *Yeast* vi. 108 However Mammon-blinded, he was kindly and upright. 1899 W. R. Inge *Chr. Mysticism* viii. 317 The sweet influences of the home deprive even mammon-worship of half its grossness.

Mammon, obs. variant of Mammoth *sb.*

Mammondom (mæ·məndəm). [f. Mammon + -dom.] The realm or domain of mammon.

1861 Sala in *Temple Bar* I. 304 All the gold of Mammondom could not..bring cheerful warmth.

† **Mammonet.** *Obs.* [ad. med.L. *mammonetus* (Promp. Parv. 327/1, Wr.-Wülcker 594/30), 'marmoset', f. *mammon* monkey.] A kind of monkey.

1607 Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* 7 Mammonets are lesse then an Ape,..having a long and hairy taile.

Mammoniacal (mæməni·ăkăl), *a. nonce-wd.* [f. Mammon: after *demoniacal*.] = next.

1848 Thackeray *Bk. Snobs, Concl. Observ.*, All English society is cursed by this mammoniacal superstition.

Mammonic (mæmɒ·nik), *a. nonce-wd.* [f. Mammon + -ic.] Of or pertaining to mammon.

1837 *Fraser's Mag.* XV. 362 The mammonic hydra.

Mammonish (mæ·mənif), *a.* [f. Mammon + -ish.] Influenced by or devoted to mammon.

1837 Sydney Smith *Let. to Archd. Singleton* Wks. 1859 II. 258/1 This, it will be said, is a Mammonish view of the subject. 1840 Carlyle *Heroes* vi. (1858) 349 A great black devouring world not Christian, but Mammonish, Devilish. 1843 — *Past & Pr.* III. ix. 1851 T. Parker in Weiss *Life & Corr.* I. 381 Unitarian ministers have..generally congregations more mammonish..than the orthodox congregations.

Mammonism (mæ·mənizm). [f. Mammon + -ism. (Cf. G. *mammonismus*.)] Devotion to the pursuit of riches.

1843 Carlyle *Past & Pr.* I. v, In whirlwinds of fire, you and your Mammonisms, Dilettantisms [etc.]..shall disappear! *Ibid.* II. xvi, If..all except Mammonism be a vain grimace. 1897 Price Hughes in *Daily News* 15 Nov. 2/4 It was necessary to protect the Lord's Day against Mammonism.

Mammonist (mæ·mənist). [f. Mammon + -ist. Cf. obs. Da. *mammonist*.] A worshipper of mammon; one who sets his heart on riches.

1550 Crowley *Inform. & Petit.* 13 b, Let them no more be named Christians,..but Mammonistes after Mammon whose badge they beare. 1560 Becon *Catech.* IV. Wks. 1564 I. 415 They are all Mammonistes and worldlinges. 1667 *Causes Decay Chr. Piety* v. 105 Let him come to the converted Mammonist, and ask him which he finds the better Treasury, his own Coffer or the poor mans Bowels. 1702 C. Mather *Magn. Chr.* III. 209 The Gains of Mammonists. 1817 Coleridge *'Blessed are ye that Sow'* 78 The..world-honoured company of Christian Mammonists. 1886 W. Graham *Soc. Probl.* 459 The mammonist money-maker.

Mammonistic (mæməni·stik), *a. rare.* [f. prec. + -ic.] After the manner of a mammonist.

1882 G. Macdonald *Castle Warlock* III. xxiv. 333 The usual mammonistic feeling of the enormous importance of money. 1893 *Chicago Advance* 27 Apr., A mammonistic age.

Mammonite (mæ·mənəit). [f. Mammon + -ite.] = Mammonist.

1712 E. Ward *Misc. Writ.* III. II. 55 Your Hands are the Mammonites that convey unlawful Gain out of other Peoples Pockets into your own Till. 1841 Hor. Smith *Moneyed Man* III. 263 The gold failed, and the mammonites vanished. *attrib.* 1850 Kingsley *Alt. Locke* x. (1874) 84 It suits the venal Mammonite press..to jumble them together. 1855 Tennyson *Maud* I. i. 12 When a Mammonite mother kills her babe for a burial fee. 1861 *Macm. Mag.* V. 120 [They] are said to be invaded by the mammonite spirit.

Mammonitish (mæ·mənəitiʃ), *a.* [f. Mammonite + -ish.] Mammon-like.

1615 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Urania* lx. Wks. (1630) 6/2 Avarice..makes his Mammonitish God his gaine. 1841 Hor. Smith *Moneyed Man* II. 254 May the result of her nuptials be worthy..the Mammonitish spirit in which they originate!

Mammonization (mæ·mənəizē·ʃən). *rare.* [f. next + -ation.] The action of mammonizing.

18.. *Meth. Quart. Rev.* (Worcester 1860).

Mammonize (mæ·mənəiz), *v. rare.* [f. Mammon + -ize.] *trans.* To influence through mammon.

1819 'R. Rabelais' *Abeillard & Heloisa* x. 314 One half too have been canoniz'd, Having Old Nick thus mammoniz'd, As to build structures unto God [etc.].

Mammono·latry. *nonce-wd.* [f. Mammon + -(o)latry.] The worship of mammon.

1820 Coleridge in *Lit. Rem.* (1839) IV. 98 [This] is impudence and Mammonolatry to boot.

Mammontrie, variant of Maumetry *Obs.*

Mammony, variant of Malmeny *Obs.*

Mammooda, -dee, variants of Mahmudi *Obs.*

Mammoring, variant of Mammering *vb. sb.*

Mammose (mæ·mōus), *a.* [ad. L. *mammōs-us*: see Mamma ² and -ose.] Having breast-like protuberances.

1856 Mayne *Expos. Lex.* 1857 Asa Gray *Less. Bot.* Gloss., *Mammose*: breast-shaped.

Mammoth (mæ·mɒθ), *sb.* and *a.* Also 8 **mammuth, mamant, maman, mamont, mammon, manmot**, (**mammoht**), 8–9 **mammouth**. [a. Russian † мамотъ *mamot*, whence *mamotovoi kost* mammoth's bones (Ludolf *Gram. Russ.* 1696, p. 92); now мамонтъ *mamont*. Hence also F. *mammouth*, †*mamant*, †*mammont*. The word is of obscure origin; the alleged Tartar word *mama* 'earth' (usually cited as the etymon) is not known to exist.]

A. *sb.*

1. A large extinct species of elephant (*Elephas primigenius*) formerly native in Europe and northern Asia; its remains are frequently found in the alluvial deposits in Siberia.

[1698 tr. Ludolf in *A. Brand's Emb. Muscovy into China* 122 The *Mammotovoy*, which is dug out of the Earth in Siberia.] 1706 tr. *Ides' Trav.* vi. 26 The old Siberian Russians affirm that the Mammuth is very like the Elephant. 1738 tr. *Strahlenberg's Descr. Russia* xiii. 403 The Russian Mammoth certainly came from the word Behemot. 1763 J. Bell *Trav. Asia* II. 148 Tartars..have seen this creature, called mammon, at the dawn of day, near lakes and rivers. *Ibid.*, That kind of ivory called, in this country, mammon's horn. 1807 J. Barlow *Columb.* I. 705 Where mammoth grazed the renovating groves. 1824 Byron *Def. Transf.* III. i. 55 'Twas sport..To go forth, with a pine For a spear, 'gainst the mammoth. 1863 A. C. Ramsay *Phys. Geog.* xxviii. (1878) 463 Man, the Mammoth, and other extinct mammalia, were contemporaneous.

b. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *mammoth horn, ivory, tusk*; *mammoth-wise* adv.

1843 *Zoologist* I. 2 By the name of mammoth horns the Siberians designate the fossil tusks which are so numerous ..throughout the northern districts. 1868 Swinburne *Blake* 247 The spinal skeleton,..shaped mammoth-wise, in grovelling involution of limb. 1879 Lubbock *Sci. Lect.* v. 150 A fragment of mammoth-tusk. 1903 *Expositor* June 460 Wrought objects of mammoth ivory.

c. *U. S.* Often applied to the fossil mastodon.

1816 J. Scott *Vis. Paris* (ed. 5) 296 The Siberian Mammoth, or Elephant, and the American Mammoth, or Mastodonton. 1834 McMurtrie *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 98 The Mammoth has been completely destroyed...Its remains are found..throughout all parts of North America. 1850 Lyell *2nd Visit U. S.* II. 197 The fossil remains of the mammoth (a name commonly applied in the United States to the mastodon).

2. *fig.* Something of huge size (cf. B).

1894 *Cornh. Mag.* Mar. 269 Bayle's 'Dictionnaire Historique', 5 vols. folio, or any kindred mammoth among books.

B. *adj.* Comparable to the mammoth in size; huge, gigantic.

1814 Sir R. Wilson *Priv. Diary* II. 309 The dancing very bad; the performers all had mammoth legs. 1820 Keats *Hyperion* I. 164 But one of the whole mammoth-brood still kept His sovereignty. 1822 J. Flint *Lett. Amer.* 309 *note*, The great cave in Kentucky is called the Mammoth Cave, although none of the remains of that animal have been found in it. 1850 Scoresby *Cheever's Whalem. Adv.* iii. (1859) 36 The whale was thus got hold of, and the mammoth carcass secured to the ship. 1854 J. S. C. Abbott *Napoleon* (1855) I. xv. 262 All the streets of the mammoth metropolis.

1874 Raymond *Statist. Mines & Mining* 505 The Mammoth vein itself is about 23 feet thick. 1896 *Westm. Gaz.* 20 June 7/1 Yorkshire made another mammoth score.

b. *Mammoth powder* (see quot. 1875); *Mammoth-tree*, the *Sequoia* (*Wellingtonia*) *gigantea*, a large coniferous tree, native of California.

1866 *Treas. Bot.* 1051/1 The Wellingtonia of our gardens, and the Big or Mammoth-tree of the Americans. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* s.v. *Gunpowder*, For very heavy ordnance a much larger grained powder..called mammoth powder, was introduced by the late General T. J. Rodman.

Mammothee, variant of Mahmudi *Obs.*

† **Mammothrept.** *Obs.* [ad. late L. *mammothrept-us* (Augustine), a. Gr. *μαμμόθρεπτος* brought up by one's grandmother, f. *μάμμη* grandmother + *θρεπτός* vbl. adj., f. *τρέφειν* to bring up.] A spoilt child; a nursling.

1599 B. Jonson *Cynthia's Rev.* IV. iii, *Amo*...How like you it, sir?—*Hed.* Verie well in troth.—*Amo.* But very well? O, You are a meere mammothrept in judgement. 1609 J. Davies *Holy Roode* (1878) 15 And for we are the Mammothrepts of Sinne, Crosse vs with Christ, to weane our joys therein. 1651 Biggs *New Disp.* P 55 If he be but an Academick, though a meer mammothrept, and perhaps a Midas.

¶ By Brathwait misused (from misunderstanding of quot. 1599 above) for: A severe critic.

1617 Brathwait *Smoaking Age* O 2 b, Or what strict Mamothrept that man should bee, Who has done Chaucer such an injurie. 1635 — *Arcad. Pr.* 217 These be the fruits of all severe mammothrepts who relish nothing but justice.

Mammotry, variant of Maumetry *Obs.*

‖ **Mammula** (mæ·miŭlă). Also (anglicized or after Fr.) **mammule**. [L. *mammula* a little teat, dim. of *mamma* Mamma ².] = Mamilla.

1816 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* (1843) I. 344 Two additional spinners (or mammulæ) peculiar to this species. 1856 Mayne *Expos. Lex.*, *Mammula*..a mammule.

Hence **Ma·mmular, Ma·mmulose** *adjs.*, consisting of or having mammulæ.

1826 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* III. xxix. 155 The grub of a beetle..whose body is margined on each side by eight triangular fleshy mammular processes. 1889 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Mammulose*.

Mammy (mæ·mi). Also 7–9 -ie. [dim. of Mam ¹: see -y.]

1. A child's word for mother.

1523 Skelton *Garl. Laurel* 974 Your mammy and your dady Brought forth a godely babi! 1560 *Nice Wanton* 452 (Manly), All this our Mammy would take in good worth. 1562 Phaer *Æneid* VIII. Z iij b, Their mammies teats they lap with hungry lipps. 1611 Florio, *Mamma*,..a breast. Also Mam, Mother-mine, or Mammie. 1719 D'Urfey *Pills* V. 18 She'll be a Mammy before it is long. 1773 Mme. D'Arblay *Let. to Crisp* in *Early Diary*, I..proceed to be sorry and glad that you and your Mammy have been ill and are better. 1793 Burns *Bonny Jean* 5 And ay she wrought her mammie's wark, And ay she sang sae merrilie. 1842 S. Lover *Handy Andy* i, Andy grew up in mischief and the admiration of his mammy.

b. *Comb.*, as **mammy-sick** *a.* (*contemptuous*), distressed at being separated from (one's) mother.

1836–48 B. D. Walsh *Aristoph., Clouds* III. iii, The town Will pronounce you a mammy-sick coddle. 1885 J. C. Jeaffreson *Real Shelley* I. 51 A shy..mammy-sick lad.

2. In the southern United States, esp. before the abolition of slavery: A coloured woman having the care of white children.

1859 Bartlett *Dict. Amer.*, *Mammy*, the term of endearment used by white children to their negro nurses and to old family servants. 1887 T. N. Page *Ole Virginia* (1893) 164 The old mammies and uncles who were our companions and comrades. 1901 R. D. Evans *Sailor's Log* I. 3 Like most Southern children, I was brought up and cared for by a 'black mammy'.

Mamo (mā·mo). [Hawaiian.] The sickle-billed Sunbird, *Drepanis pacifica*, a native of the Sandwich Islands, having rich yellow feathers.

1891 S. B. Wilson & A. H. Evans *Birds Sandwich Isl.* II, *Drepanis pacifica*. Mamo...This wreath..is made entirely of Mamo feathers. 1893 Newton *Dict. Birds* 225 The Mamo (*Drepanis*), whose beautiful feathers..have led to its extirpation.

Mamony, variant of Malmeny *Obs.*

Mamooda, -dee, -do, variants of Mahmudi *Obs.*

Mamoring, variant of Mammering *vbl. sb.*

Mamoutrie, variant of Maumetry *Obs.*

‖ **Mampalon** (mæ·mpălɒn). [? Native name. Mr. W. W. Skeat rejects the suggested connexion with Malay *tikus ambang-bulan*, the name of a Malaccan viverra (Raffles in *Linn. Soc. Trans.* XIII. 273).]

A small viverrine mammal, *Cynogale bennetti*, of semi-aquatic habits, native of Borneo.

1843 J. E. Gray *List Specim. Mammalia Brit. Mus.* 53 The Mampalon, *Cynogale Bennettii* Gray. 1885 *Riverside Nat. Hist.* (1888) V. 440 The Mampalon..has webbed feet, a very short, cylindrical tail [etc.].

Mamsell (mæmze·l). *colloq.* [a. F. *mam'selle*, contraction of Mademoiselle.] = Mademoiselle 3.

1842 Thackeray *Fitz-Boodle Papers* Pref., I shall take care, Mamsell, that you return to Switzerland.

Mamudee, variant of Mahmudi.

Mamuluke, obs. form of Mameluke.

Mamunt, obs. variant of Moment.

† **Mamu·que.** *Obs.* [a. F. *mamuque* (Du Bartas), ad. Sp. *mamuco* (Lopez de Gomara 1552–3), the source of which is the corrupt form *Mamuco Diata* occurring in the Cologne edition

(Jan. 1523–4) of Max. Transylvanus *De Moluccis*, where the Rome edition of Nov. 1523 has the more correct *Manuccodiata*: see MANUCODIATA.] A fabulous bird, the description of which is founded on erroneous accounts of the Bird of Paradise.

1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. v. 803 But note we now, towards the rich Moluques, Those passing strange and wondrous (birds) Mamuques... Food-less they live; for th' Aire alonely feeds them: Wing-less they fly. 1606 *Ibid.* II. iv. II. *Magnificence* 288 To th' ever-Bowrs her oft a-loft t'advance, The light Mamuques winglesse wings she has.

†**Mamzer.** *Obs.* [a. late L. *mamzēr*, a Heb. word (ממזר) adopted by the Vulgate in Deut. xxiii. 2 (where it appears with the gloss 'id est de scorto natus'), and hence frequently used in the Middle Ages.] A bastard.

1562 WINZET *Cert. Tractates* Wks. 1888 I. 43 Thair suld nocht be sa mony..scabbit Moabites, Amonites, and sclanderous Mamzeres..maid preistis. 1612 BP. HALL *Serm.* v. 60 Whatever become of these Mamzers, which do thus exclude themselves from the congregation of God [etc.]. 1865 KINGSLEY *Herew.* II. iv. 73 The only power that is, whom I see in England..is William the Mamzer.

Man (mæn), *sb.*[1] Forms: *Nom.* (*Acc.*) *Sing.* 1–4 mann, (1 monn, manna), 1–5, 8–9 *dial.* mon, 4–6 manne, *Sc.* mane, (5 moon), 1– man. *Nom.* (*Acc.*) *Plural.* 1–4 menn, 2 mæn(n, 3 mannes, mannen, 4–5 *Sc.* mene, (5 menne, 6 men), 1– men. *Genitive sing.* α. 1–5 mennes, 1–6 mannes, 4 monnis, -ys, mannus, manes, mones, 4–6 manis, mannys, 4–7 mannis, mans, 6– man's. β. uninflected (*north.*) 4–5 man, 5 mane. *Genitive plural.* α. 1–2 manna, monna, 2 monnan, 2–3 manne(n, monne(n. β. 3–6 mennes, 4 menes, -ys, 4–6 mennis, -ys, 6 menis, 4–8 mens, 8–9 men's. γ. 2 mennen, 4 mennene, menne. δ. uninflected (*north.*) 4 men. *Dative sing.* 1–3 men, (1 menne), 3–4 manne, monno. *Dative plural.* α. 1–2 mannum, monnum, 2 mannan, monnan, 2–3 manne(n, monne(n. β. 3 mennen, 3–4 menne. [Com. Teut.: OE. *man(n, mon(n* (pl. and dat. sing. *mɛn(n)*, also rarely *manna* wk. masc., corresponds to OFris. *man, mon*, OS. *man* (inflected *mann-*, pl. *man*), Du. *man* (pl. in MDu. *manne, man*, in mod.Du. *mannen*, rarely *mans*), OHG. *man* sing. and pl. (MHG. *mann* sing. and pl., mod.G. *mann*, pl. *männer*), ON. *maðr*, rarely *mann-r*, accus. *mann*, genitive *manns*, pl. *menn*, rarely *meðr, mæðr* (Sw. *man*, pl. *män*, Da. *mand*, pl. *mænd*), Goth. *manna*, accus. *mannans*, genit. *mans*, pl. *mans, mannans*.] The forms in the various Teut. langs. belong to two declensional stems, the OTeut. forms of which would be **mann-* and **mannon-*. (The ON. *man* str. neut., slave, may possibly be related, but the connexion is doubtful.) The OE. plural *mɛnn* is the regular descendant of OTeut. **manniz*, and the dative *mɛnn* of OTeut. **manni*, from the cons.-stem **mann-*.

It was formerly regarded as certain (on the ground of the supposed correspondence with Skr. *manu* man) that the *nn* of **mann-* was derived from an origional *nw*. The now prevailing view is that the second *n* represents the zero-grade of the suffix of a stem of which the Gothic form would be **manan-*. This hypothesis accounts for the otherwise obscure form *mana-* which the word assumes in Gothic compounds; if it be correct, the Teut. word and the Skr. *manu* cannot have any nearer relation than that of independent derivatives of a common root. They have been usually referred to the Indogermanic **men-, *mon-*, to think (see MIND *sb.*), so that the primary meaning of the sb. would refer to intelligence as the distinctive characteristic of human beings as contrasted with brutes. Many scholars, however, regard this as intrinsically unlikely to have been the original sense, though no plausible alternative explanation has been suggested.

In all the Teut. langs. the word had the twofold sense of 'human being' and 'adult male human being', though exc. in Eng. it has been mainly superseded in the former sense by a derivative (Ger., Du. *mensch*, Sw. *menniska*, Da. *menneske*: cf. MANNISH *sb.*).]

I. 1. A human being (irrespective of sex or age); = L. *homo*. In OE. the prevailing sense.

†**a.** In many OE. instances, and in a few of later date, used explicitly as a designation equally applicable to either sex. *Obs.*

In OE. the words distinctive of sex were *wer* and *wif*, *wæpman* and *wīfman*.

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 9 Heofonrices duru..belocen standeþ þurh þa ærestan men. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gram.* ix. (*Z.*) 36 *Hic et hæc homo*..æzðer is man ze wer ze wif. *c* 1000 — *Saints' Lives* viii. 185 [St. Agatha says:] Eala ðu min drihten þe me to menn zesceope. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 332 zif wife to swiþe offlowe sio monað zecynd, zenim niwe horses tord [etc.]..þ se mon swæte swiþe. *c* 1121 *O. E. Chron.* an. 639 (Laud MS.), Pæs dohter wæs zehaten Ercongota halifemne & wundorlic man. *c* 1325 *Metr. Hom.* 155 And yef thaie [the husband and wife] riht riche men ware. *Ibid.* 156 Wit tua men [Simeon and Anna], that bim comly grette. 1597 J. KING *On Jonas* (1618) 480 The Lord had but one paire of men in Paradise. 1752 HUME *Pol. Disc.* x. 159 There is in all men, both male and female, a desire and power of generation more active than is ever universally exerted. 1793 BURKE *Lett., to Comte de Mercy* (1844) IV. 144 Such a deplorable havoc is made in the minds of men (both sexes) in France,..that [etc.].

b. In the surviving use, the sense 'person' occurs only in general or indefinite applications (e.g. with adjs. like *every, any, no*, and often in the plural, esp. with *all, any, some, many, few*, etc.); in modern apprehension *man* as thus used primarily denotes the male sex, though by implication referring also to women.

The gradual development of the use of the unambiguous synonyms *body, person, one*, and (for the plural) *folkis, people*, has greatly narrowed the currency of *man* in this sense; it is now literary and proverbial rather than colloquial.

c 825 *Vesp. Hymns* i. 8 in *O. E. Texts* 401 Ic uteode ongeȝn fremðes cynnes men [*L. exivi obviam alienigenae*]. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xii. 19 Ne ȝeheres ænig mon [*c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* nan man] in worðum stefn his. *Ibid.* xvi. 13 Huelcne cueðas menn sie sunu mounes? *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Saints' Lives* x. 191 Hwæt eom ic manna þæt ic mihte god forbeodan? *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 3 ȝif oniman seid eawiht. *Ibid.* 39 We forȝeneð þan monne þe us to agulteð. *Ibid.* 127 He wes imacad to monne iliicnesse. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 139 He turnde ot of þe burh into wilderne and fro mennes wunienge to wilde deores. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 291/112 Ich habbe i-sonegut manne mest. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 108 Scho prais ai for sinful menn. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. Prol. 197 For many mannus malt we mys wolde destruye. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 2 That of the lasse or of the more Som man mai lyke of that I wryte. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. xiv. 46 Ac yf þe marchaunt make hus way ouere mænne corne. *c* 1450 *Merlin* 262 A companye of yonge Gentilmen that beth high mennes sones. *c* 1460 FORTESCUE *Abs. & Lim. Mon.* vii. (1885) 125 Off somme man is highnes shall haue more thanke ffor money then ffor lande. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilȝear* 46 Men callis me Rauf Coilȝear. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* I. (1586) 15 We must remember that seruantes be men. 1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* III. i. 59. 1632 SANDERSON *Serm.* 14 Measuring other mens actions and consciences. 1634 BP. HALL *Contempt., N. T.* IV. iii, I regard not the body; the soul is the man. 1764 REID *Inquiry* vi. § 7 Wks. I. 142/2 No man can be sure...that it has the same appearance to him as it has to another man. 1855 TENNYSON *Brook* 33 For men may come and men may go, But I go on for ever.

c. Used indefinitely without article.

Chiefly in negative contexts, also in proverbial collocations, as in the traditional inn sign 'Entertainment for man and beast'.

138a WYCLIF *John* vii. 46 Neuere man spak so, as this spekith. [Similarly in all later versions.] *c* 1450 *Mirour Saluacioun* 1363 Out of a hille a stone with out mans hande was kytte. 1523 CROMWELL *Sp.* in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) I. 31 Yf yt had bene possible by mannys industry. 1530 PALSGR. 710/1 He deserveth it as lytell as ever dyd man. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 41 Be ony slauchtir, or ony scheding of manis bludc. 1600 J. PORY tr. *Leo's Africa* 41 They haue shambles of mans-flesh as wee haue of beeues and muttons. 1754 RICHARDSON *Grandison* II. iv. 48, I never fear'd man, since I could write man. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* III. 118, I was courteous, every phrase well-oil'd, As man's could be.

Prov. The wind that blows from the east Is neither good for man nor beast.

d. Used predicatively without article in phr. *to be, become, be made man*: to have or assume human nature.

c 1357 *Lay Folks' Catech.* (T.) 26 Iesu crist..toke flesh and blode, and become man. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. v. 493 þi sone..hicam man of a mayde. 1413 *Pilgr. Sowle* II. xlii. (1859) 48 Thou man bycome thy selfe, for mannes nede. 1549 *Bk. Com. Prayer, Athan. Creed.* 1574 WHITGIFT *Serm. bef. Eliz.* (1714) 11 Whether the Pope be God or man or a meane betwixt both? 1605 SHAKS. *Lear* III. ii. 45 Since I was man, .. Such groanes of roaring Winde, and Raine, I neuer Remember to haue heard. 1649 J. ECCLESTON tr. *Behmen's Epist.* ii. § 57. 30 It was for the soules sake that God became man. 1898 A. G. MORTIMER *Cath. Faith & Practice* II. vii. 186 The theologians..have taught that our Lord as Man had three kinds of knowledge.

2. In abstract or generic sense, without article: The human creature regarded abstractly, and personified as an individual; human beings collectively; the human race or species; mankind. In *Zoology*: The human creature or race viewed as a genus (*Homo*: in the present classification consisting of only one species, *H. sapiens*) of animals.

In OE. a few examples occur with the definite article. The Eng. use of the word as a quasi-proper name, without article, differs from the practice of most of the modern European langs. (cf. F. *l'homme*, G. *der mensch*), and from the usage of Eng. itself with regard to other generic names of animals: cf. 'the anatomical structure of *man* and that of *the lion*'.

c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* viii. 5 Hwet is mon [*Thorpe* se mann] ðæt ȝemyndiȝ ðu sie his? *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Mark ii. 27 Reste-dæȝ wæs ȝeworht for þa men, næs se man for ðam reste-dæȝe. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 59 Hit wes for mon alle þinge he makede. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 753 For mannes sinne ðus it is went. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 552 Man es clepid þe lesse werld. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 376 þo principal poynt and ende of Cristis dyinge..was to save monnis soule. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xxi. 84 Kynde of man is freele. *c* 1450 tr. *De Imitatione* I. xix, For man purposiþ & god disposiþ. 1577 VAUTROUILLIER *Luther on Ep. Gal.* 2 Mans weakenes and miserie is so great, that [etc.]. 1619 PURCHAS *Microcosm.* viii. 90 This Centre is enuironed with a Circle, called *Iris*, of many colours in Man onely. 1732 POPE *Ess. Man* II. 2 The proper study of Mankind is Man. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) II. 132 Man is said to live without food for seven days. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) X. 507/2 In the *Systema Naturæ*, Man (*Homo*) is ranked as a distinct genus of the *Primates*. 1829 CARLYLE *Misc.* (1857) I. 269 Man is not only a working but a talking animal. 1845 R. CHAMBERS *Vestiges* (ed. 4) 234 The brain of Man. 1859 LOWELL *Villa Franca* 14 Men are weak, but Man is strong.

3. a. In *Biblical* and *Theol.* use, with *inner, inward, outer*, †*utter, outward*, used to denote the spiritual and material parts (respectively) of a human person; also with *old, new*, to denote the spiritual condition of those who are unregenerate and those who are regenerate. **b.** Hence *inner, outer, lower man* are joeularly used to denote parts of the physical frame of a person.

c 1000, etc. [see INNER *a.* 3]. 1382 WYCLIF 1 *Pet.* iii. 4 The hid man of herte [1535 COVERDALE yᵉ inwarde-man of yᵉ hert]. 1382, etc. [see OLD MAN 2]. 1587 GOLDING *De Mornay* xiv. 214 In the inward man there are (as ye would say) three men, the liuing, the sensitiue, and the reasonable. 1840 DICKENS *Barn. Rudge* xli, Gabriel's lower man was clothed in military gear. 1843 LE FEVRE *Life Trav. Phys.* I. i. v. 83 The outer was forgotten in the inner man.

II. 4. An adult male person. **a.** With special reference to sex.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Saints' Lives* ii. 78 He..sæde hyre ȝewislice hwæt heo man ne wæs. *c* 1200 ORMIN 2389 Ȝho wass hanndfesst an god mann þatt Josepp wass ȝehatenn. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 286 Ert tu so wrað wið mon oðer wið wummon þet [etc.]? *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* x. (*Mathou*) 347 Mariage..to cople man & vemene. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. xiv. 264 As a mayde for mannes loue her moder forsaketh. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 421 O mayde memene drede [CAXTON mennes, L. *O terror virgo virorum*]. 1508 DUNBAR *Tua Maryit Wemen* 42 Sen ȝe war menis wyffis. 1603 *Philotus* lxxxi, Ȝour douchter..Ane mannis claithis hes on hir rane. 1605 SHAKS. *Lear* II. iv. 281 Let not womens weapons, water drops, Staine my mans cheekes. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* III. 116 They speake..here the Hebrew tongue, man, woman and child. 1671 LADY M. BERTIE in *12th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 23 The Dutchesse .. was very fine in .. a short mans coat very richly laced. 1728–9 MRS. DELANY in *Life & Corr.* 191 Every man took the woman he liked best to dance country-dances. 1880 G. MEREDITH *Tragic Com.* (1881) 5 Men (the jury of householders empanelled to deliver verdicts upon the ways of women).

• *contextually* = 'man-child'. *Obs.*

1578 T. N. tr. *Conq. W. India* 155 Their Priests sacrificed ten children of three yeares of age,. fiue of these children were menne, and the other fiue wemen.

b. *generically* (without article: cf. 2). The male human being. Also *predicatively* (cf. 1 d).

1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* v. iv. 110 Were man But Constant, he were perfect. 1601 — *All's Well* I. i. 123 Man is enemie to virginitie. 1832 COLERIDGE in *Life Sir W. Hamilton* (1882) I. 543 Man's heart must be in his head. Woman's head must be in her heart. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* VII. 259 Woman is not undeveloped man, But diverse. 1859 — *Vivien* 630 Man! is he man at all, who knows and winks? 1897 MARY KINGSLEY *W. Africa* 318 As for the men, well of course they would marry any lady of any tribe, if she had a pretty face,..that's just man's way.

c. With special reference to adult age. Sometimes: A male who has attained his majority. *Man and boy* (advb. phr.): from boyhood upwards. †*To write man*: to be entitled by years to call oneself a man. †(*To grow up*, etc.) *to man*: to man's estate, to adult age.

a 1200 *Moral Ode* 117 Al þet ech Mon haueð idon soðden he com to monne. *c* 1200 ORMIN 8053 Whil þatt I wass litell child Icc held o childess þæwess, & son summ icc wass wexenn mann, þa flæh I childess cosstess. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 344 He began to clepe and calle, As he which come was to manne. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xix. 14 Thus will thay say, baith man and lad. 1530 PALSGR. 863/2 From mans state, *des aige parfaict*. 1545 ASCHAM *Toxoph.* (Arb.) 100 In shoting both man and boye is in one opinion, that [etc.]. 1600 J. LANE *Tom Tel-troth* (Shaks. Soc.) 43 When chast Adonis came to mans estate. 1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* II. iii. 208, I must tell thee sirrah, I write Man: to which title age cannot bring thee. 1602 — *Ham.* v. i. 177 (1604 Qo.), I haue been Sexten heere man and boy thirty yeeres. 1622 MABBE tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* I. 146 Albeit I did write man, yet I was but a young Lad to speake of. 1654 CROMWELL in *Whitelocke's Mem.* (1853) IV. 170 They thought it more noble to die by the hand of a man than of a stripling. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 453 'When all thy Mercies' vi, Thine Arm unseen convey'd me safe And led me up to Man. 1729 T. COOKE *Tales, Proposals*, etc. 18 Their Friendship early in their Youth began, Encreasing dayly as they rose to Man. 1754 [see 1 c]. 1798 SOUTHEY *Eng. Eclogues* i. Poet. Wks. 1838 III. 3 I've lived here, man and boy, In this same parish, well nigh the full age Of man. 1802 WORDSW. '*My heart leaps up*', The Child is father of the Man. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xxiv, An elderly gentleman in top-boots, who had been..a peace officer, man and boy, for half a century.

d. without express contrast. (*The man* is occasionally used for 'he', with a slight implication of depreciation, sympathy, or other feeling; similarly *the good man, the poor man*, etc. So also *colloq.* in expressions like 'the late man', 'the present man', etc., referring to the former or present holder of an office or position.)

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 31 Bluðeliche þe mon wile gan to scrifte and segge þe preoste þet he haueð ireaueð and istolen. *c* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 45 Priestes and munekes and þese hadede mannen. *c* 1290 *Beket* 302 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 115 Þe guode Man seint thomas. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 4828 (Cott.) We ar all a man [*v. rr.* an monnes, a manes, oon monnes] barn-teme. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* i. (*Petrus*) 114 To theophil sanct paule askyt þane, quhy þat he þat wrechit mane held swa in presone. *a* 1400 *Pistill of Susan* 227 He was borlich and bigge,..More miȝti mon þen we his Maistris to Make. 1449 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 147/2 A man horsed, and armed in bryganders. *a* 1674 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* xv. § 38 And there is no question the man [*sc.* Cromwell] was in great agony, and in his own mind he did heartily desire to be king. 1735 BOLINGBROKE *On Parties* Ded. 27 You may pass .. for a Man of extreme good Parts, and for a Minister of much Experience. 1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) I. 24 The man in gibbets who hung by the road. 1837 O. A.

Brownson in Ht. Martineau *Soc. Amer.* III. 347 With the discerning it has already become more honourable to call one simply a man than a gentleman. **1851** Thackeray *Eng. Hum.* vi. (1876) 357 [He] was hand and glove with some of the best men in town. **1871** Disraeli *Viv. Grey* II. xvi, If the forty country gentlemen who follow..our friend Sir Berdmore..were to declare their opposition to any particular tax, the present men would be beaten. [Not in ed. 1, 1826.] **1879** Meredith *Egoist* xiii. (1889) 116 Sir Willoughby was flattered and satisfied...A steady look of hers had of late perplexed the man, and he was comforted by [etc.]. *Mod.* The late earl was not much liked; the new man seems to be more popular.

e. Used in the vocative by way of introducing a remark, or parenthetically, now usually implying contempt or impatience; dialectally (in stressless forms *mun*, *min*) it is in common use as a meaningless expletive, being used in addressing both males and females. Also, *man alive!* (see Alive 2 b).

a **1400** *Pistill of Susan* 315 Mon, bi þe muche god, .. Vndur a Cyne..my seluen I hir se. **1530** Palsgr. 661/2 Plucke up thy herte, man, for Goddes sake. **1589** *Hay any Work* 1 Heere be non but frends man. **1591** Shars. *Two Gent.* II. iii. 44 Tut, man. **1705** Vanbrugh *Country-ho.* II, *Char.* [to *Mariane*] You see I can keep a secret—I am no girl, mun. **1772** *Gentl. Mag.* XLII. 191 'Twas quite to'ther thing, mun twas all complaisance. **1773** Goldsm. *Stoops to Conq.* v. Wks. (Globe) 672/2 *Tony.* Why, that's it, mon. **1826** Disraeli *Viv. Grey* IV. iv, Hah! what—what's all this! Here, read it, read it, man. **1890** Besant *Demoniac* vi. 69 Why, man, with such a vice as yours, you would love your life too well.

f. *Little man*: a jocular expression for a young male child. Similarly *young man* (see Young).

c **1380** Wyclif *Serm.* Sel. Wks. I. 399 Jesus toke a litil child...Crist toke þis litil man, and putte him in myddil of apostlis. **1468** *Paston Lett.* II. 319, I beseche yow that ye wolbe good mastras to my lytyll man, and to se that he go to scole. **1598** Shaks. *Merry W.* IV. i. 8 He but bring my yong-man here to Schoole. **1772** Johnson *Let. to Langton* 14 Mar. in *Boswell*, I congratulate you and Lady Rothes on your little man, and hope you will all be many years happy together. **1854** Thackeray *Newcomes* lxxx, Clive's black figure striding over the snow..the little man..perched on his father's shoulder.

g. *A man*: used quasi-pronominally = 'one' (ME. Man, Men, Me *indef. prons.*) or 'any one', but implying a reference to the male sex only. So †*a man's self, a man's own*: in 16–17th c. often = the modern 'oneself', 'one's own'.

c **1478** *Caxton's Bk. Curtesye* 283 Who that vsith a mannes tale to breke Letteth vncurteysly alle the audyence. *c* **1485** *Digby Myst.* I. 465 Her, virgynes, as many as a man wyll, shall holde tapers in ther handes. **1597** Bacon *Ess., Honour & Reput.* (Arb.) 70 Enuie..is best extinguished by declaring a mans selfe in his ends, rather to seeke merite then fame. **1610** Shaks. *Temp.* II. ii. 41 Misery acquaints a man with strange bed-fellowes. **1625** Bacon *Ess., Praise* (Arb.) 357 To Praise a Mans selfe, cannot be Decent..: But to Praise a Mans Office or Profession, he may doe it with Good Grace. **1637** Heylin *Answ. Burton* 53 A man would think that you had said enough against your soueraigne. **1705** Addison *Italy* 14 A Man would expect..to find some considerable Antiquities. **1842** Tennyson *You ask me, why, tho ill at ease* 8 The land, where..A man may speak the thing he will.

h. In the following phr. with the sense 'individual (male) person': *man by man, between man and man, man for man, man to man, per man, as one man* (app. orig. a Hebraism = unanimously, with one accord, †altogether), *to a man* (= without exception: see To *prep.*).

1382 Wyclif *1 Esdr.* ii. 64 Al the multitude as o man [Vulg. *quasi unus*, **1535** Coverdale as one man, *later versions* together, Heb. כאחד] two and fourti thousend thre hundrid and sixti. *Ibid.* iii. 2 Thanne is gedered the puple as oon [**1388** as o man, Vulg. *quasi vir unus*, **1535** Coverdale and **1611** as one man, Heb. כאיש אחד] in to Jerusalem. **1517** Torkington *Pilgr.* (1884) 23 Ther Screvener..wrytyng ower namys man by man. **1535** Coverdale *Judg.* xx. 8 So all the people gat them vp as one man. **1577** *F. de L'isle's Leg.* Ciij, The lord of Rochefort..was on a time chalenged man to man..by Francis Duke of Guise. **1611** Bible *Josh.* vii. 14 The housholdes which the Lord shall take, shal come man by man. **1615** Bedwell *Arab. Trudg., Talby*, These ..are authorized to draw writings betweene man and man. **1677** Hubbard *Narrative* I. (1865) 161 [He] said they would fight it out to the last Man. **1708** *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4482/2 That the Prisoners taken on either side be exchanged Man for Man. **1712** Steele *Spect.* No. 444 ¶ 1 The ordinary Quack-Doctors .. are to a Man Impostors. **1809** Malkin *Gil Blas* x. x. ¶ 39 The balance of justice, between man and man. **1827** Southey *Hist. Penins. War* II. 48 With no farther ammunition than ten rounds per man more. **1846** Tennyson *Golden Year* 35 And light shall spread, and man be liker man. **1892** R. Kipling *Barrack-r. Ballads* 11 Man for man the Fuzzy knocked us 'oller.

i. *As a man*: (considered) in respect of his personal character, as distinguished e.g. from his achievements, abilities or learning, rank or wealth, etc. Similarly *The man*: what one is merely 'as a man'; the person in his human (as distinguished from his professional, etc.) capacity or character.

1674 Wycherley *Plain-dealer* I. i, I weigh the man, not his Title. **1706** E. Ward *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 45 There's as great a Difference betwixt the Man and the Priest, as betwixt the Duchess upon the Stage, and her behind the Scenes. **1709** Pope *Ess. Crit.* 523 Nor in the Critic let the Man be lost. **1742** Young *Nt. Th.* VIII. 242 A Father's Heart Is tender, tho' the Man's is made of Stone. **1771** Mackenzie *Man Feel.* xxxv. (1803) 73, I cannot throw off the man so much, as to rejoice at our conquests in India. **1812** *Antigallican Monitor* 17 May 558/3 The high estimation they entertained of the merits of that illustrious person, both as a Minister and a man. **1856** Emerson *Eng. Traits* x, The incessant repetition of the same hand-work dwarfs the man, robs him of his strength, wit, and versatility, to make a pin-polisher, a buckle-maker, or any other specialty. **1879** B. Taylor *Stud. Germ. Lit.* 174 We feel that the man must have been greater than his works.

j. *The (very) man* (ellipt. in predicative use): the man intended by some previous allusion; the man most suitable *for* some office, work, or need; the kind of man qualified or likely *to do* something. †Also *jocularly* said of a thing (*obs.*). *The man for me* (colloq. *for my money*: see Money): the man whom I should choose to employ or support; often as an emphatic expression of approval.

1535 Coverdale *2 Sam.* xii. 7 Thou art euen the man. **1573** Tusser *Husb.* (1878) 28 When Easter comes, who knowes not than, that Veale and Bakon is the man? **1588** Shaks. *L. L. L.* IV. ii. 127 Ouiddius Naso was the man. **1599** — *Much Ado* II. i. 123 You could neuer doe him so ill well, vnlesse you were the very man. **1678** Lady Chaworth in *12th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 49 The House met to-day and are violent upon chussing a new Speaker and Sir Sawyer is lyke to be the man. **1849** Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* x. II. 549 Lauzun was in every respect the man for the present emergency.

k. With possessive, *my, your*, etc. *man*: the person who can fulfil one's requirements, or with whom one has to do.

1611 Bible *1 Kings* xx. 20 And they slew euery one his man [*Heb.* 'a man his man']. **1679** Dryden *Troil. & Cress.* II. iii, If Hector be to fight with any Greek, He knows his man. **1787** 'G. Gambado' *Acad. Horsemen* (1809) 34 A horse has various methods of getting rid of his man. **1811** Byron *Hints fr. Hor.* 53 For gallygaskins Slowshears is your man; But coats must claim another artisan. **1821** — *Juan* IV. xlix, His man was floor'd, and helpless at his foot. **1830** *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* (1831) 165/1 He..did not fire for some seconds, until he had fairly covered his man. **1833** Marryat *P. Simple* x, Our sailors had every one seized his man. *a* **1845** Hood *Agric. Distress* vi, 'Nine pund' says he, 'and I'm your man'. **1855** Kingsley *Westw. Ho!* I, And who don't agree, let him choose his weapons, and I'm his man. **1864** Lemon *Loved at last* II. 228 Mr. Rasper entered the room...Cecil knew his man,—he merely bowed to him.

l. *To be one's own man*: (*a*) to have command or control of oneself; to be in full possession of one's senses, faculties, or powers.

1556 in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* (1721) III. II. App. lviii. 197 When you were lunatike and not your owne man. **1562** *Child-Marr.* 79 This respondent..fell into such sorowe that he was not his owne man. *a* **1635** Naunton *Fragm. Reg.* (Arb.) 14 The king ever called her his sweetest and dearest Sister, and was scarce his own man, She being absent. **1748** Richardson *Clarissa* (1768) IV. 362 Faith, Jack, thou hadst half undone me with thy nonsense...But I think I am my own man again. **1859** Thackeray *Virgin.* xxxvi, I ate a bit at six o'clock, and drunk a deal of small beer, and I am almost my own man again now. **1902** *Daily Graphic* 27 Oct. 3/1 To many hundreds of thousands..the Royal progress on Saturday will be as a sign..that the King is indeed his own man again.

(*b*) To be at one's own disposal, to be one's own master.

1608 Willet *Hexapla Exod.* 461 So might the seruant be sold..being not his owne man, but to be disposed of at the will of his master. *a* **1610** Healey *Cebes* (1636) 138 Yet brought he al their fury under and now is become his owne man. **1773** Golosm. *Stoops to Conq.* v. iii, So Constance Neville may marry whom she pleases, and Tony Lumpkin is his own man again. **1839** Lockhart *Scott* (1869) II. xiv. 263 After breakfast, a couple of hours more were given to his solitary tasks, and by noon he [Scott] was, as he used to say, 'his own man'. **1843** Borrow *Bible in Spain* xlii. (Pelh. Libr.) 287 Pardon me for not being quite frank towards you..but I dare not; I am not now my own man.

m. Prefixed to a name. *The man (so-and-so)*: the man previously known or mentioned as bearing the specified name (cf. F. *le nommé* in legal use); sometimes with contemptuous emphasis; so, still more emphatically, *that man (so-and-so)*. Also (*every, not a*) *man Jack* (written also *man-Jack, man jack, man-jack, manjack*): see Jack *sb.*1 2 c; and occas. (nonce-substitutions) *man John, man Jonathan* (in speaking of Americans).

1826 Scott *Woodst.* xvi, Know'st thou not .. that I have followed the man Cromwell as close as a dog follows his master. **1832** Mrs. F. Trollope *Dom. Manners Amer.* (ed. 4) II. 65 Every man Jonathan of them sets off again full gallop. **1844** Dickens *Chimes* ii. (1845) 64, I am very much indebted to you for your courtesy in the matter of the man William Fern. **1849** *Blackw. Mag.* 607 At length the men were all embarked—the sick, the wounded, every man John of them. **1864** Lemon *Loved at Last* III. 190 If that should be the man Kiddy, do not admit him.

n. With qualification denoting the nationality, birthplace, dwelling-place, or creed to which a man belongs or the person (etc.) in whose service he is.

c **950–** [see Englishman]. *c* **1250** *Kent. Serm.* in *O. E. Misc.* 26 Herodes..was michel anud and alle his men. *c* **1275** *Passion Our Lord* 286 *ibid.* 45 Son her after on oþer þer com gon And seyde siker þu ert myd him a galilewis mon. *a* **1300** *Cursor M.* 19385 Sua wex þe cristen mens tale, þat [etc.]. *a* **1400** *Pistill of Susan* 127 Whou kowe men of hir court comen til hir cri. *c* **1450** Holland *Howlat* 542 Reskewand it agane the hethin mennis harnes. **1530** Palsgr. 242/2 Man of Turkey, *Turc.* **1535** Coverdale *Judg.* viii. 15 The men of Sucoth. **1693** *Humours Town* 92 He was an Iniskilling-Man, and had eat half an hundred Irish Men for a Breakfast. **1701** De Foe *Freeborn Eng.* 152 He Canton'd out the Country to his Men. **1798** Landor *Gebir* II. 42 Ye men of Gades. **1878** Tennyson *Revenge* i, For my ships are out of gear, And half my men are sick.

o. Qualified by *university, Oxford, Cambridge*, etc., applied to one who is or has been a member of a (particular) university, public school, etc.

1573 G. Harvey *Lett.-Bk.* (Camd.) 54 He is a Pembrook Hal man, ergo a good schollar. **1580** Spenser & Harvey (*title*) Three proper, and wittie, familiar Letters passed between two Vniuersitie men. **1687** Aldworth in *Magd. Coll. & Jas. II* (O.H.S.) 42 Dr. Haddon was a Cambr. man. *c* **1720** Prior *Epil. to Phædra & Hippol.* 3 An Oxford man, extremely read in Greek. **1796** in Whibley *In Cap & Gown* (1889) 88 Ye Johnishe men, that have no other care, Save onelie [etc.]. **1853** C. Bede *Verdant Green* I. iii, The thought that he was going to be an Oxford man. **1866** *John Bull* 24 Mar. 202/1 All old Westminster men.. will regret to hear [etc.]. **1882** J. L. G. Mowat *Simon. Barthol.* (Anecd. Oxon.) 2 He gives the authority of Brian Twyne for stating that he was an Oxford man.

p. With prefixed noun (sometimes in the gen. case) *man* is used to denote (*a*) one who is connected with a certain place, building, profession, business, society, etc., as *assembly-man, Banbury man, barman, bondsman, clergyman, churchman, countryman, exciseman, harvestman, Inns of Court man, journeyman, linesman, Paul's man, postman, railway man, salesman, waterman*, etc.; (*b*) one who uses or is skilled in the use of an implement or the like, as *ax-man, brake-man, canoe-man, hammer-man, lathe-man, penman, swordsman*, etc.; (*c*) a trader in or manufacturer of an article, as *ale-man, coal-man, ice-man, lead-man, milk-man, oil-man, pork-man, rag-and-bone man, timber-man*, etc. These combs. are treated under the prefixed words, or in their alphabetical place as Main words. In those which have come to be apprehended as single words (whether written with or without a hyphen) the pronunciation is (-măn).

q. For *best man, handy man, reading man, sick man*, etc., see the adjs.; also Dead man, Freeman, New man, Old man, Red-man.

¶ **5.** Applied to beings other than human, e.g. God, the Devil, Death. *Obs.*

c **1510** *Lytell Geste Robyn Hode* ccxl, For god is holde a ryghtwys man. *c* **1550** *Lusty Juventus* (*c* 1560) C ij, He wyl say that God is a good man. **1588** *1st Pt. Jeronimo* II. iii, Your the last man I thought on, saue the diuell. **1592** Shaks. *Rom. & Jul.* III. iii. 42 (and Qo., 1599), Flies may do this, but I from this must flie: They are freemen, but I am banished. **1599** — *Much Ado* III. v. 40. **1625** B. Jonson *Staple of N.* I. Intelligencer, *Expectation.* But was the Diuell a proper man, Gossip? *Mirth.* As fine a gentleman, of his inches, as euer I saw trusted to the Stage. **17..** Pope, etc. *Mem. of P. P.* in *Swift's Wks.* (1751) V. 241 Do all we can, Death is a Man, That never spareth none.

† **b.** In certain plays printed in the 17th c., to escape the penalties against profane language on the stage, *man* was substituted in oaths for *God*.

1633 B. Jonson *Tale of Tub* II. i, For the passion of man, hold. *Ibid.*, Breath of man!

6. In a pregnant sense: An adult male eminently endowed with manly qualities. Also phr. *to play the man* (also † *men*).

14.. *Prov. Gd. Counsel* 76 in *Q. Elic. Acad.* (1869) 70 Grace and good maners makyþ A man. **1526** Tindale *1 Cor.* xvi. 13. **1530** Palsgr. 435/1 Have I nat acquit me lyke a man? **1548** Udall, etc. *Erasm. Par. Mark* i. 12–15 Thou haste here behaued thyselfe valiauntly, and played the manne a while. **1560** Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 86 b, That they should play the men. **1598** Marston *Sco. Villanie* vii, A man, a man, a kingdome for a man! **1721** R. Wodrow *Suff. Ch. Scot.* (1838) I. I. v. § 2. 394/1 The boys endured their punishment like men and Christians. **1734** Pope *Ess. Man* IV. 203 Worth makes the man, and want of it, the fellow. **1864** Trevelyan *Compet. Wallah* (1866) 299 How their sire played the man in the time of the great troubles. **1900** Morley *Cromwell* v. vii. 453 Of that pettish egotism which regards a step taken on advice as a humiliation, he [Cromwell] had not a trace; he was a man.

b. *Man of men*: a man of supreme excellence.

1594 Marlowe & Nashe *Dido* III. iii, That man of men. **1606** Shaks. *Ant. & Cl.* I. v. 72. **1623** Massinger *Bondman* I. iii, Corinth .. hath vouchsafed to lend vs Her man of men, Timoleon, to defend Our Country. **1671** Milton *P. R.* I. 122 This man of men, attested Son of God. **1821** Scott *Kenilw.* I. iii. 47 Wilt thou suffer this guest of guests, this man of men..to fall into the meshes of thy nephew? **1887** Browning *Parleyings, Chas. Avison* xvi, Pym, the man of men!

† **c.** Put for: Manliness, courage. *Obs.*

1602 Marston *Ant. & Mel.* I. Wks. 1856 I. 15 Heape up thy powers, double all thy man. **1605** Shaks. *Lear* II. iv. 42 Hauing more man then wit about me.

7. A person of position, importance, or note. In phr. *a man or a mouse*: either 'made' or ruined. Also, *to make* (a person) *a man*: to ensure his prosperity or success.

[With *a man or a mouse* cf. the Ger. *mann und maus.*]

1542 *Schole Ho. Women* 386 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* IV. 120 Fear not, she saith vnto her spouse, A man or a Mouse whether be ye. **1542** Udall *Erasm. Apoph.* 267 b, He was vtterly mynded to put al in hasard to make or marre, & to bee manne or mous. **1584** R. Scot *Discov. Witcher.* xv. xvii. (1886) 357 Applie it, and thou shalt be made a man for ever. *c* **1622** Fletcher *Love's Cure* II. ii, Your Father has committed you to my charge, and I will make a man, or a mouse on you. **1624** Sanderson *Serm.* I. 251 [To] set him upon his legs, and make him a man for ever. **1671** Tillotson *Serm.* (vol. I.) 227 What poor man could not cheerfully carry a great burthen of Gold..thereby to be made a man for ever. **1859** Levea *D. Dunn* xx. The game is made. Red, thirty-two. Now for it, Grog, man or a mouse,

my boy. Mouse it is! 1869 TENNYSON *North. Farmer, N. S.* ii, Dosn't thou knaw that a man mun be either a man or a mouse?

8. A husband. Now only *Sc.* and *dial.*, exc. in phr. *man and wife*. (Cf. GOODMAN 2 b.)

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 23335 If fader sagh his sun þare,..þe wijf hir man or man his wijf. 1382 WYCLIF *Gen.* iii. 16 Thow shalt be vndre power of thi man [1388 hosebonde]. 1471 RIPLEY *Comp. Alch.* Ep. i. in Ashm. (1652) 116 Our Man, our Wife. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S. T. S.) 188 God send euerie Priest ane wyfe, And euerie Nunne ane man. 1633 FORD *'Tis Pity* iv. i, Be not amaz'd; nor blush, young lovely bride, I come not to defraud you of your man. 1724 RAMSAY *'This is no my ain House'* iii, To make me still a prudent spouse And let my man command ay. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* i. xii, In less than a month the captain and his lady were man and wife. 1821 CLARE *Vill. Minstr.* II. 21 The wary wife.. Sits up in bed to strike her man a light. 1842 TENNYSON *Dora* 4 He..often thought 'I'll make them man and wife'. 1889 BARRIE *Window in Thrums* 108 Nor would Nancey take it kindly if I called her man names.

b. A lover, suitor. ? *dial.*

1874 T. HARDY *Far fr. Mad. Crowd* xxxi, Go and marry your man—go on! 1898 BESANT *Orange Girl* II. xiv, You've put my man in prison—the properest man in St. Giles's.

9. A LIEGEMAN or vassal. Now *Hist.* †In ME. poetry often used *fig.*, e.g. of a lover.

c 1122 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1072 (Laud MS.) Se cyng Melcolm..griðede wið þone cyng Willelm..& his man wæs. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 33 Gif þu me dest woh and wit beon anes lauerdes men. *c* 1205 LAY. 4300 þer fore his mon he bicom & hærdsumnesse him solde don. *a* 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* 93 To the [seinte Marie] y crie ant calle, thou here me for thi man. 1423 JAS. I *Kingis Q.* lxiii, Quhen sall 3owr merci rew vpon 3owr man, Quhois seruice is 3it vncouth vnto 3ow? *c* 1465 *Eng. Chron.* (Camden 1850) 44 The Erl Douglas of Scotland cam in to Englond, & was swore to the king for to be his trew manne. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* xlv. 150 To become my man, and to do me homage. 1609 SKENE *Reg. Maj.* 42 b, Homage suld be made in this maner, that is, the maker therof, sall become his over-lords man [etc.]. *c* 1670 HOBBES *Dial. Com. Laws* (1840) 93 The Tenant shall hold his Hands together between the Hands of his Landlord, and shall say thus; I become your Man from this day forth. 1871 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1876) IV. xviii. 129 By taking service in William's army he had become the man of the Duke of the Normans.

10. a. A manservant; a valet.

Man Friday: a servile follower or attendant; a factotum or servant of all work. (The allusion is to Robinson Crusoe's servant, whom he usually refers to as 'my man Friday'.)

13.. *Guy Warw.* (A.) 393 Þou þat art a garsoun, & art mi man, & man schalt be. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XIII. 40 Ac þis maister ne his man no manere flesshe eten. 1381 *Rolls of Parlt.* III. 113/1 Johannes Pope, Taverners-man. 1463 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 16 To Raffe Otle sumtyme my man a blak gownne. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* E vj b, The mayster to his man makyth his Roys. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xv. 19 To serve and leif in beggartie To man and maistir is baith schame. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* III. 151 A Gentleman and his Man shall spend as much, as if he were accompanied with another Gentleman and his Man. 1638 T. RANDOLPH *Amyntes* Dram.-Pers., Jocastus, a fantastic shepherd and a fairy knight, Bromius, his man, a blunt clown. 1639 J. ENDECOTT in *Massachusetts Hist. Coll.* Ser. IV. (1863) VI. 136 One Samuel Eale, a man of Mr. Nathan Rogers, which Nele hath caryed with him. 1728 SWIFT *My Lady's Lament.* 174 Find out..who's master, who's man. 1791 CHARLOTTE SMITH *Celestina* IV. 117 There was no possibility of his man giving Willoughby notice. 1870 RAMSAY *Remin.* vi. (ed. 18) 209 Another functionary of a country parish is usually called the minister's man. 1885 G. ALLEN *Babylon* xix, Awkward, when people mistake your man for your nephew. 1887 *Athenæum* 16 Apr. 504/3 Count von Rechberg,..was Prince Bismarck's man Friday.

b. *Man-of-all-work*: jocular formation after *maid-of-all-work* (see MAID *sb.* 4 b).

1830 MISS MITFORD *Village* Ser. IV. 278 Mrs. Villars's man-of-all-work, Joseph. 1836 F. MAHONEY *Rel. Father Prout* (1859) 73 A genius infinitely superior even to the man-of-all-work at Ravensworth Castle, the never-to-be-forgotten Caleb Balderstone. 1896 FURNIVALL *Eng. Cong. Irel.* p. vii, But illness prevented him; and so I (as the Society's man-of-all-work) had to take the book up.

c. In wider sense, as the correlative of *master*. In recent use commonly applied (chiefly in *pl.*) to workmen in contradistinction to their employers.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xii. (*Mathias*) 127 Iudas þane be-come his mane, & mad his dwelling with hym þane. [1486, 1500–20, 1728: see a.] 1860 *Nat. Assoc. Soc. Sci., Rep. Comm. Trades' Soc.* 109 The masters had locked out the men.. from seventeen factories. 1872 BRASSEY *Work & Wages* i. 6 The masters had found it necessary..to reduce the rate of wages; but the men..refused to accept the reduction.

11. Applied (chiefly in *pl.*) to the members of a fighting force; now *esp.* to the common soldiers as distinguished from the officers.

c 1205 LAY. 636 Þe king of his monnen monie þusend læs. *c* 1450 *Merlin* 244 Ther were..moo than a thousande me[n] slayn. 1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* xviii. 29 In the I can discomfit an hoost of men. 1536 WRIOTHESLEY *Chron.* (Camden) I. 57 The King sent the duke of Norfolke, with an armie of menn. 1622 DONNE *Serm.* 15 Sept. 11 Should God haue stayd to leuie and arme..men enow to discomfit Sennacherib? 1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 111 Foure thousand men would have made a shrewd adventure to have taken his Indies from him. 1878 TENNYSON *Revenge* 10 I've ninety men and more that are lying sick ashore. 1880 WHEELER *Short Hist. India* 604 The English had lost more than 2,400 officers and men.

12. In university and public-school language, an undergraduate or student (as contrasted with a graduate or a don). Cf. 4 p.

1803 *Gradus ad Cantabr.* 89 At Cambridge, and, eke, at Oxford, every stripling is accounted a Man from the moment of his putting on the gown and cap. 1811 *Lex. Balatron., Man* (Cambridge), any undergraduate from fifteen to thirty. As a man of Emanuel—a young member of Emanuel. 1874 *Lays Mod. Oxford* 43 Every bulldog when he spies a Man without a gown, Promptly chases him and tries a-Main to run him down. 1897 BARRÈRE & LELAND *Dict. Slang* II. 103/1 [At Winchester Coll.] When a master wishes a 'man' to taste the sweets of a flogging he tells him to order his name to.

III. Transferred uses.

13. Applied to any image or portrait of a man, or to anything bearing a resemblance to a human figure. *Man of straw* (fig.): see STRAW *sb.*

1636 T. RANDALL in *Ann. Dubrencia* (1877) 17 They looke like yonder man of wood, that stands To bound the limits of the Parish lands.

14. With qualification used for: A ship. See also MAN-OF-WAR, INDIAMAN, MERCHANTMAN, etc.

1473 J. PASTON in *P. Lett.* III. 81 A few Frenchmen be whyrlyng on the coasts, so that there no fishers go out. 1558 W. TOWRSON in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1589) 125 The Christopher being the headmost & the weathermost man, went roome with the Admirall. 1665 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3/4 They chased a Barbadoes and a Jamaica man into Limrick. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Tant,..* Mast of a Ship or Man. 1709 [see EAST INDIA]. 1712–1844 [see INDIAMAN]. 1778 H. WALPOLE *Last Jrnls.* (1859) II. 284 The Brest fleet was sailed, twenty-eight men-of-the-line. 1788 J. MAY *Jrnl. & Lett.* (1873) 33 In order to put them on board the Kentucky-man.

15. One of the pieces used in chess, draughts, and backgammon. (Cf. CHESSMEN and MEINIE.)

1562 ROWBOTHAM *Pleas. & Wittie Play of Chests* A ij, As if thei had the cheste-bourde and men in their handes. 1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 110 Eche other caste thou bearest a man to many. 1611 COTGR., *Dame*, ..a man at Tables, or Draughts. 1668 DRYDEN *Ess. Dram. Poesy* (1889) 77 Like a skilful chess-player by little and little he draws out his men. 1735 BERTIN *Chess* vi, Never croud your game by too many men in one place. 1806–7 J. BERESFORD *Miseries Hum. Life* VI. XXXI, On asking for a back-gammon-board seeing one brought in in ruins, the men half lost and the dice quite. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* II. iv, The huffing of Miss Bella, and the loss of three of her men at a swoop.

16. In Cumberland, Westmorland, and Lonsdale, a cairn or pile of stones marking a summit or prominent point of a mountain; cf. *Low Man, High Man* as local names for particular cairns, also applied to portions of the mountains themselves.

1800 WORDSW. *Rural Archit.* 6 And there they built up, without mortar or lime, A Man on the peak of the Crag. 1871 L. STEPHEN *Playgr. Eur.* (1894) vii. 166 A stone man or cairn. 1897 O. G. JONES *Rock-climbing* 68 They reached the Low Man, as the nearly horizontal crest of the first huge buttress is called. *Ibid.* 243 Then to the right comes the actual Pillar Rock, the 'High Man'. *Ibid.*, The Low Man, the immense buttress that from below hides the true summit altogether.

17. The obverse of a coin used in tossing.

[Originally, the side of a penny which has the king's head, the 'woman' being the side with the figure of Britannia.]

1828 'BEE' *Living Pict. London* 241 The person calling for 'man' or 'woman'. 1858 *Household Words* 4 Dec. 1/2 Up goes the dollar..'Heads or tails? Man or woman?'

IV. Phrases and combinations.

18. *Man* enters into an almost unlimited number of phraseological collocations in which it is connected by a preposition with another sb. denoting quality, character, occupation, or profession; e.g. †*m. of afterwits*, *m. of antipathies*, *m. of chaff*, *m. of character*, †*m. of charge*, *m. of dignity*, *m. of feeling*, *m. of glee*, *m. of healing*, *m. of honour*, *m. of nothing to do*, *m. of office*, *m. of peace*, *m. of practice*, *m. of preferment*, *m. of property*, *m. of rank*, *m. of sense*, *m. of talent*, *m. of theory*, *m. of title*, *m. of weight*, *m. of wisdom*, *m. of years*; also †**man with the beard**, a drinking mug on which a bearded man was represented; **man of Belial**, a worthless or wicked man (cf. 1 Samuel xxv. 25); †**man in black**, a clergyman; **man of blood** (a Hebraism), one who is laden with bloodguiltiness; **man in blue**, a policeman (Farmer *Slang* 1896); †**man of cabinets**, an antiquarian; **man-in-the-cars**, the U. S. equivalent of 'man-in-the-street'; †**man of the church**, an ecclesiastic = CHURCHMAN 1; †**man of the long coat** = *gentleman of the* LONG ROBE; †**man of death** (a Hebraism), one worthy to be put to death; **man of the earth** *U.S.*, the wild potato vine, *Ipomæa pandurata*; **man of God** (OE. and early ME. **godes man(n**, a Hebraism), a man devoted to the service of God, (*a*) a saint, (*b*) an ecclesiastic; **man of Kent** (see quot. 1787, and cf. KENTISH *a.*); †**man in the oak**, a spirit supposed to inhabit an oak; †**man of Rome**, the Pope. For *man of business*, *m. of clouts*, *m. of colour*, *m. of fashion*, *m. of figure*, *m. of (his) hands*, *m. of the house*, *m. of letters*, *m. of mark*, *m. of means*, *m. of motley*, *m. of numbers*, *m. of quality*, *m. of religion*, *m. of service*, *m. of sin*, *m. of sorrows*, *m. in the street*, *m. about town*, *m. of the town*, *m. of wax*, *m. of the wood(s*, *m. of one's word*, *m. of few* or *many words*, *m. of worship*, see these sbs. Also *lady's* or *ladies' man* (see LADY *sb.* 17); †*world's man* (see WORLD); MAN-OF-LAW, MAN OF THE WORLD, etc.

1652–62 HEYLIN *Cosmogr.* III. (1677) 13/1 The People of this Country were..said to be also the Inventors of Augury ..And yet for the most part *men of after-wits. 1837 *Hist.* in *Ann. Reg.* (1838) 412/1 William the 4th was not a *man of antipathies. 1614 B. JONSON *Barth. Fair* IV. iii, He has wrashled so long with the bottle here, that the *man with the beard hash almosht streek up his heelsh. 1692 *Gentl. Jrnl.* May 5 The *Man in black makes but one of two in less than half an Hour. 1382 WYCLIF 2 *Sam.* xvi. 7 Go out, go out, thou *man of bloodis [1611 bloody man, *marg.* Hebr. man of blood]. 1605 SHAKS. *Macb.* III. iv. 126 The secret'st man of Blood. 1648 [see BLOOD *sb.* 3]. 1698 M. LISTER *Journ. Paris* (1699) 58 The Vulgar Name, by which those *Men of Cabinets distinguish them is..*Des Lampes.* 1888 BRYCE *Amer. Commw.* III. iv. lxxvi. 7 That representative of public opinion whom Americans call 'the *man in the cars'. 1799 WORDSW. *Poet's Epit.* 14 Or art thou one of gallant pride, A Soldier and no *man of chaff? 1746 *Rep. Cond. Sir J. Cope* 115 General Keith..is a '*Man of Character'. 1590 SIR J. SMYTH *Disc. Weapons* Ded. 9 All great Captaines, Chieftaines, and *men of charge. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. clxii. 199 *Men of the Churche that cometh and goeth for treaty of peace. 1530 PALSGR. 318/1 Man of the churche, *ecclesiastique*. 1579 FENTON *Guicciard.* I. (1599) 45 Certaine *men of the long coate (so are called in Fraunce Lawyers, Doctors, and men of Iustice). 1535 COVERDALE 1 *Kings* ii. 26 Thou art a *man of deeth. 1642 *Ass. of a King* in *Bacon's Wks.* (1838) VI. 596 Not to suffer a man of death to live. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 27170 *Man of office or dignite,.. werlds man, or clerc, or closterer. 1846–50 A. WOOD *Class-bk. Bot.* 442 Wild Potato. *Man-of-the-Earth. 1771 H. MACKENZIE (*title*) The *Man of Feeling. 1799 WORDSW. *Fountain* 20 The dear old Man,..The grey-haired *man of glee. *a* 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* IV. XXV[i]. (1890) 352 Þa ȝeswearc se *Godes mon semninga. *c* 1200 *Moral Ode* 266 in *Trin. Coll. Hom.*, He nolde ihere godes men þan he sat at his biede. 1382 WYCLIF 2 *Tim.* iii. 17 [16] That the man of God be perfyt, ierud to al good werk. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 3588 Spak to þaim þe goddis man. 1658 SIR T. BROWNE *Hydriot.* v. (1896) 180 The man of God lives longer without a tomb, than any by one. 1748 THOMSON *Cast. Indol.* I. lxix, A little, round, fat, oily man of God. 1814 CARY *Dante, Paradise* XIII. 30 The wondrous life Of the meek man of God [St. Francis]. 1847 JAMES *Convict* II. 195 As soon as the *man of healing was gone,..he sprang up in his bed, hurried on his clothes [etc.]. 1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* (1592) 193 *Men of honours letters, or some such like stuffe. 1641 S. D'EWES in *Lett. Lit. Men* (Camden) 169 Like a brave gentleman and man of honour. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 99 ¶ 10 If every one that fought a Duel were to stand in the Pillory, it would quickly lessen the Number of these imaginary Men of Honour. 1787 GROSE *Prov. Gloss.* s. v. *Kent*, All the inhabitants of Kent east of the river, Medway, are called *Men of Kent,..the rest of the inhabitants of the county are stiled Kentish-men. 1861 C. BEDE *New Rector* x. 104 The 'Men of Kent', you know, were never conquered! 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* II. x, Like a *man of nothing to do. 1584 R. SCOT *Discov. Witches.* VII. xv. (1886) 122 Robin Goodfellow, the spoome, the mare, the *man in the oke. 1604 MIDDLETON *Witch* I. ii, Dwarfes, Imps, the Spoone, the Mare, the Man i'th'oake; the Hell-waine, the Fire-drake, the Puckle. 1611 BIBLE *Ps.* CXX. 7, I am for peace [*marg.* Or, a *man of peace]. 1843 CARLYLE *Past & Pr.* III. v, This..almost stupid *Man of Practice, pitted against some light adroit Man of Theory. 1698 *Money Masters all Things*, etc. 131 The ugly and crippled were the only *Men of Preferment. 1861 M. PATTISON *Ess.* (1889) I. 45 When no *man of rank or property was safe. 1581 J. WALKER in *Confer.* IV. (1584) Z iij b, He..hath..fled to the *man of Rome. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 153 ¶ 4 It is thus in the life of a *Man of Sense, a short Life is sufficient to manifest himself a Man of Honour and Virtue. 1843 MOZLEY *Ess.* (1878) I. 156 The acuteness, point, and clearness which his controversial writings show, give him..an undoubted rank as a *man of talent. 1632 MASSINGER *City Madam* I. ii, A sin your *man of title Is seldom guiltie of. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xii. III. 153 If any *man of weight..would..explain the state of things. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* V. 775 The *Man of Wisdom is the *Man of Years.

19. Obvious combinations: **a.** simple attrib. and appositive, as *man-angel*, *-beast*, *-devil*, *-dinner*, *-dog*, *-excellence*, *-famine*, *-fiend*, *-fish*, *-flesh*, *-fly*, *-miracle*, *-monster*, *-nature*, *-plague*, *-power*, *-satyr*, *-service*.

a 1711 KEN *Hymnotheo* Poet. Wks. 1721 III. 315 A new extemporaneous Race Of those *Man-Angels peopled the whole place. 1633 FORD *Love's Sacr.* IV. i, Some strangely-shaped *man-beast. 1648 *Hunting of Fox* 38 That Man-beast, the Major of London. *c* 1600 *Timon* I. iv. (Shaks. Soc.) 16 His name is Philargurus, a *man-devill. 1832 MISS MITFORD *Village* Ser. V. 88 An odious *man-dinner at the Clarendon. 1884 *Chamb. Jrnl.* 10 May 304/2 The *Man-dog came from Russia, and was for a long time exhibited in Paris. 1887 G. MEREDITH *Ballads & P.* 19 The man-dog for his mistress thinks, Not less her faithful dog. 1711 SHAFTESB. *Charac.* (1737) II. 305 In such a tender frame, as is indeed wonderfully commodious to support that *man-excellence of thought and reason. 1876 T. HARDY *Ethelberta* (1890) 262, I..found a husband before the present *man-famine began. 1638 FORD *Lady's Trial* III. i, There is no valour in tugging with a *man-fiend. 1892 C. R. B. BARRETT *Essex Highways*, etc. 139 The catching..of a *man-fish, or sea-monster, in the reign of Henry II. 1812 *Sporting Mag.* XXXIX. 17 Crib having been known to be the best bit of *manflesh nature ever cast in her mould. 1833 FONBLANQUE *Eng. under Seven Administ.* (1837) II. 403 The injustice of depriving the planters of their property in man-flesh without compensation. 1832 MISS MITFORD *Village* Ser. V. 81 The sedan-chair—a much more dignified conveyance..than any of the race of flies, whether horse-fly or *man-fly. 1898 G. MEREDITH *Odes Fr. Hist.* 34 Sure of the blade that served the great *man-miracle [Napoleon]. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* III. ii. 14 My *man-Monster hath drown'd his tongue in sacke. 1784 COWPER *Task* VI. 499. 1895 *How to get Married* 107 Her knowledge of *man-nature. *a* 1649 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Poems* Wks. (1711) 37/1 Who have no law to their ambitions will, But (*man-plagues!) born are humane blood to spill. 1862 H. SPENCER *First Princ.* II. xiv. § 114 (1875) 325 When

horse-power and *man-power were alone employed. 1898 *Century Mag.* July 346 Jinrikisha,—those most fascinating man-power carriages. 1780 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 196/2 A large fierce animal which Mr. Atkins affirmed to be a centaur..it proved to be a *Man satyr. 1862 ANSTED *Channel Isl.* IV. xxiv. (ed. 2) 552 Every male between the ages of seventeen and sixty-five in Jersey,..is bound to render *man-service to the Crown.

b. appositive, passing into adj. = 'male', as *man cook*, MAN-CHILD, MANSERVANT; in comb. with a female designation, as *man nurse*, MAN-MIDWIFE; occas. with names of animals, as *man seal*. (Cf. 22 a.)

1530 PALSGR. 242/2 Man lover, *amant.* *Ibid.*, Man nourse, *nourricier.* 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* VII. 8 The manbarnes following of him sall be heyires. 1624 HEYWOOD *Captives* I. i, The man-makarel and marchant of madens fleshe. 1640 BROME *Antipodes* IV. iv, Enter women and man-scold. 1734 BERKELEY *Let. to Prior* 30 Apr. in Fraser *Life* VI. (1871) 227 A man-cook would be a great convenience to us. 1746 H. WALPOLE *Lett.* (1846) II. 147 The principal man-dancer. 1754-64 SMELLIE *Midwif.* I. Introd. 55 The lives of many women and children were saved by the skill of the man-practitioner. 1886 EMMA MARSHALL *Tower on Cliff* V. 68 If ever there was a man-witch, it's Sir Thomas Cooke. 1889 BARRIE *Window in Thrums* 99 Every man-body and woman-body on the farm. 1901 *Munsey's Mag.* (U.S.) XXV. 355/2 Frequently a man seal will swim out to a lady seal [etc.].

c. In phrasal comb. used attrib., as *one-man show, two-man rule*, etc.

1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV*, I. ii. 255 If I do, fillop me with a three-man-Beetle. 1883 [see ONE 33]. 1891 *Times* 6 Oct. 7/5 'One-man' photographic exhibitions. 1900 SIR W. HARCOURT in *Westm. Gaz.* 24 Aug. 6/1 Their forefathers had renounced one-man rule, and they were not likely to go back to two-man rule. 1902 *Daily Chron.* 16 July 9/1 A couple of four-man teams.

d. objective and objective gen., as *man-container, -destroyer*, † *-fisher, -maker, -marrer, -moulder, -murder(er, -planter, -pleaser, -stealer, -subduer, -thief, -trapper*; *man-abhorring, -baiting, -catching, -compelling, -degrading, -destroying, -devouring, -fearing, -maiming, -making, -mimicking, -pleasing, -selling, -stealing, -supporting* vbl. sbs. and ppl. adjs.; *man-idolatry*, †*-pleasance*, †*-stealth*; *man-worthy* adj. (hence *-worthiness*). (Cf. 22 b.)

1846 PROWETT *Prometh. Bound* 33 The bands Of *man-abhorring Amazons. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* IV. i. § 8 To see this *man-baiting, all people of all kindes flock'd together. 1876 T. HARUV *Ethelberta* (1890) 291 A harassing mistrust of her *man-compelling power. 1711 SHAFTESB. *Charac.* (1737) II. 373 This mansion-globe, this *man-container. 1788 COWPER *Negro's Compl.* 46 Our sufferings, since ye brought us To the *man-degrading mart. 1824 J. SYMMONS tr. *Æschylus' Agam.* 137 Nor turn thy wrath 'gainst Helen, that she was a *man-destroyer. 1743 BLAIR *Grave* 210 Th' oppressive, sturdy, *Man-destroying Villains. 1864 KINGSLEY *Rom. & Teut.* I. (1875) 14 A mighty *man-devouring ogre. 1881 BRIGGETT *Hist. Holy Eucharist Gt. Brit.* II. 297 Free from *man-fearing and man-pleasing. *c* 1305 *St. Andrew* 6 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 98 Come, he seide, after me: and ic wole 3ou make *Manfischers. 1647 H. MORE *Song of Soul* II. ii. III. iv, Nor forc'd conceit, nor *man-idolatry. 1809 *Sporting Mag.* XXXIII. 63 The royal and martial games of cock-fighting, bull-baiting, and *man-maiming. 1649 G. DANIEL *Trinarch., Rich. II*, cclxviii, In his want Pittied, perhaps by Maiestie, who now Was a *Man-Maker. 1901 G. MEREDITH *Reading of Life*, etc. 7 Maid-preserver, man-maker. *a* 1600 B. JONSON *Case is Altered* v. i, Gold, gold, *man-making gold. 1675 COTTON *Scoffer Scaft* 25 Some say that Man-making was no treason. 1684 OTWAY *Atheist* v. i, What, Manslaying! when all my thoughts were upon Manmaking. 1902 *Edin. Rev.* Jan. 30 All the man-making pastimes of Eton boys. *a* 1500 *Colkelbie Sow* 149 And a *man merrour, An evill wyffis mirrour. 1711 SHAFTESB. *Charac.* (1737) II. 203 How the dangerous *man-moulder won'd proceed; and what wou'd be the event of his tampering. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 17303 (Cott.) Ȝe *man mortherar[s] so crus. 1656 TRAPP *Comm. Gal.* i. 10 Dastardliness and *man-pleasance. 1564 *Brief Exam.* **** b, This is very sore judgement, to condemne all your brethren for *manpleasers. 1727 SWIFT *State Irel.* Wks. 1755 V. II. 169 A man-pleaser at the expence of all honour, conscience, and truth. 1669 BAXTER *Power Mag. & Ch. Past.* I. (1671) 16 No *man-pleasing, no worldly honour to invite them. 1860 GEN. P. THOMPSON *Audi Alt.* III. CXXXVII. 110 This is what you call your Crown; it can shake hands with *man-selling. 1582 N. T. (Rhem.) 1 *Tim.* I. 10 To *man-stealers, to liers, to periured persons. 1884 S. E. DAWSON *Handbk. Dom. Canada* 272 It was as as man-stealers that Europeans made their debut upon this continent. 1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* (1592) 395 The offence called Plagium, that is *man-stealing. 1769 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* IV. Index, Manstealing. 1638 MAYNE *Lucian* (1664) 382 Are you not affraid he should accuse you of *Man-stealth, and summon you before the Areopagus? 1899 R. WHITEING 5 *John St.* 272 Woman, as the *man-subduer. 1856 KANE *Arct. Expl.* I. XXVI. 343 It had a bad look, this *man-supporting August ice. *c* 890 *Laws of Ælfred* c. 9 § 2 Manigu witu maran ðonne oðru; nu sint ealle ȝelice butan *manþeofe, CXX scilf. 1863 DICEY *Federal St.* II. 254 This nation..has for two generations been the accomplice of man-thieves. 1815 *Zeluca* III. 167, I hope I shall not be marked out as a *man-trapper for my friend as well as myself. 18.. COLERIDGE (Webster), A better and more *manworthy order of things. 1841 EMERSON *Method of Nat.* Wks. 1875 II. 233 How all that is called talents and success in our noisy capitals, becomes buzz and din before this *man-worthiness.

e. instrumental, as *man-created, -devised, -enslaved, -girdled, -made, -named, -taught* ppl. adjs.

1849 SAXE *Times* 149 Mitres and thrones are *man-created things. 1547 *Life Abp. Canterb.* To Rdr. Fij b, This Church off Englande allowinge no *mandeuised order off regular ministerie. 1871 E. F. BURR *Ad Fidem* XI. 207 Man-devised religion. *a* 1873 LYTTON *Pausanias* (1876) 67 In the city one is the god-born, the other the *man-enslaved. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* V. 419 Almost our maids were better at their homes, Than thus *man-girdled here. *a* 1718 PENN *Life* Wks. 1726 I. 170 What I meant by Clergy, viz. A *Man-made and Mercenary Ministry. 1839 BAILEY *Festus* XXXIII. (1848) 356 Man-made gods. 1836 MRS. BROWNING *Poet's Vow* II. XV, Stars—revealed to man, And *man-named. 1884 J. TAIT *Mind in Matter* (1892) 304 The apostle Paul did not consider himself *man-taught.

f. parasynthetic, similative, originative, or predicative, as *man-bodied, -born, -breasted, -grown, -high, -minded, -shaped*, † *-turned* adjs.; *man-fashion* adv.

1880 S. LANIER *Sunrise* 19 Sweet burly-bark'd, *man-bodied Tree. 1839 BAILEY *Festus* XIX. (1852) 301 All theosophic lore Of *man-born, or angelic mind. 1859 TENNYSON *Guinevere* 244 And strong *man-breasted things stood from the sea. 1890 L. C. D'OYLE *Notches* 32 She..rode *man-fashion. [1587 GOLDING *De Mornay* XVII. 320 Not being a babe or a yoong childe, but being come to yeeres of discretion and a *mangrowne.] *c* 1640 J. SMYTH *Lives Berkeleys* (1883) I. 168 His owne sonnes now man-growne. 1883 *Blackw. Mag.* June 800 He was man-grown and in the Scottish service in France between 1420 and 1430. 1679 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* 164 Part of the Battlement being Breast high .. the other part *Man-high, to secure Men from the shot of their enemies. 1837 LONGF. *Frithiof's Homestead* 4 Man-high was waving the rye-field. 1842 TENNYSON *Talking Oak* 51 When his [*sc.* Hen. VIII's] *man-minded offset rose To chase the deer at five. 1855 A. DE VERE *Poems* 120 That love, or none, is fit for one *Man-shaped like thee. 1871 DUNCAN in *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* I. 6 The man-shaped, or anthropomorphous apes. 1615 CHAPMAN *Odyss.* I. 205 In a throne, he plac'd The *man-turnd Goddesse.

20. Special comb.: **man-ape**, an anthropoid ape; † **man-bane**, an opprobrious name for tobacco; **man-bound** *a.*, 'detained in port in consequence of being short of complement' (Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.* 1867); **man-broker** = CRIMP *sb.*[1] 2 (*ibid.*); **man-car** *U. S.*, a kind of car used for carrying miners up and down the steeply inclined shafts of mines on Lake Superior (*Cent. Dict.* 1890); † **man-case**, *nonce-wd.* for 'body'; † **man-catch** *v.*, to trap (men); **man-catcher**, (*a*) one who catches or traps men; (*b*) an instrument used in New Guinea for catching men (see quot. 1898); so **man-catching** *vbl. sb.*; **man-crab** (see quot.); **man-dealer**, a slave-dealer; † **man-dream** [DREAM *sb.*[1]], human joy, loudmirth; **man-engine**, a kind of lift for lowering and raising miners in a shaft, consisting essentially of a reciprocating vertical rod with platforms at intervals; † **man-entered** *a.*, initiated into manhood; † **man-fish** *Her.* = MERMAN; **man-fungus**, a fungus of the genus *Geaster*; an earth-star (*Treas. Bot.* 1866); † **man-huckster** *nonce-wd.* (applied to a 'mistress of the male stews'); **man-keeper** *local*, the water newt, *Lissotriton punctatus*; † **man-leech**, a whore; † **man-litter**, a sedan chair; **man-machine** = *man-engine*; † **man-mender**, a surgeon; **man-mercer**, one who deals in man's wear; **man-merchandise**, slave-dealing; † **man-miln** *Sc.*, a hand-mill for grinding; † **man-minister**, a chaplain; **man-monkey**, an anthropoid ape; **man-mountain**, the name given to Gulliver by the Lilliputians; hence *allusively*; **man-mountainism**; **man orchis**, (*a*) also *green man-orchis* or *greenman orchis*, the greenish-flowered orchid, *Aceras anthropophora*; (*b*) *Orchis mascula*; † **man peach**, a variety of peach; **man-rail** (see quot.); **man-root**, the American *Ipomœa leptophylla* (*Cent. Dict.*); **man-rope** *Naut.*, one of the ropes on each side of a gangway or ladder, used in ascending and descending a ship's side, etc.; † **man-state**, the age at which a Roman youth assumed the *toga virilis*; † **man-steid** *a. Sc.*, supplied with men; **man-sty** [after *pig-sty*], a dwelling-house or hut unfit for human habitation; † **man-thews**, human customs, manners; **man-trade**, the slave-trade (cf. *man-dealer*); **man-way** *U. S. Mining*, 'a small passage used by workmen, but not for transportation' (Raymond *Mining Gloss.* 1881); **manweed**, fuller's teazel, *Dipsacus fullonum*; † **man-wood** *a.*, 'man-mad', madly desirous of a man; † **man-worth** (see quot. 1670).

1878 *N. Amer. Rev.* CXXVII. 44 The myriads of years which have elapsed since the *man-apes began to stand upright. *a* 1618 SYLVESTER *Tobacco Battered* 515 Th' Heat and Drought of th' Herb American Being intensive (fitter call'd *Man-bane). 1630 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Proclamation Wks.* II. 252/1 A foule contagious, stinking Manbane weede. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* III. vii. § 13 He had an handsome *man-case. 1682 HICKERINGILL *Black Non-Conf.* B, Bespatter them, Trepan them, Teague them, Taffee them, and *Man-catch them. 1702 C. MATHER *Magn. Chr.* VII. 63 Captain..fell into the Hands of these desperate [Indian] *Man-catchers. 1898 *Dublin Rev.* July 170 Another instrument of capture is the 'man-catcher', a flexible rattan fastened at one end in a loop, into which a sharp spike protrudes. As it is slipped over the foe, a sudden jerk is given to it, which causes the latter to impale the base of the skull. 1681 E. HICKERINGILL (*title*) The Horrid Sin of *Man-catching: a Sermon on Jer. v. 25, 26. 1772 RUTTY *Nat. Hist. Dublin* I. 375 *Cancer latipes Rondeletti*, a small shell-fish about the bigness of a wall-nut, which has something like the delineation of a human face upon it, whence it has been sometimes called the *Man-Crab. 1860 GEN. P. THOMPSON *Audi Alt.* III. CXXXVII. 110 The Transatlantic *man-dealer. *Beowulf* 1264 He [Cain] þa faȝ ȝewat, murþre ȝemearcod *mandream fleon, westen warode. *c* 1205 LAY. 23945 Þa aras þe mon-drem [*c* 1275 mannes drem] þat þe wolde dunede a-ȝen. 1865 *Morn. Star* 7 Jan., In a few mines the *man-engine, which hoists and lowers the men, has been introduced. 1881 RAYMOND *Mining Gloss., Man-machine* or *Man-engine*, Corn. and Derb. 1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* II. ii. 103 His Pupill age *Man-entred thus. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* II. 360/1 A Mere-man, or a Man-marine, or a *Man-fish..by others termed a Triton. *a* 1625 BEAUM. & FL. *Custom Country* V. v, Be so, and no more, you *man-huckster. 1824 MACTAGGART *Gallovid. Encycl.* 392 He was fond of drinking filthy fluids, and his belly gave birth to some *asks* and **man-keepers.* 1825-80 JAMIESON, *Man-keeper*, a name given to the newt .. by the inhabitants of Dumfr. and Roxb., because they believe that it waits on the adder to warn man of his danger. 1687 SEDLEY *Bellamira* IV. i, Thou punk, thou cockatrice, thou *man-leech, that suck'st their marrow and their money. 1640 BROME *Sparagus Garden* II. ii, A couple of lusty able bodied men..carry mee in a *Man-litter into the great bed at Ware. 1855 J. R. L[EIFCHILD] *Cornwall Mines* 279 Where they descend by the *man-machines their journey is easy both down and up. *a* 1641 SUCKLING *Goblins* I. (1648) 15 A *Manmender, .. Has broacht me in so many places, All the Liquor in my body will run out. 1703 *Brit. Apollo* No. 3 Man-menders then had noble pay—Which we call surgeons to this day. 1837 MISS MITFORD *Country Stories* (1850) 99 What business had he in a great shop? a *mannercer's they call it. 1788 COWPER *Let. to Lady Hesketh* 16 Feb., It being impossible to alledge an argument on behalf of *man-merchandize that can deserve a hearing. 1566 *Inv. R. Wardr.* (1815) 173 Ane 'mann-miln for making of poulder, with thre mortaris. 1580 *Ibid.* 302 Ane man myln with all hir ganging geir. 1715 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* I. 52 Richard Paice..was at first but a *Mann-minister to Thomas Langton Bishop of Winchester. 1782 MISS BURNEY *Cecilia* VI. X, Why you won't pretend you did not hear Miss Beverley say you were the truest ourang outang, or *man-monkey, she ever knew? 1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* I. ii, In the Right Coat Pocket of the Great *Man-Mountain (for so I interpret the *Quinbus Flestrin*). *a* 1861 MRS. BROWNING *Bk. Poets* Poems 1890 V. 204 While Gower may blame 'his fortune'..for the dry specimen crumbled off from his *manmountainism. 1776 WITHERING *Bot. Arrangem. Vegetables* II. 543 *Man Orchis. 1868 *Paxton's Bot. Dict.*, Green-man orchis. See *Aceras anthropophera*. 1882 *Garden* 27 May 365/3 The popular name of Man Orchis given to *Aceras anthropophora* is certainly well bestowed, as a resemblance to a hanging man in the singular flowers of this plant is very apparent. 1664 EVELYN *Kal. Hort., Aug.* (1679) 22 Roman Peach, *Man Peach, Quince Peach [etc.]. 1871 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* Dec. 24 Along each side of the boiler is fixed a hand-rail, called a *man-rail. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* II. (1780) *Tire-veilles*, the *man-ropes, or entering-ropes of the side. 1851 H. MELVILLE *Whale* VIII. 42 With both hands grasping the ornamental knobs of the man-ropes. 1558 PHAER *Æneid* Life Virgil (1573) A iij, When he was thirteene yeere of age, he receaued the garment of *manstate. 1610 HEALEY *St. Aug. Citie of God* 140 He tooke on his gowne of man-state. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 228 Thrie greit scheipis weill *man steid, weill wittallit and artaillzeit. 1799 SOUTHEY *Comm.-pl. Bk.* IV. 518 The most miserable and beastly collection of *man-sties I ever beheld. 1887 *Pall Mall G.* 4 May 5/1 The unutterable 'man-sties' which do duty for labourers' cottages. *c* 1000 *Juliana* 410 Þæt he *monþeawum minum lifge. *a* 1250 *Prov. Ælfred* 432 in *O. E. Misc.* 128 Þe hwile hit is lutel ler him monþewes [*later text* monnis þewis]. 1760 J. PHILMORE (*title*) Two Dialogues on the *Man-Trade. 1828 *Burton's Diary* III. 258 *note*, This lettered barbarian, .. in the gennine spirit of the man-trade, 'hoped never to see our negroes in America become Christians'. 1829 *Glover's Hist. Derby* I. 108 *Dipsacus fullonum*, *manweed or fuller's teasel. 1579-80 NORTH *Plutarch Lycurgus & Numa* (1595) 84 Andromanes; to say, *manwood [*printed* manhood, *corrected* in ed. 1612]. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* II. (1598) 229 Women man-wood, & men effeminate. *c* 1000 *Laws Hloðhære & Eadric* c. 1 ȝif mannes esne eorlcundne mannan ofslæhþ .. se agend þone banan agefe, and do þær þrio *man-wyrþ to. 1670-91 BLOUNT *Law Dict., Manworth*, the price or value of a Man's Life or Head; every Man, according to his degree, being rated at a certain price, according whereunto, satisfaction was, of old, made to his Lord, for the killing him.

21. Combinations with *man's*: † **man's age** = MAN-AGE; † **man's blood**, (*a*) a kind of thistle; (*b*) the Gr. *ἀνδρόσαιμον*, 'a kind of St. John's wort, with blood-red juice' (Liddell and Scott); † **man's-bond**, a slave, bondsman, in quot. *collect. sing.*; **man's enemy**, the Devil; † **man's kind** = MANKIND; † **man's meat**, food for men; also *transf.* in indecent sense; **man's mercer** (see quot.); † **man's motherwort** = PALMA CHRISTI; † **man's queller**, an executioner (cf. MANQUELLER).

1594 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* II. To Rdr., The bodie of man in the third part of his age, commonly called *mansage [etc.]. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 98 Acorna, *marg.*, A kind of thistle: some call it *Mans bloud. *Ibid.* 275 Some cal this herbe Androsæmon, *marg.* Mans bloud. 1611 FLORIO, *Acorna*, a thistle called Mans blood. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 115 Now er þise bot *mansbond, rascaile of refous. *a* 1800 *Laird of Waristoun* v. in Child *Ballads* IV. 31/1 At her richt hand There stood *Man's Enemy. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 14909 For he þe time sais command nei, þar he for *mans kind wil dei. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 264 And what hir liste, .. Sche dede .. That passeth over manneskinde. 1475 *Bk. Noblesse* (Roxb.) 30 They finding bothe horsmete and *mannysmete to youre soudeours. 1586 J. HOOKER *Hist. Irel.* in Holinshed II. 166/2 In duoing of his seruice, he shall take horsse-meat, and mansmeat where he list. 1629 BURTON *Babel no Bethel* 46, I will not envy him, so long as I feed on that which is sound and mans meate (as we say). 1664 FALKLAND *Marriage Night* II. i. 13 But is she Mans meat? I .. can scarcely digest

nne in her Teens. 1760 FOOTE *Minor* II. (1767) 53 Here she has brought a pretty piece of man's meat already; as sweet as a nosegay, and as ripe as a cherry. 1803 S. PEGGE *Anecd. Eng. Lang.* 267 A *man's mercer—One who furnishes small articles to taylors', as twist, buckram, stay tape. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* App., *Mans motherwort is *Palma Cristi*. *c*1450 *Mirour Saluacioun* 3270 Qwene Thamare..Whilk Cirus..*mannes qwellere hevedid.

22. Combinations with *men*: **a.** appositive, serving as plurals of combs. with *man* (see 19 a, b, and main words, e.g. MAN-CHILD). Also MEN-FOLK, MEN-KIND.

[1382 WYCLIF *Joel* iii. 9 Alle Men-fiȝters [Vulg. *viri bellatores*] cum to, and stey vp.] 1611 BIBLE *Eccl.* ii. 8 Men singers and women singers. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* x. 463 O strange inhumanity of Men-monster Manglers! 1646 M. LLUELLIN (*title*) Men-miracles with other Poemes. 1687 T. BROWN *Saints in Uproar* Wks. 1730 I. 72 Both among the Men-Saints and Women-Saints. 1739 CIBBER *Apol.* (1756) I. 105 Those other men actors who..were equally famous in the lower life of comedy. 1741 RICHARDSON *Pamela* (1824) I. 179 Do you, Beck, help Pamela to 'tend us; we will have no men-fellows. *a*1745 SWIFT *Direct. Serv.* ii. (1745) 36 The Custom began..to keep Men Cooks, and generally of the French Nation. 1814 SIR R. WILSON *Pr. Diary* II. 346 His holiness made his entrance yesterday, drawn by men cattle. 1864 PUSEY *Lect. Daniel* vii. 442 Large colossi and very long men-sphinxes. 1892 E. REEVES *Homeward Bound* 141 We had a dispute which were men Cingalese and which women.

b. objective, instrumental, etc., synonymous with the corresp. combs. with *man* (see 19 d, e and main words, e. g. MAN-EATER).

1692 BENTLEY *Boyle Lect.* 125 Those mountainous kind of animals and *men-bearing trees. 1682 S. PORDAGE *Medal Rev.* 274 Rebels and Traytors they will still Create, And are *Men-Catchers of the highest rate. 1599 HAKLUYT *Voy.* II. II. 104 Which made them beleeue that we were cruell people and *men-eaters. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. xiii, They..being men-eaters. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (Table) 328 Anzigues, a *men-eating Nation. 1619 A. NEWMAN *Pleas. Vis.* (1840) 42 They have such *men-inchanting features. *c*1550 CHEKE *Matt.* iv. 19 Come after me and I wil maak yow *menfischers. 1895 *Churchman* No. 185. 268 *Menfishing is most difficult work, but He who bade us go has likewise said 'I am with you'. 1553 T. WILSON *Rhet.* 51 Such *menflesht vilaynes make small accompte for killynge anye one. 1834 *Tait's Mag.* I. 124 The *men-hunters found a Guahibi mother, with three children. 1832 MISS MITFORD *Village* Ser. v. 337 The *men-like bathing women. 1753 FOOTE *Eng. in Paris* I. Wks. 1799 I. 33 All the fraternity of *men-makers..; taylors, peruquiers, hatters, hosiers. 1619 FLETCHER *M. Thomas* II. iii, Whither goe all these *men-menders, these Physicians? 1526 TINDALE *Eph.* vi. 6 Not with service in the eye sight, as *men pleasars. 1615 HIERON *Wks.* I. 604 Such a time-serving, *men-pleasing, forsaking of flockes. 1632 SANDERSON *Serm.* (1681) II. 19 S. Paul, who in one place professeth men-pleasing,..taking it in the better sense. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 9333 Robbeors .. & manquellars [*MS. B.* *menquellares]. 1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 164 Traytouris, and rebelle, trew men quelleris. 1563-87 FOXE *A. & M.* (1596) 70/2 Which all were esteemed as men quellers. *a*1300 *E. E. Psalter* lviii. 3 And *men-slaers, sauve me fra þa. 1380 *Lay Folks Catech.* 736 (Lamb. MS.) Bakbyters and sowers of fals lesynggys .. arn wykkyd men-sleers. *c*1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 810 Menslaers, robbours. 1526 TINDALE 1 *Tim.* i. 10 To *menstealers: to lyars and to periured. *a*1677 HALE *Hist. Placit. Cor.* (1736) I. 9 Men-stealers were punished with death. 1860 PUSEY *Min. Proph.* 134 The Tyrians..were slave-dealers, and in the earliest time, men-stealers. 1796 MRS. M. ROBINSON *Angelina* I. 36 The *men-trappers rushed in, and they forced him away. 1865 J. H. INGRAHAM *Pillar of Fire* (1872) 164 We are still idolaters, that is, mere *men-worshippers.

23. Combinations with *men's*: † **mens-kind** = MEN-KIND, † **menskins**, of the male sex.

1534 *Will Sir W. Butler* (Somerset Ho.), Euerye of my seruauntes aswell menskynes as womenskynnes. 1592 KYD *Sp. Trag.* III. v. 3 Wee mens-kinde, in our minoritie, are like women in their vncertaintie.

† **Man,** *sb.*[2] *Obs.* [OE. *mán* str. neut. = OS. *mên*, OHG. *mein*, ON. *mein*:—OTeut. **maino*ⁿ, neut. of **maino-* adj.: see MAN *a.*] Wickedness. Also *Comb.*, † **man deed,** wicked act.

Beowulf 978 Dær abidan sceal maga mane fah miclan domes. *c*1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Th.) cxviii. 69 Vs nu mænigfeald ofer me man and unriht ofeṙhydiȝra. *c*1000 *Phænix* 457 [He] leahtras dwæsceþ mirce mandæde. *c*1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 99 Deofles gast wissað to sunnan and to mandeden. *c*1200 ORMIN 4478 Þatt tu þe loke wel fra man Inn apess & i witnesss.

† **Man,** *sb.*[3] *Obs.* Also 5 mane. [a. late L. *man* (Vulgate), a. Heb. מן.] = MANNA.

*a*1300-1400 *Cursor M.* 6384 (Gött.) Þai called it in þair langag man [*Cott.* manna]. 1382 WYCLIF *Exod.* xvi. 31 The hows of Ynel clepide the name of it man. *c*1485 *E. E. Misc.* (Warton Cl. 1856) 14 O Crystes modyre, That feede ȝemre chyld with the heyvynly mane. 1604 HIERON *Wks.* I. 500 As soone as they came into the promised land, the man ceased. 1644 Z. BOYD *Gard. Zion* in *Zion's Flowers* (1855) App. 11/2 Th' Egyptian hotch potch which God's Israel Preferr'd to Man, their whilom—Angel's food.

† **Man,** *a. Obs.* [OE. *mán* = MHG. *mein*, ON. *meinn*:—OTeut. **maino-*: according to some scholars a pa. pple. from the Indogermanic root **mei-*, **moi-* to change.] Wicked.

*c*1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Th.) liv. 15 Forðam..on hiora midle [is] man inwit-stæf. *a*1300 *Cursor M.* 6848 Athes noiþer sothfast ne man [cf. MANATH].

† **Man,** *indef. pron. Obs.* Also mon. See also the weakened forms MEN, ME *indef. prons.* [OE. *man*, *mon* = OS., OHG. (MHG., G.) *man*; an unstressed form of MAN *sb.*[1] = ONE 21.

Beowulf 3176 Þæt mon his winedryhten wordum herge. *c*1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xiv. 11 And man brohte þa his heafod on anum disce. *c*1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 139 Muchel man ach to wurþen þis halie dei. *c*1220 *Bestiary* 267 Þet is wunder of ðis wirm more ðaunne man weneð. *c*1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1488 A mete ðat man callen lentil gete. 1340 *Ayenb.* 86 Yef man dede þet kuead to-yeans wylle: hit nere non zenne. *a*1375 *Treat. Mass* 2 in *Lay Folks Mass Bk.* App. iv. 128 Hou mon scholde here hys masse.

Man (mæn), *v.* Forms: 1 mannian, 4-6 manne, 6-7 mann, 6- man. [OE. *mannian*, f. *mann* MAN *sb.*[1] Cf. MLG., MDu., Du., MHG., mod.G. *mannen*, ON., Sw. *manna*, Da. *mande*.]

1. *trans.* (*Mil.* and *Naut.*) To furnish (a fort, ship, etc.) with a force or company of men to serve or defend it. Said also of the men.

*c*1122 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1087 (MS. E.) Heora ælc ferde to his castele & þone mannoden. *c*1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 5876 With' halfe þair men þis schip þai mande. 1480 CAXTON *Chron. Eng.* ccxliii. 288 The thre carrikkes were lade with dyuerse marchaundyse and wel y manned. 1494 FABYAN *Chron.* VII. ccxix. 241 Kyng Wyllyam also made .iiii. Stronge Castelles, .. and manned theym with Normayns. 1592 *Nobody & Someb.* in Simpson *Sch. Shaks.* (1878) I. 328 Man the Court gates, barricade al the streets. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* IX. 155 Tha schot out the capitan Erskin, and manit the hous. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* VI. 90 Every man cried Al'arm, ran up to the walls to man them. 1627 CAPT. SMITH *Seaman's Gram.* vi. 27 Man the Boat is to put a Gang of men..into her. *c*1645 T. TULLY *Siege of Carlisle* (1840) 3 He found the other side [of the river] manned wᵗʰ regiments of hors and foot. 1694 MOTTEUX *Rabelais* IV. xxiv. (1737) 101 Man the Pinnace, and get her by the Ship's Side. 1781 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xlv. (1869) II. 711 The ramparts were manned. 1795 NELSON 21 Mar. in Nicolas *Disp.* (1845) II. 20 A Fleet half manned, and in every respect inferior to the Enemy. 1833 MARRYAT *P. Simple* xi, At last the frigate was full manned. 1861 HUGHES *Tom Brown at Oxf.* xiv. (1889) 134 The Oriel boat was manned chiefly by old oars. 1865 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* XIV. ii. (1872) V. 165 The garrison of Leger..barely mans its own works. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* vii. § 6. 410 The English ships..were manned with 9000 hardy seamen. 1876 VOYLE & STEVENSON *Milit. Dict.*, *To man*, this term is commonly used in artillery to signify the arming of a battery with men, ready for action. 1885 U. S. GRANT *Pers. Mem.* I. xxi. 292 One hundred men left to man the guns in the fort.

absol. 1713 STEELE *Guard.* No. 170 ▸ 21 It is very rare if the French ever make use of any other ships than their own; they victual and man cheaper than we.

b. *Naut.* To place men at or on (a particular part of a ship), as at the capstan to heave anchor, or on the yards to salute a distinguished person. Said also of the men.

1697 TUTCHIN *Search Honesty* v. 16 The Boatswain's whistle, and they Man the Side. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey) s.v., *Man the Capstan.. Man well the Top..Man the Ladder.* 1743 BULKELEY & CUMMINS *Voy. S. Seas* 174 He came close by our Vessel, we mann'd her, and gave him three Cheers. 1796 *Log 'Agamemnon'* 19 Jan. in Nicolas *Disp. Nelson* (1846) VII. p. xxxii, Manned Ship and cheered Sir John Jervis. 1817 BYRON *Beppo* xxvi, A better seaman never yet did man yard. 1840 R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast* xv. 41 We manned the windlass, and hove, and hove away. 1875 BEDFORD *Sailor's Pocket Bk.* vii. (ed. 2) 282 As soon as the signal is perceived by those on shore, the whip..will be manned, and the hawser hauled off by it to the wreck.

† **c.** To equip and send (a boat, occas. an army) with its complement of men in a certain direction (*out*, *forth*, *after* ..). *Obs.*

1494 FABYAN *Chron.* VI. clxxiii. 169 Ye Londoners..manned out a certayne nombre of men of armys. 1556 W. TOWRSON in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1589) 99 We manned out our Skiffe in like case to laye him aboorde. 1611 SPEED *Hist. Gt. Brit.* IX. xiii. 599 The Townesmen of Portsmouth and Dart maund [*read* mannd] forth a few ships at their owne perill and charge. *a*1659 OSBORN *Ess.* ii. Wks. (1673) 558 When God Mans out his Hosts, the Poor are found in the Forlorn Hope. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 51 We had mann'd three Boats after them. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* II. xi, I.. manned out the pinnace. *a*1774 GOLDSM. *Hist. Greece* I. 320 Lysander at first manned out a few ships.

† **2.** To supply with inhabitants; to people. *Obs.*

*c*1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) xviii. 187 This Vle is fulle wel inhabyted, and fulle wel manned. 1433 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 445/1 Howe youre Toune..is wele enhabited and manned. *a*1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VI* 156 b, The Englishemen wer not of puyssaunce, either to man the tounes..or to inhabite the countrey. 1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. i. IV. *Handicrafts* 272 Man-kind with fruitfull Race began A little corner of the World to Man. *Ibid.* II. ii. II. *Babylon* 185.

† **b.** *nonce-use.* To fill up with men. *Obs.*

1596 SPENSER *F.Q.* VI. xi. 46 [He] slew the formost that came first to hand So long till all the entry was with bodies mand.

† **3.** To provide (a person) with followers or attendants. *Obs.*

14.. *Sir Beues* 3080 (MS. S.), [He] armed him foot hot And manned him welle in a bot. 1526 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 441 Counterfet capytaynes by me are mande. 1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV*, I. ii. 18 Thou art fitter to be worne in my cap, then to wait at my heeles. I was never mann'd with an Agot till now. *Ibid.* 66. 1606 CHAPMAN *Mons. D'Olive* Plays 1873 I. 221 To be mand with one bare Page and a Pandare. 1621 BP. MOUNTAGU *Diatribæ* 446 Such roysters and rake-shames as Mars is manned with, Hercules is not said to be attended withall. 1752 FIELDING *Amelia* IX. ix, Come along, Jack, I have seen her before; but she is too well manned already.

b. † To furnish (horses) with riders (*obs.*). Also (*Australian*), to catch hold of and restrain (a horse).

1535 COVERDALE 2 *Kings* xviii. 23, I wil gene yᵉ two thousande horses, let se yf thou be able to man them. 1655 E. TERRY *Voy. E. Ind.* 411 To have horses alwayes in readinesse well mann'd. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* (1891) 193 Man the horses, Eachin!

4. To fill (a post, office, etc.) with a man or men. 1821 SOUTHEY in *Q. Rev.* XXV. 295 The pulpits were manned with seditious preachers. 1822 J. W. CROKER in *C. Papers* 25 Aug., No Government..was ever better manned in the subordinate departments than ours. 1900 *Blackw. Mag.* Jan. 37/1 There are often twenty to thirty of these committees to be manned in a session.

† **5.** To escort (a person, *esp.* a woman). *Obs.*

1567 DRANT *Horace, Ep.* vi. D ij, A cut throte rutterkin ..Who will, and dare retche forthe his hande, and man the throughe the croude. 1580 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 291 She saide: will you not manne vs Fidus, being so proper a man? 1599 PORTER *Angry Wom. Abingt.* (Percy Soc.) 61 Thou knowest that Barnses wife And I am foes: now, man me to her house. 1607 DEKKER & WEBSTER *Northw. Ho* IV. F 1 b, Wife, on with your ryding suite, and..let my Prentice get vp before thee, and man thee to Ware. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. 71/1 A Waiting Man..goeth abroad with his.. Mistriss as a Companion, Manning or taking her by the hand in all dangerous places.

† **6. a.** *refl.* To play the man. *Obs.*

*c*1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 224 Þei manned þam so boldely, on þam had non entre.

† **b.** *To man it out*: to bear up manfully. *Obs.*

1668 DRYDEN *All for Love* II. i, Well, I must Man it out.

7. To make manly or courageous; to brace *up*; to fortify the spirits or strengthen the courage of. Chiefly *refl.*

1617 FLETCHER *Valentinian* II. iv, Good your Grace, Retire, and man your selfe. 1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 26 Courage, is able at a pinch to man up it selfe. *Ibid.* 31 The conscience is an active sparke, and can easily man up all the powers of soule and body. 1668 DRYDEN *All for Love* I. i, My Soul's up in Arms, And Mans each part about me. 1707 MRS. CENTLIVRE *Cruel Gift* III, I feel my spirits gather to my heart, And man it out with courage for the tryal. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 164 ▸ 5 Theodosius having manned his Soul with proper Thoughts and Reflections. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* V. x, He mann'd himself with dauntless air. 1813 BYRON *Corsair* II. iii, Submissive, yet with self-possession mann'd. 1883 J. HAWTHORNE *Dust* xxvii. 225 So he manned himself, and said, quietly and firmly: 'Though [etc.]'. 1875 EMERSON *Lett. & Soc. Aims* ix. 238 Only that is poetry which cleanses and mans me. 1881 MRS. C. PRAED *Policy & P.* II. 251 He had manned himself to the sacrifice of his dearest hopes.

8. To invest with manly qualities or aspect; to make man-like. *rare.*

1615 CHAPMAN *Odyss.* IX. 688 One Ulysses; who I thought was mand With great and goodly personage [Gr. φῶτα μέγαν καὶ καλὸν]. 1616-61 HOLYDAY *Persius* 289 The different seasons of his life, and so riper age, might easily more man his countenance. 1839 BAILEY *Festus* viii. (1848) 78, I am a man in love, I cried; My heart was early manned. 1883 E. PENNELL-ELMHIRST *Cream Leicestersh.* 152 We manned ourselves in breeches and gaiters.

† **b.** *To be manned*: to be made man. *Obs.*

1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* Introd., Who for vs men,.. was incarnate and manned [L. *humanatus*]. 1677 GILPIN *Demonol.* (1867) 167 Just like the ravings of H. Nicholas, David George, and others, who..discourse of being 'godded with God',..and of God's being 'manned with them'.

9. To be the master of; to manage, rule. *Obs.* exc. *dial.* (see E. D. D.).

*c*1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 6436 To manne Armoriche [*v. r.* to haf a reume] þou were worthi. 1597-8 BP. HALL *Sat.* IV. vi. 18 Who like a cot-queene freezeth at the rocke, While his breach't dame doth man the forren stock. 1637 RUTHERFORD *Lett.* (1862) I. 337 Happy is your soul if Christ man the house..and command all.

10. *Falconry.* To accustom (a hawk, occas. other birds) to the presence of men. Hence (*transf.* and *gen.*) to make tame or tractable.

[The spelling *mained* in quot. 1632, if not a mere misprint, seems intended to suggest derivation from F. *main* hand.]

1575 TURBERV. *Faulconrie* 79 To the ende your hawke may be the better manned and the sooner reclaimed. 1590 GREENE *Mourn. Garm.* (1616) 53 There are no Hawks sooner manned then they of India. 1590 — *Orl. Fur.* (1599) 2 Those siluer Doues, That wanton Venus manth vpon her fist. 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* IV. i. 196 Another way I haue to man my Haggard, To make her come, and know her Keepers call. 1607 MARKHAM *Caval.* II. (1617) 30 After your horse is thus mand, and made gentle to be drest, shod, and handled. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* II. ii. IV. (1651) 268 Some reclaime Ravens, Castrils, Pies &c. and man them for their pleasures. 1632 *Guillim's Heraldry* (ed. 2) 227 Birds or fowles of Prey that are throughly mained and brought to the fist. 1633 MASSINGER *Guardian* I. i, A cast of Haggard Falcons, by me man'd. 1668 SHADWELL *Sullen Lovers* v. Wks. 1720 I. 98 Must people then be tam'd into marriage, as they man Hawks with watching? 1881 *Macm. Mag.* Nov. 39 He [the young hawk] is 'carried' for some hours amongst men, children, dogs, and horses..; and by this means,..is soon 'manned'.

Hence **Manned** *ppl. a.*, **Manning** *vbl. sb.*

1548 *Privy Council Acts* (1890) II. 172 To William Pures, for rigging of his ship,..and for mannyng of her. 1580 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 372 Hawkes that waxe haggard by manning. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* III. 141 Shropshire..was a fortified and manned frontyer against the Welsh. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* II. xxii. 120 For..victualling and manning of ships. 1685 BOYLE *Enq. Notion Nat.* vii. 330 Like a manned boat, where,..there is an intelligent being that.. steers it, or otherwise guides it. 1765 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* I. vii. 255 The sole prerogative as well of erecting, as manning and governing of which, belongs to the king in his capacity of general of the kingdom. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* II. xvi, Four manned and masted barges.

Man, var. MAUN *v.*, must; var. MAUND *sb.*[2], an Indian weight; obs. north. f. MOAN *v.*

Manaass, obs. form of MENACE *v.*

†**Ma·nable,** *a. Obs.* [f. MAN *v.* + -ABLE.] Of marriageable age.

1607 MIDDLETON *Fam. Love* IV. iv, Had you not been so manable, here are some would have saved you that labour. 1623 FLETCHER & ROWLEY *Maid in Mill* II. i, Shee's manable, is she not?

Manablins, variant of MANAVILINS.

‖ **Manaca** (mæ·năkă). [A Brazilian word, recorded in 1648 by Marcgrave *Hist. Nat. Brasil.* 69.] A Brazilian plant, *Franciscea uniflora*, the prepared root of which, known as 'vegetable mercury', is used in medicine.

1866 in *Treas. Bot.* 1889 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

Manace, obs. form of MENACE *sb.* and *v.*

Manachanite, obs. var. MENACCANITE *Min.*

Manachy, obs. form of MANICHEE.

Manacle (mæ·năk'l), *sb.* Forms: 4 **manykil, manykle,** 4–5 **manycle,** 4–7 **manicle,** 5 **manakelle,** 6 **manakle, mannicle,** *Sc.* **mannakill,** 7 **manucle,** 4– **manacle.** [ME. *manicle,* a. OF. *manicle* handcuff (also, as in mod.F., gauntlet, handguard), ad. L. *manicula* little hand (also, handle of a plough, in med.L. gauntlet), dim. of *manus* hand. The late forms have the ending assimilated to that of words like *spectacle, oracle, miracle.*]

1. A fetter for the hand; usually *pl.*

a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* cxlix. 8 For to bynde..þe nobils of þaim in manykils of yryn. *a* 1400 *Pistill of Susan* 176 While domus men were dempt þis dede to clare Marred in Manicles þat made wer newe. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* II. iii. 147 And, first of all, the mannakillis and hard bandis Chargit he lows of this ilk mannis handis. 1590 WEBBE *Trav.* (Arb.) 20 Our handes fastned with a payre of manacles. 1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* I. ix. 57 Wee'le put you (Like one that meanes his proper harme) in Manacles, Then reason safely with you. 1734 tr. *Rollin's Anc. Hist.* (1827) I. 362 Twenty thousand pair of manacles were found. 1838 LYTTON *Leila* II. vii, Four soldiers..bearing with them one whose manacles proclaimed him a prisoner. 1897 A. BALFOUR *By Stroke of Sword* xii. 43/2 The men .. fastened my wrists together with manacles.

¶ b. *pl.* in wider sense: Fetters, shackles.

1838 PRESCOTT *Ferd. & Is.* I. xi. (1842) I. 459 Their limbs loaded with heavy manacles.

c. *fig.* Chiefly *pl.*, bonds, restraints.

1587 GOLDING *De Mornay* xvii. 271 That [the body] which was given it [the soul] for an instrument, is become Manicles and Stocks. 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* II. iv. 93 The Manacles Of the all-building-Law. 1611 — *Cymb.* I. i. 122 For my sake weare this [*sc.* a bracelet], It is a Manacle of Loue. 1654 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 27 No Poet durst have fetcht his Fancy so farr, as to call Prayer the Manicles of the Almighty, had not God himselfe..confessed it. 1670 *Moral State Eng.* 94 The Widow..is alwaies ready to bold out her hand for new manacles. 1677 *Govt. Venice* 3 They continued to elect a Prince, but with such manacles and restrictions, that they left him scarce any thing but the Title. 1852 M. ARNOLD *Morality,* I [Nature] knew not yet the gauge of time, Nor wore the manacles of space.

†**2.** *transf.* A tether or shackle for a horse. *Obs.*

1556–68 WITHALS *Dict.* 38 b/2 The manakle for a horse nose, *postomis.* 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 304 Bind with a manicle his [the horse's] fore-legge to the hinder-leg on the contrary side. *Ibid.* 321 There is a kind of Manicle for the pasternes of Horsses.

Manacle (mæ·năk'l), *v.* Also 4 **mankle,** 5 **manycle,** 6 **manakyll, mannacle,** 6–7 **manicle,** 7 **manakell, manackle,** 8 *Sc.* **mancle.** [f. prec. sb.]

1. *trans.* To fetter or confine (the hands); to fetter with handcuffs.

c 1306 *Song Exec. Sir S. Fraser* in *Pol. Songs* (Camden) 218 Y-fetered were ys legges under his horse wombe; Bothe with yrn ant with stel mankled were ys honde. 14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 594/39 *Maniculo,* to manycle. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 227 To Manacle, *manicare.* 1530 PALSGR. 632/2, I manakyll a suspecte person to make hym to confesse thynges..And he will nat confesse it manakyll hym, for undouted he is gylty. 1534 BERNERS *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* Bb viij b, Anone thou manacleste oure handes. 1622 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Thief* Wks. (1630) II. 124/2 Thieues are manacled when they are found. 1630 WADSWORTH *Pilgr.* 41 Their masters manicling their hands before for feare they should make an insurrection. 1791 COWPER *Iliad* XXI. 38 Manacling their hands Behind them fast with their own tunic-strings. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* iii, Porteous.. ordered him to be manacled. 1878 *Masque Poets* 27 Roman hands Can never manacle alive The daughter of the Ptolomies.

b. *loosely.* To fetter; to fasten, secure.

1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* I. (Arb.) 27 Thee gates of warfare wyl then bee mannacled hardly With steele bunch chayne knob. 1593 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. VI,* V. i. 149 Wee'l bate thy Bears to death, And manacle the Berard in their Chaines. 1610 — *Temp.* I. ii. 461 Ile manacle thy necke and feete together.

2. *fig.* (Very common in the 17th c.)

1577 *F. de L'isle's Legendarie* Pref. A iv b, I..being surprised, and as it were manicled with an ineuitable let. 1610 DONNE *Pseudo-martyr* 322 It seemes that the Pope ..when he would fetter and manacle them [*sc.* Princes] in perplexities .. is content to send his Breues. 1625 CARPENTER *Geog. Del.* II. vii. (1635) 106 What should hinder the Red Sea to ouerflow all Egypt—vnlesse it were manicled with the Creatours power? 1649 LOVELACE *Poems* (1864) 99 Griefe too can manakell the minde. 1660 MILTON *Free Commw.* Wks. 1851 V. 440 A number of new Injunctions to manacle the native Liberty of Mankind. 1721 RAMSAY *Scribblers Lashed* 88 An ancle Or foot is seen, might monarchs mancle. 1858 BRIGHT *Sp., Reform* 21 Dec. (1876) 307 Men who seem to be manacled by the triumph of 1832.

Hence **Ma·nacled** *ppl. a.*, **Ma·nacling** *vbl. sb.*

1563–87 FOXE *A. & M.* (1596) 936/2 He remained so long manicled that his haire was folded togither. 1586 A. DAY *Eng. Secretary* I. (1625) 138 His manacled and benummed olde joynts. 1590 *Vind. Hammond's Addr.* 31 The infinite goodnesse of God..is a manicling, or restraining his Omnipotence. 1845 FORD *Handbk. Spain* I. 535 At the corner are figures of manacled Indians. 1861 *Sat. Rev.* 23 Nov. 523 A packed Assembly, reported by a manacled press.

Manacy, obs. form of MANATEE.

Manage (mæ·nėdʒ), *sb.* Forms: *α.* 6–7 **mannage,** 7 **man(n)adge,** 6– **manage.** Also (in senses 1–3) MANÈGE. *β.* 7 **mennage,** 6– **menage,** (9 *erron.* **ménage**). [ad. It. *maneggio* (perh. through the F. *manege,* now *-ège*; but Fr. lexicographers have not found the word earlier than in Cotgr. 1611), vbl. sb. f. *maneggiare*: see MANAGE *v.* The earliest Eng. examples show assimilation of the ending to the frequent suffix -AGE; but in senses 1–3 the Fr. spelling was introduced in the 17th c., and is now usual: see MANÈGE. The *β* forms prob. arose from a confusion, on the part of Eng. writers, of this word with F. *menage* act of leading, f. *mener* to lead; there is also some evidence of confusion with F. *ménage* household: see MÉNAGE.]

1. The training, handling, and directing of a horse in its paces; a training to good paces. *The manage*: the art of training and managing horses. *Obs.* exc. *arch.* (Now usually MANÈGE.)

α. a 1586 SIDNEY *Astr. & Stella* Sonn. '*I on my horse*', He ..now hath made me to his hand so right, That in the Manage my selfe takes delight. 1596 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. IV,* II. iii. 52 Speake tearmes of manage to thy bounding Steed. 1612 *Two Noble K.* V. iv, The hot horse..Forgets schoole dooing, being therein traind And of kind mannadge. 1667 DUCHESS NEWCASTLE *Life Dk. of N.* (1886) II. 99 His chief pastime and divertisement consisted in the manage of the two afore-mentioned horses. 1715–20 POPE *Iliad* XV. 823 A horseman..(Skill'd in the manage of the bounding steed). 1864 *Lond. Rev.* 28 May, It is the menage, the education of the animal, that gives him half his value. 1876 DOWDEN *Poems* 67, I know the careless grace My Perseus wears in manage of the steed.

β. 1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) IV. 137 [He] rode out with him, and taught him the *menage.* 1833 J. HOLLAND *Manuf. Metal* II. 313 What in the language of the *ménage* is called the line of the banquet.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

α. 1596 DRAYTON *Legends* iii. 507 And put Me forth upon my full Careere, On places slipperie, and my manage ill. 1608 SHAKS. *Per.* IV. vi. 69 My Lord, shees not pac'ste yet, you must take some paines to worke her to your mannage. 1691 J. WILSON *Belphegor* I. iii, Do but bring him to the right manage at first; humour him in every thing,..and the rest follows. 1739 WARBURTON *Comm. Pope's Ess. Man* in *Hist. Wks. Learned* I. 92 Till the Horse and the Ox come to know why they undergo such different Manage and Fortunes in the Hand of Man. 1755 YOUNG *Centaur* V. 227 Beasts of so gross a class as they [certain persons mentioned] choose to rank with, scarce deserve to be brought to the Manage.

β. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* III. xii. 22 The winged god him selfe Came riding on a Lion ravenous, Taught to obay the menage of that Elfe. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* II. 491 Rude thought runs wild in contemplation's field; Converse, the menage, breaks it to the bit Of due restraint. 1902 F. E. SCHELLING *Eng. Chron. Play* 240 The great horse of the Spenserian allegory had a pace beyond his [*sc.* Dekker's] menage.

2. The action and paces to which a horse is trained in the riding-school; any of the separate movements or evolutions characteristic of a horse so trained; *spec.* a short gallop at full speed. *Obs.* exc. *arch.*

α. 1577–87 HOLINSHED *Chron.* III. 1033/2 They were better practised to fetch in booties, than to make their manage or careire. 1589 *Pasquills Counterc.* A iij, It should seeme by the manages my beast made, that hee knewe his Maister had a speciall peece of seruice in hande. 1589 *Pasquills Ret.* C ij b, Howe souldier-like hee made an ende of his manage with a double rest. 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* I. i. 13 His horses..are taught their mannage. 1611 COTGR., *Air,* .. in horsemanship, a doing, or stirring manage, or manage raised aboue ground. *à demy air,* a certaine curuet, or manage, wherein the halfe of a horse is in the aire, the other on the ground. *Ibid., Passade,*..the manage for combat, or souldiors manage. 1614 MARKHAM *Cheap Husb.* I. ii. (1668) 26 Manage with rest, and manage without rest, manage with single turns, and manage with double turns. 1659 DK. NEWCASTLE *Let.* in *Life* (1886) 361 One of my horses of manage which will be the quietest..he or any man can have. 1770 BARETTI *Journ. fr. Lond. to Genoa* (ed. 3) I. 175 By Bellém there is a noble structure.. where the King's horses are educated for the manage. 1805 WORDSW. *Prelude* x. 78 The horse is taught his manage.

β. 1617 BP. HALL *Quo Vadis?* § 13 The horse is a noble creature...There is a double kinde of menage..—one for seruice, the other for pleasure. 1645 EVELYN *Diary* 3 Feb., One of his sons riding the menage with that address..as I had never seen any thing approach it. 1770 LANGHORNE *Plutarch* (1879) II. 640/1 She trained her youth as the colt is trained to the menage.

3. An enclosed space for the training of saddle-horses and for the practice of horsemanship; a riding-school.

α. 1655 STANLEY *Hist. Philos.* III. (1701) 103/1 How many courses will the manage hold? 1684 EVELYN *Diary* 18 Dec., To see the young gallants do their exercise, Mr. Faubert having newly rail'd in a manage. 1756 NUGENT *Gr. Tour Germany* II. 432 The bishop has built a manage or riding house. 1811 *Edw. Earl Clarendon's Relig. & Policy* Advt., Henry Viscount Cornbury..by a codicil to his will, dated Aug. 10. 1751. left divers MSS. of his great grandfather Edward Earl of Clarendon..with a direction that the money to arise from the..publication..should be employed 'as a beginning of a Fund for supporting a Manage or Academy for riding..in Oxford.

attrib. 1848 KINGSLEY *Saint's Trag.* I. i. 192 They are waiting For you in the manage-school, to give your judgment On that new Norman mare.

β. 1684 *Scanderbeg Rediv.* i. 7 He diligently applied himself to the best Exercises, as frequenting the Academies, Fencing, the Menage, &c.

4. The skilful handling *of* (a weapon, etc.).

α. c 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* II. 460 For the manage of his lance he generall praise did winne. 1633 FORD *Broken H.* IV. iii, The sonne of Venus hath bequeath'd his quiuer To Ithocles his manage. 1687 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2276/5 The Satisfaction of seeing what..Address he had in the manage of his Horse and Arms. 1720 MRS. MANLEY *Power of Love* vi. (1741) 332 To learn his Exercises..and the Manage of the Sword.

β. 1670 *Moral State Eng.* 145 Each striving to go beyond the other..in the dextrous..menage of his Weapon.

†5. The action or manner of managing; management; conduct (of affairs); administration, direction, control. *Obs.*

α. 1581 SAVILE *Tacitus' Hist.* IV. v. (1612) 143 Mutianus.. drewe the whole manage of affaires into his owne handes. 1592 KYD *Sol. & Pers.* III. i. 119 Wilt thou be our Lieutenant there, And further vs in manage of these wars? 1596 SHARS. *Merch. V.* III. iv. 25 Lorenso I commit into your hands, The husbandry and mannage of my house. 1612 BACON *Ess., Youth & Age* (Arb.) 258 Young men in the conduct and mannage of Actions, embrace more then they can hold. 1617 HALES *Serm.* 17 The greatnesse of the businesse, the manage of which they vndertake. 1642 — *Gold. Rem., Tract on Schism* (1673) 1 Howsoever, in the common manage, Heresie and Schisme are but ridiculous terms. 1665 MANLEY *Grotius' Low C. Warres* 667 That they might..consult of the further manage of the War. 1683 KENNETT tr. *Erasm. on Folly* (1709) 104 St. Peter had the keys given to him, and that by our Saviour himself, who had never entrusted him, except he had known him capable of their manage and custody. 1697 COLLIER *Ess. Mor. Subj.* I. (1709) 48 The Manage of his Employment is not prescribed by the Rector. 1756 TOLDERVY *Hist. 2 Orphans* I. 95 His opinion was not more against her humour, than his manage of it was to her mind.

β. 1665 WALTON *Life Hooker* 39 [Q. Elizabeth] having experimented his wisdom..in the menage of her affairs..she made him archbishop of Canterbury. *Ibid.* 83 Revenge is so pleasing, that man is hardly persuaded to submit the menage of it to the..wisdom of his Creator. 1673 DRYDEN *Marr. à la Mode* I. i, For the mennage of a Family, I know it better than any Lady in Sicily. *a* 1683 OLDHAM *Poet. Wks.* (1686) 103 Fools..Who..justly forfeit all that praise.. Which we by our wise menage from a sin can raise. 1710 J. PALMER *Prov.* 7 Among all the errors..in our menage, nothing is more dangerous than entring into bonds.

†b. Power of management. *Obs.*

1639 N. N. tr. *Du Bosq's Compl. Woman* I. 40 The spirits which are without manage, in their enterprises, are also without courage in their afflictions.

†c. An administrative duty or office. *Obs.*

1652 *Life Father Sarpi* (1676) 21 [He] gave him employment in Congregations and other manages more frequently than was usual.

†6. Bearing, demeanour, conduct. *Obs.*

1593 G. HARVEY *New Let.* B 4 b, His talke was sweet, his Order fine; his whole menage braue.

†7. Treatment of persons or of material. *Obs.*

1608 CHAPMAN *Byrons Trag.* Plays 1873 II. 283 There is one sort of manadge for the Great, Another for inferiour. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 327 Quick-silver will not endure the Mannage of the Fire.

†8. A design. *Obs.*

1681 GLANVILL *Sadducismus* I. 30 The policy and menages of the Instruments of darkness. *Ibid.* 82 Our ignorance of the reasons and menages of Providence.

†**Man-age.** *Obs.* [f. MAN *sb.*1 + AGE *sb.*] The age at which one becomes a man; one's majority.

1611 W. SCLATER *Key* (1629) 172 Of youth they say, it must haue his swinge: when manage comes, mariage will bring staiednesse. *a* 1653 GOUGE *Comm. Heb.* I. 10 In his Infancy. ..In his Man-age...After his Resurrection...In the time of his Ascention. 1674 J. B[RIAN] *Harv.-Home* ii. 7 In Childhood, Youth, and Man-age.

Manage (mæ·nėdʒ), *v.* Forms: *α.* 6 **manege, mannadge,** 6–7 **mannage,** 6– **manage.** *β.* 6–8 **menage.** [Recorded earlier than the cognate MANAGE *sb.*, and prob. directly ad. It. *maneggiare* to handle, esp. to manage or train (horses) = Sp. *manejar,* F. *manier*:—vulgar L. type **manidiāre,* f. L. *man-us* (It., Sp. *mano,* F. *main*) hand.

Although the etymological form *manage* appears in our earliest example, the ending was, as in the sb., already in the 16th c. assimilated to the common suffix -AGE. The form *menage* in early examples is taken from the sb.; but in the late 17th and early 18th c. it was chiefly used where the sense closely approaches that of the F. *ménager* to use carefully, to husband, spare, f. *ménage* household. This Fr. vb. certainly influenced the sense-development of the Eng. word: indeed, in the writings of Dryden and his contemporaries, there are frequent instances of *manage* (as well as of *menage*) which can only be regarded as conscious gallicisms.]

1. *trans.* To handle, train, or direct (a horse) in his paces; to put through the exercises of the manège. Now merged in the wider senses 2 and 7.

α. 1561 T. HOBY tr. *Castiglione's Courtyer* I. (1577) D v b, It is the peculiar prayse of vs Italians..to manege wyth reason, especially rough horses. 1586 B. YOUNG *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* IV. 226 Behold how..Lorde Frederike..rid on his horse..sometimes with curuettes..did so manage him, that it was a meruailous..spectacle to the beholders. 1632 J. HAYWARD tr. *Biondi's Eromena* 6 Having a while gently mannaged him [the horse] without finding him any way disobedient. 1645 G. DANIEL *Poems* Wks. II. 25 How shall we Spend the Day? Manage the lustie Steed? Or see the Eager Hounds pursue the pray? 1754 BERENGER tr. *Bourgelat's Hist. Horsem.* (1771) I. 169 They [the horses] all having been carefully handled, dressed, or managed as we call it.

β. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. vii. 37 A goodly person, and could menage faire His stubborne steed with curbed canon bitt. 1683 T. HOY *Agathocles* 8 An Hard-mouth'd Beast, for slacken'd Raines unfitt, And must be menag'd with the Spur and Bitt.

†b. *intr.* Of a horse: To perform the exercises of the manège. Also in narrower sense, to run a 'manage' (see MANAGE *sb.* 1). *Obs.*

1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. v. 348 A large and mighty-limbed Steed Can never manage half so readily As Spanish Jennet. 1607 MARKHAM *Caval.* I. (1617) 16 Being able to passe a short carriere, to manage, beat a coruet and such like. 1614 — *Cheap Husb.* I. ii. (1668) 25 You shall then teach him to manage which is the only posture for the use of the Sword on Horseback. 1614 SYLVESTER *Bethulia's Rescue* I. 41 The Horse Which standing still too-long..Forgets to manage. 1650 EARL MONM. tr. *Senault's Man become Guilty* 271 He [man] taught the horse to manage, and forced the noblest of creatures to endure the bit and spur. 1719 D'URFEY *Pills* IV. 10 [A horse speaks.] I could both Manage, Stop and Turn.

2. *trans.* To handle, wield, make use of (a weapon, tool, implement, etc.). Often in phr. †*to manage arms* = to fight. Now only, to regulate one's use of (a weapon, instrument, etc.) with greater or less success, to make (it) serve one's purpose (well or ill).

a. *c*1586 C'TESS PEMBROKE *Ps.* CXLIV. i, Prais'd bee the Lord of might,..By whom my hands doe fight, My fingers manage armes. 1586 MARLOWE *1st Pt. Tamburl.* III. i, But if..He be so mad to manage Armes with me, Then stay thou with him. 1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* III. i. 247 Hope is a louers staffe, walke hence with that And manage it, against despairing thoughts. 1592 — *Rom. & Jul.* I. i. 76 Put vp thy Sword, Or manage it to part these men with me. 1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turks* (1621) 1191 These soldiors..managing their armes, whilest others hanged theirs by the wals. 1656 EARL MONM. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* II. xiv. (1674) 153 [They] consume themselves in continual managing their Pen. 1659 PEARSON *Creed* (1839) 450 The scriptures to prove these attributes..are so many, that to manage them against the exceptions of the adversaries, would take up too much room. 1678 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* 73 This way of handling may seem a preposterous posture to mannage an Iron Tool in. 1706 E. WARD *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 104 He trusts most to his Head,..and does manage it with as much Skill and Force, as any Bull or Ram. 1872 TENNYSON *Gareth & Lynette* 1316 But Lancelot on him urged..How best to manage horse, lance, sword and shield. 1894 PARRY *Stud. Gt. Musicians, Schubert* 224 The German.. however much he manages his language can never make it as purely beautiful in sound as an Italian.

β. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. ix. 27 A comely personage, That in his hand a white rod menaged. 1670 COVEL *Diary* (Hakluyt Soc.) 218, I..understand that these [stone balls].. have been in like manner menaged,..as particularly one of them over Adrianople gate..was menaged just before Mahomet 3d who..rewarded the man well.

†b. *intr.* To operate, manœuvre *with*. *Obs.*

1591 GREENE *Art Conny Catch.* II. Pref. 2 Though I cannot as he mannadge with my courtlax.

c. *trans.* To 'handle', work (a ship or boat).

1600 HAKLUYT *Voy.* III. 525 Our men..died continually, and..we were scantly able to manage [1589 manure] our shippe. 1801 STRUTT *Sports & Past.* II. ii. 8 The success of the champion depended upon the skilfulness of those who managed the boat. 1823 T. C. GRATTON *High-ways & By-ways* (ed. 2) I. 9 One solitary barge, managed by a single boatman, was working its way against the current.

3. To conduct or carry on (a war, a business, an undertaking, an operation). Now with more precise notion: To carry on successfully or the contrary; to control the course of (affairs) by one's own action.

a. 1579 FENTON *Guicciard.* (1618) 309 With great danger we managed warre many yeares against the most cruell Tyrant of the Turkes. 1600 FAIRFAX *Tasso* I. li. 29 But let vs menage war with blowes, like knights. 1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* IV. ii. 17 Thou hauing made me Businesses, (which none (without thee) can sufficiently manage). 1665 GLANVILL *Scepsis Sci.* iv. 19 As unconceivable..as that a blind man should manage a game at Chess, or Marshal an Army. *a* 1667 COWLEY *Mrs. K. Philips* iii, The Trade of Glory manag'd by the Pen..Does bring in but small Profit to us Men. 1678 WANLEY *Wond. Lit. World* v. ii. § 50. 471/1 Theodora..after the death of Constantine, managed for two years the affairs of the Empire. *Ibid.* § 84. 472/2 He himself was a Prince inactive, managing the Wars by his principal Bassa's. 1720 DE FOE *Capt. Singleton* vi. (1840) 97 Our surgeon was very skilful in managing their cure. 1798 JANE AUSTEN *Lett.* (1884) I. 173 Mary does not manage matters in such a way as to make me want to lay in myself. 1818 LADY MORGAN *Autobiog.* (1859) 60 So you see, my dear Olivia, they manage these things better in France. 1841 MACAULAY *Ess., Warren Hastings* (The Trial), When Parliament met in the following winter, the Commons proceeded to elect a committee for managing the impeachment. 1861 M. PATTISON *Ess.* (1889) I. 47 By a committee of nine..all the affairs of the little world were managed.

β. 1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* v. lxxvii. § 1. 227 Who should giue them their commission but he whose most inward affaires they menage? *Ibid.* lxxxi. § 4. 259 They are able to dispose and menage their owne affaires.

†b. To fulfil the duties of (an office). *Obs.*

a 1627 HAYWARD *Four Y. Eliz.* (Camden) 54 About 140 passed under the sword and amonge them 12 of name, either for nobilitie of birth and state, or for honorable places they managed in the armie.

c. To work out (in literary treatment).

1697 DRYDEN *Ded. Æneis* Ess. (Ker) II. 162, I was loath to be informed..how a tragedy should be contrived and managed, in better verse..than I could teach others. 1714 POPE *Rape Lock* Ep. Ded., The character of Belinda, as it is now manag'd, resembles you in nothing but in Beauty. 1776 MICKLE *Diss. Lusiad* (1778) p. CCXVIII, If the man of taste..will be pleased to mark how the genius of a Virgil has managed a war after a Homer.

d. *absol.* To conduct affairs. Also, †to plot, scheme, intrigue.

1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 229 He that enterteineth many friends, must of necessitie be conformable to them all: namely..with ambitious citizens, to sue and manage for offices [etc.]. 1693 DRYDEN *Juvenal's Sat.* x. 537 Intrust thy Fortune to the Pow'rs above. Leave them to manage for thee, and to grant What their unerring Wisdom sees thee want. 1791 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Rom. Forest* iv, If I had not managed very cleverly, they would have found me out. 1860–1 FLO. NIGHTINGALE *Nursing* 30 It is as impossible in a hook to teach a person in charge of sick how to manage, as it is to teach her how to nurse. 1864 TENNYSON *Grandmother* ii, Her father..Hadn't a head to manage, and drank himself into his grave.

e. *intr.* (quasi-*pass.*) To admit of being managed.

1625 B. JONSON *Staple of News* IV. i, Is't a Cleare businesse? will it mannage well? My name must not be vs'd else.

4. *trans.* To control and direct the affairs of (a household, institution, state, etc.); to take charge of, attend to (cattle, etc.).

a. 1609 *Sir T. Smith's Commw. Eng.* I. xxiv. 34 To speake of the Commonwealth, or policy of England it is gouerned, administered, and mannaged [*edd.* 1583, 1584, 1589, 1594 manured] by three sorts of persons. 1709 in Picton *L'pool Munic. Rec.* (1886) II. 75 Trustees for manageing and takeing care of the said charity schoole. 1857 RUSKIN *Pol. Econ. Art* 15 If the household were rightly managed. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* I. viii, There are no estates to manage. 1881 JOWETT *Thucyd.* I. 190, I have remarked again and again that a democracy cannot manage an empire.

β. 1670 *Moral State Eng.* 90 You must bid fair for her [an Heiress] to those who menage her. 1703 MAUNDRELL *Journ. Jerus.* (1732) 28 What Intervals of time they have..in menaging of their Flocks.

5. To administer, regulate the use or expenditure of (finances, provisions, etc.).

1649 BP. REYNOLDS *Hosea* i. 51 Mannage every one of his gifts to the closing of those miserable breaches which threaten an inundation of calamitie upon us all. 1683 *Brit. Spec.* 78 Besides these the Comes sacrarum largitionum, who managed the Emperors Finances. 1818 JAS. MILL *Brit. India* II. iv. iv. 155 The provisions..had been managed without economy. *absol.* 1842 S. ATKINSON *Chancery Pract.* 270 In every order directing the appointment of a receiver of landed estate, there shall be inserted a direction that such receiver shall manage as well as let and set.

6. To deal with or treat carefully; to use sparingly or with judgement; to husband (one's health, life, money, etc.). [Cf. F. *ménager*.] ? *Obs.*

1649 BP. HALL *Cases Consc.* (1650) 72 Now the same God that hath ordained Soveraigne powers to judge of, and protect the life of others, hath given weighty charge to every man to tender and manage his owne. 1673 DRYDEN *Marr. à la Mode* Prol. 24 [She] manages her last half-crown with care, And trudges to the Mall on foot for air. 1697 — *Æneid* XI. 1090 He spurs amidst the foes, Not managing the life he meant to lose. 1697 COLLIER *Ess. Mor. Subj.* II. (1703) 30 A man, as he manages himself, may die old at thirty, and a child at fourscore. 1701 SWIFT *Contests Nobles & Comm.* Wks. 1755 II. I. 43 Yet we may manage a sickly constitution; and preserve a strong one. 1726 — *Gulliver* IV. vii, I began to..think the Honour of my own Kind not worth managing. 1733–4 BERKELEY *Let. to Prior* 17 Mar. Wks. 1871 IV. 218, I am obliged to manage my health, and I have many things to do.

†b. To treat (persons) with indulgence or consideration. Also *absol.*, to alter one's conduct from fear of giving offence. [= F. *ménager*.] *Obs.*

1714 SWIFT *Let. to Bolingbroke* 7 Aug., I do not find there is any intention of managing you in the least. 1727 OLDMIXON *Clarendon & Whitlock Comp.* 281 If the Parliament of England had manag'd them with the least Complacencey. 1796 BURKE *Regic. Peace* I. Wks. VIII. 147 He temporized; he managed.

7. To control, cause to submit to one's rule (persons, animals, etc.).

1594 MARLOWE & NASHE *Dido* I. i, And full three Sommers likewise shall he waste In mannaging those fierce barbarian mindes. 1657 JER. TAYLOR *Friendship* (ed. 2) 194 Our absolution does but..comfort and instruct your Conscience, direct and manage it. 1694 ADDISON *St. Cecilia's Day*, Musick..With unexpected eloquence can move And manage all the Man with secret art. 1834 MACAULAY *Ess., Pitt* (1887) 317 What probability was there that a mere drudge would be able to manage a large and stormy assembly? 1856 EMERSON *Eng. Traits, Race* Wks. (Bohn) II. 32 His attachment to the horse arises from the courage and address required to manage it. 1866 G. MACDONALD *Ann. Q. Neighb.* ix. (1878) 166 My mother..was the only one that ever could manage him.

8. To bring (a person) to consent to one's wishes by artifice, flattery, or judicious suggestion of motives.

a. 1706–7 FARQUHAR *Beaux Strat.* II. i, London, dear London is the Place for managing and breaking a Husband. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 444 ¶ 4 The Art of managing Mankind, is only to make them stare a little. 1777 A. HAMILTON *Wks.* (1886) VII. 483 He managed them with a good deal of address, and sent them away perfectly satisfied. 1826 DISRAELI *Viv. Grey* III. i, Managing mankind, by studying their tempers and humouring their weaknesses. 1840 LYTTON *Money* V. iii, I have managed even Sharp. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* vii. II. 223 The chief agent who was employed by the government to manage the Presbyterians was Vincent Alsop. 1866 GEO. ELIOT *F. Holt* (1868) 24 Managing one's husband is some pleasure.

β. 1673 WALKER *Educ.* (1683) 92 He embraceth the lies and flatteries of such as thereby gain and menage him.

†b. Const. *to* with inf., *towards*. *Obs.*

a. *a* 1715 BURNET *Own Time* (1724) I. 580 He..was so frighted, that he was easily managed to pretend to discover any thing that was suggested to him.

β. 1692 R. L'ESTRANGE *Josephus, Antiq.* VII. x. (1733) 187 With certain Hints how they were to menage the Heads of the Tribe of Judah towards his Restauration.

9. To operate upon, manipulate for a purpose († const. *to* with inf.); to till (land).

1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* I. i. § 11. 6 As much as one plow can handsomely manage. 1726 POPE *Odyss.* XXIV. 303 Who then thy master, say? and whose the land So dress'd and manag'd by thy skilful hand? 1765 A. DICKSON *Treat. Agric.* (ed. 2) 49 It may be increased by managing the soil in such a manner, as to enable it to attract this food in greater plenty.

b. To adulterate, sophisticate; to 'doctor'.

1820 *Blackw. Mag.* VI. 549 The art of managing or, according to the familiar phrase, doctoring wines.

†**10.** a. To convey by mechanism or contrivance. b. Naut. *To manage out*: to equip and send out (a boat). Cf. *to man out*. *Obs.*

a. 1650 FULLER *Pisgah* 423 How can we conceive that these solid stones..were managed hither..over a mountainous Country?

b. 1638 J. UNDERHILL *News fr. Amer.* in 3 *Mass. Hist. Coll.* (1837) VI. 18 He had managed out a pinnace.

11. To bring to pass by contrivance; hence, to succeed in accomplishing. Also, with *inf.* as obj. (or ellipsis of this); often ironically, to be so unskilful or unlucky as *to do* something (cf. CONTRIVE *v.* 6).

1722 DE FOE *Relig. Courtsh.* I. i. (1840) 29 What, says he, child, is to be done in the affair while I am gone?..I know not how it will be managed, but I believe she will see him no more. 1838 MACREADY *Diary* 3 Aug. *Remin.* (1875) II. 117, I find I managed to lose..£2,500. 1854 DICKENS *Hard T.* II. vii, She is sharp enough; she could manage to coax it out of him, if she chose. 1879 MCCARTHY *Own Times* II. xxix. 400 His plays are among the very few modern productions which manage to keep the stage. 1883 STEVENSON *Treas. Isl.* III. xiv. (1886) 112 My..obvious duty was to draw as close as I could manage. 1895 *Bookman* Oct. 33/1 After gaining any diplomatic success he managed to neutralise the effects of it by some act of fatuous folly.

b. *absol.* To succeed (under disadvantages) in accomplishing one's task; to 'make shift', contrive to get on *with* what is hardly adequate. *colloq.*

1899 *Speaker* 29 July 107/1 'The press of work fairly bewilders me', he writes..but he managed almost without a hitch. *Mod.* I think I might manage with another yard of material.

12. With *can* or *be able*: to cope with the difficulties of; to succeed in using, dealing with, etc.; to 'tackle'.

[1655: see 9.] 1825 LAMB *Elia* Ser. II. *Superann. Man*, It seemed to me that I had more time on my hands than I could ever manage. 1903 *Blackwood's Mag.* Dec. 805/1 [I can] occasionally manage places which are too much for the average snipe-shooter.

Manage, variant of MENAGE *Obs.*

Manageability (mæ·nĕdʒăbi·lĭti). [f. next: see -ITY.] The quality or condition of being manageable; manageableness.

1857 BUCKLE *Civiliz.* I. ii. 98 We have to look..at what may be called the manageability of Nature. 1879 W. H. WHITE in *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 348/2 The limit will be determined by considerations of manageability.

Manageable (mæ·nĕdʒăb'l), *a.* Also 7 mannageable, maneggiable. [f. MANAGE *v.* + -ABLE. Cf. MANIABLE.] That can be managed; amenable to control or guidance, tractable; admitting of being wielded, manipulated, or administered, workable; capable of being accomplished by contrivance.

1598 FLORIO, *Maneggiéuole*, manageable, that may be handled. 1603 FLORIO tr. *Montaigne* II. xii. 280 To them [beasts] as their proper share we leave the essentiall, the maneagable [1632 manageable; F. *maniables*], and palpable goods, as peace, rest,..and health. 1618 BOLTON tr. *Florus* (1636) 73 Italy was now brought under, and made mannageable. 1625 BACON *Ess., Viciss. Things* (Arb.) 576 The Conditions of Weapons..are..That the Carriage may be Light and Manageable; and the like. 1636 E. DACRES tr. *Machiavel's Disc. Livy* I. 32 If thou wouldst make a numerous and warlike people ..thou mak'st them of such a temper, that they shall never be maneggiable at thy will. 1662 J. DAVIES tr. *Olearius' Voy. Ambass.* 253 The Chariot was drawn by two white Oxen, which..were as swift and manageable as our horses. *a* 1677 HALE *Prim. Orig. Man.* IV. vi. 346 The first Constitution and Order of things is not in Per.. or Nature manageable by such a Law. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 479 ¶ 5 They who learn to keep a good Seat on horseback, mount the least manageable they can get. 1740 J. CLARKE *Educ. Youth* (ed. 3) 201 When the Number of Boys in a Class, arises above half a Dozen,..they become less manageable. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. x. 241 It is one convenience of their jars that they are much more manageable than casks. 1798 *Hull Advertiser* 4 Aug. 2/4 A gunboat..being very manageable in a strong tideway. 1856 MRS. BROWNING *Aur. Leigh* I. 370 A meek and manageable child. 1866 ODLING *Anim. Chem.* 14 Only a few of these metallic chlorides can be vaporised at manageable temperatures. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 9 June 4/7 The right of the Chancellor of the Exchequer compulsorily to pay off two..classes of Three per Cent. stocks in manageable amounts.

Manageableness (mæ·nĕdʒăb'lnĕs). [f. prec. + -NESS.] The attribute of being manageable.

1661 BOYLE *Physiol. Ess.* (1669) 104 Which Disagreement ..may..be imputed to the greater or less exactness and manageableness of the Instruments employ'd. 1694 *Phil. Trans.* XVIII. 266 He thinks that the Excellency of the Greek Poetry might at first proceed from the manageableness of the Greek Language. 1768–74 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 78 The ox, the horse, and the sheep have docility and manageableness given them for their characteristic. 1818 COBBETT *Pol. Reg.* XXXIII. 414 The manageableness of her means..will always keep England at the head of the nations of the world. 1903 *Contemp. Rev.* Sept. 393 The

receptivity and the manageableness of the child are at their maximum within the first fifteen minutes of school hours.

Manageably (mæ·nêdʒăbli), *adv.* [f. MANAGEABLE + -LY 2.] In a manageable manner.

1830 HERSCHEL *Stud. Nat. Phil.* 63 In the expansive force of gases, liberated slowly and manageably from chemical mixtures, we have a host of .. powerful energies. 1890 *Universal Rev.* Sept. 159 The amount of really effective power which they can manageably wield at need.

Managed (mæ·nêdʒd), *ppl. a.* Also 7 mannaged, menaged, 9 (in sense 1) maneged. [f. MANAGE *v.* + -ED 1.]

1. Trained to the manège. *arch.*

1591 GREENE *Maidens Dreame* xxi, Men might his stable full of coursers see, Trotters whose manag'd looks would som afright. 1644 EVELYN *Diary* 27 Feb., The Tennis Court, and Cavalerizzo for the menag'd horses, are also observable. 1687 SEDLEY *Bellamira* v. Wks. 1722 II. 163 He..rides three manag'd Horses every Morning. 1722 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 6087/4 A bright dun manag'd Stone Horse ..has been standing at John Hambrow's. 1773 JOHNSON in *Boswell* 24 Sept., A Frenchman goes out upon a managed horse, and capers in the field. 1816 SCOTT *Old Mort.* xvi, Making his managed horse keep time by bounds and curvets to the tune which he whistled. 1835 BECKFORD *Recoll.* 148 Bestriding a maneged horse.

2. Controlled, conducted, administered. Chiefly with advs., as *well-, ill-managed.*

1611 COTGR., *Amesnagé*, Managed, gouerned, ordered, settled, as a household.

†3. Falsified, 'cooked'. *Obs.*

1810 *Sporting Mag.* XXXVI. 279 The mysterious and confused kind of evidence given by this paymaster and the production of those managed papers.

4. Of demeanour, expressions, etc.: Nicely restrained, measured. Now *rare.*

In Burke's use = F. *ménagé.*

1770 BURKE *Pres. Discont.* Wks. 1842 I. 129 Throughout it was a satire, though in terms managed and decent enough, on the politicks of the former reign. 1771 — *Corr.* (1844) I. 291 A behaviour, rather too reserved and managed for the purposes of opposition. 1819 CRABBE *T. of Hall* x, Well I can call to mind the managed air..That in a dubious balance held the mind. 1898 *Academy* 8 Oct. 23/1 A man of tireless energy, of managed affections.

Managee (mænêdʒī·). *nonce-wd.* [f. MANAGE *v.* + -EE.] The person who is managed.

1847 HELPS *Friends in C.* Ser. 1. I. vii, When the manager and the managee are both of the same mind.

Management (mæ·nêdʒmĕnt). Also 7 mannagement, menagement. [f. MANAGE *v.* + -MENT; in the 17–18th c. the development of meaning was influenced by association with the F. *ménagement*, f. *ménager* (see the etymological note to MANAGE *v.*).]

1. The action or manner of managing, in senses of the vb.; the application of skill or care in the manipulation, use, treatment, or control (of things or persons), or in the conduct (of an enterprise, operation, etc.). †In early use sometimes in *plural.*

1598 FLORIO, *Maneggio*, ..management, businesse, handling, negotiation. 1601 R. JOHNSON *Kingd. & Commonw.* (1603) 256 Those..expences which are daiely laide out..for the mannagements of so many warres. 1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 230 In contracts and management of State affaires. 1657 R. LIGON *Barbadoes* (1673) 23, I had time enough to improve my self, in the knowledge of the management of a Plantation of this bulk. 1673 O. WALKER *Educ.* (1677) 65 Over looked, not strictly watched unless there is reason to suspect some ill menagement. 1678 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* 98 The Top-man observing to guide the Saw exactly in the line;..and the Pit-man drawing it ..down; but not so low that the upper and lower Handles of the Saw sink below both their managements. 1736 BUTLER *Anal.* I. iii. Wks. 1874 I. 52 Tranquillity, satisfaction, ..being the natural consequences of prudent management of ourselves, and our affairs. 1796 HORSLEY *Serm.* I. xi. (1812) 239 The holy angels are employed upon extraordinary occasions in the affairs of men, and the management of this sublunary world. 1828 MACAULAY *Dryden* in *Edinb. Rev.* Jan. 26 In the management of the heroic couplet Dryden has never been equalled. 1832 HT. MARTINEAU *Life in Wilds* v. 66, I do not see why these skins should not make us caps and waistcoats, under Fulton's good management. 1834 J. BUSBY *Vineyards France & Sp.* 133 The same care has been extended to the making and subsequent management of their wine. 1865 D. G. MITCHELL *Wet Days* 16 (Cent.) Management of the household, management of flocks, of servants, of land, and of property in general.

b. *spec.* The working or cultivation (of land); hence *dial.* the process of manuring; *concr.* manure. (See E. D. D. s.vv. *Management, Manishment.*)

†c. An instance of managing; an administrative act. *Obs.*

1609 TOURNEUR *Funerall Poeme Sir F. Vere* 34 His ways ..and intents In private and in publique managements. 1615 BRATHWAIT *Strappado* (1878) 137 Thou Saint of Albion, Who had thy auncient consecration From thy religious mannagements, as farre Disperst, as Turke or Christian planted are. *a* 1618 SYLVESTER *Maiden's Blush* 658 His faithfull diligence And mature Wisdome in all managements. 1671 EVELYN *Diary* 14 Nov., Sir Cha. Wheeler, late Governor of the Leeward Islands, having ben complain'd of for many indiscreete managements, it was resolved..to advise his Majesty to remove him. 1676 GLANVILL *Ess.* iv. 34 By inquiry into God's Works, we discover continually, how little we can comprehend of his Ways and Menagements.

†d. Manner of proceeding. *Obs.*

1649 BP. HALL *Cases Consc.* (1650) 35 When some covetous extortioner..buys up the whole lading of the ship, that he may .. sell .. at pleasure ..: The true judgment of which action, & the degrees of the maligunity of it, must be fetcht ..from the management of the buyer. *a* 1715 BURNET *Own Time* (1724) I. 217 By this management of his the thing grew publick.

2. The use of contrivance, prudence, or ingenuity for effecting some purpose; often in unfavourable sense, implying deceit or trickery.

1666 DRYDEN *Ann. Mirab.* Acc. of Poem § 4, I repose upon your management what is dearest to me, my fame and reputation. 1711 in Picton *L'pool Munic. Rec.* (1886) II. 4 Attempts have been..made..to vacate and sett aside the present charter by the management of Mr. Henry Richmond. 1798 WASHINGTON *Let.* Writ. 1893 XIV. 63 If there has been any management in the business, it has been concealed from me. 1842 BORROW *Bible in Spain* xlviii. (Pelh. Libr.) 330 Through the management of Antonio, however, I procured one of the two chests. 1881 JOWETT *Thucyd.* I. 118 We rely not upon management or trickery, but upon our own hearts and hands. 1888 BRYCE *Amer. Commw.* II. xl. 102 Talent for intrigue or 'management' usually counts for more than debating power.

†b. A contrivance, device; in bad sense, a piece of trickery. *Obs.*

1736 NEVE *Builder's Dict.* Pref. 8 The little Artifices, and low Managements, by which some Men in the Bookselling Trade..have..discredited their Business. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. viii. 220 By this management we never wanted turtle for the..four months..we continued at sea.

†3. A negotiation. *To be in a management*: to be engaged in negotiations *with. Obs.*

1705 ADDISON *Italy* 456 They say too that he [the Duke of Savoy] had great Managements with several Ecclesiasticks before he turn'd Hermite. *a* 1715 BURNET *Own Time* (1724) I. 346 Yet, while he made a base complying speech in favour of the Court, and of the war, he was in a secret management with another party.

4. Power of managing; administrative skill; also, † tact, ingenuity.

a 1715 BURNET *Own Time* (1724) I. 189 He was a very prudent man, and had such a management with it, that I never knew any Clergy-man so universally esteemed. 1760 *Ann. Reg.* 53 The argument was conducted with great management and address. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* III. iii. P 4 If you have management enough to worm yourself into his confidence.

†5. Indulgence or consideration shown towards a person; politic moderation in the conduct of a case; an instance of this. [= F. *ménagement.*] *Obs.*

1727 OLDMIXON *Clarendon & Whitlock comp.* 325-6 Decency seem'd to require a little more Management, considering he [Clarendon] was Cromwell's profess'd Enemy. *a* 1743 LD. HERVEY *Mem.* (1848) II. 257 He feared..lest the King and Queen, who hated their son..might construe it to be a management for their son in Sir Robert Walpole, and never forgive it him. *Ibid.* 291 Sir Robert..thought their suspicions of his having had any management or tenderness towards their son were most unjust. 1765 H. WALPOLE *Otranto* iii, The herald, who with so little management had questioned the title of Manfred. 1771 BURKE *Lett., to C. Townshend* (1844) I. 268 When I have any thing to object to persons in power,..I use no sort of managements towards them. 1773 *Ibid.* 432, I suppose this design of Lord Temple's is one cause of his management in opposition, in order to conciliate the Tories. 1790 *Ibid.* III. 135 You certainly do not always convey to me your opinions with the greatest tenderness and management. 1818 JAS. MILL *Brit. India* II. iv. iii. 110 Surraja Dowla..was too ignorant and headstrong to use management with his dislikes.

6. *collect.* A governing body, *e.g.* a committee, board of directors, board of control, board of governors, of any institution or business.

1739 CIBBER *Apol.* x. 273 Drury-Lane, under a particular Menagement. 1847 *Illustr. Lond. News* 10 July 27/2 Wherever they entered into engagements, the managements speak in high terms of their honourable conduct. 1864 *Morn. Star* 26 May 4 These 'authorised offices' do not profess to be 'authorised' by the management. 1902 ELIZ. L. BANKS *Newspaper Girl* 201 There are many necessary outlays which the management of the paper would not pay.

7. *attrib.*, as (sense 1) *management committee, expenses, share.*

1903 *Westm. Gaz.* 12 Oct. 10/1 A member of the *Management Committee of the National Liberal Club. 1901 *Daily Chron.* 14 Aug. 4/3 The leaders of the men say this is due to heavy *management expenses. 1900 *Daily News* 20 Nov. 2/3 The existing 200 one pound *management shares would be divided into a thousand 4s. management shares.

Hence **Manageme·ntal** *a.*, pertaining to the management.

1885 *19th Cent.* June 1061 Each manager reduces managemental expenses so far as lies in his power.

Manager (mæ·nêdʒəɹ). Also 7 menager. [f. MANAGE *v.* + -ER 1.]

1. One who manages (something specified); †the wielder (of a weapon), † the person who wages (a war); the conductor (of an affair). Now *rare* in general sense: see 2, 3.

1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* I. ii. 188 Adue Valour, rust Rapier, bee still Drum, for your manager is in loue. 1590 — *Mids. N.* v. i. 35 Where is our vsuall manager of mirth? What Reuels are in hand? 1598 FLORIO, *Maneggiatóre*, a manager, a handler. 1612 BP. HALL *Imprese of God* II. Wks. (1625) 452 Warre .. hath .. two directors—Iustice and Charity: Iustice, that requires both authoritie in the menager, and innocence in menaging. 1711 HICKES *Two Treat. Christ. Priesth.* (1847) II. 16 The priest is the common manager..of sacred affairs betwixt God and the people.

2. Chiefly with qualifying adj.: One skilled in managing affairs, money, etc.

1670 COTTON *Espernon* I. II. 60 Her Estate therefore requir'd both a discreet manager to husband it, and a man well furnish'd with money, to disengage it. 1684 DK. YORK in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. I. III. 330, I must recommend to you both to be good managers, and to be sure to live within what you have 1710 STEELE *Tatler* No. 248 P 6 A Man of Business in good Company, who gives an Account of his Abilities..is hardly more insupportable than her they call a Notable Woman, and a Manager. 1728 YOUNG *Love Fame* VI. 181 Julia's a manager; she's born for rule; And knows her wiser husband is a fool. 1738 POPE *Epil. Sat.* I. 21 An artful Manager, that crept between His Friend and Shame, and was a kind of Screen. 1806 A. HUNTER *Culina* (ed. 2) 271 She is not what is called a good manager. 1871 C. GIBBON *Lack of Gold* ii, Everybody owned that she was a capital manager. 1884 *Leeds Mercury* 30 Apr. 4/6 The government Whips..seem incapable of contending with the astute managers on the other side.

3. One whose office it is to manage a business establishment or a public institution.

Chiefly in certain specific applications: One who conducts a theatre or other place of amusement; one employed to take charge of the working of a bank, factory, mine, or other mercantile or industrial establishment, or of some particular department of such an establishment; one who has charge of the financial arrangements and the mechanical production of a newspaper, as distinguished from the matters which come within the province of the editor; a person, or one of a body of persons, responsible for the general working of a public institution (in recent English use chiefly of an elementary school).

1705 ADDISON *Italy* 443 The Manager opens his Sluce every Night, and distributes the Water into what Quarters of the Town he pleases. 1741 RICHARDSON *Pamela* II. 341, I think, continued he, that little Kentish Purchase wants a Manager. 1764 *Oxf. Sausage* 38 Some who of old could Tastes and Fashions guide, Controul the Manager and awe the Play'r. 1779 SHERIDAN *Critic* I. i, Now that the manager has monopolized the Opera House, haven't we the signors and signoras calling here. 1809 *Med. Jrnl.* XXI. 173 Your physician has thought it his duty to propose to the [workhouse] managers, the vaccination of the whole number. 1840 CARLYLE *Heroes* iii. (1858) 269 This is our poor Warwickshire Peasant, who rose to be Manager of a Playhouse. 1863 FAWCETT *Pol. Econ.* I. vi. 77 In a joint-stock company, all depends upon the manager or agent. 1870 *Act* 33 & 34 *Vict.* c. 75 § 3 The term 'managers' includes all persons who have the management of any elementary school. 1885 MABEL COLLINS *Prettiest Woman* viii, Then we can see the author, the manager.

4. One of several members of either house of parliament appointed for the performance of some specified duty connected with the functions of the two houses; *esp.* the arranging a conference between the two houses, and the presenting of articles of impeachment.

1666–7 MARVELL *Corr.* Wks. 1872–5 II. 209 We went up to the Lords to manage the impeachment against Lord Mordaunt. Our managers observed that he sat in the House. 1710 [ST. LEGER] *Managers Pro & Con* (ed. 3) 4 To Him and to Me, He and the Council seem'd to be the Managers for the Pretender; and the Commons Managers seem'd only to be of Council for the Queen and the Nation. 1791 BURKE *App. Whigs* Wks. VI. 157 Mr. Walpole (afterwards Sir Robert) was one of the managers on this occasion. 1817 *Parl. Deb.* 4 At the conference the managers for the Lords,..communicated to those for the Commons the Address just agreed to. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVII. 277/2 The conference [between Lords and Commons] is conducted by 'Managers' for both houses. *Ibid.* 279/1 The managers should confine themselves to charges contained in the articles of impeachment. 1841 MACAULAY *Ess., Warren Hastings* (The Trial), The House decided that Francis should not be a manager...The managers, with Burke at their head, appeared in full dress...Nor, though surrounded by such men, did the youngest manager pass unnoticed. 1855 — *Hist. Eng.* xviii. IV. 124 Rochester, in the Painted Chamber, delivered to the managers of the Lower House a copy of the Treaty of Limerick. 1863 H. COX *Instit.* I. ix. 152 The number of members of the Commons named managers of a conference is double that of the Lords. *Ibid.* II. vi. 471 For the prosecution of the trial managers are appointed by the House of Commons.

5. *Law.* A person appointed, ordinarily by a court of chancery, to control, carry on and account for any business which may have fallen into the hands of the court for the benefit of creditors or others: usually *receiver and manager.*

1793 F. VESEY jr. *Chancery Rep.* I. 139 Motion for an order, that the manager of an estate in one of the West India islands should give security faithfully to manage the estate [etc.]. 1821 *Jacob & Walker's Chancery Rep.* I. 299 Praying., that in the meantime a receiver and manager might be appointed. 1827 F. VESEY jr. *Chancery Rep.* (ed. 2) XIX. 146 A Motion was made..for a reference to the Master to appoint a Manager and Receiver. 1880 *Law Rep.* 14 Ch. Div. 645 This was a petition..praying for the appointment by the Court of a manager of the undertaking of the Manchester and Milford Railway. 1880 *Ibid.* 655 When you come to give proper weight to .. the ordinary course of the Court of Chancery in appointing a receiver as distinguished from a manager.

Manageress (mæ·nêdʒərĕs). [f. prec. + -ESS.] A woman manager, e.g. of a theatre or hotel.

1797 MRS. A. M. BENNETT *Beggar Girl* (1813) I. 20 The lady manageress's benefit had been stuck up at every door in the parish. 1819 SCOTT *Fam. Lett.* 23 Aug. (1894) II. 52 A play of Joanna Baillie's which she has sent to Mrs. Siddons (our manageress). 1885 MISS BRADDON *Wyllard's Weird* III. 81 Mdlle. Duprez .. was known and welcomed with friendliest greeting by manageress and head waiter. 1902 ELIZ. L. BANKS *Newspaper Girl* 105, I had given a false name and false address to the manageress of the laundry.

Managerial (mænêdʒī·riăl), *a.* [f. as prec. + -(I)AL.] Of or pertaining to, or characteristic of, a manager, esp. the manager of a theatre.

1767 A. CAMPBELL *Lexiph.* 145 The latter were to be set off with all our inimitable Garrick's managerial art,..and judicious cast of parts. 1807 in *Spirit Pub. Jrnls.* XI. 370 They hail a scheme which promises them relief from managerial neglect and popular damnation. 1854 DICKENS

Hard T. II. i, She usually embellished with her genteel presence a managerial board-room over the public office. 1895 *Times* (weekly ed.) 27 Sept. 778/1 To force the note of approbation at the close, by means of a managerial speech. 1895 *Tablet* 10 Aug. 230 The question of the managerial authority has attracted a great deal of public attention.

Hence **Manage·rially** *adv.*, in the manner or capacity of, or in relation to, a manager.

1882a *Daily News* 9 Mar. 2/3 The Croydon March Meeting, which finished as well as it commenced, managerially and financially speaking. 1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 15 Jan. 10/3 He was..managerially connected with a London theatre.

Managerie, obs. form of MENAGERIE.

Managership (mæ·nédʒəɹʃip). [f. MANAGER + -SHIP.]

1. The office or position of a manager.

1883 *Jrnl. Educ.* XVIII. 151 A local managership of a life insurance company. 1892 *Daily News* 8 Mar. 6/1 Their chances are better than..before the qualifications for manager-ships became the subject of national law.

2. The control of a manager.

1864 *Reader* 24 Dec. 792/1 Under the most energetic and intelligent managership and stage-managership.

†**Ma·nagery.** *Obs.* Also 7–8 menagery, -ie, (7 menagry), manadgery, mannagery, 8 man-(n)agry. [f. MANAGE *sb.* or *v.* + -ERY; but in many examples influenced in sense by F. *ménagerie* (†domestic administration): see MENAGERIE.]

1. Domestic or agricultural administration or economy.

1633 J. DONE tr. *Aristeas' Hist. Septuagint* 74 The Peasants therefore are very carefull..in their..Menagery.. by reason whereof..the region is all planted with Fruite trees. 1677 GREW *Anat. Seeds* iii. § 1 The next step of Natures Managery, relates chiefly to the Growth of the Seed when it is sow'n. 1740 LADY POMFRET *Lett.* (1805) II. 214 The sacred cells, and all the managery Of holy nuns in their retreats, I see. 1720 STRYPE *Stow's Surv.* I. i. xxvi. 185/1 These Men that thus spake against the Managery of this Hospital. *a* 1734 NORTH *Life Ld. Keeper Guilford* (1742) 133 And with all this Menagery and Provision, no one..could observe any Thing more to do there, than in any other Nobleman's House.

b. Husbanding or judicious use of resources; economy.

1673 O. WALKER *Educ.* II. vii. 280 There is also required good menagery, or making your penny go further then another mans. 1705 STANHOPE *Paraphr.* II. 410 Managery is an Ornament and an Advantage to our Charity. 1705 TATE *Triumph* xii, They blest the Managry of those Supplies.

2. The art of managing (weapons, instruments).

1654 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 55 Making Shirts and Smocks for the Poore, and such like Managery of their Needle or Wheele. 1667 *Decay Chr. Piety* v. 100 No expert General will bring a company of raw, untrain'd men into the Field, but will..teach them the ready managery of their Weapons. 1693 WALLIS in *Phil. Trans.* XVII. 846 This I thought fit to recommend to your Consideration, who do so well understand Telescopes, and the managery of them.

3. The function of managing or administering; managership; an administrative office.

1643 HEYLIN *Rebels Catech.* 14 Men who..ingrossed unto themselves the principal managery of the Common-wealth. 1650 R. STAPYLTON *Strada's Low C. Warres* v. 137 This Expedient was committed to the managerie of a Spanish Merchant. 1660 WATERHOUSE *Arms & Arm.* 152 In affaires of warre and peace, in Manadgery of Ecclesiastical, Civil, Naval and Land Trusts. *a* 1734 NORTH *Life Dudley North* (1744) 150 He thought that, in such a Managery, there was so much of Trust, that, of Necessity, they must be, more or less, cheated.

4. Cunning or adroit management; an instance of this.

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* VII. xvi. 371 However husbanded by Art, and the wisest menagery of that most subtile impostor. 1679 EVERARD *Prot. Princes Europe* 9 If France had not..been assured by his managery and tampering with some corrupt Ministers of that Crown, that [etc.]. 1689 *Bloody Assizes* 25 My Lords Threats and other Managery, so disposed the Jury, that..they brought the Lady in Guilty. *a* 1734 NORTH *Exam.* II. iv. § 17 (1740) 241 Bedloe held him in Hand so craftily that, at last, he got him fast in the Trap. It was a nice Managery, and may be shewed for a Pattern.

5. a. Horsemanship: = MANAGE *sb.* 1. b. A place of exercise for horses: = MANAGE *sb.* 3.

1685 COTTON tr. *Montaigne* I. xxxviii. (1711) I. 347 In Menagery, Study, Hunting and all other Exercises, Men are to proceed to the utmost Limits of Pleasure. 1782 J. ADAMS *Diary* Wks. 1851 III. 298 The menagerie, where they exercise the horses, is near the end of the stables.

6. ? Management of health, hygienic treatment.

1697 R. PEIRCE *Bath Mem.* I. ix. 213 The Cautious and orderly Managery of Women..in bathing, and drinking these Waters, have such..successful Effects.

Managery, obs. form of MENAGERIE.

Managing (mæ·nédʒiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [-ING 1.] The action of the vb. MANAGE.

1579 J. STUBBES *Gaping Gulf* D j b, Then will he..leaue thys poore prouence to the mannaging of a viceroy. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. iv. 8 The knight, that aye with foe In fayre defence and goodly menaging Of armes was wont to fight. 1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* 57 b, Wee kicke and winche, and will by no meanes endure his managing. 1596 DRAYTON *Legends* iii. 579 He Me notice gave, What the proud Barons had in managing. 1607 HIERON *Wks.* I. 407 The well ordring and managing of the wife is the glory of the husband. 1607 BP. HALL *Holy Observ.* I. (1609) 20 A charitable vntrueth, and an vncharitable truth, and an vnwise menaging of trueth or loue, are all to bee carefully auoyded. 1681-a PRIDEAUX in Fox Bourne *Locke* (1876) I. viii. 470 Certainly there is some whig intrigue a-managing. 1682 BUNYAN *Holy War* 172 The handling of their arms, the managing of their weapons of war, were marvellous taking to Mansoul and me. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* (1721) I. A vij b, The Way of ordering and managing of Fowls. 1711 *Light to Blind* in 10th *Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 144 Their .. officers signalized themselves in manageing of this last contention.

Ma·naging, *ppl. a.* [-ING 2.] That manages.

1. Addicted to scheming or to assuming the direction of affairs.

a 1715 BURNET *Own Time* (1724) I. 475 She got him to be brought out of prison, and carried him to the Countess of Powis, a zealous managing Papist. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xxxiii, That brisk, managing, lively, imperious woman.

2. Skilful and diligent in management; economical.

1754 RICHARDSON *Grandison* (1811) I. xiv. 89 Sir John spoke of him as a managing man, as to his fortune. 1797 T. WRIGHT *Autobiog.* (1864) 41 He was at this time as careful, sober, and managing a man as any in the neighbourhood. 1825 ESTHER HEWLETT *Cottage Comforts* v. 36 A managing young woman, when she goes to the shop..will take care to look about her. 1894 H. NISBET *Bush Girl's Rom.* 25 With the advent of the charming and managing Kathleen, he drew no more upon his sadly-diminished capital.

3. Having executive control.

1766 *Life of Quin* vi. (1887) 30 The general conditions were, two hundred pounds a year to each managing actor, and a clear benefit. 1847 DISRAELI *Tancred* II. ix, You want a firstrate managing man. 1897 HAVELOCK-WILSON *Sp. Ho. Comm.* 25 Jan., He did not say that..managing owners sent ships to sea for the purpose of gaining by insurance. 1902 ELIZ. L. BANKS *Newspaper Girl* 36 The managing-editor was an ex-Confederate colonel. *Mod.* The managing committee of the society.

†**Ma·nakin.** *Antiq.* [Cf. F. *maniele, manique,* L. *manicula*: see MANACLE *sb.*] An alleged name for a kind of glove worn by soldiers in the twelfth century.

1824 MEYRICK *Anc. Armour* I. 25 The hauberk.. is, with its hood, of the same piece but with sleeves fitting close to the arms, terminating with gloves, manakins, or mufflers, which cover the outsides of the hands and fingers.

Manakin: see MANIKIN.

Manance, -anse, -anss, obs. ff. MENACE.

†**Manant,** *a.*[1] *Obs.* [a. OF. *manant* rich.] Opulent, powerful.

1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 155 The more ryche man be and manaunt, the more hym be-howyth that he be vmbethoght.

†**Manant,** *a.*[2] *Obs.*—[o] [ad. L. *mānant-em,* pres. pple. of *mānāre* to flow.]

1727 BAILEY vol. II, *Manant,* flowing or running.

†**Manantie.** *Obs.* In 4 manauntie. [a. OF. *manantie,* f. *manant* inhabitant.] A dwelling.

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 325 And in bis pes to lyue, and haf þer manauntie.

Manaple, obs. form of MANIPLE

Manar, obs. form of MANOR, MANURE.

Manarolins, variant of MANAVILINS.

Manarvel (mănā·ɹvĕl), *v. Naut. slang.* [Of obscure origin: related to MANAVILINS either as its source or as a back-formation from it.] (See quot.)

1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.,* To *Manarvel,* to pilfer small stores.

Manas(e, -ass(e, -as(s)h, obs. ff. MENACE.

†**Manat.** *Obs.* [Cf. *mennot, monnit,* the minnow (E.D.D.).] Some kind of fish.

1610 FOLKINGHAM *Art Surv.* IV. iii. 83 Fishing..in Fresh waters; as for Samon, Trout, Carpe, Pike, Manat, Breame, ..Minnowes, Crea-fish.

Manat, obs. form of MANATEE.

Man-at-arms. Orig. man-of-arms. [tr. OF. *homme d'armes, homme à armes.*] A soldier, warrior; *spec.* a heavy-armed soldier on horseback.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 2 He is a noble man of armes. *c* 1430 *Syr Gener.* (Roxb.) 3425 Of men of armes thei broght x thousand,..And of othir men of fote also Thre thousaud. 1439 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 33/2 Noo Souldiours, Man' of Armes, nor Archer. 1500-20 DUNBAR *Poems* lxiii. 7 Men of armes, and vailȝeand knychtis. 1530 PALSGR. 242/2 Man of armes, a horse man, *lance. Ibid.* 244/2 Men of armes, *gens darmes.* 1581 PETTIE *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* III. (1586) 161 Two brothers..both men at armes, and in pay with the King. 1598 BARRET *Theor. Warres* 141 The Man at Armes is armed complete, with his cuyrasses of proofe [etc.]..., well mounted vpon a strong and couragious horse. 1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 109 They are able to bring to the field 2000. men at Armes, and infinite troopes of light Horsemen. 1795 SOUTHEY *Joan of Arc* VI. 300 A man-at-arms upon a barded steed. 1814 SCOTT *Ld. of Isles* VI. xii, His men-at-arms bear mace and lance. 1838 THIRLWALL *Greece* xvi. II. 334 Besides the 35,000 helots who attended the Spartans, each man of arms in the rest of the army was accompanied by one light armed. 1874 BOUTELL *Arms & Arm.* ii. 35.

fig. 1871 MORLEY *Voltaire* (1886) 9 Each controversial man-at-arms.

Manatee (mænătī'). *Zool.* Forms: 6–7 manat, manaty, 6–9 manati, 7 mannatee, manentine, manacy, mannaty, manitte, 7–8 manate, mannati, 8 mannasy, mannasi, manatea, manatae, minati, manatie, manattee, 9 mannittee, manatin, 7– manatee. [a. Sp. *manati* (Oviedo 1535), a. Carib *manattouï* (Raymond Breton *Dict. Caraïbe,* 1665). Cf. mod. L. *manātus* (Rondelet *De Pisc. Mar.* 1554, XVI. xviii), whence F. †*manat* (Cotgr.), *manate* (Littré), It. *manátto* (Florio).

The word was commonly identified with the L. *manātus* 'furnished with hands', the animal having fins somewhat resembling hands.]

1. A large aquatic herbivorous cetacean of the genus *Manatus* (order *Sirenia*), esp. *M. americanus*; it inhabits the shallow waters of rivers and estuaries on the Atlantic shores within the tropics. Called also LAMANTIN.

1555 EDEN *Decades* 130 A yonge fyshe of the kynde of those huge monsters of the sea whiche thinhabitours caule Manati. 1568 HACKET *Thevet's New found Worlde* lxxi. 115 Among the which [fish] there is one named Manaty. 1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. ii. 1213 The Indian Manat and the Mullet float O'r Mountain tops, where erst the bearded Goat Did bound and brouz. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 212 The Mannatee or Cow-fish for taste and shape can pose both feeders and beholders. 1684 *Buccaniers Amer.* III. vii. 82 A certain Animal, which the Spaniards call Manentines, and the Dutch, Sea-Cows. 1735 J. ATKINS *Voy. Guinea* 42 Fit haunts for the Manatea and Crocodile. 1799 W. TOOKE *View Russian Emp.* I. 204 Sea-bears, manatis and other sea-animals frequent these shores in herds. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVII. 289/1 The American Manatee is of rounded form, and has been compared to a leathern bottle or wine-skin. 1883 MOLONEY *W. African Fisheries* 28 (Fish. Exh. Publ.) The flesh of the manatee is much appreciated by the natives, resembling a combination of veal and pork.

2. Northern manatee, the edentulous animal *Rhytina Stelleri,* formerly existing in the Behring Straits. †Saint Helena manatee, app. some kind of seal.

1697 DAMPIER *Voy.* (1729) I. 547, I found the *Santa Hellena* Manatee to be, by their shapes..those Creatures called Sea-lyons. 1855 W. S. DALLAS in *Syst. Nat. Hist.* II. 413 The *Rhytina Stelleri,* or Northern Manatee, which like the Dodo, has become extinct.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.,* as *manatee-catching*; manatee-grass, a marine plant of the West Indies, *Thalassia testudinum*; manatee-hide, a whip made of the hide of the manatee; manatee leather, leather made from the hide of the manatee; manatee strap, a strap made of manatee leather; manatee-trap, a trap for harpooning manatees.

1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVII. 289/2 The sport of 'manatee-catching, thus conducted, is described as highly diverting. 1696 SLOANE *Catal. Plant. Jamaica* 5 *Alga Juncea,*..'Manati Grasse. 1871 KINGSLEY *At Last* I, A bottom of white sand, bedded here and there with the short manati-grass. 1855—*Westw. Ho!* xxv, The driver applied the 'manati-hide across his loins, once, twice, with fearful force. 1836 MACGILLIVRAY tr. *Humboldt's Trav.* xviii. 258 She was scourged with straps of 'manatee leather. 1682 T. A. *Carolina* 32 With one of these Manaty Strapps I have seen a Bar of Iron cut and dented. 1883 MOLONEY *W. African Fisheries* 27 'Manatee-trap...Briefly described it is a harpoon of heavy wood tipped with iron, suspended by a string .. from the cross-piece of a supporting wooden framework.

†**Manath.** *Obs.* Forms: 1 mán-áð, 2–3 manaþ, mon-oð, 4 mane-aþ, maineath. [OE. *mán-áð,* f. *mán* MAN *sb.*[2] + *áð* OATH; cf. the equivalent OS. *mênêd* (MDu. *meineet*), OHG. (MHG., mod.G.) *meineid,* ON. *meineiðr* (Da. and Sw. *mened*). The normal mod. form would be **moan-oath.*] False oath, perjury.

a 1000 *Laws Æthelstan* I. c. 25 Seþe man-að [*v.r.* mænneað] swerixe. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 49 Alse þeos men doð þe ligged inne eadbruche and ine gluteneric and ine manaðas. *a* 1200 ORMIN 4480 Þatt tu ne swere nan manaþ Forr lufe ne forr eȝe. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 215 On is leasing, oðer is mon-oð. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 27833 Fals foluing, fals wittnesing, Vnknaun lage, manath [*c* 1375 *Fairf.* mane-aþ, *a* 1400 *Cotton Galba* maineath], and lesing.

Manati, manatin: see MANATEE.

Manatine (mæ·nătəin), *a.* [ad. mod.L. type *manātīnus,* f. *manātus* MANATEE: see -INE.] Resembling, or related to, the manatee; manatoid.

In some recent Dicts.

†**Mana·tion.** *Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *mānātiōn-em,* f. *mānāre* to flow.] The action of flowing out.

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr., Manation,* a flowing, or running a trickling down. 1755 JOHNSON, *Manation,* the act of issuing from something else. 1814 BRACKENRIDGE *Views Louisiana* 288 Without speech, how could we ever communicate to each other, that we possess reasoning powers—a manation of the divine essence?

Manatoid (mæ·nătoid), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. mod.L. *manātoīdēs,* f. *manātus* MANATEE: see -OID.] **a.** *adj.* Resembling the manatee. **b.** *sb.* One of the *Manatoidea.*

In some recent Dicts.

Manattee, -atu, -aty: see MANATEE.

Manauce, -aunce, -ze, -ause: see MENACE.

Manavilins, manavlins (mănæ·vilinz, mănæ·vlinz), *sb. pl. slang.* Also **malhavelins** (*Whitby Gloss.,* 1876), **manablins, manarolins, menavelings.** [Of obscure origin: app. a vbl. sb. in -ING 1. Cf. MANARVEL *v.*] Small matters, odds and ends; articles supplementary to the ordinary fare.

1865 *Hotten's Slang Dict., Manablins,* broken victuals. *Menavelings,* odd money remaining after the daily accounts are made up at a railway booking-office,—usually divided among the clerks. 1887 G. B. GOODE *Fisheries of U. S.* Sect. v. II. 228 To the above-mentioned fare should be added,..the 'manarolins [? *read* manarvlins] of the whalemen—that is, fresh meat, vegetables, milk, butter, eggs, and fruits. 1889 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Robbery under Arms* xxii, He'd a stool and table too..this Robinson Crusoe cove. No end of manavilins either. 1902 E. B. KENNEDY *Black Police*

Queensl. viii. 101 Odds and ends..are described in the Colony by the one useful old naval word 'manavlins', a term which embraces every small thing.

Manayr(e, obs. form of MANOR.

Manbote (mæ·nbōut). *Obs.* exc. *Hist.* [OE. *mannbót*, f. *mann* MAN *sb.*[1] + *bót* BOOT *sb.*[1]] A fine paid to an overlord for the loss of a man.

a 1000 *Laws of Ine* c. 70 Æt twyhyndum were mon sceal sellan to monbote xxx. scill., æt vi. hyndum lxxx. scill, æt twelfhyndum cxx. *Ibid.* c. 76 Sie sio mægbot and sio manbot gelic. *a* 1201 HOVEDEN *Chronica* (Rolls) II. 224 Manbote in Denelaga, et de villano et de Scotman, duodecim horas; de liberis autem hominibus tres marcas. 1656 in BLOUNT *Glossogr.* 1872 E. W. ROBERTSON *Hist. Ess.* Introd. 35 A number of the more important members of the class had evidently been enrolled in the ranks of the feudal nobility and their manbote was 'reckoned in gold'.

Manc, variant of MANK *Obs.*

‖ **Mancando** (maŋkando). *Mus.* [It. = lacking, failing] A direction indicating a decrescendo, or lessening of tone, in an already soft passage (Grove *Dict. Mus.* 1880). 1811 in BUSBY *Dict. Mus.* (ed. 3).

† **Manca·tion.** *Obs.* [ad. med.L. *mancātiōn-em*, n. of action f. *mancāre* to mutilate, f. *mancus* one-handed, maimed.] Maiming, mutilation.

1727 EARBERY tr. *Burnet's St. Dead* 86 This brings me to the next Dispute, how far Mancation destroys this Identity; for as a River, by being divided into many Streams, may lose its Name. So would Man, if he could be supposed split into Halves.

Mance, Manch, obs. ff. MANSE, MUNCH.

Manche[1]**, maunche** (manʃ. Forms: 5 *pl.* mangys (*Her.*), 7 manch, 6-7 maunch, 8-9 maunche, 4, 6-9 manche. [a. F. *manche*, fem. = Pr. *manga, mancha*, Sp., Pg. *manga*:—L. *manica*, f. *man-us* hand.]

1. A sleeve. *Obs.* exc. as applied by antiquaries to the form of sleeve imitated in the heraldic 'manche': see 2.

1391 *Earl Derby's Exp.* (Camden) 90 Et per manus eiusdem a hrawderere pro j manche, pro frenges et laces pro vsu domini, viij marc. pr. 1602 SEGAR *Hon. Mil. & Civ.* II. xi. 71/2 He shalbe apparelled in a blew gowne, with the Manches open in the maner of a Priest. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. 256 A Maunch or Sleeve of the newest Fashion, being now in use of the great Gallants of our times. ..It.. may fitly..be termed the Hounds Ear Maunch.

attrib. 1877 *Encycl. Brit.* VI. 465/2 Tunics..with long and loosely flowing skirts, and having the 'maunche' sleeves.

2. *Her.* A sleeve used as a charge, *esp.* the hanging sleeve of the 14th c.

[*c* 1250 *Roll* in *Planché's Pursuiv. Arms* (ed. 1873) 153 Reginald de Moun, de goules ou ung manche d'argent.] 1486 *Bk. St. Albans, Her.* b iiij b, Mangys be called in armys a sleue. 1592 WYRLEY *Armorie, Ld. Chaudos* 83 Sir Hue Hastings, armd gold, we do redeem, With gulie maunch and siluer labell on. 1610 GUILLIM *Heraldry* IV. vii. 205 Hee beareth Gules, a Dexter Arme habited with a Maunch, Ermine, the handle holding a Flowre de Lice, Or. 1640 YORKE *Union Hon., Names & Armes* 53 Thory. Argent on a bend sable, 3 manches of the first. 1648 HERRICK *Hesper.* 349 That Bar, this Bend; that Fess, this Cheveron; This Manch, that Moone [etc.]. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. 257/1 A Queens Maunch erected A. Pinked or Slashed G. with an hand out of it..is the Crest of Gollnitz of Swabish. 1780 EDMONDSON *Heraldry* II. Gloss., *Manche*, a sleeve...Some of our English Writers call it, though improperly, *Maunche*. 1864 BOUTELL *Her. Hist. & Pop.* xiv. (ed. 3) 151 Hastings or, a manche gu. 1868 CUSSANS *Her.* vii. (1893) 118 Manche, or Maunche: A hanging sleeve.

b. *Manche maltale* [ad. F. *manche mal taillée*, lit. 'ill-cut sleeve'], an irregularly shaped manche.

a 1550 in Baring-Gould & Twigge *West. Armory* (1898) 1 *Achim*: Ar: a manch maltaile sab. 1562 LEIGH *Armorie* 176 He beareth Or, a Manche maltale Geules. 1572 BOSSEWELL *Armorie* II. 89. [1610 GUILLIM *Heraldry* IV. vii. 205 Maunch..of some Armorists, is termed Manche mal tailee, *Quasi manica malè talliata*, as an ill shapen Sleeue.]

Hence † **Ma·nched** *a. Obs.*, having a (half) 'manche' or sleeve.

1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. 257/1 This is a Maunch half Maunched, being a close sleeve, with another open or wide sleeve coming over it, even to the bending of the Elbow. This was in fashion about the year 1620 and 1644.

‖ **Manche**[2] (manʃ). [F. *manche* masc., lit. 'handle' = Sp., Pg. *mango*, It. *manico*:—popular L. **manicum*, f. *man-us* hand.] (See quot.)

1876 STAINER & BARRETT *Dict. Mus. Terms, Manche*, the neck of a violin or guitar, &c.

Manche[3]. [a. Malayālam *manji*.] A large flat-bottomed boat with one mast, used on the Malabar coast for landing cargoes. (Cf. MANCHUA.)

1855 in OGILVIE, Suppl. 1862 BEVERIDGE *Hist. India* I. I. x. 237 Manché of Calicut. A boat used on the Malabar coast, having a flat bottom, rendering it suitable for crossing the bars at the mouths of rivers.

Manche: see MUNCH.

Mancheat(e, obs. form of MANCHET.

Manchenille, obs. form of MANCHINEEL.

Manche-present, var. MAUNCH-PRESENT.

‖ **Mancheron** (manʃəroñ). Also 8 manceron. [Fr., f. *manche* sleeve, MANCHE[1].] a. *Fr. Her.* A sleeve used as a bearing. b. Trimming on the upper part of the sleeve of a woman's dress.

1725 COATS *Dict. Her., Mancheron* is a Sleeve, as us'd indifferently with Manche by French Heralds, and signifies any Sort of Sleeve, not to be confin'd to that in particular which we commonly call by the Name of Manche. 1727 BAILEY vol. II, *Manceron* (with *French Heral.*), a sleeve used indifferently with *Manche*, and signifies any sort of sleeve. 1835 *Court Mag.* VI. p. ix/1 Velvet mancherons of the shell form, edged with blond lace.

Manchester (mæ·nʧəstəɹ). The name of a large city in Lancashire, the chief centre of the cotton manufacture.

1. Used *attrib.* or as *adj.* chiefly in the names of various cotton goods produced there, as *Manchester cottons*, etc. Also **Manchester-man** (see quot. 1851). **Manchester wares,** cotton goods manufactured at Manchester; hence *Manchester warehouse, warehouseman.*

1552 *Act* 5 & 6 *Edw. VI*, c. 6 § 1 All and everie Cottonnes called Manchester Lancashire and Chesshire Cottonnes... And .. all Clothes called Manchester Rugges otherwise named Frices. 1580 R. HITCHCOCK *Pol. Plat* F ij, At Rome in Fraunce..be solde our Englishe wares, as Welche and Manchester Cottons [etc.]. 1704 *Jrnl. Ho. Comm.* 27 Jan. 499/2 Linnen and Woollen cloth and other goods called Manchester Wares. 1762 *Lond. Chron.* 18-20 Mar. XI. 266/2 Blue Manchester velvets, with gold cords..are generally the uniform of Bum-bailiffs [etc.]. 1794 W. FELTON *Carriages* (1801) I. 24 A strong Manchester tape, called web. 1795 J. AIKIN *Descr. Manchester* 183 When the Manchester trade began to extend. 1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* (1864) I. 419/1 The packmen are sometimes called Manchester-men. These are the men whom I have described as the sellers of shirtings, sheetings, &c. 1851 in *Illustr. Lond. News* (1854) 5 Aug. 119/1 [Occupations of People.] Manchester-warehouseman. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Manchester and Glasgow Warehouse*, a sale depository for all kinds of cotton goods. 1899 *Daily News* 9 Jan. 2/4 Unlawfully applying a certain false trade description to 'Manchester linen'.

b. In the names of various colours, as *Manchester black, brown, yellow.*

1862 O'NEILL *Dict. Calico Printing*, etc. 24 What was called Manchester black, was obtained by first steeping in galls or sumac, then [etc.]. 1870 J. W. SCLATER *Man. Colours* 113 Manchester Yellow (Jaune d'Or, Naphthylamine Yellow), the most splendid yellow colouring matter known, prepared from napthalin. *a* 1873 CRACE-CALVERT *Dyeing*, etc. (1876) 472 'Manchester yellow' or 'Martius' yellow',.. gives a very pure gold colour on silk and wool.

2. *Manchester School*: a name first applied by Disraeli to the body of politicians, led by Cobden and Bright, who, before the repeal of the Corn Laws, held their meetings at Manchester and advocated the principles of free trade. It was afterwards extended by their opponents to the party who supported those leaders on other questions of policy. Also, in *Manchester policy*, etc., used derisively to designate a policy of laissez-faire and self-interest.

1848 DISRAELI *Sp. Ho. Comm.* 10 Mar., in Hansard 417 The great leaders of the school of Manchester..laid down this principle, that you were to buy in the cheapest and sell in the dearest market. 1849 — *Sp.* 6 July ibid. 1495, I say the Manchester school. I have a right to use that phrase, for I gave them that name. I gave it them with all respect. 1851 BRIGHT in G. B. Smith *Life & Sp.* (1881) I. 345 [In an address to his constituents.] Now, we are called the 'Manchester Party', and our policy is the 'Manchester policy', and this building I suppose is the schoolroom of the 'Manchester School'. I do not repudiate that name at all. I think it is an honour [etc.]. 1881 MORLEY *Cobden* I. vi. 151 When we look back upon the affairs of that time [1854], we see that there were two policies open. Lord Palmerston's was one, the Manchester policy was the other. 1882 J. RAE in *Contemp. Rev.* Jan. 101 They repudiate the Manchester idolatry of self-interest. 1902 B. KIDD *West. Civiliz.* xi. 405 The inherent tendency of all economic evils to cure themselves if simply left alone—the characteristic doctrine of the Manchester school of thought in England.

3. *absol.* or *sb.* Some kind of cotton fabric.

1777 MME. D'ARBLAY *Early Diary* (1889) II. 169 Betsy.. had a very showy striped pink and white Manchester. 1799 W. TOOKE *View Russian Emp.* III. 509 Cotton-manufactories..make..coarse muslin, manchester,..&c.

4. *slang.* The tongue. ? *Obs.*

1812 in J. H. VAUX *Flash Dict.* 1820 *Lond. Mag.* I. 26/1 If, instead of bidding her hold her manchester, he had attended to her advice. 1823 *Grose's Dict. Vulgar Tongue.*

Hence **Ma·nchesterdom** [formed after G. *Manchesterthum*, a word used by German socialists] = next; **Ma·nchesterism,** the principles advocated by or attributed to the 'Manchester school'; **Ma·nchesterist,** one who supports Manchesterism.

1882 J. RAE in *Contemp. Rev.* Jan. 101 Much of his [Todt's] work is devoted to show the..inner antagonism of Christianity and Manchesterdom. .. The merely nominal Christian..is always a spiritual Manchestrist, worshipping *laissez faire, laissez aller*, with his whole soul. 1883 SHUTTLEWORTH in *Pall Mall G.* 29 Nov. 10/1 Manchesterism, which enriched the few at the expense of the many. 1898 J. A. HOBSON *Ruskin* vi. 134 Manchesterism, which is sometimes taken as the type of commercial selfishness.

Manchet (mæ·nʧét). *Obs.* exc. *dial.* or *Hist.* Forms: 5-7 manchett, 6-7 maunchet, (5 manchete, manged, mengyd, maynchett, maunchett, 6 mayngate, mancheat(e), *Sc.* manshote, 7 maincheat, *Sc.* mainschot, meaneschot, 7, 9 *dial.* manchent, 8 *dial.* manshut, 9 manchette, *dial.* manchun, maushun (etc.: see E. D. D.), 5- manchet. [Of doubtful origin.

At Rouen, a ring-shaped cake of bread (in ordinary Fr. called *couronne*) is known as *manchette*, lit. 'cuff' (Robin *Patois normand*, and Littré *Suppl.*), but this name (which may be of recent origin) is obviously descriptive of shape, while the Eng. word in early use denotes a certain quality of bread. The identity of sense with PAINDEMAINE, DEMEINE, *mainе-bread* (see MAINE *sb.*) suggests the possibility of etymological connexion with those words. The word might represent an AF. diminutive f. **demenche*:—L. *dominica*, or it might be an Eng. compound f. MAINE *sb.* + CHEAT *sb.*[2]; but either supposition involves some difficulties.]

† **1.** The finest kind of wheaten bread; = PAINDEMAINE. *Obs.*

c 1420 *Liber Cocorum* (1862) 53 Þou tost shyves of gode manchete,..benne Sawce hom with sugur. *c* 1450 [see CHEAT *sb.*[2]]. 1467 *Mann. & Housek. Exp.* (Roxb.) 409 Item, my mastyr paid at Douer for drynkenge pottes, glasses, and for manchett to haue to the schippe, v.s. 1540-1 ELYOT *Image Gov.* 84 He woulde eate a good quantitee of milke, sopped with fine manchet. 1567 GOLDING *Ovid's Met.* XI. (1593) 261 His officers..set downe sundrie sorts of meate and mancheat thereupon. 1577 HARRISON *England* III. i. in *Holinshed* M vij b, Of breade made of wheat we haue sundry sortes..wherof the first and most excellent is the manchet, which we commonlye call white breade, in latin *primarius panis*. 1620 VENNER *Via Recta* i. 20 Our manchet.. is made of fine flower of wheat, hauing in it no leauen, but in steede thereof a little harme. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 157 The finest Manchet it may be in the World is made here [Goa]. 1736 BAILEY *Housh. Dict.* 62 The best and principal bread is Manchet, which is order'd as follows. *a* 1791 GROSE *Olio* (1796) 304 They eat some manchet, and had five shillings worth of liquor.

† b. *transf. Obs. rare.*

1590 BARROUGH *Meth. Physick* III. vii. (1617) 110 Giue them [of a doglike appetite] manchet made of fat broths without hony.

c. *fig.* Used in Hanmer's translation of Eusebius and copied or used allusively by later historians.

1577 HANMER *Anc. Eccl. Hist.* III. xxxii. 55 [Ignatius said:] In so much that I am the wheate of God, I am to be grinded with the teeth of beastes, that I may be founde pure breade or fine manchet [L. *ut mundus panis inueniar*. Gr. *ἵνα καθαρὸς ἄρτος εὑρεθῶ τοῦ Χριστοῦ*]. 1610 BOYS *Wks.* (1622) 229. 1630 BRATHWAIT *Eng. Gentlem.* (1641) 230. 1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* III. xx. 206. 1650 S. CLARKE *Eccl. Hist.* (1654) I. 3. 1702 C. MATHER *Magn. Chr.* VII. 5.

2. A small loaf or roll of the finest wheaten bread. Now only *arch.* or *dial.*

The bread was moulded into small loaves, round and flattish, or into rolls, thicker in the middle than at the ends.

1481 CAXTON *Reynard* (Arb.) 68 Tho gaf I hym acopel of maynchettis with swete butter. *a* 1483 *Liber Niger* in *Housch. Ord.* (1790) 22 The Kyng for his brekefast, two looves made into four maunchetts. 1562-3 in Swayne *Sarum Church-w. Acc.* (1896) 107 Mayngates and Cakes, vjs. 1629 *Burgh Recs. Stirling* (1887) I. 163 That na baxteris..sell ony meaneschottis..bott according to the paice and pryce of quhyt bread. 1655 MOUFET & BENNET *Health's Improv.* (1746) 340 Bread..of middle size between Gentlemens Rolls or little Manchets, and the great Loaves used in Yeomen's Houses. 1660 *Manch. Court Leet Rec.* (1887) IV. 277 Raph Burdsall for Makeing manchetts too light. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. 293/2 A Rowle, a Manchet, a Wigg, is White Bread moulded long ways, and thick in the middle. 1747 MRS. GLASSE *Cookery* IX. 109 A French Manchet does best; but there are little Loaves made on purpose for the Use. 1781 J. HUTTON *Tour to Caves* Gloss., *Manshut*, a load [*read* loaf] of bread. 1840 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. I. *St. Nicholas* xlii, And a manchette of bread..And a cup o' the best. 1870 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* I. I. 204 Ripe fruits and wheaten manchets fine.

fig. 1531 TINDALE *Exp. 1 John* (1537) 76 That mouthe haue they stopped with a leuended maunchet of theyr pharisaycall gloses.

b. A cake of the form of a manchet.

1562 BULLEYN *Bk. Simples* 2 b, The pouder thereof [aniseede], wyth the pouders of Fenell [etc.]..tempered with Wheate flower, water and red Wyne, and so baked in manchets or cakes. 1570 B. GOOGE *Pop. Kingd.* IV. 45 And after with the selfe same wine are little manchets [orig. *pastilli*] made, Agaynst the boystrous winter stormes.

c. *Her.* The representation of a manchet of bread used as a bearing.

1640 YORKE *Union Hon., Names & Armes* 43 Gentry of Lincolneshire. Pyster. argent, on a peele sable, 3 manchets proper. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. 293/2 He beareth Gules, a Rowl or Manchet, and a Loaf of Bread, Or. 1780 EDMONDSON *Heraldry* II. Gloss. 1847 in *Gloss. Her.*

3. *attrib.*, as *manchet bread, cake, flour, loaf.*

c 1430 *Two Cookery Bks.* 43 Take mengyd [*MS. Douce* mayned] Flowre. *c* 1450 *Ibid.* 83 Then take manged brede [*MS. Douce* maynche brede] or paynmar. 1542 BOORDE *Dyetary* xi. (1870) 258, I do loue manchet breade. 1551 BIBLE 1 *Kings* iv. 22 And Salamons fode was in one day thyrtie quarters of manchet floure [Vulg. *similæ*]. 1595 DUNCAN *App. Etymol.* (E. D. S.) 74 *Simila*, manshote flour. 1620 VENNER *Via Recta* i. 20, I reiect not the vse of leauen, to the making either of manchet bread or of greater loaues. 1742 JARVIS *Quix.* I. IV. xxxi. (1885) 178 Winnowed by her hands it made the finest manchet bread. *a* 1847 *Johnnie Faa* iv. in Sheldon *Minstr. Eng. Border* 329 The Earl..Gied them red wine and manchet cake. 1859 TENNYSON *Geraint & Enid* 389 And Enid brought sweet cakes to make them cheer, And..manchet bread. 1881 *N. & Q.* 6th Ser. III. 430/1 The manchet loaf [in W. Cornwall] is in shape very much like an ordinary French roll, i. e. it is an oblong lump of dough which rises in the middle.

‖ **Manchette**[1] (manʃɛt). [Fr., dim. of *manche* sleeve, MANCHE[1].] A kind of trimming worn round the lower part of the sleeve of a woman's dress. Also *transf.*

1835 *Court Mag.* VI. p. xiv/1 A blond manchette of the antique form, looped in front by a bow of white satin riband terminates the sleeve. 1880 WEBSTER Suppl., *Manchette*, an ornamental ruffle or cuff. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 3 May 8/2 The hair..has to be fashioned out into bracelets or manchettes by the canine coiffeurs.

‖ **Manchette**[2]. *Obs.* [= F. *manchette* (Littré *Suppl.*), a negro-Fr. corruption of Sp. *machete* MATCHET.] = MATCHET.

1761 *Char.* in *Ann. Reg.* 3/2 A kind of very short sabre called Manchette [by the Buccaneers of St. Domingo]. 1804 tr. *Piguenard's Zoflora* I. 89 Negroes .. armed only with manchettes. *Note.* A kind of sabre with which the negroes trim the hedges in America.

Man-child. Plural **men-children**, † **man-chylder(yn.** A male child.

a 1400 *Octouian* 101 Vppon Florence..He gette and wan Two man-chylderyn. *c* 1430 *Syr Tryam.* 1707 Man chylder had they twoo. 14.. *Sir Beues* 3640 (MS. C) Man chyldur [*A* knaue children, *M* men children] had sche two. 1471 CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) I. 15 To espye..yf his wife broght forth men children. 1535 COVERDALE *Gen.* xvii. 10 Euery manchilde whan it is eight dayes olde, shalbe circumcyded. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. i. 53 Lucina came : a manchild forth I brought. 1605 SHAKS. *Mach.* I. vii. 72 Bring forth Men-Children onely : Fro thy vndaunted Mettle should compose Nothing but Males. 1700 CONGREVE *Way of World* IV. v, I denounce against all strait lacing, squeezing for a shape, till you mould my boy's head like a sugar-loaf, and instead of a man-child, make me father of a crooked billet. 1877 BLACK *Green Past.* iii. (1878) 23, I don't believe there is a man-child born in the town but you begin to wonder what the Government will do for him.

Hence † **Manchildhood.**

a 1618 SYLVESTER *St. Lewis* 85 When Heav'ns assign'd him to his Father's Throne ; And to the hands of his Man-Childehood left The glorious Burthen of this Scepter's heft.

Manchineel (mæn,tʃinī·l). Forms : 7 maneinell, manchonele, -chioncel, -chionell, -tionell, -zanilla, manchinelo, 7–8 mançanilla, 8 mansanillo, mançanillo, -chinello, mansaneel, manchaneel, mangeneel, manchenille, -eel, manchinelle, -ello, machinel, 8–9 machineel, manchineal, 9 machinelle, manchioneal, manzanillo, 7– manchineel. [a. F. *mancenille*, a. Sp. *manzanilla*, dim. of *manzana* apple, altered form of OSp. *mazana* (= Pg. *mazãa*) :—L. *matiāna* (neut. pl., sc. *poma*, *mala*) a kind of apple, named from the Roman gens *Matia.*]

1. A West Indian tree, *Hippomane Mancinella*, having a poisonous and caustic milky sap, and acrid fruit somewhat resembling an apple. Also *manchineel tree* (see 2).

1630 [see 2]. 1657 LIGON *Barbados* 68 And as this tree's poyson is in her sap, so the Mantionell's is in her fruit. 1672 BLOME *Descr. Jamaica* 27 Here is the Manchonele, which is a kind of a Crab, so common in all the Caribbee Isles. 1747 CATESBY in *Phil. Trans.* XLIV. 603 These Plants..grow on large Trees ; particularly Mahogony, Sappadillo, Mançanilla, &c. 1777 ROBERTSON *Hist. Amer.* (1783) II. 101 In other parts of America, they employ the juice of the manchenille,..and it operates with no less fatal activity. 1793 W. MAVOR *Chr. Politics* 18 The Tree of Liberty, which has proved more baneful than the Manchineel to those who have sought its shade. 1801 SOUTHEY *Thalaba* IX. xxiii, With the mandrake and the manchineel She builds her pile accurst. 1871 KINGSLEY *At Last* i, We learnt to distinguish the poisonous Manchineel.

b. *Bastard manchineel*, a West Indian tree, *Cameraria latifolia.*

1838 LINDLEY *Flora Med.* 537 *Cameraria latifolia.*.. Bastard Manchineel tree. 1864 GRISEBACH *Flora W. Ind.* 785.

c. A poison obtained from the manchineel tree.

1891 'J. EVELYN' *Baffled Vengeance* iii. 35 Putting a pinch of manchineel or some other poison in his chocolate.

d. The wood of the machineel tree.

1683 J. POYNTZ *Tobago* 30 *Manchioneel*, is a sort of Timber for Plank, and Sheathing.

2. *attrib.*, as *manchineel apple, bush, tree.*

1630 CAPT. SMITH *Trav. & Adv.* 55 The *Mancinell apple. 1750 G. HUGHES *Barbadoes* 123 The pulp of these Manchaneel apples. 1871 KINGSLEY *At Last* vi, To feel our way..cautiously..past the *Manchineel bush. 1696 PHILLIPS (ed. 5), **Manchinelo Tree*, a Tree that grows wild in the woods of Jamaica. 1707 SLOANE *Jamaica* I. p. CXX, In felling a mansanillo tree..some of the milk spurted into his eye. 1766 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 109/2 A very rich crimson die, from a preparation of the fruit of the manchineal tree. 1830 LINDLEY *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 105 The famous Manchineel tree..is said to be so poisonous, that persons have died from merely sleeping beneath its shade.

Manchip, obs. form of MANSHIP.

Manch-present, var. MAUNCH-PRESENT.

Manchun, dial. form of MANCHET.

Mancinism (mæ·nsiniz'm). *rare.* [ad. It. *mancinismo*, f. *mancino* left-handed : see -ISM.] The state or condition of being left-sided.

1890 H. ELLIS *Criminal* iii. 111 Anatomical mancinism is not necessarily related with motor mancinism.

Mancio(u)n, obs. form of MANSION.

Mancipable (mæ·nsipăb'l), *a. Roman Law.* [ad. L. type **mancipābilis*, f. *mancipāre* : see MANCIPATE *v.* and -ABLE.] That may be conveyed or transferred by mancipation.

1875 POSTE *Gaius* II. (ed. 2) § 22 Property in things mancipable..is conveyed by mancipation. 1876 ABDY & WALKER tr. *Ulpian* XIX. viii. 392 By usucapion we obtain the ownership of things both mancipable and non-mancipable.

Mancipal, obs. form of MANCIPLE.

Mancipant (mæ·nsipănt). *Roman Law.* [ad. L. *mancipant-em*, pr. pple. of *mancipāre* : see MANCIPATE *v.* and -ANT.] One who disposes of property by mancipation.

1880 MUIRHEAD *Gaius* I. § 119 The coin..he then gives to the mancipant or party from whom the slave is being received.

† **Mancipate,** *pa. pple.* and *ppl. a. Obs.* [ad. L. *mancipāt-us*, pa. pple. of *mancipāre* : see next.] Made subject (*to*).

1502 ARNOLDE *Chron.* 60 b/2 The said gengemi was taken and to prison mancipate. 1577 HOLINSHED *Chron. Eng.* 192/1 As they whiche though they were partly free, yet in some poynt remayned styll as thrall and mancipate to the subiection of the English men. 1687 RENWICK *Serm.*, etc. (1776) 531 All are to be mancipate and enslaved to it.

Mancipate (mæ·nsipēit), *v.* [f. L. *mancipāt-*, ppl. stem of *mancipāre*, f. *man-us* hand + root of *capĕre* to take.]

1. *Roman Law.* (*trans.*) To hand over by the formality of MANCIPATION.

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Mancipate*, to deliver possession, to give the right to another, to sell for money. 1870 ABDY & WALKER tr. *Gaius* I. CXX. 40 In this manner persons, both slaves and free, are mancipated. *Ibid.* CXXI. But estates can be mancipated when at a distance. 1880 MUIRHEAD *Gaius* I. § 132 The father again mancipates him either to the same person..or to a different one—it is the usual practice to mancipate to the same.

† 2. To make subject, enslave. Chiefly with *to*, *unto*. Often *transf.* and *fig. Obs.*

1574 NEWTON *Health Mag.* Pref., For their sakes .. that live of themselves freely and are not enthralled or mancipated to the inconveniences abovesaide. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* I. ii. iv. vi. (1651) 160 They voluntarily mancipate, and sell themselves..to rich men to avoid hunger and beggery. 1633 W. STRUTHER *True Happiness* Ep., Aristotle .. disputed much of Vertue ; but proved miserable in his life, and with the rest mancipated vertue unto pleasure. 1644 H. PARKER *Jus Pop.* 23 When the election .. of Judges, Commanders and Counsellors of State is requested, 'tis answered that this is to mancipate the Crowne. *a* 1677 HALE *Prim. Orig. Man.* I. ii. 47 Which cannot be done by Plants, who are mancipated and fixed to the place of their station or growth. *a* 1713 ELLWOOD *Autobiog.* (1855) 187 One to soft music mancipates his ear. 1755 JOHNSON, *Slave*, one mancipated to a master. 1756 *Monitor* No. 41 (1760) I. 397 What brought Gaveston to the block ? but his mancipating the king.

¶ b. (See quot.) 1623 COCKERAM, *Mancipate*, to tame.

† 3. To devote or consecrate *to*. *Obs.*

1715 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* I. 77 Monday is Mancipated to the Invocation of Saints. 1829 J. DONOVAN tr. *Catech. Council Trent* II. vii. Quest. 18 Know that thou art mancipated [ed. 2 (1839) altered to 'devoted' : L. *mancipari*] to light the lights of the Church, in the Name of the Lord.

¶ 4. Misused for EMANCIPATE. *Obs. rare*—1.

Cf. med.L. *mancipatio* (in Du Cange).

a 1677 BARROW *Serm.* Wks. 1686 II. 212 Such a dispensation is a pupillage, and a slavery, which he [man] earnestly must desire to be redeemed and mancipated from.

Hence **Mancipating** *ppl. a.*

1819 H. BUSK *Vestriad* III. 537 Coarcted by your mancipating spell.

Mancipation (mæns*i*pē·ʃən). [ad. L. *mancipātiōn-em*, n. of action f. *mancipāre* to MANCIPATE.]

1. The ceremonial process by which certain kinds of property (designated as *res mancipi*) were transferred (see quot. 1880).

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Mancipation*, a manner of selling before witnesses with sundry ceremonies, &c. 1774 HALLIFAX *Anal. Rom. Civ. Law* 24 By the old Roman laws Alienation of things Corporeal was of two kinds. 1. Mancipation. 2. Tradition. The former related to such things as were called *Res Mancipi*. 1849 COLQUHOUN *Rom. Civ. Law* § 558 I. 474 The emption on the part of the husband was done in the same form as the usual quiritian mancipations. 1880 MUIRHEAD *Ulpian* XIX. § 3 Mancipation is a mode of alienation peculiar to *res mancipi*, and is performed by recital of certain words of style, in presence of a balance-holder and five witnesses.

2. *gen.* The action of enslaving ; the state of being enslaved.

1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* III. vii. 395/1 If..any bondman were desirous to staye..his voluntarie bondage should be confirmed by the ceremonie of Mancipation. 1637 GILLESPIE *Eng. Pop. Cerem.* III. viii. 169 The consecration and mancipation of him to the holy Ministery. 1643 *Plain English* 9 The mancipation of themselves to the promiscuous service of the Queen. 1649 JER. TAYLOR *Gt. Exemp.* II. viii. 68 They who fall away..into a contradictory state of sinne and mancipation. 1663 WATERHOUSE *Comm. Fortescue* 187 They [the Romans]..prevailed against all mankinde to their Mancipation under them.

¶ 3. (See quot.) 1623 COCKERAM, *Mancipation*, a taming.

Mancipative (mæ·nsipătiv), *a. Roman Law.* [f. MANCIPATE *v.* + -IVE.] = next.

1875 POSTE *Gaius* II. 182 The mancipative will, or will by bronze and scale, probably began to supersede the older form as soon as the Twelve Tables had given legal force to the nuncupative part of mancipation.

Mancipatory (mæ·nsipătəri), *a. Roman Law.* [f. MANCIPATE *v.* + -ORY.] Pertaining or involving mancipation.

1861 MAINE *Anc. Law* vi. (1876) 212 The Mancipatory Testament by which the *universitas juris* devolved at once and unimpaired. 1880 MUIRHEAD *Gaius* III. § 167 Except when he [a slave] expressly stipulates or takes by mancipatory conveyance [etc.]. *Ibid.* IV. § 131 An *actio ex empto* for mancipatory conveyance to us of lands we have bought.

Mancipee (mæ·nsipē·). [irreg. f. MANCIP(ATE) *v.* + -EE.] The person to whom the property is transferred by mancipation.

1880 MUIRHEAD *Gaius* I. § 123 Persons mancipated by parents..are appropriated by the mancipee with the very same words with which he would appropriate a slave.

Manciple (mæ·nsip'l). Forms : 4 maunciple, (5 mawncple, -cypylle, 6 mansebyll), 5–6 maneyple, (7 mansiple, 8 mancipal), 3– manciple. [a. OF. *manciple*, *mancipe* (for the ending cf. *principle*, *participle*), ad. L. *mancipium*, f. *manus* hand + root of *capĕre* to take.

In classical L. *mancipium* meant acquisition by purchase, absolute ownership, hence *concr.* a slave. In med.L. it meant also the office or function of a *manceps* or buyer in of stores (in late L. this word sometimes denoted the manager of a public bakery : so in late Gr. form *μάγκιψ*). It may be conjectured that in monastic use the word denoting the office was applied (like many similar terms) to the person charged with it, and that this application is the source of sense 1 below, which seems not to be known in OF.]

1. An officer or servant who purchases provisions for a college, an inn of court, a monastery, etc.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 214 Þe ȝiure glutun is þes feondes manciple. Uor he stikeð euer iðe celere, oðer iðe kuchene. His heorte is iðe disches. [Prob. a misunderstanding of a Lat. original which had *mancipium* in the sense of bondservant, slave.] *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 567 A gentil maunciple was ther of a temple Of which Achatours myghte take exemple ffor to be wise in byynge of vitaille. 1401 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 95 Oones I was a maneiple at Mertoun halle. 1482 *Monk of Evesham* (Arb.) 49 And thoo thyngys that were necessarye to the ornamentys of alle the chyrche,..y wolde dylygently orden therfore, as y had be hys famylyar seruante and mawncypylle. 1530 in W. H. Turner *Select. Rec. Oxford* 78 The..Proctors requyrd the..XXVS of the mansebyll. *Ibid.* 89 Gunter beyng a mancyple to scolers. 1641 MILTON *Reform.* II. 84 Furnish't with no more experience then they learnt betweene the Cook and the maniple. 1660 WOOD *Life* (O.H.S.) I. 352 At Queen's Coll. Oxon is every year a bore's head provided by the maniple against Xtmasday. 1721-2 AMHERST *Terræ fil.* No. 1 ; (1754) 63 Father William ..made him maniple of his college, a sinecure worth twenty pounds a year. 1821 LAMB *Elia* Sec. I. *Old Benchers I. T.*, I remember..the cook applying to him [Jackson], for instructions how to write down *edge* bone of beef..He decided the orthography. [and]..dismissed the maniple (for the time) learned and happy. 1848 J. H. NEWMAN *Loss & Gain* (1853) 67 In came the maniple with the dinner paper, which Mr. Vincent had formally to run his eye over. 1891 *Daily News* 26 Dec. 2/5 The ancient ceremony of serving up a boar's head at Queen's College was duly observed yesterday. ..A splendid specimen, weighing upwards of sixty pounds, had been prepared by the College manciple. 1893 FOWLER *Hist. C. C. C.* (O.H.S.) 458 *note*, The offices of First Cook and Manciple were now [1868] combined. 1897 D. MACLEANE *Pembr. Coll.* iii. (O.H.S.) 32 He [the principal] did not cater for the aularians. This was done by an upper servant or manciple, 'wise in buying of vitaille', who was sometimes a scholar.

transf. 1744 M. BISHOP *Life & Adv.* 169 Finding that the Barrack I was to be in had four Beds, we..took it by turns to officiate as Manciple.

† 2. A bondslave, servant. [= L. *mancipium.*]

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 277 And anon he was made þe enemyes maunciple [L. *ille mancipium hostis effectus*]. *c* 1440 HYLTON *Scala Perf.* (W. de W. 1494) II. vi, The same falleth to a Jewe or to a sarracyne the whyche or they ben crystened arne nought but maneyples of helle. 1537 CROMWELL in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) II. 80 Euery man well perceyuethe the difference betwyxt a franke, a holy, a godly, a generall cownsaill, and an assemblie of ambicious manciples, of men sworne to pope's lustes and gaynes. 1563-87 FOXE *A. & M.* (1596) 294/2 For is not the king of England our [sc. the pope's] vassall ? and to saie more, our maneiple or page. [1611 FLORIO, *Mancipio*, a manciple, a bondman, a thrall, a vassall.]

Hence **Mancipleship,** the office of a manciple.

1642 *R. N. C. Muniments* 28. 135 To perform his manciple-ship faithfully.

Mancipular (mæns*i*·piŭlăı), *a. rare*—1. [Badly f. MANCIPLE + -AR, after *manipular.*] Of a manciple.

1846 LANDOR *Imag. Conv., Cromwell & Sir O. Cromwell* Wks. 1853 II. 230/1 Ye should leave unto them, in full propriety, the mancipular office of discharging the account.

Manck, variant of MANK *Obs.*

Manco (mæ·ŋko). *Sc.* Also 8–9 mankie, 8 maunkie, 9 mank(e)y. [Shortened form of CALAMANCO.] = CALAMANCO. In quots. *attrib.*

a 1779 [D. GRAHAM] *Hist. Buck-Haven* 5 [She] made coarse claiths, and callicoe mancoes [ed. 1782 mutches]. 1790 *J. Johnson's Scots Musical Mus.* III. 223 The lasses .. With mankie facings on their gown. 1824 MACTAGGART *Gallovid. Encycl.*, *Mankie*, an ancient kind of worsted stuff, much glazed, worn by females. 1828 MOIR *Mansie Wauch* XX. 297 Below which was a checked short gown of gingham stripe, and a green glazed manco petticoat. 1864 A. LEIGHTON *Myst. Leg. Edinb.* (1886) 261 [She] dressed herself in her mankey gown and red plaid.

Mancorn, var. MANG-CORN *Obs.* exc. *dial.*

Mancoustan, obs. form of MANGOSTEEN.

† **Mancowe.** *Obs.*—° A baboon. (The form is curiously suggestive of *monkey*, which, however, has not been found before the 16th c.)

14.. *Nom.* in Wr.-Wülcker 700/25 *Hic sinocephalus*, a mancowe.

Mancus (mæ·ŋkŭs). *Obs.* exc. *Hist.* Forms : 1 mancus, 7–9 mancus. *Pl.* 1 mancses, mancsas, mancusas, mancos, 2 manke, 7–8 mancuses, 7–9 mancusses. [OE. *mancus* masc., = OS. *mancus* (glossing *bazanticum*, *aureus*), OHG. **manchus*, acc. pl. *manchussa* (glossing *solidos*, *aureos*, *philippos*). The med.L. form *mancu(s)sus* occurs frequently in documents belonging to Germany, France, Italy, and Spain, and in one example in Du Cange it means some kind of ornament worn by a woman.] An Old English money of account of the value of thirty pence.

The statement sometimes made that *mancus* was also used to denote a unit of weight is based on misinterpretation of certain passages in which the word occurs.

811 in Haddan & Stubbs *Councils* III. 570 Pro ejus larga

pecuniarum remuneratione hoc est centum et viginti VI. mancosas. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gram.* xlviii. (Z.) 296 Fif penegas ȝemaciað ænne scylling and þrittiȝ penega ænne mancus. *c* 1000 — *Saints' Lives* xxxiii. 132 Heo..nam mid hire fiftiȝ mancsas. *a* 1100 *Will of Wulfgat* in Birch *Cart. Sax.* (1893) III. 653, xx. mancses goldes. *a* 1200 *Moral Ode* 70 And þe ðe mare ne mai don do hit mid his gode þonke Alse wel se þe þe hauеð golde fele manke. 1614 CAMDEN *Rem.* (ed. 2) 200 Thirty of these pence..made a Mancus, which some think to be all one with a Marke...They reckoned these Mancuse, or Mancus both in golde and siluer. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* II. iv. § 1 He sent his Holinesse 120 Mancuses for a Present. 1761 HUME *Hist. Eng.* I. ii. 41 He made a perpetual grant of three hundred mancuses a year to that see. 1819 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* xv, 'These dog-Jews!' said he...'They might have flung me a mancus or two'. 1848 LYTTON *Harold* I. iii, What in mancusses and pence Clapa lacked of the price. 1850 HOOK *Lives Abps.* (1869) I. v. 241 When a person of high rank was buried..a mancus of gold..was paid. 1875 JEVONS *Money* viii. 71. 1887 C. F. KEARY *Coins, Ags. Ser.* Introd. 34 The *Mancus* (pl. *Mancusas*) or *Mancos*...It was a coin of denomination in use upon the Continent quite as much as in England, and *may* have been imported into this country from abroad. 1899 GRUEBER *Handbk. Coins* Introd. 9.

-mancy, a terminal element, repr. OF. *-mancie*, late L. *-mantīa*, Gr. *μαντεία* divination, f. *μαντεύεσθαι* to prophesy, f. *μάντις* prophet, diviner. Some of the words with this ending go back to compounds recorded in classical or post-classical Greek, as *chiromancy, necromancy, ornithomancy, pyromancy*; others appear in late or med.Lat., and represent regularly formed compounds which prob. existed in late Gr., or were formed by persons familiar with that language, as *geomancy, hydromancy*; others have been formed after the revival of Greek learning on assumed Gr. types, as *crystallomancy, lithomancy*. No hybrid compound of *-mancy* seems to have been admitted into general Eng. use: for some suggested formations of this type see quot. 1709. The related adjs. end in -MANTIC.

c 1420 LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 869 Adryomancy, Œnomancy, with Pyromancy, Eyseancy also, and Pawmestry. 1709 J. STEVENS tr. *Quevedo's Com. Wks.* (ed. 2) 374 There are lines in the Neck, the Forehead, the Lips, the Hams, the Elbows, and the bottom of the Buttocks..and therefore ..as there is Chiromancy, there ought to be Frontimancy, Collimancy, Pedimancy, Natimancy.

†**Mand,** *sb.*[1] *Obs. rare*—[1]. [?a. OF. *mand, mant*, vbl. noun f. *mander*: see MAND *v.*] A question.

14.. *Ipotis* (MS. Ashm. 61, lf. 87), The emperour..Askyd a mand of þe chyld Why [etc.].

Mand (mænd), *sb.*[2] [a. Hindī *mandūa*. Cf. MAN-GRASS.] An Indian grass of the genus *Eleusine*.

1862 *Chambers's Encycl.* IV. 6/2 *Eleusine corocana*, an Indian species, called Natchnee and Nagla Ragee, also Mand and Murwa.

†**Mand,** *v. Obs.* [a. OF. *mander*:—L. *mandāre*.] *trans.* a. To send forth. b. To send for. c. To command.

a 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* 44 The mone mandeth hire lyht. 1483 CAXTON *Cato* C iv b, He maunded and sente for hyr parentes. *c* 1500 *Melusine* 18 [Thanne the Erle Emery] manded & desyred a moch fayre company. *Ibid.* 73 Alayn manded or sent for a grete foyson of hys frendes. 1589 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* VI. xxx. (1612) 147 Aske whatso else I haue to giue, thous maunde it for a kis.

Mand: see MAUND.

Mandæan (mæ·ndī·ăn), *a.* and *sb.* Also **Mandean, Mendæan.** [f. Mandæan Aramaic מנדאיא *mandayyā* (a rendering of Gr. *γνωστικοί* Gnostics: f. מאדא *mandā* knowledge, = late Heb. מדע *maddāʿ*, f. *yādaʿ* to know) + -AN.] **A.** *adj.* The designation of a Gnostic sect still surviving in Mesopotamia, and of the Aramaic dialect in which their sacred books are written. **B.** *sb.* a. A member of the Mandæan sect. b. The Mandæan language.

1875 LIGHTFOOT *Comm. Col.* 165 *note*, These Mandeans are a rapidly diminishing sect living in the region about the Tigris. 1883 K. KESSLER in *Encycl. Brit.* XV. 467/2 Mandæans, also known as Sabians, Nasoræans, or St. John's Christians, an Oriental sect of great antiquity. *Ibid.* 468/1 *note*, Mandæan MSS. occur in the British Museum [etc.]. *Ibid.* 468/2 Primal Life, who is properly speaking the Mandæan god. 1886 *Ibid.* XXI. 649/1 There is a close resemblance between Mandæan and the language of the Babylonian Talmud. 1900 *Daily News* 15 Aug. 6/2 A large number of Hebrew and Mandæan vases..were discovered.

Mandaite (mæ·ndeɪəit), *sb.* and *a.* Also Mendaite. [See prec. and -ITE.] = MANDÆAN.

1881 SAYCE in *Encycl. Brit.* XIII. 117/1 The Mendaite inscription of twenty lines discovered in a tomb at Abu-Shadr in south Babylonia. 1900 *Pilot* 23 June 515/2 Magic bowls with inscriptions in Syriac, Chaldæan, and Mandaite.

†**Ma·ndament.** *Obs. rare*—[1]. [ad. L. *mandāment-um*, f. *mandā-re* to command: cf. MANDMENT.] Injunction, command.

1834 SIR H. TAYLOR *Artevelde* I. III. iii, But Virtue! where is that indissolute chain Which to thy anchor'd mandaments eterne The floating soul shall grapple!

‖**Mandamus** (mændēi·mŏs), *sb. Law.* [L. = 'we command', 1st pers. pl. pres. ind. of *mandāre* to command.] A term 'originally applied generically to a number of ancient writs, letters missive, or mandates, issued by the sovereign, directing the performance of certain acts', but afterwards restricted to the judicial writ (called 'the high prerogative writ of mandamus') issued in the King's name from the Court of King's Bench (now, from the Crown side of the King's Bench Division of the High Court of Justice) and directed to an inferior court, a corporation, an officer, etc., commanding some specified thing to be done. 'Its general object is to enforce the performance of some public duty in respect of which there is no other specific legal remedy' (G. H. B. Kenrick in *Encycl. Laws Eng.* s.v.).

[1378 *Rolls of Parlt.* III. 51/2, Par force d'un mandamus a lui directe.] 1535 tr. *Natura Brevium* (1544) 171 b, There is fyue maners of enqueres ordeined after the death of the kynges tenaunte...The fyft is Mandamus, and that is after the yere. 1588 UDALL *Diotrephes* (Arb.) 27 Let no Colledge chuse his owne head, but let him haue a Mandamus, procured from the Queene. 1611 COTGR., *Mandat*, A Mandate, or *Mandamus* for the preferment of one to a Benefice. 1641 *Termes de la Ley* 199 Mandamus is a Writ that goes to the Escheator for the finding of an office after the death of one that died the Kings Tenant. 1664 J. WORTHINGTON *Mede's Wks.* Life (1672) 37 The Colledge had privy notice of a Stranger who had got a Mandamus for a Fellowship, either Fallen or Falling. 1672 MANLEY *Cowell's Interpr.*, *Mandamus* is also a Charge to the Sheriff, to take into the Kings hands all the Lands and Tenements of the Kings Widow, that against her Oath formerly given, marryeth without the Kings consent. 1736 F. DRAKE *Eboracum* 185 The royal authority has frequently interposed, and constituted a mayor by a mandamus. 1865 *Morn. Star* 3 Feb., You may find it necessary to apply to the Court of Queen's Bench for a mandamus against me. 1857 LONGF. *New Eng. Trag., Endicott* IV. ii, Here is the King's Mandamus, taking from us.. all power to punish Quakers.

fig. 1775 SHERIDAN *St. Patr. Day* II. iv, Death's a debt; his mandamus binds all alike.

†b. *attrib.* = Appointed by a mandamus.

1687 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) I. 421 The new mandamus fellowes [of Magdalen]. 1776 J. ADAMS in *Fam. Lett.* (1876) 216 A Mandamus Counsellor of New Jersey. 1876 BANCROFT *Hist. U. S.* IV. iv. 339 Councillors, called mandamus councillors from their appointment by the crown.

Hence **Manda·mus** *v. trans.*, to serve with a mandamus.

1823 *New Monthly Mag.* VIII. 496 If I do not ferk you out of all likelihood of ringing the beauty, why mandamus me! 1886 *Daily Tel.* 30 Mar. 5/3 Without waiting to be 'mandamused' the Vestry sent to the dust Contractor.

Mandant (mæ·ndănt), *a.* and *sb.* Also 7 **-ent.** [ad. L. *mandant-em*, pres. pple. of *mandāre* to command, to send forth: see MANDATE.]

†**A.** *adj. Phys.* Of an organ (chiefly in *member mandant* = mod.L. *membrum mandans*): That is the source of impulse; often said of the brain. *Obs.*

1543 TRAHERON *Vigo's Chirurg.* II. xvii. 63 b, The fourth intentyon which is to comforte the membre mandant [L. *membrum mandans*] that is to say, from which the mattier commeth by deriuation. 1544 PHAER *Regim. Life* (1553) I v b, They are all deriued from the member mandant, that is to saye, the brayne. 1650 BULWER *Anthropomet.* (1653) 190 There are many that drink without the moving of Transglutition; but that which they drink descends as if it were poured into a tankard. In this case they need no mandent member. 1670 MAYNWARING *Physician's Repos.* 32 Neither the nutritive juyces are..conveighed, nor excrementitious parts separated..but..regurgitate upon the mandant viscera. 1684 tr. *Bonet's Merc. Compit.* XV. 528 Care must be taken of the Head as the part Mandant.

B. *sb. Law.* = MANDATOR.

1681 VISCT. STAIR *Instit.* I. xii. (1693) 108 A Desire, Warrand, or Order, upon the part of the Mandant to the Mandatar. *a* 1768 ERSKINE *Instit.* III. iii. § 31 (1773) II. 457 Mandate,..where it signifies a mutual contract, includes not only the act of the mandant who employs, but the acceptance of the mandatary. 1818 COLEBROOKE *Obligations* 120 If..a mandate be given for the benefit of the mandant himself or of a third party. 1842 MCGLASHAN *Sheriff Crts. Scotl.* § 589. 154 A mandant may revoke his mandate at pleasure. 1875 POSTE *Gaius* III. Comm. (ed. 2) 430 Another case in which a guarantor and guarantee stand in the relation of mandant and mandatary is *delegatio*.

‖**Mandarah** (mæ·ndărā). [Arabic منظرة *mandara*[h], lit. 'place for seeing', f. *naḍara* to see.] In the East, a 'parlour' for receiving visitors.

1865 J. H. INGRAHAM *Pillar of Fire* (1872) 206 An open court, on the right side of which was the mandara for visitors. 1893 *Star* 4 Feb. 1/6 A Turkish mandarah or reception room.

Mandarin[1] (mæ·ndărin). Also 6 **mandeline, mandorijn,** 7 **mandarim,** 7–8 **mandorin,** 7–9 **mandarine,** 8 **mandareen.** [a. Pg. *mandarim*, a. Malay *mantrī*, a. Hindī *mantrī*:—Skr. *mantrin* counsellor, f. *mantra* counsel, f. root *man* to think.]

1. A generic name for all grades of Chinese officials; there are nine ranks, each of which is distinguished by a particular kind of 'button'. (The Chinese name is *Kwan*.) †Formerly extended to other Asiatic officials.

1589 PARKE tr. *Mendoza's Hist. China* II. II. iii. 252 The Mandelines of the sea, which be certaine iudges appointed to giue aduice of all such matters to the gouernor. 1598 W. PHILLIPS *Linschoten* I. xxiii. 39 Such are they that serue in euery Towne, and haue the gouernment of the same...They are called Loitias, and Mandorijns. 1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* V. xvi. 370 The Mandarins or ministers of Iustice [in China]. 1685 CROWNE *Sir C. Nice* III. Dram. Wks. 1874 III. 304 He will needs be attended like an Indian mandarine or lord. 1713 POPE *Let. to Gay* 23 Aug., In China; where it is ordinary for a Mandarine to fan himself cool after a debate. 1727 A. HAMILTON *New Acc. E. Ind.* II. 43 Every Province or City [Burma] has a Mandereen or Deputy residing at Court. 1813 *Examiner* 22 Mar. 187/2 A Mandarine of the first class. 1860 *All Year Round* No. 71. 504 The inferior 'one button' mandarins.

b. A toy representing a grotesque seated figure in Chinese costume, so contrived as to continue nodding for a long time after it is shaken.

1839 E. D. CLARKE *Trav. Russia* etc. 13/1 It reminds one of those Chinese mandarin images seen upon the chimney-pieces of old houses, which, when set a-going, continue nodding.

2. The language spoken in China by officials and educated people generally.

[1604: see *mandarin tongue* in 4.] 1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v., Their publick officers, as notaries, lawyers, judges, and chief magistrates, write and speak the Mandarin. 1731 BAILEY vol. II, *Mandarin*, the language spoken by the Mandarins and in the court of China.

3. Short for *mandarin porcelain*.

1873 MRS. PALLISER tr. *Jacquemart's Ceram. Art* 96 The Red Mandarin of the third section..The shagreened and gauffered Mandarins.

4. *attrib.*, as (sense 1) *mandarin boat, dignity, governor, promotion, sepulchre*; (sense 2) *mandarin Chinese, dialect, glossary, language, tongue*; †**mandarin broth** (see quot.); **mandarin cap,** a child's cap resembling that worn by a mandarin; **mandarin cat,** ? a kind of Angora cat; **mandarin duck,** a duck of bright and variegated plumage, *Aix galericulata*, native to China; **mandarin hat,** one shaped like that worn by mandarins; **mandarin jar,** a jar of mandarin porcelain; **mandarin porcelain,** Japanese porcelain decorated with figures of mandarins; **mandarin sleeve,** a wide loose sleeve copied from the sleeves of the dress of mandarins (*Cent. Dict.* 1890); **mandarin vase,** a vase of mandarin porcelain.

1749 *Anson's Voy.* III. vii. 369 Two *Mandarine boats came on board from Macao. 1863 READE *Hard Cash* I. vii. 197 A gorgeous mandarin boat..rowed with forty paddles by an armed crew. 1794 BARHAM *Hortus Amer.* 123 Sir H. Sloane saith, that Mr. James Cunningham wrote to him from China,..informing him that the bean, or *mandarin broth, so frequently mentioned in the Dutch Embassy.. is only an emulsion made of the seeds of sesamum and hot water. 1860 THACKERAY *Round. Papers* (1863) 106, *De Juventute*, Children with..*mandarin caps. 1752 H. WALPOLE *Lett.* (1846) II. 425 *Mandarin cats fishing for gold fish. 1895 C. S. HORNE *Story of L.M.S.* 124 Certain Roman Catholic Chinamen are found willing to impart to him as much of the *Mandarin Chinese as they can. 1848 S. W. WILLIAMS *Middle Kingdom* I. x. 489 The court language, the *kwan hwa*, or *mandarin dialect. 1813 *Examiner* 26 Apr. 266/2 We think the Chammish Majesty, and the *Mandarin dignity were..libelled. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) I. 664/1 (*Anas*), The galericulata, or Chinese teal of Edwards, has a hanging crest [etc.]...The English in China give it the name of *mandarin duck. 1861 JANE R. EOKINS *Chinese Scenes* (1863) 207 A *Mandarin Glossary. 1749 *Anson's Voy.* III. vii. 365 The *Mandarine Governor of Janson. 1882 *Harper's Mag.* III. 331 On the May gala day [of the Fish House at Schuylkill] the two *mandarin hats ..are decorated with flowers. 1873 MRS. PALLISER tr. *Jacquemart's Ceram. Art* 97 *Mandarin jar. 1860 JANE R. EOKINS *Chinese Scenes* (1863) 165 My husband's knowledge of their language (the *Mandarin). 1873 MRS. PALLISER tr. *Jacquemart's Ceram. Art* 95 The *Mandarin porcelain. 1874 R. TYRWHITT *Sketch Club* 6 Earnest expectation of firsts, fellowships, and *mandarin promotion. 1665 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (1677) 375 Paquin..in which are..24000 *Mandarin [1638 Mandarins] Sepulchers. 1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* VI. v. 441 They call it the *Mandarin tongue, which requires a mans age to be conceived. 1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v., The Mandarin tongue, or the language of the court. 1894 *Times* 22 Feb. 6/1 Four *mandarin vases and covers.

Hence **Ma·ndarindom,** mandarins collectively. **Ma·ndariness,** a mandarin's wife. **Mandari·nic** *a.*, pertaining to a mandarin (Webster 1864). **Ma·ndarinism,** the mandarin system, government by mandarins. **Ma·ndarinize** *v. trans.*, to make a mandarin of. **Ma·ndarinship,** the position, office, or rank of a mandarin.

1897 *Blackw. Mag.* Dec. 837/1 The most decisive battle ever waged between British officials and *Mandarindom. 1809 LAMB *Lett.* ix. *to Manning* 87 How do you like the *Mandarinesses? 1853 LIEBER *Civ. Liberty* vii. 60 The whole Chinese code..under a systematic *mandarinism, is pervaded by the principle of fear [etc.]. 1891 *Critic* (U. S.) 5 Sept. 115/1 Is China always to be the land of..girl infanticide and sceptical mandarinism? 1879 BARING-GOULD *Germany* I. 35 In the Celestial Empire, the exaltation of a man to be a mandarin, *mandarinises—excuse the expression—all his forefathers. 1712 *Perquisite Monger* 20 He advanc'd him to a *mandarinship of the first Rank. 1802 BENTHAM *Mem. & Corr.* Wks. 1843 X. 384 The appointment to a mandarinship. 1898 *Spectator* 9 Apr. 502/2 Mandarinship is not hereditary.

Mandarin[2]**, mandarine** (mæ·ndărin, -īn). [= F. *mandarine* (1878 in *Dict. Acad.*): perh. f. MANDARIN[1], the colour of the fruit being compared to that of the yellow silk robes of Chinese officials.]

1. A small flattened deep-coloured orange, with sweet-flavoured pulp and thin easily-separable rind. Also *mandarin orange*.

1816–20 T. GREEN *Univ. Herbal* I. 316/2 They [Chinese] have also the four-season or everlasting orange..; the large clove or mandarine; and the small clove or mandarine.

1834 G. Bennett *Wand. New South Wales*, etc. II. 72 The *Citrus nobilis* or Mandarin orange. 1886 *New Zealand Herald* 8 Nov. 12/4 Oranges,..lemons,..mandarins. 1892 *Daily News* 16 Dec. 5/6 She accepted the gift of two mandarines from a peasant woman.

attrib. 1892 *Daily News* 27 May 5/6 The orchards are full of orange and mandarine blossom. 1895 Workman *Algerian Mem.* 46 Orange, mandarin, and lemon groves.

2. A colour (obtained from coal-tar) resembling that of the mandarin orange. Also *mandarin-orange, -yellow.*

1883 *Cassell's Fam. Mag.* Nov. 755/1 There are three new dominant colours—Mandarin, a rich yellow like the rind of a Mandarin orange. 1890 Thorpe *Dict. Applied Chem.* I. 239 Methyl Orange; Helianthin; Orange III; Gold Orange; Mandarin Orange. 1898 *Daily News* 4 Aug. 6/4 Teagown..made of grass-lawn over mandarin yellow silk.

3. A liqueur.

1882 *Encycl. Brit.* XIV. 687/1 Noyeau,..trappistine.. bénédictine .. peppermint liqueur, .. mandarine, parfait amour [etc.]. 1903 *Smart Set* IX. 68/2 [He] ordered some mandarin liqueur, which Ferdinand presently produced in a flask of gold.

Mandarin, obs. variant of Mandolin.

Mandarinate (mæ·ndărinēt). [f. Mandarin + -ate 1.] **a.** The position or office of a mandarin. **b.** The body of mandarins; mandarins collectively. **c.** Government by mandarins.

1727-41 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v. *Mandarin*, The Mandarinate is not hereditary, nor are any raised to it but men of letters. 1800 *Asiat. Ann. Reg., Chron.* 120/2 The sale of the mandarinates and public employs of the empire. 1889 *Times* 27 Sept. 13/4 The civil office controls the members of the mandarinate both as regards pay and promotion.

d. *transf.*

1884 J. Rae *Contemp. Socialism* 383 With the socialist mandarinate, the interest lies the other way, and the tendency of the head officials would be to multiply their subordinates.

Ma·ndarining, *vbl. sb.* [f. Mandarin 2 + -ing 1.] The process of giving an orange colour to silk or wool by the action of nitric acid.

1852-4 *Cycl. Usef. Arts* (ed. Tomlinson 1866) I. 531/2.

Mandat, obs. form of Mandate.

†Mandatar. *Sc. Obs.* [ad. F. *mandataire* Mandatary.] =next.

1681 Visct. Stair *Instit.* I. xii. (1693) 108 The management of the Mandant given to the Trust of the Mandatar. *Ibid.* 109 The singular and personal fitness of the Mandatar is chosen by the Mandator, and so cannot without his consent be altered.

Mandatary (mæ·ndătări). [ad. L. *mandātārius*, f. *mandātum* Mandate: see -ary.]

†1. One who is appointed to a benefice by a papal mandate. *Obs.*

1611 Cotgr., *Mandataire*, a Mandatarie; one that comes to a Benefice by a *Mandamus*. 1726 Ayliffe *Parergon* 117 A Mandatary, to whom the Pope has..given a Mandate for a Benefice.

2. One to whom a mandate is given. Chiefly in *Law*: see Mandate 3.

1656 in Blount *Glossogr.* 1754 Erskine *Princ. Sc. Law* (1809) 315 The mandatary is at liberty not to accept of the mandate. *a* 1768 — *Instit.* III. iii. § 34 (1773) II. 458 Where a number of mandataries are named by a proprietor for the management of the same affair. 1793 Helen M. Williams *France* I. App. ii. 266 (Jod.) When the majesty of the people is violated by attempts committed against its mandataries. 1826 Kent *Comm.* (1873) II. xl. 571 If the mandatary undertakes to carry the article from one place to another. 1848 Shand *Pract. Crt. Sess.* I. 154 It never seems to have been disputed that a foreigner not in the country is bound to have a mandatary. 1861 *Sat. Rev.* 30 Mar. 307/2 For the consideration of a hundred pounds a year, .. the Ionian legislator views himself as the mandatary of the nation.

Mandate (mæ·ndēt), *sb.* Also 6 **mandet**, 6-8 **mandat.** [ad. L. *mandāt-um*, neut. pa. pple. of *mandā-re* to command, enjoin, commit. Cf. F. *mandat.*]

1. *gen.* A command, order, injunction. Now *poet.* and *rhetorical.*

1576 Fleming tr. *Caius' Dogs* 12 The theeuishe Dogge, ..at the mandate and bydding of his master fleereth and leereth abroade in the night. 1604 Shaks. *Oth.* IV. i. 270 Sir I obey the Mandate, And will returne to Venice. 1625 Bacon *Ess., Sedit. & Troub.* (Arb.) 395 Cauilling vpon Mandates and Directions, is a kinde of shaking off the yoake. 1681 Dryden *Abs. & Achit.* II. 917 The royal mandate issues forth, Dashing at once their treason, zeal, and mirth. 1760 Johnson *Idler* No. 99 ¶ 7 He speaks, and his mandate is obeyed. 1797 Mrs. Radcliffe *Italian* vi, She immediately obeyed the mandate of the abbess. 1814 Scott *Ld. of Isles* IV. xxx, Some friend shall bear Our mandate with despatch and care. 1843 Carlyle *Past & Pr.* IV. iv, The mandate of God to His creature man is: Work! 1859 Mill *Liberty* i. (1865) 3/1 Society can and does execute its own mandates. 1887 Bowen *Virg. Æneid* IV. 237 Let Him to sea; my mandate is this; be the messenger thou.

2. *spec.* A judicial or legal command from a superior to an inferior; in early English law, a command of the king and his justices addressed to a court to control a suit; in *U.S. Law*, 'the document promulgated upon the decision of an appeal or writ of error, as by the Supreme Court of the United States, directing what shall be done in the court below' (*Cent. Dict.*).

1552 *Forme of Makyng Bishoppes*, etc. B 4, Then shall the Archbishop demaund the king's mandate for the consecration, and cause it to be read. 1588-9 *Act* 31 *Eliz.* c. 9 § 1 Everye suche Bisshopp or Chauncelor..shall by his or their Mandat directed to the Sherieff of the saide Countie Palantyne, cause Proclamacion to be made of the sames Writtes. 1597 Sir R. Cecil in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. I. III. 44 She [Q. Elizabeth] therfor tooke upon her, by mandat, to prohibite him and his Countreis. *a* 1623 Swinburne *Spousals* (1686) 172 A general Mandate to contract Marriage is not sufficient, unless his Ratification, which made the Mandate, do follow. 1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Mandate*..In our Common Law it is a commandement judicial of the King or his Justices to have any thing done for the dispatch of Justice. 1669 J. Chamberlayne *Pres. St. Eng.* II. 49 Next goes forth a Mandate from the Archbishop to the Archdeacon of his Province, to instal the Bishop elected, confirmed and consecrated. 1798 Ferriar *Illustr. Sterne* v. 153 All that was now wanting, was a mandate from the Elector, to authorize the completion of the marriage. 1845 S. Austin *Ranke's Hist. Ref.* II. 129 [He] obtained..a mandate wherein the princes were required to restore all his castles to him. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* vi. II. 126 A similar change had recently been effected in England by judicial sentences: but in Scotland a simple mandate of the prince was thought sufficient. 1871 Dixon *Tower* III. xi. 109 He was recalled..by a royal mandate to his place in the House of Lords. 1887 T. Roosevelt *T. H. Benton* v. 113 Towards the close of Adams's term, Georgia had bid defiance to the mandates of the Supreme Court.

b. A papal rescript, *esp.* with reference to preferment to a benefice (see quot. 1727-41).

1611 Cotgr., *Mandat*, A Mandate, or *Mandamus* for the preferment of one to a Benefice. 1727-41 Chambers *Cycl.*, *Mandate*, *Mandatum*, in the canon law, denotes a rescript of the pope, by which he commands some ordinary, collator, or presenter, to put the person there nominated in possession of the first benefice vacant in his collation. 1790 Burke *Fr. Rev.* Wks. V. 71 Mandates for deposing Sovereigns were sealed with the signet of 'the Fisherman'. 1848 Wharton *Law Lex.* 1871 Miss Yonge *Cameos* II. xxi. 235 A mandate came from Pope Innocent for the King's excommunication.

c. A command from the sovereign to elect a fellow of a college or to confer a degree. *Hist.*

1617 Moryson *Itin.* I. 1, I..was chosen Fellow of the said College by Queene Elizabeths Mandat. *a* 1628 T. Greville *Sidney* (1652) 223 Her [Q. Eliz.] Universities were troubled with few Mandates. 1665 J. Buck in Peacock *Stat. Cambridge* (1841) App. B. p. lxxxvii, If any Mandates are brought for Degrees in the Vacation time, then this or the like Grace is propounded to the Caput Senatus. 1761 J. Bennet *Ascham's Eng. Wks.* Life 15 The young man was made by the Queen's mandate fellow of a college in Cambridge.

d. *Roman Hist.* An imperial command sent to the governor of a province.

1883 S. Amos *Rom. Civ. Law* 83 Mandates, or instructions to public officials, usually the emperor's 'Legates'. *Ibid.*, Most of the mandates of which a record is preserved relate to criminal law or police matters.

†e. A pastoral letter. [=F. *mandement.*] *Obs.*

1763 *Ann. Reg.* 120 The archbishop of Paris..lately published a mandate, or pastoral letter, to the people of his diocese. 1824 Watt *Bibl. Brit.* II. 767 *u*, Pompignan, John George le Franc..Archbishop of Vienna..Mandates prohibiting the reading of the Works of Rousseau and the Abbé Raynal.

3. a. *Roman Law.* A commission by which one person (called the Mandator) requested another (called the *mandatarius*: see Mandatary) to act for him gratuitously, undertaking to indemnify him against loss. *Action of mandate* = L. *actio mandati*, an action at law for the non-performance of a contract.

1756 G. Harris tr. *Justinian's Instit.* III. xxvii. § 1. 87 A mandate is given solely for the benefit of the mandator, when he requires the mandatary to transact his business, to buy lands, or to become a surety for him. *Ibid.* § 13. 91 If a man gives his cloaths to a fuller, that they may be cleaned, or to a taylor, that they may be mended, and there is no agreement or promise made, an action of mandate will lie. 1870 Abdy & Walker tr. *Gaius* III. clv. 222 A mandate arises, whether we give a commission for our own benefit or for another person's. 1883 S. Amos *Rom. Civ. Law* 236 By what has been called a qualified mandate (*mandatum qualificatum*) a person induced another to repose credit in a third person, and to that extent the principal became a sort of surety.

b. *Scots Law.* 'A contract by which one employs another to act for him in the management of his affairs, or in some particular department of them, of which employment the person accepts, and agrees to act' (W. Bell *Dict. Law Scot.* 1861).

1681 Visct. Stair *Instit.* I. xii. (1693) 108 The Terms in which Mandats or Commissions are expressed. 1753 *Stewart's Trial* 165 And deposes, that he gave no allowance or mandate to the pannel to make any application at Edinburgh against the removing. 1842 McGlashan *Sheriff Crts. Scot.* § 575. 151 A mandate authorizing litigation or diligence to be carried on in name of a party who is out of the kingdom. 1870 *Bell's Comment. Law Scot.* (ed. 7) I. 516 The extent of a factor's authority and his powers are to be gathered from the mandate under which he acts.

c. A contract of bailment by which the mandatary undertakes to perform gratuitously some service in respect of a thing committed to his keeping by the mandator.

1781 Sir W. Jones *Law Bailments* 53 The great distinction then between a mandate and a deposit is, that the former lies in fesance, and the latter simply in custody. 1883 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 9) XV. 472 Mandate is retained by Story and others to signify the contract more generally known as gratuitous bailment.

4. *Politics.* [After F. *mandat.*] The instruction or commission as to policy supposed to be given by the electors to a parliament or one of its members. Also *transf.*

1796 Morse *Amer. Geog.* II. 375 [France] The members of the legislative body are not the representatives of the department which has chosen them, but of the whole nation, and no mandate instructions can be given them. 1880 McCarthy *Own Times* IV. 554 It would almost seem as if the present school of fiction is, to borrow a phrase from French politics, exhausting its mandate. 1901 *Daily News* 27 Mar. 4/4 Strictly speaking,..there is no such thing in England as a mandate. Lord Salisbury was the first to introduce into English politics that essentially Jacobinical phrase. 1902 *Contemp. Rev.* Dec. 809 No practical politician can desire to lay too much stress upon the mandate theory of a general election.

5. *attrib.* = Maundy, in *mandate bread, mandate money, Mandate Thursday.*

1546 *Mem. Ripon* (Surtees) III. 11 He payth' yerlie for breade wyne and waxe w^t^ theaspencez of Mandet Thursday x li. 1657 Sparrow *Rationale Bk. Com. Pr.* 157 Hence it is called *Dies mandati*, Mandate or Maundy Thursday. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) X. 687/1 Maundy Thursday, is the Thursday in Passion week; which was called Maundy or Mandate Thursday. 1841 Hampson *Med. Ævi Kal.* I. 185 The bread given to the poor on Maunday Thursday was named mandate bread *mandati panes* in the monasteries; as the coin given was called maundate [*sic*] money.

Mandate (mændē·t), *v.* [f. L. *mandāt-*, ppl. stem of *mandāre* to enjoin, command.]

1. *trans.* To command. *Obs. rare*—0.

1623 Cockeram, *Mandate*, to command.

2. To commit (one's sermon) to memory. *Sc.*

1724 R. Wodrow *Life J. Wodrow* (1828) 32 After I have mandated my exercises. 1796 Simson *Gospel Message* Pref. 3 He [Abp. Secker] then proceeds to express his disapprobation of what is called Mandating of Sermons, or repeating them from memory. This custom prevails much among foreign Divines, and throughout the whole Church of Scotland. 1860 J. Brown *Let. J. Cairns* in *Horæ Subs.* (1863) 97 His sermons being laboriously prepared, loudly mandated,..and then delivered with the utmost vehemence and rapidity. 1893 Crockett *Stickit Minister* (1894) 135 He rose and walked his study, 'mandating' his opening sentences with appropriate gestures.

Mandatee'. *rare.* [f. Mandate *sb.* + -ee.] = Mandatary.

1774 Hallifax *Anal. Rom. Civ. Law* 64 A Commission might be constituted for the Benefit..of the Mandator and Mandatee. *Ibid.* 86 A Proctor was I. Extrajudicial, otherwise called a Mandatee.

Manda·tion. *Sc.* [f. Mandate *v.*: see -ation.] The action of committing (a sermon) to memory.

1867 J. Macfarlane *Mem. T. Archer* I. 15 Some of the most acceptable ministers of the Gospel have been known to regard 'mandation' as a process of slow murder.

Mandative (mæ·ndătiv), *a.* [ad. late L. *mandātīv-us*, f. *mandāre* to command: see Mandate *sb.* and -ative.] Pertaining to command; occas. used in *Grammar* to render L. *modus mandativus*, denoting the imperative use of the future.

1651 J. Rocket *Chr. Subject* x. § 3 (1658) 114 Though servants have not a mandative power to lay their strict injunctions upon their Masters. 1845 Stoddart *Gram.* in *Encycl. Metrop.* (1847) I. 51/1 [Kinds of Mood] imperative, mandative, conjunctive, subjunctive [etc.].

‖ **Mandator** (mændē·tǫr). *Law.* [L. agent-n. f. *mandāre* (see Mandate).] One who gives a mandate (*esp.* in the legal senses).

1681 Visct. Stair *Instit.* I. xii. (1693) 110 As to the special kinds of Mandats, they are either express, or tacit, to one the Mandatar,..for the Mandators behove, or in the Name of the Mandator. 1726 Ayliffe *Parergon* 53 A Person is said to be a Client to his Advocate, but a Master and a Mandator to his Proctor. 1752 *Scots Mag.* (1753) Oct. 511/2 Himself the *mandator* and accomplice. 1793 J. Williams *Calm Exam.*, etc. 49 Every legal Mandator, should be a law expounder, not a law-maker. 1839 J. Story *Law Bailments* 142 The mandator..contracts to reimburse the mandatary for all expenses and charges reasonably incurred in the execution of the trust. 1875 Poste *Gaius* III. Comm. (ed. 2) 401 Solidary Intercession is exemplified by the Mandator in the contract called *mandatum qualificatum.*

Mandatory (mæ·ndători), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. late L. *mandātōrius*, f. *mandātor*: see prec.]

A. *adj.* Of the nature of, pertaining to, or conveying a command or mandate.

1576 Fleming *Panopl. Epist.* B iv b, An epistle hortatorie, accusatorie,.. mandatorie. *a* 1600 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* VII. iii. § 1 A superiority of power mandatory, judicial, and coercive over other Ministers. 1611 Speed *Hist. Gt. Brit.* IX. xv. § 115. 801 Mandatory letters were sent by King Charles into Picardy, to put all places that held for him in those quarters into Henries possession. *a* 1680 Charnock *Attrib. God* (1834) I. 727 We behold, in the life of Christ, a conformity to the Mandatory part of the law. 1726 Ayliffe *Parergon* 358 Of a Mandatory Writ, in Latin stiled a *Mandamus*. *Ibid.*, Several Mandatory Writs have been granted. 1863 H. Cox *Instit.* III. viii. 716 A mandatory writ was issued to a serjeant-at-arms. 1900 Wyndham *Sp. Ho. Comm.* 15 Feb., The proposals..were enabling and not mandatory.

b. Of actions: Obligatory in consequence of a command. Const. *upon.*

1818 Jas. Mill *Brit. India* II. v. ix. 696 The regular communication to the councils of all correspondence was rendered mandatory upon the Governor-General. 1891 *Boston Daily Globe* 24 Mar. 5/6 The bill makes it mandatory upon the judge to impose a fine of $500.

B. *sb.* One to whom a mandate is given; = Mandatary.

1661 Fell in *Hammond's Wks.* (1674) I. Life 14 [The Visitors] sending their mandatory with a Musquetier to

Dr. Hammond's lodging, commanded him to appear before them. 1711 Hickes *Two Treat. Chr. Priesth.* (1847) ii. 17 A priest..is an advocate, mediator, intercessor,..vicegerent, mandatory, interpellant. 1795 tr. *Mercier's Fragm. Pol. & Hist.* I. 432 The monarch with the mandatories of his Supreme, tutelar and beneficent, authority. 1833 Alison *Hist. Europe* (1849-50) II. vii. § 70. 182 If the people are violently alarmed, is it the part of their mandatories to refuse to hear them? 1842 M'Glashan *Sheriff Crts. Scot.* § 582. 153 The mandatory to be sisted must be a responsible person. 1862 *Act* 25 & 26 *Vict.* c. 97 § 20 To nominate..any person as the mandatory of such..proprietor, to attend, act, and vote at any meeting. 1898 Booley *France* I. i. ii. 141 Ecclesiastics regard themselves sometimes as the mandatories of a foreign potentate.

¶ b. Used for Mandate. c. Something with the function of commanding.

1839 James *Louis XIV*, II. 340 A Mandatory..was issued ..by Masaniello, requiring every citizen to take arms. 1865 Bushnell *Vicar. Sacr.* III. iv. (1866) 249 In itself, what we call law is impersonal, a cold mandatory of abstraction.

‖ **Mandatum** (mændē·tŭm). [L.] = Mandate *sb.*

1586 J. Hooker *Hist. Irel.* 87/1 in *Holinshed* II, Suddenlie commeth from the cardinall a mandatum to execute Kildare. 1587 Fleming *Contn. Holinshed* III. 1306/1 Simon Mepham, then archbishop of Canturburie, sent his mandatum to this bishop, that he would visit his church. 1594 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* II. 652 They obtain so many letters of commaundement, so manie mandatums one in anothers necke, that [etc.].

Mande, obs. form of Maundy.

Mandelic (mændē·lik), *a. Chem.* [f. G. *mandel* almond + -ic.] *Mandelic acid* (G. *mandelsäure*): an acid formed by the action of hydrochloric acid upon amygdalin.

1844 Fownes *Chem.* 430. 1885 Remsen *Org. Chem.* (1888) 292.

Mandell, variant of Mandil *Obs.*

Mandellion, variant of Mandilion.

‖ **Mandelstein** (mæ·ndəlʃtəin). *Geol.* Also anglicized **mandelstone.** [G., f. *mandel* almond + *stein* stone.] = Amygdaloid *sb.*

1799 Kirwan *Geol. Ess.* 202 Mandelstein (or Amygdaloid). 1852 Th. Ross *Humboldt's Trav.* I. i. 35 The porous basalt which passes into mandelstein.

Mandement, variant of Mandment *Obs.*

Manderelle, -il, obs. forms of Mandrel.

Mandet, obs. variant of Mandate.

[**Mandevi(l**)**le,** corruption (in Planché, Fairholt, and recent Dicts.) of Mantevil *Obs.*]

† **Mandglorye.** *Obs. rare.* Also mond-. [a. OF. *mandegloire* (cf. mod.F. *main de gloire* Hand of glory), corruption of *mandregore* Mandragora.] Mandragora.

1483 Caxton *Cato* 3b, An ensample of the pouldre of mondglorye and how hit maketh to slepe. 1489 — *Faytes of A.* II. iv. 97 Certein herbe that is called mandglorye.

Mandible (mæ·ndib'l), *sb.* Now only *Anat.* and *Zool.* Also 7 -uble, 7–8 -able. [ad. late L. *mandibula, -ulum,* f. *mandĕre* to masticate. Cf. OF. *mandible,* mod.F. *mandibule.*] A jaw or jaw-bone; *esp.* the lower jaw (in mammals and fishes).

1548–77 Vicary *Anat.* v. (1888) 41 The bones..of the Cheekes, be two:.. of the vpper Mandibile, two. *c* 1560 *Misogonus* III. iii. 82 (Brandl) A neighboure of yours Which is payned in hir mandible with a wormetone toth. 1623 Cockeram, *Manduble,* the iaw-bone wherein the teeth be set. 1674 Josselyn *Voy. New Eng.* 185 Rub the mandible with it. *c* 1675 R. Cromwell *Let.* in *Eng. Hist. Rev.* (1898) XIII. 93 The nose of the skull, with an upper mandable. 1707 Sloane *Jamaica* I. p. cxxxii, The swelling..being not so much in the throat, as mandibles and cheeks. 1770 G. White *Selborne* xxvii. 76 With their upper mandible, which is much longer than their lower, they [hedgehogs] bore under the plant. 1854 Emerson *Lett. & Soc. Aims, Comic* Wks. (Bohn) III. 210 To put something for mastication between the upper and lower mandibles. 1872 Mivart *Elem. Anat.* 86 The lower jawbone, or Mandible, consists of a curved osseous band.

b. In birds, (usually) either part, upper or lower, of the beak; but by some restricted to the lower jaw (see quot. 1893).

1686 Plot *Staffordsh.* 234 The Mandibles [of a Raven] crossing one another, like those of the..Crossbill. 1766 Pennant *Zool.* (1768) II. 477 A loose skin..reaches from the upper mandible round the eyes [of the cormorant]. 1845 Darwin *Voy. Nat.* vii. (1879) 137 The lower mandible, differently from every other bird, is an inch and a half longer than the upper. 1865 Livingstone *Zambesi* iv. 100 Flocks of scissor-bills.. ploughing the water with their lower mandibles. 1893 Newton *Dict. Birds* 534 *Mandible* (Lat. *Mandibula*), the lower jaw in Birds. *Ibid.* 539 *Maxilla,* a rather slender bone ..forming part of the lateral margin of what is often called the Upper Mandible.

c. In insects, either half of the upper or anterior pair of jaws.

1826 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* III. 429 The mandibles close the mouth on each side under the *labrum* or upper-lip. 1859 Darwin *Orig. Spec.* iv. (1873) 69 Male stag-beetles sometimes bear wounds from the huge mandibles of other males. 1874 Lubbock *Wild Flowers* i. 13 The mouth of an insect is composed of an upper lip, an under lip, a pair of anterior jaws or mandibles.

† **Mandible** (mæ·ndib'l), *a. Obs. rare.* [ad. L. **mandibil-is,* f. *mandĕre* to chew: see -ible.] Capable of being chewed or eaten.

1656 Blount *Glossogr., Mandible,* eatable, or that may be eaten. 1671–80 R. Head *Eng. Rogue* I. iv. (1680) 39 Their Geese, Hens, Pigs, or any such mandible thing we met with.

‖ **Mandibula** (mændi·bi‧lă). *Anat.* and *Zool.* [L.] = Mandible *sb.*

1704 Harris *Lex. Techn., Mandibula,*..the Jaw, is either Upper or Lower. 1798 Afzelius in *Trans. Linn. Soc.* IV. 255 The *Mandibulæ* are toothless and without sheaths. 1826 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* III. 417 Upper- and under-jaws (*mandibulæ* and *maxillæ*). 1855 Gosse in *Phil. Trans.* CXLVI. 447 The dental organs in *Rotifera* are true *mandibulæ* and *maxillæ.*

Mandibular (mændi·bi‧lăr), *a.* [f. Mandibula + -ar.] Belonging to, connected with, or forming part of a mandible.

1654 Gayton *Pleas. Notes* III. vi. 103 The many parts, joynts, sinews [etc.]..gutturall, dentall, mandibular, &c. 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Mandibular Muscles,* the Muscles that belong to the Lower Jaw. 1816 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* (1818) II. 275 Besides their mandibular hooks, some of these grubs supply the want of legs by means of claws at their anus. 1875 Blake *Zool.* 2 In nearly all mammals teeth exist in a single row on the..mandibular bones. 1891 Flower & Lydekker *Introd. Mammals* 171 The mandibular symphysis is ankylosed.

Mandibulary (mændi·bi‧lări), *a. rare.* [Formed as prec. + -ary.] = prec.

1653 Urquhart *Rabelais* I. xxxviii, The mandibulary sinew or nerve of the jaw. 1880 Günther *Fishes* 563 Two pairs of mandibulary barbels. 1887 — in *Encycl. Brit.* XXII. 189/1 The mandibulary symphysis is not by suture but by an elastic band.

Mandibulate (mændi·bi‧lĕit), *a.* and *sb. Ent.* [ad. mod.L. *mandibulātus*: see Mandibula and -ate 2.]

A. *adj.*

1. Provided with mandibles: applied to a group of insects (the *Mandibulata*) which have the organs of the mouth adapted for mastication.

1826 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* III. 462 The *maxillæ* of the mandibulate hexapods. 1835 Kirby *Hab. & Inst. Anim.* II. xx. 316 Metabolians..are considered..as constituting two Sections which are denominated Haustellate and Mandibulate Insects. 1874 Lubbock *Orig. & Met. Ins.* v. 92 The strongly mandibulate form which prevails among the larvæ of Coleoptera.

2. Of organs: Adapted for mastication.

1835 Kirby *Hab. & Inst. Anim.* II. xx. 316 The instrument of suction in a Haustellate mouth consists of pieces..analogous to those employed in mastication in a Mandibulate one. 1838 *Penny Cycl.* X. 494/2 *Hemiptera*..with mandibulate mouths.

B. *sb.* A mandibulate insect. In recent Dicts.

So **Mandi·bulated** *a.*, in the same sense.

1836–9 Todd *Cycl. Anat.* II. 855/2 Fabricius..divided Insects into .. the Mandibulated..and the Haustellated. 1864 *Chambers's Encycl.* V. 299 *Mandibulata,* mandibulated or masticating Insects.

Mandibuliform (mændi·bi‧lifōrm), *a. Ent.* [ad. mod.L. *mandibuliformis,* f. *mandibula* Mandible: see -form.] Shaped like a mandible.

1826 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* III. 127 They..catch the prey at which they aim by means of the mandibuliform plates. *Ibid.* IV. 310. 1856 in Mayne *Expos. Lex.*

Mandibulo- (mændi·bi‧lo), irreg. combining form (see -o-) of L. *mandibula* Mandible, used in compounds with the sense 'pertaining to the mandible (and some other part)', as *mandibulo-hyoid, -maxillary, -suspensorial* adjs.

1870 Rolleston *Anim. Life* 105 The mandibulo-maxillary apodema. 1875 Huxley in *Encycl. Brit.* I. 760/1 The hyosuspensorial and mandibulo-suspensorial ligaments.

Mandibulous (mændi·bi‧lŏs), *a. rare. Ent.* [f. Mandibula + -ous.] Mandibular.

1835–6 Todd *Cycl. Anat.* I. 209/1 The mandibulous hook of spiders.

‖ **Mandil** (mæ·ndil). Also 7 **mendil.** [Arabic مندیل *mindīl, mandīl,* sash, turban-cloth, handkerchief, ad. L. *mantīle* (see Mantle *sb.*).] A turban.

1662 J. Davies tr. *Olearius' Voy. Ambass.* v. (1669) 214 The Mendils and Mianbends, that is, the Turbant and Girdle, of Gold Brocado. 1665 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* (1677) 133 His Turbant or Mandil was of finest white silk interwoven with gold. 1731 Bailey vol. II, *Mandil,* a sort of cap or turbant worn by the Persians.

Mandilion (mændi·lĭən). *Obs.* exc. *Hist.* Also 6 **mandilyon, maundilion,** 6–7 **mandilian, -illian,** 7 **-ellion, -ylian,** (? **madilion**). [a. F. *mandillon* (16th c.), ad. It. *mandiglione,* augmentative f. *mandiglia*: see Mandill.] A loose coat or cassock, in later times sleeveless, formerly worn by soldiers and men-servants as a kind of overcoat.

1577 Dee *Relat. Spir.* I. (1659) 154 The men have things on their shoulders of beasts' skins, as instead of a Jerkin or a Mandillion. 1587 Fleming *Contn. Holinshed* III. 1287/2 Their vniuersall liuerie was a mandilion of purple taffata, laid about with siluer lase. 1599 Dallam *Trav.* (Hakl. Soc.) 74 Their coats were like a soldier's mandilyon. 1610 Holland *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 249 He had a mandilian or cassocke, garnished with the bishops armes. 1615 G. Sandys *Trav.* 230 In time of warre they [the Knights of Malta] weare crimson mandilions..over their armour. 1688 R. Holme *Armoury* III. 18/2 He beareth Or, a Mandilion Azure. 1696, 1706 Phillips. 1860 [see Mantevil]. 1895 J. Brown *Pilgrim Fathers* x. 280 Hooks and eyes for 'mandilions', these being garments large and full of folds, with which soldiers wrapped themselves against the cold.

† **Mandill.** *Obs.* Also 7 **mandell, mandle.** [a. F. *mandil* (15–16th c., now *mandille*), a. Sp., Pg. *mandil* (cf. Pr. *mandil-s* table-cloth), a. Arab. *mandīl*: see Mandil.] A loose coat or overcoat.

1579 *Inv. R. Wardr.* (1815) 281 Ane pair of breikis of blew velvott with ane mandill thairto broderit with gold. 1661 A. Haig *Acc.* in J. Russell *Haigs* (1881) 471 A suett of cloeths, with a mandell. 1662 *Ibid.* 472 For making a mandle sute and furnertur.

Mandioc(a: see Manioc.

† **Mandi·tion.** *Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. [irreg. f. L. *mandāre* to command + -ition.] An injunction.

1597 *Pilgr. Parnass.* III. 344 My uncle..sent mee yesterday a letter and this mandition..'Studie not these vaine arts of Rhetorique, Poetrie and Philosophie'.

Mandle, obs. f. Mandill, Mantel, Mantle.

Mandly, rare obs. form of Manly.

† **Mandment.** *Obs.* Forms: 3–6 **mandement, maundement,** 4–5 **mawndement,** 4–6 **mandment,** 5–6 **maundment.** [a. OF. *mandement*:—late L. *mandāmentum,* f. *mandāre* to command. The word is orig. trisyllabic (cf. Commandment); the disyllabic forms are characteristically northern.] A commandment, an order; that which is commanded. Also, the action of commanding, command, rule.

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 4011 Þis was a prout mandement & an heiuol dede. *c* 1357 *Lay Folks Catech.* 549 Who brekys þe fyrste maundement. Prowde men wordly men and fleschly men. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* IV. 332 His men his mandment has all done. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 4237 To þe modi kynge of Messedone þis maundment I write. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 330/2 Mawndement, *mandatum, preceptum. c* 1460 Ashby *Active Policy* 654 Euery day he wate of that extremite Not to be hasty in mandement. 1467–8 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 583/1 All Retornes of Writtes, Preceptes, Maundements and Billes. 1539 Cromwell *Let.* 16 Apr., in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) II. 211 Themperour hathe not consented to the popes desires nor that his Mandementes shuld be published. 1553 *Douglas' Æneis* x. Prol. 162 For quhay thy mandmentis [1513 mandat] kepis in accord, Bene ane with the, not in substance bot grace. 1567 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 567 Gevand..oure full plane power, speciall mandment..and charge, to compeir.

Mandola (mændō·lă), **mandora** (mændō·ră). Also 9 (*rare*) **mandura.** [a. It. *mandola, mandora.* Cf. F. *mandore, mandole,* and see Bandore, Pandora 2, Mandore.] A larger variety of the mandolin.

1758 J. Clephane in *Fam. Rose Kilr.* (Spald. Club) 461 If you have once made some progress on the spinet..the mandola will be an easy acquisition. 1825 L. Hunt *Bacchus in Tuscany* 850 Play to me too On the mandola. 1825 Fosbrooke *Encycl. Antiq.* I. 628 The Pandura was of the lute kind, the Mandura a lesser lute. 1880 A. J. Hipkins in Grove *Dict. Mus.* II. 204 It [the mandoline] is..less in size than the Mandóla or Mandóra, a much scarcer instrument. 1895 *Daily News* 22 May 7/3 Three mandolas (or mandoras), eighteen guitars..and a bass guitar.

Mandolin, -ine (mæ·ndŏlin). Also 8 **mandarin**; and in It. form **mandolino.** [ad. F. *mandoline,* ad. It. *mandolino,* dim. of *mandola* (see prec.).] A musical instrument of the lute kind having from four to six metal strings stretched upon a deeply-rounded body.

1707 in Ashton *Soc. Life Q. Anne* (1882) II. 38 Signior Conti will play..on the Mandoline, an instrument not known yet. 1758 J. Clephane in *Fam. Rose Kilr.* (Spald. Club) 461 The guitarre, or the mandolino, as it is called here by our London ladies. 1766 Smollett *Trav.* 122 An excellent performer on the lute and mandolin. 1783 Mme. D'Arblay *Diary* I Jan., A solo air, accompanied by the mandoline,.. has a mighty pretty effect. 1796 Pegge *Anonym.* (1809) 104 When the instrument now coming into use is called a Mandarin, we are led to think it to be something used by the Chinese Lords or Mandarins; but the truer pronunciation is Mandolin. 1856 Mrs. C. Clarke tr. *Berlioz' Instrument.* 70 The mandolin has almost fallen into desuetude at present. 1863 Sala *About Shrimpington* 102 A mandolin all covered with lacquer work.

Hence **Ma·ndolinist,** a performer on the mandolin.

1888 *Daily News* 14 May 3/3 A company of Neapolitan mandolinists and singers.

Mandom (mæ·ndəm). *rare*$^{-1}$. [f. Man *sb.*^{1} + -dom.] The realm of man.

1844 Mrs. Browning *Drama of Exile* Poems 1850 I. 72 Without this rule of mandom, ye would perish—beast by beast Devouring.

Mandora: see Mandola.

Mandore (mændō·ɹ). [ad. F. *mandore,* ad. It. *mandora.*] = Mandola.

1823 Roscoe *Sismondi's Lit. South Eur.* (1846) I. v. 128 A Jongleur..must..play on the citole and mandore. 1898 Zangwill *Dreamers Ghetto* i. 26 Amulets in the shape of miniature mandores or four-stringed lutes.

‖ **Mandorla** (mændō·lă). *Religious Art.* [It. = 'almond'.] An almond-shaped panel or decorative space.

1883 C. C. Perkins *Ital. Sculpture* Introd. 20 Christ seated within a mandorla. 1895 M. R. James *Abbey St. Edmund at Bury* 51 At top is Christ in a mandorla seated full-face with a book.

Mandrag(e, -dragge, obs. forms of Mandrake.

† **Mandragon.** *Obs.* [app. an altered form of *mandrag* Mandrake, after *dragon.*] = Mandrake.

1580 Hollyband *Treas. Fr. Tong, De la mandragore,* an herbe called Mandragon. 1597 Gerarde *Herbal* II. lx. 281 In English we call it Mandrake, Mandrage, and Mandragon. 1611 Cotgr., *Mandragore,* Mandrake, Mandrage, Mandragon.

Mandragora (mændræ·gŏră). Forms: *α.* 1– mandragora, 3 mandragores, 6–7 mandragoras. *β.* (in anglicized form) 4 *pl.* mandragoris, 6 mandragor, -er, 8–9 -ore. [late L. *mandragora* (*mandragoras* Pliny), a. Gr. *μανδραγόρας*.]

1. a. The plant MANDRAKE. Now only *Hist.*

b. *Bot.* The genus to which this plant belongs.

c. Since Shakspere, taken as the type of a narcotic.

In Shaks. *Ant. & Cl.* I. v. 4 the First Folio has the misprint *mandragoru*, whence perh. *mandragorn* in Scott's *Kenilworth* (1821) I. xii. 311. .Cf. however MANDRAGON.

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 244 Deos wyrt þe man mandragoram nemneþ. *c* 1220 *Bestiary* 613 A gres, ðe name is mandragores. 1388 WYCLIF *Song Sol.* vii. 13 Mandrogoris han 3oue her odour in oure 3atis. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. civ. (Tollem. MS.), They þat diggen mandragora be besy to be war of contrarye wynde. 1535 COVERDALE *Gen.* XXX. 14 Ruben wente out..and founde Mandragoras in the felde. 1542 BOORDE *Dyetary* XX. (1870) 281 Mandragor doth helpe a woman to concepcion. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* III. lxxxiv. 438 The greene and fresh leaues of Mandragoras. 1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* III. iii. 330 Not Poppy, nor Mandragora, Nor all the drowsie Syrrups of the world Shall euer [etc.]. 1605 CHAPMAN, etc. *Eastward Hoe* V. i, I haue..drunke Lethe and Mandragora to forget you. 1623 WEBSTER *Duchess of Malfi* IV. ii, Come violent death, Serue for Mandragora to make me sleepe. 1738 *Common Sense* II. 4 The Drug call'd Mandragore. 1830 GALT *Laurie T.* V. xi. (1849) 242 Earnest employment is the best mandragora for an aching heart. 1855 THACKERAY *Newcomes* II. 19 He dosed himself with poppy, and mandragora, and blue pill. 1876 FARRAR *Marlb. Serm.* vi. 56 The river of oblivion of sin repented of, the true mandragora for every guilty and sleepless soul.

attrib. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. cxii. (1495) 675 Oyle of Mandragora apples. 1826 W. AINSLIE *Materia Indica* I. 208 The anodyne and soporific qualities of the mandragore root. 1832 CARLYLE *Corn-law Rhymes* Misc. 1857 III. 161 Her Ariel Melodies, and mystic mandragora Moans.

b. = *mandrake wine.*

1844 MRS. BROWNING *Dead Pan* ii, Have the Pygmies made you drunken, Bathing in mandragora Your divine pale lips..?

† 2. *Chinese mandragoras*: ginseng.

1727-41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v.

Hence **Mandra·gorite,** one who is habitually under the narcotic influence of mandragora.

1895 *Funk's Standard Dict.* 1902 WEBSTER *Suppl.*

Mandrague (mæ·ndreig). A kind of large fishing-net.

1851 *Fraser's Mag.* XLIII. 252 The park of nets forming the modern mandrague. 1855 W. S. DALLAS in *Syst. Nat. Hist.* II. 49 The Tunny..is captured by means of a large net, called a mandrague.

Mandrake (mæ·ndreik). Forms: *α.* 4–6 mandragge, 4–7 -drage, 6-7 -drag, (6 mendrage). *β.* 5– mandrake, (4 mondrake, 5, 7 mandrak). [ME. *mandrag(g)e* (cf. MDu. *mandrage, mandragre*), a shortening of MANDRAGORA; the form *mandrake* (*mondrake*), though recorded earlier than *-drage,* is prob. due to association with *drake.*]

1. Any plant of the genus *Mandragora,* native to Southern Europe and the East, and characterized by very short stems, thick, fleshy, often forked, roots, and fetid lance-shaped leaves.

The mandrake is poisonous, having emetic and narcotic properties, and was formerly used medicinally. The forked root is thought to resemble the human form, and was fabled to utter a deadly shriek when plucked up from the ground. The notion indicated in the narrative of Genesis XXX, that the fruit when eaten by women promotes conception, is said still to survive in Palestine.

α. 1382 WYCLIF *Gen.* XXX. 14 Ruben goon out in tyme of wheet heruest into the feeld, fonde mandraggis [1388 mandragis]. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 324/2 Mandragge, herbe,.. *mandragora.* 1562 LEIGH *Armorie* (1597) 99 b, He beareth Argent, a mandrage proper. 1580 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 473 They that feare theyr Vines will make too sharpe wine, must ..graft next to them Mandrage [ed. 1581 Mendrage], which causeth the grape to be more pleasaunt. 1594 — *Moth. Bomb.* V. iii, Your sonne Memphis, had a moale vnder his eare:..you shall see it taken away with the iuyce of mandrage. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 235 In the digging vp of the root of Mandrage, there are some ceremonies obserued. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 330 Oyl of Mandrag ..bindeth together..bones being either shivered or broken. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr., Mandrake* or *Mandrage.*

β. *a* 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* 26 Muge he is ant mondrake. *c* 1450 *ME. Med. Bk.* (Heinrich) 231 Leues of mandrake. *c* 1475 *Pict. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 787/4 *Hec mandracora,* a mandrak. 1560 BIBLE (Geneva) *Gen.* XXX. 14 Reuben.. found mandrakes [*marg.* Which is a kinde of herbe, whose rote hath a certeine likenes of yᵉ figure of a man] in the field. 1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* IV. iii. 47 And shrikes like Mandrakes torne out of the earth. 1593 — 2 *Hen. VI,* III. ii. 310. 1600 HEYWOOD *2nd Pt. Edw. IV* Wks. 1874 I. 154 The mandrakes shrieks are music to their cries. 1610 DONNE *Pseudo-martyr* Pref. c iij, Annibal, to entrappe and surprise his enemies, mingled their wine with Mandrake, whose operation is betwixt sleepe and poyson. 1635 [GLAPTHORNE] *Lady Mother* V. ii. in Bullen *O. Pl.* II. 196 Horrid grots and mossie graves, Where the mandraks hideous howles Welcome bodies voide of soules. 1712 tr. *Pomet's Hist. Drugs* I. 80 The Mandrake is a Plant without a Stem. 1879 J. TIMBS in *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 106/1 The Greeks and the Romans used the root of the mandrake to cause insensibility to pain.

† b. in allusive and fig. uses: (*a*) as a term of abuse; (*b*) a narcotic; (*c*) a noisome growth.

1508 KENNEDIE *Flyting w. Dunbar* 29 Mandrag, mymmerkin, maid maister bot in mowis. *a* 1585 MONTGOMERIE *Flyting* 71 Trot, tyke, to a tow, mandrage but myance. 1593 G. HARVEY *Pierce's Super.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 293 Correct the Mandrake of scurrility with the myrrhe of curtesie. 1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV,* I. ii. 67 Thou horson Mandrake. 1604 DEKKER *Honest Wh.* Wks. 1873 II. 9 Gods my life, hee's a very mandrake. 1610 J. MASON *Turk* II. i, Thou that amongst a hundred thousand dreames Crownd with a wreath of mandrakes sitst as Queene. 1636 DAVENANT *Wits* IV. i, He stands as if his Legs had taken root; A very Mandrake! 1649 JER. TAYLOR *Gt. Exemp.* I. iv. 132 When we lust after mandrakes and deliciousness of exteriour ministries. 1660 R. L'ESTRANGE *Plea for Limited Monarchy* 7 Our laws [*sc.* during the Commonwealth] have been Mandrakes of a Nights growth. 1676 MARVELL *Gen. Councils* Wks. 1875 IV. 101 If they have a mind to pull up that mandrake, it were advisable..to chuse out a dog for that imployment.

2. The root of White Bryony: see quots.

1585 LUPTON *Thons. Notable Th.* III. xliii. (1595) 61 The counterfeat Mandrag which hath hene sold by deceyuers for much money. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. lx. 281 The idle drones that haue little or nothing to do but eate and drinke, haue bestowed some of their time in caruing the rootes of Brionie, forming them to the shape of men & women; which falsifying practise hath confirmed the errour amongst the simple..people, who haue taken them vpon their report to be the true Mandrakes. 1657 W. COLES *Adam in Eden* cxci. 300 The Root [of Briony] somtimes groweth to the bigness of a Childe of a yeare old, so that it hath been by some cut into the forme of a Man, and called a Mandrake, being set againe into the Earth. 1785 MARTYN *Rousseau's Bot.* xvi. (1794) 197 These pretended Mandrakes are said to be roots of Angelica or Bryony.

3. *U. S.* The May-apple, *Podophyllum peltatum.*

1845-50 MRS. LINCOLN *Lect. Bot.* App. 143/2 *Podophyllum peltatum* (wild mandrake, may-apple). 1887 *Family Physician* 872 Mandrake, may apple, or hog apple.

4. *attrib.*, as *mandrake juice, root*; mandrake apple, the fruit of the mandrake; † mandrake shriek (see sense 1, note); mandrake wine (see quot. 1753 for *mandrake root*).

1563 T. GALE *Antidot.* I. i. 1 b, Of simple medicines repercussiue these are some..*Mandrage apples, & iuse. 1603 SIR C. HEYDON *Jud. Astrol.* XX. 417 Rachel enuying her sister Leahs fertilitie importuned Mandrag apples, to supplie her barrennesse. *c* 1592 MARLOWE *Jew of Malta* V. (1633) I 2, I dranke of Poppy, and cold *mandrake juyce. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp., Mandragorites Vinum, Mandrake Wine,* a sort of medicinal impregnation of wine with the virtues of *Mandrake root. 1824 HEN. PHILLIPS *Flora Hist.* I. 354 The Mandrake root is an anodyne and soporific. 1620 DEKKER *Dreame* Wks. (Grosart) III. 39 Being mounted on a Spirits back, which ran With *Mandrake-shrikes, and like a Lubrican. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* II. ii. VI. i. (1651) 293 A friends counsel is a charm, like *mandrake wine. 1753 [see *Mandrake root*].

Mandram (mæ·ndræm). *West Indian.* Also mandrang. (See quot. 1756.)

1756 P. BROWNE *Jamaica* 177 There is a mixture made and used in some of our colonies called Mandram,..which seldom fails to provoke an appetite in the most languid stomachs. The ingredients are sliced cucumbers, eschalots cut very small, a little lime juice, and Madeira wine with a few pods of bird pepper. 1814 LUNAN *Hortus Jamaicensis* I. 358 The mixture called man-dram is made from these peppers. 1841 ORDERSON *Creoleana* xiv. 148 The 'punch and mandram' had been handed round. 1845 MISS ACTON *Mod. Cookery* 312 Mandrang or Mandram. (West Indian Receipt.) Chop together, very small, two moderate-sized cucumbers [etc.].

Mandrel, mandril (mæ·ndrĕl, -il). Forms: 6 manderelle, 7–9 maundril(l, mandrel, -il, (8 manderil, mandrell, maundrell, 9 mandrill). [Usually believed to be an alteration of F. *mandrin,* which has the senses 3 and 4 below. The Fr. word, however, has not been traced earlier than 1690, and is of obscure origin.]

1. A miner's pick.

1516 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) V. 80 Item xlvj manderelles ij.*s.* viij.*d.* A gryndstone & cruke x*d.* Item ij spayddys & a shulle vj*d.* 1686 PLOT *Staffordsh.* 306 But he..by the help of his Maundrill, by degrees so wrought away the earth over head..that [etc.]. 1747 HOOSON *Miner's Dict.* M iij, *Mandrel,* a Tool made after the manner of a Hack, but more Strong and Square, having both ends Sharp, Square Points. 1771 FLETCHER *Checks* Wks. 1795 II. 126 An ignorant collier, as great a stranger to your metaphysics as you are to his mandrell. 1860 *Eng. & For. Min. Gloss.* (*Derby Terms*), *Maundrill,* a pick for various purposes, but generally used to undermine. 1881 RAYMOND *Mining Gloss., Mandril,..Maundril,* Derb. and S. Wales, a prying pick with two prongs.

† 2. Some instrument used by arrow-makers. *Obs.*

1659 HOWELL *Partic. Vocab.* § 51 A maundrel, and bickhornd, smoothing floates [etc.]...*Les outils de l'archer.*

3. In a lathe, an arbor or axis to which work is secured while it is being turned. Also applied to a similar part in a circular saw or cutter.

1665 *Phil. Trans.* I. 58 To give to the Axis or to the Mandril..that little Inclination. 1677 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* (1703) 190 There is another sort of Mandrels called Hollow Mandrels. 1731 BAILEY vol. II, *Manderil,* a kind of wooden pulley, that is part of a turner's leath, of which there are several kinds, as flat, hollow, pin and skrew manderils. 1786 *Phil. Trans.* LXXVI. 25, I turned it..upon my great lathe in the air (that is, upon the end of the mandrel). 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* I. 452 The manderil is moved by a band wheel. 1812-16 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* I. 12 If the mandrel of a lathe were made of the best steel, sufficiently hard to wear well in the collar, it would be snapped by a sudden check. 1879 R. S. BALL in *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* VII. 62 By means of the band the pulley G, on what is called the 'mandril' of the lathe, is made to turn rapidly.

4. A cylindrical rod, core, or axis round which metal or other material is forged, cast, moulded, or shaped.

1790 in *Abridg. Specif. Patents, Metallic Pipes,* etc. (1874) 2, I cast the lead in lengths,..this is put upon a polished rod or round maundrell of iron or any other metal, such maundrells being made of different lengths and diameters. 1812-16 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* I. 17 The hole may be finished..by hammering it at a low heat upon a smooth mandrel or pin. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 364 When the pipe is cast, and the metal is set, this mandrel is drawn out of the mould, and another of smaller diameter is substituted. 1859 *Musketry Instr.* 49 Roll the stiff paper tightly about 2½ times round the 'mandrel'. 1881 GREENER *Gun* 50 Their early barrels appear to have been made from one broad band of metal rolled over a mandril.

5. *attrib.*

1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 325 This weight.. operates to keep the mandrel-band tight. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech., Mandrel-lathe,* a lathe adapted for turning hollow work, which is clasped by a chuck on the end of the mandrel in the head-stock. 1888 HASLUCK *Model Engin. Handybk.* (1900) 58 The mandrel-cone centre point.

Hence **Ma·ndrel** *v. trans.,* to operate upon with mandrels (*Cent. Dict.* 1890).

Mandriarch (mæ·ndriɑ:ɹk). [ad. It. *mandriarcha,* a. late Gr. *μανδριάρχης,* f. *μανδρία,* Gr. *μάνδρα* fold, monastery. Cf. ARCHIMANDRITE.] A ruler or founder of a monastic order.

1371 MARIA F. ROSSETTI *Shadow of Dante* 205 The second dividing line, which consists of holy Mandriarchs; S. Francis, S. Benedict, S. Augustine being alone named.

Mandrill (mæ·ndril). Also -il. [app. f. MAN *sb.*[1] + DRILL *sb.*[3]] The largest, most hideous, and most ferocious of the baboons, *Cynocephalus maimon* or *mormon,* a native of Western Africa.

1744 W. SMITH *Voy. Guinea* 51 A strange sort of animal, called by the white men in this country [Sierra Leone] Mandrill, but why it is so called I know not,..except it be for their near resemblance to a human creature, though nothing at all like an Ape. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* IV. vii. 214 The largest of the baboon kind is the Mandril; an ugly disgusting animal. 1840 *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 59 The Mandrill Baboon (*Sim. maimon* and *mormon*).—Greyish brown, inclining to olive above;..cheeks blue and furrowed. 1863 HUXLEY *Man's Place Nat.* I. 10. 1898 *Daily News* 12 Dec. 9/1 The blue-faced Mandril.

Ma·ndrite. *rare*—[1]. [ad. Gr. *μανδρίτης* (cf. ARCHIMANDRITE), f. *μάνδρα* fold.] (See quot.)

1844 W. KAY in J. H. Newman *Fleury's Eccles. Hist.* III. 81 *note,* A mandrite would at first be a person who lived in a solitary cave.

‖ **Mandritta** (mændri·tă). *Fencing. Obs.* [altered from It. *mandritto, mandiritto,* f. *mano dritta* right hand.] A cut from right to left.

1595 SAVIOLO *Practice* I. 10 b, Cannot euery one of himselfe without teaching giue a mandritta? 1603 DEKKER *Wonderfull Yeare* D 4, Hees the best Fencer in the world: .. He has his Mandrittaes, imbrocataes, stramazones and stoccataes at his fingers ends. 1855 KINGSLEY *Westw. Ho!* iii, Wiping maudritta [*sic*], closing embrocata, And all the cant of the honourable fencing mystery.

Manducable (mæ·ndiu·kăb'l). *a. Obs.* or *arch.* [ad. L. type **manducābil-is,* f. *manducā-re*: see next and -ABLE.] Capable of being manducated; eatable.

1614 W. B. *Philosopher's Banquet* (ed. 2) 37 They are scarce manducable. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 213 Tortoyses, (in which I haue seene aboue a thousand Egges, great and manducable). 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* *c* 1810 COLERIDGE in *Lit. Rem.* (1838) III. 351 If tangible by Thomas's fingers, why not by his teeth, that is, manducable?

Manducate (mæ·ndiu·keit), *v.* [f. ppl. stem of L. *manducā-re* to chew: see -ATE[3].] *trans.* To chew, eat. Hence **Ma·nducated** *ppl. a.*

1623 COCKERAM, *Manducate,* to eat. 1624 F. WHITE *Repl. Fisher* 490 To manducate, that is, to chew or swallow, and to let the Element receiued, passe into their stomach. 1654 JER. TAYLOR *Real Pres.* 147 Either we manducate the accidents only, or else the substance of bread, or the substance of Christs body. 1657 TOMLINSON *Renou's Disp.* 242 Being manducated, they confirm loose teeth. 1727 in BAILEY vol. II. 1822 *Blackw. Mag.* XI. 161 Whate'er front-tooth can bite, and grinders manducate. 1826 Goon *Bk. Nat.* (1834) I. 276 The..manducated food. 1876 E. MELLOR *Priesth.* iv. 179 The literal interpreters..supposing that our Saviour referred to bread which could be manducated in the ordinary manner.

Manducation (mændiukē··ʃən). [ad. L. *manducātiōn-em,* n. of action of *manducā-re* to MANDUCATE. Cf. F. *manducation* (Theol.).]

1. The action of eating. Chiefly *Theol.* (following the patristic use of L. *manducatio*), the term applied (usually with qualification, as *carnal, corporal, literal, oral, real, sacramental, spiritual*) to the act of participation in the Eucharist.

1551 GARDINER *Explic. True Cath. Faith* 9 b, The mysterie of corporall manducation. 1553 KENNEDY *Compend. Tract.* in *Wodrow Soc. Misc.* (1844) 167 He makis mentioun baith of spirituale and reale manducatioun. 1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* V. lxvii. § 9 A Literall, Corporall and Orall manducation of the very substance of his flesh and bloud. 1649 JER. TAYLOR *Gt. Exemp.* XV. § 17 After the manducation of the Paschal lamb it was the custom of the nation to sit down to a second supper. 1660 — *Duct. Dubit.* II. iii. rule 12 § 11 Sacramental manducation. 1737 WATERLAND *Eucharist* (ed. 2) 453 None give so great advantage to the Figurists, as those that contend for oral manducation. 1821 LAMB *Elia* Ser. I. *Grace bef. meat,* The received ritual having prescribed these forms to the solitary ceremony of manducation. 1833 ROCK *Hierurg.* (1892) I. 197 A manducation of His real flesh and blood. 1850 E. H. BROWNE *Exp. 39 Articles* XXVIII. § 1 (1874) 679 Did they intend a spiritual manducation —an eating spiritually and a drinking in by the soul of the life-giving efficacy of the Body broken and the Blood shed?

2. The action of chewing.

1650 BULWER *Anthropomet.* 139 They who chaw not well,

or . . passe over the triple order of manducation, are ill nourished. 1746 R. JAMES *Introd. Mouffet's Health's Improv.* 2 Manducation, or Chewing, is performed by means of the Biventer, or Digastric Muscles. 1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* III. 416 The *trophi* or organs of manducation. 1852 DANA *Crust.* II. 991 The mandible has a lateral process for manducation. 1877 HUXLEY *Anat. Inv. Anim.* i. 69 Powerful apparatus for the seizure and manducation of vegetable and animal prey.

Manducatory (mæ·ndiŭ·kătəri), *a.* Chiefly *Phys.* [f. L. *manducāt-* (see MANDUCATE) + -ORY.] Pertaining to or fitted for manducation.

1814 *Sch. Gd. Living* 40 Their noble perseverance, in fulfilling with so much courage their manducatory functions. 1850 H. MILLER *Footpr. Creat.* iv. (1874) 62 The framework through which an important class of functions, manducatory and respiratory, are performed. 1870 ROLLESTON *Anim. Life* 110 [It] consists of the manducatory ganglion fused with one thoracic ganglion. 1877 HUXLEY *Anat. Inv. Anim.* vi. 256 The . . manducatory appendages (gnathites).

Mandura: see MANDOLA.

Mandy, obs. form of MAUNDY.

Mane (mēin), *sb.* Forms: 1 manu, 4, 6 maane, 6 mayn, *Sc.* (mone), meane, 6–7 mayne, maine, 7 maune, 7, 8 main, 4– mane. [OE. *manu* str. fem. = MDu. *mane* (chiefly pl. *manen*; so in mod. Du.), OHG. *mana* fem. (MHG. *mane*, *man* fem. and masc., mod.G. *mähne* fem. with irregular umlaut), ON. *mon* fem. (gen. *manar*; Sw., Da. *man*) :—OTeut. **manâ*. The Scandinavian langs. have also a dim. form prob. from LG.: Da. *manke* mane, Sw. *manke*, Icel. *makki* nape of the neck.

The primary sense of the OTeut. word must have been 'neck': cf. OE. *mgne* masc., OS. *meni*, OHG. *menni* pl., ornament for the neck; L. *monīle* necklace; OIrish *muin*-neck (in *muin-torc* collar), *muince* (= Gaulish *μανίακης*, Polybius) collar, *muincl* (= Welsh *mwnwgl*) neck, *mong* (= Welsh *mwng*) mane; Skr. *manyā* nape of the neck.]

1. A growth of long hair on the back of the neck and the shoulders, characteristic of various animals, esp. the horse and lion; a similar growth on other animals.

Formerly sometimes used (e.g. in quots. 1470–85, 1501, 1661) for the part on which the mane grows.

a 800 *Erfurt Gloss.* 1182 *Juba, setes porci et leonis cabalique*: manu, brystæ. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn't.* 187 Þe maine of þat mayn hors much to hit lyke. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 244 Þat gode hors blessede he þo, & louely strek ys mane. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVIII. xl. (1495) 801 The maare is prowde and hath joye of her maane. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* III. viii, The hole body of hyr lay before hym on his hors mane. 1501 DOUGLAS *Pal. Hon.* I. xii, Out throw the wod come rydand catiues twane, Ane on ane asse, a widdie about his mone, The vther raid ane hiddeous hors vpone. 1567 MAPLET *Gr. Forest* 74 b, There is also another kinde of wilde Oxe or Bull, called . . Bonasus, a little shorter than our Bull, but more thickly set, and hath his Mane like to our Horse. 1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* III. iii. 224 And the weake wanton Cupid Shall . . like a dew drop from the Lyons mane, Be shooke to ayrie ayre. 1661 LOVELL *Hist. Anim. & Min.* Introd., Horses have most haire upon the mane, lions upon their shoulders. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VII. 497 The Serpent . . with brazen Eyes And hairie Main terrific. *a* 1719 ADDISON tr. *Ovid* Wks. 1753 I. 157 Half dead with sudden fear he dropt the reins; The horses felt 'em loose upon their mains. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) III. 387 It [the genett] has also along the back a kind of mane or longish hair, which forms a black streak from the head to the tail. 1828 STARK *Elem. Nat. Hist.* I. 45 Full Bottom Monkey. With a mane upon the neck, shoulders, and top of the back. 1863–5 J. THOMSON *Sunday at Hampstead* vii, One stroked with careless hand a lion's mane. 1883 G. STABLES *Our Friend the Dog* vii. 60 *Mane*, the feather on shoulders of Collie and Newfoundland, and that on the front of the chest of Blenheims.

fig. 1818 BYRON *Ch. Har.* IV. clxxxiv, And I have loved thee, Ocean!. . And laid my hand upon thy mane—as I do here.

b. *transf.* Applied to a person's long hair.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xlix. (*Tecla*) 164 His mane in hir hand scho wan, & rawe of it a gret part done. 1647 WARD *Simp. Cobler* 32 Men use not to weare such manes. 1860 GEO. ELIOT *Mill on Fl.* I. iii, Maggie . . looked over the book, eagerly seizing one corner and tossing back her mane. 1881 *Scribner's Mag.* XXI. 71/2 Her . . red rippling mane falling about her. 1895 ZANGWILL *Master* II. ii. 135 Matt moved back towards his easel, passing a little dark man with a mane.

c. A tuft of hair attached to an artificial fly.

1867 F. FRANCIS *Angling* xi. (1880) 407 The Owenmore [Salmon Fly]. . . Manes of mohair from the back of each joint . . ; just under, as a support to each mane, is tied in a feather from the breast of the Indian crow.

2. The hackles on the neck of a game cock. ? *Obs.*

1614 MARKHAM *Cheap Husb.* II. i. 110 His mayne or neckefeathers would bee very long, bright, and shining, couering from his head to his shoulders. 1727 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Cock*, His eyes round and great, the colour answerable to the colour of his plume or Main.

3. *Agric.* A ridge or tuft of grass or stubble, left by the mowers.

1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 23 Take hede that thy mower mow clene and . . leane not a mane bytwene. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 595 Those tufts and manes which the mowiers passed over and left standing behind them. 1840 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* I. IV. 444 In using the scythe for barley and oats, the great art is to leave a short 'mane' or ridge of stubble, so that the ears of corn may rest thereon.

4. *attrib.*, as *mane-like* adj.; **mane-comb**, a comb for the horse's mane; †**mane-piece**, ? = CRINIÈRE; **mane-sheet** (see quot.).

1564 in Rogers *Agric. & Prices* III. 577/1 *Mane comb. 1573 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 35 A currie combe, mainecombe, and whip for a Jade. *a* 1613 OVERBURY *Characters, Ostler* Wks. (1856) 72 His mane-comb is a spinners card turned out of service. 1879 MRS. A. E. JAMES *Ind. Housek. Managem.* 67 Curry-combs, scrapers, mane-combs, and the rest of the usual stable paraphernalia. 1864 TENNYSON *Aylmer's Field* 68 Eager eyes that . . beamed Beneath a *manelike mass of rolling gold. 1753 HANWAY *Trav.* (1762) I. III. XXXVII. 172 Bridles . . mounted with silver, with a *mane-piece of plate. 1727 BAILEY vol. II, **Mane-sheet* (with Grooms), is a covering for the Upper-part of a Horse's Head.

†**Mane**, *a. Sc. Obs.* Also 6 maine, magne. [a. OF. *maine, maigne, magne*:—L. *magnum* great.] In *Chairlis the mane*, Charles the Great, Charlemagne.

c 1475 *Rauf Coilȝear* 205 Thus said gentill Charlis the Mane To the Coilȝear. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* II. 344 Chairlis the Mane, the quhilk wes king of France, . . To king Achay ane herald he hes send. 1552 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 129 Sen the tyme of Achaus kyng of Scotland and Chairlis the Maine king of France. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 264 The king, Charles the Magne.

Mane, obs. f. MAIN, MAINE, MAN, MANY, MEAN *a.*; north. f. MOAN; variant of MAUN (= *must*).

-mane (mēin), the ending of certain words adopted from Fr., as *Anglomane, bibliomane*, which have the general sense 'one who has a mania for (something)', and are formed on assumed Gr. types in *-μανής*: see MANIA. The words of this formation have never become entirely naturalized in Eng., the meaning being preferably expressed by formations in *-maniac*.

1832 tr. *Tour Germ. Prince* III. xi. 306 She is almost as great a 'parkomane' as myself. *Ibid.* IV. iii. 145.

Maneall, obs. form of MENIAL *a.*

Ma·n-ea·ter. [MAN *sb.*[1]] One who eats men.

1. A cannibal.

1600 J. PORY tr. *Leo's Africa* Introd. 31 They are maneaters, and couragious in battaile. 1617 HIERON *Wks.* (1619–20) II. 103 How foule is the sinne of oppression, when the practisers of it are likened to man-eaters, that liue vpon flesh? 1681 T. FLATMAN *Heraclitus Ridens* No. 28 (1713) I. 180 They may talk of Jews, Turks, Pagans, Infidels, Canibals, Man-eaters, Killcraps. 1705 HICKERINGILL *Priestcr.* I. (1721) 33 There are Cannibals or Maneaters. 1837 M. DONOVAN *Dom. Econ.* II. 44 A stout ferocious-looking fellow . . was pointed out to me as a celebrated marksman and man-eater. 1854 *Old Story-Teller, Golden Roebuck* 61 The man-eater's mouth watered for human food.

2. An animal that eats or has a propensity for eating men; *colloq.* a horse given to biting.

1840 E. E. NAPIER *Scenes & Sports in For. Lands* I. v. 140 The larger horses . . are leggy, under-limbed, and, as far as vice goes, regular man-eaters. 1879 MRS. A. E. JAMES *Ind. Housek. Managem.* 68 Some horses in India are called 'man-eaters', and have to be blindfolded while you mount, or they would bite you. 1883 F. DAY *Indian Fish* 51 (Fish. Exh. Publ.) The common crocodile, *Crocodilus palustris* and *C. porosus* . . often termed man-eaters.

b. A man-eating shark; esp. *Carcharodon rondeleti*. Also *man-eater shark*.

1837 HAWTHORNE *Twice-told T.* (1851) II. XVIII. 259 To ascertain that the maneater [*sc.* a shark] had already met his own death. 1882 JORDAN & GILBERT *Fishes N. Amer.* 30 (*Bull. U.S. Nat. Mus.* No. 16) Man-eater Shark. 1884 G. B. GOODE, etc. *Nat. Hist. Usef. Aquatic Anim.* I. 671 A Shark closely related to our Man-eater.

c. In India, a man-eating tiger. Applied also to lions and hyenas.

1862 J. GREENWOOD *Wild Sports* 191 It marks the spot where . . fell one of the most terrible 'man-eaters' the world ever saw. 1881 J. GRANT *Cameronians* I. iv. 60 Sir Piers . . thought it very slow work compared with . . potting a man-eater from a howdah.

attrib. 1850 R. G. CUMMING *Hunter's Life S. Afr.* (1902) 134/1 A bloodthirsty man-eater lion.

3. *local U. S.* a. A large salamander. b. The dobson or hellgrammite (*Cent. Dict.* 1890).

1859 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer.*, s.v. *Water-Dogs*, In Pennsylvania and the Eastern States they [various species of salamanders] are called Spring-keepers and Man-eaters.

So **Ma·n-ea·ting** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1607 HIERON *Wks.* I. 437 A raging, and (as I may terme it) a man-eating pestilence. 1612 BREREWOOD *Lang. & Relig.* x. 87 The Anzichi, being an idolatrous and man-eating nation. 1871 J. FORSYTH *Highl. India* 321 When a panther takes to man-eating, he is a far more terrible scourge than a tiger. 1880 *Chamb. Jrnl.* 15 May 316/2 Man-eating tigers . . are . . rare in British India.

Mane-ath, variant of MANATH *Obs.*

Manece, obs. form of MENACE.

Maned (mēind), *ppl. a.* Also 4 imaned (cf. OE. *gemǫn*), 6 maaned. [f. MANE *sb.* + -ED[2].] Having a mane: also with prefixed word, as *long-maned*. In *Her.* = CRINED.

13.. *Sir Beues* (MS. A) 2667 He was boþe leiþ and grim; A was i-maned ase a stede. 1530 PALSGR. 318/1 Maaned as an horse, *creinu*. 1580 STOW *Chron.* 7 This forrest sometimes bred white Bulles, long maned like Lions. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 569 The Hyena is said to be rough and maned. 1780 EDMONDSON *Heraldry* II. Gloss., *Maned*, is said of a horse, unicorn, or other beast, whose mane is of a different tincture from its body. 1791 COWPER *Iliad* VIII. 49 Swift, brazen-hoofed, and maned with wavy gold. 1818 KEATS *Endym.* II. 644 Four maned lions hale The sluggish wheels. 1862 *Fraser's Mag.* July 59 The Feshtall is the maned moufflon of the Atlas. 1864 BOUTELL *Her. Hist. & Pop.* xvii. (ed. 3) 281 An unicorn arg., armed maned and unguled or. 1895 SCULLY *Kafir Stories* 91 A large, black-maned lion. 1903 *Q. Rev.* Jan. 45 The maned or red wolf of Brazil.

b. *transf.* of plants.

1578 LYTE *Dodoens* III. lxxii. 417 Passeflower . . hath rough hearie stemmes, all iagged, . . sometimes thicke maned.

c. *fig.*

1866 SYMONDS *Sk. Italy* i. (1874) 9 Huge waves crystalline in their transparency, and maned with fleecy spray.

Manede, variant of MANHEAD *Obs.*

Maneer, obs. form of MANNER.

Manefaire: see MAINFERRE.

‖ **Manège, manege** (manɛ̄ʒ). [Fr. form of the word earlier adopted as MANAGE *sb.*]

1. A riding school. (Cf. MANAGE *sb.*)

1644 EVELYN *Diary* 25 Oct., The Prince has a stable of the finest horses of all countries, . . which are continually exercised in the manège. 1705 ADDISON *Italy* 521, I saw here the largest Manege that I have met with any where else. 1756 H. WALPOLE *Lett., to Bentley* Aug. (1857) III. 32 The horseman Duke's manège is converted into a lofty stable. 1799 J. ADAMS (*title*) Analysis of Horsemanship, teaching the Whole Art of Riding in the Manege. 1833 *Regul. Instr. Cavalry* I. 40 It is . . desirable that all Cavalry should be often exercised in Open Manege. *Ibid.* 41 The Troops . . are to be drilled . . in the Open Manege.

2. The movements proper to a trained horse; the art or practice of training and managing horses; horsemanship. (Cf. MANAGE *sb.* I.)

1776 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* ix. (1869) I. 182 Practised in the skilful evolutions of the Roman manege. 1791 BECKFORD *Pop. Tales Germans* I. 242 A knightly steed, well instructed in the manege. 1814 SCOTT *Way.* (1816) I. vii. 94 Already a good horseman, he was now initiated into the arts of the manege. 1826 — *Woodst.* III. i. 12 He seemed a champion of the menage, fit to have reined Bucephalus himself.

Manege, obs. form of MANAGE *v.*

Maneggiable, obs. form of MANAGEABLE.

‖ **Maneh** (mā·nɛ). *Heb. Antiq.* [Heb. מנה *māneh* (the pl. is rendered 'pounds' in 1 Kings x. 17): see MINA.] A Hebrew coin and weight, equal to from sixty to one hundred shekels.

1611 BIBLE *Ezek.* xlv. 12 And the shekell shall be twentie Gerahs: twenty shekels, fiue and twentie shekels, fifteene shekels shall be your Maneh. 1899 SAYCE *Early Israel* vi. 260 The maneh was divided into sixty shekels.

Maneir, obs. form of MANNER.

Manekin, obs. form of MANIKIN.

Mane-kynd, obs. Sc. form of MANKIND.

Manel, obs. form of MANILLA[1].

Maneless (mēi·nlĕs), *a.* [f. MANE *sb.* + -LESS.] Without or destitute of a mane.

Maneless lion of Guzerat: see LION 1.

1828 STARK *Elem. Nat. Hist.* I. 106 Common Sea Bear. Fur brown; males maneless. 1833 SMEE in *Trans. Zool. Soc.* (1835) I. 165 The maneless Lion of Guzerat. 1870 ORTON *Andes & Amazons* vi. (1876) 105 The puma, or maneless American lion. 1893 *Roy. Nat. Hist.* (ed. Lydekker) I. 361 It may be that some adult specimens of the Indian lion are maneless; yet well-maned examples have been killed.

Manellio, obs. form of MANILLA[1].

Manentine, obs. form of MANATEE.

Manequin(e, obs. form of MANIKIN.

Maner(e, obs. ff. MANNER, MANOR, MANURE.

Maneresse, obs. form of MINORESS.

Manerial (mănī·rĭăl), *a.* ? *Obs.* [f. med.L. *manēri-um* MANOR + -AL.] = MANORIAL *a.*

1765 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* I. 106 The landed property of the Atholl family, their manerial rights and emoluments, and the patronage of the bishoprick. 1791 J. COLLINSON *Hist. Somerset* II. 47 The manerial province of this place is vested in J. F. Luttrell. 1818 HALLAM *Mid. Ages* ii. II. (1819) I. 244 The manerial court of every vavassor represented in miniature that of his sovereign. *Ibid.* ix. II. III. 420 Stones . . were employed in the construction of manerial houses. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XIV. 388/1 The lord's fee, or manerial seigniory.

Maneriall, obs. Sc. form of MINERAL.

Manerlik, obs. form of MANNERLY.

†**Manery.** *Obs. rare*[−1]. Also 6 mannery. [ad. med.L. *manēri-um* MANOR.] A mansion or manor.

14.. in Becon *Reliques of Rome* (1563) 254 Houses of holy church, graunges, personages, or vicaries, or any maneries of mens of holy church. 1598 HALL *Sat.* VII. 36 Get the fee-simple of fayre manneryes.

‖ **Manes** (mēi·nīz), *sb. pl.* [L. *mānēs* pl. By some scholars supposed to be the pl. of OLatin *mānis* good (cf. *im-mānis* cruel).]

1. The deified souls of departed ancestors (as beneficent spirits; opposed to *larvæ* and *lemures*, the malevolent shades of the Lower World). Also, the spirit, 'shade' of a departed person, considered as an object of homage or reverence, or as demanding to be propitiated by vengeance.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 173 Thei hadden goddes, . . And tho he name Manes hihten, To whom ful gret honour thei dihten. 1609 HOLLAND *Amm. Marcell.* XV. vii. 43 As if they meant with Romane blound to sacrifice unto their wicked Manes. 1670 DRYDEN *1st Pt. Conq. Granada* IV. ii, The manes of my son shall smile this day, While I, in blood, my vows of vengeance pay. 1703 POPE *Thebais* 752 Let eternal fame Attend thy Manes, and preserve thy name. 179a BURKE *Corr.* (1844) III. 381 The Chevalier may owe it to the manes of the fallen nobility . . to put his name to his own defence and theirs. 1869 LECKY *Europ. Mor.* (1877) I. ii. 272 The games were . . intended as human sacrifices to appease the Manes of the dead. 1880 HUXLEY *Sci. & Cult.* i. (1881) 1 We may hope that the manes of the burnt-out philosopher were then finally appeased.

fig. 1673 *Remarques Humours Town* 18 The delight, or the torment of reflections, being the Manes of past actions. 1726 C. D'ANVERS *Craftsm.* No. 2 (1727) 20 It is indeed only the manes of departed Liberty which makes the loss of the substance more grievous to us.

¶ 2. Taken in the sense of 'mortal remains' (? by association with L. *mānēre* to remain); hence *transf.*

1707 *Curios. in Husb. & Gard.* 336 A certain Polander shut up the Manes of Plants in Glass Vessels.

Manes(h, obs. form of MENACE.

Maness (mæ·nes). *rare.* Also 6 mannes, 7 manness. [f. MAN *sb.*[1] + -ESS.] Woman as the feminine of man.

1594 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* II. 24 The man said, This nowe is bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh: she shall he called mannes, or mannish, because she was taken out of man. 1643 TRAPP *Comm. Gen.* ii. 23 [She shall be called Woman] or Manness, of Man, as *Ishah* of *Ish*. 1855 BAILEY *Spir. Legend* in *Mystic*, etc. (ed. 2) 130 Taught the Ædenic mysteries of man And maness.

Maness, obs. form of MENACE.

Manesuere, manesweir, obs. ff. MANSWEAR *v.*

Maneto, obs. form of MANITOU.

Manetti (mænē·ti). *Hort.* [Named after Xavier *Manetti* (1723–1784), a botanist of Monza.] A very vigorous dwarf variety of rose much used as a stock; also *Manetti rose*.

[1843 T. RIVERS *Rose Amateur's Guide* (ed. 3) 113 *note*, The ..Rosa Manettii..I received a few years ago from Italy. 1846 *Ibid.* (ed. 4) 150 It..seems to flourish on the Manettii stock better than on its own roots.] 1854 *Ibid.* (ed. 5) 182 The only method..is to employ the Manetti Rose as a stock. 1869 HOLE *Bk. Roses* 204 The Manetti will grow luxuriantly where the Brier will not grow at all.

Maneuver, variant of MANŒUVRE.

Manful (mæ·nfūl), *a.* Also 4 monful, 5 man(n)fulle, 5–7 manfull. [f. MAN *sb.*[1] + -FUL.]

1. Characterized by manly courage and resolution; brave, resolute.

a 1300–1400 *Cursor M.* 8306 (Gött.) Werrour art þu, manful wight, And many man slayn wid þi hand. 1399 LANGL. *Rich. Redeles* III. 103 They mornyd ffor the morthir of manffull knyztis. 1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 170 Summen hym callyth a corageous man, or a manful man. 1513 BRADSHAW *St. Werburge* II. 412 The inhabitauntes of it manfull and liberall. 1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 36 A stoute and manful minde. 1641 EARL MONM. tr. *Biondi's Civil Warres* IV. 76 They were inforced after twelve dayes manfull defence to surrender themselves upon discretion. 1865 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* XVII. iii. (1872) VII. 27 Blakeney and Garrison stood to their guns in a manful manner. 1879 MORLEY *Burke* 189 A manful attempt was made to get the new constitution to work in the winter of 1791–92. 1891 SWINBURNE *Stud. Prose & Poetry* (1894) 18 The manful good sense which seems naturally to accompany a manly tenderness of nature.

†**2.** In occasional uses. **a.** Stately in appearance. **b.** Befitting a man, manly. *Obs.*

1493 *Festivall* (W. de W. 1515) 78 b, Thomas was as manfull in his araye, for he was clothed in ye best and rychest clothe. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* VII. ii. § 15 [He] being shooting at Butts, (a manfull, and healtbfull Pastime..).

†**3.** *Comb.*: **manful-hardy** *a.*, brave (hence *-hardiness*). *Obs.*

c 1430 LYDG. *Compl. Bl. Knt.* 417 Sheding of blode, ne manful hardinesse. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 15 Such as he manful hardye [orig. *fortes*]. *Ibid.* Pref. **ii, Concernyng mannefull hardynesse [orig. *fortitudinem*].

Manfully (mæ·nfŭli), *adv.* [f. MANFUL *a.* + -LY[2].] In a manful manner; with manly courage or resolution, bravely, valiantly.

c 1400 *Melayne* 1240 This day wirke þou Manfully With thi nobill Cheualry. *c* 1430 *Life St. Kath.* (1884) 57 Drede not .. þou .. welbeloued queene vn to god but do manfully. 1553 EDEN *Treat. Newe Ind.* (Arb.) 31 He manfullye defended him selfe in battayl. 1611 BIBLE 2 *Macc.* ix. 10 Let vs die manfully for our brethren. 1782 COWPER *Gilpin* 76 Then over all..His long red cloak, well brush'd and neat, He manfully did throw. 1839 THIRLWALL *Greece* xlviii. VI. 141 The Greeks..continued to fight manfully. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* i. I. 50 Bishop Hooper, who died manfully at Gloucester for his religion. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. xxvii. 219 The labour was enormous, but it was manfully and cheerfully done.

†**b.** Honourably. *Obs.*

1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* IV. i. 27, I kil'd a man, whose death I much repent, But yet I slew him manfully, in fight.

Manfulness (mæ·nfŭlnės). [f. MANFUL + -NESS.] The quality of being manful.

c 1400 *Beryn* 2693 But his grete wisdom, & his manfulness. 1546 BALE *Eng. Votaries* I. (1548) 49 b, Daniel than Byshop of Wynchestre sent thys wenefride to rome wyth hys letters of commendacyon for hys manfulnesse there shewed. 1681 R. KNOX *Hist. Ceylon* 134 The Metal and Manfulness of these men. 1833 HT. MARTINEAU *Loom & Lugger* I. v. 91 It took all my manfulness from me to see you so near the edge of the cliff. 1868 VISCT. STRANGFORD *Selections* (1869) II. 336 Sir Samuel, as good a type of manfulness and power in speech and action as one would ever wish to see.

†**Mang,** *v.*[1] *Sc.* and *north. Obs.* **a.** *trans.* To bewilder, lead astray. **b.** *intr.* To be bewildered, go wrong; to go mad.

c 1440 *York Myst.* xlii. 132 What saie ȝe men? allas! for tene I trowe ȝe mang. *a* 1510 DOUGLAS *K. Hart* 104 And all that couth attene the castell neir, It made thame for to mer amiss, and mang. 1513 — *Æneis* VIII. Prol. 16 Musing marris our myrth half mangit allmost. 1562 A. SCOTT *Poems* (S.T.S.) I. 79 To mend þat menȝe hes sa monye mangit God gif þe grace. *a* 1600 MONTGOMERIE *Misc. Poems* xlvii. 9 Resave, vhill than, a harte lyk for to mang. 1768 ROSS in Whitelaw *Bk. Sc. Song* (1875) 360/2 She chokit and boakit, and cried like to mang.

†**Mang,** *v.*[2] *slang. Obs.* (See quot.)

1812 J. H. VAUX *Flash Dict., Mang*, to speak or talk.

Mang, variant of MONG *sb.* and *v.*

‖**Manga** (ma·ngă). [Sp. *manga* lit. 'sleeve' :—L. *manica*: see MANCHE[1].]

1. A flowing robe, worn from the shoulders.

1851 MAYNE REID *Scalp Hunt.* vii. 55 It was purely a Mexican costume, and consisted of a purple manga. 1889 AMELIA E. BARR *Woven of Love & Glory* xiii. 301 It was a grand moving picture of handsome men in scarlet and gold—of graceful mangas and waving plumes.

2. The silk case used to cover a processional or other cross when not in use (Sp. *manga de cruz*).

1890 in *Century Dict.*

Manga, obs. form of MANGO.

Mangabey (mæ·ngăbē). *Nat. Hist.* [The name of a region of Madagascar, erron. given by Buffon to a species of *Cercocebus* inhabiting the west coast of Africa.] A monkey of the African genus *Cercocebus*; esp. the Sooty Mangabey, *Cercocebus fuliginosus*.

1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* IV. vii. 234 The fourth of this [the monkey] kind is the Mangabey. ..It is a native of Madagascar. 1879 W. LAUDER LINDSAY *Mind Lower Anim.* II. 83 A sooty mangabey (monkey) had acquired a good number of bad habits.

‖**Mangal** (mangă·l). Also 9 manggall, (in Dicts.) mankal. [Turkish مانغال *mangal* (also written مانقال *manqal*).] A kind of brazier.

a 1814 *Sorceress* II. ii. in *New Brit. Theatre* III. 13 Another room in the Palace; in the midst a Manggall with fire burning. 1851 *Offic. Catal. Gt. Exhib.* III. 1398 Brass mangal or brazier:—Manufactured by Mardiros Tombakdgi, Constantinople, exhibitor.

Mangalin, variant of MANGELIN *Obs.*

Mangal wurzel, obs. var. MANGEL-WURZEL.

Mangan-, repr. MANGANESE (G. *mangan*) in many compound names of minerals, chiefly adopted from German (see A. H. Chester *Dict. Min.*, 1896), as **mangan-amphibole** = RHODONITE; **manganapatite,** a variety of apatite containing manganese; **manganblende** = ALABANDITE; **manganbrucite,** a variety of brucite containing much manganese; **manganchlorite,** a manganiferous variety of clinochlore; **mangancolumbite,** a variety of columbite in which the iron is largely replaced by manganese; **manganhedonbergite,** a manganiferous variety of hedenbergite; **manganpectolite,** a manganiferous variety of pectolite; **mangantantalite,** a variety of tantalite in which manganese largely replaces the iron. (Cf. MANGANO-.)

1861 BRISTOW *Gloss. Mineral.*, **Mangan-amphibole.* 1892 DANA *Syst. Mineral.* 764 *Manganapatite..contains manganese replacing calcium. 1836 T. THOMSON *Outl. Min., Geol.*, etc. I. 510 Sulphuret of Manganese. *Manganblende. Swartzerz. 1887 DANA *Man. Mineral. & Petrogr.* (ed. 4) 224 *Manganbrucite is a manganesian variety. 1892 — *Syst. Min.* 648 *Manganchlorit. 1898 — *Text-bk. Mineral.* 474 Manganchlorite, a chlorite from the Harstig mine near Pajsberg, Sweden. 1890 *Century Dict.*, **Mangancolumbite.* 1887 DANA *Man. Mineral. & Petrogr.* (ed. 4) 267 *Manganhedenbergite..contains 6 to 7 p.c. of manganese protoxide. 1892 — *Syst. Min.* 373 *Manganpectolith. 1898 — *Text-bk. Mineral.* 395 Manganpectolite. 1884 *Cassell's Encycl. Dict.*, **Mangansklerite.* 1887 DANA *Man. Mineral. & Petrogr.* (ed. 4) 202 *Mangantantalite contains more manganese than iron.

Manganate (mæ·ngănēt). *Chem.* [f. MANGAN-IC + -ATE.] A salt of manganic acid.

1839 *Penny Cycl.* XIV. 38/2 Manganate of potash is easily prepared. 1891 THORPE *Dict. Appl. Chem.* II. 500/1 All manganates..oxidise hydrochloric acid.

‖**Manganeisen** (ma·ngăn,əiz'n). *Min.* [Ger., f. *mangan* manganese + *eisen* iron.] = FERRO-MANGANESE. 1881 [see FERRO-].

Manganel(l, variant of MANGONEL.

Manganeous: see MANGANOUS.

†**Mangane·sane.** *Chem. Obs.* [f. MANGANESE + -ANE 2 a.] Chloride of manganese.

1818 HENRY *Elem. Chem.* (ed. 8) II. 65.

†**Mangane·sate.** *Chem. Obs.* [f. MANGANESIC + -ATE.] = MANGANATE.

1819 BRANDE *Man. Chem.* 228 Manganesate of potassa.

Manganese (mæ·ngănīz). Also 7 manganes, 9 manganeze. [a. F. *manganèse* (16th c.), a. It. *manganese*, one of the many corrupt forms of L. *magnēsia*: see MAGNESIA 2. The word appears in Ger. as *mangan* (hence Du. *mangaan*, Sw. *mangan*). Cf. obs. F. *mangane*.]

1. A black mineral (now recognized as an oxide of a metal, to which its name has been transferred: see sense 2), used from ancient times in glass-making, and now in many industrial processes. Also called **black manganese,** †*glass-maker's manganese*. The name has been also applied with qualification to other ores of the metal: **grey m.,** = MANGANITE 1; **horn m.,** *corneous m.* [G. *hornmangan*, Jasche], an impure manganese silicate akin to photicite; **red m.,** = RODOCHROSITE; **white m.,** manganese carbonate.

As the name is in chemical use now restricted to the metal (sense 2), its older application survives only in commercial and industrial use. The black manganese of commerce is usually a mixture of various oxides, but the term is considered to apply esp. to manganese dioxide, MnO_2, which is the valuable ingredient in the mixture.

1676 COLES, *Manganese* (in colour and weight like the loadstone), the most general ingredient of glass. *a* 1682 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* II. iii. (1686) 52 In the making of glass it hath been an ancient practice to cast in pieces of magnet, or perhaps manganes. 1755 *Gentl. Mag.* XXV. 540 Our Manganese, supposed an iron ore, appears from some experiments to contain no iron. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) X. 528/1 This substance, commonly called black or glass-maker's manganese, is scarcely any other thing than the calx of a new semimetal. 1864 *Chambers's Encycl.* VI. 301/2 The *binoxide*, or *peroxide*, is the black manganese of commerce, and the *pyrolusite* of mineralogists. 1865 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* III. 808 *Grey Manganese*, a term sometimes applied to manganite and pyrolusite. 1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 398/1 *Diagegite* (Red Manganese). *Ibid.* 417/1 Allagite and Horn Manganese are mere mixtures.

2. *Chem.* The metallic element (symbol Mn) of which 'black manganese' is the oxide.

It is of a greyish white colour and a hard friable texture, somewhat resembling iron, but having no economic use in the metallic form.

1783 WITHERING tr. *Bergman's Outl. Mineral.* 114 Manganesium or Manganese..This new metal is soluble in all the acids. 1807 J. MURRAY *Syst. Chem.* III. 423 The name Manganese, which was formerly given to the native oxide, is now appropriated to the metal. 1812 SIR H. DAVY *Chem. Philos.* 49 The properties of manganese, which was announced as a peculiar metal by Kaim in 1770, were minutely investigated by Scheele and Bergman. 1816 P. CLEAVELAND *Mineral.* 544 Manganese, which is with great difficulty obtained in a metallic state, has a grayish white color with some lustre. 1879 C. A. CAMERON in *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* I. 15 Manganese is a metal somewhat allied to iron.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *manganese metal, mine, ore, salt*; **manganese alum,** (*a*) *Chem.*: see ALUM 3; (*b*) *Min.* = APJOHNITE; **manganese blende** = ALABANDITE; **manganese bronze,** (*a*) a bronze dye, (*b*) an alloy of copper and zinc with manganese; **manganese brown,** a brown dye, consisting of manganic hydrate obtained by various processes; **manganese copper** = *manganese bronze*; **manganese epidote** = PIEDMONTITE; **manganese garnet** = SPESSARTITE; **manganese glance** = ALABANDITE; **manganese glass,** glass in the manufacture of which manganese has been used; **manganese green,** an unstable green dye derived from manganate of barium; **manganese spar** = RHODONITE; also RHODOCHROSITE; **manganese steel,** a malleable mixture of iron and manganese; **manganese violet,** the purple colour derived from manganese, used in the decoration of pottery and porcelain; **manganese vitriol** = FAUSERITE, a sulphate of magnesium and manganese.

1842 T. GRAHAM *Elem. Chem.* 519 Iron alum, *manganese alum, and chrome alum. 1820 R. JAMESON *Syst. Mineral.* (ed. 3) III. 406 Prismatic *Manganese Blende. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts*, etc. 235 *Manganese bronze, buff and green. 1883 P. M. PARSONS in *Rep. Brit. Assoc.* 382 The manganese bronze has a great advantage over steel. *Ibid.* 383 That the manganese bronze propellers are incorrodible, .. has now been proved. 1841 T. GRAHAM *Elem. Chem.* (1842) 533 *Manganese brown. 1902 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 10) XXVII. 564, art. *Dyeing*, Manganese brown is applied in wool, silk, and cotton dyeing. 1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 409/2 Piedmontite or *Manganese Epidote, brownish violet, from St. Marcel, has 20 per cent. of manganese peroxide. 1865 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* III. 817 **Manganese-glance*, syn. with *Manganese-blende*. 1875 tr. *Vogel's Chem. Light* xvii. 269 Explanation of the change of *manganese-glass. 1882 *Spon's Encycl. Arts, Manuf.* etc. V. 1549 [Recipe for making] *Manganese Green. 1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XV. 480/1 *Manganese metal is grey, like cast iron. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XIV. 381/1 It occurs in Devonshire, Cornwall, in the Harz, and most *manganese mines. 1795 W. NICHOLSON *Dict. Chem.* II. 596 This new *manganese ore was found among the iron mines of Sem. 1821 R. JAMESON *Man. Mineral.* 255 Prismatic Manganese-Ore, or Black Manganese-Ore. *Ibid.* 256 Prismatoidal Manganese-Ore, or Grey Manganese-Ore. 1802 T. THOMSON *Syst. Chem.* III. 88 The oxides of *manganese salts. 1821 R. JAMESON *Man. Mineral.* 325 *Manganese-Spar. (Baryte.) 1865 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* III. 817 *Manganese-spar*, syn. with Diallogite. Native carbonate of manganese. 1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 417/1 Rhodonite (Manganese Spar). 1895 *Daily News* 16 Sept. 2/7 *Manganese steel is being used ..in the manufacture of shovels. 1902 *Encycl. Brit.* XXXI. 772 A metaphosphate of manganese which goes under the name of Nürnberg or *manganese violet. 1884 H. BAUERMAN *Descr. Mineral.* 298 The mineral described as *Fauserite* or **Manganese Vitriol*, from Herrengrund, in Hungary.

b. In names of salts.

1877 KINGZETT *Alkali Trade* 209 Manganese chloride. 1882 DANA *Man. Mineral. & Lithol.* (ed. 4) 188 Pyrolusite —Manganese Dioxide. *Ibid.* 191 Rhodochrosite—Manganese Carbonate.

Manganeseous: see under MANGANESIC.

Manganesian (mæŋgănī·zĭăn), *a.* [f. MANGANESE + -IAN.] Pertaining to manganese, or characterized by its presence.

1795 W. NICHOLSON *Dict. Chem.* II. 596 This powdery manganesian ore. 1837 J. T. SMITH tr. *Vicat's Mortars* 2 The argillaceous, magnesian,..manganesian [etc., varieties of limestone].

†**Mangane·sic,** *a. Obs.* [f. MANGANESE + -IC.] *Manganesic acid* = manganic acid. Similarly **Mangane·siate,** = MANGANATE; **Mangane·s(e)ous** *acid*, manganous acid; **Mangane·site,** manganite.

1819 BRANDE *Man. Chem.* 226 Manganesic acid. 1823 HENRY *Elem. Chem.* (ed. 9) II. 10 The proportions being 100 metal and 96·847 oxygen, constituting *manganeseous acid*; the green salt, therefore, is a *manganesite* of potassa. The red compound..contains an acid which may be called the *manganesic*, and its compounds *manganesiates*. 1828 WEBSTER, *Manganesious* (citing Henry).

‖ **Mangane·sum, -sium.** *Chem. Obs.* [mod. L., f. MANGANESE.] = MANGANESE 2.

1783 [see MANGANESE 2]. 1786 tr. *Scheele's Chem. Ess.* 67 On Manganese, Manganesium, or Magnesia Vitrariorum. 1774. 1812 Sir H. Davy *Chem. Philos.* 367 Manganesum was first procured in its pure form by Kaim and Gahn, between 1770 and 1775. 1876 Harley *Mat. Med.* (ed. 6) 195 Manganesium was discovered by Gahn in 1774.

Manganetic (mæŋgănē·tik), *a. rare*−⁰. [Badly f. MANGANESE, after *magnetic*.] = MANOANIFEROUS. In mod. Dicts.

Mangani- (mæ·ŋgăni), earlier **manganid-** [cf. FERRI-], used *Chem.* in names of certain cyanogen compounds, indicating the presence of manganese in its 'manganic' or highest degree of valency (cf. MANGANO-²). **Ma·nganicyanhy·dric (or -cyanic) acid**, H_3MnCy_6. **Ma·nganicy·anide**, a salt of this acid.

1852 WATTS tr. *Gmelin's Handbk. Chem.* VII. 426 Manganidcyanid of cadmium. 1876 [see MANGANO-²]. 1889 MORLEY & MUIR *Watts' Dict. Chem.* II. 342.

Manganic (mæŋgæ·nik), *a. Chem.* [f. MANGAN-ESE + -IC.] Applied to compounds containing manganese in its highest valency. *Manganic acid*: an acid (H_2MnO_4) not known exc. in combination with alkalis, with which it forms *manganates*.

1836 BRANDE *Chem.* (ed. 4) 633 Manganic acid. 1877 KINGZETT *Alkali Trade* 209 Manganic chloride. 1878 ABNEY *Photogr.* (1881) 72 The permanganate is decomposed ..and insoluble manganic oxide is precipitated on the image.

Manganiferous (mæŋgăni·fĕrəs), *a. Min.* [f. MANGAN-ESE + -(I)FEROUS.] Containing or yielding manganese.

1851 WATTS tr. *Gmelin's Handbk. Chem.* V. 300 Manganiferous Magnetic Iron-ore. 1877 *Nature* XV. 57 The Deep-sea Manganiferous Muds.

Manganin (mæ·ŋgănin). *Metallurgy.* [f. MANGAN-ESE + -IN ¹.] An alloy of copper, manganese and nickel, much used in the construction of standard resistance coils.

1902 J. J. THOMSON in *Encycl. Brit.* XXVIII. 7.

Manganite (mæ·ŋgănəit). [f. MANGAN-ESE + -ITE. Cf. F. *manganite*.]

1. *Min.* A hydrated sesquioxide of manganese, occurring massive and in pseudo-crystals; grey manganese ore.

1827 HAIDINGER in *Trans. Roy. Soc. Edinb.* (1831) XI. 122 Prismatoidal Manganese-ore. Manganite. *Ibid.* 125 The name of *Manganite*, proposed for this species, is formed in allusion to the metal which it contains. 1836 T. THOMSON *Outl. Min., Geol.*, etc. I. 502 Manganite. Hydrous sesquioxide of manganese. 1858 *Fownes' Man. Chem.* (ed. 7) 307 This compound occurs in nature as braunite, and in the state of hydrate as manganite.

2. *Chem.* A salt of manganous acid.

1855 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* III. 818 Salts which may be called manganites. 1877 KINGZETT *Alkali Trade* 209 This latter body..forms what Mr. Weldon has termed manganite of magnesium ($MgMnO_3$).

Hence **Mangani·tic** *a.*, containing manganite.

1886 *Pall Mall G.* 6 Mar. 5/2 A very considerable formation of manganitic ore.

‖ **Manganium** (mæŋgē·niŏm). *Chem. rare*−⁰. [mod. L., f. MANGAN-ESE. So Fr.] = MANGANESE 2.

1850 in OGILVIE. 1856 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Manganium*, a term proposed by Berzelius for manganese.

Manganize (mæ·ŋgănəiz), *v. rare.* [f. MANGAN-ESE + -IZE.] *trans.* To treat or prepare with manganese. Hence **Ma·nganized** *ppl. a.*

1875 R. F. MARTIN tr. *Haurez' Winding Mach.* 13 Flat ropes, made of manganised steel.

Ma·ngano-¹, used as combining form of MANGANESE in the construction of the names of certain minerals containing that element (see A. H. Chester *Dict. Min.* 1896): **manganocalcite**, a calciferous variety of rhodochrosite; also occas. = SPARTAITE; **manganocolumbite** = MANGANCOLUMBITE; **manganomagnetite** = JACOBSITE; **manganophyllite**, a manganiferous variety of biotite; **manganosiderite**, a ferriferous variety of rhodochrosite; **manganostibiite**, antimoniate of manganese occurring in small black grains; **manganotantalite** = *mangantantalite*; † **manganowolframite** = HÜBNERITE. (Cf. MANGAN-.)

1852 BROOKE & MILLER *Phillips' Mineral.* 678 Manganocalcite. 1877 DANA *Text-bk. Mineral.* 290 Manganophyllite. 1887 — *Man. Mineral. & Petrogr.* (ed. 4) 206 Manganostibiite contains both arsenic and antimony. 1892 — *Syst. Mineral.* 731 Manganotantalite. 1898 — *Text-bk. Mineral.* 491 Manganocolumbite.

Ma·ngano-², used *Chem.* in names of compounds containing manganese with its lower or 'manganous' degree of valency (cf. MANGANI-).

1876 *Encycl. Brit.* V. 535/2 Chromi-cyanides and mangano- and mangani-cyanides, isomorphous with the corresponding iron compounds. 1889 MORLEY & MUIR *Watts' Dict. Chem.* II. 328 Manganocyanic acid (or manganocyanhydric acid) H_4MnCy_6.

† **Man·ganolite.** *Min. Obs.* [f. MANGANO- + Gr. λίθος -LITE.] = RHODONITE.

1884 *Cassell's Encycl. Dict.* 1896 A. H. CHESTER *Dict. Min.*

Manganosite (mæŋgănəsəit). *Min.* [ad. G. *manganosit*, f. *mangan* MANGANESE.] Protoxide of manganese, occurring in small green octahedral crystals which turn black on exposure to the air.

1887 DANA *Man. Mineral. & Petrogr.* (ed. 4) 206.

† **Mangano·so-manga·nic,** *a. Chem. Obs.* [ad. mod.L. *manganōso-manganicus* (Berzelius): cf. MANGANOUS and MANGANIC.] Having a formula which is the sum of that of a 'manganous' and that of a 'manganic' compound. *Manganoso-manganic oxide*: red oxide of manganese, Mn_3O_4.

1845 PARNELL *Chem. Anal.* 331 Manganoso-manganic oxide. 1865 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* IV. 801 Manganese occurs ..as manganic and manganoso-manganic oxide.

Manganous (mæ·ŋgănəs), *a.* Also 9 **manganeous.** [f. MANGAN-ESE + -OUS.] **a.** Of the nature of, or containing, manganese. **b.** *Chem.* Containing manganese with its lower valency.

1823 HENRY *Elem. Chem.* (ed 9) II. 11 The constitution of the manganeous acid. 1842 T. GRAHAM *Elem. Chem.* 530 Protoxide of manganese, Manganous oxide. 1884 H. BAUERMAN *Descr. Mineral.* 51 Manganous sulphide. 1884 *Health Exhib. Catal.* 49/2 Patent Manganous Carbon Filters of various kinds. 1891 THORPE *Dict. Appl. Chem.* II. 499/1 One-sixth of the weight of the manganous chloride employed.

Mangas: see MANGO.

Mangastan, -stene, obs. forms of MANGOSTEEN.

Mange (mēⁱndʒ), *sb.*¹ Forms: α. 5 **maniew(e, manyew,** 6–7 **mangie,** 7 **maungie, mangy.** β. 6 **maunge,** 7 **mainge,** 6– **mange.** [Late ME. *manjewe*, a. OF. *manjue, mangeue* itch (also in the sense 'eating'), vbl. sb. f. *manjuer* = *mangier* (mod.F. *manger*) to eat. Cf. F. *démanger* to itch.]

1. A cutaneous disease analogous to the itch in man, occurring in many hairy and woolly animals, and caused by an arachnidan parasite. Also sometimes loosely, a dirty, scabby or scurfy condition of the skin. *Flying, quick, red, scabby mange*, varieties of this disease.

α. *c* 1400 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) xii, þe houndes also hath an oþer sickneesse, þat is cleped þe Maniewe [*Bodl. MS.* manyew]. *Ibid.*, þat oþer manere of maniewe is cleped þe fleynge maniewe. *Ibid.*, þat one is cleped quyc maniewes, þe whiche pileth þe houndes. 1575 TURBERV. *Faulconrie* 363, I place the Mangie firste, as the capitall enemie to the quiete and beautie of a brave spanell. 1598 YONG *Diana* 306 The Iuniper oile may neuer helpe my flockes, With lothsome mangie being ouerrun. 1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* VI. xv. 465 If the mangie or the scurvie..take any beast, they were presently commaunded to bury it quicke. 1624 HEYWOOD *Captives* II. ii. in Bullen *O. Pl.* IV, Tis good phisick To cure thee of the mangy. 1647 R. STAPYLTON *Juvenal* 141 The dogs whose mangy eats away his haire.

β. 1540 *Act* 32 *Hen. VIII*, c. 13 § 9 Anye horse, geldynge or mare infecte with scappe or mange. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 450 The scurvie thicke roufe in the farcins or mange of horses. 1623 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Praise Hempseed* Wks. (1630) III. 66/1 Gangrenaes, Vlcers, wounds, and mortall stabs, Illiaca passioes, Megrims, Mumps, or Mange. 1663 BUTLER *Hud.* I. i. 612 And tell what Crisis does Divine The Rot in Sheep, the Mange in Swine. 1667 T. COXE in *Phil. Trans.* II. 451, I procured an old Mungrell Curr, all over-run with the Mainge. 1683 TRYON *Way to Health* 88 At last they [sheep] will break out with a Mainge or Scab. 1750 RUTTY in *Phil. Trans.* LI. 473 It cures the mange in horses, and the itch in men, by bathing. 1822 SCOTT *Fam. Lett.* 4 Sept. (1894) II. xviii. 149 As it was, I came off with a fit of the mange, and it was a good escape. 1843 YOUATT *Horse* (1848) 379 Mange in cattle has been propagated to the horse. 1858 — *Dog* 367 The Scabby Mange is a frequent form which this disease assumes. It assumes a pustular and scabby form in the red mange. 1868 *Regul. & Ord. Army* ¶ 567 The veterinary Surgeon will inspect all the horses of the detachments for the detection of Mange.

† **2.** *fig.* A restless desire. (Cf. ITCH 2.) *Obs.*

1648 HERRICK *Hesper., A Country Life* 22 Those that have the itch Of craving more are never rich. These things thou know'st to' th'height, and dost prevent That plague [*MS. Ashm.* 38. p. 90 Mange], because thou art content. *a* 1680 ROCHESTER *Sess. Poets* 56 Don Carlos his Pockets so amply had fill'd, That his Mange was quite cur'd. 1789 WOLCOT (P. Pindar) *Expost. Odes* x. 22 The Love of Flattery is the Soul's rank Mange. 1790 — *Ep. to Sylv. Urban*, If yet thy head possess the Mange of Writing.

† **Mange,** *sb.*² *Obs.* [? f. MANGE *v.*]

1. A meal.

a 1605 MONTGOMERIE *Cherrie & Slae* (revision) iii, I saw the hurcheon and the hare In hidlings hirpling heir and thair, To mak thair morning mange.

2. A food for animals.

1611 MARKHAM *Countr. Content.* I. i. (1668) 12 The best food is to give them Mange, made either of ground Oats, Barley Meale, Brannе, or Mill-dust. *Ibid.* 13 Meat which if it be sweet is called the Mange, if otherwise Carrion or Garbage. 1615 — *Eng. Housew.* (1660) 177 Nor is there any more .. excellent meat for Swine in the time of sicknesse, then a mange made of ground Oates and sweet Whey.

† **Mange,** *a. Obs. rare.* Also 5 **manyew,** 6 **maunge.** Cf. MANGED *a.* [f. MANGE *sb.*¹] Having the mange; = MANGY.

c 1410 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) xii, Anoynt þe hounde þerwith as he is maniewed [*Bodl. MS.* manyew]. 1537 MATTHEW *Lev.* xxi. 20 Wether he be..gogeleyed, or maunge, or skaulde. *Ibid.* xxii. 22 Whether it..haue a wen, or be maunge, or scabbed. 1547 HOOPER *Answ. Bp. Winchesters Bk.* L 4 b, To saue hym [*sc.* a dog] he wax not mange.

† **Mange,** *v. Obs.* Also 4, 6 **maungo.** [a. OF. *mangier, manjuer* (mod.F. *manger*) to eat:— L. *manducāre*: see MANDUCATE *v.*] *trans.* To eat. Hence † **Manging** *vbl. sb.*

1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. IX. 245 Þei han I-Maunget ouur muche þat makeþ hem grone ofte. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* XII. 232 And two swyne gronys, All a hare bot the lonys, we myster no sponys here, at oure mangyng. 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* III. (Arb.) 83 Feare not thee manging fortold of burd-seat in hunger, Thee fats thee passage shal smooth. *Ibid.* IV. 117 Yea the lad Ascanius wel I might haue slaughtered, after At tabel of the father too set tbee chield to be maunged.

† **Manged,** *a. Obs.* [f. MANGE *sb.*¹ + -ED ².] Suffering from mange. *c* 1410 [see MANGE *a.*].

† **Manged,** *ppl. a. Obs.* [f. MANG *v.* + -ED ¹.] ? Rendered stupid or helpless.

1508 KENNEDIE *Flyting w. Dunbar* 546 Hangit, mangit, eddir-stangit, stryndie stultorum. 1508 DUNBAR *Tua maritt Wemen* 118 Than mak I nyne crocis, To keip me fra the cummerans of that carll mangit. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* III. v. 52 To the ground half mangit fell scbe doun. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* II. 632 Vther sum war of ane vther kynd, Richt mad & mangit, wod out of thair mynd. 1571 *Satir. Poems Reform.* XXV. 137 Aske at þe leving Lord, That hanged, or manged, Mot ilk man mak his end. *a* 1600 MONTGOMERIE *Misc. Poems* xxiv. 42, I sitt and sighis all soliter and sad, Half mangd in mynd, almost as I war mad.

Manged, obs. form of MANCHET.

Mangee, obs. form of MANJEE.

Mangel (mæ·ŋg'l), **mangold** (mæ·ŋgōuld). Short for MANGEL-WURZEL. Also *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *mangel field, grower*; **mangel beetle,** a small blue-black beetle (*Silpha opaca*) whose larva feeds upon mangel-wurzel; **mangel-fly,** *Anthomyia betæ*.

α. 1877 *N. W. Linc. Gloss., Mangles*, mangold wurzel. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Apr. 652/1 A cow gets daily one bushel of sliced mangel. 1889 TENNYSON *Owd Roë* 14 All on it now Goan into mangles an' tonups. 1893 *Morn. Post* 8 Mar. 8/2 A pest mentioned..in these reports is the pigmy mangel beetle, and mangel growers are requested to keep a watchful eye upon the young roots.

β. 1856 *Farmer's Mag.* Jan. 62 Some swedes and yellow-globe mangolds grown by H.R.H. Prince Albert. 1882 *Garden* 14 Jan. 23/3 Mangold fly..the pest of our Mangold fields in the grub state. 1884 *Times* (weekly ed.) 19 Sept. 6/3 Nowhere in Ireland have I seen finer crops of hay and oats, of turnips and mangold.

‖ **Mangelin.** *Obs.* Also 6 **mangiar, mangelyn, mangiallin, mangalin.** [a. Telugu *manjāli* = Tamil *manjādi*.] A weight formerly used in Southern India and Ceylon for weighing precious stones, varying, apparently according to the district, from half a carat to two carats.

1555 EDEN *Decades* 234 A poyse or weight which they caule Mangiar, which wayeth two Tarre, and two thyrdes, which amount to two thyrdes or thirde partes of one caratte. 1584 W. BARRET in *Hakluyt's Voy.* (1599) II. i. 274 Another sort of weight called Mangiallins, which is 5 graines of *Venice* weight. 1598 W. PHILLIP *Linschoten* I. lxxxv. 133 Sometimes they find Diamonds of one hundred and two hundred Mangelyns, and more. 1615 tr. *De Monfart's Surv. E. Indies* 35 It waigheth 198. Mangelins, and each Mangelin waigheth fiue graines. 1678 J. PHILLIPS tr. *Tavernier's Trav.* II. II. xiv. 140 At the Mine of Raolconda they weigh by Mangelins, a Mangelin being one Carat and three quarters, that is seven Grains.

Mangel-wurzel, mangold-wurzel (mæ·ŋg'l-, mæ·ŋgōld,wə·rz'l). Forms: α. 8 **mangle wurzel, mangel wurtz, mangal wurzel,** 9 **mangel worsal, -wursel, mangol wurtzel, mangul wurzel,** 8–9 **mangel-wurzel** (*erron.* **-würzel**). β. 8–9 **mangold-wurzel,** (9 **-wurtzel**). [a. G. *mangold-wurzel* (corruptly *mangelwurzel*), f. *mangold* beet + *wurzel* root.

The corrupt form *mangelwurzel* (in Eng. now the prevailing form) suggested, or was suggested by, a pseudo-etymological association with G. *mangel* want, whence in the 18th and early 19th c. the name was often mistranslated 'root of scarcity' (and in Fr. *racine de disette*). The origin of G. *mangold* (MHG. *mangolt*) has not been determined: it may be an application of the OHG. personal name *Managolt*. The G. word has passed into other langs.: cf. Da. *mangold*, It. *manigoldo*.]

A variety of beet, with a root larger than that of the garden beet; cultivated as a food for cattle.

(Regarded by some botanists as a hybrid between the red and the white beet.)

c. 1779 [see b]. 1787 (*title*) tr. Abbé de Commerell's Account of the culture and use of the Mangel Wurzel. 1787 *Gentl. Mag.* Nov. 963/1 The Mangel Wurtz (*Wurzel*, you call it,) or Root of Scarcity. 1788 WOLCOT (P. Pindar) *Peter's Prophecy* Wks. (1823) 237/1 Beets, in whose just applauses we are hoarse all; Such are the wondrous powers of mangel worsal. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* III. 762, I sowed the common long red or marbled mangel-würzel. 1881 H. TANNER *Sci. Agric. Pract.* lviii. 288 The Mangel wurzel..obtained by the improvement of the Sea-Beet (*Beta Maritima*).

β. 1800 *Med. Jrnl.* III. 8 Mangold Wurzel, or Root of Scarcity. 1856 *Farmer's Mag.* Jan. 77 Mangold wurtzel.

b. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *mangel-wurzel beet, leaf, plant*; **mangel-wurzel fly,** a small dipterous insect (*Anthomyia betæ*) the larva of which feeds on beet leaves; **mangel-wurzel potato,** a coarse variety of potato used as food for cattle.

1779 MAWE & ABERCROMBIE *Univ. Gardener* (1797) X b, The Mangel Wurzel Beet. 1851 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* (ed. 2) II. 92/1 The mangold-wurzel plant..is attacked by the larva of a beetle,..*Silpha opaca*. *Ibid.*, The ultimate effect of these attacks on the mangold-wurzel leaves is not serious. 1862 *Q. Jrnl. Microscop. Sci.* II. 230 The Mangold-wurzel Fly. 1875 *Encycl. Brit.* I. 365/2 There are several varieties of the potato, such as 'yams', 'lumpers', 'mangel-wurzel potato', &c., which, although unfit for human food, are much relished by cattle.

Mangeneel, obs. form of MANCHINEEL.

Mangenel(e, obs. form of MANGONEL.

Manger (mē·ndʒəɹ), *sb.*[1] Forms: 4 manyour, maniore, mawnger, maungour, 5 maniure, maniowre, mangeour, mawngēur, mawnjowre, 6 mangeor, maungere, mangier, 4– manger. [a. F. *mangeoire* (in 12th c. written *maingeure*) = Pr. *manjadoira*, Catal. *menjadora*, Pg. *manjadoura*, It. *mangiatoia*:—vulgar L. type **manducātōria*, f. *manducāre* (F. *manger*) to eat.]

1. A box or trough in a stable or cowhouse, from which horses and cattle eat. (Chiefly used for those kinds of food which cannot be placed, like hay and straw, in the rack above.)

c 1315 SHOREHAM *Poems* (E.E.T.S.) 120/145 Þe oxe and asse in hare manyour. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 11182 Bordes broughte, cordes & cables, & made mangers [*v.r.* maniores] to stande in stables. *a* 1400 *Sir Perc.* 441 A mawnger ther he fande Corne therin lyggande, Therto his mere he bande. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 325/1 Maniure (*S., P.* maniowre), *mansorium, presepium, C., F., presepe.* 1465 *Paston Lett.* II. 254 An bows to ley inne hey and straw, and cost yow not but making of a rak and a mangeour. 1526 TINDALE *Luke* ii. 7 She .. wrapped hym in swadlynge cloothes, and layed hym in a manger [so 1582 *Rheims* and 1611; WYCLIF cracche, *Geneva* cretche: see CRATCH *sb.*[1] 1 b]. 1552 ABP. HAMILTON *Catech.* (1884) 24 The Asse has knawin the mangier of his maister. 1629 MILTON *Christ's Nativ.* 31 While the Heav'n-born-childe All meanly wrapt in the rude manger lies. 1791 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Rom. Forest* ii, My horse, I believe, smelt the corn in the manger by the rate he went at. 1868 *Regul. & Ord. Army* ¶ 570 To prevent infection..the rack and manger, are to be scoured with soft soap and hot water.

b. Used as the symbol of the Nativity.

1838 JACKSON tr. *Krummacher's Elisha* xiii. 294 The blissful mystery of the manger and the Cross.

c. Phr. *In hack* (*heck*) *and manger*: see HACK *sb.*[2] 2, HECK *sb.*[1] 3; *Rack and manger*: see RACK *sb.*[1] 3 b, c, d. Also DOG-IN-THE-MANGER.

†**2.** *Astron.* (=L. *Præsæpe.*) The name of a nebulous tract in the constellation Cancer. *Obs.*

1551 RECORDE *Cast. Knowl.* (1556) 265 After Gemini foloweth Cancer containing 8 stars, beside a cloudy tract which is named y^e^ Manger or Crybbe.

3. *Naut.* A small berthing in the bows of a ship-of-war, intended to keep the water entering the hawse-holes from flooding the deck.

1627 CAPT. SMITH *Seaman's Gram.* ii. 10 A circle of planke either abaft or before the maine Mast called the Manger. *Ibid.*, The Bits .. are .. placed abaft the Manger in the ships loofe. 1836 E. HOWARD *R. Reefer* xliii, The manger, that part of the main-deck directly under the forecastle. 1867 in SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* 466.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *manger-cradled* adj.; **manger-board** (see quot.); **manger-doggishness** *nonce-wd.*, the character of a dog-in-the-manger; **manger-door**, the outlet from a ship's manger; **manger-food, -meat**, food which may properly be placed in the manger for cattle; **manger-scupper**, an aperture for carrying off water from a ship's manger.

1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Manger*, a small berthing in the bows..separated on the after part from the rest of the deck by the *manger-board, a strong coaming rather higher than the hawse-holes. 1620 DEKKER *Dreame* 9 The *Manger-Cradled Babe, the Begger borne, The poorest Worme on earth, the Heighth of Scorne. *a* 1631 DONNE *To C'tess Huntingdon* 14 Poems (1633) 91 As such a starre which Magi led to view The manger-cradled infant, God below. 1860 TROLLOPE *Framley P.* xxxi, Is not that *manger-doggishness one of the most common phases of the human heart? 1802 J. ANFREY in *Naval Chron.* VII. 48 A man was..sentry at the *manger-door. 1805 R. W. DICKSON *Pract. Agric.* II. 599 A *manger food for the labouring teams. 1744–50 W. ELLIS *Mod. Husbandm.* I. II. 41 The best Sort of Pease for *Manger-meat. 1834 *Brit. Husb.* I. 141 The whole of this food is given as manger-meat, no part of it being put into the rack. *c* 1850 *Rudim. Navig.* (Weale) 131 The water is returned into the sea by the *manger-scuppers.

Hence **Ma·ngerful**, a quantity that fills a manger.

1875 CHR. G. ROSSETTI *Goblin Market*, etc. 221 A breastful of milk And a mangerful of hay.

†**Manger,** *sb.*[2] *Obs.* [a. OF. *mangier* to eat (the inf. used as sb.). Cf. GRAMAUNGERE.] A sumptuous meal; a banquet.

In the later quots. the word may be a jocular use of MANGER *sb.*[1]

[13.. *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* xxx. 566 And þenne bope bodi and soule i-fere Schal wende to the graunt Maungere.] *c* 1420 *Laud Troy Bk.* 24 That gestoures often dos of hem gestes At mangeres and at grete fiestes. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xii. 201, I am worthy the wyne, me thynk it good skyll, My seruyse I tyne, I fare full yll, At youre mangere. 1548 LATIMER *Ploughers* (Arb.) 26 They are so troubeled wyth Lordelye lyuynge..mounchynge in their maungers..that they canne not attende it. 1605 CHAPMAN, etc. *Eastward Ho!* IV. i, Farewell thou horne of hunger that calst th' Innes a court to their Manger.

b. A prepared dish. *Manger blanc* = BLANC-MANGE(R.

1574 HELLOWES *Gueuara's Fam. Ep.* (1584) 98 They set before her..Manger blank, Pasties, Tarts, and other variable kinde of gluttonies. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 246 A certain manger or broth made of their [barbels'] liuers. 1676 LADY FANSHAWE *Mem.* (1830) 209 Cakes, cheese, and excellent sweetmeats, especially manger blanc.

†**Manger,** *v. Obs. rare*[−0]. [a. F. *manger* (inf.).] 1613 R. CAWDREY *Table Alph.* (ed. 3), *Manger*, to eate.

Mangering: see *List of spurious words.*

†**Ma·ngery.** *Obs.* Forms: 4–5 ma(u)ngeri, mangery, 4–6 mangerie, 5 maungery, mangere, mawngery, mangrie, maynerey, 5–6 *Sc.* maniory, 6 *Sc.* mangeory. [a. OF. *mangerie*, f. *manger* (mod.F. *manger*) to eat.]

1. A banquet; a ceremonial feast; a scries of festivities.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 15198 Til þe lauerd o þat hus Vee sai on mi parti, Þat he yow wald len sum place, To mak vr mangeri. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1365 Such a mangerie to make þe man was auised. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxxvi. (*Baptista*) 501 [He] mad gret mangery þaim to, As afferit kyng to do. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 244 Til thre dayes were fulli paast, This mangeri then so longe laast. *c* 1420 *Sir Amadace* (Camden) lv, Ther weddut he that lady brigte, The maungery last a fauртenyзte, With schaftes for to schake. 1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 153 Wher ben thay that helde the grete festes and grete mangries makid? *c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* II. xi. 1011 And ane vgsum maniory Off wlatsum corssis and vgly. ?*c* 1475 *Sqr. lowe Degre* 1098 That worthy wedding for to se, And come vnto that mangere. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* XIII. ix. 5 Onon the bankat and the mangeory For fest ryall according, by and by.

2. Banqueting, luxurious eating.

a 1470 TIPTOFT *Orat. C. Flaminens* (Caxton 1481) F iv b, Supposest thou with thy sleep reste ydelnesse wyne mangerie lustes vnshamefastnes to get that worshipful fame which they gate. *c* 1470 HENRYSON *Mor. Fab.* II. (*Town & C. Mouse*) xxvii, Thy mangerie is mingit all with cair, Thy guse is gude, thy gansell sour as gall.

3. Board; necessary food.

1596 NASHE *Saffron Walden* 119 The Minister then seruing at Saint Albanes in Wood-street..satisfied the House for his lodging and Mangerie.

Mangestain, obs. form of MANGOSTEEN.

Mangey, variant of MANGY.

Manggall, Manggo: see MANGAL, MANGO.

Mangiallin, mangiar, vars. MANGELIN *Obs.*

Mangie, obs. f. MANGE *sb.*[1], MANGY, MANJEE.

Mangier, obs. form of MANGER *sb.*[1]

Mangily (mē·ndʒili), *adv.* In 7 mangely. [f. MANGE *sb.*[2] + -(I)LY [2].] In a mangy manner.

c 1620 FLETCHER & MASSINGER *False One* II. iii, Oh, this soundes mangely..and scurvely in a Souldiers mouth.

Manginess (mē·ndʒinés). [f. MANGY *a.* + -NESS.] The condition of being mangy.

c 1400 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) xii, Þer is IIII. maners of maniewenesse [*Bodl. MS.* manyewnesse]. 1535 COVERDALE *Deut.* xxviii. 27 The Lorde shal smyte the.. with scalle, and maungynesse. *a* 1571 JEWEL *On 1 Thess.* (1611) 99 Who hath not heard of the patience of Iob?.. his body stricken with a scurfe or mangines. 1579 LANGHAM *Gard. Health* (1633) 279 For the white scurfe, leapry, ..manginesse..&c. 1611 COTGR., *Mal de S. Roch*..an itching manginesse. 1725 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Rules for buying a Horse*, To have much Hair on the Mane, denotes intolerable Dulness;..and to be without none..shews the Worm in the Mane, the Itch, or else plain Manginess.

†**Mangle,** *sb.*[1] *Obs.* [f. **mangle*, MONGLE *v.*] *In mangle*: in a mêlée.

13.. *K. Alis.* 7412 While they weore so in mangle, Theo Yndiens gan gangle.

Mangle (mæ·ŋg'l), *sb.*[2] [a. Sp. *mangle* (Oviedo 1535): see MANGROVE.] = MANGROVE. Also *attrib.*, as *mangle-bark, tree.*

[1597 HARTWELL tr. *Pigafetta's Congo* iv. 24 The..barke of the tree which is called Manghi. (Orig. *di quell'albore nomato manghi.*)] 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* VIII. ii. (1614) 733 Mangle is the name of a Tree, which multipliеth it selfe into a wood. [Cf. *ibid.* 698 *marg.*: Andrew Battell saith, That the tree which thus strangely multiplies itselfe is called the Manga tree.] 1693 *Phil. Trans.* XVII. 621 Two sorts of the Mangle-Tree, of the *Arbor de Raiz* kind, though no Figg. 1760–72 tr. *Juan & Ulloa's Voy.* (ed. 3) I. 171 In its neighbourhood [Guayaquil]..are great numbers of mangles, or mangrove trees. 1824 tr. *Spink & Martius' Trav. Brazil* I. 217 *note*, The mangle or mangrove tree. 1885 *U. S. Cons. Rep.* No. 59. 268 (Cent.) Mangle-bark is principally used in tanning leather.

Mangle (mæ·ŋg'l), *sb.*[3] [a. Du. *mangel* masc. (=G. *mangel* fem., recorded from the 18th c.), app. short for the synonymous *mangelstok*, f. stem of *mangelen* to mangle, f. MDu. *mange* (=MHG., mod.G. *mange*), a mangle, in early use also a mangonel. The Du. and G. word is ultimately from the Gr. *μάγγανον* (see MANGONEL), but its history has not been precisely traced: cf. the med.L. forms *mango, manga*. For the sense cf. It. *mangano*, 'a kinde of presse to press buckrom, fustian, or died linnen cloth, to make it have a luster or glasse' (Florio 1598).] A machine for rolling and pressing linen and cotton clothing etc. after washing; in its older form, an oblong rectangular wooden chest filled with stones, worked backwards and forwards by a rack and pinion arrangement (or, earlier, by straps wound round a roller worked by a handle), and resting upon two cylinders, which were thus rolled with great pressure over the fabric spread upon a polished table beneath; now consisting of two or more cylinders working one upon another. Cf. CALENDER *sb.*[1] 2.

The possession of a mangle, for the use of which a small sum was charged, is, among the poorer class of English cottagers, a common means of earning money. The question 'Has your mother sold her mangle?' (quot. 1836–7) was at one time the commonest piece of 'chaff' used by London street-boys.

1774 in *Titles Patents* (1854) I. 193 A grant unto Hugh Oxenham,..carpenter and mangle maker, of his new invented mangle of an entirely new construction..to answer all the purposes of mangles without the incumbrance of weight. 1793 *Regal Rambler* 73, I might mention the mangle, also a curious machine, for pressing fine linen. 1836–7 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Scenes* XX, The only answer we obtained was a playful inquiry whether our maternal parent had disposed of her mangle. 1891 HARDY *Noble Dames* 186 While she, like a mangle, would start on a sudden in a contrary course, and end where she began.

b. *attrib.*, as *mangle-keeper, -maker, -room, worker*; **mangle-wheel**, a wheel which, by an ingenious adjustment of rack and pinion, causes the movable part of a mangle to travel backwards and forwards, while the wheel itself rotates in only one direction; applied also to a similar wheel in textile machines; similarly **mangle pinion, rack.**

1774 Mangle maker [see above]. 1799 *Hull Advertiser* 12 Oct. 1/1 A very excellent Mansion House .. with .. mangle room. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts*, etc. 798 The mangle wheel, has been introduced..into the machinery of the textile manufactures. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Mangle-keeper*, the owner of a mangle; a smoother of linen. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 1383/2 *Mangle-rack*, a rack having teeth on opposite sides, engaged by a pinion which meshes with the opposite sides alternately. 1884 M^c^LAREN *Spinning* 141 By a series of wheels the mangle pinion shaft A A is worked, which drives the mangle pinion x, and this drives the mangle wheel. 1891 *Labour Commission Gloss.*, *Mangle Workers*, the attendants at the mangles used for finishing jute and linen fabrics.

Mangle (mæ·ŋg'l), *v.*[1] Also 5–6 mangel, 6 mangyll. [ad. AF. *mangler, mahangler* (cf. med.L. *mangulare* in a Fr. document of 1361), app. a frequentative form of *mahaignier*: see MAIM *v.* But cf. obs. F. *mangonner* 'to mangle or disfigure by mangling' (Cotgr.).]

1. *trans.* To hack, cut, or lacerate (a person or his members) by repeated blows; to reduce, by cutting, tearing, or crushing, to a more or less unrecognizable condition. †Formerly sometimes, to mutilate. †Also with *out.*

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 5704 Who..Were..Martrid & murthrid, manglit in peses. *c* 1450 *Merlin* 445 The cristin neuer cessed to kille and to sle, and mangeled alle that thei myght take. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 257 b, The..blessed body thus mangled, torne & rent, lyenge in ye lappe of that gloryous virgyn his mother. 1574 HELLOWES *Guevara's Fam. Ep.* (1584) 339 But the Moores..mangled him and his men in peeces. 1600 ROWLANDS *Lett. Humours Blood* II. 8 Or Mincepie-like lle mangle out the slaue. 1611 BIBLE 2 *Macc.* vii. 13 Now when this man was dead also, they tormented and mangled the fourth in like maner. 1632 J. PORY in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. III. 272 It mist his eyes, yet it pitifully mangled his visage. 1678 WANLEY *Wond. Lit. World* v. ii. § 68. 471/2 His beautiful Empress, whom a young Burgundian..had most despitefully mangled, cutting off both her Nose and Ears. 1791 GOUV. MORRIS in Sparks *Life & Writ.* (1832) II. 138 Next morning two men were lanterned and mangled in the Parisian taste. 1829 SCOTT *Anne of G.* ii, I will see my Arthur once more, ere the wolf and the eagle mangle him. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xxii. IV. 737 A human head was found severed from the body..and so frightfully mangled that no feature could be recognised.

absol. 1818 SHELLEY *Rev. Islam* VI. iv, The red artillery's bolt mangling among them falls.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1579 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 106 Both so mangled with repulse..and almost murthered by disdaine, that [etc.]. 1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* III. iii. 51 How hast thou the hart..To mangle me with that word, banished? 1713 STEELE *Guard.* No. 17 ¶ 10 The Lock Hospital .. is a receptacle for all sufferers mangled by this iniquity.

2. To cut or hack (a material thing) in a rough manner, so as to damage and disfigure; † to divide into rough or ragged parts.

1530 PALSGR. 632/2, I mangle a thyng, I disfygure it with cuttyng of it in peces or without order..You have mangylled this meate horrybly, it is nat to sette afore no honest man now. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* IV. lxiv. 526 Cotton Thistel.. beareth great large leaues al to mangled and cut by the edges. 1610 HOLLAND tr. *Camden's Scot.* 37 The country runneth out in length and breadth, all mangled with fishfull pools: and in some places with rising mountaines. 1638 JUNIUS *Paint. Ancients* 177 They did respect gemmes more than to mangle them with cutting. 1746 SMOLLETT *Reproof* 124 But lo! a swarm of harpies intervene, To ravage, mangle, and pollute the scene! 1784 COWPER *Tiroc.* 303 The bench on which we sat while deep employed, Though mangled, hacked, and hewed, not yet destroyed.

3. *fig.* Now chiefly: To render (words) almost unrecognizable by mispronunciation; to spoil by gross blundering or falsification (a quotation, the text of an author). Formerly often (now rarely): To mutilate, deprive of essential parts, subject to cruel injury.

1533 SIR T. MORE *Confut. Tindale* II. IV. Wks. 538/2 Tindal shal haue no cause to saye that I deface hys gaye goodlye tale, by mangling of his matter. 1559 BP. SCOT in Strype *Ann. Ref.* (1709) I. II. App. x. 448 The reste of the Sacraments, which be eyther clearly taken awaye, or else mangled .. by tbis newe booke. 1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* III. ii. 99 Ah poore my Lord, what tongue shall smooth thy name, When I thy three houres wife haue mangled it. 1607 — *Cor.* III. i. 158 Your dishonor Mangles true judgement. 1641 MILTON *Animadv.* i. Wks. 1851 III. 189 Remember how they mangle our Brittish names abroad. *a* 1683 SIDNEY *Disc. Govt.* III. xlvi. (1704) 420 Queen Elizabeth..did not go about to mangle Acts of Parliament. 1700 DRYDEN *Fables* Pref., Wks. (Globe) 503 It was also necessary sometimes to restore the sense of Chaucer, which was lost or mangled in the errors of the press. 1738 SWIFT *Pol. Conversat.* Introd. 84 Such a Pro-

ject..would intolerably mangle my Scheme. 1768–74 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 443 Go to an Italian opera and you will hear the singers so clip and mangle their words, that..you will lose even the little sense they contain. 1873 DIXON *Two Queens* I. iv. iii. 191 To give up Rouen and Bordeaux would be to mangle France. 1901 *Athenæum* 27 July 121/1 Why mangle Virgil with a stupid 'hæc mortalia tangunt'?

absol. 1641 MILTON *Ch. Govt.* i. vi. Wks. 1851 III. 122 If schisme parted the congregations before, now it rent and mangl'd, now it rag'd.

Mangle (mæ·ŋg'l), *v.*[2] [f. MANGLE *sb.*[3], or perh. a. Du. *mangelen* = G. *mangeln*.]

1. *trans.* To press smooth with a mangle.

1775 ASH *Suppl., Mangle*, to smooth linen by means of a mangle. 1790 in *Abridg. Specif. Patents, Bleaching*, etc. (1859) 51 A machine or machines for mangling and washing every article made of linen [etc.] that will bear washing. 1798 *Trans. Soc. Arts* XVI. 303 The Model of a machine for Mangling Linen. 1810 *Splendid Follies* I. 119 Mrs. Squnsham desired her humble duty, and had had them [*sc.* clothes] mangled...Mangle ıbe d—l!..exclaimed Sponge. ..I'll mangle every bone in her skin. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xv, Might have got up my linen as I came along..—queer thing to have it mangled when it's on one.

2. To beat (lead) flat on a roller.

1880 LOMAS *Alkali Trade* 28 The process of mangling [lead]..consists in rolling the sheet tightly round a wooden mandril,..beating it meanwhile..with the plumber's mallet.

Mangled (mæ·ŋg'ld), *ppl. a.*[1] [f. MANGLE *v.*[1] + -ED [1].] In senses of the vb.

1561 T. NORTON *Calvin's Inst.* I. 42 Yet are they not ashamed to picke out certaine mangled sentences. 1564 BECON *Wks.* I. Gen. Pref. B iv, He is a mangled minister, which eyther teacheth well & liueth euil, or liueth wel and teacheth euill. 1627 DRAYTON *Agincourt* 33 These [birds] came in deed On their owne mangled Carkases to feed. 1641 MILTON *Animadv.* i. Wks. 1851 III. 194 The mangl'd pieces of a gash't Serpent. 1663 CULPEPPER & COLE *Barthol. Anat.* II. xi. 124 According as the Voice comes to the Ear, intire or mangled. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* II. ix, Their poor mangled comrade. 1770 *Junius Lett.* Pref. 13 A multitude of spurious, mangled publications of the *Letters of Junius*. 1779 FORREST *Voy. N. Guinea* 64, I took him by the hand, and, pointing to the mangled anchor, laughed. 1841 D'ISRAELI *Amen. Lit.* (1867) 546 Most of our old plays come before us in a corrupt and mangled state. 1869 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1875) III. xi. 31 The mangled form of the martyr of Evesham.

Hence † **Ma·ngledly** *adv.*, in a mangled manner.

1657 SERGEANT *Schism Dispach't* 466 But why..do you go about to show that I put not down the Authors words aright, but mangledly and corruptly.

Mangled (mæ·ŋgl'd), *ppl. a.*[2] [f. MANGLE *v.*[2] + -ED [1].] Pressed in a mangle.

1775 in ASH *Suppl.* 1855 THACKERAY *Newcomes* v, A.. freshly mangled surplice.

Mangler (mæ·ŋglə1). [f. MANGLE *v.*[1] + -ER [1].]

1. One who mangles, in various senses of the vb.

In the first quot. the identity of the word is doubtful: cf. MONGER *sb.*

1561–2 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 201 Charge all and sindry flescheouris and manglaris of flesche. 1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 104 They be nothyng els but .. manglers and spoylers of the best part and power of Gods Grace. 1583 NOWELL & W. DAY *Rep. Conference w. Campion* 14 Campion..hath charged vs as rasers, manglers, and spoylers of the holy Scriptures. 1624 GATAKER *Transubst.* 61 Hee speaketh in these wordes..which this mangler of him omitteth. *a* 1723 TICKELL *To Sir G. Kneller* 48 After thee may rise an impious line, Coarse manglers of the human face divine. 1800–24 CAMPBELL *To Mem. of Span. Patriots* v, Manglers of the martyr's earthly frame!

2. *? U. S.* A mincing-machine.

1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 1383/2 *Mangler*, a machine for grinding meat, to render it more easy to masticate or to stew.

Mangler[2] (mæ·ŋglə1). [f. MANGLE *v.*[2] + -ER [1].]

1. One who smoothes fabric in a mangle.

a 1845 HOOD *To Scotch Girl* 12 This industrious part Of washer, wearer, mangler, presser, stamper. 1885 R. L. & F. STEVENSON *Dynamiter* ii. 9 A ticket announcing the business of the mangler.

2. An appliance for mangling clothes (forming part of a composite machine).

1882 *Echo* 17 May 7 (advt.) Unrivalled 'Villa' washer, wringer, and mangler.

Mangling (mæ·ŋgliŋ), *vbl. sb.*[1] [f. MANGLE *v.*[1] + -ING [1].] The action of MANGLE *v.*[1]

a 1652 J. SMITH *Sel. Disc.* ix. 407 Without any mincing or mangling of the words. 1727 SWIFT *Let. Eng. Tongue* Wks. 1755 II. i. 188 Most of the books we see now-a-days, are full of those manglings and abbreviations. 1807 *Med. Jrnl.* XVII. 245 He did not intend to declare positively, that the mangling of a vesicle..could not..produce so much mischief. 1902 *Daily Chron.* 29 Mar. 5/1 The mangling of British names by French newspapers is an old story.

Mangling (mæ·ŋgliŋ), *vbl. sb.*[2] [f. MANGLE *v.*[2] + -ING [1].] The pressing of linen, etc., in a mangle. Also *attrib.*

1775 in ASH *Suppl.* 1824 in *Spirit Pub. Jrnls.* (1825) 181 He has commenced business in Drury-Lane, in the Mangling Department. 1833 J. HOLLAND *Manuf. Metal* II. 254 By this machine the operation of mangling was well enough done.

Mangling (mæ·ŋgliŋ), *ppl. a. rare.* [f. MANGLE *v.*[1] + -ING [2].] That mangles, in the senses of the vb.

1592 SHAKS. *Ven. & Ad.* 1065 And then she reprehends her mangling eye, That makes more gashes, where no breach should be. 1794 SOUTHEY *Sonn. Slave Trade* iii, Gasping he lies..While that inhuman driver lifts on high The mangling scourge. 1813 SCOTT *Rokeby* VI. xxxiii, As mute as fox 'mongst mangling hounds.

Hence **Ma·nglingly** *adv.*, in a mangling manner.

1608 T. MORTON *Preamb. Encounter* 13 Repeating the Latine, yet but manglingly.

Mangnel(e, obs. form of MANGONEL.

Mangnifyer, obs. form of MAGNIFIER.

Mango (mæ·ŋgou), *sb.*[1] Pl. **mangoes, -gos** (mæ·ŋgouz). Forms: 6–7 **manga**, **s**, **7 mangue, manggo, mengue, 7– mango(e.** [a. Pg. *manga* (whence F. *mangue*, † *mengue*, mod.L. *mang(h)as*, the source of some Eng. forms), a. Malay *mangā*, a. Tamil *mān-kāy* (*mān* mango-tree + *kāy* = fruit).]

1. The fruit of *Mangifera indica* (N.O. *Anacardiaceæ*), a tree extensively cultivated in India and other tropical countries; it is a fleshy drupe, with more or less of a turpentine flavour; the best kinds are highly esteemed for eating ripe; the green fruit is used for pickles and conserves.

1582 N. LICHEFIELD tr. *Castanheda's Conq. E. Ind.* I. xvi. 42 The one sort of these [fruits] is called Lacas [*read* Iacas] and the other Mangas. 1598 W. PHILLIP *Linschoten* I. li. 94 The Mangas is inwardly yealowish, but in cutting it is waterish... The season when Mangas are ripe is in Lent. 1655 TERRY *Voy. E. India* 96 Another most excellent Fruit they have, called a Manggo. 1681 DRYDEN *Prol.*, *'Gallants, a bashful poet'* 28 Mangos and berries, whose nourishment is little, Though not for food, are yet preserved for pickle. 1727 ARBUTHNOT *John Bull* Postscr. ch. x, How he long'd for Mangos, Spices and Indian Birds-Nests. 1891 S. DICKINSON in *Boston* (Mass.) *Jrnl.* 21 Feb. 5/3 Bananas, pineapples, mangoes, and grenadillos are plentiful in Fiji.

2. The tree producing this fruit.

1678 J. PHILLIPS tr. *Tavernier's Trav.* II. i. iv. 34 All along the high-way, there grows a vast number of great Trees, which they call Mangues. 1693 *Phil. Trans.* XVII. 683 We have a compleat History of that Pruniferous Tree, called Mango by the English. *c* 1796 T. TWINING *Trav. Amer.* (1894) 172 It appears to me that the cajoor-tree of Bengal might be successfully introduced into the Southern States, as also possibly the mango. 1825 *Gentl. Mag.* XCV. i. 318 The mango, with the 'bread-fruit tree' was brought here [i. e. Jamaica] from Otaheite, about 30 years ago. 1871 KINGSLEY *At Last* ii, Handsome houses..embowered in mangos, tamarinds, and palmistes. 1903 *Pilot* 22 Aug. 173/1 Long groves of palm and mango and bamboo.

3. With prefixed word, applied to various other trees and their fruits, as **mountain mango**, *Clusia flava* (West Indies); † **water-mango** (*Barbados*), some West Indian fruit-tree (see quot. 1700); **West India Mango**, the anchovy pear (*Grias cauliflora*); **wild mango** (tree), (*a*) the bread-tree of Western Africa (*Irvingia barteri*); (*b*) = *mountain mango*; (*c*) *Spondias mangifera* of India.

1700 PLUKENET *Mantissa* (1769) 126 Manghas aquæ Americana, folio subrotundo, Barbadensibus Water Mangoes dicta. 1774 LONG *Hist. Jamaica* III. 810 Anchovy Pear or West India Mango. 1813 W. AINSLIE *Mat. Med. Hindostan* 222 Wild Mango. *Spondias Mangifera*. Lin...This fruit has got its name from its resemblance to a Mango. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 628/1 The drupaceous fruits of two at least of the three species [of *Irvingia*] known are edible, and known under the name of Wild Mangos. *Ibid.* 717/1 Mango..Mountain or Wild, *Clusia flava*. 1878 H. M. STANLEY *Dark Cont.* II. xiii. 365 Wild mango-tree.

4. *Cookery.* A pickle, esp. of melons or cucumbers, resembling that made of green mangoes. (Cf. MANGO *v.*)

1699 EVELYN *Acetaria* App., Mango of Cucumbers. *Ibid.*, To make a Mango with them [i. e. walnuts]. 1728 E. S[MITH] *Compl. Housew.* (ed. 2) 59 To make Melon Mangoes. 1828–32 WEBSTER, *Mango*, a green muskmelon pickled. 1845 MISS ACTON *Mod. Cookery* (ed. 2) 503 The peaches may be converted into excellent mangoes by [etc.]. 1859 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer.*, *Mango*. We apply this name to a green muskmelon stuffed with horse-radish,..etc., and then pickled.

5. Short for *mango-bird*, *mango-fish*.

1819 REES *Cycl.*, *Mango*, in Ornithology, a species of *Trochilus*. 1879 ROSSITER *Dict. Sci. Terms*, *Mango*..2. A fish = *Polynemus risua*.

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *mango blossom, bud, -chutney, -fruit, grove, pickle, -seed, -spray, -tree*; **mango-bird**, (*a*) an oriole (*Oriolus kundoo*), native of India; (*b*) a humming-bird (*Lampornis mango*), native of Jamaica; **mango-fish**, a golden-coloured fish, *Polynemus paradiseus* or *risua*, inhabiting the tropical seas between India and the Malay archipelago; the tupsce; **mango-fool**, a dish made of mangoes beaten to a pulp and mixed with cream or milk; **mango-ginger**, the pungent root of an East Indian plant (*Curcuma Amada*) nearly allied to turmeric; **mango-humming-bird**, *Lampornis mango*; **mango-showers**, 'used in Madras for showers which fall in March and April, when the mangoes begin to ripen' (Y.); **mango-tope**, a grove or plantation of mangoes; **mango (treo) trick**, an Indian juggling trick in which a mango-tree appears to spring up and bear fruit within an hour or two.

1738 ALBIN *Nat. Hist. Birds* III. 45 This Bird I had by the Name of the *Mango Bird, which I believe to be an imposed Name: It is one of the Humming Birds. 1839 JEROON in *Madras Jrnl.* X. 262 *Oriolus melanocephalus* L. —Black headed Mango bird or Oriole. 1841 ELPHINSTONE *Hist. Ind.* I. 289 The languid odour of the *mangoe blossoms. 1861 DORA GREENWELL *Poems* 104 The *Mango buds grow pale. 1751 G. EDWARDS *Nat. Hist. Birds*, etc. IV. 208, I believe it is call'd a *Mango-Fish, because it is of the Colour that Fruit bears when ripe. 1835 MACAULAY in Trevelyan *Life* (1876) I. 420 We support nature..by means of plenty of eggs, mango-fish, snipe-pies, and frequently a hot beef-steak. 1864 TREVELYAN *Compet. Wallah* (1866) 117 Roast kid and mint-sauce, and *mango-fool. 1681 R. KNOX *Hist. Ceylon* I A Tree the Natives call Anibo, (which bears the *Mango-fruit). 1840 PAXTON *Bot. Dict.*, *Mango ginger, see *Curcuma Amada*. 1800 *Asiat. Ann. Reg., Misc. Tr.* 256 A pretty thick *mangoe grove, on the south-west end of the town. 1782 LATHAM *Gen. Syn. Birds* II. 758 *Mango Humming-Bird. 1699 EVELYN *Acetaria* 22 The *Mango Pickle. 1903 *Blackw. Mag.* Apr. 467/2 A spearhead..shaped like a *mango-seed. 1879 E. ARNOLD *Lt. Asia* (1889) 37 In the *mango sprays The sun-birds flashed. 1800 *Asiat. Ann. Reg., Misc. Tr.* 200 The *mangoe tope in the middle of the village. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* II. 175 *Mango-Trees. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 192 Others [Juglers] presented a Mock-Creation of a Mango-Tree. 1888 *Scientific American* 26 May 327/1 The celebrated *Mango tree trick. 1889 S. LAING *Probl. Future* vii. 182 The *mango and other tricks of Indian jugglers.

† **Ma·ngo,** *sb.*[2] *Obs. rare*—[1]. [a. L. *mango*.] A slave dealer.

1601 B. JONSON *Poetaster* III. i, And your fat Foole there, my Mango, bring him too [cf. *supra*, You mangonizing slave].

Mango (mæ·ŋgou), *sb.*[3] (See quot.)

1870 J. W. SLATER *Man. Colours* 114 *Mango*, a name given in the linen districts of Ireland to bleaching-powder and bleaching liquor.

† **Ma·ngo,** *v. Cookery. Obs.* [f. MANGO *sb.*[1]] *trans.* To pickle as green mangoes are pickled.

1728 E. SMITH *Compl. Housew.* (ed. 2) 63 To mango Cucumbers. Cut a little Slip out of the side of the Cucumber [etc.].

Man-god.

1. One who is both man and God, or is both a man and a god. (Cf. GOD-MAN.)

When applied to Christ now written with capital initials.

1597 J. PAYNE *Royal Exch.* 45 Yt may be sayde that Marie was the Mother of God, in asmoche as he was Mangod. 1720 WELTON *Suffer. Son of God* II. xxix. 750 Can any one behold this Man-God, after He had given such infallible Proofs of His Divinity,..and not stand amaz'd at the Depths of the Divine Councils? 1839 BAILEY *Festus* xxii. (1852) 396 The Lord, Man-God, re-appears. 1864 KINGSLEY *Hom. & Tent.* 81 A Divus Cæsar, the man-god by whose head all nations swore. 1865 tr. *Strauss' New Life Jesus* II. II. xciii. 377 The Man-God of ecclesiastical doctrine. 1878 D. BOUCICAULT in *N. Amer. Rev.* CXXVI. 51 Prometheus, in the eyes of the Greek, was a man-god.

2. *occas.* **a.** A deified man. **b.** A god having the form of a man.

1826 GEN. P. THOMPSON *Exerc.* (1842) III. 381 The Christian world was sunk in the worship .. of men-gods, and women-gods. 1878 *N. Amer. Rev.* CXXVII. 50 The old idolaters cut down a tree and made a man-god figure out of it.

Mangold(-wurzel) : see MANGEL(-WURZEL).

Mangole, obs. form of MANGONEL.

‖ **Mangona** (mæ·ŋgŏnă). [med.L.: see next.] = MANGONEL.

1856 *Ecclesiologist* XVII. 116 The trébuchet..is another name for the mangona—an engine for discharging stones. [In some recent Dicts.]

Mangonel (mæ·ŋgŏnel). *Obs.* exc. *Hist.* Forms: *α.* 3 **mangonele**, 3–4 **-genel**, 4 **-gunel, -genele, -gurnele**, 4–5 **mangnel**, 5 **maungenele, mangonelle**, 7 **-ell, manchonel**, 9 **manganel**(1, 4– **mangonel.** *β.* 3 **magnel**, 4 **-nale**, 4–5 **-nelle**, 5 **maggonell, magonneaul, maygnelle**, 6–7 **magonel**(l. *γ.* 5 **mangole.** [a. OF. *mangonel*, also *mangonelle* fem. (mod.F. *mangonneau*; cf. Pr. *manganel*, It. *manganella*), dim. f. late L. *mangona, mangonum, mangōn-em*, ad. Gr. *μάγγανον* an engine of war, a pulley, etc.: see MANGLE *sb.*] A military engine used for casting stones and other missiles against an enemy's position.

[1194 in J. Hodgson *Pipe Rolls Cumbld.*, etc. (1847) 173 Pro Maisremo ad Petrarium et Mangunell', vjs.] 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 8124 Þat me ne miȝte noȝt ise bote arwen & flon, & stones out of liþeren & of magnels al so. *a* 1300 in *Pol. Songs* (Camden) 69 He saisede the mulne for a castel, ..He wende that the sayles were mangonel. 13.. *K. Alis.* 1208 Alisaundre heom asailed fast, And with mangnelis to heom cast. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 2430 (Kölbing), Our King Vterpendragon Him asailed..wiþ mangunels casteinge. *c* 1400 tr. *Secreta Secret., Gov. Lordsh.* 111 And if þou shall assayll castels, vse Instrumentz castyng stones, as Mangoles or Perrerers. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 6279 Withouten stroke it mot be take Of trepeget or mangonel. 1489 CAXTON *Faytes of A.* II. xxxv. 154 The deffence aienst the said engyns were gode mangonnelles & grete bombardes. 1599 THYNNE *Animadv.* (1875) 41 The trepegett and magonell beinge all one. 1605 CAMDEN *Rem.* (1657) 205 Our nation had the practice..of mangonels..wherewith they used to cast mil-stones. 1795 SOUTHEY *Joan of Arc* VIII. 158 O'er the bayle .. The assailants pass'd with all their mangonels. 1819 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* xxvii, You may win the wall in spite both of bow and mangonel. 1877 MISS YONGE *Cameos* III. viii. 68 He had only yielded it because his duchess was frightened by the mangonels of the besiegers.

† **Ma·ngonism.** *Obs.* [a. F. *mangonisme*, f. L. *mangōn-*, *mango* broker, dealer in vamped goods: see -ISM.]

1. (See quot.)

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* [copying Cotgr.], *Mangonism*, the craft of pampering, trimming or setting out saleable things.

2. A method of treating plants contrary to nature in order to produce changes in their growth.

1691 EVELYN *Kal. Hort., March* 41 Let Gentlemen and Ladies..trust little by Mangonisme, Insuccations, or Medicine to alter the Species, or indeed the Forms and Shapes of Flowers considerably. 1693 — *De la Quint. Compl. Gard.* Dict. s. v. *a* 1722 LISLE *Husb.* (1752) 136 The flower or fruit, either in bulk or number, may not equally succeed by such mangonism.

†Ma·ngonist. *Obs.* [f. L. *mangōn-* (see prec.) + -IST.] One who furbishes up inferior wares for sale.

1605 MARSTON *Dutch Courtesan* I. A 4, The common bosome of a money Creature, One that sels humane flesh: a Mangonist. 1698 *Money masters all Things* 77 The Mangonist does feed and graith his Horse, In hopes that he thereby may fill his Purse.

†Ma·ngoniza·tion. *Obs.* [f. next + -ATION.] The action of 'mangonizing' or tricking out for sale.

1660 FISHER *Rusticks Alarm* Wks. (1679) 382 Was there ever the like piece of..meer Mangonization of matters made before by any Master in Israel as this. 1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* I. iv. § 15. 281 A kind of Mangonization of it [paganism] to render it more vendible and plausible.

†Ma·ngonize, *v. Obs.* [ad. late L. *mangōnizāre*, f. L. *mangōn-*, *mango* (see MANGONISM).]

1. *trans.* To furbish up (inferior wares) for sale.

1623 COCKERAM, *Mangonize*, to polish for better sale. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Mangonize*.

2. *intr.* To traffic in slaves.

1601 B. JONSON *Poetaster* III. i, No you mangonizing slaue, I will not part from 'hem.

†Mangony. *Obs. rare*—1. [ad. L. *mangōnium*, f. *mangōn-* (see prec.).] = MANGONISM 1 and 2.

1623 COCKERAM, *Mangonie*, the Art to make things saleable. 1657 TOMLINSON *Renou's Disp.* 229 [Hortensian Mallows] which by culture and mangony will grow to a tree.

Mangoost, Mangor; see MONGOOSE, MANGOUR.

Mangosteen (mæ·ŋgŏstīn). Forms: 6 mangestain, 7 mancoustan, mangosthan, mangustan, 8 mangastan, mangostane, mangonstan, 8–9 mangostan, mangnsteen, 9 mangostin, mangoostan, mangastene, mangostein, 8– mangosteen. [a. Malay منڬستن *mangustan*.]

1. The fruit of the East Indian tree *Garcinia Mangostana* (N. O. *Guttiferæ*). It is about the size of an apple, with a thick reddish-brown rind, and a white juicy pulp of delicious flavour.

1598 W. PHILLIP tr. *Linschoten* I. liv. 96/2 There are yet other fruites, as Brindoijns, Durijndois, Iamholoens, Mangestains, and other such like fruites. 1660 F. BROOKE tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 87 Durions, Mancoustan, and Bananes. 1707 FUNNELL *Voy.* x. 286 The Mangastan is about the bigness of a Golden-Runnet. 1797 SIR G. STAUNTON *Macartney's Emb. China* I. 274 In March, among other fruits, the mangosteen was ripe. 1806 BARROW *Voy. Cochin China* 185 Mangoostan. 1845 DARWIN *Voy. Nat.* xx. 455 Mangostin. 1852 F. A. NEALE *Resid. Siam* xii. 194 That prince of all earthly fruits, the mangostein.

2. The tree producing this fruit.

1734 ZOLLMAN in *Phil. Trans.* XXXVIII. 232 The Mangostans is a kind of Pomiferous Tree, which grows in the Molucca Islands. 1797 *Monthly Mag.* III. 208 Martin had introduced into the botanic garden there [Cayenne] the Ravengara, the Mangoustan, the Clove tree [etc.]. 1871 KINGSLEY *At Last* v, A group of young Mangosteens.

3. Wild mangosteen (tree); *Embryopteris glutinifera*.

1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* s.v., There is a sort of wild Mangoustan, called by the Portuguese, *mato*, which grows in the woods both in the East Indies and in America. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 717/1. 1885 G. S. FORBES *Wild Life in Canara* 42 Near at hand were two or three wild mangosteen trees.

Mangouay, obs. form of MAGUEY.

‖ Mangour. *Obs.* Also 6 manger, 7 mangur. [Turkish منڬر *mangir* (Redhouse).] An obsolete Turkish copper coin.

1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* III. xxii. 112 b, A Mangor, which is the 8. part of an Aspre. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 293 Sixteene brasse Mangouri made one silver Asper. 1683 T. SMITH *Acc. City Prusa* in *Misc. Cur.* (1708) III. 65 A Mangur is an ugly old Copper Piece. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 67 They have also half Quadrius, which they call Mangours. *Ibid.* II. 158. 1696 tr. *Du Mont's Voy. Levant* xxiv. 329 He made a very considerable Addition to the usual Profits of that Office, by inventing .. a certain Copper Coin, call'd Mangours.

Mangoust(e, obs. form of MONGOOSE.

Ma·n-grass. *W. Indies.* [Cf. MAND *sb.*2: but the currency of an East-Indian word in Barbados in 1672 would need explanation.] The name in Barbados for the gramineous plant *Eleusine indica*.

1672 R. BLOME *Descr. Jamaica*, etc. 77 (Barbados) The Mangrass-Tree, which is of an exceeding greatness. 1848 SCHOMBURGK *Hist. Barbados* 586 *Eleusina indica*,..Man Grass.

Mangrel, Mangrie: see MONGREL, MANGERY.

Mangrove[1] (mæ·ŋgrōuv). Also 7 mangrowe, mangrave. [Of obscure history. Synonymous words app. connected are Pg. *mangue* (16th c.), Sp. *mangle* (Oviedo 1535, who applies it to S. American species), whence F. *manglé* (16th c.), later *mangle* (now applied to the fruit only, the name of the tree being *manglier*). The Malay *mangi-mangi* mangrove (not now current in the Malay Peninsula, but recorded in early Dicts.) is usually regarded as the ultimate source, but it is difficult to account on this view for the early appearance of Sp. *mangle* referring to America. The Eng. forms *mangrowe*, *-grave* are unexplained (but cf. the word-play in quot. 1613); the mod. form is doubtless due to assimilation to GROVE *sb.*]

1. Any tree or shrub of the genus *Rhizophora*, or the allied genus *Bruguiera* (N. O. *Rhizophoraceæ*); esp. the Common Mangrove, *R. Mangle*.

The genus *Rhizophora* is extensively represented in both hemispheres. The species are all tropical, growing in the mud on the sea-shore down to low-water-mark; they have large masses of interlacing roots above ground, which intercept mud and weeds, and thus cause the land to encroach on the sea. *Red mangrove* (see also 2 d): a name given to a West Indian variety of the Common Mangrove, formerly separated as *R. Candel*; also in Australia, to *Bruguiera rheedii*.

1613 W. C. *Plain Descr. Barmudas* F 2 b, Amongst all the rest there growes a kinde of tree called Mangrowes, they grow very strangely, & would make a man wonder to see the manner of their growing. 1657 R. LIGON *Barbadoes* 72 The mangrave is a tree of such note as she must not be forgotten. 1697 DAMPIER *Voy.* I. 151 Low swampy Land, overgrown with Red Mangroves. 1772–84 *Cook's Voy.* (1790) I. 193 A large lagoon, by the sides of which grows the true mangrove, such as is found in the West-Indies. 1845 DARWIN *Voy. Nat.* xxi. 498 The channel..was bordered on each side by mangroves, which sprang like a miniature forest out of the greasy mud-banks. 1889 MAIDEN *Usef. Native Plants* 316 *Bruguiera Rheedii*..Red Mangrove.

¶ Ligon's description of the 'mangrave' confuses it (as Sloane pointed out) with the Mahoe (see MAHOE[1] 1). Hence some later writers have applied the name mangrove-tree to the Mahoe.

2. Applied, on account of similarity of habit and appearance, to various other plants. **a.** Any tree or shrub of the genus *Avicennia* (N. O. *Verbenaceæ*), esp. the White Mangrove (*A. officinalis*) found in Brazil and Australasia, and the Black or Olive Mangrove (*A. nitida*) of tropical America and Africa. **b. Button mangrove**, a small W. African tree, *Conocarpus erectus* (N. O. *Combretaceæ*). Also called Zaragoza mangrove (*Treas. Bot.* 1866). **c. White mangrove**, *Laguncularia racemosa* (N. O. *Combretaceæ*), found in the West Indies. **d.** In Australasia (see Morris *Austral Eng.* 1898) used with various qualifications in the names of certain plants indigenous or cultivated there, as **milky mangrove**, *Excæcaria Agallocha* (N. O. *Euphorbiaceæ*); **native mangrove** (in Tasmania), a leguminous tree, *Acacia longifolia*; **red mangrove** (see also 1), *Heritiera littoralis* (N. O. *Sterculiaceæ*); **river mangrove**, an East Indian tree, *Ægiceras majus* (N. O. *Myrsineæ*), naturalized in Australia; **rope mangrove**, *Hibiscus arboreus*.

1683 J. POYNTZ *Tobago* 29 White Mangrove is of little use, save only to make Ropes with. 1697 DAMPIER *Voy.* I. 54 The black Mangrove is the largest Tree. 1750 G. HUGHES *Barbados* 199 It is called the Rope-Mangrove, from the Use that is made of the Bark of it to make Ropes or Halters for Cattle. 1830 LINDLEY *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 238 Avicennia tomentosa, the White Mangrove of Brazil. 1887 MOLONEY *Forestry W. Afr.* 352 Button Mangrove (*Conocarpus erecta*, Jacq.). 1889 MAIDEN *Usef. Native Plants* 555 *Heritiera littoralis*..'Red Mangrove' of Queensland.

3. *attrib.*, as *mangrove bark, bush, jungle, root, swamp, thicket, tree, wood*: **mangrove cascabel**, a South American rattlesnake; **mangrove crab**, some kind of crustacean of Jamaica; **mangrove cuckoo**, a North American cuckoo, *Coccyzus minor*; **mangrove family**, the *Rhizophoraceæ*; **mangrove fly**, a West African dipterous insect, *Chrysops dimidiatus*; **mangrove-grape** (tree) ? *Obs.*, ? *Coccoloba uvifera*; **mangrove-hen**, in Jamaica, a species of rail, probably *Rallus longirostris*; **mangrove-myrtle**, an Indian myrtaceous tree, *Barringtonia acutangula*; **mangrove oyster**, an edible oyster which grows upon the submerged roots of mangroves; **mangrove snapper**, a sparoid fish, *Lutjanus aurorubens*, native of the West Indies and the adjacent coast of America northward to South Carolina; **mangrove tannin**, a soluble extract of the bark of the mangrove.

1792 *Act* 32 *Geo. III*, c. 49 § 2 Red *Mangrove Bark is subject to a Duty. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 1085, I have tried many other drugs..including..mangrove bark. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* I. 718 Low sandy islands and marshes, covered with *mangrove bushes. 1871 KINGSLEY *At Last* xiii, We found..two large snakes...They were, the Negros told us, 'Dormillons', or '*Mangrove Cascabel', a species as yet, I believe, undescribed. 1756 P. BROWNE *Jamaica* (1789) 422 The *Mangrove-Crab. This species is very common. 1782 LATHAM *Gen. Syn. Birds* I. II. 537 *Mangrove Cuckow. 1859 S. F. BAIRD *Catal. N. Amer. Birds* 71 (Smithsonian Misc. Collect. II) *Coccygus minor* Cab. Mangrove Cuckoo. 1883 MOLONEY *W. Afr. Fisheries* 42 (Fish. Exh. Publ.), The trees on which oysters are usually to be found in the tropics are of the *mangrove family. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 1067 A blood-sucking dipterous insect—*Chrysops dimidiatus* the '*mangrove fly'. 1696 SLOANE *Catal. Plant. Jamaica* 184 The *Mangrove Grape-tree. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* App., *Mangrove-grape* [identified with the *Guajabara* or 'seaside-grape']. 1760 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* App. 313 Grape, Mangrove, *Polygonum*. 1844 HILL in Gosse *Birds Jamaica* (1847) 367, I..found that the *Mangrove-hens had been searching for small crabs. 1849 E. B. EASTWICK *Dry Leaves* 210 The North Point of the Richel mouth, which is covered with *mangrove jungle. 1847 LEICHHARDT *Jrnl. Overland Exped.* ix. 289 As its foliage and the manner of its growth resemble the mangrove, we called it the *mangrove-myrtle. 1683 J. POYNTZ *Tobago* 23 The *Mangrove Oyster. 1883 MOLONEY *W. Afr. Fisheries* 42 (Fish. Exh. Publ.), Mangrove oysters are not as much sought after as bed or rock oysters. 1699 DAMPIER *Voy.* II. II. 17 The *Mangrove-Roots that grow by the sides of the Creeks are loaden with them [*sc.* Oysters]. 1734 MORTIMER in *Phil. Trans.* XXXVIII. 316 The *Mangrove Snapper [*Printed* Snapper]. It is esteemed pretty good Food. 1884 G. B. GOODE, etc. *Nat. Hist. Usef. Aquatic Anim.* I. 397 The '*Mangrove Snapper' of Charleston..is a much more slender..fish. 1851–6 WOODWARD *Mollusca* 298 In the mud of rivers, and in *mangrove swamps. 1894 *Nation* (N.Y.) 6 Sept. 176/3 *Mangrove-tannin comes principally from India. 1851 H. MELVILLE *Whale* xii. 61 A low tongue of land, covered with *mangrove thickets. 1672 W. HUGHES *Amer. Physician* 98 This tree is [in Jamaica] most familiarly called the *Mangrove-Tree, or by some the Oyster-Tree. 1697 DAMPIER *Voy.* I. 54 There are 3 sorts of Mangrove-Trees, black, red and white. 1855 KINGSLEY *Westw. Ho!* xx, A low line of *mangrove-wood, backed by primaeval forest.

Mangrove[2]. An alleged name of a fish.

1828–32 in WEBSTER (citing Pennant).

Manguay, obs. form of MAGUEY.

‖ Mangue (mæŋg). [a. F. *mangue*, perh. a colonial shortening of *Mangouste* MONGOOSE.] The KUSIMANSE (*Crossarchus obscurus*).

1840 *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 93 The Mangue...Has the muzzle, teeth, pouch, and gait of the Surikate. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVI. 409/1.

Mangue, Mangunel: see MANGO, MANGONEL.

Mangur, -gurnele: see MANGOUR, MANGONEL.

Mangustan, -een, vars. MANGOSTEEN.

Mangy (mē·ndʒi). *a.* Also 6 mangye, 6 7 maungy, mangie, 7 maingy, 7, 9 mangey. [f. MANGE *sb.* + -Y.]

1. Having the mange; of the nature of or caused by the mange. †In 16–17th c. also of human beings or their ailments: Scabby *obs.*).

c 1540 HEYWOOD *Four P. P.* 629 A goodly thynge for dogges that be mangy. 1571 in W. H. Turner *Select. Rec. Oxford* (1880) 336 Any kynde of mangy cattle or horses infected with the glaunders of the chyne. 1614 MARKHAM *Cheap Husb.* I. xl. 29 If the Mayne be mangie you shall annoynt it with Butter and Brimstone. 1647 TRAPP *Comm. Jas.* i. 25 So shalt thou see thy face..so shamefully sawcy, mangy, pocky and scabbed. 1683 TRYON *Way to Health* 68 Many Leperous and Mangy Diseases. 1688 *Persec. Piedmont* 40 By continual lying..these poor People were become so mangy, that their very skin .. parted from their Flesh. *c* 1720 W. GIBSON *Farrier's Guide* II. xlix. (1738) 185 Rub the Mangy places gently with a woollen Cloth. 1743 BULKELEY & CUMMINS *Voy. S. Seas* 131 They had a mangey Dog. 1806 *Med. Jrnl.* XV. 157 In my last communication, I made a few remarks on Dr. Rowley's ox-faced boy; in my present I propose to give a short account of his mangey girl. 1889 J. K. JEROME *Three Men in Boat* 207 A French poodle,..mangy about the middle.

fig. 1606 DEKKER *Sev. Sinnes* VI. (Arb.) 39 And..being rubd with quicksiluer, which they loue because they haue mangy consciences.

Comb. 1609 DEKKER *Guls Horne-bk.* I. 8 To shew that you truly loath this polluted and mangy-fisted world.

2. Squalid, poverty-stricken, shabby, 'seedy'.

a 1529 SKELTON *Dk. Albany* 138 Euer to remayne In wretched beggary And maungy misery. 1546 BALE *Eng. Votaries* I. (1550) 32 He [hauynge] nothynge of them agayne but a mangye monkes cowle and hys buryall in Paules. 1594 NASHE *Unfort. Trav.* 1 Pantofles..mangie at the toes, lyke an Ape about the mouth. 1844 THACKERAY *Contrib. to Punch* Wks. (Biog. ed.) VI. 81 The Royal Palace..resembles Newgate whitewashed and standing on a sort of mangy desert. 1859 SALA *Twice round Clock* (1861) 172 It is full of bad smells, mangy little shops,..and bad characters. 1860 MAYHEW *Upp. Rhine* ii. § 1. 62 The..gardens are little better than a mangey coppice. 1883 *Longm. Mag.* July 258 A mangy old cloth coat is preferred. 1886 H. F. LESTER *Under two Fig Trees* 177 A sprig or two of mangy grass.

3. Used as a general term of contempt: Beggarly, mean, 'lousy'. Very common in the 17th c.

1538 BALE *Thre Lawes* E vij b, The lorde doth not regarde Your mangy mutterynge. *a* 1625 FLETCHER *Woman's Prize* IV. i, You have abused me..such a way that shames the name of Husband, Such a malicious-mangy way. *a* 1653 G. DANIEL *Idylls* iii. 124 If some bolder wakes The Mangie Scribe tells what ye Pigeon speakes. 1694 MOTTEUX *Rabelais* IV. lxvi. (1737) 271 Thou mangy Noddy-peak!

Mangy, obs. form of MANGE *sb.*[1]

Mangys, obs. pl. of MANCHE.

Mangzie, variant of MANYIE *Sc. Obs.*

Manhad(d)en, variant of MENHADEN.

Man-ha·ndle, *v.* [f. MAN *sb.*[1] + HANDLE *v.*; in sense 3 cf. dial. *manangle* (Devon) to mangle, which may belong to MANGLE *v.* (AF. *mahangler*).]

†1. *trans.* To handle or wield a tool. *Obs.*

1457 R. FANNANDE *Mon. Christ's Hosp. Abingdon* xiii, The Mattok was man-handeled right wele a whyle.

2. *Naut.*, etc. 'To move by force of men, without levers or tackles' (Adm. Smyth).

1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* 1894 *Times* 27 Jan. 10/2 The larger weapons will be worked by electricity, but are also capable of being man-handled. 1902 *Blackw. Mag.* Mar. 331/2 I'm going to man-handle my gun down the slope. 1903 *Daily Chron.* 19 Feb. 3/3 Stalwart Punjabis..hand out bags of stores,..or manhandle a fractious, restive animal.

3. *slang.* To handle roughly; to pull or hustle about.

1865 *Hotten's Slang Dict.*, *Man-handle*, to use a person roughly, as to take him prisoner, turn him out of a room, give him a beating. 1886 *Century Mag.* Apr. 905/1 Two of our roughs began to haze him: but they mistook their calling, and in two minutes were so mauled and manhandled that it was reported aft. 1888 CLARK RUSSELL *Death Ship* II. 253, I..was for..manhandling him, ghost or no ghost. 1891 KIPLING *Light that failed* iii, I'll catch you and manhandle you, and you'll die. 1894 R. H. DAVIS *Eng. Cousins*

24 The cry of 'Welsher',..which sometimes on an English race-course means death from man-handling.

Ma·n-hater. A hater of mankind; a misanthrope. Also *occas.*, a hater of the male sex.

1579–80 NORTH *Plutarch, Alcib.* (1598) 218 Timon surnamed Misanthropus (as who would say, Loup-garou, or the manhater). 1641 MILTON *Ch. Govt.* II. Concl. 60 What will these man-haters yet with more despight and mischiefe do? 1678 SHADWELL (*title*) The History of Timon of Athens, the Man-hater. 1714 MANDEVILLE *Fab. Bees* (1725) I. 386, I would have no sagacious critick pronounce me a man-hater...I am a great lover of company. 1759 GOLDSM. *Pol. Learn.* vi, Rousseau, of Geneva, a professed man-hater. 1827 CARLYLE *Germ. Lit.* in *Misc. Ess.* (1872) I. 32 The grimmest manhaters..will be found in abundance. 1885 STEVENSON *Pr. Otto* II. ii. 85 Essentially he is to be numbered among the man-haters. 1896 *Westm. Gaz.* 5 Mar. 3/3 It is in no way true that we are man-haters and discontented women.

†Ma·nhead. *Obs.* Forms: 3 manede, monheade, 3–4 manhede, 3–6 manhed, 4 manhiede, *Sc.* manheide, 4–5 monhede, 4–6 *Sc.* manheid, 5 monhedde, 6 manheed, 6–7 manhead. [f. MAN *sb.*[1] + -HEAD. Cf. MANHOOD.]

1. The state of being human; the condition of belonging to humanity; human nature.

c 1220 *Bestiary* 690 He..drowing ðolede in ure manhede. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 5253 Þe gude men sal se hym in manhed þan, With þe godhed, als God and man. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 4390 Sone schal þe puple se þi semli face, In manhede & in minde as it out to bene. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 144 Forthi, my Sone, tak good hiede So forto lede thi manhiede, That thou ne be noght lich a beste. *c* 1440 HYLTON *Scala Perf.* (W. de W. 1494) II. xxx, For in oure lorde Jhesu are two kyndes, the manhede and the godhede. 1450–1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* 228 For anon the godhed was unyed to the manhed in the vyrgyns wombe. 1543 BECON *New Years Gift* Wks. 1564 I. 177 b, He only receaued his fleshe and manhed of Mary. 1588 A. KING tr. *Canisius' Catech., Cert. Prayers* 26 b, Luke, ô maist meike maker, on the manheid of thy weal beloued sone, and haue mercie vpon thy warkmanshipe.

b. Human shape or form.

c 1330 *King of Tars* 426 The blake hound,..To hire spac in monhede, In whit ermure as a kniht.

2. The quality of being manly; manhood; virility; courage, valour.

c 1275 LAY. 24671 Bote he were þries ifonded in fihte, and his manede icud and him seolf icnowe. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 431 Me þinkes, bi his menskful maneres & his man-hede, þat he is kome of god kin. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* I. 402 Bot off manheid and mekill mycht, Till Ector dar I nane comper. *c* 1420 *Anturs of Arth.* 351 Here commes ane errant knizte; Do him resone and rizte, For þi manhede. *c* 1475 *Partenay* 92 He wold preue his vertu and manhede With noble knightes and peple worthi. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xlvi. 82 Lufe is causs of honour ay, Luve makis cowardis manheid to purchass. 1567 *Satir. Poems Reform.* iv. 148 Samson also, for manheid and prudence, All Israell that had in gouernance, Dalila desauit in vnder couertoure.

b. Manly dignity; the dignity of manhood.

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 74 106 He was þo þe cuyndeste englische man þat was of enie manhede. *c* 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 1840 Lesen y mot mi manhed Or 3eld ysonde me fro.

3. Homage.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 5197 Hii dude him anon hor manhede, & ne contekede nammore. *Ibid.* 8716 Þeruore monie heyemen ne dude him none manhede.

4. Humanity, humaneness, kindness.

1382 WYCLIF *Titus* iii. 4 The benygnyte, and humanite, *or manhed*, of our sauyour God. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) III. 429 Alisaundre dede it nouȝt for love but for manhede [1432–50 manhode, L. *non amoris sed humanitatis causa*]. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 1415 Cuthbert welcomed him with manhede.

Ma·n-hole. A hole or opening in a floor, pavement, boiler, sewer, etc., through which a man may pass to gain access to certain parts. Also, a recess in a wall, etc., used as a place of refuge, e. g. to avoid passing trains; a hole in a covered boat or canoe for the accommodation of a rower or paddler.

1793 SMEATON *Edystone L.* § 274 The center stone was made large enough to admit of an opening, from floor to floor, or Man-Hole, to be made through it. 1839 R. S. ROBINSON *Naut. Steam Eng.* 120 In the crown of the boiler is a large circular opening, called a man hole. 1841 *Penny Cycl.* XXI. 318/1 To make apertures or man-holes..to enable persons..to enter and cleanse the sewers. 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* (1856) 477 The pah, or man-hole, as we would term it, is very nearly in the centre [of the kayak]. *c* 1860 H. STUART *Seaman's Catech.* 61 They are sent down the main hatchway by a strop and toggle in the man-hole. 1881 RAYMOND *Mining Gloss., Man-hole*, Corn. The hole in a sollar through which men pass upon the ladder or from one ladder to the next. 1892 E. REEVES *Homeward Bound* 119 Each rower sits in a manhole [of a 'decked' boat]. 1893 *Law Times* XCV. 204/2 His horse's foot struck the cover of a manhole in the middle of the road, and it fell.

attrib. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 316 The manhole door. 1884 *Health Exhib. Catal.* 55/2 Patent Ventilating Man-hole Cover for Sewers. 1900 *Engineering Mag.* xix. 742/2 Manhole plates..in the shape of ovals.

Manhood (mæ·nhud). Forms: see MAN *sb.*[1] and -HOOD.

1. The state or condition of being human; human nature.

a 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 986 Þe godcundnesse of godd, for mennesse of his monhad. 1340 *Ayenb.* 12 Þe pridde article..belongeþ to þe zone as to þe manhode; þet is to zigge ase þet he is man dyadlich. *c* 1511 *1st Eng. Bk. Amer.* (Arb.) Introd. 30/2 They say that in christo is alone the godhed without the manhod. 1529 MORE *Dyalogue* I. Wks. 155/2 All ye textes that seme to make him lesse, be nothynge to be vnderstanden of his godhedde, but of his manhode onely. 1548–9 (Mar.) *Bk. Com. Prayer* Athan. Creed, Equall to the father as touchyng his Godhead: and inferior to the father as touchyng his manhode. *Ibid.*, By takyng of the manhode into God. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* III. 314 Therefore thy Humiliation shall exalt With thee thy Manhood also to this Throne; Here shalt thou sit incarnate. 1703 ROWE *Fair Penit.* I. i. 222 Keep..A little Pity to distinguish Manhood Lest other Men..should..judge you to be number'd with the Brutes. 1848 R. I. WILBERFORCE *Doctr. Incarn.* xv. (1852) 440 That real manhood of Christ our Lord, which binds Him at this moment to collective humanity. 1865 LOWELL *Harvard Commem. Ode* ix, Yea, Manhood hath a wider span And larger privilege of life than man.

b. The dignity of man.

c 1400 *Arth. & Merl.* (Linc. Inn MS.) 1172 (Kölbing) 3ef y telle þis folk by fore, How þat þow ware gete and bore, Þanne schal hit sprynge wide and brode, Þen hastow lore þy manhod.

2. The state of being a man: a. as opposed to childhood; b. as opposed to womanhood.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 185 This Elda triste in special Upon a knyht, whom fro childhode He hadde updrawe into manhode. 1601 WEEVER *Mirr. Mart.* C j b, When riper yeares and manhoode made vs strong, Then we knew much, and more still would be showing. 1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* III. iv. 195 *Pis.* [To Imogen, about to disguise herself.] To some shade, And fit you to your Manhood. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* x. 148 Was shee made thy guide, Superior, or but equal, that to her Thou did'st resigne thy Manhood. *Ibid.* XI. 246 His starrie Helme unbuckl'd shew'd him prime In Manhood where Youth ended. 1725 WATTS *Logic* I. vi. § 6 Methuselah, when he was nine hundred and sixty Years old,..was the same Person as when he was in his full Vigour of Manhood, or when he was an Infant, newly born. 1856 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* (1858) I. ii. 109 Children, as they grew to manhood, inherited the duty of revenging their fathers' deaths. 1882 A. W. WARD *Dickens* iv. 86 One likes to think of him in these years of vigorous manhood.

fig. 1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 138 The three ages of France: her child-hood, till Pepin: her man-hood, till Capet; her old age, till now. 1841 MYERS *Cath. Th.* III. § 34. 123 Is it a disposition befitting spiritual manhood? Is it not characteristically childish?

3. The qualities eminently becoming a man; manliness, courage, valour. *arch.*

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. III. 184 3it I may as I myȝte menske the with 3iftes, And mayntene thi manhode more than thow knoweste. *c* 1392 CHAUCER *Compl. Venus* 4 Remembraunce Upon the manhod and the worthinesse,..Of him whos I am al, whyl I may dure. *c* 1402 LYDG. *Compl. Bl. Knt.* 333 Notwithstondyng his manhode and his myght, Love unto him did ful grete unright. 1530 PALSGR. 500/2 Whan he is well whyttelled, he wyll crake goodly of his manhode. 1577–87 HOLINSHED *Chron.* I. 50/1 The Britains nswell with constant manhood, as skilfull practise,..auoided and beat from them the arrowes and darts. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* III. ii. 412 Follow my voice, we'l try no manhood here. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* XXV. Argt. 544 That province had beene quite lost, but for the singular manhood and industrie of L. Martius a knight of Rome. 1618 ROWLANDS *Night Raven* (1620) 29 Tom of his manhood boasts That he like butter-flies esteemes all Ghoasts. 1829 HOOD *Eug. Aram* xvi, There was a manhood in her look That murder could not kill. 1853 WHITTIER *Hero* 75 Peace hath higher tests of manhood Than battle ever knew.

†4. Humanity, humaneness. *Obs.*

1432–50 [see MANHEAD 4, quot. 1387]. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* V. x. 177 And so wyll I yf thou wylt socoure and ayde me that I maye be crystned and byleue on god. And therof I requyre the of thy manhode. 1555 WATREMAN *Fardle Facions* II. iii. 126 Suche tendrenes had been shewen to two, or three [children], as the mothers loked for, and manhode..doth require. 1571 GOLDING *Calvin on Ps.* lxix. 27 Inasmuche as manhod willeth to succour the afflicted.

†5. Homage. *Obs.*

1340 *Ayenb.* 19 He ys wel renay þet þet land þet he halt of his lhorde deth in-to þe hond of his uyende, and deþ him manhode. *Ibid.*, He deþ manhode to the dyeule, and becomþ his þrel.

6. Men collectively; the adult male members of a population, nation, or the like.

1588 *Copy Let. sent to Mendoza* 27 The Lord Strange, the Earls sonne, and all the manhood of Lancashire and Cheshire, would goe ouer the Seas and fetch the Earle home. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 15 The whole manhood of Greece fought the battell of Salamis. 1609 — *Amm. Marcell.* 115 There followed a multitude of all sorts and degrees, picked and chosen out of the manhood of the nations adjoyning. 1640 YORKE *Union Hon., Battells* 1 In the Rere-guard was the Duke himselfe, with his whole manhoode of Normans.

7. *attrib.*: **manhood suffrage**, that form of popular election in which the suffrage is granted to all male citizens of lawful age not disqualified by crime, insanity, etc.

1873 tr. *Strauss' Old Faith & New* Ixxxi. 329. 1877 R. LOWE in *Fortn. Rev.* Dec. 728.

Ma·n-hu·nter. A hunter of men; usually a contemptuous term for cannibals, slave-dealers, brigands, or the like.

1555 EDEN *Decades* 142 *marg.*, Manhunters. 1819 *Metropolis* II. 219 All blood-suckers and man hunters, be they adders, blood-hounds, bailiffs, or even certain attornies. 1851 MAYNE REID *Scalp Hunt.* xxiv. 179 It was a picture such as may be seen only in a bivouac of guerilleros, of brigands, of man-hunters. 1892 ZANGWILL *Bow Mystery* 23 The hardened old man-hunter's voice was not free from a tremor.

So **Ma·n-hunting** *sb.* and *a.*; also **Ma·n-hunt** *sb.*

1555 EDEN *Decades* To Rdr., A pray to those manhuntynge woolues. *Ibid.* 142 All the whiche gyue them selues onely to manhuntynge. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk., Manhunting*, the impress service. 1881 BESANT & RICE *Chapl. of Fleet* I. 203 One time there was the mischievous practice of man-hunting. 1897 *Daily News* 9 Mar. 6/1 Those regions of man-hunts and hideous blood orgies. 1898 *Ibid.* 31 Dec. 2/3 The man-hunting trials promoted by the Association of Bloodhound Breeders.

Mani (mā·ni). Also 8 many, 9 mannee. [a. Sp. *mani* (Pineda); prob. from some S. American language.]

1. A South American earth-nut (see quot. 1866).

1717 tr. *Frezier's Voy.* 186 They have..a Sort of Fruit there [at Pisco], which grows in a Cod that does not rise out of the Earth..The Inhabitants call it Many. *Ibid., marg.*, Many Fruit. 1760–72 tr. *Juan & Ulloa's Voy.* (ed. 3) I. 78 Another fruit, called mani, is produced by a small plant. It is of the size and shape of a pine cone. 1825 *Gentl. Mag.* XCV. I. 318 The Jack-fruit, sweet sops, sour sops, mannees [etc.]. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 717/2 *Mani*,..a Spanish name of the Ground Nut, *Arachis hypogæa*.

2. A South American tree (see quot. 1866).

1866 *Treas. Bot.* 757/1 *M[oronobea] coccinea*, the Hog Gum tree. .. In Guiana and Brazil, where it is called Mani or Oanani, the natives make torches with it. 1800 *Asiat. Ann. Reg., Misc. Tr.* 75 *note*, The mani-tree, which yields a timber that is almost imperishable.

Mania (mē··niă). [a. L. *mania*, a. Gr. *μανία*, related to *μαίνεσθαι* (:—**manye-*) to be mad, f. wk.-grade of the Indogermanic root **men-*, represented in many words referring to mental states, emotions, etc. (cf. esp. Gr. *μῆνις* rage, *μένος* mood, passion): see MIND *sb.* In 14–17th c. rarely in the Fr. form MANIE.]

1. *Nosology.* Mental derangement characterized by great excitement, extravagant delusions and hallucinations, and, in its acute stage, by great violence.

c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 266, & wipinne .iij. daies Mania come to hir and was oute of hir witt. 1547 BOORDE *Brev. Health* CCXX. (1557) 75 *Mania* is the greke. In latin it is named *Insania* or *Furor*. In Englishe it is named a madnes or wodnes lyke a wylde beaste. 1650 BULWER *Anthropomet.* 207 Some in Mania or Melancholy madnesse, have attempted the same. 1788 'A. PASQUIN' *Childr. Thespis* (1792) 62 As the Magi their foul incantations prepare, And with seeds of the *mania* impregnate the air! 1853 CARPENTER *Princ. Hum. Physiol.* (ed. 4) § 830 The state of Mania..is usually characterized by the combination of complete derangement of the intellectual powers, with passionate excitement upon every point which in the least degree affects the feelings.

b. Applied *rarely* to a similar condition in lower animals.

1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 272, I judged him [a horse] to be vexed with a melancholy madness called of the Physitians Mania, or rather Melancholia. 1879 W. L. LINOSAY *Mind Lower Anim.* I. 97 They [bees] are..liable to..temporary epidemic excitement, delirium, or mania.

c. Inspired frenzy or madness. *rare.*

1886 C. A. BRIGGS *Messianic Proph.* i. 12 The prophetic mania comes upon a man like Saul.

2. Great excitement or enthusiasm resembling madness. Chiefly with *a* or *the*: A vehement passion or desire; also, in weaker sense (after F. *manie*), a 'craze', 'rage'. Const. *for*, *of*. Also, a period of great excitement affecting a body of persons.

1689 EVELYN *Corr.* (1879) III. 443 So vaine a thing it is to set ones heart vpon any thing of this nature with that passion & mania, that unsatinable Earle..did, to the detriment of his estate and family. 1791–1823 D'ISRAELI *Cur. Lit.* (1858) III. 303 At the restoration of letters,..there prevailed a mania for burying spurious antiquities. 1807 C. W. JANSON *Stranger Amer.* 385 The mania of land speculation. 1815 W. H. IRELAND *Scribbleomania* 243 Catalogues, with a few annotations on the mania of portrait collectors. 1837 HT. MARTINEAU *Soc. Amer.* III. 199, I was told at Washington..that 'the people of New England do good by mania'. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xix. IV. 322 A mania of which the symptoms were essentially the same with those of the mania of 1720..seized the public mind. 1878 JEVONS *Prim. Pol. Econ.* 122 A prudent man would never invest in any new thing during a mania or bubble. 1879 MCCARTHY *Own Times* II. xxiii. 196 He had a detestation for democratic doctrines which almost amounted to a mania. 1884 GILMOUR *Mongols* 149 The mania which possesses the Mongols for making pilgrimages.

b. with qualifying word prefixed, indicating the kind of 'mania', as *railway*, *tulip mania*, etc.

1777 in *N. E. Hist. & Gen. Reg.* (1872) XXVI. 259 The rage for building in England..is somewhat similar to the tulip mania in Holland. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* I. 600 During the rage of the paper currency mania. 1896 *Godey's Mag.* (U. S.) Apr. 448/1 The heart mania has extended to the watch, a favorite design showing two linked hearts set with pearls. 1903 *Daily Chron.* 13 Oct. 5/1 In the last decade of that century a canal mania raged, in many ways resembling the railway mania of some sixty years ago.

-mania, a terminal element, repr. Gr. *μανία* MANIA in composition.

There were in Gr. a few compounds in *-μανία* (rare and chiefly post-classical), expressing the general sense 'a certain kind of madness', or 'the state of being mad after some object', and corresponding as nouns of quality or condition to the related adjs. (a much more frequent formation) in *-μανής* = '-mad'. Examples are *γυναικομανία* mad passion for women, *ἐρωτομανία* love-madness, *ἱπτομανία* mad love for horses, *ὑδρομανία* 'water-madness', hydrophobia. In the 16th and 17th c. a number of quasi-Greek compounds, denoting species of mania, were invented and used in medical Latin, and some of these, as *nymphomania*, have been adopted in Eng. Other technical or quasi-technical words, formed in the 19th c., are *kleptomania*, *lypemania*, *megalomania*. In the 17–18th c. the currency of F. *manie* in the sense of a 'craze' or passion (e. g. for some pursuit, or the collection of some class of objects) suggested the formation of a number of quasi-Gr. compounds such as *bibliomanie* mania for books, *métromanie* mania for metre, *mélomanie*

mania for song; and hybrid formations such as *Anglomanie* mania for things English, *tulipomanie* mania for tulips. Several of these words have been adopted in Eng. with the ending *-mania*, and in the 19th c. it became somewhat common to invent nonce-words with this ending. Examples are **bancomania**, a craze for establishing banks; **Graiomania** [L. *Grai-us* Greek], passion for things Greek; **Italomania**, wild enthusiasm for Italy; **Queenomania**, (applied by Southey to the popular devotion to the cause of Queen Caroline); **scribbleomania**, a craze for scribbling. The sbs. in *-mania* have, actually or potentially, correlative sbs. in **-maniac**; the words in -MANE are of rare occurrence, and are viewed as Gallicisms.

1788 *Trifler* No. 8. 104 'Till the wide Nugae-mania spread.
1792 COLERIDGE *Lett.* (1895) I. 35, I never had the scribblemania stronger on me than for these last three or four days. 1815 [W. H. IRELAND] (*title*), Scribbleomania. 1820 SOUTHEY in *Life & Corr.* (1850) V. 53 The Queenomania will probably die away ere long. 1837 *Blackw. Mag.* XLI. 848 During all the late fury of land-jobbing schemes in the west, of building extravagances in the east, of bancomania everywhere,..the cotton manufacture alone remains unscathed. 1855 MAURICE *Learn. & Work.* 254 This..would be a fair representation of the motives and arguments which created the Roman Graiophobia. And the Roman Graiomania in the young men will have had as intelligible an explanation. 1860 LD. DERBY in *Ld. Malmesbury's Mem.* (1884) II. 213 His Italomania and his Free Trade policy.

†Ma·niable, *a. Obs.* Also 6–7 manyable, (7 mannyable, maineable). [a. OF. *maniable*, f. *manier* to handle (= It. *maneggiare*: see MANAGE *v.*), f. L. *manus* hand.]

1. Easy to handle; flexible, pliable, workable.

1484 CAXTON *Chivalry* 64 Gauntelots..to receyue the strokes yf it were so that his other armures manyable faylled to hym. 1520 *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, VI. 55 *note*, For the nymble handlyng wherof[the sworde] He hathe or knowythe no feate, but thowght it not manyable, and callyd the Admirall, and cawsed hym to feell the weght theroff. 1590 SIR J. SMYTH *Disc. Weapons* 4 b, Short, strong, and light arming daggers are more maniable. 1610 DONNE *Pseudo-martyr* 140 Those instruments of battery .. were left off .. because they were not so maniable and tractable, and apt for transportation, as these are. *a* 1612 RALEIGH *To P. Henry* Rem. (1661) 251 If she [a ship] be bigger she will be of lesse use, ..lesse nimble, lesse mannyable. 1633 R. ASHLEY *Barri's Cochin China* D iv b, It [the elephant's trunk] is so flexible and maniable that he extendeth and turneth it as he list. 1654 EARL MONM. tr. *Bentivoglio's Warrs Flanders* 183 The earth about it is everywhere manyable, so as Trenches may easily be made. 1727 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Gimbels*, Your Business only is to make the Paste firm, and to knead it well; if it be not maniable, and that if you cannot draw it with your Hands..you must beat it in a Mortar.

b. Of a person or his attributes: Manageable, tractable.

c 1596–1604 BACON *Helps Intell. Powers* Wks. 1859 VII. 100 And as to the will of Man, it is that which is most maniable and obedient as that which admitteth most medicines to cure and alter it. 1605 — *Adv. Learn.* I. ii. § 8 Learning doth make the minds of men gentle, generous, maniable, and pliant to government. 1628 LE GRYS tr. *Barclay's Argenis* 275 This rage, which was .. not maniable by any prudence or counsell. 1630 LENNARD *Charron's Wisd.* II. ix. § 3. 334 To be supple and maniable, to know how to rise and fall, to bring himselfe into order, when there is need.

2. That may be handled or felt, palpable.

1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 27/1 He is not manyable ne may not be handled. *c* 1520 ANDREWE *Noble Lyfe* I. xliii. I iij, The Motte..is a maniable worm, and yet it hydeth him in y^r clothe that it can scantly be sene. 1665 J. SERGEANT *Sure Footing* 64 Actions, Sacraments, and all other outward shows which could be invented to make such mysteries maniable. 1686 COTTON tr. *Montaigne* II. II. xii. 261 We ..leave to them [Beasts] for their Divident, Essential, Maniable, and Palpable Goods, as Peace, Repose [etc.].

Maniac (mē·niăk), *a.* and *sb.* Forms: 7 maniacque, 7–8 maniack, 8– maniac. [ad. late L. *maniac-us* (as if a. Gr. **μανιακ-ός*), f. *μανία* MANIA. Cf. F. *maniaque*.] **A.** *adj.*

1. Affected with mania; raving with madness.

1604 R. CAWDREY *Table Alph., Maniacque*, mad, braine sick. 1817 SHELLEY *Rev. Islam* X. xlii, So, she scourged forth the maniac multitude To rear this pyramid. 1825 SCOTT *Talism.* xviii, My words shall be those of the maniac outcast which I am.

transf. 1856 BRYANT *Serenade* x, The maniac winds, divorcing The turtle from his mate.

2. Of, pertaining to, or characterized by mania; belonging to or characteristic of a maniac.

1727 KINNEIR in *Phil. Trans.* XXXV. 347, I..us'd Camphire in Maniac Disorders. 1817 BYRON *Lam. of Tasso* iii, The..maniac cry Of minds and bodies in captivity. 1850 ROBERTSON *Serm.* Ser. III. iii. (1872) 35 Like maniac ravings. 1879 GEO. ELIOT *Coll. Breakf. P.* 236 To gaze with maniac stare.

b. Characterized by wild excitement; frantic.

1809 JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1830) IV. 127 In the present maniac state of Europe. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* xxxiv, The performance of a maniac hornpipe. 1862 R. VAUGHAN *Nonconformity* 320 To the government this maniac proceeding was a godsend.

B. *sb.* One who is affected with mania.

a 1763 SHENSTONE *Elegy.* XVI. xxvi, Scornful she spoke, and, heedless of reply The lovely maniac bounded o'er the plain. 1775 H. FARMER *Demoniacs N. T.* I. viii. 143 All their [*sc.* demoniacs'] symptoms agree with those of epileptics and maniacs, who fancied they had evil spirits within them. 1784 COWPER *Task* II. 663 And 'tis a fearful spectacle to see So many maniacs dancing in their chains. 1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* xxix, His eye rolled like that of a maniac in his fever fit. 1877 BLACK *Green Past.* xxxvi, As though he half expected this maniac to turn and bite him.

b. *attrib.* and *Comb.*. as in *maniac-like* adv.; also appositively as in *maniac-maiden*.

1821 SHELLEY *Prometh. Unb.* IV. 470, I, a most enamoured maiden..Maniac-like around thee move. 1845 G. MURRAY *Islaford* 149 The maniac-maiden singeth aye Of love.

-maniac: see -MANIA.

Maniacal (mănəi·ăkăl), *a.* [f. MANIAC + -AL.]

1. Affected with mania. Also *absol.*

1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* I. v. 704 When maniacal persons .. speak in languages which they had never learnt. 1800 *Med. Jrnl.* IV. 106 Another patient..became decidedly and violently maniacal. 1865 W. H. O. SANKEY *Mental Dis.* iii. (1866) 71 Maniacal patients are not necessarily irascible...The maniacal will answer, but speedily ramble again from the point.

2. Of, belonging to or of the nature of mania; characteristic of a maniac.

1701 GREW *Cosm. Sacra* III. i. 89 Epilepsys, and Maniacal Lunacies, do usually conform..to the Age of the Moon. 1748 HARTLEY *Observ. Man* II. iv. § 3. 384 Maniacal and other Disorders. 1842 DE QUINCEY *Cicero* Wks. VI. 196 The extravagant, almost maniacal, assertion. 1866 *Cornh. Mag.* Aug. 227 In maniacal frenzy. 1899 CROCKETT *Kit Kennedy* 405 With a quick access of maniacal strength, the prisoner cast his guards..from him.

Hence **Mani·acally** *adv.*

1846 E. B. BARRETT 10 July in *Lett. R. Browning & E. B. B.* (1899) II. 323 Poor Haydon! Think what an agony life was to him..—the man seeing maniacally in all men the assassins of his fame! 1860 W. COLLINS *Wom. White* xiii. 77 An expression of maniacally intense hatred and fear. 1894 SALA *Things Seen* II. 79 He usually came home..either boisterously, lyrically, pugilistically, or maniacally drunk.

Maniack, -acque, obs. forms of MANIAC.

‖ Manica (mæ·nikă). [L.; cf. MANCHE.] A sleeve (*obs. rare*⁻⁰). *Manica Hippocratis* = Hippocrates' sleeve: see HIPPOCRAS 2, HIPPOCRATES. Hence **†Ma·nicated** *a.*, sleeved (*obs. rare*⁻⁰).

1641 FRENCH *Distill.* ii. (1651) 46 Let the Liquor runne through a bagge called *Manica Hippocratis* made of white Cotten. 1671 GREW *Anat. Plants* I. ii. § 23 The Sap.. through this, as through a *Manica Hippocratis*, is still more finely filtred. 1727 BAILEY vol. II, *Manica*, a Sleeve, Gantlet or Glove. L. *Ibid.*, *Manicated*, wearing a Sleeve, Glove or Gantlet.

Manicate (mæ·nikēit), *a. Bot.* [ad. L. *manicāt-us* furnished with sleeves.] (See quot.)

1832 LINDLEY *Introd. Bot.* 39 Hairs also give the following names to the surface of any thing:—*Manicate*, when interwoven into a mass that can be easily separated from the surface. 1866 in *Treas. Bot.*

Manichæan, Manichean (mænikī·ăn), *a.* and *sb.* Also 6 Manichian. [f. L. *Manichæus* (see MANICHEE) + -AN.]

A. *adj.* Of or pertaining to the Manichees or their doctrine; characteristic of a Manichee.

1638 CHILLINGW. *Relig. Prot.* I. Pref. § 1 If any thing more then ordinary might be said in defence of the Manichean Doctrine. 1710 BERKELEY *Princ. Hum. Knowl.* § 154 Favourers of Atheism or the Manichean Heresy. 1784 COWPER *Task* V. 444 As dreadful as the Manichean God. Ador'd through fear, strong only to destroy. 1851 D. WILSON *Preh. Ann.* (1863) II. IV. ii. 230 Manichean symbols being introduced on such monuments. 1855 MILMAN *Lat. Chr.* IX. viii. (1864) V. 385 In another respect the followers of Peter de Brueys rejected the usages of the Church, but in no rigid or ascetic, and therefore no Manichean spirit.

B. *sb.* = MANICHEE.

1556 CLEMENT in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* (1721) III. App. lxi. 214 Arians Eutichians Manichians..and all other heretikes. 1686 HORNECK *Crucif. Jesus* xi. 203 The Marcionites and Manichæans of old, who taught, that Christ had no real or substantial body. 1739 S. BOYSE *Deity* 98 Could the wild Manichæan own that guide, The good would triumph, and the ill subside! 1793 D. STEWART *Outl. Mor. Philos.* II. ii. § 293 The Manicheans account for the mixture of good and evil in the universe, by the opposite agencies of two coeternal and independent principles. 1869 LECKY *Europ. Mor.* (1877) I. iii. 426 St. Augustine relates that when he was a Manichaean, his mother for a time refused even to sit at the same table with her erring child.

b. *transf.*

1873 MORLEY *Rousseau* II. x. 39 Rousseau was never a manichaean towards nature. To him she was all good and bounteous. 1885 *Times* (weekly ed.) 29 May 12/3 As they are not Manicheans, it follows that nothing exists but what is good.

Manichæanize, manicheanize (mænikī·ănəiz), *v.* [f. prec. + -IZE.] **a.** *intr.* To incline to Manichæan opinions. **b.** *trans.* To introduce Manichæan principles into. Hence Ma·nichæ·anized *ppl. a.*, Ma·nichæ·anizing *vbl. sb.*

1838 G. S. FABER *Inquiry* 236 *note*, The articles wherein they were charged with manicheanising. 1865 *Pall Mall G.* 8 Sept. 10/2 The adherents of a Manichæanised Christianity.

Manichæism, Manicheism (mæ·nikī,iz'm). Also 7 Manichisme. [f. *Manichæus* (see MANICHEE) + -ISM.] The doctrine or principles of the Manichees.

1626 [FEATLEY] tr. *Parallel* D b, This Doctrine bringeth into the Church Manichisme. 1679 T. PULLER *Moderat. Ch. Eng.* vi. 143 Which doctrine of J. S. is condemned..as the pith of Manicheism. 1756–82 J. WARTON *Ess. Pope* (ed. 4) II. ix. 100 The gloomy and uncomfortable scheme of Scepticism and Manicheism. 1853 MAURICE *Proph. & Kings* vi. 97 The Manichæism which would lead us to think that evil may at last triumph, or hold a divided empire with God. 1861 PEARSON *Early & Mid. Ages* 143 The charge of Manicheism was brought against the promoters of celibacy. 1871 TYLOR *Prim. Cult.* II. 300 Manichæism..is based on the doctrine of two antagonistic principles of good and evil.

Manichæist (mæ·nikī,ist). *rare*⁻¹. [f. as prec. + -IST.] = MANICHEE.

1880 T. A. SPALDING *Eliz. Demonol.* 17 The second principle is that of the Manichæists: the division of spirits into hostile camps, good and evil.

Manichean, -ize: see MANICHÆAN, -IZE.

Manichee (mænikī·). Also 4 *pl.* Manaches, 6 Manichey, *pl.* Mani-, Manycheis, Manicheis, 7 Manachy. [ad. late L. *Manichæus*, late Gr. Μανιχαῖος, from the name of the founder of the sect (variously recorded as *Manes* and *Manichæus*) who lived in Persia in the 3rd century after Christ.] An adherent of a religious system widely accepted from the third to the fifth century, composed of Gnostic Christian, Mazdean, and pagan elements.

The special feature of the system which the name chiefly suggests to modern readers is the dualistic theology, according to which Satan was represented as co-eternal with God.

a 1380 *St. Augustine* 103 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1878) 63 Þe Manichees þat heretykes weren. *Ibid.* 576 Austin.. Ouercom þe Manaches erryng. 1533 MORE *Debell. Salem* v. Wks. 939/2 For a certaine sorte there wer of the heretikes that wer the Manicheis. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 91 Whan the Arrians,..and the Manycheis, sowed abroade their opinions. 1594 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* IV. vii. § 2 Faustus the Manichey. 1641 HINDE *J. Bruen* v. 15 Augustine confesseth of himselfe, he was first a Manachy before he was a Preacher. 1649 JER. TAYLOR *Gt. Exemp.* I. iv. 130 A Manichee (a hæretick, that denyed God to be the maker of things visible). 1702 ECHARD *Eccl. Hist.* (1710) 644 Pope Leo said that the Devil reigned in all other heresies, but had rais'd his very throne in that of the Manichees. 1833 J. H. NEWMAN *Arians* II. iv. (1876) 195 The Manichees considered the Son and Spirit as necessary emanations from the Father. 1842 BROWNING *Solil. Sp. Cloister* vii, If I trip him just a-dying..Spin him round and send him flying Off to hell, a Manichee?

Manichian, obs. form of MANICHÆAN.

Manichord mæ·nikɔ̄d). *Obs.* exc. *Hist.* Forms: 7 8 manicordion, 8 -ium, (7 manycord), 7 9 manicord, 8– manichord. [a. F. *manicorde*, *manichordion*, corruptly a. med.L. **monochordium*, *monocordum*, a. late Gr. *μονοχόρδιον*, Gr. *μονόχορδον* MONOCHORD; the word was perh. associated by popular etymology with L. *manus* hand. Cf. It. *mano-*, *manicordo* (Florio).] = CLAVICHORD.

1611 COTGR., *Monochordiser des doigts*, to quauer with the fingers, to wag or play with them, as if he touched a Manicordion. 1668 in *12th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. VII. 378 Paid..for Ketty's Many-cords 01 06 00. 1670 *Ibid.* 381 For a moneths teaching of Katy and Alice on the harpsicalls and manicords 01 00 00. 1710 in E. W. Dunbar *Soc. Life* (1865) 15, I can play on the Treble and Gambo, Viol, Virginelles and Manichords. 1730–6 BAILEY (folio), *Manicordium*, a musical instrument in form of a spinet. 1823 ROSCOE tr. *Sismondi's Lit. Eur.* (1846) I. v. 128 The manicord, or claricorde, was a sort of spinet resembling the virginals. 1830 MRS. BRAY *Fitz of F.* xvii. (1884) 148 She has a curious hand at the lute, and the manichord.

Manicle, obs. form of MANACLE.

†Ma·nicon. *Obs.* [a. L. *manicon*, Gr. *μανικόν*, f. root of *μανία* MANIA, *μαίνεσθαι* to be insane.] A kind of nightshade, supposed to cause madness.

1678 BUTLER *Hud.* III. i. 324 Bewitch Hermetick-men to run Stark staring mad with Manicon. 1727 BAILEY vol. II, *Manicon*, an Herb call'd also *Dorychnion*, a Kind of Nightshade.

Manicord, -cordion, -ium: see MANICHORD.

Manicure (mæ·nikiuəi), *sb.* [a. F. *manicure* (1877 in Littré *Suppl.* Add.), f. L. *manus* hand + *cūra* care. Cf. the earlier *pédicure*.]

1. One who professionally undertakes the care and treatment of the hands and finger-nails.

1880 *Melbourne Bulletin* 12 Nov. 7/3 When one has not been endowed with a perfect hand at birth,..the skill of a manicure will improve it. 1887 FINCK *Rom. Love & Pers. Beauty* II. 230 Manicures use acids in their shops, but the lemon is quite as good. 1893 F. M. CRAWFORD *Marion Darche* I. 41 Hands..which neither ordinary scrubbing nor the care of the manicure can ever keep clean.

2. The treatment and care of the hands and finger-nails.

1887 FINCK *Rom. Love & Pers. Beauty* II. 230 There are not nearly as many secrets in manicure as people imagine. 1900 PINERO *Gay Ld. Quex* I. 2 The instruments and toilet necessaries employed in the process of manicure.

attrib. 1890 *Pall Mall G.* 6 Jan. 6/1 A set of manicure instruments. 1900 PINERO *Gay Ld. Quex* I. 1 The scene represents a manicure establishment in New Bond Street.

Manicure (mæ·nikiuəi), *v.* [f. prec.] *trans.* To apply manicure treatment to. Also *absol.* Hence **Ma·nicured** *ppl. a.*, **Ma·nicuring** *vbl. sb.*

1889 *Century Mag.* Oct. 873/1 Where the mother's hands washed and cooked,..the daughter's shall..be soft and 'manicured' and daintily gloved. 1893 *Black & White* 1 Apr. 384/2 [She] does her mistress's hair and manicures her. 1897 VIOLET HUNT *Unkist, Unkind* I xiii. (ed. 2) 246 Holding out a pretty manicured hand. 1900 PINERO *Gay Ld. Quex* IV. 176 The young gentleman, his manicuring being done, has risen.

Manicurist (mæ·nikiuərist). [f. MANICURE + -IST.] = MANICURE *sb.* I.

1889 *Columbus* (Ohio) *Disp.* 25 May, Ladies who patronize the manicurist. 1900 *Nature* LXII. 294/2 The surgeons, though they had ceased to rank with manicurists and barbers, were often little better than bone-setters.

Manido, variant of MANITOU.

†Manie. *Obs.* [a. F. *manie*, ad. L. *mania*. Cf. Pr., It., Pg. *mania*, Sp. *manía*.] = MANIA.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Kn.'s T.* 516 Manye-Engendred of humour malencolik. 1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. i. III. *Furies*

351 So this fell Fury, for forerunners, sends Manie and Phrenzie to suborne her friends. 1623 COCKERAM, *Manie*, a disease in the head cal'd madnesse.

Manie, var. MEINIE, company, obs. f. MANY.

Manier, obs. form of MANNER, MANURE.

Maniew(e, obs. form of MANGE *sb.*1

Manifacture, obs. f. MANUFACTURE.

Manifest (mæ·nifest), *sb.* [a. F. *manifeste* vbl. sb., f. *manifester* to MANIFEST. Cf. Sp. *manifiesto*, Pg., It. *manifesto*, of similar formation, though accidentally coinciding in form with the adj.]

1. *gen.* A manifestation, indication. Now *rare.*

1561 T. NORTON *Calvin's Inst.* II. viii. 119 He iudgeth that maner of swearing to be a manifest [L. *argumentum*] of mahifest falling from his allegance. *c* 1640 J. SMYTH *Lives Berkeleys* (1883) I. 38 For restoring due honor to the dust of this Lord Robert, I present his posteritye with theis tuelue manifests thereof. 1650 H. BROOKE *Conserv. Health* 230 To give some manifest of a desire of good to the person we are angry withal. 1883 E. C. STEDMAN in *Century Mag.* XXV. 873 Such a writer must be judged by..his books;.. the parol evidence of no associate can weigh against his written manifest for an instant.

†**2.** A public proclamation or declaration; an open statement; a manifesto. *Obs.*

1618 *Decl. Demeanour Raleigh* 1 But for Actions, that are built vpon sure and solide grounds (such as his Maiesties are), it belongeth to them, to bee published by open manifests. 1641 CHAS. I, *Sp.* in Rushw. *Hist. Coll.* III. (1692) I. 308 My Nephew, the Prince Elector Palatine..hath desired me..to make a Manifest in my Name. 1667 WATERHOUSE *Fire Lond.* 126 His Proclamations and Manifests against Prophaneness. 1670 COTTON *Espernon* I. II. 75 There was printed a Manifest, subscrib'd by the Cardinal of Bourbon, as Head of the League. 1693 DRYDEN *Iliad* I. 473 But you, authentick Witnesses I bring, Of this my Manifest: That never more This Hand shall combate on the crooked Shore. 1739 *Col. Rec. Pennsylv.* IV. 382 After having laid the Queen's Manifest before the Assembly, declaring her Designs against Canada. 1752 CARTE *Hist. Eng.* III. App. 820 Murray and the others..publishing manifests to alarm the nation..were driven..out of the kingdom.

3. The list of a ship's cargo, signed by the master, for the information and use of officers of Customs.

1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *A Manifest* (in *Traffick*), a Draught of a Master of a Ship's Cargo, shewing what is due to him for Fraight from every Person, to whom the Goods in his Ship belong. *c* 1744 in Hanway *Trav.* (1762) I. v. lxxi. 327 The said commander..shall..make oath, that such..goods..were..put on board..as in the said certificate or manifest is mentioned. 1800 COLQUHOUN *Comm. Thames* xiv. 309 No Goods shall be imported.. unless the Master of the Vessel has on board a Manifest signed by himself, containing the names of all the Ports [etc.]. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 21 Mar. 4/6 If the..quantities turned out differ from the manifest by one half package, the merchant is fined, the ship and its cargo confiscated. 1873 *Act* 36 & 37 *Vict.* c. 88 Sched. I, Such rice..not being entered on the manifest as part of the cargo.

Manifest (mæ·nifest), *a.* [ad. L. *manifestus*, earlier *manifestus*, believed to be f. *manu-s* hand + **festus* struck (cf. *infestus* dangerous), f. root found in *of-fendĕre*, *de-fendĕre*. The primary sense would thus be 'palpable'. Cf. F. *manifeste*, Sp. *manifiesto*, Pg., It. *manifesto.*]

1. Clearly revealed to the eye, mind, or judgement; open to view or comprehension; obvious.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* III. pr. x. 72 (Camb. MS.) Thanne is it manyfest and opyn þat by the getynge of diuinite men ben maked blysful. *c* 1450 HOLLAND *Howlat* 255 It neidis nocht to renewe all myn vnhele, Sen it was menit to 3our mynd, and maid manifest. 1535 COVERDALE 1 *Esdras* ii. 18 Be it knowne and manifest to our lorde the kynge, that the Iewes..begynne to buylde it [the city] agayne. 1555 in Hakluyt *Voy.* I. 262 The better and also manifester testification of the trueth. 1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 458 b, Three manyfest lyes about one poore platter. 1611 BIBLE *John* ix. 3 That the works of God should be made manifest in him. 1671 MILTON *Samson* 997 She's gone, a manifest Serpent by her sting. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 71 P 10 The contrary is so manifest, that I cannot think you in earnest. 1712 tr. *Pomet's Hist. Drugs* I. 179 A Gum that is..glewy in the Mouth, without manifest Taste. 1837 GORING & PRITCHARD *Microgr.* 181 It is a manifest and visible error. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. iii. 26 In many places..the mass showed manifest signs of lateral pressure. 1867 F. W. H. MYERS *St. Paul* 10 Rise and be manifest, o Morning Star!

†**2.** Having evident signs *of*; evidently possessed *of* or guilty *of*. [After the Latin construction with genitive.] *Obs.*

1681 DRYDEN *Abs. & Achit.* I. 204 Now, manifest of crimes contrived long since, He stood a bold defiance with his Prince. 1700 — *Pal. & Arc.* II. 623 Calisto there stood manifest of shame. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* I. 277 Thus manifest of right, I build my claim Sure-founded on a fair Maternal fame.

†**3.** As *adv.* = MANIFESTLY. *Obs.*

c 1391 CHAUCER *Astrol.* II. § 26 The excellence of the spere solide, amonges other noble conclusiouns, shewyth Manifeste the diuerse assencioun s of signes in diuerse places.

Manifest (mæ·nifest), *v.* Also 5 ma(g)nyfest. [ad. F. *manifest-er*, or L. *manifest-āre*, f. *manifest-us* (see prec.). Cf. Sp., Pg. *manifestar*, It. *manifestare.*]

1. *trans.* To make evident to the eye or to the understanding; to show plainly, disclose, reveal.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* II. pr. vii. 44 (Camb. MS.), Thinken ye to manyfesten yowre renoun and don yowre name to ben born forth? 1483 CAXTON *Cato* E viij, The synnes ben ofte hydde for a tyme but afterward..they are knowen and manyfestyd. 1484 — *Fables of Alfonce* xi. (1889) 281 The yonge man manyfested or descouered vnto her alle his courage and herte. 1508 DUNBAR *Tua Mariit Wemen* 73 To manifest my makdome to multitude of pepill. 1582 N. T. (Rhem.) *John* ii. 11 He manifested [1611 manifested forth] his glorie. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* IV. vi. 15 The mirth whereof so-larded with my matter, That neither (singly) can be manifested Without the shew of both. 1602 MARSTON *Antonio's Rev.* IV. iii, Who riseth up to manifest her guilt? 1611 BIBLE 1 *John* iv. 9 In this was manifested the loue of God towards vs. 1622 R. HAWKINS *Voy. S. Sea* (1847) 176 The sunnes rising manifested unto us our errour. 1654 BRAMHALL *Just Vind.* iii. (1661) 31 Whether the Act..were operative or declarative, creating new right, or manifesting or restoring old right. 1736 BUTLER *Anal.* I. iii. Wks. 1874 I. 49 He manifests himself to us under the character of a righteous governor. 1841 MYERS *Cath. Th.* IV. § 3. 188 Nature manifests itself to us only through our senses. 1875 MANNING *Mission H. Ghost* viii. 210 He created our souls to manifest the light of His image.

b. Of things: To be evidence of, prove, attest.

1508 DUNBAR *Flyting* 82 Thy frawart phisnomy Dois manifest thy malice to all men. 1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* II. ii. 14 For Coriolanus neyther to care whether they loue, or hate him, manifests the true knowledge he ha's in their disposition. *a* 1674 CLARENDON *Surv. Leviath.* (1676) 125 The instance he makes of a Princes subduing an other people..should manifest to him the contrary. 1804 ABERNETHY *Surg. Obs.* 37 This remark is manifested by the present, as well as by many other cases in surgery.

c. with obj. a clause or accus. with inf., or †compl.

1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV*, IV. v. 105 Thy Life did manifest, thou lou'dst me not. 1643 SIR T. BROWNE *Relig. Med.* I. § 22 No man will be able to prove it, when, from the process of the Text, I can manifest it may be otherwise. 1659 PEARSON *Creed* (1839) 324 That it was actually so..the place itself will not manifest. 1667 in Picton *L'pool Munic. Rec.* (1883) I. 269 Neither..bowles or boxe had any inscripcion, manifesting them to be the gift of any p'ticular p'son. *c* 1680 BEVERIDGE *Serm.* (1729) I. 476 It is by this chiefly that we manifest ourselves to be christians. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. 326/2 The Triangle will presently manifest whether the place be higher or lower than your Eye. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 153 P 4 It is thus in the Life of a Man of Sense, a short Life is sufficient to manifest himself a Man of Honour and Virtue. 1756 P. BROWNE *Jamaica* 97, I have not yet seen the capsulæ of this plant, and place it here only from the habit, which seems to manifest it of this tribe.

†**2.** To expound, unfold, clear up (a matter).

1530 PALSGR. 632/2, I manyfest, I make a thyng clere or open...It is nat for all men to manyfest this mater. 1629 *Shertogenbosh* 5 They..manifested their Cause also vnto the Burgers of the Brabandish head Towns. 1669 GALE *Crt. Gentiles* I. III. x. 108 An oration, if it does not manifest the mater, loseth its designe.

3. a. To display (a quality, condition, feeling, etc.) by one's action or behaviour; to give evidence of possessing, reveal the presence of, evince.

1567 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xiv. 67 He Abrahamis Faith, but feir, profest; He Dauidis mercy manifest. 1664 POWER *Exp. Philos.* II. 103 A large Bladder, full blown, will weigh more then itself emptied, and manifest this inequality upon a ticklish pair of scales. 1782 COWPER *Friendship* 112 They manifest their whole life through The needle's deviations too, Their love is so precarious. 1801 *Med. Jrnl.* V. 436 No influence, during that time, was manifested by the medicine. 1814 CARY *Dante, Par.* IX. 18 The eyes Of Beatrice ..manifested forth Approval of my wish. 1825 LYTTON *Zicci* 8 Glyndon had also manifested a graceful faculty for verse. 1847 GROTE *Greece* II. xl. (1862) III. 434 The Medes ..manifested great personal bravery. 1853 BRIGHT *Sp., India* 3 June (1876) 2 When the noble Lord made that announcement, considerable dissatisfaction was manifested on both sides of the House.

b. *refl.* Of a thing: To reveal itself as existing or operative. Similarly in *pass.*

1808 *Med. Jrnl.* XIX. 137 No tendency, in general, to dysentery, manifested itself at this time. 1871 B. STEWART *Heat* (ed. 2) § 303 This heat..does not as a rule manifest itself by producing any increase of temperature. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. xx. 142 A strong polar action was manifested at many points of the surrounding rocks. 1876 BRISTOWE *Th. & Pract. Med.* (1878) 151 The first symptoms are said to have manifested themselves on the seventh or eighth day.

4. To record or enumerate in a ship's manifest.

1541 *Act* 33 *Hen. VIII*, c. 7 The double value of the saide mettall so declared and manifested. 1860 *Merc. Marine Mag.* VII. 120 Should a Captain manifest more packages than there are on board the ship,..he shall pay on each package so manifested. 1902 *Daily Chron.* 6 June 5/2 Every passenger is 'manifested' at the point of departure and various particulars about him set out.

5. *intr.* To make a 'manifestation' or public expression of opinion.

1898 *Daily News* 21 Feb. 5/6 In this astonishing country a gentleman of repute chooses his own time for going to prison, and is aided by the courtesy of the authorities in manifesting against the Court which condemned him. *Ibid.* 26 Sept. 4/4 Public opinion in France manifests entirely in the opposite direction. 1899 *Ibid.* 12 June 7/5 The object of the occupants being to manifest there for Loubet.

6. *Spiritualism.* Of a ghost or spirit (*refl.* and *intr.*): To reveal its presence, make an appearance.

1858 HAWTHORNE *Fr. & It. Note-Bks.* (1871) II. 171 Other séances were held in her bed-chamber, at which good and holy spirits manifested themselves. 1898 *Daily News* 29 Mar. 6/1 A certain 'Dr. Phinuit', who, however, for some time has not manifested at all. 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 22 Dec. 2/2 She locks the skeleton up in the cupboard, and immediately the ghost manifests with renewed vigour.

7. *Hist.* In Spanish law, to protect (a person) by a 'manifestation'. (See MANIFESTATION 4.)

1818 HALLAM *Mid. Ages* iv. (1868) 279 'To manifest any one', says the writer so often quoted [*viz.* Zurita], 'is to wrest him from the hands of the royal officers that he may not suffer any illegal violence. *Ibid.* 280 *note* [tr. Zurita], In such cases only the Justiciary of Aragon, when recourse is had to him, interposes by manifesting the person arrested.

Manifestable (mænife·stăb'l), *a.* Also 7 *erron.* manifestible. [f. MANIFEST *v.* + -ABLE.] Capable of being manifested.

a 1512 FABYAN *Chron.* VII. 682 The forsaid storyes been manyfestable. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* II. ii. 58 This is manifestible in long and thin plates of steel. 1713 NELSON *Life of Bull* 331 A difference in the divine nature of the Son from that of the Father, the one manifestable, the other not manifestable. 1809 COLERIDGE *Friend* (1866) 338 If a law of nature..be manifestable only in and to an intelligent spirit.

Manifestant (mænife·stănt). [ad. L. *manifestant-em*, pr. pple. of *manifestāre*: see -ANT.] One who manifests or demonstrates in public.

1880 *Daily News* 25 May 5/7 A manifestation with no manifestants, and but few spectators. 1894 *Daily Tel.* 28 June 8/2 The manifestants, however, were quickly dispersed by the police.

†**Manifesta·rian.** *Obs.* App. a religions sect.

1647 WARD *Simp. Cobler* 11 If there be roome in England for [among others] Arminians, Manifestarians [etc.]. 1689 R. WARE *Foxes & Firebrands* III. 198 These Sectaries..be as follows. 1. Independents..6. Manifestarians, or Arminians.

Manifestation (mænifestē·ʃən). [ad. late L. *manifestātiōn-em*, n. of action f. *manifestāre* to MANIFEST. Cf. F. *manifestation*, Sp. *manifestacion*, It. *manifestazione.*]

I. The action of manifesting or the fact of being manifested; the demonstration, revelation, or display of the existence, presence, qualities, or nature of some person or thing. † Also, exposition, explanation.

1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) V. 405 Tylle hit was made open by the manifestacion of a notable signe wheder parte awe to be folowede. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 21 b, Of this manifestacyon or metynge of our lorde, speketh saynt Johan. 1532 MORE *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 371/2, I..haue spoken of this matter somwhat ye more at large, for ye manifestacion of their great blindnesse. 1570–6 LAMBARDE *Peramb. Kent* (1826) 297 The matter..requireth more wordes for the manifestation thereof than I may now afforde. 1594 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* II. 201 The growing vp of mans body, and of the manifestation by little and little of the powers of the soule. 1685 BAXTER *Paraphr. N. T., Acts* i. 3 He shewed himself to them by unquestionable manifestation, at several times in the forty days space. 1864 BOWEN *Logic* ix. 288 What we mean by Personal Identity is sameness of substance under great differences of phenomenal manifestation. 1884 JENNINGS *Croker Papers* I. viii. 226 His friends dreaded that at his funeral there would be some manifestation of..ill-feeling.

b. An instance of this; hence, *concr.* or semi-*concr.* that by which something is manifested.

1785 PALEY *Mor. & Polit. Philos.* VI. x. (1786) 573 Certain credited manifestations of the divine will. 1794 SULLIVAN *View Nat.* II. 418 The universe is in the aggregate, a manifestation of the attributes of God. 1833 J. H. NEWMAN *Arians* II. ii. (1876) 153 The Jewish Scriptures introduce to our notice certain peculiar Attributes or Manifestations..of the Deity. 1838 DICKENS *Nich. Nick.* xv, Various odd manifestations of surprise and delight. 1858 GLADSTONE *Homer* II. iii. 180 Jupiter is..the supreme manifestation of Power and knowledge. 1861 STANLEY *East. Ch.* ix. (1869) 284 The third great historical manifestation of the Oriental Church is the formation of the Russian Church. 1867 MAX MÜLLER *Chips* (1880) I. Pref. 10 The first manifestation of thought is speech.

c. *Eccl.* Applied to the action of making known to another the state of one's conscience.

1657 *Penit. Conf.* vii. 134 Let that manifestation be granted to be confession. *c* 1826 DOYLE in W. J. Fitz-Patrick *Life* (1880) I. 523 A rule which requires that each of the sisters.. should manifest on a certain day in each month to the female Superior the state of their conscience, which..you know would be carried to such a length that the manifestation would include secret temptations [etc.]; in a word, that the manifestation was in fact the same as the subsequent sacramental confession to the priest.

2. A public act on the part of a government intended as a display of its power and determination to enforce some demand; also, a collective action (e.g. a procession, public meeting, wearing of badges, etc.) adopted by a political party, etc., for the sake of calling attention to its views.

1844 H. H. WILSON *Brit. India* III. 55 The principal manifestation of the British power was directed against Rangoon. 1875 HELPS *Soc. Press.* iii. 57 Instead of discountenancing such political manifestations.

3. In the language of spiritualists, a phenomenon or number of phenomena by which the presence of a spirit is supposed to be rendered perceptible.

1853 H. SPICER *Sights & Sounds* 88 In..1850..Cincinnati first became the scene of manifestations through recognised *media*. 1860 *All Year Round* No. 66. 373 Some of the believers were quite overpowered with this 'manifestation'.

4. *Hist.* In Spanish law, a process by which an accused person might be protected from the animus and precipitate action of judges and removed to a special prison out of their reach. Also, the prison provided for this purpose (= Sp. *carcel de los manifestados*).

1769 ROBERTSON *Chas. V* (1796) I. III. 140 He could remove the party accused to the Manifestation or prison of the State. 1818 HALLAM *Mid. Ages* iv. (1868) 280 *note*, This process [*sc.* jurisfirma], and that which is called manifestation have been the chief powers of the Justiciary [of Aragon], ever since the commencement of that magistracy.

Hence **Manifesta·tional** *a.*, of or pertaining to (a) manifestation; **Manifesta·tionist**, one who believes in manifestation.

1865 MASSON *Rec. Brit. Philos.* iv. 296 To these beliefs the manifestationists..have sought to add a doctrine. 1893 FAIRBAIRN *Christ in Mod. Theol.* II. II. I. iv. 398 No theory of manifestational forms and aspects can satisfy the conditions.

Manifestative (mænifeˈstătiv), *a.* [ad. scholastic L. *manifestātīv-us*, f. L. *manifestāre*: see MANIFEST *v.* and -ATIVE. Cf. F. *manifestatif.*] Having the function or quality of manifesting or showing forth.

1642 T. GOODWIN *Heart Christ in Heaven* 132 The destruction of which enemies will adde to the manifestative glory of his kingdome. 1654 JER. TAYLOR *Real Pres.* 167 The shape, the colour, the bignesse, the motion of a man, are manifestative, and declarative of a humane substance. 1738 JON. EDWARDS *Discourses Import. Subj.* 119 The Apostle James seems to use the word *justify* for *Manifestative Justification.* 1854 *Tait's Mag.* XXI. 663 Lotty's temperament was of the manifestative order. 1875 J. MORISON in *Expositor* I. 120 Our Lord is the manifestative eradiation of the Divine glory [Heb. i. 3].

Hence **Manifeˈstatively** *adv.*, in a manifestative manner; in respect of manifestation.

1652 STERRY *Eng. Deliv. North. Presb.* 4 That Distinction of Glorifying God essentially, and manifestatively. *c* 1670 O. HEYWOOD *Diaries*, etc. (1881) II. 329 All the attributes of God are manifestatively glorifyed in this work. 1726 E. ERSKINE *Serm.* Wks. 1871 I. 274 This is not to be understood of God essentially but manifestatively. 1855 *Tait's Mag.* XXII. 422 Many women do love as eagerly, as manifestatively, as outspokenly, as pursuingly—as Caroline Helstone is said to have done.

†**Manifestator.** *Obs.* [a. late L. *manifestātor*, agent-n. f. *manifestāre*.] = MANIFESTER.

1609 BP. W. BARLOW *Answ. Nameless Cath.* 23 We referre him againe to..the True Manifestator of their Æquiuocation.

Manifested (mæˈnifestèd), *ppl. a.* [f. MANIFEST *v.* + -ED [1].] Made manifest.

1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* IV. ii. 169 To make you vnderstand this in a manifested effect, I craue but foure daies respit. *a* 1653 GOUGE *Comm. Heb.* xi. 35 It is against Gods Truth, against Gods manifested will. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 12 June 8/2 The vocal contributions of Miss M. B..deserved the manifested appreciation of the audience.

Hence **Maˈnifestedness** *rare*, the state of having been manifested. In mod. Dicts.

Manifester (mæˈnifestəɹ). [f. MANIFEST *v.* + -ER [1].] One who or that which manifests.

1612 WOODALL *Surg. Mate* Wks. (1653) 35 The Author or manifester of this Linament was [etc.]. 1613 MIDDLETON *Triumphs Truth* Wks. (Bullen) VII. 240 Zeal..as he is the manifester of Truth, he is likewise the chastiser of Ignorance. 1660 tr. *Paracelsus' Archidoxis* II. 83 The one is alwaies the sign and manifester of the other. 1862 F. HALL *Hindu Philos. Syst.* 91 Will and other like qualities are their own manifesters. 1863 J. G. MURPHY *Comm. Gen.* xv. 1, I, Jehovah.. the Manifester of myself to man.

†**Manifesteress.** *Obs. rare*−[1]. [f. MANIFESTER + -ESS.] A female manifester.

1662 SPARROW tr. *Behme's Rem. Wks., Apol. conc. Perfection* 63 A Manifesteresse of the Power.

Manifesting (mæˈnifestiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [-ING [1].] The action of the vb. MANIFEST.

1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turks* (1638) 132 It shall not be amisse ..for the more manifesting of that..which..followeth a little farther to fetch his race. 1685 BAXTER *Paraphr. N. T., Mark* iv. 22 Light is for the manifesting of all things.

Maˈnifesting, *ppl. a.* [-ING [2].] That manifests.

1888 GLADSTONE in *19th Cent.* May 787 Those who .. desire to retain what was manifested, but to thrust aside the manifesting Person. 1902 FAIRBAIRN *Philos. Chr. Relig.* II. I. i. 326 This incarnate Word, this manifested and manifesting God, the evangelist identified with Jesus.

Manifestive (mæˈnifestiv), *a. rare.* [f. MANIFEST *v.* + -IVE.] = MANIFESTATIVE.

1846 SIR W. HAMILTON *Reid's Wks.* 771 *note*, On sense, experience, induction, it [this knowledge] is dependent, as on its exciting,..manifestive,..occasional cause. 1867 BAILEY *Univ. Hymn* 7 Hidden in Himself, self manifestive cause.

Manifestly (mæˈnifestli), *adv.* [f. MANIFEST *a.* + -LY [2].] **a.** In a manifest manner. (Now *rare.*)

b. Used to qualify a statement: As is manifest, evidently, unmistakably.

1477 EARL RIVERS (Caxton) *Dictes* 11 By the whiche he hath manyfestely shewed vnto them the secretis of the lawe. 1484 CAXTON *Fables of Poge* v, The lymmes..were shewed manyfestly. 1509-10 *Act 1 Hen. VIII*, c. 6 *Preamble*, It is manefestely knowen that..forged informacions have ben pursued. 1612 BACON *Ess., Great Place* (Arb.) 288 Whosoeuer..changeth manifestly, without manifest cause, giueth suspition of corruption. 1620 T. GRANGER *Div. Logike* 308 Sometimes the Proposition it selfe of an Oration, or Epistle is not manifestly expressed, but couertly insinuated. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 43 P 3 The Design and Transactions of too many Clubs are trifling, and manifestly of no Consequence to the Nation. 1759 ROBERTSON *Hist. Scot.* I. Wks. 1813 I. 76 The treaty was still so manifestly of advantage to England. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. xxii. 152 Fear was manifestly getting the better of him. 1878 LECKY *Eng. in 18th C.* I. iii. 422 Their cause was manifestly lost.

Manifestness (mæˈnifestnés). [-NESS.] The quality or condition of being manifest.

1589 RIDER *Bibl. Schol.*, Manifestnesse, *evidentia.* 1727 BAILEY vol. II, *Manifestness*, plainness, &c. to be seen, &c. 1877 LEGGE *Confucius* 293 Such is the manifestness of what is minute!

Manifesto (mænifeˈsto), *sb.* [a. It. *manifesto*: see MANIFEST *sb.*]

†**1.** A proof, a piece of evidence. *Obs.*

1644 BULWER *Chirol. & Chiron.* (title-p.), Consisting of the Naturall Expressions, digested by Art in the Hand,..by Historicall Manifesto's, exemplified out of the Authentique Registers of Common Life. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* III. xvii. 148 Succeeding yeares produced the manifesto or evidence of their virilities. 1674 STAVELEY *Rom. Horseleach* (1769) Ep. Ded., Matters of fact drawn from the most authentic registers and manifestos of time. 1683 E. HOOKER *Pref. Pordage's Mystic Div.* 99 For here Hee maketh and giveth a Diaphanous Manifesto and perspicuous Demonstration. 1686 GOAD *Celest. Bodies* II. xii. 331, I reckon that discourse is so plain, it carryeth its Manifesto with it.

2. A public declaration or proclamation, usually issued by or with the sanction of a sovereign prince or state, or by an individual or body of individuals whose proceedings are of public importance, for the purpose of making known past actions, and explaining the reasons or motives for actions announced as forthcoming.

1647 WARD *Simp. Cobler* 50 It were good if States would let People know so much before hand, by some safe woven *manifesto.* 1651 tr. *Life Father Sarpi* 102 To the citation he made answer by a Manifesto. 1670 COTTON *Espernon* I. I. 38 At the same time a Manifesto was publish'd by the Cardinal of Bourbon. 1775 E. ALLEN in Sparks *Corr. Amer. Rev.* (1853) I. 463, I..delivered the General's written manifesto to the Chiefs. 1816 SINGER *Hist. Cards* 63 Manifestoes issued by several of the emperors. 1839 *Blackw. Mag.* XLV. 217 The manifestoes of modern agrarianism. 1855 MILMAN *Lat. Chr.* VII. ii. (1864) IV. 85 He addressed a spiritual manifesto to all Christendom. 1897 MCCARTHY *Own Times fr.* 1880 x. 204 Mr. Gladstone issued a manifesto in the form of an address to the electors of Midlothian.

3. *Comb.*, as *manifesto-like* adj.

1819 *Metropolis* I. 13 His manifesto-like annunciation, that he should marry a very rich heiress.

Manifesto (mænifeˈsto), *v. rare.* [f. prec.] *intr.* To issue a manifesto or manifestos.

1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1811) VIII. 261, I am to be manifestoed against, though no prince. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* II. VI. iii, Serene Highnesses who sit there protocolling, and manifestoing, and consoling mankind.

Hence **Manifeˈstoing** *vbl. sb.*

1858 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* III. xiv. (1872) I. 230 Treaties enough, and conferences, and pleadings, manifestoings. *Ibid.* xvi. 334 George Wilhelm followed his old scheme, peace at any price..and except complaining, petitioning, and manifestoing, studiously did nothing.

Manifold (mæˈnifōld), *a., adv.*, and *sb.* Now *literary.* Forms: α. 1 maniȝ-, moniȝ-, mæniȝ-, meniȝf(e)ald, 1–2 mænifeald, 2 manifald, 2–3 -feald, 2–6 monifald, (4 monyfaulde), 4–5 many-, monyfald(e, (6 many-, mony-, moniefauld). β. 1 meni(ȝ)fæld, -feld, 3–4 manifeld. γ. (2 monifold, 3 maniuold, maniȝefold), 3–7, 9 manyfold, (4 manye-), 4–6 manyfolde (5 maniefoold, mony-, manye-, 6 manniefolde), 6–7 manifolde, (7 manyfould), 3– manifold. [Common Teut.: OE. *manigfeald* = OFris. *manichfald*, OS. *managfald* (MLG. *mannichvolt*, MDu. *menichvout*), OHG. *manacfalt* (MHG. *manecvalt*, mod.G. *mannigfalt*), ON. *margfaldr* (OSw. *marghfalder*, *mangfalder*, Sw. *mångfald*), Goth. *managfalþs*: see MANY *a.* and -FOLD. A form with adj. suffix (= -Y) occurs as MLG. *mannichvoldech*, MDu. *menichvoudich* (Du. *menigvuldig*), G. *mannichfaltig*, Sw. *mångfaldig*, Da. *mangfoldich.*]

A. *adj.*

1. Varied or diverse in appearance, form, or character; having various forms, features, relations, applications, etc.; †complex.

In OE. used *Gram.* for 'plural' (ÆLFRIC *Gram.* viii).

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* I. 448 Þes pistol is swiðe meniȝfeald us to ȝereccenne. *c* 1050 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 448/21 *Multimodam*, maniȝfealdne. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 145 Alle we beoð in monifald wawe ine þisse wreche liue. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 176 Vor þer beoð uttre & inre [uondunges]; & eiðer is moniuold. *a* 1240 *Ureisun* in *Cott. Hom.* 193 Mid ham is muruhðe moniuold wið-ute teone and treie. 1382 WYCLIF 1 *Pet.* iv. 10 As goode dispenderes of the manyfolde grace of God. 1430 *Rolls of Parl.* IV. 377/2 The horribilite of his so manyfolde Treson. 1535 COVERDALE *Wisd.* vii. 22 In hir is ye sprete of vnderstandinge, which is holy, manifolde, one onely, sotyll. 1570 DEE *Math. Pref.* 17 Chorographie..is in practise manifolde, and in vse very ample. 1603 DANIEL *Panegyr. to King*, etc. *To Lady Margaret* 25 He sees the face of Right t' appeare as manyfold As are the passions of vncertaine man. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* x. 16 Which they not obeying, Incurr'd..the penaltie, And manifold in sin, deserv'd to fall. 1784 COWPER *Task* v. 769 This changeful life, So manifold in cares, whose every day Brings its own evil with it. 1832 LEWIS *Use & Ab. Pol. Terms* Introd. 12 The truth is one, error is manifold. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* iv. I. 497 He hated the Puritan sects with a manifold hatred, theological and political, hereditary and personal. 1865 W. G. PALGRAVE *Arabia* I. 424 Coffee though one in name is manifold in fact. 1865 SWINBURNE *Poems & Ballads, Hesperia* 21 Profound and manifold flower.

b. Qualifying a personal designation: That is such in many ways or in many relations; entitled to the name on many grounds. Also (*nonce-uses*) of persons: Many-minded, variable; having many diverse capacities.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 187 Twifold oðer manifold is þe man þe nis stedefast ne on dade ne on speche ne on þonke. 1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* IV. iii. 265 The manifold Linguist, and the army-potent souldier. 1605 — *Lear* V. iii. 114 If any man of qualitie..will maintaine vpon Edmund..that he is a manifold Traitor. 1694 CONGREVE *Double Dealer* V. xxiv, Secure that manifold villain. 1842 MOZLEY in *Brit. Critic* XXXI. 173 Like a man who is at once clear-headed and manifold, if we may be allowed the word, in his ideas. 1885 R. BRIDGES *Nero* II. iii, To sit upon their rare, successive thrones, A manifold Augusta!

c. In technical and commercial use.

1851 *Offic. Catal. Gt. Exhib.* II. 597 A manifold bell-pull constructed on an entirely new plan, by which one pull is made to ring bells in any number of rooms. 1857 TREGELLES tr. *Gesenius' Heb. Lex.* s. v. מָנוֹד, *Ambubaja* (i.e. *tibicina* Hor.)..a double or manifold pipe, an instrument composed of many pipes. 1879 STAINER *Music of Bible* 95 Two classes of 'manifold-pipes' can exist, the one..a collection of *flauti traversi*, the other..of *flûtes à bec.* 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 25 May 4/2 A model military balloon of the regulation-varnished manifold goldbeater's-skin variety.

2. Qualifying a plural sb. (†or collective noun): Numerous and varied; of many kinds or varieties. †Formerly simply: Numerous, many.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gen.* xiii. 6 Heora æhta wæron menigfælde. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 11 Muchel is us þenne neod..swiðe adreden ure monifolde sunne. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2502 And his kin wexen manige-fold. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 293/179 Þat folk cam mani-folde A-boute Theofle in eche side. ?*a* 1390 CHAUCER *Proverbes* i, What shul thise clothes manyfold, Lo! this hote somers day? *a* 1400 *Cursor M.* 27887 (Cott. Galba) Dronkinhede..And mase meschefes ful many falde. 1475 *Bk. Noblesse* (Roxb.) 41 Considering so many folde tymes we haue ben deceived. 1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* ciii. 24 O Lorde, how manifolde are thy workes. 1548-9 (Mar.) *Bk. Com. Prayer* Collect 4th Sund. Easter, The sondery and manifold chaunges of the worlde. 1586 A. DAY *Eng. Secretary* I. (1625) 114 You will runne into such vntimely sorrowes as with manifold teares will hardly be washed. 1588 A. KING tr. *Canisius' Catech.* 86 b, Quhat fruict haue we of yis sacrament being deulie receauit? Verray gryt and monifald. 1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* V. lxviii. § 6 Her manifolde varieties in rites and Ceremonies of Religion. 1605 in 10*th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 372 The manyfould downefalles into synne. 1736 BUTLER *Anal.* I. iii. Wks. 1874 I. 47 The manifold appearances of design and of final causes, in the constitution of the world. 1784 COWPER *Task* III. 624 So manifold, all pleasing in their kind, All healthful, are the employs of rural life. 1844 STANLEY *Arnold* (1858) I. Pref. 1 The manifold kindnesses with which they have assisted me. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* vi. II. 146 Clarendon was overwhelmed by manifold vexations. 1880 GEIKIE *Phys. Geog.* ii. x. 67 It is from this circulation of water that all the manifold phenomena of clouds, rain, snow, rivers, glaciers, and lakes arise.

†**3.** *Math.* = MULTIPLE. *Manifold to* = a multiple of. *Obs.*

1557 RECORDE *Whetst.* B iv b, There is one kinde of proportion, that is named *multiplex*, or manyfolde. 1660 BARROW *Euclid* VII. Post. 1 That numbers equal or manifold to any number may be taken at pleasure.

¶**4.** *How manifold?* (= *how many* + -FOLD): Of how many kinds? *Obs. rare*−[1].

1594 BLUNDEVIL *Exerc.* III. I. viii. (1636) 287 How manifold is the moving of this heaven? The moving of this heaven ..is threefold.

B. *adv.*

†**1.** In many ways, modes, degrees, etc.; in first quot. = in many pieces. *Obs.*

13.. *Guy Warw.* (A.) 4024 Alle þai hadde to-broken his scheld, & his brini to-rent manifeld. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 3250 Þair payn es turned manyfalde, Now er þai in hete, and now in calde. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xl. (*Ninian*) 413 God þai lowit mony-fald for þis merwale. *c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 269 Þou muste make a plate of iren..þat mote be fooldid manie foold in þe forseid ligature. *c* 1450 LONELICH *Grail* xlii. 4 How that Nasciens þis writ gan beholde, and there-Onne loked ful Many folde. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S. T. S.) 122 Sinnand rycht mony fald. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. xii. 12 Then when his daughter deare he does behold, Her dearely doth imbrace, and kisseth manifold. 1593 *Tell-Troth's N. Y. Gift* (1876) 44 Thus shall loues followers be thrise happy, and thus Robin goodfellowes well-willers, in imitating his care, bee manifolde blessed.

†**b.** In the proportion of many to one. [The etymological sense.] *Obs.*

1611 BIBLE *Luke* xviii. 30 Who shall not receiue manifold more in this present time.

C. *absol.* and *sb.*[1]

†**1.** Phr. *By* (rarely *on*) *manifold*: many times over; in the proportion of many to one. *Obs.*

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 6900 He byeþ þyn almes on manyfolde. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 186 Wherof the man..Stant more worth..Than he stod erst be manyfold. *c* 1400 *Ywaine & Gaw.* 607 More Curtaysi Fand he..mar conforth, by mony falde, Than Colgrevance had him of talde. 1415 HOCCLEVE *To Sir J. Oldcastle* 58 Thoffense..Was nat so greet as thyn by many fold. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 191 The theif Judas did greit trespas, That Christ for siluer sauld: Bot Preistis wil tak, and his price mak, For les be mony fauld. 1596 RALEIGH *Discov. Guiana* A iv, The countrey hath more quantity of Gold by manifolde, then the best partes of the Indies.

2. That which is manifold.

a. *spec.* In the Kantian philosophy, the sum of the particulars furnished by sense before they have been unified by the synthesis of the understanding.

This renders G. *mannigfaltiges, mannigfaltigkeit.* Some earlier English translations of Kant's works have MULTIFARIOUS, MULTIPLE, MULTIPLEX.

1855 MEIKLEJOHN tr. *Kant's Crit. Pure Reason* 63 By means of the synthetical unity of the manifold in intuition. 1877 E. CAIRD *Philos. Kant* II. i. 199 The activity of the mind must bring with it certain principles of relation, under which the manifold of sense must be brought.

b. *gen.*

1856 R. A. VAUGHAN *Mystics* (1860) I. 65 His aim should rather be..instead of going out into the Manifold, to forsake it for the One. 1874 SAYCE *Compar. Philol.* vi. 243 Out of the manifold comes the simple, out of the multitu-

dinous the single. 1889 Skrine *Mem. E. Thring* 256 The chosen abstraction which gathers up into a focus the manifold of human duty, experience, and hope. 1902 *Q. Rev.* Oct. 496 The picturesque manifold of life.

3. *Math.* = Manifoldness 2.

1890 in *Century Dict.* 1902 B. A. W. Russell in *Encycl. Brit.* XXVIII. 666/1 Riemann's work contains two fundamental conceptions, that of a manifold, and that of the measure of curvature of a continuous manifold possessed of what he calls flatness in the smallest parts...Conceptions of magnitude, he explains, are only possible where we have a general conception capable of determination in various ways. The manifold consists of all these various determinations, each of which is an element of the manifold. 1902 G. B. Mathews *ibid.* XXXI. 281/2 A manifold may consist of a single element.

4. A copy made by a manifold-writer.

1884 in *Cassell's Encycl. Dict.*

5. *Mech.* (See quot.)

1891 Patterson *Naut. Dict.* 332 *Manifold*, a pipe or chamber to which are connected several branch suction pipes with their valves and one or more main suctions to pump.

D. *Comb.*: **manifold letter-book** (see quot. 1869); **manifold-paper**, carbonized paper used in making several copies of a writing at one time; **manifold writer**, an apparatus fitted with carbonized paper for making copies of a writing; so **manifold writing.**

1808 R. Wedgwood in *Abridg. Specif. Patents, Writ. Instr.* (1869) 14 A..pen and stylographic manifold writer. 1851 in *Illustr. Lond. News* 5 Aug. (1854) 119/1 (Occupations of People) Manifold-paper-maker. 1862 W. Clark in *Abr. Specif. Patents, Writ. Instr.* (1869) 319 An improved apparatus for manifold writing. 1869 *Ibid.* 275 Improvement in arranging manifold letter books. The patentee arranges leaves of copying and common writing paper alternately, and binds them together. 1872 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* Dec. 12/1 The principle of the manifold writer, the great friend of newspaper reporters. 1876 Preece & Sivewright *Telegraphy* 289 The office copy is in pencil, the public copy in manifold writing.

Ma·nifold, *sb.*[2] *dial.* Also **manifolds**: for Forms see E. D. D. [f. Many *a.* + Fold *sb.*[3] Cf. G. *mannigfalt.*] The intestines or bowels; *spec.* the manyplies or third stomach of a ruminant.

c 1280 Monifauldes (see Cuitterling 1). 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* III. i. 4 The third stomach..which is called the manyfold, from the number of its leaves. 1855 Robinson *Whitby Gloss., Moneyfawd*, ..the countryman's term for a cow's stomach. 1864 Webster, *Manifolds*, the third stomach of a ruminant animal. (*Local. U. S.*) 1869 *Lonsdale Gloss., Manifolds*, the intestines. 1889 *N. W. Linc. Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Manifold*, the stomach; the bowels of man and the lower animals.

Manifold (mæ·nifōuld), *v.* Also 3 **manifolden**, 4 *north.* **many-**, **manifald.** [OE. *manigfealdian* (Sweet), *mænigfealdian* (cf. *gemanig-, gemænig-, gemenigfealdian, -fieldan*) = OHG. *managfaltôn, manacfaltan* (MHG. *manacvalten*, mod.G. *mannichfalten*), f. the adj.: see Manifold *a.* The word became obs. in ME., and has recently been formed afresh from the adj.] *trans.* To make manifold, multiply. *rare* exc. as in b.

c 1000 in Napier *O. E. Glosses* 5215 *Amplificare*, mænifeal[dian]. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 402 He wule..moniuolden in ou his deorewurðe grace. *a* 1300 *E. E. Psalter* xxxvii. 20 And mani-falded ere þai [L. *multiplicati sunt*] for-þi Whilk hated me wickeli. *a* 1340 Hampole *Psalter* xv. 3 Many faldid ere thaire seknesis. 1767 [see *manifolded* below]. 1889 *Chicago Advance* 19 Sept., Manifolding its appliances, spiritual, educational, and social. 1903 Agnes M. Clerke *Probl. Astrophysics* 45 The solitary success of 1896 was manifolded a year and a half later.

b. *spec.* To multiply impressions or copies of, as by a manifold-writer. Also *absol.*

1865 [see *manifolded* below]. 1879 tr. *Busch's Bismarck* II. 138 Afterwards I write, on the Chief's instructions, two articles, to be manifolded [orig. *die sich vervielfältigen sollen*]. 1879 *Print. Trades Jrnl.* No. 28. 25 Paper of velvet-like quality, impregnated so as to manifold with extreme ease. 1881 *Times* 27 July 10 The Home Secretary received such precise and timely information that he was enabled to have it manifolded. 1902 Eliz. L. Banks *Newspaper Girl* 122, I filled three sheets of paper with it; then I got carbon and manifolded it.

Hence **Ma·nifolded** *ppl.a.*, **Ma·nifolding** *vbl. sb.*

1767 S. Paterson *Another Trav.* II. 206 Has manifolded homebred mischief marred thy rest? 1865 Knight *Passages Work. Life* III. viii. 162 The untiring Reuter appears.. with manifolded copies of his telegram. 1892 *Daily News* 20 June 11/4 Reporter wanted...Used to manifolding. 1901 *Blackw. Mag.* June 802/1 This manifolding process would augment in something like geometrical progression.

Manifoldly (mæ·nifōuldli), *adv.* Now only *literary.* [OE. *manigfealdlice*, f. *manigfealt* Manifold: see -ly [2].] In manifold ways; †*occas.* in the proportion of many to one.

c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* lxii. 2 *Multipliciter*, monigfaldlice. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* John x. 10 *Abundantius*, monigfal[d]lice. *c* 1450 *Mirour Saluacioun* 3318 Mankynde..cryed to godde manyfaldly. 1549 Coverdale, etc. *Erasm. Par.* 1 *Tim.* 10 The deuilles snares (which he layeth manyfoldely). 1599 Sandys *Europæ Spec.* (1632) 177 The proportion..is manifoldly inferiour, not one to twenty. 1605 Bacon *Adv. Learn.* II. ii. § 13 So also is there another kind of history manifoldly mixed, and that is history of cosmography. 1669 Worlidge *Syst. Agric.* (1681) 38 Good Culture doth infinitely meliorate the Land,..and manifoldly repay the expence and labour bestowed thereon. 1825 Coleridge *Aids Refl.* 83 The manifoldly intelligent ant tribes. 1855 Pusey *Doctr. Real Presence* Note A. 27 These are divided manifoldly, in that some understand by conversion identity of place.. others..an order of succession. 1873 A. W. Ward tr. *Curtius' Hist. Greece* I. I. i. 8 The country is so manifoldly broken up, that it becomes a succession of peninsulas.

Manifoldness (mæ·nifōuldnés). [OE. *manigfealdnis*, f. *manigfeald* Manifold: see -ness.]

1. The quality or condition of being manifold; varied character; multiplicity.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xii. 34 *Ex abundantia cordis*, from monigfaldnisse hearta. *c* 1050 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 469/14 *Perplexitans* [read *perplexitas*], manifealdnes. 1611 Cotgr., *Multicuple*, a manifoldnesse, great multiplication. *a* 1631 Donne *Serm.* lxiii. 632 In the manifoldnesse, and in the weightinesse, and in the everlastingnesse thereof [*sc.* of Fire and Wormes]. 1809–10 Coleridge *Friend* (ed. 3) III. 145 The inordinate number and manifoldness of facts and phænomena. 1877 E. Caird *Philos. Kant* II. viii. 347 The consciousness of self..as one in all the manifoldness and difference of its perceptions. 1894 T. H. Ward *Eng. Poets, Clough* IV. 590 Clough's poetry, marked as so much of it is by indecision and manifoldness of view.

2. *Math.* (See quots.) Cf. Manifold C. 3.

(A transl. of Riemann's *mannigfaltigkeit.*)

1873 Clifford tr. *Riemann's Basces of Geom.* in *Nature* VIII. 14–17. 1876 *Nature* (1877) XV. 515/1 We see..that ..the conception of space is a particular variety of a wider and more general conception. This wider conception, of which time and space are particular varieties, it has been proposed to denote by the term *manifoldness.* 1883 Chrystal in *Encycl. Brit.* XV. 629 One word has recently come into use which is very convenient, inasmuch as it draws attention..to the prime object of mathematical contemplation, viz. 'manifoldness'...The assemblage of points on a surface is a twofold manifoldness; the assemblage of points in tridimensional space is a threefold manifoldness; the values of a continuous function of *n* arguments are *n*-fold manifoldness.

Ma·nifoldwise, *adv. Obs.* or *arch.* [See -wise.] In various ways.

[*c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 207 He hauеð efte agilt .. and a manifeld wise.] *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 325/1 Manyfolde wyse, *multipharie, multipliciter.* 1545 Raynold *Byrth Mankynde* 18 [The] branches and armes..manifold wise dispersid, spred, and commyxt. *Ibid.* 21 Small..vaynes, renoluing them self in & out a thousand fold and manifoldwise intricat together.

Maniform (mæ·nifōm), *a.*[1] [ad. mod.L. *maniform-is*, f. L. *manus* hand: see -form.] Having the form of a hand; hand-shaped; *Ent.* chelate.

1826 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* IV. 310 Maniform. When they [palpi] are chelate or furnished with a finger and thumb. 1856 in Mayne *Expos. Lex.*, and in mod. Dicts.

Maniform (mæ·nifōm), *a.*[2] [Badly f. *mani-* (= Many *a.*, as in Manifold) + -form.] Multiform.

1835 *New Monthly Mag.* XLIII. 298 Their avenues of enjoyment are their maniform sympathies. 1863 Reade *Hard Cash* III. 117 He favoured Julia and Edward with a full account of the maniform enormities he had detected them in.

Manify (mæ·nifəi), *v. rare.* [f. Man *sb.*[1] + -ify.] *trans.* To make man-like.

1799 Anna Seward *Lett.* (1811) V. 220, I have always seen genius manified, and imagination, or fancy, womanized. 1894 *Forum* (N. Y.) Sept. 101 Most women in America seem to be—what shall I call it?—manified.

†**Maniglion.** *Obs.* [ad. It. *maniglione*, augmentative of *maniglio, maniglia* bracelet. Cf. Manilla [1].] = Dolphin 6 a.

1704 Harris *Lex. Techn.* s.v. *Ordnance.*

Manij, obs. f. Many. **Manihot,** var. Manioc.

Manikin (mæ·nikin). Forms: 6 **manneken**, 8 **manekin, manequine**, 9 **mannakin, man(n)equin**, 7– **manakin, man(n)ikin.** [a. Du. *manneken*, dim. of *man* Man *sb.*[1]: see -kin. App. first taken from Du. in sense 2 b; some of the forms represent the Fr. spelling *mannequin.*]

1. A little man (often *contemptuous*); a dwarf, pygmy. Also *fig.*

1601 Shaks. *Twel. N.* III. ii. 57 This is a deere Manakin to you Sir Toby. 1609 B. Jonson *Sil. Wom.* I. iii, O, that's a precious Manakin! 1653 *Dissert. de Pace* iv. 18 Shall we little manikins prescribe a law to his most free arbitrement? *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Mannikin*, a Dwarf. 1762 Beattie *Pigm. & Cranes* 97 Manikins with haughty step advance. 1840 W. H. Ainsworth *Tower Lond.* II. xxxv, 'What is it?' replied the good-humoured giant, yawning as if he would have swallowed the teazing mannikin. 1843 Lytton *Last Bar.* III. viii, Gloucester, the lynx-eyed mannikin, is there. 1894 *Q. Rev.* Jan. 213 Men become undignified and little-minded, local manikins.

2. †a. *gen.* A little figure of a man. *Obs.*

1601 Holland *Pliny* II. 484 Prettie images or mannikins resembling cookes, which he termed Magiriscia. 1629 in *Archæologia* XLVIII. 212 One gilt shipp and cover with a manikin on the topp.

b. An artist's lay figure.

1570 Dee *Math. Pref.* 32 Thus, of a Maaneken (as the Dutch painters terme it) in the same Symmetrie, may a Giant be made. 1730–6 Bailey (folio), *Manequine* (with Painters, &c.), a little statue or model usually made of wax or wood, the junctures whereof are so contrived, that it may be put into any attitude at pleasure. 1762–71 H. Walpole *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1786) V. 38 The use of the manekin or layman for disposing draperies. 1850 Leitch tr. *C. O. Müller's Anc. Art* § 69 (ed. 2) 38 These wooden figures .. had decidedly more resemblance to puppets (manequins) than to works of cultivated plastic art. 1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade, Manequin*, an artist's model of wood or wax. 1900 Dr. Dillon in *Gd. Words* July 451/2 'He [the Tsar] is as wiry as a mannequin', said an officer to me.

c. A model of the human body used for exhibiting the anatomical structure or for demonstrating surgical operations.

1831 E. Balowin *Anu. Yale Coll.* 263 The dry preparations, and particularly an apparatus called a manikin, are used for the demonstrations. This manikin is a very perfect and ingenious piece of mechanism, constructed in Paris, representing a male figure of the full size. 1895 *Arnold & Sons' Catal. Surg. Instr.* 523 Obstetric Manikin including a natural female pelvis, with leather foetus and placenta.

3. (Usually in the form **manakin.**) One of the small and usually gaily-coloured birds of the passerine family *Pipridæ*, inhabiting the tropical region of America.

Hence, or from the Du. source, the mod.L. *Manacus* designating one genus of this family.

Crested, Golden, Peruvian, Rock Manakin, species of the genus *Rupicola. Spotted Manakin*, the Australian *Pardalotus punctatus* or diamond-bird.

1743 Edwards *Nat. Hist. Birds* I. 21 The Golden-headed Black Tit-mouse. .. I have seen Dutch Drawings of these Birds, entitled, Manakins, which is a name the Hollanders give to some European Birds also. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) V. 354 The beauty of the little tribe of Manikin birds. 1781 Pennant *Genera of Birds* 64 Crested Manakin..Golden-headed Manakin. 1782 Latham *Gen. Syn. Birds* II. II. 519 Peruvian Manakin. *Ibid.* 534 Tuneful Manakin. 1825 Waterton *Wand. S. Amer.* (1882) 26 When the fruit of the fig is ripe the manikin is on the tree from morn till eve. 1832 Macgillivray tr. *Humboldt's Trav.* xix. 282 The rocks, among which the Golden Manakin (*Pipra rupicola*), one of the most beautiful birds of the tropics, builds its nest. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVIII. 178/2 The spotted manakins of New Holland. 1855 Kingsley *Westw. Ho!* xxiii, The rock manakin, with its saffron plumage. 1896 Newton *Dict. Birds* 892 (Article *Song*), The whip-cracking of the Manakin.

4. *attrib.* or as *adj.* Dwarf, pygmy, diminutive, undersized; puny.

1840 Hood *Kilmansegg, Birth* i, One little manikin thing Survives to wear many a wrinkle. 1844 Disraeli *Coningsby* II. i, The manikin grasp of the English ministry. 1863 W. C. Baldwin *Afr. Hunting* 380, I have shot..a splendid old manikin ostrich. *Ibid.* 410, I shot a very fine old manikin lion. 1884 D. G. Mitchell *Wet days & Lesser P., Theocritus* 22 Boors indeed; but they are live boors, and not manikin shepherds. 1898 J. Hollingshead *Gaiety Chron.* i. 2 Unlike Shakespeare, I have preserved the result of my manikin efforts.

Manikin, -kinnes, var. Manykin, -kins. *Obs.*

Manil(l, manilio: see next and Manille.

Manilla [1] (mănĭ·lă). Forms: *α.* 6 **manillio**, 6–7 **-ellio**, 7 **-ilio, -illia**, 6– **manilla.** *β.* 6 **manil, -el**, 8 **me-, manille.** [Sp., = Pg. *manilha*, It. *maniglia*; according to some a dim. of L. *manus* hand; others refer it to L. *monīlia*, pl. of *monile* collar, necklace.] A ring of metal worn on the arm or wrist by some African tribes and used as a medium of exchange.

1556 W. Towkson in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1589) 101 We carried certain basons, manels, etc...We solde them both basons and manellios. 1558 *Ibid.* 130 Manils of brasse and some of lead. 1598 W. Phillip tr. *Linschoten* I. xlvi. 86/1 The women weare manillas, or arme bracelets therof, ten or twelue about each arme. 1625 Purchas *Pilgrims* I. IV. 418 About her wrists, tenne or twelue Manillias of Silver. 1665 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* (1677) 23 Of no small esteem are Bracelets, Copper-chains, or Manellios. 1711 Lockyer *Acc. Trade India* 276 A Manilla is a solid Piece of Gold, of two or three Ounces Weight, worn in a Ring round the Wrist. 1731 Bailey vol. II, *Manille, Menille*, (in Africa) one of the principal commodities carried to those coasts by the Europeans to traffick with the Negroes in exchange for slaves. 1803 T. Winterbottom *Sierra Leone* I. vi. 100 Upon their arms they [the native women about Sierra Leone] wear large silver rings or bracelets, called manillas. 1851 D. Wilson *Archæol. Scott.* 309 Manillas..are regularly manufactured at Birmingham for the African traders.

Manilla [2], **Manila** (mănĭ·lă). [Native name: the form *Manila* is correct, but rare exc. in geographical use.]

1. The name of the capital of the Philippine Islands, used attrib. in the specific names of products of those islands, as *Manilla copal, grass, tobacco, wood*; also **Manilla man**, a native of the Philippines.

1697 Dampier *Voy.* I. 304 The Frier sent us aboard..50*l.* of Manila Tobacco. 1745 P. Thomas *Jrnl. Anson's Voy.* 158 The celebrated Manila Wood, with which they build their Apaculpa Ships. 1849 *Blackw. Mag.* May 606 One was a fine, stout, middle-aged man, with immense whiskers and a cap of Manilla grass, a large blue jacket [etc.]. 1886 *Spectator* 6 Feb. 166/2 The two 'coolies' were palpably 'Manilla men', and not coolies,—that is, were half-caste sailors from Manilla.

2. (In full *Manilla hemp.*) A fibrous material, obtained from the leaves of *Musa textilis* (see Abaca), from which are made ropes, matting, textile fabrics, paper, etc. Hence *Manilla cable, hat, paper, rope*, etc.

1834 G. Bennett *Wand. N. S. Wales* I. xxi. 427 Manilla mat-bags. 1855 Royle *Fibrous Plants India* 48 He had some made into rope, which very much resembled Manilla rope. *Ibid.* 65 Manilla Hemp. 1862 *Catal. Internat. Exhib.* II. xix. 17 Manilla and coir mattings. *Ibid.* 18 Manilla and other cordage. 1870 Yeats *Nat. Hist. Comm.* 203 Manilla Hemp..produces a woody fibre..; the elegant Manilla hats are manufactured from it. 1873 J. Richards *Wood-working Factories* 141 A layer of plain manilla paper. 1893 *Westm. Gaz.* 20 July 4/2 Her captain had her big 15in. manila cable paid out to the Olympia. 1897 *Daily News* 24 May 2/3 Tows, hemps, and flaxes meet with a ready market..the finest Manillas making..£16 per ton.

3. (In full *Manilla cheroot.*) A kind of cheroot manufactured in Manila.

1839 MARRYAT *Phant. Ship.* xxxii, On the evening of the third day, as they were smoking their Manilla cheroots. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Manilas*, a name for a kind of cheroots made in the Philippines. 1881 HEDDERWICK *Villa by the Sea* 101, I will whiff a sad Manilla.

Manille (mănī·l). *Cards.* Forms: 7 mal(l)illio, 9 malilla, 8 manil(l)io, manill, 8– manille. [Corruptly a. Sp. *malilla*, dim. of *mala* used in the same sense (prob. fem. of *malo* bad).] In quadrille and ombre, the second best trump or honour (being the deuce of a black suit or the seven of a red suit).

1674 COTTON *Compl. Gamester* (1680) 70 Of the Black there is first the *Spadille*, or Ace of Spades; the *Maltillio* or black Deuce, the *Basto* or Ace of Clubs. 1710–11 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 25 Feb., I had .. often two black aces without a manilio. 1712–14 POPE *Rape Lock* III. 51 Spadillio first .. Led off two captive trumps, and swept the board. As many more Manillio forc'd to yield. 1794 *Sporting Mag.* IV. 201 The manille, or black deuce is the second [trump]. 1816 SINGER *Hist. Cards* 266 The second Matador [at Ombre] is called Manilla, or Malilla;..it is the seven in a red suit, and the deuce in black, the seven being the lowest card in red. 1851 THACKERAY *Eng. Hum.* iv, About as much time as ladies of that age spent over spadille and manille. 1874 H. H. GIBBS *Ombre* ii. 11 In all Suits, when Trumps, the lowest card takes rank as Second Honour. It is called Manille.

Manille, manillia, obs. forms of MANILLA[1].

Manillio, obs. form of MANILLA[1], MANILLE.

Man in the moon.

1. The fancied semblance of a man (or a man's face) in the disk of the moon. Proverbial phr. *No more than the man in the moon.*

a 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* 112 Mon in the mone stond ant strit, on is bot forke is burthen he bereth. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Rich. III* 37 When the queue had heard this frendely mocion (which was as farre from her thought as the man that the rude people saie is in the moone). 1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 205 Wee say (not the woman) the man in the moone. 1572 ABP. PARKER *Corr.* (Parker Soc.) 404 He is no more my kinsman than the man in the moon. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* II. ii. 141, I was the Man ith' Moone, when time was. 1676 MARVELL *Mr. Smirke* 12 Which he knows no more then the Man in the Moon. 1722 DE FOE *Col. Jack* (1840) 266, I thought no more of being serious..than I thought of being a man in the moon. 1840 MARRYAT *Olla Podr.* (Rtldg.) 227 *Gum.* Then you don't know how things are settled? *Jel.* No more than the man in the moon.

allusively. 1695 CONGREVE *Love for L.* II. v, Thy Wife is a Constellation of Virtues; she's the Moon, and thou art the Man in the Moon.

2. Referred to as the type of an imaginary person. In recent use, a jocular name for a pretendedly unknown person who supplies money for illicit expenditure at elections.

1596 NASHE *Saffron Walden* Wks. (Grosart) III. 175 *Non est inventus*: there's no such man to be found; let them that haue the Commission for the Concealments looke after it, or the Man in the Moone put for it. 1621 LAUD *Serm.* 19 *June* 24 It is not now sufficient that the Iewes shall be ..conuerted...But these conuerted Iewes must meet out of all Nations: the ten Tribes, as well as the rest...Good God, what a fine people haue we here? Men in the Moone. 1866 *John Bull* 1 Sept. 584/1 [The witness] created some amusement by his description of Mr. Mum, the man in the moon, who, he said, was a necessary consequence of a Totnes election. 1881 *Rep. Oxf. Elect. Comm., Min. Evid.* 239 One of the first things Mr. M. said to me was, 'You know I am not a "man in the moon"... I am simply come to see that the money is spent properly'. 1882 *Standard* 14 Jan. 5/2 Hundreds of highly respectable Parliamentary agents were ready to wink at the presence of the 'Man in the Moon'.

Manioc (mæ·nĭǫk). Forms: α. 6–9 manihot, 7 manyot, magniot. β. 7– mandioc, manioc, (7 manyoc, mandioque, 8 maniock, 9 magnoc). γ. 7 mandihoca, 7, 9 mandioca, 9 manioc(c)a. [repr. Tupi *mandioca*, Guarani *mandio*, which denotes the root of the plant, the leaves being called in Tupi *manisoba*, the stalk *maniba* or *maniva*, and the juice *manipuera* (Burton *Highlands of Brazil*, 1869, II. 351).

The form *manihot*, adopted in botanical L. as the specific name, appears to be a Fr. spelling with silent *t*. The spelling *manioch* occurs in Fr. in 1614 (Claude d'Abbeville *Mission en Maragnan* 229).]

The plant CASSAVA, q.v. (genus *Manihot*, formerly *Jatropha*). Also, the meal made from it.

α. 1568 HACKET tr. *Thevet's New found World* lviii. 93 The Americanes make meale of those rootes that are called Manihot [*Fr. orig.* (1558) Manihot]. 1611 E. ASTON tr. *Boemus' Mann. & Cust.* 501 Rootes of Brasile called Aypi and Manyot. 1698 FROGER *Voy.* 113 Their fields of Maes and Magniot. 1760 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* App. 318 Manihot. *Jatropha.* 1802 [see β]. 1881 *Daily News* 12 Dec. 3/5 A species of manihot, from which the ceará rubber was obtained.

β. 1660 F. BROOKE tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 399 Mandioc a root is their chiefest diet, whereof they make flower. 1666 J. DAVIES tr. *Hist. Caribby Isl.* 50 A small tree called Manyoc, by some Manyot, and by others Mandioque. 1683 LORRAIN *Muret's Funeral Rite* 132 Thou mightest have lived so well,..thou didst want neither Manioc, nor Potato's. 1783 JUSTAMOND tr. *Raynal's Hist. Indies* V. 321 The manioc is a plant which is propagated by slips. 1802 *Naval Chron.* VIII. 149 *Manihot, magnoc*, or *manioc*, is a plant which grows in America and the West Indies. 1832 *Veg. Subst. Food* 157 The juice of Mandioc is..fermented with ..molasses,..into an intoxicating liquor. 1857 LIVINGSTONE *Trav.* xvii. 302 Manioc, which is looked upon here as the staff of life. 1871 KINGSLEY *At Last* xvi, The famous Cassava, or Manioc, the old food of the Indians, poisonous till its juice is squeezed out in a curious spiral grass basket.

γ. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 841 The roots of Mandioca had almost killed them all, but by a peece of Vnicornes horne they were preserved. 1663 BOYLE *Usef. Exp. Nat. Philos.* I. v. 121 The root Mandihoca, that abounds with a very potent Poison. 1863 BATES *Nat. Amazons* x. (1864) 324 A superior kind of meal is manufactured at Ega of the sweet mandioca (*Manihot Aypi*). 1892 *Daily News* 20 Feb. 5/1 He found thousands of Saüba ants carrying off his store of mandioca.

b. *attrib.*, as *manioc bread, bush, flour, meal, patch, plant, plantation, root, worm.*

1681 GREW *Museum* II. 223 In Brasile, either eaten by themselves, or with their Mandioca-Flower. 1777 W. ROBERTSON *Hist. Amer.* I. IV. 397 The art of extracting an intoxicating liquor from maize or the manioc root. 1792 MAR. RIDDELL *Voy. Madeira* 93 The jatropa manioc, or manioc plant. 1803 *Edin. Rev.* III. 89 A worm..well known to [West Indian] planters as the Manioc or Indigo worm. 1816 SOUTHEY in *Q. Rev.* XVI. 370 A vessel laden with mandioc flour from the south. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 718/1 Cassava or Mandiocca meal. 1897 MARY KINGSLEY *W. Africa* 209 This manioc meal is the staple food.

Manion (*= many one*): see MANY.

Maniorable, erron. form of MANURABLE.

Maniore, -owre, -ory: see MANGER, -ERY.

Maniple (mæ·nip'l). Forms: (?4), 7 manaple, 6 mainipul, manypule, manyple, *Sc.* manipil, 7 -pul, 7–8 -pule, (7, 9 manuple), 6– maniple. [a. OF. *maniple* (more commonly *manipule* as in mod.Fr.), ad. L. *manipul-us* handful, troop of soldiers, f. *manus* hand + **pl-*, weak form of root **plē-* to fill (as in *plēnus* full).

In med.L. *manipulus* was also used in sense 3 below. Henschel's Du Cange has several isolated instances in which *manipulus* and the related *manipula* seem to have meant 'something carried in the hand'; the latter is applied to a workman's tool (? a trowel), ? a staff, an apron; the former is applied to a bowl of some kind. There are also instances of *manipulus, manipula*, in the sense 'servant'.]

†**1.** A handful, *lit.* and *fig. Obs.*

1632 B. JONSON *Magn. Lady* I. 1, I ha' seen him waite at Court, there, with his Maniples Of papers, and petitions. 1651 BIGGS *New Disp.* 80 Why is not a maniple of Purslane equivalent to two grains of opium, when [etc.]. 1657 TOMLINSON *Renou's Disp.* 136 A maniple with the medicks is as much as can be contained in a hand. 1658 SIR T. BROWNE *Hydriot.* Ep. Ded., With much excuse we bring these low delights, and poor maniples to your Treasure. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. 442/1 A Manuple or great Handfull. 1694 WESTMACOTT *Script. Herb.* (1695) 75 [Flax] when ripe, 'tis pulled and set up in maniples, or large handfuls, to dry them. 1752 AINSWORTH *Lat. Dict.*, A maniple (handful) *Manipulus.* 1829 *Examiner* 371/2 Look at the mere maniples of people who say, speaking of themselves, *the* Church!

¶ b. Whimsically used for: The hand.

1833 *Fraser's Mag.* VIII. 658 His two unhallowed and incarnadine maniples of reeking digits. 1893 GUNTER *Miss Dividends* 16 Ferdie finds his hand grasped warmly in a set of bronzed maniples.

2. *Roman Antiq.* A subdivision of the Roman legion, of which a cohort contained three, numbering 120 men each among the *hastati* and *principes*, and 60 each among the *triarii*.

1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* II. (S. T. S.) I. 148 The tothir consul..Ischit furth..with certane manipillis of armyt men. 1649 MAXWELL tr. *Herodian* (1635) 271 The light armed souldiers had lanes made between the severall Maniples to sally forth as occasion served. 1658 SIR T. BROWNE *Gard. Cyrus* ii, Thus were the maniples and cohorts of the Hastiti, Principes and Triarii placed in their bodies. 1824 ARNOLD *Hist. Rome* III. 100 The Roman velites..were soon driven back upon the hastati and principes, and passed through the intervals of the maniples to the rear. 1876 *Encycl. Brit.* IV. 750/2 Two 'maniples' or divisions of 60 men each.

attrib. 1891 NETTLESHIP & SANDYS *Seyffert's Dict. Class. Antiq.* 347/1 A further important novelty introduced by Marius was the use of the cohort-formation, instead of the maniple-formation.

† b. In modern warfare, a small band of soldiers of more or less definite number. *Obs.*

1574 H. G. *Briefe Tables* G ij, Thou, for to cause that the raye maye go with an euennesse, shalte cause this maniple to go by fiue in a ranke in breadth. 1598 BARRET *Theor. Warres* III. ii. 46 A Maniple is here called so many rankes throughout the battell, as the battell is in length, at so many per ranke as they march in ordinance or array. *Ibid.*, Any part of shot or pikes, that be drawne a part, to be set to defend any straight, or to scarmush, may also bee called a Maniple. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* II. 66 Captaine Blany diuided his men into three Maniples. 1627 CAPT. SMITH *Seaman's Gram.* xiii. 62 They vse to martiall .. those squadrons in rankes like Manaples, which is foure square. 1641 BAKER *Chron.* (1679) 232/2 The Rereward .. consisting of two thousand mingled Weapons, with two wings of Horsemen, ..all of them cast into square maniples. 1644 MILTON *Areop.* (Arb.) 70 Untill hee see our small divided maniples cutting through at every angle of his ill united and unweildy brigade.

3. *Eccl.* In the Western Church, one of the Eucharistic vestments, consisting now of a strip of stuff from two to four feet in length and worn suspended from the left arm near the wrist by the celebrant, deacon, and subdeacon: said to have been orig. a napkin held in the left hand for the purpose of wiping the tears shed for the sins of the people; = FANON 1. (For a later interpretation of its symbolism see quot. *c* 1532.)

The words used on putting on the maniple, 'Merear, Domine, portare manipulum fletus et doloris', look like a reminiscence of Ps. cxxv[i]. 6 (Vulg.), and it seems possible that the term may have originated from this formula. (So, as one of several suggestions, in Durandus *Rationale* III. vi, *De Manipulo*; he explains 'manipulus' as = *præmium*.)

1346 in Heath *Grocers' Comp.* (1869) 49 *note*, Un vestement sainct, aube, manaple, stole et chesible. 1519 HORMAN *Vulg.* 16 b, Fyrst do on the amys, than the albe, than the gyrdell, than the manyple, than the stoole, than the chesybyll. *c* 1532 DU WES *Introd. Fr.* in Palsgr. 1068 The manypule doth sygnifye the same [corde] wherof his precioune handes were bounde. 1620 MELTON *Astrolog.* 16 Albes, Copes, and Maniples. 1774 T. WEST *Antiq. Furness* (1805) 361 With a stole about his neck, and a maniple on his left arm. 1849 ROCK *Ch. of Fathers* I. v. 424 The Anglo-Saxons..wore the maniple, as we do now, on the left wrist. 1853 HOOK *Ch. Dict.* (1871) 474 The maniple or manuple was originally a strip of linen suspended from the left arm of the priest, and used to wipe away the perspiration from the face. 1885 R. W. DIXON *Hist. Ch. Eng.* III. 190 According to the old offices, the deacons to be ordained were presented in amice, alb, girdle and maniple.

† b. App. used for: A wristlet or cuff. *Obs.*—°

1611 COTGR., *Manchon d'hermines*, a Maniple charged, or powdered, with Ermines.

4. *Maniple of the curates* [Eccl. L. *manipulus curatorum*]: a book containing a brief summary of certain ecclesiastical canons.

1706 tr. *Dupin's Eccl. Hist. 16th C.* II. iv. vii. 423 That Parish Priests shall..have a Bible with Commentaries and the Maniple of the Curates.

Maniplies: see MANYPLIES.

Manipulable (mănī·pi·ŭlăb'l), *a. rare*—[1]. [f. late L. *manipulāre* to MANIPULATE: see -ABLE.] Capable of being manipulated.

1881 *Brit. Trade Jrnl.* XIX. 335 The substance..has to be rendered manipulable.

Manipular (mănī·pi·ŭlăr), *a.* (*sb.*). [ad. L. *manipular-is*, f. *manipul-us* MANIPLE.] A. *adj.*

1. Pertaining to the maniple in the ancient Roman army; characterized by formation in maniples.

1623 BINGHAM *Xenophon* etc., *Lipsius' Comp.* 6 The manipular Battalion insinuated it selfe into the void spaces, and so ouerthrew the Phalange. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr., Manipular*, belonging to a band of men. 1833 in *Philol. Museum* II. 479 The earliest constitution of the manipular legion. 1886 PELHAM in *Encycl. Brit.* XX. 746/2 In the new manipular system, with its three lines, no regard was paid to civic distinctions.

2. Of the form of a sheaf. *rare.*

1805–17 R. JAMESON *Char. Min.* (ed. 3) 133 Manipular or sheaf-like. Consists of a number of crystals that diverge towards both ends, and are narrower in the middle, thus resembling a sheaf.

3. Of or pertaining to manipulation or handling. The sense is not etymologically justifiable, being due to association with MANIPULATE *v.*

1831 *Fraser's Mag.* IV. 92 Such an unequivocal manipular token of resentment. 1841–4 EMERSON *Ess.* Ser. I. i. (1876) 16 What the former age has epitomized into a formula or rule for manipular convenience. 1849 LYTTON *Caxtons* II. xi. lviii, Denoting, symbolically, how he would like to do with Uncle Jack, could he once get him safe and snug under his manipular operations. 1852 J. MARTINEAU *Phases of Faith* Ess., etc. (1891) III. 7 Hence the invariable presence of some physical element in all that it [*sc.* Catholicism] looks upon as venerable. Its rites are a manipular invocation of God.

Hence **Mani·pularly** *adv.*, in a 'manipular' form (cf. sense 2 above).

1804 R. JAMESON *Syst. Min.* (1816) I. 305 The crystals are sometimes manipularly and scopiformly aggregated.

B. *sb.* A soldier of a maniple.

1862 MERIVALE *Rom. Emp.* (1865) VII. lvi. 91 The emperor himself,..regardless of the military indecorum, expostulated and reasoned with his manipulars.

Mani·pulary, *a. rare*—[1]. [ad. L. *manipulāri-s*: see prec. and -ARY[2].] = MANIPULAR *a.* 1.

1780 COXE *Russ. Disc.* 222 Military ensigns representing hands...These hands resemble the manipulary standards of the Romans.

Manipulate (mănī·pi·ŭlēt), *v.* [App. a back-formation from MANIPULATION: cf. F. *manipuler* (*a* 1814 in B. de St.-Pierre *Harmonies*), It. *manipolare, manipulare* 'to gripe or claspe with the hands; also to reduce into bottles or handfuls, to bundle vp' (Florio 1611); a med.L. *manipulare* is given in Henschel's Du Cange, with a single quot., in which it app. means 'to lead by the hand'.]

1. *trans.* To handle, esp. with dexterity; to manage, work, or treat by manual (and, by extension, any mechanical) means.

1831 CARLYLE *Sart. Res.* III. x, Or else, shut up in private Oratories, [they] meditate and manipulate the substances derived from her [the earth]. 1850 — *Latter-d. Pamph.* ii. (1872) 44 Fraternity..has gone on, till it found itself unexpectedly manipulating guillotines by its chosen Robespierres. 1855 H. SPENCER *Princ. Psychol.* (1872) II. VII. iii. 335 The hand has been moulded into fitness for manipulating things. 1862 BURTON *Bk. Hunter* (1863) 154 A turner with a piece of wood in his lathe, which he can manipulate to his liking. 1870 *Echo* 11 Nov., The time..when a photograph was admired simply because it was cleverly manipulated. 1876 C. M. DAVIES *Unorth. Lond.* (ed. 2) 179 He had promised..that he would refrain from manipulating contagious cases.

b. *absol.* or *intr.* in *Chem.* (cf. MANIPULATION 2).

1827 FARADAY *Chem. Manip.* Introd. 4 Of two persons having otherwise equal talents..the one who manipulates best will very soon be in advance of the other.

2. To operate upon with the mind or intelligence; to handle or treat (questions, artistic matter, resources, etc.) with skill.

1856 DOVE *Logic Chr. Faith* I. II. 68 Philosophy (as hitherto manipulated) has been an attempt to do [etc.]. 1864

Sat. Rev. 31 Dec. 789/2 Nor are the questions..pleasant ones to manipulate. **1864** Bowen *Logic* i. 22 Readily manipulated in thought. **1875** Ouseley *Harmony* iii. 41 This [the third inversion of the added ninth] is perhaps..the easiest to manipulate. **1879** Froude *Cæsar* xiii. 185 Crassus understood nothing beyond the art of manipulating money.

3. To manage by dexterous contrivance or influence; *esp.* to treat unfairly or insidiously for one's own advantage.

1864 Carlyle *Fredk. Gt.* xii. xi. (1872) IV. 260 He had got his Electors manipulated, tickled to his purpose. **1866** *Totnes Elect. Comm., Min. Evid.* (1867) 73 Then who had manipulated Hill senior at the former elections? **1875** J. Morison in *Expositor* I. 358 The hypothesis that the quotation has been .. freely manipulated. **1893** Chamberlain *Sp. Ho. Comm.* 10 Apr., It will be possible for firms to manipulate their books. **1894** J. Fiske *Hist. Amer.* 399 Boards of canvassers were appointed for determining the results of disputed elections by manipulating the figures in counting the votes.

Hence **Mani·pulated** *ppl. a.*, **Mani·pulating** *vbl. sb.*

1887 *Pall Mall G.* 3 Jan. 10/1 A Frenchman disposed of upwards of four thousand pounds' worth of manipulated diamonds in this country. **1892** *Athenæum* 4 June 722/1 This manipulating of a language. **1899** *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 749 This method is believed to produce temporary anæmia of the brain by causing a determination of blood to the manipulated parts.

Manipulation (mănipiulē·ʃən). [a. F. *manipulation* = Sp. *manipulacion*, Pg. *manipulação*, It. *manipolazione*, ad. mod.L. type **manipulātiōn-em*, f. **manipulāre* (= It. *manipolare*, F. *manipuler*: see Manipulate *v.*), f. L. *manipulus* handful.]

†**1.** The method of digging silver ore. *Obs.*

The sole sense recognized in Eng. Dicts. down to and including Todd, 1818.

1727–41 Chambers *Cycl.*, *Manipulation*, a term used in the mines, to signify the manner of digging the silver, &c. out of the earth. **1731** in Bailey vol. II.

2. *Chem.* The method of handling apparatus, etc. in experiments. In *Pharmacy*, 'the preparation of drugs' (Webster 1828–32).

1796 Kirwan *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) II. 482 It is only by an exact similarity in all the essential points of Manipulation, that results exactly similar can be expected. **1805** W. Saunders *Min. Waters* 354 The various sources of inaccuracy to which chemical manipulations are liable. **1827** Faraday in B. Jones' *Life* (1870) I. 396 The word manipulation,.. though not usual in ordinary language, is so peculiarly expressive of the great object of these lectures, that I could not hesitate a moment to use it. **1854** Ronalds & Richardson *Chem. Technol.* (ed. 2) I. 48 The average amount of ash obtained by laboratory manipulation.

3. *gen.* The handling of objects for a particular purpose; manual management; in *Surgery*, the manual examination of a part of the body. Also, making motions with the hand, manual action.

1826 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* IV. l. 536 However tedious some of the foregoing manipulations may seem, they are.. much less so than those required in several other branches of Natural History. **1846** Greener *Sci. Gunnery* 403 The manipulation of this musket. **1852** Mrs. Stowe *Uncle Tom's C.* xx. 207 In the zeal of her manipulations, the young disciple had contrived to snatch a pair of gloves and a ribbon, which she had adroitly slipped into her sleeves. **1853** Faber *All for Jesus* (1854) 246 A profound reverence for all the benedictions of the Church, for her sacraments, forms, and manipulations. **1872** F. G. Thomas *Dis. Women* (ed. 3) 72 Conjoined manipulation is of great importance. **1878** A. H. Markham *Gt. Frozen Sea* xv. 206 To handle delicate instruments, the manipulation of which, even in a temperate climate, requires the utmost care. **1879** J. J. Young *Ceram. Art* 41 In Oriental work..we..find skill in manipulation, similitude in drawing, and beauty in color.

4. The act of operating upon or managing persons or things with dexterity; *esp.* with disparaging implication, unfair management or treatment (of documents, etc.).

1828 Sir W. Napier *Penins. War* I. 6 The organization of Napoleon's army was simple, the administration vigorous, the manipulations well contrived. **1843** Ruskin *Mod. Paint.* II. III. ii. § 10 The exquisite manipulation of the master gives to each atom of the multitude its own character and expression. **1864** Bowen *Logic* xi. 364 No manipulation, no analysis, of these Truths previously demonstrated would enable him to evolve from them .. the measure of this particular angle. **1875** Stubbs *Const. Hist.* II. xvii. 611 The third estate..was only too susceptible of royal manipulation. **1883** *Stubbs' Merc. Circular* 8 Nov. 982/2 The shirtings which are not susceptible of manipulation with clay and sizing.

Manipulative (mănipiŭlătiv), *a.* [f. Manipulate *v.*: see -ative.] Of, pertaining to, concerning, or involving manipulation.

1836 I. Taylor *Phys. Theory Another Life* (1857) 154 A wonder of skill..as well as of manipulative execution. **1854** J. Scoffern in *Orr's Circ. Sci., Chem.* 390 The manipulative details required .. belong to the department of organic chemistry. **1862** Smiles *Engineers* II. 132 The workmen of that place [Birmingham] are still superior to most others in executing machinery requiring manipulative skill. **1881** Roscoe in *Nature* XXIII. 599 Bunsen's untiring energy and wonderful manipulative power. **1890** *Spectator* 1 Nov. 615/2 One of those cunning feats of manipulative skill peculiar to the Oriental.

Manipulator (mănipiŭlē·tər). [a. mod.L. type **manipulātor*, f. **manipulāre* (see Manipulation). Cf. F. *manipulateur*.]

1. One who manipulates, in various senses.

1851 H. Mayo *Pop. Superstit.* (ed. 2) 90 The state into which mesmeric manipulators first plunge the patient. **1858** Ruskin *Arrows of Chace* (1880) I. 140 As manipulators, none but the four men whom I have named..were equal to Turner. **1864** *Soc. Sci. Rev.* 8 Science is nothing without experiment and a little practice will soon enable the teacher to become a successful manipulator. **1899** *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 69 An experienced surgical manipulator. **1902** J. S. Phillimore *Sophocles* Introd. 79 As a manipulator of language we compare him [Sophocles] with Virgil.

b. With disparaging implication.

1864 *Morn. Star* 8 June 4 By the judicious application of patronage to an editorial staff a clever manipulator may gain for himself a character to which he has no title [etc.]. **1891** E. Peacock *N. Brendon* I. 285 A principal manipulator of the persecution company.

2. An instrument used to facilitate manipulation. *spec.* **a.** The transmitting instrument attached to the dial-telegraph (1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.*). **b.** In photography, a device for holding plates without handling them (ibid. Suppl.). **c.** An exercising machine for rubbing or pummelling the body (ibid.). **d.** A machine for manipulating blooms of iron or steel. **e.** An instrument used by those who instruct the deaf in the articulation of sounds.

1860 G. B. Prescott *Electr. Telegr.* vi. 97 Fig. 48 is an instrument for bringing any number of batteries into circuit at pleasure,..It is called a manipulator. **1886–7** Miss L. D. Richards *Proc. Amer. Instruct. Deaf* 235, I use the manipulator very little. **1888** *Sci. Amer.* 15 Sept. 166/2 An Improved Ingot Manipulator.

Manipulatory (mănipiŭlătəri), *a.* [f. Manipulate *v.*: see -ory.] Pertaining to or involving manipulation.

1827 Faraday *Chem. Manip.* i. 24 A notion of the most necessary furniture of a small laboratory..may..be gathered from the manipulatory parts of the present work. **1838** Moore *Mem.* (1856) VII. 225 To accompany him to the North London Hospital..to see Dr. Elliotson's manipulatory experiments. **1881** Tyndall *Ess. Floating Matter of Air* 233 Even with considerable care and fairly disciplined manipulatory skill, success is not invariable. **1893** *Brit. Jrnl. Photogr.* 24 Nov. 748/2 In addition to photographic and manipulatory difficulties, the nausea of sea-sickness.. has to be contended against.

Manipule, Manir, obs. ff. Maniple, Manner.

‖ **Manis** (mē·nis). *Zool.* [mod.L. (Linnæus), said to be an assumed sing. of Manes.] The typical genus of the family *Manidæ* (scaly ant-eaters); any individual of this genus, a pangolin.

1770 *Phil. Trans.* LX. 36 A new Species of the Manis, or Scaly Lizard. **1802** Bingley *Anim. Biog.* (1813) I. 125 Of the manis tribe. **1850** R. G. Cumming *Hunter's Life S. Afr.* (ed. 2) I. 247 The manis is met with throughout the interior of South Africa, but it is rare. **1872** Mivart *Elem. Anat.* ii. (1873) 58 The long tailed Pangolin or Manis.

Manis, -isch, obs. Sc. forms of Menace.

Manish, Maniske, obs. ff. Mannish, Manx.

Manitology (mænitǫ·lŏdʒi). [f. next + -(o)logy.] The branch of study that is concerned with the belief in manitous.

1851 Schoolcraft *Ind. Tribes U.S.* I. 34 The doctrine of Manitoes, or what may be denominated Manitology. **1881** Dorman *Orig. Prim. Superst.* vi. 222 Totemism is explained by manitology, or the worship of manitous.

‖ **Manitou** (mæ·nitu). Also 7 maneto, 8 menitto, 8–9 manitoo, 9 manito, manitu, (-ido), moneto. [Algonquin *manito, manitu.*

According to Dr. Trumbull (*Trans. Amer. Philol. Assoc.* 1876, p. 167) *manit* is the active pple. of a vb. meaning to surpass, while *manitu* contains a predicative suffix, and so is equivalent to 'he or it is *manit*'. In 1587 Hariot says that the Indians of Virginia 'beleeue that there are many gods, which they call Mantoac' (Hakluyt III. 276).]

Among some American Indians, a spirit (of good or of evil) which is an object of religious awe or reverence; also, anything which is regarded as having supernatural power, as a fetish.

1698 G. Thomas *Pensilvania* (1848) 2 They offer their first Fruits to a Maneto, or suppos'd Deity. **1701** C. Wolley *Jrnl. N. York* (1860) 37 They are of opinion that when they have ill success in their hunting, fishing, &c. their Menitto is the cause of it. **1804** C. B. Brown tr. *Volney's View Soil U. S.* 416 First, they believe in a great Manito, or genius, who rules the world or universe. Under his supreme power are numberless Manitos, who traverse earth and air, and govern all things. **1817** J. Bradbury *Trav. Amer.* 24 The Indians..often apply this term Manitou to uncommon or singular productions of nature which they highly venerate. **1856** Bryant *Painted Cup* iii, The gentle Manitou of flowers. **1860** Schoolcraft *Ind. Tribes U. S.* V. 74 When a turtle, bird, quadruped, or other form of animated nature is adopted as the guardian spirit or moneto. **1895** W. J. Hoffman *Begin. Writing* 77 Fig. 31 represents the otter as a spirit or manido. **1899** *Jrnl. Anthropol. Inst.* I. 140 His Manitu or spirit, in trappers' jargon his medicine.

Manitrunk (mæ·nitrʌŋk). *Ent.* [f. L. *manus* taken in the sense 'fore-leg' + *trunc-us* trunk.] The anterior segment of the thorax.

1826 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* III. 531 The first segment [of the trunk], because it bears the fore legs, I have named manitrunk (*manitruncus*).

Manitu: see Manitou.

Maniure (= *manjure*), obs. form of Manger.

Manjack (mæ·ndʒæk). A large West Indian tree, *Cordia macrophylla* or *C. elliptica*.

1864 Grisebach *Flora W. Ind.* 785 Manjack, *Cordia macrophylla*.

Man-jack: see Man *sb.*[1] 4 m, and Jack *sb.*[1] 2 c.

Manjak (mæ·ndʒæk). *West Indian.* Also 7 mountjack, 7–8 munjack. (See quot. 1902.)

1657 Ligon *Barbados* 101 Another gummy substance there is..called Mountjack. **1683** J. Povntz *Tobago* 37 This Munjack is nothing else than a Confirmation or Coagulation of the Tarr..into a more solid body, which Munjack [etc.]. **1902** *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 10) XXVI. 145 (Barbados), The only mineral product is 'manjak', or glance-pitch, a form of asphalt, which occurs in the older rocks of the Scotland district.

‖ **Manjee** (mændʒī). Also 7 mangee, 8 -gie, 9 manjy. [Hindi *mānjhī*.] 'The master or steersman of a boat or any native river-craft' (Y.).

1683 Sir W. Hedges *Diary* (Hakl. Soc.) I. 89 Which made our Mangee or Steerman advise us to fasten our boat in some Creeke. **1781** *India Gaz.* (Y.), The principal Gaut Mangies of Calcutta have entered into engagements at the Police office to supply all Persons that apply there with Boats. **1810** T. Williamson *E. Ind. Vade-Mecum* I. 283 The *Manjy*, *Goleah*, and *Dandy*, are the steers-man, bowman, and common rower in a boat, respectively. **1845** Stocqueler *Hand-bk. Brit. India* (1854) 257 Few manjees, or steersmen of boats, leave the city without [etc.].

†**Mank,** *sb.*[1] *Sc. Obs.* [app. a. F. *manque*, f. *manquer* to lack.] Want.

1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* xxxi. 12 He that hes for his awin gen3ie Ane plesand prop, but mank or men3ie, And schuttis syne [etc.]. **1718** Ramsay *Christ's Kirk Gr.* III. xxiii, They drank, Till..in their maws there was nae mank. **1776** Herd *Scottish Songs* Gloss., *Mank*, a want.

†**Mank,** *sb.*[2] *Obs.* (See quot.)

1683 Tryon *Way to Health* 284 Those fiery Steems [in food], which are of an hot griping windy Nature, and causing a Mank or Scurvey in the Blood.

†**Mank,** *a. Obs.* Chiefly *Sc.* Also 6 manke, 7 manck. [a. OF. *manc*, *manque*:—L. *mancus* maimed.] Maimed, mutilated, defective.

1513 Douglas *Æneis* v. Prol. 51 His febill prois bene mank and mutilait. **1559** Bp. Scot in Strype *Ann. Ref.* I. II. App. vii. 410 The churche of Christe was not perfecte, but rather a manke bodye without a head. **1658** J. Durham *Exp. Rev.* xiii. v. (1660) 570 There is one thing yet to be cleared, without which all that is said seemeth to be manck. **1659** Fuller *App. Inj. Innoc.* III. 54 If the Bishops sit as a Third-estate, then Statutes made without them are manc and defective. **1722** *Wodrow Corr.* (1843) II. 622 When that mank volume comes over, I shall send one complete. **1723** McWard *Contendings* Pref. 12 Mr. Wodrow in his large, but mank and partial History [etc.].

Mank (mæŋk), *v. Obs.* exc. *Sc.* [? f. Mank *a.*; cf. late (chiefly Frankish) L. *mancāre* to mutilate, f. *mancus*: see Mank *a.*] *trans.* To maim, mangle, mutilate.

a **1400–50** *Alexander* 4100 Bot alto-mankid hire with maces & mellis of Iren. *c* **1440** *Promp. Parv.* 325/1 Mankkyn, or maynyn, *mutilo*. *c* **1470** Henry *Wallace* VII. 307 The myddyll off ane he mankit ner in twa. **1501** Douglas *Pal. Hon.* III. xcii, Thay wretchis..That honour mankit and honestie mischeuit. **1573** *Satir. Poems Reform.* xl. 322 Let nouther lufe of friend, nor feir of fais, Mufe 3ow to mank 3our Message. **1637–50** Row *Hist. Kirk* (1842) 133 Ordour may be taken with them who hes mutilated and manked the Kirk's Registers. **1731** *Plain Reasons for Presbyterians dissenting* 116 It was past into an Act very quickly, lam'd and mank'd as it was. **1825–80** Jamieson, *Mank*..2. To spoil or impair in any way.

Hence **Manked** *ppl. a.* (whence **Ma·nkedly** *adv.*, in a mutilated fashion; †**Ma·nkedhead,** disabled condition), **Ma·nking** *vbl. sb.*

a **1300** *Cursor M.* 27884 Quen [man] es ouerlaid wit drunkenhede, þan in his manki dhed,..es turnd al into hest state. *c* **1440** *Promp. Parv.* 325/1 Mankynge, or maymynge, *mutilacio*. **1513** Douglas *Æneis* x. vi. 117 The rycht arm, from the schulder al to rent, Apon the mankyt sennonys hyngis by. **1553** Kennedy *Compend. Tract.* in *Wodrow Soc. Misc.* (1844) 171 Thou sall understand, that thir wordis ar mankitlie allegit. *a* **1585** Montgomerie *Flyting* 143 With mightie, manked, mangled meiter. **1671** *True Nonconf.* 288 Its mancking and confounding of Holy Scripture.

Mankal, Manke: see Mangal, Mancus.

Ma·n-keen, *a.* [f. Man *sb.*[1] + Keen *a.*

Recorded later than the synonymous uses of *mankine*, Mankind *a.*, but possibly its original form.]

1. Of animals (*rarely* of persons): Inclined to attack men; fierce, savage. (See Keen *a.* 2 c.) Now *dial.*

1568 *Hist. Jacob & Esau* II. ii. C j b, What? are you mankene now? I recken it best I, To bind your handes behind you euen as ye lye. *Esau.* Nay haue mercy on me, and let me not perishe. **1607** R. C[arew] tr. *Estienne's World of Wonders* 263 He cured a man-keene wolfe..by making the signe of the crosse. **1625** Jackson *Creed* v. vii. § 3 Boares and Bulls..grow often wilde, fierce, or mankene. **1632** Sanderson *Serm.* 203 (If after all that they [dogs] still continue mankeen) knocke out their teeth. **1643** Herle *Answ. Ferne* 6 How hard the Scripture is in yeelding any of its sincere milke for babes to these mankeene Gyants. **1737** Bracken *Farriery Impr.* (1757) II. 83 If we are over-kind to them [horses], it is more likely to make them Man-keen (as we say) than better conditioned. **1893** *Northumbld. Gloss.* s.v., Cattle are termed mankeen when they attack human beings.

†**b.** *absol.* or as *sb.* A savage animal. *Obs.*

1757 Mrs. Griffith *Lett. Henry & Frances* (1767) II. 281, I have got so far on my journey, having bought a horse for my servant...It is a mankeen in miniature.

2. Of women: Very fond of men. Now *dial.*

1683 G. Meriton *Yorkes. Dialogue* 17 Shees gane Eighteen And few but at that Age they are Man keen. **1876** *Whitby Gloss., Fellow-fond, Man-crazed, Man-fond, Man-keen*, love smitten. 'She's desperate man-keen', very fond of the men. **1889** *N. W. Linc. Gloss.* (ed. 2).

Mankes, obs. form of Manx.

Mankey, mankie, var. Manco *Sc.*

Ma·n-killer. A killer of men; a homicide.

c **1440** *Gesta Rom.* xxvi. 141 (Harl. MS.), Whenne they [the knights] were putte oute of the palyse, some of hem.. bicome thevis, some man-killers. *a* **1533** Ld. Berners *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) G ij b, Such as accompanyeth with man

killers and murtherers. 1660 R. Coke *Justice Vind.* 49 The Inhabitants of Switzerland..who..have..continued Mercenary Man-killers to the interests of the Pope. 1895 *Pall Mall G.* 29 July 11/2 Even in those regions, where expert man-killers are by no means scarce, the style of shooting is altogether different from that of target shooting. 1899 *Daily News* 12 June 9/3 The new Mark IV. bullet, known among experts as 'The Man-killer'.

So **Ma'n-killing** *vbl. sb.* and *adj.*

1693 Dryden *Persius* iii. (1697) 446 A Spark, like thee, of the Man-killing Trade. 1880 *Chamb. Jrnl.* 15 May 316/2 These cattle-devouring tigers..seldom take to man-killing. 1891 A. Forbes in *Daily News* 29 Dec. 2/1 The mankilling power of artillery. 1899 *Times* 27 Sept. 6/2 A new invention, either man-killing or labour-saving.

† **Ma'nkin** [1]. *Obs.* Forms: see Man *sb.*[1] and Kin *sb.*[1] [OE. *mon-, mancyn(n*, f. *man* Man *sb.*[1] + *-cynn* Kin *sb.*[1]] **a.** The human race, mankind. **b.** A race of men, a people. **c.** *rare.* Human nature.

Beowulf 110 Ac he hine feor forwræc .. manegnne fram. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 129 For ealles manegynnes hæle. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Judg.* Prooem., Æfter þam þe Iosue .. þæt mankyn gebrohte .. to þam behatenan earde. *a* 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 225 Ic wille fordon al manciun mid watere. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 19 Vre louerd he is cleped helende, for þat he manken alesede. *c* 1275 *Passion our Lord* 11 in *O. E. Misc.* 37 Þrytty wyntre and more he wes among Monkunne. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 18433 Adam, fader of al man-kin. *c* 1330 *Florice & Bl.* (1857) 700 Þif manken hit tholi might Twies I schold die with right. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 636 Inoȝe is knawen þat man-kyn grete, Fyrst was wroȝt to blysse parfyt. 13.. *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* 37/4 And al soffrede swete Ihesu ffor monkunne sake þat sorwe.

Mankin [2] (mæ·nkin). [f. Man *sb.*[1] + -kin.] A diminutive or puny man; a manikin.

1820 Byron *Let. to Murray* 12 Oct. *Lett. & Jrnls.* (1901) V. 96 No more Keats, I entreat :..there is no bearing the drivelling idiotism of the Mankin. 1831 Carlyle *Sart. Res.* II. ii, The Mankin feels that he is a born Man.

Mankind, *sb.* and *a.*[1] [f. Man *sb.*[1] + Kind *sb.* Cf. *man's kind* (Man *sb.*[1] 21).] **A.** *sb.*

I. (Now mænkəi·nd.) **1.** The human species. Now only *collect.* Human beings in general. (First in *Cursor M.*; it superseded the older Mankin [1].)

Formerly sometimes with sing. verb, or referred to with sing. masc. pronoun; now construed only as plural.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 9372 Þe fader of heuen Dight his dere sun to send, Vntil erth, or flesche to ta for to bring man-kind o wa. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* III. 143 If monkynde in þo stat of innocense..schulde not be ydel bot serve his God bisily. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xvi. lxxi. (1495) 576 Onichius..hath in itself colour medelyd lyke the nayle of mankinde. *c* 1420 Lydg. *Assembly of Gods* 1762 Thus was mankynde delyueryd from hys foon. 1480 Caxton *Descr. Brit.* 6 In Britayne ben hoot welles well arayed and adressyd to the vse of mankynde. 1541 R. Copland *Guydon's Quest. Chirurg.* D ij, Howe many in nombre are all the bones in a body of mankynde? 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 23 Sathan the ennemye of almankinde. 1587 Golding *De Mornay* xvi. 258 The great number of diseases wherwith mankinde is pained. 1610 Shaks. *Temp.* v. i. 183 How many goodly creatures are there here? How beauteous mankinde is? 1651 Hobbes *Leviath.* II. xxvi. 139 A Law of Nature, equally obliging all man-kind. 1726 Butler *Serm. Hum. Nat.* iii. Wks. 1874 II. 33 Allowing that mankind hath the rule of right within himself. *a* 1774 Goldsm. *Hist. Greece* I. 202 Mankind never suffer any work to be lost which tends to make them more wise or happy. 1809 Syd. Smith *Serm.* I. 405 To study mankind aright, we must observe, no less the circumstances in which he is placed, than [etc.]. 1825 Lytton *Falkland* 14 Thrown early among mankind, I should early have imbibed their feelings. 1902 Greenough & Kittredge *Words* 158 The history of language is the history of mankind.

† **2.** The nature of man; human nature. Chiefly in phr. *to take* (or *fang*) *mankind. Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 17288 + 43 Our lord ȝoght to tak mankynd and bring vus oute of woo. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* IV. 530 And mankynd biddis vs that we To procur vengeans besy be. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xvi. (*Magdalena*) 242, & how mane-kynd þat he can fange. *c* 1449 Pecock *Repr.* II. xvi. 245 God descended into mankinde, and .. couplid to him a singuler mankinde. 1493 *Festivall* (W. de W. 1515) 94 That our lorde had taken mankynde. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S. T. S.) 67 He come from heuin, and tuke mankynde.

† **b.** Human feeling, humanity. *Obs. rare*—[1].

1603 B. Jonson *Sejanus* v. x, O you, whose mindes are good, And have not forc'd all mankind, from your brests.

II. 3. (Now mæ·nkəind.) The male sex; persons of the male sex. (Cf. Men-kind.)

1526 Tindale 1 *Cor.* vi. 9 Abusars of themselves with the mankynde. 1573 L. Lloyd *Marrow of Hist.* (1653) 141 If any mankind will enter therein..he shall..be bereft of his senses. And if any womankind..go into that water, she [etc.]. *a* 1581 Bp. R. Cox *Injunctions,* Their chyldren and seruauntes both mankinde and womankinde. 1611 Shaks. *Wint. T.* I. ii. 199 Should all despaire That haue reuolted Wiues, the tenth of Mankind Would hang themselues. 1632 Lithgow *Trav.* IV. 155 Without admission of any man-kind in their company. 1874 Trollope *Lady Anna* ix. 67 The infinite simplicity and silliness of mankind and womankind at large.

B. *adj.*

† **1.** Human. *Obs.*

1584 R. Scot *Discov. Witcher.* xv. xii. 412, I coniure you ..ye infernall kings..to appeare..in faire forme and shape of mankind kings.

† **2.** Male. *Obs.*

1633 Massinger *Guardian* I. ii, I keep no mankind servant in my house, In fear my chastity may be suspected. 1638 Ford *Lady's Trial* II. ii, Sir, consider My sex; were I mankind, my sword should quit A wounded honour.

† **3.** Of women: Masculine, virago-like. *Obs.*

Sometimes indistinguishable from Mankind *a.*[2]

1585 Higins *Junius' Nomenclator* 19 *Virago,* a manly woman, or a mankind woman. 1591 H. Smith *Prepar. Marr.* (Field) 61 A mankind woman is a monster, that is, halfe a woman and halfe a man. 1598 Florio, *Brifalda,* a bould, shamelesse, mankinde, virago woman. 1599 Porter *Angry Wom. Abingt.* (Percy Soc.) 62 Why, she is mankind; therefore thou mayest strike her. 1607 Shaks. *Cor.* IV. ii. 16 *Virg.* You shall stay too. I would I had the power To say so to my Husband. *Sicin.* Are you mankinde? *Volum.* I foole, is that a shame. 1607 Beaumont *Woman-Hater* III. i, Are women growne so mankind? must they be wooing? 1619 Fletcher *M. Thomas* IV. vi, 'Twas a sound knock she gave me, A plaguy mankinde girle. 1635 *Life Long Meg of Westminster* (1816) 22 For that hee had heard shee was so mankind as to beat all she met withall, he would try her manhood.

† **Ma'nkind,** *a.*[2] *Obs.* Also 6 mankin(e. [Of obscure origin: possibly a perversion of Mankeen, though that form does not appear in our quots. till later.] Infuriated, furious, fierce, mad. = Mankeen.

1519 Horman *Vulg.* 127 He set dogges, that were mankynde [L. *canibus efferatis*] vpon the man to be all to torne. *a* 1553 Udall *Royster D.* IV. viii. (Arb.) 77 Come away, by the matte she is mankine [*prime* mine]. I durst aduenture the losse of my right hande, If shee dyd not slee hir other husbande. 1598–9 Br. Hall in *Marston's Sco. Villanie* III. x. (1599) B ij b, I ask'd Phisitions what theyr counsell was For a mad dogge or for a mankind Asse? 1605 Chapman *All Fooles* Wks. 1873 I. 167 Good Signor Cornelio be not too mankinde against your wife. 1632 Massinger *City Madam* III. i, You brach, Are you turn'd mankind? 1672 Josselyn *New Eng. Rarities* 13 They [Bears]..are never mankind, i. e. fierce, but in rutting time.

Hence † **Mankindly** *adv.*, cruelly, ferociously.

1606 *Sir G. Goosecappe* II. i. in Bullen *O. P.* III. 30 You drive maids afore you,..as mankindelie as if you had taken a surfet of our Sex lately.

Mankle, Manks, obs. ff. Manacle *v.*, Manx.

Manky, variant of Manco *Sc.*

Mauless (mæ·nlés), *a.* [f. Man *sb.*[1] + -less.]

1. Having no men (either in the sense of human beings or in that of adult male persons). Also (*nonce-use*), having no 'men' at chess.

c 1050 *Suppl. Ælfric's Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 186/1 *Particinar,* roflease and monlease ealde weallas. *a* 1400 *Sir Perc.* 1787 My modir alle manles Leved I thare! *a* 1626 Bacon *Consid. War with Spain* (1629) 31 It was no more but a stratagem of fireboats manlesse and sent vpon them by the fauour of the wind in the night time. 1640 R. Baillie *Lett. & Jrnls.* (1841) I. 270, I went forward with my companie manless. *c* 1640 *Game at Chasse* 22 in Maidment *Bk. Scot. Pasquils* (1868) 99 For still mismet and manles lousse the game. *a* 1670 Spalding *Troub. Chas. I* (1829) 112 His majesty's lieges should..flee the covenant, and leave the cause manless. 1816 Byron *Darkness* 71 The world was void,..Seasonless, herbless, treeless, manless, lifeless, A lump of death. 1834 Wrangham *Homerics* 22 When Amazonia's manless kind Their plains o'er-ran. 1863 W. Cory *Lett. & Jrnls.* (1897) 90 A humble, respectable, manless cottage. 1880 *Blackw. Mag.* Feb. 244 A melancholy expanse, treeless, dwellingless, manless.

† **2. a.** Unmanly, effeminate. *Obs.*

a 1529 Skelton *Sp. Parrot* 384 O causeles cowardes, O hartles hardynes! O manles manhod, enfayntyd all with fere! *c* 1611 Chapman *Iliad* III. 30 O heauen, that thou hadst neare hene borne, Or (being so manlesse) neuer liu'd, to beare mans noblest state, The nuptiall honor. *Ibid.* XV. 319 The throtes of dogs shalt graue His manlesse lims. 1621 Quarles *Div. Poems, Esther* (1717) 136 To yield The right and safe possession of the Shield, Was foul reproach, and manless cowardize. 1653 Waterhouse *Apol. Learn.* 82 That pusillanimity and manless subjugation, which by many in our Age scornfully is called Priest-riddenness.

† **b.** Inhuman. *Obs.*

c 1611 Chapman *Iliad* IX. 64 A hater of societie..being stuft, with manlesse crueltie.

Hence † **Ma'nlessly** *adv.*, in a manless manner; † **Ma'nlessness,** cowardice.

1607 Chapman *Bussy D'Ambois* Plays 1873 II. 94 Let her wounds Manlesly digd in her, be easd and cur'd. 1667 Waterhouse *Fire Lond.* 92 That Dread and pavid manlessness, that seised the Inhabitants.

Manli, manlich, obs. forms of Manly.

† **Ma'nlihead.** *Obs.* Also 3 manliched, 5 manlyhed(e, 6 manlihed. [f. Manly *a.* + -head.]

1. The condition of being human.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 23 Tit god srid him in manliched. 1413 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton) IV. xxix. (1859) 62 Ryght as an Image that nought hath of manlyhede, but only of lykenesse, by maner of shap withouten.

2. Virility, bravery, courage.

1422–83 *Pol. Poems* in *Archæologia* XXIX. 331 That saue alle Englond by his manly-hede. *c* 1475 *Partenay* 4352 And how this Geant bold Thens into a caue fled for fere and drede, Within the quike roche for all hys manlyhed. 1594 Carew *Tasso* (1881) 43 Fame hath through ech part of Egypt spred The tidings cleare of your great manlihed.

Manlihood (mæ·nlihud). *rare.* [f. Manly *a.* + -hood.] Manliness.

1641 Earl Monm. tr. *Biondi's Civil Warres* II. 72 In such a case he would shew that manlihood which men.. void of judgement might now tax in him. 1819 Coleridge *Lett.* (1895) II. 699 Light, manlihood, simplicity, wholeness. These are the *entelechy* of Phidian Genius. 1887 D. C. Murray & Herman *Traveller Returns* iv. 56 The man-fool..will not please the woman-fool out of his manlihood but by falling into her likeness. 1889 *Atalanta Mag.* Apr. 464/2 The earnestness and manlihood of the Elizabethan age.

Manlike (mæ·nlɔik), *a.* (*adv.*) Also 5–6 -lyke. [f. Man *sb.*[1] + Like *a.*]

1. Having the qualities or characteristics proper to a man as distinguished from a woman or child. Of women: Having masculine qualities; mannish.

c 1450 Holland *Howlat* 155 Thai apperit to the Pape and present thaim aye Fair furrand and fre, .. And manlyke. *c* 1470 Harding *Chron.* cxcii. iii, He then arest..The lorde Cobham full trewe and also manlyke. 1579 J. Stubbes *Gaping Gulf* D vij b, The smal reckoning which that manlike nation makes of Fraunce. 1605 Camden *Rem.* (1637) 95 Dido, A Phœnician name, signifying a manlike woman. 1715–20 Pope *Iliad* III. 249 Against the manlike Amazons we stood. 1871 Smiles *Charac.* xi. 300 Men are sometimes womanlike, and women are sometimes manlike.

b. Belonging to or befitting a man; manly, masculine.

1561 T. Norton *Calvin's Inst.* IV. xx. (1634) 733 That among Christians may be a common shew of religion, and among men may be man-like civilitie. 1612 Drayton *Poly-olb.* xvii. 342 Elizabeth .. Digressing from her Sex, with Man-like gouernment This Iland kept in awe. 1624 Capt. Smith *Virginia* II. 31 The men bestow their times in fishing, hunting, warres, and such man-like exercises. 1678 Cotterell *Davila's Hist. Fr.* II The Queen, a woman of a manlike [1647 p. 23 manly] spirit and subtil wit. 1728 Morgan *Algiers* I. iv. 108 Why then are the Africans alone to be called Savages and Barbarians for shewing a manlike Resentment. 1736 Shenstone *Verses to Lady* 7 Oct. 21 In glauing Chloe's man-like Taste and Mien, Are the gross splendors of the Tulip seen. 1839 Carlyle *Chartism* iii. (1858) 15 It is for a manlike place..in this world..that he struggles. 1895 H. S. Merriman *Grey Lady* II. xiv. (1902) 335 From long association with men she had learnt a manlike reticence.

2. Resembling a man.

1590 T. Nelson in *Antiquary* XIII. 54/2 Whose form you see is monstrous, strange and rare, Before a manlike shape, behinde a fishes fell. 1604 Rowlands *Looke to it* 19 Man-like in shape, in manners but a beast. 1667 Milton *P. L.* VIII. 471 Under his forming hands a Creature grew, Manlike, but different sex, so lovly faire. 1863 Huxley *Man's Place Nat.* 104 The structural differences between Man and the Manlike apes. 1899 W. H. Furness *Folk Lore Borneo* 21 When he stood upon the ground, he met a man-like being.

3. As *adv.* = Manfully.

1577 Hellowes *Guevara's Chron.* 34 Lucius Metellus.. fought so valiantly and manlike, that he left..one only person. 1592 Stow *Annals* 459 Joh. Ball..bidden them..stand manlike together in trueth And helpe truth, and truth shall helpe you. 1837 Emerson *Misc.* (1884) 84 So is the danger a danger still; so is the fear worse. Manlike let him turn and face it. 1843 Carlyle *Past & Pr.* IV. iv, To have neither superior nor inferior, nor equal, united manlike to you.

Hence **Ma'nlikely** *adv.*, **Ma'nlikeness.**

1742 Willison *Balm of Gilead* viii. (1800) 82 The true motive of Christian love is a manlikeness and love to Christ more than to you. 1873 P. Brooks *New Starts in Life* xii. 209 Who does not rejoice that his divine Master could be manlikely indignant? 1885 G. Meredith *Diana* I. xv. 322 She distinguished that he could only suppose, manlikely, one bad cause for the division. 1903 Fairbairn in *Contemp. Rev.* Jan. 10 He saw..into the godlikeness of man and the manlikeness of God.

Manlily (mæ·nlili), *adv.* Also 4–5 -lyly, -lely, -lelie. [f. Manly *a.* + -ly [2].] In a manly manner.

1375 Barbour *Bruce* II. 486 Bot always, as a man off mayn, He mayntemyt him full manlyly. *c* 1440 *Alph. Tales* 114 His enmy come in manlelie agayns hym. 1896 Abp. Benson *Jrnl.* 7 June in *Life* (1899) II. 715 [Holy Communion] unritually, but so solemnly and manlily administered by Whewell, Sedgwick, Martin, and their peers.

Manliness (mæ·nlinés). [f. Manly + -ness.]

1. The state or quality of being manly; the possession of manly vigour, or of those virtues characteristic of a man.

1375 Barbour *Bruce* IX. 77 His vrechidnes so in thame gais, That thai thair manlynes sall tyne Throu vrechidnes of his covyne. *c* 1450 Lydg. & Burgh *Secrees* 2603 Colour reed Causyd of blood pure, Is signe of strengthe and greet manlynesse. 1569 Golding *Heminges Post.* 23 Stephan was..full of grace and manlynesse [orig. *fortitudine*]. 1596 Spenser *F. Q.* IV. vii. 45 Vet weend, by secret signes of manlinesse.. That he whilome some gentle swaine had beene. 1673 *Remarques Humours Town* A iv b, A person who..should value the innocence and manliness of a Country one [*i. e.* life]. 1770 Golnsm. *Des. Vill.* 384 Whilst her fond husband strove to lend relief In all the silent manliness of grief. 1880 Trollope *Duke's Children* I. iii. 33 He was dark, with.. that expression of manliness..which women love the best.

† **2.** Humanity; human kindness. *Obs.*

1382 Wyclif 2 *Macc.* xiv. 9 Thi manlynesse [Vulg. *humanitatem tuam*] shewid to alle men.

† **Ma'nling.** *Obs.* [-ling [1].] A little man.

a 1637 B. Jonson *Discov., Cens. Scal. in Lil. Germ.,* Augustus often called him his wittie Manling (for the littlenes of his stature). 17.. *Fashion* 65 in Dodsley *Coll. Poems* (1755) III. 276 'Tis meaner (cries the manling) to command A conquering host .. Than furl fair Flavia's fan, or lead a dance.

Manly (mæ·nli), *a.* For forms see Man *sb.*[1] and -ly [1]: also 5 *Sc.* **mandly.** *Superl.* 4 manlokest. [f. Man *sb.*[1] + -ly [1].]

† **1.** Belonging to human beings; human. *Obs.*

c 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 43 For none winde of mannliche fandinge. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 112 Swuc grure he hefde in his monliche vlesche aȝein þe stronge deorewurðe pinen þet he schulde drien. 1387–8 T. Usk *Test. Love* II. iv. (Skeat) I. 46 The ilke three waies of liues..whiche..arne by names cleped, bestialliche, resonabliche, [and manlich. Resonablich] is vertuous. Manlich is worldlich. *c* 1422 Hoccleve *Jereslaus's Wife* 783 Be nat abassbt it manly is to synne, But feendly is longe lye ther-ynne. 1491 Caxton *Vitas Patr.* (W. de W. 1495) I. xcviii. 130 b/1 The ordenaunces that I haue yeue to them for to kepe, ben manly in asmoche as I that am a man haue enioyned them to kepe them. 1554 Knox *Fort for Afflicted* (1580) A 8 Wee haue another schoolemaister then manly reason. 1625 Gill *Sacr. Philos.* II. 134 Hee [Satan] thought that God should rather dwell in the being of the Angels..then dwelling in the tabernacle of the manly being.

2. Possessing the virtues proper to a man as distinguished from a woman or child; chiefly, courageous, independent in spirit, frank, upright.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 272 Wummon is þe reisun, þet is, wittes skille hwon hit unstrenceð, þet schulde beon monlich & stalewarde & kene ine treowe bileaue. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 3325 þei..hadden gret ioye þa so manli a man wold mele in here side. *Ibid.* 3419 þe stiward had a newe but of 3ong age, on þe manlokest man þat men shold of heren. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 7507 He was honest and manly. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* VI. 785 Lykly he was, rycht fair and weill farrand, Mandly and stout. 1535 COVERDALE 1 *Sam.* iv. 9 Be stronge now and manly ye Philistynes...Be manly and fighte. 1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* IV. v. 104 Manly as Hector, but more dangerous. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* IX. 421 A proud Nobility, a familiar and manly Gentry. 1791 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Rom. Forest* V, His person was manly, and his air military. 1800 FOSTER in *Life & Corr.* (1846) I. 124 It is more manly to confess than to extenuate. 1856 EMERSON *Eng. Traits, Race* Wks. (Bohn) II. 30 They [the English] are rather manly than warlike. 1879 L. STEPHEN *Hours in Library* III. 62 He [Fielding] was manly to the last.

b. Of a woman: Possessing qualities or attributes regarded as characteristic of a man.

c 1511 *1st Eng. Bk. Amer.* (Arb.) Introd. 33/1 These women be very manly in fytynge and hardy. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VI* 113 b, This wytch or manly woman..the Frenchemen greatly glorified. *a* 1592 GREENE *Jas. IV*, IV. iv, *Dorot.* How looke I, Nano? like a man or no? *Nano.* If not a man, yet like a manlie shrowe. 1774 FOOTE *Cozeners* III. Wks. 1799 II. 186 As to fortune, she is totally careless in that...How manly that is in a woman! 1824 W. IRVING *T. Trav.* I. 42 My aunt was a lady of large frame..she was ..a very manly woman.

c. *transf.* and *fig.*

1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* II. 70 The Vigour of the Native Earth Maintains the Plant, and makes a Manly Birth. 1799 J. ROBERTSON *Agric. Perth* 470 The house of Auchtertyre, with a manly front of cut granite. 1801 *Sk. Paris as it was* II. xliv. 86 The architecture has certainly lost that gloomy tint which gave to this building a manly and respectable character. 1864 LOWELL *Fireside Trav.* 185 It [iron] is a manly metal, with no sordid associations like gold or silver.

3. Of things, qualities, etc.: Befitting or belonging to a man; masculine.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* XXXI. (*Eugenia*) 191 Þo þu be a woman, manlyk ar þi dedis al. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* v. xlviii. (1495) 165 Yf the ballok stones be kut of manely strength passyth and male complexion chaugyth in to femall complexion. 1459 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 348/2 Exortation..made ..in so witty, so knyghtly, so manly, in so comfortable wise. 1592 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* III. ii. 157. — *Rom. & Jul.* III. ii. 53, I saw the wound,..here on his manly brest. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* III. 48 The Germans speech is said to be manly, the Frenchmans sweet and fluent. 1671 MILTON *P. R.* II. 225 Therefore with manlier objects we must try His constancy. 1681 DRYDEN *Abs. & Achit.* I. 22 His conscious destiny made way, By manly beauty to imperial sway. *a* 1704 T. BROWN *Praise Drunkenness* Wks. 1730 I. 37 The drunkards voice is hoarse and manly, not like the squeaking trils of an Eunuch. 1851 MAYNE REID *Scalp Hunt.* liii. 401 In my earlier life I was addicted to what are termed 'manly sports'. 1894 GLADSTONE *Odes of Horace* III. xxiv. 54 Train we these minds effeminate With thoughts and ways of manlier state.

†**4.** Humane, charitable; generous. *Obs.*

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. v. 260 Artow manlyche amonge thi neiȝbores of thi mete and drynke?

†**5.** Having the attributes of a (liege) man; subservient. *Obs.*

c 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 65 And also ȝif þei ȝeuen a benefis for men ben of here kyn,.. or ellis for þe clerk is manly to þe lord in gay clopinge,..or ony oþere veyn iapis.

†**6.** 'Grown up'; adult, mature. *Obs.*

1579 W. WILKINSON *Confut. Familye of Loue, Heret. Affirm.* b j b, Not that they should alwayes remaine as subiect thereunder [the ordinance of the Lord], but vntill the appoynted tyme, vntill the manly old age in the godly vnderstanding of the holy word. 1621 T. WILLIAMSON tr. *Goulart's Wise Vieillard* 14 Those men .. with the sinnes of their middle and manly age, doe fill vp the measure of their iniquities with the vices of a shamelesse old age. 1647 JER. TAYLOR *Lib. Proph.* xviii. 244 If the Infant vow be invalid till the Manly confirmation. 1691 WOOD *Ath. Oxon.* I. 6 William Galeon..did in his Manly Years take upon him the Habit of the Friers of the Order of St. Austin.

7. *Comb.*, as *manly-minded* adj.

1818 MOORE *Mem.* (1853) II. 163 We..walked home in the evening. Scully a good, honest, manly-minded fellow.

Manly (mæ·nli), *adv.* For forms see MAN *sb.*1 and -LY 2. [f. MAN *sb.*1 + -LY 2; in OE. *mannlice.*]

1. In a manly manner; like a man; manfully, courageously, with valour or energy. ? *Obs.* or *arch.*

In ME. alliterative poetry often used expletively.

Beowulf 1046 Swa man-lice mære þeoden, hord-weard hæleþa heaþo-ræsas ȝeald mearum ond madmum. *c* 1205 LAY. 26855 And hæhte heom amorȝen monliche arisen. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 422 Holdeð ou ine swuche reste þet ȝe longe þerefter muwen ine Godes seruise þe monluker swinken. *a* 1300 *E. E. Ps.* XXX. 31 Dos manlike, and your hert strenghþed be. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 21341 Man [he is] quils he manli him ledis. 1382 WYCLIF 1 *Macc.* vi. 31 Thei maden engynys, and thei wenten out,..and foujten manly. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 7227 He met hom full manly with his mayn dyntes. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xxi. 94 þe kyng hase all way agayne-standen him and putt him off mannely. 1586 MARLOWE *1st Pt. Tamburl.* III. ii, Faith, and, Techelles, it was manly done. 1607 ROWLANDS *Guy Warw.* 41 The ugly beast..Comes at him manly, with most dreadful paws. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* V. 231 Our Souldiers..stood manly to it, with their Bowes and Arrowes. 1755 JOHNSON, *Manly* adv., with courage like a man.

†**2.** Like a human being. **a.** Humanely, courteously; generously. **b.** After the fashion of fallen man; unregenerately. *Obs.*

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. x. 87 Who-so hath moche, spene manliche so meneth Thobie. 1382 WYCLIF 2 *Macc.* ix. 27 Forsothe Ȳ trist, hym to do myldly, and manly, or curteysly. — *Acts* xxvii. 3 Iulius tretynge manly [*gloss.* or kurteysly] Poule suffride for to go to frendis. 1547 HOOPER *Declar. Christ* iv. D ij, Let hym tary style in the doctrine of man and lyue as manly and carnally as he list.

†**3.** Excellently, 'bravely'. *Obs.*

1605 SHAKS. *Mach.* IV. iii. 235 This time goes manly: Come go we to the King, our Power is ready, Our lacke is nothing but our leaue.

Ma·n-mi·dwife. Now *rare.* Pl. men-midwives. A man who assists women in childbirth; an accoucheur. Also *fig.*

1625 B. JONSON *Staple of N.* Induct., There are a set of gamesters within, in trauell of a thing call'd a Play,.. and they haue intreated me to be their Man-Midwife, the Prologue. 1638 SUCKLING *Aglaura* (1646) 5 That old doting man-mid-wife Time. 1727 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *After-Birth*, That which Chirurgeons and Men-Midwives call Placenta. 1783 S. F. SIMMONS in *Med. Commun.* I. 176 Dr. Bland, physician man-midwife to the Westminster General Dispensary. 1797 *Directory Sheffield* 81 Hodgson, John, surgeon, and man-midwife. 1807 ROBINSON *Archæol. Græca* V. xiv. 476 The ancient Athenians used only men-midwives.

Hence **Man-midwifery,** the practice or occupation of a man-midwife.

1681 T. FLATMAN *Heraclitus Ridens* No. 14 *Jest.*..But you promised me I should see Mr. Character brought to bed. *Earn.* That you shall presently, of a Premunire at least, by the help of his own man-midwifery. 1684 EARL ROSCOM. *Ess. Transl. Verse* 244 A Quack (too scandalously Mean to Name) Had, by Man-Midwifery, got Wealth and Fame. 1790 P. THICKNESSE (*title*) Man-Midwifery Analyzed.

Ma·n-mi·lliner. Pl. men-, man-milliners. A man who makes or vends millinery; 'hence, a man who is busied with trifling occupations or embellishments' (Webster).

1792 FLOYD in Southey *Life A. Bell* (1844) I. 439 Many unfortunate young gentlemen are put into the army by their barbarous friends,.. who have not constitutions for a man-milliner. 1796 SOUTHEY *Lett. fr. Spain* (1799) 223, I look upon a Man milliner not only as one of the most despicable members of society, but as one of the most injurious. 1807 *Sporting Mag.* XXIX. 185 The plaintiff is a Haberdasher and Man-milliner living in Piccadilly. 1813 *Examiner* 1 Feb. 76/2 Some men milliners deprecate the employment of women. 1814 HAZLITT *Pol. Ess.* (1819) 66 The *Morning Herald* sheds tears of joy over the fashionable virtues of the rising generation, and finds that we shall make better man-milliners, better lacqueys, and better courtiers than ever. 1839 T. HOOK *Birth, Deaths,* etc. I. ii. 53 He's an empty-pated fellow, and as conceited as a man-milliner. 1901 *Westm. Gaz.* 5 Feb. 5/2 One of the leading man-milliners hopes the strike [of ladies' tailors in Paris] will succeed.

attrib. 1850 THACKERAY *Contrib. to Punch* Wks. (Biogr. ed.) VI. 691 One of those twopenny-halfpenny men-milliner moralists.

Ma·n-mi·llinery. A contemptuous term for clothing or apparel (e.g. uniforms, ecclesiastical vestments) to which men devote their attention trivially or unworthily (as is supposed).

1819 SCOTT *Let. to J. Richardson* 22 Aug. in *Lockhart,* There goes as much to the man-millinery of a young officer of hussars as to that of an heiress on her bridal day. 1846 *Ecclesiologist* Ser. II. V. 31 Those who..call the ecclesiological movement 'manmillinery'.

Manna[1] (mæ·nă). Also 1 monna, 2–3 manne, 4 mana. [a. late L. *manna* neut. indecl. (later also fem. *a* stem), a. Hellenistic Gr. *μάννα* neut. indecl. (LXX and N. T.), ad. (? through Aramaic *mannā*) Heb. מָן *mān* (whence Gr. *μάν*, L. *man*, occurring more frequently than the longer form in the LXX and Vulgate O. T.: see MAN *sb.*3).

G. Ebers (*Durch Gosen zum Sinai*), gives plausible reasons for believing that the Ancient Egyptian *mannu* denoted the exudation of *Tamarix gallica.* As the Arab. *mann* has the same sense, it seems possible that the Heb. word may represent the name anciently current in the Sinaitic wilderness for this natural product, which in many respects agrees with the description of the miraculous manna, and which is still locally regarded as a dew falling from the sky. The etymological tradition or conjecture preserved in Ex. xvi. 15 represents the word as having originated from the question *man hū?* 'what is it' (in Aramaic or supposed archaic Heb.), which grammatically admits of being interpreted 'It is *mān*'. (Cf. the Vulgate, l. c.: Dixerunt ad invicem: Manhu, quod interpretatur, 'quid est hoc?')

The word has been adopted in most versions of the Bible, and appears in figurative uses in the literature of most of the countries of Christendom. Cf. Goth., OHG. (MHG., mod.G.), Du., Sw., It. *manna,* F. *manne,* Sp. *maná,* Pg. *mamá.*

Whether the Gr. *μάννα,* L. *manna,* fem., meaning a grain of frankincense (sense 9 below), is connected with this word is uncertain, though an oriental origin for it is probable.]

I. Biblical and allusive uses.

1. The substance miraculously supplied as food to the Children of Israel during their progress through the Wilderness. (See *Exodus* xvi.)

c 897 K. ALFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* xvii. 124 And eac sceal bion on ðæm breostum ðæs monnan swetnes. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Exod.* xvi. 31 And nemdon þone mete Manna. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 141 Sunnedei god sende manna from houene. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 99 He let hem reine manne to biline and gef hem bred of heuene. *c* 1330 *Assump. Virg.* (B.M. MS.) 768–9 Thei ouerturned þat ilke stone; Bodi þei founde þer none; But þei sawe in þat stede þana Liand as it were a mana. That manna bitokned þure clene lyf. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) iv. 12 In þe toumbe of sayne Iohn men may fynd na thyng bot manna. *c* 1586 C'TESS PEMBROKE *Ps.* LXXVIII. x, He .. bade the cloudes ambrosian manna rain. 1651 C. CARTWRIGHT *Cert. Relig.* I. 124 The Apostle there calleth Manna spirituall meat, yet was Manna a materiall thing. 1756–7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) II. 183 And on the reverse the pot of manna, or, as others will have it, the censor. 1842 J. H. NEWMAN *Par. Serm.* VI. xi. 156 The manna in the wilderness was a real gift.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1593 G. HARVEY *Precursor Pierces Super.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 12 To make choice of..the most vertuous hearbes of Philosophie,..and the most heauenly manna of Diuinitie. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* v. i. 294 Faire Ladies you drop Manna in the way Of starued people. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* II. 113 His Tongue Dropt Manna, and could make the worse appear The better reason. 1684 OTWAY *Atheist* I. i, Do you dispise your own Manna indeed, and long after Quails? 1822 LAMA *Elia* Ser. I. *Roast Pig,* The lean, no lean, but a kind of animal manna. 1890 R. BRIDGES *Shorter Poems* III. *London Snow,* They gathered up the crystal manna to freeze Their tongues with tasting, their hands with snow-balling.

2. Spiritual nourishment; food divinely supplied, whether for mind or body, esp. the holy eucharist.

1382 WYCLIF *Rev.* ii. 17 To the ouercomynge I shal ȝiue manna hid, *or aungel mete.* [Similarly 1535 COVERDALE and 1611.] *c* 1450 tr. *De Imitatione* III. xl. 110 To þe victour is yoven manna. 1654 JER. TAYLOR *Real Pres.* 58 The word of God, the most honourable and eldest of things is called Manna. 1843 NEALE *Hymns for Sick* (1863) 47 Let not Thy Manna fail me at the last. 1861 *Hymns A. & M.* No. 314 ('O food that weary pilgrims love'), O bread of Angel-hosts above, O Manna of the Saints.

†**3.** [After F. *manne.*] **a.** A valuable staple of food. *Obs.* (? *nonce-use.*)

1693 EVELYN *De la Quint. Compl. Gard.* I. 55 It is us'd in the Winter time to cover Fig-Trees, Artichokes, Succories, Selery, &c. Which are all Manna's of great Value in Gard'ning. *Ibid.* II. 194 Lettuces are Plants that are..commonly seen in our Kitchen-Gardens, and are indeed the most useful Manna of them.

b. (See quots.)

1816 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* ix. (1818) I. 284 Between the 10th and 15th of August is the time when those [*sc.* Ephemeræ] of the Seine and Marne..are expected by the fishermen, who call them *manna.* 1864 *Intell. Observ.* No. 33. 151 Ephemeræ..commonly known by the name of Manna.

II. In *Pharmacy,* etc.

4. A sweet pale yellow or whitish concrete juice obtained from incisions in the bark of the Manna-ash, *Fraxinus Ornus,* chiefly in Calabria and Sicily; used in medicine as a gentle laxative. Also, a similar exudation obtained from other plants.

[*c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 182 Cole hem, & resolue þeron cassia fistula ℥j., thamarindorum, manne ana ȝss., & boile hem a litil togidere.] 1533 ELYOT *Cast. Helthe* (1541) 58 Pourgers of Choler:.. Manna vi drammes at the leaste, and soo to XXV, in the brothe of a henne or capon. 1543 TRAHERON *Vigo's Chirurg., Interpr. Strange Words,* Manna is a dewe thicked, and fallynge in certayne places vpon trees, .. and vsed for purgations. 1660 F. BROOKE tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 4 Upon the Mount Libanus..you may find the Manna, or Celestial dew, which I..took for snow. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 241 This Manna is White and Granulated, and..I think not inferior to the Calabrian. 1764 CHESTERF. *Lett. to Godson* (1890) 354, I made him take a little manna, which has done him good. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XIV. 764/2 Some manna was gathered from the green leaves [of a pine], but it could never be condensed. 1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) IV. 344 It [juice of birch-tree] is easily obtained by wounding the trunk, and when fresh is a sweetish and limpid fluid in its concrete state affording a brownish manna. 1830 LINDLEY *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 92 The Manna of Arabia is produced by several species of Hedysarum. 1856 STANLEY *Sinai & Pal.* I. II. 69 Feathery tamarisks..on whose leaves is found what the Arabs call manna.

b. with qualifying word, as *cane, canulated, fat, flake, flaky, lachrymatory manna*; *Calabrian, Levant, Sicilian, Syrian, Tolfa manna*; **Australian manna,** a secretion of certain species of Eucalyptus, esp. *E. viminalis*; **Briançon manna,** a substance secreted by the common larch; **Hebrew, Jews', Mount Sinai, Persian manna,** the product of *Alhagia maurorum* or of *Tamarix gallica* var. *mannifera*; **lerp manna** = LERP; **Madagascar manna** = DULCITE.

1611 COTGR., *Manne de Calabre,* Calabrian Manna; the best and most lasting Manna... *Manne de Cotton*.. the worse kind of Leuant Manna, and the worst of all others. 1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v., Formerly the Syrian manna was in the most repute, but now it gives way to the Calabrian. 1753 *Ibid. Supp., Manna Mastichina*... This is what we usually know..under the name of *Manna Persicum,* or Persian Manna, which is at this time in use in medicine in the East. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) X. 537/2 The larger pieces, called *flake manna,* are usually preferred. *Ibid.* 538/2 This is the best kind, and by the people of [Sicily] is called *lachrymatory* or *cane* manna. *Ibid.,* The Sicilian manna is dearer and more esteemed than that of Calabria. 1811 A. T. THOMSON *Lond. Disp.* (1818) 179 It is collected in baskets, and known under the name of *manna grassa,* fat manna... A finer kind of manna is procured, which is called canulated or flaky manna, *manna in cannoli.* 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XIV. 386/1 The kind which is most abundant is by the Arabs called *toorunjbeen,* which is often translated 'Persian manna'. *Ibid.* 386/2 A sweetish exudation is produced on the larch (*Larix europea*), which forms the *Manna briantiaca,* or Briançon Manna of some Pharmacopœias. 1864 *Chambers' Encycl.* VI. 307/2 The manna of the Israelites .. appears probably..to have been the saccharine substance called *Mount Sinai Manna.* 1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XV. 493/2 The Lerp manna of Australia is of animal origin.

c. Manna in sorts [= F. *manne en sortes,* pharmaceutical L. *manna in sortibus*], **manna in tears** [= F. *manne en larmes*]: see quots.

1853 ROYLE *Man. Mat. Med.* (ed. 2) 542 *Manna in tears* is a pure kind, in bright and roundish white grains... Inferior kinds are in smaller pieces,..and often intermixed with im-

purities. These are called *Manna in sorts, Fat Manna, Tolfa Manna*, &c. **1866** *Treas. Bot.* 823/2 The inferior [kind], or 'manna in sorts' [is obtained] from cuts [in the stem of the Ash] near the ground.

†**5.** In early *Chemistry*: A white powder. *Obs.*

1694 Salmon *Bate's Dispens.* (1713) 209/1 This is the same Medicine which is call'd Manna of Lead by Schroder. **1706** Phillips (ed. Kersey), s.v., *Chymical Manna*, a Substance distill'd from Precipitate, whiter than Snow.

6. (In full *Poland* or *Polish manna* = F. *manne de Pologne*.) = *Manna seeds* (see 9).

1785 Martyn *Rousseau's Bot.* xiii. (1794) 139 The seeds of this [*Festuca fluitans*] .. appear there under the name of Manna. **1864** *Chambers' Encycl.* VI. 308/1 They [the seeds] ..are very palatable and nutritious, and are known in shops as *Polish Manna, Manna Seeds*, and *Manna Croup*. **1866** *Treas. Bot.* 718/2 *Manna*, Poland. *Glyceria fluitans*.

7. A species of grass, *Setaria* (*Panicum*) *italica*, better known as Italian or Hungarian millet, originally native of Asia, but now extensively cultivated for fodder in Europe and South Africa.

1897 *Agric. Jrnl. C. Good Hope* X. 108 You have done the sensible thing in sending a specimen of your so-called Manna for identification... Well, it is *Setaria italica*, Beauv., in one of its varieties.

†**8.** A grain (of frankincense); frankincense in grains. *Obs.*

[Strictly another word: a. Gr. μάννα, L. *manna*, fem. *a* stem: see etymological note above.]

1601 Holland *Pliny* I. 367 As for the small crums or fragments [of incense] which fall off by shaking, we called Manna, (*i. Thuris*). **1753** Chambers *Cycl. Supp., Manna Thuris*, the *Manna of Frankincense*, a term used by the ancient physicians to express such small pieces of frankincense..as broke off..in carriage.

9. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *manna-dew, -meal*; *manna-bearing, -eating, -like, -yielding* adjs.; **manna ash** (tree), the tree *Fraxinus Ornus*; **manna-grass**, †(*a*) = Dew-grass; (*b*) the aquatic grass *Glyceria fluitans*; **manna-groats**: see Manna-croup; **manna lichen**, either of the lichens *Lecanora esculenta* and *L. affinis*; **manna-mead**, a fermented beverage obtained from manna; **manna seeds**, the seeds of manna-grass, *Glyceria fluitans*; **manna sugar** = Mannite; **manna tree** = *manna ash*. Also Manna-croup.

1715 J. Petiver in *Phil. Trans.* XXIX. 238 This .. more resembles our *Manna Ash. **1892** *Pall Mall G.* 21 July 3/1 The slanting lights which played through manna-ash, acacia-hedge, and tamarisk. **1864** *Chambers' Encycl.* VI. 307 There are several other manna-yielding plants besides the ash, especially the *manna-bearing Eucalyptus. **1819** Keats *La Belle Dame* vii, She found me roots of relish sweet, And honey wild, and *manna-dew. **1875** E. White *Life in Christ* III. xvii. (1878) 218 The physical death, died by the *manna-eating fathers. **1597** Gerarde *Herbat* I. xx. § 1. 26 In English it may be called *Manna grasse, or Dew grasse. **1759** B. Stillingfl. tr. *Gedner's Use Curiosity* in *Misc. Tracts* (1762) 182 The seed of the flote or manna grass, affords a very pleasing .. nourishment to man. **1847** Darlington *Amer. Weeds* (1860) 381 *Floating Glyceria*. Manna-grass. **1864** *Reader* No. 85. 205/2 Authors who have described the *manna-lichen. **1874** Lisle Carr *Jud. Guynne* I. vii. 235 As he listened to these *manna-like words. **1753** Chambers *Cycl. Supp., Manna*,.. the spirituous part of the *manna-mead. **1820** C. R. Maturin *Melmoth* (1892) III. xxviii. 115 They partook of this *manna-meal,—this food that seemed to have dropped from heaven. **1764** *Mus. Rusticum* II. lxxxviii. 300 The seeds of this grass [flote fescue] are gathered yearly in Poland, .. and sold under the name of *manna-seeds. **1836** Brande *Chem.* 906 Mannite; *Manna-Sugar. **1770** *Phil. Trans.* LX. 233 The *Manna tree..is a kind of ash tree. **1773** Brydone *Sicily* xxxvii. (1809) 353 The manna-tree is esteemed the most profitable. **1864** *Manna-yielding [see *manna-bearing* above].

Hence **Ma'nna'd** *a.* (*nonce-wd.*) [-ED²], sweetened as with manna; honeyed.

1776 Mickle tr. *Camoens' Lusiad* IX. 377 Enraged, he sees ..each, for some base interest of his own, With Flattery's manna'd lips assail the throne.

‖ **Ma'nna**[2]. *Obs. rare*—[1]. [Hellenistic Gr. *μάννα, v.r. μάναα* (Vulg. *manna, manaa*), occurring freq. in the LXX as a transliteration of Heb. מִנְחָה *minḥāh* offering, sacrifice. Cf. Syriac ܡܢܚܬܐ.]

1382 Wyclif *Baruch* i. 10 Make þ manaa [**1388** Make 3e sacrifice]. **1611** Bible *Ibid.*, Prepare yee manna [*margin*, Gr. corruptly for Mincha, a meat offering].

Mannace, obs. form of Menace.

Manna-croup (mæ'năkrŭ̈p). [ad. Russian манная крупа (*mannaya* fem. adj. 'pertaining to manna', *krupa* groats), or the equivalent in some other Slavonic language. The Ger. synonym is *mannagrütze* (*grütze* = Grit *sb.*2).] **a.** A coarse granular meal consisting of the large hard grains of wheat-flour retained in the bolting-machine, or in the grooves of the grinding-stones, after the fine flour has passed through, used for making puddings, soups, etc. **b.** A similar meal made from the seeds of the manna-grass, *Glyceria fluitans*.

1855 Ogilvie *Suppl., Manna Croup*, a granular preparation of wheat-flour deprived of bran. **1864** *Chambers' Encycl.* VI. 307/2 *Manna Croup*, or *Manna Groats*, a kind of semolina, prepared in Russia, usually from the hard wheats of Odessa and Taganrog... Another kind is made by husking the small grain of the aquatic grass, *Glyceria fluitans*. **1872** Sowerby *Eng. Bot.* XI. 98 Floating Meadow-Grass... In several parts of Germany this grass is cultivated for its seeds, which form the manna croup of the shops.

Mannadge, obs. form of Manage.

Mannage, -ery, obs. forms of Manage, -ery.

Mannakin, variant of Manikin.

Mannance, mannas(s, obs. ff. Menace.

Mannasi, -asy, obs. forms of Manatee.

Mannatee, -ti, -ty, obs. forms of Manatee.

Mannee, variant of Mani.

Mannequin, variant of Manikin.

Manner (mæ'nəɹ), *sb.*[1] Forms: 2–6 **manere**, 3–7 **maner**, (4 **maneer, manyere**), 4–5 **manar**, 4–6 **maneir**, (5 **manur, moner**(e, 6 **manoure, manier**, *Sc.* **manir, manieir**, 6, 8 *Sc.* **mainer**, 7 **mannor**), 4– **manner**. [a. AF. *manere* (OF. *maniere*, mod.F. *manière*) = Pr. *maneira, manieira, maniera*, Sp. *manera*, Pg. *maneira*, It. *maniera*, repr. a popular L. type **man(u)āria*, app. an elliptical or absolute use of the fem. of L. *manuārius* belonging to the hand, f. *manus* hand (cf. OF., Pr. *manier*, Sp. *manero* carried in the hand, It. *maniero* manageable, tractable); the primary sense would thus be 'mode of handling'. The Fr. word has passed into most of the Teut. langs.: cf. OFris. *maniere*, MDu. *maniere, meniere* (Du. *manier*), MHG. *maniere* (G. *manier*), Sw. *manér*, Da. *maner*.

The word early became the recognized translation of the L. *modus* and *mōs*, and its sense-development has been affected by assimilation in meaning to both these words.]

1. The way in which something is done or takes place; method of action; mode of procedure. Chiefly in phr. formed with preps. *in* (†*on*, †*by, after*) *this manner* (= thus), *in what manner* (= how), *in divers manners*, †*in good manner*, etc. †*In manner that*: so that.

c **1275** Lay. 18983 Þes þinges weren forþriht in þilke manere idiht [*c* 1205 þus weoren idihte]. **1297** R. Glouc. (Rolls) 502 In þis manere iwis Corineus bi wan cornwaile to him. **1340** *Ayenb.* 51 Ine vif maneres me zenegeþ be mete and be drinke. **1390** Gower *Conf.* III. 24 So as sche mai in good manere Hir honour and her name save. *c* **1420** Lydg. *Assembly of Gods* 5 Musyng on a maner how that I myght make Reason & Sensualyte in oon to acorde. *c* **1450** *Merlin* 2 We yede and assaied hym in alle the maneres that we cowden. **1523** Ld. Berners *Froiss.* I. lix. 80 *heading*, Howe therle of Heynault assayled the fortresse of Mortayne in Picardy by dyuers maners. **1530** Palsgr. 750/1, I have no joy to be taken up of you on this maner. **1557** N. T. (Geneva) *Heb.* i. 1 God spake at sondrie tymes & in diuers maners in the olde tyme to our fathers by the Prophetes. **1601** Shaks. *Jul. C.* IV. iii. 189 For certaine she is dead, and by strange manner. **1611** Bible *Neh.* vi. 4 They sent vnto me foure times,..and I answered them after the same maner. **1646** (*title*) The True Mannor and Forme of the Proceeding to the Funerall of..the Earle of Essex. **1647–8** Cotterell *Davila's Hist. Fr.* (1678) 21 They disposed the order of their Council in manner as followeth. **1766** Goldsm. *Vic. W.* x, We should go there in as proper a manner as possible; not altogether like the scrubs about us. **1791** Mrs. Radcliffe *Rom. Forest* iv, [He] sometimes thanked her in a manner more earnest than was usual with him. **1850** Mrs. Jameson *Leg. Monast. Ord.* (1863) 52 Chanting the divine services according to the Gregorian manner. **1875** Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) IV. 227 The mathematician .. is not capable of giving a reason in the same manner as the dialectician.

b. *In* (†*on*) *like manner*, also †*like manner*: in a similar way, similarly. †*In, by no manner*, also †*no manner*: not in any way, not at all.

c **1325** *Spec. Gy Warw.* 628 He..þat nele be meke in none manere. **1382** Wyclif *Matt.* xxi. 36 Eftsones he sente other seruauntis, mo than the firste, and liche maner [**1388** in lijk maner, Vulg. *similiter*] thei diden to hem. **14..** *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 598/11 *Nullatenus*, no manere. **1470–85** Malory *Arthur* I. xv. 56 Whan syr Arthur sawe the batail wold not be endyd by no maner. **1556** Lauder *Tractate* 259 Than can 3e be no maner want Gold. **1563** Winjet *Four Scoir Thre Quest.* Wks. 1888 I. 81 Baptim onlyke maner makis ws saif. **1611** Bible *Transl. Pref.* ¶ 8 In like maner, Vlpilas is reported..to haue translated the Scriptures into the Gothicke tongue. **1820** Shelley *Hymn to Mercury* lxi, He averred .. that he did neither see Or even had in any manner heard Of my lost cows. **1863** Lyell *Antiq. Man* 25 Among other characters, the diminished thickness of the bones [etc.].. are relied on; and in like manner, the diminished size of the horns of the bull.

c. Const. *of* with gerund or noun of action (*arch.*). *Manner of speaking* [perh. after F. *manière de parler*]: form of expression. *In a manner of speaking*: so to speak.

c **1391** Chaucer *Astrol.* II. § 3 Yif it be after the middel of the day, set the degree of tby sonne up-on the west side; tak this manere of setting for a general rewle. **1532** Tindale *Exp. Matt.* v. 38–42 (?1550) 42 To turne ye other cheke is a maner of spekynge and not be vnderstand as the words sound. **1593** Shaks. *Rich. II*, v. vi. 9 The manner of their taking may appeare At large discoursed in this paper heere. **1597** Morley *Introd. Mus.* 45 This is our vsual maner of pricking and setting downe of the Proportions. **1632** Sanderson *Serm.* 47 Obserue secondly the Apostles maner of speech. **1729** Butler *Serm.* Pref., A manner of speaking not loose and undeterminate, but clear and distinct. **1763** Golosm. *Misc. Wks.* (1837) I. 549 A more just manner of thinking and expressing. **1809** Roland *Fencing* 118 The manner of executing it was [etc.]. **1890** 'R. Boldrewood' *Col. Reformer* (1891) 219 The cattle..has been, in a manner of speaking, neglected.

d. Gram. *Adverb of manner*: one which answers, or which is equivalent to, the question *how?*

1727–41 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v. *Adverb*, Adverbs .. may be reduced under the general classes of Adverbs of time, of place, of order, of quantity, of quality, of manner [etc.]. **1872** R. Morris *Engl. Accid.* 193 Adverbs of.. Manner or Quality, as *well, wisely* [etc.].

†**2.** *The manner of*: the state of the case with respect to (a person, thing or event); the character, disposition, or nature of. (Also occas. without *of*.) *Obs.*

c **1330** R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 15864 'Lo!' sche seide, 'wher he come þ here!' & telde of Pellit al þe manere. *c* **1330** — *Chron.* (1810) 275 A messengere þei sent, to telle alle þe manere, To þe Scottis he went, and said as 3e may here. **1426** Lydg. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 6710 In that myroun dyde I se The maner hool off the cyte. **1470–85** Malory *Arthur* x. lxiii. 522 Syre Palomydes told Hermynde alle the manere and how they slewe sir Lamorak. **1523** Ld. Berners *Froiss.* I. xvii. 18 *heading*, Here the hystory speketh of the maner of the Scottis, and howe they can warre. **1530** Palsgr. 307/2, I scryve a thyng, I discrybe the maner of it. *a* **1557** Mrs. M. Basset tr. *More's Treat. Passion* M.'s Wks. 1383/2 As hys trespas was a great deale more heynous, so was the manoure of hys well deseruyd ende, muche more pyteous. **1653** H. Cogan tr. *Pinto's Trav.* v.i. 10 There was a .. conflict betweene them, but..I am not able to deliver the manner of it. **1665** Bunyan *Holy Citie* 50 These words .. give us also to understand the manner of her strength.

†b. *In* (*the*) *manner of*: after the fashion of, in the guise of, in the same way as. *Obs.*

c **1386** Chaucer *Pars. T.* ¶ 256 (Harl. MS.) Þay sowede of fige leues in maner of breches. **1486–1504** in W. Denton *Eng. in 15th Cent.* (1888) Note D 318 My lord byschope .. dyd stand in maner of a wauereyng mynd. *a* **1533** Ld. Berners *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) K v, There came a Centuryon in maner of a messager with great haste. **1585** T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* II. xxi. 58 b, A purse .. which hee holdeth in his hande in manner of a gloue. **1659** Pearson *Creed* (1839) 358 The grave to him is in the manner of a womb to bring him forth. **1720** Strype *Stow's Lond.* VI. i. 8/1 To make a Dragon in Manner of a Standard or Ensign of certain red Samitt.

3. Customary mode of acting or behaviour, whether of an individual or of a community; habitual practice; usage, custom, fashion. Now only *literary* or *arch.*

Phr. † *For the manner*: in accordance with the fashion.

a **1225** *Ancr. R.* 6 Vor þi mot þeos riwle chaungen hire misliche efter euch ones manere. *a* **1300** *Cursor M.* 4067 All luted him on þair maner. **13..** *Gaw. & Gr. Kut.* 90 Anoþer maner meued him eke, þat he þurȝ nobelay had nomen. *c* **1380** Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 156 Where goode prestis traueilen faste to lerne goddis lawe, þei gon for þe manere to cynyle or canon. *c* **1420** *Anturs of Arth.* 498 þe lordes by-lyue hom to list ledes With many seriant of mace, as was þe manere. *c* **1510** *Lyt. Geste Robyn Hode* viii. A good maner than had Robyn..Euery daye..Thre messes wolde he here. *a* **1533** Ld. Berners *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) Llvij, Them that be of a meke and still maner. **1598** W. Phillip tr. *Linschoten* I. xcii. 163/2 And now I will shew vnto you the manner that is vsed in the ships, when they sayle home againe. **1611** Bible *Jer.* xxii. 21 This hath bin thy maner from thy youth, that thou obeyedst not my voice. **1674** tr. *Scheffer's Lapland* 90, I shall add the figures of both Sexes habited after their manner. **1710** Prideaux *Orig. Tithes* App. 3 The people..lay claim to customary manners of Tithing [etc.]. **1853** Kingsley *Hypatia* xiii. 155 She suddenly and silently, after the manner of mastiffs, sprang upon them. **1875** Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 229 Here Ctesippus, as his manner was, burst into a roar of laughter.

b. *To the manner born*: in Shaks., destined by one's birth to be subject to the (specified) custom. In later echoes often; Seeming to be congenitally fitted for some position or employment.

1602 Shaks. *Ham.* I. iv. 15 (Qo. 1604) But to my minde, though I am native heere And to the manner borne, it is a custome More honoured in the breach, then the obseruance. **1893** *Times* 26 Apr. 9/5 Yankee experts to the manner born.

4. *collect. pl.* †**a.** A person's habitual behaviour or conduct, esp. in reference to its moral aspect; moral character, morals. *Obs.*

a **1225** *Ancr. R.* 218 Hwonne a mon haueð neoweliche wif iled hom, he nimeð 3eme al softeliche of hire maneres. *c* **1369** Chaucer *Dethe Blaunche* 1014 She vsed gladly to do wele These were hir maners euerydele. *c* **1410** *Sir Cleges* 21 The pore pepull he wold releve And no man wold he greve, Meke of maners was bee. **1509** Barclay *Shyp of Folys* 118 An olde prouerbe .. Sayth that good lyfe and maners makyth man. **1535** Coverdale I *Cor.* xv. 33 Euell speakinges corruppe good maners. **1585** T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* I. xviii. 21 [He] changed his good maners and vertues into most vitious tyrannies. **1596** Shaks. *Merch. V.* II. iii. 19 Though I am a daughter to his blood, I am not to his manners. **1641** J. Jackson *True Evang. T.* I. 6 The turning of fierce and brutall men .. unto sweet .. and sociable manners. **1757** Johnson *Rambler* No. 172 ¶ 1 Nothing has been longer observed, than that a change of fortune causes a change of manners. **1794** Mrs. Radcliffe *Myst. Udolpho* i, In the few ornaments of the apartments that characterized the manners of its inhabitants.

†b. In a more abstract sense: Conduct in its moral aspect; also, morality as a subject of study; the moral code embodied in general custom or sentiment. *Obs.*

1589 Nashe *Anat. Absurd.* 42 Socrates who reduced all Philosophy vnto the manners, sayd, that this was the greatest wisedome, to distinguish good and euill thinges. **1597** Bacon *Ess.* Ep. Ded. (Arb.) 4 Nothing .. contrarie or infectious to the state of Religion, or manners. **1644** Milton *Areop.* (Arb.) 76 That also which is impious or evil absolutely either against faith or maners no law can possibly permit. **1666** Tillotson *Rule of Faith* I. iii. Wks. 1742 IV. 571 Had they believed not the scriptures but something else to have been the rule of faith and manners. **1767** A. Young *Farmer's Lett. to People* 184 It is manners alone which increase or decrease the number of people. **1776** Gibbon *Decl. & F.* ix. (1869) I. 179 Divorces were prohibited by maners rather than by laws.

c. The modes of life, customary rules of behaviour, conditions of society, prevailing in a people.

1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 199 We han, ludus, of 3our lif listned fnl ofte, þat michil hen 3our manerus fram o þur men varied. 1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* I. ii. 12 He view the manners of the towne, Peruse the traders, gaze vpon the buildings. 1605 CAMDEN *Rem.* 146 Many approoved customes, lawes, maners, fashions, and phrases haue the English alwayes borrowed of their neighbours the French. 1718 LADY M.W. MONTAGU *Lett. to C'tess Mar* 10 Mar., Those..tales..are a real representation of the manners here. 1841 D'ISRAELI *Amen. Lit.* (1867) 582 Of all our dramatists, Jonson..alone professed to study the..manners of the age. 1870 ROGERS *Hist. Gleanings* Ser. II. 199 Contemporary novels are good evidence of manners.

d. Good 'manners', customs, or way of living.

1579 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 148 We should not speake of manners or vertue to those whose mindes are infected with vice. 1596 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. IV*, III. i. 184 Defect of Manners, want of Gouernment. 1802 WORDSW. *Sonn. Milton*, Oh! raise us up, return to us again; And give us manners, virtue, freedom, power.

†e. *Literary criticism.* Character, distinctive varieties of disposition and temperament, as portrayed in epic or dramatic poetry; the portraiture of character, viewed as one of the constituent elements of poetic art. (After Aristotle's use of *ἤθη*.)

1695 DRYDEN *Parallel Poetry & Paint.* Ess. (Ker) II. 132 The persons and action of a farce are all unnatural, and the manners false, that is, inconsisting with the characters of mankind. 1700 — *Pref. Fables*, The Words are the Colouring of the Work, which .. is last to be consider'd. The Design,..the Manners, and the Thoughts, are all before it. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 273 ¶ 1 This is Aristotle's Method of considering, first the Fable, and secondly the Manners; or, as we generally call them in English, the Fable and the Characters. 1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* 1780 HARRIS *Philol. Enq.* Wks. (1841) 434 When the principal persons of any drama preserve such a consistency of conduct,..that..we conjecture what they will do hereafter from what they have done already, such persons in poetry may be said to have manners, for by this, and this only, are poetic manners constituted.

†f. Habits (of animals). Cf. F. *mœurs*. *Obs.*

1576 FLEMING tr. *Caius' Dogges* A iv, The sundry sortes of Englishe dogges he discouereth so euidently,..their manners he openeth so manifestly. 1661 LOVELL *Hist. Anim. & Min.* Introd., As for their nature and manners, they [serpents] have their poyson in the taile. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* I. 202 In his manners he [the racoon] resembles the squirrel.

5. Outward bearing, deportment, or style of address. With reference to a speaker: Characteristic style of attitude, gesture, and utterance.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 24078 Soth in speche, in maner mild. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Anel. & Arc.* 249 Voure observaunce and so lowe manere. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 64 Sche tok good hiede of his manere, And wondreth why he dede so. 1534 MORE *Comf. agst. Trib.* II. Wks. 1200/1 Arrogant maner, high solayn solemne port, ouerlooking the poore in woorde and countenance. 1557 *Tottel's Misc.* (Arb.) 234, I see well ..by thy lokes and thy manere,..That thou art stuffed full of wo. 1856 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* (1858) II. vi. 109 Something in the boy's manner attracted the banker's interest. 1888 T. E. KEBBEL *Crabbe* v. 87 His manner to women seems to have been of the kind called philandering.

b. A distinguished or fashionable air.

1694 CONGREVE *Double Dealer* II. ii, *Cynt.* A Manner! what's that, Madam? *L. Froth.* Some distinguishing Quality, as for example, the Belle-air or Brillant of Mr. Brisk;..or something of his own, that should look a little *Jene-scay-quoysh*. 1773 GOLDSM. *Stoops to Conq.* II. Wks. (Globe) 656/2 We country persons can have no manner at all...But who can have a manner, who has never seen...such places where the nobility chiefly resort? 1883 GRANT WHITE *W. Adams* 83 Her manners were quite as good as Lady Boreham's; and her manner was as superior as that of the so-called Venus of Milo might be to that of the Venus of a burlesque.

6. *pl.* (†formerly also *sing.*) External behaviour in social intercourse, estimated as good or bad according to its degree of politeness or of conformity to the accepted standard of propriety.

c 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 1504 *Hypsip.*, Sche .. knew by hyre manyere..That it were gentil men of gret degre. 1530 PALSGR. 415/1 Thoughe thou do me good, it is not good maner to abrayde me therof. 1593 G. HARVEY *Precursor Pierces Super.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 9 Some of vs are not so deuoide of good manner, but we .. will euer be prest to interteine Curtesie with curtesie. 1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* v. i. 94 These bloody accidents must excuse my Manners, That so neglected you. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 208 They hold it ill manners that one should touch the meat with his hand. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 53 ¶ 5 The Women lost their Wit, and the Men their good Manners. 1791 *Gentl. Mag.* 20/2 The young minister would become a pattern to the manners as well as to the morals of his neighbourhood. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xii. III. 168 His manners and conversation were those of a gentleman who had been bred in the most polite..of all Courts. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* vii. § 8. 443 Hugh..was in manners and bearing an Englishman.

b. *transf.* Of a horse: Action.

1861 WHYTE MELVILLE *Mkt. Harb.* 20 There's some legs—there's some hocks and thighs!..Carries his own head, too; and if you could see his manners!

7. Polite behaviour or deportment; habits indicative of good breeding. In *pl.*; †rarely *sing.*

c 1374 CHAUCER *Compl. Mars* 294 Compleyneth her that euere hath had yow dere, Compleyneth beaute, fredom and manere. 1563–87 FOXE *A. & M.* (K. O.), It is no manners to [etc.]. 1588 KYD *Housek. Phil.* Wks. (1901) 254 That which for manner sake wee are wont to doe to others. 1605 SHAKS. *Lear* v. iii. 234 The time will not allow the complement Which very manners vrges. 1610 BIBLE (Douay) *Ecclus.* xxxi. 17 Leaue of first, for maners sake, and exceede not. *a* 1652 BROME *Queen & Concub.* III. vii. (1659) 61 *Cur.* Wilt thou be a Scholar? *Andr.* After you is manners. *Cur.* Now by mine intellect, discreetly spoken. 1663 DRYDEN *Wild Gallant* III. i, Have you no more manners than to overlook a man when he's a writing? 1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) II. 117 He pressed us so earnestly to dinner, that we could not, in manners, refuse him. 1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* viii, Our manners would have taught us to tarry till your lordship had invited us. 1875 JOWETT *Plato, Gorgias* (ed. 2) II. 331 There is a great want of manners in bringing the argument to such a pass.

b. Forms of politeness or respect. *Obs.* exc. *arch.* or *dial.* in *To do* or *make one's manners.*

1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* I. i. 247, I aduise you vse your manners discreetly in all kind of companies. 1601 — *All's Well* IV. v. 93 Madam, I was thinking with what manners I might safely be admitted. 1701 DE FOE *True-born Eng.* II. 143 But like our Modern Quakers of the Town, Expect your Manners, and return you none. 1824 in *Spirit Pub. Jrnls.* (1825) 226 Having done their manners to his Worship, Mr. Dennis Macarthy proceeded to question his beloved. 1825 J. NEAL *Bro. Jonathan* I. 138 Declaring, with a bow, or a bob, that 'nobody needn't plague themselves..;' and—making their manners, once more—'and, whether or no' [etc.]. 1863 MRS. GASKELL *Sylvia's L.* ii. (ed. 2) I. 30, I humbly make my manners, missus.

8. a. Method or style of execution in art or literature. (In literary application often contrasted with *matter*.)

1662 EVELYN *Chalcogr.* iii. 30 They..ruin'd all those ..excellent Works, whereever they became Masters, introducing their lame, and wretched manner, in all those Arts which they pretended to restore. 1664 — tr. *Fréart's Parallel Archit.* ii. 10 The heroick and gigantine manner of this Order [the Doric]..discovering a certain masculine and natural beauty, which is properly that the French call *la grand Maniere*. 1695 DRYDEN *Parallel Poetry & Paint.* Ess. (Ker) II. 123 Plato himself is accustomed to write loftily, imitating, as the critics tell us, the manner of Homer. 1708 ADDISON *Let.* in *Ann. Reg.* (1778) XXI. 176/2 The whole is concluded by a nightingale, that has a much better voice than Mrs. Tofts, and something of the Italian manner in her divisions. 1754 GRAY *Let. to Wharton* 13 Aug., He [Kent] introduced a mix'd Style, which now goes by the name of the Battey-Langley-Manner. 1780 COWPER *Table T.* 542 Manner is all in all, whatever is writ, The substitute for genius, sense, and wit. 1824 DIBDIN *Libr. Comp.* p. iv, Miniature engravings in the line manner. 1837 *Penny Cycl.* IX. 440/1 Goltzius ..imparted a boldness to engraving which forms a striking contrast to the neat stiff manner of his predecessors. 1850 BLACKIE *Æschylus* I. Pref. 7 Poetry is distinguished from prose more by the manner than by the matter. 1878 R. W. DALE *Lect. Preach.* vi. 178 Lord Macaulay's manner is very contagious.

b. *spec.* The method or style characteristic of a particular artist, etc.; often in unfavourable sense = mannerism.

1706 *Art of Painting* (1744) 316 He at last degenerated into what we call manner, and very seldom consulted nature. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) X. 538/2 *Manner*, in painting..But the best painter is he who has no manner at all. 1813 *Examiner* 10 May 299/2 Most Artists have what is denominated a manner, unlike the unobtrusiveness of Nature. 1837 *Penny Cycl.* IX. 440/2 The great excellence of his works in other respects was enhanced by the absence of all *manner*, except such as belonged to the painter after whom he engraved. 1855 BAIN *Senses & Int.* III. ii. § 19 (1864) 485 Let a composer vary his works as he may, there is a manner that usually sits upon every one of them.

c. One of the several distinct methods of an artist, which mark phases or periods in his career.

1727–52 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v., The curious in pictures..distinguish readily..between the antient and the new *manner* of the same painter. 1762–71 H. WALPOLE *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1786) I. 85 A picture of Raphael in his first manner. 1867 BARRY *Sir C. Barry* iv. 97 The building which most distinctly marks his 'second manner'. 1902 *Daily Chron.* 22 Apr. 3/1 Mr. Henderson's attempt to divide Wagner's works into four styles or manners is rather misleading.

9. Species, kind, sort. †Formerly often with ellipsis of *of*. Now only *arch.* in *What manner of . . .?* (†corruptly, *what manner a . . .?*)

The origin of the ellipsis of *of* (which appears very early) is that *manner* was used in the place of the older KIN *sb.*[1], and succeeded to its syntax: see KIN *sb.*[1] 6 b.

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 51 Crabbe is an manere of fissce in þere sea. *c* 1290 *St. Brendan* 719 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 239 3wane ore lonerd eche-manere men to him haueth i-drawe. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 6765 Cow or shepe hors or oþer maner of ast. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Compl. Mars* 116 She ne founde ne saugh no maner wyght. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) Pref. 3 Whare dwelles many diuerse maners of folke. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 102 A maner of men, mermydons callid. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Armys* (S. T. S.) 13 He sett him in ane othir maner fassoun to procede. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* XVII. iii. 692 His bones be of suche a maner of kynde that [etc.]. 1528 TINDALE *Par. Wicked Mammon* 6 They fele no maner workynge of the spyryte. 1549 LATIMER *1st Serm. bef. Edw. VI* (Arb.) 27 God prescribid vnto them an order, howe they|y shulde chose their kyng, and what manner a man he shoulde be. 1600 FAIRFAX *Tasso* XVII. iii. 296 Come say (my muse) what manner times these weare. 1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* IV. iii. 89 What manner of Fellow was hee that robb'd you? 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* I. x. 46 Kings..gave divers manners of Scutchions, to such as went forth to the War. 1674 PLAYFORD *Skill Mus.* II. 101 There are three sorts of Bass-Viols, as there are three manners of ways in playing. 1690 W. WALKER *Idiomat. Anglo-Lat.* 289, I believe you can tell what a manner of father I have. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 234 What manner of man was he who came up to you and censured philosophy?

b. *sing.* with plural construction (cf. KIND *sb.* 14 b), qualified by *all, many, these*, or a numeral. † In early use often with ellipsis of *of*. Now only in *all manner of* = all sorts of.

All manner was down to the 16th c. often written *almaner*; *thesemanner* also occurs as one word.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 10 þer beoð two dolen to two manere of men. *c* 1320 *Cast. Love* 1596 The threttenyth day all maner men Shull dyen. 1471 *Hist. Arriv. Edw. IV* (Camden) 34 Thes manar of writings. 1485 *Act 1 Hen. VII*, c. 10 § 9 To have and enjoie almaner seisours forfaitures and penaltees. 1525 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* II. ccvi. [ccii.] 633 In many maner of wayes. 1526 TINDALE *Matt.* x. 1 To heale all maner of sicknesses and all maner off deseases. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 142 These-maner monstres. 1556 *Chron. Gr. Friars* (Camden) 79 Dyschargyd from the crowne and from almaner of possessions of the kynge their fader. 1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II*, IV. i. 296 These externall manner of Laments. 1609 HIERON *Wks.* (1614) I. 11 These maner speakings doe necessarily imply proceeding. *a* 1613 *Ibid.* 181 These manner of speeches the Scripture vseth. 1612 BP. ANDREWES *Serm. Nativity* vii. (1629) 54 Many manner waies. 1644 HEYLIN *Stumbling-block* Tracts (1681) 696, I shall endeavour to make [that] good by two manner of proofs. 1732 LAW *Serious C.* iii. (ed. 2) 33 To practise all manner of righteousness. 1853–8 HAWTHORNE *Eng. Note-Bks.* (1879) II. 27 The English nose ..disports itself in all manner of irregularity. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 69 Hippothales changed into all manner of colours with delight.

†c. In adj. phrases used *predicatively*. *Obs.*

c 1475 *Pict. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 767/9 *Hec musca*, a flye, alle maner. 1534 WHITINTON *Tullyes Offices* I. (1540) 4 Every questyon of Offyce is two maner [L. *duplex*].

d. *No* (or *any*) *manner of . . .*: often used periphrastically for 'no, any (person or thing) whatever'. (†Formerly also with ellipsis of *of*.) *By no* (or *any*) *manner of means*: see MEANS.

c 1420 LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 600 No maner of thyng can hym hurt. 1426 *Paston Lett.* I. 25, I herde..no maner lykly ne credible evidence. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. lxxv. 96 Ther abode alyue no maner a person. 1533 CRANMER *Let. to Duchess Norfolk* in *Misc. Writ.* (Parker Soc.) II. 255 When it shall be by any manner way void. 1583 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* Ser. I. III. 604 As pertening in na maner of way to the said George. 1606 G. W[OOOCOCKE] *Hist. Ivstine* VII. 35 It had full scope and passage, without any manner interruption. *a* 1687 PETTY *Pol. Arith.* viii. (1691) 107 Which I wish were true, but find no manner of reason to believe. 1704 SWIFT *Mech. Operat. Spirit* Misc. (1711) 275, I have had no manner of Time to digest it into Order. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 13 May 5/2 There can be no manner of doubt as to the terms of his instructions.

†e. Phr. *In, on, by this* (or *what, any, such*, etc.) *manner of wise* = in this (etc.) way; also freq. with ellipsis of *of*, and occas. of the initial prep. *Obs.*

c 1340 HAMPOLE *Prose Tr.* 14 One þis manerewyse þe more joy and blysse sall it hafe in henene. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 78 Thurgh sleyhte of Calcas..It wan be such a maner wise. 1422 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 176/1 The paiements in eny maner wyse maad. 1499 in *Lett. Rich. III & Hen. VII* (Rolls) I. 132 Nor suffre hym in any maner of wise to abide. *c* 1510 MORE *Picus* Wks. 26 b, We wote not howe soone, nor in what manerwise. *c* 1530 TINDALE *Pathw. Script.* Wks. (1573) 382/2 Christ standeth vs in double stede, and vs serueth two maner wise. 1588 PARKE tr. *Mendoza's Hist. China* 81 By way of phisicke they do permit..to comfort themselues with some conserues...But wine in no maner of wise.

10. *In a manner* (formerly †*in manner*): in some way, in some degree, so to speak, as it were. Also, †to a considerable degree, almost entirely, very nearly (*obs.*). Similarly, †*in some good manner.*

c 1420 LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 1075 The slepyr grasse made many of hem fall, And from thense in maner depart sodeynly. 1502 *Ord. Crysten Men* (W. de W. 1506) I. iii. 25 [They] ben uncrystened & made as in maner forsakynge theyr fayth. 1545 ASCHAM *Toxoph.* (Arb.) 34 The Persians which vnder Cyrus conquered in a maner all the worlde. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 323 b, They..found in manner nothing. 1584 COGAN *Haven Health* ccxliii. (1636) 316 There dyed in the same disease in manner within sixe daies space..eight hundred persons. 1588 A. KING tr. *Canisius' Catech.* 96 The worthy fruicts of pœnance, quhair be we recompense(at the least in a mainer)the..sinnes of our former lyf. 1606 HOLLAND *Sueton.* 32 Of these murderers, there was not one in manner that either survived him abone three yeares. 1615 W. LAWSON *Country Housew. Gard.* (1623) 12 Fruits are..desired of so many (nay, in a manner of all) and yet few will..take paines to prouide them. 1619 SIR D. CARLETON *Let.* in *Eng. & Germ.* (Camden) 44 His busines is in some good manner prepared for him. 1737 WHISTON *Josephus, Hist.* Pref. § 2 The war..hath been the greatest..in a manner of those that ever were heard of. 1790 BURKE *Fr. Rev.* 148 Our education is in a manner wholly in the hands of ecclesiastics. 1838 ARNOLD *Hist. Rome* I. v. 74 The poorest citizens..were considered in a manner as supernumeraries. 1875 T. W. HIGGINSON *Hist. U. S.* ix. 65 Massachusetts, being first settled, was in a manner the parent of these later colonies.

†11. a. Reason, cause. b. The condition upon which something is done. *Obs.*

1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 12 Why men pleigneth After the court,..I wol the tellen the manere. *c* 1425 *Eng. Conq. Irel.* 8 He was delyuered owt of preson on this manere, that he & Morice..shold..wend in to Irland. *c* 1430 *Syr Gener.* (Roxb.) 2882 Sore he hated the prisonere, I can not tell for what maner.

†12. [= L. *modus.*] Measure, moderation. *In manner*: in due measure. Cf. OF. *maniere* 'modération, mesure' (Godefroy). *Obs.*

In quot. 1382 a mere literalism.

1382 WYCLIF *Prov.* xxiii. 4 But to thi prudence put maner [Vulg. *pone modum*]. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 157 By this ensaumple a king mai lere, That forto yive is in manere. 1399 — *In Praise of Peace* 53 Bot yit it mot be tempred in manere. 1502 *Ord. Crysten Men* (W. de W. 1506) II. viii. 106 Without maner & attemperannce no vertue is perfyte.

†13. *To find the manner(s to*: to find means to. *To make no manner to* [cf. OF. *faire manière de*]: to give no sign of (doing something). *Obs.*

c 1477 CAXTON *Jason* 51 b, He sholde fynde the maners if he might to sende him in to the yle. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. cxix. 141 The erle of Derby made no maner to

rescue theym. *a* 1533 — *Huon* lii. 175 He wolde go &.. fynde the maner to speake with her.

†**14.** A musical mode. [L. *modus*.] *Obs. rare*—1.

1382 Wyclif *Ecclus.* xliv. 5 In ther wisdam sechende the musyk manerys [Vulg. *modos musicos*].

15. *Comb.* (objective), as *manner-piercing* adj.; **manners-bit** *dial.* (see quot.); **manners-like** *adv.*, in a mannerly way; †**manners-painting** *ppl. a.*, that depicts contemporary 'manners'; so †**manner-painter** (*nonce-wd.*).

1829 J. Hunter *Hallamsh. Gloss.*, **Manners-bit*, a portion of a dish left by the guests that the host may not feel himself reproached for insufficient preparation. *a* 1845 Hood *Last Man* viii, Full *manner's-like he tendered the dram. 1807 Coleridge *Lett.* (1895) 516 The character of the latter [Chaucer] as a *manner-painter. 1727–46 Thomson *Summer* 1577 Chaucer, whose native *manners-painting verse [etc.]. 1752 A. Murphy *Gray's Inn Jrnl.* No. 20 The Manners-painting Hand of Hogarth. 1786 Burns *Vision* II. xix, I taught thy manners-painting strains, The loves, the ways of simple swains. 1776 Mickle tr. *Camoens' Lusiad* VIII. (1778) 369 His fraudful art, though veil'd in deep disguise, Shone bright to Gama's *manner-piercing eyes.

Manner, *sb.*[2]: see Mainour.

Manner, obs. form of Manor, Manure.

Ma·nnerable, *a. Obs.* exc. *dial.* [f. Manner *sb.*[1] + -able.] Well-mannered.

c 1460 J. Russell *Bk. Nurture* 1113 In a manerable mershalle þe connynge is moost commendable. *Ibid.* 1115 If þey haue gentille chere & gydynge manerable. 1886 Elworthy *W. Som. Word-Bk.*

Mannerance, obs. form of Manurance.

Mannered (mæ·nərd), *a.* [f. Manner *sb.*[1] + -ed[2].]

1. Having manners of a specified kind (indicated by an advb. phr., or by a prefixed adj. or adv., as *evil-, gentle-, rough-, rude-, simple-mannered*; Ill-mannered, Well-mannered).

1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. II. 23 And Mede is manered after hym riȝte as kynde axeth. *c* 1489 Caxton *Sonnes of Aymon* xx. 448 He is not manered like a gentyll man. 1603 Owen *Pembrokeshire* v. (1892) 41, I finde..Pembrokshere to be worst manred and hardest to find personable. 1608 Shaks. *Per.* III. iii. 17 Beseeching you to giue her Princely training, that she may be manere'd as she is borne. 1673 Temple *Observ. Netherl.* iv. 137 A people differently bred and manner'd from the Traders. 1821 Byron *Juan* III. xli, He was the mildest manner'd man That ever scuttled ship or cut a throat. 1837 Ht. Martineau *Soc. Amer.* III. 103 The Americans are better mannered than others, in as far as they reverence intellect more than wealth and fashion. 1879 G. Macdonald *Sir Gibbie* III. ix. 145 He was well-dressed, and mannered like a gentleman. 1880 Disraeli *Endym.* III. iii. 25 The most sweetly mannered gentleman alive.

†**b.** Of a literary production: Exhibiting 'manners' or character. (Cf. Horace, *A. P.* 319 *moratáque recte fabula.*) *Obs.*

1755 Grainger *Solitude* 215 Then know thyself, the human mind survey..Hence Inspiration plans his manner'd lays. 1789 T. Twining *Aristotle's Treat. Poetry* (1812) II. 232 The moral, or rather mannered Tragedy (for we seem to want a word here).

†**2.** Well-behaved, Well-mannered. Also *transf.* (of a dwelling). *Obs.*

c 1450 Holland *Howlat* 240 Mansweit, but malice, manerit and meike. 1483 Caxton *Gold. Leg.* 150 b/1 Lerne of marye to be manerd and fere ful to all men. 1560 Rolland *Crt. Venus* II. 121 Thair manerit Mans sa perfyit and preclair, Enuirond all aboit with hailsum air. 1568 T. Howell *Newe Sonets* (1879) 157 Who are more feate or trim traind vp, then manerd seruents are?

3. Characterized by manner or mannerism, *esp.* in art or literature.

1801 Fuseli in *Lect. Paint.* ii. (1848) 390 The mannered and feeble etchings of Theodore van Tulden. 1861 Thornbury *Turner* I. 157 The colour has a slightly greenish-blue tinge, which is mannered, but not unpleasing. 1884 Hawkis *Musical Life* II. 633 That Spohr was too doctrinaire and mannered,..most musicians will allow. 1896 Mackail *Lat. Lit.* (ed. 2) 101 That passages in it [the Æneid] here and there are mannered, and even flat, is true.

†**4.** Moderate, within bounds. *Obs. rare*—1.

1435 Misyn *Fire of Love* 94 Lufe..of kynsmen, if it be vn-manerd, fleschly affeccione it is cald..; And if it be manerd, kyndely it is calde.

†**Ma·nnerhood.** *Obs. rare*—1. [f. Manner *sb.*[1] + -hood.] ? Orderly condition, good order.

1622 Bacon *Hen. VII* 74 This did wonderfully concerne the Might and Manner-hood of the Kingdome.

†**Ma·nnering.** *Obs.* [f. Manner *sb.*[1] + -ing[1].] Training in manners.

1581 Mulcaster *Positions* v. (1887) 28 But this mannering of them is not for teachers alone. *Ibid.* xi. 59 The manering and training vp of youth.

Mannering, obs. form of Manuring.

Mannerism (mæ·nəriz'm). [f. Manner *sb.*[1] + -ism. Cf. F. *maniérisme* (Littré *Suppl.*).] Excessive or affected addiction to a distinctive manner or method of treatment, *esp.* in art and literature.

1803 *Edin. Rev.* II. 246 Mr. Stewart's style..has character without mannerism, or eccentricity. 1823 D'Israeli *Cur. Lit.* Ser. II. I. 39 Art..sinks into mannerism, and wantons into affectation. 1873 Symonds *Grk. Poets* v. 152 At the time of Pindar poetry was sinking into mannerism.

b. An instance of this; a habitual peculiarity of action, expression, artistic manipulation, etc., characteristic of a person; a 'trick of manner'.

1819 Coleridge in *Lit. Rem.* (1836) II. 378 Hints *obiter* are:—not..to permit beauties by repetition to become mannerisms. 1873 Black *Pr. Thule* xi. 178 Her barsh way of saying things..is only a mannerism. 1893 *Times* 29 Apr. 13/3 He has abandoned his mannerisms and been content to make a beautiful picture.

Mannerist (mæ·nərist). Also 8 **manierest.** [f. Manner *sb.*[1] + -ist. Cf. F. *maniériste.*] One who is addicted to mannerism.

1695 Dryden *Dufresnoy's Art Paint.* 151 Those [Painters] whom we may call Mannerists, and who repeat five or six times over in the same Picture the same Hairs of a Head. 1716 R. Graham *Short Acc. Painters* (ed. 2) 361 Pietro Berettini of Cortona..He is allow'd to have been the most agreeable Mannerist, that any Age has produc'd. 1751 Warburton *Notes on Pope's Imit. Hor.* Ep. II. i. 149 This excellent Colourist [Lely]..was an excessive Manierest. 1821 Byron 6 Jan. in Moore *Lett. & Jrnls.* (1830) II. 399 The Italian comedian Vestris..Somewhat of a mannerist; but excellent in broad comedy. 1871 Lowell *Pope* Pr. Wks. 1890 IV. 27 Wordsworth..came at a time when the school which Pope founded had degenerated into a mob of mannerists. 1880 Disraeli *Endym.* xlix, Every one to a certain degree is a mannerist; every one has his ways.

Manneristic (mænəri·stik), *a.* [f. prec. + -ic.] Characterized by mannerism.

1837 J. H. Newman *Lett.* (1891) II. 237 The danger which..at present besets the Apostolical movement of getting peculiar in externals, *i.e.* formal, manneristic, &c. 1869 Lever *Boy of Norcotts* xiv. 107 Even with a first rate artist you need change, otherwise your dinners become manneristic.

So **Manneri·stical** *a.*

1830 *Fraser's Mag.* II. 464 [Of an actress] Her general style is manneristical. 1864 *Daily Tel.* 27 Sept., Those curious and manneristical, but masculine, productions by which he [Landor] will be remembered.

Ma·nnerize, *v. rare.* [f. Manner *sb.*[1] + -ize, after *mannerism.*] *trans.* To make manneristic.

1887 Saintsbury *Hist. Elizab. Lit.* ix. (1890) 328 A..mannerising of the verse. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 1 Feb. 4/1 Long runs tend to mannerize the actor—if I may use such a word.

Mannerless (mæ·nərlés), *a.* [f. Manner *sb.*[1] + -less.] Without manners; unmannerly.

c 1460 Ros *Belle Dame sans Merci* 714 Iffe I medlyd with siche, or other mo Hit might be called pyte maner-les. 1581 Pettie *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* II. (1586) 113 They will become carelesse, mannerlesse, and lesse readie to commendable enterprises. 1682 Shadwell *Lanc. Witches* I. Wks. 1720 III. 230 Thou fresh, insipid, witless, mannerless knight. 1864 *Daily Tel.* 4 Oct., [He] may not..necessarily be a morose and mannerless hog.

Mannerliness (mæ·nərlinés). [f. next + -ness.] The quality of being mannerly.

1625 Purchas *Pilgrims* II. 1657 They eate all greedily and in haste, holding it mannerlinesse not to be long in eating. *a* 1677 Hale *Prim. Orig. Man.* I. i. 34 Out of a piece of mannerliness and respect to God. 1874 T. Hardy *Far fr. Mad. Crowd* ix, Earnestness which consisted half of genuine feeling and half of mannerliness.

Mannerly (mæ·nərli), *a.* [f. Manner *sb.*[1] + -ly[1].]

†**1.** Seemly, decent, respectable, modest. *Obs.*

13.. *Gaw.* & *Gr. Kn.* 1656 Mony aþel songez. & carolez newe, With alle þe manerly merþe þat mon may of telle. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* VI. xiii. (1495) 198 A good spouse and wyfe is..manerly [L. *modesta*] in clothynge. 1523 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) V. 171 As moche clothe as shall make them a manerly garmente. 1526 Tindale 1 *Tim.* ii. 9 That they arraye them selves in manerly [1534 comlye] aparell with shamfastnes. 1596 Harington *Metam. Ajax* (1814) 4 A tale..more merry than mannerly. 1600 Holland *Livy* III. xxvi. 106 But first he brushed off the dust, and wiped away his sweat, and made himselfe somewhat mannerly. 1647 N. Bacon *Disc. Govt. Eng.* I. xliv. (1739) 72 [He] possessed himself of the long-desired prey; and yet he did it in a mannerly way. 1655 Fuller *Ch. Hist.* IX. vi. § 19 A modest, and manerly, (*alias*) a crafty, and cunning hegging of a contribution of the Catholick party. 1697 Collier *Immor. Stage* ii. (1698) 72 A very mannerly story!

†**2.** Moral, well-conducted. *Obs.*

c 1400 tr. *Secreta Secret., Govt. Lordsh.* 62 Techinges ful specyals and manerlys [L. *moralia*]. 1535 Coverdale 1 *Tim.* iii. 2 A Bisshoppe must be..sober discrete, manerly, harberous. 1549 Coverdale, etc. *Erasm. Par.* 1 *Tim.* 2 This Timothee beyng an honest manierly towarde yonge man and well learned in holy scriptures.

3. Of persons, their actions, etc.: Characterized by good manners; well-mannered; polite.

a 1529 Skelton *Wks.* (Dyce) I. 28 Manerly Margery Mylk and Ale. 1573 Tusser *Husb.* (1878) 175 That pewter is neuer for manerly feastes, that daily doth serue so vnmanerly beastes. 1584 *1st Voy. Virginia* in *Hakluyt's Voy.* (1589) 729 In their behauiour as mannerly, and ciuill, as any of Europe. *a* 1639 W. Whateley *Prototypes* III. xxxix. (1640) 5 Learne how to carry yourselves to your Parents; if they call you, come, and give them dutifull and mannerly answers. 1676 Wycherley *Pl. Dealer* II. (1735) 51 Be you mannerly to her, because you are to pretend only to be her squire. 1742 Fielding *J. Andrews* IV. ix, The little boy..was chid by his mother for not being more mannerly. 1822 Scott *Nigel* I, Jin Vin, was so full of his gibes, and his jeers,..and so mannerly all the while. 1887 *Spectator* 2 Apr. 458/2 Criticism must be truthful, but it may also be mannerly.

Ma·nnerly, *adv.* [f. Manner *sb.*[1] + -ly[2].]

†**1.** In a seemly manner, decently, becomingly, properly. *Obs.*

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 91 Ful manerly with marchal mad for to sitte. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* III. 72 He mycht, mar manerlik, Lyknyt hym to Gaudifer de Laryss. *c* 1460 J. Russell *Bk. Nurture* 923 Kover with a keuerlyte clenly þat bed so manerly made. 1493 in *Somerset Medieval Wills* (1901) 306 Myn executours according to reason manerly for there labour rewarded. 1577 B. Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* (1586) 125 They [asses] be very apt to be taught, so as at this day in Alcayre you shall have them daunce very manerly. 1596 in *Harington's Metam. Ajax* Let. to Author A iij b, As you haue told in verse a haudy tale or two in Orland mannerly. 1615 Crooke *Body of Man* 65 Aristotle calleth them ἴσχια,..we call it mannerly the *seate.* 1621–31 Laud *Serv. Serm.* (1847) 9 Such a superior [as God] cannot be called into the Assembly mannerly, but by 'prayer'. 1647 Trapp *Comm. Rom.* xiii. 13 *Let us walk honestly.* Handsomely, fashionably, mannerly, with an holy shamefacednes.

2. With good manners; politely, courteously.

1519 Horman *Vulg.* 62 Whether thou do a thynge in iape or in ernest do it manerlye. 1535 Coverdale *Ecclus.* xxxi. 16 Eate the thinge that is set before the, manerly. 1611 Shaks. *Cymb.* III. vi. 92 When we haue supp'd Wee'l mannerly demand thee of thy Story. 1677 Hale *Contempl.* II. 88 Lust must not be mannerly treated withall, but flatly denyed. 1704 Norris *Ideal World* II. xii. 471 We are afraid lest she should have too many [guests], and accordingly very mannerly withdraw. 1832 Ht. Martineau *Hill & Valley* vii. 110 It would be well if he behaved himself a little more mannerly.

†**3.** Morally. *Obs.*

1566 *Acts & Constit. Scotl.* To Rdr. ✠ iij, Gif thay will not onlie leif, bot als manerlie, weill, and godlie leif.

†**Ma·nnerness.** *Obs. rare*—1. [f. Manner *sb.*[1] + -ness.] Moderation.

1382 Wyclif *Prov.* xxii. 4 The ende of mannernesse [1388 temperaunce, Vulg. *modestiæ*] the dred of the Lord.

Mannersome (mæ·nəsəm), *a. dial.* [f. Manner *sb.*[1] + -some.] Mannerly.

1876 Blackmore *Cripps* xxviii, Mary was obliged to bite her tongue to keep it in any way mannersome. 1887 *Springhaven* (ed. 4) II. vii. 81 He had always known her to be kind and gentle, and what the old people called 'mannersome', to every living body. 1895 *Outing* (U. S.) XXVI. 65/1 Canady's a slick-spoken feller 'bout huntin', 'an a mannersome feller, too.

Mannery: see Manery *Obs.*

Mannes, obs. form of Maness.

†**Ma·nness.** *Obs.* In 3 mannesse, mennesse, [app. f. Man *sb.*[1] + -ness; the umlaut form seems to be due to the analogy of *mennish*, Mannish *a.*] Human nature.

a 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1118 Þah he were dedlich, þurh ✠ he mon wes, onont his mennesse [*MS. C* mannesse], & deide.

†**Ma·nnet.** *Obs. nonce-wd.* [f. Man *sb.*[1] + -et, dim. suffix.] A little man.

1630 B. Jonson *New Inn* IV. i, A slight Man-net, to port her, vp, and downe.

Mannicle, obs. form of Manacle.

Mannide (mæ·nəid). *Chem.* [f. Manna[1] + -ide.] A syrupy substance obtained by heating mannite with butyric acid.

1862 Watts tr. *Gmelin's Handbk. Chem.* XV. 368 Mannide. ..Berthelot (1856). 1892 Morley & Muir *Watts' Dict. Chem.*, *Mannide* $C_6H_{10}O_5$. Second anhydride of mannite.

Mannie (mæ·ni). *Sc.* Also manny. [f. Man *sb.* + -ie, dim. suffix.] A little man; also applied (as a term of endearment) to a little boy.

1823 Lockhart *Reg. Dalton* I. II. i. 193 A decent, little auld manny, in..velveteen breeches. *a* 1828 in P. Buchan *Ball. N. Scotl.* (1828) II. 103 Then spake the auld laird o' Kingcaussie, A canty auld mannie was he. 1886 Stevenson *Kidnapped* 9 What'll like be your business, mannie?

Manniferous (mæni·férəs), *a.* [f. mod.L. *mannifer* (+ *manna* Manna + *-fer* bearing) + -ous: see -ferous.] a. Yielding manna (Mayne *Expos. Lex.* 1856). b. Causing the production of manna. (Said of insects.) In recent Dicts.

Mannikin: see Manikin.

Manning (mæ·niŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. Man *v.* + -ing[1].]

1. The action of furnishing (a ship, etc.) with men. Also *concr.*, the complement of men, crew.

1633 T. Stafford *Pac. Hib.* II. viii. (1810) 320 For the manning and making good of that Citie. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. iv. 160 A number, greatly insufficient for the manning of the *Centurion*. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* ii. I. 203 Money destined for the equipping and manning of the fleet. 1896 *Pall Mall Mag.* May 108, I reckon I've lost two days' coal for her [*sc.* coal-boat] and two days' wages and grub for her manning.

b. (See quot.)

1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Manning of the Ship*, (in Sea-Language) is when a Ship is to shew abroad all her Men.

2. The action of taming a hawk (see Man *v.* 10).

1580 Lyly *Euphues* (Arb.) 372 Hawkes that waxe haggard by manning, are to be cast off. 1644 Digby *Nat. Bodies* xxxvii. (1658) 395 No whit more extraordinary, then a fawkners manning of a hawk.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*: manning-piece *jocular* (see quot. 1834); manning-scale (see quot. 1891).

1834 L. Hunt in *Lond. Jrnl.* I. 172/1, I am standing with my manning-piece by a hedge..You cannot say fowling-piece, when it is *men* that are to be brought down. 1891 *Labour Commission Gloss., Manning Scale*, a scale which fixes the minimum number of seamen to be employed on a vessel. 1896 Sir C. Dilke in *Daily News* 6 Mar. 2/3 A very severe strain was put upon the manning powers of the Admiralty.

Manniparous (mæni·pərəs), *a.* [f. mod.L. *mannipar-us* + -ous: see Manna and -parous.] a. Of insects: Causing the flow of manna (Mayne *Expos. Lex.* 1856). b. Bearing or exuding manna (Webster *Suppl.* 1902).

†**Ma·nnish,** *sb. Obs.* In 1–2 mennisc, 2–3 mannisshe, mannisse, mennisse. [OE. *mennisc*, properly neut. of *mennisc* adj.: see next. In other Teut. langs. the wk. masc. form of the adj. is used subst. in the sense 'human being': cf. OFris. *manniska, menska*, OS. *mennisco* (MDu. *mensche*, Du. *mensch*), OHG. *mennisko* (mod.G. *mensch*).] People; a class of persons.

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 175 Þis is þæt mennisc þe ealle mine dæda mid heora wordum onwendan. *a* 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 225 Þa weard þa redlice micel mennisc 3ewexon. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 39 Ðese fower mannisshe..beð þat erf þe þo herdes ouerwnakeden. *Ibid.* 163 Ðis lond þe ich nu of speke is þat mennisse þe nu liueð. *Ibid.* 165 Swo doð þis mannisse flieð fram iuele to werse.

Mannish (mæ·niʃ), *a.* Forms: *α.* 1 mennisc. 2 mennesc, 3 **mennish**, *Orm.* mennisske; *β*, 4 **mannys(s)h**, (5 **mannisshe**, **monyssh**), 5–6 **mannishe**, **-ysshe**, (6 **manish**, 9 **man-ish**), 3, 5– **mannish.** [OE. *mennisc* = OS. *mannisc*, *mennisc*, OHG. *mennisc* (MHG. *mennisch*), Goth. *mannisks*:—OTeut. **mannisko-*, f. **mann* MAN *sb.*[1] + *-isko-* -ISH[1]. In the 13th c. the root vowel was already frequently assimilated to that of MAN *sb.*[1]

In many uses the existing word must be regarded as a new formation on MAN *sb.*[1] + -ISH[1]; but it is hardly possible to separate the instances of this from those of the word inherited from OTeut.]

†**1.** Of or belonging to the human species; proper to or characteristic of mankind; human. *Obs.*

c 888 K. ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxxiii. § 1 Forðam þa fif eall nan mennisc man fullice habban ne mæg ðа hwile [etc.]. *c* 897 — *Gregory's Past. C.* xi. 70 Ne ȝegripe eow næfre nan costung buton mennesc. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 91 God cweð ..þe he walde his gast asenden ofer mennesc flesc. *c* 1200 ORMIN 218 He..let te posstless sen himm wel Inn hiss mennisske kinde. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Melib.* P 298 The prouerbe seith that for to do synne is mannyssh. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 52 It was as in figure Most lich to mannyssh creature, Bot as of beaute hevenelich. 1567 DRANT *Horace, Epist.* I. xiii. E iij, More meete to beare..Then here in courte in mannishe shape The Asses part to plaie. 1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* 183 At the ending of the world there must be stuff enough left, unmade up into Manish bodies, wherewith to frame a new heaven and new earth.

2. Of a woman, her attributes, etc.: Resembling a man, man-like, masculine. Chiefly *contemptuous.*

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* I. 228 (284) But alle hir limes so wel answeringe Weren to womanhode, that creature Was neuer lasse mannissh in seminge. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Reas. & Sens.* 6183 God forbede That ther sholde in womanhede Ben any monyssh tache at al. 1430–40 — *Bochas* VI. i. (1494) t ij b, Nowe was she mannyssh nowe was she femynyne. *a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* (1868) 136 It is saide, a woman that is not humble and pitous she is mannishe and not womanly, whiche is a uice in womanhode to be rude or of hautinge courage. 1594 CAREW *Huarte's Exam. Wits* xv. (1616) 269 She retaineth a mannish fashion..in her words, as in all her motions. 1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* III. iii. 217 A woman impudent and mannish growne, Is not more loth'd, then an effeminate man. 1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* 250 Her bodye grew mannish and hairie. 1653 HOLCROFT *Procopius, Goth. Wars* IV. 121 They ..who think that there was neuer any such Mannish race of women. 1791 MME. D'ARBLAY *Diary* Aug., Women..strolling along with wide mannish strides. 1824 MISS MITFORD *Village* Ser. I. 239 She spoke in a loud deep mannish voice. 1886 SWINBURNE *Misc.* 235 The mannish woman was a nobler as well as a stronger creature than the womanish man.

3. Pertaining to or characteristic of a grown man (often opposed to *childish*); aping or simulating manhood or the characteristics of a man.

1530 PALSGR. 318/1 Mannysshe or manlyke, *viril.* 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* I. iii. 123 *Ros[alind.]*..Weele haue a swashing and a marshall outside, As manie other mannish cowards haue, That doe outface it with their semblances. 1611 — *Cymb.* IV. ii. 236 And let vs (Polidore) though now our voyces Haue got the mannish cracke, sing him to'th'ground As once to our Mother. 1647 S. SHEPPARD *2nd Pt. Committee-Man C.* 1. ii, His chin has..a little downe, enough to give notice to the world, he now growes mannish. 1784 COWPER *Tiroc.* 208 Childish in mischief only and in noise, Else of a mannish growth. 1820 LAMB *Elia* Ser. I. *Old Benchers of Inner T.*, Why must every thing smack of man and mannish? Is the world all grown up? 1876 FARRAR *Marlb. Serm.* xxxvi. 369 By manly I mean all that is eager, hearty, fearless, modest, pure; by mannish I mean that which apes the poorest externals of the lowest types of men.

4. Characteristic (chiefly in blameworthy or ludicrous respects) of a man as distinguished from a woman.

1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* I. viii, With an air of mannish superiority, he seems rather to pity the bashful girl. 1836 MRS. S. C. HALL in *New Monthly Mag.* XLVII. 427 True to his man-ish nature, there was a mingling of selfishness with his love. 1882 HINSDALE *Garfield & Educ.* II. 407 The foremost students had no mannish pride that made them hesitate to ask her assistance. 1884 LADY WATERFORD in Hare *Two Noble Lives* (1893) III. 428 Oh! what a mannish room I waited in...Hats and caps of all sorts, fishing baskets, &c.

¶ **5.** = MANKIND *a.*[2] *Obs. rare.*

1530 PALSGR. 427/2, I am mannysshe, as a beest is that is accoustumed to byte or devoure men. *Je suis humain.* It is a mannysshe beest: *cest une besté amorcée.*

†**6.** quasi-*adv.* Like a man. *Obs.*

c 1386 CHAUCER *Merch. T.* 292 Men moste enquere..Wher she be..Or riche, or poore, or elles mannyssh wood.

Hence †**Mennisclezc** [see -LAIK], *rare*[−1], humanity; **Ma·nnishly** *adv.*, in a mannish manner.

c 1200 ORMIN 85 He sennde uss..His Sune..To takenn ure mennisclezzc..To lesenn mannkinn. 1867 BUSHNELL *Mor. Uses Dark Th.* 287 Some of the least of them march out mannishly in columns and fight pitched battles.

Mannishness (mæ·niʃnés). [f. MANNISH *a.* + -NESS.]

†**1.** The state of being in human form; humanity. (Said chiefly of Christ.) *Obs.*

a 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* III. xv. [xxi.] (1890) 220 Vmb syx hund wintra & þreo & fiftig from Drihtnes mennisc nesse. *a* 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 227 Næ worhte he þah nane wndre openlice er þan þe he was þritti wintre an þara mennisnisse. *c* 1200 ORMIN 1373 Þær Cristess mennisscnesse Dranne dæþess drinnch o rodetreo Forr ure wo3he dedess. 1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* 11 Such a tang of manishness, or a mingle mangle of half man, half world.

2. The quality of being mannish, in various senses.

1612 BP. HALL *Imprese of God* II. Wks. (1625) 457 The painted faces, and mannishnesse..of the one sex, the factious hollownesse..in the other. 1882 *Pall Mall G.* 16 June 4/2 But now .. all the exclusive mannishness of the colleges seems fast melting away before the new invasion [of women]. 1885 MISS BRADDON *One Thing Needful* xi, The masculine woman is proud of her mannishness.

Mannisse, variant of MANNESS *Obs.*

Mannitan (mæ·nităn). *Chem.* Also **-ane.** [f. next + -AN.] A syrupy fluid, $C_6H_{12}O_5$, obtained by heating mannite.

1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem.* III. 384 Mannitane. 1862 WATTS tr. *Gmelin's Handbk. Chem.* XV. 369 Mannitan.

Mannite (mæ·nəit). *Chem.* [f. MANN-A[1] + -ITE.] A substance, $C_6H_{14}O_6$, obtained chiefly from manna; = MANNITOL. Also called MANNA-*sugar*, and rarely *mannite-sugar.*

1830 LINDLEY *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 224 The sweetness of this substance [Manna] is..due..to a distinct principle, called Mannite. 1880 GARROD & BAXTER *Mat. Med.* (ed. 8) 222 It contains a resin..besides starch and mannite sugar. 1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XV. 493/2 In Italy mannite is prepared for sale in the shape of small cones.

Mannitic (mæni·tik), *a. Chem.* [f. MANNITE + -IC.] Derived from mannite. *Mannitic acid* (see quot. 1865).

1862 WATTS tr. *Gmelin's Handbk. Chem.* XV. 369 Mannitic ethers. 1865 — *Dict. Chem.* III. 825 *Mannitic acid*, $C^6H^{12}O^7$, an acid produced, together with mannitose, by the oxidation of mannite under the influence of platinum-black. 1876 tr. *Schützenberger's Ferment.* 192 These gummy and mannitic ferments.

Mannitie: see MANNITY.

Mannitol (mæ·nitɒl). *Chem.* [f. MANNITE + -OL.] = MANNITE.

1902 *Encycl. Brit.* XXVI. 721/1 Mannitol is proved to be a hexhydric alcohol, $C_6H_8(OH)_6$, by its conversion into a hexanitrate.

Mannitose (mæ·nitōus). *Chem.* [f. MANNITE + -OSE.] A substance, $C_6H_{12}O_6$, isomeric with glucose, obtained from mannite.

1862 WATTS tr. *Gmelin's Handbk. Chem.* XV. 339 When mannite is oxidised under the influence of platinum-black [etc.], an unfermentable substance and a fermentable sugar (mannitose) are produced. 1865 [see MANNITIC *a.*].

Mannittee, obs. form of MANATEE.

†**Ma·nnity.** *nonce-wd.* In 7 **mannitie.** [f. MAN *sb.*[1] + -ITY.] The community of men.

1621 MOLLE *Camerar. Liv. Libr.* III. v. 165 And therefore was it well said of a Pagan Philosopher..that he gaue not his almes to that man, or to this, but to all the masse of man-kind..: not to a man, but to the mannitie, if it be lawfull to vse such a word.

Mannor, -our, -ure, obs. ff. MANNER, MANOR, MANURE.

†**Manny,** *a. Falconry. Obs.* [f. MAN *v.* (sense 10) + -Y.] Of a hawk: Mauned, tame.

1773 J. CAMPBELL *Mod. Falconry* 262 *Managing*, the making of a hawk manny or tame.

Manny, obs. f. MANY; var. MANNIE *Sc.*

Mannyable, variant of MANIABLE *Obs.*

Manœuvre (mănĭū·vəɹ, mănū·vəɹ), *sb.* Also 5 **maanovre**, 8–9 **maneuver**, 9 *U. S.* **manœuver.** [a. F. *manœuvre* (OF. also *manuevre*, *maneuvre*, 13th c.) = Pr. *manovra*, Sp. *maniobra*, Pg. *manobra*, It. *manovra*:—late L. *manopera*, vbl. sb. from *manoperāre*: see MANŒUVRE *v.*, which occurs in Fr. earlier than the sb. The OFr. word is represented in Eng. by MAINOUR and MANURE *sbs.*]

†**1.** Hand-labour. *Obs. rare*[−1].

1479 RICART *Calendar* (Camden) 28 This yere [24 H. III] was the Trenche y-made and y-caste of the ryvere,..by the maanovre of alle the Cominalte.

2. *Mil.* and *Naval.* The planned or regulated movement or evolution of troops or vessels of war; a strategic movement or change of position; a device in navigation; exercise or a movement in military or naval tactics.

1758 *Misc.* in *Ann. Reg.* 373/2 *Coup de main*, and *Manœuvre*, might be excusable in Marshal Saxe, as he was in the service of France..; but we cannot see what apology can be made for our officers lugging them in.., as a sudden stroke might have done for one, and a proper motion for the other. 1778 M. CUTLER in *Life*, etc. (1888) I. 66 The army was ordered..to embark and re-embark in the boats, that they might the better understand such a maneuver. 1793 J. TRAPP tr. *Rochon's Voy. Madagascar* Prelim. Disc. 54 All manœuvres became useless, and the ship was on the point of going down, when the Captain cast an anchor in such a manner as gave him hopes she would bear on some high flats. This manœuvre proved successful. 1795 NELSON 13 Mar. in Nicolas *Disp.* (1845) II. 13 The instant all were fired, braced up our after-yards, put the helm a-port, and stood after her again. This manœuvre we practised till one P.M. 1837 GURWOOD *Wellington Desp.* IV. 1 Major General Sir Arthur Wellesley was appointed to the command of a brigade..to the discipline, manœuvre and minute details of which he paid the most scrupulous attention. 1853 SIR H. DOUGLAS *Milit. Bridges* (ed. 3) 119 The manœuvre of withdrawing a bridge, by wheeling it, entire, alongside the bank. 1881 JOWETT *Thucyd.* I. 156 The manœuvres suited to fast-sailing vessels, such as breaking of the line or returning to the charge, cannot be practised in a narrow space. 1889 *Infantry Drill* 189 Manœuvre represents the application of the drill to the circumstances of supposed or actual conflict with an enemy.

b. Skilful management or working *of*; operation.

1834–47 J. S. MACAULAY *Field Fortif.* (1851) 129 The pieces of timber, laid across the sluice-gate for the manœuvre of the levers. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Manœuvre*, a dexterous management of anything connected with the ship.

3. An agile or skilful movement made (by a person, animal, etc.) with intent to deceive or elude.

1774 J. BRYANT *Mythol.* II. 468 The whole was attended with shouts, and screams, and every frantic manœuvre. 1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* xxiii, At length, whether weary of these manœuvres, or [etc.]..Bonthron heaved up his axe for a downright blow. 1845 DARWIN *Voy. Nat.* ii. (1879) 37 When still further disturbed, it practises a most curious manœuvre. 1883 *Century Mag.* July 379/2 And as he [the fish] fell back with a loud splash he dropped upon the line, by which maneuver he would have succeeded in tearing out the hook had the line still been taut.

4. *transf.* and *fig.* An artfully contrived plan; an adroit move; an ingenious expedient or artifice; also, management of affairs by scheming.

1774 J. ADAMS in *Fam. Lett.* (1876) 12 These Acts of Parliament and ministerial manœuvres will injure me. 1790 — *Wks.* (1854) IX. 566 If the time should ever come when corruption shall be added to intrigue and manœuvre in elections. *a* 1797 BURKE *Sp. Durat. Parlts.* Wks. 1812 V. 377 The whole effect of the Bill is..here to fix their magazines and places of arms, and thus to make them the principal.. theatre of their manœuvres for securing a determined majority in Parliament. 1809 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Manœuvring* vii, In the midst of these multiplied manœuvres, Mrs. Beaumont sat with ease. 1832 LYTTON *Eugene A.* II. vii, He was capital, however, about the tricks he had played his creditors,—such manœuvres,—such escapes! 1850 *Bohn's Handbk. Games* 414 (Draughts) He who gives the draw shall not occasion any unnecessary delay by uselessly repeating the same manœuvres. 1864 *Standard* 18 Apr. 6 To this day they always speak of that Reform Bill as if it had been a dishonest manœuvre. 1886 RUSKIN *Præterita* I. 309 Watching the instrumental manœuvres of the [military] band.

†**5.** A method or manner of working. *Obs.*

1770 *Monthly Rev.* 537 The different tools and *manœuvres* of the joiner and turner. 1783 POTT *Chirurg. Wks.* II. 78 It is one of those manœuvres which can be learnt only by observation and practice. 1796 C. MARSHALL *Garden.* v. (1813) 65 Many manœuvres of intercropping are made by them as sowing or planting between rows. 1789 H. WALPOLE *Lett., to H. More* Sept. (1840) VI. 351, I do not understand the manœuvre of sugar.

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

1897 *Act* 60–1 *Vict.* c. 43 § 4 Whenever an Order in Council is made under this Act a commission (in this Act called the Military Manœuvres Commission) shall be formed. *Ibid.* § 10 This Act may be cited as the Military Manœuvres Act, 1897. 1897 *Daily News* 8 Nov. 4/7 Every torpedo, it seems, is sent out from the factory with two heads—a 'manœuvre head',..and another, intended for real warfare.

Manœuvre (mănĭū·vəɹ, mănū·vəɹ), *v.* Forms: see prec. sb. [ad. F. *manœuvrer*, OF. *manuvrer* (11th cent.) = Sp. *maniobrar*, Pg. *manobrar*:—late L. *manoperāre* for L. *manū operārī* to work with the hand (*manū*, abl. of *manus* hand; *operārī*, see OPERATE *v.*).]

1. *intr. Mil.* and *Naval.* To perform manœuvres or evolutions; to make movements or changes of position in the disposition of troops, vessels, etc. Also *to manœuvre it.*

1777 J. ADAMS in *Fam. Lett.* (1876) 303 Washington will manœuvre it with him a good deal to avoid it. 1795 NELSON 21 Mar. in Nicolas *Disp.* (1845) II. 21 Providence..preserving my poor brave fellows, who worked the Ship in manœuvring about his [*sc.* the enemy's] stern and quarters. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVIII. 290/2 The two divisions might again manœuvre another way. 1803 WELLINGTON in Gurw. *Desp.* (1837) II. 331, I..determined to manœuvre by my left, and push the enemy upon the nullah. 1833 STRAITH *Fortif.* 81 A great extent of ground..upon which to manœuvre and fight to advantage. 1885 *Law Times Rep.* LIII. 12/1 There would be no culpability on the part of the officer in command of the other ship in not manœuvring for this porting.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*, esp.: To employ stratagem, to manage by artifice, to scheme. Also *occas.* with *adv.* or *prep.*: To contrive to get (*away from*).

1809 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Manœuvring* i, I remember her manœuvring to gain a husband, and then manœuvring to manage him. 1814 JANE AUSTEN *Lett.* (1884) II. 279, I had not to manœuvre away from her. 1837 W. IRVING *Capt. Bonneville* I. 177 After manœuvring so as to get within shot, they fired, but merely wounded him [a buffalo]. 1861 MAY *Const. Hist.* (1863) I. i. 13 When ministers, not of his own choice, were in office, he plotted and manœuvred until he overthrew them.

c. *trans.* with *prep.* To drive or entice *into* or *out of* by manœuvring; to make (one's way) *into* by manœuvring.

1886 MISS BRADDON *One Thing Needful* vi, I am not going to be manœuvred into a marriage with Clarice. 1888 *Century Mag.* Sept. 673/1 He had simply manœuvred the enemy out of position. 1899 *Daily News* 13 Dec. 7/6 If an enemy has elaborately fortified a particular position it is one of the most important duties of a General not..to attack him in it, but..to manœuvre him out of it. 1903 *Blackw. Mag.* Oct. 497/2 He had manœuvred his way into the Painted Chamber.

2. *trans. Mil.* and *Naval.* To cause (troops or vessels) to perform evolutions or manœuvres; to alter the position or formation of for strategic purposes; to 'handle' (a boat).

1777 J. ADAMS in *Fam. Lett.* (1876) 282 Mr. Howe, by the last advices, was manœuvring his fleet and army in such a manner as to give us expectations of an expedition some-

where. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVIII. 276/2 To Manœuvre the Line of Battle...In this place it is intended to point out some of the various evolutions that are, or may be, performed by a fleet which is already formed in line of battle. 1811 WELLINGTON in Gurw. *Desp.* (1838) VII. 583 We do what we please now with the Portuguese troops: we manœuvre them under fire equally with our own. 1884 PAE *Eustace* 140 Crippled as they were by tattered sails and severed ropes, they could not manœuvre the vessel. 1886 *Graphic* 28 Aug. 210/1 The best method of manœuvring them [torpedo boats].

b. *transf.* and *fig.* To manipulate or conduct adroitly with a view to a purpose. Also *occas.* to effect by stratagem.

1815 *Zeluca* II. 142 Zeluca..manœuvred her praise, with a skilful eye to the feelings it was intended to create and invigorate. 1820 J. JEKYLL *Corr.* (1894) 97 The Mother Bankes affects not to have manœuvred her son's match with the Chancellor's daughter. 1823 *Examiner* 634/1 The stage is ..said to afford great facilities for manœuvring the scenery. 1857 *Autobiog. Lutfullah* v, He frequently manœuvred his horse across my way and behind me, in such a manner as to show that he derided me. 1885 J. MARTINEAU *Types Eth. Th.* I. 150 A doctrine which so manœuvred the three substances, without relinquishing any of them. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 28 July 3/2 Thus manœuvred, a sailor hat can be worn minus the veil.

Hence **Manœu·vred**, **Manœu·vring** *ppl. adjs.*

1832 MARRYAT *N. Forster* xxxi, Their mother was a selfish, ..manœuvring woman. 1889 *Harper's Mag.* June 79/1 The power to see a great deal through a very small opening in the skilfully manœuvred bandage. 1900 ST. BARBE *Mod. Spain* 41 The beast [*sc.* a hull] wheels round, and, charging, rips out the entrails of an ill-manœuvred horse.

Manœuvrer (mănĭū·vrəɹ). Also **manœuverer**. [f. MANŒUVRE *v.* + -ER 1.]

1. One who manœuvres.

1800 A. CARLYLE *Autobiog.* 308 He had told him that Byng, though a much admired commander and manœuvrer of a fleet, would shun fighting. 1809 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Manœuvring* i, This charming widow Beaumont is a *manœuvrer*. We can't well make an English word of it. 1824 MISS MITFORD *Village* Ser. I. 98 Her sister was a match-making lady, a manœuvrer. 1884 C. L. PIRKIS *Jud. Wynne* I. xvii. 212 Your quiet, reserved girls are generally the sly, clever manœuvrers.

2. An implement for manœuvring.

18.. *Engineer* LXVII. 214 (Cent.) Different forms of simple, balanced, and divided rudders were then described, including ..Thomson's stern-way manœuverer.

Manœuvring (mănĭū·vrĭŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. MANŒUVRE *v.* + -ING 1.] The action of MANŒUVRE *v.*

1787 1. LANDMANN tr. *Elem. Tacticks* III. 170 The advancing and manœuvring with a line, will never be well performed, if the battalions are not so perfectly well exercised. 1858 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* IX. x. II. 520 The Campaign passed into a series of advancings, retreatings [etc.], painful manœuvrings, on both sides of the Rhine. 1883 R. BOSW. SMITH *Life Ld. Lawrence* I. 178 The reputation which John Lawrence acquired..by the masterly manœuvring of a small body of police.

attrib. 1877 *Daily News* 5 Oct. 5/3 Their principal army is wanting in manœuvring power.

Man-of-arms: see MAN-AT-ARMS.

Man-of-law. *arch.* [Cf. F. *homme de loi* and LAWMAN.] A man skilled in law; a lawyer.

1340, *c* 1386 [see LAW *sb.*1 7]. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 325/2 Manne of law, *jurisperitus, scriba*. 1491 *Acta Dom. Concil.* (1839) 206/2 Dauid balfour of carraldstoune wes man of law for of said Souerane lurd in þe said mater. 1530 PALSGR. 500/1 Whan a man of lawe maketh a reason peremtorie, it can nat be contrepleted. 1582 BENTLEY *Mon. Matrones* II. 28 O Jesus Christ,..thou being my man of law, didst excuse and speake for me. 1636 MASSINGER *Bashf. Lover* I. i, He..pays his fees as duly As ever Usurer did in a bad cause, To his man of law. 1841 R. P. WARD *De Clifford* II. xvi. 172 Another man of law..now came in, straight from the magistrates' chamber. 1899 CROCKETT *Kit Kennedy* 251 Ebenezer Fleming, W. S., was a wary man-of-law.

Man of the world. †**a.** A secular person (*obs.*). **b.** In religious use (after Ps. xvii. 14), a worldly or irreligious person. **c.** A man who is instructed and experienced in the ways of the world and is prepared to accept its conventions.

c 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 7 Þif menn of ðe world hes healdeð for hali menn. 1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* xvi[i]. 14 From the men off the worlde, which haue their portion in this life [so 1611; the Prayer-book version differs]. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* XIV. viii, This gentleman whom Mr Jones now visited, was what they call a man of the world; that is to say, a man who directs his conduct in this world as one, who being fully persuaded there is no other, is resolved to make the most of this. 1778 MME. D'ARBLAY *Early Diary* (1889) II. 244 A true, fashionable, unprincipled man of the world. 1876 LESLIE STEPHEN *Hrs. in Library* (Ser. II.) 209 Butler's sadness..is that of a recluse, and Johnson's that of a man of the world. 1891 *Spectator* 31 Jan. 164/1 Lord Hannen has always shown himself, in the best sense of the word, a man of the world.

attrib. In *pl.* *c* 1823 BYRON *To Mrs.* —— in Moore *Life & Lett.* (1860) 574 All my others are men-of-the-world friendships.

Hence **Man-of-the-worldish** *a.*, **Man-of-the-worldism**, **Man-of-the-worldly** *a.* (whence **Man-of-the-worldliness**).

1867 *Contemp. Rev.* VI. 394 A wide-awake, man-of-the-world-ish commonsense. 1868 *Ibid.* VII. 132 This bred in him a sort of cynical man-of-the-worldism. 1890 *Academy* 27 Sept. 268/2 The man-of-the-worldly sagacity of Teddy Rudall. 1891 SAINTSBURY tr. *Scherer's Ess.* 218 Beaconsfield ..has less substance, but more man-of-the-worldliness.

Man-of-war (mænəvwō·ɹ). Pl. **men-of-war**. [In sense 1 app. after F. *homme de guerre*; for sense 2 cf. MAN *sb.*1 12.]

1. A fighting man; a soldier, warrior. *Obs.* exc. *arch.* or *jocular.*

1449 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 148/1 They desired to have nombre of Men of werre made lesse. 1508 KENNEDIE *Flyting w. Dunbar* 466 Had thai bene prouuait sa of schote of gone By men of were but perile thay had past. 1535 COVERDALE *Exod.* XV. 3 The Lorde is the right man of warre [1611 a man of warre (*lit. from Heb.*)]. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* III. (1586) 114 b, Souldiers and men of war, desire a fierse Horse. 1608 *Extracts Burgh Rec. Glasgow* (1876) I. 287 The saidis bailleis,..bieing convenit for outreiking of thair men of weir to thair Ilis .. hes delyveritt the armour following, .. to the said men of weir .. viz. to Jhone Hammiltoun ane hagbit and flassis [etc.]. 1626 C. POTTER tr. *Sarpi's Hist. Quarrels* 330 The Leuies of men of Warre within the State of Milan enery day increased. 1698 FARQUHAR *Love & Bottle* I. (1699) 3, I dread these blustring Men of War, the Officers. 1840 THACKERAY *Catherine* vi, The men of war had clearly the best of it. 1869 BLACKMORE *Lorna D.* lxviii, The distinguished man of war..Master Bloxham.

2. A vessel equipped for warfare; an armed ship belonging to the recognized navy of a country.

1484 W. CELY in *C. Papers* (Camden) 144 As he cam to Callez wardd ij men of warre of Frensche mett wt hym and fawght wt hym. 1594 *Glenham's Newes fr. Levant Seas* in Collier *Illustr. Old Eng. Lit.* (1866) I. 4 In sight of the King of Spaynes men of warre, which were twenty two sayles. 1680 *Debates in Parlt.* (1681) 120 It [Tangier] will always be Serviceable, as well for our Men of War to resort to..as for the protection of our Merchant-men. 1759 *Ann. Reg.* 36 A fresh water harbour, capable of containing an hundred men of war of the line. 1887 BESANT *The World went*, etc. iii. 28 If he who has commanded a man-of-war is not to have his own way in everything, who should?

attrib. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* III. x. 415 At Canton..we saw no more than four men of war junks. 1859 *All Year Round* No. 22. 519 The man-of-war brig. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk., Man-of-war fashion*, a state of order, tidiness, and good discipling.

b. *occas.* A man-of-war's man (see c).

1599 NASHE *Lenten Stuffe* 27 Hee is first broken to the Sea in the Herring mans Skiffe..once hartned thus, hee will needes be a man of warre..and weare a siluer Whistle. 1884 H. COLLINGWOOD *Under Meteor Flag* xxiv. 258 My father..led the way to the library, with the skipper following...When the man-o'-war rejoined us, the first thing he did was [etc.].

c. *Man-of-war's-man*: a sailor serving on a man-of-war.

1840 R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast* xx. 60 [He] was a singular mixture of the man-of-war's-man and Puritan. 1875 BEDFORD *Sailor's Pocket Bk.* v. (ed. 2) 152 A man-of-war's man should lose no opportunity of volunteering to lay out targets.

†3. (In full *man-of-war bird* or *hawk.*) The frigate-bird, *Fregata aquila*. Also applied to the albatross and occas. to species of skua (Newton).

1657 LIGON *Barbados* 61 There is a Bird they call, a Man of war, and he is much bigger than a Heron. 1707 SLOANE *Jamaica* I. 30 We saw here several Tropick-Birds, and Men of War Birds. 1789 P. BROWNE *Jamaica* 483 The Man-of-war Bird; or the dark-coloured Alcyon with a slender forked tail. 1862 WOOD *Nat. Hist.* II. 762 The well-known Frigate Bird, Sea Hawk, or Man-of-War Bird. 1885 *Riverside Nat. Hist.* (1888) IV. 184 The 'man-of-war hawk', as they [frigate-birds] are often called.

4. *Portuguese man-of-war*: A marine hydrozoan of the genus *Physalia*; so called from the fact of its floating on the surface of the sea with a sail-like crest displayed.

1707 SLOANE *Jamaica* I. 7 What the Seamen call a Caravel or Portuguese Man of War, which seems to be a Zoophytum, or of a middle Nature between a Plant and an Animal. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 188/2 The Portuguese man-of-war (physalia) with its long azure tentacles.

5. *Mining.* (See quots.)

1860 *Eng. & For. Min. Gloss.* (S. Staffs.), *Man-o'-war*, a small pillar left in some critical situation in a side of work.

Manoir(e, obs. form of MANOR.

Manometer (mănǫ·mĭtəɹ). [ad. F. *manomètre*, f. Gr. *μανό-s* thin, rare + *μέτρον* measure.] An instrument for ascertaining the elastic force of gases or vapours. *Flame manometer*: = 'manometric capsule' (see MANOMETRIC).

[1706 VARIGNON in *Mem. de l'Acad. Roy. des Sciences* 300 Manomètre, ou machine pour trouver la rapport des raretés ou raréfactions de l'air naturel d'un même lieu en différents tems ou [etc.].] 1730 BAILEY (fol.) *Manometer, Manoscope*, an Instrument to measure or shew the Alterations in the Rarity and Density of the Air. 1774 PHIPPS *Voy. N. Pole* App. 128 Description of the Manometer, constructed by Mr. Ramsden. 1823 *Blackw. Mag.* XIV. 513 You see in it the indications of forthcoming storms..against Ministers, to whom it consequently acts as a manometer. 1867 W. W. SMYTH *Coal & Coal-mining* 221 In order to test the different densities of the currents on opposite sides of a brattice,..a manometer or water-gauge is employed. 1875 D. THOMSON *Acoustics* in *Encycl. Brit.* I. 115 The Flame Manometer. 1880 J. W. LEGG *Bile* 203 If the aorta be connected with a manometer, the number and force of the pulsations of the heart can be easily registered. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 239 This glass tube..is attached, by a T-tube, to a pressure-bottle and a mercury manometer.

Manometric (mænǫme·trik), *a.* [f. prec. + -IC. Cf. F. *manométrique*.] Of, pertaining to, or made with the manometer. *Manometric capsule*: an apparatus devised by Koenig for analysing sounds by means of the alterations produced in the forms of flames by aerial vibrations; so *manometric flame.*

1873 A. E. DOLBEAR in G. Prescott *Sp. Telephone* (1879) 262 While engaged in making a manometric flame capsule. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 464 Manometric observations reveal no increase of pressure in the auricle at the moment of closure of the auriculo-ventricular valves.

Manometrical (mænǫme·trikăl), *a.* [f. as prec. + -AL.] = prec.

1777 ROY in *Phil. Trans.* LXVII. 689 The manometrical experiments were made subsequently to the chief part of the barometrical observations. 1879 P. SMITH *Glaucoma* 96 In the case of the living human eye the manometrical test is inapplicable.

Manor (mæ·nəɹ). Forms: 3 6 maner, 4 manayre, 4–5 manere, 5 mano i)re, manoyr(e, -ayr, manure, 5–6 manoir, 6–7 manner, 6–8 manour, 6–9 mannor, 7–8 mannour, 6– manor. [a. OF. *manoir* dwelling, habitation, subst. use of *manoir* inf., to dwell:—L. *manēre* to remain.

Latinized as *manērium* in France and England as early as the 11th c.; subsequently *maneria* occurs in general continental use.]

†1. A mansion, habitation; a country residence; the principal house of an estate, 'capital messuage'.

A surviving trace of this use appears in the designations of certain ancient manor-houses, e.g. Wingfield Manor, Worksop Manor; the houses so named are of course locally known as 'the Manor'.

c 1290 *Beket* 524 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 121 Ich hote ov euerechone, þat ȝe beon þat ilke dai At mi maner at Clarindone. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 10231 Þe bissop of eli & þe king sone wende To a maner þer biside. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XVI. 337 In the bawch of lyntoun-le He gert thame mak a fair maner. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. X. 308 Ac now is religioun a ryder, a rowmer bi stretes,..A priker on a palfray from manere to manere. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xxi. 95 Of þir redez þai make þare houses and maneres and schippez and þaire oþer necessaries. *c* 1450 *Bk. Curtasye* 601 in *Babees Bk.* 197 Of þe resaye ner speke wylle I, þat..ouer-seys castels, maners a-boute. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* VI. ix. 195 Whan that ye come within yonder manayr I am sure ye shal fynde ther many knyȝtes of the round table. 1530 PALSGR. 242/2 Manner a dwellyng place, *maison de plaisance*. 1549 LATIMER *Ploughers* (Arb.) 26 They are so troubeled wyth Lordelye lyuynge,..and moylynge in their gaye manoures ..that they canne not attende it. 1556 *Chron. Gr. Friars* (Camden) 26 Thys yere the kynge byldyd new hys maner of Shene. 1561 J. DOLMAN (*title*) Those fyve Questiones, which ..Cicero disputed in his Manor of Tusculanum. 1610 *Histrio-m.* v. 216 They have..ruin'd Churches, Townes, Burn't goodly Manours, and indeed lay'd waste All the whole Country.

†b. *fig.* An abode or resting place. *Obs.*

1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* VI. 76 Þe Mot is of Merci þe maner al abouten, And alle þe walles beþ of wit to holde wil þeroute. *c* 1369 CHAUCER *Dethe Blaunche* 1004 Trouthe him selfe,.. Had chose his maner principal In her that was his restyng place. 1413 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton 1483) III. x. 56 This pytte is the chyef and the manoyr of helle that is clepid Abissus. 1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 178, I shal be constrained, to entertaine some of them into the manour of my memorie.

†2. The mansion of a lord with the land belonging to it; hence, a landed possession. *Obs.*

[1292 BRITTON II. xix. § 4 Car en une vile porrount estre plusours paroches, et en une paroche plusours maners, et hameletz plusours porrount apendre a un maner.] *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 7431 Þe kyng gaf Hengist faire maners. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 1028 Þenne helde vch sware of þis manayre, Twelue forlonge space er euer hit fon. 1382 WYCLIF *John* iv. 5 Therfore Jhesu cam in to a citee of Samarie,..bisydis the manere [L. *prædium*],..that Jacob ȝaf to Joseph, his sone. *c* 1410 *Sir Cleges* 62 His maners he ded to wede sett. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* IV. xii. 134, I wylle that ye gyue vnto your broder alle the hole manoir with the appertenaunce vnder thys forme, that sir Ontzelake hold the manoir of yow and yerely to gyue yow a palfrey to ryde vpon. 1600 SHAKS. *All's Well* III. ii. 10, I know a man that had this tricke of melancholy hold [sold] a goodly Mannor for a song.

3. A unit of English territorial organization, originally of the nature of a feudal lordship.

The doctrine of the lawyers of the 17th c. is that a manor consists essentially of land held in demesne by the lord, to which is attached a seignory over freehold tenants sufficient in number (the minimum is variously stated as two or three) to constitute the court, called at a relatively late time the court-baron, which the lord is bound to hold and the tenants to attend. (The manor was often defined from the point of view of its relation to the lord, as an estate in land consisting of demesnes and services.) This restriction of the meaning of the word is destitute of early authority (though the kind of complex estate described probably existed from the 12th century), but is the basis of the present application. As the status of tenant in fee under a mesne lord is practically obsolete, a manor now consists of the lord's demesne (if any exists) and of lands from the holders of which he has the right to exact certain fees and fines, and within which he has certain privileges. A 'court customary' is held in all manors where there are copyhold or customary tenants of the demesne. A manor is usually named from the principal township, as 'the manor of Barnstaple'.

1538 tr. *Littleton's Tenures* (1544) 18 b, In dyuers lordshyps & maners there is suche custome. 1601 FULBECKE *1st Pt. Parall.* 18 A manor is an inheritance of auncient continuance consisting of demesnes & services, perquisites, casualties, things appendant and regardant, customes, liberties, &c. 1605 CAMDEN *Rem.* 221 A Mannor of a hundred tenements. 1608–28 RISDON *Note Bk.* (1897) 124 Unto him the king gave Constanc, his base daughter, with the mannor of South Tawton. 1620 J. WILKINSON *Court Leet* 141 If the Lord purchase their Lands, the Manor is destroyed. 1670 COTTON *Espernon* II. v. 235 This Ancient and Illustrious Family, are possessors of many goodly Mannors in Guienne. 1731 *Gentl. Mag.* I. 351 The Scholars, according to Custom, hunted a Ram, by which, the Provost and Fellows [of Eton] hold a Manor. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) X. 543/2 By an ancient custom of this manor [Mansfield], the heirs were declared of age as soon as born. 1812 COMBE *Picturesque* XXII. (Chandos ed.) 86 You'll see what game my manor yields. 1818 HALLAM *Mid. Ages* viii. (1868) 428 Few of English birth continued to enjoy entire manors, even by a mesne tenure. 1890 SIR F. POLLOCK *Oxford Lect.* 117 In the

English manor the community is the oldest element, and the lordship a newer one.

fig. 1819 W. Lawrence *Comp. Anat.* ii. (1844) 28 The manor of living nature is so ample, that all may be allowed to sport on it freely.

b. With qualifications. **Assessionable manor**, one of the manors into which the duchy of Cornwall is divided, to which commissioners are appointed periodically for the purpose of assessing them, or letting them on the best terms; **customary manor** (see quot.); **reputed manor, manor by reputation**, a manor which has lost its manorial status by expiry of some necessary adjunct; **manor in ancient demesne**, a manor which at the time of the Conquest formed part of the royal domain; **manor in gross**, a manor from which the demesne has been separated, leaving only the incorporeal hereditaments to the lord.

1607 Cowel *Interpr.* s.v. *Maner*, A man may haue a maner in grosse (as the law termeth it) that is, the right and interest of a court Baron with the perquisites thereunto belonging: and another or others haue euery foote of the land thereunto belonging. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XIV. 388/1 In the assessionable manors, parcel of the duchy of Cornwall, customary estates for years still subsist. *Ibid.* 389/1 Such an estate is however more frequently called 'a manor by reputation'. *Ibid.* 389/2 The estate of the grantor, which..would consist of the mansion and the other ungranted portions of the villenage, with the services of the grantees appendant thereto, was called a customary manor. 1890 Sir F. Pollock *Oxford Lect.* 114 A 'reputed manor' will serve as well as a real manor for most purposes.

c. *Lord of the manor*, the person or corporation having the seignorial rights of a manor.

1605 *Order of keeping a Court Leet* 29 b, Note that all the vacant and wast land within the Manour, is to the Lord of the Manour. 1719 W. Wood *Surv. Trade* 309 It is most strange and unaccountable Policy in many Lords of Manors. 1765 Blackstone *Comm.* I. xii. 387 All lords of manors, or barons, that held of the king *in capite*, had seats in the great council. 1817 W. Selwyn *Law Nisi Prius* (ed. 4) II. 834 Lords of manors are distinguished from other landowners with respect to the game. 1858 W. Arnot *Laws fr. Heaven* Ser. II. xxix. 237 The lord of the manor passed by.

d. In some of the American colonies, authority was given by royal charter for the creation of 'manors' after the English model, with courts-baron and seignorial rights. The Dutch governors of what is now the State of New York also granted 'manors', with certain hereditary privileges now abolished. (See quot. 1870 and Patroon 4.) The term still continues to be applied to certain districts in the U. S. which were 'manors' in colonial times.

1639 *Act* in *Arch. Maryland* (1883) I. 71 Punishment of death shall be inflicted on a Lord of a Mannour by beheading. 1681 Chas. II *Charter granted to Penn* § 19 We give and grant Licence unto the said William Penn, and his Heirs, [etc.]..to erect any Parcels of Land within the Province aforesaid into Manors..; and in every of the said Manors to have and to hold a Court-Baron [etc.]. 1691 *Acts of Assembly New York* (1719) 2 The several Cities, Towns, Counties, Shires, Divisions, or Manors of this Province. *Ibid.* 69 Being a Free-holder in any Manor, Liberty, Jurisdiction, Precinct, or Out-Plantation. 1870 Burrill *Law Dict.* s.v., In American Law, a manor is a tract held of a proprietor by a fee-farm rent in money or in kind, and descending to oldest son, who in New York is called a patroon. 1883 *Encycl. Amer.* I. 198 The manors, as the grants of the early Dutch rulers of New Netherland were called, have disappeared under the pressure of republican institutions.

4. *attrib.*, as *manor-court*, *-farm*, *-hall*, *law*, *lord*, *-pew*, *-yard*. Also Manor-house, Manor-place.

1786 W. Gilpin *Mount. & Lakes Cumbld.* (1788) II. 231 His *manor-courts are kept with great strictness. 1890 Sir F. Pollock *Oxford Lect.* 130 It will not do, therefore, to assume that the manor court was made out of an older township court. 1824 Miss Mitford *Village* Ser. II. 51 It hath been anciently a great *manor-farm or court-house. 1856 Emerson *Eng. Traits*, *Stonehenge* Wks. (Bohn) II. 126 It [Wilton Hall] is..esteemed a noble specimen of the English *manor-hall. 1887 *Athenæum* 20 Aug. 235/3 Books on *manor law became common. 1899 G. M. Trevelyan *Engl. Age Wycliffe* 339 If Lollard preachers had attacked ..the rights of the *manor lords, they soon ceased to do so. 1892 J. C. Blomfield *Hist. Heyford* 46 Pews of different sizes, with the *manor-pew overtopping the rest. 1667 Duchess of Newcastle *Life Dk. of N.* III. (1886) 158 The enemy..made a passage into the *manor-yard.

Manor-house (mæ·nəɹhaus). [f. Manor + House *sb.*[1]] The mansion of the lord of a manor.

1575 Gascoigne *Posies*, *Herbs* 147 Better Fermers fast, than Manour houses fall. 1588 Shaks. *L. L. L.* I. i. 208. 1625 Massinger *New Way* IV. i, How far Sir Giles,..hold you it to be From your Mannor house to this of my Lady Alworths. 1762–71 H. Walpole *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1786) III. 161 Salmon..mentions a Dr. Morecroft,..as architect of the manor-house of Fitzwalters. 1832 Lytton *Eugene A.* I. vi, Several days elapsed before the family of the manor-house encountered Aram again.

Manorial (mănō·rĭăl), *a.* [f. Manor + -(i)al.] Of or pertaining to a manor or manors; incidental to a manor. (Cf. Manerial.)

1785 Paley *Mor. & Polit. Philos.* VI. xi. (1786) 634 This tenure [the right of common] is also usually embarrassed by the interference of manorial claims. 1794 Southey *Wat Tyler* III. i. Poet. Wks. II. 47 They have..demanded the abolition of personal slavery, vassalage and manorial rights. 1876 Bancroft *Hist. U.S.* III. iii. 332 His tomb in the old manorial church. 1876 Digby *Real Prop.* i. § 1. 8 These functions devolved in later times partly on the manorial court. 1890 Sir F. Pollock *Oxford Lect.* 129 The administration of a manorial domain.

Hence **Mano·rialism**, the manorial system; **Mano·rializing** *vbl. sb.*, making manorial (*attrib.* in quot.).

1897 Maitland *Domesday & Beyond* 138 We shall have the utmost difficulty if we would go behind manorialism. 1898 — *Township & Borough* 45 A time when the feudalizing and manorializing processes are at work.

Ma·nor-place. *arch.* = Manor-house.

1426 *Act Jas. I Scot.* (1814) II. 13/2 In þe quhilk landis in auld tymes þare was castellis fortalycis & maner placis. *c* 1470 Henryson *Mor. Fab.* x. (*Fox & Wolf*) xxiii, Than to ane manure [*v.r.* manore] place thay hyit in haist. 1509 Hawes *Past. Pleas.* xxxiv. (Percy Soc.) 175 Tyll that we came unto a manour place, Moted about under a woode syde. 1578 Timme *Caluine on Gen.* 241 Moses noteth here Nimrod's manour place. 1688 Dallas *Syst. Stiles* (1697) 703 Letters for giving up and delivery of the said Castles, ..Manor-places, and other houses pertaining to the said Bishoprick. 1791 Newte *Tour Eng. & Scot.* 171 It was the mansion, or manor-place of the Barony of Philorth. 1875 W. McIlwraith *Guide Wigtownshire* 90 The tower, fortalice, manor-place, yards, and orchards of Chappell.

Ma·nor-seat. [f. Manor + -Seat *sb.*[1]] = Manor-house. 1828–32 in Webster; and in later Dicts.

† **Ma·norship.** *Obs.* [+-ship.] = Manor 3.

1778 *Eng. Gazetteer* (ed. 2), Market-Street..is a manorship in the parishes of Goldington, Studham, and Flamstead.

Manoscope (mæ·nŏskōup). *Physics.* [a. F. *manoscope*, f. Gr. *μανό-s* (see Manometer) + -scope.] = Manometer.

1730 [see Manometer]. 1823 J. Mitchell *Dict. Math. & Phys. Sci.*, *Manometer*, ..It is sometimes called *manoscope*. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1384.

Hence **Mano·scopy** *rare*—[0], the science which is concerned with the determination of the density of vapours and gases. 1864 in Webster; and in later Dicts.

Manour(e, obs. ff. Manner, Manor, Manure.

Manoyr(e, obs. form of Manor.

† **Ma·nqualm.** *Obs.* [OE. *mannewealm*: see Man *sb.*[1] and Qualm *sb.*[1]] Plague, pestilence.

a 900 *O. E. Chron.* an. 664 Þy ilcan ȝeare wæs micel man cwealm. *c* 1205 Lay. 3908 Þær after com swulke mon-qualm þ lite har ewike læfden. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 8599 Su gret manqualm þat monimon al vnbured lay. *a* 1340 Hampole *Psalter* i. 1 Moryn or manqwalm..þat nerand corompis all men.

† **Ma·nquell,** *v. Obs. rare*—[1]. [Back-formation from next.] *trans.* To murder.

a 1548 Hall *Chron., Edw. IV*, 221 b, Whom..they that stode about..murthered & pitiously manquelled.

† **Ma·nquelle.** *Obs. rare*—[1]. [:—OE. type **mannewylla*, f. *mann* Man *sb.*[1] + **wylla* (with agent-suffix *-a*).] A murderer.

c 1250 *Lutel soth Serm.* 28 in *O. E. Misc.* 186 Robberes and reueres and þe monquelle.

Manqueller (mæ·nkwelər). *Obs.* exc. *arch.* [f. Man *sb.*[1] + Queller.] A manslayer, murderer.

c 1290 *Beket* 436 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 119 Þat a luþer þef, a manquellare hadde a so liȝt dom. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 2205 Nembrot..O babilon king..Reuer and man-queller. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* III. 383 Þus þei ben..monqueller es of pore men, whose lyvelode þei awey taken fro hom. *c* 1450 *Mirour Saluacioun* 2365 Semey [= Shimei] callid Dauid man of Belial and manqwhellere. 1529 More *Dyaloge* III. Wks. 244/1 No wise manne wer there that woulde put al weapons away because manqueller s misuse them. 1597 Shaks. 2 *Hen. IV*, II. i. 58 Thou art a honyseed, a Manqueller, and a woman-queller. 1632 J. L. *Womens Rights* 343 If a man were slaine..and another man receiued the manqueller. 1681 W. Robertson *Phraseol. Gen.* (1693) 863 A manqueller; *homicida*. 1870 Bryant *Iliad* I. v. 14 While multitudes are perishing by the hand Of Hector, the man-queller.

b. An executioner. (Cf. Manslayer b.)

c 1300 *Seyn Julian* (MS. Ashmole) 185 Com uorþ he sede my manquellare..And smyt of hire heued. 1382 Wyclif *Mark* vi. 27 A manquellere sent [Vulg. *misso spiculatore*].

† **Manquelling,** *vbl. sb.* [f. Man *sb.*[1] + Quelling *vbl. sb.*] Manslaughter, homicide.

c 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 9 Þis ilke fals religious is gilty of þefte and manquellyng also. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 325/2 Mann qwellynge, or man slawtur, *homicidium*. 1551 Bible (Hyll) *Deut.* xix. *note*, Here are shewed ii. maners of manquelling, one done wyllingly..the other vnwyllingly. 1587 Golding *De Mornay* xx. 312 That which is Leachcraft in one Country, is not manquelling in another.

Manques, obs. form of Manx.

† **Ma·nred.** *Obs.* Forms: α. 1 man(n)ræden(n, 3 monreden, -ræidene, -raddene, 3, 5 man-, monradene, 5 manredyn, 6–7 manratten, -rydden. Also *Sc.* 4–9 Manrent. β. 2–6 manred; also 3–4 -rede, 4 -rade, 6 -ryd, -rode, 7 -roode. [OE. *mannræden*, f. *mann* Man *sb.*[1] + *-ræden* -red.]

1. Homage. Phr. *to do* or *make, to take, fang*, or *nim manred*.

α. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Josh.* ix. 11 Þa cwædon ure frind, þæt we comon to eowre manrædene. *c* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1115 He dyde þæt ealle þa heafodmæn on Normandiȝ dydon manrædden..his sunu Willelme. *c* 1205 Lay. 6240 Ah eower monradene [*c* 1275 manradene] ich wulle fon. *a* 1300 *St. Gregory* 784 in *Archiv Stud. neu. Spr.* LVII. 784 Manredene, þat was to sayne To be boxum to his hond. *c* 1420 *Anturs of Arth.* 642 Here I make þe releyse,..And siþene make the monradene.

β. *c* 1154 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1137 Hi hadden him manred maked & athes suoren. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 351/20 Heo wende a-boute ope al hire lond and nam hire manrede [*MS.* manrade]. *a* 1300 *Floris & Bl.* 395 His manrede þu schalt fonge. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 20620 Suet moder..al heuen court sal serue þe, To mak þe manred. *c* 1300 *Harrow. Hell* 88 Monrade dude y him me do. 1679 Earl Somerville *Mem. Somervilles* (1815) I. 75 To be obleidged and bound..in mandred,..to be with one another in all actiones.

2. Vassals collectively; the men whom a lord can call upon in time of war. Hence *gen.* a supply of men for purposes of warfare.

13.. *K. Alis.* 4665 Pays he dude anon grede To al Daries manrede. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 18596 He is ded and his kynred, And alle his frendis & his manred. 1543 Wharton in *St, Papers Hen. VIII*, V. 311 In Northumbreland wher manryd of men er. 1549 Cheke *Hurt Sedit.* (1641) 54 By destruction of Shieres, loosing of haruest,..decaying of manrode. *c* 1550–1665 *Flodden Field* (Percy Folio) st. 95 [I geeve thee againe] The manrydden [*Harl.* 367 manratten] of Lancashire..Att thy bidding euer to bee. 1559 Abp. Parker *Corr.* (Parker Soc.) 99 Where the manred with the manors is withdrawn from us, that we be not..charged with the setting forth of men of war. 1610 Holland *Camden's Brit., Scot.* II. 17 John Commin the mightiest man for manred and retinew in all Scotland. 1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 22 A good Manroode is an inexhaustible stocke. By populous armies did the Northerne Nations ..overrunne farre greater Nations than their owne.

3. The position of leader of fighting men; the 'conduct' (of an army).

1528 *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, I. 315 As schuld be seen moste expedient for the orderyng the men, and the manred theroff. 1570–6 Lambarde *Peramb. Kent* (1826) 453 That Gentleman, that had the manred (as some yet call it) or the office, to lead the men, of a Towne, or Parish. 1581 in Jeanes *Catal. Berkeley Chart.* (1892) 227 The manred, rule, government, leading and commandment of all his servauntes [etc.].

† 4. Carnal intercourse. *Obs. rare*—[1].

c 1205 Lay. 25911 He wolde mon-radene [*c* 1275 manradene] habben wiþ þan maidene.

Manredyn, variant of prec.

Manrent (mæ·nrent). *Sc.* Now *Hist.* [Sc. form of Manred: see -red.

It is doubtful whether the form goes back to the 14th c., as the MSS. of Barbour were written in 1487–9, and in one passage MS. E has the older form *manredyn*.]

1. Homage: = Manred 1.

1375 Barbour *Bruce* XVI. 303 The kingis..of the Eryschrye..thair manrent [*MS. E* manredyn] till him can ma. 1457 *Sc. Acts Jas. II* (1814) II. 50 At na man duellande w'in burghe be fundyn in manrent. *c* 1470 *Golagros & Gaw.* 1218 Now wil I be obeyand, And make the manrent with hand. *c* 1560 A. Scott *Poems* (S. T. S.) xxxiii. 13 Quhat is thy manrent bot mischeif? 1681 Viscт. Stair *Institt.* I. ii. (1693) 19 There was formerly a kind of Bondage in Scotland, called Man-rent, whereby free persons became the Bondmen or Followers of..their Patrons and Defenders.

b. *Band* (or *bond*) *of manrent* (see quot. 1597).

1528 in *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, IV. 499 He usit our autorite..aganis our Baronis, and uyer our liegis yat wald nocht entir in band of manrent to him. 1538 in *Black Bk. Taymouth* etc. (Bannatyne Cl.) 181 Mutual Bond of Manrent and help between Johne Campbell of Glenurquhay and Archibald Campbell of Glenlyoune against all men. 1597 Skene *De Verb. Sign.* s.v. *Homagium*, It is a bande of manrent, quhen ony person promisis to serue ane vther, in sik sorte, that he sall be friend to all his friends, and foe to all his foes, against all deadly. *a* 1649 Drumm. of Hawth. *Hist. Jas. V*, Wks. (1711) 82 How the great houses of Scotland were so joined and linked together, by kindred, alliances, bonds of service, or man-rent. 1759 Robertson *Hist. Scot.* I. (1802) I. 231 Associations, which when made with their equals, were called 'leagues of mutual defence'; and when with their inferiors, 'bonds of manrent'. *a* 1862 Buckle *Civiliz.* (1869) III. ii. 65.

2. = Manred 2, 3.

1536 Bellenden *Cron. Scot.* XIV. vii, Thair hicht and gret pissance, baith in manrent and landis, was sa suspect to the kingis..that [etc.]. 1577–95 *Descr. Isles Scot.* in Skene *Celtic Scot.* (1880) III. App. 435 McCowle of Lorn hes the stewartship of the haill Ile and manrent thairof. 1583 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* Ser. I. III. 614 Havand commandiment of the manrent of all and sindrie his Hienes lieges. 1586 Ferne *Blaz. Gentrie* 126 The greatnesse of his reuenewes and manrents.

Manro(o)de, -ryd, variants of Manred *Obs.*

-mans, an unexplained suffix frequent in the words of thieves' slang recorded in the 16th c. as *crackmans* hedge, *darkmans* night, *lightmans* day, *harmans* the stocks, *ruffmans* a hedge.

Mansale, variant of Manzil.

Mansaneel, mansanillo, obs. ff. Manchineel.

Mansard (mæ·nsārd). *Arch.* [a. F. *mansarde* (*toit en mansarde*), f. name of François *Mansard*, French architect, 1598–1666.] A form of curb-roof, in which each face of the roof has two slopes, the lower one steeper than the upper. Usually *mansard roof*.

1734 *Builder's Dict.* II. s.v. *Roof*, This last is particularly called a Mansard, from M. Mansard, a famous French Architect, the Inventor. 1842 Gwilt *Archit.* 547 The Mansard roof,..with us called a Curb roof. 1873 Miss Thackeray *Wks.* (1891) I. 18 They lived in a tall house, with a mansard roof. 1880 'Mark Twain' *Tramp Abroad* I. 32 Foreign youth..go to the University to put a mansard roof on their whole general education.

b. (See quot. and Booby *sb.* 3.)

1882 Kemp *Yacht & Boat Sailing* (ed. 3) 552 *Mansard*, an American term for a booby hatch.

Manselawth, variant of Manslaught *Obs.*

Manse (mæns), *sb.* [ad. med.L. (Law and Eccl.) *mansus*, *mansum*, *mansa* dwelling, house; also, a quantity of land considered sufficient for the support of a family (cf. Hide *sb.*[2]), f. L. *mans-*, ppl. stem of *manēre* to dwell, remain. Cf. mod.F. (Hist.) *manse*; the popular representatives of the Latin word in Rom. are OF. *mes*, Pr., Catal. *mas*.]

†**1.** A mansion house or 'capital messuage'. (Cf. MANOR 1.) *Obs.*

1490 *Acta Dom. Concil.* (1839) 140/1 Þe auld mansioune þat William Inglis has in tak & twa akeris liand besid þe said manss. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VIII. vi. 118 At thir ilk ȝettis heyr The conqueroun entrit, douchty Hercules, This sobyr mans ressauit hym, but les. 1781 WARTON *Hist. Kiddington* (1783) 30 This lady died at her capital manse at Fencot near Bicester in 1111. [1848 LYTTON *Harold* VI. i, And I shall be at his own favourite manse over the water at sunset.]

2. A measure of land regarded as sufficient for the support of a family. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.*

In this sense the Eng. form of the word appears to occur only with reference to ecclesiastical endowments.

1597 SKENE *De Verb. Sign.* s. v. *Mansus*, Carolus Magnus, to the effect that the Ministers of the worde of God suld not perish be hunger or povertie, gaue to ilke Kirke ane manse. 1625 in Cramond *Ann. Banff* (1803) II. 24 Anent the ministers mans being now desolat of building, and he excusing his inhabilitie to repair the samyn. 1794 W. TINDAL *Evesham* 4 The names of those Manses or farms next follow which the founder acquired for the first endowment of his monastery. 1844 LINGARD *Anglo-Sax. Ch.* I. iv. 162 Let an entire manse ..be assigned to each church. 1855 MILMAN *Lat. Chr.* IV. iii. (1864) II. 253 A monastery founded at Ripon and endowed with XXX manses of land. 1860 HOOK *Lives Abps.* (1869) I. v. 287 That there be given to the servants of God..a certain hereditary portion of the lands possessed by persons of every degree, that is to say, the tenth manse.

3. An ecclesiastical residence, whether parochial or collegiate; now *esp.* the house allocated to or occupied by the minister of a parish in Scotland; sometimes applied to the residences provided for ministers of the congregational, presbyterian, and other denominations in Britain and the U. S.

1534 *Act* 25 *Hen. VIII* in *Stat. Irel.* (1621) 77 To have and to hold the same mance, glebe lands, altereges,..and all other the premisses. 1583 in *Munim. Irvine* (1890) I. 222 To provyd ane sufficient manse and yard to the said minister. 1683 G. MARTIN *Reliq. Divi Andreæ* vii. § 3 (1797) 104 The castle of St. Andrews..had been the Bishop of St. Andrews his manse. 1710 CHAMBERLAYNE *Pres. St. Gt. Brit.* II. III. 435 They [Scottish Presbyterian ministers] are provided with convenient Manses (i. e. Parsonage Houses). 1754 ERSKINE *Princ. Sc. Law* I. (1809) 56 Under a manse are comprehended stable, barn, and byre, with a garden. 1791 BOSWELL *Johnson* 20 Aug. an. 1773, The manse, as the parsonage-house is called in Scotland, was close by. 1805 T. D. WHITAKER *Hist. Craven* 5, I would ask, whether..it were possible to devise a method of supporting an incumbent equally wise and proper with that of a manse, glebe, and tithes. 1816 SCOTT *Old Mort.* XXVII, Poundtext bade adieu to his companions, and travelled forward alone to his own manse. 1860 G. H. KINGSLEY *Vac. Tour* 121 If the Sutherland inn is full..you can always get a bed somewhere, often at the manse.

¶ **4.** Confused with F. *mense* [ad. L. *mensa* table], sometimes written *manse* (Littré): The revenue of an abbey or of an ecclesiastic. *Obs.*

1710 T. GOODWIN *Life Bp. Stillingfl.* 101 He gives a learned account of the Manse and Maiotenance settled upon each parish-priest. 1747 CARTE *Hist. Eng.* I. 245 The monasteries, whose abbatial manse, or the revenue of the abbot was annexed to the bishoprick.

†**Manse,** *v. Obs.* Also 4 mance, monse. [Short for AMANSE *v.*] *trans.* To excommunicate, to curse. Hence **Mansed** *ppl. a.*

c 1200 ORMIN 10522 Azȝ whannse preostess mannsenn her & shædenn þa fra Criste þat opeanlike onngæness Crist All þe3ȝre þannkess wiþþrenn. *c* 1275 *Xl Pains of Hell* 259 in *O. E. Misc.* 154 Oþer weren Mansed bi nome. 13.. *S. E. Leg.* (MS. Bodl. 779) in Herrig *Archiv* LXXXII. 347/75 To mancy him was swyþe lop..þerfore he tauȝt cristin to hate mansinge. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 774 He syttez þer in Sodomis, þy servanot so pouere Among þo mansed men þat han þe much greued. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. II. 39 Aod now worth þis Mede ymaried al to a mansed schrewe. 1399 — *Rich. Redeles* III. 105 þe[y] monside þe marchall ffor his myssedede. 14.. *Sege Jerusalem* 154 For þat mansed man [*sc.* Judas] Mathie þey chossyn.

Mansebyll, obs. form of MANCIPLE.

Mansell: see MASUEL.

Ma'n-se'rvant. Pl. men-servants. A male servant.

1551 BIBLE (Hyll) 2 *Kings* v. 26 Is it a tyme..to receaue garments,..oxen, shepe, menservauntes and mayde seruants? 1611 BIBLE *Gen.* xxiv. 35 Hee hath giuen him flocks, and heards,..men seruants, and mayd seruants. 1632 SHERWOOD, A man-servant, *serviteur.* 1729 SWIFT *Direct. Serv.* viii, It is highly improper for Men Servants to know that fine Ladies have Occasion for such Utensils. 1784 JOHNSON *Will*, To the use of Francis Barber, my man-servant, a negro. 1902 T. M. LINDSAY *Ch. & Ministry in Early Cent.* viii. 355 The boy or man servant who followed his master when the latter went out of his house.

Mansfield (mæ'nsfild). *Min.* A magnesio-calciferous sandstone from near Mansfield in Nottinghamshire, used for building. Also *attrib.*

1842 GWILT *Archit.* 478 Mansfield, or C. Lindley's Red [Sandstone]. 1866 *Ecclesiologist* XXVII. 105 Good constructive colour by means of red Mansfield will be introduced externally.

Manship (mæ'nʃip). Forms: 1 manscipe, 3 mannshipe, monscipe, monschipe, 4 manschippe, manshupe, manscip, manschipe, manchip, 5 manschyp, manshyp, menschepe, 5, 7, 9 manship. [OE. *manscipe*: see MAN *sb.*1 and -SHIP. Cf. G. *mannschaft.*]

†**1.** Humanity, kindness; courtesy, civility. *Obs.*

a 1000 tr. *Pope Sergius' Let. to Aldhelm* in Birch *Cart. Sax.* I. 155 Manscipe ȝyfan þe þearfendum & ælþeodigum [L. *humanitatem peregrinis et egentibus impendere*]. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 7654 (Kölbing), 'Whider wostow, Ywain, for mi loue?' 'Dame, to seche nim em Arthour, Of him to afong þe anour Of wiȝtschippe & cheualrie, & leren manschippe & curteisie!' 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. XIII. 105 For eche frend fedeþ oþer and fondeþ how he may quite Meles and manshupes eche a ryche man oþer.

†**2.** Homage, worship; honour, dignity. *Obs.*

a 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 235 Gif ic fader ham wer his mi manscipe [= Mal. i. 6 Vulg. *ubi est honor meus?*]. *c* 1200 ORMIN 19014 Forr þurrh þatt manness sawle iss lic Wiþ Godd inn onnlicnesse, þær þurrh mazz itt ben nemmedd mann, & wiþþ mannshipe wurrþedd. *c* 1205 LAY. 6234 We wulleð þine men heon þine mon-scipe her'ien. *c* 1275 *Ibid.* 13500 Ich ou wolle wel bi-wite mid mochelere mansipe. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 12565 And quen he suld to manscip ga,..All þai felascip him bar. 13.. *Guy Warw.* (A.) 1688 He him underfeng with worthschipe And dede him miche manschipe [*Caius MS.* honour full manly]. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 3654 (Kölbing), We beþ redi in al þing, Anon to go wiþ King Arthour, To his manschipe & his honour! *Ibid.* 6827 For leuer hem were be ded, sikerliche, In manschippe & in trewþe, þan euer more liue in rewþe. *c* 1450 *Cast. Perseverance* (E.E.T.S.) 74 We mustyr ȝou with menschepe, & Freyne ȝou of Frely frenchepe.

†**3.** Manly courage, valour; manliness. *Obs.*

c 1205 LAY. 3846 He fusede mid monschipe to ward Margane his mæie. 13.. *Coer de L.* 1848 Mariners arm your ships And do up your manships. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 2676 Meyntenes ȝit ȝoure manchip manli a while, til god of his grete miȝt send tyding vs sende. *Ibid.* 3437 Men, for ȝoure manchipe na more þat suffreþ, but wendeþ ouȝt wiȝtli & wiþ ȝour fon meteþ. *c* 1400 *Sege Jerusalem* 777 More manschyp wer hit ȝit mercy [to] by-seche, þan melles marr þer no myȝt helpys. 1465 *Paston Lett.* II. 254 And how that ever ye do, hold up your manship.

4. The condition of being a man. *Obs.* exc. in *nonce-use.* † Also *concr.*, a man.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 9849 Bot he war foliful to call if þou it sagh, and sua moght fall, þat in a man all manscip war, Witvten less, wit-vten mare. 1600 *Look about you* C 4, Will you promise me to bring no maides To set vppon my litle manship there? 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 27 June 1/3 He is too proud of his superior manship to allow it.

Hence †**Ma'nshiply** *adv.*, faithfully as a liegeman.

13.. *Guy Warw.* (A.) 124 His lord he serued..In al þing manschipeliche. *c* 1425 *Eng. Conq. Irel.* 92 The folke of þe londe, manshyply hym shold vptake, & worthly as lorde.

Manshun, -shut, dial. forms of MANCHET.

†**Ma'nsing,** *vbl. sb. Obs.* Also 3 mansingue, mansinge, 4 manzinge, 5 mansynge. [f. MANSE *v.* + -ING.] Cursing.

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 28/50 Anon with þis mansingue al þat on half dachste a-doun. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 9686 Þe þridde was ȝuf eni man in mansinge were ibrouȝt & suþþe come to amendement ne aȝe riȝte nere noȝt. 1340 *Ayenb.* 148 Þanne behoneþ come þet ȝuord hit uor to dele oþer he manzinge oþer he hotinge out of contraye. *c* 1425 *Eng. Conq. Irel.* 136 Thay..lytyl tel of othes & of mansynge.

Mansion (mæ'nʃən), *sb.* Forms: 4-5 mansioun, 4-7 mansyon, (4 mansyun, 5 mansyowne, manson, 6 mansyone), 4-5 mancioun, (moncion), 4-6 mancion, mancyon, (5 mencion), 6 mantioun, manchion, 6, 8 mantion, 5-6 mansione, 4- mansion. [a. OF. *mansion* (13th c.), now only in certain technical senses (see 4 and 5 below), ad. L. *mansiōn-em*, n. of action f. *manēre* to remain, dwell. Cf. Sp. *mansion*, Pg. *mansão*, It. *mansione.*

The regular representative of the L. word in Fr. is *maison* house (= Pr. *maisó-s*); the It. *magione* and the OSp. *mayson* house, mod.Sp. *meson* inn, are adopted from Fr.]

†**1.** The action of remaining, abiding, dwelling, or staying in a place. Phr. *to have, keep, make, take* (one's) *mansion* = to dwell, abide. Also, permanence or continuance in a position or state.

a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* v. 8 Þai entire in till godis house of heuen, and takis þaire ioy and þaire mansyon eftire þaire perfeccioun. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XIV. 216 Pryde in ricchesse regneth rather þan in pouerte, Arst in þe Maister þan in þe man some mansioun he hath. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 4908 If he there make his mansioun For to abyde professioun. *c* 1485 *Digby Myst.* (1882) III. 1461 In his name, lord, I beseche þe, with-In þi lond to have my mancyon. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 340 The other [chappell], and the foresaid Haulles, the Cardinals have theyr mansion. 1576 GASCOIGNE *Steele Glas* G iv, That malice make, no mansion in their minds. 1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* II. vii. § 7 That the solidness of the earth is for the station and mansion of living creatures. 1607 SHAKS. *Timon* V. i. 218 Timon hath made his everlasting Mansion Vpon the Beached Verge of the salt Flood. *c* 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* III. Comm. 48 Who euer saw true learning, wisdome, or wit, vouchsafe mansion in any proud, vaineglorious, and braggartly spirit. 1637 H. SYDENHAM *Serm.* II. 35 Sitting presupposes stabilitie and mansion. 1667 DENHAM *On Cowley* 14 These poets near our Princes sleep, And in one grave their mansion keep. 1677 GALE *Crt. Gentiles* IV. 280 We have not a word which properly signifies the stable mansion of Eternitie. 1696 TATE & BRADY *Ps.* cxliii. 3 To Darkness chas'd and forc'd to seek A Mansion with the dead. 1710 STEELE *Tatler* No. 182 ₱ 1 The Visages of those in whom Love, Rage, Anger, Jealousy or Envy, have their frequent Mansions. 1722 WOLLASTON *Relig. Nat.* IX. 212 The soul..must be freed from the laws of bodies, and fall under some other, which will carry it to some proper mansion, or state.

2. A place where one stays or dwells; a place of abode, an abiding-place. Now *arch.*

c 1386 CHAUCER *Knt.'s T.* 1116 The grete temple of Mars in Trace Ther as Mars hath his soudeyne mansion. *c* 1420 LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 2089 The triumphall guerdoun That God reserueth to euery creature, aboue in hys celestiall mansioun. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 96 Thow sall behald him, and his mantioun Be brocht to nocht. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. iii. 41. 1612 M. LOK *P. Martyr's Hist. W. Indies* in *Hakluyt* (1812) V. 167 Colonies or mansions of the Spaniardes. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* I. 41 This incomparable mansion [*sc.* Venice] is the only Paragon of all Cities in the World. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VIII. 296 Thy Mansion wants thee, Adam, rise. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* V. 85 On whose high branches, waving with the storm, The birds of broadest wing their mansion form. 1764 GOLDSM. *Trav.* 167 Where the bleak Swiss their stormy mansion tread. 1774 — *Nat. Hist.* (1776) IV. 30 It sometimes happens that its little mansion [*sc.* the squirrel's nest] is attacked by a deadly and powerful foe. 1777 HOWARD *Prisons Eng.* (1780) 25 That the penitent should..be driven again..to the practice which soon brings him back to his former mansion. 1871 R. ELLIS tr. *Catullus* lxviii. 34 Rome is alone my life's centre, a mansion of home.

†**b.** Chiefly *pl.* A separate dwelling-place, lodging, or apartment in a large house or enclosure.

c 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) V. 41 And thoughe it be clept the Tour of Babiloyne, yit natheles there were ordeyned with inne many Mansiouns and many grete duellynge Places. 1432-50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) I. 113 The kynges palice, with mansiones for his men. *Ibid.* II. 235 And also mansiones and other chambres [in Neale's Ark]. 1553 EDEN *Treat. Newe Ind.* (Arb.) 33 They came to a low cotage..hauing in it two mansions, in one of ye which were women and children and in the other only men. 1697 POTTER *Antiq. Greece* IV. xiii. (1715) 210 Grecian Houses were usually divided into two Parts, in which the Men and women had distinct Mansions assign'd.

c. *transf.* and *fig.*

c 1384 CHAUCER *H. Fame* II. 246 Thus euery thinge by thys reason Hath his propre mansyon To which [it] seketh to repaire. 1555 EDEN *Decades* 265 This sea at certeyne tymes of the yeare..dryueth furth his increase to seke newe mansions. 1687 DRYDEN *Hind & P.* II. 71 Suppose..The certain mansion were not yet assigned: The doubtful residence no proof can bring Against the plain existence of the thing. 1777 JOHNSON *Let. to Mrs. Thrale* 29 Oct., Oxford, the mansion of the liberal arts. 1798 WORDSW. *Tintern Abbey* 140 When thy mind Shall be a mansion for all lovely forms. 1821 LAMB *Elia* Ser. I. *Old & New Schools*, My head has not many mansions, nor spacious.

d. Used in *pl.* to translate Gr. *μοναί*, Vulg. *mansiones*, in John xiv. 2. Hence *allusively.*

a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* cxlix. 5 Þai sall be fayn in þaire dennys, þat is, in sere mansyuns of heuen. 1526 TINDALE *John* xiv. 2 In my fathers housse are many mansions. *a* 1805 PALEY *Serm.* XXXV. (1810) 526 In the habitations of life are many mansions; rewards of various orders and degrees, proportioned to our various degrees of virtue and exertion here. 1845 FITZBALL *Maritana* II. 16 Oh! that angels now might wait him To the mansions of the blest!

e. Used in *pl.* for the abodes of Hell.

1629 MILTON *Nativ.* 140 Hell it self will pass away, And leave her dolorous mansions to the peering day. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* IV. 691 Th' Infernal Mansions nodding seem to dance [orig. *Quin ipsæ stupuere domus*, etc.].

3. A structure or edifice serving as a dwelling or lodging place. †**a.** *gen.* A house, tent, etc. *Obs.*

a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* xiv. 1 Tabernakile propirly is þe mansyon of feghtand men and passand. 1412-20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* II. xi, Euery paleys and euery mansyowne Of marbell were. 1444 HEN. VI in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) I. 340 A mansion or *hospicium*..called Saynt Johanes Hostel. 1495 *Act* 11 *Hen. VII*, c. 9 § 2 Every mese and mancion or dwelling place within the lordship. 1509 *Brasenose Coll. Munim., Wycombe* M. 16 One Tenement or Mansion called the Lyon. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Rich. III* 28 b, With pitefull scriches she repleneshyd the hole mancion. *a* 1653 GOUGE *Comm. Heb.* III. (1655) 35 We usually call the Mansions which are here [Heb. xi. 9] stiled, 'Tabernacles', Tents. 1770 GOLDSM. *Des. Vill.* 140 The village preacher's modest mansion. 1781 COWPER *Let. to Unwin* 25 Aug., The building we inhabit consists of two mansions.

b. In early use: The chief residence of a lord; the 'capital messuage' of a manor, a manor-house. Hence, in later use, a large and stately residence.

a 1512 FABYAN *Will* in *Chron.* (1811) Pref. 3 If it happen me to decesse at my mansion called Halstedys. 1513 BRADSHAW *St. Werburge* I. 2614 Whiche place somtyme was the kynges mansyon, Translated to an abbay by her commaundyment. 1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV*, III. ii. 351 The Case of a Treble Hoeboy was a Mansion for him; a Court. *c* 1630 RISDON *Surv. Devon* § 41 (1810) 44 A fair dwelling house, which he maketh his mansion. 1641 *Termes de la Ley* 199 *Mansion* (*Mansio*) is in our law most commonly taken for the chief messuage..of the Lord of a Mannor, the Mannor house where he doth most remain. 1807 WORDSW. *Wh. Doe* VII. 25 The lordly Mansion of its pride Is stripped. 1841 W. SPALDING *Italy & It. Isl.* III. 159 The Quirinal Mount..contains on its summits and skirts several of the most magnificent Roman mansions. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* XIII. III. 364 At length the weary fugitives came in sight of Weems Castle. The proprietor of the mansion was a friend to the new government. 1865 *Dublin Univ. Mag.* I. 24 The fussy mistress of the 'mansion'..as in Brighton they call a lodging house. 1866 M. ARNOLD *Thyrsis* i, The village street its haunted mansion lacks. 1893 *Westm. Gaz.* 27 Oct. 1/1 What are called mansions—a mansion is a house with a back staircase—are a drug in the market.

c. The residence provided for an ecclesiastic.

1451 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 221/2 Which Houses the Deans of the seide Chapell have hadd for theire mansion. 1559 *Queen's Injunct.* B, All..Parsons, Vicars, & Clarkes, hauing Churches, chappels, or Mansions within this Deanrie.

d. *fig.* (e. g. of the body as enclosing the soul).

1526 TINDALE 2 *Cor.* v. 1 Oure erthy mancion wherin we now dwell. *Ibid.* 2 Desyringe to be clothed with oure mansion which is from heven. 1596 *Edw. III*, II. ii, Shall the large limit of fair Britany By me be overthrown, and shall I not Master this little mansion of myself. 1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* III. iv. 70 The innocent Mansion of my Loue (my Heart). 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* II. 296, I neuer saw a braue spirit part more mildly from the old mansion, then his did,

e. Used in *pl.* as the designation of the large buildings, divided into 'flats', which began to be erected in London about 1860.

1901 *Daily Chron.* 17 June 5/2 The inhabitants of Cornwall Mansions, finding that the word is now applied to less than ultra-select blocks of residences, have petitioned the Kensington Council to change the name to Cornwall-place.

†4. A halting-place in a journey; the distance between two halting-places; a stage. *Obs.*

1382 WYCLIF *Exod.* xvii. 1 Thanne goon forth al the multitude of the sones of Yrael fro the desert of Syn, bi her mansiouns [Vulg. *per mansiones suas*]. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 77/2 The fyrst mansion that they made was by the ryuer of tygre. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* III. i. 191 Eight mansions from thence is the Region of Frankincense. 1614 RALEIGH *Hist. World* II. (1634) 222 From Marah he removed to Elim, the sixth Mansion, a march of eight miles. 1737 WHISTON *Josephus, Antiq.* XVI. ix. § 2 Herod..in three days time marched seven mansions [Gr. σταθμούς].

5. *Astrol.* a. = HOUSE *sb.*[1] 8. b. Each of the twenty-eight divisions of the ecliptic, which are occupied by the moon on successive days.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Sqr.'s T.* 42 Phebus the sonne..was.. in his mansion In Aries. — *Frankl. T.* 402 The eighte and twenty mansions That longen to the moone. 1430–40 LYDG. *Bochas* VII. iv. (1494) B ij, Jupiter..within the fissh helde tho his mancion. 1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* XVIII. (Percy Soc.) 77 Dyane .. Entred the Crab, her propre mancyon. 1552 LYNDESAY *Monarche* 6120 Als cleir As flammand Phebus in his Mantioun. 1690 LEYBOURN *Curs. Math.* 385 The dividing of the Heavens into XII. Mansions or Houses. 1879 PROCTOR in *Contemp. Rev.* June 419 The Chaldæan astronomy has not the twenty-eight lunar mansions.

†6. Formerly used *Hist.* to render med.L. *mansa, mansus* a hide of land: see MANSE *sb.* 2. *Obs.*

c 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 8329 Fyften mansyons in lyndesay He gaf to him and his for ay. 1513 BRADSHAW *St. Werburge* I. 564 He gaue a certayne mansyon To the pronynce of Lyndesy. 1647 N. BACON *Disc. Govt. Eng.* I. xi. (1739) 19 Yet could not the Tenth Hide, Tenth Mansion, or Tenth part of the Kingdom be granted. 1809 BAWDWEN *Domesday Bk.* 331 Three mansions, in which are situate eleven houses yielding four shillings and seven-pence.

7. *attrib.*, as †*mansion-globe*; †**mansion-seat**, a place of abode, dwelling-place; also, the chief residence of a landed proprietor. Also MANSION-HOUSE, MANSION-PLACE.

1618 BOLTON tr. *Florus* (1636) 41 The City which the Fates ordained to be the mansion Seat of men, and gods. 1711 SHAFTESB. *Charac.* (1737) II. 373 Yet is this mansion-globe, this man-container, of a much narrower compass even than other its fellow-wanderers of our system. 1751 CHESTERF. *Lett.* (1792) III. 224 A certain district of ground immediately contiguous to the mansion seat of a family. 1771 MRS. GRIFFITH *Hist. Lady Barton* III. 201 Castle W—..the mansion-seat where my father then resided.

†**Ma·nsion,** *v. Obs. rare.* [f. prec. sb.] *intr.* To dwell, reside.

a 1638 MEDE *Par. Peter* (1642) 16 Visible as the clouds of heaven,..and other meteors; as also the rest of the creatures mansioning therein. *a* 1711 KEN *Christophil* Poet. Wks. 1721 I. 430 Love, when Faith sees my Jesus near, Will say, 'Tis good to mansion here.

Mansional (mæ·nʃənăl), *a. rare*—[1]. [f. MANSION *sb.* + -AL.] Of or pertaining to a mansion.

1813 'ÆDITUUS' *Metr. Remarks* 9 Our Mansional-house is the genuine descendant of the Castle. *Ibid.* 12 The Bowed Mansional Window.

Mansionary (mæ·nʃənări), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. med.L. *mansiōnārius*: see -ARY.]

A. *adj.* Staying or dwelling in a place, permanently abiding, resident. ? *Obs.*

1447 BOKENHAM *Seyntys* (Roxb.) 144 Phebus wych no wher is mansonarye Stedefastly but yeh daye doth varye His herberwe among the syngnys twelve. 1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Canon, Foreign Canons* were such as did not officiate in the Canonries to which they belonged.—To these were opposed *Mansionary Canons*, or *Canons Residentiary*.

B. *sb. Eccl.* 1. A custodian of a church.

1708–22 BINGHAM *Orig. Eccl.* VIII. vii. § 11 Wks. 1840 II. 476 The mansionaries, or keepers of the church. 1893 *Month* July 364 A mansionary of the church presented him [the Pope] with a reed on which was a lighted taper.

†2. An endowment for a chantry-priest. [med.L. *mansionaria*: see Du Cange.]

1651 HOWELL *Venice* 174 If the pains of Purgatory are sayed to be but temporary, wherefore shold the simplicity of peeple be perswaded to bequeath in the behalf of their souls perpetuall Legacies and Mansionaries?

Mansioned (mæ·nʃənd), *ppl. a.* (*nonce-wd.*) [f. MANSION *sb.* + -ED[2].] Furnished with mansions.

1828 J. WILSON in *Blackw. Mag.* XXIII. 819 We surveyed ..county upon county, of rich, merry, sylvan England, mansioned, abbeyed, towered.

Ma·nsion-house. †a. A dwelling-house, a house in which a person resides. *Obs.*

1533 *Act* 24 *Hen. VIII*, c. 5 Any suche evill disposed persone..attempting..burgularly to breke Mansion houses. 1563 in *Vicary's Anat.* (1888) App. III. 164 Every mansion howse of this Cyty that..shalbe visited this Sommer season with the plage. 1577 HARRISON *England* II. xii. (1877) I. 237 The mansion houses of our countrie townes..are builded in such sort generallie, as that they haue neither dairie, stable, nor bruehouse annexed vnto them vnder the same roofe. 1638 in T. Lechford *Note-Bk.* (1885) 54 All that parte of one new mansion house in Boston..wch lyes to the south end. 1672 *Cowell's Interpr.* s.v. *House*, Those that dig for Salt-peter, shall not dig in the Mansion-house of any Subject without his assent. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 264 ₱ 2 He took his present Lodging in St. John Street, at the Mansion-House of a Taylor's Widow. 1718 in G. Sheldon *Hist. Deerfield, Mass.* (1895) I. 499 We propose that they..shall ..Build each man a Mansion house upon their house lots. 1755 in F. Chase *Hist. Dartmouth Coll.* (1891) I. 11 A certain lott of Land..with a Mantion House thereon.

fig. 1592 R. D. *Hypnerotomachia* 75 b, This place was the Mansion-house of Voluptuousnes. 1644 MILTON *Areop.* (Arb.) 69 A City of refuge, the mansion house of liberty.

b. The house of the lord of a manor, the chief residence of a landed proprietor; hence (now only U. S.), a large house of good appearance.

1641 EVELYN *Diary* (init.), Wotton, the mansion house of my father, left him by my grandfather. 1651 G. W. tr. *Cowel's Inst.* 149 The Wife also shall have..her lodging in her Husbands cheife Mansion house for 40. dayes. 1711 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4893/4 The Capital Messuage or Mansion-House, called Newborrough-Hall. 1725 DE FOE *Voy. round World* (1840) 290 Our good Chilian's mansion-house or palace. 1782 V. KNOX *Ess.* (1819) III. cxxi. 15 The landed gentry usually possess a share of pride fully proportionate to their estate and mansion house. 1848 SHAND *Pract. Crt. Sess.* II. 607 Where there is a proper mansion-house on a landed-estate, the eldest heir-portioner is entitled to that mansion-house. 1860 O. W. HOLMES *Elsie V.* v. (1861) 43 In this street were most of the great houses, or 'mansion-houses', as it was usual to call them...A New-England 'mansion-house' is naturally square, with dormer windows. 1899 CROCKETT *Kit Kennedy* iv. 32 The hunch of trees, under which nestled the mansion-house of Kirkoswald.

c. An official residence; †esp. that belonging to the benefice of an ecclesiastic. Now *spec.* the official residence of the Lord Mayor of London.

1546 *Mem. Ripon* (Surtees) III. 14 The Mansion house of the saide vicars. *a* 1600 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* VII. xxiv. § 13 The Executors of Bishops are sued if their Mansion house he suffered to go to decay. 1609 *Mem. Ripon* (Surtees) III. 335 The Mansion House of the Prebendary which is situate in Rippon. 1738 KNOWLER *Strafforde's Lett.* Ded., Repairing of Churches and building Mansion-houses for Ministers. 1766 ENTICK *Hist. Lond.* etc. IV. 359 The lord-mayor's Mansion-house, a modern edifice begun in 1739 and finished in 1753. 1835 THIRLWALL *Greece* I. viii. 331 The Temple of Fear was erected near the mansion-house of the ephors. 1880 *Daily News* 18 Dec. 4/5 A conference..took place yesterday afternoon in the Egyptian Hall of the Mansion House, the Lord Mayor presiding.

†**Ma·nsion-place.** *Obs.* A dwelling-place, place of abode; a mansion-house; the chief seat of a landed proprietor. Also *fig.*

1473 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 91/2 An Inne, Mansion place or Beledyng. 1523 FITZHERB. *Surv.* 31 b, Whan the tenaunt shall do homage to his chefe lorde of whome he holdeth his chefe maner or mancyon place. *c* 1540 BOORDE *The boke for to Lerne* A ij b, Who soeuer that wyl buylde a mansyon place or howse. 1548 GEST *Pr. Masse* Av, A christian & faithful hart..which..is the temple of the holy ghoste & the mansyon place of the blessed trynitie. *c* 1630 RISDON *Surv. Devon* § 56 (1810) 59 [He] built there a fair house, and made it his mansion place. 1650 BULWER *Anthropomet.* 60 The imperial seat and mansion place of wisdome.

b. A halting-place: = MANSION 5.

1608 WILLET *Hexapla Exod.* 190 Kibroth hatauah, which was their next mansion place.

Mansionry (mæ·nʃənri). *rare.* Also 7 **mansonry**. [f. MANSION *sb.* + -RY.] ? Mansions collectively. In Shaks. perh. mispr. for *masonry*.

1605 SHAKS. *Macb.* I. vi. 5 This Guest of Summer, The Temple-haunting Barlet does approue, By his loued Mansonry, that the Heauens breath Smells wooingly here. 1876 BROWNING *St. Martin's Summer* x, Durable mansionry.

Mansiple, obs. form of MANCIPLE.

Mansitude, obs. variant of MANSUETUDE.

†**Ma·nslaught.** *Obs.* Forms: α. 1 **mannslyht, manslæht, -sleht(e, -sliht, mon(n)slieht, -slyht, monsliht,** 1–2 **manslyht,** 2 **monsleht,** 3 **man-, monslauȝt, -slæht, -slecht, -sleiht,** 3–4 **-sleahte,** 3–5 **-slaȝt(e,** 4 **-slauȝte, -slauht, -slawhte,** 4–5 **-slaghte, -slaught(e, -slauȝt, -slawt(te.** β. (*Kentish* and *E. Anglian*) 4 **manslaȝþe, -sleȝþe,** 5 **mansclawth, -slauth.** [OE. (Anglian) *mann-, mǫnnslæht,* (WS.) *-slieht, -sliht,* f. *mann* MAN *sb.*[1] + *slæht, slieht,* masc., act of killing:—OTeut. **slahti-z,* f. **slah-* to strike, kill: see SLAY *v.* Cf. OS., OHG. *manslahta* str. fem.]

1. Manslaughter, homicide.

c 897 K. ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* xxi. 166 Se to anra ðara burȝa ȝefliho, ðonne mæȝ he beon orsorȝ ðæs monslihtes. *a* 1000 *Confess. Peccat.* (B.-T.), Manslæht. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 103 Heo macað monslehtas. *c* 1205 LAY. 27826 Muchel mon-slæht wes þere. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 210 Nis þis strong monsleiht, of golnesse awakened? *c* 1250 *Kent. Serm.* in *O. E. Misc.* 30 Lecherie spusbreche Roberie Manslechtes. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 8125 Muche was þe manslaȝt þat þere was ido. *a* 1315 SHOREHAM *Poems* (E.E.T.S.) 94/249 ȝef þer hys mansleȝþe pur. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 364 Now mai men se moerdre and manslawhte. 1426 AUDELAY *Poems* 2 Monslaȝt with a rewful steven Hit askys vengans. *c* 1450 *Cov. Myst.* xxxii. (Shaks. Soc.) 312 Delyvere us the theff Barabas, That for mansclawth presonde was. 1469 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 307 If ony man..make ony affray, manslaught, other kyllyng, by his owne foly and not in defennce.

2. A murderer.

a 1300 *Ten Commandm.* in *E. E. P.* (1862) 16 Manslaȝt þou ne be. *c* 1315 SHOREHAM *Poems* (E. E. T. S.) 94/261 Manye suche mansleȝþen beþ. 1340 *Ayenb.* 171 Me ssel grede to god merci ase his þyef ase his manslaȝþe. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 4498 Marcure was manslaȝt.

Manslaughter (mæ·nslɔ̄tə). Forms: see SLAUGHTER *sb.* Also 4 **mans-slaghter,** 4–5 **manes-slaghter.** [f. MAN *sb.*[1] + SLAUGHTER.]

1. †a. The killing of a human being by a human being; homicide; chiefly criminal homicide, *esp.* murder. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 25457 O mans-slaghter had i þa mak. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Former Age* 64 In owre dayes nis but covetyse..Poyson and manslawhtre. *c* 1386 — *Pars. T.* ₱ 491 Spirituel manslaughtere is in vj. thynges. *a* 1400 *Relig. Pieces fr. Thornton MS.* 25 þer es manes-slaghter of hand, of tunge, of herte. 1462 *Paston Lett.* II. 83, I herd nevyr sey of so myche robry and manslawter in thys contre as is now within a lytyll tyme. 1581 LAMBARDE *Eiren.* II. vii. (1588) 223 Using Manslaughter, as a sort of Felonie that comprehendeth under it all maner of felonious Homicide whatsoeuer. 1601–2 FULBECKE *1st Pt. Parall.* 92 Manslaughter *se defendendo* is, where [etc.]. 1611 BIBLE 2 *Esdras* i. 26 Your feete are swift to commit manslaughter.

b. The 'slaughtering' of human beings; destruction of human life.

c 1450 *Merlin* 244 Ther was a stronge bataile and grete man-slaughter on both sithes. 1532 MORE *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 352/2 What distruccion and man slaughter they haue caused. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* XI. 689 To overcome in Battel, ..and bring home spoils with infinite Man-slaughter. 1880 T. HODGKIN *Italy & Inv.* I. i. Introd. 14 It [*sc.* an army] soon ceases to be an efficient instrument even for its own purpose of scientific manslaughter. 1898 GERTRUDE TUCKWELL in *19th Cent.* Aug. 253 (art.) Commercial manslaughter.

2. *Law.* A species of criminal homicide of a lower degree of criminality than murder; now defined as criminal homicide without malice aforethought.

In etymological meaning there is no difference between *manslaughter* and *homicide* (L. *homicidium*, F. *homicide*, both used in early Eng. law-books). In its modern technical use, *manslaughter* corresponds generally to the 'simple homicide' of early Law French and Law Latin writers, which was used in contradistinction to 'murder' (though the distinction is not identical with the modern one), and ordinarily implied criminality.

According to the modern interpretation, *manslaughter* is committed when one person causes the death of another either intentionally in the heat of passion under certain kinds of provocation, or unintentionally by culpable negligence or as a consequence of some unlawful act.

In Scotland the term corresponding to *manslaughter* is 'culpable homicide'.

1447 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 137/2 Robberies, Murthers, mayehemes and manslaut'. 1538 STARKEY *England* II. iii. 197 Robbery..wyth murdur and mansloughtur. 1601–2 FULBECKE *1st Pt. Parall.* 90 You seeme under your first member, which is the wilful killing of a man of malice forethought, to comprehend manslaughter, which is done in the heate and furie of anger and sodaine falling out. 1625 HART *Anat. Ur.* II. xi. 122, I cannot see any iust cause why it should not bee pronounced guiltie of man-slaughter at the least, if not of murther. *a* 1732 BOSTON *Crook in Lot* (1805) 21 Such as men-slaughter, purely casual, as when one hewing wood, kills his neighbour with the head of the ax slipping from the helve. 1769 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* IV. 190 In this there are also degrees of guilt, which divide the offence into manslaughter, and murder. 1847 JAMES *Convict* XX, The foreman returned a verdict of 'Manslaughter' against Edward Dudley. 1898 *Daily News* 17 Jan. 6/6 The young man.. who was convicted on Friday of manslaughter of a woman.

Hence **Manalaughterous** *a.* [-OUS], of the nature of manslaughter, inclined for manslaughter.

1883 *Pall Mall G.* 6 Jan. 5 A murderous or even a manslaughterous part. 1898 *N. & Q.* 9th Ser. I. 183/1 A description which makes one feel almost manslaughterous.

Ma·nslaughterer. [f. MAN *sb.*[1] + SLAUGHTERER.] One who slaughters men.

1848 BUCKLEY *Iliad* 93 Mars, man-slaughterer.

Ma·n-slaughtering, *ppl. a.* That slaughters human beings. So **Ma·nslaughtering** *vbl. sb.*

c 1705 BERKELEY *Cave of Dunmore* Wks. 1871 IV. 508 Ireland seems the freest country in the world from such manslaughtering animals. 1848 BUCKLEY *Iliad* 127 Battles and man-slaughterings. 1876 SWINBURNE *Erechtheus* (ed. 2) 475 Sickles of man-slaughtering edge.

Manslauht, -auth, -awt(te: see MANSLAUGHT.

Manslayer (mæ·nslēlə). Forms: see SLAYER; also 5 **monsle(e)r.** One who kills a man; a homicide; *occas.* one who commits manslaughter.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 16441 þe man-slaer, he barabas. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* XXX. (*Theodera*) 258 Sa ma þu þe sauf fra hel quhare man-slaare sal ay duel. *c* 1425 AUDELAY *XI Pains of Hell* 37 in *O. E. Misc.* 211 Þese were proud men,.. Extortioners, monslers, robbid mone one. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 238 b, He that hateth his brother is a manslear. 1611 BIBLE *Num.* XXXV. 12. 1635 VISCT. WENTWORTH in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. III. 286 They that made me the manslayer of the E. of St. Albans, will impute my Lo. Mountnorris unto me for willfull and plaine murther. 1741 RICHARDSON *Pamela* II. 281 All your Airs breathe as strongly of the Manslayer, as of the Libertine. 1835 THIRLWALL *Greece* I. vi. 171 That the manslayer withdrew into a foreign land and did not return to his country, till [etc.].

†b. An executioner. *Obs. rare*—[1].

c 1380 WYCLIF *Serm.* Sel. Wks. I. 388 þe kyng..sente for a man-sleere [Mark vi. 27].

So †**Ma·nslaȝe** *Early ME.* [OE. *slaga* slayer].

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Deut.* v. 17 Ne beo þu manslaȝa. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 53 Ah þah heo beoð..monslaȝen for heo slaȝeð heore aȝene saule. *a* 1225 *St Marher.* 11 Ichabbe isehen þene þurs of helle..ant te monslahe islein.

Ma·n-slaying, *vbl. sb.* Also 5 **manes-slaynge.** The action of killing a man; homicide. So **Ma·n-slaying** *ppl. a.*

c 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 238 Wrong oppressynge of pore men axiþ vengaunce of god, as doþ wrong mansleynge. *a* 1400 *Relig. Pieces fr. Thornton MS.* 25 Manes-slaynge of hande es when a mane slaes anoþer with his handes. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 239 And so..in the other vyces of mansleynge and false testimony. 1625 F. HERING *Cert. Rules* a ij b, The rage of this manslaying Hydra [the Plague]. 1876 GLADSTONE *Homeric Synchr.* 55 Battles and man-slayings (androctasiai). 1880 FREEMAN in Stephens *Life* (1895) II. 198 He chose the man-slaying trade.

Mansleahte, etc., var. ff. MANSLAUGHT *Obs.*

Manson, obs. f. MANSION, MONSOON.

†Manso·rious, *a. Obs. rare.* [f. mod.L. *mansōri-us* pertaining to chewing (f. *mans-*, ppl. stem of *mandĕre* to chew, eat) + -OUS.] The distinctive epithet of the masseter muscle.

1578 BANISTER *Hist. Man* I. 11 The mansorious, or eatyng Muscle.

Mansound, obs. form of MONSOON.

†Ma·nsuefy, *v. Obs.*—° [ad. L. *mansuē-facĕre*, f. *mansuē-*, *mansuēscĕre* (see MANSUETE) + *facĕre*: see -FY.] *trans.* To tame (Cockeram 1623). Hence **Mansuefaction** [see -FACTION], 'a taming or making gentle' (Bailey vol. II, 1727).

Mansuete (mænswīt, mænswīt), *a. Obs.* or *arch.* Forms: 4-8 **mansuete,** 5-6 **-swete,** 6 **-sweit,** 6-7 **-suet.** [ad. L. *mansuēt-us*, pa. pple. of *mansuēscĕre* to tame, become tame, f. *man-us* hand + *suēscĕre* to accustom, become accustomed (see CUSTOM). Cf. OF. *mansuet(e*, Sp., Pg., It. *mansueto.*] Gentle, mild; tame, not wild or fierce.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* v. 194 She..stod forth mewet mylde and mansuete. *c* 1450 HOLLAND *Howlat* 83 That is the plesant Pacok,..manswet and mure. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* III. 400 Ane fair 3oung man..Manswet and meik. 1621 S. WARD *Life of Faith* 66 Of Woluish and dogged makes the Will Lamb-like and Doue-like: of wild and haggard, morigerous and mansuete. 1660 F. BROOKE tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 26 He kept this fish in a Pond..and delighted much to feed him with his own hand, the fish being very mansuete. 1691 RAY *Creation* (1701) 132 This holds not only in domestic and mansuete birds..but also in the wild. 1722 WOLLASTON *Relig. Nat.* IX. 176 It will oblige men..not to be proud..but candid, placable, mansuete. 1861 J. BROWN *Horæ Subs.* Ser. I. 415 Our..clever, and not over-mansuete friend 'Fuge Medicos'.

Hence **†Mansuetely** *adv.*, gently, mildly.

c 1460 J. RUSSELL *Bk. Nurture* 887 Than pray youre souereyn with wordus mansuetely to com to a good fyre.

†Mansuetie. *Obs. rare*—1. = MANSUETUDE.

1592 WYRLEY *Armorie, Ld. Chandos* 105 More praisefull vertue in a conquerer Then mansuetie is none to be found.

Mansuetude (mæ·nswĭtiud). *arch.* Also 6 **mansuetud, -swetude,** 7 **mansitude, -sutude.** [ad. L. *mansuētūdo*, f. *mansuētus*: see MANSUETE and -TUDE. Cf. F. *mansuétude* (from 13th c.; earlier *mansuetume*).] Gentleness, meekness.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Pars. T.* P 580 The remedye agayns Ire is a vertu that men clepen Mansuetude, that is Debonairetee. *c* 1460 ASHBY *Active Policy* 880 Auoidyng al vengeance & displesance With al mansuetude conuenient. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 97 b, Mansuetude or myldnes. 1681 RYCAUT tr. *Gracian's Critick* 136 A Lion..whose fierceness had been lately turned to the Mansitude of a Lamb. 1799 W. TOOKE *View Russian Emp.* II. 222 Their mansuetude and readiness to concur in all measures adopted by the government. 1869 BROWNING *Ring & Bk.* VIII. 660 Our Lord Himself, made all of mansuetude.

†Ma·nswear, *sb. Obs.* In 1 **mánswara, -swora,** 3 **manswore, monsware.** [OE. *mánswara* = ON. *meinsvare* wk. masc.; related to next.] A perjurer.

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 61 Myrþran,& manswaran. *c* 1205 LAY. 4149 Ne mai neuere mon sware mon-scipe longe a3en. *c* 1275 *Ibid.* 22139 Bote he were so yuel bi-3ete þat he were louerd-swike oþer to his louerd man-swore.

Manswear (mæ·nswe·ɪ), *v. Obs.* exc. *arch.* and *dial.* Pa. t. **-swore,** pa. pple. **-sworn.** In 1 **mánswerian,** 5 **manesuere,** 5-6 **mensweare,** 6 **manesweir, mansweare, -swere, mannsuere, mensuer, -suir, -sweir,** 9 **mainswear.** [OE. *mánswerian* (pa. t. *-swór*, pa. pple. *-sworen*), f. *mán* MAN *sb.*2 + *swerian* to SWEAR. Cf. MANATH.]

1. *intr.* To swear falsely.

1... *Eccl. Inst.* c. 21 in Thorpe *Laws* II. 416 Ne swerize he þylæs þe he man-swerize. 1583 *Leg. Bp. St. Androis* 843 The man mensueris he saw sic thing. 1855 ROBINSON *Whitby Gloss., Mainswear*, to swear falsely.

2. *refl.* To perjure oneself.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* XXVI. (*Nycholas*) 839 Þe quhilk, fra he mansworn hym had, tuk his staf & mad na bad. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 248 What wit war it..that he suld brek his lautee to manesuere him for company. 1535 COVERDALE *Wisd.* XIV. 28 Either they..prophecie lyes, or lyue vngodly, or els lightly mansweare them selues. 1567 *Satir. Poems Reform.* II. 5 Willfullie yai man yame selves mensuir. *a* 1622 J. WELCH in Burton *Scot Abr.* (1864) I. v. 286 He caused to take out of the grave the carcass of Formosus, who had mansworn himself. *c* 1817 HOGG *Tales & Sk.* V. 259, I made it clear..that Major Creighton and Mr. John Hay had both man-sworn themselves.

†3. *trans.* To swear falsely by (a god). *Obs.*

1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* III. (1822) 237 The pepil war nocht sa necligent in thay dayis as thay ar now to mansweire thare Goddis, or to fals thare wourdis. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 74 Than man I outher reif or steill, Or than my Goddis name manesweir.

¶4. To renounce on oath, forswear. *Obs.*

1500-20 DUNBAR *Poems* XXVII. 90 Thir new maid knychtis lay bayth in swoun, And did all armes mensweir. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* IX. 231 Normond Gourlai confirmet that al heresie he had mensworne afor ony man.

†Ma·nswearing, *vbl. sb. Obs.* [f. MANSWEAR *v.* + -ING 1.] Perjury.

c 1440 *Alph. Tales* 329 Twa cetisens of Colayn confessid þaim of..manesweryng. 1574 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* Ser. I. II. 368 Under the pane of infamy, reprufe, manswering and tinsall of perpetuall traist and credite. 1605 in *Pitcairn's Crim. Trials* II. 454 Dilaitit of Periurie and mensweiring of thame selffis.

Mansweit, -swete, etc.: see MANSUETE, etc.

Mansworn (mæ·nswǭɪn), *ppl. a.* and *sb.* [pa. pple. of MANSWEAR *v.*] **A.** *adj.* Forsworn, perjured. *Obs.* exc. *Sc.* and *north. dial.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 25794 Monsuorn man to petre loke, þat thris on a night crist for-soke. *c* 1400 *Ywaine & Gaw.* 3938 Tithandes tel i yow biforn, Other sal my lady be manesworn. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 87 For outhir, mon he be manesuorne or tyne his awin heretage. 1500 20 DUNBAR *Poems* XXXIV. 100 The Deuill said then, 'Of commoun la All mensworne folk man cum to me'. *c* 1569 *Durham Depos.* (Surtees) 89 Such maynsworn harlotts as thou art kepes me from it. *c* 1610 in Row *Hist. Kirk* (1842) 305 Thou art a mensworn man. 1650 HOBART *Rep.* 126 Slater brought an action of the case against Franks for saying, Thou art a main-sworne Lad, and a bankrupt Lad. ..It stood upon the word Maine-sworne: against which it was said, that it was an unknowne word in these parts, and of an uncertaine sense, though in the North parts it was understood to be as much as perjured, as forsworne with his hand upon the book. 1725 RAMSAY *Gent. Sheph.* II. iv, Mony lads will swear, And be mansworn to twa in half a year. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xv, I shall be man-sworn in the very thing in which my testimony is wanted. 1893 STEVENSON *Catriona* xiii. 145 Prestongrange promised me my life; if he's to be mansworn, here I'll have to die.

absol. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 23112 Murthereres and monsuorn als.

†B. *sb.* Perjury. *Obs.*

1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 273 [He] walde..accus him of the crime of manesuorne.

†Mant, *sb.*1 *Obs.* [a. F. *mante* fem., ad. Pr. *manta*, cogn. w. Sp., It., Pg. *manto*: see MANTLE *sb.* In the first quot. repr. Sp. *manto*. Cf. MANTA.] **a.** A mantilla. **b.** = MANTEAU 1.

1651 tr. *De-las-Coveras' Don Fenise* 238 He..told him.. to return to the Inne to fetch the three Ladies who were there, making them..put their Mants upon them (that is a great vail which the women have in Spain,..which covereth all their bodies unto their heels). 1694 ECHARD *Plautus* 95 What a confounded Jargon o' names!..There's your light Mant plated, your Stiff-bodied-Gown, &c. 1709 *Tatler* No. 32 ₱ 2 Her blue Mant and Petticoat is her Azure Dress. 1752 A. MURPHY *Gray's Inn Jrnl.* No. 2 To recal a straggling Hair, to settle the Tucker, or compose the Mant.

Mant (mænt), *sb.*2 *Sc.* [f. MANT *v.*] A stammer; an impediment in the speech.

1839 J. M. WILSON *Tales Border* V. 189 The former having what we call in Scotland a *mant*, a sullen visage, and a brawling temper. 1894 P. H. HUNTER *James Inwick* ii. 19 That ane said he had a mant, an' the tither ane that he clippit his words.

Mant (mænt), *v. Sc.* Also 6 **mante,** 8–9 **maunt.** [app. of Gaelic origin. Cf. Gaelic and Irish *manntach* toothless, stammering, f. MIrish *mant* gum.] *trans.* and *intr.* To stammer.

1562 A. SCOTT *Poems* (S. T. S.) I. 92 Thai tyrit God..With owklie abitis to augment þair rentalis, Mantand mort mom-lingis mixt wt monye leis. 1629 *Z.* BOYD *Last Battell* 985 Hee who manteth or stammereth in his speach. 1716 RAMSAY *On Wit* 12 There was a manting lad in Fife, Wha..never manted when he sang. 1873 *Guidman Inglismaill* 33 Noo an' than he mantit in his sang.

Hence **Ma·nting** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.* Also **Ma·nter,** a stammerer.

1506 in *Ld. Treas. Acc. Scotl.* (1901) III. 199 Item, to mantand Adam to pas to Dunbertane with ane writing of the Kingis. *a* 1585 POLWART *Flyting w. Montgomerie* 775 Mad manter, vaine vaunter. *a* 1625 SIR J. SEMPLE *Picktooth for Pope* in *Harp Renfrew* Ser. II. (1873) 24 Its hut the Matrons manting. 1716 [see MANT *v.*]. 1789 D. DAVIDSON *Seasons* 77 Auld mantin Michael's daughter.

‖Manta (mæntă). [Sp. *manta* blanket.]

1. A wrap or cloak worn by Spaniards.

1697 *C'less D'Aunoy's Trav.* (1706) 112 When they opened their manta's, the light of the moon made the glory of their Gold and Precious Stones appear. 1845 FOAD *Handbk. Spain* I. 31 Some substitute the 'mantas', which most Spaniards carry with them when on their travels. This is a gay-coloured Oriental-looking striped blanket, or rather plaid. 1902 E. L. BANKS *Newspaper Girl* 24 It was at first suggested that I should don the manta, the national female garment of Peru.

b. A horse-cloth.

1828 W. IRVING in *Life & Lett.* (1864) II. 306 They..lie on the mantas of their mules and horses.

2. The Spanish-American name for a fish of the genus *Ceratoptera.* Also *manta-fish.*

1760-72 *Juan & Ulloa's Voy.* (ed. 3) I. 130 The mantas or quilts..The name manta has not been improperly given to this fish..; for being broad and long like a quilt, it wraps its fins round a man, or any other animal,..and immediately squeezes it to death. 1783 JUSTAMOND tr. *Raynal's Hist. Indies* IV. 180 The manta fish. 1794 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* 576 (Mexico.) The fish common to both oceans are, whales, dolphins,..manitis, mantas, porpoises [etc.].

3. = MANTELET 2.

1829 W. IRVING *Conq. Granada* I. XXIX. 264 Seizing their mantas, or portable hulwarks,..they made a gallant assault. 1843 PRESCOTT *Mexico* V. II. (1864) 280 It was called a manta, and was contrived somewhat on the principle of the mantelets used in the wars of the Middle Ages.

4. In *Mining*: **a.** A sackful or blanketful of mineral. **b.** A mineral placer.

1860 *Eng. & Foreign Mining Gloss.* Span. Terms 109 *Manta*, a blanket, or horse cloth, used to contain ores or tools. 1874 RAYMOND *Statist. Mines & Mining* 318 They pass through three rich streaks or *mantas.*

Mantalet, obs. form of MANTELET.

Mantayne, obs. form of MAINTAIN.

Mante, see MANT *v.*, MANTIE; obs. pa. t. MOAN *v.*

Manteane, obs. Sc. form of MAINTAIN.

Manteau. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.* Forms: *α.* 7–8 **mantoe,** 7–9 **manto**; *β.* 7 **mantou, -ow,** 7–9 **manteau.** [a. F. *manteau*:—L. *mantellum*: see MANTLE *sb.*]

1. (See quot. 1706.)

α. 1678 BUTLER *Hud.* III. i. 700 Jealous piques, Which th' Ancients wisely signify'd By th' yellow mantos of the bride. 1691 *Emilianne's Frauds Rom. Monks* (ed. 3) 408 Womens Cloaths; as Mantoe's, Stays and Petticoats. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Mantoe* or *Mantua Gown*, (Fr.) a loose upper Garment, now generally worn by Women, instead of a straight-body'd Gown. *c* 1720 DK. MONTAGU in *Buccleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 367 The women ..with their mantoes stuck out behind. 1729-30 LADY STANLEY in *Mrs. Delany's Life & Corr.* (1861) I. 235 Your sister Pendarvis sends you your manto and petticoat to be a bridesmaid.

β. 1671 SHADWELL *Humorist* I. 2 A delicate white Mantou. 1687 MIEGE *Gt. Fr. Dict.* II, Mantow, a sort of Women's Gown. 1690 EVELYN *Mundus Muliebris* 2 Three Manteaus, nor can Madam less Provision have for due undress. 1702 ADDISON *Dial. Medals* (1727) 17 An Antiquary will scorn to mention..a petticoat or a manteau. 1793 *Residence in France* (1797) I. 291 The ladies, equipped only in a short manteau and petticoat. 1816 SCOTT *Old Mort.* ix, Tell my gentlewoman to bring my black scarf and manteau.

b. *attrib.*, as *manteau girdle, gown.*

1682 *True Protest. Mercury* No. 162. 2/2 Lost a Flowerd silk Manto Gown. 1690 EVELYN *Mundus Muliebris* 3 A Manteau Girdle.

‖2. *transf.* The plumage of a falcon.

1852 R. F. BURTON *Falconry in Valley of Indus* vii. 74 Grease of all kinds injures the *manteau.* [*foot-note*] Coat or plumage.

Hence **Manteau'd** *a.*, dressed in a manteau.

1788 'A. PASQUIN' *Childr. Thespis* (1792) 43 Her vests mend her frame, as the harp tunes the wind; She is manteau'd fallacious before and behind.

†Manteau-maker. *Obs.* (superseded by the incorrect MANTUA-MAKER). [See MANTEAU.] One who makes women's robes; a dressmaker.

1699 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) IV. 551 Mrs. Potter, the manteau maker,..is still in custody of a messenger. 1702 FARQUHAR *Twin Rivals* IV. i. (1703) 45 One of 'em is a Manto-maker. 1795 *Gentl. Mag.* LXV. II. 979 A man of distinguished abilities as a milliner and manteau-maker.

‖Manteca (mante·ka). *Obs.* Also 7 **manteque, mantegue,** 8 **mantecu.** [Sp. *manteca* (= Pg. *manteiga*, of obscure origin) butter, also applied to other fatty substances. Cf. F. *mantèque* (Buffon), also *mantègue* (corruptly *mantègne*).] A kind of butter or substitute for butter.

The Sp. *manteca de puerco* (hog's lard) occurs in R. Hawkins *Voy. S. Sea* (1593–1622).

1660 F. BROOKE tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 8 They brought in.. their melted butter called Manteque. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 165 A great deal of Mantegue or a kind of Butter comes running out at the holes. 1743 POCOCKE *Descr. East* I. 186 *note*, They carry in them [vases] the butter called Mantecu. 1748 *Earthquake of Peru* iii. 271 The Use of what they call Manteca, being Hogs-lard and Beef-suet, which they use instead of Butter.

†Mantee'l. *Obs.* Forms: 5 **manteill,** (7–8 *Dicts.* **mantile**), 8 **mauteil, -teel**(e. [app. a. F. *mantille*, ad. Sp. *mantilla*: see MANTILLA.]

1. A soldier's cloak or mantle.

c 1470 HENRY *Wallace* XI. 242 A gret manteill about his hand can ta, And his gud suerd. [1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Mantile* or *Mantle*, a kind of cloak which Souldiers in times past used in Winter.

2. Some kind of cape or mantle worn by ladies.

1733 MRS. DELANY in *Life & Corr.* (1861) I. 424, I am sick of manteils, and I have two by me. 1752 FIELDING *Covent Gard. Jrnl.* 9 May, Ladies..covered their lovely necks with a cloak; this, being routed by the enemy [the vulgar], was exchanged for the manteel. 1786 BURNS *Holy Fair* ii, Twa had manteeles o' dolefu' black, But ane wi' lyart lining.

†Mantegar. *Obs.* Also 8 **manteger,- tyger, -tiger.** [Perh. a use of *mantegre, -tyger*, corrupt form of MANTICORE.] Some kind of baboon.

The descriptions suggest the mandrill, from which however the 18th c. naturalists considered it distinct.

1704 TYSON in *Phil. Trans.* XXV. 1571 The Mantegar is an Animal not described as I know of by any Author. *c* 1714 ARBUTHNOT, etc. *Mem. M. Scriblerus* I. xiv. (1741) 46 The glaring Cat-a-mountain..and the Man-mimicking Manteger. 1755 *Hist. Descr. Tower Lond.* 24 There is likewise a young Man Tyger, a curious Animal of astonishing Strength [etc.]. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) X. 544/2 Mantegar, or Man-tiger,..is the tufted ape.

Mantegre: see MANTICORE.

Mantegue, variant of MANTECA.

Manteigne, mantein(e, obs. ff. MAINTAIN.

Manteil(l, variant of MANTEEL *Obs.*

Mantel (mæ·nt'l), *sb.* Forms: 5 **mayntelle, mantelle,** 5–6 **mantell,** 6 **mantalle,** *Sc.* **mantil**(l, 6–9 **mantle,** 7 **mandle,** 6– **mantel.** [Variant of MANTLE *sb.*; the senses of both Eng. words are adopted from the F. *manteau.*]

†1. = MANTELET 2 a. *Obs.*

1489 CAXTON *Faytes of A.* II. xiv. 118 Mayntelles and barbakanes of tymbre shal be made fast to the batelmentes. *Ibid.* XXII. 135 Six grete mantelles for the said six grete gonnes. 1497 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 99 Barres of iren for the grete mantell. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. CCLXXXVIII. 431 The Englysshmen ordayned mantels and other instrumentes

of warr, wherby to aproche nere to the walles. *Ibid.* cccxxxii. 519 They of the hoost caused to be made dyuers mantels of assaute. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* vi. 41 Paueis veil the top vitht pauesis and mantillis. 1566 W. Waen *Voy. Fenner* in *Hakluyt's Voy.* (1599) II. II. 59 We sent to land a boate or skiffe wherein were eight persons,..and they caried with them two harquebusses, two targets and a mantell.

2. in *Comb.* †**mantel-wall** *Sc.*, a rampart, breastwork, or parapet.

1513 Douglas *Æneis* IX. iii. 159 Quhat meyn thai be this myddill mantill wall? *Ibid.* XII. Prol. 24 The twinkling stremowris of the orient..Bet doun the skyis clowdy mantill wall. 1609 *Chron. Perth* (Maitland Club) 12 The great wind blew down the stanes of the mantil wall of the kirk.

3. a. The piece of timber or stone supporting the masonry above a fireplace; = Mantel-tree 1. ? *Obs.*

1519 *Churchw. Acc. St. Giles, Reading* (ed. Nash) 6 For ij° mantells for ij° chymneys ijs. viij*d.* 1561 in G. Roberts *Soc. Hist. South. Eng.* (1856) 359 It was commanded to John Somer to amend his mantalle, payne of v shillings. 1734 *Builder's Dict.* II, *Mantle*..is the lower Part of the Chimney, or that Part laid across the Jambs. 1774 *Act* 14 *Geo. III*, c. 78 § 45 The Back of every Chimney to be built.. at least thirteen Inches thick from the Hearth, to the Height of twelve Inches above the Mantle. 1824 T. Tredgold *Warm. Publ. Build.* (ed. 2) 236 A high mantle has some advantage in producing a more effectual ventilation.

b. = Mantelpiece 1.

1532a in J. Bayley *Tower Lond.* (1821) I. App. 31 Firste, a new worke wrought in the kynges dynyng chambre, a mantell of waynscot wrought w^t^ antyk sett over the chymney there. 1663 Gerbier *Counsel* 22 The Chimney-mantles ought to be all of Stone or Marble. 1890 H. Frederic *Lawton Girl* vi. 41 The massive carved side-board and the ponderous mantel.

c. = Mantelshelf.

1742 *Phil. Trans.* XLII. 75 When it is in the Sun in Summer, and upon the Mantle of the Chimney in Winter.. it becomes perfect Soap in Four or Five Days. 1865 Mrs. Whitney *Gayworthys* I. 275 Rebecca set the light upon the mantel, and took her to the bedside.

d. *attrib.*, as *mantel-clock*, *-glass*; also Mantel-board, -piece, -shelf, -tree.

1884 F. J. Britten *Watch & Clockm.* 193 It occasionally happens in mantel clocks that..the pendulum is just too long for the case. 1892a B. Hinton *Lord's Return* 190 Adjusting his necktie at the mantel-glass.

†**Ma·ntel,** *v. Obs.* Also 5 **mantelle**, 7 **mantle**. [f. Mantel *sb.* Cf. OF. *manteler.*] *trans.* To protect with or as with a mantel.

1475 *Bk. Noblesse* (Roxb.) 20 Mantelle, fortifie, and make yow strong ayenst the power of youre said adversaries of Fraunce. 1612a *Proc. Virginia* in *Capt. Smith's Wks.* (Arb.) 117 They conducted vs to their pallizadoed towne, mantelled with the barkes of trees. 1624 Wotton *Archit.* II. 108 The Italians applie it [plastic] to the manteling of Chimneys, with great Figures. 1682a Wheler *Journ. Greece* I. 8 Its Bastions..are well..mantled with hewen stone.

Mantel, obs. form of Mantle.

Ma·ntel-board. A wide shelf of wood, usually draped, fixed upon the mantelshelf.

1885 *Instr. Census Clerks* 1881, 53 Mantel Board Maker. 1887 D. C. Murray *Old Blazer's Hero* viii. 127 Dropping his elbows noiselessly on the mantel-board.

Mantelet, mantlet (mæ·ntlĕt). Forms: 5 **mauntolet, mantilett**, 5–6 **mantilet**, 6 **mantellet**(t, 8 **mantalet**, 9 **mantellette**, 6, 8–9 **mantlet**, 4– **mantelet.** [a. OF. *mantelet*, dim. of *mantel* (F. *manteau*) Mantle, Mantel *sbs.* Cf. It. *mantelletto.*]

1. A kind of short, loose, sleeveless cape, cloak, or mantle covering the shoulders.

c 1386 Chaucer *Kn.'s T.* 1305 A Mantelet vp on his shulder hangynge Bretful of Rubies reede. 1440 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) II. 76 Item lego..Johannæ Hawnserd, sorori meæ, unam mantilet cum quatuos barbys et duobus forhedes. Katerinæ Thornyff unam mantilett. 1740 tr. *De Mouhy's Fort. Country Maid* (1741) I. 224 She had..a coarse red Mantelet over her Shoulders, adorned with Shells. 1772a–84 *Cook's Voy.* (1790) IV. 1375 Mantalets composed of feathers, so..beautifully arranged, as even our English ladies would not disdain to wear. 1844 Thackeray *Little Trav.* Wks. (Biogr. ed.) VI. 275 A lady in a little lace mantelet. 1887 *Daily News* 8 July 7/6 Coloured Velvet and Jet Mantelets.

†**b.** = Mantelletta. *Obs.*

1602a Segar *Hon. Mil. & Civ.* II. xvii. 89 The Soueraigne, Cardinals, Prelats, Commanders, and Officers, by Order.. wearing Mantels and Mantelets..goe to the Church to heare the Enensong. 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Mantelet*, a short Purple Mantle which the Bishops of France wear over their Rochet upon some Occasions.

†**c.** A woollen covering for a horse. *Obs.*

a 1440 *Sir Degrev.* 1182 Greyth myn hors on hore gere And lok that thei be gay; That they be trapped a get In topteler and mauntolet. *a* 1548 Hall. *Chron., Hen. VIII* 76 The whiche horse was Trapped in a Mantellet.

2. a. *Mil.* A movable shelter used to cover the approach of men-at-arms when besieging a fortified place. (Cf. Mantel *sb.* 1.) *Obs.* exc. *Hist.*

1524 in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1599) II. I. 82 Beside the sayd mantellets that shot against the wall of England and Spaine with great bombards, were two mantellets in an hie place ..in the which were certaine double gunnes [etc.]. 1603 *North's Plutarch, Miltiades* (1612) 1230 Then hauing set vp his Gabions and Mantelets, he came neare the wals. 1731 J. Gray *Gunnery* Pref. 10 The most considerable .. answer nearly to our Penthouses, Mantlets, Galleries, and Blinds. 1819 Scott *Ivanhoe* xxvii, They bring forward mantelets and pavisses, and the archers muster on the skirts of the wood. 1885 Bible (R. V.) *Nahum* ii. 5 They make haste to the wall thereof and the mantelet is prepared. 1894 F. D. Swift *Jas. I of Aragon* 275 Another instrument common in siege operations of this period, was the Mantlet.

b. A screen or curtain, now usually of rope, to protect men working a gun from an enemy's bullets; with fortress guns mounted in casemates, serving also to prevent the smoke from the gun when fired from entering the casemate.

1859 *Gentl. Mag.* I. 123 The Russians returned to the use of the old cannon mantlet in the Crimean war. 1879 Nugent in *Encycl. Brit.* IX. 453 'Mantlets'..are now invariably made of this material [*sc.* rope].

c. A bullet-proof shelter from which firing results can be observed and signalled.

1874 *Proc. Nat. Rifle Assoc.* 94 The markers..must retire into their mantelets as soon as the 1st gun..is discharged. 1880 *Daily Tel.* 9 Dec., Officers, in telegraphic communication with the firing-points, will be posted in mantlets before the targets.

‖ **Ma·nteline.** *rare.* [F. *manteline* a mantle.] A short mantle or cape.

1843 Lytton *Last Bar.* I. vi, In these times, the scholar must creep under the knight's manteline.

‖ **Mantelletta** (mæntĕle·tă). Pl. **mantellette.** [It. *mantelletta*, dim. of *mantello* Mantle *sb.* Cf. med.L. *mantelletum.*] (See quot. 1897.)

1853 Dale tr. *Baldeschi's Ceremonial* 6 These latter should wear stoles of the colour of the day; and if Prelates the mozetta, or mantelletta. 1897 *Cath. Dict.* (ed. 5), *Mantelletta*, a vestment made of silk or woollen stuff, open but fastened in front, reaching almost to the knees..It is worn by cardinals, bishops, abbots, and the 'prelati' of the Roman Court [etc.]..The mantellette of cardinals are of three colours.

Ma·ntelpiece. [f. Mantel *sb.* + Piece *sb.*]

1. The Mantel (3 a) with its supports; the ornamental structure of wood, marble, etc., above and around a fireplace. Also *rarely* = Mantel 3 a.

1686 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2197/4 A New Art or Invention of Making, Marbling, Veining, and Finishing of Mantle-pieces for Chimneys. 1851 Turner *Dom. Archit.* I. 14 At Coningsburgh castle the opening of the chimney is square, with shafts in the jambs, and what is called a straight arch, that is, the mantel-piece is formed of several stones joggled together.

2. = Mantelshelf. Also *attrib.*

1827 G. Beauclerk *Journ. Marocco* viii. 92 A French mantle-piece clock. 1860 *All Year Round* 572 The looking-glass over the mantelpiece. 1892a Zangwill *Childr. Ghetto* I. 46 The mantelpiece mirror was bordered with yellow scalloped paper.

Ma·ntelshelf. [f. Mantel *sb.* + Shelf.] That projecting part of a mantelpiece which serves as a shelf.

1828–32 in Webster. 1833 Loudon *Encycl. Cottage Archit.* 1073. 1838 Dickens *O. Twist* viii, A frying-pan..which was secured to the mantelshelf by a string. 1888 'Bernard' *Fr. World to Cloister* I. 9 He stood up, leaning against the mantleshelf.

transf. 1897 O. G. Jones *Rock-climbing* 263 Close up against the wall that blocked the head of the gully, a long stride was to be taken across to a narrow 'mantelshelf' on the other side.

Ma·ntel-tree. [f. Mantel *sb.* + Tree.]

1. A beam across the opening of a fireplace, serving as a lintel to support the masonry above (Parker, 1850). In later use, a stone or arch serving the same purpose.

1482a *Nottingham Rec.* II. 332 Pro uno mantiltr', ad valentiam ijs. 1486 *Ibid.* III. 256 For enbowyng of a mantell' tree. 1583 Fulke *Defence* iii. 122 He might shewe vs the mantilltree of a chimney, and a brasse pot hanging ouer the fire. 1606 *Wily Beguiled* K 2, Old Grandsir Thickskin, you that sit there as melancholy as a mantletree. 1649 R. Hodges *Plain. Direct.* 14 Hee hang'd his mantle upon the mantil tree of the chimney. 1703 Moxon *Mech. Exerc.* 273 Semi-Oval Arches..are sometimes made..over Kitchin-Chimnies, instead of Mantle-trees. 1789 P. Smyth tr. *Aldrich's Archit.* (1818) 121 The apertures are limited by two jambs, and the mantle-tree. 1811 *Self Instructor* 139 The chimney..upright over the mantle tree.

2. = Mantelpiece 1, 2.

1534 Brereton *Trav.* (Chetham Soc.) 7 All the walls most richly gilded,..rich marble mantle-tree. 1641 Hinde *J. Bruen* 116, I comming once into his chamber and finding over the Mantletree a paire of new Cards. 1781 Cowper *Charity* 460 No charity but alms aught values she, Except in porcelain on her mantel-tree. 1902 E. Philpotts *River* 13 For lack of mantel-tree Nicholas had nailed up a shelf to hold certain heirlooms.

Manteme, mantene, obs. forms of Maintain.

Manteque, variant of Manteca.

Mantevil. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.* Also 9 corruptly **mandevil**(l)e. [Perh. a mistake for some form of Manteel.] A loose coat formerly worn by soldiers and menservants. (Cf. Mandilion.)

1688 R. Holme *Armoury* III. 96/2 A Mandilion, or Madilion, or of old a Mantevil. 1834 Planché *Brit. Costume* 267 Coats and jerkins,..some loose, which they called mandillians. [*Note*] Mandevilles, which Randal Holmes describes as a loose hanging garment. 1860 Fairholt *Costume* Gloss. (ed. 2) 526 *Mandevile*, or *Mandilion.*

Manteym(e, **manteyn**(e, obs. ff. Maintain.

Mantic (mæ·ntik), *sb. rare*—[1]. [ad. Gr. *μαντική* (*sc. τέχνη* art), fem. of *μαντικός*: see next.] The art or science of divination.

[1727 Bailey vol. II, *Mantice*, divination or foretelling things to come.] 1891 Mrs. Colyer-Fergusson tr. *De La Saussaye's Man. Sci. Relig.* xvi. 137 The history of religion is full of mantic [rendering G. *die Mantik*].

Mantic (mæ·ntik), *a.* [ad. Gr. *μαντικός*, f. *μάντις* prophet, diviner, lit. one affected by divine madness, f. root *man-*: see Mania.] Pertaining to divination or prophecy.

1850 Mrs. Browning *Prometh. Bound* 553, I fixed the various rules of mantic art. 1858 Trench *Synon. N. T.* vi. (1876) 21 Revelation knows nothing of this mantic fury.

So **Ma·ntical** *a.* = Mantic; **Ma·ntically** *adv.*; **Ma·nticism,** the practice of divination.

1588 J. Harvey *Disc. Probl.* 26 Any manticall, or magicall ..hypothesis whatsoeuer. 1652 Gaule *Magastrom.* To Astronomers, This disquisition .. abhors..to end with any thing that is manticall. 1861 McCaul *Aids to Faith* iii. 81 It is useless..to go to the manticism of the heathen to get light as to the nature of Hebrew prophecy. 1903 Selwyn in *Expositor* Apr. 288 There is not a scrap of evidence to show that the bishops of Asia..accused the Montanists of being mantically inclined.

-mantic, repr. Gr. *μαντικός* (see prec.) in combination, is the ending of adjs. related to sbs. in -mancy, as in *geomantic*, pertaining to geomancy, *hydromantic*, pertaining to hydromancy, etc.

Manticore (mæ·ntikoəi). *Obs.* exc. *Hist.* Also 4, 7–9 **mantichora**, 5 **mantissera**, 5, 7–9 **manticora**, 6 **mantycor**(e, 7 **martichore**, 7–8 **manticore**; *β.* (sense 2) 7 **mantegre**, 7–8 **mantyger**, 8–9 **montegre**, 9 **mantiger.** [ad. L. *manticora*, repr. Gr. *μαντιχώρας*, a corrupt reading in Aristotle *Hist. Anim.* (quoting Ctesias), where the better MSS. have *μαρτιχόρας* (another var. is *μαρτιοχώρας*), app. an OPersian word for 'man-eater', f. *martīya-* man (mod.Pers. مرد *mard*) + root *χ^v^ar-* (Zend *χ^v^araiti*, mod. Pers. خوردن *χurden*) to eat.]

1. A fabulous monster having the body of a lion, the head of a man, porcupine's quills, and the tail or sting of a scorpion. (Cf. Mantegar, Mantiger.)

13.. *K. Alis.* 7094 Ther he fond addren, and Monecores, And a feolle worm, Cales, and Manticores. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* XVIII. i. (1495) 740 Mantichora. 1481 Caxton *Myrr.* e vij b, Another maner of bestes ther is in ynde that ben callyd manticora. 1494 *Will of Eburton* (Somerset Ho.), A standing cuppe of syluer with a couering with a straunge best called a mantissera enprinted in the botome. *a* 1529 Skelton *P. Sparowe* 294 The mantycors of the montaynes Myght fede them on thy braynes. 1601 Holland *Pliny* I. 206. 1607 G. Wilkins *Miseries Enforced Marr.* I 2 b, Mantichoras, monstrous beastes, enemies to mankinde, that ha double rowes of teeth in their mouthes. 1646 Howell *Lewis XIII* 174 The Beast Marticora which is of a red colour, and hath the head of a man lancing out sharpe prickles from behind. 1656 Blount *Glossogr., Martichore.* 1863 Kingsley *Water Bab.* 166 Unicorns, firedrakes, manticoras.

2. *Her.* A monster represented with the body of a beast of prey, the head of a man with spiral or curved horns, and sometimes the feet of a dragon.

c 1600 in Baring-Gould & Twigge *West. Armory* (1898) 89 *Radforde*: Sa: 3 mantygers arg. 1610 Guillim *Heraldry* III. xxv. (1611) 183 Mantegres, Satyrs, Monkfishes,..and whatsoeuer other double shaped animall [etc.]. 1766 Porny *Her.* (1777) 196 The Montegre. 1780 Edmonson *Heraldry* II. Gloss., *Man-tyger*, or *Manticora.* 1894 Parker *Gloss. Her.* 519 The Mantiger or Lampago, called by writers Montegre and Manticora, also occurs.

†**Manti·culate,** *v. Obs. rare*—°. [f. ppl. stem of L. *manticulārī* to steal, act cunningly, f. *manticula* bag, purse.] (See quot.)

1656 Blount *Glossogr., Manticulate*, to do a thing closly, as to pick a purse. 1676 in Coles.

†**Manticula·tion.** *Obs. rare*—°. [ad. L. *manticulātion-em*, f. *manticulārī*: see prec.] (See quot.)

1623 Cockeram, *Manticulation*, deceitfull conueyance.

Mantid (mæ·ntid). *Ent.* [f. Mantis: see -id[3].] A mantis.

1895 *Athenæum* 30 Mar. 412/2 A species of a mantid, *Pseudocreobotra wahlbergi*,..from..Natal.

†**Mantie, mante.** *Sc.* [? Shortened a. F. *démenti*, or perh. a. OF. *mente* lie.] = Lie *sb.*[1] 2 b.

a 1578 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) II. 48 The cardinall answerit furieouslie againe and gif the lie and mante [*MS. I.* mantie].

Man-tiger. *nonce-wd.* **a.** A man resembling a tiger in ferocity. **b.** A 'lycanthrope' who assumes the form of a tiger.

a 1652 Brome *Queene's Exchange* II. iii. Wks. 1873 III. 494 We have hitherto Pass'd by these man-Tygers, these wolvish Outlaws safely. 1871 Tylor *Prim. Cult.* (1873) I. 102 The Lavas of Birma, supposed to be the broken-down remains of a cultured race, and dreaded as man-tigers.

Mantiger: see Mantegar, Manticore.

Mantil(l, obs. f. Mantel, Mantle, Manteel.

Mantile, variant of Manteel *Obs.*

Mantilet(t, obs. form of Mantelet.

Mantilla (mænti·lă). Also 9 **mantillo.** [a. Sp. *mantilla*, dim. of *manta*: see Mantle *sb.*]

1. A large veil worn over a woman's head, and covering the shoulders.

1717 tr. *Frezier's Voy.* 259 They use that they call *Mantilla* for an Undress, to appear the more modest; and it is a Sort of Cloak, or Mantle, round at the Bottom, of a dark Colour, edg'd with Black Taffety. 1770 *Gentl. Mag.* XL. 530 A muslin or cambric veil called a *mantilla*, which hides the head and the upper part of their bodies. 1816 Lady Morgan *F. Macarthy* (1819) III. iii. 126 Lady Clancare..had exchanged her coarse unbecoming costume of the morning for a black Spanish dress and mantillo. 1882a De Windt *Equator* 129 The graceful mantilla is gradually but surely giving way to the Parisian bonnet.

attrib. 1884 Cross *Life Geo. Eliot* III. 297 The abundant hair..was draped with lace, arranged mantilla-fashion.

2. A small cape or mantle.

1859 *Edin. Rev.* CIX. 310 A smart bonnet, a silk dress, a mantilla, and a parasol for Sundays. 1860 Motley *Netherl.* II. xvi. 263 Sir Francis Vere—conspicuous in the throng, in his red mantilla.

3. A deep draping of lace attached to the edge of a corsage.

1835 *Court Mag.* VI. p. ix/2 The *corsage*..is trimmed with a mantilla, or else in the pelerine style, with blond lace.

Hence **Mantilla'd** *a.*, clad in a mantilla.

1853 G. J. Cayley *Las Alforjas* I. 49 The stream of cloaked and mantilla'd figures passing through the Calle de Velasquez.

Mantine, obs. Sc. form of Maintain.

†**Mantiniment.** *Obs.* [ad. Sp. *mantenimiento* = Maintainment.] Maintenance.

1588 Parke tr. *Mendoza's Hist. China* 7 They doo sowe rice, which is a common victuall or mantiniment vnto all people of the kingdome.

Mantion, obs. form of Mansion.

Mantionell, obs. form of Manchineel.

‖**Mantis** (mæ·ntis). *Ent.* [mod.L., a. Gr. *μάντις* prophet, diviner (also, some insect): see Mantic *a.*] An orthopterous insect of the genus *Mantis* or family *Mantidæ*; esp. the Praying Mantis, *M. religiosa*, which holds its forelegs in a position suggesting hands folded in prayer.

1658 J. R. tr. *Moffett's Theat. Insects* 982, I have seen only three kinds [of the lesser Locusts]..they are called *Mantes*, foretellers. *Ibid.* 983 Of this Italian Mantis..Rondeletius makes mention. 1703 Dampier *Voy.* (1729) III. 427 The green Mantiss..like a Locust. 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Mantis*,..an Insect call'd The praying Locust. 1802 Bingley *Anim. Biog.* (1813) III. 156 The Orator Mantis. 1870 Mateer *Travancore* (1871) 90 Locusts, grasshoppers, mantises, etc. abound. 1895 E. W. Gosse *Crit. Kit-Kats* 290 That quaint insect, the praying mantis.

b. *attrib.*, as **mantis-crab, -shrimp,** a stomatopodous crustacean, *Squilla mantis* and other species.

1850 A. White *List Crustacea Brit. Mus.* 46 *Squilla Desmarestii*, The Mantis Crab. 1871 T. R. Jones *Anim. Kingd.* (ed. 4) 449 The *Squilla mantis* or Mantis-Shrimp. 1884 G. B. Goode, etc. *Nat. Hist. Usef. Aquatic Anim.* I. 823 The Mantis Shrimp, or Sea Mantis—*Squilla empusa*, Say.

Mantissa (mænti·să). [a. L. *mantissa*, *mantīsa* makeweight; said to be of Etruscan origin.]

†**1.** An addition of comparatively small importance, esp. to a literary effort or discourse. *Obs.*

1641 Maisterton *Serm.* 20 Trifles, which..should..as a mantissa or an overplus be cast in at their bargain. 1642 Cudworth *Lord's Supper* i. (1676) 5 It will not be now amiss, if we add, as a Mantissa to that discourse, something of the Custom of the Heathens. 1671 *True Nonconf.* 5 Spurning at the righteousnes of Jesus Christ, and aspiring to adde a Mantissa, an addition of your own, to his sole purchase.

2. *Math.* The decimal part of a logarithm.

c 1865 *Circ. Sci.* I. 519/1 The decimal part of a logarithm is called the *mantissa*: the whole number is called the *characteristic*.

Mantissera, obs. form of Manticore.

Mantle (mæ·nt'l), *sb.* Forms: 1–5 **mentel,** 2–7 **mantel,** 3–6 **mantil,** 4 **mantal, -tyle, mentil**(e, 4–5 **mantyl,** 4–6 **mantell, mantill,** 5 **mantyll**(e, **mauntil,** 5–6 **mantelle,** 6 **mauntelle, mantyll,** 7 **mandle,** 3, 5– **mantle.** See also Manteau, Mantua. [Introduced from two sources. (1) OE. *mentel* masc.:—prehistoric **mantilo-z*, ad. (after the native suffix *-ilo-*: see -el) L. *mantellum*, *mantēlum* cloak, whence also OFris. *mentel*, OHG. *mantal*, *-dal* (MHG. *mantel*, *mandel*, mod.G. *mantel*), ON. *møttull* (OSw. *mantol*, *mantul*, mod.Sw., Da. *mantel*), MIrish *matal*. (2) In the 12th c. the word was taken up again in the OFr. form *mantel* (mod.F. *manteau*: see Manteau); cf. Pr. *mantel* cloak, It. *mantello* cloak. A special group of senses taken from the Fr. is now distinguished by the spelling Mantel.

According to most philologists, the L. *mantellum* cloak is more correctly written *mantēlum*, and is etymologically identical with *mantēlum*, *mantēlium*, *mantilium*, *mantēle*, *mantile* table-cloth, towel. (Cf. Sp. *manteles* pl., table-linen; also Manteel.) On this supposition, the word must have been mistaken for a dim., and so have given rise by back-formation to the late L. *mantum* (7th c.), **manta*, whence Sp., Pg., It. *manto*, *manta*, F. *mante*, and the diminutives Sp. *mantilla* (see Mantilla), Pg. *mantilha*, It. *mantiglia*.]

1. A loose sleeveless cloak of varying length.

The name was applied indifferently to the outer covering of men, women, and children, and at times acquired a specific application to one garment or another. Now its use is restricted to a cloak of silk or fine cloth worn by ladies; to the robe of state worn by kings, princes, and other persons of exalted and defined station; and to an infant's outer robe.

c 897 K. Alfred *Gregory's Past. C.* xxviii. 197 He..forcearf his mentles ænne læppan. *a* 1000 *Ags. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 210/26 *Colobium*,..mentel. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 163 Þe meshakele of medeme fustane and hire mentel grene oðer burnet. *c* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 127 Se þe benimð ðe þine kiertel, 3if him þine mantel. *c* 1205 Lay. 14755 He nom ænne spere-scæft..& dude a þene ænde ænne mantel bende. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2033 Þis mentel ic wið-held for-ði, To tawnen [ðe] ðe soðe her-bi. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 16619 Þai clede him wit a mantel rede. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 1242 Vnder hur mantel sche hidde þe staf. *c* 1420 Lydg. *Assembly of Gods* 267 And next vnto hym..Sate the goddese Diana, in a mantell fyne. 1505 in *Ld. Treas. Acc. Scotl.* (1901) III. 168 Item, for ane mantill to Johne, fule, of Abirdene, ixs. 1590 Shaks. *Mids. N.* v. i. 143 As she fled, her mantle she did fall. 1613 — *Hen. VIII*, v. v. *Stage-direct.*, The Childe richly habited in a Mantle. 1700 Dryden *Flower & Leaf* 348 Attired in mantles all the knights were seen. 1735 Dyche & Pardon *Dict.*, *Mantle*,..also the uppermost Garment that Nurses wrap up young Infants in before they coat 'em. 1742 Young *Nt. Th.* VI. 302 Fools, indeed, drop the man in their account, And vote the mantle into majesty. 1837 W. Irving *Capt. Bonneville* II. 196 A mantle about four feet square, formed of strips of rabbit skins. 1904 *Home Notes* 28 July 181 The summer mantle is always a difficult garment to find.

b. Applied (often with qualification *Irish mantle*) to a kind of blanket or plaid worn until the 17th c. by the rustic Irish, often as their only covering.

c 1470 Henry *Wallace* I. 217 Ane Ersche mantill it war thi kynd to wer. 1582 *Rates Custome Ho.* F v b, Mantels called Irish mantles the pair. 1596 Spenser *State Irel.* Wks. (Globe) 631 The out-lawe..wandring in wast places.. maketh his mantell his howse. 1688 R. Holme *Armoury* III. 232/2 A Brackin, or Irish Mantle.

c. Used allusively with reference to the descent of Elijah's mantle (2 Kings ii. 13).

1789 Belsham *Ess.* I. xii. 229 The sacred mantle which descended from Shakespeare to Milton. 1865 M. Arnold *Ess. Crit.* (1875) 183 On Heine..incomparably the largest portion of Goethe's mantle fell.

†d. *To take the mantle and the ring*: a symbolical act used to express the taking of a vow of chastity (properly, by a widow). *Obs.*

1424 in *E. E. Wills* (1882) 60 If she take þe mantel and þe rynge, and avowe chastite. *c* 1430 Lydg. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 34 She wol perhappous maken hir avowe, That she wol take the mantle and the ryng. 1574 J. Studley tr. *Bale's Pageant Popes* To Rdr., How can that foundation stand which is made of Popes miters, Cardinals hats,..rotchets, chrismes, mantel & the ringe [etc.].

†e. *Apostle's mantle*: the kind of mantle which the Apostles were commonly depicted as wearing.

[1496 *Dives & Paup.* 1st Comm. vii. (W. de W.) b j b, The apostles comonly..ben paynted with manteles..and a mantele is a louse clothynge not faste to the bodye but louse.] *a* 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* v. (1598) 447 A long cloake after the fashion of that which we call the Apostles mantle.

†f. *White mantles* (= *ordo alborum mantellorum*: see Du Cange): the Teutonic Order. *Obs.*

c 1500 *Melusine* 20 [He] toke on hym the ordre & Religion of the whit mantelles.

g. *Her.* = Mantling *vbl. sb.* 2.

1577 Harrison *England* II. v. (1877) I. 120 The crest with mantels to the helme belonging. 1815 Scott *Guy M.* xlii, The mantle upon the panels [of Mr. Glossin's coach] only bore a plain cipher of G. G. 1864 Boutell *Her. Hist. & Pop.* xiv. 170 Two or more shields may be grouped together by placing them upon a mantle of crimson velvet.

2. *transf.* and *fig.* Something that enfolds, enwraps or encloses; a covering.

a. of immaterial things.

c 1386 Chaucer *Merch. T.* 554 Night with his Mantel þat is derk and rude Gan ouersprede the Hemysperie aboute. *c* 1430 Lydg. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 9 With a mantelle of prudens clad thou be. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 78 To be hyd vnder ye mantell of mekenes. 1593 Shaks. 3 *Hen. VI*, IV. ii. 22 Well couer'd with the Nights black Mantle. 1659 Rushw. *Hist. Coll.* I. 607 We have cast a mantle on what was done last Parliament. 1667 Milton *P. L.* IV. 609 The Moon..unvaild her peerless light And o're the dark her Silver Mantle threw. 1742 Young *Nt. Th.* IV. 386 How is night's sable mantle labour'd o'er. 1817 Chalmers *Astron. Disc.* VI. (1852) 132 A mantle of deep obscurity rests on the government of God.

b. of material things.

c 1470 Henry *Wallace* IX. 23 Fresch Flora hir floury mantill spreid. 1593 Drayton *Eclogues* X. 5 The Groves..In mossie Mantles sadly seem'd to mourne. 1829 Scott *Anne of G.* iii, Ruins, over which vegetation had thrown a wild mantle of ivy. 1839 Murchison *Silur. Syst.* I. xxxvi. 484 The elliptical shaped mass of the Wren's nest is..composed of an exterior mantle of pure and impure limestone. 1859 Tennyson *Merlin & V.* 105 [She] drew The vast and shaggy mantle of his beard Across her neck and bosom to her knee. 1878 Huxley *Physiogr.* 189 The ejected matter has fallen.. in conical layers, each forming a mantle thrown irregularly over the preceding layer.

†c. *spec.* The foam that covers the surface of liquor; the green vegetable coating on standing water. (Cf. Mantle *v.* 4.) *Obs.*

1601 Holland *Pliny* I. 426 The flower or mantle which the wine casteth up to the top [L. *flos vini*]. 1605 Shaks. *Lear* III. iv. 139 Poore Tom, that..drinkes the green Mantle of the standing Poole.

†**3.** A kind of woollen cloth; a blanket of this material. Chiefly with qualification, e.g. *Paris mantle*. *Obs.*

[1410 *Rolls of Parlt.* III. 637/2 Les Worstedes appellez mantelles sengles, demy doubles, & doubles.] 1485 *Waterf. Arch.* in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 318 [They] shal syll no manere fryse, nor mantill to no manere foreyne. 1538 Elyot *Dict.*, *Gausape*, a mantell to caste on a bedde. 1545 *Rates Custome Ho.* c ij b, Paris mantyls the pece. 1582 *Ibid.* A v, Blankets called Paris mantles, red or coloured the peece xiii.*s.* iiii.*d.* Blankets called Paris Mantles, white the peece x.*s.*

†**4.** A measure of quantity of furs, containing from 30 to 100 skins according to size. *Obs.*

'In that work [Halyburton's Ledger] the words *Mantil* and *pane*, though not identical in meaning, are used to denote the same number of skins' (Jam. *Suppl.*).

1473 in *Ld. Treas. Acc. Scotl.* (1877) I. 15 Item coft fra Will Sinclare v mantill of banes to lyne a syde gowne to the King. 1490 *Ibid.* 190 Item..for iij mantillis of fwnȝeis. 1545 *Rates Custome Ho.* b ij b, Foxe skynnes the pane or mantel vi.*s.* viii.*d.*..Fytcheues the pane or mantell v.*s.* *Ibid.* d j, White kydes the mantell ij.*s.* 1668 *Irish Act* 14 & 15 *Chas. II*, c. 8 (Rates Inwards), Furs vocat. Foxes the pain or mantle 15*s.*

5. *Mech.* A covering, envelope or shade employed in various mechanical contrivances. a. A linen or other cloth employed in the swarming of bees. b. The leather hood of an open carriage. c. (See quot.) d. *Founding.* A porous clay matrix. e. *Building.* The outer covering of a wall, of a different material from its inner portion (Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1875). f. The outer wall and casing of an iron blast furnace, above the hearth (Raymond *Mining Gloss.*). g. A tubular wick or hood made by saturating cotton net or other fabric with various oxides, and then removing the fibre by burning, leaving a fragile lace-like tube which, fixed around a burning gas jet, becomes incandescent and emits a brilliant light.

a. 1609 C. Butler *Fem. Mon.* v. (1623) M j, Your Hiue being fitted and dressed..you must haue also in a readinesse a Mantle, a Rest, and a Brush. The Mantle may be a sheet, or halfe-sheet, or other linnen cloth, an ell square at the least. 1707 Mortimer *Husb.* (1721) I. 274 Bring them [the swarms] together, shaking the Bees out of one Hive on the Mantle whereon the other Hive stands.

b. 1794 W. Felton *Carriages* (1801) I. 197 The mantle, of which there are various shapes, is introduced only as an ornament. When mantles are much furled [etc.].

c. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1385/1 *Mantle*, an inclosed chute which leads the water from a fore-bay to a water-wheel.

d. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1385/1 The mantle and pattern are baked, the wax runs off [etc.].

g. 1887 *Pall Mall G.* 18 Mar. 12/1 His [Welsbach's] invention consists in fixing around the flame of a special form of gas burner a tubular wick or hood of open cotton fabric, termed the mantle.

6. *Zool.* The external fold of skin which in most molluscs encloses the viscera. Applied also to similar sacs or integuments, as the tunic of an ascidian. (Cf. Pallium 3 b and Cloak 4.)

c 1460 J. Russell *Bk. Nurture* 625 Þe whelke looke þat.. his pyntill & gutt almond & mantille, awey þer fro ye pitt. 1828 Stark *Elem. Nat. Hist.* II. 7 Cephalopoda.—Lower part of the body contained in a bag-shaped mantle. 1855 W. S. Dallas in *Syst. Nat. Hist.* 419 The animals forming one of these colonies [compound *Tunicata*] are usually united by their mantles. 1874 Carpenter *Ment. Phys.* I. ii. § 45 An Ascidian consists..of an external membranous bag or 'mantle', within which is a Muscular envelope.

7. *Anat.* (*a*) The name given by Reichert to the covering portion of the hemisphere-vesicle in the brain. (*b*) The *Panniculus carnosus*, a layer of fatty subcutaneous membrane connecting the true skin with the subjacent tissue.

1885 in *Cassell's Encycl. Dict.* 1889 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

8. *Bot.* †a. = Ocrea (*obs.*). b. The growing cortical covering of the periblem, or primary cortex in a growing point.

1671–82 Grew *Anat. Plants* I. iv. § 17 (1682) 32 Where none of all the Protections above-named are convenient, then the Membranes of the Leaves by continuation in their first forming..are drawn out into so many Mantles or Veils; as in Docks, Snakeweed, etc. 1884 Bower & Scott *De Bary's Phaner.* 13 Each one of the inner layers..of this mantle has its initial group above the apex of the plerome.

9. *Ornith.* The plumage of the back and folded wings when distinct in colour, etc. from the rest. (So F. *manteau.*)

1840 *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 263 The Barnacle Goose.. with a grey mantle. 1894 R. B. Sharpe *Handbk. Birds Gt. Brit.* I. 90 Sandy rufous, broadly streaked with black, except on the mantle.

10. = Mantling *vbl. sb.* 5 b. *rare.*

1897 Blackmore *Dariel* xii. 111 'Young Earls!' exclaimed Grace, with an innocence so pure that it required a little mantle on her cheeks.

11. *attrib.* and *Comb.*: a. (sense 1) as *mantle-button, -cutter, -fold,* †*-lace,* †*lap, maker, veil, worker*; also *mantle-making* sb. (whence by back-formation *mantle-make* vb.), *mantle-like* adj., *mantle-wise* adv.; **mantle-knot,** an ornament in the form of a clasp, composed of a number of precious stones [cf. F. *nœud de diamants*]; †**mantle-wind,** the wind produced by a winnowing-sheet.

1681 in *Thanes of Cawdor* (Spald. Club) 354, 7 doz. *mandle buttounis £2, 2*s.* 1884 *B'ham Daily Post* 23 Feb. 3/5 *Mantle-cutter.—Wanted a superior Cutter and Fitter. 1814 Scott *Ld. of Isles* II. xi, Whence the brooch of burning gold, That clasps the Chieftain's *mantle-fold. 1896 *Star* 3 Oct. 2/4 A splendid collection of diamonds..is to be sold. ..The collection includes two *mantle-knots which belonged to the Empress Eugénie. 1480 *Wardr. Acc. Edw. IV* (1830) 136 *Mantell lace of blue silk. *c* 1350 *St. Mary Magd.* 573 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 87 It [a child] lurked vnder þe *mantill lapp. 1888 Fagge & Pye-Smith *Princ. Med.* (ed. 2) I. 81 An almost fibrous *mantle-like sheath. 1885 C. L. Pirkis *Lady Lovelace* I. xviii. 268 The invitation of a large Paris firm to go across the Channel and *mantle-make for English customers. 1552 Huloet, *Mantle-maker, *braccarius*. 1903 *Daily Chron.* 24 Feb. 8/5 Girls wanted.. to learn dress and *mantle making. 1879 E. Waterton *Pictas mariana* 89 The *mantle-veil of our Ladye at Chartres. 1688 *Mantle Wind [see Mantle *v.* 8]. *c* 1530 *Crt. of Love* 243 In sondry clothing, *mantil-wyse full wyde, They were arrayed. 1599 Sandys *Europæ Spec.* (1632) 225 They weare certeine ornaments of embrodered linnen cast mantle-wise

about their shoulders. 1862 G. P. Scrope *Volcanos* (ed. 2) 170 The greater part..spread themselves mantlewise over its surface and slopes.

b. (sense 2 b) as **mantle-rock** *Geol.*, a superficial deposit.

1895 J. W. Powell in *Physiogr. Processes* (Nat. Geogr. Monographs I. No. 1. 14) The materials may be called *mantle rocks or superficial deposits.

c. (sense 6) as *mantle border*, *fin*, *flap*, *fold*, *fringe*, *lobe*, *margin*, *sac*; **mantle-breathers**, the *Palliobranchiata* or *Brachiopoda*; **mantle-breathing** *a.*, palliobranchiate.

1837 *Penny Cycl.* VII. 96/2 *Mantle-border smooth, but with tufts of hair at the lateral extremities of each plate. 1881 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* V. 258 De Blainville's subsequently proposed title of '*mantle-breathers'. *Ibid.*, The Brachiopoda, or *mantle-breathing bivalves. 1835-6 Todd *Cycl. Anat.* I. 523/1 Octopods..characterized by the absence of *mantle-fins. 1878 Bell *Gegenbaur's Comp. Anat.* 322 As development goes on, the *mantle-fold becomes less intimately connected with the body. 1855 W. S. Dallas in *Syst. Nat. Hist.* I. 430 The *mantle lobes are free all round. 1835-6 Todd *Cycl. Anat.* I. 533/1 The *mantle-sac is almost wholly filled with the viscera.

Mantle (mæ·nt'l), *v.* [f. Mantle *sb.* Cf. OF. *manteler*; also Mantel *v.*]

1. *trans.* To clothe or wrap in or as in a mantle. Also with *up*, *over*.

c 1450 *Mirour Saluacioun* 2312 Wharefore thay mantlid hym in swylk coloure for scorne. 1600 Fairfax *Tasso* xv. lxi. And her faire lockes..she gan at large vnfold; Which falling long and thicke, and spreading wide, The iuorie soft and white, mantled in gold. 1624 Heywood *Gunaik.* I. 25 Canina lookes to them [infants] in their swathing bands, whilst they are bound up and mantled. 1685 Bunyan *Pharisee & Publican* 18 He came into the Temple mantled up in his own good things. 1813 Scott *Rokeby* I. vi, The buff-coat, in ample fold Mantles his form's gigantic mould. 1881 M. Arnold *Westm. Abbey* x, The mourning-stole no more Mantled her form. 1883 *Cath. Dict.* 84/1 The priest, mantled with the veil, makes the sign of the cross.

b. By Milton used of wings. Also *absol.*

1667 Milton *P. L.* v. 279 The pair [of wings] that clad Each shoulder broad, came mantling o're his brest With regal Ornament. *Ibid.* VII. 439 The Swan with Arched neck Between her white wings mantling proudly, Rowes Her state with Oarie feet.

2. *transf.* and *fig.* To cover or conceal; to obscure; to enfold, embrace, encircle or surround; to envelop; †to 'cloak', palliate (a fault).

c 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 104 þei lifen worldly, & hidun þer vicis wiþ a veyn hiȝt of better lif, & mantel it wiþ a name of ymaginid religioun. *c* 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* II. CXXII. (1869) 121 It was maad..for to mantelle with my defautes and consele myne vnthriftes. 1589 Greene *Menaphon* (Arb.) 68 A frown that was able to mantle the world with an eternall night. 1610 Shaks. *Temp.* V. i. 67 Their rising sences Begin to chace the ignorant fumes that mantle Their clearer reason. 1650 T. Vaughan *Anthroposophia* 15 The Earth was so overcast, and Mantl'd with the Water, that no part thereof was to be seen. 1692 tr. *Sallust* 303 (*Orat. Lepidi*) Prosperity wonderfully obscures and mantles Vice. 1743 J. Davidson *Æneid* VIII. 247 Night..with her dusky wings mantles the sky. 1830 J. G. Strutt *Sylva Brit.* 60 Its venerable trunk is richly mantled with ivy. 1860 Pusey *Min. Proph.* 275 A film comes over the eyes, and the brain is, as it were, mantled over. 1890 *Daily News* 31 Jan. 5/5 The mountains thus brilliantly mantled and capped with snow.

absol. 1586 Warner *Alb. Eng.* II. xi. (1612) 49 The cloudes that mantling ride vpon the racking skie.

3. *Falconry.* *refl.* and *intr.* To spread first one wing and then the other over the corresponding outstretched leg for exercise, as a perched hawk does. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.*

1486 *Bk. St. Albans* a vj b, She mantellith and not stretchith whan she puttith her leges from hir oon after an other: and hir wynges folow after bier legges then she dooth mantill hir. *c* 1575 *Perf. Bk. Kepinge Sparhawkes* (Harting, 1886) 10 Let her styre, rouse, mantle, or warbile a while. 1596 Spenser *F. Q.* VI. ii. 32 Ne is ther hauke which mantleth her on pearch,..But I the measure of her flight doe search. 1610 Guillim *Heraldry* III. xx. (1660) 223 She [a hawk] mantleth [etc.]. 1852 R. F. Burton *Falconry Valley Indus* iii. 32 The Shikrah, who was quietly 'mantling' upon a clear branch in a nice sunny place.

fig. 1595 Spenser *Sonn.* lxxii, There my fraile fancy, fed with full delight, Doth bath in blisse, and mantleth most at Ease.

¶ b. *transf.* Of a horse: To bridle.

1664 Cotton *Scarron.* I. 79 Mantling like Mare in Martingale, She thus reply'd.

4. *intr.* Of liquids: To be or become covered with a coating or scum; to form a sparkling 'head' or froth; to cream.

1626 Bacon *Sylva* § 46 It drinketh fresh, flowreth and mantleth excedingly. 1669 Worlidge *Syst. Agric.* (1681) 53 the Bran of Wheat, a little thereof boiled in our ordinary Beer, maketh it Mantle, or Flower in the Cup when it is poured out. 1707–12 Mortimer *Husb.* (1721) II. 333 Your Cyder will acquire a fine briskness, and mantle in the Glass. 1725 Pope *Odyss.* X. 378 The poison mantled in the golden bowl. 1822 Shelley *Triumph Life* 359 In her right hand she bore a crystal glass, Mantling with bright Nepenthe. 1878 E. Taylor *Deukalion* II. iii. 73 As the remnant-wine in cup Fast shall fill and mantle up.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1596 Shaks. *Merch. V.* I. i. 89 There are a sort of men, whose visages Do creame and mantle like a standing pond. 1809 Campbell *O'Connor's Child* xiv, The green oblivious flood That mantles by your walls. 1813 Shelley *Q. Mab* VIII. 115 Health floats amid the gentle atmosphere, Glows in the fruits, and mantles on the stream. 1846 Keble *Lyra Innoc.* (1873) 55 A golden Chalice standing by,—What mantles there, is life or death.

†c. ?*fig.* To 'bubble' with desire. (Cf. Mantling *ppl. a.* 3.) *Obs.*

1657 Thornley tr. *Longus' Daphnis & Chloe* 162 When Daphnis saw it, he mantled to be at it.

5. Of the blood: To suffuse the cheeks with a blush. Said also of a blush, etc. (rarely *trans.*). Of the face: To be suffused with glowing colour, to flush.

1707 [see Mantling *ppl. a.* 4]. 1766 Goldsm. *Hermit* xxii, Surpriz'd he sees new beauties rise, Swift mantling to the view. 1808 Scott *Marm.* III. xvii, The blood that mantles in her cheeks. 1809 W. Irving *Knickerb.* II. iv. (1820) 118 The rosy blush of morn began to mantle in the east. 1813 Shelley *Q. Mab* VIII. 37 Such joy as when a lover..Sees her unfaded cheek Glow mantling in first luxury of health. 1870 Disraeli *Lothair* ix, Her rich face mantling with emotion. 1884 *Punch* 16 Feb. 76/2 With downcast eyes and faint blush mantling his thoughtful brow.

6. *intr.* To form a mantle or covering; to spread or be extended over a surface.

1634–1770 [see Mantling *ppl. a.* 2]. 1810 Scott *Lady of L.* I. xix, And seldom o'er a breast so fair, Mantled a plaid with modest care. 1812 Combe *Picturesque* XIX. (Chandos) 71 The vine mantling on the thatch. 1830 Lyell *Princ. Geol.* I. 342 As countless beds of sand and scoriæ constitute the greater part of the whole mass, these may sometimes mantle continuously round the whole cone.

7. *dial.* (See quots.)

1674–91 Ray *N. C. Words* 46 *To Mantle*, kindly to embrace. 1869 *Lonsdale Gloss.*, *Mantle*, to embrace kindly.

†8. (See quot.) *Obs.*

1688 R. Holme *Armoury* III. 74/1 Mantling, or Mantle Wind, is to make Wind with a Winnow sheet, or course cloth held by two persons.

9. *trans.* In alum manufacture: To cover (an incandescent heap of alum ore) with a coating of ashes in order to shelter it from the weather.

1879 *Spon's Encycl. Arts, Manuf.*, etc. I. 327.

Mantle: see Mantel *sb.* and *v.*

Mantled (mæ·nt'ld), *ppl. a.* [f. Mantle *sb.* and *v.* + -ED.]

1. Covered with or as with a mantle.

1552 Huloet, Mantled, or cladde in a mantle, *palliatus*. 1579 Spenser *Sheph. Cal.* Nov. 128 The mantled medowes mourne, Theyr sondry colours tourne. 1610 Shaks. *Temp.* IV. i. 182, I left them I'th' filthy mantled poole beyond your Cell. 1816 L. Hunt *Rimini* I. 177 The steeds also make a mantled show. 1896 H. O. Forbes *Handbk. Primates* I. 202 The Mantled Howler. *Alouatta palliata*.

2. *Her.* Adorned with a lambrequin or mantling.

1572 Bossewell *Armorie* II. 86 Manteled Azure. 1678 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1332/4 His crest an helmet mantled.

Mantleless (mæ·nt'l,lės), *a.* In 4 mantal-les. [f. Mantle *sb.* + -less.] Without a mantle.

13.. *K. Alis.* 204 Dame Olimpias..rod, al mantal-les.

†**Ma·ntleman.** *Obs.* = next.

1633 T. Stafford *Pac. Hib.* III. xiv. 351 Cormock..creepeth in his shirt out of the window, where were divers mantlemen wayting of purpose to receive him.

†**Ma·ntler.** *Obs.* [f. Mantle *sb.* + -er 1.] One of the poor Irish of the 15–17th c. whose clothing consisted of a single 'mantle' or 'plaid'.

1653 A. Wilson *Jas. I* 192 In Antwerp they pictured the Queen of Bohemia like a poor Irish Mantler.

Mantlet, variant of Mantelet.

Mantling (mæ·ntliŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. Mantle *v.* + -ing 1.]

†1. The action of making a mantle. *Obs.*

1507–8 in *Ld. Treas. Acc. Scotl.* (1902) IV. 30 Item, for mantilling of the said skinnis and lynyng of the goun, xxs.

2. *Her.* The ornamental accessory of drapery or scroll-work frequently depicted behind and around an achievement; a lambrequin; cf. Mantle *sb.* 1 g.

1591 Percivall *Sp. Dict.*, *Follajes*, mantelling in armes, florishing, *Mangonizatio*. 1610 Guillim *Heraldry* VI. v. (1611) 267 Our now common received Mantelings vsed for the adorning of atchievements. *Ibid.*, These..may be more fitly termed flourishings than Mantelings. 1708 *New View Lond.* II. 553/1 One [monument]..composed of white Marble, adorned with a Mantling. 1893 Cussans *Handbk. Her.* (ed. 4) xv. 191 The Mantlings of Knights and Esquires are commonly depicted as depending from the helmet.

3. = Mantelpiece 1.

1861 *Macm. Mag.* IV. 129/2 The mantlings or frames of fire-places.

4. What serves the purpose of a mantle; a protective or ornamental covering; a wrappage, envelope.

1652 Loveday tr. *Calprenede's Cassandra* III. 182 His Mantling trayling to the ground, was also of a light Golden-Tissue. 1627–77 Feltham *Resolves* II. lxvi. 298 The troubles ..which are as it were the Thorns and Mantlings wherewith a Crown is lined. 1671 Grew *Anat. Plants* IV. § 16 The Stalk ..giving the same Protection here, which in other Plants by the Leaves, or some particular Mantling, is contriv'd. *a* 1734 North *Lives* (1826) III. 201 At home with us a private person divested of all his mantlings.

5. a. Of a liquor, etc.: The action of foaming or 'creaming'; also *fig.* b. A blush or suffusion of colour produced by emotion.

1697 Jer. Collier *Ess. Mor. Subj.* (1703) II. 198 'Tis a Happiness without a Fund: 'Tis no more than a little mantling of the Spirits upon stirring. 1754 Richardson *Grandison* (1781) I. xvi. 101 Such sensible, such good-natured mantlings. 1865 Dickens *Mut. Fr.* I. viii, There had been a momentary mantling in the face of the man as he made the last answer.

6. The action of a hawk that mantles: see Mantle *v.* 3.

1773 J. Campbell *Mod. Falconry* 262 *Mantling*, the lowering of a hawk's wings down to her feet. 1832 J. P. Kennedy *Swallow B.* xxvi. (1860) 230 He [the hawk] alternately stretched out first one wing, and then the other, along his leg,—in the action known by the name of mantling.

7. Material for making mantles.

1893 *Times* 10 July 4/3 Novelties in coatings, suitings, and mantlings.

8. *Alum-making.* (See Mantle *v.* 9.)

1879 *Spons' Encycl. Arts, Manuf.*, etc. I. 327 When the process is complete, a thicker 'mantling' is laid on.

Ma·ntling, *ppl. a.* [f. Mantle *v.* + -ing 2.]

1. Of liquids: Gathering a scum or coating; sparkling to a 'head'. Also *transf.*

1633 P. Fletcher *Purple Isl.* I. xxiii, The mantling stream Encounter'd by the tides..Of's way doth doubtfull seem. *a* 1718 Penn *Maxims* Wks. 1726 I. 829 'Tis not often, though it [wit] be lively and mantling, that it carries a great Body with it. 1732 Pope *Hor. Sat.* II. ii. 8 And the brain dances to the mantling bowl. 1822 Lamb *Elia* Ser. II. *Conf. Drunkard*, It were enough to make him dash the sparkling beverage to the earth in all the pride of its mantling temptation. 1851 Hawthorne *Twice-told T., Hollow of Three Hills*, They were said to stand around the mantling pool, disturbing its putrid waters.

2. That spreads and covers; enveloping.

1634 Milton *Comus* 294, I saw them under a green mantling vine That crawls along the side of yon small hill. 1716 Gay *Trivia* II. 54 You'll sometimes meet a fop, of nicest tread, Whose mantling peruke veils his empty head. 1768 Sir W. Jones *Solima* Poems (1777) 4 Where mantling darkness spreads her dragon wing. 1770 Goldsm. *Des. Vill.* 132 The brook with mantling cresses spread. 1862 G. P. Scrope *Volcanos* (ed. 2) 164 The mantling beds or currents of lava that compose a large part of its substance. 1883 G. Allen in *Nature* 29 Mar. 514/1 The hop type belongs rather to mantling than to mere twining climbers.

†3. Eagerly desiring. (Cf. Mantle *v.* 4 c.) *Obs.*

1657 Thornley tr. *Longus' Daphnis & Chloe* 42 The mantling Goats skipt and leapt.

4. Of the blood: Suffusing the face. Of the cheeks: Becoming suffused with heightened colour.

1707 E. Smith *Phædra & Hipp.* II. (1709) 13 When mantling Blood Glow'd in his lovely Cheeks. 1812 Crabbe *Tales, The Confidant* (init.), And, at the distant hint or dark surmise, The blood into the mantling cheek would rise. 1872 Black *Adv. Phaeton* xxiii. 324 This girl with the mantling colour in her cheek.

‖ **Manto** (mæ·nto). [It. or Sp. *manto*.] A (Spanish, etc.) cloak or mantle. (See also Manteau.)

1679 Rycaut *Sl. Grk. Ch.* 96 The G. Signor..presents him with a white Horse, a Manto or blacke Coole [etc.]. 1867 Miss Yonge *Six Cushions* xi. 90 A place that..suggested Spanish cavaliers, with short manto, broad sombrero [etc.].

Mantoa, Mantoe: see Mantua, Manteau.

†**Manto·logy.** *Obs. rare.* [Badly f. Gr. *μάντ-ις* a diviner + -ology.] The art or practice of divination.

1774 *Guthrie's Geog. Gram.* (ed. 4) 125 That remarkable mantology, or gift of prophecy, which distinguishes the inhabitants of the Hebrides under the name of second sight. 1783 W. F. Martyn *Geog. Mag.* II. 423. 1828 in Webster.

So **Manto·logist,** 'one skilled in mantology or divination; a diviner, prophet'.

1864 in Webster; and in recent Dicts.

Manton (mæ·ntən). A fowling-piece made by Joseph Manton (?1766–1835), a noted gunsmith. Also *Joe Manton*.

1816 Scott *Antiq.* xxxix, It's a capital piece; it's a Joe Manton, that cost forty guineas. 1859 Lever *Dav. Dunn* xiii. 113 Every now and then you'll find a firelock in the hands that once held a double-barrelled Manton.

†**Mantoon.** *Obs. rare*—1. [?ad. It. *mantone*, augmentative of *manto* cloak.] ?A large cloak.

1623 Webster *Deuils Law-case* I. ii. B 4 b, I do heare there are Bawds abroad, That bring Cut-works, & Mantoons, & conuey Letters To such young Gentlewomen.

†**Mantoplicee.** *Obs. rare*—1. [F. *manteau plissé* pleated cloak.] 1672 Shadwell *Miser* I. 16.

Mantou, -ow, variant ff. of Manteau *Obs.*

‖ **Mantra** (mæ·nträ). *Indian.* Also 9 mantram. [Skr. *mantra*, lit. 'instrument of thought', f. *man* to think.] A sacred text or passage, esp. one from the Vedas used as a prayer or incantation.

1808 Colebrooke *Vedas* in *Asiat. Res.* VIII. 391 The import of any mantra in the Indian scriptures, is generally found to be a prayer, containing either a petition to a deity, or else thanksgiving, praise, and adoration. 1817 tr. *Dubois' Mann. People India* xi. 77 The pretended virtues of the Mantra or Mantram. 1883 Monier-Williams *Relig. Th. & Life India* i. 8 These Mantras or hymns were arranged in three principal collections.

Ma·n-trap. A trap for catching men, *esp.* one for catching trespassers in private grounds.

1788 Wolcot (P. Pindar) *Peter's Pension* Wks. 1812 II. 18 Your Man-traps, guards of goose and duck And cock and hens. 1791 Boswell *Johnson* 20 Mar. an. 1776, He should have warned us of our danger, before we entered his garden of flowery eloquence, by advertising, 'Spring-guns and man-traps set here'. 1880 Browning *Clive* 24 Did no writing on the wall Warn me 'Trespasser, 'ware man-traps!'

transf. and *fig.* 1773 Goldsm. *Stoops to Conq.* III. Wks. (Globe) 663/2 There's Mrs. Mantrap, Lady Betty Blackleg [etc.]. 1840 Dickens *Barn. Rudge* xiii, Mrs. Varden, regarding the Maypole as a sort of human man-trap, or decoy for husbands. 1846 Greener *Sci. Gunnery* 197 Were you to bawl in the ears of those employed in the construction [of certain guns],..you would not affect nor abate one, in the number of these infernal man-traps.

†**Mantry.** *Obs. rare*—0. = Mantel-tree.

1530 Palsgr. 243/1 Mantry of a chimney, *manteau de cheminée*.

Mantua (mæ·ntiuă). Also 7 **mantoa**. [Corruption of MANTEAU, due to association with the place-name *Mantua*.

Perh. *mantua silk*, and the fabric referred to in 2 below, may have been called from the place-name, which seems to occur *attrib.* in the following: *a* 1618 *Ek. Rates* H 3 b, Hose of Cruell vocat. Mantua hose, the paire, iiijs.]

1. A loose gown, worn by women in 17–18th c. = MANTEAU 1.

1678 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1287/4 One rich flowred Mantua lined with black, with a pair of very fine laced Sleeves. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. 95/2 A Mantua, is a kind of loose Coat without any stayes in it. 1693 SOUTHERNE *Maid's Last Prayer* III. i, He has not seen me in my new Mantoa yet. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 80 ₱ 3 Brunetta ..came to a public Ball in a plain black Silk Mantua. 1722 DE FOE *Col. Jack* (1840) 278 A mantua of a better kind of calico. 1858 THACKERAY *Virgin.* xxxii, The girls went off straightway to get together their best calamancoes, ..mantuas, clocked stockings, and high-heeled shoes.

†**2.** A material; ? = *mantua silk*.

1709 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4540/6 The best broad Italian colour'd Mantua's at 6*s.* 9*d.* per Yard. 1766 W. GORDON *Gen. Counting-ho.* 426, 20 yards mantua. 1787 ANDERSON *Orig. Commerce* II. 569 The silks called alamodes and lustrings were entirely owing to them [Fr. refugees of *c* 1685]; also brocades, sattins, black and coloured mantuas.

3. *attrib.*, as *mantua-cloth, gown, petticoat, silk.*

1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Mantoe*, or *Mantua-Gown*, a loose upper Garment, now generally worn by Women, instead of a straight-body'd Gown. 1731 in Planché *Cycl. Costume* (1876) I. 363 A rose-coloured paduasoy mantua, lined with a rich Mantua silk of the same colour. 1755 STRYPE *Stow's Surv.* (ed. 6) II. v. xxx. 561/1 It must be a very poor Woman that has not a Suit of Mantua Silk.. to appear abroad in on Holydays. 176- in J. P. Malcom *Manners Lond.* (1810) II. 347 A scarlet-flowered damask Mantua Petticoat. 1882a CAULFEILD & SAWARD *Dict. Needlework*, *Mantua Cloths*, a term employed in trade to denote every description of cloth suitable for mantles, cloaks [etc.].

Ma·ntua-ma·ker. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.* or *arch.* One who makes mantuas; later, a dress-maker.

1694 MOTTEUX *Rabelais* v. 237 Mantuamaker. 1712 BUDGELL *Spect.* No. 277 ₱ 11 The most celebrated Tyre-women and Mantua-makers in Paris. 1841 in HODDER *Life Ld. Shaftesb.* (1886) I. 328 An enquiry into the state and treatment of the wretched milliners and mantua-makers. 1886 BYNNER *A. Surriage* xv. 165 Get on your hat and go with me to the mantua-maker.

So **Mantua-making** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

a 1704 T. BROWN *Walk round London* (1709) 41 That virtuous Profession Mantua-making. 1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) III. 76, I must soon quit my mantuamaking business. 1824 Miss MITFORD *Village* Ser. I. 287 The young mantua-making school-mistresses.

Mantuan (mæ·ntiuăn), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. L. *Mantuān-us*, f. *Mantua*: see -AN.]

A. *adj.* Of or belonging to Mantua, a city in northern Italy near which Virgil was born; hence, of or pertaining to Virgil, Virgilian. *The Mantuan Muse, Swan*, Virgil.

1709 POPE *Ess. Crit.* 129 Still with itself compar'd, his [*sc.* Homer's] text peruse; And let your comment be the Mantuan Muse. 1780 COWPER *Table-t.* 557 Ages elapsed ere Homer's lamp appeared, And ages ere the Mantuan Swan was heard.

B. *sb.* A native or inhabitant of Mantua. *The Mantuan* = Virgil.

1649 OGILBY *Virgil, Bucolicks* (1684) i. *note*, Virgil..amongst other Mantuans, ejected out of his Inheritance, went to Rome for redress. 1827 G. DARLEY *Sylvia* (1892) 186 Who [*sc.* Milton] from the Mantuan's bleeding crown Tore the presumptuous laurel down.

Mantyger, variant of MANTEGAR, MANTICORE.

†**Manuable,** *a. Obs. rare.* [a. OF. *manuable*, f. L. *manu-* hand: see -ABLE. Cf. MANIABLE.]

1. That may be handled easily.

1594 BLUNDEVIL *Exerc.* VII. xii. (1636) 665 The yard thereof is of so great a length, as it is not manuable in a ship. *Ibid.* Most manuable, and therewith very light of carriage.

2. Of money: ? Of handy size.

1638 SIR R. COTTON *Abstr. Rec. Tower* 26 If wee marke but of the great quantities from the penny downward since H. 8. time stamped, how few remain. Whereas of all the Coynes from three pence upwards which are manuable (or manuall) plenty passe still in daily payment.

Manual (mæ·niuăl), *a.* and *sb.* Forms: 5–8 **manuel**, (5 **manuele**), 5–7 **manuell**, 5–6 **manuelle**, **manwell**, **manuale**, 6–7 **manuall**, 6– **manual**. [ad. (the earlier form through F. *manuel*) L. *manuālis* pertaining to the hand; the neut. *manuāle* was used subst. in class. L. for 'a book-cover', in late L. for a handbook. Cf. Sp., Pg. *manual*, It. *manuale* adjs. and sbs.]

A. *adj.*

1. Of or pertaining to the hand or hands; done or performed with the hands. Now esp. of (physical) labour, an occupation, etc., as opposed to *mental, theoretical.*

1406 HOCCLEVE *La Male Regle* 364 And of thy manuel labour, as I weene, Thy lucre is swich, þat it vnnethe is seene. 1532–3 *Act* 24 *Hen. VIII*, c. 4 Marchaundyse, made and broughte..into this realme, redye wroughte by manuall occupacion. 1593 FALE *Dialling* A iij, Beseeching the Lord (who hath endued you with extraordinary knoledge in all Manuall Sciences) to finish [etc.]. 1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 19/1 Which eradication requireth a longe continued manuall operation. 1675 BAXTER *Cath. Theol.* I. 66 By manual Apprehension or Executive Election (As a man taketh a woman to wife). 1725 POPE *Odyss.* XV. 338 Patron of industry and manual arts. 1804 EARL LAUDERD. *Pub. Wealth* (1819) 346 The superior efficacy of the application of capital..over the most improved manual dexterity. 1857 RUSKIN *Pol. Econ. Art* Addenda 192 All youths of whatever rank, ought to learn some manual trade thoroughly. 1865 TYLOR *Early Hist. Man.* IV. 66, I expressed my ideas by manual signs. 1868 SIR R. PHILLIMORE in *Law Rep., Adm. & Eccl.* II. 199 The second prayer-book of Edward VI. omitted all reference to the manual acts, ordered in the first and last prayer-books, attending the consecration of the holy elements.

b. Of a signature, etc.: Autograph. Chiefly in SIGN MANUAL; also in obsolete phrases formed after it, as *seal m., subscription m., manual stamp.*

1522 *Extracts Aberd. Reg.* (1844) I. 101 In witnes of the quhilk, we haue causit our commond seill to be appensit to this present assedatioun, togidder with the subscriptioun manuel of our commissaris handis. 1563 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 254 Anent the Quenis Majesteis lettres past undir hir signet and subscriptioun manual. 1592 SHAKS. *Ven. & Ad.* 516 Which purchase if thou make, for feare of slips, Set thy seale manuell on my wax-red lips. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* I. 17 Their names, and manuall subscriptions. 1644 MILTON *Areop.* 23 Much lesse..that it should be uncurrant without their manuall stamp.

†c. *Compute manual* (= L. *computus manualis*): a mediæval treatise on the art of reckoning on the hands the dates of Church feasts, etc., and containing many mnemonic nonsense-verses. *Obs.*

In the verse referred to, *Adam degebat ergo eijos adrifos* (sic), the 12 syllables stand for the 12 months.

1533 MORE *Answ. Nameless Heret.* IV. viii. (1534) 207 b, The commen verse of the compute manuell, *Ergo ciphos adrifox.*

d. Of a weapon, tool, etc.: That is used or worked with the hand or hands. Now rare except in *manual* (*fire*) *engine* as distinguished from *steam* (*fire*) *engine.*

1591 *Garrard's Art Warre* 184 Ye strength of their manual weapons. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 481 Of this Smilax are made certain manuell writing-tables. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* X. 433 They delue, hollow, and turne ouer the ground, with manuall..instruments. 1888 MERRYWEATHER *Fire Brigade Handbk.* ix. 98 Manual Fire Engines...There is..no better manual engine..than that known as the London Brigade pattern.

e. Mil. *Manual exercise*, exercise or drill in handling a musket or rifle.

1760 (*title*) New Manual Exercise As Performed by His Majesty's Dragoons, Foot-guards, Foot, Artillery, Marines. 1802 C. JAMES *Milit. Dict., Manual Exercise*, is the exercise of the musket, independent of powder and ball.

f. *Manual alphabet*: the finger alphabet. *Manual method*: 'a method of instructing the deaf which mainly employs the manual alphabet and signs for communicating ideas, as distinguished from the *oral method*' (Webster 1902).

2. *Law.* Of occupation, possession: Actual, in one's own hands, not merely prospective. †Hence of a thing possessed (see quot. 1607).

1538 tr. *Littleton's Tenures* (1544) 3 b, Of suche thynges as a man maye haue a manuel occupacyon [AF. *en manuel occupacion*]: possession or resceyte, as of landes, tenementes, rentes and such other...But of suche thynges that lye nat in manuell occupacyon [AF. *en tiel manuell occupacion*] &c. as of auouson of a church..there he shal [etc.]. 1567 STAUNFORD *King's Prerog.* 54 But heruppon is there a distinction to be made, whether that y^t^ the king is entitled vnto by office be a thinge manuell and whereof profit maye bee taken forthwith after the findinge of the office or not. 1581 LAMBARDE *Eiren.* II. vii. (1588) 274 If he [*sc.* the theefe] take the purse in his hand, and then cut the girdle, & afterward let them fal, that wil proue him a Felon, because he had a manuel possession of the purse remoued from the person. 1607 COWELL *Interpr.* s. v., *Manuel*, is a thing whereof present profit may be made...And a thing not manuell is that, whereof no present profit may be made, but hereafter, when it falleth. 1628 COKE *On Litt.* 17 Such things whereof a man may have manuell occupation or possession. 1766 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* II. 392 The law..extends this possession farther than the mere manual occupation.

†**3.** Of money: = MANUABLE 2.

1638 [see MANUABLE 2].

4. That works with the hands. *arch.*

1658 SIR T. BROWNE *Gard. Cyrus* I. 93 Not only a Lord of Gardens, but a manuall planter thereof. 1687 *Connect. Col. Rec.* (1859) III. 407 Butchers, bakers,..barbers, millers and masons, with all other manual persons. 1851 CARLYLE *Sterling* III. iv. (1872) 204 He quite agreed with me as to the..necessity and difficulty of doing something effectual for so satisfying the manual multitude as not to overthrow all legal security.

†**5.** Furnished with hands. *Obs.*

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* VII. ii. 343 Parts of the seed do seeme to containe the Idea and power of the whole; so parents deprived of hands, beget manuall issues.

6. Of a book, etc.: Of the nature of a manual; intended to be kept at hand for reference.

1881 WESTCOTT & HORT *Greek Test.* Introd. § 20 We agreed to commence the formation of a manual text for our own use.

B. *sb.*

1. A small book for handy use. a. In the mediæval Church, a book containing the forms to be observed by priests in the administration of the sacraments, etc. (corresponding to the present *Rituale Romanum*).

1431 *Med. Rec. City Ch.* (E. E. T. S.) 29 Also ij legendes & a manwell & a Ordynall. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 325/2 Manuele, booke to minster wythe the sacramentys, *manuale*. 1549 *Act* 3 & 4 *Edw. VI*, c. 10 § 1 That all Bookes called.. Processionalles, Manuelles, .. shalbe .. abollished. 1853 ROCK *Ch. of Fathers* IV. xii. 213 The Manual had in it all the services that a parish priest has to perform.

b. A concise treatise, an abridgement, a handbook. Often used as a title for books.

1533 (*title*) A booke called in latyn Enchiridion militis christiani, and in englysshe the manuell of the christen knyght..made by..Erasmus. 1565 GRAFTON (*title*) A Manuell of the Chronicles of Englande. 1663 GERBIER *Counsel* 3 b, If in your Building, you want instructions for your Clark; pray let him make use of this Manual. 1788 PRIESTLEY *Lect. Hist.* IV. xxv. 196 The...*Speculum Saxonicum*, which is an excellent manuel of the old laws of the ancient Saxons. 1879 FROUDE *Cæsar* iv. 36 A Greek manual of the art of war.

†**2.** Method of operating or working. *Obs.*

1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 26/1 We must vse the manuall of Chyrurgerye thervnto, ether by cuttinge or inscisione. 1656 tr. *Valentine's Will* II. iii. 98 All these mixed impurities can be separated from it with artificial Manuals, and with little ado it may be brought into a perfect state.

3. Short for *manual exercise*: see MANUAL *a.* 1 d.

1762 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* V. xxxii, The corporal went through his *manual* with exactness. 1899 KIPLING *Stalky* 198, I know the drill—all except the manual.

4. †a. *pl.* 'Manual' tools (see A. 1 d) (*obs.*). b. Short for *manual fire-engine.*

1683 J. POYNTZ *Tobago* 38 Manuals with other things necessary for Planting. 1872 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* 156/2 Manuals, steamers, and floating batteries. 1886 *Manch. Exam.* 8 Jan. 6/1 Steamers and manuals from all parts of the metropolis arrived at the fire.

5. A key-board of an organ played with the hands, as distinguished from the *pedals.*

1852 SEIDEL *Organ* 33 Every organ has two..key-boards; the one managed by the hands, and hence called 'the manual' [etc.]. 1880 E. J. HOPKINS in Grove *Dict. Mus.* II. 606/1 Thus an organ with one Manual and separate Pedal generally has at the least one coupler 'Manual to Pedal'.

b. 'In a musical instrument, a key or lever for the hands or fingers; a digital' (*Cent. Dict.* 1890).

c. *attrib.*

1852 SEIDEL *Organ* 49 These pedal-palates have much harder work to do than the manual-palates. *Ibid.* 67 A copula which connects two manuals with each other is called a manual-copula. 1881 C. A. EDWARDS *Organs* vi. 67 There may be..four, or even more, manual claviers to an organ, though there is usually only one pedal clavier. *Ibid.* 69 The pedal keys..are..much larger than the manual keys.

Manualism (mæ·niuălizm). *rare*⁻¹. [f. MANUAL + -ISM.] The action or process of teaching by means of the manual alphabet.

1883 *Amer. Ann. Deaf & Dumb* Apr. 93 Go utterly voiceless through all his life, with the mental education which manualism can at least give him.

Manualist (mæ·niuălist). [f. MANUAL + -IST.]

1. †a. One who works or labours with the hands (*obs.*). b. (See quot. 1861.)

1592 R. D. *Hypnerotomachia* 18 b, The chiefe inuention.. resteth in the..architect, but the labour and working therof to the vulgar and common sort of mannalists [*sic*] and sernants to the architect. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Manualist*, a Handicrafts-man, or Artificer. 1861 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* III. 104 When I [a juggler] was in Ireland they called me a 'manualist'.

2. 'One who uses or advocates the use of the manual method of teaching the deaf' (Webster 1902).

1883 *Amer. Ann. Deaf & Dumb* Apr. 79 In the judgment of most manualists there can be no question that this fact alone, of prior speech, establishes such an important difference.

3. One who compiles a manual or handbook.

1897 *Dublin Rev.* July 227 It is apparently the fashion at the present time to despise manuals and manualists.

Manualization (mæniuălaizē·ʃən). *rare*⁻¹. The action of using the hands.

1887 *Sat. Rev.* 31 Dec. 890 A trick performed solely by means of personal skill and dexterity of manualization is, of course, conjuring *in excelsis.*

Manually (mæ·niuăli), *adv.* [f. MANUAL *a.* + -LY 2.]

1. With or by means of the hand or hands; by the operation of the hands; by manual labour.

1471 RIPLEY *Comp. Alch.* Ep. ii. in Ashm. (1652) 112 Which thyng is not wrought manually; But naturally. 1506 in *Mem. Hen. VII* (Rolls) 297 Both kings..went up to the high altar, and there sware upon the holy Evangelists, canon of the mass by them manually touched. 1874 FARRAR *Christ* vii. (1884) 40 And while they were occupied manually, we have positive evidence that these years were not neglected intellectually. 1877 J. D. CHAMBERS *Divine Worship* 199 The Presbyters manually should hand each Penitent to the Archdeacon.

2. *Law.* Personally, actually. (Cf. MANUAL *a.* 2.)

1628 COKE *On Litt.* 17 That which is manually occupied, manured and possessed.

3. With regard to the hands.

1882 SALA *Amer. Revis.* (1885) 185 An obliging waiter.. facially and manually as black as the Ace of Spades.

Manuary (mæ·niuări), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. L. *manuārius*, f. *manu-s* hand: see -ARY 1.] **A.** *adj.*

1. Of or pertaining to the hand; performed by or with the hands; = MANUAL *a.* 1. Also, applied to the hands. *Obs.* exc. in affected use.

1576 WOOLTON *Chr. Manual* D vj, Artes both lyberall, and manuary. 1579 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 158 Manuary craftes. 1599 A. M. tr. *Gabelhouer's Bk. Physicke* 263/2 An excellent Handevngvente...An other Manvarye vnctione. 1609 BP. HALL *Holy Observ.* I. 9 You shall rarely finde a man eminent in sundry faculties of minde, or sundry manuarie trades. 1612 BRINSLEY *Lud. Lit.* p. xv, The holy Ghost challengeth the faculty euen of manuary skill to his owne gifte. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Manuary*, gotten by handy labor, or that fils the hand. 1860 *Med. Times* 4 Feb. 118/2 Agitated mis-

tresses institute mannary inspections among the Soyerinas of the basement.

†2. That works with the hands. *Obs.*

1652 C. B. Stapylton *Herodian* XIII. 111 Then Bridges built and Stones and Morter carry, As if he were a Workman Manuary. 1678 Cudworth *Intell. Syst.* I. i. § 45. 54 A subordinate instrument of the divine wisdom, and the manuary opificer or executioner of it.

B. *sb.*

†1. One who works with his hands. *Obs.*

1581 Mulcaster *Positions* xxxix. (1887) 197 The common is deuided into marchauntes and manuaries generally. *a* 1656 Bp. Hall *Rem. Wks.* (1660) 151 Gifts of tongues..and the like, which do no more argue a right to the son-ship of God, then the Manuaries infused skill of Bezaleel and Aholiab could prove them Saints.

†2. Manual work; handicraft trade. *Obs.*

1581 Mulcaster *Positions* v. (1887) 35 Whose vse [*sc.* of Drawing] all modelling, all mathematikes, all manuaries do finde and confesse to be to so notorious and so needefull. *Ibid.* 197 [After the words quoted under sense 1.] Marchandise containeth vnder it all those which line..by buying and selling: Mannarie those whose handywork is their ware. 1616 [see Manubiary *sb.*].

†3. ? An amanuensis. *Obs.*

1613 Sir E. Hony *Counter-snarle* 32 It seemeth..my Manuaries haste, or the Printers misprision, hath turned *go* into (*sed*) as if the same had been continued.

†4. A factory. *Obs.*

1625 in *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* Ser. II. I. 159 By making of societies or manuaries in all the principall burrowis for making of stuffes and other wairis.

[¶. An alleged sense 'consecrated glove' given in recent Dicts., is evolved from misnnderstanding of the following passage. (In the original Latin *manuarias* and the other words are adjs. agreeing with *indulgentias*.)

1537 tr. *Latimer's Serm. bef. Convoc.* D j b, Some brought forth .. pardons, & these of wonderfull varietie, some stationaries ..some Manuaries for handlers of reliques, some pedaries for pilgrimes.]

Manu·balist (e. *Antiq.* [ad. late L. type *manuballista*, f. L. *manu-s* hand + Ballista; after *arcuballista* Arbalest.] A kind of cross-bow.

1867 in Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.* 467. In some mod. Dicts.

†**Manubial,** *a. Obs. rare*—°. [ad. L. *manubiāl-is*, f. *manubi-æ* pl., spoils of war.] Belonging or having reference to the spoils of war.

1674 Blount *Glossogr.* (ed. 4) *Manubial*, belonging to a prey or booty. 1721 in Bailey. 1850 Ogilvie, *Manubial-column*, a column adorned with trophies and spoils.

†**Manubiary,** *a.* and *sb. Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *manubiārius* adj., f. *manubi-æ* (see prec.).]

A. *adj.* Pertaining to the spoils of war.

1658 Phillips *Manubiary*, belonging to the spoil or prey. 1727–51 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v. *Column, Manubiary Column*, a column adorned with trophies, built in imitation of trees, whereon the spoils of enemies were antiently hung.

B. *sb.* a. The trade of plunder. b. One who lives by plunder.

1616 J. Deacon *Tobacco Tortured* 65 Tobacco fumes are able..to transform nobilitie into gentrie, gentrie into yeomanrie,..manuarie into manubiarie, manubiarie into [etc.]. 1623 Cockeram *Manubiarie*, one that hath part of the prey.

Manubrial (mănīū·briăl), *a. Anat.* [f. L. Manubri-um + -al.] Of or pertaining to a manubrium (in various senses).

1835–6 Todd *Cycl. Anat.* I. 282/1 This mesial process [of the sternum in certain birds] we shall term the manubrial process. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 389 If this [the percussion of the heart] be normal..then any substernal or manubrial dulness which can be clearly defined as separate from this must be taken as of great significance.

Manubriated (mănīū·bri,ēitĕd), *ppl. a.* [f. L. *manubriāt-us* (f. *manubrium*: see next) + -ed.] Having a manubrium. 1890 in *Century Dict.*

‖ **Manubrium** (mănīū·bri,ŏm). Pl. **manubria, manubriums.** [L. *manubrium* a haft.]

†1. A handle or haft. *Obs.*

1660 Boyle *New Exp. Phys. Mech.* Prœm. 14 The third piece of this Pump, namely, the handle or manubrium.

2. *Anat.* and *Zool.* a. The broad upper division of the sternum of mammals, with which the two first ribs articulate. b. A small tapering curved or twisted bony process of the malleus of the ear in man and many mammals. c. A small process, often bifurcate, at the root of the keel of the sternum in birds. d. The lower part of the malleus in rotifers. e. A peduncle which depends from the roof of the gonocalyx of hydroids or of the swimming-bell of medusæ.

1848 *Quain's Anat.* (ed. 5) I. 101 The first division of the steraum (manubrium or handle) is broader and thicker than the other. 1855 Gosse in *Phil. Trans.* CXLVI. 426 The inferior portion of the *malleus*, which I shall call the *manubrium*, is an irregularly-curved piece [etc.]. *Ibid.* 427 The *manubria* move also at the same time. 1885 Romanes *Jelly-Fish* 206 Unlike the manubriums of most of the other Medusæ [etc.]. 1890 Coues *Field & Gen. Ornithol.* 214 The sternum..develops in the middle line in front a beak-like process called the *rostrum* or *manubrium*.

3. *Bot.* A process projecting from each of the shields forming the inner wall of the antheridium in characeous plants.

1875 Bennett & Dyer tr. *Sachs' Bot.* 285 *Fig.* 198 .. *B* a manubrium with its head.

Ma·nucapt, *v. nonce-wd.* [f. med.L. *manūcapt-us* taken by the hand: cf. next.] *trans.* To direct by a writ of manucaption.

1898 *Contemp. Rev.* Dec. 883 The burgess who was 'manucapted' to appear at Westminster.

Manucaption (mæniukæ·pʃən). *Law. Obs.* exc. *Hist.* [ad. med.L. *manūcaptiōn-em*, noun of action f. *manū capĕre*, lit. to 'take by the hand'; cf. Mainprise.] a. = Mainprise. b. A writ directing the bringing in of a person charged with a felony, who was debarred from being admitted to bail by the sheriff or any inferior magistrate.

1588 Fraunce *Lawiers Log.* I. xii. 55 Bailement, maineprise or manucaption, and replevine..they bee indifferently used to expresse that suretie which the prisoner is to finde. 1598 Manwood *Lawes Forest* xxiv. § 5 (1615) 240 All pledges and Manucaptors which haue day by their Manucaption before the Iustice of the forest. 1875 Stubbs *Const. Hist.* II. xv. 235 The manucaption or production of two sureties.

Manucaptor (mæniukæ·ptəɹ). *Law. Obs.* exc. *Hist.* Also 7 mani-. [a. med.L. *manūcaptor*, agent-n. f. *manū capĕre*: see prec.] = Mainpernor.

[1523 in W. H. Turner *Select. Rec. Oxford* (1880) 34 As also the goods and cattall, surtus and manucaptores.] 1581 Lambarde *Eiren.* II. ii. (1588) 109 For some forme commaundeth him to take sufficient manucaptors..so that hee will be answerable for it at his owne perill. 1620 J. Wilkinson *Coroners & Sherifes* 30 The principals, manicaptors or sureties shall make their fine. 1878 Stubbs *Const. Hist.* III. xx. 425 For each of them manucaptors or bailsmen were provided.

Manucode (mæ·niŭkōud). [a. F. *manucode* (Buffon), short f. mod.L. *manucodiāta*: see next.]

†a. A bird of paradise (*obs.*). b. Any bird of either of the genera *Manucodia* and *Phonygama*, inhabiting the Papuan region, and formerly classed with the Birds of Paradise.

The F. *manucode* was originally applied to all the birds of the old genus *Manucodiata* (the genus *Paradisea* of Linnæus), and in this use was occas. employed by English writers. The generic name *Manucodia* (? a misprint for *Manucodiata*) was used by Boddaert 1783 in describing a species since discovered to belong to a distinct genus, for which English ornithologists adopted Boddaert's name. In English *manucode* was then restricted to the birds of this genus, which has since been divided into two.

1835 tr. *Lesson's Voy.* in *Penny Cycl.* IV. 422/1 The manucode presented itself twice in our shooting excursions, and we killed the male and female. 1881 *Daily News* 22 Apr. 2/3 The green manucode (*manucodia chalybeia*).

†**Manucodiata.** *Obs.* Also 6 manucodiata, 7 manucadite. [a. mod.L. *manucodiāta*, ad. Malay مانق ديوات *mānuq dĕwāta* 'bird of the gods'. Cf. Mamuque.] A bird of paradise.

[1523 Maximilianus Transylv. *Epist.* D iv b, Aniculam uero Manuccodiata appellauerunt.] 1555 Eden *Decades*, etc. 229 b, These Moores are of opinion that these byrdes coomme frome the heauenlye Paradyse, and therfore caule them *Manuccodiata*, that is the byrdes of god. 1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* (1614) 538 The Moores..call them Manucodiata, or holy birds. 1623 Cockeram III, *Manucadite*, the bird of Paradise. 1691 Ray *Creation* I. (1692) 147 The Manucodiata, or Bird of Paradise.

†**Manuduce,** *v. Obs.* [ad. L. *manū dūcere* to lead by the hand.] *trans.* To lead, guide, direct.

1657 W. Morice *Coena quasi Κοινή* Def. xxviii. 275 There is nothing in the context that may incline and manuduce to such an interpretation. 1686 Goad *Celest. Bodies* To Rdr. 1 Contemplation of the Heavens conduced to the First, and therefore must manuduce to the Second.

†**Manuducent,** *a.* and *sb. Obs.* [ad. L. *manū dūcent-em*, pres. pple. of *manū dūcĕre* (see prec.).] A. *adj.* Guiding, directing. *rare*—1.

1677 Gale *Crt. Gentiles* IV. 494 The Greek Fathers, who terme medicinal efficacious grace, the spring of this supernatural infusion..'manuducent and assistent grace'.

B. *sb.* A guide, manuductor. *rare*—1.

1615 J. Robinson *Manum. to Manuduction* To Rdr., in *Coll. Mass. Hist. Soc.* 4th Ser. I. 166 Needful it were in a matter of this..weight, that the manuducent or haudleader, should guide men by the plain..way of the Scriptures.

†**Manuduct,** *v. Obs. rare.* [f. L. *manū*, abl. of *manus* hand + *duct-*, ppl. stem of *dūcĕre* to lead.] *trans.* To lead or guide by the hand. Also *fig.*

1641 H. L'Estrange *God's Sabbath* 20 Adam and the succeeding Patriarchs (who..were manuducted and guided by an inerring spirit) [etc.]. 1672 Sir C. Wyvill *Triple Crown* 164 At length, that Saint manuducts him into three or four sorts of Purgatories.

Manuduction (mæniud·kʃən). Also 6 manduccyon. [ad. med.L. *manūductiōn-em*, n. of action f. *manū dūcĕre* to lead by hand.]

1. The action of leading, guiding, or introducing; guidance, introduction, direction.

1502 *Ord. Crysten Men* (W. de W. 1506) IV. xxvii. 317 By the meane manduccyon of thynges corporalles & sensybles a man may come unto the contemplacyon of spyrytualles. 1624 F. White *Repl. Fisher* 514 Vertuous actions haue reference (not of desert, but of disposition, and instrumentall efficiencie or manuduction) to beatitude. 1642 Sir E. Dering *Sp. on Relig.* xvi. 85 Young Students..wander for want of manuduction. 1723 *Pres. St. Russia* I. 18 Well stored with Money, but without any Instruction or Manuduction. 1872 Blackie *Lays Highl.* Introd. 54 Well satisfied if he has accomplished..even one third of the ground over which he has accepted my hurried manuduction. 1896 Gladstone *Stud. Subsid. Butler* 88 The insight of anticipation which, without a manuduction (if the term may be allowed) by natural science, enabled him to forecast [etc.].

2. Means or instrument of guidance; a guide or introduction.

1624 F. White *Repl. Fisher* 586 He ascribeth no more vnto it, than to be a manuduction and guider to saning veritie. 1625 T. James (*title*) A manuduction or introduction unto divinitie. 1713 Nelson *Life Bp. Bull* xvii. (1827) 84 He sent it [his book] abroad..that it might serve as a manuduction to the candidates of divinity.

†3. A manual process or operation. *Obs. rare*—1.

1778 Pryce *Min. Cornub.* Contents IV. ii, The various Manuductions used in dressing of Copper and Lead Ores.

†**Manuductive** (mæniud·ktiv), *a. Obs.* [ad. L. type **manūductīv-us*, f. *manū dūcĕre*: see Manuduction.] That leads by the hand.

1626 W. Fenner *Hidden Manna* (1652) 2 There must be a special manu-ductive teaching. 1633 Ames *Agst. Cerem.* II. 151 If by accessorie worship he meaneth that which is appointed by man..(which his manuductive interpretation beareth) then [etc.].

†**Manuductor.** *Obs.* [ad. L. type **manūductōr-em*, agent-n. from *manū dūcĕre*: see Manuduction.] A guide, director.

1657 Thornley tr. *Longus' Daphnis & Chloe* (1893) 98 But thou..art kept alive and saved for us, in design to make us happy by more helps and manuductors to our Age. 1677 Gilpin *Demonol.* (1867) 378 The former opinion of Satan's taking of Christ, as a manuductor or guide, seems every way unreasonable.

b. *spec.* The conductor of a band or choir.

1785 Burney *Mus. Perform. Westm. Abb.* 15 This Commemoration is..the first instance..of any band, at all numerous, performing in a similar situation, without the assistance of a Manu-ductor, to regulate the measure. 1852 Hook *Ch. Dict., Manuductor*..was an officer who..gave the signal to the choristers to sing,..beat the time [etc.].

Manuductory (mæniud·ktŏri), *a.* [Formed as prec.: see -ory.] Leading by or as by the hand; that leads up to or towards.

1694 Westmacott *Script. Herb.* Ep. Ded. 5 These are the Manuductory Things, that Constitute an Expert and Real Artist. 1851 Chr. Wordsworth *Occas. Serm.* Ser. II. 34 They did not recognise this, its manuductory and provisional character.

Manuel, -ell (e, obs. forms of Manual.

†**Manuensis.** *Obs.* = Amanuensis.

1720 [A. Pennecuik] (*title*) Song of Songs..Written..by Solomon..The inspired Manuensis of the Holy Ghost.

Manuer, obs. form of Manure *v.*

†**Manufact,** *a.* and *sb. Obs.* [ad. late L. *manūfact-us* (*Vulg.* Acts vii. 48), f. *manū*, abl. of *manus* hand + *factus* made.]

A. *adj.* 'Made with hands'.

1539 *Man. Prayers* Y iv, We haue not the shewe bread of the Temple, for that manufact temple and the golden table are passed.

B. *sb.* The act of manufacturing, manufacture.

1690 D'Urfey *Collin's Walk* III. 105 And lay the Ensigns of their pride, Their Silken Ornaments aside; Which would have been a wholsome Act T'encourage Woolen Manufact. 1691 Maydman *Nav. Specul.* 312 The Decrease of our Wollen Manufacts...A great part of the Linen Manufact is done by Women and Children.

†**Manufa·ction.** *Obs.* [n. of action f. L. *manū facĕre* (*manū*, abl. of *manus* hand, *facĕre* to make) to make by hand.] Manufacture.

1602 *Proclam.* in *Moryson's Itin.* II. (1617) 263 We conceine that there wanteth as yet for a time sufficient commodities of the growth or manufaction of this kingdome, wherewith to maintaine trafficke. 1730 *Phil. Trans.* XXXVI. 286 Thus from Castor, by a certain Manufaction, may be prepared an Oil sweeter than that of Cinnamon.

†**Manufactor.** *Obs.* [agent-n. f. L. *manū facĕre* to make by hand: cf. Manufacture.] A manufacturer or artificer.

a 1649 Drumm. of Hawth. *Jas. I* Wks. (1711) 8 The king..drew unto him the best artisans and manufactors. ‡ 1667 Sir T. Browne *Brampton Urns* Miscell. (1712) 6 Inscriptions commonly signified..the Name of the Artificer, or Manufactor of such Vessels. 1812 J. J. Henry *Camp. agst. Quebec* 224 The vanilla of South America has been applied by the Spanish manufactors of tobacco in various ways.

Manufactorage, var. Manufacturage.

Manufactory (mæniufæ·ktŏri), *sb.* Also 7 -factry, 7–8 -factury. [ad. L. types **manūfactōria, -ōrium*, f. *manū facĕre*: see Manufactor and -ory1.]

†1. Something that is produced by labour. = Manufacture 2. *Obs.*

a 1618 Raleigh *Obs. Trade* in *Rem.* (1661) 186 Other Manufactories vendible to the number of about one thousand. 1685 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2009/8 An Engine..for Beautifying of Cloth..Bays and all Woollen Manufactory. *a* 1734 North *Exam.* III. vi. § 56 (1740) 464 The Manufactury and Product of England. 1776 Paine *Com. Sense* (1791) 55 We ought to view the building a fleet as an article of commerce, it being the natural manufactory of this country. 1786 Lady Jerningham in *J. Lett.* (1896) I. 37 A very fine silver gown. It is a new Norwich manufactury.

†2. The production of manufactured goods. *Obs.*

a 1618 Raleigh *Obs. Trade* Pref. in *Rem.* (1661) 164 Thereby to bring Manufactory into the Kingdome, and to set on work all sorts of people. 1657 R. Carpenter *Astrol.* 5 Mechanical, inferiour, and earthly Arts, pertaining to Manufactry, were invented by Cain and his Children. 1762 Sterne *Tr. Shandy* VI. xvii, To..work the machine to the improvement and better manufactory of the Arts and Sciences. 1812 J. J. Henry *Camp. agst. Quebec* 79 All neatly and warmly clothed in woolen, apparently of their own manufactory. 1828 Southey *Ess.* (1832) II. 332 The introduction of the linen manufactory is another instance.

fig. 1846 G. S. Faber *Lett. Tractar. Secess.* 215 The

deliberate manufactory of falsehood seems to be a regular part of the Popish system.

3. A factory or workshop. Also with prefixed word, as *cotton, milk manufactory*.

1692 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) II. 524 The queens manufactory in the Strand. 1827 HONE *Every-day Bk.* II. 591 Milk manufactories usurp the place Of.. dairies. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* III. 130/2 If the goods are fresh from the manufactory.

†**Manufa·ctory,** *a. Obs.* [ad. L. type **manūfactōrius*, f. *manū facĕre*: cf. prec.] Pertaining to, or of the nature of, manufacture; engaged in manufacture.

1630 LORD *Banians* 70 Servile and manufactory men that should serve the uses of the world in the handicrafts. 1704 SWIFT *Tale Tub* § 2 A Sort of Idol, who..did daily create Men by a Kind of Manufactory Operation. 1741 *New Hampsh. Prov. Papers* (1871) p. lxxvi, The manufactory notes of a Combination of Persons in the other Government.

Manufacturable (mæniufæ·ktiŭrăb'l), *a.* [f. MANUFACTURE *v.* + -ABLE.] Capable of being manufactured. Also *fig.*

1784 ALCHORNE in *Phil. Trans.* LXXIV. 466 The bar obtained was no less manufacturable than at first. 1893 *Scribner's Mag.* Aug. 152/1 Talent is innate and not manufacturable.

†**Manufacturage.** *Obs.* Also 7 **-orage.** [f. MANUFACTURE *sb.* + -AGE.] Manufacture.

1665 DUDLEY *Metallum Martis* (1854) 31 Lesse profitable to him that makes it into manufactorage, and lesse profitable to him that useth it. 1686 PLOT *Staffordsh.* 162 More indeed to the Masters profit, but less to him that has the manufactorage of it. 1691 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2670/4 For the Encouraging a Brandy Manufacturage in England.

Manufactural (mæniufæ·ktiŭrăl), *a.* [f. MANUFACTURE *sb.* + -AL.] Pertaining to manufacture.

1789 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* 90 Some of our manufactural advantages and prospects. *Ibid.* 91 Pennsylvania has confessedly taken the lead..in manufactural improvements. 1852 S. BAILEY *Disc.* 77. 1881 *Daily News* 30 Aug., The next process, and indeed the first in a manufactural sense, is that of converting the rough timber into a state for use.

Manufacture (mæniufæ·ktiŭr), *sb.* Also 7 **manifacture, mannifacture.** [a. F. *manufacture* (16th c.), ad. med.L. **manufactūra*, f. *manū facĕre* (*manū*, abl. of *manus* hand; *facĕre* to make). Cf. Sp., Pg. *manufactura*, It. *manifattura*.]

1. †**a.** The action or process of making by hand.

1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* I. vi. § 2 It is not set down that God said, Let there be heaven and earth,..but actually, that God made heaven and earth: the one carrying the style of a manufacture, and the other of a..decree.

b. The action or process of making articles or material (in modern use, on a large scale) by the application of physical labour or mechanical power.

1622 BACON *Hen. VII* 215 This Law pointed at a true Principle; That where forraine materials are but Superfluities, forraine Manufactures should bee prohibited. For that will either banish the Superfluitie, or gain the Manufacture. 1765 A. DICKSON *Treat. Agric.* (ed. 2) 477 The custom of using sand in the manufacture of brick. 1835 URE *Philos. Manuf.* 1 The most perfect manufacture is that which dispenses entirely with manual labour. 1892 GARDINER *Stud. Hist. Eng.* 8 The tin which they needed for the manufacture of bronze.

c. A particular branch or form of productive industry. Often with prefixed sb., as *linen, woollen, worsted manufacture*.

1683 J. POYNTZ (*title*) The Present Prospect of the famous and fertile Island of Tobago. With a Description of the Situation, Growth, Fertility and Manufacture of the said Island. 1670 SIR S. CROWE in *12th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 15 If that manifacture [*sc.* of hangings] had beene under my charge. 1776 ADAM SMITH *W. N.* IV. ix. (1869) II. 262 By means of trade and manufactures, a greater quantity of subsistence can be annually imported. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* II. 490 The late [Portuguese] minister of state,..found it impracticable to raise a glass manufacture into consequence. 1835 URE *Philos. Manuf.* 33 The capitalist has merely to state..the nature of his manufacture,..when he will be furnished with..estimates. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVII. 555/2 The connection between employers and employed, buyers and sellers, in the woollen and worsted manufactures.

d. *fig.* Attributed to a quasi-personified natural agent.

1880 HAUGHTON *Phys. Geog.* v. 204 The conditions to be fulfilled by a continent, for the successful manufacture of rivers, are [etc.].

e. Phrase. *Of* (*home, foreign, English*, etc.) *manufacture*: manufactured at home, abroad, etc.

1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag., Penalties & Forfeit.* 1 Goods of the growth, production, and manufacture of Asia. 1844 *Mem. Babylonian P'cess* II. 168 Beschir sat on a handsome chair..of English manufacture. 1846 MCCULLOCH *Acc. Brit. Empire* (1854) II. 35 A single article, either of domestic or foreign growth or manufacture. 1894 *Idler* Sept. 130 A small brass cannon of very antique pattern and manufacture.

f. Applied to the mechanical production or external 'getting up' of books.

1887 GLADSTONE in *Daily News* 10 Jan. 6/1 The most interesting of all manufactures, in my judgment, is the manufacture, apart from the production, of books. 1897 *Daily News* 30 June 6/3 A credit..to the fine art of what the publishers call the manufacture of books.

g. In depreciatory sense, applied to production involving mere mechanical labour, as contrasted with that which requires intellect. Also *fig.* applied, e.g., to literary work of a 'soulless' or mechanical kind, or to the deliberate fabrication of false statements on a large scale for the market.

1829 CARLYLE *Misc., Germ. Playwr.* (1840) II. 92 Herein lies the difference between creation and manufacture. 1869 RUSKIN *Q. of Air* § 104 While manufacture is the work of hands only, art is the work of the whole spirit of man. 1872 — *Eagle's N.* § 88 Ignorance discontented, and dexterous, ..imitating what it cannot enjoy, produces the most loathsome forms of manufacture.

2. *concr.* †**a.** A product of hand-labour; a person's handiwork. Also *fig. Obs.*

1567 N. SANDER *Treat. Images* viii. 72 Yet the image is rather a manufacture, to wit, a thing wrought vpon a creature by the artificers hand, then a seueral creature of it self. 1656 EARL MONM. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* 78 Liberty may be rather said to be a Divine Manifacture, then any humane work. 1726 POPE *Odyss.* XX. 254 Thy manufacture, man.

attrib. 1700 DRYDEN *Fables, Baucis & Philemon* 14 Heav'ns Pow'r is Infinite: Earth, Air, and Sea, The Manufacture Mass, the making Pow'r obey.

b. An article or material produced by the application of physical labour or mechanical power. † Formerly also *collect. sing.*

1611 DONNE *Panegy. Verses* in *Coryat's Crudities*, If they stoope lower yet and vent our wares Home-manufactures, to thicke popular faires. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* II. xxiv. 127 By selling the Manifactures, whereof the Materials [etc.]. *a* 1715 BURNET *Own Time* (1724) I. 229 The inhabitants..brought with them a great deal of manufacture, which was lying on the hands of the clothiers and others. 1725 DE FOE *Voy. round World* (1840) 276 Colchester baize, a coarse rug-like manufacture. 1809 KENDALL *Trav.* II. xlvi. 137 The manufacture, of the process of which the following is the outline, is sea-salt. 1890 *Spectator* 26 Apr., The commercial proposals were at once rejected as giving them dear manufactures.

c. In depreciatory sense: Something produced by mere mechanical industry, or made to supply the demand of the market.

1871 PALGRAVE *Lyr. Poems* 135 The tale and the legend were gay Manufactures well wrought for the day.

†**3.** Working with the hands; a manual occupation, handicraft. *Obs.*

1625 BURGES *Pers. Tithes* 7 Such as liue vpon Trade, or other Bargaining, or Manu-facture. 1638 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (ed. 2) 45 The other prophaner sort, the men of warre and manifactures, haue [etc.]. 1647 WARD *Simp. Cobler* (1843) 57 Doth it become you..to..take up the Manufacture of cutting your Subjects throats? 1660 *Boston Rec.* (1877) II. 156 No person shall..occupy any manufacture or science, till hee hath compleated 21 years of age. 1699 LISTER *Journ. Paris* 63 A private Anatomy Room is to one not accustomed to this kind of Manufacture, very irksome.

†**4.** A manufacturing establishment or business; a factory. *Obs.*

1653 H. COGAN tr. *Pinto's Trav.* xi. 35 Having seen..the Custom-house, the River, the Army, the Manufactures, stores of Powder, and other particulars..she was lodged in a fair house. 1704 DE FOE in *15th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. IV. 88 All my prospects were built on a manufacture I had erected in Essex. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Manufacture*,..Also a Workhouse, or Place where such Works are carry'd on. 1783 JUSTAMOND tr. *Raynal's Hist. Indies* I. 370 The malversations that prevail in the manufactures, magazines, docks and arsenals at Batavia.

Manufacture (mæniufæ·ktiŭ), *v.* [f. prec. Cf. F. *manufacturer*, It. *manifatturare*, med.L. *manufactūrare*.]

1. *trans.* To work up (material) into forms suitable for use.

1683 TRYON *Way to Health* 81 Milk likewise altered and Manufactur'd (if I may call it so) by the good House-Wives Art and Industry, yields many other sorts of good Food. 1683 *Brit. Spec.* 13 Very fine Wooll..but being manufactured into Cloth and Stuffs, is dispersed all over the World. 1727 SWIFT *Pet. Colliers* Wks. 1755 III. i. 131 Totally prohibit the confining and manufacturing the sun-beams for any of the useful purposes of life. 1842 J. AITON *Domest. Econ.* (1857) 217 The method of manufacturing milk just described—that is, of churning the whole into butter.

b. *transf.* To elaborate or work up (literary material).

1761 GIBBON *Jrnl.* 4 Aug. *Misc. Wks.* (1796) I. 107 It may afford such a fund of materials as I desire, which have not yet been properly manufactured.

2. To make or fabricate from material; to produce by labour (now esp. on a large scale).

1755 in JOHNSON. 1778 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 2) II. 1015/1 Of the bark..of a tree which they call *poerou* they manufacture excellent matting. 1878 JEVONS *Prim. Pol. Econ.* 25 We cannot manufacture any goods unless we have some matter to work upon.

b. *transf.* Said of natural agencies.

1876 BRISTOWE *Th. & Pract. Med.* (1878) 876 The liver, besides manufacturing bile, is an organ for [etc.]. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 464 Poisons manufactured within the system can act in a similar manner.

3. *fig.* In disparaging sense: To 'fabricate', invent fictitiously; also, to produce (literary work, etc.) by mere mechanical industry.

1762 GIBBON *Misc. Wks.* (1814) IV. 110 The speech is evidently manufactured by the historian. 1771 *Junius Lett.* I. 259 He seems to manufacture his verses for the sole use of the hero. 1777 HAMILTON *Wks.* (1886) VII. 512 Prisoners..know very well how to manufacture stories calculated to serve the purposes of the side they belong to. 1876 TREVELYAN *Macaulay* I. iii. 134 He was fond of setting himself to manufacture conceits resembling those on the heroes of the Trojan War. 1880 *Manch. Guard.* 15 Dec., The numerous outrages which have been reported, many of which he declared were 'manufactured'. 1902 B. L. GILDERSLEEVE in *Amer. Jrnl. Philol.* XXIII. 449 The ancients manufactured a hostility between Homer and Hesiod, Pindar and Bakchylides, Aischylos and Sophocles.

4. *intr.* To permit of being manufactured.

1763 *Museum Rusticum* I. 12 The flax thus managed dresses and manufactures much better.

Manufactured (mæniufæ·ktiŭrd), *ppl. a.* [f. MANUFACTURE *v.* + -ED 1.]

1. Fabricated from raw material.

1680 W. LOVE in *Deb. Parlt.* (1681) 68 And it cannot be expected, that the Indians should grow weary, of exchanging their Manufactured Goods for our Gold and Silver. 1776 ADAM SMITH *W. N.* IV. ix. (1869) II. 263 A trading and manufacturing country naturally purchases with a small part of its manufactured produce, a great part of the rude produce of other countries. 1885 *Athenæum* 17 Oct. 500/2 [The] age ..brings manufactured articles to every man's door.

2. Fraudulently invented or brought into existence.

1866 *Totnes Elect. Comm., Min. Evid.* (1867) 77 They were manufactured votes. 1903 *Daily Chron.* 24 Feb. 5/5 A more manufactured and baseless claim was never set up.

Manufacturer (mæniufæ·ktiŭrəɹ). [f. MANUFACTURE *v.* + -ER 1. Cf. F. *manufacturier*.]

†**1.** An artificer, an operative in a manufactory.

1719 W. WOOD *Surv. Trade* 312 Those who differ from the Established Church are generally of the lowest Rank, Mechanicks, Artificers and Manufacturers. 1776 ADAM SMITH *W. N.* I. x. I. (1869) I. 107 The wages of mechanics, artificers, and manufacturers should be somewhat higher than those of common labourers. 1812 *Gen. Hist.* in *Ann. Reg.* 38 The distresses which had driven the poor manufacturers [of Nottingham] to acts of outrage. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* iii. (1858) I. 433 A shilling a day was the pay to which the English manufacturer then [in 1680] thought himself entitled.

2. One who employs workmen for manufacturing: the owner of a manufactory.

1752 HUME *Ess. & Treat.* (1777) II. 95 A manufacturer reckons upon the labour of his servants. 1832 BABBAGE *Econ. Manuf.* xiii. (ed. 3) 121 The magnitude of the order made it worth his while to turn manufacturer. 1901 *Daily News* 22 Mar. 3/2 It is the duty of a manufacturer to charge the highest price he can get.

b. With qualifying word, as *cloth, flannel manufacturer*.

1842 BISCHOFF *Woollen Manuf.* II. 120 John Nussey, cloth manufacturer, Birstal, Yorkshire..Jacob Tweedale, flannel manufacturer, Rochdale.

3. *transf.* and *fig.*

1802 J. RITSON *Anc. Eng. Metr. Rom.* I. p. cix, In what manner this ingenious editour conducted himself in this patch'd up publication wil be evident from the following parallel, which may be useful to future manufacturers in this line. 1847 EMERSON *Repr. Men, Napoleon* Wks. (Bohn) I. 378 The men of letters he slighted; 'they were manufacturers of phrases'.

Hence **Manufa·cturess,** a female manufacturer, or the wife of a manufacturer. Also *fig.*

1822 *Blackw. Mag.* XII. 657 'Buildresses of the lofty rhyme', or manufacturesses of fancy goods in verse. 1881 M. A. LEWIS *Two Pretty G.* III. 14 A good-humoured homely body, as far as possible removed from the typical rich manufacturess.

Manufacturing (mæniufæ·ktiŭriŋ), *vbl. sb.* [-ING 1.] The action of the vb. MANUFACTURE.

1690 CHILD *Disc. Trade* 178 Where there is little Manufacturing,..the profit of Plantations, viz. the greatest part thereof will not redound to the Mother-Kingdom. 1757 FOOTE *Author* I. Wks. 1799 I. 134, I have a larger cargo of my own manufacturing. 1865 *Morn. Star* 3 May, The roasting of ore and the manufacturing of arsenic. 1893 *Athenæum* 23 Sept. 412/2 The mere manufacturing of poetry.

attrib. 1834 PEEL in *Croker Papers* (1884) 24 Mar., Those gave the most reluctant votes whose Constituencies were most of a manufacturing character. 1896 *Daily News* 13 Jan. 7/5 Gas and manufacturing fuel and all kinds of coke are selling freely.

Manufacturing (mæniufæ·ktiŭriŋ), *ppl. a.* [-ING 2.] Engaged or concerned in manufacture.

1774 J. TUCKER *Four Tracts* Contents 1, A rich manufacturing Country. 1776 [see MANUFACTURED 1]. 1825 MCCULLOCH *Pol. Econ.* II. i. 72 Labour, is said to be agricultural, manufacturing, or commercial. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* IV. 127 Throughout the country, but especially in the capital, in the seaports and in the manufacturing towns.

‖**Manuka** (mănū·kă; *Maori* mā·nuka). [Maori.] A name for several Australasian trees and shrubs of the genus *Leptospermum* (N.O. *Myrtaceæ*), which yield a very hard, dark, close-grained and heavy wood, and an aromatic leaf sometimes employed as a substitute for tea: **a.** Red manuka of New Zealand, *Leptospermum scoparium*. **b.** White manuka of Tasmania (Tea tree), *L. lanigerum*. Also *attrib.*

1840 J. S. POLACK *Mann. N. Zealanders* II. 258 This wood, called by the southern tribes Mánuka, is remarkably hard and durable. 1851 MRS. WILSON *New Zealand* 46 Manuka, a very hard dark closegrained and heavy wood.

attrib. 1875 WOOD & LAPHAM *Waiting for Mail* 38 A bit of deal board, fastened on a Manuka pole.

Manul (mā·nul). [Said by Pallas to be a Kirghiz word.] A cat, *Felis manul*, native of the steppes of Siberia and Tartary.

1871 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* II. 59 The Manul seems to replace the common Wild Cat in Northern Asia.

Manument, variant of MANYMENT *Sc. Obs.*

†**Manumisable,** *a. Obs. rare*−1. [f. MANUMISE *v.* + -ABLE.] Capable of being released from a burden or obligation.

1773 *Gentl. Mag.* XLIII. 76 Copyholds..may be annihilated by making them manumisable, upon paying a certain number of years rents.

† **Manumise, manumiss,** *v. Obs.* Forms: 6–7 manumiss(e, manumyse, mannumise, 6–9 manumise, 7–9 manumize. [f. L. *manūmiss-*, ppl. stem of *manūmittĕre* to MANUMIT. The form *manumise* arises from assimilation to *commise, premise, promise.*] = MANUMIT *v.*

1523 FITZHERB. *Surv.* 26 b, It were a charytable dede..to manumise them that be bonde. 1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 147 Mans Freewill.. beyng manumysed.. by Gods grace. 1628 COKE *On Litt.* I. 137 b, If a villeine be manumised. 1637 GILLESPIE *Eng. Pop. Ceremn.* Ep. B b, They manumisse and set free the Simony,..of some of their owne side. 1708 COLLIER *Eccl. Hist.* I. II. 113/2 If a Slave is forc'd to work upon the Sunday by his Master's Order, let him be manumiz'd. 1769 *Boston News-Let.* 7 Sept. 2/2 A mulatto named Dick, formerly a slave to Mr. d'Harriette, but afterwards manumised,..has disappeared. 1812 SOUTHEY *Omniana* I. 321 Neither is it uncommon for the men slaves to purchase and manumize their wives. 1819 G. S. FABER *Dispensations* (1823) II. 111 The dead are no longer the object of God's..moral government, being manumised or set free from it as a slave was manumised or set free from the service of his master.

Hence †**Manumised** *ppl.a.*, †**Manumising** *vbl.sb.*

1541 PAYNEL *Catiline* XXXII. 51 b, P. Umbrenus, a man manumised. 1579–80 NORTH *Plutarch, Publicola* (1595) 111 The perfect manumissing and freeing of bondmen, is called *Vindicta.* 1624 [T. SCOTT] *Lawfulm. Netherl. Warre* 25 Exhort you them to proceed as they are best able..for the preservation and manumising of their owne lives and liberty. 1627 HAKEWILL *Apol.* (1630) 420 The daughter of a manumissed slave. 1796 STEDMAN *Surinam* I. i. 17 Two black soldiers, manumized slaves.

† **Manumiss,** *sb. Obs.* [ad. L. *manūmiss-us*, pa. pple. of *manūmittĕre* to MANUMIT.] A freed slave.

1658 BROMHALL *Treat. Specters* I. 12 Trallianus a Manumisse of the Emperour Adrian.

Manumission (mænĭumĭ·ʃən). *Obs.* exc. *Hist.* [a. F. *manumission*, ad. L. *manūmissiōn-em*, noun of action f. L. *manūmittĕre*: see MANUMIT *v.*]

1. The action of manumitting, or the fact of being manumitted; formal release from slavery or servitude; an act or instance of this.

Charter, deed, letter, writ of manumission: a written grant of personal freedom by a feudal superior; also *fig.*

1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) I. 89 The peple of Parthia.. amonge whom seruauntes be habundante, for thei haue not their manumission. 1523 FITZHERB. *Surv.* 26 Many noble men..haue made to dyuers of the sayd bonde men manumissions. 1591 LAMBARDE *Archeion* (1635) 108 That Great Charter of the Liberties of England, (which I may call the first Letters of Manumission of the people of this Realme [etc.]). 1610 WILLET *Hexapla Dan.* 178 The manumission and deliuerance of the Iewes. 1625 MASSINGER *New Way* Epil., Nor we, Nor he that wrote the Comedie, can be free Without your Manumission. 1628 COKE *On Litt.* § 204. 137 Manumission is properly when the Lord makes a deed to his villeine to enfranchise him by this word (*Manumittere*) which is the same as to put him out of the hands and power of another. 1658 CLEVELAND *Rustic Rampant* Wks. (1687) 480 Lister sends on Embassy..the Lord Morley.. to obtain Charters of Manumission, and Pardon. 1737 J. CHAMBERLAYNE *St. Gt. Brit.* I. III. v. 182 Servants in the Saxon Times were properly Slaves, and very many Instances of their Manumissions are still extant. 1766 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* II. vi. 94 Villeins might be enfranchised by manumission, which is either express or implied: express, as where a man granted to the villein a deed of manumission. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* I. 231 Societies for the manumission of slaves. 1827 POLLOK *Course T.* VII, The writ of manumission, signed By God's own signature. 1862 TROLLOPE *Orley F.* x. (ed. 4) 69 He had been no Old Bailey lawyer, devoting himself to the manumission of murderers.

attrib. 1894 H. GARDENER *Unoff. Patriot* 97 When the manumission papers came, Katherine sent LeRoy..to tell the negroes to come to the 'big house'.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1549 COVERDALE, etc. *Erasm. Par.* 1 *Tim.* 16 They are set at lybertye by manumission from the lordeshyp of synne. *c* 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* (1655) IV. xix. 45 Languages by a regardless adoption of som new words, and manumission of old do often vary. 1779–81 JOHNSON *L. P., Addison* Wks. III. 82 It is not unlikely that Addison was first seduced to excess by the manumission he obtained from the servile timidity of his sober hours.

¶ c. Misused for 'initiation.'

1596 NASHE *Saffron-walden* K 4 b Vpon his first manumission in the mysterie of Logique, because he obseru'd Ergo was the..driu'n home stab of the Syllogisme, hee [etc.].

† 2. Graduation, laureation. *Sc. Obs.*

1604 in CRAUFURD *Hist. Univ. Edin.* 62 The Primar calling the candidates before him,..performeth the ceremony, by imposition of an bonnet (the badge of manumission) upon the head of every one of the candidats.

Manumi·ssive, *a. Civil Law.* [f. L. *manūmiss-*, ppl. stem of *manūmittĕre* to MANUMIT + -IVE. Concerned with manumitting.

1871 POSTE *Gaius* I. 82 Acquisition of manumissive capacity.

† **Manumit,** *sb. Obs.* [f. MANUMIT *v.* (? as if pa. pple.).] A freed bondman.

1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 276 Effected by the labor of twenty thousand manumitts.

Manumit (mænĭumi·t), *v.* [ad. L. *manūmittĕre*, ante-class. *manū ēmittĕre*, lit. to send forth from one's 'hand', i. e. from one's control. Cf. OF. *manumetre, manumiter*, Sp. *manumitir*, It. *mano-, manimettere.*]

1. *trans.* To release from slavery; to release from bondage or servitude; to set free.

1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 283 But this Kenulphus.. manumitte this kynge at the hie awter. ? 1538 LELAND *Itin.* II. 55 One of the Erles of Cornewalle hering them secretly to lament their state, manumittid them for Mony. 1590 SWINBURNE *Testaments* 196 If the testator do make his owne villeine executor, he doth manumit..his villeine from bondage. 1649 JER. TAYLOR *Gt. Exemp.* II. Disc. ix. 108 Christian masters were not bound to manumit their slaves. *a* 1671 LD. FAIRFAX *Mem.* in Arb. *Garner* VIII. 574, I thought fit to manumit the Lord Capel, the Lord Norwich, &c. over to the Parliament. 1757 BURKE *Abridgm. Eng. Hist.* II. ii. Wks. X. 267 The clergy..manumitted their new vassals. 1840 POE *Gold Bug* Wks. 1864 I. 93 An old negro, called Jupiter, who had been manumitted, before the reverses of the family.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1594 NASHE *Unfort. Trav.* 1 2 b, My hand and my knife shall manumit mee out of the horrour of minde I endure. 1598 MARSTON *Pygmal.* etc. *Reactio* 66 Come, manumit thy plumie pinion, And scower the sword of Elnish champion. 1644 R. STAPYLTON *Juvenal* vi. 523 The Matron of the wheele in councell sits, Whose needle now her Lady manumits. 1653 GAUDEN *Hierasp.* 27 Striplings..which have but lately been manumitted from the rod and ferula. 1877 SPARROW *Serm.* iv. 43 A bondage to Satan, from which none can manumit us but the Son.

absol. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* IV. 667 Happy Day! that breaks our Chain; That manumits; that calls from Exile home. 1880 MUIRHEAD *Gaius* I. § 36 It is not every man who pleases that can manumit.

† 2. To graduate or confer a degree upon. *Sc. Obs.*

1607 in CRAUFURD *Hist. Univ. Edin.* 65 The 20th class.. were manumitted with the magisteriall dignity, some 27 in number. 1635 *ibid.* 126 The 47th class..were solemnly manumitted in the lower hall of the Colledge.

Hence **Manumi·tted, Manumi·tting** *ppl. adjs.* Also **Manumi·tter,** one who manumits.

1616 HOLYDAY *Persius* v. 214 Knowst thou no other Master, but he whom The Manumitting rod did free thee from? 1685 COTTON tr. *Montaigne* (1711) I. xxiii. 159 A mean manumitted slave. 1693 W. BOWLES in *Dryden's Juvenal* v. (1697) 108 At last thou wilt.. receive the manumitting Blow On thy shav'd slavish Head. 1863 WHYTE MELVILLE *Gladiators* I. 55 These manumitted slaves were usually bound by the ties of interest. 1865 MOZLEY *Mirac.* vii. 145 The Church was the great manumitter and improver of the condition of the serf. 1875 POSTE *Gaius* I. (ed. 2) § 39 The motives valid when the manumitting owner is under twenty, are admissible when the manumitted slave is under thirty.

Manumotive (mænĭumōu·tiv), *a.* [f. L. *manū*, abl. of *manus* hand + MOTIVE *a.*] Of a vehicle: Propelled by mechanism worked by hand.

1831 *Mechanics' Mag.* XIV. 389 Some communications in the Magazine on manumotive carriages. 1889 *Spectator* 12 Oct., Steam-carriages,..and manumotive cars.

Manumotor (mænĭumōu·tɔr). [f. L. *manū*, abl. of *manus* hand + MOTOR.] A carriage propelled by mechanism worked by hand.

1844 [see PEDOMOTOR]. In recent Dicts.

Manuple, obs. f. MANIPLE.

† **Manuporter.** *Obs. rare*—°. [f. L. *manū* by hand + *portāre* to carry + -ER 1: cf. PORTER *sb.*] One who carries by strength of hand.

1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. 71/2 The Manuporter is him that bears or carries any thing by strength of hands; and such are Packing Porters.

† **Manuprisor.** *Obs.* [Altered form of MAINPRISER, after L. *manū*, abl. of *manus* hand.] = MAINPERNOR.

1695 KENNETT *Par. Antiq.* ix. 419 The said Sir Eubulo.. was Manuprisor or Security for Hugh Spencer. 1710 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* II, *Manu-prisor*, one who was Bail-pledge or Security for another Person.

Manurable (mănĭuə·răb'l), *a.* Also 7 **maynorable, maniorable** (corruptly for *mainorable*), **manureable.** [f. MANURE *v.* + -ABLE.]

† 1. *Law.* Admitting of being held in corporeal possession. *Obs.*

1628 COKE *On Litt.* 47 If a man demiseth the vesture or herbage of his land, he may reserue a rent, for that the thing is maynorable. *Ibid.* 142 A Rent seruice cannot be reserued out of any inheritance but such as is manurable, whereinto the Lord may enter and take a distresse, as in Lands and Tenements, Reuersions, Remainders, and as some haue said, out of the herbage of lands. 1767 COMYNS *Digest* s.v. *Pleader* C 35 If he alledges Seisin of Things manurable, as of Lands, Tenements,..&c. he shall say [etc.]. If of Things not manurable, as of an Advowson &c. he shall say [etc.].

† 2. Of land: That can be worked or cultivated.

1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 544 The residue, except the sand, is made manurable, either for feeding of Cattell or Camels. *a* 1676 HALE *De Jure Maris* I. vi. in *Hargrave's Tracts* (1787) I. 26 For the most part the lands covered with these fluxes are dry and maniorable. 1756 P. BROWNE *Jamaica* 13 They laid a tax of five shillings per acre on all manurable lands that should not be forthwith opened and cultivated.

3. That can be manured or fertilized.

1828–32 in WEBSTER; and in later Dicts.

† **Manu·rage.** *Obs. rare.* [f. MANURE *v.* + -AGE. Cf. OF. *manouvrage.*] Occupation or cultivation of land.

1586 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* III. xiv. (1589) 56 Now, of the Conquerour this Isle had Brutaine vnto name, And with his Troianes Brute began manurage of the same. 1796 *Modern Gulliver* 107 No one.. should be allowed to work on the farm, while under my course of manurage.

Manurance (mănĭuə·răns). Also 5 **menurance, mannerance,** 6 **manuraunce.** [f. MANURE *v.* + -ANCE.]

1. Tenure, occupation (of land or other property); control, management. Now only in *Law.*

1468 *Paston Lett.* II. 331 Dischargyng hym utterly of the menurance, occupacion, and receyt of the revenuez. 1468 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 231/2 Accions for th' occupacion and mannerance of any of the seid premisses. 1538 FITZHERB. *Just. Peas* 116 b, Meses landes or tenementes in theyr owne manuraunce and occupacion. 1604 *Suppl. Masse Priests* i. B 3, How can they delight in peace and order and good manurance of the countrey? 1726 AYLIFFE *Parergon* 508 So long as the land continued in the Manurance of the Religious Persons themselves.

2. † Cultivation (of land), tillage (*obs.*); manuring.

1572 J. JONES *Bathes Buckstone* Ded. 2 Men liuing on the fruits of the Earth, without any manurance, as beasts. *c* 1630 RISDON *Surv. Devon* § 1 (1810) 15 It is subject to thorns and briers, (if manurance did not prevent it). 1760 BURN *Eccles. Law* (1797) III. 210 [To] buy and sell corn and cattle for the only manurance, tillage, and pasturage of such farms. 1805 R. W. DICKSON *Pract. Agric.* App. v. 1240 The Prædial Tithes are such as arise from the land spontaneously or by manurance. 1854 THOREAU *Walden* vii. (1863) 177 See if they will not grow in this soil even with less toil and manurance.

† b. *fig.* Cultivation or training (of the character or faculties). *Obs.*

1594 CAREW *Huarte's Exam. Wits* xiv. 242 The Turks ..caused the Vniuersitie of Athens to passe vnto Paris... And (thus through want of manurance) so many gallant wits ..are vtterly perished. 1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* II. xix. § 2 The culture and manurance of minds in youth hath such a forcible..operacion, as [etc.]. 1615 J. DYKE *Myst. Self-deceit* 46 We should be loath to trust a Beare or Wolfe.. though by culture and manurance in their youth, their inborne fiercenesse be somewhat mitigated.

Manure (mănĭuə·ɪ), *sb.* Also 6 **menar, maner, -oure, maynor, -ure,** 6–7 **meano(u)r,** 7 **manier, manner.** [f. MANURE *v.*

Stressed *ma·nure* as late as 1784, though *manu·re* occurs in Dryden. Some mod. dialects have (mæ·nɔɪ).]

1. Dung or compost spread over or mixed with soil to fertilize it.

1549 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) II. 410 The seyde College dothe..laye ther mucke and meanor..apon the foreseyde common grene. 1579 *Nottingham Rec.* IV. 190 Wee present Jhon Broune (*sic*.) for layinge menar in they strett. 1598 BP. HALL *Sat.* V. i. 59 Tho many a lode of Marle and Manure led, Reuiu'd his barren leas, that earst lay dead. 1651 *Manch. Court Leet Rec.* (1887) IV. 53 Thomas Millington hath made a trespas vpon Mrs Hallywell by laieinge manier..vnto her freeehold in St. Mariegate. 1664 EVELYN *Sylva* (1679) 10 To barren ground with toyle large meanour add. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* II. 475 In depth of Earth secure Thy cover'd Plants, and dung with hot Manure. 1760 BROWN *Compl. Farmer* II. 3 The best manure for meadows is the bottom of hay-mows and hay-stacks. 1784 COWPER *Task* III. 517 The warm and genial earth that hides The smoking manure, and o'erspreads it all. 1858 GLENNY *Gard. Every-day Bk.* 56/2 The runners are to be planted out in beds of rich manure.

† 2. The action of 'manuring'; cultivation. *Obs.*

1677 PLOT *Oxfordsh.* 154 As to the manure of it, some sow but two bushels on the Statute Acre. 1696 WHISTON *Th. Earth* IV. (1722) 352 The Toil, Tillage and Manure of the Husbandman..must have been in the Primitive state very facile.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

1766 *Museum Rusticum* VI. 32 The five-coultered, or.. manure-plough. 1832 *Scoreby Farm Rep.* 27 in *Libr. Usef. Knowl. Husb.* III, The manure-hill should be made in a compact form, and banked up square. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 648 The profits of the manure-dealer must be much greater than those of the farmer. 1865 *Florist's Jrnl.* 10 Water them freely with manure water, made with decayed sheep's dung. 1887 *Spectator* 8 Oct. 1342 The manure-heap [was] removed to a reasonable distance.

Manure (mănĭuə·ɪ), *v.* Also 5 **maynoyre, manour, maynour(e, menure, mannor,** 6 **man-(n)er, manar, -or,** 7 **mannure.** [a. AF. *maynoverer* to work with the hands = OF. *manouvrer*: see MANŒUVRE *v.*]

† 1. *trans.* To hold, occupy (land, property); to have the tenure of; to administer, manage. *Obs.*

a 1400–50 *Alexander* 837* (Dubl. MS.) All þe marche of massydon he manours clene. 1430–31 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 385/2 The saide tenauntz and lond holders dar not inhabite, maynour nor occupye the saide Toun. 1457 *Peebles Charters*, etc. (1872) 119 The gud wif sal mannor thir thyngys qwil scho lefis. *a* 1577 SIR T. SMITH *Commw. Eng.* I. XXIV. (1589) 43 To speake of the Common wealth..of England, it is gouerned, administered and manured by three sortes of persons. 1581 PETTIE *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* III. (1586) 148 b, They cannot manner their children well, vnlesse they haue a rod in their hand. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. IV. 208 To the Britanis delyuering it [the kingdome] to manure and inhabite [L. *Britannisque incolendum tradidit*]. 1628 COKE *On Litt.* 17 That which is manually occupied, manured and possessed. 1645 MILTON *Tetrach.* Wks. 1851 IV. 231 (Matt. xix. 8) Christ only told us that from the beginning it was not so; that is to say not so as the Pharises manur'd the busines.

† b. To inhabit (a place). Also *absol. Obs.*

c 1595 CAPT. WYATT *R. Dudley's Voy. W. Ind.* (Hakl. Soc.) 16 Not marveilinge that he founde noe inhabitante manuringe in that uninhabitable desarte. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 67 Beyond it is Parell .. to which appertains Siam, manured by Columbeens, Husbandmen.

† 2. To till, cultivate (land). *Obs.*

? *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 2507 A mede..Mawene and un-made, maynoyrede bott lyttylle. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* IV. v. 72 Sone woman..quham to we For to manure gave the strand of the sea [L. *cui litus arandum..dedimus*]. 1592 *Wills & Inv. N.C.* (Surtees) II. 214 To my mother..ij ackers of medow ..and all her land to be mannered. 1601 R. JOHNSON *Kingd. & Commw.* (1603) 231 Hee manureth his owne fields with his owne slaves and cattle. 1671 tr. *Frejus' Voy. Mauritania* 28 We saw all the Countrey manured and green. 1700 ASTRY tr. *Saavedra-Faxardo* II. 148 A barren Sand, not capable of being manur'd by either Spade or Plow. 1741 CTESS POMFRET *Corr.* (1805) III. 250 A beautiful vale, inhabited, manured, and planted. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) III.

161 He is at the tronble neither of manuring his grounds, nor bringing in his harvests.

† b. To cultivate, train, rear (a plant). *Obs.*

1632 Sir T. Hawkins tr. *Mathieu's Unhappy Prosperitie* 259 Omitting nothing in the sollicitous care of exact education, by manuring her as a plant. 1639 Fuller *Holy War* II. xi. (1840) 64 Who like a nut tree must be manured by beating. 1753 Chambers *Cycl. Supp.* s.v. *Oost*, The people who manure hops.

† c. *fig.* with retention of the literal phraseology.

1561 T. Norton *Calvin's Inst.* IV. xiv. (1634) 633 The worde of God..if it light upon a soul manured with the hand of the heavenly spirit, it will bee most fruitfull. 1645 Z. Boyd *Holy Songs* in *Zion's Flowers* (1855) App. 13/1 Manure your heart with diligence, and in it sow good seed.

† d. To cultivate, train (the body or mind, etc.).

c 1540 tr. *Pol. Verg. Eng. Hist.* (Camden No. 36) 10 Those Scotts which inhabit the southe, beinge farre the beste parte, are well manured. 1607 J. Carpenter *Plaine Mans Plough* 9 O Father..manure our worke without, and prepare our mindes within. 1641 Milton *Animadv.* xiii. Wks. 1851 III. 229 It is..his own painfull study..that manures and improves his ministeriall gifts. *a* 1781 R. Challoner *Medit.* (1843) I. 24 To manure you .. with his word, his graces, and his sacraments.

† e. To practise, devote oneself to. *Obs.*

1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 10 They manure Justice [L. *institiam colunt*].

3. To enrich (land) with manure; to apply manure to; to supply with fertilizing material.

1599 Nashe *Lent. Stuff* 63 Retailing theyr dung to manure landes. 1601 ? Marston *Pasquil & Kath.* I. 99 Onely to scrape A heape of muck: to fatten and manure The barren vertues of my progenie. *a* 1653 Gouge *Comm. Heb.* xiii. 20 Sheep are in every thing profitable. Tbeir wool and skin for clothing,..their dung for manuring ground. 1680 Doowell *On Sanchoniathon* (1691) 109 The Slime it brought along with it, manured the Land for Corn. 1703 Moxon *Mech. Exerc.* 242 Lime also is useful .. to Manure Land with. 1713 Addison *Cato* II. i, The Corps of half her Senate Manure the Fields of Thessaly. *a* 1862 Buckle *Misc. Wks.* (1872) I. 571 The land was inclosed, drained, and manured.

absol. (*fig.*) 1851 Thackeray *Eng. Hum.* Wks. (Biogr. Ed.) II. 483 He had not worked crop after crop from his brain, manuring hastily, sub-soiling indifferently.

b. To spread or spill like manure. *nonce-use.*

1592 Kyd *Sol. & Pers.* I. v. 36 So many valiant Bassowes slaine, Whose blond hath bin manured to their earth.

† 4. a. To work upon with the hand; to work up = Manœuvre *v.* *Obs.*

1431 in Madox *Formul. Anglic.* (1702) 331 John has selled ..alle the Underwodde .. to hewe, kutte downe, occupie, brynne, and maynoure, and lede away..unto the ende of foure yere. 1575 Laneham *Let.* 50 Horn..being neyther so churlish in weyght az iz mettall: nor so froward and brytl too manure, az stone.

† b. To manœuvre (a ship). *Obs.*

1569 Sir J. Hawkins *Voy. Guynea* ad fin., We were scantlye able to manure oure ship.

Manure, obs. form of Manor.

Manured (mănĭūə·rd), *ppl. a.* [f. Manure *v.* + -ed [1].] † a. Cultivated, tilled; (of plants) cultivated as opposed to 'wild' (*obs.*). b. Dressed with manure or other fertilizer.

1551 Turner *Herbal* I. K i, It groweth in ranke and manored groundes. 1562 *Ibid.* II. 80 The gardin or sowen or manered carot. 1596 Nashe *Saffron Walden* 102 A dampe (like the smoake of a Cannon) from the fat manured earth..(being the buriall place of fine parishes). 1677 Plot *Oxfordsh.* 155 Manured bastard Saffron. 1746–7 Hervey *Medit.* (1818) 146 If God 'seal up the bottles of heaven'..the best manured plot becomes a barren desart. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) II. 384/1 *Arundo*. . . I. The phragmitis, or common marsh reed. ..2. The debax, or manured reed. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 763 It [the tetanus bacillus]..is especially associated with the stable and with manured fields.

† **Manureless,** *a. Obs. rare*[−1]. [-less.] Without 'manure' or cultivation.

1595 T. Williams in Chapman *Ovid's Banq. Sense* To Author, Vngratefull Farmers of the Muses land, That..Let it manureles and unfenced stand.

† **Manurement.** *Obs.* [f. Manure *v.* + -ment.] Cultivation (*lit.* and *fig.*).

a 1639 Wotton *Surv. Educ.* in *Relig.* (1651) 319 The manurement of Wits is like that of Soyles. 1707 J. Archdale *Descr. Carolina* 9 Its natural Fertility and easy Manurement, is apt to make the People incline to Sloth.

Manurer (mănĭūə·rəɹ). [f. Manure *v.* + -er [1].] One who manures; † a cultivator, tiller; an occupier of land (*obs.*); a fertilizer of land. *lit.* and *fig.*

1560–1 *1st Bk. Discipl. Ch. Scot.* viii. (1836) 53 The labourers and manurers of the ground. 1569 *Act* 11 *Eliz.* in Bolton *Stat. Irel.* (1621) 301 That the inhabitants, manurers, or occupyers of the same doe beare..such charges [etc.]. 1607 Hieron *Wks.* I. 233 He is .. the continuall dresser and manurer of His church. 1705 Bosman *Guinea* 16 A Land which yields its Manurers as plentiful a Crop as they can wish. 1829 E. Jesse *Jrnl. Nat.* 340 This animal [the earth-worm] destined to be the natural manurer of the soil.

Manurial (mănĭūə·rĭăl), *a.* [irreg. f. Manure *sb.* + -ial.] Pertaining to, or of the nature of manure.

1861 *Chemical News* IV. 184 Sewage..retaining its manurial qualities. 1884 F. J. Lloyd *Sci. Agric.* 151 Sawdust itself possesses no manurial value.

Manuring (mănĭūə·rĭŋ), *vbl. sb.* Forms: see the vb. [f. Manure *v.* + -ing [1].] † a. Occupation, tenure. † b. Cultivation, tillage. c. Fertilization by means of manure; † occas. *concr.* = manure.

1436 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 500/1 Fermours, and other men that usyn mennyng of lond. 1550 J. Coke *Eng. & Fr. Heralds* § 204 (1877) 116 Parte of them may be put to tylth, manuring and habitacion. 1577 B. Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* II. (1586) 80 Couer it either with olde doung, or with the newest of any other kind of mannering. 1667 Milton *P. L.* IV. 629 Von flourie Arbors, yonder Allies green..That mock our scant manuring. 1726 Shelvocke *Voy. round World* 110 Almost every family have all the necessaries of life of their own manuring and feeding. 1872 Yeats *Techn. Hist. Comm.* 216 In every system of manuring, the chemical composition of the manure is that which constitutes its agricultural importance.

attrib. 1849 J. F. Johnston *Exp. Agric.* 97 It may not be the same..with other manuring substances.

Manu·ring, *ppl. a.* [f. Manure *v.* + -ing [2].] That manures, in various senses of the vb.

1635 Swan *Spec. M.* vi. § 2 (1643) 202 When their Nilus overflowed or when it first began to diffuse an ample portion of manuring bountie into the lap of the land. 1641 Milton *Ch. Govt.* I. vi. Wks. 1851 III. 125 The manuring hand of the Tiller. *a* 1647 Habington *Surv. Worcs.* in *Worcs. Hist. Soc. Proc.* II. 218 Chaunging..thys shyre from a wildernes of savage beastes to the freedome of manurynge husbandry.

‖ **Manus** (mē·nŏs). [L. *manus* hand.]

1. *Anat.* The terminal or distal segment of the fore limb of a vertebrate animal. Also, the claw or prehensile organ of a crustacean; *Ent.*, the tarsus of the anterior leg; *Ichth.*, the pectoral fin.

1826 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* xxxv. III. 681 *Tarsus* or *Manus*..The last portion of the leg. 1867 Mivart in *Phil. Trans.* CLVII. 299 *note*, I think it better, in a scientific treatise..[to adopt] for the anterior extremity (the carpus and all beyond it) the term *manus*, and for the homotypal posterior segment the term *pes*. 1878 Bell. *Gegenbaur's Comp. Anat.* 481 In Birds..the reduction of the manus is still more marked. 1886 *Athenæum* 20 Feb. 268/1 The bones of the fore-arm and manus [in the chick] are longer than the corresponding segments of the leg and foot.

2. *Roman Law.* The power or authority of a husband over his wife.

1854 Colquhoun *Rom. Civ. Law* § 2424 III. 664 The husband derived this jurisdiction from the *Manus*. 1871 Poste *Gaius* 77 A filiusfamilias was capable of civil wedlock, but had no manus.

† 3. Manus Christi [L. = 'hand of Christ' (14th c. in Du Cange)], see quot. 1706. *Obs.*

1516 Th. Alen *Let. to Earl Shrewsbury* in *Lett. & Pap. Hen. VIII*, II. 522, I have sent your lordship by this bearer one lb. of manus Christi. 1528 Hennege *Let. to Wolsey* 28 June, *ibid.* IV. 1938 Manws cresty. 1682 R. Burton *Admir. Curios.* (1684) 30 He..administred *Manus Christi*, and the like Cordials. 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Manus Christi*, refined Sugar boil'd with Rose-water, or that of Violets, or Cinamon; a sort of Cordial for very weak Persons.

† **Manuscribe,** *v. Obs.* [f. L. *manū*, abl. of *manus* hand + *scribĕre* to write: see Manuscript and cf. *transcribe*, etc.] *trans.* To write with one's (own) hand.

1649 *Faithf. Portr. Loyal Subj.* 4 Divers, who have seen the Original Copy, Manuscrib'd by the King himself.

Manuscript (mæ·niu₁skript), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. med.L. *manūscriptus*, f. L. *manū*, abl. of *manus* hand + *scriptus*, pa. pple. of *scribĕre* to write. Cf. F. *manuscrit*, It. *manoscritto*, Sp. *manuscrito*, Pg. *manuscripto*.

Med.L. had only the neut. *manūscriptum* used sb. for a document written with a person's own hand (cf. Chirograph). In the sense of 'written' as opposed to 'printed', the adj. has been common in mod.L. from the 15th c., but has usually been written (more correctly) as two words, *manu scriptus*.]

A. *adj.* Written by hand, not printed. Abbreviated MS.

1597 (*title*) Certaine Worthye Manvscript Poems of great Antiquitie..now first published By J. S. 1601 R. Johnson *Kingd. & Commw.* (1603) 185 According to manuscript relations, and report of trauellers. 1625 Bp. Mountagu *App. Cæsar* 185 Origen in his Dialogue against the Marcionites, which I have manuscript. 1774 Warton *Hist. Eng. Poetry* (1778) II. (Addit. to vol. I) d 2, There is a manuscript copy of the poem, on vellum, in Trinity college library at Oxford. 1776 Adam Smith *W. N.* I. xi. iii. (1869) I. 220 Several other very well authenticated, though manuscript, accounts. 1856 Emerson *Eng. Traits, Univ.* Wks. (Bohn) II. 90 The manuscript Plato..brought by Dr. Clarke from Egypt. 1893 *Law Times* XCV. 10/2 Only the manuscript parts of the .. proposal were read over to the assured, not the printed matter.

B. *sb.*

1. A book, document, or the like, written by hand; a writing of any kind, as distinguished from printed matter. Abbreviated MS., *pl.* MSS.

a. *esp.* A book, document, etc., written before the general adoption of printing in a country; a written copy of an ancient author or book.

1600 J. Pory tr. *Leo's Africa* VII. 288 Hither are brought diuers manuscripts or written bookes out of Barbarie. 1607 Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 186 These lesser were found pictured in an old manuscript in Germany, which book did intreat of the Holy Land. 1615 G. Sandys *Trav.* 82 In these Monasteries many excellent manu-scripts have been preserved. 1774 Warton *Hist. Eng. Poetry* (1778) II. 49 This translation ..is now among the royal manuscripts in the British Museum. 1845 Graves *Rom. Law* in *Encycl. Metrop.* II. 765/1 The text of Tilius was taken from a Vatican manuscript..from which all other existing manuscripts of the work are copied. 1861 Wright *Ess. Archæol.* II. xix. 130 The earlier illuminated manuscripts are chiefly copies of the Scriptures.

b. *gen.* A written composition which has not been printed. Often, an author's written 'copy' as distinguished from the print of the same.

1607 Beaum. & Fl. *Woman-hater* IV. ii, *Mer.* I do knowe sufficiently, their shop-bookes cannot saue them; there is a further end—. *Pan.* Oh: Sir, much may be done by manescript [*sic*]. *Mer.* I do confesse it Sir, pronided still they be canonicoll. *a* 1631 Donne *Valediction to his Bk.* 10 Study our manuscripts, those miriads Of letters which haue past 'twixt thee and me. 1651 Baxter *Inf. Bapt.* 91, I took it out of his own Manuscript sent to me. 1692 (*title*) The Works Of..Mr. John Bunyan,..The First Volume, Containing Ten of his Excellent Manuscripts prepared for the Press before his Death, never before Printed. 1791 Boswell *Johnson* 30 Mar. an. 1778, The Life of Sir Robert Sibbald..in the original manuscript in his own hand writing. 1796 H. Hunter tr. *St.-Pierre's Stud. Nat.* (1799) III. 611 After having received my manuscript they delayed putting it to the press under various pretexts. 1884 Froude *Carlyle's Life Lond.* (1890) I. 27 John Mill..borrowed the manuscript [of 'French Revolution'] as it was thrown off, that he might make notes and suggestions.

c. *transf.* and *fig.*

1622 Massinger & Dekker *Virg. Mart.* II. ii, Thou art the Manuscript Where Antoninus writes downe all his secrets. 1634 Quarles (*title*) Mildreiados. To the Blessed Memory of that faire Manuscript of Vertue..Mildred, La. Lvckyn. 1859 FitzGerald tr. *Omar* lxxii, Alas, that Spring should vanish with the Rose! That Youth's sweet-scented Manuscript should close!

d. *attrib.*

1770 Porteus *Life Seeker* 47 (*S.'s Serm.* vol. I.) He expended upwards of £300 in arranging and improving the Manuscript Library at Lambeth. 18.. *Oxf. Univ. Cal.*, Bodleian Library..Special Assistant in the MS. Department.

2. Written characters or written documents in general; 'writing' as opposed to 'print'. *In manuscript*: in written form, written (not printed).

1875 Helps *Soc. Press.* iii. 35 If you look at the side-notes in manuscript of some book possessed by our book-loving ancestors. 1875 Scrivener *Lect. Text N. Test.* 7 All existing copies of Scripture whether in manuscript or printed.

b. (A person's) 'hand' or handwriting.

a 1849 Poe *Purloined Letter* (end) Wks. 1865 I. 280 He is well acquainted with my MS. 1853 Mrs. Gore *Dean's Dau.* III. 182 My friend Mordaunt's clerkly manuscript and lengthy style.

Manuscriptal (mæ·niu₁skriptăl), *a. rare.* [f. prec. sb. + -al.] Of or pertaining to a manuscript or manuscripts; found or occurring in a manuscript.

1694 Westmacott *Script. Herb.* 165 Ptolomy Philadelphus ..hearing how Attalus King of Pergamus, by the benefit of this Ægyptian Paper, strived to excel him in Manuscriptal Magnificence, prohibited the carrying of it out of Ægypt. *a* 1763 Byrom *Crit. Rem., Epist. to Friend* 43 Having but one of all the Roman Lyrics To feed their Taste for slavish Panegyrics, The more absurd the Manuscriptal Letter, They paint, from thence, some fancy'd Beauty better. 1801 Strutt *Sports & Past.* I. i. 4 The representation of a Saxon chieftain,..taken from a manuscriptal painting.

Manuscription (mæniu₁skri·pʃən). *rare.* [f. L. *manū*, abl. of *manus* hand + *scriptiōn-em*, n. of action f. *scribĕre* to write.] The action of writing by hand; that which is written by hand, a written inscription. *nonce-uses.*

1800 Lamb *Let. to Manning* in *Final Mem.* (1848) I. iv. 121 Manning's Algebra with a neat manuscription in the blank leaf, running thus 'From the Author'. 1835–8 S. R. Maitland *Dark Ages* (1844) 416 The press does a great deal, and might do a great deal more. It could easily as far outdo its present self, as it now outdoes manuscription.

† **Manuscriptor.** *Obs. rare*[−1]. [f. L. *manū* (see prec.) + *scriptor*, agent-n. f. *scribĕre* to write.] The writer of a manuscript.

1698 *Christ Exalted* § 213. 90 The Rebuker turns quick, and plays at sharp with the Manuscriptor, and accosts him for saying, What [etc.].

Manuscri·ptural, *a. rare.* [f. Manuscript (after *scriptural*).] = Manuscriptal.

1856 R. A. Vaughan *Mystics* (1860) I. vi. vii. 242 Don't you think Atherton has a very manuscriptural air to-night? 1874 Riley *4th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* 451/2 Minutiae of manuscriptural knowledge.

Ma·nusculpt. *nonce-wd.* [f. L. *manū* (see Manuscript) + *sculpt-us*, pa. pple. of *sculpĕre* to carve.] An inscription carved or engraved by hand.

a 1859 De Quincey *Mem. Chronol.* Posth. Wks. 1893 II. 115 Amongst a people so illiterate, how could manuscripts or manu*sculpts* excite the interest which is necessary to their conservation?

† **Manusculpture.** *Obs. rare*[−1]. [f. L. *manū* (see Manuscript) + Sculpture.] Carving or engraving by hand; in quot. *fig.*

1704 Norris *Ideal World* II. vii. 365 These images described, as is supposed by the manusculpture or peinture of light in the fund of the eye.

Manustupra·tion. *rare.* Etymologizing alteration of Masturbation.

1832 Jas. Copland *Dict. Pract. Med.* (1858) III. 441/2, s. v. *Pollution.* 1889 in *Century Dict.*

† **Manutenency.** *Obs.* [ad. med.L. *manūtenentia* (= F. *maintenance*), f. *manūtenent-em*, pr. pple. of *manū tenēre*: see Maintain *v.* Cf. OF. *manutenence.*] The action of holding in the hand or upholding; support, maintenance.

1633 T. Adams *Exp. 2 Peter* iii. 17. 1484 Nothing can keepe a man from wandring but the manutenency of God. 1659 J. Arrowsmith *Chain Princ.* 453 As when a man bolds a staff in his hand, let him but take away his manutenencie, the staff falls immediately to the ground. 1699 J. Barry *Reviving Cordial* Ded. (1802) 13, [I] who am to this very day kept alive and upheld by that divine manutenency.

Manutention (mæniute·nʃən). [In sense 1, ad. med.L. *manūtentiōn-em*, n. of action f. L. *manū tenēre* (see Maintain *v.*); in sense 2, a new formation from the same L. phrase.]

†1. The action of upholding or maintaining, maintenance. *Obs.*

1603 FLORIO *Montaigne* I. xxii. (1632) 53 Christian religion hath all the markes of .. justice .., but none more apparent than the exact commendation of obedience due unto magistrates, and manutention of policies. 1657 TRAPP *Comm. Job* xii. 16 All creatures subsist meerly by his manutention.

2. The action of holding by the hand. *rare.*

1854 BUCKNILL in *8th Rep. Comm. Lunacy* App. G 126 The plan of manutension [*sic*], or holding violent patients for a long time by the hands of attendants.

‖ **Manutergium** (mænĭutɔ̄·ɪdʒĭvm). *Eccl.* [L., f. *manus* hand + *tergĕre* to wipe.] A towel.

1774 T. WEST *Antiq. Furness* (1805) 72 And over it hung the manutergium, on each side the cistern.

†**Manu-tract.** *Obs.* [f. L. *manū*, abl. of *manus* hand + *tract-um*, neut. pa. pple. of *trahĕre* to draw.] What is traced by hand.

1660 N. C. *Ded. Verses* in T. Forde *Love's Labyrinth*, How far short comes the needle of the pen! .. Let spleen it self judge eithers manu-tract: Their female works can't speak, thy male-words Act.

‖ **Manvantara** (mănvæ·ntără). Also manw-. [Skr., f. *Manu* + *antara* period.] In Hindu cosmology: One of the 14 periods, each presided over by a special 'Manu' or cosmic deity, which make up a KALPA.

1830 LYELL *Princ. Geol.* I. ii. 6 There has been a long succession of *manwantaras* or periods. 1834 *Nat. Philos.* III. *Astron.* App. 117 (Usef. Knowl. Soc.) The Kalpa was subdivided into 14 Manwantaras, each of 308448000 years with the addition of 1728000 years to make up the Kalpa.

Manvell, obs. form of MANUAL.

Manward (mæ·nwəɹd), *adv.* and *a.* [See -WARD.] A. *adv.* (In early use *to manward*, also *to menward*.) a. Towards man, in the direction of man. b. In relation to man.

c 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* IV. iv. (1869) 176 Sithe þat man hath ouercome þee, þou shuldest not afterward be so boistous to manward. 1526 TINDALE *Titus* iii. 4 After that the kyndnes and love of oure saveoure to manwarde apered. 1594 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* I. viii. § 7 It is the root out of which all lawes of duty to men-ward haue grown. 1641 J. EATON *Honey-c. Free Justif.* 38 Shee hath put on Christ himselfe, to God-ward by Justification; and to man-ward by Sanctification. 1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* xxxi, Mr. Blattergowl..was nevertheless a good man, in the old Scottish presbyterian phrase, God-ward and man-ward. 1865 LOWELL *Thoreau* Pr. Wks. 1890 I. 368 Emerson..has drawn steadily manward and worldward.

B. *adj.* Tending or directed towards man.

1867 MONSELL *Our New Vicar* 84 'Priest' and 'Altar speak of his God-ward office: 'Minister' and 'Lord's Table' refer to his man-ward ministrations. 1902 FAIRBAIRN *Philos. Chr. Relig.* II. III. ii. 543 His manward activities and relations.

Manwell, obs. form of MANUAL.

Man-woman. †a. A hermaphrodite. *Obs.* b. *nonce-use.* One who combines the virtues of both sexes. c. A mannish woman.

1587 GOLDING *De Mornay* xxvi. 458 Concerning the creation of Man, the Ægyptians say hee was created both Male and female. Herevpon Plato gathereth that he was a Man-woman or Herkinalson [Fr. *Hermaphrodite*]. 1736 FIELDING *Pasquin* II. i, We shall see Fairbelly, the strange man-woman. 1889 TENNYSON *On one who affected an effeminate manner*, But, friend, man-woman is not woman-man. 1894 *Idler* Sept. 194 That stage of progress has been passed, and, as an outcome, we have the 'Emancipated Woman', or 'Man-Woman'.

Manx (mæŋks), *a.* and *sb.* Forms: 6 **maniske**, 7 **manques**, 7–9 **manka**, 9 **mankea**, **manx**. [Metathetic a. ON. **mansk-r* (whence directly the 16th c. form *maniske*), f. *Man-* (nom. *Mǫn*:—**Mannu*, a. OIrish *Mann*), the Isle of Man.]

A. *adj.* Of or pertaining to the Isle of Man, its inhabitants, language, etc.

1572 *Act* 14 *Eliz.* c. 5 § 34 Yf any suche Maniske or Iryshe Vacabounde or Beggar ben alredy or shall at any tyme hereafter be set on Land in any parte of England or of Wales. 1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 67 Scaliger never heard of the Manks language, spoken by ours of the Ile of Man. 1765 *Ann. Reg.* 61 Books of devotion in the Manks tongue. 1860 *All Year Round* No. 68. 420, I believe a Manx sermon is now seldom heard.

b. *Manx cat*: a tailless variety of the domestic cat, indigenous to the Isle of Man. *Manx codlin*: a kind of apple. *Manx penny*: a coin stamped with the device of three legs arranged in a form suggestive of a Catherine wheel. *Manx puffin* or *shearwater* = *Puffinus anglorum.*

1678 *Ray's Willughby's Ornith.* Index, Puffin 325. Manks Puffin 333. 1818 in *Trans. Horticult. Soc.* (1826) III. 320 Manx Codlin. 1835 JENYNS *Man. Brit. Vertebr.* 285 *Procellaria Anglorum*, Temm. (Manks Shearwater). 1859 WOOD *Nat. Hist.* I. 202 The Manx Cat..possessing hardly a vestige of a tail. *a* 1881 CARLYLE in *Harper's Mag.* (1883) Nov. 877/1 [He] hadn't the heart to..watch a woman..making a Manx penny of herself.

B. *sb.*

1. (As *pl.*) The people of the Isle of Man.

1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. 233/1 The Manks or Manings [are] a people that inhabit the Isle of Man. 1809 *Acc. Isle of Man* 74 The Manks pay a decent and feeling regard to the memory of their deceased friends. 1899 J. MACTAGGART *Mackinnon & Bards* 68 The Englishman, the Welsh, the Manx, The artless Irishman, the Scot.

2. The Celtic language spoken in the Isle of Man.

1672 PETTY *Pol. Anat.* (1691) 106 The Language of Ireland in like that of the North of Scotland, in many things like the Welch and Manques. 1702 W. SACHEVERELL *Acc. Isle of Man* 8 In the Northern part of the Island they speak a deeper Manks, as they call it, than in the South. 1835 CREGEEN *Manks Dict.* Pref., The Manks is now seldom spoken or written in its original purity. 1859 W. GILL *Kelly's Manks Gram.* Introd. 9 In the schools throughout the Island the Manx has ceased to be taught.

3. A Manx cat.

1889 *Daily News* 23 Oct. 7/1 A solitary couple of Manxes [at a cat-show].

Hence **Ma·nxman, Ma·nxwoman,** a native of the Isle of Man.

1702 W. SACHEVERELL *Acc. Isle of Man* 113 Michael, a Manksman, a Person of great Merit and Exemplary Life. 1823 SCOTT *Peveril* v, Born a Mankesman—bred and nursed in the island. 1894 HALL CAINE (*title*) The Manxman.

Many (me·ni), *a.* and *sb.* Forms: 1 **maniz**, **moniz**, **mæniz**, **manez-**, **moni-**, 2–3 **manij**, **monij**, 2–5 **moni**, 3–4 **mani**, **meni**, 3–6 **manye**, **mony** (also 4–9 *Sc.*), 3–7 **manie**, (4 **meyne**, 4–5 **mane**, **mone**, 4–6 **meny**, **-ie**, 6 **monye**, **menny**, **meany**(**e**, **-ie**, **meyney**, **meinie**, 6–9 *Sc.* **monie**, 8 **manny**), 4– **many.** *Comp.* 5 **manyer.** *Superl.* (chiefly *Sc.*) 6 **moni-, monyest, -ast**, 6–7 **manyest**, 6–8 **maniest.** [Common Teut.: OE. *manig*, *mǫnig* corresponds to OFris. *man(i)ch*, *monich*, *monech*, OS. *manag* (MDu. *menech*, Du. *menig*), OHG. *manag*, *menig* (MHG. *manec*, *maneg-*, mod.G. *manch*), OSw. *mangher* (Sw. *många*), Da. *mange*; the ON. word is *marg-r*, the etymological identity of which is uncertain; but ON. has *mengi* sb., multitude, a derivative of the Com. Teut. adj.), Goth. *manag-s*:—OTeut. **manago-*:—Indogermanic **monogho-*, whence OSl. *mŭnogŭ* (Russian МНОГІЙ); an ablaut variant exists in OIrish *menicc* abundant (mod.Irish *minic*, Gaelic *minig* frequent, Welsh *mynych* often).

OE. had a derivative sb., *mǫnigeo*, *mǫnigu* multitude = OS. *menigi* (MDu. *menige*, *menie*), OHG. *manegī*, *menegī* (MHG. *menege*, mod.G. *menge*), ON. *mengi*, Goth. *managei*:—OTeut. **managīn-* wk. fem., f. **manago-* (see above). The OE. sb., however, did not survive into ME., and the modern substantival use of *many*, though agreeing in sense with OE. *mǫnigeo*, was a new development which has not been found earlier than the 16th c.]

A. *adj.* The adjectival designation of great indefinite number.

1. Used *distributively* with a *sing.* (Formerly sometimes combined with a plural verb.)

†a. with sb. in sing. without article. *Obs.*

Many time adv. phr.: see TIME *sb.*

Beowulf 838 Ða wæs..ymb ða ġifhealle guðrinc moniġ. *c* 893 K. ÆLFRED *Oros.* I. i. § 23 Þæt Estland is swyðe mycel, & þær bið swyðe maniġ burh. *c* 1200 ORMIN 3076 Itt wass forr maniġ daġġ Ær cwiddedd þurhh prophetess. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 16/512 Mani miracle þare feol a-day. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 2901 Mani man [*Fairf.* mony mon, *Gött.* Mani a man, *Trin.* Mony men], for ouer-wele, þam-self can noþer faand ne feil. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* I. 411 Thiddirwart went mony baroune. *c* 1402 LYDG. *Compl. Bl. Knt.* v, The floures, of many dyvers hewe. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* II. 26 Til mony Scot thai did full gret suppris. 1583 BABINGTON *Commandm.* viii. (1590) 352 Countenance beares out many euill counseller, till [etc.].

b. with *an* or *a* prefixed to the sb. Sometimes reduplicated for emphasis, *many and many a*, †*many a many.*

This many a (*day, year*): see THIS. *Many a time* (*and often*): see TIME *sb.*

c 1205 LAY. 5132 Al þa twa ferden of moni ane ærde. *c* 1275 *Passions of Hell* 244 in *O. E. Misc.* 154 Þar-inne is monyon hungri hund. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 15442 Ost þey gadered of mania man. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 5 Love, which doth many a wonder And many a wys man hath put under. *c* 1450 *Merlin* 56 Pendragon was ther deed, and many a-nother gode baron. ? *c* 1475 *Sqr. lowe Degre* 373 Many a page Have become men by mariage. 1595 SHAKS. *John* I. i. 183 A foot of Honor better than I was, But many a many foot of Land the worse. 1632 MILTON *L'Allegro* 95 To many a youth, and many a maid. 1692 L'ESTRANGE *Fables* xxxviii. 41 He's Beset with Enemies.. the Meanest of which is not without Many and Many a Way to the Wreaking of a Malice. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. xi, This wall I was many a weary month in finishing. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* VI. ii. ¶ 3 Many a more unlikely thing has happened. 1853 M. ARNOLD *Scholar-Gipsy* x, When .. many a scythe in sunshine flames. 1889 BROWNING *Let. to Tennyson* 5 Aug., In its hope that for many and many a year we may have your very self among us.

c. Many one (in ME. written as one word, *manijon, manion, manyon*, etc.): serving instead of the absolute or elliptical use of the sing. adj. In poetical use, often placed after a plural sb. Now only *Sc.* (*mony ane*).

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 630 Of hem [*sc.* kine] ben tudered manijon. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* iii. (*Andreas*) 295 [Þai] mad kirkis mony ane. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 56 Thus ful manyon Deceived were. 1430–40 LYDG. *Bochas* (1558) 34 b, Bochas reherseth of wyves many one, Which..were ful contrarius. 1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* iii. 2 Many one there be that saye off my soule [etc.]. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 43 With meruellis greit and mony one. 1622 S. WARD *Life of Faith in Death* (1627) 53 Many one hath acknowledged to my selfe the like. 1792 BURNS *Country Lassie* ii, It's ye hae wooers mony ane. *a* 1814 *Suleiman* II. iii. in *New Brit. Theatre* II. 24 As many one can show. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* v, There's mony ane wad hae thought themselves affronted, if [etc].

d. Many a(n) one: = 'many a person'. Now chiefly *colloq.* †Also placed after a plural sb.

1509 BARCLAY *Ship of Fools* (1874) II. 297 Thy apparayle Aleyed gayly with perles many a one. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 144 b, The selfe same woordes maye bee well spoken of many an one. 1548 UDALL, etc. *Erasm. Par. Mark* 88 This swete sauour..causeth many a one to desyer that they may be admitted. 1556 OLDE *Antichrist* 167 b, The cause of the greatest wickednesse that can be the undoing to many a one. 1869 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1876) III. xii. 156 Many an one carried off his two or three goodly steeds. *Mod.* I know many a one who would be glad of the chance.

e. *predicatively.* Only with inversion, in the phrase *Many is* (or *was*) *the* ——. Now *dial.*

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 209 Mani was þat gode bodi þat aslawe was þere. *c* 1300 *S. Nicholas* 431 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 252 Meni is þe faire miracle þat of seint Nicholas is. 13.. *Coer de L.* 4931 Manye was the hethene man, With Saladyn that come than. 1870 MRS. PHELPS *Hedged In* xviii. 269 An' mony's the time I've warned him o' the consequences.

2. With *pl. sb.* In ME. often coupled with FELE *a.*

Many times, many ways, (*on*) *many wise*, advb. phr.: see the sbs. *These* or *this many years* (etc.): see THIS.

a 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* I. xiii. [xxiii.] (1890) 54 Dæt he sende Agustinum & oðre monize munecas mid hine *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 97 Ealle þas þing and monize oðre deð þe haliza gast. *a* 1225 *St. Marher.* 1 Weren monie martirs.. to deaðes misliche idon. *c* 1305, etc. [see FELE B. 1]. *c* 1375 *Cursor M.* 19515 (Fairf.) Miraclis dide he mani fele [*earlier texts* fele *only*]. 1386 *Rolls of Parlt.* III. 225/1 To the .. Lordes .. compleynen .. the folk of the Mercerye of London .. of many wronges subtiles. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 1005 We hafe farne to þe fi3t..mony fele wynter. *c* 1425 [see FELE B. 1]. *c* 1450 *Merlin* 56 Merlin wente to his maister Blase..and tolde hym many thinges. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VII. ii. 15 The birdis seir of mony diuers hewis. 1556 *Aurelio & Isab.* N 5 A litell courte, where the kinge helde menney Lions. 1582 LYLY *Let. to Burleigh* Wks. (ed. Bond) I. 28, I will not troble your honorable eares with so meinie idle wordes. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* III. iii. 9 To keepe those many many bodies safe. 1603 FLORIO *Montaigne* I. ix. 17 The opposite of Truth hath many-many shapes. 1644 EVELYN *Diary* 10 Nov., The famous statue of the Gladiator .. so much follow'd by all the rare artists, as the many copies testifie. *c* 1710 BURNET *Autobiog.* in *Suppl. to Hist.* (1902) 474, I loved solitude..and so I avoided manny tentations. 1839 THIRLWALL *Lett.* (1881) I. 157 The translation which I made many years back. 1870 DICKENS *E. Drood* ii, We must drink many happy returns to her.

Proverbial phr. 1631 CAPT. SMITH *Advts. un-exp. Planters* 28 But we see many men many minds, and still new Lords, new lawes.

†b. Followed by a possessive or a superlative.

1606 G. W[OODCOCKE] *Hist. Iustine* XVI. 66 Among manie their honorable actions, this one thing especiall, is woorthy to be recorded. 1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* I. ii. 189 The Letters..Of many our contriuing Friends. 1607 — *Timon* III. vi. 11. 1646 H. LAWRENCE *Comm. Angells* 61 Many the best and most things were lost to them.

c. Placed after the sb. (cf. 1 c, 1 d). *poet.* and *arch.*

c 1220 *Bestiary* 556 In ðe se senden selcuðes manie. 1526 TINDALE 1 *Cor.* viii. 5 As there be goddes many and lordes many. [So 1611.] 1871 R. ELLIS tr. *Catullus* lxii. 51 Many a wistful boy, and maidens many desire it.

d. *predicatively, arch.*

a 1425 *Cursor M.* (Trin.) 12577 Mony are his childehedes I of tolde Done ar he were tuelue yeer olde. 1508 DUNBAR *Tua mariit Wemen* 74 To..blaw my bewtie on breid, quhair bernis war mony. 1596 SPENSER *State Irel.* Wks. (Globe) 631/1 The inconveniences that therby doe arise are much more many. 1598 DRAYTON *Heroic. Ep.* xiv. 57 And if thou know'st, they many were before, By time increasing, they must needs be more. 1611 BIBLE *Ps.* xxxiv. 19 Many are the afflictions of the righteous. 1776 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (1796) I. 314 Seeds many, roundish. 1846 TRENCH *Mirac.* Introd. (1862) 1 Where we have to do with aught which in many ways is significant, the names also will inevitably be many, since no one will exhaust all its meaning.

3. *ellipt.* and *absol.* in plural sense: Many individuals of the kind specified (often followed by *of*); also (as qnasi-pronoun), many persons.

Beowulf 2091 He mec þær on innan unsynniżne dior dædfruma ġedon wolde maniżra sumne. *c* 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Th.) iii. 1 Moniże cweðað to minum mode, þæt hit næbbe nane hæle æt his Gode. *c* 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 225 And were swiðe maneże on yfele awende. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 11392 Manie flowe in to þe water & some toward þe see. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 12264 þai keppit hom in company with knightes enarmit, And Vlixes also with angardly mone. 1567 MAPLET *Gr. Forest* 9 b, We be many of us cut off before we come to olde age. 1580 LUPTON *Siuqila* 120 Many with vs spends their goods, and leaues their lands scantly to such good vses. 1738 SWIFT *Pol. Conversat.* 39, I see, one Fool makes many. 1794 NELSON 8 July in Nicolas *Disp.* (1845) I. 429 They will from using as many again as is necessary be soon short of that article. 1845 M. PATTISON *Ess.* (1889) I. 22 He had but one voice amongst many. 1871 MORLEY *Voltaire* (1886) 6 Many of his ideas..did not belong to him peculiarly.

¶ b. with *a* for *of. Obs.*

c 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) xxvii. 278 There weren in that place many a dyverse thinges. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. ccxv. 271 They..defoyled many a damoselles.

†c. In passive form *many's. Obs.*

1598 GRENEWEY *Tacitus, Ann.* IV. xiii. (1622) 110 Which was cause of manies ouerthrow. *c* 1600 SHAKS. *Sonn.* xciii, In manies lookes the falce hearts history Is writ.

d. *The many* (= Gk. οἱ πολλοί): the great body of people; the multitude. Cf. *the few.*

1526 *Pilg. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 147 b, How yᵉ many for lacke of mortifyenge tasteth not of this feest. 1688 NORRIS *Theory Love* II. i. 76 An old Rule, that we may talk with the Many, but must think with the Few. 1790 BURKE *Fr. Rev.* 75 The many are not capable of making this calculation. 1809–10 COLERIDGE *Friend* (1865) 75 The folly and foolish self-opinion of the half-instructed many. 1842 TENNYSON *Day-Dream, Arrival* ii, The many fail: the one succeeds. 1879 M. ARNOLD *Mixed Ess., Democr.* 39 It was the many who relished those arts [of ancient Athens].

†**4.** Phr. *On (in) many*: into many parts, many times, manifold. *Obs.*

c **888** K. Ælfred *Boeth.* xxxiii. § 1 God is anfeald & unto-dælendlic, þeah hine dysiȝe men on mænifealde todælen. **1401** *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 47 As the prophetes of Achab wer multiplied in many.

5. When qualified by As, How, So, Too (q. v. for further treatment), the adj. has a weakened sense, expressing the notion of number in the abstract. With *pl. sb.*; also *ellipt.* and *absol.* = ' (as, etc.) many persons '.

c **1000** Ælfric *Interrog. Sigewulfi* (Maclean 1883) 66 On hu manegum wisum is Godes weorc? **1382** Wyclif *Luke* xi. 8 He schal..ȝyne to hym, how manye [**1388** as many as] he hath nedeful. *a* **1400–50** *Alexander* 124 As many Besandis on his hake as he bere miȝt. **1471** *Paston Lett.* III. 5 Ye shall send me..asse mone of my men asse can com. **1638** Junius *Paint. Ancients* 25 So did he then consider..how many armed men..might be required. **1714** Swift *Pres. State Affairs* Wks. 1755 II. I. 204, I have heard a physician pronounce..that he had cured so many patients of malignant fevers. **1807** Crabbe *Newspaper* 219 As many words as make an even line; As many lines, as fill a row complete; As many rows as furnish up a sheet.

†**b.** In compar. and superl. *manier, maniest* (= *more, most* or *very many*). Frequent in Sc. *Obs.*

1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 214 Thou mayste vndyrstonde of manyer, othyr fewere. *c* **1440** *Jacob's Well* 111 þe heremyte flytted his celle fyve myle ferthere fro þe welle, for to makyn þe manyere steppys, to haue þe more mede. **1500–20** Dunbar *Poems* lviii. 2 Off benefice..Quha monyast hes makis maist requeist. **1548** Turner *Names of Herbes* 56 The maniest that I have sene was in Kent. **1560** in Dunlop *Coll. Confess. Faith* (1722) II. 639 The maniest Votes, without Respect of Persone, hath the first Place in the Eldarschip. **1583** *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* III. 576 With sax horsmen at the monyast. **1597** Morley *Introd. Mus.* 119 Hee who could bring in maniest of them was counted the iollyest fellowe. **1676** W. Row *Contn. Blair's Autobiog.* xii. (1848) 437 The Prelates are now busied to fill the places of outed ministers especially in the west where maniest were outed. **1728** P. Walker *Life Peden* (ed. 3) Pref., This has had the maniest good Effects. **1794** *Hope's New Meth. Fencing* Law x. 232–3 Whoever..shall..have beat maniest, shall be declared ..to have gain'd the Prize.

c. *As many as*: used idiomatically for ' all who'.

Very common in the Bible translations beginning with Tindale, by whom it was app. introduced as a literal rendering of ὅσοι. (One earlier instance occurs in the second Wyclif version in Acts xiii. 48, where the Vulgate has the literalism *quotquot* instead of *quicumque*. The use in Luke xi. 8 is not to the point, because there ὅσου, *quotquot*, *as many as*, have their literal sense.) Now *obs.* or *arch.*

1526 Tindale *Rom.* ii. 12 And as many as haue synned vnder the lawe shalbe iudged by the lawe. **1667** Milton *P. L.* III. 289 So in thee..shall he restor'd As many as are restor'd.

d. *As many*: the same number of.

c **1400** [see As *adv.* A. 5]. **1748** Smollett *Rod. Rand.* viii, He found means to cut me [when shaving] in three places, in as many strokes. **1801** W. Dupré *Neolog. Fr. Dict.* 131 [The hectolitre] contains an hundred and five pintes, equal to as many english quarts. *Mod.* He made twenty blunders in about as many lines.

e. *One too many*: used predicatively of something not wanted.

1590 Shaks. *Com. Err.* III. i. 35 When one is one too many, goe get thee from the dore. **1592** — *Rom. & Jul.* I. i. 135 Being one too many by my weary selfe. **1748** Richardson *Clarissa* II. v. 26 He believes he has in me one sister too many for his interest. **1849** Lytton *Caxtons* XII. vi. (heading), The confession of a youth who, in the Old World, finds himself one too many. **1865** Whyte Melville *Cerise* (1866) I. xv. 232 The Marquise was..left planted as one too many.

f. *Too many for*: more than a match for. (Properly predicated of pl. subject, but in more or less jocular use said of a single person or thing.)

1692 R. L'Estrange *Fables* xxxv. 35 They come to Vie Power and Expence with Those that are too High and too many for them. **1708** *Deptor. State New Eng.* 16 in *Sewall's Diary* (1879) II. 114* Your Governour..has been too many for you. **1722** De Foe *Col. Jack* (1840) 319 We were too many for them, for we run out our guns..and..they retired. **1787** ' G. Gambado ' *Acad. Horsemen* (1809) 29 Should your horse prove, what is properly termed too many for you, and make off. **1863** J. C. Jeaffreson *Sir Everard's Dau.* 113 You can't rob me—I am too many for you !..You're a clever one —but you're no match for me. **1872** Harowick *Trad. Lanc.* 189 On one occasion, however, the fiends were nearly ' too many ' for the eternal toiler.

6. *Comb.* **a.** parasynthetic (unlimited in number), as *many-acred, -angled, -belled, -blossomed, -branched, -celled, -chambered, -cobwebbed, -coloured, -cornered, -coultered, -eared, -eyed, -flowered, -folded, -forked, -formed, -fountained, -gifted, -handed, -horned, -hued, -knotted, -languaged, -layered, -leaved, -lived, -lobed, -mouthed, -nationed, -parted, -peopled, -pillared, -pointed, -roved, -seated* (hence *many-seatedness*), *-seeded, -spangled, -steepled, -stringed, -syllabled, -tailed, -tinted, -toned, -tongued, -towered, -tribed, -tubed, -valved, -voiced, -weathered, -windowed, -wintered, -yeared* adjs.

1812 G. Colman *Two Parsons* xxvii, A *many-acred..ass, the squire. **1640** C. Harvey *Communion Table* iv, Square, oval, *many-angled, long, or round. **1850** Thackeray *Pendennis* xlii, The doors are *many belled. **1840** Mas. Norton *Dream*, etc. 238 The *many-blossom'd spring. **1861** Bentley *Man. Bot.* 424 *Many-celled spore-cases. **1868** E. P. Wright *Ocean World* iv. 83 They [Foraminifera] are generally *many-chambered. **1859** Tennyson *Geraint & Enid* 362 The dusky-rafterd *many-cobweb'd Hall. **1747** Johnson *Drury Lane Prol.* 3 Each change of *many-colour'd life he drew. **1821** Shelley *Adonais* lii, Like a dome of many-coloured glass. **1665** Dryden *Indian Emp.* II. i, Those *many cornered minds, Where women's crooked fancy turns and winds. **1731** Tull *Horse-Hoeing Husb.* xx. 299 The *many-coulter'd Plows. **1749** Fielding *Tom Jones* VIII. ix, That many-eyed, many-tongued, many-mouthed, *many-eared Monster of Virgil. **1766** *Complete Farmer* s.v. *Seed* 6 S 1/2 Each plant of the many eared wheat. **1655** Moufet & Bennet *Health's Impr.* 3 *Many-eide Osiris. **1889** A. R. Wallace *Darwinism* (1890) 15 The potato..so well adapted to spread by means of its many-eyed tubers. **1789** J. Pilkington *View Derbysh.* I. 386 *Erica multiflora*, *Many-flowered Heath. **1590** Spenser *F. Q.* II. iii. 1 His..*many-folded shield he bound about his wrest. **1819** Shelley *Julian & Maddalo* 76 Where the swift sun yet paused in his descent Among the many-folded hills. **1697** C. Leslie *Snake in Grass* (ed. 2) 66 A *many-forked and involved Infallibility. *c* **1586** C'tess Pembroke *Ps.* lxxii. iii, While of sad night the *many-formed queene Decreas'd shall grow. **1832** Tennyson *Œnone* Poems (1833) 53 O mother Ida, *manyfountained Ida. **1868** J. H. Newman *Verses Var. Occas.* 108 The *many-gifted man. **1649** G. Daniel *Trinarch., Hen. IV* clii, This *Many-handed bodie moe hands lost Then [etc.]. **1852** Kingsley *Andromeda* 58 Twyformed, many-handed, terrible, shapeless. **1842** Bischoff *Woollen Manuf.* II. 290 The *many-horned sheep. **1812** Byron *Ch. Har.* II. lvii, The Turk, the Greek, the Albanian and the Moor, Here mingled in their *many hued array. **1842** Tennyson *Morte d'Arthur* 63 The *many-knotted waterflags. **1655** Fuller *Hist. Camb.* 123 The *many Languaged-Bible. **1884** Bower & Scott *De Bary's Phaner.* 33 A much stronger *many-layered epidermis. **1605** Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. iii. III. *Law* 42 The *many-leaved locks Of thriving Charvel. **1876** Geo. Eliot *Dan. Der.* III. xlviii, The poor ship with its *many-lived anguish. **1830** Lindley *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 180 A plaited *many-lobed corolla. **1749** *Many-mouthed [see *many-eared*]. **1598** Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. i. III. *Furies* 326 *Many-nam'd poyson, minister of Death. *c* **1611** Chapman *Iliad* II. 497 These *many nation'd men. **1830** Lindley *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 176 Solitary flowers, .. and *many-parted calyx. **1828** Landor *Imag. Conv., Xenoph. & Cyrus* III. 366 He waves his paternal blessing over the *many-peopled world. **1740** Dyer *Ruins of Rome* 10 The *many-pillar'd Portal. **1835–6** Todd *Cycl. Anat.* I. 472 The teeth (of Seals), sharp and *many-pointed. **1875** Bennett & Dyer tr. *Sachs' Bot.* 176 The *many-rowed flower-heads of the sunflower. **1808** Bentham *Sc. Reform* 36 The *many-seated has given place to single seated judicature. **1830** — *Corr.* Wks. 1843 XI. 40 *Many-seatedness. **1776–96** Withering *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) II. 246 *Lonicera*..*many-seeded. **1742** Blair *Grave* 135 Where hast thou hid thy *many-spangled head? **1797** Coleridge *Lime-Tree Bower* 22 The *many-steepled tract magnificent Of hilly fields. **1852** H. Rogers *Fcl. Faith* (1853) 37 A *many-stringed lyre. **1635** Heywood *Hierarch.* VI. 355 Words *Many-syllabl'd, of obscure sence. **1766** Sharp in *Phil. Trans.* LVII. 85 The *many-tailed bandage. **1831** Carlyle *Sart. Res.* II. v, A *many-tinted, radiant Aurora. **1812** Byron *Ch. Har.* II. *Tambourgi* vii, Let her bring from her chamber her *many-toned lyre. **1749** *Many-tongued [see *many-eared*]. **1881** Henty *Cornet of Horse* xvii. (1888) 179 That many-tongued body the allied army. **1598** Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. ii. III. *Colonies* 77 And Ninevè..Above them [might] raise her *many-towred Crest. **1832** Tennyson *Lady of Shalott* i, To many-tower'd Camelot. **1768–74** Tucker *Lt. Nat.* (1834) I. 581 The *many-tribed weeds of the field. **1866** Geo. Eliot *F. Holt* i, The *many-tubed honeysuckle. **1851** *Richardson's Geol.* viii. (1855) 259 The Balanidæ have a complicated, *many-valved shell. **1816** Shelley *Alastor* 669 A bright stream Once fed with *many-voiced waves. **1794** Southey *Sonn., Even. Rainbow*, The day, Changeful and *many-weather'd. **1832** J. P. Kennedy *Swallow B.* (1860) 16 A plain, *many-windowed edifice of brick. **1842** Tennyson *Locksley Hall* 68 The *many-winter'd crow. *a* **1618** Sylvester *Job Triumph.* 771 So, Wisdome shall be to the *many-year'd.

b. *poet.* with pres. pples. (and occas. pa. pples.) in quasi-advb. sense = ' in many ways, many times, much ', as *many-beaming, -bleating, -blossoming, -meaning, -mingled, -mingling, -sounding, -turning, -twinkling, -wandering, -winding* adjs.

? **1818** Shelley *Homer's Hymn to Moon* 6 Where'er she spreads her *many-beaming wings. **1728–46** Thomson *Spring* 834 Around him feeds his *many-bleating flock. **1864** Tennyson *Boadicea* 43 *Many-blossoming Paradises. **1825** Coleridge *Aids Refl.* (1848) I. 24 That *many-meaning and too commonly misapplied expression. **1811** W. R. Spencer *Poems*, The *many-mingled cries. **1821** Shelley *Epipsych.* 358 Their many-mingled influence. **1861** Dora Greenwell *Poems* 129 Run in one the *many-mingling hues. **1745** Warton *Pleas. Melanch.* 198 The *many-sounding organ peals on high. **1728–46** Thomson *Spring* 157 The *many-twinkling leaves Of aspen tall. **1827** Keble *Chr. Y.* 2nd Sund. after Trin., The many-twinkling smile of Ocean. **1820** Shelley *Let. to Maria Gisb.* 262 Clouds..Piloted by the *many-wandering blast. **1812** Byron *Ch. Har.* I. xx, Then slowly climb the *many-winding way.

c. Special combinations: **many-berry**, a name for the American hackberry (*Cent. Dict.*); †**many-feet** (**-foot**), (*a*) = Polype; (*b*) a general name for earwigs, woodlice, etc.; **many-root(s**, the plant *Ruellia tuberosa*, native to Mexico and the West Indies; †**Many Saints' Day** ? *nonce-wd.*, a name for Pentecost; **many-seed**, a Barbados plant of the genus *Jussiæa*.

1847 W. Darlington *Amer. Weeds & Useful Pl.* (1860) 294 Hack-berry. *Many-berry. **1591** Sylvester *Du Bartas* I. v. 87 Th' inky Cuttles, and the *Many-feet. *Ibid.* 238 The..Many-foot, that fain A dainty feast of Oyster-flesh would gain. **1601** Holland *Pliny* I. 351 Some sea-fishes, ..haue eight legs: namely, Manyfeet, Pourcuttles, Cuttles. **1658** Rowland *Mouffet's Theat. Ins.* 1045 The Scolopendræ, and Juli, and Cheeselips..are called Many-feet. **1706** Phillips, *Oæna*, a sort of the Fish Pourcontrel or Many-feet. **1750** G. Hughes *Barbados* 210 The *Many-Roots. This Plant derives its Name from the great number of its Roots. **1858** Simmonds *Dict. Trade, Many-root*, a name for the Ruellia tuberosa. **1655** Fuller *Ch. Hist.* III. Ded., Those three thousand gained (on *Many-Saints-day) by Saint Peter, at Jerusalem. **1750** G. Hughes *Barbados* 212 *Many-Seed. I have given this Plant a name from its many Seeds. **1848** Schomburgk *Hist. Barbados* 618.

B. quasi-*sb.* and *sb.*

1. quasi-*sb.* On the analogy of *a few* (see Few **2**), *a* has from the 16th c. been prefixed to *many* when followed by a pl. sb. or used *absol.* in plural sense. In such collocations *many* formally admits of being interpreted as a sb., meaning ' a great number '. This interpretation is somewhat strained when *a many* is immediately followed by a pl. sb., because the ellipsis of *of*, which must be assumed, is abnormal; but in the other cases it presents no difficulty, and it would often be impossible to determine whether in the consciousness of the speaker the word is an adj. used absol. in pl., or a genuine sb. Confusion with Meinie, of which there are many traces in the 16th c., seems to have contributed to cause the word in this use to be apprehended as a sb. Often with prefixed adj. as in *a †considerable, good, great, †pretty, †jolly many*; also † *no small many*.

a. with pl. sb. (or *people*) immediately following. In this use *a many* hardly differs in sense from *many*, and is now somewhat rare in literary use, though *a good many, a great many*, are common colloquially.

1590 Marlowe *Edw. II*, iv. ii, Though a many friends Are made a way. **1614** Day *Festivals* xi. (1615) 300 There are in this Israel, the Sacred Scriptures of God, a many, many Widowes. *a* **1643** J. Shute *Judgem. & Mercy* (1645) 180 Hee were a mad man that to Secure himselfe from the Fire, would pile a many Billets betweene him and the flame. **1653** H. More *Antid. Ath.* (1662) 97 A many such miracles. **1690** Luttrell *Brief Rel.* (1857) II. 126 And great many men were at work upon the fortifications. **1776** *Trial of Nundocomar* 23/2 A great many people have seen him besides. **1807** Crabbe *Par. Reg.* III. 768 The rates are high; we have a-many poor. **1813** *Sk. Character* (ed. 2) I. 205 It is a good many years since I have seen him. **1832** Tennyson *Miller's Dau.* 219 They have not shed a many tears, Dear eyes. **1841** Catlin *N. Amer. Ind.* (1844) II. xlviii. 122 They use a vast many beads. **1884** *Manch. Exam.* 17 May 4/8 There are a great many schools..of technicology scattered over the Continent.

b. Const. *of*; now only followed by a definite sb. or pronoun. (Some early quots. may belong to Meinie.)

1525 Ld. Berners *Froiss.* II. xxiv. 64 Beneth in the courte he sawe a great many of asses. **1530** Palsgr. 721/1 s.v. *Slyde*, A menye of brokes [*yng tas de ruisseaux*]. **1560** Whitehorne *Arte Warre* 60 Caius Sulpitius..set a greate many of Sackes vpon Mules. **1584** R. Scot *Discov. Witches*, xii. iii. (1886) 176 If Incubus could beget Merlins among us, we should have a jollie manie of cold prophets. **1652** Gaule *Magastrom.* 352 He..had invited a many of his kindred and friends. **1656** Earl Monm. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* II. xxiv. (1674) 173 An infinite many of men. **1711** Addison *Spect.* No. 37 ¶ 1, I had an Opportunity of turning over a great many of her Books. **1716** B. Church *Hist. Philip's War* (1865) I. 127 He pick'd up a considerable many of their Women and Children. **1840** *P. Parley's Ann.* 183 A many of them played the truant on purpose to see the soldiers go through their manœuvres. **1852** Thackeray *Esmond* I. iii, This was chiefly of the Catholic gentry, of whom there were a pretty many in the country.

c. *ellipt.* and *absol.* (Quots. 1556 and 1564 may belong to Meinie.)

[**1556** Olde *Antichrist* 6 To the undoing of a great meanye. **1564** Becon *Display. Popish Mass* Wks. III. 47 b, Ye praye for Philippe and Chenye, mo than a good meany.] **1599** Shaks. *Hen. V*, III. vii. 79 *Const.* And yet my Sky shall not want [*sc.* stars]. *Dolph.* That may be, for you beare a many superfluously. **1604** Hieron *Wks.* I. 507 These and the like are the thoughts and speeches of no small many. **1611** B. Jonson *Catiline* To Rdr., The commendation of good things may fall within a many, their approbation but in a few. **1788** T. Taylor *Proclus' Comm.* (1792) I. Diss. p. xcv, Plato is ignorantly accused by a many, for affirming that [etc.]. **1875** Higginson *Hist. U. S.* viii. 64 A good many died of hardship and fatigue. **1888** Bryce *Amer. Commw.* III. cii. 438 But even in the East a good many may come from straitened homes.

†**2.** *sb.* App. by confusion with Meinie, used for: Company, host, flock; (one's) retinue or following. *Obs.*

1563–87 Foxe *A. & M.* (1596) 1609/2 We are..murthered downe like a manie of sheep. **1579** Spenser *Sheph. Cal.* May 23 Before them yode a lusty Tabrere, That to the many a Horne pype playd. **1586** Warner *Alb. Eng.* I. v. (1589) 14 Those cruell Lions..which haue deuoured those Heards I had, and with my Manie's blood Imbrud their fierce deuouring chappes. **1596** Spenser *F. Q.* v. xi. 3 And forth he far'd with all his many bad. **1609** C. Butler *Fem. Mon.* v. (1623) Liij, The manie begins to march along; thronging one another for haste. **1700** Dryden *Pal. & Arcite* III. 545 The chiefs divide And wheeling east and west before their many ride.

3. *Philos.* A multitude, plurality. Opposed to *one*.

a **1619** Fotherby *Atheom.* II. x. § 4 (1622) 309 All Ones, and all Manyes, all wholes, all parts. **1788** T. Taylor *Proclus' Comm.* (1792) I. Diss. p. xxiv, One idea, throughout all manys, wrapt up in one. **1864** Bowen *Logic* I. 4 The Understanding has been called the *unifying* faculty, by which the many is reduced to unity.

Many-: see Mani-.

Manyew, obs. form of Mange.

†**Ma·nyfull**, *a. Obs.* [f. Many + -ful.] Abundant. (Also const. *of*.)

c **1440** *Jacob's Well* 262 Many-full of woordys [*marg.* multiloquium]..He þat hath manye woordys faryth as a

fool þat sellytb his chaffare wyth-outen wyȝte and mesure. 1526 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. III. II. 80 All this mater I remytte unto your highe wisdome and manyfull goodnes.

†Ma·nygate(s. *Obs.* [See GATE *sb.*2 9 b.] In many ways.

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* I. 338 Knawlage off mony statis May quhile awailȝe full mony gatis. *c* 1420 *Lay Folks Mass Bk., York Hours* 35 Many fals witnes, þai wryed hym many gate.

Many-headed, *a.* (Stress variable.) Having many heads. Often applied derisively to the people or populace (*the many-headed beast* or *monster*, after Hor. *Ep.* I. i. 76 *Belua multorum es capitum*).

a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* II. (1590) 220 O weak trust of the many-headed multitude. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. viii. 6 The proud Duessa..High mounted on her many headed beast. 1595 DANIEL *Civ. Wars* II. xii, This many-headed monster Multitude. *c* 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* I. 478 That many-headed hill. 1680 G. HICKES *Spirit of Popery* 2 That Many-headed Pope the Presbyterian Government. 1737 POPE *Hor. Ep.* II. i. 305 The many-headed Monster of the Pit. 1819 LD. J. RUSSELL in *Hansard's Parl. Deb.* XLI. 1105 Are we then to conclude..that Somers [etc.] expelled a king in order to set up a many-headed tyranny? 1849 TENNYSON '*You might have won*' 20 Keep nothing sacred: 'tis but just The many-headed beast should know. 1852 HENSLOW *Dict. Bot. Terms, Many-headed*, when many distinct buds are seated on the crown of a root.

b. *absol.* (='the many-headed multitude'.)

1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xix, The playful disposition of the many-headed.

Hence **Manyhea·dedness.**

1827 HARE *Guesses* (1859) 96 A Review,—which, among diverse other qualities of Cerberus, has that of many-headedness. 1889 *Spectator* 5 Oct., The many-headedness of a Parliament.

†Ma·nyhede. *Obs.* Also mani-. [f. MANY + *-hede*, -HEAD.] Multitude.

a 1300 *E. E. Psalter* cl. 2 Loves him after mani-hede [Vulg. *secundum multitudinem*] of his mikelnesse. *a* 1400 *Relig. Pieces fr. Thornton MS.* 45 For-þi þat anehede es gude and manyhede alswa, þare-fore it behouede nede þat anehede and manyhede bathe ware in Godd.

†Ma·nyie, me·nyie, *sb. Sc. Obs.* Also 5 manȝe, ? meniye, 6 menȝie, menze, 6–7 manzie, 7 menzie, **mangzie.** [f. next vb.] = MAIM *sb.*

1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 116 Quha ever strykis with wappin or othir villaynis manȝe. *c* 1470 HENRYSON *Mor. Fab.* v. (*Parl. Beasts*) XXXV, This wretchit wolf weipand thus on he went, Of this meniye markand to get remeid. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* XXI. 12 He that hes for his awin menȝie Ane plesand prop, but mank or menȝie. 1589 R. BRUCE *Serm.* (1591) Y 3 b, Without a notable inconvenient ather to body or soule, or to hoath, without a notable menze, as we speak. 1597 SKENE *De Verb. Sign., Machamium*,.. from the auld French worde Mehaigne, quhilk we call, Manzie, hurt, mutilation [etc.]. 1609—*Reg. Maj.* III. x. 51 b, Gif the seller did sell to the buyer ane thing, as without anie fault or menzie. *Ibid.* Table 86 b, Mangzie.

†Manyie, menyie, *v. Sc. Obs.* Also 4–5 menȝe, 6 menȝie, **mainzie.** [a. OF. *mahaignier*: see MAIM *v.*] = MAIM *v.*

a 1400 *Trojan War* II. 2131 Woundand, menȝeand, and slaand. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* LXXVIII. 3 So sair the magryme dois me menȝie. 1597 SKENE *De Verb. Signif.* s.v. *Machamium*, He quha is mainzied, hes ane just cause to excuse himselfe fra singular battell.

†Ma·nykin, ma·nykins, *a. Obs.* Forms: 1 **manegra cynna,** 2–3 **monies cunnes, kunnes, kinnes,** 3 **mani cunnes, kinnes, -kine**(s, 4 **many kyn**(nes, **mani-, mony-kin,** 5 **manykins,** *erron.* **-kingis.** [Repr. early ME. *monies kinnes* (genit. sing. of MANY *a.* and KIN *sb.*1); in OE. the synonymous pl. genitive *manegra cynna* occurs.] Of many kinds.

a 900 [see KIN *sb.*1 6 b]. *c* 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Th.) x. 7 Drihten onsent manegra cynna witu. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 103 Heo [*sc.* anger] macað monslehtas and monies cunnes ufel. *c* 1220 *Bestiary* 460 Manikines ðing. *c* 1275 LAY. 1292 Þer bi-won Brutus mani kine þinges. *c* 1375 *Cursor M.* 27412 (Fairf.) Manikin þing him mai be-tide [*Cotton* For nakin case þat mai tide]. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 3864 Creuesses of manykins hewis. *Ibid.* 4530 Minerua was a maistres of many kingis [*sic*] werkis.

†Ma·nyment. *Sc. Obs.* Also **manument.** [a. F. *maniement*, f. *manier* to handle.] Management.

1567 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* Ser. I. I. 514 Sen hir Hienes arryvall..and taking of the manyment and governament of the effaris thairof on hir awin persoun. *Ibid.* II. 161 The maister of his Hienes awin Cunyiehouse or sic utheris as has the manyment thairof. 1600 *Sc. Acts Jas. VI* (1816) IV. 245/1 The saidis James and maister Johne had the governament and manument of his haill rentis, leving, and affairis.

Manyness (me·ninés). *rare.* [f. MANY + -NESS.] Plurality, numerosity.

1609 SKENE *Reg. Maj.* 115 Be multiplication, or manynes of Hynes. 1886 HALL & JASTROW in *Mind* Jan. 60 The sense of manyness..acts as a stimulus to us to bend all available energy to tally as fast as possible.

Manyot, Manyour: obs. ff. MANIOC, MANGER.

Manyplies (me·niplɔiz), *sb. pl.* Chiefly *dial.* Forms: 8 **monyple,** 8–9 **manyplus,** 9 **monny-, moni-, mani-, manyplies.** [f. MANY + *plies*, pl. of PLY, fold. Cf. MANIFOLD(S *sb.*2] The omasum or third stomach of a ruminant. Also, *jocularly* the stomach of a man.

1774 LAMBE *Hist. Battell Flodden* Notes 70 *Monyple*, a N. C. word. 1782 A. MONRO *Compar. Anat.* (ed. 3) 39 *Omasum, vulgo* the manyplus. 1803 *Prize Ess. Highl. Soc. Scotl.* II. 218 In the fold of the second [*sic*] stomach or monnyplies. 1833 M. SCOTT *Tom Cringle* xii. (1859) 268 As if he feared the very exertion of uttering a word or two might unsettle his moniplies. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVII. 82/1 The third stomach, the manyplus. 1861 HUME tr. *Moquin-Tandon* II. I. 43 In all the ruminating animals there are four stomachs: the ingluvies;..the reticulum;..the omasum or many-plies; and the abomasum.

Manys(ch, obs. form of MENACE *v.*

Many-sided, *a.* (Stress variable.)

1. Having many sides; multilateral.

1660 BARROW *Euclid* I. Def. xxii, Many-sided figures are such as are contained under more right lines than four. *a* 1822 SHELLEY *Def. Poetry* Pr. Wks. 1888 II. 16 The drama ..is a prismatic and many-sided mirror. 1847 SMEATON *Builder's Man.* 172 To find the area of irregular polygons, or many-sided figures.

2. *fig.* Having many aspects, bearings, capacities, or possibilities. (Suggested by Ger. *vielseitig.*)

1843 GLADSTONE *Glean.* (1879) V. 37 Of many-sided aspect. 1868—*Juv. Mundi* X. (1870) 402 With many-sided intelligence. 1882 FARRAR *Early Chr.* II. 337 Since Christianity is manysided. 1892 GARDINER *Student's Hist. Eng.* 489 Raleigh was..a many-sided man; soldier, sailor, statesman, historian, and poet.

Hence **Manysi·dedness.**

1833 LYTTON *Eng. & English* (ed. 2) II. 97 Wordsworth.. has not, it is true, 'the many-sidedness' of Göthe. 1837 C. LOFFT *Self-formation* I. 275 It tends to give him the decantatum illud of the Germans, .. manysidedness. 1866 *Sat. Rev.* 19 May 584/1 What men gain in manysidedness it is said they are losing in vigour. 1870 LOWELL *Among my Bks.* Ser. I. (1873) 345 The many-sidedness of truth.

Manyssh, -yssyche, obs. ff. MENACE *v.*

Manyways *adv.*: see WAY.

†Many-what. *Obs.* Forms: 3 **maniȝwhatt, moniwhat,** 4 **mani-, mony-quat**(t, **-what.** [See WHAT and cf. *anywhat, somewhat.*] Many things.

c 1200 ORMIN 1028 Enngless..wiþþ þe bisscopp spækenn O Godess hallfe off maniȝwhatt. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 352 Hore liflode is herre, nor pilegrim eiled monihwat. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 12598 (Cott.) Desputand tuix þaim he satt, And þai him asked mani-quat [*v. rr.* many quat, maniquatt, mony what].

Ma·ny-where. *rare.* Also 4 **maniquar**(e, 6–7 (with advb. *s*) **many wheres.** [f. MANY + WHERE.] In many places.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 21723 Bot has bitid oft mani quar, þat less folk ouercummen þe mar. 1565 JEWEL *Repl. Harding* (1611) 433 This kinde of Praier..was many wheres receiued. *a* 1656 BP. HALL *Rem. Wks.* (1660) 289 It..can no more according to the natural being even of a body glorified be many wheres at once. 1902 LUBBOCK *Scenery Eng.* 52 Smoothed and polished rocks occur also 'many-where', if I may coin the word.

Manywise *adv.*: see WISE *sb.*

‖ **Manzanilla** (mænzăni·lă, Sp. manθani·lya). [Sp., f. *manzanilla* camomile.] A kind of dry and light sherry with a somewhat bitter flavour.

1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVII. 466/1 Manzanilla, which is the favourite wine of the Spaniards. 1872 THUDICHUM & DUPRÉ *Treat. Wine* 653 Some descriptions of Manzanilla wine.

Manzanilla, -illo: see MANCHINEEL.

‖ **Manzanita** (mænzăni·tă, Sp. manθani·ta). [Sp., dim. of *manzana* apple.] One of the berry-bearing shrubs of the genus *Arctostaphylos* found in the United States; the bearberry. Also *attrib.*

1872 C. KING *Mountain. Sierra Nev.* ii. 36 The reverence due to the Giver of manzanita berries.

Manzie: see MANYIE *Sc. Obs.*

‖ **Manzil** (mə·nzil). Forms: 7 **manzeil, -eel, munsel, menzill,** 9 **mansale, munzil, -el, manzil.** [Arab. (hence Pers., Urdū) منزل *manzil*, f. *nazala* to descend, alight.] **a.** A halting-place. **b.** The distance between two halting-places, a stage.

1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 55 Our next nights Manzeil was at Gogoam. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 231 In the middle of the Munsel (*i.e.* a whole Day's Journy) the Butler alights. 1840 J. B. FRASER *Koordistan* I. iv. 98 Fixing my first day's munzil..at a village..ten miles from Ooshnoo. 1880 L. WALLACE *Ben Hur* i. (1881) 8 On the desert, distance is..measured..by the *saat*, or hour, and the *manzil*, or halt.

‖ **Ma·nzo.** *Obs. rare.* [It.] Bull-beef.

1594 CAREW *Huarte's Exam. Wits* (1616) 305 Cowes flesh, Manzo, bread of red graine,..the sonne engendred vpon these, shall haue strength like a bull, but witball, bee..of a beastly wit.

Manzy, Sc. form of MEINIE.

Maon: see MAHONE, MAUND2.

Maori (ma·ŏri, mau·ri), *sb.* (*a.*) Pl. **Maori, Maori**(e)**s.** [The native name: said to mean 'of the usual kind' (Morris *Austral Eng.*).]

1. An individual of the brown race inhabiting New Zealand. Also *attrib.* or *adj.* pertaining to this race or their language; *absol.* the language.

1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVII. 752/1 The natives call themselves *maori* (aborigines), in contradistinction to the foreigners, or *pakea*. 1845 E. J. WAKEFIELD *Advent. N. Zealand* I. vi. 174 The Maori language..possesses..but few words which express abstract ideas. .. The Maori, as made a written language, is pronounced in the same way as German or Spanish. 1854 GOLDER *Pigeons Parlt.* 34 Through bush and clearing searching for ye Full of the thoughts of shooting Maori. 1884 *Century Mag.* XXVII. 919 Crowds of Maoris ..thronged the streets.

b. *Comb.*, in names of plants and animals (see Morris *Austral Eng.* 1898): **Maori cabbage,** the wild cabbage of New Zealand; **Maori-chief,** a New Zealand Flathead fish, *Notothenia*; **Maori-head,** a kind of sedge; **Maori-hen,** the Weka or Wood-hen of New Zealand, *Ocydromus.*

2. A New South Wales fish, *Coris lineolatus.*

1882 TENISON-WOODS *Fish & Fisheries N. S. Wales* 74. 1883 E. P. RAMSAY *Food Fishes N. S. Wales* 25 (Fish. Exhib. Publ.) The 'Maori' (*Coris lineolatus*), a most varied and beautifully marked fish, of a rich vermilion.

Maormor: see MORMAOR.

Map (mæp), *sb.*1 Also 6–7 **mappe,** 6–8 **mapp.** [ad. L. *mappa*, in class.L. 'table-cloth, napkin', but in med.L. used *transf.* in the combination *mappa mundi* (see MAPPEMONDE).

Cf. the synonymous OF. *mappe* (rare; also in Rousseau *c* 1770), Sp. *mapa*, Pg. *mappa*, G. *mappe* (obs.: the mod. sense 'portfolio' is not directly connected).]

1. A representation of the earth's surface or a part of it, its physical and political features, etc., or of the heavens, delineated on a flat surface of paper or other material, each point in the drawing corresponding to a geographical or celestial position according to a definite scale or projection.

A hydrographical map is now more usually called a *chart* (formerly †*card*).

1527 R. THORNE in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1589) 257 To make a bigger and a better mappe. 1589 G. HARVEY *Pierce's Super.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 130 The great Mapp of Mercator. 1601 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* III. ii. 84 He does smile his face into more lynes, then is in the new Mappe, with the augmentation of the Indies. 1625 N. CARPENTER *Geog. Del.* I. vii. (1635) 166 A Geographicall Mappe is a plaine Table, wherein the Lineaments of the Terrestriall Spheare are expressed. 1760 JOHNSON *Idler* No. 97 P 5 A rivulet not marked in the maps. 1867 W. W. SMYTH *Coal & Coal-mining* 44 On examination of a geological map it will be seen that [etc.].

b. *transf.* †A table, chart (*obs.*). Also (*nonce-use*), applied to a mental conception of the arrangement of something.

1626 [FEATLEY] tr. *Parallel.* To Rdr. A iij, Errors..which, collected into a small map, they exhibite. 1855 BAIN *Senses & Int.* III. I. § 43 (1864) 398 By a hurt on the ribs we come to connect feelings in the chest with the place on our map of the body.

c. A tract of country spread out like a map.

1784 COWPER *Task* I. 321 A spacious map Of hill and valley interpos'd between.

d. A figure resembling a map in form or outline.

1822 GOOD *Study Med.* IV. 571 Motley dandriff. Scaliness in diffuse maps of irregular outline, and diverse colours.

2. *fig.* A detailed representation in epitome; a circumstantial account of a state of things. Very common in the 17th c.; now *rare* or *Obs.*

c 1586 C'TESS PEMBROKE *Ps.* CXLII. i, My voice, [O Lord], ..Before thy face my cases mapp it laieth. 1607 ROWLANDS *Guy Warw.* 59 Who in her Face a Map of sorrow wears, A countenance compos'd all mournful, sad. 1647 SALTMARSH *Sparkles Glory* (1847) 2 So as man is all created excellency in the map or abridgment. 1791 BURKE *Lett., to R. Burke* (1844) III. 227, I don't know the map of their situation.

†b. The embodiment or incarnation (*of* a virtue, vice, character, etc.); the very picture or image *of*. (So Sp. *mapa.*) *Obs.* (Common in the 17th c.)

a 1591 H. SMITH *Sinf. Man's Search* Six Serm. (1614) E, What were man if he were once left to himselfe? A map of misery. 1606 CHAPMAN *Mons. D'Olive* Plays 1873 I. 200 Farewell the true mappe of a gull. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 83 They are the absolute map of sordidness, fareing hardly, and professing fairly.

†c. An aggregation, multitude. *Obs.*

a 1592 GREENE *Selimus* Wks. (Grosart) XIV. 199 In whose high thoughts A map of many valures is enshrin'd. 1597 MIDDLETON *Wisd. Solomon* XV. 12 My soul, saith he, is but a map of shows, No substance, but a shadow for to please.

†3. [? After L. *mappa*; cf. G. *mappe* portfolio.] ? A wrapper. *Obs.*

1608 TOPSELL *Serpents* 220 But some then will demaund, where had Pope Alexander .. that map or net at Rome wherin (it is said) the napkin of our Sauiour Christ is preserued.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *map-*†*graver, -maker, -making, -monger, -mounter, -seller*; *map-like* adj.; **map butterfly,** a butterfly with map-like markings; **map-flapping** *Mil.*, the process of transmitting by flag-signals the outline of a map (or other drawing); **map lichen,** a lichen, *Lecidea geographica*, the thallus of which has markings resembling a map; **map-measurer,** an instrument for measuring distances on maps (Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1875); **map-meter** = prec.; **map-turtle,** an American turtle, *Malaclemmys geographicus*, so called from the markings of the shell (*Cent. Dict.*).

1894 E. H. AITKEN *Naturalist on Prowl* 50 The delicately devised *Map Butterfly, *Cyrestis thyodamas*. 1886 *Longm. Mag.* Feb., (art.) *Map-flapping. 1662 EVELYN *Chalcogr.* Contents, Chart and *Map-gravers. 1796 NEMNICH *Polygl. Lex. Nat. Hist.*, *Map lichen. *Lichen geographicus*. 1775 ROMANS *Florida* App. 77 Our wise *map-makers..have corrupted it into Ponio bay. 1867 *Parkes' Catal. Instruments* 30 Opisometer or *Map Meter. 1639 FULLER *Holy War* v. xiv. (1840) 267 A great *mapmonger..undertook to travelover England by help of his maps. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, **Map-mounter*, a workman who backs maps with canvas, varnishes and fixes them on rollers [etc.]. 1710 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4685/4 Sold by C. Browne, Print and *Map-seller.

Hence **Ma·pless** *a.*, without maps.

1659 FULLER *App. Inj. Innoc.* I. 5 Mr. Camden's Britania. His first Edition was a Babe in a little..Octavo;..the third, a Youth in a Quarto (but Map-less). 1889 T. HODGKIN *Dynasty of Theodosius* 151 Their deficiency of light cavalry

prevented them from..obtaining, in those mapless days, the much-needed information.

Map, *sb.*[2] *dial.* (*Sc.*) [Cf. *map* vb., to nibble (E. D. D.).] A rabbit. Hence **Ma·ppie** (E. D. D.), †**Mapkin** in the same sense.

1416 in *Rot. Pat. & Claus. Cancel. Hib. Cal.* (1828) I. 213/1 Rex assignavit Johannem Baxter..ad capiendum, emendum, & arrestandum quascunque pelles de martryns, mappekyns, cuniculorum [etc.]. 1825–80 JAMIESON, *Map*, lit., nibbler, a name sometimes given to a rabbit.

Map (mæp), *v.*[1] Inflected **mapped** (mæpt), **mapping.** [f. MAP *sb.*[1] Cf. Sp. *mapar*, G. *mappieren.*]

1. *trans.* To make a map of; to represent or delineate on a map.

1602 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* XII. lxxi. (1612) 297 Not moop't at home, but mapping Lands. 1847 GROTE *Greece* II. xxvi. (1862) III. 19 Thrace, which is even now imperfectly known and badly mapped. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* iii. I. 411 While he, on the rock of Saint Helena, mapped the constellations of the southern hemisphere.

absol. 1901 R. KIPLING *Kim* xii. 321 They will plot and survey and map of course.

b. *transf.* and *fig. Obs.*

1586 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* VI. xxxii. (1589) 143 Of which letigious Famelies here mapped be the Lines. 1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* IV. i. 1, I am neere to th' place where they should meet, if Pisanio haue mapp'd it truely. 1889 RIDER HAGGARD in *Illustr. Lond. News* 23 Feb. 237/1 The form of a man..vaguely mapped upon the twilight.

c. *pass.* Of a laadscape: To be extended to the eye as in a map.

1845 DARWIN *Voy. Nat.* xix. (1852) 449 To the south the broken land and water..was mapped with clearness before us. 1850 CLOUGH *Dipsychus* II. v.

d. *To map down*: to set down or delineate, as in a map.

1868 HELPS *Realmah* xiv. (1876) 379 He is just the sort of quiet, observant fellow to be mapping all our characters down.

2. Map out. a. To represent in detail on a map.

a 1656 BP. HALL *Rem. Wks.* (1660) 387 He..thinkes it not needful to map out before the Traveller every Town and Village of all the Shires through which he should pass.

b. *fig.* †(*a*) To record minutely (*obs.*). (*b*) To plan out (a course of conduct or behaviour), to divide up (a period of time) into sections allotted to different occupations.

1619 HALES *Lett. Synod Dort* 15 Jan. in *Gold. Rem.* (1673) II. 76 One amongst them there is who hath taken the paines to Mappe out your behaviour since your first footing in the Synod. 1883 F. M. CRAWFORD *Dr. Claudius* v, A woman of her position probably..mapped out her year among her friends. 1891 *Law Times* XCII. 130/1 These volumes..map out before us the whole law affecting the marriage contract.

c. To divide (a country) *into* districts, as by lines on a map.

1860 MOTLEY *Netherl.* (1868) I. i. 5 The territory of these countries was mapped out by no visible lines. 1870 E. PEACOCK *Ralf Skirl.* II. 248 The Continent was not then mapped out with tourists' routes.

†**Map,** *v.*[2] *Obs. rare*[−1]. [? cogn. with MOPE *v.*] *trans.* To bewilder.

c 1425 *Festivals* 175 in *Leg. Rood* (1871) 216 Oure lady..lay still doted and dased As a womman mapped and mased.

Map: see also MOP.

Mapamond(e, obs. form of MAPPEMONDE.

Mapkin: see MAP *sb.*[2]

Maple (mē·p'l). Also 4–5 **mapil**(**l, -ul**(**le, -el,** 7 **mayple.** [OE. **mapel, mapul,* only in *mapeltréow* MAPLE-TREE, and in *mapulder* of the same meaning: cf. OS. *mapulder* (Gallée), MLG. *mapeldorn.*

The late ON. *mǫpurr-r* (rare[−1]) seems to be an alteration of the Eng. word after the synonymous but unconnected ON. *mǫsurr*: see MAZER. Beside the O l'eut. type **maplo-* represented in the Eng. and OS. word, there was a synonymous **matlo-* represented in OHG. *mazzaltra*, mod.G. *maszholder*; the relation between these two forms has not been explained.]

1. Any of the trees or shrubs of the genus *Acer*, flourishing in northern temperate regions, many of which are grown for shade or ornament, some valued for their wood, and some for a sugar product. The Common Maple is *Acer campestre.* The fruit of these trees is a double-winged samara or 'key'.

770 [see MAPLE-TREE]. ?*a* 1366 CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 1384 Maples, asshe, ook, asp, planes longe. *c* 1386 — *Knt.'s T.* 2065 Mapul. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. i. 9 The Maple seeldom inward sound. 1632 T. MORTON *New Eng. Canaan* II. ii. (1637) 65 Mayple,..very excellent, for bowles. 1732 *Gentl. Mag.* II. 673 The Maple blushing gratifies the Sight. 1856 WHITTIER *Ranger* v, Silver birches, golden-hooded, Set with maples, crimson-blooded.

b. With qualifying word, applied to various species of the genus *Acer*: e. g.

Bird's-eye Maple (cf. 2) = *sugar maple*; **Black** or **Black Sugar Maple,** *A. nigrum*; **Cretan Maple,** *A. creticum*; **Dwarf Maple,** *A. glabrum* (Cent. Dict. 1890); **Goose-foot Maple** = *striped maple* (ibid.); **Great** or **Greater Maple** = *sycamore maple*; **Hairy Maple,** *A. barbatum*; **Hard Maple** = *sugar maple*; **Italian Maple,** *A. Opalus*; **Montpellier Maple,** *A. monspessulanum*, found in southern France; **Mountain Maple,** *A. spicatum*, found on mountains in North America; **Norway Maple,** *A. platanoides*; **Red** or **Red-flowering, Scarlet** or **Scarlet-flowering Maple,** *A. rubrum*; **Rock Maple** = *sugar maple*; **Silver, Silver-leaved,** or **White Maple,** *A. dasycarpum*, of eastern North America; **Soft Maple,** 'either the red or the silver maple' (Cent. Dict.); **Striped Maple,** *A. pennsylvanicum* (or *striatum*), moosewood; **Sugar Maple,** *A. saccharinum* of North America, which yields maple-sugar; **Swamp Maple** = *red maple*; **Sycamore Maple,** *A. Pseudo-platanus* (see SYCAMORE); **Vine Maple,** *A. circinatum* (Cent. Dict.). Also **Ash-leaved Maple,** any tree of the genus *Negundo*; box-elder.

1597 GERARDE *Herbal* III. cxii. 1300 The great Maple, not rightly called the Sycomore tree..is a stranger in England. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) s.v. *Acer.* 1800 *Med. Jrnl.* IV. 246 The sugar and silver maple, *Acer saccharinum*, and *A. dasycarpon.* 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 1876 BURROUGHS *Winter Sunshine* (1895) 93 Soft maple makes a very fine white sugar.

2. The wood of any of these trees. *Bird's-eye maple* (see BIRD'S-EYE 4). *Curled maple*: a wood in which the grain is much undulated or contorted, obtained from the broad-leaved, red, and sugar maples. *Mottled, Russian maple* (see quot. 1875).

1396–7 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 214, ix sawsars de Mapill. 1663 COWLEY *Ess., Agric.* Wks. 1710 II. 714 He seats him in a Throne of Maple. 1664 EVELYN *Sylva* x. 28 The Maple..was of old held in equal estimation almost with the Citron; especially the Bruscum, the French-Maple, and the Peacocks-tail-Maple. 1805 WORDSW. *Prel.* I. 515 The naked table, snow-white deal, Cherry or maple. 1847 W. DARLINGTON *Amer. Weeds*, etc. (1860) 92 The wood of the Red Maple—especially that variety or form of it, known as Curled Maple. 1875 *Ure's Dict. Arts* III. 216 The Russian maple is thought to be the wood of a birch tree...The bird's eye maple is the American variety...The mottled maple is a commoner variety.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *maple grove, leaf,* †*warr* (= knot in tree), *wood*; quasi-*adj.* with sense 'made of maple wood', as in *maple chair, cup, dish.* Also †**maple biscuit,** some kind of confectionery; †**maple block,** a block of maple wood on which tobacconists cut tobacco; **maple-borer,** an insect which bores the wood of maples (*Cent. Dict.* 1890); **maple bush,** the mountain maple, *Acer spicatum*; **maple disease,** a disease of certain maples caused by the fungus *Phyllosticta acericola* (*Cent. Dict.*); **maple eye,** in graining, an eye-shaped mark like those found in maple wood; †**maple face,** a spotted face; so **maple-faced** *adj.*; **maple grey,** a kind of grey pea; **maple-honey** *U.S.*, the uncrystallized part of the sap of the sugar maple (Bartlett *Dict. Amer.* 1859); **maple key,** the fruit of a maple-tree (see KEY *sb.*[1] 14); **maple knob** (see quot.); **maple molasses, syrup** *U.S.*, a syrup obtained by evaporating maple sap or dissolving maple sugar (*Cent. Dict.*); **maple rouncival,** a kind of rouacival pea (cf. *maple grey*); **maple sugar,** the sugar obtained by evaporation from the sap of certain maples; **maple sugary,** a maple sugar factory. Also MAPLE-ROOT, -TREE.

1755 *Mem. Capt. P. Drake* II. iii. 45 A Flask of Pontack, ..with Cakes, *Maple Biscuits, and other Sweetmeats [at Allost, in Flanders]. 1610 B. JONSON *Alch.* I. iii, He has his *maple block, his siluer tongs. 1821 SCHOOLCRAFT *Trav.* 162 The small red twigs of the..*maple hush. 1649 OGILBY *Æneis* VIII. (1684) 292 A *Maple Chair, graced with a Lion's Skin. 1679 BLOUNT *Anc. Tenures* 7 The service of presenting the king with three *Maple-Cups on the day of his Coronation. 1634 MILTON *Comus* 391 Who would rob a Hermit of his Weeds, His few Books, or his Beads, or *Maple Dish? 1873 E. SPON *Workshop Receipts* Ser. I. 424/2 Put in the *maple eyes by band. 1633 B. JONSON *Tale of Tub* II. i, What! Rowle-powle! *Maple-face! All fellowes! 1650 BULWER *Anthropomet.* 159 Ere long these adulterate Colours will moulder, and then the old maple-Face appeares. 1607 MIDDLETON *Five Gallants* IV. vii, You unlucky, *maple-faced rascal. 1805 R. W. DICKSON *Pract. Agric.* II. 583 The Marlborough gray, the horn gray, the *maple gray. 1876 *Encycl. Brit.* IV. 773/2 A *maple grove ..is..regarded as a valuable feature on a Canadian farm. 1664 EVELYN *Kal. Hort., Oct.* (1679) 26 Ashen, Sycomor, and *Maple keys. 1858 HOMANS *Cycl. Comm.* 1316/1 In addition to the above-named varieties [curled and bird's-eye maples], two other kinds occur in the *wens*, or excrescences, which grow on the trunk or roots of this tree. ..The most valuable variety is known by the name of Variegated *Maple-knob. 1418 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 36 Wroght wit *mapil leues and fret of .iij. foill. 1900 *Daily News* 1 Jan. 3/2 The Canadians; the wearers of the maple leaf. 1762 MILLS *Syst. Pract. Husb.* I. 466 The green and the *maple rouncivals require a stronger soil than the white. 1784 J. BELKNAP in *B. Papers* (1877) II. 181 A sauce composed of raspberries, cream, and *maple sugar. 1890 E. W. GOSSE *P. H. Gosse* 95 A log-hut..a young *maple-sugary, and four tons of hay. 1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* Aug. 26 A mazer ywrought of the *Maple Warre. 17.. MORTIMER *Husb.* (J.), Of the rottenest *maple wood burnt to ashes they make a strong lye. 1805 *Med. Jrnl.* XIV. 172 Maple wood is .. much used for the lathe.

Hence **Mapled** (mē·p'ld) *a.*, grown with maples.

1851 WHITTIER *Chapel of Hermits* 371 This mapled ridge shall Horeb be.

Maple, variant of MAPPLE *Obs.*, a mop.

Maple-root. The root of the maple, formerly used medicinally.

1523 SKELTON *Garl. Laurel* 1377 [In the list of his own compositions.] The Murnyng of the mapely rote. 1609 *T. Ravenscroft's Pammelia* xxxi. C 3 b, My Ladie's gone to Canterbury, S. Thomas be her boote. Shee met with Kate of Malmsbury, why weepst thou maple roote? 1640 PARKINSON *Theat. Bot.* xvi. xxvi. 1427 Or Maple roote in pouther made Take oft in Wine, a present med'cine knowne.

Ma·ple-tree. = MAPLE 1.

770 in Birch *Cart. Sax.* (1885) I. 290 Of þam syrf treowe in þ ruȝ' mapel treow in forweard werdune. *c* 1425 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 646/19 *Hec ascer*, mapulletre. 1579 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 100 Is not..dunge [taken] out of the Maple tree by the Scorpion? 1859 GEO. ELIOT *A. Bede* ii, As Dinah walked..towards the cart under the maple-tree.

Mapold, -olt, mappel: see MAPPLE *Obs.*

Mappemonde (mæpmǒ·nd). Now only *Hist.* Forms: 4–5 **mappemounde, mapamond**(**e, 6 mappamo**(**u**)**nd,** 9 **mappemonde.** [a. F. *mappemonde*, ad. med.L. *mappa mundī* map of the world. Cf. mod.Pr. *mapomoundo*, Sp. *mapamundi.*] The map of the world; in early quots., the world itself.

1387 CHAUCER *To Rosemounde* 2 Madame, ye ben of al beautè shryne As fer as cercled is the mappemounde [*MS.* mapamonde]. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 102 And sette proprely the bounde Afre the forme of Mappemounde. *c* 1450 HOLLAND *Howlat* 328 Marchonis in the mapamond..mixt dukis in dignite. 1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* Prol. ii, The twynkland sternis about þe mappamound. 1560 ROLLAND *Cr. Venus* II. 125 Of all palice it was the luminair, That euer ȝit was maid on Mappamond. 1864 MAJOR in *Archæologia* XL. 1 Memoir on a Mappemonde by Leonardo da Vinci. 1891 J. WINSOR *Columbus* ii. 61 The mappemonde, which was drawn in 1500, by one of Columbus's pilots, Juan de la Cosa.

Ma·pper. [f. MAP *v.*[1] + -ER[1].] A map-maker.

1635 PERSON *Varieties* I. 44 Our moderne Navigators and Mappers. 1883 BURTON & CAMERON *Gold Coast* I. ii. 32 Columbus..lived as a mapper with his father-in-law.

So **Ma·ppery** (*contemptuous*), the making of maps.

1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* I. iii. 205 They call this Bed-worke, Mapp'ry, Closset-Warre. 1840 *Tait's Mag.* VII. 411 Protocols..and what not, the mere mappery and paper projection of what has had, or may have, some relation to a deed.

Mapping (mæ·pin), *vbl. sb.* [f. MAP *v.*[1] + -ING[1].] The action of MAP *v.*[1]; the drawing of maps, map-making; planning. Also with *out, down.*

1775 in ASH *Suppl.* 1849 MURCHISON *Siluria* v. 93 Corrections being made in the mapping of faults and strata. 1856 MRS. BROWNING *Aur. Leigh* IX. 838 Less mapping out of matter to be saved. 1860 GEO. ELIOT *Mill on Fl.* II. i, When the miller talked of 'mapping' and 'summing' in a vague and diffident manner. 1868 LOCKYER tr. *Guillemin's Heavens* (ed. 3) 390 The actual mapping down of the spectra of several of the brightest stars.

attrib. 1866 W. F. STANLEY *Math. Drawing Instr.* 12 A very fine kind of writing-pen, termed a mapping pen.

Ma·ppist. *rare.* [f. MAP *v.*[1] + -IST.] = MAPPER.

a 1618 SYLVESTER *Little Bartas* 311 Learned Mappists, on a Paper small, Draw (in Abbridgement) the whole Type of all. 1888 *Academy* 28 Jan. 63/3 The mappist Collins calls the river between Oxford and Wallingford the Isis.

†**Mapple.** *Obs.* In 5 **mappel, mapolt, -old,** 6 **maple.** [app. ad. late L. *mappula* (? in monastic use), dim. of *mappa* napkin: see MAP *sb.*[1], MOP *sb.*] A mop.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 325/2 Mappel, *idem quod* Malkyn. 1466 *Mann. & Household Exp.* (Roxb.) 346 Thrommes for pyche mapoltes. 1486 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 16 Shepe skyannes for mapoldes. 1599 NASHE *Lenten Stuffe* Ded. A 2 With Cales beards, as broade as scullers maples, that they make cleane their boates with.

Ma·ppy, *a.* [f. MAP *sb.*[1] + -Y.] Like a map.

1861 THORNBURY *Turner* (1862) I. 230 He had a horror of what he said Wilson called 'being too mappy'. 1873 MISS BROUGHTON *Nancy* III. 152 A dead colourless flat, dotted with little round trees, .. one of those mappy views, that lack even the beauties of a map.

Mapul(**le,** obs. form of MAPLE.

Maquaroon, obs. form of MACAROON.

Maquerel, -el(**l**)**a:** see MACKEREL[1] and 2.

‖**Maqui** (makī). Also 8 **mague.** [Chilian Sp.] The Chilian shrub *Aristotelia Maqui* (N.O. *Tiliaceæ*), yielding a valuable fibre, and producing berries often used in the adulteration of wine.

1704 *Ovalle's Chili* in *Churchill's Voyages* III. 48 There are also trees call'd Magues. 1809 tr. *Molina's Nat. Hist. Chili* I. 37 The maqui, a species of cornel. 1860 *Treas. Bot.* 719/2 Maqui (Fr.), *Aristotelia.* 1890 *Daily News* 5 Feb. 5/4 The Chilian Consul-General expresses his opinion that the attention of our farmers will soon be called to the cultivation of the plant known in Chili as the Maqui...The sudden demand for the dried Maqui berry in France is..not without significance.

Mar (mār), *sb.* Also 3 **mer**(**e, 6 marr, 7 marre.** [f. MAR *v.*]

†**1.** A hindrance, obstruction; an impediment in speech. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 67 For þan sal mede witouten mere, be mette for dede or bettur or were. *Ibid.* 24802 A gret resun wel sceu he cuth, wit-vten ani mer in muth. 1653 R. BAILLIE *Dissuas. Vind.* (1655) 43 The main marre of their labour was the common error of Independency. 1824 MACTAGGART *Gallovid. Encycl.*, *Maunt*, to speak thick and fast; to have a marr in the speech.

2. Something that mars or impairs; a drawback *to.* In early use, †a fault. *rare.*

1551 ASCHAM *Let. to E. Raven* 18 May *Eng. Wks.* (1761) 384, I trust my will to write shall match the marrs I make in it. 1876 DR. EDINBURGH in *Daily News* 1 May 2/6 The only mar to the pleasure I feel in again hoisting the pennant. 1901 *Pall Mall Mag.* Sept. 70/1 It was no mar to the day for Roderic to share Miss Allan thus.

Mar (mār), *v.* Forms: 1 **merran, mierran, mirran, myrran,** 3 **mære,** 3–5 **merre,** 3–6 **mer**(**e,** 3–7 **marre,** 3–8 **marr,** 4 **mire,** 5–7 **mare,** 4– **mar.** [Com. Teut. OE. *męrran* corresponds to OFris. *meria* to hinder (only once, in 3rd pers. sing. pres. ind. *meert*), OS. *merrian* to cause to stumble or err, to hinder (MLG., MDu. *merren* to hinder,

also intr. to loiter, mod.Du. *marren* to fasten, tie up, to loiter), OHG. *marren*, *merren* to hinder, disturb (MHG. *merren* to hinder, also intr. to linger, delay), ON. *merja* to bruise, crush, Goth. *marzjan* to cause to stumble, offend. A parallel formation from the same Teut. root **marz-* appears in OE. *mearrian* to go astray, err, MHG. *marren* to linger, loiter. The Teut. word was adopted in Romanic as OF. *marrir* to lose (one's way), to lead astray, perplex, afflict, distress (mod.F. only in pa.pple *marri* grieved), It. *smarrire* to bewilder, Sp. *marrido* adj., grieved.

According to some philologists, the OTeut. *marzjan* is formally equivalent to Skr. *marṣaya-*, causative stem of *mṛṣ* to forget (Indogermanic root **mers-*, whence Lith. *miršti* to forget); the root may have had a wider sense than that preserved in Skr. and Lith.]

†**1.** *trans.* To hamper, hinder, interfere with, interrupt or stop (a person, event or thing). *Obs.*

c **1000** Ælfric *Exod.* v. 4 Hwi mirrað git þis folc fram heora weorcum? *a* **1300** *Cursor M.* 2254 Now we haue vs sped sa ferr Vr wil may he noght vs merr. *c* **1375** *Sc. Leg. Saints* xiii. (*Marcus*) 75 Sathanas sal nocht mare me. *c* **1440** *York Myst.* xli. 100 Bot thowe, myghty Lorde, my mornyng mar! Mar ye, for it shulde me well pay, So happy to se hyme yf I warr. **1513** Douglas *Æneis* x. vii. 173 So thyk in stayll all marryt wolx the rout, Oneys myght ony turn hys hand about To weyld his wappin. **1530** Palsgr. 705/2 If these bordes shrinke, all my purpose is marred. **1578** Banister *Hist. Man* viii. 109 Mouyng is marred, when..solution of continuitie is made. **1590** Sir J. Smyth *Disc. Weapons* 3 In case anie horseman..should bee wounded..his fighting for that day were marred. **1727** A. Hamilton *New Acc. E. Ind.* I. xxv. 308 [He] had certainly dispatched him, if a large Brass Lamp which was burning over his Head, had not marred the Blow. **1827** Carlyle tr. *Tieck's Elves, Germ. Rom.* II. 121 'Then we shall see which of us is swifter'. 'Done', said Mary, and began to run; 'for we shall not mar one another by the way' [orig. *so hindern wir uns auch nicht auf demselben Wege*]. **1849** *Chambers's Inform.* II. 653/2 [Glasgow regulations for Bowls.] If a bowl is accidentally marred by an opponent, it shall be in the option of the party playing to let it rest, or play it over again.

2. To spoil, impair. **a.** With obj. a material thing: To damage so as to render useless; to destroy or impair the quality of. Now *rare*. Also in OE. † to waste, squander (property).

c **897** K. Ælfred *Gregory's Past. C.* xliv. 325 Ðylæs mon unnytlice mierre ðæt ðæt he hæbbe. **13**.. *E. E. Allit. P.* C. 474 Þen wakened þe wyse of his wyl dremes, & blusched to his wodbynde þat broþely was marred. *c* **1400** *Destr. Troy* 5700 But his shippes..rut on a Rocke, & rent all to peses, þat mony was mard & the men drownet. **1483** Caxton *G. de la Tour* H iij b, Wyn taken ouer mesure..marreth and corrupteth the good blood. **1530** Palsgr. 458/2 You have blotted this shete of paper so sore that it is marred. ?**1538** Leland *Itin.* VII. 47 Fische Garthes marre the Haven. **1562** Turner *Baths* 1 The bathes of brimstone hurte the stomack and mar it. **1611** Bible *Mark* ii. 22 The wine is spilled, and the bottles will bee marred. **1612** Brinsley *Lud. Lit.* 252 Making markes vnder euery hard word in each page, without marring our bookes. *a* **1677** Barrow *Serm.* Wks. 1716 I. 22 There is ever some dead fly in our box, which marreth our ointment. **1728** Young *Love Fame* iv. 52 Thunder mars small beer, and weak discourse. *a* **1848** R. W. Hamilton *Rew. & Punishm.* vii. (1853) 336 The vessel is so marred that it cannot be repaired. **1878** Browning *La Saisiaz* 36 The breath is not the flute, Both together make the music; either marred and all is mute.

b. With immaterial obj.: To impair fatally, ruin. Often in proverbial antithesis with *make* (see Make *v.*[1] 46 b) or Mend *v.* In mod. use with somewhat lighter sense: To detract from the perfection or completeness of.

c **1230** *Hali Meid.* 9 Adam & eue..merden ure cunde. *Ibid.* 43 Sone so þu telles te betere þen an oðer..þu marres ti meidenhad [*MS. Bodley* merrest þin meiðhad]. *a* **1300** *Cursor M.* 17988 Harde haþ he werred me a3ayn, And myche marred of my mayn. *c* **1440** *York Myst.* xxiii. 87 It marres my myght. *a* **1568** Ascham *Scholem.* 1. (Arb.) 34 Some wittes, moderate enough by nature, be many tymes marde by ouer moch studie. *Ibid.*, Galene saith, moch Musick marreth mens maners. **1579** W. Wilkinson *Confut. Familye of Loue* 4 An euill exposition marreth the text. **1605** Shaks. *Lear* I. iv. 369 Striuing to better, oft we marre what's well. **1616** Surfl. & Markh. *Country Farm* 9 It marreth the voice, bringing Hoarsenesse, and a little Cough. **1624** Wotton *Archit.* I. 23 It will marre all the mirth in the House. **1719** Young *Revenge* iv. i, There they'll revel, and exult to find Him sleep so fast, who else would marr their joys. *a* **1732** Boston *Crook in Lot* (1805) 4 What God sees meet to mar, one will not be able to mend in his lot. **1744** Harris *Three Treat.* I. iii. (1765) 172 The Dread of them may marr the Rectitude of our Purposes. **1833** Ht. Martineau *Briery Creek* v. 99, I cannot mar my satisfaction by groundless doubts. **1867** Lady Herbert *Cradle L.* viii. 212 The pleasure of shopping was marred by the surliness of the inhabitants. **1896** *N. & Q.* 8th Ser. IX. 160/1 Though marred by eccentricities and extravagances of language, the play has genuine dramatic fibre.

†**c.** Phrases. *To mar all*: to act so as to prevent a project or operation from being carried to a successful issue; to 'spoil everything', to act badly. *To mar (one's) market*: see Market *sb.* 4 c. *Obs.*

c **1420** *Liber Cocorum* (1862) 57 3if þou cast salt þer to, iwys þou marres alle, so have I blis. **1535** Coverdale *Judg.* ii. 19 Whan the iudge dyed, they turned backe, and marred all more then their fathers. **1624** Capt. Smith *Virginia* 90 As they had beene troublesome at Sea, began againe to marre all ashore.

†**d.** *intr.* for *refl.* To become deteriorated; to spoil; to perish. *Obs.*

c **1230** *Hali Meid.* 13 Þat ha [*sc.* hire limen & hire wittes] ne merren ne formealten þurh licomliche lustes i flesche fuðe. **13**.. *E. E. Allit. P.* C. 172 Lo af synkes in his synne & for his sake marres! *c* **1440** *York Myst.* i. 93 My mighte and my mayne es all marrande, Helpe, felawes, in faythe I am fallande. **1530** Palsgr. 638/1 The beste thyng in the worlde, if it be myskept, will marre in processe of tyme. **1609** C. Butler *Fem. Mon.* i. (1623) C iv, The Host..could not choose in that space but melt and marre.

3. *trans.* To harm, injure (a person, etc.). **a.** To inflict destructive bodily harm upon. In later use, to mangle, disfigure (now *arch.*).

c **1205** Lay. 1903 Vfele he [a wrestler] hine mærde ah na wiht he hit ne mende. *Ibid.* 22345 Arðures men letten fleon vnimete flan and merden Irisc folc, & hit swiðe ualden. *c* **1400** *Destr. Troy* 5553 What mighty were marrit, & martrid to dethe. *c* **1470** *Gol. & Gaw.* 96 Quhy has thow marrit my man, with maistri to mene? *c* **1489** Caxton *Sonnes of Aymon* vi. 140 Goo backe agen, & marre not your horse about noughte. **1530** Palsgr. 598/2 And you heale his legge up afore you kyll the deed flesshe quyte you marre hym for ever. **1535** Coverdale *Isa.* iii. 15 Wherfore do ye oppresse my people, and marre ye faces of the innocentes? **1575** Turberv. *Venerie* 21 You may kepe them from going out, and that other dogs do not byte them, or that they be troden upon or marred with mens feete. **1656** Culpeper *Eng. Physic. enlarged* 59, I am confident .. That if you mar the very Apple of their [young swallows'] Eyes with a Needle, she shal recover them again. **1692** Ray *Disc.* I. iv. (1713) 57 Those..Embryos may, by a violent cause, be marred or deformed in the womb. **1812** Scott *Let. to Miss J. Baillie* 17 Jan., in *Lockhart*, The watchword of these young heroes ..was—Mar him. **1845-6** Trench *Hulsean Lect.* Ser. II. vi. 233 Some limbs of his body broken off and some marred and battered by the..waves. **1887** Bowen *Virg. Æneid* VI. 495 Noble Deiphobus here he beholds, all mangled and marred.

†**b.** To ruin, damage seriously (a person, his fortunes, etc.). Often in antithesis with *mend*. *Obs.*

c **1350** *Will. Paterne* 1171 Heiȝh king of heuene .. ne fauore nouȝt my fo [*MS.* so my] þat falsly me so marres. *c* **1394** *P. Pl. Crede* 66 Þe foles foundeden hem-self freres of the Pye, And maken hem mendynaunes & marre þe puple. *c* **1400** *Destr. Troy* 720 Suche a maiden to mar þat þe most louet! *c* **1440** *York Myst.* xxvii. 119 The fende is wrothe with 3ou and me, And will 3ou marre if þat he may. **1560** Becon *Sick Man's Salve* Wks. II. 220 b, Thys sycknesse hath vtterly marred me. **1607** Shaks. *Lear* I. i. 97 Mend your speach..lest it mar your fortunes. **1611** Bible *Jer.* xiii. 9 After this maner will I marre the pride of Iudah. **1614** Chamberlain *Let.* in *Court & Times Jas. I*, I. 320 The parliament will mend him or quite mar him. **1616** R. C. *Times' Whistle* III. 1151 But now this boy..doth all his fortunes marre. **1622** R. Hawkins *Voy. S. Sea* (1847) 104 Pittie marreth the whole cittie.

c. To ruin or damage morally. *Obs.* exc. *dial.* to 'spoil' a child by indulgence: cf. Marred *ppl. a.*

1530 Palsgr. 483/1 You cherysshe this chylde so moche that you shal marre him. **1605** Bacon *Adv. Learn.* I. ii. § 1 That it [learning] doth marre and peruert mens dispositions for matter of gouernment and policie. *a* **1639** W. Whateley *Prototypes* II. (1640) 153 Those that have these good abilities, must take heede of marrying [*sic*] themselves, and defiling them by being proud of them. **1684** Wood *Life* 9 Oct. (O.H.S.) III. 114 Digby Lord Gerard..was utterly mar'd by keeping company with base lewd fellowes.

†**4.** To confuse, bewilder; to perplex, trouble; to grieve, distress. [Cf. OF. *marrir*.] *Obs.*

13.. *Cursor M.* 15725 Ful merred war þai in þair mode. *a* **1310** in Wright *Lyric P.* vii. 29 On molde y waxe mad, a maide marreth me. *c* **1350** *Will. Palerne* 884 He ferd as a mased man an marred nei3 honde. *c* **1375** *Sc. Leg. Saints* vi. (*Thomas*) 354 He..Is syk a man þat merknes merryse. *c* **1485** *Digby Myst.* iv. 1054 To blame ye are, With this dedly sorow your-self to marre. **1535** Stewart *Cron. Scot.* II. 523 O mad monstour! marrit out of thi mynd. **1590** Spenser *F. Q.* III. x. 31 But minds of mortall men are muchell mard And mov'd amisse with massy mucks unmeet regard. **1603** *Philotus* cxlviii, As ane out of his mynde or marrit, He hes mee of his hous debarrit.

†**5.** *intr.* To err; to go astray; to be or become bewildered or confused. *Obs.*

c **950** *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xxii. 29 ȝie merras *vel* ȝe duellas [Vulg. *erratis*]. *c* **1420** *Anturs of Arth.* 110 (Douce MS.) Hit marred, hit memered, hit mused for madde. *c* **1440** *York Myst.* xliv. 166, i *Doct.* þai are drounken, all þes menȝe, Of muste or wyne, I wolle warande. ii *Doct.* Nowe certis þis was wele saide, þat makis þer mynde to marre. *c* **1475** *Ranf Coilȝear* 22 Amang thay myrk Montanis sa madlie thay mer. *a* **1510** Douglas *K. Hart* I. 104 All that couth attene the castell neir, It made thame for to mer amiss, and mang.

Mar, obs. f. Mayor, Mere *sbs.*; More *sb.* and *a.*

Mar-, *vbl. stem*, prefixed to sbs., forming sbs. (chiefly 17th cent. nonce-wds.), with sense 'one who or something which mars', and *adjs.*, with sense 'that mars'; as *mar-all* sb. and adj., *mar-feast*, *-good*, *-hawk*, *-joy*; *mar-right* adj.; †**mar-tail**, a derisive term for a prostitute. Also Marplot.

1611 Florio, *Ser sparecchia*, a *mar-all, a spoile-all, a busie-headed fellow. *a* **1625** Fletcher *Chances* I. i, And what now Meane they to study, Anthony, Morall Philosophy, After their mar-all women? **1821** Scott *Kenilw.* i, I will drink a round..rather than be termed a *mar-feast. **1647** Trapp *Comm. Rev.* iii. 2 Hypocrisie, that pernicious *mar-good. **1575** Turbery. *Faulconrie* 142 Such a man..shall seldome prove a perfecte falconer but a *marrehawke. *a* **1628** F. Grevil *Alaham* IV. i, He hath no good: you have no ill but he: This *Marre-rigbt yielding's honors Tyranny. *c* **1620** Fletcher *Chances* IV. ii, Well, my sweet mistress, well, good madam *martaile!

b. *esp.* in **mar-prelate**, first used in the pseudonym 'Martin Marprelate', adopted by the writer or writers of certain tracts issued in 1588–9, which gave rise to a fierce controversy; hence *attrib.*, as *Marprelate controversy*, *tracts*; also **Marprelate** *v.*, to inveigh in the style of 'Marprelate'; **Marprelatist**, *attrib.* belonging to the Marprelate party. Also in many nonce-words occurring in the Marprelate tracts or in later works referring to them.

1588 *Marprel. Epist.* (Arb.) 20 You are called Elmar, but you may be better called marelme..hauing cut them all downe. **1589** *Mar Martine* 6 Hee might have cald himselfe Mar-preest. **1589** *Hay any Work* (1844) 32 As for Marchurch, and Mar-religion, they haue [etc.]. *Ibid.* 44 You Mar-prince, Mar-law, Mar-magestrate. **1636** H. Sydenham *Serm. Sol. Occ.* (1637) 270 Those tongues which .. Mar-Prelated .. of old against the Ecclesiasticke Hierarchy. **1862** R. Vaughan *Nonconformity* 56 The notorious Marprelate tracts. **1879** *Sat. Rev.* 6 Sept. 298 The series of marprelatist characterizations of the contemporary Anglican episcopate.

Mara[1] (mā·rä). A large hare-like cavy, *Dolicholis patachonica*, native of Patagonia.

1833 *Penny Cycl.* I. 214/2 The Mara or Patagonian Cavy. **1859** Wood *Nat. Hist.* I. 578.

‖ **Mara**[2] (mā·rä). [Skr. *Māra*, f. *mṛ* to die.] The 'Satan' of Buddhist mythology.

1871 Alabaster *Wheel of Law* p. xliii, The army of Mara, the evil one. **1879** Sir E. Arnold *Lt. Asia* VI. xix. 159 The ten chief Sins came—Mara's mighty ones, Angels of evil.

†**Marabas.** *Sc. Obs.* [After F. *bonnet à la marrabaise* (Rabelais), from OF. *marrabais* 'crypto-Judæus', Marrano.] *attrib.*, in *marabas bonnet* 'a large flat cap' (Jam.).

1538 *Burgh. Rec. Edin.* (1871) II. 91 To ilk ane of the said 7 officeris ane marabas bonet with ane quhyte fedder. **1539** *Ld. Treas. Acc.* in Pitcairn *Crim. Trials* I. 297* Ane Marrabas Bonett.

Marabbot(h,-abbutt,-abot(e: see Marabout.

Marablane, obs. form of Myrobalan.

Marabou[1] (mæ·răbū). Also **marabout**, **marabu.** [a. F. *marabout(t*, app. repr. a vulgar Arabic use of *murābiṭ* hermit, Marabout. 'The stork is said to be *Mrabt*, i.e. holy' (Pagni in Dozy *Suppl. aux Dictt. arabes*, s.v. *murābiṭ*).]

1. A large stork or heron, *Leptoptilus marabou* or *crumenifer*, a native of Western Africa. Now applied also to the adjutant-bird of India, *Leptoptilus dubius* or *argala*. Also *marabou stork*.

1826 *Denham & Clapperton's Trav. N. & Central Africa* App. 203 M. Temminck .. has given it [*sc.* this African species] the name of *Argala*, while for the Indian bird,.. he proposes the name of *Marabou*. We have ventured to reverse the order of these names;..we have assigned the African species the title of *Marabou*, which .. is a word peculiar to Africa. **1861** Du Chaillu *Equat. Afr.* xiv. 223 The ugly marabouts, from whose tails our ladies get the .. feathers for their bonnets. **1872** Baker *Nile Tribut.* xi. 175, I shot a crocodile, and a marabou stork.

2. A tuft or plume of the soft white downy feathers found under the wings and tail of these birds, used for trimming hats and dresses. Also *marabou feather*, *plume*. Also *collect. sing.*, trimming made of these feathers.

1823 *Repos. Arts*, etc. Ser. III. I. 57 A good many [hats] are trimmed with marabouts only. *Ibid.* 184 Marabout plumes. **1828** Lady Granville *Lett.* (1894) II. 15 Lady George in a *toque* with marabouts. **1839** Thackeray *Second Lect. Fine Arts* ii. Wks. 1900 XIII. 276 A marabou feather which she wears in her turban. **1884** *Illustr. Lond. News* 11 Oct. 338/3 Ladies who rejoice in the soft fluffy white feather trimming called marabout.

transf. **1862** H. Marryat *Year in Sweden* II. 444 Birch varies the scene with its drooping marabouts.

3. An exceptionally white kind of raw silk which can be dyed without first removing the natural gum.

1835 Ure *Philos. Manuf.* 248 It is only a finishing degree of twist which marabout receives after dyeing. **1879** *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IX. 155 Marabout is silk thrown twice.

‖ **Marabou**[2]. [Louisiana Fr.] (See quot.)

1859 Bartlett *Dict. Amer.*, *Marabou*, the variety of negro which springs from a mulatto and a griffe.

‖ **Marabout** (mæ·răbūt). Forms: 7 **maribot(t, marybot, -buck, morabit, marabot, morabout, marabou,** 8 **marabbot(h, marabbutt, marahbut, marabote, marbut,** 9 **marabut,** 7– **marabout.** [repr. Arab. مرابط *murābiṭ* hermit, monk. The mod. Eng. form is from Fr. Cf. Pg. *marabute*, Sp. *morabito*.]

1. A Mohammedan hermit or monk, particularly amongst the Moors and Berbers of North Africa.

a **1623** R. Jouson in Purchas *Pilgrims* (1625) II. ix. 1572 Their Marybucks or Bassareas, are their Priests or Religious persons. *c* **1645** Howell *Lett.* (1650) II. xi. 11 Their Hoggies, Magitians and Maribotts, were tampring with the ill Spirit of the Air. **1660** F. Brooke tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 15 In a certain place there, the Marabouts immolate at this time. **1704** J. Pitts *Acc. Mohammetans* 12 The Marabbot or Saint. **1863** R. F. Burton *Wand. W. Afr.* I. 172 The Marabut, who does not drink, and the Soniaki, or Sonalki, who does. **1903** E. J. Dillon in *Contemp. Rev.* Feb. 281 Marabouts foretold the coming of divine wrath.

2. A shrine marking the burial-place of a marabout.

1859 J. W. Blakesley *Mouths Alg.* ii. 25 Besides the mosques, there are several marabouts in Algiers and the neighbourhood. **1867** Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Marabut.* ..Small edifices on Barbary headlands, occupied by a priest. **1881** *Times* 10 May 5 The French troops took yesterday the Sidi-Adallah-Ben-Djemel, which is the most venerated marabout in all Tunis.

Marabout, marabu: see MARABOU [1].

†**Marabuto.** *Naut. Obs.* Also **marabut.** [a. Sp. *marabuto*, also *maraguto*.] A jib-sail.

1622 MABBE tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* II. II. x. 191 They tooke out another lesser one [*sc.* sail] which they call Marabuto..which is a kinde of triangulary sayle. 1659 HOWELL *Lex., Vocab.* vi, The marabut, a triangular kind of sayl belonging to a Carvel, *il marabuto*. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk., Marabut*, a sail which galleys hoisted in bad weather.

Maracaibo (mærăkaiˑbo). Name of the northern province of Venezuela, used attributively in **Maracaibo-balaam**, a copaiba obtained from *Copaifera officinalis*; **Maracaibo-bark**, the bark of *Cinchona tucujensis*. 1889 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

‖**Maracan** (mærăkæˑn). Also 8 **maracana.** [a. Tupi *maracanã*.] A Brazilian macaw.

1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp., Maracana.* 1828–32 WEBSTER, *Maracan.* In mod. Dicts.

Marace, obs. form of MARISH.

‖**Maracock** (mæˑrăkɒk). *Obs.* exc. *Hist.* Forms: 7 **maricock, maracoco, -coko, amaracoc,** 7–8 **maracoc,** 8 **maracot, marococ, marcor,** 7– **maracock.** [From the Virginian dialect of Algonquin.] The fruit of certain American passion-flowers, esp. the 'may-pop', *Passiflora incarnata*, native of Virginia, and the granadilla, *Passiflora quadrangularis*, of Brazil and the West Indies. Also the plant itself.

1612 STRACHEY *Virginia* (Hakl. Soc.) 60 The maricock apple. 1612 Capt. SMITH *Virginia* 17 They plant also Maracocks a wild fruit like a lemmon. 1649 *Perf. Descr. Virginia* (1837) 18 Fruits they have, Strawberries.. Maracokos [etc.]. 1660 SHARROCK *Vegetables* 34 The Amaracoc or Passion flower. 1704 *Dict. Rust. et Urb.* s.v. *March*, Toward the end [of March] sow .. Marcors or Passion-Flower. 1707 *Curios. in Husb. & Gard.* 285 The Maracot is a Plant that creeps like Ivy. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* s.v. *Granadilla*, The common granadilla, called the maracot and passion flower. 1896 P. A. BRUCE *Econ. Hist. Virginia* I. 98 In addition, there were .. maracocks or mayapples, beans and pumpkins.

‖**Marae** (maraiˑe). Also 9 **marai.** [Polynesian.] An altar or sacred enclosure at which human sacrifices are offered amongst the Tahitians and other Polynesians.

1814 W. BROWN *Hist. Propag. Chr.* II. 350 Many were the marais and altars reared at his command. 1865 TYLOR *Early Hist. Man.* iii. 46 A large white cloth, spread on the pavement of a marae.

Marag, obs. form of MARRIAGE.

‖**Marah** (māˑră). Also 4–5 **marath,** 4 **mara,** 5 **marra.** [Heb. מרה *mārāh*, fem. of מר *mar* bitter.] The Heb. word for 'bitter' or 'bitterness', used as a proper name in two different applications (Exod. xv and Ruth i: see below); hence used in allusions to the Scripture passages.

[1382 WYCLIF *Exod.* xv. 23 Thei myȝten not drynk the watris of Marath, forthi that thei weren bitter; wherfor and a couenable name he putte to the place, clepynge it Mara, that is, bitternes. — *Ruth* i. 20 Ne clepe ȝe me Noemy, that is to sey, fayr, but clepith me Mara, that is, bittir.] 14.. HOCCLEVE *Wks.* (E. E. T. S.) III. p. xlii, Wel may men call or name me 'marra' Fro hen[ne]s forth. 1678 *Yng. Man's Call.* 13 The young man by mistake fondly calls it Naomi, and says it is pleasant. The elder by dear-bought experience finds it Marah, and cries out 'Oh! it is bitter!' 1831 MACAULAY *Ess., Byron* (1887) 168 Never had any writer so vast a command of the whole eloquence of scorn, misanthropy, and despair. That Marah was never dry. 1852 LONGF. *Jew. Cemetery at Newport* 40 The wasting famine of the heart they fed, And slaked its thirst with marah of their tears.

Marahbut, obs. form of MARABOUT.

Marai, Marais: see MARAE, MARISH.

Marakina, variant of MARIKINA.

Marakle, obs. form of MIRACLE.

‖**Maral** (măˑrăl). [A Tartar word.] The Caspian or Persian red deer, *Cervus maral.*

1863 Mrs. ATKINSON *Tartar Steppes* viii. 181, I must now tell you of a maral we had. 1894 *Roy. Nat. Hist.* (ed. Lydekker) II. 348 In the Caspian provinces of Persia, .. the red deer group is represented by the maral (*Cervus maral*).

Maram, variant of MARRAM, reed-grass.

Maramotto, obs. form of MARMOT *sb.*

Maramuffe: see MARRY-MUFF *Obs.*

‖**Maranatha** (mærănæˑpă). [In Gr. form μαραναθά; the Aramaic form is variously conjectured to be מרן אתא *māran ăthā* 'Our Lord has come', or מרנא תא *marănā 'thā* 'O our Lord, come thou'.] An Aramaic phrase occurring in 1 Cor. xvi. 22; often erroneously regarded as composing with the word that precedes it in the text a formula of imprecation, ANATHEMA MARANATHA. Hence (as an abbreviation of this formula) used *subst.* for: A terrible curse.

Coverdale's spelling (see below) is a corruption of Luther's *maharam motha*, which represents the fictitious Heb. מחרם מותה *mohōrām māvthāh* 'devoted to death'.

1382 WYCLIF 1 *Cor.* xvi. 22 If ony man loued not oure Lord Jhesu Crist, be he cursid, Maranatha, that is, in the comynge of the Lord. 1526 TINDALE *ibid.*, Anathema maranatha. 1535 COVERDALE *ibid.*, Anathema Maharan Matha. 1604 R. CAWDREY *Table Alph., Maranatha*, accursed. 1640 Bp. HALL *Chr. Moder.* II. iv. 20 Those who.. shall invent..pernicious doctrines,..are worthy of a *Maranatha*, and the lowest hell. 1721 BAILEY, *Maranatha*, the highest Degree of Excommunication. 1882 FARRAR *Early Chr.* I. ix. 193 How does the writer meet their objections? Not by thundering forth with yet deeper conviction *Maranatha*, but [etc.].

Marane, Marang: see MARRANO, MERINGUE.

Maranism, -ismus, obs. ff. MARRANISM, -ISMUS.

†**Maranite.** *Min. Obs.* [ad. G. *maranit* (Link 1801), f. name of the Sierra de *Marão* (Portugal); see -ITE.] = CHIASTOLITE.

1884 in *Cassell's Encycl. Dict.* 1896 in CHESTER *Dict. Min.* 167.

†**Marant.** *Bot. Obs.* [Anglicized form of next.] Lindley's name for any plant of the old N.O. *Marantaceæ*.

1846 LINDLEY *Veg. Kingd.* 168.

‖**Maranta** (mărænˑtă). *Bot.* [mod.L. (Plumier 1703), f. the name of Bartolommeo *Maranta* of Venosa, a 16th c. writer on medicinal plants.] A genus of herbaceous plants native of tropical America; a plant of this genus.

1812 J. SMYTH *Pract. of Customs* (1821) 29 Arrow Root, produced from a Plant called Maranta, is a farinaceous alimentary root. 1882 *Garden* 14 Jan. 20/1 Fine foliaged plants, such as Marantas, Crotons [etc.]. 1899 RODWAY *Guiana Wilds* 32 She made a cup of a maranta leaf.

†**Maranta·ceous,** *a. Bot. Obs.* [f. mod.L. *Marantāceæ*, f. MARANTA: see -ACEOUS.] Pertaining to the (obsolete) N.O. *Marantaceæ* of which MARANTA was the typical genus.

1863 BATES *Nat. Amazons* iv. (1864) 84 A long, flexible cylinder made of the peel of a marantaceous plant, plaited into the proper form.

Marantic (mărænˑtik), *a. Path.* [ad. Gr. μαραντικός, f. μαραίνειν to wither, waste away.] Pertaining to, or of the nature of, marasmus.

1866 A. FLINT *Princ. Med.* (1880) 98 Marantic thrombi. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 594 Marantic thrombosis.

Maras, variant of MARISH.

‖**Marasca** (măræˑskă). Also 9 **marazque, marasque.** [It. *marasca*, aphetic f. *amarasca*, f. *amaro* bitter.] A small black cherry, *Prunus avium*, grown in Dalmatia, and esp. about Zara, for the distilling of maraschino.

1864 *Chambers's Encycl.* VI. 146/2 *Maraschino* is distilled from cherries..a very firm delicately-flavoured variety, called *Marasques*,..is used. 1889 *Syd. Soc. Lex., Marasca cherry*, a cultivated variety of the cherry.

Maraschal, obs. form of MARSHAL.

‖**Maraschino** (mærăskīˑno). Also 8 **marischini, mareschini,** 8–9 **mareschino, marasquin,** 9 **maresquino.** [It. f. *marasca*; see prec. Cf. F. *marasquin*, whence some of the Eng. forms.] A liqueur distilled from the marasca cherry.

1791–3 in *Spirit Pub. Jrnls.* (1799) I. 321 Hob-a-nobbed in some right marasquin. 1793 *Europ. Mag.* XXIII. 466 Such fine liqueurs with nectar may compare, From Marischini to the Vin Musca. 1796 Mrs. M. ROBINSON *Angelina* I. 297 After they had drank their mareschino, Lady Selina ordered tea. 1797 SOUTHEY *Lett. Resid. Spain* 394 He..regularly after dinner drank a bottle of mareschini, and lived in peace with all men. 1818 MOORE *Fudge Fam. Paris* (ed. 8) 88 Divine *maresquino*, which — Lord, how one swallows! 1831 *Society* I. 104, I recommend this Mareschino. 1842 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. II. *Blasphemer's Warn.*, Marasquin, Curaçoa, Kirschen Wasser, Noyeau. 1875 Jas. GRANT *One of the* 600 I. vii. 98 The mocha and maraschino.

b. *attrib.*, as *maraschino jelly, punch.*

1820 SHELLEY *Œdipus* II. ii. 31 Give me a glass of Maraschino punch. 1850 THACKERAY *Pendennis* II. i. 6 Did you taste the plombière, ma'am, and the maraschino jelly?

†**Marasme.** *Obs.* [a. F. *marasme.*] = MARASMUS.

1625 HART *Anat. Ur.* II. vii. 95 It is againe sometimes an Hecticke, which endeth in a Marasme. 1714 *Phil. Trans.* XXIX. 76 About the 40th day he dy'd of his Marasme.

Marasmic (măræˑzmik), *a.* [f. MARASM-US + -IC.] Pertaining to or arising from marasmus; suffering from marasmus.

1876 tr. *Wagner's Gen. Pathol.* (ed. 6) 582 Emaciation and a series of marasmic conditions set in. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 587 She became progressively marasmic.

Marasmoid (măræˑzmoid), *a. Med.* [f. MARASM-US + -OID.] Resembling marasmus.

1895 in *Funk's Stand. Dict.* 1902 in CASSELL *Suppl.*

Marasmolite (măræˑzmŏləit). *Min.* [f. Gr. μαρασμός decay: see -LITE.] A 'rotten' sphalerite or zinc blende, containing free sulphur.

1851 C. U. SHEPARD in *Proc. Amer. Assoc. Adv. Sci.* IV. 315 Marasmolite. Primary form, cube [etc.].

Marasmous (măræˑzməs), *a.* [f. MARASM-US + -OUS.] Resembling or of the nature of marasmus.

1856 in MAYNE *Expos. Lex.* 1889 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

‖**Marasmus** (măræˑzmŏs). [mod.L., a. Gr. μαρασμός, f. μαραίνειν to wither, waste.] Wasting away of the body.

1656 TRAPP *Comm. Job* xix. 20 (1657) 171 Now, alas, I lie under a miserable *Marasmus*. 1661 LOVELL *Hist. Anim. & Min.* 29 Diverse having kept them in their beds, have got an hectick feaver or marasmus therehy. 1753 N. TORRIANO *Gangr. Sore Throat* 76 How often was I apprehensive, Miss Blossac would fall into a Marasmus or a Languor? 1837 SYD. SMITH *Let. Archd. Singleton* Wks. 1859 II. 268/2 Everybody has their favourite death: some delight in apoplexy, and others prefer marasmus. 1856 *Athenæum* 26 Apr. 515 The milk itself has been yielded by stalled cows dying of marasmus.

Marasque, variant of MARASCA (cherry).

Marasquin, variant of MARASCHINO.

Marasse, variant of MARISH.

Marathi, obs. form of MAHRATTI.

Marathonian (mærăθōˑniăn), *a.* [f. L. *Marathōni-us* (f. *Marathōn*) + -AN.] Of or pertaining to Marathon, or to the battle of Marathon (490 B.C.) in which Athens defeated the Persians. Also *sb.*, a native of Marathon.

1767 [W. L. LEWIS] *Statius' Thebaid* XII. 1082 But as the Son of Ægeus high display'd The Spear of Marathonian Oak, whose Shade O'erhangs the Foe. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) X. 552 The Marathonians worship those who were slain in the battle. 1871 SWINBURNE *Songs bef. Sunrise, Eve of Revol.* 106 Sea, have thy ports not heard Some Marathonian word? 1875 BROWNING *Aristoph. Apol.* 136 The Marathonian muscle, nerved of old To maul the Mede.

†**Maratism.** *Obs.* [f. name of Jean Paul *Marat*, a leader in the French Revolution, assassinated by Charlotte Corday in 1793: see -ISM.] The anarchic doctrines advocated by Marat. Also †**Maratist,** one who supports these doctrines. †**Maratize** *v. trans.* (*nonce-wd.*), to assassinate as Marat was assassinated.

1793 A. YOUNG *Example France* (ed. 3) 157 The red hot Maratism of the miscreant Society. 1794 *Sporting Mag.* IV. 106 In pursuit of Robespierre, whom she vowed to Maratise in due time. 1795 BARRUEL *Hist. Clergy during French Rev.* 323 One must have spent four years in France amidst the Constitutionalists, the Girondins, the Maratists, and the Jacobins of every description, to conceive [etc.]. 1798 JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1859) IV. 254, I have contemplated every event which the Maratists of the day perpetrate.

Maraud (mărōˑd), *sb. rare.* [a. F. *maraude*, f. *marauder*: see MARAUD *v.*] The action of raiding or plundering. Also in phr. *On the maraud*: intent on plundering.

1837 W. IRVING *Capt. Bonneville* II. 151 It was the hour for Indian maraud. 1839–40 — *Wolfert's R.* (1855) 9 He had an Indian's sagacity in discovering when the enemy was on the maraud. 1884 *St. Nicholas* XI. 534 Certain neighboring tribes that make maraud upon them.

Maraud (mărōˑd), *v.* Also 8 **marode.** [a. F. *maraud-er*, f. *maraud* rogue, vagabond.

Cf. Sp. *merodear* to maraud, *merode* masc., act of marauding; also G. *marodiren* to maraud, *marode* adj., worn out with marching (said orig. of stragglers belonging to an army), *marode* fem., act of marauding, *marodebruder, marodercritor* straggler, deserter. The Fr. words were adopted in German in the 17th c., and were punningly associated with the name of Count Mérode, an imperialist general in the Thirty Years' War, whose troops were notorious for want of discipline.]

1. *intr.* To make a raid for the purpose of plundering. Const. *on, upon.*

1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 165 ₱ 5 They met with a Party of French that had been Marauding. 1711 Mrs. CENTLIVRE *Marplot* I. i, Ask your Brother, Don Lopez, who will have it that you send your eyes a maroding for English forage. 1813 SCOTT *Trierm.* II. i, The Saxon stern, the pagan Dane, Maraud on Britain's shores again. 1856 DOVE *Logic Chr. Faith* IV. ii. § 5. 229 He [the Arab] will no longer maraud, because..he is placing himself in danger of being marauded upon.

b. *transf.* To go about pilfering.

1770 *Monthly Rev.* 132 A flea..Upon a taylor's neck was taken Marauding for a dinner. 1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* xxxiv, Juno—who, though formally banished from the parlour, failed not to maraud about the out-settlements. 1844 LD. BROUGHAM *A. Lunel* I. v. 138 He was an old offender, probably come from Marseilles to maraud at the Candlemas fair of Nismes.

2. *trans.* To plunder; to harry.

1829 W. IRVING *Chron. Granada* I. xii. 112 The tract of country they intended to maraud was far in the Moorish territories. 1894 G. MOORE *Esther Waters* 321 One is always marauding the other's territory.

Marauder (mărōˑdəɹ). Also 7–8 **maroder.** [f. MARAUD *v.* + -ER [1]; after F. *maraudeur.*] One who roves in quest of plunder; a freebooter, plunderer.

1698 [R. FERGUSON] *View Eccles.* 89 To be a Maroder and Pillager upon the street and Field of Humane Credit and Reputation is worse..than to turn common Padders. 1712 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5031/5 A Band of Maroders, consisting of Men of several Nations. 1782 VALLANCEY *Collect. De Rebus Hibernicis* No. 10. 72 *note*, To keep the cattle safe by night from moroders [*sic*]. 1808 Sir J. MOORE in Jas. Moore *Camp. in Spain* (1809) 19 He is determined to shew no mercy to plunderers and marauders. 1870 BURTON *Hist. Scot.* (1873) VI. lxx. 212 The marauders hovered round them like vultures round a wounded man.

b. *transf.* (e.g. of animals).

1764 GRAINGER *Sugar Cane* II. 79 Some place decoys, nor will they not avail, Replete with roasted crabs; in every grove These fell marauders gnaw. 1847 H. MILLER *First Impr.* v. (1861) 65 Exposed to every hungry marauder of the deep. 1862 TROLLOPE *Orley F.* xxii, The raisins shall become the prey of those audacious marauders only who dare to face the presence of the ghost.

Marauding (mărōˑdiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. MARAUD *v.* + -ING [1].] The action of the vb. MARAUD.

1755 *Connoisseur* No. 58 ₱ 3 They might also be of great use in maroding, or getting in forage. 1839 W. IRVING *Wolfert's R.* (1855) 7 The yeomanry who had suffered from

these maraudings. 1858 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* IV. xviii. 4 A population who were trained from their cradles in licensed marauding.

attrib. 1764 GOLDSM. *Hist. Eng. in Lett.* I. 128 The history of a maroding party in one of our modern gazettes. 1879 FROUDE *Cæsar* x. 118 His campaign was not a marauding raid.

Marau·ding, *ppl. a.* [-ING².] That marauds.

1798 MALTHUS *Popul.* (1817) I. 184 Surrounded by marauding neighbours. 1874 L. STEPHEN *Hours in Library* (1892) II. vii. 227 He watches the marauding sparrows.

Maravedi (mærăvē·di). *Obs.* exc. *Hist.* Forms: 5, 7 **maravedis**, 6 **marivade, marvedie, marvadie**, 7 **marvedi, marvedee, myravid, merviade, maravidi**, 8 **marevedi**, 7 *erron.* **malvady**, 7– **maravedi**. [a. Sp. *maravedí* (= Pg. *maravedim*), a derivative of Arab. مرابطين *Murābiṭīn* (pl. of *murābiṭ*: see MARABOUT), the name of a Moorish dynasty (usually designated the *Almoravides*, this being the same word preceded by the Arabic article) which reigned at Cordova 1087–1147.]

1. An old Spanish gold coin, weighing about 60 grains and of the value of fourteen shillings.

1633 PRYNNE *Sov. Power Parl.* App. 64 Imposing 5. Maravidis of gold for every person. 1700 ASTRY tr. *Saavedra-Fazardo* II. 138 Henry III. who tax'd 'em at five Marvedees of Gold apiece.

2. A former Spanish copper coin and money of account, valued at about ⅛ of a penny sterling.

? 1430 in Purchas *Pilgrims* (1625) II. VIII. 1230 And then into Spayne fear ye schon, lakkes ben ther of litle prise: For there heginneth the Marauedisez. 1540 *Act* 32 *Hen. VIII*, c. 14, lxx. maruadies, which is .xi. d. and the third parte of a peny starlyng. 1606 HEYWOOD *Chall. for Beauty* II. i. (1636) C 3 If you distrust his word, take mine, which will passe in Spaine for more Myravids, then the best Squiers in England for Farthing-tokens. 1690 DRYDEN *Don Sebastian* I. (1692) 14, I ask for him [a slave] a thousand Crowns. *1st Mer.* Thou mean'st a thousand Marvedis. 1706 PHILLIPS, *Malvady*, a Spanish coin, of which about 13 make one Farthing. [Some error: *Maravedis* is also given, with the correct value.] 1728 MORGAN *Algiers* II. v. 313 He never parted with a maravedi but with the view of pocketing a Ducat, if not a Doblon. 1819 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* xxxiii, I will strip thee of every maravedi thou hast in the world. *a* 1839 PRAED *Poems* (1864) II. 408 He flung the Slave who moved the lid A purse of maravedis. 1891 J. WINSOR *Columbus* ix. 209 He promised a silken jacket, beside the income of ten thousand maravedis.

Maray (mărē·). [? Native Australian.] An Australian food-fish, *Clupea sagax*, closely resembling the pilchard.

1882 TENISON-WOODS *Fish & Fisheries N. S. Wales* 147 The 'maray' (*Clupea sagax*) is a very rich, oily, well tasted fish of the herring family.

Marazque, variant of MARASCA (cherry).

Marber, marbir: see next.

Marble (mā·rb'l), *sb.* Forms: *α.* 3–7 **marbre**, 4 **maubre**, 5 **marbir**, 6 **marber, marbyr**. *β.* 3–5 **marbel**, 4 **merbel**, -ul, 4–5 **marbil**, 4–6 **marbyl**, -ul, 5 **marboll**, -ole, -elle, -ylle, -ulle, -ille, **merbyl**, 5–6 **marbill**, -yll, -ull, 6 **marbell**, 4– **marble**. [ME. *marbre, marble*, a. F. *marbre*, (OF. rarely *marble, malbre* by dissimilation) = Pr. *marme-s*, Sp. *mármol*, Pg. *marmore*, It. *marmo*, Roumanian *marmure*:—L. *marmor*, ad. or cogn. w. Gr. *μάρμαρος* shining stone, marble (prob. orig. an adj. 'sparkling', whence *μαρμαίρειν* to sparkle).

The L. word was adopted early into the Teut. langs.: OE. *marma* (in comb. *marm-*), OHG. *marmul* (MHG., mod.G. *marmel*, also *marmor*), MDu. *marmer, marmel*, more commonly *marber, marbel* from Fr. (mod.Du. *marmer* marble, *marmel* 'marble' to play with), ON. *marmari*.]

I. The simple word.

1. Limestone in a crystalline (or, less strictly, also a granular) state and capable of taking a polish. There are many varieties of this stone (see b), which is much used in sculpture and architecture.

When used without qualification, the word suggests either the pure white varieties commonly employed in sculpture (hence often referred to as a type of whiteness), or those with mottled or variegated surface (cf. senses 5, 7 e).

α. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 249/315 In one toumbe of Marbre he was i-leid. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 124 A tumbe riche.. Of marbre and ek of jaspre stones. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* IV. xxv, A great bridge of stone of Marbre. *a* 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. xxviii. 227 The most durable Marbre or Porphyr.

β. [*c* 1200: see MARBLE-STONE.] *c* 1320 *Sir Beues* 4609 A faire chapel of marbel fin. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 341 Of marble is þe stone, & purtreied þer he lies. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) iii. 9 All þe pilers er of marbill. 1474 CAXTON *Chesse* 92 Also colde and harde as marbyll. 1553 EDEN *Treat. Newe Ind.* (Arb.) 25 Ouer this ryuer is a very fayre bridge of marble. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 162 All the pauement is most beautifull of ingrauen Marble. 1794 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Myst. Udolpho* XV, From the portico they passed a noble hall to a staircase of marble. 1857 RUSKIN *Pol. Econ. Art* i. 46 Marble.. lasts quite as long as granite, and is much softer to work.

Proverb. 1593 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI*, III. ii. 50 Hee plyes her hard, and much Raine weares the Marble.

b. With qualifying word: (*a*) an adj. denoting colour or appearance, e. g. *black, fibrous*, GREEN (12 d), *grey*, RED (17 e), *variegated, white marble*; (*b*) a proper name denoting the locality in which it is found, e. g. *African, Carrara, Derby(shire), Egyptian, English, Genoese, Italian, Kilkenny*, PARIAN, *Pentelican, Portsoy, Purbeck marble*; (*c*) applied to substances resembling or made to imitate marble, as † **brimstone marble**, a preparation of brimstone in imitation of marble; **metallic marble**, native sulphate of barium (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1889). See also BRECCIA, BROCATELLA, CIPOLLIN, FIRE (B. 5), FOREST (*sb.* 5), LANDSCAPE (5), LUMACHELLA, MADREPORE (4), ONYX (4), RUIN, SERPENTINE, SHELL, VERD ANTIQUE *marble*.

(*a*) *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 8288 Vnder þis tre..A stapul was o marbul grai. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Knt.'s T.* 1035 A gate of Marbul whit. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* II. i, A harde slipperie rocke of black marber. 1624 CAPT. SMITH *Virginia* IV. 126 No place hath more white and blew Marble than here. 1659 HOWELL *Lex., Vocab.* xxvi, The Marble gentle, viz. the whitest hard marble..Serpentine or streaked Marble [etc.]. *a* 1728 WOODWARD *Fossils* (1729) I. I. 21 Black Marble.

(*b*) 1681 GREW *Musæum* III. vi. 316 Two pieces of Ægyptian Marble. *Ibid.*, A Piece of the worst sort of Cornish Marble, used for Lime. 1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v., Derbyshire Marble is variously clouded and diversified with brown. *a* 1728 WOODWARD *Fossils* I. (1729) I. 20 The white Genoese Marble. *Ibid.* 25 The common white Carara marble. 1891 T. HARDY *Tess* (1900) 8/1 With your effigies under Purbeck-marble canopies.

(*c*) 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* s.v. *Brimstone*, Brimstone Marble, a preparation of brimstone in imitation of marble.

c. A kind or variety of marble.

1640 WILKINS *New Planet* II. (1672) 119 That this rocky Substance is a Loadstone, rather than a Jaspis, Adamant, Marble, or any other. 1813 BAKEWELL *Introd. Geol.* (1815) 87 Very beautiful marbles occur [in England] which will receive a high polish. 1879 RUTLEY *Study Rocks* iii. 20 Limestones .. capable of receiving a polish are called marbles.

d. Taken as a type of something hard, inflexible, durable, or smooth.

1586 WHITNEY *Choice of Emblems* 183 In marble harde our harmes wee alwayes graue. 1588 SHAKS. *Tit. A.* II. iii. 144 The milke thou suck'st from her did turne to Marble. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 638 Writing all injuries in marble. 1620 *Swetnam arraigned* G 4 b, Can you behold this sacred Cabinet,..And not let fall a teare: you are vnkind. Not Marble but would wet at such a sight. 1812 MISS MITFORD in L'Estrange *Life* (1870) I. vi. 219 Sir Charles Grandison..is a man of marble, or rather a man of snow. 1818 SHELLEY *Rosal. & Helen* 1252 The liquid marble of the windless lake. 1886 MISS BRADDON *One Thing Needful* ix, She had done all in her power to deter Clarice;.. but Clarice had made up her mind to be a marchioness, and she was marble.

e. The stone as being the material of which a tomb or tombstone is made. *poet.* (Cf. 2 b.)

1613 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII*, III. ii. 434 When I am forgotten.. And sleepe in dull cold Marble. 1757 GRAY *Epit. on Mrs. Jane Clerke* 1 Lo! where the silent marble weeps, A friend, a wife, a mother sleeps. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* lxvi[i], Thy marble bright in dark appears.

2. A piece, block, or slab of marble; a marble monument; † a marble vessel. Also *fig.*

c 1290 *Becket* 2118 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 167 þe point of is swerd brak In þe Marbre ato. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 5701 To a gret holw marbre was he brozt,..Whych was wonyd beo fillid wyþ wyn. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* III. v. 33 The soveraine weede betwixt two marbles plaine Shee pownded small. 1644 EVELYN *Diary* 22 Oct., The vacant stayrecase, marbles, statues [etc.]. 1715 LEONI *Palladio's Archit.* (1742) II. 62 An Inscription on a Marble. 1865 KINGSLEY *Herew.* x, The blood stained marbles of the Amphitheatre.

† **b.** A marble tomb or tombstone. *Obs.*

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 230 At Westmynstere he lis toumbed richely, In a marble bis of him is mad story. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) Ii ij b, In the felde of Elinos, vnder a marble, is the pouders of Sysifo Seteno. 1640 GLAPTHORNE *Ladies Priviledge* IV. Plays 1874 II. 141 My Ancestors, whose dust Would 'a broke through the Marbles, to revenge To me this fatall infamy. 1730 POPE *Epit. Fenton* 1 This modest Stone, what few vain Marbles can, May truly say, here lies an honest Man.

c. *Antiq.* (*pl.*) Applied, with specific qualification, to certain collections of sculptures, etc.; e. g. *Arundel, Arundelian*, or *Oxford marbles*, a collection of sculptures and inscribed stones made by the Earl of Arundel (died 1646) and presented to the University of Oxford. *Elgin marbles*, a collection (now in the British Museum) of ancient sculptures from the Parthenon, which was brought to England by Lord Elgin and sold by him to the nation in 1816. [1624 J. SELDEN (*title*) *Marmora Arundeliana.*] 1667 EVELYN *Diary* 19 Sept., To London with Mr. Hen. Howard of Norfolk, of whom I obtain'd the gift of his Arundelian Marbles. 1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v., Arundel Marbles, ..or the Oxford Marbles. 1817 KEATS (*title*) On the Elgin Marbles. 1833 *Penny Cycl.* I. 142/1 The Æginetan, added to the Athenian, and Phigaleian marbles which we possess in the British Museum, would have formed a complete specimen of Grecian sculpture, as applied to the decoration of temples.

3. *techn.* [= F. *marbre.*] **a.** A slab of marble used for grinding paints on; **b.** A printer's imposing-stone (Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1875); **c.** = MARVER.

1698 *Phil. Trans.* XX. 466 Which they grind upon a Marble, such as Painters use. 1745 DE COETLOGON *Univ. Hist. Arts & Sci.* II. 3 To give it [the glass] a Polish, we roll it to and fro on a Stone, or Marble.

4. [= G., Du. *marmel.*] A little ball (varying from about ½ inch to an inch in diameter), originally made of marble, now usually of baked clay, porcelain, or composition, used in a children's game; hence in *pl.* the game itself. Also a similar ball (e. g. of glass) used in other games.

In playing the game, a number of marbles are arranged in a ring (or sometimes in a row), from which the players attempt to dislodge them by 'shooting' a marble at them with the finger and thumb.

1694–5 J. HOUGHTON *Collect. Husb. & Trade* No. 189 (1727) II. 29 The next are marbles for boys to play with. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 112 ¶ 3 A Game of Marbles, not unlike our modern Taw. 1792 S. ROGERS *Pleas. Mem.* I. 142 On yon gray stone..we shot the marble thro' the ring. 1866 R. CHAMBERS *Ess.* Ser. II. 3 There was the floor on which..I had played at marbles, a pattern in the carpet serving as the ring. 1885 *New Bk. Sports* 301 Marbles is not the popular game it once was.

† **5.** A mottled or dappled colour resembling that of variegated marble; hence, a cloth of such a colour. (Cf. 7 e.) *Obs.*

1520 *Mem. Ripon* (Surtees) III. 274 Pro xiij virg. panni lanei coloris marble. 1541–2 *Act* 33 *Hen. VIII*, c. 18 Kerseies..of the colours of black, marble, russet, and white. 1549 *Act* 3 & 4 *Edw. VI*, c. 2 § 1 Russets, Musters, Marbles, Grayes, Royes, and suche lyke colors. 1555 *Richmond. Wills* (Surtees) 86 A yard of marble xx^d. 1720 STRYPE *Stow's Surv. Lond.* (1754) I. I. xxix. 297/1 In a livery of grey Marble.

b. *Bookbinding.* The marbled pattern or paper used in ornamenting books.

1699 WANLEY in *Lett. Lit. Men* (Camden) 277 In knowing what sort of Paper is in use,..or to please myself..with looking on the fine colors, marbles, &c. 1817 DIBDIN *Bibliogr. Decameron* II. 532 In lieu of gilt, you may..order marble coloured edges: but gilt upon the marble—oh! 'tis the very luxury—the 'ne plus ultra' of the bibliopegistic art! 1823 *Bookbinder's Compl. Instructor* 28 Common Marble. *Ibid.* 29 Transparent Marble. *Ibid.* 30 Egyptian Marble.. Purple Marble..Stone Marble. *Ibid.* 31 Rice Marble.. Chinese Marble..Red Marble. *Ibid.* 32 Wainscoat Marble.

† **6.** *pl.* **a.** *French marbles*: syphilis. *Obs.*

[? Corruption of F. *morbilles* 'the small pockes' (Cotgr.).] *a* 1592 GREENE *Thieves falling out* (1615) C 3, Looke into the Spittles, and Hospitalles, there you shall see men diseased of the French Marbles.

b. As transl. of L. *marmor*: A stony concretion in the joints of a horse.

1748 tr. *Renatus' Distemp. Horses* 190 Oftentimes in the knees or joints there arises either a Phlegmon, or Marbles, or Puffs or Wind-galls.

II. Attrib. and Comb.

7. *attrib.* passing into *adj.* **a.** Made or consisting of marble. (For the corresp. parasynthetic adjs. see 8 c.) Also, like that of marble.

13.. *Coer de L.* 6182 He leet make a marbyl ymage. 1382 WYCLIF *Esther* i. 6 Thei weren vnderset with marbil pileeris. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* I. (1586) 8 Suche stately dwellinges and marble floores. 1646 EVELYN *Diary* (? Apr.), A marble Madona like a Colosse. 1747 MRS. GLASSE *Cookery* ix. 78 Take a Quart of Almonds..and beat them in a Marble Mortar. 1852 M. ARNOLD *Empedocles* II. 88 Her flush'd feet glow on the marble floor.

b. White, hard, cold, or rigid like marble. (Rarely used *predicatively.*) Hence in parasynthetic adjs. *marble-breasted, -hearted, -minded.*

1591 FLORIO *2nd Fruites* 43 *P.* Oh filthie .. fashion of some Englishmen, to ride with these hard, straight, and little saddles. *T.* They are English toyes, to vse .. such marble pinching sadles [Ital. *queste selle marmoree*]. 1593 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI*, III. i. 38 Her teares will pierce into a Marble heart. 1601 — *Twel. N.* v. i. 127 The Marble-brested Tirant. 1611 — *Wint. T.* v. ii. 98 Who was most Marble, there changed colour. 1612 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* ii. 94 Her Marble-minded breast. *a* 1618 SYLVESTER *Wood-mans Bear* lxxv. (Grosart) II. 312 Moan I must for never was Marble-hearted Mermidon But would moan [etc.]. 1675 SOUTH 12 *Serm.* (1692) 570 His Marble, obdurate Heart. 1784 *Unfortunate Sensibility* I. 175 What is virtue? is it a certain marble-mindedness, the elder brother of insensibility. 1812 BYRON *Ch. Har.* II. xxxiii, That seeming marble-heart. 1817 SHELLEY *Rev. Islam* VI. xxxiii, Her marble brow, and eager lips. 1818 — *Rosal. & Helen* 186 His fancy on that spring would float, If some invisible breeze might stir Its marble calm. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) II. 102 Under the marble exterior of Greek literature was concealed a soul thrilling with spiritual emotion.

c. Enduring as marble, or as if carved in marble.

1596 FITZ-GEFFRAY *Sir F. Drake* (1881) 27 Cease to eternize in your marble verse The fals of fortune-tossed Venerists. 1682 SIR T. BROWNE *Chr. Mor.* III. § 17 They write not their obligations in sandy but marble memories.

d. *poet.* Smooth as marble. (Cf. L. *marmoreum æquor.*) Hence *marble-faced* adj.

1557–8 PHAER *Æneid* VI. R iij b, All what marblefacyd seas conteines of monstrous fries. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* III. 564 Through the pure marble Air.

e. Of a variegated or mottled colour († occas. used *predicatively*); marbled. † Also, made of cloth or stuff of such a colour (see 5). Hence *marble-coloured, -covered, -edged* adjs.

c 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 29 Caste þer-to Saunderys & Safroun, & loke it be marbylle [*Ashmole MS.* marbely]. *Ibid.* 34 Take a lytyl Saunderys & a lytyl Safroun, & make it a marbyl coloure. 1539 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) VI. 91 To William Cay my marbill jacket. 1545 *Ibid.* 230 My marbell colered cote. 1591 *Lanc. Wills* III. 54, I geve Willm Cooke my marble hose. 1703 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3930/4 An Almanack..with a Marble Vellum Cover. 1705 *Ibid.* No. 4108/3, 77 half Chests of Marble-Soap. 1808 HAN. MORE *Cælebs* II. 74 Countless marble-covered octavos. 1811 *Self Instructor* 120, 3-thread fine marble stockings. 1817 DIBDIN *Bibliogr. Decameron* II. 533 The *peau de vean* of the French, with gilt upon marble edges! 1876 ROCK *Text. Fabr.* vii. 76 Marble silk had a weft of several colours so woven as to make the whole web look like marble.

† **f.** *Marble colours*: used *fig.* by Drummond to express ostentatious splendour. *Obs.*

1613 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Cypress Grove* Wks. (1711) 118 The marble colours of .. funeral pomp. *a* 1649 — *Hist. Jas. III*, ibid. 41 The marble colours of false greatness.

8. Obvious combinations. **a.** attributive (of, pertaining to, or concerned with marble), as *marble*

†*grit, mart, -mason, -mill, -quarry, saw*; (used in the game of marbles) as *marble-ring*; **b.** objective, as *marble-cutter, -polisher, -worker*; **c.** parasynthetic and instrumental, as *marble-arched, -chequered, -imaged, -paved, -piled, -pillared, -ribbed, -sculptured* adjs.; **d.** similative, as *marble-constant, -hard, -like, -looking, -white* adjs.; *marble-wise* adv.

1636 G. Sandys *Paraphr. Ps.* viii. 9 The *marble-arched Skie. 1879 F. W. Robinson *Coward Consc.* I. iv, Across the *marble-chequered hall. 1606 Shaks. *Ant. & Cl.* v. ii. 240 Now from head to foote I am *Marble constant. 1611 Cotgr., *Marbrier.* A *marble-cutter. *c* 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* I. 405 With *marbul greet ygrounde & mixt with lyme. *a* 1618 Sylvester *Elegy H. Parvis* (Grosart) II. 328 In his stone-breast no pitie moves relenting, Rough and remorselesse, more then *marble-hard. 1832 [R. Cattermole] *Beckett*, etc. 179 With all thy high and *marble-imaged line. 1530 Palsgr. 318/1 *Marbylyke, of the coloure of marbyll. 1854 J. S. C. Abbott *Napoleon* (1855) I. ix. 163 He could impress a marble-like immovableness upon his features. 1846 De Quincey *Antigone* Wks. 1863 VIII. 221 The unchanging expression in the *marble-looking mask. 1818 Byron *Ch. Har.* IV. I, The paltry jargon of the *marble mart. 1816 J. Smith *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 808 The plasterers, *marble-masons, and other artisans who use this article. 1835 Ure *Philos. Manuf.* 58 Sawing comprehends every species of mill .. such as..*marble-mills. 1812 Byron *Ch. Har.* II. lxii, In *marble-paved pavilion. 1777 Warton *Poems* 45 What though no *marble-piled bust Adorn his desolated dust. 1754 Armstrong *Forced Marr.* v. iv. *Misc.* (1770) II. 110 This *marble-pillar'd castle. 1756 Burke *Subl. & B.* Introd., Wks. I. 113 In the question about the tables, the *marble-polisher will unquestionably determine the most accurately. 1887 J. C. Harris *Free Joe*, etc. (1888) 127 To invest money in Georgia *marble-quarries. 1820 Shelley *Tower of Famine* 11 Each *marble-ribbed roof. 1821 Clare *Vill. Minstr.* I. 5 The 'I spy', 'halloo', and the *marble-ring. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1393/1 *Marble-Saw. 1844 Mrs. Browning *Brown Rosary* III. xii, He knelt like a child *marble-sculptured and white. 1877 A. B. Edwards *Up Nile* xxii. 720 The quarried cliffs of Toora, *marble-white. 1687 Miege *Fr. Eng. Dict.* s. v., To marble Paper, to paint it *marble-wise with several Colours. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1393/2 *Marble-worker's Files.

9. Special comb.: †**marble butterfly**, ? = *marbled white*; †**marble-crab**, a crab having a marbled or mottled shell; †**marble dew**, some imaginary antaphrodisiac; †**marble-flint**, ? flint having a mottled appearance; **marble gall**, a gall made by the insect *Cynips Kollari*; **marble leg**, 'the pale shining leg of *Phlegmasia dolens*' (Syd. Soc. Lex.); **marble-paper**, paper coloured in imitation of marble; **marble paste**, a white porcelain paste used for casts of statues (in recent Dicts.: a transl. of F. *pâte de marbre*); **marble seal**, *Phoca fetida*; **marble veal** (*Cookery*), potted veal interspersed with lumps of tongue, having a mottled surface when cut; **marble-wood**, (*a*) see quot. 1753; (*b*) a large East Indian tree, *Diospyros Kurzii*, having a variegated wood (*Cent. Dict.*); (*c*) an Australian tree, *Olea paniculata*, having mottled timber (Morris *Austral Eng.*).

1749 B. Wilkes *Eng. Moths & Butterflies* 52 The Marmoris, or *Marble-Butterfly. 1796 Nemnich *Polygl. Lex. Nat. Hist.*, Marble-butterfly. *Pap. Galathea.* The black-eyed Marble butterfly. *Papilio Semele.* 1668 Charleton *Onomast. Zoicon* 176 *Cancer .. Marmoratus* sive *Varius* (quod testa tegitur..maculis viridibus, cæruleis, albis, nigris, cinereis..), the *Marble Crab. *a* 1621 Beaum. & Fl. *Thierry & Theod.* III. i, The teares of mandrake and the *marble dew, Mixt in my draught, haue quencht my natural heate. 1633 Massinger *Guardian* III. i, I would..bathe my self, night by night, in marble dew. 1686 *Phil. Trans.* XVI. 27 Burnt *Marble-flint quench'd in Vinegar. 1882 *Garden* 14 Oct. 334/2 The *Marble and Artichoke galls are formed from buds. 1680 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1566/4 Two Books .. covered with *Marble Paper. 1737 Berkeley *Letter* Wks. 1871 IV. 247, I would have these pamphlets covered with marble paper pasted on white paper. 1862 *Catal. Internat. Exhib.* II. xxviii. 5 Marble papers. 1896 J. W. Kirkaldy & E. C. Pollaro tr. *Boas' Text Bk. Zool.* 519 The Ringed or *Marble Seal (*Ph. fœtida*). 1789 Farley *Lond. Art Cookery* II. iii. (ed. 6) 274 *Marble veal. 1753 Chambers *Cycl. Supp.*, **Marble Wood*, a name given by the people of some parts of America to the *lignum rhodium*, or rose-wood, from the heart of the tree being sometimes variegated like Marble.

Marble (mā·ɹb'l), *v.* [f. Marble *sb.* Cf. F. *marbrer*.]

1. *trans.* To stain or colour (paper, edges of books, soap, etc.) so as to give the appearance of variegated marble.

1683 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1874/4 A..strong leather Pad-saddle marbled. 1686 Plot *Staffordsh.* 123 Which two colours they break with a wire brush, much after the manner they doe when they marble paper. 1714 Gay *Sheph. Week* II. 13 Marbled with Sage the hard'ning Cheese she press'd. 1725 Bradley *Fam. Dict.* s. v. *Potage*, Marbling it with very brown Veal-Gravy. 1846 Ruskin *Mod. Paint.* I. II. VI. i. § 19 With about as much intelligence or feeling of art as a house-painter has in marbling a wainscot. 1885 J. Payn *Talk of Town* II. 228 Liquids used by bookbinders in marbling covers.

b. To make (a design) by the process of marbling.

1885 C. G. W. Lock *Workshop Receipts* Ser. IV. 267/1 Take ..a green calf and marble a tree upon it.

2. To make white like marble. *rare.*

1791 H. Walpole *Let. to Han. More* 29 Sept., Mrs. Porteus's accident..may have marbled her complexion, but I am persuaded has not altered her..good-humoured countenance. 1878 B. Taylor *Deukalion* II. iii. 67 Thy features, marbled by the moon.

†**3.** To pickle (fish). *Obs.*

[1598, 1611: see Marl *v.*[3]] 1661 Rabisha *Cookery Dissected* 14 To Marble Sowls, Plaice, Flounders, Smelts.

Marbled (mā·ɹb'ld), *ppl. a.* [f. Marble *sb.* and *v.* + -ed.]

1. In various occasional uses: Portrayed in marble; having buildings or sculptures of marble; turned into marble (*fig.*); decorated or covered with marble.

1599 Storer *Wolsey* C 4 b, Looke how the God of Wisdome marbled stands, Bestowing Laurel wreathes. 1760–72 H. Brooke *Fool of Qual.* (1809) III. 143 Marbled effigies and monumental deposits of the renowned. 1821 Byron *Juan* III. lxxxvi. xvi, Place me on Suniam's marbled steep. 1844 Lo. Houghton *Mem. Many Scenes, Scott at Tomb of Stuarts* 132 His marbled form will meet the attentive eye. 1851 G. Meredith *Sleeping City* 109 A marbled City planted there With all its pageants and despair. 1885 H. O. Forbes *Nat. Wand. E. Archip.* 6 Fine residences..conspicuous by the blaze of light that lit up their pillared and marbled fronts.

2. Variegated in colour like certain marbles.

a. Coloured or stained by a technical process with variegated patterns.

1671 Boyle *Usef. Nat. Philos.* II. IV. 14 Those fine Covers of Books that, for their resemblance to speckld Marble, are wont to be call'd Marbled. 1699 Wanley in *Lett. Lit. Men* (Camden) 276 Common marbled paper. *a* 1769 S. Davies *Whalley* in Dodsley *Coll. Poems* (1782) V. 106 Variety of troops..In marbled regimentals. 1885 C. G. W. Lock *Workshop Receipts* Ser. IV. 242/1 The edge of marbled books should correspond with their marbled ends.

b. Veined, mottled, or dappled (*with* markings of various colours). Chiefly *Nat. Hist.* and *Path.*

1694 *Acc. Sev. Late Voy.* II. 18 The snow was marbel'd, and look'd as if it were boughs and branches of Trees. 1719 D'Urfey *Pills* (1872) VI. 557 At the break of morning light, When the marbled Sky looks gay. 1818 *Art Preserv. Feet* 154 If the chilblain is merely neglected, the skin..becomes livid and of a marbled appearance. 1890 Woodbury *Encycl. Photogr., Marbled Prints*, a defect in printing...The prints appear..unevenly marked, somewhat resembling the appearance of marble. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 462 It [i. e. an eruption on the skin] may be uniform, or figured, or marbled.

c. Of meat: Having the lean streaked with thin layers of fat. (A sign of the best quality.)

1770–4 A. Hunter *Georg. Ess.* (1803) IV. 355 There is no better sign of good flesh, than when it is marbled. 1834 Youatt *Cattle* 270 The meat is finely marbled and well-flavoured.

3. Used as the specific designation of various animals and plants which have mottled or dappled markings (freq. = L. specific name *marmoratus*, *-a*).

Marbled beauty, the moth *Bryophila perla*; **marbled green**, the moth *Bryophila glandifera*; **marbled white (butterfly)**, *Arge galathea*; **marbled rose** (see Rose *sb.*).

1699 Petiver *Musei Petiver.* 33 The white marbled female Butterfly. 1707 Mortimer *Husb.* (1721) II. 164 The Marbled Rose,..its Leaves are larger, of a light red Colour marbled and veined. 1840 *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 95 The..Marbled Cat (*Felis*] *marmorata*). 1844 H. Stephens *Bk. Farm* III. 762 The common long red or marbled mangel-würzel. 1867 H. T. Stainton *Brit. Butterflies & Moths* iii. 31 The Marbled White Butterfly. *Ibid.* vi. 66 The Marbled Beauty. 1870 *Eng. Mech.* 25 Feb. 571/2 The Marbled Green (*Bryophila glandifera*). 1876 *Encycl. Brit.* IV. 595/2 The Marbled White (*Arge galathea*) is the species often met with in Britain.

Marbleize (mā·ɹb'lәiz), *v. U. S.* [f. Marble *sb.* + -ize.] *trans.* To colour in imitation of marble; = Marble *v.*

1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1391/2 *Marbleizing Slate*, coloring its surface in imitation of variegated marble. 1884 *Advt.*, All white and marbleized..wrought-iron hollow ware. 1888 Howells *Annie Kilburn* xi. 114 The marbleised iron shelf..supported two glass vases. 1892 *Harper's Mag.* 936/2 Soap of a marbleized reddish color.

Marbleness (mā·ɹb'lnės). *rare*—[1]. [f. Marble *sb.* + -ness.] Hardness like that of marble.

1629 Donne 26 *Serm.* (1661) 65 My holy sighs..have worn out my Marble Heart, that is, the Marbleness of my heart.

Marbler (mā·ɹblәɹ). Also 5 **marbyler, merbler, 6 marbular, merbeler, 5–6, 8 marbeler.** [f. Marble *sb.* and *v.* + -er[1]. Cf. F. *marbrier* (= senses 1, 2), *marbreur* (sense 3).]

1. A quarryman or hewer of marble. ? *Obs.*

1457 in Dugdale *Warwicksh.* (1656) 355 Iohn Bourde of Corff Castle, in the County of Dorset, Marbler. 1478 *Church-w. Acc. St. Andrew's East Cheap* in *Brit. Mag.* XXXII. 37 Item to a Marbeler for hauyng oute of a Marbyll Ston iiij[d]. 1538 Leland *Itin.* I. 94 (1768) I. 88 Marble, wont to be taken up..by Marbelers of Barnardes Castelle and of Egleston. 1885 *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 243/1 The quarriers, or 'marblers', as they are called in the old papers relating to the body [at Purbeck].

†**2.** One who carves, or works in, marble; a sculptor. *Obs.*

1469–70 *Fabric Rolls York Minster* (Surtees) 73 Robert Spillesby .. equitanti pro les merblers .. 37*s.* 4*d.* *a* 1470 Tiptoft *Orat. G. Flammens* (Caxton 1481) He [Socrates] had to his moder a mydwyf and to his fader a marbyler. 1538 Leland *Itin.* VII. 25 Many Marbelers working in Alabaster. 1649 Fuller *Just Man's Funeral* 23 Let..the most accurate Marbler erect the Monument. 1720 Strype *Stow's Surv. Lond.* (1754) II. v. xiv. 312/1 The Company called by the name of Marblers for their excellent knowledge..in the art of insculpting Personages for tombs. 1868 Stanley *Westm. Abb.* iii. 153 [Preparation for Henry VI's tomb, an. 1472] The 'marbler' (or, as we should now say, the statuary).

3. One who marbles paper, etc. Also, an instrument used for marbling paper.

1835 J. Hannett *Bibliopegia* 206. 1885 Crane *Bookbind. for Amateurs* 97 Of all the varieties of gum, there is but one that is of any use to the marbler..gum tragacanth. 1890 Zaehnsdorf *Bookbinding* 75 Leo's Mechanical Marblers.

Ma·rble-stone. *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Forms: see Marble *sb.*; also Marm-stone. [Cf. *chalkstone, limestone.*] = Marble; a marble floor, monument, tomb, etc.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 145 Hie [marie magdalene]..nam ane box ȝemaked of marbelstone. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1489 Þu schalt habben..of marbrestan a temple. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 9787 Þe point of is suerd brec in þe marbreston a two. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Prioress' T.* 229 In a temple of Marbul stones cleere Enclosen they his litel body sweete. *c* 1430 Lydg. *Minor Poems* (Percy Soc.) 50 Harde to lyke hony out of a marble stone. 1530 Palsgr. 530/1 Water by often droppyng may make a hole in a marbyll stone. 1585 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* I. vi, In the middest of the pauement which was of Marber stone. 1682 Creech *Lucretius* (1683) 94 If that's an Ill, why not as great an one To be opprest with Earth, or Marble-stone? 1896 A. E. Housman *Shropshire Lad* li, I met a statue standing still. Still in marble stone stood he, And stedfastly he looked at me.

Marblet (mā·ɹblet). [f. Marble *sb.* + -et, after the F. *marbré*.] A South American lizard, *Polychrus marmoratus*.

1840 *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 276 The Marblets..have palatal teeth, and femoral pores, like the Iguanas. 1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

Marbling (mā·ɹblin), *vbl. sb.* [f. Marble *v.* + -ing[1].] The action of the vb. Marble.

1. The process, practice, or art of staining paper, etc. with variegated colours in imitation or conventional imitation of marble.

1686 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2197/4 A New Art..of Making, Marbling, Veining, and Finishing of Mantle-pieces. 1731 Bailey vol. II, *Marbling* of Books (in Book-binding) the sprinkling them with colours on the outside. 1753 in *Patents Specif., Skins* etc. (1872) 3 For the making, marbling, veining [etc.] any linen, silks, canvas, paper, and leather. 1901 *Daily Chron.* 3 Dec. 9/6 Graining and Marbling wanted.

2. *concr.* Colouring or marking resembling that of marble, or some conventional imitation of it.

1727–52 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v. *Porcelain*, There is..a kind of marbled porcelain, which is not made by applying the marblings with the pencil. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* VII. 7 The only marblings, which appear in its body, are the colour of the food, which is seen through its transparent intestines. 1883 Solon *Art Old Eng. Potter* 93 Agate-ware was a complicated process; the marbling, instead of being produced on the surface, went through the body. 1894 R. B. Sharpe *Handbk. Birds Gt. Brit.* (1896) I. 97 Markings and spots of light brown or reddish-brown. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 103 In children infested by fleas or lice the general tint of the rash may be deepened by very numerous petechiæ or by 'marbling'.

3. A marble-like incrustation. *rare.*

1872 C. King *Mountain. Sierra Nev.* i. 21 The summit piercing through a marbling of perpetual snow up to the height of ten thousand feet.

4. *Comb.*: **marbling-rod**, the rod or pole used in the apparatus for glazing marbled paper; **marbling trough**, the trough into which the paper is dipped in the process of marbling.

1835 Hannett *Bibliopegia* 82 After this they [the books] must be glaired equally over, and when dry placed upon the marbling rods, the sides of the books extending over, and the leaves hanging between. *Ibid.* 184 The marbling trough is generally made of oak.

Marblish (mā·ɹblіʃ), *a. rare*—[1]. [f. Marble *sb.* + -ish[1].] Resembling marble.

1826 Moore *Mem.* (1854) V. 80 The smooth, marblish, effeminate colouring.

Marbly (mā·ɹbli), *a.* Also 5 **marbely**, 7 **marblie**. [f. Marble *sb.* + -y.] Resembling, or having the appearance of, marble. Hence, rigid, cold, or calm like marble.

1439 [see Marble *sb.* 7 e, quot. *c* 1430]. *a* 1619 Fotherby *Atheom.* II. i. § 4 (1622) 179 Whatsoeuer Monsters strange, in marbly Seas doe breed. 1635 Swan *Spec. M.* vi. (1643) 299 Salt-gem..is also called stonie, marblie Salt. *a* 1814 *Mermaid* II. i. in *New Brit. Theatre* II. 486 The marbly lustre of her skin. 1845 Browning *Bishop orders his tomb* 75 And have I not..mistresses with great smooth marbly limbs? 1856 Stanley *Sinai & Pal.* i. (1858) 69 Above the blue sea rose the white marbly terraces. 1858 G. Macdonald *Phantastes* (1878) II. xiv. 33 The marbly stillness of thousands of years.

Marbole, -boll, marbre, obs. ff. Marble.

†**Marbryn(e**, *a. Obs.* [a. OF. *marbrin*, f. *marbre* Marble *sb.*] Of marble.

1319 in Riley *Mem.* (1868) 131. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 4353 Ne mote ne marbryn werkis. 1490 Caxton *Eneydos* xxi. 74 Her wymmen..bare her in-to her chambre marbryne.

Marbul(l, Marbular: see Marble, Marbler.

Marbut, obs. form of Marabout.

Marbyl(l, -yr, -yler: see Marble, Marbler.

Marc (mārk). Also 7 **marre, mare**: and see Murk. [a. F. *marc*; explained by Hatz.-Darm. as a vbl. noun f. *marcher* in the sense 'to crush'.

The *c* in the Fr. word is mute, even before a vowel; hence prob. the 17th c. Eng. forms *marre, mare.*]

The refuse which remains after the pressure of grapes or other fruits.

1601 Holland *Pliny* II. 530 The marre [ed. 1634 mare] or refuse of grapes after they be pressed. 1670 Evelyn *Sylva* viii. (ed. 2) 56 The Lees, or Marc of the Pressing [oil from walnuts] is excellent to fatten Hogs with. 1707 Sloane *Jamaica* I. p. xlv, The Marc or remainder of the Sugar

Canes after the juice is squeezed out. 1707 *Curios. in Husb. & Gard.* 138 Marc of Olives after they are press'd. 1852 Morfit *Tanning & Currying* (1853) 45 The marc, or pressed cake, which still retains some tannin, is made to yield it. 1883 R. Haldane *Workshop Receipts* Ser. II. 10/2 The juice and the refuse ('marc') are fermented.

b. *attrib.*: **marc brandy**, brandy distilled from marc.

1852 Fownes *Man. Elem. Chem.* (1863) 512 The fusel-oil of the *marc-brandy* of the South of France.

Marc, obs. form of Mark, Marque.

Marcal, variant of Mercal.

Marcan (mā·rkăn), *a.* [f. L. *Marc-us* Mark + -an.] Pertaining to the Gospel of St. Mark.

1902 J. A. Robinson *Study of Gospels* iv. *heading*, The use of the non-Marcan Document by St. Matthew and St. Luke. 1903 H. B. Swete in *Expositor* June 415 The Marcan tradition.

†**Marcantant.** *Obs. rare*⁻¹. [Corruption of It. *mercatante*.] A merchant.

1596 Shaks. *Tam. Shr.* iv. ii. 63 *Tra.* What is he..? *Bio.* Master, a Marcantant [*so Folios and Qo.*; *Pope reads* mercantant, *Capell* mercatantè], or a pedant.

†**Marcasin(e.** *Obs. rare.* Also **marcassin.** [=F. *marcassin* (Cotgr.).] =next.

1601 Holland *Pliny* II. 509 These two Marcassins. *Ibid.* 588 There is another fire stone going under the name of Pyrites or Marcasin. *Ibid.*, These Marcasines.

Marcasite (mā·rkăsəit). *Min.* Also 5 **markasit**, 5–8 **marchasite**, 6 **-it, marcazite**, 6–7 **-quesit(e**, 7 **-quisat(e, merquisate, marchesit(e, -gasite**, 7–8 **-casit, -c(h)assite**, 8 **-kasite.** Also in mod.L. form 7–8 **marcasites**, (7 **margasites**). [ad. med.L. *marcasīta* (whence F. *marcassite*, Sp. *marquesita*, It. *marcassita*, *marchesita*), app. formed with suffix L. *-īta*, Gr. *-ίτης*, -ite¹.

The etymology is obscure, as the Arabic *marqashīthā* or *marqashītā*, often cited as the source, is probably adopted from some European language.]

1. Pyrites, *esp.* the crystallized forms of iron pyrites used in the 18th c. for ornaments; by some restricted to the arsenical varieties of pyrites; in recent use, white iron pyrites (iron disulphide).

For the vague notion attached to the word in pre-scientific chemistry, see quots. 1616 and 1727–52. The 'marcasites' of gold and silver seem to have been specimens of copper and iron pyrites with the lustre of gold and silver, and hence wrongly supposed to contain traces of those metals.

1471 Ripley *Comp. Alch.* Ep. i. in Ashm. (1652) 116 Our Marchasite, our Magnete, and our Lead. 1572 J. Jones *Bathes of Bath* II. 20 Copper, Iron, and Marquesite. 1610 B. Jonson *Alch.* II. iii, Your marchesite, your tutie, your magnesia. 1616 Bullokar *Eng. Expos.*, *Marchasite*, a stone participating with the nature of some mettall, yet in so small quantity, that the mettall cannot be melted from it, but will vapour away in smoake, the stone turning to ashes. 1684 tr. *Bonet's Merc. Compit.* XIX. 852 Glass of Antimony .. is nothing but the meer Marchasite of Lead. 1695 Woodward *Nat. Hist. Earth* IV. 172 A common Marcasite or Pyrites shall have the Colour of Gold most exactly; ..and yet..yield nothing of worth, but Vitriol, and a little Sulphur. 1727–52 Chambers *Cycl.*, *Marcasite, Marcasita*, a sort of metallic mineral, supposed by many to be the seed or first matter of metals. On this principle, there should be as many different marcasites as metals..There are only three kinds in the shops, which are called, marcasite of gold, of silver, and of copper: though some repute the loadstone to be a marcasite of iron; bismuth, marcasite of tin; and zink, or spelter, marcasite of lead. *a* 1728 Woodward *Fossils* I. (1729) I. 172, I could never perceive any Arsenic in the Pyritæ; in which they differ from the Marcasits, most of which contain more or less of that Mineral. 1778 Woulfe in *Phil. Trans.* LXIX. 15 The Derbyshire and Eckton Cauk, which is commonly covered with copper marcassite. 1796 Kirwan *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) II. 256 Arsenical Pyrites or Marcassite. 1836–41 Brande *Chem.* (ed. 5) 861 Bismuth was sometimes called Marcasite. 1844 Browning *Colombe's Birthday* I. 344 Von gray urn's veritable marcasite, The Pope's gift. 1865 Watts *Dict. Chem.* III. 851 *Marcasite*, white Iron Pyrites. 1879 Rutley *Study Rocks* x. 157 Marcasite resembles pyrites, except that it crystallises in the rhombic system.

attrib. 1588 Lucar *Colloq. Arte Shooting* App. 17 The marchasite stone. 1601 Holland *Pliny* II. 558 It commeth of a certaine marquesit stone, wherupon also they call it Chalcitis. *a* 1728 Woodward *Fossils* I. (1729) I. 181 The Marcasite Grains are of a bright Yellow.

2. A piece or specimen of marcasite; an ornament made of crystallized iron pyrites.

Formerly used for striking a light: cf. Firestone 1.

1555 Eden *Decades* 115 *margin*, Marchasites are flowers of metals by the colours wherof the kyndes of metals are knowen. 1682 N. O. *Boileau's Lutrin* III. 54 From his Pocket He takes his Marchasite, begins to knock it With hardned Steel, out springs an Active spark. 1773 Golosm. *Stoops to Conq.* III. i, Half the ladies of our acquaintance, .. carry their jewels to town, and bring nothing but paste and marcasites back. 1877 W. Jones *Finger-ring* 307 Two hearts surmounted by a crown..set with marcasites.

Hence **Marcasi·tal** (*rare*⁻⁰), **Marcasi·tical** *adjs.*, pertaining to or containing marcasite.

1670 Boyle *Tracts Cosm. Qual.* etc. IV. 21 A great quantity of marchasiticall Earth, if I may so call it. 1731 Bailey vol. II, *Marcasital* [ed. 1737 *Marcasitical*], of or pertaining to marcasites. 1779 *Phil. Trans.* LXIX. 30 On one side there was a slight marcasitical coating.

‖**Marcassin** (markæ·sin). *Her.* [Fr.] A young wild boar, used as a charge.

1727 in Bailey vol. II. 1847 *Gloss. Heraldry*, *Marcassin*, a young wild boar, distinguished from an old one by having its tail hanging down instead of twisted.

Marcassin, variant of Marcasin(e.

Marcassite, obs. form of Marcasite.

Marcatt(e, Marce, obs. ff. Market, Mars.

‖**Marceline**¹ (mā·rsĕlin). Also **marcelline** (*Dicts.*). [Fr.] A silk fabric used for linings.

1835 *Court Mag.* VI. p. ii/1 The breakfast dress is lined with coloured marceline.

Marceline² (mā·rsĕlin). *Min.* [a. F. *marceline* (Beudant), f. name of St. Marcel, Piedmont.] A siliceous oxide of manganese.

1849 J. Nicol *Man. Min.* 1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 387/2 Marceline has violet tarnish.

Marcella, marsella (marse·lă). [Anglicized pronunciation of Marseilles.] A kind of twilled cotton or linen cloth used for waistcoats, etc.

1812 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 81/2 In black silk stockings, black small clothes, Marcella waistcoat, and dressing gown. 1861 *Eng. Wom. Dom. Mag.* III. 263/1 The waistcoat may be made either in white silk or marcella. 1882 Caulfeild & Saward *Dict. Needlework*, *Marcella* or *Marsella*, a description of cotton Quilting or coarse Piqué,..for making toilet covers, dressing table mats, and other articles.

Marcellian (marse·liăn). *Eccl.* [ad. med.L. *Marcelliān-us*, f. *Marcellus*.] A follower of Marcellus, bishop of Ancyra in the fourth century, who is said to have held heretical views resembling Sabellianism. Hence **Marce·llianism.**

1607 T. Rogers 39 *Art.* (1625) 6 Some denyed the Trinity ..: so did..the Marcellians. 1727–41 Chambers *Cycl.*, *Marcellianism*, the doctrine and opinions of the Marcellians.

Marcerye, obs. form of Mercery.

Marces, obs. pl. of March *sb.*³

Marcescent (marse·sĕnt), *a.* (*sb.*) *Bot.* [ad. L. *marcēscent-em*, pr. pple. of *marcēscĕre*, inceptive f. *marcēre* to be faint or languid.] Of parts of a plant: Withering but not falling off.

1727 Bailey vol. II. 1777 Robson *Brit. Flora* 29, 32. 1870 Bentley *Man. Bot.* (ed. 2) 222 When it is persistent and assumes a shrivelled or withered appearance, it is marcescent.

b. *sb.* A plant having marcescent parts.

1859 Todd *Cycl. Anat.* V. 254/2 A single cell of the leaf of a marcescent..is seen still to contain a primordial vesicle.

Hence **Marce·scence** [see -ence], marcescent condition.

1857 Todd *Cycl. Anat.* V. 232/2 Cessation of vegetation and marcescence. 1890 *Temple Bar* Nov. 443 They are ugly in their marcescence and scent incipient putrefaction.

†**Marce·scible,** *a. Obs.*⁻⁰ In early Dicts. spelt **marcessible.** [a. F. *marcescible* (in 16th c. written *marcessible*), f. *marcēscĕre*: see Marcescent and -ble.] Liable to wither or fade. Hence **Marce·scibleness, Marcescibi·lity.**

1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Marcessible*, apt or easie to rot or putrifie. 1727 Bailey vol. II, *Marcessibility*, a pining away, a Consumption. 1731 *Ibid.*, *Marcessibleness*, withering or fading nature.

Marcgrave: see Margrave.

†**March,** *sb.*¹ *Obs.* Forms: 1 **merici, merice,** (*Northumb.* **merlc**), **merece, merce, mearce**, 4–7 **merche**, 6 **march(e.** [OE. *mercee* str. masc. =OS. (glosses) *merk, merka* (MLG. *merk* masc.), G. *merk* masc., MSw. *märke, merkie* fem., Da. *mærke.*] Smallage or wild celery, *Apium graveolens.*

a 700 *Epinal Gloss.* 24 *Apio*, merici. *a* 800 *Corpus Gloss.* 182 *Apio*, merice. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 134 Genim merce niopoweardne. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Gram.* (Z.) 27 *Apiaster*, merce. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. xiii. (Helmingham MS.), Merche is calde Apium. 1545 Elyot *Dict.*, *Hipposelinon*, some suppose it to bee the herbe called smallache, or marche. 1562 Turner *Herbal* II. 68 b, Hipposelinon hath leues lyke vnto march or smalache, but roughe. 1572 Bossewell *Armorie* II. 76 b, A Pyle in poynete betwene two slippes of Merche, verte. 1578 Lyte *Dodoens* V. xlii. 606 Of Marish Parsley, March or Smallache. 1632 *Guillim's Heraldry* IV. xvi. (ed. 2) 353 Apium..is called in English Merche.

March (mārtʃ), *sb.*² Forms: 3–4 **Marz**, 4 **Mars**, 3 **Marrch, Mearch**, 4–7 **Marche**, (6 *Sc.* **Merche**), 4– **March.** [Early ME. *march*, a. AF. *marche* (Gaimar), OF. *march(e* (Godefr. *Compl.*), a north-eastern var. of the more usual *marz, mars* (mod. F. *mars*) :—L. *Martium* (nom. *Martius* sc. *mēnsis*, lit. month of Mars), whence also Pr. *martz, mars*, Sp. *marzo*, Pg. *março*, It. *marzo*, OHG. *Merzo* (MHG. *Merze*, mod.G. *März*), MDu. *maerte, merte* (modDu. *Maart*), Sw. *Mars*, Da. *Marts*, late Gr. *Μάρτιος.*]

1. The third month of the year in the Julian and Gregorian calendar. Abbreviated Mar.

In the Roman pre-Julian calendar it was the first month, and originally began at the vernal equinox.

[*c* 1050 *Menologium* 36 Hrime ȝehyrsted, haȝolscurum færð ȝeond middaneard Martius reðe, Hlyda healic.] *c* 1200 Ormin 1891 Þatt wass i Marrch, acc Marrch wass þa Neh all gan ut till ende. *a* 1225 *Juliana* 79 Þe fowrtuðe Kalende of mearch þat is seoðden. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 10926 Þe dai þat hir was send þis saand O marz [*c* 1375 *Fairf.* march] þe fiue and tuentiand. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Nun's Pr. T.* 368 The Monthe in which the world bigan That highte Marche. 1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 371 And afterward the time is schape, To frost, to Snow,.. Til eft that Mars be com ayein. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 326/1 Marche, monythe, *marcius*. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* lxiv. 11 Merche, with his cauld blastis keyne, Hes slane this gentill herbe. 1601 Shaks. *Jul. C.* III. i. 1 *Cæs.* The Ides of March are come. *Sooth.* I Cæsar, but not gone. 1712 Swift *Jrnl. to Stella* 26 Mar., I forgot to wish you yesterday a happy New Year. You know the twenty-fifth of March is the first day of the year. 1870 Morris *Earthly Par.* I. i. 103 Welcome, O March! whose kindly days and dry Make April ready for the throstle's song.

Personified. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* IX. xi. (1495) 355 Marche is paynted as it were a gardyner. 1821 Shelley *Dirge for Year* iv, March with grief doth bowl and rave. 1842 Tennyson *Gardener's Dau.* 28 Love..made..that hair More black than ashbuds in the front of March.

b. Proverbs. (See also 2 a, 2 b.)

1598 B. Jonson *Case is Altered* V. iv. (1609) K, Marche faire al, for a faire March is worth a kings ransome. 1624 Fletcher *Wife for Month* II. i, *Me.* I would chuse March, for I would come in like a Lion. *To.* But you'ld go out like a Lamb, when you went to hanging. *a* 1632 G. Herbert *Jacula Prudent.* 739 February makes a bridge and March breakes it. 1678 Ray *Prov.* (ed. 2) 44 March many weathers.

2. *attrib.* and *Comb.*: a. *simple attrib.*, as *March air, dust, morning, wind.*

1863 Tennyson *Welcome Alexandra* 16 Clash, ye bells, in the merry *March air! *c* 1530 Heywood *Play of Wether* 622 (Brandl) One bushell of *march dust is worth a kynges raunsome. 1557 Tusser 100 *Points Husb.* cii, A bushel of Marche dust, worth raunsomes of gold. 1685 Boyle *Salubr. Air* iii. (1690) 55 It is proverbially said in England, that a Peck of March Dust is worth a King's Ransom: So unfrequent is dry Weather during that Month, in our Climate. 1833 Tennyson *May Queen* Concl. vii, All in the wild *March-morning I heard the angels call. 1530 Palsgr. 484/1, I chyppe, as ones handes do,..with the *Marche-wynde. 1846 *Denham's Coll. Prov.* (Percy Soc.) 36 March winds and April showers Bring forth May flowers.

b. Special comb.: **March ale, beer**, a strong ale or beer brewed in March; also *attrib.*; **March brown**, a fly used in angling; †**March chick** *transf.*, applied to a precocious youth; **March hare**, a proverbial type of madness (see Hare *sb.* 1 b); †**March mad** = mad as a March hare; **March moth**, the moth of a caterpillar infesting plum trees (see quot.); **March violet** [cf. OF. *violette de Mars*], the common garden violet, *Viola odorata*; also *attrib.*

1632 Lithgow *Trav.* III. 106 Strong *March-Ale, surpassing fine Aqua-vitæ. 1576–7 *Acts Privy Council* 298 Beare .. commonly called *March beere. *a* 1704 T. Brown *Last Observator* in *Collect. Poems* (1705) 101 Hast with thee brought some..Protestant March-Beer, to raise my Fancy? 1856 'Stonehenge' *Brit. Rural Sports* 245 The *March-Brown. 1863 Ouida *Held in Bondage* (1870) 8 Flinging his March brown into the stream. 1599 Shaks. *Much Ado* I. iii. 58 A very forward *March-chicke. 14.. *Blowbol's Test.* (MS. Rawl. C 86 lf. 111 b), Thanne þey begynne to swere and to stare, And be as braynles as a *Marshe hare. 1526 Skelton *Magnyf.* 930 As mery as a Marche hare. *a* 1529 — *Replycacion* 35, I saye, thou madde Marche hare. *a* 1619 Fletcher *Mad Lover* I. i, Keep him darke, He will run *March mad else. *a* 1625 — *Noble Gent.* I. i, He is March mad: Farewell Monsieur. 1890 Miss E. A. Ormerod *Injur. Insects* (ed. 2) 335 *March Moth. *Anisopteryx æscularia*, Schiff. 1578 Lyte *Dodoens* II. i. 148 The sweete Violet is called..in English Violets, the garden Violet, the sweete Violet, and the *Marche Violet. 1601 Holland *Pliny* II. 621 It turneth into a March Violet colour.

March (mārtʃ), *sb.*³ Forms: 3–7 **marche**, 6–7 *Sc.* **merch(e**, 3– **march.** Pl. 1, 4–6 **marchis**, 5 **marchez, -ys**, 6 **marcea, marchesse, marchies, *Sc.* marchia, merche(i)a, mer(a)chia, mairches**, 4– **marches.** [a. F. *marche* fem., a Com. Rom. word = Pr., Sp., Pg., It. *marca*, ad. Teut. **markā* (OHG., OS. *marka*, OE. *mearc*): see Mark *sb.*¹]

1. Boundary, frontier, border. a. The border or frontier of a country. Hence, a tract of land on the border of a country, or a tract of debatable land separating one country from another. Often *collect. plural*, esp. with reference to the portions of England bordering respectively on Scotland and on Wales. Now *Hist.* and *arch.*

In early examples *the March (of Wales)* is an etymological rendering of *Mercia. Court of (the) Marches*: see quot. 1848.

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 345/2 He was kyng in Engelonde: of þe Marche of Walis. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 60 Þe king of westsex and of kent & of norþhomber .. & þe kyng of þe march þat was here amidde. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* XVI. 357 Of the marchis than had he The gouernale and the pouste. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) II. 61 Schroysbury is a citee vppon Seuarn in þe marche of Engelond and of Wales. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 913 Þan was a man in Messadone in þe marche duellid, A proued prince. 1415 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 276/2 Wardeyns of oure Est and West Marches. 1523 Ld. Berners *Froiss.* I. cxxxvii. 165 The quene of Englande .. was as thanne in the marchesse of the Northe, about Yorke. 1532–3 *Act* 24 *Hen. VIII*, c. 12 § 2 Any personne .. resiaunte .. within any the Kinges saide Dominions or Marches of the same. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 50 Henry Zutphan was put to death .. by them of Dietmary, which is in the marces of Germany. 1577–87 Holinshed *Chron.* III. 1213/1 The lord Hunsdon lord warden of the east marches, and gouernor of Berwike. 1584 Whitgift *Let. to Burleigh* in Fuller *Ch. Hist.* IX. (1655) 157 Sure I am it is most usuall in the Court of the Marches (Arches rather) whereof I have the best experience. 1602 Warner *Alb. Eng.* Epit. (1612) 355 The Pictes .. then occupying those parts which we now call the middle Marches, betwixt the English and Scots. 1612 Drayton *Poly-olb.* vii. 8 The Herefordian floods .. with their superfluous waste Manure the batfull March. *c* 1630 Risdon *Surv. Devon* § 225 (1810) 238 And 'twas 'twixt Britts and Saxons made the march. 1655 Fuller *Ch. Hist.* IX. vi. § 51 This Oath .. is usually tendered in Chancery, Court of Requests, Councel of Marches, and Councel in the North. 1848 Wharton *Law Lex.* s.v., Court of Marches, an abolished tribunal in Wales, where pleas of debt or damages, not above the value of 50*l.*, were tried and determined. 1859 Tennyson *Geraint & Enid* 41 He craved a fair permission to depart And there

defend his marches. 1867 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1876) I. iv. 157 Granted in fief..as a march or border territory. 1875 STUBBS *Const. Hist.* II. xvi. 345 Hugh came into collision with .. the rest of the rival lords of the marches.

b. The boundary of an estate; the boundary dividing one estate from another. Chiefly *Sc.*

1540 in *5th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* 609/1 The ryght meithis and merchis is and salbe .. betuix the saidis landis. 1637–50 Row *Hist. Kirk* (Wodrow Soc.) 196 No man shall ever let me see where any of the apostles sat as judges to other men, or to sett in marches, or to divyde men's lands. 1818 HOGG *Brownie of B.* vii, It was..in the march between two lairds' lands, that he preached that day. 1839 DE QUINCEY *Recoll. Lakes* Wks. 1862 II. 2 Woodlands..intervening the different estates with natural sylvan marches. 1886 *Act* 49 & 50 *Vict.* c. 29 § 21 Any questions relating to the boundaries or marches between crofters' holdings.

†**c.** A boundary mark, landmark. *Obs.*

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* XII. xiv. 30 Ane ald crag stane .. Quhilk .. was figgand neyr, A marche set in that grund.. Of twa feildis. 1577 HOLINSHED *Chron., Hist. Scot.* 255/2 In the middest of Stanemoore there shall be a Crosse set vp, with the king of Englandes image on the one side, and the king of Scotlands on the other, to signifie that the one is marche to England, and the other to Scotland.

d. *fig.*

1637 RUTHERFORD *Lett.* lxxxii. (1862) I. 207 When .. ye are in the utmost..border of time and shall put your foot within the march of eternity. 1786 A. GIB *Sacred Contempl.* 269 A march ought to be fixed between his private and his public obedience. 1879 G. MACDONALD *P. Faber* III. xvi. 265 Over the march of two worlds, that of the imagination, and that of fact, her soul hovered fluttering.

e. *To redd, rid, ride the marches*: see REDD *v.*[2] 2 c, RID *v.*, RIDE *v.*

†**2.** Used for: Country, territory. [Cf. L. *fines*.]

13.. *K. Alis.* 3019 He hath y-wonne .. Theo marche of Fraunse, and of Spayne, And Tolouse, and eke Almayne. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. xv. 438 And þorw myracles .. al þat marche he [Austyn] torned to cryst. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* I. x, Vlfius & Brastias .. shold haue suche chere as myghte be made them in tho marchys. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* vi. 138 Blessed be the hour that ye were borne, and cam in to thyse marches.

3. In renderings of continental names of territories. †**a.** Applied to the MARK of Brandenburg (*obs.*). **b.** = It. *Marca* (see quot. 1875).

1726 LEONI *Alberti's Archit.* I. 30/2 In the March of Ancona,..they find a white Stone, which [etc.]. 1758 *Ann. Reg.* 20 Richlieu .. made his way into .. the old marche of Brandenburg. 1875 *Encycl. Brit.* II. 9/2 Ancona .. forms part of the old district of the Marches, which passed from the dominion of the Pope to that of Victor Emmanuel in 1860. The Marches comprise the March of Ancona on the north and the March of Fermo on the south.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as (sense 1 b) *march-balk, -dike, -ditch, -fence, -line,* (sense 1 a) *march* †*captain,* †*cause,* †*garrison, law, -treason* (arch.); †**march-day,** ? a court held to try cases of infraction of border laws; †**march-gat** (? GATE *sb.*[2]), ? a way across a frontier; †**march parts, -party,** the marches; †**march-ward,** 'a warden of the marches' (Webster 1864). Also MARCH-LAND, MARCH-MAN, MARCH-STONE.

1683 *Fountainhall's Decis. Lds. Counc. Session* (1759) I. 224 In regard the witness had deponed upon her tilling and riveing out the *march-balk. 1537 *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, II. 452 Every of His Gracis subjectis, having landes in like places of daungier, bee orderid to departe therwith to *marche capitayns. 1538 *Ibid.* III. 37 Marches capitaynes. 1537 *Ibid.* 489 That ther were, in every marche, wardens .. whiche shulde have auctorytye .. to here and redresse all robberyes, *marche causeis [etc.]. 1900 A. LANG *Hist. Scot.* I. x. 293 In ruling the Borders, making raids and holding *March-days. 1794 R. HERON *Gen. View Hebudæ* 90 Let the landlords take upon themselves the expence of building every where sufficient *march-dykes. 1830 W. CARLETON *Traits Peas.* (1843) I. 118 This river .. was the *march ditch, or *merin* between our farms. 1888 *Bell's Dict. Law Scot.* 619/2 A tenant..is bound..to maintain *march-fences erected by the landlord during the lease. 1537 *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, II. 429 Distrusting to commytt the custodie of dyvers of the *marche garrisons to any of this landes birthe. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 5076 He leuys all þe *march gats I neuend 3ow before. 1612 DAVIES *Why Ireland*, etc. 123 That no Englishman be ruled in the dehnition of their debates by the *March-Law or the Brehon Law. 1886 G. MACDONALD *What's Mine's Mine* III. ix. 158 If he did not everywhere know where the *march-line fell, at least he knew perfectly where it ought to fall. 14.. *Chevy Chase* 120 (Skeat) For towe such captayns as slayne wear thear on the *march parti shall neuer be non. *Ibid.* 138 Ther was neuer a tym on the *marche partes [etc.]. 1805 SCOTT *Last Minstr.* IV. xxiv, We claim from thee William of Deloraine, That he may suffer *march-treason pain.

March (mɑːtʃ), *sb.*[4] Also 6 martch. [a. F. *marche*, vbl. noun from *marcher*: see MARCH *v.*[2]]

I. Action of marching.

1. *Mil.* The action of marching; the regular forward movement together and in time of a body of troops. Also, the orderly forward movement of a company, an exploring party, a procession, etc.

1590 SIR J. SMYTH *Disc. Weapons* Ded. 8 Also, whereas it hath been the vse of all great Captaines and Chieftaines, vpon anie long march and enterprise intended. 1591 SHAKS. *1 Hen. VI*, IV. iii. 8 Two mightier Troopes .. Which ioyn'd with him, and made their march for Burdeaux. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* V. 775 For whom all this haste Of midnight march. 1672 SIR W. TALBOT (*title*) The Discoveries of John Lederer, in three several Marches from Virginia to the West of Carolina. 1781 SIMES *Mil. Guide* (ed. 3) 12 They [pioneers] are to..make preparations for the march of the army. 1837 W. IRVING *Capt. Bonneville* I. 159 A march of three or four days .. brought Captain Bonneville to .. Jackson's Hole. 1850 GROTE *Greece* II. lxx. (1888) VII. 270 Three days of additional march brought them to the Euphrates.

b. Phrases. *Column of march* (see quot. 1876). *Line of march*: direction or route of marching; *transf.*, course of travelling, way. *In* (†*a full*) *march, on* or *upon* (*a* or *their*) *march*: marching.

1639 *Articles Mil. Discipl.* 11 Every man is to keep his own rank and file upon the march. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* I. 413 When he entic'd Israel in Sittim on their march from Nile. 1707 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4353/1 The Duke of Savoy's Army are in a full March for this Place. 1734 tr. *Rollin's Anc. Hist.* (1827) II. II. ii. 2 They attacked the Carthaginians, who were upon their march. 1780 A. HAMILTON *Wks.* (1886) VIII. 11 All the army is in march toward you. 1781 SIMES *Milit. Guide* (ed. 3) 12 The routes must be so formed, that no column cross another on the march. 1835 W. IRVING *Tour Prairies* xviii, They crossed the line of our march without .. perceiving us. 1844 H. H. WILSON *Brit. India* II. 236 Detachments of the 65th regiment, .. on their march to join the 4th division. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. xxvii. 202 The snow above us, broke across, forming a fissure parallel to our line of march. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) III. 414 Whether in actual battle or on a march. 1876 VOYLE & STEVENSON *Milit. Dict.*, *Column of March*, a formation assumed by troops on the line of march.

c. Applied to steady progression of animals on a long journey. Also, with reference to persons, a long and toilsome walk.

1691 RAY *Creation* II. (1692) 124 The swiftness and continuance of the march, for which this Animal [the camel] is almost indefatigable. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* IV. 86 The Motions of their hasty Flight attend; And know to Floods, or Woods, their airy March they [Bees] bend. 1705 ADDISON *Italy* 238 We came to the Roots of the Mountain, and had a very troublesome March to gain the Top of it. 1832 LYTTON *Eugene A.* I. ii, I have had a long march of it. 1888 *Harper's Mag.* July 198/2, I knew they [*sc.* elephants] would be on the march again before daylight.

d. In comb. with following adv., forming nouns of action to phrases of the verb, as *march out*, a sortie; *march past* (see quot. 1876).

1863 *Illustr. Lond. News* 27 June 706/1 During the march past the hand played. 1869 A. W. WARD tr. *Curtius' Hist. Greece* II. III. i. 273 Themistocles insisted upon a second march-out against the enemy. 1876 VOYLE & STEVENSON *Milit. Dict.*, *March Past*, an expression made use of when a regiment or any larger body of men pass in review order before the sovereign or reviewing officer.

2. *transf.* and *fig.* Advance, forward movement, progress. Also, course or direction of advance.

a. With reference to the 'journey' of life.

a 1625 FLETCHER *Hum. Lieut.* III. v, Our lives are but our martches to our graves. 1804 CAMPBELL *Soldier's Dream* iv, I flew to the pleasant fields travers'd so oft In life's morning march, when my bosom was young. 1816 BYRON *Ch. Har.* III. xcviii, We may resume The march of our existence. 1871 MORLEY *Voltaire* (1886) 6 Voltaire's march was prepared for him, before he was born.

b. Of physical things.

1683 A. SNAPE *Anat. Horse* I. xxviii. 63 [The Veins] continue their march through the Allantoides to the Chorion... Their [*sc.* Arteries] march and insertions are the same with those of the Vein. 1794 COWPER *Needless Alarm* 29 The sun, accomplishing his early march. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 108 Mediastinal cancer..makes its onward march involving whatever may come in its path. *Ibid.* VII. 260 Then followed a march of a sensation of pins and needles down the opposite side of the body. *Ibid.* 290 No exact description is given of the march of the spasms.

c. Of time, events, population, etc.

a 1797 H. WALPOLE *Mem. Geo. III* (1845) I. i. 3 The regular march of history. 1798 MALTHUS *Popul.* (1817) II. 40 The march of the population in both periods seems to have been nearly the same. 1833 LAMB *Elia* Ser. II. Pref., He did not conform to the march of time. 1833 *Fraser's Mag.* VIII. 343 The common person [is] sadly puzzled to understand the ordonnance and march of the plot. 1852 GROTE *Greece* II. lxxii. (1856) IX. 259 Doubtless each [Lysandrian Dekarchy] had its own peculiar march: some were less tyrannical; but perhaps some even more tyrannical [than the Thirty at Athens]. 1871 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1876) IV. xviii. 108 These Northumbrian disturbances had little bearing on the general march of events.

d. Of knowledge, etc., esp. in the phrase *march of intellect* or *mind*. Also *attrib.*

Very common (esp. in ironical allusion) between 1827 (the date of the foundation of the Society for the Diffusion of Useful Knowledge) and 1850.

1827 *Gentl. Mag.* XCVII. II. p. ii, What is 'the march of intellect'—The mighty march of mind? 1833 R. H. FROUDE *Rem.* (1838) I. 309, I tried hard to get up the march-of-mind phraseology about pictures and statues. 1844 S. R. MAITLAND *Dark Ages* 185 He was quite a march-of-intellect man. 1852 TENNYSON *Ode Wellington* 169 And drill the raw world for the march of mind, Till crowds at length be sane and crowns be just.

3. *Mil.* The portion of marching done continuously; the distance covered by troops in one day. *Forced march*: see FORCED *ppl. a.* 3.

1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III*, V. ii. 13 From Tamworth thither, is but one dayes march. 1650 R. STAPYLTON *Strada's Low C. Warres* VII. 77 He by long Marches passing the Rhine came to Delph in Holland. 1724 DE FOE *Mem. Cavalier* (1840) 172 It gave the king a full day's march of him. 1813 WELLINGTON in Gurw. *Desp.* (1838) X. 431 The army are..within two or three marches of the Ebro. 1895 *United Service Mag.* July 430 The precautions for the night march to prevent a light from being seen.

fig. 1845 LONGF. *Belfry of Bruges, Carillon*, Still I heard those magic numbers, As they loud proclaimed the flight And stolen marches of the night.

b. Phrases. *To* (*gain, get*) *a march on* or *upon*: to get ahead of to the extent of a march. *To steal a march* (*on* or *upon*): to gain a march by stealth; often *fig.*

1707 *Lond. Gaz.* No 4353/3 His Royal Highness hath gain'd a March upon Monsieur de Guebriant. 1745 H. WALPOLE *Lett.* (1846) II. 59 The young Pretender..has got a march on General Cope. 1833 MARRYAT *P. Simple* xxiii, We must be off early,..and steal a long march upon them.

4. The regular and uniform step of a body of men, esp. of troops. Also with qualifying adj., as *double, quick, slow march*. See also QUICK MARCH 1.

1773–83 HOOLE *Orl. Fur.* XVI. 566 So loud their march, the Scots suspended hear, They leave their ranks and stain their fame with fear. 1820 SHELLEY *Ode to Naples* 127 Hear ye the march as of the Earth-born Forms Arrayed against the everliving Gods? 1889 *Infantry Drill* 25 The length of which [plummet-string]..must be as follows for the different degrees of march. *Ibid.* 29 The Slow March. *Ibid.* 31 The Quick March. *Ibid.* 32 The Double March.

b. *fig.* Of verse: Rhythmic movement.

1635–56 COWLEY *Davideis* I. 450 Till all the Parts and Words their Places take And with just Marches Verse and Musick make. 1737 POPE *Hor. Epist.* II. i. 269 But Dryden taught to join The varying verse, the full resounding line, The long majestic march, and Energy divine.

5. *Mil.* A beating of the drum in a particular rhythm as an accompaniment to the marching of troops.

c 1572 GASCOIGNE *Fruites Warre*, L'ennuié, If drummes once sounde a lustie martch in deede, Then farewell bookes, for he will trudge with speede. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* III. 267 A man can hardly distinguish betweene the beating of the drums of the Sweitzers, and Germans, saue that the former march is more graue and slow. 1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Drum*, There are divers beats of the Drum: as the march, double march, assembly, charge [etc.]. 1781 SIMES *Milit. Guide* (ed. 3) 12 The general beats at 2; the assemblé at 3; and the march in 20 minutes after. *Ibid.*, The drummers are to beat a march, and fifers play at the head of the line.

6. *Mus.* A tune or composition of marked rhythm (of which the rhythmical drum-beats, sense 5, originally formed the essential, and still often form a subsidiary, part), designed to accompany the marching of troops, etc.; also any composition of similar character and form; usually in common time, and with a subsidiary intermediate section or 'trio'. So also *march past*. *Dead march*: see DEAD D. 2; also *funeral march*. *Rogue's march, wedding march* (see ROGUE, WEDDING).

1603 DEKKER *King's Entert.* (1604) E 2, Nine Trumpets, and a Kettle Drum, did very sprightly & actiuely sound the Danish March. 1706 ADDISON *Rosamond* I. iv, 'Tis Henry's March! the tune I know. 1719 *Dancing-Master* II. 29 Duke of Marlborough's March. *Ibid.* 221 The Footguards march; Or, Boatswain William's Delight. 1784 COWPER *Task* IV. 647 He hates the field, in which no fife or drum Attends him, drives his cattle to a march [etc.]. 1822 BYRON *Werner* IV. i. 272 I'll play you King Gustavus' march. 1839 LONGF. *Psalm of Life* iv, Our hearts .. Still, like muffled drums, are beating Funeral marches to the grave. 1876 VOYLE & STEVENSON *Milit. Dict.* 244/1 Each regiment in the British service has its special march for marching past. 1896 NEWNHAM-DAVIS *Three Men & a God* 77, I could hear Kelley..whistling the regimental march-past.

b. *attrib.*, as in *march-movement, -time*.

1864 BROWNING *Dis aliter visum* viii, Schumann's our music-maker now; Has his march-movement youth and mouth?

7. *Euchre.* (See quot.) [Cf. It. *marcio* 'a lnrch or maiden set at any game' (Florio).]

1886 *Euchre: how to play it* 108 *March*, where all the tricks are made by one side. 1895 in *Funk's Stand. Dict.* (with phrase *to make a march*).

II. Various senses adopted from F. *marche*.

†**8.** Foot-print (of an otter). *Obs. rare*—[1]. (Cf. MARK *sb.*[1] 13 c.)

c 1410 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) x, Men clepeth þat þe stepes or þe marches of þe Otyr, as men clepeth þe traces of þe herte.

9. *Chess*, etc. The move of a 'man'.

1672 BARBIER *Saul's Fam. Game Chesse* iv, What is the draught or marche of each peece. 1850 *Bohn's Handbk. Games* 503 (Polish Draughts) The march of the Pawn..is the same as in the English game.

fig. 1587 GREENE *Carde of Fancie* (1593) E, Houering betweene feare and hope, hee began the assault with this march. Madame (quoth he) for that [etc.].

10. *Weaving.* (See quot.)

1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 1393/2 *March* (Weaving), one of the short laths laid across the treadles under the shafts.

March (mɑːtʃ), *v.*[1] Forms: 4 marchen, 4–6 marche, 6 *Sc.* mairch, meareh, 6–7 merch, 5– march. [In sense 1, a. OF. *marchir*, f. *marche* MARCH *sb.*[3] In sense 2, f. MARCH *sb.*[3]; cf. obs. F. *marcher* to bound (Rabelais).]

1. *intr.* To border *upon*; to have a common frontier *with*. Formerly also †const. *to, unto*. Said of countries, estates, etc., and hence of their rulers, owners, or inhabitants.

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 7929 He graunted þem þanne to haue Southsex, Oxenfordschire, & Middelsex, ffor þey marchen vpon Kent. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* I. 99 Till occupy Landis, that war till him marcheand. ? *a* 1412 LYDG. *Two Merch.* 16 This riche lond..With Surry marchith toward thorient. 1481 CAXTON *Myrr.* II. ii. 66 Europe.. endureth fro the weste unto the north, & marcheth vnto Asie. 1515 *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, II. 19 Orayly is the strongeyst Iryshe rebell that marcheyth with the countye of Meathe. *c* 1530 LD. BERNERS *Arth. Lyt. Bryt.* (1814) 100 Joynynge to thys erledome there marched a duchy. 1598 HAKLUYT *Voy.* I. 65 The .. Don, vpon the banke whereof

marcheth a certain prince. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xxviii, She displayed so much kindness to Jeanie Deans, (because she herself, being a Merse woman, *marched* with Mid-Lothian, in which Jeanie was born) [etc.]. 1822 GALT *Provost* xl. (1868) 117 A piece of ground that marched with the spot whereon it was intended to construct the new building. 1883 ARNOLD-FORSTER in *19th Cent.* Sept. 399 Nor do they refrain from fighting because they march on each other and do a good business across the frontier. 1889 *Times* 25 Feb. 9/4 The frontiers of Dakota, Montana, and Washington march with the Canadian Dominion.

†b. ? To join. *Obs.*

The quots. may possibly belong to MARCH *v.*[2]

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. Prol. 63 Many of þis maistres Freris mowe clothen hem at lykyng, For here money and marchan-dise marchen [1362 meeten ofte] togideres. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S. T. S.) I. 270 The Inglische men war all come ower the brige and the wangaird was neir mearchant togither. Then the trumpitis blew .. and the wangairdis ioynitt togither.

†2. ? To serve for the defence of a frontier. *Obs.*

1577–87 HARRISON *England* I. xii. in *Holinshed*, At this Poulruan is a tower of force, marching against the tower on Fawy side.

†3. *trans.* To fix the bounds of; to mark the boundaries of with landmarks. *Sc. Obs.*

1541 *Aberdeen Reg.* XVII. (Jam.), The Baillie ordanit the lynaris to pass to the ground of the said tenement, and lyne and marche the same. 1588 *Burgh Rec. Glasgow* (1876) I. 121 And to stob and merche the samyn [landis] that the quantitie may be knawin. 1659 A. HAY *Diary* (S. H. S.) 42, [I] did set fut-stons and merch and meith all the propertie of Locarthill wher it is contiguous wt Symontoun.

March (mɑːtʃ), *v.*[2] Also 6 **mersh, merch,** 6–7 **marteh.** [a. F. *marcher*, orig. to tread, trample (12th c.), hence, to walk. In the specific military application the word has been adopted not only in Eng. but in other European langs., as Sp., Pg. *marchar*, It. *marciare*, G. *marschiren*, Du. *marcheren*, Da. *marschere*, Sw. *marschera*.

The etymology of F. *marcher* is obscure; the prevailing view is that the oldest recorded sense 'to trample' was developed from a sense 'to hammer', and that the word represents a Gaulish Latin **marcāre*, f. L. *marcus* hammer.]

1. *intr.* To walk in a military manner with regular and measured tread; of a body of men or troops, to walk in step, to go forward with a regular and uniform movement. Also, to begin to walk in step; to start on a march, to set out from quarters. Also with advbs., as *away, forth, forward, off, on, out, past.*

?1515 *Scotish Field* 146 in *Percy Fol.* I. 219 Then he bowneth him boldlye ouer the broad waters, & manlye him Marcheth [Lyme MS. (Chetham Misc. 1856 II) *reads* marketh] to the Mill feelde. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Rich. III* 39 The duke with all his power mershed through the forest of deane. 1591 *Garrard's Art Warre* 54 They..which march in the formost ranckes. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* III. 267 When they are to march, the law commands them to lay aside all priuate quarrels. 1710 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4710/1 The Garrison marched out..in the Forenoon. 1742 POPE *Dunc.* IV. 101 There march'd the bard and blockhead, side by side. 1781 SIMES *Milit. Guide* (ed. 3) 12 The army marches to-morrow. *Ibid.*, The field-pieces march with the columns. 1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* xxxiv, The champions were now ordered to march in their turns around the lists. 1844 H. H. WILSON *Brit. India* II. 453 The troops marched against the Arabs. 1855 TENNYSON *Maud* I. v. 10 Singing of men that in battle array, .. March with banner and bugle and fife, To the death. 1860 *Illustr. Lond. News* 23 June 598/3 When her Majesty returns to the Royal standard the volunteers will march past in quick time.

†b. Conjugated with *be*. *Obs.*

1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV*, II. i. 187 Fifteene hundred Foot, fiue hundred Horse Are march'd vp to my Lord of Lancaster. 1648 *Hamilton Papers* (Camden) 206 His tertia, consisting of 5 regiments, is alreadie marcht. 1707 FREIND *Peterborow's Cond. Sp.* (ed. 2, corrected) 220, I hope Collonel Wills is March'd.

c. *fig.*

1684 T. HOCKIN *God's Decrees* 352 In the camp, where sin and vice did march uncontroul'd. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 370 The spumy Waves proclaim the watry War; And mounting upwards, with a mighty Roar, March onwards, and insult the rocky Shoar. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 34 P 11 Having thus taken my Resolutions to march on boldly in the Cause of Virtue and good Sense.

d. quasi-*trans.* To go upon (a warfare); to traverse (a distance) in marching. Also rarely *trans.* by ellipsis of *prep.*

1619 SIR J. SEMPILL *Sacrilege Handled* App. 38 Whether we march a Warfare in our Conquering Word, *Dieu et mon droit*; If [etc.]. 1813 T. BUSBY *Lucretius* I. III. 1240 He.. bade his legion march the briny main. 1884 J. COLBORNE *Hicks Pasha* 27 Forty-five miles have to be traversed; this will be marched in three days.

e. *Mil.* Used in the imperative as a word of command. Also *march on.*

1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II*, III. iii. 61 March on, and marke King Richard how he lookes. 1760 *New Mannal Exerc.* (ed. 3) 4 On the Word *March*, the Officers stepping off with their Left-feet [etc.]. 1832 *Regul. Instr. Cavalry* III. 116 Walk, Trot, or Gallop, March. 1833 *Ibid.* I. 21 The word *March*, given singly, at all times denotes that 'slow time' is to be taken.

2. To walk in a steady or deliberate manner; to go, proceed, travel. Also with advbs., as *off, on, out.*

1572 *Lament. Lady Scotland* 332 in *Satir. Poems Reform.* xxxiii, 'Becaus', quod thay, 'that ȝe alone tuik Pryde, And thocht that we suld not marche ȝow besyde'. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* II. xxv. 66 If a man did see them [Græcian women] as they do march, he woulde take them to be Nymphes. 1594 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* II. 409 That God hath made them men, and not beastes ramping on the earth, or marching vpon all foure. 1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* I. iii. 13 In my trauell passing the great gulfes of the Ocean, and marching by other regions of so strange lands. 1634 W. TIRWHYT tr. *Balzac's Lett.* (vol. I.) 77 From thence I march into a meddow. 1735 POPE *Donne Sat.* iv. 249 Thus finish'd,..They march, to prate their hour before the Fair. 1770 MME. D'ARBLAY *Early Diary* 7 Feb., Tea being over, we marched into a larger room, and minuets were begun. 1810 *Splendid Follies* I. 156 Do march on and shew the village lions. 1852 MRS. STOWE *Uncle Tom's C.* xxv, Miss Ophelia marched straight to her own chamber. 1896 A. E. HOUSMAN *Shropshire Lad* xvii, Now in Maytime to the wicket Out I march with bat and pad.

fig. *c* 1586 C'TESS PEMBROKE *Ps.* L. vii, Loe, thou see'st I march another pace And come with truth thy falshood to disclose.

3. In various transf. and fig. senses. a. Of inanimate things: To travel, go with a steady and regular movement.

1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* I. ii. 7 This space and region by which they faine that stars do continually march and rowle. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* IX. 392, I haue seene in an euening march along for Recreation aboue 60 coaches. 1852 CLOUGH *Songs in Absence* i. 6 Without a strain the great ship marches by.

b. To advance, make progress. Also *to march on.*

1648 J. BEAUMONT *Psyche* III. lxiii, So wrought this nimble Artist, and admir'd Her self to see the Work march on so fast. 1856 KANE *Arct. Expl.* I. xvii. 200 His symptoms marched rapidly to their result. 1868 J. H. BLUNT *Ref. Ch. Eng.* I. 250 After this events marched quickly. 1882 SERJT. BALLANTINE *Exper.* ii. 14 Bricks and mortar, marching in all directions, have eaten up many a green field. 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 12 Aug. 3/1 The Congress at Versailles is at last beginning to march. 1889 SKRINE *Mem. E. Thring* 203 It was the president who made the enterprise march.

†c. To be assigned to a specified rank or position in a series; to 'rank' *with, after*, etc. *Obs.*

1600 E. BLOUNT tr. *Conestaggio* 69 Making them march in one degree of equall iustice with their inferiours. 1625 HART *Anat. Ur.* I. iv. 37 My purpose is, first to propound some reasons against the same: and in the next place shall march some authorities of the learned. 1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 96 Nor are our Cities of sufficiencie to march in the first ranke of magnificence. 1640 BP. HALL *Episc.* III. i. 208 These [Elders] sometimes marched with the highest offices; so we have Elders and Iudges,.. Princes and Elders.

†d. *To march off*: (*a*) to become a bankrupt; (*b*) to die. *Obs.*

1683 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) I. 251 Mr. Temple, an eminent banker .., is lately broke for £150,000, and tis thought severall of that calling will march off also. 1693–4 WOOD *Life* Jan. (O. H. S.) III. 441 Lord Sidney..was taken also with a fit, and would have marched off, had it not been for..Dr. Radcliff his physitian.

4. *trans.* (causatively). To cause to march or move in military order.

1595 SHAKS. *John* III. i. 246 [Shall we] Vn-sweare faith sworne, and on the marriage bed Of smiling peace to march a bloody hoast? 1642 in *Buccleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 527 There are great numbers both of horse and foot raised and marched into divers parts of this our Kingdom. 1701 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) V. 9 That they may be ready to march them on any occasion. 1724 DE FOE *Mem. Cavalier* (1840) 66 As they were wheeled, or marched, or retreated by their officers.

b. To cause (a person) to walk or go, to force to go, to conduct. Also *to march off.*

1884 *Manch. Exam.* 4 June 4/7 Many a Persian peasant ..has been marched off captive by Turcoman slave-raiders. 1896 M. FIELD *Attila* II. 45, I should be glad to march you to the gate.

March, obs. or dial. form of MARSH.

Marchal(e, -all, obs. forms of MARSHAL.

Marchalsey, -sy(e, etc., vars. MARSHALCY, -SEA.

Marchand, -ant, etc.: see MERCHANT, etc.

‖ **Marchantia** (mɑːkæ·ntiă). [mod.L.: f. the name of a French botanist N. Marchant (*a* 1678).] A genus of plants including the liverwort (*M. polymorpha*); a plant of this genus.

1861 H. MACMILLAN *Footn. Nature* 51 The most interesting of all the scale-mosses is the common marchantia or liverwort (*Marchantia polymorpha*).

Marchas(s)ite, obs. forms of MARCASITE.

Marchasye, obs. form of MARSHALSEA.

Marchaulcy, -ausy: see MARSHALCY, -SEA.

Marchaund, -aunt, etc.: see MERCHANT, etc.

Marche: see MARCH *sb.*[1], wild celery.

Marcheis, obs. pl. MARCH *sb.*[2], obs. f. MARQUIS.

Marchell, obs. form of MARSHAL.

Marcher[1] (mɑːtʃəɹ). *Obs.* exc. *Hist.* Also 5 **marchere, marcheyre, marchowr,** 5–6 **marchier,** 5, 7 **marchour,** 7 **murcheour, -iour.** [f. MARCH *sb.*[2] + -ER; there may have been an AF. **marchier*.]

†1. One whose territory adjoins that of another. Const. *to.* [Cf. med.L. *marchio*.] *Obs.*

c 1440 *Partonope* 5044, 5047 Ther ys no lord that now ys heere But he ys in lond A marchere To som of lords afore sayd. Eche of hem therfore wold be wyll payde To haue hym a kyng to whom he ys marcheyre.

2. An inhabitant of a march or border district.

1470 in 10*th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 308 Who that ever marchour, be he Irishe or Inglish.. if such marchours take any chalaunge or action againste ony man duellyng within the saide citie. 1607 COWELL *Interpr., Marchers*, be the noble men dwelling on the Marches of Wales or Scotland: who in times past..had their priuate lawes, much like as if they had beene Kings. 1612 DAVIES *Why Ireland*, etc. (1787) 132 And euery lord of a country, and euery marcher, made war and peace at his pleasure. 1621 BOLTON *Stat. Irel.* Ep. Ded. a 4 b, Many of those Stat. .. concerning Marchiors..are..repealed. *Ibid.* 14 The said Marcheours ..doe guide the said Irish enemies and their theeues into the English countrey. *a* 1648 LD. HERBERT *Hen. VIII* (1683) 492 That Marchers should dwell upon their March Lands. 1752 CARTE *Hist. Eng.* III. 166 Sir Thomas Wharton and Sir W. Musgrave advancing against them with a body of marchers they fell into confusion. 1856 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* II. 269 The robber chief instantly rose and attacked the pale. The Marchers opened their lines to give his banditti free passage.

b. *Lord Marcher* (pl. *Lords Marchers*), a lord who enjoyed royal liberties and had exclusive jurisdiction over territory in the marches which he obtained by border warfare. Hence *Lordship Marcher*, territory so obtained and held.

1449 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 151/1 The Lordes Marchiers, of the whiche such misdoers..holden ther Londes. 1535-6 *Act* 27 *Hen. VIII*, c. 26 § 19 The Lordes Marchers .. have used to putt their tenauntes within their Lordshippes Marchers under suche common maynprise [etc.]. 1614 SELDEN *Titles Hon.* 216 The ancient Lords Marchers of Wales... Of these Marchers mention is in the Statute of Prerogative: *Exceptis Feodis Comitum & Baronum de Marchia. a* 1648 LD. HERBERT *Hen. VIII* (1683) 435 Insomuch, that in about some 141 Lordships Marchers..many strange and discrepant Customs were practised. 1700 TYRRELL *Hist. Eng.* II. 913 A day..was assigned for..the Lords Marchers to appoint Arbitrators. 1863 *Sat. Rev.* 384 While the Lords Marchers did the border this good service, they grew apace in powers of combined action.

†c. *Earl Marcher*: used for MARGRAVE.

1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 402 Saros Patak, where the Palatine or Earle-marcher of that part of Hungaria..usually keeps his residence.

†3. A border-territory or march. *Obs.*

1475 *Bk. Noblesse* (Roxb.) 45 Carenten, and Valoigney, withe alle othir forteressis and villages in that marcher.

4. *attrib.*, as *marcher-baron, -lord, -town.*

1570–6 LAMBARDE *Peramb. Kent* (1826) 187 It is a frontier, and Marchier Towne of this Shyre. 1841 HARTSHORNE *Salop. Antiq.* 497 Marcher Lords. *Ibid.* 498 This policy led to the erection of the Marcher Lordships. 1877 GREEN *Hist. Eng. People* I. 305 Indignities which the Marcher-lords had offered to the body of the great Earl. 1887 *Dict. Nat. Biog.* XI. 72/2 Representing the marcher barons.

Hence **Ma·rchership,** the office of Lord Marcher.

1859 PARKEA *Turner's Dom. Archit.* III. II. vii. 372 All this area was parcelled out into marcherships, holding from the English crown 'by the sword' only. 1875 STUBBS *Const. Hist.* II. xvi. 341 Wales, where the chief marcherships were in the hands of the great English earls.

Marcher[2] (mɑːtʃəɹ). [f. MARCH *v.*[2] + -ER[1].]

1. One who marches or walks. Chiefly with adjs. of qualification.

c 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* XIX. 162 Thirst, hunger,..take away a marcher's knees. *a* 1661 HOLYDAY *Juvenal* (1673) 23 What nettle thus, great marcher [L. *Gradive*], does inflame Thy nephews? 1809 SIR J. MOORE 10 Jan. in Jas. Moore *Camp. Spain* 199 Soldiers who pretend to be bad marchers. 1869 E. A. PARKES *Pract. Hygiene* (ed. 3) 394 The best marchers are men of middle size.

†2. Some part of a draw-net. *Obs.*

1727 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* s. v. *Draw Net*, Fasten it, by putting some of the Ends of the Marcher *H.* against the Stick *H.*

Marches, obs. form of MARQUIS.

‖ **Marchesa** (markē·za). [It.: fem. of MARCHESE.] In Italy: A marchioness.

1797 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Italian* I, The *Marchesa* had observed his absence. 1878 L. W. M. LOCKHART *Mine is Thine* I. iv. 75 The favourite maid of an Italian *marchesa*.

Marchesal: see MARQUISAL.

‖ **Marchese** (markē·ze), *sb.* [It.: see MARQUIS.] In Italy: A marquis.

1517 TORKINGTON *Pilgr.* (1884) 11 All these thyngs I sawe whanne they war shewyd to the Marchose [*? read* Marchese] of Mantua. 1754 RICHARDSON *Grandison* (ed. 8vo) III. ii. 14 The Marchese della Porretta..is a nobleman of great merit. 1797 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Italian* I, But the *Marchese* did not return home till after Vincentio. 1806 CHARLOTTE DACRE *Zofloya* I. 2 At this time the Marchese di Loredani had been married seventeen years.

†**Marchese,** *v. Obs.* [ad. obs. F. *marchiser* (Cotgr.), f. *marche*, MARCH *sb.*[2]] *intr.* = MARCH *v.*[1]

1525 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* II. xxii. 48 Which countie .. marchesed on the countre of Tholousin.

Marchesse, obs. form of MARSHALSEA.

Marchesit(e, obs. forms of MARCASITE.

Marchesse, obs. pl. of MARCH *sb.*[3]

Marchet, obs. form of MARKET, MERCHET.

Marchier, obs. form of MARCHER[1].

Marchies, obs. pl. of MARCH *sb.*[3]

Marching (mɑːtʃiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. MARCH *v.*[2] + -ING[1].] The action of MARCH *v.*[2]; an instance of this.

1560 BIBLE (Genev.) 1 *Macc.* vi. 41 All they that heard the noyce of their multitude, and the marching of the companie, ..were astonished. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* IV. iv. iii. (1903) 379 No people .. vseth lesse Ceremonyes and Pompous shewes or marchings, in festiuall solemnityes than those of the Vnited Provinces. 1724 DE FOE *Mem. Cavalier* (1840) 53 The discipline and order of their marchings, camping, and exercise was excellent. 1855 BROWNING *An Epistle* 27 The country-side is all on fire With rumours of a marching hitherward. 1861 W. H. RUSSELL in *Times* 24 Sept., The drills..are still of the most elementary character, but their marching is very good indeed.

†b. The move of a chess-man. *Obs. rare*—[1].

1562 ROWBOTHAM *Play of Cheasts* A vij, Beholde here his marchinges, and his libertie prouided that he baue had no checke.

c. *Marching-past.* The action of performing the 'march past' (MARCH *sb.*[4] 1 d). Also *attrib.*

1833 *Regul. Instr. Cavalry* I. 37 In marching past, the Lieutenant-Colonel is to be in front of the leading Troop. 1860 *Illustr. Lond. News* 23 June 598/3 During the marching past the Staff..will be drawn up opposite the Royal standard. 1896 NEWNHAM-DAVIS *Three Men & a God* 120 On marching-past parade.

d. *attrib.* and *Comb.*: ***marching day, front, music, parade***; **†marching malady**, ? (of a horse) illness caused by travelling; **marching money** (see quot.); **marching order**, equipment for marching; *pl.*, orders to march.

1781 SIMES *Milit. Guide* (ed. 3) 8 On *marching days, he follows the Major-general of the day with the encampment. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 362/2 The men marched eight abreast. .. This unusually wide *marching front was taken up by the infantry. 1621 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Taylors Motto* A 4 b *marg.*, I will turne Farrier. I doe not thinke that any Horse-leech can blazon such a pedigree of *marching maladies. 1837 *Coll. Warrants & Regul. Army* (1844) 7 A daily Allowance in South Britain of *Marching Money .. as the payment to the Innkeeper for the hot meal which he is required to furnish to the Soldier. 1853 STOCQUELER *Mil. Encycl., Marching Money*, the additional pay which officers and soldiers receive for the purpose of covering the expenses necessarily incurred when marching from one place to another. 1866 CARLYLE *Inaug. Addr.* 197 A kind of road-melody or *marching-music of mankind. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, **Marching order.* A soldier fully equipped..carries from 30 to 35 lbs. In *service marching* order..he carries nearly 50 lbs. But *heavy marching* order ..was yet heavier. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xx, The Duke's in Belgium already, and we expect marching orders every day. 1791 BENTHAM *Panopt.* Postscr. 168 Even the roof of the building, might..be made to answer the purpose of a [prisoner's] *marching parade.

†Marching, *ppl. a.*[1] *Obs.* [f. MARCH *v.*[1] + -ING [2].] That marches or adjoins; that serves as a march.

1444 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 108/1 The seide Shire of Northumberland, is marchyng to the Scottes the Kynges Enemyes. 1548 UDALL *Erasm. Par. Luke* v. 33 He was as a marchyng bordre betwene the lawe yᵗ should afterward ceasse, & the libertee of the ghospell shortely after to arise. 1577 HARRISON *England* III. iv. in *Holinshed* 103/2 In old tyme he onelie was called Marquise, *Qui habuit terram limitaneam*, a marching prouince vpon the enimies countreis.

Marching (mā·ɹtʃiŋ), *ppl. a.*[2] [f. MARCH *v.*[2] + -ING [2].] That marches.

1. *Mil.* That marches or is used in marching. *Marching regiment* (see quot. 1802).

1667 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 31 Your petitioners were directed by the Lieutenant of his Majestie's Ordnance to make a marching barricade, to carry six small guans. 1690 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) II. 2 He should provide two hospitalls.., a fixt one and a marching one. 1775 SHERIDAN *Rivals* III. i, This is my return..for putting him, at twelve years old, into a marching regiment. 1802 C. JAMES *Milit. Dict., Marching Regiments*, a term given to those corps who had not any permanent quarters, but were liable to be sent not only from one end of Great Britain to the other, but to the most distant of her possessions abroad. 1883 *Pall Mall G.* 7 Dec. 3/1 All this does not mean that the Mahdi will have an effective marching army wherewith to advance on Egypt. 1885 *Athenæum* 18 Apr. 502/1 From the point of view of the marching soldier the physical aspect of the country .. is far from attractive.

2. Progressive.

1842 J. AITON *Domest. Econ.* (1857) 56 These pushing, marching, money-making times.

†Marchion. *Obs.* In 4 marchiun, 5 *Sc.* marchon, merschion. [ad. med.L. *marchiōn-em*, f. *marca* MARK, MARCH *sb.*[3] (The med.L. equivalent of MARQUIS.)] A captain of the marches.

a 1380 *St. Augustine* 1609 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1878) 89 Men of Papye Weren itake..Of þe marchiun of Malaspyn And in a prison put. *c* 1450 HOLLAND *Howlat* 328 Goiss Halkis war..Marchonis in the mapamond. *Ibid.* 685 Merschionis of mychtis.

†Marchionat. *Obs. rare*—[1]. [ad. med.L. *marchiōnāt-us*, f. *marchiōn-em*: see prec.] Marquisate or 'march' (of Ancona).

c 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* III. xiii. 359 Matilde a greet ladi which 3af the greet .. marchionat of Anchon to the pope.

Marchioness (mā·ɹʃənės). Also 7 -esse, -isse, marquionesse. [ad. med.L. *marchiōnissa*, f. *marchiōn-em*: see MARCHION and -ESS.]

1. The wife or widow of a marquis, or a lady holding in her own right the position equal to that of marquis.

[1533 in *Rymer's Fœdera* XIV. 477/1 Cum..Domina Anna, tunc Marchionissa Penbrochiæ, nunc vero Regina]. 15.. *Bk. Precedence* in *Q. Eliz. Acad.* (1869) 14 Item, a dukes daughter is borne a Marchionesse. *Ibid.* 15 A Marquesse must goe after his Creation .., and the Marchionesse his wife according to the same. 1611 COTGR., *Marquise*, a Marchionesse. 1613 SHAKS., etc. *Hen. VIII*, II. iii. 63 The Kings Maiesty..Doe's purpose honour to you no lesse flowing, Then Marchionesse of Pembrooke. 1615 THOMAS *Lat. Dict., Præses limitaneus*, a marques, or marquionesse. *c* 1630 RISDON *Surv. Devon* § 312 (1810) 324 The lady marchioness of Winton. 1631 B. JONSON *Underwoods* c. *Elegy on Lady Jane Pawlet*, Shee was the Lady Jane, and Marchionisse Of Winchester; the Heralds can tell this. 1829 LYTTON *Disowned* xl, His day with the beautiful marchioness was over. 1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XV. 565/1 His [a marquis'] wife, who also is 'most honourable', is a marchioness, and is styled 'my lady marchioness'.

b. *allusive.* A maid-of-all-work.

[1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* lvii, 'To make it seem more real and pleasant, I shall call you the Marchioness, do you hear?' The small servant nodded.] 1883 SALA in *Illustr. Lond. N.* 24 Nov. 499/1 A little bit of a maid-of-all-work.. This 'Marchioness'.. has .. been the object of the most astounding 'manifestations'. 1885 'J. S. WINTER' *Bootles' Baby* ii. 36 To develop into the unnaturally widened and unkempt hand of a 'Marchioness'.

2. A kind of pear. (Cf. MARQUIS 4, MARQUISE 2.)

1706 LONDON & WISE *Retir'd Gard.* I. 32 The Marchioness. ..'Tis very butterish, and of a sweet Muskish Juice. 1875 HOGG *Fruit Man.* (ed. 4) 479.

3. A size of slate measuring 22 inches by 11, or 20 by 12.

1878 D. C. DAVIES *Slate & Slate Quarrying* 136 Princesses..Duchesses..Marchionesses..Countesses.

Marchiour, obs. form of MARCHER [1].

Marchis, obs. pl. MARCH *sb.*[3], obs. f. MARQUIS.

Marchiun, variant of MARCHION *Obs.*

Ma·rch-land. [f. MARCH *sb.*[3] + LAND *sb.* (OE. had *mearc-land* in the same sense.)] Land comprising the marches of a country; a border territory; border-land, frontier-land.

1536 *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, II. 369 Litle ynough..for the surveiyng of the Kinges marche landes. 1611 SPEED *Hist. Gt. Brit.* IX. viii. § 36. 552 Some march-lands betwixt two neighbour-Nations. 1869 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1876) III. xiii. 315 A warrior from the marchland of Tours and Blois. 1893 T. F. TOUT *Edward I*, xi. 186 In the great marchland of Glamorgan one Morgan broke out in rebellion.

Ma·rch-man. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.* Also 5 marches-man. [f. MARCH *sb.*[3] + MAN *sb.*]

1. An inhabitant of the marches or borders.

a 1400–50 *Alexander* 2540 A watere..þat with þa marchesmen [*Dublin MS.* marche-men] Mocian was hatten. 1494 FABYAN *Chron.* VII. 634 They.. gatheryd to them a stronge hoost of men, as of Marchemen and other. 1586 FERNE *Blaz. Gentrie* 136 In the old Teutch or Dutch speach he was called a Marquier, that is to saye the marche-man or frontier man. 1627 DRAYTON *Agincourt*, etc. 9 Of Marchmen mustring a rebellious Band, Henry againe his Southerne people prest. 1805 SCOTT *Last Minstr.* I. XXX, Now Bowden Moor the march-man won, And sternly shook his plumed head. 1889 RUSKIN *Præterita* III. 172 The marchmen..of Cheviot.

2. = MARKSMAN 4 (see quot. 1813 there).

Marchon, variant of MARCHION *Obs.*

Marchour, obs. form of MARCHER [1].

Marchpane (mā·ɹtʃpēn), **marzipan** (mā·ɹzipæ·n). Forms: α. 5, 8 marchpayne, 6 marche payne, -pane, (martspaine, martchpane), march pain, (-payine, -pine), 7 marchpayn, (6, 9 marchpan), 6–7 marchpaine, 6– marchpane. β. 6–7 mazapane. γ. 6 marzepaine, 9 marzipan, (marzapane, marcipan). [Occurs as F. *massepain* (in 16th c. *marcepain*), It. *marzapane*, Sp. *mazapan*, Pg. *maçapão*, Ger. *marzipan* (*martzepan* 1521, glossing *panis marcius*), Du. *marsepein* (*marcepain* in 1486), Da., Sw. *marsipan*; the Eng. forms come from various continental sources. In recent times the sweetmeat has been known chiefly as imported from Germany; hence the Ger. form *marzipan* has at least equal currency with the traditional Eng. form.

The word is believed to have come into the other Rom. langs. from Italian. Its etymology is obscure. What seems to be the same word occurs in various Rom. forms and in med.L. with the senses 'small box', 'a certain mediæval weight', and 'a mediæval coin'. Kluyver, in *Zeitschr. f. deutsche Wortforschung* July 1904, ingeniously tries to prove that the last-mentioned sense is the source of all the others. He identifies the word with med.L. *matapanus*, a Venetian coin bearing a figure of Christ on a throne (Du Cange), and suggests that it represents Arab. *mauthabān* 'a king that sits still' (Lane), which he conjectures to have been used by Saracens as a derisive name for this coin.]

1. a. A kind of confectionery composed of a paste of pounded almonds, sugar, etc., made up into small cakes or moulded into ornamental forms.

α. 1556 WITHALS *Dict.* (1568) 49 b/2 Deyntie dysshes as marche payne, tartes, &c., *Bellaria*. 1587 HARRISON *England* II. vi. (1877) I. 148 Marchpaine wrought with no small curiositie. 1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* I. v. 9. ? 1606 DRAYTON *Poems Lyr. & Past., Ecl.* iv. E 1 b, The silke well couth she twist and twine, And make the fine Marchpine. 1615 MARKHAM *Eng. Housew.* (1660) 93 To make the best Marchpane, take the best Jordan Almonds. 1725 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* s.v., The Paste in that which they call the Royal March-Pane. 1848 OXENFORD tr. *Goethe's Autobiog.* (Bohn) I. 64 The tarts, biscuits, marchpane and sweet wine. 1884 *Health Exhib. Catal.* 151/2 Marchpane and other cakes and confectionery made with honey. 1901 *Board of Trade Jrnl.* 11 July 84 The edible article known variously as 'marchpane', 'marzipan', or 'marcipan', which consists of..flour, sugar, almonds, &c., made in fancy forms..is..dutiable.

β. 1598 FLORIO, *Pasta*,..marchpane, or mazapane.

γ. 1866 HOWELLS *Venet. Life* xviii. 278 A cake called *marzapane*. 1897 *Daily News* 23 Nov. 2/1 The stuff..smelt very much like the sweetmeat called marzipan.

b. A cake or shaped piece of this composition.

α. 1494 FABYAN *Chron.* VII. 587 A march payne garnysshed with dyuerse fygures of aungellys. 1517 TORKINGTON *Pilgr.* (1884) 13 The Duke sent to the Pilgryms gret basons full of Marchepanys. 1548 UDALL *Erasm. Par. Luke* vii. 25 Wylde honey and locustes bathe he preferred before the martspaines and other swete delycates of kynges. 1616 SURFL. & MARKH. *Country Farm* 585 Marchpanes are made of verie little flower, but with addition of greater quantitie of Filberds, Pine Nuts, Pistaces, Almonds, and rosed Sugar. 1725 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Tourte*, For a Sugar'd Panpie .. take five or six Biskets, Marchpanes, or Macaroons [etc.]. 1853 SOYER *Pantroph.* 288 Begin by covering the whole of the base with a layer of marchpans. 1882 MISS YONGE *Unknown to Hist.* I. 254 All the ladies and serving women were called on to concoct pasties.., cakes and marchpanes. 1884 *Health Exhib. Catal.* 151/2 Polish Honey Cakes, Marchpanes, and Chocolate.

β. 1657 TOMLINSON *Renou's Disp.* 106 A certain kinde of condite which is called Pasta Regia or a Mazapane.

γ. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 128 To feede of tartes and marzepaines, the meates of denty mouthed persones.

†c. *fig.* Chiefly as the type of something delicious or exquisite. *Obs.*

1592 G. HARVEY *Four Lett.* 5 Rayling was the Ypocras of the drunken rimester: and Quipping the Marchepane of the madde libeller. 1599 B. JONSON *Cynthia's Rev.* IV. i, *Mor.* I was then esteemd—. *Phi.* The very Marchpane of the Court, I warrant? 1613 BEAUM. & FL. *Coxcomb* IV. iii, You are very curious of your hand..Let me see it?—Ay marry, here's a hand of march-pane. *a* 1652 BROME *City Wit* IV. ii. You have your Kickshaws, your Players Marchpaines; all shew and no meat.

2. *attrib.*

1587 FLEMING *Contn. Holinshed* III. 1355/1 A verie statelie tragedie named *Dido*, wherein the quenes banket .. was liuelie described in a marchpaine patterne. 1602 SIR H. PLATT *Delights for Ladies* (1611) B 4 b, To make an excellent Marchpane paste to print off in molds for banqueting dishes. 1616 R. C. *Times' Whistle* vi. 2771 Candid eringoes, and rich marchpaine stuffe. 1891 'J. S. WINTER' *Lumley* iv. 31 Marzipan *bon-bons*.

†b. quasi-*adj.* with the sense: Dainty, superfine.

1598–9 B. JONSON *Case is Altered* IV. iv, A march paine wench. 1640 GLAPTHORNE *Wit in Constable* v, What would you've done With two such March-pane husbands? 1649 G. DANIEL *Trinarch., Hen. V*, ccclxvi, Let not these Marchpane follies Dull your Sence To better rellish.

Hence **†March panado** *v.* [see PANADA], *trans.* to mould, after the manner of marchpane.

1650 B. *Discolliminium* 46 The constitution of my body was a cleare transparent Marmulate..March Panado'd into the shape of a strait Gentleman.

March stone. Chiefly *Sc.* and *north. dial.* [f. MARCH *sb.*[3] + STONE *sb.* Cf. MARKSTONE.] A stone set up to mark the boundary of an estate.

1536 *Laing Charters* (1899) 108 To the merch steane with ane croce on the heid theiron. 1587 in A. Peterkin *Notes Ork. & Zetl.* (1822) 127 They to set down march-stanes thereafter to stand for ever. 1639 *Declar. Chas. I Tumults Scot.* 164 What is the use of merch-stones upon borders of Lands, the like use hath Confessions of Faith in the Kirk. 1789 BRAND *Hist. Newcastle* I. 461 Round the moor the march-stones, i.e. the boundary-stones, are placed a little within the hedge. 1899 *Shetland News* 29 Apr. (E. D. D.), I sat me doon apon a mairch stane.

Marchys, obs. pl. of MARCH *sb.*[3]

Marciable, variant of MERCIABLE *a. Obs.*

Marcial, -ian: see MARSHAL, MARTIAL, -IAN.

‖**Marciaton.** *Med. Obs.* Also 6 mart-. [med.L. *marciāton* (Du Cange).] Some kind of unguent.

c 1550 LLOYD *Treas. Health* K ij b, Washe thy handes, or anoynte them wyth Martiaton. *Ibid.* O iij, Take of marciaton, waxe, pitche, ship rosen [etc.]. 1856 in MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*

†Ma·rcid, *a. Obs.* [ad. L. *marcid-us*, withered, f. *marcē-re* to wither.]

1. a. Withered, wasted, decayed, rotten. b. Weak, feeble, exhausted.

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Marcid*, withered, rotten, feeble, lither. 1657 TOMLINSON *Renou's Disp.* 503 Poppies heads.. must be cocted till they be flaccid and marcid. 1693 BOWLES in *Dryden's Juvenal* v. (1697) 101 He on his own Fish pours the noblest Oil..That to your marcid dying Herbs assign'd, By the rank smell and taste betrays its Kind. 1822 T. TAYLOR *Apuleius* 85 She dismissed her marcid eyes [L. *marcentes oculos*] to sleep. *Ibid.* 260 Sleep surrounding me, again oppressed my marcid mind [L. *marcentem animum*].

2. *Marcid fever*: a fever that causes wasting.

1666 HARVEY *Morb. Angl.* ii. (1672) 6 The softer and moister parts being thus melted away, the Febril heat continuing its adustion upon the dryer fleshy parts, changes into a Marcid Feaver. 1684 tr. *Bonet's Merc. Compit.* XIX. 814 In Hectick and other marcid..Fevers, Venesection is to be rejected.

†Marcidious, *a. Obs. rare*—[0]. [f. MARCID + -IOUS.] (See quots.)

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Marcidious*, very rotten, feeble, &c. 1775 ASH, *Marcidious*, lean, withered.

†Marcidity. *Obs. rare*—[0]. [f. MARCID + -ITY.] Wasted or withered condition.

1658 PHILLIPS, *Marcidity*, a withering away, rottenesse. 1775 ASH, *Marcidity*, leanness, the want of flesh.

Marcie, Marcill, obs. ff. MERCY, MARTIAL.

Marcionism (mā·ɹʃŏnism). *Eccl.* [f. *Marcion* + -ISM.] The doctrine of the Marcionites.

1882 SALMON in *Smith's Dict. Chr. Biogr.* III. 821/2 If we accept this as the original form of Marcionism, Marcion owed more to the older Gnostics than we should otherwise have supposed.

Marcionist (mā·ɹʃŏnist). *Eccl.* Also 6 *erron.* Martionist. [ad. late L. *Marciōnist-a*, late Gr. Μαρκιωνιστής: see next and -IST.] = MARCIONITE.

1546 GARDINER *Declar. Art. Joye* 50 And then the Arryane maye be saued by his faythe, and..the Marcyoniste by hys faythe. 1584 R. SCOT *Discov. Witcher.* I. i. (1886) 2 The Martionists acknowledged one God the authour of good things, and another the ordeiner of evill. 1882–3 SCHAFF *Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* II. 1402 Theodoret tells us, that..he had converted more than one thousand Marcionists.

attrib. 1875 *Expositor* 434 The Marcionist party.

Marcionite (mā·ɹʃiǝnəit). *Eccl.* Also 6 *erron.* **Marcianite.** [ad. late L. *Marciōnīt-a*, f. *Marcion*: see -ITE.] An adherent of the sect founded at Rome in the 2nd century by Marcion of Sinope.

Marcion accepted as sacred books ten of St. Paul's epistles and a garbled form of the gospel of Luke, and regarded the creation of the material world and the revelation of the Old Testament as the work of a finite and imperfect God, whose authority is abrogated by the manifestation of the supreme God in Jesus Christ. He discouraged marriage, and inculcated the most rigorous asceticism.

a 1540 BARNES *Wks.* (1573) 315/2 The Marcianites, they receiue no man to bee a Christen man, excepte hee forsweare maryage. 1594 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* IV. xi. § 9 Slanderers of the Law and Prophets, such as Marcionites & Manichees were. 1660 JER. TAYLOR *Doctor Dubit.* II. iii. rule 14. 8 (1676) 363. 1883 *Ch. Q. Rev.* XV. 394 By Encratites and Marcionites intoxicating liquors would have been denounced.

attrib. 1885 R. W. DIXON *Hist. Ch. Eng.* III. 288 It is not unlike the Marcionite heretics.

Hence **Marcioni·tic, Marcioni·tish** *a.*, of or pertaining to the Marcionites; **Ma·rcionili·sm**, the doctrines of the Marcionites.

1874 *Supernat. Relig.* II. II. vii. 86 Much of the Marcionitish text was more original than the Canonical. 1875 W. SANDAY in *Fortn. Rev.* June 839 The Marcionitic Gospel. 1894 *Thinker Mag.* VI. 355 This is a modern Marcionitism.

Marcipan: see MARCHPANE.

Marek, obs. form of MARK.

Marconi (maɹkō·ni). The name of the inventor of a system of wireless telegraphy; used *attrib.* in designations of this system, and things connected therewith.

1897 *Daily News* 10 June 5/2 The new Marconi system of signalling. .. Marconi messages have been sent between Penarth and Brean Down. 1898 R. KERR *Wireless Telegr.* 97 [The box] contains a small Marconi receiver. *Ibid.* 104 The filings in the Marconi coherer.

Hence **Marco·nigram**, a wireless telegram; **Marco·nigraph**, the apparatus used for transmitting these messages; **Marco·nism**, the theory or practice of Marconi's telegraphy.

1902 *Daily Chron.* 30 Jan. 6/4 When do you expect to start sending Marconigrams at commercial rates across the Atlantic? 1903 *Westm. Gaz.* 7 Feb. 9/1 Installations of Marconism on the sea-coasts. *Ibid.*, A monopoly of Marconism and cable-methods. 1903 *Daily Chron.* 21 Mar. 5/2 A school for Marconigraph operators.

Marcor (mā·ɹkɒɹ). Also 7 **-our.** [a. L. *marcor*, f. *marcēre*: see MARCID.] †**a.** *gen.* Decay (*obs.*). b. *Path.* Emaciation or wasting of the body.

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* III. ix. 124 The resolution and languor ensuing that act in some, the extenuation and marcour in others. 1657 TOMLINSON *Renou's Disp.* 160 That they may be long conserved without putretude and marcour. 1665 HARVEY *Morb. Angl.* ii. 11 The said Marcor may likewise be caused by famine. 1741 A. MONRO *Anat.* (ed. 3) 61 *Marcor* and *Atrophia* of the whole Body. [1876 tr. *Wagner's Gen. Pathol.* 287 Simple emaciation, *macies, emaciatio, marcor*, .. is distinguished from .. *tabes*.]

Marcosian (maɹkō·ziăn), *sb.* and *a. Hist.* [f. Eccl. Gr. Μαρκώσι-ος (Epiphanius; app. f. Syriac *Marqūs* Marcus) + -AN.] **a.** *sb.* An adherent of a Gnostic religious system founded by a certain Marcus in the 2nd century; known mainly from the account by Irenæus. b. *adj.* Belonging to this sect.

1587 T. ROGERS 39 *Art.* II. 29 Some, as the Marcosians, at the ministration of Baptisme haue vsed certaine Hebrue wordes. 1708 BINGHAM *Orig. Eccl.* XI. ii. § 1 Those who were called Marcosian heretics. 1875 LIGHTFOOT *Comm. Col.* 209/1 The baptismal formula of the Marcosians.

Marcour, Marcs, obs. forms of MARCOR, MARS.

Mareure, -ry, obs. forms of MERCURY.

Marcussotte, var. MARQUISOTTE *Obs.*

Marcyable, -al(l: see MARTIABLE, MARTIAL.

Marcylite (mā·ɹsilǝit). [f. the name of Gen. R. B. *Marcy*, its discoverer (1854) + -LITE.] An impure or decomposed form of copper pyrites from the Red River district of Louisiana.

1884 in CASSELL. 1896 in CHESTER *Dict. Names Min.*

Marcz, obs. form of MARS.

Mard, -er: see MARRED, MERD, MARTER.

Mare[1] (mēǝ). Forms: 1 **myre, mire**, 1, 3–6 **mere**, 4 **mure, maare**, 4–5 **mer, meer**(e, 6 *Sc.* **meir, meyr**, 6–7 **meare**, 7 *Sc.* **meire**, 8 **mear**, 2– **mare.** [OE. *mȳre* (WS. *mēre, mȳre*) wk. fem. = OFris., MLG., MDu. *mer(r)ie* (mod.Du. *merrie*), OHG. *meriha* (MHG. *meriche, merhe*, mod.G. with altered sense *mähre* jade), ON. *merr* str. fem. (Sw. *märr*, Da. *mær*):—OTeut. **marhjō(n)*-, f. **marho-z* horse (OE. *mearh*, OHG. *marah*, MHG. *mare*, ON. *marr*):—pre-Teut. **marko-s* (= Gaulish *μάρκαν* acc. sing., Pausanias X. xix; Irish, Gael. *marc*, Welsh *march*).]

1. The female of any equine animal (as the horse, ass, or zebra), but esp. applied to the female of the domestic horse (*Equus caballus*).

a 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* III. xii. [xiv.] (1890) 196 Cwist ðu þæt þe sy leofre þære myran sunu þonne þæt Godes bearn? *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 119/36 *Equa*, mere. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 85 He brohte hine uppen his werue [= *iumentum* Luke x. 34] þet is unorne mare. *c* 1290 *Becket* 1161 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 139 Þo wende forth a man, þat with him eode: and huyrde him a mere, For an Englichs peni. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Reeve's T.* 161 Youre hors goth to the fen With wilde mares. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. xl. (1495) 801 A maare foolyth stondynge and louyth her coltes passynge other beestys. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 2853 Meeris & mulis & all maner of bestis. 14.. *Nom.* in Wr.-Wülcker 697/34 *Hec equa*, a mer. *Ibid.* 698/7 *Hec equifera*, a wyld mer. 1467 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 371 No horsez ner marys stande in the markett. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* vi. 39 Baytht horse & meyris did fast nee, & the folis nechyr. 1576 in *Ripon Ch. Acts* (Surtees) 377 An old meare. 1594 in *Black Bk. Taymouth* (Bannatyne Cl.) 298 Off greit meirris xlvi; off twa yeir auld hors, v...Off greit mearis xxxviii..off yeir auld meiris, iiii. 1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* 334 A Bitch whelps at foure moneths; a Mare Foales the ninth. *a* 1774 GOLDSM. tr. *Scarron's Com. Romance* (1775) I. 295 A park, where he kept mares for breed. 1855 THACKERAY *Newcomes* II. 152 He comes to me with another letter and a face as long as my mare's.

¶ Used for: The mother, dam (of a horse).

a 1400 *Octouian* 1416 Thys ys a stede of Arabye..An vnycorn..Begat hyt thare: A rabyte..Therto was mare.

b. In various proverbial phrases.

Grey mare: see GREY *a.* 4 b.

1546 J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* (1867) 43 Of anncient fathers she tooke no cure nor care, She was to them, as koy as a crokers mare. *Ibid.* 62 This biteth the mare by the thumbe, as they sey. 1562 A. SCOTT *Poems* (S.T.S.) i. 142 The heidismen lies 'cor mundum' in þair mouth, Bot nevir wt mynd to gif þe man his meir. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* III. ii. 463. 1597 — 2 *Hen. IV*, II. i. 47 How now? whose Mare's dead? what's the matter? 1606 *Choice, Chance*, etc. (Grosart) 68 Can seeme as sober as a Millers Mare, And cannot blush at any villany. 1607 *Acc. Christmas Prince* (1816) 40 Now Night growes old, yet walkes here in his trappinge Till Daye come catch him, as Mosse his graymare, nappinge. 1611 COTGR., *A desprouveu*, at vnawares..vnlooked for; napping, as Mosse tooke his Mare. 1659 HOWELL *Lex., Prov.* 6/2 Money makes the grey Mare to go. 1698 *Money Masters All Things* 3 [Money] Makes the old Wife trot, and makes the Mare to go. 1827 T. CREEVEY in *C. Papers* (1904) II. 123 No tidings of the Beau yet! but he must have his mare again.

c. Applied contemptuously to a woman.

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 7980 And shame hyt ys euer aywhare To be kalled 'a prestes mare'. 1508 KENNEDIE *Flyting w. Dunbar* 261 This Dewlbeir, generit of a meir of Mar, Wes Corspatrik, Erle of Merche.

2. *transf.* in various applications, chiefly with implication of a metaphorical 'riding.'

a. The gallows. ? *Obs.*

1568 FULWELL *Like will to like* C iv, This peece of land wherto you inheritours are: Is called the land of the two legged mare. 1685 *Roxb. Ball.* V. 600 Should it..be his Fate (as needs he must fear) To leap from low Pillory up the Mare, She'll swear she had never such rider before. 1694 MOTTEUX *Rabelais* v. iv. (1737) 14 The two or three-legg'd Mare that groans for them. 1834 H. AINSWORTH *Rookwood* III. v, Here's to the three leg'd mare. *Ibid.*, For the Mare-with-three-legs, boys, I care not a rap.

†**b.** *The wild mare*: (*a*) a see-saw; (*b*) a wooden frame on which soldiers were made to 'ride' for punishment; = HORSE *sb.* 6 b (also *wooden, timber mare*). *Shoeing the wild mare*: some childish Christmas game. *Obs.*

a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* II. (1590) 211 b, Bestriding the mast, I gat..towards him, after such manner as boies are wont, (if euer you saw that sport) when they ride the wild mare. 1609 ARMIN *Maids of More-Cl.* (1880) 92 Christmas gambuls, father, shooing the wilde mare. *a* 1625 FLETCHER *Woman's Prize* II. v, She should ride the wild Mare once a week, she should. *a* 1670 SPALDING *Troub. Chas. I* (Spalding Club 1850) I. 290 Ane tymber meir, quhairvpone runnaget knaves and runaway soldiouris sould ryde. *Ibid.* 295 He..syne rode the meir, to his gryte hurt and pane. 1680 [J. SPEED] *Batt upon Batt* 5 Our Batt can..play..At ..Shooing the wild Mare. 1819 SCOTT *Leg. Montr.* xiv, He had an hour's ride on the wooden mare for his pains.

†**c.** *Hick's mare* (see quot.). *Obs.*

1585 HIGINS *Junius' Nomenclator, Oscillatio*..a kind of gambol called the haltering of Hix mare.

¶ For *Shanks's mare* (i.e. one's own legs as a means of conveyance) see SHANK.

3. *dial.* (See quots.)

1670 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* (ed. 3) s. v., *To cry the mare* is an ancient custom in Herefordshire, viz. when each husbandman is reaping the last of his Corn, the Work-men leave a few blades standing, and tye the tops of them together, which is the *Mare*, and then stand at a distance, and throw their Sickles at it, and he that cuts the knot has the prize [etc.]. 1883 BURNE & JACKSON *Shropsh. Folk-lore* 373 Crying, calling, or shouting the mare, is a ceremony performed by the men of that farm which is the first in any parish or district to finish the harvest.

4. *Sc.* **a.** A kind of trestle used by masons. **b.** A bricklayer's hod.

a. 1651 *Burgh Recs. Stirling* (1889) 306 For half a hunder nailles to mak the meare. 1821 GALT *Ann. Parish* XXXVI. 295 The three were seated aloft, on a high stage, prepared on purpose, with two mares and scaffold-deals, borrowed from Mr. Trowel the mason.

b. 1823 TENNANT *Card. Beaton* V. iv. 155, I think I set my apron and my mare as weel as you your apparel.

5. A particular throw in wrestling. Also *flying mare* (cf. *flying horse* s.v. FLYING, *ppl. a.* 1 d).

1602 CAREW *Cornwall* 76 Many sleights and tricks appertaine hereunto ['wrastling']..Such are the Trip, fore-Trip,.. the Mare and diuers other like. 1612 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* i. 245 Or by the girdles grasp't they practise with the hip, The forward, backward, falx, the mare, the turne, the trip. 1754 [see FLYING *ppl. a.* 1 d]. 1863 THORNBURY *True as Steel* III. 40 An old wrestling trick, well known as 'the flying mare'.

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.* **a.** appositive, as *mare colt, foal, mule.*

1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 68 At the foolynge tyme I haue vpon one daye a horse fole, and on the nexte day, or seconde, a mare fole. 1532 J. CATVOORD in Weaver *Wells Wills* (1890) 74 A bullock of one yere hold, and a mare colte. 1600 SURFLET *Countrie Farme* I. XXX. 200 The mare-mules are ..longer liuers then the horse-mules. 1886 BURTON *Arab. Nts.* (Lady B.'s ed.) I. 232 He came up, riding a mare-mule.

b. simple attrib., as *mare-head*; objective, *mare-milker, mare-stealing*; similative, *mare-faced, -headed*, adjs. Also **mareful** *Sc.*, as much as a hod will hold (cf. 4 b); **mare grass**, grazing-grass sufficient to feed one mare; †**mare roiling**, the condition of rutting in a stallion; †**mare-wood** *a.*, mare-mad (of a stallion).

1685 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2036/8 A light dapple Gray Gelding, ..long pasternd,..and a little *Mare-fac'd. 1823 TENNANT *Card. Beaton* V. iv. 155 I've a *marefu' o' as good lime here as ever cam out o' a lime-kill. 1523 FITZHERB. *Surv.* 3 A horse grasse or a *mare grasse maye be dere ynoughe twelfe pens or twentie pens by ye yere. 1709 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4603/4 A .. Gelding,..with a thickish *Mare Head. 1684 *Ibid.* No. 1950/4 A Black Nag, about 14 hands high,.. *Mareheaded, and Rat-tailed. 1847 GROTE *Greece* II. xvii. III. 317 Other tribes..whom the poet knows as milk-eaters and *mare-milkers. 1589 FLEMING *Virg. Georg.* III. 41 Th' horsmasters earnest be Before the time (of *mareroiling). 1664 EVELYN *Sylva* (1776) 564 The severity of our laws against *Mare-stealing. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* VI. i. 464 In the Spring they are *mare-wood.

c. Combinations with *mare's*, as *mare's-milk*; †**mare's evil**, a disease; **mare's fat** *dial.*, = FLEABANE; **mare's son**, a horse.

c 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) xxiii. 253 A Cuppe fulle of Mares mylk. 1649 *Eng. Farrier* G ij, The *Mares Evill. *a* 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia*, *Mare's-fat, *Inula dysenterica* Lin. 1598 *Mare's milk [see COSMOS²]. 1607–1876 [see KOUMISS]. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* IX. iii. 342, I calle my self neuer the wers knyght whan a *marys sone fayleth me. *Ibid.* XX. xxii. 837 Yf thys marys sone hath faylled me, wyt thou wel a kynges sone and a quenes sone shal not faylle the.

†**Mare**[2]. *Obs.* Also 1 **mære, mere**, 6 **meare, maare**, 6–7 *Sc.* **mair.** [OE. *mare* wk. fem. = MLG. *mar* masc. and fem., MDu. *mare, maer* masc., OHG. *mara* fem. (MHG. *mar, mare* masc. and fem., mod.G. dial. *mahr* masc.), ON. *mara* fem. (Sw. *mara*, Da. *mare*):—OTeut. **maron-, -ôn-*; cogn. w. the synonymous Polish *mora*, Czech *můra*. The Teut. word is the source of OF. *mare*, appearing also in the compound *cauchemar* nightmare, f. *caucher*, to trample.]

1. A kind of goblin supposed to produce nightmare by sitting on the chest of the sleeper; the nightmare itself.

a 700 *Epinal Gloss.* 558 *Incuba*, maere. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 140 Gif mon mare ride; ȝenim elehtran. 14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 597/37 The mare *i. Epialtes. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 326/1 Mare, or nyȝhte mare, *epialtes. *c* 1500 *Rowlis Cursing* 65 in Laing *Anc. Poet. Scot.*, The mowlis, and in thair sleip the mair. 1562 BULLEYN *Def. agst. Sickness, Sicke men* 70 The verie cause is, liyng or slepyng on their backe. And not through the mare, or night spirit, as thei term it. 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus* s.v., *Ephialtes*, the disease called the maare. *a* 1585 MONTGOMERIE *Flyting* 319 The mair and the migrame, with the meathes in the melt. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 966 The Incubus, which we call the Mare. 1627 DRAYTON *Nymphidia* vii, And Mab..by night Bestrids young Folkes that lye vpright, (In elder Times the Mare that hight). 1755 in JOHNSON.

b. *transf.* The 'blues', melancholy.

a 1529 SKELTON *E. Rummyng* 110 Now away the mare And let vs sley care. *a* 1536 *Interl. Beauty & Gd. Prop. Wom.* A ij, Tush, syr, be mery, let pas awey the mare. 1611 *T. Ravenscroft's Melismata* vi, Eigh ho, away the Mare, let vs set aside all care.

2. A spectre, hag.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 326/1 Mare, or wyche, *magus, maga, sagana*. *a* 1529 SKELTON *P. Sparrow* 76 From Medusa, that mare, That lyke a fende doth stare.

3. *Comb.* in *mare-hag*: see HAG *sb.*[1]

1638 FORD *Fancies* IV. i, Out mare-hag mule! avaunt!

†**Mare**[3]. *Obs.* (See quot.)

1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. 288/2 If in the Reeling of the Yarn upon the Reel, they chance to lay a thred cross or contrary to the true way of Reeling: it is in our Countrey termed a Mare.

Mare: see MAR, MARC, MAYOR, MERE, MORE.

Mareag(e, -agh, obs. forms of MARRIAGE.

Mareblob (mēǝ·ɹblɒb). *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Also 7 **-blab**, 9 **mere-blob.** [? f. *mare* MERE *sb.* + BLOB.] The marsh-marigold.

1649 BLITHE *Eng. Improv. Impr.* (1653) 19 That corrupt feeding, or springy moisture, that breeds and feeds the Rush, Flag, and Mareblab. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 721/2 Mare-blobs, *Caltha palustris*.

†**Marechal.** *Obs.* In 7 **marshal**, 8 **mare-chelle, mareschal**, 8–9 **marechale, -chall, -chāle.** [App. some kind of application of F. *maréchal* marshal, or *maréchale* marshal's wife. But cf. Sp. *marcial* an aromatic powder.] **a.** A scent or perfume. **b.** A hair powder scented with this. Also *attrib.*

1676 SHADWELL *Virtuoso* III. 55, I have .. Frangipand, Neroly, Tuberose, Jessimine, and Marshal. 1687 SEDLEY *Bellamira* I. 2, I gave her but a dozen pair of Marshal Gloves. *Ibid.* 6 Her Gloves right Marshal. 1778 SHERIDAN *Camp* II. iii, Battle-powder mixed with marechelle. 1782 [T. VAUGHAN] *Fashionable Follies* I. lxxxix. 136 She could not bear the smell of marechale powder. 1788 ANNA SEWARD *Lett.* (1811) II. 91 [A wig] powdered with marechall. 1790 *Trans. Soc. Arts* VIII. 218 Powdered, they [the leaves of Cinnamon] are a good aromatic species, or mareschal perfume. 1820 *Hermit in London* V. 35 Marechale powder,

pomatum and perfume. 1852 MUNDY *Our Antipodes* (1857) 129 White, brown, and whity-brown subjects, in.. silks and satins, mats and blankets, shark's oil and marechâle.

Marechȝeuen, var. MORYEVE, 'morning-gift'.

Maree, Marees: see MARROW *sb.*[1], MARISH.

Maregolde, -grave: see MARIGOLD, MARGRAVE.

Mareȝeuen, var. MORYEVE, 'morning-gift'.

Mareing, obs. form of MARRYING *vbl. sb.*

Mareis, variant of MARIS *Obs.*, womb.

Mareis(h, obs. forms of MARISH.

Mareit, obs. pa. t. and pa. pple. of MARRY *v.*

Marekanite (mæɹ'kănəit). *Min.* [Named by Pallas 1793, from the Siberian river *Marekanka*: see -ITE.] Pearl-stone.

1821 J. MAWE *New Catal. Min.* (ed. 4) 91.

Marekin, -kyn(e, variants of MAROQUIN *Obs.*

Marelady, ? misprint: see MAY-LADY.

Mareleyne, variant of MARGELINE *Obs.*

Maremaid, -man, obs. ff. MERMAID, -MAN.

‖ **Maremma** (mărĕ·mă). Pl. **maremme**. [a. It. *maremma*, 'a country by the sea shore' (Baretti).] Low marshy insalubrious country by the sea shore.

1832 tr. *Sismondi's Ital. Rep.* vii. 170 Telamone, a port in the maremma of Sienna. 1866 RUSKIN *Eth. Dust* 227 The steady increase of deadly maremma round Pisa and Venice.

b. *transf.* The malarial exhalations of a maremma. In mod. Dicts.

Hence **Maremma·tic, Maremme·se** *adjs.*, belonging to a maremma. In recent Dicts.

Maremusset, obs. form of MARMOSET.

Marenell, Marener: see MARINAL, -ER.

Marenga, variant of MORENGA.

Marennin (mărĕ·nin). [f. *Marenn-es*, the name of a district in France: see -IN.] A peculiar pigment which gives to the Marennes oysters their characteristic green colour.

1885 E. RAY LANKESTER in *Q. Jrnl. Microsc. Sci.* XXVI. 87, I propose henceforward to speak of the blue pigment of Navicula ostrearia as Marennin. 1898 *Nat. Science* Nov. 294 Other forms of greenness.. have no connection with copper, but depend upon the presence of a special pigment, Marennin.

Mares, obs. form of MARISH.

Mareschal, -cy, -sy, obs. ff. MARSHAL, -CY.

Mareschini, -no, obs. ff. MARASCHINO.

Mareshall, -elsey: see MARSHAL, -ALSEA.

Mare's-nest. [MARE[1]. Cf. †*horse-nest*, which is recorded earlier (HORSE *sb.* 27).] Originally in the fig. phrase *to have found a mare's nest*; to imagine that one has discovered something wonderful, which in fact has no existence. Hence, an illusory discovery, esp. one that is much vaunted and displays foolish credulity.

a 1619 FLETCHER *Bonduca* v. ii, Why dost thou laugh? What Mares nest hast thou found? 1738 SWIFT *Pol. Conversat.* 51 You have found a Mare's Nest. 1840 HOOD *Up the Rhine* Pref. 1 Such Critics as are fond of climbing up a Mât de Cocagne for a Mare's Nest at the top. 1892 *Times* (weekly ed.) 21 Oct. 18/2 Colonel S.'s discovery is a mere mare's nest.

†*Confused use.* 1857 J. W. CROKER in *C. Papers* 1 Feb. (1884) I. iii. 83 Tierney was ashamed of himself to be taken in such a mare's nest.

Hence **Mare's-nest** *v.* to go after mare's-nests.

1859 LEVER *Dav. Dunn* xv. 134 He's always mare's nesting.

Marespike, variant of MORRISPIKE.

Maresquino, obs. form of MARASCHINO.

Maress(e, marest, obs. forms of MARISH.

Maresshall, obs. form of MARSHAL.

Mare's tail, mares-tail (mēə·ɹzte̅l).

1. A common book-name for aquatic or marsh plants of the N. O. *Haloragеæ*, esp. *Hippuris vulgaris*, formerly called Female Horsetail (see HORSETAIL 2 b); often wrongly applied to the cryptogamous genus *Equisetum* (HORSETAIL 2). Also *attrib.*

1762 HUDSON *Fl. Anglica* 2 *Hippuris .. Anglis* Mare's-tail. 1864 TENNYSON *Aylmer's F.* 92 The petty marestail forest, fairy pines. 1868 SIR J. HOOKER *Addr.* in *Rep. Brit. Assoc.* p. lxv, The existing family of Equisetaceæ.. contained previously but one genus, that of the common mare's tails of our river-banks and woods. 1879 JEFFERIES *Wild Life in S. Co.* 374 On the shore, where it is marshy, the mares-tail flourishes.

2. *pl.* Long straight streaks of cirrus, supposed to foretoken stormy weather.

1775 DALRYMPLE in *Phil. Trans.* LXVIII. 408, A. M. sky mare's tails. 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* xxix. (1856) 246 It resembled the mackerel fleeces and mare's tails of our summer skies at home. 1895 *Edin. Rev.* Apr. 533, It is the cloud known to seamen.. as 'goats' hair' or 'mares' tails'.

attrib. 1886 HUXLEY in *19th Cent.* XIX. 202 The wildest streaks of marestail clouds in the sky.

3. *Anat.* Rendering mod.L. *cauda equina*, the name given to a bundle of nerves at the lower extremity of the spine. In some recent Dicts.

Maretine, obs. form of MARITIME.

Marevedi, obs. form of MARAVEDI.

Marew, obs. form of MARROW *sb.*[1]

Mareye, Mareys(e, obs. ff. MARRY, MARISH.

Marfaylle, obs. form of MARVEL.

Mar-fire (mā·ɹfəi·ə). *dial.* Also mer-. [app. a half-translated adoption of ON. *mauru-eldr*, *mǫru-eldr* (Da. *morild*) phosphorescence, esp. in the sea (according to Vigf. = **maura-eldr*, 'ants' fire', but form and sense are both difficult; Torp and Falk connect the first element with words denoting putrescence). The Eng. forms might however represent an OE. type **mere-fȳr*, 'sea-fire'.] Phosphorescence on the sea.

1887 HALL CAINE *Deemster* xi. 74 When we're lying at anchor,.. and the stars just makin' a peep, and the moon, and the mar-fire. 1892 *Northumbld. Gloss.*, *Mer-fire*, the luminous appearance of the sea at night. 1894 R. LEIGHTON *Wreck Golden Fleece* 31 There bean't much mar-fire moving.

Marfounder: see MORFOUNDER.

Marg (māug). Now *dial.* Also murg. [?Short for MARGARET. Cf. the synonymous *margan, morgan* (L. D. D.).] Stinking Camomile, *Anthemis Cotula.* (Also pl.: cf. *maythes.*)

1609 C. BUTLER *Fem. Mon.* vi. H 2, The most stinking and poysonful weeds, as redweed, marges [*marg.* Mathers or May-weed], henbane. 1883 *Hampsh. Gloss.*, *Marg*, .. *Murg*, *Anthemis fœtida.*

Margaceous (maɹgē·ʃəs), *a. rare*[−1]. [f. L. *marga* marl: see -ACEOUS.] Marly.

1804 J. PARKINSON *Organ. Rem.* I. 423 The soft margaceous .. matter, on the borders of lakes.

Margant, obs. form of MARGENT.

Margarate (mā·ɹgărē̅t). *Chem.* [f. MARGAR-IC + -ATE.] A salt of margaric acid.

1819 BRANDE *Chem.* vii. § 9. 455 [Margaritic acid] unites with potassa in two proportions.. These compounds have been termed margarates of potassa. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV. 235 Margarate, stearate, and palmitate of lime.

Margareit, obs. form of MARGARITE[1].

Margaret (mā·ɹgărĕt). Also 3 **Marherete, Maregrete, 4 [Magote], Margret, Mergrete**, 4–6 **margarete**, 5 **-ette**, 6 **-ite**. [a. OF. *Margarete, -ite* (mod.F. *Marguerite*), ad. late L. *Margarita*, a female name, an application of L. *margarita* pearl: see MARGARITE[1].]

1. A female name.

[*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 25456 (Cott.) Wit magote and wit mariori.] 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* iv. 37 Hon he Rauischede.. Mergrete of hire Maydenhod. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 205 Sussanne, katerine, margare [*v. r.* margaretel, anneys. *a* 1649 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Poems*, An Epitaph of one named Margaret. In shells and gold pearls are not kept alone, A Margaret here lies beneath a stone. 1696 PHILLIPS (ed. 5) *Margaret*, (Greek) Pearl; the Christian Name of divers Women, contracted Marget.

†**2.** A daisy; esp. *Bellis perennis*: called also *herb Margaret* (see HERB *sb.* 7 b), *Margaret's herb, brave Margaret.* (Cf. MARGUERITE.) *Obs.*

[According to French etymologists, this use of F. *marguerite* is not from the personal name, but comes directly from the sense 'pearl' (see MARGARITE[1]), having reference to the appearance of the flower (? or bud). It has, however, commonly been associated with the proper name: hence in recent times *Daisy* has been current in England as a pet-name for Margaret.]

a 1500 *Assemb. Ladies* 57 With margarettes growing in ordinaunce. 1503 HAWES *Examp. Virt.* XII. xxii, Bryngynge me a floure called the margarete. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. cxciii. 512 The Daisie is called.. of some *Herba Margarita*: or Margarites herbe. *a* 1607 LYTE *MS. notes in Dodoens* (Bibl. Mus. Brit. 442, h. 9) p. 126 (Britten & Holl.), Brave Margaret. 1640 PARKINSON *Theat. Bot.* Table, Margarites herbe or Daysies.

3. A variety of apple, and also of pear.

1664 EVELYN *Kal. Hort.* July (1679) 20 The Margaret-apple. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* (1721) II. 294 The Margaret, the Maudlin, the Cluster Pear. 1834 *Penny Cycl.* II. 190/1 (*Apple*) Early red Margaret.

4. A magpie; = MADGE[1] **2.**

1854 MISS BAKER *Northampt. Gloss.* II. 2. 1890 *Cent. Dict.*

5. *U. S.* = MARGATE-FISH. Also *margaret-grunt* (Cent. Dict.). *Bastard margaret* (see quot.).

1903 J. A. HENSHALL *Bass*, etc. 330 The Sailor's Choice (*Hæmulon parra*). This grunt is sometimes called bastard margaret by the Key West fisherman.

Margaret(e, -ette, obs. ff. MARGARITE[1].

†**Margaretton.** *Obs.* (See *Diamargariton* in DIA- *pref.*[2])

1485 *Digby Myst.* III. 339 Dya, galonga, ambra, and also margaretton.

Margari, variant of MARGERY *Obs.*, a pearl.

Margaric (maɹgæ·ɹik), *a. Chem.* [mod. f. Gr. μάργαρ-ον = μαργαρίτης pearl + -IC, in reference to the pearly lustre of the crystals or scales.] In **Margaric acid**: †**a.** orig. the name (*acide margarique*) given by Chevreul to one of the three fatty acids (*oleic, margaric, stearic*), the glyceryl derivatives of which (olein, margarin, stearin) were thought by him to form the chief constituents of animal fats. The composition assigned to margaric acid was (reduced to the new notation) $C_{17}H_{31}O_2$. So *margarie ether. Obs.*

It was shown by Heintz in 1852 (*Journ. Prakt. Chem.* LXVI. 1) that the three fatty acids of animal fat are the oleic, palmitic, and stearic, and that the 'margaric' of Chevreul was really a mixture of palmitic ($C_{16}H_{32}O_2$) and stearic acid ($C_{18}H_{36}O_2$); and in this use the name is now obs., though it remained long in popular manuals, and its former prevalence is commemorated in the names MARGARINE and OLEO-MARGARINE.

1819 J. G. CHILDREN *Chem. Anal.* 314 Margaric acid was obtained from hog's lard by Chevreul in 1813. 1836 BRANDE *Chem.* III. vii. § 12 (ed. 4) 962 Margaric Acid, so named from its pearly lustre,.. bears a striking resemblance to stearic acid. It is obtained by decomposing the margarate of potassa. 1863 FOWNES *Chem.* (ed. 9) 533 Margaric ether is prepared by a similar mode of proceeding. *c* 1865 LETHEBY in *Circ. Sci.* I. 95/2 Margaric,..and other..Fatty Acids, are obtained from the oils.

b. By recent chemists, applied to an acid of composition $C_{17}H_{34}O_2$, artificially prepared.

1865-8 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* III. 852 Margaric acid forms white crystals, melting at 59·9°, and solidifying in crystalline scales on cooling. 1891 THORPE *Dict. Appl. Chem.* II. 101/2 Margaric acid $C_{16}H_{33}COOH$ may be formed by boiling margonitrile with alcoholic potash. 1892 MORLEY & MUIR *Watts' Dict. Chem.* III. 194. 1899 E. F. SMITH *Richter's Organ. Chem.* I. 250 Margaric Acid, $C_{17}H_{34}O_2$, does not apparently exist naturally in the fats. It is made in an artificial way by boiling cetyl cyanide with caustic potash.

Margarin (mā·ɹgărin). *Chem.* Also -ine. [ad. F. *margarine* (Chevreul), f. *margarique* MARGARIC: see -IN.] The margarate of glyceryl or glyceride of margaric acid. †**a.** Originally applied to a fatty substance contained in certain animal and vegetable oils, supposed to be the glyceride of the 'margaric acid' of Chevreul, really a mixture of stearin and palmitin. *Obs.* **b.** Now, the glyceride of margaric acid in its later application (see prec. b). Also *attrib.*

1836 BRANDE *Chem.* III. vii. § 12 (ed. 4) 963 Margarine. This substance forms a part of mutton-suet, hogs'-lard, and some other animal fats. 1852 WATTS tr. *Gmelin's Handbk. Chem.* VII. 237 Human fat (a mixture of margarin and olein). *c* 1865 LETHEBY in *Circ. Sci.* I. 93/1 We have.. tallow and its derivatives stearine and stearic acid, margarine and margaric acid. 1878 *Encycl. Brit.* VI. 104/2 The oil [cod-liver oil] contains olein and margarin. 1899 CAGNEY tr. *Jaksch's Clin. Diagn.* iv. (ed. 4) 136 Fatty Crystals (Margarine needles).—These are seen chiefly in putrid bronchitis and pulmonary gangrene.

Margarine (mā·ɹgărīn). [a. F. *margarine*, a misapplication of the chemical term: see prec.] The legal name (by Act 50 & 51 Vict. c. 29, for any substitute for butter, made from OLEOMARGARINE (q.v.), and for 'all substances, whether compound or otherwise, prepared in imitation of butter', and offered for sale. (Cf. BUTTERINE.)

1873 *U. S. Patent Specif.* No. 146012. 1876 *World* V. No. 111. 12 Margarine is no novelty; it was brought out two or three years ago in Paris. 1887 EARL WEMYSS in *Times* 4 Aug. 8/3 On Friday next the great fight 'Butterine versus Margarine' will come off in the Lords. 1888 *Times* 3 Jan. 4/5 After adopting successively the names 'oleomargarine', 'butterine', and 'margarine', Parliament finally, after several struggles, resolved on the last. *Ibid.* 9/4 Margarine, as we formally record this morning, has begun its actual legislative existence. 1888 *Lancet* 14 Jan. 83/1 The word 'margarine' is, from a scientific point of view, inappropriate.

b. *attrib.*, as *margarine factory*; **Margarine Act**, Act 50 & 51 Vict. (1887) c. 29, by which the name margarine is given to butter imitations.

1887 *Act* 50 & 51 *Vict.* c. 29 § 1 This Act may be cited as the Margarine Act, 1887. 1895 *Westm. Gaz.* 11 Sept. 3/2 Other particulars about the margarine factories.

c. *attrib.* = sham, 'bogus'.

1891 F. S. HADEN in *19th Cent.* May 780 One of those things which I fear I must call a 'margarine' substitute for an etching. 1897 SIR W. HARCOURT in *Daily News* 26 Nov. 3/3 Take care you do not get margarine Liberalism.

Margaritacean (mărgăritē·ɪʃăn). *a.* and *sb. Conch.* [f. mod.L. *Margaritāce-a*, f. L. *margarīta* pearl + -AN.] **a.** *adj.* Belonging to the *Margaritacea*, De Blainville's third family of lamellibranchiates. **b.** *sb.* A bivalve of this family.

In recent Dicts.

Margaritaceous (mărgăritē·ɪʃəs), *a. Nat. Hist.* [f. mod.L. *margarītāceus*, f. *margarīta*: see -ACEOUS.] Pearly.

1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* IV. 282 Margaritaceous. .. Glossy white with changeable tints of purple, green, and blue. 1842 JOHNSTON in *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* II. No. 10. 35 Shell cinereous,..interior margaritaceous.

Margaritate (mā·ɹgărītē̅t). *Chem.* [f. MARGARITIC: see -ATE[1].] A salt of margaritic acid.

1839 *Penny Cycl.* XIV. 414/1.

Margarite[1] (mā·ɹgărəit). *Obs.* exc. *arch.* Also 4–6 **margaret, -it, -yte**, 5 **margrite, marguarite, -garette**, 6 **margareit, -garete, -grete, mergreit.** [a. OF. *margarite* (mod.F. *marguerite*), ad. L. *margarīta* (whence OF. *margerie* MARGERY, Sp. *margarita*, It. *margarita, margherita*), ad. Gr. μαργαρίτης (also μαργαρίτις or μαργαρὶς λίθος, and simply μαργαρίς), f. μάργαρ-ον pearl, μάργαρ-ος pearl-oyster + -ίτης: see -ITE. In the early Teut. langs. the word was adopted with etymologizing perversion: the Goth. *marikreitus* (from the Greek), is influenced by *mari-, marei* sea, while the WGer. forms, OE. *męregrot, -grota*, OS. *merigri(o)ta*, OHG. *merigreoz, marigreoz*, MHG. *mergriez(e*, are altered so as to express the sense 'sea-pebble'.

The word is prob. adopted from some oriental lang. (Pliny refers to it as 'barbarous'): cf. Skr. *manjarī* cluster of flowers, also (according to the Indian lexicographers) pearl, cogn. w. *manju* beautiful. The Pahlavī *marvārīd* (:-**marv-*), Pers. *mervārid*, Syriac *margānīthā* (whence Arab. *marjān*) are prob. from Greek.]

1. A pearl. Now only *arch.*

[*c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xiii. 46 Þa he funde þæt an deorwyrðe meregrot.] 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* v. 26 The myht of the margarite haveth this may mere. 1382 WYCLIF *Matt.* vii. 6 Nether sende 3e 3our margaritis [*gloss* or preciouse stoonys] before swyne. *a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* (1868) 163 A precious margarite, the whiche is a bright thinge, rounde, white, and clene. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* II. 367 The relict of Sanct Andro.. Adornit wes..With diamontis ding, and margretis mony one. 1567 MAPLET *Gr. Forest* 14 The Margaret of all Gemmes, those which be in their kindes white, is esteemed the chiefest. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 321, I have taken out of these Shell-fish many Margarites. 1772 NUGENT tr. *Hist. Friar Gerund* I. 207 That margarite or pearl..in a dissolution of which.. Cleopatra drank Anthony's health. 1885 R. F. BURTON *Arab. Nts.* (1887) III. 327 A collar set with margarites and rubies.

attrib. 1387–8 T. USK *Test. Love* III. i. (Skeat) I. 35 A Margarit perle, that is so precious a geme with clere and litell. 1598 TOFTE *Alba* (1880) 20 Rich Margarite Pearle.

¶ b. Taken to mean 'precious stone'.

c 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 188 Men shuld not put a precious margarite, As rubies, saphires,..Emeraudes ner rounde perles whight, To-fore rude swyne.

c. As the type of something precious: cf. *pearl.*

a 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* (1868) 157 The sowle is the precious margarite vnto God. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* 1 Marie queen of Scotlande, the margareit and perle of princessis. 1635 BRATHWAIT *Five Senses*, etc. in *Archaica* (1815) II. 37 Meantime, that precious margarite, incased in this art-affected cabinet, may lose her lustre.

†2. (See MARGARET 2.) *Obs.*

Hence †**Margarital** *a.*, pearl-like.

a 1618 SYLVESTER *Sonn.* xii. Wks. (Grosart) II. 323/2 The margaritall-gem For praise deserves thy name.

Margarite (mā·rgărəit). *Min.* [f. Gr. *μάργαρον* pearl + -ITE.] 'Pearl mica', a hydrous silicate found in scales having a pearly lustre.

1823 W. PHILLIPS *Introd. Min.* (ed. 3) 208 Margarite. This mineral is in the mass of a greyish white colour..It has lately been brought into this country from the Tyrol.

Margaritic (mā:rgări·tik), *a. Chem.* [f. L. *margarita* pearl + -IC.] *Margaritic acid*: †a. used for Chevreul's *acide margarique* (MARGARIC a) (*obs.*); b. the name (*a. margaritique*) given by Bussy to one of the fatty acids resulting from the saponification of castor oil.

1819 BRANDE *Chem.* vii. § 9. 455 A peculiar acid, called by Chevreul, from its pearly appearance, margaritic acid.

Margaritiferous (mā:rgări·tiˈfĕrəs), *a.* [f. L. *margarītifer* (Pliny), f. *margarīta* MARGARITE: see -FEROUS.] Producing pearls. Also (*nonce-use*), wearing pearls.

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Margaritiferous*. 1682 T. A. *Carolina* 26 Some of which [oysters] are margiriteferous [*sic*]. 1838 *New Monthly Mag.* LIII. 554 The margaritiferous reader. 1839 SOWERBY *Conch. Man.* 62. 1887 *Standard* 30 Apr. 5/2 But it is only within comparatively recent times that Western Australia has been known to be margaritiferous.

Margaritite (mā·rgărĭtəit). [f. MARGARITE + -ITE.] A fossil pearl-producing shell.

In recent Dicts.

Margarodite (mā:rgărŏdəit). *Min.* [ad. G. *margarodit* (Schafhäutl, 1843), f. late Gr. *μαργαρώδης* pearly, f. *μάργαρον* pearl: see -ITE[1] 2 b.] A variety of potash mica having a pearly lustre.

1849 WATTS tr. *Gmelin's Handbk. Chem.* III. 451 Margarodite forms the matrix of the black tourmaline from the Zillerthal. 1854 DANA *Syst. Min.* (ed. 4) II. 223.

Margaron, -one (mā·rgărŏn, -ōun). *Chem.* [ad. F. *margarone* (Bussy 1832), f. *margarique* MARGARIC: see -ONE.] A solid fatty substance crystallizing in pearly scales, formed by the distillation of margaric acid with lime.

1834 *Lond. & Edinb. Philos. Mag.* V. 153 On Margaron, Stearon, and Oleon. 1836 BRANDE *Chem.* III. vii. § 12 (ed. 4) 963 Margarone. 1863 FOWNES *Chem.* (ed. 9) 533 A fatty body, incapable of saponification, termed *margarone*.

Margary, variant of MARGERY *Obs.*, a pearl.

Margasite, obs. form of MARCASITE.

Ma·rgate-fish, Ma·rgate-grunt. [Of obscure origin: variants given in Dicts. are *market-, maggot-fish* and *margaret-grunt*. Cf. MARGARET 5.] A pearly-white fish, *Hæmulon album*, found in the Gulf of Mexico.

1734 MORTIMER in *Phil. Trans.* XXXVIII. 315 *Perca marina Gibbosa cinerea*. The Margate-Fish. This is esteem'd very good Meat. 1775 ROMANS *Florida* App. 19 Margate-fish, rock-fish [etc.]. 1903 J. A. HENSHALL *Bass*, etc. 328 The Margate-fish (*Hæmulon album*). The margate-fish, or margate grunt, is the largest of the family.

‖ **Margaux** (mā·rgo, Fr. margo). Also 8 **margose, margou.** Claret manufactured in the commune of Margaux, department of Gironde, France.

1705 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4128/4, 230 Hogsheads of new Poutac and Margose Wine. 1725 WELSTED *Oikographia* 12 Nor Margou, stor'd in Priestly Cells, That on the Palate grateful dwells. 1734 SHERIDAN *Let. to Swift* 16 Aug. S.'s Wks. 1841 II. 724, I drink right French margose. 1858 HOMANS *Dict. Comm.* 192 (Bordeaux) The third-rate wines comprise those called *Pauillac, Margaux, St. Julien, St. Estèphe, St. Emilion*, etc.

Margay (mā·rgeı). [a. F. *margay* (Buffon), altered from *margaia* (Claude d'Abbeville 1614), an inexact representation of Tupi *mbaracaïa*.] A South American tiger cat, *Felis tigrina*.

1781 SMELLIE tr. *Buffon* (1791) VII. 249 The Margay, or Cayenne Cat. 1838 HUNTER tr. *Azara's Quadrup. Paraguay* 239 Buffon describes a margay, which name, after Abbeville, he derives from..*maragaya*, the appellation he supposes to be given to it in Brazil. 1859 WOOD *Nat. Hist.* I. 185 The Margay is a very handsome example of the Tiger Cats.

Marge (mārdʒ), *sb.* Now *poet.* or *rhet.* [ad. F. *marge*:—L. *margin-em* MARGIN.]

1. = MARGIN *sb.* 1.

1551 RECORDE *Pathw. Knowl.* II. lxxvi, The marge or edge of the circumference of the circle. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* IV. viii. 61 As by the flowrie marge On a fresh streame I with that Elfe did play. 1612 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* ii. 25 So pleasantlie in-il'd on mighty Neptune's marge. 1753 WARTON *Approach of Summer* 92 Near the rush'd marge of Cherwell's flood. 1805 WORNSW. *Prelude* VIII. 459 The western marge of Thurston-mere. 1849 M. ARNOLD *Strayed Reveller* 16 The ivy-wreath'd marge Of thy cup. 1898 W. K. JOHNSON *Terra Tenebr.* 72 By the marble marge of unstirred wells.

b. of immaterial things.

1876 FARRAR *Marlb. Serm.* vi. 59 That great future which blooms..beyond the marge of death. 1878 BROWNING *La Saisiaz* 70 Mind to-morrow's early meeting I We must have our journey marge Ample for the wayside wonders.

2. = MARGIN 2. *rare.*

1577 HANMER *Anc. Eccl. Hist.* VI. xii. 370 (marg.) In the marge of the Greeke copie there was written as followeth. 1657 J. SERGEANT *Schism Dispach't* 74 As cited in the marge by himself. 1859 TENNYSON *Vivien* 519 Every page having an ample marge.

Hence **Marge** *v. trans.*, to fringe, edge.

1852 *Fraser's Mag.* XLVI. 166 Little bays, marged with printless yellow sands.

Margeant, obs. form of MARGENT.

Margelene, obs. form of MARJORAM.

†**Margeline.** *Obs.* Also 7 **margellane, mareleyne, morgeline.** [Corruption of F. *morgeline* 'ivie Chickweed, Henne-bit; also, the small, or fine Chickweed; also, Pimpernel' (Cotgr.).

Cooper 1565 (s.v. *Anagallis*) gives *margelina* as Latin. F. *morgeline* is:—L. *morsus gallinæ*, lit. 'hen's bite' (cf. HENBIT).]

'The Scarlet Pimpernel, *Anagallis arvensis*.

1572 HULOET (ed. Higins), Margeline an herbe, *asyla*. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 234 They haue recourse .. to an herbe for remedy called in Greeke Asyla, and by vs in Latine Ferus oculus (*i.* the wild and cruell eie, or Margellane). 1611 COTGR., *Mauvais œil*, Ivie Chickweed, Morgeline, Henbit. 1648 HEXHAM, *Roodt Guychelheyl*, Red Mareleyne, an herbe. 1783 AINSWORTH *Lat. Dict.* (ed. Morell) v, *Asyla*, .. an herb wherewith cattle cure themselves, when they have eaten of pimpernel, or margeline.

Margent (mā·rdʒĕnt), *sb.* Now *arch.* and *poet.* Also 5–6 **margente,** 6 **mergent(e,** 7 **marg(e)ant, -gint.** [Altered form of MARGIN *sb.*; cf. *ancient, pageant, peasant, pheasant, tyrant.*]

1. = MARGIN *sb.* 1.

1538 ELYOT *Dict., Margo*, the brymme or edge of euery thynge, the margent. 1553 EDEN *Treat. Newe Ind.* (Arb.) 25 Grauen Lions on euery syde adourning the rayles or highest margentes of the same. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* V. x. 3 From th' vtmost brinke of the Armericke shore Vnto the margent of the Molucas. 1634 MILTON *Comus* 232 By slow Meander's margent green. 1649 JER. TAYLOR *Gt. Exemp.* II. § 12. 39 Jesus sate himself down upon the margent of Jacob's well. 1742 GRAY *Ode Eton* 23 Say father Thames, for thou hast seen Full many a sprightly race Disporting on thy margent green. 1837 MISS MITFORD *Country Stories* (1850) 107 Coppices with wide turfy margents on either side. 1853 G. JOHNSTON *Nat. Hist. E. Bord.* I. 157 It .. often hides midst brushwood on the margent of a burn. 1901 HENLEY *Hawthorn & Lavender* 6 From reluctant woods .. And sering margents, forced To be lean and bare.

fig. 1679 PULLER *Moder. Ch. Eng.* (1843) 329 By catching at some little scattered parts, of the skirts and margent of the cause.

2. = MARGIN *sb.* 2.

c 1485 *Digby Myst.* IV. 273 Looke How many bludy letters beyn writen in þis buke, Small margente her is. 1532 MORE *Confut. Barnes* VIII. Wks. 776/1 And thys himselfe confesseth in the mergent of his booke. 1555 EDEN *Decades* 188 Whiche the lymmers of bookes are accustomed to paynte on the margentes of churche bookes. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* v. ii. 8 A sheet of paper Writ on both sides the leafe, margent and all. 1612 BRINSLEY *Lud. Lit.* 71 Let them learne euery rule .. and the summes of the rules which are set in the margents. 1645 MILTON *Colast.* Wks. 1851 IV. 345 A big margent, litter'd and overlaid with crude and huddl'd quotations. 1722 SEWEL *Hist. Quakers* (1795) I. IV. 364 We have seen some of your laws, that have many Scriptures in the margent. 1834 LANDOR *Exam. Shaks.* Wks. 1853 II. 282/2 Such were the very words; I wrote them down with two signs in the margent.

b. The margin of a book as being the place for a commentary upon or summary of the text; hence, the commentary or summary itself.

1579 W. WILKINSON *Confut. Familye of Loue* 48 These his vayne payntynges of his margent, shall hereafter make his cause more odious. 1589 LYLY *Pappe w. Hatchet* Wks. 1902 III. 413 Beware my Comment, tis odds the margent shall bee as full as the text. 1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* I. iii. 86 And what obscur'd in this faire volume lies, Find written in the Margent of his eyes. 1602 — *Ham.* V. ii. 162. 1657 AUSTEN *Fruit Trees* I. 18 As the Margint renders it. 1733 SWIFT *Brother Protest.* Wks. 1755 IV. I. 182 That blockhead..Who knows in law nor text, nor margent.

3. = MARGIN *sb.* 4 a.

1678 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* 106 The Middle Rail hath commonly two breadths of the Margent of the Stile. *Ibid.* 110. 1823 [see MARGIN *sb.* 3 a].

4. *attrib.* (or quasi-adj. = marginal).

1555 EDEN *Decades* Contents *ad fin.*, Reade the margente notes of the same. 1643 R. SALTONSTALL *To Winthrop* (Cent.), Margent notes upon a French text. 1811 W. R. SPENCER *Poems* 113 The margent thistles of the Tweed.

Hence †**Margent** *v. trans.*, to insert as a marginal note, to add marginal notes to.

1610 R. NICCOLS *Eng. Eliza* To Rdr., I present it in one whole entire Hymne, distinguishing it only by succession of yeares, which I haue margented through the whole storie. 1662–3 PEPYS *Diary* 23 Jan., Finishing the margenting of my Navy-Manuscript.

Margerain, -ome, -yn, obs. ff. MARJORAM.

†**Ma·rgery.** *Obs.* Also 4 **margari, -ary, -yrye, mariari, -iori,** 4–5 **margerie, -ye.** [a. OF. *margerie*:—L. *margaritam*: see MARGARITE[1].] A pearl. Chiefly *attrib.* in *margery pearl, stone.*

13.. *Propr. Sanct.* (Vernon MS.) in Herrig *Archiv* LXXXI. 113/16 He fond a precious Margari-ston. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. XI. 9 *Noli mittere* margeri-perles Among hogges. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 1036 Þe portalez pyked of rych platez & vch 3ate of a margyrye, A parfyt perle þat neuer fatez. *c* 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* I. ci. (1869) 55 It is thing michel more worth than a margerye, and more precious. 1530 PALSGR. 243/1 Margery perle, *nacle.*

†**Ma·rgery-pra·ter.** *Cant. Obs.* Also 7 **mergery-.** A hen.

1567 HARMAN *Caveat* 83. 1622 FLETCHER *Beggar's Bush* V. i, Or mergery-praters, Rogers, And Tibs o' th' buttry. 1641 BROME *Jov. Crew* II. F 3, Here's Grunter and Bleater, with Tib of the Buttry, And Margery Prater, all drest without sluttry. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew.*

Margh(e, Marghty, obs. ff. MARROW *sb.*[1], -Y.

Marʒen, obs. form of MORN.

Margin (mā·rdʒin), *sb.* Also 4–6 **mar-, mergyn(e,** 4–7 **margine,** (6 **mergin,** *Sc.* **mairgeane**); and see MARGENT. [ad. L. *margin-em* (nom. *margo*), cogn. w. MARK *sb.*[1] A single instance of OF. *margine* (15th c.) is cited by Godefr. Cf. F. *marge* (see MARGE), Sp. *márgen*, Pg. *margem*, It. *margine.*

The word was little used in the 17th c., its place being taken by MARGENT.]

1. That part of a surface which lies immediately within its boundary, esp. when in some way marked off or distinguished from the rest of the surface; also, the space immediately adjacent to a well, a river, or piece of water; an edge, border, or brink.

1382 WYCLIF *Exod.* XXVIII. 24 The rynges that ben in the mergyns of it [Vulg. *marginibus*; 1388 brynkis]. *c* 1391 CHAUCER *Astrol.* I. § 21 The names of the sterres ben writen in the Margyn of the riet. 1463–4 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 501/2 In the utter partie of the mergyne of the same cloth. 1530 PALSGR. 243/1 Margyn or brinke of any thyng, *bort*; *riue.* 1739 S. SHARP *Surg.* Introd. 4 All the Advantage to be gathered from it is only from the Evenness of its Margin. 1774 M. MACKENZIE *Maritime Surv.* IV. 41 On the Margin of a Lake, close to the Edge of the Water. 1805 SOUTHEY *Madoc in W.* VII, Between the mountain-base And the green margin of the waters. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. V. 40 The chasms at the margin of the glacier. 1870 F. R. WILSON *Ch. Lindisf.* 34 Tweedmouth Church stands upon the margin of the Tweed. 1887 MOLONEY *Forestry W. Afr.* 426 Limited to swampy lowlands or margins of lagoons.

b. *Nat. Hist.* Applied either to the contour or boundary line of a body, or to a distinct border differing in texture, etc. from the main body.

1760 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* I. xi. (1765) 24 The Variations of the Calyx in respect to .. its Equality, Margin and Apex, or Top. 1807–26 S. COOPER *First Lines Surg.* (ed. 5) 467 At the very point where the spermatic cord emerges from under the lower margin of the transverse muscle. 1861 BENTLEY *Man. Bot.* 133 The lines connecting the base and apex of the leaf are called the *edges* or *margins*, or collectively the *circumscription*. 1872 L. P. MEREDITH *Teeth* (1878) 240 One of his upper incisors broken entirely off at the margin of the gum.

†c. A boundary. *Obs.*

c 1586 C'TESS PEMBROKE *Ps.* XCVIII. ii, [God's promise] ev'ry margine of this earthy spheare Now sees performed.

2. *fig.* a. A condition which closely approximates to the limit below or beyond which something ceases to be possible or desirable.

1863 FAWCETT *Pol. Econ.* II. iii. 141 In any given condition of a country there is some land which will just pay for cultivation if it is let at a nominal rent. Thus, as it were, a margin of cultivation is marked, below which the cultivation of land cannot descend, unless some circumstances should occur which should either induce men to be satisfied with smaller profits, or should increase the productiveness of land. 1869 ROGERS *Adam Smith's W. N.* I. II. iii. 335 *note*, No tax can be levied from those who are on the margin of bare subsistence.

b. An amount (of space, time, money, material, etc.) allowed or available in addition to what is estimated to be strictly necessary for a certain purpose, and serving as a provision for unforeseen contingencies, or admitting of being applied to other purposes.

1852 E. WARBURTON *Darien* Introd. I. 5 The purchase of an annuity.. secured to him an ample supply for his simple wants, and left him besides a wide margin for the charities in which his brave old heart delighted. 1858 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* III. xiii. 145 The King, in his instructions, left a wide margin of discretion to the generals. 1865 MILL *Pol. Econ.* (ed. 6) IV. iv. § 5 The fall of profits would be retarded if money wages did not rise, or rose in a less degree; but the margin which can be gained by a deterioration of the labourer's condition is a very narrow one. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* III. vi, Within a certain margin of hours. 1866 ROGERS *Agric. & Prices* I. iv. 81 The narrow margin of profit had been reduced to a minimum. 1873 HAMERTON *Intell. Life* V. iii. (1875) 190 The shortening of the hours of labour may afford some margin of leisure.

c. *Stockbroking* and *Comm.* (*a*) A certain sum deposited by a speculative seller or buyer with his broker to cover the risk of loss on a transaction on account. (*b*) *U. S.* 'A deposit made by each of two brokers, parties to a contract, when one is called up (as it is termed) by the other' (*Cent. Dict.* 1890).

1882 *Pall Mall G.* 15 July 5/1 Egyptian Unified bonds went crawling down to below 48, and alarmed bankers were sending after their 'margins'. 1883 *St. James's Gaz.* 1 Nov., In Liverpool sales of cotton for future delivery are made without any deposit of 'margins'. 1885 *Harper's Mag.* Mar. 611/1 The speculators were .. caught without any margin. 1888 Bryce *Amer. Commw.* III. xcii. 288 Ohio punishes by fine and imprisonment the offering to sell 'options' or exhibiting any quotations of the prices of 'margins', 'futures' or 'options'. 1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 11 Nov. 11/3 The bulk of the shares in what are called the speculative lines are held by speculators on margin.

d. *Life-insurance.* = Loading *vbl. sb.* 3.

1881 [see Loading *vbl. sb.* 3].

3. The space on a page between the extreme edge and the main body of written or printed matter, often partly taken up with notes, references, illuminations, or the like. Often in narrower sense, applied to the margins at the sides of the page ('inner' and 'outer' margins) as distinguished from the 'head' and 'foot.'

1362 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. viii. 20 Marchauns in þis Margin [of a bull] hedden mony 3eres [of pardon]. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xv. xxiv. (1495) 497 Loke in the nexte pagyn in thende of the mergyn. 1532 More *Confut. Barnes* viii. Wks. 756/2, I lette passe that he noteth in the margine these woordes how a manne maye knowe the church. 1589 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* IV. 442 Thay wer nocht contenit in the body of the said principall letter .. bot interlynnit on the mairgeane thairof. 1611 Bible *Transl. Pref.* ¶ 15 Some peraduenture would haue no varietie of sences to be set in the margine. 1621 Bp. Mountagu *Diatribæ* 219 For this we haue Scripture and Fathers in the margine. 1783 Johnson in *Boswell* 1 May, I know when I have been writing verses, I have run my finger down the margin, to see how many I had made, and how few I had to make. 1817 Dibdin *Bibliogr. Decam.* II. 471 Books with larger margins are no where to be found. 1851 Longf. *Gold. Leg.* iv. *Scriptorium*, I .. will sketch her thus, in her quiet nook, For the margin of my Gospel book.

b. The annotations placed in the margin of a work (cf. Margent 2 b); in quot. *transf.*, an explanatory indication.

1824 Hogg *Conf. Sinner* 88 She viewed Mrs. Logan with a stern, steady gaze, as if reading her features as a margin to her intellect.

4. a. *Joinery.* The flat part of the stiles and rails of framed work. b. *Building.* 'That part of the upper side of a course of slates which appears uncovered by the next superior course' (Gwilt).

[1678: see Margent *sb.* 3.] 1823 P. Nicholson *Pract. Build.* 226 Margins or Margents.—The flat part of the stiles and rails of framed work. 1855 F. Reinnel *Masons*, etc. *Assist.* 70 The part of the back of every course which is exposed to the eye is called the margin of that course.

5. *attrib.*, as *margin-cell*, *light*, *sand*; **margin draft, draught** = Draft *sb.* 6 a (Ogilvie 1850); **margin line** *Naut.* (see quot.); **margin-tailed** *a.*, having a marginate tail (*Cent. Dict.*).

1882 Vines *Sachs' Bot.* 142 This wall intersects the dividing wall of the *margin-cell previously formed. 1858 *Skyring's Builders' Prices* (ed. 48) 34 Deal cased frames .. with *margin lights or rail. *c* 1850 *Rudim. Navig.* (Weale) 131 **Margin line*, a line or edge parallel to the upper side of the wing transom, and about five inches below it, at which place terminate all the butts of the bottom planks abaft. 1820 Keats *Hyperion* I. 15 Along the *margin-sand large foot-marks went.

Hence **Ma·rginless** *a.*, having no margin.

1839 D. Macmillan *Mem.* (1882) 89, I have had to cut away all the margin. . This marginless volume .. will be [etc.].

Margin (mā·ɹdʒin), *v.* [f. prec. sb. Cf. late L. *marginare*, F. *marginer*.]

1. *trans.* To furnish with marginal notes; to annotate or summarize in the margin.

1607 Hieron *Defence* I. 78 Though it be his use, to margin his English, with greek or latin or both. 1616 Sir T. Roe *Jrnl.* 4 Sept. (1899) 260, I receiued my Articles back from Asaph chan, who tooke now att last many exceptions, and margined them with his Pen in most Insolent sort. 1651 C. Cartwright *Cert. Relig.* I. 52 If any man may he permitted to appeale to Scriptures: margind with his own notes. *a* 1734 North *Exam.* I. i. § 7 (1740) 18 These he deals forth .. as the notable Matters, margined for better Notice. 1885 E. S. Ffoulkes *Prim. Consecr.* iv. 73 Of the four prayers margined by Mr. Hammond as 'Recital of the work of Redemption, Words of Institution, Confession of Faith, and the Great Oblation', not a trace occurs in S. Cyril.

2. To specify in the margin of a page.

c 1640 J. Smyth *Lives Berkeleys* (1883) I. 294 Whereto add these records here margined. 1868 *Voice of Truth* May 117 There are no fewer than 2283 articles, all numbered, named, and the places they came from carefully margined.

3. To provide with a margin, edge, or border. Freq. in *pass.*

1715 tr. *Pancirollus' Rerum Mem.* I. iv. ii. 158 Hats .. were margin'd with Brims, as a commodious Shelter. 1725 H. Bourne *Antiq. Vulgares* 65 If its water was .. margin'd with the tender grass. 1797 Mrs. Radcliffe *Italian* xix. 102/1 Entering the little bay, where the hamlet margined the beach. 1860 Gosse *Rom. Nat. Hist.* 35 The broad belt of reeds which margined the river. 1865 *Pall Mall G.* 16 Sept., A vellum pamphlet .. each leaf of which was numbered and neatly margined with red ink. 1883 F. M. Crawford *Dr. Claudius* i, A variety of mathematical figures, margined all round with odd-looking equations.

b. *Nat. Hist.* and *Path.* (Cf. Margin *sb.* 1 b.)

1840 *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 244 The feathers margined with greyish during the winter. *Ibid.* 249 The membranes margining the toes. 1849 J. E. Gray *Catal. Specim. Snakes Brit. Mus.* 113 The upper band-like, transverse, like a frontal, margining the rostral. 1881 J. S. Gardner in *Nature* XXIII. 251 The leaves are smaller .. the parenchyma reduced to a narrow expansion margining each vein. 1898 J. Hutchinson *Arch. Surg.* IX. 125 [The eruption] consisted of patches which were not abruptly margined.

4. *Stockbroking.* To deposit a 'margin' upon (stock). Also *intr.* in *To margin up* (U.S.); to provide additional 'margin' when what has been paid is insufficient.

18.. *Amer. Economist* III. 176 (Cent.) The concern then had $42,500,000 locked up on Bourse, having trebled its liabilities in the vain attempt to margin up after a fall begun in September, 1881. 1896 *Westm. Gaz.* 4 Aug. 7/3 The banks are indifferent, as the stocks held are securely margined.

Marginal (mā·ɹdʒinăl), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. mod.L. *marginālis*, f. *margin-*, *margo*, Margin *sb.* Cf. F. *marginal*.]

A. *adj.*

1. Written or printed in the margin of a page, as *marginal note*, *reference*. Hence *marginal bible*, one with marginal notes.

1576 Fleming *Panopl. Epist.* 34 *margin*, Thes words are .. made plaine, in the first Epistle, Li. 6. in a marginall note. 1611 Cotgr. s.v. *Marc*, Looke the next marginall word. 1641 Milton *Ch. Govt.* II. 41 To club quotations with men whose learning and beleif lies in marginal stuffings. *a* 1656 Hales *Gold. Rem.* (1673) 288 That so you may bring them [*sc.* scattered notes] together by marginal references. 1683 Moxon *Mech. Exerc., Printing* xxii. ¶ 5 Marginal Notes come down the side (or sides, If the Page have two Columns). *a* 1732 T. Boston *Crook in Lot* (1805) 78 Here there is a line reading, and a marginal. 1733 Neal *Hist. Purit.* II. 48 Mr. Canne, author of the Marginal References to the Bible. 1860 Dickens *Lett.* (1880) II. 113, I thought the marginal references overdone. 1885 *Act* 48 *Vict.* c. 15 Sched. ii. *Precept* § 35 You are .. to publish .. the register with your marginal additions. 1903 *Expositor* July 1 Fuller lists .. in what are called 'marginal bibles'.

†b. *Marginal finger*: a 'finger' or hand set in the margin to call attention to something; hence *fig.*

1604 Dekker *Honest Wh.* Wks. 1873 II. 6 Let it stand Within the Wizards booke (the kalendar) Markt with a marginall finger. 1632 Massinger & Field *Fatal Dowry* III. i, To haue mens marginall fingers point At Charaloys, as a lamented story!

2. Pertaining to an edge, border, or boundary; situated at the extreme edge (of an area, mass, etc.).

1658 Phillips, *Marginal*, belonging to the margin or margent, *i.* the brink or brim of any thing. 1831 Brewster *Optics* vi. 54 The central parts of the lens .. refract the rays too little, and the marginal parts too much. 1872 Black *Adv. Phaeton* vii. 100 A marginal growth of willow and flag. 1882 *Garden* 25 Mar. 202/2 Lobelias .. are most useful, as marginal plants for flower beds and borders. 1893 Lane-Poole *Aurungzib* xii. 190 The extreme point south of Trichinopoly, and the marginal possessions of the Portuguese.

b. *Nat. Hist.* (Cf. Margin *sb.* 1 b.)

1776–96 Withering *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) IV. 97, I never observed the seeds exposed in the marginal sinusses. 1800 *Phil. Trans.* XC. 436 When the marginal lips are brought together, the animal will have a considerable power of suction. 1859 J. R. Greene *Man. Anim. Kingd., Protozoa* 20 To send forth pseudopodia through the marginal pores. 1875 Bennett & Dyer tr. *Sachs' Bot.* 298 Adventitious shoots, arising in the thalloid forms from cells of the older marginal parts.

3. That is on the 'margin', or close to the limit, below or beyond which something ceases to be possible or desirable.

1887 *Daily News* 23 May 2/8 Competition is as keen as ever and prices as marginal as they can be. 1890 Marshall *Princ. Econ.* III. iii. (1898) 168 That part of the thing which he is only just induced to purchase may be called his *marginal purchase*, because he is on the margin of doubt whether it is worth his while to incur the outlay required to obtain it. And the utility of his marginal purchase may be called the *marginal utility* of the thing to him. 1903 F. W. H. Myers *Hum. Personality* I. Introd. 14 They speak of 'fringes' of ordinary consciousness; of 'marginal' associations.

B. *sb.* A marginal note, reference, or decoration. Now *rare*.

1602 *2nd Pt. Return fr. Parnass.* I. ii. 248 For Lodge and Watson, men of some desert, Yet subiect to a Crittieks marginall. 1618 J. Smyth *Lives Berkeleys* (1883) II. 205 What great services hee often did against the French, .. the marginall will informe his posterity. 1641 'Smectymnuus' *Vind. Answ.* § 4. 59 Doth not the Marginall tell you .. that the holy Church was founded in the state of Prelacie? 1743 Emerson *Fluxions* 34 The Values of the Marginals on the left. 1884 *Times* (weekly ed.) 10 Oct. 7/4 The text is printed in old black letter type, with pictorial headings and marginals.

Hence **Ma·rginal** *v. trans.*, to enter in the margin of a book; to add marginal notes to.

1618 J. Smyth *Lives Berkeleys* (1883) I. 212 The records here marginald. 1787 Bentham *Wks.* (1843) X. 170, I am marginaling *Essai sur les Recompenses*. All I have to say .. is marginaled and ready for reading.

‖ **Marginalia** (mā·ɹdʒinē·liă), *sb. pl.* [L. neut. pl. of *marginālis* Marginal.] Marginal notes.

1832 Coleridge *Let.* 22 Apr. (1895) II. 761 A facsimile of John Asgill's tracts with a life and copious notes, to which I would affix Postilla et Marginalia. *a* 1849 Poe (*title*) Marginalia. 1853 Lockhart in *Croker Papers* (1884) III. xxviii. 294, I have read some slips of Moore, and when I get a larger portion will send you a set with marginalia. 1891 J. Winsor *Columbus* I. 7 Some manuscript marginalia found in three different books .. are also remnants of the autographs of Columbus.

Marginalic (mā·ɹdʒinæ·lik), *a. nonce-wd.* Suggestive of 'marginalia'.

a 1849 Poe *Marginalia* Wks. 1864 III. 484 A model of manners, with a richly marginalic air.

Marginalize (mā·ɹdʒinăləiz), *v. rare.* [f. Marginal + -ize.] *trans.* and *intr.* To make marginal notes (upon).

a 1832 Bentham *Mem. & Corr.* Wks. 1843 X. 68, I used .. to marginalize and make notes on cards. 1872 F. Jacox *Aspects of Authorship* 102 Augustine's *Confessions* .. he [Abp. Leighton] similarly marginalized. *Ibid.* 112 *note*, Byron could marginalize with similar fertility and facility.

Marginally (mā·ɹdʒinăli), *adv.* [f. Marginal + -ly².] In the margin of a page; as a marginal note; *Bot.* towards the margin.

1601 Bp. W. Barlow *Defence* 218 That text of S. Paul marginally misalleaged. *a* 1682 Sir T. Browne *Tracts* 7 Still retained at least marginally in some translations. 1882 Wolseley in *Standard* 9 Sept. 2/1, I advanced with the troops marginally noted. 1884 Bower & Scott *De Bary's Phaner.* 301 In Ginkgo the two bundles which pass from the petiole into the lamina, branch repeatedly into marginally directed forks.

Marginant (mā·ɹdʒinănt), *a. Bot.* [ad. L. *marginant-em*, pr. pple. of *marginare* to Margin.] Becoming marginate. In recent Dicts.

Marginate (mā·ɹdʒinĕt), *a. Nat. Hist.* and *Path.* [ad. L. *margināt-us*, pa. pple. of *marginare*, f. *margin-* Margin *sb.*] Having a distinct margin, margined.

1777 Robson *Brit. Flora* 35 *Marginate*, having a leafy border. 1822 J. Mawe *Wodarch's Conchol.* (ed. 2) p. xiii, *Marginate* (in Univalves), having the sides of the shell thickened; (in Bivalves), surrounded with an elevated margin. 1826 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* IV. 327 Marginate... When an impressed line or channel separates the edge of the prothorax from the rest of its surface, and so forms a margin. 1874 Cooke *Fungi* 57 The marginate species. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 50 The erythemas occur chiefly in children, in marginate, papular, or urticarious forms.

Marginate (mā·ɹdʒinĕt), *v.* [f. L. *margināt-*, ppl. stem of *marginare*, f. *margin-* Margin *sb.*]

†1. *trans.* To annotate with marginal notes.

1609 Bp. W. Barlow *Answ. Nameless Cath.* 335 That speech is vsed but onely in one of those places, marginated by his Maiestie.

2. To furnish with a margin or border.

1623 Cockeram, *Marginate*, to make brimmes or margents. 1880 R. B. Watson in *Jrnl. Linn. Soc.* XV. 100 Suture sharply impressed .. being marginated on its upper side by a minute flat surface. 1881 *Ibid.* 440 Marginating the suture below is a fine thread.

Marginated (mā·ɹdʒinĕtĕd), *ppl. a.* [f. L. *margināt-us*, pa. pple. of *marginare* (see prec.) + -ed².] = Marginate *a.*

1727 Bailey vol. II. 1753 Chambers *Cycl. Supp.* s.v. *Lycoperdon*, The smooth, oblong and inwardly marginated lycoperdon. 1802 Bingley *Anim. Biog.* (1813) III. 145 The marginated water-beetle. 1839 Sowerby *Conch. Man.* 62 *Marginated*, having an edge or border thicker than the rest of the shell. 1849 D. J. Browne *Amer. Poultry Yd.* (1858) 53 Golden Hamburgh fowls .. of barred or marginated markings.

Margination (mā·ɹdʒinē·ʃən). [f. Marginate *v.*: see -ation.] A marginated appearance or marking.

1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 69 The so-called 'margination' of leucocytes. *Ibid.* 71 A commencing margination of the white corpuscles was discernable. 1898 Sir H. Howorth in *Archæol. Jrnl.* LV. 128 Obvious either from the nature of the print or from distinctly-marked margination.

†**Marginean,** *a. Obs.*—° [f. late L. *margine-us* (f. *margin-* Margin *sb.*) + -an.] Marginal.

1656 Blount *Glossogr.*

Margined (mā·ɹdʒind), *a.* and *ppl. a.* [f. Margin *sb.* or *v.* + -ed.] Having a margin, *esp.* one of a specified kind; chiefly *Nat. Hist.* (often as pple. followed by 'with'); *Bot.* applied to seeds having a distinct projecting edge.

In spec. names of animals it represents L. *marginatus*.

1826 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* III. xxix. 97 The margined egg just mentioned. 1828 Stark *Elem. Nat. Hist.* I. 212 Wings and tail black, margined with gray. 1832 *Pop. Zool.* 390 The Margined Tortoise (*Testudo Marginata*). 1844 J. E. Gray *Catal. Tortoises*, etc. *Brit. Mus.* 61 The Margined Crocodile, *Crocodilus marginatus*. 1882 M. Arnold *Irish Ess.* 245 Books shapely, well printed, well margined. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 280 If it be erythema the redness will shew itself in abruptly margined patches.

Marginellacean (mā·ɹdʒinelē·ʃăn), *a. Conch.* [f. mod.L. *Marginellacea*, f. *Marginella* (see below), f. *margin-*, *margo* Margin *sb.*] Pertaining to the *Marginellacea* or *Marginellidæ*, a family of gasteropods. So **Margine·llid**, a gasteropod of the family *Marginellidæ*; **Margine·lliform** *a.*, having the form of a gasteropod of the genus *Marginella*; **Margine·lloid** *a.*, resembling the genus *Marginella*. In recent Dicts.

Marginicidal (mā·ɹdʒinisəi·dăl), *a. Bot.* [f. L. *margin(i)-*, *margo* (see Margin *sb.*) + *-cīd-*, weakened root of *cædĕre* to cut + -al.] (See quot.)

1889 *Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1900 B. D. Jackson *Gloss. Bot. Terms*, *Marginicidal*, dehiscent by the disjunction of the united margins of the carpels, a form of septicidal dehiscence.

Marginiform (mɑ·ɹdʒi·nifɔm), *a.* [ad. mod.L. *marginiform-is*: see MARGIN *sb.* and -FORM.] Resembling or forming a margin.

1856 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Marginiformis*...Applied by H. Cassini to the appendices of the pericliniim of the *Synantherex*, when they resemble a border: margiiiform. 1890 *Century Dict.* (citing COUES).

Margining (mɑ·ɹdʒiniŋ). [f. MARGIN *sb.* or *v.* + -ING¹.] Margins collectively; edging of a distinct colour or texture from the main body.

In recent Dicts.

Ma·rginiro·stral, *a. Ornith.* [f. L. *margin(i)*- MARGIN *sb.* + *rostr-um* beak + -AL.] Of feathers: Growing round the basal margin of the bill.

1837 MACGILLIVRAY *Hist. Brit. Birds* I. 80.

Margint, obs. form of MARGENT.

Margon, obs. f. MURGEON *sb.*¹, dirt, earth.

Margorie, margorum, obs. ff. MARJORAM.

‖ **Margosa** (mɑigō·să). [Short for Pg. *amargosa*, fem. of *amargoso* bitter.] An East Indian tree, *Azadirachta indica* (*Melia Azadirachta*), yielding a bitter oil; also called *neem*.

1813 AINSLIE *Mat. Med. Hindostan* 127 A certain portion of Margosa oil. 1846 LINDLEY *Veg. Kingd.* 464 It is supposed that the Melia Azedarachta, or neem-tree of India, possesses febrifugal properties;..it is also called the Margosa-tree. 1871 MATEER *Travancore* 98.

Margose, margou, obs. forms of MARGAUX.

Margravate (mɑ·ɹgrĕvĕt). [f. next + -ATE¹.] = MARGRAVIATE.

1802 *Brookes' Gazetteer* (ed. 12), Lusatia, a margravate of Germany. 1864 BURTON *Scot Abr.* I. v. 260 Inexhaustible varieties of palatinates, margravates [etc.].

Margrave (mɑ·ɹgrēiv). *Hist.* Also 6 mergrave, 6–8 marc-, 7–9 markgrave, 9 mar(k)graf. [a. MDu. *markgrave* (mod.Du. *markgraaf*), = OHG. *marcgrâvo* (MHG. *markgrâve*, mod.G. *markgraf*), lit. 'count of a mark or border territory': see MARK *sb.*¹ and GRAVE *sb.*⁴ Cf. med.L. *margrāvius*, F. *margrave*.] A German title, orig. given to the military governor of a border province; subsequently the hereditary title of the princes of certain states of the Holy Roman Empire.

Rendered in Latin by *marchio*; in Fr. and Eng. formerly sometimes by *marquis*.

1551 ROBINSON tr. *More's Utop.* I. (1895) 23 The chiefe and the head of them was the Marcgraue (as they cal him). 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 84 All such Rulers of townes or Countries as are nere the sea, are called Mergraue, as at this day in Andwarpe. 1577–87 HOLINSHED *Chron.* III. 1208/2 Christopher prince and margrave of Baden. 1614 SELDEN *Titles Hon.* 209, 213, 221. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* III. 236 The Margraue (or Marquis) of Brandeburg is..the last of the Electors, but more powerfull then any of them in the number of Vassals. 1695 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3130/2 The Margrave of Bareith is still at Amsterdam. 1790 WOLCOT (P. Pindar) *Adv. to Fut. Laureat* Wks. 1812 II. 335 Emperors, Electors, dead to hospitality, Margraves and miserable Dukes. 1855 MOTLEY *Dutch Rep.* (1861) I. 472 John van Immerzeel, Margrave of Antwerp.

Hence **Ma·rgravely, Margra·vial** *adjs.*, pertaining to a margrave.

1762 tr. *Busching's Syst. Geog.* V. 378 The marggravial territory of Onolzbach. 1865 J. SKELTON ('Shirley') *Campaigner at home* vii. 136 Many royal, margravely, princely crimes. 1876 *Tinsley's Mag.* XIX. 61 In the grand duchy of Baden, in the fair margravial land.

Margraviate (mɑ·ɹgrē·viĕt). [ad. med.L. type **margrāviātus*, f. *margrāvius* MARGRAVE.] The territory ruled by a margrave.

1702 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3870/2 They proceeded to the Margraviate of Anspach. 1870 BURTON *Hist. Scot.* (1873) VI. lxx. 206 German grand-duchies and margraviates.

Margravine (mɑ·ɹgrĕvin). Also 7 -inne. [a. Du. *markgravin* (= G. *markgräfin*) fem. of *markgraaf* MARGRAVE. Cf. F. *margravine*.] The wife of a margrave.

1691 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2738/3 There is a Discourse of a Marriage being proposed between his Electoral Highness and the Margravinne of Anspach. 1753 HANWAY *Trav.* (1762) I. VII. xcii. 423 He placed the margravine of Bareith at his right hand.

Margrete, -rite, obs. forms of MARGARITE¹.

Margthe, obs. form of MARROW *sb.*¹

Marguarite, obs. form of MARGARITE¹.

Marguerite (mɑ·ɹgĕrīt). [a. F. *marguerite* (see MARGARET 2), originally the name of the daisy (*Bellis perennis*) and hence applied to larger flowers of similar shape.]

1. The common Daisy (*Bellis perennis*). *rare*—⁰.

1866 in *Treas. Bot.* 1878–86 BRITTEN & HOLLAND *Plant-n.*, Margaret's Herb, or Marguerite. In recent Dicts.

2. The Ox-eye Daisy, *Chrysanthemum Leucanthemum*; also *C. frutescens* or Paris Daisy. Blue Marguerite, *Agathæa* (*Detris*) *cælestis*.

1866 Miss THACKERAY *Village on Cliff* xiv. (1867) 218 A drawer in the bureau where she had already thrown some dead marguerites. 1882 *Garden* 18 Feb. 122/1 Flowers of the blue Marguerite (*Agathæa cælestis*). *Ibid.* 16 Dec. 526/1 Paris Daisies, or white Marguerites, constitute just now one of the chief features in the gardens at Chiswick.

Margullie, *v. Sc.* Also **murgullie**. [a. OF. *margul(l)ier, -goillier* to roll in the mud, soil, pollute, bruise, mutilate.] *trans.* 'To spoil, to destroy, to mangle; to mar any business' (Jam.).

1721 RAMSAY *Address to Town Council* i, They spoil'd my sense, and staw my cash, My muse's pride murgully'd. 1774 C. KEITH *Farmer's Ha'* lvii, Nature, unhurt by thrawart man, And nae margullied by chicane. 1836 J. STRUTHERS *Dychmont* III. 142 Wasting time murgullying Greek.

Margyrye, variant of MARGERY *Obs.* (pearl).

Marhatta, obs. variant of MAHRATTA.

Marhenʒiue, variant of MORYEVE *Obs.*

Mari, obs. f. MARROW *sb.*¹, MARRY, MARY.

Mariable, Mariage, etc.: see MARRIABLE, etc.

Maria-glass. *Min.* Anglicized form of MARIENGLAS (Chester *Dict. Names Min.* 1896).

† **Maria-groschen**. *Obs.* In 7 -grosh(en. [ad. G. *Mariengroschen*, f. *Marien-* Mary + GROSCHEN.] A German coin equivalent to eight pfennigs.

1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 35 Here each man paid..seuen maria-groshen for meat. *Ibid.* 286 At Brunswicke a Doller was worth six and thirty Maria Grosh, which are of equall value with foure and twenty silner Misen Grosh.

† **Marial**¹. *Obs. rare*—¹. Some herb.

1486 *Bk. St. Albans* C vj b, Take Fenell Maryall and Kersis ilich moch.

† **Marial**². *Obs.* [ad. med.L. *mariāle*, neut. of *mariālis*, f. *Marīa* Mary: see -AL. Cf. Sp. *marial*.] Something written in praise of the Virgin Mary.

1622 S. WARD *Christ All in All* (1627) 12 They giue it [= ascribe honour] to the blessed Virgin, in the Closes of their riming Marials.

Marialite (mē·ɹriălait). *Min.* [ad. G. *marialit*, perh. f. *Maria* Mary, on account of its whiteness: see -LITE.] A silicate of aluminium, calcium and sodium, found near Naples; also = HAÜYNITE.

1854 DANA *Syst. Min.* (ed. 4) II. 230 Hauyne..Marialite, *Ryllo*. 1879 RUTLEY *Study of Rocks* X. 112 The species meionite and marialite are closely related to scapolite. 1896 CHESTER *Dict. Names Min.*

Marian (mē·ɹriăn), *sb.*¹

1. A female name; in quot. applied to a light woman. See also MAID MARIAN.

1567 HARMAN *Caveat* 62 Hee..offeres the same closely to this manerly marian.

2. *Marian's* (occas. *Marian*) *Violet* [repr. med.L. *Viola Mariana*], *Coventry Marian*, rarely simply *Marian*: Canterbury Bells, *Campanula Medium*.

1578 LYTE *Dodoens* II. xx. 171 Whan they be close, they haue fyue crestes or playtes like the Belflowres, or Conentrie Marians. *Ibid.* xxii. 173 Of Marians violet, or Conentrie Belles. 1629 PARKINSON *Parad. in Sole* (1656) 357 We call it generally..Coventry Bels. Some call it Marian, and some Mercuries Violets. 1658 PHILLIPS, *Mariets*, a sort of violets, called also Marian Violets.

Marian (mē·ɹriăn), *a.*¹ and *sb.*² [f. L. *Marīa* Mary + -AN.] **A.** *adj.*

1. Pertaining to the Virgin Mary, or characterized by special devotion to her.

1701 (*title*) An Account of Livonia with a Relation of the Rise, Progress, and Decay of the Marian Teutonick Order. 1829 SOUTHEY *Sir T. More* II. 106 The propagandists of the Monkish and Marian religion. 1865 PUSEY *Truth Eng. Ch.* 120 In Spain and Portugal devotion to the Blessed Virgin is in its natural home. They are familiarly called Marian Kingdoms.

2. Pertaining to Mary Queen of England or her time (1553–58).

1608 WILLET *Hexapla Exod.* 61 The late daies of the Marian persecution in England. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* VII. i. § 29 Of all the Marian-Martyrs, Hooper, and Ridley suffered with most torture. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* V. I. 647 In this way, with the help of some invention and exaggeration, was formed a copious supplement to the Marian martyrology.

3. Relating to Mary Queen of Scots (1542–87).

1902 A. LANG *Hist. Scot.* II. X. 267 A Marian conspiracy worked by Lennox.

B. *sb.*

1. A worshipper, or devotee of the Virgin Mary.

1635 A. STAFFORD *Fem. Glory* 223 Till they are good Marians, they shall never be good Christians; while they derogate from the dignity of the Mother, they cannot truely honour the Sonne. 1693 *Emilianne's Hist. Monast. Ord.* III. 287 [The Teutonic knights] built there..a Church in honour of the Virgin Mary, from whence they were called Marianes. 1699 T. DORRINGTON *Pres. St. Relig.* 58 It would .. be no hard and unjust Appellation, if one should call the People of that Communion rather Marians than Christians.

2. An adherent of Mary Queen of Scots; also, one who takes her side in historical discussion.

1893 *Athenæum* 11 Nov. 653/2 For twenty years Mr. Skelton has been known as a prominent Marian. 1902 A. LANG *Hist. Scot.* II. xii. 293 Sir Robert Melville, a strong Marian, had organised the business.

Also **Maria·nic** *a.* = MARIAN *a.* 1.

1845 G. B. CHEEVER *Wand. Pilgrim* lix. (1848) 311 The artful mixture of the Gospel scheme of redemption..in this Marianic system.

Marian (mē·ɹriăn), *a.*² (and *sb.*³) [ad. L. *Mariān-us*, f. *Mari-us* (see below).] **a.** *adj.* Of or pertaining to Gaius Marius, a famous Roman general (died 86 B.C.), or his party. **b.** *sb.* A follower of Marius. (In the first quot. the pl. is used instead of *Mariuses*.)

1579–80 NORTH *Plutarch, Cæsar* (1896) V. 1 Sylla told them againe, that..there were many Marians in that young boy [Julius Cæsar]. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVI. 375/2 Sertorius, one of the generals of the Marian faction. 1842 *Penny Cycl.* XXIII. 253/2 After this defeat of the Marian party, Sulla repealed the laws of Sulpicius.

Marian (mē·ɹriăn), *a.*³ [f. *Mariānus*: see below.] Used to designate a method of lithotomy, introduced by Marianus Sanctus in 1524.

1839 *Penny Cycl.* XIV. 52/1 Apparatus Major, or Marian Method. *Ibid.*, The Marian section. 1889 *Syd. Soc. Lex.* s.v. *Lithotomy, Marian L.*, the older form of median lithotomy.

Marianism (mē·ɹriăniz'm). *rare*—¹. [f. MARIAN *a.*¹ + -ISM.] = next.

1845 G. B. CHEEVER *Wand. Pilgrim* xxiv. (1848) 159 Our Mother who art in heaven (says this great system of Marianism, instead of Christianity).

† **Maria·nity**. *Obs. rare*—¹. [f. MARIAN *a.*¹ after *Christianity*.] A religious system based upon the cultus of the Virgin Mary.

1677 W. HUGHES *Man of Sin* II. iii. 50, I think the World hath much nicknam'd both the Romanists, and their Religion likewise. This, at the best ought to be called Marianity, and not Christianity.

† **Mariano·latry**. *Obs. rare.* [f. MARIAN *a.*¹ + -(o)LATRY.] = MARIOLATRY. So **Mariano·latrist** = MARIOLATER.

1736 BAILEY (folio) Pref., *Marianalatrists* [*sic*]. 1755 AMORY *Mem.* (1766) II. 188 If they had not blended with this religion a marianolatory [*sic*]. *Ibid.* 193 A marianolatry, a demonolatry [etc.].

Mariari, variant of MARGERY *Obs.*

† **Maria-tree**. *Obs.* [= Sp. *árbol de María* 'tree of Mary'.] The tolu tree.

1745 P. THOMAS *Jrnl. Anson's Voy.* 168 The Maria-Tree is lofty, and its Leaves not quite unlike the Bay, but larger and thicker. 1760–72 tr. *Juan & Ulloa's Voy.* (ed. 3) I. 48 The cedar, the maria, and the balsam tree.

Maribone, obs. form of MARROWBONE.

Maribot(t, obs. forms of MARABOUT.

Marice, Mariche, var. ff. MARIS, MARISH.

‖ **Mariche**. *Obs. rare*¹. [It. *mariche* pl., in G. Botero Benese *Relationi* (1605) I. i. 123, whence the passage is taken.] A beast alleged to exist in Cambodia (see quot.).

1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 459 In these parts [*sc.* Camboia, Siam, etc.] are huge woods, harbours of Lions, Tigers, Ownces, and Mariches, which haue Maidens faces and Scorpions tailes.

Maricock, obs. form of MARACOCK.

Maricolous (mări·kŏləs), *a.* [f. L. *mari-, mare* sea + *-colus* inhabiting, *colĕre* to inhabit.] Inhabiting the sea. In recent Dicts.

‖ **Marid** (mæ·rid). [repr. two Arabic forms: مارد *mā·rid* pr. pple. of *marada* to rebel, and مريد *marī·d*, f. the same root.] In Mohammedan demonology, a jinn of the most powerful class.

1839 LANE *Arab. Nts.* (1859) I. 72 When the Márid heard these words of the fisherman, he said, There is no deity but God! 1889 J. PAYNE *Alaeddin* 92 Alaeddin looked and saw a Marid.

Marie, obs. f. MARROW *sb.*¹, MARRY, MARY.

Mariege, obs. form of MARRIAGE.

‖ **Marienglas**. Also 8 -glass. [Ger., f. *Marien*, comb. f. *Marie* Mary + *glas* GLASS.] A name applied to mica and selenite.

1762 tr. *Busching's Syst. Geog.* I. 380 The famous Marienglass, called by some Muscovy glass, or ising-glass. *Ibid.* 474 Marienglas. 1799 W. TOOKE *View Russian Emp.* I. 358 A window of glass or marienglass.

Marierim, -om(e, -um, obs. ff. MARJORAM.

† **Mariet**. *Obs.* In 6 mariette. [a. F. *mariette*, f. *Marie* Mary.] The Canterbury Bell, *Campanula Medium*.

1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. cix. 363 Conentrie bels are called in Latin *Viola Mariana*, or Mercuries violets,..and of some Mariettes. 1611 COTGR., *Mariets*, Mariets, Marians Violets, Conentrie bells. 1658 [see MARIAN *sb.*¹ 2].

Marigenous (mări·dʒĭnəs), *a.* [f. L. *mare* sea + -GEN + -OUS.] Produced in or by the sea.

1599 R. LINCHE *Fount. Anc. Fiction* N iv b, One of those Tritons .. (or as wee may tearm them) marigenous men. 1799 KIRWAN *Geol. Ess.* V. 224 Secondary or epizootic mountains. These are either marigenous or alluvial. 1843 HUMBLE *Dict. Geol.*, etc.

Marigh, obs. form of MARROW *sb.*¹

Marigold (mæ·rigōuld). Forms: 4, 6–7 marygould, 4–6 marigolde, 5–9 marygold, 6 mary-, maregolde, marigoulde, mary gowles, *Sc.* mariguild, 7 marry-gold, 6- marigold. [f. the proper name MARY (presumably with references to the Virgin Mary) + GOLD *sb.*²

Cf. MDu. *marienbloemkijn*, MLG. *marienblome*, 'Mary's flower', rendering *solsequium* in glossaries.]

1. The name of several plants having golden or bright yellow flowers.

a. A plant of the genus *Calendula* (N. O. *Compositæ*), esp. *C. officinalis*, common in country gardens; it has some medicinal properties; its flowers were formerly made into a conserve, and are still sometimes used as a flavouring for soup, and to give a yellow colour to cheese.

The property possessed by the flower of opening when the sun shines (whence the L. name *solsequium*, F. *souci*) was often referred to by writers of the 16–17th c.

13.. in *Med. Wks. 14th C.* (ed. Henslow) 81 Take..i quatron of mary-gonlden. *a* 1400 in *Reliq. Ant.* I. 55 Another drynk to wounde: tak confery, marigolde, matfelon [etc.]. 14.. *Sloane MS.* 5 in *Promp. Parv.* 361 *note*, *Solsequium*, Rodewort, oþer marygoldys. ?1516 *Grete Herball* CXXXI,

Calendula. Mary gowles, or ruddes. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* II. xiii. 164 The conserue that is made of the floures of Marygoldes..cureth the trembling..of the harte. 1594 NASHE *Unfort. Trav.* 9 The Marigold, which opens and shuts with the Sunne. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. ccxliii. 600 *Calendula multiflora orbiculata.* Double Globe Marigolde. *Ibid.* 603 *Calendula alpina.* Mountaine Marigold. *a* 1613 OVERBURY *A Wife*, etc. (1638) 70 His wit, like the Marigold, openeth with the sun. 1714 GAY *Sheph. Week* I. 46 Fair is the Marygold, for Pottage meet. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* viii, The small front-gardens had the unaccountable property of producing nothing but Marigolds. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* iii. I. 321 They..brewed gooseberry wine, cured marigolds, and made the crust for the venison pasty.

fig. (*allusive.*) 1588 [HALES] *Orat. Q. Eliz.* in Foxe *A. & M.* (1631) III. xii. 977/1 Men..who were Marigoldes, that followed Maries mad affections.

b. Any plant of the genus *Tagetes*, native to South America and Mexico, also grown in India and China, and much cultivated in gardens. **African Marigold**, *T. erecta*; **French Marigold**, *T. patula.*

1548, 1578 [see FRENCH A. 5 a]. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. ccxlvi. 609 There be extant at this day fiue sorts of Turkie Gilliflowers or African Marigolds. 1611 COTGR., *Oeillet d'Inde*, the Turkie, or Affrican Marigold, or Gilliflower; also, the French Marigold, or Gingioline flower (which is the single kind of the Affrican). 1785 MARTYN *Rousseau's Bot.* xxvi. (1794) 395 French and African Marigolds, two of the gaudy annuals of the flower-garden. 1895 MRS. B. M. CROKER *Village Tales* (1896) 150 Wreaths of evil-smelling marigolds (that noxious flower so amazingly dear to the native of India).

c. *Chrysanthemum segetum*; usually CORN-MARIGOLD, also *field, wild, yellow marigold.*

1578 LYTE *Dodoens* II. xxxiii. 190 Of Goldenfloure, or the wild Marygolde. 1597, etc. [see CORN MARIGOLD]. 1818 KEATS *Endym.* II. 397 Ripe October's faded marigolds. 1838 MARY HOWITT *Birds & Fl., Harvest-Field Fl.* ii, The poppy red, the marigold, The buglos brightly blue.

d. Applied with qualification to plants of other genera. †**Marigold of Peru**, the sunflower, *Helianthus*; **Cape M.**, any plant of the genus *Dimorphotheca* (Cent. Dict. 1890); **Fetid M.**, *Dysodia chrysanthemoides* (ibid.); †**Spanish M.**, *Anemone coronaria*; **Water M.**, *Bidens Beckii* (Treas. Bot. 1866); **West Indian M.**, *Wedelia carnosa* (ibid.). For *bur, fig marigold* see the first words. Also MARSH MARIGOLD.

1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. ccxlvii. 612 Of the flower of the Sunne, or the Marigolde of Peru. 1629 PARKINSON *Paradi. in Sole* xxv. (1656) 207 The great double Windflower of Constantinople... Some gentlewomen call this Anemone, The Spanish Marigold.

2. An ornamental representation of the flower.

1634 in *Anc. Invent.* (Halliw. 1854) 24 One other linnen sweete-bagge imbroydered with marygolds.

3. A variety of apple (in full *marigold apple*): see quot. 1676. ? *Obs.*

1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* 87 We haue at this day that are cheefe in price the Pippin, the Romet, the Pomeroyal, the Marligold [*sic*]. 1664 EVELYN *Kal. Hort., Jan.* (1679) 8 Winter-Queening, Marigold, Harvey-apple. 1676 WORLIDGE *Vinetum Brit.* 40 The Marigold-apple (sometimes called Johns Pearmain, the Kate-apple, and the Onion-apple). *Ibid.* 159 The Marigold-Apple (so called from its being marked in even stripes in the form of a Marigold).

†**4.** *slang.* A gold coin; a sovereign. *Obs.*

1663 COWLEY *Cutter of Coleman-st.* II. iii, *Aur.* Give but a Bill under your Hand to pay me five hundred Pounds when [etc]... *Pun.* .. I'll .. presently go put five hundred Marygolds in a Purse for you.

†**5.** ? Some yellow enamel. *Obs.*

1529 in *Wills Doctors' Comm.* (Camden) 19 A mullett of dyamountes set in maregolde.

6. A small cake garnished with almonds and currant jelly, made to resemble the flower.

1896 *Sun* 11 Dec. 1/7 Those dainty little cakes called 'marigolds'.

7. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *marigold arrangement, colour, flower, leaf*; **marigold apple** (see 3); **marigold bird, finch**, the golden-crested wren or kinglet, *Regulus cristatus*; †**marigold sunflower**, Gerarde's name for the 'female' sunflower; †**marigold** (*flower*) **water**, a decoction of marigold flowers; **marigold window** *Arch.*, a rose window.

1899 CAGNEY tr. *Jaksch's Clin. Diagn.* i. (ed. 4) 65 Where the segments are fewer..and result in the characteristic *marigold arrangement, the diagnosis of quartan fever may be made. 1772 RUTTY *Nat. Hist. Dublin* I. 313 Nettle creeper or *Marigold Bird, from the fine crown on its head, of the colour of a Marigold flower. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) VIII. 56 A gummy fluid, of a *marigold colour. 1828 FLEMING *Brit. Anim.* 72 Golden-crested Wren..*Marygold Finch. 1566 PAINTER *Pal. Pleas.* I. 32 The flaring *marigold floure, which in the moste feruent heate of the sommers day, doth appeare most glorious. 1747 WESLEY *Prim. Physic* (1762) 89 Eat Marigold Flowers daily as a Sallad. *c* 1450 *ME. Med. Bk.* (Heinrich) 169 Tak *marigolde leues..& do þer to a good quantyte of hony. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. ccxlvii. 614 The female or *Marigolde Sunne flower hath a thicke and wooddie roote. 1652 T. CADEMAN *Distiller of Lond.* 12 *Aq. Calendulæ*, *Marigold-water. 1692 Y-WORTH *Art Distill.* 78 *Aqua Calendularum*, or, Marigold Water. 1696 SALMON *Fam.-Dict.* (ed. 2), Marigold-Water,..This is an excellent Water for Inflamed Eyes. ..Marigold-flower-Water. 1736 F. DRAKE *Eboracum* II. ii. 529 A fine piece of masonry [in York Minster] in form of a wheel, or as Mr. Torre writes a marygold, from whence it is called the *marygold window. 1837 R. B. WINKLES *French Cathedrals* 7 A rose or marigold window is placed over the central opening.

‖ **Marigot** (mærigŏt). [F. *marigot* (Littré).] In Western Africa, a side channel of a river.

1759 tr. *Adanson's Voy. Senegal* in *Pinkerton's Collect.* (1814) XVI. 610 Before I could get thither, I was obliged to cross two *marigots*; these are rivulets with which the whole country is intersected. 1864 R. F. BURTON *Dahome* I. 35 Passing up a *marigot* or branch channel, worn down by porters' feet to a deep wet ditch. 1894 *Q. Rev.* July 273 The French troops..crossed 172 'marigots', with steep banks and full of water.

Marigraph (mæ·rigrăf). [f. L. *mari-*, *mare* sea + -GRAPH.] An instrument for automatically recording the rise and fall of the tide; a tide-gauge. Hence **Marigra·phic** *a.*, pertaining to or obtained by a marigraph. Also **Ma·rigram** [see -GRAM], a record made by the marigraph. (In recent Dicts.)

1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Marigraph.* 1884 *Sci. Amer. Suppl.* 28 June 7067/3 For registering the height of the tide at every instant, hydrographic services generally adopt quite a simple marigraph.

Mariguild, obs. Sc. form of MARIGOLD.

Mariit, obs. form of MARRIED.

Mariken, -kin, variants of MAROQUIN *Obs.*

‖ **Marikin** = next. (In recent Dicts.)

‖ **Marikina** (mærikī·nă). Also 8 marikini, 9 marakina. [repr. Tupi *miriquiná*; the form *marikina* comes (through Buffon) from Claude d'Abbeville *Mission en Maregnan* 1614.] A small South American monkey, the silky tamarin, *Midas rosalia*, having silky golden-yellow hair.

1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* IV. 237 The fourth is the Marikina; with a mane round the neck, and a bunch of hair at the end of the tail, like a lion. 1854 H. G. DALTON *Brit. Guiana* (1855) II. 452 The Marakina or Silky Tamarin. 1893 MIVART *Types Anim. Life* (1894) 32 The marikina or silky marmoset is clothed with fur of a golden yellow.

†**Marill**, *v. Obs.* ? = MARINATE *v.* 1. (Cf. MARL *v.*[3])

1651 T. BARKER *Art of Angling* (1653) 14 Baked Trouts, Trouts marilled.

‖ **Marimba** (mări·mbă). [Congo.] A kind of xylophone, used by natives in Africa.

1704 tr. *Merolla's Voy. Congo* I. in *Churchill's Voy.* I. 695 The Instrument most in request us'd by the Abundi.. is the Marimba; it consists of sixteen Calabashes orderly plac'd along the middle between two side-boards join'd together, or a long frame, hanging about a Man's Neck with a Thong. 1866 LIVINGSTONE *Last Jrnls.* (1873) I. xii. 305 Marimbas and square drums formed the bands. 1875 MONTEIRO *Angola* II. 138 The Marimba is the musical instrument par excellence of the natives of Angola.

‖ **Marimonda** (mærimp·ndă). [American Sp., prob. from some native lang.] A spider-monkey of tropical America, *Ateles belzebuth.*

1758 J. ADAMS tr. *Juan & Ulloa's Voy.* v. i, These forests [near Caracol] are..infested with snakes and monkeys, particularly a kind called Marimondas. 1871 KINGSLEY *At Last* xvii, The very fine Marimonda.. now dying, I fear, in the Zoological Gardens at Bristol.

‖ **Marina**[1] (mări·nă). Also erron. marino. [It. and Sp.: fem. of *marino* MARINE *a.*] A promenade or esplanade by the sea.

1805 W. IRVING in *Life & Lett.* (1864) I. 106 The whole town was immediately in an uproar; the Marino was crowded with spectators. 1869 LONGF. in *Life* (1891) III. 130 Then we landed at the Marina [at Capri] amid a noisy crowd of men, women, and donkeys. 1901 *Scribner's Mag.* XXIX. 441/1 We were gently wafted over the bar in a lighter and deposited,..on the marina of Rabat.

Marina[2] (mări·nă). *Dyeing.* (See quot.)

1874 CROOKES *Handbk. Dyeing* 232 The madder..is next dried in the sun, and after this treatment is known as Marina.

Marinade (mærinē·d), *sb.* [a. F. *marinade*, ad. Sp. *marinada*, f. *marinar* (= It. *marinare*, F. *mariner*) to pickle in brine, f. *marino* MARINE *a.*]

1. A pickle, generally composed of wine and vinegar, with herbs and spices, in which fish or meat is steeped; also, the fish or meat thus pickled.

1704 *Dict. Rust.* (1726) H h iij b, *Marinade*, a pickled Meat either of Flesh or Fish. 1725 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* s. v., A Marinade of Veal serves to garnish farced Breasts of Veal. *Ibid.*, To the End that the Marinade may penetrate into the Flesh. 1859 F. E. PAGET *Curate Cumberworth*, etc. 243 In making the marinade in which it is to be stewed, she had fallen into the heresy of using red wine only. 1863 'OUIDA' *Held in Bondage* II. ii. 40 'Of course they will', said De Vigne, eating his marinade leisurely. 1877 *Cassell's Dict. Cookery* 408 Prepare a marinade [for fish] by boiling together ..vinegar..an onion in rings, and some cayenne and salt.

2. A cake made of the edible core of the cabbage-palm in the West Indies.

1888 *Harper's Mag.* Aug. 327/2 Those delicious little cakes called *marinades*, which you hear the colored peddlers calling out for sale.

Marinade (mæ·rinēd), *v.* [f. MARINADE *sb.*] *trans.* To steep in marinade; to marinate. Hence **Ma·rinaded** *ppl. a.*, **Ma·rinading** *vbl. sb.*

c 1682 J. COLLINS *Salt & Fishery* 120 To Marine or preserve Fish..after the Italian manner, called Marinading. 1727 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Breast*, To Marinade a Breast of Veal; cut it into great Slices, marinade them in Vinegar [etc.]. 1807 SIR H. DAVY *Rem.* (1858) 68, I am much obliged to you for the marinaded pilchards. 1901 *Daily News* 15 June 6/2 Should a close, stifling day arrive, .. any meat that cannot at once be cooked should be marinaded.

†**Marina·do**, *v. Obs.* [f. **marinado* sb., corruption of Sp. *marinada* MARINADE *sb.*] = prec.

c 1682 J. COLLINS *Salt & Fishery* 108 Signior Dominico is noted for the many sorts of Fish, which he Marines, or renders Marinado'd.

†**Marinage.** *Obs.*[1] [f. MARINE *sb.* + -AGE; = Sp. *marinage*. (OF. had *marinage* adj., maritime, and sb., seaman.)] Seamanship.

1511 GUYLFORDE *Pilgr.* (Camden) 63 The wynde fell somwhat mete to put vs, with helpe and crafte of marynage, from the shore.

†**Mari·nal,** *a.* and *sb. Obs.* Forms: 4–6 marinel, 6 marinell, -enell, marynal, -el, 6–7 marinall, 7 -al. [a. OF. *marinal, -el*, adj. and sb., ad. med.L. *marīnālis* f. L. *marīn-us* MARINE *a.*: see -AL.]

A. *adj.* = MARINE.

1. Of or pertaining to the sea; saline.

1614 T. ADAMS *Diuells Banket* 21 These, here, are Festiuall, not Marinall Waters. 1640 J. GOWER *Ovids Fest.* IV. 76 The same instinct [of love] doth guide marinall things, Which fills with thousand fish the water-springs.

2. Nautical.

1620 tr. *Boccaccio's Decam.* 52 Being no way able to comprehend..what course they tooke, neither by marinal iudgement, or any apprehension whatsoeuer. *a* 1644 QUARLES *Sol. Recant.*, Sol. ix. 21 The prudent Pilot whose marinall skill Makes the proud windes obedient to his will.

B. *sb.* A mariner, sailor. *Sc.* and *north.*

a 1300–1400 *Cursor M.* 24850 (Göttl.) Þe marinelis [*Cott.* mariners] war seleuth radd. 1540 *Aberdeen Reg.* (1844) I. 173 To deliuer the marenellis thair fcis. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* vi. 42 The master gart al his marynalis & men of veyr bald them quiet. 1565 *Durham Depos.* (Surtees) 83 William Loye, of Newcastle upon Tyne, marinell. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* x. 378 The craig, quhilk the marinelis cal S. Ebbis heid.

†**Marinaller.** *Obs.* In 5 maryneller. [f. prec. + -ER[1].] A mariner.

1470 in Rye *Cromer* (1889) 156 [Will of Nichs. Kaye of Cromer], maryneller.

Marinar, obs. form of MARINER.

†**Marinary.** *Obs. rare.* [ad. med.L. **(ars) marīnāria* the art of navigation.] Seamanship; knowledge of navigation.

1684 *Bucaniers Amer.* III. (ed. 2) 45 Through their ignorance in Marinary, they stranded their Vessel.

†**Ma·rinate,** *ppl. a. Obs.* Also 7 marrionate. [ad. It. *marinato*, pa. pple. of *marinare*: see MARINADE *sb.*] Marinated.

1651–7 T. BARKER *Art of Angling* (1820) 13 The marrionate Trout..wil keep. 1789 FARLEY *Lond. Art Cookery* I. xii. (ed. 6) 146 Marinate Soles. 1886 R. F. BURTON *Arab. Nts.* (abr. ed.) I. 115 Stews well marinate.

Marinate (mæ·rinēit), *v.* Also 7 marinat, mar(r)ionate, marrinate. [ad. It. *marinare* or F. *mariner*: see MARINADE *sb.* and -ATE.]

1. *trans.* To pickle (fish, etc.) with marinade.

c 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* I. v. xxxviii, He can marinat fish. 1651 T. BARKER *Art of Angling* (1653) 15 The way to marrionate a Trout or other fish. 1725 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Frogs*, These [frogs] being marinated with Verjuice, Pepper, Salt,..must be fry'd till they assume a fine Colour. 1863 H. C. PENNELL *Angler-nat.* 170 A few dozen Bleak marinated form an excellent breakfast dish.

†**b.** To prepare (poultry) by a certain method of stuffing. *Obs.*

1747 MRS. GLASSE *Cookery* ii. 38 To marinate Fowls. 1805 ELIZ. RAFFALD *Eng. Housekeeper* (new ed.) 126 To marinate a Goose.

†**2.** *slang.* To transport over sea. *Obs.*

1673 R. HEAD *Canting Acad.* 16 The other was (nub'd) hang'd, and the last (marrinated) transported. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Marinated*, transported into some foreign Plantation.

Marinated (mæ·rinēitĕd), *ppl. a.* [f. prec. + -ED[1].]

†**1.** Impregnated with salt; saline. *Obs.*

1658 EVELYN *Fr. Gard.* (1675) 286 This [Brine] we call Marinated water. 1674 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* (ed. 4), *Marinated*, pertaining to the Sea, that tastes of salt water.

2. Pickled with marinade. †Of fowls (see MARINATE *v.* 1 b).

1659 HOWELL *Lex., Vocab.* xliii, Marinated or pickled fish, *pesce marinato*. 1696 PHILLIPS (ed. 5), *Marinated Fish*..Fish fryed in Oyl, and then put up in Pickle. 1725 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Roach*, A Side-dish of marinated Roaches. 1789 FARLEY *Lond. Art Cookery* I. xi. (ed. 6) 134 Fowls marinated. 1875 M. G. PEARSE *Dan. Quorm* 122 Marinated pilchards.

Marine (mări·n) *a.* and *sb.* Also 4 -yn, 5–6 -yne, 7 marrine. [a. F. *marin* (fem. *marine*) = Sp., It. *marino* (fem. *-a*), Pg. *marinho*: —L. *marīn-us*, f. *mari-*, *mare* sea.

The present pronunciation with (-īn) instead of (-ēin) is due to the influence of the Fr. fem. *marine*. Owing to the non-occurrence of the word in rimes, it is not possible to say when this pronunciation arose.]

A. *adj.*

1. Of or belonging to the sea; existing or found in the sea; produced by the sea; *Zool.* inhabiting the high seas, pelagic.

Marine rainbow: a rainbow formed on sea-spray. *Marine sauce*: a name for the common laver, *Porphyra vulgaris* (*Treas. Bot.* 1866).

c 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* XI. 291 Of see quyete vptaketh they maryne Water purest. 1484 CAXTON *Fables of Poge* V. Ther was fond within a grete Ryuer a monstre maryn or of the see. 1592 KYD *Sol. & Pers.* I. iii. 80 The earth is my Countrey, As the aire to the fowle, or the marine moistare To the red guild fish. 1637 HEYWOOD *Royal Ship* 28 Then, O you marine Gods, who with amaze On this stupendious worke (emergent) gaze. 1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Rain-*

bow, The marine or sea-bow is a phænomenon sometimes observed in a much agitated sea. **1832** De la Beche *Geol. Man.* (ed. 2) 219 Several marine shells are discovered in these strata. **1833** Lyell *Princ. Geol.* III. 145 The term 'marine alluvium' is, perhaps, admissible if confined to banks of shingle thrown up like the Chesil bank, or to materials cast up by a wave of the sea upon the land, or those which a submarine current has left in its track. **1855** W. S. Dallas *Syst. Nat. Hist.* II. 176 The Bernicle Geese .. are marine in their habits, and feed..upon Algæ [etc.]. **1878** Huxley *Physiogr.* 181 Marine denudation is not equally active at all depths of the sea.

† **b.** *Old Chem.* Applied to substances obtainable from the sea. *Marine alkali*: soda. *Marine salt*: common salt, sodium chloride; later, any salt of 'marine acid', a chloride. *Marine acid*: the acid obtained from 'marine salt', hydrochloric acid. *Dephlogisticated* or *oxygenated marine acid* or *gas*: chlorine. *Marine ether*: chloric ether. *Marine Epsom*: magnesium chloride. *Marine selenite*: calcium chloride. *Obs.*

1605 Timme *Quersit.* I. v. D 2 b, Three kindes of Salts: namely, the marine and fixed..the Niterus .. and the Armoniac. **1758** Reid tr. *Macquer's Chym.* I. 306 The affinity which Mercury hath with the Marine Acid. **1790** Wedgwood in *Phil. Trans.* LXXX. 313 Crystals of marine alkali, melted and dried. **1791** Hamilton *Berthollet's Dyeing* I. i. i. iii. 46 The properties of oxygenated marine acid. **1796** Kirwan *Elem. Min.* I. 6 Nitrous selenite, heated to redness, easily parts with its acid..but marine selenite obstinately retains it. *Ibid.* II. 33 It [fibrous salt] usually contains Marine Epsom, which renders it deliquescent. **1797** *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) IV. 579/1 The dephlogisticated marine acid..does not dissolve ice nor camphor; in which respects it differs from the common marine acid gas. *Ibid.*, Marine ether. *Ibid.* 579/2 Dephlogisticated marine gas. **1800** tr. *Lagrange's Chem.* I. 273 The muriatic acid drawn from marine salt by the sulphuric acid. **1825** J. Nicholson *Operat. Mechanic* 761 Digest the ore in marine acid.

† **c.** Of sculptured figures, etc.: Representing sea gods, fishes, sea-shells, or the like. *Obs.*

1703 Maundrell *Journ. Jeruz.* (1732) 137 Sea-gods,..and other Marine Figures. **1727–41** Chambers *Cycl.* s.v. *Fountain, Marine Fountain*, that composed of aquatic figures, as sea divinities, naiads, tritons, rivers, dolphins, and other fishes, and shells. *Ibid.* s.v. *Freeze*, Marine Freezes are those representing sea-horses [etc.].

d. Of a painter, etc.: That depicts sea subjects.

1883 G. H. Boughton in *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 176/1 The river Maas .. is most sketchable to a marine painter. **1889** Bryoall *Art in Scot.* xiv. 311 He was employed as a marine-draughtsman.

† **2.** Belonging to, or situated at, the sea-side; bounded by the sea; maritime. *Obs.*

1610 R. Niccols *Eng. Eliza* in *Mirr. Mag.* 819 With loud clamour to the marine shore, The armed people clustred in thicke swarmes. **1632** Lithgow *Trav.* v. 189 Tripoly .. standing a mile from the marine side. *Ibid.* VII. 353 The marine Bourge of Molino. *Ibid.* VIII. 362 The marine Prouinces which lye betweene Ægypt and Sewty. **1728** Eliza Heywood *Mme. de Gomez's Belle A.* (1732) II. 59 Happening in this marine Ramble, to pass by this Coast.

3. Connected with the sea in operation, scope, etc.; pertaining to shipping, a navy, or naval force; relating to naval matters.

Marine board (see quot. 1867). *Marine insurance*, insurance against perils at sea. Also occas. in collocations where *maritime* is more usual, as *marine interest, marine law*.

1566 *Act* 8 *Eliz.* c. 13 § 1 Men .. browght upp to Water Crafte, most meete for her Maties Marine Service. **1579** Fenton *Guicciard.* XVI. (1599) 738 Her marine enterprises. **1630** *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 16 The Grecians they deemed it no discredit to borrow .. from the Carthaginians and Sicilians, the Art Marine. **1683** *J. Houghton's Lett. Husb. & Trade* IV. No. 5. 107 His Merchants are everywhere respected, and he is now one of the great Marine Princes of the World. **1765** Blackstone *Comm.* I. xiii. 405 The laws of Oleron .. are received by all nations in Europe as the ground and substruction of all their marine constitutions. **1772** *Act* 12 *Geo. III*, c. 67 An Act for Incorporating the Members of a Society, commonly called The Marine Society [founded in 1756]. **1839** *Penny Cycl.* XIV. 418/2 Marine insurances differ .. from fire and life insurances in the mode of conducting the business. **1848, 1872** [see Insurance 4]. **1858** Homans *Dict. Comm.* 1693/2 Wages in such cases would be contrary to the principle of marine law—that freight is the mother of wages [etc.]. **1860** (*title*) Reed's New Guide Book to the Local Marine Board Examinations of Masters and Mates. **1867** Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk., Marine Boards*, establishments at our different ports for carrying into effect the provisions of the Merchant Shipping Act.

4. Of soldiers: Serving on board ship, as *marine force*. † *Marine regiment* (= *maritime regiment*: see Maritime *a.* 3): the marines. † *Marine soldier*: a marine; so *marine captain*, etc. (but cf. B. 6 b).

1690 Luttrell *Brief Rel.* (1857) II. 1 The earls of Pembroke and Torrington have each a commission to raise a marine regiment. **1699** *Lett. conc. Mariners* 6 The Marine Soldiers on board receive the Wages of Sailors. **1708** *Royal Proclam.* 20 May in *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4440/1 To the Marine-Captains, Sea-Lieutenants and Master, shall be allowed one Eighth Part..The Marine-Lieutenants, Boatswain, Gunner, Purser,..one Eighth Part. **1713** *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5176/3 That several of the Marine Soldiers .. have obtain'd their Pensions by forged..Certificates. **1769** Falconer *Dict. Marine* (1780), *Marine*, or *Marine-Forces*, a body of troops employed in the sea-service, under the direction of the lords of the admiralty. **1802** James *Milit. Dict.* s.v., The marine forces have of late years been considerably augmented.

b. *slang.* (See quot. and B. 4 d.)

1785 Grose *Dict. Vulg. Tongue, Marine Officer*, an empty bottle, (*sea wit*) marine officers being held useless by the seamen.

5. Used or adapted for use at sea; chiefly in technical names of instruments, as *marine barometer, chronometer, galvanometer, watch*.

Marine alarm, an alarm used at sea and operated by water or wind (Knight *Dict. Mech.* (1875) 55/2); † **marine belt** (see quot. 1765); **marine boiler**, a boiler adapted for use in steam vessels (Knight); **marine chair**, a contrivance from which the celestial bodies may be steadily observed at sea; † **marine collar**, a life-preserving appliance to be placed on the neck to keep the head out of water; **marine engine**, a form of steam engine used in seagoing vessels; **marine glue**, an adhesive composition used in ship carpentry (Young *Naut. Dict.* 1846); **marine governor**, the governor of a marine engine (Knight); **marine metal** (see quot.); **marine railway**, 'a slip for hauling vessels on to repair' (Smyth *Sailor's Wordbk.* 1867); **marine soap** (see quot.); † **marine surveyor**, a machine designed for measuring the way of a ship.

1704 J. Harris *Lex. Techn.* I, **Marine Barometer*, is an Instrument contrived by Dr. Hook, for the use of those that would make a Philosophical Experiment at Sea. **1765** H. Walpole *Let.* 27 Aug., There is a man who has just invented what he calls a *marine belt; you buckle it on, and walk upon the sea as you would upon a grassplot. **1891** 'Triplex' (*title*) *Marine Boilers. **1765** *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 86/2 Christopher Irwin, esq.; inventor of the *marine chair. **1862** *Catal. Internat. Exhib.* II. xv. 66 *Marine chronometers. **1764** in *Titles Patents* (1854) 148 A grant unto William Walker..& John Carass..of their new invented *marine collar & belt. **1822** *Specif. of Brunel's Patent* No. 4683. 2 The *marine engine represented with its parts. **1873** F. Jenkin *Electr. & Magn.* xiii. § 12 (1881) 199 The *Marine galvanometer is a galvanometer adapted for use at sea. **1866** Brande & Cox *Dict. Arts*, etc., **Marine Metal*, an alloy of lead and antimony with about two per cent. of mercury, introduced in 1833 by Wetterstedt for sheathing ships. **1873** E. Spon *Workshop Receipts* Ser. I. 381/2 This soap [cocoanut-oil soap] is sometimes called *marine soap, as it will lather well with sea-water. **1767** *Ann. Reg.* 103 A new *marine surveyor; the machine consists of an open tube..on the outside is fixed an oblique plane like a screw, upon which the water acts so as to turn it round swifter or slower. **1854** W. K. Kelly & Tomlinson tr. *Arago's Astron.* (ed. 5) 161 *Marine watches, or chronometers, are of great assistance in determining longitude.

B. *sb.*

† **1.** [= F. *marine*; cf. Marina ¹.] The sea coast or shore; a promenade by the sea; also, the country or district in immediate proximity to the coast. *Obs.*

13.. *Coer de L.* 4881 That they scholden hye Ones more forth by the maryn To the cyte off Palestyn. *a* **1400** *Octouian* 1361 Maryners hym broghte to the maryn Of Gene cost. *c* **1450** *Merlin* 230 That..hadde robbed..all the maryne and the portes toward Dover. **1615** G. Sandys *Trav.* 245 Every evening they solace themselves along the Marine (a place left throughout betweene the Citie wall and the hauen). **1687** B. Randolph *Archipelago* 46 In the summer time every evening the marine is full with all sorts of people with musick, singing, and dancing. **1698** Fryer *Acc. E. India & P.* 118 They supply the Marine with Carts drawn by Oxen, the Ships with Wood and Water. **1703** Maundrell *Journ. Jeruz.* (1810) 41 We rid out after dinner to view the marine. It is about half an hour distant from the city.

2. [= F. *marine*.] The collective shipping, fleet, navy, or naval service of a country; maritime interest as represented by ships; sea-going vessels collectively, esp. with reference to nationality or class, as *mercantile marine* (now the chief use).

1669 R. Montagu in *Buccleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 455 The well-regulating of all things belonging to the marine. **1706** Phillips (ed. Kersey), The *Marine*, the whole Body of a Navy or Fleet; as The Officers of the Marine. **1757** J. H. Grose *Voy. E. Indies* 67 All these vessels that formed the military marine of Bombay were chiefly manned with English. **1769** Burke *Late St. Nation* Wks. 1842 I. 98 What naval force, what naval works, and what naval stores..are necessary to keep our marine in a condition commensurate to its great ends. **1842** Borrow *Bible in Spain* xxxi, To this inconsiderable number of vessels is the present war marine of Spain reduced. **1849** Cobden *Speeches* 18 France knew that America had the largest mercantile marine. **1894** C. N. Robinson *Brit. Fleet* 6 The Navy..has always been based .. upon the existence of a merchant marine.

‖ **3.** That department in the French and other continental governments which deals with naval matters, corresponding to the English *Admiralty*.

1784 *Life Paul Jones* (ed. 4) 24 Count D'Orvilliers transmitted an account of his expedition to the Minister of the Marine. **1835** Ure *Philos. Manuf.* 112 The French Minister of Marine. **1848** W. H. Kelly tr. *L. Blanc's Hist. Ten Y.* II. 501 It left the ministry of public works to M. Martin (du Nord), that of marine to M. de Rosamel. **1886** Ld. Brassey *Nav. Annual* 503 The Council of the [Russian] Empire.. ordered the Ministry of Marine to present a plan of construction.

4. One who serves on board ship. † **a.** A sailor, mariner (*obs.*). [= F. *marin.*]

c **1575** J. Hooker *Life Sir P. Carew* (1857) 33 He had in his ship a hundred marines, the worst of them being able to be a master in the best ship within the realm. **1634** Brereton *Trav.* (Chetham Soc.) 14 If any soldier, marine, or tradesman die.

b. A soldier who serves on board a man-of-war; one of a body of troops enlisted to do military service on board ship, also at dockyards or on shore under certain circumstances; also in *pl.* used collectively. [See A. 4.]

Royal Marines, troops who serve on British men-of-war. See also Horse-marine ².

1672 Capt. S. Taylor *Let.* 30 May in L. Edye *Hist. R. Marines* (1893) I. 148 Those marines of whom I soe oft have wrote to you behaved themselves stoutly. **1703** *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3912/1 A Detachment of 400 Men, and the Regiment of Marines. **1709** Steele *Tatler* No. 79 P 2 An honest rough Relation of ours..who is a Lieutenant of Marines. **1740** *Lond. Mag.* 413 Sir, a Soldier and a Marine are, I may say, quite different creatures. **1818** Cruise *Digest* (ed. 2) III. 142 A commission in the marines. **1876** Voyle & Stevenson *Mil. Dict.* s.v., The royal marines are a non-purchase Corps, and the officers..rise by seniority. **1894** C. N. Robinson *Brit. Fleet* 478 The red-coated marine may be seen all over the world sharing the work..of his blue-frocked brother.

c. Phr. *Tell that to the marines*: a colloquial expression of incredulity.

1823 Byron *Island* II. xxi, 'Right', quoth Ben, 'that will do for the marines'. [*Note*] 'That will do for the marines, but the sailors won't believe it', is an old saying. **1824** Scott *Redgauntlet* ch. xiii, Tell that to the marines—the sailors won't believe it. **1864** Trollope *Small Ho. at Allington* xli, Is that a story to tell to such a man as me! You may tell it to the marines!

d. (*Dead*) *marine*: an empty bottle. *slang.* (Cf. A. 4 b.)

1831 Trelawny *Adv. Younger Son* I. 48 To see their case-bottles properly filled,—no marines among them,—with plenty of grog in their lockers. **1880** J. B. Stephen *Austral. Ball., Drought & Doctr.*, We filled a dead marine, Sir, at the family watering-hole.

e. *Naut. slang.* (See quot.)

1840 R. H. Dana *Bef. Mast* xvii. (1854) 86 *note*, 'Marine' is the term applied..to a man who is ignorant and clumsy about seaman's work—a green-horn—a land-lubber.

5. *Painting.* A sea piece.

1846 Ruskin *Mod. Painters* (ed. 3) I. II. v. i. 340 One of the marines of Salvator. **1884** E. Mason in *Harper's Mag.* Feb. 416/1 Ruysdael's marines are easily distinguished.

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.* **a.** † **marine-set** *a.*, placed on the sea-coast.

1632 Lithgow *Trav.* VII. 333, I hastned to the next Watch-tower, marine set.

b. = Belonging to the marines, as in *marine barracks, boat, coat, officer, provost*.

1727–41 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v. *Provost*, The French have a provost-general of the marines..besides a marine provost in every vessel. **1797** Nelson 17 July in Nicolas *Disp.* (1845) II. 417 To put as many Marine coats or jackets on the seamen as can be procured. **1801** *Med. Jrnl.* V. 204 The prodigious numbers received from the ships of war and marine barracks, labouring under Phthisis Pulmonalis. **1867** Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk., Marine Clothing-room*, a compartment of the after-platform, to receive the clothes and stores of the royal marines. *Ibid., Marine Officer*, an officer of the Royal Marines. Jocularly and witlessly applied to an empty bottle. **1899** F. T. Bullen *Way Navy* 55 A Marine boat's crew from the 'Hannibal'.

† **Marine** (mărī·n), *v. Obs.* [ad. F. *mariner*: see Marinade *sb.*] *trans.* = Marinate *v.*

c **1682** J. Collins *Salt & Fishery* 108 Fish, which he Marines, or renders Marinado'd. *Ibid.* 120 To Marine or preserve Fish..after the Italian manner, called Marinading.

Marined (mărī·nd), *a. Her.* [f. Marine *a.* + -ed.] (See quot. 1823.)

1823 Crabb *Technol. Dict.*, *Marined*, an epithet for an animal in coat armour that has the lower part of the body like a fish. **1847** *Gloss. Heraldry* s.v., *Lion marined*: see *Lion poisson*.

Marinel(l, var. forms of Marinal *Obs.*

Mariner (mæ·rinəɹ). Forms: 4 **marineer**(o, **marynare**, 4–5 **maroner, marynere, marener**, 4, 6 **marynar**, 4–7 **maryner**, 4, (8–9) **marinere**, 5 **maryneer, marouner, maronner**, 6 **merriner, maryoner, marryner, marinar, marinour**, 6–7 **marriner**, 3– **mariner**. [a. AF. *mariner* = F. *marinier*, Sp. *marinero*, Pg. *marinheiro*, It. *marinajo*, med.L. *marīnārius*, f. L. *marīnus* Marine *a.*]

1. One who navigates or assists in navigating a ship; a sailor, seaman; in law the term includes all persons employed on ships.

c **1290** *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 329/220 Marineres us token into heore schipe. **13..** *Metr. Hom.* (Vernon MS.) in Herrig *Archiv* LVII. 313 A pore schip broken marinere. **13..** *Sir Beues* (MS. A.) 2556 A dromond hii fonde þer stonde,.. Boute þai nadde no maroner. *c* **1386** Chaucer *Prioress' T.* Prol. 3 Now longe moote thou saille by the cost,..gentil Maryneer! *c* **1430** Lydg. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 152 A blynd maryneer that doth no sterre knowe. *c* **1450** *Merlin* 379 Thei..entred in to the shippes..and hadde .. goode maroners hem for to gide. **1481** Caxton *Myrr.* II. i. 63 Another sterre that ledeth the maronners by the see. **1517** Torkington *Pilgr.* (1884) 60 The Maryoners made a grett Showte. **1585** T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* I. xi. 13 If our marriners had not nimbly bestirred them selues in taking in of their sailes. **1598** Stow *Surv.* xxvii. (1603) 233 Sir Francis Drake, that famous Mariner. **1610** Shaks. *Temp.* v. i. 98 There shalt thou finde the Marriners asleepe Vnder the Hatches. **1677** W. Hubbard *Narrative* II. 75 An Ancient Marriner yet living in these parts, a person of good Credit. **1774** Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) I. 348 The mariner takes one part of the year to go from Java to the Moluccas [etc.]. **1798** Coleridge (*title*) The Rime of the Ancyent Marinere. **1817** W. Selwyn *Law Nisi Prius* (ed. 4) II. 1144 No mariner shall fail in any action, &c. for the recovery of wages, for want of such agreement being produced. **1836** W. Irving *Astoria* I. 40 They were to take with them fifty or sixty men, artificers and mariners. **1858** Homans *Dict. Comm.* 1693/2 Mariners are bound to contribute out of their wages for embezzlements of the cargo, or injuries produced by the misconduct of any of the crew. **1871** Morley *Voltaire* (1886) 10 Whole generations that might have produced their share of skilful and intrepid mariners.

b. *Master mariner*: a 'shipmaster or captain of a merchant vessel' (Adm. Smyth).

1838 D. Jerrold *Men Char.* II. 322 Edward Seabright, master-mariner. **1886** *Daily Tel.* 23 Apr. 4/8 Most of them [officers] the possessors of master-mariner certificates.

† **c.** *Cant.* (See quot.) *Obs.*

1567 Harman *Caveat* 48 These Freshwater Mariners, their

shipes were drowned in the playne of Salisbery. These kynde of Caterpillers counterfet great losses on the sea.

†2. *spec.* A fighting man on board ship; a marine.

a 1642 Sir W. Monson *Naval Tracts* 1. (1704) 214, 500 Men at Sea, whereof 340 Mariners, 40 Gunners, 120 Sailors. 1699 (*title*) A Letter to a Member of Parliament concerning The four Regiments commonly called Mariners.

3. *Tasmania.* A bronze-coloured shell.

[Said to be a corruption of a native name *merrina.*]

1898 in Morris *Austral Eng.*

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *mariner-like* adj.; †**mariner portage**, ? a sailor's outfit; **mariner's card, compass, needle** (see those words); †**mariner's ring**, the astrolabe.

1548-67 Thomas *Ital. Dict.*, *Marinaresco*, *mariner-like. 1522 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 327 The bying of *mariner portages. 1627 Hakewill *Apol.* III. x. § 4. 263 Among other rare Inventions, that of the *Marriners compasse is most worthy of admiration. 1605 Bacon *Adv. Learn.* II. xiii. § 1 Like as the West Indies had never been discovered if the use of the *mariner's needle had not been first discovered. 1574 Bourne *Regiment for Sea* vi. (1577) 26 b, The *Mariners Ring, called by them the Astralaby.

Hence †**Ma·rinership**, the mariner's art.

1542 Udall *Erasm. Apoph.* 6 To sitte and holde the stierne in a shyppe, hauyng none experience in ye feats of marinershyp. 1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* (1614) 90 The Phœnicians, famous for Merchandise and Marrinership.

Mârine store(s.

1. *pl.* a. (See quot. 1867.) b. Old ships' materials as an object of merchandise.

1831 J. Holland *Manuf. Metal* I. 144 Old iron is collected..by a class of persons calling themselves 'dealers in marine stores'. 1852 Dickens *Bleak Ho.* v, A shop, over which was written..Krook, Dealer in Marine Stores. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Marine Stores*, a general term for the ironwork, cordage, sails, provisions, and other outfit, with which a vessel is supplied.

fig. 1858 Carlyle *Fredk. Gt.* VIII. i. II. 295 These confused Prussian History-Books, opulent in nugatory pedantisms and learned marine-stores.

2. *sing.* A shop where marine stores are sold.

1840 Marryat *Poor Jack* xii, Old Nanny..kept a marine store.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *marine-store dealer, shop.*

1836-9 Dickens *Sk. Boz, Scenes* xxi, There is not a marine-store shop in the neighbourhood, which does not exhibit for sale some faded articles of dramatic finery. 1869 *Punch* 17 July 22/1 They were marine-store dealers.

Marinism (mărī·nĭz'm). [f. *Marini* + -ISM.] The affected style of writing characteristic of the Italian poet Giovanni Battista Marini (*d.* 1625).

1867 *Pall Mall G.* No. 813. 1007/2 Euphuism and Marinism. 1886 Symonds *Renaiss. It., Cath. React.* I. ii. 71 The Renaissance riots itself away in Marinism, Gongorism, Euphuism, and the affectations of the Hôtel Rambouillet.

Marinist (mărī·nĭst). [Formed as prec. + -IST.] An imitator of Marini. Also *attrib.*

1838 *Penny Cycl.* XI. 297/1 The extravagant notions of the Italian Marinists. 1864 *Chambers's Encycl.* VI. 328/2 The Marinist school of poetry. 1885 E. W. Gosse *Shaks. to Pope* 15 Chiabrera..disdaining the folly of the Marinists, ..attained a position somewhat analogous to that of Cowley.

Marino: see Marina.

Marinorama (mărĭ·nŏrā·mă). *rare*⁻⁰. [f. Marine after *panorama.*] A panoramic representation of sea views.

1847 in Webster. In mod. Dicts.

‖ **Mariola** (mărəi·ō·lă). [eccl. L., dim. of *Maria* Mary. Cf. Mariole.] An image of the Virgin Mary.

[1299-1300 *Liber Quotid. Contrarot. Garderobæ* (1787) 352 Quatuor mariole beate Marie.] 1876 W. Bayliss *Witness of Art* 74 Fresco and canvas, mariola and shrine.

Mariolater (mēərĭo·lătəɹ). [f. Gr. Μαρία Mary + -λατρης worshipper.] One who practises Mariolatry.

1861 Stanley *East. Ch.* iii. 109 The grand gathering of all the Heretics of the world, Sabellians, Mariolaters, Arians.

Mariolatrous (mēərĭo·lătrəs), *a.* [f. as prec. + -OUS.] Characterized by Mariolatry.

1844 *Ecclesiologist* III. 181 Mr. Close charges us with 'Mariolatrous' doctrine. 1889 *Whitehall Rev.* 24 Aug. 9 One of them preached a sermon which was considered Mariolatrous by the Father Superior.

Mariolatry (mēərĭo·lătri). [f. Gr. Μαρία Mary + λατρεία (see Latria, -latry), after Idolatry.] The idolatrous worship of the Virgin Mary attributed by opponents to Roman Catholics.

1612 T. James *Corrupt. Scripture* II. 85 The reading, *ipsa* [in Gen. iii. 15] (the best ground of their Mariolatrie). 1844 Close *Reply to Arnold* 36 Whether this exhibition of Mariolatry had destroyed many souls..none can tell. 1874 Green *Short Hist.* v. § 1. 214 The religious enthusiasm had developed into the pretty conceits of Mariolatry.

†**Mariole.** *Obs.* [OF.] = Mariola.

c 1330 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 94 Þe Mariole [AF. *La Marye*] þer scho sat.

Mariology (mēərĭo·lŏdʒi). Also **Maryology.** [f. Gr. Μαρί-α Mary + -OLOGY. Cf. *Christology.*] The body of dogma and pious opinion relating to Mary as Virgin mother of the Son of God.

1857 J. S. Harford *Michael Angelo* I. 295 In the cycles of the third, and of the earlier part of the fourth century, and even later, we find nothing that can be resolved into Maryology. 1903 *Dublin Rev.* Jan. 211 Mariology is exhaustively treated in the four hundred and fifty pages which are here devoted to it.

Mariolyne, obs. form of Marjoram.

Marionate, obs. form of Marinate.

Marionette (mæriŏnē·t). Also 7 -onet, 9 -onnette, **marrionette.** [a. F. *marionnette*, f. *Marion*, dim. of *Marie* Mary: see -ette. Cf. OF. *mariotte* in the same sense.]

1. A puppet actuated by strings and used to represent persons (or animals) in action.

c 1620 W. Browne *Brit. Past.* III. i, A little spruce elfe then (just of the sett Of the French dancer or such marionett). 1664 Etheredge *Com. Rev.* III. iv, Me did look to see De Marrioneté and de Jack-puddingé. 1789 Mrs. Piozzi *Journ. France* I. 115 One word of solid instruction to the ear conveys more knowledge to the mind at last than all these marionettes presented to the eye. 1839 Longf. *Hyperion* IV. iii, Quick, nervous, hinge-like motions, much resembling those of a marionette.

fig. 1863 'Ouida' *Held in Bondage* I. 258 Men and women are marionettes. 1868 Hannay *Stud. Thackeray* (1869) 15 He did not invent a complicated intrigue and then a set of marionettes to carry it out.

2. The buffle-headed duck, *Bucephala albeola.*

1838 Audubon *Ornith. Biog.* IV. 217 Buffel-headed Duck.., being known in these different districts [of the U. S.] by the names of..Marrionette, Dipper, and Die-dipper.

3. A mechanism at the end of the batten in a ribbon-loom, for actuating the racks of the shuttles, the movements of which suggest those of a marionette.

1890 in *Century Dict.*

4. *attrib.*, as *marionette figure, play, player, show.*

1856 R. A. Vaughan *Mystics* (1860) I. 34 The countless marionette figures in the brain of the theosophist. 1868 Lightfoot *Ep. Philippians* (1869) 268 In the marionette plays of his native Spain St. Seneca takes his place by the side of St. Peter and St. Paul. 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) V. 41 The marionette-players will please the children. 1885 'E. Garrett' (Mrs. Mayo) *At Any Cost* ix. 152 No drama at all, but only a very cleverly managed marionette show.

Marionite (mæ·riŏnəit). *Min.* [f. the name of *Marion* County in Arkansas + -ITE.] Hydrous carbonate of zinc.

1858 W. Elderhorst in *Geol. Rep. Arkansas* 153 (Chester *Dict. Min.*).

Marioram, -um, obs. forms of Marjoram.

Mariori, variant of Margery *Obs.*

Mariposa lily (mæripō·sălili). [f. Sp. *mariposa* butterfly + Lily.] A plant of the genus *Calochortus*, native to California and Mexico.

1882 *Garden* 30 Sept. 291/1 The Mariposa Lily.

‖ **Mariput** (mæ·ripʊt). [Native name.] The African zoril, *Zorilla capensis*, a small animal of the weasel family with black and white stripes.

Formerly named *Viverra zorilla* in accordance with the erroneous notion that it was a kind of civet.

1828-32 in Webster; and in later Dicts.

†**Maris.** *Obs.* Forms: 4-5 marice, marys, marrys, maris, mareis. [a. OF. *marris*:—L. *mātrīce-m* (see Matrix).] The womb.

a 1340 Hampole *Psalter* lviii[i]. 3 Aliend ere synful fra maghe [*MS. S* marice]. *c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 94 If þat he be growen..in þe mareis [*MS. Add.* marys]..it is bettere nouȝt to cure þe cankre þan to cure. *Ibid.* 209 If þe enpostym..be in a wommans maris, þan [etc.]. 1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 232 The seede wythyn the marice is defiet. ? 14.. *MS. Addit.* 12195 lf. 158 (Halliw.) Marrys.

Maris, obs. form of Marish.

‖ **Marisca** (mări·skă). *Path.* [L.; lit. a coarse fig. (For the application cf. Ficus.)] Hæmorrhoids, piles; also, 'an excrescence of a fleshy nature from the eyes or eyelids' (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*). Hence **Mari·scal, Mari·scous** *adjs.* of the nature of mariscæ; affected with mariscæ.

1693 *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Marisca*, the same that [*sic*] *Ficus.* 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Marisca*, the Hemorrhoids or Piles. 1822 Good *Study Med.* I. 347 Mariscal tumours..are most common in persons who possess a very strong action of the sphincter ani. *Ibid.* 348 Mariscal excrescences. 1856 Mayne *Expos. Lex.*, *Marisca*,..applied to a hemorrhoidal tumour, like a large fig. *Ibid.*, *Mariscosus*, Having, or full of Mariscæ: mariscous.

Mariscall, -ischal(e, obs. ff. Marshal *sb.*

Marischini, obs. form of Maraschino.

Marish (mæ·riʃ), *sb.* and *a.*¹ *Obs.* exc. *poet.* and *dial.* Forms: α. 4-5 mar(r)ais(s, marys(e, mares, 4-6 mar(r)eis, -eys, 5 maryce, -ysse, -ise, -eyse, -eyes, 5-6 maress(e, marres(s(e, -ys, 5-7 marisse, 6 -ice, -is, -ese, -ees, marryce, 6-7 marris(e, marrice, 7 marraies; 4-5 marace, maras, 4-6 marras(s, 5 marasse, 6 marrase. β. 6 marysh, marys(s)he, marris(e)he, -ysh, merish, 6-7, 9 marrish, 7 mareish, (marest), 6- marish. [ME. *mareis, mares*, a. OF. *marais, mareis* (mod.F. *marais*):—med.L. *mariscus* a. OTeut. **marisko-* Marsh *sb.* The origin of the β forms is somewhat obscure; they may represent the occasional OF. *maresche* (:—med.L. **marisca* fem.), or may possibly stand for a dialectal variant of the native English Marsh (cf. the disyllabic OE. *męrisc* beside *męrsc*).

The It. *marese* is ad. F. *marais*; if independent, it would represent a popular L. type **marēnsis* adj., the Fr. form of which would coincide with that of *mariscus.*]

A. *sb.*

1. = Marsh.

α. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 325 William Waleis,.. In mores & mareis with robberie him fedes. 13.. *Coer de L.* 6038 Kyng Richard garte al the Vnglys Schere rysches in the marys. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* VI. 55 He..vent hym doune till a marrass. *c* 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) xiv. 65 Men may noȝt wele ga þat way..for waters and maracez þat er þare. 1432-50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) II. 357 A marras callede Lerna. *a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* (1868) 63 They yode over a mareys for the next waye, but thei felle in the myre. *c* 1450 *Merlin* 604 Above this marasse was a chanchie. 1480 Caxton *Chron. Eng.* clxx. 155 As his hors ran it stert into a myre of mareys vp to the bely. 1501 Douglas *Pal. Hon.* I. iv. The soyl was nocht but marres, slike, and sand. 1535 Stewart *Cron. Scot.* II. 97 In mos, in marres, and in mony myre. 1545 Ascham *Toxoph.* I. (Arb.) 74 Lurkyng in fennes and marisses lyke frogges. 1601 Holland *Pliny* II. 431 Tortoises found in muddie waters and marraies. 1609 Bible (Douay) 1 *Mach.* ix. 45 Bankes, and marrises, and forests.

β. 1523 Ld. Berners *Froiss.* I. lviii. 32 b, Sir Vaulfart de la Croyse, who was in the marysshe, trustyng .. to haue scaped, was spyed by some that rode a longe by the marese. 1596 Spenser *F. Q.* v. x. 23 These marishes and myrie bogs, In which the fearefull ewftes do build their bowres. 1611 Bible *Ezek.* xlvii. 11 The myrie places thereof, and the marishes thereof, shall not be healed. 1623 Lisle *Ælfric on O. & N. Test.* Ded. 12 Your Forests breed you Deere, Your Marests Fowle. 1667 Milton *P. L.* XII. 630 As Ev'ning Mist Ris'n from a River o're the marish glides. 1726 Swift *On Poetry* Misc. 1735 V. 166 Like a Bridge that joins a Marish To Moorlands of a diff'rent Parish. 1765 A. Dickson *Treat. Agric.* xx. (ed. 2) 149 There are many marishes in Scotland. Some have been drained. 1830 Tennyson *Dying Swan* ii, Far thro' the marish green and still The tangled water-courses slept. 1858 Morris *Sir P. Harpdon's End* 74 We struggled in a marish half the day. 1880 *Times* 17 Sept. 8/5 [Yorkshire] In the carrs and marishes both corn and turnips are under water.

2. *attrib.*

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* XIX. lxxix. (1495) 910 Egges of marreys foule ben yelowe. 1489 Caxton *Faytes of A.* I. xiv. 38 Fer from eny palusche or mares grounde. 1625 K. Long tr. *Barclay's Argenis* II. ii. 71 The King's horses .. chafed with the stinging of the marish gnats. 1658 Osborn *Advice, Son* Wks. (1673) 234 Making a like use of Scripture and Reason of State, as Marishmen do of their Sluces, by which they keep out the Sea. 1830 Tennyson *Mariana* 40 The cluster'd marish-mosses.

†b. In spec. names of plants, as *marish dog-stones* (see Dogstones), *marish mallow* = Marsh mallow, *marish parsley* (see Parsley), *marish whorts* (tr. Bot. L. *Vaccinia palustria*), cranberries.

1548 Turner *Names of Herbes* (1881) 11 Althea..is named ..in Englishe marish mallowe. 1578 Lyte *Dodoens* v. xlii. 607 Smallache is called .. in English, .. Marrishe Parsley. *Ibid.* VI. xi. 671 We..do cal them in Latine, Vaccinia palustria, that is to say, Marrish Whorts, and Fen berries. 1597 Gerarde *Herbal* I. xcviii. 157 Marish Dogs stones hath many thicke blunt leaues next the roote.

B. *adj.*

1. Of the nature of a marsh, marshy; such as is produced in a marsh.

The ending *-ish* has given to the sb. used attrib. the aspect of an adj., and has thus favoured the development of the genuine adjectival use.

1543 Traheron *Vigo's Chirurg.* II. ix. 42 He must abstaine ..from marryshe fyshes and fennie. 1578 Lyte *Dodoens* VI. lxviii. 633 This herbe groweth also in moyst marrishe places. 1600 Surflet *Country Farm* IV. v. 637 If there be any marrish or dead water in..your medow: you must cause it to .. draine out. 1601 Holland *Pliny* II. 142 A kind of marish or moorie Lentils. 1685 Boyle *Salubr. Air* 3 Marrish Grounds, and wet Soils are wont to be unhealthfull. 1859 Whittier *Proph. Sam. Sewall* 160 Hillside berries and marish seeds. 1883 Stevenson *Silverado Sq.* 7 A wooden footway, bridging one marish spot after another.

†b. Used predicatively. *Obs.*

1549 in *Cal. Scot. Papers* (1898) I. 145 Cutters of mosses for makinge of mean landes of thos that be marresse. 1616 Surfl. & Markh. *Country Farm* 13 That [earth]..which is watrie and marish. 1707 Sloane *Jamaica* I. p. lxxix. The country thereabout is marish and wet. 1775 Chandler *Trav. Greece* (1825) II. 368 The other wells are not easily to be..examined the spot being marish.

c. *fig.*

1599 Harsnet *Agst. Darell* 235 He would neuer haue set the frame of all his cosening practises vpon that moist and marish conceit that Somers in his fits was altogether sencelesse. 1602 Marston *Antonio's Rev.* II. iii, What danke marrish spirit But would be fyred with impatience? 1869 Lowell *Dara* 24 The frank sun of natures clear and rare Breeds poisonous fogs in low and marish minds.

†2. Salt, saline. (? A misapprehension.) *Obs.*

1609 *Ev. Woman in Hum.* I. i. in Bullen *O. Pl.* IV, That mooving marish element, that swels and swages as it please the Moone. 1621 Quarles *Q. Ester* K 4 b, Her cheekes o'reflowne With marish teares.

Hence †**Ma·rishness,** marshiness.

1652-62 Heylin *Cosmogr.* II. (1682) 107 The Marishness of the Ground. 1678 Wanley *Wond. Lit. World* IV. xxvii. § 1. 409/1 Work was hindred by..the Marishness of the Grounds.

Marish (mēə·riʃ), *a.*² *rare.* In 7 mareish. [f. Mare *sb.* + -ish.] Like, or like that of, a mare.

1679 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1452/4 A bay..a little white on his two hind fetlocks, and a Mareish head.

Marishal, obs. form of Marshal.

†**Ma·rishy,** *a. Obs.* [f. Marish *sb.* + -y¹.] Marshy.

1607 Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* 207 The Palustrians or Marishye Elephantes. 1690 J. Mackenzie *Siege London-Derry* 24/2 Boggs, and Marishy places. 1727 A. Hamilton *New Acc. E. Ind.* II. xlv. 148 The inland Country is .. towards the Sea very low and marishy.

‖ **Marisma** (mări·smа). [Sp.: cf. Maremma.] The waste lands near the Guadalquivir.

1884 A. Chapman in *Ibis* Ser. v. II. 70 My next expedition was to the 'marismas' of the Guadalquivir. *Ibid.* 71 In winter the marisma abounds with wildfowl. 1889 H. Saunders *Man. Brit. Birds* 548 The Black-winged Stilt..breeds ..abundantly in the marismas of Southern Spain.

† **Marisse**, *v. Obs.* Also 4 **marissch, marissi.** [irreg. ad. F. *marier* MARRY *v.*] *trans.* To marry.

c 1315 SHOREHAM i. 1476 Ryȝt y-marissched schelle hy be In lieuene-ryche blysse. 1340 *Ayenb.* 48 Þe vifte [kind of adultery] is mid wyfman ymarissed. *Ibid.* 220 Wyþoute þet þet he him moȝe marissi yef he wyle.

Marisse, obs. form of MARISH.

Marist (mē·rist). [a. F. *Mariste*, f. *Marie* Mary: see -IST.] A member of the Roman Catholic Society of Mary, founded by a French priest early in the 19th century and devoted to the work of foreign missions and to teaching. Also *attrib.*

1877 W. MCDOWALL in *Encycl. Brit.* VII. 528/1 A commercial academy connected with the Marist Brotherhood, and dedicated to St. Joseph. 1880 *Daily News* 11 Nov. 5/8 A sympathiser with the Marists. 1894 *Ibid.* 3 July 4/5 The chapel of the Marist Fathers near Leicester square.

Marit, obs. form of MARRIED.

Maritage (mæ·ritĕdʒ). *Law.* [ad. med.L. *marītāgium*, a latinization of F. *mariage* MARRIAGE.]

† **1.** = DOWER, DOWRY 1, 2. *Obs.*

1502 ARNOLDE *Chron.* 82 A wydou after yᵉ deth of her husbond..must haue maritage & her herytage whiche that her husbond and she helde yᵗ day of the obyt of him her husbond. 1574 tr. *Littleton's Tenures* 137 If yᵉ husbande of the wife alien the heritage or maritage of his wife. 1609 SKENE *Reg. Maj.* 29 b, Lands given as Maritage, or Tocher.

2. *Hist.* The right possessed by a feudal superior (in England only by the king) of exacting a fine for the marriage of a vassal; also, the profits accruing to the crown or lord from this source. Also in L. form *maritagium*.

The *maritagia* within a certain district were sometimes granted to a particular person or corporation.

1563-87 FOXE *A. & M.* (1596) 251/1 Maritages which K. John committed to his keeping at the daie of his death. 1851 *Orig. Paroch. Scotiæ* I. 283 King Robert Bruce .. in 1326 granted to the monks all wards, reliefs, maritages [etc.] .. belonging to himself and heirs within the sheriffdom of Roxburgh.

Marital (mæ·rităl), *a.* Also 7 -all. [ad. L. *marītālis*, f. *marīt-us* husband: see -AL. Cf. F., Sp., Pg. *marital*, It. *maritale*.]

1. Pertaining or relating to a husband; husbandly.

1616 BULLOKAR *Eng. Expos., Maritall*, husbandlike. 1644 MAXWELL *Prerog. Chr. Kings* 23 A woman by her choice and consent designeth her husband, but the maritall power and dominion is onely from God. 1726 AYLIFFE *Parergon* 49 Christian Charity as well as Marital Affection. 1861 THACKERAY *Philip* vii, The two poor sisters had had to regulate their affections by the marital orders, and to be warm, cool, moderate, freezing, according to their husbands' state for the time being.

2. Of or pertaining to marriage; matrimonial, connubial.

1603 FLORIO *Montaigne* III. v. (1632) 476 He depainteth her some what stirring for a maritall Venus. 1660 JER. TAYLOR *Duct. Dubit.* II. ii. rule III. § 27 The Dearnesses of Brother and Sister .. if they were not made holy and separate by a law would easily change into Marital loves. 1840 THACKERAY *Paris Sk.-bk.* (1872) 81 What a deal of marital discomfort might have been avoided. 1858 LD. ST. LEONARDS *Handy-Bk. Prop. Law* xii. 79 The restitution of marital rights would be enforced if sought for. 1902 A. THOMSON *Lauder & Lauderdale* xiii. 131 Although the two Houses were in marital relationship, they were almost always at daggers drawn.

Hence **Marita·lity**, excessive affection of a wife for her husband (correlative to *uxoriousness*); **Ma·ritally** *adv.*, as if married, as a married person.

1812 W. TAYLOR in *Monthly Mag.* XXXIII. 42 The uxoriousness of the husband was in neither case requited by the maritality of the wife. *a* 1832 BENTHAM *Deont.* Wks. 1843 I. 235 Maritality, uxoriality, paternity, maternity, filiality. 1869 *Daily News* 13 Feb., The illegitimate children are the offspring of people living maritally and as quietly as married people. 1880 *Daily Tel.* 13 Nov., Another of the prisoners, Kviatkoffsky, with whom she had been living maritally, according to Nihilist notions of ethics.

Maritan(e, obs. forms of MARITIME.

† **Maritated**, *pa. pple. Obs.*⁻⁰ [f. L. *marītāt-us* pa. pple. of *marītāre* to MARRY: see -ED ¹.] Having a husband; married. 1727 in BAILEY vol. II.

Maritayne, obs. form of MARITIME.

† **Marite.** *Obs.* [a. OF. *marit* (mod.F. *mari*) or its source L. *marītus*.] A husband.

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 210 William he þouht to greue, for þat grete despite, þat he withouten leue, his doubter gaf marite. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XV. xii. (Tollem. MS.) Þey [the Amazons] wolde compelle here marites to wende from hem.

Mari·ticidal, *a. rare.* [f. L. *marītus* husband + -CIDE ¹ + -AL.] Husband-slaying.

1819 H. BUSK *Vestriad* IV. 500 Near each the steel mariticidal bleeds. 1821 *New Monthly Mag.* II. 392 The mariticidal mother.

† **Mari·timal**, *a. Obs.* Also -all. [f. L. *maritim-us* MARITIME + -AL.] = MARITIME *a.*

1586 J. HOOKER *Hist. Irel.* in Holinshed II. 161/1 An excellent maritimall man, and verie expert in all seruices at the seas. *c* 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* XXIII. 50 The friend, the shores maritimall Sought for his bed. 1627 SPEED *England* xxviii. § 2 Minerall and Maritimall reuenew.

† **Mari·timate**, *a. Obs.* [f. L. *maritim-us* (see next) + -ATE (? after *legitimate, ultimate*).] = MARITIME. (Freq. in Sir W. Raleigh.)

1601 R. JOHNSON *Kingd. & Commw.* 37 Peru .. containeth by the maritimate coast 12000 and 600 miles. 1614 RALEIGH *Hist. World* I. (1634) 183 This City being maritimate used all their devotions to Neptune. 1638 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (ed. 2) 323 Ports and Villages maritimat. 1665 — *Trav.* (1677) 352 Upon which consideration it is (as I suppose) that Mercator stretches Aurea Chersonesus from Sumatra to Japan, both in reference to the Isles and Coast Maritimate.

Maritime (mæ·ritəim), *a.* and *sb.* Forms: 5 n. 6 **myrytayne, maritayne**, 7 **maritan(e, maritin, marratine**, 7–8 **maritime**; *β.* 7 **marittime**, 7–8 **maritim**, 6– **maritime.** [ad. L. *maritim-us*, f. *mari-, mare* sea + suffix *-timus* (occurring in *finitimus* neighbouring, *lēgitimus* lawful; also forming superlatives as *intimus* inmost, *ultimus* last).

The *β* forms are from the L. directly or through mod.F. *maritime* (cf. Sp. *marítimo*, Pg. *marítimo*, It. *marittimo*). An OF. form, *maritin*, was corrupted, partly owing to confusion of suffixes, into *maritin, maritaim, maritain* (latinized *maritānus*), whence the *a* forms above.]

A. *adj.*

1. Of countries and peoples: Bordering on the sea; living near the sea-coast. † *occas.* predicative.

a. 1623 COCKERAM, *Maritan*, bordering on the sea. 1627 HAKEWILL *Apol.* II. vi. § 3 (1630) 115 And in them specially their maritime parts. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* VIII. 365 Tents, filled with maritime people, that were fled hither from the Sea coast. 1652 EARL MONM. tr. *Bentivoglio's Hist. Relat.* 12 The Marratine parts of Friesland. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* XI. 398 Ercoco and the less Maritine Kings Mombaza [etc.]. *β.* 1598 BARRET *Theor. Warres* v. i. 122 If the confines of the Kingdome bee Maritime or sea coast. 1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 489 To inhabit the maritime cities and townes, neere unto the sea side. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 225 Brittany (a marittime part of France). 1654 FLECKNOE *Ten Years Trav.* 19 Comparing them with the Maritime Women of other Seas (for the most part fowl, ugly, and weather-beaten). 1673 TEMPLE *Observ. United Prov.* Wks. 1731 I. 44 The opening and cleansing of the old Channel of the Rhine .. by which the Town of Leyden would grow Maritime. 1692 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) II. 359 The king, before he leaves England, intends to visit all the maritime yards. 1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* I. v, Seamen, who dwell in the maritime parts. 1813 VANCOUVER *Agric. Devon* I Devonshire is a maritime county. 1854 MILMAN *Lat. Chr.* IV. iv. (1864) II. 265 Though a maritime people, on a line of seacoast, they were ignorant of the art of fisbing.

b. Of animals, plants, etc.: Living or found near the sea.

1608 TOPSELL *Serpents* (1658) 798 There are Maritine Rocks called *Scelestæ*. 1763 MILLS *Syst. Pract. Husb.* IV. 409 The antients looked upon the olive as a maritime-tree. 1807 J. E. SMITH *Phys. Bot.* 418 *Statice*, .. a beautiful maritime genus. 1856 GRINDON *Life* XXV. (1875) 319 Broccoli and the cauliflower are modifications of the coarse maritime cabbage. 1881 GREENER *Gun* 525 Undrained and marshy land is .. best suited to this bird [the lapwing], whose habits are partly maritime.

2. Connected with the sea in relation to navigation, commerce, etc.; relating to or dealing with matters of commerce or navigation on the sea.

Maritime insurance = *marine insurance*. **Maritime interest**, premium or interest on a bottomry bond. **Maritime positions**, 'the intersection of the geographical coordinates of the latitudes and longitudes of places on the globe' (Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.* 1867). **Maritime state**, that department of the state which consists of the officers and mariners of the navy.

a. *c* 1615 *God & the King* (1663) 25 In this maritane passage he submitteth himself unto the conduct and direction of the pilot. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* VIII. 362 Two thousand and three hundred Maritime miles. 1675 OGILBY *Brit.* Ded., You have laid open to us all those Maritin Itineraries. 1686 J. [SERGEANT] *Hist. Monast. Convent.* 150 The Chamberlain .. exerciseth his Jurisdiction amongst Marriners; and what relates to Maritime affairs.

β. 1591 HORSEY *Trav.* (Hakl. Soc.) 159 Novogorode and Plosco, two greatest mart maritime or traide towns .. of all the easteren parts. 1601 R. JOHNSON *Kingd. & Commw.* (1603) 24 The English people are maruellous expert in maritime actions. 1654 EARL MONM. tr. *Bentivoglio's Warrs Flanders* 113 His want of skill in maritime affairs. 1765 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* I. Introd. § 1. 14 The spiritual and maritime courts of this kingdom. *Ibid.* xiii. 405 The maritime state is nearly related to the former [*viz.* the military]: though much more agreeable to the principles of our free constitution. *Ibid.*, In the maritime reign of queen Elizabeth. 1774 M. MACKENZIE *Maritime Surv.* II. i. 69. 1776 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xiii. I. 364 Britain, .. already assumed its natural and respectable station of a maritime power. 1813 WELLINGTON in Gurw. *Desp.* (1838) X. 361 To prevent the enemy's maritime communication between Bayonne and Santoña. 1841 *Penny Cycl.* XXI. 406/2 A maritime insurance is a contract [etc.]. 1846 YOUNG *Naut. Dict.* 43 A high rate of interest, termed Maritime Interest, or Bottomry Premium, being charged. 1861 BRIGHT *Sp., America* 4 Dec. (1876) 96 Maritime law .. consists of opinions and precedents for the most part.

3. Of a fighting force: Intended for service at sea. † *Maritime regiment*: earlier name of the marines.

a. 1550 J. COKE *Eng. & Fr. Heralds* § 105 (1877) 90 Th' erle of Arundell .. with a puissaunt army myrytayne dystroyed .. all the navy of Flanders. 1653 *Nissena* 49 Without much weakening the Maritin forces. 1707 FREIND *Peterborow's Cond. Sp.* 180 We hope for a Maritime Force betimes in these seas.

β. 1668 in L. Edye *Hist. Marines* (1893) I. 102, 2 Maritim Regim[ts] consisting of 26 Compan[yes]. 1684 *List Military* 15 His Royal Highness the Duke of York and Albany's Maritime Regiment of Foot. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XIV. 419/2 In the beginning of Queen Anne's reign (1702), six regiments of maritime soldiers were raised.

4. Of, pertaining to, arising from, or existing in, the sea. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1624 B. JONSON *Neptune's Triumph* Stage Direct., A maritime Palace, or the house of Oceanus. 1663 BOYLE *Usef. Exp. Nat. Philos.* II. xiv. 252 The Maritime Air and steames. 1784 COWPER *Task* II. 258 That no rude savour maritime invade The nose of nice nobility! 1796 H. HUNTER tr. *St.-Pierre's Stud. Nat.* (1799) II. 139 The maritime winds unite their efforts toward the autumnal equinox. 1835 SIR J. ROSS *Narr. 2nd Voy.* v. 67 An interesting maritime landscape.

5. Characteristic of a seaman; nautical.

1743 BULKELEY & CUMMINS *Voy. S. Seas* Ded. 5 The following Pages .. are written in a plain maritime Stile. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* iv, He was far from having a maritime appearance. 1889 D. HANNAY *Capt. Marryat* viii. 122 This sailor had an altogether maritime ignorance of women.

B. *sb.*

† **1.** The sea-coast; a country or region adjoining the sea. *Obs.*

1591 *Decl. Gt. Troubles* 5 Certayne skroles or beadrolles of names of men dwelling in sundry partes of our Countries, .. but specially in the maritimes. 1598 BARRET *Theor. Warres* Gloss. 251 Maritime is sea coast countrie, or countries adioyning vnto the sea. 1635 PAGITT *Christianogr.* I. ii. (1636) 83 In the south Maritime and in Ethiopia. 1657 THORNLEY tr. *Longus' Daphnis & Chloe* 75 The General .. comes up to the maritims of Mitylene, and hostilely invades them.

† **2.** A person living near the sea. *Obs. rare* —¹.

1655 STANLEY *Hist. Philos.* I. (1687) 27/1 Lycurgus was head of the Country-men, Megacles of the Maritimes.

Ma·ritonucleus. *Biol. rare.* [f. *marito-*, used as comb. f. of L. *marītus* married + NUCLEUS.] (See quot.)

1884 HYATT in *Proc. Boston Soc. Nat. Hist.* XXIII. 54 Reserving .. the name of maritonucleus or married nucleus for the renovated nucleus of the egg after its union with the male pronucleus.

† **Marito·rious**, *a. nonce-wd.* [Humorously f. L. *maritus* husband.] Fond of one's husband.

1607 CHAPMAN *Bussy D'Ambois* II. 22 Dames maritorious ne're were meritorious.

Maritu·rient, *a. nonce-wd.* [Formed (in jocular imitation of L. desideratives) on L. *marītāre* to marry.] Eager to marry.

1765 GRAY *Let. to T. Wharton* 29 Apr., Our friend, the Precentor, who has so long been in a maturient way, is not yet married.

Marivade, obs. form of MARAVEDI.

Marjoram (mā·rdʒərəm). Forms: *α.* 4–6 **maiorane**, 5 **mageron, -am, maioron, -um**, 6 **maioram, -om, magerym**, 6–7 **majoram**, 7 **-an.** *β.* (chiefly *Sc.*) 6 **mar-, meriolyne, maryolayn, margelene**, 7 **majorlame.** *γ.* 6. **margerain, -am, -om(e, -um, -yn, marierum, -ierom, -ioram, -om, merierum, -gerum**, 6–7 **marierome**, 7 **-jerim, -jerom(e, -jorom, -gorum**, *Sc.* **margorie**, 7–9 **marjorum**, 7– **marjoram.** (In the earlier forms *i* = *j*.) [a. OF. *majorane* (13th c.), **marjoraine*, whence F. (from 14th c.) by dissimilation *marjolaine*, = Pr. *majorana*, Sp. *majorana, mayorana*, now usually *mejorana*, Pg. *mariorana, mangerona*, It. *majorana, maggiorana*, Rumanian *măgheran*, med.L. *majorāna* (once *majoraca* or *-us*). The Rom. word has passed into the Teut. and other langs., as MDu. *mayoleine, margelleine, meieraen* (mod.Du. *marjolein*), MHG. *margram, meigramme, meyeron, maigaron, maioran*, etc. (mod.G. *majoran*, dial. *meigram*), Sw. *mejram*, Da. *merian*, Russian (? from G.) маеранъ, mod.Gr. *μαϱζουράνα*.

The ultimate etymology is obscure. Many of the Rom. forms appear to have been perverted by assimilation to L. *major* (It. *maggiore*, Sp. *mayor*) greater. There seems to be no adequate ground for the current assumption that the ultimate source is the L. *amāracus* (a. Gr. ἀμάρακος, -ον), which was in the Middle Ages identified, perh. correctly, with marjoram.]

Any plant of the genus *Origanum* (N.O. *Labiatæ*); esp. *O. vulgare*, Wild Marjoram (Common, Field, †Grove M.), a common plant in limestone or chalky districts, and *O. Majorana*, Sweet Marjoram († Marjoram gentle, † English, † Fine, Knotted M.), an aromatic herb used in cookery. *O. Onites* is Pot or Winter Marjoram, *O. heracleoticum*, Winter Sweet Marjoram.

α. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 133 Of Majorane his herbe is grounded. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 319/2 Mageram [*K.* maiorum, *S.* mageron, *P., W.* magerym, *Y.* margeryn]. 1481 BOTONER *Tulle of Old Age* I 5 Rosemarynes, maiorons, gylofres. 1573 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 95 Maierom knotted, sowe or set at the spring. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. ccvii. 539 Marierome is called .. in English Sweete Marierome, Fine Marierome, and Marierome gentle; of the best sort Maiorane. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 382 Maioran, .. in Cyprus & at Mitylene, where great store of sweet Majoran grows.

β. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* I. x. 69 Tendir mariolyne [L. *mollis amaracus*] and sweit flouris. 1527 ANDREW *Brunswyke's Distyll. Waters* L vi b. 1570 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xv. 10 Thow Lauand, lurk; thow time, be tint; Thow Margelene, swaif. 1689 in *Thanes of Cawdor* (Spald. Club) 353, 1 unce Majorlame, 10*s*.

γ. 1523 SKELTON *Garl. Laurel* 906 With margerain ientyll, The flowre of goodlyhede. *c* 1550 LLOYD *Treas. Health* xv. E v b, Let thy teeth be washed with the decoction of wilde Margerum [1585 Margeram]. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* II. lxix. 236 *Origanum Heracleoticum*. Spanish Origan. Bastard Margerom. *Origanum syluestre*. Wilde Origan. Groue Margerom. *Ibid.* 237 *Marum quibusdam*. English Margerom. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. ccvii. 539 The pot Marierome is also called Winter Marierome. *Ibid.* ccix. 543 *Tragoriganum*. Goates Marierome. 1640 PARKINSON

Theat. Bot. 12 The wilde or field Marjerome. 1656 MARNETTE *Perf. Cook* II. 1 Take the tops of Time and Margerum and Winter Savoury, a handfull of each. 1689 in *Thanes of Cawdor* (Spald. Club) 352 Sweit Margorie thrie drap. 6*s*. 1760 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* App. 318 Marjoram, winter sweet. 1856 Miss MULOCK *J. Halifax* xxi. (1859) 220 A plant of wild marjoram. 1882 *Garden* 25 Feb. 137/1 Knotted Marjoram, sweet Savory, and Sweet Basil are much sought after in early spring.

b. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *marjoram bed, leaf*; *marjoram-leaved* adj. **Marjoram camphor**, a camphor obtained from oil of marjoram (Watts tr. *Gmelin's Handbk. Chem.* 1860, XIV. 379).

1821 CLARE *Vill. Minstr.* I. 115 Thy Marjoram-beds so doubly sweet. 1811 A. T. THOMSON *Lond. Disp.* (1818) 277 Common Marjoram leaves. 1882 *Garden* 4 Feb. 82/3 The Marjoram-leaved Toadflax.

Mark (mārk), *sb.*[1] Forms 1 meare, *Anglian* merc, (also ȝemierce, ȝemęrce, *Northumb.* meroe, merca), 2 marc, 3–5 merk(e, (Orm. merrke), merc(k, marek(e, 4, 7 marque, 4–mark. [OE. *mearc*, Anglian *merc*, str. fem., boundary, landmark, sign = OFris. *merik(e, merke*, boundary, sign, OS. *marka* boundary (MDu. *marke*, mod.Du. *mark*), OHG. *marcha* boundary (MHG., mod.G. *mark* fem.), ON. *mǫrk* (known only in the derived sense 'forest'; Sw., Da. *mark* field, ground), Goth. *marka* boundary, landmark:—OTeut. **markâ*. A neuter form (:—OTeut. type **marko*^{m}) exists in several Teut. langs. with the senses 'sign', 'landmark', 'standard', etc.: MDu. *mark* (mod.Du. *merk*), MHG. *mark* (mod.G. has *marke* fem., prob. influenced by F. *marque*), ON., MSw. *mark*. The ME. form *merke* (disyllable), while normally representing the OAnglian pronunciation *merc*, may in part descend from ONorthumb. *męrce* (also written *męrca*), token, sign, and in part also from an adoption of the equivalent ON. *merki* neut., landmark, standard, sign (Sw. *märke*, Da. *merke*):—OTeut. type **markjo*^{m}, f. **markâ* (see above); it may also, in northern dialects, represent partly the ONorthumb. *gemęrce* sign, token (= WS. *gemierce*, OHG. *gimerchi* boundary:—OTeut. **ga-markjo*^{m}), as the prefix *ge-* of sbs. did not survive into ME., and the palatalized *c* in final syllables became *k* in northern Eng. According to phonetic law the ME. *merke* regularly became *mark* in mod.Eng., thus coalescing with the descendant of WS. *mearc*.

The Teut. word and its derivative vb. were early adopted into Romanic; the sb. appears as OF. *merc, marc* masc., F. *marque* fem., mark, sign, etc., *marche* (ONF. *marque*) boundary (see MARCH *sb.*[3]), Pr., Sp., Pg., It. *marca* mark, sign, boundary. Some of the senses developed in F. *marque* have coloured the application of the Eng. word.

The OTeut. **markâ* appears to be cogn. w. L. *margo* MARGIN, OCeltic **mrogi-* country (Gaulish *brogi-* in place-names, Welsh *brô*, OIrish *mruig, bruig*), Persian *marz* boundary. The extra-Teut. relations confirm the view which is suggested by the evidence of Teut. itself, that the primitive sense is 'boundary'. The order of development of senses which appears most probable, and is assumed as the basis of the arrangement below, is 'boundary', 'sign of a boundary', 'sign in general', 'impression, trace or device used as a sign', 'impression, trace, etc. in general'. Some scholars, however, have considered the sense 'visible trace' as primitive (comparing Lith. *margas* parti-coloured), and have supposed the sense 'boundary' to be either derived from this or to belong to an independent word.]

I. Boundary.

1. A boundary, frontier, limit; rarely in *pl.* †territories. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.* and *arch.*

701 in Birch *Cart. Sax.* (1885) I. 148 Swa be mearce to grenmenes stiȝele .. þonon suð andlang mearce to þes gores suð ende. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3490 He ledde hem to ðe muntes fot, Non but non [? *read* he] forðere ne mot, And on is broðer aaron; God bad hem ðat merke ouer-gon. 1340–70 *Alisaunder* 173 The marques of Molosor mensklche hee aught. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) II. 45 But afterward, for þe weyes were not so sette wiþ certeyn markes [orig. *certis limitibus distinctæ*], þe weies were vncerteyn and stryf was bygonne. *Ibid.* 103 þe merkes and þe meres þerof [Mercia] were in þe west side þe ryuer Dee..; in þe est þe est see, in þe south Temse. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) xiii. 144 In þat contre of libye is the see more high þan the lond, and it semeth þat it wolde couere the erthe, and natheles ȝit it passeþ not his markes. 1447 BOKENHAM *Seyntys* (Roxb.) 36 In a wode of the markeys of that cuntre Two hermytys dwellyd. 1494 FABYAN *Chron.* v. cix. 82 The meris or markis of this Kyngdome of North humberlande were [etc.]. 1530 PALSGR. 243/1 Marke bytwene two places, *limite*. 1535 COVERDALE *Prov.* viii. 29 He shutt the see within certayne bowndes, that ye waters shulde not go ouer their marckes. ?1832 'B. CORNWALL' (B. W. Proctor) *Sea* i, The Sea! the Sea! the open Sea!..Without a mark, without a bound. 1883 *Chamb. Jrnl.* 36 When the Marquis of Leominster was a Marquis indeed, with a mark to guard. 1892 HENLEY *Song of Sword*, etc., *Lond. Volunt.* iii. 22 The afflicted city, prone from mark to mark In shameful occultation.

†**b.** Of immaterial things: A limit or precise boundary line or point. *Obs.*

a 1000 *Cædmon's Gen.* 1719 (Gr.) Þa þæs mæles wæs mearc agongen. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 228 Auh iðe temptaciun he haueð iset to þe ueonde a merke, ase þauh he seide—tempte hire so ueor [etc.]. 1340 *Ayenb.* 223 Liȝtliche huanne þe lost ne paseþ nazt þe markes ne þe zetnesses of spoushod. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 7696 The Sun in his Sercle set was o loft, At the merke of þe mydday. 1435 MISYN *Fire of Love* 38 Þou art þe end of heuynes, þe mark of labirs, beginyng of fruyts. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* I. x. 50 These craftis kepten not to hem silf her propre and seuerel to hem silf boundis and markis.

2. *Hist.* The name applied in mediæval Germany to the tract of land held in common by a village community. Hence used by many modern scholars to denote the tract of land similarly held by one of the village communities of primitive Teutonic times. Also *attrib.*, as in *mark-community, -family, -system*; *markmoot* (pseudo-*arch.*), a (supposed) assembly of the inhabitants of the 'mark'.

Kemble's fancy that OE. *mearc* was the name of a unit of territorial organization next below the shire (*scīr* or *gā*) has no foundation. The alleged OE. **mearcmōt* 'mark-moot', has no existence: the *mercemot* occurring in a schedule of boundaries of land at Barrow-on-Humber in 971 (Birch *C. S.* No. 1270) may perh. mean 'parsley-bed', and in any case does not admit of Kemble's interpretation.

1848 KEMBLE *Saxons in Eng.* (1876) I. iii. 76 As then the word Mark is used to denote two distinct things,—a territorial division and a corporate body,—so does the word Gá or Scír denote both [etc.]. 1867 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1876) I. iii. 84 Such a community occupies its own territory, its mark. *Ibid.* 98 The unit is the Mark, roughly represented by the modern parish or manor. 1874 STUBBS *Const. Hist.* (1875) I. ii. 34 We have not the mark system. *Ibid.* v. 84 *note*, That the markmoot was a court of justice .. seems altogether improbable. *Ibid.* 85 It is as an owner of land, not as a member of the mark-community, that the freeman has rights. 1876 DIGBY *Real Prop.* i. § 1. 5 Each community occupied a territory or mark, which was divided into three, or rather four portions. 1887 *Edin. Rev.* Jan. 10 In all Teutonic countries the same conflict was waged between the manor and the mark.

3. Used to represent G. *Mark* as the proper name of certain principalities, esp. the Mark of Brandenburg. † Also repr. It. *Marca* in *the Mark of Ancona*. (Cf. MARCH *sb.*[3] 3.)

1726 LEONI *Alberti's Archit.* I. 65/1 The Town of Cingoli..in the Mark of Ancona. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) III. 514/2 They reckon in the whole Mark [of Brandenburg] 120 towns [etc.]. 1884 *Harper's Mag.* Apr. 690/2 The two Frederics..were to have the Mark.

II. An object indicating a boundary, position, etc.

†**4.** A pillar, post, stone, fence, etc., placed to indicate the position of a boundary; = LANDMARK 1.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 440 Met of corn, and wiȝte of fe, And merke of felde, first fond he. *c* 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 2710 Her fader .. ȝaf hem londes wide .. Markes were set bi side. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 77 Saynt Cutberte's clerkes.. At Geruans set þer merkes, a hous þe gan vpspede. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 333/2 Meer, marke be-twene ij. londys, *meta, meris*. 1535 COVERDALE *Deut.* xxvii. 17 Cursed be he, y^{t} remoueth his neghbours mark. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* I. 193 No Fences parted Fields, nor Marks nor Bounds Distinguish'd Acres of litigious Grounds.

†**5.** A stone or other monument set up or standing as a memorial, or as a guide. *Obs.*

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Exod.* xxiv. 4 Moyses .. ȝetimbrode twelf mearca. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1887 Iacob dalf hire and merke dede, ðat is ȝet sene on ðat stede. 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 1139 Whan graue was þe graie ston þe grime king rydus & alle meven his men fro þe marke euene. 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus, Cippus*, a littell hill or marke called a barrow. 1582 N. LICHEFIELD tr. *Castanheda's Conq. E. Ind.* I. ix. 9 b, A certaine marke or Piller, with the King of Portingales Armes, and a Crosse. *a* 1591 H. SMITH *Serm.* (1594) 237 Being now recouered to his right way, [he] stands like a marke of knowledge in the turninges .. to direct al those that passe by.

fig. 1521 COLET *Serm. Convoc.* B v b, Vnto you we loke as vnto markes of our direction.

†**6.** A standard or banner. *Obs.*

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gram.* lxiv. (Z.) 71 *Victricia tollite signa*, nymað þa siȝefæstan mearca. *c* 1205 LAY. 18869 Beornes scullen rusien reosen heoren mærken [*c* 1275 marke]. *Ibid.* 19099 Cador þe kene scal beren þas kinges marke.

7. A target, butt, or other object set up to be aimed at with a missile or projectile. Hence *transf.*, the thing that is or may be aimed at in shooting or throwing.

c 1205 LAY. 4229 Heoræ sceaftes weoren strake of his flæsces heo makeden here marce [*c* 1275 marke]. *c* 1305 *St. Edm. King* 44 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 88 Hi stode afur & bende here bowes, & here arewes riȝte And as to a merke schote to him. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 160 The sayd arowe is caryed to the marke. 1535 COVERDALE *Lam.* iii. 12 He hath bent his bowe, and made me as it were a marck to shute at. 1617 HIERON *Wks.* II. 400 A shooter, who afarre off aymeth at a marke in the midst of a white; hee seeth the white, but not the marke; hee cannot hit the marke, which he seeth not, except hee hit the white, which hee seeth. 1660 F. BROOKE tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 167 Then the hunters all choose their marke, taking pleasure in darting their lances. 1780 COWPER *Progr. Err.* 570 None sends his arrow to the mark in view, Whose band is feeble, or his aim untrue. 1856 'STONEHENGE' *Brit. Rur. Sports* 508/2 Do not look from the mark to the arrow, and back again. 1859 *Musketry Instr.* 23 To fire with accuracy it is necessary the sights should be carefully aligned between the eye and the mark.

†**b.** The quarry of a hawk, etc. *Obs.*

1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* IV. (1586) 157 b, They.. are alwaies the fairest marke in a Hawke, or a Bussardes eie. 1589 GREENE *Menaphon* (Arb.) 42 The Hobbie catcheth no pray, vnlesse she mount beyonde her marke. 1672 DRYDEN *Marr. à la Mode* v. i, It vexes me to the heart..to have flown her so often to a mark, and still to be bobbed at retrieve. 1686 BLOME *Gentl. Recr., Hawking* v. 30 After she hath flowen to mark, she will sit or fly according to her mettle and nature. 1691 DRYDEN *K. Arthur* III. ii, Ob, still thou think'st to fly a fool to mark.

c. The object at which a blow or thrust is aimed; *spec.* in *Pugilistic slang*, the pit of the stomach, the 'wind'. Also † *Broughton's mark*.

1747 J. GODFREY *Sci. Defence* 6 The smaller his [a fencer's] mark is, the harder it is for him to hit. *Ibid.* 57 Getting had the nearest Way of going to the Stomach (which is what they [pugilists] call the Mark) of any Man I knew. 1823 'J. BEE' *Dict. Turf, Mark* (*ring*), the pit of the stomach is termed 'the mark', and 'Broughton's mark'. 1851 BORROW *Lavengro* lxxxviii, I happened to hit Tom, of Hopton, in the mark, as he was coming in, so that he lost his wind.

d. *fig.* or in fig. context. Also *slang* (see quot. 1897).

1549 *Compl. Scot.* xv. 123, I am the merk of the but, contrar the quhilk euere man schutis arrous of tribulatione. *c* 1586 C'TESS PEMBROKE *Ps.* LV. i, [I am] A mark to wrath, and hate, and wrong assign'd. 1608 D. T[UVIL] *Ess. Pol. & Mor.* 114 b, Must needes discouer the marke of his disordinate Ambition. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* v. 1011 Death loves a shining Mark, a signal Blow. 1753 *Discov. J. Poulter* (ed. 2) 4 At Night the Horses came by, and he shew'd us all one particular Pack, and said that's your Mark. 1842 TENNYSON *Walk. Mail* 65 He thought himself A mark for all, and shuddered lest a cry Should break his sleep by night. 1871 BLACKIE *Four Phases* i. 10 There was something..that could not fail to make him the mark of general observation. 1871 R. ELLIS tr. *Catullus* lxviii. 2 Thy sad tear-scrawl'd letter, a mark to the storm. 1897 BARRÈRE & LELAND, *Mark* (Swindlers), one marked by thieves or swindlers as easy to dupe or rob.

e. In phrases, *beside, †besides, far from, near, short of, wide of* (or †*from*) *the mark*; *to hit, miss the mark*, to attain or miss some desired object or end.

c 1350 *St. Andrew* 290 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 8 In saint Andrew he had swilk trist; And of þat merk nothing he myst. *a* 1352 MINOT *Poems* ix. 13 Bot now has sir Danid missed of his merkes. 1633 T. STAFFORD *Pac. Hib.* I. v. (1821) 71 Both one and the other were besides the marke. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* II. iii. § 17 Venerable was found out as an Expedient to accommodate the Difference, luckily hitting the Mark, as a Title neither too high nor too low. 1666 PEPYS *Diary* 23 Sept., It cannot, I believe, be far wide from the mark. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* VI. ix, As when two doves,..or as when Strephon and Phyllis (for that comes nearest to the mark) are retired into some pleasant solitary grove [etc.]. 1845 MCCULLOCH *Taxation* I. iii. (1852) 92 It may, however, be..very wide of the mark when applied to the case of out-of-door labourers. 1889 J. STALKER *Imago Christi* IX. § 5 (1891) 178 Many a preacher misses the mark because, though he knows books, he does not know men. 1861 WHYTE MELVILLE *Good for Nothing* I. 146 Gilbert's efforts to amuse her often fell short of the mark. 1883 [see BESIDE B. 5 b]. 1885 J. K. JEROME *On the Stage* 6 Five or six pounds per week would be near the mark.

f. *Bowls.* The JACK. Also, a position which is allowed for the jack; 'a fair bowling distance' (see quot. 1753).

1630 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Wit & Mirth* Wks. II. 193/2 The marke which they ayme at hath sundry names and Epithites, as a Blocke, a Jacke, and a Mistris. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* s. v. *Bowling, Mark* is a proper bowling distance, not under so many yards; and being at least a yard and a half from the edge of the green. 1875 'STONEHENGE' *Brit. Sports* III. i. iii. § 3. 683 If the leader in two trials shall fail to deliver the jack a mark, his opponent is then entitled to set the mark. 1876 *Encycl. Brit.* IV. 180/2 A game termed *carreau* .. somewhat similar to bowls, the jack or mark being set up on a square stone at the end of an alley. *Ibid.*, 'Mark', or 'set a mark', means the delivery of the jack at the commencement of a game.

8. A post or other object placed to indicate the terminal point of a race; a goal. Often *fig.*, an object desired or striven for (cf. 7 d).

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 271 Sir Roberd Roos of Werk with þe Scottis fled, He set so ille his merk, þat neuer eft he ne sped. 1535 COVERDALE *Phil.* iii. 14, I forget that which is behynde..& preace vnto ye marck apoynted. 1555 LATIMER *Let.* in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* (1822) III. II. 305 He that runnythe at the merk doth not loke on other that stands by..but lokyth altogether on the glove or merk, and on them that ronne with him. 1561 T. NORTON *Calvin's Inst.* II. viii. (1634) 187 Let this be our perpetual marke, to aide all men faithfully. 1642 ROGERS *Naaman* Ep. Ded. 3, I know your Honour hath long made this your marke. 1789 COWPER *Let. to Mrs. King* 1 Aug., The end is in view; I seem almost to have reached the mark. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* liii, For fear divine Philosophy should push beyond her mark, and be Procuress to the Lords of Hell.

9. An object on shore or at sea, which, by its ascertained and known position, serves to guide a traveller proceeding in a given direction, *esp.* a LANDMARK, *leading-mark* (see LEADING 1 b), SEA-MARK. Also *fig.*

[1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. cxlii. (1495) 699 Ofte knottes ben made on trees and in busshes: in token and marke of the highe waye: to shewe the certen and sure waye to waye farynge men.] 14.. *Sailing Direct.* (Hakl. Soc.) 12 Yif ye go oute of Orwell waynys to the Naisse ye must go south west fro the Nasse to the merkis of the spetis your cours is west south-west. *Ibid.*, Bring your markis to gidre that the parissh steple be owte by est. the abbey of Seint Hosies. 1577 STANYHURST *Descr. Irel.* iii. in *Holinshed*, Hulke tower, which is a notable marke for pilots, in directing them which waie to sterne their ships [etc.]. 1598 MANWOOD *Lawes Forest* I. 4 They seeme to vnderstand this word *Meta*, a marke, for any thing that hath an ascending from the ground vpward in height, that they call a marke, as, a hill, a Church, a Tree, or such like. 1650 HOBBES *Hum. Nat.* v. § 1. 44 Men that have past by a Rock at Sea, set up some mark, thereby to remember their former danger, and avoid it. *a* 1676 HALE *Narr. Customes* iii. in S. A. Moore *Foreshore* (1888) 338 As fixing of piles, or laying in of anchors without buoyes or markes. 1708 PENN in *Pa. Hist. Soc. Mem.* X. 290, I have shewn my regard to

him, and a fair mark I gave him to direct his steps. 1781 JUSTAMOND *Priv. Life Lewis XV*, II. 120 *note*, This is a mark, sometimes made by a floating tun, sometimes by a mast raised upon a bank. 1834 *Nat. Philos.* III. *Navig.* I. iii. 9 (Useful Knowl. Soc.) The marks themselves are called the leading marks.

III. A sign, token, indication.

10. An appearance, action, or event that indicates something; a sign, token, symptom.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Mark xvi. 17 ȝemerca [Vulg. *signa*] ðonne ða ðaðe ȝelefdon ða ȝefylȝeð. *c* 1200 ORMIN 17982 & wha sitt iss þatt takeþþ wiþþ Hiss wittness tunnderr-fanngenn, He setteþþ merrke off þatt he wiss Iss Godd soþfasst i spæche. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 250 Lokeð nu ȝeorne, uor his deorwurðe luue, hwuch one merke he leide uppen his icorene, þoa he steih into heouene. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 18330 'Lauerd', þai said, al wit a steuen, 'Als þou has sett þi merck in heuen O þi blis lauerd godd [etc.]. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Pars. T.* ¶ 819 That hooly ordre is chief of al the tresorie of god, and his especial signe and mark of chastitee. 1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* II. iii. 255 Shee's a faire Lady, I doe spie some markes of loue in her. 1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* III. xiii. 160 They found peeces of blew cloth, and other markes and signes that some men of Europe had passed there. 1669 GALE *Crt. Gentiles* I. Introd. 6 Is it not a great Marque of Honor. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 73 ¶ 10 She bestows a Mark of her Favour upon every one of them. 1725 WATTS *Logic* II. v. § 4 In some Reports there are more Marks of Falshood than of Truth, and in others there are more Marks of Truth than of Falsehood. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. vi. 192 Our people soon observed several lights..in the fort, and other marks of the inhabitants being in great motion. 1842 BORROW *Bible in Spain* lvii, His body.. exhibited every mark of strength and vigour. *a* 1862 BUCKLE *Civiliz.* (1873) III. v. 463 How unusual it is to meet with any one .. whose writings bear marks of..original thought. 1884 SKEAT *Gamelyn* Introd. 11 The 'master outlaw' in the tale of Gamelyn is left unnamed. This is a mark of a somewhat early date.

b. A characteristic property; a distinctive feature, criterion; *spec.* in *Logic* (see quot. 1860).

1522 MORE *De quat. Noviss.* Wks. 73/2 He that by good vse and experyence, hathe in his eye the ryghte marke and very trewe lustre of the Dyamonte. 1561 T. NORTON tr. *Calvin's Inst.* I. xv. 53 Neither is their opinion to be approued, which sett the Image of God in the power of dominion geuen vnto him, as if he resembled God onely in this mark, that he is [etc.]. 1612 BACON *Ess., Wisd. for Man's Self* (Arb.) 184 Therefore let Princes..chuse such seruants, as haue not this marke. *a* 1625 FLETCHER *Noble Gent.* IV. iv, Yet from this pitch can I behold my own, (From millions of those men that have no mark). 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) IV. 232 By these marks the monkies of either continent, may be readily distinguished from each other. 1860 ABP. THOMSON *Laws Th.* § 51. 78 Those properties by which we recognise any object, and assign it a place under some appropriate conception, are called marks. 1884 tr. *Lotze's Logic* I. iii. 89 Life without intelligence is a possible mark of an animal, but not intelligence without life. 1885 R. L. & F. STEVENSON *Dynamiter* 194, I recognise in you the marks of an accomplished anarch.

c. *spec.* A depression caused by a fold in the enamel of a horse's incisor tooth, which by its appearance and gradual disappearance gives some indication of the age of the animal. (Cf. COUNTER-MARK, *sb.* 3.) Also *mark of mouth.*

c 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* IV. 886 Their [horses'] myddel teeth aboue at too yeer age They cause, at yeeris iiij another gage;..At vij yeer are alle ylike longe, The markis of their age ar lost at seuen. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 754 At eight yeares old, the Tooth is smooth, and the Hole gone, And then they say; That the Marke is out of the Horses Mouth. 1680 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1562/4 A Bright Bay Gelding, near 15 hands high,..the mark out of his mouth. 1707 *Curios. in Husb. & Gard.* 41 We may..say..as the Jockeys do of a Horse of eight or nine Years old, who has no longer certain Teeth in his Mouth; that his Mark is out. 1852 R. S. SURTEES *Sponge's Sp. Tour* xliv, 'He's past mark of mouth; but I think a hunter's age has very little to do with his worth.' 1897 *Encycl. Sport* I. 537 (Horse) *Mark*, the hollow upon the top of a young horse's teeth which wears down with years.

fig. and *allusive.* 1589 R. HARVEY *Pl. Perc.* (1590) 4 The marke is not out of thy mouth, for thou hast a Colts tooth in thine head still. *a* 1616 BEAUM. & FL. *Wit without Money* IV. v, Biscuit That bawds have rubb'd their gums upon, like corals, To bring the mark again. 1824 MACTAGGART *Gallovid. Encycl.* s.v., Old maidens are said sometimes to have lost the mark o' mouth. 1857 G. A. LAWRENCE *Guy Liv.* viii. 77 Two ancient virgins, long past 'mark of mouth'.

† **d.** A vestige, trace. *Obs.*

c 1325 *Metr. Hom.* 61 Bot of thair not yet standes merk, In Babilony the tour yet stands. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* IV. xxv. 141 In whiche place are the markes of the ruines of Lacedemonia.

11. A sign affixed or impressed for distinction.

a. A device, stamp, seal, label, brand, inscription, written character, or the like, placed upon an article as an indication of ownership or origin, as an attestation of quality, as a means of identification, etc. † In early use often, the stamp or impress of a coin.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 457 He was hirde wittere and wal; Of merke, and kinde, and helde, & ble, sundring and samen[n]g taȝte he. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl. B.* xv. 343 Þe merke of þat mone [*sc.* the lushburg] is good, ac þe metal is fieble. *c* 1394 *P. Pl. Crede* 177 Wyde wyndowes..Schynen wiþ schapen scheldes..Wiþ merkes of marchauntes y-medled bytwene. 1420 in *E. E. Wills* (1882) 46 A tastour of siluer with myn owne merke ymade in þe bottom. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 334/1 Merke, tokyne, *signum, caracter.* *c* 1450 in *Rel. Ant.* II. 280 Thay salle be brynte on the hippe, chapmans merke. 1477 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 185/1 The merke or signe of every Goldsmyth, shuld be knowen to the Wardeyns of the same craft. 1524 *Act* 14 & 15 *Hen. VIII*, c. 3. § 9 This present act ..for limittyng of markes to the maker of worsteds, saies, and stamins. 1567 HARMAN *Caveat* 33 The markes shalbe pycked out cleane, and [the clothes] conuayed craftely fare of, to sell. 1594 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* II. 543 Hee will appoynt to haue a stone layde vpon his graue, in which his name shall bee ingrauen, & his marke, or some such like thing. 1607 HEYWOOD *Wom. Kild w. Kindn.* Wks. 1874 II. 142 Take with thee every thing that hath thy marke. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 38, I set a marke vpon these peeces, lest I should spend them. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 201 We spent all Tuesday..in getting Marks put upon our Arms, as commonly all Pilgrims do. 1696 PHILLIPS (ed. 5), *Mark*, .. Also a particular Character imprinted by Public Authority upon several things, either for the payment of Duties, or to prevent Adulteration. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 207 The Company's Mark upon all their Goods, Bales, and Parcels. 1704 NORRIS *Ideal World* II. v. 293 A mark of the artificer impressed upon his work. 1797 *Directory Sheffield* 137 Directory of the Manufacturers, with their marks. 1838 DICKENS *O. Twist* ix, I'll show you how to take the marks out of the handkerchiefs. *c* 1850 *Arab. Nts.* (Rtldg.) 640 The robber quickly made a mark on the door with some chalk he had for the purpose. 1885 *Encycl. Brit.* XIX. 186 The first of these [Hall-marks] was the *King's mark*—a leopard's or lion's head crowned.

b. With prefixed defining sb., as *age, cattle, flock, gunpowder, pedigree, pitch, raddle, sheep, wool mark.* Also EAR-, HALL-, TRADE-MARK.

1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 52 And se that they [sheep] be well marked, both eare marke, pitche marke, and radel marke. 1573 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 38 A sheepe marke, a tar kettle [etc.]. 1603 OWEN *Pembrokeshire* (1892) 56–7 As many as they can finde by the eare marke, for woolle markes is vsed but of few. 1607 COWELL *Interpr.* s.v. *Clack*, To clack wooll is to cut off the sheepes marke which maketh it to waigh less. 1802 JAMES *Mil. Dict.*, *Mark*..Gunpowder Marks. The different sorts of gunpowder are distinguished by the following marks. 1833 HT. MARTINEAU *Briery Creek* ii. 34 What about the cattle-marks? 1886 C. SCOTT *Sheep-Farming* 147 Sheep Marking—The flock mark, the age mark, and the pedigree mark, are all put on the ears of the stock lambs.

c. A visible sign, as a badge, brand, etc., assumed by or imposed on a person; *occas.* in *pl.* † insignia.

† *Christ's, God's mark, mark of clergy, of holy church*: the tonsure. *Mark of the Beast*: see Rev. xvi. 2 and BEAST *sb.* 7.

c 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 57 Sume oðre nimeð godes marc on hem, wandeþ here clades and naht here þeawes. *c* 1205 LAY. 29855 Biscopes and clerckes and preostes mid godes mærkes. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1003 Quuo ne bar ðanne is merk [*sc.* circumcision] him on fro godes folc sulde he be don. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 27252 Quar he..clething beres þat feris to clerc, or cron þat es o clergi merc. *Ibid.* 29283 Qua smites preist or clerk or ani berand cristes merk, als munk, or frer, nun, or chanun,..he is cursd. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 130 Þorgh God I þe forbede to chalange any clerke In lay courte for non nede, of holy kirke has merke. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 4402 Bot with þas þat had Criste forsaken And the merk of anticrist had taken [etc.]. 1382 WYCLIF *Rev.* xvi. 2 The carecte or marke of the beast. 1399 LANGL. *Rich. Redeles* II. 78 Me thynketh, That no manere meyntenour shulde merkis bere, Ne haue lordis leuere þe lawe to apeire. 1535 COVERDALE *Gen.* iv. 15 And the Lorde put a marck vpon Cain. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 118 b, Neyther maye any others, than suche as have the greate beastes charact, or Balles marke, be permitted to occupie that trade of marchaundyse. 1592 *Newes fr. Scotld., Life & D. Dr. Fian* B, They suspecting that she had beene marked by the Diuell (as commonly witches are) ..found the enemies marke to be in her fore crag. 1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* v. viii. 350 The priest ..was decked with the markes of the idoll. 1680 *True Protest. Intelligence* No. 3. 1/2 One of them, as it is said, had the Thieves mark in her hand. 1706 tr. *Dupin's Eccl. Hist. 16th C.* II. v. 4 He [Catharinus] believes the Marks of St. Francis. 1727–51 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v. *Herald*, Their persons are under the protection of the law of nations, when they bear the marks of their offices publicly, i. e. the trumpeter his trumpet, and the drummer his drum; as the herald his coat. 1874 GLADSTONE *Ritualism in Contemp. Rev.* Oct. 672 [The undivided clerical waistcoat] was deemed so distinctly Popish, that it acquired the nickname of 'The Mark of the Beast'; and..among the tailors..was familiarly known as 'the M.B. waistcoat'. 1881 SANDS *Sk. Tranent* 39 It was believed that Satan put a mark upon all who had enlisted into his service.

† **d.** *God's marks*: an appearance betokening impending death. (See GOD *sb.* 16 c.) *Obs.*

e. A character made with a pen, usually a cross, used by illiterate persons in place of a signature.

c 1020 *Rule St. Benet* (Logeman) lviii. 98 Odde soðes ȝif he na can stafas, oðer fram him ȝebeden write & se nicumena mearce do. 1434 in *E. E. Wills* (1882) 102 And y pray yowe loki thys marke and thys Seell, acorde as y Roger wyl answere afore god. 1588 in Arber *Marprel. Controv.* 82 William × Stanghtons marke. 1593 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. VI*, IV. ii. 110. 1627 in *Barnfield's Poems* (Arb.) Introd. 17 Peter Serieantes his × mark. 1766 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* II. xx. 305 Which custom our illiterate vulgar do .. keep up; by signing a cross for their mark when unable to write their names. 1851 H. MELVILLE *Whale* xviii. 100 Dost thou sign thy name or make thy mark?

f. A written symbol.

1737 J. CHAMBERLAYNE *St. Gt. Brit.* II. iii. 150 (List Councilmen Lond.) This * Mark denotes the New Members. 1862 ANSTED *Channel Isl.* II. ix. (ed. 2) 200 A mark of interrogation (?) [will denote] doubtful species. 1890 H. SWEET *Prim. Spoken Eng.* 2 The stress-marks are put before the element on which the stress begins. *Ibid.* 3 The tone-marks are put before the word they modify.

g. (*a*) *Good, bad mark*: a written character used by teachers, jailers, etc., in their registers as a symbol of an instance of good or bad conduct respectively; hence *fig.* a point noted or remembered to a person's credit or discredit. (*b*) Originally, in schools, a vertical line placed opposite to a pupil's name as a record of a correct answer in class or some other point of merit, his place in the class being determined by the number of 'marks' which he obtains. Hence, the unit of the numerical award given by a teacher or examiner to the person whose comparative merit is to be ascertained.

1829 LYTTON *Devereux* I. iii, I was one hundred marks before my brother. 1837 *Orders & Regul. Harvard Univ.* 8 The average of the marks given by the members of the [examining] Committee. 1887 D. A. LOW *Machine Draw.* (1892) 124 Inking-in,..and shading,..are not required in the examination, and receive no marks. 1891 H. MATTHEWS in *Law Times* XCII. 96/1 A convict who gains by steady industry the maximum number of marks during each day of his sentence. 1893 LELAND *Mem.* I. 73 The punishments were bad marks, and for every mark the boy was obliged to go to bed an hour earlier than the others.

† **h.** In schools, a badge worn by the pupil who had last committed some particular fault. *To pass the mark*: to get rid of the badge on detecting a schoolfellow in the same fault; also *fig. Obs.*

1832 MISS MITFORD *Village* Ser. v. 198 French was the universal language of the house, and an English mark was passed among the young ladies, transferred from culprit to culprit as they were detected in the fact, and called for three times a day, when the unlucky damsel who happened to be in possession of the badge was amerced in the sum of three-pence;..this order of demerit [was] an oval piece of wood, with ENGLISH, in large capitals engraven on its front, suspended by a riband from the neck. 1849 THACKERAY *Pendennis* xxxi, Bacon liked to be treated with rudeness by a gentleman, and used to pass it on to his inferiors as boys pass the mark. *c* 1855 MRS. GASKELL *Traits & Stories Huguenots* ad fin., I have now told all I know about the Huguenots. I pass the mark to some one else.

i. *Her.* A small charge added to a coat of arms as a sign of distinction; esp. in *mark of* CADENCY.

1702 [see CADENCY]. 1718 PRIOR *Henry & Emma* 49 This lord..Had brought back his paternal coat enlarg'd With a new mark. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) VIII. 445 Of all the forementioned marks of distinction, none but the label is affixed on the coats of arms belonging to any of the royal family.

j. *Freemasonry.* Used *attrib.* (with reference to sense 11 a) to designate a degree, grade, or rank immediately superior to that of the free and accepted mason (see 23).

12. Something (e.g. a line, dot, notch, or an object fixed or attached) intended to record or indicate position.

Plimsoll's mark: a load-line required by the Merchant Shipping Act, 1876 (the bill for which was introduced by S. Plimsoll, M.P. for Derby) to be placed upon the hull of a British vessel to indicate how far she may be loaded.

c 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xxiii. 146 *Quartus tortor.* That was well drawen that that; ffare fall hym that so puld! ffor to haue getten it to the marke, I trow lewde man ne clerk Nothyng better shuld. 1530 PALSGR. 529/1 You have dronke to me, but you muste drinke agayne, for you tolde me nat whether you dranke to a marke or els al out. 1635–56 COWLEY *Davideis* IV. Note 29 Almost all great changes in the world are used as Marks for separation of Times. 1725 J. BRADLEY in *Penny Cycl.* (1836) V. 320/1 Adjusted ye mark to the Plumb Line and then ye Index stood at 8. *Ibid.*, By this observation ye mark is about 3″ ½ too much south, but adjusting ye mark and plumbline I fouad ye Index at 8¼. 1807 HUTTON *Course Math.* II. 59 Having set up marks at the corners, which is to be done in all cases where there are not marks naturally; measure [etc.]. 1870 MISS BRIDGMAN *Rob. Lynne* I. xiii. 216 She slips the letter in her novel for a mark. 1881 *Daily Tel.* 28 Jan., I see Plimsoll's mark there—pretty high up, isn't it, skipper? 1903 *Daily Chron.* 8 Jan. 5/2 The floods .. call attention to the little interest that is taken by local authorities as regards erecting flood-marks.

b. *Naut.* A measured notification on a hand lead-line, indicated by a piece of white, blue, or red bunting, a piece of leather or a knot.

Marks and deeps: the method of indicating the depths on the hand lead-line, the marks being indicated fathoms and the deeps estimated fathoms between the marks (Smyth *Sailor's Word-Bk.* 1867).

1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1780) s. v. *Sounding*, If the mark of 5 fathoms is close to the surface of the water he calls 'By the mark five!' *c* 1860 H. STUART *Seaman's Catech.* 43 Suppose you had five fathoms of water, what soundings would you call? By the mark five.

c. *fig.*, esp. in certain phrases, as *to be above, beneath, near, under, up to, within the mark*: to be above (etc.) a fixed or recognized standard.

1765 FOOTE *Commissary* III. (1782) 75 He is rather under your mark, I am afraid; not above twenty at most. 1821 JEFFERSON *Autobiog.* Writ. 1892 I. 15 He feared that Mr. Nicholas, whose mind was not yet up to the mark of the times, would undertake the answer. 1822 COBBETT *Weekly Reg.* 2 Feb. 286 If prices fall a great deal lower than their present mark. 1842 BORROW *Bible in Spain* xliii. (Pelh. Libr.) 298, I..have a horse that will just suit him; one that is..eight inches above the mark. 1845 M^c^CULLOCH *Taxation* II. vi. (1852) 270 It is, if anything, rather below than above the mark. 1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* I. 336/2 Say half a million turned over in a year, Sir,..and you're within the mark. 1861 GOSCHEN *For. Exch.* 14 The indebtedness under the present hypothesis is not excessive but under the mark. 1861 F. W. ROBINSON *No Church* I. 309 He made the sum come pretty near the mark—just a five pound note out. 1878 GEO. ELIOT *Coll. Breakf. P.* 629 A vanity Which finds the universe beneath its mark. 1887 RIDER HAGGARD *Jess* viii, John .. guessed that he could not weigh less than seventeen stone, and he was well within the mark at that. 1888 W. E. NORRIS *Rogue* ix, There wouldn't be much excuse for me if I weren't up to the mark. 1890 STOCKTON in *Century Mag.* Feb. 543/1 The story don't step up to the mark.

d. *Rugby Football.* The heel-mark on the ground, made by a player who has obtained a 'fair catch'.

1867 *Rugby School Football Laws* 2 A Fair Catch is a catch from a kick, or a knock on from the hand .. of the opposite side, or a throw on, when the catcher makes a mark with his heel. 1896 *Field* 1 Feb. 172/2 A mark by a Devon man gained much relief. *Ibid.* 173/1 A goal had also been kicked by Finlay from a mark. *Ibid.* 8 Feb. 207/1 Hughes made his mark without success.

13. A visible trace or impression diversifying a surface, whether produced by nature, accident, or design, as a line, dot, written character, spot, stain, discolouration, scar, or the like. Also with prefixed sb., as *birth-, bullet-, file-mark.*

c 1325 *Metr. Hom.* 57 Thar his throt was scorn wit knif, A red merk was al his lyf. 1388 Wyclif *Lev.* xix. 28 Nether ȝe schulen make to ȝou ony fyguris, ether markis in ȝoure fleisch. 1413 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton 1483) IV. xxxvi. 84 The honoure of suche persones ben many markes of woundes. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* xiv. 19 Sic losin sarkis, so mony glengoir markis Within this land was nevir hard nor sene. 1530 Palsgr. 699/1 It was scaulded whan I was yonge, but I shall beare the marke so longe as I lyve. 1590 Shaks. *Com. Err.* I. ii. 82, I haue some markes of yours vpon my pate: Some of my Mistris markes vpon my shoulders. 1593 — *Lucr.* 538 For markes discried in mens natiuitie, Are natures faultes, not their owne infamie. 1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* VII. x. (1614) 702 Their blacke skinnes, white eyes, and cauterised markes seeme to conspire a dreadfull and gastly deformitie in their faces. 1687 A. Lovell tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 9 The Arms of the Great Masters, who have been wounded in Action, are to be seen there, with marks upon them. 1805 Ring in *Med. Jrnl.* XIV. 405 The marks he bore, were deemed a sufficient security against..the small-pox. 1828 Fleming *Hist. Brit. Anim.* 96 Some feathers have a dark mark in the middle. 1831 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 112 The mark of a bunch of currants on his breast, with which the boy was born. 1848 W. H. Bartlett *Egypt to Pal.* x. (1879) 220 The long marks of ancient cutting-tools were still seen overhead and around. 1849 Dickens *Dav. Copp.* xx, She has borne the mark ever since, as you see;..and she'll bear it to her grave. 1858 O. W. Holmes *Aut. Breakf.-t.* (1883) 86 A bullet-mark on his right cheek. 1868 Darwin *Anim. & Pl.* II. xiii. 42 A Spanish mule with strong zebra-like marks on its legs. 1888 Hasluck *Model Engin. Handybk.* (1900) 131 File-marks running in straight parallel lines.

b. *To leave, make a mark*: to leave or make a permanent, important, or obvious impression. *To make one's mark*: to attain distinction.

1857 Buckle *Civilis.* I. xiii. 707 The movement was now becoming sufficiently active to leave its marks on the writings of far inferior men. 1867 O. W. Holmes *Guard. Angel* II. v. 95 Not one promised to make such a mark in society if she found an opening. 1868 Miss Braddon *Dead Sea Fruit* II. ix. 211 Those little verses..have made their mark. 1893 F. F. Moore *I Forbid Banns* (1899) 7 It may safely be predicted that they will make their mark in the world. 1898 *Daily News* 11 Jan. 6/7 Politicians who have left their mark upon the first sixty years of New Zealand's existence.

c. *Hunting.* Applied *spec.* to the footprints of certain animals. (Cf. March *sb.*3 9.)

a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Marks*, the Footing of an Otter. 1727–51 Chambers *Cycl.* (s.v. *Hunting*).

d. *Cards.* (See quot.)

1876 Capt. Crawley *Card Players' Man.* (*Quadrille*) 196 *Mark* means the fish put down by the dealer.

†**14.** *Sc.* A stone or cluster of stones of larger size, placed at intervals in a jewelled chain. *Obs.*

1573 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* II. 247 Ane chayn of rubeis with twelf markes of dyamontis and rubeis, and ane mark with twa rubeis.

15. That which is signified by a mark. †**a.** Those who bear a particular mark or stamp (*fig.*); a person's race, sect, etc. *Obs.*

c 1385 Chaucer *Wife's Prol.* 696 They [wommen] wolde han writen of men moore wikkednesse Than all the mark of Adam may redresse. 1542–5 Brinklow *Lament.* 11 Not the Bisshope of Rome alone, but he and all his marke with hym. 1555 in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* (1721) III. App. xliv. 124 The Magistrates and Gentlemen may have like cause against them [Popish clergy], and al the Company of that Mark, which..was Cause of their Perjury.

b. A particular 'brand', make, quality, or size of an article.

1669 Sturmy *Mariner's Mag.* V. xii. 68 In regard of the several differences of the length and marks, or Diameter of her Base and Muzzle-ring, no certain proportion can be generally assigned. 1758 *Monthly Rev.* 204 The prices of Grinding..and Diamond-cutting the several Marks or Sizes [of plate-glass]. 1904 *Speaker* 11 June 240/2 The same mark varies so much from year to year that no one would dare to purchase without examining a sample bale [of wool].

c. *vulgar.* (One's) 'style of thing', what will suit one's needs or tastes.

1760 Foote *Minor* II. (1767) 53 Hark'e, knight, did I not tell you, old Moll was your mark. Here she hath brought you a pretty piece of man's meat already. 1887 Henley *Culture in Slums* iii, My mark's a tidy little feed, And 'Enery Irving's gallery.

†**16.** A flock or 'game' of swans marked with the same identifying brand. Also *swan-mark. Obs.*

1482 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 224 Markes and Games of Swannes, in divers Countres. 1489 *Will of N. Hardy*, Unum marke de signis. 1500 *Will of R. Tyllisworth*, All that my marke and game of Swannys swymmyng within the Kinges ryver of the Thamyse. 1550 *Will of L. Bawdrey*, lx*s*. the price of a swan marke.

†**17.** ? A bundle or packet of definite size. *Obs.*

1583 *Rates Custom Ho.* E iijb, Sheres for Sempsters the mark contayning two dosen.

18. (*God*) *bless* (or *save*) *the mark* (or †*sample*): an exclamatory phrase, prob. originally serving as a formula to avert an evil omen (cf. quot. 1833) and hence used by way of apology when something horrible, disgusting, indecent or profane has been mentioned. In mod. literary use (after some of the examples in Shaks.), an expression of impatient scorn appended to a quoted expression or to a statement of fact.

[It has been affirmed (see W. A. Henderson in *N. & Q.* 8th ser. VII. 373) that the phrase was used by midwives at the birth of a child bearing a 'mark'. This may possibly be its original use: cf. quot. *a* 1625 below. The meaning of 'mark' in the expression may, however, have been 'sign' or 'omen' (see 11). There is no foundation for the statement copied in recent Dicts. from Dr. Brewer, that the phrase was originally used by archers.]

1591 Shaks. *Two Gent.* IV. iv. 21 Hee had not bin there (blesse the marke) a pissing while, but all the chamber smelt him. 1592 — *Rom. & Jul.* III. ii. 53 (Qo. 2, 1599), I saw the wound, I saw it with mine eyes, God saue the marke, here on [Qo. 1, 1597 the sample, on] his manly brest. 1593 Churchyard *Challenge* 240 Browne and blacke I was, God blesse the marke: Who cals me faire dooth scarce know Cheese from chalke. 1596 Shaks. 1 *Hen. IV*, I. iii. 56 (Qo. 1, 1598) To see him..talke so like a waiting-gentlewoman, Of guns, and drums, and wounds..God saue the mark. 1604 — *Oth.* I. i. 33 (Qo. 1, 1622) He in good time, must his Leiutenant be, And I, God blesse the marke, his Worships Ancient. *a* 1625 Fletcher *Noble Gent.* IV. iv. Indeed he was just such another coxcomb as your husband, God blesse the mark, and every good mans childe. 1761 Sterne *Tr. Shandy* III. xxxiii, My father..had no more nose, my dear, saving the mark, than there is upon the back of my hand. 1820 W. Irving *Sketch Bk., Sleepy Hollow* (1865) 440 The motherly tea-pot sending up its cloud of vapor from the midst—Heaven bless the mark! 1824 Carlyle in Froude *Life* (1882) I. 261 The best of my talents (bless the mark) shut up even from my own poor view. 1833 *Dublin Penny Jrnl.* II. 23/2 'An' they say', remarked a third, 'that if a body swears in the wrong wid that [the garvarry] about his neck, his face'll be turned to the back of his head, God bless the mark!' 1849 James *Woodman* ii, God save the mark, that I should give the name of king to one of his kindred. 1902 W. James *Varieties Relig. Exp.* 204 *note*, The crisis of apathetic melancholy ..from which he emerged by the reading of Marmontel's Memoirs (Heaven save the mark!) and Wordsworth's poetry.

19. A die or stamp for impressing a manufacturer's mark on goods. (Cf. *mark-maker* in 23).

IV. Remark, notice (= senses of Note *sb.*).

†**20.** Attention, notice. *Obs.*

1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xvii. 103 And may vch man se and gode mierke take, Who is bihynde and who bifore, and who ben on hors. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* viii. 68 Of shippe-craft can I right noght, Of ther makyng haue I no merke. 1600 Holland *Livy* VII. xxxiv. 273 All this went hee to espie..clad in a common souldiours jacket..; to the end, that the enemies might not take marke of the Generall himselfe. 1671 Sir C. Lyttelton in *Hatton Corr.* (Camden) 70 One marke they take of it is employing Sr George Downing embassador thither. 1823 Scott *Peveril* ix, Little matter worthy of mark occurred.

21. *Of mark*: noteworthy, important, conspicuous. Chiefly following a sb.; rarely *predicative.* Also *of great, little,* etc. *mark.*

Cf. F. *homme de marque* (Cotgr.). The etymological allusion is probably to the mark placed on goods to indicate quality (see sense 11).

1590 Nashe *Pasquil's Apol.* I. Wks. (Grosart) I. 220 The wisedome of the land..compared our Nobilitie and men of marke, to the flowers that stand about the Princes Crowne. 1596 Shaks. 1 *Hen. IV*, III. ii. 45 A fellow of no marke, nor likelyhood. 1600 Holland *Livy* XXVI. xxxiii. 609 They were of greater marke and calling than the rest. *a* 1614 D. Dyke *Myst. Self-deceiving* (ed. 8) 355 They grieue at those good works of others, if of any marke, wherein they haue had no hand themselues. 1622 S. Ward *Christ All in All* (1627) 8 This whole Vniverse,..and all the things of mark and vse in it,..but for him should not have been. 1647 May *Hist. Parl.* Pref. 4 Sufferings of..so high a mark. 1791 Burke *App. Whigs* Wks. VI. 200 These are the notions which .. several persons, and among them persons of no mean mark, have associated themselves to propagate. 1860 Longf. *Wayside Inn, K. Olaf* IX. ii, A learned clerk, A man of mark. 1861 Thackeray *Four Georges* i, A rascal of more than ordinary mark. 1879 McCarthy *Own Times* II. xxix. 399 He still held a place of great mark in literature. 1885 *Mag. Art* Sept. 450/1 Granada was a place of little mark as compared with Cordova.

22. (*dial.* and *slang.*) *A mark on* (something): one with an astonishing appetite for.

1883 Miss Braddon *Golden Calf* XXV. 274 Vernon was what Rogers the butler called 'a mark on' strawberries and cream. 1895 Downe *Ballads* 31 (E. D. D.) A mark on swearin'? Ah, sir, that he be.

V. 23. *attrib.* and *Comb.*: †**mark-arrow**, an arrow used only for target practice; **mark-boat**, a boat moored at a particular spot as a seamark; **mark-book**, a book for recording conduct marks; †**mark-feast**, a school feast provided at the end of the half-year from the scholars' fines for holding the mark (sense 11 h); **mark-getter**, a student who obtains marks; **mark-lodge**, a lodge of mark masons; **mark-maker**, a maker of stamp marks; **mark man, mark mason, mark master (mason)**, a freemason holding a certain rank in mark masonry; **mark masonry** (see 11 j); †**mark-mear**, a boundary; **marks paper**, a paper for recording students' or other merit marks; †**mark's point**, the bull's-eye of a target (*fig.*); †**mark-shot**, the distance between the butts in archery; **mark tooth**, the tooth of a horse containing the mark (cf. 11 e); **mark-vessol**, = *mark-boat*; †**mark-white**, the bull's-eye of a target (*fig.*).

1527 *Lanc. Wills* (Chetham Soc. 1854) 31, I will that the said Percyvall..have..the half of my *marke aroys. 1879 *Daily News* 7 Apr. 3/2 They paddled below the *mark-boats, and drifted up with the tide. 1894 *Outing* (U. S.) XXIV. 36/1 We were still fully two miles from the mark-boat. 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 28 June 2/1 My *mark-book with its blank column for disorder-marks against her name was a striking contrast to those of the other mistresses. 1832 Miss Mitford *Village* Ser. v. 200 Readily would the whole company have foregone all the luxuries of the *mark-feast. ? *c* 1860 W. Cory *Lett. & Jrnls.* (1897) 571 A good 'examination boy', or *mark-getter. 1869 *Edin. Rev.* Oct. 554 The highest mark-getters generally turn out well. 1898 *Mark lodge [see *mark master*]. 1797 *Directory Sheffield* 56 Cartwright, George, *mark-maker, and penknife cutler. 1883 *Kelly's Sheffield Directory* 194 Ashmore, Cornelius, mark maker and lettercutter. 1853 Oliver *Dict. Symbol. Masonry* s.v. *Mason Marks*, Those brethren who have been initiated into the degrees of *Mark-Man and *Mark-Master. *Ibid.*, **Mark Masons.* The degree of Mark-Master Mason may be considered as appendant to that of Fellow Craft, although entirely distinct..from it. 1862 *Builder* 1 Nov. 784/3 Gunn, who had cut out the cup, was a good mark-mason...Referring to *mark-masonry, Mr. Gowans said [etc.]. 1898 *Daily News* 25 Oct. 2/1 There was a distinguished gathering of Mark Master Masons at Windsor yesterday, when the Grand Mark Master of England, the Prince of Wales, having issued a warrant for a new *Mark Lodge to be established at Windsor, the consecration took place at the Masonic Hall. 1582 Stanyhurst *Æneis* I. (Arb.) 28 Thow seest large Affrick, thee Moores, and Towne of Agenor, Thee Libye land *marck mears. 1880 *Plain Hints Needlework* 13 This should always have a special column in the *marks-paper. 1553 Kennedy *Compend. Tract.* in *Wodrow Soc. Misc.* (1844) 102 In the understanding of this consistis the heale purpose, and *markis poynt quhilk we schute at. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* XII. 33 Schir Henry of Bowme..Com on a steid, a *merk-schot neir Befor all othir that thair wer. *c* 1450 *Merlin* 287 Thei were putte bakke the space of a mark shote. 1626 Bacon *Sylva* § 754 At foure yeares old there commeth the *Mark-Tooth,..at eight yeares old, the Tooth is smooth,..and then they say; That the Marke is out of the Horses Mouth. 1884 *World* 20 Aug. 22/2 The Royal London Yacht Club had..a *mark-vessel off Lymington. 1596 Spenser *F. Q.* V. v. 35 At the *marke-white of his hart she roved.

Mark (mārk), *sb.*2 Forms: 1–5 (also from Fr. 8–9) marc; 4–7 marke, 5 marcke, 5–6 *Sc.* merke, 5–9 *Sc.* merk, 3 mark. [Found in all the Teut. and Rom. langs.; Late OE. *marc* neut. (9th c.), OFris. *merk* fem., MDu. *marc* fem., neut., masc. (Du. *mark* neut.), MHG. *mark, marke* fem. (mod.G. *mark* fem.), ON. *mǫrk* fem. (Sw., Da. *mark*); med.L. *marca* (? 9th century), *marcus* (12th c.), F. *marc* masc. (11th c.), Pr. *marc* masc., Sp., Pg., It. *marco* masc., It. *marca* fem.

The form of the OE. word (with *a* not 'broken' before *rc*) shows that it is not a native word; some scholars have supposed it to be from ON., but the gender perhaps points rather to popular Latin as the source. The proximate origin appears to be Romanic; whether the word is ultimately Teutonic (connected with Mark *sb.*1) is doubtful.]

1. A denomination of weight formerly employed (chiefly for gold and silver) throughout western Europe; its actual weight varied considerably, but it was usually regarded as equivalent to 8 ounces (= either ⅔ or ½ of a pound, according to the meaning given to the latter term).

a. As an English or Scottish weight, or without reference to locality. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.*

886 *Ælfred & Guthrum's Peace* § 2 Ealle we lætað efen dyrne Engliscne & Deniscne, to viii. healfmearcum [*v. r.* marcum] æsodenes goldes. *c* 1205 Lay. 22392 ȝet ich wulle mære..ælche ȝere of mine londe seouen þusand punde [thee send] & senden heom to þine londe & sixti mark of golde. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 11724 To the grekes bus vs gyfie, to graunt vs for pes, Twenty thowsaund thristy, þrungyn togedur, Markes full mighty, all of mayn gold. 1438 in *E. E. Wills* (1882) 111 Euery cuppe weynge a mark & a half of Troye. 1483 Caxton *Gold. Leg.* 189 b/1 He departed emonge them a marcke of golde. 1505 *Ld. Treas. Acc. Scot.* (1900) II. 244 Quhilk weyit lv mark, and ilk mark contenand viij unce of gold. 1530 Palsgr. 243/1 Marke of golde or silver, *marc.* 1568 Grafton *Chron.* II. 735 A hundreth Markes of siluer made in Plate, whereof euery Marke is .viii. ounces sterlyng.

b. Used to represent its etymological equivalent in various continental langs., as the name of a foreign weight.

1731 *Gentl. Mag.* I. 112 Fine silver at 24 [Dutch] Guilders 2 Stivers Banco *per* Mark fine. 1811 P. Kelly *Univ. Cambist* I. 96, 480 Marks Cologne weight = 451 Ounces English Troy. 1902 *Encycl. Brit.* XXVII. 11/1 In silver and copper mining the marc (8 ounces) is commonly used to express the richness of the metal [in Chile].

†c. In the Orkneys: see quot. 1859. *Obs.*

1576 in *Oppress. Orkney & Zetland* (Abbotsf. Cl.) 41 Lykwyiss the merk of copper of auld was sauld for twa schillingis of wairis, and now thai tak four schillingis thairfor. 1859 *Ibid.* Gloss. 127 *Mark*, ..a weight = 8 ounces or ¾ of a Lispund or Setteen, gradually raised to 20 ounces.

2. A money of account, originally representing the value of a mark weight of pure silver.

a. In England, after the Conquest, the ratio of 20 sterling pennies to an ounce was the basis of computation; hence the value of the mark became fixed at 160 pence = 13*s.* 4*d.* or ⅔ of the £ sterling. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.*

In legal use (in stating the amount of a fine) as late as 1770. Sir Roger de Coverley's use of the mode of reckoning

by marks (quot. 1712) is prob. intended as an example of an old-fashioned habit of speech.

c 1050 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1040 (MS. C), Swiðe strang ȝyld, þ man hit uneaðe acom, þ wæs viii marc æt ha. *a* 1200 *Moral Ode* 296 ȝut hi hud a wurse stede on þere helle grunde ne sculle hi neure comen vp for marke ne for punde. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 8084 He..borewede þer uppe of him an bondred þousend marc. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Pard. T.* 62 By this gaude have I wonne, yeer by yeer, An hundred mark sith I was Pardoner. *a* 1400 *Octouian* 889 That wyf hym taught markes and poundes; He purueyde haukes and houndys. *c* 1412 Hoccleve *De Reg. Princ.* 1224, Vj marc yeerly, to scars is to sustene The charges þat I haue. 1526 Skelton *Magnyf.* 1121 In my purse was twenty marke. *a* 1529 — *Col. Cloute* 729 His benefyce worthe ten pounde, Or skante worth twenty marke. 1542 Recorde *Gr. Artes* (1575) 198 Poundes, Markes, and shillings, whiche though they haue no coynes, yet is there no name more in vse than they. 1607 Norden *Surv. Dial.* iv. 173 Thirteene shillings and foure pence, or a Marke of money. 1652 *Plymouth Col. Rec.* (1855) III. 12 Leiftenant Samuell Nash..is to haue for his wages 20 marke p. annum. 1712 Addison *Spect.* No. 269 ♂ 5, I..have deposited with him thirty Marks, to be distributed among his poor Parishioners. 1771 *Gentl. Mag.* XLI. 82 On the 28th of November 1770, the defendant was brought up for judgment...The judgment of the Court was, to pay ten marks (*i.e.* 6l. 13*s.* 4*d.*) to the King.

b. In Scotland, the value of the mark was lowered proportionately with that of the shilling and penny, so that it represented 13*s.* 4*d.* Scots, reckoned as = 13⅓*d.* English. †*Mark mark like* Sc. [after MDu. *mark markgelike*]: mark for mark, in the same proportion.

1480 *Acta Dom. Concil.* (1839) 72/2 þat the saides Macolme & Arthure sall pay in like proporcioune of þe said annuel, efferand to þe part of þe land þat ather of þaim has, mark mark lyke, comptand be þe ald extent. 1482 *Bond* in *Thanes Cawdor* (Spalding Cl.) 66 Fyw hundreth merkis of the usualle money of Scotlande. 1639 Drumm. of Hawth. *Consid. to Parlt.* Wks. (1711) 187 Under the pain often merks. 1710 *Agreement* in *Family of Rose of Kilravock* (Spalding Cl.) 401 Ane contract of wodseate..seting and resing the tenents at tuo thusand merk per chalder of free rent. 1858 M. Porteous *Souter Johnny, To Burns* 33 'Twill cost some fowks twal hunner merk, Or aiblins near.

c. Representing the various continental forms of the same word, as a name of foreign moneys of account. *Mark banco* (Hamburg): see Banco. *Mark Lubish, Lubs*: see Lubish *a.*

1475 *Bk. Noblesse* (Roxb.) 32 Lifelode of londes and tenementis yoven in the counte of Mayne to the yerely valeu of .x.M[l]. marcs yerely, whiche was .lx.M[l].li. Turneis. 1523 Lo. Berners *Froiss.* I. xiv. 14 The kyng..dyd gyue hym cccc. markis. *Ibid.*, The kyng..dyd gyue to Philip of Chastaulxe, his chef esquyer,..C. marke of rent yerely. 1753 Hanway *Trav.* (1762) II. I. iii. 17 They [Hamburg traders] keep their accounts in marks and schillings, sixteen schillings to a mark. 1902 *Encycl. Brit.* XXXI. 289/2 The first reform in the coinage of the German Empire occurred in 1871, when the new gold money was introduced, which had for its unit the silver mark (a money of account) of 100 pfennigs.

3. *Shetland.* A denomination of land, from the feu duty formerly paid to the superior.

1774 G. Gifford in G. Low *Orkney* (1879) 145 The term Pennyland..in Schetland..marks the quality, and according to the value of the land, every Mark contains more or fewer Pennies. 1793 *Statist. Acc. Scotl.* V. 195 *note*, In some instances, a merk may be less than an acre; in others, perhaps, equal to two acres. 1884 *Scotsman* 26 July 3/1 (Shetland Advt.) Three Merks, One Ure and One-Third of an Ure of Land.

4. As the name of a coin. (Never so used with reference to English coinage.)

a. In Scotland, a coin of the value of 13*s.* 4*d.* Scots (see 2 b). *Half-mark*: a coin of the value of 6*s.* 8*d.* Scots. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.*

1480 *Acta Dom. Concil.* (1839) 74/1, v marcis scotis for ilk pund grete. 1570–1 *Reg. Privy Council Scotl.* XIV. 89 Ane silver penny to have course and passage for xiijs. iiijd. of this realme, to be callit the merk peice, and the half of the same for vjs. viiid., to be callit the halff merk peice.

b. Used to represent its etymological equivalents in various foreign languages, as the name of various copper and silver coins current at various times on the Continent, esp. a modern silver coin of the German Empire first issued in 1875, containing 77·16 grains troy, and worth slightly less than the English shilling.

1727-52 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v., Mark is a copper-coin in Sweden, equal to two-pence farthing sterling. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XV. 324/2 *Mark*, a silver coin in Hamburg...The mark is worth 1*s.* 2¾*d.* 1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 732 *note*, The substitution of the mark for the older thaler came into force [in Germany] 1st January 1875.

†5. *attrib.*: **mark pound, weight** (see quots.).

1576–77 *Reg. Privy Council Scotl.* II. 601 Deduceing onelie for his panis sex schillingis for the merk wecht. 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Mark-weight*, a foreign weight commonly of 8 Ounces; and *Mark-Pound* is two such Marks, or 16 Ounces. 1902 D. Macleane *Coronation* 123 [The oblation of] A 'Purse of Gold' was, until Victoria, 'a Mark weight of gold'—i. e. 8 ounces troy.

Mark (mārk), *v.* Forms: 1 (mærcian, mearcian, *Northumb.* mercīza), 2 merki, markian, 3 mærcen, 3–5 merke, 3–7 marke, 4 merkke, 4–6 merk, 5 marc, mirk, mork, 6 merck, 6–7 marck(e, 4– mark. [OE. *mearcian* = OFris. *merkia*, OS. *markon, gimarkon* to destine, appoint, observe, remark (MDu. *marken, merken* to set a mark on, to observe, Du. *merken* to set a mark on), OHG. *marchôn* to limit, plan out, destine (mod.G. as new-formation *marken* to set a mark in, stamp), ON. *marka* to draw the outline of, put a mark on, observe:—OTeut. **markôjan*, f. **markâ* Mark *sb.*[1] A parallel formation from the sb. (OTeut. **markjôn*) appears in OHG., MHG. *merchen, merken* (mod.G. *merken*), ON. *merkja* (Sw. *märka*, Da. *merke*). The Rom. langs. have a corresponding formation from the adopted sb.: F. *marquer* (which is the source of some of the uses of the Eng. vb.), Pr., Sp., Pg. *marcar*, It. *marcare*.]

I. To put a mark upon.

1. *trans.* To trace out boundaries for; to plot out (ground); to set out the ground plan of (a building); *fig.* to plan out, design. a. *simply.* (Now only *fig.* in poetic use.)

c 888 K. Ælfred *Boeth.* xxxix. § 6 Ælc cræfteȝa ðenceð & mearcað his weorc on his mode ær ær he hit wyrce. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Deut.* i. 33 Se..mearcode þa stowa þe [Vulg. *metatus est locum, in quo*] ȝe eowre ȝeteld on slean sceoldon. *a* 1225 *St. Marher.* 20 Þu wisest wruhte of alle, markedest eorðe, þu stores mon of sea stream, þu wissent ant weldent of alle wihtes. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 2500 In an harde rochi stede is þuong aboute he drow & þer wiþinne al to is wille Markede place inou & rerde þer an castel. *c* 1384 Chaucer *H. Fame* III. 13 If..thou Wilt helpe me to schewe now That in myn hede y-marked is [etc.]. 1604 E. G[rimstone] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* IV. vi. 222 To note and marke the mine, and so much ground in circuite for him, which the Lawe graunts...those that discover any mine. 1747 P. Francis *Hor. Sat.* I. i. 140 Some certain mean in all things may be found, To mark our virtues, and our vices bound. 1844 [see Idea *sb.* 2].

b. with *out.*

1611 Bible *Isa.* xliv. 13 The carpenter stretcheth out his rule:..he marketh it out with the compasse, and maketh it after the figure of a man. 1769 Goldsm. *Hist. Rome* (1786) I. 411 This extraordinary man [J. Cæsar]..had, from the beginning of his life, marked out a way to universal empire. 1842 Borrow *Bible in Spain* xxx. (Pelh. Libr.) 218 To ascend the mountain, where, no doubt, he has been marking out a camp. 1879 Browning *Martin Relph* 78 And all that time stood Rosamund Page..Bandaged about, on the turf marked out for the party's firing-place. 1890 'R. Boldrewood' *Miner's Right* v. 52 The Major and I..are on our way to mark out that very claim.

†c. *poet.* in alliterative phrases: To fashion, frame. *Obs.*

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 4286 For hom wit lacket Of þe Godhed giffen, þat grew from the sun, þat all mightyle made & merket of noght. 14.. *Siege Jerus.* 112 Þe þridde in heuen myd hem is þe holy goste, Neþer merked ne made bot mene fram hem passyþ. *c* 1420 *Sir Amadace* (Camden) lvii, The fayrist knyȝte, That euyr ȝette I see with syȝte, Sethen I was market mon. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xix. 3 God, that mayde both more and les,..And merkyd man to his lyknes.

†d. To fix the position of; to set or place (in a particular situation). *Obs.*

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 142 By-ȝonde þe broke..I hope[de] þat mote merked wore. *Ibid.* B. 637 Messez of mylke he merkkez bytwene.

2. To make a mark or marks on (anything) as by drawing, stamping, impressing, applying, cutting, or the like.

a 1035 *Laws of Cnute* II. c. 32 (Schmid) Gif þeowman æt þam ordale ful weorðe, mearcie man hine æt þam forman cyrre. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 87 God het Moyses..þet heo sculden..merki mid þan blode hore duren. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 21698 To tuelue men taght þai wandes tuelue, Ilkan merked his him-self. *c* 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* II. 401 Nowe is tyme ..The lambis and the beestis more & lesse To marke. ? 1466 Sir J. Paston in *P. Lett.* II. 293 Ther is on potte that is morkyn ondre the bottome ij tymes with thyes letteris M. P. 1483 Caxton *Gold. Leg.* 431 b/1 He was marked or tokened on the lyppes of hym with an hote and brennyng yron. *c* 1490 — *Rule St. Benet* (E. E. T. S.) 136 Yf that he can not write & marke it with his owne sygne. 1523 Fitzherb. *Husb.* § 52 Se that they [the sheep] be well marked. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 80 b, The byshoppes ministers are wont to marke mens foreheades with Asshes. 1611 Shaks. *Cymb.* III. iii. 56 My bodie's mark'd With Roman Swords. 1682 *True Protest. Mercury* No. 105. 2/2 He stole a Silver Tankard, marked I. F. 1712–13 Swift *Jrnl. to Stella* 22 Feb., Miss is recovering [from the small-pox]. I know not how much she will be marked. 1844 Halliwell *Octavian* (Percy Soc.) Pref. 11 In the Cambridge manuscript, now marked Ff. ii. 38, his name is spelt Octavyan. 1868 Dickens *Uncomm. Trav.* xvii, The Guard comes clambering round to mark the tickets.

absol. 14.. *Debate Carpenter's Tools* in Halliw. *Nugæ Poet.* 15 'Ȝe, ȝe', seyd the lyne and the chalke..'I schall merke upone the wode And kepe his mesures trew and gode'. *Mod.* This pencil won't mark.

b. *spec.* †(*a*) To embroider (*obs.*); (*b*) To place an identifying mark on linen or other household furniture by means of embroidery or stitching, or with marking-ink.

c 1400 *Emare* 386 She tawghte hem to sewe and marke all maner of sylkyn werke. 1530 Palsgr. 633/1 All my thynges be marked with this marke. 1704 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3981/4 Handkerchiefs, marked with W. 1713 *Rules Lambeth Girls' Sch.* v. in *N. & Q.* (1902) 9th Ser. X. 256/2 They are to be taught to Read, Write, Spin, Knit and Sew and Mark. 1888 J. Payn *Myst. Mirbridge* xvii. II. 17 We are marking the house linen. 1890 Sarah Tytler *Jean Keir* 42 She marked their handkerchiefs.

c. *Comm.* To attach to (an article) figures or signs indicating the price. *To mark down*: to label (goods) with a lower figure; to reduce the indicated price of (anything).

1894 *Daily Tel.* 16 Jan. 5/7 All seaborne qualities [of coal] were marked down 3*s.* per ton. 1896 Howells *Impressions & Exp.* 53 She was dressed in a..ready-made suit, which somehow suggested itself as having been 'marked down'. *Mod. Advt.* All goods are marked in plain figures.

d. *pass.* To have or bear natural marks. Also *fig.*

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 5477 His kyngdom was clene clustrit with hilles, All merkyd with mounteyns, & with mayn hylles. 1600 *Maydes Metamorph.* v. i. 127 Is not this hard luck to wander so long, And in the end to finde his wife markt wrong. [She has been transformed into a man.] 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* IV. 150 The better Brood, unlike the Bastard Crew, Are mark'd with Royal Streaks of shining Hue 1855 W. S. Dallas in *Syst. Nat. Hist.* I. 387 The species of the genus *Argynnis*..are elegantly marked with silvery spots.

3. To form or portray by making marks.

1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 123 The nynthe Signe..Is cleped Sagittarius, The whos figure is marked thus, A Monstre with a bowe on honde. *c* 1391 Chaucer *Astrol.* I. § 12 Next the forseide Cercle of the Abc., under the cros-lyne, is marked the scale. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 2636 He cled him all in clene stele a conyschaunce ouire, þat made was & merkid on þe messedone armes. 1687 A. Lovell tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 201 They'll have this to be the Figure of St. Jerome, which God was pleased should be marked upon that Stone, because of the great love he had for that place.

†4. Used to render L. *signāre* 'to seal'. *Obs.*

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xxvii. 66 *Signantes lapidem*, mercande ðone stan. 1382 Wyclif *John* iii. 33 He that hath takun his witnessing, hath markid that God is sothfast.

†5. To make with the hand (the sign of the cross); to make the sign of the cross upon (one's breast, etc.), to 'cross' (oneself). Also, to invest (a person) with the sign of the cross in token of his joining a crusade. *Obs.*

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 127 Vppon heom alswa we er seiden we sculen markian þet tacne of þere halie rode. 1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 7848 Þe bedde, ne hym, ne durst þey touche, So had he marked hym with þe crouche. *a* 1330 *Otuel* 891 Þei markeden hem alle þre, To him þat þolede deþ on tre. *c* 1440 *Alph. Tales* 80 Þan þis holie man sayd vnto hym; 'Bruther, Cros & mark þi harte! what is þat att þou spekis vnto þi selfe?' 1460 Capgrave *Chron.* (Rolls) 155 Herry [III] was merkyd with the tokne of the Holy Crosse, for to go to Jerusalem. *c* 1550 *Battle of Otterburn* xliv. in Child *Ballads* III. 297 Euery man thynke on hys trewe-love, And marke hym to the Trenite. 1577 in Picton *L'pool Munic. Rec.* (1883) I. 49 First of all he did mark himself unto God.

6. *fig.* To designate as if by placing a mark upon; to destine. Const. *for* †*to, to* and inf. †Also with complement, to designate as being (so and so). (*Obs.*)

a 1000 *Cædmon's Gen.* 459 (Gr.) Þa him to ȝingran self metod mancynnes mearcode selfa. 1362 Langl. *P. Pl. A.* XI. 253, I was markid withoute mercy & myn name entrid In þe legende of ilf longe er I were. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 12136 My maydynhed I merk to myghtifull goddis. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xvii. 257 Hayll! þou marc us þi men and make vs in mynde. 1566 Clough in Burgon *Life Gresham* (1839) II. 168 Some that were his friends bade hym gett hym awaye for that he was markyd: wheruppon he went home, and went to his bed. 1590 Marlowe *Edw. II*, III. ii, A boy..Thou art not markt to manie daies on earth. 1596 Shaks. *1 Hen. IV*, III. i. 41 These signes haue markt me extraordinarie. 1599 — *Hen. V*, IV. iii. 20 If we are markt to die, we are enow To doe our Countrey losse. 1638 Quarles *Hieroglyph.* i. 46 Ere he had life, estated in his Vrne, And markt for death. 1750 Gray *Elegy* Epit. 4 Melancholy mark'd him for her own. 1856 Froude *Hist. Eng.* (1858) I. iii. 265 The persons whom he named..became marked at once for persecution. 1871 Freeman *Norm. Cong.* (1876) IV. xviii. 154 The high ground..which William's keen eye would at the first glance mark as the site of the future castle. 1892 Kipling *Barrack-r. Ballads, Cleared* vi, They never marked a man for death..They only said 'intimidate'.

b. with *out.*

c 1400 *York Mysl.* xxx. 519 And þerfore, to go with yone gest, Yhe marke vs out of þe manliest men. 1706 E. Ward *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 20 That lucky Youth is certainly mark'd out for a Commission. 1818 Cruise *Digest* (ed. 2) III. 345 The law will not pass him over, and marks him out, *in rei exemplum et infamiam.* 1853 Lytton *My Novel* III. xxiv, Suspected persons were naturally marked out by Mr. Stirn, and reported to his employer. 1862 Stanley *Jew. Ch.* (1877) I. xviii. 338 The little mantle ..had from his earliest years marked him out as an almost royal personage. 1871 Freeman *Norm. Cong.* (1876) IV. xviii. 241 The men of Durham, who had been marked out for the slaughter. 1893 Traill *Social Eng.* Introd. 48 The country..which had been marked out by destiny to become the greatest manufacturer in the world.

†c. To mete out, allot, apportion. (Chiefly in alliteration with *meed.*) Const. *dat. Obs. poet.*

1340–70 *Alisaunder* 284 Hee..swore swiftliche his othe.. too merken hem care. *Ibid.* 497 With menne of Mesopotame to mark þe teene. *c* 1375 *Cursor M.* 272 (Fairf.) Mirþ he merkis mon to mede. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. XII. 186 Wo was hym marked that wade mote with the lewed! *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* 66/678 He til vs merkes slik mede. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xx. 630 He shall no more hym godys son call. We shall marke hym truly his mede. *c* 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 807 Yone berne in the battale wil ye noght forbere, For al the mobil on the mold, merkit to meid.

d. To separate *from* something else as by drawing a boundary line or imposing a distinctive mark. Now chiefly with *off.*

1703 Rowe *Ulyss.* IV. i. 1532 This Night..Mark'd from the rest of the Revolving Year, And set apart. 1792 Charlotte Smith *Desmond* I. 63 Amiable people of rank..who are no longer marked by their titles from that canaille with which [etc.]. 1869 Tozer *Highl. Turkey* II. 264 The Popular Tale is thus marked off by features of its own from ordinary stories. 1871 G. Meredith *H. Richmond* I. vi, I know that this possession of hers [her courage], which identifies her and marks her from the rest of us, would bear the ordeal

of fire. 1877 tr. *Tiele's Hist. Relig.* 16 He marks off the Semites from them very decidedly.

7. To express or indicate by marks or signs.

a. † To indicate in writing, note. *Obs.* Also, to indicate or represent by symbolic marks.

a 1000 *Phœnix* 333 Weras .. mearciað on marm-stane hwonne se dæg and seo tid dryhtum ȝeeawe frætwe flyht-hwates. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 42 Þeo ureisuns þet ich nabbe bute imerked beoð iwriten oueral. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* II. met. vii. 47 (Camb. MS.) What is now brutus or stierne catoun? The thynne fame yit lastinge of hir ydel names is marked with a fewe letterys. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 387 Þai wer not constrenyd be nede for to begge; as grete clerkis merken vp-on þis worde of þe gospelle where criste saiþ þus: 'When þu makist þine feeste, þat is', of almes, 'calle pore, feble, lame & blynde'. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) I. 41 Wherfore in þis book I schal marke as I may how and in what ȝeres such defautes fille. *a* 1794 GIBBON *Autobiog.* (1896) 257 After marking the date..the manuscript was deposited in my bureau. 1879 PERowne in *Expositor* IX. 411 He draws the chart and marks the sunken reefs. 1890 H. SWEET *Prim. Spoken Eng.* 3 If a word has two strong stresses..both must be marked.

b. In games: To record (the points gained by the players). Chiefly *absol.* and in phr. *to mark the game.*

1816 SINGER *Playing Cards* 239 If he cannot answer him by shewing the third of them, he who asks the question marks five points. 1861 WHYTE MELVILLE *Good for N.* I. 154 John Gordon good-naturedly proposed a [billiard] match with the young lady, if Miss Jones would come and 'mark'. 1870 'CAVENDISH' *Game of Bézique* 21 Eleven counters are required by each player—one large round one that marks 500 [etc.]. 1886 *Euchre: how to play it* 108 *Marking the Game*, counting.

c. colloq. *To mark up*: to add (an item) to a tavern score; hence, to give credit for; = CHALK *v.* 3 b.

1899 *Tit-Bits* 22 July 322/1, I shaved a gentleman who asked me to mark it up.

d. *absol.* Of a horse: To indicate its age by 'mark of mouth'.

1842 C. W. JOHNSON *Farmer's Encycl.* s.v., A horse..is said to *mark* when he shows his age by a black spot..which appears at about five and a half years old, in the cavities of the corner-teeth, and is gone when he is eight years old.

c. Of a graduated instrument: To show, 'register' (so many degrees, etc.).

1882 FLOYER *Unexpl. Baluchistan* 179 The barometer marked 27·265, being about 3,540 feet.

8. In immaterial sense: **a.** To make perceptible or recognizable, by some sign or indication. **b.** To manifest, 'testify' (one's approval, displeasure, etc.) by some significant act, or by reward or punishment. (Now only with obj. qualified by possessive.) † Also, with clause as obj.: To indicate by action.

a. 1904 *Grove's Dict. Mus.* I. 18/1 The famous instrumentalists of the classical school..were accustomed to mark the natural accent..by a hardly perceptible prolongation of the first note of the bar.

b. 1791 *Duchess of York* II. 91 The King continued to mark the same degree of favor to him as ever. 1807 C. SIMEON in Carus *Mem. & Life* (1847) ix. 227 Unless God, by a special interposition of his Providence,..mark his own will respecting it. 1808 SCOTT *Marm.* VI. xxvii, Eustace..A look and sign to Clara cast, To mark he would return. 1863 MRS. GASKELL *Sylvia's Lovers* xliii, She dusted a chair..for Sylvia, sitting down herself on a three-legged stool to mark her sense of the difference in their conditions.

9. To be a mark of or upon. **a.** To be an indication of the position or course of.

1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 265 Pillars..are put there to mark the way, because it is a Desart. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* I. 486 The Sov'reign of the Heav'ns has set on high The Moon, to mark the Changes of the Sky. 1762 FALCONER *Shipwreck* (1796) I. 164 Eternal powers! What ruins from afar Mark the fell track of desolating war. 1770 ? LOGAN *Cuckoo* ii, Hast thou a star to guide thy path Or mark the rolling year? 1823 F. CLISSOLD *Ascent Mt. Blanc* 23 A circle of thin haze..marked dimly the limits between heaven and earth. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. xxvii. 209 A withered pine on the opposite mountain marking the other terminus. 1868 M. ARNOLD *Sch. & Univ. Cont.* 154 Wolf's coming to Halle in 1783..marks an era [etc.]. 1869 TOZER *Highl. Turkey* I. 36 The Bunarbashi river, which is marked at first by the plantation at its source, and afterwards by the green marshes which fringe its sides. 1878 BROWNING *La Saisiaz* 17 Where the blue lake's wrinkle marks the river's inrush pale.

b. *pass.* Of lines, features, etc.: To be (more or less) strikingly noticeable. Chiefly with adverbs. (Cf. MARKED *ppl. a.*)

1824 MACAULAY *Mitford's Hist. Greece* Misc. Writ. 1860 I. 156 The line of demarcation between good and bad men is so faintly marked as often to elude the most careful investigation. 1850 LEITCH tr. *C. O. Müller's Anc. Art* § 204 (ed. 2) 193 The wrinkles about the eyes and mouth [are] strongly marked. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* II. x. 280 The junction between it and its neighbours is plainly marked.

c. To be a distinguishing mark or character of (a person, etc.); to be a noteworthy feature or attendant circumstance of (an action, incident). Often *pass.*, to be characterized, distinguished, or made remarkable (now only const. *by*).

a 1661 FULLER *Worthies* (1662) I. *Essex* 334 They being mark'd alike in their poeticall parts [etc.]. 1791 BOSWELL *Johnson* an. 1744 His [Savage's] character was marked by profligacy, insolence, and ingratitude. 1863 FR. A. KEMBLE *Resid. in Georgia* (N. Y. ed.) 246 To-day..my visit to the Infirmary was marked by an event which has not occurred before—the death of one of the poor slaves while I was there. 1863 COWDEN CLARKE *Shaks. Char.* x. 253 No triumph—no exultation..marks her manner. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* ii. § 1. 62 The long internal tranquillity which marked the rule of our foreign masters. 1878 MACLEAR *Celts* ii. (1879) 20 Solemn ceremonies marked the gathering of the plant.

d. To diversify, be a landmark upon.

1830 TENNYSON *Mariana* 43 For leagues no other tree did mark The level waste, the rounding gray.

10. *Mil.* **a.** To indicate the pivots, formations, etc. in military evolutions.

1796 *Instr. & Reg. Cavalry* (1813) 160 Its adjutant and those of the regiments standing to its left..will mark each his own left, the adjutants of the regiments to its right..will mark each its own right [etc.]. 1889 *Infantry Drill* 88 If the horses are unsteady, they [the officers] must dismount and mark the points on foot. *Ibid.* 186 The assistant adjutants-general of the base division will mark the point of appui, and assistant adjutants-general will mark the distant points for their respective divisions.

b. *To mark time*: to move the feet as in marching but without advancing. Also *transf.* and *fig.*

1833 *Regul. Instr. Cavalry* I. 17 On the word *Mark Time*, the foot then advancing completes its pace, after which the cadence is continued, without gaining any ground. 1837 MACAULAY *Ess., Bacon* (ed. Montague) II. 200 The human mind accordingly, instead of marching, merely marked time. 1903 F. W. H. MYERS *Hum. Personality* II. 296 The Agnostic's appeal to us to halt and mark time.

II. To direct one's course or aim.

†11. To direct (one's way). Also *refl.* and *intr.*, to proceed, advance. *Obs.*

c 1205 LAY. 5642 Þa cnihtes weoren wise .. and heom markede forð, touward Munt-giu heo ferden. *Ibid.* 26309 Forð þa eorles wenden..and mærcoden enne wæi þe ouer anne munte læi. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xvi. (*Magdalena*) 784 Scho til wildirnes has socht,..& yddir ewinely can hyr mark. ?*a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 3595 Nowe bownes the bolde kynge with [his] beste knyghtes,..Merkes ouer the mowntaynes fulle mervaylous wayes. 14.. *Henryson's Twa Myss* 195 in *Bannatyne MS.* (1881) 965 Quhen scho was furth and fre, scho..mirrely mirkit vnto the myre. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* lxxi. 20 Oft thow hes refusit Till cum ws till, or ȝit till merk ws neir. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* Exclamacioun 1 Now throw the deip fast to the port I mark. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* x. 406 The Quene hard this answer, quhilk quhen scho hard, she markes to Dunbar.

†12. To aim a blow or missile at; to strike, hit.

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1592 Þe mon merkkez hym wel, as þay mette fyrst,..Hit hym vp to þe hult. 1399 LANGL. *Rich. Redeles* III. 268 Rewlers of rewmes..Were not yffoundid..To leue al at likynge..But to laboure on þe lawe..And to merke meyntenourz with maces. ?*a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 2206 He merkes thurghe the maylez the myddes in sondyre. *a* 1400 *Pistill of Susan* 320 He [an Angel] haþ brandist his brond brennynde so brist. To Marke þi middel at a Mase in more þen in þre, No lese. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 7327 He merkit hym in mydward the mydell in two, þat he felle to þe flat erthe. *c* 1402 LYDG. *Compl. Bl. Knt.* 462 Who that is an archer, and ys blend, Marketh nothing, but sheteth as he wend. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* XII. v. 132 Of quham this dart hit ane..at the myddill markyt hym full rycht. 1529 RASTELL *Pastyme* (1811) 172 One marked hym with a quarell and smote hym in the hede.

†b. *intr.* To aim a blow. Const. *to.* Also *Sc.* to aim, intend *to do* something. *Obs.*

a 1400 *Sir Perc.* 2067 By then hys swerde owt he get, Strykes the geant withowttene lett, Merkes evene to his nekk. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 7034 He merkit to Menestaus with a mayn dynt, þat he hurlit fro his horse to þe hard erthe. *c* 1470 HENRYSON *Mor. Fab.* v. *Parl. Beasts* XXXV, Of this meniye markand to get remeid. 1570 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xii. 76 Sen double murther markis to reule the rout. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* x. 399 Prepareng with al..thair harte, the destructione of the Catholik and Romane Kirk, quhilk vttirlie tha mark to ouirthraw.

III. To notice or observe.

13. To notice or keep the eye upon (a person or material object); to observe; to watch. Now *poet.*

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XII. 132 Lyueres to-forn vs vseden to marke The selkouthes that thei seighen her sones for to teche. 1462 J. PASTON in *P. Lett.* II. 122 They ar morkyn well inowe, and so is John Bylyngforthe. 1530 PALSGR. 730/2 Mark hym whan he daunseth, you shall se hym springe lyke a yonckher. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* VI. ii. 5 Him stedfastly he markt, and saw to bee A goodly youth of amiable grace. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* XII. 50 God who oft descends to visit men Unseen, and through their habitations walks To mark their doings. 1711 BUDGELL *Spect.* No. 116 ¶ 5, I saw a Hare pop out... I marked the Way she took. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* XVII. 448 Full well I mark'd the features of his face. 1757 FOOTE *Author* I. 12 He has not mark'd me yet. 1805 WORDSW. *Prelude* IV. 390 So near that..I could mark him well, Myself unseen. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* II. vi, While yet he loiter'd on the spot, It seemed as Ellen mark'd him not.

14. To consider; to observe mentally, give heed or attention to. Often with *well.*

c 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 119 Marke this in yowre mynde. 1481 CAXTON *Reynard* (Arb.) 4 He muste .. ernestly and diligently marke wel that he redeth. 1529 *Supplic. to King* (E.E.T.S.) 36 Marke well what they purpose by this estatute. 1535 COVERDALE *Isa.* XXXVIII. 23 Take hede and heare my voyce, pondre and merck my wordes wel. 1591 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. VI*, III. i. 153 And if your Grace marke every circumstance, You haue great reason to do Richard right. 1611 BIBLE *Ps.* XXXVII. 37 Marke the perfect man, and behold the vpright: for the end of that man is peace. 1788 MRS. HUGHES *Henry & Isabella* III. 30 They had marked a more than ordinary regard in his Lordship's behaviour to her. 1790 *Norman & Bertha* II. 166 She recollected the husband of her former attendant,..and having marked him framed for villainies [etc.]. 1814 CARY *Dante, Paradise* II. 123 Mark me well. 1842 MIALL in *Nonconf.* II. 8 Another feature of the times is worth marking. 1865 KINGSLEY *Herew.* xxii, Mark my words, Sir Hereward, that cunning Frenchman will treat with them one by one.

15. *Sport.* **a.** *trans.* To note and keep in mind the spot to which (the game) has retired after having been 'put up'. Also *to mark down.*

When pheasants or partridges are driven from cover, and are flying towards the guns, the beaters cry 'Mark—Over!'

c 1450 *Treat. Hawking* in *Rel. Ant.* I. 297 If she neme oon rewarde her apon here foule, then merke the covey and goo afore them somwhat. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* b iij b, And go after yᵗ by laysour to the partrich that be marked and doo as I shall tell yow here folowyng. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* III. ii, The birds flew into it, and were marked, (as it is called) by the two sportsmen. 1803 COL. HAWKER *Diary* (1893) I. 1 We marked the former [ducks] down. 1849 E. E. NAPIER *Excurs. S. Africa* II. 331 He now dashed..up the opposite bank, having marked a second flock of oxen. 1864 *Cornh. Mag.* X. 840 It is no good to talk of having marked birds down, unless you have distinctly seen a certain toss up of the wings as they pitch. 1874 J. W. LONG *Amer. Wild-fowl Shooting* 154 Mark! Let them go over. I'll call them down. 1898 *Encycl. Sport* II. 9: *Mark down*, to keep in view or memory the spot at which the boar went to cover.

b. Of a hound: also *absol.*

1880 CARNEGIE *Pract. Trap.* 16 The dog marked when it tried the hole again. *Ibid.*, The dog still remained marking, so I went back. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 17 Nov. 2/2 A fox was then roused..and hounds ran him..finally marking to ground after a gallop lasting nearly half an hour.

c. *Football.* (See quot. 1897.)

1887 SHEARMAN *Athletics & Football* 317 When practicable he should mark the same man throughout the game, and when the ball is thrown he should always be on the alert. 1897 *Encycl. Sport* I. 429 (Football) *Marking a man*, keeping close to an opponent in order to hamper him if he should receive the ball. 1901 *Scotsman* 11 Mar. 4/8 The Scottish players..marked the opposition too carefully to permit of their being very troublesome.

16. *absol.* or *intr.* To take notice; to keep watch; to fix (one's) attention; to consider. Sometimes followed by indirect question: To ascertain by observation (*what*, *whether*, etc.).

1526 TINDALE *Luke* i. 36 And marke, thy cosen Elizabeth, hath also conceaved a sonne in her olde age. 1563 T. WILSON *Logike* (1580) 61 The aunswerer muste at the firste hearing of hys [opponent's] argument, marke whether it bee made accordyng to rules of Logique, or otherwise. *a* 1591 H. SMITH *Serm.* (1637) 309 You marked when your Master taught you your trade. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* IV. i. 313 O vpright Iudge, Marke Iew, o learned Iudge. 1611 BIBLE 1 *Kings* XX. 7 Marke, I pray you, and see how this man seeketh mischiefe. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* v. xii. 72 Mark diligently until the Plumb-Line..cut these assigned degrees..that you are to Mount the Gun by. 1781 COWPER *Truth* 59 The self-applauding bird, the peacock see,—Mark what a sumptuous Pharisee is he! 1875 BRYCE *Holy Rom. Emp.* i. (ed. 5) 3 We shall mark how the new religion, rising in the midst of a hostile power ends by embracing and transforming it. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 282 What they say is—mark, now, and see whether their words are true—they say that the soul of man is immortal.

Mark, obs. form of MARQUE, MIRK.

Markable (mā·ɹkăb'l), *a.* Also 7 marckable, markeable. [f. MARK *v.* + -ABLE.]

†1. Worthy or capable of being marked or noted; remarkable. *Obs.* [Cf. obs. F. *marquable* (16th c.).]

c 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* IV. iv. 447 Tho othere now seid bischopis, which thei made aftirward out of the noumbre of xij., as therto sowneth miche the processe, Acts i°. C., bi manie therto markable wordis. 1584 *Leycesters Commonw.* (1641) 11 Such a one .. so markeable to the simplest subiect of this Land by the publique insignes of his tyrannous purpose. 1608 HIERON *Defence* II. xii. 162 Some speciall & markeable defectes in his plea. *a* 1645 HABINGTON *Surv. Worc.* in *Worc. Hist. Soc. Proc.* II. 155 And thease which maie seeme to some scarce worth the wrytynge, to a curious eye maye perhaps be marckable. 1651 *Raleigh's Ghost* 260 Men..illustrious and markable..for sanctity of life.

2. Capable of receiving a mark or imprint. *rare.*

1862 MRS. CROSLAND *Mrs. Blake* III. 288 He thought Emily Neville a beautiful name, and now all 'markable' gifts were so inscribed.

Hence **† Ma·rkably** *adv.*, remarkably.

1650 BULWER *Anthropomet.* 262 So markably uncertain and giddy-headed herein are we.

Markal, variant of MERCAL *Sc. dial.*

Markasit(e, obs. forms of MARCASITE.

Marke, obs. form of MARQUE, MIRK.

Marked (mākt), *ppl. a.* [f. MARK *v.* and *sb.* + -ED.]

1. Having a visible mark. Also, impressed or affixed as a mark; expressed by a mark.

931 in Birch *Cartul. Sax.* (1887) II. 358 Dære gemearcodan æc æt aleburnan. 1609 DOULAND *Ornith. Microl.* 9 Of Keyes some are..marked Keyes, others are called vnmarked Keyes. Of the marked, there are fiue principall..which the Ambrosians..did mark with colours. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 227 A marked stone in the pavement. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* s.v. *Card*, Among sharpers divers sorts of false or fraudulent cards have been contrived; as marked cards. 1768 *N. Car. Col. Rec.* VII. 853 From the top of Tryon Mountain beginning at the marked Trees thereon [etc.]. 1875 *Chamb. Jrnl.* 16 Jan. 45 A number of prettily marked ones [*sc.* snails]. 1892 F. ANSTEY *Voces Populi* Ser. II. 5 Herr Von K. is preparing to fire a marked half-crown from a blunderbuss.

absol. 1623 WODROEPHE *Marrow Fr. Tongue* 319/2 From the Marcked of the Hand of God, and from Traytors Hands, the Lord keepe vs.

b. Special collocations: **marked bar**, a particular form of pig-iron; **marked file**, a file of newspapers or journals upon the articles in which the names of the writers have been recorded;

marked iron = *marked bar*; **marked price**, the price indicated by written signs placed on goods offered for sale; **marked proof**, an impression of an engraving in which some detail is left unfinished as a mark of an early state of the plate.

1887 *Daily News* 19 Oct. 2/6 In many instances the marked prices are clearly prohibitive. 1888 *Ibid.* 24 Sept. 2/7 Marked bars are almost the only class of iron that have not been advanced... Most marked bar houses are in a better position than they have been for a year or two past. *Ibid.* 10 Dec. 2/8 Marked iron is unchanged. 1902 *Daily Chron.* 1 May 5/2 There are many 'marked files' in the British Museum.

2. *Marked man*: one whose conduct is watched with hostile intent; one who is kept in mind as an object for suspicion or vengeance.

1833 Ht. Martineau *Manch. Strike* xi. 125 You are a marked man in Manchester, .. no master in any trade will take you in among his men. 1855 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xviii. IV. 235 If they had fancied that they were marked men, they might .. have become traitors. 1888a J. H. Blunt *Ref. Ch. Eng.* II. 285 On the accession of Queen Mary he naturally became a marked man.

3. Emphasized, rendered evident; clearly defined, easy to distinguish or recognize. Also with prefixed adv., as *well-*, *strongly-marked*.

1795 Lo. Auckland *Corr.* (1862) III. 281, I do not think the rule applicable to this case; it was too marked and too official. 1797 M. Baillie *Morb. Anat.* (1807) 72 Any well marked example of this disease. 1802 Mar. Edgeworth *Moral T.* (1816) I. vii. 42 He looked at the flower-pot with marked disdain. 1836 J. M. Gully *Magendie's Formul.* (ed. 2) 9 A quarter of a grain has generally a marked action on a healthy man. 1841 Brewster *Mart. Sci.* II. iii. (1856) 134 We slightly resented a piece of marked incivility. 1853 Lytton *My Novel* x. xiv, Of those qualities enumerated above, .. Audley Egerton only exhibited to a marked degree —the common sense and the readiness. 1875 W. S. Hayward *Love agst. World* i, The third with more marked features. 1888 *Poor Nellie* 82 George avoided you in the most marked manner. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 933 The antipyrine-rash .. is not accompanied by marked fever.

b. Of rhythm, accent, etc.

1818 Hallam *Mid. Ages* IX. i. (1868) 599 Their hymns depended, for metrical effect, on the marked accents and powerful rhymes which the Latin language affords.

Markedly (mā·rkėdlĭ), *adv.* [f. Marked *a.* + -ly 2.] In a marked manner or degree.

A favourite 19th c. adverb.

1811 in Southey *Life A. Bell* (1844) II. 389 The Bishop .. was markedly civil, both to myself and Davis. 1842 J. Sterling *Ess.* etc. (1848) I. 442 The collection includes poems of four markedly different kinds. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 838 As a rule epithelioma of the muco-cutaneous functions affects the glands early and markedly.

Markedness (mā·rkėdnės). [f. Marked *a.* + -ness.] The condition of being marked.

1846 Poe *L. G. Clark* Wks. 1864 III. 110 The markedness by which he is noticeable for nothing. 1865 J. Grote *Moral Ideals* xix. 451 Individuality of character is markedness.

Markee, Markenes, obs. ff. Marquee, Mirkness.

Marker (mā·rkəɹ). [f. Mark *v.* + -er 1. OE. had *mearcere* as a gloss on L. *notārius*.]

1. One who marks. **a.** One whose duty it is to mark game (see Mark *v.* 15).

1486 *Bk. St. Albans* B iij b, Let yowre spanyellis fynde a Couy of partrichys and when thay be put vpp .. ye most haue markeris to marke som of thaym, and then cowple vp yowre houndys. 1898 *Encycl. Sport* II. 75 When either of the markers has marked birds, he should blow his whistle once.

b. One who records the score in competitive games (e.g. tennis, billiards, etc.), or at target practice. † In *Cricket* = scorer.

1532 More *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 403/2 It is pitie yᵗ the man wer not made a marker of chases in some tenis play. 1679-88 *Secr. Serv. Money Chas. & Jas.* (Camden) 177 John Webb, John and Charles Dimion, markers in the tenis courts at Whitehall and Windsor. 1754 J. Love *Cricket* (1770) 5 Save when the [billiard] Marker bellows out, *Six love*. 1774 *Covent-Garden Mag.* Aug. 283/2 [Cricket] If one of these gentry should be appointed marker, he will favour the side that he wishes to win. 1859 Lever *Davenport Dunn* 27 Sam Crozier was a marker at a billiard-table in Tralee. 1861 *Times* 23 Aug., A private of the Royal Marines .. was acting as a marker at the targets during the firing of the Volunteers. 1898 *Encycl. Sport* II. 242 Most games [of rackets] at clubs, and all matches, are played under the eye and voice of a marker who is placed in the gallery.

c. One employed to keep a record of attendances, in a class, school, or college.

At Cambridge, a person appointed to prick off the names of those present at the service in a college chapel.

1798 Coleridge *Let.* 19 Feb., Every ward [in Christ's Hospital] was governed by four Monitors, .. and by four Markers. 1820 Lamb *Elia* Ser. I. *Christ's Hosp.* 35 *Yrs. ago*, The markers (those who were appointed to hear the Bible read in the wards on Sunday morning and evening). 1849 *Blackw. Mag.* May 601 His name prick'd off upon the marker's roll, No twinge of conscience racks his easy soul. 1893 *Month* Aug. 490 There are [in a Manchester industrial school] two non-commissioned officers, or monitors, who are termed the *striper* and *marker* respectively.

d. In Welsh slate quarries: An official employed to check the quantity of work done by the men.

1901 *Daily Chron.* 15 May 8/6 One man .. who occupied the position of marker in the quarries .. turned back.

e. *Mil.* One who is placed as a pivot or formation mark in military evolutions.

1796 *Instr. & Reg. Cavalry* (1813) 100 Markers will always be placed, to give the precise ground on which the countermarch is to be made. 1832a *Prop. Regul. Instr. Cavalry* III. 53 The Markers to be employed for Regimental Movements are the Adjutant, the Regimental Serjeant Major, and one non-commissioned Officer for each Squadron.

f. One who puts a mark, stamp, brand, etc. upon something. *Marker-off*: a workman who performs certain processes in pianoforte scale making.

1553 *Act 7 Edw. VI*, c. 7 § 1 The penaltie .. dependeth .. not upon the seller, ne maker, marker or fellor of the same [Fuell]. 1737 *Chamberlayne's St. Gt. Brit.* II. III. (ed. 33) 94 Marker of Dice, John Rollos. 1889 *Work* 23 Nov. I. 564/3 The business of the marker-off is .. to plane the bridges to their proper height, mark the scale [etc.]. 1901 *Daily Chron.* 3 Dec. 10/6 Piano Markers-off and Assistant Markers-off wanted.

† **g.** One who notes or observes. *Obs.*

c 1550 Cheke *Matt.* xvi. *note*, As in yᵉ beginning of Orestes of Euripides it mai appear, and els whear communli to a marker hearof.

† **h.** *slang.* (See quot.) *Obs.*

1591 Greene *2nd Pt. Conny catching* Wks. (Grosart) X. 86 In Lifting Law, He that first stealeth [is] the Lift. He that receiues it the Markar.

i. *nonce-use.* A marksman.

1820 Scott *Monast.* xviii, The best marker may shoot a bow's length beside.

2. An implement or tool for marking.

In many specific applications, e. g. an implement for tracing lines on the ground in laying out garden beds, preparing for planting rows of trees, etc.; an appliance in a sewing machine for making a crease on the cloth to serve as a guide for stitching or folding; a pointed tool or stylus for marking wood to be cut.

1725 W. Halfpenny *Sound Building* 52 With a Marker describe the Cross-Joints. 1870 *Advt.*, Bézique Playing Cards .. with Markers. 1884 Knight *Dict. Mech.* Suppl. 584/2 *Marker*. .. An implement for marking off rows on the ground, as a guide for planting or dropping.

3. = *Book-marker* (Book *sb.* 18).

1852 Miss Mitford *Recoll.* II. 184, I had no marker, and the richly bound volume closed as if instinctively. 1853 Dale tr. *Baldeschi's Ceremonial* 293 When carrying the Missal, he will take care not to displace the markers.

4. *slang.* Something worthy to be compared.

1895 H. P. Robinson *Men Born Equal* 145 It ain't a marker to what's ahead.

Market (mā·rkėt), *sb.* Forms: *α.* 2 (*dat.*), 4-6 **markete**, 3 (*dat*). **marcatte**, 4 **markatte**, 4–6 **markette**, 4–6 **markat**, 4–7 **marcat**, **-kett**, 6 **marcatt**, (4 **marked**, 5 **markyth** (**e**, **marget**, 5–6 **markit**, 6 **-yt**, **-yd**, **-eth**, **marchet**, 7 **marquet**), 2–**market**. *β.* (chiefly *Sc.*) 4–6 **merkat**, 5–8 **mercat**, 5–7 **mercate**, (4 **merkete**, 5 **-et**, 6 **-ett**, **-it**, **-yte**, 7 **merkate**). [Late OE. *market*, a. ONF. *market* (Central OF. *marchiet*, *marchié*, mod.F. *marché*) = Pr. *marcat-z*, Sp., Pg. *mercado*, It. *mercata*:—L. *mercātu-s*, f. *mercārī* to trade: see Mercantile. The Romanic word was early adopted into the Teut. langs.: cf. OHG. *markât*, *merkât*, *merchât* (MHG. *market*, *merket*, mod.G. *markt*), OFris. *merked*, Du. *markt* (see Mart *sb.*), ON. *markaðr*, *marknaðr* (Sw. *marknad*, Da. *marked*).

It is not certain that the word was introduced into England before the 12th c., though it occurs in documents ostensibly of the 11th and 10th centuries; even if these be in substance genuine, they are modernized in language.]

1. The meeting or congregating together of people for the purchase and sale of provisions or live-stock, publicly exposed, at a fixed time and place; the occasion, or time during which such goods are exposed for sale; also, the company of people at such a meeting. † *High market*: the time when the market is busiest.

After *to* or *from* the article is very often omitted.

c 1154 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1125 (Laud MS.) He ne mihte cysten ænne peni at anne market. *c* 1220 *Bestiary* 491 Đe man ðat oðer biswikeð .. in mot er in market. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 172 Prestis also ben ma[r]chauntis .. & beten marketis [etc.]. 1413 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton 1483) III. vii. 54 Vsurers wyllen nought be hyghely renomed of theyr craft ne cryen it in the market. 1480 Caxton *Chron. Eng.* ccvi. 187 He lete crye thurgh his patent in euery faire and in euery markete of Englond. 1563 in W. H. Turner *Select. Rec. Oxford* 306 Everye Satterdaye .. there shalbe a commen markett for .. cattell. 1564 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 280 To by or sell any maner of tymmer, greit or small, bot in oppin and plane marcattis. *a* 1649 Winthrop *New Eng.* (1853) I. 148 By order of court a mercate was erected at Boston, to be kept upon Thursday. 1775 S. J. Pratt *Liberal Opin.* xlviii. (1783) II. 67 There [at Smithfield] it is high market. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XIV. 424 When the whole bulk of the articles to be sold is brought into the market .., the market is called a *pitched* market; when only a small portion is brought .. it is called a *sample* market. 1849 Lytton *Caxtons* 39 My mother had coaxed Caxton to walk with her to market. 1899 *Blackw. Mag.* Jan. 45/2 A rendezvous .. where a market was opened for the Indians in the vicinity.

fig. 1340 *Ayenb.* 23 Þet is þe dyeules peni huermide he bayþ alle þe uayre pane-worpes ine the markatte of þise wordle. 1600 Shaks. *A. Y. L.* III. v. 60 Thanke heauen, fasting, for a good mans loue; .. Sell when you can, you are not for all markets.

b. Phrases, more or less metaphorical. † *To be at market*: to be for sale (*lit.* and *fig.*). *To bring to market*: to offer for sale (*lit.* and *fig.*). *To bring one's eggs* (or *one's hogs*) *to a bad market*: to suffer the failure of one's schemes. *To feed* (cattle) *to market*: to feed for sale. *To go to market*: (*colloq.*) to make an attempt at something. *To go* (*badly*, etc.) *to market*: to make a (bad, etc.) bargain. *To put into market*: to make a matter of bargain and sale. † *To run before one's horse to market*: to count the gain before the bargain is made.

1594 Shaks. *Rich. III*, I. i. 160 But yet I run before my horse to Market. 1613 Beaum. & Fl. *Cupid's Rev.* I. i, We haue brought Our eggs and muskadine to a faire market. *a* 1616 — *Bonduca* V. ii, You have brought your hogs to a fine market. 1639 G. Daniel *Ecclus.* x. 25 Such a Man would bring His Soule to Mercate. 1776 Adam Smith *W. N.* I. vii. I. 68 When the quantity of any commodity which is brought to market falls short of the effectual demand. 1800 Jefferson *Let. to J. Madison* 1 Mar., Writ. 1854 IV. 324 H. Marshal voting of course with them, as did, and frequently does ***, of ****, who is perfectly at market. 1801 — *Let. to Monroe* 24 Nov. *Ibid.* IV. 420 A very great extent of country, north of the Ohio, .. is now at market. 1809 Malkin *Gil Blas* II. ix. P7 The schoolmaster .. brought his eggs to a bad market. 1812 *Sporting Mag.* XXXIX. 23 When .. they found they had been badly to market, thay declared themselves off. 1821 Lamb *Elia* Ser. I. *Imperf. Symp.*, They seldom wait to mature a proposition, but e'en bring it to market in the green ear. 1844 Emerson *Lect., Yng. Amer.* Wks. (Bohn) II. 300 This is the good and this the evil of trade, that it would put everything into market. 1890 'R. Boldrewood' *Col. Reformer* I. xi. 168 If you hadn't come forward .. the first time he propped, he mightn't have gone to market at all. 1893 Stevenson *Catriona* 156 These [sheep] being specially fed to market.

c. *Market overt* (in *Law*): open market; the exposal of vendible goods in an open place so that any one who passes by may see them.

1602 Fulbecke *1st Pt. Parall.* 7 If a felon sell a Horse without couin in a Market ouert, this doth alter the property. 1766 Blackstone *Comm.* II. xxx. 449 Market overt in the country is only held on .. special days ..; but in London every day, except Sunday, is market day. 1880 *Sat. Rev.* 28 Feb. 281 A certain article was submitted for analysis by its proprietors to a distinguished analyst, who thoughtfully provided himself with another sample of it bought in market overt.

d. *Stock Exchange.* (See quot. 1887.)

1880 *Guide to Stock Exch.* 35 The distinctions between classes of business on the Stock Exchange are known as 'markets', and each jobber is supposed to operate in his own market. 1887 *Encycl. Brit.* XXII. 557/1 What are known as the 'markets' in the stock exchange are simply groups of jobbers distributed here and there on the floor of the house.

2. *Law.* The privilege granted to the lord of a manor, a municipality or other body, to establish a meeting of persons to buy and sell.

[? *a* 1066–1150 *Charter of Eadweard* in Kemble *Cod. Dipl.* IV. 209 Þæt .. se abbod and ða ȝebroðra into Ramesege habben ða socne on eallen þingen ofer heom and ðat market æt Dunham. 1464 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 521/1 Courtes, Warennes, Mercates, Rentes .. to the seid Priory .. belonging. 1607 Cowell *Interpr.*, *Market*, .. signifieth .. also the liberty or priuiledge whereby a towne is enabled to keepe a market. 1818 Cruise *Digest* (ed. 2) III. 276 So where a man has a market to hold on the Saturday, and he holds it on another day, the market shall be forfeited.

3. A public place, whether an open space or covered building, in which cattle, provisions, etc. are exposed for sale; a market-place, market-house.

c 1250 *Kent. Serm.* in *O. E. Misc.* 33 So ha kam into þe Marcatte so he fond werkmen þet were idel. 13 .. *K. Alis.* 1515 A temple ther was, amydde the market. *c* 1477 Caxton *Jason* 79 They began a bataile upon the market. 1521 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) VI. 4 A howse in the marketh. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* xvii. 149 The comont pepil .. connoyit them to the plane mercat befor the capitol. 1718 Lady M. W. Montagu *Let. to C'tess Bristol* 10 Apr., The markets are most of them handsome squares. 1872 *All Year Round* 13 Apr. 470/1 This charitable lady decided on building a market.

b. With prefixed word, indicating the chief commodity sold, as *cattle*, *corn*, *fish*, *meat-market*, etc., for which see those words.

4. The action or business of buying and selling; an instance of this, a commercial transaction, a purchase or sale; a (good or bad) bargain, *lit.* and *fig.* *Obs.* exc. in certain phrases: see **c**.

1525 Ld. Berners *Froiss.* II. xxxviii. 116 Lytell and lytell we shall wynne the castells that these pyllers holde, though they departe nowe with a good market. *Ibid.* xci. [lxxxvii.] 272 He hadde so good a markette as to escape alyue. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron.*, *Hen. VI* 130 b, The remmaunt not likyng their market, departed. 1548 Udall *Erasm. Par. Luke* xiv. 126 b, I must .. goe to proue them, whether I haue made a good mercate in bying of them or not. *c* 1550 Cheke *Matt.* xxii. 4 Yᵉ .. went yeer wais, sum to his own ground, sum to his mercat. 1599 *Warn. Faire Wom.* I. 525 She must defer her market till to-morrow. 1620 Middleton *Chaste Maid* II. ii, *Second Pro.* I prithee look what market she hath made. *First Pro.* Imprimis, sir, a good fat loin of mutton. 1625 B. Jonson *Staple of N.* II. iv, What Lick-finger? mine old host of Ram-Alley? You ha' some mercat here. 1660 T. M. *Hist. Independ.* IV. 12 The Juncto .. willing to make the best of a bad market, prepare for war. 1689-90 Temple *Ess. Pop. Discont.* Wks. 1731 I. 257 Every Man speaks of the Fair as his own Market goes in it. 1693 Dryden *Persius* v. 201 And with Post-haste thy running Markets make, Be sure to turn the Penny. 1699 Kirkton *Ch. Hist.* (1817) 373 She hade two daughters, .. and for these she thought she might make a better mercat in Scotland than in England.

† **b.** The marketing or selling *of* (a commodity). Also *fig.* *Obs.*

1604 Shaks. *Ham.* IV. iv. 34 (Qo. 2) What is a man, If his chiefe good and market of his time Be but to sleepe and feede, a beast, no more. 1680 Morden *Geog. Rect.*, *Tartary* (1685) 80 Some of them now grown Wealthy, by the Market of their Slaves, .. wear Sables.

c. Phrases. † *To make market*: to trade, buy and sell; *fig.* to have dealings or intercourse *with*. *To make a* or *one's market of* (a possession, an occasion): to make (it) an object or occasion of bargaining or profit, to barter away; also, rarely, to victimize, make illicit profit out of (a person). *To make one's market*: to do one's bargaining or dealing (*lit.* and *fig.*). *To mar another's* or *one's market*: to spoil his or one's own trade (*lit.* and *fig.*). *To mend one's market*: to improve one's bargain.

1340 *Ayenb.* 36 And huanne hy hise yzeþ poure and nyeduol: þanne makeþ hy mid ham marcat to do hire niedes. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 421 He sa3e, as him thoȝt, Amon his awen god in armes with his qwene, And make with hire market as [he] a man were. 1529 Frith *Antithesis* Wks. (1573) 103/2 He that saith it is better to give our charity to the poor .. goeth aboute to marre the Popes market. 1577 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* II. 658 He..ressavit ane coip hill as ane marchand, gevand him licence to mak marcat in the cuntre. 1597 Spenser *Sheph. Cal.* Sept. 37 They..maken a market [1579–91 mart] of their good name. 1601 Dent *Pathw. Heaven* 94 So far off are you from mending your market any whit thereby. 1605 in *Burgh Rec. Glasgow* (1876) I. 230 It is..ordainit..that it salbe leasum to owttintownis fleschouris ilk day in the oulk to mak markat of flesche in this towne. 1611 Bible *Transl. Pref.* ¶ 17 It is a grieuous thing to neglect a great faire, and to seeke to make markets afterwards. *a* 1635 Naunton *Fragm. Reg.* (Arb.) 58 There was in him..a humour of travelling: which had not some wise men about him laboured to remove .. he would (out of his naturall propension) have marred his own market. 1681 Dryden *Abs. & Achit.* I. 503 The next for interest sought to .. make their Jewish markets of the throne. 1709 S. Sewall *Diary* 17 Feb., Mr. Gerrish courted Mr. Coney's daughter: and if she should have Mr. Stoddard, she would mend her market. 1713 Steele *Guardian* No. 6 ¶ 3 With his ready Mony the Builder, Mason and Carpenter are enabled to make their Market of Gentlemen .. who inconsiderately employ them. 1714 Gay *Sheph. Week* Thur. 121, I made my market long before 'twas night, My purse grew heavy, and my basket light. 1793 Burke *Policy Allies* Wks. VII. 171 Prussia..thinks of nothing but making a market of the present confusions. 1861 Heywood *Pref. to J. Seaton's Let.* (Chetham Soc.) 3 Houses hereditarily accustomed to make a market of their swords.

5. Sale as controlled by supply and demand; hence, demand (for a commodity).

1689 Evelyn *Diary* (1827) IV. 315 They expect a quicker mercate. 1781 Cowper *Charity* 522 'Tis called a Satire. .. Strange! how the frequent interjected dash Quickens a market, and helps off the trash. 1848 Mill *Pol. Econ.* I. III. ii. § 4. 529 The extra quantity can only find a market, by calling forth an additional demand equal to itself. *Ibid.* § 5. 531 Had they persisted in selling all that they produced, they must have forced a market by reducing the price. 1861 M. Pattison *Ess.* (1889) I. 47 Such commodities, however, .. found little market as yet. 1896 Edith Thompson in *Monthly Packet* Christm. No. 83 Stredza .. has lived long enough to know that there is a market for treason.

b. *To make a market* (Stock Exchange): to induce active dealing in any particular stock or shares, by being both a buyer and a seller at about the same price; to bring an enterprise to the notice of the public by interesting dealers in it (by means of options or otherwise).

1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 6 Mar. 8/1 Amongst the points in company law reform .. the next [question] will relate to the old abuse of making a market.

6. Opportunity for buying or selling. *To lose one's market*: to miss one's chance of doing business. *To overstand one's market*: to stand out about terms till the opportunity is lost.

1684 Dryden tr. *Theocritus' Idyll.* iii. 85 What Madman would o'erstand his Market twice? 1691 Locke *Money* Wks. 1727 II. 6 He that wants a Vessel, rather than lose his Market, will not stick to have it at the Market-Rate. 1822 Lamb *Elia* Ser. I. *Mod. Gallantry*, When the phrases 'antiquated virginity', and such a one has 'overstood her market'.. shall raise immediate offence.

7. *The market*: the particular trade or traffic in the commodity specified in the context. Chiefly in *in* or *on the market*. *To be in the market*: (of a person) to be a buyer; also (of a possession) to be offered for sale (so *to come into the market*). *To engross the market*: see quot. 1872.

1678 R. Filmer *Disc. Use for Money* 38 The borrowers do trade by buying and selling in the Mercat at the same prices that the owners of money do. 1776 Adam Smith *W. N.* I. xi. I. 265 There are commonly in the market only fourteen or fifteen ounces of silver for one ounce of gold. 1791 Washington *Lett.* Writ. 1892 XII. 66 A great quantity of bonds, thrown suddenly into the market,..could not but have effects the most injurious to the credit of the U.S. 1841 Lever *C. O'Malley* vi, Every imaginable species of property coming into the market. 1864 Tennyson *En. Ard.* 535 Enoch .. bought Quaint monsters for the market of those times. 1866 *Standard* 7 May 2/3 A backwardation of ¼ per cent. was freely paid for the delivery of shares, such was the scarcity of them in the market. 1872 Yeats *Growth Comm.* 379 Edicts..against engrossing the market, i. e., buying up the stock of any commodity in order to sell it again at an enhanced price. 1883 Black *Yolande* I. v. 89 If ever Monaglen comes into the market, she'll snap it up. 1890 'R. Boldrewood' *Col. Reformer* II. xx. 169 You'd have had your money in your pocket now, and might have been in the market for some of these..store cattle. 1891 *Cycl. Tour. Club Monthly Gaz.* Nov. 320 The only type of air tyre on the market.

b. With specifying word prefixed. For *copper-*, *ore-*, *wage-market*, etc., see those words. Also Money-Market.

1832 *Fraser's Mag.* IV. 720 Even the home market was thrown open to the goods of the stranger. 1840 Dickens *Old C. Shop* xxxii, In this depressed state of the classical market, Mrs. Jarley made extraordinary efforts to stimulate the popular taste. 1886 C. Scott *Sheep-Farming* 137 Sheep intended for the fat market.

8. The rate of purchase and sale; price in the market, market value.

1546 J. Heywood *Prov.* (1867) 31 The market goth by the market men. 1586 A. Day *Eng. Secretary* II. (1625) 71, I hope you will haue regard to the selling of these commodities to my best aduantage, wherein I pray you doe your best endeuour as the Market serueth. 1647 Ward *Simp. Cobler* (1843) 7 They deal wisely that will stay till the Market is fallen. 1780 Burke *Sp. Econ. Reform* Wks. III. 272 These lands at present would sell at a low market. 1800 Pitt in *G. Rose's Diaries* (1860) I. 280 The market..has..fallen 7*s.* per quarter. 1886 T. Hardy *Mayor of Casterbr.* xxiii, Just when I sold the markets went lower, and I bought up the corn of those who had been holding back. 1890 'R. Boldrewood' *Col. Reformer* (1891) 246 The cattle having 'topped the market', and sold extremely well.

fig. 1535 Lyndesay *Satyre* 3186 The markit raisit bene sa hie, That Prelats dochtours..Ar maryit with sic superfluities [etc.]. 1614 Raleigh *Hist. World* Pref. A 4 b, For those Kings, which haue sold the blond of others at a low rate; haue but made the Market for their owne enemies, to buy of theirs at the same price. 1650 Trapp *Comm. Deut.* ix. 4 We are all apt to..set a price upon ourselves above the market. 1751 R. Paltock *P. Wilkins* (1884) II. xxiii. 279 For 'tis all one to her with whom she [*sc.* a mistress] engages, so she can raise but the market by a change.

9. A place or seat of trade; a country, district, town, etc. in which there is a demand for articles of trade; hence, the trade of such a country, etc.

1615 E. S. *Britain's Buss* in Arb. *Garner* III. 651 Surely it were too great poverty for English minds .. to fear to speed worse in any market or place than they. 1752 Hume *Ess. & Treat.* (1777) I. 334 We lost the French market for our woollen manufactures. 1821 Shelley *Œdipus* II. i. 18 The failure of a foreign market for Sausages, bristles, and blood puddings,..is but partial. 1891 S. C. Scrivener *Our Fields & Cities* 90 Professor Seely tells us that all the wars since 1700 have been wars for a market... A blustering Yankee captain, who was fighting for a market for goods manufactured in the Northern States.

10. *attrib.* and *Comb.*: a. simple attrib., as *market-boat, -cart, -due, -girl, -hall, -keeper, -maid, -talk, -time, -toll*; (with reference to the money-market) as *market-money, -operator, -quotation*.

1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade*, *Market-boat. 1863 *Cornh. Mag.* Feb. 180 The market-boats bring alongside his ship the grapes and figs with which [etc.]. 1833 Hr. Martineau *Briery Creek* iii. 49 Her employer was driving his *market-cart. 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) III. 303 *Market and harbour dues. 1832 Tennyson *Lady of Shalott* II. ii, The red cloaks of *market girls. 1732 Lediard *Sethos* II. viii. 207 They saw before them the greatest *market-hall in Lixa. 1835 *1st Municip. Corp. Comm. Rep.* App. III. 1686 [Preston] Other Officers of the Corporation are .. Market Looker, *Market Keeper. 1578 Whetstone *1st Pt. Promos & Cass.* IV. vi, Other *market maydes pay downe for their meate, But that I haue bought, on my score is set. 1606 Shaks. *Ant. & Cl.* III. vi. 51 But you are come A Market-maid to Rome. 1891 G. Clare *Money-Market Primer* xii. 127 *Market-money, roughly speaking, is other people's money. 1895 A. J. Wilson *Gloss. Stock Exch.* 62 *Market operators are tempted by a drop in the price to sell for the fall. 1891 G. Clare *Money-Market Primer* ix. 105 Immediately it becomes known that gold has actually arrived, the *market-quotation gives way. 1670 Eachard *Cont. Clergy* 44 Such things as are ridiculous, that serve for chimney and *market-talk. 1503 *Act* 19 *Hen. VII*, c. 6 It shall be lawful .. to put them in the Pillory all the *Market-time. 1832 *Boston Herald* 6 Mar. 4 Acts of parliament to establish the right of *market tolls.

b. Special comb.: **market basket**, a large basket used to carry provisions, etc. purchased in the market; *spec.* see quot. 1884; †**market-beater**, one who idles or lounges about a market; **market bell**, a bell rung to announce the commencement of a market; **market-clerk** = *clerk of the market* (see Clerk *sb.* 6 c); **market-coin**, coin current in the market; in quot. *fig.*; **market-crier** ? *U.S.* (see quot.); **market-custom**, the dues levied on goods brought to market; †**market dame**, 'a strumpet' (Farmer); †**market-dasher** = *market-beater*; **market fair** *dial.*, a fairing or present from the market; **market-fish** *U.S.*, (*a*) fish, esp. cod-fish, of a marketable size (see quot.); (*b*) 'a corruption of *margate-fish*' (*Cent. Dict.* 1890); **market-fresh** *a. dial.* (see quot. 1841); †**market-friendship**, a friendship in business affairs; **market-fuddled** *a. dial.* = *market-fresh*; **market-garden**, a piece of land on which vegetables are grown for the market; hence *market-gardener*; †**market geld, †3eld** (see quots.); **market-horse** (*slang*), 'a horse simply kept in the betting-lists for the purpose of being betted against' (*Hotten's Slang Dict.* 1874); **market-house**, a building in which a market is held; a small house erected in a market-place for the use of market-folk; †**market lash**, public flogging; in quot. *fig.*; **market-lead**, in *Silver-refining*, that portion of the metal which is sufficiently desilverized to be sold as lead; **market looker** (see quot. 1821); **market-maker**, † (*a*) a bargain-maker (*obs.*); (*b*) in the Stock Exchange (see 5 b); so *market-making*; **market-master** (Pennsylv.), an officer having supervision of markets (*Cent. Dict.*); †**market-match**, a match made for pecuniary gain; **market-merry** *a. dial.* = *market-fresh*; hence *market-merriness*; †**market-monger**, one who engrosses the market; **market-mongering**, discreditable dealing in the share-market; **market-ordinary**, the ordinary provided for market people; **market-peace** *Hist.* [= G. *marktfriede*], the peace or truce which prevailed in a market on market-days; **market-penny**, a perquisite made by one who buys for another; †**market-plenty**, plentifulness of the market; **market pot**, in *Silver-refining*, the last of a series of crystallizing pots, containing the market-lead; **market-price**, the current price which a commodity fetches in the market; †**market-quality**, the quality of being a market town; **market-rate**, the current value of a commodity; **market-rigger**, one who 'rigs the market' (see Rig *v.*); hence *market rigging* vbl. sb.; †**market runner** = *market beater*; †**market-set** = Market-place; †**market-sieve**, ? one for sifting rice for the market; **market-stall**, a standing-place or booth in a market; **market stallage**, the right of erecting or the rent paid for a market-stall; **market stanco** *Sc.* = Market-place; **market-table**, one frequented by marketers; **market-trot**, a steady trot like that of a person going to market; **market-value**, current value in the market, saleable value; **market-woman**, (*a*) a woman who sells in the market; (*b*) with adj., one (more or less) skilled in marketing; **market-work**, the growing of produce for the market. Also Market cross, day, man, -place, -stead, town.

1884 *Cassell's Encycl. Dict.*, *Market-basket*, a basket used by dealers in the London fruit and vegetable markets. It contains 56 lbs. of potatoes. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 242 Se, þou3 he be a *market betere. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Reeve's T.* 16 He was a market-beter atte fulle. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 236/1 Merketbeter, *circumforanus*. 1591 Shaks. *1 Hen. VI*, III. ii. 16 *Watch.* Enter, goe in, the *Market Bell is rung. 1616–61 Holyday *Persius* 298 Being *market-clark .. He break their earthen vessels less then measure. 1817 Coleridge *Biog. Lit.* 212 Words used as the arbitrary marks of thought, our smooth *market-coin of intercourse. 1846 Worcester (citing Lee), *Market-crier, a crier of the market. 1844 H. Stephens *Bk. Farm* II. 89 The .. dues incidental to the road and markets, such as tolls, forage, ferries, and *market-custom. 1705–7 E. Ward *Hud. Redriv.* (1715) II. ii. 25 Punks, Strolers, *Market Dames. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 326/2 *Market daschare, *circumforanus*. 1821 *Blackw. Mag.* VIII. 433 The rogues escaped from task, Here take their stand, the '*market fair' to ask. 1894 *Outing* (U.S.) XXIII. 404/1 *Market fish are those [cod] measuring less [than 22 in.], but weighing 3 lbs. or more. 1841 Hartshorne *Salop. Ant.* 498 *Market-Fresh, that dubious degree of sobriety with which farmers too commonly return home from market. 1651 Hobbes *Govt. & Soc.* I. § 2. 4 If they meet for Traffique,..a certain *Market-friendship is begotten. 1895 'M. E. Francis' *Frieze & Fustian* 142 Jem..was not by any means '*market-fuddled'. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVII. 96/1 [The land] would make excellent *market-gardens. 1865 Dickens *Mut. Fr.* II. i, Where the railways still bestride the market-gardens that will soon die under them. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XIII. 188/1 *Market-gardeners, who raise vegetables..for the supply of the London markets. ? *a* 1500 in Blount *Law Dict.* (1670) s.v., Et valent per an. le Streteward & le *Marketzeld xviiis. 1684 Manley *Cowell's Interpr.* (ed. 2), *Marketzeld*, more truly *Marketgeld*, It signifies Toll of the Market. 1561 Stow *Eng. Chron.* (1565) 136 This yeare the *market house called the Stockes in London was begon to be buylded. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVII. 102/1 A town-hall [at Witney]..with a piazza underneath for a market-house. 1627–77 Feltham *Resolves* I. lviii. 91 Every offence meets not with a *Market lash. Private punishments sometimes gripe a man within. 1877 Raymond *Statist. Mines & Mining* 181 Rich lead on the one hand and *market-lead on the other. 1591 *Manch. Court Leet Rec.* (1885) II. 57 To delyner .. them [the weights] to the *marketlokers. 1821 De Quincey *Richter* Wks. 1863 XIII. 143 *note*, 'Market-lookers' is a provincial term..for the public officers who examine the quality of the provisions exposed for sale. 1647 Ward *Simp. Cobler* 36 When Christ whips *Market-makers out of his Temple. 1340 *Ayenb.* 42 The vifte [twig of Simony] is ine ham þet be *markat makinde leteþ hare benefices oþer chongeþ. 1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 14 Jan. 5/1 He put down contracts of this kind as 'advertising' and 'market making'. 1605 Breton *Old Man's Lesson* B iij b, *Market-matches where Marriages are made without affections. 1898 Watts-Dunton *Aylwin* (1900) 143/1 The moment that he had passed into '*market-merriness'. 1847 Halliwell *Provinc.*, *Market-merry, tipsy. 1629 Gaule *Holy Madn.* 389 A *Market-monger, Corne-hoorder. 1901 *Westm. Gaz.* 10 Jan. 9/1 The evils of such a system of *market mongering. 1769 Burke *Lett., to Marq. Rockingham* (1844) I. 193 The freeholders dined .. at a *market-ordinary. 1872 Yeats *Growth Comm.* 379 The *market-peace afforded security to the multitudes who congregated together. 1735 *Poor Robin* Observ. Oct., They can go to Market, buy Victuals, and spend the *Market penny in the Morning. 1815 *Paris Chit-Chat* (1816) I. 53 Your cook..never considers her market penny an unfair advantage. 1643 Trapp *Comm. Gen.* xxvi. 28 The Church of Rome borrows her mark from the *market-plenty, or cheapness. 1860 *Ure's Dict. Arts* (ed. 5) II. 664 The '*market pot'. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 212 3if þou selle hym derere þan þe *markett prise, þou owyst to restore it. 1601 Shaks. *All's Well* v. iii. 219. 1880 C. R. Markham *Peruv.*

Bark 434 The quinine will be sold at market prices. **1745** H. WALPOLE *Let. G. Montagu* 25 June, On the right and left..lie two towns; the one of *market quality, and the other with a wharf where ships come up. **1700** PRIOR *Robe's Geogr.* 22 To Those, who at the *Market-Rate Can barter Honour for Estate. **1825** MCCULLOCH *Pol. Econ.* III. vii. 336 The market rate of wages. **1881** GOLDW. SMITH *Lect. & Ess.* 179 A mere *market-rigger and money-grubber. **1897** *Westm. Gaz.* 23 Aug. 5/1 The rise..is largely attributed to *market rigging. **1486** *Cath. Angl.* 236/1 A *Merkett ryn-ner, *circumforarius*. **1552** LATIMER *Serm., St. John Evang. Day* (1584) 284 It was a common stable in the *Market set. **1761** *Descr. S. Carolina* 8 Afterwards, by a Wire-Sieve called a *Market-Sieve, it is separated from the broken and small Rice. **1859** LD. LYTTON *Wanderer* (ed. 2) 276 Those windows with the *market-stalls before. **1832** *Boston Herald* 6 Mar. 4 *Market Stallage. **1899** *Blackw. Mag.* Jan. 46/1 The *market-stance in the wilderness was free to all comers. **1850** W. P. SCARGILL *Eng. Sketch-Bk.* 3 Such agricultural bucks..are generally..the oracles of the *market-table. **1856** *Househ. Wds.* XIII. 497/1 The ex-groom..walked his pony on in silence..breaking occasionally into a *market-trot. **1848** MILL *Pol. Econ.* I. III. ii. § 4. 528 There are persons ready to buy, at the *market value, a greater quantity than is offered for sale. **1880** C. R. MARKHAM *Peruv. Bark* 109 Bark from that district is of no market value. **1552** HULOET, *Market woman, *foratia*. **1624** MASSINGER *Parl. Love* II. i, Of such as trade in the streets, ..Of progress laundresses, and marketwomen. **1755** *Connoisseur* No. 91 ¶ 2 My wife is particularly proud of being an excellent Market-woman. **1863** MISS BRADDON *Eleanor's Vict.* i, To buy peaches..of the noisy market women.

Market (mā·ɹkėt), *v.* [f. MARKET *sb.*]

1. *intr.* To deal in a market, buy and sell; to go to market with produce; to purchase provisions.

1635 HEYLIN *Sabbath* II. (1636) 214 That no man should presume to Market on the Lords day. **1747** MRS. GLASSE *Cookery* xxi. 160 How to market. **1776** ADAM SMITH *W. N.* I. xi. I. 246 A contract of this kind saves the farmer the expence and trouble of marketing. **1821** MOORE *Mem.* (1853) III. 207 Went into town..in order to market for to-morrow's dinner.

2. *trans.* To dispose of in a market, to sell; also, to bring or send to market.

1649 G. DANIEL *Trinarch., Hen. V*, xcviii, The Treasurer.. for a Price Mercates his Maister, to extend his Purse. **1657** EP. H. KING *Poems* III. (1843) 90 The Captiv'd Welch, in Couples led, Were Marketted, like Cattell, by the Head. **1791** COWPER *Iliad* XVIII. 358 Our wealth Is marketted. **1865** *Daily Tel.* 11 Aug., The Seven-thirty Loan has now been all marketed. **1892** *Times* 24 Sept. 12/2 Foreign farmers are obliged to market their corn immense distances by rail, canal, and sea.

Marketable (mā·ɹkėtăb'l), *a.* Also 7 **markettable, mercatable.** [f. MARKET *v.* + -ABLE.]

1. Capable of being marketed; that may or can be bought or sold; suitable for the market; that finds a ready market; that is in demand; saleable.

1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* I. ii. 103 *Ros.* Then shal we be newes-cram'd. *Cel.* All the better: we shalbe the more Marketable. **1610** — *Temp.* V. i. 266 *Seb.* Will money buy em? *Ant.* Very like: one of them Is a plaine Fish, and no doubt marketable. **1652–62** HEYLIN *Cosmogr.* IV. (1682) 7 They do transport their Marketable Commodities from one place to another. **1677** PLOT *Oxfordsh.* 151 This Corn..proving Mercatable, is now become one of the commonest grains of this County. **1745** *De Foe's Eng. Tradesman* ii. (1841) I. 16 The goods are not of a marketable goodness. **1812** BYRON *Waltz* Ep., Our girls being come to a marriageable (or, as they call it, marketable) age. **1851** BRIMLEY *Ess., Wordsworth* 162 Unpossessed of any marketable talent. **1890** 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* (1891) 241 Such fat cattle as were up to the marketable standard.

2. Of or pertaining to buying or selling; concerned with trade. Of price, value: That may be obtained in buying or selling.

1602 FULBECKE *1st Pt. Parall.* 3 If hee sende him to Fayres or Markets, to buy, to sell, or to doe other things markettable. **1690** LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) II. 91 Their goods unladen, and they are sent home with assurance of a marketable price for the same. **1837** HAWTHORNE *Twice-told T.* (1851) I. xi. 186 Being calculated to reduce the marketable value of the true gem. **1872** YEATS *Growth Comm.* 298 To enlarge the marketable area by enfranchising other ports would violate the Navigation Act.

Hence **Ma·rketabi·lity, Ma·rketableness,** the condition or fact of being marketable.

1809–10 COLERIDGE *Friend* (1818) II. 65 The marketableness of our manufactures in foreign marts. **1877** R. GIFFEN *Stock Exch. Securities* 89 The difference of marketability arising..from the greater mass of some securities than others. **1884** *Macm. Mag.* Oct. 415/1 The marketability of land.

Marketably (mā·ɹkėtăbli), *adv.* [f. MARKETABLE + -LY 2.] So as to be marketable.

1842 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* III. II. 337 A sufficient judge of beasts to know whether they are marketably fat or not. **1873** *Contemp. Rev.* XXII. 700 Meagre or turgid attempts at being..marketably graphic.

Market cross. A cross erected in a market-place (see also quot. 1850).

1448 *Aberdeen Reg.* (1844) I. 17 John Voket..yheide to the merkate corss, and opynly proclamyt the land..to be sald. **1535** STEWART *Cron. Scot.* III. 457 Content he wes.. In Lundoun toun evin at the mercat corce, On fit to fecht. **1702** *Loud. Gaz.* No. 3806/7 The Mayor..caused an Ox to be roasted whole at the Market Cross. **1850** PARKER *Gloss. Archit.* s. v. *Cross*, Market crosses were usually polygonal buildings with an open archway on each of the sides, and vaulted within, large enough to afford shelter to a considerable number of persons.

Market day. The fixed day on which a market is held.

1436 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 497/2 At every market day within two wekes. **1593** SHAKS. 2 *Hen. VI*, IV. ii. 62, I haue seene him whipt three Market dayes together. **1672** PETTY *Pol. Anat.* (1691) 63 The number of People living within a Market-days Journey. **1871** CARLYLE in *Mrs. C.'s Lett.* I. 141 It must have been Saturday,..Carlisle market-day.

Proverb. **1695** J. SAGE *Article* Wks. 1844 I. 235 Behold the difference in Market-days, as we say.

Marketeer (mā·ɹkėtī·ɹ). [See -EER.]

1. One who sells in a market; a market-dealer.

1832 *Boston Herald* 6 Mar. 4 Placing the permanent taxed shopkeepers more on a level with the weekly untaxed marketeers. **1847** ROBB *Squatter Life* 116 The sucker marketeer drew off a few paces, to be ready to run. **1859** SALA *Two round Clock* (1861) 10 A genuine Billingsgate marketeer.

2. *Racing slang.* (See quot.)

1874 *Hotten's Slang Dict., Marketeer*, a betting man who devotes himself, by means of special information, to the study of favourites, and the diseases incident to that condition of equine life. The Marketeer is the principal agent in all milking and knocking-out arrangements.

Marketer (mā·ɹkėtəɹ). *?U.S.* [f. MARKET *v.* + -ER 1.] One who goes to market; one who buys or sells in a market.

1787 M. CUTLER in *Life*, etc. (1888) I. 271 The marketers seemed to be all in and every thing arranged. **18..** *Pop. Sci. Monthly* XIII. 430 (Cent.) A superficial sameness in the appearance of meat which it is the business of a good marketer to see through. **1900** H. JAMES *Little Tour* xxiv. 166, I sat down with a hundred hungry marketers, fat, brown, greasy men.

Marketh, obs. form of MARKET.

Marketing (mā·ɹkėtiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. MARKET *v.* + -ING 1.]

1. The action of the vb. MARKET; buying or selling; an instance of this. Also *fig.*

1561 T. NORTON *Calvin's Inst.* IV. xviii. 148 How filthy marketings they vse, how vnhonest gaines they make w^t their massinges. **1636** HEYLIN *Sabbath* I. v. 108 All other marketting was unlawfull on the Sabbath dayes. **1833** LYTTON *Eng. & Engl.* (ed. 2) I. 124 A notorious characteristic of English society is the universal marketing of our unmarried women. **1885** MABEL COLLINS *Prettiest Woman* ix, He did certain necessary marketings, and returned for her. *attrib.* **1619** J. DYKE *Counterpoison* 24 A marketting and a iunketting, a selling and a swilling day both.

b. The action or business of bringing or sending (a commodity) to market.

1884 *Harper's Mag.* Mar. 506/1 This marketing of supplies was the beginning..of its prosperity. **1894** *Daily News* 26 Jan. 5/4 Facilities for the marketing of labour in country districts.

2. a. Something bought in the market; a purchase.

1701 PEPYS *Let.* 4 Dec., Sorting and binding together my nephew's Roman marketings. **1755** *Connoisseur* No. 91 ¶ 2 Above half her marketings stink and grow musty, before we can use them.

b. Produce to be sold in the market; also, a consignment of such produce.

1886 P. FITZGERALD *Fatal Zero* li. (1888) 290 The honest creatures..who till the soil here and bring in marketing. **1893** *Times* 10 July 4/6 The marketings of dairy butter have been smaller than of late.

Marketing (mā·ɹkėtiŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. MARKET *v.* + -ING 2.] That markets, in the senses of the verb.

1851 D. JERROLD *St. Giles* xi. 105 Money in this marketing world of ours may buy much. **1872** HOWELLS *Wedd. Journ.* (1892) 28 A marketing mother of a family.

Market man. One who deals in a market; one who goes to market to buy or sell.

1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 336 h, As the mercatemenne.. dooe bryng out a litle modicum of wheate..in a treen dishe for a saumple. **1591** SHAKS. 1 *Hen. VI*, V. v. 54 So worthlesse Pezants bargaine for their Wiues, As market men for Oxen. **1654** GATAKER *Disc. Apol.* 18 The Market-man counteth that but an evil Market-day, that he hath not gained somewhat on. **1762** *Ann. Reg.* 127 He being always the market-man for cheese, as he knew how to buy it good better than any other of the family. **1868** BROWNING *Ring & Bk.* I. 98 Thick-ankled girls..made place For marketmen glad to pitch basket down.

b. *Stock exchange.* (See MARKET *sb.* 1 d.)

1895 *Westm. Gaz.* 19 Jan. 7/1 Market men who attended ..reckoned that the natural course of the shares was to fall.

Ma·rket-place. The place where a market is held, usually a square or wide open space in a town.

c **1386** CHAUCER *Merch. T.* 339 As who-so toke a mirour.. And sette it in a commune market-place. **1503** *Act 19 Hen. VII*, c. 6 It shall be lawful..in the Market-place to put them in the Pillory all the Market-time. **1607** SHAKS. *Cor.* I. v. 27 Go sound thy Trumpet in the Market place. **1756–7** tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) III. 3 In the market-place ..is a superb bronze statue of Urban VIII. **1847** *Act 10 & 11 Vict.* c. 14 § 14 After the Market Place or Place for Fairs is opened for public Use.

Marketstead (mā·ɹkėtsted). *arch.* [f. MARKET *sb.* + STEAD.] = MARKET-PLACE.

1386 *Mem. Ripon* (Surtees) I. 134 De uno burgagio in Ripon in le Marketstede. *c* **1425** *St. Mary of Oignies* II. ii. in *Anglia* VIII. 152/17 A place in þe comun marketstede. **1577** *Burgh Rec. Glasgow* (1876) I. 63 It is..ordanit that the marcatt sted of gers, stray, and hay be in the New Kirk yarde. **1650** FULLER *Pisgah* II. ix. 189 The greatest place of receipt in Samaria (which might serve them for a marketstead). **1870** MORRIS *Earthly Par.* I. I. 118 Through the marketstead Swiftly he passed.

Market town. A town which has the privilege of holding a market; also, † a trading town.

1449 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 150/2 In..marketttownes. **1553** EDEN *Treat. Newe Ind.* (Arb.) 12 Of Calicut, the moste famous markette towne of India. **1632** MASSINGER *City Madam* III. iii, Here lay..a sure deed of gift for a market town. **1715** GAY *What d'ye call it?* I. 3 They would have burnt him at our Market Town. **1809–10** COLERIDGE *Friend* (1865) 148 A small market town in the south-west of England

Markgraf, -grave: see MARGRAVE.

‖ **Markhor** (e (mā·ɹkpɹ). *Nat. Hist.* Also 9 **markhoor.** [Pers. مارخور *mārkhōr*, lit. 'serpent-eater'.] A large wild goat (*Capra falconeri*), of a slaty gray colour, with long spiral horns, native of the mountainous country between Persia and Tibet.

1867 A. L. ADAMS *Wand. Nat. in Ind.* 213 The markhore ..is found on the mountains of Persia, Afghanistan, and.. is plentiful on the ranges round the Khyber Pass. **1868** DARWIN *Anim. & Pl.* I. 101 *note*, The Asiatic markhor. **1889** *Spectator* 9 Nov. 637/1 A herd of markhor.

Marking (mā·ɹkiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. MARK *v.* + -ING 1.]

1. The action of the verb MARK.

c **1315** SHOREHAM *Poems* 15/415 Þe signe his of þis sacrement Mid creyme þe markinge. **1588** SHAKS. *L. L. L.* I. i. 288, I doe confesse much of the hearing of it, but little of the marking of it. **1672** C. BEALE in H. Walpole *Vertue's Aneed. Paint.* (1786) III. 130 Much more..then my heart cou'd with her most carefull marking learn from his painting either this, or Dr. Cradock's picture. **1726** LEONI *Alberti's Archit.* I. 37/1 The very marking out of the Platform ought to be done under proper Auspices. **1840** DICKENS *Old C. Shop* viii, The art of needle-work, marking, and samplery, [taught] by Miss Jane Wackles. **1904** *Grove's Dict. Mus.* I. 14/1 The strong marking of the accent seems to have been only usual in dance music.

† b. Manner of marking; notation. *Obs.*

1597 MORLEY *Introd. Mus.* 90 For when they marke tripla of three minimes for a stroke, they doe most vsuallie set these numbers before it ⅔: which is the true marking of sesqui altera.

† 2. Notice, consideration. *Obs.*

1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* Ep. Ded., Doth it not deserue diligent marking and remembring? **1603** KNOLLES *Hist. Turks* (1638) 171 But it is worth the marking, how things appointed to befall us are by no means to be auoided.

3. *concr.* A mark or pattern of marks, natural or artificial.

1382 WYCLIF *Kings* Prol. p. 2 The Lamentacioun of Jeremye..with the same abicees or markyngis ben noumbrid [L. *iisdem alphabetis vel incisionibus supputantur*]. **1641** [see MARL *v.*1 3]. **1803** MONTAGUE *Ornith. Dict.* (1831) 326 These birds are subject to some variety in markings. **1837** GORING & PRITCHARD *Microgr.* 162 No one who..did not know there actually were lines or markings upon it, would suspect their existence. **1894** R. B. SHARPE *Handbk. Birds Gt. Brit.* (1896) I. 42 Eggs..exactly like those of the Goldfinch in size and markings.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as † **marking axe,** an axe used by foresters for marking trees; **marking board,** (*a*) a board constructed to register the score in certain games; (*b*) a board in the Stock Exchange upon which transactions are posted; **marking cotton** (see quot. 1882); **marking flag,** a flag used by soldiers for marking a position; † **marking fruit** = *marking nut*; **marking-gauge** = GAUGE *sb.* 11; **marking ink,** (*a*) an indelible ink used for marking linen, etc.; (*b*) a mixture used for marking packing-cases and the like with a stencil or otherwise; † **marking instrument** = next; **marking iron,** (*a*) a branding iron; (*b*) see qnot. 1747; **marking-nut,** the fruit of the tree *Semecarpus Anacardium*, the juice of which makes an indelible black stain on linen, etc.; **marking-nut tree,** an Indian tree which bears the marking-nut; **marking-plough** (see quot. 1805); **marking-pot,** a vessel containing paint for stencilling packages; **marking-stitch,** a stitch used in marking linen, etc.; † **marking-stone,** an earthy stone used for marking cattle, etc.; **marking wheels,** two wheels attached to a sowing drill to regulate the distance between the rows; † **marking-yarn** (see quot. 1744).

1384–5 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 390 Pro j *m'kyngax, xvjd.* **1856** 'CRAWLEY' *Billiards* (1850) 4 A..Thurston table, cues, balls, and *marking board, all complete. **1900** *Westm. Gaz.* 26 Sept. 9/1 [Stock Exchange.] The marking board should be above suspicion. **1805** E. S. BOWNE in *Scribner's Mag.* II. 180/2, I enclose the *marking cotton. **1882** CAULFEILD & SAWARD *Dict. Needlework, Marking Cotton*, an ingrain coloured sewing cotton, to be had in Turkey-red and blue, and sold in small balls and reels. **1901** KIPLING *Kim* xiii. 343 The Babu, the slack of his thin gear snapping like a *marking-flag in the chill breeze, stood by. **1866** *Treas. Bot.* 722/2 *Marking fruit, *Semecarpus Anacardium*. **1875** KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, *Marking-gage. **1710** *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4719/4 Shopkeepers common Writing or *Marking Ink. **1819** BRANDE *Chem.* 315 Nitrate of silver ..is employed for writing upon linen, under the name of *indelible* or *marking ink*. **1888** J. PAYN *Myst. Mirbridge* xvii. II. 21 It won't wash out any more than that marking-ink. **1398** TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVI. vii. (1495) 557 A *merkynge instrument [L. *cauterium*] of syluer kepyth from stynkynge: and comfortyth feble membres. *c* **1420** *Pallad. on Husb.* I. 1163 Here most be *markyng yrons for oure beestis, And toolis forto gelde, and clippe, and shere. **1538** in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. IV. 425 A markyng irne to brene a convyct clerke. **1682** *2nd Plea for Nonconf.* 51 Let them receive from us some Tokens of Affection, and not be burnt with the Marking-irons of Anger. **1747** MRS. GLASSE *Cookery* viii. 75 Shape your Upper-crust ..and mark it with a Marking-iron for that purpose, in what Shape you please, to be hollow and open to see the Fruit through. **1756** ELLIS in *Phil. Trans.* XLIX. 873 They are known all over India by the name of *Marking-nuts. **1830** LINDLEY *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 128 Semecarpus anacardium, the *marking nut-tree of commerce. **1805** R. W. DICKSON *Pract. Agric.* I. 13 The *Marking-Plough is an useful instrument

for the purpose of straightening, as well as regulating the distance of ridges, where the practice of drilling is in use. 1868 M. H. SMITH *Sunshine & Shadow in N. York* 252 They did the hard work, swept out the stores, made the fires, used the *marking-pot. 1880 *Plain Hints Needlework* 22 The real *marking stitch, called in old times 'Brave Bred' stitch, ..lasts longer. 1545 *Rates Custome Ho.* b vij b, *Markynge stone the pounde iiii. *d.* 1676 WORLIDGE *Cyder* 51 It is good with a Marking-Stone or piece of Chalk..to mark one coast of every Tree. 1793 TULL *Horse-Hoeing Husb.* xxiii. 381 To a Drill that plants upon the Level, *Marking Wheels are necessary. 1744 *Rigging & Seamanship* 55 **Marking-yarn*, a white thread, untarred, laid in rope for the king's or East-India Company's mark.

Marking (mā·rkiŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. MARK *v.* + ING 2.]

† **1.** Observing, observant. *Obs.*

1577-87 HOLINSHED *Chron.* I. 178/2 It would make a diligent and marking reader both muse and moorne. *c* 1580 SIDNEY *Ps.* I. i, Night and day he calls [Gods law] to marking mind. 1605 CAMDEN *Rem.* 213 Whosoever will with a marking eie consider [etc.].

† **2.** Expressive. *Obs.* (Quot. 1766 may belong to sense 1.)

1766 *Life of Quin* i. 5 He had..an expressive countenance; a marking eye; a clear voice. 1778 MME. D'ARBLAY *Diary* Sept., He has repeatedly asked me to read a tragedy to him, ..and when I ask him why, he says I have such a marking face.

3. *Mil.* That marks (see MARK *v.* 10).

1796 *Instr. & Reg. Cavalry* (1813) 32 The horses heads of the line, and of the marking persons will then touch. *Ibid.*, When divisions come up..successively into line, they come up to the horses heads of the marking persons.

4. That characterizes or accentuates.

1795 BURKE *Corr.* (1844) IV. 319 What you are to say of the character..of a man, must..consist rather of a few light marking touches than of a long discussion. 1797 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Italian* ii. (1824) 541 A full sense of the value of birth is a marking feature in the characters of the Marchese and Marchesa di Vivaldi. 1884 *Athenæum* 30 Aug. 271/1 The tragic story of Saigo Kichinosuke's despair and death ..for all time must be the marking incident of its history.

Hence † **Ma·rkingly** *adv.*, attentively.

a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* IV. (1598) 404 Pyrocles markingly hearkened to all that Dametas said.

Markis, Markiseese: see MARQUIS, -QUISESS.

Markland (mā·rklănd). *Sc.* [f. MARK *sb.*2 + LAND.] A division of land, originally of the annual value of a mark; = MARK *sb.*2

As 'a markland' and 'a mark (of) land' were equivalent, it is often difficult to determine whether in the early examples the combination is a compound or a syntactical collocation.

1550 in *Black Bk. Taymouth* (Bannatyne Cl.) 407 The markland of Drimleyort, the half markland of Glenkinglas [etc.]. 1774 PENNANT *Tour Scot. in* 1772, 197 The island is divided into marklands, each of which ought to maintain fourteen cows and four horses. 1793 *Statist. Acc. Scot.* VII. 393 The lands are reckoned by a peculiar measurement, by what are called merks-land. Each merk-land ought to contain 1600 square fathoms. 1884 CAMPBELL *Rec. Argyll* 61 This parish, divided into 116 marklands, is [etc.].

Markless (mā·rklĕs), *a.* [f. MARK *sb.*1 + -LESS.] Without mark or a mark.

1834 LD. HOUGHTON *Mem. Many Scenes, Vis. Argonauts*, A..plain..Trackless and markless as fresh-fallen snow.

Hence **Ma·rklessly** *adv.*, unnoticed.

1844 THOM *Rhymes Weaver* 39 Unkent, uncared its ruin, Sae marklessly it grew.

Marklet (mā·rklĕt). *rare*−1. [f. MARK *sb.*1 + -LET.] A little mark; in quot. † a badge.

1647 WARD *Simp. Cobler* (1843) 32 Souldiers use to weare other marklets or notadoes in time of battell.

† **Markly,** *a. Sc. Obs.* [f. MARK *sb.*1 + -LY 2. Cf. ON. *merkiliga.*] Definitely.

1533 GAU *Richt Vay* (1888) 69 Sanct Paul vritis .. Plane and marklie of our lordis resurrectione.

Marklynis, obs. form of MIRKLINGS *adv.*

Markman (mā·rkmăn). [f. MARK *sb.*1 + MAN *sb.*1]

† **1.** = MARKSMAN 1. Also *fig. Obs.*

1577 STANYHURST *Descr. Irel.* viii. 28 in *Holinshed*, The kerne, who is an ordinary souldior, vsing .. sometimes hys peece, beyng commonly so good markemen as they will come within a score of a great castle. 1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* I. i. 212 A right good marke man. 1654 FLECKNOE *Ten Years Trav.* 78 Arrows (with which they are the best mark men in the world).

2. *Antiq.* A dweller in a mark (MARK *sb.*1 2).

1874 STUBBS *Const. Hist.* I. iii. 49 Each of the mark-men has there his homestead.

Markois, obs. form of MARQUIS.

Markoke, obs. form of MOORCOCK.

Markque, obs. form of MARQUE.

Markry, obs. form of MERCURY.

Marksman (mā·rksmăn). [f. *mark's*, genitive of MARK *sb.*1 + MAN *sb.*1]

1. One skilled or practised in shooting or aiming at a mark. (Cf. the earlier MARKMAN.)

1660 F. BROOKE tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 110 Often, the King gives rewards to the best marks-men. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 39 P 36 A good Marks-man will be sure to hit his Man at 20 Yards Distance. 1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* xx, M'Intyre is said to be a marksman. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 14 July 4/6 The rather low records made by old marksmen on the Common.

b. A title of merit awarded for a certain recognized degree of proficiency in rifle practice.

1859 *Musketry Instr.* 72 Certain of the first-class shots to be styled 'marksmen',

2. One who marks out land.

1654 in Sir W. Petty *Down Surv.* iii. (1851) 16 The admeasurers..paid little for their diet and lodging, bounders, marksmen, spademen, &c.

3. One who makes a mark in place of a signature.

1777 NICHOLSON & BURN *Hist. Westmoreld. & Cumberl.* II. 324 *note*, In the Original Solemn League and Covenant ..there are abundance of marksmen, all of whom, from their abhorrence of popery..leave the cross unfinished. 1813 COL. BAGWELL *Sp. Ho. Comm.* 24 Feb., Of these 3000 names, none were marksmen. 1885 T. HUGHES in *Law Times* LXXX. 45/1 The..drover who signed the contract was a marksman.

4. A grade or degree amongst Orangemen.

1800 in *Orange Syst. Exposed* (1823) 81, I will keep this part of a Marksman from an Orangeman, as well as from the ignorant..I will be aiding and assisting to all true bonest Orange Marksmen. 1813 *Gen. Hist.* in *Ann. Reg.* 93/2 The oath of a Marchman or Marksman, the name of one further initiated in their secrets.

5. One who ranges competitors in a race.

1897 *Encycl. Sport* I. 62 s.v. *Athletics.*

6. (See quot.)

1901 *Blackw. Mag.* Nov. 660/1 The 'Marksman'..whose function it is to superintend the marking of the Forest Ponies.

Ma·rksmanship. [f. prec. + -SHIP.] The function, quality or art of a marksman.

1859 TENNENT *Ceylon* II. VIII. iii. 324 There is little opportunity for the display of marksmanship in an elephant battue. 1899 *Daily Tel.* 23 Oct. 19/2 The Cape Police..deride the Boer marksmanship.

Markstone (mā·rk,stoun). *Obs.* exc. *dial.* [f. MARK *sb.*1 + STONE *sb.* Cf. G. *markstein.*] A boundary stone.

1364 *Durham Halmote Rolls* (Surtees) 31 Promisit quod ipse venire faciet le merkstans. 1535 COVERDALE *Gen.* XXXI. 45 Then toke Iacob a stone and set it vp for a piler or markstone. 1587 HARRISON *England* I. v. 12/1 in *Holinshed*, The marke stone [1577 stone] which Turnus threw at Æneas. 1610 HEALEY *St. Aug. Citie of God* 841 They are wont to lay coales vnder bounders and marke-stones for lands. 1824 MACTAGGART *Gallovid. Encycl.* 338 *Markstanes*, stones set up on end for marks in the days of yore, that farmers might know the marches of their farms.

Ma·rkswoman. [Cf. MARKSMAN.] A woman practised in shooting at a mark.

1802 *Sporting Mag.* XX. 300 She is an excellent marks-woman. 1824 SCOTT *St. Ronan's* xviii, There might then be room for less exalted but perhaps not less skilful marks women to try their chance.

Ma·rkworthy, *a.* [f. MARK *sb.*1 + WORTHY *a.*; after G. *merkwürdig.*] Worthy of note.

1827 SCOTT *Napoleon* i, And—mark-worthy circumstance! in La Vendée alone was any stand made. 1865 G. MEREDITH *Rhoda Fleming* xxviii. (1889) 236 A rather mark-worthy young man.

Markyd, Markys, obs. ff. MARKET, MARQUIS.

Markyt, -yth(e, obs. forms of MARKET.

Marl (mārl), *sb.*1 Also (4 marll, 6 merle), 4-9 **marle.** [a. OF. *marle* (still in dialects; replaced in mod.Fr. by the variant *marne*):—late L. *margila* (whence OHG. *mergil*, MHG., mod.G., Du. *mergel* (MDu. also *marl* from Fr.), Da. *mergel*, Sw. *märgel*), dim. of L. *marga* (whence It., Sp. *marga*), said by Pliny to be a Gaulish word.

It does not, however, occur in the mod. Celtic langs.: the alleged Breton *marg* does not correspond phonetically; the Breton *merl* is from Fr., and the Welsh *marl* and Irish and Gaelic *marla* are from English.]

1. A kind of soil consisting principally of clay mixed with carbonate of lime, forming a loose unconsolidated mass, valuable as a fertilizer.

The *marl* of lakes is 'a white, chalky deposit consisting of the mouldering remains of *Mollusca, Entomostraca*, and partly of fresh-water algæ' (Geikie in *Encycl. Brit.* X. 290/2).

1372 *Durham Halmote Rolls* (Surtees) 115 Quod nullus eorum permittat aliquibus capere marll. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) II. 15 In þis ilond vnder þe torf of þe lond is good marl i-founde. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. XIII. 231 Lond onere-layde with marle and with donge. *c* 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* X. 25 For laak of donge in sondy lond be sponge Good marl. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 327/1 Marl, or chalke, *creta.* 1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 2 Some meane erthe, some medled with marle. 1530 PALSGR. 244/2 Merle ground, *marle.* 1669 W. SIMPSON *Hydrol. Chym.* 296 A more stiff clay or marle. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* IV. 10 Chalks, marles, and all such earths as ferment with vinegar, are nothing more than a composition of shells. 1846 MCCULLOCH *Acc. Brit. Empire* (1854) I. 183 Turnips form the basis of the Norfolk husbandry; and, in conjunction with marl, may be said 'to have made the county'. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* II. 67/2 Amber .. occurs .. in the Cretaceous marls of France and Germany.

b. With qualifying word, e.g. an adj. of colour or a word denoting the composition, preponderant element, source, etc., as *argillaceous, blue, calcareous, chalky, chloritic, clay, earth, gravel, green-sand, sand, sandy, sea, shell, white, yellow marl.*

† **Cushat marl** (see quot. 1682); **dice** or **steel marl** (see quots. 1682, 1766); **delving** or **peat marl, flag, shale, slate,** or **stone marl** (see quots. 1682, 1707, 1762). For *chalk, lime,* and *paper marl* see the prefixed words.

1603 OWEN *Pembrokeshire* (1892) 11 Claye marle, stone marle, lyme, sande, or gravell marle. *Ibid.* 71 Claye Marle soe called for difference betweene it and the sea marle. 1682 A. MARTINDALE in J. Houghton *Coll. Lett. Husb. & Trade* I. 121 Cowshut-Marle (so called, as I suppose, for its resemblance in colour to Stock-doves, or Quoeca, which the Vulgar in this Country call Cowshuts) being of a brownish colour, bespangled with blew veins..2. Stone-Marle, or Shale-Marle..3. Peat-Marle, or Delving-Marle, which is..very fat or unctuous...4. Clay Marle, resembling it in colour, and in my Opinion, being of great affinity to Clay...5. Steel-Marle in the bottom of some Pits, which of it self is apt to break into little Bodies almost Cubical. 1686 PLOT *Staffordsh.* iii. 120 Harder, stony, slatty sorts of Marles, at some places called Slat, at others Dice-Marle. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* (1721) I. 87 Stone, Slate, or Flag-marle, which is a kind of a soft Stone .. of a blue or bluish Colour. 1762 MILLS *Syst. Pract. Husb.* I. 38 The marle which is usually found at the depth of about two feet .. in wet boggy grounds .. is commonly called peat-marle, or delving-marle. 1766 *Complete Farmer* 5 M 2/2 Dice Marle, a name given by the people of Staffordshire to a reddish marle, that breaks into small square pieces like dice. 1799 J. ROBERTSON *Agric. Perth* 203 Shell marle is found for the most part in small lakes. 1832 DE LA BECHE *Geol.* 223 That the blue marls were deposited in a sea, perhaps somewhat similar to the Mediterranean. 1834 *Brit. Husb.* (L. U. K.) I. 309 For all practical purposes, it may be sufficient to divide it [shelly marl] into *earth-marl* and *shell-marl.* 1877 *Encycl. Brit.* VI. 353/2 The Chloritic Marl in the Wealden district.

c. Red marl: (*a*) marl of a red colour; (*b*) reddle; (*c*) *Geol.* the New Red Sandstone.

c 1630 RISDON *Surv. Devon* (1810) 4 It consists of a red and blue marle. 1748 J. HILL *Hist. Fossils* 46 The Red Marles. *Ibid.* 47 Soft, heavy, red Marle, call'd Common Reddle. 1833 LYELL *Princ. Geol.* III. 333 A group of red marl and sandstone ..is found in England interposed between the lias and the carboniferous strata. 1867 W. W. SMYTH *Coal & Coal-mining* 62 On the south-east of Tamworth, the clearing away of the red marls reveals a coalfield.

d. *Burning marl*: used symbolically, after Milton, for the torments of Hell.

1667 MILTON *P. L.* I. 296. 1814 CARY *Dante's Inf.* XVII. 30. 1876 GEO. ELIOT *Dan. Der.* VIII. lxvi, It seems the unjoyous dissipation of demons, seeking diversion on the burning marl of perdition.

2. *poet.* Used generically (like *clay*) for: Earth.

1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. xi. 33 To seize upon his foe flatt lying on the marle. 1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* II. i. 66 To make account of her life to a clod of waiward marle? *a* 1770 AKENSIDE *Poems* (1789) II. 56 Now, Hesper, guide my feet Down the red marle with moss o'ergrown. 1898 HALL CAINE in *Daily News* 30 May 5 His feet laid hold of the marl and earth, his head was in the sky.

3. Short for *marl-brick.*

1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* I. 187 The marls are made in the neighbourhood of London. 1855 F. REINNELL *Masons, etc. Assist.* 33 Marles, stocks, and place-bricks.

4. *attrib.*, as *marl-bed, -brick, clay, -lake, soil, -stock*; also *marl-like* adj.; **marl-grass,** Zigzag Clover, *Trifolium medium*; also Red Clover, *T. pratense*; **marl slate** *Geol.* (see quot. 1877); **marl stone** *Geol.*, argillaceous and ferruginous limestone, which lies between the upper and lower Lias of England. Also MARL-PIT.

1828 FLEMING *Hist. Anim. Kingd.* 28 Bones of individuals [pigs] are occasionally found in marl-beds. *a* 1670 SPALDING *Troub. Chas. I* (1829) 45 A..great bed of sand..mixed with *marle-clay and stones. 1876 PAGE *Adv. Text-bk. Geol.* XX. 411 Marl-clay..occurs as a whitish friable clay with an admixture of lime. 1778 W. HUDSON *Flora Angl.* 326 *Trifolium alpestre*..perennial Trefoil, Clover, or *Marle-grass. 1875 *Lyell's Princ. Geol.* II. III. xlviii. 573 A *marl-lake in Forfarshire. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* I. 171 *note*, A sediment of one inch of impalpable *marle-like substance. 1877 A. H. GREEN *Phys. Geol.* ii. § 6. 72 If the rock [marl] splits into plates it is called *marl-slate. ?1842 LANCE *Cottage Farmer* 6 Marsh, alluvial and *marl soils. 1836 *Penny Cycl.* V. 409/1 *Marl stocks .. differ from the bricks just described. 1839 *Ibid.* XIV. 429/1 *Marlstone, sandy, calcareous, and irony strata, which divide the upper from the lower lias clays.

† **Marl,** *sb.*2 *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Contraction of MARVEL *sb.*

1609 B. JONSON *Sil. Wom.* III. i, Your hand, and cuffes,.. 'Tis marl you ha 'hem on now. 1616 R. C. *Times' Whistle* Sat. v. 2132 Noe marle though he with drunkennesse dispence. 1746 *Exmoor Scolding* (E. D. S.) 130 Es marl who's more vor Rigging or Rumping..than thee art thyzel. 1886 ELWORTHY *W. Som. Word-bk.* s.v., 'Tis a marl, however 'twas, they had'n all bin a killed.

Marl (mārl), *sb.*3 *dial.* Contraction of MARBLE.

1860 GEO. ELIOT *Mill on Fl.* v, How stodgy they [a boy's pockets] look, Tom! Is it marls (marbles) or cobnuts?

Marl (mārl), *v.*1 Also (5 marly, 6 merl), 5-8 **marle.** [f. MARL *sb.*1 Cf. F. *marner*, MDu. *marlen*, med.L. *marlāre.*]

1. *trans.* To apply marl to (ground); to fertilize or manure with marl.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) II. 15 Enere þe þickere þe felde is i-marled, þe better corn it wil here. 14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 576/23 *Cretifico*, to marly. 1538 LELAND *Itin.* V. 90 The Sandy Grounde of sum Partes of Shropshire .. wille not bere Corne plentifully but it be merlyd. 1625 B. JONSON *Staple of N.* II. iv, Who would hold any Land To haue the trouble to marle it? 1882 JESSOPP in *19th Cent.* 748 It was a general practice to marl the land periodically.

† **b.** To spread (marl) as manure. *Obs.*

1791 *Trans. Soc. Arts* IX. 82 If any good marl can be had..it should then be well marled upon the clover root.

2. To enrich as with marl; to manure, fertilize.

1544 tr. *Littleton's Tenures* 16 Yf I delyuer to a man my shepe to dunge or marle his lande. *a* 1555 BRADFORD in Coverdale *Lett. Martyrs* (1564) 462 Vf god .. beginne to mucke and marle you: to pour hys showers vpon you [etc.]. 1651 OGILBY *Æsop* (1665) 135 Realms, marl'd and water'd with the fertile Nile. 1833 H. COLERIDGE *Fields of Fame*, Marl'd with bleaching bones.

† **3.** *intr.* To crumble *away* like marl. *Obs.*

1641 BEST *Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 70 Some advised to putte eight pownde of pitch to a gallon of tarre, but that is thought to make the markinge over brittle, and to breake sooner and marle away.

Marl (mārl), *v.*[2] Also 5 **marlyn**, 8–9 **marle**. [a. Du. and LG. *marlen* (whence Sw. *märla*, Da. *merle*), app. a frequentative f. MDu. *merren* to tie.]

†**1.** *trans.* To tie, noose. *Obs.*—°

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 327/1 Marlyn, or snarlyn, *illaqueo*.

2. *Naut.* To fasten with marline or small line; to secure *together* by a succession of half-hitches; to wind marline or other small stuff round (a rope), securing it with a hitch at each turn.

1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I. s.v. *Marline, Marling a sail*; is, when being so rip'd out of the Bolt Rope, that it cannot be sewed in again, the Sail is fasten'd by Marline .. unto the Bolt Rope. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* II. (1780), *Merliner une voile*, to marle a sail to it's foot-rope. 1820 SCORESBY *Acc. Arctic Reg.* II. 482 The two edges were marled to two pieces of a hawser. *c* 1825 CHOYCE *Log of Jack Tar* (1891) 87 The catamarans were made of bundles of dry bulrushes well marled together. *c* 1860 H. STUART *Seaman's Catech.* 30 Marl them well down.

†**Marl,** *v.*[3] *Obs.*—° [Of obscure origin; cf. MARILL *v.*] (See quots.)

1598 FLORIO, *Carpionato pesce*, fish that is marlde, as they vse at Hampton. 1611 *Ibid.*, *Accarpionare*, to souse .. fish with vinegre to bee eaten cold, to marle fish.

Marl, *v.*[4] *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Also 7 **mar'le**, 7–9 **marle**. Contraction of MARVEL *v.*

1598 B. JONSON *Ev. Man in Hum.* (Qo.) I. ii. 35, I marle, sir, you weare such ill-fauourd course stockings, haning so good a legge as you haue. *a* 1627 MIDDLETON *Wom. beware Wom.* I. ii, I mar'l my Guardianer do's not seek a wife for me. 1648 MAINE *Amorous Warre* v. vii. 79, I mar'le, my Lord, Our Amazons appeare not. 1795 WOLCOT (P. Pindar) *Royal Tour* Wks. 1812 III. 339 [They] marle that children talk as well as kings. 1822 SCOTT *Nigel* iii, 'I marle the skipper took us on board', said Richie. 1886 ELWORTHY *W. Som. Word-bk., Marl.*

Marl *dial.*: see MERELLES.

Marlaceous (marlē·ʃəs), *a.* [f. MARL *sb.*[1] + -ACEOUS.] Of the nature of or resembling marl.

1794 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) I. 373 This marlaceous loam may be either sandy or clayey.

Marlberry (mā·rlbe:ri). *U.S.* A small tree, *Ardisia Pickeringia* or *Icacorea paniculata* (N.O. *Myrsinaceæ*), native to the West Indies, etc.

In recent Dicts.

Marlborough (mā·rlbərə; often mɔ̄·rlbrə). The name of a town in Wiltshire; used *attrib.* in **Marlborough chalk**, ? chalk for writing with; **Marlborough dog** [from the title of the Duke of Marlborough, owner of Blenheim Palace], a Blenheim spaniel (see BLENHEIM); **Marlborough wheel** *Mech.*, a thick 'idle wheel' (see IDLE *a.* 5 b).

1764 *Low Life* (ed. 3) 94 Publicans taking the Advantage of their Companies being either in a deep Discourse, half Drunk, or at Supper, to vse Marlborough-Chalk. 1841 R. WILLIS *Princ. Mechanism* 205 Such a thick idle wheel is termed a Marlborough wheel, in some districts. It is employed in the roller frames of spinning machinery. 1861 *Chambers's Encycl.* II. 153 *Blenheim Dog*, or *Marlborough Dog*, a small and very beautiful variety of spaniel.

Marlburian (marlbiū·riăn). [f. *Marlborough* (as if in form **Marlbury*) + -AN.] One educated at Marlborough College.

1881 HUGHES *Rugby, Tennessee* III. iii. 130 A nephew of mine, aged twenty-one, a Marlburian.

†**Marle** (mārl). *dial. Obs.* Also 7–8 **marrel**, 9 **marl**, ? erron. **male**. (See quots.)

a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Marrel*, a Bird about the bigness of a Knot. 1747 Mrs. GLASSE *Cookery* 162 How to choose .. Goodwets, Marle, Knots, Ruffs, Gull, Dotterels, and Wheat Ears. [In ed. 1767 indexed as 'Marle, a fish, how to chuse'.] 1864 ATKINSON *Prov. Names Birds*, Marl, Prov. name for Knot, *Tringa Canutus*. 1885 SWAINSON *Prov. Names Birds* 105 Knot .. various names .. Male (Essex).

Marle, variant of MEDLE *Obs.*, medlar.

Marled (mārld), *ppl. a.*[1] [f. MARL *sb.*[1] or *v.*[1] + -ED.] Manured or fertilized with marl.

1610 W. FOLKINGHAM *Art of Survey* I. x. 32 They let and set such Marled grounds, vnder twenty yeeres at an incredible rate of monies in hand. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* (1721) I. 139 All sorts of Pease love limed or marled Lands.

Marled (mārld), *ppl. a.*[2] Chiefly *Sc.* Also 9 **merled**. [Cf. OF. *merellé*.] Marbled, mottled, spotted, variegated, streaked.

1603 MONIPENNIE *Cert. Matters Scot.* K, They delight in marled clothes, specially, that haue long stripes of sundrie colours. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 216 Agats for Hafts of Knives, white and well marled are good. 1703 M. MARTIN *W. Isl. Scot.* 58 Marled Salmon, .. being lesser then the ordinary Salmon, and full of strong Large Scales. 1787 BURNS *Answ. Verses fr. Guidwife of Wauchope-House* v, The marled plaid ye kindly spare. 1793 YOUNG *Ann. Agric., Kent* XX. 266 (E. D. S.), The fine eating meat being that which is marled flesh and spread well. 1820 *Blackw. Mag.* VI. 568 The merled neck and smooth breast of the Maivis. 1871 C. GIBBON *Lack of Gold* I, Its pale yellow marled sheepskin binding.

Marler (mā·rlər). *dial.* [f. MARL *v.*[1] + -ER[1].] One who digs marl. Also, one who spreads marl on land (see E. D. D.).

1808 *Athenæum* IV. 291 The men who are employed in getting the marl out of these pits are termed marlers. 1810 *Ann. Reg.* 672 The most prevalent custom of this county [Cheshire] is the shouting of the marlers, when any money has been given to them.

†**Marlet.** *Obs.* Also 6 **-ett(e**, 7 **-ot.** [a. OF. *merlette* the heraldic martlet, app. a dim. of *merle* blackbird.] A martin or martlet.

1556 WITHALS *Dict.* (1568) 5 a/1 A marlette, whiche is of the quantitee of a swalow, hauyng no feete to go, but onely stumpes, *cypsellus*. 1578 COOPER *Thesaurus, Cypselus*, .. a hyrde called a marlett [*ed.* 1565 martlette]. 1605 SHAKS. *Mach.* I. vi. 5 The Temple haunting Barlet [*read* Marlet]. ? 1645 C. MORTON *Enquiry* in *Harl. Misc.* (1810) V. 499 The summer birds that breed here, as the nightingale, the cuckow, marlot, &c. *Ibid.* 505 The swallow swift and marlet are almost always flying.

Marleyon, obs. form of MERLIN.

‖ **Marli** (mā·rli). Also **marly.** [Fr.]

1. A kind of lawn or gauze used for embroidering; embroidery on this material. (Cf. QUINTIN.)

1821 H. WILSON *Wonderful Char.* II. 213 She sews and hems perfectly well, and is no less skilful in making *marly*.

2. The raised rim of a dish or plate.

In recent Dicts.

Marlian, -in, obs. forms of MERLIN.

Marlin. [? Cf. MARLE.] 'Applied in the east coast of North America with qualification to any species of curlew or godwit' (Newton).

1893–6 NEWTON *Dict. Birds* 367 America possesses two species of the genus [*Limosa*], the very large Marbled Godwit or Marlin, *L. fedoa*, .. and the smaller Hudsonian Godwit, *L. hudsonica*.

Marline (mā·rlin), *sb. Naut.* Forms: 5 **marlyne**, 6 **marlyn**, 6–8 **marlin**, 7 **merlin**, (**martling**), 7–8 **merline**, 7– **marling**, **marline.** [Perh. two synonymous words have been confused: *marline* a. Du. *marlijn* (f. *marren* to bind + *lijn* LINE *sb.*) and *marling*? a. Du. *marling* vbl. sb. f. MARL *v.*[2] (= Du. *marlen*) + -ING[1]. The two words seem to have been confused already in Du. Cf. MLG. *merlink*, *marlink* (mod.LG. *marlink*); the word has passed into other langs. as Sw., Da. *merling* (also Sw. *merla*, Da. *merle*), Fr., Sp. *merlin*, Pg. *merlim*.] Small line of two strands, used for seizings.

1485 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 70 Canuas .. j bolte, Saile twyne .. vi lb, Marlyne .. vi lb. 1558 in *Wills & Inv. N. C.* (Surtees No. 2) 167, xij[lb] of marlyn iiij[s]. 1627 CAPT. SMITH *Seaman's Gram.* v. 25 Marling is a small line of vntwisted hemp, very pliant and well tarred, to sease the ends of Ropes from raueling out, .. if the Saile rent out of the Boltrope, they will make it fast with marlin till they haue leisure to mend it. 1666 DRYDEN *Ann. Mirab.* cxlviii, Some the galled ropes with dawby marling bind. 1723 *Trial Pyrates taken by Capt. Ogle* 31 He .. was down seeing and ordering her Sails out on board the Pyrate, in particular some Marling and Housling. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* II. (1780), *Merlin*, marline, or merline. 1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XXI. 604/1 *Marling*, soft-laid white line for securing sails to the bolt-rope.

Ma·rline, *v. rare*—°. [f. prec.: perh. a mere error.] *trans.* = MARL *v.*[2] 2.

1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *To Marling a Sail.* [A misapprehension of quot. 1704 under MARL *v.*[2] 2.] 1721 BAILEY, *To Marline a Sail.* 1828 in WEBSTER; and in later Dicts.

Marline-spike, marlinspike (mā·rlinspəik), *sb.* Also 7 **marlin-apeek**, 7–9 **marling-**, 8– **marlin(e)spike.** [orig. app. *marling-spike*, f. MARLING *vbl. sb.*[2] + SPIKE *sb.*, the first element being subseq. interpreted as MARLINE *sb.*]

1. *Naut.* An iron tool tapering to a point, used to separate the strands of rope in splicing, as a lever in marling, etc.

1626 CAPT. SMITH *Accid. Yng. Seamen* 3 The Boteswaine is to haue the charge of all the Cordage .. sailes .. and marling spikes. 1693 R. LYDE *True Acc. retaking 'Friend's Adventure'* 14, I look't about the Beams for a Marlin-speek, or any thing else to strike them withal. 1757 SMOLLETT *Reprisal* II. xv, As brisk a seaman as ever greased a marlin spike. 1863 P. BARRY *Dockyard Econ.* 178 The British seaman who can only fight with his fists or with a marlinspike.

b. *attrib.*: **marline-spike hitch**, a certain hitch used in marling (see quots.); **marline-spike seamanship** *U.S.*, skill in handling the marline-spike.

1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk., Marline-spike hitch*, a peculiar hitch in marling, made by laying the marline-spike upon the seizing stuff, and then bringing the end of that seizing over the standing part, so as to form a jamming bight. 1882 NARES *Seamanship* (ed. 6) 21 Marling-spike, or Midshipman hitch. 1888 *Harper's Mag.* July 170/1 Before this is ended he has learned a great deal of marline-spike seamanship. 1896 *United Service Mag.* 187 There is not nearly so much marlin-spike seamanship as in the days of our forefathers.

2. A sailor's name for a tropic-bird (*Phaethon*) and a jäger or skua-gull (*Stercorarius*), in allusion to the two long pointed median tail-feathers.

1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, Boatswain-bird, *Phaeton æthereus*. .. It is distinguished by two long feathers in the tail, called the marling-spike. 1890 *Century Dict.*

Marling (mā·rliŋ), *vbl. sb.*[1] [f. MARL *v.*[1] + -ING[1].] The action of MARL *v.*[1]; manuring with marl.

a 1400 *Parlt.* 3 *Ages* 142 His rentes and his reches rekened he full ofte Of mukkyng of marlelyng and mendynge of howses. 14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 576/25 *Certificatio* [sic], marlynge. 1603 OWEN *Pembrokeshire* (1892) 74 This kynde of Marlinge is neclected. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* (1721) I. 38 The marling of St. Foin, when 'tis almost worn out, makes a great Improvement of it for three or four Years. 1875 *Act* 38 & 39 *Vict.* c. 92 § 5 Where .. a tenant executes on his holding an improvement comprised in .. claying of land, liming of land, marling of land.

attrib. 1556 *Richmond Wills* (Surtees) 93 On marlyng wembell. 1577 *Inv.* in Hall *Eliz. Soc.* (1887) 153 Marling wains.

Ma·rling, *vbl. sb.*[2] *Naut.* [f. MARL *v.*[2] + -ING[1].] The action of MARL *v.*[2] Chiefly *attrib.*: **marling-cord, -line, -twine** = MARLINE; **marling-hitch** = *marling-spike hitch*; †**marling iron** = MARLINE-SPIKE.

1485 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 51 Merlyng Irenes. 1496 *Ibid.* 167, x lb weight marlyng Twyne. 1548 *Privy Council Acts* (1890) II. 174 Marlin lyne, lx lb. 1668 J. WHITE *Rich Cab.* (ed. 4) 113 Strong canvas being .. tyed hard on a pike with marlin cord. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1780), *Marling*, the act of winding any small-line, as marline, spun-yarn, packthread, &c. about a rope. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* s.v. *Marle*, To attach the foot of a sail to its bolt-rope, &c., with marling hitches. *Ibid.*, *Marline-holes*, holes made for marling, or lacing the foot-rope and clues in courses and topsails.

†**Ma·rling,** *vbl. sb.*[3] *Obs.*—° [f. MARL *v.*[3] + -ING[1].] The action of MARL *v.*[3]

1598 FLORIO, *Accarpionare*, to dresse any maner of fish with vineger to be eaten colde, which at Southampton they call marling of fish.

Marlin(g)spike: see MARLINE-SPIKE.

Marlion, obs. form of MERLIN.

Marlite (mā·rləit). *Min.* Also **-yte.** [f. MARL *sb.*[1] + -ITE 2.] A variety of marl which resists the action of the air.

1794 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) I. 82 So mixed with argill as rather to pass for marlytes. 1850 LYELL *2nd Visit U.S.* 42 The common name for the marlite, of which this treeless soil is composed, is 'rotten limestone'. 1879 DANA *Man. Geol.* (ed. 3) 233 Calcareous marlytes.

Hence **Marlitic** (marli·tik) *a. rare*—[1], partaking of the qualities of marlite.

1794 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) I. 361 This earth may be pure, .. or marly, or marlitic.

Marlock (mā·rlək), *sb. dial.* A frolic, gambol; a piece of fun; a sportive gesture. (See E. D. D.) Also **Ma·rlock** *v. intr.*, to frolic, gambol.

c 1746 J. COLLIER (Tim Bobbin) *View Lancs. Dial.* (1862) 70 He blest an he pray'd, an mede sitch Marlocks that [etc.]. 1860 Mrs. GASKELL *Sylvia's L.* xi, Dost ta mean to say as my Sylvie went and demeaned hersel' to dance and marlock wi' a th' fair-folk at th' 'Admiral's Head'? *Ibid.* xxvii, As if thou'd send thy eyes after him, and he making marlocks back at thee. 1885 E. F. BYRNE *Entangled* I. i. xii. 231 There's a deal less harm in the Fiend when he's marlocking in the air than when he's harboured in the heart.

Marloes (mā·rloz), *sb. pl. local.* Also **marleys** (see E.D.D.). [? f. MARL *sb.*[3]] Marbles.

1827 *Sporting Mag.* XX. 92 Boys .. who would play at marbles (or marloes) with you. 1842 G. DANIEL *Merrie Eng.* I. ix. 191 Oh yes! I pass my time at dumps and marloes.

Marlovian (marlōu·viăn), *a.* (*sb.*) [f. the name of the dramatist Christopher *Marlowe* (1564–1593) + -IAN.] **a.** *adj.* Pertaining to or characteristic of Marlowe. **b.** *sb.* An admirer or student of Marlowe. So **Marlowe·sque, Ma·rlowish** *adjs.* Also **Ma·rlowism,** the style, opinions, etc. of Marlowe.

1593 G. HARVEY *Pierce's Super.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 234 No honesty, but pure Scogginisme; no Religion, but precise Marlowisme. 1798 LAMB *Lett.* (1888) II. 97 Your recipe for a Turk's poison is invaluable, and truly Marlowish. 1885 J. M. HART in *Nation* (N.Y.) 26 Mar. 264/3 Which of the Marlovians, past or present, has bethought him of the simple device of reprinting verbatim, side by side, the editions of 1604, 1609, and 1616? 1887 *Pall Mall Budget* 28 July 30/2 This .. is Marlovian. 1896 A. W. VERITY *Marlowe's Edw. II*, Gloss. 124/2 The phrase 'quenchless fire' is Marlowesque.

Marl-pit (mā·rlpit). [f. MARL *sb.*[1] Cf. MDu. *marleput.*] A pit from which marl is dug.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Miller's T.* 274 He walked in the feeldes for to prye Vp on the sterres .. Til he was in a Marlepit yfalle. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 327/1 Marlpytte, or chalkepytte, *cretarium*. 1538 LELAND *Itin.* V. 81 Sum [Pooles] be likelyhod have begon of Marle Pittes. 1625 FLETCHER & SHIRLEY *Nt. Walker* III. i. (1640) E 4 Or shall I drive her .. over some rotton bridge, Or by a Marle pit side? 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* (1721) I. 294 Carps delight in Marlpits. 1868 PEARD *Water-Farm.* xv. 158 Old marl or gravel-pits.

Marly (mā·rli), *a.*[1] Also 6, 8 **-ey**, 7–8 **-ie.** [f. MARL *sb.*[1] + -Y.] Resembling, or partaking of the qualities of, marl; composed of marl; abounding with marl.

c 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* I. 252 Lond is best for whete If hit be marly, thicke, and sumdel weete. 1572 J. JONES *Bathes Buckstone* 1 b, It should not onely bee of another collour marly yellow, or swarty greene; but also [etc.]. 1616 SURFL. & MARKH. *Country Farm* 13 All Clayes which are blacke, gray, or marlie. 1791 W. BARTRAM *Carolina* 183 A loose .. sandy loam, on a clay or marley foundation. 1866 GEO. ELIOT *F. Holt* 3 The land around was rich and marly.

Marly (mā·rli), *a.*[2] *Sc.* and *dial.* Also *Sc.* **mirl(e)y.** [See MARLED *ppl. a.*[2]] Spotted, streaked, marbled.

1721 RAMSAY *Tartana* 161 But if behind some marly cloud he [the sun] steal. 1790 A. WILSON *Wren* Poems 188 What woe Gars thee sit mourning .. And rive thy mirley breast? 1807 TANNAHILL *Poems* (1815) 191 The mirly-breasted birds.

Marly, variant of MARLI.

Marlyn, obs. form of MARLINE, MERLIN.

Marlyng, variant of MERLING *Obs.*, whiting.

Marlyon, obs. form of MERLIN.

Marm: see MA'AM.

Marmaduc, -ady, ? misprints for MARAVEDI.

1571 Q. ELIZ. *Let.* in Digges *Compl. Ambass.* (1655) 41 He hath not the value of a Marmaduc in land or livelihood. 1605 *Play of Stucley* I. 2 b, Why should there want a Marmady? a mite?

Marmadyn(e, -maide(n, obs. ff. MERMAID(EN.

Marmalade (mā·ɪmălēˑd). Forms: 6 marmylate, -elad, -ilat, -ilade, mormelade, marmlet, mermelado, 6–7 marmelet(t, -alad, -alate, 6–8 marmalet, -elade, 7 marmilad, -ilitt, -alit, -alett, -ulade, -ulate, -ulet, -aled, -eleta, -elate, mermalade, 8 marmolet, mermelade, 6– marmalade. [a.F. *marmelade*, in Cotgr. *mermelade*, a. Pg. *marmelada*, f. *marmelo* quince, repr. (with dissimilation of consonants) L. *melimēlum*, a. Gr. *μελίμηλον* ('honey-apple', f. *μέλι* honey + *μῆλον* apple) the name of some kind of apple which was grafted on a quince. From the Pg. word are also Sp. *marmelada*, It. *marmellata*, and (through Fr.) G., Du., Da. *marmelade*, Sw. *marmelad*.]

1. A preserve or confection made by boiling fruits (orig. quinces, now usually Seville oranges) with sugar, so as to form a consistent mass.

Often with prefixed word, as *apricot, lemon, orange, quince marmalade*; when there is no word prefixed, orange marmalade is now commonly meant.

[1524 in *Lett. & Papers Hen. VIII* (1870) IV. i. 339 Presented by Hull of Exeter one box of marmalade.] 1533 Elyot *Cast. Helthe* (1541) 44 b, A piece of a quynce rosted or in marmelade. *Ibid.* 79 b, Marmalade of quynces. 1580 Lyly *Euphues* (Arb.) 266 Therfore you must giue him leaue after euery meale to cloase his stomacke with Loue, as with Marmalade. 1621 Burton *Anat. Mel.* II. ii. i. i, Marmalet of plummes, quinces &c. 1634 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* 168 A healing powder of Gall and Marmalate of Dates. 1767 Mrs. Glasse *Cookery* App. 353 Marmalade of cherries. Put the cherries into the sugar, and boil them pretty fast till it be a marmalade. 1769 Mrs. Raffald *Eng. Housekpr.* (1778) 223 To make Orange Marmalade. Take the clearest Seville oranges you can get [etc.]. *Ibid.* 225 To make Apricot Marmalade. 1845 Eliza Acton *Mod. Cookery* 457 Marmalade for the [Apple] Charlotte. Weigh three pounds of good boiling apples..let these stew over a gentle fire, until they form a perfectly smooth and dry marmalade. *Ibid.* 489 Very fine imperatrice-plum marmalade. 1862 Ansted *Channel Isl.* IV. xxi. (ed. 2) 487 The fruit is without much flavour,..though it is well adapted for marmalade.

b. *Proverbial and fig.*

1592 G. Harvey *New Letter* Wks. (Grosart) I. 280 Euery Periode of her stile carrieth marmalad and sucket in the mouth. 1607 Walkington *Opt. Glass* 53 The marmalade and sucket of the Muses.

2. The fruit of *Lucuma mammosa*; also, the tree itself. Also called *natural marmalade*.

1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) I. 69/1 [*Achras mammosa.*] Fruit..inclosing a thick pulp called *natural marmalade*. 1821–2 Lindley in *Trans. Horticult. Soc.* (1824) IV. 97 The Mammee Sapota .. is called Natural Marmalade. 1846 — *Veg. Kingd.* 591 The Marmalade (*Achras mammosa*). 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 698/1 *Lucuma mammosum*.. is cultivated for the sake of its fruit, which is called Marmalade, or Natural Marmalade.

3. *attrib.*: **marmalade box**, (*a*) a box for marmalade; (*b*) the fruit of *Genipa americana* = Genipap; †**marmalade-eater**, ? one daintily brought up; **marmalade fruit**, the fruit of the marmalade-tree; †**marmalade-madam**, a strumpet; **marmalade-plum**, the fruit of the marmalade-tree or the tree itself (J. Smith *Dict. Pop. Names Plants*, 1882); **marmalade-tree**, the mammee-sapota (see sense 2).

1624 *Althorp MS.* in Simpkinson *Washingtons* (1860) App. p. lviii, 6 galley potts and 12 *marmalett boxes for Mrs. Segrave. 1796 Stedman *Surinam* II. xxviii. 318 A singular kind of fruit, called here the marmalade box,..the husk.. opens in halves like a walnut, when the pulp appears like that of a medlar. 1614 R. Tailor *Hog hath lost Pearl* II. D, Th'art as witty a *marmaled eater as euer I conuerst with. 1840 Schomburgk *Brit. Guiana* 100 The Pine-apple, the Guava, the *Marmalade fruit. 1674 Josselyn *Voy. New Eng.* 162 The Gallants a little before Sun-set walk with their *Marmalet-Madams, as we do in Morefields. 1717 E. Ward *Wks.* II. 351 More Marmulet Madams will be met strolling in the Fields, than Honest Women in the Streets. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 722/2 *Marmalade-Tree, *Lucuma mammosum*.

†**b.** quasi-adj. = 'sweet'. *Obs.*

1629 Massinger *Picture* I. i, I cannot blame my ladies Vnwillingnesse to part with such marmulade lips.

Hence **Ma·rmalady** *a.* (*rare* —¹), resembling marmalade in sweetness, etc. (in quot. *fig.*).

1602 Middleton *Blurt* III. i, The Frenchman you see has a soft mermaladie heart.

Marmala-water (mā·ɪmălăˌwō·tər). [f.* *marmala* corruption of Pg. *marmelo*: see Marmelos.] A liquid distilled from the flowers of the marmelos, used in Ceylon as a perfume for sprinkling.

1857 in Balfour *Cycl. India.*

Marmaled, -et(t, obs. forms of Marmalade.

Marmalite, variant of Marmolite.

Marmaric (maɪmæ·rik), *a.* Also 5 -merike, -morike, 7 -maricke. [ad. L. *Marmaric-us*, adj. of *Marmarica* (see below).] Of or belonging to the ancient Marmarica (now Barca) on the north coast of Africa. So **Marma·rican** *a.*, in the same sense; *sb.*, an inhabitant of Marmarica.

c 1470 Harding *Chron.* xlix. i, As proude and bryme as lyon Marmerike. *Ibid.* cl.xxxvii. iii, In all the world was tben no prince hym like .. in the felde a lyon marmorike. 1593 Q. Eliz. *Boeth.* IV. met. iii. 11 Another the Marm[ar]ican lion [orig. *Marmaricus leo*; Chaucer *has* a lyoun of þe contre of marmorike] With Tuske and paw indueth. 1607 Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 359 These also are the epithets of lions:—wrathful,..violent, Marmarican. 1627 May tr. *Lucan* III. E 2 b, Marmaricke troops the horned Ammon prest. *Ibid.* IV. G 5 b, Swift Marmaricans.

† **Marmaritin.** *Obs. rare* —¹. [app. f. L., *marmarītis* a plant that grows in marble quarries, a. Gr. *μαρμαρῖτις* (not recorded in this sense), f. *μάρμαρος* marble.] Some drug.

1604 Middleton *Witch* (1778) 70 *Firestone.* I have some Mar-martin, and Mandragon. *Heccaty.* Marmaritin, and Mandragora, thou wouldst say.

Marmarize (mā·ɪmărəiz), *v.* [f. Gr. *μάρμαρ-ος* marble + -ize.] *trans.* To subject to marmarosis. (Cf. Marmorize *v.*)

1893 Geikie *Text-bk. Geol.* IV. viii. ii. (ed. 3) 603 On the east side of the great intrusive mass of Fair Head the chalk is likewise marmarised.

Marmarosis (mā·ɪmărō·sis). *Geol.* [f. Gr. *μάρμαρ-ος* marble + -osis.] The conversion of limestone into marble by metamorphism.

1882 Geikie *Text-bk. Geol.* IV. viii. ii. 577 Marmarosis.

Marmaset(t, -it, -assed, obs. ff. Marmoset.

Marmatite (mā·ɪmătəit). *Min.* [a. G. *marmatit*, f. *Marmato* (S. Amer.).] A ferriferous variety of sphalerite. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVII. 781/2.

Marmayd(en, obs. forms of Mermaid(en.

Marmazat, -et, obs. forms of Marmoset.

Marmelade, -ate, -et(t, obs. ff. Marmalade

‖ **Marmelos** (mā·ɪmĕlŏs). [mod.L., f. Pg. *marmelo* quince.] The Bengal quince, *Ægle Marmelos*.

1823 Crabb *Technol. Dict.* 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 722/2 Marmelos, *Ægle Marmelos*. 1887 *Standard* 16 Sept. 5/3 On how many tables does the marmelos make its appearance?

‖ **Marmennill** (mā·ɪmenˌnil). [Icelandic; dim. f. *mar-r* sea + *mann-, maðr* man.] A merman.

1805 *Naval Chron.* XIV. 303 It was the body of a Marmenill, and not that of a human being. 1863 Baring-Gould *Iceland* 352 The verses sung by a marmennill, when he was carried back to his favourite element.

Marmerike, obs. form of Marmaric.

Marmeset(te, -ot, obs. forms of Marmoset.

Marmilad(e, -at, -itt, obs. ff. Marmalade.

Marmissed, -isset, obs. forms of Marmoset.

Marmit (mā·ɪmit). *dial.* and *Naut.* ? *Obs.* [ad. F. *marmite* pot or kettle.] (See quots.)

c 1758 *Inv.* in Miss Jackson *Shropsh. Word-bk.* 2 Potts—1 Marmitt. 1841 Hartshorne *Salopia Antiq.* 500 *Marmit*, a pot with hooks at each side. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Marmit*, a pot fitted with a hook for hanging it to the bars of the galley-range. 1879 Miss Jackson *Shropsh. Word-bk.*, *Marmint, Marmot*, a three-legged iron pot—holding about four quarts—to be hung over the fire.

‖ **Marmiton** (marmĭtoŋ). [Fr., f. *marmite* pot, kettle.] A kitchen scullion.

1754 Chesterf. *Let. to Dayrolles* 2 Apr., I wish..that you could find me at Brussels an humble *marmiton, tournebroche*, or other animal, who could roast and boil decently. 1847 Disraeli *Tancred* I. i, One of my marmitons has disappointed me.

Marmlet, obs. form of Marmalade.

Marmol(e, variant forms of Mormal *Obs.*

Marmolet, obs. form of Marmalade.

Marmolite (mā·ɪmŏləit). *Min.* Also **marmalite.** [Formed by Nuttall, who refers to Gr. *μαρμαίρειν* to shine: see -lite.] A laminated serpentine, of a pearly lustre and pale green colour.

1822 T. Nuttall in *Amer. Jrnl. Sci.* IV. 17 A contiguous substance which as a peculiar mineral I shall distinguish by the name of marmalite. *Ibid.* 19 Marmolite. 1848 C. A. Johns *Week at Lizard* 107 Rare minerals, such as marmolite. 1849 Watts tr. *Gmelin's Handbk. Chem.* III. 395 Noble Serpentine or Ophite (together with Marmalite [etc.]).

† **Marmor.** *Sc. Obs.* Also 4, 6 **-our, -ore.** [a. L. *marmor* Marble.] Marble. Also *attrib.*

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxi. (*Clement*) 888 Þai..fand a kyrk ..of marmore mad. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 79 This marmore stane in forme of a chyre. *Ibid.* 129 The marmour chyre of Destinie. *Ibid.* 132 The sentences in Marmor war hewin.

Marmoraceous (mā·ɪmŏrēˑ·ʃəs), *a. rare.* [f. L. type **marmorāce-us*, f. *marmor* Marble: see -aceous.] Pertaining to, or like, marble.

1688 R. Holme *Armoury* II. 313/1 Marmo[ra]ceous, a Marble colour, a black blue. 1822 T. Nuttall in *Amer. Jrnl. Sci.* IV. 18 This marmoraceous mineral. 1848 Maunder *Treas. Nat. Hist.*

Marmorate (mā·ɪmŏrēˑt), *a.* [ad. L. *marmorāt-us*, pa. pple. of *marmorāre* to overlay with marble, f. *marmor* Marble.]

†**1.** Overlaid with or enclosed in marble. *Obs.*

1537 *Epitaph* in Fuller *Worthies, Lond.* II. (1662) 205 Under this Stone closyd and marmorate Lyeth Iohn Kite.

2. *Nat. Hist.* Variegated or veined like marble.

1826 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* IV. 289. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 722/2.

So † **Ma·rmorated** *a.*

1731 Bailey vol. II, *Marmorated*, made of, wrought in, covered with marble.

Marmoration (mā·ɪmŏrēˑ·ʃən). *rare* —⁰. [ad. late L. *marmorātiōn-em*, n. of action f. *marmorāre* (see prec.).] (See quots.)

1661 Blount *Glossogr.* (ed. 2), *Marmoration*, a huilding with marble. 1730–6 Bailey (fol.), *Marmoration*, a covering or laying with marble.

Marmoreal (maɪmōˑ·rĭăl), *a. poet.* and *rhet.* [f. L. *marmore-us* (f. *marmor* Marble) + -al.]

1. Resembling marble or a marble statue; cold, smooth, white, etc., like marble.

1798 Landor *Gebir* Wks. 1846 II. 494 Looking recumbent how Love's column rose Marmoreal. 1817 Shelley *Rev. Islam* I. xlix, Paving with fire the sky and the marmoreal floods. 1868 Browning *Ring & Bk.* IX. 53 Marmoreal neck and bosom uberous. 1892 *Sat. Rev.* 15 Oct. 443/1 Blank-verse studies of merit, but somewhat cold and marmoreal in their severity.

2. Made or composed of marble.

1825 *New Monthly Mag.* XIII. 181 Spurs of marble, and marmoreal limbs. 1880 W. Watson *Prince's Quest, Sunset* (1892) 134 Minaret And terrace and marmoreal spire.

Hence **Marmo·really** *adv.*

1847 Sir A. de Vere *1st Pt. Mary Tudor* V. iii, Cold, but composed, marmoreally rigid! 1887 Saintsbury *Eliz. Lit.* 455 The marmoreally-finished minor poems of Ben [Jonson].

Marmorean (maɪmōˑ·rĭăn), *a.* [f. L. *marmore-us* (f. *marmor* Marble) + -an.] Composed, or made, of marble; resembling marble.

1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Marmorean*..of marble, or that is like it in colour, hardness, &c. 1836 *Fraser's Mag.* XIV. 24 Her neck's marmorean whiteness. 1902 *Speaker* 1 Mar. 608/1 The marmorean Leconte de Lisle.

† **Marmoreous,** *a. Obs.* —⁰ [Formed as prec. + -ous.] = prec. 1727 Bailey vol. II.

Marmoric (maɪmōˑ·rik), *a. rare* —¹. [f. L. *marmor* marble + -ic.] Of marble.

1811 Pinkerton *Petralogy* I. 130 Hardness, between marmoric and basaltic.

Marmorize (mā·ɪmŏrəiz), *v.* [f. L. *marmor* + -ize. Cf. F. *marmoriser* and mod.L. *marmorisatio.*] = Marmarize *v.*

1897 Geikie *Anc. Volcanoes* I. 32 Marmorised limestone.

‖ **Marmortinto** (mā·ɪmŏrtiˑntō). [? A mistake for It. *marmo tinto* (*marmo* marble, *tinto* dyed, coloured).] An Italian process (used in the 18th c.) of decorating walls, etc. in imitation of marble.

1844 *Mech. Mag.* XL. 31 The inventor of marmortinto was born in 1762. 1854 Fairholt *Dict. Art, Marmortinto.*

Marmose (mā·ɪmōus). [a. F. *marmose* (Buffon), possibly from colonial Du.: cf. MDu. *marmoyse, mermoyse* (see Mermoyse), marmoset, believed to be a shortening of F. *marmouset.*] One of several species of small South American opossums (as *Didelphys dorsigera* and *D. murina*) which have only a rudimentary pouch and carry their young on their back.

1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1824) II. 162 An animal greatly resembling the former [*i. e.* the opossum], is the Marmose.

Marmoset (mā·ɪmŏzeˑt). Forms: 4–5 marmusette, marmesette, 5, (9) marmozette, -usete, -isset, maremusset, 5–6 marmesette, -osette, 5–7 marmeset, 6 mermoset, -osite, marmosete, -azat, -asit, -issed, -esot, mormosett, marmsat, 6–7 marmaset(t, 6, 8 marmosit, 6–9 marmozet, (9 marmozette), 7 marmosit(e, -azet, -osat, -uset, -ousite, -osett, mormaset, malmaset, 5– marmoset. [a. OF. *marmouset* grotesque image, in 1280 latinized *marmosetum* (not *marmoretum* as given by Littré); in mod.F. the word means also 'little man'; the sense 'ape', though not found in Fr. dicts., is in provincial use (see Honnorat *Dict. Prov.*). Hence MDu. *marmoset* in all three senses.

The origin of the Fr. word is obscure; it has been conjectured to be a derivative of L. *marmor* marble, but the form is not easy to account for. It can hardly be unconnected with F. *marmot* little child (whence prob. It. *marmocchio*), in early use also 'monkey', 'grotesque statuette'; forms app. cognate are med.L. *marmŏnetus, mammŏnetus* (Promp. Parv.), *mammōn-em* monkey. Some have supposed the source to be OF. *merme* small (:—L. *minimus*); others have suggested that the word in the sense 'grotesque figure' was an architectural term derived in some way from Gr. *μορμώ* bugbear.]

†**1.** A grotesque figure. **a.** Applied in scorn to an idol. *Obs.*

1426 Lydg. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 20954 To worshepe A Marmoset, Wych to helpe..Hath no puissaunce. 1563–83 Foxe *A. & M.* II. 882/2 Get thee away from me thou naughty person: with thy marmoset of wood.

attrib. **a** 1572 Knox *Hist. Ref.* Wks. 1846 I. 259 A marmouset idole was borrowed fra the Gray Freiris.

†**b.** (See quot. 1706) *Obs.*—⁰

1687 Miege *Gt. Fr. Dict.* II, *Marmoset*, a kind of Grotesk, *Marmouset*. 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Marmoset*,..an odd kind of Grotesk figure in a Building. 1736 Neve *Builder's Dict.*

2. †**a.** In early use: Any small monkey (*obs.*). **b.** Now restricted to the tropical American monkeys of the family *Hapalidæ* (or *Mididæ*), comprising two genera, *Hapale* (the true marmosets) and *Midas* (the tamarins).

The *Hapalidæ* are of the size of a small squirrel, have non-prehensile bushy tails, and (in many species) long ear-tufts or a mane of whitish hair. They are gentle and playful, and make amusing pets.

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* XVIII. i. (1495) 748 Some beestes seruyth for..mannys myrth: as apys and marmusettes [*MS. Bodl.* marmesettes] and popyngzyes. *c* 1400 Maundev. (1839) xix. 210 Apes, Marmozetes [*Roxb.* marmusetes; Fr. orig. *marmoz*], Babewynes, and many other dyverse Bestes. *c* 1425 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 639/32 *Hic xenorephalus*, maremusset. 1519 Horman *Vulg.* 109 b, The marmeset hath a very longe tayle. 1551 Robinson tr. *More's Utopia* II. vi. (ed. Lupton) 215 A mormosett chaunced vpon the booke .. whyche..plucked owte certeyne leaues, and toore them in pieces. 1559 W. Cunningham *Cosmogr. Glasse* 191 Mermosites. 1610 Shaks. *Temp.* II. ii. 174 The nimble Marmaret.

1625 PURCHAS *Pilgrims* II. 1771 There are many Monkies or Marmosets, that doe great hurt to the Palme trees. 1679 T. TRAPHAM *Disc. Jamaica* 115 The Malmaset, as among the Indians of the more Southern Main of America. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Marmoset*, a sort of black Monkey, having a shaggy Neck. 1715 tr. *Pancirollus' Rerum Mem.* I. II. xvi. 104 An Egyptian Cat, which we call a Marmoset, or Monkey. 1822 SCOTT *Nigel* viii, I have seen her..as changeful as a marmozet. 1840 *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 62 Marmosets (*Hapale*, as restricted). 1863 BATES *Nat. Amazons* II. 55 The monkeys belonged to a very pretty and rare species, a kind of marmoset. 1893 [see MARIKINA].

attrib. 1851 P. H. GOSSE *Nat. in Jamaica* 327 *note*, I have heard the Marmozette Monkey (*Jacchus*) produce the very same sound. 1876 'OUIDA' *Winter City* vii. 224 The quick marmoset eyes of little Mme. Mila.

†**3.** Applied to a person: **a.** to a woman or child, as a term of endearment or playful reproach: cf. *monkey*. *Obs.*

1526 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 462 What, wanton, wanton, nowe well ymet! What, Margery Mylke Ducke, mermoset! 1604 DEKKER *1st Pt. Honest Wh.* vi. C 4 b, Saue thee little Marmoset: how doest thou good pretty roague? 1614 BEAUM. & FL. *Wit at sev. Weap.* III. i, *Sir Greg.* [To his niece.] O dissembling Marmaset! 1754 RICHARDSON *Grandison* (1781) VII. xliii. 211 How shall I hold the little marmouset, if you devour first one of my hands, then the other?

b. to a man, as a term of abuse or contempt: cf. *ape*. Sometimes (as in OF.) a favourite, 'ingle'.

?*a* 1500 *Chester Pl.* x, I will..mar that misbegotten marmoset. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. ccclxxxvii. 661 Alwayes the Erle hath these marmosettes about him, as Gylbert Mahewe and his bretherne. *a* 1529 SKELTON *Agst. Garnesche* ii. 39 Thow mantycore, ye marmoset, garnysshte like a Greke. *a* 1585 POLWART *Flyting w. Montgomerie* 795 Beld bisset! marmissed! lansprezed to the lownes! 1615 BRATHWAIT *Strappado* (1878) 48 See, see her cerus cheeke, made to delight Her apple-squire, or wanton Marmosite. 1825 SCOTT *Talism.* xxiv, A king's son..is at least a match for this marmozet of a Marquis.

Hence †**Marmose·tical** *a.*, characteristic of a marmoset; apishly foolish.

1630 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Wit & Mirth* Wks. II. 187/2 A Mercers seruant espying his marmositicall Apishnesse.

Marmot (mā·ɹmɒt). Also 8 mar(a)motto, marmotta, ?*erron.* marmout, 8–9 marmotte. [ad. F. *marmotte* fem. (whence prob. Sp., Pg. *marmota*, It. *marmotta*, also †*marmotto* masc.), prob. an altered form, due to assimilation to OF. *marmotte*, *marmot* monkey (see MARMOSET), of Rumonsch *murmont*:—L. type *mūrem montis* 'mountain mouse', whence OHG. *muremunto*, *murmainti*, *murmenti*, MHG. *mürmendîn*, mod.G. dialects *murmentel*, *murmeten*, *murmetli*, mod.G. *murmeltier*, whence Du. *mormeldier*, Da. *murmeldyr*, Sw. *murmeldjur*.]

1. A rodent of the genus *Arctomys* or sub-family *Arctomyinæ* of the squirrel family, esp. *A. marmotta*, which inhabits the Alps and the Pyrenees, sometimes called the Alpine marmot.

With qualification applied to other animals of the same and allied genera: †**American** or **Maryland m.**, the woodchuck, *A. monax*; **Bobac** or **Polish m.**, *A. bobac* (see BOBAC); †**Canadian** or **Quebec m.**, *Spermophilus empetra*; **Earless** or **Pouched m.**, the suslik, *S. citillus*; **Hoary m.**, the whistler, *A. pruinosus*; †**Lapland m.**, the lemming; **Prairie m.**, the prairie dog (genus *Cynomys*).

1607 TOPSELL *Hist. Fourf. Beasts* (1658) 405 Scaliger describeth them in this manner, a Marmot (saith he, for so he tearmeth an Alpine Mouse in French) is a Beast about the bigness of a Badger. 1704 RAY *Creation* II. (ed. 4) 337 The Marmotto or *Mus Alpinus*, a Creature as big or bigger than a Rabbet, which absconds all Winter. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp., Marmotte, Marmotta*, the mountain rat, a creature very common in many parts of Europe. 1762 tr. *Busching's Syst. Geog.* I. 495 Mice, maramottos, and wild-fowl are their favourite dishes. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) IV. 38 The Marmot is .. almost as big as an hare, but it is more corpulent than a cat, and has shorter legs. 1781 PENNANT *Quadrup.* II. 396 Alpine Marmot. *Ibid.* 397 Quebec Marmot. *Ibid.* 398 Maryland Marmot. *Ibid.*, Hoary Marmot. *Ibid.* 399 Bobuk Marmot. 1796 [see EARLESS]. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XII. 463/1 The monax, or American marmot. .. The bobac, or Polish marmot. .. The empetra, or Canadian marmot. 1861 G. F. BERKELEY *Sportsm. W. Prairies* xv. 259 The prairie dog or marmot. 1896 KIRKALDY & POLLARD tr. *Boas' Text Bk. Zool.* 529 The Pouched Marmot (*Spermophilus citillus*) of East Europe.

¶ **b.** In full *Cape marmot, marmot of the Cape*: the Cape cony or daman, *Hyrax capensis*.

1861 HULME tr. *Moquin-Tandon* II. III. ii. 122 The Daman of the Cape (*Hyrax Capensis*), .. commonly called .. Marmot of the Cape.

2. A kind of bathing cap. [After F. *marmotte*.]

1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 22 July 3/3 The newest bathing cap is 'the marmotte'..fastening in a knot on the forehead. 1902 *Ibid.* 31 July 3/2 The silk caps are a little more varied in shape; one sees the tammie and the marmot.

†**Marmot(t)ane.** *Obs. rare.* [a. OF. *marmottaine*, corruptly repr. L. *mūrem montānum* mountain mouse.] = MARMOT 1.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 216 The Rats .. of the Alpes, *i.* Marmottanes, which are as bigge as Brockes or Badgers. *Ibid.* 217 Such like Marmotanes there be in Ægypt.

Marmour, variant of MARMOR *Sc. Obs.*

Marmouset, -ousite, -ozet(te, marmsat, obs. ff. MARMOSET.

†**Marm-stone.** *Obs.* [OE. *marmstán*, also *marmanstán*, f. *marm* marble + *stán* STONE.] Marble; a block, slab, etc. of marble.

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 203 Beforan ðære norðdura þære ciricean on þæm marmanstane. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Saints' Lives* xxxi. 1128 Þa afylde sum cnapa þæt fæt unwærlice uppon þone marm-stan. *c* 1205 LAY. 1138 [A temple] imaked of marme stæne [*later text* marbre stone]. *Ibid.* 1317, 32097.

Marmulade, -ate, -et, obs. ff. MARMALADE.

Marmuset(e, -ette, obs. forms of MARMOSET.

‖ **Maro** (ma·ɹo). [Polynesian.] A loin-cloth used by certain South Sea Islanders.

1772–84 *Cook's Voy.* (1790) VI. 2047 A piece of thick cloth, called the maro, about a foot in breadth, which passes between the legs, and is fastened round the waist.

Maro, obs. form of MARROW *sb.*[1]

Marocchine, -okin(e, obs. ff. MAROQUIN.

Marode, obs. form of MARAUD.

†**Maron.** *Obs.* [a. obs. F. *maron* (Rabelais); in med.L. *mar(r)ōn-em.*] A mountain guide.

1506 GUYLFORDE *Pilgr.* (Camden) 80 We tok moyles to stey vs vp the mountayne, and toke also marones to kepe vs frome fallynge. 1611 CORYAT *Crudities* 80 My authour of this tale or figment is our Maron of Turin [*marg.* That is guide or conductor]. 1670–98 LASSELS *Voy. Italy* I. 49 Marons, or men with little open chairs to carry you up and down the hill for a crown. *Ibid.* 51 After two hours tugging of our chairmen or Marons we came to the top of the hill.

Marone, Maroner: see MAROON, MARINER.

†**Maro·nian,** *a. Obs.* [f. L. *Marōn-em* the cognomen of Virgil + -IAN.] Virgilian.

1648 HERRICK *Hesper., To M. Denham*, Thy brave, bold, and sweet Maronian Muse. *a* 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. x. 84 The Maronian Lottery [orig. *sors Virgilianes*].

†**Ma·ronist**[1]. *Obs.* [f. L. *Marōn-em* + -IST.] A disciple of the poet Virgil (Publius Vergilius Maro); a Virgilian student or scholar.

1597–8 BP. HALL *Sat.* I. iv. 7 He, like some imperious Maronist, Conjures the Muses that they him assist. 1599 *Preserv. Hen. VII* (1866) 10, I would I were but as Ennius to a fine Maronist.

†**Maronist**[2]. *Obs.*—[o] Variant of MARONITE.

1737 in BAILEY vol. II.

Maronite (mæ·rŏnəit), *sb.* (and *a.*) Also 6 Moronite. [ad. late L. *Marōnīta*, f. *Marōn* name of the founder of the sect: see -ITE.

There was a Syrian of this name in the 4th c., and another in the 7th c.; the sect was probably named from one of these; recent authorities favour the earlier date.]

One of a sect of Syrian Christians, dwelling in the Lebanon and Anti-Lebanon; they were originally Monothelites, but subsequently became united with the Roman Church. Also *attrib.* (quasi-*adj.*).

c 1511 *1st Eng. Bk. Amer.* (Arb.) Introd. 31/1 The syxte [cristened] nacyon..They be named Moroniten. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 215 A Maronite Christian. 1703 MAUNDRELL *Journ. Jerus.* (1721) 35 The Maronite Bishop of Aleppo. 1885 *Cath. Dict.* (ed. 3) s.v., A schism was caused through Greek influence, and a Maronite Patriarch fell away..Ever since [1216] the Maronites have been steadfast Catholics.

Maronner, obs. form of MARINER.

Maroo, obs. form of MARROW *sb.*[2]

Maroon (mărū·n), *sb.*[1] and *a.*[1] Forms: 6–9 marron, 7–9 marone, 8–9 marrone, 9 marroon, 7, 9 maroon. [a. F. *marron*, ad. It. *marrone*.]

A. *sb.*

†**1.** A large kind of sweet chestnut native to Southern Europe; also, the tree bearing this nut. Also *marron chestnut*. *Obs.*

1594 R. ASHLEY tr. *Loys le Roy* 28 Dates, chestnuts, and marrons. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 525 Such plots of ground as do affoord coppises of Chest-nut trees, are stored with plants comming of marrons or nut-kernels. 1699 EVELYN *Acetaria* App. P viij, Roasted Maroons, Pistachios, Pine-Kernels [etc.]. [1877 SCUDDER *Recoll. S. Breck* iii. 66 The fine large marron chestnuts were brought to us..for a cent a hundred.]

2. [= F. *marron*, from the quasi-adj. use as in *couleur marron*.] A particular kind of brownish-crimson or claret colour.

1791 HAMILTON *Berthollet's Dyeing* I. I. II. i. 144 Darker colours such as browns and marones. *Ibid.* II. II. III. vii. 216 This gives it a cinnamon colour, or light marrone. 1835 *Court Mag.* VI. p. ii/1 Some velvet [mantles] of maroon and other rich winter colours. 1844 HAY *Law Harm. Colouring* (ed. 5) 17 A series of other colours, such as brown, marone, slate. 1882 *Garden* 14 Oct. 347/1 A rather small flower .. of a deep rich maroon.

b. A coal-tar dye obtained from the resinous matters formed in the manufacture of magenta.

a 1873 CRACE-CALVERT *Dyeing*, etc. (1876) 432 Aniline Maroons and Browns.

3. A firework composed of a small cubical box of pasteboard, wrapped round with twine and filled with gunpowder; it is intended to imitate in exploding the report of a cannon.

1749 *Machine for the Fireworks* 15 Marrons, 5000. 1818 *Handbill* July in *Pall Mall G.* (1885) 5 Nov. 4/2 A battery of maroons, or imitation cannon. 1840–1 HOOD *Kilmansegg, Birth* xviii, To have seen the maroons, And the whirling moons. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 1401/2 *Marron.* 1884 *St. James's Gaz.* 13 June 10/2 The display last night included signal maroons..rockets, and shells.

b. *Artillery.* (See quot. 1876.)

1859 F. A. GRIFFITHS *Artil. Man.* (1862) 282 Marroons are boxes containing from 1 to 6 ounces of powder. 1859 MCCLINTOCK *Voy. 'Fox' in Arctic Sea* i. 9 Powder for ice-blasting, rockets, maroons, and signal-mortar were furnished by the Board of Ordnance. 1876 VOYLE & STEVENSON *Milit. Dict.* (ed. 3), *Marroons*, decorations for rockets. They are cubes filled with grained powder, and enveloped with two or three layers of strong twine or marline.

c. 'A bright white light used for signals in the East Indies' (Ogilvie *Suppl.* 1855).

B. *adj.* Of the colour described in A 2.

1843 JAMES *Forest Days* ii, He was dressed in close-fitting garments of a dark marone tint. 1871 KINGSLEY *At Last* ii, A most lovely Convolvulus..with purple maroon flowers. 1876 OUIDA *Winter City* vi. 114 They had put out her marron velvet with the ostrich feathers. 1878 FOSTER *Phys.* II. ii. § 3. 267 Venous blood of a dark purple or maroon colour. *Comb.* 1840 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. I. *St. Gengulphus*, Good, stout maroon-colour'd leather. 1876 HARLEY *Mat. Med.* 233 A maroon-red precipitate.

Maroon (mărū·n), *sb.*[2] and *a.*[2] Forms: 7–8 maron, 8 marone, meroon, 8– maroon. [a. F. *marron* (*maron* in *Hist. Antilles* 1658, p. 322), said to be a corruption of Sp. *cimarron* wild, untamed.]

A. *sb.*

1. One of a class of negroes, originally fugitive slaves, living in the mountains and forests of Dutch Guiana and the West Indies.

[1626 NICHOLS *Sir F. Drake revived* (1628) 7 The Symerons (a blacke people, which about eightie yeeres past, fled from the Spaniards their Masters).] 1666 J. DAVIES *Hist. Caribby Isles* 202 They will run away and get into the Mountains and Forests, where they live like so many Beasts; then they are call'd Marons, that is to say Savages. 1795 *Hist. Eur. in Ann. Reg.* (1796) 60/1 The hostilities against the free negroes in the Island of Jamaica known by the denomination of Maroons had been carried on a long time without effect. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) X. 694/2 (Mauritius) The Marones, or wild negroes. 1843 MARRYAT *M. Violet* xl, A gang of negro maroons was hanging about. 1895 *Nation* (N. Y.) 8 Aug. 98/2 The savage Maroons were called in and let loose upon the peasantry.

attrib. 1796 (*title*) The Proceedings of the Governor and Assembly of Jamaica, in regard to the Maroon Negroes. 1828 G. W. BRIDGES *Ann. Jamaica* II. xv. 221 Many who distinguished themselves in the Maroon war of Jamaica.

b. *fig.* (Also *attrib.*)

1823 MACAULAY *Misc. Writ., R. Soc. Lit.* (1860) I. 22 It will furnish a secure ambuscade behind which the Maroons of literature may take a certain and deadly aim. *a* 1859 — *Hist. Eng.* xxiii. (1861) V. 113 A warrant of the Lord Chief Justice broke up the Maroon village [of thieves in Epping Forest] for a short time.

2. *Southern U.S.* In full *maroon* †*frolic, party*: A pleasure party, esp. a hunting or fishing excursion of the nature of a picnic but of longer duration.

1779 I. ANGELL *Diary* (1899) 59 Lt. Cook..Come from the Meroon frolick last night. [*Editor's note*: A hunting or fishing trip, or excursion, in Southern United States, to camp out after the manner of the West Indian Maroons.]

3. A person who is marooned.

1883 STEVENSON *Treas. Isl.* xi, Well, what would you think? Put 'em ashore like maroons?

B. *adj.* Run wild, having reverted to a state of nature (*Cent. Dict.*). [So F. *marron*.]

Maroon (mărū·n), *v.* Also 7–8 mo-. [f. prec.]

†**1. a.** *passive* or *intr.* To be lost in the wilds. **b.** *intr.* (? *fig.*) ? To miss one's object. *Obs.*

1699 DAMPIER *Voy.* II. II. 84, I began to find that I was (as we call it, I suppose from the Spaniards) Morooned, or Lost, and quite out of the Hearing of my Comrades Guns. 1716–17 S. SEWALL *Letter-Bk.* 15 Jan. II. 63, I had rather myself bear part of the charge, then that the poor young man moroon'd and return home with shame and disappointment.

2. *trans.* To put (a person) ashore and leave him on a desolate island or coast (as was done by the buccaneers and pirates) by way of punishment.

1726 *Brice's Weekly Jrnl.* 1 July 2 He farther says, that Lowe and Spriggs were both maroon'd, and were got among the Musketoo Indians. 1822 SCOTT *Pirate* xxii, I was.. condemned..to be marooned, as the phrase goes, on one of those little sandy, bushy islets, which are called, in the West Indies, keys. 1891 *Athenæum* 17 Jan. 82/2 Magellan 'marooned' a mutinous priest on the coast of Patagonia.

3. *intr.* Of slaves: To escape from service and take to the woods and mountains.

1831 TYERMAN & BENNET *Voy. & Trav.* II. lii. 496 The slaves [in Mauritius] sometimes maroon, as it is called, that is, they run away from their bondage.

4. *Southern U.S.* To camp out for several days on a pleasure party. (Cf. MAROON *sb.*[2] 2.)

[1777: Implied in MAROONING *vbl. sb.* 2.] 1855 HALIBURTON *Nat. & Hum. Nat.* II. 283 He used to delight to go marooning. [*Footnote.*] Marooning differs from pic-nicing in this—the former continues several days, the other lasts but one. 1871 KINGSLEY *At Last* vi, A bathing party of pleasant French people, 'marooning' (as picnic-ing is called here) on the island.

5. To idle, 'hang about'.

1808 SOUTHEY *Lett.* (1856) II. 59 To juniperise within doors, to maroon without. 1865 *Pall Mall G.* 13 Nov. 2 To purchase for these 300,000 blacks the liberty to squat and maroon or to hang about the towns of the island.

Hence **Maroo·ned** *ppl. a.*

1883 STEVENSON *Treas. Isl.* xv, The marooned man in his goatskins. 1889 CLARK RUSSELL *Marooned* xxv, As decent a lodging as marooned people have a right to expect.

Marooner (mărū·nəɹ). Also 7 ? **marownar.** [f. MAROON *v.*]

1. A buccaneer, pirate.

1661 HICKERINGILL *Jamaica* 67 A few French Buckaneers, or Hunting Marownaes [? *read* Marownars]. 1728–36 BYRD *Westover Papers* (1841) 13 On the south shore dwelt a marooner, that modestly called himself a hermit. 1887 H. PYLE in *Harper's Mag.* Aug. 357 (art.) Buccaneers and Marooners of the Spanish Main.

2. One who maroons persons on a desolate coast.

1881 *Sat. Rev.* 3 Sept. 293 The original marooners of Ariadne were soon out of hail.

b. A person left on a desolate island as a punishment; = MAROON *sb.*[2] 2. In recent Dicts.

3. *Southern U. S.* One who goes marooning (see MAROON *sb.*[2] A. 3). In recent Dicts.

Maroo·ning, *vbl. sb.* [f. MAROON *v.* + -ING[1].]

1. The action of MAROON *v.* 2.

1724 C. JOHNSON *Hist. Pyrates* 170 Marooning. This was a barbarous Custom of putting the Offender on Shore, on some desolate or uninhabited Cape or Island. 1896 *Spectator* 2 May 639 Cabot..was apparently the inventor of the ruthless practice called marooning.

2. The action or practice of going on a maroon-party. Chiefly *attrib.* in *marooning party, season.*

1777 G. FORSTER *Voy. round World* I. 165 It may be curious to know the nature of our marooning parties, as the seamen called them. 1824 SOUTHEY *Lett.* (1856) III. 425 She is very much missed here at all times, and will be still more so when the marooning season begins. 1856 OLMSTED *Slave States* 411 Two lads..had returned..from a 'marooning party', with a boat-load of venison [etc.].

† **Maroquin,** *a.* and *sb. Obs.* Forms: 6 marykyne, marekyn(e, maryskyn, marokin(e, -ockin, 7 marekin, marocchine, mariken, -kin, 7–9 mar(r)oquin, 8 meroquin. [a. F. *maroquin*, orig. an adj. 'pertaining to Morocco', f. *Maroc* Morocco.]

a. *adj.* (in *maroquin skins, leather*; also with the sense 'made of morocco') = MOROCCO *a.*

b. *sb.* Morocco leather.

1511 *Ld. Treas. Acc. Scot.* (1902) IV. 196, v marykyne skynnis to ane sadill and harnesing of the Kingis mule. 1546 *Aberdeen Reg.* (1844) I. 236 Tua Marekyne cotis, ane reid..ane wther blak. 1548 *Ibid.* XX. (Jam.), iiij dosoun of maryskyn skynnes. 1585 T. WASHINGTON *Nicholay's Voy.* IV. xxv. 141 Faire maroquins and skins of al sorts. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* VI. xi. 518 That lether which..is called Marocchine. 1644 EVELYN *Diary* 1 Apr., Bookes, all bound in maroquin and gilded. 1661 *Sc. Acts Chas. II* (1820) VII. 253/2 Mariken skinnes made in Scotland. 1712 W. ROGERS *Voy.* (1718) 33 The fine Marroquin leather. 1731 BAILEY vol. II, *Marroquin*, commonly called *Morocco.* 1748 SMOLLETT *Rod. Rand.* xxxiv, Shoes of blue meroquin. 1819 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* vii, His maroquin boots and golden spurs. 1823 CRABB *Technol. Dict., Marocco* or marroquin.

‖ **Marotte** (marɔt). Also 7 marrot. [Fr.]

1. A fool's bauble. † *To crown with a marotte* = F. *coiffer d'une marotte*, to make a fool of.

In the first quot. the explanation is meant derisively.

1611 R. PHILIPS *Panegyr. Verses* in *Coryat's Crudities* c 7 b, Thee of the Marrot worthy doe we deeme. [*Marg.* i.e. Lawrell from *Marrot* a French Poet.] 1630 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Laugh & be fat* Wks. II. 72/2 They crowne thee with a Marrot or a Mard. 1840 H. AINSWORTH *Tower Lond.* II. xiv, This last shaft likewise hit its mark, though Jane [the Fool] endeavoured to ward it off with her marotte.

2. A pet notion, craze.

1852 LD. MALMESBURY *Mem.* (1884) I. 324 To be Emperor has been his [*sc.* Louis Napoleon's] *marotte* since he was twenty years old.

Marou, -ough(e, -ouȝ, -ouh, obs. ff. MARROW.

Marouner, Marow(e: see MARINER, MARROW.

Marower, obs. Sc. form of MOREOVER.

Marowna, ? obs. form of MAROONER.

Marplot (mā·ɹplɒt), *sb.* and *a.* [See MAR-.]

A. *sb.* One who mars or defeats a plot or design by officious Interference, or hinders the success of any undertaking. Said also of things.

1708 MRS. CENTLIVRE *Busie Body* Dram. Pers., *Marplot.* 1824 LADY GRANVILLE *Lett.* May (1894) I. 295 What a marplot anxiety is. 1876 GEO. ELIOT *Dan. Der.* xxxii, But what is the use of my taking the vows and settling everything as it should be, if that marplot Hans comes and upsets it all?

B. *adj.* That mars or defeats a plot or design.

1850 KINGLAKE *Crimea* VI. ix. 230 There were some of his fellow-countrymen..whose marplot disclosures seemed likely to bring down..a new onslaught of Russian masses.

Marprelate: see MAR-.

Marque (māɹk). Forms: 5, 8 **mark, marc, margue** (? *error for* marque), 6 **markque, merk,** 6–7 **marke,** 7– **marque.** [a. F. *marque* (OF. also *merke*), ad. Pr. *marca*, vbl. sb. f. *marcar* (med.L. *marcāre*) to seize as a pledge.

It is uncertain whether this is connected with MARK *sb.*[1]

† **1.** Reprisals; occas. = *letter of marque* (see 2).

[1354 *Act 27 Edw. III*, Stat. 2 c. 17 Purveu..que..nous eions la lei de Mark & de represailles. 1417 *Act 4 Hen. V*, Stat. 2 c. 7 Que de toutz attemptatz faitz par ses ennemys.. encountre le tenure daucunes Trieuves..en les quelles nest pas fait expresse mencion que toutz marques & reprisailles cesseront..nostre Signior le Roi a toutz qi lour sentiront en tiel cas grevez, voet grauntier marque en due forme.] 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 205 Be way of mark..; that is to say..a lettre of leve to tak ony man of that contree. *Ibid.* 220 The king aw to geve letter of powar to tak mark apon thame. 1473 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 65/2 Any Sentence, Jugement, Margue or Reprisale yeven. 1614 SELDEN *Titles Hon.* 210 The lawes of Marque, or Reprisales.

2. Letter of marque. a. Usually pl., *letters of marque* (*and reprisal*). Originally, a licence granted by a sovereign to a subject, authorizing him to make reprisals on the subjects of a hostile state for injuries alleged to have been done to him by the enemy's army. In later times this became practically a licence to fit out an armed vessel and employ it in the capture of the merchant shipping belonging to the enemy's subjects, the holder of letters of marque being called a privateer or corsair, and entitled by international law to commit against the hostile nation acts which would otherwise have been condemned as piracy. Also † *letters of mart*: see MART *sb.*[5]

So far as European nations are concerned the issue of letters of marque was abolished by the Congress of Paris in 1856.

1447 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 135 To graunte to youre saide Besechers, letters of Marc and Reprisail. 1545 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 10 Ane letter of mark gevin and grantit be the maist cristin king of France. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII* 145 b, Shewyng hym how their goodes were taken, by letters of Marke, their shippes restrained [etc.]. 1702 *Royal Declar.* June in *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3815/3 Her Majesty having Impowered the Lord High Admiral of England to grant Letters of Marque, or Commissions for Privateers. 1789 *Constit. U. S.* Art. i. § 8 Congress shall have power..to grant letters of marque and reprisal. 1855 MOTLEY *Dutch Rep.* (1861) II. 299 To make war upon Alva was the leading object of all these freebooters, and they were usually furnished by the Prince of Orange..with letters of marque for that purpose.

b. A ship carrying letters of marque; a privateer.

c 1800 MISS KNIGHT *Autobiog.* I. 106 A Ragusan commanding a letter-of-mark. 1836 MARRYAT *Midsh. Easy* xxxviii, As letter of marque, I shall have the right of capture.

c. *attrib.* in *letter of marque man, ship.*

1703 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3910/4 A French Letter of Marque Man. 1708 *Ibid.* No. 4440/2 Any such Privateer or Letter of Marque Ship.

Marquee (maɹkī·). Also 8 **marquée, marki,** 8–9 **markee.** [An assumed sing. f. MARQUISE apprehended as pl.] A large tent, as an officer's field-tent, or one used at a public entertainment, exhibition, or the like.

1690 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2542/4 A good Marquee, two French Tents. 1758 *Lond. Chron.* 19–22 Aug. 173/3 General Abercrombie would not suffer any of the officers to carry any chests, beds, or markees, with them. 1774 M. MACKENZIE *Maritime Surv.* 106 A Captain's Tent and Marki. 1812 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 99 The..band was stationed in a marquee on the lawn. 1831 TRELAWNY *Adv. Younger Son* II. 118 A summer-room, exactly of the form and colour of a markee. 1884 *Times* (weekly ed.) 7 Nov. 3/2 The meeting was held in a marquee erected behind the Fountain Hotel.

b. *attrib.*, as in *marquee manufacture, tent*; **marquee coop** *U. S.*, a tent-shaped hen-coop.

1775 *Connect. Col. Rec.* (1890) XV. 15 Ninety marquee or officers tents. 1834 *Tait's Mag.* I. 218/2 Benjamin Edgington, Marquee and Tent Manufacturer. 1849 D. J. BROWNE *Amer. Poultry Yd.* (1855) 122 The marquee coop.

Marques, Marquesate, etc.: see MARQUIS, etc.

Marquesit(e: see MARCASITE.

Marquet, obs. form of MARKET.

Marquetry, marqueterie (mā·ɹkêtri). Forms: 6 **marketrey, merquetry,** 7 **marquettrie, (marhutery),** 6– **marqueterie,** 7– **marquetry, (-ie).** [a. F. *marqueterie* (1416 in Hatz.-Darm.), f. *marqueter* (1386) to variegate, f. *marque* MARK *sb.*[1]] Inlaid work, esp. as used for the decoration of furniture.

1563 SHUTE *Archit.* F j b, Fine woodes in marketrey. 1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* II. xi[i]. (Arb.) 108 All set in merquetry with letters of blew Saphire and Topas artificially cut and enterminglede. 1596 DANETT tr. *Comines* (1614) 279 The curious worke called Musaique, or Marqueterie. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 49 Marquetry and other inlaid works. 1665 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (1677) 138 Of that kind the Arabs called Marhutery, but the Jews Mosaick. 1817 MOORE *Lalla R., Veiled Proph.* (ed. 2) 89 The flashing of their swords' rich marquetry. 1847 DISRAELI *Tancred* II. xiii, A large table of ivory marquetry. 1881 YOUNG *Every man his own Mechanic* § 39 Hungarian Ash..suitable as a groundwork for marquetry.

b. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

1849 THACKERAY *Pendennis* xxxvii, Marqueterie tables. 1851 in *Illustr. Lond. News* (1854) 5 Aug. 119/2 *Occupations of People*..marqueterie-inlayer. 1872 OLIVER *Elem. Bot.* II. 159 Tunbridge marquetry ware. 1879 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2803 Vacca-wood [used for] Cabinet and marquetry work.

Hence † **Ma·rquetrize** *v.* (*nonce-wd.*) *intr.*, to make inlaid work: in quot. *fig.*

1610 W. FOLKINGHAM *Art of Survey* To Rdr. 3 What curious-quaint Em[b]ellishments diffuse? Musaick-Mazes-Marquetrizing Muse?

Marquionesse, obs. form of MARCHIONESS.

Marquis, marquess (mā·ɹkwis, -ês). Forms: 4 **marchis,** 6 **marches**; 4–5 **markis, markys,** 5 **markesse, markeys, markois,** 5–6 **markyse, markes,** 6 **markas, marcas, -cus, marks**; 5 **marquoys, marquyus,** 5–6 **marques,** 5–7 **merques,** 6–7 **marquesse,** 6– **marquess**; 5 **marquys,** 6 **marquisse, marquise,** 6–9 **marquiss,** 7– **marquis.** [a. OF. *marchis*, later altered to *marquis* (whence Du. *markies*); corresponding to Pr. *marques, -is*, Sp. *marqués*, Pg. *marquez*, It. *marchese*; f. Com. Rom. *marca* (see MARCH *sb.*[3], MARK *sb.*[1]) frontier, frontier territory + *-ese*:—L. *-ēnsem* suffix forming adjs. from place-names (see -ESE). The word is thus etymologically an adj., the sb. understood being that represented in Eng. by COUNT, so that the title was equivalent to MARGRAVE. The med.L. representative was *marchiōnem* (*marchio*), still preserved in heraldic Latin: cf. *marchioness.*

The prevailing spelling in literary use appears to be *marquis.* Some newspapers, however, use *marquess*, and several English nobles bearing the title always write it in this way.]

1. In various European countries, the title of the ruler of certain territories (originally 'marches' or frontier districts). This gradually passed, in Romanic-speaking countries, into a mere title indicating a certain grade of noble rank, immediately below that of duke and above that of count. In English it is commonly used to designate a person of this title rank in the modern nobility of foreign countries (though the foreign forms, It. *marchese*, Sp. *marqués*, etc. are sometimes retained), and also *Hist.* as the appellation of those territorial lords to whom it was applied in earlier times. Formerly it was often employed (now rarely) as the English equivalent of MARGRAVE.

13.. *Guy Warw.* (A.) 5171 Herhaud of Ardern, þe gode marchis. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 177 Þe marchis of Mounfraunt. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Clerk's T.* 8 A Markys whilom lord was of that londe. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 417 Albericus the markys [1432–50 markesse] expulsede Saracenys from Ytaly. *c* 1475 *Partenay* 6342 For discended is fro so hy A place, Off kynges, Dukes, Markois full of grace. 1503 in *Lett. Rich. III & Hen. VII* (Rolls) I. 200 The marques of Brandenburg[he]. 1529 RASTELL *Pastyme* (1811) 71 The markes Brandonburgh. 1535 HARVEL in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. II. 75 The Marks of Guaste hath in Sicile 150 sailis. 1552 ASCHAM *Affairs of Germany* (1570) 15 b, There be at this day fiue Marchesses of Bradenburge. *Ibid.* 16 Marches Albert is now at this day xxxi. yeares old. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* I. i. 125 A Venecian..that came hither in companie of the Marquesse of Mountferrat. 1636 BRATHWAIT *Rom. Emp.* 121 Neare the suburbane Orchards of the Marquesse Castelli. 1756–7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) III. 39 Many a spot of land not worth above fifty dollars a year gives the title of marquis to the owners. 1867 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1876) I. iv. 248 The Dukes, Counts and Marquesses had in this way grown into sovereigns. 1871 E. C. G. MURRAY *Member for Paris* II. 282 Our ex-contributor M. Horace Gerold (the Marquis of Clairefontaine).

2. At the end of the 14th c. the title was introduced into England to designate a specific degree of the peerage, between those of duke and earl. Late in the 15th c. this degree was adopted in the peerage of Scotland. The title still continues, indicating the same relative rank, in the peerage of the United Kingdom and in those of Scotland and Ireland. When a duke is also a marquis, his second title is given 'by courtesy' to his eldest son: thus the eldest son of the Duke of Devonshire is called 'the Marquis of Hartington'.

The title of a marquis is usually territorial in form, as 'the Marquis of Salisbury', but in some instances 'Marquis' is prefixed to a surname, as 'the Marquis Cornwallis'.

1399 *Rolls of Parlt.* III. 452/1 The Dukes..and the markys here present. 1445 *Ibid.* V. 394 William de la Pole, than Marquoys and Erle of Suffolk. 1451 *Ibid.* 226/1 The Name or Estate of Duke, Marquys or Erle. 1473 WARKW. *Chron.* (Camden) 4 The Kynge made Lorde Montagu, Marquyus Montagu. *Ibid.* 10 Of late tyme hade he made hym Markes of Montagu. 15.. *Bk. Precedence* in *Q. Eliz. Acad.* (1869) 13 Item. a Dukes Eldest sonn is Borne a Marquesse, and shall goe as a Marquisse. 1509 FISHER *Funeral Serm. C'tess Richmond* Wks. (1876) 293 Erles, markyses, dukes, and princes. 1513 MORE *Rich. III*, Wks. 38/2 The Lorde Marques Dorsette the Quenes sonne by her fyrste housebande. 1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III*, I. iii. 255 Peace Master Marquesse, you are malapert, Your fire-new stampe of Honor is scarce currant. 1646 WHITELOCKE *Mem.* (1853) II. 26 The king sent orders to the marquis of Montrose to disband his forces. 1702 ROWE *Tamerl.* Ded., To the Right Honourable William Lord Marquiss of Hartington. 1844 H. H. WILSON *Brit. India* I. 147 Information of the death of Marquis Cornwallis arrived in England at the end of January, 1806. 1901 *Empire Rev.* I. 466 First in rank come the dukes,..then follow in order of precedence, marquises, first created by Richard II.

† **3.** In the 16–17th c. often employed as a female title, equivalent to the later MARCHIONESS. *Obs.*

It is not easy to see how far this was regarded as an application of the masculine title, and how far it was taken as an anglicization of MARQUISE. The spelling *marquess* was commonly preferred in this use, prob. through association with the suffix -ESS. *Lady* was often prefixed.

1503 *Will of Katherine Lady Hastings* (Prerog. Crt. Canterbury), Marquesse Dorset. *Ibid.*, My lady marquisse. 1527 8 *Will of Lady Dorset* (ibid.), I lady Cecill' marques Harrington and Bonvill late the wife of the right honorable Thomas marques Dorset. 1529 *Act 21 Hen. VIII*, c. 13 § 28 Any Chaplain of any Duchess, Marquess, Countess, Viscountess, or Baroness. 1538 WARNER in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. I. II. 97 My lady Marques ys in the tower. 1539 CROMWELL in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) II. 214 The marquise bath bene examyned, and..albeit she pretendeth Ignorance [etc.]. 1623 in *Archæologia* XLVIII. 211 Given..by the kinge's owne hands to the Ladie Marquesse of Buckingham a cupp of gold and cover. 1626 PORY in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. I. III. 243 The Foure Englishe ladies sworne of her Bedchamber are the Duchesse of Buckingham, the Marques Hamiltoun, and the Countesses of Carlile and Denbigh. 1669 PEPYS *Diary* 30 Apr., My Lady Marquess of Winchester, Bellassis, and other great ladies. 1691 *D'Emilianne's Frauds Rom. Monks* (ed. 3) 223 Two Ladies of Quality, the one a Lady Marquess, and the other a Countess.

4. *attrib.*: **marquis hat,** a particular shape of ladies' headgear; **marquis pear** = MARQUISE 2, MARCHIONESS 2 (Hogg *Fruit Man.*, ed. 4, 1875, p. 479).

Marquiss as the name of a pear occurs in London & Wise *Retired Gard'ner* (1706) I. 48.

1901 *Westm. Gaz.* 6 June 3/2 The Marquis, or three-cornered hat, is perhaps more popular than ever.

Marquisado, variant of MARQUISOTTE *Obs.*

Marquisal (mā·ɹkwisăl), *a. nonce wd.* In quots. **marchesal** (after the Italian form), **marquesal.** [See -AL.] Pertaining to a marquis.

1832 MAGINN in *Blackw. Mag.* XXXII. 426 *note*, The promises of ducal and marchesal head-pieces, so copiously and judiciously employed by the present Ministry. 1857 TROLLOPE *Barchester T.* (1861) 309 The countess, who..had been accustomed to see all eyes, not royal, ducal, or marquesal, fall before her own, paused.

Marquisat(e, obs. forms of MARCASITE.

Marquisate (mā·rkwisĕt). Also 6, 9 **marquessate**, 7 **marquesad**(e, **-at**, **-quisat**, **-quizat**, **marchasate**, **-esate**, **-isat**(e. [f. MARQUIS + **-ATE**[1], after F. *marquisat*, It. *marchesato*, Sp. *marquesado*.]

1. The dignity or status of a marquis. Also, † a place from which a marquis takes his title.

15.. *Bk. Precedence* in *Q. Eliz. Acad.* (1869) 15 A Marquesse must goe after his Creation, and not after his marquisate. 1675 OGILBY *Brit.* 4 Worcester..a city honoured with the title of Marquisate in the Right Noble Henry Marquess and Earl of Worcester. 1762–71 H. WALPOLE *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1786) I. 218 She restored him too to the Marquisate of Exeter. 1844 DISRAELI *Coningsby* I. ii, The very day he was raised to his Marquisate, he commenced sapping fresh corporations. 1902 *Athenæum* 26 Apr. 521/2 On the duke's death the marquessate of Douglas.. passed to the Duke of Hamilton, as male heir.

2. In various countries of Europe: The territorial lordship or possessions of a marquis or margrave.

1591 PERCIVALL *Sp. Dict.*, *Marquesado*, a Marquessate. 1612 BREREWOOD *Lang. & Relig.* To Rdr., The marchasates of Silesia and Brandeburge. *Ibid.*, The marchesates of Lusatia, Moravia [etc.]. 1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 300 In Germany (yon are to understand) a Dukedome may be contained within a Marquisate. 1711 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4803/1 An Earthquake has been felt in the Marquisate of Ancona. 1842 MACAULAY *Ess., Fredk. Gt.*, Rheinsberg is a fertile and smiling spot, in the midst of the sandy waste of the Marquisate.

† **Marquisdom.** ? *Obs.* [f. MARQUIS + **-DOM**.] = MARQUISATE.

1530 PALSGR. 243/2 Marquesdom, *marquisat*. 1586 HOLINSHED *Chron. Scot.* 284/1 Francis Scotia lord of Pine and Mondone, and other nobles of the marquesdome of Saluce, are descended from the Scots. 1643 TRAPP *Comm. Gen.* xlvi. 32 Galeacius Caracciolus..returned to his Marquesdom in Italy. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Marquisate* or *Marquisedom*, the Territory or Jurisdiction of a Marquess.

‖ **Marquise** (mark**ī**·z, Fr. markīz). In sense 3 also 8 *erron.* **marquis**. [F. *marquise*, fem. of *marquis*, in senses 1, 2, 3.]

1. = MARCHIONESS. Only as a title of foreign nobility. (But cf. MARQUIS 3.)

1894 *Nation* (N. Y.) 30 Aug. 169/1 She anticipates not only the French marquise of the last century, but even more our American great ladies.

2. A kind of pear. (Cf. MARCHIONESS 2.)

1706 LONDON & WISE *Retired Gard'ner* I. 63 Dwarf Pears. ..The Marquise. 1741 *Compl. Fam.-Piece* II. iii. 406 These Pears; [Nov.] Martin Sec,..Sucrevert, la Marquise. 1875 HOGG *Fruit. Man.* (ed. 4) 479.

3. A kind of tent (see quot. 1788); = MARQUEE.

1783 in Conway *Life T. Paine* (1892) I. 197 The tables were spread under a marquise or tent. 1788 GROSE *Milit. Antiq.* II. Descr. Plates 2 A field-officer's tent or marquis. The word marquis and tent are promiscuously used, though strictly speaking they are different things; the internal part commonly made of ticking, the marquis; the external covering, canvas. 1792 FENNELL *Narr. Proc. Paris* 187 A great marquise was erected on the east side of the altar.

4. In full, *marquise ring*: A finger-ring set with a pointed oval cluster of gems.

1885 *Cassell's Encycl. Dict.*, Marquise-ring. 1896 *Westm. Gaz.* 30 Jan. 5/3 Other witnesses deposed to as to the promise of a marquise ring. 1903 *Ibid.* 10 Dec. 4/2 A marquise formed of a single diamond, or a single sapphire, or a single ruby, is, of conrse,..not very usual.

† **Marquisess.** *Obs.* [f. MARQUIS + **-ESS**.] = MARCHIONESS.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Clerk's T.* 227, I wole with othere maydens stonde..and se The Markysesse. 1491 *Act 7 Hen. VII*, c. 16 § 13 Anne Marquisses Berkeley. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII* 216 Enery Marquesses put on a demy Coronal of golde.

† **Marquisina.** *Obs. rare*—[1]. [? ad. It. *marchesina* young marchioness, dim. of *marchesa*; but Sterne was prob. thinking of *marchesana* = *marchesa*.] An Italian marchioness.

1768 STERNE *Sent. Journ.* (Rtldg.) 321 (*Translation*), I was ..just entering the door of the hall, when the Marquisina de F*** was coming out.

† **Marquisotte,** *v. Obs.* Also 6 **marquesotte**, **-ezate**, **marcussotte**, **marquisado**, 7 **merquizotte**. [f. F. *marquisotte* ('*Barbe faitte à la marquisotte*, cut after the Turkish fashion, all being shauen away but the mustachoes,' Cotgr.).] *trans.* To cut (the beard) in the fashion described above. Also *pass.* of the person, to have the beard so cut.

1567 GOLDING *Ovid's Met.* XIII. 169 b, His sturre stiffe heare he kembeth..And with a sythe dooth marcussotte his bristled berd. *c* 1580 JEFFERIE *Bugbears* I. iii. 81 in *Archiv Stud. neu. Spr.* (1897) 313 He is coombed and slicked and frizeled and marquisotted. 1588 *Losses Span. Navy* in *Harl. Misc.* (1753) I. 135 A very little Beard, marquesotted. 1592 GREENE *Def. Conny-catching* Wks. (Grosart) XI. 72 Then hee must be Marquisadod, with a side peake pendent. 1619 *North's Guevara's Diall Pr.* 625/1 To see a foolish Courtier..have his beard merquizotted.

† **Marquisship.** *Obs.* [f. MARQUIS + **-SHIP**.] = MARQUISATE.

1464 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 565/1 The markeship of the holy Empere. 1586 STANIHURST *Chron. Irel.* 118/2 in *Holinshed*, As for the marqueship of Corke being a matter of great weight [etc.]. 1587 HOLINSHED *Chron.* III. 1336/1 An offer of the marquesship of the sacred empire made to the monsieur. 1676 LADY FANSHAWE *Mem.* (1830) 184 We took our leave of Cordova, lodging that night at Carpio, the Marquisship of Don Lewis de Haro.

† **Marquisy.** *Obs. rare*—[1]. In quot. **marquesy**. [f. MARQUIS + **-Y**.] = MARQUISATE.

1586 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* I. (1594) 561 One.. politicall communion compounded of manie villages, townes, ..barronies, counties, marquesies, dukedomes.

Marquois (mā·rkwoiz). *Surveying.* [app. a blunder for F. *marquoir* marking instrument, 'a sort of ruler used by tailors' (Hatz.-Darm.).] Used *attrib.* in *marquois scale* (*and triangle*), an apparatus devised for the purpose of drawing equidistant parallel lines with speed and accuracy.

Sometimes written *Marquoi's*, *Marquois's*, as if the genitive of a proper name.

1834 *Catalogue Instr. Troughton & Simms* 2 Plotting, Marquois and Gunter's Scales. 1849 HEATHER *Math. Instr.* 45 The pair of Marquois's scales now before us. 1878 MARKS in *Frnl. Franklin Inst.* CV. 418 An improved form of Marquoi's scale. 1883 W. H. RICHARDS *Text Bk. Milit. Topogr.* 153 A large rolling ruler, or the marquois scale and triangle, is available for carrying a parallel line. 1886 *Athenæum* 4 Sept. 307/2 There is one..instrument, namely, the marquois scales, which it is rather surprising to see omitted in this list.

† **Marquot.** *Obs.* [a. F. *marquotte* (Cotgr.), now *marcotte*.] 'A Sucker, or young plant, that spurts vp from the root of a vine, &c.; or is of it selfe rooted' (Cotgr. 1611).

1600 SURFLET *Country Farm* VI. vi. 737 Howsoeuer the plant set of a crosset may make the better foote and roote, yet for certaine it is harder to take then the marquot [orig. *la marquotte*].

Marr, dial. form of MERE *sb.*

Marrais(**s**, obs. forms of MARISH.

Marram (mæ·rəm). Also 8 **marem**, **marran**, **morrane**, 9 **maram**, **mar**(**r**)**um**, **murram**. [a. ON. *maralm-r*, f. *mar-r* sea + *halm-r* HAULM.]

1. A local name (chiefly *E. Angl.*) for the Sea Reed or Bent Grass, *Psamma arenaria*, the roots of which bind together and keep stable the sands of the sea-shore in Northern Europe. Also *marram-grass*, *sea-marram*.

1640 PARKINSON *Theat. Bot.* 1200 We in English [call *Spartum*] Helme and Matweede, but the people all along the Coasts of Norfolke and Suffolke call it Marram. 1726 THRELKELD *Syn. Stirp. Hibern.* K 5, Our Country Women in Fingall call these Morranes. 1787 W. MARSHALL *Norfolk* (1795) II. 383 Gloss., *Marram* or *Marem*, *Arunda arenaria*, sea-reed-grass. 1830 LYELL *Princ. Geol.* I. 268 Dry sand, bound in a compact mass by the long creeping roots of the plant called Marram. 1834 *Penny Cycl.* II. 427/2 *Arundo arenaria*, the sea-reed or marrum-grass. 1872 OLIVER *Elem. Bot.* II. 274 The Sea Maram.

2. A sand-hill grown over with this grass.

1834 PAGET *Nat. Hist. Yarmouth* Introd. 22 The hills of drifted sand which form the marrams. 1867 LYELL *Princ. Geol.* II. xx. (ed. 10) I. 513 Hills of blown sand, called 'Marrams',..now occupy the site.

attrib. 1879 R. LUBBOCK *Fauna of Norfolk* 112 The marum banks on the coast.

Marrangle, erron. form of MERINGUE.

1826 MISS MITFORD *Vill.* Ser. II. 211 My good cousin.. left it to my own senses to discover the merits of brioche and marrangles.

‖ **Marrano** (marā·no). *Obs.* exc. *Hist.* In 6 **marrane**, **maranne**, *pl.* **marrany**, 6–7 **maran**(**e**, **marano**. [Sp. *marrano*, of unknown origin.] A name applied in mediæval Spain to a christianized Jew or Moor, esp. to one who merely professed conversion in order to avoid persecution.

1583 STOCKER *Civ. Warres Lowe C.* IV. 50 The women, chose rather to drowne them selues..then to be dishonored with so Barbarous a Maran. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* II. xiii. 49 An infinite multitude of Iewes and Marannes driuen out of Spain. *Ibid.* IV. xvi. 130 b, The Maranes of late banished and driuen out of Spaine and Portugale. 1599 SANDYS *Europæ Spec.* (1632) 164 A sort of people of the Marrany as they terme them, who are baptized Jews and Moores. 1600 O. E. *Repl. Libel* I. ii. 55 Those that will not suffer Christians to liue..dispense with apostataes, maranoes, and rinegued Turkes. *Ibid.* II. iii. 58 They absolne..most wicked rebels, yea Marans and apostataes. 1645 PAGITT *Heresiogr.* (1662) 205 A very christened Jew, a Maran. 1901 *Westm. Gaz.* 12 Aug. 3/1 Two years later the Crypto-Jews or Marranos of London had acquired 'untrammelled trading rights'.

Hence † **Ma·rranized** *ppl. a.*, † **Ma·rranism.**

[1563–83 FOXE *A. & M.* II. 905/1 All these thinges were a meere *Maranismus*, that is, sauoured of the law of *Maranorum*.] 1611 COTGR., *Marranisé*,..Marranized, renegaded. 1694 MOTTEUX *Rabelais* V. (1737) 216 Apostates and marraniz'd Miscreants. 1737 OZELL *Rabelais* III. 232 *note*, There were several Sons and Grandsons of the Family, which Jos. Scaliger suspected of Maranism (Judaism).

Marras, variant of MARISH.

Marratine, obs. form of MARITIME.

March, obs. form of MARCH *sb.*[1] (the month).

Marre: see MAR, MARO, MERE, a lake.

Marred (mād), *ppl. a.* [f. MAR *v.* + **-ED**[1].]

† **a.** Perplexed, distracted. **b.** Spoilt, injured. Now *rare* exc. *dial.* of a child: 'Spoilt', peevish. **c.** Disfigured, mutilated.

c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 664, I am Meliors, neiȝh marred, man, for ȝi sake. 1447 BOKENHAM *Seyntys* (Horstm.) i. (*Margarete*) 291 Euere musynge in his marryd mood How.. He myht bereuyn hyre hyr virginyte. 1552 LYNDESAY *Monarche* Prol. 220 Sick marde Musis may mak me no supplee. 1611 BIBLE *Isa.* lii. 14 His visage was so marred more then any man. 1611 COTGR., *Mauvais*..depraued, corrupt, mard. 1790 PENNANT *London* (1813) 358 A marble groupe.. with London and Commerce whimpering like two marred children. 1856 GERALDINE E. JEWSBURY *Sorrows of Gentility* II. i. 2 The grandfather gave it [a baby] impatiently back to the nurse with the observation that 'It was very marred'. 1870 *Pall Mall G.* 10 Dec. 12 The shadow of their marred journey rests upon the souls of all the English members of the party. 1898 W. K. JOHNSON *Terra Tenebr.* 92 Let the marred earth tremble and pass. 1903 *Blackw. Mag.* June 632/2 With his marred face [said of a man whose nose had been cut off].

Hence **Ma·rredness.**

1587 GOLDING *De Mornay* xvii. 275 Notwithstanding all this marrednesse, yet the Soule liueth..pure and clean in God.

Marree, variant of MERI[2], Maori war-axe.

Marreis, obs. form of MARISH.

† **Marrement.** *Obs. rare*—[1]. [f. MAR *v.* + **-MENT**.] Trouble, affliction.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 196 And thus upon his marrement This paien hath made his preiere.

Marrer (mā·rəɹ). [f. MAR *v.* + **-ER**[1].] One who mars; a destroyer, injurer, spoiler.

c 1420 LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 690 Marrers of maters, and money makers. 1529 MORE *Suppl. Soulys* Wks. 295/1 They be ye marrars & distroyers of the realme. 1581 MULCASTER *Positions* xxxix. (1887) 218 The deuill himselfe..our most suttle, and despitefull marrer. *a* 1619 FOTHERBY *Atheom.* II. x. § 4 (1622) 307 *One* is the maker, and *One* is the marrer of euery number. 1639 FULLER *Holy War* IV. xviii. (1640) 199 His friends, the Pisans and Genoans, reviled him as the marrer of their mart. 1830 SOUTHEY *Lett.* (1856) IV. 180 As for the Fitz-Romilly law-menders, makers, or marrers, I think of these as you do. 1877 *Tinsley's Mag.* XXI. 203 She was no match-maker, but she was no match-marrer.

Marret, variant of MARROT, a guillemot.

Marre(**y**)**s**(**se**, obs. forms of MARISH.

Marriable (mæ·riăb'l), *a.* Now *rare.* Also 5–6 **mari-**, **maryable**, 6 **marryable**. [a. OF. *mariable*, f. *mari-er* to MARRY.] That may be married; in early use = MARRIAGEABLE.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 326/1 Maryable, ..*nubilis*. 1543 GRAFTON *Contin. Harding* 540 The lorde Harbarte had a syster maryable. *c* 1555 HARPSFIELD *Divorce Hen. VIII* (Camden) 154 Until that Sela came of marriable years. 1569 ABP. PARKER *Corr.* (Parker Soc.) 352 The parties marriable must be so allowed by two justices of the peace or by the Ordinary. 1587 HOLINSHED *Chron.* III. 38/1 The kings daughter..being now viripotent or mariable. 1820 COLERIDGE in *Lit. Rem.* (1839) IV. 150 The Reformed Church of England with its marriable and married clergy.

Marriage (mæ·rėdʒ). Forms: 3–7 **mariage**, 4–6 **maryage**, 4 **mariag**, 5 **mareagh**, **maryag**, **-ache**, 6 **marrage**, **marag**, **mar**(**r**)**yge**, **marie**(**a**)**ge**, 7 **mareag**(**e**, **mariadge**, 6– **marriage**. [a. F. *mariage* (from 12th c.) = Pr. *maridatge*, Sp. *maridaje* (Pg. has a different formation, *maridança*), It. *maritaggio*:—popular L. type **maritāticum* f. *marīt-us* husband: see MARITAL *a.* and **-AGE**.

In Eng., as also in Fr., the word tends to be apprehended (in accordance with a frequent function of the suffix *-age*) as if it were a derivative of the related verb.]

1. The condition of being a husband or wife; the relation between married persons; spousehood, wedlock.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 1499, & [he] sede þat it was to him gret prou & honour To be in such mariage alied to þe emperour. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xx. 89 In þat cuntree es na mariage betwene man and womman. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Armis* (S. T. S.) 21 *marg.*, The mareagh of kyrk men. 1513 BRADSHAW *St. Werburge* I. 1754 Many dyuers persones..Refused this worlde..Renounsynge vayne pleasures ryches and maryage. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S. T. S.) 202 Mariage is ane blissit band. 1606 B. JONSON *Hymenæi*, *Barriers* 39 Marriage Loves obiect is. 1624 DONNE *Serm.* ii. 17 Nor does he dishonour Marriage that praises Virginity. 1647 COWLEY *Mistr., Constant* ii, All Love is Marriage on thy Lovers side, For only Death can them divide. 1767 A. YOUNG *Farmer's Lett. to People* 189 Marriage will ever flourish, when there is no danger of children proving an incumbrance. 1873 MERIVALE in *Summary Proc. St. Etheldreda Fest.* 17 The two pillars upon which God has founded the edifice of civilized society are, after all, property and marriage,

† **b.** In certain phrases used for: The marriage vow. *Obs.*

c 1386 CHAUCER *Wife's Prol.* 710 He..writ in his dotage That wommen kan nat kepe hir mariage! *a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* (1868) 60 No man nor woman shulde..breke her mariage. 1530 PALSGR. 464/1 Thou haste broken thy marryage, *tu as faulcé ton mariage*.

c. Phr. with preps. *In marriage* (now arch.): in the matrimonial state, in wedlock. *To give, take in* († *to*, † *into*) *marriage*: to give, take as husband or wife. † *But marriage* (Sc.): unmarried.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 12667 A man in mariage hir tok. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xli. (*Agnes*) 107 My spouse..has giffine me in mariage, þat nenir sal falȝe, his herytage. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* IV. 723 Thai..said scho suld be weddyt with ane knycht..that was but mariage. 1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* lxxvii[i]. 63 Their maydes were not genen to mariage. 1594 MARLOWE & NASHE *Dido* III. ii, Why should not they then ioyne in marriage? 1700 DRYDEN *Pal. & Arc.* III. 1120 Then I propose that Palamon shall be In marriage joined with beauteous Emily. 1877 [see GIVE *v.* 5].

d. *Anthropol.* with defining word. *Communal marriage*; the system prevailing amongst some uncivilized peoples, by which within a small com-

munity all the men are regarded as married to all the women, and vice versa; sometimes called *group marriage*. *Plural marriage*: polygamy.

1870 LUBBOCK *Orig. Civiliz.* 67 Communal marriage, where every man and woman in a small community were regarded as equally married to one another. 1880 FISON & HOWITT *Kamil. & Kurnai* 146 Considering how easy it is to mistake instances of group marriage for polyandry.

2. Entrance into wedlock; the action, or an act, of marrying; the ceremony or procedure by which two persons are made husband and wife.

Civil marriage: a marriage performed by an officer of the state, as distinguished from one that is of the nature of a religious ceremony. *Fleet marriage*: see FLEET *sb.*[2] 2. *Scotch marriage*: a marriage according to the Scots law, effected by a mutual declaration before witnesses, without other formality; chiefly applied to the runaway marriages (formerly frequent) of couples who crossed from England into Scotland in order to escape the restrictions imposed by English law on the marriage of minors without the consent of their guardians.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 3337 þe mariage þen did he mak Bituix rebecca and ysaac. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Merch. T.* 75 Mariage is a ful greet sacrement. 1490 CAXTON *Eneydos* xiv. 52 Yf I wyst that thou, venus, were not of accorde for the maryag of eneas to dydo, I shulde make hym fyrst to departe wythout eny respyte. *c* 1555 HARPSFIELD *Divorce Hen. VIII* (Camden) 245 St. Hierome and St. Gregorie that will not call our ladie's marriage nuptialls. 1699 T. BROWN in *R. L'Estrange's Erasm. Colloq.* (1725) 341 For when Marriage is once legally contracted, no human Power you know can disannul it. 1766 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* II. 334 As, when lands are conveyed to the use of A and B, after a marriage shall be had between them. 1832 MARRYAT *N. Forster* xxxiv, A marriage on board of a king's ship, by the captain, duly entered in the log-book, is considered.. valid. 1879 Miss BRADDON *Cloven Foot* xix, A good many years ago..I got myself entrapped into a Scotch marriage.

b. The nuptial ceremony together with the accompanying festivities; a wedding. ? *Obs.* or *arch.*

c 1386 CHAUCER *Wife's Prol.* 558, I made my visitacions ..To pleyes of myracles and to mariages. 1526 TINDALE *John* ii. 2 Iesus was called also and his disciples vnto the mariage. *c* 1610 *Women Saints* 17 He reprooueth Virgins that were present at mariages.

3. A particular matrimonial alliance or union.

Cross marriage: applied to the marriage of a man to the sister of his sister's husband.

1473 WARKW. *Chron.* (Camden) 3 The Erle of Warwyke was sent into Fraunce for a maryage for the Kynge. 1539 CROMWELL in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) II. 175 To induce and persuade the kinges hieghnes..to make a crosse maryage bitwen the yong duke of Cleves and my lady Mary. 1559 *Mirr. Mag., Dk. Suffolk* xi, I sought a mariage for my soveraine Lorde. 1580 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 471 Mariages are made in heauen. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* II. (1590) 129 Euarchus made a crosse mariage also with Dorilaus his sister. 1586 A. DAY *Eng. Secretary* II. (1625) 50 You haue deliuered forth .. that .. I .. led him .. into a deceitfull marriage. 1663 DRYDEN *Rival Ladies* I. i, For hapning both to Love each others Sisters, They have concluded it in a cross Marriage. 1860 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* xxxi. (1893) V. 304 The fears of Renard .. were occasioned by the unanimity of Catholics and heretics in the opposition to the marriage. *Mod.* They disapproved of his marriage.

†**b.** *concr.* A person viewed as a prospective husband or wife; a (good or bad) match. *Obs.*

1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. cclii. 375 The erle of Flaunders .. thoughe that the yonge duke of Bourgoyn was a mete mariage for her [his daughter]. 1621 LADY M. WROTH *Urania* 357 He was perswaded .. to go see a Lady, a great marriage, and to wooe her. *Ibid.* 438 A great marryage she was likely to be.

4. *transf.* and *fig.* (from the preceding senses). Intimate union.

c 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* IV. 27 Into the lond let synke A reed right by, and bynde in mariage Hem to, lest wynde offende her tender age. *c* 1570 (*title*) A new and Pleasaunt enterlude intituled the mariage of Witte and Science. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* III. (1590) 331 The cruel villayne forced the sworde with another blowe to diuorce the faire marriage of the head and body. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* IV. i. (1614) 342 They plant their Vines at the foote of great Trees, which marriage proueth very fruitfull. *a* 1693 AUBREY *Lives* (1898) I. *Briggs* 123 He considered..the convenience of making a mariage between those rivers. 1876 T. HARDY *Ethelberta* (1890) 68 In which of the cases do you consider the marriage of verse and tune to have been most successful?

5. = MARITAGE 2. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.*

1459 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 371/1 The Warde and Maryage of Thomas..belonne unto the Kyng. *c* 1460 FORTESCUE *Abs. & Lim. Mon.* ix. (1885) 130 The grete lordis off þe lande by reason..off mariages, purchasses, and oþer titles, shall often tymes growe to be gretter than thai be now. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S. T. S.) I. 62 The Earle of Douglas..obtenit fre tbe King the ward and mariege of [Annas] Dunbar. 1885 PLUMMER *Fortescue's Abs. & Lim. Mon.* 270 *marg.*, Lord's right of *marriage* under the feudal system.

†**6.** A dowry. *Obs.* (Cf. MARITAGE 1.)

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 2328 þerfore y schal myn heritage Gyue þy sistres in mariage [Wace: *en mariage*]. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. II. 50 To witnesse .. In what manere that Meede in mariage was i-feffed. 1577–87 HOLINSHED *Chron.* III. 1131/2 He [John Gresham] gaue also to maids mariages.

7. *Cards.* In certain games, e.g. bezique, the 'declaration' of a king and queen of the same suit.

1861 *Macm. Mag.* Dec. 138/2 [Bazique.]..King and queen of the same suit are called 'marriage', and score two; but the marriage of trumps scores four. 1870 'CAVENDISH' *Game of Bézique* 16 King and queen of any suit not trumps (called marriage). King and queen of the trump suit (called marriage in trumps or royal marriage).

8. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *marriage-blessing, bond, -bower, -ceremony, chain, chamber, choice, contract, covenant, -day, -dinner, dowry, -dues, duty, faith, feast, fruition, -hater, -hindering* adj., *hour, joy, -knell, -knot, life, -maker, market, -monger, -morn, -morning, night, -register, -rites, state, supper, table, -tie, -treaty, -vow.* Also **Marriage Act**, any of the Acts of Parliament regulating marriages (see quot.); **marriage articles**, an antenuptial agreement embodying the terms agreed on by the parties with respect to rights of property and succession; †**marriage bawd**, an opprobrious term for a match-maker; **marriage bell**, a church bell rung on the occasion of a marriage in token of joy; **marriage brokage, brokerage**, consideration given for bringing about a marriage (contracts for which are void by English law); †**marriage broker**, an opprobrious term for a match-maker; †**marriage doed** = *marriage articles*; **marriage favours**, 'knots of white ribbons or bunches of white flowers, worn at weddings' (Ogilvie *Suppl.* 1855); †**marriage finger**, the finger on which the wedding-ring is placed; †**marriage gear** (*Sc.*), †**marriage good**, marriage portion, dowry; **marriage lay** = *marriage-song*; **marriage licence**, an official permission to marry (in England, a document granted by the ordinary or his surrogate, authorizing a couple to be married by a clergyman of the Church of England without the proclamation of banns); **marriage lines**, a certificate of marriage; **marriage portion**, a portion or dowry, etc., given to a bride at her marriage; **marriage-ring**, a wedding-ring; **marriage service**, the form of words prescribed for the religious ceremony of marriage; **marriage settlement**, an arrangement made by deed in consideration of an intended marriage, whereby certain property is secured for the wife, and sometimes also for the children; **marriage-song**, an epithalamium. See also MARRIAGE BED.

Marriage life, marriage state, formerly common expressions, are now almost superseded by *married life, married state*.

1753 *Gentl. Mag.* Sept., Contents, Accounts of the new *marriage act. 1841 STEPHEN *Comm.* (1874) II. 246 The principal marriage Acts now in force, are 4 Geo. IV. c. 76, and 6 & 7 Will. IV. c. 85. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 2 ¶ 2 The Father sends up every Post Questions relating to 'Marriage-Articles, Leases, and Tenures. 1698 VANBRUGH *Prov. Wife* v. iii, My innocent lady..turns *marriage-bawd to her niece. 1816 BYRON *Ch. Har.* III. xxi, And all went merry as a *marriage-bell. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* IV. i. 106 Honor, riches, *marriage blessing..be still vpon you. 1644 MILTON *Judgm. Bucer* xxvii, That under pretence of the *marriage bond they be not sold to perpetual vexations. 1831 CARLYLE *Sart. Res.* III. iii, The fair clustering flowers that over-wreathe..the *Marriage-bower. *a* 1721 VERNON *Chancery Cases* (1726) I. 412 The Bill was to be relieved against a *Marriage Brocage Bond. 1787 W. P. WILLIAMS *Chancery Cases* III. 75 *note*, Cases of direct marriage brocage. 1681 OTWAY *Soldier's Fort.* IV. i, Make me a Match-maker? a filthy *Marriage-Broker! 1847 ADDISON *Law of Contracts* 568 *Marriage brokerage contracts. 1766 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 106 Thus was she led..to the altar, where the *marriage-ceremony was performed. 1703 ROWE *Fair Penit.* I. i, Never to load it with the *Marriage Chain. 1611 BIBLE *Tobit* vi. 16 When thou shalt come into the *mariage chamber. *c* 1586 C'TESS PEMBROKE *Ps.* LXXVIII. XXV, The virgins live despair'd of *mariage choise. 1644 MILTON *Judgm. Bucer* xxvi, That all holiness and faith of *marriage covenant should be observed. 1594 MARLOWE & NASHE *Dido* I. i, These linkèd gems, My Iuno ware vpon her *marriage day. 1678 BUTLER *Hud.* III. i. 834 For what can we pretend t'inherit, Unless the *marriage-deed will bear it? 1552 LATIMER *Serm., Parable Kings Son* (1584) 183 b, This banket or *mariage dinner. 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* III. i. 230 The portion and sinew of her fortune, her *marriage dowry. 1767 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 64 A young nobleman ..gave five guineas..in order to..pay the *marriage-dues. 1645 MILTON *Colast.* Wks. (1847) 222/2 Diversity of religion breeds a greater dislike to *marriage duties than natural disagreement. 1671 — *Samson* 1115 Breaking her *Marriage Faith to circumvent me. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* II. i. 40 At a *marriage feast ..saw I this Longauill. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 58 ¶ 13 To get the Measure of his Mistress's *Marriage-Finger. 1645 MILTON *Tetrach.* Wks. (1847) 207/1 (Matt. xix. 9) That a person so hatefully expelled should..be turned..out of all *marriage fruition. 1515 in *Fam. Rose of Kilravock* (Spalding) 185 For the quhilk mariage the said Huchon Ros sall giff sex scor of Merkis of *mariage geyr. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* XLII. XXXIV. 1134 [My wife] brought nothing with her for *marriage-good, but freedome of birth [etc.]. 1692 D'URFEY (*title*) The *Marriage-Hater Matched. 1864 TENNYSON *Aylmer's F.* 374 This filthy *marriage-hindering Mammon. 1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* II. iv. 179 We are betroathd: nay more, our *mariage howre Determin'd of. 1594 — *Rich. III*, IV. iv. 330 The sweet silent houres of *Marriage ioyes. 1693 CONGREVE *Old Bach.* V. xiii, I thought the chimes of verse were passed, when once the doleful *marriage-knell was rung. 1627 SANDERSON *Serm.* I. 262 In the *marriage-knot there is some expression and representation of the love-covenant betwixt Christ and His church. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* Concl., Demand not thou a *marriage lay. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) X. 584/1 To forge..a *marriage licence. 1836–7 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Scenes* viii, Doctors' Commons being .. the place where they grant marriage-licences to love-sick couples. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 149 ¶ 5 The *Marriage-Life is always an insipid, a vexatious, or an happy Condition. 1829, 1840 *Marriage lines [see LINE *sb.*[2] 23 f]. 1591 PERCIVALL *Sp. Dict., Casamentero*, a *marriage maker. 1855 TENNYSON *Maud* I. XX. iii, A dinner and then a dance For the maids and marriage-makers. 1875 *Chamb. Jrnl.* No. 133. 54 Lord Hardwicke's Act caused quite a flutter in the *marriage-market. 1854 THACKERAY *Newcomes* I. 305 There are articles which the *marriage-monger cannot make to convene at all. 1842 TENNYSON '*Move Eastward*', Ah, bear me with thee..And move me to my *marriage-morn. 1821 BYRON *Juan* V. lxxvi, The finest lace Which e'er set off a *marriage-morning face. 1664 LD. FALKLAND (*title*) The *Mariage Night. 1766 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 106 The girl was advised to do this, that he might be intitled to no other *marriage-portion than her smock. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) X. 584/1 To make a false entry into a *marriage-register. 1825 J. NEAL *Bro. Jonathan* II. 154 She never had sich a cold in all her life, as when she left her *marriage ring off. *a* 1661 HOLYDAY *Juvenal* vi. (1673) 91 He Acts no new sinne, Posthumus, that sleights The Genius of another's *Marriage-Rites. 1833 *Tracts for Times* No. 3. p. 1 There are persons who wish the *Marriage-Service emended. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 272 ¶ 1, I have a young Kinsman..who shall shew you the rough Draught of the *Marriage Settlement. 1597 DRAYTON *Heroic Ep., Dk. Suffolk to Mary the Fr. Queen* 122 And in precession as they came along, with Himeneus sang thy *marriage song. 1714 *Spectator* No. 607 ¶ 5 Good-Nature is a third necessary Ingredient in the *Marriage-State. 1611 BIBLE *Rev.* xix. 9 Blessed are they which are called vnto the *marriage supper of the Lambe. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* I. ii. 181 The Funerall Bakt-meats Did coldly furnish forth the *Marriage Tables. 1693 DRYDEN tr. *Ovid's Met.* I. 653 Give me..to liue and die A spotless maid, without the *marriage-tie. 1710 PALMER *Proverbs* 127 He that loves at first sight..finishes a *marriage-treaty without taking so much time as [etc.]. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* II. ii. 258 The ward of her purity, her reputation, her *marriage-vow.

Marriageable (mæ·rĕdʒăb'l), *a.* (*sb.*) Also 6–7 mariageable. [f. MARRIAGE + -ABLE.]

1. Of persons: Fit for marriage, of an age to marry.

c 1555 HARPSFIELD *Divorce Hen. VIII* (Camden) 174 If you would tarry until they should be marriageable, you should be old women ere you married. 1625 K. LONG tr. *Barclay's Argenis* IV. iv. 252 There were no neighbour-princes which were marriageable. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 311 ¶ 1, I am the Father of a young Heiress, whom I begin to look upon as Marriageable. 1841 LYTTON *Nt. & Morn.* I. i, He boasted two very pretty marriageable daughters. 1885 J. PAYN *Talk of Town* II. 56 Your united ages scarcely make up that of a marriageable man.

b. *transf.* Of plants, *esp.* the vine: Fit to be joined to other plants.

1663 COWLEY *Verses & Ess.*, '*Happy the Man*' 9 Sometimes the beaut'ous Marriageable Vine He to the lusty Bridegroom Elm does joyn. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* v. 217. 1824 *Blackw. Mag.* XVI. 2 The ruby clusters of Bacchus himself, glowing amidst the foliage of some tall marriageable elm.

c. Of age († formerly also of qualities, etc.): Befitting marriage or the married state.

1597 T. PAYNE *Royal Exch.* 43 Wch mariageable tearmes ..teacheth..husbands and wyves to be so lyncked in love as to lyve and love togethers most affectionatly. 1643 MILTON *Divorce* I. xii, It is most sure that some..are destitute of all other mariageable gifts. 1725 DE FOE *Voy. round World* (1840) 246 Twelve years old, which the Spaniards count marriageable. 1889 JESSOPP *Coming of Friars* V. 228 A..damsel..very near the marriageable age.

2. *sb.* A marriageable person.

1826 MOORE *Mem.* (1854) V. 49 Dined at Mrs. Branigan's: a children's party in the evening, with the intermixture of two or three rather pretty young marriageables.

Hence **Ma·rriageableness**; **Marriageabi·lity** (in recent Dicts.), *rare*—⁰.

1687 MIEGE *Gt. Fr. Dict.* II, Marriageableness, *âge d'être marié*. 1727 in BAILEY vol. II.

Marriage-bed. The bed used by a married couple; hence *transf.* marital intercourse, with its rights and duties. *To defile, violate the marriage-bed*: to commit adultery.

1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* II. i. 27 *Adri.* This seruitude makes you to keepe vnwed. *Luci.* Not this, but troubles of the marriage bed. 1675 TRAHERNE *Chr. Ethics* 414 The great felicity which lovers promise to themselves, and taste also when they meet together in the marriage-bed. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 446 ¶ 6 We do not find any Comedy.. raised upon the Violations of the Marriage-Bed. 1776 ADAM SMITH *W. N.* II. iii. (1869) I. 351 The marriage-bed of James the First of Great Britain was, a few years ago, the ornament of an alehouse at Dunfermline. 1869 LECKY *Europ. Mor.* (1877) II. iv. 7 During the period of penance, the penitent was compelled to abstain from the marriage-bed. 1896 A. E. HOUSMAN *Shropshire Lad* XXVIII, Ages since the vanquished bled Round my mother's marriage-bed.

Married (mæ·rid), *ppl. a.* [f. MARRY *v.* + -ED[1].]

1. United to another in wedlock; living in the matrimonial state.

1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. X. 109 3if þou beo Mon I-Mariet ..Hold þe stable. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Armis* (S. T. S.) 241 The knychtis wyf beris the privilege of hyr maryt husband. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 252 Kynges, prynces, .. and maryed persones, and all christen people [etc.]. 1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* I. iii. 20 What says the married woman? 1752 HUME *Pol. Disc.* X. 174 Marry'd slaves .. were esteem'd very inconvenient. 1897 MARY KINGSLEY *W. Africa* 648 Your Kruboy is very much a married man.

b. *fig.*

1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* I. iii. 83 (2nd Qo. 1599) Examine euery married liniament And see how one an other lends content. 1703 POPE *Vertumnus* 66 And this fair vine, but that her arms surround Her marry'd elm, had crept along the ground. 1856 BRYANT *After a Tempest* v, The noise of war shall cease from sea to sea, And married nations dwell in harmony.

2. Pertaining to or characteristic of married persons or matrimony.

1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* v. ii. 912 Cuckow, Cuckow: O word of feare, Vnpleasing to a married eare. 1608 — *Per.* II. v. 4 That for this twelue-month shee'le not vndertake A maried life. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 278 ¶ 2 When I enter into a married State. 1834 BUCKSTONE *(title)* Married Life; a comedy. 1873 Miss BROUGHTON *Nancy* II. 57, I put on a silk gown..as looking more married than the cobweb muslins. 1894 'J. S. WINTER' *Red-Coats* 47 He..turned to the orderly officer and growled out, 'I wonder why the devil the other married quarters can't be kept like this?'

Marrier (mæ·riəɹ). Also 7 **maryer.** [f. MARRY *v.* + -ER [1].] One who marries (in various senses).

1589 *Rare Tri. Love & Fort.* v. in *Five Old Plays* (Roxb. Cl.) 146 Youle haue us marry her, heere be them come of the marriers. 1629 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* N. S. III. 258 Persouns suspect..of the crymes particularly underwrittin, viz,..maryers of twa wyffes..stealers of beeskaips. 1830 Miss MITFORD *Village* Ser. IV. 91 The Rector of Ashley, ..the favourite marrier of the county, was wanted to tie the hymeneal knot. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* June 100/2 The determined marrier who..chooses a Jewess.

Marrinate, -ine, etc., obs. ff. MARINATE, etc.

Marring (mā·riŋ), *vbl. sb.* Forms: see MAR *v.* [OE. *mierring, męrrung,* f. *mierran, męrran*: see MAR *v.* and -ING [1].] The action of the verb MAR (in various senses); †squandering, waste; †hindrance; injury, impairment.

c 897 K. ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* xx. 149 Dylæs..se agita for his goda mierringe zielpe. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Mark, Argt. (1871) 5 Merrunga, *seductiones. a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 8779 þai fand gret merring in þair merck, þe wrightes þat suld rais þe werck. 1357 *Lay Folks Catech.* 124 Withouten ony merryng of hir modirhede. 1561 DAUS tr. *Bullinger on Apoc.* 94 b, Of the traditions of men, and their marring of the Scripture, ariseth darkenes. 1649 MILTON *Eikon.* vi, The making or the marring of any Law. 1860 PUSEY *Min. Proph.* 65 Man shrinks from the violent marring of his outward form.

Marring (mā·riŋ), *ppl. a.* [-ING [2].] That mars. Hence **Ma·rringly** *adv.*

1831 *Blackw. Mag.* XXIX. 677 This open expression.. brings out marringly the lesson. 1836 GLADSTONE in Morley *Life* (1903) I. II. iii. 36 [Wordsworth] named the discrepancy between his [Shelley's] creed and his imagination as the marring idea of his works. 1891 R. DOWLING *Isle of Surrey* 256 Mottled with marring blotches of scorbutic red.

Marrionate, obs. form of MARINATE.

Marrionette, variant of MARIONETTE.

Marris(e, -ische, -ish(e, obs. ff. MARISH.

Marrock, variant of MARROT.

Marroe, Marron(e: see MARROW *sb.*[2], MAROON.

†Marroneer. *Obs.* [a. F. *marronier,* f. *marron*: see MAROON *sb.*[1]] A kind of chestnut-tree.

1693 EVELYN *De la Quint. Compl. Gard., Refl. Agric.* 47 A Wallnut, a Marroneer, an Orange, or Cherry-Tree.

Marroquin, obs. form of MAROQUIN.

Marrot (mæ·rət). Also **marrock, marrott, morrot, murot.** [Origin obscure; cf. MURRE.] A local name for the guillemot, razor-bill, and puffin.

1710 SIBBALD *Hist. Fife* 48 *Alka Hoieri*: Our People call it the Marrot, the Auk or Razor-Bill. 1863 KINGSLEY *Water-Bab.* 259 The very marrocks and dovekies have got wings. 1880 *Act* 43 & 44 *Vict.* c. 35 (*Wild Birds Protect. Act*) Sched. Marrot.

Marrou, Marrouh, obs. ff. MARROW *sb.*[2] and *sb.*[1]

Marrow (mæ·rou), *sb.*[1] Forms: *α.* 1 **mærs,** mers, **mearh, mærh,** 4 **mer3, mar3,** 4-5 **margh(e,** (5 **margthe,** 6 **marthe**), 4-5 *northern* **merghe,** 4-6 *northern,* 6-9 *Sc.* **mergh,** 4-9 *Sc.* **merch,** (6 *Sc.* **maireh**). *β.* 4 **maru3, mar(r)ouh, merou3, -ow3,** 4-5 **marou3,** 5-6 **marughe,** 6 **marough(e,** 4 **merowe,** 4-5 **merow(e,** 5 **maro,** 4-5 **marw(e,** (5 **marwhe**), 5-6 **merwe,** 5 **marew,** 4-7 **marowe,** 6-7 **marrowe,** 6- **marrow.** *γ.* 3 **meari,** 4-6 **mary(e,** (5 **marigh, merryghe**), 5-6 **maree, marie,** 6 **marry.** [Com. Teut.: OE. *mearg, mearh* (Anglian *merg, mærh*) neut. (once masc.), corresponds to OFris. *merg, merch* neut. and masc., OS. *marg* (MDu. *march, marg-,* mod.Du. *merg* neut.), OHG. *marg, marag* neut. (MHG. *marc, marg-,* mod.G. *mark* neut.), ON. *merg-r* masc. (Sw. *merg, märg,* Da. *marv*):—OTeut. **mazgo-*:—pre-Teut. **mozgho-,* corresponding to OSl., Russian МОЗГЪ, Avestic *mazga*; the Skr. *majjan* is anomalous, as it would point to an OAryan type with *g* instead of *gh.*]

1. The soft vascular fatty substance usually contained in the cavities of bones. (The marrow of animals used for food is regarded as a dainty.)

In OE. the word occurs as a gloss on *lucanica,* which means a sort of sausage; but this was prob. a mistranslation.

a 700 *Epinal Gloss., Lucanica,* maerh. *c* 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) L 294 *Lucanica,* mærh. *Ibid.* M 195 *Medulla,* merz. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 366 Wið..leoða sarum nim leon ẓelynde & heortes mearz. 10..*Ags. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 292/10 *Medulla,* mearh. *a* 1225 *Juliana* 58 Þat meari weol ut imenget wið blode. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xlviii (*Juliana*) 161 Syne bir banys sa to-quassyt, þat þe self merch out passyt. 1382 WYCLIF *Job* xxi. 24 The bones of hym ben moistid with miar3 [1388 merowis]. 1382 — *Ps.* lxv[i]. 15 Brent sacrifises ful of mer3 [1388 merow3] I shal offre to thee. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Pard. T.* 214 Out of the harde bones knokke they The mary. *c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 47 þe schuldre to þe elbowe be kutt al atwo, so þat þe marie go out. 14.. *Nom.* in Wr.-Wülcker 678/36 *Hec medulla,* margthe. 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 24216 First I souke vp (for the nones) The mary closed in the bones. *c* 1440 *Anc. Cookery* in *Househ. Ord.* (1790) 453 Take..pouder of pepur, and maree, and tempur bit togedur. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 44 Pen take merow, & putte it on a straynourys ende. *Ibid.* 51 Take fayre Marwe, & Datys y-cutte in ij or iij & Prunez. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* IV. ii. 38 The subtell quent fyre Waistis and consumis merch, banis, and lyre. 1528 PAYNELL *Salerne's Regim.* G iij, The mary of veale..is moste holsome. 1533 ELYOT *Cast. Helthe* (1539) 31 Marowe is more dilectable than the brayne. 1541 R. COPLAND *Guydon's Quest. Chirurg.* C j b, The membres colde and moyste are the flewme, fat or the grece, and the maroughes. 1562 BULLEYN *Bk. Simples* 86 b, What saie you of Mary, whiche in some place is called Marthe; contained within the bone of beastes? 1567 GOLDING *Ovid's Met.* IX. (1593) 215 The poyson even in his bones the maree melts at length. 1575 TURBERV. *Faulconrie* 297 That done, take suger clarified, and the Maree of a Beefe. 1717 PRIOR *Alma* III. 214 He din'd on Lion's marrow, spread On toasts of ammunition-bread. 1769 MRS. RAFFALD *Eng. Housekpr.* (1778) 179 Shred half a pound of marrow very fine. 1823 BYRON *Juan* VII. viii, By Souvaroff, or Anglicè Suwarrow, Who loved blood as an alderman loves marrow. 1896 CLELAND & MACKAY *Anat.* 30 Marrow is of two kinds, the yellow..and the red.

b. Proverbial and hyperbolical uses. (In 16th–17th c. love was often said to 'burn' or 'melt the marrow'.)

1520 WHITINTON *Vulg.* (1527) 27 b, A man myghte as soone pyke mary out of a mattock, as [etc.]. 1592 SHAKS. *Ven. & Ad.* 142 My flesh is soft, and plumpe, my marrow burning. 1594 NASHE *Unfort. Trav.* Wks. (Grosart) V. 168 They basted him with a mixture of Aqua fortis, allam water, and Mercury sublimatum, which..searcht him to the marrowe. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 428 When at the Spring's Approach their Marrow burns..The Mares to cliffs of rugged Rocks repair. 1763 CHURCHILL *Duellist* I, O for a noble curse Which might his very marrow pierce. 1798 SOUTHEY *Bp. Bruno* 62 His marrow grew cold at the touch of Death. 1840 DICKENS *Barn. Rudge* xvii, The very marrow in my bones is cold. 1886 KIPLING *Depart. Ditties* (1888) 22 For twenty reeking minutes, Sir, my very marrow froze.

c. The substance forming the spinal cord. Now always *spinal marrow.*

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* v. lviii. (1495) 174 The marowe..of the rydge bones..is callyd Mycha amonge physicyens. 1533 ELYOT *Cast. Helthe* I. i. (1541) 13 The mary of the backbone. 1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* 871 Of these Nerues..others are deriued from the Brayne and the spinall Marrow. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 750 The Skull hath Braines, as a kinde of Marrow, within it. The Back-Bone hath one Kinde of Marrow, which hath an Affinity with the Braine. 1874 CARPENTER *Ment. Phys.* I. ii. § 61 (1879) 62 The spinal cord (commonly termed the spinal marrow).

†d. Used (chiefly after L. *medulla*) for: The pith (of a plant); the pulp (of a fruit). Also *marrow of wheat*: a literal rendering of *medulla tritici* (Vulgate), the finest flour. *Obs.*

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 358 Wiþ maȝan wærce wudu þistles þone grenan mearh þe biþ on þam heafde sele him etan mid hatan ele. *c* 1340 HAMPOLE tr. *Deut.* xxxii. 14 (P 21) in *Psalter* (1884) 516 And gayte with merghe of whete. [Similarly 1382, 1388 WYCLIF and 1609 (Douay).] *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* III. pr. xi. 84 (Camb. MS.), [Herbes and trees] shedyn by hyr maryes hyr wode and hyr bark. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XL vi. (Tollem. MS.), He [*sc.* dew]..makeþ floure, pibbe and marghe encrese in corne and graynes. *c* 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* IV. 477 Thay seyn their bitter margh wol chaunge swete. *Ibid.* XI. 236 Yf a tender tree Me kitte at footis tweyne, and thenne hit cleue Vnto the roote, and with an yron se The mary rased out. 1562 TURNER *Herbal* II. A j b, It that is within, whiche they cal the marye, the pythe, and the harte. 1567 MAPLET *Gr. Forest* 30 The Alder tree ..is in his Wood and inwarde Marie very soft. 1623 BINGHAM *Xenophon* 31 This was the place, where the Souldiers first fed vpon the Marrow of the Nuts of Palme. 1727 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* s. v. *Cive,* Take some sweet Almonds.., pound 'em with some Vinegar, and strain 'em thro' a Linnen-cloth.., that you may have the Marrow or Milk of them. 1793 MARTYN *Lang. Bot.,* Marrow, *Medulla.* The pith of a vegetable.

2. In various figurative applications.

a. Taken as the type of rich and nutritious food. Chiefly in the Bible phrase *marrow and fatness.*

1382 WYCLIF *Gen.* xlv. 18 And I shal ȝyue to ȝow al the goodis of Egipte, that ȝe eeten the mary of the loond [Vulg. *medullam terræ*]. 1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* lxiii[i]. 5 My soule is satisfied euen as it were with marry & fatnesse. 1818 HAZLITT *Eng. Poets* vi. (1870) 151 His words are of marrow—unctuous, dropping fatness. 1845 JAMES *A. Neil* iv, He left that paper with me, which he said must be marrow and fatness to all well-disposed noblemen like yourself.

b. Viewed as the seat of animal vitality and strength.

c 1425 *Seven Sag.* (P.) 1685 My lordys merryghe hys welne gone. 1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 154 If I were in the pearle of my youth, and had in my bones marrowe .. I wold not [etc.]. 1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* II. iii. 298 Spending his manlie marrow in her armes. 1602 *2nd Pt. Return fr. Parnass.* IV. iii. 1935 Spending the marrow of their flowring age In fruitelesse poring on some worme eate leafe. 1793 HOLCROFT tr. *Lavater's Physiogn.* xvii. 87 All English women..appear to be composed of marrow and nerve. *a* 1823 G. BEATTIE *John o' Arnha'* (1826) 40 Alack-a-day! waesucks for John! His mergh an' mettle now are gone. 1847 DISRAELI *Sybil* (Rtldg.) 315, I always was against washing; it takes the marrow out of a man. 1848 LYTTON *Harold* V. iii, The pith and marrow of manhood.

c. The inmost or central part.

c 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 91 Wene we not þe gospel to be in wordis of writingis, but in wit; not in ouer face, but in þe merowe. 1434 MISYN *Mend. Life* 118 þe inhirliest mergh of our hartis. 1549 COVERDALE, etc. *Erasm. Par. Jas.* 28 Expressing by godly workes, that which he sticked fast in the marye of the soule. 1821 LAMB *Elia* Ser. I. *My Relations,* He never pierces the marrow of your habits.

d. The vital or essential part; the essence; the 'goodness'. Formerly often in titles of books. Often *pith and marrow.*

1530 TINDALE *Answ. More* Pref. *Wks.* (1573) 247/2 He neuer leaueth searchyng till he come at the bottome, the pith, the quicke, the lyfe, the spirit, the marow, & very cause why. ?*c* 1560 ROLLAND *Seuin Seages* 261 This was the Mairch of the mater in deid. 1570 BILLINGSLEY *Euclid* x. def. 11. 232 Wherein standeth the pith and mary of the hole science. 1599 *Broughton's Let.* vii. 20 You set vpon him with this..Libell, wherein is contained the marrow of your wisedome. 1614 T. GENTLEMAN *Eng. Way to Wealth* 12 They haue sucked out all the marrow of the Mault and good Scotsh-ale. 1640 T. B[RUGIS] *(title)* The Marrow of Physicke. 1647 TRAPP *(title)* Mellificium Theologicum or the Marrow of Many good Authours. 1650 S. CLARK *(title)* The Marrow of Ecclesiastical Historie. 1653 MILTON *Hirelings* Wks. 1851 V. 383 To how little purpose are all those piles of Sermons,.. Bodies and Marrows of Divinity, besides all other Sciences, in our English Tongue. 1665 BUNYAN *Holy Citie* (1669) 169 Christ in all his Benefits is the very Marrow, Life and Sum of all their Teaching. *a* 1680 CHARNOCK *Delight in Prayer* Wks. (1849) 231 Delight is the marrow of religion. 1763 COLMAN *Deuce is in him* Prol., Thus gave at once the bards of Greece, The cream and marrow of the piece. 1862 MERIVALE *Rom. Emp.* lv. (1865) VII. 12 The clients and retainers of the old nobility .. still formed the pith and marrow of the commonwealth.

e. Short for 'The Marrow of Modern Divinity', the title of a book (advocating strongly Calvinistic views) written by E. F. in 1645, the condemnation of which by the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland in 1720 led to a prolonged controversy. Used attrib. as in *Marrow controversy*; also **Marrow-men,** the designation of those members of the Assembly who defended the book.

1720 T. BOSTON *Mem.* (1899) 351 The assembly's act condemning the Marrow. 1725 WODROW in *W. Corresp.* (1843) III. 204 The Marrow people. *Ibid.* 205 The Marrow affair was ended. 1853 BURTON *Hist. Scot.* II. 319 Those who adhered to this document, received the party-title of the Marrow-men. *Ibid.,* The Marrow controversy. 1894 CROCKETT *Lilac Sunbonnet* I. 12 Allan Welsh, minister of the Marrow Kirk in the parish of Dullarg.

3. Vegetable marrow: a. A kind of gourd, the fruit of *Cucurbita ovifera,* used as a table vegetable.

1816 J. SABINE in *Trans. Hort. Soc.* (1822) II. 255 *(title of paper)* A Description and Account of the Cultivation of a Variety of Gourd called Vegetable Marrow. 1882 *Garden* 25 Mar. 191/3 In no other country does one see so many Vegetable Marrows as in this.

b. The fruit of the avocado, *Persea gratissima.*

1763 [see AVOCADO]. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 867/1.

4. A marrowfat pea.

1882 *Garden* 15 July 58/3 A dwarf round blue Marrow.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.,* as *marrow-eater; marrow-boiling, -burning, -chilling, -eating, -freezing, -like, -melting, -piercing, -searching, -thrilling* adjs.; **marrow cell,** *Histology,* one of a particular class of cells (resembling enlarged white blood corpuscles) occurring in marrow; **marrow pasty,** = *marrow pie*; **marrow pea,** = *marrowfat pea*; **marrow pie,** a pie containing beef marrow; **marrow pudding,** (*a*) a pudding made with (beef or vegetable) marrow; (*b*) *West Indian,* a kind of worm; **marrow sheath,** the white matter of Schwann surrounding the cylinder axis of a medullated nerve fibre (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1889); **marrow-spoon,** a spoon for extracting the marrow from bones; **marrow-squash,** an American name for the vegetable marrow (Webster 1864).

1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. i. 1. *Eden* 537 Their *marrow-boyling loves. 1592 KYD *Sol. & Pers.* v. ii. 14 Such is the force of *marrow burning loue. 1877 SCHÄFER *Histol.* 92 The so-called proper *marrow-cells. 1612 W. PARKES *Curtaine-Dr.* (1876) 16 Lust, the *marrow-eater of the world, the canker of health. 1592 SHAKS. *Ven. & Ad.* 741 The *marrow-eating sicknesse, whose attaint Disorder breeds by heating of the blood. 1894 H. NISBET *Bush Girl's Rom.* 184 The large succulent grubs..which the natives enjoy either roasted or raw, delicate *marrow-like pupæ. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV. 756 A gumma which looks yellowish and marrow-like just before breaking down. *a* 1618 SYLVESTER *Fetrastica* xlvi. (Grosart) II. 27 That heart-swelting, *Marrow-melting Fire. 1696 SALMON *Fam. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Marrow-Pasty: Take six Marrow-Bones [etc.]. 1733 TULL *Horse-Hoeing Husb.* xxii. 349 Sufficient for all sorts of Corn and Seeds which we commonly sow, from *Marrow Pease to Turnep-seed. 1598 MARSTON *Sco. Villanie* iii. 71 Hence Holy-thistle, come sweet *marrow pie, Inflame our backs to itching luxurie. 1674 T. P. etc. *Eng. & Fr. Cook* 157 Marrow Pyes. Take Veal, mince it [etc.]. 1616 B. JONSON *Devil is an Ass* II. i, No youths, disguis'd Like country-wiues, with creame, and *marrow-puddings. 1664 BUTLER *Hud.* II. ii. 794 Pamper'd and edifi'd their Zeal With Marrow-puddings many a Meal. 1789 P. BROWNE *Jamaica* 383 Fasciola 4. Marina major verucosa. The warted Marrow-Pudding. Fasciola 5. Marina maxima glabra. The large smooth Marrow-Pudding. 1846 D. JERROLD *Mrs. Caudle* xi, And then you recollect her marrow puddings? 1627–47 FELTHAM *Resolves* 405 Wishing .. that he had such wings as could procure his escape from death and *marrow-searching Judgment. 1693 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2853/4, 1 Sweat-meat Spoon, 1 *Marrow Spoon, 1 Ladle and Skillet. 1795 WALKER in *Phil. Trans.* LXXXV. 273, I use a marrow-spoon. 1888 FENN *Dick o' the Fens* 281 A strange *marrow-thrilling cry.

Marrow (mæ·rou), *sb.*[2] *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Also 5 **maroo, marwe,** 5–7 **marow(e,** 6 **mar(r)ou, marrowe, marroll,** 7 **marroe.** [Of obscure origin.

The localities would seem to point to a Scandinavian etymology, but no possible Scandinavian source is known, unless indeed the sense of the Eng. sb. can have been developed from that of ON. *marg-r* (lit. 'many') friendly, communicative. Phonologically this etymon would be admissible, as the word occurs so late that the absence of recorded forms with guttural causes no difficulty.]

1. A companion, fellow-worker, partner, mate.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 327/2 Marwe, or felawe yn trauayle, *socius, compar.* *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xiii. 436 Com coll and his maroo, Thay will nyp vs full naroo. *c* 1470 HENRYSON *Mor. Fab.* XIII. (*Frog & Mouse*) xxii, Better but stryfe allane to leif in le, Than to be matchit with ane wickit marrow. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VI. ix. 9 Bot sone hym warnis Sibilla.. His trew marrow [L. *comes*]. 1561 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 159 That nane of thame speik nor commune of ony mater nor round with his marrow. 1573 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 134 Yet chopping and changing I cannot commend, with theefe and his marrow, for feare of ill end. 1577 GRANGE *Gold. Aphrod.* F iii b, Forsakyng his marroll [*i.e.* his partner in a dance]. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S. T. S.) I. 193 Quhair he was lyand with his marrow and companioun Sir Edward brakinberrie. 1578 WHETSTONE 1*st Pt. Promos & Cassand.* II. iv, Marrowes adew: God send you fayre wether. 1621 B. JONSON *Metam. Gipsies* Wks. 1640 II. 68 Oh, my deare marrowes! 1645 RUTHERFORD *Tryal & Tri. Faith* (1845) 325 Faith with love cannot endure a marrow. 1822 GALT *Sir A. Wylie* I. v. 37 It was nae a richt thing o' us to be marrows in ony sic trade wi' cripple Janet. 1843 HARDY in *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* II. No. 11. 54 Only two individuals play, but they can have an indefinite number of marrows or sidesmen. 1860 *Eng. & For. Min. Gloss.* (Newcastle Terms), *Marrow*, a partner.

¶ b. Apparently misunderstood by Blount.

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Marrow* (Fr. *marauld*), a fellow, a knave, or Rascal.

2. A husband or wife. (Cf. HALF-MARROW 1.)

a 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S. T. S.) II. 132, I maryed ane puire woman to be marrow to me. 1632 RUTHERFORD *Lett.* (1862) I. 97 Christ's fair Bride, a marrow dear to Him. 1721 RAMSAY *Mary Scot* iii, When Mary Scot's become my marrow, We'll make a paradise on Yarrow. 1724 W. HAMILTON *Braes of Yarrow* i, Busk ye, busk ye, my bony bony bride, Busk ye, busk ye, my winsome marrow. 1816 SCOTT *Rob Roy* XXXV, I hae been misdoubting your cousin Rashleigh since ever he saw that he wasna to get Die Vernon for his marrow.

3. One's equal or like; one's match in a contest.

1548 *Compl. Scot.* XX. 173 Iulius vald nocht hef ane marrou in rome, and pompeus vald nocht hef ane superior. *a* 1572 KNOX *Hist. Ref.* Wks. (1846) I. 89 Thare did everie man reaconter his marrow. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S. T. S.) I. 174 He contit no lord to be marrow to him. 1637 RUTHERFORD *Lett.* (1862) I. 300 You have many marrows. 1896 'IAN MACLAREN' *Kate Carnegie* 212 Ay, ye may traivel the warld ower or ye see his marrow.

b. Used of things.

1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 46 The toune .. standes in sa pleisand a place, that it hes na marrow. *c* 1690 N. BURN *Leader-haughs* 15 in *Roxb. Ball.* VI. 607 One house there stands on Leader side..Men passing by do often say in [th'] South it has no marrow. 1891 BARRIE *Little Minister* xv, Sam'l Fairweather has the marrows o't on his top coat.

4. A thing which makes a pair with another.

1674 RAY *N. C. Words* 31 A pair of gloves or shooes are not marrows, i. e. fellows. 1681 COLVIL *Whigs Supplic.* (1751) 18 Some had bows, but wanted arrows; Some had pistols without marrows. 1737 RAMSAY *Sc. Prov.* (1797) 101 Your een's no marrows. 1787 J. BEATTIE *Scoticisms* 16 My buckles are not marrows. 1855 ROBINSON *Whitby Gloss., Marrows*, pairs to match; fellows or equals. 1889 BARRIE *Thrums* xv. 138 Wearin' a pair o' boots 'at wisna marrows!

Ma·rrow, *a. Obs.* exc. *dial.* [From the appositive use of MARROW *sb.*[2]] Resembling something of the same kind.

1585 *Inv. R. Wardr.* (1815) 320, I ressavit of the marrow garnissing of thir fourtene pece thre chattonis, quhilk makis xvii in the haill. 1861 E. WAUGH *Birtle Carter's T.* 21 Aw never sprad my e'en upo' th' marrow trick to this!

Marrow (mæ·roʊ), *v. Sc.* and *north.* [f. MARROW *sb.*[2]]

†**1.** *trans.* To join, associate; to match, pair. Also *refl. Obs.*

1488 *Burgh Recs. Edinb.* (1869) I. 55 Sic a burges bot na vther persoun marrow him with ane maister of substance [etc.]. 1542 *Sc. Acts Mary* (1814) II. 414/2 Ane to be put and marrowit to þaim by my lord gouernour at his plesoure. 1823 GALT *Entail* I. xvii. 132 Charlie Walkinshaw and Bell Fatherlans were a couple marrowed by their Maker.

b. *intr.* To be a partner or fellow-worker (*with*).

1538 *Aberdeen Reg.* XVI. (Jam.), To marrow and nychtbour with wtheris. 1842 J. AITON *Domestic Econ.* (1857) 152 Saunders Heavyside, with whom he marrows. 1844 THOM *Rhymes* 53 Hae ye fansely strayed 'mang misty groves, Wi' ice-wreathed maidens to marrow. 1851 A. MACLAGAN *Poems* 280 He's wise wha marrows wi' content, Though in a rustic biel'.

2. *trans.* To be a companion to; to marry.

1721 RAMSAY *Mary Scot* i, Did you there see me mark'd to marrow Mary Scot the flow'r of Yarrow? 17.. *Song by a Buchan Ploughman* in *Burns' Wks.* (1800) II. 152 Thou shalt not sit single, but by a clear ingle I'll marrow thee, Nancy, when thou art my ain.

3. To resemble, to be equal to; also, to produce something equal to; to match.

a 1586 MONTGOMERIE *Misc. Poems* I. 38 Venus .. Wald have preferrit this paragon, As marrowit, but matche, most meit The goldin ball to bruik alone. 1785 W. HUTTON *Bran New Wark* I. 14 (E. D. S.) On the sabbath we say aur prayers, and the rest of the week ya day marrows another. 1877 P. BURN *Poems* (1885) 294 A beild I hae that marrows thy ain.

Marrowbone (mæ·roʊbǒən). [f. MARROW *sb.*[1]]

1. A bone containing edible marrow.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 380 A Cook they hadde with hem for the nones, To boille the chiknes with the Marybones. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 5 Take beeff and merybonys, and boyle yt in fayre water. 1555 W. WATREMAN *Fardle Facions* II. vii. 158 The bridegrome eateth to his supper .. a litle of the maribone of a Chamel. 1632 T. MORTON *New Eng. Canaan* II. vii. (1838) 59 For daintinesse of diet they [Basse] excell the Marybones of Beefe. 1768–74 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 655 There is no more reason..why the sight of a human skull and bones in a charnel-house should shock us more than the sight of a calve's head or a pair of marrow-bones in a dish. 1846 G. WARBURTON *Hochelaga* I. 155 The wretch sucked a couple more marrow bones, and became torpid.

b. *fig.* in various applications.

1554 LATIMER *Wks.* (Parker Soc.) II. 483 Ye said upon Saturday last, that ye could not find the mass nor the marrow-bones thereof in your book. 1634 S. R. *Noble Soldier* I. ii. in Bullen *O. Pl.* (1882) I. 268 What I knocke out now is the very Maribone of mirth. 1681 W. ROBERTSON *Phraseol. Gen.* (1693) 471 This is the marrow bone of the difference or matter. 1878 *N. Amer. Rev.* CXXVII. 13 The scraps and marrow-bones of office.

2. *Marrowbones and cleavers*: see CLEAVER[1] 2 b.

3. *pl.* Jocularly: The knees. (Rarely *sing.*)

1532 MORE *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 727/2 Down he fel vpon his maribones. 1667 DRYDEN & DR. NEWCASTLE *Sir M. Mar-all* II. ii, Down on your marrowbones, and confess the truth. 1791 WOLCOT (P. Pindar) *Remonstrance* i, Bring on his marrowbones th' apostate down. 1870 KINGSLEY *Legend La Brea* 95 Magic brings some positivists Humbly on their marrowbone. 1888 G. MACDONALD *Elect Lady* 108, I only want to bring them to their marrow-bones.

b. *To ride in the marrow-bone coach* or *stage*, to go on foot. [? With allusion to *Marybone* = *Marylebone.*]

1838 *Monthly Mag.* (Flügel), Marrow-bone stage.

4. *pl.* = CROSS-BONES.

1832 SCOTT *Redgauntlet* ch. xiv. [xv.], I..sailed under the black flag and marrow-bones. 1875 W. MCILWRAITH *Guide Wigtownshire* 40 Here are the typical marrow-bones, skull, and sandglass.

5. *pl.* (*slang*). Fists as weapons; ? pugilists.

a 1625 FLETCHER *Noble Gent.* III. i. (1st fol.) 35/1 The great Band Of Maribones that people call the Switzers. 1812 *Sporting Mag.* XL. 249 He was alike a stranger to fear in the field of either bayonets or marrowbones. 1818 *Ibid.* N. S. II. 165 The distance of twenty-four miles from Lunnun rather damped the ardour of the Marrow-bone fraternity.

†**6.** A child's game. *Obs.*

1532 MORE *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 574/2 Suche..playes..as chyldren be woont to playe, as cheristone, mary bone [etc.].

7. *attrib.*, as †*marrowbone-man* (? sense 2 ? or 5), *music, pie, pudding* (cf. *marrow pie, pudding*).

1614 B. JONSON *Barth. Fair* I. i, None but a scatterd couey of Fidlers, or one of these Rag-rakers in dung-hills, or some *Marrow-bone man at most, would haue beene vp, when thou wert gone abroad. 1884 *Graphic* 13 Sept. 270/3 Making the most unearthly '*marrow-bone' music on frying pans, tin kettles and empty pails. 1595 W. W. *Menæcmi* I. ii. in *Six Old Plays* (1779) 118 Some oysters, a *mary-bone pie or two, some artichockes, and potato rootes. 1608 MIDDLETON *Mad World* I. ii. B 1 b, All her wanton Pamphlets, as Hero and Leander, Venus and Adonis, oh two lushious mary-bone pies for a yong married wife. 1623 WEBSTER *Deuils Law-case* I. ii. B 4 b, Let none of these come at her .. Nor the woman with *Maribone puddings.

Marrowed (mæ·roʊd), *ppl. a.* Also 4 merghed, meryhed. [f. MARROW *sb.*[1] + -ED[2].]

1. Full of marrow. *lit.* and *fig.*

a 1300 *E. E. Psalter* lxv[i]. 15 Offrandes merghed [Vulg. *holocausta medullata*] bede I sal To þe. *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* ibid. 1612 AINSWORTH *Annot. Ps.* lxvi. 15 Marrowed rammes: that is, fat and lusty. 1644 QUARLES *Barnabas & B.* I. (1651) 19 They can .. devour and gurmundize .. and wipe the guilt from off their marrowed mouths. 1654 GATAKER *Disc. Apol.* 84 Some called Separatists..are better marowed, and more Evangelical, then these Pulpit *Ignes-fatui*. 1840 BROWNING *Sordello* V. 500 He was fresh-sinewed every joint, Each bone new-marrowed.

†**2.** Cooked in marrow. *Obs.*

1633 MASSINGER *Guardian* II. iii, Fride Frogs, Potato's Marrow'd, Cavear [etc.].

Marrowfat (mæ·roʊfæt). [f. MARROW *sb.*[1] + FAT *sb.*] (More fully *marrowfat pea.*) A kind of large rich pea. (Cf. *marrow pea*, MARROW *sb.*[1] 5.)

1733 MILLER *Gard. Dict.* (ed. 2) s.v. *Pisum*, The Marrow-fat or Dutch Admiral Pea. *Ibid.*, Observing to allow the Marrow-fats .. at least three Feet between Row and Row. 1766 *Complete Farmer* s.v. *Pease*, The marrowfat is the best tasted of all the large kinds of peas. 1840 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. I. *Tragedy*, The Duchess shed tears large as marrow-fat peas. 1864 *Reader* 13 Aug. 191 In Jersey.. peas attain nearly double the size of the British marrow-fat.

Marrowish (mæ·roʊiʃ), *a.* [f. MARROW *sb.*[1] + -ISH.] Of the nature of, or resembling, marrow.

1597 LOWE *Chirurg.* (1634) 143 The nerue which is soft, and marrowish. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* I. i. II. iv, The Braine, which is a soft marrowish and white substance.

Marrowless (mæ·roʊlĕs), *a.*[1] [f. MARROW *sb.*[1] + -LESS.] Having no marrow. *lit.* and *fig.*

1605 SHAKS. *Macb.* III. iv. 94 Thy bones are marrowlesse, thy blood is cold. 1607 TOURNEUR *Rev. Trag.* I. i, O, that marrow-lesse age Should stuffe the hollow Bones with dambd desires. 1707 tr. *Wks. C'tess D'Anois* (1715) 451 Break off this ungodly Match between this Marrowless Curmudgeon and your young Daughter. *a* 1823 G. BEATTIE *John o' Arnha'* (1826) 58 They .. lent each other ruthless paiks Athort the bare and merghless spaiks. 1877 ROSENTHAL *Muscles & Nerves* 104 These marrowless fibres are grey.

Ma·rrowless, *a.*[2] *dial.* [f. MARROW *sb.*[2] + -LESS.] Without a 'marrow'; companionless; unmarried; unequalled, unmatched; not matching, wanting the other member of the pair, 'odd'.

1637 RUTHERFORD *Lett.* (1862) I. 433 My matchless, and my most marrowless and marvellous Wellbeloved. 1660 DICKSON *Sel. Writ.* (1845) I. 58 Know thou art not marrowless in thy exercise. 1844 CROSS *Disruption* xxiii. (E. D. D.), A marrowless glove.

†**Ma·rrowship.** *Sc. Obs.* [f. MARROW *sb.*[2] + -SHIP.] Association, companionship.

15.. *Aberd. Reg.* (Jam.), Thinocht falt of marrowschip or insufficient nychtbourschip.

Marrowy (mæ·roʊi), *a.* Also 4 merewi, 5 marghty, 6 marowy, 8 *Sc.* merchy. [f. MARROW *sb.*[1] + -Y[1].]

1. Full of marrow. Also *fig.*

1382 WYCLIF *Isa.* xxxiv. 6 The blod of merewi wetheres [Vulg. *medullatorum arietum*]. 1435 MISYN *Fire of Love* 75 A marghty offeryngе [L. *holocausta medullata*; cf. MARROWED 1, *a* 1300]. 1709 BRUCE *Soul Confirm.* 18 (Jam.) The Lord is reserving a merchy piece of the word of his promise to be made out to many of his friends and people. 1820 HAZLITT *Lect. Dram. Lit.* 79 In his *Women beware Women* there is a rich marrowy vein of internal sentiment. 1882 HOLMES in *Atlantic Monthly* LI. 66 The period .. of marrowy and vigorous manhood.

2. Of the nature of marrow.

1541 R. COPLAND *Guydon's Quest. Chirurg.* C ij b, It is colde and moyste, bycause it hath a marowy substaunce. 1662 J. CHANDLER *Van Helmont's Oriat.* 185 The Brain being wholly a marrowie part. 1764 GRAINGER *Sugar Cane* I. 45 *note*, When ripe, the skin peels easily off, and discovers a butyraceous, or rather a marrowy-like substance. 1872 J. G. MURPHY *Comm. Lev.* iii. 9 The tail of the broad-tailed sheep..consists almost wholly of marrowy fat.

Hence †**Ma·rrowiness** (in 8 Sc. *merchiness*).

1709 BRUCE *Soul Confirm.* 18 (Jam.) The Israelites had never known the merchiness of that promise, if a Red Sea had not made it out.

†**Marru·be.** *Obs.* Also 4 in Latin form marrubium, 5 marube. [ad. L. *marrubium*, perh. connected with the name of the Latin city *Marrubium* or *Marruvium*. Cf. OF. *marubre.*] The plant horehound, *Marrubium vulgare.*

1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 130 The Saphir is his propre Ston, Marrubium his herbe also. *a* 1400–50 *Stockh. Med. MS.* 205 Marube or horrowne: *marubina*. 1607 TOPSELL *Fourf. Beasts* (1658) 69 The fat of a Calf and Marrube with the juyce of Leeks.

Marrubiin (mærū·biin). *Chem.* [f. L. *marrubi-um* (see prec.) + -IN. Cf. F. *marubine.*] A bitter principle obtained from *Marrubium vulgare.*

1871 WATTS tr. *Gmelin's Handbk. Chem.* XVIII. 234 Marrubiin. The bitter principle of *Marrubium vulgare.*

Marrum, variant of MARRAM.

Marry (mæ·ri), *v.* Inflected marrying, married. Forms: 3–4 (6 *Sc.*) mari, 3–7 marie, 4 mari3e(n, 4–5 marie(n, 4–6 marye, 4–8 mary, 5 marye(n, (maryyn), 6 mareye, marrye, (mariy), 6–7 marrie, 6– marry. [a. F. *marier* = Pr., Sp., Pg. *maridar*, It. *maritare*:—L. *marītāre*, f. *marītus* ppl. adj., married (also as sb. masc., husband, whence F. *mari*, Pr. *marit-z*, Sp., Pg. *marido*, It. *marito*; and as sb. fem. *marīta* married woman), f. *mari-* (nom. *mās*) man, male; the L. ppl. a. must have been originally used of women, and acquired its wider sense by a later extension.]

I. *trans.*

1. To join in wedlock or matrimony; to join for life as husband and wife; to constitute as man and wife according to the laws and customs of a nation. Const. *to* (*unto*, Sc. *on*, *upon*); also *together.*

a. in *passive* (with ref. either to the act and ceremony, or to the wedded state as a result).

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 709 Þe fader..bad ire vnderstonde To 3wan sse wolde imaried be. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 815 His two dere dozterez..Þat wer maydenez ful meke, maryed not 3et. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xli. (*Agnes*) 102 Þane agnes sad hym schortly: 'certis, gud sir, maryt ame I'. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) xviii. 193 3if a man, that is maryed, dye in that Contrie, men buryen his Wif with him alle quyk. 1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* I. (S. T. S.) 100 3oung tullia, .. was maryit on Aruns terquyne. 1536 — *Cron. Scot.* (1821) I. 127 The eldest of hir dochteris wes married upon..Marius. 1536 WRIOTHESLEY *Chron.* (1875) I. 43 The King was maried secreetlie at Chelsey..to one Jane Seymor. 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* IV. iii. 183 They would .. haue married me to the rotten Medlar. 1722 DE FOE *Relig. Courtsh.* I. i. (1840) 4 Well, girls, you little think now, which of you all is like to be first married. 1888 HOWELLS *Annie Kilburn* xi. 133, I presume she isn't very happily married; he's too old.

b. Said of the priest or other functionary who performs the rite. Also *absol.*

1530 PALSGR. 633/1 What preest was it that maryed them togyther: *quel prestre fut ce qui les marya ensemble?* 1559 in Strype *Ann. Ref.* (1709) I. xiv. 183 As to minister the Holy Communion to them that shall be thereto disposed, as to mary and baptize. 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* IV. i. 125 Come sister, you shall be the Priest, and marrie vs. 1714 GAY *What d'ye Call it* II. viii, Tell him .. that he [the Curate] shall marry the Couple himself. 1891 *Century Mag.* Nov. 64 He asked if I could marry people.

c. *Marry up*: to tie up or preoccupy in matrimony. *colloq.*

1822 J. FLINT *Lett. Amer.* 225, I believe that the girls there are all married up. 1857 KINGSLEY *Two Y. Ago* II. 8 Married up, when a girl, to a man for whom she did not care. 1865 — *Herew.* xvi, I would have married her up to my poor boy, if he had but lived. 1865 MRS. CARLYLE *Lett.* III. 274 My only fear about her is that she will be married-up away from me.

2. To give in marriage, cause to be married. Said esp. of a parent or guardian.

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 700 Ich þe wole marie [*v. rr.* marizen, marien] wel .. To þe nobloste bacheler þat þin herte wile to stonde. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 2338 In þys tyme..He mariede þe oþere doughtres boþe. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Clerk's T.* 1074 And richely his doghter maryed he Vn-to a lord, *c* 1400 Maundev. (1839) v. 35 He wolde have maryed me fulle highely, to a gret Princes Daughtre, 3if I wold han forsaken my Lawe and my Beleve. *a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* 18 She knew welle that folke were aboute to marie us togedre. 1526 Tindale *Matt.* xxii. 2 The kyngdome of heven is lyke unto a certayne kinge, which maryed his sonne. 1598 Shaks. *Merry W.* III. iv. 87 Good mother, do not marry me to yond foole. *a* 1633 G. Herbert *Jacula Prudentum* 149 Marry your sonne when you will; your daughter when you can. *c* 1710 Celia Fiennes *Diary* (1888) 141 Ye Earle having just marry'd his Eldest daughter..there was Company to wishe her joy. 1861 M. Pattison *Ess.* (1889) I. 33 The same influence led him..to marry his daughter to Henry the Lion. 1894 Baring-Gould *Deserts S. France* II. 248 Napoleon married him .. to his youngest sister.

3. Said of either of the contracting parties: To take in marriage; to accept as husband or wife.

Now the most familiar use.

1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) III. 439 He [Alexander] .. suffrede his knyȝhtes and men to mary [1387 Trevisa wedde] women whom he had taken in captivite. 1456 Sir G. Have *Law Armes* (S. T. S.) 40 [He] had maryte king Latynis sister. 1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* (1592) 228 That vsuall Prouerbe: Marrie a wife of thine owne degree. 1611 Bible *Mal.* ii. 11 Iudah .. hath maried the daughter of a strange God. 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 94 ₱8 He married a Woman of great Beauty and Fortune. 1830 Tennyson *Mermaid* 46 The king of them all would carry me, Woo me, and win me, and marry me. 1888 F. Hume *Mme. Midas* I. i, He had added to his crime by marrying a pretty girl.

†4. *refl.* and *reciprocal. Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 10698 Here-of in consail suld þai spek, And depeli .. þai suld lok hu Sco moght hir mari and hald hir vou. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl.* C. xi. 281 Maydenes and maydenes marieþ ȝow to-gederes. *c* 1412 Hoccleve *De Reg. Princ.* 1632 Þey þat marien hem for muk & good Only, & noght for loue of þe persone. 1535 Coverdale *Wisd.* viii. 2, I dyd my diligence to mary my self with her, soch loue had I vnto hir beutye. 1621 Lady M. Wroth *Urania* 454 The young Princesse soone after tooke her minde and former resolution, marrying her selfe with her chosen loue. 1697 Potter *Antiq. Greece* (1715) I. i. xxvi. 170 No Athenian Woman shall marry herself to an exotick Family. *a* 1774 Goldsm. *Song Intended for 'Stoops to Conq.'*, Ah me! when shall I marry me? Lovers are plenty; but fail to relieve me. 1818 Scott *'Proud Maisie'*, Tell me, thou bonny bird, When shall I marry me?

5. *transf.* and *fig.* To unite intimately, join closely or permanently.

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 293 b, This conformyte of loue maryeth the soule to god. 1576 Fleming tr. *Caius' Dogs* in Arb. *Garner* III. 261 The natures of men are so moved, nay rather married to novelties. 1610 B. Jonson *Alch.* II. iii, *Sub.* Are you sure, you loos'd 'hem, I' their owne menstrue? *Fac.* Yes, sir, and then married 'hem. 1632 Milton *L'Allegro* 137 Lap me in soft Lydian Aires, Married to immortal verse. 1649 Ogilby *Virg. Georg.* I. *init.*, In what Cœlestial Signs 'Tis good to Plow, and marry Elms with Vines. 1673 Grew *Acc. Veget. Roots* § 30 It is then the Oyl, chiefly, by which these Vessels are Tough: for being of a tenacious Nature, by taking hold of other Principles, it marries them together. 1693 Evelyn *De la Quint. Compl. Gard.* II. 115 They must be joyn'd together neatly, plaining and proportioning the Extremities that are to be Marry'd together exactly. 1796 Burke *Let. Noble Ld.* Wks. 1842 II. 273 Revolutions which consolidated and married the liberties and the interests of the two nations for ever. 1835 Thirlwall *Greece* I. 360 The unequal lines of the couplets to which he married his fiery thoughts. 1890 Saintsbury *Hist. Elizab. Lit.* ix. 342 This hybrid and bizarre vocabulary is .. admirably married to the substance of the writing.

b. *Naut.* To fasten (two ropes) end to end, in such a way that the joining may not prevent their being drawn through a block. (See also 1867.)

1815 *Falconer's Dict. Marine* (ed. Burney), To *Marry*, in splicing ropes, is to join one rope to another, for the purpose of reeving it, which is performed by placing the end of each close together, and then attaching them by worming. *Ibid.*, To *Marry* two Ropes, is to knot the yarns together in a kind of splice, so as not to be thicker at the juncture than at any other part. *c* 1860 H. Stuart *Seaman's Catech.* 29 Marry both ends together. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk., To Marry the Ropes, Braces, or Falls*, to hold both together, and by pressure haul in both equally. Also so to join the ends of two ropes that they will pass through a block.

c. In certain card games. Of the king or queen, *To be married*: to be declared as held in the same hand with the queen or king of the same suit. Cf. Marriage 7.

1870 'Cavendish' *Game of Bezique* 20 The bézique queen .. having been once married..cannot be married again.

II. 6. *intr.* a. To enter into the conjugal or matrimonial state; to wed, contract matrimony; to take a husband or wife. Const. *with* (formerly very common); occas. *to*, also (*Sc.*) *upon*.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 10653 Þan did þe hiscop command þar, þat all þe maidens..Be send all to þair frendes dere, For to mari and forto spus. *c* 1511 *1st Eng. Bk. Amer.* (Arb.) Introd. 31/2 They mareye but ones in theyr lyfe. 1526 Tindale 1 *Cor.* vii. 39 Yf her husbande slepe, she is at her liberte to mary with whom she woll, only in the lorde. 1530 — *Answ. More* III. xiii. Wks. (1573) 313/2 For, when the husband is dead, the wife is free to mary to whom she will. 1590 Greene *Never too late* I. (1600) C 3, Such as marry but to a faire face tie themselues oft to a foule bargaine. 1602 Shaks. *Ham.* III. iv. 29. 1614 Day *Festivals* (1615) 282 Marrying in hast, and Repenting at leisure. 1639 Drumm. of Hawth. *Consid. to Parlt.* Wks. (1711) 187 That the church-race marry only among themselves, ministers sons upon ministers daughters. 1662 Stillingfl. *Orig. Sacræ* II. ii. § 9 Especially when he..married into that branch of the family that was remaining there. 1755 J. Sherbeare *Lydia* (1769) I. 319 Beseeching him .. never to permit his daughter to marry with any man beneath noble. 1819 Byron *Juan* I. lvii, She married .. With an Hidalgo. 1845 *Punch's Almanack* Jan., Advice to persons about to marry.—Don't. 1849 Thackeray *Pendennis* viii, Gentlemen..occasionally marry out of their kitchens.

†b. To contract a matrimonial alliance *with*. *Obs.*

1476–7 *Paston Lett.* III. 168 My husbonde..wold that ȝe schuld go un to my maistresse yowr modur, and asaye if ȝe myght gete the hole xx *li.* in ȝowr handes, and then he wolde be more gladd to marye with ȝowe, and will gyffe ȝowe an C *li.*

c. *transf.* and *fig.* To enter into intimate union; to join, so as to form one.

1508 Kennedie *Flyting w. Dunbar* 296 Syne merreit with the Diuill for dignite. 1654 Whitlock *Zootomia* 138 And since he first divorced knowledge and practice in our first Parents, he is loath they should ever marry againe. 1850 Tennyson *In Mem.* lxxxv, First love, first friendship, equal powers, That marry with the virgin heart. 1855 — *Brook* 81, I .. crost By that old bridge..where the waters marry.

Marry (mæ·ri), *int. Obs.* exc. *arch.* or *dial.* Forms: 4–6 **marie**, 4–7 **mary**, 5–7 **marye**, 6 **marrye**, 6–7 **marrie**, (9 *dial.* **marrey**), 5– **marry**. [Originally, the name of the Virgin Mary used as an oath or an ejaculatory invocation. In the 16th c., when *marry* had prob. ceased to be commonly apprehended as anything more than a mere interjection, the sound of the oath *By Mary Gipcy* (i.e. 'By St. Mary of Egypt') seems to have suggested the addition to it of the interjections Gip, Gup; and, as these were commonly used in driving horses, the equivalent *come up* (Come *v.* 69 k) was afterwards substituted.] An exclamation of asseveration, surprise, indignation, etc.

a. Simply. (Often used in answering a question, and implying surprise that it should be asked: = 'why, to be sure'.)

c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 4840 'Marie, sire', sede þe messageres 'ȝe mowe vs wel trowe, þe milde mayde meliors in palerne now dwelles. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Can. Yeom. Prol. & T.* 509 Ye sire, and wol ye so? Marie ther-of I pray yow hertely! *c* 1450 *Dial. Husb. & Gent.* in Roy *Rede me* (Arb.) 136 *Husbondman.* Howe dyd they youre auncesteres compell? *Gentilman.* Mary in threatnynge the paynes of hell. 1550 Lever *Serm.* (Arb.) 128 Yea marrye, why should we not kepe oure corne in oure owne barnes? 1552 Latimer *Serm.* (1584) 227 b, What is that? Marry fayth: and beliefe. 1598 Shaks. *Merry W.* I. i. 170, I will say marry trap with you [?='be off with you'], if you runne the nut-hooks humor on me. 1605 Willet *Hexapla Gen.* 405 Many suddenlie will say (marye) hauing no intent to sweare. 1693 Congreve *Old Bach.* I. iv, Marry, quotha! I hope, in heaven, I have a greater portion of grace. 1766 Goldsm. *Vic. W.* xii, Marry, hang the idiot..to bring me such stuff. 1816 Scott *Antiq.* xxxv, Marry, my lord, the *phoca* had the better. 1855 Robinson *Whitby Gloss.* s.v., One person says, 'It is coming on rain,' the other will add, 'Ay Marrey! it is, sure enough'.

†b. with asseverative words: *marry* (*a*) *God, marry* (*and*) *amen.* Also *marry of God, God's marry, marry a me, marry of me* (all in *Look about you*, 1600). *Obs.*

c 1574–5 G. Harvey *Story M. Harvey* Wks. (Grosart) III. 94 By ye Marie-god. 1592 Shaks. *Rom. & Jul.* IV. v. 8 God forgiue me: Marrie and Amen: how sound is she a sleepe? 1600 *Look about you* E 3 b, Mary a god my wife would chide me dead. 1601 Shaks. *Twel. N.* IV. ii. 109 God buy you good sir Topas: Marry Amen. I will sir, I will. 1606 Heywood *2nd Pt. Know not me* Wks. 1874 I. 267 Shake hands; by the marry-god, Sir Thomas, what else? 1695 Congreve *Love for L.* III. i, Miss! miss! miss Prue!—mercy on me, marry and amen!—Why, what's become of the child?

c. with interjection or exclamatory phrase: *marry gip, marry* (*and*) *gup* (*gap, gep, guep*, in Scott erron. *quep*): see Gip, Gup, Quep *ints.* Also *marry faugh, marry-go-look* (in quot. used as sb.).

[1523 Skelton *Garl. Laurel* 1455 Thynke what ye wyll Of this wanton byll; By Mary Gipcy, *Quod scripsi, scripsi.*] 1590 Greene *Never too late* II. (1600) K 3 Marry gep giglet, thy loue sits on thy tongs end. 1592 Lyly *Midas* v. ii, Melancholy? marie gup, is melancholy a word for a harbars mouth? 1598 E. Guilpin *Skial.* (1878) 44 Mary and gup! haue I then lost my cap? 1600 Dekker *Shoemaker's Hol.* ii. (1862) 12, I .. looked at him, he at me, indeed spake to him, but he to me not a word, Marry gip, thought I, with a wanion! He past by me as proud—Marry foh! are you grown humorous, thought I? 1601 Munday *Downfall Earl Huntington* I. i. (1828) 15 He thinketh all lost In tumbling of books Of marry go looks. 1604 Dekker *Honest Wh.* vi. D, Marry fah, hang-em. 1605 Chapman etc. *Eastw. Hoe* I. i, *Quick.* Mary fough goodman flat-cap. 1607 Heywood *Fayre Mayde Exch.* Wks. 1874 II. 43 Mary gip Minx. 1621 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Taylors Motto* Wks. (1630) II. 44/1 Marry gep With a horse night-cap doth your ladeship skip? 1631 *Celestina* xviii. 179 Imbrace him? Mary gup with a murraine! I had rather see him under the power and rigour of the law. 1663 Butler *Hud.* I. iii. 202, I thought th' hadst scorn'd to budge a step, For fear. (Quoth Echo) Marry guep. Am not I here to take thy part? 1676 Wycherley *Pl. Dealer* III. i, Marry-gep! if it had not been for me, thou hadst been yet but a hearing-counsel at the bar. 1699 'Misaurus' *Honour of Gout* (1720) 34 Marry Gap, quoth she.

d. *Marry come up*: used to express indignant or amused surprise or contempt: = 'hoity-toity'.

1592 Shaks. *Rom. & Jul.* II. v. 64 Marrie come vp I trow, Is this the Poultis for my aking bones? 1608 — *Per.* IV. vi. 159. 1642 J. Eaton *Honey-c. Free Justif.* 14 Taunting and reproachfull termes, as, *Marry come up.* 1663 Cowley *Cutter of Coleman St.* Wks. 1710 II. 804 Marry come up; won't one of my chusing serve your turn as well as one of your own. 1742 Fielding *J. Andrews* IV. i, Slipslop..departed tossing her Nose, and crying, 'Marry come up! there are some People more jealous than I, I believe'. — *Tom Jones* x. iv, Her tongue .. muttered many 'marry-come-ups'.. with other such indignant phrases. 1862 Borrow *Wild Wales* I. xxiv. 276 Unworthy? marry come up! I won't hear such an expression.

Marry, Marryce, obs. ff. Marrow *sb.*[1], Marish.

Marry-gold, obs. form of Marigold.

Marrying (mæ·ri,iŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. Marry *v.* + -ing [1].] The action of the verb Marry.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 10657 Bot maria wald na mariing, Bot maiden liue til hir ending. 1549 Sir T. Hoby *Trav.* (1902) 17 Venice .. they have a wonderous great ceremonie abowt the marying of the see. 1579 E. K. *Gloss. Spenser's Sheph. Cal.* Mar. 97 He was busie aboute the marying of *Polyxena.* 1667 Milton *P. L.* xi. 716 All now was turn'd to jollitie .. Marrying or prostituting, as befell. 1891 *Athenæum* 17 Jan. 86/3 There is plenty of love and some marrying.

b. *attrib.* as in *marrying age, day*; †**marrying ring**, a wedding-ring.

1504 in *Bury Wills* (Camden) 98 Item I bequeth to our Lady of Walsyngh^am^ .. my maryeng ryng. 1546 J. Heywood *Prov.* (1867) 15 Sens our one mariyng or marryng daie. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VIII.* 240 b, Aboute her mariyng ryng was written: God sende me wel to kepe. 1869 Tozer *Highl. Turkey* II. 120 Daughters..when they reach nineteen..are looked upon as almost past the marrying age.

Marrying (mæ·ri,iŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. Marry *v.* + -ing [2].] a. Inclined or likely to marry. b. That performs the marriage ceremony.

1778 Miss Burney *Evelina* lxxv, I think Miss Anville the loveliest of her sex; and, were I a *marrying man*, she, of all the women I have seen, I would fix upon for a wife. 1855 Dickens *Dorrit* II. xv, She had not thought Edmund a marrying man. 1861 Thackeray *Four Georges* i, Duke George, the marrying duke. 1891 E. Kinglake *Australian at H.* 62 If a minister knowingly marries a minor without consent of guardians he is liable to a fine of £300. .. These marrying gentry are not much given to inquiring into the circumstances under which their clients come to them.

†**Marry-muff,** *sb.* and *int. Obs.* Also 7 **mary-, maramuffe.**

A. *sb.* Some kind of cheap textile fabric; a garment made of this.

1604 *Meeting of Gallants* B 2 b, He that would haue braude it .. might haue made a Sute of Sattin cheaper in the Plague-time, then a Sute of Marry-muffe in the Tearme-time. 1604 Middleton *Ant & Night.* F 3, She drewe her white Bountifull hand out of her Mary-muffe, and quoited a single Halfe-peny. 1640 in Entick *London* (1766) II. 178 Piramides or Maramuffe, the piece, narrow, *1d.*

B. *int.* Used as a derisive exclamation. (Cf. Marry *int.*)

1602 Middleton *Blurt* II. ii, Wearied Sir? mary muffe. 1605 *Tryall Chevalr.* in Bullen *O. Pl.* (1884) III. 288 Mary muffe!..I scorne to humble the least part about me to give answere to such a trothing question. 1613 Withea *Abuses Stript* i, in *Juvenilia* (1633) 13 His Poetry is such as he can cull From Plaies..And yet his fine coy Mistresse, Mary-Muffe, The soonest taken with such broken stuffe.

Marryner, obs. form of Mariner.

Marrys, variant of Maris *Obs.*, womb.

Marrys(h, obs. forms of Marish.

Mars (mɑːz). Also 4–5 **Marez, Mares, Marce.** [a. L. *Mārs* (stem *Mart-*), app. a reduced form of the archaic *Māvors* (*Māvort-*). The Oscan name of the god, *Māmers* (*Māmert-*) is prob. cognate, at least so far as the first element is concerned.]

1. The Roman god of war; identified from an early period with the Greek Ares. Often, after Roman practice, used for: Warfare, warlike prowess, fortune in war.

Camp or *field of Mars, Mars' field*, the Campus Martius at Rome. *Mars' hill, hill of Mars*, the Areopagus at Athens.

c 1374 Chaucer *Compl. Mars* 75 (Harl.) Venus kyssith Mars [*Camb. MS.* Marcs] þe god of armes. 1387–8 T. Usk *Test. Love* I. vii. 11 (Skeat), I profered my body..that Mars shulde have juged the ende. *c* 1412 Hoccleve *De Reg. Princ.* 3905 Mars hab euer ben frend to ȝour worþi lyne. 1590 C'tess Pemaroke *Antonie* 1061 A man .. In Marses schole who neuer lesson learn'd. 1602 Shaks. *Ham.* III. iv. 57 An eye like Mars, to threaten or command. 1611 Bible *Acts* xvii. 22 Then Paul stood in the mids of Mars-hill. 1616 Holyday *Persius* Sat. v. (ed. 2) D 3, A third doth Mars-field wrastlings duely keepe [L. *Hic campo indulget*]. 1638 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* (ed. 2) 94 Bengala is a Province ..peopled with Mahometans and Idolaters, addict to Mars and Merchandize. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Son of Mars*, Soldier. 1715 Pope *Iliad* II. 139 Ye sons of Mars! partake your leaders care. 1785 Burns *Jolly Beggars*, I am a son of Mars, who have been in many wars.

b. *allusively.* A great warrior.

1569 Preston *Cambyses* 10 A manly Marsis heart he bare. 1593 Shaks. *Rich. II*, II. iii. 101 The Black Prince, that yong Mars of men. *c* 1630 Risdon *Surv. Devon* § 134 (1810) 149 This Mars vanquished the Arragonois.

2. *Astr.* The fourth planet in the order of distance from the sun, revolving in an orbit lying between that of the Earth and Jupiter.

The hill or *plain of Mars*: in Palmistry, the fleshy part of the thumb.

c 1385 Chaucer *L. G. W.* 2589 *Hypermn.*, A rede Mars was that tyme of the ȝere So feble that his maleyce is hym beraft. 1578 Banister *Hist. Man* IV. 62 b, That fleshy part of the thombe, which Palmesters do terme the hill of Mars. 1601 Shaks. *All's Well* I. i. 206 *Hel.* You were borne vnder

a charitable starre. *Par.* Vnder Mars I. 1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 15 Those who have Mars Lord in their Nativities, become either Souldiers or Trades-men. 1653 R. SANDERS *Physiogn.* 56 Wee allow to Mars all that space within the Triangle, which is made by the line of the Liver, that of the Head, and that of Saturn; and we call that place the Plain of Mars,..the strongest place of the Hand. 1855 TENNYSON *Maud* III. vi. 13 [She] pointed to Mars As he glow'd like a ruddy shield on the Lion's breast.

†b. *Old Chem.* The name of the metal iron. *Obs.*

Crystals, salt, or *vitriol of Mars*: green vitriol, (ferrous sulphate). *Extract of Mars*: 'a tincture of a salt of iron' (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1889). *Saffron of Mars, Mars' saffron*: = 'crocus of iron' (see CROCUS 3).

c 1386 CHAUCER *Can. Yeom. Prol. & T.* 274 Sol gold is,.. Mars Iren Mercurie quyk siluer we clepe. 1676 BOYLE *New Exper. Fluids* II. in *Phil. Trans.* XI. 807 A Mass of Regulus made of Antimony without Mars. 1678 SALMON *Lond. Disp.* 836/2 Filings of Steel are digested in Spirit of Vitriol, to make Vitriol of Mars. *Ibid.*, The Salt of Mars. 1727-41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Crocus, Crocus martis aperiens*, opening saffron of mars. 1758 [see JUPITER 2 h].

†c. *Her.* The name for the tincture red in blazoning by the names of the heavenly bodies. *Obs.*

1572 BOSSEWELL *Armorie* II. 67 The fielde is partie per Fesse, Saturne, and Mars.

d. = *Mars yellow*: see 3.

1899 B. W. WARHURST *Colour Dict.* 47 *Mars*, dull deep yellow, also an orange.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *Mars-adoring, -beloved, -daunting, -like* adjs.; **Mars colours**, as *Mars brown, red, violet, yellow*, pigments prepared from earths, and coloured with iron oxide; **†Mars-starred** *a.*, born under the planet Mars.

a 1649 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Poems* Wks. (1711) 39/1 A *Mars-adoring brood is here. 1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. ii. II. *Babylon* 688 *Mars-daunting Martialist. *Ibid.* II. i. II. *Imposture* 628 The valiant Heav'n-assisted sword Of *Mars-like Essex. 1894 *Athenæum* 5 May 584/2 Her *mars-red gown over a yellow petticoat. 1635 HEYWOOD *Hierarch.* VI. 395 The Scythians (souldiers not to be despis'd) A *Mars-starr'd people.

Mars, obs. form of MARCH *sb.*[1] (the month).

‖ **Marsala** (marsā·lă). Also **Marsalla.** [The name of a town on the west coast of Sicily.] (More fully *Marsala wine.*) A class of white wines resembling a light sherry, exported from Marsala.

1806 JEFFERSON in *Harper's Mag.* (1885) Mar. 541 Two Pipes Marsalla wine. 1848 THACKERAY *Bk. Snobs* XXV, I prefer sherry to marsala when I can get it.

Marscal, -schal, -schel, etc.: see MARSHAL.

Mars(e)banker, -bunker, var. ff. MOSSBUNKER.

‖ **Marseillais** (marseyę), *a.* (*sb.*) Also 7 **Marsillies**, 8 **Marsellois**, 9 **Marseillois** (anglicized **Marseillese**). [Fr., f. *Marseille* Marseilles: cf. -ESE.]

1. *adj.* Belonging or pertaining to Marseilles.

1686 tr. *Chardin's Trav. Persia* I. 7 [The Turks call Spanish money] Marsillies, by reason that the Merchants of Marseilles first brought it in great Quantities into Turkie. 1864 in WEBSTER; and in later Dicts.

2. *absol.* as *sb. pl.* a. Inhabitants of Marseilles.

1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* VI. iv, Those black-browed Marseillese marching, dusty, unwearied. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XIV. 446/2 The Marseillois appear to have been actively engaged in the Crusades.

b. *Hist.* The members of the Cordeliers Club in the French Revolution.

1795 tr. *Barruel's Hist. Clergy during Fr. Rev.* 211 [The section] of Cordeliers had taken the name of Marsellois.

‖ **Marseillaise** (marseyēz, marsĕlā·z). Also **Marseillois(e, Marseillais.** [Fr., fem. of prec.] (Also *Marseillaise hymn.*) The national song of the French Republic, written and composed by Rouget de l'Isle in 1792; so named from having been first sung in Paris by a band of 'patriots' from Marseilles.

1826 MOORE *Copy Intercep. Desp.* viii, If the Marseillois Hymn could command Such audience, though yell'd by a Sans-culotte crew. 1827 SCOTT *Napoleon* V. 66 Chenier, author of the hymn of the Marseilloise. [1831 CARLYLE *Sart. Res.* III. iii, Vour.. Marseillese Hymns, and Reigns of Terror.] 1842 BORROW *Bible in Spain* vii, The drunkard then commenced singing, or rather yelling, the Marseillaise hymn. 1848 [see LABIAL *a.* A. 1].

b. *Comb.* **Marseillaise-wise** *adv.*, in the manner customary when singing the Marseillaise.

1870 DICKENS *E. Drood* ii, As the boy..lays a hand on Jasper's shoulder, Jasper cordially and gaily lays a hand on *his* shoulder, and so Marseillaise-wise they go in to dinner.

Marseilles (marsē·lz). Also 8 **Marsailles.** [The Eng. name of a seaport (in Fr. *Marseille*) in southern France; used *attrib.* and *ellipt.*]

1. A stiff cotton fabric, similar to piqué. Also *Marseilles quilting.*

1762 BICKERSTAFFE *Love in Village* III. iv. (1765) 60 Four counterpanes in Marsailles quilting. 1824 MISS MITFORD *Village* Ser. I. 223 Her exterior garment was always quilted, varying..from simple stuff, or fine white dimity, or an obsolete manufacture called Marseilles, up to silk and satin. 1893 GEORGIANA HILL *Hist. Eng. Dress* II. 234 White waistcoats of Marseilles quilting were generally worn.

2. **Marseilles hartwort**, French hartwort, *Seseli tortuosum* (formerly *massiliense*). **Marseilles vinegar**, *Acetum prophylacticum* or thieves' vinegar.

1822 PARIS *Pharmacologia* (ed. 5) II. 15 *note*, Thieves Vinegar, or Marseilles Vinegar. 1856 in MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*

Marsella: see MARCELLA.

Marsement, obs. variant of MERCEMENT.

Marsh (māɹʃ). Forms: *α.* 1 merse, mærse, merisc, 3 mersche, 3-6 mershe, 4 merss, 4, (7) mersh, 5 mersch, merche, merssh(e; *β.* 6 mars(s)he, marche, 7-9 *dial.* march, 9 *dial.* mash, 5- marsh. [OE. *mersc, mersc* masc. = M.Du. *mersch* (*e* masc., fem., MLG. *mersch, marsch, masch* fem., neut., whence G. *marsch* fem., Da. *marsk* neut.; repr. W.Ger. **marisk-* (whence med.L. *mariscus* and its Rom. forms: see MARISH *sb.*) f. OTeut. **mari-* sea, lake, MERE *sb.*: see -ISH.]

I. 1. A tract of low lying land, flooded in winter and usually more or less watery throughout the year.

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) C 140 *Calmetum*, mersc. 971 *Blickl. Gloss.* 261/1 On sealtne mersc, *in salsilaginem. a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 304 Wenestu that haveck bo the worse, Thoȝ crowe bi-grede him bi the mershe? 1382 WYCLIF *Gen.* xli. 18 Seuen oxen..the which in the pasture of mershe [1388 marreis] the grene leswis cheseden. *c* 1475 *Pict. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 796/17 *Hoc maresecum*, a merche. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. xviii, There were meruaylouse great marshes and daungerous passages. 1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III*, v. iii. 345 My Lord, the Enemy is past the Marsh. 1673 TEMPLE *Obs. United Prov.* Wks. 1731 I. 8 By..the Course of Waters from the higher into lower Grounds..the flat Land grows to be a Mixture of Earth and Water,.. which is call'd a Marsh. 1770 N. NICHOLLS in *Corr. w. Gray* (1843) 118 The marshes which I see from my bed-chamber window are become an ocean. 1835 THIRLWALL *Greece* I. I. 11 The lake is little more than a marsh, containing some deep pools. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 490 Like ants or frogs about a marsh.

II. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

2. a. Simple attrib. sometimes passing into adj. (cf. MARISH): Consisting of a marsh or marshes; existing, found, or constructed in marshes; arising from or caused by marshes or their exhalations.

II.., etc. [see MARSHLAND]. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Sompn. T.* (Ellesm. MS.) Ther is in yorkshire..A mersh [*other texts* mersshy] contree called Holdernesse. 1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 54 Peny grasse..groweth lowe by the erthe in a marsshe grounde. 1634 W. WOOD *New Eng. Prosp.* (1865) 44 On the other side of the River lieth all their Medow and Marsh-ground for Hay. 1726 LEONI *Alberti's Archit.* II. 110/1 Of all Marsh-water that is accounted the very worst which breeds horse-leeches. 1799 *Med. Jrnl.* II. 181 Not far dissimilar from marsh-miasmata. 1813 VANCOUVER *Agric. Devon* 302 Should the marsh-ouze be required for ploughed ground. *a* 1817 T. DWIGHT *Trav. New Eng.*, etc. (1821) I. 183 The substance which here so rapidly accumulates is what in this country is called marsh-mud; the material, of which its salt marshes are composed. 1852 WIGGINS *Embanking* 75 In Essex..the soil is particularly favourable, both to sustain embankments, and as a material for making them, and is called Marsh clay. 1869 E. A. PARKES *Pract. Hygiene* (ed. 3) 71 Villages placed under the same conditions as to marsh air.

b. Applied to persons, animals, and plants living in marshes.

1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 165 The same..driveth Gnats or marsh-flies out of a house. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 526 To take Marsh-Herbs, and Plant them upon Tops of Hills, and Champaignes. *a* 1861 WOOLNER *My Beautiful Lady* (1863) 109 Lone marsh-birds winged their misty flight. 1870 SWINBURNE *Ess. & Stud.* (1875) 326 A tuft of marsh-lilies midway on a steep and bare hill-side. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Miner's Right* (1899) 122/2 Dismal waterlogged flats, where only the marsh-frogs made chorus.

3. Objective, instrumental, locative, etc., as *marsh-dweller*; *marsh-dwelling, -girt, -like* adjs.

1891 J. A. OWEN etc. *Fishing Village* 287 The slow thinking and acting graziers and old *marsh dwellers. 1889 C. C. R. *Up for the Season* 259 Sad, *marsh-dwelling, porter-drinkers. 1889 DOYLE *Micah Clarke* 327 Its damp, *marsh-girt position. 1839 BAILEY *Festus* XIX. (1852) 219 Doth not nature—All light in life, shine *marsh-like too, in death? 1888 RIDER HAGGARD *Maiwa's Revenge* IV. (1891) 40 We..took up the spoor..and followed it into the marsh-like land beyond.

4. Special combinations: **†marsh butter**, ? = *bog-butter* (see BOG *sb.*[1] 4); **marsh fever**, malaria fever; **marsh-fire, -light**, a will-o'-the-wisp; **†marsh mutton**, mutton reared on Tilbury Marshes in Essex, from September to Christmas; **marsh-poisoning**, poisoning caused by the inhalation of vapours rising from marshes; **marsh rod**, a measure of length used for embanking work (see quots.); **† marsh wall**, a dike; **marsh-work**, work done on marshes; also † an establishment for making salt by evaporation of sea-water. See also MARSH-GAS, MARSHLAND, MARSHMAN.

c 1450 *ME. Med. Bk.* (Heinrich) 217 Tak anote schale, & ful hyt wyþ *mersch butter. 1752 PRINGLE *Obs. Dis. Army* (1765) 173 These *marsh-fevers are..apt..after intermitting for some days, to change again into continual fevers of a putrid and malignant nature. 1801 HAMILTON (*title*) On Marsh Remittent Fever. 1882 OUIDA *Maremma* I. 38 Her sons had died of the marsh fever. 1865 BARING-GOULD *Werewolves* 3 Its tongue out, and its eyes glaring like *marsh-fires. 1870 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* III. iv. 213 With gleaming, sand-choked, reed-clad pools, And *marsh-lights for the mock of fools. 1770 H. CHAMBERLAIN *Surv. Lond.* 649/2 This is what the butchers call, by way of excellence 'right *marsh mutton'. 1885-8 FAGGE & PYE-SMITH *Princ. Med.* (ed. 2) I. 186 The remittent forms of *marsh-poisoning. 1790 *Trans. Soc. Arts* VIII. 94 At the rate of thirty shillings the *marsh rod of twenty-one feet. 1852 WIGGINS *Embanking* 111 At 5*s.* per marsh rod of 18 feet forward. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* I. (1586) 9 Some building vpon Riuers, some without or within the *Marshe walles. 1708 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4453/3 A Dwelling-house and a *Marsh-work..with large Store-ponds, and Sun-ponds, for making of Brine. 1869 BLACKMORE *Lorna D.* lix, Seeing thus no track of men, nor anything but marshwork, and stormwork. 1897 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* Dec. 614 The boots ..are similar to those used for marsh-work.

b. In names of animals inhabiting marshes, as **marsh blackbird**, the American red-winged blackbird or starling, *Agelæus phœniceus*; **marsh cow** *Palwont.*, a breed of cattle of which the remains are found in the Swiss lake-villages; **marsh deer**, a South American deer, *Cariacus paludosus*; **marsh-diver**, some kind of marsh-bird, ? the Water Rail, *Rallus aquaticus*; **marsh-fish**, the mudfish, *Amia calva*; **marsh-goose**, the greylag goose, *Anser cinereus*; **marsh harrier**, the moor buzzard, *Circus arruginosus*; **marsh hawk**, the American marsh harrier, *C. hudsonius*; **marsh hen**, the moorhen, *Gallinula chloropus*; *U. S.* applied to other rails, esp. *Rallus elegans* and *R. crepitans*; **marsh hog** *Palwont.*, a variety of the domestic swine of which the remains are found in the Swiss lake-villages; **marsh quail** *U. S.*, the meadow lark, *Sturnella magna*; **marsh ringlet**, the butterfly *Cœnonympha Davus* (Stainton *Brit. Butterflies* 1867); **marsh shrew**, a North American aquatic shrew, *Neosorex palustris*; **marsh tern**, the gull-billed tern, *Sterna anglica*, or the genus *Hydrochelidon*; **marsh tit** or **titmouse**, *Parus palustris*; **marsh worm**, a worm used as a bait in angling (see quot. 1856); **marsh wren** *U.S.*, a wren of the genus *Cistothorus.*

1831 A. WILSON & BONAPARTE *Amer. Ornith.* I. 199 They [red-winged starlings] are known by various names in the different States of the Union; such as..*marsh blackbird [etc.]. 1863 LYELL *Antiq. Man* 24 There were two races of cattle, the most common being of small size, and called by Rütimeyer..the *marsh cow. 1893 R. LYDEKKER *Horns & Hoofs* 343 The *marsh-deer (C. paludosus). 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* IV. 105 *Marsh-divers, rather, maid, Shall croak thee sister. 1836 J. RICHARDSON *Fauna Bor. Amer.* III. 236 *Amia ocellicauda*, *Marsh-fish. 1768 PENNANT *Brit. Zool.* II. 448 The *marsh-goose, or grey-leg. 1802 G. MONTAGU *Ornith. Dict.* (1831) 315 *Marsh Harrier.—A name for the Moor Buzzard. 1831 A. WILSON & BONAPARTE *Amer. Ornith.* I. 90 Formerly the *marsh hawk used to be numerous along the Schuylkill and Delaware. 1802 G. MONTAGU *Ornith. Dict.* (1831) 188 Gallinule .. Provincial.—Moor-hen. *Marsh-hen. *a* 1849 POE *Gold Bug*, Jupiter..bustled about to prepare some marsh-hens for supper. 1863 LYELL *Antiq. Man* 25 There were two tame races of the pig.., one large..the other smaller, called the "marsh-hog", or *Sus scrofa palustris*. 1883 *Century Mag.* 653 The meadow lark or *marsh quail. 1829 J. RICHARDSON *Fauna Bor. Amer.* I. 5 *Sorex Palustris*, American *Marsh-Shrew. 1831 A. WILSON & BONAPARTE *Amer. Ornith.* III. 152 The *marsh tern is fourteen inches in length [etc.]. 1852 MACGILLIVRAY *Hist. Brit. Birds* V. 658 *Hydrochelidon nigra*, the Black Marsh-tern. 1802 G. MONTAGU *Ornith. Dict.*, *Marsh Tit. 1676 *Willughby's Ornithol.* 175 The *Marsh Titmouse or Black-cap. 1653 WALTON *Angler* iv. 94-5 The *marsh-worm. 1856 'STONEHENGE' *Brit. Rural Sports* 236/1 The Marsh-Worm, or Blue-Head, is found in moist and undrained localities .. In colour they are of a light dirty or brownish-purple. 1831 A. WILSON & BONAPARTE *Amer. Ornith.* II. 194 The *marsh wren arrives in Pennsylvania about the middle of May.

c. In the names of many plants that grow in marshes, as **marsh asphodel**, *Narthecium ossifragum*; **†marsh beetle** (BEETLE *sb.*[1]), the reed-mace, *Typha latifolia*; **marsh bent** (**grass**), *Agrostis vulgaris*; **marsh centaury**, *Cicendia filiformis*; **marsh fern**, *Nephrodium Thelypteris*; **marsh flower**, any species of *Limnanthemum*, esp. *L. nymphæoides*; **marsh gentian**, *Gentiana Pneumonanthe*; **marsh gilliflower**, ragged robin, *Lychnis Flos-cuculi*; **marsh grass**, any grass that grows in marshy land, *spec.* one of the genus *Spartina*; **marsh-locks**, *Comarum palustre*; **marsh nut**, the marking-nut, *Semecarpus Anacardium*; **marsh orchis**, *Orchis latifolia*; **marsh penny-wort**, *Hydrocotyle vulgaris*; **†marsh pestle** = *marsh beetle*; **marsh reed**, *Phragmites communis*; **†marsh rocket**, a kind of watercress; **marsh rosemary**, *Ledum palustre, Andromeda polifolia, Statice Limonium*, or *S. caroliniana* (Treas. Bot.); **marsh samphire**, glasswort, *Salicornia herbacea*; **marsh tea**, *Ledum palustre* (Cent. Dict.); **marsh trefoil** [tr. L. *Trifolium palustre*], the buckbean, *Menyanthes trifoliata.* Also MARSH-MALLOW, MARSH MARIGOLD, MARSHWORT.

For *marsh arrow-grass, m. bog-bean, m. cinquefoil, m. clover, m. daisy, m. elder, m. felwort, m. fleawort, m. hawk(s)-weed, m. helleborine, m. hog's fennel, m. horse-tail, m. lousewort, m. parsley*, etc., see these words.

1863 PRIOR *Plant-n.* 145 *Marsh Asphodel. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* IV. liii. 513 Turner calleth it..in Englishe, Reede Mace, and Cattes tayle: to the which we may ioyne others, as Water Torche, *Marche Betill, or Pestill. 1764 *Museum Rusticum* II. lxxxviii. 300 The grass..proved to be the flote fescue, with a mixture of the *marshbent. 1857 MISS PRATT *Flower Pl.* V. 70 *Marsh Bent-grass. 1796 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) II. 194 *Exacum filiforme*..Least Gentian, *Marsh Centory. 1857 MISS PRATT *Flower. Pl.* VI. 173 *Marsh Fern. 1866 *Treas. Bot.*, *Marsh-flower, *Limnanthemum.* 1722 QUINCY *Lex., Physico-Med.* (ed. 2) 349 **Marsh-Gentian.* 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* II. vii. 157 The fourth ..is called *Vetonica sylvestris*: in English wilde Williams, *Marshe gillofers, or Cockow gillofers. 1796 MORSE *Amer.*

Geog. I. 180 Every appearance of a salt marsh, that is, *marsh grass, marsh mud, and brackish water. 1776 WITHERING *Bot. Arrangem. Vegetables* I. 310 *Comarum .. Palustre*, *Marshlocks. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 1047/2 Malacca-beans or *Marsh-nuts. 1857 MISS PRATT *Flower. Pl.* V. 210 *Marsh Orchis. 1761 STILLINGFLEET *Cal. Flora* 27 June, *Marsh pennywort, *Hydrocotule vulgaris*. 1578 *Marche Pestill [see *marsh beetle*]. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) II. 384/1 The phragmitis, or common *marsh-reed, grows by the sides of rivers and in standing waters. 1739 MILLER *Gard. Dict.* II. *Sisymbrium palustre minus*..the lesser *Marsh-rocket. 1787 tr. *Linnæus' Fam. Plants* I. 294 *Ledum*. *Marsh Rosemary. 1845–50 MRS. LINCOLN *Lect. Bot.* v. App. 173 *Statice limonium* (marsh-rosemary, sea-lavender). 1727 THRELKELD *Synopsis Stirpium Hibern.* F 2 b, The English use the pickled shoots like Sampire to stir up an Appetite, and call it *Marsh-sampire. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. ccccl.xxxi. 1025 Marish Trefoile is called..in English marsh Clauer, *marsh Trefoile, and Buckes Beanes. 1764 *Museum Rusticum* I. 435 That the marsh-trefoil will cure the rot, I cannot, from experience, corroborate.

Marsh, obs. form of MASH *v.*[1], MESH.

Marshal (mā·ɹʃăl), *sb.* Forms: *α.* 3 marescal, 3–9 mareschal, 5 maresshall, mareschaul, 5–7 mareshall, 6 mareschall(e, marischale, 7 mariscall, 7–8 marishal, 8 marischal, marascal; *β.* 3–4 marschal, 3–5 marchal, marschalle, 4 marscal, 4–5 marschale, marchall, 4–6 marschall, 4–9 marshall, 5 marschael, -schail, marchale, -chell, marshalle, -schel(l, -sshall, merschale, -sshall, 5–6 mershall, 6 merchal, marchaele, 4– marshal; *γ.* 4 marcial, 5 marchiale, 5–6 marciall, marcheall, 6–7 martiall, 7 marshial, 7, 9 martial. [*a.* OF. *mareschal, maresçal* (mod.F. *maréchal*) = Pr. *manescalc-s*, It. *mariscalco, maliscalco, maniscalco* farrier, marshal (Sp., Pg. *mariscal*, It. *maresciallo*, marshal, are from OFr. or Fr.):—Frankish Latin *mariscalcus*, ad. OHG. *marahscalh* or OS. **marhscalc* (MHG. *marschalch, -schalc*, early mod.G. *marschalk*, later *marschall*; MLG. *marschalk*, MDu. *maerschalc*, mod.Du. *maarschalk*; Sw. *marskalk*, Da. *marskal* are from LG.):—OTeut. type **marhoskalko-z* lit. 'horse-servant', f. **marho-z* horse (whence fem. **marhjâ* MARE) + **skalko-z* servant (OE. *scealc* servant, G. *schalk* rogue). Compounds of equivalent meaning are OS. *ehu-scalc*, OE. *horsþegn*.

For the development by which a word originally meaning a groom or stable-man came to be a title of various high offices in royal households and in the army, cf. the parallel history of CONSTABLE. In Fr. and It. the sense 'farrier' has subsisted alongside the use as a title of dignity; in the Teut. langs. only the titular use has survived.]

†1. a. One who tends horses; *esp.* one who treats their diseases, a farrier. (Cf. *horse-marshal* s.v. HORSE *sb.* 27.) **b.** A shoeing smith. [F. *maréchal vétérinaire, maréchal ferrant.*] *Obs.*

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 11179 Þer maistres mareschals ferde aboute, Deliuered innes [*v.r.* stedes] wyþynne & wyþoute; Bordes broughte, cordes & cables, & made mangers to stande in stables. 1428 in *Surtees Misc.* (1888) 1 Burn, smyth in Bouthum and John Holgate, marshall in the suburbe of Walmegate. 1474 CAXTON *Chesse* III. ii. E vj, Alle maner of werkmen; as goldsmythes, marchallis, smythes of alle forges. 1588 *Richmond Wills* (Surtees) 256 *note*, I have made an estatt unto Robert Selbye,.. of my tenement .. now in the tenure of Mr. Wedrington, mershall, and of the housses, stables, and grownde ower agaynst yt. 1618 SIR W. HOPE (*title*), The Parfait Mareschal, or, Compleat Farrier. 1639 T. DE GREY *Compl. Horsem.* 45 Skilfull ferrier or marshall he shall never be. *c* 1720 W. GIBSON *Farrier's Guide* II. xxii. (1738) 71 Such remedies as the Practise of the best Marishals has warranted.

2. One of the chief functionaries of a royal household or court; in the middle ages usually entrusted with the military affairs of his sovereign.

a. A high officer of state in England; now EARL MARSHAL, q.v. Formerly also *Marshal of England, High, King's, Lord Marshal.*

1258 *Eng. Proclam. Hen. III* Rog' Bigod eorl on Northfolk' and Marescal on Engleneloand'. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 10081 Þo þe king adde normandie in god stat ibrouȝt al Þut lond he tok to loke willam þe mareschal þat was erl of penbroc. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 292 After þe ersbisshop þe erle Marschalle Rogere Bifor þe kyng ros vp. 1480 CAXTON *Chron. Eng.* ccxiv. n 5 b, Thomas of Brotherton the Erle marchall. 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. IV* 13 The erle of Westmerland his high Marshal. 1596 SHAKS. *1 Hen. IV*, IV. ii. 2 Beare this sealed Briefe With winged haste to the Lord Marshall. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* VIII. 142 The Duke of Norfolkis sone, cheif Tresurer and Merchall in Jngland. 1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. i. II. *Imposture* 628 Mars-like Essex, England's Marshall-Earle. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XIV. 447/2 One of the principal officers of state is the king's marshal, which office is now held hereditarily by the duke of Norfolk.

b. (Usually with spelling *marischal.*) A similar high officer of state in Scotland.

The office was hereditary in the family of Keith, and from 1458 the holder had the peerage title of Earl Marischal. The office became extinct by the attainder of George 10th Earl Marischal in 1716.

c 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XI. 456 Schir Robert of Keth, that wes Marshall of all the host of fee. 1461 *Liber Pluscardensis* X. *x*, Comes Eril Marschael [*v.r.* Marschail, Marchiale] nominatus. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* V. 302 That in perpetuall ane of that surname [Keith] sal be Mareschall in the kingis hous. 1715 EARL OF MAR *Procl.* in *Thanes Cawdor* (Spalding Club) 411 Some of his faithful subjects and servants met here, viz. the Lord Huntley, the Lord Tullybardine, the Earl Marischal [etc.].

c. *Earl Marshal of Ireland*: a title conferred in 1574 upon Walter Devereux, Earl of Essex.

3. As a title of military rank.

†a. In early use employed vaguely: A commander, general. Subsequently (esp. in the forms *marshal of the field* or *camp*, FIELD-MARSHAL), an officer of a definite rank, which varied according to period and country. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 7630 Of a thusand men o wal, He made him ledder and marscal. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. III. 194 Hedde I be Marchal of his Men. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Armis* (S. T. S.) 112 The ledare of the bataille, that men callis now constable, or marschall in his absence. *a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* (1868) 16 The king of Hungry, that is of right marschalle of cristendom in the werres ayenst the hethen. 1548 UDALL, etc. *Erasm. Par. Acts* XXIII. 9–10 The marciall [L. *tribunus*] fearyng lest that Paul [etc.]. 1571 DIGGES *Pantom.* Pref. A ij b, The Marshall of the fielde shall .. appoynt place conuenient for his Campe. *a* 1587 GARRARD *Art War* (1591) 234 The high Marshall of the fielde, or maister of the Campe. 1593 NASHE *Unfort. Trav.* Wks. (Grosart) V. 33 The Marshall generall of the field. 1611 BIBLE *Jer.* lii. 12 Nebuzaradan the captain of the guard [*marg.* chief marshal]. *a* 1628 F. GREVILLE *Sidney* (1652) 143 Meeting the Marshall of the Camp lightly armed. 1696 PHILLIPS (ed. 5), *Marshals* are also Military Officers, as the Camp-Marshal, who is the next Officer to the Lieutenant General.

fig. 1612 BACON *Ess., Atheism* (Arb.) 332 That an Army of infinite small portions or seeds vnplaced should haue produced this order, and beauty without a diuine Marshall.

b. A general officer of the highest rank in certain foreign armies. Often as prefixed title. (In 18th c. usually with semi-Fr. spelling *mareschal.*)

In the French army the full designation is *Maréchal de France* (Englished *Marshal of France*).

1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 422 b, There were manye of the Nobilitie taken, amonges whome was the hyghe Mareshall of Fraunce. 1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 157 For the Marshals of France, 18000 [crownes] apeece, when they were but foure; for now it is a Title only, without either pension or command, save only in the foure chiefe. 1710 STEELE *Tatler* No. 174 ₱ 11 He and the Duke of Berwick are to command the French Army, the rest of the Mareschals being only to assist in Council. 1752 HUME *Ess. & Treat.* (1777) II. 285 Such is the excellence which St. Evremond ascribes to mareschal Turenne. 1816 J. SCOTT *Vis. Paris* (ed. 5) p. lxi, Some of our Marshals have been invited to visit the Allied lines. 1878 BROWNING *La Saisiaz* 80 What might be the Marshal's next move, what Gambetta's counter-play.

†c. An officer in some military orders. *Obs.*

1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 230 The Martiall, the Maister of the Hospitall, the Admirall, the Chancelor, &c. [of the Knights of Malta].

†4. An officer of a court of law answerable for the charge and custody of prisoners and for the keeping of order, and frequently entrusted with the keeping of a prison. Also *Marshal of the Exchequer, of the King's* (or *Queen's*) *Bench. Obs.*

These officers obtained the title as being deputies of the Marshal of England (see 2 a).

1290 *Becket* 802 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 129 Oþur is Marschales scholden swiþe anon is bodi to prisone take. *Ibid.* 805 Þe Marchales i-redie weren to prisone him lede a-non. 1437 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 509/2 Was committed to the Marchall, in prison to abide. 1485 *Ibid.* VI. 291/2 The same William, was late Marshall of the Marshallsie of the Kings Bench. 1530 TINDALE *Gen.* Table Exp. Words s.v., And therfore I call him cheffe marshall an officer as is the lefetenaunte of the toure, or master of the marshalsye. 1674 *Ch. & Court of Rome* 9 He that .. goes at large on his Parole .., is .. no less a Prisoner, than when under Guard, and in the Marshals custody. 1690 *Loud. Gaz.* No. 2541/2 William Lenthall Esq; now Marshal of the King's Bench. 1768 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* III. 285 When once the defendant is taken into custody of the marshall, or prison-keeper of this court [of king's bench]. 1855 [see MARSHALSEA 1].

b. *Marshal of the admiralty*: an officer of the Court of Admiralty.

1769 *Ann. Reg.* 102 From the marshal of the admiralty in Holderness. 1802 *Naval Chron.* VIII. 423 The Deputy Marshal of the Admiralty .., with his silver oar. 1875 *Encycl. Brit.* I. 162 s.v. *Admiralty*, The marshal is now paid by a salary of £500, in addition to his travelling expenses.

c. *Judge's marshal*: an official (now usually a barrister) who accompanies a judge on circuit, and is charged with certain duties chiefly secretarial.

1861 M. ARNOLD *Lett.* 20 Mar., My brother-marshal, young Thesiger,..is a very good fellow.

5. An officer charged with the arrangement of ceremonies, *esp.* with the ordering of guests at a banquet, etc. (in this use often †*marshal of the hall*).

In the English royal household the 'Marshal of the ceremonies' is now an official of the Lord Chamberlain's department, ranking below the 'Master of the ceremonies'.

13.. *Coer de L.* 1543 Hys mareschal swythe com hym too: 'Sere, he sayde, hou schal we doo? Swylk fowayle as we bought yistyrday, For no catel gete I may'. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 752 A semely man oure hoost was with alle For to been a Marchal in an halle. *c* 1460 J. RUSSELL *Bk. Nurture* 1002 The office of a connynge vschere or marsballe with-owt fable must know alle estates of the church goodly and greable. 1495 *Act* 11 *Hen. VII*, c. 33. § 14 John Hanley Squyer, oon of the Marshallis of oure Hall. 1520 WHITINTON *Vulg.* (1527) 4 After that the marshall [A.V. *John* ii. 9 ruler of the feast] dyd taste of the water tourned in to wyne. 1631 FULLER *David's Sinne* XXXVI, Others strive Like sturdy martialls, far away to drive The drowsy droanes that harbour in the hive. 1636 FEATLY *Clavis Myst.* iii. 31 They..send their Harbingers before to take up lodgings, and Martials to make way. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Marshal of the Ceremonies*, an Officer whose Business it is in all things, to receive Commands from the Master of the Ceremonies .. for the Queen's Service. 1813 SCOTT *Trierm.* II. xiv, A shrilly trumpet shook the ground, And marshals clear'd the ring.

fig. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* II. ii. 120 Reason becomes the Marshall to my will, And leades me to your eyes.

†b. *Marshal of the King's* (or *Queen's*) *house*; = Knight marshal (see 6 b). *Obs.*

1433 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 447/1 The Steward and Marshall of his [the King's] housbold. 1543 tr. *Act 2 Hen. IV*, c. 23 The mareschal of the mareschalsye of the court of our soueraygne lord the kinges house. 1641 *Termes de la Ley* 200 b, The Marshall of the K. house. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Marshal of the Queen's House*, whose Office is to hear and determine Pleas of the Crown within the Queen's Palace...*Clerk Marshal of the Queen's House*, an Officer that attends the Marshal [of the Queen's House] in his Court.

c. (More fully *City marshal.*) An officer of the corporation of the City of London. (See quot.)

1632, 1714 [see CITY 9]. 1761 *Lond. & Environs* IV. 265 *City Marshal*... His business is to see the laws of the city put in execution, and in solemn processions he rides before the Lord Mayor. 1905 *Whitaker's Almanack* 356 Officers of the City of London..Marshal, Capt. E. J. T. Kearns.

6. Knight marshal. †a. A military officer, with functions corresponding to those of quartermaster; often used to render L. *tribunus militum*, *Obs.* **b.** *Hist.* An officer of the English royal household, who had judicial cognizance of transgressions 'within the king's house and verge', i.e. within a radius of twelve miles from the king's palace. The office was abolished in 1846.

[1548: cf. 3 a.] 1556 *Chron. Gr. Friars* (Camden) 65 Edmund Boner beynge prisoner in the Marchelse..the knyght marchalle takynge away hys bedde..because he wolde not geve the knyght marchall x li. 1592 NASHE *P. Penilesse* (ed. 2) 18 b, The Knight Marshals men, that naile vp Mandates at the Court gat. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 116 Being a colonell and knight marshal of the campe [orig. *tribunus militum ab exercitu*]. 1617 MINSHEU *Ductor* s.v. *Knight*, Knigbt Martiall..*Tribunus militum, mariscallus*. 1623 COCKERAM s.v. *Tribune*, The other was called Tribune of the Souldiers, who had charge to see them well armed and ordered, being as the Knight Marshall is with vs. 1713 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5135/3 His Excellency was receiv'd at the Palace Gate by Sir Phillip Meadows, Knigbt-Marshal.

fig. *a* 1591 H. SMITH *Serm.* (1594) 518 That God would make him [Satan] Knight Marshall ouer the world, to slay and kill as many as he hated.

7. The title of various functionaries charged with certain police duties, or with the office of superintending the infliction of punishment.

†a. = PROVOST-MARSHAL. *Obs.*

1596 SPENSER *State Irel.* Wks. (Globe) 644/1 That were a harde course, Eudoxus, to redresse every abuse by a Marshall. 1633 T. STAFFORD *Pac. Hib.* I. vii. (1821) 97 Moroghe Mac Shihy, Marshall to James Fits Thomas, and the Marshall of Dermond. *Ibid.* II. xxi. 416 The President, and the Marshall advanced forwards towards the Scout.

†b. *Naut.* An official on board ship who superintends the carrying out of punishments. *Obs.*

1627 CAPT. SMITH *Seaman's Gram.* viii. 35 The Marshall is to punish offenders, and to see iustice executed according to directions; as ducking at the yards arme [etc.]. *Ibid.* xv. 73 In English ships they seldome vse any Marshall.

8. In English university use. **a.** *Oxford.* The chief of the proctors' attendants or 'bulldogs'. **b.** *Cambridge.* Each of two officials appointed by the Vice-chancellor to act as his messengers, to summon meetings, etc.

1810 *Oxford Univ. Cal.* p. xvii, University Officers, &c... Belman... Marshal. 1853 'C. BEDE' (E. Bradley) *Verdant Green* xi, The proctor with his marshal and bull-dogs.

9. *U.S.* **a.** 'In America, a civil officer, appointed by the President and Senate of the United States, in each judicial district, answering to the sheriff of a county. His duty is to execute all precepts directed to him, issued under the authority of the United States' (Webster 1828–32).

1793 JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1859) IV. 52 Rescuing a vessel out of the hands of the marshal who had arrested her by process from a court of justice. 1800 J. ADAMS *Wks.* (1854) IX. 76, I have agreed to the appointment of Major David Hopkins to be marshal of Maryland. 1856 OLMSTED *Slave States* 513 By the returns of the South Carolina marshals, the cash value of land, in the State, appears to be $5·08 an acre. 1872 RAYMOND *Statist. Mines & Mining* 107 The aggregate production [of bullion] was reported by the assistant marshal as follows.

b. *Marshal-at-arms*: an official in the House of Representatives corresponding to the English sergeant-at-arms.

1792 M. CUTLER in *Life* (1888) I. 483 The Speaker..sent the Marshall-at-Arms to summon them to attend the House.

c. An officer of a body of men or a society appointed to regulate its ceremonies, etc.; e. g. *fire-marshal*, the chief officer of a fire brigade.

1903 *Daily Chron.* 31 Dec. 5/5 The fire marshal himself went up to the balcony.

¶10. For *marshal court, law*, see MARTIAL *a.*, COURT-MARTIAL.

Marshal (mā·ɹʃăl), *v.* Forms: 5 mar(s)chal, mer(s)chal, marschel, marchell, 6 merschel, 6–7

marshall, 6–9 **martial**, 7 **marshial**, 5– **marshal**. [f. MARSHAL *sb.*]

I. †**1.** *trans.* To tend (horses) as a farrier. Also, to 'doctor' or 'fake up' for sale. *Obs.*

c 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* III. xxviii. (1869) 150 Manye harmes dooth this hand; O time she marchaleth [orig. F. *cossonne*] hors, and maketh þe badde seeme good to hem þat wolen bigge hem. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* V. 762 With his gud suerd the captayn has he tayn, Quhill hors agayne he marscheld neuir nayn. 1506 *Ld. Treas. Acc. Scot.* (1901) III. 202 Item, to deif Andro that marshalit foure hors to the King xiiijs.

II. Senses relating to MARSHAL *sb.* 3 and 5.

2. *trans.* To arrange, place, or rank in order at a feast, table, etc.

c 1450 HOLLAND *Howlat* 693 All war merschallit to meit meikly and myth. *c* 1470 *Gaw. & Gol.* 1160 The meryest on mold marschalit at mete. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII* 6 b, The Kyng caused the Quene to kepe the estate, and then satte the Ambassadours and Ladies, as they were Marshalled by the kyng, who would not sit, but walked from place to place. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 96 ¶ 1 It has cost me very much Care .. to marshal and fix the People under their proper Denominations. 1814 SCOTT *Ld. of Isles* II. vi, And there he marshall'd them their place, First of that company. 1825 LYTTON *Zicci* 76 The guests were marshalled to the board. 1843 MACAULAY *Ess., Mme. D'Arblay* (ed. Montague) III. 299 In order that we may .. marshal her to the exact seat to which she is entitled, we must carry our examination somewhat further.

†**b.** To put in a certain company, *among* or *with* certain people. *Obs.*

1530 LYNDESAY *Test. Papyngo* 587 The Erle of Marche wes merschellit yam amang. 1583 in Strype *Ann. Ref.* (1728) III. 183 The painful Pastors and Ministers of the Word .. are marshalled with the worst Malefactors.

†**c.** To arrange (a banquet). Also with *up*. *Obs.*

1587 FLEMING *Contn. Holinshed* III. 1490/1 The vshers marshalled the feast. 1613 DEKKER *Strange Horse-Race, Bankrouts Banq.* F 3 b, These Bankrouts..Martiald vp a Banquet, rellishing likewise of their name, carriage, and condition.

3. *Her.* To combine (two or more coats of arms) in one escutcheon, so as to form a single composition; also, to associate (accessories) with a coat of arms, so as to form a complete heraldic composition.

1572 BOSSEWELL *Armorie* II. 121 b, I haue omitted to marshal the same [coat] either with helme, wreathe, or mantle. 1610 GUILLIM *Heraldry* VI. ii. (1611) 256 If a bordured Coat be to be Marshalled amongst other Coats quarterly. 1864 BOUTELL *Her. Hist. & Pop.* xiv. 139 The arms of a Husband and Wife are marshalled in a single Shield.

4. To arrange or draw up (soldiers) in order for fighting, exercise, or review; to arrange in a body or procession; to arrange (competitors) for a race, etc.

1587 GREENE *Euphues Censure* Wks. (Grosart) VI. 254 A day of battell was set, wherein when both the armies were martialed..in their seuerall ranckes. 1598 BARRET *Theor. Warres* III. i. 49 To commaund the men to be marshalled into the order that shall bee appointed. 1601 DANIEL *Civ. Wars* V. xvii. (1609) 117 Those .. troops so marshalled,..That euen his soule seem'd onely to direct So great a body, such exployts t'effect. 1611 BIBLE *Josh.* i. 14 Ye shall pass before your brethren armed [*marg.* marshalled by five]. 1785 SARAH FIELDING *Ophelia* I. xxvi, A new way of martialing his army. 1791 COWPER *Iliad* IV. 271 Marshalling his numerous host. 1838 PRESCOTT *Ferd. & Is.* (1846) III. xii. 71 The duke .. had marshalled his forces in a very different order. 1853 C. BRONTE *Villette* xxxiii, We were marsballed in order and soon started. 1868 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1876) II. viii. 260 Henry and William..were now marshalling their troops.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1698 [R. FERGUSON] *View Eccles.* Pref., Yet being otherwise Regimented and Marshal'd into sentences. 1852 M. ARNOLD *Empedocles* II. 276 Ye stars, Who slowly begin to marshal..Your distant, melancholy lines! 1878 BOSW. SMITH *Carthage* 226 The hostile Senate..had even then marshalled against him a long array of omens and portents.

†**c.** To marshal soldiers along (streets). *Obs.*

1587 FLEMING *Contn. Holinshed* III. 1332/1 Ten others [ensigns] had marshalled the streets unto the market place.

d. *refl.* and *intr.* To take up positions in or as in a military array or a procession.

1687 *Death's Vis.* vii, See, How they Marshall! How their Forces Join! 1691 RAY *Creation* I. (1692) 49 These new diminutive Particles should again assemble and marshal themselves into Corpuscles. 1806 A. DUNCAN *Nelson* 37 The procession was marshalling. 1854 S. DOBELL *Balder* xxviii. 190 Her serving men .. marshal mutely round, and look from each to each with eye-lids red. 1903 F. C. MONTAGUE *Macaulay's Ess.* III. 1 His ideas marshal themselves in an unbroken rhetorical order.

5. *trans.* To dispose, arrange or set (things, material or immaterial) in methodical order.

Now chiefly with some metaphorical notion of an armed force or a procession; in the 17th c. used much more freely.

a 1550 *Vox pop., vox Dei* 335 in *Skelton's Wks.* (1843) II. 405/2 Then showld ye se the trade That marchantmen frist mayde, Whyche wysse men dyd marshall Fora welth vny versall. 1579 J. STUBBES *Gaping Gulf* D 3 Noble men and other great landed ones..in their vsuall conveighances do marshall the sal of theyr inheritances by limitation vpon limitation euen to the tenth son of theyr body begotten. 1586 I. ROSSE *Verses pref. to Ferne's Blaz. Gentrie*, In like sort shall you see How states of men are martialed, and placed in degree. 1614 RALEIGH *Hist. World* II. (1634) 542 These narrations of Herodotus may every one of them be true; tho' not in such order of time as he hath marshalled them. 1624 WOTTON *Archit.* (1672) 21 There are five Orders of Pillars .. thus marshalled. 1639 FULLER *Holy War* III. xxx. (1640) 161 Provident Nature in marshalling the elements, assigned fire a place in the verge and border of this lower world. 1666 PEPYS *Diary* 21 Dec., So to the office in the evening to marshall my papers. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* I. 249 With feeble steps from marshalling his Vines Returning. 1765 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* I. 472 Having thus marshalled the several species of corporations, let us [etc.]. 1859 SMILES *Self-Help* iii. (1860) 59 With his books of reference marshalled round him on the floor. 1891 *Law Times* XC. 463/2 Clients .. need to be represented by those who are adepts in marshalling facts and handling witnesses.

b. *Comm.* To arrange (assets or securities) according as they are available to meet various kinds of claims.

1773 VESEY *Chancery Rep.* II. 5 Though the court will help her by marshalling assets. 1818 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) II. 178 [The court's]rules for marshalling assets. 1902 H. G. NEWTON in *Encycl. Brit.* XXVI. 136/1 s.v. *Bankruptcy in U. S.*, In partnership cases the creditors of the partnership elect the trustee. .. The assets are marshalled, partnership assets being applied first to partnership claims and individual assets to individual claims.

c. *U. S.* 'To arrange (the cars of a freight-train) in proper station order' (*Cent. Dict.*).

1880 *Car-Builder's Dict.* (Cent.).

6. To usher, guide (a person) on his way; to lead as harbinger; to conduct ceremoniously; also (*nonce-use*) to point *out* (the way).

1586 MARLOWE *1st Pt. Tamburl.* III. iii, Our conquering swords shall marshal vs the way We use to march upon the slaughter'd foe. 1605 SHAKS. *Macb.* II. i. 42 Thou marshall'st me the way that I was going. 1606 DEKKER *Sev. Sinnes* VI. (Arb.) 39 Mark in what triumphant and proud manner, he is marshalled through Newgate. *a* 1764 LLOYD *Prol.* 10 Himself shall marshal out the way to taste. 1821 BYRON *Two Fosc.* IV. i, Each night I see them Stalk frowning round my couch, and, pointing towards The ducal palace, marshal me to vengeance. 1831 SCOTT *Cast. Dang.* x, The abbot marshalled him to the door of Augustine's chamber. 1867 TROLLOPE *Chron. Barset* II. lxiii. 211 Mr. Crawley had marshalled him into the room.

Hence **Ma·rshalling** *ppl. a.*

1873 BLACK *Pr. Thule* xxvii, The first scouts of the marshalling forces of the clouds came up in flying shreds.

Marshal, obs. form of MARTIAL.

Ma·rshalate. [f. MARSHAL *sb.* + -ATE 1.] The period of the rule of Marshal MacMahon as President of the French Republic (1873–79).

1874 *Daily News* 12 Jan. 5/2 What if we are to have a second Marshalate in Europe? 1889 W. S. LILLY *Cent. Revolut.* 2 This is the movement .. which, thwarted for eighteen years by the Second Empire, and for five years more by the Marshalate, has since [etc.].

Marshalcy (mā·ɹʃălsi). Forms: α. 4 marschalcie, 4–5 marchalsy(e, -sie, 6 marshalcye, 6–8 -sy, 7 -sie, mar-, merchaulcy, mareschalcy, 8 -sy, 7– marshalcy. β. 4–5 marchalsey, -se, 5–6 marshalse, 6–8 marshalsey, 7 marchalce; and see MARSHALSEA. [ME. *marschalcie*, a. AF. *mareschalcie* (OF. *mareschaucie*):— Frankish L. *mariscalcīa*, f. *mariscalcus* MARSHAL *sb.* The β forms represent the OF. *mareschaucie* (mod.F. *maréchaussée*), an extended form corresponding to med.L. *mariscalciāla* (1232 in Du Cange). As now used, the word is prob. a new formation on MARSHAL *sb.* + -CY, parallel with *generalcy*, *captaincy*, etc.]

†**1.** The art or occupation of a farrier; farriery.

a 1400 *Octouian* 1389 [He] seyde he hadde lerned marchalsye..And all maner of hors he knew. *c* 1720 W. GIBSON *Farrier's Guide* II. v. (1738) 17 Times and seasons .. which we find so much observ'd in Books of Marshalsy.

2. The office, rank, or position of a marshal.

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 292 Þe kyng for on sent, Sir Geffrey Geneuile, & of þe marschalcie presented him þe 3erde. *c* 1330 — *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 7102 Fortyger hadde alle þe maystrie, þe kyng at wille, & þe marchalsye [*v. r.* marchaucie; WACE *seuescaucie*]. 1599 THYNNE *Animadv.* (1875) 72 Yo^u shall here some what of the marshalls office sett downe .. in the Customes whiche Thomas of Brothertonne..challenged to his office of marshalcye. 1614 SELDEN *Titles Hon.* 232 Edward ii. afterward reciting this Surrender of Bigod grants the Honor and Marshalsie to his Brother Thomas of Brotherton in Taile.

b. *Hist.* The department of the marshal of the king's house. Also *attrib.*

1601 F. TATE *Househ. Ord. Edw. II* (1876) 38 A chief clarke of the marshalsy. *Ibid.* 39 He shal take iiij^d ob a day for his bouche in the marshalsy rolle.

†**3.** The military force under the command of a marshal. *Obs.* Chiefly as tr. F. *maréchaussée*.

1480 CAXTON *Chron. Eng.* clxxxix. 167 The children that were put in hostage..folowed the kynges marchalsye many dayes fetered in strong yrens. 1691 *Emilianne's Frauds Rom. Monks* (ed. 3) 386 The Archbishop..sent away all his Marshalsey, composed of the Barigel or Provost, and Threescore Sbirries or Serjeants. 1726 CAVALLIER *Mem.* IV. 317 Fifty Archers of the Mareschalsy of Dijon. 1748 *St. James's Even. Post*, M. de Beauvais, Grand Provost of the Army.. with all his Marshalsey and 80 Grenadiers.

Ma·rshaless. [f. MARSHAL *sb.* + -ESS.] The wife of a marshal.

1787 CHARLOTTE SMITH *Romance Real Life* I. 205 The Marshaless her mother, Madame Saligni, sister of the deceased Marshal. 1882 *Standard* 26 Dec. 3/1 The adventurous little Marshalesses..of the Third Empire. 1888 *Univ. Rev.* Oct. 227 The Marshaless struggled to keep in society.

Marshalist, obs. form of MARTIALIST.

Marshalled (mā·ɹʃăld), *ppl. a.* [f. MARSHAL *v.* + -ED 1.] In senses of the verb: Drawn up in ranks, arranged in order, etc.

1667 MILTON *P. L.* IX. 37 Marshal'd Feast Serv'd up in Hall with Sewers, and Seneshals. 1693 DRYDEN *Juvenal* x. (1697) 246 Unwieldy Sums of Wealth, which higher mount Than Files of Marshall'd Figures can account. 1726 POPE *Odyss.* XX. 342 By Heralds rank'd, in marshal'd order move The city-tribes. 1853 M. ARNOLD *Sohrab & Rustum* 140 Marshall'd battalions bright in burnish'd steel.

†**Ma·rshaller.** *Obs. rare.* [f. MARSHAL *v.* + -ER 1.] One who marshals; a marshal.

1616 J. LANE *Contn. Sqr.'s T.* XI. 247 Within a while more trumpettes gann resound, that more knightes hinn arivd.. for whome large space was made by th' marshallers.

Marshalling (mā·ɹʃălĭŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. MARSHAL *v.* + -ING 1.] The action of the verb MARSHAL.

c 1460 J. RUSSELL *Bk. Nurture* 1165 Thus may ye devise youre marshallynge,..to þe honoure and worshippe of youre souereyn euery where. 1591 PERCIVALL *Sp. Dict.* F iv, The marshalling of the letters in the alphabet. *a* 1635 NAUNTON *Fragm. Reg.* (Arb.) 39 (*Knowels*) If I be not a little mistaken in their names and martialling. 1768 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* III. 105 The marshalling of coat-armour .. is now greatly disregarded. 1816 BYRON *Ch. Har.* III. xxviii, The midnight brought the signal-sound of strife, The morn the marshalling in arms! 1877 BLACK *Green Past* XXVI, The marshalling of the innumerable hosts of heaven.

Marshallist, obs. form of MARTIALIST.

Marshal-man. Orig. marshal's man. The designation of various officers. **a.** (More fully † *knight-marshal's man* (obs.), *king's marshal-man.*) One of a number of men (formerly under the orders of the knight marshal) belonging to the royal household, and going before the king in processions to clear the way. **b.** A similar officer under the orders of the marshal of the City of London.

1638 RANDOLPH *Muses Looking-gl.* I. i. 3 Bailies, Promooters, Taylors, and Apparitours, Beadles, and Martialls men, the needfull instruments Of the Republique. 1697 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3341/2 The Messengers of the Chamber and Knight-Mareschalls Men attending the Proceeding in their proper Stations. 1707 J. CHAMBERLAYNE *Pres. St. Eng.* II. iii. 541 (*List Househ. Off. below Stairs*) Sir Philip Meadows Knight-Marshal. John Lester [etc.], Marshal's Men. 1763 *Brit. Mag.* IV. 219, 1st, the king's marshalmen, two and two. 1778 *Ann. Reg.* 175 The court then proceeded to the election of a marshalman. 1879 *Daily Chron.* 26 June, William Willshire, formerly marshalman at Hampton Court Palace. 1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 11 Aug. 9/1 His Majesty's Marshalmen, in scarlet.

Marshalment (mā·ɹʃălmĕnt). *Law.* [f. MARSHAL *v.* + -MENT.] The act of 'marshalling' assets.

1818 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) I. 214 That the whole annuity, by an equitable marshalment, shall be thrown upon the two remaining thirds.

Marshalsea (mā·ɹʃălsĭ). *Hist.* Forms: see MARSHALCY; also 4 marchasye, 5 mareschalse, 6 marshialshy, mareshelsey, marchese, marshashey, 7 marshall sea, (martial sea), 6– marshalsea. [The same word which in other senses is spelt MARSHALCY. In the 16–17th c. the word was imagined to be f. MARSHAL + SEE, seat.]

1. A court (abolished in 1849) formerly held before the steward and the knight-marshal of the royal household of England (latterly before a barrister appointed by the knight-marshal), originally for the purpose of hearing cases between the king's servants, but afterwards with wider jurisdiction. Also, a prison in Southwark under the control of the knight-marshal (abolished in 1842).

1389 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 354 He sholde make whitbred, and wel y-bake, after þe sale of corn, and vp-on þe a-syse of þe marchasye. 1428 in *E. E. Wills* (1882) 78 The prisons of Ludgate, Marchalsie, Kyngesbenche. 1436 *Ibid.* 106 To the Prisoners of the Marchalse. *c* 1500 *God speed the Plough* 77 Then commeth the tipped-staves for the Marshalse, And saye they haue prisoners mo than Inough. 1501 in *Bury Wills* (Camden) 89 The prisoners in Newgate, Ludgate, to the Kyngs Benche, and to the Marshalsy. *c* 1550 *Manifest Detect. Diceplay* (Vele) C iij b, Your fine chets..made both in ye kings bench & in ye marshalsea. 1545 BRINKLOW *Compl.* xi. C vj, The court of the marshalse. 1549 LATIMER *4th Serm. bef. Edw. VI* (Arb.) 120 Thre wekes sessions at newgate, and fourthnyghte sessions at the Marshialshy. 1556 *Chron. Gr. Friars* (Camden) 63 He was send unto the Marchese. 1591 LAMBARDE *Archeion* (1635) 21 The Marshalsey for matters within the Verge or limits assigned to the Kings House or Palace. 1613 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII*, V. iv. 90 He finde A Marshallsey, shall hold ye play these two Monthes. 1639 in *Verney Papers* (1853) 215, I praye lett mee beare bow businesses goes att the marshall seas, boat[h] in the prison and in the courte. 1641 PRYNNE *Antip.* 239 He was committed to the Marshashey among Rogues and murtherers. 1654 WARREN *Unbelievers* 236 We..must commit his Minor to the Marshalsie as a Rebel against reason. 1660 *Trial Regic.* 146 In the Case of Martial sea, and in the Common Pleas. 1768 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* III. 76 The court of the marshalsea, and the palace court at Westminster, though two distinct courts, are frequently confounded together. 1855 DICKENS *Dorrit* I. xxxii, The Marshal of the Marshalsea.. had got him hard and fast.

attrib. 1764 BURN *Poor Laws* 48 A reasonable allowance to the constable..to be paid out of the gaol and marshalsea money. 1813 *Gentl. Mag.* I. 480 The Southern boundary wall of the Marshalsea Prison. *a* 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia*, *Marshalsea-money*, the county rate.

2. Used as the name of certain prisons elsewhere than in London.

1657 *Pittington* etc. *Vestry Bks.* (Surtees) 309 For payment of the arreares for the jaole and marshalsey [Houghton-le-Spring].

¶ **3.** Used *Hist.* for MARSHALCY 2 b.

1904 MARY BATESON *Miscell. Scot. Hist. Soc.* II. Introd. 10

[A record of 28 Ed. I] shows that a number of persons were not 'at the king's wage in the roll of his marshalsea' [orig. *in rotulo Marescalcie sue*].

Marshalship (mā·ɹʃălʃip). [f. MARSHAL *sb.* + -SHIP.] The office or position of marshal.

1530 PALSGR. 243/1 Marshalshyppe, *marchalcie*. 1549 EDW. VI *Jrnl.* Lit. Rem. (Roxb.) II. 244 The lord Protectour..lost his protectourship, treasourirshipe, marschalshipe [etc.],.. by acte of parliement. 1592a KYD *Sp. Trag.* III. vi. 28 To your marshallship First I confesse .. I am the man. 1606 G. W[OODCOCKE] *Hist. Iustine* XIII. 58 The Marshallship of the campe fortuned to Seleuchus, the sonne of Antiochus. 1670 G. H. *Hist. Cardinals* II. III. 187 To that Marshalship [Marisciallo di Santa Chiesa], belongs the keeping of the Conclave. 1815 SOUTHEY in *Q. Rev.* XIII. 493 The more ambitious spirits who aspired to Marshalships [etc.]. 1881 *Nation* (N. Y.) XXXII. 362 When they find the Administration giving marshalships .. to persons [etc.].

Marshashey, obs. form of MARSHALSEA.

Marshbanker, -bunker: see MOSSBUNKER.

Marsh gas. Light carburetted hydrogen, CH_4, found in coal-mines and about stagnant pools. (Cf. FIRE-DAMP.)

1848 FOWNES *Elem. Chem.* 189 Marsh-gas. 1881 *19th Cent.* No. 48. 245 Light carburetted hydrogen, or marsh gas, .. is the cause of explosions in collieries.

Marshial(e, -iall, obs. ff. MARSHAL, MARTIAL.

Marshialshy, obs. form of MARSHALSEA.

Marshiness (mā·ɹʃinės). [f. MARSHY + -NESS.] Marshy nature or condition of ground.

1710 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4757/1 The wet Weather and the Marshyness of the Ground make our Approaches very difficult. 1763 W. ROBERTS *Florida* 64 The worst circumstance .. was the marshiness of the soil, where they were sometimes obliged to sleep in the water. 1876 *Daily News* 27 Oct. 5/5 The marshiness of the alluvial soil about the river.

Marshing (mā·ɹʃiŋ), *vbl. sb. local.* [f. MARSH *sb.* + -ING 2.] **a.** The keeping of cattle for a period on salt marshes. **b.** Work done on a marsh.

1778 [W. MARSHALL] *Minutes Agric.* 7 Nov. 1776 [To] give them [*sc.* cattle] three weeks or a month's marshing, during the summer-vacation. 1892 P. H. EMERSON *Son of Fens* 78 Mashing includes marsh-mowing, dyke-cutting, bottom-fying, dike-drawing, &c.

Marshland (mā·ɹʃlænd). [OE. *mersclond*: see MARSH *sb.* and LAND *sb.*] Land consisting of marsh; marshy country.

c 1122 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1098 For neah ælc tilð on mersc lande for ferde. [*a* 1300 *E. E. Psalter* cvi. 34 In saltmersche land fruitberande.] 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 21044 A Maryssh, or elles a mersshe lond, That peryllous was, and ful profounde. 1651 N. BACON *Disc. Govt. Eng.* II. xxxiii. (1739) 150 Malicious breakings of the Dikes and Banks in Marshlands. 1700 TYRRELL *Hist. Eng.* II. 803 The Marshland of Norfolk. 1834 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) I. 602 The febrile miasma issuing from marsh lands. 1901 *Spectator* 17 Aug. 215/2 On the other side of the creek a flat expanse of marshland extends for a mile or two.

b. *attrib.* or as *adj.*

1870 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* III. IV. 220 The marshland haze. 1889 HISSEY *Tour in Phaeton* 182 Rich marshland pasturage. 1893 J. A. OWEN, etc. *Forest Tithes* 195 One marshland farm I often visited.

Hence **Ma·rshlander** (see quot.).

1787 W. MARSHALL *Norf.* (1795) II. 383 *Marshlanders*, cattle of the marshland or short-horned breed.

Marshlock, obs. form of MASHLOCH *Sc.*

† Ma·rshly, *a. Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. In 4–5 **mersschly.** [f. MARSH *sb.* + -LY 1.] Marshy.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Somnp. T.* 2 (Harl.) Pere is in Engelond, I gesse, A mersschly lond, called Holdernesse.

Marsh-mallow. Forms: see MARSH *sb.* and MALLOW. [OE. *mærscmealwe.*] (Also *pl.*, const. as *sing.*) A shrubby herb, *Althea officinalis* (NO. *Malvaceæ*), which grows near salt marshes, having ovate leaves, pale rose-coloured flowers, and a mucilaginous root.

For various local applications of the name see *E. D. D.*

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 140 Ðeos wyrt þe man hibiscum & oðrum namen mersc mealwe nemnaþ. *a* 1100 *Ags. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 296/21 *Arthea*, merscmealewe. *c* 1450 *Alphita* (Anecd. Oxon.) 22/2 Bismalua, alta malua, altea idem, .. wymalue uel marshmalue. 1543 TRAHERON *Vigo's Chirurg.* II. ii. 14 b/1 Take..of the rootes of Altea called Holyhocke, or marche mallowes.., a pounde. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. cccliii. (1633) 935 The leaves of Marsh Mallow are of the power to digest. 1683 TRYON *Way to Health* 576 Mallows and Marsh-Mallows..will cure near Fifty Diseases. 1718 QUINCY *Compl. Disp.* 112 *Althæa*. Marshmallows. It flowers in July and August. 1876 tr. *von Ziemssen's Cycl. Med.* IV. 210 For the relief of the irritable cough,..an infusion of marsh mallow or expectorant herbs.

attrib. 1612 WOODALL *Surg. Mate* Wks. (1653) 205 Decoction of March Mallow roots in water. 1753 BARTLET *Farriery* 96–7 The marshmallow ointment. 1836 J. M. GULLY *Magendie's Formul.* (ed. 2) 105 Marshmallow syrup.

b. A confection made from the root of this plant.

* 1884 *Chamb. Jrnl.* 4 Oct. 640/2 Gum-arabic..makes about thirty per cent. of the best quality of gum-drops, marshmallow, and jujube paste. 1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 11 Aug. 12/1 Chocolates, 'marsh-mallows', and other toothsome delicacies.

Ma·rshman. A dweller in marshy country; an inhabitant of a particular stretch of marshland, e.g. Romney Marsh.

1573 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 38 Sharpe cutting spade, for the deniding of mow, with skuppat and skauel, that marsh men alow. 1587 FLEMING *Contn. Holinshed* III. 1540/2 That sir Thomas Scot would throughlie informe himselfe hy conference with the marshmen. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 350 In the Saxons time the inhabitants heereof [Rumney] were called Mersc-ware, that is Marshmen. 1827 *Sporting Mag.* XX. 39 These birds (*colymbus minutus*) are..called by the Marshmen *Spider Divers*. 1889 DOYLE *Micah Clarke* 294 The riot had now changed into open mutiny among these marshmen and miners.

Marsh marigold. Also 7 **March-.** A ranunculaceous plant, *Caltha palustris*, growing in moist meadows and bearing showy golden flowers.

1578 LYTE *Dodoens* I. XX. 31 The small Celandyne, and the Braue Bassinet, or Marsh Marigold, do grow in moyst medowes. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. cclxxx. 670 Marsh Marigold hath great broad leaues somewhat round, of a gallant greene colour, .. among which rise vp thicke fat stalkes .. whereupon do growe goodly yellow flowers. 1657 S. PURCHAS *Pol. Flying-Ins.* I. XV. 94 Bees gather of these flowers following .. In April .. March-marigold. 1756 C. LUCAS *Ess. Waters* II. 131 All over it [grow] rushes, red rattle, marsh-marygold [etc.]. 1833 TENNYSON *May Queen* I. 31 The wild marsh-marigold shines like fire in swamps and hollows gray. 1882a *Garden* 15 Apr. 261/2 Wild Marsh Marigolds fill a large bowl on a hall table.

Marshwort (mā·ɹʃ,wɒɹt). [See MARSH *sb.* and WORT.] The umbelliferous plant *Helosciadium* (*Sium*) *nodiflorum*.

1776 WITHERING *Bot. Arrangem. Vegetables* I. 127 Marshwort, *Samolus*. 1897 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* Dec. 617 Procumbent marsh-wort, *Helosciadium nodiflorum*, is a plant with the habit of watercress.

¶ An error for *marsh* or *marish whort* (see MARISH 2 b). 1864 PRIOR *Plant-n.* 146.

Marshy (mā·ɹʃi), *a.* Also 4 **mershi.** [f. MARSH *sb.* + -Y.] Pertaining to or of the nature of a marsh; consisting of or containing marshes or marshland.

1382 WYCLIF *Gen.* xli. 2 Thei weren fed in mershi places. 1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong, Lieu marescagenx*, marshy ground. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 605 And from the marshy Land Salt Herbage for the fodd'ring Rack provide. 1703 MAUNDRELL *Journ. Jerus.* (1732) 21 A restless night, in a marshy and unwholsome ground. 1876 BANCROFT *Hist. U. S.* VI. liv. 425 Over a marshy ravine in front of the right, a large redoubt was placed.

b. Produced in or characteristic of marshland.

1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 277 Their wanton Appetites not only feed With Delicates of Leaves, and marshy Weed, But [etc.]. 1870 A. R. WALLACE *Nat. Sel.* (1871) 53 The prevalent forms and colours of marshy vegetation.

‖ **Marsilea** (maɹsi·lĭă). *Bot.* Also **marsilia.** [mod.L. (Linnæus 1742), f. name of L. F. Marsigli (*Marsilius*), an Italian naturalist (died 1730).] The typical genus of the N.O. *Marsileaceæ* of cryptogamous plants; a plant of this genus.

1887 *Athenæum* 7 May 610/3 The ferns with the salvinias and marsilias are united into one group.

Marsileaceous (māsiliē·ʃės), *a. Bot.* [f. mod.L. *Marsileāce-æ* (f. *Marsilea*: see prec.): see -ACEOUS.] Belonging to the N.O. *Marsileaceæ*.

1856 in MAYNE *Expos. Lex.* 1862 ANSTED *Channel Isl.* II. viii. (ed. 2) 184 A little marsiliaceous plant (*Isoetes hystrix*).

† Marsi·lian. *Obs.* Also **marsiliane, marsiliana.** [ad. It. *marsigliana*, f. *Marsiglia* Marseilles.] (See quot. 1769.)

1687 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2246/3 Being embarqued, the Foot on 8 Ships and the Horse on 6 Marsilians. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* II. (1780), *Marsiliane*, a square-sterned ship, navigated on the Gulph of Venice .. the largest carrying about 700 tons. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk., Marsiliana*, a Venetian ship of burden, square-sterned.

Marsipobranch (mā·ɹsipobræŋk), *sb.* and *a. Zool.* [Anglicized form of mod.L. *Marsipobranchii*, f. Gr. *μάρσιπο-ς* pouch (see MARSUPIUM) + *βράγχια* gills.] **a.** *sb.* One of the *Marsipobranchii*, a class of vertebrates having gills in the form of pouches, and comprising the lampreys and hags. **b.** *attrib.* or *adj.* Pertaining to animals of this class.

1872 MIVART *Elem. Anat.* 42 All Vertebrates, save those.. like the Lancelet and Marsipobranchs. 1875 HUXLEY in *Encycl. Brit.* I. 770/2 The skull of the lowest *Urodela* has ..advanced but little beyond the Marsipobranch stage.

Hence **Ma·rsipobra·nchiate** *sb.* and *a.* = prec.

1872 T. GILL *Arrangem. Fam. Fishes* p. xx, The Marsipobranchiates (Lampreys, etc.). 1889 *Syd. Soc. Lex., Marsipobranchiate*, having gills in the form of small pouches.

† Marsoline. *Obs.* [ad. It. *marzolino.*] A kind of cheese made near Florence.

1636 DAVENANT *Wits* IV. i, Your Marsoline and Parmesan of Lodi.

‖ **Marsouin** (marswęn). Also 7–9 **marsuin,** 9 *Canadian* **marsoon** (maɹsū·n). [Fr.: see MERESWINE.] A name applied to various cetaceans of the family *Delphinidæ*.

In early quots., after European Fr., the porpoise. In recent examples, after Canadian Fr., = BELUGA 2.

1666 J. DAVIES *Hist. Caribby Isles* 101 The Marsouins are the Sea-hogs or Porposes. [*a* 1672 WILLUGHBY *Hist. Pisc.* (1686) 31 Cimbris Marsuin vel Porcus marinus: Angl. A Porpesse.] 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp., Marsuin*, a name by which many have called the *phocæna* or *porpesse*. 1854 EMERSON *Lett. & Soc. Aims* Wks. (Bohn) III. 208 Everybody now appears to me narwhale, porpoise, or marsouins. 1884 GOODE, etc. *Nat. Hist. Aquatic Anim.* I. 18 The names [of the White Whale] in use are.. Marsuin or Marsoon in Canada.

Marsupial (maɹsiū·pĭăl), *a.* and *sb.* Also 7 **-eal.** [ad. mod.L. *marsūpiālis*, f. L. *marsūpi-um* pouch, purse (see MARSUPIUM). The zoological use of the L. word was introduced by Tyson, who in 1698 uses the neuter *marsupiale* as a generic name for the opossum; he also has *ossa marsupialia* marsupial bones (see A. 2 b).]

A. *adj.* **1.** Pertaining to or resembling a 'marsupium' or pouch. *Marsupial muscle* (in mod.L. *musculus marsupialis*): see quot. 1696. *Marsupial capsule*: in a colony of Polyzoa, an individual serving only for the reception of ova.

1696 PHILLIPS (ed. 5), *Marsupeal Muscle*, the ninth Muscle in order whereby the Thigh is mov'd. 1843 OWEN *Lect. Comp. Anat. Invertebr.* 109 In this state they are transferred from the ovarium to the marsupial vesicles..In the ova of the marsupial sacs, Siebold could no longer discern the germinal vesicle..The marsupial ova next assume an increase of size. 1878 BELL *Gegenbaur's Comp. Anat.* 132 Some persons may serve only for the reception of ova, and form the so-called marsupial capsules.

2. Used as a designation of mammals (including the kangaroos, opossums, etc.) of the family *Marsupialia*, characterized by having a pouch (covering the mamillæ) in which to carry their young, which are born imperfectly developed; of or pertaining to this family.

1825 *Zool. Jrnl.* I. 405 These three states of genital products require three distinct situations, which in the normal mammifera, are found within the sexual canal; but in the marsupial they are very differently distributed. 1832 LYELL *Princ. Geol.* II. 89 More than forty species of the marsupial family. 1870 ROLLESTON *Anim. Life* 64 From the reproductive gland to the marsupial pouch. 1898 MORRIS *Austral Eng.* 288 *Marsupial Mole*, the only species of the genus *Notoryctes, N. typhlops*.

b. Connected with the pouch in marsupial animals.

1819 REES *Cycl.* s.v. *Didelphis*, The abdominal pouch is sustained by means of two bones of a peculiar structure, and which in allusion to their functions have been called the marsupial bones. 1834 OWEN in *Phil. Trans.* CXXIV. 334 These bones..defend the abdominal viscera from the pressure of the young as these increase in size during their mammary or marsupial existence. *Ibid.*, The subject of marsupial generation. 1896 KIRKALDY & POLLARD tr. *Boas' Text Bk. Zool.* 496 The Marsupials have marsupial bones.

B. *sb.* A marsupial animal.

1835 *Penny Cycl.* III. 127. 1839 *Ibid.* XIV. 450 The leading peculiarity in these Marsupials is, so to speak, the premature birth of their young. 1896 [see A. 2 b].

attrib. 1885 H. FINCH-HATTON *Advance Australia* 106 An Act known as the Marsupial Act was accordingly passed to encourage their destruction...Some of the squatters have gone to a vast expense in fencing in their runs with marsupial fencing.

Marsupialian (maɹsiŭpi,ē·liăn), *a.* and *sb.* [f. mod.L. *marsūpiāl-is* (see prec.) + -IAN.] = prec.

1848 MAUNDER *Treas. Nat. Hist.* 793 *Marsupialian*, belonging to the class *Marsupialia*.

Marsupialization (maɹsiŭ·piălaizē·ʃən). [f. next + -ATION.] The formation of a pouch, or of a pouch-like cavity (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1889).

Marsupialize (maɹsiŭ·piălaiz), *v.* [f. MARSUPIAL + -IZE.] *trans.* To convert into something resembling the pouch of a marsupial.

1899 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 23 Dec. 102 The operator managed to marsupialise the edges of the pouch, which was drained through the abdominal wall with gauze.

Marsupialoid, *a.* and *sb.* [f. MARSUPIAL + -OID.] Resembling the marsupials.

1860 WORCESTER (citing HITCHCOCK). 1895 *Pop. Sci. Monthly* Sept. 693 A few marsupialoids.

Marsupian (maɹsiŭ·pĭăn), *a.* and *sb.* [f. MARSUPIUM + -AN.] = MARSUPIAL.

1835 KIRBY *Hab. & Inst. Anim.* II. xvii. 175 A marsupian animal like the Kanguroo. 1854 BAKEWELL *Geol.* 50 The lower jaw bones of animals, which Prof. Owen has determined belong to the genus of marsupians, or opossums.

Marsupiate (maɹsiŭ·pi,ēt), *a.* and *sb.* [f. MARSUPI-UM + -ATE.] = MARSUPIAL.

1834 OWEN in *Phil. Trans.* CXXIV. 361 The impregnated uteri of the Edentate and Marsupiate genera. 1849 *Fraser's Mag.* XXXIX. 297 A marsupiate sea-monster is horribly unorthodox. 1858 W. CLARK tr. *Van der Hoeven's Zool.* II. 594 The placenta..occurs in the mammals alone; but it is, however, wanting in the Marsupiates and Monotremes.

Hence **Marsu·piated** *ppl. a.* in the same sense.

1890 in *Century Dict.*

Marsupite (mā·ɹsiŭpəit). *Geol.* [mod. L. *marsūpītēs*, f. MARSUPIUM: see -ITE.] A fossil crinoid, the shell of which resembles a purse.

1835 KIRBY *Hab. & Inst. Anim.* II. xiii. 11 The Marsupites ..form the link which connects the proper or pedunculated Crinoideans with the Stelleridans. 1885 GEIKIE *Text-bk. Geol.* (ed. 2) 828 The middle division, or Margate Chalk, has been named the Marsupite zone by Dr. Barrois.

‖ **Marsupium** (maɹsiŭ·pĭŭm). Also 9 (after Gr.) **marsupion, marsypion.** [L. *marsūpium, marsuppium*, ad. Gr. *μαρσύπιον, -σίπιον*, dim. of *μάρσιπος* purse, bag.] In various scientific uses: A bag or pouch, or something resembling a pouch.

1. *Zool.* **a.** The bag or pouch of a marsupial.

1698 TYSON *Anat. Opossum* 11 Herein all agree, that the use of this Bag, Pouch, or Marsupium, is for the Preservation of the Young Ones, and securing them upon any Occasion of Danger. 1825 *Zool. Jrnl.* I. 406 The difference .. is solely in the fœtal domicile; we call it matrix in the one, and pouch, or marsupium in the others. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XIV. 450 Their young..attach themselves by the mouth to the teats, which are situated in the marsupium, or pouch, of the mother. 1891 FLOWER & LYDEKKER *Introd. Mammals* 160 All the species have a marsupium or pouch formed by a fold of the skin of the abdomen.

b. A pouch for similar use in other animals, e. g. a receptacle for eggs in certain crustaceans, marsipobranchiate fishes, etc.

1843 OWEN *Lect. Comp. Anat. Invertebr.* 289 The development of the ovum takes place in this temporary marsupium. 1851–6 WOODWARD *Mollusca* 245 In *Cyclas* the inner gills form the marsupium, and only from 10 to 20 of the fœtus are found in them at one time. 1866 KIRKALDY & POLLARD tr. *Boas' Text Bk. Zool.* 214 The Isopoda possess a marsupium under the thorax, formed of the lamellate appendages of the basal joints of the thoracic limbs.

c. A folded or corrugated vascular membrane in the eye of a bird; = PECTEN 3 a.

1795 HOME in *Phil. Trans.* LXXXVI. 16 In the eyes of birds there is a substance which is peculiar to that class of animals, called the marsupium. 1841–71 T. R. JONES *Anim. Kingd.* (ed. 4) 779 A vascular organ, called the marsupium or pecten, which is lodged in the posterior part of the vitreous humour.

2. *Anat.* a. The large sac of the peritoneum (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1889). b. A term for the scrotum (*Ibid.*). c. The alar ligaments of the knee-joint (*Cent. Dict.*).

3. *Surg.* (See quot.)

1855 DUNGLISON *Dict. Med.* (ed. 12), *Marsupion*, a sac or bag, with which any part is fomented.

Mart (mārt), *sb.*[1] *dial.* Forms: [1 mearð, mærth, merð, 2 ? merthe], 8– mart. [App. evolved in the mod.Eng. period by analysis of *foulmart* (FOUMART), where *-mart* is an altered form, due to absence of stress, of OE. *mearð* masc.: see MARTEN, MARTER. Exc. in this compound, the OE. word did not survive beyond the 12th c., being superseded by MARTER.] The marten.

a 700 *Epinal Gloss.* 425 *Furunculus*, mearth. *c* 893 K. ÆLFRED *Oros.* I. i. § 18 Se byrdesta sceall gyldan fiftyne mearðes fell. *c* 1200 *Moral Ode* (Trin. MS.) 366 Ne aquerne ne me[r]theschele [*Egerton MS.* martres cheole] ne beuer ne sabeline. 1713 RICHARDSON in *Phil. Trans.* XXVIII. 170 *Foumart, quasi* foul Mart, or stinking Mart, in opposition to the Martes which emit a musky Smell. 1801 W. SEWARD *Fordes Cave* 9 The Otter fierce, the badger and the mart. 1830 *Blackw. Mag.* XXVIII. 1 Wolves, hyenas, foxes, marts, and hares. 1885 *Bazaar* 30 Mar. 1249/3 Wanted, fresh caught badger, .. sweet mart, foumart, and otter. 1895 *Westm. Gaz.* 3 Oct. 2/3 A Mart Hunt [in Westmorland].

Mart (mārt), *sb.*[2] *Sc.* and *north.* Forms: 4–6 marte, 6 merte, (9 mert), 6–9 mairt, 4– mart. [a. Gael. *mart* = Irish *mart* cow, ox.]

1. An ox or cow fattened for slaughter.

As 'marts' were usually killed about Martinmas as provision for the winter, the word popularly acquired an etymological association with *Martinmas*; cf. *Martinmas beef.*

1307–8 *Durh. Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 2 In ccxxviij martis emptis .. non deductis coriis [etc.]. *c* 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 454 Martirs [*read* martis] as it ware þat husbond men had bought. 1368 *Priory of Finchale* (Surtees) p. lxxx, Et de viij li. v s. receptis de xv marts de eodem manerio venditis. 1489 *Sc. Acts Jas. IV* (1814) II. 219/1 þat all .. martis mutounes poultre .. may cum in to oure souerane lorde. 1520 *Extracts Burgh Rec. Stirling* (1887) 7 In byin of mertis, mutton, talk and skennis. 1573 in *Reg. Privy Counc. Scot.* II. 269, xxx martis of salt beif. *a* 1670 SPALDING *Troub. Chas. I* (1829) 25 They .. caused to kill altogether threescore marts. 1798 D. CRAWFORD *Poems* 16 (E.D.D.) He may next year get for his mart a highland cow. 1820 SCOTT *Monast.* i, Each family killed a mart, or fat bullock, in November. 1872 E. W. ROBERTSON *Hist. Ess.* 135 In a pastoral state of society he [the ox] was comparatively little use except as a mart—to be eaten. 1881 GREGOR *Folk-Lore N.E. Scot.* 151 The 'mairt' or the pig, that was to be salted, must be killed when the moon was on the increase.

b. *fig.*

1589 R. BRUCE *Serm.* (1843) 166 As for the fed-marts of this world the Lord .. has appointed them for slaughter. 1722 RAMSAY *Three Bonnets* III. 41 Get up, get up, ye lazy mart.

† c. *transf.* A carcase, slain animal. *Obs.*

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* ii. (*Paulus*) 842 [He] fand a tre .. and syne on It slewit hym-self rycht to þe hart, and offerit to þe fend þat mart. *a* 1400 *Sir Perc.* 207 His modir hase gyffene hym that darte, Therwith made he many marte.

† 2. (See quot.) *Obs.*

1689 R. COX *Hist. Iref.* I. Expl. Index, *Mart*, a yearly Rent in Beef.

† **Mart**, *sb.*[3] *Obs.* [ad. L. *Mart-em*: see MARS.]

1. Mars, the Roman god of war.

c 1384 CHAUCER *H. Fame* III. 336 For yren Martes metal ys, Which that god is of batayle. 1515 DUNBAR *Poems* xxxiii. 67 Sum held he had bene Dedalus, .. Sum the Martis smyth Wlcanus. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. Introd. iii, Triumphant Mart, In loves and gentle jollities arraid.

2. War, battle. (*In equal mart* = L. *æquo Marte.*)

1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) II. 149 The Scottes .. wente furthe and toke to theyme seetes, what thro marte [L. *ferro*] other fauor, nye to the Pictes. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* I. Prol. 516 The horrible sterne dedis of Mart. 1567 TURBERV. *Ovid's Ep.* vii. G iij b, But if thou long for warre, or young Iulus seeke By manly Mart to purchase prayse, and giue his foes the gleeke. 1600 FAIRFAX *Tasso* VI. xxxvi, These fooles thus vnderfoot I tread, That dare contend with me in equall mart. 1636 MASSINGER *Bashf. Lover* II. vii, My father (on whose face he durst not look In equal mart).

3. The planet Mars. (Frequent in Gower.)

1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 130 Complexion he taktb of Marte.

Mart (mārt), *sb.*[4] Also 5–7 marte. [a. Du. *markt* (formerly also written *mart*, and still commonly so pronounced): see MARKET *sb.*]

1. A periodical gathering of people for the purpose of buying and selling (in early use chiefly with reference to the Low Countries); a fair. *Obs.* or *arch.*

1437 *Libel Eng. Policy* in *Pol. Songs* (Rolls) II. 179 And wee to martis of Braban charged bene Wyth Englyssh clothe. 1483 CAXTON *Dialogues* 19/1, I thinke to goo .. To the feste of bruges, To the marte of andwarp, To the marte of berow. 1502 ARNOLDE *Chron.* (1811) 231 At y[e] free passe marte of this said towne of Barowe last passed. 1530 TINDALE *Pract. Prelates* H iv b, The Cardinall .. lefte nothing vnprouided to bring the marte from Antwarpe to Cales. 1541 *Act* 33 *Hen. VIII*, c. 34 They .. shall .. hold within the said borough two faires or martes euery yere. 1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* I. i. 18 Siracusian Marts and Fayres. 1631 T. POWELL *Tom All Trades* (1876) 163 To benefit betweene the Mart and the Market. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* II. (Globe) 540 The Fair or Mart, usually kept in this Place, had been over some Time. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. x. 245 At the time of the mart, whilst the Manila galeon is in the port. 1788 COWPER *Negro's Compl.* 46 By our sufferings, since ye brought us To the man-degrading mart. 1839 STONEHOUSE *Axholme* 309 After Gainsbrough mart in October, until the next mart at Easter, the people in these villages seldom thought of going anywhere.

† b. *spec.* The German booksellers' fair, held at Easter, originally at Frankfort, and afterwards at Leipzig. (Sometimes app. used *transf.* for the 'publishing season' in England.) *Obs.*

1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 177 Let him reade *Buxdorfius* and his *Bibliotheca Rabbinica*, printed this last Mart. 1620 E. BLOUNT *Horæ Subs.* 42 Copied out of some absurd booke, printed the last Mart. *c* 1620 WOTTON in *Reliq.* (1651) 472 We may expect some Pamphlet the next Mart from Ingolstat, or Collen. 1655 DIGGES *Compl. Ambass.* 273 By certain that returned from Frankfort Mart, I understand that one of the Gentlemen .. died.

2. A public place for buying and selling; a market-place, market hall, etc. Now *poet.* or *rhetorical*, exc. in the sense of 'auction room' (more fully *auction-mart*), and as applied by tradesmen to designate their shops, as in *boot and shoe mart.*

1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* I. ii. 74 My charge was but to fetch you from the Mart Home to your house. *Ibid.* III. i. 12 You beat me at the Mart. 1616 R. C. *Times' Whistle* iv. 1235 Our lawes for Mammons cursed golde Like as at open mart are bought and solde. 1764 GOLDSM. *Trav.* 295 The crowded mart, the cultivated plain. 1815 SCOTT *L. of Isles* VI. i, When breathless in the mart the couriers met. 1844 LONGF. *Nuremburg* 14 Fountains .. standing in the common mart. 1863 BURTON *Bk. Hunter* 60 The fashionable mart where all the thorough libraries in perfect condition went to be hammered off. 1882 P. FITZGERALD *Recreat. Lit. Man* (1883) 189 This [goblet] I had seen in the window of a mart.

3. In wider sense: A city, region, or locality where things are bought or sold; an emporium.

1611 BIBLE *Isa.* xxiii. 3 She is a mart of nations. 1719 W. WOOD *Surv. Trade* 283 Cadiz, Port St. Mary's, &c., which Places were the Mart of our Manufactures for the Indies. 1850 MERIVALE *Rom. Emp.* (1865) I. v. 228 They possessed no great cities, no great marts of industry and commerce. 1874 STUBBS *Const. Hist.* (1875) I. iv. 61 London, the mart of the merchants. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* vii. § 5. 386 Antwerp and Bruges were .. the general marts of the world.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1602 MARSTON *Antonio's Rev.* IV. iii, O world, .. Ile leave thee; farewell, mart of woe. 1762 GOLDSM. *Nash* 21 To this great mart of every folly, sharpers from every country daily arrived.

† 4. Buying and selling; traffic; bargaining. Also, a bargain. Phr. *To make a* (or *one's*) *mart. Obs.*

1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 716 The lowe Countries, where the Englishe men for the most part, made their martes. 1575 GASCOIGNE *Dan Barthol.*, Posies *Flowers* 69 Then mighte you see howe fansie fedde his minde, Then all alone he mused on his marte. 1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* Sept. 37 They .. maken a Mart of their good name. 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* II. i. 329 Now I play a marchants part, And venture madly on a desperate Mart. 1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* v. xii. § 5 Christ could not suffer that the temple should serue for a place of Mart. 1599 MARSTON *Sco. Villanie* I. ii, Vengeance pricks me on, When mart is made of faire Religion. *a* 1618 SYLVESTER *Maidens Blush* 464 Therefore forthwith one to them let us send, The mart to offer, and the price to make, As of a Slave. 1637 R. HUMPHREY tr. *St. Ambrose* I. 118 Places of mart where hee may best vent them.

† 5. *attrib.*, as in *mart-day, -time, -town.*

1641 HINDE *J. Bruen* xxxii. 102 That he might .. buy Wine and Milk without money, .. upon such of the Lords *Mart and Market dayes. 1624 MASSINGER *Renegado* I. i, This *Mart time Wee are allowde free trading. 1549 COVERDALE, etc. *Erasm. Par. Corinthians* 1 Corinthe .. was .. the moste famous, and richest *marte towne of all Asia. 1647 TRAPP *Comm.* 1 *Cor.* v. 9 It [i. e. Corinth] was .. a most filthy Mart-town of abominable lusts. 1736 DRAKE *Eboracum* I. vii. 227 That York was formerly the chief emporium, place of trade, or mart-town in the north of England is certain. 1761 *London & Environs* IV. 6 During the Saxon heptarchy, London was .. as we are told by Bede, a princely mart-town.

† **Mart**, *sb.*[5] *Obs.* [Alteration of MARQUE app. by association with MART *sb.*[4] Cf. CONTRA-, CONTRE-, COUNTERMART.] = MARQUE; in phr. *letters* (*scripts, writ*) *of mart.*

1587 GREENE *Penelopes Web* Wks. (Grosart) V. 197 Abradus the great Macedonian Pirat thought euery one had a letter of mart that bare sayles in y[e] Ocean. 1602 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* XI. lxiv. (1612) 277 With letters then of credence for himselfe, and marte for them, He puts to Sea for England. *a* 1612 HARINGTON *Epigr.* II. xxx. (1618) E 7, You'le spoile the Spaniards, by your writ of Mart. 1627 DRAYTON *Batt. Agincourt* 10 All men of Warre with scripts of Mart that went. 1726 J. KER *Mem.* 153 Letters of Mart were issued to Sundry People, who all went to the East-Indies.

b. *attrib.*, as in *letter(s of mart man, ship.*

1695 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) III. 543 Three letters of mart ships are ordered for the West Indies. 1704 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4071/3 The Good Alliance, .. being taken by a Letter of Mart-Man belonging to this Port. 1753 N. TORIANO *Gangr. Sore Throat* p. xv, Thus much by way of Preface to this Translation; after which I shall send it into the World as a Letter of Mart Ship, .. hoping that it may meet with some Prize of Approbation.

† **Mart** (mārt), *v. Obs.* [f. MART *sb.*[4]; cf. Du., G. *markten* (G. dial. *marten*).]

1. *intr.* To do business at a mart; hence, to chaffer, bargain.

1553 *Req. True-hearted Eng.* 5 Our marchauntes do by martyng in Antwarp spende yerely [etc.]. 1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. i. II. *Imposture* 349 She would, she should not; glad, sad; coms and goes: And long she marts about a Match of Woes. 1602 FULBECKE *Pandectes* 72 The Athenians, who had vtterlie secluded them from their Hauens, and from marting with them. 1628 GAULE *Pract. Theory* (1629) 181 Judas is busie marting and chaffering among them.

2. *trans.* To make merchandise of, to traffic in. Also with *out.*

1589 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* VI. xxix, Let Pesantes marte their marriages, and thriue at peraduenture. 1598 B. JONSON *Ev. Man in Hum.* (Q.) I. i. 172, I had thought my son could not have straied, So farre from iudgement, as to mart himselfe Thus cheapely, (in the open trade of scorne). 1601 SHAKS. *Jul. C.* IV. iii. 11 To sell, and Mart your Offices for Gold To Vnderseruers. 1652 GAULE *Magastrom.* XXVI, Hereupon the astrologers doe mart or vent the effects of the heavens and the stars, &c. 1788 ANNA SEWARD *Lett.* (1811) II. 6 Reviewers may be venal without directly marting out their decisions for money.

Hence † **Ma·rting** *vbl. sb.*

1553 [see 1]. 1608 BP. HALL *Epist.* I. i, Marting of pardons.

‖ **Martaban** (mā·rtăhæn). Also 7 mortaban, 7–8 mortivan. The name of a town in Pegu, used *attrib.* (esp. in *Martaban jar*) as the designation of a kind of glazed pottery made there. Hence as *sb.* Martaban ware, a Martaban jar.

[The ware has been called in Arabic مرتبانى *martabāni* from the 14th c.]

1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 180 An huge Heap of long Jars like Mortivans. 1699 DAMPIER *Voy.* II. i. 98 These they call Mortaban Jars, from a Town of that name in Pegu. 1711 C. LOCKYER *Acc. Trade India* 35 Mortivan and small Jars. 1903 *Blackw. Mag.* Feb. 229/1 Large glazed earthen jars called by Europeans 'Pegu jars' and known all over the East by the name of 'Martaban'.

Martagon (mā·rtăgŏn). Also 6 mortegon, 7 martagan, -igon. [a. F. *martagon* = Sp., Pg. *martagon*, It. *martagone*, a. Turk. مارطغان *martagān* 'a special form of turban adopted by Sultan Muhammed I; hence the martagon lily' (Redhouse).] The Turk's-cap lily, *Lilium Martagon.* Also *Scarlet martagon*: the Scarlet Turk's-cap, *L. chalcedonicum.*

1477 NORTON *Ord. Alch.* iii. in Ashm. (1652) 39 Herbes .. as .. Vervaine, Lunara, and Martagon. ?1540 tr. *Vigo's Lyt. Pract.* XXXVIII. B iij b, The powdre of Mortegon. 1548 TURNER *Names of Herbes* (E.D.S.) 85. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* I. xciv. § 4. 152 The Lillie of Constantinople is called likewise in England Martagon of Constantinople. 1629 PARKINSON *Parad. in Sole* iv. 9 The Martagons, both white and red, both blush and yellow, that require to be set by themselues apart. 1637 B. JONSON *Sad Sheph.* II. vii, The Stupifying Hemlock! Adders tongue! And Martagan! 1737 P. COLLINSON in Darlington *Mem. J. Bartram & H. Marshall* (1849) 97 The Marsh Martagon is going to flower very strongly. 1866 LIVINGSTONE *Last Jrnls.* (1874) I. vii. 171 Here and there the scarlet martagon.

attrib. 1773 H. WALPOLE *Let.* 29 May, I send you two martagon roots. 1892 DOBSON *18th Cent. Vignettes* 146 Scarlet martagon-lilies.

Martail: see MAR-.

Martar, variant of MARTER *Obs.*

Marteir, obs. form of MARTYR.

Martel (mā·rtĕl), *sb.*[1] Also 4 martell; 5 *pl.* martows, marteaulx, 9 marteaux. [a. OF. *martel* (mod.F. *marteau*) = Pr. *martel-s*, Sp. *martillo*, Pg., It. *martello*:—pop. L. **martellum*; a synon. L. *martulus* occurs in Pliny, and other post-Augustan writers have *marcellus, marculus, marcus*, but the relation between these forms has not been determined.]

1. A hammer; after the 15th c. esp. one used in war. Also ‖ **Martel-de-fer** [Fr. = 'iron hammer'] (see quot. 1824). *Obs.* exc. *Antiq.*

1474 CAXTON *Chesse* 70 Al maner of smythes ben signefyed by the martel or hamer. 1481 — *Myrr.* II. xxviii. 122 Smytynge of marteaulx or hamers. 1525 BERNERS *Froiss.* (1812) II. cxciv. 595 The lorde Olyuer of Clysson had not .. delyuered vp the Martell, whiche is the token of the Constable of Fraunce. 1824 MEYRICK *Anc. Armour* III. Gloss., *Martellus*, the martel de fer, a weapon which had at one end a pick and at the other a hammer, axe-blade, half moon, mace head or other fancy termination. 1857 *Archæol. Jrnl.* XIV. 280 A Turkish martel, the head inlaid with brass, ornamented with punched markings. 1868 *Ibid.* XXV. 141 A large number of marteaux or horsemen's hammers of a peculiar type. 1890 A. PRINCE *Palomide* 93 The storm Of thunder-hoofs, of martel, spear and sword.

† 2. *pl.* The game of 'five-stones' or 'snobs'. [So in OFr.; Rabelais has the form *martre*, Ronsard *martes.*]

1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 8433 At the martews, the gentyl play Vsyd in fraunce many day.

† **Martel**, *sb.*[2] *Obs.* [? Corrupt form of MARTER or MARTEN.] = MARTEN.

1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 495 Of the Marder, Martell, or Marten.

† **Martel**, *sb.*[3] *Sc. Obs.* Shortened form of *Martilmas*, MARTINMAS.

17.. in *Scots Songs* (1790) I. 60 Oh, Martel's wind, when wilt thou blaw And shake the sear leaves aff the tree?

†**Martel**, *v. Obs. rare*—[1]. [f. MARTEL *sb.*[1] Cf. F. *marteler*, Sp. *martillar*, It. *martellare*.] *intr.* To hammer, deal blows as with a hammer (*on*).

1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* III. vii. 42 Her dreadfull weapon .. Which on his helmet martelled so hard That (etc.).

†**Martelaise.** *Obs.* In 5 **marteleise, martilsys.** [a. OF. *martelais* (:—med.L. type **martellātīcium*), f. *marteler*: see prec.] A fighting with martels; a hammering.

c 1450 *Merlin* 211 Ther was soche marteleise and soche noise as so many Carpenteres in a wode. *Ibid.* 334 Thei .. haue all day..endured the medle and the martileys.

Martelege, variant of MARTILOGE *Obs.*

Martelet(t(e, obs. forms of MARTLET.

Marteline (mā·ɹtēlin). [a. F. *marteline*, f. OF. *martel*: see MARTEL *sb.*[1]] A small hammer, pointed at one end, used by sculptors and marble-workers. *Marteline chisel*, a sculptor's chisel, driven by a mallet or hammer. 1875 in KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*

Martellate (mā·ɹtelēt), *v. nonce-wd.* [f. It. *martell-are* + -ATE [3].] *trans.* To hammer (*fig.*).

1829 LANDOR *Imag. Conv., Albani & Pict.-Dealers* Wks. 1853 II. 9/1 They belabor and martellate my ears worse than the terza rima of Dante.

Martello (maɹte·lō). [Corruption (through association with It. *martello* hammer) of the name of Cape *Mortella* in Corsica (from It. *mortella* wild myrtle), where there was a tower of this kind which the English fleet captured with some difficulty on 8 Feb. 1794; it had been captured by the English and again abandoned in Sept. 1793.

The tower was of a type common in the Mediterranean; the stout resistance which it was able to make with a small force led to a belief among English military experts that the construction had great defensive value, and the erection of 'martello' towers was therefore strongly urged on the British government, but it was not until 1804 that any were actually erected. Windham's account of the events of 1793–4 is grossly inaccurate, but there appears to be no room for doubt that he refers to these.]

Martello tower (also, rarely, *martello*): a small circular fort with massive walls, containing vaulted rooms for the garrison, and having on the top a platform for one or two guns; usually erected on a coast to prevent the landing of enemies.

[1794 Lt.-Gen. DUNDAS *Disp.* 21 Feb. in *Ann. Reg.* App. to Chron. 101*/1 Expecting little opposition from Mortella tower. *Ibid.*, The same day we began to batter the tower of Mortella.] 1803 WINDHAM *Sp.* 9 Dec. (1812) II. 140 What were known to our officers under the name of Martello Towers, a species of edifice so called from a memorable instance of one at Martello, in Corsica; where, by a tower of this sort, garrisoned by some ten or a dozen men, and mounted with about two guns, a ship of the line of ours, and a frigate, were, during the last war, completely foiled and driven off. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* 470 A martello is built circular, and thus difficult to hit. 1883 BLACK *Shandon Bells* xxvii, The wide water, the Martello tower.

fig. 1828 J. W. CROKER *Diary* 11 Jan. in *C. Papers* (1884) I. xiii. 405, I..told him [Herries] that in quitting his finance he had surrendered his Martello-tower. 1848 LOWELL *Biglow P.* Poems 1890 II. 88, I esteem my ignorance of other languages as a kind of Martello-tower, in which I am safe from the furious bombardments of foreign garrulity.

Marten (mā·ɹtĕn). Forms: α. 5 **martiron, martren, martroun, -tryn, marterount,** 5–7 **martron**(e, 6 **marteron, -tyron,** 5–8 **martern**(e. β. 6 **matron, materne,** 7 **mattern**(e. γ. 6–9 **martin,** 7 **martyn, marton,** 6– **marten.** [Late ME. *martren*, a. (perh. through MDu. *martren*) OF. *martrine* marten fur, subst. use (with ellipsis of *peau* skin) of *martrin* adj., pertaining to the marten, f. *martre*: see MARTER [1].

The word, originally denoting the fur, came to be used as the name of the animal itself, instead of MARTER *sb.*[1], which it finally displaced. The dropping of the *r* in the last syllable may have been partly due to association with MARTIN.]

†**1.** The skins or fur of the animal now called marten: see sense 2. Often in *plural. Obs.*

14.. LYDG. *Life Our Lady* (*MS. Soc. Antiq.* 134 lf. 25) (Halliw.), Ne martryn, ne sabil, y trowe, in god fay, Was none founden in hire garnement. 1422 in *E. E. Wills* (1882) 50 Myn eche daies gowne of marterount. 1436 *Libel Eng. Policy* in *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 186 Irish wollen, lynyn cloth, faldynge, And marteraus gode. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Blanchardyn* xv. 50 A longe gowne furred wyth fyn martrons. 1555 *Lanc. Wills* II. 192 My newe clothe gowcoe furred wt Marterons. 1575 *Inv.* in *Archæol.* XXX. 17 An old tawny damaske cassock, edged with matrons. 1596 DANETT tr. *Comines* (1614) 85 A goodly gown furred with martins. *a* 1612 HARINGTON *Sch. Salerne* in *Babees Bk.* (1868) 255 Garments of..Martyn or Wolfe-skinnes. 1653 H. COGAN tr. *Pinto's Trav.* xl. 160 Crimson sattin cassocks lined with marterns. 1696 PHILLIPS (ed. 5), *Martenes*, or *Sables*, a kind of rich Fur.

2. An animal belonging to any one of certain species of *Mustela*, yielding a valuable fur. Often with distinguishing word, as **beech-marten, stone marten,** *M. foina*; **pine** (or †**fir**) **marten,** *M. martes*; **American pine marten,** *M. americana.*

14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 595/8 *Martrix*, a martron. 1463–4 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 505/1 Furres of Martirons, Furres, Letyce. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* e j, The Fox and the Martron, and the wilde Roo. 1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong, Vne Marte*, a beaste that is called the Marten. 1587 HARRISON *England* II. xix. (1877) I. 310 The beasts of the chase were commonlie the bucke, the roe, the foxe, and the marterne. 1589 †LYLY *Pappe w. Hatchet* Wks. 1902 III. 402 Be thou Martin the bird or Martin the beast. 1594 in Crompton *Jurisd.* 195 b, One claimed a free chase within the forest, for Hare, foxe, wild cat, and martrons. 1602 CAREW *Cornwall* 22 Beastes of Venery persecuted for their case, or dammage feasance, are Marternes, Squirrels. 1643 HORN & ROE. *Gate Lang. Unl.* xvii. § 209 The..matterne (poll-cat), sable, and ermine are good for furres. 1675 DUGDALE *Baronage* I. 467/1 Certain Dogs for the destruction of Wolves, Foxes, Martrons, Cats, and other Vermine. 1741 *Compl. Fam.-Piece* II. i. 307 A Martern is about the Bigness of a Cat, having a long Body and short Legs, with a Head and Tail like a Fox. 1768 PENNANT *Brit. Zool.* (1776) I. 78 Pine Martin. 1827 J. F. COOPER *Prairie* I. i. 17 The martin's fur of his cap was of a fineness..that a queen might covet. 1859 WOOD *Nat. Hist.* I. 345 The chief distinction between the Pine and the Beech Martens.

b. *Zool.* By some writers used as a vernacular name for the genus *Mustela*, including the ferret, weasel, etc., together with the species ordinarily known as martens.

1896 KIRKALDY & POLLARD tr. *Boas' Zool.* 516.

3. *Spotted marten*: a name for an Australian marsupial of the genus *Phascologale.* (Not in Morris *Austral Engl.*) 1890 in *Century Dict.*

4. *attrib.*, as *marten-skin, -tails*; **marten-cat, -weasel,** = sense 2; **marten-cub,** a marten of the first year (Phillips 1696); **marten family** *Zool.*, the *Mustelidæ* (see quot.).

1798 CHARLOTTE SMITH *Yng. Philos.* II. 170 The wood .. was infested by Wild or *Martin cats. 1845 *Zoologist* III. 1018 A specimen of the marten-cat (*Martes foina*) was taken in a trap. 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 9 Sept. 2/2 The martin-cat is nearly extinct. 1896 KIRKALDY & POLLARD tr. *Boas' Zool.* 516 The *Marten family (*Mustelidæ*) [comprises] (*a*) Martens (*Mustela*) .. (*b*) The Otters (*Lutra*) .. (*c*) Badgers (*Meles taxus*). 1823 J. F. COOPER *Pioneers* i. (1869) 4/2 A cap of *martin skins. 1691 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2711/4 A large Muff of *Martin-Tails. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 497 So may this *Martin-weasel render a sweet excrement.

Marten, -enet, -enist: see MARTIN, -ET, -IST.

Martensite (mā·ɹtenzəit). *Metallurgy.* [f. name of Prof. A. *Martens*, a German metallurgist + -ITE.] See quot. 1902. (Cf. PEARLITE 2.)

1898 ROBERTS-AUSTEN *Introd. Metallurgy* (ed. 4) 147 Martensite is the very hard substance of which hardened steel consists. 1902 H. M. HOWE in *Encycl. Brit.* XXIX. 572 *Martensite*, the characteristic and chief constituent of hardened steel, is a hard brittle mass, with a needle-like structure, consisting of iron containing carbon in proportions which vary from nothing up to about 2 per cent.

†**Marter** [1]. *Obs.* Also 3–5 **martre, martir,** 6 **marter, martyr,** 7, 9 (from Ger. originals) **marder.** [ME. *martre*, a. F. *martre* (recorded from 11th c.) = It. *martora*, ad. W.Ger. **marþr-* in OS. **marthar* (whence *marthrin* adj.; Du. has *marter* from Fr.), OHG. *mardar* (MHG., mod.G. *marder*) masc.; app. an extended form of OTeut. **marþu-z* (OE. *mearð*, MHG. *mart*, ON. *mǫrð-r*, Sw. *mård*, Da. *maar*), whence the Rom. forms F. *marte* fem., Pr. *mart-z* masc., Sp., Pg. *marta.*] The marten.

12.. *Moral Ode* 182 (Egerton MS.) Ne ocquerne ne martres cheole [*Trin. Coll. MS.* metheschele, see MART *sb.*[1]] ne beuer ne sabeline. 1481 CAXTON *Reynard* (Arb.) 112 The ustrole, the Martre .. and the squyrel. 1588 PARKE tr. *Mendoza's Hist. China* 20 *marg.*, Great abundance of Marters furres. [1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 495 It is called a house, and rocke-marder. 1805 *Med. Jrnl.* XIV. 334 The owl, the marder.]

b. *pl.* The fur of the marten.

1420 in *E. E. Wills* (1882) 53 Also I will þat Gerard my brothir haue a newe fure of martirs. 1466 in *Somerset Med. Wills* (1901) 210 A gowne of cremesyn, furrid with martees [? *read* marteres]. 1530 PALSGR. 559 Martyrs and sabyls be for great estates.

†**Marter** [2]. *Obs.* Also 6 **martar.** [f. MART *v.* + -ER [1].] One who bargains; *esp.* in thieves' slang, a dealer in stolen goods.

1591 GREENE *Disc. Coosnage* II. (1592) 3 The Priggar is he that steales the horse, and the Martar is he that receiues him, and chops and changeth him away in any Faire, Mart, or other place. 1598 FLORIO, *Barattiere*, a barterer, a trucker, a marter, .. a fripper.

Marter, -erisse, obs. ff. MARTYR, MARTYRIZE.

Martern(e, **marteron, -ount,** obs. ff. MARTEN.

Martews: see MARTEL *sb.*[1]

Marthe, Marther, obs. ff. MARROW, MARTYR.

Marthy, obs. variant of METHY, burbot.

Marthyr, obs. form of MARTYR *v.*

†**Ma·rtiable,** *a. Obs.* In 5 **marciable.** [? Altered form of MARTIAL *a.*, after -ABLE.] = MARTIAL.

1470 HARDING *Chron.* LXXIII. xv, For many were, through actes marcyable [*rime* honourable] Dispended then by warres violence.

Martial (mā·ɹʃál), *a.* and *sb.* Forms: 4–6 **marcial,** 5 **marcyal**(l, **martialle,** (5 **marcill,** 6 **mershal**), 5–6 **marciall, mercial**(l, **mercyall,** 5–7 **martiall,** 6 **martyall,** 6–8 **marshal**(l, (7 **marshiall**), 6– **martial.** [a. F. *martial* (= Sp., Pg. *marcial*, It. *marziale*), ad. L. *martiālis* of or belonging to Mars, f. *Mart*(*i*)- MARS.] **A.** *adj.*

1. Of or pertaining to war or battle.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* IV. 1641 (1669) Ne veyn delit, .. or torney Marcial, .. Ne made me to Rewe on youre distresse. 1430–40 LYDG. *Bochas* VIII. i. (1494) C iij b, His victorious marcyall hye prowesse Done in almayne. *c* 1430 — *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 5 Alle assautis that were martialle For his sake he proudly wold endure. 1529 LYNDESAY *Complaynt* 457 Thow..hes thy honour done awance, In Scotland, Ingland, and in France, Be Merciall dedis honourabyll. 1532–3 *Act 24 Hen. VIII*, c. 13 Iustes, tourneis, .. or other marcial feates or disguisings. 1586 MARLOWE *1st Pt. Tamburl.* I. ii, My martiall prises..Wun on the fiftie headed Vuolgas waues. *a* 1625 FLETCHER & MASSINGER *Laws of Candy* I. ii, That yong-man, who was not .. skil'd In Martiall play. 1671 MILTON *P. R.* III. 304 See .. in what martial equipage They issue forth. 1676 HOBBES *Iliad* II. 180 In counsel or in Martial Array. 1760 JOHNSON *Idler* No. 96 P 1 His martial achievements remain engraved on a pillar of flint. 1773–83 HOOLE *Orl. Fur.* XVI. 307 Rinaldo flies, with martial ardor prest. 1791 COWPER *Iliad* IV. 515 With martial order terrible. 1872 BAGEHOT *Physics & Pol.* (1876) 81 So long as there was continual fighting there was a likelihood of improvement in martial virtues.

b. Of sports, exercises, etc.; Serving as training for warfare.

1412–20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* Prol., Yt longeth to manhode .. To haunte his bodye in playes marciall. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 670 The king entendyng to see this martiall sport, .. caused listes royall for the Champions .. to be newly erected in West Smithfield in London. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Apol. Poetrie* (Arb.) 51 Before Poets did soften vs, we were full of courage, giuen to martiall exercises. 1632 PARKER *True Tale of Robin Hood* 39 in Child *Ballads* III. 229 And shewd to them such martiall sport, With his long bow and arrow. 1776 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xvii. (1869) I. 458 They soon became careless of their martial exercises. 1815 WORDSW. *Laodamia* 118 While my youthful peers before my eyes..Prepared themselves for glorious enterprise By martial sports. 1869 FREEMAN *Norm. Cong.* (1876) III. xii. 227 There he was entertained with martial exercises.

c. Of music: Appropriate to warfare.

1662 DRYDEN *Astræa Redux* 198 The incensed powers beheld .. An heaven .. Which durst with .. martial brass, belie the thunder's sound. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* I. 540 All the while Sonorous mettal blowing Martial sounds. *a* 1704 T. BROWN *Praise of Drunkenness* Wks. 1730 I. 37 The martial kettle-drum. 1708 POPE *Ode St. Cecilia* 37 When our Country's cause provokes to Arms, How martial musick ev'ry bosom warms! 1784 COWPER *Task* VI. 3 The ear is pleased With melting airs or martial. 1869 RAWLINSON *Anc. Hist.* 36 They had a lively and martial music.

2. Of or pertaining to 'the Army', or the military profession. *Obs.* exc. in COURT MARTIAL, 'military' as opposed to 'civil' or 'civilian'. †*Martial name*: a fictitious name adopted by a soldier (= F. *nom de guerre*).

1470 HARDING *Chron.* CLXXVIII. XX, Without rule of marcill gouernaunce. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. IV* 7 b, He .. caused dyvers lustie men to appele divers olde men upon matters determinable as the common lawe in the court marcial. 1590 R. WILLIAMS (*title*) A Briefe Discourse of Warre: with his opinion concerning some parts of the Martiall Discipline. 1625 BACON *Ess., Love* (Arb.) 447, I know not how, but Martiall Men, are giuen to Loue. 1631 WEEVER *Anc. Funeral Mon.* 546 Dauid de Argenton, a Norman, and a martiall knight. 1715 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5322/3 To be Advocate-General, or Judge Martial of all His Majesty's Forces in England. 1757 CHESTERF. *Lett.* (1792) IV. cccxxiv. 102 Some are for a Parliamentary inquiry, others for a Martial one. 1761 *Ann. Reg.* II. 3 They laid aside their surnames, and assumed nick-names, or martial names.

3. Martial law. a. That kind of military government of a country or district, by which the ordinary law is suspended, and the military authorities are empowered to arrest all suspected persons at their discretion, and to punish offenders without formal trial. †**b.** Formerly sometimes applied to what is now called 'military law', viz. the body of enactments and rules for the government of the army; an enactment or rule forming part of this.

Originally these two senses (in which the adj. has respectively senses 1 and 2) would not always be distinguishable, as military law existed only in war-time, and consisted mainly of temporary and occasional ordinances; our earliest quots., however, distinctly exhibit the same use as is now current. In early examples the adj. is often assimilated in spelling to MARSHAL *sb.*, and it was a common opinion that 'marshal law' was so called as being the law emanating from the lord marshal. Mod. Fr. has *loi martiale*, but perh. from English.

1533 MORE *Debell. Salem* II. xv. 61 Yf the lawe were so that the iudges myght procede and put felons to answere without endyghtementes, as in treason is vsed in thys realme by the lawe marshall vppon warre rered. 1537 HEN. VIII *Let. Dk. Norf.* in *State Papers* (1830) II. 537 We doo ryght well approve and allowe your proceedings in the displayng of our Baner. And forasmoche as the same is now..displayed..the cours of our lawes must geve place to thordenaunces and estatutes marciall; our pleasure is that..you shal..cause such dredfull execution to be done upon a good nombre of thinhabitauntes of euery towne, village and hamlet that have offended in this rebellion..as they may be a ferefull spectacle to all other herafter, that wold practise any like mater. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII* 231 According to the law mershal thei wer adiudged to die. 1568 in J. Hooker *Life Sir P. Carew* (1857) 207 Not by martyall lawe, but by veredicte of twelve men, orderly. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, IV. viii. 46 Please your Maiestie, let his Neck answere for it, if there is any Marshall Law in the World. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* II. 27 His Lordship had power .. to make Martiall Lawes (he being Lord Martiall of England), and to punish the transgressors. 1633 T. STAFFORD *Pac. Hib.* II. xxiv. (1821) 449 Wee doe hereby giue, and commit unto you full power and authority to execute by Marshall Law, all notable and apparent Offenders. *c* 1645 HOWELL *Letters* II. lix. (1650) 86 The Lawes themselves, civil as well as martiall, were publish'd and executed in Latine. *a* 1676 HALE *Common Law* (1713) 40 Touching ..Martial Law, these Things are to be observed..First, That in Truth and Reality it is not a Law, but something indulged rather than allowed as a Law; the Necessity of ..Order and Discipline in an Army, is that only which can

give those Laws a Countenance...Secondly, This indulged Law was only to extend to Members of the Army, or to those of the opposite Army. 1751 *Affect. Narr. Wager* 40 [He] protested that he would go as far in punishing the Criminals as the Martial Law would permit. 1827 HALLAM *Const. Hist.* (1876) I. v. 241 For this ordinary crime the queen could hardly be prevented from directing him to be tried instantly by martial law. 1844 H. H. WILSON *Brit. India* II. 143 Martial law was proclaimed. 1851 WELLINGTON in *Hansard's Parl. Deb.* Ser. III. CXV. 880 Martial law was neither more nor less than the will of the general who commands the army. In fact, martial law meant no law at all.

attrib. 1900 *Daily News* 12 Mar. 5/3 Newspapers..published outside the Martial Law districts.

4. Warlike; brave; valiant; given to fighting. Formerly often with some notion of sense 7 a.

1430–40 LYDG. *Bochas* VIII. vi. (1494) C v b, A werre began Geyne romaynes this marciall [1554 ed. mercial] woman. 1591 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. VI*, II. i. 21 *Bur.* But what's that Puzell. .. *Tal.* A Maid, they say. *Bed.* A Maid? And be so martiall? 1625 BACON *Ess., Vicissitudes of Things* (Arb.) 573 The Northern Tract of the World, is in Nature the more Martiall Region. 1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* II. xiv. 120 Women have often been the nets to catch and ensnare the souls of many Martiall men. 1736 S. WESLEY *Battle of Sexes* 56 Sounding trumpets' breath Kindles in martial breasts stern love of war. 1744 HARRIS *Three Treat.* (1841) 40 There are sounds to make us cheerful, or sad; martial, or tender. 1821 BYRON *Mar. Fal.* III. ii, My nephew and the clients of our house Many and martial. 1870 BRYANT *Homer* I. II. 56 Wake the martial spirit in their breasts.

Comb. 1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turks* (1638) 296 The poore Prince..as a martiall minded man..said [etc.]. 1629 H. BURTON *Babel no Bethel* 97 Who seeing the Martiallike Prelate accompanied with armmed men, begun to laugh.

5. Characteristic of or befitting a warrior.

1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* III. i. 166 He Tilts With Peircing steele at bold Mercutio's breast, Who..with a Martiall scorne, with one hand beates Cold death aside, and with the other sends It back to Tybalt. 1602 — *Twel. N.* III. ii. 45 *An.* Will either of you beare me a challenge to him? *To.* Go, write it in a martial hand, be curst and briefe. 1608 D. T[UVIL] *Ess. Pol. & Mor.* 37 b, By reason of his Martiall carriage and aspect. 1784 COWPER *Task* IV. 640 He steps right onward, martial in his air, His form, and movement. 1816 L. HUNT *Rimini* III. 20 Some tastes there were indeed that would prefer Giovanni's countenance as the martialler. 1817 WOLFE *Burial Sir J. Moore* iii, But he lay like a warrior taking his rest, With his martial cloak around him. 1866 G. MACDONALD *Ann. Q. Neighb.* XXVII. (1878) 474 With almost a martial stride the little creature walked up to the speaker.

6. Resembling what pertains to the god Mars.

1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* IV. ii. 310 His Foote Mercuriall: his martiall Thigh: The brawnes of Hercules.

7. Of, or belonging to, the planet Mars.

a. *Astrol.* (often, subject to the influence of Mars; hence applied to venomous animals and to plants with violently active properties). **b.** *Astron.* (= MARTIAN). Now with capital initial.

1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* I. II. i. ii. (1676) 27/1 Gregorius Tholosanus makes seven kinds of ætherial Spirits or Angels, according to the number of the seven Planets Saturnine, Jovial, Martial. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* VI. xiv. (1658) 417 The fixed Stars..are esteemed Martial or Jovial, according to the colours whereby they answer these Planets. 1647 LILLY *Chr. Astrol.* XV. 84 A Martiall Man, is many times full faced with a lively high colour. 1652 CULPEPPER *Eng. Physic.* (1656) 377 Suppose a Man be bitten or stung by a Martial Creature, Wormwood an herb of Mars, giveth you present cure. *Ibid.* 42 They are furious Martial Plants. 1784 HERSCHEL in *Phil. Trans.* LXXIV. 273 The point Aries on the martial ecliptic answers to our 19° 28′ of Sagittarius. 1868 LOCKYER *Guillemin's Heavens* (ed. 3) 210 The Terrestrial and Martial seasons. 1878 NEWCOMB *Pop. Astron.* III. iii. 321 Clouds in a Martial atmosphere.

8. In early *Chemistry*: Of or pertaining to iron; containing iron. *Obs.* exc. in certain names (now little used) of chemical compounds and pharmaceutical preparations.

1684–5 BOYLE *Min. Waters* ad fin., I found..that more than one of our English Martial Springs .. were too much weakened by the Water that Rained into them. 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Martial Regulus* of *Antimony.* 1708 J. PHILIPS *Cyder* I. 36 Our Mines produce As perfect Martial Ore. 1741 HANKEWITZ in *Phil. Trans.* XLI. 828 All Martial Waters will, with Galls, turn blackish or inky. 1756 C. LUCAS *Ess. Waters* I. 14 This volatile acid..flies off, leaving the iron to precipitate in the form of a martial earth. 1776 J. CLEGG in T. Percival *Ess.* (1776) III. App. 333 Lime-water tends to deepen the colour produced by some astringents and martial vitriol. 1789 A. CRAWFORD in *Med. Commun.* II. 311, I had..made trial of the tincture of martial flowers. 1796 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) II. 82 It was a compleat Martial Liver of sulphur. 1822 IMISON *Sci. & Art* II. 105 Black oxide of iron formerly martial ethiops. 1823 P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Build.* 330 The smallest quantity of clay, gypsum, or martial matter. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 765 Humid Assay of Gold mixed with Martial Pyrites. 1889 *Syd. Soc. Lex., Martial preparations*, medicaments containing iron or a salt of iron.

† **9.** Of the month of March. *Obs. rare*⁻¹.

1423 JAS. I *Kingis Q.* cxci, Thankit mot be the sanctis marciall, That me first causit bath this accident.

B. *sb.*

† **1.** *pl.* Poems about wars. *nonce-use.*

1589 FLEMING *Virg.* Argt. 3 His Bucoliks, or Pastoralls.. his Georgiks or ruralls..his Æneids or Martialls.

† **2.** ? One born under the influence of Mars. *Obs.*

1605 TIMME *Quersitanus* I. xi. 47 There are starres which haue their most cold & moyste spirites..others most hote & drie, as the Solarie & Martialls.

† **3.** A martial person, a soldier. *Obs.*

c 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* XVIII. 469 The Queene of martials And Mars him selfe conducted them.

4. A Martian. *rare.*

1880 P. GREG *Across Zodiac* I. v. 115 Every Martial can write at least as quickly as he can speak.

Martial, obs. form of MARSHAL.

Martialism (mā·ɹʃăliz'm). [f. MARTIAL *a.* + -ISM.] Warlike qualities.

1608 D. PRICE *Chr. Warre* 8 Wrestling, running, fighting, and other feats of Martialisme. 1784 *Europ. Mag.* VI. 113 A due portion of martialism elevates the soul in a remarkable degree. 1885 A. FORBES *Souvenirs some Cont.* 38 A rugged, motley crowd of staunch fighting men, of whose martialism he had had experience in his Asiatic warfare.

Martialist (mā·ɹʃălist). Also 6 **martialiste**, 6–7 **marshallist**, **martiallist**(e, 7 **marshalist**. [f. MARTIAL *a.* + -IST.]

† **1.** *Astrol.* A person born under the influence of the planet Mars. *Obs.*

1569 J. SANFORD tr. *Agrippa's Van. Arts* 50 b, She pronounceth..that man a Martialiste or Solist. 1647 LILLY *Chr. Astrol.* x. 67 Generally Martialists have this forme. 1686 GOAD *Celest. Bodies* III. iii. 449 He not dreaming of such Martialists, hath reconrse to the Nature of the Month.

2. A military man; one skilled in warfare; a warrior. Also *transf.* and *fig.* Now *rare.*

1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 296 Your sonne died in the quarel of his countrie, like a valiant Martialist. 1595 LYLY *Wom. in Moone* II. i, He worke such warre within Pandoraes brest,..That..She shall become a vixen Martialist. 1603 H. CROSSE *Vertues Commw.* (1878) 49 A true Martialist he is indeed, that by strong hand labours to suppresse his rebellious lusts. 1611 SPEED *Hist. Gt. Brit.* IX. xxii. 61 The French sought to trie fortune for their lles in the Seas .. their preparations were great, and their Marshallists many. 1658 W. BURTON *Itin. Anton.* 67 Septimius Severus .. deservedly equalled with the greatest Martialists of any age. 1749 J. POTE *Hist. of Windsor* 130 The stoutest and most famous Martialists of that age. 1830 MISS MITFORD *Village* Ser. IV. 123 Their wives..were as complete martialists [etc.]. 1882 SWINBURNE *Child's Ballads* in *Tristr. Lyonesse* 270 Howe'er he look demurely, Our martialist will surely Have his way. 1884 *Daily News* 11 Feb. 5/4 These martialists of the smug pattern.

3. A Martian. *rare.*

1870 PROCTOR *Other Worlds* 101 Then it must be a fine day for the Martialists, for clouds over Mars..must produce quite as bad an effect..as similar phenomena on earth.

Martiality (mā·ɹʃiæ·lĭti). [f. MARTIAL *a.* + -ITY.] The quality or state of being martial.

1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* IV. 134 This Emperour..was more giuen to venery, then martialitie. 1823 *Blackw. Mag.* XIV. 529 He..acquires a superior fierceness or martiality of aspect.

Martialize (mā·ɹʃălaiz), *v. rare.* Also 6 **martiallize**. [f. MARTIAL *a.* + -IZE.] *trans.* To make martial. Hence **Martializa·tion.**

1600 TOURNEUR *Transf. Met.* Ixxviii, Only the muses deare to Martialize. 1685 F. SPENCK tr. *Varilla's Ho. Medici* 57 They could not conceive, why, his army being the strongest and best martiallis'd, he [etc.]. 1823 *New Monthly Mag.* VII. 126 The Rebellion broke out, and the genius of loyalty martialized the various classes of the community. 1848 L. HUNT *Town* (1858) 439 [The march in 'Figaro'] has ever since been played there to the martialisation of hundreds of little boys.

Martiall(e, obs. forms of MARSHAL, MARTIAL.

Martiallist(e, obs. forms of MARTIALIST.

Martially (mā·ɹʃăli), *adv.* [f. MARTIAL *a.* + -LY 2.] In a martial manner.

1586 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* IV. xxi. (1592) 95 Whil'st either king thus Martially defends. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 167 Galdie..obteines na les triumphe..than gif he martiallie and valȝeantlie had ouircum thame. 1670–98 LASSELS *Voy. Italy* I. 158 It did not become Rome built by the son of Mars to take towns otherwise than martially. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 46 P 11 Who could be the Author of a Piece so martially written.

† **b.** In accordance with martial law. *Obs.*

1583 *Exec. for Treason* (1675) 33 Shall she forbear..to put his Souldiers..to the Sword martially, or to execute her Laws..civilly.

† **c.** ? With regard to military matters. *Obs.*

a 1658 CLEVELAND *Gen. Poems*, etc. (1677) 94 Look upon him Martially, and he is a Justice of War.

Martialness (mā·ɹʃălnĕs). [f. MARTIAL *a.* + -NESS.] The quality or state of being martial.

1727 in BAILEY vol. II. 1844 L. HUNT *Imag. & Fancy* (1846) 22 In some far island which its foes besiege, Who all day long with dreadful martialness [*Iliad* XVIII. 209 στυγερῷ "Αρηϊ] Have pour'd from their own town.

Martial sea, obs. form of MARSHALSEA.

Martian (mā·ɹʃən), *a.* and *sb.* Also 4 **Marcien.** [f. L. *Marti-us* pertaining to Mars (f. *Mart-em* MARS) + -AN.]

A. *adj.*

1. † **a.** Having the temperament due to the influence of the planet Mars (*obs.*). **b.** Of or pertaining to Mars or its supposed inhabitants.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Wife's Prol.* 610, I am a Venerien In felinge, and myn herte is Marcien. 1880 A. R WALLACE *Isl. Life* 160 The duration of such phenomena on Mars being reckoned in Martian months equivalent to one-twelfth of a Martian year. 1892 *Pall Mall G.* 6 Aug. 1/3 We may therefore perhaps be excused for taking a more immediate interest in Martian matters than in the affairs of worlds so infinitely more distant. 1898 H. G. WELLS *War of Worlds* II. ii. 210 Long before the Martian invasion.

† **2.** Of or pertaining to war or battle. *Obs.*

1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. vi. 398 The Beasts that fill'd the Martian Field With blood and slaughter. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* IV. v. 6 The judges..Into the Martian field adowne descended.

3. Of or pertaining to the month of March.

1623 COCKERAM, *Marcian-moneth*, the moneth of March.

1842 MACAULAY *Lays, Lake Regillus* 17 Gay are the Martian Kalends.

B. *sb.* An inhabitant of the planet Mars.

1892 *Pall Mall G.* 6 Aug. 2/1 Can it be..that the Martians are endeavouring to signal to some other planet? 1898 H. G. WELLS *War of Worlds* I. v. 31 The glimpse I had had of the Martians emerging from the cylinder in which they had come to the earth from their planet.

† **Ma·rtiated,** *ppl. a. Chem. Obs.* [f. **martiate* vb. (f. L. *Marti-us* pertaining to Mars) + -ED 1.] Impregnated with iron.

1694 SALMON *Bate's Dispens.* (1713) 195/1 The martiated Salt, sublim'd from Gads of Iron. *Ibid.* 369/1.

Martiaton, variant of MARCIATON.

Martichore, variant of MANTICORE.

† **Marti·colist.** *Obs. rare*⁻⁰. [f. L. *Martic(o)la* (f. *Mart(i)*- MARS + *col-ĕre* to worship) + -IST.] A worshipper of Mars. 1727 in BAILEY vol. II.

Marticora, variant of MANTICORE.

† **Marti·genous,** *a. Obs.* [f. L. *Martigen-a* (f. *Mart(i)*- MARS + *gen-, gignĕre* to beget) + -OUS.] Mars-born, begotten by Mars. 1727 BAILEY vol. II.

Martilage, -ildge, -ilege, var. ff. MARTILOGE.

Martilet, obs. form of MARTLET.

Martileys, variant of MARTELAISE.

Martilmas: see MARTINMAS.

† **Ma·rtiloge.** *Eccl. Obs.* Forms: 4–5 **martilage, martilogie, -ye, martirlogi,** 4–6 **martiloge,** 5 **martelege, martilege, -logge, martloge, martylogye, mertelage, mertilloge,** 6 **martylage.** [ad. med.L. *martilogium, -legium*, corrupt forms of *martyrologium* MARTYROLOGY.] A list or register of martyred saints; a martyrology.

[*c* 1000 *De Consuet. Monach.* in *Anglia* XIII. 400 þeah þe on martirlogian (L. *in martyrlogio*) na si hæfþ.] 13.. *S. Erkenwolde* 154 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 260 Merkid is in oure martilage his mynde for euer. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) V. 81 By þe martiloge it semeth þat he regnede sixtene 3ere. *c* 1425 *St. Mary of Oignies* II. viii, in *Anglia* VIII. 173/30 She halowed festful dayes writen in hir mynde and inpressed in hir herte as in a martiloge. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) I. 331 Wherefore hit is redde in the martilogge: 'Suche a day at Scotlande Seynte Brigida'. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 164 2 Of whome the martiloge of holy chirche speketh not. 1524 in Nichols *Mann. & Anc. Times* (1797) 272 A boke called a Pye, and a boke called a Martylage. 1548 UDALL *Erasm. Par., Luke* Pref. 4 b, The holye Bible, legenda Sanctorum,..& martiloges.

Martin [1] (mā·ɹtin). Also 5 **martoune**, 6, 9 **marten**, 7 **martyn**. [Presumably a use of *Martin* (a. F. *Martin*, ad. L. *Martinus*), a male Christian name common in Western Europe after St. Martin bishop of Tours (4th c.), whose festival is 11th Nov. (MARTINMAS). The name is applied in Fr. to various birds, as in *martin-chasseur*, the hen-harrier, *martin-pêcheur*, the kingfisher; the dim. *martinet* (see MARTINET) denotes the house-martin and the swift.

The application of the Christian name to birds has no obvious reason, and may have been purely arbitrary. Many writers of the 17th c. say that the martin is so called because it comes in March and departs about Martinmas.]

1. A well-known bird of the swallow family, *Chelidon urbica*. It builds a mud-nest on the walls of houses, etc.; hence called **house-martin.** The **sand-martin** or **bank-martin** is *Cotile riparia*; the **purple martin** of N. America is *Progne subis* or *purpurea*. For Australian use see quot. 1883.

Bee-martin, the American king-bird, *Tyrannus carolinensis*. **Black martin, Screech-martin,** local names for the swift, *Cypselus apus*.

c 1450 HOLLAND *Howlat* 213 The Martoune, the Murcoke, the Myresnype in ane, Lichtit, as lerit men, law by that laike. 1589 ? LYLY *Pappe w. Hatchet* C b, There is small difference between Swallowes and Martins, either in shape or nature. 1591 PERCIVALL *Sp. Dict., Arrexaque*, a bird called a marten. 1678 RAY *Willughby's Ornithol.* 214 The Sand-Martin, or Shore-bird. *Ibid.* 214 The black Martin or Swift. *a* 1682 SIR T. BROWNE *Tracts* 107 Building in holes of pits, like some martins. 1773 G. WHITE *Selborne*, To Barrington xvi, The house-martin, or martlet. 1774 *Ibid.* xx, The sand-martin, or bank-martin, is by much the least of any of the British *hirundines*. *Ibid.* xxi, The swift or black-martin. 1808–14 A. WILSON *Amer. Ornith.* (1831) II. 37 The purple martin, like his half-cousin the king bird, is the terror of crows, hawks, and eagles. 1842 *Penny Cycl.* XXIII. 363/1 The Common Swift .. is the .. Screech Martin..and Black Martin of the country-people. 1865 Fairy Martin [see FAIRY C. 2]. 1883 NEWTON in *Encycl. Brit.* XV. 581/2 The ordinary Martin of Australia is the *Hirundo* or *Hylochelidon nigricans* of most ornithologists, and another and more beautiful form is the Ariel or Fairy-Martin of the same country, *Hirundo* or *Lagenoplastes ariel*. 1887 J. C. HARRIS *Free Joe*, etc. (1888) 141 In the upper air a bee-martin was fiercely pursuing a sparrow-hawk.

† **2.** A dupe. *Obs.* [Perh. a different word.]

1591 GREENE *Discov. Coosnage* Wks. (Grosart) X. 37 In High Lawe, The Theefe is called a High lawier..He that is robd the Martin When he yeeldeth, stouping. 1610 ROWLANDS *Martin Mark-all* G, I haue heard..a high-way lawyer rob a man in the morning, and bath dined with the martin or honest man so robbed the same day at an Inne. 1621 FLETCHER *Isl. Princess* II. i, We are all meere Martins.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *martin-haunted* adj.; **martin-box, -coop,** a box or coop used in America for martins to build in; **martin-snipe,** a provincial name for the green sandpiper, *Totanus ochropus*.

1858 HAWTHORNE *Fr. & It. Note-Bks.* II. 47 Its lofty, machicolated and battlemented tower..looking exceedingly like a *martin-box, on a pole. 1807 W. IRVING *Salmag.* (1824) 264 Knocking down a mouldering *martin-coop, with his tennis-ball. 1864 TENNYSON *Aylmer's F.* 163 Almost to the *martin-haunted eaves A summer burial deep in hollyhocks. 1870 H. STEVENSON *Birds Norfolk* II. 224 Provincially, this bird [the Green Sandpiper] is known as the..*Martin Snipe'.

† **Ma·rtin**[2]. *Obs.* [The name *Martin* (see prec.) given to the monkey in *Reynard the Fox*.] A kind of monkey. Also *martin-ape, -monkey*.

13.. *K. Alis.* 6464 Visage after martyn apen; Folke heo buth ful eovel y-schapen! 1388 WYCLIF *Isa.* xxxiv. 14 (*gloss*) Martynapis ben liyk apis, and ben taillid. 1589 ? LYLY *Whip for an Ape* 7 Who knoweth not, that Apes men Martins call. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 7 The *Cepus*, or Martine Munkey. The Martin called *cepus* of the Greeke word, *Kepos*. *a* 1697 J. AUBREY *Lives* (1898) II. 48 Their [the Martins'] crest is an ape; men use to say 'a Martin ape'.

b. Comb.: *martin-drunk* (cf. *ape-drunk, lion-drunk*, etc., in the same list).

1592 NASHE *P. Penilesse* 24 The sixt [kind of drunkard] is Martin drunke, when a man is drunke and drinkes himselfe sober ere he stirre.

Martin[3] (mā·rtin). Also 6 **Marten, -yn, Merteryn**. The name of St. Martin (see MARTIN[1]) used *attrib.* and in *Comb.*

† **1. Martin chain**, a sham gold chain. (Cf. 3 b.)

a 1560 BECON *Jewel of Joy* Wks. II. 19 b, Certayne lyght braynes..wyll rather weare a Marten chayne, the pryce of .viii.*d.* then they woulde be vnchayned.

2. More fully † **Martin dry**, also [Fr.] ‖ **Martin sec**: a kind of pear, so called from being ripe at Martinmas. [Cf. G. *Martinsbirne*.]

1664 EVELYN *Kal. Hort.* (1679) 34 Pears... November... Martin sec. 1672 — tr. *Fr. Gard.* (1675) 118 (Pears) The dry Martins. 1708 KERSEY, *Martin-dry*, a kind of Pear, that ripens at the middle of November. 1860 HOGG *Fruit Man.* 200 Martin Sec (Dry Martin). 1875 *Ibid.* (ed. 4) 479 The Martins are perhaps the earliest varieties [of pears] grown amongst us.

3. † **a. St. Martin**: St. Martin's day, Martinmas.

1533 *Presentm. Juries* in *Surtees Misc.* (1888) 34 That every man make his fens..before Seynt Merteryn.

† **b. St. Martin's**: the parish of St. Martin-le-Grand, London, formerly celebrated as the resort of dealers in imitation jewellery.

1572 in *Extracts Acc. Revels at Court* (Shaks. Soc.) 24 John Wever of Saint Martins for Copper silver frenge, xvij oz^es^ at [blank] the ounce. 1607 DEKKER *Westw. Ho* II. i, You must to the pawne to buy Lawne: to Saint Martins for Lace. 1618 MYNSHULL *Ess Prison* 23 They are like the rings and chaines bought at S. Martines, that weare faire for a little time, but shortly after will proue Alchimy or rather pure Copper.

c. (**St.**) **Martin's**, in composition. **St. Martin's bird**, the hen-harrier [= F. *oiseau de S. Martin*, Cotgr.]; **St. Martin's day**, the 11th of November, Martinmas; (**St.**) **Martin's eve**, the eve of St. Martin's day, 10th November; **St. Martin's evil**, drunkenness (Cent. Dict.); **St. Martin's flower** (see quot.); † **St. Martin's fowl**, = *St. Martin's bird*; **St. Martin's herb**, = *Herb of St. Martin* (see HERB 7 b); **St. Martin's Lent**, the forty days between Martinmas and Christmas Eve (see LENT *sb.*[1] 3 b); † **St. Martin's rings**, imitation gold rings (see 3 b, and cf. *St. Martin's ware*); † **St. Martin's stuff, ware**, counterfeit goods (cf. 3 b); **St. Martin's Summer**, a season of fine mild weather occurring about Martinmas; also *fig.*

1897 F. S. ELLIS *Reynard* 38 And straightway hove within his sight Saint *Martin's bird. 1517 in Nichols *Mann. Anc. Times* (1797) 272 Payd on Seynt *Marten's day, for bred and drynke for the syngers, *vs.* 1592 STOW *Ann.* an. 1280. 300 On S. *Martins euen a great thunder ouerthrew many houses and trees in England. 1598 BP. HALL *Sat.* IV. iv. 30 Dried Fliches of some smoked Beene; Hang'd on a writhen with since Martins eue. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 46/1 *Alstrœmeria Flos Martini*, the St. *Martin's Flower of Chili. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xxxiii. 73 The myttane, and Sanct *Martynis fowle, Wend he had bene the hornit howle. 1866 *Treas. Bot.*, St. *Martin's herb, *Sauvagesia erecta*. 1589 R. HARVEY *Pl. Perc.* 4, I doubt whether all be gold that 'glistereth, sith Saint *Martins rings be but Copper within. 1617 FENNOR *Compter's Commonw.* 28 This kindnesse is but like Alchimy or Saint Martins rings, that are faire to the eye, and haue a rich outside, but if a man breake them a sunder and looke into them [etc.]. 1598 GUILPIN *Skial.* (1878) 41, I had thought the last mask..Had ..Taught thee S. *Martins stuffe from true gold lace. 1591 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. VI*, I. ii. 131 This night the Siege assuredly Ile rayse: Expect Saint *Martins Summer, Halcyons dayes. 1864 TENNYSON *Aylmer's F.* 560 Then ensued A Martin's summer of his faded love. 1884 *St. James's Gaz.* 7 Nov. 14/2 The arrival of November has only varied matters by bringing in a St. Martin's summer. 1648 C. WALKER *Hist. Independ.* I. 122 These letters may be St. *Martins ware, counterfeit stuffe.

Martin[4] (mā·rtin). [Perh. called from the surname of inventors or makers.]

1. A grinding-tool consisting of a brass plate with a flat stone facing (Knight *Dict. Mech.*).

† **2.** *Martin panel.*

1760 FOOTE *Minor* I. Wks. 1799 I. 241 Let the Martin pannels for the vis-a-vis be carried to Long-Acre, and the pye-balls sent to Hall's to be bitted.

3. *Martin bit*: see quot.

1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl., *Martin Bit* (*Manège*), a stiff-bar bit, having a spoon-shaped port [etc.].

Martin[5]. *dial.* (from Yorks. southward: see E. D. D.) = FREEMARTIN. Also *martin-calf, -heifer*.

The sense 'spayed heifer', quoted in E. D. D. from Kennett *Par. Antiq.* (1695) and Peacock *Lonsdale Gloss.* (1869), if genuine, is now obsolete.

Martin, variant of MARTEN.

† **Ma·rtinet**[1]. *Obs.* Forms: 5 **mart(e)net, mertenet(te, mertinet**, 5–6 **martynet, martnette**, 7–9 **martinet**. [a. F. *martinet*, dim. of the proper name *Martin*: see MARTIN[1].]

1. A name for the martin and the swift. (Cf. MARTLET[2] 1.) *Bank martinet*, the sand martin.

c 1460 J. RUSSELL *Bk. Nurture* 437 Quayle sparow larke & litelle mertinet. 1513 *Bk. Kernyuge* in *Babees Bk.* 159 Quayle, sparow, larke, martynet. 1530 PALSGR. 243/2 Martynet a byrde, *martinet*. 1544 TURNER *Avium Præcip. Hist.* F 2, Minores [apodes] Angli uocant rok martinettes or chirche martnettes... Tertium genus, quod in ripis nidulatur, Angli a bank martnet..nominant. 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus*, *Apus*.. a martnette, the seconde kind of swallowes. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 288 A third sort there is of these Swallows and Martinets. 1610 [see MARTLET[2] 2]. 1678 RAY *Willughby's Ornithol.* 213 The Martin, or Martinet, or Martlet. 1691 RAY *Creation* I. (1692) 147 Those Birds which have but short Feet, as the Swift and Martinet. 1736 AINSWORTH *Lat. Dict.* II, *Apiastra*,..a bird that eateth bees, called midwal, or martinet. 1833 RENNIE *G. Montagu's Ornith. Dict.* 316 Martinet. A name for the Window Swallow.

‖ **2.** *Hist.* (See quot.)

1831 SIR W. HAMILTON *Discuss.* (1852) 405 The *martinets* or scholars of the University [of Paris] not belonging to Colleges at all. 1885 *Durh. Univ. Jrnl.* VI. 104 'Day-students' were well-known in medieval days in the University of Paris; and they were called 'Martinets' because they had their dwellings, so to speak, beneath the eaves.

† **Ma·rtinet**[2]. *Obs.* [ad. mod. L. *martinellus*, *martīnellus* (Grillandus), dim. of *Martīnus* Martin.] The demon who had the office of summoning witches to their assemblies. (Cf. MARTINIST 4.)

1609 B. JONSON *Masque Queens* B 2, Their litle Martin is he that calls them to their Conuenticles. *Ibid.* B 4 b, Which makes that their little Masters or Martinets, of whom I haue mention'd before, vse this forme in dismissing their conuentions.

Martinet[3] (mā·rtinĕt). Also 5 **martymette**, 6 **martynette**, 6–9 (sense 4) **martnet**. [a. F. *martinet* in various unconnected senses, possibly belonging to etymologically distinct words.]

1. A military engine for throwing large stones. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.*

1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. cxx. 144 These four martynettes dyd cast out.. great stones. 1795 SOUTHEY *Joan of Arc* VIII. 259 Him passing on, A ponderous stone from some huge martinet, Struck.

† **2.** A water-mill for an iron forge (Cotgr.). *Obs.*

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 229/2 A Martinett, *irristiticus*, & *dicitur de Irriguo*.

† **3.** (See quot.) *Obs.*

1489 CAXTON *Faytes of A.* II. xxiii. 137 Litel cartes called martymettes for to carye the mantelles & the tymbre that serueth for ye engins from the shippes vnto the place where as thei shal be dressed.

4. *Naut.* One of the leech-lines of a sail.

1582 N. LICHEFIELD tr. *Castanheda's Cong. E. Ind.* I. xxviii. 71 The Mariners and ship boyes, some in the forecastell haling bollings, braces, and Martnets. 1627 CAPT. SMITH *Seaman's Gram.* v. 24 The top-saile martnets are made fast to the head of the top gallant mast. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey) s.v., *To Top the Martnets*, is to hale them up. 1867 in SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* 471.

‖ **5.** A kind of cat-o'-nine-tails formerly used in French schools.

1881 DU CHAILLU *Land Midnight Sun* II. 262, I saw.. what resembled a policeman's club, at the end of which was a thick piece of leather, the whole reminding one of a martinet.

Martinet[4] (mā·rtinet). [From the name of General *Martinet*, a French drill-master of the reign of Louis XIV.]

† **1.** The system of drill invented by Martinet. *Obs.*

1676 WYCHERLEY *Pl. Dealer* III. i, What, d'ye find fault with Martinet?..'tis the best exercise in the World.

2. A military or naval officer who is a stickler for strictness of discipline; hence in wider sense, a rigid disciplinarian.

1779 J. MOORE *View Soc. Fr.* (1789) I. xxxix. 339 Let our Martinets say what they please. 1816 'QUIZ' *Grand Master* VII. 24 If a tyrannic low-bred Colonel Would be a martinet infernal. 1847 DISRAELI *Tancred* II. vii, She knew that the fine ladies.. were moral martinets with respect to any one not born among themselves. 1868 LD. BLOOMFIELD in Lady G. Bloomfield *Remin.* (1883) II. xix. 320 He is considerate, strict but not a martinet. 1888 *Poor Nellie* 300 A true-born martinet never thinks he is at all severe.

¶ **b.** One who drills with precision.

1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* xxix. (1856) 254 We had drilled with knapsack and sledge, till we were almost martinets in our evolutions on the ice.

3. *attrib.* passing into *adj.*

1814 SCOTT *Wav.* lii, A sort of martinet attention to the minutiæ and technicalities of discipline. 1821–30 LD. COCKBURN *Mem.* i. (1874) 26 Martinet dowagers and venerable beaux acted as masters and mistresses of ceremonies. 1873 H. SPENCER *Stud. Sociol.* vii. 163 Protests like those made against martinet riding regulations.. and against our 'ridiculous drill-book'. 1903 A. AINGER *Crabbe* viii. 145 The martinet father and his poor crushed wife.

Hence **Ma·rtinet** *v.*, to act the martinet; **Ma·rtinetdom, Ma·rtinetship**, the system of government by martinets; **Ma·rtinetism**, the spirit or action characteristic of a martinet; **Ma·rtinet(t)ish** *a.*, having the characteristics of a martinet; whence **Martinet(t)ishness**.

1827 *Sporting Mag.* XX. 107 Betwixt the system of martinetting too much and too little, the pro's and con's are nearly equal. 1827 HOR. SMITH *Tor Hill* (1838) II. 236 No garrison had ever been governed with so rancorous and unrelenting a martinetship. 1835 *Blackw. Mag.* XXXVIII. 322 He called them 'discipline'—his boast being martinetism. 1852 JEROAN *Autobiog.* I. vii. 53 The martinettish General had..enough ado to keep his Aides under military discipline. 1866 *Cornh. Mag.* Nov. 554 Educated in the traditions of military martinetdom which Frederick the Great had handed down to his successors as the basis of Prussia's greatness. 1878 R. H. HUTTON *Scott* I. 4 Sir Walter's father reminds one, in not a few of the formal and rather martinetish traits which are related of him, of the father of Goethe. 1882 *Pall Mall G.* 13 Sept. 3 Disgust at the martinettishness of their commanding officer. 1887 *Standard* 16 May 5/3 A martinetism.. repugnant to the English character.

Martingale (mā·rtingēl), *sb.* Also 6–7 **martingall**, 7–9 **martingal**. [a. F. *martingale* (Cotgr. 1611 in sense 1), of obscure etymology.

First found in Rabelais in *chausses a la martingale* hose that fastened at the back (hence Sp., It. *martingala* a sort of hose, in Sp. also cuishes). This is commonly supposed to mean literally 'hose after the fashion of Martigues' (in Provence), and the 'martingale' for a horse is assumed to have been so named from its similarity to hose of this kind. It is, however, doubtful whether Rabelais's *a la martingale* is anything but a jocular application of the term of the manege, though the mod. Prov. dicts. give *martegalo* as one of the Pr. forms of the word.]

1. A strap or arrangement of straps fastened at one end to the noseband, bit, or rcins and at the other to the girth to prevent a horse from rearing or throwing back his head.

1589 ? LYLY *Pappe w. Hatchet* Wks. 1902 III. 410 Thou shalt be broken as Prosper broke his horses, with a muzroule, portmouth, and a martingall. *a* 1616 BEAUM. & FL. *Scornf. Lady* II. i, Lord what a hunting head shee carries, sure she has been ridden with a Martingale. 1661 HOWELL *Twelve Treat.* 237 Some people are to be rid with strong bitts and curbs, and martingalls. 1727 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Colt*, Then put on a Martingal. 1826 DISRAELI *Vir. Grey* III. iv, If you found a martingale for the mother, Vivian, it had been well if you had found a curb for the daughter. 1903 *Blackw. Mag.* July 83/1 Where is the saddle, the martingale?

2. *Naut.* A rope for guying down the jib-boom to the dolphin-striker; also called *martingale-guy, -stay. Flying martingale*, a similar supporting rope for the flying jib-boom. *Martingale backrope*, a guy-rope for the dolphin-striker.

1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* I. 233 Martingal-stay, to support the jib-boom. 1815 *Falconer's Dict. Marine* (ed. Burney), Martingale in a ship is a name given to the rope extending downwards from the jib-boom end to a kind of bumkin. 1840 R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast* XXXV. 132 Tackle [was] got upon the martingale backrope. 1882 NARES *Seamanship* (ed. 6) 13 The flying jib-boom is supported downwards by a flying martingale.

b. A dolphin-striker (see DOLPHIN 9).

1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* I. 170 *Martingal*, an ash bar, fixed downwards from the fore-side of the bowsprit-cap, and by which the martingal-stay supports the jib-boom. 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* iii. (1856) 27 We ran into an iceberg.., and carried away our jib-boom and martingale. 1899 F. T. BULLEN *Log Sea-waif* 17 Seated far out ahead of the ship by the martingale.

3. A system in gambling which consists in doubling the stake when losing in the hope of eventually recouping oneself.

1815 *Paris Chit-chat* (1816) III. 52, I found him and his Mentor.. calculating the infallible chances of a martingale. 1854 THACKERAY *Newcomes* I. 266 You have not played as yet? Do not do so; above all avoid a martingale if you do. 1878 *Daily News* 9 Mar., She was to pay him £20 per annum at the end of 1875, £40 at the end of 1876, £80 in 1877, and so on, in a sort of martingale. 1894 MASKELYNE *Sharps & Flats* xiv. 325 Sometimes, of course, the martingale will answer its purpose splendidly for a while.

Martingale (mā·rtingēl), *v.* [f. MARTINGALE *sb.* Cf. F. *martingaler* in sense 1.]

1. *intr.* (See quot.)

1823 'JON BEE' *Dict. Turf, Martingale*, at play, to double stakes constantly, until luck taking one turn only, repays the adventurer all.

2. *trans. Naut.* To secure with a guy-rope.

1882 NARES *Seamanship* (ed. 6) 211 If the wind is likely to freshen, martingale the.. studding-sail boom.

‖ **Martingana** (martingā·na). Also anglicized **-gane**. [Sicilian It.] A kind of boat used in Sicily.

1886 *List of Ships Reported* Dec., Abbrev., *Ma.* Martingana. 1893 F. M. CRAWFORD *Children of King* I. 6 A couple of clumsy 'martinganes'.

Martini (martī·ni). Short for *Martini-Henry rifle* (see quot. 1870).

1870 *Colburn's United Service Mag.* I. 361 The rapid improvements which have taken place..since the introduction of..Brown Bess in 1842, to that of the Martini-Henry in the present year. *Ibid.* 367 The only thing then remaining to be done was to fit the Martini breech to the Henry barrel, and thus we have the Martini-Henry rifle complete. 1876 *Rifle Shot's Man.* 21 With the Martini.. a considerably increased allowance can be made. 1890 KIPLING *Soldiers Three* (1891) 65 The good and virtuous people who hardly know a Martini from a Snider.

Martinia, variant of MARTYNIA.

† **Ma·rtinish**, *a. Obs.* [f. *Martin* + -ISH.] Of or pertaining to the Martinists.

1592 G. HARVEY *Four Lett.* ii. Wks. (Grosart) I. 203 This Martinish and Counter-martinish age.

Martinism. [f. *Martin* + -ISM.]

1. The tenets of 'Martin Marprelate' (see MAR- b).

1589 *Pasquil's Ret.* A iv, It is a common reporte that the faction of Martinisme hath mightie freends. 1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* v. Ded. §7 The scurrilous and more then Satyricall immodestie of Martinisme.

2. The system of L. C. de Saint-Martin (see next 3).

1879 *Encycl. Brit.* IX. 751 (art. *Freemasonry*), The rivalry of such romantic systems as Martinism was still..keenly felt.

Martinist (mā·ɹtinist). Also 7 martenist. [f. the proper name *Martin* + -IST.]

1. A partisan of 'Martin Marprelate'.

1589 ? LYLY *Pappe w. Hatchet* Wks. 1902 III. 405 Twas a mad knaue and a Martinist, that diuided his sermon into parts for memorie sake. *a* 1600 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* VII. vi. §7 Tell the Martinist of the High-Priests great authority ..what other thing doth serve his turn but the self-same shift. 1659 GAUDEN *Tears Ch.* I. v. 61 After such..Satyrick Pasquils (worthy of such *Martenists*) came open menacings of Princes and Parlaments, Priests and People too.

2. A follower of Martin Luther (as described by Swift in *The Tale of a Tub*).

1751 EARL ORRERY *Remarks Swift* (1752) 194 The criticisms of the Martinists (whom we may suppose the members of the church of England).

3. [F. *Martiniste*.] A member of a mystical school of religionists founded by L. C. de Saint-Martin (1743–1803), a disciple of Martinez Pasqualis (died 1779).

1871 MORLEY *Crit. Misc.* Ser. I. 183 Peradventure the twelve apostles might please you better than the philanthropists and Martinists.

†**4.** ? Used erron. for MARTINET 2. *Obs.*

1652 GAULE *Magastrom.* 179 How many magicians, astrologers, [etc.]..have had their..martinists, maisterels, and ministrels, their imps and familiars, as well as other witches?

Martinite (mā·ɹtinəit). *Min.* [Named by J. H. Kloos 1887–9 after Prof. K. *Martin*, who collected it.] Hydrous phosphate of calcium found at Curaçao (Chester *Dict. Min.* 1896).

†**Ma·rtinize,** *v. Obs.* [f. *Martin* + -IZE.] *intr.* To discourse in the strain of 'Martin Marprelate'.

1591 GREENE *Farew. Folly* Ded., Wks. (Grosart) IX. 228, I cannot Martinize, sweare by my faie in a pulpit, and rap out gogs wounds in a tauerne.

Martinmas (mā·ɹtinmăs). Forms: 3, 5 martinmasse, 4 martynmesse, 4–7 martimes, martymes, 5 martymasse, martynmese, myrtynmes, 6 martil-, martylmas, -messe, mertymas, -mes, 6–7 martlemas, 7 martinmass, martynmasse, 8 martilmasse, 9 martinmas. [f. *Martin* + MASS.]

1. The feast of St. Martin, 11 Nov. Formerly sometimes † *Martinmas in Winter*, for distinction from the feast of the translation of St. Martin, 4 July.

In Scotland one of the two term-days recognized by common law. In many parts of England it was until recently the usual time for hiring servants, and fairs were often held on this day. It was also common to slaughter cattle at Martinmas to be salted for winter provision.

[*OE. Chron.* an. 918 Foran to Martines mæssan.] 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 10579 A conseil hii made at martinmasse at bristowe ich vnderstonde. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 230 After þe Martynmesse þat he died here. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* IX. 127 This wes eftir the Martymes, Quhen snaw had helit all the land. 14.. *Plumpton Corr.* (Camden) 148, iiij mark & xx^d. now dew unto him at this Martymasse last. *c* 1450 *Merlin* VI. 96 The kynge is now deed sithe Martinmasse. 1472 *Presentm. Juries* in *Surtees Misc.* (1888) 26 We desyer þ^t he be wodyd be Myrtynmes next comyng. 1523 FITZHERB. *Surv.* viii. (1539) 12 From Myghelmas to Martylmas. 1557 TUSSER 100 *Points Husb.* xxxiii, For Easter, at Martilmas hange vp a biefe. 1609 SKENE *Reg. Maj., Quon. Attach.* 91 b, The ane half at the feast of Whitsunday, and the other balfe at the feast of Martymes. 1641 BEST *Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 120 Att Martynmasse,..wee sette our foreman to cuttinge of white-wilfes [etc.]. 1666–88 DALLAS *Stiles* (1697) 536 At two Terms in the year, Whitsunday and Martinmass in Winter. 1838 BELL *Dict. Law Scot.* 986 The crop is understood to be fully sown at the term of Whitsunday, and to be reaped at the term of Martinmas. 1867 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1876) I. v. 345 After Martinmas they took up their winter quarters. 1889 JOHNSTON *Chron. Glenbuckie* 81 Ye ken it [money lent] should have been paid at Martinmas.

†**2.** Used as a derisive appellation. *Obs.*

1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV*, II. ii. 110 And how doth the Martlemas, your Master? [*sc.* Falstaff: cf. III. iii. 199, O my sweet Beefe.]

3. *Comb.*, as *Martinmas term*; †**Martinmas beef, flesh, meat,** the meat of an ox salted at Martinmas; **Martinmas Sunday** *Sc.*, the Sunday nearest to Martinmas; **Martinmas summer,** = St. Martin's summer (in quot. *fig.*).

1530 PALSGR. 243/2 *Martylmas befe, *brezil.* 1542 BORDE *Dyetary* xxix. (1870) 292 Refrayne from eatynge of red herynge, martylmas beef and baken. 1620 VENNER *Via Recta* (1650) 72 Beefe Salted, and after dried, which we commonly call Martimas-Beef is of very hard concoction. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* iii. I. 315 Under Charles the Second it was not till the beginning of November that families laid in their stock of salt provisions, then called Martinmas beef. 1656 RIDGLEY *Pract. Physick* 329 *Martlemas flesh a year old, tosted and dried. 1352 *Wynnere & Wastoure* 345 For alle es *Martynmesse mete þat I with moste dele Noghte bot worttes with the flesche withowt wilde fowle. 1885 R. BUCHANAN *Annan Water* I, It was *Martinmas Sunday. 1895 G. ALLEN *Woman who did* 178, I almost feel tempted to give way to this *Martinmas summer of love. 1592 *Extracts Aberd. Reg.* (1848) II. 79 The *Martomes terme last bypast and Witsonday terme to cum.

Martionist, obs. form of MARCIONIST.

Martir, variant of MARTER, a marten.

Martir(e, obs. forms of MARTYR *sb.* and *v.*

Martirlogi, variant of MARTILOGE *Obs.*

Martiron, obs. form of MARTEN.

Martite (mā·ɹtəit). *Min.* [f. L. *Mart-em* (see MARS) + -ITE.] 'A pseudomorph of hematite after magnetite' (Chester *Dict. Min.*).

1851 WATTS tr. *Gmelin's Handbk. Chem.* V. 194 Sesquioxide of Iron...Occurs in the forms of..Iron-glance, Red Hæmatite..and Martite. 1879 RUTLEY *Stud. Rocks* xi. 200 The magnetite probably being converted into martite.

Martlemas, obs. form of MARTINMAS.

†**Ma·rtlet** [1]. *Obs.* Also 5 mertlete. [Altered form of MARTRET. Cf. MDu. *martel*, var. of *marter* marten; also med.L. *martalus* marten (once in Du Cange from a document written in Germany).] A marten; also, the fur of the marten.

1440 in Peacock *Eng. Ch. Furniture* (1866) 182 A vestment of white fustiane with black mertletes. 1693 RAY *Syn. Quadr.* 200 *Martes aliis Foyna*, a Martin or Martlet. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.*, *Martes*, the Martin, or Martlet.. the name of a creature of the weasel kind. 1802 SIBBALD *Chron. Scot. Poetry* IV. Gloss., *Martlet*, more commonly Mertrick, a kind of large weesel, which bears a rich fur.

Martlet [2] (mā·ɹtlĕt). Also 6 mart(e)lette, 7 martilet, 8 mart(e)lett. [a. F. *martelet*, app. an altered form of *martinet* (see MARTINET 2), perh. assimilated to *roitelet* wren.]

1. The swift, *Cypselus apus*, formerly often confused with the swallow and the house-martin, to which some of the examples refer.

1538 ELYOT *Dict.*, *Apedes*, a byrde whose fete be so lytle, that they seeme to haue none. I suppose they be martlettes. 1575 TURBERV. *Faulconrie* 134 Yong sparrowes martelettes and other small byrdes. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* II. ix. 28 Which..like the Martlet Builds in the weather on the outward wall. 1666 DRYDEN *Ann. Mirab.* CX, First the martlet meets it in the sky. 1678 [see MARTINET [1] 1]. 1771 SMOLLETT *Humph. Cl.* 8 June, The sweet twitter of the martlet at my window. 1773 [see MARTIN [1] 1]. 1821 *Blackw. Mag.* X. 443 I'll stay here till the woodcock comes, and the martlet takes her wing. 1854 SYD. DOBELL *Balder* xxiii. 109 When airy martlet, sipping of the pool, Touches it to a ripple that stirs not The lilies.

2. *Her.* An imaginary bird without feet, borne as a charge. Used as a mark of cadency for a fourth son.

In French heraldry the corresponding bird (described as having neither feet nor beak) is called *merlette* (OF. *merlete, meslete*; AF. heraldry had *merelot, merlot*, with differing dim. suffix). This word is app. a dim. of *merle* blackbird; according to Littré it has the sense 'female blackbird', but only the heraldic sense appears in Hatz.-Darm. It seems possible that the heraldic bird may originally have been intended for a 'little blackbird', represented without feet by accident or caprice, or with symbolical intention, and that the English heralds of the 16th c. or earlier identified the bird so depicted with the 'martlet' or swift, which has short legs, whence its mod. specific name *apus* = Gr. ἄπους footless. It is noteworthy that the 'martlets' (so called in the 16th c.) in the pretended arms of Edward the Confessor were at an early period portrayed with feet. The anglicized form of *merlete*, MARLET, does not occur in heraldic use, but appears in several 16th c. instances with the sense of *martlet*, i.e. a swift or a martin. According to English heraldic writers, the use of the footless bird as a mark of cadency for younger sons was meant to symbolize their position as having no footing in the ancestral lands.

a 1550 in *Baring-Gould & Twigge's West. Armory* (1898) 5 Bodleigh: Arg: 5 martlets 3, 2, on a cheife sab: 3 coronets or. 1610 GUILLIM *Heraldry* III. xvii. (1611) 163 He beareth Azure, a Bend Argent, Cottized Or, betweene six Martlets of the same.. The Martlet or Martinet (saith Bekenhawb) hath legges so exceeding short, that they can by no meanes goe. 1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* I. xv. 48 The fourth Brother gives a Martilet for the difference of his Armes. 1664 BUTLER *Hud.* II. iii. 417 The strangest long-wing'd Hawk that flies, That, like a Bird of Paradise, Or Herauld's Martlet bas no legs. 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Martlet*, the Term in Heraldry for a Pidgeon, with its Feet erased or torn off; 'tis also the Difference, or mark of Distinction in an Escutcheon for the fourth Brother or Family. 1880 G. T. CLARK in *Encycl. Brit.* XI. 690/2 The imputed arms of the Confessor, 'gules, a cross patonce between 5 martlets or'.

†**Ma·rtlit.** *Obs.*—[1] *Naut.* ? = MARTINET.

1626 CAPT. SMITH *Accid. Yng. Seamen* 15 The Robins, garnit, Clew garnits, tyes, martlits.

Martloge, variant of MARTILOGE *Obs.*

†**Ma·rtly,** *a. Obs.* [f. MART *sb.*[4] + -LY [1].] Appointed every 'mart' or periodical fair-time.

1655 in Thurloe *St. Papers* (1742) III. 119 It is in the breast of the company orderly assembled..to make choice of a martly deputy or for what other term or continuance they shall find convenient.

†**Ma·rtly,** *adv. Obs.* [f. MART *sb.*[4] + -LY [2].] Every 'mart' or fair-time (the period when accounts were made up in Germany).

c 1600 in *Trans. Roy. Hist. Soc.* (1902) XVI. 45 Foure and twentye Assystents..to bee chosen martly or as occasion shall serve from tyme to tyme. 1721 STRYPE *Eccl. Mem.* II. II. x. 327 The Emperor..ran..martely great and excessive interest for large sums already had.

Martnet(te, variant forms of MARTINET.

Marton, Martoune, obs. ff. MARTEN, MARTIN.

Martre, variant of MARTER *Obs.*, MARTYR.

Martren, obs. form of MARTEN.

†**Ma·rtret.** *Obs.* [f. *martre* MARTER + -ET.] A pole-cat.

14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 582/28 *Fecontria*, a martret.

†**Ma·rtrix, martrick.** *Sc. Obs.* Also 5–6 mar-, mertrik, 6 matrik, 5–8 mertrick. [a. and ad. med.L. *martrix* (Wr.-Wülcker 595), a fem. coined to correspond to *martor* MARTER, the suffix being apprehended as if that of an agent-noun.] A marten; also, the fur of the marten.

1423 JAS. I *Kingis Q.* clvii, The bugill, draware by his hornis grete; The martrik, sable, the foynȝee, and mony mo. *c* 1470 HENRYSON *Mor. Fab.* v. (*Parl. Beasts*) xvii, The mertrik with the cuning and the con. 1536 BELLENDEN *Cron. Scot.* (1821) I. 21 Mony hidis and skinnis of oxin, scheip, gait and martrikis. 1564 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 308 Ane goun of drogat, lynit with martrikis, begareit with velvot. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 21 He dryues the foxis, the martrix, the brok and the wilkatt. 1630–56 SIR R. GORDON *Hist. Earls Sutherland* 3 Martrixes, hares, and fumarts. 1703 M. MARTIN *Descr. West. Isl.* 36 The Mertrick..about the size of a big Cat, is pretty numerous in this Isle. 1707 MIEGE *St. Gt. Brit.* II. 30 Deer-skins, Foxes,..Mertricks. 1802 [see MARTLET [1]].

attrib. 1424 *Sc. Acts Jas. I* (1814) II. 6/1 Þ^t na man haif mertrik skynnis out of the realme. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* (1858) I. 151 For fox and fulmart and of mertrik skin, Anew thair wes tha landis than within.

Martron(e, martroun, obs. ff. MARTEN.

Martspaine, obs. form of MARCHPANE.

Martyall, obs. form of MARTIAL.

Martylage, -logye, var. ff. MARTILOGE *Obs.*

Martylmas, -messe, obs. ff. MARTINMAS.

Martymasse, -mes, obs. ff. MARTINMAS.

Martymette: see MARTINET.

Martyn, obs. form of MARTEN, MARTIN.

‖**Martynia** (mati·niă). *Bot.* Also 8 martinia. [mod.L. (Linnæus), f. name of Prof. J. *Martyn*, died 1768.] A genus of American plants of the N.O. *Pedalineæ*; a plant of this genus.

1753 in CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* 1796 H. HUNTER tr. *St.-Pierre's Stud. Nat.* (1799) II. 220, I did not know of what country the martinia was a native. 1860 DARLINGTON *Amer. Weeds* 222 Long-beaked Martynia, Unicorn Plant. ..This plant..is cultivated for its singular fruit—which, in its young state..is used for making pickles.

Martyr (mā·ɹtəɹ), *sb.* Also 1–6 martir, 3–6 -ter, 4 -tire, 4–5 -tyre, -tre, 5 -tier, 6 *Sc.* -teir, -ther. [OE. *martyr*, ad. Eccl.L. *martyr*, a. Gr. *μάρτυρ*, Æolic and late Gr. form of *μάρτυς* (stem *μαρτυρ-*) witness (in Christian use, martyr), f. Aryan root * *smer-* (whence Skr. *smar*) to remember.

The Gr. word was adopted in Goth. as *martyr*. The Lat. word passed into all the Rom. langs. (OF. *martir*, Pr., mod.F., Pg. *martyr*, Sp. *martir*, It. *martire*) and some of the Teut. langs. (OFris., OS. *martir*, MLG. *marter*, Sw., Da. *martyr*); in Ger. and Du. the sense was expressed by a derivative (OHG. *martirâri*, MHG. *merterer*, mod.G. *mārtyrer*; MHG. *martelære*, MLG. *martelere*, MDu. *martelare*, mod.Du. *martelaar*), f. OHG. *martira, martela* (MHG. *martere, martel*, mod.G. *marter*, MDu., MHG. *martele*, mod.Du. *martel-* in Combs.) fem., ad. L. *martyrium* martyrdom. In ON. *pislarvâttr* ('torture-witness') was substituted.]

1. *Eccl.* The specific designation of honour (connoting the highest degree of saintship) for: One who voluntarily undergoes the penalty of death for refusing to renounce the Christian faith or any article of it, for perseverance in any Christian virtue, or for obedience to any law or command of the Church.

A sect which regarded its distinctive principles as part of the Christian faith could apply the title, in this strict sense, to its own members who died under persecution, while by others the application would be repudiated, or only conceded ironically. Popularly, however, this sense has long tended to be apprehended as a specific use of sense 2.

a 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* I. vii, Dær wæs þa heafde beslazen se strengesta martyr Sancts Albanus. *c* 1000 *Menologium* 69 Sculan we hwæðere ȝyt martira ȝemynd ma areccan. 1154 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1137 (Laud MS.) Ne nuæren nære nan martyrs swa pined alse hi wæron. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 50 Þe reade [creoice] limpeð to þeo þat beoð, uor Godes luue, mid hore blodshedunge irudded & ireaded, ase þe martirs weren. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 35 He gate of hir S. Edward, þat is þe martere. *c* 1388 in *Wyclif's Sel. Wks.* III. 489 Of Seint Steven men bene certayne by holy writte þat he is a gloriouse martire. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 3488 Dyssmembrit as marters, & murtheret to dethe. 1474 CAXTON *Chesse* 61 Abel was the fyrst martir in the olde testament. 1529 MORE *Dyaloge* I. Wks. 134/2, I thanke god & his holy marter, I can se nowe as well as any man. 1586 B. YOUNG *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* IV. 218 b, If I had not giuen credence to that Prouerbe, That it is better to bee a Martyr than a Confessour. 1611 BIBLE *Acts* xxii. 20 When ye blood of thy martyr [*other versions* witness (Vulgate *testis*)] Steuen was shed. 1653 A. ROSS *View of all Relig.* xii. 403 Barrowists, so called from Barrow, their first Martyr. 1672 EVELYN *Diary* 20 Feb., K. Charles our Martyr. 1704 NELSON *Fest. & Fasts* XXVIII. (1739) 361 It was necessary to resist unto blood, to acquire the glorious Privilege of a Martyr. 1850 MRS. JAMESON *Leg. Monast. Ord.* (1863) 97, I am not sure that the title of martyr properly belongs to St. Edward, for his death was not voluntary, nor from any religious cause.

¶ The events of the Reformation period caused the word to be popularly associated esp. with death by fire. Hence sometimes *transf.*

1666 DRYDEN *Ann. Mirab.* cii, And burning ships, the martyrs of the fight, With paler fires beheld the eastern sky.

†**b.** Used with sarcastic emphasis for: One who suffers death in an evil cause. *Obs.*

c 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* III. 171 But Lord! what mede were it to feden and norischen þus Anticrist martres! — *Wks.* (1880) 211 Sathanas children & marteris of glotonye. 1577 Vautrouillier *Luther on Ep. Gal.* 234 The doers of the lawe .. are rightly called the Deuils martyrs. They take more paynes..in purchasing hell..then the Martyrs of Christ doe in obtaining heauen. 1653 H. Cogan tr. *Pinto's Trav.* xxxvii. 247 This action of theirs brought these Martyrs of the Divell into the Number of the Saints. 1841 Ld. Houghton *One Tract More* 10 Melancthon mentions that the German Lutherans named those that had suffered for the reformed cause in England, *the Devil's Martyrs*.

c. Used in the etymological sense of: Witness.

1642 Milton *Apol. Smect.* Wks. 1851 III. 301 These opening the prisons and dungeons cal'd out of darknesse and bonds, the elect Martyrs and witnesses of their Redeemer. *a* 1677 Barrow *Serm.* (1686) III. 95 Having such a cloud of Martyrs [*Heb.* xii. 1].

2. One who undergoes death (more loosely, one who undergoes great suffering) on behalf of any religious or other belief or cause, or as a consequence of his devotion to some object. Const. *to*.

1597 Shaks. 2 *Hen. IV*, IV. i. 193 Were our Royall faiths Martyrs in Loue. 1652 Bp. Hall *Invis. World* II. i, That heathen martyr Socrates. 1695 Congreve *Love for L.* I. ii, Who would die a martyr to sense in a country where the religion is folly? 1715 De Foe *Fam. Instruct.* I. iv. (1841) I. 92 You are like to be a Martyr in the worst cause that ever saint suffered in. 1737 Pope *Hor. Ep.* I. i. 151 The Fool, whose Wife elopes some thrice a quarter, For matrimonial solace dies a martyr. 1777 Watson *Philip II* (1839) 325 His father had died a martyr for that cause, which he now wanted so basely to betray. 1793 Burke *Corr.* (1844) IV. 185 That patience and fortitude..which distinguished the martyrs of your family in their last calamitous struggle. 1863 *Chem. News* 14 Feb. 84/1 (*heading*) A Martyr to Science.

b. One who dies a victim (*to* . .).

1792 S. Rogers *Pleas. Mem.* I. 286 [He] sinks a martyr to repentant sighs. 1800 Mar. Edgeworth *Murad* iii, Murad . . died a martyr to the immoderate use of opium.

3. *hyperbolically*. One who suffers tortures comparable to those described in the legends of martyrs; a constant sufferer. Const. *to* (an ailment, etc.).

A common use in mod. Fr. (In the first quot. the word may be a verb intr., 'to suffer as a martyr': Godef. cites a very similar passage as example of the OF. *martirer*.)

c 1560 A. Scott *Poems* (S. T. S.) xvi. 12 To lufe & serf his lady bricht, And want hir syne, As I do, martir day and nyt. 1847 Fr. A. Kemble in *Rec. Later Life* (1882) III. 186 She is a martyr to dyspepsia and bad cooking. 1892 *Law Times* XCII. 160/1 The deceased . . had been a martyr for years to rheumatic gout.

b. *To make a martyr of*: to subject to hardship or inconvenience. Now often jocularly, *to make a martyr of oneself*: to make a real or pretended sacrifice of one's inclinations for the sake of gaining credit for it.

1599 Peele *Sir Clyom.* Wks. (Bullen) II. 168 He even means to make a martris [*sic*: ? meant as an illiterate blunder] of poor Shift his man. 1882 Miss Braddon *Mt. Royal* iv, You shall not make a martyr of yourself for my sake.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.* **a.** appositive (quasi-*adj.*).

1651–3 Jer. Taylor *Serm. for Year* II. iv. 43 The monuments of the Martyr Prophets. 1710 Pope *Windsor For.* 313 Here o'er the martyr-king the marble weeps. 1833 Marsden *Early Purit.* 9 The martyr-bishop Hooper. 1863 I. Williams *Baptistery* II. xxii. (1874) 67 That fam'd Antioch's martyr-maid. 1883 *Century Mag.* July 328/1 One [town] called Garfield, in honour of the martyr president.

b. simple attrib., as *martyr-cell*, *-conduct*, *-death*, *-fire*, *-flame*, *-legend*, *-spirit*, *-stake*, *-task*, *-train*, *-zeal*; *martyr-like* adv. **c.** objective, as *martyr* † *-queller*, *-slaying*. Also **martyr-maker**, **-man**, contemptuous names for the martyrologist John Foxe (1517–1587); **martyr-vase** *Antiq.*, a vessel in which relics of a martyr were preserved.

1860 W. H. Ainsworth *Ovingdean Grange* 242 Dulcia may be . . placed .. in the *martyr-cells beneath the White-Hart. 1831 Carlyle *Charact.* Misc. 1857 III. 17 Heroic *martyr Conduct. 1798 Sotheby tr. *Wieland's Oberon* (1826) II. 129 Huon with lingering *martyr-death decays. 1849 Stovel *Introd. Canne's Necess.* 50 Meeting..round the *martyr-fires which consumed their brethren. 1830 Tennyson *To*—ii, Nor *martyr-flames, nor trenchant swords Can do away that ancient lie. 1902 W. M. Ramsay in *Expositor* Oct. 284 A good example of the way in which *martyr-legends grew round a really historical name. 1580 Hollyband *Treas. Fr. Tong., Martyrement*, *Martyr like. 1826 W. E. Andrews *Exam. Fox's Cal. Prot. Saints* 413 The *martyr-maker appears to have been unacquainted with their christian names. 1826 Cobbett *Hist. Prot. Reform.* xvi. § 472 The 'pious young Saint Edward', as Fox, the *martyrman, most impiously calls him. 1532 More *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 352/1 Murtherers & *martyr quellers. 1826 E. Irving *Babylon* I. III. 189 This new *martyr-slaying power. 1817 Mrs. Hemans *Mod. Greece* xlii, The *martyr-spirit of resolve was fled. 1798 Sotheby tr. *Wieland's Oberon* (1826) II. 210 Already stand before the *martyr-stake The pair that perish for each others sake. 1827 Mrs. Hemans *Last Constantine* xix, Some high *martyr-task. 1827 Keble *Chr. Y., Holy Innocents*, Their palms and garlands telling plain That they are of the glorious *martyr-train. 1846 C. Maitland *Ch. in Catacombs* 147 Between the heathen lacrymatory and the so-called *martyr-vase there exists no well defined difference. 1805 Southey *Madoc in Azt.* xv, Her Priests..fought with *martyr zeal.

Martyr (mā·ɹtəɹ), *v.* Forms: 1 (ȝe)martyrian, (ȝe)martrian, 3–4 martri, 3–5 martre(n, 3–7 -tir(e, 4 -trye, -tiry, 4–6 -ter, -tyre, 5 -tur, mertre, 6 *Sc.* marthyr, 4– martyr. [f. Martyr *sb.*; cf. OF. *martirer*.]

1. *trans.* To put to death as a martyr; to make a martyr of. († occas. *refl.*)

c 893 K. Ælfred *Oros.* VI. vi. (Sweet) 262 Þæt hie Petrus & Paulus ȝemartredon. *a* 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* I. vii, Ða wæs eac swylce heafde beslegen & ȝemartyrad se mon, se ðe.. wiðsoc þæt he ðone Godes andettere sloȝe. *c* 1205 Lay. 10901 þus ferde Maximien: he martrede seint Alban. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 1601 He worrede cristendom..& let martri seint denis. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 8924 þis womman [Maximilla] was þe first men wist þat martird was for ihesu crist. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xv. 551 In sauacion of the fayth seynt Thomas was ymartired. 1450–1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* 124 In greate desyre to be martyrde for the loue of oure lorde Iesu cryste. 1480 Caxton *Chron. Eng.* xl. 28 Seynt peter..wente to Rome and was made pope til that Nero the emperour lete hym martren. 1641 J. Jackson *True Evang. T.* II. 120 Matthias..was..Martyred by the Axe or Hatchet. 1709 Hearne *Collect.* 5 Jan. (O. H. S.) II. 162 Tyndale was martyr'd at Fylford. 1853 J. H. Newman *Hist. Sk.* (1873) II. I. iii. 104 The German tribes..martyred St. Boniface and other ..missionaries who came to them.

† **2.** To kill, slay, esp. by a cruel death. Also with *down* (cf. *cut down*). *Obs.*

c 1305 *St. Kenelm* 101 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 50 Oure louerd nold noȝt þat he scholde so liȝtliche ymartred beo. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 5553 What mighty were marrit, & martrid to dethe. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 3644 Þare was þe Medis martird. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* IV. 377 Our kingis men he haldis at gret wnrest, Martyris thaim doun. 1530 Palsgr. 633/1, I martyr a person, I put him to dethe by turmentynge... They have martyred hym amongest them. 1579 Lyly *Euphues* (Arb.) 81 My father shall sooner martir mee in the fire than marye me to Philautus. 1794 J. Williams *Shrove Tuesday* 11 When Strathmore's Countess martyrs all her Cats.

3. To inflict grievous suffering or pain upon; to torment, torture.

c 1240 *Wohunge* in *Cott. Hom.* 283 Lauedi moder and meiden þu .. was wiðinne martird ibi moderliche herte. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Knt.'s T.* 704 Wrecched Palamoun, That Theseus martireth in prisoun. 1491 Caxton *Vitas Patr.* (W. de W. 1495) I. li. 104 b/2 Soo moche as they martred him, soo moche more he louyd theym. *a* 1533 Ld. Berners *Huon* xxvi. 81, I shall so marter thee that thy body shall not endure it. 1596 Spenser *F. Q.* IV. vii. 2 The lovely Amoret, whose gentle hart Thou martyrest with sorow and with smart. 1621 Lady M. Wroth *Urania* 4 If you be.. some furie of purpose sent to vex me, vse your force to the vttermost in martyring me. 1737 Pope *Hor. Ep.* I. vi. 54 Rack'd with Sciatics, martyr'd with the Stone. 1860 Hawthorne *Marb. Faun* (1879) II. xxiv. 237 They must..pelt him and absolutely martyr him with jests. 1893 R. T. Jeffrey *Visits to Calvary* 116 His blessed body martyred and quivering in its every nerve with aching torture.

† **4.** To inflict wounds or disfiguring blows upon; to mutilate; also, to disfigure (the face) with weeping. *Obs.*

1590 Ctess Pembroke *Antonie* 734 Hir faire discouer'd brest..she still martireth with blowes. 1621 Lady M. Wroth *Urania* 53 With the flowing of teares, her face was martyred so much, as [etc.]. *a* 1656 Ussher *Ann.* (1658) 316 Theodotus himself..sorely martyred with wounds.

† **b.** *transf.* To mutilate, spoil (a thing). *Obs.*

c 1450 *Erle Tolous* 1110 They hewe thorow helme and basenet, And martyrd many a mayle. 1600 Surflet *Countrie Farme* III. xxviii. 485 Apples must be gathered..by hand..otherwise the fruite would be much martred. 1655 Fuller *Ch. Hist.* I. iv. § 11 Of such Monuments as were transmitted to Posterity, it is probable most were martyred by the Tyranny of the Pagans. 1658 Sir T. Browne *Hydriot.* Ep. Ded., Time hath so martyred the Records, that [etc.].

5. To represent as a martyr. *nonce-use.*

1649 Milton *Eikon.* Pref., Though the Picture sett in front would Martyr him and Saint him to befoole the people.

Martyr, variant of Marter, a marten.

† **Martyrago.** *Obs. nonce-wd.* [After *virago*.] A female martyr having the courage of a man.

1654 Whitlock *Zootomia* 562 That one speech of a cheerfull Martyrago, when she said, farewell Faith .. farewell Hope..but welcome Love.

Martyrdom (mā·ɹtəɹdəm). Forms: see Martyr *sb.*[1]; also 4–5 -dam, 4–7 -dome. [OE. *martyrdóm*: see Martyr *sb.* and -dom. Cf. mod.G. *märtyrerthum* (in Goethe also *martyrthum*), Sw., Da. *martyrdom*.]

1. The sufferings and death of a martyr. Also, the act of becoming or condition of being a martyr.

a 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* I. vii, Dær wæs cyrice ȝeworht.. his þrowunge & martyrdome wyrþe. *c* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 129 Manize þusend..here clannesse ihelden and manieskennes martirdom ðar fure ðolede. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 9830 He huld it al wreche of god vor sein tomas martirdom. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Sec. Nun's T.* 274 The palm of martirdom for to receyue. 1456 Sir G. Have *Law Arms* (S. T. S.) 32 The faith has tane..strenth throu the tribulacioun and persecucioun, and marterdome of haly marteris. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* III. iii. 39 An huge host..With which he godly Oswald shall subdew, And crowne with martiredome his sacred head. 1634 Brereton *Trav.* (Chetham Soc.) 58 We saw.. another show, representing the martyrdom of all the Apostles. 1704 Nelson *Fest. & Fasts* viii. (1739) 101 The Martyrdom of the Holy Innocents..is..commanded to be for ever celebrated in the Church. 1856 Froude *Hist. Eng.* (1858) II. ix. 374 He had spent his time in encouraging catholics to persevere to martyrdom for their faith.

attrib. 1688 Evelyn *Diary* 30 Jan., The Martyrdome day of K. Charles the First.

b. *transf.*

a 1703 Burkitt *On N. T., Matt.* xiv. 11 It is as true a martyrdom to suffer for duty, as for faith. 1847–9 Helps *Friends in C.* (1851) I. 107 Social martyrdoms place no saints upon the calendar. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* vii. II. 215 To suffer martyrdom for the property and liberty of his plunderers and oppressors.

c. The name given to the N. W. transept of Canterbury cathedral, where Becket was murdered.

1631 Weever *Anc. Funeral Mon.* 228 Here lies interred in the Martyrdome an Archbishop. 1691 Wood *Ath. Oxon.* I. 551. 1855 A. P. Stanley *Mem. Canterb.* 65.

† **2.** Slaughter, *esp.* in *to make martyrdom*. *Obs.*

1375 Barbour *Bruce* VI. 289 He sic martirdome thair maid, That he the furde all stoppit had. *c* 1450 *Merlin* x. 163 As soone as the kynge Ban com in-to the medlee he be-gan to do so grete martirdom of peple, and so grete occision, that [etc.]. 1485 Caxton *Chas. Gt.* 188, I shold make grete marterdom on these Paynyms.

3. Torment, torture; extreme pain or suffering

c 1386 Chaucer *Knt.'s T.* 602 Who koude ryme in englysh proprely His martirdom [*sc.* in prison]? *c* 1489 Caxton *Sonnes of Aymon* iv. 117 Yf we were suche as I trawed we sholde not suffre the martyrdome that we endure. 1550 Coverdale *Death* II. i. 177 Chryste hangynge in great Martyrdome vpon the crosse. 1658 Sir T. Browne *Hydriot.* iii. (1736) 36 Were the Happiness of the next World as closely apprehended as the Felicities of this, it were a Martyrdom to live. 1811 Miss Mitford in L'Estrange *Life* (1870) I. v. 139 Only think what martyrdom I underwent in entertaining..this prim damsel from one o'clock to seven.

† **Martyre.** *Obs.* Also 4–6 martir(e, 5 -ter. [a. OF. *martire*, earlier *martirie* (mod.F. *martyre*) :—eccl. L. *martyrium*, a Gr. μαρτύριον, f. μάρτυρ- (see Martyr *sb.*).] Torment, torture; extreme suffering; also, slaughter (in phr. *to make martyre*).

c 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 15382 Ouer mykel was þeir ire, Of so fele to make martire. 1399 Gower *Praise of Peace* 341 Whan him was levere his oghne deth desire Than do the yonge children to martire. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 2547 Than thou shalt brenne in greet martyr. *c* 1450 *Merlin* xiii. 193 It was merveile to se the martire that Gawein made. *c* 1477 Caxton *Jason* 45 O what payne is to a true louar unfortunat for to be in contynuel martire. *c* 1489 — *Sonnes of Aymon* iii. 93 The whiche kyll and slea your folke, And put them to a greate marter. 1597 Tofte *Laura* in *Alba* (1880) Introd. 33 My griefes and martires, which I still sustaine.

Martyred (mā·ɹtəɹd), *ppl. a.* [f. Martyr *v.* + -ed[1].] Made to suffer martyrdom; made a martyr of; † tormented, mutilated (*obs.*).

1580 in Stanyhurst *Æneis*, etc. (Arb.) 152 Martyred Alban. 1632 Lithgow *Trav.* x. 483 What a martyrd anatomy I was. 1636 Brathwait *Rom. Emp.* 289 Seeing such a strange spectacle of martir'd faces. 1685 Evelyn *Diary* 2 Oct., His [K. James II] martyr'd and blessed father. 1711 Pope *Temp. Fame* 174 Here his abode the martyr'd Phocion claims. 1855 Browning *Before*, Who's the martyred man? 1897 H. S. Merriman *In Kedar's Tents* xiv. 154 'You are always kinder to her than you are to me', went on the lady in her most martyred manner. 1904 *Edin. Rev.* Jan. 140 The martyred legionaries of Sebaste.

† **Martyrement.** *Obs.* [a. OF. *martirement*, f. *martirer* to Martyr.] Intense suffering.

1340 *Ayenb.* 77 Efterward wayes of pouerté, of zorȝe, and of martirement.

† **Martyrer.** *Obs.* [f. Martyr *v.* + -er[1].] One who martyrs.

1471 Caxton *Recuyell* (ed. Sommer) I. 29 Shall thy moder be thy marterar. [A mistranslation: Fr. has *marrastre* stepmother.] 1552 Lyndesay *Monarche* 5807 Those creuell bludy bowchouris, Martyreris of Prophetis and Prechouris. 1627 W. Sclater *Exp.* 2 *Thess.* (1629) 29 To Martyrers of Saints [belongs] the depth of hellish torments.

† **Martyress.** *Obs.* [f. Martyr *sb.* + -ess.] A female martyr.

1471 Caxton *Recuyell* (ed. Sommer) I. 107 Alas my fader am I born vnder so vnhappy constellacion for to be a marteresse and prisonner. 1678 *Festa Anglo-Romana* 125 St. Lucia..Unspotted Virgin, and Resolute Martyress.

† **Martyrial,** *a. Obs. rare*[−1]. [f. L. *martyrem* Martyr *sb.* + -ial. Cf. med.L. *martyriālis* (f. *martyrium*).] Befitting a martyr.

1678 J. [Jones] *Brit. Ch.* 592 A martyrial breast, and a fixed resolution.

Martyring, *vbl. sb.* [f. Martyr *v.* + -ing[1].] The action of the verb Martyr.

c 893 K. Ælfred *Oros.* (Sweet) 254 Ymbe Cristes tacnunga, & ymbe his martyrunga [L. *passione*]. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 9103 þat sare, þat scam, þat martiring, Was neuer sene on suilk a king! 1607 Markham *Caval.* I. (1617) 85 This tyrannicall martyring of poore horses. 1692 Locke *Toleration* III. ix. Wks. 1727 II. 398 'Tis well if Dragooning and Martyring can do it.

Martyring, *ppl. a.* [-ing[2].] That martyrs. 1674 J. B[rian] *Harv. Home* vii. 45 To bear so many a martyring misery. 1830 W. Mackray *Church of Rome* 26 She lighted up the martyring fires of Smithfield.

† **Martyriologer.** *Obs. rare*[−1]. [f. assumed Gr. *μαρτυριολόγος (f. μαρτύριον testimony, martyrdom + -λόγος) + -er[1].] A martyrologist.

1643 Prynne *Sov. Power Parl.* III. 143 As an ancient Martyriologer saith.

Martyrish (mā·ɹtəɹiʃ), *a. nonce-wd.* [f. Martyr *sb.* + -ish.] Having the air of a martyr.

1888 F. Barrett *Recoiling Vengeance* II. vi. 83 Awdrey's quiet, long-suffering, martyrish manner.

† **Martyrizate,** *v.* In pa.t. and pa.pple. martirizate. [f. L. *martyrizāt-*, ppl. stem of *martyrizāre* to Martyrize.] = Martyr *v.* 1.

1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) V. 11 Sixtus, the pope succeeded Alexander, whiche was martirizate. *Ibid.* 95 This emperour..martirizate mony trewe peple of Criste.

Martyrization (mā·ɹtĭrəizē·ʃən). [ad. med.L. *martyrizātio*, f. *martyrizāre*: see next and -ation.] The action of subjecting to martyrdom.

1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) I. 381 The matirizacion of Seynte Thomas of Canterbery. 1789 Mrs. Piozzi *Journ. France* II. 115 Three fountains..which were said to have burst from the ground at the moment of his martyrization.

†b. *Alch.* Applied to the various processes to which metals were subjected in the laboratory.

1610 B. Jonson *Alch.* II. v, Name the vexations, and the martyrizations of mettalls, in the worke.

Martyrize (mā·ɹtĭrəiz), *v.* Also 5–7 **martirize**, 6 **marterisse**, **-ize**, 7 **-yze**, **martarize**. [ad. med.L. *martyrizāre*, f. *martyr*: see Martyr *sb.*[1] and -ize. Cf. F. *martyriser*, Sp. *martirizar*, Pg. *martyrisar*, It. *martirizzare*.]

1. *trans.* To make a martyr of, cause to suffer martyrdom; = Martyr *v.* 1. Now *rare*.

c 1450 *Mirour Saluacioun* 2832 When Abel of wikked kayme was slayne and martirizid. 1588 A. King tr. *Canisius' Catech.* in *Cath. Tractates* (S. T. S.) 185 S. Dympna virgin dochter to the king of Irland martierissed be hir awin father vnder Leo the 3. 1657–83 Evelyn *Hist. Relig.* (1850) II. 124 Thousands of Christians..were all martyrized so soon as they had finished the work. 1834 Beckford *Italy* II. 207 St. Vincent..was martyrized near the Cape.

transf. 1595 Spenser *Col. Clout* 475 To her my heart I nightly martyrize.

2. To cause suffering or misery to; = Martyr *v.* 3.

1656 Earl Monm. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* I. i. (1674) 2 Many loathsome things present themselves..to the sight..; and to behold them is to martyrize ones self. 1797 W. Tooke *Cath. II* (1798) III. xiii. 347 *note*, He martyrized them [*sc.* Jews] by stripping them naked in the depth of the winter, and pouring cold water on their heads. 1803 Mary Charlton *Wife & Mistress* IV. 150, I must still martyrize the curiosity of Caroline. 1885 Sully in *19th Cent.* June 963 How thought can crucify and martyrise any one.

†3. To disfigure or mutilate by the infliction of wounds or blows: = Martyr *v.* 4. *Obs.*

1635 J. Hayward tr. *Biondi's Banish'd Virg.* 106 Martyrizing her with so many wounds, that her body was seene all over pierced through with stabbes. 1637 Monro *Exped.* II. 151 Now men are marteryzed and cut downe..by those furious and thund'ring Engines of great Cannun. 1718 Bp. Hutchinson *Witchcraft* xiii. 210 Thousands martyrizing their own Bodies, by tearing the Flesh.

4. To cause to suffer hardship on behalf of a cause.

1844 Thackeray *Box of Novels* Wks. (Biogr. ed.) XIII. 402 The Irish press is at present martyrising the most successful member of its body. 1879 L. Wingfield *Lords of Strogue* III. i. 12 It would be impolitic to martyrise them too openly.

b. *refl.* To make a 'martyr' of oneself.

1887 Miss Braddon *Like & Unlike* xxviii, She is martyrising herself—and for what? 1896 A. Morrison *Child of the Jago* 86 She proceeded to martyrise herself by a show of 'setting to rights' in the room.

5. *intr.* To be or become a martyr. *rare.*

1524 Will. Malvern in *R. Glouc. Chron.* (1724) 582 Arilde that blessed Virgin, Which martyrized at Kinton. 1846 Landor *Albani & Picture-d.* Wks. II. 14 We must bleed and martyrise: no end or remission of our sufferings.

Hence **Ma·rtyrized** *ppl. a.*, **Ma·rtyrizing** *vbl. sb.* Also **Ma·rtyrizer**, one who martyrizes.

1635 J. Hayward tr. *Biondi's Banish'd Virg.* 84 An exquisite (though martirized) beauty. 1636 Brathwait *Rom. Emp.* 141 The martyrizing and bannishing of the Christians. 1810 Bentham *Packing* (1821) 83 This noble army, not of martyrs but of martyrizers. 1843 Thackeray *Mr. & Mrs. Frank Berry* ii, She only gave a martyrised look, and left the room. 1900 A. Lang *Hist. Scot.* I. xvi. 436 Henry quotes the deeds of the murderer Jehu as warrant for his own martyrising of a bishop.

Martyrly (mā·ɹtəli), *a. rare.* [f. Martyr *sb.* + -ly[1].] Resembling or characteristic of a martyr; martyr-like.

1659 Gauden *Tears of Ch.* Embl. Trees **4 Without any respect to their .. Martyrly Constancy. 1891 G. Meredith *One of our Conq.* III. iii. 47 [He] mused on London's East, and martyrly service there.

So **Ma·rtyrly** *adv.*, in a manner befitting a martyr.

1818 Byron *Juan* I. ccxi, The Edinburgh Review and Quarterly Treat a dissenting author very martyrly. 1823 in *Spirit Pub. Jrnls.* 419 Enduring the scorn of all England most martyrly.

Martyrolatry (mā·ɹtĭrɒ·lătri). [f. Martyr *sb.* + -olatry.] The worship of martyrs.

1889 Farrar *Lives of Fathers* I. xii. 702 The Christianity which he despised..was mainly associated with a superstitious martyrolatry and a grovelling relic-worship. 1894 *Westm. Gaz.* 20 Aug. 3/2 This Anarchist martyrolatry began with the famous execution at Chicago in 1887.

†**Martyrologe.** *Obs.* Also 6 **marteralage**, 7 **martirologe**, 8 *erron.* **martyrologue.** [a. F. *martyrologe*, ad. med.L. *martyrologium*: see Martyrology 1.] = Martyrology 1.

1500 *Inv. Ch. Goods* in *Gentl. Mag.* (Dec. 1837) 569/2 A marteralage and a sawter. 1563–87 Foxe *A. & M.* (1596) 41/1 The martyrologe of Isuardus. 1622 Drayton *Polyolb.* xxiv. 26 She..Of her deare Countries Saints, the Martyrologe would sing.

Comb. 1716 M. Davies *Athen. Brit.* I. 223 There were in the same dark ninth Century two Martyrologue-makers.

b. *transf.* = Martyrology 1 b.

1631 Weever *Anc. Funeral Mon.* 752 Registred in the Martirologe of this house.

Martyrological (mā·ɹtĭrɒlɒ·dʒikăl), *a.* [f. Martyrology + -ic + -al.] Pertaining to martyrology or a martyrologist; concerning the history or sufferings of martyrs. Also *rarely* **Martyrolo·gic** *a.*

1656 Osborn *Adv. Son* I. ii. 60 To be registred in one of his [*sc.* Love's] Martyrological Ballads, & sung by dairy-maids to a pityfull Tune. 1658 Sir T. Browne *Gard. Cyrus* i. Hydriot. etc. 37 Some Martyrological Histories. 1849 *Fraser's Mag.* XXXIX. 288 The meaning of Christian and martyrologic symbols. 1868 J. H. Blunt *Ref. Ch. Eng.* I. 392 Stripped of its martyrological sensationalism, that story offers a good illustration of the state of feeling in 1514–1515.

Martyrologist (mā·ɹtĭrɒ·lŏdʒist). [f. Martyrology + -ist.] A writer of martyrology; one versed in the history of martyrs.

1676 I. Mather *K. Philip's War* (1862) 100 That famous Martyrologist Mr. Fox. 1762–71 H. Walpole *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1786) V. 133 Samuel Clarke, martyrologist. 1841 W. Spalding *Italy & It. Isl.* II. 34 The legends of the martyrologists.

Martyrologue. *rare*[−2]. [f. Martyr *sb.*: see -logue.] A martyrologist.

1647 Trapp *Comm. Philemon* i. 10 The Roman Martyrologue saith, that he was stoned to death at Rome. 1657 — *Comm. Job* xvi. 8 Mr. John Fox the Martyrologue.

Martyrology (mā·ɹtĭrɒ·lŏdʒi). See also Martiloge, Martyrologe. [ad. med.L. *martyrologium*, a. late Gr. *μαρτυρολόγιον*, f. *μάρτυρ* Martyr *sb.*[1] + λόγος account: see Logos.]

1. A list or register of martyrs; *spec.* a book containing a list of Christian martyrs and other saints in the order of their commemoration, with some account of their lives and sufferings.

1599 Sandys *Europæ Spec.* (1632) 95 The Martyrologies of such as rendred by their deaths a testimonie to that truth which [etc.]. 1681–6 J. Scott *Chr. Life* (1747) III. 335 In the ancient Martyrologies of the Church, we meet with sundry Relations of the Appearances of Angels. 1846 Maskell *Mon. Rit.* I. p. cxliii, It was at length ordered that nothing should be read in the Martyrology, but the name and date of the martyrdom of the Saint.

b. *Antiq.* The necrology of a religious house.

1710 J. Harris *Lex. Techn.* II.

c. *transf.* An account of those who have suffered death in a cause.

1659 *Gentl. Calling* Pref., I fear if the martyrologie even of these suffering times were scanned, Venus and Bacchus would be found to have had many more martyrs, than God and Loyalty. 1732–8 Neal *Hist. Purit.* (1822) I. 87 It is not within the compass of my design to write a martyrology of these times; nor to follow bishop Bonner and his brethren through the rivers of Protestant blood which they spilt.

2. The histories of martyrs collectively; that department of ecclesiastical history or literature which deals with the lives of martyrs.

[Properly a distinct word, as if f. a Gr. type in -λογία: see -logy.]

1801 Fuseli in *Lect. Paint.* xxi. (1848) 377 Monastic legend and the rubric of martyrology. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* iv. I. 501 The courage of the survivor was sustained by an enthusiasm as lofty as any that is recorded in martyrology. 1867 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* (1876) I. vi. 493 We are here on the dangerous ground of martyrology.

Ma·rtyrship. *rare*[−1]. [f. Martyr *sb.* + -ship.] The status of a martyr.

a 1661 Fuller *Worthies* iii. (1662) I. 13 [They] now will willingly allow Martyrship to those from whom they wholly with-held (or grudgingly gave) it before.

Martyry (mā·ɹtĭri). See also Martyre. [ad. med.L. *martyrium*, a. Gr. *μαρτύριον* witness, martyrdom, f. *μάρτυρ* Martyr *sb.* Cf. F. *martyre*, Sp. *martirio*, Pg. *martyrio*, It. *martirio*, *martiro*, *martorio*. A derivative of the med.L. word appears in OHG. *martara*, *martira* (G. *marter* torture).]

†1. a. Martyrdom. b. Suffering, torment. *Obs.*

c 1325 *Metr. Hom.* 158 For than pin we our bodye, With torfir and with martyrye. 1677 Gale *Crt. Gentiles* II. iii. 131 Clemens Alexandrinus cals martyrie the purgation of sin.

2. A shrine, oratory, or church erected in memory of a martyr; an erection marking the place of a martyrdom or the spot where a martyr's relics lie.

1708–22 Bingham *Orig. Eccl.* VIII. i. § 8 Wks. 1840 II. 349 Constantine..adorned..Constantinople with many..ample martyries. *a* 1727 Newton *Observ. Proph. Daniel* I. xiv. (1733) 206 Those of the Church are not allowed to go into the Cœmeteries or Martyries, as they are called, of hereticks. 1842 J. H. Newman *Miracles* (1843) 146 The proposed Martyry or Church of the Resurrection. 1889 Farrar *Lives of Fathers* I. 86 They met year by year at his martyry to celebrate the day of death. 1901 T. R. Glover *Life & Lett. 4th Cent.* vi. 136 On her way back she made a deviation to see St. Thecla's martyry.

Marughe, maruȝ, obs. forms of Marrow *sb.*[1]

Marum (mē·rŭm). *Obs.* exc. *arch.* [a. L. *marum*, ad. Gr. *μάρον*.] A name for two aromatic labiate plants (natives of Spain, etc.), *Thymus Mastichina* or herb mastic, and *Teucrium Marum* or cat-thyme, formerly used *Med.* as errhines.

1664 Evelyn *Kal. Hort.* Apr. (1679) 15 Slip and set Marums. 1693 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Marum*, an Exotic Plant, like in Figure and Vertue to Marjoram. 1707 Mortimer *Husb.* (1721) II. 151 Mastick Tyme or Marum is increased by slips. 1753 Chambers *Cycl. Supp.*, *Mastichina*,..the herb mastic, or garden marum. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1862) I. iv. i. 357 The cat is excessively fond of some plants, such as valerian, marum, and cat-mint. 1834 Landor *Exam. Shaks.* Wks. 1853 II. 268/1 No kitten upon a bed of marum ever played such antics.

Marum, variant of Marram, beach grass.

Marvadie, -vedee, -vedi(e: see Maravedi.

Marvel (mā·ɹvĕl), *sb.* Forms: *α.* 3, 5–7 **mervel**, 4 **merwayle**, **-wal(e**, **-waal**, 4–5 **merveille**, **-vaille**, **-veyle**, **-vayl**, 4–6 **mervell**, **-veile**, **-vayle**, 4–7 **merveile**, 5 **merveil(l**, **-velle**, **-vale**, **-veylle**, **-vayll**, 5–6 **mervaill**, **-val**, **-vaylle**, **-well**, *Sc.* **-waill(e**, 5–7 **mervail**, 6 **merveyll**; *β.* 4 **marveil**, 4–7 **marveile**, **-vaile**, 4–8 **marvail**, 5 **marvile**, **-velle** (**marfaylle**), 5–6 **marveyle**, **-vayle**, 4–7 **marvaylle**, **-veyl**, **-veille**, 6–7 **marvell**, 6–**marvel**. See also Marl *sb.*[2] [a. OF. *merveille* fem. (mod.F. *merveille*), a Com. Rom. word = Pr. *meravelha*, Sp. *maravilla*, Pg. *maravilha*, It. *maraviglia*, *meraviglia*, a fem. sing. sb. repr. (with some irregularities of form not fully explained) L. *mīrābilia*, neut. pl. of *mirābilis* adj., wonderful, f. *mirārī* to wonder at.]

†1. = Miracle 1. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 16762+147 (Cott.) Mony þat stode & saȝe þoo mervels doyn in dede, Torned & wore baptized. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* Prol. 67 How til hel he vent in hy, & of þe merwalis he vrocht þare. *c* 1400 Maundev. (1839) v. 61 Lord, thi Merveyles ben thi Witnesse. 1483 Caxton *Gold. Leg.* 55 b/2, I shal stratche out my hand and shal smyte egypte in all my meruaylles that I shal doo amyd emong them. *a* 1600 Montgomerie *Soun.* ii. 13 Prais him, O man! His mervels that remarks.

2. A wonderful or astonishing thing; a cause of surprise, admiration or wonder; a wonder.

c 1330 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 178 Oft tille our Inglis men was schewed a mervaile grete, A darte was schot to þem, bot non wist who it schete. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Sqr.'s T.* 652 Neuere yet was herd so grete meruailles. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) I. 361 In þe vttermeste endes of þe world falleþ ofte newe meruailles and wondres. 1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 70 The worthi Hercules, Whos name schal ben endeles For the marveilles whiche he wroghte. *c* 1420 *Anturs of Arth.* 73 Þis mekel mervaile þat I shal of mene. *c* 1450 *Merlin* i. 3 Thei..tolde their maister the marvelle of the moreyn, that was fallen a-monge the bestes. 1485 Caxton *Malory's Arthur* Pref. 3 Wherfor it is a meruayl why he is nomore renomed in his owne contreye. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 39 b, Therfore theyr werkes were meruayles, but no myracles. 1555 Eden *Decades* To Rdr., It was accompted for one of the marueyls of the worlde. 1674 Brevint *Saul at Endor* 313 Sprinkle a little of this holy water upon yourself..; it will do Marvails. 1798 Ferriar *Illustr. Sterne* vi. 168 All these curiosities are..great marvels for fools. 1808 Scott *Marm.* III. xviii, Marvels still the vulgar love. 1818 Byron *Ch. Har.* IV. xviii, [Venice] Perchance even dearer in her day of woe, Than when she was a boast, a marvel, and a show. 1866 G. Macdonald *Ann. Q. Neighb.* vii. (1878) 113 It was a marvel to me afterwards that nobody came near me. 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) III. 229 Among other marvels he beheld a hollow brazen horse.

†b. A subject for surprise. *Obs.*

1456 Sir G. Haye *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 7 It suld nocht be grete mervaillis to se grete weris and bataillis in this warld here. *c* 1540 J. Heywood *Four P. P.* 701 And whiche of you telleth most meruell, And most vnlyke to be true, Shall most preuayle. *a* 1568 Ascham *Scholem.* I. (Arb.) 58, I will tell yow the most meruell of all, and yet soche a trothe, as no man shall denie it.

c. Wonderfulness.

1866 M. Arnold *Thyrsis* xix, And all the marvel of the golden skies.

d. A wonderful example *of* (some quality).

1873 Black *Pr. Thule* xxv. 418 The house was a marvel of neatness and comfort.

†3. A wonderful story or legend. *Obs.*

13.. *K. Alis.* 6755 Wite ye eghwar by my weyes, Any merveilles by this wayes, That V myghte do in storye. 1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 3910 þe porter ȝede vp to þe halle, And þys merueyle told hem alle. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 13776 (*heading*) Here Ye A Meruayle Of A Lady By Nygramansy. 1483 Caxton *G. de la Tour* E j b, I shalle reherce yow merueil which a good lady dyde recount to me. 1484 — *Fables of Poge* v, The whiche merueylle was announced or sayd to the sayd Pope.

4. Astonishment, surprise, admiration or wonder. *Obs.* or *arch.* Phrase, † *To have marvel*: to be struck with astonishment or wonder.

1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 3927 þe lorde and þe gestes alle..Had merueyle þat hyt was so, þat he myȝte swych myracle do. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P. A.* 1129 Delit þe lombe for to deuise, With much meruayle in mynde went. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Sqr.'s T.* 79 In al the halle ne was ther spoken a word, For merueille of this knyght. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 4954 Þai..hade maruell full mekull of þat mayne place. *c* 1450 *Merlin* 1 Whan the fendes sien that, they hadden right grete feer and gret merveile. 1493 *N. Riding Rec.* (1894) 125 To our great marvile and displeasure. 1535 Coverdale *Rev.* xvii. 6 When I sawe her I wondred with greate mervayle. 1586 A. Day *Eng. Secretary* II. (1625) 26, I haue great marueile that..we can by no possibility heare of your being. 1587 *Mirr. Mag., Brennus* xlv, Our peace did all to ioy and maruaile move. 1601 W. T. *Ld. Remy's Civ. Consid.* 8 To the great meruaile of the French themselues, [he] consented that his sonnes should compound with the French. 1618 Rowlands *Sacred Mem.* 31 They said with maruell and great admiration, How strange and sodaine is this alteration? 1805 Scott *Last Minstr.* II. xxxii, Use lessens marvel, it is said. 1884 *W. Morn. News* 11 Sept. 4/3 Sir Richard Cross..is..to nobody, if the look of marvel in his eyes may be trusted, a greater marvel than to himself.

†b. Phr. *To marvel* (= F. *à merveille*): wonderfully. *Obs.*

c 1500 *Melusine* 348 Wherof they were al joyfull & glad to meruayll.

5. Phrases. † *It is marvel*: it is a wonder (*obs.*). *What marvel, no marvel*: = what wonder, no wonder (*arch.* or *rhetorical*).

c 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 265 It is grett meruaile þat god ..distroieþ not alle þis cursed peple. *c* 1420 Lydg. *Assembly of Gods* 103 Hit was gret merueyle how I myght endure. *c* 1450 *Cursor M.* 17406 (Laud) No marvayle though ye vs not trow. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* VII. ix. 225 Merueylle me thynketh said the grene knyght to the damoysel why ye rebuke this noble knyghte as ye doo. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 2 b, And no meruayle, For in the syght of the deite resteth all. 1529 S. Fish *Supplic. Beggers* (1871) 3 Is it any merueile that youre people so compleine of pouertie? 1545 Brinklow *Compl.* xi. (1874) 26 It is meruel..that fyre descend not down from beauen. 1607 Hieron *Wks.* I. 204 It

is no meruaile though there bee euery where so many empty soules. 1611 BIBLE *Transl. Pref.* ¶ 4 And what maruaile? — *Ecclus.* xvi. 11 It is merueile, if he escape vnpunished. 1615 W. LAWSON *Country Housew. Gard.* (1626) 31 No maruell then, if Trees make their shoots, and put their spraies disorderly. 1647 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* I. § 10, I say, it is no Marvail..that he could think of no better way [etc.]. 1815 SCOTT *Ld. of Isles* III. xxvii, No marvel,'mid such musings high, Sleep shunn'd the monarch's thoughtful eye. 1857 BUCKLE *Civiliz.* I. x. 609 What marvel if..the most insignificant trifles should swell into matters of the highest importance?

† b. with *inf.*

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1985 A myst and a merkenes was merueil to se. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 318 How he is merkid & made is mervaile to neuyn. *Ibid.* 1245 Slik a mynd vn-to me ware meruaill [*Dubl. MS.* mervell] to reken. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* XVI. i. 664 And eyther made grete loye of other, that it were merueylle to telle.

6. Marvel of Peru, of the World. The plant *Mirabilis Jalapa*, native of tropical America, with handsome funnel-shaped flowers of various colonrs which expand towards night: = FOUR O'CLOCK 1.

1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. liii. 272 The maruell of Peru, or the maruel of the world. 1660 SHARROCK *Vegetables* 28 In the seed of Mervayle-of-the-world..you must chuse out such flowers as be variable while they blow. 1721 MORTIMER *Husb.* (ed. 5) II. 230 Marvel of Peru, so termed from its wonderful Variety of Flowers on the same Root. 1882 *Garden* 6 May 317/3 Marvel of Peru..will look well at the back part of the borders.

7. *Comb.*, as *marvel-monger*; *marvel-loving* adj.

1648 J. BEAUMONT *Psyche* XVIII. xcii, The Marveilmongers grant that He Was moulded up but of a mortal metal. 1903 *Edin. Rev.* Apr. 326 The marvel-loving chronicler.

† **Marvel**, *a. Obs.* [a. OF. *merveil* adj., evolved from *merveille* sb.: see prec.] Marvellous, wonderful.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* C. 81 þis is a meruayl message a man for to preche. *c* 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* V. 87 Eke meruel thinge affermeth Marcyal. *c* 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 889 And vnder a tre he doune hym leyde, A meruayle sweuene þo con he mete. *Ibid.* 1429 Bot when þey seyn þis merfeyle syȝt..þey cryede god mercy alle þat nyȝt. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xiv. 422 And also, sir, to you I tell The meruellest thyng that euer fell. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* II. xiv. 92 He is the merueyllest knyȝt that is now lyuyng. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. 384 They..dyd ther feates of armes mervaile to recorde. 1525 *Ibid.* II. liii. [lii.] 188 They were the falsest people and of the merueylest condycyons yt were in all the royalme. 1530 RASTELL *Bk. Purgat.* I. xvii, Thys is now one of the merueles conclusyons that ever I herd.

Marvel (mā·ɹvĕl), *v.* Now only *literary.* Forms: see the sb. [a. OF. *merveillier*, f. *merveille*: see prec. sb. Cf. Sp. *maravillar*, Pg. *maravilhar*, It. *maravigliare*, *meravigliare*.]

1. *intr.* To be filled with wonder or astonishment; to be struck with surprise. (In mod. use a stronger word than *wonder*.) **a.** without construction.

13.. *K. Alis.* 5314 Also the kyng was meruelynde, A cry he hereth gret behynde. *c* 1374 [see MARVELLING *ppl. a.*]. *c* 1450 *Merlin* i. 3 When the heirdes sye their bestes so deyen in the feldes, thei merveyled gretly. 1563 *Homilies* II. *Receiv. Sacrament* I. I iii iij, Take then this lesson..that when thou goest vp to the reuerent Communion..thou maruell with reuerence. 1632 SANDERSON *Serm.* 481 Let vs not mervaile if he begin to deale something strangely. 1782 WOLCOT in J. J. Rogers *Opie & Wks.* (1872) 22 The Queen turned up the whites of her eyes, marvelling. 1839 J. H. NEWMAN *Par. Serm.* IV. xix. 333 A religious mind is ever marvelling, and irreligious men..scoff at it because it does.

b. const. *at*, formerly † *of*, † *on*, † *upon*.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* II. pr. v. 32 (Camb. MS.), I wondre gretely þat men meruaylen on swyche thynges. *c* 1375 *Cursor M.* 11271 (Fairf.) What they had herd & sene thei told Alle marvailid on. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* I. (*Katerine*) 111 Bot þu suld moyse here & merwall, of hewine & erth. *a* 1425 *Cursor M.* 18774 (Trin.) Gode men of galile wher vpon merueile 3ee? 1535 JOYE *Apol. Tindale* (Arb.) 37 Meruel not at this thyng. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. ix. 43 Guyon mervayld at her uncouth cace. 1605 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 372 Let not any man mervaylle of the manyfould downefalles into synne. 1666 BUNYAN *Grace Ab.* ¶ 41 Presently I found two things within me at which I did sometimes marvel. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IX. 551 Into the Heart of Eve his words made way, Though at the voice much marveling. 1841 W. SPALDING *Italy & It. Isl.* III. 250 Their annual liquefaction of the blood of Saint Januarius, over which they never tire of marvelling. 1865 TROLLOPE *Belton Est.* xiii. 142 She was one of those whose lot in life drives us to marvel at the inequalities of human destiny.

indirect passive. 1583 R. TANNER *Prob. Conject.* B iij b, It is a thing greatly to bee meruayled at. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* I. viii. 7 b, It is not to be marueiled at thogh they haue great plentie of such pullen.

c. with clause, expressing the object of wonder.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 117 Now schalt thou noght forthi mervaile That I doun fro my Charr alihte. 1465 *Paston Lett.* II. 220, I merveyll that I here no tidyngges from yow hough ye have do at the assises. 1538 STARKEY *England* I. iii. 88, I can not agre wyth you, but rather I marvayle that you can say so. 1611 BIBLE *Gal.* i. 6. 1784 COWPER *Task* IV. 713, I marvelled much that..his beauties had then first Engaged my wonder. 1820 SCOTT *Abbot* ii, I marvel your ladyship could bear so long with her insolence.

d. const. *inf.*

1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* xlvii. 3 They marveled, to se soch thinges. 1535 CROMWELL in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) I. 437, I cannot a little marvayle to understand that..ye have [etc.]. 1582 N. LICHEFIELD *Castanheda's Conq. E. Ind.* I. ix. 23 He shoulde not merualle to see them bring theyr weapons.

2. To feel astonished curiosity; to ask oneself wonderingly. Const. interrogative clause.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 366, I merueyle wher þe pryuelegis commen alonde wherby [etc.]. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 7 Everich be himself merveilleth What thing it is that me so eilleth. *c* 1400 *Melayne* 529 Thay mervelde why the bellis so range. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* VIII. 497 Sotheroun marueld giff it suld be Wallace. 1530 PALSGR. 581/1, I marvayle what you meane. 1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* I. ii. 238, I maruell where Troylus is. 1643 SIR T. BROWNE *Relig. Med.* I. § 45, I cannot but marvaile from what Sibyl or Oracle they stole the Prophesie of the worlds destruction by fire. 1875 MRS. RANOOLPH *Wild Hyacinth* I. 44 Christian was marvelling more and more what her father could possibly want with her.

† **3.** a. *refl.* = senses 1 and 2. *Obs.*

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 963 Merueille þe nought 3yf þey haue grace, ffraunchise & fredom to purchace. ? *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 1314 My lorde merualles hym mekylle ..Why thow morthires his mene. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xv. 70, I merualled me gretely. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Blanchardyn* ii. 15 Blanchardyn..coude not merueylle hym self to moche ..of the dyuerse and strange werkes that he perceyued. 1548 GESTE *Pr. Masse* B iv b, I maruel me muche that many of them..haue in earnest meyntenaunce transubstanciation.

† **b.** *impers. Me marvels*: = I marvel. (occas. with direct obj.) *Obs.*

c 1325 *Song of Yesterday* 97 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 135 Me meruayles ouer al þat god let monymon croke and elde. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 65 Me merualles of my boke. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 277 So that the more me merveilleth, What thing it is mi ladi eilleth. ? 1401 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 75 Me merveilith moche of thin lewidheed! *a* 1425 *Cursor M.* 11671 (Trin.) Marye he seide me merueileþ þe þat seest þe heȝenes of þis tre. 1496 *Dives & Paup.* (W. de W.) Int. x. a v b, Me meruaylleth moche why Cryste taught more that yonge riche man the commaundementes of the seconde table than of the fyrste.

† **c.** *pass.* = senses 1 and 2. (Chiefly const. *of*.)

1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 196 Wherof the world is yit merveiled Of the maistries that he wroghte. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 3218 He..Was on þe make of þat mote noȝt merualled a lytyll. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. 324, I am greatly marveled of the letters ye have sent me. *Ibid.* ccl.xxiii. 409 They are all greatly marueyled..that..ye wolde nat yssue out of your strayte to fight with them.

† **4.** *trans.* To wonder or be astonished at. (Often in *pass.* with clause attached.) *Obs.*

1382 WYCLIF *Judith* x. 7 [Thei]..stonezende merueileden [Vulg. *mirati sunt*] ful miche the fairnesse of hir. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 2062, I merveile thee asking this demande. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) I. 233 Hit is to be mervaylede how that su hevy a thynge myghte be soe erecte. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* I. xi. 31 Thai mervalit the riche giftis of Eneas. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. 441 It myght well be marveyled howe they endured su long. 1565 T. STAPLETON *Fortr. Faith* 46 That were, surely, worth the lerning, and much to be marvailed, if [etc.]. 1625 BACON *Ess., Deformity* (Arb.) 255 Let it not be Maruelled, if sometimes they proue Excellent Persons. 1819 W. TENNANT *Papistry Storm'd* i. (1827) 33 Sir Knicht did hing a while on wing, Marvellin' the meanin' o' that thing.

† **5.** To cause to wonder; to astonish. *Obs.*

a 1400 *Berlam & Josaphat* 260 (Harl. MS.) þis meteyng meruaild all his mode. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) II. 369 There were iij. sustyrs as of oon pulcritude, whiche meruaylede theire beholders. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* XVI. i. 665 One thynge merueilled me. 1560 ROLLAND *Crt. Venus* I. 505 This mater maruellis me [etc.]. 1567 *Satir. Poems Reform.* vii. 15 It dois merwell me Quhat causit hes the Lordis of Scotland Tak on ane enterpryse of sic folie.

† **Marvellable**, *a. Obs.* [a. OF. *merveillable*: see MARVEL *v.* and -ABLE.] = MARVELLOUS.

1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 430 b/2 God..wyllyng hym self shewed wonderful and meruaylable. *c* 1500 *Melusine* 177 Theire meruayllable shottyng with gonnes & arowes.

† **Marvella·tion.** *Obs.* (Meant as a *vulgarism.*) [f. MARVEL *v.* + -ATION.] Cause of wonder.

1599 PEELE *Sir Clyom.* Wks. (Rldg.) 518/1 Why, it is marvellation to see.

Marvelling (mā·ɹvĕlĭŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. MARVEL *v.* + -ING 1.] The action of the verb MARVEL.

c 1430 *Life St. Kath.* (1884) 40 Whiche hath turned vs alle in suche stonyynge and merueylyng. 1552 LATIMER *Serm. 3rd Sund. Epiph.* (1584) 305 Which word [of God], if it light vpon a good ground..it turneth with his strength the same, and bringeth a meruaylyng. 1592 STOW *Ann.* an. 1280, 300 On S. Martins euen a great thunder ouerthrew many houses and trees in England, to the marnailing of many.

Marvelling (mā·ɹvĕlĭŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. MARVEL *v.* + ING 2.] That marvels.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* I. Met. iii. 5 (Camb. MS.) Thanne ..phebus..smyteth with his beemes in marveylynge Eyen. 1839 BAILEY *Festus* vi. (1852) 78 These same marvelling eyes of mine. 1841 D'ISRAELI *Amen. Lit.* (1867) 212 They..impressed on the marvelling reader that [etc.].

Hence **Ma·rvellingly** *adv.*, in a marvelling manner.

1891 G. MEREDITH *One of our Conq.* III. viii. 155 Nataly marvellingly named Mrs. John Corwyn.

Marvellous (mā·ɹvĕlәs), *a.*, (*sb.*) and *adv.* Forms: *a.* 4–7 merveil(l)ous, 4 mervilous, mervelis, merva(i)lous(e, mervellos, merveilows, 4–6 mervel(l)ous(e, 5 mervel(l)us, merveyllous, mervelo(i)se, merveyleux, -l(i)ouse, mervelious, mervelyows(e, merwalus, 6 mervaylous(e, 7 mervailous; *β.* 4 marvelliows, 5 marvelus, 5–6 marveylous, 6 marvaylus, marvayl(l)ous, (*Sc.*) marwolus, 7 marveilous, 6–9 marvelous, 6– marvellous. *Superl.* 4–5 merveillousest, -oust (-ous), mervelyouste(ste, merviloste, merveiluste, 6 marvelloussest. [a. OF. *merveillos* (mod.F. *merveilleux*), f. *merveille*: see MARVEL *sb.* and -OUS. Cf. Sp. *maravilloso*, It. *meraviglioso*.]

A. *adj.* Such as to excite wonder or astonishment; wonderful, astonishing, surprising.

13.. *K. Alis.* 6445 Another folk bysyde ther is, Swithe merveillous folke, y-wis. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 228 Men norise childre þer inne, on merveilous wise. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. IX. 59 þe Meruilloste Meetynge Mette I me benne þat euere dremede driht In drecchynge. *a* 1400 *Stockh. Med. MS.* 141 A maruelliows drink. ? *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 129 Sir Lucius..That es þe meruelyousteste mane þat on molde lengez. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1572 And all of marbill was made with meruellus bestes. *c* 1410 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) xxxiv, For certeyne it is þe merueilluste beeste þat is. *c* 1420 LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 1513 Where I behelde the meruelous story That euer I yet saw in any pycture. *c* 1450 *Merlin* iii. 56 Ther Pendragon dide merveloise knyghthode a-monge his enmyes. 1471 RIPLEY *Comp. Alch.* V. x. in Ashm. (1652) 150 Lyke to the Raynbow mervelose unto syght. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* II. xix. 99 Balyn and Balan foughte to gyders the merueillous batail that euer was herd of. 1502 ATKYNSON tr. *De Imitatione* III. v. 199 The marueylous warkes of god. 1533 GAU *Richt Vay* (1888) 39 The marwolus conceptione and birth of Iesus Christ. 1548 LATIMER *Ploughers* (Arb.) 29 Moyses was a meruelous man, a good man. 1612 T. TAYLOR *Comm. Titus* ii. 13 Finally, he shall be glorious, yea merueilous in his Saints. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* II. xxvi. 148 Miracles are Marvellous workes: but that which is marvellous to one, may not be so to another. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* VII. 1423 We nothing know, but what is Marvellous; Yet what is Marvellous, we can't believe. 1802 WORDSW. *Resol. & Independ.* vii, I thought of Chatterton, the marvellous Boy. 1894 H. DRUMMOND *Ascent Man* 352 Nature always makes her changes with a marvellous economy.

b. *spec.* Of poetic material: Concerned with the supernatural.

1715 POPE *Iliad* Pref., Fable may be divided into the probable, the allegorical, and the marvellous... The marvellous fable includes whatever is supernatural, and especially the machines of the gods. 1869 TOZER *Highl. Turkey* II. 259 The marvellous element is introduced with such perfect simplicity..as to appear perfectly natural.

c. *The marvellous*: that which is prodigious or extravagantly improbable.

1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* Contents VIII. i, A wonderful long chapter, concerning the marvellous. 1755 JOHNSON s.v., *The marvellous* is used, in works of criticism, to express any thing exceeding natural power, opposed to *the probable*. 1761 GIBBON *Misc. Wks.* (1814) V. 488 The history of Richard I of England..is alluring by the marvellous. 1825 WATERTON *Wand. S. Amer.* I. ii. (1879) 127 The first have erred by lending a too willing ear to the marvellous. 1873 M. ARNOLD *Lit. & Dogma* (1876) 53 The prodigies and the marvellous of Bible-religion are common to it with all religions.

d. Marvellous apple = *Balsam apple*: see BALSAM 10.

1578 LYTE *Dodoens* III. lxxxviii. 442 *Charantia*, Balsam apple, the male, Maruelous apples..the Marvelous apples are named Charantia. *Ibid.* 443 The Oyle of Momordica, or Maruelous Apples..putteth away al scarres and blemishes, if it be applyed thereto. 1866 HOGG *Fruit Man.* (ed. 3) 31 (Apples) Marvellous. Fruit small and oblate.

† **B.** *sb.* [= F. *merveilleux*.] An exquisite, dandy. *Obs. rare.*

1819 *Metropolis* (ed. 2) II. 57, I did not stay very late at the party; and our marvellous promised to give us a list of the company..the ensuing day. [Cf. p. 59 Our military Exquisite.]

† **C.** *adv.* = MARVELLOUSLY. *Obs.*

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 174 Sir, ouer meruailouse our duellyng here is hard. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) V. 52 Merveylouse grete & hye. 1530 RASTELL *Bk. Purgat.* Prol., Sayd yt he woldbe merveious glad. 1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* cxliv. [cxlv.] 3 Greate is the Lorde, & marueilous worthy to be praysed. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* IV. i. 26, I am maruellous hairy about the face. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* II. ii. III. (1651) 264 The country..hath a marveilous fair prospect. 1664 H. MORE *Myst. Iniq.* 408 Τὸ δίκαιον τῆς πόλεως will have a sense marvellous coincident therewith. 1777 SHERIDAN *Sch. Scandal* IV. i, Here's my great uncle, Sir Richard Ravelin, a marvellous good general in his day.

Marvellously (mā·ɹvĕlәsli), *adv.* [-LY 2.] In a marvellous manner or degree.

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 93 His dede com him suythe meruellosly. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. VII. 159 And Ioseph mette merueillously how the mone and the sonne, And the elleuene sterres hailsed hym alle. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* IV. 151 He with power partyt merwalusly. 1530 PALSGR. 425/1 He his mervaylously come up within a yere or two. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* IV. ix. 121 b, The children of Israel..had maruellously passed dry foote through the redde sea. 1640 HOWELL *Dodona's Gr.* (1645) 127 His tutelar Angel stil mervailously garded him. 1710 *Tatler* No. 190 ¶ 2 The People of this Land be marvelously given to Change. 1874 MOTLEY *Barneveld* I. ii. 137 The King was marvellously out of humour. 1881 LADY HERBERT *Edith* 7 Her hands and feet were marvellously small.

Marvellousness (mā·ɹvĕlәsnĕs). [-NESS.] The quality of being marvellous.

1557 *Sarum Primer* L vij, Open myne iyes, and I shall consider the merveilousnesse of thy lawe. 1614 RALEIGH *Hist. World* I. xi. § 2. 204 The maruelousnesse of some workes..hath beene the cause of this slaunder. 1794 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) I. 452 The sublimity and marvellousness of these stupendous operations. 1862 H. SPENCER *First Princ.* I. iii. § 17 (1875) 56 Habit blinds us to the marvellousness of this phenomenon.

† **Ma·rvelly,** *a.* and *adv. Obs.* Forms: 4–5 mervelly, 5 *compar.* marfeyllogur. [f. MARVEL *sb.* + -LY.] = MARVELLOUS, MARVELLOUSLY.

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 1691 Merueyloslike [*v.r.* Meruelly] was be hardy. *c* 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 1370 þis miracle was do þus as ychaue sayde, & more marfeyllogur þen y telle cone. *c* 1450 *Cov. Myst.* (Shaks. Soc.) 156 3it saw I nevyr so mervelly a syne Shapyn upon the skyes.

Ma·rvelment. *rare.* [f. MARVEL *sb.* + MENT.] The condition of marvelling.

1823 T. G. WAINEWRIGHT *Ess. & Crit.* (1880) 311 The sample which genuine travellers occasionally expose to the marvelment of the commons.

† Ma·rvelness. *Obs.* [f. MARVEL *a.* + -NESS.] = MARVELLOUSNESS.

1434 MISYN *Mending Life* 110 Of wylfull pouert on þis wyse takyn procedis vertues & meruilnes vntrowed.

Marver (mā·rvəɹ), *sb.* [Corruptly a. F. *marbre*: see MARBLE *sb.* 3.] A polished slab of marble or iron upon which glass-blowers roll and shape the plastic glass while still on the blow-pipe.

1832 G. R. PORTER *Porcelain & Gl.* 169 The next operation is to roll the glass on..a smooth horizontal iron plate called the marver, a name corrupted from the French word '*marbre*'. 1890 W. J. GORDON *Foundry* 132 [One of the men] rolls the lump of glass on a flat slab of stone called a 'marver'.

Hence **Ma·rver** *v.*, to roll (glass) upon a marver.

1852-4 *Cycl. Usef. Arts* (ed. Tomlinson 1866) I. 768/1 He then marvers it,.. and placing the hot glass in a brass mould [etc.].

Marvyl(e, marvile, obs. forms of MARVEL.

Marwe, -whe, obs. forms of MARROW.

Mary (mē·ri). Forms: 1 **Maria,** 1–6 **Mario,** 3 *Orm.* **Marȝe,** 5–7 **Marye,** 5– **Mary.** [OE. *Maria, Marie,* a. L. *Maria,* a. Gr. *Μαρία, Μαριάμ,* a. Heb. מִרְיָם *Miryām,* Miriam (the name of the sister of Moses, Exod. xv.).] A female Christian name.

1. The mother of Jesus Christ, commonly called the (Blessed) Virgin Mary, or Saint Mary.

Herb Mary: see HERB *sb.* 7 b.

c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. i. 16 Iacob ȝestrynde ioseph marian wer. [*Lindisf.* maries, *Rushw.* maria, *Hatton* marie.] *a* 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 237 Acenned of þam unwemmede mede sante Marie. *c* 1200 ORMIN 2335 Þe laffdiȝ Sannte Marȝe. *c* 1394 *P. Pl. Crede* 48 Þei [the Carmelites] makeþ hem Maries men.. And lieþ on our Ladie many a longe tale. *c* 1460 J. RUSSELL *Bk. Nurture* 691 Maydon mary þat holy virgyne. 1850 ROSSETTI *Blessed Damozel* ii, A white rose of Mary's gift For service meetly worn.

b. In assevcrations (cf. MARRY *int.*).

c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 838 Be Marie in heuene. *Ibid.* 955 For Marie loue of heuene. *c* 1410 *Sir Cleges* 259 Be God and Seint Mari. 1423 JAS. I *Kingis Q.* xvii, Help, Calyope, and wynd, in Marye name! 1530 *Proper Dyaloge* in Roy *Rede me* (Arb.) 149 By seynt mary syr that is a starcke lye. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 147 By saint Marie, I begynne to doubte whether [etc.]. 1613 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII*, v. ii. 33 By Holy Mary (Butts) there's knauery. *a* 1650 *Sir Lambewell* 500 in Furniv. *Percy Folio* I. 160 He had his barons giue iudgment, 'or I will my-selfe, by mary gent'.

c. Combinations and phrases: **Mary-ale,** a merry-making held on a festival of the Virgin Mary; **mary-bud** (*obs.* exc. in echocs of Shaks.), the bud of a marigold; **† Saint Mary day,** one of the festivals of the Virgin Mary (cf. LADY-DAY); **† Saint Mary garlie,** some unidentified plant; **Mary-lily,** the white or Madonna lily; **† Saint Mary maythe** (see MAYTHE); **† Saint Mary priest,** a chaplain employed to say mass in honour of the Virgin Mary; **†(Saint) Mary's bath** [tr. L. *balneum Mariæ*], see BATH *sb.*[1] 14; **(Saint) Mary's flower,** (*a*) the Rose of Jericho, *Anastatica hierochuntina*; (*b*) the Western Australian genus *Marianthus* (Treas. Bot. 1866); **Mary-sole,** local name for the whiff, *Rhombus megastoma,* or the smear-dab, *Pleuronectes microcephalus*; **† Mary's seal,** Black Bryony, LADY'S SEAL 2; **† Saint Mary's seed,** *Sonchus oleraceus*; **Saint Mary thistle** = LADY'S THISTLE, *Carduus Marianus.*

1857 *Mary-ale [see ALE A. 3]. 1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* II. iii. 25 And winking *Mary-buds begin to ope their Golden eyes. *c* 1310 *MS. Ashmol.* 43 in *S. Eng. Leg.* p. xiv, 25 *St. Marie dai in leynte. *c* 1450 *ME. Med. Bk.* (Heinrich) 232 Tak talow of an hert, such as he pysseþ by twene two seynt mary dayes. 1623 MARKHAM *Eng. Housew.* I. i. (ed. 2), Take the stalke of Saint *Mary Garlycke, and burne it. 1893 *Westm. Gaz.* 24 Feb. 5/1 The white flower of the Italian painters is the *Mary-Lily. 1446 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 231 Capellano vulgariter nuncupato *seyntmaripriest. 1600 SURFLET *Country Farm* I. xii. 76 For them that are more dainty and delicate, you shall distill the said snailes in *Maries bath [orig. *au bain de Marie*]. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XIII. 105 Rose of Jericho..The Jews call it Kaf Maryam, or St. *Mary's Flower. 1822 *Mary sole [see *lantern-fish*, LANTERN *sb.* 9]. 1836 YARRELL *Brit. Fishes* II. 221 Lemon Dab. Smooth Dab..Mary-sole, Devonshire. 1600 SURFLET *Country Farm* II. ii. 204 Iesamin, *Maries seale [orig. *seau nostre dame*], muske roses. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* App., S. *Maries seede is Southistle seede. 1579 LANGHAM *Gard. Health* (1633) 635 Make broth of S. *Mary Thistle.

2. *Australian slang.* A native woman.

1884 *Pall Mall G.* 16 Aug. 2/1 The vessels generally average a little over 100 tons, 130 to 150 'boys' and Marys may be regarded as an average full cargo. 1898 DAVITT *Life & Progr. Australasia* I. 273 If a Kanaka has a 'Mary' on 'enlisting' the woman comes too and works like a man.

† 3. Mary royal (Sc.): see quot. *Obs.*

1565 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 413 That thair be cunyeit ane penny of silver callit the Marie ryall.

Mary, obs. f. MARROW *sb.*[1], MARRY; var. MERI[1].

Maryall, variant of MARIAL[1].

Marybot, -buck, obs. forms of MARABOUT.

Maryce, obs. form of MARISH.

Marye, obs. form of MARROW *sb.*[1], MARRY.

Maryes, obs. form of MARISH.

Marygo(u)ld(e, marygowles: see MARIGOLD.

† Maryhinch(h)o. *Obs.* (See quots.)

1610 MARKHAM *Masterp.* II. cxvi. 415 The string-halt, of some called the mary-hinchcho, is a sodaine twitching vp of the horses hinder legges. 1614 B. JONSON *Barth. Fair* III. ii, Poore soule, shee has had a Stringhalt, the Maryhinchco.

Marymass (mēə·rimæs). Also 6–7 *Sc.* **Marymess.** [f. MARY + MASS *sb.*[1]]

1. A festival of the Virgin Mary, esp. † (*a*) in OE., Candlemas, 2 Feb.; (*b*) the Assumption, 15 Aug. (now only *local Sc.*); † (*c*) *latter Marymass,* the Nativity of the Virgin, 8 Sept. Also *attrib.* in † *Marymas fast, Marymass holidays.*

c 1000 *Menologium* 20 (February) And þæs embe ane niht þæt we Marian mæssan healdað..for þan heo Crist on þam dæȝe..hrohte to temple. 1052 in Kemble *Cod. Dipl.* IV. 290 Elita daȝas to ðære ærre sanctæ Marian mæssan and ehta daȝas to ðære æftran saneta Marian mæssan. 1492 *Acta Dom. Conc.* (1839) 265/2 Þe somme of jc merkis..at þe fest of Sanct Iohne þe baptist callit midsommer nixt tocum, & ane vther jc merkis at þe latter marymess nixt thareftir. 1546 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 34 This letter marymess. 1578 WHETSTONE *1st Pt. Promos & Cass.* II. v, Tenne to one I read his fortune by the Marymas fast. 1823 GALT *R. Gilhaize* xiv, Was na it my Lord himsel', at last Marymas, when he sent for me to make a hoop to mend her leg. 1903 *Glasgow Herald* 20 Aug., Irvine Harbour. Marymass Holidays. [Work suspended between Friday 21 Aug. and Tuesday 25 Aug.]

† 2. A mass in honour of the Virgin Mary; in 16th c. used in the asseveration *by the Mary mass.*

1532 MORE *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 715/2 She..sayde he wer worthy hy the mary masse to be hanged by the necke. 1553 *Respublica* II. ii. 11 (Brandl) 301 Yea, by the Marye Masse. 1852 ROCK *Ch. of Fathers* III. i. 264 The gilds in the parish often helped to keep up the Mary-Mass.

Mary-muffe, variant of MARRY-MUFF *Obs.*

Marynal, variant of MARINAL.

Marynar(e, -neer, obs. forms of MARINER.

Marynel, -eller: see MARINAL, MARINALLER.

Maryner(e, -nes: see MARINER, MERRINESS.

Maryology, variant of MARIOLOGY.

Maryoner, obs. form of MARINER.

Marys, variant of MARIS *Obs.*, womb.

Marys(e, -ysh(e, obs. forms of MARISH.

Maryskyn, variant of MAROQUIN. *Obs.*

Marysse, -yssh(e, obs. forms of MARISH.

Marz, obs. form of MARCH *sb.*[1] (the month).

Marzepa(i)ne, Marzipan: see MARCHPANE.

Marzhaunt, obs. form of MERCHANT.

Mas. Also 6–7 **masse,** 7–9 **mass,** 7 **mes,** 8–9 **mess.** Cf. also MAST *sb.*[4] [Shortened f. MASTER *sb.*]

† 1. A vulgar or jocular shortening of *master,* usually followed by a proper name or official title.

1575 *Gamm. Gurton* Prol. 12 Mas Doctor was sent for, these gossyps to staye, Because he was Curate, and esteemed full wyse. 1578 WHETSTONE *1st Pt. Promos & Cass.* v. v, Well, masse Grimball. 1588 *Marprel. Epist.* (Arb.) 4 An Archb. is very weakely defended by masse Dean. *a* 1592 GREENE *Jas. IV*, v. iv, What sees Mas Lawyer in this state amiss? 1605 B. JONSON *Volpone* II. i, Is Mass' Stone dead! 1625 — *Staple of N.* II. iv, Sir, by both Your worshipfull Titles, and your name Mas Broker, Good morrow. 1678 BUTLER *Hud.* III. ii. 1239 The Isle of Wight..Where Hinderson, and th' other Masses, Were sent to Cap Texts, and put Cases. *a* 1722 MRS. CENTLIVRE *Platonick Lady* I. i, Is there any thing so disagreable on earth as the sayings of Miss and Mass repeated?

2. Mas John, applied jocularly or contemptuously to a Scottish Presbyterian minister, in contradistinction to an Anglican or Roman clergyman. *arch.*

?1661 JER. TAYLOR *Serm.* Wks. 1850 VIII. 533 To prefer the private minister before the public, the presbyter before a bishop,..and Mas John before the patriarch of Jerusalem. 1672 MARVELL *Reh. Transp.* I. 136 In..Scotland there were I know not how many Mas Johns restored in one day to the work of their Ministry. 1682 H. MORE *Contin. Remark. Stories* 27 The Narration..being rather a Colluctation of Mes John and the Presbytery on one side, and the foul Fiend..on the other side. 1695 SAGE *Fund. Charter Presbyt.* (1697) 395 But Mas John takes the Chair without Election; and would not be a little grated if the best Laird in the Parish should be his Competitor. 1790 BURKE *Fr. Rev.* Wks. V. 44 These new Mess-Johns in robes and coronets. 1821 GALT *Ann. Parish* i. 14 The bairns, when they saw me coming, ran crying to their mothers, 'Here's the feckless Mess-John.' 1826 SCOTT *Woodst.* xxviii, You are not, I apprehend, either a Catholic priest or a Scotch Mass-John to claim devoted obedience from your hearers.

Mas, obs. f. MASS *sb.*[1], and *makes,* MAKE *v.*

Masage, -aker, obs. ff. MESSAGE, MASSACRE.

Masalyne, Masar, obs. ff. MASLIN[1], MAZER.

Mascabado, variant of MUSCOVADA.

Mascagnine (mæskæ·nyəin). *Min.* Also **-in.** [Named by Karsten 1800, after the discoverer, Prof. *Mascagni*: see -INE.] = next.

1836 T. THOMSON *Min., Geol.,* etc. I. 95 Sulphate of Ammonia, Mascagnine. 1846 *Penny Cycl.* Suppl. II. 308/1 *Mascagnin.* 1849 WATTS tr. *Gmelin's Handbk. Chem.* II. 462.

Mascagnite (mæskănyəit). *Min.* [See prec. and -ITE.] 'Sulphate of ammonium, occurring in crusts and stalactitie forms near volcanoes'.

1806 CHESTER *Dict. Min.*

Mascal, Mascall: see MASCLE *sb.*[1], MASCUE *v.*

Mascalonge, variant of MASKINONGE.

Mascarade, -ado, obs. ff. MASQUERADE.

Mascellez, variant of MASCLELESS.

Mascellin(e, -celyn(e, obs. ff. MASLIN.

Mascerate, obs. form of MACERATE.

Maschel: see MASHEL *Obs.*

Mascherade, -ate, obs. ff. MASQUERADE.

Masches, maschets, variants of MACHES *Obs.*

† Maschevalent, ? error for MACHIAVELLIAN.

1600 R. LOGAN *Let.* in *Pitcairn's Crim. Trials* (1833) II. I. 285 The Maschevalent massakering of owr deirest frendis.

Maschscherel: see *mash-roll,* MASH *sb.*[1] 5.

Mascle (mɑ·sk'l), *sb.*[1] Also 4 **maskle,** 5 **maskill, mascule,** 7 **maseal.** [Of somewhat obscure etymology.

Senses 1 and 2 coincide with senses of L. *macula*; senses 2 and 3 with senses of F. *maele,* first quoted from 1584, and regarded by French lexicographers as ad. L. *macula*; OF. *mascle* (= sense 3 below) occurs in the Roll of Caerlaverock *c* 1300, and with date 1397 in Nicholls *Roy. Wills* (1780) 155; cf. further med.L. *mascula* mesh (early 15th c. in Diefenbach, perh. an alteration of L. *macula* after OHG. *masca* mesh), and OE. *mæscre,* glossing L. *macula,* whether in the sense of mesh or in that of spot is doubtful. With sense 1 cf. the 16th c. Du. *maschel* spot, stain (Kilian).]

† 1. A spot, speck. *Obs.*

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 725 With-outen mote oþer mascle of sulpande synne. *Ibid.* B. 556 With-onten maskle oþer mote. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 4989 All þe body..Was finely florischt..Of gold graynes & of goules full of gray mascles.

† 2. = MESH of a net. *Obs.*

1329 in Riley *Mem. Lond.* (1868) 172 [The meshes of which nets which are called] mascles [ought to be 1¼ inch in size]. *c* 1410 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby) fol. 21 Men taketh hem [*sc.* foxes]..with heyes, and with pursnettes. But he kutteth with his teth þe mascles. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* II. 108/2 Mascle, a Mash of a Net. 1696 PHILLIPS, *Mascle,* ..the mash or hole of a net.

† b. *attrib.* in *mascle lace. Obs.*

a 1500 *MS. Harl.* 2320 f. 62 in *Catalogue,* [Kinds of lace in fashion under Hen. VI. and Edw. IV.] Lace Maskel.

3. *Her.* A charge in the form of a lozenge with a lozenge-shaped opening through which the 'field' appears. (Cf. MESH.) Also *attrib.*

1486 *Bk. St. Albans, Her.* F iij b, Here ye shall knaw the differans be twix fusillis, masculys and losyngys. 1572 BOSSEWELL *Armorie* II. 126 Whensoeuer ye shall see eyther Losenge, Mascle, or other thynge voyded of the fielde, Fesse, bende &c. whereon theye stande, it is sufficient to saye, voyded, onelye. 1610 GUILLIM *Heraldry* IV. xix. (1632) 359 A Mascle differeth from both the Fusill and Lozenge; first, because [etc.]. 1680 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1503/4 Several pieces of Plate engraven with a Leopards head..and five Mascals. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. 322/2 A Mascle Buckle Bottony..is generally termed by the name of a Losenge or Mascle Shooe Buckle. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) VIII. 455/1 Opinions have varied very much about the original of the mascles or mashes. 1893 CUSSANS *Her.* (ed. 4) 71 The Mascle is a Lozenge voided.

transf. 1863 KINGLAKE *Crimea* II. 204 The outline of the ground covered by their troops took the shape of a lozenge. Within the mascle or hollow lozenge thus formed, there marched the Turkish battalions.

4. *Antiq.* One of the perforated lozenge-shaped plates of metal fastened to the outer surface of the military tunic of the 13th century. (Cf. MACLE 4.)

1822 *Gentl. Mag.* XCII. I. 308 But two different kinds of mail, the mascled and flat ringed, are all that can be found in them, the mascles being sometimes lozenge-shaped and sometimes square. 1824 MEYRICK *Anc. Armour* I. Introd. 69 A tunic,..coated with perforated lozenges of steel, called ..macles, or masceles. 1846 FAIRHOLT *Costume in Eng.* 88 These mascles were lozenge-shaped plates of metal.

† Mascle, *a.* and *sb.*[2] *Obs.* Also 5 **mascul.** [a. early OF. *mascle*: see MALE *a.*] = MALE *a.* and *sb. Mascul thure*: 'male incense' (see MALE *a.* 6).

c 1410 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) i, An hare shall dure well iiii. myle or more or lasse, and she be an olde hare mascle. *Ibid.* iv, For alle þe sesoun a mascle and a femell abydith togyders. *c* 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* XI. 412 A vnce of mascul thure Wel smellynge, and an vnce of pipur dure. 1455 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 329/2 Thaim and thaire heires mascles. 1587 STANYHURST *Descr. Irel.* ii. 19 in *Holinshed,* Without the coupling of masele or female.

Masclechon, obs. form of MASLIN[2].

Mascled (mɑ·sk'ld), *a.* [f. MASCLE *sb.*[1] + -ED[2].] Covered with mascles.

1818 MEYRICK in *Archæologia* (1821) XIX. 126 The earliest specimen I have found of the mascled hauberk. 1828-40 TYTLER *Hist. Scot.* (1864) I. 321 He [Alexander II] appears clothed in a complete coat of mascled mail. 1846 FAIRHOLT *Costume in Eng.* 88 The mascled armour of this era [13th c.].

† Ma·scleless, *a. Obs.* In 4 **mascellez, maskel(l)ez, -cs.** [f. MASCLE *sb.*[1] + -LESS.] Spotless.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 731 To bye hym a perle was mascellez. *Ibid.* 780 A makelez may & maskellez.

Masclin(e, -yne, obs. forms of MASLIN.

Mascobado, variant of MUSCOVADA.

Mascot (mæ·skɒt). *slang.* Also 9 **mascotte.** [ad. provincial F. *mascotte,* perh. cogn. with mod.Pr. *masco* witch. The word was brought into notice by E. Audran's opera 'La Mascotte', played 29 Dec. 1880.] A person, or a thing, animate or inanimate, supposed to bring luck.

1884 *Lisbon* (Dakota) *Clipper* 11 Dec. 7 This dining room girl..lays claim to being a mascot. 1899 E. PHILLPOTTS *Human Boy* 118 That rat's a sort of 'mascotte' to me. A 'mascotte''s a thing that brings luck.

† Mascue, *v. Obs.* Also 5 **maskowe, maskewe, mascall.** [Variant of MACHECOLE *v.*] *trans.* To machicolate.

1412–20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* II. xx. (1513) M iv, Theyr wall mascued and agayne our skalys Trusteth theron made great

ordynaunce. 1421 — *Thebes* (E. E. T. S.) 2757 [Ethiocles] maskowed his walles and his heghe tours. 1461 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 493/2 To enbatell, carnell, mascall, or to make eny Toure, Castell or Forteresse.

Mascul: see MASCLE *a.* *Obs.*

Masculariˈty (mæskiŭlæˈrĭti). *rare.* [f. L. *mascul-us* + -AR + -ITY.] = MASCULINITY.

1817 N. DRAKE *Shaks.* II. 67 The subsequent sonnets.. bear the strongest..testimony to the mascularity of the person addressed. 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* xlvi. (1856) 425 To some the unmentionables might savor of mascularity.

Maˈsculate, *v. rare.* [f. L. *mascul-us* (see MALE *a.*) + -ATE.] *trans.* To make masculine.

1623 COCKERAM, *Masculate*, to make strong. 1812 SOUTHEY *Omniana* II. 56, I am not sure (he adds) whether in time it may not perfectly masculate the sex.

†**Maˈsculated,** *a. Her. Obs.* [f. Anglo-L. *mascul-a* MASCLE + -ATE + -ED 1.] = MASCULY.

1486 *Bk. St. Albans, Her.* C V, This cros is called a cros masculatit for he is made of masculys.

Masculation (mæskiŭlēˈ·ʃən). [f. L. *mascul-us* male + -ATION.] Artificial fertilization (of plants).

1855-6 R. F. BURTON *El Medinah* (1861) II. 202 January and February are the months for the masculation of the palm. 1859 — *Centr. Afr.* in *Jrnl. Geog. Soc.* XXIX. 368 Bees also swarm in the jungles, performing an important part in the vegetable economy by masculation or caprification, and the conveyance of pollen.

Mascule, Masculée: see MASCLE, MASCULY.

Masculine (mæˈskiŭlin), *a.* and *sb.* Also 4, 6 masculin, 6 masculyne, 7 masculen. [a. F. *masculin, -ine*, ad. L. *masculīn-us* f. *mascul-us*: see MALE *a.* and -INE.]

A. *adj.*

1. Of persons or animals: Belonging to the male sex; male. Now *rare*.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* II. Pr. iii. 28 (Camb. MS.) The oportunite and noblesse of thi masculyn chyldren pat is to seyn thi sones. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* IV. vii. (1495) 91 Yf a woman that is with a chylde masculyn be sodenly callyd, she meuyth first the ryght fote. 1545 RAYNOLD *Byrth Mankynde* 90 Yf the ryghte breste slake or flagge, the masculyne or male byrth is in parell: yf the lefte, the female byrthe. 1604 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 432 The lord shall haue his best oxe or cowe and all his masculen horses. 1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* V. i. 20 *Patro.* Male Varlot you Rogue? What's that? *Ther.* Why his masculine Whore. 1614 TAILOR *Hog hath lost* II. D, Could any Masculine flatterer on earth So far bewitch thee, to forget thy selfe, As now to leaue me? 1661 LOVELL *Hist. Anim. & Min.* 55 The Masculine, or male Goat. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* x. 890 O why did God..that peopl'd highest Heav'n With Spirits Masculine, create at last..this fair defect Of Nature. 1688 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2348/1 God Almighty, as we hope and pray, will grant You an Heir Masculine of your Body.

b. With reference to the vegetable kingdom: = MALE *a.* 2.

1691 RAY *Creation* I. (1692) 97 The Flowers serve to cherish..the masculine or prolifick Seed contained in the Chives or Apices of the Stamina.

†**2.** Said of inanimate objects to which the male sex was attributed on the ground of some quality, e.g. relative superiority, strength, activity, etc. *Masculine hour* (Astrol.): one ruled by a masculine planet. *Obs.*

1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. ix. 22 The one [*sc.* the triangle] imperfect, mortall, fœminine, Th' other [*sc.* the circle] immortall, perfect, masculine. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 44 Wee haue been taught, that this Planet [the Sun] is Masculine, frying and sucking vp the humidity of all things. 1613 M. RIDLEY *Magn. Bodies* 82 The Adamant is Masculine unto his beloved the Iron and Steele, and these are Feminine. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* I. ii. IV. vii. (1651) 167 The Emperor would not touch his new Bride, till an Astrologer had told him a masculine hour. 1696 PHILLIPS, *Masculine Planets* or *Signs*, are those which excel in active Qualities, that is, Heat and Coldness. 1819 J. WILSON *Dict. Astrol.* 285 Fortunately all the masculine planets are diurnal. *Ibid.* 286 Masculine signs.

†**b.** *Masculine frankincense, gum* = *male incense* (see MALE *a.* 9). *Obs.*

1555 EDEN *Decades* 79 A greate barell of woodde full of moste excellente masculine frankensence. 1603 B. JONSON *K. Jas.'s Entertainm.* (1604) D 2 Heere no wight To sacrifice, saue my deuotion comes, That brings, insteed of those thy Masculine gummes. My Cities heart.

c. The designation of a choice kind of apricot.

1629 PARKINSON *Parad. in Sole* (1656) 579 The Masculine Apricock. 1718 J. LAWRENCE *Fruit-g. Kalendar* 78 The latter end of this Month [June] the Masculine Aprecot is ripe. 1860 HOGG *Fruit Man.* 41 Red Masculine [Apricot].

3. *Gram.* Of or pertaining to the gender to which appellations of males normally belong.

a 1380 *St. Theodora* 110 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1878) 36 Hire name, þat was femynyn Of gendre, heo turned in to masculyn. 1387-8 T. USK *Test. Love* II. iii. (Skeat) I. 14 No mo genders ben there but masculyn and femenyne. 1530 PALSGR. Introd. 24 A substantive of the masculyne gender. 1612 I. BRINSLEY *Lud. Lit.* 128 Hee can shew it, to bee the Masculine Gender, because in wordes of three terminations, the first is the Masculine, the second the Feminine, the third is the Neuter. 1875 *Expositor* 171 Sun and sea and streams had, in the infancy of the world, masculine and feminine names.

b. Prosody. *Masculine rime*: in French versification, a rime between lines ending in stressed syllables, as opposed to the 'feminine rime' ending in a mute *e*. Hence *gen.* a 'single' rime on a stressed syllable. (Cf. MALE *a.* 7.)

1581 SIDNEY *Apol. Poetrie* (Arb.) 71 Euen the very ryme it selfe, the Italian cannot put in the last silable, by the French named the Masculine ryme. 1727-41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Rhyme*, Masculine Rhymes are those of all other words [than such as end with an *e* mute]. 1844 [see FEMININE 6 b]. 1870 LOWELL *Study Wind.* (1871) 201 The verses of the first [stanza] have all of them masculine rhymes. 1891 J. C. PARSONS *Eng. Versif.* 44 Rhyme between final syllables is called single or masculine rhyme.

4. Pertaining to the male sex; peculiar to or assigned to males; consisting of males.

1601 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* V. i. 257 If nothing lets to make vs happie both, But this my masculine vsurp'd attyre: [etc.]. 1616 H. GOSNOLD in *Lismore Papers* Ser. II. (1887) II. 20 We ioyne in our thankfull commendaccons to ye all, congratulating of your masculin increase. *a* 1618 RALEIGH *Prerog. Parl.* (1628) 10 Hee was soone after slaine in Ireland, and his whole Masculine race, ten yeres extinguished. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* II. i. § 4 The People of the same Place.. erected a Masculine Church (Women being interdicted the Entrance thereof). 1781 COWPER *Hope* 686 Whether at the toilet of the fair He laughed and trifled..Or if in masculine debate he shared. 1790 GIBBON *Misc. Wks.* (1814) III. 360 The genuine masculine descent of the Princes of Brunswick must be explored beyond the Alps. 1801 CHARLOTTE SMITH *Lett. Solit. Wand.* II. 317 She assumed masculine attire. 1880 H. C. COOTE *Eng. Gild Knights* 17 That peculiar fashion of devolution which the Normans had introduced —masculine primogeniture.

5. Having the appropriate excellences of the male sex; manly, virile; vigorous, powerful. Rarely of persons; usually of attributes, actions, or productions.

1629 H. BURTON (*litle*) Babel no Bethel...In answer to.. two masculine Champions for the Synagogue of Rome. 1639 N. N. tr. *Du Bosq's Compl. Woman* I. 35 Masculine spirits very easily resist this tyrannie. 1647 CLARENDON *Contempl. on Ps.* Tracts (1727) 433 The argumentation of Manoah's wife.. might very well have become the more masculine understanding. 1678 WANLEY *Wond. Lit. World* V. ii. § 89. 473/1 He proved a stout and masculine Prince. *a* 1704 T. BROWN *Eng. Sat.* Wks. 1730 I. 28 His heat was masculine and always pointed against vice. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 363. ¶ 10 Adam's Speech abounds with Thoughts..of a more masculine and elevated Turn. 1756-82 J. WARTON *Ess. Pope* (ed. 4) I. vii. 401 *note*, The forcible and masculine images with which the ancients strengthened their compositions. 1829 LYTTON *Devereux* I. iv, I grew more gentle, and he more masculine. 1850 BLACKIE *Æschylus* I. Pref. 6 Aeschylus..was famous..for the fearless, masculine licence with which he handled the most flexible of all languages. 1856 EMERSON *Eng. Traits, Lit.* Wks. (Bohn) II. 105, I find ..the whole writing of the time charged with a masculine force and freedom.

†**b.** Of material things or physical qualities: Powerful in action, strong. (Cf. 2.) *Obs.*

1637 T. MORTON *New Eng. Canaan* (1883) 188 [Herbes] of a more maskuline vertue than any of the same species in England. 1664 BEALE *Aphor. Cider* § 57 in Evelyn *Pomona* 29 Let the Cider be..Masculine and in full body, yet ..well tasted of the Apple. 1675 EVELYN *Earth* (1676) 66 Let this pulveriz'd Earth..be expos'd for a Summer and a Winter to the vicissitudes and changes of the seasons.. you will find it will have obtain'd such a generous and masculine pregnancy,..as [etc.]. 1728 EARBERY tr. *Burnet's St. Dead* II. 45 The true Fertility that brings Corn to a Masculine Perfection, is in Countries far from the Equinox.

6. Of a woman, her qualities or attributes: Having the capacities, manners, appearance, or tastes appropriate to the male sex. †*Masculine-feminine*: a 'mannish' woman. *Obs.*

1617 MORYSON *Itin.* III. 1 The masculine women of the Low Countries vse to make voyages for trafficke. 1620 (*title*) Hic Mulier: or, The Man-Woman: Being a Medicine to cure the Coltish Disease of the Staggers in the Masculine-Feminines of our Times. 1766 FORDYCE *Serm. Yng. Wom.* (1767) I. iii. 104 A masculine woman must be naturally an unamiable creature. 1801 STRUTT *Sp. & Past.* Introd. § 43. 48 Some of these masculine females have occasionally made their appearance. 1808 *Spirit Pub. Jrnls.* XI. 86 That masculine feminine, the late Princess Dashkoff. 1838 THIRLWALL *Greece* V. 279 She was a woman of masculine spirit. *Comb.* 1683 TRYON *Way to Health* xi. (1697) 192 Neither are any [Women] so..Masculine Spirited. 1899 CROCKETT *Kit Kennedy* 207 A..masculine-looking woman.

B. *sb.*

1. That which is of the male sex.

c 1550 *Schole-House Women* 342 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* IV. 118 And all that euer they may imagine, Js to alure the masculine. 1621 LADY M. WROTH *Urania* 16 They stept back in wonder to see that beautie, which yet in the masculine they came neere to. 1650 BULWER *Anthropomet.* 87 Nature makes the Masculine perfect.

2. A person of the male sex.

1652 GAULE *Magastrom.* 265 If he had abused himselfe with a masculine..he was forced..to kill himselfe. 1739 G. OGLE *Gualtherus & Griselda* 107 You, the Masculine, to Labour bred. 1886 BYNNER *A. Surriage* XXVII. 306, I shall be ill at ease among such an array of masculines. 1890 F. W. ROBINSON *Very Strange Family* 63 She flounced out of the room and left the masculines to themselves.

b. *transf.* of the signs of the zodiac. (Cf. A. 2.)

1653 R. SANDERS *Physiogn.* 7 Of these Signs, the masculines are fiery and aiery; the Feminines earthly and watery.

3. *Gram.* The masculine gender; a word or form of the masculine gender.

1530 PALSGR. 67 As *consile, miracle* be masculynes. *Ibid.* 70 All adjectives whose masculyn gendre endith in *e*, have their masculynes and femynines all one. 1607 TOPSELL *Fourf. Beasts* (1658) 90 The plurall of the Masculine is Zebaim, and of the feminine Zebaoth. 1612 [see FEMININE B. 2]. 1872 MORRIS *Eng. Accid.* 83 There are three ways of distinguishing the masculine and feminine in English.

Masculinely (mæˈskiŭlinli), *adv.* [f. MASCULINE *a.* + -LY 2.] In a masculine manner. Also, in the masculine gender.

1611 B. JONSON *Catiline* III. iii. H b, You haue done most masculinely within, And plaid the Orator. 1627 W. SCLATER *Exp. 2 Thess.* (1629) 230 Whither hee meanes masculinely, *that cuill one*, the diuell..or rather *cuill worke*..is no matter of curious inquiry. 1732 J. WHALEY *Poems* 48 The Face was masculinely hard. 1865 *Sat. Rev.* 29 Apr. 514/1 A man..who can admit that an author's style is..masculinely vigorous and sublime, and yet cannot admire it!

†**b.** In the male line. *Obs.*

1658 WALTON *Life of Donne* (ed. 2) 5 His Father was masculinely..descended from a very ancient Family.

c. Of riming: cf. MASCULINE *a.* 3 b.

1837-9 HALLAM *Hist. Lit.* I. i. i. § 30. 26 All the lines in each stanza rhyming masculinely with each other.

Masculineness (mæˈskiŭlinˌnés). [f. MASCULINE *a.* + -NESS.] The quality of being masculine.

1662 J. SPARROW tr. *Behme's Rem. Wks., Consid. upon Stiefel* 16 His Sprout groweth in Gods Kingdome;..Not in Adams Masculinenesse. 1806 W. TAYLOR in *Ann. Rev.* IV. 250 All the excesses of masculineness broke loose and overspread the country. 1901 *Daily News* 9 Mar. 6/1 She affects a masculineness of diction which [etc.].

Masculinity (mæskiŭlinĭti). [ad. F. *masculinité*, f. *masculin*: see MASCULINE and -ITY.]

1. The quality or condition of being masculine.

1748 T. RUDDIMAN *Dissertation* 42 Besides the Prerogative of his Sex, or Masculinity (as the French call it). 1865 *Sat. Rev.* 21 Oct. 527/1 The obnoxious airs of masculinity affected by some of his countrywomen. 1882 *Athenæum* No. 2867. 462 It is not easy to see why *courbe, tangente, parallèle*, are given as exceptions to the masculinity of 'parts of speech when taken substantively'. 1898 BODLEY *France* II. IV. ii. 354 Some..inheriting, too, the masculinity of that illustrious princess.

b. *pl.* Things characteristic of the male sex.

1877 MRS. OLIPHANT *Carita* II. xxiv. 144 That furtive cigars and other precocious masculinities were not criminal.

2. That which is masculine.

1860 GEO. ELIOT *Mill on Fl.* I. v, This pink-and-white bit of masculinity with the indeterminate features.

†**Mascull,** *a. Obs.* Also 5 **maskyll.** [Of obscure origin: ? identical with MASCLE *a.*] *Tun mascull*: some variety of the tun (liquid measure).

1432 *Rolls Parlt.* IV. 405/2 [' The wynes of Gascoigne and Guyen' had only 4 or 5 inches of lees] in a tonne maskyll. 1531 in *Sel. Pleas Admiralty* (Selden Soc.) I. 36 Accounting always a ton mascull for a ton, ij pipes for a ton, [etc.].

Masculo- (mæˈskiŭlo), used as combining form of L. *mascul-us* male. **Maˈsculo-feˈminine** *a.*, partly masculine and partly feminine. **Maˈsculo-nuˈcleus** *Embryology* (see quot. 1884); hence **Maˈsculo-nuˈclear** *a.*, pertaining to a masculo-nucleus.

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* III. xvii. 149 Hermaphroditicall and masculo-feminine generations. 1830 LYELL *Princ. Geol.* I. 11 One..fiction of the Egyptian mythology was the supposed intervention of a masculo-feminine principle. 1884 HYATT in *Proc. Boston Soc. Nat. Hist.* XXIII. 54 We propose..to call the original undifferentiated generative body the nucleus, and its products respectively the male or masculonucleus, and the female or feminonucleus.

Masculonge: see MASKINONGE.

†**Maˈsculous,** *a. Obs. rare.* [f. L. *mascul-us* male + -OUS.] = MASCULINE *a.*

1619 BALCANQUAL *Lett.* in *Hales' Gold. Rem.* II. (1673) 117 It was learned, devout, and the stile masculous. 1633 W. STRUTHER *True Happines* 101 This is not only the language of Canaan, but also the masculous Schiboleth.

Masculy (mæˈskiŭli), *a. Her.* Also 9 **masculée, mascally.** [f. **mascule*, MASCLE + -Y.] Covered with mascle-shaped figures.

a 1550 in *Baring-Gould & Twigge's West. Armory* (1898) 4 *Belmarsh*..Gul: masculy arg: 4, 3, 2, 1. 1562 LEIGH *Armorie* (1597) 35 b, Vert a crosse Masculy Argent. 1610 GUILLIM *Heraldry* V. iv. (1632) 377 Masculy, that is..Mascle-waies. 1864 BOUTELL *Her. Hist. & Pop.* XV. 196 Shields *masculée*..may have been intended by early Heralds to indicate Difference. 1869 W. S. ELLIS *Antig. of Her.* viii. 163 *note*, We see on the wings..the mascally pattern. 1878 BURKE *Gen. Armory* 819/2 *Powges*, Ar. masculy sa.

Mascun, obs. form of MASON.

Mascurado, obs. variant of MASQUERADE.

Mascy tinter, obs. form of MEZZOTINTO.

†**Mase.** *Obs. rare.* Also **masse.** [a. G. *mase* (now *dial.*); cf. MASERS.] A spot, freckle.

1527 ANDREW *Brunswyke's Distyll. Waters* F iv b, The same water..withdryveth the spottys and masses oute of the face. *Ibid.* L ij b, Mases.

Mase, obs. form of MACE, MAZE, MEASE, MESS.

Masedliche, obs. form of MAZEDLY.

Maseer, obs. form of MAZER; var. MAHSEER.

Masel, Masele(y)n(e: see MEASLE, MASLIN 1.

Maseliche, obs. form of MAZILY.

†**Maselin.** *Obs.* [a. OF. *maselin*, also *maserin, maderin*, f. *mazre, madre*, bowl of maple-wood.] A bowl of maple-wood; = MAZER.

a 1290 *S. Eustace* 395 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 219 Men beden him sitten and drinken vin Wiþ coupe and eke wiþ maselin. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* (Kölbing) 6944 Plater, disse, cop & maselne. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Sir Thopas* 141 They sette hym first sweete wyn And Mede eek in a Mazelyn.

Maselinges, obs. form of MEASLINGS.

Maseljohn, obs. form of MASLIN 2.

Maselyd, obs. form of MEASLED.

Maselyn, -yn(n)e, obs. forms of MASLIN 1.

Masement, variant of MAZEMENT.

Masendewe, -due: see MEASONDUE, hospital.

Masor, variant of MAZER.

†**Masers.** *Obs.* [a. G. *masern.*] = MEASLES.

1561 HOLLYBUSH *Hom. Apoth.* 41 b, Variole is a disease that noyeth children greatly called Pockes and Masers.

Mash (mæʃ), *sb.*[1] Forms: 1 másc-, máx- (in Comb. *máscwyrt*, *máxwyrt*), 3–5 masche, 6–7 mashe, 6–9 mesh, 6– mash. See also MASH-FAT. [OE. *másc-*, *máx-*, corresponds to late MHG., mod.G. *meisch* masc., crushed grapes for wine-making, infused malt for beer (also, in 15th c. coupled with *met* mead, in a gloss for L. *mulsum*), and to Sw. *mäsk*, Da. *mask*, grains for pigs. It has been variously regarded as related by ablaut to OE. *miscian* to MIX, and as cogn. w. OSl. *mězga* sap.]

1. *Brewing.* Malt mixed with hot water to form wort.

[*c* 1000: see *mash-wort* in 5 below. 1335, etc.: see MASH-FAT.] 1587 HARRISON *England* II. vi. 169/2 in *Holinshed*, She letteth her mash run till the malt be left without liquor. 1729 G. SMITH *Fermentation* 28 Some farther sprinkle the top of the Mash over with dry Malt ground. 1742 *Lond. & Country Brew.* I. (ed. 4) 23 The Malt..is worked by several Men with Oars..and is called the first and stiff Mash. 1830 M. DONOVAN *Dom. Econ.* I. 151 The first mash is agitated and allowed to rest during a longer period than the second. 1889 BARNARD *Noted Breweries* I. 241 The grist is covered with water a second and sometimes even a third time, the extract being always called a 'mash'.

† **b.** *transf.* The substance upon which the liquor is poured in lixiviation. (Cf. MASH *v.*[1] 1 c.) *Obs.*

1775 *New Hampsh. Prov. Papers* (1873) VII. 653 The Liquor may then be..put on another mash [in the making of salt petre].

2. A mixture of boiled grain, bran or meal, etc., given as a warm food to horses and cattle. Also with qualifying word, as *bran-mash*: see BRAN.

1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* III. (1586) 131 Graines..mingled with Floure, fried Beanes, and meale of Lentyls all stirred together, and giuen him in a mash. 1614 B. JONSON *Barth. Fair* IV. iii, How now! my Galloway Nag, the staggers? ha!..I'le gi' him a mash, presently, shall take away this dizzinesse. 1669 WORLIDGE *Syst. Agric.* (1681) 328 A Mash, or Mesh; Ground-Corn, or such like, boiled in Water for Cattle to eat. 1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* IV. ii, So that each Horse and Mare eat..their own Mash of Oats and Milk. 1844 STEPHENS *Bk. of Farm* § 1558 The mash [for farm-horses] consists of either steamed potatoes, boiled barley or oats, mixed sometimes with bran. 1881 BESANT & RICE *Chapl. of Fleet* II. xix, [He] was..superintending the preparation of a warm mash for his hack.

3. *gen.* Something reduced to a soft pulpy consistence, by beating or crushing, by mixing with or steeping in water, etc.

1598 FLORIO, *Mescola*,..a medlie, a mixture, a blending, a mesh, a hochpoch. 1658 A. FOX *Wurtz' Surg.* III. xxiii. 291 Boil it [flesh] again to a mash..Then spread that mash on a thick cloth, apply it like a Cataplasm. 1690 N. LEE *Massacre of Paris* V. ii. 45 With this mangled flesh held to Heav'n, This horrid mash of Blood, and Bone, and Marrow ..I beg the Power Divine (etc.). 1701 PENN in *Pa. Hist. Soc. Mem.* IX. 50 An empty pipe or two to put the mash of the apples in. 1771 SMOLLETT *Humph. Cl.* 8 June, The pallid, contaminated mash, which they call strawberries; soiled and tossed by greasy paws through twenty baskets crusted with dirt; and then presented with the worst milk. *Ibid.* 13 July, One of his great toes was crushed into a mash. 1816 L. TOWNE *Farmer & Grazier's Guide* 13 After the Grass has been chewed over again, it is reduced to a kind of Mash, not unlike boiled Spinach. 1880 J. PAYN *Confid. Agent* II. 107 The streets are one mash of snow.

transf. 1852 SURTEES *Sponge's Sp. Tour* viii. 33 He [a huntsman who had had many injuries from falls] was a complete mash of a man.

b. *fig.* A confused mixture; also, a muddle, 'hash'. (Cf. MISH-MASH.)

1598 B. JONSON *Ev. Man in Hum.* IV. xi, *Bray.* I haue made a faire mash on't. 1851 HELPS *Comp. Solit.* vi. (1874) 85 Our charity is so mixed up in a mash of sentiment and sickly feeling. 1861 THORNBURY *Turner* (1862) II. 163 His will is an extraordinary mash of grammar.

c. (without article.) The state of being mashed or reduced to a soft mass. *lit.* and *fig.* Chiefly in *to beat, boil,* etc. *to mash, in mash.*

1630 LORD *Banians* 88 Some [of the earth's inhabitants] blowne from the tops of high mountains, other bruised to mash. 16.. *Ballad of Robin Hood & Tanner* xxi. in Child *Ballads* III. 138/2 For here we may thresh our bones all to mesh, And get no coyn at all. 1691 J. WILSON *Belphegor* III. iv, She 'as beaten me to mash. 1693 DRYDEN *Let.* Wks. 1893 XVIII. 111 Buy me a sieve-full [of damsons] to preserve whole, and not in mash. 1751 LADY LUXBOROUGH *Let. to Shenstone* 5 Sept., The paper is boiled to mash. 1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) II. 115 [He] dashed all the eggs into mash. 1839 J. RAYSON *Poems* (1858) 34 But we've a gipsy creature here In vice will bang them aw to mash.

4. = *mash-staff* (Heraldry).

1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. 296/2 He beareth Azure, a Brewers Mash in Bend sinister.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.*: *mash* † *bowl*, † *coomb*, *keeve*; † **mash-back**, a receptacle into which the mash is drawn off from the mash-tub; **mash-cooler** (see quot.); **mash copper**, a copper in which wort is made; **mash-liquor**, the water put to the malt is the process of mashing; **mash-machine** (see quot.); **mashman**, an operative in a brewery or distillery who has charge of the mashing of malt **mash-pulper** = *mash-machine* (Knight *Dict. Mech.* Suppl. 1884); **mash-roll** (*dial.* -rule), **-rudder, -staff**, the instrument used to stir the malt in the mash tub; **mash-tub, tun, vat**, a tub in which malt is mashed; † **mash-wise** *adv.*, after the manner of a mash; **mash-wort** (OE. *máscwyrt*), wort, infused malt. Also MASH-FAT.

1729 G. SMITH *Fermentation* 28 Put 'em into the *Mash-backs to ferment. *a* 1529 SKELTON *E. Rummyng* 196 Than Elynour taketh The *mashe bolle. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, **Mash-cooler*, a stirring-trough in which mash or wort are stirred to expedite cooling. 1588 *Lanc. Wills* III. 137 In the..brewe house..one *mashe combe. 1864 *Auld Ayr* 93 The measurement of the *mesh copper. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 580 The worts..were run through the *mash-kieve. 1830 M. DONOVAN *Dom. Econ.* I. 155 If a *mash-liquor be of such heat as is [etc.]. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* III The malt is agitated..by a mechanism contained within the mash-tun...The *mash machine is shown..in fig. 106. 1889 BARNARD *Noted Breweries* I. 191 Two or three of the *mash-men..had been in the same occupation..over forty years. 1388–9 in *1st Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* 80/1 De xviiid. solutis pro ii. *masshe rolles in pistrina. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 328/1 Maschel, or rothyr, or maschscherel, *remulus, palmula, mixtorium.* 179. PEGGE *Derbicisms* (E. D. S.) III *Mash-roll*, the staff with which they stir the malt in the mash-tub. 1854 MISS BAKER *Northampt. Gloss.*, *Mash-rule*, the instrument used for stirring up the malt and hops in brewing. 1454 in Rogers *Agric. & Prices* III. 555/1, 2 *mash rothers. 1727 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Baking*, Let one put in the Water, and another with the Mash-Rudder stir some of the Flower therewith. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. 296/2 The Pole is termed a *Mash-Staff. 1841 HARTSHORNE *Salop. Antiq.*, s. v. *Mash fat*, The grain is stirred round with a wooden implement, termed a mash-staff. 1543 in *Trevelyan Papers* (Camd.) 185 The brnyng howse...Item ij. new malte sackes...Item a *maxstobe. 1683 TRYON *Way to Health* 154 Put it into your Mash-Tub. 1837 WHITTOCK, etc. *Bk. Trades* (1842) 69 The 'mash-tub'..is a large vessel which has a false bottom ..pierced with small holes. 1713 J. WARD *Pyr. Math. Guide* (ed. 2) 450, I have omitted the Business of gauging *Mash-Tuns. 1741 *Compl. Fam.-Piece* I. vi. 277 Your Mesh Tun must be..big enough to contain 6 Bushels of Malt. 1880 *Act* 43 & 44 *Vict.* c. 24 § 23 (3) The distiller must convey the specified sugar..to the mash tun. 1729 G. SMITH *Fermentation* 28 The Malt being first put into your *Mash-vat or Tub. 1610 MARKHAM *Masterp.* I. lvii. 121 Let his drinke be warme water and branne made *mash-wise. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 216 Drince wermod on *max-wyrte awylede. *Ibid.* III. 74 ȝenim mascwyrt. 1875 *Ure's Dict. Arts* I. 316 The whole of the drainage, when mixed with the first mash-wort, constitutes [etc.].

Mash (mæʃ), *sb.*[2] [Hindī *māsh*.] A common Hindu pulse, *Phaseolus radiatus*.

1800 *Asiat. Ann. Reg., Misc. Tracts* 44/1 The principal crop of this country [Assam] consists of rice and mash.

Mash (mæʃ), *sb.*[3] *slang.* [f. MASH *v.*[2]]

1. A person on whom one of the opposite sex is 'mashed' (see MASH *v.*[2] 2). Also, a dandy, 'swell'.

1882 *Punch* 11 Feb. 69/1 At his fav'rite burlesque theatre he's known as 'such a Mash'. 1888 KIPLING *Phantom Rickshaw* 25 She's a hot-headed little virago, your mash.

2. The action of the vb. MASH[2], in *on the mash*.

1888 *Daily Tel.* 15 Nov. (Farmer), An impecunious fellow who was always on the mash.

Mash (mæʃ), *sb.*[4] [? f. MASH *v.*[1] (sense 2); cf., however, F. *masse* sledge-hammer, MACE *sb.*[1]] A hammer for breaking stones. Also *mash-hammer*.

1825–80 JAMIESON, *Mash-hammer*, a large weighty hammer for breaking stones, &c., Aberd. 1886 J. BARROWMAN *Gloss. Sc. Mining Terms* in *N. & Q.* Ser. VII. (1888) VI. 264 *Mash*, a double-headed hammer for breaking coals. 1893 *Northumbld. Gloss.*, *Mash*, a mason's large iron hammer. 1902 *Cassell's Cycl. Mech.* II. 205/1 [Granite] mouldings..are cut..with a small hand hammer, called a mash hammer. *Ibid.* 238/1 Tools for dressing Granite...A hand hammer (sometimes termed a mash or maul).

Mash (mæʃ), *v.*[1] Forms: 3 meshe, meysse, 5 masche, 6 mas(s)he, mes(s)he, 6–7 meash(e, 6, 8 mesh, 7 messh, 8 marsh, 6– mash. [f. MASH *sb.*[1]; the earliest forms appear to point to an OE. **mæscan* (:—**maiskjan*) f. *másc-* (see the sb.). Cf. G. *meischen*, Sw. *mäska*, Da. *mæske*.]

1. *Brewing. trans.* To mix (malt) with hot water to form wort. (Also with *up*.)

13.. [implied in MASHING *vbl. sb.*]. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 328/1 Maschyn, yn brewynge, *misceo*. 1577 HARRISON *England* I. III. i. 96/1 in *Holinshed*, They seeth theyr woort ..before they mashe, or mixe it with the mault. 1598 HAKLUYT *Voy.* I. 496 Quasse, which is nothing else (as we say) but water turned out of his wits, with a litle branne meashed with it. 1616 SURFL. & MARKH. *Country Farm* 589 You must boile it [the malt] well, then mash it. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. 104/2 Terms used by Beer-Brewers...*Mash it up*, blend or mixt [*sic*] the Malt and warm Water together in the Comb. 1745 DODSLEY *Agric.* I. 131 Some expert..To mash the malted barley, and extract Its flavour'd strength. 1880 *Act* 43 & 44 *Vict.* c. 24 § 24 A distiller must not mash any materials..between eleven o'clock [etc.]. 1889 BARNARD *Noted Breweries* I. 22 Each tun mashes 800 bushels at one time.

absol. or *intr.* 1692 Y-WORTH *Art Distill.* 10 The stiffer you Mash, the better it is. 1743 *Lond. & Country Brewer* IV. (ed. 2) 272 Stir the Malt very well in, and let it stand two Hours, and let that run, and mash again. 1830 M. DONOVAN *Dom. Econ.* I. 223 The practice of some distillers is to mash four times.

† **b.** To brew (ale, beer, etc.). Also with *out*.

1530 PALSGR. 633/2 Come and drinke with us, we mashe to morowe. *Ibid.* 759/1, I tonne, I masshe ale, *je brasse*. 1592 GREENE *Upst. Courtier* Wks. (Grosart) XI. 274 And you masse Brewer, that..mash out a tunning of smale beare. 1633 P. FLETCHER *Purple Isl.* IX. xxviii, Yet was it Angels wine, which in her eyes was masht.

† **c.** To lixiviate (ashes). *Obs. rare*—[1].

1605 TIMME *Quersit.* II. iii. 115 The lye-wash which is made of ashes and water; the which being oftentimes messhed and drawen away, the ashes leave all their life and strength.

d. *dial.* To infuse (tea). Also *intr.* of the tea: To draw. (Cf. MASK *v.*[3] 2.)

1845 *Round Preacher* V. 83, I suppose as you..put the tea in the oven to mash, before you went to chapel. 1876 MISS BRADDON *J. Haggard's Dau.* I. 304 'The tea's mashed', she said. 1891 COTES *2 Girls on Barge* 36 Mrs. Bargee 'mashed' our tea...To mash your tea is colloquial canal.

2. To beat into a soft mass; to crush, pound, or smash to a pulp. Also with *up*.

a 1250 *Owl & Night.* 84 Ac þu þretest to mine fleshe, Mid þine clures woldest me meshe. 1642 H. MORE *Song of Soul* III. App. lxxxvii, Let him..persist Th' intentionall species to mash and bray In marble morter. 1679 C. NESSE *Antid. agst. Popery* Ded. 3 A sharp threshing instrument..to mash in pieces those mighty mountains. 1715–20 POPE *Iliad* XXIII. 778 This hand shall..Mash all his bones, and all his body pound. 1719 BAYNARD *Health* (1731) 28 It's [*sc.* the heart's] office is to mesh and beat, And make the Chyle consimulate with balmy Blood and nitrous Air. 1780 *Phil. Trans.* LXXII. 44 The foot..looked as if two had been squeezed or rather mashed together. 1781 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 2) VII. 4892 The room .. fell down, killed all the persons in it, and so mashed their bodies, that..they could not be known one from another. 1844 BROWNING *Laboratory* 9 Grind away, moisten and mash up thy paste. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* III. ii, She [a steam-boat] mashed up Thames lightermen with her paddles. 1893 *Scribner's Mag.* June 713/2 A falling limb [of a tree] mashes some poor fellow's shoulder.

b. To pound or stamp *one's way*.

1859 DICKENS *T. Two Cities* I. ii, With drooping heads and tremulous tails, they mashed their way through the thick mud.

† **c.** To make a 'hash' of. *Obs.*

1642 H. MORE *Song of Soul* Notes 162/1 Greek writers have strangely mash'd this word יהוה, some calling it *ἰωβά*, others *ἰαώ*.

d. *intr.* To admit of being crushed or pounded.

1877 LE CONTE *Elem. Geol.* (1879) 183 The lower one [lamination line]..consists of coarse sand which could not mash, and therefore has been thrown into folds.

3. *esp.* in the preparation of food: To reduce (fruit, vegetables, etc.) to a homogeneous mass by crushing, beating, or stirring.

1615 MARKHAM *Eng. Housew.* (1660) 83 Open the pye, and put the Cream therein, and mash the Codlins all about. 1699 EVELYN *Acetaria* 105 Yolks of..Eggs..to be mingl'd and mash'd with the Mustard, Oyl, and Vinegar. 1747 MRS. GLASSE *Cookery* I. 11 Put them [*sc.* turnips] in a Pan and mash them with Butter and a little Salt. 1759 tr. *Duhamel's Husb.* III. xii. § 6. 417 [The grapes] are thrown into large tubs, and there mashed or bruised to pieces. *a* 1845 HOOD *Drop of Gin* iii, No cold mutton to hash,..not even potatoes to mash. 1861 CALVERLEY *'There stands a City'* 45 At my side she mashed the fragrant Strawberry.

b. *fig.*

1827 SCOTT *Jrnl.* 28 Mar., I can clear the ground better now by mashing up my old work..with new matter. 1858 E. FITZGERALD *Lett.* (1889) I. 266 Many Quatrains are mashed together. 1865 *Lond. Rev.* 9 Sept. 271/1 There is no tendency whatever on the part of womandom to mash up their 'rights' and 'wrongs' into a 'patent treacle'.

† **4.** To mix, mingle. *Obs.*

a 1591 H. SMITH *Serm.* (1594) 467 The Lord will not haue the wine of his word to be mingled and mashed with the water of humane inuentions. 1607 [cf. MASHING b]. 1611 COTGR., *Mistionner*, to mix, mingle, mash, mell, blend, or temper with. 1722 SEWEL *Hist. Quakers* VII. 383 Ye are so forward to mash the Innocent and Guilty together.

5. To feed with a mash. *rare.*

1859 *Times* 28 Mar. 8/4 How say you, Lord Derby?..Will you be stalled and stabled, and mashed..in Lord Palmerston's stables?

Mash (mæʃ), *v.*[2] *slang.* (? orig. *U. S.*)

1. *trans.* To fascinate or excite sentimental admiration in (one of the opposite sex). Also *absol.*

1882 LELAND *Gypsies* 108 These black-eyed beauties by mashing men for many generations, with shafts shot sideways and most wantonly, at last sealed their souls into the corner of their eyes. 1883 *Masher* 4 July 3/1 When a fellow is married, he can't go on mashing, don't you know. 1885 F. ANSTEY *Tinted Venus* v. 59, I saw directly that I'd mashed her. 1897 BARRÈRE & LELAND *Slang, Jargon & Cant* s. v., About the year 1860 *mash* was a word found only in theatrical parlance in the United States. When an actress..smiled at..a friend in the audience, she was said to *mash* him.

2. pass. *To be mashed on*: to have a sentimental admiration for, to be 'gone' on. Also *intr.*

1883 *Pall Mall G.* 11 Oct. 11/1 The participle 'mashed' was in use in America before the substantive. A person who was 'very spooney on' another was said to be 'mashed'. 1893 MILLIKEN *'Arry' Ballads* 66 Bell Bonsor is mashed on me proper. 1893 MCCARTHY *Dictator* II. 22 He is fond of mashing on to young and pretty women.

Hence **Ma·shing** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1883 *Illustr. Lond. News* 9 June 563/3 Cornet Masham, whose name may..be intended by the author to cover his involuntary 'mashing' capacity. 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 11 Aug. 6/2 The ex-Parisian gallant and mashing gay deceiver.

† **Mash,** *v.*[3] *Sc. Obs.* [f. MASH *sb.*[4]] *intr.* To use a 'mash' hammer.

1762 BP. FORBES *Jrnl.* (1886) 228 The General made his way..with blowing and mashing, most of the Road being altogether forced on the Declivity of..Mountains.

Mash, dial. f. MARSH; obs. form of MESH.

Mashallah (mæʃæ·lä), *int.* [Arab. phrase ما شا الله *mā shā 'llāh*, what God wills (must come to pass).] An exclamation used by Mohammedans.

1855 in OGILVIE Suppl. 1857 DUFFERIN *Lett. High Lat.* (ed. 3) 148, I..dismissed the disconsolate culprits, with the Asiatic form of condonation: 'Mashallah, you have made your faces white! Go in peace!'

Mashed (mæʃt), *ppl. a.* [f. MASH *v.*[1] + -ED[1].]

1. Beaten or crushed to a mash.

1635 *Voy. Foxe & James to N. W.* (Hakl. Soc.) II. 281 Wee had great store of masht Ice. 1693 DRYDEN *Juvenal*

iii. (1697) 65 Nor Limbs, nor Bones, nor Carcass wou'd remain: But a mash'd heap, a Hotchpotch of the Slain. 1727 GAY *Fables* I. xxxvii. 126 Her mash'd eggs bestrow'd the way. 1747 MRS. GLASSE *Cookery* ix. 99 Mashed Potatoes. 1841 THACKERAY *Men & Pictures* Wks. 1900 XIII. 328 The cool clear shadows are mashed-down masses of sienna and indigo. 1844 J. T. HEWLETT *Parsons & W.* ii, Bacon and a few mashed turnips. 1856 KANE *Arct. Expl.* I. xxiii. 289 [We] set forward over the worst sort of mashed ice.

2. *Brewing.* Of 'liquor': Treated with mash.

1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 99 The mashed liquor is let off into a large back.

† **Mashel.** *Obs. rare.* In 5 maschel. [f. MASH *v.*[1] + -EL.] = *Mash-rudder* (see MASH *sb.*[1] 5).

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 328/1 Maschel, or rothyr, or maschscherel, *remulus, palmula, mixtorium.*

Mashelton, dial. form of MASLIN[2].

Masher[1] (mæ·ʃəɹ). [f. MASH *v.*[1] + -ER[1].]

† **1.** One who mashes (malt) or mixes (wine). *Obs.*

? *a* 1500 *Chester Pl., Harrowing of Hell* II. 82 With all mashers minglers of wyne in the nighte. *a* 1603 T. CARTWRIGHT *Confut. Rhem. N. T.* (1618) 449 The difference onely between these minglers and your mashers, is, that they put not so much water into the wine, that it ceased to be wine still. 1611 FLORIO, *Mescitore*, a mesher, a mingler, a blender.

2. A machine, vessel, or instrument for mashing malt, fruit, vegetables, etc.

1878 *Ure's Dict. Arts* IV, *Masher*..[for use in] a new system of preparing the mash for the distillation of potato spirit. 1889 BARNARD *Noted Breweries* II. 337 A spray of hot liquor issuing from the top of the masher. 1893 K. SANBORN *S. California* 155 The ponderous rollers and keen knives of the masher mash the fruit.

Masher[2] (mæ·ʃəɹ). *slang.* A name applied to a fop of affected manners and exaggerated style of dress who frequented music-halls and fashionable promenades and who posed as a 'lady-killer'.

The word was common in 1882 and for a few years after. It is said to have been introduced from the U. S.

1882 *Theatre* Nov. 316 The 'Masher', that poor debilitated sickly creature of 1882. 1883 *Globe* 16 May 1/5 Moths of fashion who have come to be generally known by the generic title of 'mashers'. 1889 BESANT *Bell of St. Paul's* I. 7 The once brilliant masher of the music-hall.

b. *attrib.* passing into *adj.* Pertaining to or characteristic of a masher.

1884 *Girl's Own Paper* Nov. 58/1 A very feeble looking blue, with tiny white dots, is called a 'masher blue'; because it was affected by those weak boys for their waistcoats. 1890 J. HATTON *By Order of Czar* (1891) 195, I hate those horrid comic..bragging masher songs.

† **Mash-fat.** *Obs.* Forms: 4 massh-, masche-, 5 mach-, maysh-, masshe-, mesch-, 5–6 mas-, 5–7 mesh-, 6 mashe-, messhe, 8 mesch-, 5– mash-, and see FAT *sb.*[1] A mashing-vat.

1335 in Riley *Mem. Lond.* (1868) 194 [One] masshfat [value 18*d.*]. 1465 *Paston Lett.* III. 435 A grete lede to brew v. comb malte with..a mayshsate [*read* mayshfate]. *a* 1529 SKELTON *E. Rummyng* 190 The hennes ron in the mashfat. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* I. (1586) 28 b, I..put the meale into a Mash Fatte. 1677 PLOT *Oxfordsh.* 76 Meshfats for Brewing. 1727 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* s. v. *Brewing*, Many put their Malt first into the Mesch-Fat, and then pour in their Liquor for the first Wort.

Mashie, mashy (mæ·ʃi). *Golf.* [? Corrupt a. F. *massue* club.] An iron club (see quot. 1881).

1881 FORGAN *Golfer's Handbk.* ii. 15 The 'Mashy' is used for the same purposes as the Niblick proper, and only differs from it in its sole and face being straight instead of rounded. 1891 *Daily News* 23 May 5/2 All the forms of the golfing iron, from the driver to the cleek and mashie.

Mashing (mæ·ʃiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. MASH *v.*[1] + -ING[1].] The action of MASH *v.*[1]

a. *Brewing.* The action or process of mixing malt with warm water to form wort.

13.., 1532, 1573 [see *mashing-fat, -tub* in c below]. 1692 Y-WORTH *Art Distill.* 9 Pouring on as much warm Liquor as you intend to make use of in that Mashing. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* (1721) II. 318 In all the Mashings..before you let it run out, you draw out some of the Liquor first, and see if it run clear. 1822 IMISON *Sci. & Art* II. 156 When the mashing is completed the tun is covered in. 1887 BARNARD *Whisky Distill.* 10 The mashing with hot water on the same grains was then repeated.

b. In other senses of the verb.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 328/1 Maschynge, *mixtura, mixtio.* 1607 *Schol. Disc. agst. Antichr.* I. i. 31 This iustifieth..the Adiaphorist in all his mixtures and meashings with poperie. 1818 COBBETT *Pol. Reg.* XXXIII. 472 A mashing up of proceedings at police-offices along with scraps of plays, gambling-house news and boxers' slang. 1877 LE CONTE *Elem. Geol.* iii. (1879) 253 A mashing together horizontally.

c. *attrib.* (cf. MASH *sb.*[1] 5), as *mashing-back, -gear, machine, machinery, oar, rake, staff, stage, -stick, -tub, -tun, -vat* († *-fat*), *water.*

1889 BARNARD *Noted Breweries* I. 23 *Mashing-backs for the reception of weak worts. *Ibid.* 22 They [*sc.* tuns] all possess double-acting *mashing-gear. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 113 Fig. 106 is the *mashing-machine. 1830 M. DONOVAN *Dom. Econ.* I. 224 The *mashing machinery should be kept in motion for two or three hours. 1826 MISS MITFORD *Village* Ser. II. 233 He has .. lost a finger in a *mashing-mill. 1836 *Penny Cycl.* V. 403/2 [The malt in the mash-tub] is worked up by means of instruments termed *mashing oars. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. 296/2 The Pole is termed..a *Mashing Staff. 1889 BARNARD *Noted Breweries* II. 299 Leaving the *mashing stage we descended to the underback room below the tuns. 1830 'B. MOUBRAY' *Dom. Poultry*, etc. 317 A Funnel, *Mashing-stick, Casks. 1573 *Lanc. Wills* (Chetham Soc.) III. 60 One *mashtowinhe [*read* mashintowbe]. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* 565 Put one third part of it into the Meshing-tub. 1865 *Pall Mall G.* 17 May 7 One of the supervisors..found in the mashing tub five quarters, two bushels, and seven gallons of malt. 13.. *Gloss. W. de Bibbesw.* (Camb. MS.) in *Rel. Ant.* II. 81/1 *Mahssingfate [*sic*], *keuerel.* 1532 MORE *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 679/2 He maye happe ere aught long, to fal into the messhing fatte. 1741 *Compl. Fam.-Piece* I. vi. 285 Be sure you cover your Meshing-fat very well. 1743 *Lond. & Country Brew.* IV. (ed. 2) 272 *Mashing-Vat. 1830 M. DONOVAN *Dom. Econ.* I. 89 Well-mellowed malt will permit the use of a hotter *mashing water.

† **Ma·ship.** *Obs.* Forms: 6 mas(s)hyp(pe, mas(s)hip(pe. [An abbreviation of *mastership*: cf. MAS. Common in 16th c.] = MASTERSHIP. Only with poss. pron., as *his, your maship*, etc.

Apparently the abbreviated form (at least when used in writing) implied disrespect: cf. quot. 1567–9.

1526 *Hundred Mery Talys* (1866) 16, I shall gyue your mashyp a good reward. 1546 BP. GARDINER *Declar. Art. Joye* 51 b, And so your masshyppe hathe sayde truelye. 1567–9 JEWEL *Def. Apol.* (1611) 412 How vainely you snap..now at our Masterships: now at our Maships: (for this is the sobriety and grauitie of your speech). 1579 GOSSON *Sch. Abuse, Apol.* (Arb.) 74 And because his mashippe would seeme learned, he heyred him seruauntes with great stipendes. 1600 W. WATSON *Decacordon* (1602) 132 He must (if out of credit with their maships) do som desperate act.

Mashlam, -lin, dial. forms of MASLIN[2].

Mashloch (maʃlɔχ). *Sc.* Also 6 **masleach, -loch, mashlowe, marshlock;** 7 **maischloch.** [? Alteration of MASLIN.] = MASLIN[2].

1575 *Rec. Elgin* (New Spalding Cl. 1903) I. 150 Katherein Ros..wes decernit to keip neborat in schawing masleach in the Schanehery hill. 1584 *Burgh Rec. Edinb.* (1882) IV. 340 Na baxteris .. sall grynd .. any masloch bot sic as cumis furth of vther cuntreis. 1595 DUNCAN *App. Etymol.* (E. D. S.), *Farrago*, a mixture of sundrie stuffs; mashlowe. 1609 SKENE *Reg. Maj., Stat. Gild* 143 b, Na man sall presume to grind quheit, maischloch, or rye, with hand mylnes; except [etc.]. 1780 ARNOT *Hist. Edin.* ii. (1816) 45 In the Mescelin or Mashloch, the flour was almost entirely sifted from it, a portion of rye was mixed with the bran. 1884 ROGERS *Soc. Life Scot.* I. vii. 236 The mashloch was of sifted flour conjoined with rye.

Mashlum, Sc. form of MASLIN[2].

Mashy (mæ·ʃi), *a.* [f. MASH *sb.*[1] + -Y[1].] Of the nature of a mash.

1730–46 THOMSON *Autumn* 700 Then comes the crushing swain; the country floats And foams unbounded with the mashy flood.

Mashy, Masicot: see MASHIE, MASSICOT.

Masin, obs. form of MASON.

‖ **Masjid** (mɑ·sdʒid). Also **musjid.** [a. Arab. مسجد *masjid*: see MOSQUE.] A mosque.

1845 STOCQUELER *Handbk. Brit. India* (1854) 204 There are many mosques or musjids in Patna. 1849 E. B. EASTWICK *Dry Leaves* 38 In the small island of Khwája Khizr .. is a masjid, or mosque. 1882 FLOYER *Unexpl. Baluchistan* 96 A ground plan of a house marked in white stones and evidently intended for a masjid.

Mas John: see MAS.

Mask, *sb.*[1] *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Also 1 **max,** 5– **maske.** [It is uncertain whether the mod. word represents OE. **masc* (by metathesis *max*) str. neut., or is adopted from the cognate ON. *męskve*; in the former case the phonology may be compared with that of ASK *v.* (For the further etymology see MESH *sb.*)] A mesh. (In OE. a net.)

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Colloq.* in Wr.-Wülcker 92 Ic brede me max, *Plecto mihi retia. *Ibid.* 93 Ic astiġie min scyp and wyrpe max mine on ea. 1343 in Riley *Mem. Lond.* (1868) 215 [Seeing that the] masks [of the same nets, according to the custom of the City, ought to be 2 inches wide at least]. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 239 Smale lytell fyssches skyppyn thru3 the maskys of a nett into the watyr. *c* 1575 [see HECK *sb.*[1] 2]. 1584–5 *Act* 27 *Eliz.* c. 21 Greate destruction of the Frye of Fisshe there enseweth, by reason of the smallnes of the Maskes of suche Nettes as they use. 1607 *Lingua* II. vi, The maskes [of a net] are made so strong, That I my selfe vpon them scal'd the beauens. 1669 in *North Riding Rec.* VI. 134 Two men presented for fishing with a net of which every maske was not 2 in. broad and 1 in. long. 1886 *Chester Gloss., Maske*, a mesh of a net.

† **Mask,** *sb.*[2] Chiefly *Sc. Obs.* [Northern var. MASH *sb.*[1]] = MASH *sb.*[1] Also *Comb.*, as *mask rudher* (= rudder), *wort.* Also MASK-FAT.

1508 in *Ld. Treas. Acc. Scot.* IV. 111 Item,..for maskis of malt to the said hors. 1567 *Satir. Poems Reform.* viii. 35 Ane mask of malt. 1588–9 *Extracts Rec. Glasgow* (1876) I. 129 Ane mask ruther.

Mask (mask), *sb.*[3] Forms: (6 measque), 6–7 **maske,** 6–9 **masque,** 7– **mask.** [a. F. *masque* masc. (in 16th c. also fem.) of dispnted origin, whence also G., Du. *maske* fem., Da. *maske* com., Sw. *mask* fem. MASQUE *sb.* was orig. a sense of the same word, now differentiated in spelling.

The Fr. word (first recorded in 16th c.) is usually believed to be ad. the synonymous Sp. *máscara*, It. *maschera* (see MASKER *sb.*[1], MASQUERADE). But it is difficult to believe that the word has no connexion with med.L. *mascus, masca*, which render OE. *grīma* mask, spectre, in the Corpus Glossary *c* 725. *Mascha* is used *c* 680 by Aldhelm in association with *larva*, which had the senses 'mask' and 'spectre', and *masca* occurs in the Lombard Laws *c* 800 with the sense 'witch'; cf. Pr. *masco* witch (see MASCOT). On the whole the most plausible view seems to be that the representative of med.L. *mascus, masca* survived in some Fr. dialect, and was thence taken into literary use as an equivalent of the like-sounding Sp. *máscara*. The origin of med.L. *mascus, masca*, is undetermined; some scholars think the original sense was 'mask', and that the word was from Teut. **maskwo-* net (see MESH *sb.*).

1. A covering for the face, worn either as a disguise or for protection.

a. A covering, usually made of velvet or silk (with apertures for seeing), concealing the face or the upper part of it, worn for disguise at balls, masquerades, etc. *In mask* = masked.

1534 LD. BERNERS *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1535) 102 b, The vices that they brought [from Asia] to Rome..The patricis bearyng Measques, the Plebeyens usynge smelles, and the emperours to weare purple. 1581 PETTIE tr. *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* (1586) I. 28 There are certaine glorious fellowes, who at shrouetide goe with Maskes on their face, and yet woulde faine be knowne what they are. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* III. 177 Gentlemen and Citizens wiues when they goe out of dores, weare vpon their faces little Maskes of silk, lined with fine leather. 1666–7 PEPYS *Diary* 18 Feb., One of the ladies would, and did sit with her mask on. 1691 *Lond. Gaz.* 2651/3 To march out with their Arms and Baggage, Colours Flying,..30 Covered Wagons, and 50 Persons in Masks, &c. 1722 DE FOE *Moll Flanders* 341, I had no Mask but I ruffled my Hoods so about my face that [etc.]. 1727 — *Eng. Tradesm.* x. (1732) I. 117 A Ball, where people appear in Masque, and act a part to make sport. 1833 HT. MARTINEAU *Three Ages* I. 1 A troop of gentlemen..whose country could not be divined from their complexions, since each wore a mask.

b. A covering worn on the face for protection; now esp. a screen of wire, gauze, etc. to protect the face from injury in dangerous games or manufactures.

1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* IV. iv. 158 Since she did neglect her looking-glasse, And threw her Sun-expelling Masque away. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 367 He..hath a thicke coife or maske [L. *persona densusque reticulus*] about his head, for doubt that hee should bestow any [frankincense] in mouth or eares. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. 13/1 A Mask...This is a thing..Gentlewomen used to put over their Faces..to keep them from Sun burning. 1823 ROLAND *Fencing* 25 *note*, Each fencer wears a closely wrought wire mask for the security of his face. 1831 BREWSTER *Nat. Magic* xii. (1833) 306 A casque or cap, with a mask large enough to leave a proper space between it and the asbestos cap. 1844 BROWNING *Laboratory* i, Now that I, tying thy glass mask tightly, May gaze thro' these faint smokes curling whitely. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech., Mask*,..a wire cage to protect the face from a stray cut or thrust with a foil in fencing...A face protection to be worn in glass-works or foundries, to protect against radiant heat. 1901 H. MCHUGH *John Henry* 68 Baseball masks.

c. *Antiq.* The hollow figure of a human head worn by ancient Greek and Roman actors, intended both to identify the character represented and to increase the volume of the voice.

1705 ADDISON *Italy* 103 (Venice), Could we suppose that a Mask represented never so naturally the general Humour of a Character, it can never suit with the Variety of Passions that are incident to every single Person in the whole Course of a Play. 1732 LEDIARD *Sethos* II. x. 435 The actor whose mask represented Cheres..went off from the stage. *a* 1862 BUCKLE *Misc. Wks.* I. 487 The Romans sometimes played without masks: the Greeks never.

d. A grotesque representation of a face, made of pasteboard moulded and painted; worn at merrymakings, carnivals, etc.

1837 D. JERROLD in *New Monthly Mag.* LI. 317 The mask fixed upon the effigy [of Guy Fawkes].

e. A likeness of a person's face in clay, wax, etc.; esp. one made by taking a mould from the face itself. Also *death-mask* (see DEATH *sb.* 19).

1780 ROGERS in *Archæologia* (1782) VI. 107 An account of certain earthen Masks from the Musquito Shore...Masques ..which, his Indian conductors told him, were the likenesses of chiefs..who had been formerly buried there. 1846 *Penny Cycl.* Supp. II. 705/2 They [the wax *imagines* of the Romans] were probably cast from moulds taken from models, though such masks [taken after death] may have been used in the formation of the models. 1877 CLARA BELL tr. *Ebers' Uarda* I. 311 *note*, Such a mask of the dead is not unfrequently found at the head of mummy cases.

2. *fig.* **a.** A 'cloak', disguise, pretence; esp. in phr. *under the mask of, to put on, assume, throw off, pull off,* or *drop the mask (of)*, etc.

1577 *F. de L'isle's Legendarie* F iv b, That their nephue Francis serued but as a maske and cloke to their fellonie. 1605 *His Maiesties Speach*, etc. H b, And the Racke onely offred and shewed vnto him [Guido Fawkes], when the maske of his Romaine fortitude did visibly begin to weare & slide off his face. 1647 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* III. § 31 No man had ever a greater power over himself, or was less the man that he seemed to be, which shortly after appeared to every body when he cared less to keep on the mask. 1701 DE FOE *True-born Eng.* 8 The Mask thrown off, Plain Devil his Title stands. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1768) IV. 350 If I write not in time, but that thou hast actually pulled off the mask; let [etc.]. 1766 GOLDSM. *Vic. W.* XXX, A base, ungenerous wretch who under the mask of friendship has undone me. 1812 CRABBE *Tales* XVI. Wks. 1834 V. 138 She veiled her troubles in a mask of ease. 1832–4 DE QUINCEY *Caesars* Wks. 1862 IX. 31 He himself by way of masque attended a public spectacle. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* I. 400 He had covered his failings with the mask of devotion. 1876 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* IV. xvii. 37 The way in which..wrong contrived to assume the mask of right.

b. Something which covers or hides from view.

1752 MASON *Elfrida* 25 To..be led Veil'd in the mask of night, to Edgar's chamber, A counterfeit Matilda. *a* 1821 KEATS *Sonn., Lover's Compl.*, The new soft-fallen mask Of snow upon the mountains. 1886 WILLIS & CLARK *Cambridge* III. 540 The series of melancholy attempts..to convert the medieval style of our colleges into Italian by a mere mask of ashlar.

3. A masked person; a person wearing a mask or in masquerading dress; a masker.

1580 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 335 By this time entered an

other Masque. 1676 ETHEREDGE *Man of Mode* I. i. (1684) 3, I remember there was a Mask observed me indeed. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 383 ¶ 6 A Masque, who came behind him, gave him a gentle Tap upon the Shoulder. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* XIII. vii, This Mask was one of those ladies, who go to a masquerade only to vent ill-nature. 1794 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Myst. Udolpho* xvi, Groups of masks were seen dancing on the moonlight terraces. 1832 DE QUINCEY *Klosterheim* ix, A Masque, armed cap-a-pie. 1834 *L. Hunt's Lond. Jrnl.* No. 25. 198 Amongst the ambulating masks..I must not omit the most interesting.

†b. ? A masquerade dress, domino. *Obs.*

1577 in Cunningham *Revels Accts.* 114 A large Maske of murrey satten..with sleeves of gold tyncell.

4. Various technical uses.

a. *Arch.*, etc. A representation (often grotesque) in stone of a face or face and neck, used in panels, keystones of arches, etc.; a similar representation in metal on a shield. Also, a kind of corbel the shadow of which is like a man's profile; = BUCKLE *sb.* 4.

1731 BAILEY vol. II, *Masque* (with Architects), certain pieces of sculpture, representing some hideous form; grotesque or satyrs faces, used to fill up or adorn some vacant places. 1784 H. WALPOLE *Let.* 7 Sept. (1858) VIII. 502 Mrs. Damer herself is modelling two masks for the key-stones of the new bridge at Henley. 1848 T. RICKMAN *Styles Archit.* (ed. 5) Introd. xxx, A good bold corbel-table..carried on masks, a name given to a peculiar corbel because the shadow of it is the same as that from a head. 1870 F. R. WILSON *Ch. Lindisfarne* 111 The labels terminate in grotesque masks. 1874 BOUTELL *Arms & Armour* ii. 19 The shield..in either case was adorned by having the head of an animal nailed in the centre..or a mask executed with the hammer (*repoussé*) in bronze, was fixed in a similar position.

b. *Hunting.* The face or head of a fox (occas. of an otter). Phr. *to set his mask for* (said of a fox) to head *for*, make *for*.

1828 *Sporting Mag.* XXII. 244 The masks of a bitch fox and five of her cubs were nailed against the door of his keeper's kennel. 1853 'C. BEDE' *Verdant Green* vii, Over the mirror was displayed a fox's mask. 1891 *County Gentl.* XXIX. 1684 A second fox..set his mask for Vowes's Gorse. 1904 *Westmorld. Gaz.* 2 July 5/5 Captain Thompson presented..the pads [of the otter] to the Misses Cheetham.. and the mask..to Isaac Fletcher, the huntsman.

c. *Fortif.* A screen to protect men engaged in constructing a work, to conceal a battery, etc.; also, a casemated redoubt serving as a counter-guard to the caponier (Voyle & Stevenson *Mil. Dict.* 1876).

1802 JAMES *Mil. Dict.* s.v., Several masks must be hastily thrown up, whilst the men are employed behind one. *Ibid.*, The engineer, or artillery officer, places himself behind this mask and draws his plan. 1884 *Mil. Engin.* I. 86 A floating mask, may be necessary for the protection of the men forming the head of the bridge. The mask should be of planks covered with iron or steel plate if possible. *Ibid.*, As the work proceeds, a parapet must be erected on the causeway under cover of the mask to protect the men from the flank-fire of the enemy.

d. *Ent.* The enlarged labium of the larval and pupal dragon-fly. Also *Zool.* a formation or coloration of the head resembling a mask.

1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) X. 20/1 (*Libella*) This mask, fastened to the insect's neck,..serves to hold its prey while it devours it. 1840 *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 174 The mask, formed by the fringed feathers that surround the eyes, is greatly extended [in the barn owl]. 1896 tr. *Boas' Text-bk. Zool.* 255 The larvæ [of dragon-flies]..are characterised by the modification of the labium into a long eversible prehensile organ (the mask).

e. *Photogr.* A piece of opaque paper used to cover any part of a negative, lantern-slide, or print which it is desired to obscure or shade; *esp.* the margin of a piece from which a disk has been cut.

1876 ABNEY *Photogr.* (ed. 3) 118 [Sunning down a bright spot on a print] may be secured by making a brown paper mask, cutting out the shape of the object to be toned down. 1889 T. C. HEPWORTH *Bk. Lantern* (ed. 2) 141 Now take a slide, duly fitted with its black mask, and a cover glass.

f. *Surg.* A piece of linen, with apertures for the eyes, nose, and mouth, used for applications to the face (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1890).

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *mask-maker*; *mask-like* adj.; **mask-ball**, a masked ball, masquerade; **mask-crab**, a crab of the family *Corystidæ*, with mask-like markings on the carapace, as *Corystes cassivelaunus*; **mask-flower** [tr. of the Peruvian name *ricaco*, or *ricarco*], any one of several Peruvian plants of the genus *Alonsoa*; **mask-man**, a masker; **mask-shell**, 'any spiral marine-shell of the genus *Persona*, having a curiously twisted aperture' (*Funk's Stand. Dict.*); **mask-wall** *Fortif.*, 'the scarp-wall of a casemate' (*Cent. Dict.*).

1818 LADY MORGAN *Autobiog.* (1859) 286 This fashion in France of profiting by the custom *d'intriguer* at *masque balls. 1895 G. A. SALA *Life & Adv.* II. xxxviii. 78 In the evening we went to a grand mask ball at the Opera. 1863 WOOD *Nat. Hist.* III. 596 The *Mask-crab buries itself in the sand or muddy bed of the sea. 1857 E. BALFOUR *Cycl. India*, *Mask flower, *Alonsoa*. 1899 BULLEN *Way Navy* 42 His face was *mask-like. 1836–48 B. D. WALSH *Aristoph., Knights* I. ii, The *maskmakers were so afraid of him, They would not copy them. 1652 KIRKMAN *Clerio & Losia* 87 For this hour hath this same *Maskman talked to me in Italian.

Mask, *v.*[1] *Obs.* exc. *dial.* [f. MASK *sb.*[1]] *trans.* To mesh, enmesh: *lit.* and *fig.*

c 1374 CHAUCER *Tr. & Cr.* III. 1734 He was so narwe y-masked and y-knet, That [etc.]. 1556 J. HEYWOOD *Sp. & Flie* xv. 20 Neuer was there flie in this net, thus masked, That euer scapte. 1628 FELTHAM *Resolves* I. ii. 4 Like a Partridge in the net, he maskes himselfe the more, by the anger of his fluttering wing. 1825–80 JAMIESON, To *Mask*, to catch in a net. In this sense, a fish is said to be maskit, Ayrs[hire]. 1882 BUCKLAND *Notes & Jottings* 69 We quickly perceived from the bobbing of the corks that the fish..were 'masked' in the trammel.

absol. 1557 in *Tottel's Misc.* (Arb.) 133 Thus in the net of my conceit I masked styll among the sort Of such as fed vpon the hayt, That Cupide laide for his disport.

†**Mask**, *v.*[2] *Obs.* [app. a shortened form of MASKER *v.*] *intr.* To be bewildered, lose one's way. Also quasi-*trans.* (quot. 1599).

c 1290 *S. Brandan* 118 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 223 Hi wende alond as maskede [*v.r.* masid] men, hi nuste whar hi were. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) II. 67 Elidurus..fonde his broþer Archgalon maskynge [L. *aberrantem*] in a wode [FABYAN *Chron.* II. xl. (1811) 28 *has* maskelyng or wandryng in the thykest of ye wood]. *a* 1550 *Image Hypocr.* in *Skelton's Wks.* (1843) II. 433/2 Lest it be to late To trust on hadd I wist, Imasked in a myst. 1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osorius* 119 Followyng herein (as it seemeth) his forerunner Hosius, who maskyng in the like maze, doth affirme [etc.]. 1599 BP. HALL *Sat.* IV. iii. 59 Or whiles thou seest some of thy Stallion-race, Their eyes hoar'd out, masking the miller's-maze. 1639 FULLER *Holy War* III. xii. 129 He doeth the benighted traveller a discourtesie..who lendeth him a lantern to take it away, leaving him more masked then he was before.

Mask (mask), *v.*[3] *Sc.* [Northern var. MASH *v.*[1]]

1. *trans.* = MASH *v.*[1] (occas. *absol.*). Also, to brew.

1480 *Cath. Angl.* 230/1 To Maske, *ceruidare*. 15.. *Chalmerlan Ayr* c. 26 § 6 (in *Sc. Acts* I.) Item þat þai grynd þt [malt] our small þat it will nocht ryn quhen it is maskit. 1639 RUTHERFORD *Lett.* 1 Oct. (1881) 409, I hope, for His sake, who brewed and masked this cup [of affliction] in heaven, ye will gladly drink. *c* 1650 in W. ROSS *Aberdour & Inchcolme* x. (1885) 284 [To impose a fine..on 'browsters' who 'masked' on Sabbath night]. 1743 R. MAXWELL *Trans. Soc. Improv. Agric.* 352 A Brewing-keeve, wherein Brewers mask their Drink. 1871 W. ALEXANDER *Johnny Gibb* xxx. 214 There's naething like a starn gweed maut, maskit i' yer nain bowie.

2. To infuse (tea); = MASH *v.*[1] 1 d.

1814 SCOTT *Wav.* xlii, I hope your honours wil tak tea.. and I maun gang and mask it for you. 1883 ANNIE S. SWAN *Aldersyde* II. i. 78 Marget will mask anither cup o' tea for ye.

transf. 1846 JOHNSTON in *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* II. 176 One dozen stalks are 'masked' in a pint of boiling water.

3. *To be masking*: (*a*) of a storm, to be 'brewing'; (*b*) of a person, to be sickening *for* a disease.

183– ALEX. RODGERS in *Whistle-Binkie* Ser. I. 108, I saw the storm was masking fast, That soon wad fa' on me. 1866 W. GREGOR *Banff. Gloss., Mask*, to gather..; as, 'It's maskin', or maskin' up for anither shoor'. 1876 *Whitby Gloss.* s.v., It's masking for thunder. 1887 SERVICE *Dr. Duguid* xviii. 116, I could see that he was maskin' for the pocks.

Mask (mosk), *v.*[4] Also 6–7 **maske**, 7–9 **masque**. [f. MASK *sb.*[3] Cf. F. *masquer*.]

1. *trans.* To cover (the face or head) with a mask. Chiefly *pass.* To wear, be disguised with, a mask.

1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* V. ii. 157 The Trompet sounds, be maskt, the maskers come. 1593 — *Lucr.* 794 Where now I haue no one to blush with me,..To maske their browes and hide their infamie. 1611 DEKKER & MIDDLETON *Roaring Girl* 204 Good faces maskt are Iewels kept by spirits. Hide none but bad ones. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* III. 173 The Women no lesse then Men..goe masked. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 8 ¶ 4 All the Persons who compose this lawless Assembly are masked. 1825 LYTTON *Zicci* 15 A tall figure, masked and mantled, appeared. 1839 LANE *Arab. Nts.* I. 73 At the fair of Okaz, the heroes were masked.

b. *gen.* To disguise.

1847 TENNYSON *Princess* V. 386 A rout of saucy boys Brake on us..Mask'd like our maids. 1903 *Edin. Rev.* Apr. 411 His ghost masks himself in no futile disguises.

2. *transf.* To hide or conceal from view, by interposing something.

1583 STANYHURST *Æneis* III. (Arb.) 86 Whilste thee sunbeams are maskt, hyls darcklye be muffled. *c* 1600 SHAKS. *Sonn.* xxxiii, The region cloude hath mask'd him from me now. 1605 — *Macb.* II. i. 125 Masking the Businesse from the common Eye. 1634 CRASHAW in T. S. tr. *Lessius' Hygiasticon* To Rdr., A soul, whose intellectuall beams No mists do mask, no lazie steams. 1833 LYELL *Princ. Geol.* III. 210 The talus *d*, *e*, which masked the inland cliff until it was artificially laid open to view. 1871 L. STEPHEN *Playgr. Eur.* iv. (1894) 102 Rocky fragments..frequently masked by cushions of fresh fallen snow.

b. *Mil.* and *Fortif.* (*a*) To conceal (a battery, a force, etc.) from the view of the enemy. (*b*) To hinder (a fortress, army, fleet) from acting on the offensive by watching it with a sufficient force. (*c*) To hinder the efficiency of a friendly force by standing in the line of its fire.

1706 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4256/2 Many Persons might march out with the Garison masked as the Governor should think fit. 1763 *British Mag.* IV. 204 The seamen..mounted all the guns in the battery, which we masked. 1802 JAMES *Mil. Dict.* s.v., One toise and a half of epaulement will require two chandeliers, and 60 fascines, to mask it. 1811 WELLINGTON in Gurw. *Desp.* VII. 338 The other fleche was masked. 1868 KIRK *Charles the Bold* III. v. iii. 411 The idea of leaving Morat unassailed, masking it with a portion of his army while prosecuting operations with the rest. 1870 *Pall Mall G.* 3 Sept. 2 Bazaine..has succeeded in convincing the Prussians that it requires a large force to mask him. 1875 BEOFORD *Sailor's Pocket Bk.* vii. (ed. 2) 268 Such boats must be cautioned not to mask the fire of any boats employed for the same purpose. 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 29 Oct. 2/2 To command the sea we must be prepared at a moment's notice to mask the enemies' fleets by forces..equal to his.

c. *Arch.*

1828 STEUART *Planter's Guide* 518 It appeared extremely desirable to that artist to mask or conceal the Approach from the House and adjoining grounds. 1867 BARRY *Life Sir C. Barry* viii. 291 A cloister with one story above it, or an open arcade, might mask the building from the high ground of Bridge Street. 1879 SIR G. SCOTT *Lect. Archit.* II. 100 The roofs, internally, may be proved to have been masked by level ceilings.

d. *Zool.* and *Bot.*

1843 OWEN *Invert. Anim.* (1855) 436 That stage of the Orthopterous..insects, in which they are masked by the vermiform or true larval condition. 1857 A. GRAY *1st Less. in Bot.* xv. (1866) 106 In Catalpa this number is masked in the calyx by irregular union, and in the stamens by abortion.

e. *Cookery.* (See quot.)

1877 *Cassell's Dict. Cookery* 1177/2 *Mask*, to cover meat with any rich sauce, ragoût, &c.

f. *Photogr.* To cover, shade or mount with a mask. 1881, 1884 [see MASKING *vbl. sb.*[2] 2].

3. *fig.* To disguise (feelings, etc.) under an assumed outward show; to conceal the real nature, intent, or meaning of.

1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* I. ii. 98 Most immaculate thoughts Master, are mask'd vnder such colours. 1594 PLAT *Jewell-ho.* I. 55 Howsoeuer the same was masked, or disguised in shew. 1656 BRAMHALL *Replic.* iii. 153 Sedition masked under the Visard of Religion. 1777 SHERIDAN *Sch. Scand.* I. i, He has been obliged to mask his pretensions. 1841 D'ISRAELI *Amen. Lit.* (1867) 683 Polemical studies become political when the heads of parties mask themselves under some particular doctrine. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* III. v, Its old simplicity of expression got masked by a certain craftiness. 1870 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* I. I. 215 Masking with a smile The vain regrets that in their hearts arose.

†**4.** *intr.* To take part in a masque or masquerade; to be a masquer, to masquerade. Also *to mask it*. Also *fig. Obs.*

a 1562 G. CAVENDISH *Wolsey* (1893) 108 An other maske ..of noble gentilmen, who daunced & masked with these fayer ladyes. 1589 NASHE *Pasquill & Marforius* I, I wonder how I missed you? *Pasquill*. Neuer marmaile at that, I haue learned to maske it. 1591 SPENSER *Tears of Muses* 180 Where be the sweete delights of learnings treasure..In which I late was wont to raine as Queene, And maske in mirth with Graces well beseene? 1597 BEARD *Theatre God's Judgem.* (1612) 435 Six [masquers] that masked it to a marriage at the hostell of St. Paules in Paris. 1606 *Choice, Chance & Change* (1881) 50 After they had masked and mummed, away they went. 1731 BAILEY vol. II, *Mask*,.. to go to masks or masquerades.

†**b.** *trans.* To perform after the fashion of a masque. *Obs.*

1560 PILKINGTON *Expos. Aggeus* (1562) 58 These be the ducties of good shepeheardes..and not maskynge masses, and mummyng mattyns.

†**5.** *intr.* To be or go in disguise; to hide one's real form or character under an outward show. Often *fig. Obs.*

1579 SPENSER *Shep. Cal.* Jan. 24 Now is come thy wynter's stormy state, Thy mantle mard, wherein thou maskedst late. *c* 1585 *Faire Em* I. 86 Thus must we mask to save our wretched lives. *a* 1591 H. SMITH *Six Serm.* (1618) A 4, Like Æsops Asse, masking in the Lions skinne. 1619 HIERON *Wks.* I. 21 The spirituall venome that masketh vnder these deceitfull shadowes, is either not beleeued or not thought vpon. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* IX. 394 The French men..were cruelly massacred..; which exploit masketh vnder the name of Vesperi Siculi. 1649 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Irenc* Wks. (1711) 170 How bravely soever ye mask and flowrish in words.

Mask(e, var. ff. MASQUE; corrupt var. MAST *sb.*[2]

Maskalonge: see MASKINONGE.

Maskarado, obs. form of MASQUERADE.

†**Masked**, *ppl. a.*[1] [f. MASK *v.*[2] + -ED[1].] Amazed, bewildered. *c* 1290 (see MASK *v.*[2]).

Masked (maskt), *ppl. a.*[2] Also 7–9 **masqued**. [f. MASK *sb.*[3] or *v.*[4] + -ED.]

1. Having, wearing, or provided with a mask.

a 1637 B. JONSON *Underwoods, Death Sir H. Morison* 23 For, what is..masked man, if valu'd by his face, Above his fact? 1681 WYNOHAM *King's Concealm.* 75 Thus entred these masqued Travellers, to enquire where they were. 1751 H. WALPOLE *Lett.* (1846) II. 397 Where there are a few good pictures, and many masked statues. 1841 SPALDING *Italy* II. 371 These characters were represented by masked actors.

b. *Masked ball* [F. *bal masqué*]: a ball at which those taking part wear masks; = MASQUERADE 1.

1813 *Sk. Character* (ed. 2) I. 201 She's going to give a masqued ball in February. 1825 *Greenhouse Comp.* I. 250 At masqued routs. 1873 OUIDA *Pascarel* I. 151 It was the masked ball of the Carnival.

c. Used (often repr. L. *larvatus*, *personatus*) as the specific name of animals having some conformation or marking resembling a mask.

1840 *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 130 The Masked Boar (*Sus larvatus*). 1859 WOOD *Nat. Hist.* I. 245 *Paguma larvata*, ..Masked Glutton. 187– *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* II. 343 The Japan, or Masked Pig (*Sus pliciceps*, Gray). *Ibid.* IV. 162 The Masked Finfoot (*Podica personata*). 1882 *Ibid.* VI. 200 The Masked Crab [=*mask-crab*, MASK *sb.*[3] 5]. 1896 H. O. FORBES *Handbk. Primates* I. 163 The Masked Titi. *Callithrix personata*.

d. *Bot.* Of a corolla: = PERSONATE.

1793 MARTYN *Lang. Bot.*, *Personata corolla*, a personate or masked corolla. 1839 LINDLEY *Introd. Bot.* (ed. 3) I. ii. 167 If the upper and lower sides of the orifice are pressed together, as in Antirrhinum, it [the corolla] is personate or masked, resembling the face of some grinning animal.

2. *transf.* and *fig.* Having the real features or character concealed or disguised. Also *occas.* Concealed from view.

1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* III. xviii. 105 The masked hypocrisie of this olde foxe. *a* 1586 SIDNEY

Arcadia II. (1590) 223 b, [He] was not the sharpest pearcer into masked minds. *c* 1600 SHAKS. *Sonn.* liv, When sommers breath their masked buds discloses. *a* 1628 LD. BROOKE *Poems, Of Humane Learn.* lxxxi. 38 Nothing new But masked euill which still addeth terror. 1815 W. H. IRELAND *Scribbleomania* 270 *note*, Others..pursue it..with invidious sarcasms and masqued sneers. 1904 HEWLETT *Queen's Quair* I. viii. 113 None could under-read her masked words.

b. *Nosology.* Of diseases, esp. intermittent fevers: presenting anomalous symptoms; not recognizable by the usual criteria.

1833 *Cycl. Pract. Med.* II. 234/1 (Fever). Masked intermittents. *Ibid.* 235/1 Masked ague. 1843–71 WATSON *Lect. Princ. & Pract. Physic* (ed. 5) I. 821 Sometimes the patient is said to have *lurking* gout or *masked* gout. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 317 Masked malarial fever. 1899 *Ibid.* VIII. 558 The psoriasis may remain masked.

3. *Mil.* and *Fortif.* Chiefly in *masked battery*: see MASK *v.*[4] 2 b. Also *fig.*

1759 DILWORTH *Life Pope* 52 Mr. Addison, to vent his spleen against Mr. Pope by the means of a masked battery. 1768 GOLDSM. *Good-n. Man* IV. (near end), You shall .. burst out upon the miscreant like a masqued battery. 1783 JUSTAMOND tr. *Raynal's Hist. Indies* V. 462 A masked battery, intended to cover the harbour and town of Paramabiro. 1800 *Asiat. Ann. Reg.* II. 145/2 The attempt which was made to annihilate an inquiry of such importance, by the masked battery of an amendment.

† **Ma·skeler.** *Obs.* Also **masculer.** [? alteration of MASKER *sb.*[1]] ? A mask. ? Hence (by substitution of suffix) **Ma·skeling** (in quot. *-yn*), a masquerade.

1511 in Collier *Hist. Dram. Poetry* (1879) I. 79 To Richard Gybson opon a warraunt for the revells, called a maskelyn at New-hall in Essex, 20*l.* 5*s.* 1½*d.* 1512 *Ibid.*, Also for masculers and other diverse things. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII* 80 b, Euery one visered himselfe, so that they were unknowen..and so in maskeler passed the tonne of Arde.

Maskeles, -ez, var. ff. MASCLELESS *Obs.*

Maskeline, obs. form of MASLIN [2].

Maskelles, -oz, variant ff. MASCLELESS *Obs.*

Maskelonge, -enozha, var. ff. MASKINONGE.

Masken: see MASQUIN *Obs.*

† **Masker,** *sb.*[1] *Obs.* Also 6 **maskyr.** [ad. It. *maschera*: see MASQUERADE *sb.*] A mask. Phr. *In masker*: disguised with a mask, in masquerade.

1519 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. I. I. 143 The King..woll come..and see your Grace in Calais in maskyr. 1532 MORE *Confut. Barnes* VIII. Wks. 758/1 Their maskers [to be] taken of and their hipocrisie to be dyscouered. 1548 THOMAS *Ital. Gram.* (1567), *Maschera*, a masker, or a visour.

Masker, *sb.*[2], **masquer** (mɑ·skəɹ). [f. MASK *v.*[4] + ER [1]. Cf. F. *masqueur.*] One who takes part in a masquerade or masque; a person in masquerade, a masquerader.

a. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII* 16 After the banket doen, these Maskers came in. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* III. xii. 6 The whiles the maskers marched forth in trim aray. 1613 CHAPMAN *Maske Inns Court* A 1 b, Then rode the chiefe maskers, in Indian habits, all of a resemblance. 1722 STEELE *Conscious Lovers* I. i. (1755) 12 You know I was last Thursday at the Masquerade!..the Maskers you know followed us. 1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* xiii, They show themselves in the streets as the companions of maskers. 1867 PARKMAN *Jesuits in N. Amer.* iii. (1875) 15 A party of maskers at the Carnival.

β. 1580 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 332 Masquers do therefore couer their faces that they may open their affections. 1625 BACON *Ess., Of Masques* (Arb.) 540 Let the Sutes of the Masquers, be Gracefull, and such as become the Person, when the Vizars are off. *a* 1777 GOLDSM. *Epil. to 'Sisters'* 12 The world's a masquerade! the masquers, you, you, you. 1814 SCOTT *Lord of Isles* V. xxiv, In masquers quaint attire She sought his skiff. 1849 DICKENS *Barn. Rudge* IV, Your blockhead father..slips him on a mask and domino, and mixes with the masquers. 1873 OUIDA *Pascarel* I. 23 The masquers reeled on out of sight.

Comb. 1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* 71 b, Your mornelike christall countenaunces shall be netted ouer, and (Maskerlike) cawle-visarded, with crawling venomous wormes.

† **b.** *transf.* and *fig.*

1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* 73 b, England, .. the continuall Masquer in out-landish habilements. 1647 CLARENNON *Contempl. Ps.* Tracts (1727) 406 Those maskers in religion and honesty.

Masker (mɑ·skəɹ), *v. Obs.* exc. *dial.* Forms: *α.* 4 **malscre, malskre**; *β.* 5–9 **masker,** (7 **maskar, maskre**). [OE. **malscrian*, implied in *malscrung* vbl. sb.; app. cogn. w. Goth. **malsks* (? foolish) in *untila-malsks* precipitate (tr. Gr. *προπετής* 'headv' A.V., 'headstrong' R.V., 2 Tim. iii. 4), OS. *malsc* proud. Cf. MASK *v.*[2]] **a.** *trans.* To bewilder, confuse. **b.** *pass.* and *intr.* To be bewildered. Hence **Ma·skering** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* F 55 (Hessels) *Festinatio* [i.e. *fascinatio*], malscrung. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* III. 36 Wið malscrunge minra [? *read* manra] wihta. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 416 How he hade missed is mayne & malskrid a-boute. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 991 Þe ledez of þat lyttel toun wern lopen out for drede, In-to þat malscrande mere. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 1270 And þat left ware on lyfe bot a litill meyne, Ware als malscrid [*misvritten* malstrid: *Dubl. MS.* maistrett] & mased. *c* 1450 *Cast. Persev.* (E. E. T. S.) 76/75 Mankynd is maskeryd with mekyl varyaunce. 1577–87 HOLINSHED *Chron.* II. 716 They..so maskered his understanding, that..they brought him to tract the steps of lewd demeanour. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* III. lx. 129 To masker their troubled heads the more, hee assaileth them with a great shout and maine violence. 1601 DEACON & WALKER *Answ. to Darel* To Rdr. 4 An intricate Labyrinth, or maskaring maze. 1681 H. MORE *Expos. Dan.* Pref. 7 Why might not the wise men ..be so maskard that they could not read the handwriting on the wall? *a* 1800 PEGGE *Suppl. Grose* (1814), *Masker'd*, stunned; also nearly choaked. North. 1841 HARTSHORNE *Salop. Antiq.* 503 Sich a dark neet I was masker'd like. 1879 MISS JACKSON *Shropsh. Word-bk.*, *Maskered*, confused, bewildered.

Maskerade, -at, obs. forms of MASQUERADE.

† **Ma·skery, ma·squery.** *Obs.* Also 6 **maskarye, mascarie.** [a. F. *masquerie*, f. *masque* MASK *sb.*[3]: see -ERY.] Masking, wearing of masks; a masquerade. Also, masquerader's attire.

a 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII* 80 b, Another compaignie of .x. lordes in whiche maskery the kyng was himselfe. 1554 in Maitland *Ess. Reform.* (1849) 303 Such as have most wickedly called the Mass a Maskarye. 1554 YAXLEY in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. III. III. 313 A brave maskery of cloth of gold and sylver, apparailed in maryners garments. 1561 T. HOBY tr. *Castiglione's Courtyer* II. (1577) M vj b, I being in maskerie passed by. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* III. xiii. 95 b, Disguysing themselues with certaine masquerie, as with heades and Cranes neckes. 1640 NABBES *Unfort. Mother* E 4 b, *Mac.* Wee'l first thanke Heaven, And then wee'l see some maskery.

fig. 1569 J. SANFORD *Agrippa* 170 b, They attire him [*sc.* Christ] in diners maskeries of sophismes. 1598 MARSTON *Sco. Villany* III. viii. G 3, Me thinks I heare swart Martius cry, Souping along in warrs fain'd maskerie. 1655 GUANALL *Chr. in Arm.* I. 306 The masquery and cheating glory of the great ones of this world.

Masket, masquet (mɑ·skĕt). *dial.* [The phr. *a masket* perh. represents OE. **gemalscrod*, pa. pple. of **malscrian* MASKER *v.*] *To go, run a masket*: to lose one's way.

1570 JEWEL *Holy Script.* (1582) 158 The Professours thereof oftentimes runne a masket; they leese them selues. 1697 *Let. in MS. Lansd.* No. 1033. 2 (Halliw.) To go a masked. 1897 THOANTON *Remin.* vi. (E. D. D.), O sir, do'ee please come down, the gentleman has gone a masquet.

Maskett, obs. form of MASSICOT.

Maskette (maske·t). [f. MASK *sb.*[2] + -ETTE.] (See quot. and cf. MASKOID.)

1881–2 W. H. DALL in *3rd Rep. Bureau Ethnol.* (1884) 93 The *Maskette*, an object resembling a mask, but intended to be worn above or below the face. *Ibid.* 105 A number of maskettes and head-dresses from New Mexico and Arizona.

Maskewe, var. MASCUE *v. Obs.*

† **Mask-fat.** *Sc.* and *north. dial. Obs.* Forms: 3 **mascfat**, 4–6 **mask fat**, (4 **maxfate**), 5–6 **maskfatt**, (6 **maskefatt, -fate**). [Northern var. MASHFAT: see MASK *sb.*[2] and FAT *sb.*[1]] A mashing vat.

1263 *Exchcq. Rolls Scott.* (1878) I. 14 Item, in ij cunys, scilicet, mascfats, emptis, ij s. 1367 *Finchale Priory Acc.* (1837) p. lxxviii, j maskfat, j gylfat. 1378 in *Test. Karleol.* (1893) 127 Unum plumbum cum uno maxfate. 1430 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) II. 12 Unum maskfatt. 1567 *Wills & Inv. N. C.* (Surtees) I. 267 A maskfatt and a swett wort fatt. 1600 *Acc. Bk. W. Wray* in *Antiquary* XXXII. 279 Item one maskefate. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* s. v. *Brewer*, The ..utensils of a brewer..are a furnace..a copper..a mask-fat.

† **Ma·skful,** *a. Obs. rare*[−1]. [f. MASK *sb.*[3] + -FUL.] Of the nature of masquerade.

1655 tr. *Com. Hist. Francion* V. 11 There is a great Feast within, full of all maskfull Recreations.

Maskill, obs. form of MASCLE *sb.*[1]

Masking (mɑ·skiŋ), *vbl. sb.*[1] *Obs.* exc. *Sc.* or *dial.* [f. MASK *v.*[3] + -ING [1].] = MASHING *vbl. sb.*

1654 *Extracts Burgh Recs. Stirling* (1887) 211 They sall pay for ilk maskene lost in thair default fourtie shilling. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) III. 544/1 (*Brewing*), This part of the operation is called masking.

b. A sufficient quantity (of tea, etc.) for an infusion.

1825–80 JAMIESON. 1893 *Northumbld. Gloss.*, *Maskin.*

c. *Comb.* (cf. MASH, MASHING), as *masking-fat, lead* (see LEAD *sb.*[1] 5 a), *-loom* (see LOOM *sb.*[1] 2), *rudder, tub*; **masking pot** (*pat*) *Sc.*, a tea-pot.

? *a* 1400 *Chalmerlan Ayr* c. 26 (in *Sc. Acts* I. 337/1) Et ea est causa quod cum coquitur in lie *masking fat non currit. 1659 A. HAY *Diary* (1901) 94, I payed him for the great masking fat 4 merks. 1822 SCOTT *Pirate* xxiv, She found him drowned in his own masking-fat. 1465 *Finchale Priory Acc.* (1837) p. ccxcix, In primis j *maskyng leyd. 1711 RAMSAY *Maggy Johnstoun* xii, The pith of broom That she stow'd in her *masking-loom. 1786 BURNS *When Guilford good* i, Then up they gat the *maskin-pat. 1648 *Invent. in Spottiswoode Misc.* (1844–5) I. 372 Ther is in the brewhous ..and ane *maskine rudder. 1457 *Peebles Charters*, etc. (1872) 119 A *maskyn tub with the laf that langis it.

Masking, masquing (mɑ·skiŋ), *vbl. sb.*[2] [f. MASK *v.*[4] + -ING [1].]

1. The action of performing or taking part in a masquerade or masque.

a. 1546 BALE *Eng. Votaries* I. (1548) 50 h, Theyr maskynges in y[e] night after y[e] paganes maner. *c* 1560 in *T. Warton's Life Sir T. Pope* (1772) 85 In Shrovetide, 1556, sir Thomas Pope made for the ladie Elisabeth all at his owne costes, a greate and rich maskinge in the greate halle at Hatfelde. *c* 1640 C'TESS LINDSEY in *Buccleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 285 There will be masking at Quort at Twelfth-night. 1711 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4836/1 There was a publick Masking permitted for three Days and Nights. 1864 BURTON *Scot Abr.* I. v. 309 Those who thus go a-masking on New Year's eve,..are called guisards or guizers.

β. *a* 1616 B. JONSON *Love Restored* ad init., I tell thee, I will haue no more masquing. 1716–8 LADY M. W. MONTAGUE *Lett.* I. xxi. 64 The carnival is begun, and all sorts of diversions..except that of masquing. 1742 H. WALPOLE *Lett.* (1903) I. 175 The Duchess..makes a grand masqueing next week.

b. Used with contemptuous reference to the Mass.

[1546, 1550: see 3.] 1555 PHILPOT in Foxe *A. & M.* (1583) II. 1828 Ye haue deceiued the people with that your sacrifice of the Masse, which ye make a masking. 1563–83 FOXE *A. & M.* II. 1203 Playne, seeing a Priest go to Masse, said, Now you shall see one in masking.

2. *Photogr.* The action or process of using a mask (see MASK *sb.*[3] 4 e).

1881 AARNEY *Photogr.* 242 In the printing of the picture .. by a judicious masking of parts he can cause pictures which would be inartistic to become merely inoffensive. 1884 *Ibid.* (ed. 6) 212 Masking the Negative.

3. *attrib.* passing into *adj.* Used in, appropriate to, or consisting of a 'masking' or masquerade; masquerading.

1542 *Nottingham Rec.* III. 220 One maskynge garment of sarcenet. 1546 BALE *1st Exam. A. Askew* 34 b, Their popish portyfolyoms and maskynge bokes. *c* 1550 BECON *Jewel of Joy* Wks. 1560 II. 30 The papists affirme y[t] theyr massekyng Masse is a perfecte sacrifyce for the quycke and the deade. *Ibid.* The papistes put on masking apparel Albes, girdels [etc.]. 1581 G. PETTIE tr. *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* III. 137 To maintaine their wines in suche pompeous and masking sorte. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Apol. Poetrie* (Arb.) 41 Therefore [they] made Mistres Philosophy very often borrow the masking rayment of Poesie. 1612 in *Buccleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 243 Now the masking sports shall follow. 1649 MILTON *Eikon.* Pref., The conceited portraiture before his Book, drawn out to the full measure of a Masking Scene. *c* 1670 A. WOOD in *Life* (1848) 77 *note*, He hath compositions in courtly masquing ayres. 1673 DRYDEN *Marr. à la Mode* Prol., We shall show to-day A masking ball, to recommend our play. 1812 BYRON *Ch. Har.* II. lxxviii, In motley robe to dance at masking ball. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xl, Men, still habited in their masquing suits.

† **Ma·sking,** *ppl. a.*[1] *Obs.* [f. MASK *v.*[2] + -ING [2].] Bewildering.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) II. 219 Man..fel..out of hous in to maskynge and wayles contray [L. *de domo ad deviam*].

† **Masking,** *ppl. a.*[2] *Obs.* [f. MASK *v.*[1] + -ING [2].] Ensnaring, trammelling.

1578 TIMME *Calvin on Gen.* 170 When we are so carried away with the maskingnettes of beauty, that [etc.]. 1601 DEACON & WALKER *Spirits & Divels* 287 You are almost quite ferreted foorth from all your starting holes, and are now brought in a manner before the very mouth of that masking net, which will so entangle your toong, as [etc.].

Masking (mɑ·skiŋ), *ppl. a.*[3] [f. MASK *v.*[4] + -ING [2].] That masks, in various senses of the vb. In early use, † hypocritical.

1577–87 HOLINSHED *Chron.* III. 1143/1 She should both to Christ shew hir selfe a false christian, and vnto hir prince a masking subiect. 1596 GOSSON *Pleas. Quips Gentlew.* (Percy Soc.) 7 Our masking dames can sport, you knowe, sometime by night, sometime by day. *a* 1652 J. SMITH *Sel. Disc.* vi. 237 That which was acted upon it..every one will grant to have been a masking or imaginary business. 1725 RAMSAY *Gentle Sheph.* III. iv. Prol., Sir William draps his masking beard. 1863 W. THORNBURY *True as Steel* II. 133 No one ever confesses that he has committed an injury; he calls it retaliation, or justice, or conceals it by some masking name. 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 2 May 5/2 The masking force will have to be a strong one.

Maskinonge (mæskiŋɡndz, -ɡʊdʒi). Also 8 **maskinunga**, 9 **maquinongé, -ongy, masquenonger, muscanonge, maskinongé, -ongy, maskenozha**; **masc-, maskal(l)onge, muscal(l)onge, masculonge, muskallunge, -al(l)onge, -alounge, -el(l)unge, maskelonge, masque alonge**; *Dicts.* **maskalunge, muskullonge, -alinge, -elunjeh, moskalonge**, etc. [Odjibwa; spelt *mackinonge, micikinonge* by Cuoq *Lexique de la langue algonquine* (where *c* represents ʃ). According to Cuoq, f. *mac, mici* great + *kinonge* pike; according to Baraga the first element is *mask* ugly.

The varieties of form are partly due to diversities of native dialect, partly to a French popular etymology which took the word as *masque long* or *masque allongé*, 'long mask'.]

A large pike, *Esox nobilior*, inhabiting the Great Lakes of North America, valued as a food-fish.

1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* I. 352 Maskinungas, a very large species of pickerel. 1809 A. HENRY *Trav.* 30 Among the pike, is to be included the species, called, by the Indians, masquinongé. 1836 J. RICHARDSON *Fauna Bor. Amer.* III. 127 *Esox estor* (Le Sueur), The Maskinongé. 1855 LONGF. *Hiawatha* VIII, And he said to the Kenozha, To the Pike, the Maskenozha. 1868 LOSSING *The Hudson* 61 Lake George ..abounds with fine fish, the largest and most delicious being the Masque alonge. 1884 G. B. GOODE, etc. *Nat. Hist. Aquat. Anim.* I. 466 At Sacket's Harbor very few Muskellunge are caught. 1894 *Outing* XXIV. 454/1 A dinner of muscallonge steaks. 1899 *Pall Mall Mag.* Apr. 445 The big trout and maskinonge were stirring themselves in the depths of the lake.

Maskins (mæ·skinz). *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Also **meskin(s.** [f. MASS *sb.*[1] + *-kins*, as in *bodikins, pittikins* (cf. -KIN).] *By the maskins*: by the mass; an asseverative exclamation.

1611 CHAPMAN *May-day* IV. I 2 b, By the meskin me thought they were so indeede. 1647 BARON *Cyprian Acad.* I. 53 By the Maskins I would give the best cow in my yard, to find out this raskall. 1664 COTTON *Scarron.* IV. (1741) 85 And now this Swabber, by the Maskins, Thunders up Dido's Galligaskins. 1721 in BAILEY. [For 19th c. examples (Yorks., Lancs. & Derbysh.) see *Eng. Dial. Dict.*]

Maskle, obs. form of MASCLE *sb.*[1]

Maskoid (mɑ·skoid). [f. MASK *sb.*[2] + -OID.] (See quot. and cf. MASKETTE.)

1881–2 W. H. DALL in *3rd Rep. Bureau Ethnol.* (1884) 93 The *Maskoid*, an object resembling a mask or face, but not intended to be worn at all. *Ibid.* 105 Maskoids of stone, ..jasper, and jadeite. *Ibid.* 166 Wooden mortuary maskoid.

Maskowe, variant of MASCUE *v. Obs.*

Maskre, variant of MASKER *v.*

Masleach, variant of MASHLOCH *Sc.*

Maslin[1] (mæ·zlin). Now *dial.* Forms: 1 mæstlin(g)c, -ling, *Northumb.* mæslen(n, 3 me(a)stling, 3–4 mastling, 4 masalyne, messelinge, -lyng, 4–6 maselyn, 5 mastelyn, masceelyne, masselen, messlyng, messelyne, 5–6 maslyn, 6 mastlyn(e, -line, masclyne, mystiltyne, maslyne, -leyn, -lenn, -lyn(n, maseleyn(e, -lyn(n)e, -len, massellen, measelen, meslyn, messilling, messelyng, 6–7 maslen, 7 mastlin, masline, mascellin, 4– maslin. [OE. *mæs(t)ling*, *mæslen* neut., app. formed (? with suffix -LING[2]) on an unrecorded **mæs* (the *t* being possibly a euphonic insertion) cogn. w. MHG. *mess(e* neut., brass (early mod.G. *mess*, *möss*, *mesch*, *mösch*; still *dial.*), whence (with suffix = -ING[3]) the synon. MHG., MDu. *messinc*, *missinc* masc., neut. (G., Du. *messing* neut.); adoptions from this or an equivalent LG. form were ON. *messing*, *mersing* fem. (OSw. *mäsinger*, Sw. *messing* masc., Da. *messing* com.); LG. has a parallel formation *mesken* (see -KIN).

Most scholars have regarded the OHG. *mess(e* neut., brass, as identical with MHG. *mässe*, *messe* fem., lump (of metal), usually believed to be a derivative of L. *massa* MASS *sb.*[2] The supposition involves serious difficulties, and has latterly been questioned (Kluge, Franck), but no plausible alternative has been found. It does not seem possible to connect the words with L. (*æs*) *miscellum* mixed brass, or with the popular Lat. word represented in MASLIN[2]. The MHG. *messinc* passed into Slavonic (Czech, Upper Serb. *mosaz*, Lower Serb. *mjesnik*, Little Russian *mošaž*, White Russian *mosenz*:—**mosengjŭ*) and Lith. (*masadis*). The view of Schrader that the Slav. word is the source of the MHG. is improbable, and leaves the OE. forms and the MHG. *messe* unexplained. On the other hand, Schrader's comparison of certain oriental words for brass (Kirghiz *moes*, Kurdish *nys*, Persian *mis*, Mazendoran *mers*, *mis*) seems worthy of consideration.]

1. A kind of brass. Now only *attrib.* (see 3).

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Mark vi. 8, *æs*, mæslen. *a* 1000 *Colloq. Ælfric* in Wr.-Wülcker 96/20 Mæstlinge ær and tin, *auricalcum*, *æs*, *et stagnum*. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 284 *note*, Golt, seluer, stel, irn, copper, mestling, breas: al is icleopet or. *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* 9 And is þat tu wendest gold iwurðen to meastling. *c* 1320 *Sir Beues* 3998 (Kölbing) Foure hondred copes of gold fyn And ase fele of maslin. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVI. v. (1495) 554 Laton...though it be bras of Messelyng: yet it shyneth as golde wythout. 1403 *Nottingham Rec.* II. 20, ij. patellarum de maslyn. 1509 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) V. 4 A fore basyn of mystiltyne. 1530 PALSGR. 243/2 Masclyne brasse. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 487 This precious Mascellin, this compound mettall I mean of gold, siluer, and brasse. 1607 *Lingua* IV. i. G 4 b, It must not be..Brasse, nor Copper, nor Mastlin. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. 29/2 An Atchison, is a Mettle peece, neither Silver, Copper, Brass, Lead, or Tin, it is like Masline.

2. A vessel made of 'maslin'; now (*dial.*) = *maslin kettle* (see 3).

c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Mark vii. 4 Calicea frymða & ceaca & arfata & mæstlinga. 1854 *N. & Q.* 1st Ser. X. 393 An old brazier informs me that three-legged pots made of the same metal as tops, generally called bell-metal, were formerly known as maslin pots, or maslins. 1882 [see 3].

3. *attrib.* or *adj.* = Made of 'maslin'. Now chiefly in **maslin kettle**, a large pan used mostly for boiling fruit for preserve.

c 1450 *ME. Med. Bk.* (Heinrich) 99 Take a quart of good whit wyn, and do hit in a clene masselen panne. 1492 *Nottingham Rec.* III. 22 Unum maslyn basyn. 1553 *Inv. Ch. Goods, Staffs.* in *Ann. Lichfield* (1863) IV. 76, ij maselen candelstykes. 1555 *Richmond Wills* (Surtees) 86, ij messilling bassens. 1870 in Miss Jackson *Shropsh. Word-bk.*, Maslin kettle. 1882 *N. & Q.* 6th Ser. VI. 158 Brass vessels for boiling fruits, &c., are called *maslin pans* in the Birmingham trade; and from this cast iron enamelled goods for the same purpose are also called *maslins*. 1896 *Warwickshire Gloss.*, *Maslin-kettle*, a brass preserving-kettle.

Maslin[2] (mæ·zlin). Now *dial.* Forms: α. 4 mastlyoun, 5 mestylyon, -ilione, mystelon, mystlyone, mastiljon, 5–6 mestlyon(e, mestelyn. β. 5 masteleyne, 5–6 mestlyn, 6 mastlin (also 9), -linge, mestlen, -lin. γ. 6 masclyne, maskeline, myskelen, 7 meselin. δ. 6 masceelyn, miscelin, -yne, mescelline, masseling, misseling, miscelling, 6–8 mescelin(e, 7 mascelline, masolin, mis(s)elin(e, miscel(l)an(o, -el(l)ine, misciline, messeline, -lling, misselan(e, misceling, 8 mcaseline, massellin. ε. 6 masclechon, masseljon, -jen, maseljohn, misleden, 7 massledine, masslegen, 8 mesledine, 9 machelson, maslegin, masselgem, mashelton. ζ. 6 mislin, myslen, 6–7 meslen, mesline, -lyne, 7 maslen, -land, -lyne, mislane, -leyne, mesling, -lyn, -lon, 7, 9 mashlin, 8 masling, mislen, (*Sc.* 8–9 mashlum, 9 -lam), 7– meslin, 6– maslin. (See also E. D. D. s.vv. *Mashelton*, *Maslin*[1].) [a. OF. *mesteillon* (for the many varieties of form see Godefr.):—late L. *mistiliōnem*, extended form of **mistilium* (whence OF. *mesteil*, mod.F. *métail*), f. L. *mist-us*, pa. pple. of *miscēre* to mix. Cf. MDu. *masteluun* (Du. *masteluin*).

Of the many Eng. forms, some represent dialectal varieties in OF.; others are due to popular etymology (the word having esp. been often associated with Eng. *mash* sb. or vb.); others again to learned pseudo-etymology, the spelling being assimilated to that of L. *miscellānea* 'hodge-podge', neut. pl. of *miscellāneus* (see MISCELLANEOUS, MISCELLANE).]

Mixed grain, *esp.* rye mixed with wheat. Also, bread made of mixed corn.

α. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 10125 Þe paste..Shal nat be of no medel corne, .. Þe mastlyoun shul men lete. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 334/2 Mestlyone, or monge corne (.. *K.* mestilione). 1466 *Mann. & Househ. Exp.* (Roxb.) 211 A combe mystelon for the kervelle. 1482 MARG. PASTON in *P. Lett.* III. 295 [They] lodyn bothe cartes with mestlyon and whete. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 230/1 Mastiljon, *bigermen*, *mixtilio*. 1530 PALSGR. 244/2 Mestlyon corne.

β. 14.. *Harl. MS.* 1587 in *Promp. Parv.* 335 *note*, Mastcleyne, *mixtilio*. 1466 *Paston Lett.* II. 269, ii bushel of mestlyn, xvd. 1573 TUSSER *Husb.* XXXVII. (1878) 90 If worke for the thresher ye mind for to haue, Of wheat and of mestlen vnthreshed go saue. 1616 SURFL. & MARKH. *Country Farm* 501 Sow it..with mastling and wheat. 1815 *Pocklington Canal Act* 52 Rye, Mastlin, Pease.

γ. 1530 PALSGR. 244/1 Masclyne corne. 1538 *Inv. Mercvale Abbey* in *Promp. Parv.* 335 *note*, Grayne at the monastery, myskelen, xij strykes. 1558 *Will of Wylde* (Somerset Ho.), A quarter of maskeline. 1635 Mesclin [see c].

δ. 1534 in W. H. Turner *Select. Rec. Oxford* (1880) 121 Mascelyn, benes, and pesen. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* (1586) 32 b, Amongst the sommer seedes is miscelin to be reckoned. 1619 W. SCLATER *Exp. 1 Thess.* (1630) 426 The Lord to Israel permitted no medleyes:..his people might not..sow their field with Miscellane. 1631 *Celestina* Ep. Ded., It is good plaine houshold-bread, honest messeline. 1654 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 459 You may know..who eateth Masolin, who pure Wheat. 1665 *Phil. Trans.* I. 93 The Kinds of Grain or Seed usual in England, being supposed to be either Wheat, Miscelane, Rye, Barley. 1677 PLOT *Oxfordsh.* 244 Its most agreeable grains are..miscellan, i.e. wheat and rye together. 1741 *Compl. Fam.-Piece* III. 422 Rye is a Grain used next to Wheat for Bread, and sometimes both are mixed together in the sowing, which is called Measeline. 1745 tr. *Columella's Husb.* XI. ii, One modius of .. mescelin. 1789 MADAN tr. *Persius* (1795) 133 *note*, Farrago is a mixture of several grains—mesceline.

ε. 1572 *Wills & Inv. N. C.* (Surtees) I. 387 One pecke of wheat and one pecke of maselechon. 1599 A. M. tr. *Gabelhouer's Bk. Physicke* 360/2 Take vnpeeled Barlye, M.iiij. & Misleden. 1631 in J. J. Cartwright *Chapters Hist. Yorks.* (1872) 316 Masslegen under 19[one] shillings the load. 1727 *Beverley Beck Act* 2 Every quarter of wheat, rye, mesledine. 1819 *Rees' Cycl.* XXII, *Mashelson*, a term used to signify a mixture of wheat and rye, or what is sometimes called meslin. 1829 J. HUNTER *Hallamsh. Gloss.* App., *Maslegin*, bread made of wheat and rye mixed. 1829 BROCKETT *N. C. Words*, *Masselgem*. 1855 [see b].

ζ. 1561 [see c]. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* I. (1586) 35 b, Tares and Oates make a good meslyne sowed together. 1594 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* IV. vi. § 3 Charging them withall not to sow their fields with mesline [cf. Lev. xix. 19]. 1600 SURFLET *Countrie Farme* V. xvii. 684 Maslin .. is not one kind of corne but a mixture of wheate and rie. 1652 *Inv.* in *Gentl. Mag.* (1861) II. 506, 2 quarters of mashlin. 1653 GAUDEN *Hierasp.* 30 When they sow that forbidden mislane, the Tares and Cockle of passionate novelties. 1765 *Museum Rusticum* IV. 225 They who like meslin..may mix them to their mind when carried to the mill. 1811 W. AITON *Agric. Ayrshire* 270 The late pease were frequently sown with oats which in Ayrshire was denominated mashlum. 1864 *Sat. Rev.* 478/2 Maslin .. is .. used [in the Northern counties] as a somewhat cheaper food than wheaten flour.

†**b.** *fig.* A mixture, medley. (See also MISCELLANE *sb.* and *a.*)

1574 WHITGIFT *Def. Answ.* ii, You haue made very cuill meslyn, and you haue put in one, things which are not payres nor matches. 1668 KIRKMAN *Eng. Rogue* II. xviii. (1671) 162 Having his pockets well lined with Maslin of Gold and Silver. 1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* 102 They were neither Hogs nor Devils .. but a mesling of two. 1855 ROBINSON *Whitby Gloss.*, *Mashelton* or *Machelson*, a mixture of wheat and rye in a mash. A person is said to make mashelton of his discourse, who puts fine and coarse words together with an affected pronunciation.

c. *attrib.*, as *maslin bread, corn, seed*; also as *adj.* (fig.), mixed, mingled.

1544 *Will Dando of Littleton* (MS.), j bushell of mastlinge corne. 1561 in *Leland's Itin.* (1769) VI. Pref. 17, 3 Loves Mislin Bread. 1575 *Durham Depos.* (Surtees) 305 Masseljon corne, being most part benes. 1584 COGAN *Haven Health* iv. (1636) 29 A kind of bread named misseling or masseling bread. 1590 BARROW & GREENWOOD in *Confer.* 45 This prophane miscelyne people. 1597 J. KING *On Jonas* (1618) 59 Such meslen seed [cf. Lev. xix. 19] light vpon that ground which I wish no prosperity vnto. 1607 B. JONSON *Volpone* Ded., The present trade of the Stage, in all their misc'line Enterludes. 1626 BP. HALL *Contempl. O. T.* XXI. i, These mesline Jewes. 1635 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Old Parr* C 2 b, Course Mesclin bread. 1649 BLITHE *Eng. Improv. Impr.* (1653) 109 Wheat, Rye, or Meslin Stubble. *a* 1659 BP. BROWNRIG *Serm.* (1674) I. iv. 61 God abhors a misceling Religion. 1725 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.*, *Masling-far*, Food made of Wheat and Rye by putting them to steep in Water. 1786 BURNS *Earnest Cry* XX, I'll be his debt twa mashlum bonnocks. 1844 *Ayrshire Wreath* 154 There was a big bing o' mashlam scones.

Masloch, variant of MASHLOCH *Sc.*

Masly: see MASSILY *Obs.*

Masnel: erron. form of MASUEL.

Masochism (mæ·zŏkiz'm). [f. the name of Leopold von Sacher-Masoch, an Austrian novelist, who described the thing + -ISM.] (See quot.)

1893 *Dunglison's Med. Dict.* (ed. 21), *Masochism*, sexual perversion, in which a member of one sex takes delight in being dominated, even to the extent of violence or cruelty, by one of the other sex. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 196 [Group iii] with predominant perversion of moral and sexual nature (for example, moral insanity, uranism, masochism, etc.).

Masolin, obs. form of MASLIN[2].

Mason (mē·s'n), *sb.*[1] Forms: α. 3 machun, machoun, maseun. β. 4 mazoun, 4–5 macon, masown(e, 4–6 masoun, 6 masin, masson, maison, meson, *Sc.* maissoun, 7 *Sc.* meason, 5–6 masone, 4– mason. [The α and β forms are respectively a. ONF. *machun* and Central OF. *masson*, *maçon* (mod.F. *maçon*) = Pr. *masso*:—popular Latin type either **măcion-em* (*măcio*) or **mattiōn-em* (*mattio*). The recorded forms in med.L. are *machio* (7th c. in Isidore, who explains the word as a derivative of *māchina* machine), *matio* (8th c. in the Reichenau Glosses, *c* 1000 in Ælfric), *macio*, *mattio*, *mactio*, and (latinized from the Fr.) *macho*, *maco*.

The ulterior etymology is obscure. The evidence of Isidore tends to show that the form with *c* is original, and some scholars have suggested that the word is from the root of L. *māceria*, wall. On the other hand, the stem *mattiōn-* agrees with the OHG. *mezzo* (also in comb. *steinmezzo*, mod.G. *steinmetz*, stonemason):—prehistoric **mattjon-*. This is commonly regarded as the source of the Rom. word, but it has no affinities in Teut. (unless it be cogn. w. OE. *mattuc* MATTOCK), and may be adopted from late Latin.]

1. A builder and worker in stone; a workman who dresses and lays stone in building.

c 1205 LAY. 15465 Machunnes heowen. *Ibid.* 15478 Machunes [*c* 1275 machuns]. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 71/33 Machouns .. Bi laddren cloumben up and doun. *a* 1300 *Floris & Bl.* (Cambr. MS.) 326 Ber wiþ þe squire and schauntillun, Also þu were a gud Mascun. 13.. *K. Alis.* 2370 On either half they laiden on So the mason on the ston. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 4148 Aboute him lefte he no masoun, That stoon coude leye, ne querrour. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* XXVIII. 577 Ye are more like a Kyng than a mason or laborer. 1535 COVERDALE 1 *Chron.* XXIII. 15 Messons and carpenters in stone and tymber. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, I. ii. 198 The singing Masons building roofes of Gold. 1697 E. LHWYD in *Phil. Trans.* XXVII. 503 The Masons Marks on the Stones. 1703 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* 237 The White Mason, which is the Hewer of Stone. 1874 PARKER *Goth. Archit.* I. iii. 34 The Normans being far better masons than the Saxons. 1878 JEVONS *Prim. Pol. Econ.* 71 Masons totally declined to set stones shaped and dressed by machinery.

2. = FREEMASON 1, 2.

[1425 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 292 Les annuelx congregaions & confederacies faitz par Masons en lour generall Chapiters & Assembles.] 1483 *Aberdeen Reg.* (1844) I. 39 The masownys of the luge. 1672 MARVELL *Rehearsal Transp.* I. Wks. (Grosart) III. 55 As those that have the Mason's word, secretly discern one another. 1731 *Gentl. Mag.* I. 431 The Author tells us, that a Mason is obliged by his Tenure, to obey the Moral Law. 1772 WESLEY *Jrnl.* 22 Apr. (1827) III. 446, I preached..in the Masons' Lodge. 1776 ABIGAIL ADAMS in *J. Adams' Fam. Lett.* (1876) 151 The Dr. was buried on Monday; the Masons walking in procession from the State House. 1845 D. JERROLD *Mrs. Caudle* viii, Do you suppose I'd ever suffered you to go and be made a mason, if I didn't suppose I was to know the secret, too?

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.* as *mason-craft*; *mason-like* adv.; **mason-work**, stone-work, masonry; also in a number of obs. compounds where the attrib. use takes the place of the possessive *mason's*, as *mason-axe*, *-chip*, *-device*, *-line*, *-lodge*, *-rule*.

1412–13 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 610 Factura de *Mason axes, pickes [etc.]. [*c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 329/1 Masonys ex, *lathomega*.] 1497–8 *Fabric Rolls York Minster* (Surtees) 90 Pro vj mason axis. 14.. *Nom.* in Wr.-Wülcker 687/32 *Hic petro*, a *mason schype. 1509–10 *Fabric Rolls York Minster* (Surtees) 95 Pro cariagio lyme, .. mason chippes and fier erth. 1412 *Catterick Ch. Contract* (Raine 1834) 8 He sall make the Kirke .. newe als werke-manschippe and *mason craft will. 1418 *Twenty-six Polit. P.* (E. E. T. S.) 62/42 Þe wyseman his sone forbed Masoun-craft and all clymbyng. 1831 CARLYLE *Sart. Res.* (1858) 59 Bright, nimble creatures [swallows], who taught you the mason-craft? *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1645 Toures .. Made all of marbyll with *mason deuyse. [*Ibid.* 10584 A toure .. Meruelously made with masons deuyse.] 1387 in *Registr. Cart. Eccl. S. Egidii* (Bann. Cl.) 25 Tha ylk men sal mak .. a wyndow with thre lychtys in fourme *masonnelyke. 14.. *Nom.* in Wr.-Wülcker 687/35 *Hec amussis*, a *mason lyne. 1797 *Monthly Mag.* III. 215/1 In some *Mason Lodges in his neighbourhood, Burns had soon the fortune .. to gain the notice of several gentlemen [etc.]. 14.. *Nom.* in Wr.-Wülcker 687/33 *Hec regula*, a *mason rewlle. 1620 *Burgh Rec. Glasgow* (1876) I. 370 For working of the *meason work .. of the liberarie hous. 1859 TENNYSON *Vivien* 4 It look'd a tower of ruin'd masonwork. 1896 *Archæol. Jrnl.* LIII. 39 Detached blocks of stone, presenting well-marked indications of mason-work.

b. in the names of animals, esp. certain insects, which build a nest of sand, mud, or the like; as *mason-ant* (= F. *fourmi maçonne*), *-fly*; **mason-bee** (= F. *abeille maçonne*), an insect of the genera *Osmia*, *Chalcidoma* and *Anthophora*; **mason-spider**, a trap-door spider (*Mygale*); (**free**) **mason-wasp**, a solitary wasp, *Odynerus murarius*. Also **mason-shell**, a genus of molluscs (*Phorus* or *Xenophora*) which carry pieces of coral, stone, etc. fixed to the shell; a carrier-shell.

1816 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* xvii. (1818) II. 97 M. Huber.. speaking of a *mason-ant, not found with us. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) VIII. 93 *Mason Bees make their cells with a sort of mortar, made of earth. 1867 *Intell. Observ.* No. 60. 415 Mason-bees of the genus Anthophora. 1750 G. HUGHES *Barbadoes* 83 It is called a *Mason-fly from the great quantity of mire and mortar which it carries into houses and elsewhere, wherewith to build its nests. 1884 *Riverside Nat. Hist.* (1888) I. 326 The..genus..*Phorus*, which embraces the carrier or *mason-shells of the eastern seas. 1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* III. xxxiv. 492 The trapdoor

or *mason spider (*Mygale cæmentaria*). 1861 Hulme tr. *Moquin-Tandon* II. v. ii. 260 The Mygales (Crab Spiders and Mason Spiders). 1792 M. Riddell *Voy. Madeira* 73 The free *mason wasp is so domestic as to build its nest, which is made of mud or clay, in the inhabited chambers of houses. 1815 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* (1818) I. 449 One species called by Reaumur the mason-wasp (*Odynerus muraria*, Latr.).

Hence **Ma·sonship.**

1833 Carlyle *Cl. Cagliostro* ii. *Misc.* (1857) III. 270 Cagliostro, then, determines on Masonship. 1881 *Daily News* 17 Feb. 5/2 His [Herr Pietsch's] elaborate investigation of Goethe's fifty years of Masonship.

† **Ma·son,** *sb.*[2] *slang. Obs.* One who acquires goods fraudulently by giving a bill which he does not intend to honour. Also † **Ma·soner** (in the same sense); † **Ma·soning** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1753 *Discov. J. Poulter* (ed. 2) 6, 24, 27, 29.

Mason (mē·s'n), *v.* Also 5 **masown, masson.** [ad. F. *maçon-ner* (12th c.), f. *maçon* Mason *sb.*[1]] *trans.* To build of stone (or brick, etc.); to construct of masonry; to build up or strengthen with masonry. Also with *together, out.*

c 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* I. x. (1869) 7 She hadde founded thilke house and masowned it .. xiij c. yer and xxx bifore that time. 1489 Caxton *Faytes of A.* II. xiv. 117 With certain yssues and steppes welle massonned. 1523 Lo. Berners *Froiss.* I. i. 1 Al buyldynges are masoned and wroughte of dyuerse stones. 1682 Wheler *Journ. Greece* IV. 295 A round Temple of Brick, masoned together with a very hard cement. 1703 *Chatsworth Building Accts.* in *Jrnl. Derbysh. Archæol. Soc.* (1881) III. 31 For masoning, raising and setting upp 4 other urnes. 1862 Latham *Channel Isl.* III. xviii. (ed. 2) 412 About fifty yards south from the temple were five tumuli, masoned on every side. 1881 *Contemp. Rev.* Apr. 510 The watercourse beneath it is masoned out with solid stone.

absol. *c* 1483 Caxton *Dialogues* 40/9 Laurence the masone Hath take to masone.

† b. To build *in* or *into* (a wall). *Obs.*

1527 Anorew *Brunswyke's Distyll. Waters* b iv, A trevet in the middest of the fornys with the iii fete masoned in the wall of it. 1596 Danett tr. *Comines* (1614) 217 He caused also to bee masoned into the wall a great number of iron speares.

Hence **Ma·soning** *vbl. sb.*

1711 C. Lockyer *Trade in India* ii. 44 Masoning is what they understand least of.

Mason-dewe, -due, obs. forms of Measondue.

Masondre, obs. form of Masonry.

Masoned (mē·s'nd), *ppl. a.* [f. Mason *v.* + -ed [1].] Formed of or strengthened with masonry.

1612 *Two Noble K.* v. i, The masond Turrets. 1869 Lo. Lytton *Orval* 93 Moss-mason'd haunts where hermit violets hide. 1892 — *King Poppy* iv. 422 The gallery ended in the mason'd base Of a deep well-shaft.

b. *Her.* (Also 7–8 **massoné** (e = F. *maçonné*.) Marked with lines representing the joints or divisions between blocks of stone. Also *gen.*

1688 R. Holme *Armoury* I. 69/1 He beareth Argent, Masoned into seven divisions Sable. *Ibid.* I. 94/2 The French Blazon it, A. Massonee of seven pieces S. 1718 Nisbet *Ess. Armories, Terms Her., Massone*, is said of Castles, Towers, and other Buildings, when the Cement is of a different Tincture from the Stones, as in the Arms of Castile. 1722 — *Syst. Heraldry* I. 418 A Castle Triple Towered Or, Masoned Sable, Windows and Ports shut Azure. 1727 Bailey vol. II, *Massoné, Massonéd.* 1864 Boutell *Her. Hist. & Pop.* xxix. (ed. 3) 446 A low pillar, the base and capital masoned. 1868 Cussans *Her.* xiv. 167 The Mural Crown..has the circle masoned. 1900 Hope in *Yorks. Archæol. Jrnl.* XV. 282 The whole wall surface was 'masoned' with broad red or white lines.

Masone Dew, obs. form of Measondue.

Masoner. *Obs.* exc. *dial.* (See E. D. D.) [f. Mason *v.* + -er [1].] A mason or bricklayer.

1605 *MS. Indenture*, Francis Hooll..of Brough, co. York, masoner. 1847 Halliwell, *Masoner*, a bricklayer.

Masoness (mē·s'nės). *nonce-wd.* [f. Mason *sb.*[1] + -ess [1].] A female freemason.

1833 Carlyle *Cl. Cagliostro* ii. Misc. (1857) III. 270.

Masonic (măsp·nik), *a.* [f. Mason *sb.*[1] + -ic.] 1. Of or pertaining to masons or masonry. *rare.*

1810 Sir A. Boswell *Edinburgh* Poet. Wks. (1871) 55 The City grows and spreads on every side, In all the honour of masonic pride. 1821 Byron *Juan* v. lxiii, The masonic folly Of those ..Who give themselves to architecture wholly. 1895 S. R. Hole *Little Tour Amer.* 308 The Washington Obelisk, said to be the highest masonic structure in the world.

2. Relating to, or characteristic of, freemasons or freemasonry. Also *transf.*

1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) X. 625/1 Some scrupulous brethren, who were alarmed at the publication of the masonic constitutions. 1810 Wellington *Let.* 4 Jan. in Gurw. *Desp.* V. 410, I beg .. that the meeting of the masonic lodges in their corps, and the wearing of all masonic emblems and all masonic processions may be discontinued during the time they may be in Portugal. 1831–57 De Quincey *Whiggism* Wks. VI. 125 This sublime masonic tie of brotherhood we ourselves possess, we members of Christendom. 1836–9 Dickens *Sk. Boz, Scenes* xxiii, Cheap silver penholders and snuff-boxes, with a masonic star. 1879 Stevenson *Trav. Cevennes* (1886) 18 [He] finally taught me the true cry or masonic word of donkey-drivers.

Masonite [1] (mē·s'nəit). [f. *Mason* + -ite.] An adherent of the fanatical (millenarian) doctrines of John Mason of Water Stratford (*died* 1694).

1710 Steele & Addison *Tatler* No. 257 P 12 Brownists, Independents, Masonites, Camisars, and the like.

Masonite [2] (mē·s'nəit). *Min.* [Named by C. T. Jackson, 1840, after Owen *Mason*; see -ite.] A variety of chloritoid found in Rhode Island.

1840 C. T. Jackson *Geol. Rhode Isl.* 88 (A. H. Chester).

Masonry (mē·s'nri), *sb.* Forms: 4 masonerie, 4–5 masonrye, 5 masonri, masynry, masounrye, masondre, 5–7 masonrie, 6 massonnery, 5– masonry. [a. F. *maçonnerie* (14th c.), f. *maçon* Mason *sb.*[1]: see -ery, -ry. Cf. med.L. *massoneria* (Du Cange).]

1. The art, skill, or occupation of a mason; the art or work of building in stone. Now *rare.*

a 1400 *Constit. Masonry* (Halliw. 1844) 13 At these lordys prayers they cowntersetyd gemetry, And 3af hyt the name of masonry. *c* 1420 *S. Etheldred* 789 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 300 Of no masonry to dey3t þat ston, þey nadde no nede. *c* 1449 Pecock *Repr.* I. x. 50 Lijk as he schulde vnresonabili and reprouabili aske, if he askid of a treuthe in masonry, where it is groundid in carpentrie. 1530 Palsgr. 429/1, I am skylled or connynge in physicke or palmestrye or massonnery. *c* 1600 Shaks. *Sonn.* lv, When wastefull warre shall Statues ouer-turne, And broiles roote out the worke of masonry. 1632 Lithgow *Trav.* VI. 261 [It] hath beene hewen out of the Rocke, by .. men, experimented in Masonry. 1748 Hume *Ess., Understanding* xi. (1777) II. 152 Brick and stone and mortar, and all the instruments of masonry.

2. *concr.* That which is built or constructed by a mason; work executed by a mason; stonework.

?*a* 1366 Chaucer *Rom. Rose* 302 Sorowe was peynted next Envye Upon that walle of masonrye. *c* 1384 — *H. Fame* III. 213 Hit nedith nought you more to tell..how they hate yn masoneryes, As corbettz fulle of ymageryes. 1426 Lydg. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 335 The masonnry wrought ful clene, Off quyke stonys bryht & schene. 1586 J. Hooker *Hist. Irel.* in *Holinshed* II. 151/2 The faire bridge of Athlon .. he builded with masonrie and free stone. 1601 Shaks. *All's Well* II. i. 31, I shal stay here .. Creeking my shooes on the plaine Masonry. 1752 Mason *Elfrida* Poems 1830 II. 33 From its base..All is of choicest masonry. 1843 Borrow *Bible in Spain* xv, Several gates had been blocked up with masonry. 1865 Carlyle *Fredk. Gt.* XXI. ii. (1872) IX. 276 It shows excellent sound masonries. 1876 Routledge *Discov.* 29 The exterior is formed of a casing of solid masonry strengthened with iron hoops.

transf. 1774 Pennant *Tour Scotl. in* 1772, 120 The strata narrow and regular, forming a stupendous natural masonry. 1860 Tyndall *Glac.* I. i. 3 The particles .. arrange themselves in layers, like courses of atomic masonry.

3. The craft, principles, and mysteries of freemasons; = Freemasonry 1, 2.

1686 Plot *Staffordsh.* 316 A large parchment volum they have amongst them, containing the History and Rules of the craft of Masonry. 1753 *Scots Mag.* Sept. 427/2 In Masonry let me be blest. 1826 *Mem. Margravine of Anspach* II. i. 14 He was ignorant of the machinations of modern Masonry. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XIV. 482/2 An act was passed against Masonry in the third year of Henry VI.

4. *attrib.* Composed or built of masonry.

1875 R. F. Martin tr. *Hawres' Winding Mach.* 96 M. Kraft has carried his drum shaft upon a group of cast-iron columns, without any masonry walls whatever. 1880 *Responsib. Opium Trade* 5 It is exposed for a considerable time in large masonry tanks. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 4 Dec. 2/1 Girder bridges can obviously be destroyed much more easily than masonry arches.

Hence **Ma·sonry** *v. trans.*, to build or strengthen with masonry. Also **Ma·sonried** *ppl. a.*

1842 *Mechanics' Mag.* XXXVI. 480 If they [certain tunnels] were not masonried throughout .. a serious fall of earth and rock will take place. 1864 C. P. Smyth *Our Inheritance* v. xxii, It .. can be explained in a much easier manner, than by going up, in the teeth of masonried facts, to the primeval antiquity of the world. 1883 *Siderial Messenger* II. 177 Marked by masonried station signals.

Masooka, mazuca (măzū·kă). *U.S.* [?Corruption of Sp. *besugo* sea-bream.] (See quot.)

1884 G. B. Goode, etc. *Nat. Hist. Aquat. Anim.* I. 370 The Lafayette or 'Spot' *Liostomus xanthurus*,..is known ..in the Saint John's River, Florida, as the 'Masooka'. 1902 Webster Suppl., *Mazuca.*

Masoola, Masor: see Massoola, Mazer.

‖ **Masora(h, Massora(h** (măsō·ră). Also **Mas(s)oreth** (măsō·reþ). [More correctly *Masoreth*, repr. Heb. מָסֹרֶת *māsōreth*, a word occurring in Ezek. xx. 37, where (by those scholars who do not regard the text as corrupt) it is interpreted 'bond (of the covenant)', and referred to the root אסר to bind. In post-biblical Heb. the word became common in the sense of 'tradition', being apprehended as from the root מסר to deliver, hand down; on this view of its etymology the normal punctuation would be מַסֹּרֶת *massōreth*, which many modern scholars have adopted, though without ancient authority. The mod.Heb. מָסוֹרָה *māsōrāh* (whence mod. Latin *Masora*, F. *Massora, Massore*, G. *Masora*, Eng. *Masora, Masorah*), is said to date only from the 16th c., and (with this vocalization) is an abnormal formation from the root מסר.] The body of traditional information relating to the text of the Hebrew Bible, compiled by Jewish scholars in the tenth and preceding centuries; the collection of critical notes in which this information is preserved. Also occas. used as a collective name for the scholars whose opinions are embodied in the Masora, and to whom is ascribed the constitution of the present Hebrew text and the addition of the vowel-points, etc.

1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* (1614) 179 That most profitable Treasure, which is called Masoreth. 1632 B. Jonson *Magn. Lady* I. (1640) 15 She could the Bible in the holy tongue: And reade it without pricks: had all her Masoreth. 1659 Bp. Walton *Consid. Considered* 263 The Masora ..was not written all at one time, nor the work of one man, or perfected in one age. 1723 S. Mather *Vind. Bible* 60 These sections of the law are quoted by the Masorah, instead of chapters. 1870 F. J. Smith *Ewald's Heb. Gram.* (ed. 3) 37 Since .. the Massôra, or the grammatical doctrine of the schools, could not venture to alter the letters of the text. 1904 *Athenæum* 13 Aug. 205/2 This rather abstruse little treatise will be studied eagerly by specialists in Hebrew grammar and Masorah.

¶ Milton seems (misled by the rendering 'tradition') to have supposed the word to be applicable to the exegetical traditions of the Rabbis, by which the severity of the Law was increased.

1643 Milton *Divorce* Introd., Wks. 1851 IV. 11 He who hedg'd in from abolishing, every smallest jot and tittle of precious equity contain'd in that Law, with a more accurate and lasting Masoreth, then either the Synagogue of Ezra, or the Galilean School at Tiberias hath left us.

Masorete, Massorete (mæ·sŏrīt). Forms: 6 **Massoreth, Mazaroth,** 7 **Masoreth, Massorat,** (9 *erron.* **Mazorete**), 7–9 **Massoret,** 9 **Masoret,** 8– **Massorete, Masorete.** [Originally a misapplication of *Masoreth*, better form of Masora. So F. *Massorets* pl. (Rabelais); the later F. *Massorètes*, G. *Mas(s)oret(h)en*, mod.L. *Mas(s)orētæ*, Eng. *Mas(s)oretes*, are due to association of the ending with that of words of Gr. origin like *exegete, athlete.*

The apparently abnormal formation led to the invention of Masorite as a more correct substitute, but the older word is still the more frequently used.]

One of the Jewish scholars who contributed to the formation of the Masora.

1587 Golding *De Mornay* xxx. 486 In stead of *Caru*..the Jewes will needes reade *Ca ari*..: their Massoreths (who haue made a Register of all the Letters of the Scriptures) doe witness that in al good Copies it is written *Caru. Ibid.*, The Jewes..are warned by their Mazaroths, that that sence is vnperfect. 1642 Milton *Apol. Smect.* Wks. 1851 III. 282 Which the Masoreths and Rabbinicall Scholiasts not well attending, have often us'd to blurre the margent with *Keri* instead of *Ketiv.* *a* 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. xiv. 123 The *Cabalists* and *Massorats*, Interpreters of the Sacred Scriptures. 1778 Lowth *Transl. Isaiah* xxxviii. 13 *note*, The Masoretes divide the sentence, as I have done. 1866 J. G. Murphy *Comm., Exod.* xxiii. 13 It is remarkable that the Masoretes have no division whatever at this point of the text. 1875 Farrar in *Expositor* I. 106 The long labours of the Jewish Masorets. 1882 *Athenæum* 7 Oct. 456/3 These causes [of errors in Hebrew MSS.] are..admitted..by some even of the Massorets. 1886 C. A. Briggs *Messianic Prophecy* x. 301 *note*, An example of introverted parallelism, which has escaped the notice of the Massoretes.

Masoretic, Massoretic (mæsŏre·tik), *a.* [f. prec. + -ic. Cf. F. *massorétique*, G. *massoretisch.*] Pertaining to, or proceeding from, the Masoretes.

1701 Grew *Cosm. Sacra* IV. i. 140 The Jerusalem Talmud .. is observed to mention some of the Masoretick Notes. 1778 Lowth *Transl. Isaiah* Prelim. Diss. (1822) I. p. lxxi, The Masoretic punctuation .. is in effect an interpretation of the Hebrew text made by the Jews of late ages, probably not earlier than the eighth century. 1870 F. J. Smith *Ewald's Heb. Gram.* (ed. 3) 37 In the Massoretic schools of learning. 1882–3 Schaff *Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* II. 1430 The so-called Massoretic text.

Masore·tical, *a.* Now *rare.* Also 8 **Mazoretical,** 9 **Masorethical.** [See -al.] = prec.

a 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. xxxviii. 317 Masoretical fool. 1723 S. Mather *Vind. Bible* 258 This Masoretical note is mentioned in the Talmud. *Ibid.* 306 Later paraphrasts, who wrote since the Masoretical age. 1755 *Gentl. Mag.* XXV. 9 In a place where the *dagesh forte* is used by Mazoretical writers. 1835 *Penny Cycl.* IV. 372/1 The general correctness of the Masorethical text.

Masorite (mæ·sŏrəit). Also 7 **Mazorite,** 9 **Mazorete.** [f. Masora(h + -ite.] = Masorete.

1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* (1614) 179 Martinius affirmeth, That these Masorites inuented the prickes wherewith the Hebrew is now read. 1645 Milton *Tetrach.* Wks. 1851 IV. 234 Why .. should they be such crabbed masorites of the Letter, as not to mollifie a transcendence of literal rigidity? 1827 Townley *Reasons Laws Moses* 35 The Masorites or Mazoretes ..were the first who distinguished the books and sections of the books of Scripture into verses.

attrib. *a* 1682 Sir T. Browne *Tracts* viii. (1683) 132 Whereas by the Mazorite Points and Chaldee Character the old Letter stands so transformed, that [etc.].

Masoun de Dieu, obs. form of Measondue.

Masowyr, obs. form of Mazer.

Masque (mask). Also 6–7 **maske,** 7–9 **mask.** [Orig. the same word as Mask *sb.*[2]; the Fr. spelling *masque*, formerly used indifferently with *mask(e* in all senses, is now retained to distinguish the senses explained below.]

1. A masquerade, masked ball. [So in Fr.] Now *rare.*

1514 *Liber Numer. Scacc. Hen. VIII* in Collier *Hist. Dram. Poetry* (1831) I. 78 *note*, Johi. Farlyon Custod. .. apparatuum omnium singulorum jocorum, larvatorum, vocat. Maskes, Revelles, and Disguysings. 1533 More *Answ. Poysoned Bk.* Pref., Wks. 1039/2 Some .. full boldlye come daunce in a maske. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VIII* 16 The kyng with a .xi. other were disguised, after the maner of Italie, called a maske, a thyng not seen afore in Englande. 1601 Shaks. *Twel. N.* I. iii. 121, I delight in Maskes and Reuels. 1667 Milton *P. L.* IV. 768 Mixt Dance, or wanton Mask, or Midnight Bal. 1719 D'Urfey *Pills* (1872) IV. 146 Lately I went to a Masque at Court Where I see Dances of every sort. 1735 Pope *Ep. Lady* 26 Sappho fragrant at an ev'ning Masque. 1903 *Smart Set* IX. 58/2, I should have liked to go to a ball—a masque would have suited me best.

2. A form of amateur histrionic entertainment, popular at Court and amongst the nobility in England during the latter part of the 16th c. and the first half of the 17th c.; originally consisting of dancing and acting in dumb show, the performers being masked and habited in character; afterwards including dialogue (usually poetical) and song.

1562 *MS. Lansdowne* 5 in Collier *Hist. Dram. Poetry* (1879) I. 179 The Seconde Night. First a Castell to be made in the haule, called the Courte of Plentye; then the maske after this sorte. 1599 B. Jonson *Cynthia's Rev.* Ind., All the courtiers must prouide for reuels; they conclude vpon a Masque, the deuice of which is [etc.]. 1604 (*title*) The true description of a royal masque presented at Hampton Court upon Sunday-night, being the eighth of January 1603-4. 1621 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. 1. III. 122 At the practising of a Maske that is intendid by the Queene to be presented to the Kinge. *a* 1674 Clarendon *Hist. Reb.* XIV. § 67 There being a Masque at the Court that the King liked very well, he perswaded the Chancellor to see it. 1791–1823 D'Israeli *Cur. Lit.* (1858) III. 8 The essence of the Masque was pomp and glory. 1827 Hallam *Const. Hist.* (1876) II. viii. 38 The queen .. had performed a part in a mask at court. 1879 M. Pattison *Milton* ii. (1880) 21 A Mask was an exhibition in which pageantry and music predominated, but in which dialogue was introduced as accompaniment or explanation. 1898 H. A. Evans *Eng. Masques* Introd. 34.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1642 Fuller *Holy & Prof. St.* v. xvii. 427 His phansie presents him with strange masques, wherein onely Fiends and Furies are actours. *a* 1822 Shelley (*title*) The Masque of Anarchy. 1838 *Brit. Cycl. Biog.* II. 905/1 s.v. *Scott, Sir Walter*, The splendid masque, 'Ivanhoe'. 1860 Hawthorne *Marb. Faun* (1879) II. xviii. 185 And now, after a mask in which love and death had performed their several parts, she had resumed her proper character.

3. A dramatic composition intended for the kind of representation described under sense 2.

1605 B. Jonson (*title*) The Qveenes Masqves. The first, Of Blacknesse. 1637 Milton (*title of Comus*) A Maske presented at Ludlow Castle, 1634. 1709 Steele *Tatler* No. 98 ₱ 7 A Passage in a Mask writ by Milton. 1865 Lecky *Ration.* (1878) II. 315 The musical dramas known under the name of masques elicited some of the noblest poetry of Ben Jonson and of Milton.

†**4.** A set of masquers. *Obs.*

1599 B. Jonson *Cynthia's Rev.* v. iii. Stage direct., The Masques ioyne, and they dance. 1625 Bacon *Ess., Of Masques* (Arb.) 540 Double Masques, one of Men, another of Ladies, addeth State, and Variety.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

1634 Bp. Hall *Contempl. N. T.* IV. 167 If it were but some mask-house, .. neither white staves nor halberts could keepe you out. 1645 *Jrnl. Ho. Comm.* 16 July IV. 210/1 Ordered that the boarded Masque House at Whitehall.. be forthwith pulled down and sold away. 1647 Trapp *Comm. Matt.* xxiii. 23 Capistranus..got a great deal of respect to his doctrine by putting down..mask-interludes, &c. 1768 Baretti *Mann. & Cust. Italy* II. 21 She..had found means in mask-time to get out of the convent. 1903 Anders *Shakespeare's Bks.* 153 Puck and the other fairies give a very masklike performance at the close of Midsummer Night's Dream.

Masque, obs. form of Mask *sb.*[2] and *v.*[2]

Masque alonge, Masquenonger, var. forms of Maskinonge.

Masquer: see Masker *sb.*

Masquerade (mɑskĕrēi·d), *sb.* Forms: *α.* 6 **masquerada,** 6–7 **mascarado, masquerado,** 7 **mascurado, maskarado.** *β.* 7– **masquerade;** also 7 **mascarad, maskerade, -at, mascherade,** 7–8 **mascarade.** [ad. Sp. *mascarada* (whence F. *mascarade*), f. *máscara* mask, Masker *sb.*[1] (= It. *maschera*, whence *mascherata* masquerade).

The Sp. *máscara*, It. *maschera*, are regarded by most recent etymologists as a. Arab. مَسْخَرَة *maskharaʰ* laughing-stock, buffoon (the sense 'man in masquerade', given by Richardson and Bocthor, is said by Dozy to be a modern importation from Romanic), f. root *sakhira* to ridicule. Some scholars, however, reject this view, and connect the word with Pr. *mascarar*, Catal. *mascarar*, Pg. *mascarrar*, OF. *mascurer, mascherer* (mod.F. *mâchurer*) to black (the face), of Teut. origin: cf. OE. *mæscre* 'macula' (? spot, or ? mesh), MDu. *maschel, mascher* spot. For the possible relation to Mask *sb.*[2], see that word.]

1. An assembly of people wearing masks and other disguises (often of a rich or fantastic kind) and diverting themselves with dancing and other amusements; a masked ball.

α. 1597 Morley *Introd. Mus.* 181 The Italians make their galliardes..plaine, and frame ditties to them, which in their mascaradoes they sing and daunce. 1612 J. More in *Buccleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 126 The maskeradoes on Monday and Tuesday. 1653 A. Wilson *Jas. I* 104 He loved such Representations, and Disguises in their Maskaradoes, as were witty, and sudden. 1660 F. Brooke tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 365 They have sometimes their Mascurados called *Quacones*, disguising themselves like Devils.

β. 1613 Drumm. of Hawth. *Tears Death Moeliades* (1614) To Rdr., The Name which..he Himselfe in the Challenges of his Martiall Sports, and Mascarads, was wont to vse. 1632 Lithgow *Trav.* VIII. 369 They haue Bull-beating, Maskerats, singing of rimes, and processions of Priests. 1671 Lady M. Bertie in *12th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 23 They say the King hath put out a Proclamation to forbid maskerades. *c* 1720 Prior *Venus's Adv. Muses* 8 The loose dance, and wanton masquerade. 1742 H. Walpole *Lett. to Mann* (1834) I. 106, I was last week at the masquerade dressed like an old woman and passed for a good mask. 1877 Mar. M. Grant *Sun-Maid* vii, You would do for a masquerade in that costume.

b. *transf.* and *fig.* usually with reference to the fantastic or motley character of a masquerade.

1587 Harmer tr. *Beza's Serm. Cant.* 134 The Masquerada of a high masse. 1608 Topsell *Serpents* (1658) 668 Although they pretend a matchlesse understanding in these mysteries of Philosophy, they have caused others..to be blinded with the mascarados of absurdities. 1612 *Proc. Virginia* 45 in *Capt. Smith's Wks.* (Arb.) 124 These feindes .. cast themselues in a ring about the fire, singing and dancing with excellent ill varietie; .. Hauing spent neere an houre, in this maskarado [etc.]. 1614 Drumm. of Hawth. *Urania* ii, A Nought, a Thought, a Mascarade of Dreames. 1702 Pope *Wife of Bath* 284 Visits to ev'ry Church we daily paid, And march'd in ev'ry holy Masquerade. 1750 Johnson *Rambler* No. 75 ₱ 16 The rich and powerful live in a perpetual masquerade, in which all about them wear borrowed characters. 1841–4 Emerson *Ess., Poet* Wks. (Bohn) I. 167 Æsop reports the whole catalogue of common daily relations through the masquerade of birds and beasts.

2. Disguise such as is worn at a masquerade; masquerade dress. †**a.** *lit. Obs.*

1668 Dryden *Even. Love* III. i, There are some women without in masquerade. 1691 *Emilianne's Frauds Rom. Monks* (ed. 3) 399 As he was going one Evening to the Play-House he met with a Lady of Quality in Masquerade. 1774 H. Walpole *Let. to Mann* 8 June, Everybody is to go in masquerade, but not in mask.

b. *transf.* (contemptuously). Also, the action of 'masquerading'.

1868 Miss Braddon *Run to Earth* I. xi. 260 'What, in heaven's name, is the meaning of this masquerade?' The surgeon removed his broad-brimmed hat [etc.]...Nothing could have been more perfect than his disguise. 1902 Eliz. Banks *Newspaper Girl* 268 During my masquerade as an American heiress.

c. *fig.* Disguise; false outward show; pretence.

1674 *Ch. & Court of Rome* 23 This convention .. was nothing but a Scene dressed up in Masquerade. 1680 *Hon. Cavalier* 16, I openly declare, without any Masquerade, That [etc.]. 1691 Wood *Ath. Oxon.* II. 21 The Presbyterians said..that he [Chillingworth] was always a Papist in his heart, or, as we now say, in masquerade. 1726 De Foe *Hist. Devil* II. iii. (1840) 204 The Devil in masquerade, Satan in full disguise. 1781 Crabbe *Library* 25 The smooth tongue's habitual masquerade. 1823 Byron *Juan* XI. XXXVII, And, after all, what is a lie? 'Tis but The truth in masquerade. 1863 Woolner *My Beautiful Lady* Introd. 7 For none can strip this complex masquerade And know who languishes with secret wounds.

d. *concr.* A travesty, counterfeit. *rare.*

1847 Disraeli *Tancred* III. v, 'Thou son of a slave!' exclaimed the lady, 'thou masquerade of humanity!'

†**3.** One who takes part in a masquerade. *Obs.*

1651 tr. *De-las-Coveras' Don Feuise* 244 All the company were mute, considering for what cause this troope of unknown people were come into this assembly. Some thought that they were some Mascarads. 1667 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 130/3 Several Citizens ..., going disguised as Mascarades. 1670 Lassels *Voy. Italy* II. 187 Here also it is that the Mascarades march in Carneval time. 1727 Boyer *Fr. Dict., Masque*, (*Personne masquée*) a masker, a mascarade.

†**4.** A Spanish cavalry exercise. *Obs.*

a 1674 Clarendon *Life* (1761) I. 223 The Masquerade is an Exercise They learned from the Moors, performed by Squadrons of Horse, seeming to charge each other with great Fierceness; with Bucklers in their left Hands and a Kind of Cane in their right.

†**5.** Used as a name for one or more textile fabrics. *Obs.*

1711 *Countrey-Man's Let. to Curate* 95 He goes Generally in Winter in good thick Rug, and in Summer most part in a Highland Plaid, masquerade being at any time too Limber for him. 1714 A. Jaffray *Let.* in *Scott. N. & Q.* June 12 If you want any women's cloth or mascarads for your ladie. 1846–60 Fairholt *Costume in Eng.* (ed. 2) Gloss., *Masquerade*, a shot silk of various tints.

6. *attrib.*, sometimes passing into *adj.* = befitting a masquerade; also *fig.*

1720 Welton *Suffer. Son of God* II. xvi. 430 This very same Temptation oftentimes attacks the Servants of God, in a more Masquerade Address. 1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* XIII. vii, The female still speaking in her masquerade voice. 1766 Goldsm. *Vic. W.* (1767) I. xviii. 84 [He] demanded whether I was the real chaplain of the company, or whether it was only to be my masquerade character in the play. 1766 Porny *Heraldry* vi. § 3 (1787) 222 This Ornament [*sc.* the mitre], with other Masquerade Garments. 1772 Foote *Nabob* II. Wks. 1799 II. 304 A masquerade ticket, is more negotiable there than a note from the bank. 1772 *Songs Costume* (Percy Soc.) 249 An ass may look fierce in a masquerade dress. 1824 Miss Mitford *Village* Ser. I. 236 A Spanish masquerade-dress. 1841 Marryat *Poacher* xliii, The first masquerade-night at Vauxhall.

Masquerade (mɑskĕrēi·d), *v.* Also 7 **mascherate.** [f. prec. sb.]

†**1.** *trans.* To disguise as at a masquerade. *Obs. rare.*

1654 Cokaine *Dianea* II. 131 Wicked man,..how skilfull thou art to mascherate thy excuses! 1681 T. Flatman *Heraclitus Ridens* No. 34 (1713) I. 218 Torying, Tantivying and Masquerading his Majesty's most loyal and dutiful Subjects. 1717 Killingbeck *Serm.* xi. 229 To masquerade Vice, and to make it wear the Habit and Shape of that Virtue it most resembles.

†**2.** To make like a masquerade, as by variety of costume. *Obs. rare*—[1].

1757 Mrs. Griffith *Lett. Henry & Frances* (1767) IV. 239, I am just come up from the Shore, which I left masqueraded with People, I believe, from every Nation of the Earth.

3. *intr.* To appear or go about in disguise; to pass oneself off under a false character; to have or assume a deceptive appearance.

1692 R. L'Estrange *Fables* CCXXIV. 196 An Ass .. Masquerading up and down in a Lyon's Skin 1809–10 Coleridge *Friend* (1865) 215 He .. masqueraded on the bloody stage of revolution, a Caligula with the cap of liberty on his head. 1850 H. Rogers *Ess.* (1874) II. ii. 123 Some may probably deem that .. philosophy is here masquerading it a little too freely for her character. 1863 W. Phillips *Speeches* XXIV. 533 Virginia has a government, and is not a horde of pirates masquerading as a state.

†**Masquera·ded,** *ppl. a. Obs. rare.* [f. Masquerade *sb.* or *v.* + -ed.]

1. ? Coloured like 'masquerade'.

1678 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1348/4 Eight pieces of..taffaty Ribon, all cloth-colour, one ashe, one maskeraded.

2. Disguised.

1752 A. Murphy *Gray's Inn Jrnl.* (1756) I. 142 A very Considerable Number of masqueraded Shillings .. so well disguised, that they passed among the Company for Guineas.

Masquera·der. [f. Masquerade *v.* + -er[1].]

a. One who takes part in a masquerade. **b.** One who 'masquerades' or assumes disguise. *lit.* and *fig.*

1677 Lady Chaworth in *12th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 36 Lord Purbecke hath hired .. Sir John Benett's house..for to make a ball to the Mascaraders in next week. 1718 Hickes & Nelson *J. Kettlewell* III. xv. 221 He strenuously Opposed such Religious Masqueraders. 1775 Sheridan *Rivals* I. i, Love .. has been a masquerader ever since the days of Jupiter. 1836 Hor. Smith *Tin Trump.* (1876) 206 Many masqueraders on the stage of real life betray themselves by overacting their part. 1879 O. W. Holmes *Motley* XV. 94 Diplomatic masqueraders of the 16th century.

Masquera·ding, *vbl. sb.* [f. Masquerade *v.* + -ing[1].] The action of Masquerade *v.*; participation in masquerades; assumption of disguise.

1671 Dryden *Marr. à la Mode* IV. ii, This masquerading is a most glorious invention. *a* 1715 Burnet *Own Time* (1724) I. 262 At this time the Court fell into much extravagance in masquerading. 1886 *Athenæum* 20 Feb. 257/3 How much of dramatic masquerading there is in any poem no critic can ever say.

attrib. 1723-4 Dk. Wharton *True Briton* No. 71 II. 609 An Intrigue that began last Masquerading Time. 1840 Dickens *Barn. Rudge* II, 'No masquerading tricks', said the locksmith. 1850 Kingsley *Alt. Locke* I, They were to me God's angels shining in..fairy masquerading dresses.

Masquera·ding, *ppl. a.* [f. Masquerade *v.* + -ing[2].] That masquerades; addicted to masquerading.

1682 *Roxb. Ballads* (1884) 193 From all the Masquerading French,..*Libera nos, Domine!* 1717 Croxall *Ovid's Met.* X, Down with his masquerading wings he flies. 1856 R. A. Vaughan *Mystics* (1860) II. 232 In this masquerading world of ours. 1876 T. Hardy *Ethelberta* (1890) 89 You don't escape me, masquerading madam.

Masquera·dish, *a. rare.* [f. Masquerade *sb.* + -ish.] Befitting a masquerade.

1681 T. Flatman *Heraclitus Ridens* No. 6 (1713) I. 36 It makes him look so Masqueradish, that all the Women and Children..take him for a Devil Incarnate. 1819 *Hermit in London* III. 170 Her very masqueradish figure.

†**Masquin.** *Obs.* Also 6 **masken,** 7 **masquine.** [? for Masking *vbl. sb.*] A masquerade or masquerading costume.

1578 *Inv. R. Wardr.* (1815) 237 Fyve masking garmentis of crammosie satin, .. Sex maskenis of the same. 1653 J. Hall *Paradoxes* 67 They must put off their Masquine habits. 1658 R. Franck *North. Mem.* (1821) 23 The Church of Rome..where mattins are metamorphosed into masquins, collects translated into collations [etc.].

Mass (mæs), *sb.*[1] Forms: 1–3 **mæsse** (Northumb. **measse**), 1–7 **messe,** 2–7 **masse,** 3 (in comb.), 4–6 chiefly *Sc.* and *north.* **mes,** 4–6 *Sc.* and *north.*, 7–9 (sense 6) **mess,** 4–7 **mas,** (4 **misse,** 5 **mase, mese,** 6 **miss**), 6– **mass.** [OE. *mæsse* (Kentish and Mercian *messe*) wk. fem., a. vulgar L. *messa* (whence F. *messe*, Pr., It. *messa*; Sp. *misa*, Pg. *missa*, are from written Latin):—Eccl. L. *missa*. The Teut. forms, partly from vulgar Lat. and partly from written Latin, are: OFris., OS. *missa* (MDu. *misse, messe*, mod.Du. *mis*), MHG. *misse, messe* (mod.G. *messe*), ON. *messa* (Sw. *messa*, Da. *messe*).

It is now generally agreed that the L. *missa* is a verbal sb. (formed like *repulsa, collecta, offensa*) from L. *mittĕre* (pa. pple. *missus*) to send, send away, dismiss. The earliest known examples of the word belong to the last quarter of the 4th century, occurring in the Epistles of St. Ambrose and the Itinerary of Silvia of Aquitania. In the early centuries it had the general sense of 'religious service', being applicable, e.g., to matins and vespers, though in an eminent sense it always denoted the Eucharist. In secular application it occurs, though rarely, in the 5th and 6th centuries with the sense 'dismissal'. The origin of the liturgical application has been much disputed. Isidore (*a* 636) conjectured that the original reference was to the dismissal of the catechumens which was the preliminary to the eucharistic service. This explanation is not favoured by modern scholars, who consider that the wider sense 'religious service' is more likely than the narrower sense to have been the original. Some think that *missa* at first denoted the solemn dimissory formula at the conclusion of a service, *Ite, missa est*, and hence came to be applied to the service itself. Others (as Kattenbusch in Herzog's *Encycl.*) have suggested, on confessedly slender and doubtful evidence, that *missa* in secular use had some such sense as 'commission', 'official duty', and was therefore adopted as the rendering of Gr. λειτουργία (see Liturgy), which had primarily a similar meaning, but in ecclesiastical language was used for 'religious service' and specifically for the Eucharist. Several other theories have been proposed, but none of them has gained wide acceptance among scholars.]

1. The Eucharistic service; in post-Reformation use, chiefly that of the Roman Catholic Church.

In the 16th c. the Protestants generally objected to the term as being unscriptural, and as associated with the

'popish' view of the nature of the sacrament. (In Sweden and Denmark, however, the equivalent words are applied to the Lutheran communion service.) In the first Prayer-book of Edward VI (1548–9) the heading of the service reads 'The Holy Communion, commonly called the Masse', but in the subsequent Prayer-books the word was not used. In recent years some of the Anglican clergy have applied the term to their own rite.

a. The celebration of the Eucharist. Freq. without article, e.g. *at mass*, (*to go*) *to mass*; *to say, sing, hear, attend mass.*

a 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* IV. xxii. (Schipper) 460/1 Fram underntide, þonne mon mæssan oftust singeð. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 9 Ic eou segge .. þet nis hit nan þerf þet me .. for his saule bidde pater noster ne messe singe. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 32, I þe messe .. sigged þeos uers stondinde. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 7620 Of prest was þer no benisoun, Ne messe songen, ne orysoun. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 1114 Mylde as maydenez seme at mas. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* XI. 376 Thai herd the mess full reuerently. 1457 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) II. 207 The stall quer I sit at mese. 1538 Starkey *England* I. iv. 132 They can no thyng dow but pattur vp theyr matyns and mas. 1646 Sir J. Temple *Irish Rebell.* (1746) 177 Fitz-Patrick .. did endeavour all he could to turn them to mass. 1686 Evelyn *Diary* 19 Jan., Dryden .. and his two sonns .. were said to go to masse. 1759 Robertson *Hist. Scot.* III. Wks. 1813 I. 263 The earls of Lennox, Athol and Cassils openly attended mass. 1885 Mabel Collins *Prettiest Woman* iv, She goes to early mass each morning. 1893 *Ch. Times* 6 Oct. 997/4, I commenced having Mass on all Holy Days at 9 a.m.

b. A particular celebration of the Eucharist, esp. one having a special object or intention. Often *pl.*

a 831 *Charter Oswulf* in Sweet *O. E. Texts* 444 Dætþæhwilc messepriost gesinge fore Osuulfes sawle twa messan. *c* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 65 Þurh masses and hienes and almesses ðe me doð for ðe. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 11321 Hii massen & orisons uaste uor him bede. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 21189 þe first mess þat sent petre sang Was þar þan na canon lang. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 212 To make solempnyte whanne riche men ben dede wiþ dirige & messis. 1420 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 48, xx trentalez off messez for my soule. 1562 *Articles of Religion* xxxi. (1571) 19 The sacrifices of Masses, in the which it was commonly said that the Priestes did offer Christe for the quicke and the dead. 1648 Gage *West Ind.* xv. (1655) 102 They are not able to continue in the Church while a Masse is briefly hudled over. 1797 Mrs. Radcliffe *Italian* xi, [This] announced that the first Mass was begun. 1828 Scott *F. M. Perth* xx, Suitable masses said for the benefit of his soul. 1845 Ford *Handbk. Spain* I. 55 The Spaniards always, whenever they can, hear a mass.

2. In pre-Reformation use, the sacrament of the Eucharist; subsequently, the Eucharist as administered and doctrinally viewed by Roman Catholics.

c 1000 *Ælfric's Past. Ep.* xxi. in Thorpe *Laws* II. 376 Nu is seo mæsse..gemynd his [Drihtnes] mæran þrowunge. 13 .. *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* xlvi. 69 Þou lenest not in þe Mes, þat euer God þer in Is. *c* 1375 *Lay Folks Mass Bk.* (MS. B.) 2 Þo worthyest þing .. In al þis world, hit is þo messe. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 34 These men .. admonishing .. to put downe the Masse. 1563 Winjet *Four Scoir Thre Quest.* To Rdr., Wks. 1888 I. 56 The mayst blissit, feirfull, and haly sacrifice of the mes. 1635 Pagitt *Christianogr.* I. iii. (1636) 96 A true, Reall, Propitiatorie and unbloudie Sacrifice, under the name of the Masse. 1853 Marsden *Early Purit.* 28 Admitting a real presence in the mass.

b. The rite or form of liturgy used in the (pre-Reformation or Roman) celebration of the Eucharist.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxxix. (*Cosme & Damyane*) 1 Of haly messe in þe secre Syndry sanctis set we se. 1548–9 (Mar.) *Bk. Com. Prayer, Communion* (heading), The Svpper of the Lorde, and the holy Communion, commonly called the Masse. 1628 P. Smart *Van. Superst. Popish Cerem.* *ij b, The Author of this sermon telling him [Cosens] upon occasion the Masse is disallowed: hee replyed roundly: Will you deny that our Service is a Masse? 1634 Canne *Necess. Separ.* (1849) 85 The papists like well of the English mass (for so King James used to call it). 1879 T. F. Simmons *Lay Folks Mass Bk.* 352 The York use .. was in the main the ancient Gregorian mass, according to the Roman rite of the eighth century. 1883 J. S. Black in *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 509/2 The Statio ad S. Mariam Majorem [etc.] prefixed to most of the masses in the Gregorian Sacramentary.

¶ c. Shakspere's mention of *evening mass* is prob. due to ignorance or forgetfulness of the fact that mass was not (normally) celebrated in the evening. In ecclesiastical antiquities, however, the expression is a literal rendering of L. *missa vespertina*, where the sb. has the wider sense mentioned in the etymological note above.

1592 Shaks. *Rom. & Jul.* IV. i. 38 Are you at leisure, Holy Father now, Or shall I come to you at evening Masse? 1903 W. H. Hutton *Eng. Saints* iii. 122 It was Saturday night, and he [Columba] went to the chapel for the evening mass (as Adamnan still calls the night office).

d. Phr. †*Neither mass nor matins*: nothing of very serious import.

1528 Sir T. More *Dial. conc. Heresyes* I. xx. Wks. 145/2 Men say sometyme when they would saye or doo a thyng and cannot well come thereon..it maketh no matter they saye, ye maye beginne agayne and mende it, for it is nother masse nor mattyns.

3. With qualification denoting the ritual form or the intention of the service.

a. **High** (or **solemn** or †**great**) **mass,** mass celebrated with the assistance of deacon and subdeacon, with incense and music. (Also attrib. in *high mass time.*) **Low** (or †**little**) **mass,** mass said without note and with the minimum of ceremony. (Also ME. *swimesse*=silent mass.) **Mass of the day,** †(*a*) the first mass of the day (or 'morrow-mass'); (*b*) the mass which has its variable parts corresponding with the choir office of the day on which it is celebrated (opposed to *votive mass*). **Private mass,** (*a*) as rendering of *missa privata*, a term sometimes applied to a mass celebrated otherwise than in presence of a congregation, e.g., in a private oratory (also sometimes explained as = *low mass*); (*b*) by the Protestant controversialists of the 16th c. applied to a celebration at which the congregation, though present, were not allowed to communicate. **Dry mass** (L. *missa sicca*), a celebration without either consecration or communion.

b. In the titles of occasional masses, as *mass of the Trinity, of the Holy Ghost, of our Lady*, Mary-mass, Jesus *mass*, † *Apostle's mass* (at St. Paul's Cathedral).

c. See also *mass of the* Presanctified, *of* Requiem, Morrow-mass, Hunter's, Hunting *mass, red mass* (Red *a.* 19), †Soul-*mass*, Votive *mass.*

1154 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1125 He sang ðone heh messe on Eastren dæi. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 97 Prest hem seið atte swimesse turneð þe bred to fleis and þe win to blod. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Merch. T.* 650 Whan þat the heighe masse was ydoon. ?14.. in *Q. Eliz. Acad.* (1879) 34 Masse of our Lady. *Ibid.*, The second masse of the trynite. *Ibid.*, The third masse must bee of Requiem. *c* 1450 *Merlin* 97 Thei rounge to messe of the day. 1490 *Aberdeen Reg.* (1844) I. 46 At hie mestim. *c* 1550 Bale *K. Johan* (Camden) 41 Masse of the v wondes. 1556 *Chron. Gr. Friars* in *Monum. Franciscana* (Rolls) II. 220 A commandement from the councelle vn-to Powles that they shulde haue no more the Apostylle masse in the mornynge. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 15 After yᵗ all be comen together, they shal haue a messe of the holy Ghost. 1560 Becon *Catech.* v. Wks. 1564 I. 453 In times paste, before this deuelishe priuate masse brast in, the minister and the people together dyd receive the holy misteries of the body and bloud of Christ, and not the priest alone, as the manner is now. 1568 Grafton *Chron.* II. 309 After the thirde Agnus was sayde in time of a low Masse. 1770 Baretti *Journ. London to Genoa* II. 199 The Priest who celebrated the Great Mass this morning. 1898 C. Wordsworth *Mediæval Services* 22 The Mass of the day at the high altar. *Ibid.* 33 When the Bishop was performing a solemn Mass.

4. Qualified by the name of a saint, etc.: A feast day or festival. Survives as *-mas* in Candlemas, Childermas, Christmas, Lammas, Martinmas, Michaelmas; also *Allhallowmas(s, Ladymass*, Marymass.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* John vii. 2 Temples mæssa, *scenopegia.* *c* 1000 Ælfric *Gram.* (Z.) 43 *December*: se monoð onginð anum dæge æfter andreasmæssan. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 3391 (Kölbing) Sone after seyn Jones misse [*rime* lesse]. 1452 *Paston Lett.* I. 236 Be twixt this and Seynt Margretys messe. 1584 in Littlejohn *Aberd. Sheriff Court* (1904) Introd. 44 To Andirsmes Evin nixtocum.

5. A musical setting of those parts of the mass which are usually sung, viz. the Kyrie, Gloria, Credo, Benedictus, and Agnus.

1597 Morley *Introd. Mus.* 21 In the Tenor part of the Gloria of his Masse *Aue Maris stella.* 1667 Simpson *Compend. Pract. Mus.* 137 Masses, Hymns, Psalmes, Anthems.. &c. 1782 Burney *Hist. Mus.* II. 494 In every movement of Josquin's Mass, some part or other, but generally the Tenor, is singing the tune in different notes and measures. 1846 *Penny Cycl.* Suppl. s.v. *Palestrina*, His first work, consisting of four masses for four voices.

6. Used in oaths and asseverations: *by the mass*, mod. dial. *amess*, and simply *mass* (often *mess*).

c 1369 Chaucer *Dethe Blaunche* 928 By the masse I darste swere .. That [etc.]. 1526 Skelton *Magnyf.* 2201 By the messe, I shall clene thy heed to the waste. 1592 Kyd *Sol. & Pers.* II. i. 220 Mas, the foole sayes true. 1599 Shaks. *Hen. V*, III. ii. 122 By the Mes, ere theise eyes of mine take themselues to slomber, ayle de gud seruice. 1695 Congreve *Love for L.* III. vi, So, so, enough Father—Mess, I'd rather kiss these Gentlewomen. 1754 Richardson *Grandison* (1811) II. xxviii. 276 Pray, sir, do you withdraw, if you please. *Mr. Gr.* Not I, by the mass! 1756 Foote *Eng. fr. Paris* I. Wks. 1799 I. 98 Oh, a British child, by the mess. 1816 W. Irving in *Life & Lett.* (1864) I. 350 By the mass, I look back with .. much longing to her bounteous establishment. 1848 Kingsley *Saint's Trag.* I. ii, Mass! I had forgot.

7. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *mass-bread, church, -goer, music, -rite, -time, -vestment, -work*; objective, etc., as *mass-hearing, -hunter, -mumbler, -sayer, -saying, -seer, -singing*; *mass-borrowed, -like, -mumbling* adjs. Special combs.: **mass-bell,** (*a*) a bell that calls people to mass; (*b*) a bell that is rung during mass, a sacring-bell; † **mass-cake,** an opprobrious term for a wafer used in the mass; † **mass-closet,** a Roman Catholic chapel; † **mass clothes,** mass vestments; † **mass-cope,** a chasuble; † **mass-gear,** the instruments, etc. used in celebrating mass; † **mass-gospeller,** a protestant who (hypocritically) attends mass; † **mass-groat** = Mass-penny; **mass-hackle** (now *arch.*), a chasuble; † **mass-kiss** (ME. *messecos*), the kiss of peace at the mass; **mass-money,** (*a*) offerings of money made at mass; (*b*) money paid to a priest for saying mass; † **mass-reaf,** mass-vestments; † **mass-song,** the singing or celebration of mass; † **mass-while,** the hour for celebrating mass. Also Mass-book to Mass-priest.

14.. in *Rel. Ant.* I. 61 Quhan I rynge the *messe belle. 1863 Longf. *Wayside Inn, Saga K. Olaf* XI. viii, The mass-bells tinkled. 1642 Milton *Apol. Smect.* Wks. 1851 III. 290 Scandalous ceremonies and *masse-borrow'd Liturgies. 1473 *Acc. Ld. Treas. Scott.* (1877) I. 64 Item for *mess bred for the hale 3ere. 1579 Fulke *Heskins's Parl.* 78 Their whole *Masse cakes. *a* 1555 Bradford *Hurt of hearing Mass* (Copland) C vj, As though the *masse church were yᵉ catholyke churche. 1656 Hevlin *Surv. France* 92 Little Chappels, or *Masse-closets. *c* 1440 *Alph. Tales* 144 He.. did on his *mes clothis & stude att þe altar befor þe bisshopp. 13.. *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* xxxvii. 773 Cum whon he [þe prest] doþ of his *masse-cope. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 188 The caliz, and the pateyn ok, The *messegere. 1843 Borrow *Bible in Spain* xlvi, Antonio, though by no means a *mass-goer [etc.]. *a* 1555 Bradford *Hurt of hearing Mass* (Copland) C vij, Suche be popyshe protestauntes, *masse gospellers, or, as they woulde be called, bodelye massemongers and spirytuall gospellers. 1550 Bale *Engl. Votaries* II. 1 iij, Of them that gaue aulter clothes .. *masse grotes and trentals. *c* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* an. 963 (Laud MS.) Min *messe hacel, & min stol, & min ræf. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 163 De meshakele is of medeme fustane. 1842 Sir H. Taylor *Edwin the Fair* I. viii, This shaveling's meagre face, With his mass-hackle and his reef and stole. *c* 1425 Audelay *XI Pains of Hell* 86 in *O. E. Misc.* 213 [Pai] let oþer men of *mas hereng. *a* 1555 Bradford *Hurt of hearing Mass* (Copland) C vj, They that are *masse hunters. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 91 Tocne of sehtnesse, þat is *messe cos. *c* 1300 *Beket* 1779 He nolde cusse massecos to cusse Seint Thomas. 1637–50 Row *Hist. Kirk* (Wodrow Soc.) 394 The Communion is discharged to be before the pulpit.. (for that were not so *Masse-lyke). 1664 H. More *Myst. Iniq.* 431 *Mass-money, Oblations to Saints and their Images, and the like. 1897 *Daily News* 18 Nov. 6/1 For the purpose of earning mass money men are ordained at the earliest possible age. 1543 Bale *Yet a Course*, etc. 88 b, *Masse momblers, holye water swyngers [etc.]. 1566 *Pasquine in a Traunce* 106 b, So many thousand of *Masse-mombling priestes. 1835 *Court Mag.* VI. 24/2 The accompaniments to the songs and the *mass music. *a* 1000 *Canons of Edgar* c. 33 in Thorpe *Laws* II. 250 Dæt ælc preost hæbbe .. eal *mæssereaf wurðlice behworfen. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 215 Boc oðer belle, calch oðer messe-ref. 1803 Scott *Eve of St. John* 91 He who says the *mass-rite for the soul of that knight. 1554 Bradford *Let.* Wks. (Parker Soc.) I. 393 Then these *mass-sayers and seers shall shake. *c* 1440 *Alph. Tales* 442 And so þe bisshopp was truhlid herewith, & lefte his *mes-saying. 1546 Bale *Eng. Votaries* I. (1548) 31 For the fyrst .iii. [considerations] a prest ought not, he sayth, to abstayne from his masse sayenge. 1554 *Mass seer [see quot. for mass-sayer]. 1340 Hampole *Pr. Consc.* 3702 þat *mes syngyng May titest þe saul out of payn bryng. 1553 Becon *Reliques of Rome* (1563) 198 b, In Masse singyng, in almosse geuing. *a* 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* I. xxvi. (Schipper) 58 On þysse cyricean ærest þa halgan lareowas ongunnan .. *mæssesong don. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2466 Elmesse-gifte, and messe-song. 1530 Palsgr. 804/2 At *masse tyme. 1879 T. F. Simmons *Lay Folks Mass Bk.* 335 *note*, The full *mass-vestment of the priest. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 1097 3e schal lenge in your lofte .. To morn quyle þe *messe-quyle. 1840 Carlyle *Heroes* (1858) 282 Fasts, vigils, formalities and *mass-work.

Mass (mæs), *sb.*[2] Also 5, 7 **mase,** 5–8 **masse.** [a. F. *masse* (recorded from 11th c.), ad. L. *massa*, prob. (as ancient grammarians believed) a. Gr. *μᾶζα* barley-cake, perh. cogn. w. Gr. *μάσσειν* to knead :—**maky-* :—pre-Hellenic **mnqy-*, f. root **mnq-*, *menq-*; cf. Lith. *minkyti* to knead.]

1. A coherent body of plastic or fusible matter (as dough, clay, metal), not yet moulded or fashioned into objects of definite shape; a lump of raw material for moulding, casting, sculpture, etc. Now merged in sense 2. *In* (*the*) *mass*: said of metal in the form of masses or lumps.

c 1400 Maundev. (1839) xiv. 158 Men synden .. hard Dyamandes in a Masse, that cometh out of Gold, whan men puren it..out of the Myne. 1582 N. Lichefield tr. *Castanheda's Conq. E. Ind.* I. xxxiii. 80 Two Masses of siluer. 1611 Bible *Ecclus.* xxii. 15 Sand, and salt, and a masse of of yron is easier to beare then a man without vnderstanding. 1630 Prynne *Anti-Armin.* 166 Out of the same masse are made vessels of mercy. *a* 1789 Congreve tr. *Ovid's Art of Love* III. Wks. 1730 III. 307 Myro's Statues, which for Art surpass All others, once were but a shapeless Mass.

† b. Metal, esp. gold or silver, in the lump.

1477 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 184/2 Nor Plate, Vessell, Masse, Bullion, nor Juelx of Gold. 1555 W. Watreman *Fardle Facions* II. i. 115 Limall of golde in greate plentie, Whiche they .. do neuer fine into masse. 1597 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* v. lxxix. § 5 Of Gold in Masse eight thousand .. Cichars. 1601 Holland *Pliny* I. 46 Brasse and lead in the masse or lumpe, sinke downe, .. but if they be driuen out into thin plates, they flote.

c. An amorphous quantity of material used in or remaining after a chemical or other operation; in *Pharmacy*, the compound or other substance from which pills are made.

1562 Eden *Let.* in *1st Eng. Bks. Amer.* (Arb.) Introd. 44/1, I stilled of the water from the masse or Chaos lefte of them bothe. 1643 J. Steer tr. *Exp. Chyrurg.* xiii. 51 With *Syrup. Rosar. lenit.*, make a Masse of Pill. 1666 Boyle *Orig. Formes & Qual.* 329 The remaining Masse would be .. of an Alkalizate nature. 1756 C. Lucas *Ess. Waters* I. 122 The best method is to wash the whole mass carefully. 1809 *Med. Jrnl.* XXI. 351 A compact mass produced in an operation, which weighs nearly 100 grains. 1880 Garrod & Baxter *Mat. Med.* 196 One grain of opium is contained in five grains of the pill-mass.

† d. A kind of matter capable of being fashioned; a plastic substance. *Obs.*

1471 Ripley *Comp. Alch.* Pref. in Ashm. (1652) 123 As of one Mase was made all thyng. 1596 Spenser *F. Q.* IV. x. 39 The Goddesse selfe did stand Upon an altar of some costly masse. 1700 Dryden *Sig. & Guis.* 502 When the world began, One common mass composed the mould of man.

2. In wider sense: A body of coherent and (really or apparently) ponderous matter of relatively large bulk; a solid physical object filling a great amount of space. In modern *Physics*, often contrasted with *molecule* or *atom.*

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 328/2 Masse, or gobet of mete, or other lyke, *massa.* *a* 1547 Surrey *Æneid* II. (1557) A iv, Wherto was wrought the masse of this huge horse? 1581 Savile *Tacitus' Agricola* (1604) 188 A deepe masse of continuall sea is slower sturred to rage. 1692 Bentley *Boyle*

Lect. vii. 247 Those Atoms would there form one huge sphærical Mass. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* I. xi, Round many an insulated mass, The native bulwarks of the pass. 1842–3 GROVE *Corr. Phys. Forces* 73 When the magnet as a mass is in motion. 1849 JAMES *Woodman* i, A large gray, indistinct mass stretched all along from east to west. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. ii. 21 Adjacent to us rose the mighty mass of the Finsteraarhorn. *Ibid.* II. xix. 329 What is true for masses is also true for atoms.

† **b.** applied to the created universe or the earth. 1587 GOLDING *De Mornay* iii. (1617) 33 When hee had layd the foundations of this goodly Masse. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* III. iv. 49 Yea this solidity and compound masse,..Is thought-sicke at the act. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* IV. 324 God the whole created Mass inspires.

† **c.** *Phys.* The whole quantity of blood or fluid dispersed through an animal body. *Obs.*

1693 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Massa*, all the Blood is commonly called the Mass of Blood. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 16 That the Misty Vapours might not hinder the kind operation begun on their tainted Mass of Blood. 1731 ARBUTHNOT *Nat. Aliments* (1735) 175 If there is not a sufficient Quantity of Blood..to subdue it, it [acid] may infect the whole Mass of the Fluids. 1732 LAW *Serious C.* xi. 178 Poison..corrupts the whole mass of blood.

d. *Mining.* (See quots.)

1855 J. R. LEIFCHILD *Cornwall Mines* 83 *Masses* are sometimes termed *pipe-veins* by miners... The best conception that can be formed of them is, that of an irregular branching cavity, descending either vertically or obliquely into the rock, and filled up with metalliferous matter. 1883 C. LE N. FOSTER in *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 441/2 Masses. These are deposits of mineral, often of irregular shapes, which cannot be distinctly recognized as beds or veins.

3. A dense aggregation of objects apparently forming a continuous body.

1609 BIBLE (Douay) *1 Sam.* xxv. 18 Two hundred masses [Vulg. *massas*] of drie figges. 1660 F. BROOKE tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 15 The Mosca or Temple of Meka is a masse of stones built round. 1716 ADDISON *Freeholder* No. 26 ¶ 4 Such a beautiful mass of colours. 1776 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (1796) II. 503 The whole mass of seeds upon the fruitstalk. 1866 *Treas. Bot.*, *Masses.* Collections of anything in unusual quantity; as, for example, pollen-masses, which are unusual collections of pollen. 1875 BUCKLAND *Log-bk.* 90 One solid mass of living cod. 1880 OUIDA *Moths* II. 32 There were masses of camellias and azaleas. 1884 BOWER & SCOTT *De Bary's Phaner.* 361 A many-layered mass of sclerenchymatous fibres.

4. *transf.* and *fig.* (from senses 2 and 3).

a. A large quantity, amount, or number (either of material or immaterial things); often with the notion of oppressive or bewildering abundance.

1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* II. vi. 36 b, The whole masse .. may amount too about 150. caces. 1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* II. iii. 289, I remember a masse of things, but nothing distinctly. 1626 T. H[AWKINS] *Caussin's Holy Crt.* 71 The children of rich men become drouthy amongst a masse of fountaynes. 1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 227 In the Silver-Mines, which were discovered in Potosie .. hath beene found so huge a masse of Bullion, that [etc.]. 1647 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* I. § 4 Like so many atoms contributing jointly to this mass of confusion now before us. 1650 FULLER *Pisgah* 396 Of this last [*viz.* salt] a mass was spent in the Temple. 1772 *Junius Lett.* lxviii. (1820) 353 Taking the whole of it together..it constitutes a mass of demonstration .. complete .. to the human mind. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* vi. II. 110 A mass of near twenty thousand pages. 1855 *Ibid.* xi. III. 87 They removed a vast mass of evil without shocking a vast mass of prejudice. 1865 TYLOR *Early Hist. Man.* I. 13 Any one who collects and groups a mass of evidence. 1879 RUSKIN *Arrows of Chace* (1880) II. 206 There is a mass of letters on my table this morning.

† **b.** *spec.* of money, treasure, etc. Also *absol.*, a sum of money, a stock or fund. In *Gaming* (*rare*—⁰, after F. *masse*), the amount of a person's stake. *Obs.*

1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 37 By reason whereof he gathered a great masse of money. 1577 HELLOWES *Gueuara's Chron.* 89 The officers of the treasurie, that is to saye, suche as had the collection and keeping of the masse of Rome. 1592 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* VII. xxxiv. (1612) 166 And he for Masses great was brib'de Earle Henry to betray. 1593 SHAKS. *2 Hen. VI*, I. iii. 134 Thy sumptuous Buildings,.. Haue cost a masse of publique Treasurie. 1622 BACON *Hen. VII* 159 Hauing alreadie made ouer great Masses of the Treasure of our Crowne. 1650 FULLER *Pisgah* IV. iv. 65 Carefully keeping their money for them, till it amounted to a mass. 1727 BOYER *Fr. Dict.*, *Masse* (fonds d'une Hérédité ou d'une Société), Mass, or Stock. *Ibid.*, *Masse*, (en Termes de jeu de hazard) the Mass, at Play.

c. used *hyperbolically*, esp. in phrase *To be a* (or *one*) *mass of* (e.g. bruises, faults, mistakes, etc.).

1616 B. JONSON *Devil an Ass* IV. iii, I am a woman .. match'd to a mass of folly. 1623 GOUGE *Serm. Extent God's Provid.* § 15 Papists..whose doctrine is a masse of ancient heresies. 1845 MARRYAT 5 Apr. *Life & Lett.* (1872) II. 197 The country is really, without exaggeration, one mass of violets. 1867 SMILES *Huguenot's Eng.* i. (1880) 2 The Church itself was seen to be a mass of abuses.

d. applied to an extensive unbroken expanse (of colour, light, shadow, etc.): Also, in *Fine Art*, one of the several main portions which the eye distinguishes in a composition, each characterized by a certain degree of unity in colour or lighting throughout its parts.

1662 EVELYN *Chalcogr.* V. 120 There are some parts in them commonly to be distinguished from the Mass in gross; for example, the hairs in men, eyes, teeth, nails, &c., that as one would conceive such lines, or hatches on those masses, others may likewise be as well fanci'd upon those lesser, and more delicate members. 1695 DRYDEN *Dufresnoy's Art Paint.* 141 This he did .. by making the Masses of the Lights and Shadows, greater and more disentangl'd. 1710 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* II, *Masses*, in Painting, are the large parts of a Picture containing the great Lights and Shadows. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XIII. 609/1 Some technical knowledge of the effect producible by *masses* of light and shade. 1843 RUSKIN *Mod. Paint.* I. II. II. v. § 10 The *masses* which result from right concords and relations of details are sublime and impressive; but the *masses* which result from the eclipse of details are contemptible and painful. 1875 MCLAREN *Serm.* Ser. II. x. 173 All striped with solid masses of blackness. 1895 ZANGWILL *Master* II. i. 121 The occasional fineness of line, the masterly distribution of masses.

e. A volume or body of sound; in *Music* used esp. of the effect of a large number of instruments or voices of the same character.

1879 STAINER *Music of Bible* 174 The grand musical results of harps..and other simple instruments, when used in large numbers simultaneously or in alternating masses.

† **f.** ? Something burdensome; a grief. *Obs. rare.*

1592 WYRLEY *Armorie* 144 It is a world to marke the iollitie Of seamen floting in the liquid sea...A masse it is to note his miserie When raging tempests bustle on the flood.

5. Of human beings: A large number collected in a narrow space; a compact body. Also, a multitude of persons mentally viewed as forming an aggregate in which their individuality is lost.

1713 BERKELEY *Guardian* No. 83 ¶ 1 The whole mass of mankind. 1814 SCOTT *Wav.* xlvii, Their extended files were pierced .. in many places by the close masses of the clans. 1848 W. H. KELLY tr. *L. Blanc's Hist. Ten Y.* I. 134 The king..sent him orders..to concentrate the troops round the Tuileries, and to act with masses. 1860 EMERSON *Cond. Life* vii. (1861) 145 Away with this hurrah of masses, and let us have the considerate vote of single men. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* iv. § 1. 155 The unconquered Britons had sunk into a mass of savage herdsmen.

b. *Mil.* A formation of troops in which the battalions, etc. are arranged one behind another. Opposed to *line.*

1889 *Infantry Drill* 165 A Mass wheeling into Line of Quarter Columns. .. A Line of Quarter Columns wheeling into Mass.

6. *The* (*great*) *mass of*: the greater part or majority of.

1625 BACON *Ess.*, *Vicissitude of Things* (Arb.) 571 Comets ..haue..Power..ouer the Gross and Masse of Things. 1711 SWIFT *Contests Athens & Rome* v. Wks. 1751 IV. 61 The mass of the people have opened their Eyes. 1806 JEFFERSON *6th Ann. Message* Writ. 1854 VIII. 68 The great mass of the articles on which impost is paid is foreign luxuries. 1863 H. COX *Institit.* I. viii. 107 The great mass of the people had no part in the election of representatives. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) III. 158 We cannot expect the mass of mankind to become disinterested.

b. *The mass*: the generality of mankind; the main body of a race or nation.

1675 BAXTER *Cath. Theol.* I. I. 65 The Corrupted Mass simply considered was the object of no one of all these graces. 1845 BROWNING *Luria* v, Those who live as models for the mass. 1848 LOWELL *Biglow Papers* Ser. I. v, The mass ough' to labour an' we lay on soffies. 1875 WHITNEY *Life Lang.* ix. 159 The language of the mass goes on changing unchecked.

c. *The masses*: the populace or 'lower orders'. The now current antithesis with 'the classes' seems to have been first used by Gladstone in 1886.

1837 MOORE *Mem.* (1856) VII. 174 One of the few proofs of good Taste that 'the masses', as they are called, have yet given. 1863 W. PHILLIPS *Speeches* vi. 139 The masses are governed more by impulse than conviction. 1887 M. ARNOLD *Kaiser Dead* vii, Since 'gainst the classes, He heard, of late, the Grand Old Man Incite the masses.

7. † **a.** *In mass* = EN MASSE, bodily, all at once.

1798 ANNA SEWARD *Lett.* (1811) V. 133 Our nation has almost risen in mass. 1807 SOUTHEY *Espriella's Lett.* I. 179 The levy in mass, the telegraph, and the income tax are all from France. 1869 F. W. NEWMAN *Misc.* 78 To adopt their superstitions in mass.

b. *In the mass*: without distinction of component parts or individuals; in the aggregate.

c 1820 S. ROGERS *Italy*, *Nat. Prej.* (1834) 149 We condemn millions in the mass as vindictive. 1832 HT. MARTINEAU *Hill & Valley* v. 75 We speak of society as one thing, and regard men in the mass.

c. *In a mass*: in a lump sum.

1845 MARRYAT *Let. to Forster* in *Life & Lett.* (1872) II. 196 They have .. become a little income to me; which I infinitely prefer to receiving any sum in a mass.

8. *abstr.* **a.** Solid bulk, massiveness.

1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* IV. iv. 47 This army of such mass and charge Led by a delicate and tender prince. 1606 — *Tr. & Cr.* I. iii. 29 But in the Winde and Tempest of her frowne, Distinction .. winnowes the light away; And what hath masse, or matter by it selfe, Lies rich in Vertue, and vnmingled. 1757 J. H. GROSE *Voy. E. Indies* 245 When exasperated by wounds, to which their mass makes them [*sc.* elephants in war] a mark hard to miss. 1856 KANE *Arct. Expl.* II. xxiii. 225 Gathering mass as it travelled.

b *Physics.* The quantity of matter which a body contains; in strict use distinguished from *weight*, though the two terms are often used indiscriminately. *Centre of mass*: see CENTRE *sb.* 16.

1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Masse*, this Word is used by the Natural Philosophers to express the Quantity of Matter in any Body. 1812–16 PLAYFAIR *Nat. Phil.* (1819) II. 283 The mass of the Comet..cannot have been $\frac{1}{300}$th of the mass of the Earth. 1868 LOCKYER *Guillemin's Heavens* (ed. 3) 25 The mass of the Sun alone however is equal to 750 times the united masses of all the bodies which it maintains in its sphere of attraction. 1876 TAIT *Rec. Adv. Phys. Sci.* (1885) 357 When you buy a pound of tea you buy a quantity of the matter called tea equal in mass to the standard pound of platinum. 1893 SIR R. BALL *Story of Sun* 97 What the periodic time of the Moon would have been if our satellite had been devoid of mass.

¶ **9.** Used for med.L. *massa*, a holding of land.

1854 MILMAN *Lat. Chr.* I. 443 *note*, One mass or farm had been compelled .. to pay double rent.

10. *attrib.* and *Comb.* **a.** *Arch.* 'Arranged in large masses', as *mass-pier.* **b.** *Mil.*, etc. 'Involving masses of people', as *mass drill, vote.* **c.** *Physics*, as *mass-attraction, -brightness, -moment.* **d.** Special comb.: mass-area *Physics* (see quot.); mass-copper, 'native copper, occurring in large masses' (Raymond *Mining Gloss.* 1881); mass meeting (see quot. 1847–54: orig. *U.S.*); mass-resistivity, -vector *Physics* (see quots.).

1876 MAXWELL *Matter & Motion* lxviii. 56 When a material particle moves from one point to another, twice the area swept out by the vector of the particle multiplied by the mass of the particle is called the *mass-area of the displacement of the particle with respect to the origin from which the vector is drawn. 1903 AGNES CLERKE *Problems in Astrophysics* 3 The universality of an apparent *mass-attraction was a great fact. 1890 — *Syst. Stars* 209 The '*mass-brightness' of these objects is twelve times that of the sun. 1896 *Daily News* 25 Nov. 3/7 All these smart little children were doing a *mass drill. 1847–54 WEBSTER, **Mass-meeting*, a large assembly of the people to be addressed on some public occasion, usually political. *U. States.* 1855 MOTLEY *Dutch Rep.* (1861) I. 23 Those tumultuous mass-meetings. 1882 MINCHIN *Unipl. Kinemat.* 108 The theorem of *mass-moments, which expresses the distance of the centre of mass of any body .. from a plane, in terms of the masses of the constituent particles and their several distances from the plane. 1848 B. WEBB *Continent. Ecclesiol.* 253 There are *mass-piers below those of the upper church. 1902 J. J. THOMSON in *Encycl. Brit.* XXVIII. 5/1 We may express the resistivity [of a metal] by stating the resistance in ohms offered by a wire of the material in uniform cross-section, one metre in length, and one gramme in weight. This numerical measure of the resistivity is called the **Mass-Resistivity.* 1876 MAXWELL *Matter & Motion* lix. 50 Let us define a *mass-vector as the operation of carrying a given mass from the origin to the given point. The direction of the *mass*-vector is the same as that of the vector of the mass, but its magnitude is the product of the mass into the vector of the mass. 1887 *Spectator* 24 Sept. 1265 A *mass vote of the people.

† **Mass,** *sb.*[3] *Obs.* [a. Du. *maas.*] A mesh.

1641 S. SMITH *Herring Buss Trade* 3 Four Deepings of 70 Masses apiece, makes a Net.

Mass (mæs), *v.*[1] Now *rare* or *Obs.* Forms: 1 mæssian, 3 messe, massi, 5 massy, 6–7 masse, 6– mass. [OE. *mæssian*, f. *mæsse* MASS *sb.*[1]]

1. *intr.* To celebrate mass; to say or sing mass. (From 16th c. used derisively.) † Also *to mass it* and with cognate obj.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Saints' Lives* (1900) II. 276 He..eode to cyrcan and sona mæssode. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 268 Ase ofte ase þe preost messeð & sacreð þet meidenes bearn, Jesu. *c* 1290 *St. Michael* 129 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 303 Swane huy a-rereth anie churche, to massi Inne. 1453 in *Trevelyan P.* (Camden) 84 Item, the chaplan, and all his successours, shall attend ..unto ten of the clocke, and then massy. 1546 BALE *Eng. Votaries* I. (1550) 60 b, He massed without consecracion, he gaue holye orders in hys stable [etc.]. 1562 *Answ. Apol. Priv. Mass* iii. 19 In one churche ye shal haue at one time .vii. or .viii. massing in sundry corners. 1570 *Durham Depos.* (Surtees) 157 He .. came to Robert Peirson..being redy to go to masse, and said to hym 'Do you masse this?' And he.. said, 'Ye'. 1624 BP. MOUNTAGU *Gagg* 57 Your morrow Massmungers when they masse it alone. 1677 W. HUGHES *Man of Sin* II. ii. 219 He [Silvester II.] perceived his death whilst he was Massing. 1851 S. WILBERFORCE *Lett.* in R. S. Wilberforce *Life* (1881) II. iv. 124 What blind belief in a priest massing for them!

† **2.** To hear mass. *Obs. rare.*

c 1770 J. GRANGER *Lett.* (1805) II. 70 Chapel so contrived that men and women may mass, and not see one another.

3. *trans.* in occasional uses: To subject to the operation of the mass; to pass *away* (time) at mass.

1546 BALE *Eng. Votaries* I. (1560) 92 b, They are .. Mattensed, Massed, Candeled, Lighted, Processioned, .. Perfumed and worshypped. 1784 R. BAGE *Barham Downs* II. 89 And I find the ancient might sacrifice, and the modern Mass away a dozen hours per diem in all holiness.

Mass (mæs), *v.*[2] Also (? 4 mace), 7 masse. [a. F. *masser* (from 13th c.), f. *masse* MASS *sb.*[2]]

1. *trans.* To form or gather into a mass; to collect, arrange, or bring together in masses. † Also with *up*, to heap up, to amass.

The first quot. is doubtful: the word may be miswritten for *y-maked.*

c 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 3326 Her with-inne ys gold y-maced faste to cast out day & nyȝt. 1604 T. WRIGHT *Passions* VI. 343 When the rich man hath massed vp his treasures. 1622 MABBE tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* I. 206 If thou aske these men, why they masse vp money. 1820 SHELLEY *Sensit. Pl.* III. 33 Indian plants .. Leaf after leaf, day after day Were massed into the common clay. 1827 STEUART *Planter's G.* (1828) 513 The style, in which the removed are mixed and massed up with the older Trees. 1849 M. ARNOLD *To Gipsy Child* 4 Who mass'd, round that slight brow, these clouds of doom? 1898 *Rev. Brit. Pharm.* 27 The whole being mixed and massed with kaolin 115 gr.

b. *Painting.*

1753 HOGARTH *Anal. Beauty* xiii. 112 Painters .. divide theirs [*sc.* compositions] into fore-ground, middle-ground, and distance or back-ground; which simple and distinct quantities *mass* together that variety which entertains the eye. 1843 RUSKIN *Mod. Paint.* I. II. II. v. § 18 It is impossible to go too finely, or think too much about details in landscape, so that they be rightly arranged and rightly massed.

c. *Mil.*; also, to 'concentrate' (troops) in a particular place.

1861 MUSGRAVE *By-roads* 305 Instead of dispersing their force in brigades..they massed them in phalanx form. 1878

Bosw. Smith *Carthage* 116 His infantry he masses much more closely together and in much deeper formations than was common among the Romans. 1885 *Manch. Examiner* 10 Nov. 4/6 Austria is massing troops in Herzegovina.

d. Law. *To mass an estate*: see quot.

1896 H. H. Juta *Selection of Leading Cases* II. 111 The language of the Privy Council in clause (a) [viz. the mutual will disposes of the joint property on the death of the survivor, or, as it is sometimes expressed, where the property is consolidated into one mass for the purpose of a joint disposition of it] has given rise to the expression 'massing of an estate'. *Ibid.*, By the mutual will in that case only part of the joint estate was 'massed'.

† **2.** ? To occupy with a mass of soldiers. *Obs.*

a 1627 Hayward *Edw. VI* (1630) 108 They feared least .. the French might..either with filling or massing the house, or else by fortifying make such a piece as might annoy the haven.

3. *refl.* and *intr.* To collect, assemble, or come together in masses.

1563 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 248 The Clangregour .. hes massit thame selfis in greit cumpanyis bot als [etc.]. 1861 Tulloch *Eng. Purit.* ii. 282 His reasonings run in great lines, or mass in blocks of system. 1869 Ruskin *Q. of Air* § 16 But all these virtues mass themselves in the Greek mind into the two main ones. 1879 Stevenson *Trav. Cevennes* 74 The weather had somewhat lightened, and the clouds massed in squadron. 1892 W. Pike *North. Canada* 45 The great bands of caribou..mass up on the edge of the woods.

Mass, obs. form of Mace *sb.*[1]

Massa (mæ·sə). Also written **Mas'r.** A negro corruption of *master.*

1774 Foote *Cozeners* III. Wks. 1799 II. 190 Who opened the window?..Little massa. 1852 Mrs. Stowe *Uncle Tom's C.* vi, 'Lord bless us, Mas'r', said Sam. 1881 R. M. Ballantyne *Giant of North* v, What am it, massa? Why, it am a bit o' salt pork.

Massa-bowl. [app. f. G. *masse* (= Mass *sb.*[2]) in the sense of 'paste' for porcelain, pottery, etc.] A pipe-bowl made from the waste parings of meerschaum.

1858 Homans *Cycl. Comm.* 1533/1 The kind of meerschaum bowls called *massa-bowls.*

Massache, obs. form of Message *sb.*

† **Massacote.** *Obs.* [a. Sp. *mazacote*: see Massicot.] = Barilla 2 a.

1622 Malynes *Anc. Law-Merch.* 275 The stuffe called Soda Bariglia, or Massacote whereof Glasses are made.

Massacre (mæ·säkəɹ), *sb.* Also 6 **massachre, -aquer,** 7 **mas(s)aker, massacker, -cher, massacry,** 8 (9 *illiterate*) **massacree.** [a. F. *massacre* masc., in OF. *maçacre, machacre, macecle, mececle* shambles, slaughter-house (whence *maceclier*, AF. *macegrier* butcher: see Macegriefs), also, butchery, slaughter; in the latter sense latinized in the 13th c. *mazacrium, masacrium.*

Spenser stresses *massa'cre*, Shaks. and Marlowe *ma'ssacre.* The origin of the OF. word is unknown; Diez suggested derivation from a Teut. source, comparing LG. *matsken* (18th c.) to hack to pieces, but this word is itself of Rom. etymology. The forms *macecle* synon. with L. *macellum*, and *maceclier* with *macellarius*, suggest the possibility of these being corrupted adoptions from monastic Latin.]

1. The unnecessary indiscriminate killing of human beings; a general slaughter, carnage, butchery; also occas. the wholesale killing of wild animals.

1586 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* I. 718 There is no corner of this kingdome where the people..have not committed infinite and cruell massacres. 1588 Shaks. *Tit. A.* v. i. 63, I must talke of Murthers, Rapes, and Massacres. 1590 Webbe *Trav.* (Arb.) 23 How the women of ye towne did plie themselues with their weapons, making a great massacre vpon our men. 1611 Bible 1 *Macc.* i. 24 Hauing made a great massacre. 1624 Capt. Smith *Virginia* 143 They made a massacre of Deere and Hogges. 1655 Milton (*title of Sonnet*) On the late Massacher in Piemont. 1688 R. Holme *Armoury* III. 271/1 She went down into Egypt from Herods Bloody Massacry. 1774 Fletcher *Hist. Ess.* Wks. 1795 IV. 15 The horrible massacres of Catholics. 1843 Borrow *Bible in Spain* xxxvi, Plunder and massacre had been expected. 1897 Gladstone *E. Crisis* 4 They are treading on the burning cinders of the Armenian massacres.

b. In appellations of certain historic massacres. *Massacre of St. Bartholomew* (earlier often † *m. of Paris*): the massacre of the Huguenots of France on the 24th of August 1572. *M. of Glencoe*: the massacre of the Macdonalds of Glencoe on February 13th 1692 by their enemies the Campbells, acting under an authority obtained from William III. *M. of the Innocents*: see Innocent B. 2.

[*c* 1592 Marlowe (*title*) The Massacre at Paris.] 1617 Moryson *Itin.* I. 131, I wondred to see the Massacre of Paris painted vpon the wall. *a* 1715 Burnet *Own Time* (1734) II. 156 The Massacre in Glencoe made still a great noise. *Ibid.* 157 The Report of the Massacre of Glencoe was made in full Parliament. 1756–7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) II. 394 A Venus, by Titian; the massacre of the Innocents, Susanna, and Galatea, by Lanfranchi. 1833 L. Ritchie *Wand. by Loire* 187 The massacre of Saint Bartholomew did not take place here [at Nantes].

c. *fig.*

1595 Spenser *Amoretti* x, See how the Tyrannesse doth ioy to see The huge massacres which her eyes do make. 1608 Armin *Nest Ninn.* (1842) 29 The maydes..finding such a masaker of their dairie,..thought a yeere's wages could not make amends. 1748 Johnson *Van. Hum. Wishes* 22 The knowing and the bold Fell in the gen'ral massacre of gold.

† **2.** A cruel or peculiarly atrocious murder. *Obs.*

1589 Greene *Sp. Masquerado* E 1 b, He..caused..some to be torne with horses, some to haue their handes cut off, and so many sundry Massaquers as greeueth any good minde to report. 1594 Shaks. *Rich. III*, IV. iii. 2 *Tyr.* The tyrannous and bloodie Act is done, The most arch deed of pittious massacre That euer yet this land was guilty of. 1608 D. T[uvil.] *Ess. Pol. & Mor.* 43 b, Nor was the massacre of this his warlike sonne the period of his furie.

3. *Her.* 'A pair of antlers or attires attached to a piece of the skull, used as a bearing' (*Cent. Dict.* 1890). [Fr. *massacre.*]

[1722 Nisbet *Syst. Heraldry* I. 338 The French use the Word Massacree, for a Head Caboched.]

Massacre (mæ·säkəɹ), *v.* Also 7 **masakre, massacar, massacher,** 8 (9 *illiterate*) **massacree,** 9 *Sc.* **mashacker.** [a. F. *massacrer*, f. *massacre*: see prec.]

1. *trans.* To kill indiscriminately (a number of human beings, or occas. animals); to make a general slaughter or carnage of. Also occas. *absol.*

1581 Savile *Tacitus' Hist.* (1612) 180 The cohort was massacred by the fraude of the Agrippinenses. 1588 Shaks. *Tit. A.* I. i. 450. *c* 1592 Marlowe *Massacre Paris* I. v, These are the Guisians, That seeke to massacre our guiltles liues. 1606 G. W[oodcocke] *Hist. Iustine* VIII. 39 When men of warre run massacaring vp and down in euery corner of a city. 1670 Milton *Hist. Eng.* VI. Wks. 1851 V. 245 He caus'd the Danes all over England..in one day perfidiously to be massacherd, both Men, Women, and Childern. *a* 1715 Burnet *Own Time* (1724) I. 502 To bring over a French army and to massacre all the English. 1727 C. Colden *Hist. Five Ind. Nations* 83 Your Warriors..have Massacreed Men, Women and Children. 1809 Scott *Poacher* 102 Grouse or partridge massacred in March. 1855 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xvi. III. 650 They were..always forming plans for massacring their tyrants.

fig. 1601 Dent *Pathw. Heaven* 330 Satan doth continually..massacre innumerable soules.

2. To murder cruelly or violently. † Also *refl.* to lay violent hands upon oneself.

1601 Holland *Pliny* II. 500 Harmodius and Aristogiton, massacring the tyrant Pisistratus. 1606 — *Sueton.* Annot. 8 Caesar..was masakred with 23. wounds. 1621 Burton *Anat. Mel.* I. ii. iv. vi. (1651) 160 Two brothers of Lovain ..in a discontented humour massacred themselves. 1661 *Virginia Stat.* (1823) II. 24 That execrable power that soe bloodyly massacred the late king Charles the first. 1834 James *J. Marston Hall* viii, That he would be massacred the moment he showed his face amongst the infuriated mob. 1881 Shorthouse *J. Inglesant* II. xviii, But that his coach was resolutely defended..he would have been massacred by the furious mob.

fig. 1880 Ruskin *Arrows of Chace* (1880) II. 280, I heard *William Tell* entirely massacred at the great opera house.

† **3.** To mutilate, mangle. *Obs.*

1589 *Hay any Work* 19 That the magistrate may lawfully cut off the members of Christ from his body, and so may lawfully massacre the body. 1651 tr. *De-las-Coveras' Don Feuise* 303 The shame of seeing my face massacred by his rash hands. [1818 Scott *Hrt. Midl.* xvii, Her throat's nair misguggled and mashackered.]

Hence **Ma'ssacred, Ma'ssacring** *ppl. adjs.*

1590 Spenser *F. Q.* III. iii. 35 And Bangor with massacred Martyrs fill. 1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 10/2 The fracture is soe greate, with such a huge quantitye of massacred and crushed bones. 1738 Neal *Hist. Purit.* IV. 561 Imagining the massacring knife to be at their throats.

Massacrer (mæ·säkəɹəɹ). [f. Massacre *v.* + -er[1].] One who massacres.

1581 Mulcaster *Positions* iv. (1887) 20 To[o] much moisture, ..the most vile, and violent massacrer, of the most, and best studentes. 1600 W. Watson *Decacordon* (1602) 58 Cursed be these bloudie massacrers. 1796 Burke *Regic. Peace* i. Wks. VIII. 132 Assassins, Massacrers, and Septembrizers. 1892 *Nation* (N.Y.) 17 Nov. 371/2 Coconas was one of the most active massacrers in that fatal night of Saint Bartholomew.

Ma'ssacring, *vbl. sb.* [f. Massacre *v.* + -ing[1].] The action of the verb Massacre.

1602 F. Herring *Anat.* 20 Such torturing and massacring of Men. 1680 H. More *Apocal. Apoc.* 216 There shall be ..no more bloody massacrings of the Faithful Witnesses of Christ. 1840 Carlyle *Heroes* (1858) 293 A poor barren country, full of continual broils, dissensions, massacrings. 1863 J. C. Morison *St. Bernard* I. vii. 93 The perpetual .. plundering and massacring, caused by the baronial wars.

† **Ma'ssacrous,** *a. Obs.* [f. Massacre *sb.* + -ous.] Of or pertaining to massacre; murderous.

1593 G. Harvey *Pierce's Super.* 155 In his impetuous and massacrous sallyes. 1593 Nashe *Christ's T.* (1613) 63 The massacrous monstrousnesse of this quicke Marshal-law. 1608 D. T[uvil.] *Ess. Pol. & Mor.* 114 b, What massacrous, and impious thoughts, had..anchred in his bosom.

Massacry, obs. variant of Massacre *sb.*

Massage (mæsä·ʒ), *sb. Therapeutics.* [a. F. *massage*, f. *masser* to apply massage to (the body). The Fr. verb (*macer, masser*) is given by Le Gentil (*Voy. dans les mers de l'Inde* I. 128) as the word used by the French colonists in India in 1779. It is perh. a. Pg. *amassar* to knead, f. *massa* dough (= Mass *sb.*[2]).]

The application with the hands of pressure and strain upon the muscles and joints of the body, by friction, kneading, etc., in order to stimulate their action and increase their suppleness. Also *attrib.*

1876 Bartholow *Mat. Med.* (1879) 73 Massage by friction consists in rubbing, rolling under the fingers, and gently pinching the skin, and rubbing, tapping, kneading, and exercising the muscles and joints. 1888 D. Maguire *Art of Massage* (ed. 4) 14 She could not bear it longer, especially if she attempted several massages per day. 1892 F. M. Crawford *Three Fates* II. 4 'There's nothing for you, Tom', she said, 'but a milk cure and massage'. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 375 Most massage procedures, to be of use, should be repeated at least once daily.

Massage (mæsä·ʒ), *v.* [f. prec.] *trans.* To apply massage to; to treat by means of massage.

1887 Tibbits *Massage* 14 In Massaging joints. 1889 *Lancet* 2 Mar. 423/1 Although abdominal massage will effect a great deal of good, it will not be productive of lasting benefit if we omit to massage the spine. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 187 The stiffened and swollen joints should be cautiously massaged.

Massage, obs. form of Message.

Massageer, -ger, obs. forms of Messenger.

Massagist (mæsä·ʒist). [f. Massage *v.* + -ist.] One who practises massage; a masseur or masseuse.

1889 *N. York Tribune* 30 May (Cent.), A slashing criticism by one massagist of another's book. 1899 Kelsey tr. *Mau's Pompeii* 195, The sound varying according as the massagist strikes with flat or hollow palm.

Massalian, variant of Messalian.

Massaly, variant of Massily *Obs.*

Massanger(e, obs. forms of Messenger.

Massard, obs. f. Mazard *sb.*, kind of cherry.

‖ **Massasauga** (mæsäsɔ̄·gä). Also **-saugua.** [Presumably American Indian.] A small, very venomous, dark-coloured, North American rattlesnake of the genus *Crotalophorus* (or *Caudisona*).

1842 Holbrook *N. Amer. Herpetol.* III. 32 Dr. Kirtland ..observes that this animal [*Crotalophorus Kirtlandii*] is commonly known under the name Massasaugua, a word of Indian origin. 1853 Baird & Girard *Catal. N. Amer. Reptiles* I. 14 *Crotalophorus tergeminus*..Prairie Rattlesnake, Massasauga. *Ibid.* 16 *Crotalophorus Kirtlandii*.. Black Massasauga. 1884–5 *Riverside Nat. Hist.* (1888) III. 397 *Caudisona tergemina*, the black rattlesnake or massasauga, is found in Ohio and Michigan [etc.].

Massay, obs. form of Massoy.

Massbanker: see Mossbunker.

Ma'ss-book. [f. Mass *sb.*[1] + Book *sb.*] = Missal. (Occas. used erron. for other service books.)

c 1000 *Canons of Ælfric* c. 21 in Thorpe *Laws* II. 350 Saltere and pistolboc, godspellboc and mæsseboc..ðas bec sceal mæssepreost nede habban. *c* 1200 Ormin *Ded.* 31 Þa Goddspelless..Þatt sinndenn o þe messeboc Inn all þe ær att messe. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 186 A wol fair cloth bringen he dede, And ther on leyde the messebuk. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 290 Blessed be god, þat in euery chirche haþ ordeyned masse bookis to witnesse his gospel. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 334/2 Messboke, *missale.* 1511 *Ld. Treas. Acc. Scot.* IV. 322 Ane missbuik bocht be him to the chapele. 1642 Milton *Apol. Smect.* Wks. 1851 III. 315 We then using a Liturgy farre more like to the Masse-book then to any Protestant set forme. *c* 1714 *MS. Catal. Bks. bequeathed to Corp. Chr. Coll. Oxf. by Dr. T. Turner*, A Primer (or Masse Book) in English and Latin. 1873 Longf. *Wayside Inn* III. *Monk of Casal-Maggiore* 23 A..monk..Who..to the mass-book gave but little heed.

† **Mass-creed.** *Obs.* [Mass *sb.*[1]] The Nicene Creed, as occurring in the service of the Mass.

c 1000 *Canons of Ælfric* iv. in Thorpe *Laws* II. 344 On þam sinoþe [on þære ceastre Nicea] wæron ȝesette þa halȝan cyricþenunga, & se mæsse-creda. *c* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 20 Et te messe crede. 13.. *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* xxxvii. 771 Atome maiȝt þou do good nede And come to þe masse-crede. *c* 1440 *Cast. Persev.* 2371 Take it sotbe as mes crede. 1563–83 Foxe *A. & M.* II. 1670, I beleeue all the Articles conteyned..in the Creede called the Masse Creede.

Ma'ss-day. *arch.* [OE. *mæssedæg*: see Mass *sb.*[1] and Day *sb.*] A feast-day.

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 47 Þæt hi Sunnandæȝum & mæssedæȝum Godes cyrican ȝeorne secan. 1154 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1132 He com on S' Petres messe dei..into þe minstre. *a* 1300 *E. E. Psalter* lxxiii. 8 To reste make we mes-daies alle Of God fra erthe for oght mai falle. *c* 1315 Shoreham *Poems* (E.E.T.S.) i. 2031 Ne hy ne wondeþ messeday, Ne none holy tyde. 1867 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* (1876) I. v. 313 The observance of Eadward's mass-day was urdered in 1008.

‖ **Massé** (mæ·se, mase), *a.* and *sb. Billiards.* Also **masse.** [Fr., pa. pple. of *masser* to make a stroke of this kind, f. *masse* Mace *sb.*] Applied to a stroke made with the cue held perpendicular.

1873 Bennett & 'Cavendish' *Billiards* 351 The hazard may be made by a masse stroke. 1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 27 Feb. 2/3 The technicalities of nursery cannons, masse cannons, and winning and losing hazards. 1901 *Q. Rev.* Apr. 484 [He] played the *massé* well for an Englishman.

Massé (mæ·se), *v. rare.* [ad. F. *masser*: see Massage *sb.*] *trans.* To massage.

1887 *Buck's Handbk. Med. Sci.* IV. 660 In masséing the face of a fat patient, the tissues can only be rolled and stretched under the fingers and palm. 1888 D. Maguire *Art of Massage* (ed. 4) 55 We are no longer in those days when four, or six, or eight persons were employed at one time to massé you. [In ed. 1 (1886) the writer uses *masser* (in roman) as an imperative.]

Masse, obs. f. Mace, Mass, Maze; var. Mas *Obs.*

Masseager, obs. form of Messenger.

Massed (mæst), *ppl. a.* [f. Mass *v.*[2] + -ed[1].] Gathered into a mass. Also with *up.*

1884 J. Parker *Apost. Life* III. 315 Do not ask for proofs in words and paragraphs and massed-up sentences. 1885 W. C. Smith *Kildrostan* I. i. 259 The breeze Rustles their higher leaves over a tower Green with massed ivy. 1896 *Daily News* 21 May 5/1 Thirty massed regimental orchestras.

†Massedness. *Obs.* In 4 massydnes. [f. MASS *sb.*[2] + -ED[2] + -NESS.] Massiveness.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* v. xxvii. (1495) 136 The bones of the armes ben holow that they ben not to heuy bi massydnes.

Massee, Masselen, obs. ff. MASSY, MASLIN[1].

Masselgem,-ing,-jen,-jon,-lin: see MASLIN[2].

Massels, Massely: see MEASLES, MASSILY.

†Massenger. *Obs.* [Possibly repr. an AF. form (cf. *balinger*) of OF. *massonyer, maisonier*:—late L. *mansiōnārius*: see MANSIONARY. Cf. the surname *Massinger* (which, however, may be for *messenger*).] ? An inmate of a religious house. (But perh. for *mass-singer* or *messenger*.)

1553 BECON *Reliques of Rome* (1563) 190 The brethren or massengers of the said order. *a* 1564 —*Acts of Christ & Antichr.* Wks. III. 401 To Minstrels, to Massengers, to Friers, to Flatterers.

†Ma·sser[1]. [OE. *mæssere*, f. *mæssian*, MASS *v.*[1]: see -ER[1].] One who celebrates mass; a mass-priest; also, one who attends mass. (After OE. only as a Protestant term of derision.)

a 1000 *Azarias* 149 Bletsien þe þine sacerdos, soðfæst cyning, milde mæsseras mærne dryhten. 1543 BALE *Fet a Course*, etc. 38 A good mattenser, masser, and so forth: but no true gospell preacher. 1579 J. STUBBES *Gaping Gulf* A viij, The Spanish massers had theyr customers more then ynough.

†Masser[2]. *Obs. rare*—[1]. *attrib.* masser-scourer, said to mean 'gong-farmer' or scavenger.

c 1515 *Cocke Lorell's B.* 3 Than came a gonge fermourer, Other wyse called a masser scourer.

Masser[3], -or (mæ·sɔɪ). [f. F. *mass-er* (see MASSAGE *sb.*) + -ER[1], -OR.] One who practises massage; a masseur or masseuse.

1888 D. MAGUIRE *Art of Massage* (ed. 4) 32 The masser. [Perh. a misprint for *masseur*, which occurs twice on the same page.] 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 158 A successful massor (if I may coin a word we stand in need of) of either sex must have gentle manners, and a delicate touch. 1902 *Encycl. Brit.* XXX. 573 A single masser should have strength enough to do the work without too obvious exhaustion.

Masser, obs. form of MACER[1], MAZER.

Masserate, obs. form of MACERATE.

Massereen, obs. form of MAZARINE *sb.*[1]

Masseter (mæsī·təɹ). *Anat.* [a. mod.L. *masséter* (whence F. *masséter*), a. Gr. *μαστήρ* (formerly miswritten *μασσ-*), agent-n. from *μασᾶσθαι* to chew. (The Gr. sb. occurs in apposition with *μῦς* muscle.)] (Usually *masseter muscle.*) One of the principal masticatory muscles, passing from the malar bone and zygomatic arch to the ramus of the lower jaw.

1666 J. SMITH *Old Age* (1676) 77 It [the upper jaw] hath.. one wonderful pair of Muscles, called, the Masseters. 1694 *Phil. Trans.* XVIII. 24 A Child .. who had just then received a large Wound upon the Masseter Muscle. 1849 *St. George's Hosp. Rep.* IX. 685 The masseters were rigid. 1881 DAVEY in *Jrnl. Psychol. Med.* VII. 1, A tetanic rigidity of the temporal and masseter muscles.

†Masseteral, *a. Obs. rare.* In 6 -all. [ad. mod.L. *massētērālis*: see MASSETER and -AL.] = MASSETERIC.

1578 BANISTER *Hist. Man* I. 15 Towards the sides where the temporall Muscle is, as also the originall of the Masseterall.

Masseteric (mæsɪte·rik), *a.* and *sb.* [f. MASSETER + -IC.]

A. *adj.* Of or pertaining to the masseter musele.

1831 R. KNOX *Cloquet's Anat.* 463 The .. masseteric, buccal and pterygoid twigs. 1891 FLOWER & LYDEKKER *Introd. Mammals* 171 The masseteric fossa of the mandible.

B. *sb.* A masseteric nerve, muscle, artery, etc.

1840 E. WILSON *Anat. Vade M.* 386 The masseteric, which crosses the sigmoid notch with the masseteric artery to the masseter muscle. 1875 SIR W. TURNER in *Encycl. Brit.* I. 836/1 The lower jaw..is elevated by the temporal muscles..and by the masseterics.

Masseterine (mæsī·tĕrin), *a.* [a. F. *massétérin*: see MASSETER and -INE.] = prec. A.

1855 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex.* (ed. 12), *Masseterine Artery. ..Masseterine Nerve...Masseterine Vein.*

‖ Masseur (masör). [Fr.; agent-n. f. *masser*: see MASSAGE *sb.*] A man who practises massage.

1876 BARTHOLOW *Mat. Med.* (1879) 73 *Masseur* is a male rubber, and *massense* a female rubber. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 22 It is very important that the masseur should be gentle in the exercise of his craft.

‖ Masseuse (masöz). [Fr.; fem. formation corresp. to prec.] A woman who practises massage.

1876 [see MASSEUR]. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV. 342 Treves has seen a normal kidney worked out of its place by a vigorous masseuse who mistook it for a fæcal mass.

Massey, obs. form of MASSY *a.*

Ma·ss-house. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.* [MASS *sb.*[1]] In 17–18th c. a common designation used by Protestants for a Roman Catholic place of worship.

1644 in Wallington *Notices of Reign of Chas. I* (1869) II. 205 They build their Mass houses in every street. 1688 EVELYN *Diary* 7 Oct., A Jesuite, who in the Masse-house ..had disparag'd the Scripture. 1780 JOHNSON *Lett. to Mrs. Thrale* 9 June, At night the outrages began by the demolition of the mass-house by Lincoln's Inn. 1809 KENDALL *Trav.* III. lxvii. 54 On the farm are small remains of the missionary church, called by the protestant colonists the mass-house. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* vi. II. 101 Great crowds assembled in Cheapside to attack the new mass house.

Massi, obs. form of MASS *v.*[1], MASSY *a.*

Massicot (mæ·sikɒt). Forms: α. 5–8 masticote, 6 mastecott, 7 masticoate, -cut, 8 -coat, 6– masticot. β. 6 maskett, 8 masicot, 7– massicot. [a. F. *massicot* (1480 in Hatz.-Darm.), in 16th c. once *masticot* (Godefr., who explains it as 'mastic', app. erroneously). Of obscure origin: cf. the synonymous It. *marzacotto*; also Sp. *mazacote* kali, mortar.] Yellow protoxide of lead, used as a pigment.

α. 1472 *Fabric Rolls York Minster* (Surtees) 79 Pro ij lb. masticote pro pictura supradictorum candelabrorum. 1546 *Inv. Ch. Surrey* (1869) 106 Item for a li. of mastecott ij*s*. 1573 *Art of Limning* 2 The like sise may you make with ..red or yellow okir, orpiment or masticot. 1658 W. SANDERSON *Graphice* 84 Vellow. The best is Masticoate. 1695 DRYDEN *Du Fresnoy's Art Paint.* 172 The Masticot is very Light, because it is a very clear yellow, and very near to white. 1735 *Dicti Polygraph.* s. v. *Face*, For the faintest and weakest colour .. [use] a very small quantity of pink or masticote. 1823 P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Build.* 415 Masticot, as a pigment is flake-white, or white-lead gently calcined, by which it is changed to a yellow.

β. 1532 in E. Law *Hampton Crt. Pal.* (1885) I. 363, 12 lb. of white lead..1 lb. of maskett. 1658 PHILLIPS, *Massicot*, a kinde of Oaker, made of Ceruse, or white Lead. 1776 *Phil. Trans.* LXVI. 620 The massicot had a pale greenish cast, owing to iron. 1796 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) II. 488 Masicot or yellow Calx. 1873 *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 11) 450 Litharge or massicot.

Massie, obs. form of MASSY.

‖ Massif (mæ·sif). Also 6 -ife. [Fr.: subst. use (in various applications) of *massif* MASSIVE *a.*] †a. ? A block of building (*obs.*). b. ? A mass of stone. c. A mass or clump of plants or shrubs. d. A large mountain-mass; the central mass of a mountain; a compact and more or less independent portion of a range.

1524 in *Hakluyt's Voy.* (1599) II. 1. 86 The sayd trauerses and repaires..beganne at the massife of Spaine made by the reuerend lord great master Mery d'Amboise, & ended at the church of S. Saluador. 1862 ANSTED *Channel Isl.* II. xi. 282 The massif of the north pier at St. Peter's Port. 1885 GEIKIE *Text-bk. Geol.* (ed. 2) 40 A large block of mountain ground, rising into one or more dominant summits, and more or less distinctly defined by longitudinal and traverse valleys, is termed in French a *massif*—a word for which there is no good English equivalent. 1888 *Blackw. Mag.* Aug. 219 Those monsters of horticulture known as *massifs*. 1899 *Nature* 15 June 152/2 The central part of the *massif*.. of Mont Blanc consists of a granitoid rock called protogine. 1899 *Ibid.* 2 Nov. 20/2 The formation of a dune tract or dune massif appears to be chiefly determined by the presence of ground moisture.

Massif(f)e, obs. forms of MASSIVE.

Massiform (mæ·sifɔ̄ɪm), *a.* [f. L. *mass-a* MASS *sb.*[2] + -(I)FORM.] 'In the form of a mass' (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1890).

Massilian, variant of MESSALIAN.

†Massily, *adv. Obs.* Also 5 masly, 5–6 massely, 6 -alie. [f. MASSY + -LY[2].] Massively.

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 3923 Troilus þe tru was..Full massely made, & of mayn strenght. *Ibid.* 3975 Ecuba, the onest & onerable qwene, Was.. Massily made as a man lyke. *c* 1420 *Avow. Arth.* iii, He [the boar] is masly made. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* X. xiii. 38 The tother..Abydis stowtly, fermyt in his fors, And massely [*v. r.* (1710) massalie] vpstude with bustuus cors. *a* 1668 SIR W. WALLER *Div. Medit.* (1839) 86 Let our houses be never so strongly and massily built, if ..we lean upon them, they shall not stand.

Massindewe, obs. form of MEASONDUE.

Massiness (mæ·sinės). [f. MASSY + -NESS.] The quality of being massy; massiveness.

1570 DEE *Math. Pref.* b ij, The Solidity, Massines and Body of the Sonne. 1587 GOLDING *De Mornay* 47 The massinesse of things is that..that maketh them vnable to do things. Contrariwise the more spirituale a thing is, the more actiue it is. 1625 LAUD *Wks.* (1847) I. 110 It is not the great massiness of a pillar, but [etc.]. 1712 J. JAMES tr. *Le Blond's Gardening* 33 Avoiding too great a Slenderness, as well as too great a Massyness of Ornaments. 1773 JOHNSON *Let. to Mrs. Thrale* 12 Aug., The cathedral has a massyness and solidity such as I have seen in no other place. 1810 SHELLEY *Zastrozzi* XV, A lamp, whose rays.. showed..the extreme massiness of the passages.

Massing (mæ·sin), *vbl. sb.*[1] Also 3 mesing-, 4 mesin-, 4, 6 messyng, 5 mesyng. [f. MASS *v.*[1] + -ING[1].] The action or practice of celebrating mass.

1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 3589 Four maners of helpes.. prayer and fastyng, And almus dede and messyng. 1542–5 BRINKLOW *Lament.* (1874) 105, I will exhorte all prestes..to fle and gene ouer that abhominable massynge, which is a blasphemy to Christes blonde. 1546 BALE *Eng. Votaries* I. (1548) 19 b, Pranked vp with tabernacles & lyghtes, sensynges & massinges. 1661 J. STEPHENS *Procurations* 111, I cannot fix the original of this due, forasmuch as the act of Massing *quolibet die dominico* being too generall..doth not fitly denominate the pay. 1850 *Elder's House* 166 These Catholics are always for praying and massing.

†b. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *massing apparel, cope, furniture, matter, robe, room, sacrifice, vestment, wine*; **massing closet,** = *mass-closet*; **massing-mate** (? *nonce-wd.*), the celebrant at mass; **massing penny** = MASS-PENNY; **massing-priest** = MASS-PRIEST.

1566 *Answ. Exam. pretending to mayntayne Apparell* 132 Being required of papisticall persecutours to do on all their *massing apparell. 1656 HEYLIN *Surv. France* 180 In this *Massing Closet over the Altar there was hanged a tablet. 1610 BP. HALL *Apol. Brownists* § 46 What meane you to charge our churches with 'carued and painted images'?.. What more? '*Massing copes and surplices'. 1594 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* IV. xi. § 2 All their *Massing furniture almost they tooke from the law. 1607 R. C[AREW] tr. *Estienne's World of Wonders* 294 The *Massing-mate [Fr. *messatizant*] hath the Deacon and Subdeacon to assist him. 1549 LATIMER *5th Serm. bef. Edw. VI* (Arb.) 139 *Scala cœli*, is a preachynge matter I tell you, and not a *massyng matter. 1292 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 490 Et de ixs. iiijd. ob. de *Mesingpenis de e[odem] t[ermino]. 1536–7 *Ibid.* 667 De messyngpennys nichil, quia dimittuntur cum tota villa. 1560 BECON *Catech.* v. Wks. 1564 I. 457 But if ther bee none other remedy but that the *massinge priestes will sacrifice Christe in their masses. 1574 *Life 70th Abp. Canterb.* To Rdr. F ij, It had some reason to call the Massinge Prieste, a priste secular. 1656 JEANES *Fuln. Christ* 63 Their massing priests, and masse sacrifice. 1625 *Gonsalvio's Sp. Inquis.* 140 They despoiled him of those vile and wicked *Massing robes. 1623 GOAD *Dolef. Euen-Song* 12 A Chamber..being the vsuall *Massing roome for the English resorting thither. *c* 1571 NORTHBROOKE *Poore Mans Garden* Ep. Ded. 1 More diligent to mooue them to believe in..the *Massing Sacrifice, then Christes Oblation. 1612 T. JAMES *Corrupt. Scripture* I. 5 *marg.*, *Massing vestiments. 1647 TRAPP *Comm. Rom.* X. 2 He thought he had never sufficiently mingled his *massing wine with water.

Massing (mæ·sin), *vbl. sb.*[2] [f. MASS *v.*[2] + -ING[1].] The action of MASS *v.*[2]

1804 K. WHITE *Let. R. A.* 7 May, What the painters call the massing, or getting the effect of the more prominent lights and shades by broad dashes of the pencil. 1870 *Daily News* 9 Dec., To-day there has been a massing of German troops, but no fighting.

Massing (mæ·sin), *vbl. sb.*[3] The action of MASS *v.*[3]; the practice of massage.

1855 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex.* (ed. 12), *Massing*, shampooing. 1902 *Encycl. Brit.* XXX. 573 Without going so far as to make massing a closed profession.

Massive (mæ·siv), *a.* Forms: 5 massiffe, massyve, 5–6 massife, 6– massive. [ad. F. *massif*, f. *masse* MASS *sb.*[2]: see -IVE.]

1. Forming or consisting of a large mass; having great size and weight or solidity. †Of a person: Bulky, large-bodied (*obs.*).

c 1410 LYDG. *Reas. & Sens.* 2730 Ful of trees..Massiffe and grete and evene vpryght. 1481 CAXTON *Myrr.* II. xxi. h 4 b, The erthe meueth so strongly, that it behoueth to falle all that whiche is theron thaugh it were a massyue tour. 1485—*Chas. Gt.* 165 The portyer..is a paynym hydous and grete, massyf, stronge and felonnous. *a* 1806 BP. HORSLEY *Serm.* (1816) I. vii. 124 The common military sword is a heavy massive weapon, for close engagement. 1840 DICKENS *Barn. Rudge* i, Its ceilings..heavy with massive beams. 1868 J. H. BLUNT *Ref. Ch. Eng.* I. 342 The buildings were too massive to be destroyed.

b. Of articles of gold or silver: Solid, not hollow or plated.

1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* II. (Arb.) 68 Theare massiue gould cups bee layd. 1662 EVELYN *Diary* 9 June, The greate looking-glasse..of beaten and massive gold. 1851 D. WILSON *Preh. Ann.* (1863) II. III. v. 133 A massive silver chain.

†c. Solid, having three dimensions. = MASSY 1 c.

1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* (Arb.) 310 Painting and keruing, whereof one represents the naturall..in the superficiall or flat, the other in a body massife.

†d. Of textile fabrics: Thick, substantial. *Obs.*

1670–98 LASSELS *Voy. Italy* I. 87 The silk-stockings..are twice as strong as ours, and very massive.

e. Of architectural or artistic style: Presenting great masses, solid.

1841 W. SPALDING *Italy & It. Isl.* I. 162 That broad, massive, severe classicism which marked the newly emancipated age of Phidias. 1861 M. PATTISON *Ess.* (1889) I. 44 When the Company proceeded to rebuild, they no longer did so in the massive and imposing style of the fourteenth century.

f. Of the features, head, forehead, etc.: Largely moulded or modelled.

1843 LYTTON *Last Bar.* I. iv, His forehead was singularly high and massive. 1885 MISS BRADDON *Wyllard's Weird* I. i. 14 The features are firmly modelled, bold, and massive.

2. *transf.* and *fig.* a. Of immaterial things: Solid, substantial; great or imposing in scale.

1581 MULCASTER *Positions* xxxix. (1887) 221 Religious skill is farre more massiue. 1833 HERSCHEL *Astron.* iii. 154 One result of maritime discovery on the great scale is, so to speak, massive enough to call for mention as an astronomical feature. 1858 HAWTHORNE *Fr. & It. Note-Bks.* (1871) I. 262 Mighty figures..looking as if they were necessarily so gigantic because the thought within them was so massive. 1874 L. STEPHEN *Hours in Library* (1892) I. iv. 151 Scott was a man of more massive and less impulsive character.

b. *Psych.* Of a sensation, a state of consciousness: Having large volume or extensive magnitude.

1855 BAIN *Senses & Int.* 92 A massive or voluminous feeling of comparatively little acuteness or intensity. *Ibid.* 132 The ..sensation of chillness..is..not acute but massive and powerful. 1872 SPENCER *Princ. Psychol.* § 513 II. 579 As this aggregate [of pleasurable recollections] grows by accumulation, it becomes vague in proportion as it becomes massive. 1892 STEVENSON *Across the Plains* 4 All the activities of my nature had become tributary to one massive sensation of discomfort.

c. *Path.* Of a disease, etc.: Affecting a large continuous portion of tissue.

1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 767 Massive gangrene sometimes occurs. 1899 *Ibid.* VIII. 496 In massive swellings of the tongue and throat relief has been given by [etc.].

d. *Mus.* Presenting a large volume of sound.

1861 CALVERLEY *Verses*, '*There stands a City*' 28 Still I..Hear you humming of 'the gal you'd Left behind' in massive bass. 1885 *Athenæum* 7 Feb. 192 Some numbers were splendidly given, notably the massive chorus,..and the whole of the processional choruses.

3. Forming a solid or continuous mass; compact, dense, or (sometimes, merely) uniform in internal structure; existing in compact continuous masses. Now *rare* exc. *Min.* as the epithet of minerals not definitely crystalline, and *Geol.* as applied to rocks or formations presenting no structural divisions.

1558–68 Warde tr. *Alexis' Secr.* 64 If it should boile but a little more than it ought to boile, it would be thicke and massife. *Ibid.* 64 b, Seeth them in a kettle untill they be neither to much nor to litle boiled, but even hole and massive not broken. 1573 *Art of Limning* 7 The galles must be smal curled, and massive within. 1796 Kirwan *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) II. 226 Mercury..Second family. Slaty...Found Massive. 1860 Ruskin *Mod. Paint.* V. VII. ii. 112 Clouds may be broadly considered as of two species only, massive and striated. I cannot find a better word than massive, though it is not a good one, for I mean it only to signify a fleecy arrangement in which no lines are visible. 1871 *Jukes' Man. Geol.* (ed. 3) 99 The leading differences of structure among igneous rocks are the *bedded*..; *amorphous*..; *massive*, occurring in large masses which can be broken or quarried in any direction [etc.].

fig. 1600 Tourneur *Transf. Metam.* lvii, (Had he beene a man of massive hart) He would haue melted at her mermaide's part.

4. Pertaining to masses as distinguished from molecules; molar.

1877 E. R. Conner *Bas Faith* iii. 122 The control of mind over the material world..is limited to the power of producing motion, massive or molecular.

Massively (mæ·sivli), *adv.* [f. Massive + -ly 2.] In a massive manner or form.

1550 Sir R. Bowes in Hodgson *Hist. Northumb.* III. (1828) II. 200 That side to be massively rampiered with earth. 1844 Mrs. Browning *Vision of Poets* 747 And so .. Rose the full notes; now parted off In pauses massively aloof, Like measured thunders. 1858 Hawthorne *Fr. & It. Note-Bks.* I. 259 Houses built so massively..that [etc.].

b. *nonce-use.* By masses of persons.

1876 Geo. Eliot *Dan. Der.* lix, An assumption which.. was massively acted on at that date of the world's history.

Massiveness (mæ·sivnés). [f. Massive + -ness.] The state or quality of being massive.

1530 Palsgr. 243/2 Massyfnesse, *solidité.* 1603 *North's Plutarch, Life Plutarch* (1612) 1204 Doest thou think it is by reason of the massiuenes or weight, or by the swiftnesse, or strength of the eyes? 1620 Venner *Via Recta* i. 19 Bread made of Rie..is cold, heauy, and hard to digest, and by reason of the massiuenesse thereof, very burdensome to the stomacke. 1855 Bain *Senses & Int.* 92 The peculiarity of it [*sc.* the feeling of fatigue] as a pleasure is not intensity or acuteness, but quantity, massiveness, or volume. 1870 F. R. Wilson *Ch. Lindisf.* 93 The sombre massiveness of the tower.

Massledine, -legen, obs. ff. Maslin 2.

Massless (mæ·slés), *a.* [f. Mass *sb.*2 + -less.] Having no mass.

1879 Thomson & Tait *Nat. Phil.* I. i. § 345 A material particle supported by massless springs.

Ma·ss-mo nger. *arch.* [Mass *sb.*1] A contemptuous term for a Roman Catholic.

Common in the 16th c.

1550 Bale *Eng. Votaries* II. 27 Callynge both hym & hys masmongers..fleshe makers. *a* 1649 Drumm. of Hawth. *Skiamachia* Wks. (1711) 199 Ye are mass-mongers, adorers of angels, [etc.]. 1826 Southey *Vind. Eccl. Angl.* 211 This scheme for bringing custom to the mass-mongers at Tunnacester.

So † **Ma·ss-mo nging** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1552 Latimer *Serm.* 23*rd Sund. Trin.* (1584) 209 An other denying of Christ is this Massemongyng. 1607 R. C[arew] tr. *Estienne's World of Wonders* 204 Another Masse-monging gentleman of Lorraine. 1612 W. Sclater *Minister's Portion* 8 Things giuen to superstitious vses, suppose to maintain masmonging.

Masson, -nery, obs. ff. Mason, Masonry.

Massondew: see Measondue.

Massoné(e, *Her.*: see Masoned *ppl. a.* 2.

‖ **Massoola(h** (mæsū·lā). Forms: 7 musoola, 7, 9 mussoola, 8 (mausolo), 9 (masuli), muss-, mas(s)ulah, mussoolah, 8–9 mas(s)oola, massoolah. [Of obscure origin: see conjectures in Yule.] A large surf-boat used for conveying passengers and goods between ships and the shore on the Coromandel coast. Often *massoolah-boat.*

1685 W. Hedges *Diary* 3 Feb., This morning two Musoolas & two Cattamarans came off to ye Shippe...[We] got into ye Mussoola. 1760–1879 [see quots. in Yule s. v. *Mussoola*]. 1793 Hodges *Trav. India* 4 A boat of the country, called a Massoolah boat. 1899 F. T. Bullen *Log Sea-waif* 203 The crazy 'massulah' boats..so often described by visitors to Madras.

Massor: see Masser *sb.*3, Mazer.

Massora(h: see Masorah.

Massorat, -ete, -ite: see Masorete, -ite.

Massoy (mæ·soi). Also 8 massay, 9 massoi, mussoey, mussoi, *Dicts.* missoy. [a. Malay ꦩꦱꦺꦴꦪ *masūi.*] The bark of an East Indian tree, *Cinnamomum Kiamis.* Also *massoy-bark. Massoy-camphor, oil*: products obtained from this bark.

1800 *Asiat. Ann. Reg., Chron.* 35/2 Bird's nests, tripangs, massay, agamgar..shall pay 5 per cent. *Ibid., Misc. Tracts* 74 *note*, It is much more esteemed than the massoy bark. 1859 *Times* 29 June 9/2 A fragrant aromatic bark, called mussoey. 1860 Watts tr. *Gmelin's Handbk. Chem.* XIV. 380 Oil of Massoy. *Ibid.* 381 Massoy-camphor. White powder, heavier than water. 1884 *Encycl. Brit.* XVII. 389/2 Massoi bark.

Ma·ss-penny. *arch.* [Mass *sb.*1] An offering of money made at mass.

1362 Langl. *P. Pl. A.* III. 217 Prestes..Askeþ Meede and Masse-pons and heore Mete eke. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Somnp. T.* 41 A goddes halfpeny or a masse peny. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* XVIII. xx. 761 Praye for my soule & bery me atte leest & offre ye my masse peny. 1528 Tindale *Obed. Chr. Man* Pref. xv, He..fetteth here a masse peny, there a trentall, yonder dirige money. 1849 Rock *Ch. of Fathers* II. vii. 504. 1877 Miss Yonge *Cameos* III. xvii. 156 He had been at the chapel..and offered his mass-penny.

attrib. 1579 E. K. *Gloss. Spenser's Sheph. Cal.* June 25 Theyr packed pelfe and Masse-penie religion.

Ma·ss-priest. *arch.* [Mass *sb.*1] A priest whose function it is to celebrate mass.

In OE. applied *gen.* to any priest (Christian or Jewish); in ME. app. used *spec.* for a secular priest as opposed to a monk, or for one employed to say masses for the souls of the dead. From the 16th c. chiefly a contemptuous designation for a Roman Catholic priest.

c 893 K. Ælfred *Oros.* (Sweet) 282 Arrius se masse-preost. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Hom.* Pref., Ic Ælfric, munuc and mæssepreost. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 23 Þanne he his muchele synnes..bimurneð, and sheweð hem his messe preste. *c* 1205 Lay. 29872 Vt wenden munekes & þa masse-preostes. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 2108 Monk, oþer masse-prest, oþer any mon elles. 1554 Bradford *Let.* Wks. (Parker Soc.) I. 391 God is no merchant, as our mass-priests be. 1632 Lithgow *Trav.* III. 92 Among the foure Friars, there was but one Masse-Priest. 1686 Evelyn *Diary* 11 July, The late King's glorious chapell [at Windsor] now seiz'd on by the masse priests.

Massy (mæ·si), *a.* Also 4 massee, 4, 6 massye, 5 massi, 6–8 massie, -ey. [f. Mass *sb.*2 + -y.] In early instances perh. a. OF. *massi, massis, masseïs,* f. *masse* with suffix repr. L. *-īlus, -īcius, -ātīcius.*

Formerly in common use; now rhetorical or *arch.*; in ordinary prose use superseded by Massive.]

1. Full of substance or 'mass'.

a. Solid and weighty; heavy as consisting of compact matter. Said esp. of the precious metals: Occurring in mass; wrought in solid pieces, without hollow or alloy.

1382 Wyclif *Ecclus.* l. 10 As a massee vessel of gold. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* XVI. vii. (1495) 555 The syluer compownyd is massy & sad. *c* 1470 Henryson *Fab.* (*Son of Fox*) in *Anglia* IX. 368 The leopardis come with croun of massie gold. 1553 Brende *Q. Curtius* I. v, He founde in that citie an incredible treasure ,L.M. talentes of massy silver uncoyned. 1598 Drayton *Heroic. Ep.* ii 80, I can march all day in massie Steele. 1638 Baker tr. *Balzac's Lett.* (vol. III) 175 There are none now but poor Gentlemen that will offer to weare the Massiest silver lace. 1777 Sheridan *Sch. Scand.* III. iii, A great quantity of massy old plate. 1805 Scott *Last Minstrel* Introd. 33 Whose ponderous grate and massy bar Had oft [etc.]. 1853 Macaulay *Biog., Atterbury* (1867) 10 An inestimable treasure of massy bullion. 1877 A. B. Edwards *Up Nile* i. 20 Seen in certain lights, the Pyramids look like piles of massy gold.

† b. *gen.* Solid, not hollow. *Obs.*

1382 Wyclif *Exod.* XXXVIII. 7 And thilk auter was not massye [Vulg. *solidum*], but holw3 of tabled thingis, and with ynne voyde. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 328/2 Massy, nozt hole, *solidus.* 1673 *Phil. Trans.* VIII. 6004 By cramming into them many Crystal-bullets, both hollow and massy ones.

† c. Solid, having three dimensions. Applied to sculptures, as opposed to paintings on the flat.

1551 Recorde *Pathw. Knowl.* I. Def., By Depenesse.. I meane the massie thicknesse of any bodie, as in exaumple of a potte. 1571 Digges *Pantom., Math. Disc.* Hh ij, A Transformed Dodecaedron is a massie or solide figure. 1612 Brerewood *Lang. & Relig.* xviii. 167 Rejecting carved or massie images, but admitting the painted. *c* 1645 Howell *Lett.* (1650) I. 331 Abhorring the use of massy statues.

d. Close, compact, dense (in texture or consistency). ? *Obs.*

1519 Horman *Vulg.* 37 b, They that haue massye bonys neuer swete or thristethe. 1567 Maplet *Gr. Forest* 33 It is nothing solid or massie, but much porouse. 1579–80 North *Plutarch, Romulus* (1595) 39 A grosse vapour, darke & massie. 1805 R. W. Dickson *Pract. Agric.* I. 428 The more massy sorts of manure. 1814 Cary *Dante, Paradise* XIII. 6 Stars, .. that, with lively ray serene, O'ercome the massiest air.

2. Consisting of a large mass or masses of heavy material; having great size and weight. Of buildings: Consisting of great blocks or piles of masonry.

1587 Golding *De Mornay* i. 2 Vee see .. the Earth altogether heavie and massie, and yet notwithstanding..hanged in ye Aire. 1660 Pepys *Diary* 26 Apr., It was very pleasant to observe the massy timbers that the ship is made of. 1775 A. M. Toplady *Let.* Wks. 1828 VI. 270 He hurled the massy folio at the poor bookseller's head. 1821 Scott *Kenilw.* vi, A massy oaken table. 1855 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xiv. III. 422 The massy remains of the old Norman castle. 1871 R. Ellis tr. *Catullus* lxiii. 40 The rude seas, earth's massy solidity.

b. Of architecture: Presenting great masses.

1819 Shelley *Let.* Pr. Wks. 1880 IV. 85 The proportions are extremely massy. 1846 Grote *Greece* I. xx. (1862) I. 498 The massy and Cyclopian style of architecture employed in those early days.

3. Spreading in a mass or in masses; having considerable bulk or volume.

1672 Marvell *Reh. Transp.* I. 68 Straggling by Temple-bar, in a massy Cassock and Surcingle. 1727–46 Thomson *Summer* 669 Deep in the night the massy locust sheds Quench my hot limbs. 1812 Brackenridge *Views Louisiana* (1814) 112 The foliage of the corn is so rich and massy, that it shades the earth. *a* 1834 Lamb *Reynolds Gallery* Misc. Wks. (1871) 367 The long, graceful, massy fingers. 1839 Alison *Hist. Europe* liv. § 53 (1850) VIII. 610 Their infantry in four massy columns was observed to be descending.

b. Of persons and animals: Bulky, large-bodied.

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 3885 He was massy & mekull, made for þe nonest. 1607 Walkington *Opt. Glass* 11 The massier and more gyantly body must be maintained with large .. diet. *a* 1667 Cowley *Ess., Greatness,* He would have no Servants, but huge, massy Fellows. 1824 Byron *Juan* XVI. lxxx, There were some massy members of the Church. 1849 H. Miller *Footpr. Creat.* vi. (1874) 119 One of the massier fishes disporting amid the same four or five small ones. 1866 Carlyle *Remin.* I. 255 A .. massy, earnest, forcible-looking man.

4. *transf.* and *fig.* (of immaterial things).

1588 Greene *Perimedes* G 2 b, She sits shrind in a Cannapie of Clouds, Whose massie darkenesse mazeth euery sense. 1645 Milton *Tetrach.* Wks. 1851 IV. 215 The most grosse and massy paradox that ever did violence to reason and religion. 1663 Bp. Patrick *Parab. Pilgr.* ix. (1668) 46 How solid and massy those future enjoyments are. 1794 Mrs. Radcliffe *Myst. Udolpho* viii, She turned her eyes from the massy darkness of the woods. 1822–56 De Quincey *Confess.* (1862) 155 It cost eight-and-twenty massy hours for us .. to reach the General Post-office. 1840 — *Th. Grk. Trag.* Wks. IX. 72 The dialogue [of Greek tragedy] is always..severe, massy, simple.

5. *Comb.*, as *massy-proof* adj.

1788 Warton *Ode for New Year* 1 Rude was the pile, and massy proof.

Massymore (mæsimōə·r). *Sc.* Also 8 mas-more. [? ad. Sp. *mazmorra* dungeon: cf. Matta-more.] An alleged local term for a castle dungeon.

1789 Grose *Antiq. Scotl.* I. *53 [Crighton Castle, Edinburghshire.] The dungeon called the Mas-More is a deep hole, with a narrow mouth. 1802 Scott *Minstr. Scott. Bord.* I. Introd. 79 *note*, One of the ancient lairds had imprisoned, in the Massy More, or dungeon of the castle, a person named Porteous. 1808 — *Marm.* IV. xi, Crichtoun! ..still may we explore..The darkness of thy Massy More.

Mast (most), *sb.*1 Forms: 1 mæst, 4–6 maste, 3– mast. [Com. Teut.: OE. *mæst* masc. = MDu., Du., OHG., MHG., mod.G. *mast,* Icel. *mastr,* Sw., Da. *mast*:—OTeut. **masto-s*:—W. Indo-germanic type **mazdo-s,* whence L. *mālus* (with the change of *d* to *l* frequent in L.).

The Teut. word appears in popular L. of the 8th c. as *mastus,* whence OF. *mast* (Fr. *mât*), Pr. *mast, mat,* Pg. *masto, mastro.*]

1. A long pole or spar of timber, iron or steel set up more or less perpendicularly upon the keel of a ship, to support the sails.

A *pole-mast* is made of one piece (see Pole), a *made-mast* of several pieces (see Maue 2 b). The larger masts are composed of several lengths, called *lower mast,* Top-mast, Topgallant-*mast* and Royal-*mast.* See also Foremast, Mainmast, Mizzenmast, *jigger-mast* (Jigger *sb.*1 8); Jury-mast, Spanker-*mast,* etc.

Beowulf 1905 (Gr.) Þa wæs þe mæste merehræzla sum, seȝl sale fæst. *c* 1205 Lay. 1100 Heo rærden heora mastes, heo wunden up seiles. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 709 Hise ship he greyþede .. an ..þer-inne dide a ful god mast. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Anel. & Arc.* 314 She that hem trustith shall hem fynde als faste As in a tempest is þe roton maste. *a* 1440 *Sir Eglam.* 1262 Sche askyth be what chesone he bare A schyp of golde, bothe maste and ore. 1590 Shaks. *Com. Err.* I. i. 80 A small spare Mast, Such as sea-faring men provide for stormes. 1642 Howell *For. Trav.* (Arb.) 71 To see.. The New Towne of Amsterdam, and the Forrest of Masts, which lye perpetually before her. 1667 Milton *P. L.* I. 293 The tallest Pine Hewn on Norwegian hills, to be the Mast Of some great Ammiral. 1834 Lytton *Pompeii* I. ii, Afar off you saw the tall masts of the fleet.

transf. 1868 Ruskin *Pol. Econ. Art* Add. 194 To look well at the beautiful circlet of the white nettle blossom, and work out..the way it is set on its central mast.

b. A piece of timber suitable for a mast. Now *spec.* (see quot. 1847). *Hand mast*: see Hand *sb.* 63.

1496 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 183, ij mastes to make a newe Mayne yarde for the seyd Ship. 1842 Gwilt *Archit.* § 1706 From Riga a great deal of timber is received under the name of masts and spars: the former are usually 70 or 80 feet in length, and from 18 to 25 inches in diameter; when of less diameter they take the latter name.

2. Phrases. *Afore* or *before the mast*: see Afore B. 1, Before B. 2 d. *At the mast*: on deek by the mainmast (the usual place of assembly for public sale, conference, etc. on board ship). *Dolphin of the mast*: see Dolphin 6 b (*a*). *To nail one's colours to the mast*: see Colour *sb.* 7 d. *To spring, step a mast*: see Spring, Step *vbs.*

[1626 Capt. Smith *Accid. Yng. Seamen* 6 The Lyer..is so proclaimed at the maine Mast by a generall cry, A lyer, a lyer, a lyer.] 1745 P. Thomas *Jrnl. Anson's Voy.* 273 We sold some of the Prize Goods .. at the Mast, as it is called, or publick Auction.

3. A pole resembling the mast of a ship; *e.g.* the tall upright pole of a derrick or similar machine; a climbing pole in a gymnasium.

1646 Evelyn *Diary* (1879) I. 282 We passe by severall tall masts set up to guide travellers [in the Alps]. 1762 Franklin *Lett.* Wks. 1840 V. 407 To secure a powder magazine from lightning I think they cannot do better than to erect a mast not far from it. 1880 *Encycl. Brit.* XI. 350/2 The horizontal bar, the bridge ladder .. and the mast .. permit of a great variety of exercises. 1886 *Fortn. Rev.* Feb. 222 The vistas of lamp-posts, electric-light masts, and telegraph poles.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *mast-pole, -top*; objective, as *mast-maker, -making*; instrumental, as *mast-thronged* adj.; similative, as *mast-great, -high, -like* adjs. and advs.

1600 Fairfax *Tasso* III. xvii, *Mast great the speare was which the gallant bore. 1798 Coleridge *Anc. Mar.* I. xiii, Ice *mast-high came floating by. 1855 Kingsley *Heroes* IV. ii. (1868) 124 He saw a heron come flying mast-high. 1807 J. Barlow *Columb.* I. 787 Their cluster'd dates the

*mast-like palms unfold. 1666 Pepys *Diary* 10 Aug., Mr. Wood's son the *mast-maker. 1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* I. 13 The practice of *mastmaking. 1601 Holland *Pliny* II. 511 That *Mast-poles comming thereof should be able to beare saile in wind and weather. 1647 Trapp *Comm. Matt.* xxvi. 45 Will ye, with Solomon's drunkard, sleep upon a mast-pole? 1833 Tennyson *Œnone* 116 Tax and toll, From many an inland town and haven large, *Mast-throng'd. 1871 R. Ellis tr. *Catullus* Frag. v, Where yon lucent *mast-top [L. *carchesia*], a cup of silver, arises.

b. Special comb.: **mast-buoy**, one which carries a mast; **mast-cloth**, † (*a*) a piece of bunting placed for decoration on a mast (*obs.*); (*b*) see quot. 1794; **mast-coat** (see quot.); **mast-dock**, a dock in which vessels are fitted with masts; **mast-hole, -hoop** (see quots.); **mast-house**, a building in a dockyard in which masts are made and stored; **mast-leech**, the border or edge of a sail next the mast; **mast-lining** = *mast-cloth*; **mast-partner** (see quot.); **mast-pocket**, a socket for the mast of a derrick-crane; **mast-pond, -prop, -room** (see quots.); **mast-rope**, one for raising and lowering a mast; **mast-ship**, a ship which carries a store of masts; **mast-step**, a block fixed to the keelson into which the mast is set; **mast-tree**, a name given to certain tall erect trees (see quots.); †**mast-yard** [1], a yard of a mast; **mast-yard** [2], a yard in which masts are made.

1675 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1005/4 A *Mast-Buoy to be laid on the West-side of a dangerous Rock. 1642 Chas. I *Declar.* 12 *Aug.* 21 Lighters, and Long-boats .. dressed up with *Mastclothes and Streamers. 1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* I. 88 *Mast-cloth*, the lining in the middle on the aft side of the topsails, to prevent the sail being chafed by the mast. *Ibid.* 170 **Mast-coats*, coverings made of well tarred canvas to prevent the water going down the mast-hole. 1689 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2162/4 The *Crown* and the *St. Authony*, .. each lying in the *Mast-Dock at Deptford. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.*, **Mast-holes*, the apertures in the deck-partners for stepping the masts. *Ibid.*, **Mast-hoops*, the iron hoops on made or built masts. 1770 *Ann. Reg.* 132 A fire .. in the dock-yard..communicated itself..to the little *mast-house. 1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* I. 88 The curve on the *mast-leech of some fore and aft sails. 1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XXI. 154/2 Such pieces as *mast-lining clew and head, tack, and corner pieces. 1846–63 Young *Naut. Dict.*, **Mast-partners*, pieces of timber let in between two of the beams to form a framing for the support of a vessel's masts. 1890 *Cent. Dict.* (citing *Car-Builder's Dict.*), **Mast-pocket*. 1769 Falconer *Dict. Marine* II. (1780), *Fosse aux mâts*, a *mast-pond, or place where the masts are kept afloat in salt-water, in a dockyard. 1840 Marryat *Poor Jack* xxxviii, Our ship laid at the wharf, off the mast pond. 1805 *Shipwright's Vade-m.* 117 Large carlings which are placed at the sides of the *mast-rooms. *c* 1850 *Rudim. Navig.* (Weale) 131 *Mast-rooms*, the spaces between those beams where the masts are to be fixed. *a* 1000 *Cædmon's Exod.* 82 (Gr.) Swa þa *mæst-rapas men ne cuðon ne ða segelrode ȝeseon meahton. 1841 R. H. Dana *Seaman's Man.* 21 To send up a Topmast...Lash a top-block to the head of the lower-mast; reeve a mast-rope through it [etc.]. 1666 Pepys *Diary* 29 Nov., Some .. do fright us with the king of Sweden's seizing our *mast-ships at Gottenburgh. 1760 W. Douglass *Brit. N. Amer.* II. 54 The mast ships built peculiarly for that use .. carry from forty-five to fifty good masts per voyage. 1863 Young *Naut. Dict.*, **Mast-step*. 1597 Gerarde *Herbal* III. xl. 1182 Abies :..in English Firre tree, *Mast tree, and Deale tree. 1862 Balfour *Timber Trees India* (ed. 2) 127 *Guatteria longifolia* .. Mast tree. 1879 *Encycl. Brit.* IX. 405/1 The extensive forests [of Borneo]..produce..sago palm, and the mast (*Calophyllum*) and camphor trees (*Drabalanops*). *c* 1530 *Battle of Aginc.* A ij, These goodly shyppes lay there at rode, With *mast-yardes a crosse. 1765 *Ann. Reg.* 97 A *mast-yard adjoining to the river.

c. with prefixed numeral forming an adjectival compound with the sense 'having two (etc.) masts'.

1804 *Naval Chron.* XI. 456 A *Petiaugua*, a two-mast boat used by the Caribs.

Mast (mast), *sb.*[2] Forms: 1, 3 **mæst**, 5–8 **maste**, 3– **mast** *β.* 7 **maske**, 9 **mask**. [Com. WGer.: OE. *mæst* masc., MDu., MLG., OHG., MHG. *mast* masc., fem., neut. (mod.G. *mast* fem.) :–OTeut. type **masto-, -ā*; believed to represent a pre-Teut. **mazdo-* :–*maddo-* (cf. Skr. *mēda* fat), f. OAryan root *mēd-* 'to be fat, to flow', whence L. *madēre* to be wet, Goth. *mat-s* food (see Meat).]

1. A collective name for the fruit of the beech, oak, chestnut, and other forest-trees, esp. as food for swine. Rare in *pl.*

825 in Birch *Cart. Sax.* I. 536 Ðrim hunde swina mæst. *c* 1205 Lay. 21263 Al wæs þe king abolȝen swa bið þe wilde bar þenne he i þan mæste [*c* 1275 maste] monie swyn imeteþ. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Former Age* 7 They eten mast hawes and swych pownage. 1523 Fitzherb. *Surv.* 8 Whanne there is any mast growyng in ye lordes wodes. 1607 Shaks. *Timon* IV. iii. 422 The Oakes beare Mast, the Briars Scarlet Heps. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* I. 10 Bacchus and fost'ring Ceres, Pow'rs Divine, Who gave us Corn for Mast, for Water Wine. 1726 Swift *Gulliver* III. v. 66 Acorns, Dates, Chesnuts, and other Maste..whereof these Animals are fondest. 1822 Lamb *Elia* Ser. I. *Roast Pig*, The swineherd, Ho-ti, having gone out into the woods .. to collect mast for his hogs. 1824 Loudon *Encycl. Gardening* (ed. 2) 977 Trees and Shrubs bearing Nuts, Acorns, Masts, Keys, etc. 1870 Yeats *Nat. Hist. Comm.* 87 Oak, beech, and chestnut fatten with their mast immense numbers of hogs.

β. 1640 Fuller *Joseph's Coat* 147 Like Hogs, eating up the Maske, not looking up to the hand that shaketh it downe. 1879 Miss Jackson *Shropsh. Word-bk.*, *Mask .. Mass*, acorns; mast. 1882 H. Friend *Devonsh. Plant-n.*, *Masks*, *Masts*, acorns. Also applied to the fruit of the Beech.

fig. *a* 1617 Donne *Let.* Wks. 1839 VI. 369. I stand like a tree, which once a-year bears, though no fruit, yet this mast of children.

†**2.** The state or condition of feeding on mast. Only in phrases *to lie at mast, to put to mast. Obs.*

1620 Markham *Farew. Husb.* xvii. 158 Now put your swine to mast. 1664 Cotton *Scarron.* 51 We were .. sent .. To fetch a Sow that lies at Mast.

†**3.** *fig.* Luxurious or fattening food. *Obs.*

1575–85 Abp. Sandys *Serm.* x. 157 He..feedeth still vpon his mast, and blesseth himselfe when hee waxeth fat. 1592 Nashe *P. Penilesse* 20 b, There is no mast like a Marchaunts table.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*: **a.** simple attrib, as *mast hog, time, year*; **b.** objective, as *mast-bearer*, *mast-bearing* adj.; **c.** instrumental, as *mast-fed* adj. Also **mast cell** [after G. *mastzelle*], one of the cells filled with basophile granules, found in the connective tissue and in foci of chronic inflammation (Gould *Dict. Med.* 1900); **mast-tree**, a tree producing mast (recent Dicts. explain it as 'cork-tree', app. after the OE. gloss '*suberies*, mæstentriow', Wr.-Wülck. 137/23); **mastwood** (see quot.); **mastworts** *pl.*, Lindley's name for the *Corylaceæ*. Also Mast-holm.

1664 Evelyn *Sylva* 109 Where a single Tree is observ'd to be .. a constant, and plentiful *Mast bearer. 1610 Holland *Camden's Brit.* II. 92 Woods of 'Mast-bearing trees. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 638 Leucocytes with '*mast-cell' granules. 1899 *Ibid.* VIII. 472 Mast-cells are in no great abundance. 1566 Drant *Horace, Sat.* iv. G viij b, *Mastefedde bores. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 329/1 *Mast hog, .. *maialis*. 1682 S. Wilson *Acc. Carolina* 14 In the *Mast time they are very fat. 1577 B. Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* II. (1586) 101 The *mast trees [L. *glandiferas*], and such as serue for tymber. 1652 Blith *Eng. Improv. Impr.* (ed. 3) 166 The Beech is also a mast-tree. 1864 Grisebach *Flora W. Ind.* 785 *Mast-wood, yellow, *Tobinia coriacea*. 1846 Lindley *Veg. Kingd.* 290 *Corylaceæ*—*Mastworts. 1760 W. Douglass *Brit. N. Amer.* II. 375 Anno 1733, a good *mast year, one man..salted up three thousand barrels of pork.

†**Mast,** *sb.*[3] *Obs.* [? Corrupt form of Mass *sb.*[2] In quots. *c* 1420 and 1502 that word may be intended; in quot. 1502 the weight differs from that assigned in quot. 1674 to the 'mast'.] A weight (for certain articles of commerce) = 2½ lbs. Troy.

[*c* 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 3493 He .. come to Wiltone .. And brouȝt w^t^ hym of wax a mast. 1502 *Will of Somer* (Somerset Ho.), A mast of corall weyng vj^li^ skant.] 1545 *Rates Custom-ho.*, Ambre the maste x.*ss.* Corall the mast xx.*ss.* 1674 Jeake *Arith.* (1696) 73 Troy Weight hath seldom any greater denomination than the pound, yet sometime 2½ lb. thereof is called a Mast allowed for Amber and Gold and Silver Thread. 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Mast of Amber*, the quantity of Two Pounds and a half Weight.

†**Mast,** *sb.*[4], shortened form of Master.

Possibly merely a graphic abbreviation. But cf. Mas.

c 1460 *How Marchande dyd hys Wyfe betray* 59 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* I. 199 The marchandys man to hys mast dyd speke. *c* 1550 *John Bon & Mast Person* ibid. IV. 5 Nowe good morowe, mast Parson.

†**Mast,** *sb.*[5] *Billiards. Obs.* [Corruption (by confusion with Mast *sb.*[1]) of F. *masse* Mace *sb.*[1]] A kind of heavy cue, of which the broad end was used for striking.

1731 *Gentl. Mag.* I. 268 The Capt. gave the Boy a blow on the head with his Billiard Mast. 1734 Seymour *Compl. Gamester* III. (ed. 5) 73 Of Billiards. There is belonging to the Table an Ivory Port, .. two small Ivory Balls and two Sticks (called Masts). .. The Masts are made of .. weighty Wood, which at the broad End are tipped with Ivory. 1784 Cowper *Task* IV. 221 A billiard mast Well does the work of his [*sc.* Time's] destructive scythe. [1873: see Mace *sb.*[1] 3.]

Mast (mast), *v.*[1] [f. Mast *sb.*[1] Cf. OF. *master* (F. *mâter*).] *trans.* To furnish with masts.

1627 Capt. Smith *Seaman's Gram.* iii. 15 When a ship is built, she should be masted. 1682 S. Wilson *Acc. Carolina* 12 Pynes big enough to Mast the greatest Ships. 1705 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4117/4 Directions to Build, Rigg, Yard, and Mast any Ship. 1813 Hobhouse *Journey* (ed. 2) 903 Engines for masting ships. 1856 T. Guthrie *Ezek.* 319 Here is a noble ship...The forests have masted her.

†**Mast,** *v.*[2] *Obs.* Also 5 **meyste.** [OE. *mæstan* = OHG. *masten*, *mesten* (mod.G. *mästen*) Du. (*vet*)*mesten*:–WG. **mastjan*, f. **masto-* Mast *sb.*[2]]

1. *trans.* To feed (animals) on mast; to fatten.

c 974 in Birch *Cart. Sax.* III. 629 Ic wylle þæt man mæste minum wiue twa hund swyna. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 329/2 Mastyn beestys, *sagino*. *Ibid.* 334/2 Meysten, *idem quod* mastyn.

2. *transf.* To feed (oneself) gluttonously.

a 1560 Becon *Jewel of Joy* Wks. 1560 II. 9 b, The benefyced men..mastyng them selues lyke hogges of Epycurus flock. 1647 Trapp *Marrow Gd. Auth.* in *Comm. Ep.* 613 Those greedy gully-guts, that..mast themselves like hogs.

Mast, obs. form of Most, Must *v.*

‖**Mastaba(h** (mæ·stăbă). Also 7 **mastabe.** [Arab. *miṣ-, maṣṭaba*[h] (of Pers. origin).]

1. A bench, seat.

1603 Knolles *Hist. Turks* (1621) 834 Sitting vpon a pallet, which the Turkes call Mastabe. 1665 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* (1677) 175 At the upper end (surmounting the rest so much onely as two or three Mastaba's or white silken shags would elevate) sat the Pot-Shaw. 1687 A. Lovell tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* II. 29 A Mastabe is a kind of a half pace, that's to say, that the Floor is raised two or three foot from the ground, and there the Travellers lodge.

2. An ancient Egyptian tomb, rectangular or square in plan, flat-topped, with sides sloping outward to the base.

1882 *Nature* XXVI. 57 The mastabas were the mausolea of the richer and more important personages. 1883 V. Stuart *Egypt* 469 Stone mastabahs with inscriptions.

Mastage (mæ·stēdʒ). *Obs.* exc. *Hist.* [f. Mast *sb.*[2] or *v.*[2] + -age.] The fruit of forest-trees collectively: = Mast *sb.*[2] 1. Also, the right of feeding animals on mast.

1610 W. Folkingham *Art of Survey* I. vi. 13 What Trees, Plants, Shrubs: what Fruitage, Mastage, Gimmage. 1762 tr. *Busching's Syst. Geog.* VI. 287 The mastage .. from the oaks and beech. 1794 Pringle *Agric. Surv. Westmorland* 51 Regulations..full of the mention of forests, and chaces, ..and mastage, and pannage, and vert. 1881 *Cornh. Mag.* XLIV. 342 The English .. divided out the land..with .. right of..mastage for so many swine in the woodlands.

‖**Mastalgia** (mæstæ·ldʒiă). *Path.* [mod.L., f. Gr. *μαστός* breast + *-αλγία*, *ἄλγος* pain.] Neuralgia of the breast.

1856 in Mayne *Expos Lex.* In some recent Dicts.

†**Mastard.** *Obs.* A stallion.

1598 *Ripon Corporation Rec.* 10 June, Whosoever hath any stoned horse or mastard uppon the Comons after said.

‖**Mastax** (mæ·stæks). [mod.L. *mastax*, f. Gr. *μάστα*ξ mouth.] (See quot. 1855.)

1855 Gosse in *Phil. Trans.* CXLVI. 425, I propose then to appropriate to the sub-globose muscular bulb, which contains the manducatory organs in most Rotifera, the term *mastax*. 1877 Huxley *Anat. Inv. Anim.* iv. 187 At the bottom is a muscular pharynx, or mastax.

Maste, Mastecott, obs. ff. Most, Massicot.

Masted (mæ·stĕd), *ppl. a.*[1] [f. Mast *v.*[1] or *sb.*[1] + -ed.]

1. Furnished with a mast or masts.

1627 Capt. Smith *Seaman's Gram.* ii. 15 If either too small or too short, she is vnder masted or low masted. 1725 De Foe *Voy. round World* (1840) 100 A great heavy boat ..but ill masted. 1753 Chambers *Cycl. Supp.* s. v., A ship is said to be *masted* when she has all her masts compleat. 1810 Scott *Lady of L.* II. xvi, Slow enlarging on the view Four manned and masted barges grew. 1836 Marryat *Midsh. Easy* xiii, A one-masted xebeque. 1877 *Daily News* 19 Oct. 5/3 There will not be another masted ironclad forthcoming for years.

2. Of a harbour, etc.: Thronged with masts.

1757 Dyer *Fleece* III. 591 Our various hills and vales, Nowhere far distant from the masted wharf. 1882 J. Hawthorne *Fort. Fool* I. xviii, Away to the right might be discerned the .. masted harbour of a town.

†**Masted,** *ppl. a.*[2] *Obs.* In 5 **mestyde, mastid,** 7 **mested.** [f. Mast *v.*[2] + -ed[1].] Fed with mast, fatted.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 151/2 Fat fowle, or beste, mestyde to be slayne, *altile*. *c* 1490 *Ibid.* 329/1 Mast hog (*MS. K.* mastid swyne), *maialis*. *a* 1622 Ainsworth *Annot. Pentat.* Deut. xxxii. 24 *Burnt*..others translate it, filled or mested.

Mastelyn (e, obs. forms of Maslin.

Master (mā·stəɹ), *sb.*[1] Forms: 1 **mægister, mægester, magister,** 2–3 **meistre,** 2–5 **meister,** 3 *Ormin* **magȝstre,** 3–5 **maystre,** 3–6 **maistre, mayster,** 3–7, 9 (*dial.*) **maister,** 4 **maystir, meyster, mesteir, maistere,** 4–5 **mastir, maystur,** 4–6 **maistir,** 5 **meistir, maistur, mastre,** ma(y)**styr, mastur,** 6 **muster, maiester,** 3– **master.** [ME. *meister, -tre, maister, -tre,* partly :–OE. *mægester, magister,* a. L. *magister, magistrum,* in vulgar Latin pronunciation (ma·ʒester, -tro), whence also OFris. *mâster, mêster,* OS. *mêster* (Du., LG. *meester*), OHG. (MHG., mod.G.) *meister,* ON. *meistare* (Sw. *mästare*, Da. *mester*); partly a. OF. *maistre* (mod.F. *maître*) = Pr. *magestre-s, maestre-s,* OSp. *mestro, -tre* (mod.Sp. *maestro, -tre*), Pg. *mestre,* It. *maestro, mastro* :–L. *magistr-um, magister* (in OLatin *magester*), related to *magis* adv., more, as the correlative *minister* (see Minister *sb.*) to *minus* less.]

I. A man having control or authority.

†**1.** *gen.* One having direction or control over the action of another or others; a director, leader, chief, commander; a ruler, governor. *Obs.*

c 1000 Ælfric *Exod.* i. 11 Witudlice he sette him weorka mægestras [Vulg. *magistros operum*], þæt hiz ȝehyndon mid hefeȝum byrðenum. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 43 And heore [the 12 'master devils'] aȝene pine neure nere þe lesse þah heo meistres weren. *a* 1240 *Wohunge* in *Cott. Hom.* 281 Hwen þu wes henged bituhhe twa þeofes, As hwa se seie, He þis is mare þen þeof, And for þi as hare meister he hengeȝ ham bituhhen. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 4072 Þe mestres of ðise horemen. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 6408 Moyses þan cald sir iosue And mad him maister o þat semble. 13.. *Sir Beues* (MS. A) 1643 And, for is meisters [*i.e.* the two jailers] wer boþe ded, Þre daies after he ne et no bred. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 13084 Þe Bretons .. toke Petron, þe maister Romayn. *c* 1450 *Merlin* xxvii. 549 These foure hit herden that were maistris of the hoste and conditoures. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 104 Quhen thay sett vpon the ennimie..thay pas in ordour, following thair maistiris.

b. *transf.* (Chiefly of animals.)

1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 197 The vessell..Which Maister was of al the Flete. 1598 Shaks. *Tit. A.* v. i. 15 Like stinging Bees..Led by their Maister to the flowred fields. 1710 Rowe tr. *Lucan* IX. 1237 Some Master of the Herd, some mighty Bull. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. i. 122 The Master of the herd posted himself fronting the enemy, the rest of the goats being all behind him.

2. *spec.* (*Naut.*) **a.** The captain of a merchant

vessel, called also *master mariner* (see MARINER 1 b); †in early use also *pl.*, ? the officers or the crew. **b.** The officer (ranking next below a lieutenant) entrusted with the navigation of a ship of war as distinguished from the commander of a ship during warlike operations. Now styled *navigating officer* (Robinson *Brit. Fleet*, 1894, p. 406). †**c.** *Master and commander*: until 1814 the title of the officer in the navy since called COMMANDER. *Obs.*

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 12085 Þo maistres [*v.r.* mariaers] þat were slie. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 2744 Þe maistres..manli in come, & faire at þe fulle flod þei ferden to sayle. 1450 *Paston Lett.* I. 124 The maister of the Nicolas. 1553 CAUOT *Ordinances* in *Hakluyt's Voy.* (1589) 259 The master and pilot of euery ship. *a* 1568 ASCHAM *Scholem.* I. (Arb.) 61 An vnhappie Master he is, that is made cunning by manie shippe wrakes. 1594 *1st Pt Content.* F 1 b, And thea enter the Captaine of the ship and the Maister, and the Maisters Mate. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* II. ii. 48 The Master, the Swabber, the Boate-swaine & I. 1626 CAPT. SMITH *Acad. Yng. Seamen* 1 The Maister is to see to the cunaing the Ship, and trimming the sailes. 1725 DE FOE *Voy. round World* (1840) 18 Our pilot, or master, as we called him. 1748 LIND *Lett. Navy* ii. (1757) 76 The master, and some other gentlemen of the Essex. 1801 NELSON in A. Duncan *Life* (1806) 198 Captain Bedford, .. with Captain Gore,..offered their services to serve under a master and commander. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* iii. I. 303 The captain .. treated the master with lordly contempt. 1860 *Reed's Guide Bk. Local Marine Bd. Exams.* 11 A Master must be twenty-one years of age. 1902 *Encycl. Brit.* XXXI. 775/1 Pilotage certificates may also be granted..to masters and mates of ships.

d. Master's mate, an officer subordinate to but working with the master of a ship of war. Also *fig.*

1496 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 166 The Maisters mate & iiij quartermaisters. 1598 W. PHILLIP *Linschoten* I. iii. 4 The *Seto Piloto*, which is the Masters mate, hath 1200 reyes. 1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* IV. xvi. 322 It often hapning in Commonwealths, that the Masters mate steers the ship thereof, more then the Master himself. 1724 R. FALCONER *Voy.* (1769) 6 There's an excellent Master's Mate. 1836 MARRYAT *Midsh. Easy* xviii. 59 The worthy master's mate.

3. One who employs another in his service: correlative with *servant*, *man*; also with *apprentice*, where the original sense is that of branch II.

1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* III. 211 Seraaunts .. Takeþ Meede of heore Maystres. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Cook's T.* 35 This ioly prentys with his maistir bood. *c* 1450 *Merlin* I. 3 The heirdes .. tolde their maister the mervelle. 1526 *Hundred Mery Tales* (1866) 146 Here is nother mayster nor man. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* v. i. 47 My Master will be here ere morning. 1623 JAS. I in Rushw. *Hist. Coll.* (1659) I. 127 He is a happy man that serves a good Master. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 107 ₱ 1 The general Corruption of Manners in Servants is owing to the conduct of Masters. 1728 SWIFT *My Lady's Lament.* 174 Who's master, who's man. 1765 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* I. xiv. 416 A Master may by law correct his apprentice. 1835 URE *Philos. Manuf.* 319 List of Prices .. as agreed to by Masters and Men. 1843 CARLYLE *Past & Pr.* II. x, Continued vigilance, rigorous method, what we call 'the eye of the master', work wonders. 1843 BORROW *Bible in Spain* xxxiv, I have lived in many houses and served many masters. 1880 MCCARTHY *Own Time* IV. liv. 171 The masters and the workmen.

b. *Proverbs.*

1548 [see LIKE *a.* 2 d]. 1554 in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* (1721) III. xxiii. 190 The old proverbe is true ..'such a master, such a servant'. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* IX. vi. § 34 He crossed the Proverb, *like Master, like Man*, the Patron being Cruel, the Chaplain Kinde. 1665 BOYLE *Occas. Reft.* IV. viii. (1848) 218 Fire and Water, they cannot be so good Servants, but that they are worse Masters. 1692 R. L'ESTRANGE *Fables* xxxviii. 38 Fire and Water,..are Good Servants, but Bad Masters.

c. Applied to a sovereign in relation to his ministers or officers. Now chiefly *Hist.*

1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* IV. xxiii. 151 The woful knyghte told her how his mayster and lorde was bitrayed. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 96 Thay ar bent mair williaglie..gif thair maistir commande thame, to seditionae. 1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* IV. v. 75 The King my master. 1611 BIBLE 1 *Sam.* xxiv. 6 The Lord forbid that I should doe this thing vnto my master the Lords Anoynted. 1612 BACON *Ess., Fortune* (Arb.) 379 Extreme Louers of their Country, or Masters, were neuer fortunate. 1712 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 21 Dec., The Spanish Ambassador desired him to tell me that his master, and the King of France.. were more obliged to me than any man in Europe. 1885 LOWE *Bismarck* I. 396 M. le Comte Benedetti, French Ambassador at Berlin..sped to Vienna with the latest proposal of his master.

d. In public school use: The boy whom another serves as a fag.

1833 LYTTON *Eng. & Engl.* (ed. 2) II. 108 The fag loathed his master. 1863 [HEMYNG] *Eton School Days* iv. (1864) 42 College rolls .. were never so tempting to me when I had been to get them for my 'master'.

4. The owner of a living creature, as a dog, horse, slave; also, the man whom an animal is accustomed to obey. Also in *fig.* context.

14.. *Sir Beues* (MS. M.) 3758 Stedis..With oute maisters. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 188 Þe huade .. gruchid not to be burnyd with his maister bodie. 1535 COVERDALE *Isa.* i. 3 An oxe knoweth his lorde and an Asse his masters stall. 1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* I. ii. 157 My Dagger muzzel'd, Lest it should bite its Master. 1718 PRIOR *Solomon* II. 424 Till the lov'd dog [should] declare his master near. 1788 COWPER *Negro's Complaint* iii, Think, ye masters iron-hearted. 1833 WHITTIER *Abolitionists* Pr. Wks. 1889 III. 64 A majority of the masters .. are disposed to treat their .. slaves with kindness. 1863 WOOLNER *My Beautiful Lady* 64 An unruly horse Checked by a master's hand. 1884 'RITA' *My Lord Conceit* I. III. iii. 297 The little dog .. sat..looking as if he were holding a court-martial upon the proceedings of his two little masters.

Proverb. 1605 CAMDEN *Rem., Prov.* (1614) 313 The Maisters eye maketh the horse fat.

5. The male head of a house or household.

1536 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. II. 80 Mr. Shelton saythe he es Master of thys Hows. 1577–87 HOLINSHED *Hist. Scot.* 278/1 The people generallie lamenting his death with no lesse sorow .. than as is seene in a priuat house for the deceasse of the welbeloued maister and owner thereof. 1611 BIBLE *Exod.* xxii. 8 The master of the house shall be brought vnto the Iudges. 1651 BAXTER *Saints' R.* (ed. 2) III. xiii. § 11 The last whom I would perswade to this great Work..is Parents, and Masters of Families. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 82 ₱ 4 The Master of a Family that wholly depended upon his Life. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) X. 309/1 As a husband, a father, or the master of a family, he was as nearly faultless as the imperfections of humanity will easily permit. 1798 *Monthly Mag.* V. 395 Mr. Munday, late master of the Falstaff inn. 1841 LANE *Arab. Nts.* I. 123 The master of the house begins first.

b. With possessive adj.: (One's) husband. *dial.*

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 8430 A fuerse dreme, That she met of hir maister. 1459 *Paston Lett.* I. 435 As for my mayster, my best beloved that ye call. 1852 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* viii, I'm a-watching for my master. 1879 J. FOTHERGILL *Probation* I. xix, A rough 'measter' to make and mend and 'do' for.

6. A possessor, owner. Now *rare*, exc. in the phrase *to be master of*: to possess, have at one's disposal (now usually, some immaterial thing); often, with approach to sense 14, to have a 'mastery' or thorough knowledge of (a subject).

c 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 55 Wen..þei are opunly maistris of alle iuelis, how are þey not heretyks? *a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* (1868) 58 Whanne that two vices be sette one euelle delite, gladly they bringe her maister into temptacion. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 178 How suld thai be callit sauf condytis, bot gif thai condyte thair maisteris sauflly? 1484 CAXTON *Fables of Æsop* III. vi, Synne retorneth euer vpon his mayster. 1563 B. GOOGE *Sonn.* (Arb.) 97 Eche Torment..Lyght here vpon this cursed hand..And plague the part that durst presume his Mayster to disgrace. 1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* IV. viii. 229 Divers mines which are..divided betwixt divers Masters. 1607 DEKKER & WEBSTER *Northw. Hoe* IV. i. Wks. 1873 III. 45 Clothes sometimes are better Gentlemen than their Masters. 1608 *Merry Devil of Edmonton* (1631) 9 To see if he could finde the Maister of the tongue that called him. *a* 1715 BURNET *Own Time* (1724) II. 353 Some houses fell and crushed their Masters to death. 1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* II. vi, Those .. qualities of mind that he was master of. 1785 TRUSLER *Mod. Times* III. 29, I was master of more than twenty pounds. 1787 'G. GAMUADO' *Acad. Horsemen* (1809) 21 Scarce one of them [dray-horses] but is master of thirty stone or upwards. 1818 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) III. 19 Judgement and discretion, which an infant was not master of. 1853 'C. BEDE' *Verdant Green* I. iv, Mr. Filcher was laden with coats and boots that had just been brushed and blacked for their respective masters.

7. One who has the power to control, use, or dispose of something at will. Chiefly *predicative.*

a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* xvii. 47 God makis vs maysters of vices. *c* 1400 *Gamelyn* 314 We wiln be maistres heer. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* I. 131 Quhar that stayne is, Scottis suld mastir be. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xli. 13 Be now and ay the maistir of 3our will. *c* 1510 MORE *Picus* Wks. 5/2 He was his owne maister. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 290 b, To be myne owne maister. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* 444 They saw the enemies maisters of the land. 1601 R. JOHNSON *Kingd. & Commw.* (1603) 48 No man is maister of himselfe. 1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* V. x. 1 Yet are we maisters of the field. 1670 COTTON *Espernon* I. I. 43 To make themselves Maisters of Affairs. 1693 *Humours Town* A v, The Master of my own Time. *Ibid.* 39 Ev'ry Woman that will make a Man Master of her Person..makes him Master of her Purse. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* IV. 709 Th' unwary Lover cast his Eyes behind, Forgetful of the Law, nor Master of his Mind. 1706 E. WARD *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 102 It would be a.. scandal to him to go off Master of his Legs. 1768 *Ann. Reg., Char.* (1786) 29/1 Master of the Queen's soul, which he guided as he pleased; [etc.]. 1782 PRIESTLEY *Corrupt. Chr.* II. x. 262 The bishops were almost masters..of France and Germany. 1790 BURKE *Fr. Rev.* 318 The person who really commands the army is your master; the master (that is little) of your king, the master of your Assembly, the master of your whole republick. 1872 YEATS *Growth Comm.* 100 You will become masters of all the gold in Christendom. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* vii. § 6. 410 To secure a landing at all, the Spaniards had to be masters of the Channel. 1891 *Law Rep., Weekly Notes* 200/1 The tenant for life was master of the situation. 1904 *People* 4 Dec. 17/7 Two .. cart horses; suitable for coal or timber merchants; master of two tons.

b. *transf.* of things more or less personified.

1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* III. 162 Such a Mayster is Meede A-Mong Men of goode. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 42 Love is maister wher he wile. 1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* I. i. 39 Loue is your master. 1633 BP. HALL *Occas. Medit.* (1851) 114 An honest man's word must be his master. 1678–9 DRYDEN & LEE *Œdipus* I. i, But it's a hard world, neighbours, If a man's oath must be his master. 1797 GODWIN *Enquirer* I. vi. 44 Language is not his master, but he is the master of language. 1873 BRIDGES *Poems, Triolet*, When first we met we did not guess That Love would prove so hard a master.

¶ **c.** *To be master*: to be free to do as one pleases (in a specified matter). [A Gallicism.]

1752 CHESTERF. *Lett.* (1792) III. cclxxxv. 304 Would you saunter at some of the small courts, as Brunswick..? You are master.

8. One who overcomes another, a victor.

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 11/342 With þis signe þou schalt maister beo. *a* 1400 *Octavian* 923 The people to the wallys can go To see the batelle betwene them two..hys fadur, wo was he Tylle he wyste whych schulde maystyr be. 15.. *Smyth & Dame* 159 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* III. 207 Thaa our Lorde gan say...Smyth,..Thy mayster thov me call. 1557 BARCLAY tr. *Sallust* 84 b, Him which is strongest and is maister hauyage the vpper hand. 1864 TENNYSON *En. Ard.* 31 If they quarrell'd, Enoch stronger-made Was master.

9. *Bowls.* [Short for *master bowl.*] A small bowl placed as a mark for the players to aim at; = JACK *sb.*1 18. (Cf. MISTRESS.)

1530 PALSGR. 478/1 Who shall caste the mayster boule? 1579 GOSSON *Sch. Abuse* (Arb.) 60 At Bowles euery one craues to kisse the maister. 1600 HEYWOOD *2nd Pt. Edw. IV*, IV. iii, This cheese shall be the maister.

II. A teacher; one qualified to teach.

10. A man to whose care a child or children are committed for purposes of instruction; a tutor, preceptor; in later use chiefly a teacher in a school, a schoolmaster; also, a professional teacher of some special subject, as an art or a language.

c 888 K. ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxix. § 2 Se uarihtwisa Neroa wolde hatan his agenne magister [orig. *præceptoremque suum*]..agellan. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 64 Sum is so wel ilered.. þet heo wolde þet he wuste hit; þe sit & speked..& bicumeð meister, þe schulde beon ancre. 13.. *K. Alis.* 665 The sevethen maister taught his pars. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 435 Þe childes maister si3 þat, and slow þe seweie anon. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 185 It sittethe a maister..at large to teche his lesson. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* VIII. 126 He..was elected maister to the prince. 1599 SHAKS., etc. *Pass. Pilgr.* xv, It was a Lording's daughter .. That liked of her maister as well as well might be. 1694 BOYER (*title*) The compleat French-master. A short grammar, [etc.]. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 168 ₱ 3, I was bred myself, Sir, in a very great School, of which the Master was a Welchman. 1770 GOLDSM. *Des. Vill.* 196 The village master taught his little school. 1856 (*title*) French in a fortnight without a Master. 1867 C. S. PARKER in *Quest. Reformed Part.* 164 Without coasalting the vicar, he dismisses the certificated master.

11. He whose disciple one is; the teacher (in religion, philosophy, art, science, or scholarship) from whom one has chiefly learned, or whose doctrines one accepts. *The* (*our, my, his,* etc.) *Master*: often applied to Christ, with mixture of sense 3.

c 1200 ORMIN 12898 þatt ta twa Lerninngcnihhtess Herrdenn whatt te33re ma33stre space Off Christ [etc.]. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 20915 His maister..And he aght noght haf al a dome, For he was noght worþi þer-till. 1382 WYCLIF *John* iii. 10 Art thou a maistir in Israel, and knowist not thes thingis? 1412–20 LYDG. *Troy-bk.* end (Schick), My maister Chaucer. 1529 MORE *Dyalege* II. Wks. 179/2 Yet bee there not onely as many sectes almoste as men, but also the maisters them selfe chaunge theyr mindes and theyr oppynions euery daye. 1533 GAU *Richt Vay* (1888) 25 We neid noder to seik or leir of oder vane maisters quhat guid warkis we suld dw. 1629 MURE *True Crucifix* 3125 With hearts right set, their Maister's will to know. 1748 THOMSON *Cast. Indol.* II. lii, Ne had my master Spenser charmed his Mulla's plains. 1771 BURKE *Corr.* (1844) I. 284 The advice of one of our great masters in the science of life and morals. 1827 WILLIS *Healing Daughter Jairus* 57 Closer drew The twelve disciples to their Master's side. 1843 BORROW *Bible in Spain* xxxviii, Why should I be ashamed of their company when my Master mingled with publicans and thieves? 1904 SAINTSBURY *Hist. Crit.* III. 427 John Keats .. and his master Leigh Hunt.

†**12.** A man of approved learning, a scholar of authority. *Obs.*

a 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 120 Modi meistres & fele fondeden hire ofte o swiðe fele halue, for to underniimen hire. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 11462 And did he suith to samen call þe maisters of his kingrik all, And fraind at þaim if þai wist, Quar suld he be born, þat crist. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. x. 384 Maistres þat of goddis mercy techen men and prechen. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S. T. S.) 179 And as for me and othir maisteris and doctouris, me think this the rycht oppin. 1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* V. lxxviii. § 1 Terming.. Scribes and interpreters of the law, Masters.

b. *Master of the sentences* (*magister sententiarum*), the name given to Peter Lombard, Bishop of Paris in the 12th c., from his book *Sententiarum libri quatuor*, a collection of patristic comments on passages of Holy Scripture. *Master of Stories* (*magister in historiis*), a name given to Petrus Comestor, from his work called *Historia Scholastica.*

c 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 2 [Of the Essenes] spekeþ þe maister of stories. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 43 He wroot agenst þe maister of þe sentence [1432–50 sentence]. 1398 — *Barth. De P. R.* XIII. xii, As ye maysster sayth in Historiis. 1594 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* VI. vi. 8. 1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* II. XXV. § 11 The first writings of the fathers, whence the Master of the Sentences made his sum.

13. In academic sense, = med.L. *magister*: One who has received a specific degree, originally conveying authority to teach in the university. In English use (until recently: see below) confined to the Faculty of Arts (the corresponding title in the other faculties being *doctor*): the full designation of the graduate is in L. *artium magister*, in Eng. *master of arts* (formerly †*of art*), denoted by the abbreviation M.A. or (now rarely, exc. in the U.S.) A.M. In recent times the degrees of *Master of Science* (M.Sc.), *Master in* or *of Surgery* (*Magister Chirurgiæ*, M.Ch.) have been given in certain British universities.

Master of divinity, theology (*obs.* exc. *Hist.*), titles belonging to graduates of certain continental universities.

13. WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 376 Capped freris, þat ben calde maystres of dyvynite. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 6553 The maistres of divinitee Somtyme in Paris. *c* 1425 [see ART

sb. 7]. 1484 CAXTON *Fables of Poge* ad fin., There were duellynge in Oxenford two prestes bothe maystres of arte. 1494, 1604 [see REGENT *sb.* 3a]. 1573 G. HARVEY *Letter-bk.* (Camden) 2 This is mi year to commens master in. *a* 1661 FULLER *Worthies* I. (1662) 150 A Boisten horse and a Cambridge Master of Art, are a couple of Creatures that will give way to nobody. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 39 ¶ 4 Being a Master of Arts of Oxford. 1847 PRESCOTT *Peru* (1855) II. v. i. 215 He [Pedro de la Gasca] received the degree of Master of Theology. 1853 'C. BEDE' *Verdant Green* I. iv, Please not to walk on the grass, sir; there's a fine agen it, unless you're a Master. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIII. 835/1 It is in this licence [*licentia docendi*] that the whole significance of the master of arts degree is contained. *Ibid.* 835/2 'Regents', that is, masters actively engaged in teaching. 1900 *Oxford Univ. Calend.* 71 Fees. . .Before the Examination for the Degree of Master of Surgery, £5.

14. Originally, a workman who is qualified by training and experience to teach apprentices and to carry on his trade on his own account. (Chiefly in appositional combs., as *master carpenter* etc., for which see 24 d.) Hence, (*a*) a workman who is in business on his own account, as distinguished from a journeyman; in modern use merged in sense 3; (*b*) a workman of approved skill, one who thoroughly knows his trade; also *transf.* and *fig.*

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 8733 Þo maisturs gert make a meruelous toumbe. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* x. 265, I sholde goo gyve you suche a stroke . . that ye sholde saye it is a stroke of a maister. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* IV. xxiv. 140 An ingenious maister . . proposed vnto him [Alexander] that . . he would make to be cut in humain figure, the mount of Athos. 1693 *Humours Town* 35 Masters in their Profession. 1706 E. WARD *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 27 In this kind of Billingsgate Clashing he's a much greater Master, than [etc.]. 1759 JOHNSON *Rasselas* vi. (1893) 50 He . . found the master busy in building a sailing chariot. 1829 SOUTHEY *Sir T. More* II. 174 A craft in which any one may commence master, without having served an apprenticeship.

†**b.** Used predicatively without article (quasi-*adj.*) with the sense 'highly skilled'. Const. *inf.*

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 9325 Mayster he is to bitraye, is word is al falshede. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xix. (*Cristofore*) 84 Þe dewil is mare master þan þu. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* xxiv. 499, I am mayster for to begge brede. 1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* v. vii. 387 He was a man master in the art of dissembling. 1722 RAMSAY *Monk & Miller's Wife* 137 Think ye . . his gentle stamock's master To worry up a pint of plaister.

15. An artist of distinguished skill, one of those who are regarded as models of excellence in their art. *Old master*: a 'master' who lived before the period accounted 'modern'; chiefly applied to painters from the 13th to the 16th or 17th century.

1533, 1651 [see FENCE *sb.* 2]. 1598 R. HAYDOCKE tr. *Lomazzo's Art Paint.* I. 23 Raphaell, Perino del Vaga, . . and all other famous Maisters. 1622 PEACHAM *Compl. Gent.* xi. 102 Peter Phillips, . . now one of the greatest Masters of Musicke in Europe. 1662 EVELYN *Chalcogr.* 36 Albert Durer [at the age of 10–14] performing such things as might shame most of the best Masters. 1703 ROWE *Fair Penit.* II. i. 530 Let the Master touch The sprightly String. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 129 ¶ 1 Great Masters in Painting never care for drawing People in the Fashion. 1747 J. GODFREY *Sci. Defence* 18, I have now done with the Small-Sword, and shall only do Justice to the Merits of two or three Masters. 1757 GRAY *Bard* 21 With a Master's hand, and Prophet's fire. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XIII. 609/1 The observations of ancient authors on the best paintings of the ancient masters. *Ibid.* 615/2 A painter ought attentively to consider . . all the different styles of the great masters. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVII. 145/2 As a painter of animals, Edwin Landseer far surpasses any of the old masters. 1841–4 EMERSON *Ess., Art* Wks. (Bohn) I. 149 The pictures of the Tuscan and Venetian masters. 1870 B. HARTE *Dickens in Camp* iv, He read aloud the book wherein the Master had writ of 'Little Nell'. 1897 MRS. LYNN LINTON *Geo. Eliot* in *Women Novelists* 101 A task beyond the power of any but the few Masters of our literature.

b. Used for: A work (of painting or sculpture) by a master. Now only with qualification, as *old master*, and occasionally *modern master*.

[1694 DRYDEN *Sir G. Kneller* 141 Those masters, then but seen, not understood, With generous emulation fired thy blood.] 1752 FOOTE *Taste* II. Wks. 1799 I. 18 'Tis a thousand pities that any of these masters should quit England. 1851 D. JERROLD *St. Giles* xxviii. 287 As a picture-dealer stares at an alleged old master.

III. As a specific title of office.

16. The head or presiding officer of many societies or institutions: e.g. of certain colleges (in Oxford, Cambridge, and elsewhere), guilds, corporations, livery companies, etc. (in some of which, however, the title is given not to the head but to the members of an administrative body subordinate to him), hospitals, etc. Formerly also used for GRAND-MASTER, *Great master* (see 19), the title of the head of a military order. Also with postfixed adj. (after med.L.) in the titles of dignitaries of monastic and other religious organizations, as *master-general*, *master provincial*.

† *Master of Prussia* (*Prusse*, *Pruteland*): the grand-master of the Teutonic Order. *Master of the Temple*: (*a*) *Hist.* the grand-master of the Knights Templar; (*b*) the principal clergyman of the Temple Church, London, appointed by royal letters patent.

1389 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 4 Þe maistres & bretheren tofore said. 1427 in Heath *Grocers' Comp.* (1869) 4 John Melborne, John Olyve, Maistres. 1430–1 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 370/2 Master and Prestes of the Chapell. 1442 *Ibid.* V. 65/2 The Kyng wille and is disposed, to sende his Letters to the Maistr' of Pruce. 1463–4 *Ibid.* 502/2 Every Mayer, where Mayer is; every Maister, where Maister is, where noo Mayer is. 1550 CROWLEY *Way to Wealth* B j, A Maister of an house in Oxforde or Cambridge. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 48 b, Albert of Brandenburge, master of Pruselande [orig. 95 *Prussiæ Magister*]. 1568 ASCHAM *Scholem.* II. (Arb.) 143 Pelting matters, soch as in London commonlie cum to the hearing of the Masters of Bridewell. 1586 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* IV. 74 Maisteris Andro and James Melvillis, maisteris of the New College. 1642–6 in Quincy *Hist. Harvard Univ.* (1840) I. 517 The Overseers and Master of the College. 1648 GAGE *West Ind.* 210 Fryer Nicholus Rodulfius of the same whole Order [of Preachers] Master Generall. . . Fryer Nicholas Master of the Order. . . Fryer Ignatius Ciantes Master Provinciall of England. 1654 GATAKER *Disc. Apol.* 36 Mr. Masters Master of the Temple. 1691 WOOD *Ath. Oxon.* I. 101 He was made Master of Balliol Coll. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Templars*, a Religious Order, which . . had a Governour . . in England, who was styled *Master of the Temple* . . : Whence the chief Minister of the Temple-Church in London . . is still dignify'd with that Title. 1722 in Cox *Old Constit. Masons* (1871) 23 A Lodge of five Free-Masons, at the least, whereof one to be a Master or Warden of that Limit or Division where such Lodge shall be kept. 1762 tr. *Busching's Syst. Geog.* V. 450 Master of the Teutonick order in Germany. 1825 SCOTT *Talism.* ix, The celebrated Master of the Templars. 1829 HEATH *Grocers' Comp.* (1860) p. vii, The Master, Wardens, and Court of Assistants of the Worshipful Company of Grocers. 1853 'C. BEDE' *Verdant Green* I. iv, Mr. Verdant Green . . proceeded with his father to Brazenface College to call upon the Master. 1876 FIRTH *Munic. Lond.* 50 The name of 'Livery Company' has remained. . . The control by Master or Wardens of the dress of members has ceased.

17. In the designations of certain legal functionaries, as *Master of the* (or *in*) *Chancery*, (*a*) until 1852, one of the twelve assistants to the Lord Chancellor, the chief of whom was Master of the Rolls; (*b*) since 1897 any one of four chief clerks of the Chancery Division of the Supreme Court; *Master of the Court* (*of Common Pleas, of the King's Bench, of the Exchequer*), any one of five officers in each of those courts (now, in the corresponding division of the Supreme Court) charged with the duty of recording the proceedings.

Also *Master of the Faculties*, see FACULTY *sb.* 11 b; *Master in Lunacy*, see LUNACY *sb.* 1; *Master of the Requests* († *M. of Request*), see REQUEST; *Master of the Wards* (*and Liveries*), see WARD.

1425 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 306/1 Maistres of ye Chauncerie beyng occupied in ye Chauncerie. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XIII. 763/1 On the other wool-sacks are seated the judges, masters in chancery, and king's council. 1818 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) IV. 260 The usual order was obtained, referring it to the Master to inquire whether a good title could be made. 1837 *Act 7 Will. IV & 1 Vict.* c. 30 § 3 There shall be in each of the said Courts . . Five Principal Officers, and no more, to be called respectively the Masters of each of the said Courts. 1846 *Act 9 & 10 Vict.* c. 95 § 62 A Master Extraordinary in Chancery. 1853 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* i, Every master in Chancery has had a reference out of it [Jarndyce and Jarndyce]. 1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XX. 342/1 In the Queen's Bench Division . . the duty of registrars is performed by the masters. 1891 *Law Times* XCII. 107/1 Application was made by the plaintiff [in the Court of Q. B.], to a master at chambers, for leave to issue execution. 1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 4 Mar. 10/1 The Chancery chief clerks are henceforth to be styled 'Masters'.

18. a. In many designations of officials having duties of the nature of control, superintendence, or safe-keeping, as † *Master of Assay* = ASSAY-MASTER; † *M. of the Coin* = M. of the Mint; *M. of the* (*King's, Queen's*) *Household* (also Sc. † *Master Household*), an officer under the Steward of the Royal Household; *M. of the Jewel-house*, the keeper of the Crown Jewels in the Tower of London; *M. of the* (*King's*) *Music*, an officer of the Royal Household, the conductor of the King's band; † *M. of the Posts* (see quot. 1706); *M. of the Robes, of the Wardrobe*, the keeper of the 'great' wardrobe of the King, Queen, or other exalted personage; *Master of* (*the*) *Works* or (now dial.) *Work*, an official who superintends building operations.

For *Master of Ceremonies*, *M. of the Mint*, *M. of Misrule*, *M. of the Revels*, *M. of the Rolls*, see the second sbs.

1423 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 256/2 The forsaid Maistre of the koyne. *Ibid.*, The Maister of the mynte aforeseid. 1454 *Ibid.* V. 273/2 Bi th' oversight of the Maistir of the Werks there. 1528 *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, VII. 61 The Maister of the Postes shall gyve horses to noo man, oonles [etc.]. 1529 in *Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot.* XXX. (1896) 53 Ane lettre . . makand hym maister of wark within the castell of Striveling. 1548 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. III. III. 297 The Mr housholde to the Quene. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S. T. S.) I 334 Maister houshald witht mony wther offeceris. 1597–8 *Act 39 Eliz.* c. 7 § 12 Maister of the Juell House. *Ibid.*, Master of the Warderobe. 1677 in *12th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 42 Master of the Robes to the Duke. 1696 PHILLIPS, *Master of the King's Household.* 1703 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3914/4 His Grace . . was served at Table by . . the Duke of Argyle, as Master Houshold. 1704 in *Buccleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS Comm.) I. 352 Your son shall have the reversion of the Master of the Great Wardrobe for life. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Master of Assay. Ibid.*, *Master of the Posts*, was an Officer of the King's Court, who had the appointing of all such throughout England as provided Post-horses for the speedy passing of the King's Messages, &c. 1901 *Lond. Gaz.* 8 Oct. 6569 Sir Walter Parratt, M.V.O., to be Master of The King's Music in Ordinary to His Majesty.

b. *Mil.* in various titles of command, as † *Master of the Armoury*, † *M. of the Artillery*; *Master* (*General*) *of the Ordnance*, the controller of the Ordnance and Artillery (now, the head of the Board of Ordnance). Also (in translations from Latin or Fr.) † *master of chivalry*.

1382 WYCLIF *Gen.* xxxvii. 36 Putiphar, the geldyng of Pharao, the mayster of chyualrye. 1485 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 354/2 The Offices of Maister of oure Ordinaunces and Maister of oure Armery. 1489 CAXTON *Faytes of A.* I. vii, The soverayn maystre of the chyualrye of the prynce. 1512 *Aberdeen Reg.* (1844) I. 83 Maisteris of the said artaillerie. 1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* II. xviii. (S. T. S.) 159 Spurius cassius [was] þe first maister of chenelrie. 1548 PATTEN *Exp. Scot.* A ij b, Syr Iraunces Flemmynge knight, master of the ordinaunce. 1597–8 *Act 39 Eliz.* c. 7 § 12 The Maister and Leiftenaunte of the Ordynance, . . Maister of the Armory, [and others]. 1695 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3131/3 The Earl of Romney Master-General of the Ordnance. 1863 H. COX *Institt.* III. viii. 708 The Master-General of the Ordnance.

c. *Master of the Horse*: (*a*) the officer who has the management of the horses belonging to a sovereign or other exalted personage; in England, the title of the third official of the royal household (formerly sometimes † *m. of horses*); also rarely *transf.* in jocular use, a head groom or stableman; (*b*) *Antiq.* used as transl. of L. *magister equitum*, master of the 'knights' or horsemen (cf. HORSE *sb.* 3 b), under the Roman republic the title of the commander of the cavalry appointed by a dictator.

(*a*) 1449 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 154/1 By the avys of the Maister of the Kyngs Hors for the tyme beyng. *c* 1450 *Bk. Curtasye* 611 in *Babees Bk.*, A maystur of horsys a squyer þer is. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 735 Sir John Cheiney, maister of the Kinges horses. 1570 81 in Digges *Compl. Ambass.* (1655) 303 The Emperors Ambassador, who is Master of the horse. 1754 RICHARDSON *Grandison* (1811) I. xxxv. 258, I was to be this gentleman's master of the horse abroad. 1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XXI. 37/2 The master of the horse is the third dignitary of the court.

(*b*) 1781 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xvii. II. 33 *note*, The masters of the horse of the ancient dictators.

d. The official custodian of certain animals kept for sport or pleasure. Formerly in many titles of office in the English court, as *Master of the Bears*, *of the Hawks*, *of the Swans*; now chiefly in *Master of the Buckhounds*, the fourth great officer of the household. Also *Master of the Game*: the officer entrusted with the preservation of game in certain royal forests; occas. *jocularly* a gamekeeper.

c 1410 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby) fol. 3 The whiche booke shall . . be named . . maistre of game. 1449 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 167/2 William Brocas Squyer, Maister of your Bukhounds. 1485 *Ibid.* VI. 354/1 The Office of Maister of the Herthunds. *Ibid.* 360/2 The Office of Maister of oure Swannes. *Ibid.* 365/2 Maister and Rueler of the Kings Beres. 1530 PALSGR. 916/1 The master of hawkes, *le grant faulconner*. 1671 F. PHILLIPS *Reg. Necess.* 132 Mr. Pitcarnes (the Master of the Hawkes) Man. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 118 ¶ 2 Sir Roger's Master of the Game. 1860 FORSTER *Gr. Remonstr.* 104 The fee of the Master of the Cocks [under James I] exceeded the united salaries of two Secretaries of State. 1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XXI. 38/1 The master of the buckhounds, who is also one of the ministry, ranks next to him [*sc.* the master of the horse].

e. *Master of hounds*: one who owns, or has the control of, a pack of hounds; usually, the member of a hunt who is elected to have the control of the kennels and of the hunting arrangements generally; chiefly equivalent to *Master of foxhounds* (abbreviated M.F.H.). Also in *m. of beagles, harriers, staghounds*, etc., and with the designation of a particular pack of hounds.

1781 COWPER *Progr. Error* 114 He takes the field, the master of the pack Cries—'Well done, saint!' and claps him on the back. 1852 R. S. SURTEES *Sponge's Sp. Tour* (1893) 130 Masters of hounds are always jealous of each other. . . No man in the master-of-hound world is too insignificant for censure. 1856 'STONEHENGE' *Brit. Sports* 101 The master of a pack of foxhounds, staghounds, or even of harriers, ought [etc.]. 1868 HOLME LEE *B. Godfrey* xxviii. 147 Sir Ralph has the hounds, and is a very good master. 1881 *Encycl. Brit.* XII. 394/2 It is the master's duty to say what covers are to be drawn. 1899 T. M. ELLIS *Three Cats-eye Rings* 29 The master of the Storr-hinton beagles.

†**19. Great master.** = GRAND-MASTER 1 and 2.

1524 in *Hakluyt's Voy.* II. i. 86 The massife of Spaine made by the reuerend lord great master Mery d'Amboise. 1531 CROMWELL in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) I. 341 His Highnes also woll that ye shall moue the gret maister [of France] in that behalf. 1547 EARL SUSSEX in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. I. II. 137 The Lord St. John lord president of the Counsaile and Gret Master. 1577 *F. de L'isle's Legendarie* A viij b, The Constable at that time great master and Marshal of France entreated for him. 1685 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2114/1 The great Master [of the Knights of Malta] has given Orders [etc.].

IV. As a title of rank or compliment.

20. Used vocatively as a term of respect or politeness. **a.** *sing.* = Sir. Now only in uneducated use. **b.** *pl.* (in later times always *my masters*) = Sirs, gentlemen. Now *arch.* or *rhetorical*, chiefly in ironical or derisive context.

In the first quot. rendering L. *magister*, prob. applied to Nectanabus as being a man of learning.

1340–70 *Alisaunder* 587 Þe Quene . . quikly saide, 'Maister, welcome, ywis; will[e] yee sitte?' 1536 in Wriothesley *Chron.* (Camden) I. 39 The Lord of Rochford . . sayde these wordes . . on the scaffolde . . Maisters all, I am come hither not to

preach and make a sermon. 1563 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 244 Sa hes it plesit the Quenis Majestie, my maisters, to grant the lik commissioun. 1591 SHAKS. *1 Hen. VI*, I. i. 152 Farwell my Masters, to my Taske will I. 1602 — *Ham.* II. ii. 440 V'are welcome Masters, welcome all. 1608 MIDDLETON (*title*) A mad World, my Masters. 1653 WALTON *Compl. Angler* 85 Come on my masters, who begins? 1798 WORDSW. '*We are Seven*' 64 'O Master! we are seven'. 1837 MARRYAT *Dog Fiend* xxix, 'Put up your fiddle, master'. 1843 BORROW *Bible in Spain* xxxi, Many is the wetting that you will get, my masters, before you reach Oviedo. 1903 *Eng. Dial. Dict.*, *Master*, a term of address to a superior or stranger; Sir.

21. A title prefixed to the name or designation of a man. Originally used only in speaking of or to a man either of high social rank or of learning (sometimes, esp. in Scotland, applied *spec.* to a Master of Arts), but gradually extended in application. In ordinary use now only *dial.*, but in literatnre sometimes *arch.* or *Hist.*; otherwise superseded by MR. (pronounced mi'stəɹ).

The obscured pronunciation resulting from proclitic use doubtless began while the written form *master* was still commonly employed. Before the end of the 17th c. the abbreviation *Mr.* (originally only one among many others used for the word in all applications) had come to be restricted to the use in which the pronunciation was obscured, and to be the only permitted mode of writing the word in that use. Thenceforward *master* and *Mr.* were practically two words, distinct both in function and in form. In this Dictionary the abbreviation MR., in all its historical varieties of use, will be treated in its alphabetical place.

a. Prefixed to a surname or a Christian name.

Down to the 16th c. or a little later, *master* could be prefixed to the name of a knight or a bishop; at an earlier period it was freely used with the names of personages of ancient history and ancient writers. Some modern dialects have only one form for *Master* and *Mr.* as prefixed titles; others have both prefixes with a difference of function, *Mr.* being the superior title. (See E. D. D.)

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 8722 Maister willam gyffard he ȝef þe bissopriche Of winchestere & maister anselin þe erchebissopriche. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 6936 Fosterd he was And lered wit maister moyses. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 57 One Mayster Wace þe Frankes telles, þe Brute, all þat þe Latyn spelles. 1425 W. PASTON in *P. Lett.* I. 19 Maister John Iaworthe told me that he hadde lettres fro a frende of yowres. 1459 *Aberdeen Reg.* (1844) I. 22 Maister John of Levington, vicar of Inuerugy. 1532 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. III. II. 252, I have harde hym soo often breke Master Precyens hede. 1563–83 FOXE *A. & M.* (ed. 4) 1770 Maister Latymer encouraged Maister Ridley when both were at the stake. 1570 *Ane Trag.* 8 in *Satir. Poems Reform.* x. 82 Schir Morpheus .. led me captiue vnto Maister Slumber. 1579 SPENSER (*title*) The Shepheardes Calender. .. Entitled to .. M. Philip Sidney. 1612 WEBSTER *White Devil* To Rdr., The right happy and copious industry of Master Shakespeare, Master Dekker, and Master Heywood. 1650 B. *Discolliminium* 33, I could wish we might be allow'd to call him Master Charles, for most men thinke He is a Gentleman borne. 1861 M. PATTISON *Ess.* (1889) I. 45 Two allegorical pieces by Master Hans Holbein.

† b. Prefixed to a title of office or profession, or occas. to a personal designation of some other kind.

1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* X. lix. 514 Maister marouners said sire Tristram what meaneth that letter. 1523 *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, VI. 122 The Popis Holynes, informed by Maister Doctor Hanibal of my commyng, sent word that I shulde tary a day. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII* 54 The master of the rolles & master Subdeane with other doctours unknowen. 1548 PATTEN *Exped. Scot.* A ij, My lorde Lieuetenaunt and Master Treasurer [of the Army]. 1550 BALE *Apol.* 42 But tell me maistre person, who hath taught yow to playe so wycked partes as these are. *a* 1555 LATIMER *Let.* in Foxe *A. & M.* (1583) 1741 They .. craftely defeated mayster Maiors appoyntment. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* IV. ii. 87 Marry M. Schoolmaster, hee that is likest to a hogshead. 1599 — *Much Ado* III. iii. 17 Master Constable. 1607 — *Timon* IV. ii. 1 Here you M. Steward, where's our Master? 1609 B. JONSON *Sil. Wom.* V. i, *Cut.* By your fauour Master Parson— *Ott.* You shall giue me leaue, Master Doctor. 1625 HART *Anat. Ur.* II. IX. 116 And yet master Parson must not be called couetous. 1640 in Rushw. *Hist. Coll.* III. (1692) I. 125 Master Speaker, the first Writs that were sent out .. I ..was as ignorant of, as any one Member of this House.

22. In early use (*my*) *young master*, *little master*, occur as designations applied by servants and inferiors generally to the boys and young men of the families of their superiors. App. as a development from this mode of expression, the word *master* (after the phonetic separation of *Mr.*) came to be the usual prefix to the name of a young gentleman not considered old enough to be entitled to be called 'Mr.'. Hence occas. *masters and misses* = young people. †*Master-miss*: an effeminate youth.

1563–83 FOXE *A. & M.* (ed. 4) 1596 The time was thought to be nie, that this young Maister [Queen Mary's expected child] should come into the world. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* II. ii. 52 Talke you of yong Maister Launcelet? 1601 B. JONSON *Poetaster* I. i, Young master, master Ovid, doe you heare? 1693 DRYDEN Jr. *Juvenal* xiv. 6 If Gaming does an Aged Sire entice, Then my Young Master swiftly learns the Vice. 1710 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 13 Dec., Maids, misses, and little master .. in a third [coach]. 1720 — *Mod. Educ.* Wks. 1755 II. II. 35 These wretched pedagogues are enjoyned .. that master must not walk till he is hot. 1754 FOOTE *Knights* II. (? 1778) 5 The master-misses of the present age. 1754 RICHARDSON *Grandison* (1811) II. xxix. 304 Miss Cantillon, Miss Barnevelt, and half a dozen more misses and masters. 1760 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* I. 18 Lord Richard and some other masters of quality about his age. 1775 in J. L. Chester *Westm. Abbey Reg.* (1876) 419 May 12, Master Frederick Gell; aged 12 days. 1776 *Ibid.* 241 Mar. 20, Master Albany-Charles Wallis, a Westminster scholar; in his 14th year. 1824 MISS FERRIER *Inher.* xxxii, Well-dressed, talking, smiling, flirting masters and misses. 1849 DICKENS *Dav. Copp.* iii, Wait a bit, Master Davy, and I'll—I'll tell you something. 1898 G. B. SHAW *Plays, You never can tell* II. 242, I presume, sir, you are Master Philip. *Philip.* I was Master Philip..; just as you were once Master Finch.

23. The heir-apparent to a Scottish pecrage (below the rank of earl; formerly, below that of marquis) is in many instances known as *The Master of* ——; the specific designation being usually identical with the baronial title of the family.

1489 *Ld. Treas. Acc. Scotl.* (1877) I. 107 The Maister of Crafurde. 1530 *Aberdeen Reg.* (1844) I. 139, I Johne Lord Forbes..becummiss souerte..for myself, Johne Maister of Forbes, my sone [etc.]. 1548 PATTEN *Exped. Scot.* B vii, Anderwyke perteined to the lorde of Hanibleton, and was kept by hys sonne & heyre (whom, of custume they call the Master of Hambleton). 1569 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* II. 2 Johnne Maister of Grahame nepote and heyre to the Erll of Montroise. *Ibid.*, William Maister Marschell sone to the Erll Marschell. *Ibid.* 37 Quhilk Andro .. presentit to him ane writting of the Maister of Marschellis. 1584 *Ibid.* III. 644 Mr. Thomas Lyoun, Master of Glammis. 1641 R. BAILLIE *Lett. & Jrnls.* (1841) I. 379 Before King James went to England, noblemens eldest sonnes were bot Masters, and their younger brethren pretended not to take place of Barrons. 1798 *Monthly Mag.* VI. 437 The Viscount of Arbuthnott's eldest son is stiled Master of Arbuthnott. 1818 SCOTT *Br. Lamm.* ix, The Master of Ravenswood led the way.

V. Attributive uses and Combinations.

24. Used appositively or as *adj.* in the sense 'that is a master'. a. Formerly prefixed freely to all kinds of designations of persons, with the sense 'chief', 'leading', 'commanding'. Now *rhetorical*, with implication of imposing greatness or power, esp. in *master spirit* (after Shaks.).

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 41 And þa welle bi-wisten .xii. meister deoflen swilc ha weren kinges. *c* 1200 ORMIN 7454 Wass maȝȝstredwale. an deflesss þeww, þatt Arriuss wass nemmned. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3756 Meistres princes he wolden hem maken. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 13594 þe maisters Iuus þan bigan To mistru o þis sinful seli man. *a* 1300 *K. Horn* 689 þe meyster kinges heued He haddit him by reued. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxviii. (*Margaret*) 502 Scho ourcumyne had þe maister feynd. 1382 WYCLIF *Jer.* li. 23, I shall hurtle in thee dukes and the maister ȝugis [Vulg. *magistratus*]. *a* 1400 *Octavian* 559 þe mayster owtlawe spake thene. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* v. i. 478 In ȝou schulen be maistris liers, that schulen bringe yn sectis of perdicioun. *c* 1450 *Merlin* xxiii. 436 Merlin is maister Counseller to kynge Arthur. 1575 *Gamm. Gurton* IV. ii, The master-deuil, Belsabub. 1590 STOCKWOOD *Rules Construct.* A iij b, My master schollers of the higher forms. 1601 SHAKS. *Jul. C.* III. i. 163 The Choice and Master Spirits of this Age. 1607 B. JONSON *Volpone* Ded., The great and Maister Spirits of our World. 1609 — *Sil. Wom.* III. ii, That falls out often, madam, that hee that thinkes himselfe the Master-wit, is the Master-foole. 1617 *Fanua Ling.* To Prince, Whose but yours, that are a maister-prince. 1643 'F. GREVILLE' 5 *Yrs. Jas. I* 44 One Simon, master servant unto Sir Tho. [Monson]. 1701 ROWE *Amb. Step-moth.* III. iii, See where the Master Villain stands! 1725 POPE *Odyss.* XXIV. 26 Yet still a master ghost, the rest he awed. 1759 MASON *Caractacus* 84 The master-mover in this business. 1837 ALISON *Hist. Europe* (1849–50) VIII. xlix. § 96. 101 The master-spirit had fled from the helm when Lord Wellesley embarked for England. 1849 AYTOUN *Execution Mrq. Montrose* vii, The master-fiend Argyle! 1865 KINGSLEY *Herew.* xxv, One of those unfathomable master-personages.

b. Prefixed to names of animals, to denote the leader of a herd, or one superior in fighting strength to the rest. (Cf. 1 b.)

1589 FLEMING *Virg. Bucol.* ix. 27 Take heed to meet the maistergote. 1672 TEMPLE *Ess. Orig. Nat. Govt.* Miscell. I. (1680) 56 This makes the Authority .. of a Master-Buck in a numerous herd. 1692 R. L'ESTRANGE *Fables* cccxxxiv. 292 A Master-Pike, that for his Bulk, Beauty, and Strength, was look'd upon to be the Prince of the River. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* IX. 523 The master Ram at last approach'd the gate. 1764 *Museum Rust.* III. xxxix. 175 A master hog deters a weaker from approaching. 1812 SIR J. SINCLAIR *Syst. Husb. Scot.* I. 21 The cattle must often be injured..by master cattle preventing the others from feeding. 1850 R. G. CUMMING *Hunter's Life S. Afr.* (1902) 7/1 A princely master-stag. 1856 KANE *Arct. Expl.* II. xxii. 222 Toodla, our master-dog, was seized with a violent fit. 1860 G. H. K. in *Vac. Tour* 174 The antlers of the master-hart.

c. In titles of office or employment, to distinguish the official who has the command over the others similarly designated. Now chiefly *Hist.* (see also 29). Hence also in derivatives denoting the offices, as *master forestership, sergeantship, ushery.*

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3412 Al bi ðhusenz ðis folc was told, Ile ðhusent adde a meister wold. *Ibid.* 3886 Eleazar .. Was mad bissop and meister prest. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 4434 Son was ioseph halden dere wit þe maister jailere. 1423 JAS. I *Kingis Q.* cxxv, The maister portare, callit pacience, That frely lete vs in. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 514/2 Som tyme þer was a kyng þat had a wardrop[er] þat was maister-shaper [cf. quot. 1658 in d] of his clothyng; and he had many servandis vnder-nethe hym. 1450 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 192/1 Oure Maister Foster of the said Forest. 1455 *Ibid.* 312/2 The Maister Fosterships of the Forestes of Macclesfeld, Mare and Moundreme. 1464 *Ibid.* 545/1 Th' Offices of Maister Carpenter of oure Castell of Lancastre. 1485 *Ibid.* VI. 369/1 The Office of Maister Sergeauntship of the Vale of Monmouth. 1508 KENNEDIE *Flyting w. Dunbar* 437 In Parise wyth the maister buriawe Abyde, and be his prentice. 1553–4 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 152 Ordanis my Lord Thesaurar to deliver furth the prenting irnis .. to the Maister Cunyear. 1565 *Ibid.* 347 The offices of Chalmerlanerie and Maistir Ischearie. 1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* III. x. 154 The report which the master Pilot that passed it made, seemeth notable vnto me. 1676 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1127/4 Mr. Chiffinch Master Falconer to His Majesty. 1682 G. ROSE (*title*) A perfect School of Instructions For the Officers of the Mouth: shewing The Whole Art of..a Master Carver, a Master Butler, a Master Confectioner, a Master Cook, a Master Pastryman. 1702 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3822/4 Her Majesty has been pleased to constitute .. William Bridges Esq.; Master Surveyor..of the Ordnance. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1780) Y y iij b, To observe that the master-shipwrights do in no ways depart from the draught. 1862 J. GRANT *Capt. Guard* i, The king's master butcher.

d. In designations of trade, to denote one who is a 'master' as distinguished from an apprentice or journeyman, or one who has others in his employ.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 1666 þi self sal be þe maister wright. 1444 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 112/2 Ye wages of eny free Mason or maister Carpenter, excede not by the day iiiid. *Ibid.*, A maister Tyler or Sclatter. 1483 CAXTON *G. de la Tour* A vj b, It cam from the handes of the mayster goldsmythe. 1496 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 180, iiij Smythes .. iij of theym takyng..xvd by the weke. ..And the iiijth as Maister Smyth viijs vjd. 1647 R. STAPYLTON *Juvenal* 81 The master-barber now Trimms thee. 1698 R. FRANCK *North. Mem.* (1821) 146 Here [Perth] they call a taylor master-fashioner forsooth. 1683 MOXON *Mech. Exerc., Printing* ii. P 1, I shall begin with the Office of a Master-Printer. 1707 FLEETWOOD *Chron. Prec.* (1745) 133 A Master Calker. 1739 LABELYE *Short Acc. Piers Westm. Br.* Pref. 4, I consulted the respective Master-Artificers. 1776 ADAM SMITH *W. N.* v. ii. (1869) II. 461 The rise which such a tax might occasion in the wages of manufacturing labour would be advanced by the master manufacturer. 1800 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Murad* i, In these disturbances the master bakers frequently lose their lives. 1823 P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Build.* 423 The master-glazier takes upon himself the risk of windows being broken. 1834 *1st Rep. Poor Law Comm.* (1885) 199 Master barbers who might have saved enough money to keep them from the parish. 1837 LOCKHART *Scott* lxiv, The master-printer is entitled to an equal sum. 1863 KINGSLEY *Water-bab.* i, He would be a man and a master-sweep. 1897 *Daily News* 8 Mar. 3/1 Mr. George Holder, master sinker, who had charge of the pit.

e. With the sense 'supremely or consummately skilled'. Also, in ME. occas. = 'consummately wicked', 'accomplished', as in †*master gaveller*.

1340 *Ayenb.* 35 þise bye þe mayster gaueleres. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 123 ȝif þou be wel plesyd þerwyth, þou art mayster vsurere. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 6 þis Abbott said vnto þis maister thieff [etc.]. 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus, Antolicus*, a maister thiefe. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 515 That great architect and master deuiser, of Alexandria .. Dinocrates. 1677 GILPIN *Demonol.* III. ii. 11 We may rely upon the great Master-contriver, for relief..or deliverance; as there is need. 1736 AINSWORTH *Lat.-Eng. Dict.*, *Athleta*, a master-wrestler, a champion. 1751 J. HARRIS *Hermes* I. vii. (1765) 111 The character of a Master-Artist, or Man of practical Wisdom. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* lxxxvii, And last the master-bowman, he, Would cleave the mark. 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 4 Jan. 1/3 The French consider the English the master-colonists of the world.

25. Applied *transf.* as a qualification of things, with the sense 'main', 'principal', 'controlling'.

In some of the combinations so formed, *master* is apprehended as a separate adj.; the majority, however, are always felt as compounds, while in many the grammatical character is uncertain or fluctuating.

a. Of material things (after the similar use of F. *maître*; esp. frequent in terms relating to building, machinery, and popular anatomy), as *master-altar, -beam*, †*-bone*, †*-borough, -bough, branch, -chord*, †*city, current, -drain, -feeder, fortress, furrow, -gale*, †*gonfanon, -line, -lode, -metal, -moulding, pillar*, †*-pock, river, sail, -screw, -shoot, star, stem, street, -string, temple, -tissue, tooth, tower*, † *town*, † *-turnip, wave, way, -wheel, wire.*

1833 L. RITCHIE *Wand. by Loire* 116 The *master-altar. 1632 SHERWOOD, A summer (or great *master-beame in building), *sommier*. 1638 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Irene* Wks. (1711) 170 The props, stays, master-beams of religion, being faith, hope, and charity. 1677 W. VINCENT in *Harl. Misc.* (1809) II. 328 One hand being rotted from the wrist, that you may not only see through the *master-bones, but also [etc.]. 1800 C. WINTER in W. Jay *Mem.* J.'s Wks. 1843 V. 157 The master-bone of my leg was broken. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3881 Long weiȝe and costful he ðor fond, forð bi archin ðat *meister burȝ. 1615 W. LAWSON *Country Housew. Gard.* (1626) 35 Let him spread as far as he list without any *master-bough. 1642 ROGERS *Naaman* To Rdr. § 1 Yet they [*sc.* trees] haue some *Master and chiefe ones [*sc.* branches], into which the maine sap .. is carried. 1667 WATERHOUSE *Fire Lond.* 131 A main Pillar and Master-branch in Englands Grandeur. 1613 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII*, III. ii. 106, I would 'twer somthing yt would fret the string, The *Master-cord on's heart. 1842 TENNYSON *Will Waterpr.* 27 The master-chord Of all I felt and feel. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Armis* (S.T.S.) 47 Thair *maister citee was als mekle as Rome. 1817 COLERIDGE *Biog. Lit.* 120 It is connected with *master-currents below the surface. 1652 BLITH *Eng. Improv. Impr.* ix. (ed. 3) 56 Thither draw a good substantial *Master-drain through all thy Lands. 1796 *Trans. Soc. Arts* XIV. 184 In carrying up the valley the master drains. 1789 T. WRIGHT *Meth. Watering Meadows* (1790) 19 The bottom of the first work, or *master-feeder, ought to be as deep as the bottom of the river. *c* 1450 *Merlin* vii. 110 Than Bretell com to the *maister forteresse where as the kynge was. 1649 BLITH *Eng. Improv.* xviii. 109 A good Drayne or *Master-Furrow. 1808 J. WALKER *Econ. Hist. Hebrides & Highl. Scot.* I. 168 The master-furrow at the head of the field ..should be led in a very gentle slope. *c* 1450 *Merlin* xxiii. 422 He com to the *maister gate of the paleys. 1715 LEONI

Palladio's Archit. (1742) I. 47 The chief Entry, or Master-gate. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 5634 Her *maister gomfainoun so bar þe kinges steward, Cleodalis. 1833 STRAITH *Fortif.* 3 The measurements..are calculated..from the cordon, which .. is called the magistral or *master line. 1671 *Phil. Trans.* VI. 2100 The ancient Tinners..affirm, that 7 Loads may lie parallel to each other in the same Hill, but yet one only *Master-Load. 1813 T. BUSBY tr. *Lucretius* VI. Comm. xxiii, On account of its exerting its influence upon iron (the *master-metal),..the tragedian termed it the Herculean stone. 1723 CHAMBERS tr. *Le Clerc's Archit.* I. 75 The Corona .. is the first *Master-Moulding in the Corniche. *a* 1450 *Kut. de la Tour* 93 The *maister pillour of the halle, bi the whiche alle the halle was susteined. 1601 DENT *Pathw. Heaven* (1831) 29 It is a master-devil, and the *master-pock of the soul. 1654 TRAPP *Comm. Job* XXXIII. 17 Which else, as a Master-pock, will break out in his forehead. 1563-87 FOXE *A. & M.* (1596) 141/2 A certeine great beame or *master post was loosed out of the place. 1677 YARRANTON *Eng. Improv.* 64 The Thames and Severne are the two great *Master Rivers. 1555 EDEN *Decades* 195 They sayle with twoo sayles as with the *master sayle and the trinkette. 1902 *Encycl. Brit.* XXXIII. 809/2 The screw is an important productive measuring instrument, whether used as a micrometer-screw of less than an inch in length, or as a *master-screw of 20 feet in length. 1712 J. JAMES tr. *Le Blond's Gardening* 173 Bringing the two Sides as near as possible to the *Master-Shoot. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 527 Seuen *maister sterns er sette in heuen. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 23 If their leaves bee cropt off before the *maister stem or spire be growne big. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Knt.'s T.* 2044 The nobleste of the grekes .. caryeden the beere .. Thurgh out the Citee by the *maister strete. 1713 ROWE *Jane Shore* III. i. 34 He touch'd me Ev'n on the tend'rest Point; the *Master-string That makes most Harmony or Discord to me. *c* 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 1016 *Dido*, The *maystir temple of al the toun. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 161 Certain *master tissues..possess..a special function. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 341 The great *master teeth and grinders of a wolfe. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Sqr.'s T.* 218 (Hengwrt MS.) The Mirour, That born was vp vn to the *maister tour. 13.. *S. Erkenwolde* 26 in HOISTM. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 266 Londone..þe metropol & þe *mayster-tone. *c* 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 1591 *Hipsiph.*, Iaconitos, That was the mayster toun of al Colcos. 1733 TULL *Horse-Hoeing Husb.* x. 100 We contrive to leave the *Master-Turneps .. and spare such when near one another. 1840 MARRYAT *Poor Jack* xlii, A *master wave, as it is termed, from being of larger dimensions than its predecessors. 1726 LEONI *Alberti's Archit.* I. 80/1 The Houses of Princes .. shou'd have an entrance from the *Master Way. 1640 BP. REYNOLDS *Passions* x, The *Master-wheel or first mover in all the regular motions of this passion [Love] is the Love of God. 1761 CHURCHILL *Night* Poems 1769 I. 89 Let but the puppets move, I've my desire, Unseen the hand which guides the *Master-wire.

b. Of immaterial things, as *master-appetite, -argument, -bias, -cause, conscience, -duty, -error, exercise, fact, -feeling, -form, -genius, -idea, jest, light, -lust, -mind, -miracle, -mischief, motive, -passion, principle, -proof, reason, -sin, -spell, -stratagem, -tone, -vice, -virtue, -word.*

1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* VII. 863 Great Nature's *Master-appetite destroy'd. 1678 BUNYAN *Jerus. Sinner Saved* Wks. (1845) 73 This is Satan's *master-argument. 1807 WORDSW. *Happy Warrior* 59 A Soul whose *master-bias leans To homefelt pleasures. 1677 HORNECK *Gt. Law Consid.* v. (1704) 240 The *master-cause [of misery] is the want of consideration. 1649 MILTON *Eikon.* ii. 21 We may consider .. what .. feeling could be in that conscience, and what fitness to be the *maister conscience of three Kingdomes. 1624 SANDERSON *Serm.* I. 82 Here then the magistrate .. may learn..his *master-duty. 1674 ALLEN *Danger Enthusiasm* 96, I deem it a Mother and a *Master-Error. 1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* II. i. 268 Hard at hand comes the *Master, and maine exercise. 1831 BREWSTER *Newton* (1855) I. ix. 202 It is to Dr. Thomas Young..that we owe the *master fact. 1806 SURR *Winter in Lond.* II. 28 This *master-feeling of his soul. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* III. xvii. 147 Other degenerations which come up in unexpected shapes, when they want the support .. of the primary and *master-formes. *a* 1711 KEN *Hymnotheo* Poet. Wks. 1721 III. 293 Had Athens .. To our great Homer's *Master-genius bow'd .. They [etc.]. 1809-10 COLERIDGE *Friend* (1865) 69 The three *master ideas, announced in the foregoing pages. 1678 BUTLER *Hud.* III. ii. 955 And who shall break the *master-jest, And what, and how, upon the test. 1806 WORDSW. *Ode Intim. Immort.* 153 Those shadowy recollections Which..Are yet a *master light of all our seeing. 1784 COWPER *Task* v. 618 His *master-lust Falls first before his resolute rebuke. 1720 POPE *Iliad* XVIII. 557 There shone the image of the *master-mind. 1647 TRAPP *Comm.* 1 *Cor.* xiii. 2 Removing of mountains is instanced, because noted by our Saviour as a *master-miracle. *a* 1709 ILLIDGE in M. Henry *Life* (1710) 65 Atheism..is the *Master-mischief of this Age. 1860 MILL *Repr. Govt.* (1865) 51/1 The guiding and *master motives in the conduct of average human beings. 1732 POPE *Ess. Man* II. 131 One *master Passion in the breast, Like Aaron's serpent, swallows up the rest. 1794 MATHIAS *Purs. Lit.* (1798) 118 A vindication of the great, original, *master principles on which they were founded. 1610 BP. HALL *Apol. Brownists* v. 14, I finde these as your *Master-proofes, set as Challengers in every of your defences. 1608 SHAKS. *Pericles* IV. vi. 8 Her quirks, her reasons, her *master reasons. 1607 HIERON *Wks.* I. 227 Those *master-sinnes, ignorance, contempt of the word and godlinesse. 1816 BYRON *Ch. Har.* III. cvii, The lord of irony,—that *master-spell, Which stung his foes to wrath. 1647 TRAPP *Comm.* 2 *Thess.* ii. 7 Themselves will even smile in the triumphs of their own wits .. as at a *master-stratagem. 1827-35 WILLIS *Leper* 124 The voice was like the *master-tone Of a rich instrument. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* xlvii, Mr. Dombey's *master-vice, that ruled him so inexorably. 1833 CHALMERS *Const. Man* (1835) II. x. 101 The great *master and generic virtue. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 17 P 2 He is a Poet, and Merchant, which is seen in Two *Master-Words, *Credit Blossoms.*

26. Attributive, with the sense: Pertaining to, proceeding from, or characteristic of a master (in various senses), in *master faculty, fascination, †reach, throw, touch, will.* Also *master hand* (see 29), MASTERPIECE, MASTER-STROKE.

Most or all of the combinations under this head admit of being used or interpreted with the notion expressed by those under 25 b; the two meanings often blend, as both are usually applicable to the same objects.

1622 BACON *Hen. VII* 242 Neither did hee care how Cunning they were, that hee did imploy, For hee thought himselfe to haue the Master-Reach. *a* 1674 CLARENDON *Surv. Leviath.* (1676) 21 Discovers a master faculty in making easie. 1686 RAVENSCROFT *Titus A.* To Rdr., He only gave some Master-touches to one or two. 1710 ADDISON *Tatler* No. 156 P 10, I have here only mentioned some Master-Touches of this admirable Piece. 1821 SOUTHEY in *Q. Rev.* XXV. 310 This rare dissembler..played his master-game at once. 1825 HOGG *Q. Hynde* 324 No clamour rose, .. From such a monarch's master-throw. 1838 LYTTON *Alice* VII. vi, The master-fascination that he could command. *a* 1872 J. D. AYLWARD in *Ess. Relig. & Lit.* Ser. III. (1874) III. 90 Subject themselves..to the master-will of him whom they constitute the lord of their life. 1880 *Blackw. Mag.* Feb. 187 The master-touch interpreting all lights.

27. Objective, as *master-killer, -leaver*; instrumental, as *master-mortified* adj.

1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* IV. ix. 22 But let the world ranke me in Register A Master leauer, and a fugitiue. 1608 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iv. IV. *Decay* 180 Art thou there Zimri, cursed Parricide? Fell master-killer, canst thou chuse but fear For like offence, like punishment severe? 1741 RICHARDSON *Pamela* I. xv, The poor, low, creeping, abject, self-mortified and master-mortified Mrs. Jewkes.

†28. In contracted forms of certain syntactical combinations used as titles of office, as **master-household** = master of the household (see 18 a); **master-hunt** = master of the hunt (but cf. HUNT *sb.*[1]), a head huntsman; **master-voyage**, ? the commander of a fishing fleet. *Obs.*

1656 EARL MONM. tr. *Boccalini's Advts fr. Parnass.* 196 Zenofon, Apollos Master-hunt. 1761 *Ann. Reg.* 188 Every boat-master, splitter, and master voyage, who are the chief people among the fishermen [French, Newfoundland] and shoremen, being the catchers and curers of fish.

29. Special comb.: **master attendant**, 'an officer in the royal dockyards appointed to assist in the fitting or dismantling, removing or securing vessels of war, &c.' (Smyth); **†master-bee**, (*a*) a queen bee (cf. KING *sb.* 8 a); (*b*) ? a worker bee; **†master-bowl** (see sense 9); **master fault** *Geol.*, a fault which governs the configuration of the surrounding area; **†master gunner** (see GUNNER 1 c); hence **†master gunnership**, the office of a master gunner; **master hand**, (*a*) the hand of a master, the agency of one highly skilled or one possessing commanding power; (*b*) a highly skilled worker; **master joint** *Geol.*, a principal joint in a rock mass; **master mariner**, the commander of a ship (for mod. use see MARINER 1 b); **†master note** *Mus.*, a semibreve (see quot.); **†master shipman**, = *master-mariner*; **master sinew**, a main sinew; *esp.* the tendon in the hock of a quadruped, corresponding to the tendon of Achilles in man; **†master water**, a liquid having powerful chemical effects; **(rattlesnake) master weed** *U.S.*, a plant regarded as an antidote to rattlesnake bites (cf. *rattlesnake-master*); **†master woman**, an imperious or masculine woman; **master-worker** = *master-workman*; also *spec.* in the Mint (see quot. 1670); **master workman**, a workman thoroughly conversant with his trade; one who employs workmen; also *fig.*; **master-yaw**, = *mamma-pian* (see MAMMA 1 d). See also MASTER-BUILDER, -CRAFT, -FAST, etc.

1669 PEPYS *Diary* 25 Mar., I did .. rattle the *Master-Attendants out of their wits almost. 1858 W. M. GILSON in *Merc. Marine Mag.* V. 211, I don't think there is any Master-Attendant at Trincomalee dockyard. 1579-80 NORTH *Plutarch, Lycurgus* (1595) 61 They .. were alwaies .. together, as the bees be about their *maister bee. 1645 WALLER *Palam. to Zelinde* 8 No Honey..But what the Master Bees have plac't In compass of their Cells. 1658 ROWLAND tr. *Mouffet's Theat. Ins.* 898 Their King or Master-Bee. 1837 PHILLIPS *Geology* 63 The faults..generally cross the anticlinal axis, and terminate in a remarkable *master fault or axis of elevation. 1565 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 396 The said office of *maistir gunnarschip. 1625 in *Crt. & Times Jas. I* (1849) II. 502 Mr. Gibson..who had in reversion the master-gunnership of England. 1709 POPE *Ess. Crit.* 145 Nameless graces..which a *master-hand alone can reach. 1806-7 J. BERESFORD *Miseries Hum. Life* (1826) II. x, The master-hand of Tacitus. 1854 MILMAN *Lat. Chr.* IV. ii. (1883) II. 202 It might seem that, the master-hand withdrawn, all would return to the former anarchy. 1879 HOWELLS *L. Aroostook* II. xxvii, He's a master-hand to converse, any way. 1839 MURCHISON *Silur. Syst.* I. xx. 244 The surprising regularity of the direction of the *master joints. 1879 *Encycl. Brit.* X. 297/2 Granite..is traversed by two sets of chief or 'master-joints'. 13.. *Coer de L.* 1831 On the morwe he of-sent his counsellors Of the pates the *master mariners. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 12089 þe mayster mariner was byhynde, þe schip to stere by þe wynde. 1838, 1886 [see MARINER 1 b]. 1662 PLAYFORD *Skill Mus.* I. vii. 23 The Semibrief..is called the *Master Note, being of one Measure by himself; all the other Notes are reckoned by his value, by Augmentation or Diminution. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 311 The *Maister schipman cam and preide With othre suche as be therinne. *c* 1450 LOVELICH *Grail* XXXVI. 499 Thanne A Maister Schipman gan forth to gon. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 3941 Iacob was þan hurt wel sare, þe *maister sinu of his the. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 402 A painefull swelling of the maister sinnew. 1644 NYE *Gunnery* I. (1647) 13 Take the Saltpeter out, and preserve the water that dropped, because it is *Master water. 1843 MARRYAT *M. Violet* XXIII, I beheld five or six stems of the rattlesnake *master weed. *Ibid.* XXIV, I removed..the poultice of master weed. 1534 MORE *Comf. agst. Trib.* III. Wks. 1224/1 She is in dede a stoute *master woman. 1413 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton 1483) V. XIV. 108 Yf thou wylt bylde an hows, and arte a *maister werker, conthest thou bilde withouten mater. 1622 MALYNES *Anc. Law-Merch.* 281 The Master worker .. doth put into the melting pot, two penny weight of Copper in euerie pound. 1670 PETTUS *Fodinæ Reg.* 41 The Master-worker, who receiveth the Silver from the Warden, causeth it to be melted, and delivereth it to the Moniers, and taketh it from them again when it is made. 1598 BARRET *Theor. Warres* V. iii. 134 A *maister workeman to ioyne them [boats] together. 1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* 217 The great Maister workman therefore of set purpose, made the one halfe of mankinde imperfect. 1670 EACHARD *Cont. Clergy* 118 An ordinary bricklayer, or carpenter (I mean not your great undertakers and master-workmen) .. has certainly the command of more money. 1847 EMERSON *Repr. Men, Napoleon* Wks. (Bohn) I. 368 He is .. a very consistent and wise master-workman. 1774 *Med. Ess.* V. II. 793 Sometimes after..the Salivation is over, there remains one large Yaw, high knobbed, red and moist; this is commonly called the *Master yaw.

Master (mɑ·stəɹ), *sb.*[2] [f. MAST *sb.*[1] + -ER 1.] A vessel having (a specified number of) masts, as in *three-master, seven-master*, etc.

1880 in WEBSTER *Suppl.* 1887 [see FIVE C. 1 c]. 1901 *Daily Chron.* 26 July 5/2 The keel of a gigantic seven-master has been laid.

Master (mɑ·stəɹ), *v.* Forms: see MASTER *sb.*[1] [f. MASTER *sb.*[1] Cf. OF. *maistrier* (perh. the source in early instances), med.L. *magistrāre*, OHG. *meist(e)rôn* (G. *meistern*), Du. *meesteren*, Sw. *mestra*, Da. *mestre*.]

1. *trans.* To get the better of, in any contest or struggle; to overcome or defeat. With material or immaterial subject or object.

a 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 548 Ha wið hire anes mot meistreð us alle. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 25365 Quen þai fraanding maister wele, Crund er þai wit mikel sele. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 7909 Y dredde hyt [synne] wlde ha maystrede me. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* VII. 211 The sleip masterit hym. ? *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 2683 He maisterede þat mane, so myghtty of strenghes. 1530 PALSGR. 633/2 Be he never so stronge I put no doutes to mayster hym. 1567 MAPLET *Gr. Forest* 83 b, [Some dogges] haue Maystred and bene good inough for the Lyon and Elephant. 1576 BAKER *Jewell of Health* 131 b, The sayd water drunck maystreth and expelleth poysons. 1591 SPENSER *Ruines of Rome* XVIII, These brave Pallaces, which maystred bee Of time. *a* 1623 FLETCHER *Love's Cure* V. iii. (1647), Kings nor authority can master fate. 1647 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* I. § 21 The King .. was very quicksighted in..raising objections, and very slow in mastering them. 1664 POWER *Exp. Philos.* II. 109 The smaller weight of Quicksilver is not able to master the Elastick pressure of the external Ayr. 1703 MAUNDRELL *Journ. Jerus.* (1732) 112 Here we had a very steep and rocky ascent; but however in half an hour we master'd it. 1725 DE FOE *Voy. round World* (1840) 33 The chief conspirators would be on shore..and..then I thought I could master the rest on board well enough. 1798 BERESFORD in *Ld. Auckland's Corr.* (1862) III. 414 Lord Edward was mastered, brought to the Castle, and committed to Newgate. 1838 THIRLWALL *Greece* V. xliii. 253 He resorted to new..methods of mastering his personal disadvantages. 1841 JAMES *Brigand* XX, Deep grief masters me. 1887 RIDER HAGGARD *Jess* VI, A crash that almost mastered the awful crackling of the thunder.

2. To reduce to subjection, compel to obey; to break, tame (an animal).

1423 JAS. I *Kingis Q.* CLXXXI, The quhich[ë] treuly efter, day be day, That all my wittes maistrit had tofore, From hen[ne]sferth the paynis did away. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. CCCCXXVI. 748 The gates myght stand open .. for all maner of men of warre to entre .. to thentent to mayster them of Parys. 1580 in *Liturg. Serv. Q. Eliz.* (1847) 573 Masters, unable to master their own affections, are become servants to other folks' servants. 1586 J. HOOKER *Hist. Irel.* in *Holinshed* II. 133/2 They..swore to be..obedient: which, so long as he maistered and kept them vnder, so long they performed it. *a* 1628 PRESTON *Breastpl. Love* (1631) 210 Doe not you reckon it a worke to breake horses, to master coltes? 1639 FULLER *Holy War* II. XXXIII. (1640) 87 Yet was he not mastered by his purse, but made it his vassal. 1725 WATTS *Logic* III. iii. § 2 Every wise man masters his passions; no angry man masters his passions. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) II. 393 The Zebra .. could never be entirely mastered. 1844 MRS. BROWNING *Drama of Exile* Poems 1850 I. 71 This shall.. master with a look Your lion at his fasting. 1876 GEO. ELIOT *Dan. Der.* IV. XXVIII, He meant to be master of a woman who would have liked to master him.

3. *techn.* To temper or season; to modify. Now only in *Dyeing*, to season or age (dye stuffs), and in *Tanning*, to subject (skins) to the action of an astringent lye. (Cf. MASTERING *vbl. sb.* 2.)

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XIX. XXXIII. (1495) 878 And wyth Attrament ynke is tempryd and maystryd [orig. *acuitur*]. *Ibid.* 879 The colour purpura is maystred [orig. *acuitur*] and amended wyth blood that droppyth of certen shellefysshe. *a* 1648 DIGBY *Closet Open.* (1677) 59 That the hot herbs may be mastered with the cool. 1841 in *Titles Patents* (1854) 1145 An expeditious mode of unhairing, mastering, and tanning..hides and skins. 1862 O'NEILL *Dict. Calico Print. & Dyeing* Index, Mastering or ageing of logwood.

4. To make oneself master of (an art, science, etc.); to acquire complete knowledge or understanding of (a fact, a proposition), or complete facility in using (an instrument, etc.).

1740 J. CLARKE *Educ. Youth* (ed. 3) 163 A boy has .. mastered his Syntax. 1781 COWPER *Parrot* 9 Belinda's

maids are soon preferred To teach him now and then a word, As Poll can master it. *a* 1839 PRAED *Poems* (1864) II. 176 Away with ye, visions of law, Of cases I never shall master. 1865 KINGSLEY *Herew.* viii, Grammar, rhetoric, Latin prose and poetry .. she mastered ere she was grown up. 1866 G. MACDONALD *Ann. Q. Neighb.* xiv. (1878) 296 When he considered that he had mastered the meaning of it. 1878 R. W. DALE *Lect. Preach.* iv. 91 The instrument you have to master stands before you—the soul of man. 1901 *Athenæum* 27 July 120/3 He has not mastered the difference between 'would' and 'should'.

†b. 'To execute with skill' (J.). *Obs.*

1624 BACON *Consid. War w. Spain* (1629) 3, I doe not take my selfe to bee so perfect in the customes..and priuileges of that Kingdome of Bohemia, as to be fit to handle that part; and I will not offer at that I cannot master.

5. To act the part of master towards; to rule as a master; to be the master of (a servant, scholar, house, etc.).

1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* IV. ii. 383, I will not say Thou shalt be so well master'd. *Ibid.* 395, I good youth, And rather Father thee, than Master thee. 1711 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 2 Aug., The dog [his man Patrick] thinks he has the whip-hand of me; he begins to master me; so now I am resolved to part with him. 1715 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* I. 19 He doubtless would have ordered it [St. Paul's School] to be Master'd by Learned Chaplains alone. 1790 R. TYLER *Contrast* II. ii, Father said I should come as Colonel Manly's waiter,..but no man shall master me. *a* 1845 HOOD *Lamia* i. 128, I have a house..within the walls of Corinth: Will you not master it as well as me? 1864 A. MCKAY *Hist. Kilmarnock* (1880) 366 I'm your equal: I'll be maistered nae langer. 1881 *Daily News* 14 Sept. 3/1 The estate is not well mastered. 1898 *Ibid.* 30 June 6/7 It was..a magnificent school...magnificently mastered.

†b. *intr.* To act the master. Also *to master it.*

1656 S. H. *Golden Law* 67 He..did justly master it, and rule over his masters. 1793 MME. D'ARBLAY *Diary* V. ix. 402, I have been scholaring all day, and mastering too; for our lessons are mutual.

†**6.** *trans.* To have at one's disposal; to own, possess. Also *intr.* in *to master of. Obs.*

1593 SHAKS. *Lucr.* 863 He hath it [treasure] when he cannot vse it, And leaues it to be maistred by his yong. 1596 — *Merch. V.* v. i. 174 The wealth That the world masters. *c* 1600 — *Sonn.* cvi, I see their antique Pen would have express'd Euen such a beautie as you maister now. 1638 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (ed. 2) 175 Had hee mastered any weapon, he had doubtlesse saved himselfe; but wanting it his breath failed. 1654–66 EARL ORRERY *Parthen.* (1676) 314 Bidding his Treasurer give him higher rewards, than the prisoner could Master of.

†b. To take possession of. *Obs.* (? *nonce-use.*)

1826 J. F. COOPER *Mohicans* XXV, The Hurons would follow up our trail, and master our scalps.

7. To address by the style of 'master'. *nonce-use.*

1583 STUBBES *Anat. Abus.* I. (1879) 122 He who hath moni enough shalbe rabbied & maistered at euery word.

Masterable (mā·stərăb'l), *a.* [f. MASTER *v.* + -ABLE.] Capable of being mastered.

1882 PROCTOR *Fam. Sci. Stud.* 1 Man might believe..that every kind of knowledge is..masterable.

Ma·ster-at-a·rms. *Naut.* Formerly a warrant-officer in the navy appointed to instruct the officers and crew of a ship of war in the exercise of small arms, and to act as principal police officer on board (= MARSHAL 7 b), but now a first-class petty officer doing duty in the latter capacity only. Also *transf.*, the principal police officer on board a ship of the mercantile marine.

1748 SMOLLETT *Rod. Rand.* xxix, I was taken prisoner, and carried to the poop by the master-at-arms. 1861 THRING *Crim. Law Navy* 53 The Commander-in-Chief appoints some person (usually the master-at-arms of the flag-ship) to act as provost-marshal. 1890 W. J. GORDON *Foundry* 74, 500 cabin passengers, to look after whose comfort and conduct there are employed six dozen stewards,..two masters-at-arms, and a surgeon. 1894 C. N. ROBINSON *Brit. Fleet* 474 A master-at-arms with a staff of ship's corporals is allowed in the larger ships.

Ma·ster-bui·lder. [MASTER *sb.*[1] II.]

1. One who is skilled in the art of building, an architect. Chiefly in rhetorical use or fig. context.

1557 N. T. (Genev.) 1 *Cor.* iii. 10 As a skilful master builder I haue layd the foundation: and another buyldeth theron. 1594 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* II. 18 If we consider the ordinary generation of men, the matter is humour: naturall heate is as it were the master buylder. 1611 SPEED *Theat. Gt. Brit.* Pref., So many master-builders having in this subject gone before me. 1642 VICARS *God in Mount* (1644) 39 Our blessed Master-builders in Parliament. 1855 MISS COBBE *Intuit. Mor.* 35 The depth of the foundation shows how high the Master-builder will carry his temple. 1865 J. H. INGRAHAM *Pillar of Fire* (1872) 47 The Egyptians are not only master-builders in architecture, but [etc.].

2. One who employs workmen in building.

1714 SWIFT *Pres. St. Aff.* P 10 When a Building is to be erected, the Model may be the contrivance only of one head; and it is sufficient that the Under-workmen be ordered to cut stones into certain shapes, [etc.]: But the several Master-builders must have some general Knowledge of the Design, without which they can give no orders at all. 1738 BIRCH *Life Milton* in *M.'s Wks.* (1738) I. 61 Anne [Milton] married a Master-Builder.

3. *Naut.* A petty officer formerly employed on the construction of ships.

1799 NELSON 11 Oct. in Nicolas *Disp.* (1845) IV. 47 My directions to the Master-builder relative to the Ships.

Ma·stercraft. *nonce-wd.* [f. MASTER *sb.*[1] + CRAFT.] Politic dealing characteristic of a master.

1711 HICKES *Two Treat. Christ. Priesth.* (1847) I. 140 There is no more..priestcraft in the clergy..than mastercraft in the father of a family.

Masterdom (mā·stərdəm). [f. MASTER *sb.*[1] + -DOM.]

†**1.** The office of a master or teacher; the degree of master (of divinity). *Obs. rare*[−1].

a 1050 *Liber Scintill.* xxxii. (1889) 120 *Pondus magisterii*, hefe mægsterdomes. *c* 1384 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 376 What cursidenesse is þis [for a friar] to gete hym a cappe of maysterdome, by preyer of lordis, and grete giftis.

2. The position of being master; dominion, absolute control, supremacy; † victory in battle.

In 1755 'Not in use' (J.).

1475 *Bk. Noblesse* (Roxb.) 7 When the duc off Burgoyn by cyvyle bataylle by maisterdom expelled the duc of Orlyance partie..owt of Parys cytee. *a* 1500 *Chaucer's Dreme* 1784 And cursed the time that ever slouth Should have such masterdome of trouth. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* v. ii. 15 With cruell chaufe their courages they whet, The maysterdome of each hy force to gaine. 1605 SHAKS. *Macb.* I. v. 71 Which shall to all our Nights, and Dayes to come, Giue solely soueraigne sway, and Masterdome. 1656 H. MORE *Enthus. Tri.* A iij, You are grown a man of strange Master-dome over your Passions. 1693 W. FREKE *Sel. Ess.* i. 4 That Body of Knowledge that has puzzl'd whole Ages of the wisest, who is so weak as to arrogate the Masterdom of it alone to himself? 1880 SWINBURNE *Stud. Shaks.* 26 The stage which he [Marlowe] was born to..re-create by the might and masterdom of his genius. 1886 BLACKIE *What does Hist. Teach?* 73 The masterdom of the Roman Pope.

†b. Masterful behaviour. *Obs.*

1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* IV. i. 46 For Love is free, and led with selfe delight, Ne will enforced be with maisterdome or might.

†**3.** = MASTERSHIP. *Obs.*

1588 *Marprel. Epist.* (Arb.) 3 Mine Epistle vnto your venerable masterdomes. 1589 *Pasquil's Ket.* D iv, May it please your Masterdom. 1601 CHETTLE & MUNDAY *Death Earl Huntington* D 2 b, Apolloes master doone [*read* masterdom] I innocate.

4. *Grand masterdom*: the office of grand master.

1762 tr. *Busching's Syst. Geog.* V. 450 The administration of the grand masterdom is ever since become a mere title.

Mastered (mā·stərd), *ppl. a.* [f. MASTER *v.* + -ED.] In senses of the vb.

1661 MORGAN *Sph. Gentry* III. ix. 112 [He] rescued the best of his former mastered french ships. 1693 DRYDEN *Juvenal* x. 151 That Monarch, whom the Master'd World obey. 1814 SCOTT *Ld. of Isles* III. xxix, The master'd felon .. gasp'd beneath a mortal wound. 1899 J. CAIRD *Univ. Addr.* 33 The mastered and established facts of knowledge.

Masterer (mā·stərər). *rare.* [f. MASTER *v.* + -ER[1].] One who masters or overcomes.

1607 HIERON *Wks.* I. 256 Who would thinke that this reiected person..should be..the conquerour of Sathan, the masterer of death. 1820 L. HUNT *Indicator* No. 23 (1822) I. 184 But oh! thou Love's and Nature's masterer.

†**Ma·sterfast,** *a. Obs.* [f. MASTER *sb.*[1] + FAST *a.* 4.] Bound to a master.

1469 *Paston Lett.* II. 388, I wyll not make me mastyrfast with my Lord of Norff. *c* 1520 *Bk. Mayd Emlyn* 167 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* IV. 88 He that is maysterfast..dare not ronne and playe. 1526 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 2573 To day maysterfest, to morowe he hath no holde. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 78 b, Whoso hath ones marryed a wife, is.. in maner half maisterfast.

Masterful (mā·stərfŭl), *a.* [f. MASTER *sb.*[1] + -FUL.]

1. Of persons (occas. of animals) or their dispositions: Addicted to acting the part of master; accustomed to insist on having one's own way; imperious, self-willed, overbearing. Of actions: High-handed, despotic, arbitrary.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 401 Maysterful mod & hyȝe pryde I hete þe arn heterly hated here. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* II. 756 Eiþer þey [husbands] ben ful of Ialousye, Or maisterful. 1388 WYCLIF 2 *Macc.* iv. 27 Sostratus .. made maisterful axing [Vulg. *exactionem*]. — *Luke* xii. 59 To the maistirful axer [Vulg. *exactori*]. *c* 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 2926 Þe Iaylardes..sayden þat þey wolden þe ȝates vp barste, And other maystrefull werkus þey wold wyrche. *c* 1550 *Exam. W. Thorpe* in Foxe *A. & M.* (1583) 533 Though such tyrantes be maisterfull and cruel in boasting and manasing. 1636 SANDERSON *Serm.* (1681) II. 53 What a-do there is with him, before..his masterful spirit be soundly subdued. *a* 1639 WHATELEY *Prototypes* II. xxvi. (1640) 72 Some children are very masterfull and disobedient. 1841–4 EMERSON *Ess., Over-Soul* Wks. (Bohn 1884) I. 111 Vonder masterful cuckoo Crowds every egg out of the nest. 1860 TROLLOPE *Framley P.* (1861) III. 193 She was proud and masterful. 1899 J. HUTCHINSON in *Arch. Surg.* X. 107 This masterful disregard of logical thought.

†b. *Law.* (chiefly *Sc.*) Of robbers, beggars, or their actions: Using violence or threats. *Obs.*

1561 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 166 For the wranguis, violent, injust and maisterfull spolatioun. 1564 *Ibid.* 289 The maisterfull reiff and stowth fra the said Johnne, furth of his dwelling hous..of lxxx scheip. 1585 *Ibid.* III. 747 Wandering people, maisterfull beggaris, and utheris. 1747–8 *Act* 21 *Geo. II*, c. 34 § 20 The masterful taking away or detaining the same [cattle]. 1754 ERSKINE *Princ. Sc. Law* (1809) 507 The slaughter of night-thieves, house-breakers, assistants in masterful depredations, or rebels [etc.].

†c. Of natural agencies: Violent, overwhelming.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* v. xiii. 57 Thi self is witnes quhow, laitlie, our the laif, Sa maisterfull storme amyd the Libyan see Scho raisit sone. 1641 S. MARSHALL *Peace-offering* 5 They are compared to the most masterfull and mercilesse creatures of fire and water.

†d. ? Strong in resistance, hard to overcome. *Obs.*

c 1470 HENRY *Wallace* IV. 159 That land is strait, and maisterfull to wyn.

2. Having the capacities of a master; qualified to command; powerful and vigorous in rule. Formerly sometimes, † having authority, in a position to rule (*obs.*).

? *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 3414 The ferthe was syr Judas..The maysterfulle Makabee. *c* 1470 *Rauf Coilȝear* 442, I haue na myster to matche with maisterfull men. 1608 PANKE *Fal of Babet* 116 Great Marvaile it were that Damasus should be..growne potent, and masterfull over the bishops of the East. 1675 *Art Contentm.* III. § 16 Has given us the use of reason wherewith to manage that soveraignty, without which we had only bin the more masterful sort of brutes. 1890 HOSMER *Anglo-Saxon Freedom* 165 What if the occupant of the throne..had been a ruler really good and gifted.. arbitrary but masterful?

absol. 1887 G. MEREDITH *Ballads & P.* 141 Errors To be by his young masterful repaired.

b. Of langnage, appearances, etc.: Indicative of mastery or controlling power.

1824 MISS MITFORD *Village* Ser. I. 264 A certain triumphant masterful look in his eyes. 1862 'SHIRLEY' (J. Skelton) *Nugæ Crit.* ix. 375 The masterful words of a great man.

3. Characterized by the skill that constitutes a master; masterly. Now only in somewhat rhetorical use, with mixture of sense **2**: Characterized by commanding power.

1613 W. BROWNE *Sheph. Pipe* I. (1614) C 4 b, Not might it been hid How masterfull a leech he had him kid. 1641 MILTON *Animadv.* II. 62 Variety .. erects and rouses an auditory, like the masterful running over many chords and divisions. 1733 GENT *Rippon* xi, The most masterful strokes engrav'd on Copper. 1830 *Fraser's Mag.* I. 128 The manly and masterful novels of Sir Walter Scott. 1877 MRS. OLIPHANT *Makers Flor.* Introd., The same masterful hand which carved the lovely anguish of the Dawn. 1883 RUSKIN *Art of Eng.* ii. (1884) 65 Whether pleasing or displeasing to your taste they are entirely masterful.

Masterfully (mā·stərfŭli), *adv.* [f. MASTERFUL *a.* + -LY[2].] In a masterful manner (see the adj.).

1388 WYCLIF *Lev.* vi. 2 A soule that synneth..ethir takith maisterfuli a thing bi violence, ether makith fals chaleng. 1457 *Act* 35 *Hen. VI* in Bolton *Stat. Irel.* (1621) 24 They doe..masterfully take their goods without any pity. 1563 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 238 Violentlie, maisterfullie and unjustlie reft..and takin. *a* 1603 T. CARTWRIGHT *Confut. Rhem. N. T.* (1618) 83 Peters [heart]..was so masterfully holden by the spirit of God. *a* 1670 SPALDING *Troub. Chas. I* (1829) 24 [They] took some money frae Mr. Robert Jameson ..violently and masterfully. 1695 HUMFREY *Mediocria* 39 The Masterfully Learned Bishop Forbs. 1883 A. FORBES in *19th Cent.* Oct. 723 That reproach Britain strove callously and masterfully to perpetuate. 1899 T. M. ELLIS *Three Cat's-eye Rings* 29 'I'll take it to her', shouted Polryn, laying hold of it masterfully.

Masterfulness (mā·stərfŭlnĕs). [f. MASTERFUL *a.* + -NESS.] The quality of being masterful.

a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* III. (1590) 314 That imperious maisterfulnesse which nature giues to men aboue women. 1880 *Daily Tel.* 22 Nov., He had held..the two great law offices..with unmatched felicity of language and masterfulness in opinion. 1893 *19th Cent.* Jan. 47 Masterfulness long survives mastery.

†**Ma·sterhead.** *Obs. rare.* [f. MASTER *sb.*[1] + -HEAD.] = MASTERHOOD.

1382 WYCLIF *Rev.* Prol., That to men not knowende desyr of seching be set, and to men sechende frut of trauaile, and to God the doctrine of maisterhed be kept.

Masterhood (mā·stərhu·d). [f. MASTER *sb.*[1] + -HOOD.] The condition or quality of being a master. † *Good masterhood*: patronage.

c 1454 *Paston Lett.* I. 284 Thankyng you..of your gret jentylness and good maystyrhod shewyd on to me. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* I. (1590) 53 Who..(like to childish maisters) thinke their masterhood nothing, without doing iniury to them, who [etc.]. 1637 EARL MONM. tr. *Malvezzi's Romulus & Tarquin* 138 A little master-hood seemes enough where there is none at all. 1864 D. W. THOMPSON *Daydreams Schoolm.* 289 My masterhood slipt off me like a loose robe. 1869 RUSKIN *Q. of Air* (1874) 200 There is entire masterhood of its business up to the required point. 1875 SCRIVENER *Lect. Text N. Test.* 18 To decipher a double palimpsest calls for the masterhood of a Tischendorf.

Mastering (mā·stərĭŋ), *vbl. sb.* Also 6 mastringe, 8 -ing. [f. MASTER *v.* + -ING[1].]

1. The action of the verb MASTER.

1654 tr. *Martini's Conq. China* 37 Considering at how dear a rate he had bought the mastering of that City. 1740 J. CLARKE *Educ. Youth* (ed. 3) 159 As much Time..will be requisite for the mastering of them; as was..employed upon the Historians. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* ii. § 4. 71 His life was one long mastering of difficulty after difficulty.

2. *spec.* in *Dyeing* and *Tanning* (see MASTER *v.* 3). Hence *concr.* a kind of lye made of lime or other astringent and used by tanners. Also *attrib.* as *mastering-trough.*

c 1460 *E. E. Misc.* (Warton Cl.) 89 For the masterynge, ȝe moste caste owte ȝoure olde flote of ȝoure maderynge. 1553 *Reg. True-hearted Eng.* (Shaks. Soc.) 5 The best wodde that our dyars occupye is masterynge. 1586 *Will J. Palfrye, Ilminster*, My mastringe troughe, beames, working irons and all other workinge tooles belonging to my occupation of a tanner. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVIII. 307/1 They [skins] are put into a pit of water impregnated with pigeon dung (called a grainer or mastring) forming a strong alkaline ley. 1802 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 454 To beam or work green hides and skins out of the mastering or drench. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* Gloss., *Mastering*..Preparation of lime used by tanners.

Mastering (mā·stərĭŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. MASTER *v.* + -ING[2].] That masters, subdues, or controls. †Of an army, a garrison: Superior in force (*obs.*).

1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* III. vii. 2 Her white Palfrey, having conquered The maistring raines out of her weary wrest. 1596 — *Hymne Heav. Beautie* 214 Ne could that Painter (had he lived yet)..Have purtrayd this, for all his maistring skill. 1599 PORTER *Angry Wom. Abingt.* (Percy Soc.) 33, I could..Carry a maistering eye vpon my maide.

1603 FLORIO *Montaigne* (1634) 462 Vet must not shee be sterne, mastring, imperious and importunate. 1633 G. HERBERT *Temple, Ch. Porch* xviii, Some great estates provide, but doe not breed A mastr'ing minde. 1694 S. JOHNSON *Notes Past. Let. Bp. Burnet* I. 58 Moses's Serpent was the Mastering Serpent and destroyed theirs. 1711 in 10*th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 169 Could it be imagined that..a mastering garrison, would surrender without a blow. 1863 KINGLAKE *Crimea* II. 499 That Causeway battery which, until it was touched by the mastering key, had barred the mouth of the Pass. 1897 R. H. STORY *Apostolic Min. Scott. Ch.* viii. 291 The mastering passion.

† b. *Mastering vein* = MASTER-VEIN. *Obs.*

1605 DRAYTON *Idea*, '*As in some countries*', First make incision on each maistring vaine.

Master-key. A key that will open a number of different locks, each of which has its own key that will not open any of the rest. Also *fig.*

1576 J. DEE *Gen. & Rare Mem.* (1577) 8 This Pety Nauy Royall is thought to be the onely Maister Key wherewith to open all Locks. 1686 PLOT *Staffordsh.* 376 The Keys shall neither of them open each others lock, yet one Master-key shall open them all. 1748 HARTLEY *Observ. Man* I. iii. 352 A Master-key for unlocking the Mysteries in the Constitution of natural Bodies. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xxiii, Janet.. had a master-key which opened the postern-door. 1872 O. W. HOLMES *Poet Breakf.-t.* ix. (1885) 233 These same yellow disks are the master-keys that let one in. 1882 *Encycl. Brit.* XIV. 748/2 The owner..may have one master-key that will open them all.

Masterless (mā·stəlės), *a.* [f. MASTER *sb.*[1] and (sense 2) *v.* + -LESS.]

1. Having no master. Of animals: Deprived of a controlling hand or influence.

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 11131 þai mellit with the mirmydons, þat maisturles were. *c* 1420 LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 881 Full lothe they were to be [*printed* he] mastyrles. *c* 1430 *Syr Gener.* (Roxb.) 4192 Many a feire stede went a-stray Mastirles that same day. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. vii. 19 His silver shield, now idle, maisterlesse. *a* 1600 *Flodden F.* iv. (1664) 34 And many a servant masterless. 1673 *Lady's Call.* I. ii. § 12 God sets not the same value upon their [widows] being masterless, which some of them do. 1686 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2196/1 The Grand Signior..has..turned loose his Greyhounds to run up and down the streets Masterless. 1834 JAMES *J. Marston Hall* xiv, The Count's horse, masterless and foaming, darted into the courtyard. 1870 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* I. II. 582 Yielded towns were set aflame; For all the land was masterless. 1887 C. T. MARTIN in *Dict. Nat. Biog.* IX. 59/2 Being again left masterless, he [Carew] went over to the enemy's camp.

b. In 16–17th c. statntes, etc., used to designate one who has no reputable means of living; vagrant, vagabond. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.*

c 1471 in *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 279 Like maysterles men away thay wente. 1530 PALSGR. 563/2, I loyter as an ydell or masterlesse person dothe. 1535 *Act* 27 *Hen. VIII*, c. 25 Such ruffelers..as..shall frequent hunt or loyter masterles and out of seruice. 1555 *Act* 2 & 3 *Ph. & Mary* c. 16 § 1 Watermen..for the most parte been masterles men. 1626 in 10*th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 474 All idle and maisterlesse personnes and such others as shall not finde maisters or men of quallitie to undertake for them. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* II. xviii. 94 That dissolute condition of masterlesse men. 1720 STRYPE *Stow's Surv.* (1754) II. v. xxx. 535/1 Valiant and sturdy rogues and masterless men. 1881 SHORTHOUSE *J. Inglesant* I. xvii, A number of vagrant and masterless people.

† 2. That cannot be mastered; nngovernable. *Obs.*

1619 W. SCLATER *Expos. 1 Thess.* (1630) 290 Their power masterlesse on earth, makes them forget that they also haue a Master and Iudge in heauen. 1651 N. BACON *Disc. Govt. Eng.* II. xiii. (1739) 74 The King..yielded up his Power to his Queen, (a masterless and proud woman). 1687 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2275/2 The flame grew at last masterless. 1767 G. WHITE *Selborne, To Pennant* vii, Such vast heath-fires are lighted up, that they often get to a masterless head.

Hence **Ma·sterlessne·ss.**

1827–48 HARE *Guesses* Ser. II. (1867) 476 For Johnson to make such a parade of masterlessness as he does by prefixing these lines to the Rambler.

† **Ma·sterlike,** *a.* and *adv. Obs.* [f. MASTER *sb.*[1] + -LIKE.] a. *adj.* Resembling a master, or what pertains to a master; despotic, antocratic, sovereign; authoritative, magisterial; exhibiting masterly ability or skill. b. *adv.* In a 'masterlike' manner.

?*a* 1500 *Chester Pl., Harrowing Hell* (Shaks. Soc.) II. 75 Whn is he..That so maisterlike comes us amonge. 1580 *Ord. Prayer* in *Liturg. Serv. Q. Eliz.* (1847) 573 Servants are become master-like, and fellows with Masters. 1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 240 Agaynst this Masterlyke sentence I will set downe the opinion of Basile. 1637 EARL MONM. tr. *Malvezzi's Romulus & Tarquin* 294 He who writ of so many things, and writ so masterlike in all. 1641 SIR F. WORTLEY *Truth Asserted* 5 Not exercising a masterlike or Kingly command. 1656 EARL MONM. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* I. xliii. (1674) 58 He would teach..how to repulse the wrestlers..; and other excellent master-like tricks. 1665–6 PEPYS *Diary* 23 Feb., I begin to doubt the picture..is not of his making, it is so master-like.

Masterliness (mā·stəlinės). [f. MASTERLY *a.* + -NESS.] The quality of being masterly.

1721 WODROW *Corr.* (1843) II. 590 He can lay claim to little masterliness in eloquence, who knows not how to handle his subject elegantly. 1838 J. STERLING *Ess.*, etc. (1848) I. 245 The thorough masterliness of the style. 1865 *Ch. Times* 21 Oct. 332/2 Lord Palmerston..submitted his natural good judgement to the pretended masterliness of him with the phylacteries.

Masterling (mā·stəliŋ). Also *dial.* maisterlin'. [f. MASTER *sb.*[1] + -LING [1].]

† 1. One who has the power of a master; a conqueror, a chief. *Obs.*

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 113 *Tollite portas, principes, uestras*..3e maisterlinges of þesternesse openeð 3iwer gateu. 13.. *K. Alis.* 400 Y have bygete on the a kyng That schal heo Phelippes maisterlyng. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 481 A proude feste of princes & dukis, With maisterlingis of Messadone.

2. As diminutive: A petty master.

1869 *Lonsdale Gloss., Maisterlin'*, a would-be master, a petty master. 1880 L. FAGAN *Sir A. Panizzi* I. 52 Your most benign petty masterling's lawful authority.

Masterly (mā·stəli), *a.* [f. MASTER *sb.*[1] + -LY [1].]

† 1. Belonging to, characteristic of, or resembling a master or lord; usually in bad sense, arbitrary, despotic; imperious, overbearing, domineering. *Obs.*

1531–2 LATIMER *Let.* in Foxe *A. & M.* (1583) 1750 The Galathians..were in a quiet trade vnder the dominion of maysterly Curates. 1561 T. NORTON *Calvin's Inst.* (1634) Pref., They stablished..so many canons, so many masterly [F. *magistrales*] determinations, without any word of God. *a* 1618 RALEIGH *Prerog. Parl.* (1628) 43 It was a proud and maisterly speech of the Duke. 1645 MILTON *Tetrach.* Wks. 1851 IV. 188 It gives place to maisterly power, for the Maister might take away from an Hebrew servant the wife which hee gave him. 1649 — *Eikon.* v. ibid. III. 370 He told them with a maisterly Brow, that [etc.]. 1667 DRYDEN *Sir Martin Mar-all* IV. i, You are a saucy, masterly companion; and so I leave you. 1685 BAXTER *Paraphr. N. T.* 1 Tim. ii. 11 Let them [women]..not be over-talkative and masterly. 1766 ENTICK *London* I. 277 If he had been apprized of his masterly behaviour.

2. Of persons, their qualities, actions, etc.: Resembling or characteristic of a master or skilled workman; skilfully exercised or performed.

Masterly inactivity: see INACTIVITY b.

1666 DRYDEN *Acc. Ann. Mirab.* Wks. (Globe) 40 When action or persons are to be described..how masterly are the strokes of Virgil! 1699 BENTLEY *Phal.* Introd. 2 We must expect nothing from Him, but what is masterly and great. 1713 GAY *Guardian* No. 149 ¶ 6 You may see the masterly hand of a painter in three or four swift strokes of his pencil 1773 MRS. CHAPONE *Improv. Mind* (1774) II. 149, I do not wish your knowledge to be exact and masterly. 1804 *Med. Jrnl.* XII. 174 The small, but masterly work of Le Dran on Gun-shot Wounds. 1815 W. H. IRELAND *Scribbleomania* 139 *note*, She has blended truth with fiction in a masterly way. 1874 L. STEPHEN *Hours in Library* (1892) II. iii. 68 The thought is masculine and the expression masterly. 1880 MCCARTHY *Own Times* IV. l. 61 The speeches themselves were masterly as mere literary productions.

3. *Masterly lode* (in *Mining*): a main lode. Cf. *master lode*, MASTER *sb.*[1] 25 a.

1880 *Pioneer Mining Co., Lim., Deb. Prospectus* 1 It is traversed..by a powerful masterly lode. 1895 B. SCOTT in *Westm. Gaz.* 18 Nov. 4/1 A shaft has been sunk..on a strong masterly lode, many feet in thickness.

Masterly (mā·stəli), *adv.* [f. MASTER *sb.*[1] + -LY [2].] In a masterly manner.

c 1394 *P. Pl. Crede* 847 V will nouȝt þis matere maistrely auonen. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 228 Haile, modi qwene of Messidoyne he maister-like said. *c* 1410 LYDG. *Reas. & Sens.* 2396 He kan..Maisterly revel and Daunce, Pipe and floyte lustely. 1599 NASHE *Lenten Stuffe* Wks. (Grosart) V. 233, I might enamill and hatch ouer this deuice more artificially and masterly. 1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* v. iii. 66 Masterly done: The very Life seemes warme vpon her Lippe. 1726 LEONI *Alberti's Archit.* II. 62 They are masterly wrought. 1887 HISSEY *Holiday on Road* 382 Its wooden gables..showed how masterly they had been carved of old.

Master-man (mā·stəɹmæn). [f. MASTER *sb.*[1] + MAN *sb.*[1] Cf. MDu. *meesterman.*]

† 1. A chief, leader (chiefly *Sc.*). *Obs.*

13.. *S. Erkenwolde* 201 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 270, I was committed & made a mayster-mone here To sytte vpone sayd causes. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* v. (*Johannes*) 402 He..vent þan to sterk theſis,..þare master man þai sone hym mad. 1424 *Sc. Acts Jas. I* (1814) II. 8/1 Þe quhilk sall be haldyn Dekyn or maister man oure þe layff. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* IV. 87 The maistir man with sa gud will straik he [etc.]. 1616 *Orkney Witch Trial* in Dalyell *Darker Superst. Scot.* (1834) 536 Ane great number of fairie men mett her [together with] a maister man.

b. *dial.* 'The head of a household or family, a husband' (E. D. D.).

1885 HALL CAINE *Shadow Crime* I. x. 208 Towards nine the 'maister men' of Wythburn began to arrive. *Ibid.* xiii. 291 The 'maister men'..made their way..to the village inn.

2. a. A person skilled in some art or craft. (Cf. MISTERMAN, with which this word was perh. sometimes confused.) *Obs.* exc. *Hist.* b. An employer of work-people.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 664 To maken a tur, wel heȝ & strong.. Twelwe and sexti men woren ðor-to, Meister men for to maken it so. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1599 All maister men þat on molde dwellis. 1825 BENTHAM *Offic. Apt. Maximized, Indic.* (1830) 39 Not a farthing even given to the hapless masterman. 1898 TAUNTON *Eng. Black Monks* I. 94 Among its monks were to be found master-men.

Master-mason. [See MASTER *sb.*[1] 24 d.]

1. A mason who designs and carries out building in stone or who employs workmen to shape and fit stonework.

1428 in Heath *Grocers' Comp.* (1869) 6 Mason's weages with maistre mason's rewarde £5 9 2. 1560 PILKINGTON *Expos. Aggeus* (1562) 53 In buyldinges there bee maister masons and carpenters which do devise the worke. 1697 G. DALLAS *Syst. Stiles* II. 89 Gifts to be the King's Master-Printer, Master-Mason, Master-Wright, Bower, Sclater [etc.]. 1729 FENTON *Observ. Waller's Poems* 30 Stone, who was master-mason to King Charles I.

2. A fully qualified freemason, who has passed the third degree.

[*c* 1430 *Freemasonry* (Halliw.) 15 The mayster mason moste be ful securly Bothe stedefast, trusty, and trwe.] 1723 J. ANDREWS & DESAGULIERS *Constit. Free-Masons* 10 Though there were employ'd about it no less than 3,600 Princes, or Master-Masons, to conduct the Work according to Solomon's Directions. 1737 S. PRICHARD *Masonry Dissected* (ed. 7) 25 Q. Are you a Master-Mason? A. I am; try me, prove me, disprove me if you can. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) X. 624/2 Having voted the oldest master-mason then present into the chair, constituted themselves a grand-lodge.

† **Masterous,** *a. Obs.* In 7 maistrous. [f. MASTER *sb.*[1] + -OUS.] Characteristic of a master.

1642 MILTON *Apol. Smect.* 5 Must we learne from Canons and quaint Sermonings..to wreath an Enthymema with maistrous dexterity?

Masterpiece (mā·stəɹpīs). [f. MASTER *sb.*[1] + PIECE *sb.*

Prob. after Du. *meesterstuk* or G. *meisterstück*, which occurs much earlier, and primarily denoted the piece of work by which a craftsman gained from his guild the recognized rank of 'master'. Cf. the following examples (in the former of which the Du. word appears in an adapted form):—

1579 *Aberdeen Reg.* (Spalding Cl.) II. 34 Quhill the person creven to be admittit free of his craft first compone with the said deinis of gild..the maisterstik of the person to be admittit being exhibit. 1658 A. FOX tr. *Wurts' Surg.* I. ix. 37 Taylors..suffer none to set up his Trade, unless he have made first his Master-piece (orig. *sein Meisterstück*).]

1. A production of art or skill surpassing in excellence all others by the same hand; also, in wider sense, a production of masterly skill; a consummate example *of* some department of art or skill, or *of* some particular kind of excellence.

In early use, often applied to man as the 'masterpiece' of God or Nature.

1610 MARKHAM (*title*) Markhams Maister-peece. Or, What doth a Horse-man lacke. 1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* 60 Seeing now to dissolue this goodly frame of Nature, and to take in pieces this Maisterpiece. 1617 *Jamus Ling.* To Prince, This maisterpeece of curious schollership. 1635 QUARLES *Embl.* II. vi. (1718) 87 Man is heav'n's Master-piece. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 253 ¶ 5 A very fine Poem, I mean *The Art of Criticism*, which..is a Master-piece in its kind. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* XVI. viii, This is indeed a master-piece of assurance. 1756–7 *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) III. 208 A crucifixion, by Guido Reni, which is extremely admired as a real master-piece. 1790 MME. D'ARBLAY *Diary* Oct., One letter I have from him [Dr. Johnson] that is a master-piece of elegance and kindness united. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* i. I. 5 The master-pieces of Sophocles, of Demosthenes, and of Plato. *Ibid.* ii. 259 Speeches which.. were remembered as master-pieces of reasoning, of wit, and of eloquence. 1871 L. STEPHEN *Playgr. Eur.* ix. (1894) 203 Some masterpiece in painting. 1871 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1876) IV. xvii. 54 It was the master-piece of William's policy of outward legality.

† b. A person's greatest achievement; an action of masterly ability. *Obs.*

1605 B. JONSON *Volpone* v. i, Here, we must rest; this is our maister-peice; We cannot thinke to goe beyond this. 1605 SHAKS. *Mach.* II. iii. 71 Confusion now has made his Master-peece. 1634 W. TIRWHYT tr. *Balzac's Lett.* 209 It is expedient to shew a Master-peece of state, to give reputation to the present current of affaires. 1702 *Eng. Theophrast.* 113 'Tis a court master-piece to draw chestnuts out of the fire with other People's fingers. *a* 1715 BURNET *Own Time* (1724) I. 254 It was certainly the master-piece of King Charles's life: And, if he had stuck to it, it would have been both the strength and the glory of his reign.

† 2. The most important feature, or the chief excellence, of a person or thing. *Obs.*

1612 DAVIES *Why Ireland*, etc. 282 This is the Maisterpiece, and most excellent part, of the worke of Reformation. 1641 R. BROOKE *Eng. Episc.* 72 Wee come to Ordination;.. This is the main and Master-piece of all Episcopacy. 1644 MILTON *Educ.* Wks. 1738 I. 140 What Decorum is, which is the grand master-piece to observe. 1647 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* III. § 81 His learning in the law being his masterpiece, *Ibid.* VIII. § 9 Beating up of quarters was his masterpiece 1697 G. DALLAS *Syst. Styles* III. Ep. Ded., Experience, (the great Master-peice of Humane Things).

8. The original or main piece. *rare*[−1].

1825 E. HEWLETT *Cottage Comforts* I. 4 Their clothes were so patched, that it was hard to tell which was the master-piece.

† **Master-prize.** *Obs.* Also master's prize. = MASTERPIECE 1, 1 b.

1604 DEKKER *Honest Wh.* I. x. G 4 b, Nay, let me alone to play my maister, prize [*sic*: the speaker is an apprentice disguised as his master]. 1607 B. BARNES *Devils Charter* III. v. F 1 b, Now Frescohaldi play thy masters prize. 1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* 414 In criticall euacuations & in notable Maister-prises of Nature. 1621 QUARLES *Argalus & P.* (1678) 68 Mischief, that now was bent to play Upon the Stage her studied master-prize. 1624 MIDDLETON *Game at Chess* III. i. 213 Some notable masterprize of roguery This drum strikes up for. *a* 1635 RANDOLPH *Poems* Wks. (1875) 643 Thus have I finish'd beauty's master-prize. 1653 A. WILSON *Jas. I* 26 It behoved him to play his Master-prize in the Beginning.

† **Master-root.** *Obs.*

1. The main root of a plant.

1578 LYTE *Dodoens* VI. vi. 664 Two or three foote from the principall or maister roote. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 513 The more..safe way..was rather to cut the stocke and maister Root. 1725 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Vivacious*, They are obliged to take some [Roots] away,..to disburthen the Master-Root of them.

2. = MASTERWORT.

1599 A. M. tr. *Gabelhouer's Bk. Physicke* 221/2 In like sorte is also verye good heervnto the Masterroote.

Mastership (mā·stəɹʃip). Forms: see MASTER *sb.*[1] and -SHIP. [Cf. G. *meisterschaft.*]

1. The condition of being a master or ruler; dominion, rule, ascendancy, control.

1387-8 T. Usk *Test. Love* II. iii. (Skeat) I. 40 Whan these sely women .. beleven your wordes .. than graunt[en] they to you their hertes,..wherthrough their liberte in maystresship that they toforn had is thralled. *c* 1440 *Alph. Tales* 248 þer þe son hathe a reule, or a maistershupp, or a gouernans abown þe fadur. 1548 Patten *Exp. Scot.* Pref. b vij, Yet seke we not the mastership of you, but the felowship. 1647 N. Bacon *Disc. Govt. Eng.* I. xxxviii. (1739) 58 The great men .. hereby lost .. the mastership of the Life or Death of the meaner sort. 1683 Kennett tr. *Erasm. on Folly* (1709) 44 The other .. is indeed the most slavish of serving men, in being subject to the mastership of lust and sensuality. 1816 Scott *Old Mort.* xliii, He at once exerted that mastership over his heated..imagination [etc.]. 1894 *Daily News* 15 Nov. 5/3 That mastership..which the sea has always conferred upon its unquestioned rulers.

b. Mastery, 'upper hand'. ? *Obs.*

1573 Twyne *Æneid* XII. N n ij, When contention falles two mightie Bulles betwixt,..That for dominion enermore, and mastershippe do trie. 1641 Best *Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 123 They [swannes] beginne to strive for the mastershippe about Ladye day. 1727 *Philip Quarll* (1816) 28 An animal ..as big as himself, kept him a great while struggling for mastership. 1829 *Blackw. Mag.* XXVI. 282 Whatever were the force and power of these feelings, it was not now the time to let them get the mastership.

c. The authority of a master or teacher.

1581 Mulcaster *Positions* xxxvii. (1887) 155 So long as the child shalbe..vnder maistership in schole. *a* 1603 T. Cartwright *Confut. Rhem. N. T.* (1618) 299 They were taught of the Holy Ghost, through the immediate Mastership or Doctorship of Christ. 1865 Bushnell *Vicar. Sacr.* Introd. (1868) 15 The immense following that has accepted his mastership.

2. The office, function, or dignity of a 'master', or the term of office of a master, in any of the official applications of that title.

1455 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 316/1 The Maisterships of oure Forest of Simonswode, and of oure Parkes of Croxtath. 1509 Barclay *Shyp of Folys* (1570) P.P vj, But if that any one be in suche maner case That he will chalenge the mastership fro me [etc.]. 1591 A. Nowell in *Lett. Lit. Men* (Camden) 87 The quietness of St. John's College durying hys Mastershyppe there. 1609 Carleton *Let.* 8 June in *Court & Times Jas. I*, I. 98, I hear Sir Ralph Winwood aims at a Mastership of Requests. 1626 in Rushw. *Hist. Coll.* (1659) I. 325 The chief Mastership of that Order. 1721 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5918/1 The Pope's Bulls for the Great Mastership of St. Lazarus. 1873 *Sat. Rev.* 9 Aug. 163/1 The Mastership of the Rolls has been offered to the Attorney-General. 1882 *Society* 18 Nov. 6/2 He has accepted the Mastership of the Pau Foxhounds. 1891 *Law Times* XC. 419/2 A mastership in lunacy.

¶ *nonce-use.* The district ruled by a 'master'.

1707 *(title)* [tr. from Sp.] A Journal of the Siege of San Matheo, Capital of the Mastership of the Military Order of Montesa.

b. The position of a master in or of a school.

1806 H. K. White *Let. to Sister* 25 June, The mastership of the school must be held by a clergyman. 1814 G. Hardinge *Let.* in Nichols *Lit. Anecd. 18th C.* (1814) VIII. 544 Dr. Sumner vacated the Upper-mastership of Eton. 1881 Masson in *Macm. Mag.* XLV. 76 The Annan mathematical mastership lasted about two years.

†3. With possessive pron.: The personality of a master. Often abbreviated M. (See also Maship.) *Obs.*

1440 in *Finchale Priory* (Surtees) 72 Whilk mater at the raverence of 3owr maystership is fulfillid. 1526 Skelton *Magnyf.* 1853, I pray God your maystershyp to saue. 1533 Faith *Answ. More* D vij b, And where hys mastershyp alleageth this texte for the Sacrament that [etc.]. 1591 Shaks. *Two Gent.* III. i. 280 How now Signior Launce? what newes with your Mastership? 1591 in *Thanes of Cawdor* (Spalding Cl.) 199 For vij quarteris of Londun claith to be your maisterchip cott and breikis. *Ibid.*, Stiffing gray to your M. doublat. *c* 1622 Ford, etc. *Witch Edmonton* I. ii, No Gentleman, I, Mr. Thorney; spare the Mastership, call me by my name, John Carter.

†4. *Good mastership*: patronage, protection. *Obs.*

1463 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 37, I beqwethe to William Clopton,..my best gypcer,..for a tookne he vowchesaf in tyme comyng to shewe his good maistershepe to my wil. 1465 *Paston Lett.* II. 199, I shall ly stille in pryson..withoute your good maisterchippe shewed to me at this tyme.

5. The skill or knowledge constituting a master.

1607 Shaks. *Cor.* IV. i. 7 Common men could beare, That when the Sea was calme, all Boats alike Shew'd Mastership in floating. 1622 Gerbier *Princ.* 42 The Grecians and Romans (who have shown their Master-ship in them [Triumphall Arches]). 1726 *Diss. Dumpling* 20 The greatest Mastership in Cookery is requir'd to make the Pudding Palatable. 1837 Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* II. v. ii, Mastership in tongue-fence; this is the quality of qualities.

b. Mastery, thorough knowledge (*of* a subject).

a 1697 Aubrey *Lives* (1898) I. 120 He is much beholding to him for his mastership of that language. 1883 *American* VII. 184 A mastership of the technicalities of their work.

c. The status or degree of a recognized master (in a craft, a university, etc.).

1688 *True Spirit of Popery* 44 They rendred all Arts and Trades almost inaccessible to the Protestants, by the difficulties of arriving to the Mastership of them. 1831 Sir W. Hamilton *Discuss.* (1853) 410 To commence student in Medicine, it is necessary to have obtained a Mastership in Arts. 1831 Carlyle *Sart. Res.* III. i, An honourable Mastership in Cordwainery.

6. The existence of 'masters' or employers as the characteristic of a form of industrial organization.

1868 Ruskin *Time & Tide* (1872) 6 The points at issue, in the comparison of this system with that of mastership, are by no means hitherto frankly stated. 1886 *Pall Mall G.* 29 Nov. 12/1 After a detailed description of the results of mastership and the effect machinery has had on the labour market..Mr. Morris spoke of the upper class.

7. *Hist.* A body of master workmen; a guild. *rare.*

1822 Ranken *Hist. France* IX. x. i. 178 A third [decree] dissolved the corporations and masterships of towns.

Master-singer (mā·stəɹsiŋəɹ). Now somewhat *rare*. Anglicized form of Meistersinger.

1810 Weber *Metr. Rom.* III. 335 In the time of the Mastersingers, a second German poem was written. 1871 Longf. *Wayside Inn* II. *Cobbler of Hagenau* ii, While yet the Master-singers filled The noisy workshop..With various melodies and rhymes.

Master-spring (mā·stəɹspriŋ). ? *Obs.* [See Master *sb.*[1] 25 a.] = Mainspring 2 (*fig.*).

a 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* III. (1590) 257 b, Knowing them [his men] to be the..master-spring (as it were) which makes all the rest to stir. 1682 Dryden & Lee *Dk. Guise* V. iii, You are the master-spring that moves our fabric. 1784 Cowper *Task* IV. 203 The slope of faces,..(As if one master-spring controll'd them all) Relax'd into a universal grin. 1816 F. H. Naylor *Hist. Germany* I. I. ix. 348 Religion undoubtedly formed the master-spring of all his actions. 1835 J. H. Newman *Par. Serm.* (1837) I. xxii. 331 The one master spring of their whole course of life for the future.

Master-stroke (mā·stəɹstrōək). [See Master *sb.*[1] 25 a. Cf. G. *meisterstreich.*]

1. A masterly line or touch (in painting, etc.); also *transf.*

1679 Dryden *Tr. & Cr.* Prol. 14 In this my rough-drawn play you shall behold Some Master-strokes. 1784 Cowper *Task* II. 398, I would trace His master-strokes, and draw from his design.

2. A masterly exertion of skill; a surpassingly skilful act (of cunning, diplomacy, policy, etc.); one's cleverest move or device. (Cf. F. *coup de maître.*)

1711 W. King tr. *Naude's Ref. Politics* ii. 59 In these masterstrokes of state, the thunderbolt falls before the noise of it is heard. 1712 Blackmore *Creat.* VI. 695 The..stupendous Art, And Master-strokes in each Mechanick Part. 1762-71 H. Walpole *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1786) IV. 87 The steeple .. is a master-stroke of absurdity. 1768 Goldsm. *Good-n. Man* I. i, There's my master-stroke. I have resolved not to refuse her. 1825 Cobbett *Rur. Rides* (1885) I. 404 This was a master-stroke on the part of France. 1849 Thackeray *Lett.* 4 Sept., A master-stroke of diplomacy.

† **Master-vein.** *Obs.* [See Master *sb.*[1] 25 a.]

1. One of the great veins or arteries of the body; *spec.* applied to the saphena and perh. to the carotid artery or the jugular vein.

c 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 12604 He schet And hitte him in his gorget, That it 3ede thorow his pesayn And cut in-two his mayster-veyn. 14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 632/8 *Sophena*, the mayster vayne. 1494 Fabyan *Chron.* VII. 300 At Yorke [Jews] to the nombre of .cccc. & mo, cutte theyr mayster veynys & bled to deth. 1683 Cave *Ecclesiastici* Introd. 36 One of the Master-Veins breaking, all the Blood in his Body emptied it self out at his Mouth.

fig. 1647 Trapp *Marrow Gd. Authors* in *Comm. Ep.* 732 The venome of originall lust, the master-vein wherein is Atheisme. 1677 Gilpin *Demonol.* (1867) 241 By some called the master-vein of our original corruption.

¶ *slang phrase.*

1592 Greene *Disput. Conny-c.* C 1 b, My faire daughter was hit on the master vaine and gotten with childe.

2. A principal vein in a mine.

1670 Pettus *Fodinæ Reg.* 42 For, say they, when we approach to the Master-vein of a Mine..they usuallie here knocking.

Master-work (mā·stəɹwɹuk). [See Master *sb.*[1] 25 a. Cf. G. *meisterwerk.*]

1. An action or procedure of chief importance.

c 1606 Daniel *On Death of Erle of Devon.* 216 That famous seige, the Master-worke of all. 1719 Young *Revenge* II, My next care is to hasten these new nuptials, And then my master-works begin to play. 1719 London & Wise *Compl. Gard.* VI. 109 The Master Work of Gardening, which is Pruning.

2. A work of pre-eminent merit; a masterpiece.

1617 Morvson *Itin.* I. 4 A..Clocke, in the top whereof is a picture,..which Painters esteeme a master worke. 1667 Milton *P. L.* VII. 505 There wanted yet the Master work, the end Of all yet don. 1789 Gibbon *Autobiog.* (1854) 13 Mr. Law's master-work, the Serious Call, is still read. 1843 J. A. Smith *Product. Farming* (ed. 2) 56 The flowers .. appear as the master-work of Nature in the vegetable kingdom. 1880 Swinburne *Stud. Shaks.* 74 Being thus, as he is, the English masterwork of Shakespeare's hand.

†3. A main channel for draining or irrigation. *Obs.*

1652 Blith *Eng. Improv. Impr.* ix. (ed. 2) 54 Then must not of necessity all the Out-lets or Mouths of all the Master-work, and Sluces, and Water-gates be widened? 1789 T. Wright *Meth. Watering Meadows* (1790) 47 The master-work which waters the highest..part of the land.

Masterwort (mā·stəɹwɹut). [f. Master *sb.*[1] + Wort *sb.*, after G. *meisterwurz*; the same sense is expressed by the 16th c. L. name *imperātōria*, but the reason for the appellation is not clear.]

a. The umbelliferous plant *Peucedanum* (*Imperatoria*) *Ostruthium*, formerly cultivated as a pot-herb, and used in medicine. b. Applied to other genera, as *Astrantia* (Black Masterwort); the goutweed, *Ægopodium Podagraria* (English or Wild Masterwort); and the American plants *Angelica atropurpurea* and *Heracleum lanatum.*

1548 Turner *Names of Herbes* (E.D.S.) 61 The seede of pilletory of Spayne called masterwurt. 1568 — *Herbal* III. 36 It were best to call it after the Duche Maisterwort. The Physicianes of Italye call it Imperatoriam. 1578 Lyte *Dodoens* II. cix. 300 The seconde *Imperatoria*, or wylde Masterwort. 1579 Langham *Gard. Health* (1633) 474 The wilde master-wort called herbe Gerard. 1597 Gerarde *Herbal* II. cccl.xii. 828 *Astrantia nigra*; .. it may be called blacke Masterwoort. 1656 Ridgley *Pract. Physick* 141 One dram of root of Masterwort. 1715 J. Petiver in *Phil. Trans.* XXIX. 239 Great black Masterwort. 1796 Morse *Amer. Geog.* I. 189 Angelica, or American Masterwort (*Angelica lucida*). 1847 Darlington *Amer. Weeds & Useful Pl.* (1860) 148 Woolly Heracleum .. Masterwort. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 724/2 Masterwort, English, *Ægopodium.* 1893 McCarthy *Red Diamonds* II. 42 Masterwort which in earlier..days was known as 'the divine remedy'.

Mastery (mā·stəɹi). Forms: 3 meistrie, mesterie, 3-5 maistri, maistre, 3-7 maistrie, 4 meistri, maystri, 4-5 maystre, maistrye, mastrie, 4-6 maystery, maystry(e, masterye, mastri, msstrye, 4-7 mastry, 4-7, 9 *dial.*, maistry, 5 maister, mastre, maiestrie, *Sc.* maistir, 5-6 maistery, 5-7 masterie, 6 mayster, maysterie, mastere, 6-7 maisterie, 5- mastery. [a. OF. *maistrie*, f. *maistre* Master *sb.*[1]: cf. Sp. *maestría*, Pg. *mestria*, It. *maestria.*

In Fr. this word was superseded by the parallel formation *maistrise* (now *maîtrise*), whence ME. Maistrice. From its resemblance in sound to the latter, the plural *masteries* occurs in several of the senses illustrated below.]

1. The state or condition of being master, controller or ruler; authority, sway, dominion; an instance of this.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 108 Muchel hofleas is þet cumen into ancre huse,..vorte sechen eise þerinne & mesterie, & more lefdischipe þen heo muhte habben ihened, inouh reðe iðe worlde. *Ibid.* 406 Lnne haueð one meistrie binoren alle oðre þinges. *a* 1300 *Fall & Passion* 21 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 13 God 3af him a gret maistre of al þat was in watir an londe. *a* 1340 Hampole *Psalter* ix. 20 Þe utter man haf noght maistry of þe inere. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Doctor's T.* 58 Bacus hadde of hire mouth right no maistrie. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 13662 This Merion hade maistri but a meane qwile, The lond to Laerte he leuyt as kyng. 1423 Jas. I *Kingis Q.* xxxvii, Hath he vpon oure hertis swich maistrye? *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* i. *Creation* 81 *Lucifer.* If that ye will behold me right, this mastre longys to me. 1535 Coverdale *Ecclus.* xxv. 22 Yf a woman gett the mastrie, then is she contrary to hir huszbande. 1614 Raleigh *Hist. World* III. (1634) 114 Conon the Athenian..recovers the mastery of the Seas. 1651 Hobbes *Govt. & Soc.* xvi. § 16. 285 The Priesthood was not a Maistry, but a Ministry. 1729 Butler *Serm.* Wks. 1874 II. 32 The appetites and passions..often strive for mastery with judgment or reflection. 1844 H. H. Wilson *Brit. India* II. 366 They..needed only..guidance to dispute with the victors the mastery over Hindustan. 1874 Green *Short Hist.* v. § 1. 221 Edward's aim..was.. to save English commerce by securing the mastery of the Channel.

†b. Predominance; predominating feature; prevailing character. *Obs.*

1477 Norton *Ord. Alch.* iv. in Ashm. *Theat. Chem. Brit.* (1652) 48 That is the Mastrie of all our intent. 1562 Leigh *Armorie* (1597) 115 b, The mastery of colours must be tawney. *Ibid.*, The mastere of the colour must bee Carnation. 1642 Fuller *Holy & Prof. St.* II. v. 68 A burning-fever, to which his body was naturally disposed, as appeared by the mastery of rednesse in his complexion.

2. Superiority or ascendancy in competition or strife; 'upper-hand'; victory. Now only with mixture of sense 1: Victory resulting in the subjection of the vanquished.

a 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 134 Al ha cneowen ham cranant & ouercumen, & cweðen hire þe meistrie. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 96/128 Heo ne couþen answerie hire of neuere a word and 3euen hire þe maistrie. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 1147 Þoru godes grace Hii adde þe maistrie of veld. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 21404 Þe mastri has king constantin Thoru þe cros and cristes might. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 27 Edward had þe maistri, & þanked God. *a* 1400-50 *Alexander* 4502 Mars for his maisterris & for his many weris [etc.]. 1423 Jas. I *Kingis Q.* lix, Sum bird may cum and stryve In song with the, the maistry to purchace. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 320/2 Maystrye, or souerenme, & heyare honde y(n) stryfe or werre. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* V. ii. 50 First sall I ordane for my Troianis ..With all thair force to strife for the maistry. 1535 Coverdale 2 *Tim.* ii. 5 And though a man stryve for a mastrye [1611 for masteries]. 1577 *F. de L'isle's Legendarie* G vij b, To the end in case they yet once againe got the masterie, they should not harme her. 1667 Milton *P. L.* II. 899 Four Champions fierce Strive here for Maistrie. 1845 S. Austin *Ranke's Hist. Ref.* I. 103 He..always gained the mastery in the end.

†b. *For the mastery*: as if aiming at mastery; hence, extremely, in the highest degree. Frequent in ME. poetry. (Cf. 4 b.) *Obs.*

13.. *Guy Warw.* (A.) 4961 Þe douke hadde a feir douhter for þe meistri. *c* 1400 Maundev. (1839) xxvi. 268 The 3ates that Kyng Alisaundre leet make of grete Stones..wel symented and made stronge for the maystrie. *c* 1412 Hoccleve *De Reg. Princ.* 1390 Whan..þat I poore am eek for þe maystrie. *c* 1460 *Launfal* 957 Twey stones of Ynde, Gay for the maystrye.

†3. Superior force or power. *To have to mastery*, to have in (one's) power. *Obs.*

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 53 Þe folc of denemarch..þat ofte wonne englelond and helde it bi maistrie. *Ibid.* 9182 Þat he ab inome wiþ trayson we ssolle wiþ maistrie. *c* 1340 Hampole *Prose Tr.* 37, I halde it noghte spedfulle þan to a mane for to prese to mekill þare-till as if he walde gete it by maystry. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 1904 And y wer now on þy mastrye, as þou art her in myne, Tel me..how wostou þan do by me. 1426-7 in *Cal. Proc. in Chanc. Q. Eliz.* (1827) I. Introd. 20 Symkyn Yve..be maistery and supportacion of lordship..deprived and disherite John Haryngton. *c* 1483 Caxton *Dialogues* 43/25 After that the euyll doers Haue knowlechid her euyll dedes, He hath them to mastrye. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* X. i. 121 And command eyk, with gret fors and mastry The burgh of

Cartage doun thring Italy. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* III. i. 25 Ne may love be compeld by maistery. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xxxii, These wicked people..stopped me by violence and mastery.

† b. *Proverb.* (Cf. OF. *la force paist le pré.*)

c 1425 WYNTOUN *Chron.* (Wemyss MS.) lxxx. 1499 It is said in commone sawis that mastry mawis þe medow doune ay.

4. The skill or knowledge which constitutes a master. *Obs.* or *arch.* exc. with mixture of sense 7. Also, in early use, † a department of skill or knowledge; an art or sciencc (*obs.*).

13.. *K. Alis.* 3 Clerkes wel y-lerid, Faire y-dyght this myddel erde, And clepid it, in here maistrie, Europe, Affryke, and Asyghe. 1382 WYCLIF *Eccl.* l, 5 That hadde the maistrie [Vulg. *prævaluit*] to make large the cite. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Miller's T.* 197 Somtyme, to shewe his lightnesse and maistrye He pleyeth Herodes vp on a Scaffold hye. 1460 *Lydeaus Disc.* (Kaluza) 1783 Men of maistrie, Clerkes of nigremauncie. *c* 1475 *Partenay* 188 Thys noble Erle.. Of astronemye wyse was..So moche ther-of knew he the maistrie. 1477 NORTON *Ord. Alch.* vii. in Ashm. *Theat. Chem. Brit.* (1652) 105 Use maketh Masterie. 1597 MORLEY *Introd. Mus.* 85 This waie argueth maistric, and..hee who can doe it..needeth not to stand telling his cordes. *a* 1637 B. JONSON *Underwoods, Poet to Painter,* O, had I now your manner, maistry, might,.. How I would draw. 1680 LD. ROCHESTER *Allusion to Horace* I. x. 47 With just bold Strokes he dashes here and there, Showing great Mastery with little Care. 1830 CUNNINGHAM *Brit. Paint.* II. 59 Such mastery rarely waited upon the ambition of this amiable and upright man. 1876 MORRIS *Sigurd* IV. 351 Their Gods with mastery carven. 1903 *Edin. Rev.* Apr. 464 There is a majesty and a mastery..in the ugliness Van Eyck depicts, that redeems its homeliness.

† b. A rule, method, or process of an art. *For (the) mastery*: ? as required by the rules of art. *Obs.*

c 1420 *Liber Cocorum* (1862) 44 Coloure hit with safroun for þe maystre. 1460–70 *Bk. Quintessence* 9, I wole teche 30u þe maistrie of departynge of gold fro siluir. 1695 DRYDEN *Parallel Poetry & Painting* Ess. 1900 II. 122 Painters and sculptors..advance their art above nature itself in her individual productions; which is the utmost mastery of human performance.

† c. = MAGISTERY 3. *Obs. rare*$^{-1}$.

1610 B. JONSON *Alch.* IV. i, I am the Lord of the Philosophers Stone... *Dol.* How Sir! ha' you that? *Mam.* I am the Master of the Maistry.

† **5.** An exercise or work of skill or power. *To do, make, work,* etc. (*a*) *mastery* or *masteries*: to perform a wonderful feat or trick; to exercise one's skill or power *on* or *against* a person; to 'play the devil' (*with*). *Obs.*

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 390 And wrouhte ueole wundres, and dude ueole meistries biuoren hire eihsihðe. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 12319 Iesus vp þe water heint, And bar it ham als in a ball, ..Quen maria had sene þis maistre, Sco hid it in hert priuelie. *Ibid.* 18215 Quatkin maistri mas þou on hus? 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 532 Now shal y, As þou hast do, do þy maystry. 13.. *Seuyn Sag.* (W.) 2020 The king of Poile hadde gret enuie, That the Romayns made swich maistrie. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Can. Yeom. Prol. & T.* 507 Ye shul wel seen at eye, That I wol doon a maistrie er I go. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 196 The world is yit merveiled Of the maistries that he wroghte Upon the marches. *a* 1400 *Sir Perc.* 1048 Forthe rydez he thenne,.. His maystrés to make. *c* 1430 *Hymns Virg.* 20 Þe feend away from us þou dryue Whanne deeþ with us maistrie schal make. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* XXV. 64 Saie, what are 3e þat makis here maistrie? *c* 1450 *Merlin* 78 Ther the duke a-bode, and dide many maistries in armes. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* VII. 1284 Thar Cetoun met him..and mekill mastir maid. 1494 FABYAN *Chron.* VII. CCXXIV. 250 Ye Welshmen..brake out vpon the Englysshe men in ye bordour..and there made masteryes for a whyle. *a* 1529 SKELTON *Bowge of Courte* 329 With vs olde seruauntes suche maysters to playe. 1546 BALE *Eng. Votaries* I. (1560) 95 b, That ye maye knowe..what masteryes they haue played. 1586 A. DAY *Eng. Secretary* II. (1625) 23 By a number of odde speeches..you doe yet suppose to haue wrought a mastery.

† b. *It is great, little, much, no mastery*: it is a great, no, (etc.) achievement, it is hard or easy (to do something). *Obs.*

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 235 þer vore silui him let sle ac þat was lute maistrie. *a* 1300 *Fall & Passion* 50 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 14 Þat was a gret maistri þat þe doȝtir ber þe fader. 13.. *Sir Beues* (A.) 1738 'So me helpe God!' queþ Beues þo, 'Hit were no meistri, me to slo'. *c* 1412 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 1900 No maistri is it for þe, if þou woldist To be releeuëd. 1450–1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* 17 Yt is no more mastery to god to make of ought & to make of nought. 1456 *Paston Lett.* I. 380 It is no grete maistre to gader up that mony. 1576 FLEMING tr. *Caius' Dogs* 17 They [*sc.* duckes] go so slowely and so leasurely, that to a mans thinking it were no masteryes to take them. 1601 R. JOHNSON *Kingd. & Commw.* (1603) 157 By these helps it was no masterie to vanquish and snbdue them. 1636 B. JONSON *Discov., Ingen. discrim.* i, It is a little Maistry to know them. 1652–62 HEYLIN *Cosmogr.* (1673) III. 8/2 For a man to be good in other places, is no mastery; but in Asia to lead a temperate life is indeed praiseworthy. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IX. 29 Warrs, hitherto the onely Argument Heroic deem'd, chief maistrie to dissect With long and tedious havoc fabl'd Knights In Battels feign'd.

† **6.** A competitive or emulative feat of strength or skill; esp. in phrases *to assay, play, prove, try masteries*, to 'try conclusions'. *Obs.*

1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 298 Thei sholden come Unto the gamen..To do such maistry as they might. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 1028 He proued many maystryes. 1475 *Bk. Noblesse* (Roxb.) 77 King Edwarde iij^de^ that exercised..all his noble sonnes, in such maiestries, wherby they were more apt in haunting of armes. 1530 PALSGR. 736/1, I styckyll betwene wrastellers, or any folkes that prove mastries to se that none do other wronge. 1531 ELYOT *Gov.* I. xvii, The great game of Olympus, wherto..came the moste actife and valiant persons to assay maistries. 1534 MORE *Comf. agst. Trib.* II. Wks. 1191/1 A iugler that woulde for a shew..plai masteries at a feast. 1555 EDEN *Decades* 24 Many daunsynges..and other tryinge of mastryes. 1594 PLAT *Jewell-ho.* I. 47 [Soil] fitter for gardens, or for the trial of maisteries, then for the enriching of arable or pasture grounds. 1606 HOLLAND *Sueton.* Annot. 30 Stage-playes, Gymnicke Exercises, and Masteries in Musicke. 1615 HEYWOOD *Foure Prentises* I. Wks. 1874 II. 237 Let vs try this maistry. 1625 BACON *Ess., Empire* (Arb.) 301 This is but to try Masteries with Fortune. 1692 R. L'ESTRANGE *Josephus, Antiq.* II. xiv. (1733) 51 He [Pharaoh] seemed to take a Vanity..to try Masteries with God Almighty. 1697 *Phil. Trans.* XIX. 501 They were soon..kill'd like other Venison as well for the sake of Food as Mastery and Diversion.

7. (*transf.* from I.) Intellectual command over (a subject of study).

1668 HALE *Pref. to Rolle's Abridgm.* b j b, To get a mastery of the full knowledge of it, requires not only reason but study. *a* 1680 BUTLER *Rem.* (1759) I. 249 To commend without Desert Requires a Mastery of Art. 1828 MISS MITFORD in L'Estrange *Life* (1870) II. xi. 257 She has a mastery of the subject. 1870 DISRAELI *Lothair* lii, This consummate military leader..was distinguished by..a mastery of method rarely surpassed. 1880 DIXON *Windsor* III. viii. 73 His mastery of English was supreme.

b. (Influenced by MASTER *v.*) The action of 'mastering' a subject.

1797 GODWIN *Enquirer* I. vi. 48 It is essential to the just mastery of astronomy. 1823 SCOTT *Peveril* XXVI, It is matter beyond my mastery. 1870 BALDW. BROWN *Eccl. Truth* (1871) 219 The problems of Christian ministry become more difficult of mastery year by year.

Mastew, obs. Sc. form of MASTIFF.

† **Ma·stful,** *a. Obs. rare.* [f. MAST *sb.*^{2} + -FUL.] Full of mast; producing mast.

1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. iii. 560 The Mast-full Oke. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* II. 20 The mastful Chesnut.

Mast-head, *sb.* (Stress variable.) [MAST *sb.*^{1}]

1. The head or highest part of a mast; usually, the head of the lower mast (as a place of observation or punishment), or the highest part of the whole mast as the place for the display of flags, etc.

1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. iv. 162 We had no sight of the ship from the mast-head. 1835 W. IRVING *Tour Prairies* 326 [He] took a look-out, like a mariner from the mast-head at sea. 1836 MARRYAT *Midsh. Easy* xii, Go up to the mast-head, and wait there till I call you down. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* IV. 255 Like the mystic fire on a mast-head, Prophet of storm. *c* 1860 H. STUART *Seaman's Catech.* 74 Above the hounds is the masthead to receive the rigging. 1888 FROUDE *Eng. in W. Ind.* iii. 33 The signal to engage was flying from the mastbead of..Rodney's ship.

b. *fig.* (*a*) Phr. *To the masthead*: to the full. *Sc.* (*b*) *jocular.* (*Naut.*) A person's head.

1821 W. LIDDLE *Poems* 97 (E.D.D.) An Idiot cram'd to the mast-head Wi' thatinsatiate glutton weed. 1884 H. COLLINGWOOD *Under Meteor Flag* 35 Slip down to the doctor, and get him to clap a plaster over your mast-head. 1887 STEVENSON *Misadv. J. Nicholson* i, He was..enjoying to the mast-head the modest pleasures of admiration.

2. One who is stationed at the mast-head; a mast-head man. In recent Dicts.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *masthead-light, man, pendant*; **mast-head high** *adv.*, to the height of the masthead.

1822 SCOTT *Pirate* ii, The sea-snake..with his broad glittering eyes, raised *mast-head high, looks out, as it seems ..for victims. 1878 KEMP *Yacht & Boat Sailing* 358/2 **Masthead Light*, the white light which steam vessels are required to exhibit at the masthead when under way. *c* 1860 H. STUART *Seaman's Catech.* 45 The *mast head men put on a sail-tackle whip. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk., Mast-head men*, the men stationed aloft to keep a look-out. *Ibid.*, *Mast-head pendant. 1878 KEMP *Yacht & Boat Sailing* 358/2 *Masthead Pendants*, the pendants and runners which help support the mast.

Mast-head, *v.* [f. the sb.]

1. *trans.* To send (a sailor) to the mast-head as a punishment.

1829 MARRYAT *F. Mildmay* iv, The next morning I was.. mast-headed, to do penance. *a* 1845 SYD. SMITH in Lady Holland *Mem.* (1855) I. 260 If you masthead a sailor for not doing his duty, why should you not weathercock a parishioner for refusing to pay tithes? 1884 *Century Mag.* XXIX. 172 The one-armed hero is mastheaded.

transf. and *fig.* 1861–8 LOWELL *Emerson* Pr. Wks. 1890 I. 357 The lecturer built up so lofty a pedestal under certain figures as to lift them into a prominence of obscurity, and seem to masthead them there. 1883 STEVENSON *Treas. Isl.* III. xv, They're [*sc.* the goats] all mastheaded on them mountings for the fear of Benjamin Gunn.

2. To raise (a yard, sail, etc.) to its position on the mast or at the mast-head.

1840 R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast* xxv. 80 Before our yards were mast-headed, the Ayacucho had spread her wings. 1881 *Daily Tel.* 24 Feb., I waited to see the men masthead the revolving lamp. 1882 NARES *Seamanship* (ed. 6) 199 The topsails are mast-headed.

Hence **Mast-headed** *ppl. a.*, **Mast-heading** *vbl. sb.*

1836 MARRYAT *Midsh. Easy* xii, There is not one word of mast-heading in the whole of them. 1888 STEVENSON *Black Arrow* 53 Like a mast-headed seaman. 1893 SLOANE-STANLEY *Remin. Midshipm. Life* xiii. 167 Mast-heading had been forbidden by the Admiralty.

Masthede, variant of MOSTHEAD *Obs.*

† **Mast-holm.** *Obs.* [f. MAST *sb.*^{2} + HOLM ^{2}.] The holm-oak, *Quercus Ilex.*

1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* (1586) 101 b, The Mastholme,..in Latine Ilex. *Ibid.*, Forrestes,..consiste of Oke, Beeche,..Mastholme. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 458 The.. mast-Holme Ilex. 1726 LEONI *Alberti's Archit.* I. 25/2 The Mast-Holm [It. *Quercia*] never consumes with Age.

Masthwat, variant of MOSTWHAT *Obs.*

Mastic (mæ·stik), *sb.* Forms: 4–5 masty(c)k, -ik, 5 -ykk, 6 mastyke, (-ike), 6–7 masticke, (6 -yc), 6–9 mastick, mastiche, 7–9 mastich, 6– mastic. Also in late L. form 5–8 mastix, (7 -ixe). [a. F. *mastic* masc. (from 13th c.), ad. late L. *mastichum* (also *mastix*), altered form of L. *masticha, mastichē, masticē*, a. Gr. *μαστίχη*. Cf. Pr. *mastic, mastec*, Pg. *mastique*, Sp. † *masticis* (also *almástiga, almástic, almáciga*, through Arab. *al-maṣṭikā, -kī*, It. *mastice, mastico*, G. *mastix*, Du. *mastik*.

The etymology of Gr. *μαστίχη* is somewhat obscure. As mastic is in the East commonly used as a 'chewing gum', it is not improbable that the word is (as Apollodorus suggested) from the root of *μασᾶσθαι* to chew; cf. *μάστραξ* jaw, *μαστιχᾶν* (once, in Hesiod) to gnash the teeth; but the formation has not been explained.]

1. A gum or resin which exudes from the bark of *Pistacia Lentiscus* and some other trees (see 2).

It is known in English commerce in the form of roundish, oblong or pear-shaped tears, transparent, and of a pale yellow or faint greenish tinge. Formerly much used in Medicine. Now used chiefly in the manufacture of varnish.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. xc. (1495) 657 Of the ryude [of Lentiscus] comyth Resina, that hyghte Mastyk, and this gumme mastyck hath the name of mastigando: of chewynge. *a* 1400–50 *Stockh. Med. MS.* 9 Oyle of mastyk. *c* 1450 *ME. Med. Bk.* (Heinrich) 82 Make..þy mastik.. in abrasen morter. 1534 *Nottingham Rec.* III. 192 Gom Masstyc. 1579 LANGHAM *Gard. Health* (1633) 359 The Masticke is also good against spitting of bloud. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* III. lxxviii. 1244 The Rosen is called.. in Latine *Lentiscina Resina*, and likewise Mastiche: in Shops Mastix:..in English Masticke. 1602 W. VAUGHAN *Direct. Health* (1626) 169 Remember before you rest, to chew downe halfe a dozen graines of Mastike. 1712 tr. *Pomet's Hist. Drugs* I. 63 The Mastick in Tear..is a resinous Gum which drops during the great Heat. 1860 *All Year Round* No. 42. 364 Mastic resembles gum Arabic; it is crystally cracked, yellow in colour,..and has no taste at all to mention. 1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XV. 621/2 *Pistacia Khinjuk*, Stocks, and *P. cabulica*, St.,..yield a kind of mastic which ..when met with in the European market is known as East Indian or Bombay mastic...Cape mastic,..not exported to England, is the produce of *Euryops multifidus*. .. Dammar resin is sometimes sold under the name of mastic.

fig. 1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. i. III. *Furies* 65 And innocent Astræa did combine All with the mastick of a love divine.

2. (In full *mastic tree.*) An evergreen shrub yielding mastic gum, *Pistachia Lentiscus* of the Levant. Applied also to other species of *Pistachia*, and to the West Indian *Bursera gummifera* and Peruvian *Schinus Molle.*

c 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* III. 1039 And now The bones hard of mastik tre wol serue Vsowe. 1638 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (ed. 2) 136 Abounding in..knotty Pines, fragrant Masticks, Kingly Oaks [etc.]. 1640 PARKINSON *Theat. Bot.* 1524 *Lentiscus Peruana.* The Indian Masticke tree. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* App. s.v., Indian Mastic, the name by which the Molle, or Peruvian Lentisk is sometimes called. 1775 R. CHANOLER *Trav. Greece* (1825) II. 181 Some boughs of green mastic served us at once for table-cloth and dish. 1864 GRISEBACH *Flora W. Ind.* 785 Mastic tree, *Bursera gummifera.* 1866 *Treas. Bot.* s.v., Barbary Mastich, *Pistacia atlantica.* \ 1867 LADY HERBERT *Cradle L.* ix. 233 The mastic, with its pendant white bell-shaped blossoms.

3. A valuable timber tree of the West Indies and Florida, *Sideroxylon Mastichodendron.* (Also *mastic-tree.*)

1657 LIGON *Barbados* 73 The Mastick is a tree very tall but the body slender...The timber of this tree is rank'd amongst the fourth sort, three being better then it. 1683 J. POYNTZ *Tobago* 28 The Mastick is a Timber Tree of so fine a grain, that it plains like our English Box. 1750 G. HUGHES *Barbados* 149 The Mastich-tree; *Lat.* Calaba. 1775 ROMANS *Florida* App. 32 The peninsula affords in this place Lignum-Vitae, Mastick and Mohogany. 1830 MAYCOCK *Flora Barbad.* 111 *Sideroxylon Mastichodendron*.. Mastick Tree.

† **4.** (In full **Herb Mastic.**) The plant *Thymus Mastichina* (see MARUM). *Obs.*

1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. ccx. 544 Of herbe Masticke. The English and French Herbarists at this daie do call this plant Masticke or Mastiche. *Ibid.* (Table Eng. names), Bastarde Masticke, that is Goates Marierome. 1640 PARKINSON *Theat. Bot.* 12 *Marum vulgare.* Hearbe Masticke. *Ibid.* 13 *Marum Syriacum vel Creticum.* The Syrian or Candye Mastick. This Candye or Syrian Marjerome. 1741 *Compl. Fam.-Piece* II. iii. 375 It is not yet too late to plant Slips of ..Marum, Mastick, and some other aromatick Plants. 1836 LOUDON *Encycl. Plants* 508 *Thymus Mastichina*, Mastick.

5. a. A resinous or bituminous cement. **b.** A lime cement used by builders. (Cf. *mastic cement* in 8.)

1706 LONDON & WISE *Retir'd Gard'ner* I. 85 Cover the Top of the Stem with some Mastick...This Mastick must be compounded of..Rosin,..Wax,..Pitch, and..Mutton Suet. 1713 ADDISON *Guardian* No. 156 ¶ 9 As for the small particles of brick or stone, the least moistness would join them together, and turn them into a kind of mastick. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 274 (*Cements*) Mastics of a resinous or bituminous nature which must be softened or fused by heat. 1881 YOUNG *Every Man his own Mech.* 625 An asphalte composition called..Patent India Mastic. *Ibid.* 627 The.. heads of the nails are afterwards to be coated with the same asphalte mastic. 1884 *Health Exhib. Catal.* 87/1 Patent Joint Mastic for making joints of all kinds.

6. A liquor, used in Turkey and Greece, made from grain-spirit or grape-juice, flavoured with gum-mastic. (Cf. *mastic-brandy* and RAKI.)

1882 E. O'Donovan *Merv Oasis* I. 452 In Turkey we always drank mastic on such occasions. 1887 *Pall Mall G.* 23 May 4/2 [Stamboul] Their mothers prefer mastic, the spirit that fortifies and induces the loose, indolent mood.

7. The colour of mastic; a shade of pale yellow. Also as *adj.*

1890 *Daily News* 27 Sept. 2/1 Coats and jackets in mastic, cigar-colour, and shades verging on terra-cotta. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 17 Aug. 3/2 A gown..of mastic cloth.

8. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *mastic gum, pill, seal, timber*; *mastic-chewing*; **mastic brandy** = sense 6 above; **mastic cement, cloth, fly** (see quots.); **mastic paint**, a kind of cement used for plastering walls; †**mastic patch**, a patch for the face (*a*) fastened on with mastic, or (*b*) composed of mastic, and worn as a remedy for the tooth-ache; **mastic plant**, cat-thyme, *Teucrium Marum*; **mastic shrub** = *mastic tree*; **mastic thyme**, *Thymus Mastichina* (see 4); **mastic tree** (see sense 2); **mastic varnish**, a fine varnish used for varnishing pictures; **mastic-wood**, the wood of the mastic tree.

1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XV. 621/2 *Mastic brandy. 1815 in *Titles Patents* (1854) 690 A *mastic cement or composition, which he denominates Dihl's mastic. 1875 *Ure's Dict. Arts* (ed. 7), *Mastic cement*, a mixture of lime, sand, litharge, and linseed-oil. 1879 Geo. Eliot *Theo. Such* v, Preliminary media of understanding, such as pipes, chocolate, or *mastic-chewing. 1882 Caulfeild & Saward *Dict. Needlework*, *Mastic Cloth*, a new variety of canvas, designed for embroidery purposes. It is woven in alternate stripes. 1700 Petiver *Musei Petiver.* 66 *Capricornus Barbadensis major*..from.. Barbadoes where they are very plentifull and call'd by them the *Mastick-fly. 1750 G. Hughes *Barbadoes* III. 81 The Mastich-fly..derives its name from the Tree it feeds upon. 1837 *Penny Cycl.* VII. 91/1 *Mastic gum. 1884 *Health Exhib. Catal.* 87/1 Heat Resisting *Mastic Paint [cf. 1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 869 Hamelin's mastic or lithic paint to cover the façades of brick buildings, &c.]. 1597–8 Bp. Hall *Sat.* VI. i. 115 Or Gellia wore a velvet *mastick-patch Upon her temples when no tooth did ach. 1639 Mayne *City Match* III. iii, When there was not fire enough to warme a Mastick patch t' apply to his wives Temples In great extremity of toothach. 1697 Grew *Epsom Waters* 57 Take of *Mastick Pills, two Scruples. 1718 Quincy *Compl. Disp.* 80 *Mari Syriaci*, the *Mastick Plant, as some call it. It is reckon'd a kind of Marjoram. 1837 Sir F. Palgrave *Merch. & Friar* i. (1844) 18 Suppose the letter completed,..and sealed with the *mastic seal. 1682 Wheler *Journ. Greece* I. 61 Lentiscus, or the *Mastick shrub. 1640 Parkinson *Theat. Bot.* 6 *Thymum latifolium.* *Masticke Tyme. 1707 [see Marum]. 1833 J. Bennett *Artificer's Lex.* 228 *Mastic timber, specific gravity per foot cube, 53 lbs. 1510 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) II. 199 *Mastyke vernysch. 1841 E. Fitz-Gerald *Lett.* (1889) I. 78 The picture has just been varnished with mastick varnish. 1669 H. Sturbe *Let.* in Birch *Life Boyle* (1744) 191 To let you see, what *mastick wood will do in the gout. 1699 Garth *Dispens.* III. 90 And on the structure next he heaps a load Of..mastic wood. 1856 Mayne *Expos. Lex.*, *Mastich Wood*...A tincture is made from it.

†**Ma·stic,** *v. Obs. rare.* [f. Mastic *sb.*] *trans.* To treat with a preparation of mastic: **a.** as a setting for a stone; **b.** as a varnish.

1688 R. Holme *Armoury* III. 91/1 [Jewellers' terms.] Masticking, is setting a Black between the Stones to set them off. 1697 Evelyn *Numism.* vi. 217 Masticking them over very Artificially,..to elevate both the Figures and Letters with the Vernish.

Masticability (mæstikăbi·lĭti). [f. next: see -ity.] The capability of being masticated.

1849 *Fraser's Mag.* XL. 130 The same simple expedient suffices to convert, so far as..masticability is concerned, an old fowl into a young capon. 1894 *Contemp. Rev.* LXVI. 648 You can always rely upon the masticability of the dish.

Masticable (mæ·stikăb'l), *a. rare.* [f. Masticate *v.* + -able.] That may be masticated.

1846 Worcester (citing *Jour. Sci.*). 1890 *Chamb. Jrnl.* 15 Mar. 162/1 Her bread is like so much masticable lead.

Masticate (mæ·stikēt), *v.* Also 7 **mastigate.** [f. late L. *masticāt-*, ppl. stem of *masticā-re* (4th c.) to chew, whence It. *masticare*, Sp. *mascar*, Pg. *masgar* (and the learned forms Sp. *masticar*, *mastigar*, Pg. *mastigar*), OF. *mascher* (mod.F. *mâcher*), Pr. *mastegar*, *maschar*.

A plausible suggestion is that late L. *masticāre* may be f. L. *mastichē* Mastic, the assumed original sense being 'to chew mastic', 'to treat as one treats mastic'. But it is possible that the verb may be f. Gr. *μαστακ-*, *μάστα*ξ jaw, or an unrecorded Latin cognate of this.]

1. *trans.* To grind (food) to a pulp with the teeth; to chew.

1649 Jer. Taylor *Gt. Exemp.* I. Disc. iv. 128 Some chewed bitter pills and masticated gummes. 1746 R. James *Moufet's Health's Improv.* Introd. 2 It is..a very great Error to swallow the Aliment before it is duly masticated. 1827 Roberts *Voy. Centr. Amer.* 130 Indian corn, partly boiled and masticated [in the preparation of a drink called 'mish-law']. 1872 Huxley *Physiol.* vi. 139 To these ends food is taken into the mouth and masticated. 1880 Günther *Fishes* 119 Some fishes,..provided with broad molar-like teeth, masticate their food.

†**b.** *fig.* = Manducate *v. Obs.*

1651 C. Cartwright *Cert. Relig.* I. 30 Except we eat the flesh of the Son of man, and drink his bloud, we have no life in us; him we must mastigate, and chew by faith.

2. To crush or knead (india-rubber or gutta-percha) to a pulp; to combine with (gutta-percha) in the process of 'mastication'.

1849 C. Nickels in *Repert. Patent Invent.* (1850) XV. 226 The pieces of such india-rubber will admit of being kneaded or masticated. *Ibid.*, India-rubber, .. manufactured by kneading or masticating therewith..flowers of sulphur.

Hence **Ma·sticated** *ppl. a.*

1727 Bailey vol. II, *Masticated*, chewed. 1799 *Phil. Trans.* LXXXIX. 253 This middle space .. becomes filled up with the masticated food. 1849 C. Nickels in *Repert. Patent Invent.* (1850) XV. 227 The kneaded or masticated mass [of gutta-percha]..is to be subjected to pressure.

Masticating (mæ·stikētiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. Masticate *v.* + -ing 1.] The action of the vb. Masticate. Also *attrib.*

1827 Roberts *Voy. Centr. Amer.* 129 Some few of the young men also joined in the masticating process. 1849 C. Nickels in *Repert. Patent Invent.* (1850) XV. 224 That process of preparing and manufacturing india-rubber (caoutchouc) called grinding, masticating, or kneading. 1854 Owen *Skel. & Teeth* in *Orr's Circ. Sci.* I. 294 A masticating apparatus, to serve the requirements of a gigantic animal..was provided by a succession of different molar teeth. 1855 Bain *Senses & Int.* I. ii. § 18 (1864) 49 The first operation upon the food in the mouth—the chewing or masticating.

Masticating (mæ·stikētiŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. Masticate *v.* + -ing 2.] That masticates.

1802 Playfair *Illustr. Hutton. Th.* 468 The grinder of the boar is similar to that of the elephant, in the extent of the masticating surface. 1827 Hood *True Story* i, Some bit of masticating bone, That..only seems to gnaw itself. 1835–6 Todd *Cycl. Anat.* I. 771/1 The masticating Crustacea being the highest in point of organization.

Mastication (mæstikē·ʃən). Also 7 **mastucation.** [ad. late L. *masticātiōn-em*, n. of action f. *masticā-re* to Masticate. Cf. F. *mastication.*]

1. The action of masticating or chewing.

1565 Cooper *Thesaurus*, *Confectio escarum*..Mastication or chewing of the meate. 1615 Crooke *Body of Man* 134 All Aliments..after mastication or chewing..are swallowed. 1658 Sir T. Browne *Gard. Cyrus* iii. *Hydriot.* etc. 56 After a fuller mastication, and salivous mixture. 1854 Emerson *Lett. & Soc. Aims*, *Comic* Wks. (Bohn) III. 210 To put something for mastication between the upper and lower mandibles. 1880 Günther *Fishes* 329 Dentition..adapted for the prehension and mastication of crustaceous..animals. *fig.* *a* 1631 Donne *Serm.* lxiii. (1640) 637 It is writ in gall and wormwood..; but if we can bring it..to that mastication, that rumination, which is [etc.].

† **b.** = Manducation. *Obs.*

1601 Bp. W. Barlow *Defence* 128 They, which..haue turned..the supper into a spectacle..feeding the peoples eyes with the priestes eleuation, and sole mastucation.

2. The action or process of pulping (gutta-percha).

1881 *Times* 18 Apr. 4/6 The gutta percha is not masticated in any way, Mr. T. holding that mastication utterly destroys the material. 1885 C. G. W. Lock *Workshop Receipts* Ser. IV. 1/2 At some works this process of 'mastication' [in waterproofing] is omitted.

Masticator (mæ·stikētəɹ). [f. Masticate *v.* + -or.] One who or that which masticates.

1. *pl.* The teeth or jaws. *jocular.*

1694 Motteux *Rabelais* V. xxiii. (1737) 103 Her Masticators ..chew'd it. 1765 Sterne *Tr. Shandy* VII. viii, Just Heaven! What masticators!—What bread! 1797 Anna Seward *Lett.* (1811) IV. 311 His..preference of such impure masticator to the clean ivory supplied by the dentist. 1816 'Quiz' *Grand Master* III. 66 Their masticators they employ, On ..beef, and goat. 1845 Ford *Handbk. Spain* I. 27 It requires powerful masticators, a vigorous appetite and digestion.

2. A person or animal that masticates or chews.

1824 W. Irving *T. Trav.* (1850) 124 Never was there a more..thoroughly sustained attack on the trencher than by this phalanx of masticators. 1826 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* III. 417 Insects of late have been divided into two great tribes, *masticators* and *suckers*. 1854 Badham *Halieut.* 434 The Shark is not a careful masticator. 1860 Tristram *Gt. Sahara* vi. 95 The dyers actually hire masticators to provide them with tannin.

3. A machine for grinding or pulping.

1858 in *Patents Specif.*, *India Rubber* (1875) 133 The gutta percha is then..submitted to the masticator. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.*, *Masticator*, a small machine to cut up meat for aged persons or those who have lost their teeth or the power of chewing. 1885 C. G. W. Lock *Workshop Receipts* Ser. IV. 1/2 The rubber..is introduced into the 'masticator', which consists of a strong cylindrical box, containing a stout deeply-fluted drum, which revolves within the box.

‖ **Masticato·rium.** [mod.L.] = next *sb.*

c 1550 Lloyd *Treas. Health* F iij, Masticatorium is a confection whiche is held in the mouth & chewed to purge the head of flegme. 1592 Nashe *Summers Last Will* E i b, Physicians with their..*Masticator*[*i*]*um* and *Cataplasmata.* 1693 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Masticatorium*, a Medicine which is to provoke spitting.

Masticatory (mæ·stikătəri), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. mod.L. *masticātōrius*, *-ōrium*, f. *masticāre* to Masticate: see -ory 1 and 2. Cf. F. *masticatoire* adj. and sb.] **A.** *adj.* Of, pertaining to, or concerned with mastication. *Masticatory foot* (Ent.) = *foot-jaw*: see Foot *sb.* 35.

1611 Cotgr., *Masticatoire*, masticatorie, chewing, champing. 1694 Motteux *Rabelais* IV. xv. (1737) 60 The molar, masticatory and canine Teeth. 1769 Bancroft *Guiana* 262 The masticatory and digestive organs of carnivorous and granivorous animals. 1852 Dana *Crust.* II. 1035 This pair of legs is often called a pair of maxilla-feet, jaw-feet, or masticatory feet. 1862 *Jrnl. Soc. Arts* X. 324/2 The Para rubber..if not injured by masticatory processes in the manufacture,..will [etc.]. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 680 Paralysis of the masticatory muscles.

b. Of diseases or symptoms: Affecting the organs of mastication.

1853 tr. *Romberg's Man. Nervous Dis.* (Syd. Soc.) II. 289 This serves to distinguish masticatory from histrionic paralysis. 1878 tr. *H. von Ziemssen's Cycl. Med.* XIV. 358 The so-called masticatory facial spasm.

B. *sb.* A medicinal substance to be chewed.

1611 Cotgr., *Masticatoire*, a Masticatorie; a medecine for the rhewme chawed, or held betweene the teeth. 1621 Burton *Anat. Mel.* II. iv. II. iii, Or Apophlegmatismes, masticatories to be held and chewed in the mouth. *a* 1626 Bacon *Med. Rem.* Wks. 1827 VII. 235 To remember masticatories for the mouth. 1733 Cheyne *Eng. Malady* II. ix. § 5 (1734) 212 Some gentle Masticatory (such as Mastick, Pellitory, Tobacco, or the like) 1880 Garrod & Baxter *Mat. Med.* 291 It is used as a masticatory in paralysis of parts about the mouth.

Mastice, Mastich(e : see Mastiff, Mastic.

Masticic (mæsti·sik), **mastichic** (mæsti·kik), *a. Chem.* [f. Mastic *sb.* + -ic.] *Masticic acid* (see quots.).

1845 Cooley *Cycl. Pract. Receipts* (ed. 2) 584 Mastichic acid.. The portion of mastic soluble in alcohol. 1855 Ogilvie *Suppl.*, *Masticic acid.* 1885 T. L. Brunton *Pharmacol.* (1887) 807 Mastich..consists of about 90 per cent. of an acid resin (mastichic acid).

Masticin (mæ·stisin). *Chem.* Also -ine. [f. Mastic + -in.] The substance which remains undissolved after dissolving mastic in alcohol.

1844 in Hoblyn *Dict. Med.* 1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XV. 621/2 The insoluble portion [of Mastic], Beta resin or Masticin.. is a translucent colourless tough substance.

† **Masticine,** *a. Obs. rare.* [ad. late L. *masticin-us*, *mastichinus*, a. Gr *μαστιχινός*, f. *μαστίχη* Mastic. Cf. OF. *masticin.*] Of or pertaining to mastic. In quot. *c* 1420 *absol.* = oil of mastic.

c 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* IV. 144 Her seed yf me reclyne In ..luce of rose, other in masticyne, Or madiſie hit so in oil lauryne. 1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Masticine*, of, or pertaining to, or of the colour of mastick.

Mastick(e : see Mastic.

Masticoat(e,-cot(e,-cott,-cut: see Massicot.

Mastiff (ma·stif), *sb.* Pl. **mastiffs.** Forms: α. 4–5, 7 **mastif,** 5–7 **mastife,** 5–6 **mastyf(e,** (5 **mestyf,** 6 **mastyve,** *Sc.* **mastew**), 6–8 **mastive,** 6–7 **mastiffe,** 7– **mastiff**; *pl.* 4–5 **masteves,** 4–6 **mastyves,** 5 **mastyfes, maistyves,** 6 **mastiffes, maistiffes, mastyvys,** 6–9 **mastives,** 7– **mastiffs.** β. 5–6, 9 *dial.* **mastie, mastice.** γ. 5–7, 9 *dial.* **masty,** 6–7, 9 *dial.* **mastie,** (6 **mastye**). [repr. OF. *mastin* (mod.F. *mâtin*) = Pr. *masti-s*, Sp. *mastin*, Pg. *mastim*, It. *mastino*:—popular L. type **mansuētīnus*, f. L. *mansuētus* tame (see Mansuete *a.*).

The form of the Eng. word is difficult to account for. Possibly the word was first known to Englishmen in the Pr. form *masti-s*; as this coincides with the form that would have been assumed in early OF. by the subject-case of a noun **mastif*, the α forms may be due to grammatical interpretation, while the β and γ forms may have been taken directly from Pr. The word was more or less confused with OF. *mestif* mongrel. The form Mastin occurs only in Caxton's translations from Fr.: cf. Mâtin.]

A large, powerful dog with a large head, drooping ears and pendulous lips, valuable as a watch-dog. Also *mastiff dog.*

α. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 189 On þer first eschel he smot in fulle hastif, & þorgh þam ilka del, als grehound or mastif. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 187 Houndes and masteves [*MSS.* β, γ mastyves, Caxton maistyves] beþ i-slawe in all þe forestes of Engelond. *c* 1400 Maundev. (1839) xv. 167 There ben Rattes in that Ile, als grete as Houndes here: and men taken hem with grete Mastyfes. 1494 Fabyan *Chron.* VII. ccxxxi. 263 A mastife or great curre dogge. 1509 Fisher *Serm. Hen. VII*, Wks. (1876) 278 Euen as ye se these wood dogges these grete mastyues that be tyed in chaynes. *a* 1529 Skelton *Sp. Parrot* 321 Suche malyncoly mastyvys and mangye curre dogges Ar mete for a swyneherde to hunte after hogges. 1550 Crowley *Epigr.* 11 b, To kepe wyth daunger, a greate mastyfe dogge. 1599 Shaks. *Hen. V*, III. vii. 59 Their Mastiffes are of vnmatchable courage. 1601 Holland *Pliny* I. 218 The Colophonians and Castabaleans maintained certain squadrons of mastiue dogs for their war seruice. *a* 1652 Brome *Queenes Exch.* v. i. Wks. 1873 III. 537 There's a crust I brought To stop the open mouth of the Mastive, if he had flown at us. 1717 De Foe *Mem. Ch. Scot.* III. 96 A Gentleman who was set upon by a Furious Mastive Dog. 1807 *Med. Jrnl.* XVII. 273 In the porch.. was lying a large, savage, mastiff dog. 1809 Scott *Let. to Southey* 14 Jan. in *Lockhart*, We can only fight like mastiffs, boldly, blindly, and faithfully. 1812 Southey *Omniana* I. 293 Sir Thomas Roe took out some English mastives to India. 1877 *Encycl. Brit.* VII. 330/1 The Mastiff..is usually of a buff colour, with ears and muzzle darker.

β. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 230/2 A Mastis, *liciscus.* ?*a* 1500 *Forest Laws* § 12 in *Sc. Acts* (1814) I. 690/2 Ande gif ony mastice be fundyn in þe forest [etc.]. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* IX. Prol. 49 The cur, or mastis, he haldis at small availl. 1869 *Lonsdale Gloss.*, *Mastice*,..corr. of mastiff. 1878 *Cumberld. Gloss.*, Mastis. 1893 *Northumbld. Gloss.*, Mastis.

γ. 1540 *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, VIII. 482 Certeyne masties..for his hunting. 1566 Drant *Horace Sat.* II. vi. (end), Also the vaste and ample house of mastie dogges did sounde. 1577 B. Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* III. (1586) 154 The mastie that keepeth the House. 1652 Dorothy Osborne *Lett. to Sir W. Temple* (1888) 105 A masty is handsomer to me than the most exact little dog that ever lady played withal. 1676 Wycherley *Pl. Dealer* IV. i, Surly, untractable, snarling Brute! he! a Masty-dog were as fit a thing to make a Gallant of. 1687 Miege *Gt. Fr. Dict.* II. s. v., A great Masty, *un gros Mâtin.* 1882 *W. Worc. Gloss.* Add., *Mastie-dog*, mastiff.

b. with an adj. prefixed, indicating a foreign variety, as *Cuban, Dutch, German, Thibet mastiff.*

1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* III. 286 The Dutch mastiff. 1859 Wood *Illustr. Nat. Hist.* I. 307 The Cuban Mastiff is supposed to be produced by a mixture of the true Mastiff with the bloodhound. 1877 *Encycl. Brit.* VII. 330/2 The Thibet Mastiff is larger than the English breed. 1883 R. Groom *Great Dane* 4 The German Mastiff.

c. *transf.* and *fig.*

1602 *2nd Pt. Return from Parnass.* v. iv. (Arb.) 71 *Furor.* Farewell my masters, Furor's a masty dogge. 1610 B. Jonson *Alch.* I. i, May, murmuring mastiffe? I, and doe. 1781 Cowper *Table-talk* 35 To see a people scattered like a flock, Some royal mastiff panting at their heels.

d. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *mastiff-bitch*, †*-cur*, *dog* (see 1), †*-hound*, *mouth*, *race*, †*strind* (Sc.); *mastiff-like* adj.; **mastiff bat, day** *jocular* (see quots.); **mastiff-fox**, a variety of fox (see quot. 1828).

1851 Gosse *Nat. in Jamaica* 159 The Chestnut *Mastiff-bat. 1871 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* I. 319 The Pale Chestnut Mastiff Bat [*Nyctinomus brasiliensis*]... This species is found commonly in South America and the West Indies. *Ibid.* 320 The Smoky Mastiff Bat [*Molossus nasutus*]..is a well-known South American species. 1621 in *Naworth Househ. Bks.* (Surtees) 184 A *mastie bich. 1797 Coleridge *Christabel* I. 7 Sir Leoline..Hath a toothless mastiff bitch. 1522 Skelton *Why not to Court?* 294 Our barons.. Dare not loke out at dur For drede of the *mastyue cur, For drede of the bochers dogge. 1608 T. James *Apol. Wyclif* 49 They did as it were so manie woolues, or mastie curs woorie them [the flock]. 1781 H. Walpole *Let. to H. S. Conway* 5 June, Last week we had two or three *mastiff days; for they were fiercer than our common dog-days. 1774 *Mastiff fox [see Greyhound 4]. 1828 J. Fleming *Hist. Brit. Anim.* 13 Mastif-Fox.—This is of a dark brown colour, somewhat less [than the Greyhound Fox], but more strongly made. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 321 A mouthe as a *mastif hunde vn-metely to shaw. 1475 *Bk. Noblesse* (Roxb.) 16 Every man kepyng the scout wache had a masty hound at a lyes. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* liii. 47 Quhou *mastew-lyk [*v. r.* mastive lyk] about 3eid he! 1851 Gosse *Nat. in Jamaica* 293 The mastiff-like physiognomy [of the monk bat]. 1809 W. Irving *Knickerb.* (1861) 35 He was a short, square, brawny old gentleman, with a double chin, a *mastiff mouth, and a broad copper nose. 1877 *Encycl. Brit.* VII. 330/1 The *Mastiff race of dogs .. includes the Mastiff, the Bull-dog, and the Pug. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* lx. 21 Mismad mandragis of *mastyf strynd [*v. r.* kynd].

†**Ma·stiff,** *a. Obs.* Also 5 **mestyf.** [Seems to be partly a derivative of Mast *sb.*2, and partly a perversion of Massive, in both cases due to association with Mastiff *sb.* Cf. Masty *a.*]

1. Of a swine: Fattened; = Masted *a.*, Masty *a.* 2.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 334/2 Mestyf, hogge, or swyne, *maialis.*

2. Massive, solid, bulky.

1495 *Trevisa's Barth. De P. R.* v. lvii, Some [bones] ben .. holowy. And some mastyffe [*MS. Bodl.* massye] and sadde for the more stedfastness. 1733 Cheyne *Eng. Malady* I. xi. § 4. 101 Those [persons] of large, full, and (as they are call'd) mastiff Muscles,..are generally of a firmer State of Fibres, than those of little Muscles.

3. Burly, big-bodied; = Masty *a.* 3.

1668 Kirkman *Eng. Rogue* II. xi. (1671) 96 Perceiving them to be too hard for us (for they were two stout Mastiff Queans). *a* 1675 Whitelocke *Mem.* (1732) 112, I did the like to another great Mastiff Fellow, an Officer also of the King's Army, and took away his Sword from him.

†**Mastigadour.** *Obs.* Also 8 masticadour, 9 (in Dicts.) masticador. [a. F. *mastigadour* (Solleysel 1682), ad. Pg. *mastigadouro* = mod.L. *masticātōrium* Masticatory *sb.*] (See quots.)

1720 Gibson *Diet. Horses* vii. (1731) 103 He [Solleysel] orders the Horse to have a small Watering-bit, or Masticadour put upon him. 1727 Bailey vol. II, *Mastigadour*, a Slabbering Bit, a Snaffle of Iron.

Mastigate, rare obs. form of Masticate.

Mastigophore (mæ·stigŏfōɹ). *Zool.* [ad. Gr. *μαστῑγοφόρος*: see Mastigophorous.]

†1. *Antiq.* (See quot. and next word.)

1658 Phillips, *Mastigophore* (Greek), an Usher that with stripes makes way in a croud.

2. A protozoan belonging to the class *Mastigophora*, the members of which are provided with one or more flagella. 1890 in *Century Dict.*

†**Mastigophorer.** *Obs.*—° [formed as prec. + -er 1.] (See quot. and prec. 1.)

1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Mastigophorer*, a fellow worthy to be whipped; also an usher, who with whips removed the people, where there was much press.

Mastigophoric (mæ·stigŏfo·rik), *a.* [formed as next + -ic.] = Mastigophorous.

1816 T. L. Peacock *Headlong Hall* vi, He would beat his drum in Grub Street, form a mastigophoric corps of his own. 1902 Webster *Suppl.*, *Mastigophoric*,..having a lash-like cilium; flagellate;—said of the Flagellata.

Mastigophorous (mæstigo·fŏrəs), *a.* [f. Gr. *μαστῑγοφόρος* scourge-bearing (f. *μαστῑγ-*, *μάστιξ* scourge + *-φόρος* bearing) + -ous.]

1. That carries a scourge, scourge-bearing. Only in humorously pedantic use.

1812 Parr *Let. to C. Burney* 12 Dec., Wks. 1828 VII. 418 To meet all the mastigophorous subscribers would gladden my heart. 1826 Syd. Smith *Wks.* (1859) II. 94/1 Not what this medium boy can do while his mastigophorous superior is frowning over him, but [etc.]. 1871 M. Collins *Mrg. & Merch.* II. v. 149 The sharp discipline of a mastigophorous schoolmaster.

2. *Zool.* Provided with flagella; belonging to the *Mastigophora*, a class of *Protozoa.*

1890 in *Century Dict.*, and in later Dicts.

Mastigopod (mæ·stigŏpɒd), *sb.* and *a.* [ad. mod.L. *Mastigopoda* neut. pl. (lit. 'whip-footed' animals), f. Gr. *μαστῑγ-*, *μάστιξ* whip + *ποδ-*, *πούς* foot.] a. *sb.* Huxley's name for a protozoan furnished with cilia or flagella. b. *adj.* Furnished with cilia or flagella, or both (*Cent. Dict.* 1890).

1875 Huxley in *Encycl. Brit.* II. 50/1 The myxopod .. gives rise by division to bodies provided with long flagelliform cilia..which may be termed mastigopods. 1877 — *Anat. Inv. Anim.* ii. 76 It will be convenient to distinguish those Protozoa..which are provided with cilia or flagella, as mastigopods. 1898 Sedgwick *Student's Text-bk. Zool.* I. 29 Forms which pass through both the myxopod and mastigopod condition.

Hence **Mastigo·podous** *a.* = prec. adj.

1890 in *Century Dict.*

Mastigure (mæ·stigiuəɹ). [ad. mod.L. *mastigūra* (Fleming 1822), *mastigūr-us*, f. Gr. *μαστῑγ*, *μάστιξ* whip + *οὐρά* tail.] 'An agamoid lizard of the genus *Uromastix*' (*Cent. Dict.* 1890),

1863 Wood *Nat. Hist.* III. 90 The Egyptian Mastigure, or Spine-footed Stellio, is a native of Northern Africa.

Mastik(e, Mastil3on, obs. ff. Mastic, Maslin2.

†**Ma·stin.** *Obs. rare.* [a. OF. *mastin*: see Mastiff.] = Mastiff *sb.*

1483 Caxton *G. de la Tour* H vij, Beholde these grete dogges that men call mastyns. 1485 — *Chas. Gt.* 128 But rolland..came vpon the mastyn sarasyns.

Masting (mɑ·stiŋ), *vbl. sb.*1 [f. Mast *v.*1 + -ing 1.]

1. The action or process of fitting with masts.

1627 Capt. Smith *Seaman's Gram.* xi. 54 The Masting of a Ship is much to be considered, and will..cause her to saile well or ill. 1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* I. 1 In masting.. the complete height of a mast is gained by erecting one mast on the top of another. 1870 *Daily News* 3 Oct., They considered the tripod system of masting one that answered well for the support of the masts.

b. Masts collectively.

1702 C. Mather *Magn. Chr.* I. vi. (1852) 84 All her masting seemed blown away by the board. 1757 J. H. Grose *Voy. E. Indies* 175 The masting generally used in the country-ship, are Pohoon-masts. 1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* II. 276 Observations on the different inclinations given to the masting of ships.

2. ? The action of felling trees for masts. *U.S.*

1792 J. Belknap *Hist. New Hampsh.* III. 3 Persons.. employed in surveying, masting, hunting and scouting.

3. *attrib.*, as *masting-sheers*, *tree*; **masting-house** (see quot.); **masting pine,** *Pinus Strobus* of N. America.

1855 Ogilvie *Suppl.*, *Mast-house*, **Masting-house*, a place where masts, &c., are deposited. 2. A building furnished with apparatus for fixing vessels' masts. 1755 *Gentl. Mag.* XXV. 503 A white-pine or *masting-pine,..seven feet eight inches diameter at the but end. 1760 W. Douglass *Brit. N. Amer.* II. 53 The Pines may be subdivided into the masting, or white pine, the pitch pine,..and others..used as lumber. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.*, **Masting-shears.* 1893 Dahlstrom tr. *Weisbach & Herrmann's Mech. Hoisting Mach.* vi. 252 A large masting sheers designed at the machine works at Waltjen, in Bremen. 1760 W. Douglass *Brit. N. Amer.* II. 53 *note*, In New Hampshire..is much good ship timber and *masting trees.

Masting (mɑ·stiŋ), *vbl. sb.*2 *rare.* [Mast *sb.*2] The action of producing mast. In quot. *attrib.*

1760 W. Douglass *Brit. N. Amer.* II. 375 The price of pork..depends upon the goodness of their masting years.

Mastis, Mastiso, see Mastiff, Mestizo.

‖ **Mastitis** (mæstəi·tis). *Med.* [mod.L., f. Gr. *μαστ-ός* breast + -itis.] Inflammation of the female breast.

1842 in Brande *Dict. Sci.* etc. 1875 H. C. Wood *Therap.* (1879) 262 In mastitis..its local application to the breast is often very efficacious. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 911 Gangrenous mastitis in sheep.

Mastive, obs. form of Mastiff.

-mastix (mæ·stiks), repr. Gr. *μάστιξ* scourge, freq. used in the 17th c. (rarely later) in quasi-Gr. combinations formed after *Homeromastix* ('Ομηρομάστιξ) 'scourge of Homer' (the name given to the grammarian Zoïlus on account of the severity of his censure of the Homeric poems), and designating persons violently hostile to some person or class, as *Episcopo-mastix*, *Infanto-mastix*, *Puritano-mastix*, etc. Also in titles of books severely attacking some person, class, institution, etc., as *Atheomastix* [Gr. *ἄθεος* atheist] (Fotherby *a* 1619), *Histriomastix* [L. *histrio* actor] (Prynne 1632), *Satiromastix* (Dekker 1602, attacking Ben Jonson).

1604 Bp. W. Barlow *Sum Conference* (1638) To Rdr., In one ranke whereof you may place our Hercules-Limbomastix. 1625 Bp. Montagu *App. Cæsar* 291 Incomparable Hooker, that Puritano-mastix, might well say [etc.]. 1651 H. L'Estrange (*title*) Smectymnuo-mastix: or, Short Animadversions vpon Smectymnuus [etc.]. 1656 S. Holland *Zara* (1719) 76 It would have puzzell'd that Female Mastix Mantuan to have limm'd this she Chymera. 1656 Heylin *Extraneus Vap.* 234 [St. Augustine] in condemning Infants unbaptized to the pains of Hell..incurred the name of Infanto-Mastix. 1660 Gauden *Serm. Funeral Brounrig* Ep. Ded., Those unreasonable Episcopomastix, whose malice is as blind, as it is bold, against all Bishops. *a* 1662 Heylin *Cypr. Anglicus* (1668) 50 Humphries .. got the title of a Papisto Mastyx. 1671 Glanvill *Disc. M. Stubbe* 103 And when the Virtuoso-Mastix hath proved that these are not Complements [etc.]. 1818 F. Hodgson (title, in *Byron's Works* 1901 V. 278) Latino-Mastix. 1818 — (*Ibid.*) Sæculo-Mastix, or the Lash of the Age we live in.

†b. As independent sb. *Obs. rare.*

1678 Cudworth *Intell. Syst.* I. iv. § 15. 273 Hierocles, who was the Mastix of Christianity and Champion for the gods.

Mastix(e, Mastizo, see Mastic, Mestizo.

Mastless (mɑ·stlĕs), *a.*1 [f. Mast *sb.*1 + -less.] Without a mast or masts.

1598 T. Watson *Tears of Fancie* liii. Poems (Arb.) 205 Like a mastles shipe at seas I wander. 1624 Heywood *Gunaik.* v. 258 [Perseus] whom Acrisius caused with his mother to be sent to sea in a mastlesse boat. 1849 Rock *Ch. of Fathers* II. 495 The mastless vessel..crept softly.. up the stream. 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 16 Oct. 1/2 Our mastless ironclads lie like hulks on the water, incapable of motion or direction without coal.

Mastless (mɑ·stlĕs), *a.*2 *rare*—1. [f. Mast *sb.*2 + -less.] Without mast, without acorns.

1700 Dryden *Pal. & Arcite* III. 208 A crown of mastless oak adorn'd her head.

Mastlin(g(e, -yn(e, -youn, obs. ff. Maslin.

Masto- (mæ·stɔ), used (*Anat.* and *Path.*) a. to represent Mastoid *sb.*, in combinations with the general sense 'pertaining jointly to the mastoid process or bone and some other part of the skull', as *masto-occipital*, *-parietal*, *-squamous*, †*-tympanic* adjs.; b. as combining form of Gr. *μαστός* breast, in names of diseases of the female breast, as *masto-carcinoma*, *-chondrosis*, *-sairrhus* (Mayne *Expos. Lex.* 1856); also Mastodynia.

1855 Holden *Hum. Osteol.* (1878) 114 The mastoid part of the temporal is connected to the posterior inferior angle of the parietal bone by the *masto-parietal suture. 1858 H. Gray *Anat.* 54 The sutures at the base of the skull are.. the petro-occipital, the *masto-occipital [etc.]. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 599 There may be no local œdema over the mastoid, in fact no *masto-squamous abscess. 1890 *Century Dict.* (citing R. Owen), **Masto-tympanic*, a bone of the skull of some reptiles, which should correspond to the opisthotic quadrate of modern nomenclature.

Mastodon (mæ·stŏdɒn). *Palæont.* [mod.L., f. Gr. *μαστ-ός* breast + *ὀδοντ-*, *ὀδούς* tooth.

The word was used in Fr. form (*mastodonte*) by Cuvier in 1806 in *Ann. Mus. Hist. Nat. de Paris* VIII. 270.]

A large extinct mammal resembling the elephant, characterized by having nipple-shaped tubercles in pairs on the crowns of the molar teeth.

1813 Bakewell *Introd. Geol.* (1815) 430 The bones of the mastodon and mammoth are found only in the upper strata. 1842 Tennyson *Epic* 36 Nature brings not back the Mastodon. 1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XV. 425/2 All known Mastodons are gigantic animals.

fig. 1847 Emerson *Repr. Men*, *Swedenborg*, One of the missouriums and mastodons of literature, he is not to be measured by whole colleges of ordinary scholars.

Mastodonic (mæstŏdɒ·nik), *a.* [f. prec. + -ic.] = Mastodontic *a.*

1853 Kane *Grinnell Exp.* xxxi. (1856) 269 Annette, nearly six feet high, received it with mastodonic grace.

Mastodonsaurian (mæ stŏdɒnsō·riăn), *a.* [f. mod.L. *Mastodonsaur-us* (Jæger 1838, f. Gr. *μαστός* breast + *ὀδοντ-*, *ὀδούς* tooth + *σαῦρος* lizard) + -ian.] Of or belonging to the *Mastodonsaurus*, a genus of Labyrinthodonts.

1865 Lyell *Elem. Geol.* (ed. 6) 508 Labyrinthodonts of the Mastodonsaurian type.

Mastodont (mæ·stŏdɒnt), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. mod.L. *mastodont-*, stem of Mastodon.] a. *adj.* Having teeth like a mastodon. b. *sb.* A mastodon.

1890 in *Century Dict.* 1897 *Nat. Science* Oct. 259 Large upper and lower tusks, as in the older Mastodonts.

Mastodontic (mæstŏdɒ·ntik), *a.* [formed as prec. + -ic.] Of or belonging to a mastodon; resembling the mastodon.

1857 H. Miller *Test. Rocks* ii. 90 The mastodontic period is removed by two great geologic eras from the present time. 1886 *Century Mag.* XXXI. 355 Some men of large size; others of mastodontic proportions. 1895 *Athenæum* 2 Mar. 285/3 The African elephant..belongs, as regards its dentition, to an earlier and mastodontic type.

So **Mastodo·ntine** *a.* = prec. (*Cent. Dict.* 1890); **Mastodo·ntoid** *a.*, resembling the mastodon.

1842 Owen in *Ann. Nat. Hist.* XI. 12 The .. collector and transmitter of the Mastodontoid fossils.

Mastodonton. Incorrect var. of Mastodon.

1815 J. Scott *Vis. Paris* (ed. 2) App. 295 Bones of..the American Mammoth, or Mastodonton.

‖ **Mastodynia** (mæstɔ|dəi·niă). *Med.* Also -dyny. [mod.L., f. Gr. *μαστ-ός* breast + *ὀδύνη* pain.] Neuralgia of the female breast.

1802 *Med. Jrnl.* VIII. 493 Cases admitted..Mastodynia 3. 1879 Khory *Princ. Med.* 16 Mastodynia is often due to uterine..irritation. 1880 Webster *Suppl.*, Mastodyny.

Mastoid (mæ·stoid), *a.* and *sb.* Chiefly *Anat.* [ad. mod.L. *mastoīd-ēs*, f. Gr. *μαστό-s* (woman's) breast: see -oid. Cf. F. *mastoïde*, 16th c. in Littré.]

A. *adj.* Shaped like a female breast.

a. Anat. *Mastoid process*, a nipple-shaped, conical prominence of the temporal bone. *Mastoid bone*, a bone of the skull, in fishes and reptiles, homologous with the mastoid process.

1732 Monro *Anat. Bones* (ed. 2) 100 Into the mastoid Process the *Sterno-mastoideus* Muscle is inserted. 1841 R. E. Grant *Compar. Anat.* 84 Anterior to the mastoid bones are the upper portions of the tympanic bones. 1878 A. Hamilton *Nerv. Dis.* 81 Leeches being applied to both ears, and cups over the mastoid processes. 1880 Günther *Fishes* 57 The formation .. is completed by the mastoid and parietal bones.

b. Path. *Mastoid cancer*, a kind of firm carcinomatous growth, the section of which is thought to resemble the boiled udder of the cow.

1857 in Dunglison *Med. Lex.*

c. *Lichenology.* 'Teat-like'.

1873 W. A. Leighton *Lichen-flora* (ed. 3).

d. *gen. rare.*

1877 Cesnola *Cyprus* ii. 66 A mastoid or breast-shaped hill.

B. *absol.* as *sb.* = *mastoid process* or *bone.*

1842 E. Wilson *Anat. Vade M.* 24 The mastoid forms the posterior part of the bone. 1846 Owen *Compar. Anat. Vertebr.* v. 93 The second ring of bones [of a fish's skull]..includes ..the 'parietals', and the 'mastoids'. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 45 The method may be supplemented by placing a pole on each mastoid for a few minutes.

b. *attrib.* = 'of or pertaining to the mastoid process', as in *mastoid cell, muscle.*

1800 *Phil. Trans.* XC. 9 The cavity of the tympanum, where the mastoid cells open. 1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) III. 237 An excess of muscular action, particularly of the mastoid muscle. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 276 The abscess was secondary to mastoid disease.

Hence **Mastoidal** *a.*, of or belonging to the mastoid process.

1831 R. Knox *Cloquet's Anat.* 89 The mastoid process .. limited before by the meatus auditorius externus, and behind by the mastoidal suture. 1881 Mivart *Cat* 66 This triangular tract is the mastoidal region of the temporal bone.

Mastoideal (mæstoi·dĭăl), *a.* [Formed as next + -AL.] = next. 1848 in Craig; and in later Dicts.

Mastoidean (mæstoi·dĭăn), *a.* [f. mod.L. *mastoīde-us* pertaining to the mastoid (f. *mastoīd-ēs* Mastoid) + -AN. Cf. F. *mastoïdien.*] Of or belonging to the mastoid.

1841 Owen in *Brit. Assoc. Rep.* (1842) 75 The mastoidean angle is not uninterruptedly united with the back part of the articular process of the tympanic.. The mastoidean bone has a concavity at its descending part. 1846 Brittan tr. *Malgaigne's Man. Oper. Surg.* 104 The second [movement] causes [the sternomastoid muscle] to project forwards .., placing its mastoidean insection on a plane anterior.

‖ **Mastoiditis** (mæstoidəi·tis). *Path.* [-ITIS.] Inflammation of the mastoid process.

1890 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1900 Oppenheim *Dis. Childh.* 618 Mastoiditis may be marked by external rupture.

Mastoido- (mæstoi·do), used as combining form of Mastoid, as *mastoido-humeral* adj., connecting the mastoid process with the humerus.

1864 *Quain's Anat.* (ed. 7) II. 193 Thus forming a mastoido-humeral muscle.

† **Masto·logy.** [f. Gr. *μαστός* breast + -OLOGY.] A proposed substitute for Mammalogy.

1819 *Pantologia, Mastology.*..We trust we shall not be accused of pedantry in coining this term. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XIV. 352/2 *Mammalogy*, a hybrid word.. Accordingly M. Desmarest has proposed the term Mastology, and M. de Blainville that of Mastozoology.

Hence **Mastolo·gical** *a.* = Mammalogical; **Masto·logist** = Mammalogist. 1890 in *Century Dict.*

Mastopathy (mæstǫ·păθi). [f. Gr. *μαστός* breast + *πάθος* feeling, suffering: see -PATHY. Cf. F. *mastopathie.*] Disease of the female breast.

1856 Mayne *Expos. Lex.*, *Mastopathia*, pain in the female breast: mastopathy.

† **Mastozoo·logy.** *Obs.* [ad. F. *mastozoologie*, f. Gr. *μαστό-ς* breast + *ζῷο-ν* animal: see -LOGY.] = Mastology. 1839 [see Mastology].

† **Mastozoo·tic,** *a Obs.* [ad. F. *mastozootique*, formed as prec. with irregular suffix.] Of a geologic formation or period: Characterized by the presence of mammalia.

1839 *Penny Cycl.* XV. 93 (art. *Mendip*) Elephants, horses, ..and other animals of the 'mastozootic' æra.

Mast-quat, obs. form of Mostwhat.

Mastras, -es(s(e, obs. forms of Mistress.

Mastres, -ice, -is, var. ff. Maistrice *Obs.*

Mastring, obs. f. Mastering, kind of lye.

Mastucation, rare obs. form of Mastication.

† **Mastuprate,** *v. Obs.* Etymologizing alteration of Masturbate *v.* So † **Mastupra·tion** = Masturbation; **Mastuprator** = Masturbator.

1621 Burton *Anat. Mel.* I. iii. II. iv. (1651) 205 Those rapes, incests, adulteries, mastuprations, [etc.]. *Ibid.* III. ii. VI. v. (1651) 581. 1623 Cockeram, *Mastuprate.* 1647 R. Stapylton *Juvenal* 88 Whilst the hid knave attends, And mastuprates, mad to be so delay'd. 1855 [see Masturbator].

Masturbate (mæ·stʊbēt), *v.* [f. L. *masturbāt-*, ppl. stem of *masturbārī*, of obscure origin: according to Brugmann for **mastiturbārī* f. **mazdo-* (cf. Gr. *μέζεα* pl.) virile member + *turba* disturbance. An old conjecture regarded the word as f. *manu-s* hand + *stuprāre* to defile; hence the etymologizing forms Manustupration, Mastuprate, -ation, used by some Eng. writers.] *intr.* and *refl.* To practise self-abuse.

1857 Acton *Reprod. Organs* 69 *note*, He had masturbated himself. *c* 1880 H. Varley *Lect. Men* (1884) 30 The patients ..have at last acknowledged that they still masturbated.

Hence **Masturba·tic** *a.*, caused by masturbation; **Ma·aturbator,** one who practises masturbation; **Ma·aturbatory** *a.*, pertaining to masturbation.

1855 Dunglison *Med. Lex.*, Masturbator, Masturprator. 1864 tr. *Casper's Handbk. Forensic Med.* (N. Syd. Soc.) III. 334 Masturbatory pæderastia. 1874 Bucknill & Tuke *Psych. Med.* (ed. 3) 318 Masturbatic Insanity. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 692 In masturbators there is more excess than in any other persons. *Ibid.* VIII. 149.

Masturbation (mæstʊbēi·ʃən). [ad. L. *masturbātiōn-em*, n. of action f. *masturbārī* to Masturbate.] The action or practice of self-abuse.

1766 A. Hume (*title*) Onanism: or a Treatise upon the Disorders produced by Masturbation. 1851 Acton *Urin. & Generat. Organs* (ed. 2) 232. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 382.

Hence **Masturba·tional** *a.*, pertaining to or caused by masturbation. 1890 in *Century Dict.*

† **Ma·sty,** *a. Obs.* [f. Mast *sb.*2 + -Y 1.]

1. Producing mast.

1575 Turberv. *Venerie* 217 In the vineyards in the hollow mastie woods. 1592 R. D. *Hypnerotomachia* 32 Shaddowed with greene and tender leaues of mastie Okes, Beeches [etc.]. 1611 Cotgr., *Glandeux*, mastie, full of Mast. 1630 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Satyre* Wks. II. 259/2 The Masty Beeche.

2. Of a swine: Fattened. (Cf. Masted *a.* and *mestif*, Mastiff *a.* 1.)

c 1384 Chaucer *H. Fame* III. 687 Ye masty [*Fairf. MS.* maisty] swyne, ye idyll wrechys. 1530 Palsgr. 318/1 Masty fatte as swyne be, *gras.*

3. Burly, big-bodied; = Mastiff *a.* 3.

1665 Hoore *Microgr.* 164 Some few of these stout and resolute soldiers with these little engines, do often put to flight a huge masty Bear. 1687 Miege *Gl. Fr. Dict.* II. s.v., A masty Fellow, *un gros Paisan.* 1886 *S. W. Linc. Gloss.*, *Masty*, very large and big: as 'They're a masty family'.

Masty, obs. and dial. form of Mastiff.

Mastyc, -yck, -yk(e, obs. forms of Mastic.

Mastye, -yfe, -yve, obs. forms of Mastiff.

† **Masuel.** *Obs. rare.* In 14th c. texts *erron.* **masnel, mansell.** [a. OF. *massuelle*, f. *massue* club.] A mace used in battle.

13..*Coer de L.* 351 Forth he toke a mansell. *Ibid.* 5660 Before his arsoun his ax off steel By that other syde hys masnel. 13.. *Sir Beues* 4503 Wib an vge masuel [*MS.* masnel] Benes a hite on þe helm.

Masulium, Masure, obs. ff. Mausoleum, Mazer.

† **Masures,** *sb. pl. Obs. rare.* [a. F. *masures* sb. pl.] Ruins (of buildings); squalid and tumble-down habitations.

1623 tr. *Favine's Theat. Hon.* VI. i. 103 Out of the ruines and masures [orig. *ruines et masures*] of them, foure other Moderne Citties were rebuilded. 1791 J. Townsend *Journ. Spain* (1792) I. 399 We..quitted the ravin, and began crossing all the masures of the country.

Masyd, -ness, obs. forms of Mazed, -ness.

Masyl, obs. form of Measle.

Masyn-dew(e, obs. forms of Measondue.

Masynry, obs. form of Masonry.

Mat (mæt), *sb.*1 Also 1 matt (? matte), meatt, meatte, (3 *pl.* maten), 4–6 matte, 6–8 matt. [OE. (only in glossaries) *matt*, *meatt* str. (? fem.), *meattе* wk. fem., ad. late L. *matta* (4th c.), whence It. *matta*, and the Teut. forms OHG. *matta* (MHG., mod.G. *matte*, also dial. *matze*), MDu. *matte* (Du. *mat*), Sw. *matta*, Da. *matte*. A synonymous late L. *natta* (Gregory of Tours, 6th c.), whence F. *natte* (see Nat), is commonly regarded as an altered form of *matta*, with *n* for *m* as in F. *nappe* table-cloth, from L. *mappa.*]

1. A piece of a coarse fabric formed by plaiting rushes, sedge, straw, bast, etc., intended to lie, sit, or kneel upon, or for use as a protective covering for floors, walls, plants, etc., or in packing furniture.

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* 487 *Spiato* [for *psiato*, *ψιάθῳ*], matte. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 154/2 *Storea, uel psiata*, meatta. *a* 1100 *Voc.* ibid. 328/34 *Matta*, meatte. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 10 Seinte Sare, & seinte Sincletice, & monie oðre swuche weopmen & wommen mid hore greate maten & hore herde heren. *c* 1375 *S. Austin* 1490 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1878) 87/1 In þe chirche an old monk sat, Seyinge his psauter vppon a mat. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 379 þe matte [L. *matta*] þat was under hym whan he bad his bedes. 1392–3 *Earl Derby's Exp.* (Camden) 222 Item pro vj mattes ad cooperiendum le biscwhit in galeia, vj^{li}. xij^{s}. 1462–3 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 279 In duabus mattis emp. pro aula, vij. d. 1511 *Guylforde's Pilgr.* (Camden Soc.) 17 Jacobyns .. brought vnto vs mattes for oure money, to lye vpon. 1553 Eden *Treat. Newe Ind.* (Arb.) 18 Laying them on mattes or couerlettes. 1587–8 in Swayne *Sarum Churchw. Acc.* (1896) 138 A Matt for the Clarke to kneell vpon, 6d. 1626 Bacon *Sylva* § 696 Fleas breed Principally of Straw or Mats, where there hath beene a little Moisture. 1666 Pepys *Diary* 15 June, A very fine African mat, to lay upon the ground under a bed of state. 1703 Maundrell *Journ. Jerus.* (1721) 128 Shaded over head with Trees, and with Matts when the Boughs fail. 1716 Swift *Phyllis* 15 She..on the Mat devoutly kneeling, Wou'd lift her Eyes up to the Ceiling. *a* 1734 North *Exam.* II. v. § 118 (1740) 388 The Discovery of 80 Musquets in the Lord Grey's House, that were packed in Matts. 1766 C. Beatty *Two Months' Tour* (1768) 44 It is covered with an handsome matt, made of rushes. 1777 G. Forster *Voy. round World* I. 131 They appeared to be dressed in mats. 1830 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 7) II. 632/2 Mats, swung from trees serve them [S. Amer. Indians] both as seats and hammocks. 1837 J. T. Smith tr. *Vicat's Mortars* 96 Colonel Raucourt de Charleville recommends straw-mats to be suspended in front of the walls. 1856 Delamer *Fl. Gard.* (1861) 34 In winter, cover with mats during frosty weather.

† **b.** As the name of a material: Plaited or woven rushes, straw, etc.; matting. *Obs.* exc. *attrib.*

1523–4 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* (E. E. T. S.) 322 Paid for ij yerdys of wykur matt for þe childrens fete, xvj d. 1555 W. Watreman *Fardle Facions* II. viii. 175 These are apparelled in matte, made of a certayne softe kinde of mere rushes. 1594–5 in Swayne *Sarum Churchw. Acc.* (1896) 143, 40 yeardes of matte for ye parishoners to kneele on the time of commvnion. *a* 1619 Fletcher *Bonduca* IV. ii, I defie thee, thou mock-made man of mat. 1688–9 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) III. 348, 461 yards of Matt. 1707 Mortimer *Husb.* (1721) II. 259 Having..ready for your Work..Woollen-Yarn, Bass-matt, or such like to bind them withal. *c* 1710 Celia Fiennes *Diary* (1888) 284 Rowles of Matt very naturall at their head and feete. 1732 Pope *Ep. Bathurst* 299 In the worst inn's worst room, with mat half-hung.

c. Applied to bast used for tying plants. Also *attrib.* in *mat-tie.* (Cf. Matting *vbl. sb.* 3 b.)

1824 Loudon *Encycl. Gard.* § 1514 The flat-headed..nail, used either with lists, loops of cord, or mat; and the eyed.. nail, used with mat-ties. *Ibid.* 1519 When mat, bark, rush, ..or straw are used [for tying].

d. A bag made of matting, used to hold sugar, coffee, flax, etc.

1798 *Hull Advertiser* 1 Dec. 2/1, 40 mats Lexia raisins. *Ibid.* 15 Dec. 2/1, 26 matts of best Rake Liebau Flax. 1885 Mrs. C. Praed *Head Station* (new ed.) 157 Sacks of flour and mats of ration sugar.

2. a. An article (originally such as is described in sense 1, but now more usually made of other materials) intended to be placed near a door for persons entering to wipe their shoes upon (= Door-mat), or similar to those so used.

Now commonly of rectangular shape and considerable thickness; made either of some coarsely woven material (as hemp, coco-nut fibre, latterly often wire), or occasionally of perforated or corrugated indiarubber, cork, etc.

1665 Hooke *Microgr.* 6 A very convenient substance to make Bed-matts, or Door-matts of. *a* 1818 Miss Rose in *G. Rose's Diaries* (1860) II. 75 There had been a heavy mat on the floor-cloth. 1842 Browning *Pied Piper* 51 Only a scraping of shoes on the mat. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* xxiii, They found that exemplary woman beating the mats on the door-steps. 1886 Fenn *Master of Ceremonies* v, He paused on the mat to draw a long, catching breath.

b. A thin flat article (originally made of plaited straw (cf. sense 1), but now often of leather or oilcloth) to be placed under a dish, plate, or vessel in order to protect the table from heat, moisture, etc. Also applied to various other articles of similar use, e.g. a disk or square of fancy work placed on a dressing-table to support articles of the toilet, etc., or merely for ornament.

1875 in Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1904 *Pilot* 2 Apr. 307 Muslin hangings to your looking-glass, bows on your chair-rails, mats on your tables.

3. *transf.* A thick tangled mass.

1835 Ure *Philos. Manuf.* 164 To break the mats of the raw wool and to render it light. 1852 Mrs. Stowe *Uncle Tom's C.* ix. 77 A very heavy *mat* of sandy hair. 1872 H. C. Wood *Fresh-w. Algæ N. Amer.* (1874) 56 A number of individuals of one or more species [of *Scytonemaceæ*] are almost always associated to form on the ground little mats. 1897 *Outing* (U. S.) XXX. 219/2 The favorite haunts of the bass are about reefs, mats of weeds [etc.].

4. *Naut.* A thick web of rope yarn used to protect the standing rigging from the friction of other ropes.

1497 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 251 Grete mattes for coueryng of the seid Cordage. 1644 Manwayring *Sea-mans Dict.*, *Matts* are broad clowtes, weaved of synnet and thrums ..and are used in these places: To the maine and fore-yards, at the ties, (to keep the yards from galling against the mast) [etc.]. 1769 in Falconer *Dict. Marine* (1780). 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.* 473 Where it is possible, rounding is now used instead of mats.

attrib. 1886 R. C. Leslie *Sea-painter's Log* iii. 49 Were it not for the many chafing-battens, mat-service, and other gear often renewed upon them.

5. a. The coarse piece of sacking on which the feather-bed is laid (E.D.D.). b. A woollen bed-covering.

1702 Mrs. Centlivre *Beau's Duel* IV. i, I'll have no Matts, but such as lie under the Feather-Beds. 1790 *Pluckley Vestry Bk.* 25 Oct. (E.D.D.), Fram matt and cords. *a* 1894 J. Shaw in R. Wallace *Country Schoolm.* (1899) 350 In Renfrewshire a mat meant a thick woollen covering for the bed, generally wrought into a pattern.

6. *Engineering.* A woven structure of brushwood secured by ropes and wires, used as a revetment for river banks. 1884 in Knight *Dict. Mech., Suppl.*

7. *Lace-making.* (See quot.)

1882 Caulfeild & Saward *Dict. Needlework*, *Mat*, a lace maker's term for the close part of a design.

8. *attrib.* and *Comb.* a. Simple attrib., as *mat-awning, -bag, -hut, -lodge, -roof* (hence *mat-roofed* adj.), *-sail, -satchel, -screen, -shed*; b. instrumental, as *mat-clad, -covered* adjs.; c. objective, as *mat-maker, -making, -mender.* d. Special comb.: **mat-boat, -braid** (see quots.); **mat-canvas,** a dress material of a coarse texture; **mat-grass,** (*a*) *Nardus stricta*, (*b*) *Psamma arenaria*, the marram grass; **mat-platting,** in *Kindergarten work*, the weaving of patterns by means of strips of coloured paper; **mat-pole** (see quot.); † **mat-reed,** the leaves of *Typha latifolia*; **mat-rush,** the bulrush, *Scirpus lacustris*; also = *matweed*; **matweed,** a name for various rush-like grasses (see quot. 1866 and cf. *mat-grass*); **mat-tree, -wood** [Ir. F. *bois de natte*], a species of *Imbricaria* found in Mauritius; **mat-work,** (*a*) matting; anything resembling matting; (*b*) *Arch.* = Nattes (*Cent. Dict.*).

1730 Capt. W. Wrigleswortн *MS. Log-bk. of the 'Lyell'* 30 Aug., Received a New *Matt Awning and fixed it for the Main Deck. 1856 Faulkner *Dict. Comm. Terms*, **Mat-bags*, are formed of the leaves of the date and other palm trees, and are extensively used in Bombay and many parts

of India for packing goods. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl., **Mat boat*.., a frame of ways supported on scows, on which mat for revetment is woven. 1882 CAULFEILD & SAWARD *Dict. Needlework*, **Mat-braid*, a thick worsted Braid, woven after the manner of plaiting,..employed as a trimming. 1902 *Daily Chron.* 14 June 10/4 *Mat canvas is decidedly a fashionable fabric. 1852 G. C. MUNDY *Our Antipodes* II. xiii. 386 These are the lineal successors to the tattooed, *mat clad, cannibal old caterans. 1903 *Blackw. Mag.* Nov. 605 The cat..scrambles quickly on to the *mat-covered floor. 1789 J. PILKINGTON *View Derbysh.* I. 331 *Nardus stricta*, *Matgrass... This grass is stiff and hard to the touch. 1818 LATROBE *Jrnl. Vis. S. Africa* 372 [St. Helena] A peculiar kind of grass, called mat-grass, from its spreading..over the ground in such thickness, that it forms a cover resembling thick matting. 1882 FLOYER *Unexpl. Baluchistan* 195 We found a small village of three or four families and as many *mat huts. 1807 P. GASS *Jrnl.* 203 We encamped at two *mat-lodges of the natives. 1530 PALSGR. 599/1, I knyt, as a *matte maker knytteth, *je tys*. 1881 *Instr. Census Clerks* 17 Mat maker. 1880 *Plain Hints Needlework* Gloss. 76 The rudimentary teaching of this darning is taught in the Kindergarten system, under the name of '*mat platting'. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl., **Mat pole*..,a pole .. used in placing mats of brush for shore protection, jetties, etc. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* IV. liii. 513 The leaues are called *Matte reede, hycause they make mattes therewith. 1897 *Daily News* 15 Jan. 5/3 The snake was sliding through the *mat roof. 1895 KIPLING *Day's Work, Maltese Cat*, Some of them were in *mat-roofed stables close to the polo-ground. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* IV. lii. 511 The fourth is called .. in English, the pole Rushe, or bull Rushe, or *Mat Rushe. 1611 COTGR., *Ionc à cabas*, the pole-rush, mat-rush, fraile-rush. 1640 [see *matweed*]. 1894 B. THOMSON *S. Sea Yarns* 80 The great *mat-sail was spread upon the sand. 1777 G. FORSTER *Voy. round World* II. 321 Most of them were married, and carried their children in a *mat-satchel on their backs. 1812 tr. *De Guigne's Observ.* in *Pinkerton's Voy.* XI. 92 Among the trees of the Isle of France must be noticed..the *mat tree [orig. *bois de natte*]. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* I. xxviii. § 2. 38 Hooded *Mat weede. *Ibid.* § 3. 39 English Mat weede hath a rushie roote. 1640 PARKINSON *Theatr. Bot.* XIII. xxxv. 1197 Matt weed or Mat Rushes...Our Matweed or Marram..the other of our Sea Matweedes. 1787 tr. *Linnæus' Fam. Plants* I. 41 *Lygeum*. Mat-weed. 1866 *Treas. Bot.*, Matweed, *Ammophila arenaria*, also called Sea Matweed. Hooded Matweed, *Lygeum Spartum*. Small Matweed, *Nardus stricta*. 1793 TRAPP tr. *Rochon's Voy. Madagascar* Introd. 28 [In the Isle of France are] *matwood, tacamacca, stinking-wood [etc.]. 1859 R. F. BURTON *Centr. Afr.* in *Jrnl. Geog. Soc.* XXIX. 290 A thick growth of aquatic vegetation, which forms a kind of *matwork.

Mat (mæt), *sb.*[2] Also matt. [a. F. *mat*, subst. use of *mat*, MAT *a.*]

1. *Glass-painting.* A layer of colour 'matted' on the glass (see MAT *v.*[2] b).

1881 *Art Interchange* (N. Y.) 27 Oct. 90/3 [Painting on glass.] Laying a mat will greatly facilitate tracing...There are two kinds of mat in use, 'water mat' and 'oil mat'. 1896 H. HOLIDAY *Stained Glass* i. 23 Stipple-shading..is in common use now together with another method, consisting of a series of 'matts'.

2. a. *Gilding.* The effect of 'mat' or unburnished gold. b. *Metal-work.* A roughened, frosted, or figured groundwork.

1866 *Tomlinson's Cycl. Useful Arts* I. 757/2 (Gilding.) Parts of the gilding which are to be in dead gold, (called *matt*). 1887 C. L. HASLOPE *Repoussé Work* 51 These [markings] may be arranged so as to touch one another, forming a close mat, or placed a little distance apart, as an open mat, so as to form a grounding to the picture.

3. A border of 'dead gold' round a framed picture; sometimes applied to a border or 'mount' of white or tinted cardboard.

In recent U. S. dicts. referred to MAT *sb.*[1]

1845 *Pract. Hints on Daguerreotype* 37 Leather Cases, with..gilt mats and glasses complete. 1886 P. FITZGERALD in *Art Jrnl.* 327/1 It is common..to set off water-colours with a broad golden mat of pasteboard. *Ibid.*, A snow-white cardboard mat. 1890 HOWELLS *Shadow of Dream* 163 Engravings with wide mats in frigid frames of black.

4. = *matting-punch.*

1890 *Home Handicrafts* (ed. Peters) 19 (Repoussé work.) When backgrounds with patterns upon them are required, punches shaped like crescents at the point, or as circles, stars, crosses, will be required. These fancy punches..are technically called 'mats'. 1898 T. B. WIGLEY *Goldsm. & Jeweller* 79 Punches of various shapes, called..Freezer-Mat. Dead Mat. Hair Mat.

5. *attrib.*

1876 *Encycl. Brit.* V. 170/1 Matt-work is protected with one or two coats of finish-size; but burnished gold is [etc.]. 1896 H. HOLIDAY *Stained Glass* i. 24 The painter has..to repeat the two matt processes.

Mat (mæt), *sb.*[3] *Card-playing.* [Short f. MATADOR.] = MATADOR 2.

1766 [ANSTEY] *Bath Guide* Epil. 10 Madam Shuffledumdoo ..Has sold your poor Guide for two Fish and a Mat. 1861 *Macm. Mag.* Dec. 131 The three best trump cards..are called Matadores..or shortly Mats.

Mat (mæt), *sb.*[4] *dial.* [Either shortened from or cogn. with MATTOCK.] A tool for stubbing furze, ling, etc.; a mattock (E.D.D.).

Mat (mæt), *a.* Also 7 matte, 9 matt. [a. F. *mat*: see MATE *a.*] Of colours, surfaces: Without lustre, dull, 'dead'.

a 1648 DIGBY *Closet Open.* (1677) 215 Smooth like silver between polished and matte. 1864 *Reader* 26 Nov. 675/1 The traces are made with diamond points on mat-black paper. 1887 *Sci. Amer.* 7 May 297/2 Most kinds of varnish that will dry 'bright' under ordinary circumstances will become 'matt' if subjected to a chill. 1890 *Anthony's Photogr. Bull.* III. 14, I like a landscape photograph, if not too small, better on plain paper—as we call a mat surface print, than on a glazed surface. 1896 *Godey's Mag.* Apr. 448/2 Others are of mat Roman gold.

Mat (mæt), *v.*[1] [f. MAT *sb.*[1]]

1. *trans.* To cover or furnish with mats or matting. *To mat up*: to cover (a plant) with matting.

1549 *Privy Council Acts* (1890) II. 269 To James Rufford for matting of the chambers at Westminster. 1576-7 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 717 For mattinge ye com'on pue, 2*s.* 8*d.* 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 24 Temples, kept cleane and matted neatly. 1664 EVELYN *Kal. Hort.* Dec. 81 Keep the Doors and Windows of your Conservatories well matted. 1672-3 *Churchw. Acc. E. Budleigh* (1894) 13 For stopping of the presentment at the Deane Ruralls Renewing ffor nott matting the seates. 1752 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 200 ? 14 He mats his stairs and covers his carpets. 1782 MISS BURNEY *Cecilia* I. xi, The three eldest .. were hard at work with their mother in matting chair-bottoms. 1851 *Beck's Florist* Aug. 184 It will withstand the vicissitude of our climate when planted against a wall, if matted up during severe frosty weather. 1882 FLOYER *Unexpl. Baluchistan* 52 A side room .. well and neatly built of mud, and matted with pîsh matting.

2. *transf.* To cover as with a mat or matting; to cover with an entangled mass.

1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* II. (1586) 80 The ground is matted, and as it were netted with the remaines of the olde Rootes. 1610 W. FOLKINGHAM *Art of Survey* I. vi. 13 With what Herbage the Crust or Sword is matted, mantled and swarthed. 1627 DRAYTON *Quest of Cynthia* 76 The Banck with Daffadillies dight, with grasse like Sleaue was matted. 1747 FRANKLIN *Lett.* Wks. 1887 II. 82 Take the whole together, it is well matted, and looks like a green corn-field. 1825 *Greenhouse Comp.* I. 167 If the ball is much matted with roots..it is a sure indication of the vigour of the plant. 1849 ROBERTSON *Serm.* Ser. I. xix. (1866) 243 A temple.. matted with ivy. 1901 *Scotsman* 29 Oct. 9/1 Mountain chains of Oregon and Washington, matted with the towering growth of the mighty evergreen forest.

3. To form into a mat: a. to entangle or entwine (*together*) in a thick mass.

1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* II. (1586) 51 When I haue thus done, I matte it [sc. a plashed hedge] thicker and thicker euery yeere. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 746 Bats haue beene found in Ouens, and other Hollow Close Places, Matted one vpon another. 1682 H. MORE *Contin. Remark. Stories* 35 In the night, the Daughter had..her hair snarled and matted together in that manner, that [etc.]. 1701 GREW *Cosm. Sacr.* I. iv. § 17. 19 In the Skin..the Fibers are Matted, as Wooll is in a Hat. 1768-74 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) I. 594 To..disentangle the boughs where they had matted themselves together. 1824 W. IRVING *T. Trav.* II. 9, I sought my mother's grave: the weeds were already matted over it. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV. 120 Sometimes the material which mats the intestines together can be stripped off.

b. To make by interlacing, to form into a mat.

1824 LOUDON *Encycl. Gard.* § 1506 Garden or bass mats are woven or matted from the bast or inner bark of..the lime. 1865 TYLOR *Early Hist. Man.* vii. 188 Weaving, which consists of matting twisted threads.

4. *intr.* To become entangled, to form tangled masses. Chiefly with *together*.

1742 *Lond. & Country Brew.* II. (ed. 2) 92 Malt..in that Time, would grow musty, or matt together. 1763 MILLS *Syst. Pract. Husb.* IV. 144 They will mat together, and rot each other. 1847 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* VIII. I. 69 The [wheat] plants get too forward, and do not mat on the ground. 1851 *Ibid.* XII. I. 134 The wheat..began then to mat and to tiller. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 339/1 It is these proportions of the wool which interlock and mat together in the milling process. 1897 RHOSCOMYL *White Rose Arno* 217 In the face of this bluff there dripped and matted a close-grown thicket of oak and ash, hazel and holly.

Mat (mæt), *v.*[2] [a. F. *mater*, f. *mat*: see MAT, MATE *adjs.*] *trans.* To make (colours, etc.) dull; to give a 'mat' or dull appearance to (gilding, metal, etc.); to frost (glass).

1602 *Kyd's Sp. Trag.* III. xii. H 3 b, I'de haue you paint me..In your oile colours matted. 1727-51 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v. *Gilding*, The work being thus far gilt, when dry, remains either to be burnished, or matted...To mat, is to give it a light lick in the places not burnished, with a pencil dipt in size. 1854 REINNEL *Carpenters* etc. *Comp.* 74 Those parts of your work which look dull from not being burnished, are now to be matted, that is, are to be made to look like dead gold. 1877 G. B. GEE *Pract. Gold-worker* 133 A design may be rendered more distinct after the pattern has been greatly brought out in relief, by simply matting the ground. 1884 F. J. BRITTEN *Watch & Clockm.* 173 The Swiss silver the work first and then mat it by scratch brushing. 1898 H. MACLEAN *Photogr. Print. Process* xvi. 137 Many a time a print is distinctly improved by being on the one hand matted, or, on the other, enamelled. 1900 *Cassell's Cycl. Mech.* (1902) I. 153/2 Now pour on white acid, and let it remain until the glass is matted.

b. *Glass-painting.* 'To cover (glass) with gum or other colour, smoothed over with a badger softener' (Suffling *Glass-painting*, 1902).

1885 F. MILLER *Glass-Paint.* 53 A method frequently resorted to..to give tone and softness to white glass is to matt each square when traced, with umber or ancient brown.

Mat (mæt), *v.*[3] [f. MAT *sb.*[4]] *trans.* To break *up* with a mattock.

1855 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* XVI. II. 319 It is a better way to mat up the hassocks and ant-hills.

Mat: see MATE, MATTE, MAY *v.*[1], METE *v.*

‖ **Matachia.** *Obs.* [? Algonquin of Canada.] (See quot. 1613.)

1609 P. E. *Nova Francia* II. xi. 203 [The suitor] will haue a new gowne..well garnished with Matachias. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 750 The women .. stripped themselues naked..keeping on still their Matachia (which are Pater nosters [*marg.* Beads] and chaines, enterlaced made of the haire of the Porkespicke died of diuers colours).

Matachin (mætăʃĭn). *Obs.* exc. *Antiq.* Forms: 6 machachina, 6-7 matachine, 7 matachina, mattachene, -in(e, (mattasin), 7-8 mattacina, 6- matachin. [a. F. *matachin* (16th c.: now *matassin*), a Sp. *matachin* (= It. *mattacino*), conjectured to be a Arab. مُتَوَجِّهِين *mutawajjihīn*, pr. pple. plural of *tawajjaha* to assume a mask, denominative verb from *wajh* face.]

1. A kind of sword-dancer in a fantastic costume.

1582-3 *Acc. Revels Crt.* (Shaks. Soc. 1842) 177, xxj^ue yards of cotten for the Matachins. 1591 HARINGTON tr. *Ariosto* VI. lxi. 45 Monstrous of shape and of an vgly hew, Like masking Machachinas all disguised. 1622 tr. *Luna's Pursuit La carillo* xvi. 173 They..looked one vpon another as if they had beene Matachines. 1807 DOUCE *Illustr. Shaks.* II. 435 [A dance] well known in France and Italy by the name of the dance of fools, or Matachins. 1896 *Edin. Rev.* Apr. 344.

†2. A dance performed by matachins. *Obs.*

App. performed by three dancers, representing a triangular duel: see quot. *a* 1586, and quot. 1624 (Smith) in 3.

a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* I. (1590) 74 b, Who euer sawe a matachin daunce to imitate fighting, this was a fight that did imitate the matachin: for they being but three that fought, euerie one had [two] aduersaries. 1596 HARINGTON *Anat. Metam. Ajax* Lij b, Such as I haue seene in stage playes when they daunce Machachinas. 1606 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iv. II. *Magnif.* 873 Th' Antike, Moriske, and the Mattachine. 1612 WEBSTER *White Devil* L 4 b (near end), *Lod.* We haue brought you a Maske. *Fla.* A matachine it seems, By your drawne swords. 1624 HEYWOOD *Gunnaik.* v. 215 The Matachine or sword daunce.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1594 NASHE *Terrors Nt.* Wks. (Grosart) III. 280 The night is for you with a blacke saunt or a matachine. 1622 BACON *Henry VII* 36 He was taken into seruice..to a base office in his Kitchin; so that (in a kind of Mattachina of humane fortune) Hee turned a Broach, that had worne a Crowne. *a* 1625 FLETCHER *Elder Brother* v. i. But that I'me patient,..Ide daunce a matachin with you, Should make you sweat your best blood for't. 1660 WITHER *Spec. Speculat.* 26 We may thereby perchance, Ere many Springs, compelled be to dance Another Matachin. 1677 R. CARY *Chronol.* II. i. I. xiv. 129 Acting in a Matachin of Discord.

c. The music for a matachin dance.

1589 ? LYLY *Pappe w. Hatchet* Wks. 1902 III. 413, I must tune my fiddle, and fetch some more rozen, that it maie squeake out Martins Matachine.

3. *attrib.*, as *matachin dance, suit, wear.*

1584 *Acc. Revels Crt.* (Shaks. Soc. 1842) 188, xxx^te ells of sarcenet for fowre matachyne sutes. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* II. (1590) 123 One time he daunced the Matachine daunce in armour. 1624 T. SCOTT *Belg. Souldier* 10 They deposed one another, and as it were with a Mattachene dance of disorders many times three or foure at once followed their Competitors with whole armies of revenge. 1624 CAPT. SMITH *Virginia* 177 Concluding a tripartite peace of their Matachin warre.

Mataco (mætăkō). Also matacho, matico (Dicts.). [prob. S. American.] The three-banded armadillo, *Tolypeutes tricinctus*, a small species which is able to roll itself up into a ball.

1834 *Penny Cycl.* II. 353 The Mataco..is found in Brazil, Paraguay, and Buenos Ayres, but is nowhere very common. 1845 DARWIN *Voy. Nat.* v. (1873) 96 The apar, commonly called Mataco. 1849 *Sk. Nat. Hist., Mammalia* IV. 193 The Mataco, or Bolita (little ball) as it is sometimes called.

Matador (mætădǭr). Also 7-9 matadore, 8 mattador(e. [a. Sp. *matador*:—L. *mactātōr-em*, agent-n. f. *mactāre* (Sp. *matar*) to kill.]

1. In Spanish bull-fights, the man appointed to kill the bull.

1681 DRYDEN *Span. Friar* I. 10 Stranger! Cavalier..will you not hear me? you Moore-killer, you Matador. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) III. 772 The matador at length gives the mortal blow. 1812 BYRON *Ch. Har.* I. lxxiv, The light-limb'd Matadore. 1882 DE WINDT *Equator* 134 The bull-fighters themselves are of four grades: the espada or matador, the picadores [etc.].

2. *Card-playing.* In some card games (as quadrille, ombre, solo), a name applied to certain principal cards.

1674 COTTON *Compl. Gamester* (1680) 70 [Ombre.] The Matadors (or killing Cards) which are the *Spadillo, Mallillio*, and *Basto* are the chief Cards. 1728 SWIFT *Jrnl. Mod. Lady* Wks. 1755 III. ii. 190 Well, if I ever touch a card! Four mattadores, and lose codill! 1778 C. JONES *Hoyle's Games Impr.* 99 Four Matadores in Hearts. 1876 CAPT. CRAWLEY *Card Players' Man.* 194 [Quadrille.] There are three matadores—viz., spadille, manille, and basto.

3. *Dominoes.* (See quot.)

1865 *Compl. Domino-Player* 14 The Matadore Game. In this game, instead of fitting the same numbers together, you are only allowed to play by placing a number at one or the other end, which added to the number there, will make seven; but those dominoes which will make that number in themselves are termed matadores, and can be played at any stage of the hand,..These are the $\frac{1}{6}$, $\frac{2}{5}$, and $\frac{3}{4}$; the double blank is also a matadore, and can be played at any time. 1897 FOSTER *Compl. Hoyle* 563.

Matæology (mætiɒ·lŏdʒi). Also 7 mateologie. [f. Gr. *μάταιος* vain + *-λογία* discourse: see *-LOGY.*] Vain or unprofitable discourse.

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Mateologie* (*matæologia*) vain enquiry, or over curious search into high matters and mysteries. 1873 F. HALL *Mod. Eng.* 37 The bead-roll of matæology embodied in the extract here following.

So †**Matæolo·gian**, one who discourses vainly; †**Matæolo·gical** *a.*, of or pertaining to 'matæology', vain; †**Matæologue**, an unprofitable talker.

1653 URQUHART *Rabelais* I. xv, The doting mateologians of old time. 1716 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* II. 184 The

matæological forestalling of the Apocalyptick Chronology of the end of time. *Ibid.* 168 Those Sacerdotal-Secular Matæologues of Doway and Lisbon.

† **Matæotechny.** *Obs.* In 7 matæotechnia, mateotechnie, -y. [f. Gr. *μάταιο-ς* vain + *τέχνη* art.] An unprofitable science.

1576 NEWTON *Lemnie's Complex.* To Rdr., Such a peevish practice, and unnecessary Matæotechny. 1675 GREGORY in Rigaud *Corr. Sci. Men* (1841) II. 278, I am much mistaken if to force an equality between a negative and affirmative root be not a mere useless matæotechnia.

Matafund (mæ·tăfənd). *Antiq. rare*⁻¹. [ad. med.L. *matafunda* = OF. *macefonde, machefonde.* Southey app. regarded the word as f. Sp. *matar* to kill + L. *funda* sling.]

An ancient engine of war.

[1788 GROSE *Milit. Antiq.* II. 304 The matafunda; this was a stone-throwing machine, probably by means of a sling.] 1795 SOUTHEY *Joan of Arc* VIII. 163 That murderous sling The matafund.

Matagasse, -gesse, var. ff. MATTAGESS *Obs.*

‖ **Matagouri** (mætăgū·ri). Also **matakura.** [Corruption of Maori *tumatakuru* (Morris *Austral Engl.*).] A prickly shrub of New Zealand, *Discaria toumatou.*

1859 *Otago Gaz.* 22 Sept. 280 (Morris) Much of it is encumbered with matakura scrub. 1892 W. MCHUTCHESON *Camp Life in Fiordland* 8 (Morris) Trudging moodily along in Indian file through the matagouri scrub and tussock.

‖ **Matai** (matai). Maori name for a New Zealand coniferous tree, *Podocarpus spicata*; the Black Pine of Otago. Also, the wood of this tree.

1835 W. YATE *Acc. N. Zealand* (ed. 2) 50 Matai (*Taxus Matai*), a plant with a small yew-tree leaf, a strong smell, and a rough bark. 1875 *Offic. Handbk. N. Zealand* 40 Valuable woods..matai (or black pine) [etc.].

Matakura, variant of MATAGOURI.

Matalassé, variant of MATELASSÉ.

Matalent, variant of MALTALENT *Obs.*

Matalle, obs. form of METAL.

‖ **Matamata** (mætămæ·tă). [? S. American; used as zoological Latin in 1822 by Merrem in *Isis* 690.] A South American turtle, *Chelys fimbriata.*

1840 *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 272 The Matamata (*Testudo fimbria*, Gm.). 1876 *Beneden's Anim. Parasites* 58 The Matamata, a turtle living in the brackish water of Guiana.

Matamoro, matamorre, var. ff. MATTAMORE.

‖ **Matapi** (mæ·tăpī). Also **matapee.** [Arawak.] A pliable basket used in Guiana for expressing the poisonous juice from the root of the cassava or manioc.

1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade.* 1899 RONWAY *Guiana Wilds* 117 The matapee for pressing out the poisonous juice.

Match (mætʃ), *sb.*¹ Forms: 1 ȝemæcca, (ȝemæccea), ȝemecca, mæcca, 2 imæcca, mæcche, 3 meche, 3–4 mecche, 3–5 macche, (4 machche), 4–5 mach, (5 mehche, metche), 5–6 mache, matche, 6– match. [OE. *gemæcca, gemęcca* (for the formation see Bülbring *Ae. Elementarbuch* § 177):—OTeut. type **gamakjon-*, related to **gamakon-*, OE. *gemaca*, MAKE *sb.*¹ In branch II the word inherited from OE. seems to have coalesced with a new formation from MATCH *v.*¹]

I. One of an associated pair.

†**1.** A husband or wife, a mate, consort, a lover. Also said of animals. *Obs.*

a 831 *Charter of Oswulf* 1 in Sweet *O. E. Texts* 443 Ic osuulf aldormonn..ond beornðryð min ȝemecca sellað [etc.]. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 23 Twęȝen turturan ȝemæccan. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Saints' Lives* (1900) II. 340 His imæcca min modor. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. i. 20 Nelle þu ondrædan marian þine gemæccean to onfonne. 11.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 537/12 *Coniunx*, inæcca. *c* 1160 *Hatton Gosp.* Matt. i. 24 Þa aras ioseph..& he on-feng hys mæcchen. *c* 1200 ORMIN 290 Zakarijess macche Elysabæþ. *c* 1220 *Bestiary* 716 Vre Sowle atte kirke dure ches hire crist to meche, he is ure soule spuse. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 695 Vch male mas his mach a man as hym-seluen. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 831 Philip.. with a fest huge Had wed him anoþer wyfe..[Alexander says to him:] Now þou mas þe slike a mangery & macchis changis. 1558 KNOX *First Blast* (Arb.) 40 But what maketh this for Mary and her matche Phillippe? *a* 1569 KINGESMYLL *Godly Advise* (1580) 31 Suche quarrelles as the unequal matches laie one in the others dishe. 1631 WEEVER *Anc. Funeral Mon.* 853 This Heroicall Progenie of the Howards and their Matches. 1658 PHILLIPS, *Match*, A Term in Hunting, when a Wolf desires copulation, he is said to go to his match or to his mate.

†**2.** One's equal in age, rank, station, etc.; one's fellow, companion. *Obs.*

c 975 *Rushw. Gosp.* Matt. xi. 16 ȝelic is cnehtum..þæm þe clipende to heora ȝemeccum [Vulg. *cœqualibus*] cweþað [etc.]. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 124 Vch mon with his mach made hym at ese. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 331/1 Mehche, *..par, compar.* 1533 MORE *Answ. Poysoned Bk.* Wks. 1035/1 If..there shoulde neither felowship of their matches, nor feare of any such as are after the worldly compt accompted for theyr betters, any thing let or withstand them..to [etc.]. 1547–64 BAULDWIN *Mor. Philos.* (Palfr.) 166 Marry thy match. 1553 WILSON *Rhet.* 64 A proude disdainfull manne ..that..thinketh hymself..ouer good to haue a matche or felowe in this life. 1571 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xxvii. 66 Be thair exemple lerne experience, Ane forene mache or maister to admitt.

3. †**a.** An opponent, antagonist, rival. *Obs.*

c 1400 *Land Troy Bk.* 9236 Eche man rides vnto his macche. *c* 1400 *Rowland & O.* 809 There es no mache un-to mee, And that me lykes ille. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* v. vii. 27 Ane vthir mache to hym was socht and sperit. 1525 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* II. xxiv. 62 Euery man with his matche. 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus, Gladiatores committere*, to sette matches of swoorde players together. *c* 1570 *Marr. Wit & Sci.* III. i, Your matche is monstrous to behoulde and full of might. 1593 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. VI*, v. ii. 10 Match to match I haue encountred him.

b. A person (occasionally a number of persons, a thing) that is able to contend or compete with another as an equal. In phrases *to find, meet one's match*; (*to be, prove oneself*) *a match for.* Also *More than a match for*: able to overcome or defeat. †Rarely of two persons, *To be matches*: to be equal in prowess.

c 1300 *Celestin* 488 in *Anglia* I. 79 Amonges vs [*sc.* the devils] shalto drecche: So longe hastou ben oure mecche. Day and ȝere. *c* 1305 *Miracle of St. James* 48 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 59 Þe schrewe fond his macche þo. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 13563 Þat wel couþe feighte, he fond his mecche. *a* 1450 *Le Morte Arthur* 1607 Neuyr yit er my mache I founde. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* X. viii. 426, I gyue you leue to goo where ye lyst. Gramercy said kyng Mark For ye & I be not matches. *a* 1568 *Knt. of Curtesy* 352 (Ritson) His mache coulde he no where finde. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* I. ii. III. x. (1676) 66/1 Hannibal..met with his match, and was subdued at last. 1645 BP. HALL *Remedy Discontents* 75 Men that are not able matches to their passions. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 297 ₱ 6 The Hero in the *Paradise Lost* is unsuccessful, and by no means a Match for his Enemies. 1762 GOLDSM. *Cit. W.* vii, I fancy myself at present..more than a match for all that can happen. 1833 HT. MARTINEAU *Loom & Lugger* I. iv. 58 If the rival manufactures are a match for each other, let them fight it out. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* v. I. 601 His followers..were no match for regular soldiers. 1871 KINGSLEY *Lett.* (1878) II. 362 The honourable man who will pay his debts is no match for the dis-honourable man who will not. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* vii. § 1. 347 So long as Henry supported him,..he [T. Cromwell] was more than a match..for his foes.

4. A person or thing that equals another in some quality.

1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* II. v. 81 Of his strengthe and hardynesse I knowe not his matche lyuynge. 1586 A. DAY *Eng. Secretary* I. (1625) 37 The match or like of him therein, was seldome or neuer in those daies any where found. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* X. 499, I neuer found their matches amongst the best people of forrane Nations. 1866 MRS. GASKELL *Wives & Dau.* I. xxi. 235, I don't believe there is his match anywhere for goodness. 1888 *Daily News* 26 Sept. 6/1 Where..is there the match of this imperishable tale of the relief of Lucknow?

5. A person or thing that exactly corresponds to or resembles another, or that forms an exact pair with another.

c 1530 in Gutch *Coll. Cur.* II. 284 Oone Potte new made unto a matche. 1551 RECORDE *Pathw. Knowl.* II. iv. When two lines are drawen from the endes of anie one line, and meet in anie pointe, it is not possible to draw two other lines of like lengthe each to his match that shal begin at the same pointes, and [etc.]. 1583 FULKE *Defence* xiv. 381 Your eies were not matches, or else they were daseled with a mist of malice, when you [etc.]. *a* 1616 BEAUM. & FL. *Wit without M.* II. ii, A maide content with one Coach and two horses, not falling out because they are not matches. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 393 Try them [Waters] in Seuerall Bottles, or Open Vessells, Matches in euery Thing else. 1674 MOXON *Tutor Astron.* II. (ed. 3) 84 You might by..looking through any Star on the Globe see its Match in Heaven. 1808 PIKE *Sources Mississ.* III. (1810) App. 22 Extraordinary matches for carriages have sold at 400 dollars per pair. 1818 J. PALMER *Jrnl. Trav.* 129 You've got two nice creatures, they are right elegant matches. 1893 STEVENSON *Catriona* 5 Ragged gillies, such as I had seen the matches of by the dozen in my Highland journey.

II. The action of matching.

†**6.** A matching of adversaries against each other; a contest viewed with regard to the equality or inequality of the parties. *Obs.*

?*a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 4071 This was a mache vn-mete. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1324 Vnmete was the Macche at þe mene tyme. 1599 DRAYTON *Idea*, '*Truce, gentle Love*', Bad is the match where neither party wone. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* II. ii. 493 Vnequall match, Pyrrhus at Priam driues, in Rage strikes wide. 1603 DRAYTON *Bar. Wars* II. xxii. 31 Ferrer his Taberd .., well knowne in many a warlike match before. 1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* IV. v. 46 It were no match, your naile against his horne. 1628 HOBBES *Thucyd.* (1822) 98 A profitable garland in their matches of valour.

†b. *Man of match*: ? a champion. *Obs.*

1640 HABINGTON *Q. Arragon* II. i. C 2 b, Seest thou that man of match Though small in stature, mighty he's in soule.

7. A contest or competitive trial of skill in some sport, exercise, or operation, e.g. in archery, cricket, football, ploughing, etc., in which two or more persons or bodies of persons are matched against each other; an engagement or arrangement for such a contest. Also applied to a contest in which animals are made to compete in a trial of speed, fighting power, or the like.

In modern sporting language a 'match' is ordinarily understood to mean a formally regulated contest between two permanent bodies (as two cricket or football clubs, two counties), or (as in billiards) between two recognized experts in a game.

1545 ASCHAM *Toxoph.* (Arb.) 91 To make matches to assemble archers togyther, to contende who shall shoote best, and winne the game, encreaseth ye vse of shotynge wonderfully amonges men. 1567 HARMAN *Caveat* (1869) 46 Where he harde..xl pence gaged vpon a matche of wrastling. 1595 SHAKS. *John* III. i. 336 Assured losse, before the match be plaid. 1611 COTGR., *Partie*,..a match, or set, at game. 1651 CLEVELAND *Poems* 44 [He] leaves it a drawn match. 1676 LADY CHAWORTH in *12th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 32 They have made four matches to be run at Newmarket. 1711 BUDGELL *Spect.* No. 161 ₱ 3 A Foot-ball Match. 1747 *Gen. Advertiser* 4 July, Mr. Richard Newland..with two of his Brothers, and two others..having advertised that they would play a Match at Cricket..against Five of any Parish of England [etc.]. 1812 *Sporting Mag.* XXXIX. 107 [Coursing] All matches to be entered in the match book. 1847 MRS. GORE *Castles in Air* xxxiii. (1857) 326 A match was skated upon the lake. 1882 PERODY *Eng. Journalism* xxi. 159 He speaks to his constituents..at a ploughing match.

†**8.** A suitable conjunction or pairing. Also, *above one's match*: above one's level. *Obs.*

1423 JAS. I *Kingis Q.* cix, It is no mach, of thyne vnworthynesse To hir hie birth, estate, and beautee bryght. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 225 To the entente that wee may after a sorte make soome lykely matche of Roomains with the Grekes, we shall [etc.]. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1811) VII. 55 If I found any of them above my match.

9. *concr.* A (more or less) well-matched or accordant pair; two persons, things, or sets each the counterpart of the other.

1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 333 Plutarchus..compareth theim twoo together as a veraye good matche and wel coupleed. 1807 PIKE *Sources Mississ.* (1810) 105 Discovered one of my sleigh dogs was missing ..; this was no little mortification, as it broke the match, whose important services I had already experienced. 1838 DICKENS *Nich. Nick.* xxii, If they were a little better match—..I mean if they were a little more of a size.

10. A matrimonial compact or alliance; esp. one viewed as more or less advantageous with regard to wealth, rank, or social position. *To make a match*: to bring about a marriage by influence or contrivance.

1575–85 ABP. SANDYS *Serm.* xvi. 288 The common sort of men, in making their matches this way, haue chiefly two outward vntoward respects. 1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* II. i. 315 His grace hath made the match. 1676 LADY CHAWORTH in *12th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 28 Twas a match of his friends and not his owne making. 1751 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 182 ₱ 4 Whose hope is to raise themselves by a wealthy match. 1793 MARQ. BUCKINGHAM in *14th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* 390 The match which is settled between Sir W. Young and Miss Talbot. 1838 DICKENS *Nich. Nick.* xlvii, Matches are made in Heaven, they say. 1866 G. MACDONALD *Ann. Q. Neighb.* v. (1878) 59 It seems to me a very good match for her. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* vii. § 4. 378 It was by a match with Henry Stuart that Mary determined to unite the forces of Catholicism.

†b. A matrimonial alliance as represented heraldically. *Obs.*

1628 COKE *On Litt.* Pref., A tomb with his statue upon it together with his own match and the matches of some of his ancestors. 1640 YORKE (*title*) The Union of Honour. Containing the Armes, Matches And Issues of the Kings, Dukes, Marquesses and Earles of England. 1686 PLOT *Staffordsh.* 298 The Windows illustrated with the Armes and matches of the Cbetwynds in painted glass.

†c. The action of marrying; relationship by marriage. *By match*: in consequence of a marriage.

1574 J. DEE in *Lett Lit. Men* (Camden) 39 In direct line, braunche, collaterall, or match. 1605 CAMDEN *Rem., Epit.* 35 Who in these 2. funerall verses, contained her princely parentage, match, and issue. *c* 1630 RISDON *Surv. Devon* § 53 (1810) 58 By match, it came to Tremenet. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* III. iii. § 6 He possessed fair lands in Anjou and Maine; by Match in right of Queen Elianor his Wife.

d. *concr.* A person viewed with regard to his or her eligibility (esp. on grounds of fortune or rank) as a partner in marriage.

1586 A. DAY *Eng. Secretary* I. (1625) 125 We will finde out a better match wherewith to delight thee. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* III. iv. 77 She is no match for you. 1625 MASSINGER *New Way* IV. i, A maid well qualified, and the richest match Our north part can make boast of. 1688 PENTON *Guardian's Instr.* (1897) 25 When I had provided an agreeable Match, his Comrades..taught him to rail at Matrimony. 1710 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 20 Oct., Lord Ashburnham, the best match now in England. 1774 H. WALPOLE *Lett. to Mann* 28 Mar., He, the first match in England. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* I. xi. ₱ 1 He left me so little property, that I was a bad match. 1866 G. MACDONALD *Ann. Q. Neighb.* xxvii. (1878) 472 He's a very good match in point of property and family too. 1879 G. MEREDITH *Egoist* xxxv, He's the great match of the county.

†**11.** An agreement, an appointment; a compact, bargain. *It is a match* (or elliptically, *A match!*): said in concluding an agreement or a wager; = 'Agreed', 'Done'. *Obs.*

1569 T. PRESTON *Cambises* 250 (Manly) A match ye shall make straight with me. 1586 J. HOOKER *Hist. Irel.* in *Holinshed* II. 37/2 These things came not thus to passe, as it were by a set match, but [etc.]. 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* v. ii. 74 A match, 'tis done. *a* 1628 PRESTON *New Cov.* (1634) 217 If a man be holy but by halves, that makes not the match, it makes not the agreement between the Lord and us. 1655 WALTON *Angler* I. iv. (1661) 74 A match, good Master, lets go to that house. 1706–7 FARQUHAR *Beaux Strat.* I. i, A Match!

III. 12. *attrib.* and *Comb.*: (sense 10) †*match-broker, -marring,* †*-monger*; **match-book,** in horse racing, ? the book in which a list of the dates of matches or races is kept; **match-game,** a game (esp. of chess) forming part of a 'match'; also U. S. = sense 7; †**match-horse,** a horse entered for running in a match or race; **match-play,** the play in a match (sense 7); also in *Golf,* play in which the score is reckoned by counting the holes gained on each side; so *match-player*;

match-rifle, a rifle used in firing competitions; match-rifling *Gun-making*, a method of rifling guns to adapt them for long-range shooting in matches. Also MATCH-MAKER [2], -MAKING *vbl. sb.*[2]

1812 *Match book [see 7]. 1654 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 204 What Consultations, what Embassies, and a whole Councell-Board of Banes-Wrights, or *Match-brokers, must go to the knitting of a Princes Love-Knot. 1871 G. R. CUTTING *Student Life at Amherst Coll.* 113 Base ball had hardly been introduced, when certain enthusiastic students conceived the idea of a '*match game' with Williams College. 1888 *Pall Mall G.* 2 July 5/2 A champion chess player will often lose a match game to a far inferior opponent. 1607 MARKHAM *Caval.* III. (1617) 79 These Tryers..ought to ride by the *match-horses all the day long. 1890 *Athenæum* 28 June 828/2 There are four or five young people, and two old widowers do the matchmaking and the *matchmarring. 1681 RYCAUT tr. *Gracian's Critick* 250 He demanded a handsome Wife, which they sold him at the Price of an Aching-head, and the *Match-monger assured him, that [etc.]. 1886 *Pall Mall G.* 2 Aug. 3/2 There has been a revival of some of the old sporting gambits which had for long fallen into disfavour for *match play. 1893 *Baily's Mag.* Oct. 279/1 The championships are played on different principles, the amateur being by holes or 'match' play, and the open by strokes. 1894 *Westm. Gaz.* 5 Apr. 2/1 Steinitz is the first *match-player living. 1881 GREENER *Gun* 159 The recoil with a 10 lb. *match-rifle is inconsiderable. *Ibid.* 146 The Metford *match-rifling is very expensive to produce.

Match (mætʃ), *sb.*[2] Also 4 macche, 4–6 matche, 5 mec(e)he, 6–7 mache, 7 metch, 6– match. [a. OF. *mesche, meiche* (mod.F. *mèche*) = Pr. *mecca, mecha*, Catal. *metxa*, Sp., Pg. *mecha*, It. *miccia*:—vulgar L. types **micca*, **miccia*.

The ulterior etymology is obscure. Some have attempted to connect the word with Gr. *μύξα*, L. *myxa* mucus of the nose, nostril, nozzle of a lamp, in med.L. lamp-wick: and with L. *muccus* mucus of the nose, whence It. *moccolo* (:-L. **mucculus*) snuff of a candle.]

†1. The wick of a candle or lamp. *Obs.*

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XVII. 213 As thow seest some lyme ..a torche, The blase there-of yblowe out 3et brenneth the weyke, With-oute leye or lizte that the macche brenneth. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. clx. (1495) 708 Matches for candelles. 1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 237 Yf the mecche be ouer depe y-sette in the oyle, hit shall anoone be y-queynte. 1450–1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* 113 The fatnesse of oyle may not burne tyl a weyke or matche be put therto. *c* 1475 *Pict. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 754/20 *Hic lichinus*, meche. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* IV. lii. 510 Pith the whiche..serueth for Matches to burne in lampes. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 161 Of the grapes which this Palma Christi, or Ricinus doth carie, there be made excellent weiks or matches for lamps and candles. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* VI. xii. 335 Nor will it [the smoke of sulphur] easily light a candle, untill..the flame approacheth the match.

2. An instrument consisting of a wick, cord, or rope of hemp, tow, cotton, etc., so prepared that when lighted at the end it is not easily extinguished, and continues to burn at a uniform rate; used for firing cannon or other fire-arms, and for igniting a train of gunpowder. Also in *Mining* (see quot. 1851). † *To cock a match*: see COCK *v.*[2] 1.

The *slow-match* now consists of loosely-twisted hempen cord steeped in a solution of saltpetre and lime-water, and burns at the rate of one yard in three hours. The QUICK-MATCH is a cotton wick, impregnated with saltpetre, or coated with gum and mealed gunpowder.

1549 *Privy Council Acts* (1890) II. 348 Matches, vj[c] weight. 1573-4 in W. H. Turner *Select. Rec. Oxford* (1880) 356 Item, for a mache..*jd.* 1605 *His Maiesties Speach*, etc. G 4 And thereafter searching the fellow [Guido Fawkes],.. found three matches..ready vpon him. 1653 H. COGAN tr. *Pinto's Trav.* xxii. 81 Tied four and four, and five and five together with the matches of their muskets. 1657 *North's Plutarch, Add. Lives* 72 It was a Morian slave that strangled him [Atabalipa] with a match. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) VIII. 235 A musket, or musquet, is a fire-arm .. formerly fired by the application of a lighted match. 1828–40 TYTLER *Hist. Scot.* (1864) III. 237 They..laid a train, which was connected with a 'lunt', or slow match. 1851 GREENWELL *Coal-trade Terms Northumb. & Durh.* 36 *Match.*—A small piece of candle end, or greased twine or tape .. used to ignite the gunpowder in blasting. 1863 KINGLAKE *Crimea* (1876) I. xiv. 240 The other was the man standing by with a lighted match and determined to touch the fuse.

fig. 1602 MARSTON *Ant. & Mel.* II. Wks. 1856 I. 19 The match of furie is lighted, fastned to the linstock of rage.

b. The material of which matches consist; cord, etc., prepared for ignition.

1572 *Nottingham Rec.* IV. 143 Gunepowder and matche that wase had at the Watch on Mydsomer Evyn. 1598 BARRET *Theor. Warres* III. i. 34 Three or foure yards of match, in seuerall peeces hanging at his girdle. 1633 T. STAFFORD *Pac. Hib.* I. vii. (1821) 97 Fiue Lasts more of powder, with Match and Lead. 1700 S. L. tr. *Fryke's Voy. E. Ind.* 47 The outward Coat of the Nutt is good to make Match. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) VIII. 195/2 When there is any apprehension of danger, his [i. e. a gunner's] field-staff is armed with match. 1866 BRANDE & COX *Dict. Sci., Lit., & Art* s. v., Before the invention of locks, small arms were fired by means of match.

3. An article of domestic use, consisting of a piece of cord, cloth, paper, wood, etc., dipped in melted sulphur, so as to be readily ignited by the use of a tinder-box, and serving to light a candle or lamp, or to set fire to fuel. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.*

1530 PALSGR. 243/2 Matche to lyght a candell, *alumette*. 1589 R. HARVEY *Pl. Perc.* (1590) 20 When the steele and the flint be knockde togither, a man may light his match by the sparkle. 1608 MIDDLETON *Fam. Love* v. i. 37 To light their matches at my tinder. 1695 CONGREVE *Love for L.* II. i, What a world of fire and candle, matches and tinder-boxes did you purchase! 1710 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4677/4 There were found about them..several Fir-Matches dip'd in Brimstone. *a* 1776 R. JAMES *Diss. Fevers* (1778) 84 There are many ways of lighting a candle, by a piece of paper, by charcoal, by pit-coal or by a brimstone match. *a* 1822 SHELLEY *Hymn Merc.* xviii, Mercury first found out for human weal Tinder box, matches, fire-irons, flint and steel. 1889 J. NICHOLSON *Folk Speech E. Yorks.* 18 The present paraffin match has quite superseded the old brimstone match, made of a splinter of wood about six inches long, and dipped at both ends.

b. A similar article used for fumigation.

1703 *Art & Myst. Vintners* 23 French and Rhenish Wines are .. commonly preserved by the Match. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* s. v. *Matching*, Melt brimstone.., dip into it slips of coarse linnen cloth...Take one of these matches, set one end of it on fire, and put it into the bung-hole of a cask. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 1303 It is useful to counteract the.. tendency to acidity, by burning a sulphur match in the casks. 1853 *Ibid.* II. 125 To make writing-paper matches, which burn with a bright flame and diffuse an agreeable odour, moisten each side of the paper with tincture of benzoin [etc.]. 1872 T. HARDY *Greenwood Tree* IV. ii, Curious objects about a foot long, in the form of Latin crosses (made of lath and brown paper dipped in brimstone—called matches by bee-fanciers).

†c. A small torch used for giving light. *Obs.*

c 1595 Capt. WYATT *R. Dudley's Voy. W. Ind.* (Hakl. Soc.) 25 The which [flies] make resemblance as if they weare so manie light matches. 1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 118 Hanging out kindled matches to terrifie the theeues. 1638 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (ed. 2) 14 Fire or a lighted matche only scaring them [*sc.* lions].

4. A short slender piece of wood, wax taper, or other material, tipped with some chemical composition which bursts into flame when rubbed on a rough or specially prepared surface (or, as in the earlier contrivances, when brought into contact with some chemical reagent). Now the ordinary means of producing fire. *To strike a match*: to ignite a match by friction (the verb is taken over from the earlier phrase *to strike a light*). Cf. LUCIFER 3.

Paraffin match, one having the splints dipped in paraffin to facilitate ignition of the wood. *Safety match*, one which can be ignited only by 'striking' on the box.

1831 T. P. JONES *New Conv. Chem.* xxiv. 245 These matches, after being covered with sulphur, are dipped into a mixture of chlorate of potassa, sugar, and sulphur, made into a paste with gum water. They are then dried, and when touched with sulphuric acid, instantaneously inflame. 1832 *Newton's Lond. Jrnl.* Conj. Ser. I. 258 [An] apparatus for producing instantaneous light, on the principle of the match and bottle has just been imported from Paris. 1845 BROWNING *Meeting at Night* 10 The quick sharp scratch And blue spurt of a lighted match. 1870 DICKENS *E. Drood* xii, [He] puts a match or two in his pocket. 1889 Paraffin match: see 3. 1903 *Longm. Mag.* July 252 He struck a match on his thole-pin.

b. Phr. (*To shatter*) *into matches*: into splinters.

1898 *Times* 10 Jan. 13/3 Captain Norie..whose left arm was shattered into matches by a bullet.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *match-seller, -selling*; †**match-bottle**, a phial containing phosphorus, for igniting sulphur matches; **match-box**, †(*a*) *Mil.* a metal tube, pierced full of holes, for a soldier to carry his lighted match in; (*b*) a box to contain matches; **match-box bean**, the hard seed of the Queensland Bean, *Entada scandens*, of which match-boxes are made (Morris *Austral Eng.*); **match-boy**, a boy who sells matches; †**match-cock** (in a matchlock) = COCK *sb.*[1] 13 a; †**match-cord**, rope, or a piece of rope, prepared as a slow-match; **match-girl**, a girl who sells matches; **match-head**, the piece of some chemical composition with which a match (sense 4) is tipped; **match-holder**, a receptacle for a supply of matches; **match-line** = *match-cord*; **match-machine**, a machine for making matches; **match-man**, (*a*) a man who fires the match of a gun; (*b*) a man who sells matches; **match-paper**, touch-paper; **match-paste**, the paste used for making the heads of matches; **match-pipe**, a pipe used to contain a lighted match for a matchlock; **match-safe** *U.S.*, a box to contain matches for use (Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1875); **match-splint** = *match-stick*; **match-staff**, a staff with a slot in the upper end and a spike in the lower, used on shipboard to hold a slow-match (*Cent. Dict.*); **match-stick**, the wood of a match (cf. *match-wood*); **match-thread**, the thread used as match for firing guns, etc.; **match-tub**, in ships-of-war, a tub having a cover perforated with holes, in which slow-matches were hung ready for use with the lighted end downwards (Ogilvie *Suppl.* 1855); **matchwood**, †(*a*) touchwood; (*b*) wood suitable for match-sticks; (*c*) in phrase (*to break* etc.) *into matchwood*, into minute splinters.

1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 954 Phosphoric *match-bottles. 1786 GROSE *Anc. Armour & Weapons* 65 The musqueteer should also have a little tin tube..big enough to admit a match, and pierced full of little holes, that he may not be discovered by his match..; this was the origin of the *match-boxes, till lately worn by our grenadiers. 1866 LOWELL *Wks.* (1890) II. 93 Mr. Carlyle is for calling down fire from heaven whenever he cannot readily lay his hand on the match-box. 1887 *Pall Mall G.* 9 Nov. 2/1 Twopence-halfpenny per gross is paid for matchbox-making. 1819 *Sporting Mag.* V. 122 Society of the present day, from the nobleman to the *match-boy. 1643 *Plymouth Col. Rec.* (1855) II. 65 A musket, either firelock or *matchcock. 1644 NYE *Gunnery* I. 38 The Gunner is always, when leasure will permit, to choose good *Matchcords. 1852 MME. DE CHATELAIN tr. *Andersen's Tales* 301 The Little *Match-Girl. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 17 Sept. 4/3 To Mr. Rosenthal belongs the credit of finding a paste for *match-heads which is not poisonous. 1884 *Harper's Mag.* Dec. 134/2 A porcelain *match-holder half full of matches. 1824 MEYRICK *Anc. Armour* III. 77 The soldier is made to carry the *match-line lighted at both ends. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 1410/1 Young's *match-machine cuts the splints from a block or bolt of wood [etc.]. 1815 BOWLES *Missionary* VII. 128 Last rolled the heavy guns, a sable tier, By Indians drawn, with *matchmen in the rear. 1904 T. WRIGHT in *Daily Chron.* 23 June 3/2 The match-man, with his bundles of great sulphur-tipped matches, whom 'you could smell a mile off'. 1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XV. 625/1 Instead of tinder, *match-paper or touch-paper.. and amadou or German tinder..were often used. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 19 July 10/1 The Belgian Government has voted a sum of £2,000..to anyone who can compound a marketable *match-paste without the aid of yellow phosphorus. 1799 G. SMITH *Laboratory* I. 41 The *match pipes, the most preferable of which are either iron, lead, or wood,..should be..filled with slow charges. 1884 *Harper's Mag.* Sept. 581/2 Takes out a cigar and looks in *match-safe. 1832 MISS MITFORD *Village* Ser. V. 7 Some poor wretch, beggar or *match-seller. 1891 C. JAMES *Kom. Rigmarole* 67, I..tried my hand at *match-selling in the East-end. 1880 M. P. BALE *Woodworking Machinery* XXVIII. 252 Machines for cutting *match splints. 1791 J. LEARMONT *Poems* 24 The deil made *match-sticks o' his bains. 1901 *Wide World Mag.* VI. 449/2, I saw the vagrant telegraph-posts trailing along the horizon like a row of match-sticks. 1799 G. SMITH *Laboratory* I. 40 Put in the *match-thread and stir it about, till it has drawn in all the matter. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* Table Eng. Names, *Matchwoode, that is Touchwoode. 1838 *Civ. Engineer* I. 396/1 We wish we could see a series of experiments made upon a more enlarged scale than upon these bits of match wood. 1861 *Ann. Reg.* 21 Most of the ships that struck were broken up into match-wood. 1887 *Lady* 20 Jan. 38/3 The huts tumbled into matchwood.

Match (mætʃ), *a.* [From the predicative and appositive uses of MATCH *sb.*[1]]

1. That matches; corresponding. *Obs.* exc. *techn.* in certain special collocations (usually hyphened), in most of which *match-* may be interpreted as an attrib. use of the stem of MATCH *v.*[1]: **match-gearing**, 'two cog-wheels of equal diameter geared together' (Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1875); **match-hook**, 'a double hook or pair of hooks in which one portion forms a *mousing* for the other' (ibid.); **match-joint**, the part by which two corresponding sections of a structure are joined; **match-plane**, either of two planes used in grooving and tonguing boards, one plane being used to form the groove, and the other to form the tongue; **match-plate** (*Founding*), 'a plate upon the opposite sides of which the halves of a pattern are placed correspondingly, to facilitate the operation of molding' (Knight 1875); †**match-term** *Math.*, one of a pair of corresponding terms in a proportion; **match-wheel**, 'a cog-wheel adapted to mesh into or work with another' (Knight 1875). Also MATCH-BOARD.

1483 CAXTON *Cato* E viij b, Thou oughtest to forbere and to favoure in tyme and place hym whyche thou knowest not matche ne lyke to the. 1551 RECORDE *Pathw. Knowl.* II. i, The whole triangles be of one greatnes, and euery angle in the one equall to his matche angle in the other. 1551 — *Cast. Knowl.* (1556) 207 That arke of the Equinoctiall is equall with his matche arke in the Zodiacke. 1600 T. HILL *Arithm.* II. viii. 119 b, Wherefore each couple of them which so agree and match together in like sirname or quality are ..properly to be called matchtermes..; for in such cases the one couple are the antecedents and the other couple are the consequents. *Ibid.* 128 b, I see..that 2½ ells..is the third number..and that ¼ of an ell being the matche terme thereof is the first. 1683 MOXON *Mech. Exerc., Printing* x. ¶ 9 Two Match half-Joynts fastned on the Frame of the Tympan. *Ibid.* xxiv. ¶ 7 The Frisket must be Cut: which to perform, the Press-man fits the Match-Joynts of the Frisket into the Match-Joynts of the Tympan, and pins them in with the Frisket-pins. 1833 LOUDON *Encycl. Cottage Archit.* § 297 The edge of one board grooved, and the adjoining board tongued, with a pair of planes fitting into each other, called match planes. 1881 YOUNG *Every Man his own Mechanic* § 395 Match planes are so called because the width of the projection left by one plane matches or tallies exactly with the width or groove cut by the other.

2. *Comb.*: **match-lined** *a.*, lined with match-board; **match-lining** = MATCHBOARDING.

1865 *Price List of Joinery* 17 Extra for ½ in. match-lined back [of a cupboard]. *Ibid.* 19 The back lined with ⅝ match lining.

Match (mætʃ), *v.*[1] Forms: 4 mache, macche, 6 matche, 6– match. [f. MATCH *sb.*[1]]

1. *trans.* To join in marriage (chiefly used with some reference to the fitness or unfitness of the conjunction); to procure a 'match' or matrimonial alliance for (e.g. a son or daughter); to connect (a family) by marriage. Also *rarely*, † to couple, mate (animals). Const. *to* († *unto*), *with*.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 308 Sche was evele macched And fer from alle loves kinde. 1513 MORE in Grafton *Chron.* (1568) II. 762 Whose bloud..was full vnmeete to be matched with hys. 1530 PALSGR. 633/2, I matche the male and the female togyther of any kynde...And you can matche this bitche you shall have pretye whelpes. 1586 J. HOOKER *Hist. Irel.* in *Holinshed* II. 137/2 They were..by waie of marriages matched and combined with honourable and great

houses. 1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* III. i. 62, I haue sought To match my friend Sir Thurio, to my daughter. 1612 DAVIES *Why Ireland*, etc. (1747) 218 Whose sole daughter then was matcht to William de Valencia. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* XI. 681 Those ill-mated Marriages..Where good with bad were matcht. 1680 EVELYN *Diary* 6 Sept., He match'd his eldest son to Mrs. Trollop. 1703 J. TIPPER in *Lett. Lit. Men* (Camden) 305, I am heartily glad your dear Sister is so happily match'd to Mr. Stevens. 1731 FIELDING *Grub St. Op.* I. ii, Now I rely on you to match them up to one another. 1754 FOOTE *Knights* II. Wks. 1799 I. 85 Tim has fallen in love with a young woman.., and 'tis partly to prevent bad consequences, that I am..so hasty to match him. 1842 TENNYSON *Ulysses* 3 An idle king..Match'd with an aged wife. 1849 MARRYAT *Valerie* xi. II. 140 Try if you can match her with a Duke. 1878 SIMPSON *Sch. Shaks.* I. 25 Henry II. proposed to match him with some great heiress.

†b. *refl. Obs.*

1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. x. 193 Bote maydens and maydens maccheth ou ysamme [1377 B. ix. 173 macche 3ow togideres]. 1581 PETTIE *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* II. (1586) 83 Povertie bringeth.., that he is sometime driven to match himselfe in marriage with some woman of base parentage.

c. *intr.* for *refl.* To ally oneself in marriage. Const. *with.* Now *rare* exc. *dial.* † *To match into* (a family): to become connected by marriage with. † Also *rarely* of animals: To pair.

1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 670 Not to be vnworthy to matche in matrimonie, with the greatest Prince of the worlde. 1586 B. YOUNG *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* IV. 226 b, It is (saide Lord Iohn) a greate griefe of the minde, and heart breaking, to match with a foolishe Woman. 1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* II. i. 68 Truly I hold it a sinne to match in my kiared. 1611 COTGR., *S'Apparier*, to couple, or match; as birds doe in the Spring. 1620 GATAKER *Mariage Praier* 8 They shall neuer haue my blessing..if they match without my consent. 1647 SPRIGGE *Anglia Rediv.* I. ii. 8 He matched into a most noble and martial family. 1680 DRYDEN *Span. Fryar* IV. ii. 63 Let Tygers match with Hinds, and Wolfs with Sheep. 1766 GOLDSM. *Vic. W.* iii, If he had birth and fortune to entitle him to match into such a family as ours. 1820 HAZLITT *Lect. Dram. Lit.* 348 A young woman..who would not think of matching with a fellow of low birth. 1844 MAIDMENT *Spottiswoode Misc.* I. 5 This marks rather that the Spotswoods have matched with the Gordons.

†2. *trans.* To associate, join in companionship or co-operation (persons or things); to put together so as to form a pair or set *with* (another person or thing). *Obs.* (Cf. sense 5.)

c 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 1159 Quhen thai war machit at mete, the mare and the myn. 1534 MORE *Comf. agst. Trib.* II. Wks. 1209/1 When god hath by suche chaunce sent hym to me, and there once matched me with him, I recken my self surely charged with him, tyl [etc.]. 1575-85 ABP. SANDYS *Serm.* iii. 47 Matching alwaies with iustice mercie. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* II. i. 49 A sharp wit match'd with too blunt a Will. 1599 — *Much Ado* II. i. 111 God match me with a good dancer. 1599 H. HOLLAND *Wks. R. Greenham* 1 Some busie themselues in Church-discipline, and are slender sighted in their priuie corruptions:..but it is good to match both together. 1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* I. vii. § 6 [Adrian] having his [Christ's] picture in his gallerie matched with Apollonius. 1645 USSHER *Body Div.* (1647) 68 It was matched with many infirmities and passions.

†b. *refl.* To make an agreement *with. Obs.*

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* C. 99 Maches hym with þe maryneres, makes her paye, For to towe hym in-to tarce.

3. To encounter as an adversary. Also (now always), to encounter with equal power, prove a match for.

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 282 Here is no mon me to mach. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 7042 Manly he macehit hom with his mayn strokes. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* XXX. 199 Oure meyne with myght At mydnyght hym mached. 1470-85 MALORY *Arthur* X. viii. 426 Ye are not able to matche a good knyght. 1587 HARRISON *England* II. iii. (1877) I. 73 The townesmen of both [Oxford and Cambridge] are glad when they may match and annoie the students. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* III. ii. 305 Vou perhaps may thinke, Because she is something lower then my selfe, That I can match her. 1642 ROGERS *Naaman* 39 Tell me, if God had not matched thee, who could? 1666 DRYDEN *Ann. Mirab.* 190 Sharp remembrance on the English part And shame of being matched by such a foe Rouse conscious virtue up in every heart. 1856 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* (1858) I. ii. 173 No knight in England could match him in the tournament except the Duke of Suffolk.

†b. *intr.* To meet in combat, to fight (*with*). *Obs.*

a 1400-50 *Alexander* 3607 To mache with sike a multitude of men & of bestis. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 9678 Thus macchit þose men till the merke night. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* V. 42 Quhen xl macht [*v.r.* matchit] agayne thre hundyr men. 1559-66 *Wodrow Soc. Misc.* (1844) 69 The Congregation and the Frenchmen were often assembled, and were neare matching. 1567 MAPLET *Gr. Forest* 86 The Falcon is a bird of haughtie stomacke matching with birdes a great deale ligger and mightier then him selfe. 1595 SHAKS. *John* II. i. 330 Strength matcht with strength, and power confronted power.

4. *trans.* To array or place in opposition or conflict *with*; to 'pit' (a person or thing) *against* another. Chiefly *refl.* and *pass.* Occas. const. †*to*, †*on.*

?*a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 1533 þay hafe bene machede to daye with mene of þe marchez. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 8288 He macchit hym to Menclay. 15.. *Scotish Fielde* 197 On who was thou mached? 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* (1812) I. cxxx. 158 He is hardely matched, wherfore he hathe nede of your ayde. 1578 *Chr. Prayers* 118 b, The sinfulnes that we haue receaued from our first Parents, hath matched therebellious flesh against..the mind. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VI. 631 Eternal might To match with thir inventions they presum'd So easie. 1781 COWPER *Retirement* 580 The estate his sires had owned in ancient years Was quickly distanced, matched against a peer's. 1840 DE QUINCEY *Style* I. Wks. 1862 X. 161 What if a man should match such a bauble against the Pantheon? 1855 KINGSLEY *Heroes* v. ii. (1868) 156 Let them match their song against mine. 1903 *Expositor* Aug. 113 They had to match themselves against the wily Greek or Syrian trader.

5. To pair or assort (persons or things) with a view to fitness or equality; to arrange in a suitable or equal pair or set; to provide with an adversary or competitor of equal power. Often in *passive* with adv., as *to be well, ill matched.*

1530 PALSGR. 633/2, I matche one with a felowe, I set one to another that be equall of power and strength. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* IV. i. 120 My hounds are bred out of the Spartan kinde,.. Slow in pursuit, but match'd in mouth like bels. *a* 1645 A. STAFFORD *Fem. Glory* (1869) p. xcix, Never Prince and Church-man were better matcht then theise two. 1696 R. H. *Sch. Recreat.* 146 Match your Cock carefully. 1741 MIDDLETON *Cicero* II. x. 392 Cicero all the while, like a master of Gladiators, matching us and ordering the Combat. 1842 MISS MITFORD in L'Estrange *Life* (1870) III. ix. 142 In point of wearisome insipidity Sir Robert and Lord John are well matched one against the other. 1859 DARWIN *Orig. Spec.* i. (1873) 25 The savages in South Africa match their draught cattle by colour. 1874 SAYCE *Compar. Philol.* v. 181 Compatibility of existence on the part of two races depends upon their being more or less nearly matched in culture. 1883 FROUDE *Short Stud.* IV. i. iii. 27 The two great antagonists..were more fairly matched than Becket perhaps expected to find them.

b. To proportion, make to correspond *to* or *with.*

1680 EARL ROSCOM. *Horace's Art Poetry* 4 Let Poets match their Subject to their strength. 1708 ROWE *Roy. Convert* III. i. 29 Mine [*sc.* my hopes] have been still Match'd with my Birth. 1861 WHITTIER *Our River* 71 To match our spirits to our day And make a joy of duty. *a* 1888 M. ARNOLD *Thekla's Answ.* v, God doth match His gifts to man's believing.

c. 'To furnish with a tongue and a groove, at the edges; as to match boards' (Webster 1897).

1833 etc. [see MATCHED *ppl. a.* 2].

6. To place in competition *with*; to compare in respect of superiority. (Cf. sense 4.)

1581 MULCASTER *Positions* XXXIX. (1887) 192 If in comparison ye match a toward priuate teacher with a weake publike maister. 1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* II. Prol. 4 That faire.. With tender Iuliet matcht, is now not faire. *a* 1649 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Conversat. betw. B. J. & W. D.* Wks. (1711) 226 The earl of Surrey, sir Thomas Wyat (whom, because of their antiquity, I will not match with our better times). 1717 POPE *Ep. to Jervas* 36 Each heav'nly piece unwearied we compare, Match Raphael's grace with thy lov'd Guido's air. 1791 COWPER *Iliad* IV. 478 Their glory then, match never more with ours. 1820 SHELLEY *Skylark* 68 Chorus Hymenæal, Or triumphal chaunt, Matched with thine would be all But an empty vaunt. 1867 HOWELLS *Ital. Journ.* iii. 29, I saw the custodian had another relic..which he was not ashamed to match with the manuscript in my interest.

†b. To compare in respect of similarity; to examine the likeness or difference of. *Obs. rare.*

a 1649 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Hist. Jas. V*, Wks. (1711) 103 By matching the faces of one of those strangers with a portrait she had of King James.

†7. To regard, treat, or speak of as equal. *Obs.*

1580 SIDNEY *Ps.* XXVI. v, Sweete Lord, write not my soule Within the sinner's rowle: Nor my life's cause match with blood seekers case. 1595 J. KING *Queens Day Serm.* in *Jonas*, etc. (1618) 702 Whensoeuer afterwards, there was taken vppe any great lamentation, it was sampled and matched with that of Hadadrimmon, in the field of Megiddo. 1605 WILLET *Hexapla Gen.* 468 This is great presumption.. to match Gods arke and Iosephs coffin together. 1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* I. iii. 194 To match vs in comparisons with durt, To weaken and discredit our exposure.

8. To be equal to, to equal; to resemble sufficiently to be suitably coupled with; to correspond to, be the 'match' or counterpart of. Also *absol.* of two or more things: To be mutually equal; to be sufficiently similar to be suitably coupled together.

1592 SHAKS. *Ven. & Ad.* 1140 All loues pleasure shall not match his wo. 1603 OWEN *Pembrokeshire* iv. (1892) 40 In shorte tyme they are like to match the other inhabitaunts in nomber. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* III. 81 These fiue Cities are so strong, that..I neuer saw them matched. 1643 SIR T. BROWNE *Relig. Med.* I. § 44 All the valiant acts of Curtius, Scevola, or Codrus, do not parallel or match that one of Job. 1663 BUTLER *Hud.* I. i. 190 For his religion, it was fit To match his learning and his wit. 1781 COWPER *Charity* 118 He..Imports what others have invented well, And stirs his own to match them or excel. 1819 SHELLEY *Cenci* III. ii. 71 Marzio's bate Matches Olimpio's. 1853 C. BRONTE *Villette* XXXVI, Life is so constructed that the event does not, cannot, will not, match the expectation. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 17 May 4/8 There exists in no Continental country anything that can match the City and Guilds' Institute. *Mod.* The colour of the carpet does not match the wall-paper. These patterns do not match.

b. *intr.* To be equal *with*; to be suitably coupled *with*; to correspond, be suitable *to.* Also (*rarely*), to fit or 'dovetail' *into.*

1567 MAPLET *Gr. Forest* 32 b, But herein good heed must be taken, least we match and march with the greeke Sophister. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* I. (1586) 39 b, It groweth..to suche a heyght, that it matcheth with indifferent Trees. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, II. iv. 130 To that end, as matching to his Youth and Vanitie, I did present him with the Paris-Balls. 1866 DK. ARGYLL *Reign Law* vii. (1871) 343 Other minds were working at the same time whose labours were to match with a curious fittingness into his.

c. *To match* (used quasi-adv. or quasi-adj. after a sb.): corresponding in number, size, style, etc. with what has been mentioned.

1838 DICKENS *O. Twist* XXXIII, A tall gentleman in..drab breeches and boots with tops to match. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* i, Who shall so forecast the years And find in loss a gain to match? 1857 G. A. LAWRENCE *Guy Liv.* iii. 21 After twelve pipes over-night with gin-and-water to match. 1891 *Leeds Mercury* 27 Apr. 4/7 Theresa..was attired in wine-coloured velvet, and wore a jet bonnet, trimmed with velvet to match.

9. *trans.* To furnish with a match.

a. To find, procure, or produce an equal to.

1596 J. NORDEN *Progr. Pietie* (1847) 114 Some one of these his subtle sects in shew meeteth, and as it were matcheth every godly endeavour and sincere course that the children of God do practise. 1600 J. PORY tr. *Leo's Africa* Introd. 56 Excellent wines, and sugars which cannot be matched. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 123 The body of the Pillar is of one entire piece of Garnet, so high, that the world cannot match it. 1773 JOHNSON 30 Apr. in *Boswell*, I can match this nonsense. 1842 TENNYSON *Gardener's Dau.* 31 Go and see The Gardener's daughter; trust me, after that, You scarce can fail to match his masterpiece. 1886 CONSTANCE F. WOOLSON *E. Angels* I. 15 To match it [the climate] one must seek the Madeira Islands or Algiers.

b. To fit or supply with a suitable addition or counterpart; to find, select, or obtain something sufficiently similar to or accordant with (a colour, pattern, an article of dress, etc.).

1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* I. ii. 127, I could match this beginning with an old tale. 1724 SWIFT *Use of Irish Manuf.* Wks. 1755 V. II. 3 There may be room enough to employ their wit and fancy in chusing and matching patterns and colours. 1758 JOHNSON *Idler* No. 16 P 5 Every maid.. matched her gown at Mr. Drugget's. 1770 FOOTE *Lame Lover* I. 20, [I] promised to..match a coach-horse for Brigadier Whip. 1861 WHYTE MELVILLE *Good for Nothing* I. xi. 132 Can you match me this piece of yellow silk? 1881 J. HAWTHORNE *Fort. Fool* I. XXXIV, As if it were a question of matching knitting-yarns.

c. To compare so as to select one suitable *to.*

1718 POPE *Lett.* 1 Sept. in *Lady M. W. Montagu's Lett.* (1861) I. 438 John was now matching several kinds of poppies and field flowers to her complexion, to make her a present of knots for the day.

†10. To procure as a match. *Obs. rare*—[1].

1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* III. i. 81 Here comes another of the Tribe, a third cannot be matcht, vnlesse the diuell himselfe turne Iew.

Match (mætʃ), *v.*[2] [f. MATCH *sb.*[2] Cf. F. *mêcher.*] *trans.* To fumigate (wines or liquors, or casks) by burning sulphur matches; now chiefly in *Cider-making.* Hence **Ma·tching** *vbl. sb.*

1703 *Art & Myst. Vintners* 28 *Stum* is nothing else but pure Wine kept from fretting by often racking and matching it in clean Vessels. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.*, *Matching*, in the wine trade, the preparing vessels to preserve wines and other liquors, without their growing sour or vapid. 1832 *Trans Prov. Med. & Surg. Assoc.* VI. II. 200 The sweetness of the cider prepared for exportation is preserved by a process..which..is known by the term 'Matching'. 1864 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* XXV. I. 90 Most of the cider that is 'matched' in this way has a peculiar taste.

Matchable (mæ·tʃăb'l), *a.* [f. MATCH *v.*[1] + -ABLE.]

1. That can be matched, equalled, or rivalled.

a 1568 ASCHAM *Scholem.* I. (Arb.) 59 So manie notable Capitaines in warre for worthinesse, wisdome and learning, as be scarse matchable no not in the state of Rome. 1591 SPENSER *Ruins of Time* 89 To tell my forces matchable to none, Were but lost labour. 1624 HEYWOOD *Gunaik.* III. 143 A Lady scarce matchable before her time or since. 1678 *Life Black Prince* in *Harl. Misc.* (1809) III. 153 He was a prince so full of virtues as were scarce matchable by others.

†2. Comparable; equal; similar, analogous. Const. *to, with. Obs.*

1572 J. JONES *Bathes of Bath* II. 10 b, Neyther be such vapours, or dashinges, matchable to fyre in heate. *a* 1592 *Selimus* 1864 Aga, thy grief is matchable to his. 1608 DOD & CLEAVER *Expos. Prov.* xi-xii. 190 Many great pibbles are not matchable in worth with one pearle which is farre lesse then they are. 1653 GATAKER *Vind. Annot. Jer.* 149 The War..was in divers respects not matchable onely unto, but even greater then any that had gone before it. 1695 WOODWARD *Nat. Hist. Earth* (1723) 28 [Shells] not matchable with any upon our Shores.

†3. Suitable, well suited, accordant. *Obs.*

1611 MARKHAM *Countr. Content.* I. xix. (1668) 81 They be ever most matchable, strong, nimble, and ready for your pleasure. 1614 D. DYKE *Myst. Selfe-Deceiuing* (1630) 297 The party affected hath pietie matchable both to person and portion. 1815 *Zelnca* III. 162 Now if you had married such a superior character as Miss Emcotts, so truly matchable with you.

Hence †**Ma·tchableness**, †**Ma·tchably** *adv.*

1611 COTGR., *Equalite*, equalitie, euenness, matchablenesse. *Esgallement*, equally, euenly, alike, matchably. *a* 1637 B. JONSON *Eng. Gram.* Pref. 9 We shew the Copie of it, and Matchablenesse, with other tongues.

Match-board (mæ·tʃbōəɹd), *sb. Joinery.* [f. MATCH *a.*; cf. MATCH *v.*[1]] A board which has a tongue cut along one edge and a groove in the opposite edge, so as to admit of being fitted into other similar boards to form one piece with them. Also *collect.* = *match-boarding.*

1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Match-boards*, a kind of plank used for flooring. 1883 *Daily News* 10 Sept. 2/1 This building..is described as 'encircled by match-boards nailed to posts supporting the roof'. 18.. *Med. News* LII. 670 (Cent.) The walls..consist partly of brick piers and partly of corrugated iron lined by felt and matchboard.

Hence **Ma·tch-board** *v. trans.*, to cover or supply with match-boards; **Ma·tch-boarded** *a.*, having or composed of match-boards; **Ma·tch-boarding**, match-boards fitted together to form a material for lining walls, forming partitions or light structures such as poultry-houses, etc.

1865 *Price List of Joinery* 28 Match Boarding..forming Partitions in Bedrooms. 1882 *Garden* 18 Mar. 188/1 The house is..cased inside with match boarding. 1889 J. K. JEROME *Three Men in Boat* 81 It was expensive work. Had to match-board it all over first. 1894 *Westm. Gaz.*

16 July 8/1 What with the match-boarded character of the house and the uprush of draught by the staircase, the chances of escape would have been small indeed. 1903 *Longm. Mag.* June 126 We discovered our quarters in a bare match-boarded room with a flapping canvas ceiling.

Ma·tch-cloth. [? f. *match-* in MATCHCOAT.]

1855 OGILVIE *Suppl., Match-cloth*, a coarse woollen cloth for the Indian trade [American].

Matchcoat (mæ·tʃkōut). *Obs.* exc. *Hist.* Also 7 matchco, mach-cot, 9 matchicoat. [Orig. *matchco*, prob. an American Indian word: cf. Odjibwa *matchigode* 'petticoat, woman's dress' (Baraga); afterwards corrupted by popular etymology, as if f. MATCH *sb.*[1] or *v.*[1] + COAT *sb.*]

a. A kind of mantle formerly worn by American Indians, originally made of fur skins, and afterwards of match-cloth. b. The material out of which matchcoats were made.

1642 in *Archives of Maryland* (1887) IV. 94, 2 rackoone matchcos and 15. armes length of ronoke. 1661 *Stat. Virginia* (1823) II. 36 He paying..for the use of those Indians thirty Matchcoats of two yards a peice. 1685 *Pennsylv. Archives* I. 94 Twenty Gunns Twenty fathom Matchcoat [etc.]. 1698 G. THOMAS *Pensilvania* 10, I..have very good Shot, with red and blue Mach-cots. 1705 BEVERLEY *Virginia* III. i. § 3 (1722) 142 The proper Indian Match-coat, which is made of Skins, drest with the Fur on, sowed together...Fig. 2 wears the Duffield Match-coat, bought of the English. 1788 *New Lond. Mag.* 115 A large mantle or match-coat, thrown over all, compleats their dress. 1814 *Sporting Mag.* XLIV. 280 A matchicoat and leggins red.

Matched (mætʃt), *ppl. a.* [f. MATCH *v.*[1] + -ED.]

1. Having a match or equal. Chiefly in *ill-, well-matched*, q. v.

2. Of boards: Furnished with a tongue on one edge and a groove on the other. †*Matched joint* = 'match-joint' (MATCH *a.* 1). Also *Comb.*, matched-boarding, -lined *a.* = *match-boarding, -lined.*

1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. 114/1 The several Parts of a [Printing] Press. The Matcht Joynt, is the Joynt or Hing fastned to the Timpan and hinder Raile of the Coffin. 1833 LOUDON *Encycl. Cottage Archit.* § 297 Five-eighth-inch deal matched (the edge of one board grooved, and the adjoining board tongued..) and beaded boarding. 1857–9 TARBUCK *Encycl. Carpentry & Joinery* 208 In Fig. 10 the edges are shot;..in Fig. 12 matched. 1865 *Price List of Joinery* 33, 6.6½ Matched-lined enclosure to stairs. 1873 TARN *Tredgold's Carpentry* 242 Matched-boarding.

Matcher (mæ·tʃəɹ). [f. MATCH *v.*[1] + -ER[1].]

1. One who matches, in senses of the vb.

1611 COTGR., *Marieur*, a matcher, a marier. 1628 FORD *Lovers Mel.* I. ii, A mere matcher of colours. 1682 H. MORE *Annot. Glanvill's Lux O.* 7 It would argue the wise and just God a very unequal Matcher of innocent Souls with brutish Bodies. 1896 *Daily News* 4 Jan. 5/3 An 'assortisseur', or matcher of coloured textiles.

2. 'A matching-machine' (Webster 1897). *Matcher-head*: 'the head in a planing machine which carries the cutting tool' (Knight *Dict. Mech.* Suppl. 1884).

Matchcole, matchecold: see MACHECOLE *v.*

Matchet (mæ·tʃet). Forms: *a.* 7 matcheat, 7–9 machette, 9 machete, matchet, -ett(e. *β.* 7 in quasi-Sp. form macheto. [ad. Sp. *machete.*] A broad and heavy knife or cutlass, used, esp. in Central America and the West Indies, both as a tool and a weapon.

1598 HAKLUYT *Voy.* I. 414 A dozen of machetos to minch the whale. 1648 GAGE *West Indies* 129 They have no weapons but a Machette, which is a short Tuck. 1685 WAFER *Voy.* (1729) 278 Having no tool with us except a Macheat or long knife. 1697 DAMPIER *Voy.* (1729) I. 13 We tempted him with Beads, Money, Hatchets, Matcheats, or long knives. 1831 J. HOLLAND *Manuf. Metal* I. 142 These tools consist of matchets, canehills and hoes. 1854 J. L. STEPHENS *Centr. Amer.* 70 The Machete, or chopping-knife ..varies in form in different sections of the country. 1863 R. F. BURTON *Abeokuta* II. 92 Little things here means matchets and mirrors, kerchiefs and blue baft, rum and tobacco. 1897 MARY KINGSLEY *W. Africa* 161 A wall made up of strong tendrils and climbing grasses, through which the said atom has to cut its way with a machette.

attrib. 1881 *Instr. Census Clerks* (1885) 44 Matchett Maker. 1887 MOLONEY *Forestry W. Afr.* 233 The vines..are being used only for matchet handles.

Matchevil(l)ian, obs. ff. MACHIAVELLIAN.

1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* I. 4 Simonaicall Matcheuillians.

Matchia-, matchievillian: see MACHIA-.

Matchiat, obs. form of MATCHET.

Matchicoat: see MATCHCOAT.

Matchination: see MACHINATION.

Matching (mæ·tʃiŋ), *vbl. sb.*[1] [f. MATCH *v.*[1] + -ING[1].]

1. The action of the vb. MATCH in various senses.

1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 180 Great patchyng, small matchyng. 1625 MANDEVILLE in *Bucclench MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 262 He propounded to me the matching with Warwick for my son. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) III. 293 The greatest pains had been taken with these to enlarge the breed, both by food and matching. 1873 E. SPON *Workshop Receipts* Ser. I. 414/2 Matching is to bring different pieces of timber, in an article of furniture, to a responsive tone of colour. 1874 *Spons' Dict. Engin.* 3097 A planing machine for moulding and matching. 1889 *Athenæum* 18 May 623/2 There is like risk of bad matching when the undertaking is a poem.

2. 'A quality of wool in the best part of the fleece' (Bowman *Struct. Wool* 1885, p. 356).

1881 *Daily News* 22 Aug. 3/6 About 1,200 packs of English fleeces, matchings, skin, and other wools.

3. *attrib.*, as *matching-shop* (nonce-wd.); **matching-machine,** a machine which tongues and grooves the respective edges of a board; **matching-plane** = *match-plane* (Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1875).

1803 tr. *P. Le Brun's Mons. Botte* I. 179 She couples ruined young men to rich widows..; and she runs away with all the business from the offices that you see at the corner of every street, called *matching shops.* 1874 *Spons' Dict. Engin.* 3097 A planing and matching machine.

Matching, *vbl. sb.*[2]: see MATCH *v.*[2]

Matching (mæ·tʃiŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. MATCH *v.*[1] + -ING[2].] That matches; corresponding; 'to match'.

1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 97 If you will let loose the Queene of Cities, as they terme Paris, to looke bigge and angerly upon us, our London can affront her with a matching countenance. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 11 June 1/3 The good plain 'family' cook, with matching morals.

Matchless (mæ·tʃlės), *a.* [f. MATCH *sb.*[1] + -LESS.]

1. Having no match, without an equal, peerless.

1530 PALSGR. 839/1 Matche lesse, *non pareil.* 1590 GREENE *Never too late* (1600) 68 Then should..the furrowes in my face be numberlesse, as the griefes of my hart are matchlesse. 1631 GOUGE *God's Arrows* III. § 94. 360 They..plotted the matchlesse, mercilesse, devilish, and damnable gunpowder-treason. 1663 GERBIER *Counsel* a 5, The matchlesse capacity of your Highnesse. 1762–71 H. WALPOLE *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1786) I. 166, I have also a matchless portrait of the king. 1871 H. AINSWORTH *Tower Hill* I. iii, There she stood before him, in all her matchless beauty. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* vii. § 3. 374 Her matchless activity used the year to good purpose.

b. Used as *adv.*

1871 JOAQUIN MILLER *Songs Italy* (1878) 90 And men did turn and marvel so And men did say how matchless fair!

†2. That are not a match or pair. *Obs.*

1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* IV. i. 28 With matchlesse eares deformed and distort.

†3. Unmarried. (In quot. *punningly.*) *Obs.*

a 1652 BROME *Damoiselle* I. i, A matchlesse Knight Indeed, and shall be matchlesse still for me.

Hence **Ma·tchlessly** *adv.*, in a matchless manner or degree (Bailey, fol. 1736); **Ma·tchlessness,** the state of being matchless (Bailey vol. II. 1727).

1818 J. FERNIE *Serm.* 379 The matchlessly great and happy, holy and just God. 1884 *Cyclist's Tour. Cl. Monthly Gaz.* Mar. 78/2 A castle so matchlessly situated.

†**Ma·tchlike,** *adv. Obs. rare*[−1]. [f. MATCH *sb.*[1] + -LIKE.] In pairs.

1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* III. (Arb.) 87 Horses..Al yoked, and matchlyke teamed with common agreement.

Matchlock (mæ·tʃlɒk). [f. MATCH *sb.*[2] + LOCK *sb.*[2]]

1. A gun lock in which slow-match is placed for igniting the powder. b. *attrib.*: matchlock musket = 2.

1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 139 The Infantry [consists] of Gentues, with Match-Lock Muskets. 1727–52 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v. *Carabine*, The carabine..was formerly made with a match-lock, but of late only with a flint-lock. 1786 GROSE *Anc. Armour & Weapons* 64 Musquets were fired with match locks. *a* 1854 H. REED *Lect. Brit. Poets* viii. (1857) 289 The clumsy matchlock musket of olden time. 1859 *All Year Round* No. 4. 87 The hand guns were used with a matchlock till the pyrites wheel lock was invented.

2. A musket having a matchlock.

1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 99 Matchlocks, Swords, and Javelins. 1795 ANDERSON *Brit. Emb. China* 71 Others are armed with match-locks of a very rusty appearance. 1875 MAINE *Hist. Inst.* x. 290 The battle was waged out of Court with sword and matchlock.

b. *attrib.*: matchlock-man, a soldier armed with a matchlock.

1782 *Hist. Europe* in *Ann. Reg.* (1783) 32/1 No less than 1,800 were match-lock-men. 1893 FORBES-MITCHELL *Reminisc. Gt. Mutiny* 254 Some seven or eight hundred matchlock-men opened fire on them.

Hence **Ma·tchlocked** *a.*, having matchlocks, armed with matchlocks.

1871 FORSYTH *Highl. India* 296 A whole posse of match-locked shikáris.

Ma·tch-make, *v. rare.* [Back-formation from MATCH-MAKER[1] or -MAKING[1].] *intr.* To plot or contrive to bring about a marriage.

1865 *Cornh. Mag.* Dec. 670, I am the last person in the world to match-make. 1902 BARNES-GRUNDY *Thames Camp* 262 It..will be a lesson to me not to match-make again.

Ma·tch-maker[1]. [f. MATCH *sb.*[1] + MAKER.]

1. One who brings about or negotiates a match or marriage; usually, one who is addicted to scheming to bring about matriages.

a 1639 W. WHATELEY *Prototypes* I. xi. (1640) 102 Pray to God to give a wife or husband to your sonne and daughter, and make piety and vertue the chiefe match-makers. 1678 BUTLER *Hud.* III. i. 420 Who..would have hir'd him and his imps, To be your match-makers and pimps. 1771 SMOLLETT *Humph. Cl.* Let. i. 14 June, Perhaps the match-maker is to have a valuable consideration in the way of brokerage. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xvi. III. 724 Clarendon assumed the character of a matchmaker. 1881 E. J. WORBOISE *Sissie* xi, Mrs. Williams..was frequently accused of being 'a match-maker', and bent on marrying her daughters brilliantly.

2. *Sporting.* One who enters into a match; one who arranges a match.

a 1704 T. BROWN *Table Talk* in *Collect. Poems* 123 Horse-coursers and Matchmakers make no Conscience of Cheating. 1893 *Baily's Mag.* Oct. 273/2 A match that called forth many encomiums on the match-makers.

Ma·tch-maker[2]. [f. MATCH *sb.*[2] + MAKER.]

1. One who makes match for guns.

1643 [ANGIER] *Lanc. Vall. Achor* 9 He that could finde so many Souldiers when there was none, was not to seeke for one Match-maker in time of need. 1644 PRYNNE & WALKER *Fiennes's Trial* App. 21 They had a Match-maker, a Bullet-maker in the Castle. 1723 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 6126/4 John Withers, of Black-Heath,..Matchmaker.

2. One who makes lucifer matches.

1851 *Knight's Cycl. Industry* 1182 These splints are sold by the hogshead to the lucifer match makers. 1893 *Dict. Nat. Biog.* XXXIV. 200 The match-makers of the East-end of London took fright at a suggestion which might prove fatal to their trade.

Ma·tch-making, *vbl. sb.*[1] [f. MATCH *sb.*[1]]

1. The action or practice of scheming or contriving to bring about a marriage.

1821 MISS MITFORD in L'Estrange *Life* II. vi. 125 Mrs. Dickinson has had great success in match-making lately. 1858 R. S. SURTEES *Ask Mamma* ix. 31 As well try to restrain a cat from mousing as a woman from match-making. 1887 *Poor Nellie* (1888) 82 Perfect matchmaking requires experience and practice.

attrib. 1823 'JON BEE' *Slang* s.v., Jew-King opened a match-making office in Old Bond-street, about 1797. 1881 H. JAMES *Portr. Lady* xlix, There were people who had the matchmaking passion.

2. *Racing.* The action of arranging a match.

1812 *Sporting Mag.* XL. 282 Within fourteen days from the match-making he was backed to win.

Ma·tch-making, *vbl. sb.*[2] [f. MATCH *sb.*[2]] The process or trade of making lucifer matches.

1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 1410/1 *Match-making Machine.* 1892 *Pall Mall G.* 16 May 7/1 Match-making has been the most successful of all the industries instituted in Japan in imitation of those existing abroad. 1898 *Cath. Bk. Notes* June 171 The recent shocking revelations with regard to the match-making and lead-glazing trades.

Ma·tch-making, *ppl. a.* [f. MATCH *sb.*[1]] Given to attempts to bring about marriages.

1700 CONGREVE *Way of World* III. xviii, Foible's a bawd, an arrant, rank, matchmaking bawd. 1886 RUSKIN *Præterita* I. v. 167 The entirely best-matched pair I have yet seen in this match-making world and dispensation.

Matchy (mæ·tʃi), *a. dial.* [f. MATCH *sb.*[1] + -Y.] Suited to form a match.

1868 *Daily News* 8 Dec., Three finer, and more matchy sheep are rarely found. 1888 *Jackson's Oxford Jrnl.* 1 Sept. 3/3 They [five show ewes] were very matchy and good looking.

Mate (mēt), *sb.*[1] *Chess.* Forms: 4 mat, 5 maat, 5– mate. [ME. *mat*, a. OF. *mat* in *eschec mat* CHECKMATE *sb.*] The state of the king when he is in check and cannot move out of it (involving the loss of the game to the player whose king is so placed): = CHECKMATE. Also, the move by which the king is checkmated. Often in figurative contexts, with the sense of 'total defeat'. *To give (the) mate (to)*: to checkmate. †*To take the mate*: to be checkmated.

c 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 9346 (Kölbing) Naciens..& ek Herui .VI. heþen kinges driuen hardi..For to ȝeuen hem her mat. *c* 1407 LYDG. *Reason & Sens.* 5903 Whan the play I-ended was .. thus stood the cas Without a maat on outher syde. 1426 AUDELAY *Poems* (Percy Soc.) 23 After chec for the roke ware fore the mate. *a* 1547 SURREY *To Ladie that scorned her Lover in Tottel's Misc.* (Arb.) 21 Although I had a check, To geue the mate is hard. 1579 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 66 Sure I am at the next viewe of thy vertues, I shall take thee mate: And taking it not of a pawne but of a Prince, the losse is to be accompted the lesse. 1588 GREENE *Pandosto* (1843) 29 Fortune .. began now to turne her back .. intending as she had given Fawnia a slender checke, so she would give her a harder mate. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* II. ii. IV. (1651) 275 It [chess] is a testy cholerick game, and very offensive to him that loseth the Mate. 1625 BACON *Ess., Of Boldness* (Arb.) 520 Like a Stale at Chesse, where it is no Mate, but yet the Game cannot stirre. 1626 MIDDLETON *Women Beware Women* II. ii. 310, I give you check and mate to your white king. 1647 N. BACON *Disc. Govt. Eng.* I. xvi. (1739) 32 The Church-men or Prelates checked them often, but could never give them the mate. 1735 BERTIN *Chess* 73 The knight takes that pawn, and gives a check, and mate. *Ibid.* 75 The pawn takes the white knight and gives mate.

b. with defining word.

Fool's mate: a form of game in which the first player, by two unwise moves, incurs checkmate at his adversary's second move. *Scholar's mate*: a form of game in which the second player blunders so as to be mated by his adversary's fourth move. *Smothered mate* (see quot. 1863). See also STALE MATE.

1529 MORE *Dyalogue* I. Wks. 149/1 Mary quod he, this is a blind mate indede. 1614 A. SAUL *Famous Game Chesse play* viii, The Mate at two Draughts a Fooles Mate. *Ibid.* C iij, The Mate with a Quene, a louing mate, A Mate with the Bisbop, a gentle mate [etc.]. 1859 H. KINGSLEY *G. Hamlyn* vi, A simple trip, akin to scholar's mate at chess. 1863 *Handbk. Chess & Draughts* 14 Smothered Mate. This is a description of mate which can be effected only by the knight, when the adverse king is surrounded, or *smothered*, by his own forces.

Mate (mēt), *sb.*[2] Also 5–7 mat, 6 maat; *Sc.* 6 meat, 6–7 mait. [Late 14th c. *mate*, app. a. MLG. *mate* or MDu. **mate* (mod.Du. *maat*, earlier *maet*), shortened form of *gemate* (Flemish *gemaat*) = OHG. *gimazzo* (MHG. *gemazze*):—OTeut. type **gamaton-* companion, lit. 'mess-mate', f. **ga-* (see Y-) implying conjunction or participation + **mat-* (see MEAT). Cf. OE. *gemetta* (:—**gamatjon-*), ME. METTE, companion at table.]

1. A habitual companion, an associate, fellow,

comrade; a fellow-worker or partner. Now only in working-class use. See also MESSMATE, PLAY-MATE, SCHOOLMATE.

c 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 1372 Floripe .. sayde: 'Maumecet my mate y-blessed mot þou be For aled þow hast muche debate to-ward þys barnee'. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 329/2 Mate, *idem quod* Felaw. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* II. xi. 83 Alkyne sterage affrayit and causit grow, Baith for my byrding and my litle mait. 1515 BARCLAY *Egloges* i. (1570) A iij, When the good is gone (my mate this is the case) Seldome the better reentreth in the place. 1521 *MS. Acc. St. John's Hosp., Canterb.*, To John Kenet & hys mate, carpenters, for ij dayes. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 633 The Duke of Vorke and his mates were lodged within the Citie. 1583 *Leg. Bp. St. Androis* 316 He sought ane vther, Ane devill ..Exceading Circes in conceattis, For chaungene of Wlisses meatis. *c* 1614 MURE *Dido & Æneas* i. 508 Parte at the ports, as sentinells abide, Vnloade their mat's and drowsie dron's do kill. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* I. i. 4 Aristobulus, though no Apostle, yet an Apostles Mate, .. by Grecian Writers made Bishop of Britain. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* II. 365 Each in jovial mood his mate addrest. 1821 BYRON *Sardan.* II. i. 48 The she-king, That less than woman, is even now upon The waters with his female mates. 1866 MRS. GASKELL *Wives & Dau.* xxii. (1867) 223 He was inferior in education to those who should have been his mates. 1878 JEVONS *Prim. Pol. Econ.* 32 Each man usually takes one part of the work, and leaves other parts of the work to his mates. 1885 MRS. C. PRAED *Head Station* 64 I've sent my mate to prospect for a new claim.

transf. and *fig.* 1669 LYBOURN (*title*) A Platform for Purchasers, a Guide for Builders, and a Mate for Measurers. 1671 MILTON *Samson* 173 Thee whose strength, while vertue was her mate Might have subdu'd the Earth.

b. Used as a form of address by sailors, labourers, etc.

c 1450 *Pilgr. Sea-Voy.* 14 in *Stac. Rome* 38 'What, howe! mate, thow stondyst to ny, Thy felow may nat hale the by;' Thus they begyn to crake. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* vi. 41 The master cryit on the rudir man, mait keip ful and by, a luf. 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* III. (Arb.) 79 My maats skum the sea froth there in oars strong cherelye dipping. 1610 B. JONSON *Alch.* II. vi. How now? What mates? What Baiards ha'wee here? 1637 HEYWOOD *Dialogues* i. Wks. 1874 VI. 96 My Mate (It is a word That Sailors interchangeably afford To one another) speake. 1869 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* 554 Mates, I spoke just now. 1880 MISS BRADDON *Just as I am* i, 'Who's the magistrate bereabouts, mate?'

† c. A fellow, 'chap'; often used contemptuously. *Obs.*

a 1380 *St. Bernard* in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1878) 56/2 He [*sc.* þe fend] made a mouwe, þat foule mate, And seide [etc.]. 1573 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 113 As for such mates, as vertue hates. 1577 G. HARVEY *Letter-bk.* (Camden) 57 Thou art a merry mate. 1584 R. SCOT *Discov. Witcher.* VI. ii. (1886) 91 These witches are but lieng mates and couseners. 1612 T. JAMES *Jesuits' Downf.* 13 These Iesuits are cogging mates.

d. *To go mates with*: to be an associate or partner of.

1880 SUTHERLAND *Tales of Goldfields* 59 Brown lost no time in making a contract to 'go mates' with another digger. 1890 *Gd. Words* Mar. 211/1, I will accept his proposal to go mates with him.

2. A suitable associate († or adversary); an equal in eminence or dignity. Now only *arch.*

1563 B. GOOGE *Eglogs*, etc. (Arb.) 126 No man so hauty lyues on earth, but ons may fynd his mate. 1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* (1592) 123, I am a iealous God, enuious against my riuall .. nor by any meanes abyding to haue a mate. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IV. 828 Ye knew me once no mate For you, there sitting where ye durst not soare. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. 229/2 Cardinals..now..are Mates for Kings. 1833 TENNYSON *Lady Clara Vere de Vere* 11, I know you proud to bear your name, Your pride is yet no mate for mine.

3. One of a pair. (Cf. MAKE *sb.*[1])

a. One of a wedded pair, a husband or wife. Now only, a fitting or worthy partner in marriage. † Also (*rarely*), a lover, paramour.

1549 LATIMER *1st Serm. bef. Edw. VI* (Arb.) 34 For to graunt oure kynges grace suche a mate as maye knyt hys hert and heres [etc.]. 1573 HARMAN *Caveat* (ed. 2) 41 This is their custome, that when they mete in baine at night, euery one getteth a mate [*ed.* 1 make] to lye wythall. 1593 SHAKS. *Lucr.* 18 What priselesse wealth the heauens had him lent, In the possession of his beauteous mate. 1615 BRATHWAIT *Strappado* 118 (A wanton Priest) there was Who made appointment with a Countrie lasse, .. The place where these two lonely mates should meet Was a vast forrest. 1676 TOWERSON *Decalogue* 383 Lest .. men should think it enough to assume a mate .. without any obligation upon themselves. 1735 SOMERVILLE *Chase* III. 174 His good old mate With choicest Viands heaps the lib'ral Board. 1786 MME. D'ARBLAY *Diary* Nov., I made a visit to Mrs. Smelt, and engaged her and her excellent mate to dinner. 1842 TENNYSON *Dora* 166 Mary took another mate; But Dora lived unmarried till her death. 1843 LYTTON *Last of Barons* II. i, Isabel of Warwick had been a mate for William the Norman. 1894 BESANT *In Deacons Orders* etc. *Peer & Heiress* III Happy is the man who finds his mate!

b. Of animals, esp. birds: One of a pair.

1593 *Tell-Troth's N. Y. Gift* (1876) 38 Nor fish, beast, foule, nor fruit, but takes the mate. 1611 BIBLE *Isa.* xxxiv. 15 There shall the vultures also be gathered, every one with her mate. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VII. 403 Shoales Of Fish..part single or with mate Graze the Sea weed their pasture. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) VII. 89 Whether this proceeds from the desires of the frog, disappointed of its proper mate, or [etc.]. 1822 BYRON *Heaven & Earth* I. iii. 38 A doom which even some serpent, with his mate, Shall 'scape to save his kind to be prolong'd. 1871 R. ELLIS tr. *Catullus* lxviii. 122 Not in her own fond mate so turtle snowy delighteth.

c. Of things: The fellow of a pair; a counterpart or parallel.

1578 BANISTER *Hist. Man* V. 71 Twd Nerues .. beyng the mates of those Arteries. 1611 BIBLE *Isa.* xxxiv. 16 No one of these [*sc.* prophecies] shall faile, none shall want her mate. 1658 CULPEPPER & COLE *Barthol. Anat. Man.* III. i. 323 Every Nerve hath its mate or Companion. 1892 KIPLING *Barrack-r. Ballads* 81 'Ye have taken the one [a pistol] from a foe', said he; 'will ye take the mate from a friend?' *Mod. dial.* These boots are not mates.

4. Nautical uses.

a. An officer (now only on a merchant vessel) who sees to the execution of the commands of the master or commander, or of his immediate superior, and in the absence of the master takes command of the ship. In the Royal Navy the title has been changed to Sub-lieutenant; and in the merchant-service, mates hold functions not greatly inferior to those of lieutenants in the Royal Navy. Formerly called *master's mate* (see MASTER *sb.*[1] 2 d).

1496 etc. [see MASTER *sb.*[1] 2 d]. 1595 *Trag. Sir R. Grinuile* G ij, Th' other Maister, and the other Mat's, Disented from the honour of their minds. 1612 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* ii. 426 The danger quite forgot wherein they were of late; Who halfe so merrie now as Maister and his Mate? 1626 CAPT. SMITH *Accid. Yng. Seamen* 2 The Maister and his Mate is to direct the course, commaund all the Saylors, for steering, trimming, and sayling the Ship. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* II. vi. 64 Some there are that will not understand, .. yet (to my knowledge) are Mates to good Ships. 1748 SMOLLETT *Rod. Rand.* xvi, The stranger .. informed me that he himself had passed for third mate of a third-rate, about four months ago. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) X. 644/2 A first-rate man of war has six mates. 1835 SIR J. ROSS *Narr. 2nd Voy.* ii. 23 After some interchange of significant looks and whisperings between the mates and the men [etc.]. 1903 W. H. GRAY *Div. Shepherd* iii. 42 An old scholar, who was first mate on board a ship when a mutiny broke out.

b. An assistant to some functionary on board ship, esp. to a warrant-officer of the navy, as in *boatswain's mate, carpenter's mate, cook's mate, gunner's mate, sail-maker's mate*, etc., for which see the first words.

1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* II. ii. 49 The Gunner, and his Mate. 1702 *Royal Declar.* 1 June in *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3815/2 Carpenters Mates, Boatswains Mates, Gunners Mates, .. Quartermasters Mates. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* II. ii, The cook's mate of the ship. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. ix. 226 One of the sail-makers mates was fishing. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Suppl., Mates*, on board a ship, are assistants to the several officers; as *master's Mates, ..corporal's Mates.* 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk., Mate* generally implies adjunct or assistant.

c. In the navy, an officer who assists the surgeon, usually called *surgeon's mate* (see SURGEON); in the army, an assistant who acts as dispenser and dresser. See also *hospital mate*, s.v. HOSPITAL *sb.* 6.

1612 WOODALL (*title*) The Surgeons Mate or Military & Domestique Surgery. 1758 J. S. *Le Dran's Observ. Surg.* (1771) 163 He was dressed..by the Mate of the Regiment. 1783 F. MICHAELIS in *Med. Commun.* I. 308 The medicines were..given by the mates of the hospital. 1806 *Med. Jrnl.* XV. 88 Medical Mates [in the Military Medical Department].—These are gentlemen who are supposed to be acquainted with the compounding of medicines. 1811 *Self Instructor* 577 The surgeon .. is allowed a mate to assist him.

d. *U.S. Navy.* 'An officer of the navy, next below a warrant-officer, who is not in the line of promotion' (*Funk's Stand. Dict.* 1895).

1890 in *Century Dict.*

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *mate boat, fellow, -hunting*; **mate fish**, a whale with calf.

1756 *Rhode Isl. Col. Rec.* (1860) V. 543 [He] represented unto this Assembly, that there is a ferry set up at the Long Wharf, in the town of Newport, which hath no *mate boat. 1887 HALL CAINE *Deemster* xxxix, If he had found me a cheerier *mate-fellow, I doubt not we should have had some cheerful hours together. 1725 DUDLEY in *Phil. Trans.* XXXIII. 261 Care is taken by those who kill these *Mate Fish..only to fasten the Calf, but not to kill her, till they have first secured the Cow. 1837 T. HOOK *Jack Brag* vi, The system of *mate-hunting through the medium of the newspapers.

† **Mate**, *a. Obs.* Also 3 **matt**, 3–5 **mat**, (4 **mete**), 4–5 **maat**, 5 **maate, matte**; *Sc.* 5 **mayt**, 5–7 **mait**, 6 **mayt**. [a. OF. *mat* mated at chess, confounded, exhausted, dull (mod.F. *mat* indecl., mated, *mat*, fem. *mate*, dull, whence MAT *a.*) = med.L. *mattus* 'tristis' (*Gloss. Paris*, 10th c.), Pr. *mat*, Sp., Pg. *mate* dull, faded, It. *matto* dull, foolish. From OF. are MHG. *mat* (G. *matt*), MDu., Du. *mat*, Sw. *matt*, Da. *mat*. The Rom. word is a. Pers. *māt* at a loss, helpless (used in *shāh māt* 'the king is helpless', CHECKMATE).

Gildemeister, Dozy, and other modern scholars, dispute the customary view that the Persian word is a. Arab. *mat* 'he has died'.]

1. Mated at chess.

?1370 *Robt. Cicyle* 184 Wiþ o draust he was chekmat [*H.* mate]. *c* 1407 LYDG. *Reas. & Sens.* 10, I ..Was of a Fers so Fortunat In-to a corner dryve and maat. *a* 1500 *MS. Ashmole* 344 (Bodl.) If. 16 b, The blake kyng shalbe mate at v draughtes. *Ibid.* 18 b, Then art thou mate wt hys pon. *a* 1600 MONTGOMERIE *Misc. P.* xx. 20 That nou thair is no nek, Nor draught to mak debate, Bot let it brist or brek; For love must haif it mait.

2. Overcome, vanquished, worsted, confounded.

a 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 2015 Maxence & alle hise halden ham mate. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 382 And 3if eni mon ei swuch þing ortrowed bi him, he is more mat þen þe þeof inumen mid þeofðe. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 10041 Pride .. es ouercummen, and mad al matt. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Man of Law's T.* 837 O Gulias..Hou myghte Dauid make thee so maat. *c* 1450 *Merlin* viii. 125 And so was Claudas made pore and maat. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* IV. Prol. 253 Dido..In hir fayntе lust so mait, within schort quhile, That honestie [etc.].

3. Exhausted, worn out, dead tired, faint.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 15875 Mate and weri war þai þan. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 1568 He was so mat, he myȝt no more renne. 1420–2 LYDG. *Thebes* II. in *Chaucer's Wks.* (1561) 366 b, Tideus of bledyng was wonder feint Mate and wearie, and in greate distresse. 1490 CAXTON *Eneydos* ii. 15 Hir vysage mate by frequente sources of grete teeris. 1536 BELLENDEN *Cron. Scot.* (1821) I. 66 Mony of Gillus folkis, wery and mate.

4. Dejected, downcast, discouraged, sorrowful.

13.. *Guy Warw.* (A.) 597 He ferd as he wer mat, Adoun he fel aswoune wiþ þat. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 1776 Whanne he his felawes founde of his fare þei wondred, wbi he was in þat wise wexen so maat. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XVII. 704 With mate cher the assalt thai left. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 7 Riht so mi lust is overthrowe, And of myn oghne thoght so mat I wexe. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xix. 245 That sorowfull sight shall make hir mayt. 1560 ROLLAND *Crt. Venus* II. 314 In all my dayis was I not half sa mayt [*rime words* dissimulat, fortunait, debait].

Mate (mēit), *v.*[1] Forms: 3 **maten**, 3–5 **mat**, 5 **maat(e, (mat(t)yn)**, 6 *Sc.* **mayt, mait**, 4– **mate**. [a. OF. *mater*, f. *mat* MATE *a.*]

1. *trans.* (*Chess.*) To checkmate. Also *absol.* Sometimes in fig. context or allusively.

c 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 315 'Child, what wiltow lay?' 'Oȝain an hauke of noble air Tventi schillinges, to say Whether so mates oþer fair Bere hem boþe oway'. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 329/2 Matyn at the chesse (*MS. S., P.* mattyn), *mato.* *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* 478 Playe well, my childe, for ye shall be mated. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* xxxvi. 113 He sawe a .M. men playing at the chesse & a nother .M. that had played & been matyd. 1563 B. GOOGE *Egloges* viii. (Arb.) 66 With costly clothes..Who then dare gyue me checke? Garments som time, so gard a knaue, that he dare mate a Knyght. 1581 PETTIE tr. *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* I. (1586) 34 b, Suffering a Gentlewoman to mate him at Chests. *a* 1618 SYLVESTER *Mem. Mortalitie* viii. Wks. (Grosart) II. 223 The Chess-boord..Where pawns and kings have equal portion: This leaps, that limps, this checks, that necks, that mates. 1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* V. xviii. (1652) 465 Tame Traytours all! that could behold an Usurper, Mate and Check your lawfull Emperour, and neither wag hand or tongue in opposition. 1646 EARL MONM. tr. *Biondi's Civil Warres* II. 79 All the above-named were like so many paunes at Chesse, which advancing too rashly, were lost; whilst the great men..endeavouring to mate [orig. *scaccheggiando*] the King, met with the like fortune. 1864 *Field* 2 July 3/2 White to play, and mate in 3 moves. 1865 MERIVALE *Rom. Emp.* VIII. lxiii. 13 Nerva had mated his assailants; but his own game was now nearly played out. 1886 *Daily News* 19 July 3/1 Pollock was mated at the 46th move.

† b. *intr.* To undergo checkmate, be mated. *Obs.*

1423 JAS. I *Kingis Q.* clxviii, Help now my game, that is in poynt to mate. *a* 1585 MONTGOMERIE *Cherrie & Slae* 216 For vnder cure I gat sik chek, Quhilk I micht nocht remuif nor nek, Bot eyther stail or mait.

† 2. *trans.* To overcome, defeat, subdue. *Obs.*

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 98 O none wise ne muwe ȝe betere sauuen ou suluen, ant maten, & ouercumen him betere. *c* 1320 *Cast. Love* 830 Prude..al matyd and overcome wes Thorgh bucsomnesse that sheo ches. *c* 1450 *Mirour Saluacioun* 3281 The qwene of heven hym matid with hire sons passionne. *c* 1500 *Melusine* 216 Your noble cheualrye & puyssaunce haue not only mated me & made lasse myn honour, but also [etc.]. *c* 1590 MARLOWE *Faust.* Chorus 2 Not marching now in fields of Thracimene, Where Mars did mate the Carthaginians.

transf. 1625 BACON *Ess., Death* (Arb.) 385 There is no passion in the minde of man, so weake, but it Mates, and Masters, the Feare of Death.

¶ b. App. used for: To destroy; to kill.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 21041 þat Imperur wend him [John] to mat; In a tun was welland hat Fild of oyle he did him schott. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 9532 Fyve hundrith fully of þere fyne shippes, þade ben Consumet .. And mony mo were þere marred, & mated with fire.

† 3. To nonplus, baffle, render powerless (a person); to render nugatory (a design). *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 8479 Was na clerc sa crafti kend, ..þat moght þe clerc wit clerge mat þat cuth þe bokes þat he wrat. 1529 MORE *Dyalogue* I. Wks. 148/2 In what point quod he, hath that mated you? 1596 DANETT tr. *Comines* (1614) 277 They [wisdom and good government] might easily haue mated his enterprise in Italie. 1611 SPEED *Hist. Gt. Brit.* VII. xii. 262 They mated the Saxons in all their designes. 1623 FLETCHER *Rule a Wife* III. i, He stood up to me, And mated my commands! 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 902 Wee see Audacitie doth almost binde and mate the Weaker Sort of Minds. 1642 CHAS. I *Mess. to Ho. Comm., & Answ.* 8 Which then would have mated and weakned the Conspirators in the beginning. 1670 COTTON *Espernon* I. II. 65 By whose assistance he thought with less difficulty to mate the ambitious Designs of the League.

† 4. To put out of countenance; to render helpless by terror, shame, or discouragement; to daunt, abash; to stupefy. *Obs.*

c 1416 HOCCLEVE *Min. Poems* xv. 23 Lat nat the strook of indigence vs mate. 1586 MARLOWE *1st Pt. Tamburl.* I. i, How now, my Lord? what, mated and amazed To heare the king thus thr[e]aten like himselfe? 1597 LYLY *Woman in Moone* IV. i. 157 O bury all thy anger in this kisse, And mate me not with vttering my offence. 1605 SHAKS. *Mach.* V. i. 86 My minde she ha's mated, and amaz'd my sight, I thinke, but dare not speake. 1632 LE GRYS tr. *Velleius Paterc.* 211 The army..being mated with his comming, his vigor and his glory rendred it selfe to him. 1636 DAVENANT *Witts* V^b i, Your Wine mates them, they understand it not. 1646 EARL MONM. tr. *Biondi's Civil Warres* V. 101 This and some other losses had rather madded them then mated [orig. *sbigottiti*] the English. 1651 N. BACON *Disc. Govt. Eng.* II. xxvi. (1739) 116 The Dutchess of Burgundy..mated him with Phantoms and Apparitions of dead Bodies of the House of York. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), To

Mate, ..to amaze or astonish, to daunt, dash, or put out of countenance. 1827 HALLAM *Const. Hist.* x. (1854) III. 275 Twenty years of depression and continual failure mated the spirits of the cavaliers.

†5. To exhaust, weary; to cause to be weary or tired out; to dull or weaken (passion). *Obs.*

a 1400–50 *Alexander* 1270 Mased & matid of þaire strenthes. 1489 CAXTON *Faytes of A.* I. xxiv. 77 The fyfthe that they be not mated nor traueylled nor made the more feble for honger. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* IX. x. 37 Our chyldir 3yng ..Wyld deyr throu out the woddis chais and mayt [L. *Venatu invigilant pueri silvasque fatigant*]. *a* 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. xxxi. 258 The Ardour of Lechery is very much subdued and mated by frequent Labour.

Mate (mēt), *v.*[2] [f. MATE *sb.*[2]]

1. *trans.* To equal, rival; to vie or cope with; to be a match for. ? *Obs.*

1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* xliii. (Percy Soc.) 212 Infinite I am, nothing can me mate. 1580 *Ord. of Prayer* in *Liturg. Serv. Q. Eliz.* (1847) 573 The Boy mateth the man of aged gravity. 1613 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII*, III. ii. 274 My euer Roiall Master, Dare mate a sounder man then Surrie can be. 1690 CHILD *Disc. Trade* (1698) 74 Nor ever did we greatly prosper upon it [our trade to East-India], till our interest was much abated by laws, nor ever shall mate the Dutch in it, till our interest be as low as theirs. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 371 They [the Waves] mate the middle Region with their height. 1718 POPE *Iliad* XIII. 414 In standing fight he mates Achilles' force. 1814 SCOTT *Ld. of Isles* I. xii, In speed His galley mates the flying steed.

b. *intr.* To claim equality *with*. *arch.*

1692 *Vind. Carol.* iii. 40 When the safety of the Nation was at stake, [they] insolently contend, nay mate it with their Sovereign. 1702 ROWE *Tamerl.* I. ii. 678 Thou.. hast dar'd To lift thy wretched self above the Stars And mate with Power Almighty. 1884 TENNYSON *Becket* I. iii, If Canterbury bring his cross to court, Let York bear his to mate with Canterbury.

2. *trans.* To match; to marry; to join in marriage; to take or give in marriage.

1607 SHAKS. *Timon* I. i. 140 How shall she be endowed, If she be mated with an equall Husband? 1842 TENNYSON *Locksley Hall* 47 Thou art mated with a clown. 1843 LYTTON *Last Bar.* II. iii, I fear that the king will be teased into mating my sister with the Count of Charolois. 1862 MERIVALE *Rom. Emp.* (1865) V. xl. 57 The females of ingenuous birth were not numerous enough to mate them.

refl. 1884 W. C. SMITH *Kildrostan* 55 I'd sooner mate me with A cloud,..Or wed a polar bear.

b. *intr.* for *refl.*

1589 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* VI. xxxi. (1612) 154 The gayest Females mate With Loutes as soon as Lordes. 1838 LYTTON *Leila* I. iii, Permission were easier given to thee to wed the wild tiger, than to mate with the loftiest noble of Morisca. 1862 WHITTIER *Amy Wentw.* 149 Oh, rank is good, and gold is fair, And high and low mate ill. 1895 A. C. FOX-DAVIES *Armorial Fam.* p. xx, In England men mate with whom they will.

3. *trans.* To pair (animals, esp. birds) for the purpose of breeding. Also with *up*.

1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* I. i. 102 The hind that would be mated by the Lion Must die for loue. 1859 DARWIN *Orig. Spec.* i. (1873) 30 Pigeons can be mated for life. 1885 *Truth* 28 May 836/1 Two of her Majesty's cows have been sent to Herefordshire to be mated with the famous bull, Lord Wilton. 1899 *Feathered World* 10 Mar. 477 The birds had been previously mated up.

transf. 1882 'OUIDA' *Maremma* I. 165 'One does not mate a trailing weed with a young oak', she said.

b. *intr.* Of animals, esp. birds: To pair.

1870, 1903 [see MATING *ppl. a.*]. 1877 BURROUGHS *Birds & Poets* (1895) 103 These birds do not mate.

4. *trans.* To join suitably *with*; to associate, couple, treat as comparable *with*. Also, † to provide with what is suitable.

1593 SHAKS. *Ven. & Ad.* 909 Her more than haste is mated with delayes. 1626 J. HAIG *Let.* in J. Russell *Haigs* (1881) 178, I pray you .. write to my Colonel .. desiring him .. to mate me in clothes if you be not able. 1669 DRYDEN & DAVENANT *Tempest* I. i, And on a night, mated to his design, Antonio ope'd the gates of Milan. 1703 ROWE *Ulyss.* I. i. 52 'Twou'd make Comparison .. monstrous seem, as if to mate A Mole-Hill with Olympus. 1891 J. WINSOR *Columbus* II. 54 None knew this better than those, like Las Casas, who mated their faith with charity of act.

5. *intr.* To consort, keep company *with*.

a 1832 'BARRY CORNWALL' *The Owl* 5 Not a bird of the forest e'er mates with him. 1871 B. TAYLOR *Faust* (1875) II. I. ii. 11 The judge, debarred from punishment, Mates with the felon ere he endeth. 1881 BESANT & RICE *Chapl. of Fleet* I. 160 It was a shame that a gentleman of his rank should mate with men whose proper place was among the thieves of Turnmill Street.

b. *trans.* To accompany suitably.

1870 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* I. I. 369 How sweet it would be, could I hear, Soft music mate the drowsy afternoon.

Mate, obs. form of MEAT.

‖ **Maté** (mæ·te). Also 8 **mathe, mathé**, 8–9 **matte, mati**. [Sp. *mate*, a. Quichua *mati*, explained in Gonzalez Holguin's *Vocab. de la lengua Quichua* (1608) as 'vessel or dish made of calabash'.]

1. A vessel, usually a gourd or calabash, in which the leaves of maté (see 2) are infused; also *maté-cup*.

1717 tr. *Frezier's Voy.* 252 They put the Herb [of Paraguay] into a Cup, or Bowl, made of a Calabash, or Gourd, tipp'd with Silver, which they call *Mate*. 1826 SIR F. B. HEAD *Journ. Pampas* 87 He used to get it for me..in a little maté cup, which did not hold more than an egg-shell. 1842 *Penny Cycl.* XXIV. 135/1 It [the Maté] is drunk out of a vessel called maté. 1884 *Health Exhib. Catal.* 9/1 Specimens of Maté or Paraguay Tea, with Maté Cup.

2. a. An infusion of the leaves of the shrub *Ilex paraguayensis*; Paraguay-tea (see PARAGUAY).

1758 *Misc.* in *Ann. Reg.* 363/1 The pure leaf, the infusion of which is called mate. 1760–72 tr. *Juan & Ulloa's Voy.* (ed. 3) I. 270 Another common liquor in this country [*sc.* Quito] is the mate, which answers to tea in the East Indies. 1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XV. 627/2 Maté acts as a restorative after great fatigue in the same manner as tea. 1901 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* No. 2092. 301 The major part of the Estancieros (farmers) are great meat eaters and enormous consumers of maté or Paraguayan tea.

b. The shrub itself; also, its leaves prepared for infusion.

1768 J. BYRON *Narr. Patagonia* (ed. 2) 193 Matte, a herb from Paraguay. 1777 ROBERTSON *Hist. Amer.* Note ci. II. 518 From the trade of *Mathé*, or herb of Paraguay. 1818 T. BLAND *S. Amer.* in *Amer. St. Papers, For. Relat.* (1834) IV. 279 The young shoots and leaves of the matte, it would seem, have received the name of *yerba*, rather from [etc.]. 1859 *All Year Round* No. 32. 127 Cultivate the mati. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 618/2 The drinking tube is then inserted, and boiling water poured on the Maté. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* III. 186 Paraghay Tea, or Maté. .. A small shrub with oval, wedge-form..smooth leaves.

c. *attrib.*, as *maté pot, wood*; **maté mangosteen**, *Garcinia purpurea* (Drury *Useful Pl. India* 1873, p. 223).

1879 J. BEERROHM *Patagonia* iii. 30 The tobacco-pipe and the maté-pot went round the circle without any intermission. 1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XV. 627/1 A yerbal or maté wood.

Mate(e: see MATY.

Mateco, variant of MATICO.

† **Ma·ted**, *ppl. a.*[1] *Obs.* [f. MATE *v.*[1] + -ED [1].]

1. Confounded, amazed.

1581 T. HOWELL *Deuises* (1879) 211 The bitter smarte that straines my mated minde. 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* II. (Arb.) 51 A feare then general mens mated senses atached. *c* 1586 C'TESS PEMBROKE *Ps.* XLVIII. ii, The things they see Amaze their mated mindes.

2. Checkmated.

1656 COWLEY *Pindar. Odes, Destinie* i, Here I the losing party blame For those false Moves that break the Game,.. And above all, th' ill Conduct of the mated King.

Mated (mē·tĕd), *ppl. a.*[2] [f. MATE *v.*[2] + -ED [1].] Matched; married; chiefly in *ill-* or *well mated*.

1667 [implied in *ill-mated*: see ILL- 7]. 1821 JOANNA BAILLIE *Metr. Leg., Lady G. Baillie* lii, Sweet union held of mated will. 1899 *Scribner's Mag.* XXV. 50/1 Two well-mated young lovers.

Matefeloun, obs. form of MATFELLON.

† **Mate-griffon.** *Hist.* [repr. Pr. *matagrifun* ('Kill-Greek'), f. *matar* to kill + *Grifun* GRIFFON [1].] The name of a siege-tower used by Richard I.

c 1200 RICH. DEVIZES in *Chron. Stephen, Hen. II & Rich. I* (Rolls) III. 402 Rex Angliæ .. fecit castellum ligneum .. juxta muros Messanæ, quod, ad opprobrium Grifonum, 'Mategrifun' nominavit. 13.. *Coer de L.* 2878 Ther leet he pyght hys pavyloun, And arerede hys Mate-gryffon. *Ibid.* 6063 The Robynet and the Mate-Griffon, Al that they hytte wente adoun. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 157 His pele fro þat forward he [Richard I] cald it *mate Grifoun*. 1788 GROSE *Milit. Antiq.* II. 303 The robinet and mate-griffon threw both darts and stones.

Matel, obs. form of METAL *sb.*

‖ **Matelassé** (matəlase). [Fr., f. *matelas* MATTRESS.] A French dress goods of silk, or silk and wool, having a raised design. Also *attrib.* or *adj.* having a raised pattern like quilting.

1882 CAULFEILD & SAWARD *Dict. Needlework* s.v., Matelassé silk is employed for dresses and mantles. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl. 587/2 *Matelassé*, a silk-and-wool French dress goods. 1897 *Daily News* 9 Sept. 6/5 There are endless designs in matelassé cloth, a considerable mixture of silk being woven in with the wool.

Matelent, variant of MALTALENT *Obs.*

Mateless (mē·tlĕs), *a.* [f. MATE *sb.*[2] + -LESS.]

1. Without a mate, partner, or companion.

1599 T. M[OUFET] *Silkwormes* 13 Shalt thou alone die matelesse, Thisbe mine? 1612 PEACHAM *Minerv. Brit.* II. 186 The Thrush a tenor; off a little space, Some mateless Dove doth murmur out the base. 1705 TATE *Warriour's Welc.* xliv, I'll teach you then the Charm that shall..make ..The Mateless Nightingal no more complain. 1837 *New Monthly Mag.* XLIX. 23 One mateless dove is answering. 1887 BOWEN *Virg. Æneid* IV. 553 Mateless and all unblamed, untutored in love and its pain!

† 2. Unrivalled, matchless, unparalleled. *Obs.*

1570 B. GOOGE *Pop. Kingd.* I. (1880) 1 Good Muse declare, my force to weake can not therto attaine Ne can disclose the mysteries, of such a matelesse raigne. 1624 QUARLES *Sion's Elegies* I. 12 Say, if e're your eyes beheld.. more unparallel'd And matelesse Evills. *a* 1644 G. SANDYS *Virg. Æneis* VI. (R.), The clouds, and lightnings matelesse, To forge with brasse, and speed of horn-hooft force.

‖ **Matelote** (matəlot), *sb.* Also 8–9 matelotte, 9 matelot. [Fr., f. *matelot* sailor.]

1. A dish of fish served in a sauce of wine, onions and other seasoning, such as mushrooms, oysters, etc.; also, a dish of other viands similarly dressed.

1730–6 BAILEY (fol.), *Matelotte* [in Cookery], victuals dressed after the seamens way. 1747 MRS. GLASSE *Cookery* 32 A Pig Matelote. 1759 W. VERRAL *Cookery* xviii. 97 This sauce may serve for several good uses; but for your matelotte prepare it with a ladle or two of your cullis, with a few nice button mushrooms. 1818 MOORE *Fudge Fam. Paris* xii. 188 The bliss Of an eel *matelote*. 1823 SCOTT *Quentin D.* Pref., The matelot of pike and eels. 1846 MRS. GORE *Eng. Char.* (1852) 47 An unctuous matelotte of eels.

2. An old sailors' dance, in duple rhythm, similar to the hornpipe. *rare*–°. 1890 in *Century Dict.*

Hence **Matelote** *v. trans.*, to make into a matelote (sense 1).

1844 THACKERAY *Greenwich* Wks. 1886 XXIII. 381, I have tasted him [the eel] charmingly matelotted with mushrooms and onions.

Mately (mē·tli), *a.*[1] *rare.* [f. MATE *sb.*[2] + -LY [1].] Friendly, sociable, intimate.

1822 T. MITCHELL *Aristoph.* II. 184 With Cleon he's friendly and mately.

Mately, *a.*[2] *Her.* Also mateley. An alleged synonym for URDÉ.

1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* I. 49/1 A Cross Urdee .. goeth under several terms..as, a Cross Mately, a Cross Flanked [etc.]. 1889 in ELVIN *Gloss. Her.*

Matens, obs. pl. form of MATIN I.

Mateo-: see MATÆO-.

‖ **Mater** (mē·tər). [L. = MOTHER.]

† 1. The thickest plate of the astrolabe. (Cf. *mother*.) *Obs.*

1594 BLUNDEVIL *Exerc.* VI. Introd. (1636) 599 The fore-part containeth two principall parts, that is, the Mater, which is unmovable, and the Rete, which is movable. *Ibid.* 600.

2. *Anat.* See DURA MATER, PIA MATER.

3. Chiefly in schoolboys' slang, used familiarly for *mother*. (Cf. *pater*.)

1864 HEMYNG *Eton School Days* I. 3 'Good-bye, mater; good-bye, Letty', said Philip. 'Mind you write often', said his mother. 1888 J. PAYN *Myst. Mirbridge* XXVII, The Mater will do anything for me. 1897 *Brit. Weekly* 7 Jan. 214/3 Brydon's mater was a veritable matchmaker.

Mater, obs. form of MATTER, MEHTAR.

Materas, obs. form of MATTRESS.

‖ **Materfamilias** (mē·tərfămi·liăs). [L., f. *māter* mother + *familiās*, old gen. of *familia* FAMILY.] The mother of a household.

1756 G. HARRIS *Justinian* 28 Denominated according to their sex, either *patres familiarum*, or *matres familiarum*. 1861 *Wheat & Tares* II. 13 Mrs. Leslie seemed rather overpowered by her responsibilities as Materfamilias. 1891 [see PATERFAMILIAS 2].

Materfil(l)on, obs. forms of MATFELLON.

† **Mate·riable,** *a.* and *sb. Obs. rare.* [f. L. *māteria* MATTER *sb.*[1] + -ABLE.] = MATERIAL *a.* and *sb.*

1471 RIPLEY *Comp. Alch.* Ep. iii. in Ashm. (1652) 111 Reduced to theyr beginning materiable. 1652 *Zeal Examined* Add. § 13. 45 Some visible and solid materiable of forcible Laws.

Material (mătī·riăl), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. late L. *māteriālis*, f. *māteria* MATTER *sb.*[1]: see -AL.

Cf. F. *matériel* adj. and sb., *matériaux* sb. pl., Sp., Pg. *material*, It. *materiale*; also the mod.Teut. forms (chiefly from Fr.), G. *materiell* adj., *material* sb., Du. *materieel* adj., *materiaal* sb.]

A. *adj.*

1. *Scholastic Philosophy* and *Theol.* (Opposed to FORMAL.) a. Pertaining to matter as opposed to form. *Material cause*: see CAUSE *sb.* 5. † Of number: Concrete.

c 1386, *c* 1430 [see FORMAL A. 1]. 1447 BOKENHAM *Seyntys* (Roxb.) Introd. 1 The fyrst is clepyd cause efficyent The secunde they clepe cause materyal. 1588 KYD *Housch. Phil.* Wks. (1901) 280 Formall number may infinitly encrease, but the Materiall cannot multiply so much. 1660 JER. TAYLOR *Worthy Commun.* i. § 3. 52 Not the sound, or the letters and syllables, that is, not the material part, but the formal. 1669 [see FORMAL A. 1]. 1697 tr. *Burgersdicius his Logic* I. xvi. 56 Form is..divided..into Material and Immaterial. Material Form is that which is produced out of the Power of Matter, or which dependeth upon Matter in that self same Moment and Act, by which it is made. 1713 [see FORMALLY 1]. 1827 [see FORMAL A. 1].

b. That is (so and so) merely so far as its 'matter' is concerned.

Material sin: a wrong action apart from the evil intention that is necessary to constitute it a sin in the full sense of the word; so *material heresy, schism, schismatic*, etc. *Material righteousness*: righteousness as definable by conduct, without regard to its motive.

1656 BRAMHALL *Replic.* ix. 341 They who separate actually without just cause, may doe it out of invincible ignorance, and consequently they are not formall but only materiall Schismaticks. 1690 NORRIS *Beatitudes* (1692) 95 The desiring material Righteousness by a direct act of the Will actually makes a man formally Righteous.

2. *Logic.* Concerned with the matter, as distinguished from the form, of reasoning. (Opposed to *formal*.)

1628 T. SPENCER *Logick* 232 A materiall Illation is when the consequent goes with the Antecedent: yet so as it followes the same, not by force thereof. 1697 tr. *Burgersdicius his Logic* I. XXVIII. 113 The Material Modes affect the Matter of the Enunciation, viz. either Subject or Predicate. 1727–51 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Circle*, The material circle [in logic] ..consists of two syllogisms, the former whereof proves the cause by the effect; and the latter the effect by the cause. 1727–52 *Ibid.* s.v. *Object*, Material Object..is the thing itself that is considered, or treated of..Formal Object is the manner of considering it. 1850 WHATELY *Elem. Logic* (ed. 9) III. § 3 The remaining class (*viz.* where the Conclusion does follow from the Premises) may be called the Material, or Non-logical Fallacies. 1864 BOWEN *Logic* vi. 149 The material truth of the Conclusion depends upon the material truth of the Premises.

3. Of or pertaining to matter or body; formed or consisting of matter; corporeal.

a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* xlix. 4 Fire materiel or of ill consciens, sall bren. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Eng. Wks.* (1880) 376 Whan he [Christ] was soujte to be a kynge & to haue taake up-on hym þe material swerde. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Pars. T.* P 108 He þat is in belle hat defaut of light material. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* VIII. xvi. (1495) 323 Thickenes and

boystousnes of materyall parties is cause and welle of heuynesse and of lyghtnesse. 1413 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton) v. i. (1859) 73 Mundus is the material world, but seculum is taken for the endurynge of the world. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* xix. 66 (Harl. MS.) Pere beth two maner of medycyns, pat is to sey, material, and spiritual. *a* 1533 FRITH *Disp. Purg.* To Rdr. A vi b, I meane not his materiall crosse that he hym self dyed on, but a spretuall crosse. 1563 *Homilies* II. *Place & Time of Prayer* I. (1859) 344 God doth allow the material temple made of lime and stone..to be his house. 1655 EVELYN *Diary* (1827) II. 104 He believed the sunn to be a material fire. 1736 BUTLER *Anal.* I. iii. Wks. 1874 I. 68 The material world appears to be, in a manner, boundless and immense. *a* 1862 BUCKLE *Civiliz.* (1869) III. v. 365 While heat was supposed to be material it could not be conceived as a force.

absol. 1850 O. WINSLOW *Inner Life* i. 6 The perishing of the material is not the annihilation of the immaterial. 1874 SAYCE *Compar. Philol.* vii. 263 The analysis of the material is not the same as the analysis of the mental.

† b. Forming the matcrial or substance of a thing. *Obs. rare*—1.

1605 SHAKS. *Lear* IV. ii. 35 She that her selfe will sliuer and disbranch From her materiall sap.

† c. Applied to the terrestrial sphere. *Obs.*

1551 RECORDE (*title*) The Castle of Knowledge...Containing the explication of the sphere bothe celestiall and materiall. 1657 *North's Plutarch, Add. Lives* 6 The Mathematicians and Astrologers attribute the Invention of the Materiall Sphere to this subtill Philosopher [Archimedes].

† d. Of diseases: ? Organic as opposed to functional. *Obs.*

1528 PAYNEL *Salerne's Regim.* iv, If they..eyther incline to materiall sickenes or to vnmateriall. *Ibid.*, If the sickenes be materiall one maye eate the more at diner. 1541 R. COPLAND *Guydon's Quest. Chirurg.* Oiv, They [canteres] be necessary..to be gyuen in all dysposycyons of maladyes and specyall in materyal maladyes.

4. Concerned with or involving matter or corporeal substance, its presence, use, or agency. *Material theory* (of heat): the theory that heat is a material substance (' caloric').

1649 JER. TAYLOR *Gt. Exemp.* I. v. 149 These temptations are crasse and material, and soon discernable; it will require some greater observation to arm against such as are more spiritual and immaterial. 1822 COLERIDGE *Table-t.* 29 Dec., Schiller has the material Sublime: to produce an effect he sets you a whole town on fire [etc.]. *a* 1824 CAMPBELL *To Rainbow*, When Science from Creation's face Enchantment's veil withdraws, What lovely visions yield their place To cold material laws! 1863 TYNDALL *Heat* ii. § 17 (1870) 23 Two rival theories..which are named respectively the *material theory*, and the *dynamical*, or *mechanical, theory* of heat. 1867 H. MACMILLAN *Bible Teach.* Pref. (1870) 14 Agriculture, though the most material of all our pursuits, is teaching us truths beyond its own direct province. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* ix. § 1. 590 The attempt to secure spiritual results by material force. 1877 MRS. OLIPHANT *Makers Flor.* iv. 94 The painter's art is at once ethereal and material. 1882 T. H. GREEN in *Mind* No. 25. 19 The material atomism of popular science.

b. In opprobrious use, usually coupled with *gross*: Characterized by conduct, a tendency, point of view, etc. which is not elevated; unspiritual.

1588 KYD *Ilonseh. Phil.* Wks. (1901) 267 Not of seruile or materiall witt, but..apt to studie or contemplat. 1700 DRYDEN *Cymon & Iph.* 135 His gross material soul at once could find Somewhat in her excelling all her kind. 1850 ROBERTSON *Serm.* Ser. III. vii. (1863) 101 The Romish doctrine contains a truth which it is of importance to disengage from the gross and material form with which it has been overlaid. 1853 C. BRONTE *Villette* XXXVI, What I saw struck me..as grossly material, not poetically spiritual. 1875 MANNING *Mission H. Ghost* ix. 257 The gross heavy material love of the world.

c. Relating to the physical, as opposed to the intellectual or spiritual, aspect of things; concerned with physical progress, bodily comfort, or the like.

1843 PRESCOTT *Mexico* I. iii. I. 57 *note*, The Mexican heaven may remind one of Dante's in its material enjoyments; which, in both, are made up of light, music, and motion. *Ibid.* IV. ii. II. 128 It was the material civilization, which belongs neither to the one nor the other. 1858 MRS. CARLYLE *Lett.* II. 379 Better material accommodation you could have nowhere. 1861 M. PATTISON *Ess.* (1889) I. 39 The old bonds of relationship, and community of material interests. 1873–4 DIXON *Two Queens* IV. XIX. iv. 25 When the fury ceased, the city was a moral and material wreck. 1879 M. ARNOLD *Equality* Mixed Ess. 70 France..is the country where material well-being is most widely spread.

5. Of serious or substantial import; of much consequence; important.

1529 MORE *Dyalogc* I. Wks. 125/1 Sith this thing is much material, as wherupon many great thynges do depende. 1605 SHAKS. *Macb.* III. i. 136 Whose absence is no lesse materiall to me, Then is his Fathers. 1625 BACON *Ess., Cunning* (Arb.) 439 He would put that which was most Materiall in the Post-script. 1665 GLANVILL *Def. Van. Dogm.* 23 'Tis a pertinent and material enquiry to ask, whence the Soul is? 1666–7 MARVELL *Corr.* Wks. 1872–5 II. 209 The Poll-bill is printed, but with no materiall errors. 1709 SWIFT *Adv. Relig.* Wks. 1755 II. i. 117 That is no material objection against the design itself. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* II. xv, I have nothing material to say. 1769 *Junius Lett.* iii. 19 The last charge..is indeed the most material of all. 1769 BURKE *Lett., Mrq. Rockingham* (1844) I. 211 His consequence in the India House is much more material to him than his rank in parliament. 1823 SCOTT *Peveril* xx, When aware of this material fact, it became Julian's business to leave Liverpool directly. 1827 HALLAM *Const. Hist.* (1876) I. v. 276 In one point more material,..the commons successfully vindicated their privileges. 1847 GROTE *Greece* II. XXXV. (1862) III. 248 The Athenians had a material interest in the quarrel. 1896 *Century Mag.* Nov. 22 [He] seldom interlined a word or made a material correction.

b. Predicatively, with *inf.* or *clause* as subject.

1547 J. HARRISON *Exhort. Scottes* b viij, Whether he came out of Italy or not, is not muche materiall. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. x. 74 That were too long their infinite contents Here to record, ne much materiall. 1622 MABBE tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* II. 102 It is not much materiall which gate wee goe out at. 1641 WILKINS *Math. Magick* I. vii. (1648) 50 'Tis not materiall to the force of this instrument, whether the rundles of it be big or little. 1712 M. HENRY *Commun. w. God* i. Wks. 1853 I. 205/2 It is essential to a letter that it be directed, and material that it be directed right. 1802 *Med. Jrnl.* VIII. 256 It is very material to distinguish them with accuracy. 1890 LD. HALSBURY in *Law Times Rep.* LXIV. 3/2 Before dealing with the particular clauses ..it is material to notice the problem which the Legislature had to solve.

c. Pertinent, germane, or essential *to*.

1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 232 Those [things] that be most materiall and necessarie for mans felicitie. 1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* I. vii. 207. 1665 MANLEY *Grotius' Low C. Warres* 121 Nor was it a little material, to their advantage, if [etc.]. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* II. 149, I pass the rest, whose ev'ry Race and Name, And Kinds are less material to my Theme. 1819 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* XXVII, Certain passages material to his understanding the rest of this important narrative. 1824 COLERIDGE *Table-t.* 10 June, A slight contrast of character is very material to happiness in marriage. 1876 GLADSTONE *Homeric Synchr.* 145 The point material to the present inquiry is that [etc.].

d. Chiefly *Law*. Applied to evidence or facts which are of such significance as to be likely to influence the determination of a cause, to alter the character of an instrument, etc. Also const. inf.: Serving materially (*to* prove).

1581 LAMBARD *Eiren.* II. vii. (1588) 213 To take..the Information..(or so much thereof as shall be materiall to prooue the Felonie). 1601 R. JOHNSON *Kingd. & Commw.* (1603) 80 What they did one against another in the time of Charles the fift, is not much materiall to prove their courage. 1799 *Hull Advertiser* 14 Sept. 3/3 He has been twice examined, but a material witness was wanting. 1848 ARNOULD *Mar. Insur.* (1866) I. II. i. 489 Facts, the statement of which may reasonably be presumed likely to have such an influence on the judgment of the underwriter are called material facts; a statement of such facts is called a material representation. 1881 LD. COLERIDGE in *Times* 5 July 4/2 The alteration which vitiates a contract must be material—that is, one which alters the character of the instrument itself.

† e. quasi-*adv.* In an important degree. *Obs.*

1653 HOLCROFT *Procopius* Pref. A 2, Procopius..was a very material concerned Agent in all these Wars.

† 6. Full of matter, sound information, or sense. *Obs.*

1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* III. iii. 32 A materiall foole. 1601 B. JONSON *Poetaster* v. i, What thinks Materiall Horace of his learning? *c* 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* XXIV. 566 His speech euen charm'd his eares: So orderd; so materiall. 1612 BACON *Ess., Despatch* (Arb.) 247 Beware of being too materiall, when there is any impediment, or obstruction in mens will. 1665 J. LIVINGSTON *Mem. Charact.* in *Sel. Biog.* (1845) I. 335 Mr. James Simson, a very able and materiall preacher. 1685 EVELYN *Mem.* (1857) II. 224 Her discourse, which was always material, not trifling.

† 7. In physical sense: Bulky, massive, solid. *Obs.*

1657 AUSTEN *Fruit Trees* II. 166 Wild materiall fruit-trees have no power to engraft themselves. 1715 LEONI *Palladio's Archit.* (1742) I. 11 The Tuscan is so rude and material, that it is seldom used above ground. 1735 in *Pope's Lett.* I. Suppl. 30 This was only *in ordine ad*, to another more material Volume.

B. *sb.*

† 1. *pl.* Things that are material. *Obs.*

1587 GOLDING *De Mornay* xiv. 206 What doth..matter [bring forth] but matter, and materiall but materialles? 1605 TIMME *Quersit.* I. iv. 14 Simples may be distinguished ..into those things which are simply formals, and into those which are simply materials.

2. The matter from which an article, fabric, or structure is made. Chiefly *collect. pl.* or *sing.*

Raw materials: unmanufactured material; material which is in a preparatory stage in a manufacturing process. Also *fig.*

pl. 1556 *Aberd. Reg.* (1844) I. 294 To by stanis, lyme, and nll materiallis neidfull thairto. 1610 B. JONSON *Alch.* I. i, Your stills, your glasses, your materialls. 1622 MASSINGER *Virg. Mart.* III. i, [He] Took from the matrons' neck the richest jewels And purest gold as the materials To finish up his work [*sc.* an image]. 1665 BOYLE *Occas. Refl.* (1848) 340 This Child..despising meer Bread,..bis Mother is fain to disguise the Materials of it into Cake. 1725 DE FOE *Voy. round World* (1840) 329 Gunpowder..with other materials for kindling fire. 1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* III. iv, A palace may be built in a week, of materials so durable as to last for ever. 1796 [see RAW A. 2 e]. 1864 BURTON *Scot Abroad* I. iii. 118 Adventures which would make good raw materials for several novels. 1865 LUBBOCK *Preh. Times* 25 Considering how perishable are the materials out of which clothes are necessarily formed. 1870 YEATS *Nat. Hist. Comm.* 2 Without a considerable knowledge of raw materials, and of their adaptations, we could not live.

sing. 1638 JUNIUS *Paint. Ancients* 47 Art can doe nothing without the materiall; whereas the materiall without Art hath her own worthinesse. 1662 GERBIER *Princ.* (1665) 25 When Builders see their Copings [etc.]..to decay they must have patience, since there is no Meterial but is subject there unto. 1796 HUNTER tr. *St.-Pierre's Stud. Nat.* (1799) III. 648 By drawing from a foreign country the raw material of their clothing. 1828 CARLYLE *Misc.* (1857) I. 206 It is not the material but the workman that is wanting. 1835 URE *Philos. Manuf.* v. 207 Flax..constitutes the material of linen cloth. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* iii. I. 351 The ordinary material was brick. 1855 *Ibid.* III. 417 The raw material out of which a good army may be formed existed in great abundance among the Irish. 1863 P. BARRY *Dockyard Econ.* 100, £1,186 12*s.* 4*d.* for material, and £797 16*s.* 11*d.* for labour. 1868 [see RAW A. 2 e].

b. The elements, constituent parts, or substance of something (whether physical or non-physical).

1642 ROGERS *Naaman* To Rdr., As they say of the materealls of the world, they would soone dissolve if [etc.]. 1651 BAXTER *Inf. Bapt.* 59 If the very materials of the Church were a Ceremony, then the Church it self should be but a Ceremony. 1662 *Bk. Com. Prayer* Pref., The Main Body and Essentials of it (as well in the chiefest materials, as in the frame and order thereof) have continued the same unto this day. 1864 KIRK *Chas. Bold* I. i. 11 The material of the character was coarser and more robust. 1878 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* 189 The solid materials are shot forth into the air.

c. *pl.* In Ireland: The ingredients for making whisky punch. Now 'almost always shortened to *matts*, even in a bill' (H. C. Hart).

1842 S. LOVER *Handy Andy* XXXVIII, She .. set about getting 'the materials' for making punch. 1888 H. SMART *Master of Rakehelly* II. 53 Take my advice, leave the 'matarials' alone to-night and stick to the claret.

3. In various non-physical applications: Something which can be worked up or elaborated, or of which anything is composed; esp. documents, etc. for historical composition; evidence from which a conclusion may be framed.

1624 USSHER in *Lett. Lit. Men* (Camden) 131 To you I must be more beholding for furnishing me with materialls. 1625 BACON *Ess., Seditions* (Arb.) 399 Concerning the Materialls of Seditions..The surest way to prevent Seditions.. is to take away the Matter of them. 1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* II. ii. § 2 The simple ideas, the materials of all our knowledge. 1713 HEARNE *Rem. & Collect.* 25 June (O.H.S.) IV. 205, I have read part of the B. of St. Asaph's Life of St. Winifrid, for wch I helped him to several Materials out of Bodley. 1783 COWPER *Lett.* 7 Mar., Were my letters composed of materials worthy of your acceptance, they should be longer. 1830 D'ISRAELI *Chas. I*, III. Pref. 3 Research and Criticism, only furnish the materials of Meditation. 1864 BOWEN *Logic* ii. 33 Perception, Memory and Imagination, through which we collect the materials for thinking. 1867 HOWELLS *Ital. Journ.* iii. 37 Their books are material, not literature. 1877 OWEN *Wellesley's Desp.* p. xlv, Wellesley..was anxious to secure fresh and malleable 'material', rather than overformed or misformed agents.

4. A stuff or fabric; in *Dressmaking*, woollen or cloth stuff as opposed to silks, etc.

1860 DICKENS *Uncomm. Trav.* iv, A cool material with a light glazed surface, being the covering of the seats. 1875 *Plain Needlework* 10 The material used in the South to strain milk, called 'Cheese Cloth' in the trade.

5. Tools, implements, or apparatus for performing an action. Now only in *writing materials*.

1731 BAILEY vol. II, *Materials*, tools or stuff proper for the making or doing any thing. 1778 PAYCE *Min. Cornub.* 324 *Materials*, all tools and tackle, timber and implements, that belong to a Mine; and in large Mines a person is appointed to take care of them, who is called the Material-Man. 1855 PRESCOTT *Philip II*, II. iii. (1857) 226 De Seso called for writing materials.

6. The *matériel* of an army. *rare*—1.

1815 SOUTHEY in *Q. Rev.* XIII. 521 Their [*sc.* the French army's] baggage, equipage, tumbrils, artillery, the whole of what is called the *material*, were taken.

7. *attrib.*: **material(s clerk**, a clerk who controls the supply of materials in a business house; **material dress**, a dress made of woollen stuff; **material(s man**, (*a*) see quot. 1778; (*b*) one who deals in materials for building, etc.; **material yard**, a yard in which materials are stored.

1900 *Engineering Mag.* XIX. 707 It is the duty of the *material clerk to see that sufficient material is in stock, or ordered, to provide for orders in hand. 1904 *Daily Chron.* 2 June 9/3 Timekeeper and Materials Clerk required by large West-end contractors. 1884 *Daily News* 27 Oct. 2/1 The increasing popularity of silks as opposed to what are known as '*material' dresses. 1778 *Material-Man [see 5]. 1819 WHEATON *Cases Supreme Court U. S.* IV. 438 Material men furnishing repairs to a domestic ship. 1832 BABBAGE *Econ. Manuf.* xx. (ed. 3) 202 A Materials-man selects, purchases, receives and delivers all articles required. 1888 BRYCE *Amer. Commw.* II. App. 679 Mechanics, material-men, artisans, and labourers..have a lien upon the property upon which they have bestowed labour or furnished material. 1901 *J. Black's Carp. & Build., Scaffolding* 89 The smaller builder, having..no *material yard, has no convenient place to store poles when not in use.

† **Mate·rial**, *v. Obs.* [f. MATERIAL *a.* and *sb.*]

1. *trans.* To bring into material form.

1643 SIR T. BROWNE *Relig. Med.* I. § 37 That the whole frame of a beast..is left in the same state after death, as before it was materialled unto life.

2. To furnish material for.

1661 GLANVILL *Van. Dogm.* 174 Comets..are materiall'd of vapours. *Ibid.* 216 Plants are partly material'd of water.

Materialism (mătī·riăliz'm). [a. mod.L. *mātēriālismus*, f. L. *mātēriāl-is* MATERIAL *a.*: see -ISM. Cf. F. *matérialisme* (1751 in Hatz.-Darm.).]

1. *Philos.* The opinion that nothing exists except matter and its movements and modifications; also, in a more limited sense, the opinion that the phenomena of consciousness and will are wholly due to the operation of material agencies. Often applied by opponents to views that are considered logically to lead to these conclusions, or to involve the attribution to material causes of effects that should be referred to spiritual causes.

1748 NEEDHAM in *Phil. Trans.* XLV. 665 Not that I imagined that..you..would think my Principles any way tending to Materialism. 1758 GRAY *Let.* 18 Aug. Wks. 1888 II. 373, I am as sorry as you seem to be, that our acquaintance harped so much on the subject of materialism. 1823 COLERIDGE *Table-t.* 3 Jan., 'And man became a living

soul'. Materialism will never explain these last words. 1877 E. CAIRD *Philos. Kant* ii. 13 Sensationalism necessitates materialism, for it must explain sensations as impressions made by a material object. 1898 J. R. ILLINGWORTH *Div. Immanence* vi. 137 The mechinnical automaton that materialism believes him [*viz.* man] always to be.

2. Transferred uses. a. Applied in reproach to theological views (e.g. on the operation of the sacraments or the nature of the future life) that are supposed to imply a defeetive sense of the reality of things purely spiritual.

1850 ROBERTSON *Serm.* III. vii. (1863) 103 The miserable materialism of the mass. 1898 J. R. ILLINGWORTH *Div. Immanence* vi. 143 The growth of the sacramental system was an historical necessity; which, despite of the religious materialism into which it too frequently lapsed [etc.].

b. In art, the tendency to lay stress on the material aspect of the objects represented.

1850 MRS. JAMESON *Leg. Monast. Ord.* (1863) 421, I give a sketch from a Spanish picture just to show the materialism of the conception. 1852 — *Leg. Madonna* (1857) Introd. 33 The grand materialism of Michael Angelo is supposed to have been allied to the genius of Dante.

c. Devotion to material needs or desires, to the neglect of spiritual matters; a way of life, opinion, or tendency based entirely upon material interests.

1851 HAWTHORNE *Snow Image* (1879) 31 The stubborn materialism of her husband. 1857 TOULMIN SMITH *Parish* 505 Good old customs, which modern selfishness and cold materialism shrink from. 1899 W. R. INGE *Chr. Mysticism* viii. 317 Teutonic civilization..is prevented from sinking into moral materialism by its high standard of domestic life. 1903 A. & E. CASTLE *Star Dreamer* 24, I fear..you will never rise beyond the grossest everyday materialism.

¶ 3. *concr.* The system of material things; the material universe.

1817 CHALMERS *Astron. Disc.* vii. 231 He, who instead of seeing the traces of a manifold wisdom in its manifold varieties, sees nothing in them all but the exquisite structures and the lofty dimensions of materialism. *Ibid.* 233.

Materialist (mătī·ə·riălist). [ad. mod.L. *māteriālista*: see prec. and -IST. Cf. F. *matérialiste* (18th c.).]

I. Senses related to MATERIAL *a.*

1. An adherent of the philosophical system known as materialism.

1668 H. MORE *Div. Dial.*, The Proper Characters of the Persons in the ensuing Dialogues...Hylobares, A young, witty, and well-moralized Materialist. 1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* I. v. 759 The Old Atheistick Materialists. 1739 HUME *Hum. Nat.* I. iv. § 5 (1888) 239 The materialists, who conjoin all thought with extension. 1856 SIR B. BRODIE *Psychol. Inq.* I. ii. 38 The materialist argues that we know nothing of mind except as being dependent on material organization.

¶ b. *fig.* with reference to disbelief in 'soul'.

1807 SOUTHEY *Spec. Later Eng. Poets* I. Pref. 31 Those who hold that poetry is an acquirable art,—the materialists of fine literature.

c. Used to render Eccl. L. *māteriārii*: see MATERIARIAN.

1702 ECHARD *Eccl. Hist.* (1710) 514 The heresiarch Hermogenes..maintained..that all evils proceeded out of matter; from whence he and his followers were called Materialists. 1730–6 in BAILEY (fol.); and in modern Dicts.

2. Applied by Berkeley to believers in the objective existence of matter.

c 1705 BERKELEY *Commpl. Bk.* Wks. 1871 IV. 472 The mind, even according to the materialists, perceiving onely the impressions made upon its brain.

3. One who takes a material view of things.

1853 LYTTON *My Novel* VII. vi, 'O materialist!' cried the boy..'you would debase the gods to a gin-palace'.

4. A believer in the materiality of heat. *rare.*

1863 TYNDALL *Heat* ii. § 18 (1870) 24 The development of heat by mechanical means..was a great difficulty with the materialists.

5. *attrib.* or as *adj.* = Materialistic.

1833 LYTTON *Eng. & Engl.* (ed. 2) II. 238 He has studied Locke, and become materialist. 1869 M. PATTISON *Serm.* (1885) 172 A materialist tone is said to pervade all our reasonings about practical questions. 1876 MOZLEY *Univ. Serm.* iii. (1877) 61 This horrible materialist indifference to the extinction of our being.

II. Senses related to MATERIAL *sb.*

†6. A druggist; 'a merchant who sells the articles of the materia medica' (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*). [= G. *materialist*, mod.L. (Pharm.) *materialista*.] *Obs. rare*⁻⁰.

1728 BAILEY, *Materialist*, a Druggist.

7. One who mixes the 'materials' for whisky punch. ? *nonce-use.*

1843 THACKERAY *Irish Sk. Bk.* viii, There is a dirty coffee-room, with a strong smell of whisky; indeed three young 'materialists' are employed at the moment.

Materialistic (mătī·ə·riăli·stik), *a.* [f. MATERIALIST + -IC.]

1. Pertaining to, characterized by, or addicted to materialism, in any of the senses of the term.

1845 MAURICE *Mor. & Met. Philos.* in *Encycl. Metrop.* (1854) II. 45 The search for elements by the Ionic School struck Clemens as simply materialistic. 1877 DOWDEN *Shaks. Prim.* vi. 102 Sly is of the family of Sancho Panza, gross and materialistic in his tastes, and habits. 1877 E. CAIRD *Philos. Kant* ii. 13 A materialistic explanation of the universe. 1898 J. R. ILLINGWORTH *Div. Immanence* i. § 3. 21 Minds of a materialistic bias.

2. Pertaining to the 'material theory' of heat. *rare.*

1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* II. xix. 331 According to the materialistic view of heat, bodies are figured as sponges, and heat a kind of fluid absorbed by them.

So **Materiali·stical** *a.* in the same sense (Ogilvie *Suppl.* 1855). Hence **Materiali·stically** *adv.*, in a materialistic manner.

1852 BUNSEN *Hippolytus* II. 60 The form of expressing the manifestation of God in the mind, as if God was Himself using human speech to man..was originally never meant to be understood materialistically. 1890 J. PULSFORD *Loyalty to Christ* I. 333 A materialistic mind will think materialistically even about the teaching of Christ.

Materiality (mătī·ə·riæ·lĭti). [a.mod.L. *māteriālitās*, f. late L. *māteriālis* MATERIAL *a.*: see -ITY. Cf. F. *matérialité* (1690 in Hatz.-Darm.).]

1. That which constitutes the 'matter' of something: opposed to *formality*. ? *Obs.*

The first quot. is app. unmeaning, but attests the existence of the word at that date.

a 1529 SKELTON *Col. Cloute* 561 And bryng in materialites And qualyfyed qualytes Of pluralytes. 1592 G. HARVEY *Four Lett.* Wks. (Grosart) I. 229 As in other thinges, so in Artes, formality doth well; but materiality worketh the feat. 1646 H. LAWRENCE *Comm. Angells* 130 Righteousnes, which is, as I may say, the materiality of peace. 1647 TRAPP *Comm. Mark* ii. 28 The schoolmen say that God can dispense with the materiality of any precept in the decalogue, the three first excepted. 1652 L. S. *People's Liberty* xviii. 45 Whether..God..can dispence with the Commandements of the 2d. Table, according to the materialitie of them. 1660 JER. TAYLOR *Duct. Dubit.* II. ii. Rule ii. (1676) 215 If blood be taken in its own materiality when the beast is dead.

2. The quality of being material.

1570 DEE *Math. Pref.* *j, Neither Number, nor Magnitude, haue any Materialitie. 1647 H. MORE *Poems* 108 Vitality Doth move th' inert Materiality Of great and little worlds. 1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* IV. iii. § 6 He..will scarce find his reason able to determine him fixedly for or against the soul's materiality. 1794 G. ADAMS *Nat. & Exp. Philos.* I vii. 250 The decomposition of the rays of light proves their materiality. 1863 TYNDALL *Heat* ii. 25 The dynamical theory..of heat, discards the idea of materiality as applied to heat. 1871 TYLOR *Prim. Cult.* I. 412 Wuttke says, the ghosts of the dead have to him a misty and evanescent materiality.

b. That which is material; *pl.* things material.

1811 SHELLEY *St. Irvyne* xii, Let them suppose human nature capable of no influence from anything but materiality. 1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) III. 85 To enable it to behold God in the materialities of his works. 1821 LAMB *Elia* Ser. I, *Old Benchers Inner T.*, When the grown world flounders about in the darkness of sense and materiality. 1855 *Athenæum* 3 Nov. 1267 The former believes in visions, the latter in materialities. 1880 W. WALLACE *Epicureanism* vi. 102 The soul is a subtler and more refined materiality, which is thus endowed with more..refined perceptions than the bodily organs.

3. Material aspect or character; mere outwardness or externality.

1599 SANDYS *Europæ Spec.* (1632) 18 Their acts of Pietie, being placed more in the very massie materialitie of the outward worke, than in the puritie of the heart. 1651 JER. TAYLOR *Serm. for Year* II. ii. 15 The materiality and imperfection of the law. 1765 JOHNSON *Pref. to Shaks.* p. xxvi, It is false, that any representation is mistaken for reality; that any dramatick fable in its materiality was ever credible.

4. The quality of being material or important for the purpose contemplated. Now *legal.*

1644 VICARS *God in Mount* 96 A peece of unexpressible materiality and advantageous benefit to the whole Cause. 1780 BENTHAM *Princ. Legisl.* IX. § 3 There are two points with regard to which an act may have been advised or unadvised. 1. The existence of the circumstance itself. 2. The materiality of it. 1824 H. J. STEPHEN *Pleading* 256 Rules which tend to secure the materiality of the issue. 1849 J. P. KENNEDY *W. Wirt* (1860) I. xiii. 154 The relevancy or materiality of the papers referred to was not shown. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 29 Mar. 5/2 As he had an affidavit swearing to the materiality of the documents he asked for the order.

Materialization (mătī·ə·riăləizē·ʃən). [f. next + -ATION.] The action of the verb MATERIALIZE.

1. The making a thing material (esp. as opposed to *spiritual*); the giving a material form to.

1843 *For. & Col. Q. Rev.* II. 338 Is not this symbolization or materialization necessarily connected with deism in the abstract? 1856 R. A. VAUGHAN *Mystics* (1860) II. IX. I. 125 The materialization of spiritual truth. 1899 W. R. INGE *Chr. Mysticism* vii. 263 A truer view sees in them [miracles] a materialisation of mystical symbols.

2. *Spiritualism.* The appearance of a spirit in bodily form.

1880 in WEBSTER, Suppl. 1881 *Dr. Gheist* 39 This is what Mr. Faxton calls Materialisation. 1882 *Conf. Medium* 47 We changed the form of the circle for the materialisations.

Materialize (mătī·ə·riăləiz), *v.* [f. MATERIAL *a.* + -IZE.]

1. *trans.* To make material or represent as material; to give or ascribe a material existence to; to invest with material attributes.

1710 ADDISON *Tatler* No. 154 P 6 Virgil..having with wonderful Art and Beauty materializ'd (if I may so call it) a Scheme of abstracted Notions. 1713 STEELE *Guardian* No. 172 P 4 By this means we materialize our ideas, and make them as lasting as the ink and paper. 1764 REID *Inquiry* vii. (1801) 448 These analogies will be apt to impose upon philosophers.. and to lead them to materialize the mind and its faculties. 1843 HAWTHORNE *Amer. Note-Bks.* (1883) 333, I had the glimmering of an idea, and endeavoured to materialize it in words. 1848 R. I. WILBERFORCE *Doctr. Incarnation* iii. (1852) 40 Those who would materialize spirit. 1883 H. DRUMMOND *Nat. Law in Spir. W.* ii. (1884) 76 He insists on having all things materialised before his eyes in Nature.

2. *Spiritualism.* To cause (a spirit, etc.) to appear in bodily form.

1880 in WEBSTER Suppl. 1881 *Dr. Gheist* 39 Mr. Faxton firmly believed..that the spirits of the dead may become materialised. 1882 *Conf. Medium* 46 Bunches of artificial flowers were either materialised or levitated. 1885 WHITTIER *Pr. Wks.* (1889) II. 314 A Newbury minister..rode..over to Hampton to lay a ghost who had materialized himself.

b. *intr.* To assume a bodily form.

1884 B. MATTHEWS in *Harper's Mag.* May 911/1 The..ghosts..gave dark séances and manifested and materialized.

c. *transf.* To come into perceptible existence; to become actual fact; to 'come off' (orig. *U. S.* in journalistic use).

1885 MISS MURFREE *Proph. Gt. Smoky Mount.* I. 18 Some fifteen or twenty hounds that suddenly materialized among the bee-hives and the althea bushes. 1887 *Boston* (Mass.) *Jrnl.* 12 Dec. 2/6 That attack upon the Interstate Commerce law, which was predicted to occur as soon as Congress met, does not materialize. 1891 *Blackw. Mag.* May 741 Year after year passed and these promises failed to materialise. 1898 *Spectator* 23 July 106 The Protestant revolters from the Unionist party failed, as the Americans say, to materialise, but instead appeared an angry crowd of Irishmen. 1900 *Ibid.* 6 Oct. 445 Out of the mist of notes and protocols ..a policy seems gradually to be materialising.

3. *trans.* To make materialistic. Also *intr.* to favour materialistic views.

1820 [see MATERIALIZING]. 1836 *Fraser's Mag.* XIII. 249 The public mind is not yet so thoroughly materialised by long dealing with..exact sciences [etc.]. 1840 GLADSTONE *Ch. Princ.* 182 Those who materialise in religion. 1842 MRS. GORE *Fascin.* 144 A soul materialized by gluttony. 1866 LIDDON *Bampt. Lect.* iv. (1875) 185 There is in man unhappily a tendency to materialize spiritual truth. 1882 M. ARNOLD *Irish Ess.*, etc. 121 The system..tends to materialize our upper class, vulgarize our middle class, brutalize our lower class.

Hence **Mate·rialized** *ppl. a.*, **Mate·rializing** *vbl. sb.* (*attrib.*) and *ppl. a.* Also **Mate·rializer**, one who materializes.

1820 RANKEN *Hist. France* VIII. iv. 370 The Epicurean or materialising tendencies of his immediate predecessor Gassendi. 1824 *New Monthly Mag.* X. 82 These materializers of the airy nothings of the mind. 1852 MRS. JAMESON *Leg. Madonna* (1857) 184 This materialised theology. 1874 GLADSTONE in *Contemp. Rev.* Oct. 677 The materializing tendencies of the age. 1882 *Conf. Medium* 44 Materialised spirits can vanish like a flash of lightning. *Ibid.* 48 This is the first materialising séance that my friend has ever attended. 1898 WATTS-DUNTON *Aylwin* II. iv, The gold which modern society finds to be more precious than..all that was held precious in less materialised times.

Materially (mătī·ə·riăli), *adv.* [f. MATERIAL *a.* + -LY 2.]

1. Chiefly *Philos.* and *Logic.* With regard to matter as opposed to form. Also, with regard to constituent matter; in respect of material cause.

1502 *Ord. Crysten Men* (W. de W. 1506) I. iii. 22 Some thynges they make in operacyon wythout all onely, the whiche thynges are not in the soule materyally. 1646 J. WHITAKER *Uzziah* 6 Men may doe many things right materially.., and yet themselves..may not be upright. 1651 BIGGS *New Disp.* P 250 A Catarrhe is materially from vapours out of the stomack. 1658 BAXTER *Saving Faith* iii. 18 May I not say, that materially a Ship and a Barge do differ but gradually, because *ex materia* they are not a Ship or Barge? 1675 R. BURTNOGGE *Causa Dei* 59 Though the Damned sin materially..yet 'tis a great Question whether they may be rationally affirmed formally to sin there. 1685 SOUTH *Twelve Serm.* (1692) 482 An Ill Intention is certainly sufficient to spoil..an Act in itself Materially Good. 1685, 1697 [see FORMALLY 1]. 1864 BOWEN *Logic* ii. 42 What is formally correct may be materially false. 1876 L. STEPHEN *Eng. Th. in 18th C.* II. IX. vi, The good deeds of the heathen, like the good deeds of the brutes, are materially not formally virtuous.

2. In, by, with, or in respect of matter or material substance; 'in the state of matter' (J.).

1594 BLUNDEVIL *Exerc.* III. I. (1636) 273 Superficies [are] the bounds of a body, which is that which hath imaginatively, but not materially, both length, bredth, and depth. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* III. IX. 124 The generation of bodies is not effected..of soules, that is, by Irradiation,.. but therein a transmission is made materially from some parts, and Ideally from every one. 1660 R. COKE *Power & Subj.* 32 All rightful Kings are so, whether they be materially anointed..or not. 1717 L. HOWEL *Desiderius* (ed. 3) 175 As he created all Men out of the same matter, they are materially equal.

†3. Of speaking or writing: With an appropriate or sound use of matter; soundly; to the point. *Obs.*

1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* II. xxi. § 7 There is small doubt but that men can write best and most really & materialy in their owne professions. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 266 Finding nothing of substance in him, which is not more materially, perspicuously, profitably, and familiarly ..expressed by them. 1638 FEATLY *Strict. Lyndom.* I. 13 What hee materially answereth to the Knights allegations. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* II. iii. 70 Bœtius de Boot, ..in his Tract, *de lapidibus & gemmis*, speakes very materially hereof. 1749 CHESTERF. *Lett.* (1792) II. 282 The late Lord Townshend always spoke materially with argument and knowledge, but never pleased.

4. In a material degree; to a material or important extent; substantially, considerably.

1654 tr. *Scudery's Curia Pol.* 179 There are many Circumstances most materially considerable in them, as their age, their humour, their inclination. 1711 SHAFTESB. *Charac.* (1737) III. Misc. v. iii. 332 It is sufficient that they know that those Copys which they leave, are not materially corrupted. 1817 SHELLEY *Let. to Godwin* 7 Dec., My health has been materially worse. 1846 GROTE *Greece* I. xvii. (1862) II. 422 Tribes differing materially in habits and civilization. 1853 BRIGHT *Sp., India* 3 June (1876) 11 To comprehend how materially the great manufacturing interests are concerned. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* (1891) 126 Short cuts, by..which the road was materially shortened.

5. In respect of material interests.

1871 MORLEY *Voltaire* (1886) 9 People with whom the world goes fairly well materially.

Mate·rialness. [f. MATERIAL *a.* + -NESS.] The quality of being material.

1587 GOLDING *De Mornay* iv. 47 The imperfections which are in all things, (as chaungeablenesse, weakenesse, materialnesse, and such like). 1729 *State Trial Couns. Strange* in *Proc. agst. T. Baiubridge* (T.) This affidavit is not sufficient as to the inability or materialness of the witnesses. 1811 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 363 A sort of criterion by which to judge of the materialness of a book. 1903 A. B. DAVIDSON *Old Test. Proph.* xiii. 222 The outstanding characteristic of the Old Testament dispensation was its materialness.

‖ **Materia medica** (mătĭə·riă me·dikă). [med.Latin, literal transl. of Gr. ὕλη ἰατρική (Galen) = medical material.]

1. The remedial substances used in the practice of medicine.

1699 M. LISTER *Journ. Paris* 244 The Arabians were wise, and knowing in the Materia Medica, to have put it in their Alkermes. 1752 BERKELEY *Th. on Tar-water* Wks. 1871 III. 496 Can any instance be produced in the whole materia medica..of the virtue of a medicine tried on greater numbers? 1799 *Med. Jrnl.* I. 56 The Purple Fox-glove is a medicine which, for some time, stood high in the list of the materia medica. 1817 J. BRADBURY *Trav. Amer.* 116 As I supposed this bag contained the whole *materia medica* of the nation, I examined it with some attention. *fig.* 1768-74 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 97 What I may call the materia medica of morality. 1783 J. BEATTIE *Let.* 30 Mar. *Life*, etc. (1806) II. 122 It would be a valuable addition to the *materia medica* of government. 1796 BURKE *Regic. Peace* iv. Wks. IX. 124 Among other miserable remedies, that have been found in the *materia medica* of the old College, a change of Ministry will be proposed.

2. That branch of medical science which treats of these substances.

1811 A. T. THOMSON *Lond. Disp.* II. (1818) I. 1845 E. BALLARD & A. B. GARROD (*title*) Elements of Materia Medica and Therapeutics.

† **Materian.** = next *sb.*

1730-6 BAILEY (fol.), *Materians.*

† **Materia·rian,** *a.* and *sb. Obs.* [f. late L. *māteriāri-us* (f. *māteria* MATTER) + -AN.] Applied to ancient heretics who believed in the eternity of matter.

1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* I. iv. § 6. 197 Hermogenes and other ancient pretenders to Christianity did..assert the self-existence and improduction of the Matter, for which cause they were commonly called Materiarii, or the Materiarian Hereticks. *Ibid.*, These Materiarian Theists acknowledged God to be a Perfectly-understanding Being.

† **Materiary,** *a. Obs. rare*—[1]. [ad.L. *māteriārius*, f. *māteria*: see MATTER *sb.*[1] and -ARY.] Pertaining to matter (in quot. *elliptical*).

1650 BULWER *Anthropomet.* 130 An excrement, not a part, and if a part, altogether an excrementitious materiarie.

† **Mate·riate,** *a.* and *sb. Obs.* [ad.L. *māteriāt-us*, f. *māteria* MATTER; see -ATE.] **A.** *adj.*

1. Produced from material; composed or consisting of matter.

1588 FRAUNCE *Lawiers Log.* I. iii. 16 b, The matter and the thing materiate. 1619 SIR A. GORGES tr. *Bacon's De Sap. Vet.* 23 They that would haue one simple beginning referre it vnto God: or if a materiate beginning, they would haue it various in power. 1686 GOAD *Celest. Bodies* III. iv. 507 The Potency..of that great Congress call'd me to look toward some materiate Cause. 1694 R. BURTHOGGE *Reason & Nat. Spirits* 157 Local Motion..is not Matter, or Materiate, but yet is in Matter, as United unto it.

b. Solid, dense.

1626 BACON *Sylva* § 326 Gold (which is the most Ponderous and Materiate amongst Metalls).

2. Involved in matter: said of persons and things.

1626 BACON *Sylva* § 114-5 After long Inquiry of Things, Immerse in Matter, to interpose some Subiect, which is Immateriate, or lesse Materiate. 1634 T. JOHNSON *Parey's Chirurg.* II. (1678) 46 Epicures, and other, too much natural and materiate Philosophers. 1647 J. HALL *Poems* 95 Materiate and grosse.

3. *Metaph.* 'United with matter; embodied in matter: said of an Aristotelian form' (*Cent. Dict.*).

B. *sb.* 'A material substance; a thing formed of matter' (Ogilvie 1882).

Materiate (mătĭə·rieĭt), *v.* Now *rare* or *Obs.* [f. L. *māteriāt-*, ppl. stem of *māteriāre* (in class. Latin to construct of wood, in scholastic use as in 1 below), f. *māteria* MATTER *sb.*[1]]

1. *trans.* In scholastic use. **a.** To supply or be the matter or matcrial part of; in *passive*, to be constituted materially *by* something.

1680 BOYLE *Scept. Chem.* II. 157 When the material Parts ..retain their own Nature in the things materiated, as some of the Schoolmen speak. 1691 BAXTER *Nat. Ch.* iii. 10 The Empire,..headed by one Christian Soveraign, and materiated by Christian Subjects..was all one National Church.

b. To render (a 'form') inherent in a particular 'matter'.

1653, 1654 [see MATERIATED *ppl. a.*] 1823 DE QUINCEY *Lett. to Yng. Man* Wks. 1860 XIV. 57 *note*, The particular error by which this mere formal term of relation was *materiated* (if I may so say) in one of its accidents.

† 2. In the class. Latin sense: To construct of wood. *Obs.* (? *nonce-use*).

a 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. lii. 429 Wooden Furniture ..should be materiated of this kind of Timber.

Hence **Mate·riated** *ppl. a.*

1653 H. MORE *Antid. Ath.* II. v. § 3 The effects of an inadvertent form (λόγος ἔνυλος) of materiated or incorporated art or seminal reason. 1654 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 396 How many [elements] go to Mans Creation (or any materiated Substance)..is much debated.

† **Materia·tion.** *Obs.* [ad. L. *māteriātiōn-em*, in class. Latin n. of action to *māteriārī* to procure timber, f. *māteria* timber, MATTER *sb.*[1]; in scholastic Latin n. of action to *māteriāre*: see prec.]

1. (See quots.)

1623 COCKERAM, *Materiation*, the felling of timber for building. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Materiation* (*materiatio*) the felling of timber for building, preparing of timber wood for service in War. Dr. Br[owne].

2. The action of MATERIATE *v.* 1.

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* VI. i. 274 Creation; that is,..a formation not only of matter, but of forme, and a materiation even of matter it selfe.

† **Materiative,** *a. Obs.* [f. med.L. *māteriātīvus*, f. *māteriāre*: see MATERIATE *v.* and -ATIVE.] Providing the matter (of).

1652 URQUHART *Jewel* Wks. (1834) 198 An alphabet materiative of all the words the mouth of man..is able to pronounce.

Materiature (mătĭə·riătiŭɹ). *rare.* [f. L. *māteria* MATTER; cf. med.L. *māteriātūra* work in wood.] That which constitutes materiality.

1890 J. H. STIRLING *Philos. & Theol.* 349 As you may wash away all colour from a clot of blood, and be left at last with..a pure transparent web which held the colour, so you may discharge materiature from any particle of dust,.. and be left at last with a pure diamond of fibres intellectual.

Materie, obs. form of MATTER *sb.*[1]

‖ **Matériel** (materiẹl). [Fr.: see MATERIAL *a.* and *sb.*]

1. a. The 'mechanical' or 'material' portion of an art; technique. *rare.* b. The 'stock-in-trade', available means or resources, for carrying on any business or undertaking.

1814 *Edin. Rev.* XXIV. 162 Mr. Hogg..is excellently well appointed as to what may be entitled the *materiel* of poetry. There is too much mere embellishment, and too little stuff or substance in his writings. 1822 DE QUINCEY *Confess.* 41 The quantity of esculent *matériel*..was little more than a roll, or a few biscuits. 1853 RUSKIN *Stones Ven.* III. vii. 212 If this be so, the question as to the materiel of education becomes singularly simplified. 1878 SIR G. G. SCOTT *Lect. Archit.* I. 156 Both [forms] should be admitted on equal terms as portions of our general *matériel.*

2. Used as a collective term for the articles, supplies, machinery, etc. used in an army, navy, or business, as distinguished from the *personnel* or body of persons employed.

1827 *Lincoln & Lincolnsh. Cabinet* 29 A more easy method of transporting the *materiel* for their army. 1856 EMERSON *Eng. Traits* xv. Wks. (Bohn) II. 117 The late Mr. Walter was printer of the 'Times', and had gradually arranged the whole *materiel* of it in perfect system. 1881 *Spectator* 15 Jan. 75 The Turkish army in Epirus is in desperate straits for matériel and money.

Matering, obs. form of MATTERING.

† **Mate·rious,** *a. Obs.* [ad. late L. *māteriōsus*, f. *māteria* MATTER: see -OUS.] Material.

1645 MILTON *Tetrach.* 198 This sensuous and materious cause alone can no more hinder a divorce against [etc.]. 1657 W. MORICE *Coena quasi* Κοινή x. 118 Things..having no direct concernment with faith or manners, are not so materious to be recorded.

Matermone, -moyn(e, obs. ff. MATRIMONY.

Matermonial, obs. form of MATRIMONIAL *a.*

† **Matern,** *a. Obs. rare*—[1]. [ad. L. *mātern-us*: see next.] That is a mother, matemal.

1500-20 DUNBAR *Poems* lxxxv. 11 Ȝerne ws guberne, wirgin matern, Of reuth baith rute and ryne.

Maternal (mătə·rnăl), *a.* (*sb.*) Also 5-7 -all, 6 -ale. [ad. F. *maternel* (Oresme, 14th c.), f. L. *mātern-us*, f. *māter* MOTHER *sb.*: see -AL. Cf. It. *maternale*, Sp., Pg. *maternal.*]

1. Of or pertaining to a mother or mothers; characteristic of mothers or motherhood; motherly.

1492 RYMAN *Poems* xviii. 4 in *Archiv Stud. neu. Spr.* LXXXIX. 187 This mayden..Withouten maternall doloure Oure sauyour hath borne. *Ibid.* lxxviii. 3 *ibid.* 248 The whiche thou were worthy to bere Without synne and maternall payne. 1616 BULLOKAR *Eng. Expos.*, *Maternall*, Motherly. 1654 in *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) II. 121 He told him Regall autority was above maternall and that the King was his soveraigne. 1692 DRYDEN *Eleonora* 218 At his first aptness the maternal love Those rudiments of reason did improve. 1703 MAUNDRELL *Journ. Jerus.* (1732) 64 She had her maternal fears turned into joy. 1790 COWPER *On Receipt My Mother's Pict.* 27 Ah! that maternal smile! 1858 O. W. HOLMES *Aut. Breakf.-t.* xii. 119 The great maternal instinct came crowding up in her soul just then.

b. (One's) mother's.

1605 TIMME *Quersit.* I. xi. 47 The seedes of the elements.. are coupled with the seedes of the starres, setting and putting their contayned into the maternall lappe. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* III. iv, 'That's exactly what Ma has been doing', interposed Lavvy, over the maternal shoulder, 'ever since we got up this morning'. 1894 K. GRAHAME *Pagan P.* 106 Oblivious of..the embrace maternal, the paternal smack.

c. *Maternal language, tongue*: mother tongue, native language. Now *rare.*

The earliest recorded use both in Fr. and Eng.

1481 CAXTON *Myrr.* III. xxiv. 192, I haue presumed and emprised this forsayd translacion in to our englissh and maternal tongue. 1502 *Ord. Crysten Men* (W. de W. 1506) I. vi. 52 These crysten men ought for to knowe the Pater noster, the Aue maria, and the Credo in theyr langage maternall. 1530 PALSGR. 895 To whom the sayd tonge is maternall or naturall. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* X. 453 In Greeke, Latine, or their maternall tongues. 1858-9 MARSH *Eng. Lang.* I. (1860) 24 English-speaking missionaries have planted their maternal dialect at scores of important points.

¶ d. *nonce-use.* Belonging to one's mothercountry.

1762-9 FALCONER *Shipwr.* (1796) I. 138 Heaven..Restored them to maternal plains at last.

2. Of persons, animals, or personified things: a. That is a mother, or one's mother. Now *rare.*

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VII. xiii. 137 His cheif maternall ciete full of mycht, Aricia, furth sent this worthy knycht [L. *insignem quem mater Aricia misit*]. 1659 HOWELL *Lex., Brit. Prov.* To Rdr., The Cymraecan Toung, which is ranked by all Glottographers among the fourteen Maternall, and independent vernacular Languages of Europe. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* IV. 31 But paternal and maternal tyrants are the worst of all. 1873 *Sat. Rev.* 6 Sept. 309/2 The rooks bereave many a maternal pheasant that haunts the covers commanded by the rookery.

b. Having the instincts of motherhood, motherly.

1784 COWPER *Task* III. 436 As if in her [Winter] the stream of mild Maternal nature had reversed its course. 1817 SHELLEY *Rev. Islam* V. xxxiii. 7 Maternal earth, who doth her sweet smiles shed For all. 1892 GERTRUDE ATHERTON *Doomswoman* ii, She is not maternal..I never saw a baby held so awkwardly.

c. *slang.* Used *ellipt.* as *sb.* = MOTHER.

1867 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* Dec. 728 Then is the governor driven to his wits' end..., while the maternal has to rouse herself up out of her arm-chair [etc.].

3. Inherited or derived from a mother; related throngh a mother or on the mother's side.

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Maternal*..on the mothers side. 1818 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) III. 378 The same gradation takes place in the maternal line. 1828 B. B. WISNER *Mem. Susan Huntington* I On the maternal side Mrs. Huntington was descended from..the Rev. John Elliot. 1837 LYTTON *E. Maltrav.* I. xii, From a maternal relation, Ernest inherited an estate of about four thousand pounds a-year. 1854 THACKERAY *Newcomes* V. I. 49 When he was first brought home a sickly child, consigned to his maternal aunt. 1867 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1876) I. v. 264 Alongside of him stood his maternal uncle.

4. Of benevolent organizations: Providing for the requirements of maternity.

1856 KINGSLEY *Lect. Ladies* 57 There are clubs,—clothing-clubs, shoe-clubs, maternal-clubs. 1890 *Century Dict.* s.v., Maternal association; maternal hospital.

5. *Phys.* Of parts of the placenta: Uterine (opposed to *fœtal*).

1816 J. & C. BELL *Anat. & Physiol. Body* (ed. 4) III. 465 The maternal part of the placenta is thrown off with the other secundines. 1890 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Maternal membranes*, ..the decidua vera, decidua reflexa, and decidua serotina.

6. Pertaining to the matrix of algæ.

1872 H. C. WOOD *Fresh-w. Algæ U. S.* (1874) 100 Numerous cells..are arranged on the periphery at equal distances, and are connected by the maternal jelly. 1874 *Ibid.* 16 Filaments simple..floating in a maternal jelly.

Maternality (mætəɹnæ·lĭti). [f. MATERNAL *a.* + -ITY.] The quality or condition of being maternal; motherhood; *pl.* (*nonce-use*) motherly remarks or discourse.

1721 BAILEY, *Maternality*, Mother-hood, &c. [*sic*]. 1865 Miss MULOCK *Chr. Mistake* iv. 90 It was worse, far worse, than poor Mrs. Ferguson's stream of foolish maternalities,—vulgar, but warm and kindly, and never ill-natured.

Maternalize (mătə·rnăləiz), *v. rare.* [f. MATERNAL *a.* + -IZE.] *trans.* a. To make maternal. b. *absol.* To employ 'maternal' methods (*nonce-use*).

1877 T. SINCLAIR *Mount* (1878) 296 Comte and 'George Eliot' would methodise, paternalise, and maternalise, till there would be nothing at all wrong in their curious Eden. 1896 A. LANG in *Longm. Mag.* Jan. 315 Blanche Amory and the maternalised Laura. 1899 *Academy* 30 Sept. 331/1 The subjection of women has involved the maternalising of man. He has had to love and care for someone besides himself.

Maternally (mătə·rnăli), *adv.* [-LY 2.] In a maternal manner; on the matemal side; † as one's mother tongue.

1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* III. 116 They speake vulgarly and Maternally here the Hebrew tongue. 1817 G. ROSE *Diaries* (1860) I. 17, I am descended..maternally from the family of Rose of Westerclune. 1868 BROWNING *Ring & Bk.* IX. 1177 A brow maternally severe. 1902 A. LANG *Hist. Scot.* II. xiii. 355 The heir presumptive is maternally of the house of Ardkinglass.

Maternalness (mătə·rnălnės). [f. MATERNAL *a.* + -NESS.] Motherliness.

1727 BAILEY vol. II, *Maternalness*, motherliness, motherly Affection. *a* 1839 GALT *Demon of Destiny*, etc. (1840) 74 The patted cheek, the fond maternalness.

Materne, obs. form of MARTEN.

† **Maternine,** *a. Obs.*—[0]. [f. L. *mātern-us* + -INE.] Maternal. 1623 COCKERAM *Eng. Dict.* II.

Maternity (mătə·rnĭti). [ad. F. *maternité* = med.L. *māternitās*, f. L. *mātern-us*: see MATERNAL and -ITY.]

1. The quality or condition of being a mother; the character or relation of a mother; motherhood.

1611 COTGR., *Maternité*, maternitie. 1633 [H. HAWKINS] *Parthen. Sacra* 47 In the Violet Marie may you consider ..the golden coulour of Maternitie or Charitie in her; since her Charitie was the cause of her Maternitie. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Maternity*, motherhood, the being a mother. 1847 CARDL. WISEMAN *Unreal. Anglic. Belief* Ess. (1853) 424 It is impossible to realize a belief in the maternity of the Blessed Virgin, without thus considering her. 1874 J. TAYLOR *Etrusc. Res.* 57 A state of society in which..mater-

nity constituted the only relationship that could legally be recognised. 1879 Tourgee *Fool's Err.* i. 9 The wife of a year, as the perils of maternity drew nigh in the absence of her husband. 1894 H. Drummond *Ascent Man* 23 Even in the lowliest world of plants the labours of Maternity begin.

† b. As attrib. of the mother superior of a convent. *a* 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. xxxiv. 287 The Pope did represent to their Maternities.

c. Short for *maternity hospital*. [So F. *maternité*.] 1889 *Lancet* 7 Sept. 509/2 The hospital..has also a large extern maternity attached.

2. The character or qualities properly belonging to a mother; motherliness.

1804 *Something Odd* I. 186 Mr. Macdonald was delighted at this maternity. 1823 Lamb *Elia* Ser. II. *Poor Relations*, His stars are perpetually crossed by the malignant maternity of an old woman, who persists in calling him 'her son Dick'. 1842 Orderson *Creol.* xv. 175 An interesting loveliness that endeared her..to the maternity of the two elderly ladies. 1883 H. Drummond *Nat. Law in Spir. W.* (ed. 2) 154 The tender maternity of the bird.

3. *attrib.*: **maternity hospital**, a hospital for the reception and treatment of women during the period of 'confinement'; so *maternity nurse, ward*, etc.

1881 [see Extern B. 2 c]. 1887 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 12 Mar. 591/1 Manchester has long felt the want of a maternity hospital. 1902 *Daily Chron.* 1 Mar. 4/3 Miss F., a maternity nurse. 1903 *Strand Mag.* Apr. 423/1 In addition to the general wards there are..a maternity department [etc.].

Materteral (mătə·ɹtĕrăl), *a.* *humorously pedantic.* [f. L. *mātertera* maternal aunt.] Characteristic of an aunt. So **Mate·rterine** *a.*

1823 W. Taylor in *Monthly Rev.* CII. 447 With maternal and materteral anxiety. 1874 M. Collins *Frances* II. 95 A kindly materterine message.

Matery, obs. form of Matter *sb.*[1], Mattery.

Mateship (mē·ɪtˌʃip). [f. Mate *sb.*[2] + -ship.] **1.** The condition of being a mate; companionship, fellowship; † equality.

1593 Nashe *Christ's T.* 30 Empery admitteth no mateshyppe. 1856 Mrs. Browning *Aur. Leigh* VII. 1088, I sate among them equally, In fellowship and mateship. 1897 P. Warung *Tales Old Regime* 215 It was pleasant, as it was unusual, this mateship.

† **Matesy.** *Obs.* [? var. of Mathesis.]

c 1470 Harding *Chron.* xcvii. xviii, Walshemen..haue suche a prophecye [*viz.* of the reconquest of England]. Thus stande they yet, in suche fonde matesye, In truste of whiche vague fantasye [etc.].

Matey (mē·ɪti). [f. Mate *sb.*[2]: see -y.] A diminutive of Mate *sb.*[2]; a companion, mate.

1833 Marryat *P. Simple* viii, I asked of a bystander who these people were, and he told me that they were dock-yard mateys. 1889 P. H. Emerson *Eng. Idyls* 56 'Good-night, matey', concluded the voice in the fast fading barge.

Mateyns, mateynys, obs. ff. Matins.

Matfellon (mæ·ɪtˌfelən). *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Forms: 4 matfelonn, 5 matefeloun, maidfeloun, matfelon(e, mathfelonn, mattefelon, 6 materfil(l)on, matfillon, matrefillon, 6– matfellon. [a. OF. *matefelon*, app. f. *mate-r* Mate *v.* + *felon* Felon[2]; named from supposed curative properties.] = Knapweed; also *black matfellon*.

a 1387 *Sinon. Barthol.* (Anecd. Oxon.) 24 *Jacia nigra*, matfelonn. 14.. [see Knapweed]. *c* 1450 *Alphita* (Anecd. Oxon.) 83/2 *Iacea nigra*, mathfelonn. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 230/2 Mattefelon (*MS. A.* Matfelone); *iacea, herba est.* 1578 Lyte *Dodoens* I. lxxiii. 109 The fourth is now called on Shoppes *Iacea nigra*, and *Materfilon*: and it hath none other name knowen vnto vs. 1597 Gerarde *Herbal* II. ccxcix. 704. 1640 Parkinson *Theat. Bot.* 469 We call it in English Bullweede, and Knapweede, as also Matfellon. 1758 Mrs. Delany in *Life & Corr.* (1861) III. 507 Matfellon and figwort flourish here remarkably. 1766 *Museum Rust.* VI. 451 Common, or Black Knapweed, Matfellon, Black Matfellon, or Bulweed. 1829 Glover *Hist. Derby* I. 124 *Centaurea Jacea*, common knapweed or matfellow [*sic*]. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 724/2.

Math[1] (maþ). *Obs.* exc. *dial.* (see E. D. D.). Forms: 1 mǽþ, 6–7 mathe, 6– math. [OE. *mǽþ* (once in Bosw.-T., gender not shown), = MHG. *mât, mâd-* neut. and fem. (mod.G. *mahd* fem.) f. OTeut. root *mǽ-* to Mow.

The normal mod.E. form would have been *meath* (mīþ); the existing form is due to the shortening of the vowel through loss of stress in the combinations *aftermath, lattermath, day-math.* Cf. Mowth.]

A mowing; the amount of a crop mowed. (See Aftermath, Day('s-math, Lattermath.)

963 *Lease* in Birch *Cartul. Sax.* III. 343 Þæt he mid eallum cræfte twuȝa on ȝeare [? *insert* wyrce] æne to mæþe & oðre siðe to ripe. [1523, 1530: see Aftermath, Lattermath.] 1585 Higins *Nomenclator* 124 *Fœnum cordum*,.. late math, or lateward hay. 1601 Holland *Pliny* I. 573 When this hearbe Medica or Claver grasse beginneth once to flour, cut it downe...Thus you may have sixe mathes in one yeare. 1633 Bp. Hall *Hard Texts, Amos* vii. 557 The first mowing thereof for the King's use (which is wont to be sooner then the common mathe). *a* 1656 Ussher *Ann.* iv. (1658) 37 At the end of the spring, at the second math of grasse. 1804 Colebrooke *Husb. Bengal* (1806) 71 Revenue drawn from fruit-trees, pastures, and math, and rent of fisheries.

‖ **Math**[2] (mɒth). *Indian.* Also muth, mutt. [Hindī *maṭh*, repr. Skr. *matha*, hut, cottage.] A Hindoo convent of celibate mendicants.

1834 *Baboo* II. i. 3 He was to drive to an old Muth near Garden Reach. 1862 Beveridge *Hist. India* II. IV. ii. 71 They live like other mendicants collected in maths. 1883 *Madras Mail* 5 Dec. 2/1 Mutts and temples are closed to him. 1885 Sir W. Hunter *Imp. Gaz. India* XIII. 323 There are two maths or religious establishments in the village.

Mathe. *Obs.* (? exc. *Sc.*: see E. D. D.) Forms: 1 maþa, maþu, 2–6 maþe, mathe, 3 meaðe, (4 matþe), 5 math, methe; *Sc.* 5 maith, 6 meathe, 9 maithe. [OE. *maþa* wk. masc., *maþu* str. fem., cogn. w. OS. *matho* (Strasb. gl.) (MDu., MLG., mod.Du. *made*), OHG. *mado* masc. (MHG. *made* masc., mod.G. *made* fem.), Goth. *maþa*:—OTeut. **maþon-*, **maþô*, of obscure origin: some have compared Skr. *matka* bug.] A maggot, grub, worm.

c 1000 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 295/8 *Cimex*..maþa. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Gloss.* ibid. 122/3 *Cimex*, maþu. *a* 1240 *Sawles Warde* in *Cott. Hom.* 251 As meaðen iforrotet flesch. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 484 (Kölbing) For he lete cristen wedde haþen & meynt our blod, as flesche & matþen. *a* 1380 *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* 447/167 Heore bodies þat weoren so softe I-baþen..þer hit schal crepe ful of Maþen. *a* 1425 *Cursor M.* 11836 (Trin.) Maþes [*other texts* wormes] cruled in him þore. *a* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 321/1 Make, mathe, wyrm yn þe fleshe. *c* 1460 in *Rel. Ant.* I. 302 For methys that devorith the pennys of an hawk. *c* 1470 Henryson *Mor. Fab.* I. (*Cock & Jasp*) xi, Riches..Quhilk maith [*v.r.* moith], nor moist, nor vther rust can screit. 1481 Caxton *Reynard* xxviii. (Arb.) 69 Yonder lyeth a dede hare full of mathes and wormes. 1523 Fitzherb. *Husb.* § 45 If a shepe haue mathes, ye shall perceyue it by her bytynge [etc.]. *a* 1585 Montgomerie *Flyting w. Polwart* 319 The mair and the migrame, with the meathes in the melt.

Mathe: see Maté, Math[1], Maythe(s, Meath.

† **Ma·thele,** *v. Obs.* [OE. *maðelian* (also *mæðlan*: see Mell *v.*[1]), f. *mæðel* meeting, discussion = OS., OHG. *mahal* assembly, tribunal, Goth. *maþl*:—OTeut. **maþlo*[m].] *intr.* and *trans.* To speak; to talk, prate. Hence † **Maðelung** *vbl. sb.*, † **Maðelinde** *ppl. a.*; † **Maðelero,** a talker; † **Maðelild,** a female chatterer, gossip.

Beowulf 371 Hroðgar maþelode, helm Scyldinga: 'Ic hine cuðe cnihtwesende'. *c* 725 *Corpus Gloss.* C 854 (Hessels) *Contionatur*, maðalade *declamat. a* 1000 in Napier *O. E. Glosses* 38/1419 *Verbositas*, ȝewyrd, maþelung. *a* 1000 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 212/17 *Contionator*, i. *locutor*, motere, *uel* maþelere. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 74 Hore muð maðeleð euer. *Ibid.* 80 Heoþ openeð hire muð mid muche maðelunge, & brekeð silence [etc.]. *Ibid.*, Ne blowe ȝe hire [hope] nout ut mid maðelinde muðe, ne mid ȝeoniinde tuteles. *Ibid.* 88 Ane maðelild [*MS. T.* maðelere] þ maðeleð hire all þe talen of þe londe.

Mathematic (mæþɪmæ·tik), *a.* and *sb.* Also 4 (*sb.* sense 1), **matematik,** 6 **methamatic,** 4–7 **mathematique.** [The adj., first recorded in the 16th c., is ad. F. *mathématique* or its source L. *mathēmaticus*, ad. Gr. *μαθηματικός*, f. *μαθηματ-, μάθημα* something learned, science, f. root of *μανθάνειν* to learn. The substantival senses B. 1 (from 14th c.) and B. 2 (from 16th c.) are, so far as Eng. is concerned, independent words, but are placed together here because they represent absol. or elliptical applications of the Gr.-Latin adj.]

A. *adj.* = Mathematical *a.*, in various senses. Now *rare.*

1549 *Compl. Scot.* vi. 62 Ptholome, auerois, aristotel, galien, ypocrites or Cicero,..var expert practicians in methamatic art. 1570 Dee *Math. Pref.* *, For the causes alleged ..in respect of my Art Mathematike generall. 1593 Peele *Hon. of Garter, Ad Mæcenatem Prol.* 8 That admirable Mathematique skill, Familiar with the starres and Zodiack (To whom the heauen lyes open as her booke). *a* 1609 Donne *Lett., To Sir H. Goodyere* (1651) 163 A Mathematique point, which is the most indivisible and unique thing which art can present. 1611 Corvat *Crudities* 602 They were wise astrologers, who by the Mathematicke art (as Cyprian speaketh) knew the force and course of the planets. *a* 1619 Fotherby *Atheom.* II. ix. § 4 (1622) 297 Like the Punctum is in Mathematicke body. 1664 H. More *Myst. Iniq.* 270 That the Seven-headed Beast cannot be the Turkish Empire, we may conclude with Mathematick certitude. 1670 Wallis in Rigaud *Corr. Sci. Men* (1841) II. 519 Mathematic books.. to be had very cheap. *a* 1680 Butler *Rem.* (1759) I. 214 The mathematic Lines, Where Nature all the Wit of Man confines. 1700 Wallis in *Collect.* (O. H. S.) I. 320 There be mathematick lectures. 1705 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4116/1 Isaac Newton Esq.; formerly Mathematick Professor. 1807 Byron *Th. Coll. Exam.* i, Denouncing dire reproach to luckless fools, Unskill'd to plod in mathematic rules. 1850 Lynch *Theo. Trin.* xii. 235 He ..went to mathematic studies. 1863 Ld. Lytton *King Amasis* II. 266 From his earliest years, he had brought, with mathematic precision, his voice, his manners, even the lines of his face, into a harmony undisturbed by expression.

B. *sb.*

1. [a. OF. *mathematique* (mod.F. *mathématique*) = Sp. *matemática*, Pg. *mathematica*, It. *matematica*, ad. L. *mathēmatica* (sc. *ars* or *disciplīna*), Gr. *μαθηματική* (sc. *τέχνη, θεωρία*), fem. of L. *mathēmaticus*, Gr. *μαθηματικός*: see above. Cf. G. *mathematik.*] Mathematical science, Mathematics.

The word became obs. early in the 17th c., but has been revived by some writers in the latter part of the 19th c. (? after G. *mathematik*), for use instead of *mathematics* in contexts where the unity of the science is emphasized.

c 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 342 Þis witt þat crist spekiþ of stondeþ not in mannes lawe, ne in oþur curiouse lawes, as matematik, or lawes of kynde. 1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 89 The thridde point of Theorique, Which cleped is Mathematique, Devided is in sondri wise...The ferste of whiche is Arsmetique, And the secounde is seid Musique, The thridde is ek Geometrie, Also the ferthe Astronomie. 1586 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* I. (1589) 72 Al arts and sciences handled by reason were divided into three principall kindes: into Philosophie, Rhetorike and Mathematike. 1594 R. Ashley tr. *Loys le Roy* 25 b, Phylosophy, Physicks and the Mathematick, were translated out of the Greeke into Arabian. 1605 Bacon *Adv. Learn.* II. viii. § 1 Another part of Naturall philosophie..is mathematicke. 1854 Hickok *Mental Sci.* 125 All pure mathematic is thus a science of pure intuition. 1881 *Athenæum* 27 Aug. 269/1 Mr. Venn points out most clearly the distinction between symbolic logic and symbolic mathematic. [But Mr. Venn has 'mathematics'.]

† **2.** [ad. L. *mathēmaticus*, Gr. *μαθηματικός*. Cf. Sp. *matemático*, Pg. *mathematico*, It. *matematico*; also Du. *mathematicus*, G. *mathematiker.*] A mathematician. In translations from late L. often: An astrologer. *Obs.*

1547–64 Bauldwin *Mor. Philos.* (Palfr.) 7 Archelaus.. was first an hearer of Antilochus a mathematicke. 1579–80 North *Plutarch, Solon* (1595) 87 Hippocrates the mathematike. 1587 Golding *De Mornay* xxvi. 403 Buteon a Mathematicke declareth expresly in a booke, what it [the Arke] contained foote by foote. 1598 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. ii. III. *Colonies* 294 The Memphian Priests were deep Philosophers..and great Mathematikes. ?*c* 1600 *Distracted Emp.* I. i. in Bullen *O. Pl.* III. 169, I have seene Your conference with witches..and the damned frye Of cheating mathematicks. 1610 Healey *St. Aug. Citie of God* V. ix. (1620) 197 Those coniectures of the Mathmatiques he layeth flat. 1688 R. Holme *Armoury* II. 27/2 Mathematick, one that Calculateth Nativities, an Astrologer, or a Mathematician.

† **3.** *pl.* Dice 'mathematically true'. *Obs.*

1692 *Abridgm. Specif. Patents, Toys*, etc. (1871) 2 A new sort of dice knowne by the name of mathematicks, cutt perfectly square by a mold. 1721 [see Doctor *sb.* 12].

Hence † **Mathema·tic** *v. trans.*, to bring *out* with mathematical accuracy.

1627–77 Feltham *Resolves* II. xxix. 218 Words come not then digested and mathematic'd out, by..reason, but [etc.].

Mathematical (mæþɪmæ·tikăl), *a.* and *sb.* Also 6 methematycall, mathamatical, matemattical. [f. L. *mathēmatic-us*, see Mathematic *a.* and -ical.] **A.** *adj.*

1. Of, pertaining to, relating to, or of the nature of, mathematics.

1530 Rastell *Bk. Purgat.* II. xix, The methematycall scyens. 1538 Starkey *England* I. i. 16 The conclusyonys of ar tys mathematical are euer referryd to theyr pryncypullys. 1570 Billingsley *Euclid* 357 b, The great Mechanicall vse (besides Mathematicall Considerations) which [etc.]. 1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* II. iii. 76 A probleme Mathematicall, to finde out the difference of houres in different places. 1690 Locke *Hum. Und.* IV. iv. § 6 (1695) 324 The Knowledge we may have of Mathematical Truths, is not only certain, but real Knowledge. 1785 Reid *Intell. Powers* 607 Mathematical notions are formed in the understanding by an abstraction of another kind, out of the rude perceptions of our senses. 1843 Ruskin *Arrows of Chace* (1880) I. 21 We will listen to no comments on Newton from people who have no mathematical knowledge.

b. Such as is recognized by mathematics; being what the name imports in mathematics. Chiefly in *mathematical point*: see Point *sb.*

The scholastic term *mathematical body* was much bandied about in the transubstantiation controversies of the 16th c., and gave rise to much misunderstanding, being variously taken to mean (1) a body having spatial accidents, and (2) a body consisting of *mere* spatial accidents (without substance).

1547 Hooper *Christ & Office* viii. H viij b, Then it is no body for a trew body phisicall and matematical: as Christes body is: cannot be except it occupi place. 1549 Bonner in Foxe *A. & M.* (1563) 700 [Hooper] in effect denieth the verity of Christes blessed body vpon the crosse, calling it Mathematical. 1570 Dee *Math. Pref.* *j, Of Mathematicall thinges, are two principall kindes..Number, and Magnitude. 1660 Jer. Taylor *Duct. Dubit.* II. iii. rule 11. § 17 Negative precepts have no parts of duty, no degrees of obedience, but consist in a Mathematical point. 1840 Lardner *Geom.* I. 7 If a mathematical point be conceived to move through space,..leaving..a trace.., that trace.. will be a mathematical line. 1897 M. Dziewicki *Wyclif's De Logica* (1899) III. Introd. 26 Christ's Body..is present without either position or shape. The bread is not annihilated; what remains is a purely mathematical body, but not nothing.

c. Learned or skilled in, studying or teaching, mathematics.

1522 Skelton *Why not to Court* 705 But let mi masters mathematical Tell you the rest. *a* 1568 Ascham *Scholem.* (Arb.) 34 Marke all Mathematical heades which be only and wholy bent to those sciences. 1622 Peacham *Compl. Gent.* ix. (1634) 77 Mr. Doctor Hood, sometime Mathematicall Lecturer in London. 1692 Luttrell *Brief Rel.* (1857) II. 327 The governour of Christs hospitall waited on the king with the mathematical boys. 1713 J. Ward *Yng. Math. Guide* A 1 b, II. Ditton, Master of the New Mathematical School in Christ's Hospital. 1837 Whewell *Hist. Induct. Sci.* (1857) I. 253 The Science of the mathematical mechanician. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XV. 12/1 The mathematical student. *Ibid.*, He will neither impede nor advance his mathematical career.

d. Adapted to be used in mathematical operations. *Mathematical instruments*: now usually, the instruments (such as compasses, rulers, scales, protractors) employed in drawing geometrical figures.

1625 N. Carpenter *Geog. Del.* I. iv. (1635) 78 Philosophers haue found out by diuers Mathematicall instruments. 1663 Cowley *College* Wks. 1721 II. 567 A Mathematical Chamber furnish'd with all Sorts of Mathematical Instruments, being an Appendix to a Library. 1678 Moxon *Mech. Dyalling* 44 Mathematical Instrument-Makers. 1696 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3224/4 Lost.., a small Pocket-Book of Mathematical Paper. 1726 Swift *Gulliver* III. ii, A large table filled with globes, and spheres, and mathematical instruments. 1849 Noad

Electricity (ed. 3) 284 A celebrated mathematical instrument-maker.

2. *transf.* Of proofs, certitude, precision, etc.: Resembling what is found in mathematics; rigorously exact.

1662 Stillingfl. *Orig. Sacr.* II. i. § 3 To bring matters of fact into Mathematical demonstrations. 1664 H. More *Myst. Iniq.* iv. 10 It will follow with certitude plainly Mathematical. 1692 Bentley *Boyle Lect.* vii. (1693) 17, I suppose all the Particles of Matter to be..situated in an exact and mathematical evenness. 1809–10 Coleridge *Friend* (1865) 124 A theory conducted throughout with mathematical precision.

b. Constructed with 'mathematical' regularity.

1776 Burney *Hist. Mus.* I. 449 The voice varied a little up and down, and did not strictly keep to one mathematical line of tone. 1818 Hazlitt *Eng. Poets* i. (1870) 3 Plato banished the poets from his Commonwealth, lest their descriptions of the natural man should spoil his mathematical man. 1881 J. Hawthorne *Fort. Foot* I. xiv, Within are straight paths and mathematical grass-plots.

†**3.** Astrological. *Obs.*

1548 Hooper *Declar. Commandm.* vi. 90 Thowghe I.. damne this damnable art Mathematicall, I do not damne souche other artes and sciences as be associatyd and annexid with this vnlawfull Astrologie. 1594 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* III. viii. § 9 That Egyptian and Chaldæan wisedome Mathematicall, wherewith Moses and Daniell were furnished. 1674 Hickman *Hist. Quinquart.* (ed. 2) 90 He pretended a full perswasion of a Mathematical fate or destiny, yet..he was out of measure afraid of Thunders.

†**4.** Mechanical. *Obs.*

1565 Jewel *Repl. Harding* 419 The Mathematical Dooue, that Architas Tarentinus made, that was hable to flie alone.

†**5.** = Geometrical. *Obs.*

1614 Raleigh *Hist. World* II. (1634) 367 Cosmographers in their descriptions of the world..fill the same with strange Beasts, Birds, and Fisbes, and with Mathematicall Lines. 1656 Cowley *Pindar. Odes, Dr. Scarborough* vi. *note*, Archimedes..being found in his Study drawing Mathematical Lines for the making of some new Engines to preserve the Town.

B. *sb.*

1. *pl.* Mathematical objects. *rare.*

1555 Eden *Decades* 324 Such vniforme partes as are in mathematicals. 1904 *Athenæum* 23 Apr. 521/3 Dr. Caird is..right..in rejecting the ascription to Plato of the conception of mathematicals as an intermediate grade of being between ideas and sensibles. [Dr. Caird's own words are 'mathematical principles'.]

†**2.** *pl.* Mathematics; astrology. *Obs.*

1563 Shute *Archit.* A ij b, By a sertaine kinred and affinitie [it] is knit vnto all the Mathematicalles which sciences and knowledges are frendes. 1566 Painter *Pal. Pleas.* II. 375 b, The rare knowledge of Mathematicalls and other hydden and secrete Artes. 1594 Carew *Huarte's Exam. Wits* (1596) 103 From a good imagination spring all the Arts and Sciences...Such are Poetrie, Eloquence, Musicke, ..the Mathematicals, Astrologie [etc.]. *Ibid.* 117 They profit well in the Mathematicals, and in Astrologie, because they haue a good imagination. *a* 1619 Fotherby *Atheom.* II. ix. § 1 (1622) 295 Mathematicals are proportioned vnto diuinitie, as the shadow to the Body.

†**3.** A mathematician or astrologer. *Obs.*

1566 Painter *Pal. Pleas.* II. 376 A Scholar..learneth a more cunnyng lecture of Mystresse Helena, than he didde of the subtillest Sorbone Doctor, or other Mathematicall from whence hee came. 1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* (1592) 116 The signes in the firmament shall be strange Gods, if wee being deceiued with the Mathematicals shall wholie hang on them. 1587 Golding *De Mornay* viii. 94 Protagoras was banished Athens for it, and the Mathematicals were vtterly condemned for it.

Hence †**Mathematicality**, †**Mathematicalness**, mathematical quality; formal accuracy.

1641 *Exam. Answ. Reas. agst. Votes Eps. Parl.* 27 If they by their Ordination bee bounded Morally, the House of Commons will never.. trouble themselves about the Mathematicality of the Vow. 1698 [R. Ferguson] *View Eccles.* 99 The Art and Mathematicalness of Thinking.

Mathematically (mæθɪmæ·tikăli), *adv.* [f. Mathematical *a.* + -ly 2.]

1. In a mathematical manner; by mathematical methods; according to mathematical principles.

1570 Dee *Math. Pref.* a ij, A Point, by his motion, produceth, Mathematically, a line. 1579 J. Jones *Preserv. Bodie & Soule* I. xl. 90 Whether they be Mathematically measured, or Metaphisically pondered. 1668 Wilkins *Real Char.* 163 He [Joh. Buteo] proves Mathematically that there was a sufficient capacity in the Ark, for the conteining all those things it was designed for. 1730 A. Gordon *Maffei's Amphith.* 362 It being.. mathematically repugnant, that part of the Arch of a Circle can be at the same time elliptical. 1847–8 H. Miller *First Impr.* xvii. (1857) 283 If in the science of geometry, it must be settled mathematically.

2. With mathematical accuracy or exactness.

1567 Maplet *Gr. Forest* 11 Iris is a kinde of Stone Mathematicallye wrought. 1669 Sturmy *Mariner's Mag.* VII. ii. 3 Dial Planes are not Mathematically in the very Planes of Great Circles; for then they should have their Centers in the Center of the Earth. 1691 Norris *Pract. Disc.* 228 His Government of the World is no less Mathematically exact than his Creation of it. *a* 1715 Burnet *Own Time* (1724) I. 295 Was their opinion so mathematically certain, that they [etc.]? 1814 D. Stewart *Hum. Mind* II. ii. § 3. 163 The correctness of the solution is as mathematically certain, as the truth of any property of the triangle, or of the circle.

†**3.** As regards quantity or number. *Obs.*

1607 *Schol. Disc. agst. Antichr.* I. i. 35 The chaunge..was mathematically little.

Mathema·ticaster. *rare.* [quasi-L., f. *mathēmatic-us*: see -aster.] A petty or inferior mathematician.

1872 De Morgan *Budget of Paradoxes* 483 Mr. Slum.. converted the idea into that of a hit at Mathematicasters, as easily as he turned the Warren acrostic into Jarley.

Mathematician (mæθɪmătĭ·ʃăn). Forms: 5 -icion, 6 -icien, matimatician, 6– mathematician. [ad. F. *mathématicien*, f. L. *mathēmaticus*, *mathēmatica* Mathematic *sb.* 1 and 2: see -ian.] One who is skilled or learned in mathematics.

1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 469 Puttenge in to exile mony mathematicions [1387 Trevisa mathematicos] and philosophres. 1570 Dee *Math. Pref.* *iij, The Rule of False positions .. by two excellent Mathematiciens .. enlarged. 1598 Barckley *Felic. Man* (1631) 370 The Globe of the earth..is after the Mathematicians computation one and twentie thousand miles in compasse and above. 1687 Luttrell *Brief Rel.* (1857) I. 396 Sir Samuel Morland, the mathematician, is lately married. 1803 Imison *Sci. & Art* I. 261 It [the pump] was first invented by Ctesibius, a mathematician of Alexandria, about 120 years B.C. 1821 J. Q. Adams in C. Davies *Metr. Syst.* III. (1871) 139 A committee ..consisting of five of the ablest members of the academy and most eminent mathematicians of Europe.

†**b.** An astrologer. Chiefly *Hist.* as rendering of L. *mathēmaticus*. *Obs.*

1589 Rider *Bibl. Schol.*, A Mathematician...2. *Chaldæus.* 1591 Horsey *Trav.* (Hakl. Soc.) 173 He..was verie inquisitive with one Elizious Bomelius..Doctor of phizicke in England, a rare matimatician 'magicion',..what yeare Quen Elizabeth was of. 1611 Cotgr., *Mathematicien*, a Mathematician;..a caster of Natiuities. 1701 Grew *Cosm. Sacra* v. iv. 327 Mathematicians, among the Romans, were for some time, specially meant of Astrologers, or Star-Prophets. 1710 Shaftesb. *Charac., Adv. Auth.* III. i. (1711) I. 289 Astrologers, Horoscopers, and other such are pleas'd to honour themselves with the Title of Mathematicians.

Mathematicize (mæθɪmæ·tisaiz), *v.* [f. Mathematic *a.* + -ize.] **a.** *trans.* To consider or treat in a mathematical manner. **b.** *intr.* To reason mathematically; to make mathematical calculations. Hence **Mathema·ticizing** *ppl. a.*

1849 Froude *Nemesis* 161 The dry mathematicizing reason. 1885 Mrs. H. Ward *Amiel's Jrnl.* (13 Dec. 1859) I. 131 The mind of Naville is mathematical and his objects moral. His strength lies in mathematicising morals.

Mathema·tico-, used as combining form of L. *mathēmaticus* in hyphened compounds with the sense 'partly mathematical and partly —'.

1830 Herschel *Stud. Nat. Phil.* III. iii. 274 Their continental neighbours both in Germany and France were pushing forward in the career of mathematico-physical discovery. 1881 Jevons in *Nature* XXIII. 485 Recent contributions to mathematico-logical science.

Mathematics (mæθɪmæ·tiks), *sb. pl.* [pl. of Mathematic B. 1. Cf. F. *les mathématiques* (fem.).

Gr. had the neut. pl. τὰ μαθηματικά in the sense of mathematical objects, principles, facts, etc., as well as the fem. ἡ μαθηματική mathematical science, Mathematic B. 1. The Fr. and Eng. use of the plural (known from the 16th c.) seems to have originated as an elliptic expression for 'mathematic sciences', and to have had at first no connexion with the Gr. use of the neuter plural. The analogy of names of sciences like *physics*, *metaphysics* (in which the pl. form is of Gr. origin) has, however, caused the sing. to be in English entirely superseded by the plural; in Fr., which has not the plural form in the other instances, the sing. *mathématique* survives in use as well as the plural.]

Originally, the collective name for geometry, arithmetic, and certain physical sciences (as astronomy and optics) involving geometrical reasoning. In modern use applied, (*a*) in a strict sense, to the abstract science which investigates deductively the conclusions implicit in the elementary conceptions of spatial and numerical relations, and which includes as its main divisions geometry, arithmetic, and algebra; and (*b*) in a wider sense, so as to include those branches of physical or other research which consist in the application of this abstract science to concrete data. When the word is used in its wider sense, the abstract science is distinguished as *pure mathematics*, and its concrete applications (e.g. in astronomy, various branches of physics, the theory of probabilities) as *applied* or *mixed mathematics*.

In early use always construed as a plural, and usually preceded by *the*. In recent use *the* is commonly omitted, and the sb. is almost always construed as a sing., exc. in *(the) higher mathematics*.

1581 Mulcaster *Positions* v. (1887) 35 Whose vse [*sc.* of Drawing] all modelling, all mathematikes, all manuaries do finde and confesse to be to so notorious and so needefull. 1587 Holinshed *Hist. Scot.* 461/1 A learned man in all philosophie, astronomie and the other mathematiks. 1596 Shaks. *Tam. Shr.* I. i. 37 The Mathematickes, and the Metaphysickes Fall to them as you find your stomacke serues you. *Ibid.* II. i. 82 As cunning In Greeke, Latine, and other Languages, As the other in Musicke and Mathematickes. *a* 1618 Raleigh *Mahomet* (1637) 142 He wrote divers bookes of the Mathematiques. 1641 Wilkins *Math. Magick* I. ii. (1648) 12 Mathematicks .. is usually divided into pure and mixed. 1696–7 Wallis in Hearne *R. Brunne's Langtoft* Pref. 147 Mathematicks (at that time..) were scarce looked upon as Academical studies 1712 Bentley *Corr.* (1842) II. 449 Mathematicks was brought to that height, that [etc.]. 1726 Swift *Gulliver* I. i, Navigation, and other Parts of the Mathematics, useful to those who intend to travel. 1739 Johnson *Life Boerhaave* Wks. IV. 335 A very uncommon knowledge of the mathematicks. 1755 *Man* No. 35. 3 Mathematics derives its accuracy..from logic. 1838 De Morgan *Ess., Probab.* 68 The approximative methods of the higher mathematics. 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) IV. 271 By the help of mathematics, we form another idea of space.

†**Mathematist.** *Obs.* [f. Gr. μαθηματ- (see Mathematic) + -ist.] An astrologer.

1579 J. Jones *Preserv. Bodie & Soule* I. xliv. 115 Not regarding the words of..the Chaldean Prophetes, or rather Mathematists and Gymnosophistals.

Mathematize (mæ·θmătəiz), *v.* [Formed as prec. + -ize.] = Mathematicize.

1719 *Freethinker* No. 117 P 7 Persons of a Profession.. have been advised by very great Men to Mathematize a little, in order to acquire an habitual Caution in other Studies. 1833 J. H. Newman *Lett.* (1891) I. 365 If, e. g., you feel disposed to mathematise. 1894 *Univ. Extension Jrnl.* 1 Oct. 11/2 The author has carefully avoided the error of needlessly mathematising what can be better described in words.

Mathemeg (mæ·θmeg). [a. Cree *mathemeg*, lit. 'ugly fish', f. *mathe* ugly + *-meg*, ending of names of fishes. Watkins's Cree Dict. gives *muchemāk*, which represents a dialectal variant.] A catfish inhabiting the North American lakes.

1787 Pennant *Arct. Zool.* Suppl. 115 Mathemeg. Inhabits the lakes of Hudson's Bay. 1836 J. Richardson *Fauna Bor. Amer.* III. 135 *Silurus* (*Pimelodus*) *Borealis* (Richardson), The Mathemeg. *Ibid.*, The mathemeg or land cod of the residents of the fur countries is taken sparingly.

Mathemes, obs. Sc. form of Matins.

Mathen, obs. f. Maiden *sb.*1, var. Maythen.

Ma·ther(n. *dial.* Also 6, 9 mathers, 9 madders, mauther(n, maythern, moithern. [Variant or derivative of Maythe, Maythen.] = Maythe.

1578 Lyte *Dodoens* II. xxx. 185 *Cotula fœtida.* Mathers or stinking Comomill. 1677 Plot *Oxfordsh.* ix. 241 This [land] never requires a double stirring, nor must be made too fine and light, for then it runs to May-weed, or Mathern, as they call it. 1813 T. Davis *Agric. Wilts* 258–268 Maudlin, or Mathern, or Wild Chamomile.—These weeds usually prevail when the ground is overworked or made too light. 1842 Akerman *Wilts Gloss.*, *Mauthern*, the ox-eyed daisy. 1863 Barnes *Dorset Dial.*, Madders, or Mathers. The stinking chamomile (*anthemis cotula*). 1879 Miss Jackson *Shropsh. Word-bk., Maythern...Moithern.* 1880 Jefferies *Gt. Estate* 155 Last year there had been nearly as much mathern (wild camomile)..as crop.

‖ **Mathesis** (măθī·sis). *arch.* Also 6 mathesi, -y. [Gr. μάθησις action of learning, f. root of μανθάνειν to learn.]

In verse formerly often stressed *ma·thesis*.

Mental discipline; learning or science, esp. mathematical science. Also personified.

1426 Lydg. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 21152 Mathesis..Gaff yt [*sc.* a hand signifying chiromancy] to me. 1538 Lelano *Itin.* IV. 63 Johannes Rous..was well learned in those dayes in Mathesi. 1546 Bale *Eng. Votaries* I. (1550) 35 He sett up a great scole at Caunterbury of all maner scyences, as Rhetoryck, Logyck, Philosophy, Mathesy [etc.]. 1593 Peele *Hon. of Garter, Ad Mæcenatem Prol.* 7 Thrice noble Earle,..That artizans and schollers doost embrace, And clothest Mathesis in rich ornaments, That admirable Mathematique skill [etc.]. 1742 Pope *Dunc.* IV. 31 Mad *Mathesis* alone was unconfin'd, Too mad for mere material chains to bind. 1813 *Morn. Chron.* 10 Aug. in *Spirit Pub. Jrnls.* (1813) XVII. 205 As erst old Mathesis in chair of state sat. *a* 1876 M. Collins *Th. in Garden* (1880) II. 218 They can make immense progress in the infinite fields of mathesis.

‖ **Mathetic** (măθe·tik), *a.* [ad. Gr. *μαθητικός* pertaining to learning; cogn. with prec.] Pertaining to learning or scientific knowledge. Also (Bentham) in combining form **mathetico-**.

1816 Bentham *Chrestomathia* II. 1 Mathetic..exercises: exercises,..by which progress is made, proficiency obtained, or a lesson got: simply mathetic, to distinguish them from those which may be termed *mathetico-docimastic*,..by which progress is made, and at the same time exhibited. *Ibid.* 22 During the whole of the school-time, the scholars are, all of them, employed, either in simply mathetic, in simply probative, or in organic (i. e. mathetico-probative) exercises. 1865 J. Grote *Explor. Philos.* I. 175 Technicalism ought to stand upon a general basis of good mathetic logic.

Mathfelonn, obs. form of Matfellon.

Mathiglin: see Metheglin.

Mathingis, obs. Sc. form of Matins.

Mathook, variant of Mattock.

Mathurin (mæ·θiurin). Also Mat(h)urine. [Said to be named from the chapel of St. *Mathurin* at Paris, near which they had a famous house.] A member of the order of regular canons (officially called Trinitarians) founded (A.D. 1198) by St. John of Matha for the redemption of Christian captives. Also *attrib.* or *adj.*

1611 Cotgr., *Mathurin*,..a Mathurin Frier; (of th' Order of the Trinitie). 1693 *Emilianne's Hist. Monast. Ord.* xiv. 135 Of the Order of the Mathurines, or Trinitaries. 1727–41 Chambers *Cycl., Trinitarians* .. vulgarly called *Mathurins*, and brothers of the *Redemption*. 1843 Dyce *Poet. Wks. Skelton* I. Introd. 37 Robert Gaguin was minister-general of the Maturines. 1900 W. Watt *Aberdeen & Banff* II. 48 King William's Maturine establishment on the bank of the Dee. 1904 Wordsworth & Littlehales *Old Service-bks.* 289 The Trinitarian Order of St. Robert by Knareshorough (English Mathurines).

Mati, obs. form of Maté.

Matias (mæ·tiæs). [Of obscure orlgin.] In *Matias bark* = Malambo *bark*.

1844 Hoblyn *Dict. Med.*, *Malambo bark*, *Matias bark*, the bark of a tree said to be procured from Columbia, and used as a substitute for cinchona. 1890 *Syd Soc. Lex.*

Maticin (mæ·tisin). *Chem.* Also -ine. [f. Matico + -in.] A bitter principle obtained from the leaves of the matico-plant.

1844 HODGES in *Lond. etc. Philos. Mag.* XXV. 206 A yellowish-brown extractive matter, maticine, remained. 1871 WATTS tr. *Gmelin's Handbk. Chem.* XVIII. 234 Maticin.

‖ **Matico** (mătī·ko). Also **mateco, matica.** [Sp. *yerba Matico* (*yerba* herb; *Matico* dim. of *Mateo* Matthew); alleged to be named from a Spanish soldier who discovered its styptic properties.] A Peruvian shrub, *Piper angustifolium* (*Artanthe elongata*). **b.** The leaves of this plant used as a styptic.

1838 JEFFREYS in *Lancet* 5 Jan. (1839) 567 The name of the plant from which the leaves are collected, is *Matèco*. 1842 *Provincial Med. & Surg. Jrnl.* June 209 The South American styptic 'matico'. 1849 J. H. BALFOUR *Man. Bot.* § 1034 The substance called Matico or Matica. 1880 GARROD & BAXTER *Mat. Med.* 415 Bleeding from leech-bites may be stopped..by matico.

c. *attrib.*, as *matico leaf, oil, plant.*

1880 GARROD & BAXTER *Mat. Med.* 351 *Maticæ Folia.* *Matico Leaves. 1885 *Cassell's Encycl. Dict.*, **Matico-oil.* 1871 WATTS tr. *Gmelin's Handbk. Chem.* XVIII. 234 The leaves of the *matico plant.

Matico: see MATACO.

Matie (mē·ti). Also **mattie, matje, maty.** [a. Du. *maatjes* (*haring*), earlier *maetgens-, maeghdekens-* (cf. MLG. *madikesherink*, mod.LG. *maidkens-hering*), f. *maagd* MAID *sb.*[1] + *-ken* -KIN. Cf. MAID *sb.*[1] 7, MAIDEN *sb.* 8; also FAIR MAID.] A herring in what is considered the best condition for food, when the roe or milt is perfectly but not largely developed.

1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Maties.* 1863 *Rep. Commiss. Herring-trawling Scotl.* § 51. 26 The herring is found under four different conditions: 1st, Fry or Sill; 2d, Maties or Fat Herring; 3d, Full Herring; 4th, Shotten or Spent Herring. 1864 *Macm. Mag.* Aug. 344 In the next stage [i. e. the second] of the herring, it is called a matie. 1883 S. WALPOLE *Brit. Fish Trade* (Fish. Exhib. Lit. I.) 33 'Matties', or young herrings cured. 1894 R. LEIGHTON *Wreck Golden Fleece* 38 Not many maties among 'em, eh?—Maties? No. I aren't scen a dacent-sized herrin come aboard yet.

attrib. 1883 *Fisheries Exhib. Catal.* 69, 1 Barrel Mattie Herrings. 1898 *Shetland News* 27 Aug. (E.D.D.) Excluding the Lewis and Barra matje fishings.

Matier(e, obs. forms of MATTER.

Matilent, variant of MALTALENT *Obs.*

Matimaticion, obs. form of MATHEMATICIAN.

Matin (mæ·tin). Pl. **matins** (mæ·tinz). Forms: *pl.* 3–4, 7 **matines,** 3–5 **matynes,** 4 **mateyns, matinis, matynys,** 4–5 **metenes,** 4–6 **matyns,** 5 **matens, maytenys, mayteynesse,** 6 **mattyns, mattence,** *Sc.* **matynnis, mathemes, mathingis,** 6–7 **mattens,** 4– **matins,** 6– **mattins.** *sing.* 4 **matyn,** 4–5 **matyne,** 7 **mattin, matine,** 7– **matin, mattin.** [Early ME. *matines*, a. F. *matines* fem. pl. (11th c.) = Pr. *matinas*:—Eccl. L. *mātūtīnās* (nom. *mātūtīnæ*), fem. pl. of *mātūtīnus* pertaining to the morning. The more usual forms in med.L. were the masc. sing. *mātūtīnus* (hence Sp. *maitines* masc. pl., also *matutino*) and the masc. pl. *mātūtīnī*. Cf. F. *matin*, Pr. *mati*, It. *mattino* morning:—L. *mātūtīnum* (sc. *tempus*).

With regard to the coexistence of the masc. and fem. forms in med.L., cf. the use of *vesperæ* fem. pl. and *vesperi* masc. pl., for VESPERS. Some scholars have suggested that the form *matutinæ* is ellipt. for *matutinæ vigiliæ*: cf. *vigilia matutina* 'morning watch' 1 Sam. xi. 11.]

I. In the plural form.

1. *Eccl.* **a.** One of the canonical hours of the breviary; properly a midnight office, but sometimes recited at daybreak, and followed immediately by lauds.

In modern Roman Catholic use the office as said by secular clergy is usually 'anticipated', i. e. said on the afternoon or evening before.

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 91/156 Ase þe Monekes weren ech-one A nyȝt at Matines. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 6490 (Kölbing) Ich nigt it was þe quenes maner, To chirche gon & matins here. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 197 On a nyght as he stude at þe psalmodie at matyns. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 329/2 Mateynys, *matutine.* 1450–1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* 122 Thys versycle [*Esto nobis*] ys sayde bytwene Matyns and Lawdes. *Ibid.*, Some tyme mattyns were sayde by themselfe in the nyghte, and laudes by them selfe at morow tyde, and the same ys yet vsed of some relygyons. *c* 1483 CAXTON *Dialogues* 27/17 He ariseth alle the nyghtes For to here matynes. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 114 b, They came to mumble up their mattyns at mydnight, after their accustomed maner. 1601 F. GODWIN *Bps. of Eng.* 327 As he came from the morning seruice then called the Mattens which was woont to be said shortly after midnight. 1863 J. M. NEALE *Ess. Liturgiol.* 6 Matins are preceded by the Pater Noster, the Ave Maria, and the Credo. 1896 SWETE *Ch. Services* 39 The night services consisted of Nocturns, Mattins and Lauds; at daybreak came the supplementary Mattins.

† **b.** Often used as a designation for the whole of the public service preceding the first mass on Sunday. (See quot. 1904.) *Obs.*

c 1250 *Lutel Soth Serm.* 69 in *O. E. Misc.* 190 (Cott. MS.) Masses and matines ne kepeþ heo nouht. 13.. *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* xxxvii. 852 ȝif þow herest matyns and masse and takest haly brede. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Eng. Wks.* (1880) 193 ȝif prestis seyn here matynes, masse & euensong aftir salisbury vsse [etc.]. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* I. iii–v. 40 Whan matyns & the first masse was done. 1520 *Burgh Recs. Stirling* (1887) 5 At Mes, Mathemes and Ewinsang. *c* 1529 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. I. I. 189 He..is alwaye present at Mattens and all Masse w^t evyn song. 1549 LATIMER *4th Serm. bef. Edw. VI* (Arb.) 108 Thys byshop answered hys chaplayne..as I was goynge to hys Sermon, I remembred me that I had neyther sayed masse, nor mattens. 1904 WORDSWORTH & LITTLEHALES *Old Service-bks.* 21 Then, even as now..the church was rarely used on Sundays more than three times, i.e. for Mattins at 6 or 7, for High Mass then at 9, and for Evensong at 2 p.m., 2.30 p.m., or 3 p.m. But with 'Mattins' (we conjecture) Lauds and Prime would be amalgamated.

c. The order for public morning prayer in the Church of England since the Reformation.

Structurally the service is a combination of elements of the breviary offices of matins, lauds, and prime.

1548 *Act* 2 & 3 *Edw. VI*, c. 1 § 6 The Mattens, Evensonge, Letanye, and all other prayers. 1549 (May) *Bk. Com. Prayer* 1 An Ordre for Mattins dayly through the yere. 1559 *Act* 1 *Eliz.* c. 2 § 2 All and singler Mynysters..shall..use the Mattens Evensong Celebracion of the Lordes Supper [etc.]. 1733 TICKELL *Her Majesty's Rebuilding* 12 To couch at Curfeu-time they thought no scorn, And froze at Matins, every winter-morn. 1863 J. M. NEALE *Ess. Liturgiol.* 7 No one, we imagine, but must have felt the lamentable want of this [Invitatory] in our own Matins. 1896 SWETE *Ch. Services* 73 Subsequent revisions of the Prayer Book have introduced into the English Mattins and Evensong elements foreign to the ancient Hours.

‖ **d.** In a form of oath. (Cf. MARYMASS 2.) ? *nonce-use.*

1606 *Wily Beguiled* K 1 b, Now by the Marry mattens, Peg, thou hast [etc.].

† **e.** *Black matins*: at Christ Church, Oxford, the college matins (as distinguished from the cathedral matins at which surplices are worn). *Obs.*

1825 C. M. WESTMACOTT *English Spy* I. 305 If you're fond of fun, old fellow, jump up and view the Christ Church men proceeding to *black matins* this morning.

2. In various allusive and fig. uses.

a. Chiefly of birds: *To sing* (etc.) *matins*, to sing their morning song. *poet.*

c 1530 *Crt of Love* 1353 On May-day..To matens went the lusty nightingale...*Domine labia*, gan he crye. 1595 SPENSER *Epithal.* 80 The merry Larke hir mattins sings aloft. 1640 GLAPTHORNE *Hollander* IV. Wks. 1874 I. 133 The shrill Organd Cocke Shall cease to carroll Mattens to the morne. 1812 J. WILSON *Isle of Palms* III. 435 And kneeling there to Mercy's fane..The Maid her matins sings. 1866 NEALE *Sequences & Hymns* 81 The birds sing early Matins. 1903 *Longm. Mag.* Nov. 30 The thrushes were still at matins.

† **b.** *Devil's matins*: a service of Satanic worship attributed to witches; *transf.* an uproar. *Obs.*

1625 MASSINGER *New Way* IV. i, Sir Giles Ouerreach Made such a plain discouerie of himselfe, And read this morning such a dinellish Matins, That [etc.]. 1634 W. WOOD *New Eng. Prosp.* II. xii, Hee [the Devil] was wont to carry away their wives and children, because hee would drive them to these Mattens. 1820 [see DEVIL *sb.* 25].

c. *Parisian matins* (= F. *matines de Paris*, in Cotgr. *matines parisiennes*): the massacre of St. Bartholomew (Aug. 24, 1572), which began about 2 a.m. (Cf. *Sicilian vespers.*)

1614 [see PARISIAN B]. 1683 in *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1856/5 Murders, and Massacres, not to be parallel'd by the Parisian Mattins, or Sicilian Vespers.

d. A morning duty, occupation, or performance.

1641 MILTON *Ch. Govt.* II. (1851) 142 These and such lessons as these, I know would have been my Matins duly, and my Even-song. 1814 WORDSW. *Excursion* II. 140 The music and the sprightly scene Invite us; shall we quit our road, and join These festive matins?

II. In the sing. form.

† **3.** A morning. *Obs. rare.*

In the first quot. *matine* is a trisyllable riming with *tre*, and would therefore be strictly a distinct word, ad. F. *matinée*: see MATINÉE.

[*c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 8692 The sonne schynes on euery a tre, Hit is a fair matyne.] 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* I. v. 89 The Glow-worme showes the Matine to be neere, And gins to pale his vneffectuall Fire. 1845 DISRAELI *Sybil* (1863) 244 This morn..I learnt how your matins were now spent.

4. A morning call or song (of birds). *poet.*

1632 MILTON *L'Allegro* 114 Ere the first Cock his Mattin rings. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* I. 438 The sprightly Lark's shrill Matin wakes the Morn. 1840 J. S. POLACK *Mann. & Cust. N. Zealanders* I. 166 His shrill early matin, giving the signal to rise.

III. 5. *attrib.* and *Comb.* **a.** with *matin*: (*a*) 'pertaining to or used at the time of matins'.

c 1315 SHOREHAM *Poems* ii. 14 God and man y-take was At matyn-tyde by nyȝte. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xvi. (*Magdalena*) 905 In sammyne tyme þat wont war thay In matyne offyce for to ryse. 1450–1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* 24 To saye..mattyns, at mattyn tyme, & pryme at pryme tyme. 1708 OZELL tr. *Boileau's Lutrin* 57 And call the Yawning Priests to Matin Pray'r. 1709 POPE *Jan. & May* 523 He rais'd his spouse ere Matin-bell was rung. 1796 SCOTT *Wild Huntsmen* x, To muttering monks leave matin-song. *c* 1820 S. ROGERS *Italy* (1839) 133 Those who assembled there at matin-time. 1851 LONGF. *Gold. Leg.* IV. *Refectory*, To your cells, And pray till you hear the matin-bells.

(*b*) passing into adj. in the sense 'belonging to, the early morning, morning-, matinal'.

1643 *Farington Papers* (Chetham Soc.) 99 Matin Chamber. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* V. 7 The shrill Matin Song of Birds. 1717 POPE *Eloisa* 267, I waste the Matin lamp in sighs for thee. *a* 1732 GAY *Fables* (1738) II. viii. 77 At noon (the lady's matin hour) I sip the tea's delicious flower. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* II. i, All Nature's children feel the matin spring Of life reviving, with reviving day. 1863 WOOLNER *My Beautiful Lady* 45 At matin time where creepers interlace We sauntered slowly.

b. with *matins*: as *matins book, monger, mumbling, time*; † **matins mass,** the mass before which matins is recited.

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 823 Þat day [Sunday] þou owyst..For to here þy seruyse al; Matyns messe here [*Dulwich MS.* matenys & messe], to rede or syngge,...Come fyrst to matyns, ȝyf þat þou may. 1395 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 5 A peyre Matyns bookis. 1484 CAXTON *Fables of Alfonce* i, The Cocke..watcheth and waketh atte matyns tyme. 1530 PALSGR. 804/2 At mattyns tyme. *Ibid.* 183 *Vnes heures*, a primer or a mattyns boke. 1543 BALE *Yet a Course* 88 b, Mattens mongers, masse momblers, holye water swyngers. *a* 1555 G. MARSH in Foxe *A. & M.* (1583) 1565 Holy water casting, procession gadding, Mattins mumbling [etc.].

‖ **Mâtin** (matæn). [Fr.: see MASTIFF.] A large French watch-dog.

1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) III. 298 He [Buffon] bred up a young wolf..with a matin dog of the same age. 1845 YOUATT *Dog* 27 The French mâtin (*Canis lantiarius*).

Matinal (mæ·tinăl), *a.* Now *rare.* [ad. F. *matinal*, f. *matin* morning: see MATIN and -AL. Cf. MATUTINAL.]

1. Belonging to or taking place in the morning; early. Also, early-rising, matutinal.

1803 MARY CHARLTON *Wife & Mistress* II. i. 11 To attend the matinal *déjeuné's* of old Gruffy in town. 1819 H. BUSK *Vestriad* v. 276 The grey-ey'd Hours climb up the starry way To meet fair maidens matinal as they. 1842 MRS. F. TROLLOPE *Vis. Italy* I. xiv. 219 As if my very matinal son and myself had constituted the whole party. 1860 LD. LYTTON *Lucile* II. v. § 9. 30 The matinal chirp of a bird. 1862 MRS. H. WOOD *Channings* II. 74 Believing it could be nobody less than the bishop come to alarm them with a matinal visit.

2. *Geol.* The name given by H. D. Rogers to the third of his subdivisions of the palæozoic strata in the Appalachian chain, and hence to the period at which these were formed.

1858 H. D. ROGERS *Geol. Pennsylv.* II. II. 749 These periods..are the Primal, Auroral, Matinal, Levant, Surgent [etc.]. *Ibid.* 783 Depositions and Disturbances of the Matinal Period. 1859 PAGE *Handbk. Geol. Terms.* 1863 DANA *Man. Geol.* 379 'Matinal' Limestone with blue shale.

‖ **Matinée** (mæ·tinē, Fr. matine). [F. *matinée* morning, what occupies a morning, f. *matin* morning.] A 'morning' (i. e. afternoon) theatrical or musical performance.

[1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* lxiv, A *matinée musicale.* 1850 LONGFELLOW in *Life* (1891) II. 170 Charles Perkins gives *matinées musicales.*] 1880 *Standard* 22 Dec., The Gaiety *matinées.* 1898 *St. James's Gaz.* 8 Nov. 4/1 No efforts of theatrical managers seem able to cope with the nuisance of the 'matinée hat'.

† **Ma·ting,** *vbl. sb.*[1] *Obs.* [-ING [1].] The action of MATE *v.*[1]; checkmating. Also *attrib.*

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 11309 At ilka mattyng [*v. r.* matyng] þei seide 'chek'. *c* 1407 LYDG. *Reas. & Sens.* 46 Ve shal fynde anoone ryght By and by in this scripture Of my matynge the Aventure. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 329/2 Matynge at the chesse, *mataeio.* 1592 G. HARVEY *New Letter* Wks. (Grosart) I. 275 In a mating age, none are free from the check, but kinges. *a* 1649 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Fam. Epist.* Wks. (1711) 146 The mating of the king is the conclusion of the game [of chess].

Mating (mē·tiŋ), *vbl. sb.*[2] [f. MATE *v.*[2] + -ING [1].] The action of MATE *v.*[2]; matching; marrying; pairing; esp. of birds (occas. with *up*). Also *attrib.*, as *mating-ground.*

1621 BRATHWAITE *Natures Embass. Sheph. Tales* 213 So shall we Honor'd be, In our mating, in our meeting. 1856 KANE *Arct. Expl.* I. xxi. 268 A solitary pair, who seem to have left their fellows for this far northern mating-ground. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) III. 61 Do you [a breeder of birds and animals] not take the greatest care in the mating? 1896 *Westm. Gaz.* 28 May 3/1 The mating of the blue gown with the pink or crimson hat is eminently smart. 1899 *Feathered World* 10 Mar. 474 Having described the mating-up of the breeding pens of pure brown-reds.

b. *Fishing.* (See quot.)

1887 GOODE, etc. *Fisheries U. S.* Sect. v. II. 259 Sometimes two or more crews belonging to different vessels unite in the capture, and if successful an equitable division of the oil is afterward made. This is called 'mating'.

Ma·ting, *ppl. a.* [f. MATE *v.*[2] + -ING [2].] That mates; pairing.

1870 F. W. H. MYERS *Poems* 100 No ringdove murmurs on the hill Nor mating cushat calls. 1903 *Westm. Gaz.* 11 Feb. 2/3 Sing more softly for his sake, you mating birds on bough.

† **Matins,** *v. Obs.* [f. *matins*: see MATIN.] *intr.* To perform matins; also *trans.* to honour (a saint) with celebration of matins. Hence † **Matinsed** *ppl. a.*, † **Matinsing** *vbl. sb.* Also † **Matinser** *nonce-wd.*, one who performs matins.

1543 Mattenser [see MASSER [1]]. 1546 BALE *Eng. Votaries* I. (1550) 72 b, Whan theyr feastfull dayes come, they are.., with no small solempnite, mattensed, massed, ..sensed, smoked, perfumed and worshypped. 1547 — *Latter Exam. A. Askew* Pref. 8 These clowted, canonysed, solempnysed, sensed, mattensed, and massed martyrs. 1553 BECON *Reliques of Rome* (1563) 141 b, Al other fashions of Mattensyng and Massyng..vtterly put away.

Matir(e, obs. forms of MATTER.

Matirmonye, -moyne, obs. ff. MATRIMONY.

Matje, variant of MATIE.

Matlockite (mæ·tlǫkəit). *Min.* [f. *Matlock*, name of a town in Derbyshire: see -ITE.] † **a.** = PHOSGENITE. *Obs.* **b.** A yellowish oxychloride of lead occurring at Cromford near Matlock.

1843 E. J. CHAPMAN *Pract. Min.* 40 Matlockite. Chloride of Lead, from Derbysbire. Kerasine, *Beud.*; Murio-Car-

bonate of Lead, *Phil.*; Horn-lead. 1851 R. P. Greg in *Philos. Mag.* Ser. IV. II. 120 A description of Matlockite, a new Oxychloride of Lead.

Matlong, (? erron.) var. of Maltlong *Obs.*

1614 Markham *Cheap Husb.* 35 Hurts on the Cronet, as the quitterbone or Matlong. *Ibid.*, The Quitterbone is a hollow vlcer on the top of the Cronet, and so is the Matlong.

Matrace, obs. form of Matrass, Mattress.

Matracy, obs. form of Matrass.

‖ **Matranee** (mătrā·nī). Also **matraney.** *Anglo-Indian.* [Corruption of Hindī *mehtarānī*, fem. of Mehtar.] A female sweeper (of a house); a female house-servant in India whose duty it is to perform the most menial offices.

c 1804 Sherwood in *Life Mrs. S.* (1854) 294 A Matrance. *c* 1813 Mrs. Sherwood *Stories Ch. Catech.* xxxvii. 376 A procession of sweeper-women, or matraneys. 1886 Yule & Burnell *Anglo-Ind. Gloss., Matranee,* . . a female sweeper.

† **Matrass** [1]. *Obs.* In 6 mattresse. [a. OF. *materas, matelas,* of obscure origin.] A quarrel or bolt for the cross-bow.

1530 Palsgr. 244/1 Mattresse for a crosbowe, *martelas.* 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.*

Matrass [2] (mæ·trăs). Forms: 7 **matrat,** (**matracy,** from mod.L.), **matrace,** 7–8 **matras,** 8–9 **mattras(s,** 7– **matrass.** [a. F. *matras,* in 15–17th c. *matheras* (Hatz.-Darm.), *matraz, matrac* (Cotgr.); = Sp. *matraz,* pharmaceutical L. *matracium.*

By some considered to be a transferred use of *matras* Matrass [1], with reference to the shape of the vessel. This view is supported by the existence of the Eng. synonym Bolt-head 2, unless the latter be merely a quasi-literal translation of the Fr. word. Devic suggests adoption from the Arab. *maṭraḥ* leather bottle; cf. mod.L. *matracium* 'a little sack, wherein is calcinated tartar or the like, pricked here and there for the emission of liquors' (tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.*, ed. 2, 1693).]

1. A glass vessel with a round or oval body and a long neck, used by chemists for digesting and distilling.

1605 Timme *Quersit.* II. v. 123 Vessels which are called matrats, like unto round globes, having straite neckes. 1657 Tomlinson *Renou's Disp.* 592 Some include it [quicksilver] with aqua fortis in a Matracy. 1669 W. Simpson *Hydrol. Chym.* 166 Put a . . quantity thereof in a matrass, lute it exactly [etc.]. 1681 tr. *Willis' Rem. Med. Wks.* Vocab., *Matrace,* a vessel used for chymical distillations. 1698 H. Sloane in *Phil. Trans.* XX. 73 Put all into a Matras, and pour upon them a Quart of Brandy. 1721 W. Gibson *Farrier's Disp.* II. i. 81 Instead of a Matrass, may be used a Florence Wine Flask. 1763 W. Lewis *Comm. Phil. Techn.* 34 A Long necked matras or bolt head. 1811 A. T. Thomson *Lond. Disp.* (1818) 468 Apply a moderate heat to the matrass. 1849 R. V. Dixon *Heat* I. 155 The ball of a small mattrass. 1880 Garrod & Baxter *Mat. Med.* 48 A matrass containing twenty-two ounces of water.

attrib. 1683 Pettus *Fleta Min.* II. 12 The word *Bell* is also applyed to a glass . . which the Chimists call a matrass glass.

2. A urinal (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1890).

1855 Dunglison *Med. Lex.* (ed. 12) s.v. *Matracium.*

Matrass, -at, obs. ff. Mattress, Matrass.

Matre, obs. variant of Mehtar.

Matrefillon, obs. form of Matfellon.

Matremoine, -mony, obs. ff. Matrimony.

Matres, obs. form of Mattress.

Matriarch (mē·triāɹk). [f. L. *mātr(i)-, māter* mother: on the supposed analogy of Patriarch (apprehended as if f. *pater* father).] A woman having the status corresponding to that of a patriarch, in any sense of the word. In various nonce-uses, now usually jocular.

1606 Birnie *Kirk-Buriall* Ded., Your Spouse now the yong fruteful Matriarch of that multi-potent Marquesad. 1629 Donne *Fifty Serm.* (1649) xliv. 417 The learnedest Nun, and the best Matriarch, and Mother of that [the Roman] Church, I think, that ever writ, Heloyssa. 1837 Southey *Doctor* cxvii. IV. 158 Dr. Southey has classed this injured Matriarch [Job's wife] in a triad with Xantippe and Mrs. Wesley. 1883 J. W. Hales in *Athenæum* 24 Feb. 248, I believe this gentleman [Father Hubbard] to be an afterthought—to be a mere weak masculine reflex of the matriarch. 1893 *Harper's Weekly* 7 Jan. 11/1 Miss Flora McFlimsey, who nowadays must be a matriarch of some thirty-five seasons' standing.

transf. 1860–1 D. Coleridge in *Philol. Soc. Trans.* 168 The relation which our Indian sister holds to the ancient Bactrian matriarch, nay of the great mother herself to the surrounding families.

Matriarchal (mē·triāɹkăl), *a.* [f. Matriarch + -al, after Patriarchal.] Of or pertaining to a matriarch or to maternal rule; pertaining to, of the nature of, or based on matriarchy.

1863 Jowett in *Life & Lett.* (1897) I. xi. 363 They [Tennyson's boys] are getting too old for the matriarchal form of government. 1881 *Pall Mall G.* 12 Feb. 1/2 [In France] nothing is commoner than that two or three generations should continue to live in the same house. . This little community is ordinarily rather matriarchal than patriarchal. It is the eldest of the women who usually organizes and rules it. 1884 Tylor in *Rep. Brit. Assoc.* 905 The Indian tribes further south are largely matriarchal, reckoning descent not on the father's but the mother's side.

Hence **Matria·rchalism,** the condition of life under a matriarchal system. **Matria·rchalist,** a supporter of the theory that tribal society was primitively matriarchal.

1884 Tylor in *Rep. Brit. Assoc.* 906 Matriarchalism has only in places yielded to the patriarchal system. 1885 — in *Academy* 1 Aug. 67/2 The effect which the researches of the matriarchalists had on his mind.

Matriarchate (mē·triāɹkĕt). [f. Matriarch + -ate, after G. *matriarchat.*] A matriarchal community or system. Also *attrib.*

1885 Redhouse in *Jrnl. Roy. Asiatic Soc. Gt. Brit.* Apr. 276 It does not even attempt to prove . . that a matriarchate system was ever in existence among the Arabians. 1894 H. Drummond *Ascent of Man* 401 Bachoven has familiarized us with the idea of a Matriarchate, or Maternal Family.

Matriarchy (mē·triāɹki). [f. Matriarch, after Patriarchy.] That form of social organization in which the mother, and not the father, is the head of the family, and in which descent and relationship are reckoned through mothers and not through fathers.

1885 *Athenæum* 21 Mar. 379/3 Mr. J. W. Redhouse made a few remarks with reference to a paper he has prepared for the *Journal* of the Society . . 'On Matriarchy, or Mother Right'. 1892 Gomme *Ethnology in Folklore* 131 The principle of matriarchy is more primitive than that of patriarchy.

Matric (mătri·k), colloq. shortening of Matriculation.

1885 *Punch* 16 Mar. 233/2 Younger brother comes to-day from Harrow for Matric.

Matrical (mæ·trikăl, mătrəi·kăl), *a.* [ad. late L. *mātrīcālis* (*vena matricalis,* Vegetius) f. *mātrīc-* Matrix: see -al. Cf. F. *matrical* (Cotgr.).]

† **1.** Pertaining to the matrix or womb. *Obs.*

1611 Cotgr., *Vertiller,* to swell, or increase, as womens breasts doe when the matricall veins are stretched by the menstruall blood. 1651 *Life Father Sarpi* (1676) 34 They are presently filled with the sudden and violent motions of the matrical humours.

2. Pertaining to the matrix of algæ.

1882–4 Cooke *Freshw. Algæ* 56 Composed of very numerous cells arranged on the periphery at regular distances, connected by the matrical gelatin.

‖ **Matricaria** (mætrikē·riă). Also anglicized 6–7 **matricaryo, -ie.** [med.L. *mātrīcāria* (Dicfenbach), f. *mātrīc-,* Matrix. Cf. F. *matricaire* (16th c. in Littré). (The plant was so called on account of supposed medicinal properties.)] † **a.** The plant feverfew, *Chrysanthemum Parthenium.* (*Obs.*) **b.** *Bot.* A genus (Linnæus 1735, following Tournefort) of plants, belonging to the N.O. *Compositæ,* originally including the feverfew and other species, which have since been separated and referred to other genera; a plant of this genus. (A well-known species is the wild camomile, *M. Chamomilla.*) **c.** *attrib.,* as *Matricaria-camphor.*

1599 A. M. tr. *Gabelhouer's Bk. Physicke* 220/2 Take redde Roseleaves, Camomille, & Matricarye. 1632 Sherwood, Matricarie. 1664 Evelyn *Kal. Hort.* Apr. (1679) 15 Transplant such Fibrous-roots . . as Violets . . Hellebor, Matricaria, &c. 1706 J. Gardiner tr. *Rapin of Gardens* (1728) 49 Now on high Stems will Matricaria rear Her silver Blooms. 1767 Abercrombie *Ev. Man his own Gard.* (1803) 704/1 Matricaria, or feverfew. 1885 *Cassell's Encycl. Dict., Matricaria-camphor,* a camphor isomeric with laurinol, obtained from the oil of feverfew. 1890 *Syd. Soc. Lex.* s.v., *Oil of Matricaria,* a thick tenacious volatile oil obtained from the flowers of *M. chamomilla.*

Matrice (mē·tris, mæ·tris). Also 4–5 **matris,** 5 **matryce,** 6 **mattrice.** [ad. L. *mātrīc-em* Matrix. Cf. F. *matrice* (also in popular form OF. *marris*: see Maris).]

† **1.** The uterus, womb (of mammals); *occas.* the ovary (of other animals); = Matrix. *Obs.*

c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 175 þe matris of wymmen. 1471 Ripley *Comp. Alch.* IV. x. in Ashm. (1652) 146 That after she hath conceyved of the Man, The Matryce of her be shyt. 1561 Hollybush *Hom. Apoth.* 24 There wyth is hyr matrice or mother chafed. 1601 Dolman *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* (1618) III. 821 Some are engendered . . of egs, as Serpents: and also by an other manner, which is perfected in the matrice by egs, as the viper. 1661 Lovell *Hist. Anim. & Min.* 116 It . . warms the matrice, and causeth the courses. 1774 Walsh in *Phil. Trans.* LXIV. 468 In the right matrice he met with four such fetuses and nine such eggs.

† **b.** *transf.* and *fig.*

1602 Fulbecke *Pandectes* 62 Looke into the bowels & matrice of the earth, ye shall haue gold, siluer, brasse, to exceed all other mettals. 1624 Fisher in F. White *Repl. Fisher* 590 Bringing them backe againe to the Roote and Matrice of the Catholicke Church. 1669 Gale *Crt. Gentiles* I. I. xii. 76 This persuasion, of the Egyptian Tongue . . being the old Matrice of the Greek, is but a dream of Kirchers. 1698 Fryer *Acc. E. India & P.* 333 For the most part this is an hospitable Soil, cherishing in its Matrice whatever is kindly sowed.

2. *Die-sinking* and *Type-founding.* = Matrix 4. Now *rare*; the pl. coincides graphically with that of Matrix.

1587 in Plomer *Abstr. Wills Eng. Printers* (1903) 27 My printinge wholy furnished with presses letters caracters of cast mettell, and the mattrices. 1587–8 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* IV. 265 James Achesoun . . sinkis and makis irnes, instrumentis and matriceis, alsweill for preating of silver as of lattoun. 1656 Blount *Glossogr.* s.v., Matrices of Letters or Characters, are those moulds . . in which the Letters . . which Printers use are formed. 1727–41 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v., When types are to be cast, the Matrice is fastened to the end of a mould. *Ibid.*, Matrices used in coining, are pieces of steel in form of dyes. 1825 J. Nicholson *Operat. Mechanic* Gloss., *Matrice,* the concave form of a letter in which the types are cast. 1868 Seyd *Bullion* (1880) 278 A well made Matrice will remain in use for about 15 years.

Comb. 1683 Moxon *Mech. Exerc., Printing* xv. P 11 Close by the . . side of this Notch is a small square Wyer-staple driven, which we may call the Matrice-Check; for its Office is only to keep the Shanck of the Matrice from flying out of this Notch. 1688 R. Holme *Armoury* III. 113/2 The Mattrice or Mould-Maker [etc.] all called Letter Founders.

† **3.** (See quots.) *Obs.*

1727–41 Chambers *Cycl., Matrice,* or *Matrix,* in dying, is applied to the five simple colours. . . These are, the black, white, blue, red, and fallow. 1731 Bailey vol. II, *Matrice,* [with Dyers] is apply'd to the first simple colours.

4. = Matrix 3. *rare.*

1855 J. R. Leifchild *Cornwall* 131 Man digs into darkness, . . He breaks up the veins from the matrice.

Matrices, pl. of Matrix.

Matricidal (mē·trisəi·dal, mæ·tri-), *a.* [f. Matricide [1] and [2] + -al.] That kills his or her mother. Also *fig.*

1846 Grote *Greece* I. xvi. I. 545 The remorse . . of the matricidal Alcmæôn . . is also mentioned by Thucydidês. 1861 Hook *Lives Abps.* I. v. 235 A scheme most deadly, serpentine, and even matricidal. 1869 Palgrave *Lyr. Poems* (1871) 145 When one fair land . . Saw herself rent in twain by matricidal hand.

Matricide [1] (mē·trisəid, mæ·tri-). [ad. L. *mātricīda,* f. *mātr(i)-, māter* mother: see -cide 1.] One who kills his or her mother.

1632 Sherwood, A Matricide (or mother-killing), *Matricide.* 1638 Mayne *Lucian* (1664) 242 Amphilocus, the son of a wicked Matricide. 1822 T. Taylor *Apuleius* 232 A matricide, because he had attempted to kill his stepmother. 1879 Farrar *St. Paul* (1883) 740 The now unchecked tyranny of the incestuous matricide.

Matricide [2] (mē·trisəid, mæ·tri-). [ad. L. *mātricīd-ium*: see prec. and -cide 2. Cf. F. *matricide* (mod. rare).] The action of killing one's mother. Also *Comb.*

1594 O. B. *Quest. Profit. Concern.* 13 b, Now from viperous matricide sellers, good Lord deliuer vs. 1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* III. xvi. 145 Nature . . compensates the death of the father by the matricide or murder of the mother. 1659 T. Pecke *Parnassi Puerp.* 183 A Generation, Baldpate Time ne're Ey'd: That durst concurre, in voting Matricide. 1846 Grote *Greece* I. xiv. I. 381 *note,* The matricide of Orestês. 1882 Farrar *Early Chr.* I. 64 Hers was the jealousy which had goaded Nero to matricide.

† **Matricious,** *a. Obs. rare*—°. [f. L. *mātrīc-* Matrix + -ious.] = Matrical 1.

1656 Blount *Glossogr.* s. v. *Vein, Matricious vein* (*vena matricis*) the matrix vein, or a vein that runnes along the flank neere the Reines.

‖ **Matricula** (mătri·kiŭlă). *Obs.* exc. *Hist.* Also 6 **matricola.** [Late L. *mātrīcula,* dim. of L. *mātrix* (see Matrix), which in late L. occurs in the same sense. (The development of meaning in late L. is obscure.) Cf. F. *matricule,* Sp. *matrícula,* Pg. *matricula,* It. *matricola,* G. *matrikel.*]

1. A list or register of persons belonging to an order, society, or the like. Also, a certificate of enrolment in such a register.

1555 Eden *Decades* 348 To cause this to bee entered in the booke cauled the Matricola of owre housholde vnder the tytle of knyghtes. 1617 Moryson *Itin.* I. 177, I shewed them my Matricula, that is, a paper, witnessing . . I was a scholler of Padua. 1645 Evelyn *Diary* (1879) I. 254 [Padua.] I . . in the afternoone (30 July) received my *matricula,* being resolved to spend some moneths here at study. 1691 Wood *Ath. Oxon.* I. 471 His name occurs not in the Matricula, only that of John Sherley, a Sussex man. 1840 De Quincey *Style* III. Wks. 1862 X. 237 It would exclude the two Plinys, the two Senecas, . . and others, from the matricula of Roman eloquence. *a* 1851 *Hist. Sk. Columbia Coll.* 64 (B. H. Hall *College Words*) We find in its Matricula the names of William Watson [etc.]. 1885 *Cath. Dict.* (ed. 3) 566/2 *Matricula,* the roll containing the names of the clergy permanently attached to a cathedral, or a collegiate, or a parish church; also, the list of the names of the students regularly admitted into any university.

2. *spec.* In the Holy Roman (and the present German) Empire: see quot.

1845 S. Austin *Ranke's Hist. Ref.* I. 179 *note,* The Matricula . . was the list of the contingents, in men and money, which the several States were bound to furnish to the empire.

Matriculant (mătri·kiŭlănt). [ad. med.L. *mātrīculantem,* pr. pple. of *mātrīculāre*: see Matriculate *v.*] One who matriculates; a candidate for matriculation.

1883 *American* V. 390 They are ready to favor the demand upon matriculants for a preliminary qualification. 1897 *Athenæum* 12 June 780 A notable increase of matriculants in the University of Wales.

Matricular (mătri·kiŭlăr), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. med.L. *mātrīculārius* and *-āris,* f. *mātrīcula*: see Matricula and -ar. Cf. F. *matriculaire.*]

A. *adj.*

I. 1. Pertaining to, or of the nature of, a 'matricula' or official register of persons belonging to a university, an association, etc.

1575 Turler *Traueiler* 69 Although their names be written in the Matricular bookes of students. 1611 Cotgr., *Marille,* a Register, or Matricular booke. 1727 in Bailey vol. II. 1804 in *Spirit Publ. Jrnls.* (1805) VIII. 80 Our . . Grand Officers of the Grand Legion of Honour, are ordered to insert the name of Citizen Morning Post in the Matricular Register of our said Legion.

b. With reference to Germany: Pertaining to the 'matricula' (see Matricula 2).

1762 tr. *Busching's Syst. Geog.* IV. 560 The Elector of Cologn has a matricular evaluation of sixty horse and two

hundred and seventy-seven foot, or 1828 florins. 1894 *19th Cent.* XXXVI. 237 Prussia had to pay 211,000,000 m. of matricular contributions.

II. Used as if a derivative of MATRIX: see -ULAR.

¶ **2.** Of a language: Original; from which others are derived. *Obs.* (? *nonce-use*).

1793 HELY tr. *O'Flaherty's Ogygia* II. 89 There were seventy-two matricular Babylonian tongues. *Ibid.* 90.

3. Of or belonging to the matrix or womb.

1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 200 Regeneration can only occur when matricular cell elements still exist to proliferate.

† **B.** *sb.* = MATRICULA 2. *Obs.*

1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turks* (1621) 1277 The perfecting of which Matriculer, the Emperour would haue in this assemblie to be amongst them considered of.

† **Matriculary.** *Obs.* [ad. med.L. *mātrīculārius*: see prec. and -ARY.] A catalogue.

1686 GUNTON *Hist. Peterborough* 49 A publick Library ..stored with above 1700 Books, or Tractates, as by an antient Matriculary of that Library may appear.

Matriculate (mătri·kiŭlēt), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. med.L. *mātrīculāt-us*, pa. pple. of *mātrīcul-āre*: see MATRICULATE *v.*] **A.** *adj.* = MATRICULATED.

1487 *Hen. VII* in *Epist. Acad. Oxon.* (O. H. S.) II. 514 He nethere ys contributorye unto the charge, ne yett ys matriculate. *a* 1529 SKELTON *Ph. Sparowe* 1288 Why shuld she take shame That her goodly name..Sholde be set and sorted, To be matriculate With ladyes of estate?

B. *sb.* One who has been matriculated.

1712 ARBUTHNOT *John Bull* Pref. (1755) 4 The matriculates of that famous university. 1848–9 *Cal. Univ. N. Carolina* (B. H. Hall *College Words*) The number of Matriculates has ..been greater. 1887 *Pall Mall G.* 25 Aug. 9/1 [He] had been a matriculate at Trinity College, Dublin.

attrib. 1886 W. J. TUCKER *E. Europe* 376 The day following the matriculate examination.

Matriculate (mătri·kiŭlēit), *v.* [f. med.L. **mātrīculāt-*, ppl. stem of **mātrīculāre*, f. *mātrīcula*: see MATRICULA. Cf. Sp., Pg. *matricular*, It. *matricolare*.]

† **1.** *trans. gen.* To insert (a name) in a register or official list; usually, to admit or incorporate into a society or body of persons by insertion of the name in the register; to enrol (soldiers). *Obs.*

1577 HANMER *Anc. Eccl. Hist* (1619) 460 For vnto that time ye names of the Senators or Aldermen were matriculated. 1581 SAVILE *Tacitus Hist.* (1591) Annot. 51 Vnder the Empire..six hundreth at the least were matriculated in a Legion. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* XXXIII. xxiv. 839 In this number [*sc.* of coloners] none of them should be matriculated, who ..had beene enemies to the people of Rome. 1602 SEGAR *Hon. Mil. & Civ.* I. vii. 10 Slaues, and base people were matriculated for souldiers. 1613 R. CAWDREY *Table Alph.* (ed. 3), *Marticulate* [sic], to register or inrole. 1631 WEEVER *Anc. Funeral Mon.* 202 This murdered Bishop was .. matriculated by the Pope a glorious Saint and Martyr. ?1656 BRAMHALL *Replic.* 37 Have the English Protestants matriculated themselves into their congregational Assemblies? 1715 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* I. 222 The..Church Register or Warden, who oftentimes .. would matriculate sometimes all he could hear of.

† **b.** *transf.* and *fig.* *Obs.*

1610 DONNE *Pseudo-martyr* 348 Wee acknowledge our selues incorporated and matriculated into that Christian warfare, wherin they entred our Names. 1638 CHILLINGW. *Relig. Prot.* I. Pref. § 5 Lovers of truth (in which Company I had been long agoe matriculated). 1654 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 188 Such as are matriculated in *Albo Sapientiæ*. ?1656 BRAMHALL *Replic.* vi. 271 It was..their obstinacy thus to incorporate their errors into their Creeds, and matriculate their abuses among their sacred Rites. 1782 W. F. MARTYN *Geog. Mag.* I. 741 Until the boys are matriculated into the society of the men.

† **c.** In occasional uses (app. modified by quasi-etymological association with L. *māter* mother): To adopt as a child; to adopt or naturalize (an alien, a foreign custom, book, etc.); also, to consign *to* maternal care. *Obs.*

1579 J. STUBBES *Gaping Gulf* C j b, The state, which can neuer so kindly matriculate him [*sc.* an alien] as the childe which she hath born in her owne wombe. 1640 BP. HALL *Chr. Moder.* I. § 5. 42 Mathew,..when he..was now to be matriculated into the family of Christ, entertained his new Master with a..banquet. 1686 F. SPENCE tr. *Varillas' Ho. Medicis* 215 Tho' Luxury was sufficiently great at the Pope's court,..where they had matriculated it of late. 1704 HEARNE *Duct. Hist.* (1714) I. 136 A Work so excellent.., that all Nations have chosen to Matriculate it and make it speak their own Tongue. 1768 [W. DONALDSON] *Life Sir B. Sapskull* II. xxi. 164, I was matriculated to the care of the good lady my nurse.

2. *spec.* To enter (a name) in the register of a university or college; to admit (a student) to the privileges of a university. Also *fig.*

1579 GOSSON *Sch. Abuse* (Arb.) 24, I haue bene matriculated my selfe in the schoole, where so many abuses florish. 1622 MABBE tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* II. 286 Loue had now matriculated me in his Schoole. 1642 HOWELL *For. Trav.* (Arb.) 16, I take it for granted, hee hath been matriculated..and learn't to chop Logick. 1705 HICKERINGILL *Priest-cr.* II. v 53 For about so long I have been matriculated in the University. 1711 HEARNE *Collect.* (O. H. S.) III. 257 Let Mr. Allen have eight Shillings to be matriculated with. 1826–7 DE QUINCEY *R. Bentley* Wks. 1857 VII. 46 Bentley was matriculated at St. John's College, Cambridge. 1904 J. T. FOWLER *Durham Univ.* 150 He entered at University College, and was matriculated in October, 1836.

b. *intr.* To be entered as a member of a university or college.

1851 DIXON *W. Penn* iii. (1872) 26 Penn the Younger went to Oxford, where he matriculated as a gentleman commoner. 1861 HUGHES *Tom Brown at Oxf.* I. Introd. 1 Tom Brown .. went up to matriculate at St. Ambrose's College.

¶ **c.** *trans.* To initiate as qualified. Const. *to.*

1863 GEO. ELIOT *Romola* ix, No man is matriculated to the art of life till he has been well tempted

3. *Her.* To record (arms) in an official register.

1586 FERNE *Blaz. Gentrie* 151 It is a part of their office to register and matriculate the auntient acts of honor and the merits of gentlemen. 1809 J. HOME in *Naval Chron.* XXIV. 192 The Ensigns Armorial..are matriculated in the public registers of the Lyon Office. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* xlii, Mr. Cumming of the Lyon Office..being at that time engaged in discovering and matriculating the arms of two commissaries from North America [etc.].

Hence **Matri·culating** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

a 1631 DONNE *Serm.* lxxxvii. (ed. Alford) IV. 116 A registering, a matriculating of their names in the book of the profession of the Christian religion. 1644 BULWER *Chirol.* 143 This in the sacred language of Scripture is Chirothesia ..and is a matriculating gesture.

Matriculated (mătri·kiŭlēitĕd), *ppl. a.* [f. MATRICULATE *v.* + -ED [1].] Admitted by enrolment, esp. as a student of a university, etc.

1642 MILTON *Apol. Smect.* Wks. 1851 III. 310 My matriculated confutant. 1771 *Act Amending Mile Ways Oxford* 65 If any matriculated Person or Persons..shall wilfully break..any of the Lamps [etc.]. 1858 (*title*) A List of the Matriculated Members of the Merchants House of Glasgow, 1768–1857. 1895 *Athenæum* 9 Nov 647/3 It will practically have the effect of opening the College associateship to any matriculated student.

Matriculation (mătrikiŭlēi·ʃən). [f. MATRICULATE *v.* + -ATION. Cf. It. *matriculazione* (*matriculatione*, Florio 1611), Sp. *matriculacion*.]

1. The action of matriculating, or of registering among the members of a society, enrolling as a soldier, etc. Now chiefly in academic use, formal admission into a university or college. Sometimes used for *matriculation examination*.

1588 FRAUNCE *Lawiers Log.* Ded. iv b, Having once knowen the price of an admission, Salting, and Matriculation, with the interteyning of Freshmenne in the Rhetorike schooles, they returne whence they came. 1614 BP. HALL *Contempl. O. T.* VIII. iii, VIII. 970 Wee haue no right of inheritance in..the Church of God till we haue received the sacrament of our matriculation. 1633 D. ROGERS *Treat. Sacram.* I. 71 Baptisme..is called our Union with Christ,.. our Matriculation, Cognizance, and Character of Christ. 1638 BRATHWAIT *Barnabees Jrnl.* II. (1818) 71 Thence to Highgate, where I viewed..th' horne of matriculation Drunk to th' freshmen of our nation. 1653 in Somers *Tracts* I. 502 No Person..shall take an Oath upon Matriculation in either of the Universities. 1711 HEARNE *Collect.* (O. H. S.) III. 257 He had 5*s*...to go towards his Matriculation. 1853 'C. BEDE' *Verdant Green* I. ii, He's now quite old enough, and prepared enough for matriculation. 1881 MRS. CRAIK *Little Mother* II. (1882) 43 Papa said he must [go out to India] if he failed in his matriculation. 1900 *Oxf. Univ. Cal.* 72 These Dues are for each quarter of the first four years from Matriculation.

† **b.** A certificate of matriculation; = MATRICULA. *Obs.*

1648 J. RAYMOND *Il Mercurio Italico* 233 Our Matriculations wee had from Padua did us much service.

c. *attrib.*, in *matriculation examination*; **matriculation book**, a book for the registration of admissions to a college or other association.

1611 SPEED *Hist. Gt. Brit.* IX. ix. § 99 Those only whose names were entred into the Matriculation Booke. 1726 AYLIFFE *Parergon* 16 A Scholar, that is absent from the University for five years,..is..rased out of the Matriculation Book. *Ibid.* 384 He is presum'd to be a Merchant who is found enrolled in the Matriculation-Book belonging to Merchants. 1853 *Assurance Mag.* III 273 Institute of Actuaries..Matriculation Examination 1852.

2. *Her.* A registration of armorial bearings.

1810 *Naval Chron.* XXIV. 192 He has obtained the following copy of matriculation from the Lyon Office, Edinburgh. 1901 *Spectator* 30 Mar. 461 The doctrine .. that the right to bear arms is dependent upon their matriculation in the College of Arms.

Matriculator (mătri·kiŭlēitəɹ). [f. MATRICULATE *v.* + -OR.] = MATRICULANT.

1869 *Globe* 13 Nov. 7 The matriculators last Michaelmas term numbered 529. 1888 *Q. Rev.* CLXVII. 209 At Oxford the matriculator subscribed the Thirty-nine Articles.

Matriculatory (mătri·kiŭlători), *a.* [f. MATRICULATE *v.*: see -ORY.] **a.** Pertaining to the matriculation (of students, etc.). **b.** = MATRICULAR 1 b.

1884 *Athenæum* 19 July, We should like to see..the addition of a modern language to the matriculatory subjects. 1885 *Pall Mall G.* 15 Jan. 8/1 The increase in the matriculatory contributions..has to be taken into account...The portion of the matriculatory contributions not covered by the revenue will be met by loan.

Matriheritage (mē·itrihe·rităʤ). *rare.* [f. L. *mātr(i)-*, *māter* mother + HERITAGE.] A proposed name for the system, existing in certain communities, according to which relationship through the mother, and not through the father, constitutes the title to inheritance. So **Matrihe·rital** *a.*, pertaining to 'matriheritage'.

1886 SIR G. CAMPBELL in *Nature* 9 Sept. 455/2 The best specimen..of the matriarchal, or perhaps I should rather say matri-herital system. *Ibid.*, The result of observation of the Khassyahs has been to separate in my mind the two ideas of matri heritage and polyandry.

Matrimoi(g)ne, -mone, obs. ff. MATRIMONY.

Matrimonial (mætrimō·niăl), *a.* and *sb.* [a. F. *matrimonial* (14th c. in Hatz.-Darm.) ad. late L. *mātrimōniāl-is* of or pertaining to matrimony, f. *mātrimōnium*: see MATRIMONY and -AL.]

A. *adj.*

1. Of or pertaining to matrimony.

c 1532 DU WES *Introd. Fr.* in Palsgr. 1049 The seconde loue is called matrimoniall. *c* 1610 *Women Saints* 67 King Ecgfride promised him greate summes..if he could persuade the Queene to vse matrimoniall companie with him. 1675-9 MULGRAVE *Ess. Satire* 185 He lugged about the matrimonial load. 1768 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* III. 72 Matrimonial causes ..are another..branch of the ecclesiastical jurisdiction. 1780 COWPER *Table-t.* 74 With close fidelity and love unfeigned, To keep the matrimonial bond unstained. 1829 LYTTON *Devereux* I. i, He had an exceeding distaste to the matrimonial state. 1884 'RITA' *My Ld. Conceit* VII. ii, The matrimonial knot is not an easy one to slip out of.

b. *fig.*

a 1568 COVERDALE *Bk. Death* XXXIX. (1579) 182 To open vnto the Lorde, to let him in, and with him to passe foorth into his royal and matrimoniall palace of the euerlastyng ioyfull kingdome. 1576 NEWTON *Lemnie's Complex.* I. ix. 75 b, To keepe..an equal poyze of matrymoniall consent and agreemente together betweene them [*sc.* mind and body].

2. Derived from marriage.

1577-87 HOLINSHED *Chron., Hist. Scot.* 365/1 The Dolphin of France..did vehementlie request that the crowne (which they terme matrimoniall) should be giuen vnto him. 1622 BACON *Hen. VII* 4 If he [Henry VII] relied vpon that Title [his marriage with Elizabeth of York], he could .. but .. haue rather a Matrimoniall then a Regall power.

3. Calculated to promote matrimony; inclining towards marriage.

1730 SWIFT *Death & Daphne*, His matrimonial spirit fled. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* XI. iv, She had matrimonial charms in great abundance.

† **B.** *sb.* A marriage. *Obs.*

c 1475 *Partenay* 952 With great ioy made thys matrimonial.

Hence (*nonce-wds.*) **Matrimo·nialism,** the doctrine of the excellence of matrimony. **Matrimo·nialist,** one empowered to celebrate marriages.

1811 SHELLEY in Dowden *Life* (1887) I. 174, I will hear your arguments for matrimonialism, by which I am now almost convinced. 1834 *Fraser's Mag.* IX. 385 Some of those .. gentlemen who are hoping..to exalt their sons and cousins ..into a sort of official dignity, as licensed matrimonialists.

Matrimonially (mætrimō·niăli), *adv.* [f. MATRIMONIAL + -LY [2].]

1. According to the manner or laws of matrimony.

1606 MARSTON *Fawne* Wks. 1856 II. 75 The Romans .. thought that a woman might mixe her thigh with a stranger wantonly, and yet still love her husband matrimonially. *a* 1631 DONNE *Fifty Serm.* (1649) 16 How Matrimonially soever such persons as have maried themselves may pretend to love,..yet..all that life is but a regulated Adultery. 1726 AYLIFFE *Parergon* 123 He is so matrimonially wedded unto his Church, that he cannot quit the same. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* I. iv, According to the principle which matrimonially unites contrasts.

2. By right of marriage.

1880 MUIRHEAD *Gaius* III. § 3 The same may be said of her who is matrimonially *in manu* of a grandson.

3. As regards the state of matrimony.

1886 *Law Times* LXXX. 336/2 Both parties actually did regard themselves as matrimonially free.

† **Matrimo·nious,** *a. Obs.* [f. MATRIMONY: see -OUS.] **a.** Pertaining to marriage. **b.** Conducive to matrimony.

1645 MILTON *Tetrach.* Wks. 1851 IV. 175 The miserable work that mans ignorance and pusillanimity would make in this matrimonious busines. 1837 LADY GRANVILLE *Lett.* (1894) II. 224 The green room is matrimonious.

Hence **Matrimo·niously** *adv.*, matrimonially.

1839 *Blackw. Mag.* XLVI. 28 When a man is matrimoniously inclined, let him keep his own counsel.

† **Matrimonize,** *v. Obs.* [f. MATRIMONY + -IZE.] *trans.* To cause to marry.

1612 W. PARKES *Curtaine-Dr.* (1876) 12 It could not matrimonize age and youth.

Matrimony (mæ·trimŏni). Forms: 4 matirmoyne, -monye, matrimon, matermoyn(e, matremoyne, matermone, matrimoyne, -moine, *Sc.* matrimene, 4–5 matrimoigne, 4–6 matrymony, matrimonye, 5 matremony, 6 matrymenie, 6–7 matrimenie, 4– matrimony. [a. OF. *matremoine, -oyne, -oigne*, a. L. *mātrimōni-um* wedlock, marriage, f. *mātr-em* mother: see -MONY.]

1. The rite of marriage; the action of marrying.

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 11156 The syxte sacrament ys matrymony, þere hyt ys do ryȝtwusly. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. x. 201 Sebben lawe hab I-loket bat vche mon haue a make In Mariage and Matrimoyne I-Medlet to-gedere. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Kut.'s T.* 2237 Bitwixen hem was maad anon the bond, That highte matrimoigne or mariage. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* xlviii. 214 (Harl. MS.) What tyme that the solempnite of the matrimonye is made, holdithe him with yow. 1508 DUNBAR *Tua maritit Wemen* 152 Sen man ferst with matrimony ȝow menkit in kirk, How baif ȝe farne be ȝour faith? 1547 *Homilies* I. *Agst. Swearing* I. (1859) 75 The sacrament of matrimony knitteth man and wife in perpetual love. 1548 CRANMER *Catech.* 70 The fayth and promise made in matrimony. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* IV. xlvii. 383 Teaching that Matrimony is a Sacrament, giveth to the Clergy the Judging of the lawfulnesse of Marriages. 1660 R. COKE *Power & Subj.* 78 Matrimony is the act of two free persons..mutually taking one another for husband and wife. 1765 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* I. xvi. 444 All children born before matrimony are bastards by our law. 1841 LANE *Arab. Nts.* I. 65 The tie of blood is, to him [an Arab], in every respect, stronger than that of matrimony. 1902 T. M.

LINDSAY *Ch. & Ministry in Early Cent.* v. 198 In such a solemn action as matrimony the blessing of the Church should be joined to the Civil contract.

personified. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xlii. 97 Matremony, that nobill king, Was grevit.

fig. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* ix. 26 (Harl. MS.), Our lord ihesu crist,..drowe matrimony with vs, þat is to say, when þat he tooke our kynde.

† **b.** A joining in wedlock; a marriage; an alliance by marriage. *Obs.*

c 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 348 þei maken many divorsis, and many matrimonies, unleveful. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 9223 A mariage & matremony hole. 1532 LATIMER *Let. to Baynton* in Foxe *A. & M.* (1583) 1751/2, I haue had more busines in my little cure since I spake with you, what with sicke folkes, and what with matrimonies, then I haue had since I came to it. 1535 CROMWELL in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) I. 404 The saide Bisshop of Rome..ought to approbate and confyrme this present matrymonie. 1622 MABBE tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* II. 253 That which they doe .. is noother thing, then to dissolue a matrimonie, and to open a doore to the Devill. 1660 R. COKE *Justice Vind.* 2 If he were just, because he did adorn his Sisters with highest matrimonies [etc.]. 1737 WHISTON *Josephus, Antiq.* xx. vii. § 3 He forsook at once this matrimony.

† **c.** A manner of marrying; nuptial ceremonial.

1718 LADY M. W. MONTAGU *Lett. to C'tess Bristol* (1887) I. 242 What is most extraordinary in their customs, is their matrimony.

† **d.** The marriage service. *Obs.*

1700 DRYDEN *Sigismonda* 165 The holy man..Made haste to sanctify the bliss by law; And muttered fast the matrimony o'er. 1724 MRS. M. DAVYS *Reformed Coquet* 86, I doubt not but your Chaplain has the Matrimony by heart; but, if not, pray let him con his lesson before he comes.

2. The state or condition of being husband and wife; the relation between married persons.

c 1325 *Metr. Hom.* 121 Ef Crist paied no ware Of matirmoyne [*Camb. MS.* matimon]..be noht thar [*sc.* til Cana Galile] Cumen. *c* 1340 HAMPOLE *Prose Tr.* 11 In assys or cause of matremoyne. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XVI. 219 Matrimoigne with-oute moillerye is nou3t moche to preyse. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Pars. T.* ¶ 843 Matrimoyne is leefful assemblynge of man And of womman. 1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 192 Matremony is a dignite ordeyned of god. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) II. 391 Hercules gate a son.. whiche reignede after hym, not geten in trewe matrimony. 1529 MORE *Suppl. Soulys* Wks. 307/2 Then shall matrimony be much better kepte. 1643 MILTON *Divorce* I. Pref., The misinterpreting of the scripture .. hath chang'd the blessing of matrimony not seldom into a familiar and co-inhabiting mischief. 1722 DE FOE *Relig. Courtsh.* I. iii. (1840) 93 The very laws of matrimony forbid it. 1829 LYTTON *Devereux* I. i, Nothing in his estimation was less becoming to a wise man than matrimony.

† **b.** Phrases. *To break matrimony*: to commit adultery. *To make matrimony*: to join in wedlock. *To make to matrimony*: to take to wife. *Obs.*

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. xv. 235 If þei facchen syluer And matrimoigne for monye maken & vnmaken. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 9 Takenge the doghter of Darius to matrimony. 1526 TINDALE *Matt.* v. 32 Whosoever put awaye his wyfe .. causeth her to breake matrimony. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 443 Forbiddyng them aboue all thinges the brech of Matrimonie, the vse of swearyng [etc.].

† **3.** A husband or wife. *Obs.*

c 1620 FLETCHER & MASS. *Little Fr. Lawyer* IV. v, Restore my Matrimony undefil'd. 1673 DRYDEN *Marr. à la Mode* II. i, That sign of a husband there, that lazy matrimony.

† **4.** (See quot.) *Obs.*

1757 W. THOMPSON *R. N. Advoc.* 41 If these Oxen do not weigh this weight, the practice of Matrimony is then introduced... It is weighing the Fore Quarter of a heavy Ox with the Hind Quarter of a light Ox, by which conjugated State they..produce the Standard Weight.

5. A game played with a full pack of cards and resembling Pope Joan. Also, the combination of king and queen of trumps in Pope Joan, Matrimony, and other games of cards. (Cf. MARRIAGE 7.)

1801 STRUTT *Sports & Past.* IV. ii. 296 We have also the Game of Snake, and the more modern Game of Matrimony, with others of the like kind. 1830 R. HARDIE *Hoyle's Games, Pope Joan* 82 Matrimony is the king and queen, and Intrigue the knave and queen of trumps. *Ibid., Matrimony* 83 The game..consists of five chances, viz. Matrimony, which is king and queen [etc.]. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* vi, When the spinster aunt got 'matrimony', the young ladies laughed afresh. 1876 CAPT. CRAWLEY *Card Players' Man.* 211 Matrimony.. is played with a full pack of cards. 1887 *All Year Round* 5 Feb. 66 There was Matrimony [in Pope Joan]..the winning of which caused such delightful confusion to the ingenuous maid of the period.

6. *slang* and *dial.* A mixture of two comestibles or beverages.

1813 *Examiner* 17 May 317/1 That injudicious mixing of wines, which is called matrimony. 1882 OGILVIE, *Matrimony*, 4. A name given jocularly to raisins and almonds mixed, and various other common combinations. 1892 MARIANNE NORTH *Recollect. Happy Life* I. 103 They gave us glasses of 'matrimony', a delicious compound made of star-apple sugar and the juice of Seville oranges.

7. *Comb.* in **matrimony cake** *dial.* (cf. 6), a round cake consisting of a layer of currants between two layers of pastry; **matrimony-vine**, a name for *Lycium barbarum* or *L. vulgare*.

1866 *Treas. Bot.*, *Matrimony-vine.*

Matriotism (mā·triŏtiz'm). *nonce-wd.* [Altered from PATRIOTISM, after L. *māter* mother.] Love of one's mother country or of one's 'alma mater'.

1856 LOWELL *Lett.* (1894) I. 301, I am delighted with your matriotism 'Rome, Venice, Cambridge!' 1885 H. C. BEECHING in *Academy* 14 Feb. 109/2 Though Mr. Lang's matriotism is thus divided, he has only one fatherland.

Matris, obs. form of MATRICE.

† **Matrisate**, *v. Obs. rare*⁻⁰. [f. ppl. stem of L. *mātrissāre*, f. *mātr-em* mother.] *intr.* To imitate a mother. 1727 in BAILEY vol. II.

Matrix (mā·triks). *Pl.* **matrixes**, **matrices**. [a. L. *mātrix* (stem *mātrīc-*), in late L. womb, in older Latin pregnant animal, female animal used for breeding; app. f. *māter* mother, by change of the ending into the suffix of fem. agent-nouns. Cf. MATRICE.

The L. plural *matrices* is normally pronounced (mātrəi'sīz), but in the industrial sense 4 the prevailing pronunciation is (mæ·trisīz), prob. from association with the pl. of MATRICE.]

1. The uterus or womb. Also occas. used for OVARY, esp. with reference to oviparous animals.

1526 TINDALE *Luke* ii. 23 Every man chylde that fyrst openeth the matrix shalbe called holy to the lorde. 1547 BOORDE *Brev. Health* iii. 8 Abhorsion .. maye come by ventositie and lubricite of humours in the matryx. 1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* 272 The partes of the Female are the wombe and the rest which by a general name are called matrices. 1655 MOUFET & BENNET *Health's Improv.* (1746) 202 The Matrix of Beasts..is but a sinewy and hard Substance. 1726–31 TINDAL *Rapin's Hist. Eng.* (1743) II. XVII. 74 *note*, The women that attended about Queen Mary alledged that her Matrix was consumed. 1765 *Treat. Dom. Pigeons* 15 The ovary, or upper matrix of the hen, or female bird. 1803 *Med. Jrnl.* IX. 57 The matrix..was uncommonly small, and the right ovarium .. had attached to it small excrescences. 1816 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* II. 36 This part.. is now a vast matrix of eggs. 1840 *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 40 The foetus, immediately after conception, descends..into the matrix.

2. A place or medium in which something is 'bred', produced, or developed.

1555 EDEN *Decades* 31 *margin*, Mountaynes are the matrices of golde. *Ibid.* 141 They founde certaine pearles coommynge foorthe of their matreces. 1594 PLAT *Jewell-ho.* I. 22 That which is yet chalke within the Matrix of the earth. 1641 FRENCH *Distill.* v. (1651) 161 Untill they..be received into certain matrixes in the earth which may make them put forth this potentiall saltnesse into act. 1671 J. WEBSTER *Metallogr.* iii. 46 Framed in their several seminaries, matrixes, or seed-husks. 1691 RAY *Creation* II. (1692) 82 A convenient Harbor or Matrix to cherish and hatch their Eggs. 1713 DERHAM *Phys.-Theol.* IV. xiii. 230 These Matrixes may much conduce to the Maturation and Production of the Young. 1727–52 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v., The earth is the matrix wherein seeds sprout; and marcasites are by many considered as the matrixes of metals. 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* xviii. (1857) 138 The question whether unmixed snow can act as a vegetative matrix. 1879 H. GEORGE *Progr. & Pov.* x. ii. (1881) 453 This is the matrix in which mind unfolds. 1880 BASTIAN *Brain* 39 This intermediate tissue is.. the probable matrix wherein and from which new nerve fibres..are evolved in animals.

b. A place or point of origin and growth.

1605 CAMDEN *Rem.* (1637) 56 The old German tongue, which undoubtedly is the matrix and mother of our English. 1867 MANNING *Eng. & Christendom* 242 The root and matrix of the Catholic Church. 1896 *Peterson Mag.* VI. 263/1 The matrix of the anti war feeling was in New England.

c. The formative part of an animal organ, e. g. the pulp and capsule of the mammalian tooth; the hair-papilla (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1890); the 'bed' in which the finger or toe-nails grow.

1835–6 TODD *Cycl. Anat.* I. 351/2 The matrix, or organ by which the perfect feather is produced, has the form of an elongated cylindrical cone. 1854 OWEN *Skel. & Teeth* in *Circ. Sci., Organ. Nat.* I. 280 The matrix of certain teeth does not give rise..to the germ of a second tooth. 1858 H. GRAY *Anat.* 545 The part of the cutis beneath the body and root of the nail is called the *matrix*.

d. *Bot.* The body on which a fungus or a lichen grows.

1857 BERKELEY *Cryptog. Bot.* § 39. 54 The nature of the communication between the plants and matrix in the parasitic fungi. 1874 COOKE *Fungi* 25 These spores .. deposit themselves..on the surface of the *Tremella* and on its matrix.

† **e.** 'The inward, soft, pithy and spungy part of any Tree or Plant' (Phillips, ed. Kersey, 1706).

1693 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Diet.* (ed. 2), *Matrix*,..Among Vegetables it signifies the Marrow or Heart of a Plant. 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Matrix* of a Tree or Plant, is the same with what the Botanists call *Cor.*

3. An embedding or enclosing mass; esp. the rock-mass surrounding or adhering to things embedded in the earth, as metal (see GANGUE), fossils, gems and the like.

1641 FRENCH *Distill.* v. (1651) 161 Which..as yet have no saline tast, untill they meet with such principles, and be received into certain matrixes in the earth. 1756–7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) I. 48 In the matrix of an emerald, you may see how this gem concretes. 1802 PLAYFAIR *Illustr. Hutton. Theory* 78 Some of the species of whinstone are the common matrices of agates and chalcedonies. 1871 *Trans. Amer. Inst. Mining Engin.* I. 95 Their [*sc.* ores] earthy portions we designate as their 'matrix' or 'gangue'. 1884 *Knowledge* 4 Apr. 222/2 The consolidated eruptive mud of the mines was believed by some to be the true matrix of the diamond.

b. *Biol.* The substance situated between animal or vegetable cells.

1802 *Med. Jrnl.* VIII. 300 Their vascular structure [*sc.* of bones] is enveloped in a matrix. 1875 BENNETT & DYER tr. *Sachs' Bot.* 54 The matrix which surrounds the grains of aleurone in oily seeds is..always a mixture of oily matter and albuminoids. 1881 MIVART *Cat* 17 The structureless substance and fibres form what is called the matrix of the tissue. 1890 COOKE *Introd. Fresh-w. Algæ* 156 The mucous matrix containing the families of cells seems [etc.]. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 115 The intercellular matrix undergoes modifications or degenerative changes during inflammation.

4. A mould in which something is cast or shaped; in *Type-founding*, a piece of metal (usually copper) on which the letter has been stamped in intaglio by means of a punch, so that it forms a mould for the face of the type; in *Coining*, the stamp and 'bed' used for striking coins; in *Stereotyping*, the paper squeeze of a form of type, serving as a mould for a type-metal cast.

1626 USSHER *Lett.* (1686) 343 His Matrices of the Oriental Tongues are bought by Elzevir the Printer. 1695 WOODWARD *Nat. Hist. Earth* (1723) 22 These Shells having served as Matrices or Moulds to them [*sc.* fossils]. 1709 TANNER 3 Oct. in *Ballard MSS.* IV. 53 They find the want of Matrices at their Press. 1832 BABBAGE *Econ. Manuf.* xi. (ed. 3) 74 Each matrix being in fact a piece of copper of the same size as the type. 1838 *Act 2 Will. IV*, c. 34 § 10 Any Puncheon, Counter-puncheon, Matrix, Stamp, Die, Pattern or Mould in or upon which there shall be made or impressed .. the Figure [etc.]..of any of the King's current Gold or Silver Coin. 1851 D. WILSON *Preh. Ann.* (1863) I. II. ii. 347 Moulded into form in the double matrix of stone or metal. 1859 SALA *Gas-light & D.* ii. 27 His nimble fingers are shaping out the matrix of a monstrous human face, for a pantomimic mask. 1868 *Archæol. Jrnl.* XXV. 247 Matrix of the seal of William Picard [exhibited]. 1879 J. TIMBS in *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* I. 27/2 Founding metal types in a matrix or mould. 1902 HODGKIN *Rariora* II. 52 The discovery or invention of the leaden matrix, which played..so important a part in very early typography.

b. *Antiq.* The bed or hollowed place in a slab in which a monumental brass is fixed.

1861 HAINES *Mon. Brasses* I. cxxiii, There is the matrix of a brass at Tormarton. 1863 SIR G. G SCOTT *Glean. Westm. Abb.* (ed. 2) 150 Traces of the matrices of two brass shields. 1864 BOUTELL *Her. Hist. & Pop.* xx. 337 Deeply scored with the matrices of the lost Brasses. 1890 J. T. FOWLER in *Proc. Soc. Antiq.* Ser. II. XIII. 39 The grooves and holes for running lead to the rivets are distinctly seen in the matrices.

5. *Dentistry.* A plate of metal or composition to serve as a temporary wall for a cavity of a tooth during filling.

1883 G. CUNNINGHAM in *Dental Record* III. 458 No matter whether one or two or even all the walls of the cavity are gone, they may be restored by a matrix. *Ibid.* 529 Ordinary tinned iron, and also dental alloy, have been used for the purpose of matrices, but have been entirely discarded by me in favour of platinum.

6. *Math.* A rectangular arrangement of quantities or symbols.

1858 CAYLEY in *Coll. Math. Papers* (1889) II. 475 The term matrix might be used in a more general sense, but in the present memoir I consider only square and rectangular matrices. 1902 *Encycl. Brit.* XXV. 277/2 A matrix has in many parts of mathematics a signification apart from its evaluation as a determinant. *Ibid.* 278/1 The matrix consists of *n* rows and *n* columns.

7. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *matrix-maker*, † *-suffocation*; *matrix tin*, *vase*; *matrix-encircled* adj.

1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. i. III. *Furies* 566 Such are the fruitfull Matrix-suffocation, The Falling-sickness, and pale Swouning-passion. 1656 EARL MONM. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* 101 This Serjeant was son to a Matrix-maker. 1857 BIRCH *Anc. Pottery* (1858) II. 353 This matrix vase was made of a very fine bright red clay. 1873 C. ROBINSON *N. S. Wales* 57 Irrespective of vein or matrix tin. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Miner's Right* (1899) 177/2 Many a quaint fragment, or matrix-encircled nugget,..was transferred..on that auspicious day.

Matron (mā·trən). Forms: 4–7 **matrone**, 5 **matroun**, 6– **matron**. [a. F. *matrone* (= Sp., Pg., It. *matrona*), ad. L. *mātrōna*, f. *mātr-em*, *māter* mother.]

1. A married woman, usually with the accessory idea of (moral or social) rank or dignity.

Roman matron: sometimes referred to as a proverbial type of feminine dignity of character or bearing. *British matron*: in recent use, jocularly taken as the representative of certain social prejudices and rigorous notions of conventional propriety supposed to be characteristic of married women of the English upper middle-class.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* XXXIX. (*Cosme & Damyane*) 35 In þat cyte wes a matrone, þat of gret gudnes had renon. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 70 O noble matrouns, whiche have al suffisaunce Of wommanhede, yowre wittes doth up dresse. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 330/1 Matrone, eld woman, *matrona*. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VII* 20 b, She was layed naked in the bride bed, in the presence of diuerse noble matrones and Prynces. 1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* II. i. 279 Matrons flong Gloues, Ladies and Maids their Scarffes, and Handkerchers, Vpon him as he pass'd. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* XI. 136 Lencothea..when Adam and first Matron Eve Had ended now their Orisons. 1695 DRYDEN *Parallel Poetry & Painting* Ess. (ed. Ker) II. 129 Neither is there any expression in that story, which a Roman matron might not read without a blush. 1766 GOLDSM. *Vic. W.* XXXII, The question was, whether my eldest daughter, as being a matron, should not sit above the two young brides. 1802 WORDSW. *Sailor's Mother*, And like a Roman matron's was her mien and gait. 1817 SHELLEY *Rev. Islam* IV. XXI. 7 Virgins bright, And matrons with their babes. 1835 THIRLWALL *Greece* I. 327 A dignity of character, which makes them worthy rivals of the Roman matrons. 1867 TROLLOPE *Chron. Barset* (1869) I. XXIV. 255 She was fat, heavy, and good-looking;..a youthful British matron every inch of her.

¶ **b.** in personifications.

1581 SIDNEY *Apol. Poetrie* (Arb.) 68 So is that honny-flowing Matron Eloquence..disguised, in a Curtizan-like painted affectation. 1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* III. ii. 11 Come civill night, Thou sober suted Matron all in blacke.

c. *Eccl.* As the distinctive title of a married female saint. (Cf. *virgin*.)

1519 *Aberd. Reg.* (1844) I. 96 In honor of God and the

glorious matron Sanct Anne. 1862 Bp. Wordsworth *Hymn, 'Hark, the sound of holy voices'* ii, Saintly Maiden, godly Matron, Widows who have watch'd to prayer.

2. *spec.* A married woman considered as having expert knowledge in matters of childbirth, pregnancy, etc.; now only in *jury of matrons* (see Jury 2 f.). †Also, applied in *plural* to married women who render assistance, or friendly offices in or after childbirth.

[So F. *matrone*; cf. also mod.L. *matrona* 'midwife' (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*).]

1491 Caxton *Vitas Patr.* (1495) 198 The matrones or myddewyfes that were come to her for to receyve the child. 1631 Milton *Epit. March. Winchester* 23 Once had the early Matrons run To greet her of a lovely son. 1650 Weldon *Crt. Jas. I* 79 A Jury of grave Matrons ..after their inspection gave verdict, she was (*intacta virgo*).

3. A woman (not, according to present usage, necessarily a married woman) who has official charge of the domestic arrangements of a public institution such as a hospital, school, prison, etc.

1557 *Order of Hospitalls* E ij b, The Matron, in governinge the wemen and keping the provision of Bedds, Sheets, Shirts and other committed to her charge. 1706 Phillips, *Matron*...Also one of the grave Women that have the Oversight of Children in an Hospital. 1780 Johnson *Let. to Dr. Vyse* 30 Dec., The matron of the Chartreux is about to resign her place. 1791 Bentham *Panopt.* I. Postscr. 43 There must be a Chaplain, a Surgeon, and a Matron. 1801 *Med. Jrnl.* V. 291 The servants of the House shall consist of a Matron, who shall superintend the domestic concerns; three ordinary nurses [etc.]. 1872 *Rep. Directors Convict Prisons* 444 Superannuated. 1 engineer, 1 matron. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 424 This power [of moving probationers] should be vested in the matron, herself a trained nurse.

4. *attrib.* quasi-*adj.* (pertaining to or characteristic of a matron) as *matron air, brow, cap, cheek, face, form, grace, heart, lip, step, weed, years*; (consisting of matrons) as *matron-train*.

1836 Caroline B. Southey *Poet. Wks.* (1867) 13 She, with *matron airs, Who gravely lectures her rebellious doll. 1725 Pope *Odyss.* I. 534 When the star of eve with golden light Adorn'd the *matron brow of sable night. *c* 1820 S. Rogers *Italy* (1839) 29 Young as she was, she wore the *matron-cap. 1810 Jane Porter *Scot. Chiefs* 338 Wallace pressed her *matron cheek to his. 1775 S. J. Pratt *Liberal Opin.* xxxviii. (1783) I. 223 The dear furrows of her *matron face. 1718 Rowe tr. *Lucan* I. 353 Her awful head Rome's rev'rend image rear'd, Trembling and sad the *Matron form appear'd. 1813 Shelley *Q. Mab* viii. 120 Autumn proudly bears her *matron grace. 1779 *Rocks of Meillerie* 51 Ye piteous sighs, that burst my *matron heart. 1667 Milton *P. L.* IV. 501 He..press'd her *Matron lip With kisses pure. 1784 Cowper *Task* IV. 246 With *matron step slow moving. 1726 Pope *Odyss.* XXII. 521 The *matron-train with all the virgin band Assemble here. 1811 W. R. Spencer *Poems* 15 To gem the *matron weeds of night. 1810 S. Green *Reformist* II. 7 The wanton wife, whose *matron years and situation should teach her gravity.

Matron, obs. form of Marten.

Matronage (mē·trŏnĕdʒ). [f. prec. + -age.]

1. A body of matrons; matrons collectively.

1771 Mrs. Griffith *Hist. Lady Barton* II. 56 Some sort of foundation, under the government of a respectable matronage..would certainly be an institution most devoutly to be wished for. 1796 Burke *Regic. Peace* i. Wks. VIII. 192 His exemplary Queen, at the head of the matronage of this land. 1825 Scott *Betrothed* xi, The Lady of Hugh de Lacy will be one of the foremost among the matronage of England. 1860 Hook *Lives Abps.* (1868) I. iii. 477 The matronage of England rose up in chaste indignation.

2. Guardianship by a matron.

1771 Mrs. Griffith *Hist. Lady Barton* II. 270, I was under the matronage of my aunt Marriot. 1774 *Westm. Mag.* II. 257 He should be able finally to place her under the safe matronage of his dear wife. 1798 Charlotte Smith *Yng. Philos.* III. 175 If you had thought proper to have transmitted your daughter to the protective matronage of your truly estimable mother. 1878 *Tinsley's Mag.* XXIII. 94 A species of..picnic, under the matronage of the volatile Rosamund. 1878 J. Grant *Ld. Hermitage* 249 She..had only done so..under the matronage of the housekeeper.

3. The state or condition of being a matron.

1870 Lowell *Study Wind.* (1886) 165 Underscorings in young ladies' letters [are] a wonder..to themselves under the colder north-light of matronage. 1884 Mrs. F. Miller *Ht. Martineau* 52 Matronage is a profession in itself.

Matronal (mē·trŏnăl), *a.* [a. F. *matronal* (Cotgr.) ad. L. *mātrōnālis*, f. *mātrōna*: see Matron and -al.]

1. Of, pertaining to, or appropriate to a matron.

1609 Douland *Ornith. Microl.* 36 Others do lone the decent, and as it were, matronall carriage of the eight [tone]. 1619 Sir A. Gorges tr. *Bacon's De Sap. Vet.* 19 Besydes (for her matronall chastity) shee was held venerable by Antiquity. 1622 Bacon *Hen. VII* 218 He had heard of the Beautie..of the young Queene of Naples,..being then of Matronall yeares of seuen and twentie. 1777 Johnson *Let. to Mrs. Thrale* 19 May, When you are, with matronal authority, talking down juvenile hopes. 1822 T. Taylor *Apuleius* 59, I have always despised matronal embraces. 1876 Bancroft *Hist. U. S.* V. lxvi. 285 Susanna Smith Elliott.. stepped forth..in matronal beauty.

2. Having the characteristics of a matron.

1748 Richardson *Clarissa* (1811) VI. 18 The dialogues between the old matronal lady and the young lady. 1847 Smeaton *Builder's Man.* 203 Draped matronal figures. 1849 Clough *Amours de Voy.* I. 160 Eager for battle here Stood Vulcan, here matronal Juno.

Hence **Ma·tronally,** *adv. rare*—⁰.

1727 in Bailey vol. II.

‖ **Matronalia** (mæ·trŏnē·liă). [L. *Mātrōnālia*, neut. pl. of *mātrōnālis*: see prec.] A festival in honour of Mars celebrated by the Roman matrons.

1706 in Phillips (ed. Kersey). 1869 Lecky *Europ. Mor.* (1877) I. ii. 301 The Saturnalia and Matronalia..were the most popular holidays in Rome.

Matronhood (mē·trənhud). [f. Matron + -hood.] The state or condition of being a matron.

1836 Mrs. Gore *Mrs. Armytage* I. 142 Had not matronhood and maternity chanced to recall her to the softer duties of her sex. 1868 M. Collins *Sweet Anne Page* III. 271 A very dainty presentment of matronhood.

Matronism (mē·trŏniz'm). *rare.* [f. Matron + -ism.] a. The qualities appropriate to a matron. b. Guardianship by a matron.

1606 Birnie *Kirk-Buriall* Ded., Your Mother, the mirrour of all godly graue matronisme. 1815 *Zeluca* I. 95, I know that in this age female matronism is as serviceable as paternal vigilance can be to daughters.

Matronize (mē·trŏnəiz), *v.* [f. Matron + -ize.]

1. *trans.* To render matronly.

1754 Richardson *Grandison* (1781) VII. xxxix. 190 She will be matronized now. The Mother must make her a Wife. 1797 Mrs. A. M. Bennett *Beggar Girl* (1813) II. 137 Every step taken by him, to lessen the expences of his family, and matronize his wife. 1843 Caroline B. Southey *Poet. Wks.* (1867) 197 Life's grave duties matronize the bride.

2. *intr.* To become or be made a matron.

1802 H. Martin *Helen of Glenross* I. 212, I respect matrimony, and should be sorry not to see you some day matronized. 1872 M. Collins *Pr. Clarice* II. xix. 216, I love Isis in its maidenhood, before it matronises into Thames.

3. *trans.* To act as a matron to; to chaperon.

1807-8 W. Irving *Salmag.* (1824) 7 When young ladies used to go a sleigh-riding at night..without being matronized. 1818 Miss Ferrier *Marriage* I. 295 Lady Maclaughlan..will matronize you to the play. *Ibid.*, You are rather young to matronize yourself yet. 1881 Miss Braddon *Asph.* II. 206, I wish we could have old Spicer in to matronise the party. 1888 *Scribner's Mag.* Oct. 455/2 Some married cousin had been found to matronize them.

b. *U.S.* To preside as a matron over, to act as hostess to (a party, etc.).

1892 *Boston* (Mass.) *Jrnl.* 17 Nov. 8/3 Members of the committee will matronize the rooms daily. 1897 Howells *Landl. Lion's Head* 204 The lady who was matronizing the tea recognized him.

¶ **4.** Used humorously for *patronize* when said of a feminine subject.

1830 *Blackw. Mag.* XXVIII. 893 Madam, you do not matronise—and, sir, you do not patronise—waltzing? 1833 *Ibid.* XXXIII. 146 The poetry matronized by fashion is sufficiently so-so-ish.

Hence **Ma·tronized** *ppl. a.*, **Ma·tronizing** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

a 1825 Fuseli *Aphor., Life & Writ.* (1831) III. 128 The Madonnas of Raffaelle..are uniformly transcripts..of some favourite face matronized. 1867 Mrs. Whitney *L. Goldthwaite* iv, They were to..participate..under her matronizing, in city gayeties. 1883 *Century Mag.* XXVI. 283 The matronizing of a houseful of hungry school-boys. 1897 Howells *Landl. Lion's Head* 213 They stood before the matronizing hostess.

Matron-like (mē·trənlaik), *a.* [f. Matron + -like.] Resembling or befitting a matron; matronly. Also *fig.*

1575-85 Abp. Sandys *Serm.* xvi. 281 The husband shold labour to reforme his wife; to..frame her to discretion, sobrietie, al matron-like vertues, & all godlinesse. 1577 Northbrooke *Dicing* (1843) 150 Their daunces were..matronelyke, mouing scarce little or nothing in their gestures at all. 1642 Howell *For. Trav.* (Arb.) 17 Whereas Religion should go array'd in a grave Matron-like habit, they have clad her rather like a wanton Courtisane in light dresses. 1645 Evelyn *Diary* June, The heads of two matron-like servants or old women. 1710 Addison *Tatler* No. 120 ₱ 5 The Front of it was raised on Corinthian Pillars, with all the meretricious Ornaments that accompany that Order; whereas that of the other was composed of the chaste and matron-like Ionic.

Matronly (mē·trənli), *a.* [f. Matron + -ly 1.] Like a matron; characteristic of or suitable to a matron.

1656 *Artif. Handsom.* 72 Painting, polishing, and pruning (beyond a matronly comelinesse or gravity). *a* 1660 Hammond *Serm.* Wks. 1684 IV. 564 Noted by all the neighbourhood for an absolute Wife; a grave, solemn, matronly Christian. 1754 Richardson *Graudison* (1811) II. v. 86 In every matronly lady I have met with a mother: in many young ladies,..sisters. 1824 Miss Mitford *Village* Ser. I. 26 She was making a handsome matronly cap. 1882 Miss Braddon *Mt. Royal* II. x. 212 The figure was a shade more matronly.

Comb. 1818 Lady Morgan *Autobiog.* (1859) 131 *note*, This mild and matronly-looking lady.

Hence **Ma·tronliness,** matronly quality.

1852 James *Pequinillo* III. 236 A certain composedness of manner and matronliness of dress. 1881 Miss G. M. Craik *Sydney* II. ix. 247 You have a pretty kind of matronliness about you.

Matronly (mē·trənli), *adv.* [f. Matron + -ly 2.] In the manner of a matron.

1590 Spenser *F. Q.* I. x. 8 She..toward them full matronely did pace. 1824 Galt *Rothelan* I. I. xii. 109 Being..matronly engaged..in soothing her little orphan to sleep.

Matronship (mē·trənʃip). [f. Matron + -ship.]

1. The personality of a matron. In *your, her matronship*, jocularly used as a title.

1591 Lyly *Endym.* II. ii, I crye your Matronship mercy. 1620 Shelton *Quix.* III. xxxvii. 264 But for her Matronship, I like it, that ye stir not a Foot. 1718 D'Urfey *Grecian Heroine* III. ii, Is your Matronship grown mad o th' sudden. 1868 Holme Lee *B. Godfrey* XV. 81 Which time only can answer to your judicious matronship's satisfaction.

2. = Matronhood.

1831 *Fraser's Mag.* IV. 11 The above galaxy..of staid matronship, frisking maidenhood, and sweet romance.

3. The office of 'matron' in a public institution, as a hospital, workhouse, or the like.

c 1843 Dickens *Lett.* (1880) III. 43, I can't state in figures ..the number of candidates for the Sanatorium matronship. 1888 *Scott. Leader* 5 Oct. 5 Dundee Infirmary Matronship.

Matronymic (mætrŏni·mik). [Hybrid f. L. *mātr-, māter* mother, after Patronymic. Cf. It. *matronimico.*]

A. = Metronymic *a.*

1874 I. Taylor *Etrusc. Res.* 224 The Etruscan matronymic suffix is occasionally *-nal* instead of *-al.*

B. = Metronymic *sb.*

1794 Mrs. Piozzi *Synon.* II. 45 Men .. were .. named .. sometimes by matronymics, as Anson, Nelson, &c. 1817 Colebrooke *Algebra* 30 *note*, Arjuna, surnamed Pârt'ha: his matronymic from Prît'há. 1888 G. de Berneval in *N. & Q.* 7 Jan. 14/1 The Spanish custom of appending the matronymic.

b. A metronymic suffix.

1874 I. Taylor *Etrusc. Res.* 223 *And*, a form which may exactly represent the sound of the Etruscan matronymic *-al.*

So †**Matrony·mical** *a.* (in quot. app. misused in the sense of 'vernacular').

c 1640 J. Smyth *Hundred of Berkeley* (1885) 35 [There is] a little meade called Riam, whither on Sunday next after Whitsunday resorted the yonthes of both sexes..a day known in all the quarters thereabouts by the matronimicall name of Riam-mead Sunday.

Matross (mătrɒs). *Mil. Obs.* exc. *Hist.* Also 7 matroze, montross, 8–9 mattross. [a. Du. *matroos* sailor (whence G. *matrose*, Da., Sw. *matros*), app. a corruption of F. *matelot* sailor.] A soldier next in rank below the gunner in a train of artillery, who acted as a kind of assistant or mate.

In the U. S. the term was synonymous with private of artillery.

1639 in Grose *Milit. Antiq.* (1786) I. 373 Captain of the pioneers, Quarter master, Four conductors of the matrozes, Forty matrozes. 1646 in Rushw. *Hist. Coll.* IV. I. 252 To execute Martial Law..upon all Gunners Matrosses and Soldiers there in pay. 1698 Fryer *Acc. E. India & P.* 38 There being in pay..of English and Portuguez, 700. reckoning the Montrosses and Gunners. 1745 *Gentl. Mag.* 249 Artillery: Wounded—1 conductor, 2 serjeants .. 13 matrosses. 1787 *Kent. Trav. Companion* 24 A laboratory, where the mattrosses are employed in the composition of fireworks and cartridges. 1793 *Stat. Massachussetts* 22 June [in force until 1810], Each company of Artillery shall consist of one Captain, two Lieutenants,..six Gunners, six Bombardiers,..and thirty two privates or Matrosses. 1800 Dundas in Owen *Wellesley's Desp.* (1877) 564 Each company to have an additional Lieut.-Fireworker, and ten additional matrosses. 1815 *Chron. App.* in *Ann. Reg.* 212 Total of killed and wounded .. 11 mattrosses. 1876-7 J. Grant *Hist. India* I. vii. 40/1 The battery was guarded ..by only fifty sepoys and a few European matrosses.

Matroun, Matroze, Matryce, Matrys, obs. ff. Matron, Matross, Matrice, Mattress.

‖ **Matsu** (mæ·tsu). [Japanese.] An ornamental pine, *Pinus Massoniana*, native of China, Japan and the Malay Archipelago, and widely cultivated for its valuable timber.

1890 in *Cent. Dict.* 1902 in Webster. [1863 A. Murray *Pines & Firs Japan* 23 Pinus Massoniana. *Wo matsu.* Japon., i. e. Pinus mas, sive *Kuro matsu*, i. e. Pinus nigra.]

Matt, variant of Mat, Mate *a.*

Mattachene, etc., obs. forms of Matachin.

Mattadore, obs. form of Matador.

†**Ma·ttagess.** *Obs.* Also 6 matagasse, 7 matagesse. [a. southern Fr. *matagasse*, a. Pr. **matagassa* lit. 'magpie-killer', f. *mata-r* to kill + *agassa* magpie (see Haggess).] A butcher-bird, *Lanius excubitor.*

1575 Turberv. *Faulconrie* 72 Though the Matagasse be a hawke of none accompte or price neyther with us in any use. 1678 Ray *Willughby's Ornith.* 85 The Matagesse or great Butcherbird. 1753 Chambers *Cycl. Supp.* s. v., The word *Mattagess* is borrowed from the Savoyards, and signifies the murdering pye.

‖ **Mattamore** (mætămōə·ɹ). Also 7 matamorre, 9 matamoro. [a. F. *matamore*, a. Arab. مطمورة *maṭmūraʰ*, f. *ṭamara* to store up.] A subterranean habitation, storehouse, or granary.

1695 Motteux *St. Olon's Morocco* 73 Lodging only in Matamorres or Subterraneous places. 1849 *Southey's Comm.-pl. Bk.* Ser. II. 473 They leave stones heaped over the Mattamores as marks. 1873 Tristram *Moab* vii. 123 Several very large domed cisterns or matamoros, which have been carefully cemented.

†**Matte** 1. *Obs.* In the trivial oath *By the matte*, ? alteration of *By the mass.* (Cf. Mack *sb.*2)

a 1553 Udall *Royster D.* IV. vii. (Arb.) 75 By the matte but I will. *Ibid.* viii. (Arb.) 77 Come away, by the matte she is mankine.

Matte 2 (mæt). *Metallurgy.* [a. F. *matte.*] An impure and unfinished metallic prodnct of the smelting of various ores, esp. those of copper.

1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 802 *Matte* is a crude black copper reduced..from sulphur and other heterogeneous substances. 1884 C. G. W. Lock *Workshop Receipts* Ser. III. 59/2 This matte is termed 'white metal'. 1899 *Daily News* 13 June 4/4 They ask that Canada shall not impose a duty on nickel ore or nickel matte.

attrib. 1877 RAYMOND *Statist. Mines & Mining* 288 The employment of the method for the purpose of matte-smelting ..is objectionable on the ground that [etc.]. *Ibid.* 391 They are melted in the matte-furnace with rich gold ores.

Matte, variant of MATE *a. Obs.*, obs. f. MATÉ.

Matted (mæ'téd), *ppl. a.*[1] [f. MAT *v.*[2] + -ED [1].] Dulled, deprived of lustre or gloss. (See senses of the vb.)

1823 RUTTER *Fonthill* 15 Lights glazed with matted glass in lozenge lattice. 1865 *Price List of Joinery* 8 Front Doors .. glazed with matted glass. 1884 F. J. BRITTEN *Watch & Clockm.* 173 The granular surface formed on watch plates and wheels prior to gilding is spoken of indifferently as matted or frosted. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 27 June 1/3 A fine silver-gilt Jacobean goblet..with foliage and cone ornament on matted ground.

Matted (mæ'téd), *ppl. a.*[2] [f. MAT *v.*[1] + -ED [1].]

1. Laid or spread with matting or mats.

1607 MIDDLETON *Fam. Love* IV. i. 116 Like a horsekeeper in a lady's matted chamber at midnight. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 429 ▸ 12 He has chosen an Apartment with a matted Anti-chamber. 1852 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* i, The various solicitors..ranged in a line, in a long matted well. 1883 STEVENSON *Treas. Isl.* vi, The servant led us down a matted passage.

b. Formed of mats as a covering.

1720 DE FOE *Capt. Singleton* viii. (1840) 141 We pitched our matted tents. 1841 J. L. STEPHENS *Centr. Amer.* II. iii. 47 The little matted tents of the market-women.

c. Made of plaited rushes. Of chairs, etc.: Rush-bottomed.

1692 DRYDEN *Cleomenes* Prol. 6 Who..print our matted seats with dirty feet. 1720 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5891/4 Tho. Smith, Citizen and Turner, of that Branch called a matted Chair-maker, is in want of Journeymen..either for Matting, Turning, Joining or Carving, in the said matted Chair business...Tho. Smith maketh ..all sorts of matted Work, and fine mimick Wallnut-Tree. 1745 *De Foe's Eng. Tradesman* xxvi. (1841) I. 266 The ordinary matted chairs. 1777 W. DALRYMPLE *Trav. Sp. & Port.* xv, We find..matted bottom chairs, in their principal rooms. 1833 LOUDON *Encycl. Cottage Archit.* § 2145 A child's chair..having..a matted seat.

2. Of vegetable growths, also of hair or other fibre: Tangled and interlaced, or covered with tangle.

1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 696 The places in their Winter..covered with water, doe grow thicke, and matted with abundance of little trees, herbes and plants. 1661 K. W. *Conf. Charac., High Constable* (1860) 36 His matted noddle is so stuft with the windy conceit of his mastership, that [etc.]. 1683 MOXON *Mech. Exerc., Printing* xxiv. ▸ 19 [He] Teizes his Wooll, by opening all the hard and almost matted Knots he finds in it. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Past.* IV. 36 Through the Matted Grass the liquid Gold shall creep. 1745 COLLINS *Ode Death Col. Ross* vii, Her matted tresses madly spread. 1749 WARTON *Tri. Isis* 57 Cam meandering thro' the matted reeds, 1770 GOLDSM. *Des. Vill.* 349 Those matted woods, where birds forget to sing. 1832 LYTTON *Eugene A.* I. vi, The grass sprung up long and matted. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* I. i, Half savage as the man showed, with no covering on his matted head. 1877 BLACK *Green Past.* xlii, The matted underwood and the rank green grass.

b. In names of plants, as *matted pink, thrift.*

1625 BACON *Ess., Gardens* (Arb.) 558 Then Pincks, specially the Matted Pinck, and Cloue Gilly-flower. 1678 PHILLIPS, *Matted*, an Epithete given to Plants when they grow, as if they were platted together, as Matted Pink, Matweed, &c. 1706 LONDON & WISE *Retir'd Gard'ner* I. xxi. 98 Matted Pink. 1861 MISS PRATT *Flower. Pl.* IV. 254 Matted Thrift.

c. Compressed into the semblance of a mat.

1825 *Greenhouse Comp.* I. 168 Loosen the earth and matted roots. 1831 WILLIS *Poem Brown University* 175 Tender moss, and matted forest leaves. 1845 *Florist's Jrnl.* 148 The roots are very apt to get matted in the pots. 1849 MURCHISON *Siluria* xii. 295 Such Lower Coal..had been often transported in large matted masses from the mouths of great rivers.

d. Covered with a dense growth.

1791 E. DARWIN *Bot. Gard.* I. 79 By thee the plowshare rends the matted plain. 1818 KEATS *Endym.* I. 151 His eye Steadfast upon the matted turf he kept. 1877 BRYANT *Song of Sower* iv, The matted sward. 1881 M. ARNOLD *Westm. Abbey* ii, That new Minster in the matted fen.

e. *Path.*

1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV. 121 The ascitic fluid is sometimes loculated between the matted intestines. 1899 *Ibid.* VI. 10 The matted valves may remain rigidly fixed.

3. Enclosed or wrapped in matting. Also with *up.*

1758 GRAY *Let.* 2 Dec. *Wks.* (1884) II. 388 A wainscot Chest of Drawers, matted up. *Ibid.*, If the matted things fright you on the same account [*sc.* the danger of fire], the coverings may be taken off, and laid by in some dry place. 1798 *Hull Advertiser* 15 Dec. 2/1 For Sale,..10 tons Riga matted flax. 1812 J. SMYTH *Pract. of Customs* (1821) 86 Flax... In Matted Bales, with thick ropes. 1855 MRS. GASKELL *North & S.* xxvii, The matted-up currant bushes ..at the corner of the west-wall.

Hence **Ma'ttedly** *adv.*, in a matted manner.

1894 DU MAURIER *Trilby* I. 87 More greasily, mattedly unkempt than even a successful pianist has any right to be.

Mattefelon, obs. form of MATFELLON.

Matter (mæ'tər), *sb.*[1] Forms: 3–4 materie, 4 matery, 4–5 matiere, mate(e)re, matire, -yr(e, 4–6 -ir, 4–7 mater, matier, (5 mateer, mattir, 6 mattier, mattar, *Sc.* maiter), 5– matter. [ME. *materie, matere, matiere,* a. OF. *matere, matiere* (mod.F. *matière*), ad. L. *māteria* (also *māteriēs*), building material, timber, hence stuff of which a thing is made, subject of discourse or consideration, also (in philosophical use) 'matter' in contradistinction to 'mind' or to 'form'.

It has been conjectured that L. *māteria* represents a prehistoric **dmāteria*, f. **dmā-* (cf. Doric Gr. *νεο-δμᾱ-τος* newbuilt) related to the Indo-germanic root **dem-*, **dom-* (occurring, e.g. in L. *domus* house and Eng. TIMBER). The primary sense continued to be prominent in late popular Latin: cf. Sp. *madera*, Pg. *madeira* wood, and the derivative F. *merrain* timber:–late L. *māteriāmen* (Lex Salica, etc.). The sense-development of the word in Latin was influenced by that of the Gr. *ὕλη*, of which it was the accepted equivalent in philosophical use. In the derived senses the Latin word has been adopted in all the Rom. langs.: Sp., Pg., It. *materia*, Roumanian *materie*.]

I. In purely physical applications.

1. The substance, or the substances collectively, out of which a physical object is made or of which it consists; constituent material; also, a particular kind of substance serving as material. Now only with implication of sense 3 or 5.

1340 *Ayenb.* 152 Þet hi [*sc.* þe speche] by y-weȝe ase guode moneye..þet is þet hi by of guode matire, ase of guod metal and of guode sseþe þet is of guode manere y-speke. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 36 If a man were Mad al togedre of o matiere Withouten interrupciouu. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 195 b, To assemble matere wherof myght be made and edefyed a chyrche. 1540–1 ELYOT *Image Gov.* 15 He vsed no golde but pure beryll and christall, and other like mattier to drinke in. 1573 G. HARVEY *Common-pl. Bk.* (1884) 25 As there is matter of poison to the spider where wuld be matter of honi to the bee. 1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* III. xxi. 187 Vpon that coast there rise no vapors, sufficient to engender raine for want of matter. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 89 The glasse makers of Venice..have a more noble matter, and thereof make much better glasse than we can. 1659 LEAK *Waterwks.* 33 The matter of the Summer which ought to be of Oak. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 137 ▸ 13 In all Operas..where it thunders and lightens..the Matter of the said Lightning is to be of the finest Rosin. 1728 tr. *Newton's Treat. Syst. World* 1 marg., That the matter of the Heavens is fluid. 1848 MILL *Pol. Econ.* I. i. § 1 (1876) 15 The matter of the globe is not an inert recipient of forms..impressed by human hands.

†b. Timber, wood. *Obs. rare.* [A Latinism.]

c 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* II. 437 Nowe matere is to falle.. For pale, or hegge, or hous, or shippe.

†2. A substance used or acted upon in a physical operation; *Obs.* (merged in 3).

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxxii. (*Justin*) 735 [He gert]..þare-in be done blak pic &..brynstane bla, & vndir it a fyre gert ma, til þat mater wes moltyne thyne. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Can. Yeom. T.* 217 The care and wo That we hadde in our matires sublyming. *c* 1460 *Bk. Quintessence* 4 Þis is þe watri mater fro which is drawe oure quinta essencia. 1530 PALSGR. 666/2, I make the printe of a thyng in any mater or stuffe. 1635 N. CARPENTER *Geog. Del.* I. iii. 54 Electricall bodies drawe and attract not without rubbing and stirring vp of the matter first. 1680 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* 175 As there is different Matter or Substance to be Turned, so there is also different Ways..to be used in Turning each different Matter. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* II. 85 They beat this Stuff with one hand..stooping at every blow, and nothing but the flat side of the Club hits the matter. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) VII. 772/1 (*Glass*), He takes up a small ball of matter, which sticks to the end of the tube by constantly turning it.

3. In wider sense: Used as a vague designation for any physical substance not definitely particularized, e.g. applied in *Physiology* to the fluids of the body, excrementitious products, etc. Often with qualifying adj., as in *colouring, extractive, fæcal,* etc. *matter.*

Grey matter, white matter (of the brain): see the adjs.

c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 93 Cankre..comeþ of a wounde yuel heelid, to whom comeþ a malancolient mater rotid. 1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* III. xxv. 196 Ther are places in th' earth, whose vertue is to draw vaporous matter, and to conuert it into water. 1608 TOPSELL *Serpents* (1658) 725 There is no part of the Frog so medicinable as is the bloud, called also the matter or the juyce, and the humor of the Frog. 1664 EVELYN *Sylva* I. 16 Oaks bear also a knur, full of a Cottony matter. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) X. 684/2 The earthy and stony substances in which these metallic matters are inveloped. 1813 SIR H. DAVY *Agric. Chem.* (1814) 18 Animal matters are the soonest destroyed by the Operation of air, heat and light. Vegetable substances yield more slowly. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 737 Mix these matters in a large iron or copper pan. 1851 LONGF. *Gold. Leg.* VI. *School Salerno,* To report if any confectionarius Mingles his drugs with matters various. 1891 *Law Times* XCII. 94/1 Milk which on analysis proved to be deficient in fatty matter to the extent of 33 per cent. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 794 An obstruction to the passage of matter along the intestines. 1899 *Ibid.* VIII. 730 Hyperidrosis..soaking the boots and stockings with a stinking matter.

4. *spec.* (= *corrupt matter.*) Purulent discharge, pus. [So F. *matière.*]

[*c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg* 52 Poudre of mirtilles..castiþ to þe wounde þe corrupt mater þat is in þe place þat is brusid.] *c* 1420 *St. Etheldreda* in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 293 A gret swellyng aboute my throte þer is,..Were hit ybroke & þe mater ouȝt y-renne,..To my body..myche eysse hit wolde do. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* c vij, Kutt theys botches with an knyfe and let owte the mater of theym. 1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* G 5 b, A glaunder, whan it breaketh, is lyke matter. 1641 FRENCH *Distill.* vi. (1651) 191 It..expells the matter of a carbuncle by sweat. 1722 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 6045/8 The Matter taken on a Person who has had the Small Pox by Inoculation. 1885 W. ROBERTS *Pract. Treat. Urinary Dis.* (ed. 4) III. v, She began to pass considerable quantities of what she considered 'matter' with the urine.

5. Physical or corporeal substance in general (of which the chemical elements and their compounds are the separate kinds), contradistinguished from immaterial or incorporeal substance (spirit, soul, mind), and from qualities, actions, or conditions.

a 1626 BACON *New Atl.* (1900) 24 Wee maintaine a Trade, not for Gold..Nor any other Commodity of Matter. 1677 GALE *Crt. Gentiles* II. IV. 307 Metaphysic mater..without the least physic extension or mater. 1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* IV. x. § 10 Matter,..by its own strength, cannot produce in itself so much as motion. 1692 BENTLEY *Boyle Lect.* ii. 40 Matter and Motion cannot think. *a* 1721 KEILL *Maupertius' Diss.* (1734) 6 In order..for the former to be in æquilibrio with the latter, it would be necessary for it to contain a greater quantity of Matter; it ought to be longer. 1759 JOHNSON *Rasselas* xlvii, Matter is inert, senseless, and lifeless. 1802 PALEY *Nat. Theol.* xxiv. (1819) 397 The essential superiority of spirit over matter. 1846 SIR W. HAMILTON *Reid's Wks.* 935 Mind and matter exist for us only as they are known by us. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) IV. 271 All our applications of mathematics are applications of our ideas of space to matter. 1885 WATSON & BURBURY *Electr. & Magn.* I. 46 Let there be at *O* a particle of matter of mass *m.*

†b. *Subtile matter* [tr. *materia subtilis*]: the name given by Descartes to a fluid which he supposed to fill the whole of space. *Obs.*

1717 PRIOR *Alma* III. 55 Deny Des-cart his subtil matter, You leave him neither fire nor water.

II. *Metaph., Logic,* etc.: contrasted with *form.*

6. *Philos.* In Aristotelian and scholastic use: That component of the essence of any thing or being which has bare existence, but which requires the addition of a particular 'form' (see FORM *sb.* 4 a) to constitute the thing or being as determinately existent. Also † *matter subject*: see SUBJECT *a.*

c 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* v. pr. iv. (Morris) 164 Þe wit comprehendiþ fro wiþ outen furþe þe figure of þe body of þe man þat is establissed in þe matere subiect [L. *in subjecta materia*]. But the ymaginacioun comprehendith only the figure with owte the matere. 138 . WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 257 Matere, and forme, and ende of her graunt. *c* 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 1582 As matier apetitith forme alwey. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* x. ii. (1495) 372 Matere is neuer seen wythout fourme. 1413 [see FORM *sb.* 4 a]. 1561 T. HOBY tr. *Castiglione's Courtyer* III. (1577) O iij b, It is the opinion of most wise men that man is likened to the Forme, the woman to the Mattier. 1586 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* I. 162 Aristotle saith, that nature in one respect is said to be the first and chiefe matter subject of every thing that hath being. 1607 WALKINGTON *Opt. Glass* 46 It is that will..that keepes a comely decornm in observing the time, the place, the matter subject, the object, and every singular circumstance. 1625 N. CARPENTER *Geog. Del.* I. i. (1635) 7 The principles whereof the Spheare is composed are two; viz. Matter, and Forme. 1634 CANNE *Necess. Separ.* (1849) 197 Piscator affirms 'The matter of a particular church to be a company of believers'. 1651 HOBBES (*title*) Leviathan, or the Matter, Forme, and Power of a Commonwealth. 1727–52 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v., Aristotle makes three principles, matter, form, and privation. 1845 STODDART in *Encycl. Metrop.* I. 5/1 By the *form*..of language..we mean its signification; by the *matter* of language we mean the sound of words in speech [etc.].

†b. The result of the first creative fiat was often viewed by the scholastics as consisting in the production of matter without form. Hence Bacon speaks of 'the matter' as equivalent to 'Chaos'. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 348 Þe mater first þer of he mad, þat es þe elementis to sai þat first scapless al samen lay. *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* xxxii. 9 He sayd..& þai ere made, þat is, þai ere fourmyd of vnfourmyd matere. 1625 BACON *Ess., Truth* (Arb.) 500 First he breathed Light vpon the Face of the Matter or Chaos.

c. *First matter* (= L. *materia prima,* Gr. *ἡ πρώτη ὕλη*): cf. the quots.

1619 PURCHAS *Microcosm.* lviii. 564 Vncreated Chaos, or Hyla, or first Matter. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* v. 47 One first matter all, Indu'd with various forms, various degrees Of substance. *a* 1687 H. MORE *App. to De Philos. Cabbal.* viii. (1713) 183 That Hyle or first Matter is mere Possibility of Being, according to Aristotle.

fig. 1647 N. BACON *Disc. Govt. Eng.* I. xl. (1739) 60 Though the Saxons were in name our first matter.

d. In Kantian and subsequent use, applied to that element of knowledge that is supplied by sensation, regarded apart from the 'form' which it receives from the categories of the understanding.

1838 tr. *Kant's Critick of Pure Reason* 90 Experience, which contains two very dissimilar elements, namely, a *Matter* for cognition arising out of the senses, and a certain Form to order it, arising from the internal source of pure intuition and thought.

7. *Theol.* (Sacraments are said to have matter and form: see FORM *sb.* 4 h.)

c 1315 SHOREHAM *Poems* i. 366 Ich mot of þis sacrement ȝou telle þe materie. *Ibid.* 1170 Þe matyre of þis sacrement Hys ryȝt þe oylle allone. 1548–9 (Mar.) *Bk. Com. Prayer,* With what thyng, or what matter they dyd Baptise the childe. *a* 1600 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* VI. iv. § 3 Surely to admit the matter as a part, and not to admit the form, hath small congruity with reason. 1883 *Cath. Dict.* (1897) 812/2 The Scotists, who make absolution both the form and matter of Penance.

8. *Logic.* The particular content of a proposition or syllogism as distinguished from its form.

1697 [see MATERIAL *a.* 2]. 1827 WHATELY *Elem. Logic* II. ii. § 3 (ed. 2) 81, 82 'All islands (or some islands) are surrounded by water', must be true, because the matter is necessary:..again, 'some islands are fertile', 'some are not fertile', are both true, because it is Contingent Matter. 1855 ABP. THOMSON *Laws Th.* Introd. 19 The matter of any representation is that part of it which with reference to any given law is non-formal. 1864 BOWEN *Logic* vi. 149 In respect to their Matter, both the Premises and the Conclusion may be false.

III. Material of thought, speech, or action.

9. Material for expression; something to say; fact or thought as material for a writing or speech. Also † *matter subject*: see SUBJECT *a.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 93 Mater fynd 3e large and brade? Þof rimes fele of hir be made, Qua-sa will of hyr fayrnes spell, Find he sal inogh to tell. 1340 *Ayenb.* 118 Ous be-houeþ to spekene mid greate reuerence of zuo heȝe matiere ase of þe zeuen holy yefþes of þe holy gost. *c* 1450 HOLLAND *Houlate* 35, I haue mekle matir in metir to gloss Of ane nothir sentence. 1543 LELAND *N.-Y. Gift* in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* (1721) I. App. cxviii. 331, I have matter at plenty already prepared to this purpose, that is to say, to wryte an hystory. 1586 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* I. 28 We will intreat of the passions of the soule, as of our chiefe matter subject. 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* II. i. 68, I loue to cope him in these sullen fits, For then he's full of matter. 1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* I. iv. § 3 Here therefore, is the first distemper of learning, when men studie words and not matter. 1611 BIBLE *Job* xxxii. 18 For I am full of matter, the spirit within me constraineth me. 1634 W. TIRWHYT *Balzac's Lett.* I. 43, I will here conclude, rather out of discretion than for want of matter. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 455 The mean Matter which my Theme affords, To embellish with Magnificence of Words. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 150 ₱ 8 Whether they have Matter to talk of or not. 1878 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* Pref. 6 A clear line of demarcation, both as to matter and method.

†**10.** The subject of a book or discourse; a theme, topic, subject of exposition. *Obs.*

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 321 Turne we tille our matere, & on our gest to hie. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 663 (Kölbing) Al hou, y no may nouȝt tellen, ywis, Mi matery wer to long. *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* Prol. 4 The matere of this boke is crist & his spouse. *c* 1450 *Merlin* xxvii. 503 But now repeireth the tale to his mater that he hath lefte for to telle this thinge. *a* 1568 ASCHAM *Scholem.* I. (Arb.) 86 But to my matter, as I began. 1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* (Arb.) 161 It behooueth the maker or Poet to follow the nature of his subiect, that is if his matter be high and loftie that the stile be so to. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* III. iv. 3 Thee, O Queene! the matter of my song. 1625 A. GILL *Sacr. Philos.* Pref., Raimund de Sabunde though his writings be easie and quicke, yet his matiers are scattered. 1704 PRIOR *Let. Despreaux* 54 How hard is it for me To make my matter and my verse agree!

11. The substance of a book, speech, or the like; that which a spoken or written composition contains in respect of the facts or ideas expressed; often as opposed to the form of words ('manner') in which the subject is presented.

c 1384 CHAUCER *H. Fame* II. 353 Hard langage and hard matere Is encombrous for to here. 1592 A. DAY *Eng. Secretary* II. (1625) 62 This invective seemeth to have been over-sharpe in the matter but not in manner. 1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* III. ii. 83 Was euer booke containing such vile matter So fairely bound? 1641 J. JACKSON *True Evang. T.* I. 5 This Text..is rich as the High Priests pectoral both for words and matter. 1695 DRYDEN *Parall. Poetry & Painting* Ess. (ed. Ker) II. 123 Though I cannot much commend the style, I must needs say, there is somewhat in the matter. 1741 WATTS *Improv. Mind* iv. Wks. (1813) 34 If the matter of a book be really valuable and deserving. 1769 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* IV. xi. 150 It is immaterial with respect to the essence of a libel, whether the matter of it be true or false. 1800 COLQUHOUN *Comm. Thames* Pref., The importance of the Work..can only be appreciated by a..Review of the various matter it contains. 1871 MORLEY *Voltaire* (1886) 9 He was always serious in meaning and laborious in matter. 1885 *Nature* 19 Mar. 453/1 When we look from the manner to the matter of his speech, we are unable to bestow such unqualified praise.

†**b.** Sense, substance (as opposed to nonsense or trifling). *Obs.*

1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* II. i. 344, I was borne to speake all mirth, and no matter. 1605 — *Lear* IV. vi. 178 O matter, and impertinency mixt, Reason in Madnesse.

†**c.** *There is* (*a*) *matter in it*: some importance attaches to it. *Obs.*

1549 LATIMER *4th Serm. bef. Edw. VI* (Arb.) 110 If Salomon sayd it, there is a matter in it. 1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* III. iv. 139 There's matter in't indeed, if he be angry. 1611 — *Wint. T.* IV. iv. 874 To him will I present them, there may be matter in it.

†**12.** That with which a science, art, law, etc. has to do; that which belongs to a subject of study; the subject-matter of a study. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 28868 We find..þat almus, Es þe best biginging Of alle penances..And for þer mater es gode to knau, of almus sal i for-þer drau. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 403 Þis Seneca..hadde..greet knowleche of þynges, and wel nyh al matir of study [L. *omnem studiorum materiam*] of witte and of sciens. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 89 Of Arsmitique the matiere Is that of which a man mai liere, What Algorisme in nombre amonteth. *c* 1391 CHAUCER *Astrol.* II. § 4 Natheles, theise ben obseruaunces of iudicial matiere & rytes of paiens, in which my spirit ne hath no feith. 1586 FERNE *Blaz. Gentrie* 149 The matter of all armes..is seuered into the same three parts that the Embleme is. 1594 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* I. xv. § 3 The subject or matter of laws in general is thus far forth constant: which matter is that for the ordering whereof laws were instituted.

13. Ground, reason, or cause for doing or being something: †**a.** Followed by an *inf.* or *clause*, or *simply*. Often qualified by an adj., as *good, much, little*. *To seek matter*: to seek a pretext or occasion. *Obs.*

1340 *Ayenb.* 136 He [*sc.* þe milde herte] ne wille nenne zuo kuead,..þet he ne can draȝe materie god uor to herie. *c* 1375 *Cursor M.* 20080 (Fairf.) Þai me do alle þis shame, wiþ-oute mater bere I blame. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* III. 301 He..fenȝeit to mak bettir cher, Then he had matir to, be fer. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 2089 Thow ges matir to men mony day after, fforto speke of þi spede. *c* 1450 BURGH *Secrees* 2236 He wyl redily Seeke mateer, And soone consente to thyn destruccioun. 1532 CROMWELL in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) I. 347 So his high pleasure is that ye shall do if ye see good matter to bere it. 1573 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xli. 81 3it hes thow mater for to murne. 1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* II. x. 103 Having..shewed, that the burning Zone is much subiect vnto raine, it appears that there is matter in it, to temper the violence of the heat. 1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* III. iii. 58 What is the matter, That..I am so dishonour'd, that [etc.]. 1630 B. JONSON *Magn. Lady* III. iv, I have done the part of a friend..In furnishing your fear with matter first, If you have any; or, if you dare fight, To..comfort your resolution. 1644 MILTON *Divorce* II. iii. 38 This is the matter why Interpreters..will not consent it to be a true story.

b. Const *for, of*. Now only: What occasions or is fitted to occasion some specified feeling: chiefly *predicative*.

c 1420 *Ploughmans Prayer* in Foxe *A. & M.* (1583) 400/1 Here is much matter of sorow, to see [etc.]. 1509 FISHER *Wks.* (1876) 305 Yf she had contynued in this worlde, she sholde dayly haue herde & sene mater and cause of sorowe. 1625 BACON *Ess., Envy* (Arb.) 512 Neither can he, that mindeth but his own Businesse, finde much matter for Enuy. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IX. 951 Matter of scorne, not to be given the Foe. 1712 M. HENRY *Daily Comm. God* Wks. 1855 I. iii. 235 Whenever we go to bed, we shall not want matter for praise, if we did not want a heart. 1726 SHELVOCKE *Voy. World* Pref. 22 Making it a sufficient matter for his contempt of any man, that he had served in the navy. 1819 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* I, Mynheer Calf..is Saxon when he requires tendance, and takes a Norman name when he becomes matter of enjoyment. 1826 DISRAELI *Vit. Grey* v. xiii, The acquisition of which has been, to me, matter of great sorrow. 1865-6 TENNYSON *'I stood on a Tower,'* in *Gd. Words* IX. 144 Science enough and exploring..Matter enough for deploring, But aught that is worth the knowing? 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 17 June 5/2 The annual migration of the Viceroy to Simla is an old matter of complaint. 1896 A. E. HOUSMAN *Shropshire Lad* I, 'Tis sure small matter for wonder If sorrow is with one still.

c. with attributive sb. prefixed.

1676 W. ALLEN *Addr. Nonconf.* 121 They are prayer matter, and thanksgiving matter.

†**14.** Means of doing something. *Obs.*

1580 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 265 They perceiued a kinde of courtly Maiestie in the minde of their host, though he wanted matter to shew it in his house. 1583 GOLDING *Calvin on Deut.* xv. 89 In all the benefites which wee haue receiued of God we must consider in what taking wee had bene if wee had gone without them: and wee shall haue matter good store wherewith to doe that if we are not wilfully blinde.

†**15.** Material cause; element or elements of which something consists or out of which it is developed. *Obs.*

1570 BILLINGSLEY *Euclid* VII. ii. 184 Vnitie is as it were the very matter of number. 1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 258 Voyde of all matter of probabilitie. 1607-12 BACON *Ess., Of Seditions* (Arb.) 398 Let vs..speake of the Materialls, and the causes, and the remedyes. The matter of seditions is of two kindes, Much povertye and much discontent. *a* 1619 FOTHERBY *Atheom.* II. x. § 3 (1622) 304 His vncompounded simplicitie is the true matter of his Vnitie. 1751 HARRIS *Hermes* Wks. (1841) 208 To know the nature and powers of the human voice, is in fact to know the matter or common subject of language. 1825 BENTHAM *Ration. Reward* 237 There are many things which may constitute part of the matter of wealth, which, when taken separately or in small quantities, would hardly be called wealth.

16. In vague sense, nearly equivalent to 'things', 'something'; esp. with qualifying words (adj. or sb. prefixed, or *of* with *sb.* following), things or something of a specified kind, involving or related to a specified thing.

1449 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 148/2 It is mater of Parlement longyng to the Kynges Highnesse. 1586 A. DAY *Eng. Secretary* II. (1625) 26 The first [Letter] whereof shall be for matter of unkindnesse. 1594 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* II. vii. § 2 That in matter of fact there is some credite to be giuen to the testimonie of man, but not in matter of opinion and iudgement. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V.* v. ii. 365 The King of France hauing any occasion to write for matter of Graunt. 1601 B. JONSON *Poetaster* v. i. I haue Matter of danger, and state, to impart to Cæsar. 1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* II. ii § 11 The Chronicle..red before Ahassuerus..contained matter of affaires. 1651 G. W. tr. *Cowel's Inst.* 198 This is rather matter of fact then of Law. 1660 JER. TAYLOR *Doctor Dubit.* III. v. Rule iv *heading*, The Fathers power does not extend to matter of Religion. 1788 G. WHITE *Selborne* v, This must have been matter of mere accident. 1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* xiii, I have matter for thy private ear. 1873 M. ARNOLD *Lit. & Dogma* (1876) 388 Certainly in the Gospels there is plenty of matter to call out our feelings. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 29 May 4/7 That it is eminently desirable to attain this end is not now matter of dispute.

b. *spec.* in *Law*. Something which is to be tried or proved; statements or allegations which come under the consideration of the court. *Matter in deed, matter of record, nude matter* (see quots.).

1532 ST. GERMAN *Doctor & Stud.* II. liv. 138 It is nat alleged in the Indytement by matter in dede that he had suche weapon. 1607 COWEL *Interpr.* s.v., Mater in deede seemeth to be nothing else, but a truth to be proued, though not by any Record: and mater of Record, is that which may be proued by some Record. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey) s.v., *Nude Matter*, is a naked Allegation of a thing done, to be prov'd only by Witnesses, and not by a Record, or other Specialty in Writing under Seal. 1727-51 CHAMBERS *Cycl., Foreign Matter*, in law, is matter triable in another county; or matter done in another county. 1766 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* II. 344 Assurances by matter of record are such as do not entirely depend on the act or consent of the parties themselves. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) IX. 413/2 He may plead the general issue, and give the special matter in evidence. 1853 STOCQUELER *Milit. Encycl., Matter*, .. in reference to court-martials..the specific charges which are brought against a prisoner, and to which the president and members must strictly confine themselves.

†**c.** *Matter in deed*, also (? orig.) *by matter in deed*: in point of fact, as a matter of fact; truly, really. *Matter in fact*: a matter of fact. *Obs.*

15.. *New Nothbrowne Mayd* 144 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* III. 7 Matter in dede, My sydes dyde blede For man. 1530 PALSGR. 833/1 By matter in dede, *par effet*. 1533 tr. *Erasmus' Expos. Comm. Crede* 78 The Iewes do graunte..that Iesus was crucified verye matter in dede. 1621 ELSING *Debates Ho. Lords* (Camden) 113 The question whether this cause had a sufficient hearinge, or noe, which is matter in facte.

17. a. Things printed or written; often with qualification, e.g. *printed, manuscript, type-written matter*. In *Printing* applied *techn.* to (*a*) the body of a printed work, as distinguished from the titles, headings, etc.; in newspapers, the general contents as distinguished from the advertisements; (*b*) type set up; (*c*) manuscript prepared for printing, 'copy'.

1683 MOXON *Mech. Exerc., Printing* xxii. ₱ 5 He Sets the Title of the Chapter or Section in a..different Character than his Matter is Set in. *Ibid.* xxiii, The like mark he makes in Matter and Margin if two Letters are Transpos'd. *Ibid.* 386 *Open Matter*. Full of Breaks and Whites. 1824 J. JOHNSON *Typogr.* II. xviii 588 A new mode in the arrangement of the matter. 1838 MRS. CARLYLE *Lett.* I. 106 We have printed half the matter. 1875 [see *live matter*, LIVE *a.* 8]. 1886-94 SPENCER *Autobiog.* I. xxxiii. 512 Matter which has been revised in manuscript, and again revised in proof. 1887, 1890 [see FACE *v.* 8 c].

b. (*Postal*) *matter*: whatever may be sent by post.

1891 *Century Dict.* s.v. *First-class*, First-class matter, in the postal system of the United States matter which is in writing, or sealed against inspection. *Ibid.* s.v. *Second-class*, Second-class matter,. mail matter consisting of newspapers and other periodical publications. *Ibid.* s.v. *Third-class*. 1896 *Strand Mag.* 338/2 [Letters and other] postal matter, such as book-parcels, post-cards, newspapers, circulars, telegrams, etc

18. Idiomatic phrases. **a.** *It makes no matter*, later *it is* (occas. †*skills*) *no matter* = it is of no consequence or importance; now often with ellipsis of the vb., *No matter*, also *What matter..?* Often with dependent clause or an interrogative pronoun or adv. used *elliptically*. †(*It is*) *no matter for*: there is no importance attaching to, (the thing in question) does not matter. Also with mixed constr. † *It is not a* (*one*) *farthing matter*.

1478 [see MAKE *v.*¹ 25]. 153.. TINDALE *Expos. Matt. v-vii.* (? 1550) 61 What mater maketh it, yf I speake wordes whych I vnderstand not? *c* 1550 BALE *K. Johan* (Camden) 14 *A.* To the church, I trust, ye wyll be obedyent. *K. J.* No mater to yow whether I be so or no. 1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 128 My behauiour hathe not deserued, any such doggishe dealing: but makes it any great matter? 1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* III. i. 334 *Sp.* Item, she doth talke in her sleepe. *La.* It's no matter for that, so shee sleepe not in her talke. *Ibid.* II. vii. 66 No matter who's displeas'd, when you are gone. 1609 DEKKER *Guls Horne-bk.* vii. 33 How course soeuer the stuffe be, tis no matter so it hold fashion. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 45 No great matter where. 1670 in *Cosin's Corr.* (Surtees) II. 251 It skills no matter what Neile's atturney said to you. 1678 BUNYAN *Pilgr.* I. 39 So he we get into the way, what's matter which way we get in? 1693 CONGREVE *Old Bach.* IV. xv, *Bell.* My patch, my patch. *Læt.*..No matter for your patch. 1712-13 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 3 Mar., Tis not a farthing matter her death, I think. *a* 1774 GOLDSM. *Surv. Exp. Philos.* (1776) I. 351 But no matter for the tides in the moon; it is very well if they have satisfactorily explained the tides upon earth. 1802 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Moral T.* (1816) I. xix. 169 'He has lost the key of the trunk..' 'No matter; we can break it open'. 1862 SPENCER *First Princ.* I. iii. § 21 (1875) 66 After no matter how great a progress in the colligation of facts. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 18 But what matter..from whom I heard this?

b. † *To make much* (*no*) *matter of*: to make much (nothing) of (*obs.*). *To make a matter*: to make a fuss or to-do.

a 1586 MONTGOMERIE *Misc. Poems* iii. 19 For men of merit sho [*sc.* Fortune] no mater maks. *a* 1649 WINTHROP *New Engl.* (1853) I. 175 Much matter was made of this. 1893 STEVENSON *Catriona* 82 Because you said a word too much in a friend's ear..to make such a matter!

IV. A thing, affair, concern; corresponding to L. *res*, which it is often employed to render.

19. An event, circumstance, fact, question, state or course of things, etc. which may be an object of consideration or practical concern; a subject, affair, business.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 270 Of þis ilke materie ich spec muchel þeruppe. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Wife's Prol.* 836 Lo, goode men, a flie and eek a frere Woln falle in every dissche and matiere. 1411 *Rolls of Parlt.* III. 650/1 He knoweth wel that in the matier on hym surmetted by the sayd Bille, he ne hath noght born hym as he sholde hav doon. *c* 1450 *Merlin* vii. 114, I praye yow,..that ye will me counseile in this matere. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* Ded. A 2, To judge by matters past, what shalbe the consequent, and end of things to come. 1611 BIBLE *Acts* xix. 39 But if yee enquire any thing concerning other matters, it shalbe determined in a lawfull assembly. 1625 BACON *Ess., Truth* (Arb.) 499 One of the later Schoole of the Grecians examineth the matter, and is at a stand [etc.]. 1710 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 12 Oct., He..then falls on his sword; and, to make the matter sure, at the same time discharges a pistol through his own head. 1743 BULKELEY & CUMMINS *Voy. S. Seas* 73 Upon this we dropt the Matter, and began to discourse concerning the Provisions. 1768 STERNE *Sent. Journ.* (1778) I. 1 They order, said I, this matter better in France. 1802 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Moral T.* (1816) I. xiii. 105 The brewer cut the matter short, by saying, he had not time to argue. 1842 BORROW *Bible in Spain* xxviii, To mend the matter, the hostess was a most intolerable scold and shrew. 1856 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* (1858) I. ii. 154 In default of help from Rome, he would lay the matter before parliament. 1883 *Manch. Exam.* 24 Oct. 4/6 One of the leading matters under consideration was the

report of the Ecclesiastical Commission. 1887 E. STUART *In His Grasp* iii. 39, I tried to lead the conversation to personal matters.

b. with possessive (or equivalent): An affair or business specially belonging to some person or persons; (one's) cause, concern, or affair. ? *Obs.*

In later use app. only *collect. plural.*

c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 613, I wold meng al mi mater ȝif I miȝt for schame. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Melib.* P 775. 2931 We putten..al our matere and cause al hoolly in your goode wil. *c* 1412 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 1794 Lordes han for to done So mych for hem-self, þat my mateere Out of hir mynde slippith away soone. *c* 1460 FORTESCUE *Abs. & Lim. Mon.* xv. (1885) 145 Thai were so occupied with thair owne maters, and with the maters off thair kynne,..þat thai entendet but litle..to þe kynges maters. 1503 HAWES *Examp. Virt.* xii. 234 By me your mater shall be well sped. 1530 PALSGR. 473/2 If thou se my lerned counsayle in Westmynster hall, call upon them to remember my mater agaynst Bulkyn [Fr. *mon proces contre Bulkyn*]. *a* 1568 ASCHAM *Scholem.* i. (Arb.) 83 Though, for their priuate matters they can follow, fawne, and flatter noble Personages. 1612 BREREWOOD *Lang. & Relig.* xv. 157 You may see them...in Possevins book of the matters of Moscovia. 1625 BACON *Ess., Envy* (Arb.) 512 To know much of other Mens Matters. *a* 1657 MURE *Psalm* xxi. 2 Lord, in thy strength the King sall joy;..To his minde Thow makst his maters goe. 1837 T. HOOK *Jack Brag* v, Take my advice, Jack,..try them both. Manage your matters well—lead them both on. 1857 BORROW *Rom. Rye* xi. 74 Let the matters of my sister and Jasper Petulengro alone, brother.

c. *pl.* (without article or qualification): Events, affairs, circumstances, etc., understood to refer to a particular occasion, but not further specified.

1570 SIR H. SIDNEY *Let.* in *Life of Sir P. Carew* (1857) 241 Thomond matters have gone verie leisurelie on. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* I. i. 79 If matters grow to your likings. *a* 1649 WINTHROP *New Eng.* (1853) I. 369 At Providence matters went after the old manner. 1671 MILTON *S. A.* 1348 Matters now are strain'd Up to the highth, whether to hold or break. 1699 T. BROWN in *R. L'Estrange's Erasmus Colloq.* (1725) 390, I will take a proper occasion to discourse matters with your Husband. 1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) IV. 52, I will bring you to her as a stranger, and so you may bring matters about. 1769 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* IV. 351 This seems to be carrying matters too far. 1868 *Pall Mall G.* 9 Dec. 10 Matters are very different in France. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 235/2 A state of matters which .. was .. attended with heavy loss to this country.

d. In *plural* sometimes used vaguely of concrete things. ? *Obs.*

1709 HEARNE *Collect.* (O. H. S.) II. 291 Which MS^t. he has been pleas'd to give to the writer of these matters. 1743 BULKELEY & CUMMINS *Voy. S. Seas* 207 That we did not want great Matters, only barely enough to support Life. 1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) IV. 50 After a short repast of some small matters. 1824 SCOTT *St. Ronan's* ii, She [the landlady] retired after these acts of hospitality, and left the stranger to enjoy in quiet the excellent matters which she had placed before him. 1826 DISRAELI *Viv. Grey* v. iv, Cups, balls, and rings, and other mysterious-looking matters, which generally accompany a conjuror.

20. *contextually.* A subject of contention, dispute, litigation, or the like. More explicitly *matter in dispute, question,* † *variance,* † *difference.*

c 1386 CHAUCER *Melibeus* P 65 Thilke Iuge is wys, that sone understondeth a matere [*v. r.* matiere] and iuggeth by leyser. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 181 Non withinne the cite In destorbance of unite Dorste ones moeven a matiere. 1460 *Cal. Anc. Rec. Dublin* (1889) I. 314 Hit is grawnt..that hit be lawfull to determe all maner materis and make lawes. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* XVIII. i. 726 And quarels and maters thow hast now a dayes for ladyes and gentilwymmen more than euer thou were wonte to haue. 1538 CROMWELL in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) I. 348 Touching a certen matier in varyaunce betwixt thexecutours of Sir William Spencer disceasyd and my ladye spencer. 1535 COVERDALE *Deut.* xvii. 8 Yf a matter be to harde for the in iudgment betwixte bloude and bloude. 1597 BACON *Coulers Gd. & Evill* (Arb.) 140 If the matter should be tryed by duell betweene two Champions. 1774 [see DIFFERENCE *sb.* 3]. 1774 BURKE *Sp. Amer. Taxation* Sel. Wks. I. 147 Not being troubled with too anxious a zeal for any matter in question. 1825 [see DISPUTE *sb.* 1 b]. 1886 MRS. LYNN LINTON *Paston Carew* viii, They rarely met without crossing swords on one matter if not another.

† b. Phr. *To make a matter to* (a person), to pick a quarrel with. *To have a matter with* or *against,* to have a quarrel with. *Obs.*

1530 PALSGR. 618, I make a mater to one, I pycke a quarell to him..I make no mater to hym, *je ne luy demande riens.* 1535 COVERDALE *Judg.* xii. 2, I and my people had a greate matter with ye children of Ammon. 1611 BIBLE *Acts* xix. 38 If Demetrius, and the craftesmen..haue a matter against any man, the law is open.

21. With qualification (attribute, or *of* and sb.): A thing, affair, subject, etc., of the kind denoted by or perlaining to the thing denoted by the qualification.

For the illustration of such phrases as *galley, halfpenny, hanging, laughing, massing, money matter,* see the first element. See also MATTER OF COURSE, MATTER OF FACT.

c 1425 WYNTOUN *Chron.* I. xvii. (MS. Cott.) *heading,* Þe fyrst materis of mawmentry þat clerkis callis ydolatry. 1508 DUNBAR *Tua Maryit Wemen* 122 Euer ymagynyng in mynd materis of evill. 1509 FISHER *Funeral Serm. C'tess Richmond* Wks. (1876) 292 She dyde translate dyuers maters of deuocyon out of Frensshe into Englysshe. 1549 LATIMER *5th Serm. bef. Edw. VI* (Arb.) 149 It is taken for a laughynge matter. 1590 SIR J. SMYTH *Disc. Weapons* Ded. 4 b, All their ancient orders and proceedings in matters Militarie. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* I. i. 2, I will make a Star-Chamber matter of it. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* IX. 73 Matters of faith..are so plainly setled by the Scriptures, that [etc.]. 1678 WANLEY *Wond. Lit. World* v. i. § 99. 468/1 Mens Consciences are not to be forced in matters of Religion. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* xcvi[i]. 31 She knows but matters of the house, And he, he knows a thousand things. 1900 *Daily News* 22 Oct. 3/4 The campaign is nearly over—as a field matter it is fully at an end.

b. *A matter of*: a circumstance which involves or brings into play . . ; a 'case' of.

1802–12 BENTHAM *Ration. Judic. Evid.* (1827) V. 179 When once we steer a hair's-breadth out of the sphere of every day's practice, everything is a matter of cross and pile. 1823 J. BADCOCK *Dom. Amusem.* 51 As a matter of economy, it is suggested [etc.]. 1843 GROVE *Corr. Phys. Forces* (1846) 35 This, however, must be taken merely as a matter of opinion. 1849 JAMES *Woodman* ix, This is a matter of life and death. 1868 W. K. CLIFFORD *Mental Development* Lect. & Ess. (1879) I. 104 The power of creation is not a matter of static ability;..it is a matter of habits and desires.

22. Used, like *thing,* as an indeterminate sb. to which to attach an epithet. Also in phrases like *it is no such matter, another matter.*

c 1384 CHAUCER *H. Fame* III. 427 But hit a ful confuse matere Were al the gestes for to here. 14.. LYDG. *Isop.* (Zup.) 48 In matyrs þat touche poetry. 1596 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. IV,* II. iv. 301 Instinct is a great matter. *c* 1600 — *Sonn.* lxxxvii. 14 In sleepe a King, but waking no such matter. 1610 — *Temp.* II. i. 88 What impossible matter wil he make easy next? 1611 BIBLE *Ps.* xxxv. 20 They deuise deceitfull matters against them that are quiet in the land. 1692 RAY *Disc.* (1732) Pref. 9, I had taken notice of five matters of ancient tradition. 1736 BUTLER *Anal.* II. i. Wks. 1874 I. 153 It cannot in any wise be an indifferent matter, whether we obey or disobey those commands. 1828 MISS MITFORD in L'Estrange *Life* (1870) II. 249 If actresses are bad, no manager can help it; but to take pains to turn a bad woman into an actress is another matter. 1842 BROWNING *Waring* I. iv, Truth's a weighty matter. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* IV. 438 Who desire you more Than..dying lips, With many thousand matters left to do, The breath of life. 1876 BLACK *Madcap V.* xvii, The pronunciation of the word *allegro* is not a matter of very grave moment.

† b. *All is a matter*: it is all the same. *Obs.*

1589 PUTTENHAM *Poesie* II. xii. [xiii.] (Arb.) 127 Whether we make the common readers to laugh or to lowre, all is a matter. 1682 N. O. *Boileau's Lutrin* II. 118 Let me sob, roar, or swoon, 'tis all a matter To marble-hearted John.

† c. (*Any, some, no*) *great matter*: (something, nothing) considerable. *Obs.*

1563–87 FOXE *A. & M.* (Cattley) (K. O.), It is no great matter. 1622 BACON *Hen. VII* 120 It did shew manifestly vnto the World, that hee [Perkin] was some Great matter. *c* 1680 BEVERIDGE *Serm.* (1729) II. 554 This..may seem to be no great matter at first sight. 1717 BERKELEY *Jrnl. Tour Italy* Wks. 1871 IV. 528 We saw an armoury which seemed no great matter.

d. *For that matter*: = 'for the matter of that' (see 25 e).

1673 DRYDEN *Marr. à-la-Mode* III. ii. 47 *Pala.* But who told you I was here?..*Rho.* O, for that matter, we had intelligence. 1693 CONGREVE *Old Bach.* IV. xxii, No, no, for that matter, when she and I part, she'll carry her separate maintenance about her. 1898 *Times* 10 Jan. 13/3 The ..shivering drivers..who (like every one else, for that matter) had to lie out in it [the rain] without tents.

23. a. With qualifying adj., usually *small*: A (certain) quantity or amount (*of*). ? *Obs.*

1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 265 [He] sold them their liberties for a small matter. *Ibid.* 271 It is thought that the Empire receiveth every way above seven millions, which is a great matter. 1652 NEEDHAM tr. *Selden's Mare Cl.* 472 At first an easie matter was demanded by the King of Denmark, and now more exacted than they can possibly bear. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* 71 They can live upon a small matter; and provided they have Rice [etc.]. 1712 W. ROGERS *Voy.* (1718) 33 It produces a small matter of Indico. 1723 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 6142/3 One sorrel Horse Colt,..with a small matter of White in his Face. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* IV. v, I..sent a small matter to his wife. 1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) III. 114 My son here has been of some little matter of use to you. *Ibid.* IV. 26 You will oblige us by..taking some little matter of supper with us.

b. *A small matter,* occas. *a matter,* used advb. = Somewhat, slightly. *Obs.* or *arch.*

1690 CHILD *Disc. Trade* (ed. 4) 133 Very large quantities of Timber..may be had, though some small matter dearer than in Norway. 1700 CONGREVE *Way of World* III. xv, I have thought to tarry a small matter in town to learn somewhat of your lingo. 1703 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* 275 Open them a small matter wider, or shut them a small matter closer. 1788 SMEATON in *Phil. Trans.* LXXIX. 4 The socket and spindle being a small matter taper. 1834 LANDOR *Exam. Shaks.* Wks. 1853 II. 267/1 Carnaby did quail a matter at these words.

24. *A matter of*: used to qualify a numeral, indicating that it is not to be taken as literally exact. Also rarely *matter of* (? obs.), *the matter of.*

c 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* (1655) I. 193 The French that came over with Her Majesty..are all casheer'd this week, about a matter of sixscore, wherof the Bishop of Mende was one. 1652a GAULE *Magastrom.* 360 [He] lets him have a great deal of it for a matter of a shilling. 1653 COGAN tr. *Pinto's Trav.* xi. 34 Accompanied with a matter of seven hundred men. 1771 JOHNSON *Let. to Mrs. Thrale* 7 July, He had had, as he phrased it, a matter of four wives. 1829 LANDOR *Imag. Conv.* Wks. 1853 I. 378 Hither have I been riding of matter of thirteen miles. 1843 CARLYLE *Past & Pres.* II. i, Lackland..boarded once, for the matter of a fortnight, in St. Edmundsbury Convent. 1862a BORROW *Wales* lxxxiii. (1901) 258 'Is it long since your honour was in Durham county?' 'A good long time. A matter of forty years'.

25. The matter (in various idiomatic uses).

† a. That which is contemplated, intended, or desired. *To the matter*: to the point, relevant(ly); = L. *ad rem.* *From the matter*: irrelevant(ly). *Much about the matter*: not far from the point. *Obs.*

1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 30 a, Thou aunswerest Luther, more unreverently, then it becommeth thee, and not sufficiently to the matter. 1597 BACON *Ess., Discourse* (Arb.) 22 To vse too many circumstances ere one come to the matter is wearisome. 1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* V. v. 169. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 326 To helpe the Matter, the Alchymists call in..many Vanities, out of Astrologie. 1658 ROWLAND tr. *Monfet's Theat. Ins.* 951 It shall not be from the matter to tax in brief the madnesse of the ancient Gentiles. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* V. xii. 55 If you take 5 parts Lead, and one part Stone, it will come very near the matter. *a* 1694 TILLOTSON *Serm.* (1714) I. 12 He grants it [*sc.* the deluge] to have come so near the matter, that but very few escap'd. 1725 BAILEY *Erasm. Colloq.* (1733) 483 You're much about the Matter [L. *haud multum aberras a scopo*].

b. The circumstance or state of things which actually involves or concerns some person or thing, esp. one which calls for remedy or explanation; chiefly in *What is the matter?* and similar expressions. Phr. (colloq.) *What is the matter with . . ?* = What ails, troubles, or is amiss with . . ? hence (*jocular*) What is the objection to, What is there to complain of in . . ?

1469 *Plumpton Corr.* (Camden) 23 Maister Rochif asked him what the matter was, if I might have any ease. 1535 COVERDALE *Eccles.* xxii. 8 Whan he hath tolde his tayle, he sayeth: what is the matter? 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 323 b, No man knew what the matter was. 1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* II. iii. 163 What is the matter heere? 1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* I. vii. § 15 Alexander happed to say: Doe you thinke these men would haue come from so farre to complaine, except they had iust cause of griefe? and Cassander answered, Yea, that was the matter, because they thought they should not be disprooued. 1682a N. O. *Boileau's Lutrin* III. 6 The Canto tells you, what's the matter. 1713 SWIFT *Cadenus & Vanessa,* Why she likes him, admire not at her; She loves herself, and that's the matter. 1715 DE FOE *Fam. Instruct.* I. iv. (1841) I. 88, I beseech what is the matter with you. 1802 *Spirit Publ. Jrnls.* (1803) VI. 8 What's the matter with the peace? 1833 HT. MARTINEAU *Three Ages* ii. 75 The children .. amused themselves as if nothing was the matter. 1837 [see LEG *sb.* 1]. 1847–9 HELPS *Friends in C.* II. (1851) 5 There was something the matter with the old man. 1885 'F. ANSTEY' *Tinted Venus* 69 'What's the matter?' 'Nothing is the matter, Matilda', he said.

† c. *On* or *upon the matter* (also *upon the whole m.*): taking the thing as a whole, speaking generally; for all practical purposes, practically speaking. *Obs.*

c 1560 *Misogonus* III. i. 192 (Brandl), Pounder matter, well, if she should not knowt, who showlde knowe? 1612 BACON *Ess., Deformity* (Arb.) 254 So that vpon tbe whole matter [*ed.* 1625 vpon the matter], in a great wit, deformity is an aduantage to rising. 1639 FULLER *Holy War* II. xxxvii. (1640) 93 That Christians are not bound to keep faith with idolaters, the worshippers of a false god, as the Egyptian Caliph was on the matter. 1679 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* 120 The Rules they both work by are upon the matter the same, in Sawing, Mortessing,..&c. 1689 BURNET *Tracts* I. 79 Tbis is upon the matter a Pension paid under a more decent name to the most considerable Men of the Country. 1691 SOUTH *Serm.* (1823) II. 188 Upon the whole matter it is absurd to think that conscience can be kept in order without frequent examination. *a* 1710 BP. BULL *Serm.* xviii. Wks. 1827 I. 439 He is upon the matter sure of a long life.

d. Phr. *In the matter of* (= law Latin *in re*): in relation to, with regard to; chiefly in *Law.*

1790 AMBLER *Chancery Rep.* 78 In the Matter of Annesley, a Lunatic. 1834 ADOLPHUS & ELLIS 1 *K. B. Rep.* 843 In the Matter of Elmy and Sawyer. 1876 *Law Rep., Prob. Div.* I. 423 In the Matter of the Petition of Sheehy. 1881 SAINTSBURY *Dryden* iv, He [Dryden] had 'seen many others', as an admirable Gallicism has it, in the matter of attacks. 1882a *Times* 30 June 5 In the matter of Egypt,..the German Chancellor will leave them to act as they like. 1904 *Standard* 29 Nov. 9/7 In the Matter of an Arbitration between the Manchester Carriage and Tramways Company (Claimants) v. The Swinton and Pendlebury Urban District Council (Purchasing Authority).

e. *For the matter of that*: as far as that goes.

1764 FOOTE *Mayor of G.* I. (1783) 24 For the matter of that, we can afford it well enough as it is. 1766 GOLDSM. *Vic. W.* xxi, 'Consider, my dear', cries the husband, 'she is a gentlewoman'...'As for the matter of that', returned the hostess, 'gentle or simple, out she shall pack with a sussarara'.

26. *attrib.* and *Comb.,* as *matter-hating, -moulded, -woven* adjs.; † **matter-bear** (see quot.).

1612 S. STURTEVANT *Metallica* (1854) 117 The matter-beare, is a generall part of a Furnace which beereth and holdeth the substances of the Raw-matters. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* xc[i]v, In matter-moulded forms of speech. 1853 KINGSLEY *Hypatia* viii. 98 Facts, objects, are but phantoms matter-woven. 1856 R. A. VAUGHAN *Mystics* (1860) I. 17 The matter-hating principles of this school.

† **Ma·tter,** *sb.*[2] *Obs.* Also 7 matteyer. [f. MAT *sb.*[1] + -ER [1].] A mat-maker.

14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 613/38 *Storiator,* a mattere. *c* 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* II. lxvii. (1869) 101 Whan þus hadde seid me þe mattere [F. *natier*] who he was. 1611 COTGR., *Nattier,* a Matter; or maker of mats. 1614 *Acc. Revels at Court* (Shaks. Soc. 1842) p. xliv, To Richard Ansell Matteyer to his Ma^ty^..for bis paines and chardges in nayling downe the greene clothe in the Banquetting House ..for the Maske.

Matter (mæ·tər), *v.* Also 6 mattre, matier. [f. MATTER *sb.*[1]]

1. *intr.* To discharge matter or pus; to suppurate.

1530 PALSGR. 633/2 Whan thynke you that your byle wyll matter? 1544 PHAER *Bk. Childr.* (1553) S iv b, The .. skin of an adder..boiled in oile .. is also good for an eare that mattereth. 1658 A. FOX *Surg. Guide* III. iv. 227 Every wound mattereth, and desireth to make a separation of that which is destroyed. 1736 AINSWORTH *Lat. Dict., Suppuro,* .. to

matter, to suppurate. [1875–86 Elworthy *W. Som. Gloss.*, *Mattery*, to discharge pus.]

† b. To exude in the form of matter or pus.

1635 Quarles *Embl.* I. xii. 49 Earth's milk's a ripen'd core That drops from her disease, that matters from her sore.

2. To be of importance; to signify: chiefly in interrogative and negative sentences. (Freq. *impersonal* with dependent clause.) Const. *to*; also (*poet. rare*) with *dative*.

1581 Savile *Tacitus, Hist.* IV. (1612) 161 Sosianus & Sagitta were men vile & of no account, neither mattered it where they liued. *a* 1617 Bayne *Lect.* (1634) 68 What those are who are not under our houshold gouernment, mattereth not to our discredit. 1633 Hall *Occas. Medit.* (1851) 18 It matters not, O God, how I am vexed here below, a while. 1711 Steele *Spect.* No. 252 ¶ 1 What matters it what she says to you? 1817 Southey *Wat Tyler* I. i. Poet. Wks. II. 25 What matters me who wears the crown of France? 1840 Marryat *Poor Jack* xxvi, We haven't spent any to matter. 1846 Landor *Imag. Conv.* I. 156 Nor does it matter a straw whether we use the double *e* instead of *ete* in *sweet*. 1873 Dixon *Two Queens* I. IV. i. 175 His pretext mattered little. 1878 Tennyson *The Revenge* xi, We die—does it matter when? 1884 *Law Rep.* 26 *Chanc. Div.* 128 It mattered nothing to them whether the other Corporators were eight or a thousand. 1885 'F. Anstey' *Tinted Venus* 181 'It matters not', she said, calmly.

3. With a negative: To be concerned about, care for, regard, heed, mind. (Sometimes with dependent clause.) *Obs.* exc. *dial.* in the sense: To approve of, like.

1649 Blith *Eng. Improv. Impr.* (1653) 96 Let his Land be fit for one, or fit for another use, he matters it not. 1664 H. More *Myst. Iniq.* xi. 37, I matter not what careless abuses there may be put upon a word. 1720 *Humourist* Ded. 13 They matter it not of a straw. 1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* II. vi, If it had been out of doors I had not mattered it so much. 1760–72 H. Brooke *Fool of Qual.* (1809) I. 26 He did not matter cold, nor hunger, nor what he eat, nor what he drank. 1804 Eugenia de Acton *Tale without Title* I. 215 Oh! as to your fine speeches, Miss, I matter not them a straw. 1892 M. C. F. Morris *Yorksh. Folk-Talk* 89 If a workman does not take kindly to his occupation, he would say that he did not matter it much.

b. *absol.* or *intr.* To care, mind. ? *Obs.*

1677 Moxon *Mech. Exerc.* 43 Let it somewhat fall short or exceed that number they matter not. 1713 in G. Sheldon *Hist. Deerfield, Mass.* (1895) I. 350 If he would not marry them they matter'd not. 1729 Walkden *Diary* (1866) 80, I mattered not if we exchanged, so he took my box, and I his.

† 4. To arrange the subject-matter of. *nonce-use.*

1548 Geste *Pr. Masse* Ded., Whiche I can neyther word, matier, ne reason accordynglye, and so [etc.].

† **Ma·tterative,** *a. Obs.* Also 7 **mattrative.** [irreg. f. Matter *sb.*[1] or *v.* + -ative, with recollection of *maturative*.] Characterized by the presence of matter or pus.

1639 T. de Gray *Compl. Horsem.* 40 The corruption which the horse venteth: if that mattrative stuffe be green [etc.]. 1727 Bradley *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Fever*, His Eyes are so swell'd that he cannot easily open 'em for matterative Stuff. *Ibid.* s.v. *Wen*, [Wens] being as to the outward part, Flesh, but toward the Root, matterative.

† **Ma·ttered,** *a. Obs. rare.* [f. Matter *sb.*[1] + -ed[2], after med.L. *māteriātus*.]

1. *Metaph.* = Materiated.

1620 T. Granger *Div. Logike* 57 A mattered effect, or effect of the matter, is euery thing made of some matter. 1654 Z. Coke *Logick* 159 From the common matter put or taken away,.. to put or take away the mattered,.. is a contingent inference: as, In Germany is much wood, therefore they have many ships.

2. Containing matter or pus.

1590 Barrough *Meth. Physick* v. vi. (1639) 278 A mattered tumour is more safely opened with a knife then with burning medicines.

Matterful (mæ·təɹfŭl), *a.* [f. Matter *sb.*[1] + -ful.] Of a book, an author, or the like: Full of 'matter' or substance.

1819 Lamb *Lett.* x. *To Wordsworth* 97 From thence I turned to Vincent Bourne; what a sweet, unpretending, pretty-manner'd, matterful Creature. 1873 Miss Broughton *Nancy* I. 147 In sweet and matterful verse. 1887 *Sat. Rev.* 3 Sept. 337 The cheap little collection..called the 'Bibliothèque utile', seldom admits numbers which are not 'matterful and factful', as some singular people say.

Hence **Ma·tterfulness.**

1883–4 Grosart *Nashe's Wks.* I. Introd. 45 One is struck with their terseness and matterfulness.

† **Ma·ttering,** *vbl. sb. Obs.* [f. Matter *v.* + -ing[1].]

1. The formation of matter or pus, suppuration.

1528 Paynell *Salerne's Regim.* X iiij, Nothynge is better to heale matterynge at the eares, than the ieuse of wylowe leaues. 1631 Widdowes *Nat. Philos.* 55 Extraordinary mattering is, when.. the humors or parts themselves are made full of corrupt matter. 1749 Bracken *Farriery* (ed. 6) xxx. 258 Mattering of the Yard..in Stoned Horses is often no other than a *Gonorrhœa Simplex*.

2. Caring, minding.

1693 Evelyn *De la Quint. Compl. Gard.* I. 35 The Cloth as it were, should always be laid in a fine Garden, without mattering to see what passes in the open Fields.

† **Ma·ttering,** *ppl. a. Obs.* [f. Matter *v.* + -ing[2].] Forming or discharging matter, purulent.

1561 Hollybush *Hom. Apoth.* 20 Scabbes,.. mattering sores,..and the canker. 1589 Rider *Bibl. Schol.* s.v., A mattering, or running sore.

† **Ma·tterish,** *a. Obs.* [f. Matter *sb.*[1] + -ish.] Of the nature of, full of, forming, or discharging pus.

1580 Blundeville *Curing Horses Dis.* 59 A kind of Scab.. which is full of fretting matterish water. 1673 R. Head *Canting Acad.* 74 The Matterish clouts that are wrapt about [the sore]. 1725 Atkinson in *Phil. Trans.* XXXIII. 341 There had been discharg'd a small Quantity of matterish Substance.

Matterless (mæ·təɹlĕs), *a.* [f. Matter *sb.*[1] + -less.]

1. Having no matter; not embodied in matter; immaterial. Now *rare*.

1548 Geste *Pr. Masse* B v, The broken bread..is material & not mattierles. 1602 J. Davies (Heref.) *Mirum in modum* (Grosart) 20/1 Who being immateriall, cannot change, (For that's immutable thats matterlesse). *a* 1849 H. Coleridge *Ess.* (1851) I. 56 He cannot live upon matterless forms. 1890 J. H. Stirling *Gifford Lect.* xv. 304 A matterless form would vanish.

† 2. Without materials. *Obs. rare*—[1].

14.. *Pilgr. Sowle*, No more men maye glosen withouten text than bylde materles.

† 3. Devoid of 'matter', sense, or meaning. *Obs.*

1612 T. Taylor *Comm. Titus* To Rdr., With multiplication of matterless words. *a* 1637 B. Jonson *Hor.: Art P.* 460 All fine noise Of verse meere-matter-lesse. 1767 Mrs. S. Pennington *Lett.* III. 37 Some dissipation is necessary for you, and therefore, my matterless lines may have their use.

4. Immaterial, of no concern or importance. Chiefly *dial.*

a 1650 May *Old Couple* II. (1658) 10 'Tis matterless in goodness who excels: He that hath coyn, hath all perfections else. 1875 *Manley & Corringham Gloss.* s.v., It's matterless which waay you tak' th' watter. 1889 *Archæol. Æliana* (N.S.) XIII. 280 It being matterless whether a saint is incorruptible or, as in the case of Bede, corrupted.

b. Applied to persons: Of no consequence; incompetent, shiftless, helpless. *dial.*

1794 Hutchinson *Hist. Cumbld* I. 225 *note*, Mr. Robinson ..a simple matterless body. 1876 *Whitby Gloss.*

Matterne, obs. form of Marten.

Matter of course. Something which is to be expected as following the natural course or order of things.

1739 [see Course *sb.* 36 a]. 1809 Malkin *Gil Blas* I. xii. (1866) 27 Having as a matter of course sold my cloak-bag. 1878 S. Walpole *Hist. Engl.* II. 525 Protestants guilty of killing Roman Catholics were acquitted, as a matter of course, by Protestant juries. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 22 May 5/2 It was a matter of course that France should retain the territory she had conquered.

b. *attrib.* or as *adj.* (written with hyphens), rarely as *predicative adj.*: Occurring or following as a matter of course; to be expected. Freq. of persons or their mode of action: Taking things as a matter of course.

1840 Dickens *Barn. Rudge* liii, The cool matter-of-course manner of this reply. 1854 Lowell *Jrnl. Italy* Pr. Wks. 1890 I. 129 A sudden change in the scenery, like those that seem so matter-of-course in dreams. 1861 Hughes *Tom Brown at Oxf.* xxx, I won't have that sort of matter-of-course acquiescence. 1865 Mozley *Mirac.* v. 100 The belief in it is so necessary and so matter-of-course an act in us, that [etc.]. 1892 W. S. Gilbert *Foggerty's Fairy* 190, I said some matter-of-course words to the effect [etc.].

Hence **Matter-of-cou·rseness** *nonce-wd.*

1890 *Temple Bar* Sept. 78 A naturalness, a matter-of-courseness that admitted of no questioning.

Matter of fact (mæ·təɹəvfæ·kt), *sb.* and *a.* [See Matter *sb.*[1] 16, 21 and Fact *sb.* 6.]

A. *sb.* a. *Law.* That portion of a subject of judicial inquiry which is concerned with the truth or falsehood of alleged facts; a particular question or issue that is of this nature: opposed to *matter of law*. b. What pertains to the sphere of fact as opposed to opinion, probability, or inference; also, something which is of the nature of a fact. Phrases, *As a matter of fact, in matter of fact*: in point of fact, really.

1581 E. Campion in *Confer.* II. (1584) M b, He speaketh of a matter of fact. 1594 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* II. vii. § 2 If it be admitted that in matter of fact there is some credite to be giuen to the testimonie of man, but not in matter of opinion and iudgement. 1605 Bacon *Adv. Learn.* I. iv. § 9 It is either a beleefe of Historie (as the Lawyers speeke, matter of fact;) or else of matter of art and opinion. 1621 Elsing *Debates Ho. Lords* (Camden) 112 The House to consider of the matter of facte. 1661 Evelyn *Diary* 1 Oct., He then commanded me to draw up the matter of fact happening at the bloudy encounter. 1690 Locke *Hum. Und.* IV. xvi. (1695) 380 Some particular Existence, or, as it is usually termed, matter of fact, which falling under Observation, is capable of humane Testimony. 1709 Addison *Tatler* No. 122 ¶ 1 It is true in Matter of Fact, I was present at the ingenious Entertainment. 1727 A. Hamilton *New Acc. E. Ind.* II. xxxiii. 9 The Story was really true Matter of Fact. 1730 A. Gordon *Maffei's Amphith.* 289 The Matter of Fact is, that..the two Gates..will undoubtedly be found wider. 1739 Hume *Hum. Nat.* I. iii. § 7 (1888) 94 All reasonings from causes or effects terminate in conclusions, concerning matter of fact; that is, concerning the existence of objects or of their qualities. 1776 — *My own Life*, This is a matter of fact which is easily cleared and ascertained. 1793 Smeaton *Edystone L.* § 119, I have strictly adhered to matter of fact. 1816–60 Whately *Comm. pl. Bk.* (1864) 131 By a matter of fact is meant something which might conceivably be submitted to the senses, and about which it is supposed there could not be any disagreement among persons who should be present and to whose senses it should be presented. 1842 J. H. Newman *Eccl. Mirac.* (1843) 56 There exists, in matter of fact, that very connection..between Ecclesiastical and Scripture miracles. 1849 Grote *Greece* II. lxvii. (1862) VI. 38 *note*, Great numbers of Aristophanic jests have been transcribed as serious matter-of-fact. 1888 Bryce *Amer. Commw.* II. liii. 311 They did not receive, as matter of fact, the good government which they desired. 1889 J. K. Jerome *Three Men in a Boat* 283 As a matter of fact, you are quite right. I did catch it.

B. *attrib.* passing into *adj.* (Usually written with hyphens.) Pertaining to, having regard to, or depending upon actual fact as distinguished from what is speculative or fanciful; unimaginative, prosaic.

1712 Steele *Spect.* No. 521 ¶ 1, I contemn the Men given to Narration under the Appellation of a Matter of Fact Man. 1787 Burns *Let.* 15 Jan., Wks. (Globe) 323 To write him a mere matter-of-fact affair, like a merchant's order. 1856 Stanley *Sinai & Pal.* i. 67 The scene is not impressive in itself,—that at Suez especially is matter-of-fact in the highest degree. 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) II. 277 The more Callicles is irritated, the more provoking and matter of fact does Socrates become. 1887 R. N. Carey *Uncle Max* xi. (1887) 84 [She] bade her drink her tea before it got cold, in a sensible matter-of-fact way.

absol. 1870 Lowell *Among my Bks.* Ser. II. (1873) 125 Its oscillations between the ideal and the matter-of fact.

Hence **Ma·tter-of-fa·ctism,** the principle or practice of regarding or relying upon matter of fact only; so **Ma·tter-of-fa·ctist,** one who regards matter of fact only; **Ma·tter-of-fa·ctly** *adv.*, in a matter-of-fact manner; **Ma·tter-of-fa·ctness,** matter-of-fact quality or character.

1860 Sara Hennell *Thoughts in Aid of Faith* 195 Hard *matter-of-fact-ism. *a* 1866 J. Grote *Exam. Utilit. Phil.* xviii. (1870) 283 Positivism and matter-of-factism, that is, the refusal to take account of any thing else in things except that they are. 1833 *New Monthly Mag.* XXXIX. 165 The *matter-of-factists will put down as your sober opinion..the *ἐπεα πτεροεντα* inspired by the festivity of the hour. 1865 J. Grote *Explor. Philos.* I. 80 Thorough positivists..or, I may say, matter-of-factists. 1873 Miss Broughton *Nancy* I. 47 'You mean us, I suppose', I answered *matter-of-factly. 1816 J. W. Croker in *C. Papers* 28 Nov. (1884), [The] success..I attribute altogether..to the *matter-of-factness, with which it is written. 1879 W. Knight *Stud. Philos. & Lit.* 291 The infelicities..in Wordsworth's style.. its sinking from ideality into matter-of-factness.

Mattery (mæ·təɹi), *a.* Also 4–7 **mattry.** [f. Matter *sb.*[1] + -y[1].]

1. Full of, forming, or discharging matter or pus; purulent. Now *rare*.

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. ci. (1495) 667 Oleum mirtum..clensyth mattry eerys. 1527 Andrew *Brunswyke's Distyll. Waters* I v a, Impostumes whiche roune of mattery humours and moystoures. 1666 J. H. *Treat. Gt. Antidote* 11 It brought away much mattery substance. 1871 Napheys *Prev. & Cure Dis.* III. xiii. 1070 A mattery sore.

† 2. Full of 'matter' or sense. *Obs. rare*—[1].

1601 B. Jonson *Poetaster* IV. v, Away with your Mattery Sentences..; They are to graue and wise, for this meeting.

Matteyer, variant of Matter *sb.*[2] *Obs.*

Matthean (mæþi·ăn), *a.* Also -æan. [f. L. *Matthæ-us* Matthew + -an.] Of, pertaining to, or characteristic of the evangelist St. Matthew.

1897 *Expositor* Aug. 152 The closing sentence being distinctly Matthaean. *Ibid.* Dec. 448 In two of the Matthean logia the Lord speaks of His disciples collectively as the *ecclesia*.

Mattie, Mattin: see Matie, Matin.

Matting (mæ·tiŋ), *vbl. sb.*[1] [f. Mat *v.*[1] and *sb.*[1]]

1. The action of becoming or state of being matted or tangled. Also with *down, together*.

1682 H. More *Contr. Remark. Stor.* 41 This Magical matting of the Daughter's hair into a Witch-lock. 1707 Mortimer *Husb.* 570 It [*sc.* the Malt] sinks gradually, distributing its strength to your Liquor equally without matting. 1865 Gosse *Land & Sea* (1874) 19 The matting of the vegetation, impeding the flow of the water. 1884 W. S. B. McLaren *Spinning* (ed. 2) 2 The property of felting or matting, which is so characteristic of wool. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 809 Obstruction [of the bowel] by the matting together of several coils of intestine. 1899 *Ibid.* VII. 480 The..matting down of the velum interpositum.

2. a. The process of making mats or matting. b. The covering of a floor, etc. with matting.

a. 1720 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5891/4 Tho. Smith..of that Branch called a matted Chair-maker, is in want of Journeymen..for Matting. 1871 Tylor *Prim. Cult.* I. 7 Among the textile arts are to be ranged matting, netting [etc.].

b. 1813 L. Hunt in *Examiner* 22 Feb. 114/1 Matting and carpeting have done much for the stone floor.

3. *concr.* A fabric composed of a coarse material, e. g., coir, bast, hemp, grass, etc., used as a covering for floors or roofs, or as material for packing, for tying plants, etc. Also *Naut.* = Mat *sb.*[1] 4.

Different kinds of matting are known as *Canton, Dutch, India* (see India 6), *Russia matting*; also **Coco-nut matting** (see Coco 4 d), **Sword matting** (see Sword).

1748 *Anson's Voy.* III. v. 341 The sail..is made of matting, and the mast..of bamboo. 1812 J. Smyth *Pract. of Customs* (1821) 154, 20 Rolls Dutch Matting...Matting is used by the Cabinet-makers for packing of goods. 1819 *Mem. Caled. Hort. Soc.* III. 111 Through the heads of these nails, strings or strands of matting are introduced. 1843 Mrs. Houston *Yacht Voy. Texas* (1844) I. 27 The floors..are spread with a fine matting. 1846 J. Baxter *Libr. Pract. Agric.* (ed. 4) II. 324 The scion, which you will tie to it slightly with a piece of wetted matting. 1861 Delamer *Flower Gard.* 31 The cold frame (covered with matting). 1866 Geo. Eliot *F. Holt* (1868) 10 The broad stone staircase with its matting worn into large holes. 1901 Hasluck *Bamboo Work* iii. 48 The top [of the table] is of wood covered with Japanese matting.

b. Materials for mats.

1847 in Webster; and in recent Dicts.

4. *attrib.* or as *adj.* Covered with or composed of matting.

1833 J. BENNETT *Artificer's Lex.* 190 Matting hassocks,.. oval or round. 1888 *Literary World* (Boston) 4 Aug. 246/3 Matting roofs. 1895 C. HOLLAND *Jap. Wife* 24 The matting floor. 1900 P. F. WARNER *Cricket in many Climes* 219 An ideal ground as far as a matting wicket ever can be so.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *matting line, needle, tie* (cf. 2 a, b); **matting-boat** = *mattress-boat*: see MATTRESS 4 (*Cent. Dict.* 1890); **matting-loom**, a loom in which matting is made; see also quot. 1875.

1862 *Catal. Internat. Exhib.* II. XIX. 10 *Matting lines, twines, coir yarn and fibre. 1853 in *Abridgm. Specif. Patents, Weaving* (1861) 423 My invention consists in making mats in a *matting loom. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech., Matting-loom* (Weaving), one in which slats are introduced into the shed to form the woof. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. 273/2 Their [*sc.* Upholsterers'] Pack or *Matting Needle. 1825 *Greenhouse Comp.* I. 172 Common *matting ties.

Matting (mæ·tiŋ), *vbl. sb.*[2] [f. MAT *v.*[2] + -ING[1].]

1. The production of a 'mat' surface, in *Chasing, Gilding*, etc. Also, the mat surface thus produced.

1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. 259/2 Matting or Hatching, is to make a Beast or Lion Hairy, a Bird Feathers, Fish Scales, and Flowers and Leaves, Veins and Threads. 1758 *Handmaid to Arts* 381 The deeper and obscure parts of the carving..are coloured after the gilding; which treatment is called matting. 1854 REINNEL *Carpenters' & Gilders' Comp.* 74 Matting or Dead Gold. 1885 F. MILLER *Glass-Paint.* 53 If this matting [*i. e.* antiquing glass with umber or ancient brown] is done to deceive, it is certainly false. 1887 L. L. HASLOPE *Repoussé Work* 52 The simplest form of matting is made by dots. 1893 *Brit. Jrnl. Photogr.* XL. 800 The 'matting' of gelatine prints has become very general. 1898 T. B. WIGLEY *Goldsm. & Jeweller* 146 The term..'surface chasing' is generally applied to the feathering of birds,..the matting of foliage, &c.

2. The furnishing (of a picture) with a mat; *concr.* = MAT *sb.*[2] 3.

1864 WEBSTER, *Matting*, an ornamental border of thin rolled brass, placed between the plate and glass of a daguerreotype picture, to prevent abrasion. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech., Matting*, the passepartout over a picture. A mat. 1889 *Anthony's Photogr. Bull.* II. 141 The matting and framing of a [photographic] print.

3. *Comb.*, as *matting-pattern, -punch, -tool.*

1877 G. B. GEE *Pract. Gold-worker* 133 An effective matting-punch was at once produced. This matting-tool appears to have been greatly used by the mediæval goldworkers. 1898 T. B WIGLEY *Goldsm. & Jeweller* 120 Passing the wire through flattening rolls with matting pattern.

Mattins: see MATIN.

Mattock (mæ·tək), *sb.* Forms: 1 mattoc, mettoc, metoc, meottuc, 1–2 mattuc, 4–6 mattok, 4, 6 matock, 4–7 matok(e, 5 mattoke, 5–6 mattokk, 6–7 mattocke, (6 mathooke), 7–9 mathook, 6– mattock. [OE. *mattuc, meottuc* masc., of unknown origin: the Welsh *matog* and Gael. *madag* are from Eng.

The ending would appear to be the dim. suffix in OE. *bulluc* bullock. The word has not been found in continental Teut.; its relation, if any, to the synonymous Russian *motyka*, Lith. *matikkas*, is not clear.]

An agricultural tool (of which there are several varieties) used for loosening hard ground, grubbing up trees, etc. It has a socketed steel head (fixed transversely at the end of a straight handle), having on one side a blade shaped like that of an adze, and sometimes on the other side a kind of pick.

a 700 *Epinal Gloss.* 565 *Lagones*, mettocas. *a* 800 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) L 161 *Ligones*, meottucas. *c*893 K. ÆLFRED *Oros.* IV. viii. § 2 Þonne bet he hiene mid fyre onhætan, & siþþan mid mattucun heawan. *a* 1100 *Gerefa* in *Anglia* (1886) IX. 263 Mattuc, ipping-iren, scear. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 940 Mattok is a pykeys. 1382 WYCLIF *Joel* iii. 10 Bete to gydre..3our pikoysis, or mattokis [1388 mattokkis], in to speris. *c* 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* I. 1153 Yet tolis mo, The mattok, twibil, picoys forth to go. 1494 FABYAN *Chron.* IV. lxix. 48 He..with a Pykax or Mattoke, with his owne hande, breke the grounde. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* XXX. 93 With pykes & mattokes they brake downe a corner toure. 1588 SHAKS. *Tit. A.* IV. iii. 11 'Tis you must dig with Mattocke, and with Spade. 1649 JER. TAYLOR *Gt. Exemp.* III. xiv. 13 Repentance..like a mattock and spade breaks and levells all the roughnesses of the passage. *a* 1734 NORTH *Exam.* III. viii. § 14 (1740) 592 Spades and Mathooks. 1771 ROBERTSON *Hist. Amer.* (1778) I. IV. 335 After digging the field with wooden mattocks, they sowed or planted it. 1824 LOUDON *Encycl. Gard.* (ed. 2) § 1296 The mattock..is sometimes called a *grubbing-axe*, and also a grubbing-axe, hoe-axe, &c. 1848 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* IX. II. 537 Stony or gravelly, so as to require..to be pecked with a mathook or pick. 1851 STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* (ed. 2) II. 652/1 The common mattock which on one arm has a horizontal cutting face, and on the other a vertical one. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* I. § 2. 13 The debtor, unable to discharge his debt..took up the labourer's mattock.

attrib. and Comb. 1855 TENNYSON *Maud* I. XVIII iv, Born To labour and the mattock-harden'd hand. 1832 *Planting* 37 (L. U. K.) Mattock planting is confined chiefly to rocky ground. *Ibid.* 60 An active workman with a steel mattock-hoe will clean round the plants [etc.].

Mattock (mæ·tək), *v.* [f. MATTOCK *sb.*] *trans.* To turn *up* with the mattock. Also *fig.*

1649 BLITH *Eng. Improv. Impr.* 140 Prejudice..so deeply rooted, as will aske hot water to Mattock up. 1792 A. YOUNG *Trav. France* 411, I have seen them..mattocking up every corner of a field where the plough could not come. 1840 *Cottager's Manual* 45 (L. U. K.) No plant is so much improved by deep..mattocking between the rows as the potato. 1854 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* XV. II. 274 Have all the ant-hills and hassocks mattocked up.

Mattoid (mæ·toid), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. It. *mattoide*, f. *matto* insane: see -OID.] See quot. 1891.

1891 tr. *Lombroso's Man of Genius* III. 209 This variety forms the link between madmen of genius, the sane, and the insane properly so called. These are what I call semi-insane persons or mattoids. *Ibid.* III. 223 Mattoid theologians.. have unfortunately been taken so seriously as to be burned alive. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 196 The so-called borderland cases between sanity and insanity—for example eccentrics, cranks, mattoids.

Mattras(s, obs. forms of MATRASS.

Mattrative, variant of MATURATIVE.

Mattre, obs. form of MATTER.

Mattress[1] (mæ·très). Forms: 3–6 **materas**, 4 **matrace**, 4–5 **materace**, 6 **mattrace**, 4–6 **materes**, 5–6 **matres**, 6 **mattres**, 6–7 **mattresse**, **-iss**, **matteris**, (5 **matras(e**, **-ess**, **-ys**, **materis**, **-os**, **matteras**, 6 **mattrys**, **matrice**, 7 **matt(e)rice**), 5, 8–9 **matrass**, 9 **mattrass**, 6– **mattress**. [a. OF. *materas* (mod.F. *matelas*), ad. It. *materasso*, commonly viewed as identical (exc. for the Arab. prefixed article *al-*) with Sp. and Pg. *almadraque*, Pr. *almatrac*, ad. Arab. *al-maṭraḥ*, place where something is thrown, in mod. use also mat, cushion, f. root *ṭaraḥa* to throw. The MHG. *matraz* (mod. G. *matratze*) is from Fr.]

1. A contrivance used as a bed or (more commonly) as a support for a bed, consisting of a case formed by two pieces of canvas or other textile material quilted together, stuffed with hair, flocks, straw, or the like. In recent use extended to include other appliances serving the same purpose, esp. one consisting of wire cloth stretched upon a frame.

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 188 'Goth', he seide, 'and maketh a bed..Of quoiltene and of materasz'. 1395 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 5 My secunde best fetherbed, with caneuas materas. *c* 1425 HOCCLEVE *Minor Poems* xxiii. 779 The pilwes nesshe and esy materas. 1495 *Nottingham Rec.* III. 38 Duo matrasses, pretii vs. 1519 HORMAN *Vulg.* 254 b, The flesshe lieth bytwene the bone and the skynne lyke a mattresse of cotton. 1588 *Fitch's Voy.* in Hakl. *Voy.* (1811) II. 388 Gownes of cotton like to our mattraces and quilted caps. 1624 *Invent.* in *Archæologia* XLVIII. 136 A bedsteed, a matt, a matterice, a fetherbed. 1693 DRYDEN *Juvenal* vi. 128 She..On a hard Mattress is content to sleep. 1764 HARMER *Observ.* 82 Their beds consist of a matrass laid on a floor, and over this a sheet. 1812 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 86 He hid it between a mattrass and a bed. 1848 in *Abridgm. Specif. Patents, Furniture*, etc. (1869) 551 An elastic mattress entirely metallic. 1850 *Ibid.* 158 A very portable spring mattress. 1877 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2291 *Spring-mattress*, one having metallic springs beneath the hair or moss filling. *Ibid.* 2792 Wire-mattress. .. See patents:—..79,040. June 16, 68 [etc.]. 1890 *Syd. Soc. Lex.* s.v. *Mattress, Water mattress*, a waterproof case containing water, used for the prevention of bed-sores. 1900 *Cassell's Cycl. Mech.* (1902) IV. 325 A full-size wire mattress.

†**2.** A protective covering for a floor or for plants; a MAT. *Obs.*

1644 EVELYN *Diary* 17 Oct., By their carefull covering them [*sc.* plaster floors in the palace of Negros, Genoa] with canvas and fine mattresses, where there is much passage [etc.]. 1658 — *French Gardiner* (1675) 239 Shelter them [peas] with pannels of Reeds, or Mattrasses. 1664 — *Kal. Hort.* Apr. 65 Covering them [delicate plants] with Mattresses supported on cradles of hoops. 1706 J. GARDINER tr. *Rapin of Gardens* (1728) 59 Your Flow'rs defend with Matresses of Straw.

3. *Engineering.* A strong mat consisting of brushwood bound or twisted together, used in layers in the construction of dikes, piers, etc.

1875 *Proc. Inst. Civ. Engin.* XLI. 161 In commencing the construction of the dam..the first step was to cover the entire site with a strong fascine mattrass. *Ibid.* 167 The body of the pier takes from five to six mattrasses, averaging, with the stones, about 3 feet 3 inches thick. 1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XX. 581/1 The parallel jetties [at the mouth of the Mississippi] consist of tiers of willow mattresses.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*: **a.** *attrib.* (sense 1), as *mattress-maker, -making, tick*; (sense 3), as *mattress dike, sill*; **b.** special comb., as **mattress boat**, a boat on which mattresses for dikes, etc. are made and from which they are launched; **mattress-coat, needle** (see quots.); †**mattress rubber**, ?a rough mattress-cover; **mattress suture** *Surg.*, a continuous suture through both lips of a wound, in which when a stitch has been taken the thread is tied, and the needle inserted on the same side from which it emerged.

1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl., *Mattress Boat. 1641 BEST *Farm. Bks.* (Surtees Soc.) 20 When woll is well risen from the skinne, the fleece is as it weare walked togeather on the toppe, and underneath it is but lightly fastened to the undergrowth; and when a fleece is thus it is called a *mattrice-coate. 1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XX. 581/1 The entrance.. was contracted..by means of *mattress dykes; and mattress sills were laid right across the entrance. 1381 *Rolls Parlt.* III. 112/2 Johannes Sutton, *Materas-maker. 1829 *Register of Arts* III. 51 In the manner of *mattress making. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl. 236/2 *Curved *Mattress Needle* (Hydraulic Engineering), a needle for sewing brush mats with No. 13 wire. *a* 1625 BEAUM. & FL. *Wit at Sev. Weap.* II. ii. (1647) 76/1 Here's a promising palme..here's Downe compared with Flocks and quilted Straw, thy Knight's fingers Are leane [1679 and mod. edd. *read* lean] *mattrice rubbers to these Feathers. 1886 *Mattress sill [see *mattress dike*]. 1904 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 24 Dec. 1682/2 In suturing up the wound in the kidney in the ordinary way the stitches frequently, on tying them, cut through. To avoid this..I have again followed Kelly who advises the use of *mattrass sutures. 1857 *Subj.-Matter Index of Patents* 924 Weaving looms (for making..*mattress-ticks, &c.).

Mattress[2], **mattriss** (mætrès, -is). [Of obscure origin; cf. 18th c. Fr. *maîtresse*: see FIY loc. cit.] (See quot. 1867.)

1685 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2500/4 Playing-Cards..the Mattriss at 10*s.* 6*d.* per Gross, Fine Mattriss at 12*s.* per Gross [etc.]. 1867 FRY *Playing-Card Terms* in *Philol. Soc. Trans.* 56 *Mattress, Mattriss*, rejected playing cards..placed at the bottom of the sorted bundle, to be..sold at a cheaper rate... *Fine Mattress* is..applied to cards which are less defective; *Common M.* to cards which are more defective.

Mattresse: see MATRASS[1]. *Obs.*

Mattrice, Mattross, obs. ff. MATRICE, MATROSS.

Mattry, obs. form of MATTERY.

‖ **Mattulla** (mætʊ·lă). [mod.L., app. f. L. *matta* mat, after *medulla.*] (See quots.)

1849 J. H. BALFOUR *Elem. Bot.* § 57 In Palms also a similar [brown chaffy] substance occurs, called *reticulum* or *mattulla* (*matta*, a mat). *Ibid.* § 96 The bases of the leaves.. surrounded by the mattulla or reticulum.

Matty (mæ·ti), *a. rare.* [f. MAT *sb.*[1] + -Y.] Matted. Also in Comb. *matty-haired* adj.

1820 CLARE *Rural Life* (ed. 3) 141 And brush the weaving branches by Of briars and thorns so matty. 1824 J. SYMMONS tr. *Æschylus' Agamemnon* 52 And, matty-hair'd, our soldiers look'd like beasts.

Mattyn, obs. form of MATE *v.*[1]

Matulat, variant of MALTALENT *Obs.*

Maturable (mătiŭ·răb'l), *a.* [f. MATURE *v.* + -ABLE.] That may be matured.

1889 *Critic* in *Nation* 9 May XLVIII. p. iv, Abilities, which, if immature, are yet maturable. 1902 *Cassell's Encycl. Dict.* Suppl., *Maturable*,..specif. in Surg., used of an inflamed part that may be brought to suppuration.

†**Maturant**, *a.* and *sb.* ? *Obs.* [ad. L. *mātūrant-em*, pr. pple. of *mātūrāre*: see MATURE *v.*] = MATURATIVE *a.* and *sb.*

1661 LOVELL *Hist. Anim. & Min.* 363 Inflammation..; it's cured, by..maturants, rumpents [etc.]. 1844 HOBLYN *Dict. Terms Med.* (ed. 2) s. v. *Maturation*, Applications which promote suppuration have been called *maturants*. 1856 MAYNE *Expos. Lex., Maturans*..maturing: maturant.

†**Maturate**, *a. Obs. rare*—[1]. [ad. L. *mātūrātus*, pa. pple. of *mātūrāre*: see MATURE *v.*] Matured.

1556 *Ann. Barber-Surg. Lond.* (1890) 312 His well defycell cures..wch can not be dooen w'out maturate judgment, and Learninge.

Maturate (mæ·tiurēit), *v.* Also 6 **maturat**. [f. L. *mātūrāt-*, ppl. stem of *mātūrāre* to ripen, f. *mātūr-us* ripe: see MATURE *a.*]

1. *trans.* (*Med.*) To cause (matter, a boil, pustule, etc.) to ripen or suppurate; to 'bring to a head'. Also *absol.*, to cause suppuration. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1541 R. COPLAND *Guydon's Form.* R iij b, Whan they [remedies] fynde mater redy to rypenesse they do maturate and to resolue, they resolue. 1547 BOORDE *Brev. Health* cix. 41 b, Than excoriat the skyn and maturat the matter. 1665 G. HARVEY *Advice agst. Plague* 27 The said tumours being now imperfectly maturated..are to be opened. 1694 W. SALMON *Bate's Dispens.* (1713) 687/1 It is a delicate Anodyn; it lenifies or softens, and maturates. 1779 *Gentl. Mag.* XLIX. 80 [It] is frequently used to maturate boils. 1801 *Med. Jrnl.* V. 404 They [pustules] continued filling till they were completely maturated. 1890 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

†**2.** To mature, ripen (fruits, vegetable juices, liquors, etc.). Also *fig.* *Obs.*

1628 FELTNAM *Resolves* I. xix. 35 Which may strongly argue the Intentions of the Soul to be good; though unable to maturate that seed that is in it. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* I. i. 8 By powring every night warm water on the root thereof, a Tree may be maturated artificially, to bud out in the midst of Winter. 1676 WORLIDGE *Cider* ii. § 3 14 This Juice or Sap [in Fruit]..is by the continual animating heat of the Sun, maturated. 1732 BERKELEY *Minute Philos.* (1732) 36/2 Aromatic Oils maturated by great length of time turn to Salts. 1743 *Lond. & Country Brew.* III. (ed. 2) 206 It is not Boiling that maturates and preserves Malt-Liquors, but a right and due Fermentation. 1756 P. BROWNE *Jamaica* 13 Dung adds warmth to the soil, and maturates as well as it enriches the juice.

†**3.** To mature, develop, make perfect. (With object a person or personal attribute.) *Obs.*

1622 C. FITZ-GEFFRY *Elisha* 7 Yeares must maturate men to such Functions. 1662 HOPKINS *Serm.* (1685) 104 Time, to maturate these growing hopes. 1791 SMEATON *Edystone L.* Contents 8/2 Dovetailing considered... The idea of Dove-tailing maturated.

†**4. a.** *Alchemy.* To purify and digest (a metal) by maturation; to exalt by purification *into.* **b.** *Metallurgy.* To bring (an ore) into the metallic state.

1641 FRENCH *Distill.* vi. (1651) 176 A perfect metall, as gold, hath [not] this impurity; I mean when it is fully maturated and melted. 1669 W. SIMPSON *Hydrol. Chym.* 58 The ripening coagulating fire of the embrionate Sulphur ..exiccates and maturates the radical Mercurial moisture, and terminates it in a Metalick species. 1686 PLOT *Staffordsh.* 160 Burning it [a stone] in a Crucible, it was quickly maturated into Iron. 1758 W. BORLASE *Nat. Hist. Cornw.* 202 The metal becomes thoroughly maturated, that is, as ductile, and free from stone [etc.]..as fire itself can make it.

†**5.** (See quot.) *Obs.*—[0]

1623 COCKERAM, *Maturate*, to basten.

†**6.** *intr.* Of fruit: To ripen, mature. *Obs.*

1665 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (1677) 388 Such [fruits] as will not maturate with us in England. 1756 P. BROWNE *Jamaica* 200 It will soften and maturate in a few days.

7. Of a pustule: To ripen, suppurate.

1746 *Brit. Mag.* 101 About 50 or 60 small Pox came out, which maturated and scabbed. 1858 J. COPLAND *Dict. Pract. Med.* III. 812/2 From the fifth to the eighth day of the eruption, the pustule maturates.

Hence **Ma·turated** *ppl. a.*, **Ma·turating** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1628 ALEX. LEIGHTON *Sion's Plea agst. Prelacy* (ed. 2) 26 Rather than they would suffer the plague soare of their oppressing pride to be burst by the maturating Cataplasmes of wholesom Laws. 1698 [R. FERGUSSON] *View of Ecclesiastick* 31 Maturated, Adult and Pregnant Wit. 1698 *Phil. Trans.* XX. 440, I ordered him Maturating Gargles. 1758 J. S. *Le Dran's Observ. Surg.* (1771) 96, I applied maturating Cataplasms. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 171 The addition of various..substances to the maturating medium.

Maturation (mætiurē·ʃən). Also 6 **maduracyon, maturacion,** 7 *erron.* **-ition.** [a. F. *maturation*, ad. L. *mātūrātiōn-em*, n. of action f. *mātūrāre*: see MATURATE and MATURE *vbs.*]

1. *Med.* The 'ripening' of morbific matter; the process by which matter is formed in an abscess or a vesicle becomes a pustule, suppuration; the action of causing this process.

1541 COPLAND *Guydon's Form.* S iij, The fyrste [cure] is to rype the mater. The seconde after the maduracyon to open it. 1543 TRAHERON tr. *Vigo's Chirurg.* II. i. 13 b/2 Humours..whych nature canne not..bringe to maturation or suppuration. 1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 23/4 Perseaving it to be come to his full maturation and ripnes. 1684 tr. *Bonet's Merc. Compit.* I. 17 The parts affected may be cleared of the Thrush by maturation of it. 1791 BOSWELL *Johnson* an. 1760, Mr. Sharpe is of opinion that the tedious maturation of the cataract is a vulgar error. 1800 *Med. Jrnl.* III. 502 The progressive stages of inflammation, maturation, and scabbing. 1861 GRAHAM *Pract. Med.* 665 The period of maturation of the eruption. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 565 The maturation of the pocks.

†2. *Alchemy.* The operation of converting a baser metal into gold. Cf. MATURATE *v.* 4. *Obs.*

1612 WOODALL *Surg. Mate* Wks. (1639) 273 Maturation is exaltation of a substance, rude and crude to that which is mature and perfect. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 326 We conceive indeed, that a perfect good Concoction, or Digestion, or Maturation of some Metalls, will produce Gold. 1671 J. WEBSTER *Metallographia* ii. 31 Whose Art of..Maturation of Metals he laboureth to prove to be false.

†3. *Physics.* The (supposed) natural ripening or development of material substances by the operation of heat and motion. *Obs.*

a 1652 J. SMITH *Sel. Disc.* IV. iii. (1821) 75 The very grass ..may..after many refinings, macerations, and maturations, ..spring up into so many rational souls. 1665-6 *Phil. Trans.* I. 338 Whether..the Mine will afford Ore or Metal in tract of time,..and whether to this Maturation of the Mine, the being exposed to the free Aire be necessary. 1753 SHUCKFORD *Creation & Fall* 133 Little Particles .. which have..in the Maturation of Ages, remained sandy and sabulous..or become Rocks or Minerals.

4. Of fruits, the juices of plants, etc.: The action or process of ripening or becoming ripe; development to ripeness; also, an instance of this.

1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* I. i. II. v, Maturation is especially observed in the fruits of trees. 1770-4 A. HUNTER *Georg. Ess.* (1803) I. 49 Maturation of their seed, seems all that is required of them. 1791 HAMILTON *Berthollet's Dyeing* I. i. I. vi. 115 By maturation, the fruit from having been hard grows soft .. and sweet. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 292 After the maturation of the fruit..they are plucked. 1882 *Garden* 7 Jan. 4/1 Perfect maturation of the foliage, which means maturation of the bulb.

b. Of liquors or other things undergoing preparation for use: The action of maturing; the process of becoming matured.

1605 TIMME *Quersitanus* II. vi. S b, So wee see, that wines in whose maturation or rypening the heate of the sunne failed are made more crude and sharpe. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 312 For the Maturation of Drinkes, it is wrought by the Congregation of the Spirits together. 1675 EVELYN *Terra* 59 If..the ground seem to require an bastier maturation, there may be a crop of Beans [etc.] sown upon it, which will mellow it exceedingly. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* (1721) II. 348 Ginger acceleratеth the Maturation of Cyder. 1743 *Lond. & Country Brew.* III. (ed. 2) 201 The Liquor has before received due Maturation in the Copper and Mash-tun. 1778 [W. MARSHALL] *Minutes Agric.* 17 Oct. 1774 The idea of making compost useful while in a state of maturation. 1835 URE *Philos. Manuf.* 83 The downy filaments of cotton ..get more or less flattened in the maturation and drying of the wool. 1902 *Daily Chron.* 7 Jan. 6/3 A lengthy process of maturation in sherry casks is required to make it [whisky] a wholesome beverage.

5. The action or process of coming to full growth or development: a. of man, his faculties, etc.

1616 J. LANE *Contin. Sqr.'s T.* v. 492 Our care to feede them [children],..our after cares, as they gaine maturation. 1660 G. FLEMING *Stemma sacrum* 6 From the first time that could begin any Maturition to his Judgement. 1693 J. TYRRELL *Law Nat.* 30 There happens to us Men..Maturation, Decay, and Dissolution. 1820 FOSTER *Ess. Evils Pop. Ignor.* 294 The maturation of the spiritual being, to the highest attainable degree. 1834-43 SOUTHEY *Doctor* clxxxv. (1862) 483 Imputing to the decay of our nature that which results from its maturation.

b. of plants, animals, etc.

1664 POWER *Exp. Philos.* I. 61 To give..vegetation and maturation to Plants. 1655-87 H. MORE *App. Antid.* xiii. (1712) 223 He found these Birds [Tree-geese] in several degrees of maturation. 1755 B. MARTIN *Mag. Arts & Sci.* III. xi. 376 The Maturation, and bringing to Perfection the Chicken contained in Embryo. 1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* IV. 146 Organs..which are appropriated to the..maturation, exclusion and deposition of their eggs. 1884 W. K. PARKER *Mammal. Descent* ii. (1885) 55 The growth and maturation of the germs. 1904 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 17 Dec. 1643 The maturation and fertilization of the ovum.

c. of a disease.

1818-20 E. THOMPSON *Cullen's Nosol. Meth.* (ed. 3) 331 A vesicular disease, which..passes through a regular course of increase, maturation, and decline. 1871 DARWIN *Desc. Man* I. i. 12 That mysterious law which causes..the maturation .. of various diseases, to follow lunar periods.

d. *transf.* and *fig.* esp. the completing or perfecting (of a plan, work, etc.).

1655 *Theophania* 165 The birth, growth and maturation of our Love. 1751 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 111 ₱ 3 Time sufficient for the regular maturation of our schemes. *Ibid.* No. 156 ₱ 12 A play represents some transaction, through its regular maturation to its final event. 1845 J. H. NEWMAN *Developm. Chr. Doctrine* (1878) 38 The germination and maturation of some truth. 1884 G. ALLEN *Philistia* III. xxxvii. 273 The pamphlet and the paper were in course of maturation.

†6. The forwarding (of a business, etc.). *Obs.*

1584 *Leycesters Commonw.* (1641) 98 It..tendeth directly to Maturation of the principall purpose. 1623 COCKERAM, *Maturation*, a hastening. 1655 FULLER *Church Hist.* IX. xvi. 173 The said Convocation met..for the maturation of business with the more expedition.

Maturative (mātiū·rātiv), *a.* and *sb.* Also 5 **maturatif, -yf.** [a. F. *maturatif*, ad. L. *mātūrātīv-us*, f. *mātūrāre* to MATURE.]

A. *adj.*

1. *Med.* That causes maturation or the formation of pus; pertaining to or characterized by maturation. (Cf. MATTERATIVE.)

c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 44 He leide þerto a plastre maturatif. 1543 TRAHERON tr. *Vigo's Chirurg.* II. i. 14/1 We haue seen that coruption of an Aposteme hath chaunced thorough defaute of applyinge conuenyent maturatyue Medicines. 1568 SKEYNE *The Pest* (1862) 42 Quhilk is marueilous maturatiue, distroyand all venome. 1620 VENNER *Via Recta* v. 88 Butter..is of a moystning, mollifying, maturatiue, and resolutiue faculty. 1725 SLOANE *Jamaica* II. 92 Birdlime is maturative. 1831 J. DAVIES *Mat. Med.* 391 Its leaves bruised and boiled are frequently used as a maturative poultice. 1858 J. COPLAND *Dict. Pract. Med.* I. 810/1 The maturative, or suppurative stage [of small-pox].

†2. Having the power or function of maturing or ripening (fruits, etc.); of or pertaining to maturation.

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* IV. xiii. 227 They..have their second Summer hotter and more maturative of fruits then the former. 1658 — *Gard. Cyrus* iii. *Hydriot.* etc. 50 The maturative progresse of Seeds. 1685 BOYLE *Salubr. Air* 35 Some maturative power, whereby an inanimate Body may gradually admit of such a change.

B. *sb.* A maturative remedy.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* VII. xxi. (1495) 239 Thenne men must werke fyrste wyth colde maturatiues rypynge. *c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 211 If þer haþ be leid þerto ony maturatif so þat þe mater þerof be rotid, han opene it. 1543 TRAHERON tr. *Vigo's Chirurg.* II. i. 14/1 Auicenne..counselleth vs, to applye colde and moyste maturatyues. 1665 G. HARVEY *Advice agst. Plague* 27 We are to give them [tumours] vent as speedily as possible, by applying .. Maturatives. 1743 tr. *Heister's Surg.* 183 These compound Maturatives. 1831 J. DAVIES *Mat. Med.* 195 It is employed as a maturative and stimulant. 1855 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex.* (ed. 12), *Maturative*, a medicine which favours the maturation of an inflammatory tumour.

Mature (mătiū·ə(r)), *a.* [ad. L. *mātūrus* ripe, timely, early. Cf. MURE.]

1. Complete in natural development or growth.

a. Of fruits, etc.: Ripe. *Obs.* in lit. use.

1599 A. M. tr. *Gabelhouer's Bk. Physicke* 58/2 When as.. the seede [of Fennell] is mature cut it there of. 1676 WORLIDGE *Cider* ii. § 3. 14 Cider well made of Mature Fruits. 1791 COWPER *Vardley Oak* 33 Thou [the acorn] fell'st mature, *fig.* 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* lxxxi, There cannot come a mellower change, For now is love mature in ear.

b. Of an embryo, fœtus, plant, etc.: Full grown.

1801 *Med. Jrnl.* V. 45 A living mature fœtus. 1845 *Florist's Jrnl.* 274 The proper season for repotting mature plants. 1882 VINES *Sachs' Bot.* 775 The green leaves do not grow after they are mature.

†c. 'Ripe' or ready *for*. *Obs.*

1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* IV. iii. 26 This [insurrection] lyes glowing..and is almost mature for the violent breaking out. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* XI. 537 Till like ripe Fruit thou drop..or be ..Gatherd, not harshly pluckt, for death mature.

2. Of a person: Having the powers of body and mind fully developed. Of personal qualities, etc.: Fully developed or ripened.

1600 J. PORY tr. *Leo's Africa* Ded. A 2 M. Richard Hakluyt: who out of his mature judgement in these studies,.. was the onely man that mooved me to translate it. 1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* IV. v. 97 The yongest Sonne of Priam; ..Not yet mature, yet matchlesse. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* X. 882 To trust thee [Eve] from my side, imagin'd wise, Constant, mature. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 79 A Time will come, when my maturer Muse..a nobler Theme will chuse. 1718 PRIOR *Solomon* II. 164 Mature the virgin was, ..Grace shap'd her limbs, and beauty deck'd her face. 1726 CAVALLIER *Mem.* IV. 310 When they came to maturer Years. 1842 COMBE *Digestion* 241 In mature and middle age..still greater caution..becomes requisite. 1870-74 J. THOMSON *City Dreadf. N.* I. ix, Mature men chiefly, few in age or youth.

b. const. *in*.

1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* I. iv. 31 Boyes..mature in knowledge. 1682 DRYDEN *Mac Fl.* 16 Shadwell .. Mature in dulness from his tender years. 1784 COWPER *Task* v. 296 When they are grown mature In wisdom. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) V. 243 No animal at birth is mature or perfect in intelligence.

c. Of or pertaining to maturity or manhood. *rare.*

1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* I. i. 27 They were trayn'd together in their Child-hoods;..Since their more mature Dignities.. made seperation of their Societie [etc.].

3. (The earliest use.) Of thought or deliberation: Duly prolonged and careful. Of plans, conclusions, etc.: Formed after adequate deliberation.

1454 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 239/2 The Justicez, after sadde communication and mature deliberation hadde amonge theim, aunswered..that [etc.]. 1543 in W. H. Turner *Select. Rec. Oxf.* 170 After long and mature debating of the mattar. 1578 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* III. 54 Eftir mature advise and deliberatioun. 1638 JUNIUS *Paint. Ancients* A 3 Things..which..in the review and more mature cogitation I wished might be altered. 1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* II. iii, Upon mature thoughts, I began to doubt whether I was injured or no. 1792 BURKE *Pres. St. Aff.* Wks. 1842 I. 585 On a full and mature view and comparison of the historical matter. 1839 JAMES *Louis XIV*, I. 389 Till his plans for revolt were mature. 1848 LYTTON *Harold* VIII. iv, The interval..allowed no time for mature and careful reflection. 1879 FARRAR *St. Paul* XXXVIII. (1883) 637 His ripest thoughts, and..the maturest statement of the Gospel which he preached.

†4. That takes place early; prompt. *Obs.*

1600 FAIRFAX *Tasso* XIX. XCVIII. 356 Hardly I scapt their hands by mature flight. 1672 MARVELL *Corr.* Wks. 1872-5 II. 407 Carrying things on with the maturest expedition.

†5. Of an event: Occurring when the fitting time has come. Of time: Due. (The opposite of 'premature'.) *Obs.*

1605 SHAKS. *Lear* IV. vi. 282 In the mature time, With this vngracious paper [He] strike the sight Of the death-practis'd Duke. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* V. 862 The birth mature Of this our native Heav'n.

6. *Med.* In a state of suppuration; ripe.

1828 in WEBSTER; and in later Dicts.

7. *Comm.* Of a bill, etc.: That has reached the time for payment; due. 1882 in OGILVIE.

Mature (mătiū·ə(r)), *v.* Also 6 **madure.** [Partly ad. obs. F. *maturer*, also *madurer*, ad. L. *mātūrāre*, f. *mātūrus* MATURE; partly f. MATURE *a.*]

1. *trans.* (*Med.*) = MATURATE *v.* 1.

1541 COPLAND tr. *Guydon's Form.* S iij b, In mundyfyenge it madureth, and suffreth nat to fystule. 1599 A. M. tr. *Gabelhouer's Bk. Physic* 95/1 A potione to mature, or ripen, an Apostematione. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 39 To mature, that is to loosen the [bronchial] catarrh.

2. To bring to maturity or perfect development; to ripen (fruits, wine, etc.); to bring (a plant or crop) to full growth. Also *pass.* = 6.

1626 BACON *Sylva* § 314 Creame is Matured..by Putting in Cold Water. *Ibid.* § 326 To see if the Virtuall Heat of the Wine..will not Mature it [an apple]. 1701 J. PHILIPS *Splendid Shilling* 117 Nor taste the Fruits that the Sun's genial Rays Mature. 1781 COWPER *Charity* 442 A ship, well freighted with the stores The sun matures on India's spicy shores. 1853 ROBERTSON *Serm.* Ser. III. viii. (1857) 114 Warmth..expands the leaf, matures the fruit [etc.].

fig. 1821 SHELLEY *Hellas* 575 The Greek has reaped The costly harvest his own blood matured.

absol. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 326 They are euer Temperate Heats that Digest, and Mature.

3. *transf.* To cause to develop fully (the mind, judgement, etc.); to perfect the development of (a person) mentally and physically.

1660 R. COKE *Power & Subj.* 75 Whenas judgment is matured by age. 1671 MILTON *P. R.* IV. 281 Till time mature thee to a Kingdom's waight. 1742 YOUNG *N. Th.* V. 772 Virtue, not rolling suns, the mind matures. 1766-88 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* II. xliii. 597 His prudence was matured by experience. 1842 TENNYSON *'Love thou thy land'* x, Nature ..Thro' many agents making strong, Matures the individual form. 1851 MACAULAY *Ess., Fredk. Gt.* (1877) 661 Suffering had matured his understanding.

absol. *a* 1861 MRS. BROWNING *Little Mattie* ii. Poems (1862) 2 Just so young but yesternight, Now she is as old as death...An hour matures.

4. *fig.* To make ripe or ready; to perfect (a plan, work, etc.); to bring to a head.

1667 MILTON *P. L.* I. 660 But these thoughts Full Counsel must mature. 1769 ROBERTSON *Chas. V*, III. x. 222 He had leisure to mature his schemes. 1784 COWPER *Task* iii. 450 An art That toiling ages have but just matured. 1817 JAS. MILL *Brit. India* I. III. ii. 500 His vizir..matured the dissatisfaction of the Omrahs, and..dethroned..him. 1851 GALLENGA *Italy* 195 The great events that were maturing the destinies of the common country in Northern I[illegible] 1865 H. PHILLIPS *Amer. Paper Curr.* II. 23 The [illegible]..were evidently not yet matured.

b. Const. *into*.

1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xii. III. 21[illegible] The passions.. would be at once matured into fearful vigour. 1857 BUCKLE *Civilisation* I. ix. 585 Their habits of self-reliance, enabled them to mature into a system..the right of private judgment. 1861 T. WRIGHT *Ess. Archæol.* II. xxii. 197 This taste for gallantry was matured into a system.

†5. To forward or hasten duly. *Obs. rare.*

1660 MARVELL *Corr.* Wks. 1872-5 II. 24 The House bath been..busied in..maturing those bills. 1661-2 *Ibid.* 77 Be maturing your own businesse hither as fast as may be.

6. *intr.* To come to maturity or perfect development; to grow ripe: a. of fruits, seeds, wine, etc.

1626 BACON *Sylva* § 324 It is like they [*sc.* fruit] would mature more finely. 1795 NAPLETON *Adv. to Student* v. 55 It [the seed] may..grow and mature where you see it not. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVII. 463/2 The wine is left in the cask..to mature. 1879 LUBBOCK *Sci. Lect.* i. 8 In some cases the stigma has matured before the anthers are ripe.

b. of animals.

1887 F. FRANCIS Jun. *Saddle & Mocassin* 163 You want the cattle that 's easiest handled, and easiest sold, and that matures quickest and keeps in best condition.

c. *transf.* of persons.

1844 BROWNING *Boy & Angel* 33 The man matured and fell away Into the season of decay. 1870 DISRAELI *Lothair* xl, But what pleases me most are his manners...I never knew any one who had so matured.

d. *fig.* To 'ripen' or develop *into* or *to*.

1805 SOUTHEY *Madoc* I. xvii, Such thoughts, As might ..have matured To penitence and peace. 1875 POSTE *Gaius* I. (ed. 2) 78 Possession could not mature by usucapion into ownership.

7. *Comm.* Of a bill, sum of money, etc.: To reach the time fixed for payment; to become due.

1861 GOSCHEN *For. Exch.* 10 Those bills being all forced upon the money-market for discount at once, instead of being gradually encashed as they mature. 1892 *Daily News* 20 Feb. 2/4 In March as much as 980,000*l.* will mature. 1896 *Law Times* C. 436/2 Debentures which had matured for payment.

Hence **Matu·rer** *rare*, one who matures.

1863 W. HANNA *Our Lord's Resurr.* 18 The nourisher, the maturer of that eternal life which is for our souls in him.

Matured (mătiūə·rd), *ppl. a.* [f. MATURE *v.* + -ED [1].] Ripened; fully developed or grown; perfected or completed.

1676 EVELYN *Terra* 53 On this [cast] a layer of well-matur'd Dung. 1805 A. KNOX *Rem.* (1834) I. 1 This matured state of grace. 1837 HT. MARTINEAU *Soc. Amer.* III. 75 He brought a rich and matured mind to the first employment of it. 1863 GEO. ELIOT *Romola* vi, The matured scholarship of Messere. 1882 A. W. WARD *Dickens* vi. 166 He seemed to stand erect in the strength of his matured powers. 1886 C. SCOTT *Sheep-farming* 38 Sheep prefer the fresh growth to matured blades.

Maturely (mătiūə·rli), *adv.* Also 6 **maturly**. [f. MATURE *a.* + -LY [2].]

1. With full deliberation, after mature consideration.

1594 PARSONS *Conf. Next Success.* II. iv. 85 A sentence .. so maturely giuen, could not be reuoked. 1611 BIBLE *Transl. Pref.* ¶ 11 To haue the translations of the Bible maturely considered of. *a* 1639 SPOTTISWOOD *Hist. Ch. Scot.* II. (1677) 89 They might more maturely advise what course was fittest to be taken. 1735 BERKELEY *Free-think. in Math.* § 43 Wks. 1871 III. 327, I had long and maturely considered the principles of the modern analysis. 1841 JAMES *Brigand* xxv, The rest might stand over till both you and I had thought maturely of the matter. 1865 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* IX. x. III. 168 Our Crown-Prince, somewhat of a judge in after years, is maturely of opinion, That the French Lines were by no means inexpugnable.

†2. With due promptness: in good time; not too late; early. *Obs.*

1531 ELYOT *Gov.* I. xxii. (1546) 72 Consult before thou enterpryse any thyng, and after thou hast taken counsel, it is expedient to do it maturly. 1662 H. MORE *Antid. Atheism* III. xv. (1712) 135 They..were never able..maturely to discover the approaching dangers. 1692 BENTLEY *Boyle Lect.* iii. (1693) 17 We give him thanks for..receiving us more maturely [than the long-lived antediluvians] into those Everlasting Habitations above. 1790 COWPER *Odyss.* II. 227 But let us frame Effectual means maturely to suppress Their violent deeds.

3. With full development; ripely. Also, in a manner indicative of maturity. *rare*[−1].

1841 MYERS *Cath. Th.* III. § 47. 128 The formation of a maturely Christian mind. 1886 CONST. F. WOOLSON *East Angels* ix. 176 But Garda Thorne isn't immature, she talks as maturely as I do.

Maturement (mătiūə·rmĕnt). *rare*[−1]. [f. MATURE *v.* + -MENT.] The action of maturing.

1883 D. WINGATE *Lost Laird* xviii, To do a little day by day towards the maturement of his plans.

Matureness (mătiūə·rnés). [f. MATURE *a.* + -NESS.] The state of being mature, maturity.

1701-2 *Narr. Lower Ho. Convoc. Vind.* 51 The..Matureness of their final Resolution. 1727 in BAILEY vol. II. 1833 G. R. PORTER *Trop. Agric.* 227 By..extracting a piece of pith, and examining its degree of matureness.

Maturescence (mætiure·sĕns). [f. L. *mātūrēscentem*: see next and -ENCE.] The process of maturing.

1856 W. L. LINDSAY *Pop. Hist. Brit. Lichens* 66 The effect of maturescence of the spores.

†**Matures·cent**, *a. Obs.*[−0] [ad. L. *mātūrēscent-em*, pr. pple. of *mātūrēscĕre*, f. *mātūr-us*: see MATURE *a.* and -ESCENT.]

1727 BAILEY vol. II, *Maturescent*, waxing ripe. 1847 in WEBSTER.

†**Matu·rify**, *v. Obs. rare*[−1]. [ad. late L. *mātūrefacĕre* to make ripe: see -FY.] *trans.* To 'maturate' or exalt (a metal) *into* (gold).

1641 FRENCH *Distill.* v. (1651) 138 It [Oil of sand] maturifieth imperfect metals into gold.

Maturing (mătiūə·rĭŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. MATURE *v.* + -ING [1].] The action of the verb MATURE

1626 BACON *Sylva* § 326 The Maturing of Metalls, and therby Turning some of them into Gold. 1885 *Athenæum* 25 Apr. 534/3 The gradual maturing of the young hero's mind. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 843 The maturing of wine is the process of development of these ethers.

Maturing (mătiūə·rĭŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. MATURE *v.* + -ING [2].] That matures, in the senses of the verb.

1801 SOUTHEY *Thalaba* III. xiv, His lip was darken'd by maturing life. 1820 KEATS *To Autumn* 2 Season of mists and mellow fruitfulness, Close bosom-friend of the maturing sun. 1903 *Blackw. Mag.* Jan 44/2 A patch of maturing tobacco.

Maturish (mătiūə·rĭʃ), *a. rare*[−1]. [f. MATURE *a.* + -ISH.] Somewhat mature.

1885 MEREDITH *Diana* III. xii. 244 She played..the maturish young woman smitten by an adorable youth.

Maturity (mătiūə·rĭti). Also 4 **maturite**, 5 **-yte**, 6 **-itee**. [ad. F. *maturité* (15–16th c. in Hatz.-Darm.) or its source L. *mātūritās*, f. *mātūrus*: see MATURE *a.* and -ITY.]

†1. Deliberateness of action; mature consideration, due deliberation. *Obs.*

c 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XI. 583 Bot nane of thame so hardely Ruschit emang thame as did he, Bot with fer mair maturite. 1534 LD. BERNERS *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) B v b, A thyng that a sage personne with greatte maturitie and deliberation hath written. 1604 T. WRIGHT *Passions* II. x. 41 Yoong men and women .. resolve rashly, and performe rarely, because that they concluded without maturity. 1611 BIBLE *Transl. Pref.* ¶ 14 Matters of such weight and consequence are to bee speeded with maturitie. 1706 tr. *Dupin's Eccl. Hist. 16th C.* II. III. xxi. 387 It shall be done, after Examination of the Case, with the utmost Maturity. 1734 tr. *Rollin's Anc. Hist.* (1827) I. Pref. 15 The study of profane history when entered upon with judgment and maturity.

†2. Due promptness. *Obs.*

1531 ELYOT *Gov.* I. xxii. (1546) 71 b, Yet of these two [celeritie and slownesse] springeth an excellent vertue, whervnto we lacke a name in englishe. Wherfore I am constrained to vsurpe a latine worde, callyng it Maturitie. *c* 1540 tr. *Pol. Verg. Eng. Hist.* (Camden) I. 77 Agricola.. hasted with maturitee [L. *maturat*] to resiste this eminent perrill. *Ibid.* 172 Which thing this yonge impe executed with great maturitee [L. *mature fecit*]. 1670 MARVELL *Corr.* Wks. 1872–5 II. 339 All things will be perfected doubtlesse with all possible maturity.

3. The state of being mature; fullness or perfection of development or growth.

a. Of a person (mentally and physically) or his attributes; also, the state of being of age.

1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 23918 She was of gret sobrenesse..and of gret maturyte. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 664 To abide and tarie the maturitie and decent full age of this noble princes. 1603 DANIEL *Panegyr. to King* lxiv, Thy full maturitie Of yeares and wisdome. 1651 G. W. tr. *Cowel's Inst* 29 This age [one and twenty] with us is perfect and full maturity. 1796 BURKE *Regic. Peace* i. Wks. VIII. 146 When I was very young, a general fashion told me I was to admire some of the writings against that Minister; a little more maturity taught me as much to despise them. 1845 S. AUSTIN *Ranke's Hist. Ref.* I. 115 Till she reached years of maturity, she was confided to French guardianship. 1858 O. W. HOLMES *Aut. Breakf.-t.* xi. 106 Lines which embody the subdued and limited desires of my maturity. 1876 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* I. vi. 531 In the full maturity of life.

b. Of animals, plants, etc.: The state of being full grown.

1597 GERARDE *Herbal* clxvii. 1391 In short space after it [the barnacle-goose] commeth to full maturitie, and falleth into the sea. 1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* I. iii. 317 The seeded Pride That hath to this maturity blowne vp In ranke Achilles, must ..now be cropt. 1692 BENTLEY *Boyle Lect.* iv. 114 The inclosed Fœtus; which at the time of maturity broke through those Membranes. 1753 HOGARTH *Anal. Beauty* vi. 29 A single spreading oak, grown to maturity. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) V. 328 She lays four or five eggs; of which but a part ..come to maturity. 1833 G. R. PORTER *Tropical Agric.* 158 All the [tobacco] plants throughout the same field do not arrive together at their full maturity. 1879 HARLAN *Eyesight* ii 25 Each one [eyelash] reaches maturity in about five months, and then drops out.

c. Of fruits, wine, etc.: Ripeness.

1665 BOYLE *Occas. Refl.* (1848) 68 Green Fruit .. being neither sweetned nor concocted by Maturity. 1676 WORLIDGE *Cider* ii. § 3. 14 The Bloud of the Grape obtains not that degree of Maturity in the Fruit, as [etc.]. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* (1721) II. 302 Large Shoots that impede the Fruit from its due Maturity. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVII. 464/1 When wines have been kept in the wood for the period.. proper for attaining maturity.

4. Of immaterial things: The state of being complete, perfect or ready.

1625 K. LONG tr. *Barclay's Argenis* III. xi. 187 He may be sent backe..upon hope of being recalled, when things are come to better maturity. *a* 1635 NAUNTON *Fragm. Reg.* (Arb.) 36 The Secretary might have had end of discovery on a further maturity of the Treason. 1719 F. HARE *Ch. Authority Vind.* 26 Till things were come to that maturity that the dispensation of the Gospel did no longer want them. 1732 SWIFT *Repeal. Test* Wks. 1761 III. 293 They must wait maturity of time. 1785 REID *Intell. Powers* I. vi. 241 One science may be brought to a great degree of maturity. 1844 H. H. WILSON *Brit. India* III. 265 Measures which..were nearly brought to maturity. 1852 CONYBEARE & HOWSON *St. Paul* (1862) I. 54 The revolution of which Herod had sown the seeds now came to maturity.

†b. *pl.* Matured conditions. *Obs. rare*[−1].

1633 ADAMS *Exp.* 2 *Peter* i. 1 Canaan .. was already furnished to their hands: Nature had enriched it with commodities, and Industry beautified it with buildings and maturities.

5. *Comm.* The state of becoming due for payment; the time at which a bill becomes due.

1815 DALLAS in Taunton *Comm. Pleas Rep.* (1818) VI. 311 The period that intervened between the refusal to accept and the bill arriving at maturity for payment. 1860 *Commerc. Handbk.* 15 The period of the date of maturity of bills at or after sight 1861 GOSCHEN *For. Exch.* 135 When their drafts come to maturity. 1901 *Scotsman* 30 Oct. 5/1 For six months' maturities the rate is still maintained at 3½ to 3¾.

6. The state of an abscess in which the pus is fully formed (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1890).

1676 WISEMAN *Surg.* I. xvii. 79 Three or four days after they [*sc.* pustules] came to maturity, and brake

Matutinal (mætiūtəi·năl), *a.* [ad. L. *mātūtīnāl-is*, f. *mātūtīnus*: see MATUTINE. Cf. F. *matutinal.*] Of or pertaining to the morning, occurring or performed in the morning, early. Also *rarely* [? after F. *matinal*], rising early.

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Matutinal*, belonging to the morning, or morning prayer. *a* 1800 PEGGE *Anecd.* (1814) 277 Another matutinal expression in ancient use was—'Give you (i. e. God) good Day'. 1834 JAMES *Y. Marston Hall* xiv, Our household was not the most matutinal in the world. 1839 THACKERAY *Paris Sk.-bk., Fr. School Paint.* (1869) 53 The matutinal dews twinkling in the grass. 1855 BRISTOWE *Th. & Pract. Med.* (ed. 2) 101 There is usually a matutinal fall, and an evening rise [of temperature]. 1869 BROWNING *Ring & Book* VI. 1443 What? Matutinal, busy with book so soon Of an April day? 1874 *Lays Mod. Oxford* 12 While undergraduates masticate The matutinal muffin. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV. 192 The matutinal use of saline aperients.

Hence **Matuti·nally** *adv.*, every morning.

1897 P. WARUNG *Old Regime* 107 Three workers only—and six mustered nightly—and rations for six drawn matutinally.

Matutinary, *a. rare*[−1]. [f. L. *mātūtīn-us* (see next) + -ARY.] Matutinal, early.

1858 HAWTHORNE *Fr. & It. Note-bks.* I. 239 We ..were ready to start between five and six; being thus matutinary in order to get to Terni in time.

Matutine (mæ·tiutəin), *a.* (and *sb.*) [ad. L. *mātūtīn-us*, f. *Mātūta* (occurring only as the proper name of the goddess of dawn, bnt prob. orig. appellative), allied to *mātūrus* early, MATURE *a.*]

1. Of or pertaining to the morning; occurring in the morning.

c 1445 LYDG. *Nightingale* 187 This oure of morow, cleped matutyne, Falsly be-trayed. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* vi. 38 The crepusculyne lyne matutine of the norht norht est orizone. *a* 1602 W. PERKINS *Cases Consc.* (1619) 166 The first [canonical hour] they call the matutine, before the sunne rising. 1686 GOAD *Celest. Bodies* I. xii. 62 [They] hint a Lunation following the next Feria at hor. 2 Matutine. 1848 CLOUGH *Bothie* I. 32 Hewson and Hobbes were down at the matutine bathing. 1871 M. COLLINS *Marq. & Merch.* I. ix. 279 Covent Garden awoke to its matutine business.

b. Of a star; *spec.* in *Astron.* and *Astrol.*: That rises or is above the horizon before sunrise.

1500-20 DUNBAR *Poems* i. 4 Wp sprang the goldyn candill matutyne. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I 587 According as the said stars begin either to shine out or bee hidden in the morning before the Sun be up, or at evening after the Sunne is set, they..are named Matutine or Vespertine. 1652-62 HEYLYN *Cosmogr.* III. (1682) 109 The rising and setting of the Stars, whether..Matutine, or Vespertine, as the Artists phrase it. 1690 LEYBOURN *Curs. Math.* 449 She [Venus] is ..Gibbous,..as well when she is Vespertine as Matutine. 1819 J. WILSON *Dict. Astrol.* 286 The Moon is matutine until she has passed her first dichotome.

†2. *sb. pl.* Matins. *Obs.*

[Cf. *a* 1602 in sense 1.] 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* VI. 287 Matutines: At the first hour, or six of the clock.

Hence **Ma·tutinely** *adv.*, in the morning.

1833 *New Monthly Mag* XXXVIII. 442 [He] was wont to walk, matutinely, knee-deep into the sea.

Mat-weed: see MAT *sb.*[1]

Maty (mē·ti), **mate** (mēt). *Anglo-Indian.* Also **matee**. [Of obscure origin: cf. Skr. *mētha* elephant-keeper, and Eng. MATE *sb.*[2]; see Yule.] A native servant, esp. an assistant or under-servant.

1810 T. WILLIAMSON *E. Ind. Vade M.* I 241 In some families, *mates*, or assistants, are allowed, who do the drudgery. 1837 *Lett. fr. Madras* xii. (1843) 106 Here is our establishment:—one butler, one dress-boy, one matee, [etc.]. *Ibid.*, A cook's maty or helper. 1873 *Sat. Rev.* 6 Sept. 312/1 One of the attendants [of an elephant], who in Indian phraseology is termed 'a mate', the title of *Mahout* being reserved for the head keeper.

Maty, variant of MATIE.

Matyng, variant of METING *Obs.*, dream.

Mau, variant of MOWE *Obs.*, kinswoman.

Maubre, obs. form of MARBLE.

Maucauco, obs. form of MACACO *sb.*[2]

Maucht, -less, etc.: see MAUGHT, -LESS, etc.

†**Maud** [1], *Obs.* [app. a use of the name *Maud* (:—*Mahald*) = Matilda.] A hag, beldam.

1532 MORE *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 685/1 So I see well Tindall meaneth for hys mother, some olde mother mawde. 1566 L. WAGER *Marie Magd.* (1904) 717 In good faith, when ye ar come to be an old maude, Then it will be best for you to play the baude.

Maud [2] (mɔ̄d). Also 9 **mawd**. [Of obscure origin: cf. MALDY.] A grey striped plaid worn by shepherds in the South of Scotland; also a travelling rug or wrap resembling a mand.

1787 MRS. SCOTT in *Burns's Wks* (Chamb.) 66 A' honest Scotsmen loe the maud. 1831 SCOTT *Ct. Robt.* Introd. Addr., A grey maud, .. completed such an equipment as, since Juvenal's days, has been the livery of the poor scholar. 1885 *Advt.*, Rugs and Mauds of every description. 1901 *Daily Chron.* 13 July 8/3 A long 'maud', broad enough to act as a cover-all from neck to ground.

attrib. 1877 W. ROSS *Past. Work in Covenant. Times* v. 93 Shepherds with their maud plaids.

Maude, obs. pa. t. of MAKE *v.*[1]

Maudelard, obs. form of MALLARD.

Maudle (mɔ̄·d'l), *v. rare.* [Back-formation f. MAUDLIN *a.*, taken as pr. pple.] a. *trans.* To make maudlin. b. *intr.* To talk maudlinly.

1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *To Maudle*, to besot, or put out of Order, as drinking strong Liquors does in a Morning. *Ibid.*, *Maudlin*, maudled, half drunk. 1826 *Examiner* 124/1 Leaving John Bull to suck his thumbs, and maudle about 'his good Queen Anne'.

Maudlin (mɔ̄·dlin), *sb.* Forms: 4–5 **maudeleyne, mawd(e)leyn**, 4, 6 **maudelen**, 5 **mawdelayn, -en**, 6 **maud(e)lene, -elein, -elyn, -lein(e, mawdel(e)in, -(e)leyn**, 6–7 **maudlen, mawdlin,**

7 **maudline, mawdlen, -line.** [a. OF. *Madelaine*, semi-popular ad. L. *Magdalēna*, MAGDALEN(E.]

†**1.** As proper name: = MAGDALEN 1. *Obs.*

c 1320 R. BRUNNE *Medit.* 445 To maudelens hous Ion went. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Serm.* Sel. Wks. I. 382 Marie Mawdeleyn. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xxviii. 67 Mawdleyn witnes beres that ihesus rose from ded. 1565 JEWEL *Repl. Harding* (1611) 257 Mary Maudlen. 1573 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 49 Gehezie, Lots wife,..Rough Esau, with Mawdlin.

† **b.** *transf.* A penitent resembling Mary Magdalen. (Cf. MAGDALEN 2.) *Obs.*

1602 [? BRETON] *Pass. Discont. Mind* A 3 b, To play a poore lamenting Mawdlines part, That would weepe streams of bloud to be forgiuen. 1631 BRATHWAIT *Eng. Gentlew.* (1641) 288 They fall into a poore Maudlins distemper by giving reines to passion, till it estrange them from the soveraignty of reason.

†**2.** = MAGDALEN 3. *Obs.*

1603 OWEN *Pembrokeshire* (1892) 11 Diuerse priories, ffriers, Maudlens [*printed* Mandleus], Almehouses [etc.].

3. † **a.** = COSTMARY, *Tanacetum Balsamita. Obs.* **b.** The herb *Achillea Ageratum.* (Also *sweet maudlin.*)

c 1460 J. RUSSELL *Bk. Nurture* 132 Gynger valadyne & maydelyn ar not so holsom in mete. 1548 TURNER *Names Herbes* 37 Thys is not Eupatorium Mesues, for that is called in englishe Maudlene. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* II. lxxvi. 250 The second kinde [of Balsamynte] is called .. in English Mawdelein. 1597 GERARDE *Herball* II. cxcviii. 524 Maudlein is without doubt a kinde of Costmarie. 1612 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* xv. 197 They hot Muscado oft with milder Maudlin cast. 1640 PARKINSON *Theat. Bot.* 78 *Ageratum purpureum*, Purple sweete Maudeline. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* II. 98/2 Small Maudlin hath the stalk full of small slender leaves of whitish green. 1718 QUINCY *Compl. Disp.* 130 Maudlin, is a kind of Agrimony, & flowers about July. 1866 *Treas. Bot.*, Sweet maudlin, *Achillea Ageratum.*

†**4.** The name of a kind of peach (= MAGDALEN 4); also of a kind of pear (= *magdalen pear*). *Obs.*

1664 EVELYN *Kal. Hort.* June 68 [Pears]. The Maudlin (first ripe)..&c. 1699 *Ibid.* Aug. (ed. 9) 100 Peaches and Abricots... Bourdeaux Peach,.. Maudlen, Minion Peach. 1676 WORLIDGE *Cyder* 167 The Margaret, the Maudlin ..and many other early Pears are in esteem for the Table in July. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* (1721) II. 294 The Margaret, the Maudlin, and the Cluster Pear.

5. [From the adj.] What is maudlin; weak or mawkish sentiment.

1838 LYTTON *Alice* VI. ii, I allow that there is a strange mixture of fustian and maudlin in all these things. 1865 *Spectator* 11 Feb. 153 Let us at least have them tried like all others, with as little maudlin and romance about..withered hearts..as may be consistent with sincerity

6. *Comb.*: †**maudlin daisy,** the ox-eye daisy, *Chrysanthemum Leucanthemum*; **Maudlin day,** = *Magdalen day*; †**maudlin pot,** ? some kind of drinking vessel; **maudlin tansy** = *sweet maudlin* (see 3 b); **maudlin tide,** the time of the feast of St. Mary Magdalen, 22 July; **maudlin-wort** (? *obs.*) = *maudlin daisy*; †also applied to the yellow ox-eye, *Chrysanthemum segetum.*

1861 Miss PRATT *Flower. Pl.* III. 312 (Great White Ox-eye) .. The plant was formerly called *Maudlin Daisy. *c* 1470 HARDYNG *Chron.* clxii. (1812) 297 The kyng vpon the *Maudeleyn day, At Fowkirke fought with Scottes in great aray. 1638 *Lanc. Wills* (Chetham Soc.) III. 204 A dozen of silver spoones and a little *Maudlin pott of silver. 1856 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, **Maudlin Tansy.* *c* 1530 LD. BERNERS *Arth. Lyt Bryt.* (1814) 7 Arthur..demaundyd of him yf he had receyued at y^t *mawdeleyn tyde ye reuenewes of the forest. 1552 ELYOT *Dict.*, *Amaranthus*, an herbe, of the which he two sortes: the flower of the one is yelow,.. called also .. of Apothecaries *sticas citrina*, in English, *Maudelene woort or Baltasar. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* II. xix. 169 The great wild Daysie, or Maudelynwurte..hath grene leaues. 1766 *Museum Rust* VI. 451 Greater Daisie, Ox-eye, or Maudlin-wort. 1866 *Treas. Bot.*, Maudlinwort, *Chrysanthemum Leucanthemum.*

Maudlin (mɔ̄·dlin), *a.* Forms: 6 **maudlayne, mawdlen,** 7 **maudline, mawd(e)lin,** 8–9 **maudling,** 7– **maudlin.** [From the attrib. use of MAUDLIN *sb.*, in allusion to the pictures in which the Magdalen was represented weeping.]

1. Weeping, tearful, lachrymose. *Obs.* or *arch.*

1607 MIDDLETON *Michaelm. Term* II. i. 137 That's a penitent maudlin dicer. *a* 1680 BUTLER *Rem.* (1759) II. 136 He laments, like Heraclitus the Maudlin Philosopher, at other Men's Mirth. 1715 ROWE *Lady J. Grey* v. i, No Maudlin Gazers, To wet their Handkerchiefs. 1847 LYTTON *Lucretia* (1853) 152 Blooming amidst those maudlin eyes.

2. Characterized by tearful sentimentality; mawkishly emotional; weakly sentimental.

a 1631 DONNE *Lett.* (1651) 145 It was matter, which I might very well have left unwritten, having too much of the Maudlin humour in it. *a* 1704 T. BROWN *Praise Poverty* Wks. 1730 I. 98 A thousand maudlin oaths of friendship. 1779 SHERIDAN *Critic* II. ii, Is this a time for maudling tenderness? 1845 DISRAELI *Sybil* (Rtldg.) 317 The mob became not only enthusiastic but maudlin. 1877 FARRAR *Days of Youth* xiii. 123 Doing right only in maudlin dreams, not in manly effort.

3. (First in *maudlin-drunk*: see 4.) Used to designate that stage of drunkenness which is characterized by the shedding of tears and effusive displays of affection. Phrase, † *To drink maudlin.*

1616 R. C. *Times' Whistle* v. 1958 The second kinde we maudline drunkards call. 1668 R. L'ESTRANGE *Vis. Quev.* (1708) 40 Am not I here, the Fifth Husband of a woman yet living in the World, that hopes to..drink Maudlin at the Fifteenth Funeral? *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Mawdlin*, weepingly Drunk, as we say the Tears of the Tankard. 1714 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 561 P 12 When they grow Maudlin, they are very apt to commemorate their former Partners with a Tear. 1789 E. DARWIN *Bot. Gard.* II. (1791) 110 'Drink deep, sweet youths', seductive Vitis cries, The maudlin tear-drop glittering in her eyes. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* xxiii, The maudlin state or stage of drunkenness. 1860 *All Year Round* No. 49. 533 His potations had rendered him somewhat maudlin.

4. *Comb.* (with another adj.) as *maudlin-kind, -moral*; **maudlin-cupped,** having drunk enough to become maudlin; **maudlin-drunk,** † **drunken** [orig. a similative comb. of the sb.], in the maudlin stage of intoxication.

1627–77 FELTHAM *Resolves* II. xxix. 220 Claudius..being *Maudline cupp'd, he grew to lament the Destiny of his marriages. 1509 BARCLAY *Shyp of Folys* (1570) 33 Some *maudlayne dronke, mourning loudly and hye. 1592 NASHE *P. Penilesse* 23 b, Mawdlen drunke, when a fellow wil weepe for kindnes in the midst of his Ale and kisse you. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 47 P 5 Such a Tragedian is only maudlin drunk. 1856 Miss MULOCK *J. Halifax* xix, Another ill-looking fellow, maudlin drunk. 1685 G. MERITON *Yorks. Ale* 8 Some *Maudlin drunken were, and wept full sore. *a* 1668 DAVENANT *Man's the Master* Wks. (1673) 367, I am *Maudlin kind, would I had one of thy Hoods to cover my face. 1842 TENNYSON *Will Waterpr.* 208 It is but yonder empty glass That makes me *maudlin-moral.

Hence **Mau·dlinize** *v. trans.*, to make maudlin, to cause to be in a maudlin state of intoxication; **Mau·dlinism,** the state of being maudlin-drunk.

a 1652 BROME *Covent Garden* IV. ii, I hope 'twill maudlenize him. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xxxviii, Mr. Benjamin Allen had perhaps a greater predisposition to maudlinism than he had ever known before.

Maudlinly (mɔ̄·dlinli), *adv.* [f. MAUDLIN *a.* + -LY 2.] In a maudlin manner.

1854 LADY LYTTON *Behind Scenes* I. i. iv. 129 It would have been impossible to have looked more maudlingly than he did at the assembled crowd. 1882 *Fraser's Mag.* XXVI. 255 He becomes maudlinly eloquent.

Maues, Maut: see MAUGH.

Maufesour, variant of MALFEASOR *Obs.*

† **Mau·frey.** *Obs. rare*⁻¹. [Short for GALLIMAUFRY.] = GALLIMAUFRY 3.

1647 WARD *Simp. Cobler* 21 Such a multimonstrous maufrey of heteroclytes and quicquidlibets.

Mauger, variant of MAUGRE.

† **Maugh.** *Obs.* Forms: 3 mo3, 4 *pl.* maues, mohwes; *Sc.* and *north. dial.* 4 mawch, mach, macht, 4, 6 magh, 4–6 mawch(e, 5 mawich(e, maygh(e, ? mawth, ? mayth, 6 maich, meache, mawgh, 7–9 m(e)augh, 8–9 mauf. [a. ON. *mág-r* son-in-law, brother-in-law, father-in-law (Sw. *måg*, Norw. *maag* son-in-law), corresp. to OE. *mǽg* kinsman MAY *sb.*¹ (pl. *mágas*, whence possibly the 14th c. form *mohwes*), OFris. *mêch*, OS. *mâg* (MDu. *maech*, mod.Du. *maag* kinsman), OHG. *mâg*, Goth. *mēg-s* son-in-law:—OTeut. **mágo-z*, prob. related by ablaut to **magu-z*, OE. *magu* boy, young man.] A near (male) connexion by marriage; a brother-in-law or a son-in-law.

The glossaries of North and Mid Yorkshire give a sense 'colleague, partner'.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1761 [Laban calls Jacob] Min mo3, min neue, and felaze. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 2811 (Cott.) Loth went and til his maues [*Gött.* mohwes] spak. *Ibid.* 7650 Þan bade þe king..His magh [*Trin.* sone in lawe] dauid man suld him sla. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xliii. (*Cecile*) 214, I grant þis day þat þu [*sc.* her husband's brother] art my mach verray. *c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* II. xvii. 1637 (Cott.) [Turnvs] þat .. mawche [*Wemyss* mayghe] was to þis kynge Latyn And weddit his douchtyr. 1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* I. xvi. (S. T. S.) I. 89 Thare was nane fund sa wourthy to be his maich as the said Seruius. And sa þe king gaif him finalie bis dochter in mariage. 1565–73 *Durham Depos.* (Surtees) 110 John Tompson, alias Percivall, is this examinate's mawggh [here = brother in law]. *c* 1600 JAS. MELVILL *Diary* (1842) 199 The Archbishopes meache and graittest associat, Mr. Alexander Home. 1674–91 RAY *N. C. Words* 55 *Meaugh*, 'my meaugh', my wives brother, or sisters husband. 1788 W. MARSHALL *Yorksh.* II. Gloss. (E. D. S.) *Mauf*, a brother-in-law. 1829 BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss.* (ed. 2) *Mauf, Maugh, Meaugh*, a brother-in-law.

Maught, maucht (mɔ̄xt). Now only *Sc.* Forms: 3–4 **maȝt, maght,** 4 **mauȝt,** 4, 9 **macht,** 4–5 **mawcht,** 4– **maucht,** 4– **maught.** [App. a. ON. **maht-r* (Icel. *mátt-r*):—OTeut. type **mahtu-z*, a parallel formation with **mahti-z* fem.: see MIGHT *sb.*] Strength, might, power, ability.

c 1220 *Bestiary* 541 Þis deuel is mikel wið wil and maȝt. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 6720 Þe lord þat þat beist aght, Sal þar-for ansuer at his maght. *c* 1320 *Sir Beues* (A.) 860 A swerd of miche mauȝt. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxi. (*Clement*) 454 He..hyre embrasit with al bis macht. *c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* v. x. 3065 Wytht mekyll mawcht. 1549 *Compl. Scotl.* vi. 41 Ane lang draucht, ane lang draucht, mair maucht, mair maucht. 1768 Ross *Helenore* (1789) 22 They had nae maughts for sick a toilsome task. *a* 1774 FERGUSSON *Poems* (1789) II. 96 Fearfu' aften o' their maught. 1825–80 JAMIESON s.v. *Maucht*, Of a person who is paralytic, or debilitated by any other malady, it is said; He has lost the machts, or his machts.

Hence **Mau·ghtless** (also **mauchless**) *a.*, powerless; **Mau·chty** *a.*, powerful.

1768 Ross *Helenore* (1789) 17 Jeering, they'd say, Poor Lindy's maughtless grown. *Ibid.* 22 Amo' the herds that plaid a maughty part. 1819 W. TENNANT *Papistry Storm'd* (1827) 38 Whairat the mauchty knicht took fire. 1882 J. WALKER *Jaunt to Auld Reekie*, etc. 27 Flat on the floor.. Where mauchless he in beastly stupor fell.

Maugrabee (mɔ̄·grăbī). Also 8 **Mogrebee.** [a. Arab. مغربى *maγrabīy* western, f. غرب *γarb* west.] An African Moor.

1704 J. PITTS *Acc. Mohammetans* vii. 101 A Turk..ask'd me what Countryman I was; a Mogrebee (said I) *i. e.* one of the West. 1813 BYRON *Br. Abydos* I. viii, The sire..With Maugrabee and Mamaluke, His way amid his Delis took.

Maugrabin (mɔ̄·grăbin). Also **Mograbian.** [a. Arab. *maγrabīyīn*, pl. of *maγrabīy*: see prec.] = prec. Also *attrib.*

1823 SCOTT *Quentin D.* xvi, The men beyond our tents call me Hayraddin Maugrabin, that is Hayraddin the African Moor. 1842 BRANDE *Dict. Sci.* etc., *Mograbians*, or *men of the west*, a name formerly given to a species of Turkish infantry composed of the peasants of the Northern parts of Africa. 1889 J. PAYNE *Aladdin* 57 One day..behold, a Maugrabin dervish came up.

Maugracious, variant of MALGRACIOUS.

Maugre (mɔ̄·gəɹ), *sb.* and *prep.* Forms: *α.* 4–5 **maugreþ, mawgrethe, malegrefe, -greue, mawgref(e,** 4–6 **maugref(e,** 5 **maugreue.** *β.* 4–7 **malgre,** 5–7 **malgrye,** 5–8 **maulgre.** *γ.* 4 **magrei, maugray, magrey,** 4–5 **maugrey, mawgr(e)y,** 4–6 **magry, maugrie, -y, magree,** 4–7 **maugree,** 4–9 **magre,** 5 **mawgre, magger,** *Sc.* **mngra,** 5–8 **mauger,** 6 **mawger, mager, -ir, maugrea, mawgree, magrie,** 3– **maugre.** [a. OF. *maugré, malgré* (= Pr. *mal grat*, It. *malgrado*) f. *mal* bad, evil + *gré* (see GREE *sb.*²). The mod.F. MALGRÉ has sometimes been used by Eng. writers as a foreign word; so in the 16th c. the It. MALGRADO.]

† **A.** *sb. Obs.*

1. Ill-will, displeasure, or spite, borne by a person towards another. Often in phr. *to can* or *con maugre* (see CAN *v.*¹ 10, CON *v.*¹ 4 b).

c 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 2017 He ne couþe him bot maugre. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 250 Þer was malys mercyles & mawgre much scheued. *c* 1422 HOCCLEVE *Learne to Die* 283 Why was y nat ferd of goddes maugree? *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xxiv. 270 Take it to you with all the mawgre of myn and myght of mahowne. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* IX. xl. 405, I haue herd moche of your maugre ageynst me. 1485 CAXTON *Chas. Gt.* 185 Wyte it not me,..ne conne me noo maulgre 15.. *Curs. J. Rowlis* 161 in *Bannatyne MS.* (Hunter. Cl.) 303 Malice, rancour and invy, With magry and malancoly. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* IX. Prol. 17 Wirk na malgre, thocht thou be nevir sa wyght. 1515 BARCLAY *Egloges* v. (1570) D iij b, I thought no mauger, I tolde it for a bourde. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 259 Pollio..had none other cause to surceasse his maugre.

b. Phr., *bongre maugre* (F. *bon gré mal gré*), whether one will or no, willy-nilly.

c 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* III. xxxiv. (1869) 154 Thi god he shal be boongree mawgree.

2. The state of being regarded with ill-will. Chiefly in phr. *to have, get maugre.* Also, an instance of this.

c 1290 *St. Nicholas* 457 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 253 3if þat þou woldest þure-fore þou haue maugre. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 21471 Maugre [*Fairf.* maugrefe] þar-for mot þai haf. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 12898 3yf hit falle wel, wel schal vs be; 3yf hit ne do, we gete maugre. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 465 Heere may cristenmen soone wite which clerk or lord..haþ wile to stonde þerfore & suffere a magrey. 1415 HOCCLEVE *Let. Cupid* 376 Wyteth the feend, and his be the maugree. *c* 1430 *How wise Man taught his Son* 47 in *Babees Bk.*, And gete þee mawgre heere & þeere More þan þank. 1453 in *14th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. III. 9 Gyf ony of thaim happyns to inryn fedis or maugreis. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* XX. xi. 815 Here wynne ye no worshyp but maulgre and dishonoure. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 231/1 A Mawgry, *democritum.* 1560 ROLLAND *Crt. Venus* II. 167 3e haue seruit greit magrie to 3our meid.

3. *In (the) maugre of*: in spite of, notwithstanding; = B (below).

c 1440 *Gesta Rom.* lxiv. 277 (Harl. MS.) In malgre of þi tethe. *a* 1500 *Chevy Chase* 3 in Skeat *Spec. Eng. Lit.* III. 68 That he wold hunte In the mowntayns..In the magger of doughté dogles. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* II. 687 [He] wan the wod in magir of thame all. 1871 W. ALEXANDER *Johnny Gibb* vii. 50 An' we'll dee't still, i' maugre o' an Erastian Presbytery.

B. (*adv.* and) *prep.*

1. In spite of, notwithstanding; notwithstanding the power of. *arch.*

c 1264 *Song agst. King Almaigne* in *Pol. Songs* (Camden) 69 Let him habbe, ase he brew, bale to dryng, maugre Wyndesore. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 3745 A knist..hade him out of þe ost mawgrey hem alle. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. VI. 69 [To] make hem mery þere-mydde maugre who-so bigruccheth it. *c* 1400 *Sowdone Bab.* 1442 Thai were agon, Magre who so wolde. 1481 CAXTON *Godfrey* xxiii. 55 Ther wente wel somtyme .X. M or more, maulgre the barons. 1581 MARBECK *Bk. of Notes* 939 He threw it into the fire, maugrie all the Cardinalls that were about him. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* IV. i. 48 Tell what thou saw'st, maulgre who so it heares. 1686 F. SPENCE tr. *Varillas' Ho. Medicis* 177 The quarrel, wherein they were engaged, maugre their endeavours and inclinations for peace. 1704 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4061/3 Keeping the Mastery at Sea,..maugre the..Strength of the Enemy's Fleet. 1755 SMOLLETT *Quix.* (1803) IV. 202, I persevere in this career, maugre and in despite of my own understanding. 1765 *Museum Rust.* IV. xliv. 193 Maugre my most sanguine expectations, the field by no means answers. 1854 H. MILLER *Sch. & Schm.* xxii. (1857) 488, I continued my rounds, maugre the suspicion. 1892 *Nation* (N.Y.) 4 Aug. 93/3 'La Débâcle', maugre all faults, stands out as Zola's best and strongest work up to the present time.

¶ Used by Spenser for: A curse upon . . !

1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. v. 12 [Fortune] Tbat hath (maugre

her spight) thus low me laid in dust. *Ibid.* III. iv. 39 Yett, maulgre them, farewell my sweetest sweet!

† b. *Maugre his, ours*, etc.: in spite of him, etc. [Cf. OF. *maugré suen, maugré vostre*, etc.] *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 4305 Maugre his, he dos him lute. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 10266 Maugre oures, forsoþe hit was. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 3 God wot that is malgre myn. *c* 1450 *Merlin* xiv. 214 Magre hirs thei were driven bakke. *c* 1500 *Lancelot* 115 Al magre thine a seruand schal yow bee.

† c. *Maugre of, to, with*: in spite of. *Obs.*

c 1470 HENRY *Wallace* VI. 393 Thow sall ws se.. Battaill to gyff, magra off all thi kyn. 1480 CAXTON *Chron. Eng.* VII. (1520) 100/2 The kynge..gate the castell maugre of them all that were within. 1494 FABYAN *Chron.* VI. clx. 150 He than assemblyd to hym a strong hoost, and recoueryd his wyfe, malgre to all his enmyes. 1548 UDALL, etc. *Erasm. Par. Mark* iii. 30 Whose power the findes are compelled maugry of theyr heades, to geue place unto. 1646 EARL MONM. tr. *Biondi's Civil Warres* IV. 67 She was maugre with those which would have defended her, taken prisoner.

d. without regimen. (Cf. MALGRÉ, quot. 1608.)

1423 JAS. I *Kingis Q.* xxiv, So infortunate was vs that fremyt day, That maugre, playnly, quhethir we wold or no [etc.]. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* V. i. 29 Until that Talus had his pride represt, And forced him, maulgre, it up to reare. 1620 BP. HALL *Hou. Mar. Clergy* I. xvii. 94 He shall (maugre) be forced to confesse, that [etc.].

2. Phrases. *Maugre* (a person's) *teeth, head*: in spite of (his) resistance, notwithstanding all (he) can do (*arch.* and *dial.*). † Formerly also in many other forms now obs., as *maugre (his) beard, cheeks, eyes, face, heart, mind, mouth, nose, visage, will.*

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 2090 Maximian was suþþe aslawe maugre [*MS. B.* magrei] is nose. 13.. *K. Alis.* 5840 He.. maugre the teeth of hem alle, Sette his rigge to the walle. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* C. 44 Much maugre his mun, he mot nede suffer. *c* 1369 CHAUCER *Dethe Blaunche* 1201 Maugre myn heed, I muste haue tolde her or be deed. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 170 Þe fend may not do but if þat it turne to þe worschipe of God mawgretbe hys wille. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Wife's Prol.* 315 That oon thou shalt forgo, maugree thyne eyen. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 1747 Made to be meke male-greue his chekis. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* XX. xi. 816 Kynge Arthur shalle haue his Quene and the maulgre thy vysage. 1529 MORE *Dyalogue* IV. Wks. 274/1 So should al our dedes good or badde, ascend or descende by the violent hande of God, magre our mindes. *c* 1550 BALE *K. Johan* (Camden) 5 Quodcunque ligaveris, I trow, will playe soch a parte, That I shall abyde in Vnglond, magry yowr harte. 1555 [see BEARO *sb.* 1e]. 1614 TOMKIS *Albumazar* I. iv. (1615) C, Not haue his sister? Cricca, I will haue Flavia, Maugre his head. 1860 MOTLEY *Netherl.* (1868) II. xix. 513 He may see your Highness enjoy your blessed estate, maugre the beards of all confederated leaguers. 1891 BARRIE *Little Minister* xliii, But, dominie, I couldna hae moved, magre my neck.

† **Mau·gre**, *v. Obs.* [a. F. *maugréer*, f. *maugré* MAUGRE *sb.*] *trans.* To show ill-will to; to defy, oppose. Also with *down*.

1597 BEARO *Theatre God's Judgem.* (1612) 179 Except by horrible bannings and swearings they despight and maugre God. *c* 1609 WEBSTER *Appius & Virginia* II. iii, Whose hases are of Marble, deeply fixt To mauger all gusts and impending stormes. 1632 TATHAM *Love crowns the end* (1640) K ij, Had you smil'd as you did frowne, All his strength I'd mauger'd downe.

Maukin, Maukish: see MALKIN, MAWKISH.

Maul, mall (mɔ̄l), *sb.*[1] Forms: *a.* 3 **mealle**, 3, 6 **male**, 4 **mayl**, 4–7 **malle**, 5 **mal**, 5– **mall**. (See also the northern MELL *sb.*) *β.* 6–7 **maull, mawle, maule**, 7–8 **mawl**, 7– **maul**. [a. F. *mail* (in OF. pronounced malʸ) = Pr. *malh-s*, Sp. *mallo*, Pg. *malho*, It. *maglio* :—L. *malleum* (nom. *malleus*) hammer.]

I. 1. = MACE *sb.*[1] 1. Also, a wooden club. *Obs.* exc. *arch.* and *Hist.*

a 1240 *Sawles Warde* in *Cott. Hom.* 253 Hare unirude duntes wiþ mealles istelet. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 4229 Is male [*v.r.* mace] he dude ek bituene ac þat blod adoun wende. 13.. *Erasmus* in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1878) 202 These he suffred of þe turmentours..xviii was betyng on his body withe brennyng malles. 13.. *St. Cristofer* 547 *ibid.* (1881) 461 His false goddis he smate þame alle In sondir with ane Iryne malle. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 4653 A mayl of Ire he bar an honde. *c* 1450 *Merlin* 339 Whan Arthur saugh the Geaunte lifte vp his malle he douted the stroke. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. cccexvii. 730 They were of harnessed men..mo than xxx. thousande, and as many with malles. 1545 ASCHAM *Toxoph.* (Arb.) 70 A leaden maule, or suche lyke weapon, to beate downe his enemyes withall. 1563–87 FOXE *A. & M.* (1596) 40/1 Felix and Philip had their braines beaten out with mawles. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. vii. 51 With mighty mall The monster mercilesse him made to fall. 1627 DRAYTON *Agincourt*, etc. 39 With Battle-axes, Halberts, Bills, and Maules. 1682 BUNYAN *Holy War* 48. I have a Maul, Fire-brands, Arrows, and Death, all good hand weapons. 1686–7 AUBREY *Rem. Gentilism & Judaism* (1881) 19 The Holy-mawle, wᶜʰ (they fancy) hung behind the Church dore, wᶜʰ when the father was seaventie, the sonne might fetch, to knock his father in the head, as effœte, and of no more use. 1891 *Cornh. Mag.* Oct. 444 Steel caps, mail brigandines..completed this equipment, while in some cases the murderous maule or five-foot mallet was hung across the bow-stave.

† b. *pl.* A name given to the Parisian insurgents of 1 Mar. 1382, who were armed with leaden clubs.

1525 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* II. clxxxv. [clxxxi.] 563 The sayd Constable put downe the malles of Parys, and punyshed them for their rebellyons.

2. In early use, a massive hammer of any kind. Now, applied to various special kinds of heavy hammers or beetles, commonly of wood, used, (e.g.) in driving piles, in shipbuilding, in mining operations, and in various operations on board ship. *Top-mall* (Naut.): see TOP *sb.*

c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 127 Þou schalt smyte wiþ a mal eiþer an hamer on þe greet eende. *c* 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 4332 Bot his hedde was gret, leyge to a gret malle. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) II. 229 Tubal hauenge delectacion in the sownde of the malles [etc.]. 1460 CAPGRAVE *Chron.* (Rolls) 34 With a malle and a nayle sche smet him in the hed. ? *c* 1475 *Hunt. Hare* 91 Then euery man had a mall Syche as thei betyn clottys withall. 1485 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 39 Lede malles feble..xiiij. 15.. *Smyth & Dame* 17 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* III. 202 He covde werke wyth a mall Many maner of metall. 1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 15 And if the barleye grounde wyll not breake with harrowes..it wolde be beaten with malles. *Ibid.* § 126 Take thy mall agayn and dryue downe the edderynges and also thy stakes. 1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. iv. 342 Th' Iron Maule that chimes The intire Day in twice twelue equall times. 1676 WORLIDGE *Cyder* (1691) 96 Others beat them [apples] on a table with mauls. 1680 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* 203 The Joyner's Mallet would supply the Office of this Tool; but Use has made the Mawl more handy for them. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. 312/2 The Executioner with the Violence of a Blow on the head of the Axe with his heavy Maul, forced it through the Mans Neck. 1764 *Char.* in *Ann. Reg.* 23/1 The instruments of agriculture they use..are a spade, a mall, and a rake or harrow. 1812 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 5 The stake, with the mall, was driven through the body. 1840 R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast* ix. 20 We..stopped the mall with rope-yarns. 1874 J. H. COLLINS *Metal Mining* (1875) 61 Hammers.—The chief kinds used in metal mines are mallets or 'malls'. 1886 R. C. LESLIE *Sea-painter's Log* vii. 154 The shipwright's maul.

U. S. slang. 1872 SCHELE DE VERE *Americanisms* 616 *Maul and Wedges*..often used to denote the whole of a man's possessions, his movables.

† b. *transf.* and *fig.* after L. *malleus*. (Often, like *hammer, scourge*, applied to a person as the irresistible foe or the terrible oppressor of some person, class, or institution.) *Obs.*

c 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 351 Þe stake is þe synne hardud in mannus hert; þe malle þat he driueþ it wiþ is newe rehersynge of synne. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 43 The Sawden and duke of Turkes, the grete malle of Cristen peple. 1577 VAUTROUILLIER *Luther on Ep. Gal.* 155 God must needes take this maule in hand, the lawe I meane,.. to bring to nothing this beast. 1624 H. MASON *Art of Lying* iv. 59 Luther was a great mawle, that battered their Babel. 1658 ROWLAND tr. *Monfet's Theat. Ins* 951 That flower of Knighthood, and Maul of the Spanish pride, Francis Drake. 1711 HICKES *Two Treat., Chr. Priesth.* (1847) II. 34 Optatus..the great mall of the Donatists.

II. [From MAUL *v.*] † 3. A heavy blow, as with a hammer. *Obs.*

1664 BUTLER *Hud.* II. i. 527 Give that Rev'rend Head a mall, Or two, or three, against a Wall.

4. *Rugby Football.* A mauling or tackling. *Maul (in goal)*: see quot. 1871.

1867 *Rugby School Football Laws* 18 Only those who are touching the ball with their hands may continue in the maul inside goal. 1871 in *Rugby U. Football Ann.* (1874–5) 6 A Maul in goal is when the holder of the ball is tackled inside goal line, or being tackled immediately outside, is carried or pushed across it, and he, or the opposite side, or both, endeavour to touch the ball down. 1874–5 *Rugby U. Football Ann.* 38 A maul occurred in the centre of the ground, from which Edinburgh emerged victorious. 1892 CAIL in *Field* 17 Sept. 458/1 This year the maul has finally been relegated to the past [by the Rugby Union].

Maul (mɔ̄l), *sb.*[2] *dial.* Also 5 **malle**, 9 **maule**. [Variant of MALLOW.] = MALLOW.

c 1425 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 644/34 *Hec malua*, malle. 1674–91 RAY *N. C. Words* 46 *Mauls*, Mallowes. 1788 W. MARSHALL *Yorksh.* II. Gloss. (E.D.S.), *Mauls, malvæ*, mallows. 1866 *Treas. Bot.*, Maule, *Malva sylvestris*. 1876 *Mid-Yorksh. Gloss., Mauls*, the herb marsh-mallows.

Maul (mɔ̄l), *v.* Forms: *a.* 3 **meallen**, 5–6 **malle**, 4– **mall**. *β.* 6–7 **maule**, 7 **maull, mawle, mawll**, 7–9 **mawl**, 7– **maul**. [f. MAUL *sb.*[1]]

† 1. *trans.* To beat or strike (with or as with a maul or hammer); to hammer, batter; also, to beat or knock *in, along. Obs.*

? *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 3038 Mynsteris and masondewes they malle to þe erthe. *c* 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* II. 17 The cloddis malled be with mannes hond. *Ibid.* V. 516 This pece [of wood] amydde his trunke hit is to malle. 1530 PALSGR. 632/2 Nowe that he hath done with plowynge of our grounde go mall the cloddes. 1609 J. DAVIES *Holy Roode* (Grosart) 12/1 See how they mall it on, in ruthlesse rage. 1633 T. JAMES *Voy.* 51, I ordered the Cooper to.. looke to all our Caske: those that were full, to mawle in the bungs of them.

fig. 1607 HIERON *Wks.* (1619–20) II. 373 A certayne hammer, which the Lord vseth in this seruice of malling and breaking the heart.

b. *U. S.* To split (rails) with a maul and wedge.

1686 in P. A. Bruce *Econ. Hist. Virginia* (1896) I. 318 *note*, Johnson..doth..impower you..to fall, mall, and set up..400 panels of sufficient post and rails. 1789 ANBUREY *Trav.* II. 323 Fence rails, which are made out of trees, cut or sawed into lengths of about twelve feet, that are maul or split into rails. 1856 OLMSTED *Slave States* 207, I always have two hundred rails mauled in a day. 1896 P. A. BRUCE *Econ. Hist. Virginia* I. 317 Among the terms..in the contract.. was one requiring the latter to maul six hundred fencing rails.

† c. *intr.* To hammer. *Obs.*

a 1375 *Joseph Arim.* 508 Mi3tful men mallen þorw scheldes. 1615 BRATHWAIT *Strappado* (1878) 113 Her hands like Fullers wheels, one vp, one downe, Which still lie malling on my costrell crowne.

† 2. *trans.* To strike (a person or animal) with a heavy weapon; to knock *down. Obs.*

a 1240 *Sawles Warde* in *Cott. Hom.* 251 Deoflen þat ham meallið ant derueð aa ant drecche wið alles cunnes pinen. ? *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 3841 And mett hyme in the myde schelde, and mallis hyme thorowe. *Ibid.* 4037, I salle evene amange his mene malle hym to dede. 1530 PALSGR. 632/1 If he mall you on the heed I wyll nat gyve a peny for your lyfe. 1537 MATTHEW *Judg.* v. 22 Then they malled the horsses legges, yᵗ their myghtie coursers lefte praunsyng. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* V. xi. 8 The sad steele..lighting on his horses head him quite did mall. 1612 CHAPMAN *Widowes T.* v. K 3 b, *Lys.* Would not my Ghost start vp, and flie vpon thee? *Cyn.* No, I'de mall it down againe with this [*i. e.* a crowbar]. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* VIII. xii. (1614) 805 Many Gentlewomen..while his [the king's] bodie was burning were malled with clubbes, and buried foure and foure in a graue. 1648 GAGE *West Ind.* xiii. (1655) 72 They mawled with a club those which had the Garlands.

3. To beat and bruise (a person); to maltreat; to knock about.

c 1610 MIDDLETON *Widow* V. i. 138 Your women..will so maul him With broken cruises and pitchers..He'll never die alive. 1712 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 7 Aug., My lord's business is to hasten the peace before the Dutch are too much mauled. 1748 SMOLLETT *Rod. Rand.* (1812) 314 It was proposed by Bragwell that we should..maul the watch. 1858 DORAN *Crt. Fools* 105 Thrashing the..bishop and terribly mauling his body of followers.

4. *transf.* To damage seriously; to shatter, mangle. (Said, e. g., of storms, shot, etc.; formerly of disease or the like.)

1692 SOUTH 12 *Serm.* (1697) II. 41 Nor is Excess the onely thing by which Sin mauls and breaks Men in their health. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 1 P 5 This Passion has so extremely mauled him, that his Features are set and uninformed. 1758 *Ann. Reg.* 100 Her larboard side is most terribly mauled: there are seventy shot-holes on that side. 1805 in Nicolas *Disp. Nelson* (1846) VII. 190 *note*, Saw some of the Fleet at times, very much mauled and grentest part partly dismasted. 1817–18 COBBETT *Resid. U. S.* (1822) 145 America is not wholly exempt from that mortal enemy of turnips, the fly, which mawled some of mine. 1885 RUNCIMAN *Skippers & Sh.* 112 The sea was mauling her pretty badly.

5. *fig.* To subject to damaging criticism, injure by criticizing, 'cut up', 'pull to pieces'.

1593 NASHE *Four Lett. Confut.* 50 By the eternal iests he would maule thee with. 1695 CONGREVE *Prol. Hopkins' Pyrrhus* 25 Far hence they vent their Wrath, Mauling in mild Lampoon th' intriguing Bath. 1711 *Medley* No. 21. 240 The poor Whigs are every day so maul'd off by the Tories for their Fanaticism, that [etc.]. 1759 DILWORTH *Pope* 94 Finding themselves let pass free of all censure, and seeing the other sex so mauled. 1785 CRABBE *Newspaper* 412 To vex and maul a ministerial race. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 187 They are a class who are very likely to get mauled by Euthydemus and his friends. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 25 Feb. 3/3 Poor Sir David Brewster, a really harmless man, is mauled in quite a wicked fashion.

6. To handle roughly or carelessly (chiefly with *about*); to damage by rough or careless handling. Also *fig. To maul down* (dial.): to lift down.

1781 COWPER *Conversat.* 290 We that make no honey, though we sting, Poets, are sometimes apt to maul the thing. 1827 CLARE *Sheph. Cal.* 156 She came smiling out, Saying she bated to be mawled about With their black faces. 1847 BUSHNELL *Chr. Nurt.* II. ii. (1861) 264 He is a man that mauls every truth of God. 1856 MRS. BROWNING *Aur. Leigh* III. 906 To see them laugh and laugh and maul their texts. 1878 T. HARDY *Ret. Native* VI. iv, Maul down the victuals from corner cupboard if canst reach, man. 1885 FORFAR *Cornish Poems* 17 You mustn't maul the fish about. 1899 *Ch. Q. Rev.* Jan. 541 We..regret..that it [the First Prayer Book of Edward VI.] was suffered to be mauled about in deference to the rather impertinent objections of foreigners.

7. *intr.* (*dial.*) To toil, work hard. [Perh. a different word: cf. MOIL *v.*]

1821 CLARE *Vill. Minstr.* I. 16 When he a ploughboy in the fields did maul. *Ibid.* 138 Huge baskets mauling on. 1871 BRIERLEY *Cotters of Mossburn* XV. 141 [She] Likes maulin' amung pigs and keaws.

8. *Football. trans.* (See quot. 1856.)

1856 *Rules Football St. Peter's Sch. York* VII, The player holding the ball may be mauled; *i.e.* he may be held and the ball if possible wrested from him. 1867 *Rugby School Football Laws* 18 When a player holding the ball is mauled by one or more of the opposite side outside goal.

9. *Comb.*, as **maul-text** *a.*, that 'mauls' his text.

1881 DU CHAILLU *Land Midnight Sun* I. 162 This maul-text preacher was reading in a loud voice verses of the Bible.

Hence **Mauled** *ppl. a.*, bruised, disfigured.

a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Maul'd*, swingingly Drunk, or soundly Beat. 1781 MME. D'ARBLAY *Diary* June, 'Never was I so mauled in my life!' said he. 1828 CARLYLE *Misc.* (1857) II. 305 The print of six horsenails on his own mauled visage. 1854 E. FORBES *Lit. Papers* vii. (1855) 197 Though severely mauled, the huntsman was able to make his way.. to his quarters. 1904 *Daily Chron.* 2 Jan. 8/5 At this the grievously-mauled nigger began to skin him [a lion].

Maular, -ard(e, obs. forms of MALLARD.

Maulavi, variant of MOOLVEE.

† **Maule, mawle,** *v. Obs.* [Echoic: cf. MIAUL.] *intr.* To cry like a cat; to mew.

1599 MINSHEU *Sp. Dict.*, To Maule like a cat. 1611 *Cotgr.*, *Miüaner*, to mawle, yawle, or cry like a little child.

Mauler (mɔ̄·lə(r)). Also 7 **maller**. [f. MAUL *v.* + -ER[1].] One who mauls. (Sometimes used to render L. *malleus* = MAUL *sb.*[1] 2 b.)

1618 NAUNTON in *Fortesc. Papers* (Camden) 74 The maller and confounder of theyr battel. 1655 [see HAMMER *sb.* 1 b]. *a* 1661 FULLER *Worthies, Camb.* (1662) I. 178 Thomas Lord Cromwell (the Mauler of Monasteries). 1858 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* III. v. (1872) I. 165 The Polish King, Casimir IV. (late mauler of the Teutsch Ritters). 1884 *Athenæum* 1 Mar. 278/2 Vice the great vampire and violence, the great mauler.

Mauley (mɔ̄·li). *slang.* Also **maul(l)y, maw-l(e)y, morley,** ?**mylier.** [? f. MAUL *v.*; but cf. Shelta (tinker's dialect) *malya*, said to be a transposition of Gaelic *lamh* hand.] A hand, a fist.

1780 G. PARKER *Life's Painter* 116, I say, how are you? Slang us your mauly. *Ibid.* 139 A Queen Elizabeth in her maully, that is, the key of the street door in her hand. 1842 DE QUINCEY *Mod. Greece* Wks. 1862 XIII. 326 Holding in his dexter'mauley' a red herring. 1888 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Robbery under Arms* I, It takes a good man to..stand up to me with the gloves, or the naked mauleys. 1891 CAREW *Autob. Gypsy* xxxv. 414 Being jest a bit too 'andy with my myliers.

b. The 'hand' that one writes; handwriting.

1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* I. 313 If they 'granny the mauley' (perceive the signature) of a brother officer or friend.

Maulgre, variant of MAUGRE.

Mauling (mɔ̄·liŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. MAUL *v.* + -ING¹.] The action of MAUL *v.*¹

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 9520 Mallyng þurgh metall maynly with hondes. 1621 MOLLE *Camerar. Liv. Libr.* v. ii. 321 He fell a mawling of his souldiers. 1831 TRELAWNY *Adv. Younger Son* I. 129, I have never seen a fellow endure such a mauling in my life. 1864 *Field* 17 Dec. 425/3 During the whole match there was a great deal too much 'mauling'.

Mauling (mɔ̄·liŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. MAUL *v.* + -ING².] That mauls.

1778 MME. D'ARBLAY *Diary* 18 June, Allowing for my mauling reading, he gave it quite as much credit as I had any reason to expect.

Maulkin, Maulmy: see MALKIN, MALMY.

Maul oak. [? ad. Sp. *maula* impostnre, sham.] An American oak, *Quercus chrysolepis.*

1884 SARGENT *Rep. Forests N. Amer.* (10th *Census* IX.) 146 *Quercus chrysolepis*...[Syn.] Live Oak. Maul Oak. Valparaiso Oak.

Maulstick (mɔ̄·lstik). Also 7 **mol stick,** 7–8 **mostick,** 8 **mallstick,** 9 **mahlstick.** [ad. Du. *maalstok*, f. *malen* to paint + *stok* stick. Cf. G. *malerstock* (*maler* painter), *malstab* (*stab* = staff).] A light stick used by painters as a support for the right hand, and held in the left. The upper end is surmounted by a ball of cotton-wool covered with soft leather.

1658 PHILLIPS, A *Mostick* [ed. 1706 *Maul-stick*], a word used in painting, being a round stick about a yard long, which the Artist doth rest upon when he paints. 1672 SALMON *Polygraphice* 165 The Stay, or Mol-stick, is a Brazil stick (or the like) of a yard long; having [etc.]. 1855 THACKERAY *Charac. Sk.* Wks. 1898 III. 537 When Titian dropped his mahlstick, the Emperor Charles V. picked it up. 1872 J. HATTON *Vall. Poppies* I. xiii. 216 In her left hand she holds a maul-stick, upon which her right arm rests. 1890 KIPLING *Light that failed* iv, I'd let you go to the deuce on your own mahl-stick.

Maulvi, variant of MOOLVEE.

†Maum, *v. vulgar. Obs.*⁻¹ *trans.* In phrase *mauming and gauming*: To 'paw'.

1738 [see GAUM *v.*¹].

Maum(e, variant forms of MALM.

Maumenye, variant of MALMENY *Obs.*

Maumerye, variant of MAHOMERY *Obs.*

c 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 2534 To þe maumerye þo sche wente.

Maumet (mɔ̄·mĕt). *Obs.* exc. *arch.* and *dial.* Forms: *α.* 3 **mahimet,** (*pl.* **mawmez, -ex,** mau-mez), 3–4 **maumete,** 3–5 **mawmete,** 4 **-med, -mat, maunmet,** 4–5 **maummet, mamet,** mau-mett, 4–6 **mawmette,** 5 **mowmet(te, mawȝmette,** 6 **maumette, mawmot, mammot,** 6–7 **mawmett,** 9 **mom(m)et, mammelt,** 4– **mammet, mawmet,** 3– **maumet.** *β.* 4 **momenet(te, mamenet,** (*pl.* **momenes**), 4–6 **maument,** 4–6, 9 **mawment,** 5 **mamnet, mamente, mawmente, -mentt,** 6 **mamant.** [a. OF. *mahumet* idol; a use of *Mahumet* MAHOMET, due to the common mediæval notion that Mohammed was worshipped as a god.]

†1. A false god, or an image of one; an idol. *Obs.*

c 1205 LAY. 14585 And hilæue þe hahȝe godd, & luuie heore mahimet. *Ibid.* 29221 þer inne he hafde his maumet, þa he heold for his god. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 190, 192 She shal noght to any be sette Withoutyn leue of my mau-mette. The munke seyd be graunted weyl Aftyr hys mau-mette to do euery deyl. 1340 *Ayenb.* 6 þe ilke þet worssipeþ þe momenes. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xix. 86 þe kirke..es mykill and faire and full of ymagery of þaire mawmets. 14.. *Sir Beues* 488 Whebure were strenger god in hevyn Or all the mawȝmettes. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* x. Prol. 153 Lat Virgyll hald his mawmentis till hym self; I wirschip noder idoll, stok, nor elf. *a* 1529 SKELTON *Speke, Parrot* 395 Moloc, that mawmett, there darre no man withsay. 1529 MORE *Dialoge* I. Wks. 119/2 The ydolles and mammettes of the paganes. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* I. 99 And ma-mantis als he hes gart mak also, Of Phebus, Diane, and of Apollo. 1608 WILLET *Hexapla Gen.* 326 Such images and mammetts were found in Iacobs house. 1647 TRAPP *Comm. Acts* xix. 25 Wealth is the worldlings god, which he prizeth as Micah did his mawmet. [*a* 1654: see MAUMETRY 1.]

†b. *transf.* A person or thing that usurps the place of God in the human affections. *Obs.*

a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* xcvi. 7 Sum has syluyre his maw-met. 138. WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 38 Lovynge moore vicis þan virtues, and so þei serven mawmetis. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Pars. T.* 749 Euery floryn in his cofre is his Mawmet.

†c. Applied by Protestants to the images of Christ and the saints. *Obs.*

1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 309 If those Maw-mettes, and signes of Sainctes, be erected in their churches for none other ende, but to put the beholders in remem-braunce of the Saincts themselves [etc.]. 1650 TRAPP *Comm. Dent.* vii. 5 Those mawmets and monuments of idolatry, the Rood of grace, the blood of Hales, &c.

2. An image, dressed-up figure; a doll, puppet; also, a person of grotesque appearance or costume, a 'guy'. Now only *dial.*

1494 FABYAN *Chron.* VII. 554 The cytie of Roan..made them a mamet of a fatte & vnwyldely as. 1530 PALSGR. 244/1 Maument, *marmoset*; *poupee.* 1583 STUBBES *Anat. Abus.* (1877) 75 Mawmets of rags and cloutes compact to-gether. 1596 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. IV*, II. iii. 95 This is no world To play with Mammets. 1597–8 *Yorks. Arch. & Topogr. Jrnl.* XXXIII. 186 *note*, These havyng folowed theire vanitie al the night in sekynge there maumet, commonly called the floure of thwell, would nedes bringe the same on a barrow into ye churche in prayer times. 1600 LYLY *Maydes Metam.* II. ii. 60 *Io.* What Mawmets are these? *Fris.* O they be the Fayries that haunt these woods. *a* 1608 DEE *Relat. Spir.* I. (1659) 11 There stand a great many of Maw-mets, little ugly fellows at the top of the hill. 1609 *Ev. Woman in Hum.* v. i. in Bullen *O. Pl.* IV, *Julius Cæsar*, acted by the Mammets. 1642 FULLER *Answ. Ferne* 2 Hee ..sets up..a Mawmet of his owne dressing. 1892 SARAH HEWETT *Peasant Sp. Devon* 15 It was at one time customary for village children to canvass the neighbourhood for sub-scriptions for materials to make a Guy Fawkes' 'momet'.

†b. *fig.* A person who is the 'tool' or 'puppet' of another; a 'man of straw'. *Obs.*

1460 *Paston Lett.* I. 514, I knowe wele the Juge, W. Wayte his mawment. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VII* (1809) 462 Wherefore she [the duchess] sent Perkyn Werbeck, her new inuented Mawmet first into Portyngall. 1593 G. HARVEY *Pierce's Super.* 141 Nash,..Greene,..Euphues,..the three famous mammets of the presse.

3. Applied to a person as a term of abuse or contempt. Now *dial.*

a 1529 SKELTON *Agst. Garnesche* 170 Thou murrionn, thow mawment, Thou fals stynkyng serpent. 1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* III. v. 186 A wretched puling foole, A whining mam-met. 1600 *Look About You* L 3 b, Downe stubborne Queene, ..Downe, Mammet. 1608 MACHIN *Dumb Knt.* III. F 4, O God that euer any man should looke Vpon this maumet and not laugh at him. 1610 B. JONSON *Alch.* v. iii, 'Slight you are a Mammet! O, I could touse you, now. 1630 MAS-SINGER *Picture* I. i, How the mammet twitters! 1891 HARDY *Tess* xlii, What a mommet of a maid!

†4. A kind of pigeon; = MAHOMET 5. *Obs.*

1678 RAY *Willughby's Ornithol.* 182 Mawmets, called (as I take it) from Mahomet. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* II. 244/2 Of Pigeons..Mawmets..exceed all others..from their great black eyes. 1735 etc. [see MAHOMET]. 1835 P. J. SELBY *Nat. Hist. Pigeons* 164 Turkish or Mawmet Pigeon. *Columba Turcica.*

†5. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *maumet god, house, place, wood, worshipper.*

1382 WYCLIF 2 *Kings* xviii. 4 He..hewȝ doun the mawmett wodis [Vulg. *lucos*]. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 231/2 A Mawment place (*A.* A Mawment howse); *idolium.* *Ibid.* 232/1 A Mawment wyrscheper, *idolatra.* 1618 FLETCHER *Isl. Princess* IV. v, Where I meet your maumet Gods I'le swing 'em.

†Mau·meter. *Obs.* In 5 mawmenter, maw-metrer. [f. MAUMET + -ER¹.] An idolater.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 330/2 Mawmenter, or he þat dothe mawmentrye, *ydolatra.* 1496 *Dives & Paup.* (W. de W.) VI. viii. 243/1 Ne mawmetrers, ne glotons, ne wycked spekers, ..shall haue the kyngdome of heuen.

†Mau·metrous, *a. Obs.* In 6 mammetrouse. [f. prec. or next + -OUS.] Idolatrous.

1546 BALE *1st Exam. Anne Askew* 21 b, Their most mon-struose Masse or mammetrouse Mazon.

Maumetry (mɔ̄·mĕtri). *Obs.* exc. *arch.* Forms: see MAUMET; also 4 **mamentre,** (4–5 *pl.* **mau-, mawme(n)tryse),** 6 **mamoutrie, malmontrye, mammon(t)rie, mammitrie, -ye.** [f. MAUMET + -RY. Cf. MAHOMETRY.]

1. The worship of images; idolatry. Also 'false religion', heathenism.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 6623 þai..heild his comamentes right, ne heildid til na mametri. *c* 1330 *King of Tars* 803 Mi maumetrie ichul forsake, And Cristendom ichul take. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 320 þe Kyng said..þe pape.. Errid mislyuyng, haunted Maumetrie. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) II. 279 Of þe bryngynge forþ of mawmetrie com wel nyh al þe feyninge of poetrie. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 4486 Maumentry,..þat dose 3ow dompe to þe devill quen he ere dede hethen. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 1600 And to maumetry þai þaim graythe. ?*a* 1500 *Chester Pl., Balaam* 6, I wyll, you honour no God saue me, ne Maw-mentrye none make yee. 1530 *Compend. Treat.* (1863) 49 Kinge Antioche..compelled ye people to do maumentry. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* I. 503 All mammitrie fra he gart thame forsaik. *Ibid.* II. 180 With all thair micht..to mag-nifie Mahoun thair maister with fals mamoutrie. 1552 LYNDESAY *Monarche* 235 To sic mischeand Musis nor mal-montrye. 1570–6 LAMBARDE *Peramb. Kent* (1826) 268 Let the souldiours of Satan and superstitious Mawmetrie, howle, and cry out [etc.]. 1577–87 HOLINSHED *Chron.* I. 107/1 The Eastsaxons..continued in their wicked mawmetrie. [*a* 1654 SELDEN *Table-T.* (Arb.) 88 Heretofore they call'd Images Mammets, and the Adoration of Images Mam-mettry: that is, Mahomet and Mahometry.]

†b. *pl.* Idolatrous beliefs or practices. *Obs.*

c 1340 HAMPOLE *Prose Tr.* (1866) 9 All mawmetryse, all wychecrafte and charemynge. *c* 1357 *Lay Folks Catechism* 176 (MS. T.) In this commandement is forboden us..al mawmetries. 1550 BALE *Apol.* 142 Theyr vowes to holy churche the mother of theyr olde mammetryes. 1563–87 FOXE *A. & M.* (1596) 610/2 They falsly and cursedlie deceiue the people with their false mammetries and lawes.

†c. *fig.* = IDOLATRY 2. *Obs.*

a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* xcvi. 7 Auerice is seruyce of maw-metry, and ilke man makis þat his mawmet þat he mast lufis. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 120 þe firste fote brede of þis wose in coueytise is mawmetrye.

†2. Idols collectively. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 11776 Hijs godds and his maumentri. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 1337 þe folk mys-lyuande Worschipped..Maumetry. *c* 1400 *Octouian* 1306 He ran with a drawe swerde To hys Mamentrye. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 6 They be no true rychesse, but false and deceyuable mammotry of iniquite. 1567 *Gude & Godlie Ball.* 71 Stock and stane is Mammontrie.

†b. An idol. *Obs. rare.*

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 4974 þese Phylystyens þat hadde þe maystry Beleuyd on Dagoun, a maumetry.

3. Mohammedanism; = MAHOMETRY. (In early use not distinguished from sense 1.)

c 1386 CHAUCER *Man of Law's T.* 138 In destruccioun of Maumetrye..They ben acorded. 1600 ABBOT *Jonah* 117 Those seaven Churches..are now the residence of the Turke, and a sincke of filthy maumetry. 1638 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (ed. 2) 32 If (throwing away the raggs of Mawmetry) he roab'd his soule with true faith in Christ. 1805 SOUTHEY *Ball. & Metr. T.* Poet. Wks. VI. 239 Now shall the Crescent wane,..Woe, woe to Mawmetry!

Maumsay, obs. form of MALMSEY.

1492–3 *Mem. Rec. City Ch.* (E.E.T.S.) 190.

Maumy, obs. form of MALMY *a.*

Maun (mɔn, mɔ̄n), *v.*¹ (*pres. ind.*) *Sc.* Forms: 4– **man,** (4–6 **mane**), 9 **mann,** 6– **maun.** [a. ON. *man*, pres. t. of *munu*: see MUN *v.*] = MUST *v.*

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* iii. (*Andreas*) 1060 Sa mane we þane trew, þat [etc.]. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 1681 þe men of Medi man, be 3oure leue, Lang all in oure lawe lely to-gedire. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* LXXXI. 54 With sum rewaird we mane him quyt againe. 1577 in 3*rd Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* 419/1, I man prepair me to keip the same. *c* 1620 A. HUME *Brit. Tongue* I. ii, To make a conformitie baeth in latine and English, we man begin with the latine. 1721 RAMSAY *Prospect of Plenty* 112 Maun bauld Britannia bear Batavia's yoke? 1788 BURNS *My bonie Mary*, And I maun leave my bonie Mary. 1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* xxvii, What's dune in the body maun be answered in the spirit. 1894 CROCKETT *Lilac Sunbonnet* 34 Ye maun hae been terrible bonny in thae days!

Maun (mɔn), *v.*² *Sc.* Also **man**(n. [a. ON. *magna*, f. *magn*: see MAIN *sb.*] To manage *to* do.

1790 A. WILSON *Poems* 202 Death's maunt at last to ding me owre. *Ibid.* (1816) 46 (Jam.) Sud ane o' thae, by lang experience, man To spin out tales. 1895 CROCKETT *Men of Moss Hags* 226 The thought of his kindness made me like him better than I had manned to do for some time.

Maunance, obs. form of MENACE.

Maunch, var. MANCHE¹; obs. f. MUNCH.

†Maunche present. *Obs.* Forms: 5 **monge presawnte, mawnchepresande,** 6 **maunche, mounch,** 7 **manch,** 7–8 (*Dicts.*) **manche-present.** [? f. *manche*, MUNCH *v.* + PRESENT *sb.*; there may have been an AF. **mange-present*, f. stem of *manger* to eat.] (See quots.)

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 342/2 Monge presawnte, *sichophanta.* 1480 *Cath. Angl.* 232/1 Mawnchepresande, *sicofanta.* 1530 PALSGR. 244/1 Maunche present, *briffavlt.* 1560–1 AWDELAY *Frat. Vacab.* (1869) 14 Mounch present is he that is a great gentleman, for when his Mayster sendeth him with a pre-sent, he wil take a tast thereof by the waye. 1589 RIDER *Bibl. Schol.*, A Manch-present, *Dorophagus.* 1623 COCKERAM, *Manch-presents*, notable bribe-takers.

Maunchet(t, obs. forms of MANCHET.

Maunciple, obs. form of MANCIPLE.

Maund (mɔnd), *sb.*¹ Forms: 1 **mond,** 1, 5–9 **mand,** 5 **mande, mawnde,** 5–7 **mawnd, maunde,** 7 **moane,** 8 **maand,** 9 *dial.* **maun, mawn, mound,** 5– **maund.** [OE. *mand*, *mǫnd* fem. = MDu., MLG. *mande* fem., masc. (Du. *mand* fem.), mod.G. dial. *mand*(*e*. The forms *maund*(*e*, *mawnd*(*e*, however, represent the OF. *mande* (mod.F. *manne*, dial. and techn. *mande*), adopted from Du. and LG.; it is uncertain whether the *mand* of some dialects repre-sents the OE. word or the later adoption from OF.; as, however, the word has not been found in Eng. between the 11th and the 15th c., the latter sup-position seems more plausible.]

1. A wicker or other woven basket having a handle or handles. Now only *local*, applied *spec.* in various districts to denote particular kinds of baskets (see quots. in E.D.D.).

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* C 635 (Hessels) *Coffinus*, mand. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xvi. 10 Hu moniz monda [L. *sportas*]. *c* 1050 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 370/19 *Coffinos*, manda. 1459 *Invent.* in *Paston Lett.* I. 481 Item, ij. maundys. ?*a* 1480 *Promp. Parv.* 330/2 (MS. S.) Mawnd, skype, *sportula.* 1489 CAXTON *Faytes of A.* II. xxxv. 152 Men may lete doune fro the walles certayn persones in grete maundes by nyght. 1535 COVERDALE *Ecclus.* xi. 30 Like as a partrich in a maunde, so is the hert of the proude. 1546 *Kirton-in-Lindsey Ch. Acc.* in *Antiquary* Dec. (1888) 20 A mand for hully bred. 1597 SHAKS. *Lover's Compl.* 36 A thousand favours from a maund she drew Of amber, crystal, and of beaded jet. 1609 N. F. *Fruiterer's Secr.* 13 There must be pro-uided great baskets, or (as some call them) Maunds, of quarters or halfe quarters. 1615 SANDYS *Trav.* 260 Sweete composures Of violets haue I for thee in maunds of Osiers. 1613 R. WHITBOURNE *Newfoundland* 75 For pots and liuer Mands—*li.*000 18*s.* 0*d.* 1669 WORLIDGE *Syst. Agric.* (1681) 328 A *Maund*, A Basket, or rather a hand-basket with two lids to carry on ones Arm. 1678 H. MORE *Postscr.* in *Glan-*

vill's Sadducismus (1681) 46 Her own short Cloak, which she used with her maund under her arm to ride to Fairs or Markets in. 1721 Perry *Daggenham Breach* 16 Great Maands, or Baskets, filled with Chalk. 1824 Hitchins & Drew *Hist. Cornw.* II. 471 The pilchards..are invariably carried by men..in large maunds. 1864 Blackmore *Clara Vaughan* (1872) 114 After carrying into the kitchen the mighty maun. 1888 W. H. H. Rogers *Mem. of the West* xiii. 275 A great maund of cabbages..fills up the body of the little vehicle.

b. The contents of a 'maund'; a basketful.

1869 Blackmore *Lorna D.* viii, I will bring you such a maun of things. *Ibid.* lxviii, As fine a maund as need be of provisions, and money, and other comfort.

2. A measure of capacity varying with the locality and the commodity to be measured. Now *dial.*

1545 *Rates Custom-Ho.* a v, Bokes vnbounde the basket or maunde iiiid. *Ibid.* c viij, Trenchers the maunde or baskete xx.s. 1583 *Ibid.* F iv b, Glouers clippings the maund or fat. 1660 *Act* 12 *Chas. II*, c. 4 Sched. s. v. *Books*, Bookes unbound—the basket or maund, containing 8 bales or 2 fats. 1674 Jeake *Arith. Surv.* (1696) 66 If the Fish be small; the Maund or Moane, holdeth about a Gallon. 1714 *Fr. Bk. Rates* 38 Coal Stone per Maund oo 04. 1727 Switzer *Pract. Gard.* III. xxx. 154 They sell them [artichokes] from two..to five shillings *per* maund, that does not hold above a dozen. 1833 J. Bennett *Artificer's Lex.* 229 *Maund*, of unbound books, is 6 bales of each 1000 lbs. weight. 1884 *West. Morn. News* 4 Sept. 4/5 Thirty trawlers landed from 4 to 15 maunds of common fish per sloop.

3. *dial.* A utensil for moving grain in a barn or granary. *Hop-maund*, a vessel used in breweries.

1844 Stephens *Bk. Farm* II. 283 *Wechts* or *maunds* for taking up corn are made either of wood or of skin, attached to a rim of wood. 1868 *Gloss. Sussex Words* in Hurst *Horsham* (1889), Hop-mand.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *maund basket, form, -maker, -woman.*

c 1481 Caxton *Dialogues* 38/19 Ghyselin the mande maker Hath sold his vannes. 1551 Recorde *Cast. Knowl.* (1556) 147 This forme maye be called maundforme, or bellforme, bicause it is like a maunde basket, or a bell. 1678 H. More *Postscr.* in *Glanvill's Sadducismus* (1681) 47 A Maund-womans Cloak. 1843 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* IV. II. 581 In stacking the oats, I have a maun-basket drawn up the middle.

‖ **Maund** (mɔnd), *sb.*2 Forms: 6 mao, mana, 7 maune, mahan, mawn(d, maon, mein, 7, 9 man, 8 maun, 7– maund. [English pronunciation of Hindī and Persian *man.*

According to Yule, ultimately from the Accadian *mana*, whence also the Gr. μνᾶ, the L. *mina*, and the Heb. Maneh. The early form *mao* is from a Portuguese source, the word having been, by a natural sound-substitution, adopted in Pg. as *mão* (maũ), homophonous with the Pg. word for 'hand'.]

1. A denomination of weight current in India and Western Asia, varying greatly in value according to locality. The standard maund of the Indian empire is now = 100 lbs. troy, or 82⅔ lbs. avoirdupois.

In India the past and present local values of the maund range from under 19 lbs. to over 163 lbs. avoirdupois. In Persia the maund of Tabrīz is nearly 7 lbs., the 'royal maund' (*man shāhī*) is twice that weight.

1584 W. Barret in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1599) II. i. 271 A Mana of Babylon is of Aleppo 1 roue 5 ounces and a halfe; and 68 manas and three seuenth parts, make a quintall of Aleppo, which is 494 *li.* 8 ounces of London. 1598 W. Phillip *Linschoten* I. xxxv. 69 They [of Goa] haue likewise aoother wayght called Mao, which is a Hand, and is twelue pounds. 1611 H. Middleton in Purchas *Pilgrims* I. 270 Each maund being three and thirtie pound English weight. 1614 W. Hawkins in Purchas *Pilgrimage* v. xvii. (ed. 2) 545 Which..amounted to threescore maunes in gold, euery maune is fiue and fiftie pound weight. 1625 Purchas *Pilgrims* I. 524 The weights [of Persia] differ in diuers places: two Mabans of Tauris make one of Spahan. 1634 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* 65 A Mawnd is six pounds. 1665 *Phil. Trans.* I. 104 They now sell us a Maon of 6 pounds for two Rupias. 1678 J. Phillips tr. *Tavernier's Trav.* II. II. 128 It [indigo] is sold by the mein which contains..51⅔ of our pounds. 1681 Fryer *Acc. E. India & P.* IV. vii. (1698) 205 The Surat Maund..is 40 Sear, of 20 Pice the Sear which is 37*l.* The Maund Pucka at Agra is double as much. 1687 Lovell tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* II. 89 The Man of Ispahan is a weight of twelve pounds. 1788 *Trans. Soc. Arts* VI. 124 At the rate of twelve Rupees a Maund of nearly eighty-two pounds avoirdupois. 1863 Fawcett *Pol. Econ.* I. v. 72 Four rupees per maund, of 83 lbs.

2. As a liquid measure: see quot.

1875 Bedford *Sailor's Pocket Bk.* ix. (ed. 2) 323 Liquid measure. Maund = 8 Palli = 9·81 British Imperial Gallons.

† **Maund,** *sb.*3 *Cant. Obs.* Also mawnd. [f. Maund *v.*1] Begging. Also, with prefixed word: A begging imposture of a specified kind.

1610 Rowlands *Martin Mark-all* E 3, What maund doe you beake, what kind of begging vse you? Ile myll your maund, Ile spoyle your begging. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Footman's Mawnd*, an artificial Sore made with unslack'd Lime, Soap and the Rust of old Iron, on the Back of a Begger's hand, as if hurt by the bite or kick of a Horse. *Ibid.*, *Rum-mawn'd*, one that Counterfeits himself a Fool. *Ibid.*, *Souldiers-Mawn'd*, a Counterfeit Sore or Wound in the Left Arm. 1785 Grose *Dict. Vulg. Tongue*, *Mason's mawnd*, a sham sore above the elbow, to counterfeit a broken arm, by a fall from a scaffold.

† **Maund,** *v.*1 *Cant. Obs.* [Of obscure origin: possible sources are F. *mendier* and *quémander* to beg. Cf. also Romany *mang* in the same sense.] *trans.* and *intr.* To beg. *To maund it*, 'to go a begging'.

1567 Harman *Caveat* (1869) 84 To maunde, to aske or requyre. *Ibid.* 85 Yander is the kene, dup the gygger, and maund that is bene shyp. *Ibid.* 86. 1608 Dekker *Lanth. & Candlelight* B 2, The Ruffin cly the nab of the Harman beck, If we mawnd Pannam, lap, or Ruff-peck, Or poplars of yarum. 1610 Rowlands *Martin Mark-all* E 2, He maunds Abram, he begs as a madde man. 1618 B. Holyoay *Technogamia* II. vi, Wee had rather Mawnd then Mill to keepe vs from Trining. 1622 Fletcher *Beggar's Bush* II. i, You must hereafter maund on your own pads, he saies. 1641 Brome *Joviall Crew* III. Wks. 1873 III. 395 Let me hear how you can Maund when you meet with Passengers. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Maund-ing*, to Beg, Begging. 1720 Pennecuik *Streams Helicon* 67 Ilk an must maund on his awn Pad. 1791–1823 [see quot. s.v. Maunding *vbl. sb.*].

† **Maund,** *v.*2 *Obs. rare*−1. [f. Maund *sb.*1] *trans.* To pack in a 'maund' or basket.

1609 N. F. *Fruiterers Secr.* 16 How to packe or maunde apples.

Maund(e, variants of Mand *v. Obs.*

1578 Whetstone *2nd Pt. Promos & Cass.* IV. ii, The King maunded him her strayght to marry.

Maund, Maunday, obs. ff. Mound, Maundy.

† **Mau·nder,** *sb.*1 *Cant. Obs.* [f. Maund *v.*1 + -er 1.] A beggar.

1609 W. Rowley *Search for Money* (Percy Soc.) 40 The Divill (like a brave maunder) was rid a begging himselfe and wanted Money. 1610 Rowlands *Martin Mark-all* G 4 To write of his knaueries, it would aske a long time: I referre you to the old manuscript, remayning on record in maunders hall. 1641 Brome *Joviall Crew* II. Wks. 1873 III. 377 The great Commander of the Maunders, and king of Canters. 1719 D'Urfey *Pills* III. 100 A Craver my Father, a Maunder my Mother. 1829 Lytton *Disowned* I. ii. 12 Hark ye, my maunders, if ye dare beg, borrow, or steal a single croker [etc.].

Maunder (mɔ·ndəɹ), *sb.*2 [f. Maunder *v.*2] Idle ineoherent talk or writing.

1880 *Sat. Rev.* 20 Nov. 656 *Beatrice Melton's Discipline* is not so much a story as a maunder without beginning or end. 1892 *Pall Mall G.* 22 Mar. 3/2 The discussion that followed was little better than amiable maunder.

† **Mau·nder,** *v.*1 *Cant. Obs.* [? f. Maunder *sb.*1] *intr.* To beg.

1611 Middleton & Dekker *Roaring Girle* K 3 b, I instructed him in the rudements of roguery .. so that now he can maunder better than my selfe. *c* 1616 Fletcher & Mass. *Thierry & Theod.* v. i, Beg, beg, and keep Constables waking,..maunder for butter-milk.

Maunder (mɔ·ndəɹ), *v.*2 Also 7 mander. [Of obscure origin; perh. imitative: with senses 2 and 3 cf. *daunder*, Dander *v.*]

† **1.** *intr.* 'To grumble, mutter or growl' (Phillips, ed. Kersey, 1706). *Obs.*

Very common in the 17th c. Quot. 1848 may belong to 3.

1621 Burton *Anat. Mel.* III. iii. II. i, At home, abroad, he is the same, still inquiring, mandring, gazing, listening, affrighted with every small object. 1622 Mabbe tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* I. 253 When I heard them thus mutter and maunder against him, I came vnto them. *a* 1632 T. Taylor *God's Judgem.* iv. (1642) 55 She began to mander and murmur. *a* 1708 Beveridge *Priv. Th.* I. (1816) 149 Not repining at their master's commands, not muttering and maundering against them. 1711 Swift *Jrnl. to Stella* 28 Apr., I hate to buy for her: I am sure she will maunder. 1740 *De Mouhy's Fort. Country-Maid* (1782) II. 286/1 The door was opened: He maunder'd; but Julia was beforehand with him. She said [etc.]. 1818 Scott *Hrt. Midl.* vi, What are ye maundering and greeting for? 1848 Kingsley *Saint's Trag.* IV. i, Let halting worldlings..Maunder against earth's ties, yet clutch them still.

2. To move or act in a dreamy, idle, or inconsequent manner. Const. *along, away.* Cf. Dander *v.* 1.

c 1746 J. Collier (Tim Bobbin) *View Lanc. Dial.* Wks. (1862) 64, I maundert up on deawn hereobeawt ogen, oth' seme sleeveless arnt. 1790 Mrs. Wheeler *Westmld. Dial.* (1821) 25, I lost me sel on thor plaguy Fels, an I been maunderin twoa heaal neets an twoa days. 1841 Lytton *Nt. & Morn.* II. vi, A day-dreamer who had wasted away his life in dawdling and maundering over Simple Poetry. 1887 Jessopp *Arcady* vii. 218 He came maundering after Miss Tasker thirty years ago. 1890 H. Frederic *Lawton Girl* 56 She..maundered along wearily through such tasks of the day as forced themselves upon her.

b. quasi-*trans.* with *away.*

1867 S. Wilberforce *Sp. Missions* (1874) 61 To take things as they are, and not to maunder away our lives and our sympathies.

3. To talk in the dreamy and foolish manner characteristic of dotage or imbecility; to ramble or wander in one's talk. Also *trans.* to utter (something) in this manner. Cf. Dander *v.* 2.

1831 Carlyle *Sart. Res.* I. iv, Mumbling and maundering the merest commonplaces. 1860 W. Collins *Wom. White* 121 While he was maundering on in this way I was..returning to my senses. 1860 *All Year Round* No. 74. 569 Signor Tagliafico's double maunders out good Toty port wine sentiments. 1861 Hughes *Tom Brown at Oxf.* vi, The help..was maundering away some..sentimental ditty. 1865 Livingstone *Zambesi* iii. 68 We might maunder away about intellect. 1869 Trollope *He Knew*, etc. lxviii, Men ..had heard the old Major maunder on for years past.

† **Mau·nderer**1, *Cant. Obs.* [f. Maunder *v.*1 + -er 1.] A professional beggar.

1611 Middleton & Dekker *Roaring Girle* K 3 h, I am ..a maunderer vpon the pad I confesse.

Maunderer2 (mɔ·ndərəɹ). [f. Maunder *v.*2]

† **1.** 'A murmurer; a grumbler'. *Obs.*

1755 in Johnson.

2. One who rambles in his talk; a twaddler.

1827 *Blackw. Mag.* XXI. 783 An honorary member of the right worshipful company of Maunderers. 1864 *Morning Star* 28 May 5 The inanities of some prosy maunderer.

Maundering (mɔ·ndəriŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. Maunder *v.*2 + -ing 1.]

† **1.** The action of grumbling or muttering. *Obs.*

1611 Middleton & Dekker *Roaring Girle* I, *Mol.* Be sure you meete mee there. *Trap.* Without any more maundring I'le doo't. *a* 1716 South *Serm.* (1823) V. 245 The maunderings of discontent are like the voice and behaviour of a swine. 1740 tr. *De Mouhy's Fort. Country-Maid* (1741) II. 262 [She] had not digested the Blows, nor the continual Maundering she had undergone. 1816 Scott *Old Mort.* v, The principal object of her maundering was to display her consequence and love of power.

2. Rambling or drivelling talk; dotage.

1860 Emerson *Cond. Life, Worship* Wks. (Bohn) II. 397 In creeds never was such levity; witness the..maundering of Mormons. 1881 *Garden* 30 Dec. 577/3 The crazy maunderings of sentimental anti-vivisectionists. 1903 *Edin. Rev.* Oct. 282 The *non possumus* of the Vatican left an impression of senile maundering.

† **Mau·ndering,** *ppl. a.*1 [f. Maunder *v.*1 + -ing 2.] Begging.

1630 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Begger* Wks. I. 100/1 Suppose a Begger to be in the shape of a maundering or wandering souldier.

Maundering (mɔ·ndəriŋ), *ppl. a.*2 [f. Maunder *v.*2 + -ing 2.] † Grumbling (*obs.*); wandering aimlessly; doting, drivelling.

1848 Kingsley *Saint's Trag.* I. iii, Sour old maids, and maundering Magdalens. 1850 Blackie *Æschylus* II. 69 Lest with idiocy the thunder Harshly blast your maundering wits. 1865 Trollope *Belton Est.* xvi, The squire with a maundering voice drawled out some expression of regret. 1904 *Blackw. Mag.* Feb. 191/2 Nothing is more irritating to an active long-striding sportsman .. than a sluggish maundering dog.

† **Mau·nding,** *vbl. sb. Cant. Obs.* [f. Maund *v.*1 + -ing 1.] The act of begging; an instance of this; an abusive demand.

1610 Rowlands *Martin Mark-all* G 4 b, Being borne and bred vp in the trade of maunding, nipping, and foisting. 1620 Middleton & Rowley *World Tost at Tennis* 4 If you take me a maunding,..let 'em show me the House of Correction. *a* 1670 Hacket *Abp. Williams* II. (1692) 116 He dealt fairly with him; not reckoning by his maundings and rough language. 1791–1823 D'Israeli *Cur. Lit.* (1859) II. 312 Uttering a silly maunding, or demanding of charity.

† **Mau·nding,** *a. Cant. Obs.* [f. Maund *v.*1 + -ing 2.] Mendicant.

1636 W. Cartwright *Royall Slave* IV. iii, Some counterfeiting trick of such maunding people. *c* 1645 *Roxb. Ball.* (1886) VI. 321 A maunding Cove that doth it love. 1713 C'tess Winchelsea *Misc. Poems* 61 My Wife, acknowledg'd such thro' maunding Tribes, As long as mutual Love..can bind our easy Faiths.

Maundrel, -il: see Mandrel.

Maundy (mɔ·ndi). Forms: 3– maunde, 4 mandee, mondee, 4–5 mande, maundee, 4–6 maundye, 5 mawnde, monde, mawndee, 5, 8 maundey, 6 mawndy(e, -daye, mawneday, 6–7 manday, maundie, 6–9 maunday, 7–8 mandy, 6– maundy. [a. OF. *mandé*, ad. L. *mandātum*, lit. 'commandment' (see Mandate *sb.*).

The ceremony of washing the feet of poor persons on the day before Good Friday was instituted in commemoration of Christ's washing the apostles' feet at the Last Supper, and of his injunction that his disciples should in like manner wash one another's feet (John xiii. 14). The words 'A new commandment (*mandatum novum*) give I unto you, that ye love one another' (*ibid.* 34) from the discourse which followed the washing of the apostles' feet, were adopted as the first antiphon sung at the commemorative observance, which hence acquired the name of *mandatum.* (Hence OHG. *mandāt*, in Otfrid's paraphrase of John xiii. 12–14.) In later use, perh. owing to the currency of *dies mandati* (lit. 'day of the commandment') as a name for the day before Good Friday, *mandatum* frequently denoted the Last Supper itself.]

1. The ceremony of washing the feet of a number of poor people, performed by royal or other eminent persons, or ecclesiastics, on the Thursday before Easter, and commonly followed by the distribution of clothing, food, or money. In England (except among Roman Catholics), the distribution of 'maundy money' (see 4) is all that remains of this ceremony. Phr. *to make, keep, hold one's maundy.*

c 1290 *St. Brendan* 364 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 229 And sethþe he [þis procuratour] wuchs hore fet alle þe maunde for-to do huy [þe Monekes] heolden þare heore maunde. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 21611 A-pon þe dai o þe mande [*Gött.* mondee, *Fairf.* mandee]. 1502 *Privy Purse Exp. Eliz. York* (1830) 1 To the Quene for xxxvij^{li} pore women every woman iij*s.* *jd.* for her maunday upon Shire Thursday. 1533 Fitzwilliam in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. I. II. 27 That my Lady the Kings Grauntdame during her lif kept a yerely Maundy. 1577–87 Holinshed *Chron.* III. 914/2 Upon Maundie thursdaie he made his maundie, there hauing nine and fiftie poore men, whose feet he washed. 1667 Pepys *Diary* 4 Apr., My wife..had been to-day at White Hall to the Maunday,..but the King did not wash the poor people's feet himself, but the Bishop of London did it for him. *c* 1700 in A. J. Stephens *Bk. Comm. Prayer* (1850) II. 899 *note*, The Order of the Maundy. The Sub-Dean begins the Exhortation [etc.]. 1850 A. J. Stephens *Bk. Comm. Prayer* II. 890 *note*, In England the rite of the Maundy continued to be performed by our sovereigns till the time of James II, who is said to have been the last sovereign who celebrated it in person. *Ibid.* 891 *note*, The 'Office for the Royal Maundy'.

b. The dole made at the ceremony.

[1502: see 1.] 1850 A. J. Stephens *Bk. Comm. Prayer* II. 893 *note*, Every recipient of the Maundy must be sixty years of age or upwards. 1865 *Pall Mall G.* 10 Apr. 7 On Thursday next Her Majesty's Royal Maundy will be given by the Lord High Almoner..to forty-six aged men and forty-six women.

† **c.** *fig.* Almsgiving, bounty, largesse. *Obs.*

1595 Copley *Wits, Fits & Fancies* 78 A Scriuener was

writing a Marchantes last will..in which the marchant expressed many debts that were owing him...A kinsman of this Marchantes then standing by..saide vnto the Scriuener: hagh, hagh, what saith my vncle now? Doth he now make his Maundies? No (answered the Scriuener) he is yet in his demaunds. 1602 Boys *Wks.* 396 Thy neighbour is bountiful in relieving the poor; thou seest his maundie but thou knowest not his mind. 1647 Herrick *Noble Numbers* 43 All 's gone, and Death hath taken Away from us Our Maundie; thus, Thy Widdowes stand forsaken.

† 2. The Last Supper. *Obs.*

1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xvi. 140 The þorsday byfore þere he made his maundee, Sittyng atte sopere he seide þise wordes [etc.]. 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* III. 415 Crist beggid a house to eete inne his maundye. 14.. *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* 156/381 A tabull þer ys, þat meu mey se That cryste made on his monde. 1533 More *Answ. Poysoned Bk.* Pref. *Wks.* 1038/1 The maundye of Christ with his apostles vpon sheare thursday, wherin our sauiour actually dyd institute the blessed sacrament. 1566 Stapleton *Ref. Untruths to Jewell* i. 7 The example of the twelue at Christes maunde where that most holy mysteries were wrought. 1640 Bp. Hall *Serm.* xxxi. Wks. 1837 V. 419 He should see him making his Maundy with his disciples, on the Thursday; and crucified, on Good Friday.

† b. The Lord's Supper or Eucharist. *Obs.*

1533 Frith *Antw. More* H vij b, The breaking of breade at the Maundye is not the very deathe of Chrystes bodye, but onelye a Representacion of the same. *c* 1555 Harpsfield *Divorce Hen. VIII* (1878) 58 Nor to be secluded from the holy Maundy of the body and blood of Christ.

† 3. A feast. *To make one's maundy*: to feast.

[1533 Frith *Answ. More* M i b, Thys Lambe muste they eate hastelye and make a Merye maundye. 1545 Brinklow *Lament.* 102 Vuto all beleuers the ceremonye of eatinge the paschalle lambe ceassed..when Christ had chaunged it in to a maundaye of thankesgeuinge.] 1646 Quarles *Sheph. Oracles* 66 Their flocks do fare No better than Chameleons..Making their Maundy with an empty sent.

4. *attrib.* Applied to things distributed at a maundy, as *maundy ale, bread, cup*, or to people receiving them, as *maundy man, people, woman*; also **† maundy-like** *adj.*; **maundy dish, purse**, a dish, purse used to hold the money to be distributed at a maundy (*Cent. Dict.*); **maundy money**, silver money (see quot. 1866) distributed by the royal almoner to poor people on Maundy Thursday at Whitehall; so *maundy coin*; **maundy-supper** = sense 2; **Maundy-week**, Holy Week.

1517–18 in Swayne *Sarum Churchw. Acc.* (1896) 60 For *Mawneday ale ijs. iijd. for *Mawneday cuppys xijd. 1534–5 *Ibid.* 73 *Maundy brede, iijs. 1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 482/2 *note*, The number and weights of the fourpences, twopences, and pence, being *Maundy coins, are the same for each of the years [1871–81]:—4518 fourpences, 4752 twopences, and 7920 pence. 1534 More *Dial. Comfort* i. xix. (1553) E ij b, Not hys *maundy like merite, as hys passion, nor his slepe like merite, as his watche and his prayer. 1838 *Times* 16 Apr. 5/5 The Queen's Royal alms were distributed..at the Almonry-office, to the *Maunday men and women placed on the supernumerary lists. 1856 Simmonds *Dict. Trade*, *Maundy money*. 1866 Crump *Banking* x. 231 The Maunday money consisted of 4, 3, 2, and 1 penny pieces in silver. 1887 *Roy. Procl.* in *Standard* 18 May 3/2 Pieces of Silver money called 'The Queen's Maundy Monies'. 1826 *Ann. Reg.* 47/2 About eleven o'clock the *Maundy people arrived. 1532 More *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 660/2 At the *Maundaye supper, when he [*sc.* Judas] went to betraye the headde of that churche. 1868 Morris *Earthly Par.* (1870) I. i. 322 As by the fire-light Peter swore of old, When in that *Maundy-week the night was cold.

Maundy Thursday. [See prec.] The Thursday next before Easter.

[1517 Torkington *Pilgr.* (1884) 66 Ther we a bode Mawdleyn thursday, Good fryday.] 1530 Palsgr. 244/1 Maundy thursday, *jeudy absolv.* 1546 Langley *Pol. Verg.* 98 Washyng of feet on Maundye thursday, that the priestes vse among them selfes, and nobles to inferiour persons. 1563–83 Foxe *A. & M.* 1232/2 The Sacrament that Jesus Christ instituted at his last supper on Maundye Thursdaye. 1678 *Gunpowder-Treas.* 4 The Pope on Maunday-Thursday did censure and Condemn all Hereticks in the general. 1727–52 Chambers *Cycl.*, Maundy, or Maundey Thursday, *Dies Mandati*. 1840 Howitt *Visits Remark. Places* Ser. I. 260 On Maunday Thursday he washed and kissed the feet of fifty poor people; gave each twelve pence, three ells of good canvass, for shirts; a pair of shoes; and a cask of red herrings.

Maung-: see Mang-.

Maungee, obs. form of Manjee.

1832 G. C. Munoy *Pen & Pencil Sk. Ind.* II. 148 The Maungee gave the word of weighing.

Maunkie, variant of Manco *Sc.*

Maunt-: see Mant-.

Maupe. *dial.* Also 7 **maulpp, malpe, 9 mwope, mawp.** [Of obscure origin: cf. the synon. Alp [2], Olp, Nope.] A bullfinch. Also *attrib.*

1654 *Goostrey Churchw. Acc.* in Earwaker *Sandbach* (1890) 248 For killing a dozen of maupes. 1670 *Wilmslow Churchw. Acc.* in Earwaker *E. Cheshire* (1877) I. 115 Paid for 16 maupe heads 6*d.* 1673 *Rostherne Churchw. Acc.* in *Lanc. Gloss.* (E.D.S.), Payd for maulpp taken 38 in Rostherne [etc.]..for every malpe 1*d.* 1885 Swainson *Prov. Names Birds* 66 *Bullfinch*..Mwope (Dorset). Mawp (Lancashire).

† Maur. *Obs.* Forms: 5 **mawr, mowr(e, mour(e, 7 maure.** [a. ON. *maur-r*; for the affinities of this word see Mire *sb.*[2]] An ant. Also *attrib.* in *maur-hill, house*, an ant-hill.

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 111 How Mawros were men made ou a day At þe prayer of a prinse þat peopull hade lost. *c* 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) xxxiii. 149 When þe wedir es noȝt hate, ne mowres hydes þaim noȝt in þe erthe [etc.]. 15.. *Scott. N. T.* Matt. vi. 20 Quhar nouthir roust nor mowris destroyis. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 2408 For salomon biddes a slaw man ga To þe moure. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 244 A pyss Mowre (*A.* A Mowre); *formica*. A pyss Mowrehylle (*A.* A Mowre hylle); *formicarium*. A Mowre howse; *formicalion*. 1601 Holland *Pliny* II. 379 *marg.*, Maurehils, corruptly called Moule-hils: for Ants were in old English called Maures.

Maure, obs. form of Moor *sb.*[2]

Mauresque, variant of Moresque.

Maurian, -en, var. forms of Morian *Obs.*

Maurisk, variant of Morris.

Maurist (mɒ̄·rist). [f. (St.) *Maur* + -ist.] A French Benedictine monk belonging to the congregation of St. Maur, founded in 1618, famous for the learning and literary industry of its members. Also *attrib.* (quasi-*adj.*)

c 1800 C. Butler *Life & Writ. A. Butler* in *Lives of Saints* (1847) I. 12 Dom Ruinart, a Maurist Monk. 1893 *Dubl. Rev.* Apr. 394 The name Maurist became synonymous with a man given wholly to God and to study.

Mauritius (mɒri·ʃəs). [Name of an island in the Indian Ocean so called by the Dutch in 1598 after the Stadtholder Maurice.] Used *attrib.* in *Mauritius-weed*, a lichen (*Roccella fuciformis*) from which archil is obtained.

1858 in Simmonds *Dict. Trade.*

Mauser (mou·zər). [f. the name of the inventor.] (More fully *Mauser rifle.*) A military rifle adopted by the German military experts in 1871, and perfected in 1884.

1880 *Encycl. Brit.* XI. 284/2. 1882 Voyle & Stevenson *Milit. Dict.* Suppl. *Mauser Rifle*. 1887 *Pall Mall G.* 25 Jan. 3/1 In the original Mauser..the soldier had to give the stock a smart stroke so as to throw out the used cartridge.

Hence **Mauser** *v.* (*nonce-wd.*) *trans.*, to shoot (a person) with a Mauser rifle.

1903 Kipling *Five Nations* 168 When you want men to be Mausered at one and a penny a day.

† Mausole, mausolee. *Obs.* Also 7 mausolæ, -ly. [Anglicized forms of Mausoleum. (OF. had *mausole.*)] = Mausoleum. Also *attrib.*

1585 Jas. I *Ess. Poesie* (Arb.) 35 The Mausole tombe the names did eternise Of Scope, Timotheus, Briace and Artemise. 1603 Heydon *Jud. Astrol.* xiii. 325 The most sumptuous Pyramide, Mausole, Colosse, triumphant Arche, or other monument. 1605 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. iii. II. *Vocation* 1424 No gorgeous Mausole, grac't with flatt'ring verse. 1614 T. White *Martyrd. St. George* C 4, In which Georg had no gorgeous Mausolæ. 1618 Bolton *Florus* (1636) 316 She betooke her selfe to the Mausoly (so call they the Sepulchers of their Kings). 1663 *Let.* in *Tavernier's Trav.* (1684) II. 94 Two wonderful Mausolees, or Tombs, that give to Agra so much advantage over Delhi.

Mausoleal (mɒ̄sɒ̄lī·ăl), *a.* [f. Mausole-um + -al.] Having the character of a mausoleum.

1883 A. J. Evans in *Archæologia* XLIX. 53 It was in fact an example of the circular mausoleal churches.

Mausolean (mɒ̄sɒ̄lī·ăn), *a.* Also 7 mausolæan, -lian, 8 -lœan. [f. Mausole-um + -an.]

† 1. *Mausolean sepulchre, tomb* = Mausoleum.

1607 Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) Pref., The Mausolean Sepulchre, the Colossus of Rhodes, or the Pyramids of Egypt might sooner be renewed. 1616 R. C. *Times' Whistle* ii. 593 The brave erect Mausolian monument. 1631 R. H. *Arraignm. Whole Creature* xii. § 5. 143 The Mausolean Tombe.

transf. and *fig.* 1557 Grimald in *Tottel's Misc.* (Arb.) 117 No costly tomb..Nor Mausolean masse, hoong in the ayre. 1654 Whitlock *Zootomia* 248 Short-lived Pyramids, or Mausolæan Piles of stone. *a* 1734 North *Exam.* II. v. § 53 (1740) 347 He hath erected..a Mausolean Pile of Scandal.

2. Pertaining to, or resembling, mausoleums.

1785 Cowper *Task* v. 183 Some have..sought By pyramids and mausolæan pomp..to immortalize their bones. 1831 Wordsw. '*Well Sung the Bard*', That new Pile, For the departed, built with curious pains And mausolean pomp. 1871–74 J. Thomson *City Dreadf. Nt.* x. v, These shapes lit up that mausoleán night.

Mausoleum (mɒ̄sɒlī·ŭm). Pl. **mausolea** (-lī·ă), **mausoleums.** Also (*erron.*) 7–8 **mausolæum**, 7 *pl.* **mausoleas.** [a. L. *mausōlēum*, ad. Gr. *μαυσωλεῖον*, f. *Μαύσωλος* Mausolus.]

1. The magnificent tomb of Mausolus, King of Caria, erected in the middle of the 4th c. B.C. at Halicarnassus by his queen Artemisia, and accounted one of the seven wonders of the world.

1546 Langley *Pol. Verg.* III. vii. 71 b, Mausoleum that was the Tombe of Mausolus kynge of Caria. 1869 Rawlinson *Anc. Hist.* 151 Artemisia II, B.C. 353, the builder of the famous 'Mausoleum'.

2. A stately edifice erected as a commemorative burial place for or by some person of distinction.

1600 Holland *Livy* 1397 Augustus made a Mausoleum, to serve for a sepulchre as well to himselfe and all the Emperours, as also for his whole house and name. 1638 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* (ed. 2) 337 It includes many stately buildings; and Mausoleas. 1819 T. Hope *Anast.* (1820) I. xii. 220 Aqueducts, and temples, and mausolea. 1841 Elphinstone *Hist. Ind.* II. 151 Shir Sháh was buried at Sahserám, where his stately mausoleum is still to be seen.

¶ b. *loosely.* A stately tomb.

1688 *New Hist. China* 47 There are..six Hundred Fourscore and five Mausoleums. 1756–7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) III. 241 Her husband Constantius, together with their son Valentinian III, in a mausoleum on the left. 1802 *Sk. Paris* II. xliv. 88 Lewis XIV never conceived the idea of erecting, in the *Hôtel des Invalides*, mausolea, with the statues of the generals who had led..the armies of the nation. 1824 in *Spirit Pub. Jrnls.* (1825) 374 His mausoleum may repose under the altar of St. Sophia.

c. *transf.* and *fig.*

1696 Brookhouse *Temple Open.* 29 After some time, it comes forth of this Mausoleum a perfect New Creature of Whitish colour, with Wings and Legs. 1760–72 H. Brooke *Fool of Qual.* (1792) IV. 175 O! London, London! thou mausoleum of dead souls! 1818 Byron *Ch. Har.* IV. lx, The dead, Whose names are mausoleums of the Muse.

† 3. = Catafalque 1. *Obs.*

1695 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3059/2 The Body..was deposited under a magnificent Mausoleum. 1695 Luttrell *Brief Rel.* (1857) III. 505 Stealing part of the fringe from the queen's mausoleum in Westminster Abbey. 1705 *Loud. Gaz.* No. 4103/1 A very magnificent Mausolæum is preparing in the ..Chapel..where the Body is to be Deposited. 1727–52 Chambers *Cycl.*, s. v.

Mausure, obs. form of Mazer.

Mautalent, -telent, var. ff. Maltalent *Obs.*

Mauther (mɒ̄·ðəɹ). *dial.* Forms: 5 **moddyr, moder,** 5–8 **modder,** 6 **moether,** 6–7 **mo(a)ther,** 7 **modher, mothther,** 9 **morther,** 8– **mawther,** 7– **mauther.** [Of obscure etymology.

Often regarded as a variant of Mother, on the ground that in Norwegian dialects *mor* ('mother') is often used vocatively to little girls, as *far* ('father') to boys; but this explanation is not very satisfactory. The suggestion that it may be a derivative or compound of ON. *mǫ́r-*, *mǽ-r* (see May *sb.*), or of some cognate of OE. *mæġeð* (see Maiden) involves difficulties app. insuperable. In vocative use a shortened form *maw r*, *mor*, is common: see E. D. D.]

A young girl.

Chiefly current in East Anglia and the adjoining counties, but instances (with the sense 'great awkward girl') are quoted in the Eng. Dial. Dict. from Gloucestershire, Herts., and Sheffield.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 341/1 Moder, servaunte, or wenche (*S.* moddyr), *carisia*. 1573 Tusser *Husb.* (1878) 37 A sling for a moether, a bowe for a boy. *Ibid.* 39 With mother or boy that Alarum can cry. 1591 Fraunce *Yuychurch* A iv b, Will Phillis still be a Modder, And not care to be cal'd by the deare-sweete name of a Mother? 1610 B. Jonson *Alch.* IV. vii, Away, you talke like a foolish Mauther. 1674 Ray *S. & E. C. Words* 72 *A Modher* or *Modder, Mothther*; a girle or young wench: used all over the Eastern part of England. 1787 W. Marshall *Norfolk* (1795) II. Gloss., *Mauther*, a little girl (in common use). 1798–1800 Bloomfield *Richard & Kate* xii, When once a giggling Mawther you, And I a red-fac'd chubby Boy. 1849 Dickens *Dav. Copp.* xxxi, 'Cheer up, my pretty mawther!' said Mr. Peggotty. 1865 W. White *E. Eng.* I. 70 Throngs of noisy girls, 'factory mawthers', as they are called in Norwich. 1893 Zincke *Wherstead* 100 Down to thirty years ago in this neighbourhood a young woman was always spoken of as a 'mawther', or 'morther'.

Mauther, mauthern: see Mather(n.

‖ Mauvaise honte (mɒvɛz ɒ̃t). [Fr., lit. = 'ill shame'.] False shame; painful diffidence.

1721 Lady M. W. Montagu *Lett., to C'tess Mar* (1887) I. 325 Nothing hindered me but a certain *mauvaise honte* which you are reasonable enough to forgive. 1825 Bentham *Ration. Rew.* 86 A kind of littleness and *mauvaise honte*, which avoids, with timid caution, everything that is bold, striking, and eccentric. 1877 L. W. M. Lockhart *Mine is Thine* xvii, The *mauvaise honte* and artificial cynicism so constantly to be observed in the Anglo-Saxon.

‖ Mauvais sujet (mɒvɛ sy·ʒɛ). [Fr. = 'bad subject'.] A worthless fellow, a 'bad lot'.

1847 Barham *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. III. *Bros. Birchington*, Snob, (An obsolete term, which..We should probably render by *mauvais sujet*). 1881 Forster in *Standard* 25 Jan., A large proportion of them again are the *mauvais sujets* of the neighbourhood.

‖ Mauvais ton (mɒvɛ tɒ̃). Now *rare.* [Fr. = 'bad taste'.] *Predicatively.* What is disapproved by good society; 'bad form'.

1784 Han. More in W. Roberts *Mem.* (1834) I. 341, I know it is *mauvais ton* to have so little enthusiasm on this subject. 1814 Mar. Edgeworth *Patron.* xxxvi, With men of sense she found it was not *mauvais ton* to use her eyes for the purposes of instruction. 1835 *Court Mag.* VI. p. xiv/1 It would be considered *mauvais ton* to appear in any spring fashion till the season had been opened at Longchamps.

Mauvaniline (mɒ̄vænilən). [f. Mauve + Aniline.] An aniline substance prepared by heating aniline and dry arsenic acid together, for the production of purple-red dyes.

1885 in *Cassell's Encycl. Dict.*

† Mauvasty. *Obs.* Also 5 **mauayste.** [a. OF. *malvaistié, mauvaistié*, wickedness, f. *malveis, mauvais*, bad. Cf. Mavite.] Wickedness, malice.

1474 Caxton *Chesse* II. i, Thou ne say that thou shalt do it by pouerte but by euyl and mauayste. *Ibid.* II. v, A gyfte of grete felonye and of mauastrye [*sic*]. 1483 — *G. de la Tour* xxii. L iv, In this..is not loue, but rather it is grete falshede and mauuastye.

Mauve (mɒ̄v), *sb.* and *a.* [a. F. *mauve*: see Mallow.] **a.** *sb.* A bright but delicate purple dye obtained from coal-tar aniline; the colour of this dye. **b.** *adj.* Of the colour of 'mauve'. Also Comb. *mauve-colour, -coloured* adjs.

1859 R. F. Burton *Centr. Afr.* in *Jrnl. Geogr. Soc.* XXIX. 427 Beads..mauve-coloured round or oval. 1859 *Blackwood's Lady's Mag.* XLVI. 61 The lower part of the skirt is trimmed with ruches of mauve-colour crape. 1860 Miss Yonge *Stokesley Secret* ix. (1861) 137 Her mauve muslin..flounced up to her waist. 1861 *St. James's Mag.* I. 292 The fashionable and really beautiful *mauve* and its varieties. 1863 *Fownes's Chem.* 672 Mauve thus prepared forms a brittle substance, having a beautiful bronze-coloured surface. 1877 W. Thomson *Voy. Challenger* I. ii. 126 Some beautiful mauve patches of almond-blossom. 1882 *Garden* 21 Oct. 353/3 A pretty variety..finely edged with pale mauve.

Hence **Mau·vish** *a.*, somewhat mauve.

1896 VIZETELLY *Zola's Rome* 187 Whose blue, mauvish eyes paling with enthusiasm he now..remarked.

Mauveine (mō·vin). *Chem.* [f. F. *mauve* mallow + -INE 5.] The base of the purple aniline dyes.

1863 W. H. PERKIN in *Proc. Roy. Soc.* XII. 713 This substance is a base which I propose to call Mauveine. 1869 ROSCOE *Elem. Chem.* (1871) 410 It contains a base of complicated constitution, termed mauveine.

Maux. *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Also **mawk(e)s, mox.** [Cf. *maukin*, MALKIN.] A low woman: a. a slattern (so in mod. dial.: see E. D. D.); b. a prostitute. Also used as *plural*.

1596 LODGE *Wits Miserie* (1879) 44 You seeme to be an honest gentleman, go prettie maid & shew him a chamber; now maux you were best be vnmanerly & not vse him well. 1677 OTWAY *Cheats of Scapin* Epil., Shall steal from th' Pit, and fly up to the Box, There hold impertinent Chat with taudry Maux. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Mawks*, as *A great Mawks*, i. e. a dirty nasty Slut. 1728 *Street Robberies Considered* 25, I had the clever'st Mauks in town. 17.. *Compl. Letter-writer* (1768) 215, I was sensible that I should appear to no Disadvantage after his former Maux. 179. PEGGE *Derbicisms* (E. D. S.) 45 *Mox*,..for *Maux*, by which they mean a foolish and slatternly woman.

† **Mauze.** *Obs.* [Arab. *jy* *mauz.*] The plantain-tree.

1681 GREW *Museum* II. 223 The Spike or Head of the Ægyptian Mauze. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.*, *Mauz*, a name used by some authors for the *musa*, or plantain-tree.

Maveis(s, obs. forms of MAVIS.

Mavelard, obs. form of MALLARD.

‖ **Maverick** (mæ·vərik), *sb.* Also **mavorick.** [Said to be named from Samuel *Maverick*, a Texan rancher about 1840 who habitually neglected to brand his calves.]

1. *U. S.* In the cattle-breeding districts, a calf or yearling found without an owner's brand.

1872 SCHELE DE VERE *Americanisms* 211. 1887 F. FRANCIS Jun. *Saddle & Moccasin* 172 Nowadays you don't dare to clap a brand on a mavorick even. 1894 REMINGTON in *Harper's Mag.* Feb. 356 In a dell in the forest we espied some 'mavericks', or unbranded stock.

2. *transf.* a. A masterless person; one who is roving and casual.

1892 KIPLING *Life's Handicap* 195 A very muzzy Maverick smote his sergeant on the nose. 1903 *Critic* XLIII. 358/2, I felt as if I..for once was a happy maverick soul in the world at large.

b. '*Western U. S.* Anything dishonestly obtained, as a saddle, mine, or piece of land' (*Cent. Dict.* 1890).

Hence **Ma·verick** *v. trans.*, 'to seize or brand (an animal) as a maverick; hence, to take possession of without any legal claim; appropriate dishonestly or illegally' (*Cent. Dict.*).

Mavis (mē·vis). Now *poet.* and *dial.* Forms: 4–6 mavys, 5 mawys(se, mavyce, mauvys, maviss, 6 mavyss, *Sc.* maveis, maves, 6–7 mavisse, 9 *dial.* mavish, 6– mavis. *pl.* 4–6 as *sing.* (also 5 mavies); 7– mavis(s)es. [a. F. *mauvis* masc., in OF. fem. (12–13th c.), **malvis* (med.L. *malvitius*, 13th c.; Anglo-L. *maviscus*, 15th c.), = Sp. *malviz* (? from Fr.), Neapolitan *marvizzo*; the ulterior etymology is unknown.]

1. The song-thrush, *Turdus musicus.*

? *a* 1366 CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 665 Thrustles, terins, and mavys, That songen for to winne hem prys. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 330/1 Mavyce, byrde, *maviscus*, *merula*, *fallica*. *c* 1450 HOLLAND *Howlat* 712 The Maviss and the Merle syngis. 1471 RIPLEY *Comp. Alch.* Ep. iii. in Ashm. (1652) 115 Crowes, Popingayes, Pyes, Pekocks, and Mavies. *a* 1529 SKELTON *Ph. Sparowe* 424 The mauys with her whystell Shal rede there the pystell. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* vi. 39 The maueis maid myrtht for to mok the merle. 1595 SPENSER *Epithal.* lxxxiv, So does the Cuckow, when the Mavis sings, Begin his witlesse note apace to clatter. 1604 DRAYTON *Owle* 113 In yonder goodly Tree, Where the sweet Merle, and warbling Mavis bee. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 676 In Birds; Kites and Kestrels haue a Resemblance with Hawkes;.. Black-birds with Thrushes, and Mauisses. 1725 RAMSAY *Gentle Sheph.* II. iv, Delightfu' notes That warble through the merle or mavis' throats. 1791 BURNS *Lament Mary Q. Scots* 13 The mavis mild wi' many a note, Sings drowsy day to rest. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* IV. xii, Merry it is in the good greenwood When the mavis and merle are singing. 1830 TENNYSON *Claribel*, The clear-voiced mavis dwelleth.. Where Claribel low-lieth. 1849 DICKENS *Dav. Copp.* iii, 'Like two young mavishes', Mr. Peggotty said. 1876 'OUIDA' *In Winter City* viii. 237 The mavis and blackbird were singing.

transf. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* v, I must visit this mavis [Amy Robsart], brave in apparel..and gay in temper.

2. *Mavis skate*: a British species of Ray, *Raja oxyrhyncha.*

1810 NEILL *Fishes* 28 (Jam.). 1828 FLEMING *Hist. Brit. Anim.* 171 Sharp-nosed Ray...May Skate, Mavis Skate.

† 3. [Perh. a different word.] Some kind of tobacco. *Obs.*

1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. xxii. (Roxb.) 274/1 Sorts of Tobacco. Pig taile...Antago. Mavis.

† **Mavite.** *Sc. Obs.* Also 4 **mawite, mawyte.** [a. OF. *mal-, mauvitié*, var. of *malvaistié*: see MAUVASTY.] Malice, evil intent.

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* I. 126 Bot ȝe traistyt in lawte As sympile folk, but mawyte. *Ibid.* VI. 212 And he, that of thair mavite Wist na thing, his vay has tane.

‖ **Mavors** (mē·vɒɪz). [L.: see MARS.] = Mars.

a 1592 LODGE & GREENE *Looking-gl.* (1598) C 2, Nymphes, Knancks, sing for Mauors draweth nigh. 1602 *Narcissus* (1893) 332 The sweat hot breath of blowing Mavors. 1633 J. FISHER *Fuimus Troes* Prol., Mavors for Rome, Neptune for Albion stands. 1868 TENNYSON *Lucretius* 82 Then would I cry to thee To kiss thy Mavors, roll thy tender arms Round him.

† **Mavortial,** *a. Obs.* [ad. L. **māvortiālis* of or belonging to Mavors, f. *Māvort-*, *Māvors*: see prec. and -IAL.] = next *adj.*

1595 *Locrine* IV. i, Once was I guarded with Mavortial bands. 1616 J. LANE *Cont. Sqr.'s T.* (Chaucer Soc.) 57 Mavortial Cambuscan. 1639 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Challenge Knts. Errant* Wks. (1711) 231 Awaken your sleeping courages with mavortial greetings.

† **Mavortian,** *a.* and *sb. Obs.* [f. L. *Māvortius* (f. *Māvort-em* Mavors) + -AN.] a. *adj.* Warlike, martial. b. *sb.* A warrior.

1557 GRIMALD *Of N. Ch.* in *Tottel's Misc.* (Arb.) 115 Mauortian moods, Saturnian furies fell. 1598 MARSTON *Sco. Villanie* II. vii. 205 Behold yon sprightly dread Mauortian. 1600 TOURNEUR *Transf. Metam.* lxvi, O peerelesse worth! O worth Mavortian!

‖ **Mavourneen** (măvū·rnīn). Also 9 **mavournin.** [Irish *mo mhurnín.*] My darling.

1800 CAMPBELL *Exile of Erin* v, Erin mavournin. 1883 H. JAY *Connaught Cousins* I. ix. 209 Hush, mavourneen, don't cry.

Maw (mō), *sb.*1 Forms: 1 maga, mage, 2 mahge, 3 mahe, maugh, 3–7 mawe, 4 magh, mage, mau(e, 4 maw. [Com. Teut.: OE. *maga* wk. masc. (once *mage* wk. fem.) = OFris. *maga*, MDu. *maghe* (mod.Du. *maag*) fem., OHG. *mago* (MHG., mod.G. *magen*) masc., ON. *mage* wk. masc. (Sw. *mage*, Da. *mave*) :–OTeut. **magon-*.]

1. The stomach (of men and animals); the cavity of the stomach. Now only (exc. in ludicrous use) applied to the stomach of animals, esp. mammals; *spec.* the last of the four stomachs of a ruminant.

† *To close the maw*, to stop looseness of the bowels.

† *To chaw (one's) maw*, to fret internally.

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* S 573 (Hessels) *Stomachum*, maga. *c* 1000 *Ælfric Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 159/14 *Ventriculus*, mage. *Ibid.* 161/2 *Stomachus*, maga. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 4 He cymð of acolodum magan. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 370 þe on was iwuned, uor his kolde mawe uorto nutten hote spices. *c* 1275 *Vl Pains of Hell* 148 in *O. E. Misc.* 151 Gripes fretep heore Mawen. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Man of Law's T.* 388 Who kepte Ionas in the fisshes mawe Til he was spouted vp at Nynyuee? 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. XVII. 218 The man that muche hony eet his mawe hit engleymeth. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 39 The grete wombe of þe Schepe, þat is, þe mawe. 1513 *Bk. Kernynge* in *Babees Bk.* 266 Mylke, creme, & Iouncat, they wyll close the mawe, & so dooth a posset. 1544 PHAER *Regim. Life* (1553) E ij b, The mawe of an olde cocke dried, and made in pouder, is exceding good to drink in red wine. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. iv. 30 But inwardly he chawed his owne maw At neighbours welth. 1605 SHAKS. *Mach.* III. iv. 73 If Charnell houses, and our Graues must send Those that we bury, backe; our Monuments Shall be the Mawes of Kytes. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 354 Euery tenth man being by lot tithed to the shambles, and more returning in their fellowes mawes, then on their owne legges. 1706 E. WARD *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 102 It's a plain Symptom, that his Maw's out of order. 1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v., The *Abomasus*, popularly called the *maw*, is the last of the four [*sc.* stomachs of ruminants]. 1769 MRS. RAFFALD *Eng. Housekpr.* (1778) 17 Scald the maw or paunch [of the turtle]. 1819 BYRON *Juan* II. xxxiv, Fright cured the qualms Of all the luckless landsmen's sea-sick maws. 1851 MAYNE REID *Scalp Hunt.* xxxviii, The night-hawk has filled his ravenous maw. 1861 J. PYCROFT *Agony Point* (1862) 381 A shark with a sailor's baccy-box in his maw. 1887 W. MORRIS *Odyss.* IX. 296 Whenas the Cyclops had filled his mighty maw.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*: chiefly with reference to a metaphorical voracity.

(Cf. sense 3, which in figurative uses blends with this.)

c 1386 CHAUCER *Shipman's Prol.* 28 Ther is but litil latyn in my mawe. 1599 MIDDLETON *Micro-Cynicon* Wks. (Bullen) VIII. 134 The wide maws of more scopious lakes. 1607 SHAKS. *Timon* III. iv. 52 Then they could smile, and fawne vpon his debts, And take downe th' Intrest into their glutt'nous Mawes. 1654 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 403 Time ..whose Maw hath devoured the very Ruines of those stately Piles [etc.]. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* X. 991 Death Shall ..with us two Be forc'd to satisfie his Rav'nous Maw. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* VII. 922 Pluck'd from foul Devastation's famish'd Maw. 1833 MARRYAT *P. Simple* xxix, Yellow Jack had filled his maw, and left the rest of us alone. 1875 GLADSTONE *Glean.* VI. xxxvi. 218 The devouring maw of the agents of the Popedom. 1880 'OUIDA' *Moths* III. 25 It is only the prison's maw that is never full.

† c. Inmost recesses. *Obs.* (? *nonce-use.*)

1630 LORD *Banians* 81 Some of the Rajahs yeelded, others flying to retyrements impregnable, lay in the Mawe of the countrey [etc.].

2. Applied to other internal parts. † a. The abdominal cavity as a whole; the belly. *Obs.*

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 6363 Here is þat knif al blodi þat ich broȝte him wiþ of dawe & smot in þoru þe foundement & so in to þe mawe. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 22394 All þe filthes of his maugh sal brist vte at his hindwin. 1482 *Monk of Evesham* (Arb.) 85 The maw and inwarde bowels of him yat sate in the sadelle were sore smyt thorow.

† b. The womb. *Obs.*

a 1300 *E. E. Psalter* cxxxviii. 13 Fra maghe ofe mi moder me keped þou. *c* 1325 *Metr. Hom.* 124 Quen sain Thomas was in hir maw. *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* lvii. 3 Aliend ere synful fra maghe [*v.r.* marice].

† c. The liver. *Obs.*

1382 WYCLIF *Exod.* xxix. 13 The calle of the mawe. 14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 588/36 *Jecur*, the mawe. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 4508 Cupido has þe custodi & cure of þe mawe. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 330/1 Maw, *jecur*. *c* 1500 *New Not-br. Mayd* 216 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* III. 10 My herte and mawe To rent and drawe..Cheseth not he?

† d. The honey-making apparatus of bees. *Obs.*

1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* IV. (1586) 180 b, Beeing sucked vp from the leaues by the Bees and digested in their mawes. 1609 C. BUTLER *Fem. Mon.* iv. (1623) H j, You shall neuer find his [the Bee's] maw without a good drop of the purest nectar.

† e. The crop of a granivorous bird. *Obs.*

1658 ROWLAND *Mouffet's Theat. Ins.* 1023 Hens feed on Earwigs:..I have found a great number of them in their Mawes. 1731 ARBUTHNOT *Nat. Aliments* (1735) 222 Their [*sc.* granivorous birds'] maw is the Happer which holds and softens the Grain, letting it drop by degrees into the Stomach.

f. The 'swim-bladder' or sound of a fish.

c 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 18 Take the Mawes of Turbut, Haddok, or Codeling. 1883 R. HALOANE *Workshop Receipts* Ser. II. 355 Isinglass or fish glue, in its raw state, is the 'sound', 'maw', or swimming bladder of various kinds of fish.

3. The throat, gullet; now chiefly, the jaws or mouth (of a voracious mammal or fish).

1530 PALSGR. 244/1 Mawe of a beest, *jouvier*. 1814 CARY *Dante, Paradise* IV. 4 A lamb between the maw Of two fierce wolves. 1843 LYTTON *Last Bar.* I. vii, The philosopher's hand closed on them as the fish's maw closes on the bait. 1867 F. FRANCIS *Angling* i. (1880) 1 Within reach of its voracious maw. 1873 G. C. DAVIES *Mount. & Mere* II. 9 A little black ball has gone down the hungry maw of a pike. *fig.* 1851 H. MELVILLE *Whale* ix. 44, I saw the opening maw of hell.

† 4. Used (like *stomach*) for: Appetite, inclination, liking. *Obs.*

1598 JONSON *Ev. Man in Hum.* III. iv. (1616) 38 O, I doe stomack them hugely! I haue a maw now, and't were for Sr Bevis his horse, against 'hem. 1602 MARSTON *Antonio's Rev.* IV. v, Have you no mawe to restitution? 1607 MIDDLETON *Fam. Love* V. iii. 146 If you have any maw, feed here till you choke again. 1645 MILTON *Colast.* Wks. 1851 IV. 365 Next the word Politician is not us'd to his maw, and therupon he plaies the most notorious hobbihors. 1668 R. L'ESTRANGE *Vis. Quev.* (1708) 37, I have no great Maw to go home again. 1704 CIBBER *Careless Husb.* V. (1705) 50, I have no great Maw to that Business, methinks.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as **maw-bound** *a.*, constipated (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1890); also †*sb.*, a constipated disease in cattle; † **maw-gut** (see quot. 1607); † **maw-mother,** a mooncalf or 'false conception' (*tumor ventris*); † **maw-skin,** the stomach of a calf which has fed on nothing but milk.

a 1722 LISLE *Husb.* (1752) 344 The distemper in cows called the *maw-bound..comes from a surfeit by being overheated by driving. 1848 *Rural Cycl.* II. 486 *Grain-sick*, or *Maw-bound*, a great and dangerous distension of the rumen of cattle. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 153 He hath his gall in his *maw-gut. *Ibid.* 509 The maw-gut differeth from all other, for it is *Coecum*, that is, as I take it without a passage out of it into any other part then the other guts [etc.]. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 232 *Mawmoder, *molucrum*. 1784 TWAMLEY *Dairying* 41 The *Maw-skin..is the Maw or Stomach of Calves. 1846 J. BAXTER *Libr. Pract. Agric.* (ed. 4) I. 205 The water thus impregnated with the maw-skin is passed through the sieve into the milk.

Maw (mō), *sb.*2 *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Also 5–6 **mawe,** 9 (*pl.* constr. as *sing.*) **maas, mawse, maws.** [var. of MALLOW. Cf. MAUL *sb.*] = MALLOW.

c 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* I. viii. 433 Froyt & gyrs thai oysyd tyll ete As kers, or mawe, or wyolete. *c* 1450 *Alphita* (Anecd. Oxon.) 23 Malva ortolana vel domestica. g. mauue, ang. mawe. 1562 TURNER *Herbal* II. 45 The vertues of mallowe or mawes. 1568 SKEYNE *The Pest* (1860) 40 Fomentit with the decoctioun of the rute of lilie, maw, althe, cammeile. 1696 in *Analecta Scot.* II. 13 Aduertes me, gif he hes the seid of al sort of mawes, purpie, and sorrelis. 1893 *Northumbld. Gloss.*, *Maas*, *Mawse*. *Ibid.*, *Maws*, the mawes mallow or marshmallow.

Maw (mō), *sb.*3 *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Also 6 **mau,** 7–8 **mall.** [a. ON. *má-r* (dat. *máve*, *máfe*, pl. *mávar*) = OE. *mæw*: see MEW *sb.*1] A gull, esp. the Common gull, *Larus canus.*

c 1450 HOLLAND *Howlat* 179 The Se Mawis war monkis, the blak and the quhyte. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xxxiii. 90 Thik was the clud of kayis and crawis, Of marlezonis, mittanis, and of mawis. 1549 [see *gull-maw*, GULL *sb.*1 c]. 1678 RAY *Willughby's Ornithol.* 345 The common Sea-Mall, *Larus cinereus minor*. 1698 M. MARTIN *Voy. St. Kilda* (1749) 28 The Fulmar, in Bigness equals the Malls of the second Rate. *c* 1825 *Jolly Goshawk* iii. in Child *Ballads* II. 360/1 The thing of my love's face is white It's that of dove or maw. 1852 MACGILLIVRAY *Hist. Brit. Birds* V. 593 *Gavia ridibunda*...[Syn.] Laughing Gull...Black-cap. Hooded Maw.

Maw (mō), *sb.*4 *Obs.* exc. *Hist.* Also 6 **mall,** 6–7 **mawe.** [Of obscure origin.] 'An old game at cards. It was played with a piquet pack of thirty-six cards, and any number of persons from two to six formed the party' (Halliwell). *A set at maw*: a party or game at maw. *To set a maw*: ? to arrange a game. *To heave at (the) maw*: a technical phrase of the game, app. designating its characteristic feature. (Cf. MAYO.)

1548 FORREST *Pleas. Poesye* xix. 58 b, At ale howse too sitt at mack or at mall. 1575 TURBERV. *Faulconrie, In Commend. Hawk.* 77 To checke at Chesse, to heaue at Maw, at Mack to passe the time. 1593 RICH in *Greene's Newes fr. Heaven & Hell* To Rdr., Although the knaue of trumpes be the seconde carde at Mawe, yet the five-finger may commaunde both him and all the rest of the pack. 1594 HENS-

LOWE *Diary* (1845) 46 [Title of play] the mawe. *Ibid.* 47 *note*, The seat at mawe. *a* 1612 HARINGTON *Epigr.* IV. xii. (1618) K 6b, Then thirdly follow'd heaving of the Maw, A game without Ciuility or Law. 1624 GATAKER *Wife in Deed* 62 Whom a pint of wine drunke together,..or a set at Maw maketh Friends. 1630 BRATHWAIT *Eng. Gentlem.* (1641) 126 In games at cards the Maw requires a quicke conceit or present pregnancy. 1633 FORD *Love's Sacr.* III. ii, My lurd you were best to try to set a maw. 1864 *Reader* No. 105. 826/1 Primero yielded the ascendency to Maw.

† **b.** *A help at maw*: app. a term of this game, but occurring only *fig.* a means of evasion, a resource.

1644-7 CLEVELAND *Char. Lond. Diurn.* 7 If any thing fall out amiss, which cannot he smothered, the *Diurnall* hath a help at Maw. 1660 R. COKE *Justice Vind.* 13 But it may be our Author has a help at Mawe; for our Author Ground 8. saies It is evident [etc.]. 1678 B. R. *Let. Pop. Friends* 4 A Dispensation..is always an Infallible Help at Maw, a sure Antidote against Perjury.

† **Maw**, *v. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [a. Du. *mauwen*.] *intr.* Of a cat = MEW *v.*

1481 CAXTON *Reynard* (Arb.) 22 Tybert coude not goo awaye, but he mawede and galped so lowde that [etc.].

Maw: see MAUGH, MAUL, MOW.

Mawa, variant of MAHWA.

Mawch(e, Mawde, variant ff. MAUGH, MAUD[1].

Mawdelard(e, obs. forms of MALLARD.

Mawdelayn, -lein, -len, etc., obs. ff. MAUDLIN.

Mawe: see MAUGH, MAUL, MOW.

Mawen, 3rd pl. pres. ind. of MAY *v.*[1]

Mawer, obs. form of MAYOR, MOWER.

Mawfesour, variant of MALFEASOR *Obs.*

Mawggr, Mawhown: see MAUGH, MAHOUND.

Mawich(e, obs. Sc. variant forms of MAUGH.

Mawk (mɔ̄k). *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Also 5 **mawke**, 5, 7 **make**, 6–8 **mauk**, 7 **mauke, malke**, 8 *pl.* **mox.** [ad. ON. *maðk-r*: see MADDOCK.] = MAGGOT.

c 1425 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 643/2 *Hic cimex*, mawke. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 332 Att þe laste mawkis bred þerin. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 321/1 Make, mathe, wyrm yn þe flesche. 1623 SANDERSON *Serm.* I. 93 He is a sorry shepherd, that is busie to kill flies and maukes in his sheep, but letteth the wolf worry at pleasure. 1641 BEST *Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 79 In what part of the woll soever it bee, there will malkes breede immediately. 1684 G. MERITON *Praise Yorks. Ale*, etc., Clavis, Mawks are Maddocks. 1789 DAVIDSON *Seasons* 5 The cloken hen to the midden rins..To scrape for mauks. 179. PEGGE *Derbicisms* (E. D. S.) 112 *Mox*, moths. 1894 CROCKETT *Lilac Sunbonnet* 73 A mawk on a sheep's hurdle.

Mawkin, obs. form of MALKIN.

Maw·kingly, *a. Obs.* exc. *dial.* [f. *mawking*, MALKIN + -LY[1].] Slovenly.

1656 *Artif. Handsom.* 87 Some silly soules are prone to place much piety in their mawkingly plainnesse, and in their censoriousnesse of others, who use more comely and costly curiosities.

Mawkish (mɔ̄·kiʃ), *a.* Also 7–8 **malkish, maukish.** [f. MAWK *sb.* + -ISH[1].]

† **1.** Inclined to sickness; without appetite. *Obs.*

1668 DRYDEN *Enem. Love* IV. i, I feel my Stomach a little maukish. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Mawkish*, sick at Stomach, squeamish. *a* 1745 SWIFT *Progr. Marriage* 60 The dean who us'd to dine at one, Is maukish, and his stomach gone. 1755 *Connoisseur* No. 82 (1774) III. 83 He constantly goes senseless to bed, and rises maukish in the morning. 1836 T. HOOK *G. Gurney* II. 59 The feverish, heated, mawkish, wretched state in which I was.

† **b.** Having no inclination *to*. *Obs.*

1679 DRYDEN *Troil. & Cress.* IV. ii, Who knows but rest may cool their brains, and make them rise mawkish to mischief upon consideration?

2. Having a nauseating taste; now, having a faint, sickly flavour with little definite taste.

a 1697 AUBREY *Nat. Hist. Surrey* (1719) I. 215 The medicated Springs here..have a maukish Taste. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Wallowish*, a malkish, ill Taste. *a* 1719 ADDISON *Virg. Georg.* IV. 117 Others look loathsom and diseas'd with sloth, Like a faint traveller whose dusty mouth Grows dry with heat, and spits a maukish froth. 1728 POPE *Dunc.* III. 171 Like thine inspirer, Beer,..So sweetly mawkish, and so smoothly dull. 1786 tr. *Beckford's Vathek* (1868) 89 He regarded the ragouts of his other wives as entirely maukish. 1803 *Med. Jrnl.* IX. 492 It is without smell, has a maukish taste, and has but little consistence. 1872 *Cooper's Dict. Pract. Surg.* II. 643 Pus has a sweetish, mawkish taste.

3. *fig.* Feebly sentimental; imbued with sickly or false sentiment; lacking in robustness.

1702 *Eng. Theophrast.* 110 It is one of the most nauseous maukish mortifications under the Sun..to have to do with a punctual finical fop. 1776 FOOTE *Bankrupt* I. Wks. 1799 II. 104 His mind is so maukish, that should he be confronted with Lydia, he would betray our whole plot in an instant. 1818 KEATS *Lett.* Wks. 1889 III. 141, I hate a mawkish popularity. 1819 *Metropolis* I. 47 The mawkish tepidity of his manner. 1885 *Spectator* 8 Aug. 1048/2 The mawkish and unreal sentiment which constituted Mr. Dickens's chief fault. 1889 D. HANNAY *Capt. Marryat* viii. 125 It [*Masterman Ready*] is pathetic, and yet it is not mawkish.

† **4.** *slang.* Slatternly. *Obs. rare*⁻⁰.

1725 *New Cant. Dict., Mawkish*, Slatternly.

Mawkishly (mɔ̄·kiʃli), *adv.* [-LY[2].]

1. So as to be 'mawkish' in flavour.

1758 *Monthly Rev.* 592 Swallow it neither too hot nor mawkishly cool. 1785 MARTYN *Rousseau's Bot.* xxix. (1794) 461 The berry is red, and mawkishly sweet—not poisonous.

2. In a feebly sentimental manner.

1816 J. GILCHRIST *Philos. Etym.* 230 A feeble, finical race, mawkishly puling about taste. 1853 READE *Chr. Johnstone* 279, I should have been very kind to you—mawkishly kind I fear, my sweet cousin. 1867 BUSHNELL *Mor. Uses Dark Th.* 282 Goodness is no such innocent mawkishly insipid character.

Mawkishness (mɔ̄·kiʃnés). [-NESS.]

† **1.** The condition of being sick or 'squeamish'.

1727 BAILEY vol. II, *Mawkishness*,..a nauseous Taste. 1876 BARTHOLOW *Mat. Med.* (1879) 350 Wines should have a taste free from mawkishness, and indicative of instability. 1887 BEATTY-KINGSTON *Music & Manners* II. 308 'White beer', a liquor of paramount mawkishness.

transf. 1876 MISS BRADDON *J. Haggard's Dau.* II. 70 Their music was sweet to mawkishness.

3. Sickly sentimentality.

1818 KEATS *Endymion* Pref., There is a space of life between [*sc.* boyhood and manhood] in which the soul is in a ferment,..the ambition thick-sighted; thence proceeds mawkishness. 1824 *Examiner* 595/1 The languid mawkishness of the loungers. 1833-40 J. H. NEWMAN *Hist. Sk.* (1873) II. iv. iv. 406 He is..as removed from softness and mawkishness ..as any bishop among them. 1849 ROCK *Ch. of Fathers* I. 35 *note*, That mawkishness of taste..shewn by some people for what is classic.

b. Dullness of spirits, ennui. *rare.*

1861 HUGHES *Tom Brown at Oxf.* v. (1889) 44 All the companionship of boating and cricketing..won't keep him from many a long hour of mawkishness.

Mawky (mɔ̄·ki), *a. dial.* [f. MAWK + -Y.]

1. a. Maggoty. **b.** Full of 'maggots' or whims; crotchety.

1790 GROSE *Prov. Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Mawky*, magotty, N. 1837 WHITTOCK, etc. *Bk. Trades* (1842) 466 We can neither understand, nor relish, this 'mauky' affectation of candour on the part of our former friend. 1855 ROBINSON *Whitby Gloss.*, *Mawky*, maggoty, whimsical, hypochondriac.

2. = MAWKISH.

1830 'JON BEE' *Ess.* in *Foote's Wks.* I. p. xxiii, Even John Dryden penned none but mawky plays, nor did Byron succeed at all as a dramatist. 1881 *Oxfordsh. Gloss.* Suppl., *Mawky*, over-sweet.

Mawlard, Mawl(e, obs. ff. MALLARD, MAUL.

Mawm(e, variant forms of MALM.

Mawmany, -mene(e, etc.: see MALMENY.

Mawment, -trie: see MAUMET, MAUMETRY.

† **Maw·mer, -ar.** *Sc. Obs.* [Cf. Du. *mammiering* 'scupper-hose'.] The discharge pipe of a ship's pump. Also *attrib.* in *mawmer-leather.*

1497 *Acc. Ld. Treas. Scotl.* (1877) I. 379 Item for ane mawmar to the pomp of Lord Kennydyis schip. 1512 *Ibid.* (1902) IV. 455 Item for mawmer ledderis for the greit schip. *Ibid.* 456 Item to the plummair for vi mawmeris to the litill bark callit the Gabriell.

Mawmet: see MAUMET.

† **Maw·mish**, *a. Obs.* [f. *maum* MALM *a.*: cf. MALMISH, MALMY.] Mawkish, disgusting.

1668 R. L'ESTRANGE *Vis. Quev.* (1708) 200 The Flesh was so Cursedly Mawmish and Rotten, that [etc.]. 1692 — *Fables* cccl. 426 One of the most Nauseous, Mawmish Mortifications under the Sun. 1866 J. SHANKS *Elgin* 43 The fear of offending mawnish delicacy.

Mawnchepresande, var. MAUNCHE PRESENT.

Mawnciple, -cypylle, obs. ff. MANCIPLE.

Mawngery, variant of MANGERY *Obs.*

Mawnge(u)r, -joure, obs. forms of MANGER.

Mawp, variant of MAUPE.

† **Maw-pie.** *Obs.* [The first element is of obscure origin.] The magpie, *Pica caudata.*

1615 W. LAWSON *Country Housew. Gard.* (1626) 45 Your Cheries and other Berries when they be ripe, wil draw all the Black-birds, Thrushes and Maw-pies to your Orchard.

Mawseed (mɔ̄·sēd). [Half-translated ad. Ger. dial. *mahsaat, mohsamen*, f. *mah, moh* (literary G. *mohn*) poppy + *saat, samen* seed.] The seed of the opium poppy, *Papaver somniferum.*

1730 SOUTHALL *Bugs* 21 The Eggs are..as small as the smallest Maw-seed. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) V. 343 Feed them with..bread, maw-seed [etc.]. 1812 J. SMYTH *Pract. of Customs* (1821) 208 Maw-seed. 1866 in *Treas. Bot.*

Mawth, ? obs. Sc. variant of MAUGH.

Mawworm[1] (mɔ̄·wɔ̄ɹm). ? *Obs.* [f. MAW *sb.*[1] + WORM.] A worm infesting the stomach or intestines of man and other mammals, esp. applied to species of *Ascaris* and *Oxyuris.*

1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 336 It will presently destroy and consume the maw or belly-worms which are within him. *a* 1619 FLETCHER *Bonduca* I. ii, Your warlike remedy against the maw-worms. 1694 SALMON *Bate's Dispens.* (1713) 672/2 If..you add Powder of Maw-Worms ʒvj. it will be much more effectual. 1784 UNDERWOOD *Dis. Children* (1799) I. 142 The very small maw-worm, or ascarides, resembling bits of thread. 1822-34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) I. 275 The term Maw-worm, according to P. Harvey, is derived from the occasional visits which this animal makes to the maw or stomach.

fig. 1652 BENLOWES *Theoph.* III. xii, No Glutt'nies Mawworm; nor the Itch of lust No Tympanie of Pride.

Mawworm[2] (mɔ̄·wɔ̄ɹm). (Properly with initial capital.) A man who resembles *Mawworm*, a character in Bickerstaffe's play *The Hypocrite*, 1769; a hypocritical pretender to sanctity.

1850 *Tait's Mag.* XVII. 547/2 Can it be that these.. wailings have in their motive something of the Maworm spirit, 'I like to be despised'. 1861 J. HOLLINGSHEAD in *Gd. Words* 441 We all know precisely what a mawworm is... He is a slimy villain. 1866 SALA *Barbary* vii. 130 There was a sanctified Mawworm expression, too, about this fellow. 1872 GEO. ELIOT *Middlem.* I. ii, He would be the very Mawworm of bachelors who pretended [etc.]. 1891 R. BUCHANAN *Coming Terror* 353 The Scapin of Politics walks hand-in-hand with the Mawworm of Morality.

Hence **Ma·wwormish** *a.*, **Ma·wwormism** *sb.*

1850 *Tait's Mag.* XVII. 547/2 Mawormism is a thing unknown north of the Tweed. 1883 K. BLIND in *Gentl. Mag.* Nov. 488 Luther..was..no maw-wormish mar-joy.

† **Max.** *Obs.* [Of obscure origin.] Gin.

1811 *Lex. Balatron.*, *Max*, gin. 1819 BYRON *Juan* II. xvi, The dying man cried, 'Hold! I've got my gruel! Oh! for a glass of max!' 1840 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. I. *Bagman's Dog*, Who, doffing their coronets, collars, and ermine, treat Boxers to Max, at the One Tun in Jermyn Street. 1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* (1864) I. 168 The stimulant of a 'flash of lightning', a 'go of rum', or a 'glass of max', —for so a dram of neat spirit was then called.

Maxhill: see MIXHILL.

‖ **Maxilla** (mæksi·lă). Pl. **maxillæ** (mæksi·lī). [L. *maxilla* jaw.]

1. A jaw or jaw-bone, esp. the upper jaw in mammals and most vertebrate animals. *Inferior, superior maxilla*, the lower, upper jaw.

1676 WISEMAN *Surg.* I. xix. 93 The same Patient complained of a hard Tumour fixed under that Ear and *Maxilla.* 1727-41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v., The *maxillæ* are two in number, denominated from their situation, *superior*, and *inferior.* 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) I. 683/1 Of these [bones] six are placed on each side of the maxilla superior. 1846 BRITTAN tr. *Malgaigne's Man. Oper. Surg.* 115 The lower border of the inferior maxilla. *Ibid.*, The inferior posterior border of the maxilla. 1888 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* 92 The maxilla [*sc.* of the common perch], which is edentulous,..lies behind and parallel to it [*sc.* the præmaxilla]. 1893 NEWTON *Dict. Birds* 539 The word Maxilla is frequently used to express the whole of the upper jaw. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 150 A simple superior maxilla is sometimes alone affected by hyperostosis.

2. One of the anterior limbs of insects and other arthropods, so modified as to serve the purpose of mastication. Also *attrib.*

1798 ARFZELIUS in *Trans. Linn. Soc.* IV. 275, *c.* the tops of the maxillæ. *d.* the labium. 1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* III. 47 Both labium and maxillæ being furnished with jointed moveable organs peculiar to annulose pedate animals. 1852 DANA *Crust.* I. 20 The organ consists of two oblong flat lobes, in some Decapods, somewhat maxilla-like in form. 1896 tr. *Boas' Text Bk. Zool.* 184 The second and third [*sc.* pairs of mouth-parts in Arthropods] are known respectively as the first and second maxillæ.

† **Maxillar**, *a. Obs.* [f. MAXILLA + -AR.] Of or pertaining to the jaw, esp. to the upper jaw.

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Maxillar*, belonging to the jaw-bone. 1682 T. GIBSON *Anat.* (1697) p. iv, The Parotides and maxillar glands convey the saliva into the mouth. 1720 HALE in *Phil. Trans.* XXXI. 5 The external Maxillar Glands in Brutes are of the Conglomerate kind.

Maxillary (mæksi·lări), *a.* and *sb.* [f. MAXILLA + -ARY. Cf. F. *maxillaire.*] **A.** *adj.*

1. Belonging to, connected with, or forming part of the jaw or jaw-bone, esp. of the upper jaw of vertebrate animals.

1626 BACON *Sylva* § 747 There is the Skull of one Entire Bone; there are..the Maxillary Bones [etc.]. 1713 DERHAM *Phys.-Theol.* IV. xi. (1714) 195 The..Maxillary Glands. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* II. 402 The horn is entirely solid, growing from the upper maxillary bone. 1804 ABERNETHY *Surg. Obs.* 36 The external maxillary artery was unavoidably divided. 1874 COUES *Birds N. W.* 135 But even the youngest specimen shows no maxillary streaks. 1883 MARTIN & MOALE *Vertebr. Dissect.* 158 The Superior Maxillary Nerve passes outward. *Ibid.*, The Inferior Maxillary Nerve..divides into two branches. 1888 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* 68 The maxillary teeth [of a snake].

2. Belonging to, connected with, or forming part of the maxillæ of arthropods. *Maxillary system*: the system of classification of insects based on the form of the maxillæ.

1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* III. 358 *Palpi Maxillares* (the Maxillary Feelers). *Ibid.* IV. 450 Which [system], from the *maxillæ* being principally employed to characterize the Classes or rather Orders, may be called the *Maxillary System.* 1878 BELL *Gegenbaur's Comp. Anat.* 246 In many Diptera the maxillary setæ are rudimentary.

B. *sb.* = *maxillary bone.*

1836-9 TODD *Cycl. Anat.* II. 211/1 The vertical plate is short to correspond with the short vertical diameter of the upper maxillary. 1854 BADHAM *Halieut.* 307 The maxillaries, prolonged into barbels, come off from the lower jaw. 1880 GÜNTHER *Fishes* 90 No part of the maxillary is situated behind the premaxillary [of fishes].

Maxillated (mæksilēitĕd), *a. Zool.* [f. MAXILLA + -ATE[2] + -ED[1].] Furnished with maxillæ.

1852 DANA *Crust.* I. 14 The maxillated Entomostraca.

Maxilliferous (mæksili·fĕrəs), *a.* [f. MAXILLA + -(I)FEROUS.] Bearing maxillæ.

1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* III. xxviii. 17 Most commonly four antennæ, with a maxilliferous mouth seldom rostriform.

Maxilliform (mæksi·lifɔ̄ɹm), *a.* [f. MAXILLA + -(I)FORM.] Formed like a maxilla; 'having the shape or form of a cheek bone' (Cassell 1885).

1835 KIRBY *Hab. & Inst. Anim.* II. xvi. 78 The whole organ may be regarded as maxilliform. 1877 HUXLEY *Anat. Inv. Anim.* vi. 257 With Maxilliform Gnathites.

Maxilliped, -pede (mæksi·liped, -pēd). *Zool.* [f. MAXILLA + L. *ped-em, pēs* foot.] A 'foot-jaw' (see FOOT *sb.* 35). Cf. *jaw-foot* s. v. JAW *sb.*[1] 7.

Foot-jaw was app. the first term used, and this was rendered by *maxilliped*, which in turn was translated *jaw-foot.*

1846 DANA in *Amer. Jrnl. Sci.* Ser. II. I. 226 Order Entomostraca. Tribe Cyclopacea...Maxillipeds, one pair:

sometimes simple maxillæ. 1870 NICHOLSON *Man. Zool.* 207 Two pairs of maxillipedes. 1883 PACKARD in *Ann. & Mag. Nat. Hist.* Nov. 342 They are somewbat analogous to the maxillipedes of Crustacea.

Hence **Maxillipe·dary** *a.*, pertaining to maxillipedes.

1877 HUXLEY *Anat. Inv. Anim.* vi. 311 The sternal regions of the three maxillipedary somites have the same characters.

Maxillo-, taken as comb. form of MAXILLA in the sense 'pertaining to the maxilla and . .'; so *maxillo-mandibular, -palatine, -pharyngeal, -premaxillary, -turbinal*, etc. (see *Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1890).

1872 MIVART *Elem. Anat.* 115 The maxillo-premaxillary suture is for a long time or permanently very evident on the face. 1875 HUXLEY & MARTIN *Elem. Biol.* (1877) 188 The nerve divides into three main branches, the orbito-nasal, the palatine and the maxillo-mandibular. 1875 C. C. BLAKE *Zool.* 46 There are no maxilloturbinals in any skulls. 1887 MARSHALL & HURST *Pract. Zool.* 371 The maxillo-palatine process. 1890 COUES *Field & Gen. Ornith.* 240 They are commonly described as if they were independent bones, under the name of the *maxillopalatines*.

Maxim (mæ·ksim), *sb.*[1] Also 5–7 maxime, 6 *pl.* erron. maximies. [a. F. *maxime*, ad. L. *maxima* fem. sing. of *maximus* greatest, used *ellipt.* (see below). Cf. Sp. *máxima*, Pg. *maxima*, It. *massima*.

Boethius (6th c.) used *propositio maxima* ('greatest proposition') in the sense of 'axiom' (synonymous with *dignitas* = ἀξίωμα, but especially used with reference to rhetoric). Albertus Magnus (12th c.) used *maxima* with ellipsis of *propositio*, but applied it to a class of universal propositions not intuitively certain like the *dignitates* or axioms, but capable of being assumed as practically indisputable. Elsewhere (according to Hamilton in *Reid's Wks.* 767, where the reference is incorrect) he identifies *maxima* and *dignitas*; and Petrus Hispanus and later logicians use *maxima* in the sense of 'axiom'.]

†**1.** An axiom; a self-evident proposition assumed as a premiss in mathematical or dialectical reasoning. *Obs.*

1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 5603 Thys greueth me most at al, That my maxime apryved [*sc.* that the whole is greater than its part] Ye in dede han yt reprevyd. *Ibid.* 6000. 1556 RECORDE *Castle Knowl.* 108 Then takinge that for a maxime in argumente, I annexe this minor, that [etc.]. 1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* IV. vii. § 1. 299 There are a sort of Propositions, which under the name of Maxims and Axioms, have passed for Principles of Science. 1692 BENTLEY *Boyle Lect.* vi. 209 It is urged as an universal Maxim, That Nothing can procede from Nothing.

2. A proposition (esp. in aphoristic or sententious form) ostensibly expressing some general truth of science or of experience.

1594 DRAYTON *Idea* 391 In ev'ry thing I hold this Maxim still, The Circumstance doth make it good, or ill. 1605 VERSTEGAN *Dec. Intell.* iv. (1628) 98 This maxime or principle must be granted. 1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* I. ii. 318 This maxime out of loue I teach: Atchieuement is command. 1654 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 214 What seriously exerciseth one Mans Braine to defend as a Maxime, tickleth anothers Diaphragme no lesse than an Epigram. 1770 G. WHITE *Selborne* iii, I lay it down as a maxim in ornithology, that as long as there is any incubation going on there is music. 1827 COLERIDGE *Table-t.* 24 June, A Maxim is a conclusion upon observation of matters of fact. 1874 BLACKIE *Self-Cult.* 89 The maxim that knowledge is power is true only where knowledge is the main thing wanted.

b. *esp.* in *Law*.

1567 R. MULCASTER *Fortescue's De Laud. Leg.* (1672) 21 b, They are certaine universall propositions which they that be learned in the Laws of England, and likewise the Mathematicals, do terme Maximes. 1590 SWINBURNE *Testaments* 59 It is a maxime in the common lawes of this realme, that he that is outlawed doeth forfeite all his goods. 1628 COKE *On Litt.* 67 A maxime is a proposition, to be of all men confessed & granted. 1766 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* II. 109 It is an antient maxim of the law, that no title is completely good, unless the right of possession be joined with the right of property. 1893 *Weekly Notes* 67/2 He considered at length the meaning of the maxim, 'a man's house is his castle'.

3. A rule or principle of conduct; also, a precept of morality or prudence expressed in sententious form.

1579 G. HARVEY *Letter-bk.* (Camden) 66 Is not this the principall fundation and grande maxim of our cuntry pollicy not to be over basty in occupying a mans talent [etc.]. 1590 SIR J. SMYTH *Disc. Weapons* Ded. 9 All great Captaines..have holden for a Maxime, to preserue by all meanes possible the liues of their soldiers. 1640 HOWELL *Dodona's Gr.* 6 Selfe defence hath beene alwaies held the first maxime of policy. 1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* IV. v. 258 Some think it beneath a wise man to alter their opinion: A maxime both false and dangerous. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 47 P 1, I knew a Gentleman that made it a Maxim to open his Doors and ever run into the Way of Bullies. 1757 WASHINGTON *Lett.* Writ. 1889 I. 494, I have all along laid it down as a maxim, to represent facts freely and impartially. 1807 ROBINSON *Archæol. Græca* II. xvii. 173 The art of comprising moral maxims in short sentences. 1830 S. COOPER *Dict. Pract. Surg.* (ed. 6) 817 All prudent surgeons..have laid it down as an invariable maxim, never to..undertake lithotomy, without having first introduced a metallic instrument. 1832 HT. MARTINEAU *Hill & Valley* iii. 35 Her maxim was, that it was time enough to come when she was called. 1868 Miss YONGE *Cameos* (1877) I. xvi. 117 He wrote a book of maxims, even on etiquette. 1896 R. G. MOULTON *Ecclesiasticus* Introd. 12 The Maxim is the prose counterpart to the Epigram.

4. *attrib.*, as *maxim-maker, -making, -monger*.

1806 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Leonora* (1833) 47 Some maxim-maker says that past misfortunes are good for nothing but to be forgotten. 1851 HELPS *Comp. Solit.* v. (1874) 64 Cleverly put, but untrue, after the fashion of you maxim-mongers. 1895 *Daily News* 19 Apr. 5/1 Maxim-making was a favourite game in French society.

Maxim (mæ·ksim), *sb.*[2] [From the name of Sir Hiram S. *Maxim*, the inventor.] In full *Maxim (machine) gun, Maxim mitrailleuse*, or *bomb Maxim*: A single-barrelled quick-firing machine gun, the barrel of which is surrounded by an outer casing filled with water to keep the parts cool, and the mechanism so adjusted that any number of shots can be fired in a given time up to six hundred rounds a minute. Also *Maxim-Nordenfelt gun*, a modification of the original Maxim gun.

1885 *Nature* 5 Mar. 414/2 The Maxim Gun. *Ibid.* 415 Fig. 1—Maxim Mitrailleuse. 1889 E. ROGERS *Machine Rifle-batteries* 26 The barrel of the Maxim is..surrounded by a water jacket. 1892 GREENER *Gun* (ed. 5) 186 The Maxim machine gun. 1900 *Daily News* 19 Mar. 4/1 The Maxim-Nordenfeldt, or pom-pom, is thought very highly of. 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 28 Aug. 2/2 Our soldiers..had not so much as the moral support of a bomb Maxim with them.

†**Ma·xim,** *a.* and *sb.*[3] *Obs.* [ad. L. *máximus*.]

A. *adj.* = GREATEST (in certain technical uses).

1686 GOAD *Celest. Bodies* III. iii. 442 Conjunctions maxime in the Fiery and Watry Trigons,..are above our reach. 1694 *Phil. Trans.* XVIII. 72 He concludes this Discourse with a Table, containing all the Notes and Intervals, explaining how each of those in the Diatonick Scale are composed of those three Degrees, viz. Minor, Major, and Maxim.

B. *sb.*[3] *Mus.* = LARGE *sb.* 4, MAXIMA 2.

In recent Dicts.

Maxim (mæ·ksim), *v. nonce-wd.* [f. MAXIM *sb.*[2]] *trans.* To kill with a Maxim gun.

1894 *Sat. Rev.* 20 Jan. 61/2, I Maxim you by three thousands, that is fair war and glorious victory. 1903 KIPLING *Five Nations* 82 Said England unto Pharaoh, 'I must make a man of you,..That will Maxim his oppressor as a Christian ought to do'.

‖ **Ma·xima.** *Obs.* [L., fem. sing. of *maximus* greatest, used *ellipt.* for *maxima propositio, nota*.]

1. = MAXIM *sb.*[1]

1565 JEWEL *Repl. Harding* xxii. 619 This maie stande wel for a *Maxima*, as one of the greatest truethes of M. Hardinges whole booke. 1584 COGAN *Haven Health* 195 This Maxima is generally to be observed: *Sani similes* [etc.]. 1594 PARSONS *Confer. Success.* II. i. 4 The bishop alleageth many proofes that ther is no such maxima in the common lawes of England.

2. *Mus.* = LARGE C. 4, MAXIM *sb.*[3]

1782 BURNEY *Hist. Mus.* II. 186, 453. 1818 BUSBY *Gram. Mus.* 65 Former musicians used the *Maxima*, or *Large*.

Maxima, pl. of MAXIMUM *a.* and *sb.*

Maximal (mæ·ksimăl), *a.* [f. MAXIMUM + -AL.] Consisting of, or relating to, a maximum; greatest possible; of a size or duration not to be exceeded.

1882 V. IDELSON in *Lond. Med. Rec.* No. 36. 318 The average increase is equal to 8 millimètres maximal to 17 millimètres. 1883 L. BRUNTON in *Nature* 8 Mar. 438 The maximal contraction of which the tissue is capable. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 470 It [sc. blood-pressure in the ventricle] slowly increases throughout the systole becoming maximal immediately prior to relaxation.

Hence **Ma·ximally** *adv.*, in the maximum degree.

1884 W. JAMES in *Mind* IX. 12 Those portions of the brain that have just been maximally excited retain a kind of soreness.

Maximate (mæ·ksimĕt), *v.* [f. L. *maxim-us* greatest + -ATE[2].] = MAXIMIZE *v.*

1881 W. E. FORSTER *Sp. in Ho. Com.* 5 Apr., The hon. Member .. said that I had in certain circumstances minimized, and in others maximated, the statements of evictions.

Hence **Maximation** = MAXIMIZATION.

1891 W. J. GREENSTREET tr. *Guyau's Educ. & Heredity* 109 Herbart very clearly saw the tendency of the human mind to 'maximation'.

Maxi·mic, *a. nonce-wd.* [f. MAXIM *sb.*[1] + -IC.] Resembling a maxim.

1854 LADY LYTTON *Behind Scenes* II. II. viii. 33 It being a favourite 'short turn' of his to interlard his frivolities with *maximic* gems of thought.

Maxi·mical, *a. nonce-wd.* [-AL.] = prec.

1778 [W. MARSHALL] *Minutes Agric., Observ.* 4 Each distinct Minute, or each distinct passage of a Minute, was endeavoured to be compressed into a Maximical Sentence.

†**Maximious,** *a. Obs. rare*[−1]. [f. L. *maximus* greatest + -IOUS.] Of great power.

c 1566 *Merie Tales of Skelton* x. in *S.'s Wks.* (1843) I. p. lxiv, Coste, more pertaynyng for an emperoure or a maxymyous kynge, then for such a man as he was.

Maximist (mæ·ksimist). [f. MAXIM *sb.*[1] + -IST.] One who makes maxims.

1855 in OGILVIE *Suppl.* 1889 J. M. ROBERTSON *Ess. Crit. Method* 221 The maximist makes the subtler analyses of *amour-propre*. 1889 EARL OF DESART *Little Chatelaine* II. xx. 63 When you trust one rogue you trust all roguedom, as ought to have been said by some other maximist.

Maximistic (mæksimi·stik), *a.* [f. L. *maxim-us* greatest + -IST + -IC.] Pertaining to the school of 'maximizers'.

1888 *Dublin Rev.* July 12 *note*, Even the 'maximistic' side admitted that infallible pronouncements are 'far rarer' than other official acts of the Pope.

Maximite (mæ·ksimăit). [f. the name of Hudson *Maxim*, the inventor + -ITE.] A smokeless gunpowder composed of gun-cotton, nitro-glycerine, and castor oil.

1897 *Daily News* 9 Feb. 7/4 We call it cordite. For the purposes of the inquiry I propose to call it Maximite. 1901 *Westm. Gaz.* 5 Mar. 8/2 Mr. Hudson Maxim's new explosive, 'Maximite', is claimed to be the highest explosive yet discovered.

†**Maximity.** *Obs.* [f. L. *maxim-us* greatest + -ITY.] 'Exceeding greatness' (Blount *Glossogr.* 1656–61); also, maximum amount.

1651 BIGGS *New Disp.* 98 The maximity or greatest quantity of it.

Maximization (mæksimăizē·ʃən). [f. MAXIMIZE *v.* + -ATION.] The action of raising to the highest possible point, position or condition.

Common in Bentham.

1802 BENTHAM *Princ. Judic. Procedure* Wks. 1843 II. 6/1 The maximization of the happiness of the greatest number. 1854 OWEN *Skel. & Teeth* in *Circ. Sci., Org. Nat.* I. 260 A particular use, dependent on the maximization of the brain. 1886 E. B. BAX *Relig. Socialism* 94 That the supreme end of life is the maximisation of labour, and the minimisation of the enjoyment of its product.

Maximize (mæ·ksimăiz), *v.* [f. L. *maxim-us* MAXIM *a.* + -IZE.]

1. *trans.* a. To increase to the highest possible degree. (Common in Bentham.) b. To magnify to the utmost (in estimation or representation).

1802 BENTHAM *Princ. Judic. Procedure* Wks. 1843 II. 8/2 By this means, appropriate moral aptitude may be maximized. 1866 ALGER *Solit. Nat. & Man* IV. 360 Instead of minimizing he maximized the distinction of himself from other men. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 282 The turpitude is maximised. 1902 W. JAMES *Varieties Relig. Exp.* 130 In contrast with such healthy-minded views as these.. stands a radically opposite view, a way of maximizing evil.

2. *intr.* To maintain the most rigorous or comprehensive interpretation possible of a doctrine or an obligation. Chiefly *Theol.*

1875 J. H. NEWMAN *Cert. Diffic. Anglic.* (1876) 365 When I speak of minimizing, I am not turning the profession of it into a dogma; men, if they will, may maximize for me, provided they too keep from dogmatizing. 1882 W. S. LILLY in *Contemp. Rev.* Feb. 243, I am far from wishing to maximize upon this matter. 1898 KNOX LITTLE in *Our Churches*, etc. 13 The Roman Church may be said to maximise, the Anglican to minimise. The Anglican teaches just what is necessary to be believed for the salvation of souls; the Roman turns pious opinions into necessary doctrines.

Maximizer (mæ·ksimăizəɹ). [f. MAXIMIZE *v.* + -ER[1].] One who maximizes; *spec.* one who accepts the dogma of the infallibility of the pope in its most comprehensive interpretation.

1868 E. S. FFOULKES *Church's Creed* (ed. 2) 37, I am not aware that any demur to this conclusion..can be raised even by maximisers. 1874 *Contemp. Rev.* XXIV. 296 The Ultramontanes themselves .. now are divided into Maximizers and Minimizers.

Maximum (mæ·ksimŏm). *Pl.* **maxima,** *rarely* **-ums.** [a. L. *maximum*, neut. of *maximus*, superl. of *magnus* great. Cf. F. *maximum*.]

1. *Math.* The greatest of all the values of which a variable or a function is capable; the value of a continuously varying quantity at the point at which it ceases to increase and begins to decrease.

1743 EMERSON *Fluxions* 104 In Case it..passes through one or more Maximums or Minimums; then the several Parts of the Fluent, between any given Point and each Maximum or Minimum must be separately found by distinct Operations. 1806 HUTTON *Course Math.* II. 306 If we would find the quantity $ax - x^2$ a maximum or minimum; make its fluxion equal to nothing. 1856 SABINE in *Phil. Trans.* CXLVI. 505 The declination has two easterly and two westerly maxima in the interval between two successive passages of the moon over the astronomical meridian.

2. *gen.* The highest attainable magnitude or quantity (of something); a superior limit of magnitude or quantity.

1740 CHEYNE *Regimen* 306 In the Works of the God of Nature, there is no Maximum or Minimum assignable, or conceiveable by us. 1755 WINTHROP *Earthquakes* 28 Laws of this sort are sufficiently vindicated..if upon the whole they produce a maximum of good. 1806 COLQUHOUN *Indigence* 49 The art of conducting a nation to the maximum of happiness and the minimum of misery. 1855 BAIN *Senses & Int.* II. ii. § 14 (1864) 137 The animal powers attain their maximum in cold climates. 1902 T. M. LINDSAY *Ch. & Ministry in Early Cent.* vii. 279 A strange compound of minimum of fact and maximum of theory.

3. The highest amount (esp. of temperature, barometric pressure, etc.) attained or recorded within a specified period.

1850 EDMONDS in *Rep. Brit. Assoc., Sections* (1851) 32 The following remarkable maxima of temperature. 1860 MAURY *Phys. Geog. Sea* (Low) vii. § 348 The barometer also has its maxima and minima readings for the day. 1880 *Daily News* 18 Sept. 3/7 The maxima to-day were below 60 deg. in the Shetlands and Hebrides. 1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 16 June 5/2 The years of sunspot maximum.

4. A superior limit imposed by authority; *esp.* in *French Hist.*, a limit of price for corn.

1821 SYD. SMITH *Wks.* (1859) I. 352/1 The danger of insurrection is a circumstance worthy of the most serious consideration in discussing the propriety of a maximum. 1835 ALISON *Hist. Europe* (1847) IV. 164 They [the farmers, 1793] were compelled to part with their grain at the price fixed by the *maximum*, which was calculated on the scale of prices before the Revolution..

5. *attrib.* a. quasi-*adj.* or *adj.*, with the sense: That is a maximum, or that stands at the maximum; greatest. [Cf. F. *la dépense maximum*.]

1834 MRS. SOMERVILLE *Connex. Phys. Sci.* xxvi. (1849) 297 Surround two poles of maximum cold. 1860 MAURY *Phys. Geog. Sea* (Low) ix. § 430 The maximum density of average sea-water. 1861 *Times* 23 July, The maximum contract price for the conveyance of these emigrants was 25*l.* 18*s.* 4*d.* per statute adult. 1879 G. PRESCOTT *Sp. Telephone* 96 A point

of maximum disturbance. 1876 GRANT *Burgh Sch. Scotl.* II. ii. 103 The heritors paying the maximum salary and the town paying £12 annually for the support of a master. 1880 C. R. MARKHAM *Peruv. Bark* 405 The latter helping to produce a maximum temperature favourable to coffee cultivation.

b. Simple attributive: Pertaining to a maximum or maxima, as *maximum period*; **maximum thermometer**, a thermometer which records automatically the highest temperature within a given period. 1852 *Newton's Lond. Jrnl.* Conjoined Ser. XLI. 402 An improved maximum thermometer. 1868 LOCKYER *Elem. Astron.* ii. (1879) 49 There is a minimum period, when none are seen for weeks together, and a maximum period, when more are seen than at any other time.

Maxite (mæksəit). *Min.* [ad. G. *maxit* (Laspeyres 1872), f. name of *Max* Braun, a Belgian mining engineer: see -ITE.] = LEADHILLITE. 1885 in *Cassell's Encycl. Dict.* 1896 in A. H. CHESTER *Dict. Min.*

† **Maxy.** *dial. Obs.* [Corruption of MARCASITE.] In *Tin-Mining* = MUNDICK. 1671 *Observ. Mines Cornwal & Devon* in *Phil. Trans.* VI. 2102 And so continue sinking..till we find either the Load to grow small, or degenerate into some sort of weed, which are diverse; as Mundick or Maxy (corrupted from *Marchasite*) of 3 sorts; white, yellow, and green. 1710 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* II. 1730–6 BAILEY (fol.).

May (mēi), *sb.*[1] *poet.* (*arch.*) Forms: [? 1 mǽʒ,] 3 maȝ, mayȝ, 3–4 mai, 4–6 maye, 5 mey, 4– may. [Perh. a. ON. *mǿyj-* (nom. *mē-r*, accus. *mǿy*, *mey*; Sw. *mö*, Da. *mø*) = Goth. *mawi*:—OTeut. **maujō-*, **maᵘwjō-*, fem. f. **magu-z* (Goth. *magu-s*) boy, son: see MAIDEN.

The OE. poet. *mǽg* kinswoman (cogn. with *mǽg* masc. MAY *sb.*[2]) often occurs with the sense 'woman', and sometimes appears to mean 'maid' or 'virgin'. This use has been commonly regarded as the source of the present word; the OE. and the ON. word may have coalesced in ME.]

A maiden, virgin.

[*a* 900 CYNEWULF *Crist* 87 (Gr.) Sio eadge mæȝ..Sancta Maria. *a* 1000 *Cædmon's Gen.* 895 (Gr.) Him þa freolecu mæȝ [*sc.* Eve]..andswarode.] *c* 1200 ORMIN 2489 Þatt clene maȝȝ þatt shollde ben Allmahhtiȝ Godess moderr. *c* 1275 LAY. 30486 Þe king dude [vnwis]dom þat he þat ilke may nom [*earlier text* maide]. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 194/26 To bringue luþer þouȝt In-to þis swete ȝounge mayȝ. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 10267 Þat man..Þat has na barn, ne mai ne knaue. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 95 Þe corounyng of Henry, & of Malde þat may. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. XII. 111 Marie moder and may. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Man of Law's T.* 753 Thow glorie of wommanhede, thow faire may. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VI. i. 22 Sibilla the may. 1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* Nov. 39 The fayrest May she was that euer went. 1590 GREENE *Mourn. Garm.* (1616) C 3 b, Nor was Phillis that fair May Halfe so gawdy or so gay. 1607 *Barley-Breake* (1877) 5 Old Elpin with his sweete and louely May Would oft prepare..To keepe their sheep. 16.. *Sir Cauline* iii. in Child *Ballads* II. 58 Deerlye [he] lovde this may. 1818 T. L. PEACOCK *Nightmare Abbey* 119 For ill beseems in a reverend friar The love of a mortal may. 1855 *Fraser's Mag.* LI. 92 The maiden is pure all mays above. 1870 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* II. III. 349 Amid these latter words of his, the may From her fair face had drawn her hands away.

† **May,** *sb.*[2] *Obs.* Forms: 1 mǽʒ, (meeʒ, méʒ), *pl.* mǽȝas, 2 maiȝ, 3 mæi, mæȝ, mei, mey, (meay), mai, may. [Com. Teut.: OE. *mǽg* = OFris. *mêch*, OS. *mâg* (MLG. *mâch*, Du. *maag*), OHG. *mâg* (MHG. *mâc*, *mâg-*), ON. *mág-r* (adopted in northern Eng. as MAUGH), Goth. *mēg-s*:—OTeut. **mǽgo-z*, prob. related by ablaut to **magu-z* son, boy (Goth. *magu-s*, ON. *mǫg-r*): see MAIDEN.] A male relative, kinsman.

Beowulf 408 Ic eom Hiȝelaces mæȝ and maȝoðeȝn. *a* 700 *Epinal Gloss.* 164 *Contribulus*, meeȝ. *c* 1160 *Hatton Gosp.* Mark xiii. 12 Þa bearn ariseð aȝen heore maiȝes. *a* 1200 *Moral Ode* 187 Nolde it mouwe don for mey ne suster for broþer. *c* 1205 LAY. 3838 Þurh þe haueð Morgan mi mæi [*c* 1275 mey] is monschipe afallet. *a* 1300 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 17 Alle we beþ meiis and mowe.

May (mēi), *sb.*[3] Forms: 4–5 Maij, 4–6 Mai, 5–6 Mai, 6 Maie, Maye, 3– May. Also in Latin form 1–4 Maius, (4 Mayus). [a. F. *mai*:—L. *Maium* (nom. *Maius*, sc. *mēnsis*). Cf. Pr. *mai*, Sp. *mayo*, Pg. *maio*, It. *maggio*; also (from Fr.) MHG. *Mei(g)e* (G. *Mai*), MDu. *mey(e, meide* (Du. *Mei*), Sw. *Maj*, Da. *Mai*, late Gr. Μάϊος.

The etymology of the Latin name is obscure; some ancient writers connected it with the name of the goddess *Maia*.]

1. The fifth month of the year in the Julian and Gregorian calendar.

c 1050 *Byrhtferth's Handboc* in *Anglia* (1885) VIII. 316 Nouember & december habbaþ fif & twentiȝ ealdne monan.. & aprelis & maius eahta & twentiȝ. *a* 1121 *OE. Chron.* an. 1080 (MS. E) Þis ydon Norðhymbran on Maies monðe. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 26/83 (St. Austin of Canterbury) His day is toward þe ende of May. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* II. 1098, I may not slepe nenere a Mayes morwe. *c* 1391 — *Astrol.* I. § 10 Ianuare, Februare, Marcius, Aprile, Mayus [etc.]. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 3699 Þai made as mery melody & musik þai sanng As in þe moneths of Mai or mydsomere euyn. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 23 When the larke..Salveth the uprist of the sonne shene,..in April and in May. 1598 BARNFIELD *Ode*, As it fell vpon a Day, In the merrie Month of May. *c* 1630 MILTON *Sonn. Nightingale*, While the jolly hours lead on propitious May. 1784 COWPER *Task* VI. 62 The season smiles,..And has the warmth of May.

personified. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* II. 50 In may þat moder is of monethes glade. 1508 DUNBAR *Gold. Targe* 82 There saw I May, of myrthfull monethis quene. 1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II*, v. i. 79 She came adorned hither like sweet May. 1630 MILTON *On May morning* 5 Hail bounteous May, that dost inspire Mirth and youth and warm desire. 1826–34 WORDSW. *To May* i, Though many suns have risen and set Since thou, blithe May, wert born.

b. In proverbial and allusive phrases.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 92 He was as fressh as is the Monthe of May. 1508 DUNBAR *Gold. Targe* 261 Surmounting ewiry tong terestriall, Alls fer as Mayes morow dois mydnycht. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* IV. iii. 102. 1599 — *Much Ado* I. i. 194 There's her cosin..exceedes her as much in beautie, as the first of Maie doth the last of December. 1600 — *A. Y. L.* IV. i. 148. 1658 H. PLUMPTRE *Let.* in *12th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 6 Wishing that all your yeares yet to come..may partake more of Mayes then Julyes. 1659 HOWELL *Prov.* 11/1 As welcome as Flowers in May. 1732 T. FULLER *Gnomologia* 276 Leave not off a Clout Till May be out. 1742 GRAY *Spring* 50 We frolick, while 'tis May. 1889 D. HANNAY *Capt. Marryat* 150 If he had not spent his summer while it was May—at least he had run through it far too soon.

c. *fig.* Bloom, prime, heyday. *poet.*

a 1586 SIDNEY *Astr. & Stella* xxi. (1591) B 2, If now the May of my yeeres much decline. 1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* V. i. 76. 1602 MARSTON *Antonio's Rev.* I. i, We both were rivals in our May of blood Unto Maria. 1633 MASSINGER *Guardian* I. i, I am in the May of my abilities, And you in your December. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* II. 439 Others lay about the lawns, Of the older sort, and murmur'd that their May Was passing. 1859 — *Elaine* 553 A Prince, In the mid might and flourish of his May.

d. *May and January* or *December*: used to describe the marriage of a young woman to an old man.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Merch. T.* 449 That she, this mayden, which þat Mayus highte..Shal wedded be vn-to this Ianuarie. *Ibid.* 642 Thilke day That Ianuarie hath wedded fresshe May. 1581 T. HOWELL *Devises* I ij, In fayth doth frozen Ianus double face, Such fauour finde, to match with pleasant Maye. 1606 DEKKER *Sev. Sins* (Arb.) 44 You doe wrong to Time, inforcing May to embrace December. 1891 R. BUCHANAN *Coming Terror* 267 When asthmatic January weds buxom May.

2. The festivities of May-day. *Queen of the May*, † *Queen of May*, *Lady of the May* (cf. MAY-LADY): a girl chosen to be 'queen' of the games on May-day, being gaily dressed and crowned with flowers. † *King, Lord of (the) May* = MAY-LORD.

1506 *Acc. Ld. Treas. Scot.* (1901) III. 195 Item, to ane Quene of Maij at the Abbay ȝet, be the Kingis command xiiijs. 1515 in Glasscock *Rec. St. Michael's, Ep. Stortford* (1882) 34 Item pd for brede and ale th same day that Sabysford may was whan they of Sabysford did come rydynd to the toune to sett ther may. 1568 T. HOWELL *Arbour of Amitie* 36 b, Ich beare the banner before my Lorde of May. 1577 *Gen. Assembly* in Child *Ballads* III. 45 Discharge playes of Robin Hood, King of May, and sick others, on the Sabboth day. 1611 BEAUM. & FL. *Knt. Burn. Pestle* v. iii, I..by all men chosen was Lord of the May. *a* 1634 RANDOLPH *Amyntas* Prol., How shall we talk to nymphs so trim and gay, That ne'er saw lady yet but at a May? 1673 DRYDEN *Marr. a la mode* II. 28 Then I was made the Lady of the May. 1686 *Loyal Garland* (ed. 5) B 5, Cloris Queen of all the May. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 80 ? 2 The Girls preceded their parents like Queens of May, in all the gaudy Colours imaginable, on every Sunday to Church. 1802–16 MRS. SHERWOOD *Susan Gray* ix. (1869) 58 Why, Susan, you look as handsome as the queen of May in that hat. 1832 TENNYSON *May Queen* i, For I'm to be Queen o' the May, mother, I'm to be Queen o' the May.

3. Blossoms of the hawthorn (*Cratægus Oxyacantha*); hence occas., the tree itself: so called because it blooms in the month of May.

a 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII* 7 b, On May daye.. hys grace .. rose in the mornynge very early to fetche May or grene bows. 1592 NASHE *Summers Last Will* (1600) B 3 The Palme and May make countrey houses gay. 1604 E. G[IMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* v. XXVIII. 413 In this moone and moneth, which is when they bring Maie from the fieldes into the house. 1626 JACKSON *Creed* VIII. xix. § 1 By such a maner or trope of speech, as the English and French doe call the buds or flowers of hawthorne May. 1820 SHELLEY *Question* iii, The moonlight-coloured May. 1848 J. H. NEWMAN *Loss & Gain* ii. 5 The laburnums are out, and the may. 1866 M. ARNOLD *Thyrsis* vi, With blossoms red and white of fallen May.

4. *Cambridge Univ.* a. (*sing.* or *pl.*) = *May examination*; b. (*pl.*) = *May races*: see 5.

1852 C. A. BRISTED 5 *Yrs. Eng. Univ.* (ed. 2) 63 The College Easter Term Examination, familiarly spoken of as 'the May'. *Ibid.* 64 The 'May' is one of the features which distinguishes Cambridge from Oxford; at the latter there are no public College examinations. 1879 'JULIAN HOME' *Sk. Camb.* 53 And in the trials, in the Mays, From stroke to bow,..they keep the river head. 1901 *Daily Chron.* 6 May 8/3 The annual 'Mays'—paradoxically held in June—are fixed for the 5th of the latter month and following days.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as (sense 1) *May-born* adj., *morning, -night, season, time, -yeaned* adj.; (also with reference to 1 c) *May month, moon, morn*; (sense 2) *May-eve, feast, fool, -keeper*; (sense 3) *may-bloom, -blossom, -blossomed* adj., *bough, branch,* † *busket, leaf, tree*; † **may ale,** ? an ale-drinking held on May-day; † **May bishop,** an opprobrious name for a titular bishop; **May-drink** [= G. *maitrank*, Du. *meidrank*], white wine medicated with woodruff, drunk in Belgium and northern Germany; **May examination,** a college examination held at the end of the Easter term at Cambridge; **May-gad** (see quot. and GAD *sb.*[1] 5); **May-Hill,** used in the phrase *to have climbed May Hill*, to have passed through the part of the year most dangerous to health (perh. with allusion to May Hill as a local name); **May-house** (see quot.); † **May-king** = *king of the May* (see 2); **May-kitten,** ? a kitten born in May; † **May-like** *adv.*, with the freshness of May; † **May Marian** (see quot. and cf. MAID MARIAN); **May meetings,** a series of annual meetings of various religious and philanthropic societies held during the month of May in Exeter Hall, London, and other buildings; **May queen,** the Queen of the May (see 2); hence **May queenship**; **May races,** intercollegiate boat races held in the Easter term at Cambridge (now in June); † **May-roll** *v. trans.*, to roll in the grass as a May-day game; † **May-sel,** May-time; † **May skin,** ? the skin of a sheep sheared in May; **May-term,** colloq. name for the Easter term at Cambridge; **May-week,** the week of the May races at Cambridge; † **May wool,** ? wool taken from a sheep in May. Also MAY-BUTTER, -DAY, -DEW, -GAME, -LADY, -LORD, etc.

1516 in Glasscock *Rec. St. Michael's, Ep. Stortford* (1882) 35 Item resseyvyd of the *may ale above all charge ls. 1565 JEWEL *Def. Apol.* (1611) 585 Your late Chapter of Trident, with your worthie number of forty Prelates, whereof certaine were onlie *May Bishops, otherwise by you called Nullatenses. 1818 TODD, *May-bloom*, the hawthorn. 1599 B. JONSON *Cynthia's Rev.* v. ii. Wks. 1616 I. 248 *Mer.* Sweet Madames..your brests and forehead are whiter then gotes milke, or *May-blossomes. 1872 TENNYSON *Gareth & Lynette* 575 A damsel of high lineage, and a brow May-blossom, and a cheek of apple blossom. *a* 1789 MICKLE *Eskdale Braes* 29 The *May-blossom'd thorn. 1788 TURNBULL *Laura*, The sweetest *May-born flowers Paint the meadows. 1530 PALSGR. 666/1 In stede of a trapper he pricked his horse full of *maye bowes. 1560 in Sowerby *Eng. Bot.* (1864) III. 240 Those boys who choose it may rise at four oclock to gather *May branches. 1823 in Hone *Every-day Bk.* (1859) I. 565 On May morning..the girls look with some anxiety for their May-branch. 1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* May 10 To gather *may bus-kets and smelling brere. 1850 LONGF. *Gold. Leg.* 1. *Court-yard of Castle*, Fill me a goblet of *May-drink, As aromatic as the May From which it steals the breath away. 16.. *Songs Lond. Prentices* (Percy Soc.) 18 Upon *May Eve As prentices on Maying went. 1825 CROKER *Fairy Leg. & Trad. S. Ireland* I. 307 May-eve is considered a time of peculiar danger. *Ibid.* 308 Another custom prevalent on May-eve is the painful and mischievous one of stinging with nettles. 1852 C. A. BRISTED 5 *Yrs. Eng. Univ.* (ed. 2) 85 After the trial heat of the first *May examination, the field of candidates for Honours begins to assume something like a calculable form. 1778 HUTCHINSON *View Northumb., Anc. Customs* 14 The syllabub, prepared for the *May feast. *a* 1591 H. SMITH *Serm.* (1594) 394 May-games, and May poales, and *May fooles, and Morris-dancers are vanitie. 1724 STUKELEY *Itin. Curios.* I. 29 Making a procession to this hill with *may gads (as they call them) in their hands, this is a white willow wand the bark peel'd off, ty'd round with cowslips. *a* 1661 FULLER *Worthies, Derbysh.* (1662) I. 252 Whereas, in our remembrance, Ale went out when Swallows came in,..it now hopeth (having climed up *May-hill) to continue its course all the year. 1824 MISS MITFORD *Village* Ser. I. 89 From the trunk of the chestnut the *May-houses commence. They are covered alleys built of green boughs, decorated with garlands and great bunches of flowers..hanging down like chandeliers among the dancers. 1904 *Edin. Rev.* Jan. 55 Other *May-keepers whose symbols are now but relics. 1519 HORMAN *Vulg.* 277 b, It is the custome that euery yere we shal haue a *may kynge. 1690 DRYDEN *Amphitryon* III. 33 Blear-ey'd, like a *May-Kitten. 1844 MRS. BROWNING *Lost Bower* xxix, There fell Two white *may-leaves .. From a blossom. 1592 T. L[ODGE] *Euph. Shadow* (1882) 16 When..I..*May-like young, of pleasure gan to taste. 1582 FETHERSTON *Dial. agst. Dancing* D 7, In your maygames..you doe vse to attyre men in womans apparrell, whom you doe most commenly call *maymarrions. 1849 CLOUGH *Dipsychus* I. iv, Sweet eloquence! at next *May Meeting How it would tell in the repeating! 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* XVIII. XXV. 771 Lyke as *may moneth floreth and florysseth in many gardens. 1600 S. NICHOLSON *Acolastus* (1876) 8 In the May moneth of my blooming yeares. 1737 FIELDING *Tumble-Down Dick* Ded., A play judiciously brought on by you in the May-month. 1576 GASCOIGNE *Steele Gl.* Ep. Ded. (Arb.) 43 In the *May-moone of my youth. 1813 MOORE *Yng. May Moon* 1 The young May moon is beaming, love. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, I. ii. 120 My thrice-puissant Liege Is in the very *May-Morne of his Youth. 1878 BROWNING *Poets Croisic* XV, On May-mornes, that primeval rite Of temple-building..lingers. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. Prol. 5 On a *May [*Text A.* Mayes] mornynge on Maluerne hulles. 1601 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* III. iv. 156 More matter for a May morning. 1859 G. MEREDITH *R. Feverel* xviii. (xv.), The hand was..white and fragrant as the frosted blossom of a *May-night. 1832 TENNYSON (*title*) The *May Queen. 1881 RUSKIN *Lett., to Faunthorpe* (1895) I. 49, I hope the *May Queenship is beginning to be thought of. 1893 in *Camb. Univ. Almanack* (1894) 209 During the Lent or *May Races. 1656 R. FLETCHER *Poems* 210 The game at best, the girls *May rould must bee. 1508 DUNBAR *Tua mariit Wemen* 24 Grein..as the gress that grew in *May sessoun. 14.. *Stockh. Med. MS.* II. 407 in *Anglia* XVIII, 3if it be gaderid in *may-sel. 1497 HALYBURTON *Ledger* (1867) 46 Item..a sek off *May skynis contenand 300. 1534–5 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 109 Pro xj may skynnes. 1905 *Cambr. Review* 4 May 281/1 The *May term is seldom a good time for serious concerts. 1804 WORDSW. '*She was a Phantom of delight*', But all things else about her drawn From *May-time and the cheerful Dawn. 1895 *Cassell's Fam. Mag.* June 518 So many visitors are attracted to Cambridge for the '*May week'. 1720 STRYPE *Stow's Surv.* (1754) II. v. xiv. 325/2 Fallen *May wool rotten and other ill wool. 1884 *Century Mag.* Feb. 518 In June, when the *May-yeaned lambs were skipping in the sunshine.

b. In names (chiefly *local*) of animals: **May-**

beetle, the cockchafer; also, the CHOVY; **May-bird**, the whimbrel, *Numenius phæopus*; *U. S.* the bobolink (Bartlett *Dict. Amer.* 1859); **May-chafer** [cf. G. *maikäfer*] = *May-beetle* (in quot. *fig.*); †**May-chick** = *May-bird*; †**May-chit** (see CHIT *sb.*[4]); **May-curlew** = *May-bird*; **May fish**, a name for the twait shad, because of its entering rivers in May; *U. S.* a killifish, *Fundulus majalis*; **May-fowl, -jack** = *May-bird*; **May parr, peal**, local names for salmon at certain stages of growth; **May-skate**, the sharp-nosed ray, *Raia oxyrhyncha*; **May-sucker** *U.S.*, the hare-lipped sucker, *Quassilabia lacera*; †**May-worm**, an oil-beetle (genus *Meloe*). Also MAY-BUG, MAY-FLY.

1720 ALBIN *Nat. Hist. Insects* 60 In the middle of May came forth a brown Beetle called the Chafer, Oak Web, or *May Beetle. 1842 T. W. HARRIS *Insects injur. Veget.* (1862) 31 The best time..for shaking the trees on which the May-beetles are lodged, is in the morning. 1860 J. CURTIS *Farm Insects*, Index, May-bug or beetle—*Anisoplia horticola*. 1864 *E. Cornw. Words* in *Jrnl. Roy. Inst. Cornw.* Mar. 18 *May-bird, the whimbrel. 1870 H. STEVENSON *Birds Norf.* II. 199 The appearance of the main body [of whimbrels] in May..is so invariable that this species is alway spoken of as the 'May bird' by the gunners in both localities. 1827 CARLYLE *German Romance* III. 132 Your idle *May-chafers and Court-celestials. 1577 *Exp. Entert. Gorhambury* in Nichols *Progr. Eliz.* (1823) II. 57 Quails..*Maychicks..Malards. 1885 SWAINSON *Prov. Names Birds* 200 Whimbrel...*May curlew..(Ireland). 1836 YARRELL *Fishes* II. 133 The Twaite Shad..in consequence of the time of its annual visit to some of the rivers of the European Continent is called the *May-fish. 1896 JORDAN & EVERMANN *Fishes N. & Mid. Amer.* I. 639 Killifish; Mayfish; Rockfish. 1852 MACGILLIVRAY *Hist. Brit. Birds* IV. 253 [Syn.] Whimbrel, Little Curlew.. *Mayfowl. 1880 *Antrim & Down Gloss.*, **May jack*, the whimbrel. 1841 *Penny Cycl.* XX. 364/1 The smaller summer parrs (called, in Dumfriesshire, *May parrs). 1861 *Act 24 & 25 Vict.* c. 109 § 4 All migratory fish of the genus salmon, whether known by the names..mort, peal, herring peal, *may peal, pugg peal, harvest cock,..or by any other local name. 1828 FLEMING *Hist. Brit. Anim.* 171 *Raia oxyrinchus*. Sharp-nosed Ray...White Skate, Friar Skate, *May Skate. 1884 GOODE *Nat. Hist. Usef. Aquatic Anim.* 614 The 'Rabbit-mouth', 'Hare-lip',..or '*May Sucker' is found in abundance in many rivers of Tennessee and ..Ohio. 1658 ROWLAND tr. *Mouffet's Theat. Ins.* 1017 They hang the *May-worm (for so he cals the Oyl-beetle) about the neck with a thred, especially in the moneth of May.

c. In names of plants and fruits: **May-bean** (see quot.); †**May-blossom**, lily of the valley (see also 5 above); **May-cherry**, (*a*) a small early kind of cherry; (*b*) *U.S.* the fruit of *Amelanchier canadensis*, the June-berry; †**May-fern** (see quot.); **May gowan** (see GOWAN 2); †**May grapes**, *Botrychium Lunaria*; **May grass**, *Panicum latifolium* (J. T. Maycock *Flora Barbadensis* 1830, 61); **May-haw** (see HAW *sb.*[2] 3); **May lily**, lily of the valley (see LILY 2); **May-pop** *U. S.*, the fruit of the passion-flower, esp. of *Passiflora incarnata*; also, the plant itself; **May-rose**, a name for any rose flowering in May; also the guelder rose, *Viburnum Opulus*; **May-thorn**, the hawthorn; **May-wort**, *Galium cruciatum* (Treas. Bot. 1866). Also MAY-APPLE, MAY-BUSH, MAY DUKE, MAYFLOWER.

1802 *Eng. Encycl.* IV. 473/1 The *May-beans are a larger sort of ticks, and somewhat earlier ripe. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* II. xxvi. 178 Lyllie Conuall, is now called..in English..*May blossoms. 1664 EVELYN *Kal. Hort., May* (1679) 16 The *May-Cherry. 1713 ADDISON *Guardian* No. 97 ¶ 4 To Zelinda two sticks of May-Cherries. 1718 J. LAWRENCE *Fruit-g. Kalendar* 78 The little early May-Cherry is indeed worth nothing. 1832 L. HUNT *Sir R. Esher* (1850) 142 The finest apples and pears, strawberries, and May-cherries. 1884 SARGENT *Rep. Forests N. Amer.* (10th *Census* IX.) 84 *Amelanchier Canadensis*...May Cherry. 1658 tr. *Bergerac's Satyr. Char.* xii. 41 A girdle of *May-fearne [orig. *fougere de May*] woven in tresses. 1548 TURNER *Names of Herbes* (E. D. S.) 85 Lunaria minor, which may be called in englishe litle Lunary or *Maye Grapes, the duch cal this herbe..meydruuen. 1887 J. C. HARRIS *Free Joe*, etc. (1888) 200 An' I fotch you some *May-pops too. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* s. v. *Rose*, The small red rose, commonly called the *May rose. 1802–16 MRS. SHERWOOD *Susan Gray* xiii. (1869) 94 In her hand she had a bunch of May-roses. 1844 MRS. BROWNING *Vis. Poets* Concl. 105, I receive The *maythorn, and its scent outgive! 1882 KEARY *Outlines Prim. Belief* 107 Even the maythorn is to be met with.

May (mē[1]; unstressed mĕ[1], mĕ), *v.*[1] Forms: see below. [A Com. Teut. vb., belonging (by conjugation if not by origin) to the class of preterite-presents, in which the present tense has the inflexion of a strong preterite, while the past tense is formed from the root by means of a suffix: cf. *can, dare, dow, mote* (*must*), *owe, shall, wot*. The OE. *mæg, magon, meahte* (later *mihte*), correspond to OFris. *mei, mugun, machte*, OS. *mag, mugun, mahta* (Du. *mag, mogen, mocht*), OHG. *mag, magum* (*mugum*), *mahta* (MHG. *mag, magen, mohte*, mod.G. *mag, mögen, mochte*), ON. *má, megom, máttr* (Sw. *må, måtte*, Da. *maa, maatte*), Goth. *mag, magum, mahta*. The primary sense of the verb is to be strong or able, to have power; the root OTeut. **mag-*, OAryan **magh-*, appears in MIGHT *sb.*, OSl. *mogg* I can, Gr. *μῆχος* contrivance, *μηχανή* MACHINE, Skr. *mahan* great.

The conjugation is abnormal; according to Brugmann *Grundriss* II. § 887 the verb was originally a thematic present with weak root-vowel, and was attracted into the preterite-present class by analogy.]

A. Inflexional Forms.

†**1.** *Infinitive. Obs.* Forms: *a.* 1 maȝan, 3 muȝen, *Ormin* muȝhenn, 4 mowen, mow, 5 mown, 4–5 moun, 4–6 mowe(n.

c 1050 *De Consuet. Monach.* in *Anglia* XIII. 389 *Posse carere*, maȝan þolian. *c* 1200 ORMIN 3944 þatt mannkinn shollde muȝhenn wel Upp cumenn inntill heoffne. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1818 Hu sal ani man ðe muȝen deren? *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* xvii. 41 Þai sall noght mow stand. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* IV. met. i. (1868) 110 Þou .. shalt mowen retourne hool & sounde. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 2 Thou schalt mowe senden hire a lettre. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 346/2 Mown, or haue myȝhte..,*possum*. 1495 *Act* 11 *Hen. VII*, c. 5 No Ship of greate burdon shall mowe comme ..in the seid Haven. 1533 MORE *Apol.* xxii. Wks. 885/1 Some waye that appered..to mow stande the realme in great stede.

β. 5–6 may, (5 maye).

1435 MISYN *Fire of Love* 15, I haue denyed þym to may be knawen. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* i. 26 As longe that I shalle maye bere armes. 1503 ATKYNSON tr. *De Imitatione* III. lxiv. 258 Nor stronge helpers shal nat may helpe. 1532 CRANMER *Let.* in *Misc. Writ.* (Parker Soc.) II. 233, I fear that the emperor will depart thence, before my letters shall may come unto your grace's hands. 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus*, *Possum*..To may, or can.

2. *Indicative Present.*

a. 1*st and* 3*rd. pers. sing.* **may.** Forms: 1 mæȝ, meȝ, (mæiȝ, maȝ), 2 mayȝ, 2–3 maiȝ, mei, 2–4 mai, 2–5 mey, 3 mæi, *Ormin* maȝȝ, 3–6 ma, maye, 5–6 maie, 3– may.

The ONorthumbrian writers often use the subjunctive forms (*mæge, -æ, -e, -i*) instead of those of the indicative.

Beowulf 2801 (Gr.) Ne mæg ic her leng wesan. *c* 825 *Vesp. Psalter* lxxvii. 19 Ah meg god ȝearwian biod in woestenne? *a* 1100 *Cerefa* in *Anglia* IX. 261 Æfre he mæiȝ findan on ðam he mæiȝ nyt beon. *c* 1160 *Hatton Gosp.* Matt. vi. 24 Ne mayȝ nam man twam hlaferden þeowian. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 9 Ne þe deofel mey nefre cumen inne him. *c* 1200 ORMIN 6199 Þa birrþ þin macche gætenn þe All þatt ȝho maȝȝ fra sinne. *c* 1220 *Bestiary* 516 Ðe smale he wile ðus biswiken, ðe grete maiȝ he noȝt bigripen. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 295 Ðowȝte ðis quead, 'hu ma it ben?' *c* 1275 *Passion our Lord* 68 in *O. E. Misc.* 39 As ich eu seȝȝe may. 1382 WYCLIF *Phil.* iv. 13, I may alle thingis in him that comfortith me. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 40 And my paper it conteyne ne may. 1503 in *Trans. Roy. Hist. Soc.* (1902) 152 Alex. maye I trust the? 1551 T. WILSON *Logike* (1580) 31 b, This maie bee true, and this maie bee false. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S. T. S.) 33 Bot luke on that, quhilk now ma not be sene.

b. 2*nd pers. sing.* **mayest, mayst** (mē[1]·ĕst, mē[1]st). Forms: *a.* 1 meaht, *Northumb.* mæht, *Kent.* meht, 1–4 miht, 2–3 myht, 3 maht, (*Ormin* mahht), mayhte, maucht, meiht, micht, (mith), 4 maiȝt, mait, mayt, mate, (mayth), myht, myȝt, 5 mat, myȝte.

In 12th–14th c. *þ* and *s* are sometimes found for *h*, ȝ.

8.. *Kent. Gl.* in Wr.-Wülcker 58/11 *Si nales*.., ȝif ðu meht. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Luke vi. 42, & hu mæht [*c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* miht, *c* 1160 *Hatton* myht] ðu cuoæða broðre ðinum [etc.]. *c* 1200 ORMIN 7779 Depe sinness þatt tu mahht Wel nemmnenn dæde werrkess. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 258 Ase þu ert freo & wilt & maucht. *c* 1205 LAY. 2981 Þu mith [*c* 1275 miht] me wel ileue. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 276 And so þu meiht icnowen þine owune woke unstrencðe. *c* 1250 *Kent. Serm.* in *O. E. Misc.* 31 Yef þu wilt þu me micht makie hool. *c* 1275 *Lnue Ron* 31 *Ibid.* 94 Þus is þes world as þu mayht seo. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 26575 For sua þou mate noght wasch þi wite. *c* 1330 *Spec. Gy Warw.* 881 Þerfore worch, while þu mait, For sodeyneliche þu might be caiht. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. i. 146 Her thou miht [B. i. 170 myȝtow] seon ensaumple in hymselfe one. 1426 AUDELAY *Poems* 8 Ellys i-savyd thou mat noȝt be. *c* 1450 MYRC 15 Here thow myȝte fynde & rede.

β. 4–5 maiste, mayste, 4–7 maist, (5 maxste), 5–6 maiest, 4– mayst, 6– mayest, may'st.

[A new formation on *may*.]

c 1374 CHAUCER *Compl. Mars* 112 Wel maist thou wepe and crien. *c* 1385 — *L. G. W.* 504 That mayst thow sen sche kytheth what sche is. 1470–85 MALORY *Arth.* IV. x. 131 Thow arte ouercome and maxste not endure. 1477 EARL RIVERS (Caxton) *Dictes* 21 b, Take not from me that that thou maiest not yeue me. 1553 EDEN *Treat. Newe Ind.* (Arb.) 7 In this Booke thou mayest reade many straunge thinges. 1640 BROME *Sparagus Garden* II. iii, Thou maist make a Country gentleman in time. 1717 POPE *Eloïsa* 325 In sacred vestments may'st thou stand. 1819 SHELLEY *Cenci* v. iv. 155 So mayest thou do as I do. 1821 — *Hellas* 844 Thou mayst behold How cities [etc.].

γ. Chiefly *Sc.* and *north.* 4 mai, 4–5 may, 4–6 ma, 5 maye.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 290 Behald þe sune and þou mai se. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* i. (*Petrus*) 380, I am Resine, as þou ma se. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 1090 May þou oȝt, lede, þe ȝonder lawe lyft on þi schulder? *c* 1440 HYLTON *Scala Perf.* (W. de W. 1494) I. lxxii, Thou maye [1533 mayst] not lyue wythout mete and drynke. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xc. 34 Thow ma rycht weill in thi mynde consydder That [etc.].

c. *plural.* **may.** Forms: *a.* 1 maȝon, (-un, -an), mahon, maȝe(n, *Northumb.* maȝa, -o, 2–3 maȝe(n, 3 mahen, mah, mawe, 3–5 mawen.

OE. Chron. an. 656 (MS. E), Ealle þa þa to Rome na maȝen faren. *c* 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* I. i. (Schipper) 11 Oðer ealond ..þæt we maȝon oft leohtum dagum ȝeseon. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xx. 22 Maȝaȝe [*c* 975 *Rushw.* maȝon ȝit, *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* maȝe ȝyt, *c* 1160 *Hatton* muȝen ȝyt] drinca calic ðone ic drinca willo. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 21 We ne maȝen alre coste halden crist hibode. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 361 Cleopest þeo þinges godes, þæt nowðer sturien ne mahen ne steoren ham seoluen. *a* 1250 *Prov. Ælfred* 14 in *O. E. Misc.* 102 Heom he bi-gon lere so ye mawe [*other text* muȝen] i-hure. 1439 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) I. Introd. 56 Yer is so grete scarstee of maistres of gramer, whereof as now ben almost none, nor none mawen be hade in your Universitees.

β. 1 mæȝon, 4 mai, *north.* mais, 4–6 ma, etc. as in 1st and 3rd pers. sing.

c 897 K. ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* xxiii. 176 Da þe medomlice & wel mæȝon [*Hatton MS.* maȝon] læran. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* John xiii. 36 Ne mæȝon [*c* 975 *Rushw.* maȝun] ȝie mec nu fylȝe. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 5518 We ma sua our landes tin. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxxvi. (*Baptista*) 761 Sum cristine þare wonnyne mais. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 51 Men mai recovere lost of good. *c* 1400 *Cursor M.* 29132 (Cotton Galba) We mey se by saint austin lare [etc.]. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 684 May ȝe oȝt me in any maner to þat sterne schewe?

γ. 2–3 muȝen, (2 muȝon, muȝe), 3 muhen, muwe(n, mouwen, (*Ormin* muȝhenn), muȝhe, *Kent.* muee, mohe, mo, 3–4 moȝe(n, 3–5 mowen, 4 mou, mu, 4–5 mowne, moun, mow, 5 mown, mowghe, 6 mowe.

c 1160 *Hatton Gosp.* John xiv. 5 Hu muȝe we þanne wei cunnan? *a* 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 221 Ne hi muȝen ne hi nelleð nane synne ȝewercon. *Ibid.* 223 Imuȝon [=ye may] ȝecnowen eiȝðer god and euyl. *c* 1200 ORMIN 13408 We muȝhenn sen whatt itt bihallt. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 44 Toward te preostes tiden herkneð se wel ȝe muwen. *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* 43 Ne muhen ha nanes weis bedden in a breoste. *c* 1250 *Kent. Serm.* in *O. E. Misc.* 27 Ye muee wel under-stonde..þet [etc.]. *c* 1250 *Death* 255 *Ibid.* 184 Þenne mohe [*Jesus MS.* muwe] we cwemen crist at þe dom. *c* 1290 *Beket* 979 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 134 Wel ȝe mouwen i-seo þat he is prouȝt. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 22559 Quine mak þai, sin þai sua mu [*Gött.* mv, *Trin.* mow] Anoþer heuen and erth? 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) I. 185 Foules mowe not lyue þere. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* II. xx. 273 Hem whicbe kunnen not rede or moun not here the word of God. *c* 1475 *Partenay* 5446 And ye mow noght, Alway here byde moste ye. *c* 1485 *Digby Myst.* (1882) III. 392 In alle þe hast þat euer they mown. *a* 1553 UDALL *Royster D.* IV. iv. (Arb.) 66 Ralph Roister Doister, whome ye know well mowe [*rime* you].

3. *Subjunctive Present.* **may.** Forms: *a. sing.* 1 mæȝe, (mæhȝe, mæȝȝe), *Mercian* meȝe, *Northumb.* mæȝæ, mæȝi, *Kent.* meiȝe, 3 meih, 2– (as in Indicative). *plural.* 1 mæȝen, meȝen, *Northumb.* mæȝi, mæȝon, etc.

Beowulf 680 Þeah ic eal mæȝe. 8.. *Kent. Glosses* in Wr.-Wülcker 81/32 *Ne..non possis*, ðe les ðu ne meiȝe. *c* 825 *Vesp. Psalter* lxx. 8 Dæt ic meȝe singan wuldur ðin alne deȝ. *c* 950 *Rit. Dunelm.* (Surtees) 95 Ðe mæȝi hia ædeava [L. *tibi valeant apparere*]. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* John xxi. 25 Nidoemo ic þætti middangeord mæȝi bifon ðailco ðaðe [etc.]. *c* 1205 LAY. 1206, & ȝif ich þat lond mai[*c* 1275 mawe] bi-ȝeten. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 230 ȝif þu..meih. 14.. in Horstmann *Hampole's Wks.* (1895) I. 105 If þou may. *a* 1553 UDALL *Royster D.* IV. vii. (Arb.) 72 Saue thy head if thou may.

β. sing. 1 maȝe, 2–3 maȝe, muȝe, (3 *Ormin* muȝhe), muhe, muwe, moȝe, mawe, 3–5 mowe, 4 mow. *plural.* 1 maȝon, -en, (mahan), 3 *Ormin* muȝhenn, 4–5 mowe(n, etc. (as in Indicative).

c 888 K. ÆLFRED *Boeth.* vii. § 3 (Sedgefield) 18 Þæt him þa stormas derigan ne mæȝen [*v.r.* mahan]. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gen.* xv. 5 Telle þas steorran, ȝif þu maȝe. *a* 1000 *Cædmon's Gen.* 400 ȝif we hit maȝen wihte aþencan. *c* 1121 *O. E. Chron.* an. 675 (MS. E), And he ne muge hit forðian. *c* 1200 ORMIN 2419 Hu maȝȝ þiss forþedd wurrþenn, þatt I wiþþ childe muȝhe ben? *c* 1205 LAY. 1520 Wheðer ich maȝe [*c* 1275 mawe] þe ufere hond habben. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 68 Iðen ilke huse, oðer þer he muwe [*MS. T*, muhe] iseon touward ou. *c* 1275 *Prov. Ælfred* 561 in *O. E. Misc.* 132 ȝif.. þu ne moȝe mid strenghe þe selwen steren. *a* 1300 *Havelok* 675 Yif me gold and oþer se þat y mowe riche be. 1414 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 59/1 That these..meschiefs..mowen ben amended. *c* 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* I. 131 Chaunge hem yf thou mowe. *a* 1450 MYRC 95 And but scho mowe se þe hed.

4. *Indicative and Subjunctive Past.*

a. 1*st and* 3*rd pers. sing., plural* **might** (mait); 2*nd pers. sing.* **mightest** (mai·tĕst).

a. 1*st and* 3*rd pers. sing.* Forms: 1 meahte, mehte, *Northumb.* mæhte, 1–4 mihte, 2–3 micte, 2–4 myhte, 3 michte, miitte, myht, mahte, *Ormin* mihhte, 3–5 miȝte, myȝte, 3–6 miȝt, myȝt, 4–5 mighte, 4–6 *Sc.* micht, mycht, 4–7 myght, (4 miht, miȝth, *Sc.* macht, 4, 8–9 (chiefly *Sc.*) mith, 5 meghte, myte, myth, 6 mythe, 6–7 myt, 7 may't, 8–9 *Sc.* meith), 4– might.

c 975 *Rushw. Gosp.* Matt. viii. 28 Swa þætte mæniȝ mæhte faran þurh waȝe þæm. *a* 1000 *Guthlac* 548 Hit ne meahte swa. *a* 1000 *Boeth. Metr.* xi. 102 ȝif hit meahte swa. 1154 *OE. Chron.* an. 1137 (MS. E), Dæt he ne myhte nowiðerwardes. *c* 1205 LAY. 1205 To ane wnsume londe þer ich mihte wunien. *a* 1225 *St. Marher.* 13 Ne mahte me na mon ouercomen. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 1483 ȝif it miȝte be ido. *a* 1300 *K. Horn* 9 Feyrore child ne myhte be born. *a* 1300–1400 *Cursor M.* 466 (Gött.) In heuen might [*Cott.* moght, *Fairf.* miȝt, *Trin.* myȝte] he no langer abide. *Ibid.* 686 Sauñi mith þai samen slepe. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 3 He was of grete elde, & myght not trauaile. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* vi. (*Thomas*) 247 Til he thocht quhat vyse he micht torment þam. *c* 1375 *Ibid.* xiii. (*Marcus*) 180 Þat stand one fut na man macht. *c* 1400 *Adam Davy's Dreams* 14 He ne miȝth þennes goo ne ride. 1415 SIR T. GREY in 43 *Dep. Kpr's. Rep.* 583, I said treuly I meghte not but I wolde cum. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* liii. 233 He lernid to be a phisicien, that myte be in eny place. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* III. xi. 111 Rydynge..as fast as she myȝt dryue. *a* 1529 SKELTON *Woffully Araid* 33 in Wks. (Dyce) I. 142 What myȝt I suffir more Than I haue don? 1536 *Anc. Cal. Rec. Dublin* (1889) I. 499 In that he mythe..obtayne the kyng

hys vaverys. 1553 Eden *Treat. Newe Ind.* (Arb.) 6 It myghte happelye haue comen to passe. 1567 *Satir. Poems Reform.* iii. 60 He mycht baue bene ane marrow to ane Quene. 1610 Shaks. *Temp.* I. ii. 168 Would I might But euer see that man. 1819 Tennant *Papistry Storm'd* (1827) 116 A man mith weel had heard the clutter..o' their chafts.

b. *2nd pers. sing.* Forms: 1 meahtest, (Subj. meahte), *Northumb.* mæhtest, (mihtes, mæht-(t)es ðu), 1–3 mihtest, 2 mahtest, myhtes, 2–3 myhtest, 3 mihtes, *Ormin* mihhtesst, 4 miȝtes, 4–5 miȝtest, 5 myȝt-, mightist, myghttyst, 4–mightest.

c 888 K. Ælfred *Boeth.* xx. (Sedgefield) 48 Mid hu micelan feo woldest þu þa habban ȝeboht þæt ðu switole mihtest tocnawan þine frind & ðine fynd? *a* 900 Cynewulf *Crist* 1431 Þæt..þu meabte minum weorþan mæȝ-wlite ȝelic. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Mark xiv. 37 Ne mæhtes [*Rushw.* mæhttes, *Ags.* & *Hatton* mihtes] ðu an huil ȝewæccæ? 1154 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1137 (MS. E), Wel þu myhtes faren all a dæis fare sculdes thu neure finden man in tune sittende. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 29 Hu mahtest þu gan to þine aȝene liche ȝif þin hefet were offe? *c* 1200 Ormin 5160 ȝiff þatt tu mihbtesst lufenn Godd. *c* 1205 Lay. 28112 ȝet þu mihtest þe awreken. *c* 1275 *Passion our Lord* 168 in *O. E. Misc.* 42 Ne Myhtestu one tyde wakien myd me? *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 13559 Art þou not he þat ȝondir day miȝtes not se? *a* 1425 *Ibid.* 9847 (Trin.) Þus miȝtestou selcouþ ealle If þou him say. 1509 Barclay *Shyp of Folys* (1570) 62 Then wouldest thou gladly (if thou might) do well. 1535 Coverdale *Ps.* l[i]. 4 That thou mightest be iustified in thy saynges. [So 1611.] 1567 *Satir. Poems Reform.* viii. 48 War nocht of faith defendit,..Than þow myt writte in gennerall.

c. *plural.* Forms: 1 meahton (Subj. -en), mihton, *Northumb.* mæhtun, -on, mæȝhton, mæhtes, mæhtæs, (1–2 mihte, myhte *we*, etc.), 2 mehten, miht(i), micht(i), 2–4 mihten, (3 mæhte, mahte, miþte), 3–4 myhten, miȝtin, miȝtten, myȝtten, 4–5 miȝten, myȝten, myghten, 4– as in 1st and 3rd pers. sing.

Beowulf 314 Him þa hildedeor hof modiȝra torht ȝetæhte, þæt hie him to mihton ȝeȝnum gangan. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xii. 14 Huu hine mæhtes to lose ȝedon [Vulg. *perderent*]. *Ibid.* xxvi. 40 Ne mæhto ȝie [*c* 1160 *Hatton* ne myhte ȝe] ane tid wæccea mee mið? *c* 1000 Ælfric *Saints' Lives* iv. 326 And bebyriȝdon hine swa swa hie selost mihton on. 11.. *O. E. Chron.* an. 1066 (MS. C), Þet hi ne micte þa brigge oferstiȝan. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 129 And ne mehten þer naleng etstonden. *c* 1250 *Prov. Ælfred* 31 in *O. E. Misc.* 104 How ye myhte [*c* 1275 we miȝtin] worldes wrþsipes welde. 1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 202 Wher thei the profit mihten cueche. *c* 1449 Pecock *Repr.* III. i. 279 That in tho citees the peple of clerkis myȝten..dwelle. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* IV. v. 125 He was so heuy that an C men myght not lyfte hyt vp. 1508 Dunbar *Flyting w. Kennedie* 468 Thay micht haue tane the collum at the last. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* I. iv. 27 Two iron Coffers..full as they might hold. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 93 That..quhen thay walde thay myt schote..a darte.

β. mought (mōut). Now *dial.* (This form had an extensive literary currency in the 16th and 17th c.; it is often difficult to distinguish from the archaic Mote *v.*, which was by confusion frequently written *mought*.) Forms: 1–2 muhte, 4–5 moht, moȝt(e, moghte, mouȝt, moweht, muȝt, mught, 4–6 moght, mocht, (4 mouht, moucht(e, mouthe, mouct(h)e, mowcte, 5 mowȝt, mouth, mowth, 6 moughte, 8 mucht, 9 mowt, mout, mught), 6– mought. Also *2nd pers. sing.* 6–7 mought(e)st; *pl.* 1–2 muhton, -en, 4 moȝten, etc.

O.E. Chron. an. 992 (MS. E), ȝif hi muhton þone here ahwær betræppen. *Ibid.* an. 1004 He þa ȝegaderode his fyrde diȝlice swa he swyðost muhte. *Ibid.* an. 1140 Þa hi ne leng ne muhten þolen þa stali hi ut & fluȝen. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 2085 He liued lelly quylist be moȝt. *Ibid.* 14830 And quar-for sent we yow..Bot for to tak him if yee moght [*Trin.* mouȝt]? 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1953 Þay maden as mery as any men moȝten. *c* 1375 *Cursor M.* 12686 (Fairf.) His knes ware bolned squa þat he muȝt vnnebes ga. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* iii. (*Andreas*) 890 Þat mycht na man..Sa wel do as he mowcht. *c* 1400 *Cursor M.* 23223 (Edinb.) Quil þou moht turn þin hand about, it sud worise wit-outen dout. *c* 1450 *Ibid.* 16538 (Laud) They seid it not mowth. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilȝear* 492, I vndertuk thay suld be brocht, This day for ocht that be mocht. 1488 *Anc. Cal. Rec. Dublin* (1889) I. 493 A yeman..keste a spere into the see..as far as he moghte. *a* 1529 Skelton *Col. Clout* 581 They mought be better aduysed Then to be so dysgysed. *a* 1557 Mrs. M. Basset tr. *More's Treat. Passion* M.'s Wks. 1310/1 The traytour mought haue caused hym and hys dysciples to bee taken. 1565 Turberv. *Epit.* etc. 25 b, Thou hast fled the place..Where thou moughtst chat with me thy fill. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* I. i. 42 So sound he slept, that nought mought him awake. 1605 Bacon *Adv. Learn.* II. Introd. § 8 Wher such as were so disposed, mought give themselves to Histories. 1638 Quarles *Emblems, Hierogl.* vii. (1639) 347 There was no Cave-begotten damp that mought Abuse her beams. 1690 in Wolseley *Marlborough* II. 212 Soe that the garisons mought pay for what they take. 1718 Ramsay *Christ's Kirk Gr.* III. xv, He..Ca'd her a jade, and said she mucht 'Gae hame'. 1810 S. Green *Reformist* I. 88 You mought as well, Sir, ax for one of their lives. 1849 C. Bronte *Shirley* viii, I mught as weel tell him that at t'same time. 1872 Schele de Vere *Americanisms* 508 In North Carolina '*it mout be*' is a standing phrase for perhaps. 1885 Tennyson *Spinster's Sweet-arts* vii, Or I mowt 'a liked tha as well. 1885 Miss Murfree *Prophet Gt. Smoky Mts.* i. 27 They mought jounce round hyar ez ef they war bereft o' reason.

†5. *Present Participle. Obs.* Forms: 1 maȝende, *Kent.* meȝende, 4 mowende, 5 mouwynge, mowing, -yng, 6 maeyinge.

8.. *Kent. Glosses* in Wr.-Wülcker 61/1 *Nec ualens*, na meȝende. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Gram.* (Z.) 251 *Quiens*, maȝende. 1382 Wyclif *Prov.* vii. 11 Ne mowende in the hous abide stille

with hir feet. *c* 1440 Love *Bonavent. Mirr.* liv. 109 Peter ..noght mouwynge reste. *c* 1450 *Mirour Saluacioun* 2672 Noght mowing dye in realle clothis of his deitee. 1487 *Will Knight* (Somerset Ho.), Not mowyng for hastynesse of deth to reforme his testament. 1556 *Aurelio & Isab.* (1608) M ix, Maeyinge suffer no more the loue & deathe of Aurelio.

†6. *Past Participle. Obs.* Forms: 5 mowed, mowte, mow(e, myght, 6 mought.

c 1400 Maundev. (1839) xxix. 298 Wee wolde han gon toward the Trees..ȝif wee had myght. *c* 1420 Lydg. *Assembly of Gods* 1951, I wold haue be thens, yef I had mowte. 1440 in *Wars Eng. in France* (Rolls) II. 454 Whiche was not lyke mowed to be borne. 1490 Caxton *How to Die* 7 Whan the deuyll hath not mowe ne can not induce the man to goo oute of the fayth. *c* 1500 *Melusine* 27 Thenne he had nat mow say one only word. *c* 1510 More *Picus* Wks. 7/2 Ye haue mought oftentimes, & yet maie desceyue me.

†7. *Verbal sb.* Mowing, q.v. *Obs.*

B. Signification and uses.

I. As a verb of complete predication.

†1. *intr.* To be strong; to have power or influence; to prevail (*over*). With adv., (*it*) *may well with*: (it) can well support or endure. *If I may*: if I have any power in the matter; hence, if I can avoid or prevent it. *Obs.*

In OE. *ic mæg wel*=I am in good health. [So MHG. *ich mag wol.*]

c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* ix. 20 Aris dryhten ne meȝ mon [Vulg. *non prævaleat homo*]. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 300 Heo mæȝ wið manega untrumnyssa. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Gen.* xxix. 6 Þa cwæð he: Hu mæȝ he? Hiȝ cwædon þæt he wel mihte. 1154 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1137 (MS. E), Hi..ræueden munekes & clerekes & æuric man other þe ouer myhte. *c* 1200 Ormin 8043 þatt ifell gast maȝȝ oferr þa þatt follȝhenn barrness pæwess. *c* 1375 *Cursor M.* 5869 (Fairf.) Þai salle for-soþ if atte I may, wirk ij dayes werk a-pon a day. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Frankl. T.* 690 My body at the leeste way Ther shal no wight defoulen, if I may. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl.* C. xiii. 191 Lynne-seed and lik-seed..Aren nouht so worthy as whete, ne so wel mowen In þe feld with þe forst. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xii. xxvii. (1495) 429 The kite is a byrde that maye well wyth trauaylle. *Ibid.* xviii. lxxxi. 833 Shepe that haue longe taylles may worse wyth wynter than those that haue brode taylles. *c* 1430 *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* 197/93 For & þou ouer me myȝtist, as y ouer þee may.

†b. With cognate obj. (*might, power*). *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 7708 He him soght Wit all þe mightes [*Gött.* miht] þat he moght. *Ibid.* 18064 He þat sullkins mightes moght. *c* 1375 Barbour *Bruce* III. 366 God help him, that all mychtis may! *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* III. 396 For all the power thai mocht.

II. As an auxiliary of predication; with a following simple inf., or with ellipsis of this.

May shares with various other auxiliary vbs. (as *can*, *will*, *shall*) the characteristic that the inflected past subjunctive (though coinciding formally with the past indicative) retains its original functions. Like other past subjunctives, *might* is frequently used in a sense which differs from that of the present form not temporally but modally (partly corresponding to the 'present conditional' of Romanic grammar). The fact that *might* thus admits of three different meanings is sometimes productive of ambiguity, which has to be avoided by recourse to some different form of expression. Further, *may* agrees with certain other auxiliaries in having no pa. pple.; hence its pa. t. is used with a following perfect infinitive where logical correctness would require the plupf. tense (ind. or subj.) of the auxiliary followed by a present infinitive. Thus, in sense 3 below, *he might do* may be paraphrased either 'he was free to do' or 'he would be free to do'; and *he might have done*=either 'he had been free to do' or 'he would have been free to do'.

2. Expressing ability or power; = Can *v.*1 4. *Obs.* exc. *arch.*

9.. *Durham Admon.* in *O. E. Texts* 176 ȝif men ferlice wyrde unsofte, oððe sprecan ne maeȝe. *c* 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 229 Ne michti hi alle hin acwelle. ȝef he syll nold. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 185 Swo muchel muriðe is in þe bureh of heuene, þat eie ne maiȝ swo muchel biholden. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 349 Corineus..so strong was of honde..him ne miȝte no man ne no geant at stonde. 1340 Hampole *Pr. Consc.* 577 A best þat men Lynx calles, þat may se thurgh thik stane walles. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Can. Yeom. Prol.* 128 We mowen nat..It ouer-take, it slit awey so faste. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* xxxi. 115 (Harl. MS.) The Oynementes shal lose his tethe, In so muche that he shalle not mow fight ayenste the lenger. 1480 Caxton *Chron. Eng.* cxxvii. 106 Charged with as moche gold and syluer as we mowe bere bitwene our handes. 1530 Palsgr. 670/1 He..shotte at me as harde as be myght drive. 1582 Bentley *Mon. Matrones* ii. 14 No man may separate me from thee. 1627 Drayton *Nymphidia* (1753) II. 460 Thy mighty strokes who may withstand? 1857 [see 9 a].

3. Expressing objective possibility, opportunity, or absence of prohibitive conditions; = Can *v.*1 6. Now with mixture of sense 5.

c 888 K. Ælfred *Boeth.* xviii. § 2 (Sedgefield) 42 Hu maȝ ðær..synderlice anes rices monnes nama cuman? *c* 975 *Rushw. Gosp.* Mark ii. 4 Hi ne mæhtun ȝebringan hine him for menȝo. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 15 Se hit maȝen witen iwis þet hit is al for ure sunne. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 9 Plente me may in engelond of alle gode ise. 1386 Chaucer *Prol.* 301 But al þat he myghte of his freendes hente, On..lernyng he it spente. *c* 1400 Maundev. (1839) ii. 10 Cedre may not, in Erthe ne in Watre, rote. *c* 1450 *Merlin* i. 22 'Alle these thynges', quod Merlyn, 'ne mowe the hynder in body, ne in sowle'. 1481 E. Paston in *P. Lett.* III. 278 Lete me have knowlache of ȝour mynde..whan ȝe shall moun be in this cuntre. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 5 b, For the lawe myght not delyuer them. 1623 Webster *Duchess Malfi* III. i, A Count! he's a meere sticke of sugar-candy, (You may looke quite thorough him). 1678 Bunyan *Pilgr.* I. 64 And when thou comest there, from thence,..thou maist see to the Gate of the Cœlestial City. 1781 Cowper *Hope* 209 A soldier may be anything, if brave. 1833 Tennyson *Two Voices* 303 He knows a baseness in his blood At such strange war with something good, He may not do the thing he would. 1884 'H. Conway' *Bound Together* I. 55 Different people may hold different opinions as to whether life is pleasanter in large cities or small towns. 1903 D. McLean *Stud. Apostles* iv. 58 You may force fruit, but you cannot force flavour.

¶b. The pa. t. indicative in this sense (*he might* = 'he had opportunity to', 'it was possible for him to') is, exc. in actual or virtual obliqua oratio, now obsolete, on account of the tendency to interpret *might* as subjunctive. In poetry *might* was sometimes nearly equivalent to 'did'.

This use is strikingly characteristic of the style of Gibbon, as is also that explained under 5 c; it is often difficult to determine which of the two senses he intended.

a 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* 23 She was a ladi of Fraunce, that might spende more thanne fyue hundred pounde bi yeere. 1515 Br. West in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. III. I. 182 He that in a lytell tyme past myght spend a hundreth ponndes by yere, may nott att thys day spend xx^{li}. 1563 B. Googe *Eglogs*, etc. (Arb.) 109 And there I might discerne the Byrds that songe in euery tree. 1588 Shaks. *L. L. L.* v. ii. 92 Toward that shade I might behold addrest, The King and his companions. 1676 G. Towerson *Decalogue* 384 In the infancy of the world such a practice might be..necessary to the peopling of it. 1781 Gibbon *Decl. & F.* xxx. (1828) IV. 51 But the reign of Stilicho drew towards its end; and the proud minister might perceive the symptoms of his approaching disgrace.

c. Of an event or state of things.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 18964 Hu..mai it be, þat vr langage spek þai þus? 1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 330 Bot thei him tolde it mai noght be. 1449 *Will Dotman* (Somerset Ho.), After the discrecyon of myne Executors as þe shal mow seme most..expedient. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* I. vi. 39 'Ah! dearest Lord', (quoth she) 'how might that bee, And he the stoutest knight that ever wonne?' 1896 *Law Times* C. 508/2 One third, as nearly as may be, of the vestrymen first elected.

d. const. passive inf.

8.. *Kent. Glosses* in Wr.-Wülcker 56/27 *Et..non ualent comparari*, and ne maȝon bion wiðmetene. *c* 1290 *Magdalena* 102 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 465 Iudas..seide 'it mai beon i-sold ful deore to bugge with muchel mete'. 1340 Hampole *Pr. Consc.* 1194 Worldes worshepe may be cald Noght elles but vanite. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Pars. T.* 213 Ther is noon oother name..by which a man may be saued but oonly Ihesus. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* II. xv. 93 A bedde arayed with clothe of gold the rychest that myghte be thought. *c* 1560 A. Scott *Poems* ii. 95 Thair wes no deth mycht be devynd. 1563 *Homilies* II. *Excess of Apparel* (1859) 309 With whose traditions we may not be led, if we give ear to St. Paul. *a* 1648 Ld. Herbert *Hen. VIII* (1683) 480 We have done nothing that may not be abiden by. 1741 Watts *Improv. Mind* ii. § 1 When this observation relates to anything that immediately concerns ourselves..it may be called Experience. 1800 Wordsw. *Michael* 481 The remains Of the unfinished Sheep-fold may be seen Beside the boisterous brook of Greenhead Ghyll.

†e. Coupled with *can*. *Obs.*

1154 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1137 (MS. E), I ne can ne i ne mai tellen alle þe wunder. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 116 Wise clerkis..þat myȝten, couden, and wolden teche þe peple þe gospel. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Knt.'s T.* 1454 Now helpe me, lady, sith ye may and kan. 1486 in *Four C. Eng. Lett.* (1880) 7 Or ellis resorte ageyn to seintuary, if he can or maie.

†f. In ME. poetry often in the formula *as ye may hear* (or *here*), where *shall* would now be used.

c 1250 *Doomsday* 74 in *O. E. Misc.* 166 Wið þe sunfule also ȝe mahen ihere Goð awariede gostes feondes ifere. *c* 1330 *Assump. Virg.* 4 (B.M. MS.) ȝif ȝe wille to me here, Off owre ladi ȝe mai here. *c* 1425 *Seven Sag.* (P.) 457 [She] went into a chambyr i-fere, And ful evyly, as ȝe mowe hyre.

†g. occas. *might* = was 'fit' to. *Obs.*

14.. *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* 279/138 Here tendre hert myth breste on iij Quan she sau here sone fre On rode hys lyf lete.

h. In poetry, *might* is sometimes used to express past habit = used to, 'would'.

1819 Keats *Lamia* 18 And in those meads where sometimes she might haunt, Were strewn rich gifts.

i. *Might* (subj.) is often used *colloq.* (*a*) with pres. inf. to convey a counsel or suggestion of action, or a complaint that some action is neglected; (*b*) with perf. inf. to express a complaint that some not difficult act of duty or kindness has been omitted.

1864 Meredith *Emilia* xxv, 'I dare say he dined early in the day', returned Emilia..'Yes, but he might laugh, all the same.' 1894 G. M. Fenn *In Alpine Valley* I. 147 'They might have offered to help us..' said Aunt Ecclesia, pettishly.

4. Expressing permission or sanction: To be allowed (to do something) by authority, law, rule, morality, reason, etc.

a 1000 *Last Judgment* 3 (Gr.) Oft mæȝ se þe wile in his sylfes sefan soð ȝeþenean. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Luke xvi. 2 Ne miht þu lencg tun-scire bewitan. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* p. xxiv, Of þe þinges þe ȝe mahen underuon & hwet þinges ȝe mahen witen oðer habben. *c* 1430 Lydg. *Compl. Bl. Knt.* vi, Who-so that wolde frely mighte goon Into this park. *c* 1449 Pecock *Repr.* I. xx. 120 Where is it in Holi Scripture groundid.. that men schulden or miȝten lauȝwe? 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* I. i. 35 And yf he wille not come at your somons thenne may ye do your best. 1550 Crowley *Last Trumpet* 397 Thou maist not grudge or repine Agaynst thy kynge in any wise. 1579 Spenser *Sheph. Cal.* April 91 Pan may be proud, that euer he begot such a Bellibone. *c* 1622 Ford, etc. *Witch Edmonton* I. ii, He likes Kate well. I may tell you, I think she likes him as well. 1646 J. Hall *Horæ Vac.* 129 Illusory deceits may not bee done though to a good end. 1653 H. More *Conject. Cabbal.* (1662) 28 Justice did but (if I may so speak) play and sport together in the businesse. 1781 Cowper *Conversat.* 293 An argument of cogence, we may say, Why such a one should keep himself

away. 1784 *Lett. Honoria & Marianne* III. 115 If one.. considers the motives which influence to it, we may indeed be amazed. 1818 CAUSE *Digest* (ed. 2) III. 114 The grantor says, you may go in this particular line, but I do not give you a right to go either on the right or left. 1852 THACKERAY *Esmond* III. xiii, May we take your coach to town? I saw it in the hangar.

¶ b. *Law.* In the interpretation of statutes, it has often been ruled that *may* is to be understood as equivalent to *shall* or *must*.

1728 SKINNER *K. B. Rep.* 370 For *may* in the Case of a publick Officer is tantamount to *shall*. 1782 ATKYNS *Chancery Rep.* III. 166 The words *shall and may* in general acts of parliament, or in private constitutions, are to be construed imperatively, they *must* remove them. 1873 BLACKBURN in *Law Rep.*, 8 *Q. B.* 482 There is no doubt that 'may', in some instances, especially where the enactment relates to the exercise of judicial functions, has been construed to give a power to do the act, leaving no discretion as to the exercise of the power.

5. Expressing subjective possibility, i.e. the admissibility of a supposition.

a. (with pres. inf.) In relation to the future (*may* = 'perhaps will').

c 1205 LAY. 31098 Þurh hire þu miht hiwinnen lufe of hire cunnen. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 11963 Vr neghburs mai [*Fairf.* wil, *Trin.* wol] þam on vs wreke. *c* 1369 CHAUCER *Dethe Blaunche* 556 And telleth me of your sorwes smerte Paravnture hit may ease youre herte. *a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* (1868) 88 What harmes and inconueinences mow come therof to the foule body. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* xci. 311 Yf ye go not to my brother for socoure ye may happe to repent it. 1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* III. iv. 25 It may be thought we held him carelesly, Being our kinsman, if we reuell much. 1621 FLETCHER *Wild Goose Chase* IV. ii, Stick to that truth, and it may chance to save thee. 1677 FELTHAM *Resolves* I. lxxi. 109 Miseries, that but may come, they anticipate and send for. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 95 ¶ 5 The Improvement of our Understandings may, or may not, be of Service to us, according as it is managed. 1871 MORLEY *Voltaire* (1886) 10 The violent activity of a century of great change may end in a victory.

b. (with pres. inf.) In relation to the present (*may be* or *do* = 'perhaps is' or 'does').

1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 48 Ther is manye of yow Faitours, and so may be that thow Art ribt such on. *a* 1400 *Relig. Pieces fr. Thornton MS.* 2 Perawnter þe defaute may be in thaym þat hase þaire saules for to kepe. 1707 CHAMBERLAYNE *St. Gt. Brit.* III. xi. 428 The next thing remarkable in the City of London, may be the Bridge. 1751 *Affecting Narr. Wager* 8 What I have said may seem oddly introduced here. 1855 M. ARNOLD *Summer Night* 84 A tinge, it may be, of their silent pain. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 3) I. 463, I dare say, my friend, that you may be right.

c. In the 18th c. it was common to use *might be* or *do* in the sense of 'perhaps was' or 'did'. This is now rare.

The now current form *may have been* or *done* (5 d) is more logical, as the subjective possibility is a matter of the speaker's present.

1753 RICHARDSON *Grandison* (1811) II. xxix. 297 Your father, my dear, (but you might not know that,) could have absolved you from this promise. 1762 HUME *Lett. Chiv. & Rom.* 85 After all, these two respectable writers might not intend the mischief they were doing. *c* 1789 GIBBON *Autobiog.* (1896) 258 After the publication of my Essay, I revolved the plan of a second work; and a secret Genius might whisper in my ear that [etc.]. 1834 *Tracts for Times* No. 22. p. 3 All along the whole length of the garden (which might be perhaps nearly one hundred yards)..he had fixed ..stakes. 1862 BORROW *Wild Wales* XCV, It might be about half-past two in the afternoon when I left Lampeter.

d. (with perf. inf.) In relation to the past (*may have been* or *done* = 'perhaps was' or 'did', 'perhaps has been' or 'done').

1682 PAIOEAUX *Lett.* (1875) 131 It is not Alestre, y^e^ booksellers son, whom you may have known. 1860 R. WILLIAMS in *Ess. & Rev.* 91 Reverence, or deference, may have prevented him from bringing his prayers into entire harmony with his criticisms. 1879 MISS BRADON *Cloven Foot* XXXII, The husband, or lover, may have been out of the way.

6. Uses of the pa. t. subj. (in any of the senses 2–5) in the statement of a rejected hypothesis (or a future contingency deemed improbable) and its consequences.

a. in the protasis. (In poetry, sometimes with inversion: *might I* = *if I might*.)

a 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 233 Mihti efre isi, Na 3ewold ham selfe to hi3eten wrldlic echte. *c* 1200 ORMIN 5160 3iff þatt tu mihhtesst lufenn Godd Swa þatt itt wære himm cweme Wiþþutenn lufe off iwhillc mann. Þa mihhtesst tu ben borr3henn Wiþþutenn lufe off iwhillc mann. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 4123 To stint wald he, if he moght, þe foly þat his hreþer thoght. 1470 *Gaw. & Gol.* 422 Gif pament or praier mught mak that purchese. 1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* March 53 Mought her necke bene joynted attones, She shoulde have neede no more spell. 1594 MARLOWE & NASH *Dido* III. iii, And mought I liue to see him sacke rich Thebes..Then would I wish me with Anchises Tombe. 1607 SHAKS. *Timon* I. ii. 90 Might we haue that happinesse .. we should thinke our selues for euer perfect. 1617 HIERON *Wks.* II. 88 Dauid .. mought he haue had his choise .. no doubt he would rather haue had one little drop of mercy. 1807 BYRON *Hours of Idleness*, Oh! might I kiss those eyes of fire, A million scarce would quench desire.

b. in the apodosis, *might* = would be able to, would be allowed to, would perhaps.

c 888 K. ÆLFRED *Boeth.* VII. § iii. (Sedgefield) 17 3if þæt þine a3ne welan wæron þe þu mændest þæt þu forlure, ne meahtest þu hi na forleosan. *c* 1200 [see a]. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Compl. Mars* 205 Yf that Ielosie hyt knewe They myghten lyghtly ley her hede to borowe. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* IV. xxii. 148 For and he wold haue foughte on foote he myghte haue had the better of the ten knyghtes. 1664 J. WILSON *Projectors* I, You mought have come up a pair of stairs higher if you had pleas'd. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* IV. 704 A Fault which easie Pardon might receive, Were Lovers Judges, or cou'd Hell forgive. 1764 FOOTE *Mayor of Garratt* I. (1783) 24 If the war had but continued awhile, I don't know what mought ha' been done. 1875 TENNYSON *Q. Mary* I. iii, So you would honour my poor house to-night, We might enliven you. 1895 R. L. DOUGLAS in *Bookman* Oct. 23/1 Had he but shown a little more firmness and astuteness, he might have secured infinitely better terms than he did.

c. with suppressed protasis.

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 69 To hwon sceolde þeos smyrenes þus beon to lore 3edon? eaþe heo mehte beon 3esealed to þrim hunde peneza. *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* 3 Fleschliche þohtes, þat..maken þe to þenchen..Hu muche god mihte of inker streon maxen. 1350 *Will. Palerne* 5354 No tong mi3t telle þe twentiþe parte Of þe mede to menstrales þat mene time was 3eue. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. v. 21 Of þis Matere I mihte Momele ful longe. 1477 EARL RIVERS (Caxton) *Dictes* 1 Werkes that myght be most acceptable to hym. 1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 257, I my selfe seeme to..consume the time, which otherwise on my booke mought be employed. 1595 SHAKS. *John* I. i. 123 Your father might haue kept This calfe..from all the world. 1621 BP. MOUNTAGU *Diatribæ* 93 Diuers haue..protested against the taking or holding Parsonages as Lay-fees, when they mought haue had them vpon good Purchase. 1796 HUNTER tr. *St.-Pierre's Stud. Nat.* (1799) I. 477 The same doubts might be started, respecting the nature of Water. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* VI. i. ¶ 14 Three figures such as ours might have dumbfounded a better man. 1845 M. PATTISON *Ess.* (1889) I. 15 In the sixth century..a conscientious bishop might be truly said to place his life in jeopardy every hour. 1860 R. WILLIAMS in *Ess. & Rev.* 92 *note*, One might ask, whether the experience of our two latest wars encourages our looking to Germany. 1891 *Speaker* 2 May 533/1 The book is very much what might have been expected from the author.

¶ d. In the perfect tense *have* was sometimes dropped.

1440 in *Wars Eng. in France* (Rolls) II. 450 And it had ben wel gouverned, [it] might many a yeere susteyned youre werres. 1525 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* II. 402 He might wel escaped, if he had wolde.

7. In questions, *may* with inf. is sometimes substituted for the indicative of the principal vb. to render the question less abrupt or pointed.

15.. *Kyng & Hermyt* 143 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* I. 19 The wey to the towne if I schuld wynd, How fer may it be? *a* 1721 PRIOR *Phillis's Age* 1 How old may Phillis be, you ask. 1798 WORDSW. *We are seven* 14 Sisters and brothers, little maid, How many may you be? 1886 W. J. TUCKER *E. Europe* 401 'What may you want with our schoolmaster?'

b. Similarly *might*.

1599 MASSINGER, etc. *Old Law* v. i, And which might be your faire Bride sir? 1630 DEKKER *2nd Pt. Honest Wh.* v. ii, What mought I call your name, pray?

8. As an auxiliary of the subjunctive mood.

a. Since the desire for an end involves the desire for the possibility of the end, *may* in seuse 3 in combination with an inf. is used, in clauses involving the idea of purpose or contemplated result, to express virtually the same meaning as the subjunctive of the principal verb. Hence this combination has come to serve as a periphrastic subjunctive, which has in ordinary prose use superseded the simple subjunctive in final clauses.

(*a*) in final clauses introduced by *that* or *lest*; also occas. with ellipsis of *that* (e.g. after *to the end*).

c 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* II. i. (Schipper) 107 Onfoh þu eorþe lichaman of þinum lichaman 3enumen, þæt þu hine eft a3yfan mæ3e, þonne hine God liffæste. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Mark iii. 10 Hia raesdon on him þætte hine hie 3ehrindon *vel* hrina mæhtæs. *a* 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 229 Þa wercte he fele wundra þat men mihten 3elefen þat he was godes bearn. *c* 1275 *Sinners Beware* 30 in *O. E. Misc.* 73 Makie we us clene and skere þat we englene ivere Mawe beon. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 14578 þat agh þe drau þe folk emid, þat þai þe bab mai se and here. 1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 205 Youre lyght so lyght afore men that thay mowen See youre goode workys. 1540–1 ELYOT *Image Gov.* 2, I wyshed that it had been published in suche a tounge, that moe men mought understande it. 1559 [see LEST 1 c]. 1652 J. WRIGHT tr. *Camus' Nat. Paradox* VIII. 176 To the end by his return thou maist give o'r complaining. 1751 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 170 ¶ 7 Lest my appearance might draw too many compliments. 1807 *Med. Jrnl.* XVII. 342, I took several children to see the woman .. that they might behold the nature of the disease.

(*b*) in relative clauses with final meaning.

c 1220 *Bestiary* 627 in *O. E. Misc.* 20 For he ne hauen no lið ðat he muȝen risen wið. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 573 Al-mi3tin god him bad it so, And mete quorbi ðei mi3ten liuen. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* XXXV. (*Thadee*) 127 Scho..lefit a hole quhare men mocht reke hyre mete, as þame thocht. 1638 LISLE *A. S. Monum., Lord's P.* T 3 b, Whereby they mought the better serue their God. *c* 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* (1726) 8 Then let me something bring May Handsel the new year to Charles my king. 1751 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 170 ¶ 3 My mother sold some of her ornaments to dress me in such a manner as might secure me from contempt. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* ii. I. 201 It was not easy to devise any expedient which might avert the danger.

(*c*) in clauses depending on such vbs. as *wish, demand, desire, beseech*, and their allied sbs.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* (Th.) I. 152 Hwæt wylt ðu þæt ic þe do? He cwæð, Drihten, þæt ic maȝe ȝeseon. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 10 Unto the god ferst thei besoughten..That thei myhten fle the vice Which Simon hath in his office. 1432 *Paston Lett.* I. 32 The said Erle desireth..that he may putte hem from..occupacion of the Kinges service. 1546 *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, XI. 162 Wischyng that, if yt shall so happen, I mought be agaynst that tyme ready armyd. 1549 *Bk. Com. Prayer, Coll. 1st Sund. after Epiph.*, Graunt that they maie both perceaue and knowe what thinges they ought to do. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* I. ii. 168 Would I might But euer see that man. 1670 J. SMITH *Eng. Improv. Reviv'd* 13 It is my great request to God that there might not be one Family in England want bread. 1771 [see 9 a]. 1781 COWPER *Conversat.* 124 He humbly bopes—presumes—it may be so. 1834 *Tracts for Times* No. 22. p. 11, I desired he might come to me into my Study. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* v. I. 572 He..demanded that a large vessel..might be detained.

(*d*) in clauses (introduced by *that, lest*) depending on *fear* vb. or sb., *afraid*, and the like.

1563 *Homilies* II. (1859) 375 Continually to fear, not only that we may fall as they did [etc.]. 1606 G. W[OODCOCKE] *Hist. Iustine* III. 19 Fearing, least if the Lacedemonians shoulde be the first that violated the league, they might haue seized thereupon. 1651 C. CARTWRIGHT *Cert. Relig.* I. 67 Be not highminded, but fear..least thou also maist be cut off. 1691 [see FEAR *v.* 4 b]. 1816 [see AFRAID 2 c].

b. In exclamatory expressions of wish, *may* with the inf. is synonymous with the simple pres. subj., which (exc. *poet.* and *rhet.*) it has superseded.

The subject normally follows *may*, but examples are found in the older lang. in which this is not so.

1586 MARLOWE *1st Pt. Tamburl.* I. i, Long liue Cosroe, mighty Emperour! *Cosr.* And Ioue may neuer let me longer liue Then I may seeke to gratifie your loue! 1593 SHAKS. *Ven. & Ad.* 505 Long may they kisse ech other for this cure! 1611 BIBLE *Transl. Pref.* ¶ 3 Long may he reigne. 1634 MILTON *Comus* 924 May thy brimmed waves for this Their full tribute never miss. 1647 *Fletcher's Woman's Prize* Prol., Which this may prove! 1712 TICKELL *Spect.* No. 410 ¶ 6 But let my Sons attend, Attend may they Whom Youthful Vigour may to Sin betray. 1717 *Entertainers* No. 2. 7 Much good may it do the Dissenters with such Champions. 1786 C. SIMEON in W. Carus *Life* (1847) 71 May this be your blessed experience and mine. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* viii, 'May the present moment', said Dick,..'be the worst of our lives!'

c. *Might* is also used to express a wish, esp. when its realization is thought hardly possible.

This use appears to be developed from the hypothetical use (6 a).

a 1400–50 *Alexander* 1605 (Ashm.) 'Ay mo3t [*Dubl.* mott] he lefe, ay mo3t he lefe' quod ilka man twyse. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* II. ii. 98 Lord worshipt might he be, what a beard hast thou got. 1852 M. ARNOLD *To Marguerite, Cont'd* 18 Oh might our marges meet again!

d. *May* with the inf. of a vb. is used (instead of the simple indicative or subjunctive) to emphasize the uncertainty of what is referred to:

(*a*) in indirect questions depending on such verbs as *ask, think, wonder, doubt*, and their allied sbs.

a 1100 *Gerefa* in *Anglia* IX. 261 þæt he asece hu he yrde mæ3e fyrme 3eforðian ðonne ðæs time sy. *c* 1205 LAY. 18753 þa 3et hit weore a wene whar þu heo mihtes a3e. *c* 1220 *Bestiary* 683 in *O. E. Misc.* 22 He..weren in ðo3t, wu he mi3ten him helpen ovt. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1581 þat gode wif..fondeth hu heo mube [*Jesus MS.* mowe] Do þing þat him beo idu3e. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Clerk's T.* 53 Ne konde nat vs self deuysen how We myghte lyuen in moore felicitee. *c* 1530 LD. BERNERS *Arth. Lyt. Bryt.* (1814) 508 And than he demaunded of his seruauntes what it might be [Fr. orig. *que c'estoit qu'il auoit*]. 1795 COLERIDGE *Conciones* 62 On her enquiring what might be the price of the jewels, she is told, they were [etc.]. 1861 DASENT *Story Burnt Njal* II. 1 The Earl asked of what stock he might be.

(*b*) in clauses introduced by an indef. relative.

1530 PALSGR. 444/2 Be as be maye, *vaille que vaille*. 1605 SHAKS. *Macb.* I. iii. 146 Come what come may. *a* 1616 BEAUM. & FL. *Queen of Corinth* I. i, I am confirm'd Fall what may fall. 1690 [see HOWEVER 1 c]. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* 46 ¶ 6 However weary I may go to Bed, the Noise in my Head will not let me sleep. 1782 COWPER *Hope* 596 He laughs, whatever weapon Truth may draw. 1861 M. PATTISON *Ess.* (1889) I. 37 The preceptor..whatever his other qualifications may have been, had not earned his promotion by his Latin style. 1870 RUSKIN *Lect. Art* (1875) 102 Those of you who may intend passing their vacation in Switzerland. 1899 W. JAMES *Talks to Teachers* (1904) 57 A tactful teacher may get them to take pleasure..in preserving every drawing or map which they may make.

9. With ellipsis of the infinitive.

a. In independent senteuces, where the inf. is to be supplied from a prec. sentence; or (more freq.) in subord. clauses, where the inf. is to be supplied from the principal clause.

a 1000 *Guthlac* 1082 Aras ða eorla wynn heard hyge-snottor, swa he hrapost meahte. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Luke xvi. 26 þa ðe willað heonon to eow faran ne ma3on. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 37 And helpen heom mid þon þe þu ma3e. *c* 1205 LAY. 3524 And help him nu for þu miht. *c* 1250 *Hymn* i. 38 in *Trin. Coll. Hom.* App., Þu me sschild 3e from þe feonde ase þu ert freo & wilt & maucht. *c* 1300 *Harrow. Hell* 141 Kepe þe 3ates whoso mai. 138. WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 510 Opere Crist myȝte ȝeve sich a reule..and wolde not ..or ellis Crist wolde ordeyne sich a reule and myȝte not. *c* 1440 LOVE *Bonavent. Mirr.* xii. 29 Here frendes comforteden hem as þei myghten. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* X. xxxvi. 472 Kepe the as wel as euer thow mayst. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VI. v. 180 And fra his sorofull hart, as that he mocht, Sum deil expellit hes the dolorus cair. 1547 *Homilies* I. Of Charity II. (1859) 72 To all such we ought, as we may, to do good. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, II. i. 23 Things must be as they may. 1615 W. BEDWELL *Moham. Impost.* I. § 29 *Ah.* I know not whether I may aske that question, or not. *Sh.* Yes, you may. 1689 A. ASHLEY in King *Life Locke* 183 So far was I from learning the discretion I mought by this that I grew worse than before. 1771 SMOLLETT *Humph. Cl.* 31 May, Perhaps I mistake his complaisance; and I wish I may, for his sake. 1796 HUNTER tr. *St.-Pierre's Stud. Nat.* (1799) III. 456 Be it as it may. 1805 SCOTT *Last Minstr.* II. xxiv, He joyed to see the cheerful light, And he said Ave Mary, as well as he might.

1851 E. FitzGerald *Euphranor* (1904) 42 We think the world is growing wiser; it may in the end. 1857 M. Arnold *Rugby Chapel* 34 We..have endured Sunshine and rain as we might. 1896 A. E. Housman *Shropshire Lad* v, 'Twill do harm to take my arm. 'You may, young man, you may'.

b. With ellipsis of a vb. of motion. Chiefly *poet.*

Beowulf 754 Ic oð mode wearð forht on ferhðe; no þy ær fram meahte. *a* 1000 *Christ & Satan* 425 (Gr.) Þæt ic up heonon mæge. 1154 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1131 (MS. E), Þær man him held þæt he ne mihte na east na west. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 7907 (Kölbing) For we no mow no whar oway. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Reeve's T.* 197 For it was nyght and forther myghte they noght. 1590 Shaks. *Mids. N.* III. ii. 433 That I may backe to Athens by day-light. 1596 — 1 *Hen. IV*, III. i. 142 The Moone shines faire, You may away by Night.

c. With ellipsis of *do* or *be*. Also in the phr. *I may not but* = There is nothing for me to do but. (Cf. sense 1.)

Beowulf 680 (Gr.) Ic hine sweorde swebban nelle..þeah ic eal mæge. *a* 1000 *Christ & Satan* 22 (Gr.) Ðuhte him on mode, þæt hit mihte swa, þæt [etc.]. 1154 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1132 (MS. E), Þa he nanmor ne mihte. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Medit.* 522 Þey bete hym..Tyl þey be wery and mow no more. 1382 Wyclif *Wisd.* xi. 24 Thou hast merci of alle, for alle thingus thou maist. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 89 He was a man that mochel myhte. 1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 161 Who so will not whan he may, he shal not when he wille. *c* 1450 *Guy Warw.* (C.) 6947 He felle downe and myght no more. 1556 *Aurelio & Isab.* (1608) I ij, So muche mighte her malice, that not oneley she sinnede, but made hir husbande sinne. 1587 Fleming *Contn. Holinshed* III. 1317/2 Much maie that was not yet. 1597 Morley *Introd. Mus.* 2 If it had beene the pleasure of him who may all things. 1604 Shaks. *Oth.* III. i. 50 The Moore replies.. that in wholsome Wisedome He might not but refuse you. 1721 Kelly *Scot. Prov.* 169 He that may not as he will, must do as he may.

10. For *may well, may as well*, see Well *adv.*

11. as *sb.* An instance of what is expressed by the vb. *may*; a possibility.

1849 H. Miller *Footpr. Creat.* 248 Even were we to permit the sceptic himself to fix the numbers representative of those several *mays* in the case.

†12. In advb. phrases of the same type as and equivalent in meaning to Mayhap: **may chance, may-fall, may-fortune, may-tide.** *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 2759 If þou þar findes..fifty or fourte o þi lele men, tuenti mai fall, or tuis fiue, ne sal þai alle haue þar-for liue? *Ibid.* 4977, etc. *c* 1375 Barbour *Bruce* IX. 376 Thai that war vithin, ma fall, .. slepit all. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* vi. 81 May tyde he will oure giftis take. 1548 Udall *Erasm. Par. John* 7 Mafortune as then ye tyme did not suffer so inexplycable a misterie to be put in wryting to all mens knowledge. 1556 Hoby *Castiglione's Courtier* Epist. (1561) Bj, Many yong gentlemen, which haue may chaunce an opinion that to be in me, that is not in deed. 1581 Mulcaster *Positions* xvi. (1887) 72 That [dancing] onely is reserued, which beareth oftimes blame, machance being corrupted by the kinde of musick.

May (mē), *v.*2 *Obs.* exc. *arch.* in pr. pple.: cf. Maying *vbl. sb.* [f. May *sb.*3] *intr.* To take part in the festivities of May-day or in the pleasures of the month of May; to gather flowers in May.

1470–85 Malory *Arthur* XIX. i. 773 Soo as the quene had mayed and alle her knyghtes alle were bedasshed with herbys mosses and floures. 1508 Dunbar *Gold. Targe* 131 Ladyes to dance full sobirly assayit, Endlang the lusty rywir so thai mayit. 1848 Kingsley *Saint's Trag.* II. x. [ix.], Oh I that we two were Maying Over the fragrant leas.

†May, *v.*3 *Obs.* [Aphetic f. Amay.] *trans.* To dismay. Also *intr.* To be dismayed.

c 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 978 Ac wan Charlis hit wiste & seȝ for hymen hym gan to maye. *c* 1400 *Beryn* 1685 Full sore he gan to may. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 3010 Mayes [*Dubl. MS.* mayse] noȝt ȝour hertis. *Ibid.* 5399 Oure mode kyng was so maied myndles him semed. 1560 Rolland *Crt. Venus* II. 314 In all my dayis was I not half sa mayt.

May, dial. f. Make *v.*1, var. Mo *Obs.*, more.

May-: see Mai-.

‖ **Maya** (mā·yă). [Skr. *māyā*.] Illusion: a prominent term of Hindu philosophy.

1823 Colebrooke in *Trans. Roy. Asiatic Soc.* (1827) I. 30. 1827 *Ibid.* (1830) II. 39 The notion that the versatile world is an illusion (*mâyâ*). 1878–9 J. Caird *Philos. Relig.* (1880) 339 Religion..teaches us that only by looking on the world and the lust thereof as 'Maya', as illusion, vanity, deceptive appearance, can we get near to God.

May-apple. *U.S.* [May *sb.*3]

1. An American herbaceous plant, *Podophyllum pellatum*, bearing a yellowish, egg-shaped fruit, which appears in May.

Called also *duck's foot, hog apple, wild lemon, mandrake.*

1733 Miller *Gard. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Anapodophyllon*, Duck's foot, or *Pomum Maiale*, i. e. May-apple...This Plant was brought from America. 1788 J. May *Jrnl. & Lett.* (1873) 97, I ate frequently of the May-apple, which is of a very agreeable flavor, and resembling pine-apple. 1876 Harley *Mat. Med.* (ed. 6) 777 The May Apple is common..along the eastern side of North America.

2. = *honeysuckle-apple*: see Honeysuckle 8.

1872 Schele de Vere *Americanisms* 400 The same term of *May-Apple* is not unfrequently applied to a large, globular excrescence produced by the sting of a wasp on the miniature flowers of the Swamp Honeysuckle, and..occasionally to the shrub itself.

May-be, maybe (mē·bĭ), *adv.*, *sb.*, and *a. arch.* and *dial.* Also *dial.* **mebbe, mebbies,** etc. (see E. D. D.). [Shortened from *it may be*: cf. May-fall, Mayhap, and F. *peut-être*.]

A. *adv.* Possibly, perhaps. Sometimes used like a conj. with a dependent *that* (cf. F. *peut-être que*).

a 1425 *Cursor M.* 17553 (Trin.) May be [*Cott.* mai fall] sum goost awey him ledde. 1599 Massinger, etc. *Old Law* III. ii, May-be, some fairy's child .. Has pissed upon that side. 1661 Glanvill *Van. Dogm.* 175 This, may be, was the reason some imagin'd Hell there. 1733 Swift *Apol.* Wks. 1755 IV. i. 209 Impossible! it can't be me. Or may be I mistook the word. 1848 Thackeray *Lett.* 28 July, Our Lord speaking quite simply to simple Syrian people, a child or two maybe at his knees. 1866 Dasent *Gisli* 22 Maybe that others than Arnor utter this. 1871 R. Ellis tr. *Catullus* lxii. 46 Maybe for all they chide, their hearts do inly desire thee.

B. *sb.* What may be; a possibility, possible contingency.

a 1586 Sidney *Sonn.* in *Arcadia* etc. (1629) 525 And thus might I for feare of may be, leaue The sweet pursuit of my desired prey. 1603 N. Breton *Post with a Mad Packet* I. xlii, May be is a doubt, but what is must be regarded. 1615 Day *Festivals* xii. 335 Without all Maybees, the Lord is never more gracious to his Servants. 1756 *Monitor* No. 9. II. 9, I will not..be scared out of my senses by improbabilities and maybe's. 1892 A. Birrell *Res Judic.* vi. 168 [He] objected to our carrying on a flirtation with mystic maybe's and calling it Religion.

Proverbs (punningly). 1721 Kelly *Scot. Prov.*, Maybes are no aye honey-bees. 1738 Swift *Pol. Conversat.* i. 19 May-bees don't fly now, Miss.

C. *adj.* Which are possibly to come.

1687 Dryden *Hind & P.* III. 294 Those may-be years thou hast to live.

Ma·y-bug. [May *sb.*3] The cockchafer; also the Chovy.

1698 Froger *Voy.* 48 The Colibrie is a small bird, no bigger than a May-bugg. 1712 [see Cockchafer]. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1862) II. iv. vi. 542 The May-bug, or dorr-beetle. 1884 *Christian World* 18 Sept. 697/2 The sparrow..eats 'chovies', or May bugs.

May-bush. [May *sb.*3] **a.** A branch of hawthorn. **b.** The hawthorn or may-tree.

1579 Spenser *Sheph. Cal.* May 34 O that I were there, To helpen the Ladyes their Maybush beare. 1597 Gerarde *Herbal* III. xxii. 1146 Many do call the tree it selfe the May bush, as a chiefe token of the comming in of May. 1598 Florio, *Bagaia*, the white-thorne, hawthorne tree, or landouers maie bush. 1727 W. Mather *Yng. Man's Comp.* 126 Scandalous Sports and Pastimes, such as May-Bushes, Morris-Dancing. 1781 C. Johnston *Hist. J. Juniper* II. 136 His tawney face looked just like that of a chimney-sweeper's boy peeping through his may-bush. 1861 Neale *Notes Eccl. & Pict. Dalmatia*, etc. 164 Red May-bushes sending out their fragrance.

May-butter. [May *sb.*3: cf. F. *beurre de mai.*] Unsalted butter preserved in the month of May for medicinal use (see quot. 1615).

1584 Cogan *Haven Health* cxcvi. (1612) 157 Yet would I wish that such as haue children to bring vp, would not be without May butter in their houses. 1614 Markham *Cheap Husb.* I. lx. 37 Take the leaues of wilde Nepe..and beating them in a mortar with May-Butter, apply it. 1615 — *Eng. Housew.* II. iv. 113 If during the month of May before you salt your butter you saue a lumpe thereof and put it into a vessell, and so set it into the sunne the space of that moneth, you shall finde it exceeding..medicinable for wounds. 1660 M. R. *Exact Acc. Receipts* 10 A pound of May-butter.

b. In fig. and proverbial use.

1601 Deacon & Walker *Answ. Darel* 224 Not any other but May-butter it selfe could possiblie melt in their mouthes. *a* 1625 Fletcher *Noble Gent.* I. i, Mad as May-butter. 1653 Walton *Angler* iv. 115 You see it rains May-butter.

Maychance: see May *v.*1

Maycock (mē·kŏk). *U.S.* Forms: 6 **macocqwer, 7 macokos, macocquer,** 8 **macoquer,** 7– **macock,** 8–9 **maycock.** [Algonquin (Powhattan dialect) *mahcawq* (vocabulary in Strachey *Virginia* 1612).] A kind of melon.

1588 T. Hariot *Virginia* II. C 2 b, They set..Beanes and Peaze..among the seedes of Macócqwer Melden, and Planta solis. 1612 Capt. Smith *Map Virginia* 17 A fruit like vnto a muske millen,..which they call Macocks. 1612 Strachey *Virginia* (Hakl. Soc.) 119 The macokos is of the forme of our pumpeons. 1633–6 *Gerarde's Herbal* II. cccxlv. 919 Macocks Virginiani, sive Pepo Virginianus, The Virginian Macocke, or Pompion. 1681 Grew *Catal. Rarities* II. 195 The Macocquer. A Virginian Fruit. 1705 Beverly *Virginia* 27 Their macocks are a sort of melo-pepones, or lesser sort of pompion. 1872 Schele de Vere *Americanisms* 60 The..name survives in its Anglicized form of Maycock. 1896 P. A. Bruce *Econ. Hist. Virginia* I. 98 There were muskmelons,..macocks or squashes, gourds, ..beans and pumpkins.

Maycock, variant of Meacock.

Ma·y-day. [May *sb.*3] The first day of May. *Ill* (or *Evil*) *May-day*: 'the 1st of May, 1517, when the apprentices of London rose against the privileged foreigners, whose advantages in trade had occasioned great jealousy' (Nares).

1438 in Gross *Gild Merch.* (1890) II. 65 On Mayday the yerre of our lorde Kyng Henry þe Seixt xvi., anno Dom. 1438. 1541 *Nottingham Rec.* III. 382 Peyd for wyne on May Dey when we rode Mey. 1609 B. Jonson *Sil. Wom.* IV. ii, Out of my doors, you sons of noise and tumult, begot on an ill May-day. 1645 Evelyn *Diary* 1 May, On May-day the greate procession of the Universitie and the Mulatiers at St. Antonie's. 16.. *Songs Lond. Prentices* (Percy Soc.) 17 How Ill May-day first got the name. 1863 *Chambers's Bk. Days* I. 571/1 The observances of May Day.

b. *attrib.*, as *May-day games, garland, morning*; **May-day sweep,** a chimney-sweeper decorated with ribbons and flowers at the London sweeps' May-day festival.

1613 Shaks. *Hen. VIII*, v. iv. 15 'Tis as much impossible ..To scatter 'em, as 'tis to make 'em sleepe On May-day Morning. 1615 Heywood *Four Prentices* I. B 2 b, Hee will not let mee see a mustering, Nor in a May-day morning fetch in May. 1832 Marryat *N. Forster* xl, The frolic gambols of the may-day sweep. 1843 James *Forest Days* iv, The May-day games of old England. 1850 Gosse *Rivers Bible* (1878) 160 *note*, As sometimes two hoops are fastened, to carry May-day garlands.

Maydese, variant of Maideux *Obs.*

Ma·y-dew. [May *sb.*3] Dew gathered in the month of May, supposed to have medicinal and cosmetic properties.

c 1430 Lydg. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 217 Whan buddys first appeere, And the May-dewhe round lik perlys fyne. 1602 Plat *Delights for Ladies* (1611) H 8 b, Some commend May-dew gathered from Fennell and Celandine, to be most excellent for sore eyes. 1626 Bacon *Sylva* § 781, I suppose, that he that would gather the best May-Deaw, for Medicine, should gather it from the Hills. 1667 Pepys *Diary* 28 May, To Woolwich, to lie there tonight, and so to gather May-dew tomorrow morning. 1751 Johnson *Rambler* No. 130 ₱ 5 A regular lustration performed with bean-flower water and May-dews. 1849 James *Woodman* xviii, I have ordered my knave to bring you a furred dressing gown and a bottle of essence of maydew.

May duke, mayduke (mē·diūk). [Cf. *May-cherry* (May *sb.*3 5 c) and *Duke cherry* (Duke *sb.* 6), both in Evelyn 1664.

The statement that this cherry was introduced from *Médoc* in France, and thence named, seems to be unfounded.]

A variety of sour cherry.

1718 Bradley *Improv. Plant. & Gard.* III. 43 All sorts of Cherries, excepting the small May, and the May-Duke-Cherries, prosper best when they have Liberty. 1820 H. Matthews *Diary* (ed. 2) 465 *Medoc*—whence by the way comes our cherry whose name we have corrupted into May Duke. 1828 Miss Mitford *Village* Ser. III. 28 He would persuade you that brill was turbot, and that black cherries were Maydukes.

Mayed, obs. form of Maid *sb.*1

Mayer (mē·ər). [f. May *v.*2 + -er 1.] One who 'goes a-maying'.

1756 Toldervy *Hist. 2 Orphans* II. 152 They set out on foot to join the merry mayers. 1825 Hone *Every-day Bk.* I. 566 Parties of these Mayers are seen dancing. 1893 'Q.' *Delect. Duchy* 23 All but a few of the mayers had risen from the table.

Mayer, -cry: see Mayor, Mayory.

† May·ey, *a. Obs. rare.* Also -ie. [f. May *sb.*3 + -*ey*, -y.] Flowering in the month of May.

1604 T. Wright *Passions* I. iii. 14 To..enioy the roses till they flourish, not to let wither the Mayie flowres of their flesh. *a* 1618 Sylvester *Maiden's Blush* 470 And up hee comes as fresh as Mayey-Rose.

Mayflower (mē·flŏuəɹ). [f. May *sb.*3 + Flower *sb.* Cf. G. *maiblume*, Du. *meibloem* lily of the valley; so *may-blossom* (May *sb.*3 5 c).]

1. A flower that blooms in May: used locally as a specific name for various plants, as the Cowslip (*Primula veris*), the Lady's Smock (*Cardamine pratensis*); see Britten & Holland *Plant-n.*

1626 Bacon *Sylva* § 507 They are commonly of rancke and fulsome Smell; As May-Flowers, and White Lillies. [1659 Howell *Prov.* 12/1 April showers bring forth May flowers.] 1688 R. Holme *Armoury* II. 70 The Cowslip..we call it a May-flower. 1776 Mickle tr. *Camoens' Lusiad* I. 24 May-flowers crouding o'er the daisy-lawn. 1817 Keats *'I stood tiptoe'* 29 A bush of May-flowers with the bees about them. 1853 G. Johnston *Bot. E. Bord.* 33 *Cardamine pratensis*...In Roxburghshire..it is called the May-flower.

fig. 1576 Gascoigne *Steele Glass* (Arb.) 119, I hope very shortly to see the May flowers of your favour.

2. A variety of apple.

1664 Evelyn *Kal. Hort.* Aug. 72 Apples...Cushion Apple, Spicing, May-flower.

3. *N. America.* **a.** *Azalea nudiflora.* **b.** The trailing arbutus, *Epigæa repens.*

1838 Loudon *Arboretum* II. 1140 *Rhododendron nudiflorum* Torr. (*Azalea nudiflora* L.)..the American Honeysuckle; May Flowers. 1853 W. H. Bartlett *Pilgr. Fathers* iii. 182 The beautiful May-flower—with its delicate roseate blossom and delicious scent. 1882 *Garden* 13 May 323/1 The May-flower..is the emblem of Nova Scotia, with the motto, 'We bloom amid the snow'.

4. The West Indian *Dalbergia Brownei* and *Ecastaphyllum Brownei.*

1864 Grisebach *Flora W. Ind.* 785.

5. The South American *Lælia majalis.*

1894 Wright & Dewar *Johnson's Gard. Dict.*

May·-fly. [f. May *sb.*3 + Fly *sb.*]

1. An insect of the family *Ephemeridæ*; esp. as an angler's name for *Ephemera vulgata* and *E. dania* or an artificial fly made in imitation of either of these.

1651–3 T. Barker *Art of Angling* 6 As for the May-Flie you shall have them alwayes playing at the River side. 1653 Walton *Angler* iv. 115 First for a May-flie, you may make his body with greenish coloured crewel. 1769 G. White *Selborne* (1789) 68 What time the may-fly haunts the pool or stream. 1856 'Stonehenge' *Brit. Rural Sports* § 650 Caddies are the larvæ of the ephemera, or May-fly, as well as the stone-fly and the caddis-fly. 1867 F. Francis *Angling* vi. (1880) 223 The May Fly or Green Drake, called in Wales the Cadow.

2. An insect of the family *Phryganeidæ* or *Sialidæ* (e.g. *Sialis lutaria*); the caddis-fly.

1816 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* ix. (1818) I. 282 *Phryganeæ* [in their imago state are called] may-flies (though this last denomination properly belongs only to the *Sialis lutaria*.. and *Ephemeræ*. *Ibid.* II. 295 [The larvæ] of the true may-fly (*Semblis lutaria*, F.)..use their legs in swimming.

†3. A dragon-fly. *Obs.*

1744 Collinson in *Phil. Trans.* XLIV. 329 The May Flies, a Species of Libella. 1750 *Ibid.* XLVI. 400 A further

Account of the Libellæ or May-flies, from Mr. John Bartram of Pensylvania.

4. *attrib.*, as *may-fly season, tribe.*

1816 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* xxi. (1818) II. 240 The May-fly tribe (*Phryganea*, L., *Trichoptera*, K.). 1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* I. ix, But now came on the may-fly season.

May'-game. [MAY *sb.*3]

1. a. *pl.* The merrymaking and sports associated with the first of May. **b.** *sing.* A set performance or entertainment in the May-day festivities.

1549 COVERDALE, etc. *Erasm. Par.* 1 *Tim.* 8 In such maner of apparaill, as the commen sorte of vnfaithfull women are wonte to goe forth vnto weddynges and maygames. 1583 R. ROBINSON *Anc. Order Pr. Arthur* L4 b, A May game was of Robyn-hood, and of his traine that time. 1589 GREENE *Menaphon* (Arb.) 56 He was chosen Lord of the May game, king of their sports, and ringleader of their reuils. 1641 HINDE *J. Bruen* iii. 12 The holy Sabbaths of the Lord were..spent..in May-poles and May-games. 1888 CHILD *Eng. & Sc. Ball.* III. 46 Maid Marian is a personage in the May-game and morris.

2. *transf.* and *gen.* Merrymaking, sport, frolic, entertainment; foolish or extravagant action or performance, foolery.

1571 GOLDING *Calvin on Ps.* lxxiii. 1 He cryed out..that the endever of living well was but a Maygame. 1660 R. COKE *Power & Subj.* 50 It were a fine may-game to be a King, if Kings might make their Will the rule of their actions. 1768–74 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) I. 357 The vulgar [have] their..coarse jokes, and may-games. 1843 CARLYLE *Past & Pr.* III. xiii, Life was never a May-game for men.

3. An object of sport, jest, or ridicule; a laughing-stock. Also in phr. *to make a may-game of.*

1569 J. SANFORD tr. *Agrippa's Van. Artes* 158 A manifest foolishnes, and a maie game to the multitude. 1583 FULKE *Defence* iv. 137 Whereas in one translation we vse the worde Generall for Catholike, you make a greate maygame of it. 1644 QUARLES *Barnabas & B.* 253 What is man but..the spoil of time, the may-game of fortune? *a* 1739 JARVIS *Quix.* I. III. XXV. (1885) 146 She..makes a jest and a may-game of everybody.

4. *attrib.*, as *may-game king, lord, morris, pastime*; also as adj. with the sense 'trivial'.

1586 J. HOOKER *Hist. Irel.* in *Holinshed* II. 79/2 This maigame lord, named indeed Peter (in scorne Perkin) Warbecke. 1602 I. R[HODES] *Answ. Rom. Rime* C 3, Your May-game pastimes. 1614 RALEIGH *Hist. World* IV. ii. § 4. 148 In this sort came the Maygame-King into the field, incumbred with a most vnnecessary traine of Strumpets. 1653 DELL *Tryal Spirits* 86 School Doctors, that is, Trifling or May-game Doctors. 1888 CHILD *Eng. & Sc. Ball.* III. 45 The relation of Robin Hood, John, and the Friar to the May-game morris is obscure.

Hence † **Maygamester,** one who takes part in may-games.

c 1585 R. BROWNE *Answ. Cartwright* 37 Drunkardes, Maygamesters, blasphemers.

Maygh(e, variant forms of MAUGH.

Maygne, -gnelle, obs. ff. MEINIE, MANGONEL.

Mayhap (mēhæ·p, mēɪ·hæp), *adv.* Now *arch., rhetorical* and *dial.* Also 8 **mehap,** 8–9 **mayhaps.** [The phrase (*it*) *may hap* (see HAP *v.*), taken as one word.] Perhaps, perchance.

a 1536 *Interl. Beauty & Gd. Prop. Women* A v, May hap ye stomble Quod he on the trewth, as many one doth. 1575 *Gamm. Gurton* v. ii. (Manly), There is a thing you know not on, may hap. 1706 MRS. CENTLIVRE *Basset-Table* IV, Sir Richard, mehap a woman may not like me. 1718 MOTTEUX *Quix.* (1733) III. 67 I'll trust no longer to Rewards, that mayhaps may come late, and mayhaps not at all. 1840 DICKENS *Barn. Rudge* lxxii, Mayhap she's hungry. 1870 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* II. III. 37 Or hast thou mayhap wandered wide? 1900 HOPE in *Yorks. Arch. Jrnl.* XV. 300 Pins or hooks, mayhap for hanging curtains from.

Mayhappen, *adv.* Now *arch.* and *dial.* Also **mappen,** etc. (see E. D. D.). [The phrase (*it*) *may happen* (see HAPPEN *v.*), taken as one word.] = prec.

c 1530 H. RHODES *Bk. Nurture* 747 in *Babees Bk.* 102 Another tyme may happen he may doe as much for thee. *a* 1843 SOUTHEY *Doctor* Interch. xxiv. (1847) VII. 83 Mappen they'll sarra us. 1887 W. MORRIS *Odyss.* x. 269 Let us ..flee; if yet mayhappen we may 'scape our evil day.

Mayhem (mēɪ·hem), *sb. Old Law.* Forms: 5 **mahyme,** 5–7 **mayme,** 6 **mayom, maiheme, mayheme, mahym,** 6–7 **maime,** 6–8 **mayhim,** 7 **mahin,** 7–8 **maim,** 7–9 **maihem, mahim,** 7– **mayhem.** [a. AF. *mahem, mahaym, maiheme, maheyng,* etc.: see MAIM *sb.*] The crime of violently inflicting a bodily injury upon a person so as to make him less able to defend himself or annoy his adversary.

1472–3 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 54/2 For the punycion of the said murdre and maymes. 1503 *Ibid.* 550/1 The same Sir William, suyde Appele of Mayme ayenst the said Sir Edward. 1523 in W. H. Turner *Select. Rec. Oxford* (1880) 33 Morders, fellonyes, mayoms. 1529 S. FISH *Supplic. Beggers* (1871) 8 Robbery, trespas, maiheme, dette or eny other offence. 1620 J. WILKINSON *Coroners & Sherifes* 22 Mayhem is properly said where any member of a man is taken away. 1641 *Termes de la Ley* 198 The cutting off of an eare or nose, or breaking of the hinder teeth, or such like, is no Maihem. 1765 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* I. 130 Those members which may be useful to him in fight, and the loss of which only amounts to mayhem by the common law. 1802–12 BENTHAM *Ration. Judic. Evid.* (1827) V. 139 All imaginable crimes,—rape, robbery, burglary, mayhem, incendiarism. 1853 T. WHARTON *Digest Cases Pennsylv.* (ed. 6) 486 An indictment for maihem which does not contain the words 'lying in wait' is bad.

fig. 1868 LANIER *Jacquerie* II. 44 Thou felon, War, I do arraign thee now Of mayhem of the four main limbs of France. 1894 *Critic* (U. S.) 30 June 444/1 The literary mayhem becomes as inexplicable as it is unpardonable.

Hence **Mayhem** *v. trans.*, to inflict mayhem on.

1534 *Act 26 Hen. VIII*, c. 11 Diuers..haue beaten, mayhimed..and somtimes murdered diuerse of the same pursuers. 1743 *Conn. Col. Rec.* (1874) VIII. 579 For that he ..did feloniously mayhem the body of one Thomas Allyn. 1879 TOURGEE *Fool's Err.* xxxix. (1883) 251 To buy, to sell, to task, to whip, to mayhem this race at will.

Mayhime, mayhme, obs. forms of MAIM *v.*

Mayht, obs. form of MIGHT *sb.*

Mayie, variant of MAYEY *a.*, *Obs.*

Maying (mēɪ·iŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. MAY *v.*2] The celebration of or participation in the festivities of May-day or the month of May. Chiefly in phr. *to go a maying,* † *to ride on maying.*

1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* XIX. i. 772 That erly vpon the morowe she wold ryde on mayeng in to woodes. 1598 STOW *Surv.* 74 These great Mayinges and Maygames were made by the gouernors..of the Citie. 1632 MILTON *L'Allegro* 20 Zephir with Aurora playing, As he met her once a Maying. 1674 PLAYFORD *Skill Mus.* I. 64 Now is the Month of Maying. 1712 BUDGELL *Spect.* No. 365 ₱ 10 Proserpine was out a Maying, when she met with that fatal Adventure. 1824 MISS MITFORD *Village* Ser. I. 81 A country Maying is a meeting of the lads and lasses of two or three parishes, who assemble in certain erections of green boughs called May-houses, to dance. 1899 ' Q.' *Ship of Stars* x. 79 It had been a grand Maying.

b. *attrib.* in **maying-party** *U. S.*, a party making an excursion for gathering flowers.

1853 W. H. BARTLETT *Pilgrim Fathers* iii. 182 It is a favourite pastime to make Maying parties in the woods.

Mayl, obs. f. MAUL *sb.*1 **Mayl-:** see MAIL-.

Ma'y-lady. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.* [MAY *sb.*3] A Queen of the May. Also, a puppet in a May-day game (see quot. 1802).

1560 BECON *Catech.* VI. Wks. 1564 I. 516 b, To be decked and trimmed like a Marelady [*sic*: ? *misprint for* Maie-], or the Quene of a game. *Ibid.* 533 As though they were mareladies [*sic*] or Popets in a game. 1619 FLETCHER *M. Thomas* II. ii, Or you must marry Malkyn the May Lady. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* III. ii. II. iii. 573 Some light huswife belike, that was dressed like a may lady, and as most of our gentlewomen are. 1802 AUDLEY *Comp. to Almanack* 21 The custom..of children having a figure dressed in a grotesque manner, called a May-lady; before which they set a table, having on it wine, &c. They also beg money of passengers,..their plea to obtain it is, 'Pray remember the poor May-lady'.

Mayll easse, variant of MALEASE.

Mayllet, obs. form of MALLET *sb.*1

Ma'y-lord. [See MAY *sb.*3 and LORD *sb.* 14 a.] A young man chosen to preside over the festivities of May-day; *transf.* one whose authority is a matter of derision.

1599 NASHE *Lenten Stuffe* 9 Cerdicus..was the first maylord, or captaine of the morris daunce that [etc.]. 1622 WITHER *Mistr. Philar.* in *Juvenilia* (1633) 741 Wealth and Titles would hereafter Subjects be for scorn or laughter, All that Courtly stiles affected Should a May-Lords honour have. 1633 P. FLETCHER *Purple Isl.* I. ii, The Shepherd-boys who with the Muses dwell Met in the plain their May-lords new to choose..to order well Their rural sports. 1639 SHIRLEY & CHAPMAN *Ball* III. iii, [I] blush within to think How much we are deceived; I may be even With this May-lord. *a* 1670 HACKET *Abp. Williams* I. (1692) 40 [They] will prove to be May-lords in Fortune's interlude.

Maymot, obs. form of MAIMED *ppl. a.*

Mayn: see MAIM, MAIN, MOAN.

Maynat, obs. form of MINA 2.

† **Mayne,** *v. Obs.* Also 5 **mene,** 6 **mayn, meyne, meane.** [a. OF. *meine-,* str. stem of *mener* to lead. Cf. DEMEAN *v.*1]

1. *trans.* To lead (a horse).

a 1400 *Sir Perc.* 711 The childe gone his mere mayne After the stede. *Ibid.* 1402.

2. *To mayne evil* [= F. *malmener*]: to maltreat.

1481 CAXTON *Godfrey* cxxxix. 208 The Archiers..that so fiedde were so euyl mened that they were but a fewe whan they retorned in to thoost.

3. To conduct, direct, manage (an affair).

1520 in *Edinb. Burgh Rec.* (1869) I. 200 And gif ony truble or debait happinis amangis ony of the saidis craftis, thai till meyne the samyn amangis tham self in cheritable maner. 1537 CROMWELL in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) II. 92 It is Bruted that there shuld be a communication of a peax to be mayned by others. 1541 HEN. VIII in *St. Papers* III. 332 Howe We thinke you maye best mayn thinges there to our purpose. 1546 *Ibid.* XI. 225, I will do what I can to meane the thing: if there be no remedye, then must Godd worcke. 1549 in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* II. App. 117 Beseching God to give you the grace to mayne and conduct them, as I do wish.

4. *refl.* To conduct or demean oneself (in a particular way).

1352 MINOT *Poems* i. 29 Of Scotland had þai neuer sight Ay whils þai war of wordes stout. þai wald haue mend þam at þaire might And besy war þai þareobout. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 11313 How may ye þus meane you with malis, for shame!

Hence † **May'ning** *vbl. sb.*

1527 WOLSEY in *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, I. 200 The universal peace, which is now in maynyng and treating. 1550 in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* (1822) II. App. PP. 139 The mayning and directing of our affairs.

Mayne, Mayneal, obs. ff. MEINIE, MENIAL.

Maynerey, variant of MANGERY *Obs.*

Mayngate, Maynhe, obs. ff. MANCHET, MAIM *v.*

Maynor, -oure, -oyre, etc., obs. ff. MANURE.

Mayntelle, Mayny, obs. ff. MANTEL, MEINIE.

Maynyseynge, obs. form of MENACING.

† **Mayo.** *Obs. rare*−1. Some game.

Possibly = MAW *sb.*4 which is often mentioned in connexion with 'Primero'.

? *c* 1650 SIR G. RADCLIFFE in *Strafforde's Lett. & Disp.* (1739) II. 433 He [Strafford] played excellently well at Primero and Mayo.

† **Mayo(c)k.** *Sc. Obs.* ? Arbitrary alteration of MAKE *sb.*1

c 1600 MONTGOMERIE *Cherrie & Slae* (2nd version) ii, The painted pawn with Argos eyis Can on his mayock call. 1638 H. ADAMSON *Muse's Thren.* (1774) 160 Balthyock, Where many peacock cals upon his mayok.

‖ **Mayonnaise** (mēɪ·ŏnēɪz, Fr. mayonɛ̃z). [Fr., of uncertain origin.] A thick sauce consisting of yolk of egg beaten up with oil and vinegar, and seasoned with salt, etc., used as a dressing for salad, cold meat, or fish; also, a dish (of meat, etc.) having this sauce as a dressing.

1841 THACKERAY *Mem. Gormand.* Misc. Ess. (1885) 396 A mayonnaise of crayfish. 1883 *Chamb. Jrnl.* 316 The dressing, or mayonnaise, of the salad is then commenced.

Mayor (mēɪ·ǝr, mēǝr). Forms: 3 **mer,** 3–7 (latterly *Sc.*) **mair,** 4 **meire,** 4–5 **meir, meyr,** 4–6 **mayr, meyre,** 4–7 **maire, mayre,** 5 **maieur, mere, majer, maiere, meer, mar, mawer,** 5–6 **mayer, maier, meyer,** 5–7 **mare,** 6–7 **maio(u)r,** 6–8 **major,** 6– **mayor.** [Early ME. *mair, mer,* a. F. *maire* (from 13th c.):—L. *mājor* nom., properly adj., greater (see MAJOR). OF. had also a form *maor, meor*:—L. *mājōrem* acc., which may be represented in some of the ME. forms. The spelling *maio(u)r,* common in the 16th c., seems to be intended to represent the L. *major,* but as the *i* could be read as a vowel, this form became phonetically nearly coincident with those adopted from Fr. The substitution of *y* for *i* was in accordance with the orthographical habits of the 16–17th c., and need not be ascribed to imitation of the Sp. form *mayor.*

The med.L. *mājor* as a title was adopted as OHG. *meiur,* whence MHG. *meier, meiger,* mod.G. *meier* farm bailiff, farmer. Du. *meier* has both senses, 'mayor' and 'farmer'.]

1. The head or chief officer of the municipal corporation of a city or borough.

The title is used in England and Ireland (see also LORD MAYOR), in the British Colonies, and in the U. S. It was formerly borne by the heads of certain royal burghs in Scotland, but has there been long superseded by *provost.* It occasionally renders its etymological equivalent (F. *maire*) as the title of a similar municipal officer in French towns, though the Fr. word is now more commonly used; similarly, *mayor* was formerly used occas. to designate certain administrative officers in Holland and Switzerland (cf. MAYORALTY 3, MAYORY).

The continued practice of electing mayors in some decayed boroughs (e.g. Queenborough in Sheppey) which had become mere villages or hamlets is a common matter of jesting allusion in the literature of the 17th c. There are also in various parts of the country instances in which a so-called 'mayor' is or was elected periodically with burlesque ceremonies; of these mock-dignitaries the 'Mayor of Garratt', near Wandsworth, is the best-known example.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 11226 þe mer [of Oxford] was viniter. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 8031 þe Meyre of Kermerdyn. 1386 *Rolls of Parlt.* III. 225/1 When frec men of the Citee [*sc.* London] come to chese her Maire. 1415 *Procl.* in *York Myst.* Introd. 34 Ye Mair and ye Shirefs of yis Citee. *c* 1450 *Lay Folks Mass Bk.* 69 We sall pray especially for þe meer. *c* 1460 J. RUSSELL *Bk. Nurture* 1137 in *Babees Bk.*, þe meyre of london, notable of dignyte, and of queneborow þe meire, no þynge like in degre. *c* 1488 *Plumpton Corr.* (Camden) 87 To the behaufe of the mawer of the Cyte of Vorke & his bredren. 1537 WRIOTHESLEY *Chron.* (Camden) I. 31 Sir John Allen, maiour, being also one of the Kinge's Counsell. 1555 *Inv. Ch. Goods* (Surtees Soc., No. 97) 157 One of the attorneys within the mayeres courte. 1599 *Broughton's Let.* ii. 9 As the runnaway apprentice thought, the bels recalling him, told him he should be Maior of London. *a* 1627 MIDDLETON (*title*) The Mayor of Quinborough. 1654 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 311 Hee were an arrant Mayor of Quinborrow, that should send to the Indies for Kentish Oysters. 1764 FOOTE (*title*) The Mayor of Garratt. 1765 T. HUTCHINSON *Hist. Mass.* I. 176 A corporation, consisting of a mayor, eight aldermen and a recorder. 1818 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) V. 115 The mayor of the said city shall have full power..to receive and record all and every such fine and fines. 1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 22 May 2/3 A boatman on the Bolton and Bury Canal has been selected as 'Lord Mayor of the village of Ringley'. *Ibid.*, In some parts the burlesque civic official was designated 'Mayor of the Pig Market', and in Dublin 'Mayor of the Bull Ring'.

† **b.** *Mayor's peer*: app. a person eligible for the office of mayor. *Obs.*

1560 in Picton *L'pool Munic. Rec.* (1883) I. 33 Every Mayor and Mayors peer.

† **c.** In Ireland, app. applied to several members (? chief or capital burgesses) of the municipal body of which the mayor properly so called was the head.

1557 in 10*th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 416 That ther be no more but twellve Mayors and the Mayor for the tyme beinge.

d. *Mayor of the Staple*: see STAPLE.

† **2.** Used *gen.* for one in high judicial office. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 7036 þair leder and þair maister mair. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. VIII. 171 3e meires and 3e maister iuges.

c 1440 CAPGRAVE *Life St. Kath.* v. 1241 There was a man in Alisaundre..Meyer and leedere of alle the puple there.

†**3.** In Scotland (ordinarily spelt *mair*), formerly the title of various officers differing widely in rank, having delegated jurisdiction or executive functions, either under the sovereign or under some judicial authority. *Mair of fee*: a 'king's mair' holding his office as a heritable possession. *Obs.*

Hence Gaelic *maor*, steward, policeman.

1429 *Sc. Acts Jas. I* (1814) II. 17/2 A mayr of fee quheþer he be mayr of þe hail schirefdome or of part sal haf powere [etc.]. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* IV. 359 The mar kepyt the port of that willage, Wallace knew weill. 1522–3 *Ld. Treas. Acc. Scot.* V. 209 Deliverit to the lord Zesteris heid mare our soverane lordis lettrez. 1544 in E. D. Dunbar *Docum. Moray* (1895) 67 Principal Mair off the lands after specefied, viz. the Thayndaine [etc.]. 1609 SKENE *Reg. Maj., Stat. Alex. II* 17 b, He [the Earle of Fife] may not enter as Earle; bot as Mair to the king of the Earledom of Fife. 1703 FOUNTAINHALL in M. P. Brown *Suppl. Decis.* (1826) IV. 564 The malversations of their mairs or messengers.

†**b.** *Mayorsfeud*: the fee of a 'mair'. *Obs.*

1608 in E. D. Dunbar *Docum. Moray* (1895) 69 The said office of Mairsfeod of the forsaid earldom of Murray is held in chief of James Earl of Murray.

4. *Mayor of the Palace* (Hist.): = F. *maire du palais*, a mod. translation of med.L. *major domus* (occas. *m. palatii*), the title borne by the prime ministers (under the later Merovingians the virtual sovereigns) of the Frankish kingdoms. Also *mayor of Austrasia, of Neustria.*

1529 RASTELL *Pastyme* (1811) 77 Cloyter son of Clouis.. ordeynyd mayrs of ye palys. 1711 W. KING tr. *Naudé's Ref. Politics* v. 171 The Majors of the palace..in France ..embroiled the kingdom to make themselves necessary. 1818 HALLAM *Mid. Ages* (1841) I. i. 5 Ebroin and Grimoald mayors of Neustria and Austrasia. 1875 MAINE *Hist. Inst.* v. 139 The Mayor of the Frankish Palace became King of the Franks.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *mayor-choosing*; †**mayor-corn**, an ancient Scottish tax of corn given to the 'mair'; †**mayor-town**, a town ruled by a mayor, a municipal town; also *Sc.* a farm or piece of land held by a 'mair' in right of his office.

1823 T. BOND *E. & W. Looe* 277 *Mayor-choosing Days. The following Table..shews the Days of the Mayor-choosing at East Looe. 1606 in E. D. Dunbar *Docum. Moray* 68 The haill *Mair cornes, reik hens, and uther casualities and feis quatsumevir of the tounis and lands of Tarress [etc.]. 1623 J. TAYLOR (Water-P.) *Discov. Lond. Salisb.* A 4 Then downe to Erith, 'gainst the tyde we went, Next London, greatest *Mayor [1630 Maior] towne in Kent. *c* 1710 CELIA FIENNES *Diary* (1888) 4 Y^e^ Assizes is allwayes kept at Salsebury and is a Major town though Wilton about 2 mile off is ye County town. 1778 *Eng. Gazetteer* (ed. 2) s. v. *Sittingborn*, In the reign of Elizabeth this was made a mayor-town. 1798 W. ROBERTSON *Index Charters* 120 Carta to William Herowart, of the office of Mairship of the east quarter of Fife, with the land called the Mairtoun, whilk William Mair resigned.

‖ **Mayoral** (mayora·l), *sb.* Forms: 6 mayorall, 7 maioral, 9– mayoral. [Sp., f. *mayor* greater (see MAJOR *a.* and *sb.*, MAYOR).] A conductor in charge of a train of beasts of burden; also, a head shepherd; *occas.* the conductor of a diligence.

1598 BARRET *Theor. Warres* v. iv. 136 A Harbenger, and a Mayorall, which goeth with euery thousand beasts. 1622 F. MARKHAM *Bk. War* III. ii. 85 The Master Gunner..is.. to command all the inferior Gunners, Clerkes, Harbengers, Maiorals, Gill-Masters and other depending vpon the Ordnance. 1833 LONGF. *Outre Mer* Prose Wks. 1886 I. 138 Here our conversation was cut short by the Mayoral of the diligence. 1845 FORD *Handbk. Spain* I. 18 The 'Mayoral' or 'conductor'..is responsible for the whole conduct of the journey. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* I. 149 A mayoral or chief shepherd at their head.

Mayoral (mē^ɪ^·ŏrăl, mē^ə^·răl), *a.* [f. MAYOR + -AL.] Pertaining to a mayor or mayoralty.

1698 SWIFT *Let. to Winder* 13 Jan., Wks. 1841 II. 436, I was at his mayoral feast. 1703 W. PENN in *Pa. Hist. Soc. Mem.* IX. 181, I hope Randall carries a hat for Edward Shippen of a mayoral size. 1869 *Daily News* 30 Mar., The Mayoral order was that certain leading thoroughfares were to be closed. 1885 *Standard* 14 Apr. 5/2 Mr. Alderman Fowler, M.P., has consented to serve for the remainder of the Mayoral year.

Mayoralty (mē^ə^·rălti). Forms: 4 mairaltee, 5 mayraltye, 5–6 mairalte, mayraltie, 5–7 mairaltie, 6 merialtie, meralty, mayralte, mayreraltie, 6–7 maioraltie, 7 majorality, mairoltie, myraltie, maioralty, mearaltie, 8 may'ralty, mayorality, majoralty, 7– mayoralty. [ad. OF. *mairalté*, f. *maire* MAYOR, after *principalté*, mod. *principauté*.]

1. The office of a mayor.

1386 *Rolls of Parlt.* III. 225/1 The eleccion of Mairaltee is to be to the Fre men of the Citee. 1438 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 330 Ony citsaine bering office of Mairaltie or of halifs. 1534 WHITINTON *Tullyes Offices* I. (1540) 65 Pericles sayd well whan he had a felowe in offyce in his mayraltie [orig. *in prætura*] called Sophocles poete. 1571 CAMPION *Hist. Irel.* II. vii. (1633) 96 This Majorality both for state and charge of that office..exceedeth any Citty in England, except London. 1702 *Toleration* 17 The May'ralty and other Offices are confin'd to their City Councils. 1851 D. G. MITCHELL *Fresh Gleanings* 75 The office of Mayoralty in the..American cities. 1890 GROSS *Gild Merch.* I. 97 The mayoralty, which gave them a chief officer of their own election.

2. The period during which a mayor holds office.

1494 FABYAN *Chron.* VII. (1533) II. 30/2 The mayraltie of John Tolesham. 1540 in W. H. Turner *Select. Rec. Oxford* (1880) 159 Hys ij yeres mayreraltie. 1632 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 480 The yeare of the myraltie of Sir Vallentin Blake. 1727 W. MATHER *Yng. Man's Comp.* 105 Nor has the Lord Mayor of London, during his Mayoralty, a less Title than Right Honourable. 1870 LOWELL *Study Wind.* 108 Of his mayoralty we have another anecdote.

†**3.** The district over which a 'mayor' has jurisdiction. *Obs. rare*^—1^.

1705 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4113/3 The Mayoralty of Boisleduc ..and the Country beyond the Maese, are directed to have in a readiness 1700 Wagons.

4. *attrib.*

1573 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 423 Mr. Andrew Brown..beinge then in his Meralty office. 1647 *Ibid.* 496 Wee..thought fitt to record the same in the Mearaltie booke of this Corporation. 1822 C'TESS. BLESSINGTON *Magic Lantern* 22 The Lord Mayor's coach, with all the paraphernalia of mayoralty finery. 1887 *Dict. Nat. Biog.* XI. 102/2 The mayoralty pageant provided [1635] by the Ironmongers' Company for Clitherow.

Hence † **Mayoraltyship**, the office of a mayor.

1582 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 432 The office of Meraltyship. 1600 *Ibid.* 459 The office of Maioraltishipp or Baillifshipp.

Mayordom (mēə^·ɪdəm). *Obs.* exc. *Hist.* See quot. 1611; also *Sc.* the office of a 'mair of fee'.

1611 COTGR., *Mairerie*, a Maiordome; the office, or place of a Mayor; also, his iurisdiction, or the precincts thereof. 1872 COSMO INNES *Lect. Scot. Legal Antiq.* ii. 78 We had numerous mairdoms or subdivisions of sheriffdoms, and several mairs of fee, that is, hereditary mairs.

Mayordom(e, -domo, obs. ff. MAJOR-DOMO.

Mayoress (mēə^·rès). Forms: 5 meyresse, 5, 7 mayresse, 6 mayras, msjoris, maiores, 7 mai-, majoresse, 8–9 may'ress, 7– mayoress. [f. MAYOR + -ESS. Cf. F. *mairesse* (now only jocular).] The wife of a mayor.

Also sometimes applied, when a mayor is unmarried or a widower, to a lady of his family who fulfils the ceremonial duties normally belonging to the mayor's wife.

The wife of a LORD MAYOR is called *Lady Mayoress.*

c 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* II. viii. (1869) 78 What is this? Art thou meyresse? 1494 FABYAN *Chron.* VII. (1533) II. 223 b/2 The kynge..sent vnto the mayresse and her systers, aldermennes wyfes two hartes and .vi. buckes, wyth a tonne of wyne. 1541 *Cal. Anc. Rec. Dublin* (1889) I. 410 Such obprobrious words..spokyn by Maisteras Mayras. 1558 *Reg. St. George's, Canterb.*, M'res Agnes May, Majoris, buried in the Church. 1587 in Picton *L'pool Munic. Rec.* (1883) I. 105 She whose husband..hath been Mayor of this said town..shall take her place..nearest to Mrs Maiores for the time being. 1619 MIDDLETON *Tri. Love & Antig.* C 3 This king..sent to the Lady Maioresse..2 Harts [etc.]. *a* 1637 B. JONSON *Underwoods* lx. *Elegy*, The Lady Mayresse. 1702 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3842/2 She was pleased to admit Mrs. Mayoress..to the Honour of kissing Her Majesty's Hand. 1778 *Eng. Gazetteer* (ed. 2) s. v. *Westbury on Trin*, William Cannings..built an alms-house here, allowing the mayor of Bristol to put in one of the men, and Mrs. mayoress one of the women. 1824 BYRON *Juan* XVI. xlv. *note*, The mayoress of a provincial town.

2. *nonce-use.* A woman holding the office of mayor.

1895 *N. Amer. Rev.* Sept. 267 When women shall have become..mayoresses and alderwomen.

†**May·orhood.** *Obs.* In 6 mayrehod. [f. MAYOR + -HOOD.] The office of a mayor.

1586 *Chron. Gr. Friars* (Camden) 5 This year [40 Edw. III] in Januarij Adam Bury was dyschargyd of hys mayrehod.

Mayorlet (mēə^·ɹlĕt). *rare*^—1^. [f. MAYOR + -LET.] A petty mayor.

1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* II. III. iv, The Patriotic Mayor or Mayorlet of the Village of Moret tried to detain them.

Mayorship (mēə^·ɹʃip). [f. MAYOR + -SHIP.]

1. The office, position, or dignity of a mayor.

1485 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 357/1 The Offices of Maireshipp of Glawdstre in Radmoresland. 1544 in E. D. Dunbar *Docum. Moray* (1895) 67 The service of the foresaid office of Mairship vseit and wont to Marie Queen of Scotts. 1578 in W. H. Turner *Select. Rec. Oxford* (1880) 395 Suche parsons as have borne thoffice of Mayorshippe. 1611 COTGR., *Mairie*, a Maiordome, or Maiorship; the office, or place of a Maior, or of a village-Maior. 1801 RANKEN *Hist. France* I. 259 Clotaire consented to confirm him for life in his mayorship.

2. *nonce-use.* As a mock title: *Your Mayorship.*

1822 SCOTT *Pirate* xxxiv, If it please your noble Mayorship's honour and glory.

‖ **Mayory.** *Obs.* Also 7 **-ery.** [f. MAYOR + -Y, after F. *mairie*, Du. *meierij*.] The district over which a mayor (Dutch or Swiss) has jurisdiction.

1679 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1393/3 The French..are resolved to exact the Contributions they demand from the Mayery of Bolduc. 1705 *Ibid.* No. 4146/3 The Enemy's Parties..infest the Mayory of Boisleduc. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* II. 322 This republic [Neuchâtel] is divided into four chatellanies, and 15 mayories.

Mayple, obs. form of MAPLE.

Maypole (mē^ɪ^·pōul). [f. MAY *sb.*^3^ + POLE *sb.*]

1. A high pole, painted with spiral stripes of different colours and decked with flowers, set up on a green or other open space, for the merry-makers to dance round on May-day.

In quot. 1597 applied for the nonce to a barber's pole.

1554 in *Vicary's Anat.* (1888) App. iii. 176 That no..persones..cause to be..sett vpp eny maner of maye pole..in any opyn streat. 1597 G. HARVEY *Trimming T. Nashe* Wks. (Grosart) III. 25 My shoppe in the towne, the teeth that hange out of my Windowe, my painted may-poole. 1642 MILTON *Apol. Smect.* Wks. 1851 III. 306 He had the whole bevie at command whether in morrice or at May pole. 1702 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3783/4 The Wine-Cellar under the Flower-de-Luce against the May Pole in the Strand. 1863 *Chambers' Bk. Days* I. 572/2 The May Queen..was placed in a sort of bower or arbour near the maypole, there to sit in pretty state.

b. *transf.* Applied jocularly to a tall object, esp. a tall slender man or woman.

1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* III. ii. 296 How low am I, thou painted May-pole? 1611 RICH *Honest. Age* (Percy Soc.) 37 Such monstrous May-powles of bayre. 1648 J. RAYMOND *It Merc. Ital.* 201 This Place is much frequented by the Venetian walking May Poles, I meane the women. 1765 E. THOMPSON *Meretriciad* (ed. 6) 33 Maypoles love you because you're wonderous small. 1773 GOLDSM. *She stoops to Conq.* I. ii, The daughter, a tall, trapesing, trolloping, talkative maypole. 1871 MRS. H. WOOD *Dene Hollow* I, He was turned sixty, a lean maypole of a man.

2. a. The American Aloe, *Agave americana.* **b.** The tree *Spathelia simplex* of Jamaica (*Treas. Bot.* 1866).

1750 G. HUGHES *Barbados* 223 The May-Pole; *Lat.* Aloe Americana muricata. 1769 E. BANCROFT *Nat. Hist. Guiana* 46, 1848 SCHOMBURGK *Hist. Barbados* 588.

3. *attrib.*, as *maypole dancer, green*; *maypole-like* adj.; also quasi-adj. = (1) very tall, as *maypole figure, freshman*; (2) such as are associated with maypole festivities, as *maypole face, virtue.*

1610 in *3rd Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* 57/2 Acting a stage play..upon a Maypole green. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* IX. 406 What a May pole Dauncer, was Iohn 12...who made the Lateran..a playne Stewes or Brothel house. *a* 1634 RANDOLPH *Muses' Looking-glass* v. i, Will virtues dance? O vile, absurd, maypole, maid-marian virtue! 1647–8 WOOD *Life* (O. H. S.) I. 140, I am none of those May-pole freshmen, that are tall cedars before they come to be planted in the academian garden. 1670 J. SMITH *Eng. Improv. Revivi'd* 74 So many May-pole-like-Trees. 1789 CHARLOTTE SMITH *Ethelinde* (1814) II. 222 That maypole-like figure. 1902 LOWNDES *Camping Sk.* 85 We soon descried his maypole figure on the opposite side against the sky.

Mayr(e, obs. ff. MAYOR, MERE *sb.*^1^; Sc. ff. MORE.

Mays: see MAKE *v.*^1^, MAIZE.

Mayse: see MAZE, MEASE.

Maysilles, obs. pl. form of MEASLE.

Mayson-dew(e, etc., obs. forms of MEASONDUE.

Mayss, Mayst: see MAKE *v.*^1^, MAY *v.*^1^, MOST.

Mayster, -ir, -ry, etc.: see MASTER, etc.

†**May·strial**, *a. Obs. rare*^—1^. = MAGISTRAL.

1576 BAKER *Jewell of Health* 126 b, A maystrial baulme of unknowne Aucthour.

Maystries, etc., **Mayt, Mayth**: see MAISTRICE, MATE, MAUGH.

†**Mayth.** *Obs.*. In 1 mæ̆zð, 3 *Ormin* maȝȝþ. [OE. *mæ̆gð* str. fem.] A family, race, tribe.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Num.* i. 4 Þæra mæ̆zða ealdras [Vulg. *principes tribuum*]. *c* 1200 ORMIN 7678 Hire faderr Fanuæl Wass off Assæress maȝȝþe.

†**Maythe(s.** *Obs.* Forms: *α.* 1 maȝoþe, -eþe, -aþe, maȝþa, 5 mawth. *β.* 1 mæȝeþe, mæȝþa, 4, 6 mathe, 4, 8 maithe, 4–7 maythe, 5 mathge (?), 6–7 mayth. [OE. *maȝoþe* wk. fem., *mæȝþa* wk. masc., of obscure origin; some have suggested connexion with OE. *mæged* maiden.]

1. Stinking Camomile, *Anthemis Cotula.* Applied also to various other composite plants resembling this, as *Anthemis nobilis, Matricaria Chamomilla, M. inodora, Chrysanthemum Leucanthemum, Pyrethrum Parthenium.*

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 120 Ðas wyrte þe man camemelon & oðrum naman maȝeþe nemneð. *Ibid.* II. 140 Þa readan maȝoþan. *Ibid.* 206 Wermod & wildre maȝþan wyrttruman. *c* 1050 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 296/29 *Beneolentem*, maȝaðe, *uel camemelon. Ibid.* 297/3 *Bucstalmum* [read *Buoftalmum*], hwit mæȝeðe. *Ibid.*, *Obtalmon*, maȝeðe. *a* 1387 *Sinon. Barthol.* (Anecd. Oxon.) 10/2 *Amarusca*, maythe. *Ibid.* 16/2 *Cocula fetida*, maythes. 14.. *Sloane MS.* 5 in *Promp. Parv.* 321 *note*, *Amarusca calida, Gall. ameroche, Ang.* maithe. 14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 563/23 *Amarusa*, a mathge. *c* 1450 *Alphita* (Anecd. Oxon.) 45/2 *Consolida media*,..whit-bothel uel seynt Mary maythe. 14.. in *Archæologia* XXX. 410 Mawth. 1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 20 Doggefenell and mathes is bothe one. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* II. xxx. 186, I haue Englished it Unsauerie Camomill, foolish Mathes, and white Cotula without sauour. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* Table Eng. Names, Stinking Mayth, that is Maie weed. 1614 MARKHAM *Cheap Husb.* I. Table of Hard Words, *Maythe*, is a weede that growes amongst corne, and is called of some Hogs-Fennell.

2. *Red Maythe(s*: Red or Purple Camomile, *Adonis autumnalis.*

1548, 1551 [see MAIDWEED]. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. lxxiv. 310 Adonis flower is called in Latine *Flos Adonis*.. in English we may call it red Maythes. 1713 PETIVER *Catal. Ray's Eng. Herbal* § v. Pl. xxxix. 8 Red Maithes.

Maythen (mē^ɪ^·ð'n). *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Forms: 4 maþen, 6 maythen, mawthen, 8 maithen, 9 mathen, -an. [Repr. OE. *mæg(e)þan, maȝoþan*, oblique case and pl. of *mægeþa, maȝoþe*: see prec. Cf. MATHER(N.)] = prec.

c 1325 *Gloss. W. de Bibbesw.* in Wright *Voc.* 162 Ameroke e gletoner [*glossed* mathen (maythe) and cloten]. 1524 *Grete Herball* CXXXVII, *Consolida media.* Maythen. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* App., Mawthen is *Cotula fœtida.* 1845 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* V. II. 431 The mathen and crow-needles grow more thickly. 1883 *Hampsh. Gloss.*, Mathan, *Anthemis Cotula.*

Maythern, variant form of MATHERN.

May-tide: see MAY *v.*^1^ 12.

Mayweed (mē·wīd). [For **maythe-weed*: see MAYTHE and cf. MAIDWEED.] = MAYTHE 1.

1551 in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* II. App. A. 145 That ground, which..was most to be nobly adorned with corn,..now..replenished with mayweed, thistles, docks. 1573 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 112 The May weed doth burn and the thistle doth freat. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. ccxlix. 617, 1 *Cotula fœtida.* Maie weede. 2 *Cotula lutea.* Yellow Maie weede. 1657 C. BECK *Univ. Charac.* I iv b, Oxe-eye, vid. may weed. 1672 JOSSELYN *New-Eng. Rarities* 86 May-weed, excellent for the Mother; some of our English Housewives call it Iron Wort. 1758 R. BROWN *Compl. Farmer* (1759) 94 Rub the place with wormwood, nettles, may-weed. 1892 JEFFERIES *Toilers of Field* 310 The mayweed fringes the arable fields with its white rays and yellow centre

Mazagan (mæzăgæn). [Said to be named from *Mazagan* in Morocco, where it grows wild.] In full *mazagan bean*: a small early variety of the broad bean, *Faba vulgaris.*

1754 JUSTICE *Scots Gardiners Director* 190 The Mazagan and the early Lisbon are the earliest kinds; but I prefer the Mazagan Bean. 1759 MILLER *Gard. Dict.* (ed. 7) s. v. *Faba*, The Mazagan Bean is the first and best Sort of early Beans at present known; these are brought from a Settlement of the Portuguese on the Coast of Africa, just without the Streights of Gibraltar. 1846 J. BAXTER *Libr. Pract. Agric.* (ed. 4) II. 425 Sow.—Melons, cucumbers, peas, beans, the broad sorts, or the mazagans, if wanted early.

Mazame (măzē·m). Also **mazama.** [a. F. *mazame* (Buffon), a. Mexican *maçame* (cited in the Sp. transl. of Hernandez, 1615), pl. of *maçatl* deer, mistaken for a sing.

The U. S. Dicts. give the above pronunciation; the original word is (masā·me).]

1. Used as a name for various American species of deer; also applied to the Pronghorn.

By some recent zoologists the mod.L. *mazama* is used as the name of a genus including all the American Cervidæ.

1791 SMELLIE tr. *Buffon* (ed. 3) VII. 31 These roebucks, or mazames and temamaçames of Mexico. 1890 *Century Dict., Mazame.* 1. The North American pronghorn. 2. The pampas-deer of South America.

2. The antilopine Rocky Mountain goat, *Oreamnus* or *Haplocerus montanus.*

Hence the name of 'The Mazamas', given to a society of mountain-climbers organized on the summit of Mount Hood 19 July 1894 (*Gd. Words* Feb. 1901, p. 101).

1852 J. E. GRAY *Catal. Specim. Mammalia Brit. Mus.* III. 114 *Mazama Americana*, The Mazame or Spring-buck. 1871–82 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* III. 27 The Mazama or Mountain Goat of California and the Rocky Mountains.

Mazapane, obs. form of MARCHPANE.

Mazar, obs. form of MAZARD *sb.*2, MAZER.

Mazard (mæ·zărd), *sb.*1 Also 7 **mazerd,** 7–9 **mazzard.** [app. an alteration of MAZER, by association of the ending with the suffix -ARD.]

†1. A mazer; a cup, bowl, drinking vessel. Also *attrib. Obs.*

1601 FULBECKE *1st Pt. Parall.* 86 The Bæotians did giue ..Bacchus his mazard with a cluster of grapes. 1632 *Proc. Star Chamb.* (Camden) 303 In Salisbury they have digged up an old Bishop out of his grave and have made a mazzard of his scull. 1696 AUBREY *Misc.* (1857) 213 They..drank good ale in a brown mazard.

2. *jocular. arch.* a. The head.

1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* v. i. 97 Knockt about the Mazard with a Sextons Spade. 1621 MOLLE *Camerar. Liv. Libr.* v. xiv. 376 Certaine young men, hauing their mazerds well heated with drinking. 1624 MIDDLETON *Game at Chess* III. i. 306 The red hat, fit for the guilty mazzard. 1709 *Brit. Apollo* II. No. 39. 3/1 A..Fellow..takes me o'er the Mazard. 1876 BROWNING *Pacchiarotto* iv, With fancy he ran no hazard: Fact might knock him o'er the mazard.

b. The face, countenance, 'phiz'.

1762–71 H. WALPOLE *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1786) IV. 103 His countenance harmonized with his humour, and Christian's mazard was a constant joke. 1830 MOORE *Fables* ii. 82 In vain the Court, aware of errors In all the old established mazards, Prohibited the use of mirrors, And tried to break them at all hazards.

3. *slang.* (*Anglo-Irish.*) The 'head' of a coin.

1802 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Irish Bulls* 129 'Music!' says he—'Skull!' says I—and down they come three brown mazzards.

Hence †**Mazard** *v. trans.*, to knock on the head.

a 1616 B. JONSON *Love Restored*, The rogues let a huge trap-dore fall o' my head. If I had not been a spirit, I had been mazarded.

Mazard (mæ·zărd), *sb.*2 *dial.* Forms: 6–7 **mazar, mazer,** 7 **massard,** 7– **maz(z)ard.** [Of obscure origin: possibly a use of prec.] In the s. w. counties, a kind of small black cherry; in some other localities applied to the wild cherry; also *attrib.*, as *mazard cherry.*

1578 LYTE *Dodoens* VI. l. 723 The common small Cherries, or Mazars. 1579 LANGHAM *Gard. Health* (1633) 136 The gumme of the mazer or wilde Cherytree. *c* 1630 RISDON *Surv. Devon* § 322 (1810) 332 A fruit, called mazards here, elsewhere black cherries. 1676 LADY FANSHAWE *Mem.* (1830) 70 They have, near this town [Barnstaple], a fruit called a massard, like a cherry, but different in taste. 1782 M. CUTLER in *Life*, etc. (1888) I. 90 Set out some mazzard cherries I brought from Mr. Balch's, at Newbury. 1790 GROSE *Prov. Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Mazards*, black cherries. Glouc. 1855 KINGSLEY *Westw. Ho!* i, 'Red quarrenders' and mazard cherries.

Mazare, obs. form of MAZER.

†**Mazarine,** *sb.*1 *Obs.* Also 7 **mazerine,** 8 **massereen, mazareen.** [Of obscure history.

Phillips 1706 mentions a phrase *à la mazarine* (not given by Fr. lexicographers), used to designate a particular mode of dressing fowls, and possibly f. the name of Cardinal Mazarin (*died* 1662) prime minister of France, or of the Duchesse de Mazarin, who died at Chelsea in 1699. *Mazarine dish, plate*, may perh. be attributive uses of this word.]

a. In early use also *mazarine dish, plate*: A deep plate, usually of metal. b. (See quot. 1706.)

1673 MARVELL *Reh. Transp.* II. Wks. (Grosart) III. 451 What ragousts had here been for you to have furnish'd the Mazarines on your table! 1674 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 863/4 Stoln ..Seven Mazarine Plates, One Mazarine Plate of a smaller size, Ten Pottage Plates [etc.]. 1687 *Ibid.* No. 2237/4 Stolen ..18 Plates, 4 deep ones or Mazarines. 1688 *Ibid.* No. 2315/8 There has been lately stolen out of Her Majesty's Kitchen, a Silver Mazarine Dish. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Mazarines*, a kind of little Dishes to be set in the middle of a large Dish for the setting out of Ragoos, or Fricassies; also a sort of small Tarts fill'd with Sweet-meats. 1736 BAILEY *Housh. Dict.* 234 Put them on a mazarine and bake them. 1747 MRS. GLASSE *Cookery* xiv. (1796) 224 When that is done, set it into a massereen, throw sugar all over, and garnish with orange. 1773 *Lond. Chron.* 7 Sept. 248/3 Mazareens.

Mazarine (mæzărī·n), *sb.*2 and *a.* Also 7 **mazarien,** 8 **mazerene, mazarene,** 7–9 **mazarin.** [Perh. from the name either of Cardinal Mazarin or of the Duchesse de Mazarin (see prec.); but evidence is wanting. (Not in Fr. Dicts.)]

1. In full *mazarine blue*: A deep rich blue.

1686 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2150/4 The other [saddle] with Gold, Silver, and Silk, of several Colours, upon Mazarine Blue Velvet. 1753 *Discov. J. Poulter* (ed. 2) 16 We sold..the Mazerene blue Coat for one Pound. 1819 SAMOUELLE *Entomol. Compend.* 381 Mazarine blue moth (*Lycæna Cymon*). 1879 J. J. YOUNG *Ceram. Art* 132 The mazarine blue is similarly treated.

2. A stuff or a garment of a mazarine blue colour.

1694 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3003/4 The Coach was lined with blue Shag or Mazarien. 1766 [ANSTEY] *Bath Guide* ix. 92 Bring my silver'd mazarine, Sweetest gown that e'er was seen.

b. A London common-councilman; so called from his mazarine blue gown.

1761 *Ann. Reg.* 238 Mr. —, who was..a *mazarine*...It is a sort of nick-name given to the common-council men on account of their wearing mazarine blue silk gowns upon this occasion [Lord Mayor's day].

3. as *adj.* Of a mazarine blue colour.

1684 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1959/4 He hath on a Nutmeg colored Coat, faced with Mazarine Shag at the bands. 1688 *Ibid.* No. 2405/4 A bay Nag..with a Mazarene Saddle. 1866 GEO. ELIOT *F. Holt* xxxi, Some with the orange-coloured ribbons and streamers of the true Tory candidate, some with the mazarine of the Whig.

†**Mazarine,** *v. Obs.* In 7 **mazzarine.** [Prob. from the name of the Duchesse de Mazarin: see MAZARINE *sb.*1] *trans.* To decorate with lace in some particular manner.

1694 *Acct. for lace supplied to Q. Mary* in *Mrs. Palliser's Hist. Lace* (1902) 343 Three yards of lace to mazzarine ye pinners at 25 shillings.

†**Mazarine hood.** *Obs.* (See quot. 1708.)

1689 SHADWELL *Bury Fair* II. i, *Millener.* What d'ye lack, Ladies? fine Mazarine Hoods, Fontanges, Girdles [etc.]. 1708 KERSEY, *Mazarine-hood*, a hood made after a particular fashion, such as was us'd by the Duchess of Mazarine.

Mazaroth, obs. form of MASORITE.

Mazdaism (mæ·zdăĭz'm). Also **Mazdeism.** [f. Avestic *mazda*, the name of the good principle (Ahura-mazda, Ormuzd) of ancient Persian theology.] The ancient Persian religion as taught in the Avesta; Zoroastrianism.

1871 P. SMITH *Anc. Hist. East* III. xviii. 384 The Zend-avesta claims to be the revelation of *Mazdeism.* 1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XX. 360 Zarathustric religion (Mazdaism).

So **Mazde·an, -æ·an** *a.*, pertaining to the religion of the Avesta; *sb.* an adherent of this religion.

1880 DARMESTETER tr. *Zend-Avesta* I. Introd. 42 There was a Mazdean literature in existence in those times. 18.. J. MILNE *Relig. Persia* in *Cycl. Sci.* I. 601 The Mazdean's idea of the resurrection glorified man's body as his eternal companion.

Maze (mēz), *sb.* Forms: 3–8 **mase,** 4 **masse,** 4– **maze.** [See MAZE *v.*]

†1. **The maze.** (The use of the article is somewhat difficult to account for, but cf. the similar use with names of diseases.) *Obs.*

a. Delirium, delusion; disappointment.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 6585 Wite he sede alle men þat an erþe wonieþ her þat it nis bote þe pure mase [*B.* masse] eni kinges poer. *c* 1305 *Judas Iscariot* 14 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 107 Þis wyf was wel sore adrad: to hire louerd heo tolde [her dream] anon ȝe, he seide, hit is þe mase. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* III. 155 Heo ledeþ þe lawe as hire luste and louedayes makeþ, þe Mase for a Mene mon þauȝ he mote euere. 1377 *Ibid.* B. Prol. 196 Better is a litel losse þan a longe sorwe þe mase amonge vs alle þouȝ we mysse a schrewe.

b. Vanity, vain amusement, dissipation.

1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* I. 6 Sixt þou þis peple Al hou bisy þei ben aboute þe mase? 14.. *How Goode wyfe* 62 in *Q. Eliz. Acad.* 46 Go not as it wer A gase Fro house to house, to seke þe mase.

†2. a. A delusive fancy. b. A trick, deception.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* v. 468 Al this nas but a mase [*v.r.* maze]. *c* 1386 — *Nun's Pr. T.* 273 Men dreme al day of Owles or of Apes, And of many a maze ther-with-al. 1412–20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* v. xxxvii. (1555), All was done for an ydell mase. 14.. *Kyng & Hermit* 417 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* I. 29 Hopys thou, I wold for a mase Stond in the myre there?

3. A state of bewilderment. *Obs.* exc. *dial.*

In early examples it is uncertain whether *a maze* or AMAZE *sb.* is intended.

1430 [see AMAZE *sb.* 1]. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Blanchardyn* liv. 221 The faire Beatrix..stood in a maze. 1535 JOYE *Apol. Tindale* (Arb.) 48 Orels leue the reder as yt were in hys Maze. 1577–87 HOLINSHED *Chron.* III. 1139/2 The maze was such, that besides his sonne maister Arthur Greie..not a man else did follow him. 1631 HEYWOOD *2nd Pt. Faire Maid of West* III. Wks. 1874 II. 374 Six, to the maze Of all the rest, were slain. 1653 *Cloria & Narcissus* 274 Admiration stands at a maze. 1666 BUNYAN *Grace Ab.* § 20 (1900) 302 At this I was put to an exceeding Maze. 1722 SEWEL *Hist. Quakers* (1795) I. iv. 271 That he came to a perfect recovery from his having been in a maze seems to appear plainly. 1819 W. TENNANT *Papistry Storm'd* (1827) 136 [He] up the street Rade on—in mickle maze I ween, For fient ae face was to be seen.

¶ b. Used by Scott for: Confusing haze.

1813 SCOTT *Trierm.* Concl. i, When a pilgrim strays, In morning mist or evening maze, Along the mountain lone.

4. A structure consisting of a network of winding and intercommunicating paths and passages arranged in bewildering complexity, so that without guidance it is difficult to find one's way in it; a labyrinth; *occas.* in *plural*, the windings of a labyrinth. Also in *fig.* context.

Sometimes loosely applied to a structure in which there is a single path winding in such a manner that the distance from the entrance to the end is enormously greater than it would be in a direct line. (So in quot. 1903.)

c 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 2010 *Ariadne*, The hous is krynkeled two & fro, And hath so queynte weyis for to go For it is shapyn as the mase is wrought. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) I. 311 In that yle is also oon of the iiij. mases [*L. de quatuor labyrinthis*]. 1534 MORE *Comf. agst. Trib.* II. Wks. 1202/2 They walke round about as it were in a round mase. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* II. (1586) 66 Roses growing in Borders, and made in a maze. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* II. i. 99. 1615 BRATHWAIT *Strappado* (1878) 104 There doth grow, A grone of fatall Elmes, wherein a maze, Or labyrinth is fram'd. 1762 FALCONER *Shipwr.* II. 207 Such arduous toil sage Daedalus endur'd, In mazes self-invented long immur'd. 1835 THIRLWALL *Greece* V. I. 133 He vanquished the monster of the labyrinth, and retraced its mazes. 1836–9 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Seven Dials*, The gordian knot was all very well in its way; so was the maze of Hampton Court: so is the maze at the Beulah Spa. 1903 G. E. JEANS *Handbk. Linc.* 222 A maze, called *Julian's Bower*, is cut in the grassy brow of the cliff.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

In 16–17th c. often in phr. *to tread a maze*, perhaps with allusion to 4 c.

1542–5 BRINKLOW *Lament.* (1874) 106 Leadynge them in an endlesse mase of dyrtye tradicyons and folyshe ceremonyes. 1578 *Chr. Prayers* 17 To the intent we should not wander any longer vp and down in the mazes of this world. 1596 KEYMIS *2nd Voy. Guiana* G 4 In the discouerie of Guiana, you may read both of Oreliano..and of Berreo, with others that haue trode this maze, and lost them selues in seeking to find this countrie. 1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* II. xi. § 1 The trauaile therein taken seemeth to haue ben rather in a Maze, then in a way. 1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* 15 The Labyrinthæan Mazes and web of the small arteries. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* I. x. 42 To lose us in this maze of error. 1781 CRABBE *Library* 121 Whether 'tis yours to lead the willing mind Through History's mazes, and the turnings find. 1837 DISRAELI *Venetia* IV. ii, They were lost in a delicious maze of metaphor and music. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* iii. I. 347 Bath was..a maze of only four or five hundred houses. 1872 BLACK *Adv. Phaeton* vi. 74 A tangled maze of bracken and briar.

c. A winding movement, esp. in a dance.

1610 *Histrio-m.* III. 232 The world doth turn a maze in giddy round. 1617 B. JONSON *Vision of Delight* (near end), In curious knots and mazes so The Spring at first was taught to go. 1704 POPE *Windsor For.* 122 To plains with well-breath'd beagles we repair, And trace the mazes of the circling hare. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* IX. 9 Dancing, with the rest, the giddy Maze, Where Disappointment smiles at Hope's Career.

†d. ? A mode of plaiting the hair. *Obs.*

1657 R. LIGON *Barbadoes* 16 Their haire not shorne..close to their heads; nor in quarters, and mases.

5. *attrib.*, as *maze-like* adj. and adv.; **Maze-Monday** *dial.* (Cornw.), the Monday after pay-day at a mine (cf. *Mazed Monday*, MAZED *ppl. a.*) (E. D. D.); †**Maze-Sunday** *dial.* (Devon), some particular Sunday set apart for feasting.

1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. ii. IV. *Columnes* 749 The Maze-like Mean that turns and wends so fair. 1700 T. BROWN *Acc. Journ. Exon* Wks. 1709 III. 103. I arrived at Exon..The next Day being Sunday, call'd by the Natives of this Country Maze-Sunday, (and indeed not without some Reason, for the People look'd as if they were Gallied) I was waked by [etc.]. 1889 PATER *G. de Latour* (1896) 35 Its maze-like crypt, centering in the shrine of the sibylline Notre-Dame. 1904 *Westm. Gaz.* 15 Mar. 1/3, I looked down on to rows of clipped, regular, hornbeam hedges, with grass paths between them, maze-like.

Maze (mēz), *v.* Forms: 3–6 **mase,** 5 **mayze,** 6 **mayse,** 4– **maze.** [The vb. and the related MAZE *sb.* appear before 1300; OE. may have had **masian* vb. or **mæs*, **mase* sb.; a compound *ámasod* (= AMAZED) occurs once in the alliterative phrase 'ámasod and ámarod' (*Be Domes Dæge* 125, whence quoted by Wulfstan *Hom.* 137).

Possible cognates are Norw. dial. *mas* exhausting labour, annoying pertinacity, whim, fancy, idle chatter; *masa* to be busy, toil, to pester, worry, to chatter, *passive* to fall into a doze; Sw. *mas* sluggard, *masa* to crawl, walk lazily, *refl.* to bask, sun oneself.]

1. *trans.* To stupefy, daze; to put out of one's wits; †to craze, infatuate. Chiefly in *passive.* Now *arch.* and *dial.*

a 1300 *E. E. Psalter* lxxvii[i]. 71 [65] And wakened es lauerd als slepand, Als mased [Vulg. *crapulatus*] of wine mightand. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Anel. & Arc.* 322, I am so mased

þat I deye, Arcyte hathe borne aweye þe keye Of all my worlde, and my goode Aventure! *c* 1386 — *Man of Law's T.* 428 She seyde, she was so mazed in the see That she forgat hir mynde, by hir trouthe. *a* 1400 *Cursor M.* 27891 (Cott. Galha) Dronkinhede..mase a man..bod for to speke and do foly;.. so es his minde mased and mad. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 13280 Folis..þat heron the melody [of the Sirens], so mekill are masit in hert, Lettyn sailis doun slyde, & in slym fallyn. *c* 1425 [see MAP *v.*²]. 1530 PALSGR. 633/2 You mased the boye so sore with beatyng that he coulde nat speake a worde. 1563 B. GOOGE *Sonn.* (Arb.) 88 Gorgon .. Who with her Beautie mazed men, and nowe doth raygne in Hell. 1591 *Troub. Raigne K. John* II. (1611) 79, I am mad indeed, My heart is maz'd, my sences all foredone. 1610 B. JONSON *Alch.* v. v, Finding This tumult 'bout my dore (to tell you true) It somewhat maz'd me. 1658 MANTON *Exp. Jude* 16 Wks. 1871 V. 318 This is the devil's device, first to maze people, as birds are with a light and a bell in the night, and then to drive them into the net. 1716 B. CHURCH *Hist. Philip's War* (1865) I. 21 The Pilot yet sat his Horse, tho' so maz'd with the Shot, as not to have sense to guide him. 1725 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Milk*, Neither should the Milk-maid .. affright the Cow or maze her. 1820 SCOTT *Abbot* xix, 'The lad is mazed!' said the falconer to himself. 1855 A. MANNING *O. Chelsea Bun-house* xiv. 232 My head was mazed with my journey. 1863 MRS. GASKELL *Sylvia's L.* III. 100, If I could but think; but it's my head as is aching so; doctor, I wish yo'd go, for I need being alone, I'm so mazed. 1870 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* III. IV. 295 Then said the King, 'The man is mazed with fear'.

† **2.** *intr.* To be stupefied or delirious; to wander in mind. *Obs.*

c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 438 A fers feintise folwes me oft,.. þat I mase al marred for mournyng neiȝ hondes. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Merch. T.* 1143 'Ye maze, maze, goode sire', quod she. *a* 1568 ASCHAM *Scholem.* II. (Arb.) 159 All men may stand still to mase and muse vpon it.

3. *trans.* To bewilder, perplex, confuse. Often with some notion of a figurative maze or labyrinth.

1482 CAXTON *Trevisa's Higden* I. XXX. 40 b, Who that gooth in to that hows [a labyrinth] & wolde come out agayn..shal be so mased that out can he not goo. *a* 1500 *Assemb. Ladies* 38 Other ther were, so mased in her mind, Alwayes [of a maze] were good for hem, bothe eest and west. 1768 JOHNSON *Pref. Shaks.* Wks. IX. 245 He who has mazed his imagination in following the phantoms which other writers raise up before him, may here be cured of his delirious ecstacies. 1868 ROGERS *Pol. Econ.* Pref., The historian who is ignorant of the interpretations of political economy is constantly mazed in a medley of unconnected and unintelligible facts.

refl. 1627 W. SCLATER *Exp. 2 Thess.* (1629) 73 Wee maze our selues sometimes in following Schoolemen.

4. *intr.* To move in a mazy track. † Also *to maze it.*

1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. iii. 86 Like as moulten Lead being poured forth Upon a levell plat of sand or earth, In many fashions mazeth to and fro. 1756 LANGHORNE *Poems* (1760) 44 Thus silver Wharf..Still, melancholy-mazing, seems to mourn. 1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* II. 12 Walter led his..patron though this field and that field;..till, having mazed it and circled it for..three hours, he finally conducted the serjeant to the very gate at which he had first entered. 1865 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* XIX. i. (1872) VIII. 108 They struck their tents everywhere,..and only went mazing hither and thither.

† **b.** *trans.* To involve in a maze or in intricate windings; to form mazes upon. *Obs.*

1606 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iv. I. *Tropheis* 1003 Meander-like..Thou run'st to meet thy self's pure streams behind thee Mazing the Meads wher thou dost turn & wind thee. 1654 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* To Author A iv, Some maze their Thoughts in Labyrinths, and thus Invoke no Reader, but an Oedipus.

Maze, obs. form of MAIZE; var. MEASE.

Mazed (mēizd), *ppl. a.* [f. MAZE *v.* + -ED 1.] In senses of the verb: Stupefied, dazed, crazed; bewildered, confused; †terrified.

Mazed Monday (dial. Cornw.): (*a*) = *Maze-Monday* (MAZE *sb.* 5); (*b*) the Monday before Christmas (E.D.D.).

c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 884 So witerly was þat word wounde to hert, þat he fored as a mased man an marred neiȝ honde. 1493 *Festivall* (W. de W. 1515) 71 b, They..walked up & downe in y^e^ countre lyke mased beestes. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* V. viii. 38 Like mazed deare..they flew. 1613 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII*, II. iv. 185 Many maz'd considerings, did throng And prest in with this Caucion. 1755 WESLEY *Wks.* (1872) II. 342, I said 'To be sure it is some mazed man'. 1830 MRS. BRAY *Fitz of F.* iii. (1884) 28 He had very much the appearance of what the country people here call a mazed man. 1836 KEBLE in *Lyra Apost.* (1849) 222 The voice ineffable Wakening your mazed thoughts with an Almighty spell.

Hence † **Ma·zedly** *adv.*, † **Ma·zedness.**

c 1386 CHAUCER *Clerk's T.* 1005 She ferde as she had stert out of a sleepe, Til she out of hire mazednesse abreyde. 14.. HOCCLEVE *Min. Poems* (1892) 44 Syn my spirit nat dar putte vp his bille,..But in his mazidnesse abydith stille. 1530 PALSGR. 243/2 Masydnesse, *musardie, desuere, effroy.*

Mazeful (mēi·zfŭl), *a. Obs.* exc. *arch.* [f. MAZE *sb.* + -FUL.] Bewildering, confounding.

1595 SPENSER *Epithal.* 190 And stand astonisht lyke to those which red Medusaes mazeful hed. 1897 F. THOMPSON *New Poems* 3 It was a mazeful wonder.

Mazels, obs. pl. of MEASLE *sb.*

Mazelyn, variant of MASELIN *Obs.*, a mazer.

Mazement (mēi·zmĕnt). Also 6 **masement.** [f. MAZE *v.* + -MENT.] Stupor; a state of stupor or trance. Also = AMAZEMENT.

c 1580 MUNDAY *View Sundry Examples* (Shaks. Soc. 1851) 97 Call to mind the greevous and suddain Earthquake ..which caused such a mazement through the whole Citie. 1598 TOFTE *Alba* (1880) 72 Though tbat it be such As euery eye with masement it doth fill. 1727 BAILEY vol. II, *Mazement*, amazement. 1890 W. A. WALLACE *Only a Sister* 167 Just wait till I get near you, and we'll see if I can't find another mazement for you. 1901 KIPLING *Kim* xi. 264 A very few white people, but many Asiatics, can throw themselves into a mazement as it were by repeating their own names over and over again to themselves.

Mazer (mēi·zəɹ), *sb. Obs.* exc. *Hist.* Forms: 3–mazer, 4–9 maser. Also 2–3 mazere, 4 mazre, 4–5 maseer(e, 5 mausure, masour, masowyr, 5–6 masar, masere, 6 meyser, mas(s)or, masser, masure, mazur, mazare, 6–7 mazor, mazar. [a. OF. *masere, masre* (*masdre, madre*, whence F. *madré* veined, variegated) used in senses 1 and 2; of Teut. origin: cf. OHG. *masar* excrescence on a tree (glossing L. *tuber, nodus*), MHG. *maser* excrescence on a tree, maple, drinking cup, mod.G. *maser* markings in wood; MDu. *maeser* maple; ON. *mǫsur-r* maple (:—**masur-oz*).

The Teut. root **mas-*, **mās-*, expressing the notion of 'spot' or 'excrescence', is found also in OHG. *māsa* (MHG. *mâse*) cicatrix, spot on the body, early mod.Du. *mase, maese* spot, mesh (Du. *maas* mesh, *maashout* maple-wood); Norw. dial. *masa* to grain, paint in imitation of the grain of wood; and the words cited s.v. MEASLE.

The Welsh *masarn* maple, sycamore, is certainly from English, though the evidence of the use of *mazer* in this sense in Eng. is somewhat scanty.]

1. A hard wood (? properly maple; but cf. quot. *c* 1500 in b) used as a material for drinking cups.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 163 De caliz [is] of tin; and hire [the priest's concubine's] nap of mazere. 1419 *Will of Mountford* (Somerset Ho.), Ciphum de mazer legatum cum argento. 1593–1656 *Rites & Mon. Ch. Durh.* (Surtees 1903) 80 The goodly Cup called St Beedes Bowl, the outside whereof was of black Mazer.

† **b.** The tree yielding this wood. *Obs. rare.*

14.. *Metr. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 629 [In list of trees] *Iuniparus, labruscaque, mirra*, jenupyrtre wyld vyne masere. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 229/2 A Maser, *cantarus, murra*; *murreus*; *murpis* (A. *murrus*) *Arbor est.* *c* 1500 in Turner *Dom. Archit.* I. 144 *note*, Take many rype walenottes and water hem a while, and put hem in a moiste pytt, and hile hem, and ther shalbe grawe therof a grett stoke that we calle masere. 1547 SALESBURY *Welsh Dict.*, *Masarn*, Masar.

2. A bowl, drinking-cup, or goblet without a foot, originally made of 'mazer' wood, often richly carved or ornamented and mounted with silver and gold or other metal. Often applied to bowls entirely of metal or other material.

1311 in *Archæol.* (1887) L. I. 176, j mazer cum pede argenteo. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 11418 He gaf..Somme masers of riche pris. 1420 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 46 Also .i. bord mansure with a bond of seluer. 1424 *Ibid.* 56, I wull he haue my maser of a vine rote. 1530 *Burgh Rec. Edinb.* (1871) II. 39 A masser of siluer ourgilt. 1555 W. WATREMAN *Fardle Facions* II. ix. 193 Of the Skulles of the heades thus slaine, thei [Scithians] make masures to drincke in. 1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* Aug. 26 A mazer ywrought of the Maple warre. 1645 EVELYN *Diary* 25 Jan., They shew'd us..mazers of beaten and solid gold set with diamonds, rubies, and emeralds. 1697 DRYDEN *Virgil* (1721) I. Ded. 13 One of his Shepherds describes a Bowl, or Mazer, curiously carved. 1814 SCOTT *Ld. of Isles* V. XXXIV, 'Bring here', he said, 'the mazers four'. 1851 D. WILSON *Prehist. Ann.* (1863) II. IV. ix. 488 The royal Mazer, or convivial bowl.

fig. 1629 Z. BOYD *Last Battell* 1123 Take now the Cuppe of Saluation, the great Mazer of his mercie.

† **3.** The head; = MAZARD *sb.*¹ 2. *Obs.*

1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 77 b, Being imagined in your own braynsicke mazer. *a* 1652 BROME *Love-sick Court* IV. iii, So wilt thou whilst thou canst lift tby bottle To that old Mazer.

b. *transf.* A helmet.

1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. IV. 614 Hardy Lælius..All in gilt armour, on his glistring Mazor A stately plume, of Orange mixt with Azur.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*: † **mazer-band**, the silver binding of a mazer; **mazer bowl, cup, -dish** = 2; † **mazer tree** = 1 b; **mazer wood**, = sense 1.

1441 in *Archæol.* (1887) L. I. 187 Unum *maserband. 1562–3 *Ibid.* 193 A *masar bole wth a border of sylver and gilt abowt ytt. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. xii. 49. 1686–7 AUBREY *Rem. Gentilism & Judaism* (1881) 35 A Mazar-bowle of maple (Gossips bowle) full of beer. 1434 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 101 A litil *maser coppe. 1656 TRADESCANT *Mus. Tradesc.* 52 *Mazer dishes. ? *c* 1475 *Sqr. Lowe Degre* 689 She..closed hym in a *maser-tre. 1595 DUNCAN *App. Etymol.* (E.D.S.) 66 *Acer*, the maser tree. 1656 TRADESCANT *Mus. Tradesc.* 44 The plyable *Mazer wood, being warmed in water will work to any form.

Hence † **Mazer** *v. trans.*, = MAZARD *v.*

1596 NASHE *Saffron-Walden* V4 He terrefies mee with insulting 'hee was Tom Burwels the Fencers Scholler, and that he will squeaze and mazer me whensoeuer he met me'.

Mazer, Mazerd, obs. ff. MAZARD *sb.*² and *sb.*¹

Mazerine, obs. form of MAZARINE *sb.*²

Mazey, Mazi, variants of MAZY *a.* and *sb.*

Mazil, obs. form of MEASLE.

Mazily (mēi·zili), *adv.* [f. MAZY *a.* + -LY 2.] In a mazy manner.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 272 þe bimasede Isboset, lo! hwu he dude maseliche [*MS. T.* masedliche]. 1839 BAILEY *Festus* xviii. (1852) 226 While six sister goddesses mazily tread The bright fields of air. 1855 S. BROOKS *Aspen Crt.* I. x. 144 Those mazily cut Valentines one sees in windows. 1864 TENNYSON *Milton*, The brooks of Eden mazily murmuring.

Maziness (mēi·zinės). [f. MAZY *a.* + -NESS.] The state or condition of being mazy.

1847 in WEBSTER. 1857 R. H. PATTERSON *Ess. Hist. & Art* (1862) 435 This peculiar feature..gives to Indian mythology a haziness and maziness which set arrangement and strict definition at defiance.

Ma·zing, *vbl. sb.* [f. MAZE *v.* + -ING 1.] The action of causing amazement, astonishment.

1600 S. NICHOLSON *Acolastus* (1876) 39 Sweeping they came, and seemd to brush the ground, Their tipto-tripping pace bred double mazing, Their ratling silkes my sences did confound.

Mazing (mēi·zin), *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ING 2.] Causing confusion, bewilderment, or perplexity.

c 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* II. xiv. 230 He schal ful ofte bi masing studie be ful idil, whanne he myȝte be weel and fruytfulli occupied. 1556 J. HEYWOOD *Spider & F.* lviii. 30 This ant ..Hath cast manie masing mists before your iyse. 1623 tr. *Favine's Theat. Hon.* VI. V. 132 Clewes, to guide us out of these mazing Labyrinths. 1833 *Philol. Museum* II. 442 The mazing and dazzling power of a rich system of harmonies.

Mazo- (mēi·zo), used as comb. form of mod.L. *māza* placenta, a. Gr. *μᾶζα* cake. ‖ **Mazocacothesis** (mēi·zŏkăkǫ·þĭsis) [Gr. *κακός* bad + *θέσις* a placing], malposition of the placenta; hence **Ma·zocacothe·tic** *a.* ‖ **Mazolysis** (mēizǫ·lisis) [Gr. *λύσις* a loosing], the separation or detachment of the placenta; hence **Mazoly·tic** *a.* ‖ **Mazopathia** (mēizŏpæ·þiă) [Gr. *πάθος* suffering, feeling: see -PATHY], a disease of, or originating from, the placenta; hence **Mazopa·thic** *a.*

1856 in MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*

‖ **Mazodynia** (mēizŏdəi·niă). *Med.* [mod.L., f. Gr. *μαζ-ός* breast + *ὀδύνη* pain.] = MASTODYNIA.

1850 BIRKETT *Dis. Breast* 18 The severe neuralgic affection comprehended under the term mazodynia.

† **Mazo·logy.** [f. Gr. *μαζό-ς* breast + -LOGY. Cf. MASTOLOGY.] Brewster's substitute for MAMMALOGY.

1807–29 *Edinb. Encycl.* XIII. 393/1 *Mazology*..is that branch of zoology which treats of the class of mammiferous animals. 1828–32 WEBSTER, *Mazology*, .. the doctrine or history of mammiferous animals.

Hence **Mazolo·gical** *a.* = MAMMALOGICAL; **Mazo·logist** = MAMMALOGIST.

1807–29 *Edinb. Encycl.* XIII. 393/2 The two most eminent mazologists of antiquity are Aristotle and Pliny. 1828–32 WEBSTER, *Mazological*,..*Mazologist*.

Mazor, obs. form of MAZER.

Mazorete, -etical, obs. ff. MASORETE, -ETICAL.

Mazouelle. *Antiq.* = MASUEL.

1857 *Archæol. Jrnl.* XIV. 281 A German mazouelle of steel.

Mazoun, obs. form of MASON *sb.*¹

Mazourca, -ka, obs. forms of MAZURKA.

Mazuca, Mazur: see MASOOKA, MAZER.

Mazurka (măzē·ukă, măzĭə·ukă). Also 9 **mizurko, mazourca, mazourka.** [a. Polish *mazurka* woman of the Polish province Mazovia. In Fr. *masurka, mazurka, -ourka, -urke*, Ger. *masurka.*]

1. A lively Polish dance resembling the polka; the music is in triple time.

1818 T. CREEVEY in Sir H. Maxwell *Papers* etc. (1904) I. 283 My delight was to see the Mizurko danced by Madame Suwarrow and her brother the Prince Nariskin. 1831 *Society* I. 306 A large party had assembled there..to practice the Mazourca. 1842 MOTLEY *Corr.* (1889) I. iv. 116 He is at all the parties perpetually, and perpetually dancing the mazurka. 1885 MABEL COLLINS *Prettiest Woman* x, The after-supper-dance is called the White-Mazurka, because it is kept up till the daylight is broad and clear.

2. A piece of music intended to accompany this dance, or composed in its rhythm.

1854 THACKERAY *Newcomes* xxviii, The Austrian brass band..plays the most delightful mazurkas and waltzes.

Mazy (mēi·zi), *a.* Forms: 6 **macy**, 6–7 **mazie**, 7 **mazi**, 7, 9 **mazey**, 7– **mazy.** [f. MAZE *sb.* + -Y 1.]

1. Resembling or of the nature of a maze; full of windings and turnings.

1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* Dec. 25, I wont to raunge amydde the mazie thickette. 1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. i. I. *Eden* 510 Not treading Sin's false mazy measures. 1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* 465 A mazey laberynth of small veines and arteries. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IX. 161, I..prie In every Bush and Brake, where hap may finde The serpent sleeping, in whose mazie foulds To hide me. 1714 POPE *Rape of Lock* II. 139 Some thrid the mazy ringlets of her hair. 1728 — *Dunc.* I. 68 Pleas'd with the madness of the mazy dance. 1797 COLERIDGE *Kubla Khan* 25 Five miles meandering with a mazy motion..the sacred river ran. 1844 HOOD *Haunted Ho.* XXXIII, The cobweb hung across in mazy tangle. 1888 BRYCE *Amer. Commw.* (1890) II. lxi. 434 It is hard to keep one's head through this mazy whirl of offices, elections [etc.].

b. Moving in a maze-like course.

1725 POPE *Odyss.* XVII. 355 With him the youth pursu'd the goat or fawn, Or trac'd the mazy leveret o'er the lawn.

c. as *sb. jocular.* Short for 'the mazy dance'.

1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* lvi, In remembrance of her with whom I shall never again thread the windings of the mazy.

2. *spec.* in *Min.* Having convoluted markings.

1811 PINKERTON *Petral.* I. 465 Mazy alabastrite, of a deep brown, with lighter veins.

3. Giddy, dizzy, confused in the head. *dial.*

c 1510 *Songs* (MS. Royal, App. 58) in *Anglia* XII. 268 My hed is all macy and meruelowsly dothe werke. *c* 1746 COLLIER (Tim Bobbin) *View Lanc. Dial.* Wks. (1862) 45 Sumheaw it made meh meazy. 1896 *Daily News* 5 Sept. 2/4 Deceased seemed to have accidentally fallen in [the water], probably during a 'mazy bout', she being subject to severe headaches.

4. *Comb.*

1728–46 THOMSON *Spring* 576 Oh pour The mazy-running soul of melody Into my varied verse.

Mazzard, Mazzarine: see MAZARD, MAZARINE *v.*

M.B. (em bī). [Abbreviation of 'Mark of the Beast' (see MARK *sb.*[1] 11 c, BEAST *sb.* 7), used with jocular allusion to the popular view that this garment was a badge of 'Popery'.] *M.B. waistcoat*: a kind of waistcoat with no opening in front, worn by Anglican clergymen (originally, *c* 1840, only by adherents of the Tractarian party, but afterwards by many belonging to other schools).

1853 CONYBEARE in *Edinb. Rev.* Oct. 315 Who does not recognise..the stiff and tie-less neckcloth, the M.B. coat and cassock waistcoat [etc.]. 1874 [see MARK *sb.*[1] 11 c]. 1876 MRS. OLIPHANT *Phœbe Jun.* xvi. (1877) 114 He smiled superior at the folly which stigmatised an M.B. waistcoat.

M.B., abbreviation of L. *Medicinæ Baccalaureus* bachelor of medicine: see B (the letter) III. 1.

M.D. Abbreviation of Latin *Medicinæ Doctor* doctor of medicine: see D (the letter) III. 3. Often used *colloq.* (pronounced em dī) for: One holding the degree of M.D., a physician.

1755 in JOHNSON. 1766 REID *Let.* Wks. I. 47/1, I think our surgeons eclipse our M.D's. 1883 MAPLESON *Mem.* (ed. 2) I. 209 She gave bonds for her appearance when called upon, in order to save her trunks from seizure, which the M.D. had threatened.

Me (mī, mi, mĭ), *pers. pron.*, *1st pers. sing.*, *acc.* and *dat.* Forms: 1– me; also 1 (acc.) mec, *Northumb.* mech, meh, 3–4 mi, 4–7 mee, 8–9 *dial.* (unstressed) ma. [The OE. *mē* accus. represents, like OFris. *mi*, OS. *mī*, *mē* (Du. *mij*), L. *mē*, Gr. ἐμέ, με, OIrish *mē* (mod.Irish *mi*), Welsh *mi*, the bare stem, OAryan **eme-*, **me-*, from which in all the Indogermanic langs. the oblique cases of the pronoun of the 1st pers. sing. are formed. OE. had also a form *mec* (which did not survive into ME.), corresp. to OFris. *mich*, OS. *mik* (MDu. *mik*), OHG. *mih* (MHG., mod.G. *mich*), ON. *mik* (Sw., Da. *mig*), Goth. *mik*:—Pre-Teut. **mege* (= Gr. ἐμέγε), in which a limiting particle **ge* (= Gr. γε, 'at least') is added to the simple accus. The OE. *mĕ* dative corresponds to OFris. *mi*, *mir*, OS. *mī* (MDu. *mĭ*, mod.Du. *mij*), OHG., mod.G. *mir*, ON. *mér*, Goth. *miz*:—Pre-Teut. **mes*; the final *s*, which is the sign of the dative also in the Teut. pronouns of the 2nd pers. sing., has not been explained with certainty, but Brugmann has suggested that it may have arisen from the analogy of the Pre-Teut. **nes* (Skr. *nas*), the stem of the 1st pers. plural, which was used uninflected as a dative, and of which Teut. **uns* (Eng. Us) is an ablaut-variant.]

I. The accusative and dative form of the pronoun of the first person *I*.

1. *Accusative*, as direct object.

Beowulf 447 ȝif mec deað nimeð. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. x. 32 Eghuelc..seðe ȝe-ondetas meh [*c* 975 *Rushw.* mec, *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* me] before monnum. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 160 Ich wiste wel þat þou me misraddest. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* VII. 88 He is holden, Ich hope to haue me in Muynde. 1470-85 MALORY *Arthur* VII. xxxii. 264 Spare me not to morne when I haue restyd me. 1535 FISHER *Wks.* (E. E. T. S.) I. 382 He wil not forsake me nor suffer mee to perish. 1611 BIBLE *Ruth* i. 20 Call me not Naomi, call mee Marah. 1762 BICKERSTAFF *Love in Village* I. x. (1765) 20 Well, my lad, are you willing to serve the king? *Countryman.* Why, can you list ma? 1832 TENNYSON *Œnone* 38 Hear me, for I will speak.

2. *Dative.* **a.** As indirect obj.; also (now *rare* exc. *arch.*) in dependence on certain impers. vbs. (cf. MESEEMS, METHINKS, LIST *v.*[1]), adjs., and advs.

Beowulf 2155 Me ðis hildesceorp Hroðgar sealde. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 113 Her is min child þe me is swiðe leof. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 3611 Þar-efter now mi langes sare. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 45 So hard me was that ilke throwe That [etc.]. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* viii. 15 Me repentys and rewys for-þi. 1533 MORE *Debell. Salem* Wks. 1024/1 Me nedeth neuer to loke more for that matter. 1654-66 EARL ORRERY *Parthen.* (1676) 343 Those strange Accidents which had arrived me. 1666 BOYLE *Orig. Formes & Qual.* 395 The quantity presented me was less inconsiderable. 1898 RIDER HAGGARD *Dr. Therne* 21 Will you lend it me?

b. As dat. of interest (= *for me*), chiefly in commands. *arch.*

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* John xiii. 8 Ne ðuoas ðu me [Vulg. *mihi*] foet. *c* 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 46 In myn bed there dawith me no day That I ne am vp. 14.. *Tundale's Vis.* 87 Loke me my sparthe, where ever it stonde. 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* II. i. 121 Come me to what was done to her. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 488 ₱ 2 A large Family of Daughters have drawn me up a very handsome Remonstrance. 1765 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* VII. xliii, Tie me up this tress instantly. 1849 M. ARNOLD *Sick King in Bokhara* 45 Prick me the fellow from the path!

c. Used expletively in passages of a narrative character. (The so-called ethical dative.) *arch.*

Formerly often in vulgar or colloq. phrases (now obs.) such as 'then says me I', 'what did me I but', etc.

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1905 Þay fel on hym alle, & woried me þis wyly wyth a wroth noyse. 1535 *Goodly Primer, Passion* IV, But Peter .. cometh me back again unto the fire. *c* 1500 *Robyn Hode* II. st. 100 (Child) Here be the best coresed hors That euer yet sawe I me. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* I. iii. 85 The skilfull shepheard pil'd me certaine wands. 1697 VANBRUGH *Æsop* I. II. 1 I'se get our wife Joan to be the queen's chambermaid; and then—crack says me I! and forget all my acquaintance. 1724 SWIFT *Prometh.* Wks. 1755 III. II. 151 Prometheus once this chain [of gold] purloin'd, Then whips me on a chain of brass. 1820 LAMB *Elia* Ser. I. *Oxf. in Vac.*, With great exactitude of purpose he enters me his name in the book.

3. Governed by a *preposition*.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* John vi. 35 Seðe ȝeleſes on mech [*Rushw.* mec]. *c* 1200 ORMIN 237 Þuss haſeþþ Drihhtin don wiþþ me. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 367 Þu liest on me hit is isene. *c* 1375 *Canticum de Creatione* 11 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1878) 124/1 Þe rode treo Þat god on deyde for 3ow & meo. 1470-85 MALORY *Arthur* VIII. xxiii. 307, I pray to god that he nener be..shamed for me. 1616 B. JONSON *Forest* ix, Drink to me, onely, with thine eyes. 1642 CHAS. I *Sp.* Wks. 1662 I. 401 You see that My Magazine is going to be taken from Me. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 79 ₱ 2 The Writer will do what she pleases for all me. 1816 J. WILSON *City of Plague* I. i. 101 A voice comes to me from its silent towers.

4. Qualified by an adj.

a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* II. (1590) 179 b, Vntil you came, after so many victories to make a conquest of poore me. 1608 SHAKS. *Per.* I. iv. 69 To..make a conquest of vnhappie mee. 1646 CRASHAW *Poems* 149 And full of nothing else but empty me. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* X. x, As for poor little me, .. I was sent to the foundling hospital.

5. *Reflexive* (=myself, to or for myself). Now chiefly *arch.* and *poet.*

a 1000 *Juliana* 452 (Gr.) Þær ic swiþe me þyslicre ær þrage ne ȝewende. *a* 1200 *Moral Ode* 6 Þenne ich me bi-þenche wel sare ich me adrede. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 480 Ich..toc me him to lauerd. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Pars. T.* ₱ 235, I purposed fermely to shryue me. *c* 1570 *Pride & Lowl.* (1841) 61 Thinking to me they meant to gone us by. 1665 HOOKE *Microgr.* Pref. f, I provided me a Tube of Brass. 1703 ROWE *Ulyss.* II. i, Methought I found me by a murm'ring Brook. 1819 KEATS *La Belle Dame* 44 And I awoke, and found me here. 1859 TENNYSON *Marr. Geraint* 281 Where can I get me harbourage for the night? 1867 MACFARREN *Harmony* vi. (1876) 209, I must content me with the bare statement.

6. For the *nominative*. **a.** Chiefly predicative; as subject now only *dial.* and *vulgar.*

In uneducated speech commonly used where the pron. forms with another pron. or a sb. the subject of a plural verb.

a 1500 in Arnolde *Chron.* (1811) 108 Be it knowen to al men by theis presentis me, T. H. of Oxenford glouar, ordeyne [etc.]. 1519 in *Charters*, etc. *Peebles* (1872) 49 Be it kennit tyll all men be thir present letteres, me James Baroune .. grantis me to haif rasawit [etc.]. 1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* II. iii. 25 Oh, the dogge is me, and I am my selfe. 1733 SWIFT *Apol.* Wks. 1755 IV. I. 209 To dine with her! and come at three! Impossible! it can't be me. 1758 GOLDSM. *Mem. Prot.* (1895) I. 201 There was left surviving only me. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* I. viii, Me and Mrs. Boffin stood the poor girl's friend. 1886 BESANT *Childr. Gibeon* II. xxvii, We're an easy-going lot, me and my friends. 1893 [see HIM 3].

b. After *as*, *than*.

1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* III. iii. 14 Is she as tall as me? 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* I. x. 58, I am fitter for this world than you, you for the next than me. 1804 BYRON *Let.* 2 Nov., Lord Delawarr is considerably younger than me.

† **c.** In the absolute participial construction. *Obs.*

c 1450 tr. *De Imitatione* III. v. 69 These folke, me beyng displesed [L. *me eis adversante*], ofte tymes fallen into gret temptacions. 1671 MILTON *Samson* 463 Dagon hath presum'd, Me overthrown, to enter lists with God.

7. In various exclamatory uses, without definite syntactical relation to the context.

a. In interjectional phrases, as *Ah me! Ay me! O me! Dear me!* † *Fore me!* † *God's me!* etc.

See also BODY *sb.* 4, GOD *sb.* 8 b.

1589 GREENE *Menaphon* (Arb.) 66 Ay me vnhappie. 1591–1860 [see AY 2]. 1601 B. JONSON *Poetaster* I. i, Gods a' me! 1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* I. i. 124 What then? Fore me, this Fellow speakes. 1610 [see O 2]. 1632 ROWLEY *Wom. never vext* IV. 59 *Rob.* O me my shame! I know that voyce full well. *Ibid.* 60 O me, mine Vncle sees me! 1798 in *Spirit Pub. Jrnls.* (1799) II. 216 Dear me! O la! Good me! 1819 KEATS *St. Agnes* xii, Alas me! flit! Flit like a ghost away.

b. In imitation of Latin uses (e.g. *me miserum!*).

1667 MILTON *P. L.* II. 73 Me miserable! which way shall I flie Infinite wrauth, and infinite despaire? 1889 BROWNING *Pope & Net* iii, 'Unworthy me!' he sighs: 'From fisher's drudge to Church's prince—it is indeed a rise'.

c. In surprised interrogation = 'Do you mean me?'

1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* I. iii. 44 And get you from our Court. *Ros.* Me Vncle. *Duk.* You Cosen. 1760 FOOTE *Minor* III. (1767) 72 What says your father! *Sir Will.* Me! Oh, I'll shew you in an instant. 1782 MISS BURNEY *Cecilia* IV. vii, Then, turning to Miss Larolles, 'Don't you dance?' he said. 'Me?' cried she, embarrassed, 'yes, I believe so.'

d. Vulgarly, *and me* . . . = 'especially considering that I am . . .'.

Cf. the similar use of *I*, as in Burns *Banks o' Doon*, And I sae weary, fu' o' care.

1812 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Absentee* xi, Which would be hard on us and me a widow. 1864 G. MEREDITH *Emilia* xv, And twenty shindies per dime we've been havin', and me such a placable body, if ye'll onnly let m' explode.

e. Followed by an inf. in exclamations of surprise or indignation at some proposal or statement.

So F. *moi*. The nom. *I* is considered more grammatical.

1885 J. K. JEROME *On the Stage* 16 'Me! me pay!' I exclaimed, rendered ungrammatical by surprise. 'What for?'

8. quasi-*sb.* Personality, individuality; EGO.

1828 CARLYLE *Misc.* (1857) I. 86 Haunted and blinded by some shadow of his own little Me. 1855 BAIN *Senses & Int.* II. i. § 12 A *not me* as opposed to the *me* of passive sensibility and thought.

† **Me**, *indef. pron. Obs.* Also 4 ma. [A further reduced form of MEN *pron.*, weakened from MAN *pron.*] = ONE 21.

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 17 Hit is riht þet me hem spille. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 54 Þus, ofte, ase me seið, of lutel wacseð muchel. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 2828 Ma calþ me Gyoun of Borgoygne. 1426 AUDELAY *Poems* 9 To do as thou woldest me dud by the. *c* 1483 CAXTON *Dialogues* 6/20 Thinges That ben vsed after the bous, Of whiche me may not be withoute.

† **Me**, ? *int.* or *conj. Obs.* [Of obscure origin: some have compared the MDu., MLG. *men*, 'but' (whence Da. *men*, Sw. *män* in the same sense), but it is doubtful whether this is connected.] A particle (exclamatory or adversative) employed (mainly in texts of the 'Katherine group') to introduce a question, or (less commonly) a statement: = 'lo', 'now', 'why'.

a 1225 *Leg Kath.* 327 Me hwat is mare madschipe þen for to leuen on him. *a* 1240 *Ureisun* in *Cott. Hom.* 185 Me nis he fol chapmon þe buþ deore a wac þing [etc.].

Mea, Sc. variant of MO (= more) *Obs.*

Meace, Meach, obs. ff. MESS *sb.*, MICHE.

† **Mea·cock.** *Obs.* Forms: 6 maycocke, meycocke, mecock(e, meicocke, 6–7 meacock(e. [Of obscure origin: perh. orig. a name of some bird (cf. quot. 1575). (The suggestion that it is f. MEEK *a.* is untenable.)]

1. An effeminate person; a coward, weakling.

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 69 b, He sholde be no cowarde, no maycocke, no fearfull persone that dare nothynge enterpryse. 1563–87 FOXE *A. & M.* (1596) 394/2 [The bishop] rebuked the maior and bis brethren for mecocks and dastards. 1575 R. B. *Appius & Virginia* B, As stout as a Stockefish, as meeke as a mecocke. 1590 *Tarlton's News Purgat.* 39 Shee found fault with him, because he was a meacocke and a milkesoppe. 1640 GLAPTHORNE *Hollander* II. Wks. 1874 I. 98 They are like my husband, meere meacocks verily. 1719 D'URFEY *Pills* (1872) IV. 14 For my part I will no more be such a Meacock To deal with the plumes of a Hyde-Park Peacock. 1834 SIR H. TAVLOR *Artevelde* III. ii, A bookish nursling of the monks—a meacock!

2. *attrib.* passing into *adj.* Effeminate; cowardly.

1587 CHUACHYARD *Worth. Wales* (1876) 41 Yonder effeminate and meycocke people. 1601 CHESTER *Love's Mart.* (N. Shaks. Soc.) 59 Let vs giue onset on that meacocke Nation. 1639 G. DANIEL *Vervic.* 176 Shall .. Warwicke keepe The strength of Callice? meacocke King, you sleepe.

Mead[1] (mēd). Forms: α. 1 medo, meodu, 3–7 mede, 4 meed, meode, 5 med, meyde, 6 meade, 6–7 *Sc.* meid, 6– mead. β. 3–4 meth, 4–5 meeth, 4–6 methe, 6 meedth, 6–7 meathe, 6–8 meath. [Com. Teut. and Aryan: OE. *meodu* str. masc. = OFris., MLG., MDu. *mede* (Du. *mede*, *mee*), OHG. *metu*, *mitu* (MHG. *mete*, *met*, mod.G. *met*), ON. *miǫð-r* (Da. *miød*, Sw. *mjöd*), Gothic **midu-s* (not recorded exc. in Gr. transcription as μέδος, given by Priscus as the name at the Hunnish court A.D. 448 for the drink which there took the place of wine):—OTeut. **medu-z*:—OAryan **medhu-s*; cf. Skr. *mádhu* neut., honey, sweet drink, OSl. *medŭ* honey, wine, Lith. *midù-s* mead, *medùs* honey, Gr. *μέθυ* wine, OIrish *mid*, genit. *meda*, Welsh *medd*. The word may have been orig. an elliptical use of an adj. meaning 'sweet' (= Skr. *mádhu* adj.).

The β forms may be partly from ON. and partly from Welsh; with regard to the latter cf. the adoption from Welsh of the synonymous (but unrelated) METHEGLIN.]

An alcoholic liquor made by fermenting a mixture of honey and water: also called *metheglin*.

The distinction alleged in quot. 1609 (under β) was prob. merely a figment of the writer's own.

α. *Beowulf* 604 (Gr.) Gæþ eft, se þe mot, to medo modig. *a* 1000 *Riddles* xxi. 12 (Gr.) Þær hy meodu drincað. *c* 1205 LAY. 6928 Ah longe leouede here Cherin, muchel he dronk mede [*c* 1275 meþ] and win. 1390 *Earl Derby's Exped.* (Camden) 43, xxiiij barellis de meed. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xxviii. 111 It is swetter then med. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 232/2 *Meyde* (*A.* Methe), *idromellum*, *medus*, *medo*. 1625 K. LONG tr. *Barclay's Argenis* I. xviii. 49 By occasion of their Mead, they fell into talke of Bees. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 383 ₱ 6 A Masque .. asked him if he would drink a Bottle of Mead with her? 1767 MRS. GLASSE *Cookery* App. 353 How to make mead. *Ibid.* 374 To make white mead. 1891 T. HARDY *Tess* II. 62, I found the mead .. extremely alcoholic.

β. *c* 1275 [see α]. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Miller's T.* 194 He sente hire pyment Meeth and spyced Ale. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* I. xx. 121 Without sidir and wijn and meeth, men and wommen myȝte lyue ful long. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* II. (1586) 58 b, They say they will be verie pleasant, if the seede be steeped in meedth. 1609 C. BUTLER *Fem. Mon.* (1634) 162 Meth or Hydromel is of two sorts, the weaker and the stronger (Mede and Methæglen). *a* 1674 MILTON *Hist. Mosc.* I. Wks. 1851 VIII. 480 Thir Drink is better, being sundry sorts of Meath. 1747 MRS. DELANY *Life & Corr.* (1861) II. 463 He begs a thousand acknowledgements to you for all favours, particularly the meath.

b. *transf.* (*a*) *poet. nonce-use* (see quot.). (*b*) Now applied to several made beverages, esp. U.S. 'a sweet drink charged with carbonic gas, and flavored with some syrup, as sarsaparilla' (*Cent. Dict.* 1890).

1667 MILTON *P. L.* V. 345 For drink the Grape She crusbes, inoffensive moust, and meathes From many a berrie.

c. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, chiefly *arch.* or *Hist.* in terms relating to Teutonic antiquities, as *meadhorn*; **mead-bench** (OE. *medubenc*), a seat at a feast when mead was drunk; **mead-hall** (OE. *meduheall*), a banqueting hall. Also † **mead-inn**,

an inn where mead is the beverage sold; **mead-wine**, a home-made 'wine' prepared from mead.

1860 Hook *Lives Abps.* I. v. 181 Nobles left their halls and the *mead-bench. 1881 Green *Making of Eng.* 173 The leader..gave them..a seat in his *mead hall. 1870 Morris *Earthly Par.* II. iii. 391 Shun the *mead-horn. 1621 Burton *Anat. Mel.* I. ii. II. ii. (1651) 74 Be merry together..as our modern Muscovites do in their *Mede-Inns. 1804-6 Syd. Smith *Mor. Philos.* (1850) 248 Every clergyman's wife makes *mead-wine of the honey.

Mead[2] (mīd). Now *poet.* and *dial.* Forms: 1 mǽd, *Anglian* méd, 3 med, 3-6 mede, 4 maied, 4, 6 meed(e, 5 *Sc.* meide, 5-6 *Sc.* meid, 6 mydde, 6-7 meade, 6- mead. [OE. *mǽd* str. fem.:—OTeut. type **mǣdwō*: see Meadow.

By phonetic law the *w* was dropped in the nom. sing. in OE., and retained in the other forms. Although the regular inflexion is the more common, the oblique cases and pl. are sometimes found assimilated to the nom. sing., as gen. and dat. *mǽde* (dat. also *méda* as from a *u*-stem), pl. *mǽda*.]

= Meadow 1.

c 1000 in Napier *O. E. Glosses* 5/138 *Prata, i. uiriditates*, mæda. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 438 Þe blostme ginneþ springe and sprede Beoþe ine treo and ek on mede. *c* 1290 *Becket* 1722 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 156 In ane Mede þat men cleopiez ȝuyte 'þe traitores mede'. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 11255 Sir Ion giffard fram brumesfeld þuder sone com To þe castle med wiþoute toun. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Prol.* 89 Embrouded was he, as it were a mede Al ful of fresshe floures, whyte and rede. 1508 Dunbar *Tua mariit Wemen* 514 And all remuffit the myst, and the meid smellit. 1551 Turner *Herbal* I. B v, The second [kind of garlick] groweth in myddes and feldes in euery cuntre. 1573 Tusser *Husb.* (1878) 195 Riuers sweete along the meedes. 1605 Shaks. *Lear* I. i. 66 Of all these bounds..With plenteous Riuers, and wide-skirted Meades We make thee Lady. 1612 Drayton *Poly-olb.* xii. 160 A goodly mead, which men there call the Hide. 1713 C'tess Winchilsea *Misc. Poems* 292 The loos'd Horse..Comes slowly grazing thro' th' adjoining Meads. 1799 W. Tooke *View Russian Emp.* I. 73 Artificial meads, as not deemed necessary, are unusual. 1812 Brackenridge *Views Louisiana* (1814) 105 These natural meads. 1896 A. E. Housman *Shropshire Lad* v, Oh may I squire you round the meads And pick you posies gay?

† b. Meadow-land; = Meadow 1 b. *Obs.*

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 3887 In þe oþer half beþ grete wodes lese & mede al so. 1455 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 313/1, vii acres of Mede, liggyng in the Mede beside the Brigge. 1670 *Conn. Col. Rec.* (1852) II. 133 This Court grants Mr. Benjamin Fenn, two hundred and fifty acres of land, whereof there may be thirty of mead.

c. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as † **mead-gavel**, a rent for meadow land; **mead grass**, meadow grass, esp. *Poa pratensis*; **mead ground**, meadow land; **mead-month**, quasi-*arch.*, an alleged OE. name for July; † **mead-rattle**, app. ground ivy or speedwell; † **mead silver** (see quot.).

1235-53 *Rentalia Glaston.* (Somerset Rec. Soc.) 54 Hii qui solvunt *Medgavel. 1778 [W. Marshall] *Minutes Agric., Digest* 66 Cut Clover early,—*Meadgrass late. 1453 in *Trevelyan Papers* (Camden) 22 With viij acr. of *meade grounde. 1571 in W. H. Turner *Select. Rec. Oxford* (1880) 336 Fyve acres of meade ground lying in Botley meade. 1681 W. Robertson *Phraseol. Gen.* (1693) 584 In *mede month; Hay time. 1714 Fortescue-Aland *Fortescue's Abs. & Lim. Mon.* Notes 116 July was called Mædemonaþ, *Mead-Month*. 1849 Lytton *K. Arthur* VIII. xiv, Roved the same pastures when the Mead-month smil'd. *c* 1450 *Alphita* (Anecd. Oxon.) 28/1 *Camepiteos..uel germandria maior..angl.* *mederatele. 1778 *Eng. Gazetteer* (ed. 2) s.v. *Cobham*, The parishioners pay no tithe-hay, but a composition..of *id.* an acre, which is called *Mead Silver.

Mead, obs. form of Meed *sb.*

Meaddowe, obs. form of Meadow.

Meader (mī·dəɹ). *dial.* [repr. OE. *mǽdere* = MDu., MLG. *mader, meder*, OHG. *mâdari* (MHG. *mâdære*, mod.G. *mahder, mähder*):—OTeut. type **mǣþarjo-z*, f. the sb. represented in OE. *mǽð* Math *sb.*[1]] A mower.

a 1000 *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 235/3 *Falcarius, i. falcifer-ens, uel falcifera*, sipberend, *uel* mæþre. *Ibid.* 237/35 *Fenisece*, mæþeras. ?18.. *Old Song* in *N. & Q.* 1st Ser. (1854) X. 480 The meader walks forth with his scythe on his shoulder. 1864 *E. Cornw. Words* in *Jrnl. Roy. Inst. Cornw.* Mar. 18, *Meader*, a mower.

Meader, obs. form of Madder *sb.*[2]

Meadow (me·dou), *sb.* Forms: 1 *sing.* (oblique cases) médwe, médwa, *pl.* mǽdwa, 3 meduwe, 3-4 midu, 3-5 medwe, 3-6 medewe, 4-5 medou, medoe, medew, 4-6 medo, 4-7 medow(e, 5 medue, meedewe, mydew(e, 5-6 middow, 6 medoy, me(a)ddowe, myddoe, 6-7 middow, meadowe, 7 *Sc.* meadou, 6- meadow. [repr. OE. *médwe* oblique case of *mǽd* str. fem. (see Mead[2]):—OTeut. type **mǣdwō*:—pre-Teut. **mētwā*, f. root **mē-* (whence Mow *v.*).

The precise formal equivalent does not occur in any other Teut. lang., but cognate words of similar meaning are OFris. *mēde*, ODu. *mada* (Franck), MDu., MLG. *made*, early mod.Du. *matte* (now *mat*), MHG. *mate, matte* (mod.G. *matte*). See also Math *sb.*[1]

1. Originally a piece of land permanently covered with grass which is mown for use as hay. In later use often extended to include any piece of grass land, whether used for cropping or pasture; and in some districts applied esp. to a tract of low well-watered ground, usually near a river.

969 *Lease* in Birch *Cartul. Sax.* III. 532 An medwa beneoðan þæm hlibe. *c* 1205 Lay. 1942 Cornes heo seowen medewen heo meowen. *Ibid.* 4817 Meduwen and mores & þa hæȝe muntes. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 214/491 A fair Medwe he saiȝ with swete floures. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 4573 In þat medu sa lang þai war þat etten þai had it erthe bare. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1761 Þe myst drynes þorȝ þe lyst of þe lyfte, bi þe loȝ medoes. 1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 327 Nature..Wole..With herbes and with floures bothe The feldes and the medwes clothe. *c* 1400 *Song Roland* 306 Amonge medos, and moris, & evyll bankis. *c* 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) xxxiii. 148 All þe tymes of þe ȝere er..paire mydews grene. *c* 1430 *Syr Gener.* (Roxb.) 5653 Comen was the king of kinges And armed in the middow rode. 1463 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 34 The medwe at Babwelle. 1488 *Act 4 Hen. VII*, c. 15 § 2 Divers pastures and medues. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 74 The dayes of this worlde be but transitory, as the floure of ye medowe. 1551 Turner *Herbal* I. B viij, Althea..groweth naturally in watery & marrish myddoes. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 220 Beyng brought foorthe into a meddowe and stripped naked, they were slayne eche one. 1588 Shaks. *L. L. L.* v. ii. 907 Ladie-smockes all siluer white, Do paint the Meadowes with delight. 1589 in *Exch. Rolls Scotl.* XXII. 26 The landis of the Kingis medo besyde Edinburgh. 1611 Mure *Misc. Poems* i. 53 A blooming meadou. 1634 W. Tirwhyt tr. *Balzac's Lett.* (vol. I.) 77, I march into a Meddow. 1717 Lady M. W. Montagu *Let. to Abbé Conti* 29 May, The rest of our journey was through fine painted meadows. 1846 J. Baxter *Libr. Pract. Agric.* (ed. 4) I. 370 The proper grasses which constitute the produce of the richest permanent pastures and meadows.

transf. and *fig.* 1588 Shaks. *Tit. A.* III. i. 125 Looking all downewards to behold our cheekes How they are stain'd in meadowes, yet not dry With miery slime left on them by a flood. 1777 [see Meander *v.* 1 b].

b. Land used for meadows; 'meadow land'.

c 1122 *O. E. Chron.* an. 777 (MS. E), Mid læswe & mid mædwe. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 75 Alle mad he wasteyn, pastur, medow, & korn. 1532 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) VI. 31, 16 acres of meadow in Kellome. 1636 *Rec. Dedham, Mass.* (1892) III. 21 He shall haue for a Fearme..soe much medowe & vpland as shalbe sufficient. 1799 J. Robertson *Agric. Perth* 204 It is perhaps more proper to name all land, from which hay is taken, meadow. 1846 McCulloch *Acc. Brit. Empire* (1854) I. 181 Above 500,000 [*sc.* acres] are arable, meadow, and pasture.

2. *N. America.* a. A low level tract of uncultivated grass land, esp. along a river or in marshy regions near the sea.

1670 D. Denton *Descr. New York* (1845) 14 After-skull River puts into the main Land on the West-side,..There is very great Marshes or Medows on both sides of it, excellent good land. 1778 T. Hutchins *Descr. Virginia*, etc. 14 On the North-west and South-east sides of the Ohio..are extensive natural meadows, or Savannahs. 1779 D. Livermore *Jrnl.* in *Coll. N. Hampshire Hist. Soc.* (1850) VI. 316 The intervale or meadow extends four miles from the banks of the river. 1881 E. H. Elwell in *Coll. Maine Hist. Soc.* (1887) IX. 214 It was the fertility of these meadows which attracted the adventurers of a century ago.

b. *Beaver meadow*: the rich, fertile tract of land left dry above a demolished beaver dam.

1784 M. Cutler in *Life*, etc. (1888) I. 100 A swamp, or beaver meadow, in which Ellis river takes its rise. 1836 *Backwoods of Canada* 144 All these are found on the plains and beaver-meadows. *Ibid.* 239. 1863 Miss E. H. Walshe *Cedar Creek* xii. 92 Why is that green flat called a beaver meadow?..Well, they say that long ago beavers dammed up the current in such places as this [etc.].

3. a. 'An ice-field or floe on which seals herd'.

b. 'A feeding ground of fish' (*Cent. Dict.* 1890).

1877 *Rep. U. S. Fish. Commiss.* (1879) 541 The 'fishing grounds', 'cod-meadows', have an extent of about 200 geographical miles in length, and 67 miles in breadth.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

a. Obvious combinations, as *meadow-base, -croft, -field, -flower, -gale, -hay, -lect, -lot, -man, -road, -side, -swell, -verse, -watering.*

1832 Tennyson *Pal. of Art* ii, A huge crag-platform,..whose ranged ramparts bright From great broad *meadow-bases of deep grass Suddenly scaled the light. 1812 W. Tennant *Anster F.* II. lxvii, Anon uprises..On the green loan and *meadow-crofts around, A town of tents. 1822 J. Wilson *Lights & Shad. Scot. Life* 37 Dancing all day like a butterfly in a *meadow-field. 1492 Ryman *Poems* lxxxiv. 2 in *Archiv Stud. neu. Spr.* LXXXIX. 253 As *medowe floures of swete odoures. 1798 Coleridge *Anc. Mar.* VI. xii, It fann'd my cheek, Like a *meadow-gale of spring. 1733 Tull *Horse-Hoeing Husb.* xiv. 180 If *Meadow-Hay cannot have good Weather to be cut [etc.]. 1856 *Farmer's Mag.* Jan. 36 As much phosphate of lime.. as though he consumed meadow-hay. 1877 Blackmore *Erema* II. xl. 288 The *meadow-leet..was dry as usual. 1637 *Boston Rec.* (1877) II. 21 It is agreed that Mr. Atherton Haulgh shall have..the rest of Bretheren's *meadow Lotte there. 1880 *World* 29 Sept. 15 The farmers and *meadow-men seem to entertain no objection to people wandering.. amongst the mowing-grass. 1879 Geo. Eliot *Coll. Breakf. P.* 825 Watched with half closed eyes The *meadow-road. 1523 Ld. Berners *Froiss.* I. xcviii. 119 They lay alonge by a fayre *medowe syde, and made a great dyke about their host. 1835 Browning *Paracelsus* v. 137 The gulf rolls like a *meadow-swell, o'erstrewn With ravaged boughs. 1648 Herrick *Hesper., Parting Verse* Poems (1869) 149 Herrick shall make the *meddow-verse for you. 1813 Sir H. Davy *Agric. Chem.* I. (1814) 24 *Meadow-watering..acts not only by supplying useful moisture to the grass, but [etc.].

b. Prefixed to the names of animals regarded as denizens of meadow land; as **meadow ant**, the small British ant, *Lasius flavus*; **meadow bird** = Bobolink (Bartlett *Dict. Amer.* 1859); **meadow brown (butterfly)**, a common British butterfly, *Hipparchia Janira*; **meadow chicken** (see quot.); **meadow clapper**, the salt-water marsh-hen (*Cent. Dict.* 1890); **meadow crake, drake** = Corn-crake; **meadow crane-fly** = Daddy-long-legs; **meadow fly**, an American fire-fly; **meadow gallinule** = Corn-crake; **meadow hen** (see quot. for *meadow-chicken*); **meadow lark**, (*a*) = Titlark; (*b*) *U. S.* the grackle, *Sturnella magna* or *ludoviciana*; **meadow mouse**, any field vole (*Arvicola*); **meadow mussel**, a mussel found in American salt meadows, *Modiola plicatula* (Cent. Dict.); **meadow pipit** = Titlark; † **meadow rat**, the field vole, *Arvicola agrestis*; **meadow snipe**, (*a*) = *grass bird* (see Grass 13); (*b*) *U. S.* the common American snipe, *Gallinago Wilsoni*; **meadow titling** = Titlark; **meadow vole** = *meadow mouse*; **meadow worm**, the common earthworm, *Lumbricus terrestris* or *Agricola.*

1879 Lubbock *Sci. Lect.* iv. 136 The yellow *meadow-ant keeps the underground kinds [of Aphides]. 1720 Albin *Nat. Hist. Insects* 53 On the 11th of June came the *Meadow Brown Butterfly. 1819 Samouelle *Entomol. Compend.* 396 Meadow brown butterfly, *Hipparchia Janira*. 1893 Newton *Dict. Birds* 539 *Meadow-chicken and *Meadow-hen*, names given in North America to more than one species of Rail or Coot. 1833 Selby *Illustr. Brit. Ornith.* II. 177 The *Meadow Crake..affecting rich meadows [etc.]. 1847 Tennyson *Princess* IV. 105 Marsh-divers, rather, maid, Shall croak thee sister, or the meadow-crake Grate her harsh kindred in the grass. 1802 Bingley *Anim. Biog.* (1813) III. 310 The *Meadow Crane-fly, or Long-legs. 1867 Emerson *Lett. & Soc. Aims* vii. (1875) 180 Fresh and delicate as the bonfires of the *meadow-flies. 1843 Yarrell *Brit. Birds* I. p. xxiii, *Meadow Gallinule. 1611 Cotgr., *Alouette de pré*, the chit, or small *meddow-larke. 1863 Longf. *Wayside Inn* I. *Birds Killingw.* 142 Is this more pleasant to you than the whirr Of meadow-lark and her sweet roundelay? 1893 Newton *Dict. Birds* 512 The Meadow-Lark of America..is an Icterus. 1801 Shaw *Zool.* II. i. 81 *Meadow Mouse. 1827 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* III. 117 The most abundant North American species is the Meadow-mouse (*Arvicola riparius*). 1893 *Leaflets Board of Agric.* (1894) 35 *Arvicola agrestis*. Locally known as..Meadow Mouse. 1825 Selby *Illustr. Brit. Ornith.* I. 216 *Meadow Pipit or Tit. 1781 Pennant *Hist. Quadrup.* II. 460 *Meadow [Rat]. *Mus agrestis*. 1828 Fleming *Hist. Brit. Anim.* 75 *A[nthus] pratensis*. *Meadow Titling. 1863 C. St. John *Nat. Hist. Moray* Index, *Arvicola riparia*. *Meadow vole. 1787 Best *Angling* (ed. 2) 16 Marsh, or *Meadow-worm.

c. Prefixed to names of plants, to denote varieties or species growing in meadows: often in book-names as a rendering of the Latin specific name *pratensis, -ense*, as in *meadow barley, clover, crane's bill, dock, pea, sage, trefoil, vetchling*; also in **meadow beauty** (see quot.); **meadow-bell**, the barebell; **meadow campion**, the Ragged Robin, *Lychnis Flos-cuculi* (Britten & Holland 1886); **meadow cress** (see Cress 1 b); **meadow crocus** = *meadow saffron* (Britten & Holland); **meadow fern**, a North American shrub, *Myrica Comptonia* (Cent. Dict. 1890); **meadow fescue** (see Fescue 4); **meadow gowan** = Marsh mallow (Britten & Holland); **meadow grass**, any one of the grasses of the genus *Poa*, esp. *P. pratensis*; **meadow mushroom**, *Agaricus campestris*; **meadow orchis**, *Orchis Morio*; **meadow parsnip** (see Parsnip 2); **meadow pine**, *Pinus cubensis* (of the southern U. S.); **meadow pink**, (*a*) = Ragged Robin; (*b*) = *Maiden pink* (see Maiden 10 b); **meadow('s) queen** = Meadow-sweet (cf. *queen of the meadow(s*, Queen *sb.* 6 b); **meadow rhubarb, rue**, *Thalictrum flavum* (Britten & Holland); also **alpine meadow rue** = *Feathered Columbine* (see Columbine *sb.*[2] 3); **meadow saffron**, *Colchicum autumnale*; **meadow (pepper) saxifrage** (see Saxifrage).

1866 *Treas. Bot.* 727/1 *Meadow Beauty*, an American name for *Rhexia*. *Ibid.* 972/2 Commonly called Deer-grass, or Meadow-beauty. 1827 G. Darley *Sylvia* 136 Like soft winds jangling *meadow-bells. *c* 1275 *Luue Ron* 16 in *O. E. Misc.* 93 Vnder molde hi liggeþ colde and faleweþ so doþ *medewe gres. 13.. *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* xxxvii. 537 Þe eorþe ȝeldeþ not fruit as hit wont was, Of corn of þe feld ne of þe medewe-gras. 1597 Gerarde *Herbal* I. i. 1 Common Medow grasse hath very small tufts of rootes. 1840 J. Buel *Farmer's Comp.* 232 The red meadow-grass (*Poa aquatica*). 1884 *Leisure Hour* Nov. 703/2 The popular name of the common edible agaric is everywhere 'the *meadow mushroom'. 1866 *Treas. Bot.*, *Meadow-orchis. 1882 *Garden* 4 Feb. 81/1 The common Meadow Orchis..is not to be found wild everywhere. 1884 Sargent *Rep. Forests N. Amer.* (10th *Census* IX.) 202 *Pinus Cubensis*.. Slash Pine...*Meadow Pine. 1785 Martyn *Rousseau's Bot.* xix. (1794) 276 *Meadow Pink. *Lychnis flos cuculi*. 1625 B. Jonson *Pan's Annivers.*, Star'd with yellow-golds, and *Meadowes Queene. 1668 Wilkins *Real Char.* II. iv. § 4. 83 *Meadow Rue. 1863 Baring-Gould *Iceland* 190 The tremulous dancing flowers of the Alpine meadow rue. 1884 *Gardening Illustr.* 8 Nov. 425/2 Allied to Columbines are the Meadow Rues. 1578 Lyte *Dodoens* III. xxxv. 367 *Medowe Saffron..is found..about Bath in Englande. 1878 tr. *H. von Ziemssen's Cycl. Med.* XVII. 734 Some seed-capsules of the meadow-saffron. 1686 Plot *Staffordsh.* 356 Produces the *Meddow-trefoile.

d. Special Comb.: **meadow green** (see quot.); **meadow ground**, (*a*) ground laid down in meadow; (*b*) prairie land; **meadow land** = *meadow ground*; **meadow-ore**, bog iron ore (cf. Limonite); **meadow thatch**, coarse grass or rush used for thatching.

1794 Kirwan *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) I. 28 *Meadow green—lively green, in which however the yellow predominates.

1523 FITZHERB. *Surv.* 2 b, Lowe groundes *medowe groundes and marsshe groundes for hey. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* XI. 644 A Band..drives A herd of Beeves..From a fat Meddow ground. 1802 WORDSW. *Sonn.* '*Here, on our native soil*', Those boys who in yon meadow-ground In white-sleeved shirts are playing. 1653 *Early Rec. Lancaster, Mass.* (1884) 29 Wee Covenant to lay out *Meddow Lands. 1844 DISRAELI *Coningsby* IV. iii, A broad meadow land. 1817 THOMSON *Syst. Chem.* (ed. 5) III. 478 *Meadow Ore. 1430–31 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 231 Empcio tignorum, straminis, et *Medewthak.

Meadow (me·dō), *v.* [f. prec.] *trans.* To devote (land) to the production of grass.

1768 [W. DONALDSON] *Life Sir B. Sapskull* II. xxiv. 191 By meadowing a great deal, and feeding a little, they impoverish the land. 1865 TROLLOPE *Belton Est.* iii, I didn't know you ever meadowed the park. 1885 *Law Times* 28 Mar. 384/2 During this period they [grass lands] were neither meadowed, grazed, nor cropped.

† **Mea·dowage.** *Obs.* [f. MEADOW *sb.* + -AGE.] (See quot.)

1611 COTGR., *Preage*, Medowage; or, a freedome to put cattell into other mens medowes.

Meadowed, *ppl. a.* [f. MEADOW *sb.* or *v.* + -ED.] Having, or cultivated as, meadow land.

Tennyson (*Morte d'Arthur* 262) has *deep-meadow'd*, parasynthetically f. MEADOW *sb.*, in imitation of Gr. *βαθυλείμων*.

1670 *Mass. Col. Rec.* IV. II. 461 Plantation..exceeding well meadowed. 1831 J. WILSON *Unimore* II. 177 That meadow'd plain as green as emerald. 1888 *Harper's Mag.* Apr. 735 The Gulf has eaten three miles into her meadowed land.

Meadower (me·dōuəɹ). [f. MEADOW *sb.* or *v.* + -ER[1].] 'One who waters meadow-lands to increase or preserve their verdure' (Ogilvie *Suppl.* 1855).

Meadowing (me·dōuiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. MEADOW.]

1. Land used or suitable for the growth of a crop of grass. Also *attrib.*

c 1598 in Harwood *Lichfield* (1806) 385, ij closes and j piece of meadowing. 1611 COTGR., *Preir*, to make Medowing of; to turne into Medow. 1639 *Plymouth Col. Rec.* (1855) I. 110 Prouided he be allowed meddowing elswhere in lue thereof. 1732 *Pennsylv. Gaz.* 31 July–7 Aug. 4/1 A very good Plantation..with plentiful Meadowing fit for the Scythe. 1844 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* V. I. 108 On leaving Dunham I observed some good meadowing.

attrib. 1611 SPEED *Theat. Gt. Brit.* xix. (1614) 37/1 Meadowing-pastures upon both sides of the river Came. 1675 *Providence (R. I.) Rec.* (1893) IV. 39 Ye two shares of ye meaddoing ground.

2. The action of cultivating meadow land.

1735 *Pennsylv. Gaz.* 15–22 Mar. 2/2 Several Tracts of good Land.. good Part of it fit for Meadowing. 1894 *Morning Post* 3 Feb. 2/1 Less valuable land, worthless for the purpose of meadowing, would be left.

attrib. 1796 WASHINGTON *Let.* Writ. 1892 XIII. 259, I am altogether in the farming and meadowing line.

† **Mea·dowish,** *a. Obs.* [f. MEADOW *sb.* + -ISH.] Resembling meadow.

1668 *1st Cent. Hist. Springfield, Mass.* (1899) II. 98 The Town granted unto Abell Wright..flourteen acres of Meddowish Land up the Little River. 1681 *Plymouth Col. Rec.* (1857) VII. 238 Which fence stood on the said Woodworth swampy, meddowish land.

Meadowless (me·dōulés), *a.* [f. MEADOW *sb.* + -LESS.] Lacking meadows.

1887 *Century Mag.* Dec. 171 The bare rocks, meadowless inclines, and treeless shores of Galilee.

Meadow-sweet (me·dōuswīt). [f. MEADOW *sb.* + SWEET *a.* (The earlier form was MEADSWEET.)] The rosaceous plant *Spiræa Ulmaria*, common in moist meadows and along the banks of streams, growing on erect, rigid stems to a height of about two feet, with dense heads of creamy white and highly fragrant flowers. In the U. S. applied to another species, *S. salicifolia*.

1530 PALSGR. 244/1 Medowe swete herbe. 1597 [see MEADSWEET]. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* II. 97/1 Queen of the Meadows, or Meadow sweet, or Mead sweet. 1856 LEVER *Martins of Cro' M.* 306 The odour of the white thorn and the meadow-sweet.

attrib. 1840 HOOD *Kilmansegg, Honeymoon* xxi, O blessed nature..Who does not sigh for its meadow-sweet breath?

Meadow-wink (me·dōuwiŋk). *U.S. local.* [f. MEADOW *sb.* + *wink* (? echoic).] = BOBOLINK.

1884 COUES *Key N. Amer. Birds* (ed. 2) 400 *Dolichonyx oryzivorus*..Bobolink. Meadow-wink. Skunk Blackbird.

Meadowy (me·dōui), *a.* [f. MEADOW *sb.* + -Y[1].] Resembling a meadow.

1598 FLORIO, *Piaggioso*, medowie, large, bleach, fieldie. 1612 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* x. 94 Thy full and youthfull breasts, which in their meadowy pride, Are brancht with riuery veines, Meander-like that glide. 1774 PENNANT *Tour Scotl. in* 1772, 328 This terminates in a meadowy plain. 1805 WORDSW. *Waggoner* IV. 40 Yon meadowy bottom. 1871 PALGRAVE *Lyr. Poems* 80 Miles of meadowy splendour.

Meadsman (mī·dzmăn). *dial.* [f. *mead's*, genitive of MEAD *sb.*[2] + MAN.] = HAYWARD.

1893 MRS. STAPLETON *Three Oxfordsh. Parishes* 311 Boats using this towing-path pay toll to the meadsman.

Meadstead: see MERESTEAD.

† **Mea·dsweet.** *Obs.* Forms: 5 **medeswote, -sewte,** 6 **-swete, -sweete,** 8 **meadsweet,** 6–8 *corruptly* **maidsweet.** [app. f. MEAD[2] + SWEET *a.*; but it is possible that, as in MEADWORT, the first element may originally have been MEAD[1].

The MDu. *medesoete* has the appearance of being etymologically equivalent (*mede* occurs both for MEAD[1] honey-drink and for MEAD[2] meadow), but it meant 'marigold', an application difficult to reconcile with either of these etymologies. Zedler *Universal-lex.* 1733, s.v. *Barba-Capræ*, gives *Medesüss* and *Medkraut* as Ger. names for meadow-sweet, and also cites a latinized form *medesusium* from Cordus (16th c.).]

= MEADOW-SWEET.

14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 595/29 *Melessa*, medeswote. *Ibid.* 607/20 *Regina prati*, medesewte. *c* 1450 *Alphita* (Anecd. Oxon.) 40/2 *Citria, mellissa idem. anglice* medsweete *uel* honrefair. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* I. xxix. 41 Medesweete or Medewurte..hath great, long brode leaues like Egrimonie. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. cccii. 886 Of Medesweete, or Queene of the medowes... It is called..in English Maidesweete [(1636) 1043 Meades-sweet], Medowsweete, and Queene of the medowes. 1736 AINSWORTH *Lat. Dict., Ulmaria*..Meadsweet, or medewort [ed. 1783 meadwort] goat's beard. 1750 W. ELLIS *Country Housew.* 252 Maid-sweet that grows like a Kecks in wet Meadows.

† **Mea·dwort.** *Obs.* Forms: 1 **medo-, medewyrt,** 3 **medwurt,** 4, 8 **medewort,** 5 **-wourth,** 6 **-wurt,** 5 **medwor, -wert,** 6 *Sc.* **meduart, -wart,** 6 **medæwart, medow wurt,** 7 **medowort,** 8 **meadwort.** [OE. *medowyrt*, f. *medo* MEAD[1] + *wyrt* WORT, plant; corresponding to Sw. dial. *mjödört* (and equivalents in Norw., Da., mod.Icel.); possibly the flowers may have been used for flavouring mead. The first element was, however, early associated with MEAD[2] (= MEADOW), the confusion being helped by the circumstance that another name for the plant was 'queen of the meadow' (L. *regina prati*, F. *reine des prés*, G. *wiesenkönigin*, Da. *engdronning*).

With regard to the possible use of meadow-sweet for flavouring mead, cf. the statement in Zedler *Universal-lex.* (1733) s.v. *Barba-capræ*, that the flowers were used to give to wine a flavour like that of malmsey.]

1. = MEADOW-SWEET.

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 70 ȝenime neoþowearde medowyrt, & lustmocan. *c* 1265 *Voc. Plants* in Wr.-Wülcker 555/8 *Regina*, reine, medwurt. *a* 1387 *Sinon. Barthol.* (Anecd. Oxon.) 29/2 *Melissa*, ..medewort. *c* 1450 *Alphita* (ibid.) 115/1 *Mellissa*,..medwor. *Ibid.* 156/2 *Reginela*,..medewort. *Ibid.* 177/2 *Scrophularia*,..medwert. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* vi. 42 Than the scheiphyrdis vyuis .. gadrit mony fragrant grene meduart. 1568 TURNER *Herbal* III. 8 Of Medewurt, or Medow wurt, or Medeswete. .. It groweth about watersydes. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 336 The fluir laid witht greine cheritis witht sprattis medwartis and flouris. 1579 LANGHAM *Gard. Health* (1633) 388 Medowort: Drinke the decoction or powder of it to stop the laske. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. viii. 20 The metall first he mixt with Medæwart, That no enchauntment from his dint might save. 1736–83 [see MEADSWEET].

† 2. ? Watercress. Also *women's meadwort. Obs.*

a 1400–50 *Stockholm Med. MS.* fol. 209 Freynch cresse or wymmannys medewourth: *nascorium gallicanum.* ? 14.. *MS. Harl.* 3388 in *Sax. Leechd.* II. 399 *Nasturtium ortolan*[*um*], medwort.

Meag, obs. form of MEAK *dial.*

Meagre (mī·gəɹ), *a.* (*sb.*) Forms: 4–7 **megre,** 5 **megire, meger**(e, 6 **meiger,** *Sc.* **megir,** 6–7 **maigre, megar,** 6–9 **meager,** 7 **meaguer,** 6– **meagre.** [ME. *megre*, a. OF. *megre, maigre* (mod.F. *maigre*) = Pr. *magre, maigre*, Sp., Pg., It. *magro*, Roumanian *macru*:—L. *macrum* (*macer*), cogn. with Gr. *μακρός* long, *μακεδνός* tall, slender, *μῆκος* length. The synon. Teut. **magro-* (OE. *mæger*, MLG., Du. *mager*, OHG. *magar*, mod.G. *mager*, ON. *magr*, Sw., Da. *mager*; wanting in Goth.) may represent a pre-Teut. **makró-* = L. *macro-*, Gr. *μακρό-*; the nature of the sense renders this more likely than the alternative supposition that the Teut. word was adopted from Latin.]

1. Of persons and animals, their limbs, etc.: Having little flesh; lean, thin, emaciated.

13.. *Coer de L.* 1079 The lyoun was hungry and megre. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P. B.* 1198 Fro þat mete was myst, megre þay wexen. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* X. lxxxvii. 568, I am megre and baue ben longe seke for the loue of la Beale Isoud. 1591 SPENSER *M. Hubberd* 509 Thou art so leane and meagre waxen late. 1596 — *F. Q.* IV. viii. 12 With heary glib deform'd, and meiger face. 1603 DEKKER *Wonderful Year* B j b, She .. was deliuered of a pale, meagre, weake childe. 1634 W. TIRWHYT tr. *Balzac's Lett.* (vol. I.) 151 There are others..who make use of all the secrets in Physicke to have a megar aspect. 1673 O. WALKER *Educ.* I. ix. 95 [They] are alwaies lean, maigre and consumptive. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. xiii. 275 The wan and meager countenances of the crew. 1820 SCOTT *Monast.* ix, The meagre condition of his horse. 1822 W. IRVING *Braceb. Hall* II. 13 A meagre wiry old fellow. 1872 BLACKIE *Lays Highl.* Introd. 55 As for us, meagre mountaineers, we shall continue..to make the best of our granite rocks. 1883 F. M. WALLEM *Fish-Supply Norway* 29 (Fish. Exhib. Publ.) The Italians prefer meagre fish to plump.

b. with personifications, esp. Famine, Envy.

1594 KYD *Cornelia* I. i. 176 Maigre famin, which the weake foretell. *a* 1625 FLETCHER *Cust. Country* V. i, Maugre [? *read* maigre] palenesse Like winter nips the roses and the lilies. 1784 COWPER *Task* II. 185 He calls for Famine, and the meagre fiend Blows mildew from between his shrivelled lips. 1809 HEBER *Palestine* 13 Lawless force, and meagre want are there.

¶ c. Applied to what produces emaciation.

1612 DEKKER *If it be not good* Wks. 1873 III. 282 Your order..Tyed to religious fasts, spends the sad day Wholy in meager contemplation.

† d. *absol.* as *sb.* Leanness, emaciation.

a 1400–50 *Alexander* 1164 Slik mischife in þe mene quile emang his men fallis For megire [*Dubl. MS.* meger] & for meteles ware mervaile to here. 1530 PALSGR. 244/1 Megre a sicknesse, *maigre.*

2. Deficient or mean in quantity, size or quality; wanting in fullness or richness; poor, scanty.

a. of material things; esp. of soil, vegetation.

† In the first quot. without disparaging implication: ? small in size; ? delicate in sound.

1501 DOUGLAS *Pal. Hon.* I. xxxv, Qubairfra dependant hang thir megir bellis. 1595 SHAKS. *John* III. i. 80 The glorious sunne..playes the Alchymist, Turning..The meager cloddy earth to glittering gold. 1596 — *Merch. V.* III. ii. 104 But thou, thou meager lead..Thy palenesse moues me more then eloquence. 1681 CHETHAM *Angler's Vade-m.* xxxix. 286 Cankered, and very Maigre, Hungry Soil. 1806 *Gazetteer Scot.* (ed. 2) 136 A sandy plain..covered with a meagre, green, benty pasture. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* xxxiv, An old woman..sat..crouching over a meagre fire. 1856 STANLEY *Sinai & Pal.* xiv. (1858) 465 On its shabby roof a meagre cupola. 1871 BLACKIE *Four Phases* I. 41 A meagre plant growing up in a bad climate. 1872 JENKINSON *Guide Eng. Lakes* (1879) 71 Little Langdale Tarn lies close below.. looking very meagre.

b. Of food, fare, diet: Scanty; deficient in quantity or goodness.

1663 COWLEY *Verses & Ess.* (1669) 123 We must excuse her for this meager entertainment. 1831 LAMB *Elia* Ser. II. *Ellistoniana*, The meagre banquet. 1856 KANE *Arct. Expl.* I. vi. 56 The meagre allowance of two pounds of raw flesh every other day. 1898–9 J. A. WYLIE *Hist. Protestant.* 237 The meagre meals he allowed himself.

c. Of literary composition or material, information, subject-matter, artistic treatment, or the like: Wanting in fullness or elaboration; jejune.

1539 CROMWELL in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) II. 193, I haue caused them [*sc.* letters] to be writen in suche a maigre sorte as I thought the case required. 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* Ep. Ded. (Arb.) 4 Oure Virgil not content wyth such meigre stuffe. 1696 PHILLIPS s.v., Figuratively we say a Meager Stile, a Meager Subject. 1794 SULLIVAN *View Nat.* IV. 353 All we have is a meagre fragment, a traditionary tale. 1841 D'ISRAELI *Amen. Lit.* (1867) 112 The continuation of a meagre chronicle. 1898 J. MURRAY in *Westm. Gaz.* 14 June 8/2 Collecting the best stories and stringing them together with the very meagrest amount of comment.

d. Of pleasures, intellect, ideas; also of resources, possessions.

1638 BAKER tr. *Balzac's Lett.* (vol. II.) 53 The pleasures of the Country are too gross and meager for a taste that is used to more delicate and solid pleasures. 1755 YOUNG *Centaur* iii. Wks. 1757 IV. 169 It is one of their minute, and meagre pleasures. 1862 J. MARTINEAU *Ess.* (1866) I. 199 It is but a meagre and imperfect form of faith. 1871 R. ELLIS tr. *Catullus* lxviii. 33 Books—if they're but scanty, a store full meagre, around me. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) IV. 397 Their meagre minds refuse to attribute anything to anything. 1893 SALTUS *Madam Sapphira* 19 There was the house, the meager income and his professional hopes.

e. *Min.* Harsh, dry. ? *Obs.*

1794 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) I. 12 Calcareous earths feel dry, meagre, and harsh. *Ibid.* 116 Meagre lime takes up less sand. 1844 E. J. CHAPMAN *Char. Minerals* 53 This sensation [touch] may be either *very greasy*, ex. talc; *greasy*, ex. steatite; *rather greasy*, ex. asbestus; or *meagre*, ex. chalk.

3. = MAIGRE. *Soup meagre* tr. F. *soupe maigre.*

1705 ADDISON *Italy* 474 (*Switzerland*) The best meagre Food in the World. 1756–7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) I. 331 On meagre days the Roman-catholics here fare very badly. 1796 SOUTHEY *Lett. fr. Spain* (1799) 352 After doing penance for forty days on fish and soup meagre, they [etc.]. 1832 *Veg. Subst. Food* 222 The church enjoins a number of meagre days. 1855 DELAMER *Kitch. Gard.* (1861) 55 The Red cabbage..is generally eaten..during Lent, when it forms an excellent meagre dish.

b. *absol.* as *sb.* 'Maigre' diet. Phrases, *To eat, make meagre.* (Cf. MAIGRE *a.* 3.)

1770 BARETTI *Journ. Lond. Genoa* III. lxv. 220 The Spaniards do not eat meagre on Saturdays. 1834 BECKFORD *Italy* I. 335 Every thing..which..the rules of meagre could allow. 1851 J. H. NEWMAN *Cath. in Eng.* 326 Prejudice.. which would..call it Popish persecution, to be kept on meagre for a Lent. 1852 THACKERAY *Esmond* II. iii, We make meagre on Fridays always.

4. *Comb.*, as *meagre-hued, faced, minded*, etc. adjs.

1596 R. L[INCHE] *Diella* (1877) 58 That pale leane-fac'd meager-hewed enuie. 1644 HOWELL *Eng. Teares* Ded., Me-thinks I spie meagre-fac'd Famine making towards thee. 1865 TROLLOPE *Belton Est.* XX. 230 Cold-hearted, thankless, meagre-minded creature as I know he is.

† **Meagre** (mī·gəɹ), *v. Obs.* [f. MEAGRE *a.* Cf. F. *maigrir.*] *trans.* To make meagre or lean.

1563–87 FOXE *A. & M.* (1596) 1696/2 So weried and megered for want of sustenance, that [etc.]. 1700 DRYDEN *Æneas Transf.* 54 His ceaseless sorrow for the unhappy maid Meagred his look, and on his spirits preyed. 1807 SIR R. WILSON *Jrnl.* 16 June, I am meagred to a skeleton.

Meagre, variant of MAIGRE *sb.*

Meagrely (mī·gəɹli), *adv.* [f. MEAGRE *a.* + -LY[2].] In a meagre manner.

a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* IV. (1598) 430 Alas thou helpest meagerly, When once one is for Atropos distrained. 1616 J. LANE *Cont. Sqr.'s T.* XI. 334 Next came a knight..vppon a pale horse, meagerlie bestridd in armor, plumes, caparisone all pale. 1833 HT. MARTINEAU *Three Ages* II. 71 An hospital, meagrely supplied with the comforts. 1878 F. HARRISON in *Fortn. Rev.* Nov. 689 Austin has treated these questions somewhat meagrely. 1886 W. J. TUCKER *E. Europe* 179 A meagrely furnished room.

Meagreness (mī·gəmés). [+ -NESS.]

1. Leanness, emaciation.

1599 T. M[OUFET] *Silkwormes* 55 Lest belly break, or meagernesse ensewe, By giuing more or lesse then was their due. *a* 1656 HALES *Gold. Rem.* (1688) 58 His ill Colour and

Meagerness. 1756 W. Dodd *Fasting* (ed. 2) 9 This paleness and meagerness of visage. 1830 D'Israeli *Chas. I*, III. vi. 112 The reason which induces me to consider this portrait as an original, is the meagreness of the countenance.

transf. 1875 Maskell *Ivories* 44 The figures in Byzantine work..begin to be characterised by sharpness and meagreness of form, and lengthiness of proportion.

2. Scantiness, lack of fullness; poorness of quality. 1622 Bacon *Hen. VII* 138 The Meagernesse of his Seruice in the Warres. 1798 Ferriar *Illustr. Sterne, Eng. Hist.* 230 The most striking defect..is not meagreness, but inflation. 1831 J. Jebb in C. Forster *Life* (1834) II. 593 An antescript, which will indemnify you for the meagreness of this [letter]. 1876 Smiles *Sc. Natur.* xiv. (ed. 4) 279 The meagreness of the list of Crustacea and Testacea. 1884 Church *Bacon* ix. 215 [The Essays] are austere even to meagreness.

† b. Littleness (of heart). *Obs.*

1501 Douglas *Pal. Hon.* I. xxi, Had not bene that, certes my hart had brokin For megirnes and pusillamitie.

Meagrim, variant of Megrim.

†Mea·gry, *a. Obs. rare.* [f. Meagre *a.* + -y.] Having a meagre appearance.

1603 Dekker *Wonderf. Yeare* B b, She was deliuered of a pale, meagry, weake child, named Sicknesse.

Meaguer, obs. form of Meagre *a.*

Meak (mīk). *dial.* Also 5 meeke, meyke, 6 meake, 7, 9 meag, 8–9 make. An implement with a long handle and crooked iron or blade used to pull up or cut down peas, bracken, reeds, etc. Also *pea-meak* (see Pea[1] 7), *pease-meak* (see Pease *sb.* 5).

1478 *Maldon* (Essex) *Court Rolls* Bundle 50 No. 10[v], Holwell come out with a wepen called a meyke. 1481–90 *Howard Househ. Bks.* (Roxb.) 113, I paid Gravely for vj. meekes. 1573 Tusser *Husb.* (1878) 37 A meake for the pease, and to swinge vp the brake. 1674 Ray *Collect. Words* 71 A *Meag* or *Meak*, a Pease-hook. 1865 W. White *Eastern Eng.* I. vii. 100 We..cuts the reeds down as deep as we can with a make, a kind o' short-bladed, long-handled scythe. 1895 P. H. Emerson *Birds*, etc. *Norf. Broadland* 74 Disturbed by meak or crome that drags forth the lamb's-tail.

Hence **Meak** *v., trans.* to cut with a meak. *dial. absol.* 1892 P. H. Emerson *Son of Fens* xiii. 99 Which are you going to do—meag or mow? Well, we'd better meag, now the water is up.

Meaken, obs. form of Meeken.

Meakenes, obs. form of Meekness.

Meaking (mī·kiŋ), *vbl. sb. Naut.* Also 9 meeking. [? f. Meak + -ing[1].] Only in *meaking iron*: 'The tool used by caulkers to run old oakum out of the seams before inserting new' (Smyth 1867).

According to information supplied by Mr. G. Crocker, of H. M. Dockyard, Devonport, the term is now often misapplied to the *making-iron* (Making *vbl sb.* 10); the first quot. is an example of the erroneous use.

[1852–4 *Cycl. Usef. Arts* (ed. Tomlinson 1866) II. 511/1 Two men, one of whom holds..the meeking or making iron to the caulked seam, while the other man drives it in with the beetle.] 1878 D. Kemp *Yacht & Boat Sailing* 358 *Meaking iron*, an instrument used to extract old caulking from seams.

Meakle, obs. dial. form of Mickle, *Sc.*

Meal (mīl), *sb.*[1] Forms: 1 melu, -o, -a, meolo, meala (*inflected* melw-, melew-, -ow-, -uw-, meolw-, mealew-); 3–4 mel, 3–6 mele, 4 meel, melow(e, 4, 6 meill, melle, 4–6 meele, 5 meyle, 6 meell, *Sc.* maill, meil, 6–7 meale, 7– meal. [Com. Teut.: OE. *melo, melw-* str. neut. = OFris. *mel*, OS. *melo* (MDu. *mele*, Du. *meel*), OHG. *melo, melaw-* (MHG. *mel, melw-*, mod.G. *mehl*), ON. *miǫl, miǫlv-* (Sw. *mjöl*, Da. *meel*, now *mel*):—OTeut. **melwa*[m], f. root **mel-, mal-, mul-* (pre-Teut. **mel-, mal-, ml-*), whence Com. Teut. **malan* to grind (found in all Teut. langs. exc. Eng.), cogn. w. L. *molĕre*, OSl. *mlĕti*, Lith. *málti*, OIrish *melim*; further cognates are L. *mola, molīna* (see Mill *sb.*), Gr. μύλη, μύλος mill, millstone.]

1. The edible part of any grain or pulse ground to a powder. Now commonly understood to exclude the product of wheat (this being called Flour). Also *spec.* in Scotland and Ireland = Oatmeal; in the U. S. the meal of Indian corn (= *Indian meal*: see Indian *a.* 3). *Whole meal*: see Whole.

c 888 K. Ælfred *Boeth.* xxxiv. § 11 Swa swa mon meolo syft. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 134 Ȝenim merce nioþoweardne & huniȝ & hwætenes meluwes smedman. *c* 1200 Ormin 1552 Þu sammnesst all þin mele inn an & cnedest itt togeddre. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 780 Hise pokes fulle of mele an korn. 1382 Wyclif *Num.* v. 15 The tenthe part of a busshel of barly melowe [1388 harli meele]. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* iv. iv. (1495) 84 Branne of whete or of rye,..and also sope and meele of beenes wasshe awaye the fylthe of the face and of all the body. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 331/2 Meele of corne growndyn, *farina*. 1508 Dunbar *Flyting w. Kennedie* 147 As gredy gleddis, ȝe gang With polkis to mylne, and beggis baith meill and schilling. 1546 in W. H. Turner *Select. Rec. Oxford* (1880) 179 The untrue and excessyve tollinge of certayne quarters of wheate meale. 1556 *Chron. Gr. Friars* (Camden) 57 The howse for the markyt folke in Newgate market for to waye melle in. 1611 Bible *2 Kings* iv. 41 He said, Then bring meale. 1707 Mortimer *Husb.* (1721) I. 257 Some..feed them with Curds, Barley-meal, Bran, &c. 1775 Johnson *Journ. W. Isles* 68 Her two next sons were gone to Inverness to buy meal, by which oatmeal is always meant. 1832 Tennyson *Miller's Dau.* 104 The very air about the door Made misty with the floating meal. 1844 H. Stephens *Bk. Farm* I. 137 A third lot was fed on ..turnips and bean-meal. 1884 *Health Exhib. Catal.* 159/1 Chick Pea Meal, Mais Cariaro Meal.

b. Applied to the finer part of the ground grain, in contrast with *bran*. Often *fig.* ? *Obs.*

1579 Lyly *Euphues* (Arb.) 123, I haue thorowly sifted the disposition of youth, wherein I haue founde more branne then meale, more dowe then leauen. 1607 Shaks. *Cor.* III. i. 322 He..is ill-school'd In boulted Language: Meale and Bran together He throwes without distinction. 1611 — *Cymb.* IV. ii. 27 Nature hath Meale, and Bran; Contempt, and Grace.

† c. l'hr. *Of the same meal*: of the same kind or quality; = L. *ejusdem farinæ*. *Obs.*

1611 B. Jonson *Catiline* IV. ii, Except he were of the same Meal and Batch. 1677 Gale *Crt. Gentiles* III. 155 Thomas Aquinas, Bonaventura, and others of the same meal did many and wonderful things at Paris.

2. *transf.* A powder produced by grinding (e.g. in *linseed meal*); a powdery substance resembling flour. In *Bot.* applied to the powder covering the surface of the leaves, petals, etc., of certain plants.

1549 *Privy Council Acts* (1890) II. 348 Brymston in meale, ij barrelles. 1561 Hollybush *Hom. Apoth.* 14 Take fyne mustard sede mele. 1627 Capt. Smith *Seaman's Gram.* xiv. 71 Serpentine powder in old time was in meale, but now corned. 1728–46 Thomson *Spring* 536 Auriculas, enrich'd With shining meal o'er all their velvet leaves. 1784 Cowper *Task* III. 538 The bee transports the fertilizing meal From flow'r to flow'r. 1796 Kirwan *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) II. 436 The arsenic rises in the form of a white meal. 1870 Hooker *Stud. Flora* 300 [*Primula farinosa*] Glabrous above, meal below white or sulphur-coloured.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.* a. Obvious combinations, simple attrib., as *meal-ark* dial., *-barrel, -chest, -dust, -girnal* Sc., *-husk, -kist* Sc., *-market, -mill* Sc., *-pap, -poke, -sack, -sieve, -trough*; objective, as *meal-* †*maker, -miller* Sc., *-monger* Sc., *-seller, -sifter, -weigher.*

1594 *Knaresb. Wills* (Surtees) I. 199 One *meale arke. 1814 Scott *Wav.* x, When a Whiggish mob destroyed his meeting-house, .. intromitting also with his mart and his meal-ark. 1840 J. Buel *Farmer's Comp.* 65 The *meal-chest must be occasionally replenished. 1535 Coverdale *Isa.* xxix. 5 For the multitude of thine enemies shalbe like *meal-dust. 1902 Cornish *Naturalist Thames* 101 Meal-dust hung from every nail, peg, and rope-end on the walls. 1548 *Aberd. Reg.* (1844) I. 259 Thre *meill girnalis, out of my loft, xxx *s.* 1839 Carlyle *Chartism* v. (1840) 45 Peasants living on *meal-husks and boiled grass. 1856 J. Aiton *Clerical Econ.* v. (ed. 2) 304 Muck is the mother of the *meal-kist. *a* 1400 in *York Myst.* Introd. 40 *Mele-makers. 1721 Wodrow *Ch. Hist.* I. 288 John Bryce, Mealmaker, in Cambusnethan parish. 1555–6 in *Edinb. Burgh Rec.* (1871) II. 366 For the irnis at the kirk dur, *meill merkat, flesche merkat. 1705 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4169/3 They intend to Let to Farm the Tolls..of the Meal-Market at Fleet-Chanel. 1793 *State, Leslie of Powis* etc. 67 (Jam.) A small island lying between the *meal-mill race, and the north grain of the river. 1892 R. Lovett *& Gilmour of Mongolia* i. 18 Our maternal grandfather..was a farmer and *meal-miller on the estate of Cathkin 1766 Nicol *Poems* 165 Just like a covetous *meal-monger. 1818 Scott *Br. Lamm.* xxix, The match between the laird of Kittlegirth's black mare and Johnston the meal-monger's four-year-old colt. 1799 *Underwood's Syst. Med.* (ed. 4) I. 154 Violent convulsions, which disappeared entirely, upon the prohibition of *meal-pap. 17.. *Robin Hood & Beggar* v. in Child *Ballads* III. 160 His *meal-pock hang about his neck, Into a leathern fang. 1818 Scott *Br. Lamm.* v, Shame be in my meal-poke, then. *c* 1400 *Ywaine & Gaw.* 2032 That da he kest than in his nek, Als it was a *mele-sek. 1820 Scott *Monast.* xxxvii, It is always best to be sure, as I say when I chance to take multure twice from the same meal-sack. 1552a Huloet, Mealeman or *meale-seller, *suffarraneus*. 1565 Cooper *Thesaurus, Farinarium cribrum*, a *meale sieue. 1624 in *Archæologia* XLVIII. 148 A meale sive. 1552 Huloet, *Mealesifter, *pollintor*. 1623 Minsheu, A *Meale trough, *harinal*. 1825 J. Nicholson *Operat. Mechanic* 100 The buckets, dipping into the meal-trough, convey the flour to the upper story. 1671 F. Phillips *Reg. Necess* 363 Three *Meal-Weighers. 1812 *Examiner* 19 Oct. 662/2 The Lord Mayor, after inspecting the Meal Weighers Return,..ordered the price of Bread to fall 3*d.* in the peck-loaf.

b. Special Comb.: **meal-bark**, a name for certain species of *Cycas*, so called on account of the starchy matter in the trunk; **meal-beetle**, a coleopterous insect (*Tenebrio molitor*), which infests granaries, etc., and is injurious to flour; **meal-berry**, the Red Bearberry, *Arctostaphylos uva ursi* (Treas. Bot. 1866); †**meal-house**, a place where meal is stored; †**meal-malt**, malt ground to a powder (as for use in distilling); **meal-mite**, the *Acarus farinæ* (Syd. Soc. Lex. 1890); **meal-Monday**, a Monday given as a holiday in Scottish universities, formerly for the purpose of allowing the students to go home to fetch enough meal to last till the end of the session; **meal-moth**, a book-name for two species of moth, *Asopia farinalis* and *Pyralis farinalis*, the larvæ of which feed on meal or flour; **meal-powder**, finely ground gunpowder; **meal-tree**, the wayfaring-tree, *Viburnum Lantana* (called also *mealy tree*); **meal-tub**, a tub for containing meal; also *attrib.* in *Meal-tub Plot*, the pretended conspiracy of the Duke of Monmouth in 1679, the evidence for which consisted of papers found in a meal-tub; **meal-worm**, the larva of the meal-beetle; **meal-worm beetle** = *meal-beetle.*

1822 Good *Study Med.* I. 4 The .. *meal-bark (*cycas circinalis*). 1836–9 Todd *Cycl. Anat.* II. 863/2 The *meal-beetles, *Tenebrionidæ*. *c* 1050 *Suppl. Ælfric's Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 185/27 *Farinale*, *mealehus. *c* 1330 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 518 In j sera emp. pro le Melhous iij*d.* 1582 Breton *Fl. Fansie* (Grosart) 16/1 The Pastrie, Mealehouse, and the roome wheras the Coales do ly. 1702 O. Heywood *Diaries*, etc. (1885) IV. 293 Mr. Oats man with *meal-malt. 1842 T. W. Harris *Insects injur. Veget.* (1862) 475 The *meal-moth (*Pyralis farinalis*). 1781 Thompson in *Phil. Trans.* LXXI. 260 *Meal-powder is more inflammable than that which is grained. 1796 Cutler in Morse *Amer. Geog.* I. 338 *Mealtree (*Viburnum Lantana*). 1614 Raleigh *Hist. World* III. viii. § 11. 104 A lewd fellow was brought forth, who said, That he himselfe escaping in a *meale-tubbe, had beene [etc.]. 1681 Baxter *Answ. Dodwell* iv. 53 If this *Hypothesis*..come out of the Meal-Tub, or forge of Inventers, what shall such men be called? *a* 1715 Burnet *Own Time* III. (1724) I. 476 They found a paper that contained the scheme of this whole fiction, which because it was found in a Meal tub came to be called the Meal-tub plot. 1658 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* III. xxi. (ed. 4) 193 That Cameleon had been observed to drink water, and delight to feed on *Meal-worms. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* V. 265 But meal-worm insects they..swallowed.. most greedily. 1863 Wood *Nat. Hist.* III. 474 The Meal-worm..is the larva of a beetle named *Tenebrio molitor*. 1860 J. Curtis *Farm Insects* 334 The *Meal-worm Beetle.

Meal (mīl), *sb.*[2] Forms: 1 mǽl, mél, 2–3 mel, 3 mæl, 3–6 mele, 4 male, 4–6 meel (e, 5 maile, *Sc.* maill, mell, 6–9 meale, 7 meall, 3– meal. [Com. Teut.: OE. *mǽl* neut., mark, sign, measure, fixed time, occasion, meal = OFris. *mél, mál* (in phr. *al to mál* always, *etmál* space of 12 or 24 hours), OS. *-mál* sign, measure (MDu. *mael* masc., fem., neut., mark, sign, landmark, fixed time, meal-time, Du. *maal* neut., meal, masc., time), OHG. *mâl* neut., time (MHG. *mâl* neut., spot, point of time, meal, mod.G. *mal* time, *mahl* meal), ON. *mál* neut., mark, measure, point or portion of time, meal-time (Sw. *mål* mark, measure, meal, Da. *maal* mark, measure), Goth. *mēl* time (pl. *mēla* marks, writing):—OTeut. **mǽlo*[m], f. Indogermanic root **mē-* (Skr. *mā-*) to measure.]

† 1. A measure. *Obs.*

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 184 Diles þreo cucler mæl. *c* 1382 Wyclif *Ex.* xxv. 2 [A] coroun with foure fingur mele heiȝt [Vulg. *altam quatuor digitis*]. *c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 154 Al maner wounde fat is madd in þe extremitees of þe lacertis as .iij. fyngir mele brede vndir þe schuldris.

2. Any of the occasions of taking food which occur by custom or habit at more or less fixed times of the day, as a breakfast, dinner, supper, etc.

c 897 K. Ælfred *Gregory's Past. C.* xliii. 316 Þe ðæt nyle ðearfum sellan ðæt he ðonne on mæle læfð. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 31 He wule festen and eaten ȝif he mei et ane mele swa muchel swa et twam. *c* 1205 Lay. 19690 Æfche dæie on a mæl ute mete truked. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 428 Bitweonen mele ne gruselie ȝe nouðer frut, ne oðerhwat. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 469/232 Þo it was time of mele huy wenden to heore mete. 1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 25. I have at every meel Of plente more than ynowh. 14.. *Dietary* 67 in *Barbour's Bruce* (S. T. S.). Betuix malys drink nocht for na plesand delit. 1463 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 21 He to prey for my soule at euery meel, mete or sopeer. 1540–1 Elyot *Image Gov.* 45 b, There shuld be at the leaste .vi. houres betwene euery meale. 1617 Moryson *Itin.* I. 61 They give good fare for foure grosh a meale. 1778 Miss Burney *Evelina* xviii, Our breakfast was the most agreeable meal..that we have had since we came to town. 1842 A. Combe *Physiol. Digestion* (ed. 4) 193 Meals, then, ought to be early or late in proportion to the habits of the individual. 1860 Tynoall *Glac.* I. xi. 72 We set about preparing our evening meal. 1897 W. Rye *Norfolk Songs* 25 'He don't like working between meals' is a succinct description of a lazy man.

b. Without reference to time: An occasion of taking food, a repast. Also, the material of a repast; the food eaten at or provided for a repast.

c 1200 Ormin 4959 Ȝiff itt iss in þin herrte, To shunenn.. derewurrþe mæless. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1484 Đe fader luuede esau wel, for firme birde & swete mel. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 4204 He wole þe limemele To drawe & uorsuolwe par auenture at one mele. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* VI. xx. (1495) 207 Meete shall be lyke and of one manere whyche tbat men ete atte one meele. *c* 1400 *Gamelyn* 636 He was sore alonged after a good meel. 1481 Caxton *Reynard* (Arb.) 13, I sbal do late you haue so mocbe that ten of yow shold not ete it at one mele. 1590 Shaks. *Com. Err.* v. i. 74 Vnquiet meales make ill digestions. 1727–46 Thomson *Summer* 1025 Their mangled limbs Crashing at once, he dyes the purple seas With gore, and riots in the vengeful meal. 1767 Jago *Edge Hill* iv. 77 The lusty Steers ..leisurely concoct their grassy Meal. 1853 M. Arnold *Scholar-Gipsy* xii, The blackbird, picking food, Sees thee, nor stops his meal. 1857 *G. Bird's Urin. Deposits* (ed. 5) 274 The earthy phosphates are always abundant after a meal. 1902 T. M. Lindsay *Ch. & Ministry in Early Cent.* ii. 51 They ate together a meal which they themselves provided.

transf. 1772 C. Jenner *Town Eclogues* ii. 8 When..cits take in their weekly meal of air.

c. † *At meal* (*obs.*), *at meals*: at table; at dinner, breakfast, supper, etc. Similarly †(*to go*) *to meal.*

1362 Langl. *P. Pl. A.* I. 24 That on clothing is from chele ow to saue: And that othur mete at meel for meseise of thiseluen. 1533 Elyot *Cast. Helthe* 42 b, For moche abundance of drinke at meale, drowneth the meate eaten. 1565 Cooper *Thesaurus, Accubare apud aliquem*, to be at the table in a mans house: to sitte at meale with him. 1620 Venner *Via Recta* viii. 185 The wholesomnesse of wine.. moderately taken at meale..is..well knowne. 1635 Pagitt *Christianogr.* I. iii. (1636) 205 They which fast may goe to meale at ten, eleven, or twelve of the clocke. 1710 Steele *Tatler* No. 235 ₱ 3 It was an unspeakable Pleasure to visit or sit at Meal in that Family. 1818 Keats *Isabella* i, They could not sit at meals but feel how well It soothed each to be the other by.

d. *To make a meal of*, †*to make one's meal on*: to devour.

1610 Shaks. *Temp.* II. i. 113 O thou mine heire..what strange fish Hath made his meale on thee? *a* 1832 'Barry Cornwall' *Eng. Songs* 143 Have I..Preyed on my brother's blood, and made His flesh my meal to-day?

fig. 1827 Pollok *Course T.* VIII, Slander early rose, And made most hellish meals of good men's names.

e. **Meal's meat**, later **meal of meat**: = sense 2 b. Now *dial.* (see E. D. D.).

13.. *Guy Warw.* (A.) 6845 A meles mete ȝif thou me. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl.* C. xvi. 36 Crauede..A meles mete for a poure man. *c* 1410 *Sir Cleges* 347 For my labor schall I nott get But yt be a melys mete. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 321/2 Meel of mete.., *commestio*. 1511 *Plumpton Corr.* (Camden) p. cxviii, Sir Robert Plomton..paid for every maile of meate..iiij^{d} for himselfe, & ii^{d} for his servant. 1530 Palsgr. 454/2 In this sence I fynde also *je inuite* but properly to a meales meate, or to eate. 1613 Fletcher, etc. *Honest Man's Fort.* II. iii, You never yet had a meales meat from my Table. 1693 J. Dryden in *Dryden's Juvenal* xiv. Notes (1697) 366 King Saturn..gave this Example by making a Meals-meat of his own Children. 1717 *Entertainer* No. 6. 36 The Parasite may smell a Feast at C—t, and go flatter Some-body there for a Meals-meat.

†f. The phrases *a merry meal, a sorry meal*, were in ME. sometimes used *fig.* for: Something joyful or the contrary. *Obs.*

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 23 O moul þou marrez a myry mele. 14.. *King & Hermit* 425, I..haue hade many merry mele. *c* 1440 Lovelich *Merlin* 2754 Also sone as the dragouns to-gyderes fele, he-twixen hem schal be-gynnen a sory mele.

3. a. The quantity of milk given by a cow at one milking; also, the time of milking.

1613 W. Browne *Brit. Past.* I. iv, Each shepheard's daughter with her cleanly peale Was come afield to milke the morning's meale. 1670 Capt. J. Smith *Eng. Improv. Reviv'd* 176 Northern Milch Cows, one of the least of which shall give 2 Gallons of Milk at one Meal. 1727 Bradley *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Cheese*, To make a Cheese of two Meals, as of the Morning's new Milk, and the Evening's Cream-milk, you must do also the same. 1775 Johnson *Journ. Hebrides* 187 A single meal of a goat is a quart. 1805 R. W. Dickson *Pract. Agric.* I. 58 It may be fitted up with such..coolers as are sufficient to contain a meal's milk. 1844 H. Stephens *Bk. Farm* II. 459 The milk drawn from the udder at one milking, or *meal*, as it is termed.

b. *dial.* (See quot.)

c 1830 *Glouc. Farm Rep.* 33 in *Libr. Usef. Knowl., Husb.* III, The cheeses pass through the three presses in this order, advancing a step in their progress at each 'meal' or making.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*: *meal-going*, used *attrib.* (after *church-going*); *meal-hour, -tray*; **meal-pendant, -pennant**, *U. S. Navy*, a red pennant displayed during meal-times (*Cent. Dict.* 1890); ? †**meal-settle**, a seat at meals.

1858 Hogg *Life Shelley* II. 295 Startled at his books by the sound of the *meal-going bell. 1802 Mrs. E. Parsons *Myst. Visit.* IV. 92 He seldom saw her but at *meal hours. 1899 *Scribner's Mag.* XXV. 89/2 The quartermaster..hauled down the *meal pennant. *a* 1225 *St. Marher.* 11 *Mel seotel softest ant guldene ȝerde alre gold smeatest. 1905 *19th Cent.* Jan. 92 She gets ready the patients' *meal-trays in a tasteful manner.

†**Meal**, *sb.*[3] *Obs.* Forms: 1 méli, meeli, méle, -mǽle, 3–6 mele, 4 miele, 4–5 meel, 5–6 meyle, 6 meale, meele. [OE. *mǽle*, (*wæter*)-*mæle* str. masc., prob. repr. OTeut. type **mǽljo-z*, and so corresponding to ON. *mæli-r* measure; see Meal *sb.*[4]] A tub, bucket. Also used as a measure.

In OE. sometimes used to gloss L. *patera, carchesium, cyathus*, which mean bowl, dish, or cup.

a 700 *Epinal Gloss.* 56 *Alvium*, meeli. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 86 Do þonne mele fulne buteran on. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 240/6 Þat child..Ase it was in ane mele i-baþed al one upriȝt it stod. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 3306 Wantes vs here na uessell, ne mele, ne bucket, ne funell. 1357–8 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 124 In j Mele empt. pro carbonibus portandis. 1370–71 *Ibid.* 263 In una mele lingnea pro pedibus lavandis. 1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 21 Thei in hope to assuage The peine of deth..Of wyn let fille full a Miele, And dronken til [etc.]. 1408 tr. *Vegetius* (MS. Douce 291, lf. 47 b), Bokettis, meles, and payles. 1440 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 410, viij meel calcis extinctæ empt...ad xijd. 1459–60 *Ibid.* 89, j kyrn, j meyle, ij Chesfattez. 1565 Cooper *Thesaurus, Alueus*..a meele or vessell to washe in. 1567 *Wills & Inv. N. C.* (Surtees) I. 278, iij milk meales.

Meal (mīl), *sb.*[4] *Sc.* Forms: 5, 8 meel, 6 meale, 7 maile, meill, mell, 8 mail, miel, 9 meil. [a. ON. *mæli-r* measure (Norw. *mæle* a measure of capacity varying in different localities):—OTeut. type **mǽljo-z*, f. **mǽlo*[m] measure: see Meal *sb.*[1]] 'A relative weight used in Orkney' (Jam.).

1597 Skene *De Verb. Sign.* s.v. *Serplaith*, Item [in Orknay], 6 settings maks ane mail. Item 24 meales makis ane Last. 1624 *Witch Trial* in *Abbotsford Club Misc.* I. 148–9 His brother haid twa mells [of corn]. 1629 *Witch Trial* in *County Folklore* (1903) III. 78 She wantit the proffeitt of ane meill of malt that she was brewing. 1698 M. Martin *Voy. St. Kilda* (1749) 48 Ancient Measures, as the Maile..: this Maile contains ten Pecks. 1793 *Statist. Acc. Scott.* V. 412 The stipend consists of 86 mails malt (each mail weighing about 12 stones Amsterdam weight). *Ibid.* VII. 477, 6 settings make 1 meel. *Ibid.* 563 On the first is weighed settings and miels. 1805 Forsyth *Beauties Scotl.* V. 52 Six setteens or lispunds make a meil.

Meal (mīl), *sb.*[5] *dial.* Also 8 male, 8–9 meale, 9 miol, miel. [a. ON. *mel-r* sandbank, also hent-grass (the latter is prob. the original sense; for the development cf. Marram).] A sand-dune.

1706 Phillips, *Meals* or *Males*, the Shelves or Banks of Sand on the Sea-coasts of Norfolk: Whence *Ingom-meals*, the Name of a Sandy Shore in Lincoln-shire. 1778 *Eng. Gazetteer* (ed. 2) s.v. *Edmond's-Chapel*, The coast here is secured against the incursions of the sea, by sand heaps, commonly called Meales. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XVI. 258 Sand-hills..locally termed 'meals', or 'marum hills'. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk., Meales*, or *Miols*, immense sandbanks thrown up by the sea on the coasts of Norfolk, Lancashire, etc. 1897 *Spectator* 209 At present only the highest tides ever cover the surface of the 'meals'.

Comb. a 1893 in Cozens-Hardy *Broad Norf.* 77 *Mielbanks*, banks of sand blown up by the wind and consolidated by the marum grass—also called 'meal-banks'. 1899 Cornish in *Cornhill Mag.* Mar. 313 The fascinating but little known region of the 'meal marshes' which fringe the North Norfolk coast.

Meal (mīl), *v.*[1] Somewhat *rare*. [f. Meal *sb.*[1]]

1. *trans.* To cover with meal; to powder with meal.

1611 Beaum. & Fl. *Knt. Burning Pest.* v. i, Enter Jasper with his Face mealed. 1882 *Garden* 21 Jan. 33/3 All their flowers will be more or less mealed on the surface.

b. *fig. To meal one's mouth*: to become 'mealy-mouthed'; to speak in gentle terms. ? *nonce-use.*

1826 Southey in *Corr. w. C. Bowles* (1881) 96 Though there is as much civility as can be desired..yet I have neither mealed my mouth nor minced my words.

2. a. *trans.* To grind into meal; to reduce to a fine powder. b. *intr.* To become reduced to meal or powder.

1669 Sturmy *Mariner's Mag.* v. xiii. 89 Meal all these very fine, and mix them together. *Ibid.*, It will Meal presently.

3. *intr.* To yield or be plentiful in meal.

1799 J. Robertson *Agric. Perth* 155 It is a little earlier than the old Polish oat, and meals equally well.

Meal (mīl), *v.*[2] [f. Meal *sb.*[2]]

1. *intr.* To make a meal; to eat meals; to feed.

1817 Hone *Every-day Bk.* II. 218 There were..worms there.., which would have mealed handsomely upon him. 1840 R. H. Dana *Bef. Mast* xxx. 109 *Mess*, any number of men who meal together. 1886 M. K. Macmillan *Dagonet the Jester* 5, I will not meal with a churl, nor moil with a churl.

2. *trans.* To feed, give fodder to (cattle). ? *Obs.*

1630 Winthrop *Let.* in *New Eng.* (1825) I. 378 Some more cows would be brought, especially two new milch, which must be well mealed and milked by the way.

†**Meal**, *v.*[3] *Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. [Identical with OE. *mǽlan*, f. *mál* spot, stain, Mole *sb.*[1] (Northern dialects have *mail* vb., to spot, stain, f. *mail*, northern form of *mole*: see E. D. D.)]

trans. To spot, stain; by Shaks. used *fig.*

1603 Shaks. *Meas. for M.* IV. ii. 86 Were he meal'd with that Which he corrects, then were he tirrannous.

Meal, obs. form of Mail *sb.*[2]

-meal, *suffix*, forming advs. (all obs. exc. *piecemeal*), repr. ME. *-mele* (down to the 14th c. sometimes *-melum*), OE. *-mǽlum*. The OE. advs. in *-mǽlum* are in form the instrumental case plural of compounds of *mǽl* Meal *sb.*[2], in the sense of 'measure', 'quantity taken at one time', as in *cuclérmæl* spoonful (as a measure), the instr. pl. of which would be **cuclérmælum* by spoonfuls. The particular compounds of this formation actually recorded in the instr. pl., however, do not occur in the other cases, and already in OE. *-mælum* had come to be a mere suffix with the sense expressed in Latin by *-átim, -tim*, and in mod.Eng. by the repetition of the sb. preceded by *by*. Examples which existed in OE. are *dropmælum* Dropmeal, *flocemælum* Flockmeal, *fótmælum* Footmeal, *héapmælum* Heapmeal, *limmælum* Limbmeal, *scéafmælum* sheaf by sheaf, *stemmælum* turn by turn, alternately, *stundmælum* Stoundmeal, *styccemælum* bit by bit, *géarmælum* year by year. The suffix continued to be productive in ME., among the formations dating from that period being *cantle-meal, cupmeal, gobbetmeal, littlemeal, parcelmeal, pennymeal, piecemeal, poundmeal*, and the Latinisms *ravishmeal* (Wyclif) 'raptim', *table-meal* 'tabulatim'. A remarkable survival of the OE. inflexion appears in Wyclif's *hipyllmelum* (see Hipple). To the 16th c. belong *fitmeal, inchmeal, jointmeal, lumpmeal*; in later Eng. the suffix has not been productive, though nonce-words such as *pagemeal* have occasionally been formed, more or less playfully. A trace of the originally substantival character of the suffix remains in the use of *by piecemeal* as a synonym of the simple adv. (cf. the obs. *by flockmeal, by pennymeal*, etc.).

1493 *Festivall* (W. de W. 1515) 8 b, Hymselfe with his owone handes kest away the fleshe lompe mele. 1827 *Blackw. Mag.* XXI. 884 How pleasant it would be to tear it pagemeal, and fling it in the author's face.

Mealable (mī·lăb'l), *a.* [f. Meal *v.*[1] + -able.] Capable of being mealed.

1823 *Mech. Mag.* No. 9. 138 Satisfied with having their corn reduced to a mealable form. 1885 A. Stewart *Twixt Ben Nevis & Glencoe* xxv. 181 So much mealable grist.

Meale, variant of Mele *v. Obs.*, to speak.

Mealed (mīld), *ppl. a.* [f. Meal *v.*[1] + -ed[1].] Finely pulverized; *spec.* of gunpowder.

1692 *Capt. Smith's Seaman's Gram.* II. xxxi. 150 Fine Mealed Powder. 1859 F. A. Griffiths *Artil. Man.* (1862) 89 A hole is bored through the mealed powder at the top.

Mealer[1] (mī·ləɹ). [f. Meal *sb.*[2] and *v.*[2] + -er[1].]

1. In parasynthetic derivatives (*nonce-wds.*): One who eats (one, half a) meal in the day.

1849 D. J. Browne *Amer. Poultry Yd.* (1855) 48 Certain hens..are called Monositæ (that is, one-mealers, or such as eat only once a day). 1899 R. Whiteing 5 *John St.* 111 The half-mealers, who always leave off with a hungry belly.

2. *U.S. colloq.* One who takes his meals at one place and lodges at another; a 'table-boarder'.

1883 M. F. Sweetser *Summer Days* 126 That class of the community known as 'hauled mealers'. 1887 A. A. Hayes *Jesuit's Ring* 52 You are a 'mealer' here.

3. *slang.* One pledged to take alcoholic drink only at meals.

1890 in Barrère & Leland *Dict. Slang.*

Mealer[2] (mī·ləɹ). [f. Meal *v.*[1] + -er[1].] A wooden rubber for mealing powder.

1875 in Knight *Dict. Mech.*

Mealer, variant of Mailer[1].

Mealie (mī·li). Also 9 (from *pl.*) milice. [a. Cape Du. *milje* (pronounced mī·li), a. Pg. *milho* Millet, used also (with defining words *milho grande, m. da India*) for maize.] A South African name for maize; chiefly used in the *pl.*

1853 Galton *Tropical S. Afr.* vi. 182 The Ovampo had little pipkins to cook in, and eat corn (milice) steeped in hot water. 1855 J. W. Colenso *Ten Weeks in Natal, Hist. Sk.* p. vi, The second range of land..furnishing abundant crops of hay, oats, mealies, or Indian corn, and barley. 1901 *Scotsman* 11 Mar. 8/1 For eight days they had to live on half a pound of mealie a day, with very little meat.

attrib. 1879 *Cape Argus* 5 June (Cent.), A bivouac was made near a deserted kraal, there being..a mealie-field hard by...A volley was fired from the adjacent mealie-garden. 1893 *Westm. Gaz.* 10 Oct. 2/1 Their staple diet then being 'mealie' meal porridge made with water.

Mealiness (mī·linės). [f. Mealy *a.* + -ness.] The quality or condition of being mealy.

1609 C. Butler *Fem. Mon.* (1634) 127 They [teredines] offend the Bees also with their mealiness, as the Snails do with their sliminess. 1776 Withering *Brit. Plants* (1796) IV. 69 Leaves covered with a kind of ash-coloured mealiness. 1820 L. Hunt *Indicator* No. 37 (1822) I. 294 There was a sort of exquisite silver clearness and soft mealiness in her utterance of these verses. 1844 Stephens *Bk. Farm* II. 666 The mealiness consists of a layer of mucilage immediately under the skin, covering the starch or farina. 1876 Abney *Instr. Photogr.* (ed. 3) 125 The cause of mealiness or 'measles' in the print. 1886 Besant *Childr. Gibeon* II. ii, To bring out the full mealiness of a potatoe.

Mealing (mī·liŋ), *vbl. sb.*[1] Also 5 **melwynge**. [f. Meal *v.*[1] + -ing[1].]

1. The action of grinding meal; also, the action of finely pulverizing gunpowder. Chiefly *attrib.*, as in *mealing trade*; **mealing stone**, a stone used for grinding meal; **mealing table**, a slab for mealing gunpowder upon.

14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 582/19 *Farracio*, Melwynge. 1805 A. Eolin (*title*) On the Art of Bread-making, wherein the Mealing Trade..is Examined. 1828 J. M. Spearman *Brit. Gunner* (ed. 2) 78 Mealing Tables. 1866 *Reader* 22 Sept. 307 A mealing stone with a hollow in which the corn was bruised. 1880 Dawkins *Early Man* 268 Two concave stone grain-rubbers or 'mealing-stones'.

2. The action of covering with meal.

a 1810 *Robin Hood & Beggar* lxxix. in Child *Ballads* (1888) III. 163/2 He thought, if he had done them wrong In mealing of their cloaths [etc.].

Mealing (mī·liŋ), *vbl. sb.*[2] [f. Meal *v.*[2] + -ing[1].] The action of taking meals; *U.S.* the action of taking meals at a boarding-house.

1659 H. L'Estrange *Alliance Div. Off.* 188 The junketings, comessations, and mealing together were soon laid aside. 1887 A. A. Hayes *Jesuit's Ring* 55 She must draw the line..when the hauling cost more than the mealing.

Mealing, obs. form of Mailing.

Meall(e, obs. ff. Maul *sb.*[1], Meal *sb.*[2]

Mealless (mī·lˌlės), *a.* [f. Meal *sb.*[2] + -less.] Without a meal.

1894 *Season* X. 57/2 Many men unnecessarily exhaust themselves by going a whole day mealless.

Meally, obs. form of Mealy.

Mealman (mī·lmæn). [f. Meal *sb.*[1] + Man.] One who deals in meal.

1552 Huloet, Mealeman or meale seller, *suffarraneus*. 1556 *Chron. Gr. Friars* (Camden) 77 Alle save only the niele-men. 1679 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1407/4 Mr. Acres Mealman. 1778 *Eng. Gazetteer* (ed. 2) s.v. *Henley*, The inhabitants are generally maltsters, mealmen and bargemen. 1802 in *Spirit Publ. Jrnls.* (1803) VI. 89 All our meal-men and millers are Esquires.

†**Mea·lmouth**, *sb.* and *a. Obs.* [f. Meal *sb.*[1] + Mouth.] a. *sb.* A mealy-mouthed person. b. *adj.* Mealy-mouthed.

1546 J. Heywood *Prov.* (1867) 19 When the meale mouth hath woon the bottome Of your stomake, than will the pickthanke it tell. 1575 G. Harvey *Letter-bk.* (Camden) 92 [Written to a miller] Those same fine..milltermes wherewith your mealemowthe letter and whitebred souett ar..illuminate. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Meal-mouth*, a sly, sleepish Dun, or Sollicitor for Money.

†**Mea·l-mouthed**, *ppl. a. Obs.* [Formed as prec. + -ed[2].] = Mealy-mouthed.

1576 Fleming *Panopl. Epist.* 155 Saying, that you had flatterers & meal-mouthed merchants in high estimation. 1686 Wood *Life* 5 Nov. (O.H.S.) III. 199 Dr. Reynell..in his sermon was meale-mouthed and timorous.

Mealt(e, obs. forms of Melt *v.*

† **Mea·ltide.** *Obs.* exc. *Sc.* **meltith** (me·ltiþ). Forms: *a.* 3 mel tid, 4 meel-tyd, 5 melltyde, 6 meale tyde, meltyd, 7 mealtide. *β.* 6 mailteth, melteithe, 6–9 melteth, 7 mealtite, 8 mealtith, meltet, 8–9 meltit, meltith, 9 meltaith. [f. MEAL *sb.*[2] + TIDE *sb.*: cf. G. *mahlzeit*, Du. *maaltijd*, late ON. *máltíð* (Da. *maaltid*).]

1. = MEAL-TIME. Also, a meal, food.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 13 Þe man þe sunեð aleð gestninge..and haueð riht mel tid and nutteð timeliche metes. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* II. 1556 The morwen com and neyhen gan þe tyme Of meltid. 1485 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 177 Item I p[d] to my noste Gyllam de la Towr for howr melltydes from Sonday tyll Fryday vi[s] viii[d]. 1534 MORE *Comf. agst. Trib.* II. Wks. 1185/1 He wold not for breaking of his penance, take anye praye for hys meale tyde, that shuld passe the prise of syxe pence. 1563–7 BUCHANAN *Reform. St. Andros* Wks. (1892) 7 Every man ane eg at the mailteth. 1588 A. KING tr. *Canisius' Catech.* 162 b, We..ar content onelie with ane melltyd on the day. 1614 B. JONSON *Barth. Fair* I. ii, A Suitor that puts in here at Meal-tide. 1655 CULPEPPER, etc. *Riverius* XV. v. 419 A Bath, into which Blood-warm let the Patient enter..far from meal-tide. 1728 RAMSAY *Daft Bargain* 12 [He] seem'd right yap His mealtith quickly up to gawp. *c* 1826 HOGG in J. Wilson *Noct. Ambr.* Wks. 1855 I. 212 Tam lo'ed his meltith and his clink.

2. The quantity of milk given by a cow at one milking. = MEAL *sb.*[2]

1633 *Orkney Witch Trial* in *Abbotsford Club Misc.* 153 Alse mony mealtitis off milk. 1839 J. M. WILSON *Tales Borders* V. 96/1 She, accordingly brought her evening's meltith, and skimmed it into his dish.

Mea·l-time. [f. MEAL *sb.*[2] + TIME.] The usual time for eating a meal.

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 115 He scal hine ibidan on a-sette tidan and her meltiman metes ne arinan. 13.. *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* xxxvii. 937 Whon mon haþ at meel-tyme such as he wile, Tak þat he haþ neode of. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. v. 500 Aboute mydday whan most liȝte is and mele tyme of seintes. 1611 BIBLE *Ruth* ii. 14 And Boaz sayde vnto her, At meale time come thou hither. 1704 M. HENRY *Commun. Comp.* iii. Wks. 1853 I. 306/1 The great Master of the family would have none of his children missing at meal-time. 1860 S. WILBERFORCE *Addr. Ordination* 134 We must not break in on the meal-time of the poor.

Mealy (mī·li), *a.* Also 6–7 mealie, 7–9 meally. [f. MEAL *sb.*[1] + -Y.]

1. Resembling meal, having the qualities of meal, powdery. Of fruits: (see quot. 1725). Of potatoes when boiled: Forming a somewhat dry and powdery mass, resembling flour (considered to be a good quality: opposed to *waxy*).

1533 ELYOT *Cast. Helthe* (1541) 88 b, Some groundes or residence [in urine] is like to meale, wheate, or barley, and may be named mealy residence. 1658 SIR T. BROWNE *Gard. Cyrus* iii. *Hydriot.* etc. 58 Though the regular spots in their [*sc.* butterflies'] wings seem but a mealie adhesion..yet [etc.]. 1672–3 GREW *Anat. Roots* II. § 30 Many Apples, after Frosts, eat mealy. 1725 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict., Mealy*; a Term used concerning certain Pears, which having generally surpassed their Ripeness, or growing in an ill Soil, have not that Quantity of Juice and fine Pulp, which they should have: Thus they say of the Lansac, Dean, &c. this Pear is mealy, this Pear has a mealy Taste. 1758 REID tr. *Macquer's Chem.* I. 35 By which means its crystals lose their transparency, become, as it were, mealy, and fall into a fine flour. 1795 *Hull Advertiser* 5 Dec. 4/3 Mealy potatoe. 1818–20 E. THOMPSON tr. *Cullen's Nosol. Method.* (ed. 3) 203 Small clustering pimples..after three days go away in a small mealy desquamation. 1840 PEREIRA *Elem. Mat. Med.* II. 661 Many druggists prefer mealy sarsaparilla, that is, sarsaparilla whose cortex is brittle and powdery, and which, on being fractured transversely, throws out a white dust.

2. Containing meal or farina; farinaceous.

1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. iii. 832 Our mealy grain Our skilfull Seedman scatters not in vain. 1667 *Phil. Trans.* II. 485 A Farinaceous or Mealy Tree, serving to make bread of it. 1694 SALMON *Bate's Dispens.* (1713) 591/1 The meally Julep. 1732 ARBUTHNOT *Rules of Diet* 267 Decoctions of mealy Vegetables lubricate the Intestines. 1890 *Syd. Soc. Lex., Mealy albumen*, the albumen of seeds which contains many starch granules, as in wheat.

3. Covered with flour.

1704 N. N. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* I. 233 That some sort of People should be so foolish, to expect to come, as meally out of the Mill, when they had staid there but a quarter of an Hour, as the Miller himself. 1773 FERGUSSON *Poems* (1789) II. 68 Mealy bakers, Hair-kaimers [etc.]. 1832 TENNYSON *Miller's Dau.* i, The wealthy miller's mealy face. 1883 H. W. V. STUART *Egypt* 113 He emerged from the mills as white as the clown in a pantomime, nor were we less mealy. *transf.* 1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. iv. 672 The mealie Mountains (late unseen) Change their white garments into lustly green. 1839 LONGF. *Hyperion* I. vi, Winter..will come down at last in his old-fashioned mealy coat.

4. Covered with or as if with a fine dust or powder. Chiefly in *Bot.* and *Ent.*

1567 MAPLET *Gr. Forest* 34 b, Britannick or English Herb, hath the very looke of the greatest Sorrell, but in Colour a little more black, somewhat Mossie or Mealie. 1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* III. iii. 79 Men like butter-flies, Shew not their mealie wings, but to the Summer. 1870 HOOKER *Stud. Flora* 316 Chenopodium album..more or less mealy. 1890 *Syd. Soc. Lex., Mealy hairs*, term applied by De Bary to the capitate hairs, presenting a powdery aspect, found on the under surface of various ferns belonging to the species *Gymnogramma Pteris* and *Nothochlæna* [etc.].

Comb. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* III. xv. 141 Some flye with two wings,..some with foure, as all farinaceous or mealy winged animals, as Butter-flies and Moths.

b. In various specific designations of animals, plants, and minerals: **mealy bug**, an insect which infests vines and hot-house plants (see quot. 1840); **mealy centaury**, *Centaurea dealbata* (Sanders *Encycl. Gard.*, ed. 2, 1896); **mealy duck** (see quot.); **mealy insect** = *mealy bug*; **mealy parasol**, an esculent fungus, *Agaricus granulosus*; **mealy redpoll**, **-pole**, see REDPOLL[1]; **mealy starwort**, *Aletris farinosa* (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1890); **mealy tree**, the wayfaring tree, *Viburnum Lantana*; **mealy zeolite**, an obs. synonym of both natrolite and mesolite (A. H. Chester).

1824 LOUDON *Encycl. Gard.* § 3059 M'Phail [*c* 1800] observes, that the red spider, the *mealy white bug, and the brown turtle insect are the most injurious to the vine. 1840 *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 573 The Mealy-bug, *C. adonidum*, is somewhat of a rosy hue, with the body covered with a white mealy powder. 1885 SWAINSON *Prov. Names Birds* Index, *Mealy bird or -duck. 1890 *H. Stevenson's Birds Norfolk* III. 219 The immature long-tailed duck is known to the Blakeney gunners as the 'little mealy duck'. 1815 *Trans. Horticult. Soc.* I. 297 *Coccus Adonidum*, the *Mealy Insect. 1887 HAY *Brit. Fungi* 73 *Agaricus granulosus*... The *Mealy Parasol. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Mealy Tree or Wild Vine. 1760 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* App. 319 Mealy-tree, Pliant, *Viburnum*.

5. Of colour: Spotty, uneven. In *Photography* = MEASLY *a.* 3.

1784 J. BARRY in *Lect. Paint.* vi. (1848) 216 To give a richness and depth to the dark colours, by preventing that mealy appearance which results from the light resting and glittering on their surfaces. 1804 TINGRY *Varnisher's Guide* (1816) 3 The use of camphor for varnish is limited; too great a quantity would render it mealy. 1876 [see MEASLY *a.* 3]. 1890 *Anthony's Photogr. Bull.* III. 86 My greatest trouble has been mealy prints.

b. Of colours of horses: Spotty, interspersed with whitish specks. Also *Comb.*, as *mealy-buttocked, -flanked, -mouthed, -nosed* adjs. (Cf. MAILY *a.*)

1675 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 980/4 Stolen.., a black brown Nag, ..with a star in the Forehead, a light brown mealy mouth. 1677 *Ibid.* No. 1198/4 A brown bay Gelding, with a shorn Mane, mealy mouth'd,..'twixt 14 and 15 hands. 1691 *Ibid.* No. 2692/4 Stolen.., a black brown Nag,..mealy Buttock'd, and mealy Nosed with a Star on his Snip. 1703 *Ibid.* No. 3978/4 A brown Nag..mealy Flank't. 1708 *Ibid.* No. 4438/4 A Black Mare of about five years old,..a small mealy Slip under her Right Nostril. 1861 WHYTE MELVILLE *Mkt. Harb.* 19 A mealy bay cob.

6. Of complexion: Floury, pale. Also *Comb.*, as *mealy-complexioned, -faced* adjs.

1838 DICKENS *O. Twist* xiv, I only know two sorts of boys. Mealy boys, and beef-faced boys. 1840 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. I. *Hamilton Tighe*, They bring her a little, pale, mealy-faced boy. 1860 *All Year Round* No. 66. 367 The boys of these London schools are thin and long: white, mealy, and flaccid. 1876 GEO. ELIOT *Dan. Der.* xxxvi, A mealy-complexioned male. 1883 F. M. CRAWFORD *Dr. Claudius* viii, A mealy-faced, over-cerebrated people are springing up.

7. Of the flavour of tea: Soft, not harsh.

1892 WALSH *Tea* (Philad.) 98 Clear and bright in liquor, and mellow or 'mealy' in flavor.

8. Soft-spoken, given to mince matters; mealy-mouthed.

1600 DEKKER *Gentle Craft* i. (1862) 9 This wench with the mealy mouth, is my wife I can tell you. 1697 C. LESLIE *Snake in Grass* (ed. 2) 173 Therefore, George, notwithstanding all thy meally modesty, it is [etc.]. 1720 AMHERST *Ep. Sir J. Blount* 12 If you don't straitway find out what The meally Rascals would be at. 1824 MISS FERRIER *Inherit.* xxvii. (1882) I. 241 A little squeaking mealy voice. 1828 CARLYLE *Misc.* (1857) IV. 140 Bless its mealy mouth! 1854 DICKENS *Hard T.* II. viii, I didn't mince the matter with him. I am never mealy with 'em. 1862 J. C. JEAFFRESON *Bk. abt. Doctors* xiii. (1862) 156 Well-fed Vicars of Bray..with mealy mouths and elastic consciences.

Mealy (mī·li), *v. Bleaching.* [f. MEALY *a.*] *trans.* = BRAN *v.*; to 'clear' maddered goods by boiling in bran-water.

1811 *Self Instructor* 537 Bran liquors are used to meally dying-stuffs.

Mealy-dew, obs. form of MILDEW.

Mealy-mouthed (mī·li,mou·ðd), *a.* [Cf. MEALY *a.* 8.] Soft-spoken; not outspoken; afraid to speak one's mind or to use plain terms.

c 1572 GASCOIGNE *Fruites Warre* lxxxvi, So were more meete for mealy mouthed men. 1606 DAY *Ile of Guls* IV. iv, And ile not be mealely mouthed, I warrant em. 1679 'T. TICKLEFOOT' *Trial Wakeman* 7 He was not mealy mouth'd, but would..have talked his mind to Knights, or any Body. 1788 WESLEY *Wks.* (1872) VII. 106 Carry your point, whatever it costs. Be not mealy-mouthed. 1855 TENNYSON *Brook* 94 Mealy-mouth'd philanthropies. 1887 BESANT *The World went* XVI. 138 None of your mincing, mealy-mouthed, fine ladies.

¶ Used for: Over scrupulous.

1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* XII. xiv, You are not mealy-mouthed about receiving a commoner into your pedigree.

Hence **Mealy-mouthedly** *adv.*, **Mealy-mouthedness.**

1727 BAILEY vol. II, *Mealy-mouthedness.* 1838 SOUTHEY *Doctor* (1848) 382 He is not given to speak, as his friends the Portuguese say, enfarinhadamente—which is, being interpreted, mealy-mouthedly. 1894 *Sat. Rev.* 24 Mar. 304 School Boards and other engines of mealy-mouthedness have laid a han upon some of our old plant names.

† **Mean,** *sb.*[1] *Obs.* Forms: 3–5 mene, 6, 9 meane, 9 meen. [f. MEAN *v.*[2]] A lament, complaint.

12.. *Prayer to Virg.* 34 in *O. E. Misc.* 196 To þe ne dar i clepien noht to hire ich make min mene. 1300–1400 *Cursor M.* (Götт.) 19758 Widuten ani mene or sare. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* IV. 153 Thar petuous mene as than couth nocht be bett. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S. T. S.) I. 286 This bischope..maid his meane and complent to the lord Home. 18.. in *Kinloch's Sc. Ballads* (1827) 131 She heard a puir prisoner making his meane. 18.. *Mary Hamilton* xiii. in Child *Ballads* III. 389 'Make never meen for me', she says.

Mean (mīn), *sb.*[2] Forms: 4–6 mene, 4–7 meane, 5–6 meyne, 5 meene, 6– mean. [Partly the absolute use of MEAN *a.*[2], and partly adopted from the similar substantival use in OF.]

I. That which is in the middle.

1. That which is intermediate; a condition, quality, disposition, or course of action, that is equally removed from two opposite (usually, blamable) extremes; a medium. Often with laudatory adj., as GOLDEN, *happy*, † MERRY *mean.*

c 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* IV. Pr. vii. 146 Occupy þe mene by stedfast strengþes [L. *firmis medium viribus occupate*]. 1399 [see MERRY *a.*]. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 6527 Richesse and mendicitees Ben cleped two extremitees; The mene is cleped suffisaunce. *c* 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* II. 27 Demene hit in the mene of moyst and drie. *Ibid.* 127 The mene is best thyn ayer to qualifie. 1529 *Supplic. to King* (1871) 45 Betwene these extreame contraries there is no meane. 1580 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 337, I haue hard that extremities are to be vsed, where the meane will not serue. 1587, etc. [see GOLDEN *a.* 5 c]. 1596 SPENSER *Hymn Hon. Love* 87 Tempering goodly well Their contrary dislikes with loved meanes. 1654–66 EARL ORRERY *Parthen.* (1676) 5 There was no mean between my misery and her favour. 1690 W. WALKER *Idiomat. Anglo-Lat.* 297 In apparel the mean is the best. 1727 SWIFT *Poisoning E. Curll* Wks. 1755 III. I. 152 There is a mean in all things. 1732 BERKELEY *Alciphr.* v. § 6 Religion is the virtuous mean between incredulity and superstition. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* vii. (ed. 5) II. 234 It is not easy.. to preserve with steadiness the happy mean between these two extremes. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 24/2 A mean between the darkest and lightest tint used.

† b. Absence of extremes; moderation, measure. *In a mean*: with moderation. *To use a mean*: to exercise moderation. *Obs.*

1545 ASCHAM *Toxoph.* (Arb.) 17, I woulde desire all..to vse this pastime in suche a mean that the outragiousnes of great gamyng, should not hurte the honestie of shotyng. 1556 *Aurelio & Isab.* (1608) D iij, The Kinge..axede them what meane one oughte to keape in suche a case. 1579 GOSSON *Sch. Abuse* (Arb.) 23 So they [versifying, dancing and singing] bee vsed with meane, and exercised in due tyme. 1607 NORDEN *Surv. Dial.* II. 103, I wish, that Lords and their ministers would use a meane in exacting. 1621 FLETCHER *Wild Goose Chase* II. ii, I will be what I please, Sir, So I exceed not Mean. 1625 BACON *Ess., Adversity* (Arb.) 504 But to speake in a Meane. 1655 CULPEPPER, etc. *Riverius* I. i. 4 Use a mean in sleep and waking. 1718 POPE *Iliad* XVII. 573 When he seeks the prize War knows no mean.

2. *Mus.* † a. A middle or intermediate part in any harmonized composition or performance, esp. the tenor and alto. Also, a person performing that part or the instrument on which it is played.

The use app. survived in dialects until recently: see E. D. D.

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 11263 Þo clerkes þat best coube synge, Wyþ treble, mene, & burdoun. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 6599, I schal the teche bothe burdoun and mene. *c* 1500 in Burney *Hist. Mus.* (1782) II. 435 There are 3 degrees of Discant, that is to say Mene, Treble, and Quadrible. The Mene beginneth in the 5, abowvyn the Playn Songe in voys [etc.]. *Ibid.* And so the Discant of the Mene Salbegynne hys Discant about the Playne Songe in Syght. 1526 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 138 All trebyllys and tenours be rulyd by a meyne. 1611 TOURNEUR *Ath. Trag.* III. iii, Trebles and bases make poore musick without meanes. 1698 WALLIS in *Phil. Trans.* XX. 302 Several Parts or Voices (as Bass, Treble, Mean, &c. sung in Consort).

fig. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 54 The [nasal] organys..begynne to syng ther messe, With treble meene and tenor discordyng. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. xii. 33 On the rocke the waves breaking aloft A solemne Meane unto them measured. 1616 GOODMAN *Fall of Man* 78 The little chirping birds..they sing a mean.

† b. A name for the second and the third string of a viol or lute. *Obs.*

1879 CHAPPELL *Pop. Mus.* I. 317 *note*, If there were two means, as in the lute, the lower was called the greater; the upper, the lesser mean. 1880 GROVE *Dict. Mus.* II. 242/2.

† c. ? = NATURAL *sb. Obs.*

1675 COCKER *Morals* 20 Grace..tunes Natures Harp, And makes that Note a Mean, which was a Sharp.

† 3. The middle (of anything). *Obs.*

c 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* III. 398 He seyd ereithe[r] sappe wol condescende Vpto that mene, & glew hem self in fere. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 332/1 Meene, myddys (*H. P.* medyl), *medium.* 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* II. 79/1 This leaf is.. heart-like in the mean, or part next the stalk.

† 4. *Logic.* The middle term of a syllogism. *Obs.*

1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* II. xiv. § 1 It is in proofe by Syllogisme; for the proofe being not immediate but by Meane: the Inuention of the Meane is one thinge [etc.].

† 5. *Gram.* A 'mean' or 'middle' verb (see MEAN *a.*[2] 8): = REFLEXIVE *sb.* B. 2. *Obs.*

1530 PALSGR. Introd. 35 All whiche differences of conjugation betwene the actyve verbes and theyr meanes I declare at length in my seconde boke.

† 6. Something interposed or intervening. *By means*: through intermediate links (of descent). *Without any mean* (= F. *sans moyen*): directly, immediately, unconditionally. *Obs.*

c 1340 HAMPOLE *Prose Tr.* 16 All menes lettande be-twyx þe saule and þe clennes of angells es brokene and put awaye fra it. 1425 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 270/2 Of whiche Doughter

by menes is comen ye Erle. 1523 Ld. Berners *Froiss.* I. lxiii. 85 It was determyned, that bothe parties..shulde sende foure or fyue personages, as their embassodours, and to mete at Arras; and the pope in likwyse to sende thyder foure, and ther to make a full confirmacyon without any meane. *Ibid.* cccli. 564 All the gentylmen of Flaunders sware to hym to be good and true .. without any meane, wherfore therle was greatly reioysed. 1548–77 Vicary *Anat.* ii. (1888) 18 That the grystle should be a meane betweene the Lygament and him [*sc.* the bone]. 1593 Shaks. 3 *Hen. VI*, III. ii. 141 So doe I wish the Crowne, being so farre off, And so I chide the meanes that keepes me from it.

†7. *In the mean*: in the meantime. *Obs.*

1565 Stapleton tr. *Bede's Hist. Ch. Eng.* 27 In the meane suffering no remedies to be applied vnto his owne infirmities. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* II. i. 58 In the meane, vouchsafe her honorable toombe. *a* 1657 R. Loveday *Lett.* (1663) 193* In the mean, I shall .. read over your Translation with the Originall. 1793 Jefferson *Writ.* (1859) IV. 59 Time in the mean will be lost.

8. *Math.* [= F. *moyenne*, ellipt. for *quantité moyenne*.] The term (or, in plural, the terms) intermediate between the first and last terms (called the extremes) of a progression of any kind (distinctively, *arithmetic(al, geometric(al, harmonic(al mean)*. Also, in a wider sense, a quantity so related to a set of *n* quantities that the result of operating with it in a certain manner *n* times is the same as that of operating similarly with each of the set. In this sense the *arithmetic(al mean* (commonly called simply the *mean*) of a set of *n* quantities is the quotient of their sum divided by *n*; the *geometric(al* mean is the nth root of their product.

1571 Digges *Pantom., Math. Treat.* def. iv. T j b, When foure magnitudes are..in continual proportion, the first and the fourth are the extremes, and the second and thirde the meanes. 1660 R. Coke *Justice Vind.* 23 Nor [in harmonical proportion] do the extremes added or multiplied produce the like number with the meao. 1674 Jeake *Arith.* (1696) 576 If between 2 and 54 two proportional Means be sought, the Lesser will be 6 and the Greater 18. 1709 J. Ward *Yng. Math. Guide* I. vi. (1734) 73 If any Four Numbers are in Arithmetical Progression, the Sum of the Two Extreams will be Equal to the Sum of the Two Means. 1881 J. Casey *Sequel Euclid* 88 The Arithmetic mean is to the Geometric mean as the Geometric mean is to the Harmonic mean.

b. An average amount or value; used for *mean pressure, temperature*, etc.,

1803 Svd. Smith *Catteau's États Danois* Wks. (1850) 51 Upon a mean of twenty-six years, it has rained for a hundred and thirty days every year. 1855 J. R. Leifchild *Cornwall* 182 The temperature of the adit..is on an average more than 12° above the mean of the climate. 1893 W. L. Dallas in *Indian Meteorol. Mem.* IV. 516 The means of pressure have been obtained [etc.].

II. An intermediary agent or instrument.

†9. One who acts as mediator, 'go-between', or ambassador between others; one who intercedes for a person or uses influence on behalf of an object. *To be good mean*, to act as intercessor. *Obs.*

c 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* III. 205 (254) For þe am I becomen .. swych a mene As maken wommen vn-to men to comen. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. I. 158 A mene, as þe Maire is bitwene þe kyng and þe comune. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Miller's T.* 189 He woweth hire by meenes and brocage. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 332/2 Meene, massyngere, ..*internuncius*. *Ibid.*, Meene, or medyatowre, ..*mediator*. 1455 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 285/1 It myght lyke the said Lieutenaunte and all the Lordes, to be goode meanes unto the Kynges Highnesse, that suche a persone myght be purveide fore. 1538 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. I. II. 90 That it might please your Lordship to be a meane for us to our Soveraign Lorde the Kynge is Highenes. 1562 *Child-Marriages* 71 This deponent was desired of both parties, to be a meane that they might marie before the day appointed. 1606 J. Carpenter *Solomon's Solace* xii. 47 She would be a meane for him to the king. 1612 Bacon *Ess., Suitors* (Arb.) 47/1 Let a man, in the choise of his meane, rather chuse the fittest meane then the greatest meane.

†b. in pl. form, with sing. sense and const.

1554 Cranmer *Misc. Writ.* (Parker Soc.) II. 445 In most humble wise Sueth unto your right honourable lordships, Thomas Cranmer, late Archbishop of Canterbury; beseeching the Same to be a means for me unto the queen's highness. 1559–66 in *Wodrow Soc. Misc.* (1844) 74 The Marques of D'Albnef, the subtill meanes of the Duke of Guise. 1585 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* I. xx. 25 He being by them praied to be a meanes towards the Bascha. 1611 Cotgr., *Moyenneur*, a means, mediator.

†c. *spec.* A mediator between God (or Christ) and man. *Obs.*

1362 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. VIII. 183, I counseile alle cristene to crie crist merci, And Marie his Moder to beo mene bitwene. 1377 *Ibid.* B. XV. 535 Þus in a faith lyueth þat folke and in a false mene [i. e. Mohammed]. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 409 A prest shulde be a mene bitwixe god & þe puple. 1508 Fisher *Penit. Ps.* XXXVIII. Wks. (1876) 54 O blyssed lady be thou meane & mediatrice betweene thy son and wretched synners. 1570 T. Norton tr. *Nowel's Catech.* (1853) 186 We need not then, for access to God, some man to be our mean. 1597 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* V. l. § 3 There is no union of God with man without that mean between both which is both.

10. An instrument, agency, method, or course of action, by the employment of which some object is or may be attained, or which is concerned in bringing about some result. Often contrasted with *end*. Often predicatively (of persons as well as things), *To be the means* (or †*the mean*) *of*.

a. in sing. form. Now only *arch.*

c 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* V. 1551 The fate wold his soule sholde vnbodye, And shapen hadde a mene it out to dryue.

1444 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 104/2 Be which subtile meene ye lose gret part of your custumes. 1539 Cromwell in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) II. 226 This .. sheweth a meane howe..you may make them yet better. 1611 Shaks. *Wint. T.* IV. iv. 90 Vet Nature is made better by no meane, But Nature makes the Meane. 1611 W. Sclater *Key* (1629) 243 Vncharitable is that sentence of Papists; that Baptisme is necessarie as a meane to saluation. 1635 J. Hayward tr. *Biondi's Banish'd Virg.* 114 Dariacan himselfe had beene the instrumentall meane of my flight. 1785 T. Balguy *Disc.* 31 Let us consider it as a mean, not as an end. 1814 W. Brown *Propag. Chr. among Heathen* II. 402 The Mission to the South Sea Islands .. has .. been a powerful mean of promoting the interests of Christianity. 1881 Swinburne *Mary Stuart* II. i, God .. procure Some mean whereby mine enemies craft and his May take no feet but theirs in their own toils.

b. in plural form and plural or doubtful sense.

By fair means: see Fair *a.* 15. *Ways and means*: see Way *sb.*

c 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 121 þei comen hi false menys as ypocrisie & lesyngis to þes grete lordischipes. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Friar's T.* 186 We been goddes Instrumentz, And meenes to doon hise comandementz. 1420 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. I. I. 6 Lettres .. chargyng me to assaye by all the menesse that I kan to exyte and stirre sych as bene able gentilmen. 1549 Coverdale, etc. *Erasm. Par. Rom.* 28 The eares, throughe whom as meanes the gospell of Christ is powred into the obedient soule. 1600 J. Pory tr. *Leo's Africa* III. 180 [He] left no meanes unattempted for the recouerie of this citie. *a* 1625 Fletcher *Cust. Country* V. iv, Wonders are ceas'd Sir, we must work by meanes. 1733 Pope *Ess. Man* III. 82 And find the means proportioned to their end. 1888 Bryce *Amer. Commw.* III. xcvi. 341 Vehement declaimers hounded on Congress to take arbitrary means for the suppression of the practice.

c. in pl. form, with sing. sense and const.

1512 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. I. 192 A good meanys to know the trowthe..were to gyve in commandement to John Style secretli to write the trowthe. 1606 G. W[oodcocke] *Hist. Iustine* XXXVIII. 120 Being..a means to train them vp in a secure experience to make themselues waye. 1652 H. L'Estrange *Amer. no Jewes* 6 To be dashed and defeated by so weak a seeming means. 1750 Beawes *Lex Mercat.* (1752) 2 Commerce .. is now become an universal means .. for the improvement of .. fortune. 1843 Bethune *Sc. Fireside Stor.* 28 You were indirectly the means of getting me introduced. 1843 Mill *Logic* Introd. § 1 Writers have availed themselves of the same language as a means of delivering different ideas. 1863 C. Redding *Yesterday & To-day* III. 142 *note*, I was the means of this being done.

d. Phrases. † *To make mean(s*: to take steps, use efforts (*obs.*). *To find (the) means* (or †*mean*): to find out a way, contrive, manage (now only const. *inf.*).

c 1386 Chaucer *Frankl. T.* 155 How thanne may it bee That ye swiche meenes make it to destroyen, Whiche meenes do no good, but euere anoyen? 1461 *Paston Lett.* II. 35 That Richard Calle fynde the meane that a distresse may be taken of such bestes as occupie the ground at Stratton. *c* 1462 *Ibid.* 107 Or hise wryting cam, Wydwell fond the meanys..that we had a discharge for hym out of the Chauncery. 1551 Robinson tr. *More's Utop.* II. (1895) 257 They make all the meanes and shyftes that maye be, to kepe themselfes from the necessitye of fyghtynge. 1568 Grafton *Chron.* II. 45 Then meanes was made vpon either side for the deliuery and exchaunge of prisoners. 1585 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* I. viii. 8 b, I founde the meanes for moneye and withe fayre woordes to hyre a..Spaniarde. 1617 Morvson *Itin.* I. 259 We..found meanes to pierce the vessell, and get good Wine to our ill fare. 1631 Weever *Anc. Funeral Mon.* 562 A man much renowned for..the charges he was at, and the meanes he made, to adorne..his Church.

e. *Means of grace* (Theol.): the sacraments and other religious agencies viewed as the means by which divine grace is imparted to the soul, or by which growth in grace is promoted: in 'Evangelical' use often employed as a synonym for public worship. Also occas. with sing. sense, an agency conducive to spiritual improvement. *Under the means of grace* (formerly often †*under means*): subject to the operation of the means of grace.

1642 Rogers *Naaman* 5 Shall rise up and convince all beleevers, I meane such as live under meanes in that day. 1650 Baxter *Saint's R.* IV. (1651) 8 Do we not miss Ministry and Means more passionately, then we miss our God? *Ibid.* 20, I know the means of grace must be loved and valued, and the usual enjoyment of God is in the use of them. 1662 *Bk. Com. Prayer, Thanksgiving*, For the means of grace, and for the hope of glory. 1771 Wesley *Wks.* (1872) V. 187 By 'means of grace' I understand outward signs, words, or actions, ordained of God, .. to be the ordinary channels whereby he might convey to men, preventing, justifying, or sanctifying grace. 1833 *Tracts for Times* No. II. 2 The same company that are under the means of grace here. *Ibid.* 6 The Sacraments, which are the ordinary means of grace, are clearly in possession of the Church. 1841 A. R. C. Dallas *Past. Superintend.* 185 The number of persons above the age of education, who ought to attend the means of grace. 1891 Besant *St. Katherine's* x, The discourse of the preacher was on the fearful condition of those who disobey the discipliae of the Church and refuse the means of Grace.

†f. *pl.* and *collect. sing.* Stratagem, trickery. *Obs.*

c 1460 *Towneley Myst.* XXIV. 386 By hir meanes she makys dysers to sell. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* VII. 1116 Bot he be meyne gat his castell agayne. 1537 *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, I. 548 Ne any brogges or meanes, that any of those borderers or any other, canne make. 1602 Warner *Alb. Eng.* IX. liii. (1612) 237 Nor is through Meed, or Means, the weak betraied to the strong.

†11. A condition that permits or conduces to something; an opportunity; in early use *pl.* conditions, offered terms (of peace). Also in phrase *in means, in a mean*: 'in a fair way' *to do* something. *Obs.*

1430–1 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 371/2 To refuse Pees offred with menes resonable. *Ibid.*, Yf yeim thynke ye menys of Pees offred. *Ibid.*, To offre for ye Kynges partie menis yat shal be thought. *a* 1552 Leland *Itin.* VI. 2 Asscheforde Churche was in a meane to be collegiatyd by the Reqwest of one Fogge. 1590 Shaks. *Com. Err.* I. ii. 18 Many a man would take you at your word, And goe indeede, hauing so good a meane. 1592 tr. *Junius on Rev.* xii. 2 She seemed near unto death, and in meanes ready to give up the Ghost. 1592 R. D. *Hypnerotomachia* 81 b, My secret thoughts consented therunto, consygning a free meane and large entrance for the discovery of my desire. *a* 1613 Overbury *Charact., Worthy Commander* Wks. (1856) 107 He understands in warre, there is no meane to erre twice.

12. *pl.* [= F. *moyens*.] The resources at (one's) disposal for effecting some object; chiefly, (a person's) pecuniary resources viewed with regard to their degree of adequacy to (his) requirements or habits of expenditure: sometimes more explicitly *means of living, of subsistence*. In early use sometimes more widely: = 'money', 'wealth'. *Man of means*: one possessing a competency.

1603 Shaks. *Meas. for M.* II. ii. 24 Let her haue needfull, but not lauish meanes. 1605 Bacon *Adv. Learn.* I. iii. § 2 Indging that meanes were to be spent vpon learning, and not learning to be applyed to meanes. 1606 G. W[oodcocke] *Hist. Iustine* XVI. 66 Having meanes to corrupt tharmy of Demetrius with great rewardes. 1609 Sir E. Hoby *Let. to T. H[iggons]* 66, I know no man so respectlesse of himselfe, but would willinglie part with one moytie of his meanes, for his future reliefe. *a* 1625 Fletcher *Cust. Country* V. v, And when thou went'st, to Imp thy miserie, Did I not give thee meanes? 1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 50 If bee be a man of meanes, and likely hereafter to beare charge in his Countrey .. I wishe him to Historie. 1660 F. Brooke tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 284 Two children, who lived there upon their mothers means. 1775 Sheridan *Duenna* II. iii, He has never sullied his honour, which, with his title, has outlived his means. 1813 Scott *Peveril* ii, We are great enough for our means, and have means sufficient for contentment. 1859 Tennyson *Enid* 455 My means were somewhat broken into. 1894 Wilkins & Vivian *Green Bay Tree* I. 11 It was very wrong for a man to live beyond his means.

†b. Formerly sometimes construed as sing.; rarely in particularized use, a livelihood. *Obs.*

1615 Withey *Sheph. Hunt.* v. in *Juvenilia* (1633) 439, I waste my Meanes which of itself is slender. 1615 Brathwait *Strappado* (1878) 52 They're..men that get A slauish meanes out of a seruile wit. *c* 1642 R. Harris *Hezekiah's Recovery* 27 All that meanes..is little enough to buy a constant Preacher bookes and physicke.

13. Intermediary agency or condition.

†a. (Cf. sense 9.) Mediation, intercession; exercise of influence to bring about something, instigation. *To make mean(s*: to intercede, make interest; to negotiate *with*; to make overtures *to*. *Obs.*

sing. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 239 He was sente ageyne the kynge of Araby thro meane of Cleopatra [L. *ad petitionem Cleopatræ*]. 1477 Earl Rivers (Caxton) *Dictes* 1 Thurgh the meane of the Mediatrice of Mercy. 1510 *Hours Bl. Virgin* 91 Give us the life that ever doth excell, Through thy prayer & speciall meane. 1535 *Goodly Prymer* L iij, They must nedes fyrst make meane vnto hym [a temporal prince] hy some man that is in his fauour. 1565 *Satir. Poems Reform.* I. 567 The mr Maxwell..to reconcile my meane, on his knees entreated me to hear [etc.].

pl. c 1400 *Three Kings Cologne* 131 Sche made grete menes to þe chefe lordys of þis yle. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 164 b, By whose suffrage, intercession & meanes we be holpen in this lyfe. 1536 *Cal. Anc. Rec. Dublin* (1889) I. 498 Youre grase hys good mens. 1591 Unton *Corr.* (Roxb.) 237 Great meanes have been made for him. 1594 Shaks. *Rich. III*, I. iii. 78 Our Brother is imprison'd by your meanes. 1656 Finett *For. Ambass.* 191 Sir Henry Mildmay had made his meanes to the Duke of Buckingham ..for carriage..of the Present designed to the Ambassador.

b. (Cf. sense 10.) Instrumentality, operation as an instrument, method, or proximate cause. Only in certain phrases: see 14.

14. Adverbial, prepositional, and conjunctional phrases.

a. *By all (manner of) means*: (*a*) in every possible way; (*b*) at any cost, without fail; (*c*) used to emphasize a permission, request, or injunction, = 'certainly'.

(*a*) 1491 *Act 7 Hen. VII*, c. 11 § 1 Ye verily intendyng..to aredie yourself by all meanes to you possible..to invade upon your and our auncien ennemyes. *c* 1520 Barclay *Jugurth* (1557) 70 b, He..by all maner meanes made pronysion for bym selfe. 1596 Dalaymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scott.* I. 129 To this end they labouret be al meines possible.

(*b*) 1611 Bible *Acts* xviii. 21, I must by all meanes keepe this feast. 1754 Chatham *Lett. Nephew* 35 The trick of laughing frivolously is by all means to be avoided.

(*c*) 1693 *Humours Town* 31 By all means, Sir, Object and Return, as often as you please. 1774 Foote *Cozeners* II. Wks. 1799 II. 168 *Flaw.* I'll run before, and prepare Mrs. Fleece'em. *Mrs. Air.* By all manner of means. 1844 Disraeli *Coningsby* III. iii, Tell it us by all means. 1874 Ruskin *Fors Clav.* xlii. 125 Yes, in God's name, and by all manner of means. 1895 *Law Times* C. 101/2 By all means let the [County] Council drift rudderless.

b. *By any (manner of) means* (or †*mean*): (*a*) in any way, anyhow, at all; † (*b*) by all means.

(*a*) *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* XI. 207 A band thai maid..to wyrk his confusioun, Be ony meyn. 1474 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 117/2 Undelyvered by any meane unto you. *c* 1520 Barclay *Jugurth* (1557) 57 b, He lost more people by this way than by any other meane before. 1537 in *Lett. Suppress. Monast.* (Camden) 153 In as large and ample maner and

forme as ever I had or aught to have of and in the same or any part or parcell therof by ony maner of meanes. 1567 J. Sanford *Epictetus* 24 Occasion cannot be given by any maner of meanes, nor any arte. 1611 Bible *Ps.* xlix. 7 None of them can by any meanes redeeme his brother. 1809 W. Irving *Knickerb.* v. iv. (1849) 278, I do not by any means pretend to claim the merit. 1873 Ruskin *Fors Clav.* xlv. 193 Not by any manner of means. 1893 R. Williams in H. D. Traill *Soc. Eng.* i. 32 She was not, however, by any means the only female deity.

(*b*) 1610 B. Jonson *Alch.* v. ii, Yes, tell her, She must by any meanes addresse some present To th' cunning man. 1616 — *Devil an Ass* v. v, *Mer.* Yes, Sir, and send for his wife. *Eve.* And the two Sorcerers, By any meanes!

c. *By no means* (or † *mean*), *by no manner of means* (or † *mean*), † *by no manner mean*: (*a*) in no way, not at all; (*b*) on no account.

(*a*) 1442 T. Beckington *Corr.* (Rolls) II. 214 Your said adversary by no manner of meen may be induced to graunte us his lettres of saufcondeuct. 1472 J. Paston in *P. Lett.* III. 35, I can not yet make my pesse wyth my Lord of Norffolk..by no meane. *c* 1520 Barclay *Jugurth* (1557) 40 This town could by no meanes be well besyged nor taken. 1564 *Brief Exam.* ****ij, They are not to be reiected, as yf they were by no maner of meanes in the worde of God. 1782 Miss Burney *Cecilia* ix. i, I am by no means an approver of that mode of proceeding. 1893 Gunter *Miss Dividends* 102 The young men are looking at each other with by no means kindly eyes. 1893 Swinburne *Stud. Prose & Poetry* (1894) 111 *Basil* is by no manner of means an impeccable work of imperishable art.

(*b*) 1509 Barclay *Ship of Folys* (1570) 123 And if hir husbande to any thinge agree By no maner meane will she therto encline. 1600 J. Pory tr. *Leo's Africa* III. 161 They will by no meanes vouchsafe to marie their daughters vnto them. 1625 Bacon *Ess., Gard.* (Arb.) 563 But these to be, by no Meanes, set too thicke. 1711 Steele *Spect.* No. 51 ¶ 1 Such an Image as this ought, by no means, to be presented to a Chaste and Regular Audience. 1864 J. H. Newman *Apol.* 35 What word should I have used twenty years ago instead of 'Protestant?' 'Roman' or 'Romish?' by no manner of means. 1879 M. Arnold *Mixed Ess., Falkland* 232 Shall we blame him for his lucidity of mind, and largeness of temper? By no means.

d. *By this* or *that means* (or † *mean*): (*a*) by means of this or that; in this or that way; thus.

c 1520 Barclay *Jugurth* (1557) 117 By this meanes shal they be muche beholden to you. 1568 Grafton *Chron.* II. 11 That he might preferre Normans to the rule of the Church ..and by that meane stand in the more suretie of his estate. 1629 Maxwell tr. *Herodian* (1635) 372 By that meanes you shall take away that most odious and hideous tyrant Maximine. 1667 Sprat *Hist. R. Soc.* 100 By this means, they will accomplish their main Design. 1750 Beawes *Lex. Mercat.* (1752) 1 When by this means an aggregated number swelled to too great a magnitude..they were compelled to seek for remoter helps by commerce. 1825 Coleridge *Aids Refl.* (1848) I. 31 By this mean, and scarcely without it, you will at length acquire a facility in detecting the *quid pro quo*.

† (*b*) In consequence, consequently.

c 1520 Barclay *Jugurth* (1557) 52 Because Iugurth was on the small hyll before hym, and by that meane on the hyer ground.

† **e.** *By some manner of means*: 'by hook or by crook'. *Obs.*

1573 Tusser *Husb.* (1878) 88 Friend, harrow in time, by some maner of meanes, not onely thy peason, but also thy beanes.

f. *By* or *through* († *the*) *means* (or † *mean*) *of*: (*a*) by the instrumentality of (a person or thing).

1427 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 326/2 Hit belanged unto you of ryg3t, as wel be ye mene of your birth. *c* 1450 *Merlin* 20 Thow purchacest a-corde be-twene the and thi husbonde, by mene of the person hym-self, for to hyde yowre counseill. 1530 Palsgr. 611/2 Se how moche this chambre is lyghtenned by meane of one torche. 1560 A. L. tr. *Calvin's Foure Serm. Songe Ezech.* Epist., By meane of whose aide..he findeth himselfe holpen. 1611 Bible *Heb.* ix. 15 By meanes of death..they which are called, might receiue the promise of eternall inheritance. 1653 Ld. Vaux tr. *Godeau's St. Paul* A ij, Having obtained by meanes of your most noble Lady, a view of this choise piece [etc.]. 1736 Butler *Anal.* I. ii. Wks. 1874 I. 35, I know not, that we have any one kind ..of enjoyment, but by the means of our own actions. 1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* VIII. xiii, He had succeeded so far as to find me out by means of an accident. 1807 Miss Mitford in L'Estrange *Life* (1870) I. 67, I hoped that through his means you would get acquainted with Walter Scott.

† (*b*) In consequence of, by reason of, owing to.

1439 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 32/2 Hynderyng and clamour of the said diverse of your communes, be mene of the said purvyance. 1526 Skelton *Magnyf.* 1441 That was by the menys of to moche lyberte. 1568 Grafton *Chron.* I. 151 He also amended many things..that had beene long time out of frame, by meane of the Danes. *a* 1626 Bacon *New Atl.* (1900) 11 By meanes of our solitary Situation..we know well most part of the Habitable World, and are our selues vnknowne. 1688 R. Holme *Armoury* III. 320/2 By means of this cover he is very rarely wet on his Body. 1726 G. Roberts *Four Years' Voy.* 13 He could not yet hold a Pen in his Hand by means of his late Sickness.

† **g.** *By* (*the*) *means* (*that*): for the reason that, because, since. *Obs.*

1550 Crowley *Last Trumpet* 1083 White meate beareth a greate pryce Which some men thinke is by the meane That fermes be found such marchaundise. 1565 Sparke in *Hawkins' Voy.* (1878) 24 But sure we were that the armie was come downe, by means that in the euening we sawe such a monstrous fire. 1596 Harington *Apology* (1814) 36, I guessed at his meaning by means I had once some smattering of the Latin tongue. 1599 — *Nugæ Ant.* (1804) I. 257 By means the weather falls out so monstrous wet as the like hath not been seen.

15. *attrib.* and *Comb.* as (in sense 10 c) *means-maker, -using*; † **mean-keeper** (cf. sense 1 b), one who observes moderation; † **mean-keeping**, moderation; † **means-making** (cf. sense 13 b), intercession, use of interest or influence on a person's behalf.

1553 Grimalde *Cicero's Offices* I. (1558) 62 In which thynges ther must doutlesse be used a measure that to a meankepyng [L. *ad mediocritatem*] muste be reduced. *Ibid.* II. 98 Soon after Lucius Crassus with Quinctus Mutius, the greatest meanekeper [L. *moderatissimo*] of all men, kept the time of their Edile office most royally. 1617 Bacon *Sp. on taking his place in Chancery* in *Resuscit.* 84 It will also avoid all Means-making, or Labouring; For there ought to be no Labouring in Causes but the Labouring of the Counsell at the Barr. 1625 — *Apoph.* § 8 Wks. 1825 I. 351 His wife, by her suit and means making, made his peace. 1640 Fuller *Joseph's Coat*, etc. 172 Looke not..on the meanes but on the Meanes-maker. 1642 Rogers *Naaman* 146 What, but our ascribing to ourselves in our means-using, makes them so unfruitful?

Mean (mēn), *a.*[1] and *adv.*[1] Forms: 3 meane, 3–4 mene, 4–5 meen, 5 mean. [App. repr. (with normal loss of prefix) the earlier I-MENE, OE. *gemǽne* = OFris. *gemêne*, OS. *gimêni* (MLG. *gemeine*, MDu. *gemêne*, Du. *gemeen*), OHG. *gimeini* (MHG. *gemeine*, mod.G. *gemein*; Sw., Da. *gemen* from Ger.), Goth. *gamains*:—OTeut. **ga-maini-*, f. *ga-* copulative prefix (synonymous with L. *com-*) + **maini-*:—pre-Teut. **moini-* in L. *commūnis* (:—**com-moini-s*) Common *a.*

The pre-Teut. **moini-* is believed to be a ppl. derivative of the root **mei-, moi-* (as in L. *mūtāre* :—**moitāre*) to change, whence L. *mūnus* (:—**moinos*) reward, gift, and perh. (with the notion of change for the worse) OTeut. **maino-* wicked, Man *a.*

The primary sense of Teut. **gamaini-*, as of L. *commūnis*, is 'possessed jointly', 'belonging equally to a number of persons'. In OE., and in the early stages of the other Teut. languages, this was substantially the only sense; but in ME., as in Du. and Ger., it underwent a development corresponding to that of Common *a.*, so that it acquired the senses of 'ordinary', 'not exceptionally good', 'inferior'. In English this development was furthered by the fact that the native word coincided in form with the word adopted from OF. *meien, meen* (see Mean *a.*[2]) middle, 'middling', which was often used in a disparaging or reproachful sense. The uses in branch II below might be referred almost equally well to the native and to the foreign adj.; the truth is prob. that they are of mixed ancestry.

It is often supposed that the sense-development of the word has been influenced by OE. *mǽne* false, wicked (cogn. w. *mán* Man *sb.*[2] and *a.*); but this does not seem possible, as this adj. did not survive into ME., while the moral senses of *mean* do not appear before the mod.Eng. period.]

I. 1. Common to two or more persons or things; possessed jointly. *In mean*: in common. *To go mean*: to act as partners, to share. *Obs.* exc. *dial.* (see E. D. D.).

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 179 Al þat hie bi ben, hie hauen of here [*sc.* underlinges] mene swinche. *a* 1240 *Sawles Warde* in *Cott. Hom.* 261 Sei us nu hwuch blisse is to alle iliche meane. *c* 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) xiii. 59 Þai hald a lawe in meen betwene vs and þe Grekez. *a* 1598 D. Ferguson *Prov.* (1785) 6 A mein pot plaid never even. 1730 Walkden *Diary* (1866) 94 That we would go mean at ploughing. *Ibid.* 116 We concluded to get John Dickenson to measure our ground we had plowed mean.

II. Inferior in rank or quality.

† **2.** Of persons, their rank or station: Undistinguished in position; of low degree; often opposed to *noble* or *gentle*. (Cf. Common *a.* 12.) *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 13272 Nu ches felaus wil he bigin, Bot noght o riche kinges kin,..Bot mene men o pour lijf. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 168 Þe mene folk (comonly fulle gode men & wise) Com to his mercy. — *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 11202 Þe legat; and oþer bischopes of mener stat. *c* 1420 *Liber Cocorum* (1862) 7 Take black sugur for mener menne. 1483 Caxton *G. de la Tour* A viij b, Therfor my fayre daughters shewe your curtosye unto the mene and smal peple. 1568 Grafton *Chron.* II. 154 The Commons (specially such as were of the meaner sort) cryed vpon Thomas fitz Thomas. 1586 J. Hooker *Hist. Irel.* in *Holinshed* II. 128/1 The opinion..and judgement of a meane burgesse, is of as great availe as is the best lords. 1600 Dekker *Gentle Craft* Wks. 1873 I. 19 O love, how powerfull art thou, that canst change..a noble mind To the meane semblance of a shoomaker. 1606 Shaks. *Ant. & Cl.* II. v. 82 These hands do lacke Nobility, that they strike A meaner then my selfe. *a* 1626 Bacon *Chr. Paradoxes* Wks. 1879 I. 341 He bears a lofty spirit in a mean condition. 1675 Evelyn *Diary* 22 Mar., Sir William [Petty] was the sonn of a meane man some where in Sussex. 1701 De Foe *True-born Eng.* 35 The meanest English Plowman studies Law. 1774 *Chesterfield's Lett.* (1792) I. xliv. 141 A mean fellow..is ashamed when he comes into good company. 1827 Roberts *Voy. Centr. Amer.* 225 The meanest persons smoke tobacco.

transf. 1752 Hume *Ess. & Treat.* (1777) I. 198 Where women..are bought and sold, like the meanest animal. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) II. 9 As to animals of a meaner rank..they very soon alter their natures with the nature of their nourishment.

† **b.** Poor, badly off. *Obs.*

1362 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. Prol. 18 Alle maner of men the mene and the riche. 1558 in Strype *Ann. Ref.* (1709) I. App. iv. 5 Of..Men meaner in substance. 1685 Bunyan *Bk. Boys & Girls* (repr.) 1 Thou shalt not steal, though thou be very mean. *a* 1707 Bp. Patrick *Autobiog.* (1839) 11 My father was so mean then, he could not otherwise maintain me. 1776 Adam Smith *W. N.* I. xi. (1869) I. 162 The circumstances of gardeners, generally mean, and always moderate.

c. Inferior, 'poor', in ability, learning, etc. *Obs.* exc. in phr. (*to*) *the meanest understanding* (*capacity*, etc.) and as in 4.

1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) III. 93 Þe comyn lettre of Mathew is ful skars for mene men myȝte vnderstonde. 1590 Stockwell *Rules Construct.* A iv, Most cleare and easie for the capacitie of the verie meanest. 1621 Brathwait *Nat. Embassie* Ded., The meanest Menalchas that is able to play upon an oaten pipe. 1678 (*title*) Cockers Arithmetick, being a plain and familiar Method suitable to the meanest capacity. 1711 Hearne *Collect.* (O.H.S.) III. 133 A mean man, and..altogether unqualify'd for a Critick. 1719 F. Haer *Ch. Authority Vind.* 39 Many [parts of Scripture] are plain and easy to the meanest understanding. 1738 Neal *Hist. Purit.* IV. 347 Most of them were very mean Divines.

† **d.** Of conditions: Abject, debased. *Obs.*

c 1680 Beveridge *Serm.* (1729) II. 547 Our frail and mean condition..requires us to pray always.

e. *Mean white*: a term of contempt applied to the poor and landless white men in the Southern United States, who in the days of slavery were regarded by the negroes as inferior to themselves.

1837 Ht. Martineau *Soc. Amer.* II. 311 There are a few, called by the slaves 'mean whites', signifying whites who work with the hands. *transf.* 1887 Rider Haggard *Jess* iv, You must have a gentleman. Your mean white will never get anything out of a Kafir.

3. Of things: † **a.** Poor in quality; of little value; inferior. *Obs.*

1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. VI. 185 Lete hem ete with hogges,.. Or elles melke and mene ale. 1647 Clarendon *Hist. Reb.* VII. § 24 The Fortifications were very mean to endure a form'd siege. 1669 Worlidge *Syst. Agric.* (1681) 260 Although the Bream be esteem'd as a mean Fish. 1766 *Compl. Farmer* s.v. *Vinegar*, The cyder (the meanest of which will serve the purpose) is first to be drawn off fine. 1770 Langhorne *Plutarch's Lives* (1879) II. 1059/1 Those poor Caunians had about two quarts of bad water in a mean bottle.

b. Petty, unimportant; inconsiderable. ? *Obs.*

1585 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* II. viii. 41 Foure other officers..to looke vnto the old and new buildings, and other meane & pollitike affayres [Fr. *et autres menuz affaires politiques*]. 1599 *Warn. Faire Wom.* II. 1510 For such a fault too meane a recompence. 1726 Leoni *Alberti's Archit., Life* 2 He cou'd discourse..of common and mean things with..pleasantness. 1745 *De Foe's Eng. Tradesman* II. xlix. 220 The cider trade may perhaps be thought a trifle too mean to be mentioned here. 1754 Gray *Pleasure* 49 The meanest flowret of the vale. [1807 Wordsw. *Ode Intim. Immort.*, The meanest flower that blows.]

c. Undignified, low. Of literary style, etc.: Wanting in elevation; formerly sometimes without reproachful sense, † unambitious, unadorned.

a 1400–50 *Alexander* 3464 Al be þe metire bot mene þus mekill haue I ioyned. *a* 1568 Ascham *Scholem.* II. (Arb.) 144 The meter and verse of Plautus and Terence be verie meane. 1586 A. Day *Eng. Secretary* I. (1625) 8 An Epistle ..should..be simple, plaine, and of the lowest & meanest stile. 1610 Shaks. *Temp.* III. i. 4. 1650 Marvell *Horatian Ode* 57 He nothing common did or mean, Upon that memorable scene. 1659 Hammond *On Ps.* lx. 6 The wash-pot, we know, is a mean part of household-stuffe. 1676 Evelyn *Diary* 19 July, Sir William Sanderson..author of two large but meane histories of King Iames and King Charles the First. 1751 Johnson *Rambler* No. 168 ¶ 3 A mean term never fails to displease him to whom it appears mean. 1789 Burney *Hist. Mus.* III. i, In these Lamentations..the poetry is too mean and gloomy for any but modern saints or methodists. 1823 Lamb *Elia* Ser. II. *Poor Relations*, He will thrust in some mean and unimportant anecdote of the family.

d. Of buildings, attire, ornament, personal appearance, etc.: The reverse of imposing, shabby.

1600 J. Pory tr. *Leo's Africa* III. 156 A suburbe..the houses whereof are but meane, and the inhabitants base. 1769 *De Foe's Tour Gt. Brit.* (ed. 7) II. 4 Camelford is a mean but ancient Borough-town. 1855 S. Brooks *Aspen Crt.* I. x. 142 Around which the meaner houses and shops of the present day clustered. 1871 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* (1876) IV. xvii. 92 The robes of state..made all that France..had beheld of the same kind seem mean by comparison. 1874 Micklethwaite *Mod. Par. Churches* 245 Let not your altar be mean and your stove conspicuous.

¶ **4.** *No mean* —: often = 'no contemptible', applied eulogistically to a person or thing.

1596 Shaks. *Merch. V.* I. ii. 7 (1st Q° 1600) It is no meane [1623 small] happinesse therefore to be seated in the meane. 1611 Bible *Acts* xxi. 39 A citizen of no meane citie. 1678 Butler *Hud.* III. iii. 245 Hence timely Running's no mean part Of Conduct, in the Martial Art. 1708 J. Philips *Cyder* I. 589 The Roman Legions and great Cæsar found Our Fathers no mean Foes. 1791 Boswell *Johnson* (1831) I. 136 His correspondence with him, during many years, proves that he had no mean opinion of him. 1875 E. White *Life in Christ* II. xvii. (1878) 224 *note*, Mr. Cox, himself no mean Rabbinical scholar, adds [etc.].

5. Of persons, their characters and actions: Destitute of moral dignity or elevation; ignoble, small-minded.

1665 Boyle *Occas. Refl.* IV. xii. (1848) 243 The Sublimity of such a Condition would make any Soul, that is not very mean, despise many mean things. 1724 Ramsay *Vision* xi, He..did me rebuke, For being of sprite sae mein. 1734 Pope *Ess. Man* IV. 282 Think how Bacon shin'd, The wisest, brightest, meanest of mankind. 1741 Middleton *Cicero* I. vi. 449 A mean submission to illegal power. 1768 Sterne *Sent. Journ.* (1778) II. 39 (*Address*), How many mean plans ..did my servile heart form! 1771 *Junius Lett.* xlix, The meanest and the basest fellow in the kingdom. 1815 W. H. Ireland *Scribleomania* 25 Rhymsters who..meanest actions eulogize. 1830 D'Israeli *Chas. I*, III. viii. 187 Charles the Second..was mean enough to suspend her pension. 1874 Green *Short Hist.* viii. § 2. 469 James had meaner motives for his policy of peace than a hatred of bloodshedding. 1888 Bryce *Amer. Commw.* III. xcv. 336 Good citizens who were occupied in .. more engrossing ways, allowed politics to fall into the hands of mean men.

b. *U.S. colloq.* In trivial applications: 'Dis-

obliging, pettily offensive or unaccommodating' (*Cent. Dict.*). Also, *To feel mean*: to feel ashamed of one's conduct, to feel guilty of unfairness or unkindness.

1839 MARRYAT *Diary Amer.* Ser. 1. II. 224 Mean is occasionally used for ashamed. 'I never felt so mean in all my life'.

c. *U. S. slang.* Of a horse, etc.: Vicious.

1848 *Georgia Scenes* 27 He'll cut the same capers there as here. He's a monstrous mean horse. 1887 F. FRANCIS Jun. *Saddle & Mocassin* 146 He [a cowboy] gets allfired mean sometimes when he's full. 1888 ROOSEVELT in *Century Mag.* Oct. 836/1 There can be no greater provocation than is given by a 'mean' horse or a refractory steer.

6. Penurious, wanting in liberality, 'stingy'.

1755–1822 [implied in MEANNESS1 5]. 1860 in WORCESTER. 1872 T. L. CUYLER *Heart-Culture* 96 The meanest of misers is he who hoards a truth. 1876 GEO. ELIOT *Dan. Der.* XXXV, At least he is not mean about money.

7. *Comb.*: parasynthetic, as *mean-apparelled, -conditioned, -gifted, -souled, -spirited, -witted* adjs.; whence *mean-spiritedness*, etc.; predicative, as *mean-born, -looking* adjs; adverbial, as † *mean-dressed* adj.

1534 MORE *Comf. agst. Trib.* I. xii. (1847) 40 Mean-witted men. 1593 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. VI*, III. i. 335 Let pale-fac't feare keepe with the meane-borne man. 1596 — *Tam. Shr.* III. ii. 75 Oftentimes he goes but meane-apparel'd. *a* 1620 J. DYKE *Worthy Commun.* (1640) 81 Shall a poore, mean conditioned woman refuse the offer of a Rich husband. *a* 1683 OLDHAM *Poet. Wks.* (1686) 103 Mean-soul'd offenders now no honours gain. 1694 F. BRAGGE *Disc. Parables* viii. 293 Away with that mean-spirited religion. 1699 M. HENRY *Meekness of Spirit* (1822) 63 Meekness is commonly despised as a piece of cowardice and mean-spiritedness. 1740–87 *Lett. Miss Talbot* etc. (1808) 19 A mean dressed man got into a tree, and from thence harangued them. 1782 MISS BURNEY *Cecilia* v. vi., Here a mean-looking man..came up to Mr. Hobson. 1824 T. FENBY *Refl.* iii, Fortune's meaner-gifted, homely maids.

† B. *adv.* = MEANLY. *Obs.*

a 1626 BACON *Chr. Paradoxes* Wks. 1879 I. 341 When he is ablest, he thinks meanest of himself. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* II. (Globe) 553 If he fed them meaner than he was fed himself..they must fare very coarsely indeed.

Mean (mīn), *a.*2 and *adv.*2 Forms: 4–6 men, 4–5 meene, 4–6 mene, 4–7 meane, 5 meen, meyn, 5–6 meyne, mæne, meaine, *Sc.* meine, 6–7 *Sc.* mein, 5– mean. See also MESNE, MOYEN. [a. OF. *men, meen, meien, moien* (mod.F. *moyen*) = Pr. *meian*, Sp., Pg. *mediano*, It. *mezzano*:— late L. *mediānus* that is in the middle, f. *medius* middle: see MID *a.*] A. *adj.*

† 1. Occupying a middle or an intermediate place in order of enumeration or in spatial position. *Mean term* (Logic) = 'middle term'. *Obs.*

1340 *Ayenb.* 122 And al alsuo ase ine henene heþ þri stages of uolke..huer-of þe on is heȝere þe oþer men þe þridde loȝest. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 270 Crist, mene persone in trinyte. 1435 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 493/1 To repaire unto Pruce, and to the Townes of the mene Hans. 1541 R. COPLAND *Guydon's Quest. Chirurg.* E ij, The places called lacune..be in the meane ventrycle. 1541 *Act* 33 *Hen. VIII*, c. 15 Al places meane betwene Manchester and Westchester. 1727–52 CHAMBERS *Cycl., Medium*, in logic, or medium of a syllogism, called also the *mean*, or *middle term*. 1822 G. ROLANDO *Fencing* (ed. Forsyth) 100 The Counter of Carte parade..parries, the wrist in the mean position inclined outside the arm, the following thrusts.

† b. *Mus.* Applied to the tenor and alto parts and the tenor clef, as intermediate between the bass and treble. *Obs.*

1597 MORLEY *Introd. Mus.* 17 An example of augmentation..in the Treble and Meane parts. 1674 PLAYFORD *Skill Mus.* I. i. 2 Three several Parts of Musick, into which the Scale is divided, first the Bass,.. secondly, the Mean, or middle part, and thirdly the Treble. 1721 A. MALCOLM *Treat. Mus.* xi. 333 The Treble or *g* Clef is ordinarily set on the 2*d* Line..and the mean or *c* Clef on the 3*d* Line...The mean Clef which most frequently changes Place.

† c. *In the mean way*: on the way, in the course of one's journey. *Obs.*

1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 559 The Erle of Arundell..departed to Mauns, and in the meane way, tooke the Castels of Mellay and saint Laurence. *Ibid.* 563 In the meane way they encountered with syr Thomas Kiriell [etc.]. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 837 In the meane way they passed by the Tapemiry Paraibæ [etc.].

2. Intermediate in time; coming between two points of time or two events; intervening. Now only in phrases *in the mean time, while* (see MEANTIME, MEANWHILE); formerly, in the same sense, † *in the mean season, space, way*. Also with omission of prep., † *the mean season*, † *mean space*; and MEANTIME, MEANWHILE *advs.*

1464 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 569/2 Aswell for the sustentation of youre people of the seid Townes, as of all youre people of youre Shires in the mean waye. *c* 1500 *Melusine* 347 And þat meane sayson came two knightes to Lucembourgh. 1519 *Interl. Four Elem.* (Percy Soc.) 50 And for lacke of mynstrelles, the mean season, Now wyll we begyn to syng. 1532 MORE *Conf. Tindale* Wks. 460/1 In the meane waye marke me this. 1539 CROMWELL in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) II. 216, I have in this meane space devised a fourme of Instructions for Mr. Sadleyer. 1600 *Maydes Metam.* v. in Bond *Lyly's Wks.* (1902) III. 386 Meane space, vpon his Harpe will Phœbus play. 1606 G. W[OODCOCKE] *Hist. Iustine* VI. 32 Meane space word was brought that Agesilaus was very neere at hand. 1627 J. CARTER *Plain Expos.* 112 When the performance of Gods promise is long delayed, and nothing almost appeareth in the meane season,..then [etc.]. *a* 1677 HALE *Prim. Orig. Man.* 305 There was no mean portion of Time between their Formation and Animation,.. they were living Beings..as soon as they were formed. 1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) III. 83 In the mean space..Jenkins had bis right leg..carried off by a cannon shot.

3. *Law.* Intermediate, either in time or status. Usually spelt MESNE.

1439 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 15/2 To be holden mene betwene ye date of ye seide Writ, and ye day of ye returne yerof. 1509–10 *Act* 1 *Hen. VIII*, c. 12 § 2 They..shall nott be restored to any meane issues or Profyttes of Landes. 1535 *Act* 27 *Hen. VIII*, c. 22 The lordes immedint & thother meane lords haue not put the..acte in dewe and plaine execucion. 1548 STAUNFORD *King's Prerog.* (1567) 84 b, The king shal haue the meane issues. 1670 PETTUS *Fodinæ Reg.* 20 It is good for Princes, and even for mean Lords, to keep a Claim to their Prerogatives and Customes. 1700 *Col. Rec. Pennsylv.* II. 9 Griffith Jones, first purchaser and Henry Elfrith mean purchaser under him complain. 1707 E. CHAMBERLAYNE *Pres. St. Eng.* II. ii. 78 If the mean Patron present not in due Time.., the Right of Presentation comes to the King.

† 4. Intermediary; employed as an agent or 'go-between'; serving as a means or instrument; done for an ulterior end; intervening as part of a process. Also *mean way*: the course adopted to achieve an end. *Obs.*

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. IX. 112 Þe wyf was made þe weye for to help worche, And þus was wedloke ywrouȝt with a mene persone. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 278 þat þe sotil amortasynge of seculer lordischipis þat is don bi menene [*?read* mene] hondis in fraude of þe statute be visely enquyred. 1382 — *Gen.* xlii. 23 Bi a mene persone vndoynge both the langagis [L. *per interpretem*]. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 205 Bothe þe theef & þe rauenere owyn to aske forȝifnesse slely be hem-self, or be an-oþer meen persone. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* III. ix. 332 Crist ȝaf mediatli, (that is to seie, bi meene ȝiftis to his clergie,) the endewing of immouable godis. 1451 *Paston Lett.* I. 215, I proferid hym..ye wold.. leve a summe if he wold a named it in a mene mannys hand, and seche as he hath trust to. 1509 FISHER *Funeral Serm. C'tess Richmond* Wks. (1876) 296 Oftentymes by herself she wolde..courage euery of them to doo well. And somtyme by other meane persones. 1549 RIDLEY *Let. to Somerset* in R. Potts *Liber Cantabr.* (1855) I. 245-6 No faut can be found ether in hir entent or in the mean ways whearby she wrought to accomplishe the same. 1563 *Homilies* II. *Peril of Idolatry* III. (1859) 228 To be mean intercessors and helpers to God. 1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* 55 The mutation or change of blood into a bone, cannot be accomplished but by long interpolation and many meane alterations.

5. Intermediate in kind, quality, or degree. Now *rare*.

1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 3187 Þa er veniel synnes þat may falle, Bathe grete and smale, and men with-alle. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* VI. 347 For-thi has vorschip sic renoune That it is mene [*ed. Hart* mid] betuix thai tua [*sc.* 'fule-hardyment' and 'cowardiss']. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XIX. vii. (1495) 865 Aristotle rehercith thise fyue meane coloures by name: and callith the fyrste yelowe and the seconde cytryne and the thyrde red the fourth purpure and the fyfthe grene. 1551 TURNER *Herbal* I. (1568) 12 Venus heyre is in mean tempre betwene hote and colde. 1587 HARRISON *Eng.* I. vi. 14/1 in *Holinshed*, Ours is a meane language, and neither too rough nor too smooth in vtterance. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 328 Of this Sinopis..there be three kindes, the deepe red, the pale or weake red, and the meane between both. 1610 WILLET *Hexapla Dan.* 297 The meane opinion betweene these is the best. 1656 STANLEY *Hist. Philos.* IV. (1701) 134/2 Of affections, some are pleasant, some harsh and troublesome, some mean:..the mean are neither good nor ill. 1703 T. N. *City & C. Purchaser* 131 Sculpture..wherein the Figure sticks out from the Plain wherein it is Engraven,..according as it is more or less protuberant, is call'd..Bas-relief, Mean-relief, or High-relief. 1871 MORLEY *Crit. Misc.* Ser. I. *Vauvenargues* (1878) 20 We must take them in pairs to find out the mean truth. 1888 BRYCE *Amer. Commw.* III. c. 414 Many experiments may be needed before the true mean course between these extremes is discovered.

† b. *Mean way* [= L. *via media*]: a middle course (as an escape from a proposed alternative).

c 1374 CHAUCER *Anel. & Arc.* 286 Ther ben non other mene weyes newe. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 4844 Men this thenken ..That lasse harm is..Disceyve them, than disceyved be.. wher they ne may Finde non other mene wey. *c* 1407 LYDG. *Reas. & Sens.* 4667 Ther was non other mene weye. 1706 Z. CRADOCK *Serm. Charity* (1740) 17 All the mean way partakes more or less..of both the opposite extreams.

† c. *spec.* (*a*) said of the middle condition between extremes of fortune; (*b*) said of the married state as contrasted with continence on the one hand and unchastity on the other. *Obs.*

c 1540 R. MORICE in *Lett. Lit. Men* (Camden) 24 If he coulde not lyve chast..he shoulde tak a wif and lyve a meane lyf. *a* 1541 WYATT in *Tottel's Misc.* (Arb.) 83 (*title*) Of the meane and sure estate.

6. Not far above or below the average; moderate, mediocre, middling.

† a. Of or with reference to size, stature, or age.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* V. 806 Criseyde mene was of here stature. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* V. XXV. (1495) 134 In foure foted beestes wytb thycke bodyes and meane tbyes, the necke is shorte grete and moche strengthe of suche bestes is in the necke. 1484 CAXTON *Fables of Æsop* VI. xvi, A man of a meane age whiche tooke two wyues. 1490 — *Eneydos* xxix. 112 A meane noose, not to grete nor to lytell, wythout ouer grete openynge. 1544 PHAER *Regim. Lyfe* (1553) H viij, Gene..at euery time the quantity of a meane chesnutte. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. IV* 32 b, This kyng was of a mean stature wel proporcioned and formally compact. 1575–6 in Nichols *Progr. Eliz.* (1823) II. 2, Two mene perles pendaunte. 1579–80 *Ibid.* 290 A snake with a meane white saphire on the hedd. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* I. (1586) 13 b, Of a meane age, that he be not vnwylling to woorke for youth, nor vnable to trauayle for age. 1657 W. COLES *Adam in Eden* liii, It is of the height and bignesse of a mean tree. 1697 DAMPIER *Voy.* (1729) I. 395 Their Noses of a mean bigness.

† b. Having some quality in moderate degree. Of wines: ? Moderate in alcoholic strength. Of the voice: Moderately loud. Of soil: Moderately fertile. *Obs.*

c 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* I. 79 Yf hit [mould] be lene, hit gooth in al and more; Yf hit be mene [L. *mediocris*], hit wol be with the brinke. *c* 1450 LYDG. & BURGH *Secrees* 2647 Meene in voys neythir to grete nor smalle, Signe is of trewthe and rightwysnesse. 1542 BOORDE *Dyetary* x. (1870) 255 Meane wynes, as wynes of Gascony, Frenche wynes, & specyally Raynysshe wyne that is fyned, is good with meate. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* I. (1586) 25 After a croppe of Rye in meane ground, yon shall haue the same yeere great Rapes. 1607 NORDEN *Surv. Dial.* v. 233, I have seene thistles in meane ground. 1679 PULLER *Moder. Ch. Eng.* (1843) 115 A voice mean and grave, fit to excite devotion.

† c. Moderate in amount, or in degree of excellence; tolerable, mediocre. (In later use only with disparaging implication, and so coincident with MEAN *a.*1) *Obs.*

c 1460 *Towneley Myst.* ii. 111 My wynnyngis ar bot meyn, No wonder if that I be leyn. 1494 FABYAN *Chron.* VI. cxciv. 197 She was..but of meane fayrenesse as other women were. 1546 *Yorks. Chantry Surv.* (Surtees) II. 213 Of honest qualities and condicions, and meane lerenyng. 1551 ROBINSON tr. *More's Utop.* II. (1895) 171 The resydewe they sell at reasonable and meane price. 1580 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 308 Let thy apparell be but meane, neyther too braue..nor too base. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* XLII. lxvi. 1155 The Consull contenting himselfe with a meane good hand..retired with his forces into the campe. 1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* IV. xxxiii. 299 In that countrie it is but a meane wealth. *a* 1628 PRESTON *New Covt.* (1634) 24 It is better for thee..to have meane gifts, than to have high gifts. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* II. ii, My own house..where I should see there had been but mean improvements.

† d. Using moderation; temperate. *Obs.*

c 1425 *Eng. Conq. Irel.* 88 He was..[of] mete, & of drynke ful meen & for-berynge.

7. *Math.* a. Of an amount or value: Having such a relation to the amounts or values occurring in a given set of instances that the algebraical sum of their differences from it is zero; that is an arithmetical mean. Hence used (as in *mean motion, diameter, distance, temperature*, etc.) in concord with a designation of variable concrete quantity, to express the mean value of this. *Mean sun*: a fictitious sun, supposed for purposes of calculation to move in the celestial equator at the mean rate of the real sun. *Mean (solar) time*: the time of day as it would be shown by the 'mean sun' (the time shown by an ordinary correctly regulated clock); so *mean noon*, etc. Cf. MEAN TONE (*Mus.*).

c 1391 CHAUCER *Astrol.* II. § 44 The residue is the mene mote for the same day and the same houre. 1694 HOLDER *Disc. Time* 20 According to the Mean Motion of the Sun. 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Mean Motion* or *Mean Longitude of the Sun*, in the Ptolomaick Hypothesis, is an Ark of the Ecliptick, reckoned from the Beginning of Aries to the Line of the Sun's Mean Motion. 1709 J. WARD *Yng. Math. Guide* (1734) 455 By the Bungand Head Diameters, find such a mean Diameter as you judge will Reduce the propos'd Cask to a Cylinder. 1742–3 LD. HERVEY in *Johnson's Debates* (1787) II. 309 The produce of the customs was the last year less by half a million than the mean revenue. 1743 EMERSON *Fluxions* 299 If the mean Radius of the Earth be 21000000, then [etc.]. 1798 MALTHUS *Popul.* (1817) I. 470 In the Pays de Vaud the lowest mean life..is 29½ years. 1860 MAURY *Phys. Geog. Sea* (Low) v. § 282 Rain-ganges will give us the mean annual rain-fall. 1878 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* 200 The constant temperature being nearly the mean temperature of the surface. 1878 PETRIE in *Jrnl. Anthrop. Inst.* (1879) VIII. 113 The circle divided into equal squares is apparently not so accurate, the mean error being 7 inches on 130 feet.

b. *Mean proportional*: the middle one of three quantities, of which the first has the same ratio to the second as the second has to the third. *Extreme and mean ratio* (or † *proportion*): see EXTREME *a.* 1 b.

Originally *mean* was the sb. and *proportional* the adj. (cf. F. *moyenne proportionnelle*); but as the expression is now apprehended the functions of the words are reversed.

1571 DIGGES *Pantom., Math. Treat.* viii. X iij b, The Octaedrons side is meane proportionall betweene the diameter and semidiameter of the circumscribing sphere. 1608 R. NORTON tr. *Stevin's Disme* D iij b, Seeke the meane proportionall betweene BM and his 10 part BR.

† 8. *Gram.* Of a verb: In the middle voice, reflexive. *Obs.*

1530 PALSGR. Introd. 33 The mean verbes have also thre dyvers sortes of conjugations. *Ibid.* 632/2. 1583 FULKE *Defence* v. 151 Ἠπροῦμαι..is often taken passiuely: But seeing it is also found to be a verbe meane, who neede to be afraide to vse it actiuely?

B. *adv.*

† 1. Moderately; also, comparatively less. *Obs.*

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. ii. (1495) 595 By crafte of tyllynge..pome garnade is made meane soure. 1535 JOYE *Apol. Tindale* (Arb.) 20 Printed the new testament in a mean great volume. 1565 JEWEL *Def. Apol.* (1611) 101 A mean learned man may vnderstand it wel enough. 1576 BAKER *Jewell of Health* 231 b, When out of this yon shall have drawne a cuppe meane full,..distyll it againe in Balneo Mariæ. 1612 W. SCLATER *Minister's Portion* 42 The meane wealthy amongst their people.

2. Intermediately (in time or character).

1548 STAUNFORD *King's Prerog.* (1567) 47 For that that hee that is outlawed was emprisoned meane betweene the awardynge of the exigent and the outlawrie pronounced. 1561 T. NORTON *Calvin's Inst.* I. 54 They in going meane betwene the Philosophers opinions and the heauenly doctrine are plainly deceiued. 1577–87 HOLINSHED *Chron.* III. 1243/1 Which office it seemeth that he had, meane betweene the twelfe and the foureteenth yeare of the said king. *a* 1625 SIR H. FINCH *Law* (1636) 46 Any such thing done meane betwixt the verdict and the iudgement. 1642 tr. *Perkins' Prof. Bk.* xi. § 837. 38 If meane, after the first demand and before the latter end of the moneth the lessor doe happen to come.

Mean (mīn), *v.*[1] Pa. t. and pa. pple. **meant** (ment). Forms: 1 mǽnan, 3 mæinen, 3–7 mene, meane, 4 men, meen, 4–5 meene, 4–6 meine, *Sc.* meyn(e, 5 menne, 6–7 mein, 6– mean. *Pa. t.* a. 1 mǽnde, 3 mende, 4 meenede, mennede, 4–5 mened, 4–6 *Sc.* menit, -yt, 5 menyd, 6 *Sc.* meynd, meind, me(i)nit, 6–9 meaned, (6 *Sc.* -it); β. 4–5 mente, 4–7 ment, 6– meant. *Pa. pple.* a. 1 (ȝe)mǽned, 5 meened, 6–9 meaned; β. 4–5 yment, 5 imente, imeynt; 4–5 mente, 4–7 ment, 6– meant. [Com. WGer.: OE. *mǽnan* = OFris. *mêna* to signify, OS. *mênian* to intend, signify, make known (MLG., MDu. *mênen*, med. Du. *meenen*), OHG. *meinen* to have in mind (hence also, to love), to intend, signify, make known, mention (MHG. and mod.G. *meinen*, now chiefly, to have in one's mind, to hold or express an opinion); cf. the compounds, OS. *gimênian* to make known, OHG. *gemeinen* to proclaim, show forth, *bimeinen* to decree, destine, dedicate (whence *bimeinida* testament). The Scandinavian forms, Icel. *meina*, Sw. *mena*, Da. *mene*, are from Low German.

The W.Ger. **mainjan* is cogn. w. OFris. *mêne* opinion, OHG. *meina* fem., ? opinion (found only in Otfrid in certain phrases, *thia meina, bi thia meina*, etc., meaning 'verily', 'forsooth'). Outside Teut., the OSl. formal equivalent, *měniti*, exhibits an extraordinarily close parallelism of meaning, having all the varied senses of the OE. and OS. verb. The ultimate etymology and the order of sense-development are doubtful; the prevailing view that the root is **men-* to think (see MIND *sb.*) would account plausibly for all the recorded senses, but involves phonological difficulties that have not been satisfactorily disposed of.]

1. *trans.* To have in mind as a purpose or intention; to purpose, design. Chiefly with *inf.* as obj., less frequently with *clause* or *sb.*

In modern colloquial use sometimes: To intend with determined purpose.

For *to mean business, mischief*, see the sbs.

c 888 K. ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxxix. § 5 Þa ongan he sprecan swiðe fiorran ymbutan, swilce he na þa spræce ne mænde, & tiohhode hit ðeah þiderweardes. *c* 1300 *Leg. St. Gregory* 742 Þan alon sche left þer inne, Non wist what sche ment. 13.. *K. Alis.* 5942 Thoo had kynge Alisaunder y-ment.. The cee haue y-passed ayein. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* II. 532 (581) And syn ye woot þat myn entent is clene, Tak hede per-of, for I noon yuel mene. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xxx. 494 A! mercy, lorde, mekely, no malice we mente. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 70 b, The Duke of Saxon, and the Lantgrave,..ment to go home. 1567 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 515 Hir Majestie menit to subvert the lawis. 1612 BACON *Ess., Wisd. for Man's Self* (Arb.) 184 Except they meane their service should bee made but the accessary. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 40 These cut-throates..meant presently to returne. 1692 DRYDEN *Cleomenes* II. i. 11 Thou art only Misplanted in a base degenerate Soil; But Nature when she made thee, meant a Spartan. 1773 GOLDSM. *Stoops to Conq.* IV, You only mean to banter me. 1845 SIR C. J. NAPIER *Conq. Scinde* II. viii. 455 The Beloochs certainly meaned to break out with a counter attack. 1895 KEKEWICH in *Law Times Rep.* LXXIII. 663/2 We must not jump to the conclusion that the Legislature meant to interfere with contracts. 1904 MAJ. A. GRIFFITHS *Fifty Yrs. Publ. Service* ii. 22 Even to my young and inexperienced eyes it seemed that the attack [on the Redan] was never 'meant'.

† **b.** with ellipsis of vb. of motion. *Obs.*

c 1470 HARDING *Chron.* IX. i, With shyppes .xii. to Italy had they mente.

† **c.** To aim at, direct one's way to. *Obs. rare.*

c 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 4172 Gret schame it is..That we durst nenere Troye mene. 1633 G. HERBERT *Temple, Ch. Porch* lvi, Who aimeth at the sky Shoots higher much than he that means a tree. 1706 WATTS *Horæ Lyr.* I. 100 The muse ascends her heavenly car, And climbs the steepy path and means the throne divine.

d. To design (a thing) for a definite purpose; to intend or destine (a person or thing) to a fate or use. Const. *against, for,* † *to*; rarely *dative.* † Also with complement, to destine to be (*obs.*).

a 1400 *Octouian* 1953 The old empereesse..hadde the same jugement That sche to Florance hadde y-ment. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 242 b, This warre is not ment nor prepared against the Cyties. 1580 SIDNEY *Ps.* XXVII. v, When greate griefes to me be ment, In tabernacle his, he will Hide me. 1611 BIBLE *Gen.* l. 20 God meant it vnto good. 1634 MILTON *Comus* 765 She [*sc.* Nature] good cateress Means her provision onely to the good That liue according to her sober laws. 1639 SHIRLEY *Gent. Ven.* v. ii, Providence..made me worth a strangers piety, Whom your cho[i]ce meant the ruine of my honor. 1643 DENHAM *Cooper's Hill* 325 Fair Liberty pursu'd, and meant a Prey To lawless power, here turn'd. 1792 J. BARLOW *Conspir. Kings* 83 Why to small realms for ever rest confin'd Our great affections, meant for all mankind? 1842 BROWNING *Through the Metidja* v, Ere I pried, she [Fate] should hide..All that's meant me. 1884 W. C. SMITH *Kildrostan* 57, I think Fate meant us for each other. 1896 A. E. HOUSMAN *Shropshire Lad* lxii, Say, for what were hop-yards meant, Or why was Burton built on Trent?

e. To intend (a remark, allusion, etc.) to have a particular reference. Const. † *at*, † *by, of*, † *to.* Also † absol. *to mean by* = to intend to refer to.

In the 16th c. *to mean* (a remark or a designation) *by* (a person) was the usual expression where we now say 'to mean (such or such a person) by (a remark, etc.)', the vb. being then in sense 2.

1513 MORE *Edw. V*, Wks. 55/2 That ment he by the lordes of the quenes kindred that were taken before. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 230 b, He saied that he would leaue..suche a successour... Menyng by Tiberius. 1570 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xix. 8 Gone is the Joy and gyde of this Natioun; I mene be James, Regent of Scotland. 1596 SPENSER *State Irel.* Wks. (Globe) 621, I do not meane this by the Princes wardes. 1641 SANDERSON *Serm.* (1681) II. 184 A flaunting hyperbole, far beyond the merit of the Party he meant it to. 1749 CHESTERF. *Lett.* (1792) II. 230 He..thinks every thing that is said meant at him. 1753 *Ibid.* IV. 13 They are convinced that it was meant at them. *Mod.* I wonder whether he meant it of any one in particular.

f. *intr.* To be (*well, ill*, etc.) intentioned or disposed. Const. *to, by*, or *dative.*

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* III. 115 (164) By-sechyng hym.. þat he wolde..eke mene wel to me. *c* 1412 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 1986 But how I speke, algate I mene weel. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 332/2 Menyn yn herte, wel or evyl, *intendo.* *c* 1450 tr. *De Imitatione* I. xii. 13 Þou3 we do wel & mene wel. *c* 1590 GREENE *Fr. Bacon* vi. 9 Now shall Edward trie How Lacy meaneth to his Soueraigne Lord. 1601 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* IV. iii. 22 If you meane well Now go with me. 1628 EARLE *Microcosm., Reserv'd Man*, He..puts himselfe to a great deale of affliction to hinder their plots, and designes where they meane freely. *a* 1680 BUTLER *Rem.* (1759) I. 58 The purest Business of our Zeal Is but to err, by meaning well. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* II. xi, You seem to mean honestly. 1771 *Junius Lett.* xlv. (1820) 243 They who object to [his] last letter, either do not mean him fairly, or [etc.]. 1802 BEDDOES *Hygëia* II. 34 The projector of a new domestic medicine, meaning well by himself and the public. 1884 RIDER HAGGARD *Dawn* ii, I do not think that your cousin means kindly by you.

2. *trans.* To intend to indicate (a certain object), or to convey (a certain sense) when using some word, sentence, significant action, etc. Sometimes with *clause* as obj. In mod. use often const. *by.*

c 888 K. ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxxviii. § 2 ȝif he þara nan nyte, þonne nat he hwæt he mænð. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gen.* xviii. 20 God þa ȝeopenude Abrahame, hwæt he mid þære spræce mænde. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 11 Wat þe holie apostle meneð þo he nemnede niht and niehtes dede. *c* 1275 *Wom. Samaria* 27 in *O. E. Misc.* 85 Heo nuste hwat heo mende heo wes of wytte poure. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 12631 Quat he wit þis wordes ment, Graithli wist þai noght þe entent. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xv. (*Barnabas*) 89 Gyf ȝe will wit quhat ve meyne. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* II. 6 And sum men seien þat Crist meenide þat he himsilf..is more þan Joon Baptist. 1415 HOCCLEVE *To Sir J. Oldcastle* 1 The laddre of heuene, I meene charitee. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* I. Prol. 387 Tnichand our tongis penurite, I mene onto compair of fair Latyne [etc.]. 1530 PALSGR. 444/2 He becked at me, but I wyste nat what he ment. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 68 The twelfth day..wee rode foure miles (meaning Dutch miles). 1644 DIGBY *Nat. Bodies* xviii. § 2. 158 When we have examined this, we shall vnderstand in what sense it is meaned that Nature abhorreth from Vacuity. 1671 MILTON *P. R.* II. 6, I mean Andrew and Simon. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 136 ₱ 4, I mean by this Town the Cities of London and Westminster. 1782 MISS BURNEY *Cecilia* IV. x, In both which [*sc.* reproof and compliment] more seemed meant than met the ear. 1825 COBBETT *Rur. Rides* 442 And what is meaned by 'The fear of the Lord'? 1895 KEKEWICH in *Law Times Rep.* LXXIII. 663/1 The Act does not mean literally what it says.

b. *transf.* in questions of the form *What does* (a person) *mean* (*by* certain conduct)? i. e. 'what motive or justification has he for it?

1892 MRS. H. WARD *D. Grieve* II. iii, What, no top-coat in such weather! What do you mean by that, sir? You're wet through.

3. Of things, words, statements: To have a certain signification; to signify or import; to portend.

a 1000 *Sal. & Sat.* (Kemble) 472 Saga hwæt ic mæne. *c* 1200 ORMIN 5502 Swa þatt te33 mu3henn shæwenn 3uw All whatt itt se33þ & meneþþ. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 8 Þei wist what it ment. *a* 1400 *Cursor M.* 25395 (Cott. Galba) 'Amen', þat menes, 'so mot it be'. 1475 MARG. PASTON in *P. Lett.* III. 135 Some of them..wote full lytyll what yt meneth to be as a sauger. 1557 NORTH *Gueuara's Diall Pr.* 345 From the time I knew what meaned to governe a common weale, I have alwayes [etc.]. *a* 1584 MONTGOMERIE *Cherrie & Slae* 605 Experience came in, and speirit Quhat all the matter meind. 1611 BIBLE *Gen.* xxi. 29 What meane these seuen ewe lambes, which thou hast set hy themselues? 1622 BACON *Hen. VII* 234 His Armes were neuer Infortunate; neither did hee know what a Disaster meant. 1648 GAGE *West Ind.* x. (1655) 35 They knew not what money meaned. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* III. 275 Admiration seis'd All Heav'n, what this might mean. *Ibid.* XI. 875 But say, what mean those colourd streaks in Heavn. 1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* xxxvi, Eachin Maclan—what means all this?

† **4. a.** *trans.* To have in mind, to remember. *Obs.*

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 6674 Sone! menest þou nat what y er seyde? *c* 1420 *Anturs of Arth.* 229 Gyffe me grace for to..mene [*Douce MS.* mynge] the with messes and matynnes one morne. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xii. 1 Grete meruell is to mene Howe man was made.

† **b.** *refl.* and *intr.* Const. *of, on, upon. Obs.*

a 1300–1400 *Cursor M.* 5274 (Göttl.) Ne menis 3ou noght, nou mani a day, Of a drem ful lang siþen gan? *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 1838 He recouered his strengþe for tene, Of skaþe wold he hym no more mene. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XII. 269 Menys on 3our gret manheid. *c* 1425 *Thomas of Erceld.* 30 The Mawys menyde hir of hir songe. 1438 *Bk. Alexander Gt.* (Bann. Cl.) 67 Mene vpon 3our hecht. 1442 *Aberdeen Reg.* (1844) I. 397 It is to mene apon that..Robert Masoun, and Gilbert Masoun, oblist them ..til a honourable knight. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* XI. Prol. 172 Allthocht his lord wald meyne On his ald seruis.

† **c.** impers. *Me meaneth* = I remember. Const. *of, on. Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 16889 Vs meins quils he was in lijf þat we herd him sai þat [etc.]. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xvi. (*Magdalena*) 881 Menis þe nocht of þe ewangel, þat in þe kirk is red vmquhile of mary. *c* 1425 *St. Elizabeth of Spalbeck* in *Anglia* VIII. 118/7 Atte a dewe oure, and, as me meniþ, bytwix sexte and noon.

† **5.** *intr.* To hold or entertain an opinion; to think, imagine. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 14686 'Þou mas þe godd, and þou art man'. 'Soth it es', coth iesus þan, 'Bath i am, qua right wil men'. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 6888 'Lord', he seyde, '3ow þar nought wene, Why y am comen 3e may wel mene'. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* III. xvii. 391 Ellis Crist in the alleggid x^e. chapiter of Luk schulde haue meened aȝens him silf in the other now alleggid placis. 1533 GAU *Richt Vay* (1888) 51 Ciprianus menit that ye quyk suld be the saulis. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 31 Evirie man menit that it sould redound to his gret hurt. 1637 RUTHERFORD *Lett.* (1862) I. 221 Knots of straw and things (as they mean) off the way to heaven.

† **6.** *trans.* To say, tell, mention. *Obs.*

Beowulf 857 Dær wæs Beowulfes mærðo mæned. *c* 1205 LAY. 16333 Wel 3e hit maȝen imunen þat ich wulle mæinen. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 316 Inouh hit is to siggen so þet þe schrift feder witterliche understonde hwat tu wulle menen. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 12498 (Cott.) He had þar-for wel gret pite, And þus to ioseph it mened he. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) II. 345 Þey poetes mene þat Iupiter gildede Saturnus. *c* 1450 HOLLAND *Howlat* 756 Menstralis and musicianis, mo than I mene may. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xiv 37 The myght of me may no man mene. 1494 FABYAN *Chron.* II. xxxiv. 26 Gaufride meaneth y^t this Sicillius was but .vii. yeres of age when his Fader dyed.

† **b.** *intr.* (rarely *refl.*) To speak, tell. Chiefly const. *of, on*, Sc. and north. *by*. Cf. I c *absol. Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 24878 Hir succur son to ham sco sent, þat in sli murning on hir ment. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 1925, I wol minge of a mater i mennede of bi-fore. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 1615 (Dubl. MS.) Þai amervale þaime mekyll as menys me þe writtes [*Ashm. MS.* As þe buke tellis]. *c* 1470 HARDING *Chron.* LXXXVII. vii, All these were called Westsex, as Bede ment. ? *a* 1500 *Chester Pl., Purif.* 217 Mary, of mirth we may us meane. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* lxiv. 12, I dout that Merche, with his cauld blastis keyne, Hes slane this gentill herbe, that I of mene. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* II. 219 Richt so did he, as my author did meyne. 1562 WINȜET *Cert. Tract.* i. Wks. 1888 I. 3 We mein of the pastores of the Kirk. 1625 BP. MOUNTAGU *App. Cæsar* 196 S. Paul speaketh of Iustification in the attayning it... But S. Iames meaneth of Iustification had and obtained.

7. *Comb.*: † **mean-nothing**, a meaningless, insincere phrase.

1654 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 387, I tell you for your good, and, what is it to me?.. with many such non-significants, or mean-nothings.

† **Mean,** *v.*[2] *Obs.* (After 15th c. only *Sc.* and *north. dial.*) Forms: 1 mǽnan, 2–7 mene, 3 mæne, maine, meane, 5 meene, 5–6 *Sc.* meyn(e, 6–7 *Sc.* meine, 6– mean. [OE. *mǽnan*: see MOAN *sb.*]

1. *trans.* To complain of, lament (something); to lament for (a dead person).

c 888 K. ÆLFRED *Boeth.* iv. (*heading*), Hu Boetius hine singende ȝebæd, & his earfoðu to Gode mænde. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 33 Gif þu me dest woh.. ic hit mene to mine lauerde. *c* 1205 LAY. 2438, & swiðe heo hit mænde to alle monnen. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 224 ȝif heo edmodliche mened hire neode. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* IX. 300 Eftir that, neir fifty ȝheir, Men menyt the heirschip of Bouchane. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xii. (*Mathias*) 203 Scho menyt ofte rycht sare hyr a sowne. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 2596 My greet unese ful ofte I mene. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* IX. v. 157 The Troianis ..With tender hartis menand Ewrialus. 1536 BELLENDEN *Cron. Scot.* (1821) II. 289 Becaus this Duncane wes ane tyrane..few menit his slauchter. 1599 JAS. I Βασιλ. Δωρον (1682) 20 His fall is but little meaned by the rest of his subjects.

b. With cognate obj.: *To mean* (one's) *moan*, (one's) *complaint.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 4277 (Cott.) Oft sco meind til him hir mane. *a* 1300–1400 *Ibid.* 8159 (Göttl.) Unese had he menid his mode, þat a lem fra þe wandes stode. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 2440 [Lear] ment his mone euen & morwe. 14.. HARDING *Chron.* Pref. (1812) 5 To none other my complaynte can I mene.

c. To pity.

c 1440 *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 186 If þou be sijk, y schal þee hele; If þou moorne ou3t, y schal þee meene. 1508 DUNBAR *Tua mariit Wemen* 501, I am so mercifull in mynd, et menys all wichtis. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* II. 541 The husband men full lytill now ar ment, Quhome be we ar vphaldin and sustent. *c* 1560 A. SCOTT *Poems* (S. T. S.) xxvi. 32 Thay wald be menit, and no man menis. 1603 *Philotus* clxv, I grant indeid thair will na man me meine, For I my self am authour of my greif.

d. In predicative phrase, *to mean*: to be deplored or pitied.

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 335 Allas! it was to mene, his vertuz & his pruesse So fele in him were sene, þat perist for falsnesse. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* (1858) I. 16 Quhairfoir thair mister wes the moir to mene. 1719 RAMSAY *3rd Answ. Hamilton* x, An fowk can get A doll of rost beef.. And be na sick.. They're no to mean. 1788 R. GALLOWAY *Poems* 132 Yes, said the king, we're no to mean, We live baith warm, and snug, and bien.

2. *intr.* To lament, mourn; to complain.

c 888 K. Ælfred *Boeth.* xi. § 1 Þu simle mid wope & mid unrotnesse mænst ġif þe ænies willan wana hið. *c* 1205 Lay. 29613 Þa wolde he þer after sone wenden to Rome and menen to Gregorie. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 274 So þet heo mei weopen & menen ase sori mon, mide þe salmwurhte. *a* 1300–1400 *Cursor M.* 3059 (Gött.) Quilys scho menyd in hir mode, Confort com hir sone ful gode. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* vi. (*Thomas*) 513 Carisius .. for his vif gretly can men. *c* 1420 *Anturs of Arth.* (MS. I) 110 Hyt menet, hit musut, hyt marret. *c* 1430 *Syr Tryam.* 28 Ofte tyme togedur can they meene, For no chylde come them betwene. *c* 1560 A. Scott *Poems* (S. T. S.) xx. 22 Off all thy wo and cair It mends the not to mene. *a* 1800 *Proud Lady Marg.* v. in Scott *Minstr. Scott. Bord.* (1803) III. 276 If you should die for me, sir knight, There's few for you will meane.

b. To complain *of* (an offender).

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 362 Uor þe ueond is affuruht and offered of swuche and forði þet Job was swuch he mende of him. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1257 Hwi wulleþ men of me mene .. Þah ic hi warny al þat yer.

c. impers. *Me meaneth* = I mourn.

13.. *Guy Warw.* (A.) 433 Sore me meneþ, for me smert, Miche care is in mine hert.

d. *refl.* in the same sense.

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 17 Men þe to halie chirche, þet is to þan preoste and to þan folke. *c* 1205 Lay. 31504 And heo gunnen wenden to þan Kinge Pendan and menden heom to Pendan. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 98 Meneð ou to his earen. *c* 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 1135 Til mark he gan him mene. 1362 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. III. 163 Thenne mornede Meede and menede hire to the kyng. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 7612 The grekes for þe greuaunce..Made myche murmur & menit hom sore. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 4174 Gretely he him mened. 1790 Mrs. Wheeler *Westmld. Dial.* (1821) 62 Awr lass hed been ath shop, for a quartern ea hops, en hard him mean hissel.

3. *trans.* To state as a grievance; to represent by way of formal complaint or petition. *Sc.*

1475 *Aberdeen Reg.* (1844) I. 33 Fersamekil as it is lammentabilly menit till ws be our louit Johne of Spens, litster, ..that [etc.]. 1525 *Ibid.* I. 110 Forsamekill as it is humelie meynit and schewin to ws be ane reverend fader in God [etc.]. 1560 in Spottiswood *Hist. Ch. Scot.* III. (1677) 144 They were forced to mean our estate to the Queen of England. 1569 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* II. 61 Ordaining baith the parties, .. to meyne the mater to the said Generall Assembly. 1752 Louthian *Form of Process* (ed. 2) 25 It is humbly meaned and shown to Us, by Our Lovit, C. D. That [etc.].

b. *refl.* To present a complaint.

1551 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 114 Thai menit thame diverse tymes to the Lordis of Sessioun. *a* 1670 Spalding *Troub. Chas. I* (Spalding Cl.) II. 72 To stramp it out he meinis him self to the Parliament.

† **Mean,** *v.*[3] *Obs. rare.* Also 5 meen, 5–6 mene, 6 *Sc.* meyne. [a. OF. *meenner, moiener,* f. *meien* (see Mean *a.*). Cf. Mean *sb.*[2] 9.]

1. *trans.* To mediate.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 332/2 Menyn, or goon be-twene ij. partyes for a-corde .. *medio.* *c* 1449 Pecock *Repr.* II. xix. 263 If Iohun be a prouoking meene that the King 3eue to me xx^ti. pound of 3eerli fee,..it mai be seid..that Iohun dooth and 3euith to me thilk fee,..in this vndirstonding, that Iohun meeneth or helpith, and fortherith in meenyng that the 3euyng be doon. *c* 1522 Douglas in *Wks.* (1874) I. p. cx, Causing thame mene and procure so that the remayning with hir husband was not payit of her dower. 1654 H. L'Estrange *Chas. I* (1655) 138 Nor was any assistance more like to mean and procure his Restauration then theirs.

2. To moderate (by intervention).

1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* lxxxv. 47 Our teyne to meyne, and ga betweyne, Aqe hevinle oratrice.

† **Mea·nably,** *adv. Obs. rare*—[1]. [f. Mean *a.*[2] + -ably.] In a mean or medium degree.

1577 Frampton *Joyfull Newes* II. 48 b, Giuying to the Cholerike lesse seethyng, .. and to the Flegmaticke more seethyng,..and to the Sanguine meanablie [Sp. orig. *medianamente*].

Meanashing, obs. form of Menacing.

Meander (miæ·ndəɹ), *sb.* Also (6 meandor), 6–9 mæander. [a. L. *mæander,* Gr. *μαίανδρος,* appellative use of the name of a river in Phrygia noted for its winding conrse. Cf. F. *méandre* (1582 in Hatz.-Darm.), Sp., Pg., It. *meandro.*]

1. *pl.* Sinuous windings (of a river); turnings to and fro (in its course); flexuosities. Rarely in *sing.*, the action of winding; one of such windings.

1599 Nashe *Lenten Stuffe* 14 In all which foords or Meandors .. if any drowne themselues in them, their Crowners sit vpon them. 1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* VI. viii, The River Niger .. deflecting after Westward, without meanders, continueth a strait course about 40 degrees. 1796 W. Coombe *Boydell's Thames* II. 67 The stream loses itself in a distant meander. 1825 Waterton *Wand. S. Amer.* I. i. 118 Probably .. these apparently four creeks are only the meanders of one. 1834 Beckford *Italy* I. 166 Springs whose frequent meanders gave to the whole prospect the appearance of a vast green carpet shot with silver. 1876 Bancroft *Hist. U. S.* III. xv. 235 The river now flowed in gentle meanders.

transf. and *fig.* 1638 Brathwait *Barnabees Jrnl.* II. G iij, When my head feels his [*sc.* Ale's] Mæander, I am stronger than Lysander. 1784 Cowper *Task* IV. 65 Here rills of oily eloquence in soft Mæanders lubricate the course they take. 1820 Scott *Abbot* i, The boy..lay..half drowned in the meanders of the fluctuating delirium.

2. *pl.* Crooked or winding paths (of a maze); labyrinthine passages; windings or convolutions (of a vein, fissure, line, etc.).

1598 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. i. 1. *Eden* 561 Round-winding rings, and iotricate Meanders .. of an end-less Maze. 1603 J. Savile *K. Jas. Entertainm. Theobalds* B b, Hee went into the Laberinth-like garden to walke, where hee recreated himselfe in the Meanders compact of Bayes, Rosemarie, and the like. 1610 Shaks. *Temp.* III. iii. 3. 1615 Crooke *Body of Man* 94 Intercepted and deteined within those Meanders [*sc.* the guts]. 1666 G. Harvey *Morb. Angl.* iv. 34 The effuges, or mæanders of the central..parts of the brain. 1699 Garth *Dispens.* I. 25 Now she [Nature] unfolds..How ductile Matter new Meanders takes. 1750 Johnson *Rambler* No. 65 ¶ 2 The new path, which he supposed only to make a few meanders. 1799 Kirwan *Geol. Ess.* iv. 141 The fibres of the rind..and the meanders of the fibrillae being equally discernible. 1801 J. Jones tr. *Ejgge's Trav. Fr. Rep.* xii. 238 The inextricable windings and meanders of those caves.

† **b.** *fig.* Confusing and bewildering ways; intricacies (of affairs, the law, a subject, etc.). *Obs.*

1576 Fleming *Panopl. Epist.* 285 They being ouerwhelmed in Mæanders of mischiefes. 1631 R. H. *Arraignm. Whole Creature* i. 5 He was in such Meanders of miserie and labyrinths of troubles. 1652 H. L'Estrange *Amer. no Jewes* 71 There are many Meanders and windings in this question of Plantation. 1712 Arbuthnot *John Bull* I. vi, Ten long years did Hocus steer his Cause through all the meanders of the Law. 1759 Franklin *Ess.* Wks. 1840 III. 132 In this purpose I am ready..until by better information out of England, we shall be led out of these state meanders.

† **c.** *sing.* A winding or labyrinthine course or plan; a labyrinth, maze. *lit.* and *fig. Obs.*

c 1586 C'tess Pembroke *Ps.* cxliii. v, Lest awry I wander In walking this meander. 1610 Heywood *Lanc. Witches* IV. Wks. 1874 IV. 226 The more I strive to unwinde My selfe from this Meander, I the more Therein am intricated. 1645 Evelyn *Diary* Apr. (1879) I. 211 After wandering two or three miles in this subterranean meander [the catacombs]. 1651 Biggs *New Disp.* 46 [They] have made of Physick a Meander, .. and wild labirynth of incertainty. 1796 W. Coombe *Boydell's Thames* II. 3 The garden..retains its early form, and the lesser walks preserve their original meander.

3. A circuitous journey or movement; a deviation; a winding course (as in the dance); chiefly *pl.*

1631 Weever *Anc. Funeral Mon.* 241 For building Churches sure he goes to Christ without Meander. 1634 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* 20 Dancing many times, a great multitude passe together, and in mæanders turne and winde themselves. 1713 Young *Last Day* II. 50 So swarming bees, that..In airy rings, and wild meanders play. 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* I. xix, He made so many Tours, such Meanders, and led us by such winding ways. 1891 T. Hardy *Tess* xliv, Her journey back was rather a meander than a march.

4. *Art.* An ornamental pattern composed chiefly of lines winding in and out with rectangular turnings or crossing one another at right angles.

It is used chiefly as a border ornament on walls, pottery, etc.

1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Mæander,*..a Fret-work in arched Roofs. 1737 Whiston *Josephus, Antiq.* XII. ii. § 8 On the table itself they engraved a meander. 1851 C. Newton in Ruskin *Stones Ven.* I. App. 401 Two conventional imitations [of water], the wave moulding and the Mæander, are well known. 1857 Birch *Anc. Pottery* (1858) II. 196 The exterior has been ornamented with a mæander, in white paint.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *meander pattern, walk*; *meander-like* adv.

[1598 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. iv. 1. *Tropheis* 1000 Now, like thy Jordan, (or *Meander-like) Round-winding nimbly with a many-Creek.] 1612 Drayton *Poly-olb.* x. 94 Riuery veines, Meander-like that glide. 1851 C. Newton in Ruskin *Stones Ven.* App. 401 In the *Mæander pattern [of water] the graceful curves of nature are represented by angles. 1766 *Museum Rust.* VI. 80 Lay out the ground in some gentle *meander-walks.

Meander (miæ·ndəɹ), *v.* [f. Meander *sb.*]

1. *intr.* Of a river, stream, etc.: To flow in meanders; to wind about in its course.

c 1612 Drumm. of Hawth. *Tears Death Meliades* (1614) A 3, Forth where thou first didst passe Thy tender Dayes, ..Meandring with her Streames. 1738 Glover *Leonidas* VIII. 149 Soft streams mæander'd. 1894 Rider Haggard *People of Mist* XXXVI, Rivers that..meandered across the vast plains.

indirect passive. 1731 Pope *Ep. Burlington* 85 Beds .. With silver-quivering rills mæander'd o'er.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1777 Sheridan *Sch. Scand.* II. i. (ed. Rae 1902), When you shall see in a beautiful Quarto Page, how a neat rivulet of Text shall meander thro' a meadow of margin. 1784 Cowper *Task* III. 202 Pierce my vein, Take of the crimson stream meandering there. 1835–6 Todd *Cycl. Anat.* I. 462/2 Blue veins are seen meandering on its [the skin's] surface. 1853 Felton *Fam. Lett.* XXIX. (1865) 257 The smoke .. meandered in graceful curls among the timbers.

2. Of a person: To wander deviously or aimlessly. (? Partly suggested by Maunder *v.*[2] 2.) Also *fig.*

1831 S. Lover *Leg. & Stories Irel.* 151 He wint meandherin' along through the fields. 1872 Calverley *Fly Leaves* (1903) 101, I meandered Through some chapters of Vanity Fair. 1875 Helps *Soc. Press.* v. 71 They will have..meandered about the flower-garden in a listless way.

† **3.** *trans.* To entangle as in a labyrinth. *Obs.*

1652a Urquhart *Jewel* 95 [They devised questions, arguments, etc.] thereby to puzzle him in the resolving of them, Meander him in his answers .. and drive him to a non-plus.

Hence **Mea·ndered** *ppl. a.*, winding, labyrinthine. Also **Mea·nderer,** one who meanders.

1612 Drayton *Poly-olb.* I. 158 Those armes of Sea, .. By their Meandred creeks indenting of that Land. 1622 *Ibid.* XXII. 19 Ouze..in Meandred Gyres doth whirle herselfe about. 1708 *Brit. Apollo* No. 43. 3/1 Love's meander'd Paths. 1887 T. N. Page *Ole Virginia* (1889) 188 The meanderer was Drinkwater Torm.

Meandering (miæ·ndəriŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. Meander *v.* + -ing [1].] The action of the vb. Meander; an instance of this.

1652 A. Wilson in Benlowes *Theoph.* To Author, Or can the crawling Worm .. With its Meandrings finde the center out? 1807–8 W. Irving *Salmag.* (1824) 382 The grove must be a paradise that is refreshed by thy meanderings! 1865 Grote *Plato* III. 45, I here repeat the precise state of the question, which is very apt to be lost amidst the mæanderings of a Platonic dialogue.

Mea·ndering, *ppl. a.* [f. Meander *v.* + -ing [2].] That meanders; flexuous, winding.

1680 Morden *Geog. Rect.* Introd. (1685) 6 Winding Bays, Creeks and meandring Inlets. 1748 Richardson *Clarissa* (1811) III. iii. 29 Flesh..so clear that every meandring vein is to be seen. 1846 Dana *Zooph.* (1848) 174 The tentacles.. margin the meandering cell. 1878 Huxley *Physiogr.* 142 The river flows in a meandering course.

Hence **Mea·nderingly** *adv.*

1887 Stockton in *Century Mag.* Mar. 886 Through which a narrow path meanderingly ran.

† **Meandrated,** *ppl. a. Obs.*—[0] In 8 mæandrated. [f. L. *mæandrāt-us* full of curves like the Mæander + -ed [1].] (See quot.)

1727 Bailey vol. II, *Mæandrated,* turned, intricately wrought.

† **Meandrian,** *a. Obs. rare.* [f. L. *mæandri-us* (f. *mæander*: see Meander *sb.*) + -an.] Like the meanders of a river; flexuous, winding.

1608 J. King *Serm.* 5 Nov. 27 This serpent surrepent generation, with their Mæandrian turnings & windings. 1656 S. H. *Golden Law* 81 Religion's rigidness and Meandrian intricacies are too hard for most of them.

Meandrically (miæ·ndrikăli), *adv.* [f. L. *mæandric-us* (F. *méandrique*), f. *mæander* + -al + -ly [2].] In a meandrous manner.

1886 R. von Lendenfeld in *Proc. Zool. Soc.* 21 Dec. 590 Meandrically winding tubes .. *Meandrospongidæ.*

Meandriform (miæ·ndrifɔ̄ɹm), *a.* [f. L. *mæandri-* Meander *sb.* + -form.] Having a winding form, labyrinthine.

1898 *Nat. Sci.* Sept. 227 This is covered above and below by a layer of vermiform and meandriform chambers.

‖ **Meandrina** (miæ̆ndrəi·nă). [mod.L. *Mæandrīna,* fem. of **mæandrīnus* adj.: see next. Cf. F. *méandrine.*] A genus of corals the surface of which somewhat resembles the convolutions of the human brain; also, a polype of this genus.

1838 Bakewell *Introd. Geol.* (ed. 5) 638 Where the laminæ take a serpentine direction, they are called Meandrina, or brain stone. 1860 Maury *Phys. Geog. Sea* (Low) xiii. § 560 Dense masses of Meandrinas and Astraeas.

Meandrine (miæ·ndrin), *a.* Also mæandrine. [ad. mod.L. **mæandrīnus,* f. L. *mæandr-* Meander *sb.*] Characterized by windings; said esp. of corals belonging to the genus Meandrina.

1846 Dana *Zooph.* (1848) 155 There are thus the simple and meandrine forms of the calicularly branched species. 1884 J. Colborne *Hicks Pasha* 13 Rounded masses of meandrine coral with its brain-like convolutions.

† **Meandrite** (miæ·ndrəit). *Obs.* Also mæandrite. [f. L. *mæandr-* Meander *sb.* + -ite. Cf. G. *mäandrit,* F. *méandrite* (Humboldt).] A coral belonging to the genus Meandrina.

1802–3 tr. *Pallas's Trav.* (1812) I. 147 Its cells and tubes extend, as is the case with *mäandrites* or *madreporites,* in a parallel line from the surface. 1819 Helen M. Williams tr. *Humboldt's Trav.* xvi. IV. 200 Small rocks of meandrites, madreporites, and other corals.

Meandrous (miæ·ndrəs), *a.* Also 7 mæandrous. [f. Meander + -ous.] Full of or characterized by windings and turnings; *esp.* of a river.

1656 Blount *Glossogr.* s.v. *Meander,*..*Meandrous* is used for crooked, or full of turnings. *a* 1657 R. Lovedav *Lett.* (1663) 268 With whose vertuous rectitude Meandrous falshood is inconsistent. *a* 1661 Fuller *Worthies, Bedfordsh.* I. (1662) 114 Ouse .. in this Shire, more Mæandrous then Mæander. *a* 1734 North *Exam.* II. iv. § 86 (1740) 274 That, in the Prosecution of this meandrous Labyrinth,..I may not..be thought tedious. 1836 *Tait's Mag.* III. 561 A river, flowing in a meandrous course. 1892 Ld. Lytton *Marah* 118 Desire's meandrous labyrinths among.

† **Mea·ndry,** *a. Obs. rare*—[1]. [f. Meander + -y.] = prec.

1614 Sir A. Gorges tr. *Lucan* I. 14 The Trumpets (with their dreadfull notes Drawn through their hoarse Meandry throats..). 1619 — tr. *Bacon's Wisdom Anc.* v. 15.

Meane, obs. f. Main *sb.*[4], Mean, Mesne, Mien.

† **Meaned,** *a. Obs. rare*—[1]. [f. Mean *sb.* + -ed [2].] Furnished with or having means. Only with qualifying word, as *better meaned.*

1605 Chapman, etc. *Eastw. Hoe* I. i, There's thy fellowe-Prentise, as good a Gentleman borne as thou art: nay, and better mean'd.

† **Meanel.** *Obs.* See quot. (and cf. Menald *a.*).

? *a* 1685 T. More in *Ray's Collect.* (E.D.S.) 55 *Meanels,* spots called flea-bits in white-coloured horses.

† **Meaner** [1]. *Obs.* In 4 mener, 5 menowre, menar. [a. OF. *meeneur, moieneor, moyenneur.*] A mediator; an interpreter.

1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 409 Mark þe gospellour, Paule his disciple and his mener [L. *interpres Petri*]. *Ibid.* V. 397 Austyn .. com alonde wiþ fourty felawes and som meners [*interpretibus*]. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 333/1 Menowre, or medyatowre. *c* 1450 Holland *Howlat* 747 Thow moder of all mercy, and the menar.

Meaner [2] (mī·nəɹ). ? *Obs.* [f. Mean *v.*[1] + -er [1].] One who means, intends, or purposes. Chiefly with qualifying adj. prefixed.

1580 Lupton *Siwila* 138 We haue the faithfullest meaners, and truest dealers, that are in all the world. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* III. v. 25 So mischief fel upon the meaners crowne. 1604 Hieron *Wks.* I. 490 If the meaner be not assured of

the goodnesse of it..bis meaning is naught. *a* 1616 Beaum. & Fl. *Scornf. Lady* I. i, A *Simile* seruant? This roome was built for honest meaners, that deliuer themselues hastily and plainely, and are gone. 1634 A. Warwick *Spare Min.* (1637) 18 The good meaner hath two tongues. 1712 Steele *Spect.* No. 504 ₱ 2 Your double Meaners are dispersed up and down thro' all Parts of Town or City where [etc.].

† **Mea·ner** 3. *Obs. rare.* [? Subst. use of comparative of Mean *a.*1; or perh. f. Mean *a.*1 + -er: cf. *commoner.*] One of the humbler class.

1602 Warner *Alb. Eng.* xii. lxx. (1612) 293 But of some meaners, that their liues haue ventured no lesse, Perform'd as much [etc.]. 1642 Rogers *Naaman* 383 Lawyer, Justice, Gentleman or meaner do within the compasse of their places [etc.].

Meaneschot, obs. Sc. form of Manchet.

† **Meaness.** *Obs. rare*−1. In 6 menesse. [f. Mean *sb.*2 (9) or Meaner1: see -ess. Cf. OF. *moieneresse.*] A mediatress.

1450–1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* 306 *Mediatrix,* Menesse of men, and wassher of synnes, heyle kyngly virgyn.

Meanesse, obs. form of Meanness.

Meanie, obs. f. Many; var. Meinie *Obs.*

Meaning (mī·niŋ), *vbl. sb.*1 Forms: 3–6 mening(e, 4–6 menyng(e, meanyng(e, (4 mennyng, meneyng, 5 menying, meenyng, 7 meaninge), 6– meaning. [f. Mean *v.*1 + -ing 1: cf. OHG. *meinunga* (mod.G. *meinung*), MDu. *meninge* (mod.Du. *meening*).]

1. Intention, purpose. *arch.* † *Upon a meaning*: with the intention. † *A good meaning*: (*a*) a good intention, friendly disposition; (*b*) a 'good mind', a strong inclination (to do something).

c 1385 Chaucer *L. G. W.* Prol. 474 It was myn entente To forthere trouthe..And to be war from falsenesse.. this was myn menynge. 1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 254 Whan Collatin hath herd hire telle The menynge of hire trewe herte. *c* 1412 Hoccleve *De Reg. Princ.* 2315 Þe kyng..knewe him and his menynge. 1526 Tindale 1 *Cor.* i. 10 Be ye perfecte in one mynde, and one meanynge. 1585 Sir A. Poulet *Let. to Walsingham* 27 Apr. in *Letter-Bks.* (1874) 11 This cloth of Estate was set up at the first coming hither of this Queen, upon a meaning that she should dine and sup ordinarily in that chamber. *c* 1592 Marlowe *Jew of Malta* iv. ii, Yet, if he knew our meanings, could he scape? 1592 Greene *Groat's W. Wit* (1617) 13 Lucanio.. had a good meaning to vtter his mind. 1605 Shaks. *Lear* i. ii. 190, I am no honest man, if ther be any good meaning toward you. 1633 Ford *Broken H.* iv. i, A man of single meaning. 1781 Cowper *Ep. Lady Austen* 98 A..visit..made almost without a meaning, Produced a friendship. 1814 Wordsw. *Excursion* iv. 1150 You .. Adore, and worship, when you know it not; Pious beyond the intention of your thought; Devout above the meaning of your will. 1847 Tennyson *Princess* iii. 206 Since we learnt our meaning here, To lift the woman's fall'n divinity. 1896 A. E. Housman *Shropshire Lad* xxxiii, Sure, sure, if stedfast meaning, If single thought could save, The world might end to-morrow, You should not see the grave.

2. That which is intended to be or actually is expressed or indicated. (See also Double meaning.)

a. Of language, a sentence, word, etc.: The signification, sense, import; a sense, interpretation. Also, the intent, spirit as apart from the 'letter' (of a statement, law, etc.). † (*That*) *is to meaning*: (that) means.

1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 611 Þe menyng ys,..3yf þou sweryst fals [etc.]. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* II. xvii. (1495) 41 Raphael is to meanynge the medycine of god. 1401 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 85 If we taken the gospel aftir the menynge. *a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* xxxiv. 48 'Doughter, loue and worship youre husbonde..'; that is to menying that ye shulde loue and doute youre husbonde. *c* 1491 *Chast. Goddes Chyld.* 21 The fyrst feuer is callid a cotydian in whiche is properly in ghostly menyng a varyaunce of the herte. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 12 b, If this be the meaning of the lawe, then can no more the Spaniarde be chosen, then the Freacheman. 1625 Bacon *Ess., Unity in Relig.* (Arh.) 429 Termes, so fixed, as whereas the Meaning ought to gouerne the Terme, the Terme in effect gouerneth the Meaning. 1671 Milton *P. R.* iv. 516 That I [Satan] might learn In what degree or meaning thou art call'd The Son of God, which bears no single sence. 1736 Butler *Anal.* I. iii. Wks. 1874 I. 63 Difficulties may be raised about the meaning, as well as the truth, of the assertion. 1843 Mill *Logic* (1865) II. 233 It may be good to alter the meaning of a word, but it is bad to let any part of the meaning drop. 1876 Jevons *Logic Prim.* 23 The confusion which arises between the different meanings of the same word.

b. That which a speaker or writer intends to express; the intended sense of (a person's) words.

c 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 16709 After hym in Englische y hit brought; Of his meninge y wot þe weye, But his fair speche can y nought seye. *a* 1533 Frith *Disput. Purgat.* (1829) 101, I will briefly declare the meaning of the Apostle. 1621 T. Williamson tr. *Goulart's Wise Vieillard* A iv b, I hope I haue hit of his meaning, though I vary from his wordes. 1841 J. H. Newman *Lett.* (1891) II. 336 The Articles are to be interpreted, not according to the meaning of the writers, but ..according to the sense of the Catholic Church. 1878 R. W. Dale *Lect. Preach.* vi. 161 You will be good enough not to misunderstand my meaning.

c. Of a dream, symbol, phenomenon, etc. † *In meaning that*: as a sign or token that. *Obs.*

1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xv. 301 Ac god sent hem fode bi foules and by no fierse bestes, In a menynge [cf. 1393 C. xviii. 33 In tokenynge] þat meke þinge mylde þinge shulde fede. 1382 Wyclif *Dan.* ii. 5 No bot 3e shuln shewe to me the sweuen, and the coniecturyng, or menyng, therof. 1597 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* v. lxvii. § 11 If he haue no such Being, neither can the Sacrament haue any such meaning as wee all confesse it hath. 1611 Bible *Dan.* viii. 15 When I.. had seene the vision, and sought for the meaning. 1702 Addison *Dial. Medals* ii. Wks. 1721 I. 457 What is the meaning that this transparent Lady [*sc.* Hope] holds up her train in her left hand? for I find your women on Medals do nothing without a meaning. 1885 Clodd *Myths & Dr.* I. iv. 66 The Greeks had sought out the meaning of their myths.

d. Of an action, a state of things, etc.

1828–32 Webster s.v., What is the meaning of all this parade? 1877 Froude *Short Stud.* (1883) IV. I. iii. 29 What could be the meaning of so sudden and so startling a transformation? 1878 T. Hardy *Ret. Native* I. iv, What's the meaning of this disgraceful performance?

e. Ingeneralized use: Significance. *No-meaning*: nonsense.

1690 Locke *Hum. Und.* III. xi. (1695) 288 He that hath Names without Ideas, wants Meaning in his Words. 1735 Pope *Ep. Lady* 114 True No-meaning puzzles more than Wit. *a* 1800 Cowper *Ode to Apollo* i, Those luckless brains That .. Indite much metre with much pains, And little or no meaning. 1865 Kingsley *Herew.* i, As he passed the young lord he cast on him a look so full of meaning, that [etc.].

† **3.** Remembrance; only in phr. *to have, make meaning.* Also, a commemoration, memorial. *Obs.*

Cf. Minning, often occurring in ME. as a variant reading for this word.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 24748 Quen i ma mening o þat mild, Quat blis sco bred again vr bale. 1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 5208 Lorde, have on me menyng. 1340 Hampole *Pr. Consc.* 8320 When þou has of þi syns meneyng. 1503 *Aberdeen Reg.* (1844) I. 72 Atour he sal nocht ring Laurence at the saule messe nor menyngis, bot for the nobill and honorabill personis of the town.

† **4.** Mention. Only in phr. *to make meaning.*

a 1300–1400 *Cursor M.* 8518 (Gött.) Childer..Of þe quilk i make na mening here. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 26 Þei mak no menyng whan, no in what date. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xiii. (*Marcus*) 14 Vthire twa, of quhame I wel here menyng ma.

† **5.** Knowledge, understanding. *Obs. rare*−1.

1393 Langl. *P. Pl.* C. II. 138 'Ich haue no kynde knowyng', quaþ ich, '3e mote kenne me bettere, By what wey hit wexith, and (wheder) out of my menyng'.

† **Mea·ning,** *vbl. sb.*2 *Obs.* [f. Mean *v.*2 + -ing1.] The action of the vb. Mean; moaning, lamentation.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 63 On fuwuer wise us bihoueð turnen to him; on heorte, on festene, on wope, on meninge. 13.. *Guy Warw.* (A.) 4803 Biside him he herd a mening, Also it were a woman schricheing. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* VIII. 734 Madennys murnyt with gret menyng amang. 1572 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xxx. 27 Dowglas .. & gude Westiraw .. with lytill meaning, fra the men be past.

Meaning (mī·niŋ), *sb.*3 *Astr.* [f. Mean *a.*2 + -ing1.] The motion of the sun in mean longitude.

1884 E. J. Stone in *Observatory* 1 Jan. 3 And as we make no distinction in our theories between the real motion of the sun in longitude and that of the mean sun, the meaning of the real sun is fixed when [etc.].

Meaning (mī·niŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. Mean *v.*1 + -ing 2.]

1. Having intention or purpose. Usually with qualifying word, as *better, well meaning*, etc.

1581 Mulcaster *Positions* iii. (1887) 8 Some well meaning man. 1633, 1681 Ill-meaning [see Ill- B]. 1748 Richardson *Clarissa* (1768) IV. 343 At first .. (and till I observed her meaning air, and heard her speak) I supposed that she had no very uncommon Judgment. 1760–72 H. Brooke *Fool of Qual.* (1809) I. 134 One of them..is..as little meaning of harm to any one as his mother.

2. That conveys or expresses meaning or thought; expressive, significant.

1728 Young *Love of Fame* v. (ed. 2) 110 The motion of her lips, and meaning eye Pierce out the Idea her faint words deny. 1838 Dickens *Nich. Nick.* ii, 'Had done business with him', said Mr. Bonney with a meaning look. 1865 W. G. Palgrave *Arabia* I. 115 The thoughtful expression of his large forehead and meaning eye. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 10 July 5/5 At this frank confession a meaning smile passed between Mr. Gladstone and Mr. Childers.

Meaningful (mī·niŋfúl), *a.* [f. Meaning *vbl. sb.*1 + -ful.] Full of meaning or expression; significant. Hence **Mea·ningfully** *adv.*

1852 *Tait's Mag.* XIX. 552 All the little meaningful gifts. 1879 G. Macdonald *Sir Gibbie* xiii, It was a .. meaningful smile. 1890 Sarah J. Duncan *Soc. Departure* 262 Orthodocia glanced at me .. meaningfully.

Meaningless (mī·niŋlés), *a.* [f. Meaning *vbl. sb.*1 + -less.] Without meaning or significatiоn; devoid of expression; without purpose.

1797 Lamb *Let. to Coleridge,* Ill-digested, meaningless remarks. 1810 Southey *Kehama* xvi. xi, Rayless eyes .. Glazed, fix'd, and meaningless. 1876 Fox Bourne *Locke* II. x. 138 Locke had a healthy contempt for the meaningless definitions .. of the scholastic writers.

Hence **Mea·ninglessly** *adv.*; **Mea·ninglessness.**

1849 Ruskin *Sev. Lamps* i. § 7. 16 The expense which is sacrificed in domestic vanities, if not absolutely and meaninglessly lost .. would [etc.]. 1853 — *Stones Ven.* III. i. § 39. 26 The modern decorative system .. united the meaninglessness of the veined marble with the evanescence of the fresco. 1894 H. Drummond *Ascent Man* 436 It is not the monotony of life which destroys men, but its pointlessness.. its meaninglessness crushes them.

Meaningly (mī·niŋli), *adv.* [f. Meaning *ppl. a.* + -ly 2.] In a meaning manner; † in one's purpose or intention (*obs.*); intentionally, purposely; in mod. use chiefly, with significance of look, tone, gesture, etc.

c 1449 Pecock *Repr.* IV. iv. 444 Who euer biddith openli ouȝwhere eny thing to be doon for a cause .. wole prieueli and menyngli in the same bidding lijk thing be doon in othere placis .. where is the same cause. 1862 Mrs. H. Wood *Channings* i, He spoke meaningly, as if preparing them for a surprise. 1866 G. Meredith *Vittoria* xxxv, I do not believe that he .. ever had the intention to betray us, or has done so in reality, that is, meaningly, of his own will. 1894 H. Nisbet *Bush Girl's Rom.* 56 Fixing his eyes meaningly upon her.

Meaningness (mī·niŋnés). [Formed as prec. + -ness.] The attribute of having a meaning or intention; significance, expressiveness.

1754 Richardson *Grandison* (1781) VI. li. 313 She..looked ..so silly! and so full of unmeaning meaningness. 1816 J. Scott *Vis. Paris* (ed. 5) 108 Their [French ladies'] beauty .. consists rather in expression than in feature; but what with meaningness of look [etc.]. 1901 *Blackw. Mag.* Nov. 678/2, I was more than usually sensitive to the meaningness of their words.

Meanish (mī·niʃ), *a.* [f. Mean *a.* + -ish.] Somewhat mean.

1831 De Quincey *Whiggism* Wks. 1857 VI. 42 Dr. Parr ..lost nothing in our esteem by shewing a meanish exterior.

† **Mea·nless,** *a.*1 *Obs. rare.* [f. Mean *sb.*2 + -less.] Having no mean: **a.** Immoderate, extreme. **b.** Performed without the aid of means or instrumentality.

1587 T. Hughes *Misf. of Arthur* I. ii, Loe, here the loue that stirres this meanelesse hate. 1593 Nashe *Christ's T.* (1613) 130 Since his [Christ's] ascention into heauen, meanlesse miracles are ceased.

Meanless (mī·nlés), *a.*2 ? *Obs.* [f. Mean *v.*1 + -less.] Meaningless.

1739 G. Ogle *Gualtherus & Griselda* 69 With sundry meanless Items, quaint and old. 1832 J. M. Reynolds *Miserrimus* (1833) 29 The most meanless phrases of formal intercourse.

† **Mea·nly,** *a.*1 *Obs.* In 2 mænelik, 3–4 menelich. [aphetic f. OE. *gemænelic,* f. *gemæne* (see I-mene) + *-lic* -ly 1.] Common, general.

c 1200 Ormin 2503 All wass mænelike þing Whatt littless se þeȝȝ haffdenn. *a* 1300 in *Rel. Ant.* I. 282 Ich i-leve .. in Ihesu Crist oure meneliche loverd.

† **Meanly,** *a.*2 *Obs. rare*−1. [f. Mean *a.*2 + -ly 1.] Moderate.

c 1374 Chaucer *Boeth.* I. pr. vi. 19 (Camb. MS.) By lyghte and Meenelyche remedyes [L. *mediocribus fomentis*].

Meanly (mī·nli), *a.*3 *rare*−1. [f. Mean *a.*1 + -ly 1.] = Mean *a.*1

1827 Capt. Hardman *Waterloo* 2 Away I ran into his meanly old hoard.

Meanly (mī·nli), *adv.*1 [f. Mean *a.*1 + -ly 2.]

1. Indifferently, ill, poorly, badly; with mean attire or equipment.

1587 Fleming *Contn. Holinshed* III. 1959/2 Sir William Hamilton, and James Leirmonth .. whose message was so meanlie liked, that they were faine to send an herald into Scotland for other ambassadors. 1600 J. Pory tr. *Leo's Africa* III. 170 They are passing rich, yet go they very meanly attired. 1670 Dryden *2nd Pt. Conq. Granada* (1672) 163 [Many of Shakspere's plays] were..so meanly written, that the Comedy neither caus'd your mirth, nor the serious part your concernment. 1748 Richardson *Clarissa* IV. 55, I think, my dear, I am not meanly off. 1757 Burke *Abridgm. Eng. Hist.* II. vi, Their towns were meanly built and more meanly fortified. 1783 — *Sp. Fox's E. India Bill* Wks. 1842 I. 300 Ministers..caused persons meanly qualified to be chosen directors. 1851 Borrow *Lavengro* lxviii, A rather pretty-looking woman, but .. meanly dressed.

2. With reference to rank, state in life, etc.: Basely, lowlily.

1594 Shaks. *Rich. III,* iv. iii. 37 His daughter meanly haue I matcht in marriage. 1674 Evelyn *Diary* 22 July, She was much censur'd for marrying so meanly, being herselfe allied to the Royal family. 1765 Bickerstaff *Maid of Mill* I. v. 10 To what purpose could a man of his distinction cast his eyes on a girl, poor, meanly born? 1869 Browning *Ring & Bk.* IX. 1135 I' the very breast of Jove, no meanlier throned!

3. In a way that shows a mean or base disposition, or a small mind; shabbily; sordidly, niggardly, stingily, illiberally.

1602 Marston *Antonio's Rev.* IV. ii, He that's a vilaine, or but meanely sowl'd. 1687 Dryden *Hind & P.* I. 436 Nor will I meanly tax her constancy. 1784 Mann in *Lett. Lit. Men* (Camden) 428 That M. Lavoisier .. should meanly appropriate to himself Mr. Cavendish's excellent discovery. 1876 Geo. Eliot *Dan. Der.* iv, We cannot speak a loyal word and be meanly silent .. in the same moment.

4. *To think meanly of*: to have a mean estimate of; to characterize in one's thought as of little worth.

1642 Rogers *Naaman* 387 Thinke the meanlier of us when we thinke the highliest of ourselves. 1768 Goldsm. *Good-n. Man* I. i, Can Olivia think so meanly of my honour?

† **Meanly,** *adv.*2 *Obs.* Forms: see Mean *a.*2 Also 4 menly, 6 mennly. [f. Mean *a.*2 + -ly2.]

1. In the mean or middling degree or manner; half way between two extremes; moderately, tolerably; fairly, moderately well.

c 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 31 He..synneþ not menely but greuously. *c* 1450 Lydg. & Burgh *Secrees* 2694 Flesbe soffte of disposicioun, Or meenely sharp and of mene stature. 1533 More *Confut.* Wks. 808/2 A church of folke, not menely good, but of folk so good, so pure, & so cleane, that [etc.]. 1548–77 Vicary *Anat.* ii. (1888) 20 Strong, and tough, meanly betweene hardenes and softnes. 1599 Porter *Angry Wom. Abingt.* (1841) 42 Canst thou read? *Nich.* Forsooth, though none of the best, yet meanly. 1641 Milton *Reform.* II. Wks. 1851 III. 41 He that is but meanly read in our Chronicles, needs not to be instructed. 1763 Murdoch in *Phil. Trans.* LIII. 182 When a meanly-refrangible ray passes from water into air.

b. At a moderate speed, neither fast nor slow.

1625 Purchas *Pilgrims* II. 1141, I asked them how many leagues from Toro to Cairo,—they told me 7 days journey going meanly.

2. With express or implied limitation: Only moderately; not above the average; hence (coalescing with Meanly *adv.*[1] 1), slightly, indifferently, poorly.

1600 Surflet *Country Farm* I. xv. 101 They are set on a row.. in an onen verie meanly warme. 1695 Dryden tr. *Du Fresnoy's Art Paint.* Pref. 30 In the Reign of Domitian,..Poetry was but meanly cultivated, but Painting eminently flourish'd. 1707 Hearne *Collect.* (O. H. S.) I. 327 He shews himself..to be very meanly skill'd in the Fathers.

b. *Not meanly*: in no slight degree. So also *more than meanly.*

1590 Shaks. *Com. Err.* I. i. 59 My wife, not meanely prowd of two such boyes. 1656 Earl Monm. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* II. xiv. (1674) 159 It would have been more than meanly pleasing to the Literati. *a* 1662 Heylin *Laud* II. (1671) 242 Laud ..was not meanly offended, as he had good reason to be.

Meanness[1] (mī·nnés). [f. Mean *a.*[1] + -ness.]

1. The condition of being mean; lowness or humbleness of rank, birth, etc.; lowliness; insignificance.

1583 Golding *Calvin on Deut.* cxcvii. 1226 Let vs learne to acknowledge our meanesse with all humilitie. 1653 Milton *Hirelings* (1659) 97 Without soaring above the meannes wherein they were born. 1776 Gibbon *Decl. & F.* xiii. I. 358 The rusticity of his appearance and manners still betrayed in the most elevated fortune the meanness of his extraction. 1886 Spurgeon *Treas. Dav.* Ps. cxxxvi. 170 Reaching downward even to beasts and reptiles, it is, indeed, a boundless mercy, which knows no limit because of the meanness of its object. 1900 H. W. C. Davis in *Eng. Hist. Rev.* July 561 The meanness of his birth.

2. Weakness, deficiency, inferiority; slightness, scantness. Of physical things: Littleness, smallness. Also *pl.*

1556 Robinson tr. *More's Utop.* (Arb.) 19 To the meanesse of whose learning I thoughte it my part to submit my stile. 1597 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* v. xxxi. § 3 The Ministers greatnes or meannesse of knowledge to do other things. 1682 Norris *Hierocles* 28 Nor to scoff at the meanness of his understanding. *a* 1716 South *Serm.* (1744) II. 82 The great purpose that brought Christ out of his Father's bosom, and clothed him with the infirmities and meannesses of our nature. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) IV. 64 We suffer greater injuries from the contemptible meanness of the one [the mouse], than the formidable invasions of the other [the elephant]. 1833 Lamb *Elia* Ser. II. *Product. Mod. Art*, The large eye of genius saw in the meanness of present objects their capabilities of treatment. 1858 Hawthorne *Fr. & It. Note-Bks.* I. 84 The associations of moral sublimity and beauty seem to throw a veil over the physical meannesses.

3. Want of mental or moral elevation or dignity; littleness of character or mind; baseness.

1660 R. Coke *Power & Subj.* 263 This doth not proceed from any abject baseness or meanness of spirit. 1718 Pope *Iliad* xiv. 103 Lives there a Man so dead to Fame, who dares To think such Meanness? 1878 M. C. Jackson *Chaperon's Cares* II. viii. 91 His dastardly soul would stoop to the lowest depths of meanness.

b. In *pl.* Instances of this; mean acts.

1726 De Foe *Hist. Devil* I. iv, To descend to the meannesses of frightening children and old women. 1879 E. Garrett *House by Works* I. 23 The little one never told him about sharp words and petty meannesses.

4. Poorness of appearance or equipment. Of literary or artistic production: Poverty of style, execution, or design; want of grandeur, nobility, etc.

a 1656 Bp. Hall *Anthem Christmas Day* Rem. Wks. (1660) 436 The King of Gods in meanness drest. 1672 Dryden *Def. Epil.* Ess. (ed. Ker) I. 173 [Jonson] when he trusted himself alone, often fell into meanness of expression. 1705 Addison *Italy* 419 (Florence), I doubt however whether this Figure be not of a later Date..by the Meanness of the Workmanship. 1816 J. Scott *Vis. Paris* (ed. 5) 104, I found their students..assiduously copying the hard atrocities and cold meannesses of their own David. 1832 G. Downes *Lett. Cont. Countries* I. 155 Richtenschwyl and its precincts are very pretty, notwithstanding the meanness of most of the houses. 1852 Dickens *Lett.* (1880) I. 285 Its intrinsic meanness as a composition.

5. Sordid illiberality; niggardliness, stinginess.

1755 in Johnson. 1821 Lamb *Elia* Ser. I. *Old & New Schoolm.*, All this [is] performed with a careful economy, that never descends to meanness. 1822 J. MacDonald *Mem. J. Benson* 520 He carefully shunned both meanness and imprudent expenditure.

†**Mea·nness**[2]. *Obs.* [f. Mean *a.*[2] + -ness.] The condition of being between two extremes; moderateness in size or other qualities.

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xix. ii. (1495) 861 Vf the matere of clerenesse is meane it chaungeth somtyme to thyknesse and drynesse of erthe: soo that it passe not and gooth not beyonde meanesse of erthe. *c* 1450 Lydg. & Burgh *Secrees* 2555 Visage rounde boody hool and right, With meenesse of the heed is good in ech wyght. 1598 Florio, *Tepidezza*, luke warmth,..meannes, between hot and cold.

†**Meanor.** *Obs. rare*—[1]. Aphetic f. Demeanour.

a 1670 Hacket *Abp. Williams* I. (1693) 108 If the Testimony of that Lady be true..I do not shuffle it over as if his Meanor to the Lord Marquess were not a little culpable.

Meano(u)r, obs. forms of Manure *sb.*

†**Means,** *sb. Obs. rare*—[1]. [f. Mean *v.*[1]; the form perh. represents the 3rd pers. sing.] Meaning.

1656 Earl Monm. tr. *Boccalini, Pol. Touchstone* 404 The means of this was soon understood by the French, English and Italians.

Means: see Mean *sb.*[2]

Meant (ment), *ppl. a.* [pa. pple. of Mean *v.*[1]] In senses of the vb. (q.v. for the predicative uses); *rarely* attributive, exc. with prefixed adv. (usually hyphened) as in *well-, ill-, kindly-meant.*

1729 Savage *Wanderer* II. 284 Wrath yet remains, tho' strength his fabric leaves, And the meant hiss, the gasping mouth deceives.

†b. (Well) intentioned. *Obs. rare.*

c 1470 Henry *Wallace* XI. 1041, I haiff spokyn with lord Clyffurd that knycht, Wyth thair chyftanys weill menyt for your lyff.

Mean time, mea·ntime, *sb.* and *adv.* [Properly two words (see Mean *a.*[2] and Time *sb.*), and still often so written in the phrases, less frequently when used alone as an adv.]

A. as *sb.*, chiefly in various adverbial phrases.

1. *In the mean time.* **a.** During or within the time which intervenes between one specified period or event and another; while something is going on, 'at the same time', 'all the while'. †Also, in the same sense, *in mean time, in that* (*this, which,* etc.) *mean time.* †*In the mean time of*: during.

1340 *Ayenb.* 36 Hi [*se.* hire bestes] sterueþ ine mene-time: do oþre ine hare stede ase moche worþ. 1382 Wyclif 1 *Macc.* ix. 1 In the mene tyme [Vulg. *interea*]. *c* 1420 Lydg. *Assembly of Gods* 946 In thys mene tyme whyle [etc.]. 1447 Bokenham *Seyntys* (Roxb.) 20 In the mene tyme of hyr preyer They rent hyr flesh on every syde. 1502 in *Lett. Rich. III & Hen. VII* (Rolls) II. 108 In the moyne time he wold commune with the lord Nasso. *c* 1520 Barclay *Jugurth* (1557) 42 Wherfore (in meane tyme whyle they were counselling) he [etc.]. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 12 b, In the whiche meane tyme not one of them all miscaryed. 1575-6 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* II. 479 Eftir the committing of the foirsaidis oppressionis in the menetyme of his being at the said Lord Regent complening thairupoun. 1638 H. Spelman in *Lett. Lit. Men* (Camden) 155 In the mean tyme you would applie your self to the antientest Authors. 1740 tr. *De Mouhy's Fort. Country-Maid* (1741) I. 112 In mean time the People, surpris'd at what had happened, crowded to the Altar. 1818 Cruise *Digest* (ed. 2) IV. 264 The uses..which only take place in the meantime, and until the appointment is made. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* iv. I. 467 In the meantime the king would be an object of aversion and suspicion to his people.

b. Used (like *at the same time*, etc.) in adversative or concessive sense: While this is true; still, nevertheless. ? *Obs.*

1633 Bp. Hall *Occas. Medit.* (1851) 141 If ought hurt us, the fault is ours; in mistaking the evil for good: in the mean time, we owe praise to the Maker. 1638 Junius *Paint. Ancients* 82 Some who making a shew of..pastimes, doe in the meane time under that pretence entertaine .. most dangerous plottes. 1809 Syd. Smith *Serm.* II. 113 In the mean time, there are many habits of thought [etc.]. 1843 Bethune *Sc. Fireside Stor.* 49 In the meantime, you know that my father [etc.].

†**2.** Without prep. *The mean time, this mean time*: = 'in the mean time', 1 a. *Obs.*

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xvi. (*Magdalena*) 986 Þe mentyme þe magdelaine criste in his luf sa cane inflame, þat [etc.]. *c* 1450 *Life St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 1745 Bot all þis meen tyme, nyghtes and dayes, Cuthbert for þair heele prayes. 1597 J. King *On Jonas* (1618) 533 To be iustified the meanetime, or hereafter to bee glorified and liue by them. 1606 Shaks. *Ant. & Cl.* III. iv. 25. 1700 Blackmore *Job* 91 While the mean time the just and godlike kind From heav'n and earth alike hard measure find.

3. *For the mean time*: so long as the interval lasts. Also predicatively: Intended to serve for the interim.

1480 Caxton *Chron. Eng.* ccxxxviii. 263 Whan he was yeue to ony occupacion he left al other thyng for the mene tyme and tendid therto. 1509 Fisher *Funeral Serm. C'tess Richmond* Wks. (1876) 305 Tho the rysynge of the body be delayed for a season, the soule neuertheles shall for the meane tyme haue a pleasaunt & a swete lyfe. 1897 *Daily News* 17 Feb. 3/2 This order was for the meantime.

4. *attrib.* Provisional, temporary. *rare.*

1840 Browning *Sordello* II. 755 Praise and blame Of what he said grew pretty nigh the same—Meantime awards to meantime acts. 1873 — *Red Cott. Nt.-cap* 1322 The lost sheep's meantime amusements.

B. *adv.*

1. = *In the mean time*, A. 1 a.

1588 Shaks. *L. L. L.* II. i. 169 Meane time, receiue such welcome at my hand, As Honour.. may Make tender of, to thy true worthinesse. 1597 J. King *On Jonas* (1618) 501 What auaileth it to abstaine from eating and drinking, if meane time we eate and deuour vp our brethren? 1632 Holland *Cyrupædia* 144 Meane time whiles they came togither, those foreriders who had skowred the plaines, brought with them certaine men. 1782 Miss Burney *Cecilia* VI. vii, Mean-time, evidently offended .. [he] conversed only with the gentlemen. 1824 Southey *Ess.* (1832) II. 201, I..trusted that, meantime, a kind and generous heart would resist the effect of fatal opinions. 1842 Orderson *Creol.* viii. 76 The ladies, meantime, were on the *qui vive.* 1879 McCarthy *Own Times* II. 259 Meantime where was Lord Palmerston?

†**2.** = *In the mean time*, A. 1 b. *Obs.*

1593 Snaks. *Lucr.* Ded. 5 Were my worth greater, my duety would shew greater, meane time, as it is, it is bound to your Lordship. 1681 tr. *Belon's Myst. Physick* 64 Mean time, it may be said in general, that part of those Rules [etc.].

Mean tone, mea·ntone. *Music.* [Mean *a.*[2]] **a.** (As two words.) The averaged or standard interval (half-way between a greater and less major second) which is the basis of the system of tuning in vogue before the introduction of 'equal temperament'. **b.** *attrib.* or *adj.* (= Mesotonic), as in *meantone interval, system, temperament.*

1799 Young in *Phil. Trans.* XC. 150 The system of mean tones, the *sistema participato* of the old Italian writers, still frequently used in tuning organs. 1884 J. Lecky in Grove *Dict. Mus.* IV. 72 It will be convenient to take equal temperament as the standard of comparison, and to measure the meantone intervals by the number of equal Semitones they contain. *Ibid.*, In the meantone system the interval G♯—E♭ is sharper than the perfect Fifth by nearly one-third of a Semitone.

Meanus, obs. form of Menace *sb.*

Mean while, mea·nwhile, *sb.* and *adv.* [Properly two words (see Mean *a.*[2] and While *sb.*), and still often so written (cf. Mean time).]

A. *sb.*, chiefly in advb. phrases.

1. *In the mean while.* **a.** = 'in the mean time' as in Mean time A. 1 a. Also †*in* (*that, this, which,* etc.) *mean while,* †*in mean while,* †*in the mean(s whiles.*

c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 1148 Þan bobe partiȝes .. made hem alle merie in þe mene while. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Man of Law's T.* 570 On this book he swoor anoon She gilty was, and in the meene whiles An hand hym smoot vpon the nekke boon. — *Friar's T.* 147 In this meene while, This yeman gan a litel for to smyle. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 3102 Ho.. staryt O þat stounte with hire stepe Ene, There most was hir mynd in þat mene qwhile. *c* 1540 tr. *Pol. Verg. Eng. Hist.* (Camden) I. 286 In the mean whiles it fortuned that [etc.]. 1570-6 Lambarde *Peramb. Kent* (1826) 285 Archbishop Baldwin went into the Holy Lande and died without returne in which meane while the Chapele of Hakington ..was .. demolished. 1581 J. Bell *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 147 b, And where in the meanes whiles lurketh then the law that is written within, in the hartes of the faythfull? 1590 Marlowe *Edw. II*, IV. v, We in meanwhile, madam, must take advice How [etc.]. 1595 Daniel *Civ. Wars* IV. xxxiv, Yet now in this so happie a meane while. 1606 Holland *Sueton.* 11 And in this meane while, .. when the Senate thought good there should be but one Consul created. namely Cn. Pompeivs. 1628 E. Blount in Earle *Microcosm.* To Rdr. (Arb.) 18 In the meanwhile, I remaine Thine. Ed. Blovnt. 1707 Freind *Peterborow's Cond. Sp.* 235 In the mean while, my Lord pursu'd the Enemies Army. 1818 Cobbett *Pol. Reg.* XXXIII. 101 Upon this subject I will in my next Number make an appeal. ..In the meanwhile let me pride myself a little on the circumstance [etc.].

†**b.** *In the mean while that*: during the time that. *Obs.*

1480 Caxton *Chron. Eng.* cxxxix. 118 The emperesse in the mene whyle that the batayll dured escaped fro thens and went vnto oxenford.

c. In adversative or concessive use; cf. Meantime 1 b.

1597 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* v. xlviii. § 13 We pray..that God would turne them away from vs, owing in the meane while this denotion to the Lord our God, that [etc.]. 1879 McCarthy *Own Times* II. xxix. 368 In the meanwhile we may regard him simply as a great author.

†**2.** *The mean while* = 'in the mean while', A. 1 a. Also *this, that mean while(s, all this mean while, all that mean while during. Obs.*

c 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* III. 50 Lay al þis mene while Troylus, Recordynge his lesson in þis manere. 14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 590/14 *Interea*, the mene whyle. 1470-85 Malory *Arthur* II. iii. 79 The meane whyle that this knyght was makyng hym redy to departe [etc.]. 1548 Udall *Erasm. Par. Luke* 20 b, Al that meane while durynge, [they] had a priest that could not speake. 1654 Earl Monm. tr. *Bentivoglio's Warrs Flanders* 363 But the United Provinces lost not the opportunity this mean whiles which offered it self so favourably to them. 1658 — tr. *Paruta's Wars Cyprus* 40 Generall Zaune, was this mean while gone from Corfu.

3. *For the mean while* = 'for the mean time': see Mean time A. 3.

c 1386 Chaucer *Man of Law's T.* 448 Ther was hir refut for the meene while.

4. Subst. use of the adv. (see B. 1). *rare*—[1].

1872 W. R. Greg *Enigmas Life* 191 The long ages of the Meanwhile.

B. *adv.* (Cf. Mean time.)

1. = *In the mean while*, A. 1 a.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 332/2 Mene whyle, *interim.* *c* 1586 C'tess Pembroke *Ps.* lxviii. i, The just meane while shall in Jehovah's presence Play, sing, and daunce. 1588 Shaks. *Tit. A.* I. i. 408 Let the lawes of Rome determine all, Meane while I am possest of that is mine. 1678 Butler *Hud.* III. i. 99 Meanwhile the Squire was on his way, The Knight's late Orders to obey. 1713 Addison *Cato* II. vi, Mean while I'll draw up my Numidian Troops, And, as I see Occasion, favour thee. 1877 Froude *Short Stud.* (1883) IV. I. x. 113 The archbishop meanwhile had returned from his adventurous expedition.

2. = *In the mean while*, A. 1 c.

1597 J. King *On Jonas* (1618) 539 Meane-while, the time, and cause, and measure of this anger in Ionas, I thinke, are worthie to be blamed. 1837 G. S. Faber *Prim. Doctr. Justif.* 277 Meanwhile, the really primitive and apostolic and catholic doctrine was that of the Reformers. 1876 L. Stephen *Eng. Th. 18th C.* II. 443 Meanwhile, however, one characteristic of the English sentimentalists must be noticed.

Meany(e, obs. ff. Many; var. ff. Meinie.

†**Meapte.** *Obs.* [? A blundered adaptation of L. *meātus* or F. *méat.*] = Meatus.

1572 J. Jones *Bathes Buckstone* 11 Of the more vehement force, of the breath, followeth necessarily, all the meaptes to be clenred. *Ibid.* 13 b, Keepe your bedde for two or three houres after, lest the small meaptes being opened, a soddaine alteracion may happen.

Mear(e: see Mare *sb.*, Mere *sb.*, *a.*, and *v.*

Mearaltie, obs. form of Mayoralty.

Mearch, obs. form of March *sb.*[1] and *v.*[1]

Meari, obs. form of Marrow.

Mearl(e, variants of MERLE.

Mearlew muse, variant of MURLIMEWS *Obs.*

Mearmayde, obs. form of MERMAID.

Meary, obs. form of MERRY *a.*

Mease (mīz). Forms: 5–6 mayse, 5, 6, 9 meise, 6–8 mese, 6, 9 maise, 6–9 meaze, 7 maze, mes, 7–9 mesh, maze, 9 mais, maize, mase, meas, meash, 7– mease. [a. OF. *meise, maise* barrel (or some other receptacle) for herrings (in 14th c. latinized *meisa*); of Teut. origin: cf. OHG. *meisa* bundle, box (MHG. *meise* barrel for herrings, mod.G. dial. *meise* basket), MLG., MDu. *mêse* barrel for herrings, ON. *meiss* box, basket (MSw. *mes, mese*, Sw. dial. *mes, meis*, MDa. *mees*), ? cogn. w. Lith. *máisza-s* bag.] A measure for herrings, eqnal to five 'hundreds' (usually 'long hundreds' varying in different localities: see quots.).

In N. Devon the number is 612, i. e. four times 153, app. suggested by John xxi. 11 (see E. D. D.).

1469 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 306 He shal pay for every meise so solde xii.*d.* 1535 in *Mem. Fountains Abb.* (Surtees) 259, x mayses allic. rub. distribut' dictis pauperibus. 1597 SKENE *De Verb. Sign., Mese*, of herring, conteinis fiue hundreth. 1603 OWEN *Pembrokeshire* (1892) 122 Such store of fishe as pleaseth god to send, sometimes x meises, sometimes xij. xvj. or xx meises. 1613 in *Lex Scripta of Isle of Man* (1819) 100 An anncyent Statute in this Isle for paying of Custom Heyrings (called Castle Mazes). *c* 1680 J. COLLINS *Salt & Fishery* 107 [They] take sometimes 60 Mesh at a Tide, which are three Lasts of Herrings. 1780 A. YOUNG *Tour Irel.* I. 190 A boat will catch 6 maze of herrings in a night, each 500. 1883 S. WALPOLE *Brit. Fish Trade* (Fish. Exhib. Lit. I.) 37 In Ireland and the Isle of Man herrings are measured by the mease, which contains 525 fish. 1887 HALL CAINE *Deemster* xxxviii, I took more fish by many meshes than I could ever consume. 1894 — *Manxman* 226 Ten maise of this sort for the last lot. 1905 *Whitaker's Almn., Weights & M.*, Herrings are sold .. on the .. Isle of Man, and in Ireland, by the Maze, which contains 5 long hundreds of 123 each.

Mease, var. MESE *Obs.*, MESS *sb.* and *v.*

Measelen, -line, obs. forms of MASLIN 1 and 2.

Meash, obs. form of MASH, MEASE, MESH.

Meashie, obs. form of MESHY.

Measle (mī·z'l), *sb.* Forms: 5 masyl, mazil, meselle, -ylle, 6 measel, meazell, 7 meazil, -le, 9 measle. *Pl.* 4 maseles, 4–6 mesels, 5 meazeles, meseles, 6 maisils, massels, mayseilles, meselles, 6–7 masels, measel(l)s, 7 maisels, mazels, measil(l)s, 7–8 meazels, -les, 7– measles. [ME. *maseles* pl., cogn. w. OHG. (? and OS.) *masala*, occurring as gloss to L. *flemen*, i.e. *phlegmon* blood-blister (MHG. *masel(e*, MLG. *masele, massele*, MDu. *masel* fem., blood-blister, pnstule, spot on the skin; also in pl. measles; mod.Du. *mazelen* measles); a related form occurs in MDu. and mod.G. *masern* pl., measles; for the Scandinavian forms see MEASLINGS. For other derivatives of the Teut. root **mas-, *mæs-*, expressing the notion of 'spot' or 'excrescence', see MAZER.

It is possible that the word may have come into Eng. from continental LG. For its existence in OE. there is no other evidence than the occurrence, in a 12th c. MS., of *mæsleceafe* as a spelling of *mælsceafa* MALSHAVE. The phonetic development is irregular: normally the modern form should be **mazel* (cf. HAZEL 1, for which spellings like *hesel, heasle* occur in the 15–16th c.). That the dialectal form *measle* appears in literary English may be due to a mistaken association of this word with MESEL leper; a similar confusion occurred in MHG., where *maselsucht* (etymologically 'measles') was often used for *miselsucht* leprosy.]

1. *pl.* († in 15th c. also *sing.*). A specific infectious disease of man (in medical Latin called *Rubeola* and *Morbilli*), characterized by an eruption of rose-coloured papulæ arranged in irregular circles and crescents, preceded and accompanied by catarrhal and febrile symptoms; it rarely attacks the same person twice. (Often referred to as one of the diseases incident to childhood, although it frequently attacks adults.) The plural form is now usually construed as a *sing.*

German (formerly also *false, French, hybrid*) *measles*: a contagious disease (*Roseola epidemica* or *Rubella*) distinct from measles, but resembling it in some of its symptoms.

c 1325 *Gloss W. de Bibbesw.* (MS. Arundel 220) in Wright *Voc.* 161 *Rugeroles*, maseles [*c* 1300 *MS. Camb.* maselinges]. 14.. *Nom.* in Wr.-Wülcker 707/25 *Hec serpedo*, a mesylle. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 328/2 *Masyl*, or *mazil*, sekenesse. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 237/1 A Meselle; *serpedo*. 1489 *Plumpton Corr.* (Camden) p. cxiv, At that season ther wer the Meazelles soo strong, & in especiall amongis Ladies & Gentilwemen, that sum died of that sikeness. 1533 ELYOT *Cast. Helthe* (? 1541) 80 b, Purpilles, measels, and small pockes. *c* 1560 *Misogonus* III. iii. 49 (Brandl), I can cure the Agwe, the Massels and the french pocke. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* I. xvii. 27 It is good..against..the small Pockes and Meselles. 1601 DOLMAN *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* (1618) III. 813 Fumitory..is good against the meazels. 1663 BUTLER *Hud.* I. iii. 1248 From whence they start up chosen vessels, Made by contact, as men get measles. 1696 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3224/3 The Princess of Piedmont is fallen ill of the Meazles. 1732 ARBUTHNOT *Rules of Diet* in *Aliments*, etc. I. 250 The Small Pox, Meazles, and pestilential Fevers. 1802 *Med. Jrnl.* VIII. 28 The Measles usually makes its appearance at the commencement of the year. 1877 ROBERTS *Handbk. Med.* (ed. 3) I. 143 Measles is decidedly infectious.

attrib. 1843 R. J. GRAVES *Syst. Clin. Med.* xiv, The measles like eruption [of typhus fever] appeared about the fifth day. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 148 The rash for a time may be suggestive of Scarlet Fever, but sooner or later it usually conforms more to the measles type.

b. *pl.* The pustules characteristic of this disease; † formerly sometimes applied to the pustules of eruptive diseases generally.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XIX. ix. (1495) 870 Colour of skynne chaungyth for streyte contynuaunce of the skynne: as it fareth ofte in Mesels: Pockes: woundes: botches and brennynge. 1599 A. M. tr. *Gabelhouer's Bk. Physicke* 277/2 Others take a fether, and dippe it in the saide water, and therwith they annoynte all the Measells of the Face when they are come forth. 1685 *Cooke's Mellif. Chirurg.* VI. II. ix. (ed. 4) 214 Those little Pustles in the skin, with a deep redness..are called Measles. 1789 W. BUCHAN *Dom. Med.* (1790) 241 About the sixth or seventh day from the time of sickening, the measles begin to turn pale on the face.

¶ **c.** In exclamatory phrase. ? *nonce-use.*

1614 B. JONSON *Barth. Fair* III. iv, Why the meazills, should you stand heere, with your traine [etc.].

2. *pl.* († formerly also *sing.*) A disease in swine, produced by the scolex of the tapeworm; in later use, a similar disease in other animals.

[This application of the word arose from a misinterpretation of the adj. *mesel* 'leprous' (see MEASLE *a.*) as used to designate swine suffering from this disease.]

1587 MASCALL *Govt. Cattle, Hogges* (1627) 273 Poultry dung, which also is ill for hogs, and will increase a measel among them. 1615 LATHAM *Falconry* (1633) 107 Such setled curnels like vnto the mazels of a swine. 1636 B. JONSON *Discov.* Wks. (1640) 93 The Swyne dyed of the Measils. 1793 A. YOUNG *Ann. Agric.* XIX. 299 Is the small pox known among sheep? It is a little known, but not at all common.—Called the measles. 1844 STEPHENS *Bk. of Farm* II. 245 Pigs are subject to a cutaneous disease called measles, which is supposed to render the flesh unwholesome.

b. The scolex or cysticercus which produces this disease. Also *attrib.* in *measle-disease.*

1863 AITKEN *Sci. & Pract. Med.* (ed. 2) II. 94, 95 The first animal he experimented on died from a violent attack of the measle disease; and on dissection the muscles were found filled with measles, or imperfectly developed *scolices*. 1901 OSLER *Princ. & Pract. Med.* (ed. 4) 367 The measles are more readily overlooked in beef than in pork, as they do not present such an opaque white colour.

3. *pl.* 'A disease of trees which causes the bark to become rough and irregular, and the branch finally to die' (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*). Also *sing.* a blister or excrescence on a tree. ? *Obs.*

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 539 Oliue..hath another greefe and sorance called in Latin Clavus, Fungus or Patella (*i.* a Knur, Puffe, Meazil or Blister). 1611 FLORIO, *Chiano*, a meazell or blister growing on trees. 1674 JOSSELYN *Voy. New Eng.* 190 Their fruit-trees are subject to two diseases, the Meazels, .. and lowsiness. 1679 EVELYN *Sylva* XXVII. (ed. 3) 141 Trees (especially Fruit-bearers) are infested with the Measels. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* 392.

4. *pl.* In *Photography.* Cf. MEASLY *a.* 3.

1876 [see MEALINESS].

† **Mea·sle**, *a. Obs.* Forms: 5–6 mesel, 6 masyl, meazel, messell(e, mesyl, mys(s)ell, 7 meazell, measle. [A particular application of MESEL *a.*, leprous; the later spelling proceeds from association with MEASLE *sb.*] Of swine, their flesh: Affected with 'measles', measly.

[1398: see MEASLED *a.*] *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* ii. 264 Yit teynd thou not thi mesel swyne? 1519 in *Surtees Misc.* (1888) 33 For sellyng messell pork xxd. 1547 BOORDE *Introd. Knowl.* xxviii. (1870) 195 Masyl baken, and sardyns, I do eate and sel. 1598 KITCHIN *Courts Leet*, etc. (1675) 347 Where Meazel Porks are sold at Rumford. *a* 1652 BROME *City Wit* v. Wks. 1873 I. 363 The kell of a meazell hog.

Measle (mī·z'l), *v.* Also 7 meazel, meazle, mezle. [f. MEASLE *sb.*]

1. *trans.* To infect with measles.

1611 COTGR. s.v. *Pied d'oison*, Goose-foot, wild Orache; called also Swinesbane, because it kills, or meazels, the Swine which eat of it. *a* 1845 HOOD *Tale of Trumpet* lv, Though the wishes that Witches utter Can..Send styes in the eye—and measle the pigs. 1890 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Measle*, to infect with measles.

2. *transf.* To cover as with 'measles' or spots.

In quot. 1678 there is a reference to MESEL *sb.*, leper.

1638 WENTWORTH 23 May in *Strafforde Lett.* (1739) II. 173, I was so damnably bitten with Midges, as my Face is all mezled over ever since. 1885 D. KER in *Libr. Mag.* (U. S.) Sept 219 A tall, sallow fellow, measled all over with brass buttons.

absol. 1678 BUTLER *Hud.* III. i. 319 With Cow-itch meazle like a Leper.

3. *intr.* To develop the eruption of measles. *colloq. Mod.* 'The child is measling nicely'. 'The baby measled at the same time' (Dr. W. Sykes).

Measled (mī·z'ld), *ppl. a.* Forms: 4 meselyd, 5 maselyd, meselled, 6 meseld, -led, mezeled, 6–7 measeled, 6–8 meazeled, 7 meseled, miselled, 7–8 meazled, 6– measled. [f. MEASLE *sb.*, *a.*, and *v.* + -ED.]

1. Infected with measles.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* VII. lxiv. (1495) 281 Meete that is soone corrupte as of meselyd hogges. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 329/1 Maselyd, *serpiginosus*. 1499 *Maldon, Essex, Court Rolls* (Bundle 58, no. 1[3]), Meselled hog. 1573 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 52 Thy measeled bacon. 1647 *New Haven Col. Rec.* (1857) I. 342 [He] obiected against on of the hoggs w[ch] was miselled. 1713 C'TESS WINCHELSEA *Misc. Poems* 214 A Pestilential Sow, a meazeled Pork, On the foundation has been long at work. 1820 J. JEKYLL *Corr.* (1894) 144 We dined at A. Ellis's last week with the Poodle who has buried his measled Majesties. 1876 tr. *Wagner's Gen. Pathol.* (ed. 6) 114 By the use of measled meat.

2. Spotted.

1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 213 One speckled fish..is called the poyson fish, tis shaped like a Tench, but meazled. 1706 PHILLIPS, *Meazled*, full of Meazles, Spots, or Blotches.

† **3.** *fig.* Poor, 'scurvy'. (Cf. MEASLY 4.)

1596 NASHE *Saffron-Walden* Wks. (Grosart) III. 191 That meazild inuention of the Goodwife my mothers finding her daughter in the ouen, where [etc.].

Hence † **Mea·sledness**, measled condition.

1611 COTGR., *Sursemure*, the measeldnesse of Hogs.

† **Mea·sling**, *vbl. sb.* [f. MEASLE *v.* + -ING 1.] Infection with measles.

1573 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 41 And diligent Cislye, my dayrie good wench, make cleanly his cabben, for measling and stench.

Measlings (mī·zliŋz), *sb. pl. Obs.* exc. *dial.* Also 4 maselinges, 7 meslings, 9 mezlings, mizzlings. (See E. D. D.) [Early ME. *maselinges*, f. (? Eng. or LG.) *masel* MEASLE *sb.* + -ING 1. Cf. Da. *mæslinger* pl. (recorded from the 16th c.), Sw. *mässling, mäsling*, mod.Icel. *mislingar* pl., measles.

The formation has not been found exc. in Eng. and in Scandinavian; it is unlikely to have arisen independently in those two branches of Teut.; it may have belonged to early MLG., and thence have passed into Eng. and Da.]

The measles.

c 1300 *Gloss W. de Bibbesw.* (MS. Camb.) in Wright *Voc.* 161 *Rugeroles* [glossed] maselinges [*c* 1325 *MS. Arundel* 220 maseles]. 1671 SKINNER *Etymol. Ling. Angl.* I ii, *Meslings*, vox agro Linc. usitatissima..vide *Measels*. 1890 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Measlings*, measles.

Measly (mī·zli), *a.* Also 8 meazly, 8–9 measley. [f. MEASLE *sb.* + -Y.]

1. Of or pertaining to measles; resembling measles.

1782 W. HEBERDEN *Comm.* vii. (1806) 20 Distinguished from the measley efflorescence. 1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) I. 356 The measley tubercles which form the second [kind of hydatids, in swine]. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 576 A dark measly rash.

2. Of swine, their flesh: Affected with measles. (Cf. MEASLE *a.*, MEASLED *ppl. a.*)

1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 89 She saw a Measly Hog come and Wash in the Water. 1747 MRS. GLASSE *Cookery* xxi. 161 If you find little Kernels in the Fat of the Pork, like Hail-shot..'tis measly, and dangerous to be eaten. 1885 RUNCIMAN *Skippers & Sh.* 5 What's the grub to-morrow? Measly pork again.

3. Spotty. In *Photography.* (See quot. 1876.)

1876 ABNEY *Instr. Photogr.* (ed. 3) 110 The result would be 'measly' or mealy prints—i.e. prints in which minute red spots alternate with darker ones in the shadows after fixing. 1891 *Anthony's Photogr. Bull.* IV. 254 The remainder, after even an hour's soaking were only a very measley brown. 1898 TALMAGE in *Chr. Herald* (N. Y.) 5 Jan. 4/4 The slushy custards; the jaundiced or measly biscuits.

4. *slang.* Poor, contemptible, of little value.

1872 *Punch* 27 July 39/2 That was a fine old hen .. but .. the others were a measly lot. 1892 ZANGWILL *Childr. Ghetto* I. 302 Greenwich, where they take you girls for a measly day's holiday once a year.

Comb. 1869 ALDRICH *Story of Bad Boy* 29 A measly-looking little boy with no shoes.

Measne, obs. form of MESNE.

Meason, ? variant of MAISON *Obs.*, house.

a 1550 *Image Ipocr.* in *Skelton's Wks.* (1843) II. 423/1 [A bishop ought] To spende in tyme and season, And so to kepe his meason.

Meason, obs. Sc. form of MASON *sb.*

Mea·sondue. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.* Forms: 4 masondewe, 4–5 mesondieu, (*pl.* -deux, -dieux), 5 mayson-, mesondewe, 5–6 masendewe, maysyndew, 6 masone dew, massindewe, meason de dieu, masoun de Dieu, 6–8 measondue, 7–9 maisondieu, 8 massondew, measondieu. [a. OF. *meson-dieu, maison-Dieu*, lit. house of God. Cf. F. *hôtel-Dieu* (HOTEL 1 c).] A hospital or poor-house.

1354–5 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 555 Rogero de Esshe cooperienti super le Mesondieu. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* VIII. 28 Treuþe .. Bad hem .. make Meson deu [1377 B. VII. 26 mesondieux] þer-with Meseyse to helpe. ? *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 3038 Mynsteris and masondewes they malle to the erthe. 1429–30 *Wills & Inv. N. C.* (Surtees) I. 78 To ye mesondieu of sint kateryne .. for yair enorments xxl. 1455 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 325/2 A meson Dewe founded by him by oure licence, in the seid Toune of Bockyng. 1470 *Will* in *Ripon Ch. Acts* (Surtees) 144 Pauperibus manentibus in Masyndew. 1546 *Yorks. Chantry Surv.* (Surtees) 468 There is a Bedehouse or Massindewe of poure folkes. 1558 *Act* 1 *Eliz.* c. 21 § 34 Any Hospitall, Measondue, or Spittel House. 1597–8 *Act* 39 *Eliz.* c. 5 To erecte, founde, and establysh one or more Hospitalls, Measons de Dieu. 1630 *Acts of Sederunt* (1790) 43 Aganis unlawfull dispositiouns of whatsomevir landes, teinds, or rentes, dottit to hospitallis or massondewis. 1631 T. POWELL *Tom All Trades* (1876) 170, I find not any *Meson de dieu* for relieving of mayned Marriners. 1641 *Termes de la Ley*, Measondue is an appellation of divers Hospitalls in this Kingdome. 1842 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. II. *Old Woman in Grey*, Where can I find out the old *Maison Dieu*?

Measque, rare obs. form of MASK *sb.*[2]

Measse, obs. form of MESS.

Meastling, obs. form of MASLIN 1.

Measurabi·lity. *rare.* [f. next + -ITY.] Capability of being measured.

1697 J. SERGEANT *Solid Philos.* 105 Many other..Attributes, are given to Quantity; such as are Divisibility, Impenetrability, Space, and Measurability.

Measurable (me·ʒiŭrăb'l), *a.* Also 4–6 mes-. [a. F. *mesurable*:—late L. *mensūrābilis*, f. *mensūrāre* to MEASURE. In sense 3 directly f. the Eng. vb.]

†**1.** Of persons, their actions, etc.: Characterized by moderation; moderate, temperate; *occas.* modest.

13.. *K. Alis.* 7050 They beon trewe, and steodefast, Mesureabele, bonére, and chest. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 435 Of his diete mesurable was he. — *Parson's T.* ℙ 862 A wyf sholde eek be mesurable in lokinge and in beringe and in laughinge. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 67 Curteys of language, in spendyng mesurable. 1540 HYRDE tr. *Vives' Instr. Chr. Wom.* (1592) F vj, Follow his [Christ's] sober & measurable mother. 1595 SOUTHWELL *Tri. Death* (1596) 6 Of feeding shee was very measurable, rather too sparing, than too liberall a diet. 1608 T. JAMES *Apol. Wyclif* 35 Abstinence with prudence was needeful, that is..measureable fasting, both of bodie and soule.

2. Of moderate size, dimensions, quantity, duration, or speed. *Obs.* exc. as implied in 3.

a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* xxxviii. 7 Lo mesurabils þou sett my dayes. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. III. 241 Þat laborers and louh folk taken of heore Maystres, Nis no Maner Meede bote Mesurable huyre. 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 22613, I sawgh oon..Goon a mesurable paas. 1494 FABYAN *Chron.* VII. 413 The Kynge..assembled a mesurable hoost of people. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VII*, 3 b, Luke warme drynke, temperate heate, and measurable clothes. 1594 CAREW *Huarte's Exam. Wits* iii. (1596) 28 The braine should be tempered with measurable heat.

3. That can be measured; susceptible of measurement or computation; of such dimensions as to admit of being measured; *spec.* (of rainfall) not less than $\frac{1}{100}$ inch.

1599 HAKLUYT *Voy.* II. I. 273 Any measurable wares. 1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* II. xvi. § 8 Number..is that which the Mind makes use of, in measuring all things that by us are measurable. 1780 MARSHAM in *Phil. Trans.* LXXI. 451 The annual increase of very old trees is hardly measurable with a string. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. VII. X, The fire of Insurrection gets damped..into measureable, manageable heat. 1876 BRISTOWE *Theory & Pract. Med.* (1878) 480 The descent of the diaphragm..causes measurable enlargement of the upper region of the abdomen. 1893 *Times* 4 May 10/4 A measurable quantity of rain fell over the western parts of England.

b. Phrase, *to come within a measurable distance of* (some undesirable condition or event).

1890 *Guardian* 19 Nov. 1825/1 Reckless dealing in South American securities brought them..within measurable distance of bankruptcy.

c. *Math.* (See MEASURE *v.* 7 b.)

1667 *Phil. Trans.* II. 572 A Multiplex of the Product or least Dividend measurable by those Divisors.

†**4.** Characterized by due measure or proportion.

1563 *Homilies* II. *Coming down of Holy Ghost* I. (1859) 458 All which gifts..are..given to man according to the measurable distribution of the Holy Ghost.

†**b.** Proportionate *to*. *Obs. rare*$^{-1}$.

1533 ELYOT *Cast. Helthe* (1541) 40 b, The dyner moderate, and the drynke therunto mesurable, according to the drynesse or moystnesse of the meate.

†**5.** Measured, uniform in movement; metrical, rhythmical. *Obs.*

1569 J. SANFORD tr. *Agrippa's Van. Artes* 30 b, To daunce with framed gestures, and with measurable pases. 1586 W. WEBBE *Eng. Poetrie* (Arb.) 22 The force of this measurable or tunable speaking. 1597 BEARD *Theatre God's Judgem.* (1612) 435 The graue behauior, the measurable march, the pompe and ostentation of women dancers.

b. *Mus.* = MENSURABLE.

1614 RAVENSCROFT *Brief Discourse* 1 The Definitions and Diuisions of Moode, Time, and Prolation in Measurable Musick. [1879 HELMORE *Plain-Song* 11 Portions of Plain-Song often fall into strictly measurable forms.]

†**6.** as *adv.* Moderately. *Obs.*

1542 in Hodgson *Hist. Northumbld.* (1828) III. II. 214 *note*, A lytle town in measurable good reparacions. 1551 TURNER *Herbal* I. K v, The leues are..mesurable roughe.

Mea·surableness. [f. prec. + -NESS.] †**a.** Moderation (*obs.*). **b.** Capability of being measured.

c 1511 COLET in Lupton *Life* (1887) 301 The lawes that commaunde sobernes, and a measurablenes in aparayle. 1563 *Homilies* II. *Of Matrimony* (1859) 303 If he [*sc.* the husband] will use measurableness and not tyranny, and if he yield some things to the woman. 1697 J. SERGEANT *Solid Philos.* 182 The same way gives us the plain Notion of Immensity, by joining a Negation to Measurableness. 1727 BAILEY vol. II, *Measurableness*, capableness of being measured.

Measurably (me·ʒiŭrăbli), *adv.* [f. MEASURABLE + -LY^2.]

†**1.** Moderately, in moderation. *Obs.*

c 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 433 Hou þey & herne shulen first take mesurably of þes godis. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Melib.* ℙ 639 Vse hem by mesure, that is to seyn, spende hem mesurably. *c* 1491 *Chast. Goddes Chyld.* XXV. 72 Mete whan it is mesurably taken and well defyed: it maketh a man hole in body. 1535 COVERDALE *Ecclus.* XXXI. 28 Wyne measurably dronken [*similarly* 1611] is a reinysinge of the soule. 1579 LANGHAM *Gard. Health* (1633) 254 An ounce of the iuice of the root [etc.] purgeth the body measurably.

2. In due measure or proportion; proportionably.

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 3985 Ho was mesurably made. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* III. xiii. 358 Constantyn endewid not..eny chirche in Rome with eny greet habundaunt immouable possessiouns, but oonli with possessiouns competentli and mesurabily. 1572 J. JONES *Bathes Buckstone* 4 Measurably qualifyinge the ouerheated members, and drying such as bee ouer moyste. 1607 J. CARPENTER *Plaine Mans Plough* 176 He may be able to draw forth of his full vessel measurably vnto his flocke. 1701 WHITEHEAD *Truth Prevalent* 20 If a thirsty Man comes to Drink at a Well..he drinks measurably as much as he needs.

3. In some measure, to some extent; 'in a measure'. *U. S.*

1756 J. WOOLMAN *Jrnl.* (1840) 30 The public meetings were large and measurably favoured with divine goodness. 1848 LOWELL *Biglow P.* Ser. I. *Introd.* Poet. Wks. (1879) 174 If I know myself, I am measurably free from the itch of vanity. 1875 WHITNEY *Life Lang.* xii. 254 Until the anomalies of Semitic language are at least measurably explained.

4. To an extent which admits of being measured.

1866 RUSKIN *Eth. Dust* 127 Other such phenomena, quite measurably traceable within the limits even of short life. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV. 374 The primary renal arteries are measurably thickened in both their coats.

†**Measurage.** *Obs.* [a. F. *mesurage* (13 th c.), f. *mesurer* to MEASURE: see -AGE.] A duty payable on the cargo of a ship.

Cf. *Droict de mesurage* in Cotgr.

1460 *Maldon, Essex, Liber B.* lf. 6 b, Mesurage and other dewtees. *a* 1676 HALE *Narr. Customes* iv. in S. A. Moore *Foreshore* (1888) 356 Busselage, measurage, prises, and tolls of various sorts. 1744 *Admiralty Minute* 29 Dec. (MS., P. R. O.), For demanding the duty and measurage of all foreign ships.

Measure (me·ʒiŭ), *sb.* Forms: 3–6 mesur(e, 4–6 mesour(e, -ore, (5 meser, *Sc.* 6 myssour, myssuyr, 7 meassour, missour), 6– measure. [a. F. *mesure*:—L. *mēnsūra*, n. of action f. *mēns-*, ppl. stem of *mētīrī* to measure. Cf. Pr. *me(n)sura*, Sp., Pg. *mesura*, It. *misura*. Many of the senses below were developed in Fr., and adopted.]

I. Action, result, or means of measuring.

1. The action or process of measuring, measurement. Now *rare*.

c 1400 *Rom. Rose* 5026 So litel whyle it doth endure That ther nis compte ne mesure. 1530 PALSGR. 442/1, I awme, I gesse by juste measure to hytte or touche a thyng. 1557 RECORDE *Whetstone* Pref. b ij b, Measure is but the nombryng of the partes of lengthe, bredthe, or depthe. 1607 J. NORDEN *Surv. Dial.* III. 150 Doe you imagine that the truest measure is by triangles? 1650 J. WYBARD *Tactometria* 3 Every continuall or continued Quantity falling under Measure (in practicall Geometry) is referred..to the discrete. 1774 MASKELYNE in *Phil. Trans.* LXIV. 167 The formula, for the measure of heights, may also be changed. 1875 *Encycl. Brit.* II. 380/2 [Archimedes] The Measure of the Circle (κύκλου μέτρησις).

b. *By measure*: as determined by measuring (in contradistinction to weighing or counting).

1553 EDEN *Treat. Newe Ind.* (Arb.) 22 It is solde there by measure, as wheat is with vs, and not by weight. 1715 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5309/4 The Page Galley,..burthen about 301 Tons by Measure. 1844 STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 394 In Scotland, grain used to be sold by measure alone. 1863 *Fownes's Chem.* (ed. 9) 144 Composition of the Atmosphere. Nitrogen. By weight 77 parts. By measure 79·19.

2. Size or quantity as ascertained or ascertainable by measuring. Now chiefly in phrase (*made*) *to measure*, i. e. (made) in accordance with measurements taken (said of garments, etc., in contradistinction to 'ready-made').

To know the measure of (a person's) *foot*: see FOOT *sb.* 26c.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 1668, I sal þe tell hou lang, hou brade, O quat mesur it sal be made. 1382 WYCLIF *Ex.* XXVI. 2 Of o mesure shal be made alle the tentis. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 32 A stake of þe same mesur & lentbe. 1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 58 Hee suffered not .. the fourme and measure of his members to be made in metall. 1668 WILKINS *Real Char.* 163 Therefore the measure of the cubit must be larger. 1703 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* 126 Their measure they note down upon a piece of paper. 1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Lab.* I. 476/2 The suit is more likely to be bought ready-made than 'made to measure'. 1857 *G. Bird's Urin. Deposits* (ed. 5) 61 It is much easier to obtain the measure than the weight of urine passed in a given time.

b. *Full, good, short* etc. *measure* (see the adjs.): ample or deficient quantity in what is sold or given by measure. Also *fig.*

Full, good measure are also appended to designations of measured quantity, to indicate something in excess of the stated amount.

1382 [see GOOD *a.* 19]. 1581, etc. [see OVER-MEASURE *sb.*]. 1706 E. WARD *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 68 What's wanting in his Guns is made up in his Cups, which are sure to have full measure. 1887 LOWELL *Democracy*, etc. 6 His audience would feel defrauded of their honest measure.

c. *To take measures* (†*measure*): to ascertain the different dimensions of a body. So, *to take the measure of* a person for clothes, etc.

c 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 11 Euclyde toke mesures, be craft of Gemytré. 15.. *Adam Bel* 283 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* II. 150 To take the mesure of that yeman, And therafter to make hys graue. 1520 GRESHAM in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. III. I. 234, I have takyn the measures of xviij. Chambres at Hamton Cortte and have made a Boke of them. 1580 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 290 Like the Taylours boys, who thinketh to take measure before he can handle the sheeres. 1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* IV. iii. 9. 1647 WARD *Simp. Cobler* 28 He that makes Coates for the Moone, had need take measure every noone. 1793 SMEATON *Edystone L.* § 97 The difficulty I had to get the proper measures taken. 1834 MARRYAT *P. Simple* ii, The man .. took my measure, and departed.

d. *techn.* The width of a printed page; the width of an organ pipe.

1683 MOXON *Mech. Exerc., Printing* xxii. ℙ 4 So many Words as will fill up the Measure pretty stiff, viz. Justifie the Line. *Ibid.* xxiv. ℙ 7 A second Form of the same Volumne, Measure and Whites. 1824 JOHNSON *Typogr.* II. 93 After having made the measure for the work, we set a line of the letter that is designed for it. 1852 SEIDEL *Organ* 76 The width of a pipe is called its measure.

e. *Fencing.* The distance of one fencer from another as determined by the length of his reach when lunging or thrusting. (In first quot. *fig.*) Also, in military drill.

1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* V. iv. 127 Come not within the measure of my wrath. 1692 SIR W. HOPE *Fencing-Master* 95 Break his measure, or make his thrust short of you. 1696 R. H. *Sch. Recreat.* 67 Measure. This is only a distance between you and your Adversary, which must be cautiously and exactly observed when he is Thrusting at you; so that you may be without his measure or reach. 1833 *Reg. Instr. Cavalry* I. 144 As soon as the Attacking File has passed on, and is out of measure, both Files will 'Slope Swords'. *Ibid.* 146 The opposing Files should .. circle 'Right' within measure. 1868 T. GRIFFITHS *Mod. Fencer* 69 The Measure ..must be determined by the length of the foil and the height of your opponent.

†**f.** Duration (of time, of a musical note). *Obs.*

1662 PLAYFORD *Skill Mus.* I. viii. 26 Pauses or Rests are silent Characters, or an Artificial omission of the Voyce or Sound, proportioned to a Certain Measure of Time. *Ibid.* xi. 36 Hold..is placed over the Note which the Author intends should be held to a longer Measure then the Note contains. 1696 PHILLIPS, *Measure of time*, is much to be regarded in handling Nativities, that when you have a Direction, you may know how long it will be before it operates. 1706 [see *measure-note* in 23].

3. *fig.* **a.** In the phrases under 2 c. † *To take measure(s*: to form an opinion or opinions; also, † *to take a fair, wrong* (etc.) *m. of. To take the measure of*, formerly *to take m. of*: to form an estimate of; now *esp.* to weigh or gauge the abilities or character of (a person), with a view to what one is to expect from him.

1650 JER. TAYLOR *Holy Living* ii. § 7 (1686) 118 He onely lived according to Nature, the other by pride and ill customs, and measures taken by other mens eyes and tongues. 1659 *Burton's Diary* (1828) IV. 458, I know nothing of it, and therefore must take measure by what is before me. 1677 HALE *Prim. Orig. Man.* 245 They thought it more sutable to take their Measures, and make their Conclusions consonant to the course of Nature. 1790 BURKE *Fr. Rev.* Wks. V. 58 If we take the measure of our rights by our exercise of them at the revolution. 1795 — *Th. Scarcity* Wks. 1842 II. 253 We cannot assure ourselves, if we take a wrong measure, from the temporary necessities of one season. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 84, I have encountered a good many of these gentlemen in actual service, and have taken their measure. 1889 DOYLE *Micah Clarke* 113 Our hostess..bustled off..to take the measure of the new-comer. 1893 *Nation* 5 Jan. LVI. 4/1 The people have taken the measure of this whole labor movement.

†**b.** Hence, An estimate, opinion, or notion. *Obs.*

1665 GLANVILL *Scepsis Sci., Addr. Roy. Soc.* A 3 b, I can expect no other from those, that judge by first sights and rash measures, then to be thought fond or insolent. 1670 in *Buccleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 487 He has given the King of France the character of all our Court ..as he himself thinks of them; so that he has .. given us wrong measures here as he has given you. *a* 1678 H. SCOUGAL *Life of God*, etc. (1735) 79 All who are enemies to holiness have taken up false measures and disadvantageous notions of it. 1691 T. H[ALE] *Acc. New Invent.* 20 Be pleased to receive the Measures of this Companies judging therein.

4. An instrument for measuring.

a. A vessel of standard capacity used for separating and dealing out fixed quantities of various substances (as grain, liquids, some vegetables, coal).

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 8834 False elnen & mesures he bro3te al clene adoun. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XIX. CXXVIII. (1495) 932 That is properly callyd mesure by whom fruyte and carne and lycour and other thynges moyste and drye ben mette. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 330 If I hafe right-wuslie..mesurd with thies mesurs to þaim at I selde ale to. 1508 *Acc. Ld. Treas. Scot.* (1902) IV. 137 For ane mesure to the Kingis gun of silvir. 1694 HOLDER *Disc. Time* 3 A Concave Measure, of known and denominated Capacity, serves to measure the Capaciousness of any other Vessel. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* I. v, A little wooden measure which had no discernible inside.

b. A graduated rod, line, tape, etc., used by builders, tailors, etc. for taking measurements; †also (see quot. 1688). See also TAPE-*measure*, YARD-*measure*.

1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 240 The streates were also directed with corde, compase and measure. 1595 SHAKS. *John* IV. ii. 196 [A tailor] with his Sheeres, and Measure in his hand. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* II. 464/1 Instruments used by Perawick Makers...Measures, are lengths of Paper or Parchment, with Figures on, by which the Hair is Woven in the rounds, according as it is to fall in the Wig, whether long or short. 169. *Ad Populum Phaleræ* I. 24 Our ancient Rolls, grown useless to preserve Our Rights, may then for Taylors Measures serve.

5. A unit or denomination of measurement.

1535 COVERDALE 1 *Chron.* xxiii[i.] 29 For all maner of weight and measure [1611 measures and size]. 1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 257 They vse waighte and measures. 1559 W. CUNNINGHAM *Cosmogr. Glasse* 56 A Barly corne (being the least measure). 1650 J. WYBARD *Tactometria* To Rdr., The Standard-measures for Wine and Ale or Beer. 1688 [see DRY *a.* 10]. *a* 1696, 1848 [see LINEAL 1 b]. 1710 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* II, *Measures of Capacity.* 1765 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* I. I. vii. 305 Superficial measures are derived by squaring those of length. 1842–59 GWILT *Archit.* § 2316 The common measure for tiling is a square of 10 feet. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVII. 196/2 The measures of time..are the only usual ones in which a natural standard exists. *Ibid.* 203/1 All the multiples and subdivisions of every measure [in the metrical system] are decimal.

b. Used for some specific unit of capacity (formerly also of length) understood from context or usage; in England often applied to the bushel.

Also, such a quantity of anything as is indicated by this unit. In translations from foreign langs. sometimes used to render the name of some definite unit: e.g. in the Bible of 1611 as translation of SEAH, COR, and BATH.

1382 WYCLIF *Luke* xvi. 7 An hundrid mesuris [1388 coris] of whete. 1494 *Will Joan Wynne* in *Somerset Med. Wills* (1901) 322, ij mesers of Ode [? = woad]. 1535 COVERDALE 1 *Sam.* xxv. 18 Fyue measures of firmentye. 1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* IV. ii. 73, I would not doe such a thing for a ioynt Ring, nor for measures of Lawne, nor for Gownes. 1605 — *Macb.* III. iv. 11 Anon wee'l drinke a Measure The Table round. 1606 — *Ant. & Cl.* II. vi. 37 To send Measures of Wheate to Rome. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. 337/2 A Measure, an Hoop, or a Strick, is 4 Pecks, or 9 Gallons. Yet some reckon but 8 gallons to the Measure, which in some places is also called a Bushel. 1787 WINTER *Syst. Husb.* 194 This field used commonly to be sowed with twenty measures of wheat, each measure containing one hundred and six pounds of eighteen ounces. 1805 FORSYTH *Beauties Scotl.* II. 253 Between 20,000 and 30,000 measures in shells .. the measure containing two Winchester bushels. 1870 BRYANT *Homer* I. VII. 234 These Brought wine, a thousand measures.

c. *Chem.* A unit of volume used in ascertaining the quantity of a gas or liquid, usually indicated by gradnations on a tube (as an alkalimeter or eudiometer) or other vessel. Also, the quantity measured by such a unit.

1807 T. THOMSON *Chem.* (ed. 3) II. 149 The gas amounted to 16 very small measures. 1845 PARNELL *Chem. Anal.* 416 Each measure of the alkalimeter represents half a grain of chloride of lime.

d. In descriptions of mixture or composition: One of a number of equal volumes indeterminate in quantity; a 'part' as estimated by measurement.

1837 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* I. 33/2 The concrete..is to consist of six measures of gravel and sand to one of ground lime. 1863 *Fownes's Chem.* (ed. 9) 144 Carbonic acid, from 3·7 measures to 6·2 measures, in 10,000 measures of air.

6. A method of measuring; *esp.* a system of standard denominations or units of length, surface, or volume.

Chiefly with qualifying word denoting the class or kind of system, the substances to which it is applied, or the locality in which it is used or originated; e. g. *linear, long, square, cubic measure*; *liquid, dry, ale, corn measure*; *Irish, London measure.*

1439 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 30/2 There as any Merchaunt..excepte at London, will make a Clothe in measuring XXIIII yerdes, they woll make therof XXII or lasse, seyinge that it is the mesure of London. 1455 *Cal. Anc. Rec. Dublin* (1889) I. 288 Al maner of women that syllyn ale..syll aftyr the Kyng's ale mesure. 1670 CAPT. J. SMITH *Eng. Improv. Reviv'd* 25 The content of the whole fence by the said Wood measure is 1466 Perch 12 foot. 1672 PETTY *Polit. Anat. Irel.* in *Tracts* (1769) 299 A perch or pole Irish measure, is 21 foot. 1709 J. WARD *Yng. Math. Guide* I. iii. (1734) 34 That there should be but one Measure for Wine, Ale and Corn, throughout this Realm. *Ibid.* 36 Dry Measure is different both from Wine and Ale Measure. 1842–59 GWILT *Archit.* § 2303 In lime measure, what is called a hundred is 100 pecks, or 25 striked bushels (old measure). 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVII. 200/2 Apothecaries' fluid measure. 1898 *Engineering Mag.* XVI. 95 The completed raft contains 450,000 lineal feet of timber, or in the neighborhood of 3,000,000 feet, board-measure.

7. That by which anything is computed or estimated, or with which it is compared in respect of quantity. Chiefly in phr. *to be the measure of.* [Cf. Gr. use of *μέτρον*.]

c 1580 SIDNEY *Ps.* VI. i, Lord,..let [not] thy rage of my due punishment Become the measure. 1612 BACON *Ess., Of Despatch* (Arb.) 244 Time is the measure of businesse, as money is of wares. 1635 WELLS *Sciographia* 113 The tangent of SG [the subtending arc] the measure of the angle Z. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey) s. v., In Philosophy, Time is the Measure of Motion; but in Mechanicks, Motion is the Measure of Time. 1852 C. W. H[OSKYNS] *Talpa* 19 The weakest link of a chain is the measure of its strength. 1865 BRANDE *Dict. Sci.*, etc. III. 606/1 The reciprocal of the radius of a circle is a measure of its curvature. 1892 KIPLING *Barrack-r. Ball.* 65 And the measure of our torment is the measure of our youth.

b. A standard or rule of judgement; a criterion, test; also, a standard by which something is determined or regulated. Now *rare*.

1641 in *Rushworth's Hist. Coll.* (1692) III. I. 555 Having ..no measure of happiness or misfortune in this world, but what I derive from your Majesties value of my affection and fidelity. 1660 STANLEY *Hist. Philos.* XI. *Protagoras* ii. (1687) 768 He began one of his Books thus: Man is..the measure of all things. 1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* III. vi. § 22 Our abstract ideas are to us the measures of species. 1785 PALEY *Mor. Philos.* II. ix, The will of God is the measure of right and wrong. 1830 TENNYSON *Poems* 153 Man is the measure of all truth Unto himself.

c. In collocation with RULE *sb.* (q. v.).

8. *Math.* A quantity which divides or is contained in another quantity some number of times without remainder; a submultiple. Thus, 2, 3, 4, and 6 are all *measures* of 12. [After Gr. *μέτρον*.]

Common measure = common divisor (see DIVISOR 1 b). Also *fig.* or allusively. *Greatest common measure* (abbreviated G.C.M.): the greatest quantity that divides each of a number of given quantities exactly.

1570 DEE *Math. Pref.* 5 In pure Arithmetike, an Vnit, is the common Measure of all Numbers. 1570 BILLINGSLEY *Elem. Geom.* 234 b, It is required of these three magnitudes to finde out the greatest common measure. 1656 HOBBES *Six Less.* Wks. 1845 VII. 196 One quantity is the measure of another quantity, when it, or the multiple of it, is coincident in all points with the other quantity. 1727–52 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v., 9 is a measure of 27. 1870 J. H. NEWMAN *Gramm. Assent* I. iv. 80 The establishment of a common measure between mind and mind. 1875 COLENSO *Elem. Alg.* v. 48 We may sometimes find by inspection the G.C.M. of two quantities.

9. [*? concr.* of sense 2.] A stratum or bed of mineral; now only *pl.* (*Geol.*) in *coal-measures, culm measures* (see CULM[1] 3).

1665 [see COAL-MEASURE]. 1686 PLOT *Staffordsh.* 158 The other Iron Ores..which lye in some places but thin, others thicker, and as the coal is, divided into measures of different denominations. 1795 AIKIN *Manchester* 523 The measures or strata, by which the beds of coal are divided. 1837 [see CULM[1] 3]. 1865 LYELL *Elem. Geol.* 532 The Devonian group..its relations to the overlying Carboniferous rocks or 'Culm Measures'. 1881 RAYMOND *Mining Gloss., Measures*, strata of coal, or the formation containing coal beds.

II. Prescribed or limited extent or quantity.

†10. What is commensurate or adequate; satisfaction (of appetite, desire, need). *Obs.*

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 55 And he sette muðes mesure on his ferde þat he gaderede [L. *et fecit gulam militiæ suæ principem*]. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 224 A mannez dom moȝt dryȝly demme, Er mynde moȝt malte in hit mesure. 1593 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI*, II. iii. 32 Till either death hath clos'd these eyes of mine, Or Fortune giuen me measure of Reuenge. 1607 — *Cor.* II. ii. 127 He cannot but with measure fit the Honors which we deuise him.

11. †a. Proportion; due proportion, symmetry.

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 806 Sho gafe hym a glasse with a good lycour, And bade..To werke it in mesure. *Ibid.* 1648 The windowes, worthely wroght in a mesure. *c* 1407 LYDG. *Reas. & Sens.* 58 Wyth the which she dooth gouerne Euery maner creature, With-oute[n] ordre or mesure. 1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* v. lv. § 2 Measure is that which perfecteth all things. 1600 E. BLOUNT tr. *Conestaggio* 25 For being an exercise that requireth order and measure, all things were there disordered and confused. 1662 EVELYN *Chalcogr.* Table, Measure and proportion have Influence on all our Actions.

b. *In measure as*: in proportion as. [A Gallicism: cf. F. *à mesure que.*]

1789 COWPER *Let. to Newton* 16 Aug. *Wks.* (1836) VI. 256 [Fame] is a commodity that daily sinks in value, in measure as the consummation of all things approaches. 1894 G. MOORE *Esther Waters* 332 His irritability increased in measure as he perceived the medicine was doing him no good.

†c. *To hold measure with*: to be proportionate to or commensurate with. *Obs.*

1611 TOURNEUR *Ath. Tragedie* I. i, Now let thy trust.. Hold measure with thy amplitude of wit.

12. An extent not to be exceeded; a limit. Now only in certain phrases, as *to set measures to, to know no measure* (see also b and c).

1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 234 That he schal mesure His bodi, so that no mesure Of fleisshly lust he scholde excede. 1514 BARCLAY *Cyt. & Uplondyshm.* (Percy Soc.) 30 Thou passest mesure, Faustus. 1530 PALSGR. 572/1 This mater gothe out of mesure, *ceste matiere se desmesure.* 1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] tr. *Acosta's Hist. Indies* I. vi. 19 Although the great Ocean stretcheth farre, yet doth it never passe this measure. 1633 G. HERBERT *Temple, Ch. Porch* xix, If thy sonne can make ten pound his measure. 1659 PEARSON *Creed* (1839) 272 What bounds can we set unto that grief, what measures to that anguish? 1667 MILTON *P. L.* V. 517 Full to the utmost measure of what bliss Human desires can seek or apprehend. 1710 PHILIPS *Pastorals* i. 14 Fond Love no Cure will have..nor any Measure knows. *a* 1716 SOUTH *Twelve Serm.* (1744) XI. 162 To determine and give measures to the divine bounty and wisdom, to tell it what it ought to do.

b. In advb. phr. *Beyond* (*above*, † *without*, † *over*) *measure*, also † *out of measure, out of all measure* (arch.): beyond all bounds, excessively. † Formerly (esp. Sc.) used also predicatively = boundless, unlimited, excessive.

c 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* I. 570 He wes angry out of mesur. *Ibid.* XVII. 810 The laiff our mesur war wery. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) XXX. 137 On lenth it es withouten mesure. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* II. i. 77 The damoysel made grete sorow oute of mesure. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VII. vi. 59 Abufe myssuyr forsuth thai chaistyit war. 1530 PALSGR. 418/2 This adversite hath anguissed me beyonde measure. 1565 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 370 A thing sa far beyond all measour that [etc.]. 1642 ROGERS *Naaman* To Rdr. § 2 So Selfe encountered with a Law, proves out of measure sinfull. 1665 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (1677) 356 The air is usually warm, and at some time above measure. 1706 E. WARD *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 73 He's so often out of Measure in his Drinking. 1856 R. A. VAUGHAN *Mystics* (1860) I. VI. iii. 166 He was full of Eckart's doctrine, out of all measure admiring the wonderful man. 1872 BLACK *Adv. Phaeton* XXXI. 414 My Lady was once vexed beyond measure.

c. *To keep* or *observe measure*(*s*: to be moderate or restrained in action. † *To keep measures with*: to use consideration towards (a person).

1551 R. ROBINSON tr. *More's Utopia* II. (Arb.) 135 In rewardes they kepe no measure. 1710 SHAFTESB. *Charac.* (1737) II. 266 Our Author..endeavours to shew Civility and Favour, by keeping the fairest Measures he possibly can with Men of this sort. 1734 tr. *Rollin's Rom. Hist.* (1827) III. 69 He thought fit to observe measures with him in the beginning, hoping, perhaps, by gentle methods to bring him back to his duty. *Ibid.* 74 He no longer observed any measures and reigned like a true tyrant. 1792 W. ROBERTS *Looker-On* No. 7 (1794) I. 93 If his taylor continue to disappoint him, I promise to keep no measures with the delinquent. *a* 1832 MACINTOSH *Life More* Wks. 1846 I. 493 More, having no longer any measures to keep, openly declared, that [etc.]. 1852 M. ARNOLD *Second Best* i. 2 Quiet living, strict-kept measure. 1863 COWDEN CLARKE *Shakesp. Char.* viii. 198 He keeps no measure in his contempt for him.

d. In Biblical phrases. *By measure, in measure*: to a limited extent, in part. *To fill up the measure of*: to complete the sum of (one's iniquities), to add what is wanting to the completeness of (a person's misfortunes). [A blending of Matt. xxiii. 32 with Gen. xv. 16; cf. F. *combler la mesure.*]

1382 WYCLIF *Ezek.* iv. 11 And thou shalt drynke water in mesure [Vulg. *in mensura*] the sixt part of hyn. [1382 — *Matt.* xxiii. 32 ȝe fulfillen the mesure of ȝoure fadris.] 1535 COVERDALE *John* iii. 34 God geueth not the sprete (vnto him) by measure. 1581 N. BURNE *Disputation* 143 The mesour of impietie begun be him is nocht zit fullie accomplished. 1611 BIBLE *Jer.* XXX. 11, I will correct thee in measure, and will not leaue thee altogether vnpunished. *a* 1716 BLACKALL *Wks.* I. 66 To obtain that Righteousness which they desire, (here in good measure, and hereafter to the full). 1820 W. IRVING *Sk. Book* II. 267 To fill up the measure of his misfortunes. 1846 TRENCH *Mirac.* xvi. (1862) 276 The prophets having grace only in measure, so in measure they wrought their miracles. 1856 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* (1858) I. ii. 91 The church was allowed a hundred and fifty more years, to fill full the measure of her offences.

†13. Moderation, temperance. *Of measure*: moderate, temperate. *By measure, in measure*: in moderation. *Obs.*

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 74 Vt of god into vuel, & from mesure into unimete. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 247 Al in mesure & meþe was made þe vengaunce. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 112 Slep..helpeth kinde..Whan it is take be mesure. *a* 1400 *Sir Perc.* 397 Luke thou be of mesure Bothe in haulle and in boure. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 81 Iche thynge is prayssed if it in mesure be. 1548 CRANMER *Catech.* 182 Vf we wyll be contente with a meane dyet, and kepe a measure in our apparell. 1583 BABINGTON *Commandm.* 194 It hath euer been helde, that blushing in measure, modestie, and silence haue been commendable tokens in yong yeeres. 1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II*, III. iv. 7 My Legges can keepe no measure in Delight, When my poore Heart no measure keepes in Griefe. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VII. 128 Knowledge.. needs..Her Temperance over Appetite, to know In measure what the mind may well contain.

personified. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XIV. 70 If men lyued as mesure wolde. *c* 1412 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 502 Mesure is out of londe on pylgrymage. *a* 1510 DOUGLAS *K. Hart* ii. 511 That fayr sweit thing [Chastity].. That.. euirmore is mareit with mesour.

b. Proverbs.

1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. I. 33 Mesure is Medicine þauh þou muche3eor[n]e. 1399 — *Rich. Redeles* II. 139 Mesure is a meri mene. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 208 Men wryte of oold how mesour is tresour. *a* 1529 SKELTON *Sp. Parrot* 64 In mesure is tresure. ? 1570 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xvii. 44 Thinkand alwayis that mesure was ane feist. *a* 1598 FERGUSSON *Prov.* (1785) 13 He that forsakes missour, missour forsakes him.

† c. ? A compromise. *Obs.*

1425 *Paston Lett.* I. 21 If this mesure be accepted.

14. A quantity, degree, or proportion (of something), esp. as granted to or bestowed upon a person.

1610 GUILLIM *Heraldry* III. xiv. (1660) 171 The Buck.. hath a degree and measure of all the properties of the Stag. 1671 MILTON *Samson* 1439 For never was from Heaven imparted Measure of strength so great to mortal seed. 1674 W. ALLEN *Danger Enthus.* 105 Mens differences about these points proceed..from their different measures of Light and understanding. 1784 COWPER *Task* V. 309 In whom lust And folly in as ample measure meet As in the bosoms of the slaves he rules. 1850 SCORESBY *Cheever's Whalem. Adv.* xiii. (1859) 181 We had a good measure of these contingents of successful enterprise. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) III. 680 Critias..begs that a larger measure of indulgence may be conceded to him. 1877 'H. A. PAGE' *De Quincey* I. x. 200 To do some measure of steady work.

b. In advb. phr. formed with preps. *In a great* or *large measure* († *in good m.*, † *after some large m.*): to a considerable extent or degree, largely. *In some* or *a measure*: to a certain extent, in some degree, somewhat. *In* († *upon*) *the same measure*: to the same extent.

138. WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 360 þei [*sc.* curatis] shulden lyve on þe puple in good mesure as Poul biddiþ. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* I. ii. 30, I will condole in some measure. 1611 BIBLE *Ps.* LXXX. 5 Thou..giuest them teares to drinke in great measure. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* X. 493 The recouery (after some large measure) of my health. 1662 STILLINGFL. *Orig. Sacr.* I. i. § 20 Which difference of writing is in a great measure the cause of the different dialect between the Athenians and Ionians. 1664 EVELYN *Pomona* Gen. Advt. (1729) 91 Cider cannot be unwholesome upon the same Measure that stummed wine is so. 1736 BUTLER *Anal.* II. iii. Wks. 1874 I. 180 Objections against Christianity itself are, in a great measure, frivolous. 1871 SMILES *Charac.* i. (1876) 8 Goodness in a measure implies wisdom. 1895 R. L. DOUGLAS in *Bookman* Oct. 22/2 Louis [XIV] was in a large measure responsible for the horrors of the Revolution.

15. Treatment (of a certain kind) 'meted out' to a person, esp. by way of punishment or retribution. *Obs.* or *arch.* exc. in *hard measure.*

1593 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI*, II. vi. 55 In stead whereof, let this supply the roome, Measure for measure, must be answered. 1601 — *All's Well* II. iii. 273 This is bard and vndeserued measure. 1603 — *Meas. for M.* III. ii. 257 He professes to haue receiued no sinister measure from his Iudge. 1611 BIBLE *Transl. Pref.* ¶ 3 This is the measure that hath been rendred to excellent Princes in former times, euen..For their good deedes to be euill spoken of. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* I. 513 He from mightier Jove..like measure found. *a* 1715 BURNET *Own Time* (1724) I. 558 He thought he had met with hard measure. 1784 COWPER *Ep. Jos. Hill* 55 O happy Britain! we have not to fear Such hard and arbitrary measure here. 1887 A. BIRRELL *Obiter Dicta* Ser. II. 67 It is certainly hard measure on the poor fellow.

III. 'Measured' sound or movement.

16. Poetical rhythm, as 'measured' by quantity

or accent; a kind of poetical rhythm; a metrical group or period; = METRE. Now only *literary*.

Long measure (in hymns): see LONG *a.*[1] A. 18.

c 1450 LYDG. & BURGH *Secrees* 1530 Or of metrys the feet to make equal, be tyme and proporcion kepyng my mesurys. 1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* II. iii. (Arb.) 81 Meeter and measure is all one, for what the Greekes called *μετρον*, the Latines call *Mensura*, and is but the quantitie of a verse, either long or short. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, v. ii. 139. 1699 BENTLEY *Phal.* 198 It is an Iambic Verse; and it was a good while after the invention of Comedy and Tragedy, before that Measure was used in them. 1706 A. BEDFORD *Temple Mus.* vi. 115 The..Verse consisted of Two Measures, and each of them of Ten Syllables. 1778 JOHNSON *L. P., Cowley* (1868) 23 To the disproportion and incongruity of Cowley's sentiments must be added the uncertainty and looseness of his measures. 1820 HAZLITT *Lect. Dram. Lit.* 73 It is beautiful prose put into heroic measure. 1869 A. J. ELLIS *E. E. Pronunc.* iv. § 4. 333 Chaucer's verse seems to consist generally of five measures.

17. An air, tune, melody. Now *poet.*

1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 301 Bot if ye the mesure pleide, Which, if you list, I schal you liere. *c* 1461 *E. E. Misc.* (Warton Club) 50 A pype, boy, thou schalt have also, True of measure schall it go. 1595 SHAKS. *John* III. i. 304 Shall braying trumpets, and loud churlish drums..be measures to our pomp. 1774 BRYANT *Mythol.* I. 445 A great musician, and particularly expert in all pastoral measure. 1842 LYTTON *Zanoni* 22 He would pour forth..strange wild measures, on his violin. 186. BRYANT *Sella* 361 They called for quaint old measures.

18. *Mus.* **a.** The relation between the time-values of a note of one denomination and a note of the next, determining the kind of rhythm (duple, triple, etc.); hence, the time of a piece of music. (Also called MODE.)

1597 MORLEY *Introd. Mus.* Annot. *4 This [triple time] is the common hackney horse of all the Composers, which is of so manie kindes as there be maners of pricking,..and yet all one measure. 1601 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* v. i. 41 The triplex, sir, is a good tripping measure. 1662 PLAYFORD *Skill Mus.* I. vii. 23 Measure..is a Quantity of the length and shortness of Time, either by Natural Sounds pronounced by the Voyce, or by Artificial upon Instruments; which Measure is by a certain Motion of the Hand expressed in a varietie of Notes. 1727–52 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v. *Time*, The mode or measure of two times, or the dupla measure. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XII. 533/1 There are properly two kinds of measures or modes of time: the measure of two times, or of common time..and the measure of three times, or of triple time. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVIII. 207/1 It admits but one measure, the duple. 1901 H. E. WOOLDRIDGE *Oxf. Hist. Mus.* I. 102 A special name, *Cantus mensurabilis*, was indeed often adopted by many authors, to describe the music in which measure was present throughout.

b. Each portion of a musical composition comprising a group of notes beginning with a main accent, and commonly included between two vertical lines or bars; a 'bar' (see BAR *sb.*[1] 16).

1667 C. SIMPSON *Pract. Mus.* I. § 10. 30 The Mood .. called Perfect of the Less, in which three Semibreves went to a Measure. 1878 F. TAYLOR in Grove *Dict. Music* I. 136 The word bar is also commonly, though incorrectly, applied to the portion contained between any two such vertical lines [bars], such portion being termed a 'measure'.

¶ **c.** Inaccurately used for L. *modus* as transl. of Gr. *τρόπος, ἁρμονία*: see MODE.

1635 CARPENTER *Geog. Del.* II. xiv. 247 The Northerne mans humour consortes best with the Phrygian measure, a loud and stirring harmony. 1776 BURNEY *Hist. Mus.* I. iii. 60 The Lydian measure was appropriated to..songs of sorrow.

19. Rhythmical motion, esp. as regulated by music; the rhythm of a movement. *To keep measure*: to observe strict time.

1576 FLEMING tr. *Caius' Dogs* 35 Dogges..which are taught..to daunce in measure at the musicall sounde of an instrument. 1623 BINGHAM *Xenophon* 104 All this is performed in measure to the Flute. 1655 STANLEY *Hist. Philos.* I. vii. (1687) 25/1 He first taught Soldiers to march by the sound of Fifes and Harps, observing a kind of measure in their pace. 1694 ADDISON *St. Cecilia's Day* Wks. 1726 I. 33 The Bears in aukward measures leap. *a* 1704 T. BROWN *On Beauties* Wks. 1730 I. 44 May she in measure like Clarinda move. 1704 PRIOR *To Mrs. Singer* 14 If Amaryllis breatbes thy secret pains, And thy fond heart beats measure to thy strains. 1800–24 CAMPBELL *Pilgrim of Glencoe* 8 Whose crews..Keep measure with their oars. 1864 D. G. MITCHELL *Sev. Stor.* 253 He would beat the measure of a light polka on his pallet.

20. A dance, *esp.* a grave or stately dance; often in phr. *tread a measure.* Now *arch.*

1509 [see DANCE *v.* 4]. 1584 LYLY *Campaspe* IV. iii, To tread the measurs in a daunce. 1590 MARLOWE *2nd Pt. Tamburl.* v. i, Where fair Semiramis..Hath trod the measures. 1671 MILTON *P. L.* I. 170 All Heaven..in Celestial measures mov'd Circling the Throne and Singing. 1808 SCOTT *Marmion* v. xii, Now tread we a measure! said young Lochinvar. *a* 1839 PRAED *Poems* (1864) II. 44 And dancers leave the cheerful measure To seek the Lady's missing treasure. 1888 W. E. HENLEY *Bk. Verses* 28 Kate the scrubber..treads a measure.

†**b.** *To lead* (a person) *the measures*: to 'lead him a dance'. *Obs.*

1594 NASHE *Unfort. Trav.* K 4 b, Hee stript her, and scourged her from top to toe tantara. Dny by day he disgested his meate with leading her the measures.

IV. 21. A plan or course of action intended to attain some object. **a.** *pl.* esp. in phrases *to take, adopt,* †*follow, pursue* (certain) *measures.* † *To break* (a person's) *measures* [= F. *rompre* (*ses*) *mesures*]: to frustrate his plans. † *In the measures of*: privy to the plans of.

This sense of to take measures' (*prendre des mesures*) is adopted from Fr.; Littré regards it as developed from the sense 'to form an estimate of a situation', in which the phrase also occurs. Cf. 3 above.

1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 51 By the Measures they follow, this also in time must fall into their hands. 1700 S. L. tr. *Fryke's Voy. E. Ind.* 185 We agreed there in an instant to take our measures about it. 1704 TRAPP *Abra-Mulé* I. i. 323 On purpose to defeat My close Contrivances, and break my Measures. 1708 PARTRIDGE *Bickerstaff detected* in *Swift's Wks.* (1755) II. I. 168 [He] has paid his visits to St. Germains, and is now in the measures of Lewis XIV. *a* 1715 BURNET *Own Time* (1724) II. 360 He pursued the Measures, which he had begun to take, of raising new Divisions in that Kingdom. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* II. (Globe) 594 My Measures being fix'd.. for Arch-Angel, and not to Muscovy. 1767 T. HUTCHINSON *Hist. Prov. Mass. Bay* iii. 297 This rupture with the Indians broke his measures. 1817 JAS. MILL *Brit. India* II. v. v. 476 Pondicherry was the object of importance; and it was resolved to lose no time in taking measures for its reduction. 1874 J. R. GREEN *Short Hist.* viii. § 4 (1882) 494 The measures of Laud soon revived the panic of the Puritans. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 604 To assist the external measures by internal medication.

b. *sing.*

1767 A. YOUNG *Farmer's Lett. to People* 36 Every just argument that can be urged for or against any measure. 1833 HT. MARTINEAU *Charmed Sea* i. 7 Before..any measure of prevention..could be taken. 1841 BREWSTER *Mart. Sci.* II. iii. 170 His first plan was to remove every thing from Huen, as a measure of security. 1842 BORROW *Bible in Spain* xxxviii, This measure by no means took me by surprise.

22. *spec.* A legislative enactment proposed or adopted.

1759 ROBERTSON *Hist. Scot.* I. Wks. 1851 I. 64 In none of our historians do we find an instance of any opposition formed against the court in parliament, or mention of any difficulty in carrying through the measures which were agreeable to the king. 1839 KEIGHTLEY *Hist. Eng.* II. 57 The great measure of this parliament was that respecting religious doctrines. 1879 MCCARTHY *Own Times* II. xviii. 27 This measure was passed rapidly through all its stages.

b. Phrase, *Measures, not men.*

1742 LD. CHESTERFIELD 6 Mar. *Lett.* (1845) III. 138, I have opposed measures, not men. 1769 *Junius Lett.* xxvi. note (1788) 141 Measures, and not men, is the common cant of affected moderation. 1792 *Anecd. W. Pitt* (1797) I. x. 224 Some disliked the measures, others disliked the men. 1839 BAILEY *Festus* (1852) 113, I care for measures more than men.

V. 23. *attrib.* and *Comb.*: **measure-filling** *a.*, filling up the measure (of iniquity); **measure-full**, as much as will fill a measure; **measure-glass**, a graduated glass for measuring drugs, medicine, etc.; †**measure-keeping**, moderation; †**measure line**, a measuring line; **measure-moth**, a geometer moth (*Cent. Dict.*); † **measure-note**, a semibreve; also, the length of note indicated by the lower figure in the rhythmical signature of a piece; † **measure pot**, a pot used for measuring out liquids; **measure-strip**, a strip of paper used by tailors in taking measures; † **measure time**, the slow time of the dances called 'measures'; **measure-work**, piece work (cf. *measured work*).

1713 M. HENRY *Ordin. Serm.* Wks. 1857 II. 510/2 Jerusalem's *measure-filling sin. 1851 BORROW *Lavengro* lxviii, 'The largest *measure-full in your house', said I...'This is not the season for half-pint mugs'. 1899 tr. *R. von Jaksch's Clinical Diagnosis* (ed. 4) vii. 36 Ten or twenty cc...each of solutions j and ij are mixed together in a *measure-glass. 1553 GRIMALDE *Cicero's Offices* III. (1558) 165 b, Semelinesse, *measurekeping [L. *moderatio*], sobermode, stayednesse. 1535 COVERDALE *Zech.* ii. 1 A man with a *measure lyne in his honde. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), **Measure-Note* .. the Semibreve..so call'd because it is of a certain determinate Measure, or Length of Time by itself. 1809 CALLCOTT *Mus. Gram.* (ed. 2) 36 Compound Triple Time is formed by dividing the Measures of simple Triple into nine parts, and by dotting the Measure Note of the original Time. 1562 R. WEST in *Hist. Comp. Pewterers* (1903) 1 A ffalse maker of *measure pottes. 1887 HALLIWELL *Life Shaks.* II. 382 Some deeds had been given to a tailor for conversion into *measure-strips. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 113 As when Galliard Time, and *Measure Time, are in the Medley of one Dance. 1852 C. W. H[OSKYNS] *Talpa* 25 Furrows are avoided as a nuisance and a loss, except as a mark for *measure-work.

Measure (me·ʒ'ūr), *v.* Forms: see prec. sb. [a. F. *mesure-r*, f. *mesure* MEASURE *sb.* Cf. L. *mēnsūrāre.*]

†**1.** *trans.* To regulate, moderate, restrain. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 28918 Þat þou can mesure þe quen þat þou giues þi charite. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* ii. (*Paulus*) 166 Nero, mesure þi gret foly. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 3928 Troilus ..mesuret his maners, þof he þe myrth vsid. *c* 1485 *Digby Myst.* (1882) iv. 264 Gud Mawdleyn, mesure youre distillinge teres! *a* 1500 *Mankind* 227 (Brandl) Mesure yowur sylf; euer be ware of excesse! 1574 tr. *Marlorat's Apocalips* 40 Too measure our sorow, so as wee giue not our selues ouer too it.

†**b.** To limit or restrict (a person). *Obs. rare*—[1].

1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 149 b, It was lawful neither for him nor no man els to prescribe or measure them in this behalf.

2. To ascertain or determine the spatial magnitude or quantity of (something); *properly*, by the application of some object of known size or capacity. Also, in extended sense, to ascertain the quantity of (e. g. force, heat, time) by comparison with some fixed unit.

a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* lix. 6 The dale of tabernacles I sal mesour [L. *metibor*]. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxii. (*Laurentius*) 552 He gert mesoure þe tre sone, & fand It mare he quantyte þane to þe wark nedit be. 1481 CAXTON *Myrr.* I. xi. 37 Thus is by geometrye mesured alle thingis. 1530 PALSGR. 634/1, I mesure clothe with a yerde. 1535 COVERDALE *Ezek.* xlii. 15 When he had measured all the ynnermer house. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. 260/2 Some measure..Salmons and Eels by Ale Measure. 1732 POPE *Ess. Man* II. 20 Go, measure earth, weigh air, and state the tides. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1862) I. xx. 124 Those Instruments called anemometers, which are made to measure the velocity of the wind. 1816 PLAYFAIR *Nat. Phil.* II. 41 The angles of these triangles are to be measured. 1844 STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 276 Corn is measured up direct from the fanners in this way. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. xxi. 149, I..endeavoured to measure some of the undulations.

b. With clause as obj.

1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* I. ii. 25 Till you had measur'd how long a Foole you were vpon the ground.

c. To take (a person's) measure *for* clothes, etc.

1836 MARRYAT *Japhet* xvi, I ordered a suit of the most fashionable clothes,..being very minute in my directions to the foreman, who measured me. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* ii, You have been already measured for your mourning, haven't you? 1880 'OUIDA' *Moths* I. 57 Measure me for my clothes.

d. *fig.* To take the measure of (a person); to look (a person) up and down. (Cf. F. *mesurer.*)

1747 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1768) I. viii. 48 My Brother.. having measured me, as I may say, with his eyes.. from head to foot. 1896 A. E. HOUSMAN *Shropshire Lad* xli, In many an eye that measures me.

e. With dimensions or amounts as obj. Also, to mark or lay off (a line of definite length) in a certain direction.

1382 WYCLIF *Ezek.* xlviii. 30 Fro the north coost thou shalt mesure fyue hundrid and foure thousandis. 1535 COVERDALE *Num.* xxxv. 5 Ye shal measure without the cite on ye East syde, two thousand cubites. 1611 BIBLE *Ruth* iii. 15 He measured sixe measures of barley, and laide it on her. 1844 MRS. BROWNING *Drama Exile* 10 Whence to mark despair, And measure out the distances from good! 1853 SIR H. DOUGLAS *Milit. Bridges* (ed. 3) 61 Having measured a line, as A E, .. in any convenient direction. 1882 MINCHIN *Unipl. Kinemat.* 210 By measuring from *P* along the lines PA_1, PA_2, PA_3, ..lengths, Pa_1, Pa_2, Pa_3.

f. *To measure* (†*out*) *one's length*: to fall prostrate.

Cf. 1611 BIBLE 1 *Kings* xvii. 21 He stretched [*margin* Hebr. measured] himselfe vpon the childe. [The Vulgate has *mensus est*, whence Wyclif *mesurede.*]

1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* III. ii. 429 Faintnesse constraineth me, To measure out my length on this cold bed. 1605 — *Lear* I. iv. 100 If you will measure your lubbers length againe, tarry. 1838 DICKENS *Nich. Nick.* xix, He lost his balance, and measured his length upon the ground. 1853 W. STIRLING *Cloister Life Chas. V* 163 Many of his cedars ..measured their length upon the discomfited parterres.

†**g.** To form of, raise or reduce to, certain dimensions or proportions. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 22952 [God] mai..Mak a wel fairer licam, And if þar-of was mar or less, To mesure [*a* 1425 *Trin.* To mesure hit] als his will es. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 3033 With browes full brent..Full metly made & mesured betwene. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* XII. iv. 35 The forrettis of thir beistis toppis baith They clip and missour, as tho was the gys.

h. *absol.* or *intr.* To take measurements; to use a measuring instrument.

1611 BIBLE *Deut.* xxi. 2 They shall measure vnto the cities which are round about him that is slaine. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) V. 36 The young carpenter should be taught to measure and use the rule.

i. *intr.* (in *pass.* sense). To admit of measurement.

1765 *Museum Rust.* III. 222 My malt..does not shrink so much when it comes to be laid on the kiln; of course it measures to more advantage.

j. *To measure swords*: *lit.* of adversaries in a duel, to ascertain that their swords are of equal length. Hence, to contend in battle, try one's strength *with* (cf. sense 10).

Cf. F. *mesurer les épées, mesurer son épée avec.*

1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* v. iv. 91 And so wee measur'd swords, and parted. 1852 THACKERAY *Esmond* II. ii, You.. wanted to measure swords with Mohun, did you? 1878 BOSW. SMITH *Carthage* 267 Four times over he had now measured his sword with the future conquerors of the world.

3. *trans.* Chiefly with *out*: To mark the boundary or course of; to delimit. *poet.*

1513 BRADSHAW *St. Werburge* I. 200 The..ryuer and water of Mersee..Mesurynge and metynge the bondes..Bitwene chesshyr & lancashyr. 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* II. vi. 2 Heere lie I downe, And measure out my graue. 1781 COWPER *Expost.* 177 A cloud to measure out their march by day.

4. To have a measurement of (so much).

1671 MILTON *P. R.* I. 210 E're yet my age Had measur'd twice six years. 1823 H. J. BROOKE *Introd. Crystallogr.* 198 The planes M on M', measure 120°. 1833 LOUDON *Encycl. Cottage Archit.* § 297 Each shutter measuring four feet six inches superficial. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 540 The circumference of his head measures 22 inches.

b. *intr.* To vie in measurement *with.*

1712 ARBUTHNOT *John Bull* I. xi, The prodigious dimensions of them. In short, they would have measured with the best bale of cloth in John's shop.

5. *trans.* To estimate the amount, duration, value, etc. of (an immaterial thing) by comparison with some standard.

1667 MILTON *P. L.* XII. 554 How soon hath thy prediction, Seer blest, Measur'd this transient World, the Race of time, Till time stand fixt. 1695 LOCKE *Further Consid. Value Money* 5 'Tis by the quantity of Silver he gets for it in Exchange..that he measures the value of the Commodity he sells. 1790 COWPER *Catharina* 48 And by Philomel's annual note To measure the life that she leads. 1837 LYTTON

E. Maltrav. (1851) 40 We may measure our road to wisdom by the sorrows we have undergone.

6. To judge or estimate the greatness or value of (a person, a quality, etc.) by a certain standard or rule; to appraise by comparison with something else.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* III. pr. ii. 51 (Camb. MS.), Many folk mesuren and gessen þat souereyn good by loye and gladnesse [L. *Plurimi vero boni fructum gaudio lætitiaque metiuntur*]. 1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* XXI. (1555) 100 Who of this science dooth know the certaynte All mysteries might measure perfytely. 1586 B. YOUNG *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* IV. 195 b, We ought perfectlie to..understand the sentences of our auncestors, and measure them with their customes. 1597 SHAKS. *2 Hen. IV*, v. ii. 65. 1605 — *Macb.* V. viii. 45. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 199 It is great injustice, that our actions should be measured by opinion, and not by reason. 1622 BACON *Hen. VII* 45 In all which the King measured and valued things amisse. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* I. ii. 4 Men measure, not onely other men, but all other things, by themselves. *c* 1655 MILTON *Sonn., to C. Skinner*, To measure life, learn thou betimes. 1784 COWPER *Task* I. 396 Measure life By its true worth, the comfort it affords. 1879 FROUDE *Cæsar* viii. 71 Sylla had measured the difficulty of the task which lay before him. 1884 GILMOUR *Mongols* 78 Measuring me by himself he supposed that I was merely telling a lie.

7. To be the measure of, or a means of measuring.

1590 SNAKS. *Com. Err.* III. ii. 113 An Ell and three quarters, will not measure her from hip to hip. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* v. 581 Time..measures all things durable By present, past, and future. 1775 HARRIS *Philos. Arrangem.* (1841) 338 *note*, The measurer and the thing measured should reciprocate; so that while the gallon measures the wine, the wine should measure the gallon. 1821 LAMB *Elia* Ser. I. *Old Benchers I. T.*, The..sun-dials..seeming coevals with that Time which they measured. 1842–59 GWILT *Archit.* § 917 The angle formed by a tangent and chord is measured by half the arc of that chord. 1868 LOCKYER *Elem. Astron.* v. (1879) 190 For common purposes, time is measured by the Sun.

absol. 1614 RAVENSCROFT *Brief Discourse* 3 The Minime is the first Note that Measureth (being in it selfe indiuisible) and the Semibreue the first note Measured.

b. *Math.* Of a quantity: To be a measure or submultiple of (another quantity); †*refl.* to be exactly divisible *by*. † Also *absol.*

1570 BILLINGSLEY *Euclid* 126 The other kinde of a part, is any lesse quantitie in comparison of a greater, whether it be in number or magnitude, and whether it measure or no. *Ibid.* 234 If a magnitude measure two magnitudes, it shall also measure their greatest common measure. 1709–29 V. MANDEY *Syst. Math., Arith.* 6 Every number measures it self by unity; so 7 measures it self by 1.

8. To apportion by measure; to mete or deal *out*. (Also *absol.* or *intr.*, and in indirect pass.) *arch.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 27159 Preist..þat mesurs oft-sithes vr penances. 1452 in Gross *Gild Merch.* (1890) II. 67 The sayde..wardens shall mesure & devyde trulye to ewry of theme after harr degree. 1530 PALSGR. 635/1 By the same mesure that you mesure to other men wyll men mesure by to you. 1579 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 92 That thou maist be mesured vnto, with the lyke measure that thou hast meaten vnto others. 1674 BREVINT *Saul at Endor* 241 If you be not pleased with this Mesuring Indulgences. 1790 GOUV. MORRIS in Sparks *Life & Writ.* (1832) II. 117 Each district measures out its obedience by its wishes. 1818 CAUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) VI. 165 To measure out the quantity of estate that the devisee was to take. 1876 L. STEPHEN *Eng. Th. in 18th C.* II. XII. vi. 429 Sermons were measured out with no grudging hand.

† b. To deal blows upon, to strike. (Cf. F. *mesurer un coup.*)

1652 J. WRIGHT tr. *Camus' Nat. Paradox* VI. 132 Hee had his Arm already up to measure Pisides o're the Shoulders.

9. To proportion, adjust (something) *to* an object, or by a standard.

1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. xii. 33 On the rocke the waves breaking aloft A solemne Meane unto them measured. 1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* III. i. 153 Measure not thy entertainment of a guest by his estate, but thine own. 1650 JER. TAYLOR *Holy Living* ii. § 7 (1686) 117 If you will secure a contented spirit, you must measure your desires by your fortune,..not your fortunes by your desires. 1732 POPE *Ess. Man* I. 71 His knowledge measur'd to his state and place.

† b. To be commensurate with. *Obs.*

1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 43 Your promise was, that your dealing shoulde measure their deserving. 1633 G. HERBERT *Temple*, *23rd Psalm*, Thy sweet and wondrous love Shall measure all my days.

10. To bring into competition, opposition, or comparison *with*. Also *refl.* to try one's strength *against*.

1715–20 POPE *Iliad* XXIII. 888 All start at once; Oileus led the race; The next Ulysses, measuring pace with pace. 1784 COWPER *Task* IV. 337 To measure lots With less distinguish'd than ourselves. 1817 JAS. MILL *Brit. India* II. IV. v. 187 He was pleased to measure dignities with his king. 1838 PRESCOTT *Ferd. & Is.* II. XIV. III. 182 He was compelled to measure his genius with that of the greatest captain of the age. 1869 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1875) III. xii. 192 Herbert was not afraid to measure himself against a much more dangerous enemy.

11. To travel over, traverse (a certain distance, a tract of country); also, † to peruse or read through. Chiefly *poet.*

After uses of L. *metiri, emetiri.*

c 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* V. pr. i. 116 (Camb. MS.), So þat þou ne mayst nat suffice to mesuren the ryht wey [L. *ad emetiendum rectum iter*]. 1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* Sept. 21 Since when thou hast measured much ground. 1590 — *F. Q.* I. i. 32 The Sunne, that measures heaven all day long. *Ibid.* III. xii. 36 Full dreadfull thinges out of that balefull booke He red, and measur'd many a sad verse. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* III. iv. 84 For we must measure twentie miles to day. 1682 N. O. *Boileau's Lutrin* III. 25 With equal pace the Temples Nave they measure! 1725 POPE *Odyss.* I. 339 He..measur'd a length of seas, a toilsome length, in vain. 1835 WORDSW. *Extemp. Eff. Death J. Hogg* 13 Nor has the rolling year twice measured, From sign to sign, its steadfast course, Since [etc.].

b. *To measure back*: to retrace (one's steps, the road). ? *Obs.*

1595 SHAKS. *John* V. v. 3 When English measure backward their owne ground In faint Retire. 1610 — *Temp.* II. i. 259 A space, whose eu'ry cubit Seemes to cry out, how shall that Claribell Measure vs backe to Naples? 1697 DRYDEN *Æneid* x. 932 The Vessel..measures back with speed her former Way. 1758 SMOLLETT *Hist. Eng.* III. 150 They measured back their ground with some disorder. 1797 BURKE *Regic. Peace* III. (1st par.), With a sort of plodding perseverance, we resolve to measure back again the very same joyless, hopeless, .. track. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* X. ix. (Rtldg.) 360 Measure back your steps..to Lirias, and stay quietly there.

† **12.** To turn into metre. *Obs.*

c 1586 C'TESS PEMBROKE *Ps.* XLIX. i, Wordes shall from my mouth proceed, Which I will measure by melodious eare. *a* 1774 GOLDSM. tr. *Scarron's Com. Romance* (1775) I. 278 All nature lay hushed in sleep..except some poets, who had cramp verses to measure [F. *des vers difficiles à tourner*].

† **13.** To encircle, encompass. *Obs.*

c 1425 *Found. St. Bartholomew's* (E. E. T. S.) 63 She beganne..with a long threid to compasse the howse...And ..the howse that was mesurid with the threid, hit [the fire] myght nat hurte. 1680 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* 210 The String that comes down every Tread, measures a small Circumference oftner than it does a greater Circumference.

Measured (me·ʒ'ŭd), *ppl. a.* [f. MEASURE *sb.* and *v.* + -ED.]

† **1.** Moderate, temperate. (Also *well measured.*)

c 1400 *Rule St. Benet* 2328 A Priores..Aw to be mesured euermair To bind non als bot þai may bere. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S. T. S.) 300 To be wele mesurit in.. eting and drinking. 1483 CAXTON *Cato* F vij b, To be temperate and mesured in alle thynges.

2. Determined, apportioned, or dealt out by measure. *Measured work*, piece-work.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 335/1 Mesuryd wythe mesure, *mensuratus*. 1614 RAVENSCROFT *Brief Discourse* 11 The breaking of the Measur'd Notes. 1666 P. HENRY in M. Henry *Life* M. H's Wks. 1853 II. 666/2 The scripture speaks of measured miles in a law-case, Deuteronomy xxi. 2. *a* 1700 DRYDEN *Cymon & Iph.* Fables 553 Scarce the third Glass of measur'd Hours was run. 1784 COWPER *Task* III. 424 The rest..he disposes neat At measured distances. 1822 GALT *Provost* XXXVIII. (1868) 110 Two measured glasses of whisky in an old doctor's bottle. 1834–47 J. S. MACAULAY *Field Fortif.* (1851) 57 It is..cheaper to pay a high price for measured work, than to employ them by the day.

b. Accurately regulated or proportioned.

1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* I. To the King § 2 This which I shall say is no amplification at all, but a positiue and measured truth. 1748 GRAY *Alliance Educ. & Govt.* 40 Here measured Laws and philosophic Ease Fix and improve the polish'd Arts of Peace. 1901 J. WATSON *Life of the Master* XXI. 198 For their toil and work they will receive a measured wage.

† c. Limited, finite. *Obs. rare*—[1].

1653 ROUSE *Myst. Marr.* 328 As much as a poor measured creature may resemble that which is unmeasurable.

3. Consisting of 'measures' or metrical groups; written in metre; metrical. (Cf. F. *mesuré.*)

1581 SIDNEY *Apol. Poetrie* (Arb.) 50 In ryme or measured verse. 1682 SOAMES & DRYDEN tr. *Boileau's Art Poetry* II. 21 Closing the Sence within the measur'd time, 'Tis hard to fit the Reason to the Rhyme. 1704 PRIOR *Let. Boileau* 50 That we poetic folks, who must restrain Our measur'd sayings in an equal chain. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* v, For the unquiet heart and brain, A use in measur'd language lies. 1871 PALGRAVE *Lyr. Poems* Ded., The sweet propriety of measured phrase.

b. *gen.* Of motion, sound, flow of language, etc.: Having a marked rhythm; rhythmical; regular in movement.

1633 MILTON *Arcades* 71 And the low world in measur'd motion draw After the heavenly tune. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* I. 196 They all advance And form to measur'd airs the mazy dance. 1812 BYRON *Ch. Har.* II. lxxx, Music..timely echo'd back the measured oar. 1837–9 HALLAM *Hist. Lit.* II. II. vii. § 34. 310 It is in many parts very well written, in a measured prose. 1855 MRS. CARLYLE *Lett.* II. 253, I heard a measured tread; and then..advanced on me eight soldiers. 1891 T. HARDY *Tess* xliii, It [winter] came on in stealthy and measured glides, like the moves of a chess-player.

c. *Mus.* = MENSURABLE.

1782 BURNEY *Hist. Mus.* II. 180 Franco [in his *Ars Cantus Mensurabilis*] only intends to treat of Measured Music, of which, he piously observes, plain-chant has the precedence. 1880 ROCKSTRO in Grove *Dict. Mus.* II. 415 *Musica Mensurata* or *Cantus Mensurabilis.* (Measured Music). 1901 H. E. WOOLDRIDGE *Oxf. Hist. Mus.* I. vi. (*heading*) Discant or Measured Music. The Measured Notation and its Relation to Fixed Rhythms.

4. Chiefly with reference to language: Carefully weighed or calculated; deliberate and restrained. (Cf. sense 1.)

1802 WORDSW. *Resol. & Independ.* xiv, Choice word and measured phrase. 1847–54 WEBSTER s.v., In no measured terms. 1898 BODLEY *France* II. III. iii. 140 Men..tell the same story in more measured language. 1903 MORLEY *Gladstone* III. VIII. x. 176 In the debate, said Mr. Gladstone, Lord Hartington restated with measured force the position of the government.

Hence **Mea·suredness.**

1854 FABER *Growth in Holiness* xiv. (1872) 201 How the world admires..measuredness of words!

Measuredly (me·ʒ'ŭdli), *adv.* [f. MEASURED *ppl. a.* + -LY [2].]

1. With measured movement or pace.

1826 J. BANIM *Tales O'Hara F.* Ser. II. II. 263 He.. gave, slowly and measuredly, his 'Sarvent, Miss'. 1865 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* XVIII. ix. (1872) VII. 263 That..advances with its eyes open, measuredly, counting its steps. 1872 LEVER *Ld. Kilgobbin* liv, His heart could beat more measuredly.

2. In some measure. *rare.*

1860 RUSKIN *Mod. Paint.* V. IX. viii. § 1. 281, I can enter measuredly into the feelings of Correggio.

Measureless (me·ʒ'ŭrlĕs), *a.* [f. MEASURE *sb.* + -LESS.] Having no bounds or limits; unlimited, immeasurable, infinite.

1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* III. 231 Þer is a Meede Mesureles þat Maystrie desyret. *a* 1541 WYATT *Ps.* cii. Prol. 18 Here hath he comfort when he doth measure Measureless mercye to measureless faulte. 1591 SPENSER *Tears of Muses* 516 To see thee, and thy mercie measurelesse. 1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* V. vi. 103 Measurelesse Lyar. 1797 COLERIDGE *Kubla Khan* 29 The caverns measureless to man. 1866 LIDDON *Bampt. Lect.* vi. (1875) 307 God is parted from the highest forms of created life by a measureless interval. 1887 MORRIS *Odyss.* IX. 537 He..put forth his measureless might.

Hence **Mea·surelessly** *adv.*, immeasurably, infinitely; **Mea·surelessness**, immeasurableness.

1839 BAILEY *Festus* vi. (1852) 77 Joy even in thine anguish;—such was His, But measurelessly more. 1854 J. S. C. ABBOTT *Napoleon* (1855) II. xiii. 235 The measurelessness of the calamity. 1863 GEO. ELIOT *Romola* I. xix, Feigned and preposterous admiration varied by a corresponding measurelessness in vituperation. 1887 DOWDEN *Shelley* I. ix. 435 The man whose life—measurelessly dear to her—seemed to be placed in her hands.

† **Mea·surely,** *a. Obs. rare.* [f. MEASURE *sb.* + -LY [1].] a. Moderate. b. ? Symmetrical.

1573 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 21 Yet measurely feasting with neighbors among, shal make thee beloued. 1829 LANDOR *Imag. Conv., Steele & Addison* Wks. 1853 II. 152/2 His wig even and composed as his temper, with measurely curls and antithetical top-knots.

† **Mea·surely,** *adv. north. Obs.* In 5 mesur(e)ly, -li, -le, -like. [Formed as prec. + -LY [2].] Moderately.

c 1400 *Cato's Morals* 85 in *Cursor M.* p. 1670 Loke þou spende mesureli þe gode þat þou liuis bi. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* 8 Ye ne sal noht be prude in herte; Ne ete ourmikil;..Mesurlike slepe. *a* 1460 *How Good Wif thaught hir Doughter* 53 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* I. 183 Mesurely take ther offe, that the falle no blame.

Measurement (me·ʒ'ŭrmĕnt). [f. MEASURE *v.* + -MENT. Cf. OF. *mesurement.*]

1. The action or an act of measuring; mensuration.

1751 LABELYE *Westm. Br.* 88, I was exempted .. from having any Concern with Measurements. 1776 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xi. I. 304 The extent of the new walls .. is reduced by accurate measurement to about twenty-one miles. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVII. 196/2 A greater uniformity has prevailed in the measurement of angular magnitude than of any other whatsoever. 1866 CRUMP *Banking* viii. 160 A commodity employed for the measurement of the value in exchange of all other articles.

2. A dimension ascertained by measuring; size or extent measured by a standard.

1756 BURKE *Subl. & B.* III. iv, It seems amazing to me, that artists..have not by them at all times accurate measurements of all sorts of beautiful animals to help them to proper proportions. 1823 J. BADCOCK *Dom. Amusem.* 21 Iron vessels, within the measurement allowed by law. 1880 HAUGHTON *Phys. Geog.* ii. 30 This measurement is very important, as shewing the deep soundings which occur close to the western coasts of both Americas.

3. A system of measuring or of measures.

1867 BRANDE & COX *Dict. Sci.* etc. III. 808/1 The new measurement is universally adopted for vessels registered under the Board of Trade;..but pleasure yachts still..cling to the O. M. or old measurement. 1872 [see LINEAL *a.* 1 b].

4. *attrib.*: measurement goods, goods upon which the freight is charged by measurement instead of by weight; so *measurement cargo.*

1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade.* 1896 *Daily News* 9 Nov. 7/6 The measurement cargo which the vessel will carry is 18,000 tons, while her dead-weight cargo is down at 11,500 tons.

Measurer (me·ʒ'ŭrəɹ). [f. MEASURE *v.* + -ER [1].]

1. One who measures or takes measurements; *esp.* one whose duty or office it is to see that goods or commodities are of the proper measure.

1552 HULOET, Measurer, *dimensor.* 1570 DEE *Math. Pref.* a iij b, To vnderstand..how Farre, a thing seene..is from the measurer. 1616 SURFL. & MARKH. *Country Farm* 519 The second instrument verie necessarily required for the Measurer to measure assuredly withall..is the Richards chayne. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey) s.v. *Alnager*, There are three distinct Officers, known by the Names of Searcher, Measurer and Alnager. 1875 PROCTOR *Expanse Heav.* 241 The measurer of the moon's distance.

b. *fig.* (Said esp. of the sun, as measuring time.)

1556 J. HEYWOOD *Spider & F.* xcii. 76 This mayde right mesurer to me is, As I to other haue mesurde wrong. 1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 352 The foure quarters [of the year] ..whiche we knowe to be the measurer and meater of our life. 1641 HOWELL *Vote, Poem to Chas. I* 1 The world's bright Ey, Time's measurer. 1874 SAYCE *Compar. Philol.* viii. 333 When we call the moon 'the measurer' we at once personify it.

c. That which is the measure of (something).

1775 [see MEASURE *v.* 7].

2. An instrument used for measuring, as a rain-gauge, an hour-glass.

1764 HARMER *Observ.* I. 2 The flat-roof of any building that hath but one spout for carrying off the water, migbt be a measurer of the different quantities of the fallen rain. 1771

BARKER in *Phil. Trans.* LXI. 227 The height my rain measurer stands above the ground. 1821 CLARE *Vill. Minstr.* II. 162 [An hour-glass] Old-fashioned uncouth measurer of the day. 1877 Heat-Measurer [see HEAT *sb.* 14 b].

3. A measuring-worm; = GEOMETER 4.

(Cf. LAND-MEASURER 2.)

Measuring (me·ʒiŭriŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. MEASURE *v.* + -ING 1.]

1. The action of the vb. MEASURE; the process of taking measurements; measurement, mensuration.

1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 7692 Bot swa sutelle and wise may na mán be, þat þat mesuryng knawes swa wele als he. 1461 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 301 The wakman of the saide citie..shall have the mesuring of salte and corne. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* II. i. 215. 1656 H. PHILLIPS *Purch. Patt.* (1676) B viij, This measuring by the Pole..is very inconvenient. 1709 J. WARD *Introd. Math.* I. ii. (1734) 21 Division is by Euclid fitly termed the measuring of one Number by another. 1844 STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 275 The measuring up of grain. 1893 *Athenæum* 23 Sept. 423/3 The yearly measurings and observations.

†**2.** Dimension. *Obs.*

1529 MORE *Dyalogue* II. Wks. 188/1 Thei be not cyrcumscribed in place, for lack of bodily dymencion and measuring. 1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 2/1 Shee hath a threefoulde measuringe, in length, bredthe, and debthe.

†**3.** Dancing of 'measures'. *Obs.*

1599 MARSTON *Sco. Villanie* I. i, Hath been at feasts, and led the measuring At Court.

4. *attrib.* esp. in the names of various instruments and vessels graduated for purposes of measurement, as *measuring-chain, -foot, -glass, -line, -pole, -reed, -rod* (also fig.), *-rule, -staff, -tape,* †*-yard*; †**measuring-money** (see quot.); **measuring-wheel**, (1) = HODOMETER; (2) = CIRCUMFERENTOR 2 (Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1875).

1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 1413/2 **Measuring-chain*, the Surveyor's chain. 1665 J. WEBB *Stone-Heng* (1725) 24 The Difference between our *measuring Foot, and the Vicentine. 1842 FRANCIS *Dict. Arts, *Measuring Glass.* 1870 DICKENS *E. Drood* xiii, The small squat measuring glass in which little Rickitts took her steel drops daily. 1611 BIBLE *Zech.* ii. 1 A man with a *measuring line in his hand. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), **Measuring-Money*, a certain Duty formerly laid upon Cloth besides Alnage. 1774 M. MACKENZIE *Maritime Surv.* 104 At the End of each Chain, or *Measuring-pole. 1611 BIBLE *Ezek.* xlii. 17 Hee measured the North side fiue hundreth reedes, with a *measuring reed round about. 1656 H. PHILLIPS *Purch. Patt.* (1676) 197 Your *measuring Rod. 1870 J. H. NEWMAN *Gram. Assent* II. 476 Does Gibbon think to sound the depths of the eternal ocean with the tape and measuring-rod of his merely literary philosophy? 1842–59 GWILT *Archit.* § 2212 The plumber's *measuring rule is 2 feet long. 1884 *Athenæum* 8 Nov. 586/3 The theodolites, *measuring-staves, and planetables. 1823 P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Build.* 386 The *Measuring-tape is a kind of strong tape, graduated, marked, and coiled up by a little winch into a cylindrical box. 1728 R. MORRIS *Ess. Anc. Archit.* Advt., Plane-Tables, Water-Levels, *Measuring-Wheels. 1842 FRANCIS *Dict. Arts, Perambulator*, or *Measuring Wheel*, an instrument which being run along a road or other level surface indicates and registers the exact distance it passes over. 1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) III. 19 She whipt up the *measuring yard, and..flew to the door.

b. Measuring cast: (*a*) *lit.* in the sport of throwing the bar, a throw so nearly equal to another that measurement is required to decide the superiority (? *obs.*); (*b*) *fig.* a nice question, a ticklish point; a 'toss-up' (*arch.*).

1632 STRAFFORD in Browning *Life* (1892) 301 As if it weare a measuring cast, betwixt them, whoe weare like to proue the greater loosers vpon the parting. 1645 WALLER *On Fletcher's Plays* Poems 179 When lusty shepheards throwe The barre by turnes, and none the rest out goe So farre but that the best are measuring casts. *a* 1661 FULLER *Worthies* (1840) III. 161 It is a measuring cast, whether this proverb pertaineth to Essex or this county. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 538 ₱ 5 Yet I thought some in the Company had been endeavouring who should pitch the Bar farthest; that it had for some time been a measuring Cast, and at last my Friend..had thrown beyond them all. 1898 SIR W. HARCOURT in *Times* 18 Jan. 10/3 That majority you have succeeded in reducing to a measuring cast.

Mea·suring, *ppl. a.* [-ING 2.] That measures.

1570 BILLINGSLEY *Euclid* 126 The number 5. is a part of the number 15...And this kynde of part is called commonly *pars metiens* or *mensurans*, that is, a measuryng part.

b. Measuring-worm: the larva of a geometrid moth; a geometer or looper.

1859 CLEMENS in *Ann. Rep. Smithson. Inst.* 186 The geometers, properly so called, or measuring worms. 1884 *Riverside Nat. Hist.* (1888) II. 445.

Hence **Mea·suringly** *adv.*, as if taking a person's 'measure'.

1879 MISS BIRD *Rocky Mountains* 44 A hard, sad-looking woman looked at me measuringly.

Meat (mīt), *sb.* Forms: 1 **mete, mæt(e, mett,** 2–8 **mete,** 3 **mæte,** 4–5 **meite, mett, meyte,** 4–6 **meet(e, met(te,** 4–7 **meyt,** 5 **maite, mate, meett,** (*pl.* **meyttes, -is**), 5–7 **meate, meit,** 6 *Sc.* **meitt,** 5– **meat.** [OE. *mete* str. masc. = OFris. *met(e, meit*, OS. *meti* masc., *mat* neut., OHG. *maz* neut., ON. *mat-r* masc. (Sw. *mat*, Da. *mad*), Goth. *mat-s*:—OTeut. types **mati-z*, **mato-*, prob. repr. an original neuter **matoz-, -iz-*:—pre-Teut. **mados-, -es-*, perh. f. root **mĕd-* to be fat: see MAST *sb.*2

The LG. and Du. *met* minced meat (whence Du. *metworst*, G. *mettwurst* sausage) is prob. unconnected; cf. med.L. *matia* pl., tripe.]

1. Food in general; anything used as nourishment for men or animals; usually, solid food, in contradistinction to *drink*. Now *arch.* and *dial.*

Green meat: grass or green vegetables used for food or fodder (see GREEN *a.* 4). See also HARD MEAT, HORSE-MEAT, WHITEMEAT. *Meal of meat, meal's meat*: see MEAL *sb.*2 1 e.

a 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* v. iv. (Schipper) 568 He eode on his hus & þær mete [*v.r.* mæte] þygede. *c* 975 *Rushw. Gosp.* Luke xii. 23 Sawel mara is ðonne mett. *a* 1050 *Liber Scintill.* xlvii. (1889) 153 Nys rice godes meta & drinc. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 135 Ne sculen ȝe nawiht ȝimstones leggen Swinen to mete. *c* 1200 ORMIN 3213 Hiss drinnch wass waterr a33 occ a33, Hiss mete wilde rotess. *a* 1240 *Lofsong* in *Cott. Hom.* 205 Ich habbe i-suneged ine mete and ine drunche. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 898 Mold sal be þi mete for nede. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 206 Alas, þat so gret cost & bisynesse is sette aboute þe roten body, þat is wormes mete. *c* 1440 *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 185 Thy mete shall be mylk, honye, & wyne. 1477 NORTON *Ord. Alch.* v. in Ashm. (1652) 76 Without Liquor no Meate is good. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* II. xlvi. 205 These kindes of lillies are neither used in meate nor medicine. 1623 COCKERAM II, *Meate of the Gods*, Ambrosia, Manna. 1693 TATE in *Dryden's Juvenal* xv. (1697) 378 Who Flesh of Animals refus'd to eat, Nor held all sorts of Pulse for lawful Meat. 1775 JOHNSON *Journ. W. Isl.* 86 Our guides told us, that the horses could not travel all day without rest or meat. 1794 C. SMITH *Wanderings of Warwick* 66 Sending out women and children, after a hard day's work, to collect meat for the cattle. 1819 SHELLEY *P. Bell* VII. v. 4 He had.. meat and drink enough. 1844 STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 709 Meat is then set down to them on a flat plate, consisting of crumbled bread and oatmeal. 1893 STEVENSON *Catriona* xxi. 253 When..my father and my uncles lay in the hill, and I was to be carrying them their meat. 1902 *Daily Chron.* 12 Dec. 5/6 Imports of fruit and other choice green-meat.

b. *fig.* in various applications. (Also in many passages of the Bible, e.g. John iv. 32, 34, 1 Cor. iii. 2, Heb. v. 12, and in allusions to these.) *To be meat and drink to* (a person): to be a source of intense enjoyment to.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 27 Þe þridde is for mete þat ilch man agh mid him to leden þan he sal of þesse liue faren, þat is cristes holie licame. *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* vii. 5 Synful mannys lif is the deuels mete. 1497 BP. ALCOCK *Mons Perfect.* C j b/2 Obedyence is..the meete and comforte of all sayntes. 1533 FRITH *Answ. More* E j, It ys meate and drinke to this childe to plaie. 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* v. i. 11 It is meat and drinke to me to see a Clowne. 1620 T. GRANGER *Div. Logike* 20 Idlenes is the meate of lust. 1693 *Humours Town* 5 Petty-foggers, and their Meat and Drink, the Litigious. 1837 CARLYLE *Misc., Mirabeau* (1840) V. 139 But then his style!..Strong meat, too tough for babes. 1855 BROWNING *Fra Lippo* 315 To find its meaning is my meat and drink.

c. Proverbs and phrases.

a 1529 SKELTON *Col. Cloute* 450 Swete meate hath soure sauce. 1546 J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* (1867) 8 God neuer sendth mouth, but he sendeth meat. 1597 SHAKS. *2 Hen. IV*, II. iv. 135, I am meat for your Master. 1616 T. DRAXE *Bibl. Scholast.* 127 One mans meate is another mans poyson. *a* 1623 FLETCHER *Love's Cure* III. ii, What's one mans poyson, Signior, Is anothers meat or drinke. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* XI. viii, My lady is meat for no pretenders. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* X. ix, Why must one man's meat be another man's poison?

†**d.** Phr. *To carry meat in one's* (or *the*) *mouth*, to bring in money, be a source of profit; *occas.* to afford entertainment or instruction. *Obs.*

Perh. originally said of a hawk.

1580 G. HARVEY *Three Lett.* Wks. (Grosart) I. 92 Those studies and practizes, that carrie, as they saye, meate in their mouth, hauing euermore their eye vppon the Title *De pane lucrando*, and their hand vpon their halfpenny. 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* Ded. (Arb.) 7, I neauer..omitted yt [*sc.* Virgil's epithet *Saturnia* applied to Juno], as in deede a terme that carieth meate in his mouth. 1592 GREENE *Disput. Conny-catchers* Wks. (Grosart) X. 269 The oldest lecher was as welcom as the youngest louer, so he brought meate in his mouth. 1599 B. JONSON *Cynthia's Rev.* v. ii, A gentleman of so pleasing and ridiculous a carriage, as, euen standing, carries meat in the mouth, you see. 1668 KIRKMAN *Eng. Rogue* II. xxxvii. (1671) 356 He bringing meat in his mouth, good store of Gold in his pocket, which he willingly and freely gave me.

e. The edible part of fruits, nuts, eggs, etc.: the pulp, kernel, yolk and white, etc. in contradistinction to the rind, peel, or shell. ? Now only *U.S.* exc. in proverbial phrase (see quot. 1592). Also, the animal substance of a shell-fish.

c 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* III. 708 A stanry pere is seyd to chaunge his mete In esy lond ygraffed yf he be. 1530 PALSGR. 245/1 Meate of any frute, *le bon.* *a* 1562 G. CAVENDISH *Wolsey* (1893) 30 A very fayer orryngе wherof the mete or substaunce within was taken owt. 1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* III. i. 25 Thy head is as full of quarrels, as an egge is full of meat. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 506 Of the meat of the Nut dried, they make oyle. 1679 J. SKEAT *Art Cookery* 30 First take all the meat out of the lobster. 1766 *Museum Rust.* I. lxxxiii. 370 Low or swampy grounds don't answer well for potatoes,..the meat being generally scabby, close, wet and heavy. 1802 PALEY *Nat. Theol.* XX. (1819) 313 *note*, The meat of a plum. 1900 *Boston Even. Transcr.* 29 Mar. 7/3 Force through a meat chopper with one-half pound nut-meats, using English walnut meats, pecan-nut meats. 1902 *Fortn. Rev.* June 1012 A bit of crab-meat.

†**2.** A kind of food, an article of food, a 'dish'. *White meat*, an article of food made with milk. *Obs.* (Cf. BAKE-MEAT, MILK-MEAT, SWEET-MEAT.)

c 897 K. ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* xliii. 318 Ða mettas þe God self ȝesceop to etonne ȝeleaffullum monnum. *c* 1200 ORMIN 11540 Þatt time þatt himm ȝet wass ned To metess & to drinnchess. 1340 *Ayenb.* 51 A god huet we hedde guod wyn yesteneuen and guode metes. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* II. met. v. 35 (Camb. MS.), They heldyn hem apayed with the metes þat the trewe feeldes browten forth. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* III. 315 He.. Maide him gud cheyr of meyttis fresche and fyne. 1519 *Interl. Four Elem.* (Percy Soc.) 34 Of all metes in the worlde that be By this lyght, I love best drynke. 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus, Coccetum*, a meate made of bonie and popie seede. 1598 FLORIO, *Geladia*,..the meate we call gellie. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 200 They must not vse the same knife to meats made of milk, which they vsed in eating flesh. 1667 PEPYS *Diary* 2 Sept., In discourse at dinner concerning the change of men's humours and fashions touching meats. 1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* IV. vi, He desired I would let him know, what these costly meats were.

fig. 1601 B. JONSON *Poetaster* v. i, Shun Plavtus and old Ennivs; they are meates Too harsh for a weake stomacke.

3. The flesh of animals used for food; now chiefly in narrower sense = BUTCHER'S MEAT, FLESH *sb.* 4, in contradistinction to fish and poultry.

Dark meat (U. S.): 'all the meat of chickens and turkeys, except the breast and wings, these being called light meat' (Webster *Suppl.* 1880).

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 637 Þe hurne..by þe bred settez Mete. *c* 1460 FORTESCUE *Abs. & Lim. Mon.* x. (1885) 132 In Fraunce the peple salten but lytill mete, except thair bacon. 1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* II. ii. 57 *S. Dro.* I thinke the meat wants that I haue. *Ant.*..What's that? *S. Dro.* Basting. 1656 STANLEY *Hist. Philos.* VIII. (1701) 298/1 He Water drinks, then Broth and Herbs doth eat, To Live, his Scholars teaching, without Meat. 1727 ARBUTHNOT *Tables Anc. Coins*, etc. xviii. 190 The *Vectigal Macelli*, a tax upon Meat. 1793 BEDDOES *Sea Scurvy* 59 Considering fresh meat, or the muscular part of animals, chemically, I [etc.]. 1828 LYTTON *Disowned* Introd. 8 And, harkye, Bedos ..if you eat a grain of *meat* I discharge you. A valet, Sir, is an ethereal being, and is only to be nourished upon chicken! 1856 'STONEHENGE' *Brit. Sports* 182 Thickened milk and broth, the latter with the meat of the sheep's head broken up in it. 1881 *Daily News* 16 Sept. 5/4 Wild ass and antelope meat are also brought in for sale. 1883 MOLONEY *Fisheries W. Afr.* 56 The cleaning, pickling, and drying process only requires ten days, when the fish, sometimes two or three inches thick in the meat, is ready for export.

b. *pl.* Different kinds of meat.

1693 CONGREVE in *Dryden's Juvenal* xi. 22 In Shambles; where with borrow'd Coin They buy choice Meats, and in cheap plenty dine. 1841 LANE *Arab. Nts.* I. 110 And took to him wine to drink, and boiled meats. 1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 4 June 7/3 Within a fortnight the price of meats all over the country will be reduced.

c. *colloq.* or *slang.* (*a*) *To make meat of*: to kill. (*b*) Something enjoyable or advantageous.

a 1848 RUXTON *Life in Far West* (1849) 4 Poor Bill Bent I them Spaniards made meat of him. 1886 *Century Mag.* XXXII. 701/1 There was meat in the idea, and the professor chewed it. 1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 28 Dec. 7/1 There is a good deal of meat for the actors.

d. Applied proleptically to living animals such as are killed for food; in early use chiefly in †*wild meat* = 'game'. In modern hunting use (*U. S.*) one's quarry or prey.

1529 *Edinb. Burgh Rec.* (1871) II. 9 Nochtwithstanding William Cawder has..coft certane pluveris and vther wild meit incontrare the said statutis. 1550 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 95 The gret and exhorbitant derth of the wyld mete of this realme. 1624 *Aberdeen Reg.* (1848) II. 390 Great superfluitie of vennisone and wyld meat of all sortis. 1851 MAYNE REID *Scalp Hunt.* iv. 26 Others, old hunters, had the 'meat' in their eye. 1884 *Century Mag.* Dec. 198/2 The ram was my meat.

transf. 1882 'MARK TWAIN' *Innoc. at Home* iii, Come along—you're my meat *now*, my lad, anyway.

†**4.** A meal, repast, feast. Sometimes used for the principal meal, dinner. *Obs.* exc. as in **b.**

a 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 237 ȝief he frend were me sceolde ȝief him his morȝe mete þat he þe bet mihte abide þane more mete. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 6632 Þou shuldest nat forgete þe pore man at þy mete. 1382 WYCLIF *Luke* xiv. 12 Whanne thou makist a mete ether souper, nyle thou clepe thi frendis [etc.]. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 348 After the sondry sesons of the yeer, So chaunged he his mete and his soper. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) II. 167 Whiche vse mony diversities of meites at a meite. *a* 1483 *Liber Niger* in *Househ. Ord.* (1790) 32 At the furst or latter mete. 1868 MORRIS *Earthly Par., Man born to be king* Argt. 50 And presently, the meat being done, He bade them bring him to his throne.

b. In various prepositional phrases (now somewhat *arch.*): *At meat* (ME. *at þe, at te mete*), †*at meat and meal*: at table, at one's meals. Similarly, *after meat, before meat,* † *to go to meat*, etc.

a 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 231 Ær þanne we mid ure frienden to ðe mete go. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 67 Drinke o tiȝe atte mete and noht þer after. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 1217 After mete as riȝt was þe menestraus eode aboute. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Sqr.'s T.* 165 This knyght..is vnarmed and vnto mete yset. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 205 He sente Unto the Senatour to come..and..sitte with him at the mete. 1425 in Entick *London* (1766) IV. 354 Every day, both at meet and soupier, they eat..within the said almes-house. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* X. lxxviii. 551 Whyle we ar at oure mete. 1596 BP. W. BARLOW *Three Serm.* iii. 117 At sitting downe and rising from meat, they give him thankes. 1599 NASHE *Lent. Stuffe* 47 And then they might be at meate and meale for seuen weekes togither. 1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* IV. vii. 3 Your Soldiers vse him as the Grace 'fore meate, Their talke at Table, and their Thankes at end. 1611 BIBLE *Luke* xxii. 27 For whether is greater, hee that sitteth at meat, or hee that serueth? 1621 FLETCHER *Pilgrim* II. ii, He's within at meat, sir; The knave is hungry. 1853–8 HAWTHORNE *Eng. Note-bks.* II. 135 Those who sit at meat. 1880 HOWELLS *Undisc. Country* ii. 44 She sat long at meat, morning, noon, and night.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.*: **a.** simple attrib. as *meat-axe, -broth, -cupboard, -diet, -dish, -extract, -hook, -inspection, -jack* (= JACK *sb.*[1] 7), *-juice, -pie, -pudding, -salesman, -saw, -solution, -stock,* † *-stomach, -supper, -trade, -tub, -vessel.* **b.** objective, as *meat-eater, -eating, -hungry* adj., † *keeping,* † *-reiver.* **c.** instrumental, as *meat-fed* adj.

1835 HALIBURTON *Clockm.* Ser. I. (1862) 237 She was..as wicked as a *meat-axe. 1890 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, **Meat broth*, ..the fluid obtained by boiling meat for many hours in water. 1610–11 in *Anc. Invent.* (Halliw. 1854) 75 The *meat cubberd, with plate. 1564 P. MOORE *Hope Health* I. ii. 3 A *mete diet may sone bee serched out. 1879 *St. George's Hosp. Rep.* IX. 601 The patient .. was ordered meat-diet. 14.. *Nom.* in Wr.-Wülcker 729/8 *Hic escarinus*, a *metdysch. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 557 The worst instances are found..in large *meat-eaters and topers. *Ibid.* VI. 342 Beef-tea, *meat extracts and essences..should be sparely used. 1896 KIPLING *Seven Seas* 51 To our five-meal, *meat-fed men. 1842 EMERSON *Lect. Transcend.* Wks. (Bohn) II. 289 The martyrs were sawn asunder, or hung alive on *meat-hooks. 1873 E. W. TARN *Tredgold's Carpentry* 286 Meat-hooks are large wrought-iron hooks, generally tinned over, having a screw on one end, which is driven into a beam in the ceiling of a larder. 1893 SELOUS *Trav. S. E. Africa* 73 Crowds of *meat-hungry Mashunas. 1843 CARLYLE *Past & Pr.* III. iv, An unfortunate rusty *Meat-jack, gnarring and creaking with rust and work. 1890 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, **Meat juice*, the red fluid obtained by squeezing raw flesh; used as a nutrient. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 10/1 Almery of *mete kepynge, or a saue for mete, *cibutum.* 1773 JOHNSON in *Boswell* 9 Apr., I generally have a *meat pye on Sunday. 1852 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* xl, He retires to the servants' hall to regale on cold meat-pie and ale. 1860 O. W. HOLMES *Elsie V.* vii. (1891) 97 A mince pie,—or meat-pie, as it is more forcibly called in the .. villages. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, *Meat-pie*, **Meat-pudding*, meat covered or encased with dough. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* lxiii. 44 Innoportoun askaris of Yrland kynd; And *meit revaris. 1851 in *Illustr. Lond. News* 5 Aug. (1854) 119/2 *Meat-salesman. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, **Meat-saw*, a saw with a thin blade strained in an iron frame, used by butchers. 1877 tr. *von Ziemssen's Cycl. Med.* VII. 458 Only the most easily digestible diet, such as milk, *meat-solution, &c. should be allowed. 1883 'ANNIE THOMAS' *Mod. Housewife* 53 Half-a-pint of any kind of *meat-stock. 1592 NASHE *P. Penilesse* (Shaks. Soc.) 48 There being one joynt of flesh on the table for such as had *meate stomackes. 1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* v. 1064 It [the Lord's Supper] differeth from our ordinarie *meate suppers..for yᵗ it is specially instituted by the sonne of God. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, **Meat-tub*, a tub for holding pickled meat. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 238/2 A *Mete wesselle, *escale.*

6. Special comb.: † **meat-ambry**, a cupboard for keeping food; a meat safe; **meat-biscuit**, a biscuit made with concentrated meat; **meat-chamber**, a refrigerating chamber in ocean steamships for the purpose of transporting fresh meat to Europe (*Cassell's Encycl. Dict.*, 1885); † **meat-cloth**, ? a table-cloth; **meat-crusher**, 'a pair of rollers for tendering steak' (Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1875); **meat-earth** *dial.*, good and fertile soil; † **meat-failer** [cf. quots. under FAIL *v.* 7], one who lacks meat, a starveling; † **meat-fellow**, † **-fere**, a companion at meat, a guest; **meat-flour**, beef dried at a low temperature and ground into a fine powder (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1890); **meat-fly**, a blue-bottle fly; † **meat-form**, a form on which to sit at one's meals; **meat-fruit**, the fruit of *Artocarpus incisa* (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*); † **meat-giving**, the providing of meals; † **meat-grace**, a grace used before or after meat; **meat-hale** *Sc.* and *north. dial.* = *meat-whole* (see E. D. D.); † **meat-hanger**, ? a hanging shelf for a larder; † **meat-herring** ? = MATIE; **meat-hunter** *U. S.*, one who hunts game for profit; † **meat-like** *a. Sc.*, having the appearance of being well-fed; **meat lozenge**, a lozenge made with concentrated meat; † **meat lust** (*-list*), appetite for food; **meat maggot**, the larva of the meat-fly; **meat man, meatsman**, † (*a*) one who provides food, a caterer; † (*b*) one who eats meat; (*c*) one who sells meat; **meat market**, † (*a*) a market where food of any kind is sold; (*b*) a market for butcher's meat; **meat meal**[1], a meal of which meat forms the chief part; **meat-meal**[2], meat dried and ground into powder for cattle; **meat-offering**, a sacrifice consisting of food; in versions of the Bible from the 16th c. used to render Heb. מנחה *minḥāh*, which meant an offering consisting of fine flour or parched corn and oil (R. V. 'meal-offering'); † **meat pipe**, the œsophagus; † **meat-place**, a place for eating, a refectory; **meat-poisoning**, poisoning by eating decomposed meat; **meat-rail**, a wooden rail for supporting meat in a larder; **meat rocker**, a mincing knife having a handle at each end, and worked by a rocking motion (Knight *Dict. Mech. Suppl.* 1884); **meat safe**, (*a*) a cupboard for storing meat, usually made of wire gauze or perforated zinc; also sometimes applied to a wire gauze cover for meat; (*b*) *transf.* a name given to a kind of hat; **meat screen**, a metal screen placed behind roasting meat to reflect back the heat of the fire; † **meat table**, (*a*) a dining-table; (*b*) a table on which meat is cut up in preparation for cooking; † **meat-taking**, the taking of food, eating; **meat tea**, a tea at which meat is served, a high tea; † **meat time** = MEALTIME; **meat-washing** *attrib.* or *adj.* (*Path.*), applied to the appearance of the stools in the second stage of dysentery, when they assume the character of a reddish fluid containing small flesh-like lumps; † **meat-while**, the time of taking food; meal time; † **meat whitch**, a chest or box for keeping meat; **meat-whole**, *dial.* having a good appetite for food; † **meat-will**, a craving for food; † **meat-worth** *a. Sc.* = *meat-like.* Also MEAT-BOARD.

1457 *Peebles Charters*, etc. (1872) 119 Alssua a *met amri and wessal ammari. 1548 *Burgh Rec. Edinb.* (1871) II. 136 Ane meit almarye to xiiiis. 1852 J. BELL in *Lect. Gt. Exhib.* 141 Mr. Borden's *meat-biscuit—a convenient form of animal food in a concentrated and portable state. 1499 *Yatton Churchw. Acc.* (Som. Rec. Soc.) 122 A *mete clothe and a ryng. 1494 in *Somerset Med. Wills* (1901) 323 A Mete cloth and iij tuels. 1778 PRYCE *Min. Cornub.* 324 **Meat-Earth*, soil; the superficial earth, fit for agriculture. 1860 *Eng. & For. Min. Gloss.* (Cornw. Terms), *Meat earth*, the vegetable mould. 1599 PORTER *Angry Wom. Abingt.* (Percy Soc.) 21 Oh, this *meate failer Dicke! 1382 WYCLIF 2 *Sam.* xix. 28 Forsothe thou puttist me thi seruaunt among thi *meetfelawis [1388 gestis] of thi bord. — *Dan.* xiv. 1 Danyel was *meete feere of the kyng. 1840 *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 633 *Musca vomitoria*, Linn., the Common *Meat Fly. 1861 HULME tr. *Moquin-Tandon* II. IV. i. 237 The Blue or Meat Fly (Calliphora Vomitoria) is one of the largest species found in France. *a* 1400 *Octavian* 1245 Whene his swerde brokene was, A *meteforme he gatt par cas. 1382 WYCLIF *Ecclus.* xxxvii. 32 Wile thou not ben gredy in alle plenteuous *mete 3yuyng [Vulg. *in omni epulatione*]. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 426 3if heo ne kunnen nout þe *mete graces, siggen in hore stude Pater noster & Aue Maria biuoren mete. 1626 in *Anc. Invent.* (Halliw. 1854) 99 Item, a square *meate hanger. 1758 *Descr. Thames* 227 The *Meat Herring, which is likewise large, but not so thick nor so fat as the former [Fat Herring]. 1889 *Harper's Mag.* May 878/1 The *meat-hunters are still devoting their attention to the killing of larger game. 1762 BP. FORBES *Jrnl.* (1886) 216 You see I am *meat-like and cloath-like, as we say in Scotland. 1903 *Longm. Mag.* July 129, I took only some tins of Brand's essence of beef, chocolate, *meat-lozenges [etc.]. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* V. XXXV. 597 The Rampion eaten with vineger and salt stirreth up appetite or *meate-lust. 1746 *Exmoor Courtship* 560 (E. D. S.) And cham come to my Meat list agen. 1567 MAPLET *Gr. Forest* 89 He is as good a *meates man and Catour for him selfe, as any thing liuing is. 1606 HOLLAND *Sueton.* 220 A great feeder and meate-man by report he was. 1551 ROBINSON tr. *More's Utop.* II. (1895) 157 *Meate markettes, whether be brought not onlye all sortes of herbes, and the fruites of trees with breade, but also fishe. 1856 *Farmer's Mag.* Jan. 9 The Christmas meat-markets. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 465 A substantial *meat meal should be provided for breakfast and dinner. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 8 Oct. 4/2 The residue is dried and ground into *meat meal for cattle feeding. 1535 COVERDALE *Num.* vii. 13 Full of fyne floure myngled with oile for a *meatofferinge. 1611 BIBLE *Lev.* ii. 14. 1633 P. FLETCHER *Purple Isl.* II. xxxi. *marg.*, The Oesophagus or *meat-pipe. 1755 JOHNSON, *Gullet* .. the meat-pipe. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 238/1 A *Mete place, *esculentum.* 1875 tr. *von Ziemssen's Cycl. Med.* I. 50 There is a particular disease produced by *meat-poisoning. 1842 GWILT *Archit.* §2285. 614 Fittings for larder, Two *meat rails, 6 feet long, of wrought fir, ..suspended from wrought iron stirrups. 1836–9 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Boarding-ho.* i, There were *meat-safe-looking blinds in the parlour windows. 1840 — *Old C. Shop* xxxvi, The candle-box, the salt-box, the meat-safe, were all padlocked. 1860 *Heads & Hats* 23 Various strong-minded heads have presented to our startled and derisive gaze, sundry 'tiles', 'wide-awakes', 'meat-safes', and a variety of things by courtesy called 'hats'. 1830 MARRYAT *King's Own* xii, Knife-tray, *meat-screen. 14.. *Nom.* in Wr.-Wülcker 729/7 *Hec escaria*, a *mettabylle. 1485 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 51 Moldyng trowghes..j, lanteres..x, Mete tables.. iij. 1435 MISYN *Fire of Love* II. x, God we awe to loyf, And in tyme of our *meet takynge & space be-twix morsels to 3eild him loueyngis with honily swetnes. 1860 SALA *Baddington Peerage* I. xi. 193 A good, hearty *meat tea. 1885 BLACK *White Heather* xxv, This high occasion was to be celebrated by a 'meat-tea'. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* 150 Pair sal scho sit in hir prayers vnto þe *mete-tym. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 940 In any case the '*meat-washing' character of the stools..should prevent a mistake. 1435 MISYN *Fire of Love* II. x, With desire in *meet qwhiel to 3erne. *c* 1460 *Emare* 229 When the mete-whyle was doun, Into hys chambur he wente soun. 1468 *Medulla* in *Promp. Parv.* 335 *note*, *Cibutum*, a *mete whycche. 1599 *True Report* etc. in *Hakluyt's Voy.* (1812) V. 36 In all but seven men aboord the shippe that were *meat-whole. 1643 in Dalyell *Darker Superst. Scotl.* (1834) 492–3 Ye sall have such ane *meit-will and sall have nothing to eat. 1576 in Pitcairn *Crim. Trials* (Bann. Cl.) I. 53 Seis thow nocht me, baith *meit-worth, claith-worth, and gude aneuch lyke in persoun?

Meat (mēt), *v.* Now *dial.* [f. prec. sb. Cf. late OE. *mętian* to supply with food.]

1. *trans.* To feed, supply with food or provender.

1568 *Jacob & Esau* II. iii. C iv, Well ywisse Esau, ye did knowe well ynouw That I had as muche nede to be meated as you. 1573 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 139 Good husbandrie meateth his friend and the poore. *c* 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* XIX. 196 Haste then, and meate your men. 1641 BEST *Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 55 Those that trail the sweathrake have usually 6*d.* a day, if they meate themselfes. 1686 tr. *Chardin's Trav. Persia* 385 They meat their Horses with Barley. 1776 C. KEITH *Farmer's Ha'* lix, But gae awa' e'now (quo' he) And meat the horse. 1866 *Rachel's Secret* I. 105 Besides their own family, there were the five men whom they had to 'meat'. 1895 'Q' *Wandering Heath* 26 My father..went out to meat the pig.

2. *intr.* To feed, partake of food.

c 1410 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) XXV, And euere, as he stereth and passeth forth metynge, þei do drawe hem nere hym [etc.]. 1889 *Jokes* Ser. I. 11 (E.D.D.) In Aberdeenshire where farm-servants 'meat' in the house.

Meat, obs. Sc. form of MATE *sb.*[2]

Meat(e, obs. forms of MEET *a.*

† **Mea·table**, *a. Obs.* [f. MEAT *sb.* + -ABLE.] That can be used for food, edible.

1610 W. FOLKINGHAM *Art of Survey* I. ii. 36 These Meateable Rootes, Parsnep, Carrot, Skirrot, Radish.

Meatal (mī,ē·tăl), *a.* [f. MEAT-US + -AL.] Of or pertaining to a meatus.

1868 OWEN *Anat. Vertebr.* III. 230 In the Hare the meatal part of the tympanic is long. *Ibid.* 244 The meatal cartilage. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 108 We should expect..that the perosseous hearing should be affected step by step with the meatal.

† **Meat-board.** *Obs.* [f. MEAT *sb.* + BOARD *sb.*] A table for food, a dining-table.

c 1205 LAY. 3638 Alle þai mete-burdes [*c* 1275 mete-bordes] ibrustled mid golde. 1382 WYCLIF *Exod.* XXV. 23 Thow shalt make a meet bord [Vulg. *mensam*] of the trees of Sichym. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) III. 475 Þe wode is my mete borde [L. *silvam pro mensa*]. 1488 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 99, j mete-bord. 1572 *Rec. Elgin* (New Spald. Cl. 1903) I. 135 Ane metbuird with the treslis and furmis thairof.

Meate, obs. form of METE *sb.* and *v.*

Meated (mī·tĕd), *a.* [f. MEAT *sb.* + -ED[2].] In Comb. **well-meated**, (*a*) of animals, having plenty of flesh; (*b*) of cheese, rich in nutriment; **open-meated**, of cheese, juicy.

1573 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 37 Strong oxen and horses, wel shod and wel clad, wel meated and vsed. 1600 SURFLET *Countrie Farme* I. xiii. 87 A good bull for breed must be fat, well set togither, and well meated. 1896 *Daily News* 26 Dec. 2/6 Canadian [cheese] as a rule, is wholesome, well-meated, and fat. *Ibid.*, The early ripened, open-meated Cheshire cheese.

† **Mea·ter.** *Obs. rare*—[o]. [f. MEAT *v.* + -ER[1].] One who provides or gives meat or food.

1649 R. HOOGES *Plain. Direct.* 13 [Homonyms.] A meater that giveth meat to the cattel. A corn-meter.

Meater, obs. form of METER.

† **Mea·t-giver.** *Obs.* [f. MEAT *sb.* + GIVER *sb.*] A giver of food, a hospitable person.

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XV. 143 Men..bymeneth good mete-3yueres and in mynde haueth, In prayers [etc.]. *a* 1483 *Liber Niger* in *Househ. Ord.* (1790) 18 The fame of an excellent mete giver. [14.. *Nom.* in Wr.-Wülcker 688/37 *Hic dapifer*, mettes gyffer.] 1567 *Sc. Acts Jas. VI* (1814) III. 31/2 The ressettar,..meit genar, & intercommonar with sic personis, salbe [etc.].

Meath(e, obs. forms of MEAD *sb.*[1]

Meathe, obs. variant of MATHE.

† **Mea·tified**, *ppl. a. nonce-wd.* [f. MEAT *sb.* + -(1)FY + -ED[1].] ? Corpulent.

1607 DEKKER & WILKINS *Jests* Wks. (Grosart) II. 356 So that to a man that is meatefyed in flesh, and whose state (in this world) is desperate, a Sergiant may serue instead of a Deathshead, to put him in minde of his last day.

† **Mea·ting**, *vbl. sb. Obs.* [f. MEAT *v.* + -ING[1].] The action of the vb. MEAT; feeding. Of animals, pasturing. Also *concr.*

c 1410 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) ii, After þei secheth good cuntre of metyng of corne, of appulles, of vynes. *Ibid.* XXV, Neuerthelesse it were good redinesse to loke if þei myght se ony deere at is metynge. 1561 HOLLYBUSH *Hom. Apoth.* 10 Beware..of thynges that cause euell humores and of inordinate meatinge or drinkinge.

Meating, obs. form of MEETING.

Meatless (mī·tlĕs), *a.* [f. MEAT *sb.* + -LESS.]

1. Having no food.

a 900 CYNEWULF *Elene* 612 Þæm..þe on westenne meðe & meteleas morland trydeð. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 5036 Þet folc was meteles. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. VIII. 130 Meteles and Moneyeles on Maluerne hulles. *a* 1440 *Sir Eglam.* 887 Sche was meteles vj. dayes. 1529 MORE *Suppl. Soulys* Wks. 302/1 Is not thys a royall feast to leue these beggers meateles, & then send mo to dynner to theim. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 271 Let him be..suffered to stand on the bit meatlesse two or three hours after. 1646, 1860 [see DAINKLESS].

2. Without meat.

1845 LEWES *Hist. Philos.* II. 24 Growling over his unenvied virtue as a cur growls over his meatless bone.

Meato-, used as combining form of MEATUS, in some names of surgical instruments, etc. **Meatometer** (mī,ătǫ·mĭtəɹ), an instrument for measuring the meatus urinarius (*Cent. Dict.*). **Meatoscope** (mī,ē·tǒskoup) [see -SCOPE], a speculum for examining the urethra near the meatus (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1890). **Meatotome** (mī,ē·tŏtōum) [Gr. -τόμος that cnts], a spring knife for the cutting of a contracted meatus urinarius (*Ibid.*). **Meatotomy** (mī,ătǫ·tŏmi) [Gr. -τομία cutting], section of the meatus urinarius to make a larger opening (*Ibid.*).

1895 ERICHSEN *Surg.* (ed. 10) II. 1160 Meatotomy being, ..performed to allow its [*sc.* a bougie's] introduction. 1895 *Arnold & Son's Catal. Surg. Instr.* 573 Meatoscope.

Meatu(a)re, obs. forms of METEOR.

‖ **Meatus** (mi,ē·tŭs). Pl. **meatus** (mi,ē·tiūs), **meatuses.** [L. *meātus* (*u*-stem), f. *meāre* to flow, run.]

† **1.** A natural channel or tubular passage. *Obs.*

1665 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (1677) 187 This Caspian hath some secret meatus or intercourse with some Sea. 1675

EVELYN *Terra* (1776) 34 Clay is of all others a curst Stepdame to almost all vegetation as having few or no Meatus's for the percolation of the alimental showers or expansion of the roots. 1698 E. LHUYD in *Ray's Disc.* (1713) 190 The Chinks and other Meatus's of the Earth.

2. *spec.* in *Anat.* †a. = PORE (*obs.*). b. With qualifying word expressed or understood, applied to certain passages in the body.

Auditory meatus (L. *m. auditorius*): the channel of the ear. *Nasal* or *olfactory meatus*: the passage of the nose. *Urinary meatus*: the external orifice of the urethra.

1665 GLANVILL *Scepsis Sci.* iv. § 3. 18 The *meatus*, or passages, through which those subtill emissaries are conveyed to the respective members. 1708 KERSEY, *Meatus*, a Movement, or Course, a Passage, or Way; also the Pores of the Body. 1800 SIR A. COOPER in *Phil. Trans.* XC. 152 A membrane which has been generally considered, from its situation in the meatus..as essentially necessary to the sense of hearing. 1878 HOLDEN *Hum. Osteol.* 132 The three 'meatus' or passages of the nose. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 540 Over the vertex [of the head] from meatus to meatus measures 15⅝ in.

Meatwand, obs. form of METEWAND.

Meaty (mī·ti), *a.* [f. MEAT *sb.* + -Y[1].]

1. Full of meat; fleshy.

1787 W. MARSHALL *Norfolk* (1795) II. Gloss., *Meaty, adj.* fleshy, but not 'right fat'. 1865 *Reader* No. 144. 363/2 A very meaty egg. 1883 G. ALLEN in *Knowledge* 20 July 34/1 In a crab..the meatiest part..consists of [etc.]. 1900 *Andover Advertiser* 19 Oct., Meaty steers.

b. *fig.* (chiefly *U. S.*) Full of substance.

1881 G. S. HALL *German Culture* 105, I think any discussion of it would be likely to be rather more meaty than.. inane speculations about the nature of the Beautiful and Sublime. 1896 *Advt. of Preacher's Compl. Homilet. Comm.* (N. Y.), The Index suggests thousands of meaty themes for sermons. 1902 *Academy* 13 Dec. 655/2 The sentences are really too 'meaty'.

2. Of or pertaining to meat; having the flavour of meat.

1864 SALA in *Daily Tel.* 27 Sept., Inhaling the glorious aroma of the meaty Eden. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* I. v, Meaty jelly.

Hence **Mea·tiness.**

1873 TROLLOPE *Australia* I. 57, I felt as though I were pervaded by meatiness for many hours.

Meaugh: see MAUGH. **Meaul, Meawl(e:** see MIAUL. **Meaw(e:** see MIAOW.

†**Meaze.** *Obs. rare*—[1]. App. a variant of or mistake for MEUSE, misused for: The 'form' of a hare.

1602 *2nd Pt. Return fr. Parnass.* II. v. 791 A hare that wee found this morning musing on her meaze.

Meaze, var. MEASE (measure of herrings).

Meazel, var. MEASLE *a. Obs.* and MEASLE *v.*

Meazle, variant of MESEL (leper).

Meazling, obs. form of MIZZLING.

Mebile, meble, variants of MOBLE *Obs.*

Mecænas, bad form of MÆCENAS.

Mecanyc, -yke, -ycall: see MECHANIC, -ICAL.

‖ **Mecate** (mekā·tē). [Aztec *mecatl* 'corde, fouet, discipline' (Siméon *Dict. Nahuatl*).]

1. A rope made of the fibre or hair of the maguey.

1877 in BARTLETT *Dict. Amer.* 1880 in WEBSTER *Suppl.*; and in recent Dicts.

2. 'A Mexican square measure, equal to about one-tenth of an acre' (*Cent. Dict.* 1890).

Mecca (me·kă). [The name (repr. Arab. *Makkah*) of the birthplace of Mohammed, the great place of pilgrimage of the Mohammedans.]

1. *transf.* and *fig.* Applied to a place which one regards as supremely sacred, or which it is the aspiration of one's life to be able to visit.

1850 BOKER *Anne Boleyn* I. iii, Make to the Mecca of our hopes, the king, A solemn pilgrimage. 1887 *Times* (weekly ed.) 21 Oct. 9/1 Stratford..is the Mecca of American pilgrims. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* (1891) 329 He..was..free once more to turn his brow erect and undaunted towards the Mecca of his dreams.

2. *attrib.* in *Mecca balm, balsam* = BALM, BALSAM of Mecca.

1823 in CRABB *Technol. Dict.*; and in recent Dicts.

Meccan (me·kăn), *a.* and *sb.* [f. MECCA + -AN.]

A. *adj.* Of or pertaining to Mecca.

1687 DRYDEN *Hind & P.* III. 1098 Such as the Meccan Prophet us'd of yore. 1898 *Eng. Illustr. Mag.* Feb. 511 A crowd of Meccan pilgrims.

B. *sb.* An inhabitant or native of Mecca.

1855 BURTON *El-Medinah & Meccah* II. 280 The Meccans, a dark people, say of the Madani that their hearts are black and their skins are white. 1902 A. B. DAVIDSON *Biblical & Lit. Ess.* 224 This appellation being derived from an attack made on the Meccans that year.

Mecche, obs. form of MATCH *sb.*[1]

Mecenas, bad form of MÆCENAS.

Mech, Mechacan, obs. ff. MUCH, MECHOACAN.

†**Me·chal,** *a. Obs.* In 7 **mechall, michall.** [f. L. *mœch-us* (a. Gr. μοιχός) adulterer + -AL.] Adulterous. (Only in Heywood.)

1606 HEYWOOD *Challenge for Beauty* v. i, Her owne tongue Hath publish'd her a mechall prostitute. 1624 — *Gunaik.* IV. 195. 1633 — *Eng. Trav.* F j, Pollute the Nuptiall bed with Michall sinne.

‖ **Mechameck** (me·tʃămek). [? American Indian.] The wild potato-vine; = MECHOACAN.

1828 RAFINESQUE *Medical Flora* I. 123 (heading) Convolvulus Panduratus, English name, Mechameck bindweed.. The native name of mechameck ought to be given to it as a distinctive appellation. 1890 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

Mechanic (mĭkæ·nik), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. L. *mēchanic-us*, a Gr. μηχανικός (adj. and sb.), f. μηχανή MACHINE. Cf. F. *mécanique* (from 14th c.: perh. the source in early instances), Pr. *mechanic*, Sp. *mecánico*, Pg. *mechanico*; also OE. *mechanisc*, Ger., Du. *mechanisch*, Sw., Da. *mekanisk.*

The adj. was introduced much later than MECHANICAL, which in early uses is somewhat closer to the sense of the Latin word.]

A. *adj.*

1. Pertaining to or involving manual labour or skill. Now *rare*: cf. MECHANICAL 1 b.

1549 *Compl. Scotl.* Prol. 8 To leyrne sciens, craftis, ande mecanyke occupations. 1622 PEACHAM *Compl. Gent.* xiii. (1634) 129 Painting in Oyle..is..of more esteeme then working in water colours; but then it is more mechanique, and will robbe you of over much time from your more excellent studies. *a* 1631 DONNE *Serm.* (1640) xxxvii. 364 When we see any man doe any work well, that belongs to the hand, to write, to carve, to play, to doe any mechanique office well. 1677 YARRANTON *Eng. Improv.* 187 The persons working in the Mechanick-Arts. 1770 LANGHORNE *Plutarch* (1879) I. 175/2 If a man applies himself to servile or mechanic employments. 1838 PRESCOTT *Ferd. & Is.* (1846) I. ii. 132 He was a considerable proficient in music, painting, and several mechanic arts.

†b. Pertaining to mechanical arts; industrial. *Obs.*

1721 BRADLEY *Philos. Acc. Wks. Nat.* 7 It is a hard Coal for Mechanick Uses.

2. Of persons: Having a manual occupation; working at a trade. Now blended with the attributive use of the sb.

1549 *Compl. Scot.* ii. 25 Ande mecanyc lauberaris sal reproche gentil men. 1655 STANLEY *Hist. Philos.* IV. *Menedemus* i, Though noble by descent, Mechanick by profession and indigent. 1678 R. BARCLAY *Apol. Quakers* x. xxiii. 316 Most..are Labouring and Mechanick men. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. i, The Labour and Sufferings of the mechanic Part of Mankind. 1837 HT. MARTINEAU *Soc. Amer.* III. 48 Are the mechanic and farming classes satisfied? 1845 R. W. HAMILTON *Pop. Educ.* iii. (ed. 2) 56 If mechanic life be miserable, if the crowded population which it collects is degraded.

†**3.** Belonging to or characteristic of the 'lower orders'; vulgar, low, base. *Obs.*

1599 MARSTON *Sco. Villanie, In Lect. prorsus indignos*, Each mechanick slaue, Each dunghill pesant. 1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* IV. iv. 32 To stand On more Mechanicke Compliment. 1642 CHAS. I *Declar.* Wks. 1662 II. 170 Suffering Mechanick, Ignorant fellows to preach and expound the Scripture. 1676 ETHEREDGE *Man of Mode* IV. i, Writing, Madam's a Mechanick part of Witt! A Gentleman should never go beyond a Song or a Billet. 1705 VANBRUGH *Confed.* I. iii, A woman must indeed be of a mechanic mould, who is either troubled or pleased with anything her husband can do for her. 1762 LLOYD *Actor* 40 The Play'r's profession (though I hate the phrase, 'Tis so mechanic in these modern days).

4. Of the nature of, or pertaining to, a machine or machines; also, worked by machinery. Now *poet.* or *rhetorical*: cf. MECHANICAL *a.* 3.

1625 N. CARPENTER *Geog. Del.* I. iv. (1635) 74 A Ballance, and other such mechanicke instruments. 1696 MANDEY & MOXON (*title*) Mechanick-powers: or, the Mistery of Nature and Art unvail'd, shewing what great things may be performed by Mechanick Engines, etc. 1788 *Gentl. Mag.* LVIII. I. 77/1 A man of war hove 3 inches by mechanic force. 1876 GEO. ELIOT *Dan. Der.* III. xxxvii. *heading*, Fine mechanic wings that would not fly.

b. *Mechanic powers* or †*faculties*: = *mechanical powers* (see MECHANICAL *a.* 3 c). ? *Obs.*

1648 BP. WILKINS *Math. Magick* I. xii, Concerning the force of the Mechanick faculties, particularly the Ballance and Leaver. 1701 MOXON *Math. Dict., Mechanick Powers*, or Mechanick Faculties are Six. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 11 The pulley is the third mechanic power. 1856 EMERSON *Eng. Traits, Literature* Wks. (Bohn) II. 112 They [*sc.* Englishmen] are incapable of an inutility, and respect the five mechanic powers even in their song.

5. Worked or working like a machine; having a machine-like action or motion; acting mechanically. Somewhat *arch.*; cf. MECHANICAL *a.* 4.

1697 CONGREVE *Mourning Bride* II. viii, O impotence of sight! mechanic sense,.. Not seeing of election but necessity. 1762 LLOYD *Actor* 2 Acting,..its perfection draws From no observance of mechanic laws. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* v, The sad mechanic exercise, Like dull narcotics, numbing pain. 1863 KINGLAKE *Crimea* (1876) I. iv. 68 That branch of industry which seeks to give uniformity and mechanic action to bodies of men.

†b. Involuntary, automatic. *Obs.*

1723 LD. BOLINGBROKE in *Pope's Pr. Wks.* (1741) II. 26 Good digestions, serene weather, and some other mechanic springs. 1741 BETTERTON *Eng. Stage* vi. 102 Nature by a sort of mechanic Motion throws the Hands out as Guards to the Eyes on such an Occasion.

6. Of agencies, forces, principles: Such as belong to the subject-matter of mechanics; = MECHANICAL *a.* 5. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1664 POWER *Exp. Philos.* I. 3 So great is the mecbanick power which Providence has immur'd within these living walls of Jet [*viz.* a flea]. 1683 T. HOY *Agathocles* 18 The Mechanique Power, by which they move, It self is guided by some Hand above. 1712 *H. More's Antid. Ath.* II. i. *Schol.* 153, I..perceiv'd the motion of the World to be no ways mechanick. 1844 DISRAELI *Coningsby* II. i, The supreme control obtained by man over mechanic power.

†**7.** Of theories and their advocates; = MECHANICAL *a.* 6. *Obs.*

1691 RAY *Creation* I. (1692) 28 These mecbanick Theists have here quite outstripped and outdone the Atomick Atheists. 1790 BURKE *Fr. Rev.* Wks. V. 152 On the principles of this mechanick philosophy, our institutions can never be embodied, if I may use the expression, in persons.

†**8.** Of persons and their aptitudes: Skilled in mechanical contrivance. *Obs.*

1713 STEELE *Guardian* No. 1 ¶ 3, I am..convinced of the importance of mechanick heads. 1714 GAY *Trivia* I. 272 A new Machine Mechanick Fancy wrought. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* III. x. 411 The mechanic dexterity of the Europeans.

B. *sb.* (See also MECHANICS.)

†**1.** Manual labour or operation. *Obs.*

1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 142 Of hem that ben Artificier, Whiche usen craftes and mestiers, Whos Art is cleped Mechanique. 1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* II. viii. § 3 He..may superinduce upon some metall the Nature and forme of Gold by such Mechanique as longeth to the production of the Natures afore rehearsed.

†b. A mechanical art. *Obs.*

1604 R. CAWDREY *Table Alph., Mechanick*, handycraft. 1655 in Hartlib *Ref. Commw. Bees* 33 There is not any one Mechanick, which hath its Basis on Phylosophy, in which there are not many errors, into which an Artist, that hath been long versed in the Practique, may hap to fall. 1656 [? J. SERGEANT] tr. *T. White's Peripat. Inst.* 387 Consider the honour of..the Mechanicks,'t is the work that's most proper to mankind. 1691 RAY *Creation* II. (1704) 245 Besides the known uses [of plants]..in Building, in Dying, in all Mechanicks, there may be as many more not yet discover'd.

†c. Mechanism, mechanical structure. *Obs.*

1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* x. § 5 The fault being in the very frame and Mechanicke of the parts.

2. One who is employed in a mannal occupation; a handicraftsman.

Mechanics' institute or *institution*: the designation adopted by a class of societies, established (in 1823 and subsequently) in London and most other towns of England to afford their members facilities for self-education by classes and lectures. In many of these institutions, only a small proportion of the members now belong to the 'mechanic' or artisan class.

1562 A. SCOTT *Poems* (S.T.S.) i. 174 Merchandis to trafique and travell to and fro, Mechanikis wirk. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 341 Houses or yards, where Carpenters or such Mechanicks work. 1638 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (ed. 2) 163 These people are most of them mechanicks and husbandmen. 1713 SWIFT, etc. *Frenzy of J. Dennis* Wks. 1755 III. I. 142 My friend an apothecary! a base mechanic! 1777 FLETCHER *Bible Calvinism* Wks. 1795 IV. 244 An industrious sober mechanic can hardly pay for a mean lodging in a garret. 1825 HONE *Every-day Bk.* I. 1549 On the 2d of December, 1823, the London Mechanics' Institution was formed. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* iii. I. 418 An English mechanic,..instead of slaving like a native of Bengal for a piece of copper, exacted a shilling a day. 1891 LECKIE *Life & Relig.* 71 He [St. Paul] was an itinerant mechanic.

b. Used *contemptuously.* Now *rare.*

1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* v. iii. 83 Do not bid me..capitulate Againe, with Romes Mechanickes. 1768 HORNE *Disc.* ix. Wks. 1818 II. 171 The meanest mechanic takes place of the nobles and kings of the earth, if he were a better Christian than they were. 1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* xxiii, This fellow is a wretched mechanic. 1842 TENNYSON *Walking to Mail* 67 Lest..his nice eyes Should see the raw mechanic's bloody thumbs Sweat on his blazon'd chairs.

†c. A low or vulgar fellow. *Obs.*

a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Mechanic*,..a mean,..contemptible Fellow. 1733 FIELDING *Intrig. Chambermaid* II. ix, I am glad you have taught me at what distance to keep such mechanics for the future.

3. In restricted sense: A skilled workman, esp. one who is concerned with the making or use of machinery.

In some English manufacturing districts the term denotes a man who has the management and repairing of the machinery in a factory.

1662 HOBBES *Consid.* (1680) 53 What is here said of Chymists is applicable to all other Mechaniques. 1681 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1643/4 His Majesty having sent for Sir Samuel Morland..was Graciously pleased to Declare, that he was highly satisfied with all the late Experiments and extraordinary Effects of Sir Samuels new Water-Engine...After which, the Lord Chamberlain..caused him to be Sworn Master of the Mechanicks. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* II. i, A very handy ingenious Fellow, who was a Cooper by Trade, but was also a general Mechanick; for he was dexterous at making Wheels [etc.]. 1835 MISS MITFORD in L'Estrange *Life* (1870) III. iv. 31 Captain Gore is, amongst his other excellences, a great mechanic, and a capital working carpenter. 1870 EMERSON *Soc. & Solit., Work & Days* Wks. (Bohn) III. 64 The apprentice clings to his foot-rule, a practised mechanic will measure by his thumb.

4. One who holds mechanical theories; a mechanical physiologist. *rare.* (Cf. MECHANIST 3.)

a 1776 R. JAMES *Diss. Fevers* (1778) 86, I might produce the causes of fevers according to the various principles of the Galenists, the Chymists, the Mecbanics.

Mechanical (mĭkæ·nikăl), *a.* and *sb.* [f. late L. *mēchanic-us*: see prec. and -ICAL.] A. *adj.*

1. Of arts, trades, occupations: Concerned with machines or tools. Hence,

a. Concerned with the contrivance and construction of machines or mechanism.

1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 73 Certeyne instrumentes of his makynge made by arte mechanicalle, and specially organes. 1626 BACON *New Atl.* 38 Wee haue also diuerse Mechanicall Arts, which you haue not; and Stuffes made by them; as Papers, Linnen [etc.]. 1756–7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) IV. 395 Those who are fond of mechanical arts, manufactures, &c. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* I. 124 To make any useful proficiency in mechanical pursuits. 1872 YEATS *Techn. Hist. Comm.* 367 Machine-making..belongs to a high order of mechanical art.

b. Concerned with manual operations; of the nature of handicraft.

c 1450 Lyog. & Burgh *Secrees* 2097 Whoom his ffadir.. Boonde and dysposyd to crafft mechanycalle. 1477 Norton *Ord. Alch.* iv. in Ashm. *Theat. Chem. Brit.* (1652) 49 Handie-crafte called Arte Mechanicall. 1586 A. Day *Eng. Secretary* II. (1625) 106 A seruant, meanly trained in some Mechanicall Science. 1605 Bacon *Adv. Learn.* II. To King § 13 Arts Mechanicall contract Brotherhoods in communalties. 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey) *title-p.*, The Arts and Sciences, either Liberal or Mechanical. 1753 Hogarth *Anal. Beauty* 4 Many other little circumstances belonging to the mechanical part of the art. 1834 Macaulay *Ess., Pitt* (1899) 288 Almost every mechanical employment..has a tendency to injure some one or other of the bodily organs of the artisan. 1837–9 [see Illiberal *a.* 1]. 1841 Emerson *Method Nat.* Wks. (Bohn) II. 220, I look on trade and every mechanical craft as education also.

† c. *transf.* Pertaining to the mere technicalities of a profession or art. *Obs.*

a 1648 Ld. Herbert *Hen. VIII* (1683) 325 Other Laws also were enacted, which for being meerly legal, and there fore relative chiefly to the Masters of the Law, or otherwise Mechanical, or at least so particular that they belong, not properly to History. 1681 Nevile *Plato Rediv.* 103 The Mechanical part of their Callings (which is to assist Clients with Counsel, and to plead their Causes). *a* 1763 Shenstone *Ess.* (1765) 5 The vulgar may not indeed be capable of giving the reasons why a composition pleases them. That mechanical distinction they leave to the connoisseur.

2. Of persons: Engaged in mannal labour; belonging to the artisan class. Now *rare*. † Hcnce, characteristic of this class, mean, vulgar (*obs.*).

1589 *Late Voy. Sp. & Fort.* (1881) 102 Wherein mechanicall and men of base condition doo dare to censure the dooings of them, of whose acts they be not worthie to talke. 1591 Horsey *Trav.* (Hakl. Soc.) App. 302 Thearby [*sc.* by commerce] your marchantes growe riche, your mecanycall people sette a worke. 1597 Shaks. 2 *Hen. IV*, v. v. 38 Hall'd thither by most Mechanicall and durty hand. 1646 Earl Monm. tr. *Biondi's Civil Warres* IX. 182 Born at Corneto a poor village in Toscany, of mean mechanical parentage. 1695 Cibber *Love's Last Shift* III, 'Tis mechanical to marry the Woman you love; Men of Quality should always marry those they never saw. 1730 Fielding *Author's Farce* I. v, These are represented as mean and mechanical, and the others as honourable and glorious. 1830 Galt *Lawrie T.* v. ii, Settlers of the mechanical orders. 1880 E. White *Cert. Relig.* 31 Among the peasantry and mechanical orders.

† b. Occupied with or skilled in the practical application of an art or science; practical as opposed to speculative. *Obs.*

1570 Dee *Math. Pref.* a iij b, A speculative Mechanicien ..differreth nothyng from a Mechanicall Mathematicien. 1633 T. Stafford *Pac. Hib.* III. viii. (1810) 567 If they had been as good Mechanicall Cannoniers, as they were Commaunders.

3. † a. Of the nature of a machine or machines (*obs.*). b. In modern use: Acting, worked, or produced by a machine or mechanism: often in contrast to what is produced by hand-labour.

1567 Maplet *Gr. Forest* 2 Albeston is a stone of Archadie .. whereof in olde time was built that kind of worke Mechanicall. 1579–80 North *Plutarch, Marcellus* (1595) 335 Instruments and engines (which are called mechanicall, or organicall). 1648 Bp. Wilkins *Math. Magick* II. vi. 191 The *volant* or flying *Automata* are such Mechanicall contrivances, as have a self-motion [etc.]. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XV. 49/1 The centre of gravity might by mechanical means be made to rise continually higher. 1860 Faraday *Lect. Forces Matter* 170 An instrument wrought only by mechanical motion. 1875 Whyte Melville *Riding Recoll.* vi. (1879) 98 The mechanical horse exhibited in Piccadilly some ten or twelve years ago. 1902 *Daily Chron.* 7 Apr. 3/2 The invention and practical perfectioning of the mechanical pianoforte player.

c. *Mechanical powers* or † *faculties*: the six 'simple machines'. (Cf. Mechanic *a.* 4 b.)

1648 Bp. Wilkins *Math. Magick* I. iii, Of the first Mechanical faculty, the Ballance. 1727–41 Chambers *Cycl.* s. v., The mechanical powers, are the balance, lever, wheel, pully, wedge, and screw.

d. *Mechanical drawing*: drawing performed with the help of instruments, as compasses, rulers, etc. *Mechanical construction* (of curves): construction by the use of some apparatus, as distinguished from 'tracing' by calculation of successive points.

1842–59 Gwilt *Archit.* § 995 Practical Geometry..has been defined as the art which directs the mechanical processes for finding the position of points, lines, surfaces [etc.].

4. Of persons, their actions, etc.: Resembling (inanimate) machines or their operations; acting or performed without the exercise of thought or volition; lacking spontaneity or originality; machine-like; automatic.

1607 Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 271 Our Mechanical Horse Farriars, who cure many times what they know not, and kill where they might cure, knew they the cause. 1663 Bp. Patrick *Parab. Pilgr.* xxi. (1668) 210 The Mechanical Christian will here find himself to be dead and void of Christ. 1711 Steele *Spect.* No. 152 ¶ 2 None of these Men of Mechanical Courage have ever made any great Figure in the Profession of Arms. 1766 Goldsm. *Vic. W.* iv, I always thought fit to keep up some mechanical forms of good breeding. 1788 Reid *Active Powers* III. v. 613 The one we may for distinctions sake, call mechanical government, the other moral. 1818 Hazlitt *Eng. Poets* ii. 64 Versification is a thing in a great degree mechanical. 1841 Myers *Cath. Th.* III. § 36. 131 Is not the notion of a mechanical rule —a rule ever ready and ever applicable—in spiritual things, altogether out of place? 1871 Morley *Condorcet* in *Crit. Misc.* Ser. I. (1878) 66 The official religion of the century was lifeless and mechanical.

5. Of agencies, operations, and principles: Such as belong to the subject-matter of mechanics; in modern use often opposed to *chemical*.

1626 Bacon *Sylva* § 98 The Cause of all Flight of Bodies thorow the Aire, and of other Mechanicall Motions. 1662 Stillingfl. *Orig. Sacr.* III. ii. § 1 To explain the Origine of the Universe..meerly by the Mechanical Laws of the motion of matter. 1698 Keill *Exam. Th. Earth* Introd. (1734) 17 The World..did exist from all eternity, without any change, or alteration, but such as happened from pure Mechanical principles, and causes. 1805–17 R. Jameson *Char. Min.* (ed. 3) 151 If we have recourse to mechanical division, in order to obtain the cubic nucleus from this kind of octahedron. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XV. 291/1 Liquid medicines consisting of several ingredients..in a state of mechanical suspension in some viscid medium. 1842–59 Gwilt *Archit.* Gloss., *Mechanical Carpentry.* That branch of carpentry which relates to the disposition of the timbers of a building in respect of their relative strength and the strains to which they are subjected. 1863 Tyndall *Heat* i. § 9 (1870) 8 The sea is rendered warmer by a storm, the mechanical dash of its billows being..converted into heat. *Mod.* Common air is a mechanical mixture, not a chemical compound.

fig. 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) II. 201 The distinction between the mere mechanical cohesion of sounds or words and the chemical combination of them into a new word.

b. *Geol.* Applied to formations in which the ingredients have undergone no alteration in their chemical constitution or molecular structure.

1833 Lyell *Princ. Geol.* III. Gloss. 73 *Mechanical Origin*, Rocks of. When rocks are composed of sand, pebbles, or fragments, to distinguish them from those of an uniform crystalline texture, which are of chemical origin. 1878 Huxley *Physiogr.* xvii. 293 The mere mechanical detritus of siliceous rocks.

6. Of theories and their advocates: Explaining phenomena by the assumption of mechanical action.

1692 Bentley *Boyle Lect.* v. 145 The Mechanical Atheist. 1704 J. Harris *Lex. Techn.* I, *Mechanical Philosophy*, is the same with the Corpuscular, which endeavours to explicate the Phænomena of Nature from Mechanical Principles. 1707 Flover *Pulse Watch* I. II. ii. 205 Which Method of Physic is both Mechanical and Philosophical. 1771 T. Percival *Ess.* (1777) I. 21 The mechanical hypothesis concerning the operation of medicines, which is supposed to depend upon the size, figure, and gravity of their constituent particles. 1860 Tyndall *Glac.* I. i. 5 The mechanical theory of slaty cleavage. 1880 Huxley in *Nature* No. 615. 345 The mechanical physiologists, who regarded these operations as the result of the mechanical properties of the small vessels, such as the size, form, and disposition of their canals and apertures.

7. Concerned with or involving material objects or physical conditions.

1664 Power *Exp. Philos.* 104, I have an Experiment in Banco which will give some Mechanical Evidence of this great Mystery. 1665 Glanvill *Def. Vanity Dogm.* 28 There are Mechanical difficulties in the way of his Solutions. 1675 Traherne *Chr. Ethics* 148 In physical goodness there is a mechanical fitness, and dead convenience. 1860 Mill *Repr. Govt.* (1865) 4/1 Besides these moral hindrances, mechanical difficulties are often an insuperable impediment to forms of government.

8. Pertaining to mechanics as a science.

1648 Bp. Wilkins *Math. Magick* I. i. 3 Art may be said.. to overcome, and advance nature, as in these Mechanicall disciplines. 1827 Jamieson (*title*) A Dictionary of Mechanical Science. 1861 W. Fairbairn *Pres. Addr. to Brit. Assoc.* p. lviii, The mechanical sciences..may be divided into Theoretical Mechanics and Dynamics..and Applied Mechanics.

b. Having to do with machinery.

1793 Smeaton *Edystone L.* § 122 Subjects of mechanical invention and investigation. 1863 Fawcett *Pol. Econ.* I. iv. (1876) 33 The foremost mechanical genius of this mechanical age is devoted to the production of weapons of death. 1881 *Instr. Census Clerks* (1885) 42 Mechanical Engineer, Inventor, Draughtsman, Student. 1897 Mary Kingsley *W. Africa* 669 The great inferiority of the African to the European lies in the matter of mechanical idea.

9. *Math.* a. Applied to curves not expressible by equations of finite and rational algebraical form; = Transcendental.

So called as admitting of production only by 'mechanical construction': see 3 d.

1727–41 Chambers *Cycl.* s. v. *Curve*, These [*sc.* transcendental] curves, Des Cartes, &c. call mechanical ones. 1743 Emerson *Fluxions* II. 139 Mechanical or transcendent curves. 1847 J. Dwyer *Princ. & Pract. Hydraulic Eng.* 75 A cycloid .. is a mechanical curve of..curious properties.

b. *Mechanical solution* (of a problem): see quot.

1704 J. Harris *Lex. Techn.* I, *Mechanical Solution* of a Problem in Mathematicks, is either when the Thing is done by repeated Tryals, or when the Lines made use of to solve it are not truly Geometrical.

B. *sb.*

1. = Mechanic B. 2. *arch.* (as echo of Shaks.).

1590 Shaks. *Mids. N.* III. ii. 9 A crew of patches, rude Mechanicals, That worke for bread vpon Athenian stals. 1603 Holland *Plutarch's Mor.* 211 These covetous misers gather wealth together like mightie magnificoes, but they spend like beggerly mechanicals. 1647 Lilly *Chr. Astrol.* clx. 676 It..expresseth in Mechanicals, great Custome and Trade; in men otherwise qualified, Preferment, Office. 1830 *Westm. Rev.* XIII. 211 Socrates! we hear all the vulgar mechanicals exclaim,..a poor, mean, pitiful, pennyless fellow!

2. *pl.* † a. The science which relates to the construction of machines. *Obs.*

1605 Bacon *Adv. Learn.* II. xxi. § 6 In mechanicalls, the direction how to frame an Instrument or Engyne, is not the same with the manner of setting it on woorke.

b. Details of mechanical construction. *rare.*

1821 T. G. Wainewright *Ess. & Crit.* (1880) 146 This class of subjects demands the greatest attention to mechanicals. 1843 Lytton *Last Bar.* I. ix, 'They were indifferently well wrought, specially a chevesail, of which the'—'Spare me the fashion of thy mechanicals, and come to the point', interrupted Marmaduke.

Mechanicalism (mĭkæ·nikăliz'm). [f. Mechanical + -ism.] a. The philosophic doctrine that all the phenomena of the universe, or some particular class of phenomena indicated by the context, are mechanically caused. b. 'Mechanical' or routine procedure. So **Mecha·nicalist**, one who favours mechanicalism.

1877 T. Sinclair *Mount* (1878) 71 A mechanicalist would put one's thoughts very quickly into his shape, no doubt. 1893 *Nation* (N. Y.) 3 Aug. 88/2 These two things, mechanicalism and infallibilism, are the great obstacles to any common understanding between religious thinking and scientific thinking. 1903 *Speaker* 30 May 201/2 Others..have lost all touch with human nature, the slaves of an academic mechanicalism.

Mechanicality (mĭkæ·nikæ·lĭti). [f. Mechanical *a.* + -ity.] The quality of being mechanical, or like a machine; chiefly *fig.*

1778 [W. Marshall] *Minutes Agric., Observ.* 117 This construction was adopted on account of its Simplicity, and, at the same time, its Mechanicality. 1871 *Contemp. Rev.* XIX. 86 Sermons .. exhibit a sameness and mechanicality. 1890 Abp. Benson in *Life* II. 307 By much conversation I do believe I have prevailed on Wyon to depart much from mechanicality of touch.

Mechanicalize (mĭkæ·nikălə·iz), *v.* [f. Mechanical *a.* + -ize.] *trans.* To render mechanical (in any sense of the adj.); formerly, † to degrade to the rank or character of a mechanic; 'to render mean or low' (Todd 1818). Also Mecha·nicalized *ppl. a.*, Mecha·nicalizing *vbl. sb.*

1611 Cotgr., *Mechanizé*, Mechanicalized; made, or growne base, vile, ordinarie, meane. 1892 *Cosmopolitan* XIII. 155/2 Even utilitarianism and the mechanicalizing of labor have failed entirely to take away its significance. 1903 *Daily News* 4 Mar. 3/1 The tendency of modern industry to 'mechanicalise men.'

Mechanically (mĭkæ·nikăli), *adv.* [f. Mechanical *a.* + -ly 2.]

1. By mechanical art, contrivance, or methods; by the use of machinery or instruments.

1570 Dee *Math. Pref.* c ij b, Thus, may you Double your Cube Mechanically. *Ibid.* c iij, Though it be Naturally done and Mechanically: yet hath it a good Demonstration Mathematicall. 1656 tr. *Hobbes' Elem. Philos.* (1839) 315 The ancients pronounced it impossible to exhibit in a plane the division of angles, .. otherwise than mechanically. 1737 Bracken *Farriery Impr.* (1749) I. 329 A silly Man carrying two Buckets of Water upon his Shoulders with a round Pole, instead of a flattish one hollowed and mechanically fitted to receive his Shoulders. 1856 Kane *Arct. Expl.* I. xxix. 401 To lift her mechanically above her line of flotation. 1893 *Atlantic Monthly* Feb. 192/2 Large crowds gathered in the mechanically flooded fields.

2. By mechanical (as opposed to chemical, vital, etc.) agencies or processes; as a mechanical agent; in respect of mechanical properties.

1684–5 Boyle *Min. Waters* 23 Whether any thing..can be ..discover'd..by Chymically and Mechanically examining the Mineral Earths [etc.]. 1691 Ray *Creation* II. (1704) 415 They suppose even the perfect Animals..to have been formed Mechanically among the rest. 1794 Kirwan *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) I. 186 The calx and magnesia may be chemically combined with the argill, and not merely mechanically mixed as in marls. 1823 J. Badcock *Dom. Amusem.* 25 Being itself insolvable in any known menstruum, and acting mechanically only, it neither destroys nor is destructible. 1860 Tyndall *Glac.* I. xxv. 177 The dust and thin smoke mechanically suspended in a London atmosphere.

3. As by machinery or mechanical action; without spontaneous or conscious exercise of will or thought; automatically.

1692 Bentley *Boyle Lect.* 202 If atoms formed the world according to the essential properties of bulk, figure, and motion, they formed it mechanically; and if they formed it mechanically without perception and design, they formed it casually. 1741 tr. *D'Argens' Chinese Lett.* xiii. 85 With Men who act in a Manner mechanically, who behave so and so to Day only because they did so yesterday, there is [etc.]. 1800 Mrs. Hervey *Mourtray Fam.* II. 91 Emma, almost indifferent to every thing, followed her mechanically. 1853 C. Bronte *Villette* xxxviii, The place could not be entered. Could it not? a point worth considering; and while revolving it, I mechanically dressed. 1865 Dickens *Mut. Fr.* II. i, He could do mental arithmetic mechanically.

4. By reference to mechanical causes or principles.

1737 Bracken *Farriery Impr.* (1757) II. 88 We ought to explain the Thing mechanically. 1861 H. Spencer *Educ.* (1888) 18 The mechanically-justified wave-line principle.

5. With mechanical tastes or aptitudes.

1726 Swift *Gulliver* I. vi, Having a head mechanically turned,..I had made for myself a table and chair. 1890 *Anthony's Photogr. Bull.* III. 201 Any mechanically inclined man can make one in a day.

† 6. In a 'mechanical' or ungentlemanly manner; meanly. (Cf. Mechanical *a.* 2, Mechanic *a.* 3.) *Obs.*

1613 Chamberlain *Let.* in *Crt. & Times Jas. I* (1848) I. 224 But his [Sir T. Bodley's] servants grumble and murmur very much, with whom he hath dealt very mechanically, some of them having served him..above two and twenty years.

Mechanicalness (mĭkæ·nikălnĕs). [-ness.] The quality of being mechanical.

1611 Cotgr., *Mecaniquerie*, Mechanicallnesse; basenesse of humor. 1691–8 Norris *Pract. Disc.* (1711) III. 18 Men not perceiving the Mechanicalness of its operation, are apt to have recourse to some inherent Quality. 1874 *Contemp. Rev.* XXV. 95 Science does not affirm..mechanicalness in Nature. 1900 *Conferences on Books & Men* xiii. 229 The very mechanicalness of the routine seems to have soothed and numbed Cowper's too irritable sensibilities.

Mechanician (mekăni·ʃən). Also 6–7 -icien, 7 -itian. [f. MECHANIC + -IAN. Cf. F. *mécanicien.*]

a. One who practises or is skilled in a mechanical art; a mechanic, artisan. Now *rare*. b. One who is skilled in the construction of machinery.

1570 J. DEE *Math. Pref.* a iij b, A Mechanicien, or a Mechanicall workman is he, whose skill is, without knowledge of Mathematicall demonstration, perfectly to worke and finishe any sensible worke, by the Mathematicien principall or deriuative, demonstrated or demonstrable. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* I. ii. iii. ii. (1651) 94, I appeal to Painters, Mechanicians, Mathematicians. 1671 BOYLE *Usef. Exp. Nat. Philos.* II. iii. 11 By frequenting the Shops and Workhouses of Mechanitians. 1759 DA COSTA in *Phil. Trans.* LI. 187 There are even mechanicians in that kingdom [France], who seriously doubt, whether the fire engine is anywise useful. 1819 *P. O. Lond. Direct.* 144 Wm. Hawks, Mechanician and Optician to their Majesties. 1863 FAWCETT *Pol. Econ.* I. v. (1876) 58 The mechanician upon whose skill the accuracy of a chronometer depends.

†**Mecha·nicism.** *Obs. rare*—[1]. [f. MECHANIC + -ISM.] = MECHANISM 2.

1710 DE FOE in *Review* No. 119. VI. 474 They would denude us of the beautiful Garment of Liberty, and prostitute the Honour of the Nation to the Mechanicism of Slavery!

Mechanicize (mĭkæ·nisəiz), *v.* [f. MECHANIC + -IZE.] *trans.* To render mechanical.

18.. *American* X. 39 (Cent.) No branch of the race was more mechanicized by Lockianism than the American.

Mecha·nico-, used as comb. form of L. *mēchanicus* (see MECHANIC), in hyphened combinations with the sense 'partly mechanical and partly something else', as *mechanico-intellectual, -merciful*; **mechanico-chemical** *a.*, comprising mechanics and chemistry; (of phenomena) pertaining partly to mechanics and partly to chemistry; **mechanico-corpuscular** *a.*, an epithet applied to the philosophy which views all phenomena, material and spiritual, as explicable by the movement of atoms according to mechanical laws.

1825 COLERIDGE *Aids Refl.* (1848) I. 327 The utter emptiness..of the vaunted Mechanico-corpuscular philosophy. 1840 SMART s.v. *Mechanic*, The *Mechanico-chemical* sciences are magnetism, electricity, galvanism, &c. 1866 G. MACDONALD *Ann. Q. Neighb.* vi. (1878) 70 Stepping over many single leaves in a mechanico-merciful way. 1870 EMERSON *Soc. & Solit.* vii. 131 [Steam] is yet coming to render many higher services of a mechanico-intellectual kind.

Mechanics (mĭkæ·niks). [In form a pl. of MECHANIC: see -IC 2.

Gr. had both ἡ μηχανικὴ and τὰ μηχανικά; hence in late L. *mēchanica* fem. sing., mechanical science, *mēchanica* neut. pl., works of mechanical art. The Rom. langs. use the fem. sing.: Fr. *mécanique* (in 18th c. also *les mécaniques* fem.), Sp. *mecánica*, Pg. *mechanica*, It. *meccanica*; cf. G. *mechanik*, Du. *mechanica*, Da., Sw. *mekanik.*]

1. a. Originally (and still in popular use): That body of theoretical and practical knowledge which is concerned with the invention and construction of machines, the explanation of their operation, the calculation of their efficiency. b. That department of applied mathematics which treats of motion and tendencies to motion: comprising (according to the division now generally received) *kinematics*, the science of abstract motion, and *dynamics* (including *statics* and *kinetics*), the science of the action of forces in producing motion or equilibrium in bodies.

Analytical mechanics: mechanics treated by the differential and integral calculus. *Animal mechanics*: mechanics as applied to the study of the movements of animals.

1648 BP. WILKINS *Math. Magick* I. ii. 12 Astronomy handles the quantity of heavenly motions, Musick of sounds, and Mechanicks of weights and powers. 1671 BOYLE *Usef. Mech. Discipl. Nat. Philos.* I, I do not here take the Term, *Mechanicks*, in that stricter and more proper sense, wherein it is wont to be taken, when tis us'd onely to signifie the Doctrine about the Moving Powers, (as the Beam, the Leaver, the Screws, and the Wedg) and of framing Engines to multiply Force; but I here understand the word *Mechanicks* in a larger sense, for those Disciplines that consist of the Applications of pure Mathematicks to produce or modifie Motion in inferior Bodies. 1770 LANGHORNE *Plutarch* (1879) I. 342/1 The first that turned their thoughts to mechanics..were Eudoxus and Archytas. 1828 HUTTON *Course Math.* II. 139 Mechanics is the science of equilibrium and of motion. 1841 W. SPALDING *Italy & It. Isl.* I. 118 Archimedes..devoted the best efforts of his skill in mechanics to the defence of his native town.

†2. *pl.* Manual operations. *Obs. rare*—[1].

1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* IV. x, I shall not trouble the Reader with a particular Description of my own Mechanics; let it suffice to say, that in six Weeks Time..I finished a Sort of Indian Canoo.

Mechanism (me·kăniz'm). [ad. mod.L. *mēchanismus*, f. Gr. μηχανή MACHINE: see -ISM. Cf. F. *mécanisme*, Sp. *mecanismo*, Pg. *mechanismo*, It. *meccanismo*; also G. *mechanismus* (pl. *mechanismen*). Late Latin had *mēchanisma* contrivance.

The mod. L. word was chiefly used to denote the mechanical structure and action of nature according to the Cartesian philosophy.]

1. The structure, or mutual adaptation of parts, in a machine or anything comparable to a machine, whether material or immaterial. (In early use chiefly with reference to natural objects.)

1662 STILLINGFL. *Orig. Sacr.* III. § 15. 401 To impute that rare *mechanism* of the works of nature to the blind and fortuitous motion of some particles of matter? 1685 BOYLE *Enq. Notion Nat.* 73, I shall express, what I call'd General Nature, by Cosmical Mechanism, that is, a Comprisal of all the Mechanical Affections (Figure, Size, Motion, &c.) that belong to the matter of the great System of the Universe. 1722 WOLLASTON *Relig. Nat.* v. 100 He..knows the make of their bodies, and all the mechanism and propensions of them. 1776 G. CAMPBELL *Philos. Rhet.* (1801) I. 241 The wonderful mechanism of our mental frame. 1833 HT. MARTINEAU *Briery Creek* iv. 85 The mechanism of society thus resembles the mechanism of man's art. 1854 BREWSTER *More Worlds* xvii. 256 The wonderful mechanisms of animal and vegetable life. 1855 BAIN *Senses & Int.* II. i. § 1 The mechanism or anatomy of movement in the animal frame. 1862 DARWIN *Fertil. Orchids* iii. 100 The mechanism of the flower. 1867 LADY HERBERT *Cradle L.* iii. 96 The door was a marvel of mechanism.

†b. In somewhat wider sense (see quot. 1755).

1712 *Spectator* No. 518 P 8 The Contour of his Person, the Mechanism of his Dress, [etc.]. 1715 DESAGULIERS *Fires Impr.* 154 The whole Mechanism of it [viz. a chimney] will be easily understood by a sight of the Figures. 1755 JOHNSON, *Mechanism*,..2. Construction of parts depending on each other in any complicated fabrick.

2. *concr.* A system of mutually adapted parts working together mechanically or in a manner analogous to mechanical action; a piece of machinery; the machinery (*lit.* or *fig.*) by means of which some particular effect is produced. Also, machinery or mechanical appliances in general.

a 1677 HALE *Prim. Orig. Man.* I. ii. 48 That Opinion that depresseth the natures of sensible Creatures below their just value..rendring them no more but barely Mechanisms or Artificial Engins. 1758 REID tr. *Macquer's Chym.* I. 129 This is brought about by a mechanism to which we are strangers. 1802 PALEY *Nat. Theol.* xxiii. (ed. 2) 447 Mechanism is not itself power. Mechanism, without power, can do nothing. 1814 D. STEWART *Hum. Mind* II. ii. § 2. 143 The wonderful mechanism of speech. 1822 IMISON *Sci. & Art* I. 94 The part of the mechanism of a watch which shows the hour of the day. 1876 A. B. KENNEDY *Reuleaux' Kinem. Machinery* 47 A closed kinematic chain, of which one link is thus made stationary, is called a mechanism. 1879 *St. George's Hosp. Rep.* IX. 809 The vascular dilatation must be considered as the result of the morbid condition of the mechanism of the circulation. 1885 tr. *Lotze's Microcosmos* I. II. iv. 232 The mind is not content to have connections of ideas imposed on it by the mechanism of perception and memory. 1903 HEYWOOD *Music in Churches* 7 Average choir boys cannot recite on a low note without being liable to use the..chest voice..and the use of their lower mechanism is usually accompanied with flatness.

b. *spec.* in musical instruments.

1825 CROSSE *York Festival* 154 The admirable mechanism by which it [*sc.* an organ] was made available on this occasion. 1871 *Abridgm. Specif. Patents, Music* 163 The invention consists in so arranging the mechanism of a flute that the closing of the C sharp and the B natural holes may be simultaneous by the action of the second finger. 1876 STAINER & BARRETT *Dict. Mus. Terms, Mechanism*, that part of an instrument which forms the connection between the player and the sound-producing portion.

c. *Kinematics.* 'An ideal machine; a combination of movable bodies constituting a machine, but considered only with regard to relative movements' (Webster 1897).

†3. Mechanical action; 'action according to mechanick laws' (J.). *Obs.*

1671 S. PARKER *Def. Eccl. Pol.* 342 The Philosophy of a Phanatick being as intelligible by the Laws of Mechanism, as the Motion of the Heart, and Circulation of the Bloud. 1692 BENTLEY *Boyle Lect.* iii. 32 He acknowledges nothing besides Matter and Motion; so that all that he can conceive to be transmitted hither from the Stars, must needs be perform'd either by Mechanism or Accident. 1704 NORRIS *Ideal World* II. ii. 90 The most that use them [movements] are utterly ignorant of the laws of mechanism and yet order their footing as artificially as the most skilful. 1731 ARBUTHNOT *Aliments* (1735) 34 After the Chyle has pass'd through the Lungs, Nature continues her usual Mechanism, to convert it into Animal Substances. 1748 HARTLEY *Observ. Man* I. iv. 500 The Mechanism or Necessity of human Actions, in Opposition to what is generally termed Free-will. 1794 SULLIVAN *View Nat.* IV. 5 Mechanism has become a learned word. But, does it mean any more than that one particle of matter is impelled by another,..and that still by another, until we come to the particle first moved?

†4. A contrivance, artifice. *Obs. rare.*

1670 W. CLARKE *Nat. Hist. Nitre* 92 It is also a pretty Mechanism in Cookery..which is this, Nitre giveth a Red Colour to Neats-Tongues, [etc.] 1688 EVELYN in Gutch *Coll. Cur.* I. 414 All their [the Jesuits'] other mechanismes and arts having fail'd them.

†5. Mechanical operations; mechanical art. *Obs.*

1710 STEELE *Tatler* No. 209 P 2 Painting is Eloquence and Poetry in Mechanism. 1736 AINSWORTH *Lat. Dict.*, Talus..who first invented the saw..grew such an artist, that Dædalus fearing to be outdone in mechanism put him to death.

†6. The opinion that everything in the universe is produced by mechanical forces. *Obs.*

1777 PRIESTLEY *Matt. & Spir.* (1782) I. Introd. 5 Mechanism is the undoubted consequence of materialism.

7. *Art.* The mechanical execution of a painting, sculpture, piece of music, etc.; technique. (Opposed to *style* or *expression.*)

1843 RUSKIN *Mod. Paint.* II. § 1. vii. 94 *note*, Canaletti's mechanism is wonderful. Prout's the rudest possible; but there is not a grain of feeling in the one, and there is much in the other. 1860 *Ibid.* V. ix. viii. § 1. 281 [Teniers and Wouvermans] seem never to have painted indolently, but gave the purchaser his thorough money's worth of mechanism. 1876 STAINER & BARRETT *Dict. Mus. Terms, Mechanism*, the physical power of performance, as distinguished from the intellect or taste which directs it.

b. 'Mechanical' quality (of literature); the following of set methods for producing effect.

1903 LD. ROSEBERY in *Daily News* 27 Nov. 5/5 Lord Macaulay's works..are charged now with a certain amount of mannerism and a certain amount of mechanism.

Mechanist (me·kănist). [f. MECHAN-IC + -IST.]

1. †a. A mechanic, handicraftsman (*obs.*). b. One who constructs machinery; a machinist.

1606 J. KING *Serm.* Sept. 32 They will turn..Princes into mechanistes and artificers. 1718 J. CHAMBERLAYNE *Relig. Philos.* (1730) I. x. § 17. 92 Adapted by Mechanists to other sort of uses. 1759 JOHNSON *Rasselas* vi, Having seen what the mechanist had already performed. *a* 1761 CAWTHORN *Poems* (1771) 200 Observing this unlucky railer Was neither mechanist, nor taylor. 1806 *Edin. Rev.* IX. 210 The mechanist could have very little to do with the success of the play. 1852 GROTE *Greece* II. lxxxii. X. 664 He collected ..all the best engineers, mechanists, armourers, artisans, etc., whom Sicily or Italy could furnish.

2. One versed in mechanics; a mechanician.

1704 NORRIS *Ideal World* II. ii. 90 Placing their bodies in the aptest postures for their preservation, such as the wisest mechanist cannot correct. 1751 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 117 P 1 The Mechanist will be afraid to assert..the Possibility of tearing down Bulwarks with a Silkworm's thread. *a* 1774 GOLDSM. *Surv. Exp. Philos.* (1776) I. 212 It is called by mechanists the center of gravity. 1809–10 COLERIDGE *Friend* (1865) 160 One state possesses chemists, mechanists, mechanics of all kinds, men of science. *a* 1822 SHELLEY *Def. Poetry* Pr. Wks. 1888 II. 28 Poets have been challenged to resign the civic crown to reasoners and mechanists.

†3. One who holds a mechanical theory of the universe. *Obs.* (Cf. MECHANIC B. 4.)

1668 H. MORE *Div. Dial.* Characters, Cuphophron, A zealous..Platonist and Cartesian, or Mechanist.

Mechanistic (mekăni·stik), *a.* [f. prec. + -IC.] Of, pertaining to, or connected with mechanics or mechanism. Also, pertaining to or holding mechanical theories in biology or philosophy.

1884 *Nature* 21 Aug. 383/1 The series of curves of velocity given for different mechanistic combinations. 1893 BURDON-SANDERSON in *Athenæum* 16 Sept. 375/2 The mechanistic view of the phenomena of life. 1904 *Westm. Gaz.* 3 Dec. 16/3 The mechanistic school.

Mechanize (me·kănəiz), *v.* [f. MECHAN-IC + -IZE; cf. obs. F. *méchaniser.*]

1. *trans.* To make or render mechanical; to import or attribute a mechanical character to; to bring into a mechanical state or condition; to work out the mechanical details of (a design, idea, etc.).

1678 [implied in MECHANIZING *vbl. sb.*]. 1704 NORRIS *Ideal World* II. ii. 99 God can so mechanize matter, as to make it capable of doing some things that [etc.]. 1795 COLERIDGE *Conciones* 32 A system of fundamental Reform will scarcely be effected by massacres mechanized into Revolution. 1831 CARLYLE *Sart. Res.* III. iii, Cannot he..mechanise them [*sc.* motives] to grind the other way? 1843 J. MARTINEAU *Chr. Life* (1867) 201 You cannot mechanize benevolence. 1870 EMERSON *Soc. & Solit., Art* Wks. (Bohn) III. 21 Raphael paints wisdom: Handel sings it,..Shakspeare writes it,..Watt mechanizes it. 1879 BARING-GOULD *Germany* I. 127 He [the artisan] is mechanised.

2. *intr.* (*nonce-uses.*) To work as a mechanic; to move mechanically.

1886 T. HARDY *Mayor Casterbr.* xxxvi, Rural mechanics too idle to mechanise, rural servants too rebellious to serve. 1902 — *Mother Mourns* Poems 71 Why loosened I olden control here To mechanize skywards.

Hence **Me·chanized** *ppl. a.*; **Me·chanizing** *vbl. sb.* (in quot. used *attrib.*) Also **Me·chaniza·tion,** the action of the verb MECHANIZE; **Me·chanizer,** one who mechanizes, a believer in mechanical order or system = MECHANIST 3.

1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* I. iii. § 38. 175 Some of the ancient religious atomists were also too much infected with this mechanizing humour. 1813 SHELLEY *Q. Mab* III. 180 A mechanized automaton. 1831 CARLYLE *Sart. Res.* III. v, Our European Mechanisers are a sect of boundless diffusion, activity, and co-operative spirit. 1839 J. STERLING *Ess.*, etc. (1848) I. 297 The mechanization of the mind. 1842 *Ibid.* 393 Genius..cannot be prevented by the happiest mechanization of man. 1891 *Longm. Mag.* Aug. 431 By force of conscious and unconscious repetition of the phrase, it became mechanised.

Mechanograph (mĭkæ·nŏgrof). *rare*—[0]. [f. Gr. μηχανο-, μηχανή machine + -GRAPH.] One of a set of copies of a work of art, writing, etc. multiplied by mechanical means.

1885 in *Cassell's Encycl. Dict.*; and in recent Dicts.

Mechanographic (me·kănogræ·fik), *a. rare.* [f. Gr. μηχανο-, μηχανή machine + -GRAPHIC.]

1. Treating of mechanics.

1830 MAUNDER *Treas. Knowl.* I.

2. Pertaining to mechanography (Ogilvie *Suppl.* 1855).

Mechanography (mekăno·grăfi). *rare*—[0]. [ad. mod.L. *mēchanographia*, f. Gr. μηχανο-, μηχανή machine: see -GRAPHY.] The art of copying or reproducing a work of art or writing by mechanical means. Hence **Mechano·graphist,** one who practises this art.

[1826 ELMES *Dict. Fine Arts, Mechanographia.*] 1840 SMART, s.v. *Mechanic, Mechanography*, is the art of imitating paintings by mechanical means. 1847 WEBSTER, *Mechanographist.*

Mechanology (mekăno·lŏdʒi). *rare.* [f. Gr. μηχανο-, μηχανή machine + -LOGY.] The science of, or a treatise on, machines or mechanism.

1840 DE QUINCEY *Style* Wks. 1859 XI. 194 The science of style, considered as a machine,..might be called the mechanology of style. 1876 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex.*, *Mechanology*, a description of, or treatise on machines, or apparatus used in medicine or surgery.

Mechanotherapy (mɛ·kănǭpɛ·răpi). Also in Lat. form **-therapia**. [ad. mod.L. type **mēchanotherapia*, f. Gr. *μηχανο-*, *μηχανή* machine + *θεραπεία* healing.] Cure by mechanical means.

1890 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 373 The practice of 'mechano-therapy' by manipulators usually quite ignorant of medicine. 1901 *Westm. Gaz.* 16 May 2/1 The Zander Institute at Paris is the home of mecbanotherapia, or cure by mechanical means.

‖ **Méchant** (mɛʃaṅ), *a.* Also fem. **méchante** (mɛʃāṅt). [Fr. See also MESCHANT.] Malicious, spiteful, wayward, worthless, wicked.

1813 BYRON 26 Nov. in Moore *Lett. & Jrnls.* (1830) I. 453 She has much beauty,—just enough,—but is, I think, *méchante*. 1849 THACKERAY *Pendennis* xlvi, Mr. Pendennis was wicked, *méchant*, perfectly abominable. 1865 'OUIDA' *Strathmore* I. ix. 145 That light, *méchante* voice that had mocked him from the mask.

Mechant, variant of MESCHANT *Obs.*

Mechanurgy (mɛ·kănɚdʒi). [As if ad. Gr. **μηχανουργία*, f. *μηχανο-*, *μηχανή* machine + *ἔργ-ον* work.] That branch of mechanics which treats of moving machines. 1864 in WEBSTER; and in recent Dicts.

† **Mecha·tion.** *Obs. rare*—⁰. [ad. L. *mæchātiōn-em*, f. *mœchārī* to commit adultery, f. *mœchus*, a. Gr. *μοιχός* adulterer.] Adultery.

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Mechation*, fornication, Whoredom, strumpeting.

Meche, obs. form of MATCH *sb.*[1], MUCH.

Mechef, obs. form of MISCHIEF *sb.*

Mechel, Mecher, etc. : see MICKLE, MICHER.

Mechient, variant of MESCHANT *Obs.*

Mechil(l, obs. forms of MICKLE.

Mechitarist: see MEKHITARIST.

Mechlin (mɛ·klin), *a.* and *sb.* Forms: 5 **meighlyn**, 7 **mecklen**, 8 **mechlen, mecklin, mechline, macklin**, 8– **mechlin**. [The name of a town in Belgium, used *attrib.* and *elliptically*.]

†**1.** *Mechlin black*: a black cloth made at Mechlin.

1483 *Wardr. Acc.* in Grose *Antiq. Rep.* (1807) I. 61 ij pair of hosen made of..broode meighlyn blac.

2. In full *Mechlin lace*: lace produced at Mechlin. † *Mechlin cravat*: a neckerchief made of Mechlin lace. *Mechlin embroidery* (see quot. 1882).

1699 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3525/4 A Wastcoat and Holland Shift, both laced with Mecklen Lace. 1706 FARQUHAR *Recruiting Officer* III. i, Right Mechlin, by this light! Where did you get this Lace? 1714 GAY *Araminta*, The Silver Knot o'erlooks the Mechlen Lace. 1716 POPE *Basset-t.* 91 With eager beats his Mechlin Cravat moves. 1728 YOUNG *Love of Fame* V. (ed. 2) 105 Mecklin the queen of lace. 1728 SWIFT *Jrnl. Mod. Lady* Wks. 1751 VII. 192 Fresh Matter for a World of Chat, Right Indian this, right Macklin that. 1748 SMOLLETT *Rod. Rand.* xxxiv. (1760) I. 265 His shirt which was of the finest cambric, edged with right Mechline. 1865 MRS. PALLISER *Lace* 31 All the laces of Flanders, with the exception of those of Brussels and the point double, were known at this period [1665] under the general name of Mechlin. 1882 CAULFEILD & SAWARD *Dict. Needlework*, *Mechlin Embroidery*, a term applied to Mecblin Lace, as the thread that was inserted round the outlines of that lace gave it somewhat the look of Embroidery. *Ibid.*, *Mechlin Lace Wheel*,..formed with a number of Bars crossing each other, with a circle or wheel ornamented with Picots in the centre of the space. 1888 MISS BRADDON *Fatal Three* I. i, The flowing garment.. was to be changed presently for white satin and old Mechlin lace.

† **Mechloic** (mĭklōa·ĭk), *a. Chem. Obs.* [f. ME(CONIN) + CHLO(RINE) + -IC.] *Mechloic acid*: a crystallized acid produced by the action of chlorine gas on fused meconin.

1836 J. M. GULLY *Magendie's Formul.* (ed. 2) 35 Chlorine at the fusing point of meconine..transforms it into an acid, to which the name of mechloic has been given. 1838 T. THOMSON *Chem. Org. Bodies* 103 Mechloic Acid was discovered by M. Couerbe. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XV. 50/2.

Mechlori·nic, *a.* = prec.

1890 [see MECONIN.]

Mechoacan (mɛtʃōw·ăkăn). Also 6 **mechoicana**, 7 **mechoacham, mechacan, mechocan, mechoacauna, (mecoacan)**, 7–9 **mechoachan**. [Called from the Mexican province *Mechoacan*. (Hence often written with capital M.)]

1. The root of a Mexican species of bindweed, *Ipomœa* (*Batatas*) *Jalapa*, formerly used in medicine as a purgative; also, the plant itself. Also called *white mechoacan*.

1577 FRAMPTON *Joyfull Newes* 23 b, The *Mechoacan* is a Roote..brought from a countrie..called Mechoacan. 1594 BLUNDEVIL *Exerc.* v. xi. (1636) 555 The chiefe Merchandizes that come from Mexicana..are these, Gold, Silver,..the root Mechoicana. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. cccviii. 723 That plant..called Mechoacan, or Bryonie of Mexico. *Ibid.*, The Bryonie, or Mechoacan of Peru groweth vp [etc.]. 1672 JOSSELYN *New-Eng. Rarities* 58 Briony of Peru..; some take it for Mechoacan. 1676 T. GLOVER in *Phil. Trans.* XI. 630 Here [Virginia] grow two Roots, which some Physicians judg, the one to be Turhith, the other Mechoacan. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* II. 95/2 Mechacan of Peru .. groweth up like hops, by help of a pole. 1703 DAMPIER *Voy.* (1729) III. 453 Mechoacan. A Sort of blush-coloured Bindweed. 1741 *Compl. Fam.-Piece* I. i. 34 The Root of Mechoacan. 1768 W. LEWIS *Mat. Med.* (ed. 2) 375 Mechoacan scarcely yields one sixth part so much [resin] as jalap does. 1840 PEREIRA *Elem. Mat. Med.* II. 893 The roots of several others have been employed in medicine on account of their purgative properties; as the root called Mechoacan..Their use is now obsolete. 1856 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Mechoacanna*, ..the plant mechoacan. 1872 SCHELE DE VERE *Americanisms* 410 Wild Potato Vine (*Convolvulus panduratus*), also known by its Indian name of Mechoachan, which grows in sandy soil all over the United States. 1890 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Mechoacan, white*, same as *Mechoacan*.

2. With qualifying words, applied to various other plants of similar properties.

1890 *Syd. Soc. Lex.* s. v., *Black Mechoacan*, a synonym of Jalap. *Grey Mechoacan*, the root of *Myrabilis* [sic] *longiflora*. *Mechoacan of Canada*, the root of *Phytolacca decandra*.

†**3.** A purgative drug obtained from the roots of *Ipomœa* (*Batatas*) *Jalapa* and other plants. *Obs.*

1610 [see KERMES 1]. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 36 The Qualitie of the Medicine..is..of secret Malignity, and disagreement towards Mans Bodie..; As in Scammony, Mechoacham, Antimony, &c. 1681 tr. *Willis' Rem. Med. Wks.* Vocab., *Mechoacan*, a purging drug brought from the Indies. 1768 W. LEWIS *Mat. Med.* (ed. 2) 375 The dose of the mechoacan in substance is from one dram to two or more.

4. *attrib.*, as *mechoacan root*; † **mechoacan-ale**, a drink medicated with mechoacan; **mechoacan jalap** (see JALAP 2).

1696 SALMON *Fam.-Dict.* 203 Spring and Fall purge with *Mecoacan-Ale. 1632 SHERWOOD *s. v.*, The (Indian) *Mechoacan root, *Rhamindique*. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 727/1 Mechoacan root. *Batatas Jalapa*.

Mecistocephalic (mĭ·kistoˌsĭfæ·lik), *a.* [f. Gr. *μήκιστος* longest + *κεφαλή* head.] Longest-headed: applied by Huxley to skulls with the highest cephalic index (69 and under).

1866 HUXLEY *Preh. Rem. Caithn.* 115 The large increase in the percentage of meco- and mecistocephalic skulls.

So ‖ **Mecistoce·phali** (-əi), *sb. pl.* [mod. Latin], men with mecistocephalic skulls. **Mecistoce·phalous** *a.* = MECISTOCEPHALIC. **Mecistoce·phaly**, the condition or quality of being mecistocephalic.

1866 HUXLEY *Preh. Rem. Caithn.* 112 There is every stage from brachistocephaly to mecistocephaly to be met with between Switzerland and Scandinavia. 1878 BARTLEY tr. *Topinard's Anthrop.* II. ii. 238 In Mr. Huxley's system the terms themselves are altered. His mecistocephali are 69 and under. 1890 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Mecistocephalous*.

Meck (mek). [a. Du. *mik* forked stick.]

1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Meck*, a notched staff in a whale-boat on which the harpoon rests.

Meckelian (mekī·liăn), *a. Anat.* [f. *Meckel* + -IAN.] The designation of certain structures discovered by J. F. Meckel (1714–74), or his grandson J. F. Meckel (1781–1833). *Meckelian arch, bar, cartilage, rod*: the cartilaginous rod or bar which is temporarily developed in the mandibular arch of the fœtus. *Meckelian ganglion*, the spheno-palatine ganglion.

More commonly these structures are known as *Meckel's arch, cartilage, ganglion*, etc.

[1836–9 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* II. 285/1 The ganglion..has also received the title of *Meckel's ganglion*.] 1858 HUXLEY in *Proc. Roy. Soc.* IX. 397 The Meckelian cartilage. [1864 *Quain's Anat.* (ed. 7) I. 66 The remaining part..is named Meckel's cartilage after its first describer.] 1890 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Meckelian bar*. 1890 *Century Dict.*, *Meckelian ganglion, rod*, etc.

Meckenynge, obs. form of MEEKENING.

Mecklin, obs. form of MECHLIN.

Mecnesse, obs. form of MEEKNESS.

Mecocephalic (mī·koˌsĭfæ·lik), *a.* [f. Gr. *μῆκος* length + *κεφαλή* head.] = DOLICHOCEPHALIC.

1866 [see MECISTOCEPHALIC].

Mecock(e, variant forms of MEACOCK *Obs.*

Mecodont (mī·kodǫnt), *a.* [f. Gr. *μῆκο-s* length + *ὀδοντ-*, *ὀδούς* tooth.] Having long teeth.

1875 HUXLEY in *Encycl. Brit.* I. 760/2 This 'mecodont' arrangement is strikingly exemplified by Salamandra maculosa.

Mecography (mĭkǫ·grăfi). *rare.* [f. Gr. *μῆκο-s* length + -GRAPHY.] † **a.** (See quot. 1603.) *Obs.* **b.** (See quot. 1890.)

1603 (*title*) *The Mecographie of ye Loadstone* [tr. Nautonnier *Mecographie de l'Eymant*], tat is to say ane Description of the lenthes or longitudes, qubikis ar fon be ye observations of ye loadstone. 1890 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Mecography*, the graphic investigation of the dimensions and weight of the body.

Mecometer (mĭkǫ·mĭtəɹ). [f. Gr. *μῆκο-s* length + -METER, after F. *mécomètre*.] An instrument for measuring length; *spec.* a graduated instrument for measuring the length of new-born infants, used at the Hospice de la Maternité, Paris.

1855 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex.* (ed. 12) *Mecometer*. 1867 DE MORGAN in *Athenæum* 19 Jan. 89 In fact, he did his very best to get larger 'mercy'. And he shall have it; and at a length which will content him, unless his mecometer be an insatiable apparatus.

† **Meco·metry.** *Obs. rare.* [f. Gr. *μῆκος* length + -METRY.] Measurement of length.

1570 DEE *Math. Pref.* a iij b, To be certified, either of the length, perimetry, or distance lineall:..is called Mecometrie. 1618 M. BARET *Hippon.* xxxviii. 117 How can a man..learne the knowledge of Mechometry, wherehy lengths and distances are measured, if not [etc.].

Meconate (mī·kŏnēt). *Chem.* Earlier **meconiate.** [f. MECON-IC + -ATE.] A salt of meconic acid.

1833 *Lond. & Edinb. Philos. Mag.* II. 156 These crystals are brownish, and consist of meconine, meconiates, and other substances. 1836 J. M. GULLY *Magendie's Formul.* (ed. 2) 38 To separate the meconate of lime. 1874 GARROD & BAXTER *Mat. Med.* (1880) 192 The meconate and lactate of morphia and codeia.

† **Meco·nia.** *Chem. Obs.* [f. Gr. *μήκων* poppy + -IA.] = MECONIN.

1836 BRANDE *Chem.* (ed. 4) 1019 Meconia. This substance was discovered by Dublanc and Couerbe. *Ibid.* The quantity of meconia in opium is so small, that [etc.].

Meconial (mĭkō·niăl), *a. Med.* [f. MECONI-UM + -AL.] 'Pertaining to, or due to, meconium; as, meconial colic' (Webster *Suppl.* 1902).

Meconiasin: see MECONISIN.

Meconic (mĭkǫ·nik), *a. Chem.* [f. Gr. *μήκων* poppy + -IC.] *Meconic acid*: a white crystalline acid obtained from opium. So *meconic ether*.

1819 J. G. CHILDREN *Chem. Anal.* 277 Meconic acid is obtained from opium. 1865 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* III. 861 Meconic Ethers. 1884 BOWER & SCOTT *De Bary's Phaner.* 184 Morphin combined with meconic acid in opium.

Meconidine (mĭkǫ·nidin). *Chem.* Also **-in.** [f. Gr. *μήκων* poppy + -ID- + -INE[5]: cf. *quinidine*.] An amorphous alkaloid found in opium; discovered by Hesse in 1870.

1871 WATTS tr. *Gmelin's Handbk. Chem.* XVIII. 199 Meconidine..Contained in the aqueous extract of opium.

‖ **Meconidium** (mĭkoni·diŏm). *pl.* **-ia.** [mod. L., as if ad. Gr. **μηκωνίδιον*, dim. of *μήκων* poppy. For the reason for the name see quot. 1871; the dim. termination was suggested by *gonidium, blastidium*, etc.]

One of the fixed medusoid buds produced by certain Hydroids, which contain the reproductive elements; a gonophore.

1849 ALLMAN in *Ann. Nat. Hist.* Ser. III. IV. 137 The extra-capsular medusiform sporosacs ('meconidia') of Laomedea. 1871 — *Gymnobl. Hydroids* Introd. 16 Meconidium, peculiar sporosacs, somewhat resembling a poppy capsule in form. 1884 *Riverside Nat. Hist.* (1888) I. 85 The cavity of the blastostyle is directly continuous with a central cavity in this meconidium.

Meconin (mī·kŏnin). *Chem.* Also **-ine.** [ad. F. *méconine*, f. Gr. *μήκων* poppy: see -IN[1].] A white, crystalline, neutral compound existing in opium, regarded as an anhydride of meconic acid. Cf. MECONIA.

1833 *Lond. & Edin. Philos. Mag.* II. 156 Meconine was discovered in opium, by M. Couerbe in 1830. 1874 GARROD & BAXTER *Mat. Med.* 202 Meconine or Opianyl acts on man as a mild hypnotic. 1890 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Meconin resin*, a resin which falls on the addition of water to the chlorine-holding fluid from which mechlorinic acid has been obtained.

Meconioid (mĭkōu·niˌoid), *a. Med.* [f. MECONIUM + -OID.] Resembling, of the nature of, pertaining to, or obtained from meconium.

1856 in MAYNE *Expos. Lex.* s. v. *Meconioides*.

Meconisin (mĭkǫ·nisin). *Chem.* Also **-iasin.** [Arbitrarily varied from MECONIN.] (See quots.)

1887 BRUNTON *Pharmacol.* (ed. 3) § 5. xxxi. 846 The neutral substances [in opium] are meconin and meconiasin. 1890 BILLINGS *Nat. Med. Dict.* II. 122 Meconisin $C_8H_{10}O_2$. A crystallizable neutral principle discovered in opium by T. and H. Smith (1878).

‖ **Meconium** (mĭkōu·niŏm). [L. *mēcōnium* (Pliny), a. Gr. *μηκώνιον* (in senses 1 and 2 below), f. *μήκων* poppy.]

† **1.** The inspissated juice of the poppy; opium.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 68. 1681 tr. *Willis' Rem. Med. Wks.* Vocab., *Meconium*, the juice of the leaves and heads of poppy. 1783 JUSTAMOND tr. *Raynal's Hist. Indies* II. 147 The meconium, or common opium is prepared by pressing the poppy heads that have been already cut. 1804 *Med. Jrnl.* XII. 470 Meconium or poppies.—For excessive fluxes, and pains in the uterus.

2. The dark excrementitious substance in the large intestines of the fœtus; hence, the first fæces of a new-born infant.

1706 in PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey). 1732 ARBUTHNOT *Rules of Diet* in *Aliments*, etc. 404 All of them [*sc.* new-born Infants] have a Meconium, or sort of dark colour'd Excrement in the Bowels. 1899 CAGNEY tr. *Jaksch's Clin. Diagn.* (ed. 4) 244 The term 'meconium' is applied to the substance discharged from the rectum of the child immediately after birth.

3. *Ent.* The fæces of an insect just transformed from the pupa.

1789 *Trans. Soc. Arts* VII. 131 The elasticity of the silk, as the moths creep through, has the effect of pressing out a kind of red meconium. 1890 in *Century Dict.*

4. 'Applied to the black pigment of the choroid' (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1890).

Meconology (mĭkŏnǫ·lŏdʒi). *rare*—⁰. [ad. mod.L. *mēconologia*, f. Gr. *μήκων* poppy + -OLOGY.] A treatise on the poppy or opium.

[1693 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Meconologia*, a Description of Opium.] 1721 BAILEY, *Meconology*, a Description or Treatise of Opium. 1856 MAYNE *Expos. Lex. Meconologia*, ..meconology. [In recent Dicts.]

Meconophagism (mĭkŏnǫ·fădʒiz'm). *Med.* [f. Gr. *μηκων(ο)-*, *μήκων* poppy + *-φάγος* that eats + -ISM.] Opium-eating. So **Mecono·phagist,** an opium-eater.

1886 *Alien. & Neurol.* VII, 463 The death of the patient being attributed to causes which are supposed to be discon-

nected from the meconophagism. *Ibid.* 471 If they happen to find solace in opium readily, they become meconophagists. 1893 DUNGLISON *Med. Dict.* (ed. 21) *Meconophagism*, opium-eating.

‖ **Meconopsis** (mĭkŏnǫ·psis). *Bot.* [mod.L., f. Gr. *μήκων* poppy + *ὄψις* appearance.] A genus of plants of the N.O. *Papaveraceæ*; also, a plant of this genus.

1836 LOUDON *Encycl. Plants* 462 Welsh Meconopsis. 1905 *Westm. Gaz.* 3 Jan. 9/1 The remarkable meconopsis recently sent from the Thibetan highlands.

† **Mecop.** *Obs.* [a. Flem. *mekop*, f. **mēn* = MDu. *maan*, G. *mohn* poppy + *kop* head.] The poppy.

c 1481 CAXTON *Dialogues* 20/11 Oyle of mecop.

† **Mecubalist.** *Obs.* [f. late Heb. *mᵉqubbāl* what is received, pa. pple. of *qibbēl* to receive (whence CABBALA) + -IST.] ? One versed in Jewish traditions.

1653 R. SANDERS *Physiogn.* 202 By searching into the ancient Cabalists, Mecubalists, and Massorets, I find [etc.].

Mecul(le, obs. forms of MICKLE.

Med, obs. form of MEAD, MEED.

Medæwart, variant of MEADWORT.

Medagle, Medaglion, medaillon, obs. ff. MEDAL *sb.*, MEDALLION *sb.*

Medal (me·dăl), *sb.* Forms: 6–7 medaill(e, 7 medall, -ull, meddal(l, medaile, -el, 7– medal. Also 7 medagle, *pl.* -glies. [a. F. *médaille* (15th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), ad. It. *medaglia* = OF. *meaille, maille* (see MAIL *sb.*[4]), Sp. *medalla*, Pg. *medalha*:—Com. Rom. **medallia*:—popular L. type **metallea*, f. *metallum* METAL *sb.* In early Rom. use the word meant a coin of minute value; cf. MAIL *sb.*[4]

The Rom. word passed into OHG. as *medilla*, rendering the Latin *as*; in MHG. *medile, medele* occurs for (the widow's) mite. Mod. G. has adopted the Fr. word as *medaille*; so also Du., Da. *medaille*, Sw. *medalj*.]

†**1.** A metal disk bearing a figure or an inscription, used as a charm or trinket. *Obs.*

a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* III. (1598) 342 He gaue Dametas certaine Medailles of gold hee had long kept about him. 1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* I. ii. 307 He that weares her like her Medull, hanging About his neck. 1642 HOWELL *For. Trav.* (Arb.) 36 Lewis..had..an humour of his own, to weare in his hat a Medaille of Lead. 1674 BREVINT *Saul at Endor* 250 Any Meddal when rightly consecrated can do as much.

2. A piece of metal, usually in the form of a coin, struck or cast with an inscription, a head or effigy of a person, or other device or figure to commemorate a person, action, or event; also as a distinction awarded to a soldier, etc. for a heroic deed or other service rendered to a country, etc. In collectors' use, extended to include coins possessing artistic or historical interest.

1611 COTGR., *Manieur de sable*, a Moulder, or caster of Medalls, or prizes in sand. 1647 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* I. § 119 He..had a rare Collection of the most curious Medals. 1658 W. BURTON *Itin. Anton.* 142 The Coyns and medaglies of all the Emperours. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 65 P 2 Medals had been struck for our General's Behaviour. 1712 SWIFT *Let. Eng. Tongue* Wks. 1751 IV. 256 If any such persons were above Money,..a Medal, or some mark of distinction, would do full as well. 1756–7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) I. 285 The king had formerly a very valuable collection of medals. 1813 *Gen. Order* 7 Oct. in *Lond. Gaz.* 9 Oct., One Medal only shall be borne by each Officer. 1839 ALISON *Hist. Europe* (1849–50) VIII. liii. § 50. 447 Two medals were unanimously voted to record the memorable acts of Bayonne. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 1 June 7/1 The members of the Mission will be decorated with commemoration medals.

b. As a reward for merit, or for proficiency, skill, or excellence in any art or subject.

1751 BERKELEY *Let. to Archdall* 22 Nov., Wks. 1871 IV. 329 Gold medals for encouraging the study of Greek. 1839 *Jrnl. Geog. Soc.* IX. p. ix, The gold medals, awarded respectively to Dr. Rüppell..and Mr. Thomas Simpson. 1892 *Field* 16 Apr. 573/2 After the match the Mayor..presented the cup and medals to the winning team. 1904 *Athenæum* 24 Dec. 880/3 An engraved silver medal awarded by the Plymouth Independent Rangers..for 'skill at arms'.

†**3.** *fig.* in various uses: An image, representation (cf. MODEL *sb.*); something beyond the common run (as a medal compared with current coin). *Medals of creation*: a rhetorical term applied to fossils, as commemorating events in the history of the globe (cf. quot. 1768 s. v. MEDALLIC).

a 1613 OVERBURY *Characters, Prison* Wks. (1856) 155 It [a prison] comes to be a perfect medall of the iron age, sithence nothing but gingling of keyes, rattling of shackles, ..are here to be heard. 1653 H. MORE *Antid. Ath.* I. xi. (1712) 36 This little Meddal of God, the Soul of Man. 1656 *Artif. Handsom.* 129 Neither the wit nor tongue..can be a mint capable to coyne the least farthing sin, much less so large a piece and medaile as this man pretends to make of any helping our complexion. 1751 EARL ORRERY *Remarks Swift* (1752) 165 As their letters were not intended for the public, perhaps I was unreasonable in looking for medals, and not being contented with the common current species. 1804 PARKINSON *Org. Rem.* I. 7 The illustrious Bergmann elegantly describes fossils as the medals of creation. 1844 MANTELL (*title*) Medals of Creation.

b. Phrases. † *The medal is reversing* [cf. Fr. *la médaille est renversée*]: things or events are changing for the worse. *The reverse of the medal*: the other side of the question.

1641 EVELYN *Diary* 28 June, The medaill was reversing, and our calamities were but yet in their infancy. 1690 *Dialogue betw. Francesco* &c., *Harl. Misc.* (Park) IX. 455 To show you the reverse of the medal. Is it not a pity that [etc.]. 1868 GRANT DUFF *Pol. Surv.* 195 Then for the reverse of the medal, you have Mr. Christie's *Notes on Brazilian Questions*.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *medal-casting, -hunter, -hunting, -inscription, -monger, -striker, -tract*; **medal-cup**, 'a drinking vessel of metal, usually of silver, in which coins or medallions are incrusted and form a part of the decoration' (*Cent. Dict.* 1890); **medal-machine** (see quot.); **medal-play** *Golf*, play in which the score is reckoned by counting the number of strokes taken to complete a round by each side (*Cent. Dict.* 1890); **medal-tankard** = *medal-cup* (ibid.).

1847 LD. LINDSAY *Chr. Art* I. p. ccix, A complete classification should include artists..in *medal-casting, gem and seal-cutting [etc.]. 1893 *Brit. Jrnl. Photog.* XL. 795 The army of exhibition and *medal-hunters. 1902 L. S. AMERY etc. *Times' Hist. War* II. 26 It [*sc.* fighting against inferior foes] conduces to .. *medal-hunting. 1658 SIR T. BROWNE *Hydriot.* i. (1736) 12 As testified by History and *Medal-Inscription yet extant. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 1418/1 **Medal-machine*, a machine for making copies of medals and raised or sunk works on a scale larger or smaller than the original. 1764 FOOTE *Patron* I. (1781) 10 What, old Martin, the *medal-monger?..Martin! why he likes no heads but upon coins. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 27 Sept. 4/3 In *medal play a player who drives from outside the teeing-ground is to be disqualified. 1872 SYMONDS *Introd. Study Dante* 185 No *medal-striker ever made his outlines sharper or his shadows deeper. 1716 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* III. 73 Great Brittain has produc'd the fewest of *Medal-Tracts and Numismatical Collectors.

Medal (me·dăl), *v.* [f. MEDAL *sb.*] *trans.* To decorate or honour with a medal; to confer a medal upon as a mark of distinction.

1822 BYRON *Let. to Scott* 4 May, He was medalled. 1860 THACKERAY *Round. Papers, Nil nisi Bonum* (1899) 174 Irving went home medalled by the King. 1900 *Nation* (N. Y.) 4 Oct. 269/2 It would have been much more to the point, anyway, had he [Herr Menzel] exhibited and been medalled [at the Paris Exhibition] as illustrator.

Medalet (me·dălĕt). Also **medallet**. [f. MEDAL *sb.* + -ET.] A small or diminutive medal; also applied to small medals bearing the figures of saints, worn by Roman Catholics.

1789 PINKERTON *Ess. Medals* I. xiii. 227, I shall beg leave to give this class the appellation of medalets. 1799 J. CONDER (*title*), An Arrangement of Provincial Coins, Tokens, and Medalets. 1897 W. C. HAZLITT *Four Generations* II. 227 A medalet with the three sisters of Napoleon as the Three Graces.

Medallary (me·dălări). *rare*[−1]. [f. MEDAL *sb.* + -ARY[1].] A collection or set of medals.

1882 R. F. BURTON in *Athenæum* 28 Jan. 125/2 The medallary struck for the ter-centenary festival.

Medalled (me·dăl'd), *ppl. a.* [f. MEDAL *v.* + -ED[1].] Adorned, furnished, or decorated with a medal. Of a picture, etc.: For which a medal has been awarded.

1857 EMERSON *May-day* (1867) 25 The high-school and medalled boy. 1889 *Pall Mall G.* 23 Oct. 1/3 There has been a good deal of ill-feeling..in regard to affixing to 'medalled' pictures the labels explanatory of the nature of the award. 1900 *Ch. Times* 2 Feb. 136/4, I communicated over seventy around a tent..this morning, from medalled general to private Atkins.

Medallic (medæ·lik), *a.* [f. MEDAL *sb.* + -IC.]

1. Pertaining or relating to, characteristic of, or of the nature of a medal; represented on a medal.

1702 ADDISON *Dial. Medals* I. (1766) 13, I am afraid you will never be able, with all your Medallic eloquence, to [etc.]. 1768 A. CATCOTT *Treat. Deluge* 407 Neither do the fossil reliquiæ of plants and animals..yield in elegancy and exactness to medalic insignatures. 1778 PENNANT *Tour Wales* (1883) I. 17 In the library is a..numerous collection of books ..which comprehend the medallic history. 1876 HUMPHREYS *Coin-coll. Man.* xxvi. 396 We have modern examples of medallic caricatures. 1885 *Athenæum* 1 Aug. 149/3 Recent productions of medallic art.

2. Resembling a medal.

1806 HARWOOD *Lichfield* 367 Small medallic tokens..have been stamped. 1875 JEVONS *Money* vii. 63 Such medallic coins would become the most durable memorials.

Medallically (medæ·likăli), *adv.* [f. MEDALLIC + -AL + -LY[2].] By the evidence of medals.

1842 DE QUINCEY *Pagan Oracles* Wks. 1858 VIII. 180 Which..historically and medallically can be demonstrated to have availed [etc.].

Medallion (mĭdæ·lyən), *sb.* Also 7–8 meda-(g)lion, 8 medaillon. [a. F. *médaillon*, ad. It. *medaglione*, augmentative of *medaglia* MEDAL *sb.*]

1. A large medal.

Erroneously explained in Blount *Glossogr.* 1661 as 'a little medal', after Cotgrave's erroneous rendering of *médaillon*.

1658 SIR T. BROWNE *Gard. Cyrus* ii. *Hydriot.* etc. 41 In this figure the sitting gods and goddesses are drawn in medalls and medallions. 1701 W. WOTTON *Hist. Rome* 253 Morellius produces a beautiful Medaglion of Commodus. 1799 G. SMITH *Laboratory* II. 13 The large sort, which are called medallions, are but seldom struck, except intended for particular presents. 1876 HUMPHREYS *Coin-coll. Man.* vi. 57 Of the finest epoch (of Syracusan coins) the celebrated and highly prized medallions, bearing the head of Ceres or Proserpine are the most remarkable.

2. Anything resembling this; applied to various objects resembling a large medal, in decorative work, as a tablet or panel usually of an oval or circular shape, bearing objects or figures in relief; a portrait; also a decorative design resembling a panel or tablet, as in a carpet, a window, or title-page of a book, etc.

1762–71 H. WALPOLE *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1786) I. 277 A medallion of him in marble. 1768 BOSWELL *Corsica* (ed. 2) 373 Le Brun..has given this story as a medaillon on one of the compartments of the great gallery at Versailles. 1849 *Guardian* 7 Nov. 733/2 The tympanum..is filled with a.. window, and internally with two medallions. 1862 *Catal. Internat. Exhib.* II. xxx. 9 Circular incised group, on stone —a replica of one of the medallions for the pavement of Lichfield Cathedral.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *medallion figure, machine, portrait, size*; **medallion carpet**, a carpet containing a large prominent central design or figure (*Cent. Dict.* 1890); **medallion pattern**, 'a design for the ornamentation of a surface of which a medallion or medallions form an important part' (*Ibid.*); **medallion window** (see quot.).

1875 W. MCILWRAITH *Guide Wigtownshire* 56 A circular *medallion figure. 1859 *Handbk. Turning* p. xxiii, The *medallion machine requires much labour and very expensive apparatus. 1902 ELIZ. L. BANKS *Newspaper Girl* 292 He gave me a *medallion portrait of himself. 1774 J. BRYANT *Mythol.* II. 231 [These coins] were of brass, and of the *medaglion size. 1847 C. WINSTON *Ing. Anc. Glass Paint.* I. 32 *Medallion windows..are principally filled with medallions, or panels, containing coloured pictures.

Medallion (mĭdæ·lyən), *v.* [f. MEDALLION *sb.*] *trans.* To ornament with medallions, or to make to resemble a medallion.

1861 NEALE *Notes Dalmatia* etc. 81 On the vertex of the arch is our Lord's monogram, also medallioned and surrounded by acanthus leaves. 1893 *Daily News* 7 Apr. 5/3 The invitation and the portraits [of an invitation card] are medallioned upon a coloured ground.

Hence **Meda·llioned** *ppl. a.*

1888 *Athenæum* 21 Apr. 503/1 An elaborate medallioned title-page of birds, by Mr. J. G. Millais.

Medallionist (mĭdæ·lyənist). [f. MEDALLION *sb.* + -IST.] A worker of medallions.

1892 *Sat. Rev.* 15 Oct. 435/2 Mr. Woolner, R.A., a sculptor, especially a medallionist. 1894 J. M. GRAY *J. & W. Tassie* 60 *note*, James Tassie, the Glasgow Medallionist.

Medallist (me·dălist). Also **medalist**. [f. MEDAL *sb.* + -IST.]

1. One who is skilled or interested in medals.

1682 WHELER *Journ. Greece* III. 281 This is a Medal hath been valued much by the Medalists beyond the Seas. 1828 SCOTT *Jrnl.* (1890) II. 135 The General is a medallist, and entertains an opinion that the bonnet-piece of James V. is the work of some Scottish artist who died young.

2. An engraver, designer, or maker of medals.

1756–7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) II. 149 The Pretender had a medal struck on this occasion, by Hamerani, the pope's medalist. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* vii. (ed. 5) II. 160 Sculptors, painters, and medallists exerted their utmost skill in the work of transmitting his features to posterity. 1851 in *Illustr. Lond. News* 5 Aug. (1854) 119/2 Medallist and medal-maker. 1885 *Athenæum* 14 Feb. 220 The medalists of the Renaissance.

3. A recipient of a medal awarded for merit. Also in parasynthetic derivatives as *gold medallist*.

1797 *Cambr. Univ. Calendar* 214 List of Medallists from their first Institution to the present Time. 1864 *Q. Jrnl. Sci.* I. 211 The Gold Medallists of the Science and Art Department. 1898 RIDER HAGGARD *Dr. Therne* 9, I was gold medallist of my year.

Medallize (me·dălaiz), *v. rare.* [f. MEDAL *sb.* + -IZE.] *trans.* † **a.** To illustrate by reference to medals (*obs.*). **b.** To represent on a medal.

1716 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* III. 75 The History of Julius Cæsar has been also Medaliz'd by Mr. l'Abbé de Camps. 1882 *Mag. Art* 221 Mr. Legros has also medallised Mr. Constantine Ionides, and medals of John Mill, Carlyle, and Robert Browning, are expected from him very shortly.

Medallurgy (me·dălŭjdʒi). Also **medalurgy**. [f. MEDAL *sb.* + *-urgy*, after METALLURGY.] The art of designing and striking or engraving medals.

1842 BRANDE *Dict. Sci.* etc., *Medallurgy*.., the art of making and striking medals and coins. [In recent Dicts.]

‖ **Medano** (mē·dano). [Sp. *médano*.] 'A hill of pure sand; a dune' (*Webster's Suppl.* 1902).

1851 BOLLAERT in *Jrnl. Geog. Soc.* XXI. 101 In these desert plains [of Peru] may be seen the 'Medanos', or moving semicircular sand-hills. 1897 *Geogr. Jrnl.* IX. 307 The barchanes, or, as we call them, medanos.

Medcin, -cyn(e, etc., obs. ff. MEDICINE, etc.

Meddar, obs. form of MADDER *sb.*[2]

1689 FAREWELL *Irish Hudibras* 79 A Meddar .. Which tho 'twas reckon'd but a small one, Contain'd Three halfs of a whole Gallon. *Ibid.* 82.

Meddel(l, **-er**, obs. ff. MEDDLE, MEDLAR.

Meddenex: see MEDRINACK.

Meddes, Meddick, obs. ff. MIDST, MEDICK.

† **Me·ddle**, *sb. Obs. rare.* [f. MEDDLE *v.*] The action, or an act, of meddling or interfering.

1600 W. WATSON *Decacordon* (1602) 338 The priests found more fauour at the ciuill magistrates hands, than they [the Jesuits] could find, bicause they had cleered themselues of all state meddles. [1864 EARL DERBY in Hansard *Parl. Deb.* Ser. III. CLXXIII. 28 The foreign policy of the noble Earl, .. may be summed up in two short homely but expressive words—'meddle and muddle'.]

Meddle (me·d'l), *v.* Forms: 4–7 medle, 4–5 medele, 4–6 medel, 5–6 medell, meddel, medyll(e, medul(l, 5 medill, medyl, 6 meddell, meddyl(l, middle, *Sc.* mydle, 8 *Sc.* midle, 4–

meddle. [a. OF. *medler, mesdler*, a variant (with euphonic insertion of *d* between *s* and a liquid: see the parallel instances cited under ISLE) of OF. *mesler* = Pr. *mesclar*, Sp. *mezclar*, It. *mescolare, meschiare, mischiare*:—popular L. **misculāre*, f. L. *miscēre* to mix.* Cf. MELL *v.*]

†**1.** *trans.* To mix, mingle; to combine, blend, intersperse; *esp.* to mix (one thing) *with* (another), or (two or more things) *together*. Also const. *among, in, to. Obs.*

a 1325 *Prose Psalter* lxxiv. (lxxv.) 7 Grace ys in þe honde of our Lord ful of sharpenes medeled wyþ lyþenes. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. x. 3 Of Erþe and Eir hit is mad I-medelet to-gedere. *c* 1375 ? HYLTON *Mixed Life* (MS. Vernon) in *Hampole's Wks.* (ed. Horstm.) I. 267 Thow schalt medle þe werkes of actif lyf wiþ gostly werkes of contemplatyf lyf, and þen dost þou wel. *c* 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 874 *Thisbe* (Fairf. MS.), And how she wepe of teres ful his wounde, How medeleth she his blood with her compleynte. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) vii. 76 It is a Roche of white Colour, and a lytille medled with red. 1450–1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* 22 They are also blamefull that..medel other prayers, or other besynes with these holy houres. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* B vj b, Medill the blode of the pecoke among the poudre. 1563 T. GALE *Antidot.* II. 86 He shall in his daylye drynke meddle three or foure droppes of the same. 1572 MASCALL *Plant. & Graff.* vii. 45 If ye do then meddle about eache tiee of good fat earth or dung,..it shall be good. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 438 Take the ashes of 3 frogs..meddle them with bony. 1627 BP. HALL *Heav. upon Earth* xi, Thy prosperity is idle and ill spent if it be not medled with such fore-casting ..thoughts. 1658 tr. *Porta's Nat. Magic* I. iii. 4 The Elements..are all changed, every one of them being more or less medled with one another.

†**b.** To mix (wares) fraudulently. *Obs.*

1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. VII. 260 Ich haue .. Meddled my marchaundise, and mad a good moustre; The werst lay with-ynne. 1463–4 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 501/2 That noo persone .. medell, or put in or uppon the same Cloth, .. eny Lambes wolle. *a* 1500 in Arnolde *Chron.* F iij b/1 Where as marchauntis haue vsed moche false pakyng of ther wood medlyng ye better w^t ye worse. 1622 BP. ANDREWES *Serm.* (1629) 231 Thus doth he medle his chaffe; mold in his soure levin into Christ's *nova conspersio.*

†**c.** To prepare by mixing. *Obs.*

c 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* iv. pr. iv. 95 (Camb. MS.) Cirtes.. medleth to hire newe gestes dryukes..maked with enchauntmentz. 1382 WYCLIF *Rev.* xviii. 6 In the drinke that she medlide [Vulg. *miscuit*] to 3ou, menge 3e double to hir.

†**2.** *intr.* for *refl.* Of things: To mingle, combine. Also *refl. Obs.*

c 1315 SHOREHAM *Poems* i. 760 [Þat sacrement] ne defiþ nauȝt, ase þy mete Wyþ þyne flesch medlyþ. *c* 1384 CHAUCER *H. Fame* III. 1012 We [*sc.* a lesing and a soth-sawe] wil medle us eche with other, That no man..Shal han on (of) two, but bothe At ones. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 138 Whan wordes medlen with the song, It doth plesance wel the more. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* I. ii. 22 More to know Did neuer medle with my thoughts.

†**3.** *trans.* To mix or mingle (persons) *with, among* (others) or *together*. Chiefly *pass.* Also *refl.* to mix oneself *in, among. Obs.*

c 1290 *St. Brandan* 281 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 227 In-to þe freytore he ladde heom þo: and sette heom wel heiȝe, I-medlede wiþ heore owene couent. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 13524 Kynge & prynces of Payen Were medled among Cristen. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) II. 149 Þere þey wonede long tyme afterwarde i-medled wiþ Britouns. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* i. 43 So medled theymself the one partye among the other. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* I. vii. 127 Himself alsua, mydlit, persavit he, Amang princis of Grece. 1598 GRENEWEY *Tacitus Ann.* II. xviii. (1622) 59 By sorting and medling together the runnagates, the new and raw souldier lately taken [etc.]..he marshalled them in forme of a legion. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* XXXVII. xxxix. 967 Thus you see all the forces that the Romanes had besides two thousand Thracians and Macedonians medled and blended together.

†**4.** *intr.* for *refl.* To mix or join in company; to mingle, associate *with. Obs.*

c 1375 ? HYLTON *Mixed Life* (MS. Vernon) in *Hampole's Wks* (ed. Horstm.) I. 269 O tyme he [our Lorde] comuned & medled wiþ men. *a* 1425 *Cursor M.* 5690 (Trin.) Soone he medeled [*Cott.* menged] hem amonge. 1463 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 38 Alle the personys, man, woman, or chyld generally that ever I medlyd with. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* IV. iii. 43, I affeir me les the fatis onstable..consent nocht, ne aggre, That [etc.] Or list appreif thai peplis all and summyng Togiddir middle, or jone in lige or band.

†**5.** To have sexual intercourse (*with*). Also *refl.*

1340–70 *Alisaunder* 964 Dame,..Þou baste medled amis, methynk, by thy chere. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XI. 335 Bothe horse and houndes..Medled nouȝte wyth here makes þat with fole were. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 10811 Wemen allone, Withouten mon, owther make, to medill hom with. 1573 L. LLOYD *Pilgr. Princes* 75 b, Their women [are] commen for all men at al tymes to medle [1583 medle with]. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* VI. 315 Making her believe that..as ofte as they shold medle together, if she were..confessed by him, ..she shold be cleere forgiven of God.

†**6.** To mingle in fight; to engage in conflict, to contend. *Obs.*

1340–70 *Alisaunder* 93 That hee ne myght with þo menne medle no while. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XX. 178 'Now I see', seyde lyf, 'þat surgerye ne Fisyke May nouȝte a myte auaille to medle aȝein elde'. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* IX. xxxv. 395 For and I had sene his black sheld I wold not haue medled with hym. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* iii. 100 Wban Alarde and Guycharde..saw that they myght not passe but that they muste medle they spored theyr horses. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) R v b, They medled so one with an other..that there was slaine .v. capitaynes. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 242 But when the Normans sawe them recule back..some sayde they are afrayde to medle wyth vs. 1601 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* III. iv. 275 Therefore on, or strippe your sword starke naked: for meddle you must that's certain.

†**7.** *refl.* To concern or busy oneself. Const. *with, of, after. Obs.*

c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 2492 Many man by his miȝt medled him þer-after. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XII. 16 And þow medlest þe with makynges. 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 10845 Medle the ryht nouht Tarest pylgrymes hy vyolence. 1442 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 54/2 Some haven Shippes of here owne, and some medle hem of freight of Shippes. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* XX. viii. 809, I wyl not medle me therof. 1530 PALSGR. 634/1 You medyll you with maters that you have naught to do with. *a* 1553 UDALL *Royster D.* I. iii. (Arb.) 20 Nourse medle you with your spyndle. 1562 WINJET *Wks.* (1888) I. 50, I wes almaist astoneist..that sa obscuir men durst presume to medle thame aganis all auctoritie.

8. *intr.* To concern or busy oneself, to deal *with*, †*of*; to interpose, take part *in*. Now always expressive of disapprobation, to concern oneself or take part interferingly.

1415 HOCCLEVE *To Sir J. Oldcastle* 137 Lete holy chirche medle of the doctryne Of Crystes lawes. *c* 1430 *Freemasonry* 220 Yn suche a case hut hyt do falle, Ther schal no mason medul withalle. *c* 1483 CAXTON *Dialogues* 18/6 Ony ware Of whiche I medle with, Or that I haue under hande. 1526 TINDALE 1 *Thess.* iv. 11 We beseche you..that ye studdy to be quyet and to medle with your owne busynes. 1528 GARDINER in Pocock *Rec. Ref.* I. 123 It should be well done your grace meddled not as judge in the matter. 1545 in *Vicary's Anat.* (1888) App. xv. 288 The Bochers..haue ..inhaunsed the prices of all kyndes of vytales that they medle withall & putt to sale. 1574 tr. *Littleton's Tenures* 107 A perpetual chauntry wherof the ordinary hathe nothinge to medle nor to do. 1622 R. HARRIS *Serm.* 8 Happie that State wherein the Cobler meddles with his last, the Tradesman with his shop. 1638 BAKER tr. *Balzac's Lett.* (vol. II) 154 He meddles in an infinite number of things with equal capacitie. 1694 RAY in *Lett. Lit. Men* (Camden) 200 The slender-bill'd [birds]..seldome meddle with dry seeds unlesse driven by hunger. 1774 FRANKLIN *Ess.* Wks. 1840 II. 401 It would be better if government meddled no farther with trade than to protect it. 1790 BURKE *Fr Rev.* Sel. Wks. II. 13 Wholly unacquainted with the world in which they are so fond of meddling. 1818 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) II. 462 It [the statute] does not meddle with wills. 1852 MRS. STOWE *Uncle Tom's C.* xvii. 161 Some evil persons.. might be disposed to meddle with us if they saw our wagon. 1853 J. H. NEWMAN *Hist. Sk.* (1876) II. iii. v. 328 His enemies accused him..of..meddling in matters which did not belong to him. 1865 GROTE *Plato* I. ii. 95 Philosophers who meddled less with debate and more with facts.

b. without const.

1555 EDEN *Decades* 9 They shuld meddle no further than their commission. 1686 F. SPENCE tr. *Varillas' Ho. Medicis* 22 There are Connexions..in point of Traffick, which are only well known hy those that meddle that way. 1711 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 28 Aug, I was advising him to use his interest to prevent any misunderstanding between our ministers; but he is too wise to meddle. 1859 MISS CARY *Country Life* (1876) 303 She had better attend her own affairs, and I will tell her so if she comes here meddling. 1860 EMERSON *Cond. Life* iii. (1861) 65 Do not legislate. Meddle, and you snap the sinews with your sumptuary laws.

c. Phrases and proverbial sayings. *Neither make nor meddle*, etc.: see MAKE *v.* 71.

1562 HEYWOOD *Prov.* II. iii. G, Who medleth in all thyng, maie shooe the goslyng. 1598 B. JONSON *Ev. Man in Hum.* III. ii, Nay, he will not meddle with his match, I warrant you. 1721 KELLY *Sc. Prov.* 200 It is ill medling between the Bark and the Rind. *Ibid.* 246 Meddle with your Match.. You dare not meddle with your Match.

†**d.** *trans.* (with omission of preposition). To deal with; interfere with. *Obs. rare.*

1461 *Paston Lett.* II. 51, I der say I shuld have had as speciall and as gode a maister of you, as any pour man..yf ye had never medulled the godes of my maister F. 1523 in 10*th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 400 No town dweller shall meddell nor interrupte nor occupie no mans occupacion or sience..but only his own sienc. 1573 [see 5].

Hence †**Me·ddled** *ppl. a.*, mixed.

c 1375 ? HYLTON *Mixed Life* (MS. Vernon) in *Hampole's Wks.* (ed. Horstm.) I. 268 To þise also longeþ þis medled lyf, þat is boþe actyf & contemplatyf. 14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 625/14 *Mixtilioque*, medylde corne. 1573 T. CARTWRIGHT *Repl. Answ. Whitgift* I. 131 A medled & mingled estate of the order of the gospell & the ceremonies of popery. *a* 1641 BP. MOUNTAGU *Acts & Mon.* (1642) 88 A medled company of all the Tribes of Israel. 1736 W. THOMPSON *Epithalamium* [An imitation of Spenser] xv. 1 And lo! what medled passions in him move.

Meddle, obs. form of MEDLEY.

Meddle-come. *dial.* One who comes meddling or interfering; a meddler.

1857 KINGSLEY *Two Y. Ago* xv, We'm old-fashioned folks here..and don't like no new-fangled meddlecomes.

Meddlement (me·d'lmĕnt). *nonce-wd.* [f. MEDDLE *v.* + -MENT.] Meddling, interference.

1842–3 THACKERAY *Fitzboodle's Prof.* Misc. Wks. IV. 10 For once my sister-in-law was on my side, not liking the meddlement of the elder lady.

†**Meddleous,** *a. Obs. rare.* In 5 medel(o)us. [f. MEDDLE *v.* + -OUS.] Meddlesome.

c 1430 *A. B. C. of Aristotle* in *Babees Bk.* 12 [Be not] To medelus, ne to myrie, but as mesure wole it meeue. *a* 1470 TIPTOFT *Tulle on Friendsh.* (Caxton 1481) B v b, And [it is] to peyneful to be medelous in other mennes maters [orig. *alienis nimis implicari*].

Meddler (me·dlə). [f. MEDDLE *v.* + -ER 1.] One who meddles, in the senses of the verb.

1388 WYCLIF *Bible, Pref. Ep.* vi, I holde my pees of gramariens, and of medeleris of retorik. 1522 CLERK in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. III. I. 314 John Matheo, secretary vnto the said Cardinall, and chief medillar in all affaires her' aboute the Pope. 1571 GOLDING *Calvin on Ps.* iv. 5 They which erst were medlers with euerything, lerne to bee sober & quiet. 1612 T. TAYLOR *Comm. Titus* i. 6 (1619) 108 What if he will not speak the truth, because he will not be a meddler? 1730 SWIFT in *Portland Papers* VI. (Hist. MSS. Comm.) 28 He is distinguished as an unfortunate meddler in poetry. 1852 THACKERAY *Esmond* I. xiii, And this is the good meddlers get of interfering. 1895 C. R. B. BARRETT *Surrey* iv. 111 The unfortunate clerical meddler in politics.

Meddler, obs. form of MEDLAR.

Meddlesome (me·d'lsŭm), *a.* [f. MEDDLE *v.* + -SOME.] Given to meddling or interfering.

1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 238 A people..talkative, meddlesome, dissentious. 1743 BLAIR *Grave* I. 179 Honour! that meddlesome officious Ill, Pursues thee ev'n to Death. 1861 PEARSON *Early & Mid. Ages Eng.* 141 The story is a fair instance of the meddlesome legislation of those times. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* viii. § 5. 505 The Queen, frivolous and meddlesome as she was, detested him [Strafford]. 1889 W. S. PLAYFAIR *Midwifery* (ed. 7) II. III. ix. 4 The time-honoured maxim that 'meddlesome midwifery is bad'.

Hence **Me·ddlesomely** *adv.*, **Me·ddlesomeness.**

a 1677 BARROW *Serm.* Wks. 1716 I. 209 Meddlesomeness is commonly blameable. 1858 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* x. iv. (1872) III. 246 A Hofkriegsrath..poking too meddlesomely into his affairs. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) III. 325 A meddlesomeness, and interference, and rising up of a part against the whole of the soul.

Meddling (me·dlin), *vbl. sb.* [f. MEDDLE *v.* + -ING 1.]

†**1.** The action or process of mixing, blending or combining, admixture; the state of being mixed or combined. *Obs.*

?*a* 1366 CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 896 His garnement was .. y-wrought with floures, By dyvers medling of coloures. *a* 1400 HYLTON *Scala Perf.* (W. de W. 1494) II. iv, For thenne shall the soule receyue .. the full felynge of god in all myghtes of it, wythoute medelynge of ony other affeccyon. 1548–77 VICARY *Anat.* v. (1888) 50 The senewes ..with the Lygamentes..in their medling together .. are made a Corde or a Tendon.

†**b.** *quasi-concr.* The result of the action; a joining, combination, mixture. *Obs.*

1382 WYCLIF *Matt.* ix. 16 Sothely no man sendith ynne a medlynge of rudee, or newe, clothe in to an olde clothe. 14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 605/45 *Pula*, medlyng of water and wyne. 1482 *Monk of Evesham* (Arb.) 110 Trewly yn thys pele and rynging .. a variant medelyng of melody sownyd wyth alle.

†**c.** Fraudulent mixing (of goods). *Obs.*

1495 *Act* 11 *Hen. VII*, c. 23 § 1 It shuld be well and truly packed, that is to sey, the greate Salmon by it self without medeling of any Grilles..with the same.

†**2.** Of persons: The action of mingling together in a fight or brawl; also, an instance of this. *Obs.*

c 1450 *Merlin* xiii. 199 And than be-gan the meddelynge amonge hem full crewell and fell. 1481 CAXTON *Godeffroy* xix. 49 Vf they wold goo in peas without medlynges and oultrages *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) R v b, There was medlyng on bothe parties, the one to bear awaie, and the other to defend. 1616 T. DRAXE *Bibl. Scholast.* 128 It is no medling with short daggers.

†**3.** Sexual intercourse. *Obs.*

1388 WYCLIF *Gen.* XXX. 42 Whanne the late medlyng [1382 comyng togidere] and the laste conseyuyng weren. 14.. LYDG. *Life Our Lady* XX. v, (MS. Rawl. poet. 140, fol. 31), Eke serteyn briddes called vultures Wiþ oute medelinge [MS. Ashmol. 39 fol. 32 mellyng] conseyue by nature. 1450–1530 *Myrr our Ladye* 326 *Que sine*, whiche hathe begotte wythoute medlynge of man.

4. The action of taking part; dealing; management. Now only in bad sense: The action of taking part officiously in the affairs of others; interference. Const. *with.* Also, an instance of this.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* IV. 167 And seyn þat þorugh þi medlyng is y-blowe Yowre bothere loue, þere it was erst vnknowe. 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 3229 He ys nat wys, That in medlyng ys mor large Than the boundys of hys charge. 1536 *Act* 28 *Hen. VIII* in Bolton *Stat. Irel.* (1621) 179 Every such person and persons before any actual or reall possession or medling with the profites,..shall [etc.] *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII* 150 He [the French king] thought..yet agnin once to haue a medelyng in Italy. 1676 WISEMAN *Surg.* IV. iv. 286 But I, being at that time much indisposed in my health, declined the meddling with it [a Tumour]. 1795 BURKE *Th. Scarcity* Wks. 1842 II. 257 This most momentous of all meddling on the part of authority; the meddling with the subsistence of the people. 1877 FROUDE *Short Stud.* (1883) IV. I. x. 112 [He] had been moved to volunteer..by another instance of Becket's dangerous meddling. 1884 *Athenæum* 29 Mar. 400/2 The limits of needless meddling with the text of Sophocles seemed to have been reached.

Proverb. 1539 TAVERNER *Erasm. Prov.* (1545) 57 In litle medlinge lyeth greate ease. 1546 J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* (1867) 47 For of little medlyng cometh great reste.

Meddling (me·dlin), *ppl. a.* [f. MEDDLE *v.* + -ING 2.] That meddles, in the senses of the verb.

a 1529 SKELTON *Sp. Parrot* 63 To wyse is no vertue, to medlyng, to restless. 1530 PALSGR. 318/1 Medlynge, *entremetteux*. *c* 1586 C'TESS PEMBROKE *Ps.* CXXXI. i, Never.. have I borne in things to hygh A medling mind. 1629 EARLE *Microcosm.* (Arb.) 88 A medling man Is one that has nothing to do with his businesse, and yet no man busier then hee. 1634 MILTON *Comus* 846 And ill luck signes That the shrewd medling Elfe delights to make. 1798 WORDSW. *Tables Turned* 26 Our meddling intellect Mis-shapes the beauteous forms of things. 1830 MACAULAY *Ess., Southey* (1850) 112 A meddling government, a government which tells them what to read, and say, and eat, and drink, and wear. 1859 JEPHSON *Brittany* V. 57 That meddling personage Mrs. Grundy.

Hence **Me·ddlingly** *adv.*

1755 JOHNSON, *Pragmatically*, meddlingly; impertinently.

Meddly, obs. form of MEDLEY.

Meddowe, obs. form of MEADOW.

Meddyl(l, obs. forms of MEDDLE.

Mede (mīd), *sb.* [ad. L. *Mēdus*, a. Gr. Μῆδος.]

1. A native or inhabitant of Media; = MEDIAN[2] B.

1382, 1568 etc. [see LAW *sb.* 1 c, PERSIAN *sb.* 1]. 1632 LE GRYS tr. *Velleius Paterc.* 15 Pharnaces the Mede.

† **2.** A precious stone described by ancient writers, said to be found in Media. *Obs.*

The description in the quot. is taken from Bartholom. Angl. *De Proprietatibus Rerum* XVI. lxvii.

1601 CHESTER *Love's Martyr* (1878), P, The Meade stone coloured like the grassie greene, Much gentle ease vnto the Goute hath donne, And helpeth those being troubled with the Spleene, Mingled with Womans milke bearing a Sonne.

† **Mede,** *a. Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *medius*: see MEDIUM.] Middle, mean.

1706 A. BEDFORD *Temple Mus.* vi. 111 The Mede Voice is ..a great advantage to the Greeks. 1709 *Brit. Apollo* II. No. 68. 1/2 It's Mede Length contains..2280 Miles.

Mede, obs. form of MAID, MEAD, MEED.

Medeen, variant of MEDINE.

Medel, obs. form of MEDDLE, MIDDLE.

Medele, var. MELL *v. Obs.*; obs. f. MEDLEY.

Medeler, obs. form of MEDLAR.

Medell, obs. f. MEDAL, MEDDLE, MIDDLE.

Medel(o)us, variant forms of MEDDLEOUS.

Medely, obs. form of MEDLEY.

Mederatele, variant of *meadrattle*, MEAD[2] c.

Mederinax, medernex: see MEDRINACKS.

Medew, obs. form of MEADOW.

† **Medewax, medwex.** *Obs.* [f. *med* (?= MEAD[1] or [2]) + WAX *sb.*] Some kind of wax.

c 1450 *ME. Med. Bk.* (Heinrich) 172 *note*, For to make a gomed cloth Tak half a quartron of mede wax, half a quarteron of terpentyn [etc.]. *Ibid.* 174 Entret pur bocches, biles..& huiusmodi. Tak of medwex 1 lī, of barowes grece ..as muche [etc.].

Medewife, obs. form of MIDWIFE.

Medewort, -wurt, -wyrt, var. ff. MEADWORT.

Medful(l, Medi, obs. ff. MEEDFUL, MEED *v.*

‖ **Media** (mī·diă). Pl. (in sense 1) **mediæ** (mī·diī). [L., fem. of *medius* middle, used elliptically.]

1. *Phonetics.* [Applied by Priscian I. xxvi. (with ellipsis of *littera*) to *b, g, d* as intermediate in sound between the tenues (*leves*) and the aspirates.] A voiced or 'soft' mute; = MEDIAL *sb.* 2.

1841 LATHAM *Eng. Lang.* 103 The *Tenues* of the Classics ..are sharp, the *Mediæ* flat. 1848 E. GUEST in *Trans. Philol. Soc.* III. 176, 1st, the mediæ *b, g, d*, ; 2ndly, the tenues *p, k, t*; and 3rdly, the aspirates. 1890 CONWAY in *Amer. Jrnl. Philol.* XI. 304 The invention of G to denote the voiced media as distinguished from C.

2. *Biol.* [Short for L. *tunica* or *membrana media*.] The middle tunic or membrane of an artery or vessel.

1876 tr. *H. von Ziemssen's Cycl. Med.* VI. 411 In many cases aneurism seems to be produced by a primary disease of the media. 1889 LEIDY *Anat.* (ed. 2) 580 The media is composed of transverse muscle-fibres with some elastic fibres.

Media (mī·diă), pl. of MEDIUM.

Mediacy (mī·diăsi). [In sense 1 prob. ad. L. *mediātio* MEDIATION, on the analogy of sbs. in -ACY (cf. OF. *mediatie*); in sense 2 f. MEDIATE *a.*: see -ACY.]

† **1.** The function of a mediator; mediation. *Obs.*

1400 *Prymer* in Maskell *Mon. Rit.* II. 34 Graunte us.. that thurȝ hir deseruyngis and hir mediacie we be worthi to come to the hil that is crist.

2. *Logic* and *Philos.* Mediateness.

1853 Sir W. HAMILTON *Discuss.* (ed. 2) 663 Were there in these syllogisms no occult conversion of an undeclared consequent, no mediacy from the antecedent, they could not [etc.]. 1864 BOWEN *Logic* viii. 250 The mediacy being concealed by the concealment of the mental inference which really precedes. 1865 J. GROTE *Explor. Philos.* I. 119 How do presentation and representation thus viewed, stand related to the notions of mediacy and immediacy of knowledge?

Mediad (mī·diăd), *adv.* [f. MEDI-AL + *-ad* (see DEXTRAD).] Towards the middle line or plane (of a body); mesiad.

1878 BELL tr. *Gegenbaur's Comp. Anat.* § 260 Two pairs of..gills..an inner pair, which are placed mediad [etc.].

Mediæval, medieval (medi,ī·văl, mīdi,ī·văl), *a.* and *sb.* [f. L. *medius* middle + *ævum* age + -AL.]

A. *adj.* Of, pertaining to or characteristic of the Middle Ages. Of Art, Religion, etc.: Resembling or imitative of that of the Middle Ages.

1827 *Gentl. Mag.* XCVII. II. 490 The sculptured representations of the latter part of the mediæval æra. 1876 STUBBS *Early Plantag.* 6 Weapons drawn from the storehouse of medieval English history. 1879 Sir G. G. SCOTT *Lect. Archit.* I. i. 7 Mediæval architecture..being the last link of the mighty chain which had stretched unbroken through nearly 4000 years.

b. *Mediæval embroidery*: a name given to a particular style of modern embroidery, worked with floss and purse silks and gold thread. *Mediæval guipure*: an earlier name for MACRAMÉ.

1882 in CAULFEILD & SAWARD *Dict. Needlework.*

B. *sb.* One who lived in the Middle Ages.

1856 RUSKIN *Mod. Painters* IV. xiii. § 27 III. 193 The elements of their minds by which..they are connected with the mediævals and moderns. 1894 PARRY *Stud. Gt. Composers, Palestrina* 3 Though their music was so limited the mediævals contrived to make some fine effects with it.

Mediævalism, medievalism (medi-, mīdi,ī·vălizm). [f. prec. + -ISM.] The system of belief and practice characteristic of the Middle Ages; mediæval thought, religion, art, etc.; the adoption of or devotion to mediæval ideals or usages; *occas.* an instance of this.

1853 RUSKIN *Lect. Archit.* iv. (1854) 194 You have, then, the three periods: Classicalism, extending to the fall of the Roman empire; Mediævalism, extending from that fall to the close of the 15th century; and Modernism. 1873 SYMONDS *Grk. Poets* ix. 301 Renan regards the 'sentiment of the infinite' as the chief legacy of mediaevalism to modern civilization. 1886 *19th Cent.* May 665 It is a pity to have our language interlarded with Orientalisms and Mediævalisms. 1890 STUBBS *Primary Charge, Oxford* 55, I am sick of hearing about sacerdotalism and mediævalism from men who scarcely know how to spell the words.

Mediævalist, medievalist (medi-, mīdi,ī·vălist). [f. MEDIÆVAL + -IST. Cf. F. *médiéviste*.]

1. One who studies or is skilled in mediæval history or affairs; one who practises mediævalism in art, religion, etc.

1874 RUSKIN *Val D'Arno* (1886) App. 137 These outlines will..show my pupils what is the real virtue of mediæval work:—the power which we mediævalists rejoice in it for. 1874 L. STEPHEN *Hours in Library* (1892) I. vi. 232 He heartily despises the modern mediævalists.

¶ **2.** One who lived in the Middle Ages.

1855 M. BRIDGES *Pop. Mod. Hist.* 445 Such observations.. would probably be made by any intelligent mediævalist, could he return to these sublunary scenes.

Mediævalize, medievalize (medi-, mīdi,ī·vălaiz), *v.* [f. MEDIÆVAL + -IZE.] **a.** *trans.* To make mediæval in character. **b.** *intr.* To favour mediæval ideas or usages.

1854 J. L. PETIT *Archit. Stud. France* 173 He tries to mediævalize himself and his ideas. 1859 KINGSLEY *Let.* 23 Jan. in *Life* (1877) II. 77 Some illustrators .. have tried to medievalize them [Bunyan's characters]. 1874 J. FERGUSSON in *Contemp. Rev.* Oct. 765 Views opposed to the Paganism of St. Paul's or to the attempt to mediævalize it.

Hence **Mediæ·valized** *ppl. a.*; **Mediæ·valizing** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1881 SYMONDS *Renaiss. Italy* IV. iv. 247 The 'Mort d'Arthur'..has become the plaything of medievalising folk in modern England. 1897 *Edin. Rev.* Jan. 76 The poet's [*sc.* WM. MORRIS] mediævalised mind and turn of thought.. are more in accordance with the mediæval character of the subject. 1900 J. L. DAVIES in W. E. Bowen *Crisis Eng. Ch.* Introd. 7 The mediævalising movement in the Church of England. *Ibid.* 12 If his whole soul is in the mediævalising of the Church of England.

Mediævally, medievally (medi-, mīdi,ī·vălі), *adv.* [f. MEDIÆVAL + -LY[2].] In a mediæval manner; in mediæval times; in accordance with mediævalism.

1882 *Century Mag.* XXIII. 654, I did not feel mediaevally inclined that night. 1883 SALA in *Illustr. Lond. News* 11 Aug. 131/1 The..Miracle Plays for which Coventry was medievally so renowned.

Medial (mī·diăl), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. late L. *mediālis*, f. *medius* middle: see MEDIUM. Cf. F. *médial*.]

A. *adj.*

1. Occupying a middle or intermediate position; middle; (of a letter, etc.) occurring in the middle of a word. *Medial to*: situated in the middle of; intermediate between.

1721 BAILEY, *Medial*, belonging to the middle. 1741 BOYSE *Patience* 235 Beneath the scorching of the medial line [i.e. the equator]. 1807 F. WRANGHAM *Serm. Transl. Script.* 14 This province may be regarded as mediat to Persia, Tartary, Tibet. 1824 J. JOHNSON *Typogr.* II. xii. 309 The characters assume a different shape according to their situation, whether initial, medial, final, or single. 1829 COLERIDGE in *Lit. Rem.* (1839) IV. 28 The understanding is in all respects a medial and mediate faculty, and has therefore two extremities or poles, the sensual..and the intellectual. 1881 TYNDALL *Floating Matters Air* 228 In regard to the supply of oxygen, there is a medial zone favourable to the play of vitality, beyond which, on both sides, life cannot exist. 1902 *Encycl. Brit.* XXV. 360/2 A great extension of Medial plains, stretching in moderate altitude from the Arctic Ocean to the Gulf of Mexico.

b. *spec.* in *Anat., Zool.*, etc. (Cf. MEDIAN *a.*[1])

1803 BARCLAY *New Anat. Nomencl.* 7 What I should call the proximal, medial, and distal phalanges. 1846 DANA *Zooph.* (1848) 284 A continuous medial line of large polyps, with others smaller, scattered on each side. 1880 GÜNTHER *Fishes* 313 Medial and paired fins. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 390 One set of these vessels, the medial, enters the medulla in the middle line.

2. Pertaining to a mathematical mean or average. † *Medial line*: a line which is a mean proportional between two other lines (*obs.*).

1570 BILLINGSLEY *Euclid* x. xxiii, A right line commensurable to a mediall line, is also a mediall line. 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Alligation Medial*, teaches how to find a Mean in the Price, Quantity, or Quality between the Extreams. 1811 PINKERTON *Petral.* I. 345 According to a medial sum of many analyses.

3. Of average or ordinary dimensions; *occas.* of ordinary attainments.

1778 [W. MARSHALL] *Minutes Agric.* 18 Aug. an. 1775, The distance was medial—not half a mile. 1804 C. B. BROWN tr. *Volney's View Soil U. S.* 113 The general or medial temperature of a country. 1830 LYELL *Princ. Geol.* I. 185 The united waters have only.. a medial width of about three quarters of a mile. 1894 *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 273/2 Exceptional qualifications..are lacking to the medial man.

4. *Mus.* Medial accent (see quot. 1879). **Medial cadence,** in the ecclesiastical modes, a cadence closing with the mediant of a mode (Grove *Dict. Mus.* 1880); in modern music, a cadence in which the leading chord is inverted. **Medial consonances** (see quot. 1885).

1809 CALLCOTT *Mus. Gram.* (ed. 2) 221 When the leading Harmony of any Cadence is not radical, but inverted, the Cadence is, in this Work, termed Medial, and is used to express an incomplete Close. 1879 HELMORE *Plain Song* 105 The Medial Accent is the fall of a minor third from the dominant or reciting note. 1885 A. J. ELLIS tr. *Helmholtz' Sensations of Tone* 194 The major Sixth and the major Third, which may be called medial consonances.

† **5.** *Phonetics.* (See B. 2.) *Obs.*

1833 *Penny Cycl.* I. 379/2 The middle (or medial) letters, *g, d, b.*

B. *sb.*

1. A medial letter; a form of a letter used in the middle of a word.

1776 J. RICHARDSON *Arab. Gram.* 17 The initial of the first, a medial of the second, and the final of the third [letter] are generally taken. 1817 COLEBROOKE *Algebra*, etc. Dissert. p. xii, Diophantus employs the inverted medial of ἐλλειψις, defect or want..to indicate a negative quantity. He prefixes that mark ↓ to the quantity in question.

† **2.** *Phonetics.* A voiced mute; = MEDIA 1. *Obs.*

1833 *Penny Cycl.* I. 380/2 The three medials, *β, γ, δ*. 1848 E. GUEST in *Trans. Philol. Soc.* III. 174 Three medials, as they are called, *b, g, d*. 1880 EARLE *Philol. Eng. Tongue* (ed. 3) 5 If the Classical word begins with an aspirate, the English word begins with a medial.

Medially (mī·diăli), *adv.* [f. MEDIAL *a.* + -LY[2].] In a medial or central position.

1861 *Macm. Mag.* IV. 472/2 A tract..lying medially between the Atlantic and the Mississippi. 1883 *Athenæum* 29 Dec. 870/2 The peculiarity being the manner in which the solid part of the web was medially swung.

‖ **Mediamne.** *Obs. rare.* [ad. late L. *mediamna*, f. *medius* middle + *amnis* river.] An island in the middle of a river.

a 1552 LELAND *Itin.* II. 31 Diverse Armelettes breaking out of the 2 streames and making Mediamnes. *Ibid.* 41.

Median (mī·diăn), *a.*[1] and *sb.*[1] Also 6 **-ane.** [ad. L. *mediān-us* (cf. MEAN *a.*[2]), f. *medius* middle: see -AN. Cf. F. *médian*, Sp., Pg., It. *mediano*.]

A. *adj.*

1. Occupying a middle or intermediate position; middle; † neutral.

1645 *Sacred Decretal* 11 Not knowing which way the Dice would fall, we kept ourselves in a direct Median Posture, that wee might be sure notwithstanding, which way soever it went. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Median*, the middle, half, mean; not deserving praise or dispraise. 1771 *Antiq. Sarisb.* 13 The Gates and the median rampart. 1877 J. SULLY *Pessimism* 244 In the lower and median latitudes of our emotional life.

2. Special scientific uses.

a. *Anat.*, as *median artery, nerve, vein,* now chiefly applied to certain structures in the arm; formerly in various other applications.

Median line: any line in the median plane. **Median plane**: the plane which divides any body into two equal and symmetrical parts; the mesial plane or meson.

1592 NASHE *Strange Newes* K 2 b, This I will proudly boast .. that the vaine which I haue (be it a median vaine, or a madde man) is of my owne begetting. 1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 30 The fourth is the mediane, or kidneyevayne, situated belowe the foote. 1629 Bp. HALL *Serm. to Lds. of Parlt.* 18 Feb., God and his divine phisician doe still let blond in the median vein of the heart. 1831 R. KNOX *Cloquet's Anat.* 85 The last-mentioned suture, designated by the name of the Median or Frontal,..is generally indistinct. 1835–6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 217/2 The median nerve. 1840 G. V. ELLIS *Anat.* 25 The anterior median fissure of the medulla spinalis.

b. *Zool.*, as *median crest, fin, line* (see a), etc.

1835–6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 706/1 The median parts of the lobes of the mantle [in *Conchifera*] are extremely thin. 1840 *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 197 The Great Tit..with a black median list down the belly. 1861 HULME tr. *Moquin-Tandon* II. III. ii. 112 The median line of the abdomen. 1894 R. B. SHARPE *Handbk. Birds Gt. Brit.* I. 35 The lesser and median wing-coverts white.

c. *Bot.*

[1852 HENSLOW *Dict. Bot. Terms* 105 *Medianus*, when some part orginates or is connected with the middle of some other.] 1884 BOWER & SCOTT *De Bary's Phaner.* 160 The median plane of the lens-shaped double cavity. 1900 JACKSON *Gloss. Bot. Terms, Median Line*, the central line of a bilateral organ, as the midrib of a symmetric leaf. *Ibid., Median Wall*, in Archegoniates, the wall in a plane at right angles to the basal wall dividing the proëmbryo into lateral halves.

d. *Surg.* Of an incision: Made through the middle of a tumour. *Median lithotomy*: that method in which the incision is made through the median line of the perinæum (opposed to *lateral*).

1854 ALLARTON *Lithotomy Simplif.* 42 The spot selected for the incision in the median operation. 1863 — (*title*) A Treatise on Modern Median Lithotomy. 1891 *Lancet* 18 Apr. 907/1 He makes a median incision over the tumour.

e. *Geography*, etc.

Median line, the line along the middle of the calm belt between the north and south trade winds. *Median zone*, a zone along the sea-bottom between 50 and 100 fathoms in depth.

a 1854 E. FORBES *Nat. Hist. Europ. Seas* (1859) 100 The inhabitants of the median or coralline zone around the British shores. 1875 CROLL *Climate & Time* xiv. 229 During a glacial period in the northern hemisphere the median line between the trades would be shifted..south of the equator.

3. *Statistics.* **a.** Used to designate that quantity which is so related to the quantities occurring in a given set of instances that exactly as many of them exceed it as fall short of it.

Thus, 6 is the median number of the set 1, 1, 2, 6, 20, 20, 27.

1894 *Times* 19 Dec. 12/2 If graphically arranged, they would present a 'curve of error', the 'median ordinate' of which (to use a phrase familiar to the new school of statisticians) would yield a sentence far more satisfactory and just than many that are every week awarded. 1900 *Boston* (Mass.) *Transcript* Mar., The average age of the population of the United States..is twenty-five years; the median age is twenty-one years. The latter means the point at which there are as many people above as below.

b. (See quot.)

1901 *U. S. 12th Census Rep.* I. p. xxxvi, The median point is the point of intersection of the line dividing the population equally north and south with the line dividing it equally east and west.

B. *sb.*

1. *Anat.* The median vein, nerve, etc.

1541 R. Copland *Guydon's Quest. Chirurg.* M iij, Howe many and what veynes are to be let blode in the body?.. there be xij amyd the armes that is to wyte two medyans, two cephalykes [etc.]. 1564–78 Bullevn *Dial. agst. Pest.* (1888) 41 Fower vnces [of blood must be letten]..sometyme in the Median, sometyme in the Basilica. 1660 Culpepper *Two Treat.* (1692) 10 In Summer open still the Liver-vein, In Spring that of the Heart called Median. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 9 The simultaneous examination of the medians can only be made by crossing the hands.

† **2.** Something which is in an intermediate condition. *Obs.*

1635 Person *Varieties* I. v. 16 Fumes are medians betwixt fire and earth, in respect that they are easily transmuted or changed in the one or the other.

3. *Math.* Each of the three lines drawn bisecting the angles of a triangle and meeting in a point within it.

1888 [see Cosymmedian]. 1888 Hall & Stevens *Text-bk. Euclid* (1894) 105 The medians of a triangle are concurrent.

4. *Statistics.* A median quantity (see A. 3).

1902 F. Y. Edgeworth in *Encycl. Brit.* XXVIII. 287/1 The median (that point which has as many of the given observations above as below it).

Median (mī′diăn), *a.*[2] and *sb.*[2] [f. *Media* + -AN, or Mede *sb.* + -IAN.] **A.** *adj.* Of or belonging to the ancient kingdom of Media, or the Medes.

1601 Holland *Pliny* XII. iii. 359 The Citron tree, called.. by some, the Median Apple-tree. 1685 Bp. Ken in W. Hawkins *Life*, etc. (1713) 88 Either the Babylonian, or the Median, or the Persian Idolatries. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XV. 54/2 Pharaortes..greatly extended the Median empire.

b. *allusively.* Unchanging. (Cf. *Dan.* vi. 8.)

1882 H. S. Holland *Life & Logic* (1885) 2 A Median kingdom..whose laws..never know..change.

B. *sb.* An inhabitant of Media; a Mede.

1601 Holland *Pliny* VI. xv. 122 Two cities of the Parthians, built sometimes as forts opposite against the Medians. 1901 *Expositor* Nov. 344 Gobryas, the general of Cyrus, a Median, appeared before Sippara.

Me·diani·mic, *a. Spiritualism.* [f. Medi-um + L. *anima* soul + -ic.] Pertaining to mediumship. So **Me·diani·mity,** mediumship.

1876 Anna Blackwell *Kardec's Medium's Bk.* 388–9.

Medianly (mī′diănli), *adv.* [f. Median *a.*[1] + -ly[2].] In a median direction or position.

1872 Mivart *Elem. Anat.* iii. (1873) 76 A large aperture medianly divided by a vertical partition. 1875 — in *Encycl. Brit.* II. 151/1 The laryngeal sac [of the *Semnopithecinæ*] opens medianly into the front of the larynx.

Mediant (mī′diănt), *sb. Mus.* [ad. It. *mediante*, repr. late L. *mediantem*, pr. pple. of *mediāre* to be in the middle, f. *medi-us* middle: see Medium. Cf. F. *médiant.*] **a.** In ecclesiastical music: One of the 'regnlar modulations' of a mode; in the authentic modes, it lies about midway between the final and the dominant; in the plagal modes, it varies in position. **b.** In modern music, the third of any scale, lying midway between the tonic and the dominant.

[1727–41 Chambers *Cycl.* s. v. *Mode*, The fundamental [note] is also called the *final*; the fifth the *dominante*; and the third, as being between the other two, the *mediante*.] 1753 — *Cycl. Supp.* s. v. *Mediante*, The Mediant of a mode is that note which is a third higher than the final; or that which divides the fifth of every authentic mode into two thirds. 1818 Busby *Gram. Mus.* 314 The Triad may have its mediant either two whole tones, or a tone and a semitone, above its Root.

attrib. 1880 Stainer *Composition* § 18 The seventh degree of the scale can be part either of the dominant or mediant chords. 1885 A. J. Ellis tr. *Helmholtz' Sensations of Tone* 462 Modulation into the Mediant Duodene.

Me·diant, *a. rare*[−1]. [ad. late L. *mediant-em*, pr. pple. of *mediāre*: see prec.] Intervening.

1853 Miss Sheppard *Ch. Auchester* III. 150, I..set off on foot along the sun-glittering road..till through the mediant chaos of brick-fields..I entered the dense halo surrounding London.

Mediastinal (mīdiăstəi′năl), *a. Anat.* [f. Mediastin-um + -al.] Of or pertaining to a mediastinum, or partition, *esp.* that of the thorax.

1826 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* III. 376 *Neura Mediastina* (Mediastinal Nervure). 1831 R. Knox *Cloquet's Anat.* 189 The mediastinal surface of the sternum. 1835–6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 193/2 The posterior mediastinal arteries are numerous and small. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 64 Mediastinal diseases.

† **Mediastine**[1]. *Obs.* Also 7 -in. [Anglicized form of Mediastinum. Cf. F. *médiastin.*] = Mediastinum.

1631 Widdowes *Nat. Philos.* 60 The lesse principall parts of breathing, are the midriffe, and the mediastin. 1653 Urquhart *Rabelais* I. xxvii, He did transpierce him, by running him in at the breast, through the mediastine and the heart. 1732 Arbuthnot *Rules of Diet* in *Aliments*, etc. 339 There is none of the Membranes..but may be the Seat of this Disease, the Mediastine as well as the Pleura.

† **Mediastine**[2]. *Obs. rare*[−1]. Also -in. [ad. L. *mediastīn-us.*] 'A drudge, or kitchin slave' Phillips 1658); also quasi-*adj.*

1716 M. Davies *Athen. Brit.* II. 139 A certain mediastin Genius, porcupin'd all over with all the three.

‖ **Mediastinitis** (mīdiæstinəi′tis). *Path.* [mod.L., f. Mediastin-um + -itis.] Inflammation of the areolar tissue around the organs of the mediastinum.

1858 Copland *Dict. Pract. Med.* II. 825 The Causes of mediastinitis are chiefly external injuries. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 783 These exo-pericardial adhesions..may possibly result from a mediastinitis.

‖ **Mediastino-** (mīdiæstəi′no). Used as the combining form of Mediastinum. **Mediastino-callous** *a.*, descriptive epithet of 'the form in which the pericardium becomes thickened' (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1890). **Mediastino-pericardial** *a.*, pertaining to the mediastinum and the pericardium. **Mediastino-pericarditis,** inflammation affecting both these structures.

1876 tr. *H. von Ziemssen's Cycl. Med.* VI. 649 Indurated mediastino-pericarditis. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 45 Cases of mediastino-pericardial fibrosis.

‖ **Mediastinum** (mīdiæstəi′năm). *Anat.* Pl.-a. [mod.L., neut. of med.L. *mediastīnus*, medial, intermediate, f. *medius* middle, after the classical L. *mediastīnus* (also *mediastrīnus*) sb., inferior servant, drudge.] A membranous middle septum or partition between two cavities of the body; *esp.* that formed by the two inner walls of the pleura, separating the right and left lungs.

Anterior mediastinum: the part of the mediastinum extending from the pericardium to the sternum. *Middle m.*: 'the enlarged central portion of the whole space between the pleuræ' (Syd. Soc. Lex.). *Posterior m.*: the portion of the mediastinum between the pericardium and the lower dorsal vertebræ. *Superior m.*: the space between the manubrium of the sternum and the upper dorsal vertebræ.

In medical Latin the name is used, with qualifications, to denote certain other structures to which its etymological meaning is appropriate; as *mediastinum auris*, the membrane of the drum of the ear; *m. cerebri, m. cerebelli*, synonyms of *falx cerebri* and *cerebelli* (see Falx); *m. testis*, Sir Astley Cooper's name for the septum of the testicle (*Corpus Highmori*).

1541 R. Copland *Guydon's Quest. Chirurg.* H j, With the mediastinum wherwith it [the hert] is steyed and strengthed. 1615 Crooke *Body of Man* 360 The Pericardium toucheth not the Lunges but by the interposition of the Mediastinum. 1797 M. Baillie *Morb. Anat.* (1807) p. xxv, The Posterior Mediastinum. 1878 T. Bryant *Pract. Surg.* I. 49 Pericarditis or suppurative inflammation of the mediastinum.

Mediate (mī′diĕt), *a.* Also 6 *Sc.* mediat. [ad. late L. *mediāt-us*, pa. pple. of *mediāre*: see Mediate *v.* Cf. F. *médiat.*]

1. Intermediate; intervening or interposed in position, rank, quality, time, or order of succession. Now *rare.*

1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) II. 179 The membres inferialle supporte and do seruyce, the meane other membres mediate [of the body], receyve, and refunde. 1547 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 78 The mediat air that is to succeid to the persoun that happynnis to deceis. 1655 Fuller *Ch. Hist.* VIII. iii. Ded., I may wish you and yours less mediate trouble then he had in the course of his Life. *a* 1661 — *Worthies, Suffolk* (1662) II. 59 After many mediate preferments..at last he became Arch-bishop of Canterbury. 1707 Prior *Charity* 49 But soon the mediate clouds shall be dispell'd. 1829 [see Medial *a.* 1]. 1840 *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 169 The Marsh-eagles hold a sort of mediate station between the Ernes, the Ospreys, and the Buzzards. 1857–8 Sears *Athan.* III. ii. 262 There are three conditions after death, heaven and hell, and a state mediate between them.

† **b.** Of a person: Intermediary. *Obs.*

1571–2 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* II. 121 Na maner of persoun..sall pay or procure to be payit of thair awin substance or be mediat personis. 1582–8 *Hist. James VI* (1804) 290 Quhen he sawe sick apparand disgrace, he trauellit be some mediat persouns to mak satisfactioun. 1604 Edmonds *Observ. Cæsar's Comm.* 63 These [the Tribunes and Centurions] were mediate officers betweene the Generall and them [the soldiers]. 1655 in *Proc. Soc. Antiq. Scot.* XXX. (1896) 18 The saids goods ar to be put in a mediate man's hands, who sall be answerable for them. 1660 R. Coke *Power & Subj.* 193 It will not follow that the Bishop is the Kings mediate officer in all things and cases which relate to his Episcopal function and jurisdiction.

c. Serving as a means to an end. † Also, conducive, serviceable. *Obs.*

1502 Atkynson tr. *De Imitatione* II. xii. 195 He exorted his disciples..to take the crosse as the moost medyate meane to folowe hym. 1741 Warburton *Div. Legat.* II. 634 The ..supposition of a mediate and an ultimate religion. 1845 Thorpe *Lappenberg's Hist. Eng.* Introd. 53 A temple of Diana was mediate to the faith of so many people.

d. *nonce-use.* That is in the middle of his course. In quot. *absol.*

1839 Bailey *Festus* xxviii. (1852) 474 Death divine alone can perfect both, The mediate and initiate.

2. Acting or related through an intermediate person or thing; opposed to *immediate.*

a. *Feudal Law.* Said of a superior and of a tenant or vassal, when the latter holds of the former not directly but through a mesne lord. Also applied to the relation between the two parties, as in *mediate holding, sovereignty, tenure.*

1454 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 272/2 To paye..their rentes and dewtees to their Lordis mediates and immediates. 1529 More *Suppl. Soulys* Wks. 333/2 Yᵉ king or any other Lorde mediate or immediate, that [etc.]. 1601 R. Johnson *Kingd. & Commw.* 84 As touching his mediat soueraigntie. 1614 Selden *Titles Hon.* 229 To be free from either a mediat, or immediat Tenure of him. 1818 Hallam *Mid. Ages* (1841) I. v. 452 Those which had depended upon mediate lords became immediately connected with the empire. 1845 Stephen *Comm. Laws Eng.* (1874) I. 186 The holding might also be mediate, that is, in the way of subinfeudation.

fig. 1839 Poe *Island of Fay* Wks. 1864 I. 361 [A planet] whose mediate sovereign is the sun.

b. *gen.* Of a person or thing in relation to another: Connected with the correlate not directly but through some other person or thing.

Now *rare*; many expressions formerly common (e. g. *mediate cause*) are now avoided as ambiguous, the adj. being liable to be taken in the directly opposite sense 1.

1626 Bacon *Sylva* § 400 The Immediate Cause of Death, is the Resolution or Extinguishment of the Spirits; And.. the Destruction or Corruption of the Organs is but the Mediate Cause. 1655 Fuller *Ch. Hist.* III. ii. § 69 Stephen Langton, his [sc. Becket's] mediate successor, removed his body [etc.]. 1718 *Wodrow Corr.* (1843) II. 370 Our sponsors are what I cannot away with, when parents, mediate or immediate, can be had. 1752 Hume *Ess. & Treat.* (1777) II. 109 Nor is it possible to explain distinctly how the Deity can be the mediate cause of all the actions of men.

c. Of an action, relation, or effect: Involving or dependent on some intermediate agency or action.

Mediate inference (Logic): an inference arrived at through a middle term. *Mediate knowledge* (Philos.): knowledge which is not the direct result of intuition, but is obtained by means of inference or testimony.

1588 J. Harvey *Disc. Probl.* 36 Either by Mediate apparance, and reuelation of some vision; or by Imediate..illumination from God. 1641 H. Ainsworth *Orth. Found. Relig.* 18 Mediate creation is the making of things of some former matter. 1642 Wotton *Life & D. Buckingham* 13 The most..pressing care of a new and Vigorous King was his marriage, for mediate establishment of the Royall lyne. 1646 P. Bulkeley *Gospel Covt.* III. 231 This mediate witnesse of the spirit..is not to be harkened unto, untill the immediate witnesse hath spoken. 1704 Norris *Ideal World* II. iii. 145 Perception is either immediate or mediate. ..Mediate, as when we perceive how they [Ideas] are related to each by comparing them both to a third. 1790 Paley *Horæ Paul.* i. 3 Although..the agreement in these writings be mediate and secondary. 1817 Coleridge *Biog. Lit.* xii. I. 264 All truth is either mediate,..derived from some other truth..or immediate and original. 1836–7 Sir W. Hamilton *Metaph.* (1859) I. 218 What is called mediate knowledge. 1842 Abp. Thomson *Laws Th.* § 83 (1860) 146 This is mediate inference. 1868 M. Pattison *Academ. Org.* v. 224 The principle of mediate election is not commonly practised in this country. 1888 Bryce *Amer. Commw.* II. xl. 83 They are all copies, some immediate, some mediate, of ancient English institutions.

d. *Law.* Of evidence: Directed to the establishment of some intermediate fact which is to serve as a ground of argument for the fact to be proved.

1848 Wharton *Law Lex.*, *Mediate testimony*, secondary evidence.

e. Med. *Mediate auscultation*: auscultation performed with the interposition of some object (as a stethoscope) between the body and the ear. *Mediate percussion* (see quot. 1843).

R. T. H. Laennec's *De l'Auscultation Médiate* appeared in 1819, and P. A. Piorry's *De la Percussion Médiate* in 1828.

1821 J. Forbes tr. *Laennec's Dis. Chest*, etc. (1834) 27 The signs afforded by mediate auscultation in the diseases of the lungs. 1843 Sir T. Watson *Princ. & Pract. Physic* xlvii. II. 10 More recently mediate percussion has been introduced.. by M. Piorry. In mediate percussion, some solid substance is placed upon the spot, the resonance of which is about to be explored, and the blow is made upon that substance, which is called a plexímeter. 1870 S. Gee *Auscult. & Percuss.* I. iv. 62 Auenbrugger's glove was obviously an approach to that mediate percussion which was first systematically practised by Piorry.

† **3.** ? Conciliated, propitious. *Obs. rare*[−1].

14.. *Why I can't be a Nun* 98 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 140 Lord to my mornyng be mediate.

Mediate (mī′diēt), *v.* [f. late L. *mediāt-*, ppl. stem of *mediāre* (used in various senses derived independently from the etymology: to divide in the middle, halve; to transact as an intermediary; to occupy a middle position; etc.), f. *medi-us* middle: see Medium. Cf. obs. F. *médier.*

In English the verb is of late emergence, and may have originated by back-formation from *mediation* and *mediator.*]

† **1.** *trans.* To divide into two equal parts. *Obs.*

1542 Recorde *Gr. Artes* H vj b, If you wold mediat or diuid into 2, this sum. 1610 W. Folkingham *Art of Survey* II. vi. 57 The Diameter that mediates the Arch of each Sector is the Meridian.

2. *intr.* To occupy an intermediate or middle place or position; to be between; nsually, to form a connecting link or a transitional stage between one thing and another.

1642 R. Carpenter *Experience* v. xix. 322 There mediates no reall tie betwixt you and me, but the worne and old tie of old Acquaintance. 1644 Digby *Nat. Bodies* iii. § 7. 21 By theire being crowded together, they exclude all other

bodies that before did mediate betweene the litle parts of theire maine body. 1646 H. Lawrence *Comm. Angells* 72 Betweene the temptation of the Divell and sin there ever mediates, or goes betweene, cogitation, or thought, in which the temptation properly and formally lyes. 1850 Mrs. Browning *Poems* II. 388 No twilight in the gateway To mediate 'twixt the two. 1862 Stanley *Jew. Ch.* (1877) I. xviii. 343 To mediate between the old and the new..is the mission of institutions like ours. 1872 E. Tuckerman *Gen. Lichenum* 11 Evernia vulpina must be admitted to mediate, ..in an important detail of thalline structure, between the other northern species and *Usnea*.

†b. To take a moderate position; to avoid extremes. *Obs. rare.*

1612 Webster *White Devil* I. i, The law doth somtimes mediate, thinkes it good Not euer to steepe violent sinnes in blood.

3. To act as a mediator or intermediary; to intercede, or intervene for the purpose of reconciling.

1616 Bullokar *Eng. Expos., Mediate*, to deale betweene two, to make meanes of agreement, as an indifferent party to both. 1618 Earl of Suffolk in *Fortescue Papers* (Camden) 75, I must fly to you as to my principall advocate to medyate to his Majestie for my coming to hys presence. *c* 1620 Camden in *Lett. Lit. Men* (Camden) 124 Yff you will mediate with my L. Burghley for the Loane of Chrisostomes Greeke Copie. 1635 Pagitt *Christianogr.* I. ii. (1636) 58 Interpreters to mediate between the people and the Governour. 1712 Swift *Jrnl. to Stella* 24 Dec., I have been.. mediating between the Hamilton family and Lord Abercorn, to have them compound with him. 1837 Macaulay *Ess., Bacon* (1899) 363 Bacon attempted to mediate between his friend [the Earl of Essex] and the Queen. 1861 M. Pattison *Ess.* (1889) I. 43 In vain Cabinets endeavoured to mediate. 1892 M. Dods *Gosp. John* II. xiv. 209 He [the Holy Spirit] was to mediate and maintain communication between the absent Lord and themselves.

4. *trans.* 'To effect by mediation' (J.); to bring about (a peace, treaty, etc.) by acting as mediator; to procure by intercession.

c 1592 Marlowe *Jew of Malta* v. iv, Let me go to Turkey, In person there to mediate your peace. 1600 E. Blount tr. *Conestaggio* 139 To mediate with the King a suspension of armes. 1617 Moryson *Itin.* II. 79 Beseeching him to use his power, in mediating licence unto him, that he might come over for a short time to kisse the Queenes hand. 1718 *Freethinker* No. 15 The Friends, on both sides, thought, they might mediate a Peace with as much Ease as a Truce. 1754 Hume *Hist. Eng.* I. vi. 142 Anselm..mediated an accommodation between them. 1838 Prescott *Ferd. & Is.* II. xiii, It is singular that the last act of his political life should have been to mediate a peace between the dominions of two monarchs who had united to strip him of his own.

†b. To intercede on behalf of. *Obs.*

1621 Fletcher *Pilgrim* I. ii, In your prayers..mediate my poor fortunes.

c. To settle (a dispute) by mediation. †Also, ? to mitigate (an evil) by mediation. *Obs.*

1568 T. North tr. *Gueuara's Diall Pr.* IV. 99 The miseries wee suffer..haue for the most part proceeded from our parents, and afterwards by our frends haue been mediated and redressed. 1623-4 Middleton & Rowley *Sp. Gipsy* II. ii, No friends Could mediate their discords. 1856 Kane *Arct. Expl.* II. xxii. 222 His companions indulged in a family conflict.. which was only mediated, after much effort.

5. To be the intermediary or medium concerned in bringing about (a result) or conveying (a gift, etc.); *passive*, to be communicated or imparted mediately.

1630 Lord *Banians* Introd., Who, to give this undertaking [the book] the better promotion, interested himselfe in the worke, by mediating my acquaintance with the Bramanes. 1644 Digby *Nat. Bodies* xxv. § 1. 227 An immediate working of God.. without conuenient and ordinary instruments to mediate and effect this configuration. 1846 G. S. Faber *Lett. Tractar. Secess.* 224 Moses.. mediated an inferior covenant between God and the Israelites. 1856 R. A. Vaughan *Mystics* (1860) II. viii. vi. 67 Ten years after the first manifestation he believed himself the recipient of a second, not, like the former, mediated by anything external. 1861 Goschen *For. Exch.* 18 A country which, like England, mediates the transactions of many others. 1903 J. Conn *Fulness of Time*, etc. vi. 77 Everything we know of Him who is the Light of the World has been mediated to us through men.

Mediated (mī·diĕtĕd), *ppl. a.* [f. prec. + -ED[1].] Interposed, intervening.

1832 Austin *Jurispr.* (1879) II. 926 The right or duty is not created or divested by a law without the intervention of a fact distinct from the law itself but is really created or divested by a law through a mediated or intervening fact.

Mediately (mī·diĕtli), *adv.* [f. Mediate *a.* + -ly[2].] In a mediate way: opposed to *immediately*.

1. By the intervention of an intermediary or medium; (in feudal law) through a mesne lord; through a medium or mediator, or by a means; by indirect agency, or by mediation, in indirect connexion; indirectly.

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 125 Whether it be immediatly of ye holy goost, or els mediatly, as by ye mynistracyon of some good aungell. 1550 Latimer *Last Serm. bef. Edw. VI* (1584) 107 She [*sc.* the woman] is not immediately under God, but mediately. 1596 Bacon *Max. & Use Com. Law* II. (1635) 30 All lands are holden of the crowne either mediately or immediately. 1604 E. G[rimstone] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* VI. iv. 439 For if they signifie things mediately they are no more letters nor writings, but ciphers and pictures. *a* 1661 Fuller *Worthies, Worc.* (1662) II. 174, I confess he might be mediatly of Welch extraction, but born in this County. *a* 1703 Burkitt *On N. T.* Matt. v. 8 They shall see him spiritually and mediately in this life: gloriously and immediately in the life to come. 1823 J. Marshall *Const. Opin.* (1839) 276 Persons who claimed immediately from the crown, or mediately, through its grantees or deputies. 1855 Sir W. Hamilton *Metaph.* App. (1859) II. 520 Something different from the realities externally existing, through which, however, they are mediately represented. 1874 Sully *Sensation & Intuition* 45 We compare the sensations mediately, by means of the average strength of either class. 1889 Pater *G. de Latour* (1896) 50 He derived his impressions of things not directly from them, but mediately from other people's impressions about them.

2. With a person or thing intervening in time, space, order, or succession.

1620 T. Granger *Div. Logike* 223* Here the particle (not) is mediately prefixed before (perisheth). 1794 Morse *Amer. Geog.* 139 Running waters, when turbid, will deposit, first, the coarsest and heaviest particles, mediately, those of the several intermediate degrees of fineness, and ultimately..the most light. 1818 Cruise *Digest* (ed. 2) IV. 370 An estate is limited, either mediately or immediately, to his heirs in fee, or in tail. 1890 *Sat. Rev.* 13 Sept. 326/2 A day spent..mediately in pursuit of sport, it may be immediately in mountain-climbing.

Mediateness (mī·diĕtnĕs). [f. Mediate *a.* + -ness.] The quality of being mediate.

1704 Norris *Ideal World* II. iii. 146 The..mediateness of our conception. 1860 Worcester (cites *Bannister*).

‖ **Mediateur.** ? *Obs.* [F. *médiateur* 'sorte de jeu de quadrille' (Littré): etymologically = Mediator. Cf. Sp. *mediator*, according to the *Dicc. de la Academia* a name for ombre.] A term in a variety of the game of quadrille: see quot. 1830.

1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XV. 732/2 A king is the mediateur, which is demanded of the others by one of the players, who has a hand he expects to make five tricks of; and through the assistance of this king he can play alone and make six tricks. *Ibid.* 733/1 A fish extraordinary is given to him who plays the mediateur, and to him who plays sans prendre. 1830 'Eiorah Trebor' *Hoyle made Familiar* 38 (*Quadrille*) In order to vary this game, some introduce the *Mediateur* or *Roy Rendu*, which is a king demanded of the others by one of the players, who having a hand by which he expects to make five tricks, can, with the assistance of this king, get six, and so plays alone, or sans appeller.

Mediating (mī·diĕtiŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. Mediate *v.* + -ing[2].] That mediates.

1. Of opinions and their advocates: Tending to mediate between extremes.

a 1729 J. Rogers 19 *Serm.* (1735) 309 That Corruption of Manners we lament in the World, we shall find..owing to some mediating Schemes, that offer to comprehend the different Interests of Sin and Religion. 1885 *Athenæum* 4 July 10/3 Dr. Salmon, being no mediating scholar, accepts the last twelve verses of St. Mark's Gospel.

2. Acting as a mediator.

1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* VII. iii, Regard to my family hath made me take upon myself to be the mediating power. 1817 *Parl. Deb.* 1351 A mediating party between the zealous friends of the practice and the public. 1866 Lidoon *Bampt. Lect.* vi. (1875) 306 St. Paul dwells often and earnestly upon our Lord's mediating Humanity.

Hence **Me·diatingly** *adv.*

1841 *Blackw. Mag.* XLIX. 466 To go mediatingly..between others.

Mediation (mīdiē·ʃən). Forms: 4-5 mediacioun, 4-6 -cion, 5 medyacyoun, 5-6 -cion, 6 medea-, mediacyon, mediatioun, 5- mediation. [a. OF. *mediacion* (mod.F. *médiation*), ad. late L. *mediātiōn-em* (*c* 500 in Quicherat), n. of action f. *mediāre*: see Mediate *v.* Cf. Sp. *mediacion*, Pg. *mediação*, It. *mediazione*.]

†1. Division by two; division into two equal parts; halving, bisection. *Obs.*

c 1425 *Craft Nombrynge* (E.E.T.S.) 14 Mediacion is a takyng out of balfe a nombre out of a holle nombre. 1542 Recorde *Gr. Artes* H vj, Mediation..is nothyng els but deuidyng by 2. 1674 Jeake *Arith.* (1696) 33 To take the half of any Number called Mediation, Bipartition, or Division by 2. 1727 Bailey vol. II, *Mediation* (in *Geom.*) with respect to lines, is called bissection or bipartition.

†b. *Mus.* [= med.L. *mediatio octavæ*.] The division of the octave at the arithmetical or harmonic mean. *Obs.*

1597 Morley *Introd. Mus.* Annot., The fourth may be set in the eight, either aboue the fift, which is the harmonicall diuision or mediation (as they tearme it) of the eight, or vnder the fift, which is the Arithmeticall mediation.

†c. Astron. *Mediation of heaven* [med.L. *mediatio cæli*]: the southing of a heavenly body.

1426 Lydg. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 16668 The loode sterre, which off his nature abydeth ffyx in hys spere, and neuere draweth ffor to declyn by medyacion. 1633 H. Gellibrand in *T. James' Voy.* R iij, At the instant of the Moones Culmination or Mediation of Heauen.

2. Agency or action as a mediator; the action of mediating between parties at variance; intercession on behalf of another.

c 1386 Chaucer *Man of Law's T.* 136 By the popes mediacion.. They been acorded. 1431 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 280 If these men so chosen, with good mediacion of the alderman, mowe not brynge hem to acorde. 1447 Bokenham *Seyntys* (Roxb.) Introd., Be the blyssyd medyacyoun Of this virgyne. 1572 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* II. 134 Be freindlie mediatioun and laubouris. 1662 *Bk. Com. Prayer* Prayer High Crt. Parl., These and all other necessaries..we humbly beg in the Name and mediation of Jesus Christ. 1667 Milton *P. L.* III. 226 All mankind Must have bin lost,..had not the Son of God,..His dearest mediation thus renewd. 1788 Gibbon *Decl. & F.* xlv. IV. 462 As a Christian bishop, he [Gregory] preferred the salutary offices of peace; his mediation appeased the tumult of arms. 1844 Thirlwall *Greece* lxiii. VIII. 243 Envoys..had been sent to offer their mediation for the purpose of terminating the war.

attrib. 1857 M. Pattison *Ess.* (1889) II. 241 The Mediation-Theology itself does not shrink from engaging the Christological problem.

3. Agency as an intermediary; the state or fact of serving as an intermediate agent, a means of action, or a medium of transmission; instrumentality.

c 1391 Chaucer *Astrol.* Prol. 1 By mediacion of this litel tretis, I purpose to teche thee a certein nombre of conclusiouns apertening to the same instrument. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 21 His fellowes at home..wrot to Lewis the Frenche kinge, by the mediation of Erarde Marchiane Byshoppe of Liege. 1615 G. Sandys *Trav.* 168 Not to be touched but by the mediation of a sticke prepared for the purpose. 1646 H. Lawrence *Comm. Angells* 38 The understanding receives things by the mediation, first of the externall sences, then of the fancy. 1648 *Hamilton Papers* (Camden) 205, I intend to corresponde with you by her mediation. 1796 Burke *Regic. Peace* I. Wks. VIII. 156 To seek for peace ..through the mediation of a vigorous war. 1796 Kirwan *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) II. 269 By the mediation of nickel it will unite to Bismuth. 1860 Tyndall *Glac.* I. iii. 23 Through his mediation I secured a chamois-hunter.

4. *Mus.* That part of a plain-song or an Anglican chant which lies between the two reciting-notes.

The mediation of a plain-song chant is regarded by some as including the reciting-note, and is then taken to be all that part of the first half of the chant following the 'intonation'.

1845 J. Jones *Man. Instr. Plain-Chant* 10 When, at the mediation of the 1st, 3d, 6th, and 7th tones, the last word is a monosyllable, it is joined to the preceding syllable. 1879 Helmore in Grove *Dict. Mus.* I. 337/2 In the modern Anglican chants the Intonation has been discarded, and the chant consists of the Mediation and Termination only. 1893 J. Heywood *Art of Chanting* viii. 21 Most of the early Anglican chants seem to require two accents in their mediation.

Mediative (mī·diĕtiv), *a. rare.* [f. Mediate *v.* + -ive.] That has the quality of mediating; pertaining to mediation or a mediator.

1813 Shelley *Q. Mab* v. 232 This commerce of sincerest virtue needs No mediative signs of selfishness. 1860 Westcott *Introd. Study Gosp.* v. (ed. 5) 303 In the Synoptists faith is the mediative energy in material deliverances as the types of higher deliverance. 1890 Fairbairn *Catholicism* (1899) 299 All means were inadequate, and so divisive; as mediative they held the spirit out of the immediate Presence.

Mediatization (mī·diătəizēi·ʃən). [f. next + -ation:] The action of the verb Mediatize; the state of being mediatized.

1818 *Edin. Rev.* XXIX. 349 Mediatisation and confederacy are courtly and diplomatic terms. 1844 Disraeli *Coningsby* II. i, The mediatization of the petty German princes. 1887 *Cornh. Mag.* Aug. 202 Mediatisation means retention of princely title, and surrender of princely independence and sovereignty.

Mediatize (mī·diătəiz), *v.* [ad. F. *médiatiser*, f. *médiat*: see Mediate *a.* and -ize. Cf. G. *mediatisiren*.]

1. *trans. Hist.* In Germany under the Holy Roman Empire: To reduce (a prince or state) from the position of an immediate vassal of the Empire to that of a mediate vassal. Hence, in later times: To annex (a principality) to another state, leaving to its former sovereign his titular dignity, and (usually) more or less of his rights of government. Also *transf.* and *fig.*

1830 *Fraser's Mag.* I. 158 If Prince Paul..did such a thing, he would be mediatised in his princedom of fashion. 1843 Thackeray *Irish Sk. Bk.* ix, Let us trust that the Prince..was at least restored to his family and decently mediatised. 1849 J. M. Kemble *Saxons in Eng.* II. iv. 149 The ducal families were in direct descent from the old regal families, which became mediatized, to use a modern term. 1876 J. Martineau *Ess.*, etc. (1891) IV. 257 It [intellectual purpose] is liable to be deposed and 'mediatized' by advancing knowledge.

2. *intr.* To mediate, take up a mediating position.

1885 *Unitarian Rev.* Aug. XXIV. 114 A creed of reconciliation which attempts to mediatize between two opposite parties can never hope for success, if [etc.].

Hence **Me·diatized** *ppl. a.*

1826 Disraeli *Viv. Grey* VI. iv, His Highness has the misfortune of being a mediatised prince. 1841 W. Spalding *Italy & It. Isl.* III. 102 The mediatized principalities in Germany. 1887 *Westm. Rev.* June 334 The mediatized Bey.

Mediator (mī·diē·tər). Also 4-6 medyat-; 4-5 -ure, 4-6 -oure, 4-7 -our, 5 -owr(e, -er, (6 medeator). [a. F. *médiateur*, ad. late L. *mediātōr-em*, f. *mediāre* to Mediate. Cf. Sp. *mediador*, Pg. *mediador*, *mediator*, It. *mediatore*.

The Lat. word, though formally implying the vb., was perh. formed directly on *medius* middle, in imitation of Gr. *μεσίτης* (f. *μέσος* middle). The early examples, exc. one in Appuleius (and c.), are all Christian and theological, representing *μεσίτης* as used in the N. T.]

1. One who intervenes between two parties, esp. for the purpose of effecting reconciliation; one who brings about (a peace, a treaty) or settles (a dispute) by mediation.

1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 125 Mediatours goynge bytwixe, pees was made. 1413 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton 1483) IV. xxxi. 80 These Royal lordes ben menes and medyatours bytwene the kyng and his peple in euery nede that may befalle. 1554 *Act 1 & 2 Phil. & Mary*, c. 8 § 9 It maie please yor Majesties to be Intercessours and Mediatours to..Cardinall Poole. 1606 Pulton *Kalender of Stat.* 18 b (27 *Edw. III*, c. 24). And two English men, two of Lombardie, and two of Almaigne shall chosen to be Mediators of questions between sellers and buiers. *c* 1615 Bacon *Adv. Sir G. Villiers* Wks. 1879 I. 509/1 The trouble of all men's

confluence .. to yourself, as a mediator between them and their sovereign. 1769 ROBERTSON *Chas. V.* x. III. 251 The Princes who were present..acted as intercessors or mediators between them. 1853 J. H. NEWMAN *Hist. Sk.* (1873) II. II. iv. 258 He claimed for himself especially the part of mediator between political rivals. 1855 MILMAN *Lat. Chr.* x. iv. (1864) VI. 172 The lofty station of the mediator of such peace became his sacred function.

fig. 1609 DANIEL *Civ. Wars* VIII. liii, And in deliv'ring it, lifts vp her eyes, (The mouingst Mediatours shee could bring).

2. *Theol.* One who mediates between God and man; applied esp. to Jesus Christ (cf. 1 Tim. ii. 5).

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 27503 þou has me [the confessor] made als mediator, Als mediator and messager, Tuix þe and þam þair errand here. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* XXXVI. (*Baptista*) 629 Medyature als wes he betwene ws & þe trinite. 1382 WYCLIF 1 *Tim.* ii. 5 O God and mediatour of God and men. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 190 b, Sauyour & mediatour of mankynde. 1649 BP. REYNOLDS *Hosea* i. 41 The Prophet here secretly leadeth us to Christ the Mediatour. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* XII. 240 Instructed that to God is no access Without Mediator. 1736 BUTLER *Anal.* II. v. (Bohn) 240 There is then no sort of objection, from the light of nature, against the general notion of a mediator between God and man. 1902 A. B. DAVIDSON *Biblical & Lit. Ess.* 247 These saints as intercessors and mediators bridge over the chasm that separates God from man.

†**3.** A go-between; a messenger or agent. *Obs.*

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* iii. (*Andreas*) 1063 þane he þat mediatoure had bene, and hard þis answere all bedene, recordyt it to þe bischope. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Pars. T.* ¶ 893 The fourthe circumstance is, by whiche mediatours or by whiche messagers, as for enticement, or for consentement to bere campainye with felaweshipe. *c* 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 400 Our souerane Arthour..Has maid ws thre as mediatour, His message to schaw. 1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 331 Your highnesse, whom it hath pleased..voluntarily (without the helpe of any mediatour) to graunt mee free..accesse to your friendshippe. 1622 MALYNES *Anc. Law-Merch.* 98 A Merchant, hauing many of these Billes..will resort vnto ..another Merchant, commonly accompanied with a Mediator or Broker. 1697 in *Syllabus Rymer's Fœd.* (1869) Pref. 112 The French had received our ratification under the signett, and putt it collationed into the mediatours hands.

4. *Path.* Applied to those constituents of a serum which actively produce hæmolysis.

1903 A. S. GRÜNBAUM in *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 21 Mar. 654 Ehrlich..recognized..that Bordet was right in assuming the existence of two bodies for the production of this phenomenon [*sc.* hæmolysis], and that one body (mediator, amboceptor) was present in quantity in the serum of immunized animals only, while the other (the complement) occurred in the serum of normal untreated animals. *Ibid.* 4 Apr. 784 The immune serum merely contains an excess of normal mediators and not new ones.

5. A variation in the games of ombre and quadrille. [= Sp. *mediator.* Cf. MEDIATEUR.]

1902 LD. ALDENHAM *Ombre* 6 Quadrille, Quintille, Piquemedrille, Tredrille, Sextille, and Mediator, which are all variations of the Game of Ombre.

Mediatorial (mē·diătōˑrĭăl), *a.* [f. L. type **mediātōri-us* (see MEDIATORY) + -AL.] Of, pertaining to, resembling, or characteristic of a mediator or mediation.

1650 W. PYNCHON in *First Cent. Hist. Springfield, Mass.* (1898) I. 81 There is no need that our blessed Mediator should pay both the price of his Mediatorial obedience, and also [etc.]. 1708 *Brit. Apollo* No. 91. 1/2, I have not yet Discharg'd my Mediatorial Office. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* IX. 272 No Patron! Intercessor none! Now past The sweet, the clement, Mediatorial Hour! 1876 MOZLEY *Univ. Serm.* v. 106 A mediatorial function..pervades the whole dispensation of God's natural providence, by which men have to suffer for each other.

Hence **Mediatoˑrially** *adv.*, as a mediator; **Mediatoˑrialism**, mediatorial attitude or position.

1774 A. M. TOPLADY *Gd. News fr. Heaven* Wks. 1794 III. 208 Christ shall reign .. mediatorially. 1827 CH. WORDSWORTH *Chas. I* (1828) 151 And, because, at the same time they [two Presbyterians] were 'moderate and mediatorial', [they may] have stuck one Episcopalian between them, as a voucher of their moderation and mediatorialism.

†**Mediatoˑrian,** *a. Obs. rare.* [Formed as prec. + -AN.] = MEDIATORIAL. So **Mediatoˑrious** *a.*

a 1659 BP. BROWNRIG *Serm.* (1674) II. XV. 187 The Arrians blasphemy of his Deity, 'tis as false also of his Mediatorious Efficacy. 1676 CUDWORTH *Serm. on* 1 *Cor.* XV. 57 (ed. 3) 72 Christ after His Resurrection..having a mediatorious Kingdom bestowed upon Him. 1692 BEVERLEY *Disc. Dr. Crisp* 18 There is a Mediatoriaa Law and Covenant in the Hand of the Mediator.

Meˑdiatorship. [See -SHIP.] The office of a mediator.

a 1600 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* VIII. iv. § 6 Government doth belong to his kingly office, mediatorship, to his priestly. 1693 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) III. 242 Their masters had undertaken the mediatorship of a general peace. 1876 MOZLEY *Univ. Serm.* viii. (1877) 181 The mediatorship of Christ.

Mediatory (mē·diătəri), *a.* [ad. L. type **mediātōri-us*, f. *mediātor* MEDIATOR: see -ORY.] Having the function of mediating; pertaining to, or of the nature of, mediation.

1619 W. SCLATER *Exp.* 1 *Thess.* (1630) 51 Christ's actions ..were..some Mediatory. 1665 J. SPENCER *Vulg. Proph.* 120 The solemn Inauguration of our Saviour to his Mediatory Kingdom. 1677 GALE *Crt. Gentiles* III. 182 The Philosophers' Demons or Mediatorie Lords, which were the original Exemplars of Antichrist's Mediatorie Saints. *a* 1711 KEN *Christophil* Poet. Wks. 1721 I. 447 Our humble King began to rear His Mediatory Realm. 1765 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* I. 51 If the supreme power were lodged..in the king and commons, we should want that circumspection and mediatory caution, which the wisdom of the peers is to afford. 1806 G. S. FABER *Diss. Prophecies* (1814) I. 280 The excessive veneration of supposed mediatory saints and angels. 1836-7 SIR W. HAMILTON *Metaph.* XXXII. (1859) II. 245 The mediatory agency of latent thoughts in the process of suggestion. 1885 *L'pool Daily Post* 25 Apr. 4/9 Austria and Germany are evincing an increased disposition to dictate terms, but rather of a selfish than a mediatory nature.

¶ Used = MEDIATE *a.* 1.

1651 BIGGS *New Disp.* 169 To avell the pleura or lining of the Thorax from the ribs, which is firmely annexed and immediately adheres unto them, by the mediatory ligation of numerous solid fibres.

Mediatress (mē·diĕˑtrĕs). Now *rare.* [f. MEDIATOR + -ESS.] = MEDIATRIX.

1616 R. SHELDON *Surv. Miracles Ch. Rome* 125 Neither dare wee associate her as a secondarie Mediatrisse with her sonne. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* xlii. (1811) III. 249 How shall two such come together—no kind mediatress in the way? 1867 *Contemp. Rev.* V. 57 He does not hesitate to employ her as mediatress.

Mediatrice (mē·diĕˑtris). Now *rare* (or only as Fr.). [a. F. *médiatrice*, ad. L. *mediātrix* (see next).] = MEDIATRIX.

The pl. form *mediatrices* is, so far as spelling is concerned, common to this word and the next: the example placed here may belong to MEDIATRIX.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* XXXIV. (*Pelagia*) 361 As medyatrice hyr wil I sende to god. 1447 BOKENHAM *Seyntys* (Roxb.) 270 Thorgh goddys grace ordeynyd to be A medyatryce for this cyte. 1500-20 DUNBAR *Poems* lxxxv. 67 Oratrice, mediatrice, salvatrice, To God gret suffragane! 1540 HYRDE tr. *Vives' Instr. Chr. Wom.* (1592) N vij, God is the over-seer, the church is the mediatrice in mariage. 1686 *Speculum Beatæ Virginis* 17 They desire her to interceed with God for them, which also makes her a joynt Mediatrice with Christ. 1842 AGNES STRICKLAND *Queens Eng.* II. 291 The French monarch..proposed to make the queen-dowager of France and Isabella the mediatrices of a peace. 1891 *Cath. News* 24 Jan. 6/6 Our advocate, our mediatrice with Him.

Mediatrix (mē·diē·triks). Pl. **mediatrices** (mē·diĕˑtrəi·sēz): see prec. [a. L. *mediātrix*, fem. of *mediātor*, MEDIATOR.] A female mediator. (Often applied to the Virgin Mary.)

1462-3 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 270 Pray the vierge immaculat To be good mediatrix. 1577-87 HOLINSHED *Chron.* III. 1183/2 As a meane or mediatrix betweene the parties, there was Christierna dutchesse of Loraine. 1651 tr. *De-las-Coveras' Don Fenise* 39 She having confessed herselfe the mediatrix of their loves. 1738 OZELL *Cervantes* 9 Certain.. Knights..invoking them [their Ladies]..as so many Advocates and Mediatrixes in their Conflicts and Encounters. 1753 RICHARDSON *Grandison* IV. iv. 21 War seems to be declared: And will you not turn mediatrix? *Ibid.* IV. XXVIII. 175 Mediators and mediatrices. 1781 WARTON *Hist. Eng. Poetry* III. 493 The mediatrix of the factions of France. 1846 PUSEY *Let.* in Liddon, etc. *Life* II. 505 The [Roman] system as to the Blessed Virgin as the Mediatrix and Dispenser of all present blessings to mankind. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xi, The friendship..lasted as long as the jovial old mediatrix was there to keep the peace. 1880 MEREDITH *Tragic Com.* xi (end), Here was the mediatrix—the veritable goddess with the sword to cut the knot!

Medic (meˑdik), *a.* and *sb.* (See also MEDICS.) [ad. L. *medic-us* adj. and sb., f. root of *medērī* to heal. Cf. OF. *medique* sb., physician, Sp. *médico*, Pg., It. *medico* adj. and sb.]

A. *adj.* = MEDICAL. Only *poet.*

1700 POMFRET *Reason* 84 Should untun'd Nature crave the Medic Art, What Health can that contentious Tribe impart? 1769 *Poetry in Ann. Reg.* 242 Order Drops, ye Medic Dunces, Order Scruples, Drams, and Ounces. 1873 W. S. MAYO *Never Again* XXXII. 417 Thy medic touch becalms my throbbing brow.

B. *sb.* A physician, 'medical man'. *Obs.* exc. as *U.S.* college slang for 'medical student'.

1659 T. PECKE *Parnassi Puerp.* 16 The Medic heals the Body. 1661 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* (ed. 2), *Medick*, a Physitian. 1694 MOTTEUX *Rabelais* V. (1737) 232 Your Medic's Friend. 1696 J. EDWARDS *Exist. & Provid. God* II. 136 This author ..was most bitter..not only against physicians, but all medicks. 1823 *The Crayon* (Yale Coll.) 23 (Farmer) Who sent The medic to our aid! 1851 B. H. HALL *College Words* 198 *Med, Medic*, a name sometimes given to a student in medicine. 1885 B. G. WILDER in *Jrnl. Nervous Dis.* XII. 281 Medic is the legitimate paronym of *medicus*, but is commonly regarded as slang.

Medic, var. form of MEDICK.

†**Meˑdica.** *Obs.* [a. L. *mēdica*: see MEDICK.] = MEDICK.

1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* I. (1586) 37 Amongst all sortes of fodder, that is counted for the cheefe..which.. the Italians at this day call *Medica.* 1651 R. CHILD in *Hartlib's Legacy* (1655) 71 The plants which are usually called Medicaes with us, are annual plants. 1664 EVELYN *Kal. Hort.*, Apr. (1679) 15 Sow .. Medica, Holy-hocks, Columbines [etc.]. 1712 tr. *Pomet's Hist. Drugs* I. 12 A species of Trefoil,..to which some have given the Name of Medica, or Median Hay. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* s. v., The sea Medica..The great prickly sea Medica.

Medicable (meˑdikăb'l), *a.* [ad. L. *medicābilis*, f. *medicāre*, *medicārī*: see MEDICATE *v.* and -ABLE. Cf. OF. *medecable*, *medicable* (in sense 2), Sp., Pg. *medicable*, It. *medicabile.*]

1. Admitting of cure or remedial treatment.

1616 BULLOKAR *Eng. Expos., Medicable*, which may be healed. 1744 ARMSTRONG *Preserv. Health* III. 516 For want of timely care Millions have died of medicable wounds. 1816 WORDSW. *Ode*, 1815, 81 For them who bravely stood unhurt, or bled With medicable wounds. 1834 *Tait's Mag.* I. 15/2 Of the more enduring and less medicable ailments of his patient, the surgeon knew .. nothing. 1871 NAPHEYS *Prev. & Cure Dis.* I. i. 43 Medicable wounds.

†**2.** Possessing medicinal properties. *Obs.*

1658 PHILLIPS, *Medicable*, able to heal. 1666 BOYLE *Orig. Formes & Qual.* (1667) 293 Wine obtains divers medicable Vertues (as that of cooling, dissolving Coral, Pearle, &c.).

Medical (meˑdikăl), *a.* and *sb.* [a. F. *médical*, = Sp., Pg. *medical*, It. *medicale*, ad. late L. *medicālis*, f. *medic-us* physician: see MEDIC.]

A. *adj.*

1. Pertaining or related to the healing art or its professors. Also, in a narrower sense, Pertaining or related to 'medicine' as distinguished from surgery, obstetrics, etc.

Medical man: used as a general term including 'physician', 'surgeon', 'accoucheur', etc.

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* To Rdr. a 4, In this work attempts will exceed performances: it being composed by snatches of time, as medicall vacations,..would permit us. *a* 1682 — *Tracts* 22 Not onely in medical but dietetical use and practice. 1760-72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) II. 99, I summoned the chief medical artists, and got the precious remains..embalmed. 1778 T. A. MANN in *Lett. Lit. Men* (Camden) 416 We are here occupied and divided upon Medical Electricity. 1799 *Med. Jrnl.* I. 364 Such an excess of acid is therefore useless, especially in medical practice. *Ibid.*, The Medical Society also desired the Citizens Bouillon-La Grange, and Chaussier, to examine [etc.]. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* IV. I. 432 All the medical men of note in London were summoned. 1895 *Arnold & Sons' Catal. Surg. Instruments* 19 Field Medical Paniers, fitted complete with instruments..etc. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 778 Neither the patient nor the medical attendant.

b. Proper or appropriate to a medical practitioner.

1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* II. iii. ¶ 2 He had got into reputation with the public by a certain professional slang, humoured by a medical face.

c. Of diseases: Requiring medical as distinguished from surgical treatment or diagnosis.

1885-8 FAGGE & PYE-SMITH *Princ. Med.* (ed. 2) I. 74 Internal, or as it may be styled 'medical' pyæmia. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 174 The preceding remarks .. relate only to the medical thromboses, and not to the septic and suppurative thrombo-phlebitides of the surgeon. 1904 *Hospital* 11 June, Suppl. 14 By medical diseases is meant those diseases which are situated either as to their source or their origin in one or other of the three great cavities of the body.

d. Special collocations: †**medical finger** = LEECH-FINGER; **medical garden**, a garden appropriated to the cultivation of medicinal plants; a 'physic-garden'; †**medical month** (see quot.).

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* IV. xii. 213 Which..makes 26. dayes and 22. howres, called by Physitians the medicall month; introduced by Galen..for the better compute of Decretory or Criticall dayes. 1653 URQUHART *Rabelais* I. viii, On the medical finger of his right hand he had a Ring made Spire wayes. 1838 *Civil Engineer* I. 362/2 Four acres are devoted to a medical garden.

2. Curative; medicinal. *rare.*

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* V. xxi. 269 The membranous covering, commonly called the silly how..is..preserved with great care, not onely as medicall in diseases, but [etc.]. 1811 A. T. THOMSON *Lond. Disp.* (1818) 462 Medical properties and uses. 1830 HERSCHEL *Stud. Nat. Phil.* III. iv. 303 The essential medical principles in vegetables.

B. *sb.*

1. A student or practitioner of medicine, *colloq.*

1823 HAWTHORNE in *H. & Wife* (1885) I. 111 He is the best scholar among the medicals. 1834 J. HALLEY in *Life* (1842) 15 He determined..as he said 'to beat the medicals'. 1903 *Midland Inst. Mag.* Feb. 113 The..only medical elected to a University headship since William Harvey was warden of Merton in 1644.

2. ? *U.S.* 'A small bottle or vial made of glass tubing' (*Cent. Dict.* 1890).

Medical, obs. var. MISKAL, an Oriental weight.

Medically (meˑdikăli), *adv.* [f. MEDICAL + -LY².] In a medical manner; with respect to medical science or practice, or the medical profession.

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* IV. xiii. 227 That which chiefly promoted the consideration of these dayes, and medically advanced the same, was the doctrine of Hippocrates. 1805 *Med. Jrnl.* XIV. 393, I was willing to hope that the case, not viewed medically, might be rendered more formidable than it really was. 1887 *Homeop. World* 1 Nov. 523 These clubs are medically officered by an allopathic practitioner. 1902 *Daily Chron.* 8 May 6/2 Educated and medically-trained women as workhouse inspectors.

Medicament (mĕdiˑkămĕnt, meˑdikămĕnt), *sb.* [a. F. *médicament*, ad. L. *medicāmentum*, f. *medicārī*: see MEDICATE *v.* and -MENT. Cf. Sp., Pg., It. *medicamento.*] A substance used in curative treatment.

1541 R. COPLAND *Galyen's Terap.* 2 C iv, It semeth that he had neuer experyence..of any medicamentes, whiche is a manyfest thynge of the boke that he hath made of medycamentes. 1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 16/2 Some resolvinge and strengtheninge medicamentes. 1650 BULWER *Anthroponet.* 160 He speaks of Cosmetique medicaments, or the Art of Decoration. 1750 tr. *Leonardus' Mirr. Stones* 96 In these they strew soporiferous medicaments. 1831 J. DAVIES *Manual Mat. Med.* 61 Some medicaments which are commonly used as astringents. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 922 Certain drug eruptions.. have their greatest intensity round the part to which the medicament is applied.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1614 W. BARCLAY *Nepenthes* A 4, [Tobacco] is the only medicament in the world ordained by nature to entertaine good companie. 1654 HAMMOND *Fundamentals* xix. § 32. 235 First, the admonitions..of his fellow Christians, then more publike reprehensions..and upon the unsuccessfulness of all these milder medicaments, the use of that stronger

Physick, the Censures of the Church. 1824 A. HENDERSON *Wines* 45 It was only for the inferior wines, however, that such medicaments were used. 1872 M. COLLINS *Two Plunges for Pearl* III. viii. 183 There are few medicaments equal to walking at your fastest pace.

Medi·cament, *v.* [f. the sb. Cf. F. *médicamenter.*] *trans.* To administer medicaments to. Hence **Medi·camenting** *vbl. sb.*

1823 GALT *R. Gilhaize* xxxvii, But for many a day all the skill and medicamenting of Doctor Callender did him little good. 1849 THACKERAY *Pendennis* liii, He .. had been treated and medicamented as the doctor ordained.

Medicamental (me·dikămē·ntăl), *a.* Now *rare.* [f. MEDICAMENT *sb.* + -AL[1].] Having the nature of a medicament; medicinal.

1657 TOMLINSON *Renou's Disp.* 26 Aconitus..and many others are both medicamental and poysonous. 1670 MAYNWARING *Vita Sana* xiii. 119 Sallads of Lettuce..are medicamental aliment. 1755 in JOHNSON; in mod. Dicts.

Medicamentally (me·dicămē·ntăli), *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY[2].] After the manner of medicaments.

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* II. v. 85 The substance of gold is indeed invincible by the powerfullest action of naturall heat,..not only alimentally..but also medicamentally. 1884 *N. & Q.* 15 Mar. 210 The fish is..more wholesome medicamentally, but not so toothsome.

Medicamentary (me·dikămē·ntări), *a.* [f. MEDICAMENT *sb.* + -ARY.] Having the nature of a medicament; curative. Also, of a book, treating of medicaments.

1590 BARROUGH *Meth. Phisick* VIII. (1596) 484 Neither was it necessarie to stuffe this Medicamentarie booke with vnusuall..compositions. 1656 RIDGLEY *Pract. Physick* 286 We..must rather fight with medicamentary aliments, then with Medicaments. 1881 *Nature* 15 Sept. 480/2 Certain toxical or medicamentary substances..are not absorbed.

Medicamentation (me·dikămentē··ʃən). [f. MEDICAMENT *sb.* + -ATION.] The action of 'medicamenting'; remedial treatment.

1885 *Public Opin.* 9 Jan. 30/1 The crisis of our interests has passed far beyond the medicamentation of mere talk.

Medicamentous (me·dikămē·ntəs), *a.* [f. MEDICAMENT *sb.* + -OUS.] = MEDICAMENTAL.

1684 tr. *Bonet's Merc. Compit.* XV. 524 The new-born Infant..requires a Medicamentous Milk. 1861 *Technologist* II. 30 It reaches the druggist, who has to prepare from it his medicamentous extract.

Medicaster (me·dikæstəɹ). Also 8 medicastor. [a. assumed L. **medicaster* (whence also It. *medicastro*, F. *médicastre*), f. *medicus* physician: see MEDIC and -ASTER.] A pretender to medical skill; a quack, charlatan. So † **Medica·stra,** a female 'medicaster'.

1602 F. HERING *Anat.* 28 An other Medicastra, a ratling Gossip..commended a Drench. 1612 WOODALL *Surg. Mate* Wks. (1653) 244 Andreas Libavius, doth report of a certain Medicaster of his time [etc.]. 1706 BAYNARD in Sir J. Floyer *Hot & Cold Bath.* II. 393, I could say much more ..to the Shame..of this sorry Medicaster. 1835 J. M. WILSON *Tales of Borders* (1857) I. 59 Doctors are quacks and medicasters to us. 1881 DUFFIELD *Don Quixote* I. 337 A queen may be leman to a medicaster.

† **Me·dicate,** *a. Obs.* [ad. L. *medicāt-us*, pa. pple. of *medicāre* (see next).] = MEDICATED.

1638 T. WHITAKER *Blood of Grape* 41 Not but that I take notice of medicate Wines, and their excellencies.

Medicate (me·dikēit), *v.* [f. L. *medicāt-*, ppl. stem of *medicāre, -ārī*, f. *medicus*: see MEDIC.]

1. *trans.* To treat medically; to administer remedies to; to heal, cure.

1623 COCKERAM, *Medicate*, to heale or cure. 1691 BAXTER *Nat. Ch.* x. 48 All the Physicions Medicate all England. 1757 DYER *Fleece* I. 374 To soil Thy grateful fields, to medicate thy sheep,..Thy vacant hours require. 18.. SHELLEY *Ess. & Lett.* (1852) I. 256 He postponed all other purposes to the care of medicating himself. 1833 CHALMERS *Const. Man* (1835) I. 237 Which mars instead of medicates. 1880 BARWELL *Aneurism* 94 To feed, and if desirable also to medicate, the patient in such manner that [etc.].

fig. 1807 tr. *Three Germans* I. 68 What can medicate the wounds of the mind? 1860 EMERSON *Cond. Life* iv. (1861) 83 What we call our root-and-branch reforms of slavery, war [etc.] is only medicating the symptoms.

† b. To treat (a thing) with drugs or other substances for any purpose. *Obs.*

1644 EVELYN *Diary* Apr., His collection of all sorts of insects..is most curious; these be spreads and so medicates that no corruption invading them, he keepes them in drawers. 1775 G. WHITE *Selborne* 1 Nov. (1789) 198 A pound of rushes, medicated [*i. e.* steeped in tallow] and ready for use, will cost three shillings.

fig. 1839 DE QUINCEY *Philos. Rom. Hist.* Wks. 1890 VI. 431 Did ever Siren warble so dulcet a song to ears already prepossessed and medicated with spells of Circean effeminacy?

2. To impregnate with a medicinal substance.

1707 [see MEDICATING *vbl. sb.*]. 1753 *Scots Mag.* XV. 40/2 When a course of milk is ordered..may it not be thus *medicated* much to the advantage of the patient? 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 37 The inhalation of steam medicated with terebene.

fig. 1751 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 150 P 3 The antidotes with which philosophy has medicated the cup of life. 1809 SYD. SMITH *Wks.* (1859) I. 185/2 You are multiplying..the chances of human improvement, by preparing and *medicating* those early impressions, which always come from the mother.

† b. In wider sense [after L. *medicāre*]: To impregnate or mix with drugs or deleterious substances; to 'doctor' (liquors, etc.). *Obs.*

1662 GRAUNT *Bills Mortality* 68 The Fumes, Steams, and Stenches of London, do so medicate and impregnate the Air about it, that [etc.]. 1684 BAXTER *Twelve Argts.* Pref. F j b, They medicate their Wines with Arsenick and Mercury. 1744 BERKELEY *Siris* § 11 Wines in the time of the old Romans were medicated with pitch and resin. 1791 COWPER *Odyss.* x. 291 She..medicated with her pois'nous drugs Their food.

3. *intr.* To practise the art of healing. *rare.*

1835 *Tait's Mag.* II. 17 Skilled in herbs too, he medicates successfully for man and beast.

Medicated (me·dikēitĕd), *ppl. a.* [f. MEDICATE *v.* + -ED[1].] Charged or impregnated with medicinal substances, drugs, or the like. Also *fig.*

1625 BP. HALL *Serm. Thanksgiving* (1626) 52 If some infrequent passenger crossed our streets, it was not without his medicated Posie at his nose. 1676 WISEMAN *Surg.* IV. v. 316, I .. prescribed her a medicated Ale .. for her constant Drink. 1781 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xxxi. III. 206 *note*, The beautiful faces of the young slaves were covered with a medicated crust..which secured them against the effects of the sun. 184. MRS. BROWNING *Sonn. fr. Portuguese* xvii, Antidotes Of medicated music. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 525 Medicated soaps.

Medicating (me·dikēitiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. MEDICATE *v.* + -ING[1].] = MEDICATION 1 b.

1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* (1721) II. 6 The medicating or steeping of Seeds.

Me·dicating, *ppl. a.* [-ING[2].] Healing.

1831 CARLYLE *Sart. Res.* III. iii, Leave him to Time, and the medicating virtue of Nature. 1879 STEVENSON *Trav. Cevennes, Florac*, The race of man..has medicating virtues of its own.

Medication (medikē·ʃən). [ad. L. *medicātion-em*, n. of action f. *medicāre, medicārī*: see MEDICATE *v.* Cf. F. *médication.*]

1. The action of treating medically or subjecting to the action of medicaments.

1603 SIR C. HEYDON *Jud. Astrol.* ii. 99 So doth Galen attribute much to Homericall medication. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* IV. xiii. 222 During those dayes, all medication or use of Physick is to be declined. 1831 J. DAVIES *Manual Mat. Med.* 225 Hemorrhage, agitation, fever, &c. &c. often attend this medication. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xli, She hoped that her body might escape medication. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 604 It is better to assist the external measures by internal medication.

fig. 1804 MITFORD *Inquiry* 158 Rarely indeed more than three lines together, even of Chaucer's, are found wholly unwanting medication.

b. Applied to treatment of plants. Also *concr.*, something used for 'medication'. ? *Obs.*

1626 BACON *Sylva* § 500 The Watering of the Plant oft, with an Infusion of the Medecine. This..may have more force than the rest; Because the Medication is oft renewed. 1796 *New Ann. Reg.* 137 The cure [for animalcules]. is rubbing off with the lard medication. *Ibid.*, I have formerly quite removed the canker from some nonpareils, which, after three years medication, threw out shoots a yard long.

2. 'The act of tincturing or impregnating with medicinal ingredients' (J.); the infusion of medicinal substances.

1755 in JOHNSON. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 37 Meanwhile arrangements are to be made for..the occasional supply of steam and for its medication with eucalyptus.

Medicative (me·dikĕtiv), *a.* [f. MEDICATE *v.* + -IVE. Cf. med.L. *medicātīvus.*] Having the function or power of curing; curative.

1644 DIGBY *Nat. Bodies* xviii. § 9. 165 If those vapors be ioyned with any medicatiue quality or body. 1814 D. STEWART *Hum. Mind* II. iv. § 6. 471 Those physicians who profess to follow Nature..by watching and aiding her medicative powers. 1866 R. CHAMBERS *Ess.* Ser. II. 111 Oh, Nature,..Thy breath, thy voice, thy placid face, how truly medicative they are.

Me·dicator. *rare.* [f. MEDICATE *v.* + -OR. Cf. late L. *medicātor*, medical practitioner.] One who prepares potions.

1830 SCOTT *Demonol.* I. 67 The art of a medicator of poisons.

Medicatory (me·dikĕtəri), *a. rare*[−1]. [f. L. *medicāt-*, ppl. stem of *medicāre*: see MEDICATE *v.* and -ORY.] Medicinal, healing.

1864 MRS. H. WOOD *Trev. Hold* III. ix. 123 Not all the medicatory drugs..can prevent the diseased vagaries of the imagination.

Medicean (medisī·ăn), *a.* [f. mod. L. *Mediceus* (f. It. *Medici*, surname) + -AN. Cf. F. *médicéen.*] Pertaining to the family of the Medici, who ruled Florence during the 15th c., and to whom belonged Popes Leo X (1513–21) and Clement VII (1523–34). Used as the designation of the library at Florence (otherwise called Laurentian) founded by Lorenzo de' Medici, and of MSS. there preserved; also, of various works of ancient art contained in the Florentine collections founded by the Medici.

1741 J. MARTYN *Virg. Georg.* IV. 262 *note*, Pierius found *aut* in the Medicean manuscript. 1835 *Penny Cycl.* IV. 5/2 The celebrated Medicean and Borghesan vases. 1893 GOW *Comp. Sch. Classics* vi. (ed. 3) 45 The sole authority for the letters *ad Familiares* is in the Medicean library. 1904 *Pilot* 9 Apr. 338/1 A description of Medicean Rome.

Medicerebellar (mīdisĕrĕbe·lăɹ), *a. Anat.* [f. L. *medi-us* middle + CEREBELLAR.] Sitnated in the middle of the cerebellum.

1890 J.S. BILLINGS *Nat. Med. Dict.* II. 124 Medicerebellar Artery. Cerebellar Artery, anterior inferior.

Medicerebral (mīdiˌse·rĭbrăl), *a. Anat.* [irreg. f. L. *medi-us* middle + CEREBRAL.] Lying about the middle of each cerebral hemisphere. Also *absol.* the medicerebral artery.

1889 *Buck's Handbk. Med. Sci.* VIII. 234 The Medicerebral [artery]. The vessel represents the most direct continuation of the cerebral carotid. *Ibid.*, The medicerebral in its further course yields two classes of branches.

† **Medician.** *Obs.* [f. L. *medicus* (see MEDIC) + -IAN. Cf. *physician.*] A physician.

1597 in *Spalding Club Misc.* I. 133 Scho is altogiddir conswmit away; and na mediciane nor phisitian that will tak on hand to cure.

† **Medi·cianer.** *Obs.* In 6 medicianar, 7 medicioner. Cf. MEDICINER. [f. MEDICIAN + -ER[1].] A physician.

a 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S. T. S.) I. 362 They war certifiieit be the doctouris medicianaris that no successioun wald come of hir body. 1634 Medicioner [see MEDICINE *sb.*[2], quot. 1545].

Medicinable (me·dsĭnăb'l), *a.* and *sb.* Forms: 4–7 **medycinable,** 4–6 **medicynable,** 5 **medecynnabil, medycynable,** 6 **medcynable, medsonable, mediscenable,** 7 **medicineable,** 6–9 **med'cinable,** 4– **medicinable.** [a. OF. *medecinable*, f. *medeciner*: see MEDICINE *v.* and -ABLE.]

A. *adj.*

1. Having healing or curative properties; = MEDICINAL. *Obs.* exc. *poet.* or *arch.*

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XIV. xxi. (Tollem. MS.), Olyues and medicynable herbes and swete spices. *c* 1407 LYDG. *Reason & Sens.* 5630, I saugh the..herbes ful medycynable. *c* 1425 *St. Christina* xi. in *Anglia* VIII. 124/1 Hee bonde vppe hir legge wiþ medecynnabil clopes. 1547 BOORDE *Introd. Knowl.* xxii. (1870) 177 Welles of water the whych..be medicsenable for sycke people. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* III. (1586) 146 Cowe milk is most medicinable. 1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* v. ii. 351 Drop teares as fast as the Arabian Trees Their Medicinable gumme. 1634 W. WOOD *New Eng. Prosp.* (1865) 10 Many..haue beene restored by that medicineable Climate to their former..health. 1796 COLERIDGE *To J. Cottle*, Herbs of medicinable powers. 1842 SIR A. DE VERE *Song of Faith* 72 Paradise Of priceless and most medicinable fruits. 1885 PATER *Marius* II. 218 Soothing fingers had applied to his hands and feet..a medicinable oil.

b. *fig.* and in figurative context.

c 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 21 Medicinable comyning wiþ þe kirk or sacraments of it. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 422 Be þi medycynable tong I trow at God shall delyver me from my moste errour. 1556 J. HEYWOOD *Spider & F.* ii. 150 Pacience the medsonable meane, To take all fautles falles, reioisinglie. 1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* III. ii. 33 Some griefes are medcinable, that is one of them, For it doth physicke Loue. 1798 J. HUCKS *Poems* 146 In memory's stores, I seek the med'cinable balm.

† 2. Of or belonging to medicine. *Obs.*

1530 PALSGR. 318/1 Medcynable belongyng to physicke. 1586 BRIGHT *Melanch.* xl. 268 It yeeldeth no medicinable tast to the mouth. 1607 MARKHAM *Caval.* I. (1617) 57 Then you shall seeke by medicinable means to recouer them.

† 3. *Medicinable finger* = LEECH-FINGER; *medicinable ring*, app. a blessed ring snpposed to cure diseases. *Obs.*

1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) II. 313 The iiij[the] fynger, whiche is callede the fynger medicinable. *a* 1483 *Liber Niger* in *House. Ord.* (1790) 23 Item, to the king's offerings to the crosse on Good Friday, out from the Countyng-house, for medycynable rings of gold & sylver.

† B. *sb.* A medicinal substance. *Obs.*

1683 TRYON *Way to Health* 560 A great number of Medicinables..of our own growth, proper for the Cure of those Diseases that are generated in our Elevation.

Hence † **Medicinableness.**

1660 INGELO *Bentiv. & Ur.* I. (1682) 167 The medicinableness of every one [of these fruits] is so affix'd to its own Branch that it is not communicated to another.

Medicinal (mĕdi·sĭnăl), *a.* and *sb.* [a. L. *medicīnāl-is* of or pertaining to medicine: see MEDICINE and -AL. Cf. F. *médicinal.*] A. *adj.*

1. Having healing or curative properties or attributes; adapted to medical uses. Const. *against, for.*

a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* I. 8 Ysope is a medicynall erbe. 1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 245 Medycinal Purgacions sholde bene y-makyd in this tyme. 1525 in *Vicary's Anat.* (1888) App. VIII. 214 It may be by the College considered whether the bill were medecynall, or hurtfull, to the siknes. *c* 1540 tr. *Pol. Verg. Eng. Hist.* (Camden) I. 295 His..ringe was..medicinalle againste..the fallinge sickenes. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 116 Most of the waters are medicinall. 1671 MILTON *Samson* 627 Dire inflammation which no cooling herb Or medcinal liquor can asswage. 1717 LADY M. W. MONTAGU *Let. to P'cess of Wales* 1 Apr., Here are hot baths, very famous for their medicinal virtues. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 429 The medical and medicinal treatment of aortic aneurysm.

b. *fig.*

c 1400 *Wyclif's Bible* Tit. ii. 8 (MS. *M*) Word medicynal [1382 an bool word, 1388 an boolsum word, Vulg. *sanum*]. 1502 ARNOLDE *Chron.* 174 As in the councel of Oxenford it is ..decreed that the sentence of excommunication whiche is sayd medecinall iiij tymes in the yere to be pronounced. 1561 T. NORTON *Calvin's Inst.* III. 213 All this misery of mankinde..is a medicinal sorrow, and not a penall sentence. 1678 CAVE *Prim. Chr.* III. v. (1673) 374 The medicinal vertue of Repentance, lying not in the duration, but the manner of it. 1794 COLERIDGE *To a Friend* 11 Soothing each pang with fond solicitude, And tenderest tones medicinal of love. 1870 EMERSON *Soc. & Solit., Bks.* Wks. (Bohn) III. 81 Plutarch cannot be spared from the smallest library ..because he is so..medicinal and invigorating. 1903 *Hibbert Jrnl.* Mar. 583 The preaching of Christianity as medicinal for soul and body brought success.

† 2. Of or relating to the science or the practice of medicine. *Obs.*

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) III. 363 He made problems

medicinal of phisik. *c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 7 (Add. MS.) Surgerie..is a medycineal sciense. *c* 1400 tr. *Secreta Secret., Gov. Lordsh.* 66 Y wyl delyure to þe techinge Medicynal. 1563 T. GALE *Antidot.* Pref. 1 Suche medicinal instruments, as.. are mentioned in the same bookes. *a* 1641 BP. MOUNTAGU *Acts & Mon.* (1642) 171 Certain medicinall books and writings of Trismegistus. 1685 DRYDEN *Thren. August.* v. 170 They min'd it near, they batter'd from afar With all the Cannon of the Med'cinal War. 1755 J. SHEBBEARE *Lydia* (1769) I. 178 As nonsense and medicinal knowledge are equally intelligible to most people [etc.]. 1804 *Miniature* No. 20 (1806) I. 267 The medicinal art.

b. Resembling medicine.

1824 A. HENDERSON *Wines* 314 [It] is apt to infect the liquor with a medicinal taste.

† 3. *Medicinal-finger* = LEECH-FINGER. *Medicinal day, hour, month*, times when the administration of medicine was deemed proper. *Obs.*

1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 12 b/1 The Medicinalle finger, or Ringe finger, betweene the little finger and the middle finger. 1623 tr. *Favine's Theat. Hon.* I. v. 48 The medicinall finger of the left hand. 1674 JEAKE *Arith.* (1696) 229 The time when most proper to administer Physick, called the Medicinal Moneth. 1722 QUINCY *Lex. Phys.-Med.* (ed. 2) s.v. *Medicine*, Medicinal Days, such are so called by some Writers, wherein no Crisis or Change is expected, so as to forbid the use of Medicines..: but it is most properly used for those Days, wherein Purging or any other Evacuation is most conveniently comply'd with. *Ibid.*, Medicinal Hours are commonly reckoned in the Morning fasting, about an Hour before Dinner [etc.]. 1747 tr. *Astruc's Fevers* 120 The antients divided the days of an acute fever into critical, indicatory, intercalary, and medicinal.

B. *sb.* a. A medicinal substance. † b. *pl.* Matters pertaining to medical science (*obs.*).

1382 WYCLIF *Rev.* iii. 18 Anoynte thin iȝen with colirie, [*gloss*] that is, medicynal for yȝen, maad of diuerse erbis. *a* 1657 R. LOVEDAY *Lett.* (1663) 191 'Tis possible Mr. R's directions, as one well skill'd in such medicinals, may prove available. 1667 H OLDENBURG in *Phil. Trans.* II. 410 In Medicinals we have now and then..inquired after some rarities. 1716 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* III. *Diss. Physick* 12 The knowledge of all the Medicinals, that they could come any way to be acquainted with. *Ibid.* 36 Searching into the Oriental..Medicinals. 1813 *Examiner* 15 Feb. 99/2 Brandy, medicinals, &c. 1862 LYTTON *Str. Story* II. 5 The remarkable cures he had effected by the medicinals stored in the stolen casket.

Medicinally (mĕdi·sinăli), *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY².]

1. With the purpose or effect of a medicine.

1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 65 They gave it medicinally to them which were sick of the Ptisick. 1682 DRYDEN *Medal* 150 The Witnesses, that, Leech-like, liv'd on bloud, Sucking for them were med'cinally good. 1725 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Wormwood*, That which is commonly made Use of Medicinally. 1836 J. M. GULLY *Magendie's Formul.* (ed. 2) 23 It is now..fifteen years since I first used..the muriate of morphia medicinally. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 795 The internal administration of specific remedies..is all that can be done medicinally.

fig. *a* 1711 KEN *Anodynes* Poet. Wks. 1721 III. 452 Thy Love, Lord, I in Pains perceiv'd, And sing thy Love when med'cinally griev'd.

2. † a. From the point of view of the science of medicine (*obs.*). b. *nonce-use.* In the practice of medicine.

1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* Democr. to Rdr. 69 My purpose ..is..to Anatomise this humour of Melancholy..and that philosophically, medicinally, to shew the causes .. and seuerall cures of it. 1846 POE *J. W. Francis* Wks. 1864 III. 38 Connected in some manner with everything that has been well said or done medicinally in America.

Medi·cinalness. *rare*—°. [-NESS.] Medicinal quality.

1727 BAILEY vol. II, *Physicalness*, Naturalness, also Medicinalness.

† **Medi·cinary,** *a. Obs.* [f. MEDICINE *sb.* + -ARY.] Possessing healing properties.

1607 WALKINGTON *Opt. Glass* 3 The wise Physitians medicinary prescript. 1638 *Anat. Woman's tongue* in *Harl. Misc.* (1809) II. 187 Among these weeds, to supply men's wants, There grew some medicinary plants. 1657 TOMLINSON *Renou's Disp.* 664 Medicinary Oyls are neither all, nor alwayes elicited out of Plants.

Medicine (me·ds'n, me·disin, -s'n), *sb.*[1] Forms: 3 medicin, 4 medisine, 4–5 medcyne, 4–6 medycine, 4–6 medycyne, medicyne, 5 medcyn, -ycyn, -esyn, metycyne, mettecyn, medcoyne, 5–6 medecyn(e, medicyn, 6 medecin, -yson, -ysyne, medsin, -syn, meddicine, metson, 6–9 medecine, medecen, 7 medcin, 3– medicine. [a. OF. *medecine, medicine* (mod.F. *médecine*), ad. L. *medicīna* (1) the art of the physician, (2) a physician's laboratory, (3) a medicament, remedy, f. *medic-us* physician: see MEDIC. Cf. Pr. *medecina, medicina, metzina*, Sp., Pg., It. *medicina*, G. *medizin*, Du. *medicijn*, Da., Sw. *medicin.*

For the formation of the L. word cf. *officīna* (for **opificīna*), *ruina, rapīna.* There seems to be no sufficient ground for the common view that *medicina* is the fem. of an adj. *medicinus* used with ellipsis (in the three senses respectively) of *ars* art, *officina* workshop, *rēs* thing. The adj. occurs in late L., but otherwise only in one passage of Varro (in the phrase *ars medicina*), and its formation may have been suggested by the existence of the sb.

The disyllabic pronunciation (recognized by Johnson 1755) has existed at least from the 14th c., as occasional spellings indicate. The trisyllabic pronunciation is less common in England, and is by many objected to as either pedantic or vulgar; in Scotland and in the U. S. it is app. the prevailing usage; examples of it occur in verse of all periods, from the 14th c. onwards.]

1. That department of knowledge and practice which is concerned with the cure, alleviation, and prevention of disease in human beings, and with the restoration and preservation of health. Also, in a more restricted sense, applied to that branch of this department which is the province of the physician, in the modern application of the term; the art of restoring and preserving the health of human beings by the administration of remedial substances and the regulation of diet, habits, and conditions of life; distinguished from Surgery and Obstetrics.

c 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 1204 þe fair leuedi, þe quene, Louesom vnder line And sleiȝest had y bene, And mest couþe of medicin[e]. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* I. 659 Phebus þat first fond art of medecyne. 1484 CAXTON *Fables of Avian* v, I am a maystresse in medecyne, and canne gyue remedy to al manere of sekenes by myn arte. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xxxiii. 30 He murdreist mony in medecyne. 1550 LYNDESAY *Sqr. Meldrum* 1446 And, als, be his naturall ingyne, He lernit the Art of Medicyne. 1641 WILKINS *Math. Magick* I. i. (1648) 3 Art may be said, either to imitate nature, as in limming and pictures, or to help nature, as in medicine. 1725 WATTS *Logic* I. vi. § 10 Medicine is justly distributed into Prophylactick..and Therapeutick. 1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* vii, The peaceful man of medicine. 1866 A. FLINT *Princ. Med.* (1880) 17 Medicine, in the largest sense of the term, comprehends everything pertaining to the knowledge and cure of disease. In a more restricted sense, the term is used in contradistinction to Surgery and Obstetrics. 1891 C. JAMES *Rom. Rigmarole* 93, I took up medicine again in England.

2. Any substance or preparation used in the treatment of disease; a medicament; also, medicaments generally, 'physic'. Now commonly restricted to medicaments taken internally.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 178 Þu seist þet te nis no neod medicine. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 3073 Vor in þe verroste stede of affric geans wule vette þulke stones vor medicine..Vor hii wolde þe stones wasse & þer inne bapie. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 1378 Cedre, ciprese, and pine, O þam sal man haue medicen. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* VII. lxix. (1495) 288 Medycyne maye neuer be sykerly take, yf the cause of the euyll is vnknowe. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 93 He had burnyd his hand ill, & his brethir come & made a medcyn & layd þer-vnto. 1464 M. PASTON in *P. Lett.* II. 160 For Goddys sake be war what medesyns ye take of any fysissyans of London. 1513 BRADSHAW *St. Werburge* II. 853 All phisike and medicyns were founde to her in vayne. 1565 T. STAPLETON *Fortr. Faith* 110 b, The more he fancieth his metson, the better it shall proue with him. 1612 WOODALL *Surg. Mate* Wks. (1653) 3 Have ready your medicines to bind up the wound again. 1657 TRAPP *Comm. Job* xvi. 3 If the eye be inflamed, the mildest Medicine troubleth it. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 685 From the Founts where living Sulphurs boil, They mix a Med'cine to foment their Limbs. 1741–3 WESLEY *Extract of Jrnl.* (1749) 15 One of the mistresses lay..near death, having found no help from all the medicines she had taken. 1842 A. COMBE *Physiol. Digestion* (ed. 4) 369 The action of the bowels may be restored with little or no aid from medicine. 1850 TENNYSON in H. Tennyson *Mem.* (1897) I. 334 Having heard that Henry Taylor was ill, Carlyle rushed off from London to Sheen with a bottle of medicine.

transf. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 600 Their old men..they strangle with an Oxe-taile, which medicine they minister likewise to those that have grieuous diseases.

b. Colloquially used *spec.* for: 'A purging potion' (Dunglison *Med. Lex.*, 1857). Chiefly in *to take* (†*a*) *medicine.* Cf. F. *prendre* (*une*) *médecine.*

1830 SOUTHEY in *For. Rev. & Cont. Misc.* V. 290 On the day when signal was made for sailing, he had taken a medicine, which was in those times considered a more serious affair than it is now.

† c. A method or process of curative treatment.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 267 So longe thei togedre dele, That thei upon this medicine Apointen hem..That..Thei wolde him bathe in childes blod. 1575 LANEHAM *Let.* (1871) 35 Kings & Quéenz of this Realm, withoout oother medsin (saue only by handling & prayerz), only doo cure it [the king's evil].

† d. An effectual remedy, cure. *Obs.*

1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 47 Ne hyd it noght, for if thou feignest, I can do the no medicine. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 6140 Scho gat sone medecyne Of þe sekenes þat had hir pynde. 1529 RASTELL *Pastyme* (1811) 32 Arnold..was etyn with lyse, and coud have no medecin, and dyed.

e. *fig.* In 14–15th c. often applied to Christ or the Virgin Mary.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 164 Þuruh medicine of schrifte, & þuruh bireousunge. *c* 1315 SHOREHAM II. 136 Suche a deaþ a [*sc.* be, Christ] vnder-ȝede, Of lyf þe medicine. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. I. 33 Mesure is Medicine þauh þou muche ȝeorne. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Serm.* Sel. Wks. II. 224 Medicyne for alle siche synne is, to be clobid in Jesus Crist. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 157 Medycyne here-of is, ferst to caste out þe wose of glotonye. *c* 1450 HOLLAND *Howlat* 719 Haile moder of our maker, and medicyn of myss! 1522 MORE *De quat. Noviss.* Wks. 93/1 To putte in proofe..thoperacion..of this medicine, the remembraunce of these foure last thinges. 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* III. i. 2 The miserable haue no other medicine But onely hope. 1638 *Penit. Conf.* vii. (1657) 161 If any of their sins were deemed fit by the Confessor to come abroad in publick, they were admitted to that publick Medicine. 1787 JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1859) II. 194 It is, indeed, a strong medicine for sensible minds, but it is a medicine. 1842 MISS MITFORD in L'Estrange *Life* (1870) III. ix. 157 He finds in constant employment a medicine for great grief.

† 3. Applied to drugs used for other than remedial purposes: e.g. to the philosopher's stone or elixir, to cosmetics, poisons, philtres, etc. *Obs.*

c 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) vii. 24 If þaim think þam noȝt hlak ynough when þai er borne, þai vse certayne medecynes for to make þam black withall. 1477 NORTON *Ord. Alch.* i. in Ashm. (1652) 20 But to make trew Silver or Gold is noe ingin, Except only the Philosophers medicine. 1555 W. WATREMAN *Fardle Facions* II. ix. N ij, Then enoint thei both that [*sc.* the body] and their face with certaine medicines .. whereby thei become .. slicke and smothe. *Ibid.* App. X viij b, No Israelite shall haue any medecine of death, ne otherwise made to do anye maner of hurte. 1580 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 337 Knowest thou not, that Fish caught with medicines, and women gotten with witchcraft are neuer wholesom? 1596 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. IV*, II. ii. 19 If the Rascall haue not giuen me medicines to make me loue him, Ile be hang'd. 1601 — *All's Well* v. iii. 102. 1604 — *Oth.* I. iii. 61. 1615 CHAPMAN *Odyss.* XII. 368 And as an Angler medcine for surprise Of little fish, sits powring from the rocks.

fig. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 463 God haþ ordeyned medicyn to knowe falsed of anticrist.

4. Used to represent the terms applied in their native languages by North American Indians to denote any object or ceremony supposed by them to possess a magical influence; a spell, charm, fetish; sometimes = MANITOU. Hence used, by later writers, to express the same or similar meanings as current among other savage peoples.

As savages usually regard the operation of medicines as due to what we should call magic, it is probable that their words for magical agencies would often be first heard by civilized men as applied to medicine, and hence it would be natural that 'medicine' should be regarded as their primary sense.

1805 PIKE *Sources Mississ.* (1810) 17 This they called their great medicine; or as I understood the word, dance of religion. 1807 P. GASS *Jrnl.* 44 He told them..he had more medecine..than would kill twenty such nations in one day. 1841 CATLIN *N. Amer. Ind.* (1844) I. vi. 35 The word medicine ..means mystery, and nothing else. 1850 R. G. CUMMING *Hunter's Life S. Afr.* (ed. 2) I. 274 They [the Bechuana tribes] also believe that for every transaction there is a medicine which will enable the possessor to succeed in his object. 1851 MAYNE REID *Scalp Hunt.* xxvi, All these are their 'coats' of arms, symbolical of the 'medicine' of the wearer. 1870 LUBBOCK *Orig. Civiliz.* vii. (1875) 323 When he sleeps the first animal of which he dreams becomes his 'medicine'. 1877 DODGE *Hunting Grounds Gt. West* 309 It [a 'scalp'] had been carefully cured, and peculiar value was set upon it as 'big medicine'.

b. = *medicine-man.*

1817 J. BRADBURY *Trav. Amer.* 70 Eleven Sioux Indians, who had given or devoted their clothes to the medicine, ran into the camp. 1827 J. F. COOPER *Prairie* II. xii. 199 The incantations of the medicine.

5. *slang.* Intoxicating drink. (Cf. *lotion, poison.*)

1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* (1864) II. 24/1 As long as you can find young men that's conceited about their musical talents, fond of taking their medicine (drinking). 1891 FARMER *Slang* s. v. *Drinks*, What's your medicine?

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

a. In sense 2: *medicine bottle, chest, -dropper, -mixer, -monger, -taker*; *medicine-like* adj.; **medicine seal, stamp**, a name for small cubical or oblong stones with inscriptions in intaglio, found among Roman remains, which seem to have been used by physicians for marking their drugs (also called *oculist-stamp, oculist's stamp*); **medicine tree**, the horse-radish tree (see HORSE-RADISH 3).

1862 *Chambers's Encycl.* IV. 777/1 *Medicine bottles. 1828 RYMER (*title*) A Treatise on Diet and Regimen..To which are added a Posological Table, or *medicine chest directory [etc.]. 1841 MARRYAT *Masterman Ready* xiii, The grindstone and Mrs. Seagrave's medicine chest were then landed. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 565 At short intervals by a spoon or *medicine-dropper, [he] should have small quantities of his mother's milk. *c* 1555 LADY VANE *Let.* in Foxe *A. & M.* (1583) 1829 His sweetenesse..maketh al these poticary druggs of yᵉ world, euen *medicinelike in my mouth. 1860 J. C. JEAFFRESON *Bk. about Doctors* I. 79 The mean *medicine-mixers..dashing hy in their carriages. 1651 WITTIE tr. *Primrose's Pop. Err.* I. iv. 13, I see no reason ..that some divines may not be more learned than some *Medicine-mongers. 1795 *Fortnight's Ramble* 33 Uncounted are the candidates for fame, who humbly crouched to this mock medicine-monger. 1849 C. ROACH SMITH in *Jrnl. Brit. Archæol. Assoc.* IV. 280 On a Roman *medicine stamp..found at Kenchester. 1851 SIMPSON in *Monthly Jrnl. Med. Sci.* XII. 39 Notices of ancient Roman Medicine-stamps..found in Great Britain. *Ibid.* 238 Roman *medicine-seals. 1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 87 Yf þe sonne and þe mone bothe be yn tokenynge fleumatyk, lightly þe *medicyn takere shal forth lede. 1902 WEBSTER *Suppl.*, **Medicine tree*, the horse-radish tree.

b. In sense 4: *medicine animal, arrow, bag, chief, dance, fast, hunt, lodge, pouch, song, stone*; **medicine-man**, a magician among the American Indians and other savages.

1871 TYLOR *Prim. Cult.* XV. II. 211 The worship paid by the North American Indian to his *medicine animal [etc.]. 1877 W. MATTHEWS *Ethnogr. Hidatsa* 69 They stuck their *medicine-arrows in the ground. 1809 A. HENRY *Trav.* 122 One, who was a physician, immediately withdrew, in order to fetch his *penegusan*, or *medicine-bag. 1851 MAYNE REID *Scalp Hunt.* xl. 312 One was the *medicine chief as I could tell by the flowing white hair. 1808 PIKE *Sources Mississ.* (1810) 132 Dr. Robinson and myself went to the Grand Village, at which we saw the great *medecine dance. 1855 LONGF. *Hiaw.* XV. 145 Then they.. Danced their medicine-dance around him. 1898 A. LANG *Making Relig.* iii. 61 The *medicine-fast, at the age of puberty. 1887 — *Myth, Ritual, & Relig.* II. 74 The ritual.. is a mere *medicine-hunt. 1814 BRACKENRIDGE *Jrnl.* in

Views Louisiana 258 A great number of girls were collected before the *medecine lodge or temple. 1817 J. Bradbury *Trav. Amer.* 116, I was accosted by the *Medicine Man, or doctor. 1855 Longf. *Hiaw.* xv. 87 The medicine-men, the Medas. *Ibid.* 143 Then they shook their *medicine-pouches O'er the head of Hiawatha. 1809 A. Henry *Trav.* 119 In his hand, he had his *shishiquoi*, or rattle, with which he beat time to his *medicine-song. 1885 Henshaw in *Amer. Jrnl. Archæol.* I. 110 The use of the *medicine-stones among the San Buenaventura Indians.

† **Me·dicine**, *sb.*2 *Obs.* [a. F. *médecin*, ad. late L. *medicīnus* adj. (see prec.) used *absol.* as *sb.*] A medical practitioner. Also *fig.*

a 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* 137 She hadde her medicines and surgens forto hele and medicine alle such as were needfulle. 1484 Caxton *Fables of Æsop* (1889) 66, I dyssymyled and fayned my self to be a medycyn. 1545 Raynold *Byrth Mankynde* 92 Aske, and vse the aduyse of some wel learned medicine [*ed.* 1634 II. vii. 139 medicioner]. 1601 Shaks. *All's Well* II. i. 75, I haue seen a medicine That's able to breath life into a stone. 1632 Lithgow *Trav.* VIII. 370 [There] flourished the most famous medicines, and Philosophers.

Medicine (me·ds'n, me·disin, -s'n), *v.* Forms: see Medicine *sb.*1 [a. OF. *medeciner* (mod.F. *médeciner*), f. *medecine* Medicine *sb.*1]

1. *trans.* To heal or cure by medicinal means; to administer medicine to.

a 1450 [see Medicine *sb.*1]. 1484 Caxton *Fables of Æsop* (1889) 62 He desyred to be medycyned and made hole of his foote. 1577 B. Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* (1586) 149 Afore they go to pasture, they [pigs] must be medecined. 1595 Spenser *Col. Clout* 877 Being hurt, seeke to be medicynd Of her that first did stir that mortall stownd. 1605 Bacon *Adv. Learn.* II. xxii. § 6 As in medicining of the body, it is in order first to know the divers complexions and constitutions..; so in medicining of the mind [etc.]. 1877 Ruskin *Fors Clav.* lxxv. VII. 75 It [a dog] was warmed and medicined as best might be. 1889 J. Masterman *Scotts of Bestminster* III. xiv. 29 She could medicine the sick.

b. *nonce-use.* To bring by medicinal virtue *to.*

1604 Shaks. *Oth.* III. iii. 332 Not Poppy, nor Mandragora ..Shall euer medicine thee to that sweete sleepe Which thou owd'st yesterday. 1820 Shelley *Witch Atl.* xvii.

2. *transf.* and *fig.*

1593 Abp. Bancroft *Daung. Posit.* III. xv. 127 To medicine these mischiefes. 1601 Holland *Pliny* I. 544 All remedies to others are mischiefs to it [the cypress tree], and in one word, go about to medicine it you kil it. 1611 Shaks. *Cymb.* IV. ii. 243 Great greefes I see med'cine the lesse. 1645 Milton *Tetrach.* Wks. 1851 IV. 201 Thus med'cining our eyes wee need not doubt to see more into the meaning of these our Saviours words. *c* 1750 Shenstone *Elegies* xx. 68 Where ev'ry breeze shall med'cine ev'ry wound. 1868 E. Edwards *Ralegh* I. xxii. 504 Cares, as usual with Ralegh, were medicined by strenuous and varied labour.

3. *nonce-use.* To employ as medicine.

1654 Gayton *Pleas. Notes* III. iii. 78 Get me these ingredients..Such as the bearded sonne of the smooth-chinn'd Father Apollo us'd and medicin'd.

Hence † **Medicined** *ppl. a.*, medicated, drugged.

1558 Phaer *Æneid.* VI. Argt., Æneas..casting Cerberus in a sleape with a medcined soppe. *a* 1637 B. Jonson *Underwoods* lviii, As men drinke up In hast the bottome of a med'cin'd Cup, And take some sirrup after.

Mediciner (mĭdi·sinəɹ, me·dsĭnəɹ). *arch.* (in early use chiefly *Sc.*) Also 6 **medycyner**, 4 **medycinar**, 4–7 **medicinar**, 5 **medicinare**, 6 **medicinar, metsouner**. Cf. Medicianer. [f. Medicine *sb.*1 or *v.* + -er1: cf. OF. *medecineur.*]

1. A physician, 'medical man', 'leech'.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxxvi. (*Baptista*) 1071 Þan come diuerse medicinaris nere, for wynninge of his stat to spere. 1456 Sir G. Haye *Law Arms* (S. T. S.) 138 A medicinare may geve hele till a man that askis it nocht. 1533 (*title*) Pronostycacyon of Mayster John Thybault, medycyner and astronomer of the Emperyall maiestie. *a* 1578 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S. T. S.) II. 127 Lord James.. quha was hangit be the heillis be the metsouneris to caus the poysone to drop out. *a* 1670 Spalding *Troub. Chas. I* (1829) 87 Dr. Gordon, medicinar in Old Aberdeen. 1828 Scott *F. M. Perth* xv, 'He who lacks strength', said the wily mediciner, 'must attain his purpose by skill'. 1873 Ruskin *Fors Clav.* xxxi. 20 How many second-rate mediciners have lived on..prescriptions of bread pills.

2. *nonce-uses.* a. Used to translate Gr. *φαρμακεύς*, poisoner, sorcerer. b. Used for *medicine man.*

1845 J. H. Newman *Ess. Development* iv. § 1. 224 'Wizard, mediciner, cheat, rogue, conjurer', were the epithets applied to him by the opponents of Eusebius. *Ibid.* 225 St. Anastasia was thrown into prison as a mediciner. 1859 R. F. Burton *Centr. Afr.* in *Jrnl. Geog. Soc.* XXIX. 271 His forehead is adorned with the two little antelope-horns worn by sultans and mediciners.

Medicining (me·ds'niŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. Medicine *v.* + -ing1.] The action of the vb. Medicine.

1577 B. Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* III. (1586) 139 It behoooeth the shepehearde to be skilfull in medcening of his cattell. 1601 Holland *Pliny* II. 167 If they [*sc.* figs] be brought unto their maturitie by medicining, that is to say, by caprification, then they are never good. 1611 Cotgr., *Pharmacie*: a curing, or medecining with drugs. 1633 T. Adams *Exp. 2 Peter* ii. 22. 1089 The medicining of the one, and cleansing of the other, did not take away their nature; still the one remained a Dogge, the other a Hogge. 1867 Carlyle *Remin.* II. 135 She..having..a turn herself for medicining. 1876 Ruskin *Fors Clav.* lxvii. 204 They..propose to themselves the general medicining..of the population.

Medicioner, variant of Medicianer *Obs.*

Medick (mĕ·dik). Also 5 **medike**, 6–7 **medicke**, 6–9 **medic**, 8 **meddick**. [ad. L. *mēdica*, ad. Gr. Μηδική (πόα), lit. 'Median grass'.] Any plant of the genus *Medicago*, esp. *M. sativa*, Purple medick or Lucerne. (Also *medick fodder, trefoil.*) *Black* or *Hop medick* = Nonesuch.

c 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* v. 1 At Auerel medike is forto sowe. 1562 Turner *Herbal* II. 52, I haue found no name as yet in England for it [*Medica*]: but it may be called horned clauer or medic fother. 1616 Surfl. & Markh. *Country Farme* 147 The flowers of Medicke fodder. 1733 Miller *Gard. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Medica marina*..Sea Medick or Snail-Trefoil. 1764 *Museum Rust.* II. xlvii. 139 The new lucern is a kind of medick trefoil. 1816–20 T. Green *Univ. Herbal* II. 102 *Medicago Falcata*, Yellow Medick. *Ibid.*, *Medicago Lupulina*, Hop or Black Medick. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XV. 58/2 Purple medick.

Medico (me·diko). [a. It. *medico* or Sp. *médico*: see Medic.]

1. A medical practitioner; also, a medical student. Now *slang* or *jocular.*

1689 G. Harvey *Curing Dis. by Expect.* xv. 115 It is in the power of the Medico, to oblige the Husband. 1844 Kinglake *Eothen* xviii. 308 The Medico held my chin in the usual way, and examined my throat. 1896 *Field* 1 Feb. 173/2 Again did the Medicos force the ball down.

‖ 2. *Sp. Amer.* The surgeon fish.

1902 in Webster *Suppl.*

Medico- (me·diko), used as combining form of L. *medicus* to form combinations denoting the application of medical science to various subjects of research, as *medico-botanic(al*, *-chirurgical*, *-culinary*, *-electric*, *-galvanic*, *-judicial*, *-legal* (hence *-legally* adv.), *-moral*, *-pedagogic*, *-philosophical*, *-physical*, *-psychological*, *-statistical*, *-zoological* adjs.; or (rarely) describing a person who regards a subject from a medical standpoint, as in † *medico-theologue*; also **medico-mania**, 'a mania for the science of medicine without the necessary study' (Dunglison 1876).

1838 *Prospectus Gardens Roy. Bot. Soc.* in *Civil Engineer* I, *Medico-Botanic Garden. 1838 *Civil Engineer* I. 361/2 Having passed under the promenade, we reach the *medico-botanical garden. 1809 (*title*) *Medico-chirurgical Transactions, published by the Medical and Chirurgical Society of London. Volume the First. 1858 Gen. P. Thompson *Audi Alt.* II. lxxviii. 32 *Medico-culinary philosophers of great mark. 1875 T. P. Salt (*title*) *Medico-Electric Apparatus and How to Use it. 1862 *Catal. Internat. Exhib.* II. xvii. 120/1 Galvano-Piline for *medico-galvanic purposes. 1835 I. Taylor *Spir. Despot.* III. 97 The delicate offices entrusted to them [*sc.* professors of medicine] in several *medico-judicial instances. 1835 *Cycl. Pract. Med.* IV. 558/1 Circumstances affecting the *medico-legal character of wounds. 1870 M. Gonzalez Echeverria (*title*, New York), The trial of 'John Reynolds' *medico-legally considered. 1866 Reade *G. Gaunt* (ed. 2) II. 265 A sort of *medico-moral diary. 1904 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 17 Sept. 679 Many of the children had much improved under the *medico-pedagogic treatment to which they had been subjected. 1698 Tyson in *Phil. Trans.* XX. 132 Two *Medico-Philosophical Dissertations about these Tophi. 1720 Quincy (*title*) Medicina Statica,..to which is added..*Medico-Physical Essays on Agues [etc.]. 1890 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, **Medico-psychological*, relating to the department of medicine which treats of mental disorders. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 30 The *medico-statistical point of view. 1712 *H. More's Antid. Ath.* III. xi. *Scholia* 174 He professes himself a *Medico-Theologue. 1861 Hulme tr. *Moquin-Tandon* Pref. 6 An arrangement founded upon the characters of the animal, or its medico-zoological relations.

Medicommissure (mĕdikǫ·misiŭɹ). *Anat.* Also **medio-**. [f. L. *medi-us* middle + Commissure.] The middle commissure of the brain.

1882 Wilder & Gage *Anat. Techn.* 446 The mediocommissure. 1885 B. G. Wilder in *Jrnl. Nerv. Dis.* XII. 287. 1890 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

† **Me·dics**, *sb. pl. Obs.* [pl. of Medic: see -ic 2.] The science of medicine.

1663 J. Spencer *Prodigies* (1665) 402 In Medicks, we have some confident Undertakers to rescue the Science from all its reproaches and dishonors. 1695 J. Edwards *Perfect. Script.* 180 Apollo was..made by the antient sages the God of medicks as well as musick. 1737 Stackhouse *Hist. Bible* (1752) II. VII. i. 1018/2 The Masters of the Medicks who have treated of this Kind of Madness [etc.].

† **Medie**, *v. Obs. rare.* [ad. late L. *mediāre*: see Mediate *v.*] *trans.* To divide into two equal parts; to halve.

c 1425 *Craft Nombrynge* (E.E.T.S.) 15 Þen medye 4 & þen leues 2. *Ibid.* 16 Þou schalt..do away þat figure þat is medied, & sette in his styde halfe of þat nombre.

Mediety (mĭdəi·əti). [ad. L. *medietās* (whence OF. *moietié* Moiety; OF. had also the learned form *medieté*), f. *medius* middle: see -ty.]

1. † a. *gen.* A half. *Obs.*

c 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* XI. 288 The muste, decoct to his medietee Or thridde part, they casteth to their wyne. 1571 Digges *Pantom.* II. iv. M ij b, 140, whose medietie being 70, diuided by 14, yeldeth 5. 1590 Barrough *Meth. Physick* v. xxiv. (1596) 343 The common measure or quantity therof [*sc.* of the dose of arsenic], is the mediety of one graine of wheate. 1603 Sir C. Heydon *Jud. Astrol.* xxi. 449 The medietie of the Moones globe was allwaies illustrated which is towardes the sunne. 1686 Goad *Celest. Bodies* I. xvi. 106 Let us consider the Occidental Mediety of Heaven.

b. *spec.* in *Law.* = Moiety. Chiefly with reference to ecclesiastical benefices.

a 1661 Fuller *Worthies, Warw.* (1662) II. 126 That good Mannour (with the alternate gift of the Mediety of the rich Parsonage therein). 1834 Southey *Doctor* xlii. (1862) 100 A rectory of two medieties, served by two resident rectors. 1877 J. C. Cox *Ch. Derbysh.* III. 212 Sir Henry Chandos succeeded to the mediety of the Mugginton manor. 1894 A. Jessopp *Random Roaming*, etc. 186 This benefice consists of two medieties.

† 2. Middle or intermediate state, position, or quality. *Obs.*

1573 G. Harvey *Letter-bk.* (Camden) 135 A very compounde of contrarietyes In thinges indifferent and medietyes. 1610 Healey *St. Aug. Citie of God* IX. xiii. (1620) 333 In seeking a mediety betweene immortality blessed and mortality wretched. *a* 1639 Wotton in *Reliq.* (1685) 661 The Pope means..to carry himself as it were in a Mediety between the King of Spain, and the great Duke. *c* 1645 Howell *Lett.* (1655) I. vi. xiv. 258 This Cahal..was reveal'd ..to Solomon in a dream, wherby he came to know the beginning, mediety, and consummation of times. 1651 Biggs *New Disp.* § 183 It ought to consist in a mediety, betwixt corrupt and very sound bloud.

† 3. Moderation. (Cf. Mean *sb.*2) *Obs.*

1583 Stubbes *Anat. Abus.* I. sig. I *marg.*, Medietie to be observed in meats.

† 4. *Math.* The quality of being a mean between two quantities; hence = Mean *sb.*2 8. *Obs.*

1598 J. D. tr. *L. Le Roy's Aristotle's Polit.* V. 250 Similitude or likenesse of proportions, and equality, and mediety. 1603 Holland *Plutarch's Mor.* 1255 Three sorts of primitive Medieties there be,..to wit, Arithmeticall, Geometricall, and Harmonicall. 1678 Cudworth *Intell. Syst.* I. iv. § 20. 376 The Tetrad is an arithmetical mediety betwixt the Monad and the Hebdomad. 1694 Holder *Harmony* iv. 47 Now in 4 to 2 the Mediety is 3. *Ibid.* vii. 168 These two divide Diapason, 64 to 32, by the Mediety of 45; And they divide it so near to Equality, that in Practice they are hardly to be distinguished.

Medifixed (mī·difikst), *a. Bot.* [f. L. *medi-us* middle + Fixed; after mod.L. *medifixus*, F. *médifixe.*] Fixed by the middle; said of anthers.

1880 A. Gray *Struct. Bot.* 253 Adnate anthers are perhaps as frequently extrorse as introrse. Others, whether basifixed or medifixed, are more commonly introrse.

‖ **Medifurca** (mīdifū·kăkă). *Ent.* [mod.L., f. L. *medi-us* middle + *furca* fork.] The middle forked apodeme which serves for the attachment of the muscles by which the midlegs of insects are moved. Hence **Medifu·rcal** *a.* (*Cent. Dict.*).

1826 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* III. 379 *Medifurca* (the Medifurca). A branching vertical process of the endosternum.

† **Medify**, *v. Obs. rare.* [Badly f. L. *medicus* physician + -fy.] *trans.* To heal, cure.

c 1470 Harding *Chron.* lxxii. xiii. All his sores to be medifyed. *Ibid.* lxxxiv. ii, But this Mordred gaue Arthure deaths wond, For which he gode his woundes to medifie.

Mediglacial (mīdiglē·ʃăl), *a. rare*—1. [f. L. *medi-us* middle + Glacial *a.*] Mid-glacial; in the midst of glaciers.

1823 Scoresby *North. Whale Fishery* 50 During the next day we traced the limits of our mediglacial sea.

Medil (l, obs. forms of Meddle, Middle.

Medimn (mĭdi·m). *Antiq. rare.* Also 7 **medimne**. [ad. L. *medimnus*, a. Gr. μέδιμνος. Cf. F. *médimne.* English writers usually employ the Latin form; pl. *medimni.*] An ancient Greek measure of capacity, equal to about 12 gallons.

1600 Holland *Livy* xxxviii. xiii. 990 The Consull imposed upon them a paiment of..10000 medimnes of wheat. 1658 Phillips, *Medimne*, a certain measure, containing six bushels. 1870 Robinson *Archæol. Græca* I. ii. 23 Those who were worth five-hundred medimns of commodities were placed in the first class. [1847 Grote *Greece* II. xi. III. 155 Those whose annual income was equal to 500 medimni of corn .. and upwards, one medimnus being considered equivalent to one drachma in money.]

‖ **Medine** (medī·n). Also 6, 9 **medin**, 6 **madyne, madayne, madien**, 7 **madin, madein, meydine, meidin**, 8 **medina**, 9 **medeen, medino**. [a. F. *medin* (Cotgr.), a. vulgar Arab. *mayyidī*, corrupt form of مؤيّدي *mu'ayyidiy*, from the name *Mu'ayyad*: see below.] Originally, a silver half-dirhem first issued by the Sultan al-Mu'ayyad (15th c.); latterly, a copper coin current in Egypt, Syria, etc., valued at $\frac{1}{20}$ of a piastre, or $\frac{1}{80}$ of a penny. (The Turkish name is Para; in Egyptian Arabic it was commonly called *faḍḍa*h, i. e. 'silver'.)

1583 J. Newbery in *Hakluyt's Voy.* (1599) II. I. 247, 40 medins maketh a duckat. — *Let.* in Purchas *Pilgrims* (1625) II. IX. 1643 Nutmegs fortie fiue Madynes, Ginger the Batman, one ducket Pepper seuentie fiue Madaynes. 1584 W. Barret in *Hakluyt's Voy.* (1599) II. I. 271, 47 medines passe in value as the duckat of gold of Venice. 1615 G. Sandys *Trav.* (1621) 153 Paying by the way two Medines a head. 1753 Br. Clayton *Jrnl. fr. Cairo to Sinai* 5 Sept. 1722 *note*, A medina is 1d½ English money. 1819 T. Hope *Anastasius* (1820) II. ii. 38 My Coobtic writer, who, with a salary of six medeens a day,..had become..as rich as a Sultan's seraf. 1833 J. Bennett *Artificer's Compl. Lex.*, *Medin*, in Egypt 3 aspers; at Aleppo is [etc.].

Medio- (mī·dio), used *Zool.* and *Bot.* as combining form of L. *medius* middle, in various adjs. descriptive of parts and organs of animals and plants, with the sense either 'relating to the middle of' (an organ or part), as in *medio-carpal*, *-colic*, *-digital*, *-dorsal* (hence *medio-dorsally* adv.), *-frontal* (also *absol.* = 'medio-frontal suture'), *-lateral*, *-occipital*, *-palatine* (also *absol.* = 'medio-palatine bone'), *-pontine*, *-stapedial* (*absol.* in quots.), *-tarsal*, *-ventral*; or 'in the middle', as in *medio-depressed*, *-perforate*; also in medio-

inferior, -posterior = 'lower middle', 'posterior-middle' (margin).

1890 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, **Medio-carpal*, relating to the middle of the carpus. 1871 W. A. Leighton *Lichen-Flora* 78 Subpeltate, *medio-depressed, margin white crenulate [etc.]. 1852 Dana *Crust.* I. 625 Species with a *medio-dorsal spine. 1882 Vines *Sachs' Bot.* 449 The first leaf is the scutiform leaf .. which is placed *medio-dorsally. 1865 Thurnam in *Nat. Hist. Rev.* Apr. 246 The almost infallible closure of the *medio-frontal. 1849 Dana *Geol.* App. I. (1850) 698 [The] straight *medio-inferior margin, parallel with the dorsal. 1854 Owen *Skel. & Teeth* in *Circ. Sci., Org. Nat.* I. 214 The *medio-lateral pieces as..developments of the ribs. 1890 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, **Medio-occipital*, relating to the middle of the occipital region. 1884 Coues *Key N. Amer. Birds* (ed. 2) 173 The most marked *medio-palatine ossification...Such are..formations which, like the medio-palatine, serve to bind the palate halves together. 1879 W. A. Leighton *Lichen-Flora* (ed. 3) 516 **Medio-perforate*, perforated in the centre. 1890 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, **Medio-pontine*, relating to the middle of the pons varolii. 1852 Dana *Crust.* I. 625 *Medio-posterior spine small, very remote from posterior margin. 1875 W. K. Parker in *Encycl. Brit.* III. 702/2 The bar itself is the '*medio-stapedial'..; it will soon segment itself off from the ear-capsule. 1890 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, **Medio-stapedial*, the middle third of the columella of the ear in the frog. 1884 Coues *Key N. Amer. Birds* (ed. 2) 121 *note*, A bird's ankle-joint is..between proximal and distal series of tarsal bones, and therefore **medio*-tarsal as in reptiles. 1870 Rolleston *Anim. Life* Introd. 40 Reflected upwards from the *medio-ventral line.

† **Medio·cral,** *a. Obs.* [f. Mediocre + -al.]

1. 'Being of a middle quality; indifferent; ordinary; as *mediocral* intellect' (Webster 1828–32 citing Addison).

2. *Ent.* Of middle size; *spec.* (see quot.).

1826 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* IV. 317 *Mediocral*, when [the antennæ are] of the length of the body.

Mediocre (mī·diōukəɹ), *a.* and *sb.* [a. F. *médiocre*, ad. L. *mediocris* of middle degree, quality, or rank, f. *medi-us* middle.

Formerly often printed in italics and with accent as Fr.]

A. *adj.* Of middling quality; neither bad nor good; indifferent. Said chiefly of literary or artistic works, ability, or knowledge, and hence of persons considered with reference to their mental power or skill.

1586 A. Day *Eng. Secretary* I. (1625) 10 Mediocre [*sc.* style] a meane betwixt high and low, vehement and slender. 1659 Macallo *Can. Physick* 97 A larger diet must be granted to children then to old folks, and a mediocre to those of a middle age. 1742 Pope *Let. to Warburton* 27 Nov., A very mediocre poet, one Drayton, is yet taken some notice of, because Selden writ a few notes on one of his poems. 1797 *Monthly Mag.* III. 29 There are four silver clasps..the style of the engraving of which is but *médiocre*. 1815 Jane Austen *Emma* II. xiv, My performance is *médiocre* to the last degree. 1829 Lytton *Devereux* I. iii, His talent was of that mechanical, yet quick nature, which makes wonderful boys, but *médiocre* men. 1847–8 H. Miller *First Impr.* iii. (1857) 34 We enter the suburbs, and pass through mediocre streets of brick. 1865 Carlyle *Fredk. Gt.* XXI. iv. (1872) X. 17 It is thus that mediocre people seek to lower great men. 1880 Vern. Lee *Stud. Italy* III. ii. 104 He held up to contempt all that was mediocre in his art. 1884 *Graphic* 18 Oct. 410/3 Captain Ross's Welsh cow gave 46 lb. of mediocre milk.

absol. 1884 Sir R. Harrington in *Law Times* LXXVII. 393/2 The mediocre..always form numerically the largest portion of every profession. 1903 *Speaker* 17 Oct. 61/1 The result would be a kind of nightmare of the mediocre, a universal Brixton.

B. *sb.* Only *pl.* Mediocre persons. *rare.*

1834–43 Southey *Doctor* (ed. 2) I. 187 The mediocres in every grade aim at pleasing the public 1893 D. Pryde *Pleas. Mem.* ix. 131 You must bring forward the whole rank and file—duxes, mediocres, dullards, and dunces.

Me·diocrist. Now *rare.* [f. Mediocre + -ist.] A person of middling talents or ability.

1787 Hawkins *Johnson* 271 If he be but a mediocrist, he is surely not a subject of imitation; it being a rule, that of examples the best are always to be selected. 1797 Mrs. A. M. Bennett *Beggar Girl* (1813) I. 211 They danced well, sung a little..and were indeed mediocrists in all female accomplishments. 1818 Todd [quotes Swift *Let. Pope* 3 Sep. 1735; but the early edd. have 'among the *mediocribus*']. 1823 in *Spirit Pub. Jrnls.* 170 Warburton draws a very just distinction between a man of true greatness and a mediocrist. 1903 *Sat. Rev.* 12 Dec. 722 Mr. —, the cultured mediocrist, so rarely relaxes the firm hold he has on commonplace,..that [etc.].

† **Mediocriture.** *Obs.* [irreg. f. L. *mediocris* Mediocre + -ture.] Moderation.

1574 Newton *Health Magist.* 77 An expedient Mediocriture of seasonable exercise.

Mediocrity (mīdiɒ·krĭti). Also 5–6 **-crite**, 6 **-critye**, 6–7 **-critie**. [a. F. *médiocrité*, ad. L. *mediocritās*, f. *mediocris* : see Mediocre and -ity.]

1. The quality or condition of being intermediate between two extremes; mean state or condition, mediety. Also, something (a quality, position, etc.) equally removed from two opposite extremes; a mean. (Chiefly as a quasi-technical term, with reference to the Aristotelian theory of 'the mean'. Now *rare.*)

1531 Elyot *Gov.* III. viii, Fortitude..is a Mediocritie or meane betwene two extremities. 1532 Sir B. Tuke in Thynne *Chaucer's Wks.* A ij, Such sensyble and open style, lackyng neither maieste ne mediocrite couenable in disposycion. 1579 E. K. in *Spenser's Sheph. Cal.* July *Embl.*, Albeit all bountye dwelleth in mediocritie, yet perfect felicitye dwelleth in supremacie. 1609 Overbury *Observ.* Wks. (ed. Rimbault) 251 At fifteene they quit bookes, and begin to live in the world, when indeed a mediocritie betwixt their forme of education and ours would doe better then either. 1645 Milton *Tetrach.* Wks. 1851 IV. 233 As the offence was in one extreme, so the rebuke, to bring more efficaciously to a rectitude and mediocrity, stands not in the middle way of duty, but in the other extreme. 1650 Hobbes *De Corp. Pol.* 41 The common Opinion, that Virtue consisteth in Mediocrity and Vice in Extreams. 1759 Adam Smith *Mor. Sent.* I. iii. 49 The propriety of every passion excited by objects peculiarly related to ourselves,..must lye, it is evident, in a certain mediocrity. 1768 [W. Donaldson] *Life Sir B. Sapskull* II. xxii. 168 His temper was a mediocrity of chearfulness and solemnity. *a* 1871 Grote *Eth. Fragm.* v. 163 When he places virtue in a certain mediocrity between excess and defect [etc.].

† **b.** *Golden mediocrity* = *golden mean* (see Golden 5 c). *Obs.*

c 1510 More *Picus* Wks. 15/1 The golden mediocrite, the meane estate is to be desired. 1605 Bacon *Adv. Learn.* II. xxv. § 4. 1661 Cowley *Cromwell* Wks. (1688) 76 Was ever Riches gotten by your Golden Mediocrities?

† **c.** *Geom.* = Mean. *Obs.*

1726 Leoni *Alberti's Archit.* II. 89/2 These the Philosophers call Mediocrities or Means,..of all which the purpose is, that the two extreams being given, the middle mean or number may correspond with them in a certain determined manner.

† **2.** A middle course in action; measured conduct or behaviour; moderation, temperance. Phr. *to keep* or *observe a mediocrity. Obs.*

1531 Elyot *Gov.* I. xxvii, Some men wolde saye, that in mediocritie, whiche I haue so moche praised in shootynge, why shulde nat boulynge, claisshe, pynnes, and koytyng be as moche commended? 1564 Abp. Parker *Corr.* (Parker Soc.) 215 He noted much and delighted in our mediocrity, charging the Genevians and the Scottish of going too far in extremities. 1565 Cooper *Thesaurus* s. v. *Modus*, *Statuere modum inimicitiarum*, to kepe a mediocritie or measure in hatinge. 1594 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* I. xvi. § 7 That law of reason, which teacheth mediocritie in meates and drinkes. 1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 14/1 The Chirurgiane must, in sowinge, vse mediocritye, and not take to great a qvantitye of the fleshe. 1621 Burton *Anat. Mel.* II. ii. IV. (1651) 286 Body and mind must be exercised, not one, but both, and that in a mediocrity. 1637 R. Humphrey tr. *St. Ambrose* II. 41 A mediocrity is to be kept in liberality. 1670 G. H. *Hist. Cardinals* I. I. 30 If the Popes had been contented to carry themselves with mediocrity, they had never run that hazard of losing all. 1774 Pennant *Tour Scotl. in* 1772, 135 Reformation in matters of religion, seldom observes mediocrity.

† **3.** The condition of possessing attributes in a medium or moderate degree; moderate degree or rate, average quality or amount; tempered condition. *Obs.*

1598 Barckley *Felic. Man* (1631) 505 The temperate zone where..men..live in a pleasant mediocrity, voide of both extremities. 1612 Bacon *Ess., Youth & Age* (Arb.) 260 Men of age..seldome driue businesse home to the full period; but content themselues with a mediocrity of successe. 1659 Macallo *Can. Physick* 56 Sleep likewise surpassing the bounds of mediocrity, is in like manner evil. 1665 Needham *Med. Medicinæ* 265 There are in the Bloud, much Water and Spirit, a Mediocrity of Salt and Sulphur, and some little of Earth. 1683 Tryon *Way to Health* 292 Let them beware of strong Drinks, because they heat the blood & body beyond Mediocrity. 1733 Cheyne *Eng. Malady* II. v. § 11 (1734) 170 To ascertain the Mediocrity of such a Diet as neither makes the Salts and Oils too many [etc.]. 1744 Berkeley *Siris* § 89 We enjoy a great mediocrity of climate. 1753 Hanway *Trav.* (1762) II. II. i. 65 Whether we..enjoy a profusion, or mediocrity of the gifts of providence.

b. Medium size. *rare.*

1653 R. Sanders *Physiogn.* a iij, To the predicament of Quantity, appertain magnitude, parvity, and mediocrity of parts. 1841 Catlin *N. Amer. Ind.* (1844) II. lvii. 220 In stature he is about at mediocrity.

† **4.** Moderate fortune or condition in life. *Obs.*

c 1450 tr. *De Imitatione* I. xxii. 28 It is [not] mannys felicite to haue temporall godes in abundaunce, but mediocrite sufficiþ him. *a* 1591 R. Greenham *Wks.* (1599) 50 Which thing ought to humble vs in the desire of outward things, and to make vs thankfull for a mediocritie. 1681 Flavel *Meth. Grace* xxviii. 478 A mediocrity is the Christian's best external security. 1784 Cowper *Task* I. 50 Tbese for the rich; the rest, whom fate bad placed In modest mediocrity, ..sat on well-tanned hides. 1816 Singer *Hist. Cards* 125 John Gænsfleisch..was constrained by the mediocrity of his means to quit his native city of Mentz.

5. The quality or condition of being mediocre; *spec.* a moderate or average degree of mental ability, talents, skill, or the like; middling capacity, endowment, or accomplishment. Now chiefly with disparaging implication, in contrast with excellence or superiority.

1588 *Martprel. Epist.* (Arb.) 11 Secondly, you haue to your mediocritie written against the Papists. 1589 Nashe *Pref. Greene's Menaphon* (Arb.) 14 Which makes me thinke that either the louers of mediocritie are verie many, or that the number of good Poets, are very small. 1605 Bacon *Adv. Learn.* II. ii. § 8 For Moderne Histories..there are some fewe verie worthy, but the greater part beneath Mediocritie. 1624 Fisher in F. White *Repl. F.* 300, I am persuaded no vnlearned man that hath in him any sparke of bumilitie, or any mediocritie of Iudgement, will vndertake it. 1656 Sanderson *Serm.* (1689) 440 If a man have once attained to a good mediocrity in this Art. 1709 Lady M. W. Montagu *Let. to Miss A. Wortley* 21 Aug., Leave me my own mediocrity of agreeableness and genius. 1776 Adam Smith *W. N.* I. x. (1869) I. 111 To excel in any profession, in which but few arrive at mediocrity, is the most decisive mark of what is called genius. 1822 Imison *Sci. & Art* II. 391 The way to avoid mediocrity, is by the study..of beautiful productions. *a* 1859 Macaulay *Biog.* (1867) 212 The most important offices in the state were bestowed on decorous and laborious mediocrity. 1878 Bosw. Smith *Carthage* 141 He who would attempt it must be either a fool or a military genius...A respectable mediocrity has hitherto been the order of the day.

6. *concr.* A person of mediocre talents or ability.

1694 Congreve *Double Dealer* II. i, Methinks he wants a manner,..some distinguishing quality..; he is too much a mediocrity, in my mind. 1840 Mill *Diss. & Disc.* (1859) II. 408 He [the American President] is now always either an unknown mediocrity, or a man whose reputation has been acquired in some other field than that of politics. 1874 Green *Short Hist.* x. § 4. 801 Spencer Perceval, an industrious mediocrity of the narrowest type.

† **Me·dious,** *a. Obs. rare.* [f. L. *medi-us* middle + -ous.] Intermediate in degree.

1657 W. Morice *Coena quasi* Κοινή Pref. 20 Some..out of a medious complyance, hoping by going on part of the way to draw them another. *Ibid.* xv. 233 They impetrate medious, though not the highest mercie.

† **Medioxumate,** *a. Obs. rare*—[1]. [f. L. *medioxumi-us* of middle rank or position, applied to gods ranking between those of heaven and those of hell, or according to others to demi-gods.] Only in *medioxumate gods* (misused by Rowlands: see quot.).

1723 H. Rowlands *Mona Antiq. Rest.* 63 The Stream of Idolatry .. deflected them [the Druids] from their profess'd Monotheism, to give Divine Worship to Medioxumate Gods; such as Taranis, or Jupiter; Hesus, or Mars [etc.].

† **Medioxumous,** *a. Obs. rare*—[1]. [Formed as prec. + -ous.] = prec.

1664 H. More *Myst. Iniq.* 40 Mercury and the whole order of the medioxumous or internuntial deities or dæmons.

‖ **Medipectus** (mīdipe·ktŭs). *Ent.* [mod. L., f. L. *medi-us* + *pectus* breast. Cf. F. *médipoitrine*.] The underside of the mesothorax. Hence **Medipe·ctoral** *a.*, of or pertaining to the medipectus.

1826 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* III. 378 *Medipectus* (the *Mid-breast*). The underside of the first segment of the alitrunk. *Ibid.* IV. 344 *Medipectoral.* The mid-legs, affixed to the *Medipectus.* 1848 Maunder *Treas. Nat. Hist.* 794 *Medipectoral.*

† **Medisance.** *Obs.* [a. F. *médisance*, f. *médis-*, *médire* to speak evil.] Evil speaking, detraction.

1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Medisance*, reproach, obloquy, detraction. 1664 Bulteel *Birinthea* 49 Medisance and slander. [1812 *Edin. Rev.* XX. 103 That gift of sportive but cutting *medisance.*]

Medisect (mīdise·kt), *v. rare.* [f. L. *medi-us* middle + *sect-*, ppl. stem of *secāre* to cut.] *trans.* To divide (a body) along the median line; to cut into equal right and left halves. Hence **Medise·ction,** the action of 'medisecting'.

a 1890 B. G. Wilder (Cent. Dict.).

Medism (mī·diz'm). [ad. L. *mēdismus*, Gr. *μηδισμός*, f. *μηδίζειν* to Medize.] **a.** *Gr. Hist.* Sympathy with the 'Medes': used to describe the attitude of those Greeks in the 6th and 5th c. B.C. who were said to favour unpatriotically the interests of the Persians. **b.** A word or idiom belonging to the language of the Medes.

1849 Grote *Greece* II. xliv. V. 359 Medism (or treacherous correspondence with the Persians). 1864 Pusey *Lect. Daniel* i. 34 Chaldaisms, Medisms, Persisms could, accordingly, be nothing strange in the Hebrew portion of his book.

† **Meditabund,** *a. Obs. rare*—[1]. (*humorously pedantic.*) In 7 **-abound.** [ad. L. *meditābund-us*, f. *meditārī* to Meditate.] Absorbed in meditation.

1681 Colvil *Whigs Supplic.* (1751) 120 On the ground He groveling lies meditabound. 1727 Bailey vol. II, *Meditabund..*, pondering,..musing, in a brown Study.

† **Meditance.** *Obs. rare*—[1]. [f. next: see -ance.] Medltation.

1612 *Two Noble K.* I. i, Your first thought is more Then others laboured meditance.

Meditant (me·dităn̄t), *a.* and *sb. rare.* [ad. L. *meditant-em*, pr. pple. of *meditārī* to Meditate.] **a.** *adj.* Meditating. In quot. 1614 *jocular* (quasi-*Her.*). **b.** *sb.* One who meditates.

1614 B. Jonson *Barth. Fair* Induct., A wise Instice of Peace meditant. 1748 in *Hervey's Medit.* To Auth. (ed. 4) I. p. xii, Celestial Meditant! whose Ardours rise Deep from the Tombs, and kindle to the Skies. 1898 *Dublin Rev.* July 177 Untrained meditants outside conventual life.

† **Me·ditate,** *a. Obs.* [ad. L. *meditātus*, pa.pple. of *meditārī*: see next.] = Meditated.

1581 Lambarde *Eiren.* II. vii. (1588) 250 The law deemeth that he doeth it..with a meditate hatred. 1854 S. Dobell *Balder* iii. 18 My early planned, Long meditate..epic!

Meditate (me·dite̊t), *v.* [f. L. *meditāt-*, ppl. stem of *meditārī*, a frequentative f. the root *med-*, whence many words expressing the notion of thought or care, as Gr. *μέδεσθαι* to think about, care for, *μήδεσθαι* to care for, L. *medērī* to cure.

The Latin uses (which are reproduced approximately in Eng.) seem partly due to association with Gr. *μελετᾶν* (f. *μελέτη* care, study, exercise), from which the word was anciently believed to be derived.]

1. *trans.* To muse over or reflect upon; to consider, study, ponder. Now *rare.*

c 1580 Sidney *Ps.* v. i, O Lord,..Consider what I meditate in me. 1695 Addison *King* Misc. Wks. 1726 I. 9 Our British Youth..Had long forgot to Meditate the Foe. 1791 Burke *Let. Memb. Nat. Assembly* 31 Him [Rousseau] they study; him they meditate. 1837–9 Hallam *Hist. Lit.* I. I. iii. § 111. 222 Alberti had deeply meditated the remains

of Roman antiquity. *a* 1871 GROTE *Eth. Fragm.* ii. (1876) 40 If they thoroughly meditated the circumstances of the case.

b. To fix one's attention upon; to observe with interest or intentness. Now *rare*.

1700 DRYDEN *Sigism. & Guisc.* 244 Like a lion..With inward rage he meditates his prey. 1754 RICHARDSON *Grandison* IV. xvii. 108 He bowed his head upon his pillow, and meditated me. *Ibid.* (ed. 2) VI. xlv. 230 She seeing..that I meditated the seal with impatience, begged me to read it then. 1851 G. W. CURTIS *Nile Notes* xlv. 219 At the doors of their cliff-retreats, sit sagely the cormorants, and meditate the passing Howadji.

¶ c. *To meditate the Muse* (nonce-use, after L. *Musam meditari*, Virg. *Ecl.* i. 2): to occupy oneself in song or poetry.

1637 MILTON *Lycidas* 66 What boots it..To tend the homely slighted Shepherds trade, And strictly meditate the thankles Muse?

2. To plan by revolving in the mind; to conceive, plan or design mentally.

1591 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. VI*, II. iv. 60 *Yorke.* Now Somerset, where is your argument? *Som.* Here in my scabbard, meditating, that Shall dye your white Rose in a bloody red. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* I. xv, It is also a law of nature, that all men that meditate peace, be allowed safe conduct. 1715 ROWE *Lady J. Grey* I. i. 11 Ev'n now she seems to meditate her flight. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) VII. 167 A creature meditating mischief. 1820 L. HUNT *Indicator* No. 54 (1822) II. 15 Kubla Khan, which was meditated under the effects of opium. 1879 FROUDE *Cæsar* xi. 135 Catiline was meditating a revolution. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 6 Nov. 5/2 They are meditating a reimposition of the tax on corn.

† b. with *inf.* as obj.

1794 GODWIN *Cal. Williams* 283, I meditated to do you good. 1834 A. F. TYTLER *Univ. Hist.* (1850) I. III. vii. 352 The Latins..meditated to shake off the Roman yoke.

† 3. To entertain as an opinion, think. *Obs.*

1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* Ep. Ded., What is..more vnbeseeming..than alwaies to abide at home..and not to meditate and thinke that at one time or other it is meete..to flie abroade. 1609 BIBLE (Douay) Pref., What shal we therefore meditate of the especial prerogative of English Catholiques at this time?

4. *intr.* To exercise the mental faculties in thought or contemplation; *spec.* in religious use (see MEDITATION 2).

1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III*, III. vii. 75 He is..meditating with two deepe Diuines. 1611 BIBLE *Gen.* xxiv. 63 And Isaac went out, to meditate in the field, at the euentide. 1644 MILTON *Areop.* (Arb.) 56 When a man writes to the world,..he searches, meditats, is industrious. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* I. 95 While I meditated A wind arose. 1897 *Cath. Dict.* (ed. 5) 618 1 The understanding considering this truth in its application to the individual who meditates.

b. const. *on, upon, over,* †*of*; (Hebraism) †*in*.

1560 BIBLE (Geneva) *Ps.* i. 2 In his Law doeth he meditate day and night. 1594 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* II. 163 The better to haue them in memorie, it often thinketh and meditateth of those things. 1601 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* III. iv. 219, I wil meditate the while vpon some horrid message for a Challenge. *a* 1618 W. BRADSHAW *Medit. Man's Mortal.* (1621) 30 When God in any judgement..shewes his wrath, wee should thinke and meditate of this. 1630 PRYNNE *Anti-Armin.* 195 He then that shall vnfainedly meditate on all these Texts. *a* 1716 SOUTH *Serm.* (1744) X. i. 19 He that accustoms himself to meditate upon the greatness of God, finds [etc.]. 1834 JAMES *J. Marston Hall* IX, Leaving me to meditate over the future. 1877 MONIER WILLIAMS *Hinduism* vi. 76 A Buddhist..only meditates on the perfections of the Buddha.

Hence **Me·ditating** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.* Also **Me·ditatingly** *adv.*, meditatively.

1643 MILTON *Divorce* x. Wks. 1851 IV. 49 Those divine meditating words. 1645 — *Tetrach.* Introd., Some of our severe Gnostics, whose little reading, and lesse meditating holds ever..that which it took up. 1753 RICHARDSON *Grandison* III. i. 2 He enquired..Why she looked so meditatingly? *a* 1873 LYTTON *Ken. Chillingly* v. vii, Meditatingly propped on his elbow.

Meditated (me·diteitĕd), *ppl. a.* [f. MEDITATE *v.* + -ED[1].] Contemplated, intended; also, thought out, produced or prepared by meditation.

1736 GRAY *Statius* II. 22 'Twas there he aim'd the meditated harm. 1760 C. JOHNSTON *Chrysal* (1822) II. 120 Walking a meditated turn or two across the tent. 1814 WORDSW. *Excurs.* IX. 21 The food of hope Is meditated action. 1841 MACAULAY *Ess., Leigh Hunt* (ed. Montague) III. 43 The Way of the World, the most deeply meditated and the most brilliantly written of all his works. 1855 MILMAN *Lat. Chr.* IX. ii. IV. 49 Already there were dark rumours of his treachery and meditated revolt.

Meditater, variant of MEDITATOR.

Meditation (meditēi·ʃən). [a. F. *méditation* or ad. L. *meditātiōn-em*, n. of action f. *meditārī* to MEDITATE.]

1. The action, or an act, of meditating; continuous thought or musing upon one subject or series of subjects; serious and sustained reflection or mental contemplation.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 256 Fro hevene as thogh a vois it were, To soune of such prolacioun That he his meditacioun Therof mai take. *a* 1460 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 242 That the heyere herd with good medytacioun May the pore peple swych wyse avaunce [etc.]. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 233 Meditacyon is a profounde or studyous cogitacyon about ony certeyn thynge. 1588 FRAUNCE *Lawiers Log.* I. i 1 Reasoning may be..in solitary meditations and deliberations with a mans selfe. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* II. i. 164 The imperiall Votresse passed on, In maiden meditation, fancy free. 1633 EARL MANCH. *Al Mondo* (1636) 5 Meditation, I saw, was but a reiterated thought, proper to production of good or evill. 1712 LADY M. W. MONTAGU *Let. to Mr. W. Montagu* 9–11 Dec., The terrace is..consecrated to meditation..gay or grave. 1820 BYRON *Mar. Fal.* II. i, My lord, pray pardon me For breaking in upon your meditation. 1831 LYTTON *Godolphin* vi, After a fortnight's delay and meditation, he wrote. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* i, His meditations on the subject were soon interrupted, by the rustling of garments on the staircase.

† b. Thought or mental contemplation *of* something. *Obs.*

1534 MORE *Comf. agst. Trib.* III. Wks. 1235/1 The fleshe shrinckynge at the meditacion of payne and deathe. 1672 MARVELL *Reh. Transp.* I. 81 It is the wisdome of Cats to whet their Claws..in meditation of the next Rat they are to encounter.

2. *spec.* in religious use: That kind of private devotional exercise which consists in the continuous application of the mind to the contemplation of some religious truth, mystery, or object of reverence, in order that the soul may increase in love of God and holiness of life.

a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* Prol., Þare in is discryued..þe meditacioun of contemplatifs. *c* 1491 *Chast. Goddes Chyld.* 7 Thenne cometh so mery meditacyons wyth plente of teres of compascyon. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. x. 46 Of God and goodnes was his meditation. 1641 HINDE *J. Bruen* xlv. 145 His first dayly duty, namely his holy and religious Meditation. 1704 M. HENRY *Commun. Comp.* vi. Wks. 1853 I. 330/1 In meditation we converse with ourselves; in prayer we converse with God. 1893 PATMORE *Relig. Poetæ* 34 The hour or half-hour of daily 'meditation'..is now unheard of. 1897 *Cath. Dict.* (ed. 5) 618/1 It was St. Ignatius of Loyola who reduced the rules of meditation to a system.

b. Used for: The theme of one's meditation.

1560 BIBLE (Geneva) *Ps.* cxix. 97 Oh how loue I thy Law! it is my meditacion continually. *Ibid.* 99, I haue had more vnderstanding then all my teachers: for thy testimonies are my meditacion.

3. A discourse, written or spoken, in which a subject (usually religious) is treated in a meditative manner, or which is designed to guide the reader or hearer in meditation.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 44 Redinge of Englichs, oðer of Freinchs, holi meditaciuns. *c* 1320 R. BRUNNE (*title*) Here bygynneþ meditacyuns of the soper of oure lorde Ihesu. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Pars. Prol.* 55 But nathelees, this meditacion I putte it ay vnder correccion Of clerkes. 1612 A. STAFFORD (*title*) Meditations and Revolutions, moral, divine, politicall. 1710 SWIFT (*title*) A meditation upon a broom-stick. 1746 HERVEY (*title*) Meditations among the Tombs.

attrib. 1711 SHAFTESB. *Charac.* (1737) III. 95 The essay-writers,..reflection-coiners, meditation-founders, and others of the irregular kind of writers.

Medita·tionist. *nonce-wd.* [f. prec. + -IST.] One who writes meditations.

1834–43 SOUTHEY *Doctor* Interch. xxii. (1847) VI. 380 Jeremy Taylor's is both a flowery and a fruitful stile: Hervey the Meditationist's a weedy one.

Meditatist (me·diteitist). *rare.* [f. MEDITATE + -IST.] One who makes a business of meditating.

1860 in WORCESTER (citing *Ec. Rev.*). 1873 H. W. BEECHER in *Chr. World Pulpit* IV. 388/3 Thirdly, there are the meditatists..thousands meditate when they have nothing to meditate on.

Meditative (me·diteitiv, me·diteitiv), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. late L. *meditātīv-us*, f. ppl. stem of *meditārī* to MEDITATE: see -IVE. Cf. F. *méditatif.*]

A. *adj.*

1. Of persons, their dispositions or state of mind: Inclined or accustomed to meditation.

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Meditative*, apt to meditate, or cast in the mind. 1683 HOWE *Union Among Prot.* Wks. (1846) 108 His musing meditative mind. 1784 BERINGTON *Hist. Abeillard* IV. 198 Abeillard..was pious, reserved, meditative. 1798 COLERIDGE *Fears in Solitude* 23 And be, with many feelings,.. Made up a meditative joy. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* vii. § 7. 426 The melancholy and meditative Jaques. 1885 J. MARTINEAU *Types Eth. Th.* I. i. ii. § 8. 194 The highest calls of meditative piety.

b. Inclined to meditate or engaged in meditating (something specified). Const. *of.*

1876 M. COLLINS *Fr. Midnight to Midn.* II. ii. 223 There..is our ontologic poet, meditative of incisive analytic unscannable blank verse.

2. Of actions, manner, appearance, etc.: Accompanied by meditation; indicative of meditation.

1756–7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) II. 43 He used to take his meditative walks. 1903 *T. P.'s Weekly* 6 Nov. 724/2 After a dozen meditative pulls of his pipe, Harry proceeded.

3. Conducive to meditation.

1868 HAWTHORNE *Amer. Note-Bks.* II. 64 A stone wall, when shrubbery has grown around it,..becomes a very pleasant and meditative object.

† 4. *Gram.* = DESIDERATIVE. *Obs.*

1755 JOHNSON, *Meditative*, expressing intention or design.

† B. *sb.* A desiderative word. *Obs.*

1612 BRINSLEY *Pos. Parts* (1669) 127 What Verbs do you call Meditatives? 1635 *Grammar Warre* B viij, Other Adverbs: as Meditatives, Deminutives, and Denominatives. 1726 S. LOWE *Lat. Gram.* 12 Meditatives in *-urio*. 1845 STOODART *Gram.* in *Encycl. Metrop.* (1847) I. 50/1 Most of the verbs in *rio* are meditatives.

Meditatively (me·diteitivli), *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY[2].] In a meditative manner.

1825 COLERIDGE *Aids Refl.* (1848) I. 305 Then..meditatively contemplate..the beautiful effects of this ordinance. 1893 SALTUS *Madam Sapphira* 41 Mrs. Nevins..for a while puffed meditatively.

Meditativeness (me·diteitivnĕs). [f. MEDITATIVE + -NESS.] The condition of being meditative.

1860 in WORCESTER (citing COLERIDGE). 1877 'H. A. PAGE' *De Quincey* II. xix. 221 Dreamy meditativeness.

Meditator (me·diteitəɹ). Also 9 -er. [f. MEDITATE *v.* + -OR.] One who meditates.

1665 BOYLE *Occas. Refl.* IV. i. (1848) 46 It is wont to suggest variety of Notions to the Meditator. 1712 LADY M. W. MONTAGU *Let. to Mr. W. Montagu* 9–11 Dec., I would publish a daily paper called the *Meditator*. 1822 COLERIDGE *Table-t.* 29 Dec. (1835) I. 3 Lear is the most tremendous effort of Shakespeare as a poet; Hamlet as a philosopher or meditater. *a* 1859 DE QUINCEY *Conversation* Wks. 1860 XIV. 153 The mere meditators..may finally ripen into close observers. 1894 T. WATTS in *Athenæum* 20 Oct. 530/1 He had the mind..of the meditater upon nature.

† **Medite,** *v. Obs.* [ad. F. *méditer* or L. *meditārī.*] *trans.* and *intr.* = MEDITATE *v.*

1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 442/1 The preest medytyng and thynkyng on the passyon of our lord..sayth [etc.]. 1606 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iv. II. *Magnif.* 770 Who, mediting the sacred Templ's plot, By th' other twin..is shot.

† **Mediterrane,** *a.* and *sb. Obs.* Also -an, -ayne, -en, -ean. [ad. L. *mediterrān-eus*: see MEDITERRANEAN.] A. *adj.*

1. = MEDITERRANEAN A. 2.

c 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* I. xiii. 1249 Fra þe Mer Mediterrayne Lyis southe on to þe Occiane. 1598 HAKLUYT *Voy.* I. 588 He that neuer saw the sea will not be persuaded that there is a mediterrane sea. 1621 AINSWORTH *Annot. Pentat., Numb.* xxxiv. 6 This great sea is commonly called the Mediterrane Sea. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* I. 25 The Riviera of Genoa, along the Mediterrean sea. *Ibid.* III. 77 Now Creta comes, the Mediterren Queene.

2. Inland, interior; = MEDITERRANEAN A. 1.

1598 in *Hakluyt's Voy.* (1904) VI. 357 They that have seene the mediterran or inner parts of the kingdom of China, do report [etc.]. 1608 BACON *Sp. Gen. Natural.* Wks. 1826 V. 54 It is the mediterrane countries, and not the maritime, which need to fear surcharge of people. 1660 R. COKE *Power & Subj.* 262 It were a most unreasonable thing that the same Lawes should be imposed upon Mediterrane places, where are observed in Maritime.

B. *sb.* a. An enclosed piece of water. b. The Mediterranean Sea.

1658 R. FRANCK *North. Mem.* (1821) 197 By what means then was she moved into this small Mediterrane? 1662 OGILBY *King's Coronation* 18 We'll whip him like a Gig About the Mediterrane.

† **Mediterra·neal,** *a. Obs.* Also 7 -nell. [f. L. *mediterrāne-us* (see next) + -AL.] a. Inland, interior. b. *spec.* Mediterranean (sea).

1598 BARRET *Theor. Warres* Gloss. 251 *Mediterraneall*, is Inland countrie, or countries distant from the sea. 1609 BIBLE (Douay) *Num.* xxxiv. Comm., Mediterraneal sea, called great in respect of the lakes in the holie Land. 1622 F. MARKHAM *Bk. War* v. vii. § 3. 186 All places whatsoener, whether Mediterranell or Maritime.

Mediterranean (meditĕrēi·nĭ,ăn), *a.* and *sb.* [f. L. *mediterrāne-us* (f. *medi-us* middle + *terra* land, earth) + -AN.] A. *adj.*

1. Of land: Midland, inland, remote from the coast; opposed to *maritime*. Also, intermediate (between two areas). † Applied also to the inhabitants of a region so situated.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 501 The Mediterranean or midland parts of any country are..preferred before the maritime or sea-coasts. *a* 1691 BOYLE *Hist. Air* (1692) 197 The more mediterranean parts of Russia. 1756 C. LUCAS *Ess. Waters* II. 54 Sea water differs..not essentially, from the waters of our mediterranean salt springs. 1773 JOHNSON *Let. to Mrs. Thrale* 28 Aug., Craggy rocks, of height not stupendous, but to a Mediterranean visitor uncommon. 1869 RAWLINSON *Anc. Hist.* 12 The rivers of the central tract are continental or mediterranean; i. e. they begin and end without reaching the sea. 1875 J. H. BENNET *Winter Medit.* II. xi. 340 There is a highland country, an elevated mediterranean area of mountains and valleys.

transf. 1603 DEKKER *Wonderf. Yr.* D 4 How nimble is Sicknes,..The greatest cutter that takes vp the Mediterranean file in Powles for his Gallery to walke in, cannot ward off his blowes.

2. Of water surfaces: Nearly or entirely surrounded or enclosed by dry land; land-locked. *Mediterranean Sea*, the proper name of the sea which separates Europe from Africa.

The notion expressed by the proper name (late L. *mare Mediterrāneum*, 7th c.; F. *Mer Méditerranée*; Sp. *Mar Mediterráneo*; It. *Mare Mediterraneo*) may originally have been 'the sea in the middle of the earth' rather than 'the sea enclosed by land'.

1594 R. ASHLEY tr. *Loys le Roy* 75 b, All those which are within the mediterranean sea. 1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 51 The Pirats..doe rob on the Ægean and Mediterranean seas. 1813 BAKEWELL *Introd. Geol.* 182 The boundary of a mediterranean sea or lake of fresh water. 1846 DARWIN *Geol. Observ. S. Amer.* 235 *note*, The theory that rock-salt is due to the sinking of water, charged with salt, in mediterranean spaces of the ocean. 1862 DANA *Man. Geol.* III. 301 The great mediterranean sea of the Silurian age.

b. Pertaining to 'mediterranean' waters. (See also B. 1 b.)

1830 LYELL *Princ. Geol.* I. 245 The delta of the Mississippi has somewhat of an intermediate character between an oceanic and mediterranean delta.

B. *sb.*

1. An inland sea or lake; a water area nearly or entirely surrounded by dry land; *spec.* the Mediterranean Sea.

1652–62 HEVLIN *Cosmogr.* III. 9 A man of perspicuous eyes may discern the Euxine on the one hand, and the Mediterranean on the other. 1661 LOVELL *Hist. Anim. & Min.* Introd., Some [fishes] are better in the ocean than in the

mediterranean, and the contrary. 1704 ADDISON *Italy* (1705) 4 There is nuthing more undetermined among the Learned than the Voyage of Ulysses; some confining it to the Mediterranean; others [etc.]. 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* (1856) 544 The North Polar Ocean is a great mediterranean. 1875 S. Cox in *Expositor* 251 The blue waters of the Mediterranean.

b. *attrib.*, passing into *adj.* (Cf. A. 2 b.) Pertaining to the Mediterranean Sea.

Mediterranean fever = *Malta fever* (see MALTA).

1599 NASHE *Lenten Stuffe* Wks. (Grosart) V. 229 In M. Hackluits English discoueries I haue not come in ken of one mizzen mast of a .. mediteranean sternebearer sente from her [Yarmouth's] Zenith or Meridian. 1678 YOUNG *Serm. at Whitehall* 29 Dec. 27 One of the Mediterranean Pirates. 1816 SIR W. BURNETT (*title*) A Practical Account of the Mediterranean Fever [etc.]. 1897 M. L. HUGHES (*title*) Mediterranean, Malta or Undulant Fever. 1899 *Daily News* 14 Jan. 6/4 The whole costume is in Mediterranean blue cloth.

† 2. An inhabitant of an inland region. *Obs.*

1654 H. L'ESTRANGE *Chas. I* (1655) 131 Again the Mediterraneans the Highlanders muttered at the Imposition.

Mediterranell, obs. variant of MEDITERRANEAL.

† Mediterraneous, *a. Obs.* [f. L. *mediterrāne-us* (see MEDITERRANEAN) + -OUS.]

1. Inland, remote from the coast.

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* II. iv. 82 It is found in mountaines and mediterraneous parts. 1692 RAY *Disc.* iii. (1732) 31 The mediterraneous Places above the Shores.

2. In the middle of the earth; subterranean.

1668 *Palp. Evid. Witchcr.* 102 The bituminous matter brought from the mediterraneous Vaults.

† Mediterrany, *a.* and *sb. Obs.* [ad. F. *méditerrané* or L. *mediterrāne-um.*] = MEDITERRANEAN.

c 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xxxiii. 150 It rynnez in to þe see Mediterrany. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) I. 53 Of the grete see or Mediterranye.

Meditrunk (mĕ·ditrʊŋk). *Ent.* [ad. mod.L. *meditruncus*, f. L. *medi-us* middle + *truncus* TRUNK.] (See quot.)

1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* III. xxxv. 532 If terms be thought necessary to designate the two intire segments into which the alitrunk is resolvable, the first may be the meditrunk (*meditruncus*), and the other the potrunk (*potruncus*).

‖ **Meditullium** (mĕditv·lĭŭm). [L., f. *medi-us* middle; the second element is prob. cogn. w. *tellus* earth.]

† 1. The middle (of anything). *Obs.*

1611 CORYAT *Crudities* 396 Baden .. lyeth in the very meditullium of Heluetia. 1638 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (1677) 48 That Meditullium of the earth [India].

2. *spec.* The cellular or reticulated bony substance between the inner and outer laminæ of the cranium; = DIPLOE 1. ? *Obs.*

1693 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Meditullium*, that Spungy Substance betwixt the Two *Lamina* [sic] of the Scull.

3. *Bot.* The interior parenchyma of the leaves and other parts of plants; = DIPLOE 2.

1840 PEREIRA *Elem. Mat. Med.* II. 661 The meditullium has frequently a reddish tint. 1880 GARROD & BAXTER *Mat. Med.* 374 The roots are seen to consist of a cortex or rind, and a ligneous cord or meditullium inclosing the pith.

Hence † **Meditu·llian** *a. Obs.*, pertaining to the middle (of the earth).

1670 PETTUS *Fodinæ Reg.* Introd., As if they were but the soft Products of those Meditullian Petrefactions.

Medium (mī·diŭm), *sb.* and *a.* Pl. **media**, **-iums.** [a. L. *medium*, neuter of *medius* middle, cogn. with MID *a.*] **A.** *sb.*

1. A middle quality, degree, or condition. Formerly also, †something intermediate in nature or degree. † *In a medium*, intermediate (*between*).

1593 *Tell-Troth's N. Y. Gift* (1876) 29 There is no concorde betweene water and fire, nor any medium betweene loue and hatred. 1618 E. ELTON *Exp. Rom. vii.* (1622) 362 There is no medium: no middle nor indifferent state and condition betweene these two. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 293 This Appetite is in a Medium between the other two. 1649 BLITH *Eng. Improv. Impr.* (1653) To Husb., There is a Medium in all things. 1651 FRENCH *Distill.* v. 111 A saltish slime, and in tast..a Medium betwixt salt, and Nitre. 1663 *Flagellum, or O. Cromwell* (ed. 2) Pref., I place and reckon this Cromwell as a Medium or Mean, betwixt .. Wallenstein .. and Thomas Anello. 1752 J. GILL *Trinity* vi. 116 Between God and a creature there is no medium. *a* 1770 JORTIN *Serm.* (1771) VII. vi. 108 There is a medium between frantic zeal and sinful compliance. 1811 BUSBY *Dict. Mus.* (ed. 3), *Recitative*, a species of musical recitation forming the medium between air and rhetorical declamation. 1811 BYRON *Hints fr. Hor.* lvii, Poesy between the best and worst No medium knows. *a* 1820 I. MILNER in Mary Milner *Life* (1842) 510 Is there no medium between going to Court, and going a hunting? 1869 SPURGEON *J. Ploughm. Talk* 28 There is a medium in all things, only blockheads go to extremes.

† b. Moderation. *Obs.*

1693 *Humours Town* 88 They are generally Men of no Medium, but continually in Extreams. 1748 SMOLLETT *Rod. Rand.* (1812) I. 4 He determined..to observe no medium but..sent her a peremptory order. 1780 W. PITT in Ld. Stanhope *Life* I. 35 The use of the horse I assure you I do not neglect, in the properest medium.

† c. A middle course, compromise. *Obs.*

1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 33 When I let him know my Reason, he own'd it to be just, and offer'd me this Medium, that he [etc.].

† d. Something intermediate in position. *Obs.*

1726 LEONI *Alberti's Archit.* I. 12/1 That the Inhabitants may not be obliged to pass out of a cold Place into a hot one, without a Medium of temperate Air.

† 2. *Logic.* The middle term of a syllogism; hence, a ground of proof or inference. *Obs.*

1584 FENNER *Def. Ministers* (1587) 62 Let him..conclude the Apostles question, with his medium, argument, and reason. 1630 RANDOLPH *Aristippus* Wks. (1875) 19 Your drinking is syllogism, where a pottle is the *major terminus*, and a pint the *minor*, a quart the *medium*. 1641 *Vind. Smectymnuus* v. 61 This we evinced by foure mediums out of Scripture. 1751 WESLEY *Wks.* (1872) XIV. 168 An equivocal medium proves nothing. 1757 SIR J. DALRYMPLE *Hist. Feudal Property* (1758) 147 They had refused to subject estates tail to forfeiture, and on this medium, that who cannot alienate cannot forfeit. 1817 JAS. MILL *Brit. India* III. i. 33 To trace the media of proof from one link to another ..is not, say the lawyers, the way to justice.

† 3. A (geometrical or arithmetical) mean; an average. *Obs.*

1612 DAVIES *Why Ireland*, etc. 39 The reuenew .. did not rise vnto 10000. li. per annum, though the Medium be taken of the best seauen years. 1638 WILKINS *New World* III. (1707) 30 Betwixt two Extreams there can be but one Medium. *a* 1687 PETTY *Pol. Arith.* (1690) 55 At a medium I reckon that the whole Fleet must be Men of three or four years growth. 1727 SWIFT *Mod. Proposal* Wks. 1755 II. II. 62, I have reckoned upon a medium, that a child just born will weigh 12 pounds. 1731 BAILEY vol. II. s. v., Arithmetical Medium, is that which is equally distant from each extreme. *Ibid.*, Geometrical Medium, is [etc.]. 1788 LD. AUCKLAND *Corr.* (1861) II. 84 The medium of the thermometer continues here at about 70°. 1793 SMEATON *Edystone L.* § 113 The medium of half an inch on a side. 1817 JAS. MILL *Brit. India* I. II. i. 94 Only thirty-three years, as a medium, are assigned to a reign.

4. Any intervening substance through which a force acts on objects at a distance or through which impressions are conveyed to the senses; applied, e.g., to the air, the ether, or any substance considered with regard to its properties as a vehicle of light or sound. Often *fig.*

1595 CHAPMAN *Ovids Banq. Sence* D 2 *margin*, Sight is one of the three sences that hath his medium extrinsecally. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* I. i. II. vi. 33 To the Sight three things are required, the Obiect, the Organ, and the Medium. 1643 A. ROSS *Mel Heliconium* 27 The air, which is the medium of musick and of all sounds. *a* 1652 J. SMITH *Sel. Disc.* i. 25 They shall no more behold the Divinity through the dark mediums that eclipse the blessed sight of it. 1709 *Phil. Trans.* XXVI. 368 Air is the only Medium for the Propagation of Sound. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 257 ¶ 8 He therefore who looks upon the Soul through its outward Actions, often sees it through a deceitful Medium. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* VIII. 243 The Truth, thro' such a Medium seen, may make Impression deep. 1768–74 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 443 Both visible and sonorous bodies act equally by mediums, one of light and the other of air, vibrating upon our organs. 1794 G. ADAMS *Nat. & Exp. Philos.* II. xv. 136 By a medium..is meant any pellucid or transparent body, which suffers light to pass through it. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* I. 422 In passing into a denser medium, light is refracted towards the perpendicular. 1851 SIR F. PALGRAVE *Norm. & Eng.* I. 189 The liability incurred by the nation is refracted through so many media. 1875 *Encycl. Brit.* I. 100/1 The air around us forms the most important medium of sound to our organs of hearing. 1880 BASTIAN *Brain* iii. 60 To rudimentary aggregations of pigment, in some animals transparent media are added, serving to condense the light thereon.

b. The application of the word in sense 4 to the air, ether, etc. has given rise to the new sense: Pervading or enveloping substance; the substance or 'element' in which an organism lives; hence *fig.* one's environment, conditions of life.

[1664 POWER *Exp. Philos.* Pref. 11 The aetherial Medium (wherein all the Stars and Planets do swim).] 1865 GROTE *Plato* I. v. 201 You cannot thus abstract any man from the social medium by which he is surrounded. 1873 HAMERTON *Intell. Life* IX. v. (1875) 320 The general talk, which is nothing but a neutral medium in which intelligences float. 1876 L. STEPHEN *Eng. Th. 18th C.* I. i. 6 The gradual adaptation of the race to its medium. 1878 *Encycl. Brit.* VIII. 36/2 When the insulating medium, or, as it is called, the 'dielectric', is shellac. 1880 M. ARNOLD *Lett.* (1895) II. 184–5 The medium in which he [Burns] lived, Scotch peasants, Scotch Presbyterianism, and Scotch drink, is repulsive. Chaucer..pleases me more and more, and his medium is infinitely superior. 1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XXI. 406/1 Thoroughly conducted cultivations should decide in what medium the Schizomycete flourishes best.

5. An intermediate agency, means, instrument or channel. Also, intermediation, instrumentality: in phrase *by* or *through the medium of.*

1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* II. xvi. § 2 But yet is not of necessitie that Cogitations bee expressed by the Medium of Wordes. 1614 RALEIGH *Hist. World* II. v. § 10. 309 Moses ..wrought..by the medium of mens affections. 1659 T. PECKE *Parnassi Puerp.* 179, I know the Medium to let you see A wonder. 1726 DE FOE *Hist. Devil* II. vi. (1840) 249 The devil has managed several secret operations by the medium or instrumentality of the cloven foot. 1775 BURKE *Sp. Conc. Amer.* Wks. III. 31 The proposition is peace. Not peace through the medium of war. 1795 *Gentl. Mag.* 544/1 Some useful information..may..be hoped for through the medium of your curious Publication. *c* 1811 FUSELI in *Lect. Paint.* iv. (1848) 438 They are the end, this the medium. 1856 SIR B. BRODIE *Psychol. Inq.* I. v. 186 The seal ..except through the medium of his whiskers,..may be said ..[to have] no sense of touch at all. 1866 FELTON *Anc. & Mod. Gr.* I. I. 16 They [Latin and Greek] were the media of the scholarship, the science, the theology of the Middle Age. 1880 *Coach Builders' Art Jrnl.* I. 63 Considering your Journal one of the best possible mediums for such a scheme. 1883 S. R. GARDINER *Hist. Eng.* II. xvi. 184 *note*, It seems..more probable that the tarts went backwards and forwards as media of a correspondence. 1898 ILLINGWORTH *Div. Immanence* vi. 136 He [Christ] ordained sacraments; selecting, as their media, the two..most universal religious rites. *Mod.* The *—shire Gazette* is the best advertising medium in the county.

b. *Medium of circulation* or *exchange*, *circulating medium*: something which serves as the ordinary representative of exchangeable value, and as the instrument of commercial transactions; in civilized countries usually coin or written promises or orders for the delivery of coin. † In the American colonies often simply *medium*, chiefly used in speaking of the local paper currency.

1740 *Conn. Col. Rec.* (1874) VIII. 318 The expences of this government are likely to be very heavy..by reason..of a great scarcity of a medium of exchange. 1740 W. DOUGLASS *Disc. Curr. Brit. Plant. Amer.* 6 Upon cancelling this Paper Medium all those Inconveniences did vanish. 1758 in B. P. Smith *Hist. Dartmouth Coll.* (1878) 16 The discredit of our medium. 1828 P. CUNNINGHAM *N. S. Wales* (ed. 3) II. 101 Bullion and paper, as mediums of circulation. 1833 HT. MARTINEAU *Charmed Sea* Summary 135 The adoption of a medium of exchange. 1838 PRESCOTT *Ferd. & Is.* (1846) II. xvii. 128 The only medium for representing their property was bills of exchange. 1884 *Rep. Brit. Assoc.* 837 Media of Exchange: some Notes on the Precious Metals and their Equivalents.

6. *Painting.* Any liquid 'vehicle' (as oil, water, albumen, etc.) with which pigments are mixed to render them capable of being used in painting. Also, any of the varieties of painting as determined by the nature of the vehicle employed, as oil-painting, water-colour, tempera, fresco, etc.

1854 FAIRHOLT *Dict. Art, Medium*, the menstruum, or liquid vehicle, with which the dry pigments are ground and made ready for the artist's use. 1892 *Nation* (N. Y.) 15 Dec. 477/2 There is no man to-day who understands his medium [viz. water-colour] more perfectly. 1903 *Edin. Rev.* Apr. 454 If his colours, his gilding, his mediums were of inferior quality, they were confiscated.

b. *Photogr.* A varnish used as a vehicle in 'retouching' (see quots.).

1890 J. HUBERT *Retouching* (1903) 23 If your medium will not take the blacklead readily, the former may be thickened. 1892 *Phot. Ann.* II. 201 The simplest medium to render the surface of the negative suitable for marking upon is made by dissolving white powdered resin in turpentine... The negative to be retouched is prepared by rubbing upon it..a drop of the medium.

7. *Theatr.* A screen fixed in front of a gas-jet in order to throw a coloured light upon the stage.

1859 G. A. SALA *Gas-light & D., Getting up Pantomime*, Gas pipes with coloured screens called 'mediums'. 1873 *Routledge's Eng. Gentl. Mag.* 282/1 Fish-tail burners, guarded by curved metal reflecting hoods on the back and by wire work on the front side..so as to allow of red or green tammy mediums being dropped over each row.

8. Applied to a person. a. *gen.* An intermediary agent, mediator.

1817 BOWDICH, etc. *Mission to Ashantee* I. iii. (1819) 63 This man..is our only safe medium, and interprets to the King anxiously and impressively.

b. *Spiritualism*, etc. A person who is supposed to be the organ of communications from departed spirits. Hence also applied to a clairvoyant or a person under hypnotic control.

1853 H. SPICER *Sights & Sounds* 88 This lady was a medium, and as the subject of 'spirit rappings' was already [etc.]. 1854 MISS MITFORD in L'Estrange *Life* (1870) III. xiv. 303 Bulwer is in the hands of a set of mediums, and passes his time in conversation with his dead daughter. 1888 BRYCE *Amer. Commonw.* III. 639 Attempts to pry by the help of 'mediums' into the book of Fate.

9. Senses derived from the adj. a. *nonce-use.* A person of the middle class.

1837 T. HOOK *Jack Brag* ii, The tip-toppers are livelier than the mediums.

b. A soldier of 'medium' equipment, between 'light' and 'heavy'. (Cf. quot. 1876 in B. 1.)

1889 *N. & Q.* 7th Ser. VIII. 111/1 The 4th Dragoon Guards are no longer 'Heavies', but 'Mediums'. *Ibid.*, Thirteen regiments of 'Mediums', comprising the seven regiments of Dragoon Guards, numbered 1 to 7 [etc.].

c. A kind of cotton goods.

1862 *Catal. Internat. Exhib.* II. XVIII. 4 India twills, silicias, casbans, and mediums.

B. *attrib.* and *adj.*

1. Intermediate between two degrees, amounts, qualities, or classes.

1796 C. MARSHALL *Garden.* ix. (1813) 114 A good medium way is to plant the deciduous sorts [of trees] the beginning of March. 1859 DARWIN *Orig. Spec.* iv. (1873) 92 A medium form may often long endure. 1876 VOYLE & STEVENSON *Milit. Dict.* s.v. *Cavalry*, In the British army cavalry is classed as heavy, medium, and light cavalry. 1884 *Bath Herald* 27 Dec. 6/5 The offal..is separated into broad bran, medium bran, and sharps. 1903 *Edin. Rev.* Apr. 493 There is a tendency for land to get into the hands of medium and large proprietors. 1905 J. HEYWOOD *Mus. Churches* 17 Average choir boys cannot recite on a low note without being liable to use the tbick register or chest voice instead of the medium register.

b. Fencing. *Medium guard*: see quot. 1767.

1747 J. GODFREY *Sci. Defence* 21 Here are four Guards, viz. Inside, Outside, Medium, and Hanging. *Ibid.* 22 The Medium is the Small-Sword Posture, and that alone may properly be called a guard. 1767 FERGUSSON *Dict. Terms Small Sword* 13 *Medium Guard*, the arm, wrist, and sword in this guard ought to be kept in the same height as the Quarte, and the edge of the sword perpendicular to the ground.

c. The designation of a size of paper between royal and demy.

The sheet of medium writing and drawing paper usually measures 22×17½ inches; in U. S., 23×18. The sheet of medium printing paper is usually 24×19.

1711 *Act* 10 *Anne* c. 18 § 37 For..all Paper..called..Medium Fine..the Summe of Six Shillings for every Reame... Genoa Medium..Two Shillings and Six Pence for every Reame. 1774 M. MACKENZIE *Maritime Surv.* 105 A Folio Observation-book of 4 Quires medium Paper. 1859 *Stationer's Handbk.* 20, 73.

†2. Average, mean. *Obs.*

1670 PETTUS *Fodinæ Reg.* 9 Two Tun and a quarter of Oar make a Tun of Metal at a medium rate 3*l.* 10*s.* 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. v. 182 The medium heat all the year round will be 66°. 1799 *Hull Advert.* 14 Sept. 3/2 Both of which may be accounted medium years. 1800 *Misc. Tracts in Asiat. Ann. Reg.* 72/2 The medium height of a Fahrenheit's thermometer was between 80° and 82°.

3. *Comb.* a. With sbs. used *attrib.*, forming adjs., as *medium-grade, -pace*; b. parasynthetic, as *medium-coloured, -paced, -sized*, adjs.

1891 C. JAMES *Rom. Rigmarole* 75 *Medium-coloured hair. 1877 RAYMOND *Statist. Mines & Mining* 174 A stratum of *medium-grade ore. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 16 May 4/2 Slow and *medium-pace bowlers. 1884 *Lillywhite's Cricket Ann.* 103 A straight *medium-paced bowler. 1882 J. HAWTHORNE *Fort. Fool* I. xiv, He was a *medium-sized, full-bodied man.

Mediumism (mī·diŭmiz'm). [f. prec. + -ISM.] The practices of spiritualistic 'mediums'.

1864 A. LEIGHTON *Myst. Leg. Edin.* (1886) 121 The spirit-rapping miracles of mediumism. 1880 HOWELLS *Undisc. Country* xii. 181 A mercenary professional mediumism.

Mediumistic (mī·diŭmi·stik), *a.* [f. MEDIUM + -ISTIC.] Relating to 'mediumism'; having the characteristics of a 'medium'.

1869 GREGORY in *Eng. Mech.* 3 Dec. 281/1 Many persons do not possess the necessary mediumistic qualification. 1876 SAINTSBURY in *Academy* 16 Dec. 582 Maud is a pretty girl, of supposed 'mediumistic' powers. 1896 H. R. HAWEIS *Dead Pulpit* vi. 117 He is for the time, in fact, highly sensitized and mediumistic.

Mediumize (mī·diŭməiz), *v.* [f. MEDIUM + -IZE.] *trans.* To convert into a (spiritualistic) 'medium'. Hence **Me·diumiza·tion.**

1880 *Argosy* XXIX. 460 He need have laid no command on the Captain, for the poor man was planted there: chloroformed, mesmerised, mediumised. 1880 HOWELLS *Undisc. Country* ii. (1881) 29 The crude and unsettled spiritual existence reached by our present system of mediumisation.

Mediumship (mī·diŭmʃip). [f. MEDIUM + -SHIP.]

1. Intervening agency, instrumentality.

1882 L. WINGFIELD *Gehenna* II. ix. 274 Subterranean convulsions, through whose mediumship volcanic flames..would purify the heavens. 1882 RIDER HAGGARD *Cetywayo* 198 The government announced through the mediumship of the Queen's Speech that [etc.]. 1890 'ANNIE THOMAS' *On Children* I. vii. 131 He had been made known to them through the mediumship of an Aldermanic friend.

2. *Spiritualism.* The attribute of being a 'medium'; action as a 'medium'.

1868 *Law Rep., Equity Cases* VI. 663 The wonderful things done by the spirits through the Defendant's mediumship. 1875 *Q. Jrnl. Sci.* XII. 48 As an instance of hereditary mediumship, 'the same man had four daughters, virgins, which did prophesy'. 1881 PEMBER *Earth's Earliest Ages* (1893) 329 A séance held through the mediumship of Mr. Bastian. 1898 A. LANG *Making Relig.* viii. 169, I cannot feel..as if the case of physical mediumship itself, as a freak of nature, were definitely closed.

Medius (mī·diŭs). *Mus.* [a. L. *medius* middle.]

†1. An alto or tenor voice or part: = MEAN *sb.*[2] 2.

1565 (*title*) Mornyng and Euenyng prayer and Communion, set forthe in foure partes, to be song in churches. [title of Part] Medius. 1609 RAVENSCROFT *Deuteromelia* 17 Freemens Songs of 4. Voices. Treble..Medivs..Tenor..Bassvs. 1758 (*title*) Divine Melody in twenty-four choice Hymns; the first fifteen were set to Music, in two Parts, by Mr. Prelleur, the rest chiefly by Mr. Moze, who hath also composed a Medius to every Hymn.

2. In ecclesiastical music = MEDIANT.

1782 BURNEY *Hist. Mus.* II. 583 The Mode, the Dominant, and Medius, are all the same [in the three chants].

Medize (mī·dəiz), *v.* [mod. ad. Gr. Μηδίζ-ειν, f. Μῆδοι the Medes: see -IZE.] *intr.* To be a Mede in manners, language and dress; to side with the Medes. Of a Greek of the 6th and 5th c. B.C.: To favour the interests of the 'Median' or Persian enemies of his country. Also *trans.* To make like a Mede. Hence **Me·dizing** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1849 GROTE *Greece* II. xl. V. 101 The leading men of Thebes..decidedly *medised*, or espoused the Persian interest. *a* 1873 LYTTON *Pausanias* III. iii. (1876) 248 They would rather all Hellas were Medised than Pausanias the Heracleid. *Ibid.* iv. 265 The Medising traitor is here. *Ibid.* IV. iv. 341 They accuse him of medising. 1901 *Contemp. Rev.* Feb. 176 The Greek thought of 'Medizing' as the sum of all possible offences.

‖**Medjidie** (medʒī·die). Also **Medjidy, -deh.** [Turkish (Arabic) مجيدية *mejīdie*, f. the name عبد المجيد *Abdu'l Majīd.*]

1. A Turkish silver coin first minted by the Sultan Abdul-Medjid in 1844, equal to 20 piastres (about 3*s.* 8*d.*).

1882 *Macm. Mag.* XLVII. 191 He kindly offered these eggs at a medjidy apiece. 1902 *19th Cent.* Aug. 233 There are as yet no taxes but a poll tax of a medjideh.

2. *The Medjidie*: a Turkish order or decoration instituted in 1851 by the Sultan Abdul-Medjid.

1856 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* (1857) 291 The Imperial Order of the Medjidie of the First Class. 1888 *Hazell's Ann. Cyct.* 36/1 He [Sir Samuel Baker] has received the Order of the Grand Cordon of the Medjidie.

Medjidite (me·dʒidəit). *Min.* [f. name of the Sultan Abdul-*Medjid*: see -ITE.] A hydrous sulphate of uranium and calcium, first found near Adrianople.

1848 J. L. SMITH in *Amer. Jrnl. Sci.* Ser. II. V. 336.

†**Medkniche.** *local. Obs. rare*[−1]. [f. *med* (? MEED *sb.*, or MEAD[2]) + KNITCH.] (Explained in the context as the quantity of hay to be given in reward to the hayward, being as much as he could lift with his middle finger as high as his knee.)

1235–52 *Rentalia Glaston.* (Somerset Rec. Soc.) 85 Et die quando levat Langhemede, debet habere medkniche.

Medlar (me·dlər). Forms: 4–7, 9 **medler**, 5 **meddeller, medeler**, 5 **medlier**, 5–6 **meddeler**, 6 **medlor**, 5– **medlar.** [a. OF. *medler* (Godefr. *Compl.* s.v. *Nesplier*), f. **medle* (var. of *mesle*) medlar (fruit): see MEDLE.

Although the word primarily denoted the tree, it is in our earliest quot. already applied to the fruit. In present use sense 2 is the more common, the tree being usually called 'medlar-tree'; but Johnson 1755 (who was prob. not influenced by etymological considerations), and later lexicographers give sense 1 the first place.]

1. The fruit-tree *Mespilus germanica.*

The chief varieties in cultivation are the *Dutch, Nottingham*, and *Stoneless medlar.*

c 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* III. 1041 The meddeler to graffe ek tol[d] is how. *Ibid.* IV. 493 Now meddellers in hoot lond gladdest be, So hit be moyst. *a* 1450 *Fishing with Angle* (1883) 8 Take a feyr schoyt of blake thorne crabtre medeler or geneper. *a* 1500 in *Arnolde's Chron.* 63/2 The medlar wyl bere welle yf he bee plantyd. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* VI. xliii. 713 Our common Medlers doo flower in Aprill and May. 1664 EVELYN *Kal. Hort.* Nov. (1729) 222 Graft the Medler on the White-Thorn. 1741 *Compl. Fam.-Piece* II. iii. (ed. 3) 374 There are several other Trees and Shrubs which are now in Flower, as..dwarf Medlar. 1796 C. MARSHALL *Garden.* xvii. (1813) 283 The sorts are, the German, the Italian, and the English or Nottingham Medler. 1881 *Encycl. Brit.* XII. 271/2 The Medlar, *Mespilus germanica*, is a deciduous tree, native of the middle and south of Europe, and found in hedges and woods in England.

b. Applied to other trees, as *Neapolitan* or *Oriental Medlar*, the AZAROLE, *Cratægus Azarolus. Japan Medlar*, the LOQUAT.

1718 R. BRADLEY *New Improv. Plant. & Gard.* III. 18 The L'Azzarole or Neapolitan Medlar is a kind of Service. ..Of late Years it has been brought into England [from Italy]. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* s.v. *Cratægus*, 4. The jagged-leav'd cratægus, called parsley-leav'd medlar. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) V. 513/2 [*Cratægus Azarolus*, variety] the oriental medlar. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 727/2 Japan Medlar, *Eriobotyra japonica.*

2. The fruit of the medlar tree, resembling a small brown-skinned apple, with a large cup-shaped 'eye' between the persistent calyx-lobes. It is eaten when decayed to a soft pulpy state.

?*a* 1366 CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 1375 And many hoomly trees..That..bere, Medlers, ploumes, peres, chesteynes. *c* 1483 CAXTON *Dialogues* 13/7 Of fruit..Pesshes, medliers [F. *nesples*]. 1533 ELYOT *Cast. Helthe* (1539) 21 Medlars ar cold and dry, and constrictife. 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* III. ii. 125 You'l be rotten ere you bee halfe ripe, and that's the right vertue of the Medler. 1755 GRAY *Let.* in *Poems* (1775) 232 If there were nothing but medlars and black-berries in the world, I could be very well content to go without any at all. 1858 GLENNY *Gard. Every-day Bk.* 248/2 Medlars should be gathered, and laid by to rot.

fig. 1791 WOLCOT (P. Pindar) *Rights of Kings* xix, The beart should be a medlar, not a crab.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *medlar-jelly*; *medlar-like* adj.: **medlar tree** = 1.

1881 BLACKMORE *Christowell* xxxvi, We will take her some *medlar jelly. 1567 MAPLET *Gr. Forest* 42 The Fig tree is of no high growth..his flower *Medlerlike. 1548 TURNER *Names of Herbes* (E.D.S.) 53 Mespilus..is called in englishe a *medler tree. 1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* II. i. 34 Now will he sit vnder a Medler tree. 1873 MISS THACKERAY *Wks.* (1891) I. 70 A medlar-tree.

Medlay, obs. form of MEDLEY.

†**Medle.** *Obs.* Forms: 4–5 **medle, meyle,** 5 **mele, mel, merle,** 6 **marle.** [ME. *medle, mele, merle*, a. OF. **medle, meele, merle, mesle* (Godefr. *Compl.* s.v. *Nesple*):—L. *mespila, -us, -um*, a. Gr. *μεσπίλη, μέσπιλον.*

A late L. altered form **nespila* is represented by OF. *nesple* (mod.F. *nèfle*), Sp. *néspera*, Pg. *nespera*, It. *nespola* (cf. also Sp. *níspero*, It. *nespolo* medlar-tree). The L. word passed into Teut. as OHG. *mespila, nespila* (MHG. *mespel, mispel, nespel*, mod.G. *mispel*), MDu. *mispele* (mod.Du. *mispel*), Sw., Da. *mispel*; the Slavonic and other eastern European langs. have forms chiefly adopted from Ger.]

The fruit of the medlar-tree, a medlar. Also *attrib.* in *medle-tree.*

13.. *Sir Beues* (A.) 1287 A sat and dinede in a wede Vnder a faire medle tre. *a* 1387 *Sinon. Barthol.* (Anecd. Oxon.) 29/2 *Mespyla sunt fructus*, meyles. *c* 1425 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 646/28 *Hec mesculus*, meletre. 24.. *Nom.* ibid. 716/37 *Hec mespulus*, a meltre. *a* 1500 *Flower & Leaf* 86, I was ware of the fairest medle-tree That ever yet in al my lyf I sy. *a* 1500 in *Arnolde's Chron.* 64 b/2 Chese a graf of a good merle tree. 1573 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 76 Medlars or marles.

Medle, obs. form of MEDDLE; var. MELL *v.*[1]

Medle(e, Medler, obs. ff. MEDLEY, MEDLAR.

Medlert, variant of MIDDLE-EARTH.

Medles, variant of MEEDLESS *a. Obs.*, MILDS.

Medley (me·dli), *sb.* and *a.* Forms: 4 **medlay,** 4–5 **medlee,** 4–5, 7 **medle,** 5 **medele,** 5–8 **medly,** (5 **medely,** 6 **medleye**), 6–7 **medlie,** 7–8 **meddly,** 5– **medley.** [a. OF. *medlee*, var. of *meslee* (mod.F. *mêlée*: see MÊLÉE):—vulgar L. type **misculāta*, f. **misculāre* to mix: see MEDDLE *v.* Cf. Sp. *mezclada*, It. *mescolata.* The primary sense is thus 'mixture', but in Eng. the word occurs first in the sense of mingling in combat.]

A. *sb.*

1. Combat, conflict; fighting, esp. hand-to-hand fighting between two parties of combatants. Now only *arch.* Cf. MELLAY, MÊLÉE.

13.. *K. Alis.* 4612 His folk weore sone, in that medláy, Parforce y-dryven al away. *Ibid.* 6532 The olifans, in medlé, And theo lyouns he [the rinocertis] wol sle. 1340 *Ayenb.* 41 Huanne me makeþ medles ine chetche zuo þet þer ys blod yssed. 1470–85 MALORY *Arth.* I. xv. 56 Lucas and Gwynas & bryaunte & Bellyas of Flaundrys helde strong medle ayenst vj kynges. 1490 CAXTON *Eneydos* xi. 41 Ne seche nothyng but thyssne for to flee, yf there were ony medlee. 1586 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* I. vi. 21 The medly ended, Hercules did bring the Centaure bound To Prison. 1601 R. JOHNSON *Kingd. & Commw.* (1603) 197 When the warre was made in these poppulous countries..every man made one in the medle. 1653 H. COGAN tr. *Pinto's Trav.* vii. (1663) 19 Stepping before him with 2000 men, he cut off his way..in so much that the medly grew to be the same as it was before, and the fight was renewed. 1839 THIRLWALL *Greece* III. 301 Cleon..sent all the men who survived the first medley..prisoners to Athens. 1862 MERIVALE *Rom. Emp.* (1865) V. xlii. 168 Broken by repeated defeats,..he was..less conspicuous in the medley.

fig. 1791 BURKE *App. Whigs* Wks. 1808 VI. 26 In the press and medley of such extremities.

2. A combination, mixture.

†a. without disparaging sense. *Obs.*

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 331/1 Medle, or mengynge to-gedur of dyuerse thyngys, *mixtura.* *a* 1529 SKELTON *Agst. Scottes* 87 A medley to make of myrth with sadnes. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* I. (1586) 9 b, This kinde of building hath an equall medlie of the winter windes and sommer windes. *Ibid.* 32 b, A medley of sundry sortes of seedes. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 501 He that shall set vines there..shall make an excellent medley between the temperature of that aire and the nature of soile together. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 528 The Making of some Medley or Mixture of Earth, with some other Plants Bruised or Shauen. 1650 FULLER *Pisgah* III. xii. 346 Graves and green herbs make a good medly seeing all flesh is grass. 1712 tr. *Pomet's Hist. Drugs* I. 8 The Perfumers keep it..to mix among a variety of other Aromaticks, which is what we properly call a Medley.

b. in disparaging sense: A heterogeneous combination or mixture (of things); a mixed company (of persons differing in rank, occupation, etc.).

1652–62 HEYLIN *Cosmogr.* IV. (1682) 5 An hochpot or medly of many nations. 1668–9 PEPYS *Diary* 18 Jan., To the Duke of York's playhouse and there saw 'The Witts', a medley of things. 1683 T. HOY *Agathocles* 5 A wretched Medley betwixt Priest and Layman. 1755 SMOLLETT *Quix.* (1803) IV. 190 Leaving Don John and his companion astonished at the medley of sense and madness they had observed in his discourse. 1859 REEVE *Brittany* 236 A medley of shining brass pans, bellows, and tubs, are exposed for sale. 1865 GROTE *Plato* II. xxiv. 256 Principles which are a medley between philosophy and rhetoric. 1879 CHURCH *Spenser* 38 The Shepherd's Calendar, .. an early medley of astrology and homely receipts.

3. A cloth woven with wools of different colours or shades; = *medley-cloth* (see B. 4).

1438 *E. E. Wills* (1882) III, 1 gowne of Russet medley. 1502 *Privy Purse Exp. Eliz. of York* (1830) 70 Item for making of a gowne of tawny medley. 1609 *Stat. Laws Isle of Man* (1821) 79 Every Woolen Weaver shall have..for every Yard of Medlie 1*d.* Qs. *a* 1661 FULLER *Worthies, Wilts.* III. (1662) 143, I am informed that as Medleys are most made in other Shires, as good Whites as any are woven in this County. 1778 *Eng. Gazetteer* (ed. 2) s.v. *Frome-Selwood*, The cloths made here for the most part, are medleys of 7 or 8*s.* a yard. 1851 *Illustr. Catal. Exhib.* I. 98/1, XII. Woollen and Worsted. A. Broad Cloths. 1... Medleys...N.B. The term 'Medleys' includes all Wool-dyed Colours, excepting Blue and Black.

†4. A 'mixed' colour. *Obs. rare*[−0].

1499 *Promp. Parv.* 331/1 (Pynson), Medle[,] coloure, *mixtura.* 1530 PALSGR. 244/1 Medley[,] colour, *mellé.* 1556 WITHALS *Dict.* (1568) 34 b/2 Medley, *color mixtus.*

†5. = MASLIN[1] 1. *Obs. rare.* (Cf. B. 2.)

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 487 The Corinthian medley.

6. A musical composition consisting of parts or subjects of a diversified or incongruous character.

1626 BACON *Sylva* § 113 As when Galliard Time, and Measure Time, are in the Medley of one Dance. 1811 BUSBY *Dict. Mus.* (ed. 3), *Medley*...With the moderns, a medley is a humorous hotch-potch assemblage of the detached parts or passages of different well-known songs, so arranged that [etc.]. 1864 in WEBSTER; and in later Dicts.

7. As the title of a literary miscellany.

?1630 M. P. (black-letter sheet), An excellent new Medley. ?1640 — A new Medley, or Messe of All-together. 1710 (*title*) The Medley. No. 1. Oct. 5. 1728–42 POPE *Dunc.* I. 42 Hence Journals, Medleys, Merc'ries, Magazines. 1826 (*title*) The Entertaining Medley; being a collection of true histories and anecdotes.

B. *adj.*

†1. Of a mixed colour; variegated, motley. *Obs.*

c 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 328 (Ellesm.) He rood but hoomly in

a medlee cote. 14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 597/7 *Multicolor*, Medle. *c* 1515 *Cocke Lorell's B.* 8 A ryche pal..Made of an old payre of blewe medly popley hosone. 1595 in *Hist. MSS. Comm.* (1894) XLVIII. 309 A tall man..wearing a medly russet mandilliane of red and blue, with..a pair of medley russet venetians. 1622 Hakewill *David's Vow* vii. 252 Hee would not haue his family like a motley cloth, or a meddly colour. 1681 W. Robertson *Phraseol. Gen.* (1693) 876 A medley colour; *color mixtus.*

b. *Medley cloth*: see quot. 1837.

a 1661 Fuller *Worthies, Wilts.* III. (1662) 158 And such a *Medly*-Cloth, is the Tale-story of this Clothier. 1712 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5008/2 The Woollen Manufacture of Mixt or Medley Broad Cloath. 1769 *De Foe's Tour Gt. Brit.* II. 25 These fine Spanish Medley Cloths are the mix'd coloured Cloths, which all the Persons of Fashion in England wear. 1837 Youatt *Sheep* vi. 222 What are now called medley-cloths, different coloured wools being mixed together in the thread...These..were first made in Gloucestershire.

†2. *Medley brass* = Maslin[1]. *Obs.* (Cf. A. 5.)

1600 *Acc. Bk. W. Wray* in *Antiquary* XXXII. 279 One medle brasse potte.

3. Composed of diverse or incongruous parts or elements; mixed, motley.

1594 Nashe *Terrors Night* Wks. (Grosart) III. 229 A Medley kinde of licor called beere. 1597 J. King *On Jonas* (1599) 99 A garment of divers stuffes as of linnen and wollen, shall not come vpon thee...[May] such medly garments sit vpon the backes of our enemies. 1624 Wotton *Archit.* in *Reliq.* (1672) 58, I could wish such medly and motly Designs confined only to the Ornament of Freezes. 1642 Fuller *Holy & Prof. St.* III. vii. 167 A medly view (such as of water and land at Greenwich) best entertains the eyes. 1708 J. Philips *Cyder* II. 55 This the Peasants blithe Will quaff, and whistle,..Pleas'd with the medly Draught. 1745 Eliza Heywood *Female Spect.* (1748) II. 288 That strange, squeaking, meddly thing of the doubtful gender, Mr. Mollman. 1798 Wordsw. *Peter Bell* I. xxiii, Of courage you saw little there, But, in its stead, a medley air Of cunning and of impudence. 1838 Dickens *Nich. Nick.* xxiii, Who could do anything, from a medley dance to Lady Macbeth. 1878 Stubbs *Const. Hist.* III. xxi. 557 The medley multitude that held up their hands for or against the nominees of the hustings.

b. in Chance-medley, q. v.

4. *Comb.*, as *medley-coloured* adj.

1611 Speed *Hist. Gt. Brit.* v. ii. § 7. 8 As the Latine Poets describe them [the Britaines] hauing their backes pide or medlycoloured. 1701 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3758/8 A brownish medly coloured streight Coat.

Medley (me·dli), *v.* [f. Medley *sb.*] *trans.* To make a medley or mixture of; to intermix. Chiefly in Me·dleyed, me·dlied *pa. pple.* and *ppl. a.*

c 1483 Caxton *Dialogues* 14/34 Clothes medleyed [F. *draps mesles*], Red cloth or grene [etc.]. 1657 W. Morice *Coena quasi Κοινή* iii. 43 The common fate of men that compound and medly themselves to comply with several Interests. 1679 L. Addison *Mahumedism* xvi. 83 The things taught by Mahumed are so mixt and confused...And yet they are not more medly'd in themselves, than disadvantageously represented by Writers. 1710 Philips *Pastorals* iv. 8 Lo! here the King-Cup of a Golden Hue, Medley'd with Daisies white, and Endive blue. 1746 W. Horsley *Fool* (1748) II. 78 This Dish..was so odly medly'd, with Dutch, French, and Jacobite Materials, as to give universal Distaste. 1855 Singleton *Virgil* I. 297 And stones from stones asunder wrenched, and smoke Billowing with medlied dust. 1904 *Blackw. Mag.* July 87/1 Till we came to the medlied establishments of the native chiefs.

Medlie, obs. form of Medley.

Medlier, medlor, obs. forms of Medlar.

†**Medlure.** *Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. [ad. OF. **medlure*, var. of *meslure*, f. *medler*, *mesler* to mix: see Meddle *v.*] Mixing, mixture.

1413 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton 1483) IV. xxxiii. 82 This syluer must ben withouten medlure of ony corrupte metal.

Medly, Medo, obs. forms of Medley, Meadow.

Médoc, Medoc (medǫ·k, Fr. medɔk). [a. F. *médoc* from *Médoc* a district in S. W. France.] A general name for the red wines produced in Médoc, comprising all the best growths of 'claret'.

[1824 A. Henderson *Wines* 180 The fine perfume by which the Medoc wines are distinguished.] 1833 C. Redding *Mod. Wines* 52 The wines thus embodied are excellent Medoc. 1842 Thackeray *Miss Löwe* Misc. Ess. (1885) 313 He would send some excellent Médoc at a moderate price. *a* 1849 Poe *Cask of Amontillado* Wks. 1865 I. 348 A draught of this Medoc will defend us from the damps.

Medoe, Medon, obs. ff. Meadow, Maidan.

Medou, medow(e, medoy, obs. ff. Meadow.

Medowort, medow wurt: see Meadwort.

†**Medreie.** *Sc. Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. [App. an OF. semi-popular ad. L. *metrēta*, a certain denomination both of liquid and dry measure.] A certain measure used for corn.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxvi. (*Nycholas*) 219 Pane askit he þame to sel vitale, a bundre medreiis [orig. Latin *modiis*] at þe lest of ilke schipe at his request.

Medres(s)e(h), -ressa, obs. ff. Madrasah.

1662 J. Davies tr. *Olearius' Voy. Ambass.* 333 They [the Persians] have their Colleges, or Universities, which they call Medressa. 1687 A. Lovell tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* II. 80 Lodging Rooms for the Scholars of the Medrese. 1841 *Penny Cycl.* XX. 375/2 (*Samarcand*) The mesids (lower schools) and medresses (high schools or colleges).

Medrick (me·drik). *U. S.* Also **madrick.** A tern or sea-swallow (according to U. S. Dicts.).

1869 Lowell *Pict. fr. Appledore* 65 The medrick that makes you look overhead With short, sharp scream, as he sights his prey.

†**Medrinacks.** *Obs.* Forms: 6 **methernix, meddernix, me(d)dernex, mederinax,** 7 **mildernix, medrinack(e)s, medrianack(e)s, midri(a)nack(e)s, medrinacles.** [Of obscure origin; presumed to be ultimately identical with next.

There is nothing to show whether the Eng. word was adopted from Sp. or the Sp. word from Eng., or whether both come from a common source. The 16th c. forms bear some resemblance to the place-names *Metternich* (Westphalia), and *Medernach* (Luxemburg), but no evidence of connexion with those places has been found.]

A kind of canvas (see quots.).

1588 in *St. Papers* Dom. CCXV. 75 Imprimis, for 6. methernixes for the Roehuck £7 4*s.* 0*d.* 1588 *ibid.* CCXVIII. 24 Here is..not a cable, nether ropes..Speks, nailis, but vij bolts meddernexes. 1603-4 *Act* 1 *Jas. I*, c. 24 Preamble, The Clothes called Mildernix and Powle Davies, where of Saile Clothes..ar made, were heretofore altogether brought out of Fraunce and other partes beyond the Seas. 1611 Cotgr., *Aulonnes*, Ouldernes, Medrinacks, Poule-dauies, the canuas whereof sayles for ships are made. 1617 Minsheu *Ductor, Medrinacles*, a course canuas that Tailors stiffen doublets, and collers withall. *Ibid.*, *Poule-dauies*, Ouldernes, Medrinackes, the course canvas which taylors stiffen doublets with, or whereof sayles of ships are made. 1632 Sherwood, Medrianackes. .. Midrinackes. .. Oulderness (or Midrianacks). 1658-1706 Phillips, *Medrinacles.*

‖**Medrinaque.** ? *Obs.* Also 8 **madrenaque.** [Sp. *medriñaque*, 'Philippine stuff for stiffening women's skirts; short skirt' (Cuyás *Appleton's Sp.-Eng. Dict.*, N. Y., 1903); of obscure origin.

The Sp. word occurs in A. de Morga *Sucesos de las Islas Filipinas* (1609) in the forms *medrinaque* (p. 136) and *mendriñaque* (p. 138). It appears not to be, as might be supposed, a Tagal word, for in Santos' *Vocab. Tagalo* 1794 it is given as Spanish with various Tagal renderings. (Cf. Meorinacks.)]

(See quots.).

1704 tr. *Gemelli-Carperi's Voy.* v. in *Churchill's Voy.* IV. 442 [The Philippine islanders make] of the Thread of the Coco-Tree, a sort of Cloth they call *Madrenaque*, with the warp of Cotton. 1851 MacMicking *Recoll. Manilla* 217 In Luzon..the natives make a species of cloth from the plantain-tree, known by the names of *Medrinaque* and *Guiara* cloths. *Ibid.*, The bulk of all the Medrinaque exported goes to the United States. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 728 *Medrinaque*, a coarse fibre from the Philippines, obtained from the Sago palm, and used chiefly for stiffening dress linings, &c. [In later Dicts.]

Medsin, obs. form of Medicine *sb.*

Medsonable, obs. form of Medicinable.

Meduart, variant of Meadwort *Obs.*

Medue, obs. form of Meadow.

Medul(l, obs. forms of Meddle, Middle.

‖**Medulla** (mĭdv·lă). *Biol.* [L. *medulla* pith, marrow, prob. cogn. w. *medius* middle.]

1. *Anat.* The marrow of bones; also, the spinal marrow. Also, † the substance of the brain.

1651 *Raleigh's Ghost* 87 The inward medulla or marrow of the brain. 1668 *Phil. Trans.* III. 889 He affirms, that the whole Substance called the Medulla of the Brain and the After-brain is a Heap of Fibres or Vessels. 1813 J. Thomson *Lect. Inflam.* 393 The inner surface of the new bone.. is lined with a membrane containing medulla. 1845 Todd & Bowman *Phys. Anat.* I. 103 The cancelli are filled with fat, or medulla, the marrow of bone. 1854 Jones & Siev. *Pathol. Anat.* (1875) 147 These tumours always arise either from the inner layer of the periosteum or from the medulla of bone. 1873-5 Nicholson *Zool.* Glossary, *Medulla.* Applied to the marrow of bones; or to the spinal cord, with or without the adjective '*spinalis*'.

attrib. 1904 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 17 Sept. 649, I put her on red medulla tabloids.

b. (More fully *medulla oblongata*: lit. 'prolonged marrow'.) The hindmost segment of the brain, or continuation of the spinal cord within the cranium.

1676 Glanvill *Ess.* III. 5 Those Nerves, which .. are found by late Anatomists to proceed from the Medulla Oblongata. 1722 Quincy *Lex. Physico-Med.* (ed. 2) 51 The third [process] goes backwards on the upper side of the *Medulla.* 1878 Bartley tr. *Topinard's Anthrop.* 103 Section of the spinal cord where it joins the medulla oblongata. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 222 A softening patch on the left side of the medulla.

c. The central parts of certain organs (*esp.* the kidney) as distinguished from the cortex.

1878 Bristowe *Theory & Pract. Med.* 841 The vessels—and more especially those of the medulla, the Malpigian tufts, and the stellate veins on the surface [of the kidney]—become more or less deeply congested.

d. The soft fatty substance (the 'white substance' of Schwann) which forms the sheath of a nerve.

1839-47 Todd *Cycl. Anat.* III. 592/2 The real structure of the primitive nerve fibre appears to be a tube composed of homogeneous membrane, containing a delicate, soft, pulpy, semi-fluid, and transparent medulla. 1873 A. Flint *Physiol. Man, Nerv. Syst.* i. 19 These [nerve] fibres .. contain, enclosed in a tubular sheath, a soft substance called the medulla.

e. The nerve cord in certain worms.

1878 Bell tr. *Gegenbaur's Comp. Anat.* 167 A median one (sinus)..embraces in Clepsine and Piscicola, the alimentary canal and the ventral medulla.

f. The 'pith' of mammalian hair. Also, the soft fibrous substance which occupies the axis of the capsule of a growing feather.

1826 Prichard *Researches Phys. Hist. Man.* (ed. 2) I. 136 The pith or medulla [of hair] appears to be endowed with a species of vitality. 1835-6 Owen in *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 353/1 When the quill of the feather has acquired due consistence, the internal medulla becomes dried up. 1842 Prichard *Nat. Hist. Man.* (ed. 2) 95 Weber declares the human hair to consist of a homogeneous substance, in which no distinction of cortex and medulla can be perceived.

g. The endosarc of protozoa.

1888 Rolleston & Jackson *Anim. Life* 833 The protoplasm is either similar throughout, or it is divisible into an exoplasm (cortex) and endoplasm (medulla).

2. *Bot.* The pith or soft internal tissue of plants.

1651 *Raleigh's Ghost* 96 In the Medulla or marrow of the Plant there is a genital power or vertue. 1760-72 tr. *Juan & Ulloa's Voy.* (ed. 3) I. 286 The pod [of the guava], opened longitudinally, is found divided into several cells, each containing a certain spungy medulla. 1880 Gray *Struct. Bot.* iii. § 3. 75 The Pith or Medulla, consisting entirely of soft.. thin-walled cells.

b. = Medullin.

1819 J. G. Children *Chem. Anal.* 298 Medulla was obtained by Dr. John, from the pith of the sunflower.

†3. *fig.* The 'pith' or 'marrow' of a subject. Often in mod.L. titles of books (cf. Marrow *sb.*[1] 1 d); hence used for: A compendium, abridgement, summary. *Obs.*

1643 Milton *Divorce* Introd., Wks. 1851 IV. 12 Their youth run ahead into the easy creek of a System or a *Medulla*, suils there at will. 1660 South 36 *Serm.* (1720) II. 17 Their preaching Tools, their Medulla's Notebooks, their Mellificiums, Concordances, and all. 1704 Swift *T. Tub* v. Wks. 1755 I. 97 An infinite Number of Abstracts, Summaries, Compendiums, .. Medullas .. and the like. 1769 Bush *Hibernia Cur.* To Rdr. 12 The abridgers, who .. engage to furnish you, at a very easy expence, with the *medullam* of your civil history.

Medullar (mĭdv·lăr), *a.* ? *Obs.* [ad. late L. *medullār-is*, f. *medulla*: see Medulla and -ar[2].] = Medullary.

1541 R. Copland *Guydon's Quest. Chirurg.* E ij b, Woundes of the scalpe..be moste peryllous...yᵗ toucheth the substaunce medulare. 1670 *Phil. Trans.* V. 2062 The Medullar Mass of the Brain. 1715 Cheyne *Philos. Princ. Relig.* I. vi. 340 Nerves in the Medullar Part.

Medullary (mĭdv·lări, me·dŭlări), *a.* [ad. late L. *medullāris*: see prec. and -ary[2].]

1. *Anat.* Of, pertaining to, of the nature of, or resembling marrow. Also, pertaining to the medulla or central portion (of an organ or structure); occasionally, pertaining to the *medulla oblongata.*

1677 Plot *Oxfordsh.* 302 His assigning..the Medullary [*sc.* part of the brain], or *Corpus callosum*, for the operations of the Phantasie. 1704 J. Harris *Lex. Techn.* I. *Medullary Oil*, is the finer and more subtile part of the Marrow of the Bones. 1715 Cheyne *Philos. Princ. Relig.* I. vi. § 43 That Medullary Substance, that runs down its Cavity. 1748 Hartley *Observ. Man* I. i. 7 The Nerves arise from the medullary, not the cortical Part, every-where, and are themselves of a white Medullary Substance. 1828 Fleming *Hist. Brit. Anim.* 553 The whole colour [of a mollusc] is pink, with a dark medullary band. 1847-9 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* IV. I. 233/1 The kidneys of reptiles..have no distinction of cortical and medullary substance. 1871 Tyndall *Fragm. Sci.* (1879) II. xiv. 352 The human organism is provided with long whitish filaments of medullary matter. 1878 Bell tr. *Gegenbaur's Comp. Anat.* 42 The medullary tube or spinal cord [in *Vermes*]. *Ibid.* 512 The primitive medullary cavity..remains open in the lumbar swelling of Birds. 1878 tr. *H. von Ziemssen's Cycl. Med.* XIII. 863 Diseases which are proper to each occur in the medulla [oblongata]. This gives the medullary pathology a very varied character. 1886 *Buck's Handbk. Med. Sci.* III. 174/1 As the medullary groove deepens, its edges become more sharply defined.

b. Pertaining to the medulla of hair.

1844 Carpenter *Hum. Phys.* (ed. 2) 550 Most Human hairs consist of two distinct substances; an external, cortical, hard, and fibrous part; and an internal, medullary, granular portion. 1862 H. Macmillan in *Macm. Mag.* Oct. 462 The medullary portion, or pith of the hair.

c. *Path.* An alternative epithet for encephaloid or soft cancer or sarcoma.

1804 Abernethy *Surg. Observ. Tumours* (1816) 57 The disease is usually of a pulpy consistence; and I have, therefore, been induced to distinguish it by the name of medullary sarcoma. 1852 Jas. Miller *Pract. Surg.* (ed. 2) vi. 139 The medullary and malignant nasal polypi may be regarded as incurable. 1870 T. Holmes *Syst. Surg.* (ed. 2) I. 564 Medullary cancer at first spreads chiefly through the loose cellular tissue.

2. †a. Pertaining to the soft internal substance or pulp (of plants). *Obs.* b. *Bot.* Of, relating to, or connected with the pith of plants. *Medullary ray*: one of the wedge-shaped cellular processes which divide the vascular bundles and connect the pith with the bark in exogens. *Medullary sheath*: see quot. 1849.

1620 Venner *Via Recta* (1650) 133 The pulp or medullary substance of the Orange is not good to be eaten. 1812 J. Smyth *Pract. of Customs* (1821) 69 Colocynth, is the dried medullary part of a..Gourd. 1830 Lindley *Nat. Syst. Bot.* Introd. 19 Plates of cellular tissue..called medullary rays. 1849 Balfour *Man. Bot.* § 76 The Medullary-Sheath, is the fibro-vascular layer immediately surrounding the pith. 1882 *Encycl. Brit.* XIV. 553/2 The rest of the thallus consists of the medullary system.

†3. *transf.* Pertaining to the inner part of a mineral formation. *Obs.*

1778 Pryce *Min. Cornub.* 79 Thus, the medullary or inner part of a Fissure, in which the Ore lies, is all the way environed and bounded by two walls or coats of Stone.

†4. *fig.* Pertaining to the 'marrow' or inmost nature of something. *Obs.*

1651 Biggs *New Disp.* 198 This indication is peculiar, naturall, medullary, and intirely proper to it.

†**Medullate,** *v. Obs.*—° [f. MEDULL-A + -ATE3. (Late L. had *medullāre* to fill with marrow.)] 'To take out the marrow' (Bailey vol. II, 1727).

Medullated (mĭdʌ·le¹tĕd), *ppl. a.* [f. late L. *medullāt-us* having a marrow (f. *medulla*: see -ATE2) + -ED1.] Having a medulla.

1867 J. MARSHALL *Outl. Physiol.* I. 55 These medullated tubular nerve-fibres compose the white part of the brain and spinal cord. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 499 The medullated tracts of the cord.

Medulle, obs. form of MIDDLE.

Medullin (mĭdʌ·lin). *Chem.* [Used in German by John (1814); f. L. *medulla*: see MEDULLA and -IN.] A form of lignin derived from the pith of certain plants, esp. the sunflower.

1817 T. THOMSON *Chem.* (ed. 5) IV. 182 Of Medullin. This is the name given by Dr. John to the pith of the sunflower, &c. 1830 LINDLEY *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 200.

†**Medulline,** *a. Obs.* [f. MEDULL-A + -INE.] = MEDULLARY.

1620 VENNER *Via Recta* vii. 120 The medulline part of the Grape. 1727 BAILEY vol. II, *Medulline*, of or belonging to marrow.

Medullispinal, *a. Anat.* [f. MEDULLA + SPINAL.] Pertaining to the spinal cord.

1858 H. GRAY *Anat.* 416 The Veins of the Spinal Cord (medulli spinal). 1884 *Holden's Man. Dissect.* (ed. 5) 782 The medulli-spinal or proper veins of the spinal cord lie within the dura mater.

Medullitis (medŭləi·tis). *Path.* [f. MEDULL-A + -ITIS.] a. Inflammation of the spinal cord; myelitis. (Mayne *Expos. Lex.* 1856.) b. Inflammation of the marrow of bone; osteomyelitis. (Treves *Man. Surg.* 1889 II. 114.)

Medullose, *a. rare*—°. [f. MEDULL-A + -OSE.] Having the texture of pith.

1866 in *Treas. Bot.*; and in mod. Dicts.

†**Medullous,** *a. Obs.* [f. MEDULL-A + -OUS.] Marrowy; pithy; medullary.

1578 BANISTER *Hist. Man* I. 2 The Vertebres, and other small bones,..not beyng much medullous. 1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* 947 Platerus saith it containeth a medullous substance. 1684 tr. *Bonet's Merc. Compit.* I. 18 The medullous substance of the Cerebrum and Cerebellum.

Medusa (mĭdiū·să). Also 4 **Meduse.** [a. L. *Medūsa*, a. Gr. Μέδουσα.]

1. *Gr. Myth.* One of the three Gorgons, whose head, with snakes for hair, turned him who looked upon it into stone; she was slain by Perseus, and her head fixed on the ægis or shield of Athene. Hence used *allusively*.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 56 Cast noght thin yhe upon Meduse, That thou be torned into Ston. 1594 GREENE & LODGE *Looking Glasse* (1598) G 1, She is faire Lucina to your King, But fierce Medusa to your baser eye. 1598 HAKLUYT *Voy.* I. 222 Being as it were astonished with the snaky visage of Medusa. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* II. 611 Medusa with Gorgonian terror guards The Ford. 1753 RICHARDSON *Grandison* (1811) IV. xxvi. 207 But, after what Emily told me, she appears to me as a Medusa. 1882 M. ARNOLD *Irish Ess.* 179 And the true and simple reason against inequality they avert their eyes from, as if it were a Medusa.

attrib. 1876 GEO. ELIOT *Dan. Der.* VI. xlviii, The Medusa-apparition was made effective beyond Lydia's conception by the shock it gave Gwendolen. 1901 *Harper's Mag.* Apr. 684/1 Medusa-like locks fell in wild profusion over his bare shoulders. 1903 *Edin. Rev.* Apr. 407 The tragic beauty of a Medusa head.

2. *Zool.* (Pl. *medusæ*, *-as*.) a. A jelly-fish or sea-nettle; any one of the soft gelatinous discophorous hydrozoans. b. One of the two types of reproductive zooids in hydrozoans: opposed to *hydroid*.

Applied by Linnæus as the L. name of a genus (from the resemblance of certain species to a head with snaky curls). Now disused as a term of classification, but still employed descriptively, esp. as denoting one of the types recurring in the alternation of generations of certain hydrozoa.

1758 BORLASE *Nat. Hist. Cornw.* 256 The *Urtica marina* ..is called *Medusa*. *Ibid.* 257 Another variety of the Medusa's. 1832 MACGILLIVRAY tr. *Humboldt's Trav.* I. 28 The whole sea was covered with a prodigious quantity of medusæ. 1835 KIRBY *Hab. & Inst. Anim.* I. vii. 222 They [*sc.* Salpes] are gelatinous like the medusas and beroes. 1848 E. FORBES (*title*) A monograph of the British naked-eyed Medusæ. 1888 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* 752 The ovum is marked, as it always is in Craspedote Medusae. *Ibid.* 753 In C[unina] *proboscidea* the young sexually mature Medusa differs entirely from its parent.

c. *attrib.*, as *medusa-bud, -budding, form, generation, -larva, -type*; *medusa-like, -shaped*, adjs.

1851 *Edinb. New Philos. Jrnl.* L. 268 The *Medusa-bud falls off before its full development. 1871 ALLMAN *Gymnobl. Hydroids* 82 The phenomenon of *medusa-budding does not necessarily find its extreme term in the formation of the medusa itself. 1878 BELL tr. *Gegenbaur's Comp. Anat.* 95 Swimming Hydroid colonies, all the persons of which have passed into the *Medusa form. 1855 W. S. DALLAS in *Syst. Nat. Hist.* I. 254 A *Medusa generation may go on producing Medusa generations. 1888 BROOKS in *Stud. Biol. Labor. Johns Hopkins Univ.* IV. 148 The hydranth is essentially a *medusa-larva. 1848 E. FORBES *Naked-eyed Medusæ* 81 Mr. Lister..describes and figures *Medusa-like animals in course of production from *Campanulariæ*. 1846 DANA *Zooph.* iii. (1848) 23 The *medusa-shaped young. 1871 ALLMAN *Gymnobl. Hydroids* 84 A very different *medusa-type.

†**Medusæan,** *a. Obs.* [f. L. *Medūsæus* MEDUSA + -AN.] Of, pertaining to, or resembling Medusa.

1608 TOPSELL *Serpents* (1658) 628 The Adder..hath many epithets; as..hurtful, Medusæan, Cyniphian. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Meduceian* [sic].

Medusal (mĭdiū·săl), *a. Zool.* [f. MEDUSA + -AL.] Pertaining to, or of the nature of, a medusa.

1847 TULK tr. *Oken's Physiophilos.* 591 Fam. 9. Medusal Worms, *Asteriadæ*. 1859 ALLMAN in *Ann. Nat. Hist.* Ser. III. IV. 144 The polypal and the medusal terms of this series. 1888 *Nature* 9 Aug. 356/2 Its endoderm has no direct communication with the medusal endoderm.

Medusan (mĭdiū·săn), *a.* and *sb. Zool.* [f. MEDUS-A + -AN.] a. *adj.* Of or pertaining to the medusæ, or to medusoid animals. b. *sb.* A medusan animal. (In recent Dicts.)

1847 DALYELL *Rare & Remark. Anim. Scot.* I. 123 The expanding Medusan lobes. *Ibid.*, Thus the Medusan circle is of larger diameter than the tentacular circle. 1888 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* 761 The Medusan eye consists of sense-cells with pigmented..supporting cells.

†**Medusa·rian,** *a.* and *sb. Zool. Obs.* [f. mod.L. *Medūsāria* neut. pl. (f. MEDUSA) + -AN.] a. *adj.* Of or belonging to the (now disused) family *Medusaria*, consisting of the medusæ or jelly-fishes. b. An animal of this family.

1841 *Penny Cycl.* XIX. 119/2 The *Pulmograda*, or *Medusarians*. 1847 DALYELL *Rare & Remark. Anim. Scot.* I. 68 The Medusarian race. *Ibid.* 70 The legions of the Medusarian family.

Medusa's head. Also, when used attrib., Medusa head.

1. *Astr.* A cluster of stars including the bright star Algol, in the constellation Perseus.

1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Algol*, or *Medusa's Head*. 1819 J. WILSON *Dict. Astrol.*

2. a. An ophiuran echinoderm of either of the genera *Astrophyton* and *Euryale*; a basket-fish or sea-basket. b. An extant crinoid, *Pentacrinus caput-medusæ*.

1784 *Cook's Voy.* (1790) IV. 1292 Upon the beach were found many pretty Medusa's-heads. 1848 MAUNDER *Treas. Nat. Hist.* 414 *Medusa's Head*, a name sometimes applied to those species of Star-fishes which have the rays very much branched. *Ibid.* 225 [*Euryale*] sometimes known by the name of Medusa's heads. 1863 WOOD *Nat. Hist.* III. 738 Medusa's Head—*Pentacrinus Caput Medusæ*.

3. a. A kind of spurge, *Euphorbia Caput-Medusæ*. b. A species of orchid, *Cirrhopetalum Medusæ*. c. A species of agaric, *Hydnum Caput-Medusæ*.

1760 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* App. 319 Medusa's Head, *Euphorbia*. 1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) I. 181 The bulbous agaric, the Medusa's head [etc.]. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 728/1 Medusa's Head. *Euphorbia Caput Medusæ*; also *Cirrhopetalum Medusæ*. 1871 COOKE *Handbk. Fungi* 297 *Hydnum caput-medusæ* Bull. Medusa-head Hydnum.

Medusian (mĭdiū·siăn), *a.* and *sb. Zool.* [f. MEDUS-A + -IAN.] = MEDUSAN. In mod. Dicts.

Medusid (mĭdiū·sid), *sb.* and *a. Zool.* [ad. mod.L. *Medūsidæ* pl., f. MEDUSA: see -ID.] a. *sb.* A jelly-fish of the family *Medusidæ*. b. *adj.* Belonging to the *Medusidæ*.

1861 J. R. GREENE *Man. Anim. Kingd., Cœlent.* 61 The adult Medusid. *Ibid.* 63 Some true Medusids. *Ibid.* 118 A group of Medusid forms.

Medusidan (mĭdiū·sidăn), *a.* and *sb. Zool.* [f. *Medūsid-æ* (see prec.) + -AN.] a. *adj.* Of or belonging to the *Medusidæ* or jelly-fishes (*Cassell's Encycl. Dict.* 1885). b. *sb.* One of the *Medusidæ* (Webster, 1847–54).

Medusi·ferous, *a. Zool.* [f. MEDUS-A + -(I)FEROUS.] Bearing or producing a medusa.

1859 ALLMAN in *Ann. Nat. Hist.* Ser. III. IV. 50 A verticil of medusiferous gonophores.

Medusiform (mĭdiū·sifɔm), *a. Zool.* [f. MEDUS-A + -(I)FORM.] Resembling a medusa; medusoid.

1848 E. FORBES *Naked-eyed Medusæ* 80 An account of the production of medusiform bodies in a Zoophyte of the Adriatic. 1881 *Encycl. Brit.* XII. 554/1 The medusiform persons being early produced did not separate themselves from the colony.

Medusite (mĭdiū·səit). [ad. mod.L. *Medūsītes*: see MEDUSA and -ITE.] A fossil medusa.

In recent Dicts.

Medusoid (mĭdiū·soid), *a.* and *sb. Zool.* [f. MEDUS-A + -OID.]

A. *adj.* Resembling a medusa; medusa-like.

1848 E. FORBES *Naked-eyed Medusæ* 83 Zoophytic and Medusoid forms would have regularly alternated. 1870 ROLLESTON *Anim. Life* 162 The 'medusoid-bud' presented to us in the 'gonophore' of the Sea-Fir.

B. *sb.* 1. The medusa-like generative bud of a fixed hydrozoan.

1848 E. FORBES *Naked-eyed Medusæ* 72 The full-grown medusoid of the *Corymorpha*. 1870 NICHOLSON *Man. Zool.* I. 87 These being developed into the sexless *Hydrozoön* by which the medusoid was produced.

2. A medusa or medusa-like animal.

1882 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* VI. 282 One of the prettiest free-swimming Medusoids is more or less bell-shaped. 1890 FOTHERGILL *Zool. Types & Classif.* 12 Free swimming 'Medusoids' or Craspedota with velum.

Medusome (mĭdiū·sōum). *Zool.* [f. MEDUSA (? + Gr. σῶμα body).] A modified medusoid.

1892 J. A. THOMSON *Outl. Zool.* 143 Free-swimming colonies of modified medusoid persons (medusomes).

Meduwe, medwe, obs. forms of MEADOW.

Medwart, -wert, etc.: see MEADWORT.

Medwif, -wyfe, obs. forms of MIDWIFE.

Medyl(l(e, obs. forms of MEDDLE, MIDDLE.

Medyng(e, obs. ff. MEEDING *ppl. a.*, MIDDEN.

Medys, variant of MIDS.

Meeble, variant of MOBLE *sb. Obs.*

Meece, obs. plural of MOUSE.

Meech, -er, etc., var. ff. MICHE, MICHER, etc.

Meed (mīd), *sb.* Forms: 1 *méd*, 2–7 (9 *arch.*) **mede**, 3 (?*pl.*) **meda**, 4 **meode**, 4–5 **med**, 4–7 **meede**, 4–8 *Sc.* **meid**, 7 **meade**, 5– **meed.** [OE. *méd* fem. = OFris. *mêde*, *mîde*, *meide*, OS. *mêda*, *mieda*, *meoda* (MLG. *mêde*, *meide*, MDu. *miede*), OHG. *mêta*, *miata*, *mieta* (MHG., mod.G. *miete*) :—WGer. *mêda* str. fem., cogn. w. OE. *meord* fem., reward, pay, Goth. *mizdô* wk. fem., reward (:—OTeut. **mizdâ*, *-ôn-*), Gr. *μισθός*, OSl. *mĭzda*, Zend *mīzda* reward, Skr. *mīdhá* prize, contest:—Indo-germanic type **mizdho-*, *-dha-*.

The exact nature of the relation between the WGer. **mêda* and the OTeut. **mizdâ* is disputed. According to some scholars the former represents a Pre-Teut. type **mēizdhā* (ablaut-var. of **mizdhā*), the disappearance of the *z* being due to the long diphthong.]

1. In early use: That which is bestowed in requital of labour or service, or in consideration of (good or ill) desert; wages, hire; recompense, reward. Now only *poet.* or *rhetorical*, in narrower sense: A reward, guerdon, or prize awarded for excellence or achievement; one's merited portion *of* (praise, honour, etc.).

Beowulf 2134 He me mede ȝehet. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 45 Þonne onfoh hi from Gode maran mede. *c* 1200 ORMIN 4381 Siþþenn shall þe Laferrd Crist Uss ȝifenn ure mede. *c* 1205 LAY. 17646 What scal beon mi mede ȝif ic þider ride? *c* 1275 *Passion our Lord* 61 in *O. E. Misc.* 39 Vor alle þe gode þat he heom dude hi yolde him luþre mede. *a* 1330 *Otuel* 858 Such cas may fallen in sum neede, He mai quiten vs oure mede. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 5355 No tong miȝt telle þe twentiþe parte Of þe mede to menstrales þat mene time was ȝeue. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Anel. & Arc.* 305 A scorne shall be my mede. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 2392 Þov schalt haue an hundred pound of golde for þy mede. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* I. xv. 83 Forto serue God and deserue meede in bevene. 1509 BARCLAY *Shyp of Folys* (1570) 49 He that lendeth to baue rewarde or mede..may of hell payne haue dread. 1563 BECON *Wks.* III. Pref. AAAA iij, In the kepyng of them there is great mede. 1570 *Satir. Poems Reform.* XX. 105 That man in deid is worth sum meid, His fault that dois confes. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. ii. 37 A Rosy girlond was the victors meede. 1613 HEYWOOD *Silver Age* I. i. Wks. 1874 III. 90 As thy guilt's meede, by that monster die. 1637 MILTON *Lycidas* 14 He must not flote upon his watry bear..Without the meed of som melodious tear. 1658 PHILLIPS, *Meed*, (old word) merit, or reward. *a* 1677 BARROW *Serm.* Wks. 1716 II. 158 A long and prosperous enjoyment of the Land of Canaan was the meed set before them. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* XIV. 177 If so, a cloak and vesture be my meed; Till his return, no title shall I plead. 1769 SIR W. JONES *Palace Fortune* Poems (1777) 19 Let falling kings beneath my javelin bleed, And bind my temples with a victor's meed. 1814 SCOTT *Ld. of Isles* III. iv, A lordly meed To him that will avenge the deed! 1830 D'ISRAELI *Chas. I*, III. v. 66 The office of Lord High Treasurer, to which..the nobility looked as their meed of honour and power. 1854 S. DOBELL *Balder* xxiii. 125 Rich loves that, as they list, Exchange and take and give Unmeted mede and debts for ever due. 1877 SPARROW *Serm.* xix. 252 The exacting of God's meed of praise is only postponed for a little while. 1885–94 R. BRIDGES *Eros & Psyche* Apr. viii, To be praised for beauty and denied The meed of beauty.

† b. in *collective plural. Obs.*

a 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* IV. iii. (Schipper) 358 Þa me to þam heofonlican medum cyȝdon & laþedon. *c* 1205 LAY. 2987 God scal beon þi meda for þira gretinge. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 38 Summe þurh muchele ȝeouen & misliche meden. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 2353 Lang he led him with delay To mare þe medes of his fai. 1382 WYCLIF *Gen.* XXXI. 8 The dyuers colourid shulen be thi medis. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 2428 ȝit rad for all þaire rebelte resayued þai þaire medis. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* XVI. 2 Sum gevis for mereit and for meidis. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. ii. 31 She..winnes an Olive girlond for her meeds. 1592 CONSTABLE *Sonn.* xiii, If Love be ledd by hope of future meedes. [1613 HEYWOOD *Silver Age* III. i. Wks. 1874 III. 127 Theseus, Perithous, Philoctetes, take Your valours meeds. *a* 1616 B. JONSON *Poetaster, Dial. Hor. & Trebatius*, Then dare to sing vnconquer'd Caesars deeds; Who cheeres such actions, with aboundant meeds.]

c. *To meed* (in ME. also *to medes*, OE. *tó médes*): as a reward. *Obs.* exc. *arch.* Also † *to* (*one's*) *meed.*

In the OE. form *médes* is an irregular genitive sing., owing its inflexion to the analogy of neuter nouns used in similar advb. phrases; in ME. it was doubtless taken as a plural.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Saints' Lives* (Skeat) I. 270 God him sylð to medes þæt ece lif. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 155 Þet we moten ..habbe to mede endelese hlisse. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 67 Ure louerd ihesu crist..giueð hem to medes eche lif and blisse. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 3150 Wat woste..þulke mon to is mede ȝiue uawe, þat þe king aurely broȝte sone of lifdawe? *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* II. 1152 (1201) My-self to medes wole þe lettre sowe. *a* 1400 *Celestin* 75 in *Anglia* I. 69 To meodes I wile bicom þi man at þi somoun. *Ibid.* 611 *ibid.* 82 Wratthe and enuie, haue þis to meode. *c* 1440 *Cast. Persev.* 603 To medys þou ȝeue me howse and londe. 1870 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* III. IV. 186 Those who pleasure had to meed Upon a day when all were glad.

† d. *For any meed*: from any motive. *For no* (*kin*) *meed*: on no account, not at all. *Obs.*

13.. *Coer de L.* 5404 Off Kyng Richard myght they nought spede, To take trewes for no mede. *a* 1330 *Syr Degarre* 614 Lo, what chaunse and wonder strong, Bitideth mani a man with wrong; That..spouseth wif for ani mede.

a 1400–50 *Alexander* 3120 Me wondirs, I-wisse if he it wete wald, For any mede a-pon mold his meneyhe to lyuire. *c* 1407 Lydg. *Reson & Sens.* 6248 For age taryeth for no mede. *c* 1450 *Bk. Curtasye* 135 in *Babees Bk.*, Ne spit not lorely, for no kyn mede, Before no mon of god for drede. *c* 1460 *Launfal* 363, I warne the, That thou make no bost of me, For no kennes mede.

†**e.** A gift. *Obs. rare.*

1607 Shaks. *Timon* I. i. 288 No meede but he repayes Seuen-fold aboue it selfe.

¶ **f.** Adjudged character or title. *rare.*

1833 Tennyson *Œnone* 85 Pallas and Aphrodite, claiming each This meed of fairest. 1868 Miss Yonge *Cameos* (1877) I. xxxiv. 291 Even the world itself could hardly award the meed of unprofitable to the studies of Roger Bacon.

†**2.** Reward dishonestly offered or accepted; corrupt gain; bribery. *Obs.*

1362 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. III. 241 Þat laborers and louh folk taken of heore Maystres, Nis no Maner Meede bote Mesurable huyre. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 247 False curatis þat 3euen mede or hire to comen in-to siche worldly offices. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Pars. T.* ¶ 521 Thow shalt nat swere for enuye, ne for fauour ne for meede. ?1423 *Rolls of Parlt. V.* 407/1 For affection, love, mede, doubte or drede. 1436 *Libel Eng. Policy* in *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 184 That they take mede wythe pryvé violence, Carpettis, and thynges of price and pleysaunce. 1523 Lo. Berners *Froiss.* I. xviii. 25 He toke mede and money of the Scottis. 1549 Coverdale, etc. *Erasm. Par. Gal.* 20 He that for corrupte teachyng the gospel receiueth mede of him, whom he so teacheth [etc.]. 1550 Crowley *Epigr.* 196 It is a packe of people that seke after mede. 1591 Florio *2nd Frutes* 93 Golden meedes doo reach al heights. 1633 T. Stafford *Pac. Hib.* I. i. (1821) 33 For any respect of Favour, Meade, Dreade, Displeasure, or Corruption. 1765 Blackstone *Comm.* I. 230 Without partiality through affection, love, meed, doubt, or dread. 1808 Scott *Marm.* II. xxii, Her comrade was a sordid soul, Such as does murder for a meed.

personified. 1362 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. II. 16 'Þat is Meede þe mayden', quod heo, 'þat hath me marred ofte'. *c* 1381 Chaucer *Parl. Foules* 228 Fool hardynesse & flaterye & desyr, Messageryе, & meede & oþer thre.

†**3.** Merit, excellence, worth. *Obs.*

a 1375 *Lay Folks Mass Bk.* App. iv. 20 Þat is the Meedes of þe Masse. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 476 And siþ it is greet meede to do almes for a tyme, it were myche more meede to contynue perpetual almes. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) V. 149 A man of grete meryt and mede. 1493 *Festivall* (W. de W. 1515) 47 b, Fayth hath no mede ne meryte Where mannes wytte gyueth experyence. 1509 Barclay *Shyp of Folys* (1570) 42 It is mede, To geue it to such as haue necessitie. 1565 Jewel *Repl. Harding* 375 They say, It is a mater of special meede: and hable to Confounde Heresies. 1593 Shaks. 3 *Hen. VI*, IV. viii. 38 My meed hath got me fame. *a* 1600 *Floddan F.* i. (1664) 2 Thou imp of Mars thy worthy meeds, Who can discourse with due honour. 1623 Cockeram, *Meed*, desert. 1714 Gay *Sheph. Week* Wed. 17 Thou bard of wond'rous meed. (*Note*, Meed, an old word for Fame or Renown.)

†**b.** *To do meed*: ? to do one's duty. *Obs.*

c 1400 *Melayne* 1017 Sen ilke a man feghtis for his saule I sall for myn do mede.

4. *Comb.* †**med3eorn** *a.* [see Yern *a.*; cf. MHG. *metegern*], desirous of bribes.

a 1200 *Moral Ode* 256 Med3eorne [*v.rr.* -ierne, -3ierne, -yorne] domes men.

†**Meed,** *v. Obs.* Forms: 2 **meaden,** 3–6 **mede,** 3 **medin,** 4 **med, myde, medi,** 4–7 **meed**(e. [f. Meed *sb.* Cf. OS. *mêdan* (MLG., MDu. *mieden*), OHG. *miaten* (MHG., mod.G. *mieten*).]

1. *trans.* To reward, recompense. In bad sense, to bribe.

a 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 243 We scule bien imersed alle [*read* alse] gode cempen and imeaded mid heahere mede. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 415 He bihet to medin ham mid swiðe heh mede. 1340 *Ayenb.* 146 He [God]..alle ssel deme communliche and alle medi largeliche þo þet habbeþ y-hyealde his hestes. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 4646 He .. meded hem so moche wiþ alle maner þinges,..So þat þei him bi-hi3t bi a schort terme, þat þei priueli wold enpoyson þe king & his sone. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) III. 421 Þanne Alisaundre mededе [L. *subornabat*] þe bisshoppes, and warned hem what answere he wolde have. *c* 1400 tr. *Secreta Secret., Gov. Lordsh.* 107 It fallys þat þou mede his werkys, aftyr his seruyce þat he doos to þe. 1496 *Dives & Paup.* (W. de W.) IX. xiv. 367/2 They shal be thanked & be meded therfore as I sayd fyrste. *a* 1542 Wyatt in *Tottel's Misc.* (Arb.) 223 Mine Anna..My loue that medeth with disdaine.

2. To deserve, merit. *nonce-use.*

1613 Heywood *Silver Age* I. Wks. 1874 III. 89 Thy body meedes a better graue.

Meed(e, obs. forms of Mead.

†**Mee·der.** *Obs.* [f. Meed *v.* + -er[1].] One who gives bribes.

1556 J. Heywood *Spider & F.* vii. 19 Meede, Judgth the meeder, more, then Justice conteinse.

Meedewe, obs. form of Meadow.

†**Mee·dful,** *a. Obs.* Also 4–5 med-, 4–6 mede-, meede-. [f. Meed *sb.* + -ful.] Deserving of reward, meritorious.

a 1340 Hampole *Psalter*, etc. 499 Þe froyte of goed werke & of medful meditacioun. 1465 *Paston Lett.* II. 224 It is merytory, nedefull and medefull to bere witnesse of trought. 1530 Palsgr. 318/1 Medefull, *meritable.* 1573 Tusser *Husb.* (1878) 177 True pittie is meedeful.

Hence †**Meedfully** *adv.*, †**Meedfulness.**

c 1340 Hampole *Prose Tr.* 23 So shalt þou goo from the oone to the othir medefully, and fulfille hem both. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 276 It techyth how..þou schalt medefully mynystryn..þi temperall godys. 1530 Palsgr. 244/1 Medefulnesse, *merite.*

†**Mee·ding,** *vbl. sb. Obs.* [f. Meed *v.* + -ing[1].] **1.** The action of the vb. Meed; rewarding.

c 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* III. 7 For he [*sc.* Christ] failiþ no tyme, here in helpinge, ne in hevene of meedynge.

2. In phr. *to meeding*: as a reward.

a 1300 *Strir* 271 Have her twenti shiling, This ich 3eve the to meding, To bugген the sep and swin. 13.. *K. Alis.* 5533 The lettre was onon y-write. Kyng Alisaunder it underfynge, And golde and silver to medyng.

†**Mee·ding,** *ppl. a. Obs.* [? f. **meede* v., ad. L. *medērī* to heal + -ing[2].] ? Healing.

1599 T. M[ouffet] *Silkwormes* 31 With their friendly hands and meeding art To hasten that which ready was to part.

Meedles, obs. form of Milds.

†**Mee·dless,** *a. Obs. rare.* [f. Meed *sb.* + -less.] Having no meed; undeserving; unrewarded.

1435 Misyn *Fire of Love* 67 In kyngis seruis or grete lordis grete gyftis meydles þa haue resauyd. 1783 J. Young *Crit. Gray's Elegy* 70 Yet glows not, meedless quite, the warm desire.

Meedth, Meef(e, obs. ff. Mead *sb.*[1], Move *v.*

Meek (mīk), *a.* Forms: 3 **meoc, muk,** 3–4 **mec,** 3–5 **mek, meok**(e, **muke,** 3–6 **meke,** 4–5 **mieke, meyk, myke,** (*superl.* **mekerst**(e), 4–7 **meeke,** (6 **myck**), 5–7 *Sc.* **meik**(e, 4– **meek.** [Early ME. *meoc*, a. ON. *miúk-r* soft, pliant, gentle (Sw. *mjuk*, Da. *myg*); related by ablaut to Goth. **mūk-s* in *mūka-mōdei* meekness (Gr. *πραΰτης*); also to early mod.Du. *muik* soft (:—**mūko-*).

According to some scholars the same root is found in ON. *myki* (see Muck) and, outside Teut., in Oirish *mocht* (:—**mukto-*) soft, Welsh *mwytho* to soften.]

1. †**a.** Gentle, courteous, kind. Of a superior: Merciful, compassionate, indulgent. *Obs.*

c 1200 Ormin 2501 E33þerr [*sc.* Mary and Joseph] wass wiþþ oþerr mec. 1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 12254 Newe þy shryfte euer ylyke, hyt makeþ Iesu cryst to þe meke [*v.r.* myke]. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 412 Haue here þis bold barn & be til him meke. 1362 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. I. 150 Þei3 3e ben mi3ty to mote beþ meke of 3our werkis. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* I. 390 Quhen he wes blyth, he wes luffy, And meyk and sweyt in cumpany. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 215 It Ioyes me, Iason, of þi iust werkes, Þat so mighty & meke & manly art holdyn. *c* 1450 *Cov. Myst.* (Shaks. Soc.) 201 Every man..Be meke and lowe the pore man to. 1530 Palsgr. 318/2 Meke pityfull, *clement.* 1557 Grimald in *Tottel's Misc.* (Arb.) 97 Then, for our loue, good hope were not to seek: I mought say with myself, she will be meek. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S. T. S.) 115 The Lord is meik, and mercyfull is he. 1601 Shaks. *Jul. C.* III. i. 255, I am meeke and gentle with these Butchers. 1609 Bible (Douay) *Ps.* lxxxv. Comm., He is meeke to remitte offences.

b. As connoting a Christian virtue (= Vulgate *mansuetus*, Biblical Gr. *πρᾶος*): Free from haughtiness and self-will; piously humble and submissive; patient and unresentful under injury and reproach.

c 1200 Ormin 667 Godess enngell iss full meoc, & milde, & soffte, & bliþe. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 103 Deos milde meke meiden. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 47/14 He [Edward the Martyr] was meoke and milde inou3. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 460 Crist .. was porerste man of lif & mekerste & moost vertuous. 1382 — *Matt.* xxi. 5 Loo! thi kyng cometh to thee, homly [*gloss*] or meke, sittynge on an asse. *a* 1400 *Transl. N. T.* (Selwyn MS.) 2 *Tim.* iii. 4 (Paues 119) Incontynent, no3[t] muke, with-outen benygnyte. *c* 1491 *Chast. Goddes Chyld.* xxii. 60 He that is not meke is proude. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 10 b, With a clene herte & meke spiryte. 1535 Coverdale 1 *Pet.* iii. 4 A meke & a quyete sprete. 1590 Shaks. *Com. Err.* II. i. 33 Patience vnmou'd, no maruel though she pause, They can be meeke, that haue no other cause. 1637 Milton *Lycidas* 177 In the blest Kingdoms meek of joy and love. 1667 — *P. L.* III. 266 His words here ended, but his meek aspect Silent yet spake. 1766 Fordyce *Serm. Yng. Wom.* (1767) II. xiii. 227 A proud Character was never a meek one. 1838 Lytton *Alice* 31 'God is good to me', said the lady, raising her meek eyes. 1860 Warter *Sea-board* II. 158 Bold bad men far outnumber the meek ones of the earth.

absol. c 1200 Ormin 9613 Drihhtin hateþþ modi3 mann, & lufeþþ alle meoke. 1382 Wyclif *Luke* i. 52 He puttide doun my3ty men fro seete, and enhaunside meke. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S. T. S.) 96 Till slay the meik and Innocent. *c* 1580 Sidney *Ps.* xxv. vi, The meeke he doth in judgment leade. 1535 Coverdale *Matt.* v. 5 Blessed are the meke: for they shall inherit the erth. 1798 Porteus *Lect. Matt.* vi. (1802) 139 These [blessings], I apprehend, are the peculiar purtion and recompence of the meek.

c. Submissive, humble (occas. † const. *to*). In unfavourable sense: Inclined to submit tamely to oppression or injury, easily 'put upon'; now often in a tone of ironical commendation, with allusion to 1 b.

1340–70 *Alisaunder* 953 Hee..made all þe menne meeke too his wyll. 1362 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. x. 83 Drede is such a Mayster þat he makeþ Men Meoke and Mylde of heore speche. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Clerk's T.* 85 Hir meeke preyere and hir pitous cheere. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 1747 Made to be meke malegreue his chekis. *c* 1450 *Bk. Curtasye* 179 in *Babees Bk.*, Be not to meke, but in mene þe holde, For ellis a fole þou wylle be tolde. 1536 R. Beerley in *Four C. Eng. Lett.* (1880) 34 My lowly and myck scrybulling. *c* 1560 A. Scott *Poems* (S. T. S.) ii. 142 Than every man gaif Will a mok, And said he wes our meik. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* I. x. 44 He humbly louted in meeke lowlinesse. 1741 Richardson *Pamela* (1824) I. 180 When I have asked thee, meek-one, half a dozen questions together, I suppose thou wilt answer them all at once! 1835 Lytton *Rienzi* I. i, The boy was of a meek and yielding temper. 1868 Browning *Ring & Bk.* I. 976 He feels he has a fist, then folds his arms Crosswise and makes his mind up to be meek. 1884 W. C. Smith *Kildrostan* 92, I hate Your meek and milky girls that dare not kiss A burning passion, clinging to your lips. 1891 *Spectator* 4 July, [They] put up with angry opposition in a way which, if English statesmen did it, would be denounced as 'meek'.

d. Proverbial phr. (in the various senses above) *As meek as a lamb, a maid*, etc., *as Moses.*

c 1330 *Spec. Gy de Warewyke* 260 He þat was woned to be Meke as a lomb, ful of pite. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Miller's T.* 16 He was..lyk a mayden meke for to see. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* IX. 1937 In tym off pes, mek as a maid was he. 1860 Geo. Eliot *Mill on Fl.* I. xii, Mr. Glegg,..though a kind man..was not as meek as Moses.

†**e.** Used as *adv.* = Meekly.

c 1330 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 167 Ageyn R. he ferd, to fote he felle fulle meke. *a* 1425 *Cursor M.* 18982 (Trin.) Bope on mon & wommon eke Of prophecie shul þei speke meke. 1605 Shaks. *Mach.* I. vii. 17 Besides, this Duncane Hath borne his Faculties so meeke.

2. Of animals: Tame, gentle, not fierce.

c 1200 Ormin 1312 Forr lamb is soffte & stille deor, & meoc, & milde, & liþe. *c* 1325 *Metr. Hom.* 158 Douf a ful mec fuel is. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxxiii. (*George*) 278 He folouyt hyre as it had bene þe mekeste quhelpe wes euir sene. *c* 1450 Holland *Howlat* 240 Thir ar na fowlis of reif,..Bot mansweit,..manerit and meike. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* xlviii. 111 The meik pluch ox. 1530 Palsgr. 318/2 Meke nat wylde, *doulx.*

†**3.** In physical applications: Not violent or strong; mild, gentle. *Obs.* or *arch.*

c 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* XII. 192 His translacion The pynys fruyt [wol] esy make and meke [L. *fructum pineum translatione mitescere*]. 1525 Ld. Berners *Froiss.* II. ii. 6 It was in the monethe of Maye, whan the waters be peaseable and meke. 1564 P. Moore *Hope Health* II. xii. 49 Then must that superfluous humour be pourged out..with a meke medicine. 1781 Cowper *Conversat.* 268 Venus..with a quiet, which no fumes disturb, Sips meek infusions of a milder herb. 1824 Miss Ferrier *Inher.* xlv, A meek, gray, autumnal day.

†**b.** *Meek mother* (tr. Pia mater): see Mother.

4. *Comb.* chiefly parasynthetic adjs., as *meek-browed, -eyed, -hearted* (hence *meek-heartedness*), *-spirited*; also adverbial, as *meek-dropt* adj.

1863 I. Williams *Baptistery* I. ii. (1874) 22 The *meek-brow'd child of truth, Humility. *c* 1829 Mrs. Hemans *Child's Last Sleep* 14 Love..hath press'd Thy *meek-dropt eyelids and quiet breast. 1629 Milton *Hymn Nativity* iii, But he her fears to cease, Sent down the *meek-eyd Peace. 1818 Byron *Ch. Har.* IV. cxvi, The meek-eyed genius of the place. 1535 Coverdale *Ps.* cxlix. 4 The Lorde..helpeth the *meke-harted. 1849 Rock *Ch. of Fathers* II. 309 In her *meek-heartedness, the royal Ædilthryda desired, and was buried in a wooden coffin. 1535 Coverdale *Ps.* xxxvi. 11 The *meke spreted shal possesse the earth. 1759 Sterne *Tr. Shandy* I. x. (1760) 40 A meek-spirited jade of a broken-winded horse.

Hence †**Me·kelac** (*meoclæ33c, meokelec*) [see -laik], meekness, gentleness, lowliness.

c 1200 Ormin 2535 Annd soþ meoclæ33c wass openniȝ Inn hire anndswere shæwedd. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1240 Þæt he þæt ouercom mon, were akast þurh mon, wiþ meokelec & liste, nawt wiþ luðer strencðe. *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* 676 (Titus MS.) For mi lauerd hiseh his þufftenes mekelac.

†**Meek,** *v. Obs.* Forms: 3–4 **meoke**(n, 3–6 **meke,** 4–6 **meeke,** (4 **mike, myke,** 5 **mekyn,** 6 *Sc.* **meik**), 6–7 **meek.** [f. Meek *a.*]

1. *trans.* To make meek in spirit, to humble; *occas.* to appease, mollify.

c 1200 Ormin 9385 Forr swa to meokenn þe33re lund & te33re modess wille. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 4299 Strenger þen euer sampson was, þat Iuue ne mai him mike wit might. ?1370 *Robt. Cicyle* 62 He ete and laye with howndys eke, Thogh he were prowde, hyt wolde hym meke. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 27 By þat word he meked [*MS.* y mykede] so þe kynges herte, þat was to swolle for wrethe, þat [etc.]. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 3394 To preve if I might meke him so. *c* 1450 tr. *De Imitatione* I. xiii. 14 Temptacions are ofte tymes riȝt profitable to man,..for in hem a man is mekid, purged & sharply tauȝt. 1528 Tindale *Obed. Chr. Man* Pref. 5 b, To humble, to meke and to teach him Gods wayes. 1680 Mrs. Eliz. Nimmo *Diary* in W. G. Scott-Moncrieff *Narr. J. Nimmo* (1889) Introd. 16 There was much of the Lord's goodness to be seen in supporting her, and in meeking her spirit.

b. To 'bring low', abase, humiliate.

a 1340 Hampole *Psalter* xvii. 30 All that dyes in thaire pride he [god] mekis thaim in til the lawe pitt of hell. 1483 Caxton *Gold. Leg.* 38/1 By cause she synned in pryde he meked her seyeng Thou shalt be under the power of man. 1554–9 in *Songs & Ball.* (1860) 12 Withe miche soar hongger our bodis that he meikys.

c. *refl.* (also *to meek one's heart, soul, mind*, etc.): To humble or abase oneself.

c 1200 Ormin 13950 All forr nohht uss haffde Crist Utlesedd fra þe defell, 3iff þatt we nolldenn mekenn uss To follȝhenn Cristess lare. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 278 O þisse wise makieð edmod & meokeð our heorte. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 17578 For him to find qua will him seke, þair mode til him þai most meke. 1362 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. IV. 81 þenne Meede Meokede hire And Merci bi-souhte. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) V. 423 Þe kyng meked hym and 3eede barfoot. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 2244 He that pryde hath, him withinne, Ne may his herte, in no wyse, Meken ne souplen to servyse. *c* 1450 tr. *De Imitatione* III. liii. 124 þou woldist meke þiself unto þe erþe. 1508 Fisher 7 *Penit. Ps.* vi. Wks. (1876) 19 The lyon .. wyll not hurte the beest that falleth downe and meketh hymselfe vnto hym. 1509 Barclay *Shyp of Folys* (1570) 186 O men meke your mindes. 1533 More *Apol.* xiii. Wks. 873/1, I wisse tyll you meeke your selfe and amende [your conditions], thys anger of your husband will neuer be well appeased. 1563–83 Foxe *A. & M.* 148/1 But the sayde Constantine meeked himselfe so lowly to the King, that [etc.].

2. *trans.* To tame (an animal).

c 1450 *Mirour Saluacioun* 5067 Thow meked the felle pantere. 1526 Tindale *Jas.* iii. 7 All the natures off beastes and off byrdes and off serpentes and thynges of the see ar meked and tamed off the nature off man. 1653 H. Whistler *Upshot Inf. Baptisme* 50 The generation of Vipers and

other sort of cruel beasts, meeked with Infants at the Ensign of Christ's Kingdom.

3. *intr.* To become meek, to be meek.

a 1300 *E. E. Psalter* xxxiv. 14 Als wepand, and als dreri, Swa meked I witterli. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 12373 Þe bestes mekand knaus me. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xx. 35 Ac nede is next hym for anou be meketh, And as low as a lombe for lakkyng of þat hym nedeth. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 3541 His herte is hard, that wole not meke, Whan men of mekenesse him biseke. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1952 He mekyt to þat mighty, and with mowthe said His charge full choisly, chefe how he might.

Hence † **Mee·ked** *ppl. a.*, † **Mee·king** *vbl. sb.*

a 1340 Hampole *Psalter* liv. 21 Noght anly that i pray for my heghynge bot alswa that i pray for mekynge of thaim. *c* 1400 *Prymer* in Maskell *Mon. Rit.* II. 147 Meekid boonys [L. *ossa humiliata*] shulen ioie to the lord. *c* 1450 tr. *De Imitatione* II. ii. 42 To þe meke man he graunti þ grett grace, and after his meking liftiþ him in glory. *Ibid.* III. lvii. 135 Þou hast neuere despised þe contrite & þe meked [L. *humiliatum*] herte.

Meeken (mī·k'n), *v.* Now *rare*. Also 4–6 meken, 6 mekyn, meaken. [f. Meek *a.* + -en 5. Cf. Norw., Sw. *mjukna*.]

1. *trans.* To make meek; to humble, soften, tame; †to mitigate, assuage; to lessen the violence of (a fire); to 'bring low', abase.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1328 Ofte hit mekned his mynde, his maysterful werkkes. 1502 Atkynson tr. *De Imitatione* I. xiii. 161 Therby man is mekende, pourged, & infourmed by experyence. 1547–64 Baulowin *Mor. Philos.* (Palfr.) 11 He meekneth the mighty, & exalteth the lowly. 1587 Golding *De Mornay* xii. (1617) 176 Basenesse to humble them, sicknes to meeken them. 1591 R. Turnbull *Exp. St. James* 160 b, Snakes haue beene so meekened, as that men haue carried them without danger in their bosomes. 1647 Trapp *Comm. Matt.* v. 46 Thou shalt melt these hardest metals.. thou shalt meeken their rancour. 1652 J. Sparrow tr. *Behme's Rem. Wks., 1st Apol. B. Tylcken* 33 Its Fire became allayed or Meekened. 1728–46 Thomson *Spring* 265 This when .. The glaring lion saw, his horrid heart Was meekened. *a* 1788 Wesley *'Saviour, on me the want bestow'* ii, Meeken my soul, thou heavenly Lamb, That I in the new earth may claim My hundred-fold reward. 1856 Mrs. Browning *Aur. Leigh* II. 564, I was quelled before her, Meekened to the child she knew.

† **b.** *refl.* *Obs.*

c 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 284, I mekend me befor þe bedels & þe messangiers of allmighti God. 1537 Matthew 2 *Chron.* xxxiii. 23 Amon..mekened not him selfe before the Lord as Manasseh his father had mekened himselfe.

2. *intr.* To become meek or submissive; to submit meekly (*to* something).

1844 Mrs. Browning *Brown Rosary* II, And she so mild? ..As spirits, when They meeken, not to God but men. 18.. — *Wisdom Unapplied* viii, If I were thou, O gallant steed,.. I would not meeken to the rein, As thou.

Hence **Mee·kened** *ppl. a.*; **Mee·kening** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1537 Matthew *Ps.* li. 19 *marg.*, The mortifynge of the fleasshe and meakenynge of the hert. 1539 Tonstall *Serm. Palm Sund.* (1823) 93 Thou God wylte not despyse a harte contryte and mekened. 1597 J. Payne *Royal Exch.* 46 No less rightlie illumininge, then as trulie..humblinge and mekeninge. 1616 W. Browne *Brit. Past.* II. i. 22, I.. climb'd Mountaines.. Then with soft steps enseal'd the meekned Vallyes In quest of memory. 1698 M. Henry *Meekness & Quietn. Spirit* (1822) 166 Repentance..is very meekening. 1728–46 Thomson *Spring* 944 Her eyes, Where meekened sense and amiable grace And lively sweetness dwell. 18.. Mrs. Browning *Isobel's Child* xxxv, I changed the cruel prayer I made, And bowed my meekened face, and prayed That God would do His will. 1859–60 J. Hamilton *Moses* v. (1870) 86 The meekening process in the mind of God's destined agent.

† **Mee·khead.** *Obs.* Also 3 mek-, meok-, mukhede. [f. Meek *a.* + -head.] = Meekness.

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 8004 Milce nas þer mid him non ne no Manere Mekhede [*v.rr.* meok hede, mukhede]. *a* 1350 *Birth Jesu* 391 (Egerton MS.) Vor he [God] haþ þe mek hede hiholden of his hine. 1672 Cressy in Stillingfl. *Idol. Ch. Rome* (ed. 2) 224 Our being beclosed in..his [God's] meek-head.

Meekle, obs. form of Mickle.

† **Mee·kless,** *a. Obs.* [f. Meek *v.* + -less.] That cannot be appeased or rendered meek.

1587 *Mirr. Mag., Madan* iv, No counsayle could my meekelesse minde asswage.

† **Mee·kly,** *a. Obs.* In 4 mekliche. [f. Meek *a.* + -ly 1.] = Meek *a.*

a 1350 *Birth Jesu* 400 (Egerton MS.) Mekliche men iheized he haþ also.

Meekly (mī·kli), *adv.* Forms: see Meek *a.*; also 4 mekkeli, mikelik, muekliche, mukly. [f. Meek *a.* + -ly 2.] In a meek or humble manner.

c 1200 Ormin 11392 Þe birrþ biforr þin Laferrd Godd Cueolenn meoclike & lutenn. *a* 1225 *St. Marher.* 14 Þis beoð þe wepnen..eoten meokeliche and druncken meokeluker. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 1304 Quen cherubin þis errand herd Mikelik he him answard. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 1945 Loke þat þou þan mukly speke & to hym mercy crye. *c* 1450 *Mirour Saluacioun* 4511 Iesu of this seruants wesshe thowe the fete mekely. 1547–8 *Order Commun.* 12 Mekely knelyng vpon your knees. 1641 J. Jackson *True Evang. T.* II. 131 He..answered meekely as a Lamb. 1745 W. Robertson in *Transl. & Paraphr. Scot. Ch.* (1786) xxv. ix, Wrong'd and oppress'd how meekly he in patient silence stood. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* iv. I. 503 They had..submitted themselves meekly to the royal authority.

Meekness (mī·knės). Forms: see Meek *a.*; also 4 mikeness, mueknesse, 6 meacknesse, meakenes, mykenes. [f. Meek *a.* + -ness.] The quality of being meek; gentleness of spirit; humility.

c 1200 Ormin 3612 Þatt dide he forr to shæwenn swa Unnse33endliȝ meocnesse. *a* 1240 *Wohunge* in *Cott. Hom.* 273 Meknesse and mildschipe makes mon eihwer luued. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 9996 Sco serued in vr lauerd dright, In mikenes suet, bath dai and night. 1340 *Ayenb.* 65 God þet loueþ Mueknesse and zoþnesse. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 3941 Eneas was..A man full of mekenes & mery of his chere. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 331/2 Mekenesse, and softenesse, *mansuetudo, clemencia.* 1542–5 Brinklow *Lament.* (1874) 108 Yet for all their outwarde meaknes and holynes, they be within rauenynge wolues. 1556 *Aurelio & Isab.* (1608) N vij, You shall use towardes me suche meacknesse, lyke as God usethe unto all sinnars. 1613 Shaks. *Hen. VIII*, v. iii. 62 Loue and meekenesse, Lord, Become a Churchman, better then Ambition. 1741 Richardson *Pamela* II. 310 It must be owing to my Meekness, more than his Complaisance. 1860 Warter *Sea-board* II. 161 Gentle natures in which grace has kindled meekness.

† **Mee·kship.** *Obs.* [+ -ship.] Meekness.

c 1230 *Hali Meid.* 659 (Bodley MS.) Miltschipe & meokeschipe of heorte.

Meel(e, meell, obs. forms of Meal.

Meeling, obs. variant of Mailing, a farm.

1595 Duncan *App. Etymol.* (E.D.S.) 69 *Fundus*, a meeling.

Meelte, Meen e, obs. ff. Melt *v.*, Mean, Mien.

Meende, Meeng(e: see Mind, Meng.

Meer(e: see Mare 1, Mayor, Mere, More.

Meercere, -cery, obs. ff. Mercer, Mercery.

Meerkat (mī·ɹkæt). Also 5 mercatte, 9 meercat. [a. Du. *meerkat* monkey (= G. *meerkatze*), app. f. *meer* sea + *kat* cat.

Cf., however, Hindī *markaṭ*, Skr. *markaṭa* ape. Can the European word (already found in OHG. as *mericazza*) be an etymologizing perversion of an Oriental name?]

† **1.** A monkey. *Obs.*

1481 Caxton *Reynard* (Arb.) 98, I wende hit had be a mermoyse a bauhyn or a mercatte for I sawe neuer fowler beest. 1559 W. Cunningham *Cosmogr. Glasse* 191 There are diuerse straunge beastes bred in Assia,..Mercattes.

2. A name given in S. Africa to two small mammals: a. *Cynictis penicillata*, allied to the ichneumon. b. The suricate, *Suricata tetradactyla*, which is tamed as a pet.

1801 J. Barrow *Trav. S. Africa* I. 231 Upon those parched plains are also found a great variety of small quadrupeds that burrow in the ground, and which are known to the colonists under the general name of *meer-cats*. 1826 A. Smith *Catal. S. Afr. Mus.* 32 Meer Kat of the Dutch. Ryzæna Surikatta of the Naturalists. 1833 Ogilby in *Trans. Zool. Soc.* (1835) I. 34 The name *Meer-kat* .. is of very general acceptation in South Africa, being applied indifferently to the present species [*Cynictis*], the Cape Herpestes, Ground Squirrels, and various other burrowing animals. 1890 Mrs. A. Martin *Home Life Ostrich Farm* 158 There are two kinds of meerkats; one red, with a busby tail like that of a squirrel, the other grey, with a pointed tail, and it is this latter kind which makes so charming a pet.

attrib. 1897 Anne Page *Afternoon Ride* 62 Meerkat skins sewn together, as pouches for tobacco.

Meerschaum (mī·ɹʃōm, -ʃəm). Forms: 8 ? myrsen, 8–9 meershaum, 9 meerchum, mereschaum, merschaum, 8– meerschaum. [a. G. *meerschaum*, lit. 'sea-foam', f. *meer* sea + *schaum* foam (a literal transl. of the Persian name *kef-i-daryā*), alluding to its frothy appearance.]

1. A popular synonym of sepiolite, a hydrous silicate of magnesium occurring in soft white clay-like masses.

1784 [see Keffekill]. 1794 Kirwan *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) I. 145 Keffekill or myrsen, which the Germans corruptly call Meerschaum, is said to be when recently dug of a yellow colour. 1812 J. Nott *Dekker's Gull's Horn-bk.* 176 *note*, Those tobacco-pipes which they manufacture of a species of earth, of the magnesious genus combined with silex, denominated meerschaum. 1891 *Daily News* 26 Oct. 5/6 He bought wholesale little blocks of flawed meerschaum, polished them, and made them up into pipes.

attrib. 1823 De Quincey *Mr. Schnackenberger* vi, The great meerschaum head of his pipe.

2. (In full *meerschaum pipe.*) A tobacco-pipe, the bowl of which is made of meerschaum.

1799 Coleridge *Let.* 14 Jan., A pipe of a particular kind, that has been smoked for a year or so, will sell here [at Ratzeburg] for twenty guineas.. They are called Meerschaum. 1812 J. Nott *Dekker's Gull's Horn-bk.* 176 *note*, A meerschaum pipe nearly black with smoking is considered a treasure. 1818 *Blackw. Mag.* III. 404 Bobwigs and meerschaums, petticoats and sabres. 1858 O. W. Holmes *Aut. Breakf.-t.* xi, One Stradivarius, I confess, Two Meerschaums, I would fain possess. 1884 *Graphic* Christmas No. 5/3 He produced an enormous meerschaum. 1887 G. R. Sims *Mary Jane's Mem.* 145 He sent me back the meerschaum-pipe.

† **Meese.** *Obs.* [a. Du. *mees* = ME. Mose, whence corruptly *-mouse* in Titmouse.] A tom-tit.

c 1481 Caxton *Dialogues* 10/35 Wodecoks, nyghtyngalis, Sparowes, meesen, Ghees [etc.].

Mees(e: see Mese, Mess. **Meest,** obs. f. Most.

Meet (mīt), *sb.* [f. Meet *v.*] The meeting of hounds and men in preparation for a hunt. Also, by extension, applied to other kinds of sporting meetings (e.g. of coaches, cyclists).

1831–4 R. S. Surtees *Jorrock's Jaunts* (1838) 39 They overtook a gentleman perusing a long bill of the meets for the next week, of at least half a dozen packs. 1854 Warter *Last of Old Squires* vi. 58 If it so happened that the fox-hounds did not make their usual meets in the neighbourhood. 1893 *Times* 4 May 12/1 The interesting meet of the stage-coaches to be held to-day. 1897 *Outing* (U. S.) XXX. 493/2 For 16 years the club's meet has been one of the most popular cycling events.

Meet (mīt), *a.* and *adv.* Now *arch.* Forms: 1 (ge)mæte, méte, 4 met, 4–6 mete, 5–7 meete, (6 mytt, meat(e, *Sc.* meit, meyit), 6– meet. Also 2–3 I-mete. [ME. *mēte* (with close *ē*, riming with *swēte*, etc.); prob. repr. OE. (Anglian) **gemēte*, WS. *gemǽte* (early southern ME. I-mete) with normal loss of the prefix. The OE. *gemǽte*:— OTeut. **gamētjo-* (OHG. *gamāzi* equal, MHG. *gemæze*, mod.G. *gemäss*), f. **ga-* (Y-) prefix synonymous with L. *com-* + **mētā* measure, f. **mēt-*, ablaut-var. of **met-* (see Mete *v.* 1). The etymological sense is thus 'commensurate'.

OE. had *mǽte* adj. of similar formation without the prefix, but it occurs only in the senses 'small, inferior'. The formally equivalent ON. *mæt-r*, 'valuable, excellent, lawful', may possibly be the source of some of the Eng. senses. The alleged OE. *gemet* adj., sometimes assigned as the etymon, appears to be merely a predicative use of *gemet* sb., measure, what is fitting; and if the adj. existed its ME. form would not have had close *ē*.]

A. *adj.*

† **1.** Having the proper dimensions; made to fit. In later use: Close-fitting, barely large enough. Also Comb. *meet-bodied. Obs.*

[*c* 961 Æthelwold *Rule St. Benet* lv. (Schröer 1885) 89 Besceawige se abbod and hate besidian þæra reafa ȝemet, þæt hy ne synd to scorte, ac ȝemæte þam, þe hyra notiað. *a* 1300 in *Leg. Holy Rood* (1871) 30 Þo was it bi a fot to schort..hi ne mi3te it make 1mete.] *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 8809 Son þe tre was beun dun, And squir on-laid and scantliun, þe tre was als mete and quem, Als animan þar-to cuth deme. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xii. (*Mathias*) 50 Þarfor of spechis a cowyne þa mad til hyme met. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* xxviii. 13 Sowtaris, with schone weill maid and meit, ȝe mend the faltis of ill maid feit. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* viii. viii. 10 Apon his feyt his meyit schois hoit War buklit. 16.. *Will Stewart & John* lxi. in Child *Ballads* II. 436 Iohn he gott on a clouted cloake, Soe meete and low then by his knee. 1727 *Burgh Rec. Stirling* (1889) 200 They will allow him [the towns pyper] a meet bodied coat with the towns livery thereon. *a* 1763 *Sweet William's Ghost* xiii. in Child *Ballads* II. 229 There's no room at my side..My coffin's made so meet. 1825–80 Jamieson, *Meet-coat*, a term used by old people for a coat that is exactly meet for the size of the body, as distinguished from a long coat.

† **2.** Equal, on the same level. Const. *to.* Also *absol.* as *sb.*, an equal. *Obs.*

c 1369 Chaucer *Dethe Blaunche* 484 Of al goodenesse she had none mete. *c* 1400 *Ywaine & Gaw.* 2114 Thar es na sorow mete to myne. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xvii. 281 Hayll I man þat is made to þin men meete [*MS.* mette, *rime* feete].

† **b.** *To be meet with*: to be even or quits with; to be revenged upon. *Obs.*

1599 Shaks. *Much Ado* I. i. 47 You taxe Signior Benedicke too much, but hee'l be meet with you. 1603 Holland *Plutarch's Mor.* 187 The foule ill take me if I be not revenged and meet with thee. 1687 *Death's Vis.* Pref. (1713) 12 An Unjust, Terrible Devil..that..will be severely meet with them for all the..Scorn they have cast even on his Being and Power.

3. Suitable, fit, proper (for some purpose or occasion, expressed or implied). Const. *for*, *to*; also *to* with *inf.*

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knl.* 71 Alle þis mirþe þay maden to þe mete tyme. *c* 1385 Chaucer *L. G. W.* 1043 (*Dido*) There nis no womman to him half so mete. *c* 1386 — *Knt.'s T.* 773 Two harneys .Bothe suffisaunt and mete to darreyne The bataille. *c* 1460 J. Russell *Bk. Nurture* 832 Mustard is metest with alle maner salt herynge. 1481 Caxton *Reynard* xv. (Arb.) 32 Hadde we an halter which were mete for his necke and strong ynough. 1530 Palsgr. 574/1 Of all monethes Marche is the metest to set youge plantes and to graffe in. 1547–8 *Order of Communion* 10 So shall ye bee mete partakers of these holy misteries. 1552 in *Vicary's Anat.* (1888) App. iii. 151 A gate or dore .. for the Apte, commodyous, and meate passage of the gouernours. 1557 *Tottel's Misc.* (Arb.) 245 For to deceiue they be most mete That best can play hypocrisy. 1563 Shute *Archit.* Bij, Whose names also I thought not altogyther the metest to be omitted. 1616 Boyle in *Lismore Papers* (1886) I. 129, I am to pass back a lease of 40 yeares to Cap^n Tynt at a meet Rent. *a* 1661 Fuller *Worthies* (1840) II. 448 He was happy in a meet yoke-fellow. 1692 Bentley *Boyle Lect.* iii. 8 The Eye is very proper and meet for seeing. 1820 Scott *Monast.* xviii, To transmew myself into some civil form meeter for this worshipful company. 1852 M. Arnold *Empedocles* 68 Not here, O Apollo! Are haunts meet for thee. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 372 Thrombosis meet to explain the death is not always found.

b. Predicatively of an action: Fitting, becoming, proper. Chiefly in *it is meet that.., as* (or *than*) *is meet.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 3675 Sco..cled him, sum it was mete, Wit his broþer robe þat smelled suete. *c* 1485 *Digby Myst.* (1882) iv. 686 O swete child! it was nothinge mete..To let Iudas kisse thes lippes so swete. 1548–9 (Mar.) *Bk. Com. Prayer, Communion*, It is mete and right so to do. 1611 Bible *Jer.* xxvi. 14 Doe with mee as seemeth good and meet vnto you. 1652 Needham tr. *Selden's Mare Cl.* 56 Using far less diligence here than was meet. 1752 Young *Brothers* I. i, My cities, which deserted in my wars, I thought it meet to punish. 1833 Tennyson *Poems* 116 This is lovelier and sweeter, Men of Ithaca, this is meeter, In the hollow rosy vale to tarry. 1846 Trench *Mirac.* Introd. (1862) 38 It was only meet that this Son should be clothed with mightier powers than theirs.

† **4.** Mild, gentle. *Obs.*

1433 Lydg. *S. Edmund* 1007 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 394 Most temperat he was of his dieete,..To foryefnesse most mansuet and meete. 1535 Stewart *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) I. 320 Mansweit and meit, and full of gentres. 1598 Grenewey *Tacitus Ann.* III. vii. 73 The Senators..thought Lepidus rather meete [L. *mitem*] then a coward.

†B. *adv.* In a meet, fit, or proper manner; meetly, fitly; sufficiently. Also, exactly (in a certain position). *Meet to*: in close contact with.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 183 His skyn was schape al meete, And nayled on the same seete. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* x. 149 That taill full meit thow has tauld be thi sell. 1542 RECORDE *Gr. Artes* G vij b, In them the two fyrste fygures wer set euer mete one vnder the other. 1589 R. ROBINSON *Gold. Mirr.* (1851) 1 Gasing in the cloudes, these countreys for to vew, Meete underneath, the mountaine where I was. *a* 1600 MONTGOMERIE *Misc. Poems* xxxv. 68 Diana keeps this Margarit, Bot Hymen heghts to match hir meit. 1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* v. iii. 333 All yet seemes well, and if it end so meete, The bitter past, more welcome is the sweet. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* x. 465 The cords being first laid meet to my skin. 1688 SHADWELL *Sqr. Alsatia* III. i, You have given me so many bumpers I am Meet drunk already.

Meet (mīt), *v.* Inflected **met.** Forms: 1 métan, *Northumb.* moeta, 3 meten, 3–4 miete(n, 3–6 mete, 4–7 *Sc.* meit(e, 5–7 meete, (4 meyt, met, 5 mett, 6 might, 7 meat), 4– meet. *Pa. t.* 1 métte, 3–6 mette, 4 meyt, 4–7 mett, 5 *Sc.* meit, 4– met. *Pa. pple.* 4 mett, mete, 4–6 mette, 5 meyt, 4– met; 4–5 ymette, 4–7 ymet, 5 imett(e. [OE. *métan* (Northumb. *móta*), also with prefix *gemétan*, wk. vb., corresponds to OFris. *méta*, OS. *mōtian* (MLG. *mōten, gemōten*, Du. *moeten*, ON. *móta* (Sw. *möta*, Da. *möde*), Goth. *gamōtjan*:—OTeut. **(ga)mōtjan*, f. **mōtoᵐ* coming together, encounter, meeting. See MOOT *sb.*]

I. Transitive senses.

1. To come or light upon, come across, fall in with, find. Now only *dial.* exc. with person as obj., in which use it is merged in 4; otherwise superseded by *meet with*.

c 888 K. ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxx. § 2 Hwi ofermodige ge þon ofer oðre men for eowrum ȝebyrdum buton anweorce, nu ge nanne ne magon metan unæþelne? 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 217 Ða he eft ham com, þa mette he ðane man forðferedne. ? *a* 1400 *Arthur* 343 Þe ferst lond þat he gan Meete, Forsoþe hyt was Bareflete. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) xv. 164 Summe of hem worschipe the Sonne,..summe Serpentes, or the first thing that thei meeten at morwen. 1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* III. ii. 188, I see a man heere needs not liue by shifts, When in the streets he meetes such golden gifts. 1676 WISEMAN *Surg.* II. iii. 174 Of this Intemperies you will find an Observation in Herpes...And whereever you meet it, you shall find difficulty. 1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) III. 61, I had not gone..a mile, when, meeting a dirty road, I turned over a stile. *Mod. Pembrokeshire* (E.D.D.), I met this glove on the road.

2. To come face to face with, or into the company of (a person who is arriving at the same point from the opposite or a different direction).

c 1205 LAY. 18127 In are brade strete he igon mete þreo cnihtes & heore sweines. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 54/7 Ase he cam a day bi þe wei he gan mieten bi cas Ane knist. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. v. 82 Whon I mette him in þe Market þat I most hate, Ich heilede him as hendely as I his frend weore. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilȝear* 606 He met ane Porter swayne Cummand raith him agayne. 1530 PALSGR. 635/1, I mette hym a myle beyonde the towne. 1693 CONGREVE *Old Bach.* IV. v, I would have overtaken, not have met my Game. 1824 HOGG *Conf. Sinner* 130 They perceived the two youths coming, as to meet them, on the same path.

b. To arrive in the presence of (a person, etc., approaching) as the intended result of going in the opposite direction: often in phrases *to come, go, run*, etc. *to meet*. Hence, to go to a place at which (a person) arrives, in order e.g. to welcome, communicate with, accompany, or convey (him). Similarly, *to meet a coach, a train*, etc.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 10555 þi lauerd es comand als suith, Ga to mete him. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* I. 62 Till Noram kirk he come with ontyn mar, The consell than of Scotland meit hym thar. 15.. *Sir A. Barton* in *Surtees Misc.* (1888) 74 To might my Lord came the kinge and quen. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* IV. ii. 96 Ile appoint my men to carry the basket againe, to meete him at the doore with it. 1599 — *Much Ado* I. i. 97 Good Signior Leonato, you are come to meet your trouble: the fashion of the world is to auoid cost, and you encounter it. 1666 DRYDEN *Ann. Mirab.* cx, As in a drought the thirsty creatures cry And gape upon the gathered clouds for rain, And first the martlet meets it in the sky. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* x. 103 Where art thou Adam, wont with joy to meet My coming seen far off? 1710 BERKELEY *Princ. Hum. Knowl.* § 97 Bid your servant meet you at such a time. 1808 SCOTT *Marm.* I. xiii, Then stepp'd to meet that noble Lord, Sir Hugh the Heron bold. 1894 DOYLE *S. Holmes* 49 I'll meet the seven o'clock train and take no steps till you arrive. *Mod.* An omnibus from the hotel meets all trains. I was met at the station by my host with a carriage.

c. Phr. *To meet half-way*: chiefly in figurative uses, †to forestall, anticipate (*obs.*); to respond to the friendly advances of; to make concessions to (a person) in response to or in expectation of equal concessions on his part; to come to a compromise with. *To meet trouble half-way*: to distress oneself needlessly with anticipations of what may happen.

1594 NASHE *Unfort. Trav.* B, Presently he remembred himselfe, and had like to fall into his memento againe, but that I met him halfe waies, and askt his Lordship [etc.]. 1625 BACON *Ess., Judicature* ¶ 3 Let not the Iudge meet the Cause halfe Way; Nor giue Occasion to the Partie to say; His Counsell or Proofes were not heard. 1638 BAKER tr. *Balzac's Lett.* (vol. III) 112, I like this popular Divinitie, which meets us halfe way, and stoops a little, that we may not strayne our selves too much. 1706 FARQUHAR *Recruit. Officer* III. i, We lov'd two Ladies, they met us half way, and [etc.]. 1799 NELSON in Nicolas *Disp.* (1845) IV. 66 There is not a thing that the Admiral could propose that I would not meet him half-way. 1821 LAMB *Elia* Ser. I. *Valentine's day*, The world meets nobody half-way. 1884 *Times* (weekly ed.) 5 Sept. 12/2 The Polish peasantry..will meet the Czar halfway in whatever he does for their good.

d. *transf.* with inanimate things as subj. or obj.: To come into contact, association, or junction with (something or some one moving in a different course). Also, of things that have attributed motion, as a line, road, etc.: To arrive at a point of contact or intersection with (another line, etc.).

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 23161 Oft i was wit malisce mette. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* III. iii. 21 Let no whit thee dismay The hard beginne that meetes thee in the dore. 1602 *and Pt. Return fr. Parnass.* II. i. (Arb.) 22 Where so ere we run there meetes vs griefe. 1833 TENNYSON *Lady of Shalott* i. 3 Long fields of barley and of rye, That clothe the wold and meet the sky. 1842 — *Sir Galahad* vi, I yearn to breathe the airs of heaven That often meet me here. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* v. I. 663 The gibbet was set up where King Street meets Cheapside. 1898 *Encycl. Sport* II. 297 (*Rowing*) *Meeting the oar*, bringing the body up to the oar at the close of the stroke in place of bringing the hands strongly up into the chest.

e. Of an object of attention: To present itself before, to come under the observation of. *To meet the eye (sight, view), the ear*: to be visible, audible. *To meet the eye of*: to happen to be seen by.

1632 MILTON *Penseroso* 120 Of Forests, and inchantments drear, Where more is meant then meets the ear. 1667 — *P. L.* VI. 18 Chariots and flaming Armes, and fierie Steeds Reflecting blaze on blaze, first met his view. 1781 COWPER *Progr. Err.* 48 Where'er he turns, enjoyment and delight.. meet his sight. 1876 TREVELYAN *Macaulay* I. 363 All that met his ear or eye. 1883 GILMOUR *Mongols* xviii. 211 Striking pious attitudes at every object of reverence that meets his eye. *Mod. Advt.* If this should meet the eye of A. B., he is requested [etc.].

f. *To meet* a person's *eye, gaze*, etc.: to perceive that he is looking at one; also, to submit oneself to his look without turning away.

1670 DRYDEN *Tyr. Love* v. i. 48 So much of guilt in my refusal lyes, That Debtor-like, I dare not meet your eyes. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* IV. 177, I..Not yet endured to meet her opening eyes. 1883 FRANCES M. PEARD *Contrad.* xxxii, As she turned her head..she met his eyes.

3. To encounter or oppose in battle. Also (after F. *rencontrer*), to fight a duel with.

c 1275 LAY. 16366 Ten þusend Scottes he sende bi-halues þe heapene to mete [*c* 1205 to imete]. *c* 1330 *Amis & Amil.* 1114 Yif Y may mete him aright, With mi brond that is so bright. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XII. 226 Meit thame with speris hardely. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 6527 All þat met hym with malis..Anther dyet of his dynttes, or were ded wondit. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* II. 159 At thair cuming baldlie and wt scharpe weiris thay meit thame. 1671 MILTON *Samson* 1123, I only with an Oaken staff will meet thee. 1771 *Junius Lett.* lxiii. (1820) 323 His opponents.. never meet him fairly upon his own ground. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* IV. *song*, Like fire he meets the foe. 1855 SMEDLEY *H. Coverdale* lii, I suppose I should be forced to meet him..if he were to challenge me.

†b. To be 'meet' or even with; = 11 i. *Obs.*

1613 FLETCHER, etc. *Hon. Man's Fort.* III. iii, I have heard of your tricks,..well I may live To meet thee. 1623 FLETCHER *Rule a Wife* v. iii, Some trick upon my credit, I shall meet it.

c. To encounter or face the attacks of (something impersonal); to oppose, cope or grapple with (an objection, difficulty, evil). (Cf. 11 h.)

1745 *De Foe's Eng. Tradesman* (1841) I. vii. 53 Not be afraid of meeting the mischief which he sees follow too fast for him to escape. 1837 J. H. NEWMAN *Par. Serm.* (ed. 2) III. xi. 166 Who does not see, that to bear pain well, is to meet it courageously? 1854 BREWSTER *More Worlds* XV. 221 It is vain to argue against assertions like these which can only be met by an equally positive denial of them. 1855 BAIN *Senses & Int.* II. ii. § 11 The impetus of a push or a squeeze received on the hand is measured by the muscular exertion induced to meet it. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* i. § 4. 40 The threats of Charles were met by Offa with defiance. 1884 *Punch* 22 Nov. 252/1 Seen my last pamphlet, 'How to Meet the Microbe'?

†d. With simple *refl. pron.* in reciprocal sense: To encounter each other; = sense 9. *Obs.*

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 1950 Bi side winchestre in a feld to gadere hii hom mette. *c* 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 3325 þai metten hem in nsty Bi o forestes side.

4. To come (whether by accident or design) into the company of, or into personal intercourse with; to 'come across' (a person) in the intercourse of society or business.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Compl. Mars* 138 Alas when shal I mete yow, herte dere? 1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* II. iii. 149 Remaines, that, in th' Officiall Markes inuested, You anon doe meet the Senate. 1676 WISEMAN *Surg.* I. xxi. 114 The next day in the afternoon the two Physicians and some of the Chirurgeons met me at the Patient's Chamber. 1676 DRYDEN *State Innoc.* v. i, And not look back to see, When what we love we ne'er must meet again. 1767 *Woman of Fashion* I. 127, I was..struck with the Person, but much more with the good Sense, of the young Creature I accidently met. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* vi. II. 81 It was not strange that the king did not then wish to meet them. 1855 TENNYSON *Maud* II. iv. xiii, I loathe the squares and streets, And the faces that one meets. 1887 BEATTY-KINGSTON (*title*) Monarchs I have met. *Mod.* His medical colleagues refuse to meet him in consultation

b. Phrase, *To be well, happily*, etc., *met*. Also *ellipt., Well met!* (as an expression of welcome).

c 1460 *Play Sacram.* 237 A petre powle good daye & wele imett. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* II. vii. 83 Now go we hens said balyn & wel be we met. 1526 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 461 What, wanton, wanton, nowe well ymet! 1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* IV. iii. 45 Well met, well met, Master Antipholus. *a* 1592 GREENE *James IV*, IV. ii, Widow Countess, well y-met. 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* IV. iv. 19 You are happilie met. 1834 LYTTON *Pompeii* I. i, Ho, Diomed, well met.

†c. With simple *refl. pron.* (cf. 3 d): To encounter each other; = sense 8. *Obs.*

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 354/302 Bi þe watere of pireford þis two schirene hem mette, And conteckeden for þis holie bodie. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 10563 Quen þis seli mett þam same, þai grett þam-self wit gastli game.

5. To encounter, experience (a certain fortune or destiny); to receive (reward, punishment, or treatment of a certain kind). Now *rare* or *poet.*, superseded by *meet with* (11 g).

c 1440 *York Myst.* xi. 288 Mo mervaylles mon he mett. 1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* I. i. 15 Wish me partaker in thy happinesse, When thou do'st meet good hap. *a* 1631 DONNE *Lett., To Sir T. Lucy* (1651) 11, I have a little satisfaction in seeing a letter written to you upon my table, though I meet no opportunity of sending it. 1661 BOYLE *Style of Script.* (1675) 243 Those..met a destiny not ill resembling that of Zacheus. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IX. 271 As one who loves, and some unkindness meets. *a* 1677 BARROW *Serm.* xvii. Wks. 1687 I. 243 Whoever hath in him any love of truth..shall hardly be able to satisfie himself in the conversations he meeteth; but [etc.]. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* IV. 655 Thy great Misdeeds have met a due Reward. 1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* II. v, In this Exercise I once met an Accident. 1808 MACKINTOSH *Let.* 28 Sept. in *Life* (1836) I. 437 'Meet your approbation' is a slang phrase, not fit for public despatches or letters. 1833 HT. MARTINEAU *Fr. Wines & Pol.* iv. 61 He met only threats and laughter. 1845 M. PATTISON *Ess.* (1889) I. 19 This generous appeal met no response. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* IV. 309, I fear'd To meet a cold 'We thank you'. 1855 M. ARNOLD *Balder Dead* 24 He has met that doom which long ago The Nornies..spun.

6. To come into conformity with (a person's wishes or opinions).

1694 CONGREVE *Double Dealer* v. xiii, By Heav'n he meets my wishes! 1784 COWPER *Task* III. 788 He..leaves the accomplished plan Just when it..meets his hopes. 184a BISCHOFF *Woollen Manuf.* II. 69 Such duties on the importation of foreign woollen manufactures as would meet their views. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* vi. II. 120 The Estates..would go as far as their consciences would allow to meet His Majesty's wishes. 1864 HAWTHORNE *S. Felton* (1883) 273 If her thoughts..had settled on that..wholesome young man, instead of on himself, who met her on so few points. *Mod. (Comm.)* I will do my best to meet you in the matter.

7. To satisfy (a demand or need); to satisfy the requirements of (a particular case); to be able or sufficient to discharge (a pecuniary obligation). *To meet a bill* (Comm.): to pay it at maturity.

1833 MARRYAT *P. Simple* xi, The money..was..not more than sufficient to meet one of the demands. 1837 SIR F. PALGRAVE *Merch. & Friar* (1844) 187 No body is ever unable to pay his debts; he is only unable to meet his engagements. 1847 MARRYAT *Childr. N. Forest* iv, His widow sold the gun to meet her wants. 1876 MACLEOD *Elem. Banking* 167 Even under the best circumstances, an acceptor may fail to meet his bill. 1884 SIR E. E. KAY in *Law Times Rep.* 10 May 322/2 A remedy which exactly meets the necessities of the case. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 16 May 5/1 This view of the question gets rid of..all mere wrangling, while no other adequately meets the case. 1891 *Law Rep.* Weekly Notes 78/1 The course suggested on the part of the Comptroller was necessary to meet the justice of the case. 1894 BARING-GOULD *Kitty Alone* II. 84 Five hundred pounds will not suffice to meet all claims.

II. Intransitive senses.

8. [From the earlier reciprocal use: see 4 c.] Of two or more persons: To come from opposite or different directions into the same place or so as to be in each other's presence or company, whether by accident or by design; to come face to face. Often with *together*. Sometimes conjugated with *be*.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 22963 þe stede o dome quar all sal mete. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Compl. Mars* 72 The grete loye that was betwix hem two Whan they be met. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 889 þai met neuer eftir whils þai leued. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilȝear* 250 Baith the King and the Quene meitis in Paris, For to hald thair ȝule togidder. 1538 STARKEY *England* I. ii. 27 Seying that we be now here mete..accordyng to our promys. 1605 SHAKS. *Mach.* I. i. 1 When shall we three meet againe? In Thunder, Lightning, or in Raine? 1628 J. MEAD in *Crt. & Times Chas. I* (1848) I. 314 One bade him come to the lord mayor; he answered, my lord mayor might come to him: but in fine they agreed to meet half way. 1720 GAY *Sweet Wiliam's Farew.* iv, We only part to meet again. 1781 J. LOGAN in *Sc. Paraphr.* LIII. viii, Where death-divided friends at last shall meet, to part no more. *c* 1830 T. H. BAYLY *Song*, We met—'twas in a crowd—and I thought he would shun me. 1859 THACKERAY *Virgin.* II. xix. 158 The two gentlemen, with a few more friends, were met round General Lambert's supper-table. 1870 E. PEACOCK *Ralf Skirl.* II. 259 They had not met for years.

b. Of the members of a more or less organized body, a society, or regular assembly: To assemble for purposes of conference, business, worship, or the like. Often with collect. noun as subj.

1530 PALSGR. 635/2 Whan they mete to gyther I wyll put them in mynde of your mater. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's*

Comm. 10 b, These beynge called to an assemblie..mette at Franckefourt. 1607 Shaks. *Cor.* II. iii. 152 The People.. are summon'd To meet anon, vpon your approbation. 1611 Bible 2 *Macc.* xiv. 21 And [they] appointed a day to meet in together by themselues. 1711 Steele *Spect.* No. 49 ¶ 4 When this Assembly of Men meet together. 1711 Swift *Jrnl. to Stella* 1 Dec., The Parliament will certainly meet on Friday next. 1791 Hampson *Mem. J. Wesley* III. 82 Many of these [classes] are subdivided into smaller companies called bands, which also meet once a week. 1845 M. Pattison *Ess.* (1889) I. 17 The bishops..were summoned to meet in synod, at Paris. 1874 Green *Short Hist.* viii. § 2. 469 The Parliament..met in another mood from that of any Parliament which had met for a hundred years.

†**c.** To come to or be present at a meeting; to keep an appointment. *Obs.*

c 1400 *Rom. Rose* 4571 Expectant ay tille I may mete, To geten mercy of that swete. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 770 Aithire with a firs flote in þe fild metis. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* IV. xxvi. 156 Soo he departed to mete at his day afore sette. 1598 Shaks. *Merry W.* II. iii. 5 'Tis past the howre (Sir) that Sir Hugh promis'd to meet. 1603 — *Meas. for M.* IV. i. 18. 1717 Addison tr. *Ovid's Met.* IV. *Salmacis* 43 She fain wou'd meet him, but refus'd to meet Before her looks were set with nicest care.

d. To arrive at mutual agreement.

1851 Pusey *Let. Bp. London* (ed. 3) 127/1 Devout minds, of every school, who meditate on the Passion, meet at least in this.

†**9.** To come together in the shock of battle. *To meet on*: to come into conflict with. *Obs.*

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 7815 Bothe þe grekis on þe grene, & þe grym troiens, Mettyn with mayne þaire myghtis to kythe. *Ibid.* 8288 He macchit hym to Menelay, & met on þe kyng. 1460 *Lybeaus Disc.* 1638 The styward..Fell of hys stede bakward, So harde they two metten. *Ibid.* 2012 As þey togeder sette, Har boþe swerdes mette. [1782 Cowper *Friendship* 137 How fiercely will they meet and charge! No combatants are stiffer.]

10. Of inanimate objects: To come into contact; to come together so as to occupy the same place, or follow the same line or course.

To make both ends meet: see End *sb.* 24.

a 1300 *Sirix* 358 Loke hou hire heien greten, On hire cheken the teres meten. *c* 1400 Maundev. (1839) xvii. 185 Alle the Lynes meeten at the Centre. 1530 Palsgr. 635/1 Hylles do never mete, but acquayntaunce dothe often. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 412 Where the Rhine and Moselle mete. 1666 Pepys *Diary* 4 Nov., My vest being new and thin, and the coat cut not to meet before upon my breast. 1667 Milton *P. L.* IV. 784 Our circuit meets full West. 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* (1840) II. xiv. 286 It was very hard to see where the tiles met. 1771 Smollett *Humph. Cl.* 3 Oct., He..discovered that his waistcoat would not meet upon his belly by five good inches at least. 1774 Portеus *Serm.* v. (1797) I. 116 How two mathematical lines, indefinitely produced, can be for ever approaching each other, and yet never meet. 1781 Cowper *Hope* 49 The blue rim, where skies and mountains meet. — *Expost.* 22 Her vaults below, where every vintage meets. 1810 Scott *Lady of L.* I. xii, Where seemed the cliffs to meet on high. 1833 Tennyson *May Queen* Concl. 22 There came a sweeter token when the night and morning meet. 1871 R. Ellis tr. *Catullus* lxii. 52 Look as a lone lorn vine .. Bows, till topmost spray and roots meet feebly together. 1892 Kipling *Barrack-r. Ball.*, etc. 75 Oh, East is East, and West is West, and never the twain shall meet.

b. Of eyes, glances, etc. (cf. 2 f).

1859 Tennyson *Elaine* 1303 He raised his head, their eyes met and hers fell.

c. Said of qualities, etc., uniting in the same person, etc.

1581 Pettie tr. *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* II. (1586) 114 Al the three beauties meet together..in young men. 1662 Stillingfl. *Orig. Sacr.* II. vi. § 9 The uniformity and perfect harmony of all these several Prophecies..all giving light to each other, and exactly meeting at last in the accomplishment. 1697 Chetwood *Dryden's Virgil* Life ** 3 It being rarely found that a very fluent Elocution, and depth of judgment meet in the same Person. 1781 Cowper *Charity* 37 In baser souls unnumbered evils meet. 1842 Tennyson *Morte d'Arthur* 125 Thou, the latest-left of all my knights, In whom should meet the offices of all. 1894 J. T. Fowler *Adamnan* Introd. 57 The nobility of two races met in the child.

†**d.** To lie or fit close *to*. (Cf. Meet *a.*) *Obs.*

1568 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xlviii. 30 It meites lyk stemmyne to 30ʳ theis.

†**e.** To agree or tally. *Obs. rare.*

1579 Gosson *Sch. Abuse* (Arb.) 27 He that compareth our instruments, with those that were vsed in ancient times, shall see them agree like Dogges and Cattes, and meete as iump as German lippes. 1662 Stillingfl. *Orig. Sacr.* I. vi. § 1 It was yet greater difficulty to regulate it by the course of the Sun, and to make the accounts of the Sun and Moon meet. 1823 Lamb *Elia* Ser. II. *Old China*, It is mighty pleasant at the end of the year to make all meet—and much ado we used to have every Thirty-first Night of December to account for our exceedings.

11. Meet with.

a. To come across, light upon; = sense 1, which it has superseded in common use.

c 1275 Lay. 1426 Hii mette wid [*earlier text* Imetten heo faren] Numbert þeos kinges sonde of þan erþ. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 19604 Saulus soght aiquar and thrett All þe cristen he wit mett. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 4327 Þai spared nouthir kynn na kyth, Man na woman þat þai mett with. 1596 Spenser *State Irel.* Wks. (Globe) 640/2 When he cometh to experience of service abroade..he maketh as woorthy a souldiour as any nation he meeteth with. *a* 1626 Bacon *New Atl.* 21 And continually we mett with many things, worthy of Observation, and Relation. 1638 Junius *Paint. Ancients* 14 Others..wander up and downe to meet somewhere with a refreshing shade. 1662 J. Davies tr. *Olearius' Voy. Ambass.* 158 They make a shift to live upon any thing they can meet withall. 1761 Hume *Hist. Eng.* III. lxi. 318 This was the first public opportunity he had met with. 1782 Johnson *Lett. to Mrs. Thrale* 13 June, In the penury of fuel..I have yet met with none so frugal as to sit without fire. 1830 D'Israeli *Chas. I*, III. vi. 94 We cannot read a history of foreign art without meeting with the name of Charles. 1875 Dawson *Dawn of Life* iv. 84, I have occasionally met with instances. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 592 Though abscess beneath the tentorium usually occurs in the substance of the hemisphere it may be met with in other situations.

†**b.** To come into the presence of; = sense 2. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 20145 In þe temple wit her he met, Anurd hir and tar hir grette. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 3778, & euene to þe pauyllouns þay gunne go, & meteþ with þᵉ Amyrel. *c* 1477 Caxton *Jason* 89 Whan Jason was come to this temple medea cam and mette with him. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 21 b, His grace preuenteth vs, before we mete with it. 1542 Udall *Erasm. Apoph.* 27 Socrates mette full butte with Xenophon, in a narrowe backe lane, where he could not stert from hym. 1686 tr. *Agiatis or Civ. Wars Lacedemonians* 59 As he returned, he was met with by an Achaian. 1816 Chalmers in *Life* (1850) II. 78 We fell in with Mr. Cook, who came out to meet with me.

†**c.** To encounter (an enemy); = sense 3. *Obs.*

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 3205 Vter..wende toward seint dauid to mete wiþ is fon. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Pard. T.* 365 Is it swich peril with him for to meete? I shal hym seke by wey and eek by strete. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* IV. 250 Thus Wallace sone can with the capteyn meite. 1596 Shaks. *1 Hen. IV*, IV. iv. 13 At Shrewsbury..The King, with mightie and quick-raysed Power, Meetes with Lord Harry. 1664 Butler *Hud.* II. iii. 993 How in fight you met, At Kingston, with a May-pole idol.

†**d.** To come into or be in physical contact with. Of a garment: To reach exactly to (a certain point).

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 9915 O ihre colurs..þe grund neist þar es ful tru, Metand wit þat rochen stan. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 371 When þe water of þe welkyn with þe worlde mette. *c* 1430 *Syr Gener.* (Roxb.) 4460 Ful litle wanted the soket That with the throte it had y-met. 1480 *Robt. Devyll* 328 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* I. 232 With hys shyelde Robert mette playne. 1574 tr. *Marlorat's Apocalips* 22 A long garment ..[which] meteth iust with the feete. 1604 R. Cawdrey *Table Alph.* (1613) A iv, One lands end meets with another. 1745 P. Thomas *Jrnl. Anson's Voy.* 145 In its Fall, meeting with the Fore-yard broke it in the Slings.

†**e.** To have carnal knowledge of. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 1197 Adam..suld wit his wijf yete mete For ur lord had aghteld yete A child to rais of his oxspring.

†**f.** To agree or accord with. *Obs.*

a 1586 Sidney *Apol. Poetrie* (Arb.) 24 Wherein I know not, whether by lucke or wisedome, wee Englishmen haue mette with the Greekes, in calling him a maker. 1655 Fuller *Ch. Hist.* IX. ii. § 15 Lords of right noble extraction..(whose titles met with their estates in the Northern Parts).

g. To experience, undergo (a particular kind of fortune or treatment); = sense 5.

c 1435 *Torr. Porlugal* 2109 God that died vppon the Rode, Vff grace that she mete with good! 1593 Shaks. *Rich. II*, III. iv. 49 He that hath suffer'd this disorder'd Spring, Hath now himselfe met with the Fall of Leafe. 1596 — *Tam. Shr.* IV. iii. 6 Elsewhere they meet with charitie. 1660 Blount *Boscobel* 3 At Warrington Bridge [he] met with the first opposition made by the Rebels. *a* 1692 Pollexfen *Disc. Trade* (1697) 100 These Manufactured Goods from India, met with such a kind reception, that [etc.]. 1693 Creech *Dryden's Juvenal* xiii. (1697) 326 A little Sum you Mourn, while Most have met With twice the Loss, and by as Vile a Cheat. 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 122 ¶ 9 In our Return home we met with a very odd Accident. 1718 *Freethinker* No. 75. 137 It has always met with the Approbation of the Wisest Men. 1771 Goldsm. *Hist. Eng.* II. 176 Sir William Gascoigne..met with praises instead of reproaches. 1843 Borrow *Bible in Spain* xxvi, I have..never met with ill-usage, except once..amongst the Papists. 1873 Black *Pr. Thule* xix, Mariners..who had met with their death on this rocky coast. 1893 Earl Dunmore *Pamirs* II. 311 This system of semi-official marauding met with the approval of the Czar.

†**h.** To oppose, grapple with (an error, objection, malpractice), take precautions against (a danger); to provide for (an emergency). Also, to cope with (a person). *Obs.*

1529 More *Dyalogue* IV. Wks. 285/1 And all this good fruite woulde a fewe mischieuous persons .. vndoutedlye bring into thys realme, if the prince and prelates..did not in the beginnyng mete with their malice. 1575–85 Aap. Sandys *Serm.* xi. 172 Paul, in this treatie of a magistrate, meeteth with both these errors. 1600 in *Liturg. Serv. Q. Eliz.* (Parker Soc.) 694 Meet with the purposes and practices of all ambitious Absalons. 1603 H. Crosse *Vertues Commw.* (1878) 8 A prudent man .. meeteth with euerie mischiefe, and is not ouertaken, with *non putaui*, had I wist. 1668 *Rolle's Abridgment* Publ. Pref., The body of Laws .. consists of infinite particulars, and must meet with various Emergencies. 1692 South 12 *Serm.* (1698) III. 524 To meet with their doubts, and to answer their Objections. 1712 Arbuthnot *John Bull* IV. iv, Let it suffice, at present, that you have been met with.

†**i.** To be even with; to reqaite or 'pay out'.

c 1590 Marlowe *Faust.* x, I'll meet with you anon for interrupting me so. 1601 Dent *Pathw. Heaven* 307 God.. though he meet with some in this life, yet he lets thousands escape. 1667 Waterhouse *Fire Lond.* 129 For which sins God may meet with you also.

j. *Sc.* To pay (a creditor).

1854 H. Miller *Sch. & Schm.* (1858) 288 They had been unable, term after term, to meet with the laird, and were now three years in arrears.

Meet(e, obs. forms of Met, Mete.

Meetel(e)s, var. forms of Metels *Obs.*, dream.

Meeten (mī·tn), *v.* [f. Meet *a.* + -en ⁵.] *trans.* To make meet or fit (*for*).

1807 C. Winter in W. Jay *Life* (1843) 173 That you..may be richly accommodated with grace till you are meetened for glory. 1879 A. Reed *Alice Bridge* 272 These trials will meeten us for whatever the future unfolds.

Meeter (mī·tər). [f. Meet *v.* + -er¹.] One who attends or takes part in a meeting; †*spec.* in Quaker phraseology, a member of a particular 'meeting' or congregation.

1646 *Mass. Col. Rec.* (1853) II. 185 Ye maior pt of those first meeters. 1682 W. Rogers *7th Pt. Chr., Quaker* 82 G. W. a Member of the Second-days Meeting..smooth'd up the Barbadoes Meeters with this Expression. *a* 1713 Ellwood *Autobiog.* (1765) 251 The whole Fines of such and so many of the Meeters as they should account poor. 1887 E. F. Bvarne *Heir without Heritage* II. xi. 219 These early torchlight-meeters.

Meeter, obs. form of Meter, Metre.

Meeterly, *a.* and *adv. north. dial.* Also [?4–5 **materly**], 9 **meterly.** [app. related to Meet *a.*, but the formation is obscure: possibly influenced by *witterly* or some similar word. The *materly* of the first quotation is difficult to connect with the other forms: cf. ON. *mátalega, mátulega*, f. *máte* measure, moderation.

A synon. *meetherly, meederly, meeverly* occurs in dialects (see E. D. D.), and may possibly be referable to Methe *sb.*]

a. *adj.* Moderate, middling, fairly good. **b.** *adv.* 'Tolerably, moderately, fairly; handsomely, modestly, agreeably' (E.D.D).

[*c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* 2306 Þus bi ensaumpil sal scho take Materly al thinges to make (= L. *sic omnia temperet*, etc.).] 1674 Ray *N. C. Words, Meeterly, Meetherly, Meederly*: handsomely, modestly; As bow meeterly, from meet, fit. *c* 1746 Collier (Tim Bobbin) *View Lanc. Dial.* Wks. (1862) 54 *M.*..Is Seroh o Rutchots so honsome? *T.* Eigh, hoos meeterly. 1865 B. Brierley *Irkdale* II. 99 I'm metterly.. for an 'owd body.

Meeth: see Mead¹ (the drink), Methe (measure).

†**Meet-help.** *Obs.* [orig. two words like *help meet* in Gen. ii. 18, 20: subseq. combined as in *sweet heart, good wife*, etc.] A fitting helper; = Helpmeet.

[1641 J. Shute *Sarah & Hagar* (1649) 18 The end of her Creation; which was, to be a meet help for him. *a* 1656 Bp. Hall *Rem. Wks.* (1660) *Life* 15 Enjoying the comfortable Society of that meet Help for the space of fourty nine years.] 1696 Whiston *Th. Earth* II. (1722) 96 Among all these Creatures there was not a Meet-help, or suitable Companion for him.

So **Meet-helper;** also **Meet-helping,** the condition of being a helpmeet.

1636 W. Strode *Floating Isl.* IV. iii, Recreation much consisteth in The yoak of a meet helper. 1869 Bushnell *Wom. Suffrage* iv. 74 Woman is created to be the meet-helper of man. *Ibid.* i. 18 The husbanding and meet-helping of the marriage bond itself.

Meeting (mī·tiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. Meet *v.* + -ing¹. OE. had *gemēting*, glossing L. *conventio, conventus, concilium, synagoga.*]

1. The action of coming together from opposite or different directions into one place or into the presence of each other, of assembling for the transaction of business, etc. Now somewhat *rare* exc. in gerundial use; formerly in phr. *in meeting, at (next*, etc.) *meeting, till meeting.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 5846 His broþer aaron he mett, þat drihtin self has meting set. *c* 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 181 Swiche meting nas neuer made Wiþ sorwe on ich aside. *c* 1400 Maundev. (1839) xv. 166 There ben also sum Cristene men, that seyn, that summe Bestes han gode meetynge, that is to seye, for to meete with hem first at morwe. *c* 1440 Lovelich *Merlin* 4580 The kyng, that a3ens Merlyne went in metyng. 1485 in Jupp *Acc. Carpenters' Comp.* (1887) 35 Reseyvyd in the Barge at the metyng of the Kyng on the Water viij^{s} viij^{d}. 1559 Bp. Scot in Strype *Ann. Ref.* (1709) I. App. vii. 14 At Peter's firste metinge with our Savyour Christe. 1639 *Hamilton Papers* (Camden) 95 Muche more of this kynd that past betwixt one of ther number and me this day..at meating. 1771 Smollett *Humph. Cl.* 2 Apr., I desire you will lock up all my drawers, and keep the keys till meeting. 1844 Ld. Brougham *Brit. Const.* ix. (1862) 119 The people's right of Meeting in large bodies. 1903 *Edin. Rev.* Apr. 314 These old makers..do not dwell on meetings in heaven.

b. *To give* (a person) (*the* or *a*) *meeting* [after F. *donner rendez-vous*]: to appoint a time and place for meeting with him. ? *Obs.*

1632 J. Hayward tr. *Biondi's Eromena* 25 A friend.. whom they were to procure to come disguised, and give them the meeting. 1638 Mayne *Lucian* (1664) 161 At length, with much intreaty, he gave her a meeting. *a* 1648 Ld. Herbert *Hen. VIII* (1683) 35 Promising that he would not only give him meeting, but take pay under him. 1771 Smollett *Humph. Cl.* 30 Sept., That..he would come to Bath in the winter, where I promised to give him the meeting. 1833 Macaulay *Ess., War Succession* (ed. Montague) I. 509 The King resolved to give her the meeting in Catalonia. 1840 Dickens *Barn. Rndge* xii, You ask me to give you a meeting.

†**2.** An encounter in arms; a fight, battle. *Obs.*

13.. *K. Alis.* 2696 Com, and geve us on justyng, And thow schalt have hard metyng. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 1011 At þat metyng..Taken was sire Antygon. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* II. 148 Vncertane victorie at bathe the meitings.

b. Used euphemistically for: A duel. (After F. *rencontre*: cf. Rencounter *sb.* 1 b.)

1812 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 31 A meeting took place..between Mr. O. Joynt and Mr. P. M'Kim..when, on the first fire, the latter was struck in the forehead. 1838 Macaulay in Trevelyan *Life* II. 6, I had..no notion that a meeting could be avoided.

3. A gathering or assembly of a number of people for purposes of intercourse, entertainment, discussion, legislation, and the like. Now chiefly restricted to gatherings of a public character, and assemblies of some organized society; formerly used to include private gatherings or parties, as in *card-meeting*.

1513 More in Grafton *Chron.* (1568) II. 766 They assembled by and by together, to common of thys matter at London: At which meeting, the Archebishop of Yorke..secretly sent for the great Seale agayne. 1611 Bible *Isa.* i. 13 The calling of assemblies I cannot away with; it is iniquitie, euen the solemne meeting. 1693 *Humours Town* 59 To Ogle the Nymphs in the Boxes or Musick-Meetings. 1712 Swift *Prop. Correct. Eng. Tongue* 29 Since they [*sc.* ladies] have been left out of all Meetings, except Parties at Play. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* vi. II. 95 He was no longer summoned to any meeting of the board. 1886 Stevenson *Dr. Jekyll* 1 At friendly meetings, and when the wine was to his taste.

b. An assembly of people for purposes of worship: in England from the 17th c. applied almost exclusively to gatherings of nonconformists, and now *rare* exc. with reference to Quakers. (Sometimes used, after prep., without article, esp. in *to go to meeting*.) Hence, a nonconformist congregation; also, † a nonconformist place of worship, a dissenting chapel or meeting-house (*obs.*).

1593 [see Conventicle 4 b]. 1677 W. Hubbard *Narrative* II. 51 September the twenty fourth, being Lords day, as he was going home from the Meeting. 1679 *Establ. Test* 23 A..Jesuit takes a Lodging at a Quakers,..goes to the Silent meeting with his Landlord. 1688 Penton *Guard. Instruct.* (1897) 33, I went to a notorious Meeting, upon the fame of an extraordinary gifted Preacher. 1710 Palmer *Proverbs* 375 The pharisees cry was, The temple! the temple! and the modern hypocrites is, The church! and The meeting! 1750 *Nova Scotia Archives* (1869) 618 A Meeting for Dissenters, a Court House and Prison. 1774 J. Adams in *Fam. Lett.* (1876) 10 We went to meeting at Wells. 1781 Hutton *Hist. B'ham.* 117 Another was erected in the reign of King William, now denominated The Old Meeting. 1815 W. F[ield] *Warw. & Leamington* 140 Wesleian Methodist Meeting. This is situated in Gerard Lane, small in extent, and humble in appearance. 1834 *Tracts for Times* No. 29. 3 There is something so fine in the prayers without book, as they are offered at meeting. *Ibid.* 5 [The Church] had been in the country many, many years, whereas all the meetings about are (so to say) of yesterday. 1855 Ogilvie, Suppl., *Meeting*. In England, a conventicle; an assembly of Dissenters.—In the United States, an assembly for public worship generally. 1889 Mary Howitt *Autobiog.* I. 4, I use here the phraseology of Friends, 'meeting' in this sense being equivalent to church or religious body.

c. = *race-meeting* (Race *sb.*[1] 11).

1764 *App. to Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 128/1 Westminster Races...Spring Meeting. 1859 *Ann. Reg.* 73 Magnificent weather and excellent sport made the great people's meeting [the Derby] pass off with great *éclat*.

4. Of inanimate objects: Joining, junction; confluence (of rivers).

1530 Palsgr. 527/1, I drawe nere, as a shyppe dothe lande, or any other thynges whan they come to the metyng. 1606 G. W[oodcocke] *Hist. Iustine* IV. 21 The meetings of the waters. *c* 1639 Suckling *Brennoralt* III. (1648) 32 Her face is like the milky way i' th' sky, A meeting of gentle lights without name. 1807 Moore *Irish Melodies*, (*title*) The Meeting of the Waters.

b. A joint in carpentry or masonry.

1656 H. Phillips *Purch. Patt.* (1676) B viij b, In the square meeting of the Table. 1663 Gerbier *Counsel* 7 Which will hinder the Rain..to peirce..through the meeting of the Brickwork and Stone. *c* 1860 H. Stuart *Seaman's Catech.* 70 What are the 'end boards'? They are boards which cover and form the ends of the meetings.

c. *Mining.* The passing of ascending and descending cars; hence, the place at which they pass.

1830 T. Wilson *Pitman's Pay* (1843) 26 We'd pass'd the meetin's aw've ne doubt. 1860 *Eng. & For. Min. Gloss., Newc. Terms, Meetings*, the middle of a pit or inclined plane. 1875 R. F. Martin tr. *Havrez' Winding Mach.* 36 If these moments be equal at meetings and at the landing of the cage.

† 5. ? An average value. *Obs.*

1711 W. Sutherland *Shipbuild. Assist.* 14 The Method of buying a quantity of Timber is to add the Contents together of the several Pieces; the Quotient thereof is call'd the Meeting of that Timber, and accordingly thereto the Value of the whole Quantity is sold.

6. = Meeting-place. *poet.*

1596 Shaks. 1 *Hen. IV*, III. ii. 174 On Thursday, wee our selues will march. Our meeting is Bridgenorth. 1801 Southey *Thalabá* III. i, The Domdaniel caverns,..Their impious meeting.

7. *attrib.*, as *meeting acquaintance, -point, -room, -stead* (arch.); **meeting-folks**, dissenters. Also Meeting-house, -place.

1792 Mme. D'Arblay *Diary* V. VII. 299 Mrs. Kennedy.. with whom I renewed a *meeting acquaintance, but evaded a visiting one. 1835 *Gentl. Mag.* Nov. 491 My father drank to Church and King, And the *Meeting-folks love no such thing. 1818 Busby *Gram. Mus.* 152 Those notes of the passage immediately under the *meeting points of the sign [for diminuendo-crescendo]. 1872 Liddon *Elem. Relig.* ii. 75 Miracle is the meeting-point between intellect and the moral sense. 1761 Fitzgerald in *Phil. Trans.* LII. 154, I..have placed the instruments for the inspection of the gentlemen of the Royal Society, in their *meeting-room. 1887 W. Morris *Odyss.* II. 147 Zeus..sent him two ernes to fly Adown..that *Meeting-stead to find.

Mee·ting, *ppl. a.* [f. Meet *v.* + -ing 2.]

1. That meets.

1592 Shaks. *Ven. & Ad.* 820 The wilde waues .. Whose ridges with the meeting cloudes contend. 1606 — *Tr. & Cr.* I. iii. 7 As knots by the conflux of meeting sap, Infect the sound Pine. 1720 Gay *Fan* II. 156 Where meeting beeches weave a grateful shade. *a* 1881 Rossetti *House of Life* xii, Still glades; and meeting faces scarcely fann'd.

b. In *joinery*. Often hyphened with the sb.

1825 J. Nicholson *Operat. Mechanic* 590 The staff stile, which imitates the meeting-stiles. *Ibid.* 625 The common rafters..must be so arranged that a rafter shall lie under every one of the meeting-joints. 1844 Stephens *Bk. Farm* II. 538 The three equal wheels..are set in the sheers—the first of the three being upon the carriage-axle, which is in halves as before, and the meeting-ends supported on the sheers. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.*, *Meeting-post* .. that stile of a canal-lock gate which meets the corresponding stile of the other gate at the mid-width of the bay.

† 2. Coming forward in response or welcome; responsive. *Obs.*

1548 Udall, etc. *Erasm. Par.* 1 *Tim.* i. 15 The thing that they renounce, is withal studious endeuoure to be embraced (as they saye) with meting armes [L. *obuiis, ut aiunt, ulnis amplectendum*]. 1632 Milton *L'Allegro* 138 Married to immortal verse Such as the meeting soul may pierce. 1639 Saltmarshe *Pract. Policy* 122 Bee not too meeting, and seeme not too hasty in accepting graces and favours. 1664 South *Serm.* (1823) I. xiv. 385 He .. offers himself to the visits of a friend with facility, and all the meeting readiness of appetite and desire.

Meetinger (mī·tiŋəɹ). [f. Meeting *vbl. sb.* + -er 1.] One who 'goes to meeting'; a dissenter.

1810 S. Green *Reformist* I. 185, I plainly see, Sir, you are a methodist, or a meetinger, I believe you call it. 1890 Jessopp *Trials Country Parson* 68 The Meetinger keeps himself posted up with the last clerical escapade.

Mee·ting-house.

† 1. A (private) house used for a meeting. *Obs.*

1658 Wood *Life* 14 July (O. H. S.) I. 256 They had entertain'd him with most excellent musick at the meeting house of William Ellis.

2. A place of worship: in the general sense, now only *U.S.* In England from the 17th c. always a nonconformist or dissenting place of worship, a conventicle: now only (exc. with reference to the Quakers) in jocular or disparaging use.

1636 *Plymouth Col. Rec.* (1855) I. 41 There to build a meeting howse and towne. 1687 Evelyn *Diary* 10 Apr., There was a wonderful concourse of people at the Dissenters' Meeting-house in this parish. 1766 Wesley *Jrnl.* 10 Apr., It [a deed] everywhere calls the house a Meeting-House, a name which I particularly object to. 1809 Kendall *Trav.* I. xii. 132 Two meeting-houses, one belonging to quakers, and the other to baptists. 1847 W. E. Forster in Reid *Life* (1888) I. vii. 207 Last evening I deluded them into a Methody meeting-house. 1896 Mrs. H. Ward *Sir G. Tressady* 140 The brick meeting-houses in which they [the villages] abounded.

3. *attrib.*, as *meeting-house yard*; † meeting-house man, a nonconformist or dissenter.

1711 *Countrey-Man's Let. to Curat* 22 These were not Meeting-House-Men in whose Favours the Councel thus Wrote,..but some of 'em Parsons, some Vicars, some Curats, &c. 1808 *Beverley Lighting Act* 27 Any meeting-house, chapel, church yard, and meetinghouse yard.

Mee·ting-place.

A place in which a meeting occurs or is held; † a meeting-house.

1553 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 149 Nocht half ane Scottis myle fra the said metynge place. 1589 Nashe *Anat. Absurd.* (1590) B iij b, They will include it [the name of the Church] onely in their counenticles, and bounde it euen in Barnes, which many times they make their meeting place. 1659-60 Pepys *Diary* 7 Feb., I saw Monk's soldiers abuse Billing and all the Quakers that were at a meeting-place there. *c* 1710 Celia Fiennes *Diary* (1888) 58 The Church is neate and pretty..here is also a good large Meeteing place. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV. 338 The organ thus lies at the meeting-place of the hypochondriac, right lumbar, and epigastric regions.

† Mee·tly, *a. Obs.* Forms: 4 metli, 4-6 meteli, 4-7 metely, 6 metly, meetelie, -ly, 6-7 meetly. [f. Meet *a.* + -ly 1. (But the early form *metli* may represent OE. *gemetlic*, f. *gemet* measure, moderation.)]

1. Moderate; of moderate size or quantity.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 28847 Metli har was on his chin. ?*a* 1366 Chaucer *Rom. Rose* 822 With metely mouth and yen greye. *c* 1500 Medwall *Nature* (Brandl) I. 317 Leue thyn hawt conceytys and take a metely way. 1505 in *Mem. Hen. VII* (Rolls) 232 The fingers of the said queen be right fair and small, and of a meetly length and breadth before, according unto her personage very fair handed. 1523 Ld. Berners *Froiss.* I. xvi. 18 Wherof they were well served for their horses, and at a metly price. 1600 Holland *Livy* X. xii. 359 After he had left at Falerii all his bag and baggage with a meetly garrison [L. *cum modico præsidio*]. 1620 Venner *Via Recta* iv. 73 Mullet..is of pleasant taste, and of meetly nourishment.

2. Fitting, proper, suitable, meet.

1426 Audelay *Poems* 4 Fore love together thus cum thai schal be, Fore this makus metely maryage. 1492 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 455/1 Here is the place most metely for you, and where ye shall lak nothing. 1579-80 North *Plutarch, Lysander* (1595) 492 It was better, and meetelier for the Spartans they should choose them for their kinges, whom they found the meetest men of all their magistrates. 1633 Gerard *Part. Descr. Somerset* (1900) 182 The most refined and metely English now spoken.

Meetly (mī·tli), *adv.* Forms: 5 metly, 5-6 mete-, 6 meate-, meete-, 6- meetly. [f. Meet *a.* + -ly 2. (But perh. partly repr. OE. *gemetlice*, f. *gemet*: see prec.)]

1. Moderately, fairly, tolerably. (Common in the 16th c.)

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 3069 Full metely made of a meane lenght. 1476 *Paston Lett.* III. 157 He is well spokyn in Inglyshe, metly well in Frenshe, and verry perfite in Flemyshe. 1551 Recorde *Pathw. Knowl.* I. Defin., Nowe haue you heard as touchyng circles meetely sufficient instruction. 1609 Holland *Amm. Marcell.* 402 Tall of stature, and faire of complexion, their haire meetly yellow. 1657 Howell *Londinop.* 339 A fine and meetly large Church.

2. Fitly, suitably; as is meet.

1502 Hen. VII in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. I. I. 55 The King both with men and money metely and conveniently..wol yeve assistence. 1656 Sanderson *Serm.* (1689) 323 Then are we meetly prepared for his service. 1813 Scott *Trierm.* I. xx, The monarch meetly thanks express'd. 1857 H. Miller *Test. Rocks* iii. 138 And with this ancient elephant there were meetly associated in Britain..many other mammals of corresponding magnitude. 1878 Browning *La Saisiaz* 72 How I may..fix where change should meetly fall.

Meetness (mī·tnės). [f. Meet *a.* + -ness.] The condition of being meet; fitness, suitableness.

c 1449 Pecock *Repr.* III. xi. 347 Certis this fadir were not to be blamed, if he wolde ordeyne that these schoon be notabli widdir than the meetenes of hem wolde aske, as for the firste dai in which thei schulden be worne. 1586 W. Webbe *Eng. Poetrie* (Arb.) 46 Ye meetnesse of our speeche to receiue the best forme of Poetry. *c* 1000 Shaks. *Sonn.* cxviii, And, sicke of wel-fare found a kind of meetnesse To be diseas'd ere that there was true needing. 1758 S. Hayward *Serm.* xiv. 409 Holiness is a meetness for heaven. 1867 H. Macmillan *Bible Teach.* x. (1870) 202 They have no title to heaven and no meetness for it.

Meetre, obs. form of Metre.

Meeve, mefe, Meffynge: see Move, Moving.

Meg [1] (meg). [var. of Mag *sb.*[2]] A pet form of the female name *Margaret*, used *dial.* to indicate a hoyden, coarse woman, etc.; also in the proverbial phrases *Meg's delight* or *diversions*, 'the deuce and all', 'the very mischief' (see E. D. D. and cf. Mag *sb.*[2] 1). *Long Meg, Meg of Westminster*, the appellation of a virago whose exploits were famous in the 16th c.; hence proverbially in allusive uses.

c 1538 Lyndesay *Supplic. Syde Taillis* 67 Ane mureland Meg, that mylkis the 3owis. 1572 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xxxii. 37 And we, agane, wald by ane Fraer of Fegges,.. and sell to landwart Megges. 1582 (*title*) The life and pranks of Long Meg of Westminster. 1593 Nashe *Strange News* Wks. (Grosart) II. 223 Thou art a puissant Epitapher. Yea? thy Muses foot of the twelues; old long Meg of Westminster? Then, I trowe thou wilt stride ouer Greenes graue and not stumble. 1602 Dekker *Satiro-mastix* F ij b, Tis thou makst me so, my Long Meg a Westminster, thou breedst a scab, thou ——. 1611 Middleton & Dekker *Roaring Girl* K j b, Was it your Megge of Westminsters courage that rescued mee? *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Long-meg*, a very tall Woman. 1725 Ramsay *Gentle Sheph.* I. i, Then fare ye weel Meg-Dorts. 1813 W. Beattie *Yule Feast* (1871) 11 Twa bunching megs. 1834, 1849 [see Mag *sb.*[2] 2]. 1874 S. Beauchamp *Grantley Grange* I. 202 Well, it were Meg's delight, sir; and in the middle on it all.. he roars out [etc.].

b. The great 15th c. gun in Edinburgh Castle was called *Mons Meg* (? from having been cast at Mons in Flanders), *Muckle, Great Meg*. Also Roaring Meg.

1650 in Scott *Prov. Antiq. Scot.* (1826) p. xxi *note*, The great iron murderer called Muckle Megg. 1650 *Art. Rendition Edinb. Castle* 4 Three Iron Guns, besides the Great Mag. 1753 Maitland *Hist. Edinb.* 164 A huge Piece of Ordnance, resembling an old-fashioned Mortar.. denominated Mounts-Megg.

Meg [2] (meg). *slang* and *dial.* [Of obscure origin. Cf. Mag *sb.*[3] and Make *sb.*[3]]

† 1. A guinea. *Obs.*

1688 Shadwell *Sqr. Alsatia* I. i, *Sham.* No, no; Meggs are Guineas, Smelts are half-guineas. 1691 *Islington Wells* 12 To see a Town not far from Dover, Butter'd with Megs and Smelts all over. *c* 1742 in Hone *Every-day Bk.* II. 527 Tickets to be had, for three Megs a Carcass.

2. A half-penny: = Mag *sb.*[3], Make *sb.*[3]

1781 [see Mag *sb.*[3]]. 1872 in Hartley *Yorks. Ditties* (ed. 2) 90 He wodn't pay a meg.

Mega- (me·gă), before a vowel **meg-**, repr. Gr. μεγα-, comb. form of μέγας great, used esp. in many scientific terms (often having correlatives f. Micro-, and sometimes also synonyms f. Macro-), as **Megabacteria** *pl.* [Bacterium], **Megaco·cci** *pl.* [Gr. κόκκος a berry], names of two stages in the development of Billroth's *Coccobacteria septica*. **Megafru·stule** [Frustule] *Biol.*, a frustule of comparatively large size. **Megagame·te** [Gamete], one of the larger motile sexual (female) cells of algæ. **Megallantoid** *a.* [Allantoid], having a large allantois; *sb.*, an animal so characterized. **Meganu·cleus** [Nucleus], the nucleus proper as distinguished from the micronuclens or paranucleus. **Me·gaspo·range, -spora·ngium** (pl. **-ia**) *Bot.* [Sporangium], a sporangium containing megaspores. **Me·gaspore** *Bot.* [Spore], a spore of comparatively large size in marsilaceous cryptogams. **Megaspo·rophyll** *Bot.* [Sporophyll], (*a*) a carpel; (*b*) a sporophyll which bears megaspores (Jackson *Gloss. Bot. Terms* 1900). **Megazo·osporange** *Bot.* [Zoosporangium], the special sporangium in *Hy-*

drodictyon which contains a swarm of megazoospores. **Megazo·ospore** *Bot.* [ZOOSPORE], a zoospore of relatively large size. Also MEGABASITE, MEGACEPHALIC, etc. Cf. MEGALO-.

1883 MACALISTER tr. *Ziegler's Path. Anat.* I. § 185. 265 According to size we may distinguish them as micrococci, mesococci, and *megacocci, and microbacteria, mesobacteria, and *megabacteria. 1895 *Naturalist* 260 Drawings made with the camera lucida..of the conjugating process showing the *megafrustules. 1891 HARTOG in *Nature* 17 Sept. 484 The smaller (micro-)gamete is male, the larger *(mega-)gamete, female. 1897 PARKER & HASWELL *Text-bk. Zool.* I. 71 Union always taking place between a large cell or megagamete and a small cell or microgamete. 1877 W. TURNER *Hum. Anat.* II. 869 So large and persistent is the sac of the allantois in the ordinary Ruminantia [etc.], that M. H. Milne-Edwards has grouped them together as *Megallantoids. 1897 PARKER & HASWELL *Text-bk. Zool.* I. 84 The *meganucleus in *Paramœcium* is ovoid. 1903 S. J. HICKSON in E. R. Lankester *Zool.* I. *Protozoa* 372 The Meganucleus (= Macronucleus). 1889 BENNETT & MURRAY *Cryptog. Bot.* 11 It [*i.e.* a spore-case] is a *megasporange or a microsporange, according as it contains megaspores or microspores. 1886 *Athenæum* 10 Apr. 491/2 Mr. Bennett has made use of the term *Megasporangia in describing the heterosporous vascular cryptogams. 1858 CARPENTER *Veg. Phys.* § 734 Three or four roundish fleshy bodies (*megaspores). 1889 BENNETT & MURRAY *Cryptog. Bot.* 11 Two different kinds of spore,..megaspores and..microspores. 1902 *Encycl. Brit.* XXV. 432/2 The microsporophylls (stamens) and the *megasporophylls (carpels). 1889 BENNETT & MURRAY *Cryptog. Bot.* 297 Fig. 260 .. C. *megazoosporange..D. *megazoospores.

b. Prefixed to names of units of measurement, force, resistance, etc., *meg(a-* is used to denote 'a million times'; e. g. *megadyne, meg(a) erg* (cf. *megaerg* s.v. MEGALO-), *megafarad, meg(a)joule, megametre, megapone, megavolt, megaweber, megohm.*

1868 L. CLARK *Electr. Meas.* 43 One million ohms = 1 megohm. *Ibid.*, Megavolt. *Ibid.* 44 Megafarad. 1871 *Brit. Assoc. Rep.* II. 29 The author [Everett] proposed.. that the names *kilodyne, megadyne, kilopone, megapone* be employed to denote a thousand and a million dynes and pones. 1891 L. CLARK *Dict. Metric. Meas., Meg-erg*, or *Megalerg* = one million ergs... *Meg-joule* = one million joules. 1892 B. SMITH & HUDSON *Arith.* 147 A million joules make a megajoule. 1902 *Encycl. Brit.* XXVIII. 4/2 Convenient multiples and subdivisions of the ohm are the microhm and the megohm. *Ibid.* XXXIII. 812/1 Megametre (astronomy)..1,000,000 metres.

Megabasite (megăbē·səit). *Min.* [a. G. *megabasit* (Breithaupt 1852), f. Gr. *μέγα-s* great + *βάσι-s* base: see -ITE.] A synonym of HÜBNERITE.

The name is meant to express the fact that the mineral contains more basic matter than wolframite.

1868 DANA *Syst. Min.* (ed. 5) 604.

Megacephalic (megăsĭfæ·lik), *a. Anat.* [f. Gr. *μέγα-s* great + *κεφαλή* head: cf. CEPHALIC.] Large-headed; *spec.* (see quot. 1882).

1879 FLOWER *Catal. Mus. Coll. Surg.* I. 10 Crania of unusually large size (Megacephalic). 1882 *Quain's Anat.* (ed. 9) I. 80 Those [skulls] exceeding 1450 cubic centimeters in capacity are megacephalic.

So **Megace·phalous** *a.*, large-headed.

1856 in MAYNE *Expos. Lex.* 1890 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

‖ **Megaceros** (megæ·sĕrŏs). *Palæont.* [mod. L., f. Gr. *μέγα-s* great + *κέρας* horn, after *ῥινόκερως* RHINOCEROS.] The extinct Irish elk.

1865 PHILLIPS *Addr. Brit. Assoc.* 32 Can our domestic cattle ..be traced back to..contemporaries of the urus, megaceros, and hyæna?

Megacerotine (megăsē·rotəin), *a. Zool.* [f. mod.L. *megacerōt-*, MEGACEROS + -INE.] Of or pertaining to the megaceros.

1884 FLOWER *Catal. Mus. Coll. Surg.* II. 307 Megacerotine Group.

Megacerous (megæ·sĕrəs), *a.* [Formed as MEGACEROS + -OUS.] 'Having very large horns, as the extinct Irish elk' (*Cent. Dict.*).

1856 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Megacerus..megacerous.

Megacheilous (megăkəi·ləs), *a. Ent.* [f. Gr. *μέγα-s* great + *χεῖλ-os* lip + -OUS.] Having a large labrum. 1890 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

Megacheiropteran (megăkəirɒ·ptĕrăn), *a.* and *sb. Zool.* [f. mod.L. *Megacheiroptera* (see MEGA- and CHEIROPTERA) + -AN.] a. *adj.* Pertaining to the group *Megacheiroptera* or fruit-eating bats. So **Megacheiro·pterous** *a.* with the same sense. b. *sb.* A bat of this group.

1890 in *Century Dict.*

Megacosm (me·găkɒz'm). [f. Gr. *μέγα-s* great + *κόσμος* world, COSMOS.] = MACROCOSM.

1617 MIDDLETON & ROWLEY *Fair Quarrel* Ded., If..this Megacosme, this great world, is no more then a Stage. 1624 [T. SCOTT] *Vox Dei* 48 As thus it is, in the microcosme of private estates, so it is, in the megacosme of publique wealths also. 1711 *Brit. Apollo* No. 137. 2/1 Supposing the Microcosm to be as well the Subject of your Contemplations as the Megacosm. 1851 G. S. FABER *Many Mansions* 157 As Light was let in upon the darkened Megacosm: so [etc.].

Megaderm (me·gădəɹm). *Zool.* [ad. mod.L. *Megaderma*, f. Gr. *μέγα-s* great + *δέρμ-α* skin.] A horse-shoe bat of the genus *Megaderma.*

1840 *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 72 The Megaderms.

Megadont (me·gădɒnt). *Ethnology.* [Badly f. Gr. *μέγα-s* great + *ὀδοντ-*, *ὀδούς* tooth.] Having teeth of large size, esp. as measured by a recognized dental index. (Cf. MACRODONT.)

1884 FLOWER in *Jrnl. Anthrop. Inst.* XIV. 185 The first three species are therefore strongly megadont. *Ibid.*, The Megadont section, being composed exclusively of the black races. *Ibid.* 186 Megadont Races. Melanesians [etc.].

Megagnathous (megæ·gnăþəs), *a. Anat.* [f. Gr. *μέγα-s* great + *γνάθ-os* jaw + -OUS.] Having a large jaw (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1890); = MACROGNATHOUS.

‖ **Megalacria** (megălæ·kriă). *Path.* [mod.L., f. Gr. *μεγαλο-* great + *ἄκρα, ἄκρον* extremity: see -IA.] A morbid condition in which the hands and feet and the face, esp. the bones of the face, are abnormally enlarged.

1891 CUNNINGHAM in *Trans. R. Irish Acad.* XXIX. 611 Dr. Haughton and Dr. Ingram have furnished me with the much more correct term of 'megalacria'.

Megalæsthete (megălī·sþīt). *Biol.* [f. Gr. *μεγαλο-* great + *αἰσθητής* 'one who perceives' (here used for 'organ of sense').] A supposed tactile organ occupying the megalopore of chitons.

1884 MOSELEY in *Rep. Brit. Assoc.* (1885) 781 A series of elongate cylindrical organs of touch ('megalæsthetes'). 1885 — in *Q. Jrnl. Micr. Sci.* XXV. 43 To which I shall apply the name megalæsthetes, believing that they are peculiar organs of touch and are at all events peculiar to Chitonidæ.

Megaleme (me·gălēm). *Ornith.* [ad. mod.L. *Megalæma* (G. R. Gray 1842 *Megalaima*), f. Gr. *μέγα-s* great + *λαιμός* throat.] A bird of the genus *Megalæma* of scansorial barbets.

1890 in *Century Dict.*

Megalith (me·găliþ). *Antiq.* [Back-formation from MEGALITHIC.] A stone of great size used in construction, or for the purpose of a monument.

1853 LUKIS in *Archæologia* XXXV. 233 Celtic Megalithes. 1872 J. FERGUSSON *Rude Stone Monum.* 181 *note*, Hundreds of our countrymen rush annually to the French megaliths. 1894 *Chamb. Jrnl.* 555 A circle comprising..thirty freestone megaliths.

Megalithic (megăli·þik), *a. Antiq.* [f. Gr. *μέγα-s* great + *λίθος* stone + -IC.] Consisting or constructed of great stones. Hence, of a period, a people, etc.: Characterized by the erection of megalithic monuments.

1839 A. HERBERT (*title*) Cyclops Christianus, or an Argument to disprove the supposed Antiquity of Stonehenge and other Megalithic Erections. 1865 LUBBOCK *Preh. Times* 53 This appears to have been the finest megalithic ruin in Europe. 1867 SIR J. Y. SIMPSON *Archaic Sculpt.* 144 A race of Megalithic Builders—if we may so call them. 1875 D. WILSON in *Encycl. Brit.* II. 338/1 The rudiments of architectural skill pertaining to the Megalithic Age.

Megalo- (me·gălo), before a vowel **megal-**, a. Gr. *μεγαλο-*, combining form of *μέγας* great (cf. the equivalent MEGA-), used in many scientific terms. **Megalencepha·lic** *a.* [ENCEPHALIC], pertaining to or affected with hypertrophy of the encephalon or cerebrum. **Me·galerg** *Physics* = *megerg* [see MEGA- b]. **Me·galoblast** *Path.* [-BLAST], one of the nucleated red blood-disks found in the blood of anæmic persons (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*); hence **Megalobla·stic** *a.*, containing megaloblasts. ‖ **Megaloca·rdia** *Path.* [Gr. *καρδία* heart], the condition of having an abnormally large heart (Dunglison *Med. Lex.* 1855). **Megaloca·rpous** *a. Bot.* [Gr. *καρπός* fruit], having large fruit (Mayne). **Megalocepha·lic** *a.* = MEGACEPHALIC; so **Megaloce·phalous** *a.* (*Cent. Dict.* 1890). **Megaloce·phaly**, the condition of being megacephalic; also *Path.*, an enlargement of the head occurring in *Leontiasis ossea* (Osler *Princ. & Pract. Med.*, ed. 4, 1901, p. 1145). **Megalochi·rous** *a.* [Gr. *χείρ* hand], having large hands or large tentacles (Mayne). **Me·galocyte** *Path.* [Gr. *κύτος* a hollow], one of the large red blood-corpuscles seen in anæmia (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*). **Megalodo·ntous** *a. Anat.* [Gr. *ὀδούς* tooth], large-toothed (*ibid.*). ‖ **Megaloga·stria** *Path.* [Gr. *γαστ(ε)ρ-*, *γαστήρ* stomach + -IA], the condition of possessing great stomach capacity. **Megalogoni·dium** *Bot.*, a gonidium larger than others produced by the same species (*Cent. Dict.*); = *macrogonidium*. **Me·galopore**, one of the larger poresin the dorsal shell of certain chitons. **Megalo·podous** *a.* [Gr. *πούς* foot], having a long foot (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*). **Me·galosphere** [SPHERE], the initial chamber of a megalospheric foraminifer; hence **Megalosphe·ric** *a.*, applied to certain foraminifera having a large initial chamber and a single large nucleus.

1856 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Megalanthus..*megalanthous. 1900 FLETCHER in *Lancet* 2 June 1589/1 *Megalencephalic would be a more suitable name [*sc.* for cerebral hypertrophy]. 1873 *Brit. Assoc. Rep.* 225 The mechanical equivalent of one gramme-degree (Centigrade) of heat is 41·6 *megalergs, or 41,600,000 ergs. 1899 CAGNEY tr. *Jaksch's Clin. Diagn.* I. (ed. 4) 43 Microcytes, *megaloblasts and nucleated red corpuscles are also not of rare occurrence. 1900 ELDER in *Lancet* 28 Apr. 1199/2 The majority of the cells being of the *megaloblastic type. 1904 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 10 Sept. 584 A stage when almost all the red cells are nucleated, and most of them megaloblastic. 1876 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex.*, **Megalocephalic*, having an unusually large head. 1878 BARTLEY tr. *Topinard's Anthropol.* I. v. 176 Megalocephalic, skull of very large capacity. *Ibid.* 543 *Index*, *Megalocephaly. 1889 D. J. HAMILTON *Text-bk. Pathol.* I. 462 Giant blood corpuscles or *megalocytes running up to 14 μ in diameter. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 485 A stomach otherwise normal, may yet be of extraordinary capacity—a condition which has received such names as megastria and *megalogastria. 1884 MOSELEY in *Rep. Brit. Assoc.* (1885) 781 A series of pores ('*megalopores') by which this surface is covered. 1894 LISTER in *Phil. Trans.* CLXXXVI. 406 The parent shell is *megalospheric, the *megalosphere being pear-shaped.

Megalograph (me·gălograf). [f. MEGALO- + -GRAPH. In Fr. *mégalographe.*] (See quot. 1876.)

[1876 *Sci. Amer.* XXXV. 345/2 In this exhibit is an admirably designed camera lucida, or, as it is here called, *megalographe*... It differs from the ordinary camera lucida, inasmuch as it admits of drawing directly from the objects under the microscope. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl., *Megalographe.*] 1890 *Century Dict.*, *Megalograph.*

†**Megalo·graphy.** *Obs.* [f. MEGALO- + -GRAPHY.] 'A drawing of pictures at large' (Bailey 1731).

Megalomania (megălomē·niă). *Nosology.* [f. MEGALO- + MANIA.] The insanity of self-exaltation; the passion for 'big things'. Often *transf.*

1890 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1892 *Contemp. Rev.* Feb. 166 Here again megalomania—the desire to 'do the great'—had the upper hand. 1895 *Spectator* 2 Mar. 291 The patient exhibits erotomania or megalomania, or a maudlin..liability to emotion. 1897 MARQ. SALISBURY in *Daily Chron.* 17 Nov. 8/2 A common intellectual complaint..which I may name (as I see Mr. Gladstone has consecrated the word) megalomania—the passion for big things simply because they are big. 1904 A. GRIFFITHS *Fifty Years Public Service* xiv. 222 Megalomania was strangely prevalent among these criminal lunatics.

Hence **Megaloma·niac** *a.* and *sb.*; **Megalomani·acal** *a.*

1890 *Syd. Soc. Lex.* s.v. *Megalomania*, Many megalomaniacs are illegitimate children. 1892 *Contemp. Rev.* Feb. 167 A sort of megalomaniacal aberration. 1899 *Speaker* 29 July 105/1 He [Signor Crispi] was neither himself a megalomaniac nor the framer of the Triple Alliance.

Megalomartyr (megălomā·ɹtəɹ). *Eccl. Hist.* [a. late Gr. *μεγαλόμαρτυρ*: cf. MEGALO- and MARTYR.] (See quot. 1756.)

1756 A. BUTLER *Lives Saints* 7 Feb. (1821) II. 90 Among those holy martyrs whom the Greeks honour with the title of Megalomartyrs (*i.e.* great martyrs) as St. George, St. Pantaleon, &c. 1840 I. TAYLOR *Anc. Chr.* (1842) II. 186 The 'Megalomartyrs' or Dii Selecti.

Megalonyx (megălo·niks). *Palæont.* [mod.L., f. Gr. *μεγαλο-* great (see MEGALO-) + *ὄνυξ* claw.] A large fossil sloth-like edentate from the post-pliocene strata of North America.

1797 JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1859) IV. 195 The Megalonyx, as we [*i.sc.* the American Philosophical Society] have named him. 1813 BYRON in Moore *Lett. & Jrnls.* (1830) I. 461 The Mammoth and Megalonyx. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XV. 73/1 The Megalonyxes were provided with a tail.

attrib. 1887 *Amer. Naturalist* XXI. 459 The Megalonyx Beds.

Megalopa (megălō·pă). *Zool.* [mod.L., fem. of **megalōpus*, a. Gr. *μεγαλωπός* large-eyed, f. *μεγαλο-* MEGALO- + *ὠπ-*, *ὤψ* eye.] = MEGALOPS 1.

1815 W. E. LEACH *Malacostraca Podophth. Brit.* Plate xvi, Megalopa *Leach.* 1852 W. B. CARPENTER *Microsc.* § 408 (ed. 3) 659 In which stage the [crab-] larva is remarkable for the large size of its eyes, and hence received the name of *Megalopa* when it was supposed to be a distinct type. 1880 HUXLEY *Crayfish* 284 The Megalopa stage of the crab.

Megalophonic (megălŏfɒ·nik), *a.* [f. Gr. *μεγαλόφων-os*, f. *μεγαλο-* great + *φωνή* voice, sound: see -IC.] Having a loud strong voice.

1856 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.* 1890 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

Megalophonous (megălɒ·fŏnəs), *a.* [Formed as prec. + -OUS.] a. Of imposing sound. (*Burlesque nonce-wd.*)

1819 SHELLEY *Peter Bell* Prol. 36 *note*, The oldest scholiasts read 'A dodecagamic potter': this is at once more descriptive and more megalophonous.

b. Having a great voice (Crabb 1823).

Megalopic (megălɒ·pik), *a. Zool.* [f. Gr. *μεγαλωπ-ός* or mod.L. *megalōp-*: see MEGALOPS.] Resembling a megalops. In mod. Dicts.

Megalopine (me·găloþəin), *a.* (and *sb.*) [ad. mod.L. *megalōpin-us*, f. *megalōp-*, MEGALOPS.]

1. Of or pertaining to the megalops stage of decapod crustaceans (Webster *Suppl.* 1902).

2. Pertaining to, or connected with, the subfamily *Megalopinæ* of fishes. As *sb.*, a fish of this sub-family. (*Cent. Dict.* 1890.)

‖ **Megalops** (me·gălɒps). *Zool.* [mod.L. *megalōps*, altered form of MEGALOPA; cf. L. *Cyclōps*, Gr. *Κύκλωψ*.]

1. Originally, the name of a supposed genus of crustaceans (characterized by eyes of enormous size), now known to represent merely a particular stage in the development of crabs. Now retained as a descriptive term for a crab in this 'large-eyed' stage of development.

1855 W. S. DALLAS in *Syst. Nat. Hist.* I. 312 In this form the young animals have received the name of *Megalops.*

1896 KIRKALDY & POLLARD tr. *Boas' Text Bk. Zool.* 226 There is no mysis-stage, but the young one passes through a prawn-stage (the so-called megalops).

2. The typical genus of the sub-family *Megalopinæ* of the family Elopidæ of clupeoid fishes.

1840 *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 321. 1880 GÜNTHER *Fishes* 661.

‖ **Megalopsia** (megălǫ·psiă). *Path.* [mod. L., f. Gr. *μεγαλο-* great (see MEGALO-) + *-οψία*, in nouns of agency f. combs. of *ὄπ-* to see: cf. AUTOPSY.] A pathological condition of the eyes in which objects appear enlarged. 1890 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

Megalopsychic, *a. nonce-wd.* [f. Gr. *μεγαλό-ψυχ-ος* 'great-souled' (f. *μεγαλο-* great + *ψυχ-ή* soul) + -IC.] Magnanimous.

1896 *Spectator* 7 Mar. 337/1 The megalopsychic monster whose immaculateness is so uninteresting that [etc.].

† **Megalopsychy.** *Obs. rare*—°. [ad. Gr. *μεγαλοψυχία*, noun of quality f. *μεγαλόψυχος*: see prec.] 'Magnanimity' (Blount *Glossogr.* 1656).

‖ **Megalosaurus** (me·gălosǭ·rŭs). *Palæont.* Pl. **-i.** [mod. L., f. Gr. *μεγαλο-* great (see MEGALO-) + *σαῦρος* lizard.] An extinct genus of gigantic terrestrial carnivorous lizards, the remains of which have been found in the Oolite; an animal of this genus. Also anglicized **Me·galosaur.**

1824 BUCKLAND in *Trans. Geol. Soc.* Ser. II. I. 391, I have ventured, in concurrence with my friend and fellow-labourer, the Rev. W. Conybeare, to assign to it the name of Megalosaurus. *Ibid.* 392 The megalosaurus itself was probably an amphibious animal. 1841 OWEN in *Brit. Assoc. Rep.* (1842) 104 The carnivorous Megalosaur. 1844 ANSTED *Geol., Introd.* etc. I. 409 The Megalosaurus was a carnivorous reptile, closely allied to some existing lizards. 1864 MISS YONGE *Trial* I. 87 He is physically as strong as a young megalosaur.

Hence **Megalosau·rian** (*a*) *adj.*, having the character of a megalosaurus; (*b*) *sb.*, a megalosaurus or similar animal. Similarly **Megalosau·roid** *a.* and *sb.*

1841 OWEN in *Rep. Brit. Assoc.* (1842) 109 Their Megalosaurian character. 1844 ANSTED *Geol., Introd.* etc. I. 410 When first the Megalosaurian remains were described by Dr. Buckland. 1890 *Century Dict.*, Megalosauroid *a.* and *n.*

† **Megaloscope.** *Obs.* Also *erron.* 8 megalascope, 9 megalscope. [f. MEGALO- + -SCOPE.] **1.** A hand lens for examining small but not microscopic objects.

c 1790 IMISON *Sch. Arts* I. 227 This is an optical instrument that may be properly called a megalascope for the hand; because it is adapted for viewing all the larger sort of small objects. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* I. 476 The Hand Megalscope.

2. An endoscope with a magnifying apparatus. 1902 in WEBSTER Suppl.

Megameter (megæ·mĭtəɹ). [a. F. *mégamètre*: see MEGA- and -METER.] **a.** An instrument for measuring large objects. **b.** An instrument for taking astronomical measurements.

1767 *Ann. Reg.* (1772) 96 To make trial of some instruments designed to facilitate the determination of the longitude by sea, and particularly..the megametre or grand measurer of the Sieur de Charnieres. 1777 *Phil. Trans.* LXVII. 789 An Account of a new Micrometer and Megameter [was] read June 19. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 1419/1 *Megameter*, an instrument for determining the longitude by observation of the stars.

† **Meganology.** *Obs. rare*—°. [Badly f. *μέγα-s* great + -OLOGY.] (See quot.)

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Meganologie*, a speaking or discourse of magnitude or greatness.

Megaphone (me·găfōun). [f. Gr. *μέγα-s* great + *φωνή* voice, sound.]

1. An instrument for carrying sound a long distance, invented by T. A. Edison.

1878 *Sci. Amer.* XXXIX. 111/3 Now, at last, we have a megaphone, which is to the ear almost what the telescope is to the eye. 1879 PRESCOTT *Sp. Telephone* 561 One of the most interesting experiments made by Mr. Edison..is that of conversing through a distance of one and a half to two miles, with..a few paper funnels. These funnels constitute the megaphone.

2. A large speaking trumpet.

1896 *Boston* (Mass.) *Jrnl.* 5 Nov. 6/4 The Society for the Suppression of Needless Noise should regulate the use of the megaphone. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 25 Apr. 7/2 Captain Bob Evans..shouted through the megaphone.

Hence **Megapho·nic** *a.*

1881 MRS. LYNN LINTON *My Love* I. xvi. 290 She had escaped even the microscopic research and the megaphonic talk of a small country place like Highwood.

Megapode (me·gapōud), **megapod** (-pǫd). *Ornith.* [ad. mod.L. *Megapodius*, f. Gr. *μέγα-s* great + *πoδ-*, *πούς* foot.] Any bird of the genus *Megapodius* or of the family *Megapodiidæ*, a mound-bird or mound-builder, native of Australia and the Malay Archipelago. Also *attrib.*

1857 *Carpenter's Zool.* I. 484 The family of Megapodidæ, or Megapodes, is peculiar to Australia and the adjacent islands. 1880 A. R. WALLACE *Isl. Life* i. 4 The strange mound-building megapodes. 1900 *Edin. Rev.* Apr. 500 The remarkable Megapode birds.

Hence **Mega·podan, a.** *adj.* of or belonging to the megapodes; **b.** *sb.* a megapode (*Cent. Dict.* 1890).

† **Mega·polis.** *Obs. nonce-wd.* [f. Gr. *μέγα-s* + *πόλις* city.] A chief city.

1638 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (ed. 2) 61 [Amadavad is] at this present the Megapolis of Cambaya.

Megar, obs. form of MEAGRE *a.*

Megarian (megē·riăn), *a.* and *sb.* Also **Megarean.** [f. L. *Megara*, Gr. *Μέγαρα* (neut. pl.), a city in Greece + -IAN; also f. L. *Megarē-us* + -AN.] **a.** *adj.* Pertaining to the school of philosophy founded c. 400 B.C. by Euclides of Megara. **b.** A member or adherent of this school.

1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch* Explan. Words, *Megarian questions*, that is to say, such as were propounded and debated among the Philosophers Megarenses. 1656 STANLEY *Hist. Philos.* IV. *Euclid* ii. 28 Litigious Euclid..Who the Megareans mad contention taught. 1838 MORRISON tr. *Ritter's Anc. Philos.* II. 131 This doctrine had been previously attributed to the Megarians by Aristotle. 1848 *Schools Anc. Philos.* 110 The Megareans. 1878 *Encycl. Brit.* VIII. 578/1 Four distinct philosophical schools trace their immediate origin to the circle that gathered round Socrates—the Megarian, the Platonic, the Cynic, and the Cyrenaic.

Megaric (megæ·rik), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. Gr. *Μεγαρικ-ός* belonging to Megara.] = prec.

1656 STANLEY *Hist. Philos.* IV. *Euclid* i. 27 Euclid (instituter of the Megarick Sect). 1744 BERKELEY *Siris* § 312 In consequence of that Megaric doctrine, we can have no sense but while we actually exert it. 1845 LEWES *Hist. Philos., Anc.* II. 7 The Megaric doctrine is therefore the Eleatic doctrine, with an Ethical tendency borrowed from Socrates. 1867 — *Ibid.* (ed. 3) I. 175 The Megarics.

Megarrhine (me·gărəin), *a. Zool.* Also **megarhine.** [ad. mod.L. *megarrhīnus*, f. Gr. *μέγα-s* great + *ῥῖν-*, *ῥίν*, *ῥίς* nose.] 'Great-nosed'; the distinctive epithet of an extinct species of rhinoceros.

1865 DAWKINS in *Nat. Hist. Rev.* July 403 All the three species [of Rhinoceros]—the megarhine, leptorhine, and tichorhine, are found together at Crayford and Ilford. 1895 LYDEKKER *Brit. Mammalia* 304 Both the Leptorhine (*R. leptorhinus*) and Megarhine (*R. megarhinus*) Rhinoceroses..differ essentially from the woolly kind.

Megascope (me·găskoup). [f. MEGA- + -SCOPE.]

1. A modification of the camera obscura or magic lantern for throwing a reflected magnified image of an object upon a screen.

1831 BREWSTER *Optics* xl. § 192 A modification of the camera obscura called the megascope is intended for taking magnified drawings of small objects placed near the lens. 1879 *Sci. Amer.* XLI. 63 An improved megascope,..in which the object to be viewed is firmly fixed upon a sliding screen [etc.]. 1893 *Brit. Jrnl. Photogr.* XL. 798 Pictures projected upon the screen by means of the megascope or aphengescope lantern.

2. (See quot.)

1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 1419/1 *Megascope.* 1. A solar microscope in which the objects are opaque and illuminated in front by reflecting mirrors.

Megascopic (megăskǫ·pik), *a.* [Formed as prec. + -IC.]

1. Visible to the naked eye without the aid of a microscope; = MACROSCOPIC.

1879 RUTLEY *Study Rocks* xi. 194 Crystals, both megascopic and microscopic, occur..in some perlites. 1890 BILLINGS *Nat. Med. Dict., Megascopic*, macroscopic.

2. a. Of or pertaining to the megascope or to the projection of images of opaque objects upon a screen. **b.** Enlarged or magnified, *spec.* of photographic pictures, images, etc. (Webster 1902).

Also **Megasco·pical** *a.*; **Megasco·pically** *adv.*

1890 in *Century Dict.*

Megaseme (me·găsīm), *a.* and *sb. Anat.* [a. F. *mégasème* (Broca), f. Gr. *μέγα-s* great + *σῆμα* sign.] **a.** *adj.* Having a large orbital index; *spec.* having an orbital index over .89. **b.** *sb.* A skull having a large orbital index.

[1878 BARTLEY tr. *Topinard's Anthrop.* II. ii. 258 M. Broca has created three general terms..bearing reference to this [orbital] index,..namely, mégasème when the index is large [etc.].] 1879 FLOWER *Catal. Mus. Coll. Surg.* I. 256 The females are all megaseme. 1882 *Quain's Anat.* (ed. 9) I. 83 If above 89, it [the orbital index] is megaseme.

Megasine, obs. form of MAGAZINE.

1616 BULLOKAR *Eng. Expos., Megasine*, a storehouse for warre.

‖ **Megass** (megæ·s). Also **megasse.** [Of unknown origin: cf. BAGASSE.] The fibrous residue after the expression of sugar from the cane. Also *attrib.*

1847 *Simmonds's Colonial Mag.* June 187 The megass is carried to the megass-house, and from there to the fireplace, all by manual labour. 1887 *Encycl. Brit.* XXII. 625/2 In a three-roller [sugar-] mill they consist of a cane, top, and megass roller respectively. 1887 MOLONEY *Forestry W. Afr.* 453 Megasse or Bagasse, the refuse cane after the juice has been extracted.

Megasthene (me·găsθēn). [ad. mod.L. *megasthena* neut. pl. (see definition), f. Gr. *μέγα-s* great + *σθέν-ος* strength.] A member of the *Megasthena* or second order of Mammalia in Dana's classification, comprising the largest and most powerful mammals. Hence **Megasthenic** *a.*, of or pertaining to this order; also used by Dana in etymological sense, 'having great strength'.

1863 DANA in *Amer. Jrnl. Sci.* Ser. II. XXXV. 71 There is a close parallelism with the Mutilates, the lowest of the Megasthenes. *Ibid.* XXXVI. 8 Among Crustaceans, the megasthenic and microsthenic divisions of which..stand widely apart. *Ibid.* 327 The Megasthenic-type.

Megathere (me·găθīəɹ). *Palæont.* Anglicized form of MEGATHERIUM.

1839 OWEN in *Trans. Geol. Soc.* (1842) VI. 93 The external cuneiform bone of the Megathere differs [etc.]. 1887 SIR H. H. HOWORTH *Mammoth & Flood* 346 Great mylodons and thickly-hided megatheres.

Megatherial (megăθīə·riăl), *a.* [f. MEGATHERI-UM + -AL.] Resembling the megatherium; in quots. *fig.*, ponderous, unwieldy.

1894 *Nature* 26 July 301 The disorderly offspring of a quite megatherial wit. 1898 H. G. WELLS *Cert. Personal Matters* 82 A vast edifice..with which a Megatherial key was identified.

Megathe·rian, *a.* and *sb.* [f. MEGATHERI-UM + -AN.] **a.** *adj.* Pertaining to the megatherium. **b.** *sb.* A megatherium or kindred animal.

1842 OWEN *Descr. Skel. Mylodon* 161 The extinct race of Megatherians. *Ibid.*, Generations of the Megatherian race.

Megatherioid (megăθīə·riˌoid), *a.* and *sb.* Also **-roid.** [f. next + -OID.] **a.** *adj.* Resembling the megatherium. **b.** *sb.* A megatherium or any similar edentate animal.

1839 OWEN in *Trans. Geol. Soc.* (1842) VI. 98 The Megatherioid families of Edentata. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XV. 65/2 *Megatheriidæ*, Megatheroids of Owen. *Ibid.* 70/1 *Mylodon.* A genus of Edentate Megatherioids. 1872 NICHOLSON *Palæont.* 416 The gigantic Megatheroids.

Megatherium (megăθīə·riŭm). *Palæont.* Pl. **-ia.** [mod.L. (Cuvier), as if Gr. *μέγα θηρίον* 'great beast': see MEGA-.] An extinct genus of huge herbivorous edentates resembling the sloths, the fossil remains of which are found in the upper tertiary deposits of South America; an animal of this genus.

1826 PRICHARD *Res. Phys. Hist. Man.* (ed. 2) I. 64 They have been termed megalonyx and megatherium. 1832 CLIFT in *Trans. Geol. Soc.* (1835) III. 437 The Remains of the Megatherium described in this paper. 1856 EMERSON *Eng. Traits, Stonehenge* Wks. (Bohn) II. 124 Professor Sedgwick's Cambridge Museum of megatheria and mastodons.

b. *transf.* Something of huge or ungainly proportions.

1850 H. ROGERS *Ess.* (1874) II. iv. 190 Those huge megatheria among particles, 'peradventure', 'notwithstanding', and 'nevertheless'. 1870 DISRAELI *Lothair* xxvi, The wild panting of the loosened megatheria [locomotives] who drag us.

Megatherm (me·găθəɹm). *Bot.* [f. Gr. *μέγα-s* great + *θέρμη* heat, *θερμός* hot.] A plant requiring great heat. Cf. MEGISTOTHERM, MEIOTHERM.

1879 STORMONTH *Man. Sci. Terms*, *Megatherms*, plants requiring a high temperature; also called 'macrotherms'.

Megatype (me·gătəip). [f. MEGA- + -TYPE.] An enlarged copy of a picture or negative produced by photography (*Cent. Dict.* 1890).

Hence **Me·gatypy,** the process of photographic enlargement of pictures or negatives (Webster 1902).

Megazin(e, obs. forms of MAGAZINE.

Meger(e, obs. forms of MEAGRE *a.*

† **Megetholo·gical,** *a. Obs.* [f. Gr. *μέγεθος* magnitude: see -LOGICAL.] Pertaining to the calculation of magnitudes.

1570 DEE *Math. Pref.* a iij, The helpe of Megethologicall Contemplations.

Meggatapye: see MAGGOT².

Meghelmes, obs. form of MICHAELMAS.

Megilp (mĭgi·lp), *sb.* Forms: see quot. 1854; also **majellup, macgellup, meggellup, McGilp, megilph, meguilp.** [Of obscure origin: the suggestion that it is from a surname is improbable.]

1. A preparation (consisting usually of a mixture of linseed oil with turpentine or mastic varnish) employed as a vehicle for oil colours.

1768 [W. DONALDSON] *Life Sir B. Sapsknll* I. x. 116 The magilp was a nostrum known only to the ancients; but our modern artists..have labour'd..to find out this valuable mystery, and as they say with some degree of success...The magilp produces that warmth and serenity which characterizes the peculiar merit of Claude Lorraine. 1803 *Edin. Rev.* II. 458 By the pulp, he meant to express some of the drying oils, or perhaps macgellup. *a* 1821 FARINGTON in Wright *Life R. Wilson* (1824) 20 A magylph or majellup of linseed-oil and mastic varnish..was his [Richard Wilson's] usual vehicle. 1854 FAIRHOLT *Dict. Art* s.v. *Gumption*, note, In the different treatises on painting and in the colourmen's catalogues we find it thus variously named...Magelp, magelph, magilp, magylp, magylph, megilp, megelp, megylp, megylph, macgelp, macgelph, magilp, macgilph, macgylph, macgulp, magulp, megulph, mygelp, mygelph, mygilp, mygilph, mygulp, mygulph.

2. A composition used by grainers (see quot.).

1827 WHITTOCK *Painters' & Glaz. Guide* I. ii. 21 The graining colour..is..a compound of various ingredients, mixed together to the consistence of thick treacle: this is called megilp.

Megilp (mĭgi·lp), *v.* [f. prec.] *trans.* To varnish with megilp; to give to (oil colours) the quality which megilp is used to impart.

1873 E. SPON *Workshop Receipts* Ser. I. 420/1 If it [water] is well mixed with the oil colour, it megilps it sufficiently to hold the combing. 1875 E. A. DAVIDSON *House-paint.*, etc. 110 The work..must be varnished or 'megilped'.

Megir(e, obs. forms of MEAGRE *a.*

Megistotherm (mĭgi·stoþō̆ɪm). *Bot.* [f. Gr. *μέγιστο-ς*, superl. of *μέγας* great + *θέρμη* heat.] A plant requiring a very high temperature for growth. Cf. MEGATHERM, MEIOTHERM.

1879 STORMONTH *Man. Sci. Terms, Megistotherms*, plants requiring extreme or a very high degree of heat.

Megne, obs. variant of MEYNIE.

Megohm: see MEGA- b.

Megre, obs. form of MEAGRE *a.*

Megrim[1] (mī·grim). Forms: *α.* 5 mygrane, -ene, -eyn, 6 -ayne, megryne, 7 migrane. *β.* 4 mygrame, 5 -greyme, migrym, my(e)grym, midgrame, -grym, 6 migramme, -grym(me, mygrim, magryme, maigram, meigryme, megrym(e, 6–7 megrime, migram, meigrim, megrum, 7 megro(o)me, -greme, -grimme, mygram, migrim, migrame, migraim, migreame, 7–9 meagrim, 6– megrim. [a. F. *migraine* (13th c.), semi-popular ad. late L. *hēmicrānia*: see HEMICRANE. Cf. Sp. *migraña*, It. *magrana*. The Fr. MIGRAINE is now sometimes used by Eng. writers as a synonym of HEMICRANIA; mod.G. has *migräne*, Sw. *migrän*.]

1. Hemicrania; a form of severe headache usually confined to one side of the head; nervous or sick headache; an attack of this ailment.

α. *c* 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 4584 A feruent mygreyn was in þe ry3t syde of hurre hedde. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 337/1 Mygreyme, sekenesse (*S.* mygrene), *emigranea*. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 239/1 þe Mygrane; vbi emigrane. *c* 1530 *Hickscorner* (Manly) 292, I sayd, that in my heed I had the megryne. 1541 R. COPLAND *Guydon's Form.* X j, The seconde fourme is of mygrayne. 1603 FLORIO *Montaigne* III. xiii. (1632) 617 The mind is..confounded by a migrane.

β. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* IV. v. (1495) 87 The mygrame and other euyll passyons of the heed. *c* 1460 *Play Sacram.* 613 For..alle maner red eyne bleryd eyn & þe myegrym also [etc.]. *c* 1566 *Merie Tales of Skelton* in *Skelton's Wks.* (1893) I. p. lx, Other whyle he woulde saye hee had the megrym in hys head. 1579 GOSSON *Sch. Abuse* (Arb.) 58 It is not a softe shooe that healeth the Gowte.. nor a crown of Pearle that cureth the Meigrim. 1634 T. JOHNSON *Parey's Chirurg.* XVII. iv. (1678) 376 The Megrim is properly a disease affecting the one side of the head, right or left. 1668 R. L'ESTRANGE *Vis. Quev.* (1708) 268 By how much it is more Honourable to Dye upon a Swords-point.. than for a Man to snivel and sneeze himself into another World; or to go away in a Meagrim. 1713 *Phil. Trans.* XXVIII. 229 For the Megrim, they smoak..the dried Bark of a Pomegranate Tree. 1871 NAPHEYS *Prev. & Cure Dis.* III. x. 1005 Brow-ague, or megrims, as it is sometimes called. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 543 Attacks of megrim are often accompanied by..contraction of the temporal artery.

b. = VERTIGO.

1595 DUNCAN *App. Etymol.* (E. D. S.) 75 *Vertigo*, dizzinesse, the migramme. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 725 In every Megrim, or Vertigo, there is an Obtenebration joyned with a Semblance of Turning Round. 1679 'EPHELIA' *Female Poems* 7 A giddy Megrim wheel'd about my head. 1804 *Med. Jrnl.* XII. 109 A gentleman..was suddenly attacked with a severe pain in his forehead, accompanied with so much megrim and stomach sickness, as would have caused him to fall, had he not received support.

c. *fig.*

α 1536 TINDALE *Exp. Matt. v–vii.* (?1550) 50 The weake and feble eyes of the world deseased with the mygrym and accustomed to darcknesse. 1634 W. TIRWHYT tr. *Balzac's Lett.* (Vol. I.) 228 Send me something to rid me of the Megreme I have taken in reading the sotteries of these times. *?c* 1660 R. WILD *Poems* (1670) 27 The meagrim of opinions, new or old, The colic in the conscience, he could cure. 1685 SIR G. MACKENZIE *Relig. Stoic* 42 Finding that Fortunes megrim could not be cured.

2. A whim, fancy, fad.

1593 R. HARVEY *Philad.* 23 Iago..died of a frensie, as he liued with a megrim. 1631 BRATHWAIT *Whimzies, Traveller* 91 Hee is troubled with a perpetuall migrim; at sea hee wisheth to bee on land, and on land at sea. 1711 E. WARD *Quix.* I. 235 With Fifty Meagrims in his Head. 1716 ADDISON *Drummer* I. i, Whims! freaks! megrims! indeed Mrs. Abigal. 1866 GEO. ELIOT *F. Holt* xi, Can't one work for sober truth as hard as for megrims? 1884 *Harper's Mag.* Aug. 466/2 What confounded megrim has seized you?

3. *pl.* 'Vapours'; 'blue devils'; low spirits.

1633 FORD *Broken H.* III. ii, These are his megrims, firks, and melancholies. 1754 RICHARDSON *Grandison* (1781) VI. xlv. 286 If these megrims are the effect of Love, thank Heaven, I never knew what it was. 1823 in *Spirit Pub. Jrnls.* 451 A very fine lady, and subject to the meagrims. 1887 G. R. SIMS *Mary Jane's Mem.* 214 Nurses..having as many dislikes as a fashionable lady with the megrims.

4. *pl.* The staggers or vertigo (in animals).

1639 T. DE GRAY *Compl. Horsem.* 69 These paines in the head..breed megrims. 1765 *Treat. Dom. Pigeons* 39 The next..distemper incident to this kind of birds is the vertigo, or (as generally styled by the fancy) the megrims. 1849 D. J. BROWNE *Amer. Poultry Yd.* (1855) 261 This is evidently the same disorder which Dr. Bechstein terms *epilepsy*, and Mr. Clater, the *megrims* or *giddiness*. 1850 COL. HAWKER *Diary* (1893) II. 321 The poor mare was suddenly seized with megrims, or mad staggers.

Hence †**Megrimical** *a.*, of or belonging to megrim; **Me·grimish** *a.*, inclined to megrim.

1661 K. W. *Conf. Charac., Detracting Empirick* (1860) 65 This quackroyall is never..so happy as when he's..telling them [his patients]..how many megrimicall and hypocondriacal humors he hath dissipated. 1855 R. REDGRAVE in *Memoir* vi. (1891) 160 The maid was summoned to dress her mistress. She found her languid and megrimish.

Megrim[2] (mī·grim). *dial.* Also **megrin**. The scald-fish, *Arnoglossus laterna*.

1836 YARRELL *Brit. Fishes* II. 254 The Scaldfish, or Megrim, as it is called in Cornwall. 1881 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* V. 69 The Scald-fish, or Megrim, or Smooth Sole (*Arnoglossus laterna*). 1900 *Dundee Advert.* 5 Jan. 2 When whitches and megrins have arrived in any great quantity, values have speedily dropped. 1901 *Scotsman* 14 Mar. 4/4 Aberdeen..prices,..megrims, 20*s.* to 22*s.* per box.

Megrin, obs. form of MEGRIM[2].

Meguilp, megylp(h, variant forms of MEGILP.

Mehap, Mehche, obs. ff. MAYHAP, MATCH *sb.*[1]

†**Mehe, me3he.** *Obs.* [OE. *mǣge* wk. fem.: related to MAY *sb.*[2]] A kinswoman.

c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Luke i. 36 Nu elizabeth þin mæge sunu on hyre ylde ȝe-eacnode. *c* 1200 ORMIN 3178 Hire me3he Elysabæþ Wass gladd inoh & bliþe Off hire dere child Johan. *a* 1225 *St. Marher.* 16 Meies ba ant mehen. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 76 Hire oðre wordes weren þoa heo com & grette Elizabeð hire mowe (*MS. T.* mehe, *MS. C.* meðge).

‖ **Mehmandar** (mē·mändār). Forms: 7 mehmander, mehemandar, -er, mammandore, -dar, ma(h)mendar, 9 mehmandar, -daur. [Pers. مهماندار *mihmāndār*, f. *mihmān* stranger, guest.] In Persia and India, an official appointed to act as courier to a traveller of distinction.

1623 *St. Pap. Col., E. Indies* 1622–4 (1878) 161 Our mehmander or presenter. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 51 Our Mammandore or Harbinger, prouiding for vs. 1638 *Ibid.* 132 Our Ambassadour..sent his Mammandar to the Governour..to demand fresh horses. 1662 J. DAVIES tr. *Olearius' Voy. Ambass.* 369 The Mehemandar, who conducts Ambassadors from one Province to another till they come to Court. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* II. 103 The Mahmendar Bassa, Master of the Ceremonies. 1840 J. B. FRASER *Koordistan* I. vi. 172 A dispute between our mehmandar and the villagers regarding a supply of corn for our horses. 1842 ELPHINSTONE *Caubul* I. 29 The necessity..of waiting for a Mehmandaur from his Majesty, to accompany the mission.

‖ **Mehtar** (mē·tər). Also 7 meheter, mehater, 9 mater, matre, mehter. [a. Urdū *mehtar*, a. Pers. مهتر *mihtar* head man, prince, occurring in many titles like *mihtar-i-asp*, master of the horse, *m.-i-raχt*, master of the household; comparative of *mih* great.]

1. a. In Persia: Originally, the title of certain great officers of the royal household. Now, a groom, a stable-boy.

1662 J. DAVIES tr. *Olearius' Voy. Ambass.* 272 Near the Pages stood the Meheter, or Groom of the Chamber, who hath the ouer-sight of them. *Ibid.* 286 The King..would have kill'd him, if a Mehater, or Gentleman belonging to his Chamber had not prevented him. 1828 MORIER *Hajji Baba in Eng.* I. 60 Besides many mehters or stable-boys.

b. In Bengal: A house sweeper and scavenger; the lowest of the menial honse-servants.

1810 WILLIAMSON *E. India Vade M.* I. 276 The *Mater*, or sweeper, is considered the lowest menial in every family. 1811 MRS. SHERWOOD *Henry & Bearer* 26, I gave all my last sweetmeats to the matre's boy. 1886 YULE & BURNELL *Anglo-Ind. Gloss.* s. v. *Bungy*, In the Bengal Pry. he is generally called mehtar.

2. A title borne by the ruler of Chitral. Hence **Me·htarship**, the office of mehtar.

1892 *Pall Mall G.* 21 Dec. 4/3 Nizam-ul-Mulk, the new Mehtar of Chitral. 1895 *Westm. Gaz.* 22 Mar. 7/1 The Amir ul Mulk,..who recently usurped the Mehtarship by killing his brother.

Mehte, obs. f. MIGHT sb. and *might* pa. t. of MAY *v.*[1]

Mehumitanisme, obs. form of MAHOMETANISM.

Meibomian (məibō·miăn), *a. Anat.* [f. *Meibomius* (see below) + -AN.] The distinguishing epithet of certain sebaceous glands in the human eyelid, discovered by H. Meibom (Meibomius) of Helmstadt (died 1700).

1813 J. THOMSON *Lect. Inflam.* 161 When scrophula attacks the eye-lids, it has usually its seat in the Meibomian glands. 1858 H. GRAY *Anat.* 565 The Meibomian glands are situated upon the inner surface of the eyelids.

Meiching, variant of MICHING.

Meicock, variant of MEACOCK *Obs.*

Meid(e, obs. forms of MEAD *sb.*[1], *sb.*[2], MEED *sb.*

Meidan, variant of MAIDAN *Indian.*

Meiden, obs. form of MAIDEN.

Meidin, variant of MEDINE.

Meidle, Meiger, obs. ff. MIDDLE *a.*, MEAGRE *a.*

Meighlyn, obs. form of MECHLIN.

Meigne(e, **Meigniall**, obs. ff. MEINY, MENIAL.

Meigrim, -ym, obs. forms of MEGRIM.

Meik(e, obs. Sc. forms of MEEK *a.* and *v.*

Meikill, meikle, obs. forms of MICKLE.

Meil, obs. form of MEAL *sb.*[1] and *sb.*[4]

Meild, Meile, var. ff. MELD, MELE, *vbs. Obs.*

‖ **Meiler** (məi·lər). [Ger.; orig. a pile of wood for making charcoal.] A charcoal-kiln.

1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 996 Fig. 873. represents a simple coking *meiler* or *mound*. 1854 RONALDS & RICHARDSON *Chem. Technol.* (ed. 2) I. 65 (*heading*) Preparation of Charcoal in Meiler.

Meill, obs. f. MEAL *sb.*[1] and *sb.*[4]; var. MELE *v.*

Mein, obs. f. MAIN, MIEN, MINE *pron.*, MING *v.*

†**Meindre,** *a. Obs. rare*[−1]. [a. AF. *meindre* (= mod.F. *moindre*) :—L. *minor* MINOR *a.*] In phr. *meindre age*, minority.

a 1461 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 394/1 By reason of the meyndre age of his seid Heire.

[**Meine,** *v.*, a spurious verb inferred from *meind*, pa. t. of MENG *v.*

1736 in AINSWORTH *Eng.-Lat. Dict.* Hence 1755 in JOHNSON; and in later Dicts.]

Meine, obs. form of MEAN.

Meinie (mē·ni). *Obs.* exc. *arch.* Forms: 3 maynee, meingne, meynyeie, 3–4 meigne, 3–5 maine, mayne, meine, meynee, 3–6 menye, meyne, men3e, 3, 5, 7, 9 menie, 4 meygne, megne, meng3e, mengne, meynne, meynej, meyney, meinee, 4–5 meignee, meynye, mene, meneyhe, meyn3e, men3ey, men3he, mene3e, 4–6 mayny, 4–7 meny, 4–9 meyny, 5 mene3ee, menne, maygne, menyhe, meneya, meneyay, meyni, 5–6 maynye, 5–9 meynie, *Sc.* men3ie, 6 mainy, meany(e, meini, meniey, meignye, menyei, 6–7 meiney, 6–8 meiny, 7 meney, meanie, *Sc.* meinzie, 9 meisny, *Sc.* mengyie, manzy, 6– meinie. [a. OF. *meyné, mesnie*, earlier *mesnede* = Pr. *mesnada, maisnada, mainada* (whence Sp. *mesnada, manada*, It. *masnada*) :—popular Latin type **mansiōnāta*, f. L. *mansiōn-em* (see MANSION), whence F. *maison* house.

In English the word was in some of its applications confused with MANY *sb.*]

1. A family, household.

c 1190 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 480/3 Seint ypolyt þe Martyr..þat wuste seint laurence in prisone..And þoruȝ him turnde to cristindom and his maine al-so. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 12271 þan went ioseph and mari bun Wit iesu til a-noiber tun, þat meingne was sa mild and meth. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 331 þis meyny of a3te I schal saue of monnez saulez. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 32 No weddid man owiþ to leue his wife & children & meyne vngouerned. 1481 CAXTON *Reynard* (Arb.) 98, I sawe neuer a fowler meyne, they [the ape and its young] laye on fowle heye whiche was al be pyssed. 1532 HERVET *Xenophon's Househ.* (1768) 78 For a man that is at great costes..in his house, and can not gette as moche..as wyll fynde hym and his meyny. 1587 *Durham Depos.* (Surtees) 327, I will command my menyei (which, as this examinate thinketh, he ment his wife and children) that they will be good to the. 1667 COTTON *Scarron.* IV. 105 A Farm lies ready cut and dry'd, Will hold both me, and all my meany.

2. A body of retainers, attendants, dependents, or followers; a retinue, suite, train.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 3484 þat so moche folc to him com of knit3tes 3onge & olde þat he nadde no3t wel war wiþ such menie up to holde. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 20579 þan com ihesus wit his meigne. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 2388 þey sette hym honurable to be, Wiþ fourty knyghtes of meygne. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xxx. 135 When he rydes in tyme of peesse with his priuee men3ee. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 7156 Thus Antecrist abyden we, For we ben alle of his meynee. *c* 1415 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 124 Ther all the ryall powere of Frensshemen come a3enst owre kynge and his litill meyné. 1423 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 248/2 For the expens resounable of hir, and of a certein meyne that shuld abide aboute hir. *c* 1460 *Godstow Reg.* (E. E. T. S.) 182 Hys meyny of woluerton sholde haue fre & full power to lede her bestys to the welle. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* x. xi. 430 Kynge marke rode froward them with alle his mayneal meyny. *c* 1500 *Gest Robyn Hode* 335 in Child *Ballads* III. 72 Fonde she there Robyn Hode, And al his fayre mene. 15.. *Chevy Chase* 6 Then ye perse owt off banborowe cam, wt him A myghtee meany. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* III. i. 25 Furth sail I,..With my 3oung son Ascanius and our men3e. 1605 SHAKS. *Lear* II. iv. 35 They summon'd vp their meiney, straight tooke Horse, Commanded me to follow. *c* 1640 J. SMYTH *Lives Berkeleys* (1883) I. 214 Wherto eleaven knights were wittnesses, then of his meiny or houshold seruants. 1728 RAMSAY *To D. Forbes* vii, What gars thee look sae big and bluff I Is't an attending menzie? 1904 SAINTSBURY *Hist. Crit.* III. 426 Titania and her meyny.

†b. Used as a *plural*: Servants. *Obs.*

c 1450 *Bk. Curtasye* 604 in *Babees Bk.*, Now let we þes officers be, And telle we wylle of smaller mené. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 252 þe lady, þe menze, grete and small.

†c. *God's meinie*: applied (*a*) to the angels; (*b*) to the poor, as objects of his special care. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Assump. Virg.* (Camb. MS.) 120 He wile senden after þe, Fram heuene adun of his meigne. 1496 *Dives & Paup.* (W. de W.) IX. xiv. 367/1 For why wycked doers & synful poore men ben called the leste of goddes menye.

†3. A company of persons employed together or having a common object of association; an army, ship's crew, congregation, assembly, or the like. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 17288+440 3it apon þe same day he schewd to þis men3e. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 97 He gadred grete mayne of alle þat he mot hent. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XVI. 375 Of archeris a gret men3he Assemblit. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 5243 Mony fallyn were fey of þe fell grekes, But mo of the meny, þat mellit hom with. *c* 1400 *Beryn* 1581 For there nas Shippis meyne for au3t that they could hale That myȝte abuten of the Shipp the thiknes of a skale. 1598 *Nottingham Rec.* IV. 247 To requyre the Burgesses in his Ward to mete a meny of honest Burgesses.

†4. The collection of pieces or 'men' used in the game of chess. *Obs.*

[1322 in *Rolls Parlt.* III. 363 Escheqirs..ove tres peirs meines de cristall, et tables de ivoir, ove la meine d'ivoire et d'eban.] 13.. *Guy Warw.* (A.) 3195 þe cheker þai oxy & þe meyne. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 11396 Meyne for þe cheker Wyþ draughtes queinte of knight & rok. *c* 1400 *Beryn* 1733 The ches was al of yvery, the meyne fressh and newe. 14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 609/41 *Scaccus*, the meny

of the cheker. *c* 1450 *Merlin* xxi. 362 The pownes, and all the other meyne were golde and yvory fressbly entailled.

5. A multitude of persons; chiefly in disparaging use, a 'crew', 'set'. Also, the common herd, the masses.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 454 He..wysed þeroute A message fro þat meyny hem moldez to seche. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 121 A grete meneyay of pylgrams. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xi. 277 Lord, whills we with þis menyhe meve, Mon never myrthe be vs emange. 1529 RASTELL *Pastyme* (1811) 268 A meanye of rascall and euyll disposed people. 1529 SKELTON *Dethe Erle Northumb.* 46 A mayny of rude villayns made hym for to blede. 1533 MORE *Answ. Poysoned Bk.* Wks. 1119/2 Mayster Walker and al the meany of them. 1609 DAY *Festivals* (1615) Ep. Ded., If we account them not more Religious, then the Meyny, or Multitude, are. 1640 BRATHWAIT *Two Lanc. Lovers* 99 One, whom the rest of that miserable meniey..called Spurcina. *a* 1670 SPALDING *Troub. Chas. I* (1829) 41 A menzie of miscontented puritans. 1788 SHIRREFS *Poems* (1790) 346 What gart you pit them [critics] in my head? Tbat menzie, Sir, are a' my dread. 1819 W. TENNANT *Papistry Storm'd* (1827) 140 The meikle menzie on ilk side Did break in twa.

†**b.** (Common) people. *Obs.*

1387–8 T. USK *Test. Love* I. vi. (Skeat) I. 145 Notwithstandinge that in the contrary helden moche comune meyny.

†**6.** Of animals: A herd, drove, flock, etc.; a number, multitude. *Obs.*

1484 CAXTON *Fables of Æsop* VI. ix. (1889) 204 Ones amonge a grete meyny of ghees and cranes [a labourer] took a pyelarge. 1522 SKELTON *Why not to Court?* 241 A mayny of marefoles. *Ibid.* 292 They wolde Rynne away and crepe, Lyke a mayny of sbepe. 1530 PALSGR. 475/1 They can no more skyll of it tban a meany of oxen. 1556 OLDE *Antichrist* 12 b, You are muche more worthe than a great meignye of sparrowes.

7. Of things: A number, a numerous collection or aggregation. *Obs.* exc. *Sc.*

c 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 294 A grete meneya of palmelevis. 1530 PALSGR. 244/2 Meny of plantes, *plantaige. Ibid.* 721/1 As thonghe there were a menye of brokes [F. *vng tas de ruisseaux*] had their springes there. 1896 BARRIE *Marg. Ogilvy* iv. 76 You get no common beef at clubs; there is a manzy of different things all sauced up to be unlike themsels.

Meinie, obs. form of MANY.

Meiocene: see MIOCENE.

Meiogyrous (məiŏdʒəi·rəs), *a. Bot.* [irreg. f. Gr. *μείων* smaller, less + *γῦρος* (see GYRE) + -OUS.] 'Rolled inwards a little' (Jackson *Gloss. Bot. Terms.* 1900).

Meiolithic: see MIOLITHIC.

Meionite (məi·ŏnəit). *Min.* Also **mionite.** [a. F. *meionite* (Haüy), f. Gr. *μείων* smaller: see -ITE. Meant to indicate that the crystals are smaller than those of vesuvianite.]

A white or colourless silicate of aluminum and calcium found in lava.

1808 *Nicholson's Jrnl.* XXI. 191 Does the mineral mentioned by the name of meïonite in the *Tableau méthodique* of Mr. Haüy constitute a distinct species? *Ibid.* 199, I have yet compared the meïonite with the feldspar only in respect to form. 1879 RUTLEY *Stud. Rocks* x. 112 The species meionite and marialite are closely related to scapolite.

Meiophylly (məi·ŏfili). *Bot.* Also **mio-.** [irreg. f. Gr. *μείων* less + *φύλλον* leaf + -Y. Cf. MEIOSTEMONOUS.] The snppression of one or more leaves in a whorl.

1869 MASTERS *Veget. Terat.* 396 Meiophylly. A diminished number of leaves in a whorl, occasionally takes place. 1879 in STORMONTH *Man. Sci. Terms.*

‖ **Meiosis** (məiō·sis). Also 7 **miosis.** [Gr. *μείωσις* lessening, f. *μειοῦν*, to lessen, f. *μείων* less.]

1. *Rhet.* †**a.** A figure of speech by which the impression is intentionally conveyed that a thing is less in size, importance, etc., than it really is.

1586 A. DAY *Eng. Secretary* II. (1625) 84 *Meiosis*, a manner of disabling, as when we say, Alas Sir, it is not in my power to doe it. 1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* III. xvi[i]. (Arb.) 195 If you diminish and abbase a thing by way of spight.., such speach is by the figure *Meiosis* or the disabler spoken of hereafter. *a* 1716 SOUTH *Serm.* (1717) IV. 32 Their whole Discourse being one continued *Meiosis* to diminish, lessen, and debase the great Things of the Gospel.

b. = LITOTES.

1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* II. vii. 73 Some condemne Rhetorick as the mother of lies, speaking more then the truth in Hyperboles, lesse in her Miosis. 1655 — *Ch. Hist.* VIII. iii. § 32 The foresaid Author..termeth Him..Pedantick enough, that is too much, to such as understand his Miosis. *a* 1716 SOUTH *Serm.* (1727) IV. x. 434 The Words are a *Meiosis*, and import much more than they express. 1903 *Speaker* 16 May 159/1 Self-assertiveness, Mr. Sheppard observes with a pleasing meiosis, is not required.

2. *Path.* The stage of a disease in which the symptoms begin to abate.

1857 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex.* 577. 1890 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

Meiostemonous (məiˌɒstī·mŏnəs), *a. Bot.* Also **mio-.** [irreg. f. Gr. *μείων* less + *στημον-*, *στήμων* stamen + -OUS.] Having fewer stamens than petals.

1832 LINDLEY *Introd. Bot.* 400 Meiostemonous would be said of a plant the stamens of which are fewer in number tban the petals. 1849 BALFOUR *Man. Bot.* § 392 Miostemonous.

Meiotaxy (məi·ŏtæksi). *Bot.* Also **mio-.** [irreg. f. Gr. *μείων* less + *τάξις* arrangement. Cf. prec. and MEIOPHYLLY.] The snppression of an entire whorl of floral organs.

1869 MASTERS *Veget. Terat.* 403 Meiotaxy of the calyx... This term is here employed to denote those illustrations in which entire whorls are suppressed. 1879 in STORMONTH *Man. Sci. Terms.*

Meiotherm (məi·ǫpəɪm). *Bot.* [irreg. f. Gr. *μείων* less + *θέρμη* heat, *θερμός* hot.] A plant of a temperate habitat. (Cf. MEGATHERM, MEGISOTHERM.) Also *attrib.*

1875 J. G. BAKER *Bot. Geog.* 48 Meiotherm, characteristic of the cool-temperate zone, and therefore quite hardy in the open air in England. *Ibid.* 95 Meiotherm types. 1884 *Trans. Victoria Inst.* 38 Meiotherms—plants inhabiting cool temperate zones.

Meir, Meir(e, obs. ff. MERE, MAYOR.

Meir-maid, -swyne, ob. ff. MERMAID, -SWINE.

†**Meirre, meire,** *a. Her. Obs.* [Of obscure origin: cf. F. *moire, moiré* watered silk, also OF. *meire* 'sorte de vêtement' (Godefr.).] (See quot.; Leigh's figure identifies it with COUNTER-POTENT.)

1562 LEIGH *Armory* 191 He beareth Meirre Argent, and Azure. Some olde Hereaughtes haue taken this for a dublinge, and yet they wolde call it varry cuppe, & varrey tassa, which is asmuche to saye, as firre of Cuppes, or of goblettes. ..Well let that blazonne goo, and vse this worde Meire, for so is it well blazed, and very auncient and is a Spanishe Cote moste commonly.

Meis(e, variant forms of MEASE.

Meish(e, obs. forms of MESH.

Meiss, obs. form of MEASE *v.*, MESS *sb.*

Meist (mī·ist). *nonce-wd.* [f. ME *pron.*: see -IST.] An egoist.

1737 *Common Sense* I. 311 His Works hereafter will be more favourably receiv'd..by the Meists and Selfists.

Meister, var. MASTER, MISTER *sb.*1, trade.

Meit(e, obs. forms of MEAT, MEET, METE.

Meith (mīþ), *sb. Sc.* Forms: 6 meithe, 6–7 meth, 8 myth, meeth, 9 meethe, meath, 6– meith. [app. a. ON. *miðr* a mark, a fishing-bank 'indicated by prominences or landmarks on shore' (Vigf.); but associated with L. *mēta* boundary, goal, METE *sb.* The OE. *mǽþ*, ME. METHE, due measure, moderation, seems to be unconnected.]

1. A landmark or sea-mark; a boundary, goal.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* v. iv. 1 With this thai gan towart the meithe approche. *Ibid.* xiv. 16 The donk nycht had rone almaist evin Hir myd cours or methis in the hevin. 1579 *Burgh Rec. Edin.* (1882) IV. 124 To vesy thair meithis and boundis. *a* 1680 DALLAS *Stiles* (1697) 710 The old Bounds, Marches and Meiths of the same [Lands]. 1701 BRAND *Descr. Orkney*, etc. (1703) 145 The House of Mey formerly mentioned is a Myth, Sign or Mark, much observed by Saillers. 1813 BEATTIE *Poems* (1871) 35 Mark nor meith ye wadna ken. 1824 SCOTT *St. Ronan's* iii, They had been ower the neighbour's ground they had leave on up to the march, and they werena just to ken meiths when the moorfowl got up. 1899 J. SPENCE *Shetl. Folk-lore* 130 A given straight course, indicated by meiths or marks on the land.

2. A measurement.

1726 *Burgh Rec. Stirling* (1889) 189 There shall be two foot more deepness..after meitbs taken at the beg stone. 1819 W. TENNANT *Papistry Storm'd* (1827) 189 As they look't up ilk lofty wa', Takin' their meiths for its downfa', That they may strike and stroy.

Meith (mīþ), *v. Sc.* Also 6 meth, 7 meath, 9 mith. [f. prec. Cf. ON. *miða* to mark the position of something.] *trans.* To bound or mark out.

c 1575 *Balfour's Practicks* (1754) 438 Landis..merchit and meithit be trew and leill men of the countrey. 1679 in Cramond *Ann. Banff* (1891) I. 158 That the said common way be meitbed and merched on the south syde of the Collehill. 1899 J. SPENCE *Shetl. Folk-lore* 47 A landmark at sea for *meithing* (marking) the Burgascurs.

Meizin, obs. form of MUEZZIN.

Meizoseismal (məizosəi·smăl), *a.* and *sb.* [irreg. f. Gr. *μείζων* greater + *σεισμός* earthquake: see -AL and SEISMIC.] **a.** *adj.* Pertaining to the points of maximum disturbance in an earthquake. **b.** *sb.* A curve traced through these points.

1859 MALLET in *Admiralty Man. Sci. Enq.* (ed. 3) 351 This may be called the Meizoseismal Circle or Zone.

Meizoseismic (məizosəi·smik), *a.* [f. as prec.: see -IC.] = prec. adj.

1877 RUDLER in *Encycl. Brit.* VII. 610 The line indicating this maximum is termed the *meizoseismic curve.*

Mek(e, Meken, etc., obs. ff. MEEK, MEEKEN, etc.

Mekel(l, obs. forms of MICKLE *adv.*

Mekhitarist (me·kitărist), *sb.* and *a.* Also **mechitarist.** [f. *Mekhitar* (see below) + -IST.]

A. *sb.* One of a congregation of Armenian monks of the Roman Catholic church originally founded at Constantinople in 1701 by Mekhitar, an Armenian, and by him in 1717 finally established in the island of San Lazzaro, south of Venice.

1834 *Penny Cycl.* II. 364/1 They..call themselves Mekhitaristes. 1882–3 SCHAFF *Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* II. 1457 The Mekhitarists form one of the noblest congregations of the Roman Catholic Church.

B. *adj.* Of or belonging to the Mekhitarists.

1874 *Supernat. Relig.* II. II. ix. 184 In the Mechitarist library at Venice. 1884 *Catholic Dict.* (1897) 617/1 The books..which are printed in the Mechitarist presses of Vienna and Venice are carried far beyond Persia.

Hence **Mechitari·stican** *a.* = prec.

1825 A. GOODE (*title*) A brief Account of the Mechitaristican Society.

Mekil(e, mekill(e, obs. forms of MICKLE.

†**Mekilwort.** *Sc. Obs.* [app. f. *mekil* MICKLE *a.* + WORT.] The deadly nightshade.

1536 BELLENDEN *Cron. Scot.* (1821) II. 257 The Scottis tuk the jus of mekilwort berries, and mengit it in thair wine [etc.]. 1633 *Orkney Witch Trial* in Dalyell *Darker Superstit. Scot.* (1834) 153 Ane litle pig of oyle, maid of mekillwort.

†**Mekin.** *Obs.* A herb used for salad.

1706 LONDON & WISE *Retir'd Gard.* I. 95 *Sallad Seeds...* Mekin.

Mekle, obs. form of MICKLE.

Mekometer (mĭkǫ·mĭtəɪ). *Mil.* [f. Gr. *μῆκος* length + -METER. Cf. MECOMETER.] An instrument for finding the range for infantry fire.

1894 *Times* 1 Mar. 6/5 The mekometer, the new English infantry range-finder. 1900 *Daily News* 12 Sept. 6/3 The Watkin mekometer.

Mekul(l, mekyl(l, obs. forms of MICKLE.

Mekyn, obs. form of MEEKEN.

Mel, obs. f. MEAL; variant of MEDLE, MELL.

‖ **Mela** (mē·lă). [Hindī *mela* :—Skr. *mēlā* assembly, f. root *mil* to meet.] A religious fair and festival amongst the Hindus.

1800 *Misc. Tracts* in *Asiat. Ann. Reg.* 245/2 This Mela, or fair, is an annual assemblage of Hindus. 1894 *19th Cent.* XXXVI. 284 The great annual meeting, or mela, at the shrine of Janakpur. 1896 N. DAVIS *Three Men & a God* 157 Poor wretches who at the Mela time stand in the courtyard and bave the sacred water poured over them.

†**Melaconise.** *Min. Obs.* [a. mod.F. *mélaconise*, f. Gr. *μέλα-ς* black + *κόνις* dust.] = next.

1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 336 Oxide of Copper..Black, or Melaconise; a black earthy looking substance found at Chessy and other places.

Melaconite (mĭlæ·kŏnəit). *Min.* [Altered from prec.: see -ITE.] An earthy black oxide of copper, found also in crystals. See TENORITE.

1850 DANA *Syst. Min.* (1854) II. 518. 1865 *Rep. Brit. Assoc., Sections* 33 Crystals of oxide of copper (melaconite).

Melacotone, obs. form of MELOCOTON.

Melada (melē·dă). [a. Sp. *melada*, f. *melar* to boil sugar a second time, f. *miel* honey. Cf. Sp. *melaza* MOLASSES.] (See quot.)

1875 *U.S. Statutes* XVIII. III. 340 Melada shall be.. defined as an article made in the process of sugar-making, being the cane-juice boiled down to the sugar point and containing all the sugar and molasses resulting from the boiling process and without any process of purging or clarification.

Melæna (mĭlī·nă). *Path.* [a. mod.L. *melæna*, a. Gr. *μέλαινα*, fem. of *μέλας* black.] In early use, the name of a disease (now no longer recognized), characterized by the evacuation from the bowels and vomiting from the stomach of dark bloody matter. Now used to designate these symptoms occurring in any disease.

1800 *Cullen's Nosol.* 226 Melæna. 1827 ABERNETHY *Surg. Wks.* I. 34 There is great reason for ascribing the discharges in the diseases called melæna to a vitiated secretion from the surface of the alimentary canal. 1834 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) I. 339 *note*, We mean therefore by melæna, the occurrence, as a symptom, in any disease, of very dark-coloured, grumous, pitchy, often highly fetid evacuation by stool..or we use the word as the name of a disease, in which such evacuations..constitute the characteristic symptom. 1905 H. D. ROLLESTON *Dis. Liver* 272 Melæna in cirrhosis may depend on hæmorrhages from the mucosa of the intestines.

b. *concr.* (See quot. 1858.)

1858 COPLAND *Dict. Pract. Med.* II. 827 *Melæna..*, discharges from the bowels, or from the stomach, or both by stool and by the mouth, of a black, or nearly black matter, consequent upon visceral or constitutional disease. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 530 In other cases the blood..is passed out per rectum as melæna.

Melainotype, erron. form of MELANOTYPE.

‖ **Melaleuca** (melălĭū·kă). *Bot.* [mod.L. (Linnæus), f. Gr. *μέλας* black + *λευκός* white.] A genus of plants; a plant of this genus.

1822 *Med. Botany* II. 129 Cajeput Tree, or Aromatic Melaleuca. 1825 *Greenhouse Comp.* I. 131 Proteas, acacias, melaleucas, and a few other Cape and Botany Bay plants.

‖ **Melalgia** (melæ·ldʒiă). *Path.* [mod.L., f. Gr. *μέλος* limb + *ἄλγος* pain.] Pain in the limbs.

1890 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 222 Bean grouped these [cases] together under the name 'melalgia'.

Melam (me·læm). *Chem.* [Named in 1834 by Liebig (*Ann. d. Pharmacie* X. 12); he declines to give an etymology, preferring that the word should be regarded as an arbitrary coinage; for the ending *-am* cf. next.] A buff-coloured, insoluble amorphous substance obtained by the distillation of sulphocyanide of ammonium.

1835 *Rec. Gen. Sci.* I. 185. 1838 T. THOMSON *Chem. Org. Bodies* 772. 1889 MUIR & MORLEY *Watts' Dict. Chem.* II. 323 Melam, $C_6H_9N_{11}$.—Crude melam is obtained by the action of heat on ammonium thiocyanide.

Melamine (me·lămən). *Chem.* Also **-in.** [Named by Liebig in 1834; f. MEL(AM) + AMINE.] A crystalline substance obtained by boiling melam with potassic hydrate, or by heating cyanamide to 302°; called also *cyanuramide.*

1835 *Rec. Gen. Sci.* I. 185 Melamine. 1836–41 BRANDE *Chem.* (ed. 5) 577 Melamin. 1844 FOWNES *Chem.* 468 Melamine.

†**Melampod.** *Obs.* Also 6 **melampode, -podi,** 9 in Latin form **melampodium.** [ad. L. *melampo-*

dium, *-ion*, a. Gr. μελαμπόδιον black hellebore, f. μελαν-, μέλας black + ποδ-, πούς foot.] Black Hellebore, *Helleborus officinalis*.

1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* July 85 Here grows Melampode every where. 1592 R. D. *Hypnerotomachia* 32 Heleborous [*sic*] Niger or Melampodi. 1643 *Parables reflecting on Times* 12 Briony, Wormwood, Wolfehane, Rue, and Melampod (the emblems of Sedition, Malice, Feare, Ambition and Iealonsie). 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, Melampod (*melampodium*), the hearb called *Hellebore*. 1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) IV. 284 The melampodium or black hellebore was at one time a favourite cathartic in dropsies.

Melampyrin (melæ̆mpəi·rin). *Chem.* [f. mod.L. *Melampȳrum* (a. Gr. μελάμπυρον 'cow-wheat', f. μελαν- black + πῦρός wheat), the name of a genus of plants in which the substance is found.] = DULCITE. Also **Melampy·rite.**

1844 HORLYN *Dict. Med., Melampyrin*, a substance obtained from the *Melampyrum nemorosum*. 1865 WATTS tr. *Gmelin's Handbk. Chem.* XV. 389 Melampyrin. *Ibid.*, Melampyrite.

† **Melanæ·ma.** *Path. Obs.* [mod. L., a. Gr. μέλαν αἷμα black blood: see next.] A condition of suffocation in which the blood throughout the body assumes a dark or black colour.

1788 GOODWYN *Connex. Life with Respiration* 95 This disease..might with more propriety be named Melanæma. 1822 GOOD *Study Med.* III. 551. 1890 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

Melanæmia (melănī·miă). *Path.* [mod.L., f. Gr. μελαν-, μέλας black + αἷμα blood. Cf. G. *melanämie* (Frerichs in *Günsb. Ztschr.* 1855).] A morbid condition, associated with severe forms of malarial fever, in which the blood contains granules and flakes of black or brown pigment.

1860 *N. Syd. Soc. Year Bk. Med.* 254 Cases of Morbus Addisonii, Melanæmia [etc.]. 1898 P. MANSON *Trop. Dis.* i. 2 Those absolutely characteristic features of malarial disease —melanæmia and malarial pigmentation of viscera.

Melanæmic (melănī·mik), *a. Path.* [f. prec. + -IC.] Relating to or affected with melanæmia.

1878 tr. *H. von Ziemssen's Cycl. Med.* VIII. 558 At the next febrile attack..the patient becomes again..melanæmic. 1899 CAGNEY tr. *Jaksch's Clin. Diagn.* i. (ed. 4) 40 Melanæmic Blood..from a Case of Malarial Cachexia.

† **Melanagogue.** *Med. Obs.* Also erron. 8 melano-. [a. F. *mélanagogue*, f. Gr. μελαν-, μέλας black + ἀγωγός leading, drawing.] A medicine supposed to expel 'black bile'. Hence † **Melanago·gal** *a.*, having the property of expelling 'black bile'.

[1657 *Phys. Dict., Melanogogon*, purgers of melancholy.] 1657 TOMLINSON *Renou's Disp.* 115 Other [pills are called] Melanagogall which purge and move Melancholicall succe. 1683 SALMON *Doron Med.* I. iii. 34 Sena..is one of the best Melanagogues in Nature. 1737 BRACKEN *Farriery Impr.* (1757) II. 250 Melanagogues, which are supposed to draw or carry off the black Matter.

Melanasphalt (melănæ·sfælt). *Min.* [f. Gr. μελαν-, μέλας black + ἄσφαλτ-ος: see ASPHALT.] = ALBERTITE.

1852 WETHERILL in *Trans. Amer. Philos. Soc.* (1853) X. 353 On a New Variety of Asphalt: (Melan-asphalt).

Melanate (me·lanēt). *Chem.* [f. MELAN-IC + -ATE.] A salt of melanic acid (*Cassell's Encycl. Dict.* 1885).

Melanchlor(e (me·lănklōər). *Min.* [Named 1839 by Fuchs (*Melanchlor*), f. Gr. μελαν-, μέλας black + χλωρός green.] A blackish-green hydrous phosphate of iron.

1854 DANA *Syst. Min.* (ed. 4) II. 428 Melanchlor. 1865 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* III. 866 Melanchlor.

† **Melancholeric,** *a. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. Gr. μελαν-, μέλας black + χολέρα CHOLER + -IC.] = MELANCHOLIC *a.*

1650 VENNER *Tobacco* in *Bathes of Bathe* 415 Tobacco any way, or any time used, is most pernicious unto dry melan-cholerick bodies.

‖ **Melancholia** (melănkōu·liă). *Pl.* **-iæ.** *Nosology.* [late Latin: see MELANCHOLY.] 'A functional mental disease, characterised by gloomy thoughtfulness, ill-grounded fears, and general depression of mind' (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1890); a species or a case of this disease.

1693 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2). 1814 SYD. SMITH *Wks.* (1859) I. 232/2 The number of recoveries, in cases of *melancholia*, has been very unusual. 1886 HALL & JASTROW in *Mind* Jan. 60 In certain melancholiæ and other mental disorders. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 373 Grayness [of the hair] often increases rapidly in melancholia.

Melancholiac (melănkōu·liăk), *a.* and *sb.* [f. MELANCHOLIA + -AC, after *maniac*.] **a.** *adj.* Affected with melancholia. **b.** *sb.* One suffering from melancholia.

1863 READE *Hard Cash* III. 100 In short, she gave them the impression that Alfred was a moping melancholiac. *Ibid.* 123 A lunatic of the unhappiest class, the melancholiac. 1897 A. R. URQUHART in *Dict. Nat. Biog.* LII. 320/2 Separating the insane into groups of maniacs, melancholiacs, and so on.

† **Melancho·lian,** *a.* and *sb. Obs.* Also 4 malen-, malancolien, melanconien. [f. MELANCHOLY + -AN.] **a.** *adj.* Having the atrabilious temperament; also, addicted to 'melancholy' or causeless anger. **b.** *sb.* One suffering from melancholia. Also, one of an atrabilious temperament.

1340 *Ayenb.* 157 Þe dyenel..asayleþ..þane sanguinien mid ioliuete and mid luxurie..þane melanconien mid enuie and mid zorȝe. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 287 He which Malencolien Of pacience hath no lien, Wherof his wraththe he mai restreigne. 1632 tr. *Bruel's Praxis Med.* 102 Melancholians feare much and are sad. 1681 COLVIL *Whigs Supplic.* (1751) 119 Sanguinians did only laff, Cholerick Melancholians chaff. *a* 1695 J. SCOTT *Wks.* (1718) II. 125 You may observe, in the Modern Stories of our Religious Melancholians, that they commonly pass out of one Passion into another.

† **Melancho·liant,** *a. Obs.* In 4 malancolient, -lyent. [a. OF. *melancoliant*, pr. pple. of *melancolier* to affect with or suffer from melancholy, f. *melancolie* sb.] Of blood: Affected with 'melancholy'; atrabilious.

c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 84 Or ellis þe splene is to fehle to purge þe malancolient [*Add. MS.* malancolyent] blood.

Melancholic (melănkǫ·lik), *a.* and *sb.* Forms: 4–5 malencolik, -colyk, malancolike, melancolyk, -colik, 6 -ic, -yk(e, -cholyke, -chollike, 6–7 -cholik(e, -icke, -ique, 7 -chollique, 7– melancholic. [ad. late L. *melancholicus*, a. Gr. μελαγχολικός, f. μελαν- black + χολή bile: see MELANCHOLY and -IC. Cf. F. *mélancolique* (from 14th c.), Pr. *melancolic*, Sp. *melancólico*, Pg. *melancolico*, It. *melancolico*, *malinconico*; also G. *melancholisch*.]

A. *adj.*

† **1.** Pertaining to or containing 'melancholy' or 'black bile'; atrabilious. Of food, atmospheric or planetary influences, etc.: Tending to produce 'melancholy' or atrabilious disorder. *Obs.*

c 1386 CHAUCER *Knt.'s T.* 517 Manye Engendred of humour malencolik. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* VII. lxiv. (1495) 281 Somtyme lepra comyth of euyll dyete as Melancolyk meete to colde and drye. *c* 1532 DU WES *Introd. Fr.* in *Palsgr.* 1071 All suche byrdes ben of nature melancolyke. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* vi. 61 The..northin vynd..is cald and dry, of ane melancolic natur. *c* 1550 LLOYD *Treas. Health* L viij, Much melancholyke blond conteynyd in the lyuer. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* 377 All diseases springing of melancholique, adust, and salt humours. 1631 WIDDOWES *Nat. Philos.* 10 Hee is a Planet masculine, of cold and dry nature, therefore melancholicke.

2. Of persons, their attributes, actions, etc.

† **a.** Having the atrabiliar temperament or constitution (*obs.*). **b.** Constitutionally liable to (formerly also, † affected with) melancholy or depression of spirits; gloomy, depressed, melancholy.

† *Melancholic gentleman*: see MELANCHOLY *a.* 6 (quot. 1629).

?*a* 1400 LYDG. *Isopus* 61 (Zupitza) By whyche he [the cock] haþe..corage and hardynes, And of hys herde melancolyk felnes. *c* 1430 — *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 197 Malencolik of his complexioun. 1471 CAXTON *Recuyell* (ed. Sommer) 205 He..becam all melancolik with out takyng loye ne plaisir in ony thyng that he sawe. 1570–6 LAMBARDE *Peramb. Kent* (1826) 125 King Canutus..departed all wroth and melancholike into Denmark. 1647 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* VI. § 386 No man had more melancholic apprehensions of the issue of the war. 1693 CONGREVE *Old Bach.* III. x, I am melancholic when thou art absent. 1708 GAY *Wine* 60 In melancholic mood Joyless he wastes in sighs the lazy hours. 1717 PRIOR *Alma* I. 210 Just as the melancholic eye Sees fleets and armies in the sky. 1876 BANCROFT *Hist. U. S.* I. x. 362 'Religion', said the melancholic Norton, 'admits of no eccentric motions'. 1900 MORLEY *Cromwell* i. 15 Oliver was of the melancholic temperament.

transf. 1612 WEBSTER *White Devil* F 4, And like your melancholike hare Feed after midnight.

absol. 1594 CAREW *Huarte's Exam. Wits* (1616) 148 He ..was not verie prompt of speech, which Aristotle affirmeth to be a propertie of the melancholicke by adnstation.

† **3.** Resulting from, or of the nature of, 'melancholy' or atrabilious disorder. *Obs.*

1652–62 HEYLIN *Cosmogr.* III. (1682) 188 He contracted some melancholick distempers. 1683 SALMON *Doron Med.* I. ix. 61 In melancholick Tumors.

† **4.** Causing melancholy or depression of spirits; saddening. *Obs.*

1612 WEBSTER *White Devil* H 4, The blacke, and melancholicke Eugh-tree. 1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 83 Keeping time with the melancholicke musicke. 1693 DRYDEN *Let.* 30 Aug., Pr. Wks. 1800 I. II. 28, I was tempted to it, by the melancholique prospect I had of it. 1723 MATHER *Vind. Bible* 360 No public sorrow should be expressed on so melancholick an occasion. 1812 G. CHALMERS *Dom. Econ. Gt. Brit.* 139 Such is the melancholic picture.

† **5.** Expressive of melancholy or sadness. *Obs.*

1671 MILTON *Samson* Introd., In Physic, things of melancholic hue and quality are us'd against melancholy. 1757 MRS. GRIFFITH *Lett. Henry & Frances* (1767) II. 295, I wrote a long, and of course, a melancholic letter to you.

6. In mod. use: Pertaining to, or affected with, melancholia.

1866 W. H. O. SANKEY *Lect. Mental Dis.* iii. 74 The case, commencing by a melancholic stage,..the melancholic and maniacal symptoms blend in different cases.

B. *sb.*

1. † **a.** One who is affected with mental depression or sadness (*obs.*). **b.** One suffering from melancholia; = MELANCHOLIAC *sb.*

1586 BRIGHT *Melancholy* xxxix. 256 With such like ornament of iewell as agreeth with the habilitie and calling of the melancholicke. 1645 RUTHERFORD *Tryal & Tri. Faith* (1845) 394 The Soul..is put to silence before God, and sitteth alone, as melancholics do. 1681 GLANVILL *Sadducismus* (1682) Ded., The discontented Paradox of a melancholick, vext, and of mean condition. 1755 *Man* No. 29. 3 Two famous sects of philosophers, which..still continue to divide the world into melancholics, and men of pleasure. 1870 MAUDSLEY *Body & Mind* 95 Should he do injury to himself or others, as hypochondriacal melancholics sometimes do. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 371 One melancholic swam across a canal to throw himself under a train.

† **2.** Used by Clarendon for: Depression of spirits, melancholy. *Obs.*

1647 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* I. § 62 He continued in this melancholic and discomposure of mind many days. *a* 1674 — *Life* II. (1759) 69 My Condition..will very well justify the Melancholick that, I confess to you, possesses me.

Hence † **Melancho·lical** *a.*, melancholy; **Melancho·lically** *adv.*, in a melancholy manner.

1657 TOMLINSON *Renou's Disp.* 115 Which purge and move melancholicall succe. 1882 B. NICHOLSON in *N. Shaks. Soc. Trans.* 349 He..became melancholicaly mad immediately on the shock of these revelations. 1889 *Harper's Mag.* Apr. 767/2 Its walls of rammed clay frittering away melancholically in the sun.

† **Melancho·licly,** *adv. Obs.* [f. MELANCHOLIC *a.* + -LY².] In a melancholy manner.

1607 WALKINGTON *Opt. Glasse* xii. 130 An aliment vnto the parts which are melancholikly qualified, as the bones, grisles, sinewes, &c. 1631 R. BOLTON *Comf. Afft. Consc.* (1640) 202 Men are melancholikely grieved.

‖ **Melancho·lico.** *Obs.* [It. *melancolico*: see MELANCHOLIC.] A hypochondriac.

1676 *Doctrine of Devils* 156 Or of the Monstrous Credulity, some besotted Melancholicoes may be inveigled into.

Melancholily (me·lănkǫlili), *adv.* [f. MELANCHOLY *a.* + -LY².] In a melancholy manner.

1536 CROMWELL in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) II. 23 Applieng the same if not colerikly I must nedes thinke melancoulily, to your purpose. 1647 COWLEY *Mistress, Maidenhead*, No wonder 'tis..thou shouldst be Snch tedious ..Company, Who liv'st so Melancholily. 1846 THACKERAY *Laman Blanchard* Wks. 1900 XIII. 470 Laman Blanchard, who passed away so melancholily last year. 1891 *Harper's Mag.* Aug. 434/1 Others big and wavering float melancholily.

† **Me·lancholiness.** *Obs.* [f. MELANCHOLY *a.* + -NESS.] The condition of being melancholy.

1528 PAYNEL *Salerne's Regim.* B, In this doctrine be comprehended melancolynes and heuines. *a* 1697 AUBREY *Lives, Hobbes* (1898) I. 329 When he was a boy he was playsome enough, but withall he had even then a contemplative melancholinesse. 1715 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* I. Pref. 4 A Vent to Melancholiness.

Melancholious (melănkōu·liəs), *a.* Now *rare*. Forms: 4–5 malan-, malencolious, -ius, malen-, melancolyous(e, (5 malencolyows, malecolowus), 5–6 malincolyous, 6 malacolious, melancolyouse, -colius, melencolous, 7 *Sc.* melancholiows, 4–7 melancolious, 6– melancholious. [a. OF. *melancolieus*, f. *melancolie* MELANCHOLY: see -OUS.]

1. Constitutionally inclined to melancholy; † atrabilious in constitution (*obs.*); affected with melancholy, gloomy. Also, of sounds, etc.: Expressive or suggestive of melancholy.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 215 Whanne þei ben out of reson as wroþ & malencolious. *c* 1384 CHAUCER *H. Fame* I. 30 Somme man is to curiouse In studye, or melancolyouse. 1433 LYDG. *St. Edmund* 465 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg. N. F.* (1884) 405 Malencolius of face, look and cheer. 1471 CAXTON *Recuyell* (ed. Sommer) 24 Sorowfull syghes and melancolyous fantasies. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. cccxlvi. 547 This pope..was a fumisshe man and malincolyous. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 816 Whether it were by the inspiracion of the holy ghost, or by Melencolous disposition, I had diuers and sundrie imaginations howe [etc.]. 1610 BARROUGH *Meth. Physick* I. xxviii. (1639) 45 They that be melancholious have strange imaginations. 1637–50 ROW *Hist. Kirk* (Wodrow Soc.) 368 The King was sad and melancolious. 1783 BURNS *Poor Mailie's Elegy* 8 Come, join the melancholious croon O' Robin's reed! 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xi, The Rector..added, in a melancholious tone [etc.]. 1897 CROCKETT *Lads' Love* iii. 31 The sufferer..from whom..most melancholious sounds..continually proceeded.

† **2.** Tending to cause, or of the nature of, 'melancholy' or atrabilious disorder. *Obs.*

c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 171 Þoru3 þat oon pore he drawiþ malancolious blood of þe lyuere. *Ibid.* 273 Varicosa schal be curid..wiþ purgaciouns of malancholious blood. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Armis* (S.T.S.) 76 The tane [star or planet] is sangwyne, the tothir is malancolins. 1562 BULLEYN *Bulwark, Bk. Simples* 78 b, It bredeth choler adust, and melancholious diseases.

Hence **Melancho·liousness.**

1610 BARROUGH *Meth. Physick* I. xxviii. (1639) 45 There he three diversities of melancholiousnes, according to the three kinds of causes.

† **Melancholish,** *a. Obs.* [f. MELANCHOLY + -ISH.] **a.** = MELANCHOLIC *a.* 1. **b.** Inclined to be melancholy or depressed.

1562 TURNER *Herbal* II. 54 b, Mynt..leueth still it that is grosse and melancholishe. 1775 S. J. PRATT *Liberal Opin.* xcv. (1783) III. 198 Miss is a little melancholish.

Melancholist (me·lănkǫlist). Now *rare* or *Obs.* [f. MELANCHOLY + -IST.] † One of a 'melancholic' constitution (*obs.*); one affected with melancholia; in the 17th c. often applied contemptuously to religious enthusiasts.

1599 H. BUTTES *Dyets drie Dinner* L iv b, Doth helpe melancholists onely, by moistning their dry constitution. 1676 GLANVILL *Ess.* VI. 29 The proud and fantastick Pretences of many of the conceited Melancholists in this Age. 1749 LAVINGTON *Enthus. Meth. & Papists* I. (1754) 2 Montanus..drew after him several religious Melancholists. 1806 *Med. Jrnl.* XV. 212 Dr. G...visited the male ideots and melancholists. 1858 BURTON in *Blackw. Mag.* LXXXIII.

276 Our gallant captain, a notable melancholist, sat up till dawn.

Melancholize (me·lăŋkɒlaiz), *v.* Now *rare* or *Obs.* [f. MELANCHOLY + -IZE.]

1. *intr.* and *refl.* To be or become melancholy.

1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 52/2 They doe so melancholize themselves therin, that they doe wholy neglect themselves. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* I. ii. III. vi. 134 They dare not come abroad all their liues after, but melancholize in corners. 1794 COLERIDGE *Let.* 22 July in *Biog. Lit.* (1847) II. 339 From Oxford..have I journeyed, now philosophizing with hacks, now melancholizing by myself. 1801 LAMB *Ess., Cur. Fragm.* [imitating Burton] ii. in *John Woodvil*, etc. (1802) 119 Melancholising in woods where waters are. 1863 K. H. DIGBY *Chapel St. John* (ed. 2) 395 Others were melancholizing in woods, and sighing in gardens.

2. *trans.* To make melancholy.

1642 H. MORE *Song of Soul* I. III. xl, Like faithlesse wife that..Doth inly deep the spright melancholize Of her aggrieved husband. 1668 — *Div. Dial.* II. xiv. (1713) 129 There's nothing does more contristate and melancholize my Spirit than any reflexions upon such Objects.

Hence **Me·lancholi:zed** *ppl. a.*, rendered melancholy; **Me·lancholi:zing** *vbl. sb.*

1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* Democr. to Rdr. 7 They get their knowledge by bookes, I mine by melancholising. 1642 H. MORE *Song of Soul* Ded., Nor can ever that thick cloud.. of melancholized old age..dark the remembrance of your pristine Lustre. 1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* Contents I. v, Our own Imaginations [are] taken for sensations and realities in sleep, and by melancholized persons when awake.

Melancholy (me·lăŋkɒli), *sb.* Forms: 4 malyncoly, 4–5 malycoly, malencoli(e, -colye, malicoli, 4–6 malancoly, -encoly, melancoly(e, -lie, 5 mali(n)coly, -yncolie, malencholye, malancoli(e, -lye, melancholye, 5–6 mallancoly, 5–7 melancholie, 6 melacholy, melancholi, *Sc.* -kolie, 6–7 melancholly, -olye, 6– melancholy. [a. OF. *melancolie, melencolie, malencollie*, etc. (mod. F. *mélancolie*), ad. L. *melancholia*, a. Gr. μελαγχολία lit. 'condition of having black bile', f. μελαν-, μέλας black + χολή bile. Cf. Pr. *melancolia*, Sp. *melancolía*, It. *melancolia, malinconia*; also G. *melancholie*, Du. *melankolie*, Da., Sw. *melankoli*.]

Down to the 17th c. the poetical examples commonly indicate stress on the second or fourth syllable.

†**1.** The condition of having too much 'black bile' (see b); the disease supposed to result from this condition; in early references its prominent symptoms are sullenness and propensity to causeless and violent anger, and in later references mental gloom and sadness. From the 17th c. onwards the word was used without its ætiological implication as the name of the mental disease now called in technical language MELANCHOLIA. *Obs.*

Quot. 1866 is an exceptionally late instance of the sense: cf. quot. 1859 in 3.

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 3710 Þe man wraþþyþ hym lyghtly, For lytyl as yn malyncoly, Þat synne ne ys ryght gref Þat sone ys wroþe, and lyghtly lef. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* v. 360 Thy sweuenes ek and [al] swich fantasye Dryf out, and lat hem faren to myschaunce; For þey proceden of þi malencolye. 1471 CAXTON *Recuyell* (ed. Sommer) 21 After many right sorowful syghes engendrid in þe roote of malencolie. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* I. lvii. 84 The dissease called choler or melancholy. 1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 99 That windy malancholy arising from the shorter ribs, which so saddeth the mind of the diseased. 1677 J. WEBSTER (*title*) The Displaying of supposed Witchcraft, wherein is affirmed that there are many sorts of Deceivers and Impostors, and Divers persons under a passive Delusion of Melancholy and Fancy. But that [etc.]. 1722 QUINCY *Lex. Phys.-Med.*, Melancholy [is] supposed to proceed from a Redundance of black Bile; but it is better known to arise from too heavy and too viscid a Blood. 1866 W. H. O. SANKEY *Lect. Ment. Dis.* ii. 33 There are cases of melancholy which are accompanied by great restlessness.

†**b.** *concr.* The 'black bile' itself: one of the four chief fluids or 'cardinal humours' of the ancient and mediæval physiologists. *Obs.*

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* IV. xi. (1495) 95 Malencoly is bred of trowbled drast of blode and hath his name of melon that is blak and calor that is humour, so is sayd as it were a blak humour, for the colour therof lyyth toward blackenes. *c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 202 Þer is engendrid anoþer substaunce þat is sumwhat stynkyng & is clepid malancoli. 1533 ELYOT *Cast. Helth* (1541) 8 In the body of Man be foure principall humours: Bloudde: Fleume: Choler: Melancoly. 1578 BANISTER *Hist. Man* V. 70 A short vessel, whereby the splene belcheth vp melancolye into the ventricle. 1610 BARROUGH *Meth. Physick* III. XXX. (1639) 149 The Iaundeis is nothing else but a shedding either of yellow choler, or of melancholy all over the body. 1653 H. MORE *Antid. Ath.* II. vi. (1712) 56 There are receptacles in the Body of Man and Emunctories to drain them of superfluous Choler, Melancholy, and the like.

†**2.** Irascibility, ill-temper, anger, sullenness.

c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 4362 Meke þe of þi malencoli for marring of þi-selue. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XVI. 128 With that the king come hastely, And in his gret malancoly,..To schir Colyne sic dusche he gave. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Wife's Prol.* 252 And if she be riche, of heigh parage, Thanne seistow it is a tormentrie To soffren hire pride and hire malencolie. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 1981 Þat I mete þe in my malicoly my meth be to littill. 14.. *Tundale's Vis.* 76 (Wagner) Tundale gruched and wex wrothe..Þe man speke to hym curtesly And brought hym out of his malycoly. 1525 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* II. xv. 29 The kynge beyng in his malencoly, assone as he sawe hym he sayd in great yre, certesse vncle of Lancastre, ye shall nat attayne as yet to your entent. 1530 PALSGR. 244/1 Melancoly testysnesse, *melancolie*. 1567 in *Satir. Poems Reform.* vii. 191 For wickit lyfe imprisont was Ferquhaird, Quha slew him self of proude melancolie.

personified. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 280 Malencolie..which in compaignie An hundred times in an houre Wol as an angri beste loure. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 4998 Malencoly, that angry sire. 1595 SHAKS. *John* III. iii. 42 If that surly spirit melancholy, Had bak'd thy blood, and made it heauy, thicke.

3. Sadness and depression of spirits; a condition of gloom or dejection, especially when habitual or constitutional.

In the early quots. with mixture of sense 2. In the Elizabethan period and subsequently, the affectation of 'melancholy' was a favourite pose among those who made claim to superior refinement; see, e.g. Jonson *Every Man in his Humour* (passim), and quots. under MELANCHOLY *a.* 3; cf. also 3 d below.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* v. 1216 Bycause he wolde soone dye, He ne eet ne dronk, for his malencolye. 14.. *Sir Beues* 582 (MS. M) Iosyan..Toke hym vp and kyssud hym swete, His malincoly there to abate. 1485 CAXTON *Chas. Gt.* 168 Whyche also slewe my cosyn the kyng Claryon, for whome I am in grete melancolye. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* III. (1598) 386 The Hare [gave] her sleights; the Cat, his melancholy. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. xii. 38 Musicke did apply Her curious skill the warbling notes to play, To drive away the dull Melancholy. 1593 SHAKS. *2 Hen. VI*, v. i. 34 My minde was troubled with deepe Melancholly. 1593 DRAYTON *Sheph. Garland* (Roxb. Club) 68 And, being rouzde out of melancholly, Flye, whirle-winde thoughts, vnto the heavens, quoth he. 1692 DRYDEN *Cleomenes* I. i. 2 This Melancholly Flatters, but Unmans you. What is it else, but Penury of Soul; A Lazie Frost, a numness of the Mind? 1716 LADY M. W. MONTAGU *Let. to Lady X*— 1 Oct., It gives me too much melancholy to see so agreeable a young creature buried alive. 1842 BORROW *Bible in Spain* XXXIV, A morbid melancholy seized upon the Irishman. 1859 BUCKNILL *Psychol. Shaks.* 240 Care should be taken..to distinguish between melancholy and melancholia. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 372 The melancholy associated with general paralysis is commonly marked by great exaggeration.

personified. 1601 SHAKS. *Jul. C.* v. iii. 67 O hatefull Error Melancholies Childe. 1632 MILTON *L'Allegro* 1 Hence loathed Melancholy, Of Cerberus and blackest midnight born. 1750 GRAY *Elegy* Epit., And Melancholy mark'd him for her own. 1819 KEATS *Melancholy* iii, In the very temple of Delight Veiled Melancholy has her sovran shrine.

†**b.** A cause of sadness, an annoyance or vexation. Chiefly in *plural. Obs.*

1477 EARL RIVERS (Caxton) *Dictes* (*c* 1490) F vj, The maistre of a grete house hath many melancolyes. 1644 MILTON *Areop.* (Arb.) 57 Which to a diligent writer is the greatest melancholy and vexation that can befall.

c. A state of melancholy. † Also, a melancholy fit or mood (often in *plural*). *Obs.*

a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* I. (1590) 17 b, Two or three straungers, whom inwarde melancholies hauing made weery of the worldes eyes, haue come to spende their liues among the countrie people. 1587 FLEMING *Contn. Holinshed* III. 1319/2 Entring by litle and litle out of his present melancholies into his former misfortunes. 1650 JER. TAYLOR *Holy Living* ii. § 5 (1727) 107 If we murmur here, we may at the next melancholy be troubled that God did not make us to be Angels or Stars. 1774 BURKE *Corr.* (1844) I. 480 In spite of all my efforts, I fall into a melancholy which is inexpressible. 1798 CHARLOTTE SMITH *Yng. Philos.* I. 64 A deep yet soft melancholy succeeded.

d. In a lighter sense: A tender or pensive sadness.

1614 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Madrigal*, '*When as she smiles*', A sweet melancholie my sences keepes. 1632 MILTON *Penseroso* 12 But hail thou Goddes, sage and holy, Hail divinest Melancholy. 1634 — *Comus* 546, I..began Wrapt in a pleasing fit of melancholy To meditate my rural minstrelsie. 1796 COLERIDGE *Sonn. to Bowles* [2nd vers.] 8 Their mild and manliest melancholy lent A mingled charm, which oft the pang consigned To slumber. 1844 A. B. WELBY *Poems, Melancholy* 117 Love's delicious melancholy.

†**e.** A short literary composition (usually poetical) of a sad or mournful character. *Obs.*

1596 LODGE *Marg. Amer.* L i b, Another melancholy of his, for the strangenesse thereof, deserueth to be registred. *Ibid.*, Another [*sc.* poem]..hauing the right nature of an Italian melancholie, I haue set down in this place.

4. Comb., as *melancholy-purger*; *melancholy-mad, -sick* adjs.; †**melancholy water**, a decoction recommended as 'good for women if they are faint'.

1660 *Trial Regic.* 171 He was melancholly sick. 1676 J. COOKE *Marrow Chirurg.* 812 Of Melancholy Purgers, Simple and Compound. 1684 HAN. WOOLLEY *Queen-like Closet* (ed. 5) 15 The Melancholly Water. Take of [etc.]. 1853 HICKIE tr. *Aristophanes* (1872) II. 683 He has sent away my master melancholy-mad.

Melancholy (me·lăŋkɒli), *a.* Forms: 6 malancoly, malincolye, melancholie, 6–7 melancholy, melencholly, 7 melancholly, 6– melancholy. [From the attrib. use of the sb.]

†**1.** Affected with or constitutionally liable to the disease of melancholy. Also *absol. Obs.*

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 233 b, The contemplacyon of suche turneth eyther to superstycyousnes..or to a melancoly folysshnes. 1542 BOORDE *Dyetary* viii. (1870) 245 Melancoly men may take theyr pleasure. 1612 WOODALL *Surg. Mate* Wks. (1653) 190 It is also effectual to be given to melancholy people, which are void of reason. 1698 M. HENRY *Meekness & Quietn. Spirit* (1822) 80 The quietness of spirit will help..to suppress melancholy vapours. 1732 ARBUTHNOT *Rules of Diet* in *Aliments*, etc. 260 All Spices are bad for melancholy people.

†**b.** Of or affected by the melancholy 'humour'.

1604 T. WRIGHT *Passions* I. ix. 35 A little melancholly blood may quickly change the temperature, and render it [the hearte] more apt for a melancholly Passion. 1610 MARKHAM *Masterp.* II. cxii. 404 It proceedeth from melancholy and filthy bloud. 1655 STANLEY *Hist. Philos.* III. *Socrates* xiv. (init.), As to his person, he was very unhandsome, of a melancholy complexion. 1656 RIDGLEY *Pract. Physick* 306 A crooked melancholy vein under the Tongue. 1667 *Phil. Trans.* II. 493 'Tis vulgarly said that this black part of the bloud is Melancholy bloud.

†**c.** Producing the disease of melancholy. *Obs.*

1650 BAXTER *Saints' R.* II. vii. § 3 Sauls Melancholy Devil would be gone, when David played on the Harp.

†**2.** Irascible, angry; sullen. *Obs.*

1575–6 *Durham Depos.* (Surtees) 290 Sir Richerd is a very earnest malincolye man, and some tyme gyven to be angrye. 1579 TOMSON *Calvin's Serm. Tim.* 191/1 When wee come to make our prayers to God, wee must not bring thither with vs, our melancholy passions and fretting and fuming. 1604 CHAPMAN *Byron's Conspir.* II. i. (1608) D 2 b, Duke Byron Flowes with adust and melancholy choller.

3. Of persons, their actions, attributes, feelings, state, etc.: Depressed in spirits; sad, gloomy, dejected, mournful; *esp.* of a constitutionally gloomy temperament.

1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* I. ii. 2 Boy, What signe is it when a man of great spirit growes melancholy? 1592 LYLY *Midas* v. ii. 104 (Bond), Melancholy is the creast of Courtiers armes, and now euerie base companion, beeing in his muble fables, sayes he is melancholy. 1598 B. JONSON *Ev. Man in Hum.* I. iv, I will be more proud and melancholie, and gentleman-like then I haue beene, I doe ensure you. *c* 1598 SIR J. DAVIES *Epigr.* No. 47 See yonder melancholy Gentleman, Which hood-wink'd with his hat, alone doth sit. 1744 HARRIS *Three Treat.* Wks. (1841) 40 A funeral will much more affect the same man if he see it when melancholy, than if he see it when cheerful. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* s.v. *Mania*, Some are dull and stupid, others very sorrowful and melancholy. 1774 BURKE *Sp. Amer. Tax.* Sel. Wks. I. 136, I remember, Sir, with a melancholy pleasure, the situation [etc.]. 1824 W. IRVING *T. Trav.* I. 293 There is no more melancholy creature in existence than a mountebank off duty. 1884 F. M. CRAWFORD *Rom. Singer* I. i. 17 If I am sad and inclined to melancholy humours.

absol. 1759 JOHNSON *Rasselas* XLVI, For this reason the superstitious are often melancholy, and the melancholy almost always superstitious.

transf. (of animals). 1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* 25 b, The mellancholy Owle, (Deaths ordinary messenger). 1612 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* ii. 204 The melancholie Hare. 1787 BEST *Angling* (ed. 2) 42 He is a solitary, melancholy, and bold fish, always being by himself.

b. Pensive, thoughtful; sadly meditative.

1632 MILTON *Penseroso* 62 Sweet Bird that shunn'st the noise of folly, Most musicall, most melancholy! 1659 WOOD *Life* Feb. (O. H. S.) I. 270 To refresh his mind with a melancholy walke. 1748 THOMSON *Cast. Indol.* I. xl, A certain music, never known before, Here soothed the pensive, melancholy mind. 1792 S. ROGERS *Pleas. Mem.* II. 190 The tender images we love to trace Steal from each year a melancholy grace. 1821 LAMB *Elia* Ser. I. *All Fools' Day*, We will drink no wise, melancholy, politic port on this day.

†**c.** in proverbial and other similes. *Obs.*

1592 LYLY *Midas* v. ii. 100 (Bond), I am as melancholy as a cat. 1596 SHAKS. *1 Hen. IV*, I. iii. 83–8. 1599 — *Much Ado* II. i. 221, I found him heere as melancholy as a Lodge in a Warren. 1606 *Wily Beguiled* Prol. A 2 b, Why, how now, humorous George? What, as melancholy as a mantle tree? 1607 DEKKER *Northw. Hoe* I. Wks. 1873 III. 11 I'me as melancholy now as Fleet-streete in a long vacation. *a* 1732 GAY *New Song of New Similies*, I, melancholy as a cat Am kept awake to weep.

4. Of visible objects, sounds, places, etc.: Suggestive of sadness, depressing, dismal. Also, of sounds, words, looks, etc.: Expressive of sadness.

† *Melancholy hat* (? jocular nonce-use, or slang), app. applied to a mourning hat (but cf. quot. *c* 1598 in sense 3).

1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* IV. v. 86 Melancholy Bells. 1600 — *A. Y. L.* II. vii. 111 Vnder the shade of melancholy boughes. 1614 J. COOKE *Greene's Tu Quoque* B 1 b, Go to the next Haberdashers & bid him send me a new melancholy hat. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* I. 43 Padua is the most melancholy City of Europe. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* IV. 747 Melancholy Musick fills the Plains. 1718 LADY M. W. MONTAGU *Let. to C'tess Bristol* 10 Apr., Eight or ten of them make a melancholy concert with their pipes. 1725 SLOANE *Jamaica* II. 307 It loves low melancholly places. 1728–46 THOMSON *Spring* 612 The stock-dove breathes A melancholy murmur thro' the whole. 1833 L. RITCHIE *Wand. by Loire* 197 You glide in a canoe-like boat..shut in by melancholy banks. 1835 LYTTON *Rienzi* I. i, The thick and melancholy foliage. 1843 BORROW *Bible in Spain* x, With here and there a melancholy village. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. xxvii. 198 The fountain made a melancholy gurgle. 1897 MARY KINGSLEY *W. Africa* 475 Negro children..with..immense melancholy deer-like eyes.

Comb. 1877 BLACK *Green Past.* V, He was a melancholy-faced man.

† **b.** In the 17th c.: Favourable to the pensive mood. (Cf. 3 b.) *Obs.*

1641 EVELYN *Diary* 8 Oct., So naturally is it [the Parke] furnish'd with whatever may render it agreeable, melancholy and country-like. 1644 *Ibid.* 30 Sept., The house is moderne, and seemes to be the seate of some gentleman, being in a very pleasant though melancholy place.

5. Of a fact, event, state of things: Saddening, lamentable, deplorable.

1710 WODROW *Analecta* (1842) I. 308 It was one of the melancholyest sights to any that have any sense of our antient Nobility, to see them going throu for votes, and making partys. 1763 C. JOHNSTON *Reverie* II. 44 You are affected with this melancholy detail. 1768 STERNE *Sent. Journ., Remise Door*, Melancholy! to see such sprightliness the prey of sorrow. 1807 *Med. Jrnl.* XVII. 247 The most serious and melancholy effect ensued. 1886 *Q. Jrnl. Microsc. Sci.* XXVIII. 291 A melancholy instance of the extent to which Dr. P. acts upon the principle of bending facts to theory.

6. In certain book-names of plants, as **melancholy gentleman**, a kind of rocket, *Hesperis tristis*; **melancholy (plume) thistle**, *Carduus*

heterophyllus; **melancholy tree**, the Night Jasmine, *Nyctanthes Arbor-tristis*.

1629 PARKINSON *Parad.* Table, The Melancholy [*text* p. 260 Melancholick] Gentleman. 1690 RAY *Syn. Stirp. Brit.* 52 The great English soft or gentle Thistle or Melancholy Thistle. 1760 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* App. 319 Melancholy Thistle, *Carduus*. Melancholy-tree, *Nyctanthes*. 1861 Miss PRATT *Flower. Pl.* III. 237 *Cnicus heterophyllus* (Melancholy Plume Thistle).

Hence **Me·lancholyish** *a. nonce-wd.*

1837 LYTTON in *Fonblanque's Life & Lab.* (1874) 53, I had a melancholyish letter from Lady Blessington.

† **Me·lancholy**, *v. Obs.* [ad. OF. *melancolier*, f. *melancolie* MELANCHOLY *sb.*] *trans.* To make melancholy.

1491 CAXTON *Vitas Patr.* (W. de W. 1495) II. 290 b/2 The pleasure of god is that; of whiche thou melancolyest thy selfe to be soo doon. 1541 R. COPLAND *Guydon's Quest. Chirurg.* Q iij b, It brenneth the blode & melancolyeth it. 1567 PAYNEL tr. *Herberay's Treas. Amadis of Gaule* 78 Ve melancholy your selfe..for the mariage that I have found out for you. *a* 1657 R. LOVEDAY *Lett.* (1663) 165, I am extremely melancholy'd at your dilated resolutions of seeing London.

Melanchthonian (melăŋkθōu·niăn), *a.* and *sb.* [f. name of Philipp *Melanchthon* (Gr. transl. of Schwarzerd 'black earth'), a German reformer (1497–1560) + -IAN.] **a.** *adj.* Of or pertaining to Melanchthon or his opinions. **b.** *sb.* A follower of Melanchthon.

1755 CARTE *Hist. Eng.* IV. 137 The Melanctonian doctrine of predestination. 1765 MACLAINE tr. *Mosheim's Eccl. Hist.* II. i. § 11 (1833) 480/1 There arose..three philosophical sects, the Melanchthonian, the Aristotelian, and the Scholastic. 1863 W. C. DOWDING *Life & Corr. Calixtus* iii. 20 We have described him as a Melanchthonian both in taste and principle. 1882–3 SCHAFF *Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* I. 474 It [the Anglican Church] is yet Melancthonian in its assertion of the visibility of the Church.

Melanchyme (me·lănkəim). *Min.* [G. *melanchym* (Haidinger 1851), f. Gr. *μελαν-*, *μέλας* black + *χῡμός* juice (see CHYME).] = ROCHLEDERITE.

1868 DANA *Syst. Min.* (ed. 5) II. 744.

Melancoli(e, -ien, -(i)ous, obs. forms of MELANCHOLY, etc.

† **Melancounterous**, *a. Obs.* [For **malencounterous*, ad. F. *malencontreux*, f. *mal* ill + *encontrer* to ENCOUNTER : see -OUS.] Ill-timed.

a 1610 Sir J. SEMPLE in *Sempill Ballatis* (1872) 244 The never ceassing feide of melancounterous faites Ouer haistnit this abortiue birth of Importune regrates.

Melander, obs. form of MALANDER, MALLENDER.

Melanellite (melăne·ləit). *Min.* [Obscurely f. Gr. *μελαν-*, *μέλας* black : see -ITE.] A black hydrocarbon forming part of rochlederite.

1868 DANA *Syst. Min.* (ed. 5) II. 750 Melanellite...Black and gelatinous.

Melanesian (melăni·ʃiăn), *a.* and *sb.* [f. *Melanesia* (see below: f. Gr. *μέλα-s* black + *νῆσος* island) + -AN.

The name, modelled after *Polynesia*, was intended to mean 'the regions of islands inhabited by blacks'.]

A. *adj.* Of or pertaining to Melanesia (a group of islands in the western Pacific, including Fiji, New Caledonia, etc.), its inhabitants, language, etc. **B.** *sb.* **a.** A native of Melanesia. **b.** The language of the Melanesians.

1849 SELWYN in Tucker *Mem.* (1879) I. 302 The Melanesian (Anaijom) *aijeama*, we, but not you. *Ibid.*, The Melanesian dialects. 1898 A. LANG *Making Relig.* viii. 167 Cases in which the rod acts like those of the Melanesians, Africans, and other savages. 1904 *Athenæum* 9 Apr. 460/3 Words in this Melanesian language which have cognates in Malay and Malagasy.

‖ **Mélange** (melāⁿʒ), *sb.* Also 7 **meslange**, 7–9 **melange**. [F. *mélange* mixture, f. *mêler* to mix : see MEDDLE *v.*

Often written without accent, but (at least in sense 1) perh. always regarded as a foreign word.]

1. A mixture; usually, a congeries of heterogeneous elements or constituents, a medley.

1653 J. HALL *Paradoxes* 112 The sweetnesses and killing languors of their eyes, the meslange and harmony of their colours. 1697 EVELYN *Numism.* vi. 213 Many exquisitely wrought Vessels..of that precious Melange. 1711 LADY M. W. MONTAGU *Let. to Mrs. Hewet*, A bad peace, people I love in disgrace [etc.]..I believe nobody ever had such a *mélange* before. 1729 SWIFT *Let. to Bolingbroke* 21 Mar. in *Pope's Wks.* (1741) II. 85, I come from looking over the Melange above-written, and declare it to be a true copy of my present disposition. 1811 SHELLEY *Let.* in Hogg *Life* I. 397 A strange melange of maddened stuff, which I wrote by the midnight moon last night. 1840 B. E. HILL *Pinch—of Snuff* 33 The pleasant melange sold but a few years since as 'The Speaker's', is very different from 'Lord Canterbury's Mixture'. 1859 *Gentl. Mag.* June 606 He professes that the present Part is 'taken from Usher, Ware [etc.]', and a very curious *melange* he has made of it. 1887 A. M. BROWN *Anim. Alkal.* 36 The melange of ferricyanide and ferrochloride gives feebly the bluish tint.

2. a. A dress fabric of cotton chain and woollen weft (Knight *Dict. Mech.* Suppl. 1884). **b.** A kind of woollen yarn of mingled colours. Also *attrib.* and *Comb.*

1881 *Instr. Census Clerks* (1885) 144/2 Mélange Weaver—Woollen Cloth Manuf. 1886 *Daily News* 20 Sept. 2/4 An active demand continues in twofold yarns, in mottles, and melanges. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 551 If bales of dry wools and hairs were placed in steamers—as is done in the melange printing process—and submitted [etc.].

Melange (melāⁿʒ), *v.* [a. F. *mélanger*, f. *mélange* : see prec.] *trans.* To mix (wool of different colours). Hence **Mela·nger**.

1880 *Times* 28 Dec. 8 A dyer or melanger sued to recover £85 for melanging wool. 1881 *Instr. Census Clerks* (1885) 144/2 Mélanger—Woollen Cloth Manuf.

Melanian (mĭlē·niăn), *a.*[1] and *sb.*[1] *Anthropology.* [ad. F. *mélanien* (Bory de Saint-Vincent). f. Gr. *μελαν-*, *μέλας* black : see -IAN.] Originally = NEGRITO *a.* and *sb.*; later, used as = NEGROID.

1861 HULME tr. *Moquin-Tandon* I. vi. 36. 1868 OWEN *Anat. Vert.* III. 145 We know not the size of brain in the Melanian inventor of the 'throwing-stick'. 1885 W. H. FLOWER in *Jrnl. Anthrop. Inst.* XIV. 381 To begin with the Ethiopian, Negroid or Melanian, or 'black' type.

Melanian (mĭlē·niăn), *a.*[2] and *sb.*[2] *Zool.* [f. mod.L. *Melania*, the typical genus of the *Melaniidæ* (f. Gr. *μελαν-*, *μέλας* black) + -AN.] **a.** *adj.* Of or belonging to the *Melaniidæ*, a family of freshwater snails. **b.** *sb.* A member of this family.

1839 *Penny Cycl.* XV. 76 *Melanians*, Lamarck's name for a family of fluviatile, testaceous, operculated Mollusks.

Melanic (mĭlæ·nik), *a.* [f. Gr. *μελαν-*, *μέλας* black + -IC.]

1. *Ethnology.* Having black hair and a black or dark complexion. Cf. MELANOCOMOUS, MELANOUS.

1826 PRICHARD *Res. Phys. Hist. Man.* (ed. 2) I. 139 These three varieties are the melanic, including all individuals or races who have black hair; the xanthous..; and the albino. 1829 T. PRICE *Physiogn. & Physiol. Inhabit. Brit.* 109 Whether I should attribute the few melanic countenances, I noticed in the South of Ireland, to a Spanish origin.

2. Of animals: Affected by melanosis.

1882–4 *Yarrell's Brit. Birds* (ed. 4) III. 665 The melanic varieties occasionally found in our northern Skua. 1894 *Naturalist* 333 A melanic form of the Pipistrelle. 1903 *Daily Chron.* 30 Dec. 3/3 The melanic variety of the common leopard.

b. Used as the distinctive epithet of the black pigment occurring in melanosis, and of the cells containing it.

1847–9 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* IV. 116/1 Melanic pigment is essentially composed of extremely minute granules. *Ibid.* 116/2 Melanic cells never exhibit any tendency even to cohere—much less to form the basis of a stroma. 1855 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex.* (ed. 12), *Melanic*, of or belonging to Melanosis; as *Melanic deposit*, a black colouring matter deposited from the blood under special circumstances.

3. *Melanic acid.* † **a.** Prout's name for indican of urine (see INDICAN b). *Obs.*

1822 *Medico-Chirurg. Trans.* XII. I. 45 *note*, Dr. Prout would propose to distinguish this new substance, on account of its black colour, by the name of Melanic acid.

b. (See quot.)

1844 FOWNES *Chem.* 434 In a humid state they [*sc.* crystals of salicylite of potassium]..eventually change to a black, soot-like substance..called *melanic acid*.

Melaniline (melæ·nilăin). *Chem.* [f. Gr. *μελαν-*, *μέλας* black + ANILINE.] A basic substance obtained from chloride of cyanogen and aniline.

1852 *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 4) 557 The above salt furnishes melaniline in the form of an oil.

Melanin (me·lănin). *Chem.* and *Phys.* [f. Gr. *μελαν-*, *μέλας* black + -IN[1].] The black pigment in the retina, choroid, hair, epidermis, etc. of coloured races of man or melanic varieties of animals. Also, the black pigment developed in certain diseases. Also *attrib.* and *Comb.*

1843 OWEN *Lect. Invertebr. Anim.* 355 It [the secretion in the ink-bag of a cepbalopod] is affirmed by some chemists to contain a peculiar animal principle, which Vizio has termed 'melanine'. 1855 tr. *C. Wedl's Pathol. Histol.* (Syd. Soc.) II. i. 118 Black pigment (melanin) appears in the form of reddish brown molecules. 1871 WATTS tr. *Gmelin's Handbk. Chem.* XVIII. 417 Melanin. L. Gmelin's Black Pigment of the Eye. 1874 BARKER tr. *Frey's Histol. & Histochem.* 53 We must be on our guard, however, not to confound the ordinary black pigment found in the human lungs with melanin. 1898 P. MANSON *Trop. Dis.* i. 2 Melanæmia and malarial pigmentation are fully accounted for by the melanin-forming property of the plasmodium. *Ibid.* 6 The melanin particles, so characteristic of the malaria germ.

Melanism (me·lăniz'm). [f. Gr. *μελαν-*, *μέλας* black + -ISM.]

1. Darkness of colour resulting from an abnormal (but not morbid) development of black pigment in the epidermis or other external appendages (hair, feathers, etc.) of animals; opposed to *albinism*.

1843 PRICHARD *Nat. Hist. Man* (1845) 39 Throughout intertropical America, both melanism and albinism, as he [M. Roulin] terms the black and white varieties, make their appearance very frequently in warm-blooded animals. 1882 TIEMANN in *Field Naturalist* July 32 Melanism occurs in various species of animals, but is far rarer than albinism.

b. A melanic variety (of some recognized species).

1863 J. R. WISE *New Forest* 309 Mr. Rake informs me that a Sabine's snipe..which is now generally regarded as only a melanism of this species was shot at Picket Post, Jan., 1859. 1889 H. SAUNDERS *Man. Brit. Birds* 12 An example of the Siberian Thrush..originally supposed to be a melanism of the Redwing.

2. *Bot.* 'A disease producing blackness in plants' (*Cassell's Encycl. Dict.* 1885).

Melanistic (melăni·stik), *a.* [f. Gr. *μελαν-*, *μέλας* black + -ISTIC.] Characterized by melanism.

1874 COUES *Birds N. W.* 357, I took no specimens in the melanistic state of plumage. 1888 O. THOMAS *Catal. Marsupialia Brit. Mus.* 266 In the black melanistic variety every part of the body is deep black.

† **Melanite**[1]. *Obs.* [Perh. some error: cf. med. L. *melonītēs* corrupt form of *malochītes* malachite (Schade, *Altd. Wb.* Suppl. s.v. *Melochites*) : the description in Maplet is prob. evolved from a pseudo-derivation from L. *mel* honey.] (See quot.)

1567 MAPLET *Gr. Forest* 15 The Melanite is a Stone, which distilleth & droppeth that iuice which is verie sweete and honie like; wherfore it may well be called Melanite as you would say Honistone,..on the one side it is greene, on the other side yellow.

Melanite[2] (me·lănəit). *Min.* [ad. G. *melanit* (Werner 1799), f. Gr. *μελαν-*, *μέλας* black : see -ITE[1].] A velvet-black variety of andradite.

1807 AIKIN *Dict. Chem. & Min.* II. 68 Melanite...Black garnet. 1854 DANA *Syst. Min.* (ed. 4) II. 192.

Melanite[3] (me·lănəit). *Conch.* [f. mod.L. *Melania* (see MELANIAN) + -ITE[1].] A fossil melanian (*Cent. Dict.*).

Melanitic (melăni·tik), *a.* [f. MELANITE[2] + -IC.] Pertaining to, resembling, or containing melanite. In recent Dicts.

Melanize (me·lănəiz), *v.* [f. Gr. *μελαν-*, *μέλας* + -IZE.] *trans.* To produce melanism in.

1885 *Standard* 7 Aug. 5/1 The black Jews in Cochin..were native converts, not Hebrews who had become melanised under the Indian sun.

Melano- (me·lăno), a. Gr. *μελανο-*, combining form of *μέλας* black, as in **Melanocarcino·ma** *Path.* = MELANOMA (Mayne *Expos. Lex.* 1856). ‖ **Melanode·rma, -de·rmia** *Path.* [Gr. *δέρμα* skin : see -IA] = MELASMA; hence **Melanodermic** *a.*, relating to melanodermia. **Melanoga·llic** *a. Chem.* [GALLIC] = METAGALLIC. ‖ **Melanoglo·ssia** [Gr. *γλῶσσα* tongue + -IA], the condition of having a black tongue. ‖ **Melanopa·thia** *Path.* [see -PATHY] = MELASMA; also anglicized **Melano·pathy**. **Melanosarco·ma** *Path.*, sarcoma characterized by the presence of black pigment cells. **Melanota·nnic** *a. Chem.* (see quot. 1866).

1901 OSLER *Princ. & Pract. Med.* (ed. 4) viii. 831 Lastly, with arterio-sclerosis and chronic heart-disease there may be marked *melanoderma. 1886 FAGGE *Princ. & Pract. Med.* II. 755 *note*, A remarkable case of perfectly symmetrical leuco- and *melano-dermia. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 707 So-called syphilitic 'leucodermia' is usually a melanodermia. 1890 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Melanodermic. 1852 MORFIT *Tanning & Currying* (1853) 63 *Melanogallic acid. 1898 P. MANSON *Trop. Diseases* iv. 88 *note*, This condition, *melanoglossia, is racial and not pathological. 1847 E. WILSON *Dis. Skin* (ed. 2) 328 Cases illustrative of *Melanopathia. 1876 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex.*, *Melanopathia*, *Melanopathy, Nigritism...A disease of the skin, which consists in augmentation of black pigment; generally in patches. 1875 H. WALTON *Dis. Eye* (ed. 3) 988 The sarcoma is usually of the pigmented form, *melano-sarcoma. 1900 *Brit. Med. Jrnl., Epit. Curr. Med. Lit.* 42 The case was one of melanosarcoma of wide distribution. 1852 MORFIT *Tanning & Currying* (1853) 63 *Melanotannic acid. 1866 BRANDE & COX *Dict. Sci.*, etc. II. 489/2 *Melanotannic Acid*, the black substance formed by the action of excess of potassa upon tannic or gallic acid.

Melanocerite (melănōsī·rəit). *Min.* [First in G. *melanocerit* (W. C. Brögger 1887), f. MELANO- + CERITE.] A fluo-silicate of cerium and yttrium found in black tabular crystals (Chester *Dict. Min.* 1896).

† **Melanochalco·grapher.** *Obs.* [f. MELANO- + CHALCOGRAPHER.] An engraver of copper plates for printing.

1697 EVELYN *Numism.* viii. 283 The late Melanochalcographer, N. de Seigen, who first produced the Mezzo-Tinto Graving.

Melanochin (mĭlæ·nōtʃin). *Chem.* [f. MELANO- + mod.L. CHIN-A quinine.] A product of the action of ammonia and chlorine on quinine.

1865 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* III. 867.

Melanochlorous (melănōklō·rəs), *a.* [f. Gr. *μελανο-*, *μέλας* black + *χλωρός* yellow : see -OUS.] Having the body variegated with black and yellow (Mayne *Expos. Lex.* 1856).

‖ **Melanochroi** (melănp·krŏıəi), *sb. pl. Anthropology.* [mod.L.; formed by Huxley, who seems to have meant it as a transliteration of an assumed Gr. *μελάνωχροι*, f. *μελαν-*, *μέλας* black + *ὠχρός* pale. (On this view the correct mod.L. form would have been **melanōchrī*; the irregularity occurs also in the other terms of Huxley's classification, *Xanthomelanoi* and *Melanoi*.) By subsequent writers, and in Dicts., the word has been taken as mod.L. *melanŏchroī* (sing. *-ous*), ad. Gr. *μελανόχροος* (= *μελάγχροος*), f. *μελανο-* (= *μελαν-*, *μέλας*) + *χρόα* skin.] In Huxley's classification of the varieties of mankind: A subdivision of the *Leiotrichi* or smooth-haired class, having dark hair and pale complexion.

1866 HUXLEY *Preh. Rem. Caithn.* 132 The Leiotrichi may be best subdivided, according to their complexion, into Xanthochroi, Melanochroi, Xantbomelanoi, and Melanoi. 1875 TYLOR in *Encycl. Brit.* II. 113/2 The Melanochroi or dark whites. 1878 RAMSAY *Phys. Geog.* xxxiv. 580 Dark-complexioned, black-haired and black-eyed Melanochroi.

Hence **Melanochro·ic, Melanochroid, Melanochrous** *adjs.*, pertaining to or resembling the *Melanochroi*.

1865 Huxley *Crit. & Addr.* vii. (1873) 157 Among Europeans, the melanochrous people are less obnoxious to its [yellow fever's] ravages than the xanthochrous. 1871 *Ibid.* viii. 180 The melanochroic or dark stock of Europe. 1878 Bartley tr. *Topinard's Anthrop.* II. i. 202 The melanochroid group: pale-complexioned, dark eyes, hair long and black. Example: Iberians [etc.]. 1899 W. Crooke in *Jrnl. Anthropol. Inst.* XXVIII. 228 A fusion of Melanochroid Caucasic and Austral-negro blood.

Melanochroite (melănŏ·krōu·ăit). *Min.* [First in G. *melanochroit*, f. Gr. μελανόχροος black-coloured + -ITE.] = Phœnicochroite.

1835 *R. D. Thomson's Rec. Gen. Sci.* I. 273. 1836 T. Thomson *Min., Geol.*, etc. I. 561. 1837 Dana *Syst. Min.* 234.

Melanocomous (melănŏ·kŏməs), *a.* [f. Gr. μελανοκόμ-ης (f. μελανο-, μέλας black + κόμη hair) + -OUS.] Black-haired.

1836 Prichard *Res. Phys. Hist. Man* (ed. 3) I. 220 The black-haired or melanocomous or melanous variety [of complexion], characterised by black or very dark hair. 1849–52 Todd *Cycl. Anat.* IV. 936/2 The melano-comous or dark races .. are mostly of the melancholic temperament. 1851 H. W. Torrens in *Jrnl. Asiat. Soc. Bengal* 38 The melanocomous character of complexion.

Melanogen (mĭlæ·nŏdʒen). *Phys.* [f. Gr. μελανο-, μέλας black: see -GEN 1.] A substance capable of yielding melanin.

1899 Cagney tr. *Jaksch's Clin. Diagn.* vii. (ed. 4) 321 The reaction occurs in presence of melanin or melanogen.

Melanogogue, erron. form of Melanagogue.

‖ **Melanoi,** *sb. pl. Anthropology.* [Intended as mod.L.; formed irregularly by transliteration of Gr. μελανοί, pl. of μελανός, var. of μέλας black.] Huxley's name for the black-baired and dark-complexioned division of his class *Leiotrichi* or smooth-haired peoples. 1866 [see Melanochroi].

Melanoid (me·lănoid), *a. Path.* [f. Gr. μελανοειδ-ής, 'black-looking' (L. & Sc.), f. μελανο-, μέλας black + εἶδος form.] Of morbid growths: Characterized by the presence of black pigment.

1854 Jones & Siev. *Pathol. Anat.* 183 Melanoid cancer is ..encephaloid structure, with the addition of black pigment. 1898 P. Manson *Trop. Diseases* xxxvii. 572 We have the white, or ochroid, the black, or melanoid, and the red forms of mycetoma.

‖ **Melanoma** (melănōu·mă). *Path.* Pl. **melanomata** (melănōu·mătă). [mod.L., a. Gr. type μελάνωμα (occurring in late Gr. with the sense 'blackness'), f. μελανοῦσθαι: see Melanosis, and cf. *carcinoma* and other names for kinds of cancerous or morbid growths.] A melanotic growth; *esp.* a tumour consisting largely of black pigment.

1853. Carswell *Path. Anat., Melanoma* 1, I include under the title of Melanoma all melanotic formations, black discolourations or products, described by Laennec and other authors. 1847–9 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* IV. 128/2 Growths, more or less deeply tinged by [melanic cell-pigment], have been distinguished..under the title of Melanotic Tumours or Melanomata. 1875 H. Walton *Dis. Eye* (ed. 3) 1006 Simple benign pigmented tumour of the iris, melanoma. 1876 tr. *Wagner's Gen. Path.* (ed. 6) 316 Pure pigment tumors or melanomata. 1877 tr. *H. von Ziemssen's Cycl. Med.* XII. 235 Melanoma is a very rare pigmented tumour.

Melanophlogite (melănŏ·flŏdʒəit). *Min.* [a. G. *melanophlogit* (Lasaulx 1876), f. Gr. μελανο-, μέλας black + φλογ-, φλόξ flame; indicating that the mineral turns black when heated.] An impure form of silica found in minute cubes on sulphur.

1879 Dana *Man. Min. & Lithol.* (ed. 3) 241.

Melanoscope (me·lănoˌskōup). [ad. G. *melanoskop*: see Melano- and -scope.] A combination of coloured glasses, devised by Lommel in 1871 (*Pogg. Ann.* CXLIII. 489) for exhibiting certain optical properties of chlorophyll; by intercepting nearly all except the middle red rays of the spectrum, it causes green plants seen through it to appear almost black.

1876 *Catal. Spec. Collect. Sci. Appar. S. Kens. Mus.* (ed. 3, 1877) 247 Melanoscope. Prof. Dr. Lommel, Erlangen. 1884 in Knight *Dict. Mech.* Suppl. (with incorrect explanation, followed in later Dicts.).

Melanose (me·lănōus), *sb.* [ad. F. *mélanose*, the Fr. form of Melanosis.] A fungoid growth on grape-vines produced by *Septoria ampelina*.

1890 in *Century Dict.*

Melanose (me·lănōus), *a. Path.* [f. Gr. μελαν-, μέλας black + -OSE; but app. suggested by Melanosis.] Containing, or of the nature of, the black pigment occurring in melanosis.

1823 Cullen & Carswell in *Trans. Edin. Med.-Chir. Soc.* (1824) 265 The peritonæum had melanose matter lying upon it in streaks. 1829 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 3) III. 339 The pleura was studded with melanose tubercles. 1834 J. Forbes *Laennec's Dis. Chest* (ed. 4) 361 The melanose affection..tends to produce cachexy and anasarca. 1835–6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 64/1 Cases in which the osseous system appears to be stained with the melanose deposit. 1890 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

Melanosed (melănōu·st), *ppl. a. rare*⁻¹. [f. **melanose* vb. (f. Melanos-is) + -ED 1.] Permeated with melanotic matter.

1829 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 3) III. 340 The substance of both mammæ and of both ovaries were completely melanosed.

Melanosiderite. *Min.* [f. Melano- + Siderite.] An iron hydrate containing silica.

1875 J. P. Cooke in *Proc. Amer. Acad.* X. 451 Melanosiderite, a new mineral species from Mineral Hill, Delaware County, Pennsylvania.

‖ **Melanosis** (melănōu·sis). *Path.* Pl. **-oses** (-ōu·sīz). [mod.L., a. late Gr. μελάνωσις blackening, f. μελανοῦσθαι to become black, f. μελαν-, μέλας black.]

1. Morbid deposit or abnormal development of a black pigment in some tissue; occas. *concr.* a discoloration due to this.

1823 Cullen & Carswell in *Trans. Edin. Med.-Chir. Soc.* (1824) 264 We observed in a horse the disease termed Melanosis, developed to a remarkable degree. 1829 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 3) III. 341 In the cutaneous texture, says Brescher, melanoses are common. 1843 Graves *Lect. Clin. Med.* xxx. 382 In some whites this tendency to secrete black matter becomes excessive and gives rise to certain forms of melanosis. 1871 Sir T. Watson *Lect. Princ. & Pract. Physic* (ed. 5) lii. 251 It [a certain morbid state] has been sometimes called spurious melanosis, sometimes colliers' phthisis. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 700 Freckles may be considered as actinic melanoses. *Ibid.* 844 Chronic melanosis of the skin is a malady to which hitherto little attention has been drawn.

2. Black cancer.

1834 J. Forbes *Laennec's Dis. Chest* (ed. 4) 355 Melanosis is one of the rarest species of cancer. 1877 Roberts *Handbk. Med.* (ed. 3) I. 277 Melanosis and colloid are generally regarded as forms of cancer which [etc.].

Melanosity (melănŏ·sĭti). [f. Melanous *a.*: see -osity.] Melanous character.

1885 Beddoe *Races Brit.* 5, I double the black, in order to give its proper value to the greater tendency to melanosity shown thereby.

Melanosperm (me·lănoˌspəm). *Bot.* [f. mod. L. *Melanosperm-eæ*, f. Gr. μελανο-, μέλας black + σπέρμα seed.] An alga belonging to the *Melanospermeæ*, a division or sub-order characterized by dark olivaceous spores. Hence **Melanospe·rmous** *a.*

1856 Carpenter *Microsc.* § 205. 367 The group of Melanospermous or olive-green Sea-weeds. 1884 *Public Opinion* 3 Oct. 426/1 The melanosperms..are found chiefly within high- and low-water mark.

Melanotic (melănŏ·tik), *a.* [Formed after Melanosis: see -otic.]

1. *Path.* Characterized by melanosis; of the nature of melanosis.

1829 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 3) III. 331 The melanotic deposit takes place in three distinct forms. 1843 Graves *Lect. Clin. Med.* xxx. 382 The melanotic patches are, no douht, often of a different shade. 1873 T. H. Green *Introd. Pathol.* (ed. 2) 116 Osteoid-sarcoma, melanotic-sarcoma, and cystic-sarcoma, have been described as distinct varieties. 1875 H. Walton *Dis. Eye* (ed. 3) 981 All melanotic growths are sarcomatous.

2. *Zool.* = Melanistic.

1874 Coues *Birds N. W.* 304 The same rufescent phase.. is apparently analogous to the melanotic condition of many Hawks.

Melanotype (mĭlæ·nŏtəip). Also incorrectly **melai·notype.** [f. Melano- + -type.] A kind of ferrotype: see Ferrotype 2.

1864 Webster, *Melanotype.* 1867 Sutton & Dawson *Dict. Photogr., Melainotype.* This positive process is of American origin. 1890 *Anthony's Photogr. Bull.* III. 302 These tin or melainotypes were taken everywhere. 1892 Woodbury *Encycl. Photogr., Melainotype*, or *Melanotype.*

Melanous (me·lănəs), *a. Anthropology.* [f. Gr. μελαν-, μέλας black + -ous.] With reference to hair and complexion: Blackish, dark; *spec.* in Huxley's use, belonging to the variety of mankind called by him Melanoi.

1836 Prichard *Res. Phys. Hist. Man* (ed. 3) I. 227 The Greeks were probably, in Homer's time as now, in general of a melanous variety. 1843 — *Nat. Hist. Man* (1845) 78 As we know of no expressions in English precisely correspondent with these names, blonde and brunette, I have adopted those of xanthous and melanous as distinguishing terms. 1859 R. F. Burton *Centr. Afr.* in *Jrnl. Geog. Soc.* XXIX. 315 The skin, like the hair, is of the melanous order. 1865 Huxley *Crit. & Addr.* vii. (1873) 153 The 'melanous', with black hair and dark-brown or blackish skins.

Melanterite (mĭlæ·ntĕrəit). *Min.* Also **-therite.** [ad. F. *mélanthérite* (in Littré), f. Gr. μελαντηρία black metallic dye or ink: see -ite.] Native copperas.

1839 *Penny Cycl.* XV. 78/2 *Melanterite.* 1843 E. J. Chapman *Pract. Min.* 14 Melantherite.

Melanth (me·lænþ). [Shortened from the mod.Latin name.] Lindley's name for a plant of the N.O. *Melanthaceæ.*

1845 Lindley *Sch. Bot.* 138 *Melanthaceæ.*—Melanths.

Melanthaceous (melănþē·ʃəs), *a. Bot.* [f. mod.L. *Melanthace-æ* + -ous.] Of or belonging to the N.O. *Melanthaceæ*, which is now included in the N.O. *Liliaceæ*, and contained the meadow saffron or colchicum, white hellebore, etc.

† **Melanthy.** *Obs.* [ad. Gr. μελάνθιον.] = Gith.

1595 Chapman *Ovid's Banq. Sence* B 2 Where grew Melanthy, great in Bees account.

Melanure (me·lănĭuəɹ). *Zool.* [ad. mod. L. *melanūrus*, a Gr. μελάνουρος, f. μελαν-, μέλας black + οὐρά tail.] A small fish of the genus *Sparus*, native of the Mediterranean (Webster 1828–32 citing *Dict. Nat. Hist.*).

‖ **Melanuria** (melănĭū·riă). *Path.* [mod.L., f. Gr. μελαν-, μέλας black + οὖρον urine: see -ia.] A pathological condition in which the urine assumes a black or dark blue colour.

1890 Cagney tr. *Jaksch's Clin. Diagn.* vii. 249 A test for melanuria. 1905 H. D. Rolleston *Dis. Liver* 511 Melanuria very seldom or never occurs without secondary growths being found in the liver.

Melanuric (melănĭū·rik), *a.*[1] *Chem.* [Based on G. *melanurensäure*, Liebig's alteration of Henneberg's term (1850) *mellanurensäure*, f. *mellan* mellone + *uren* a supposed base of urea + *säure* acid.] *Melanuric acid*, a white chalky powder, obtained by heating urea.

1852 W. Gregory *Handbk. Org. Chem.* 96 This product.. is intermediate between ammelide and cyanuric acid. It is now called mellanuric [*ed.* 1856 melanuric] acid. 1877 Roscoe & Schorlemmer *Chem.* I. 677 Melanuric Acid..is produced, together with cyanuric acid, when urea is heated.

Melanuric (melănĭū·rik), *a.*[2] *Path.* [f. Melanuria + -ic.] Pertaining to or characterized by melanuria. *Melanuric fever*, malarial fever with melanuria, black-water fever.

1881 Peabody *Suppl. H. von Ziemssen's Cycl. Med.* 132 The melanuric or hæmaturic form of the fever produced by the malarial agent. *Ibid.* 137 Malarial hæmaturia, or melanuric fever.

Melanurin (melănĭū·rin). *Chem.* Also **-ourine.** [f. Gr. μελαν-, μέλας black + οὖρον urine: see -in.] Braconnot's term for indican of urine.

1844 G. Bird *Urin. Deposits* 219 Melanourine and melanic acid. 1845 tr. *Simon's Anim. Chem.* (Syd. Soc.) I. 45 The blue and black pigments that..have received the names of cyanurin and melanurin. 1880 tr. *H. von Ziemssen's Cycl. Med.* IX. 387 A pigment which becomes black by oxidation on exposure of the urine to the air, and on addition of nitric acid (melanin, melanurin).

Melaphyre (me·lăfəiəɹ). *Petrology.* [a. F. *mélaphyre* (Brongniart), f. Gr. μέλα-s black + (*por*)*phyre* Porphyry.] A species of black or dark-coloured porphyry.

1841 *Penny Cycl.* XX. 56/2 Melaphyre (Trap porphyry). Black petrosilicious hornblende, with crystals of felspar. 1867 *Murchison's Siluria* xiii. 332 Chocolate-coloured..melaphyres. 1879 Rutley *Study Rocks* xiii. 260 Melaphyres possess a vitreous, or a devitrified magma which allies them more to basalt than to diabase.

Mela-rosa, mella-rosa (melărōu·zză). [It. *melarosa*, f. *mela* apple + *rosa* rose.] A variety of *Citrus Bergamia* or *C. Limetta.*

1837 *Penny Cycl.* VII. 215/2 The Mellarosa of the Italians is a variety [of *Citrus Bergamia*] with ribbed fruit. 1866 *Treas. Bot* 730, 733 *Mela-rosa, Mella-rosa.*

Melasma (mĭlæ·zmă). *Path.* [mod.L., a. Gr. μέλασμα black spot, black dye, related to μελαίνειν to blacken, f. μελαν-, μέλας black.] A morbid condition in which there is an excess of the black pigment in the human skin; *spec.* a skin disease differing from Chloasma in the dark colour of the pigment. Also applied to a dark livid spot which occurs on the tibia of old persons.

1817 Good *Syst. Nosol.* 489 Ecthyma... Melasma, Plenck, Linn. Veg. 1854 Jones & Siev. *Pathol. Anat.* 164 The local discolorations, termed 'melasma'. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 701 Diffuse forms of pigmentation..which are sometimes described under the name of Melasma.

Hence **Mela·smic** *a.*, affected by, of the nature of, melasma.

1865 Wilson *Cutan. Med.* 401 A peculiar discoloration of the eyeball, which we termed melanæmic or melasmic eye.

Melasses, obs. form of Molasses.

Melassic (mĭlæ·sik), *a. Chem.* [ad. F. *mélassique.*] *Melassic acid*, an acid produced by heating glucose with caustic alkalis.

1839 *Hooper's Med. Dict.* (ed. 7). 1865 Watts *Dict. Chem.* III. 868.

‖ **Melastoma** (mĭlæ·stŏmă). *Bot.* Pl. **-æ, -as.** [mod.L., f. Gr. μέλα-s black + στόμα mouth: in allusion to the fact that the fruit of some species blackens the mouth when eaten.] A tropical genus of shrubs, the type of the N.O. *Melastomaceæ* and sub-order *Melastomeæ*; a plant of this genus.

1753 Chambers *Cycl. Supp.* 1832 Macgillivray tr. *Humboldt's Trav.* xxiii. 324 Forests of oaks, melastomæ and cinchonæ. 1871 Kingsley *At Last* xi, Nowhere did I see the Melastomas more luxuriant.

So **Melastoma·ceous** *a.*, belonging to the N.O. *Melastomaceæ.* **Mela·stomad,** Lindley's name for any plant of this order.

1836 Loudon *Encycl. Plants* 300 Melastomaceous plants. 1846 Lindley *Veg. Kingd.* 731 Melastomaceæ—Melastomads. 1880 C. R. Markham *Peruv. Bark* 384 A melastomaceous tree, with beautiful purple flowers. 1882 *Garden* 1 Apr. 214/1 Most of the cultivated Melastomads are handsome flowers.

Melasus, obs. form of Molasses.

Melatto, obs. form of Mulatto.

Melch: see Melsh *a. dial.*

Melch(e, obs. forms of Milch *a.*

Melchite (me·lkəit). *Eccl.* [ad. L. *Melchīta*, repr. Syr. ملكية *malkāyē* pl., 'royalists' (i.e. ad-

herents of the party of the Roman emperor), f. *malkā* king; the Arabic form is *malakīy*.] Originally, the designation applied by the Syrian Monophysites and Nestorians, and after their example by the Mohammedans, to those Eastern Christians who adhered to the orthodox faith as defined by the councils of Ephesus (A. D. 431) and Chalcedon (A. D. 451). In later use, applied to those orthodox Eastern Christians who use an Arabic version of the Greek ritual, and esp. to those of them who have been united to the communion of the Roman church, while retaining their separate organization.

1619 PURCHAS *Microcosmus* lxviii. 686 These Surians, or Melchites. 1635 PAGITT *Christianogr.* I. ii. (1636) 53 The Christians under the Patriarch of Antioch are called Syrians ..; And Melchites of the Syrian word מלכא which signifieth a King. 1788 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xlvii. (1828) VI. 62 Their numbers..bestowed an imperfect claim to the appellation of Catholics: but in the East, they were marked with the less honourable name of Melchites, or Royalists. 1883 I. TAYLOR *Alphabet* I. 294 The alphabet used by the Melchites of Palestine. 1885 *Catholic Dict.* (1897) 619/1 In fact, both from a dogmatic and liturgical point of view, the Melchites are simply Greeks living in Egypt and Syria.

b. *attrib.* (quasi-*adj.*) and *ellipt.*

1883 I. TAYLOR *Alphabet* I. 295 The uncial Melchite [alphabet] goes generally by the name of Syro-Palestinian. *Ibid.*, The later cursive Melchite is wholly unlike the Syro-Palestinian. 1901 HUNTER-BLAIR in *Daily Chron.* 12 Nov. 5/7 The Patriarch of the..influential Melchite Church.

Melchoir, = MAILLECHORT.

1892 *Pall Mall G.* 3 Dec. 7/2.

† **Meld,** *v.*[1] *Obs.* Also 4 meild. [OE. *meldian, meldan* = OS. *meldon* (Du. *melden*), OHG. *meldôn, meldên* (MHG., mod.G. *melden*):—WGer. **melþōjan, -ējan*, f. **melþā* sb. fem. (OHG. *melda*, OE. *meld*), information, announcement. Cf. OE. *melda* informer, betrayer.] *trans.* To speak of, show forth, make known. Also, to inform (a person) *of.*

a 1000 *Riddles* xxix. 12 (Gr.) Þonne æfter deaþe deman onginneð, meldan mislice. *c* 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Th.) cxxxiv. 16 Þa muð habbeð, and ne meldinð wiht. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 27830 O couaitise..cums..strenth, þat lauerding agh to meild, þat o þair men tas wrangwis yeild. *c* 1325 *Old Age* 3 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 148 Eld nul meld no murþes of mai. *c* 1325 *Metr. Hom.* 42 My consciens gan me meld. *Ibid.* 166 Dede war me leuer to be, Than thou of my dede melded me.

Meld (meld), *v.*[2] *Cards.* [app. ad. G. *melden*: see prec.] *trans.* In the game of pinocle: Equivalent to DECLARE *v.* in bezique. Hence **Meld** *sb.*, a group of cards to be melded.

1897 *Foster's Compl. Hoyle* 361 The various combinations which are declared during the play of the hand are called melds. *Ibid.* 363 A player has melded and scored four kings, and on winning another trick he melds binocle.

Melder (me·ldəɹ). *Sc.* Also 5 meltyre, 6 meldir, 8 meldar. [a. ON. *meldr*:—prehistoric **malidro-z*, f. root of *mala* to grind.] A quantity of meal ground at one time.

By Douglas used to render L. *mola* (*salsa*), the mixture of meal and salt with which Roman sacrifices were sprinkled.

14.. *Nom.* in Wr.-Wülcker 725/9 *Hoc emotimentum*, a meltyre. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* II. ii. 138 Quhen that of me suld be maid sacrifice, With salt meldir. 1715 PENNECUIK *Descr. Tweeddale* Wks. (1815) 87 The seeds, from the different makings of meal (melders) through winter, are preserved. 1790 MORISON *Poems* 110 Our simmer meldar niest was mil'd. 1820 SCOTT *Monast.* viii, I have often thought the miller's folk at the Monastery-mill were far over careless in sifting our melder. 1882 J. WALKER *Jaunt to Auld Reekie*, etc. 23 Yestreen he cam doon wi' a melder to brie.

b. An occasion of taking corn to be ground.

1790 BURNS *Tam O' Shanter* 23 That ilka melder, wi' the miller, Thou sat as lang as thou had siller.

Meldew, obs. form of MILDEW *sb.*

Meldometer (meldǫ·mĭtəɹ). [irreg. f. Gr. *μέλδ-ειν* to melt + -METER.] (See quot.)

1885 JOLY in *Nature* 5 Nov. 15/2 The Meldometer. The apparatus which I propose to call by the above name (*μελδω*, to melt) consists of an adjunct to the mineralogical microscope, whereby the melting points of minerals may be compared or approximately determined.

Me·ldrop. *Sc.* and *north. dial.* Also 5 myl-, 9 mildrop. [a. ON. *mél-dropi* drop or foam from a horse's mouth.]

1. A drop of mucus at the nose; also, the foam which falls from a horse's mouth (see Jamieson).

c 1480 HENRYSON *Test. Cres.* 158 Out of his nois the meldrop [*v.r.* myldrop] fast can rin. 1829 BROCKETT *N. C. Wds., Mell-drop*, the least offensive species of mucus from the nose.

2. A dew drop.

1802 T. PAINE *Writ.* (Conway) III. 390 Birthday addresses ..should not creep along like mildrops down a cabbage leaf, but roll in a torrent of poetical metaphor.

† **Mele,** *sb. Obs.* [var. of MALE *sb.*[1]; but the origin of the form is obscure: cf. It. *melo*, Gr. *μῆλον*.] An apple; an apple-tree.

c 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* III. 891 The meles round, ycald orbiculer [L. *mala rotunda*], Withowton care a yer may keped be. *Ibid.* IV. 517 In hymsylf graffe hym in ffeueryere, In mele also; ek graffe hym in the pere [L. *inseritur..in se et in pyro et in malo*].

† **Mele,** *v. Obs.* Forms: 1 *mælan*, 3 *Ormin* **mælenn**, 3–4 **meile**, (4 **meille**, 5 **meill**), 3–5 **mele**, (3 **meale**). [OE. *mælan* = ON. *mæla* (Da. *mæle*):—**mēljan*, f. OE. *mǽl*, ON. *mál* speech: see MAIL *sb.*[2]] *intr.* and *trans.* To speak, tell.

c 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Th.) lxxxiv. 7 Hwæt me haliz God, on minum mod-sefan, mælan wille. *c* 1200 ORMIN 2919 Off all þatt tatt he wile don & tatt he wile mælenn. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1245 Hwil þis eadi meiden motede & mealde þis & muchele mare. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 27214 And þar him-self wit word he meild bath of his youthed and his eild. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 621 What man so ich mete wiþ or mele wiþ speche. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* x. 1063 Off king Eduuard 3eit mar furth will I meill.

Hence † **Meling** *vbl. sb.*, talking, conversation.

c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 760 3if meliors wiþ hire maydenes in meling þere sete.

Mele: see MEAL, MEDLE, MELL.

‖ **Mêlée** (mele). [Fr.: see MEDLEY, MELLAY.] A mixed or irregular fight between two parties of combatants, a skirmish. Also *transf.*, a lively contention or debate.

a 1648 LO. HERBERT *Autobiog.* in *Life* (1886) 74, I cannot deny but a demivolte with courbettes, so that they be not too high, may be useful in a fight or *mêlée*. 1765 H. WALPOLE *Lett.* (1857) IV. 346, I almost wish for anything that may put an end to my being concerned in the *mêlée*. 1837 W. IRVING *Capt. Bonneville* II. 100 In this mêlée, one white man was wounded. 1871 J. LEIGHTON *Paris under Commune* lxviii. 243 Already, yesterday the mêlée of a battle could be distinguished from the fort of Vauves.

Meleguet(t)a, variant forms of MALAGUETTA.

Melene (me·lĭn). *Chem.* [f. MEL(ISSYL) + -ENE.] An olefine obtained by the distillation of bees-wax. Called also **Melissylene.**

1848 BRODIE in *Phil. Trans.* CXXXIX. 101 The hydrocarbon of the wax-alcohol..to which may be given the name of melen. 1884 ROSCOE & SCHORLEMMER *Chem.* III. ii. 286 Melissylene or Melene, $C_{30}H_{60}$.

† **Melet.** Some kind of fish.

c 1475 *Pict. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 765/9 *Nomina piscium marinorum, Hic molanus*, a melet. *a* 1672 WILLUGHBY *Hist. Pisc.* (1686) 210 In litore nostro raro capitur, diciturque Melet.

† **Melete·tics,** *sb. pl. Obs. rare.* [ad. Gr. *μελετητικά*, neut. pl. of *μελετητικός* pertaining to meditation, f. *μελετᾶν* to meditate.] Rules or methods of meditation.

1665 BOYLE *Occas. Refl.* I. iii. 8 Nor will the Meleteticks (or way, and kind of Meditation) I would perswade, keep Men alone from [etc.]. *Ibid.* III. v. 46 The usefulness of our Meleteticks towards the improvement of Men's parts.

Meletre: see MEDLE(*-tree*). **Meleward,** var. MILLWARD. **Melewell,** obs. f. MULVEL.

Meleyn, obs. form of MILAN[1].

Melezitose (mĭle·zĭtōus). *Chem.* [f. F. *mélèze* larch, after MELITOSE.] A sugar, isomeric with cane-sugar, discovered by Bonastre in larch-manna.

1862 MILLER *Elem. Chem.* (ed. 2) III. 96. 1876 tr. *Schutzenberger's Ferment.* 33 Melezitose, melitose, and lactine.

Melfoil, obs. form of MILFOIL.

‖ **Melia** (mī·liă). *Bot.* [mod.L. (*Linnæus*), a. Gr. *μελία* ash-tree; the leaves of the azedarac resemble those of the ash.] A genus of trees (typical of the N.O. *Meliaceæ*), of which the best known species is the AZEDARAC; a tree of this genus.

1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.*, *Melia*, in botany, the name by which Linnæus calls the *azedarach*. 1838 *Penny Cycl.* XI. 73/1 Magnolias, melias, robinias.

Hence **Melia·ceous** *a.*, pertaining to the *Meliaceæ*; **Me·liad,** a plant of this order (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*); **Me·lial** *a.*, in *Melial alliance*, Lindley's name for an alliance embracing this and some other orders.

1836 LINDLEY *Nat. Syst. Bot.* (ed. 2) 92 The highest alliances in regard to structure are the Malval and Melial. 1846 — *Veg. Kingd.* 463 Meliaceæ—Meliads.

‖ **Melianthus** (meliæ·nþŭs). *Bot.* [mod.L. (Tournefort 1700), f. Gr. *μέλι* honey + *ἄνθος* flower.] A genus of flowering plants, the type of the N.O. *Melianthaceæ*; now including only the five South African species known as HONEYFLOWER; formerly much more extensive.

1733 MILLER *Gard. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Melianthus*,..Honey-Flower. 1741 *Compl. Fam.-Piece* II. iii. 401 Myrtles,..Melianthus,..and such tender Greens as remain yet abroad. 1751 J. HILL *Gen. Nat. Hist.* II. *Hist. Plants* 517 The pianated-leaved Melianthus with serrated pinnulæ,...It is a native of Virginia. *a* 1876 M. COLLINS *Th. in Garden* (1880) II. vi. 225 How would it be for fruit-growers to plant thyme, ..melianthus, and mignonette near their southern walls?

Melibœan (melibī·ăn), *a.*[1] [f. L. *Melibœ-us* the epithet of a purple dye) + -AN.] Pertaining to Melibœa, a Syrian island (colonized from Thessaly), famous for its purple dye.

1667 MILTON *P. L.* XI. 242 Over his lucid Armes A Militarie Vest of purple flowd, Livelier then Melibœan.

Melibœ·an, *a.*[2] [f. *Melibœus*, the name of one of the two interlocutors in the first eclogue of Virgil + -AN.] Used by Carlyle for: AMŒBEAN.

1837 CARLYLE *Misc.* (1872) V. 224 In vain preached this apostle and that other simultaneously or in Melibœan sequence. — *Fr. Rev.* III. I. viii, In rapid Melibœan stanzas, only a few lines each, they propose motions not a few.

Melic (me·lik), *sb.* Also melick. [ad. mod.L. *melica*, of obscure origin.] A genus (*Melica* Linn.) of grasses of the tribe *Festuceæ*; a grass of this genus. Also *melic-grass.*

1787 tr. *Linnæus' Fam. Plants* I. 46 *Melica.* Melic-grass. 1804 CHARLOTTE SMITH *Conversations*, etc. II. 108 In a few short months..Would velvet moss and purple melic rise. 1854 S. THOMSON *Wild Fl.* III. (ed. 4) 193 The mountain or wood melic-grass (*Melica nutans*). *a* 1863 JEAN INGELOW *High Tide on Linc. Coast*, From the meads where melick groweth.

Melic (me·lik), *a.* [ad. Gr. *μελικός*, f. *μέλος* song.] Of poetry: Intended to be sung; applied *spec.* to the strophic species of Greek lyric verse. Hence applied to poets who compose such verse. Also *absol.* = melic poetry.

1699 BENTLEY *Phal.* xv. 484 Stesichorus a Melic or Lyric Poet. 1850 MURE *Lit. Greece* III. 28 The more delicate varieties of melic rhythm. *Ibid.* 56 Strophic odes ..may be classed under two heads, Melic and Choric. 1886 F. B. JEVONS *Greek Lit.* 123 The history of melic begins for us with Terpander. *Ibid.* 160 Theognis was an elegiac and not a melic poet.

Melicaris, obs. form of MELICERIS.

Meliceratous, *a. Obs.* [Badly f. MELICERIS.] = MELICERIC.

1755 GUY in *Phil. Trans.* XLIX. 35 A meliceratous fluid.

Meliceric (melisĭe·rik), *a.* [f. MELICER-IS + -IC.] Pertaining to meliceris.

1835–6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 788/2 Those subcutaneous tumours..which contain meliceric..matter. 1847–9 *Ibid.* IV. 97/2 The most common seats of atheromatous and meliceric cysts are the scalp and eyelids.

‖ **Meliceris** (melisĭe·ris). *Path.* Pl. **meliceri·des** (melise·ridīz). Also 6 **meliciris, meliceres,** 8–9 **melliceris.** [mod.L., a. Gr. *μελικηρίς* some eruptive disease, f. *μελίκηρον* honeycomb, f. *μέλι* honey + *κηρός* wax.]

1. An encysted tumour containing matter which resembles honey.

1562 TURNER *Herbal* II. 121 b, Melicirides which are apostemes .. haue an oylish thyng within them lyke vnto honye. 1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 18 The vlceration Meliceres differeth from the Ateroma. 1762 R. GUY *Pract. Obs. Cancers* 31 Melliceris. 1847–9 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* IV. 97/2 The chief varieties of these [cysts] are *atheroma*,..*meliceris*,..and *steatoma.*

attrib. 1739 SHARP *Operat. Surg.* 128 The Ganglion of the Tendon is an Encysted Tumour of the Meliceris kind.

2. 'The fluid contents of a distended joint when yellow and honey-like' (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1890).

1870 PAGET *Lect. Surg. Pathol.* xxi. (ed. 3) 672 [Synovial cysts.] Their contents possess a gelatinous or even a honey-like consistency which constitutes a form of Meliceris.

† **Meliceritous,** *a. Obs.* [Badly f. MELICERIS.] = MELICERIC.

1804 ABERNETHY *Surg. Obs.* 88 The contents [of a wen] were of the consistence which is termed meliceritous.

Melicerous (melisĭe·rəs), *a.* [f. MELICER-IS + -OUS.] = MELICERIC.

1828–32 in WEBSTER (who names *Hosack*). 1846 in *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* IV. 1114/2 Melicerous degeneration of the thyroid. 1890 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Melicerous cyst.*

Melicertan (melisə·ɹtăn). *Zool.* Also **-ian.** [f. *Melicerta* (from L. *Melicerta*, Gr. Μελικέρτης, name of a sea-god) + -AN.] A rotifer of the genus *Melicerta* or family *Melicertidæ.*

1856 CARPENTER *Microsc.* § 281. 498 The first group ..includes two families, the Floscularians and the Melicertians. 1884 C. T. HUDSON in *Q. Jrnl. Microscop. Sci.* XXIV. 343 In all other Melicertans the row of smaller cilia encloses the row of larger ones.

Meliciris, obs. form of MELICERIS.

Melicoton(ie, -y, var. ff. MELOCOTON *Obs.*

† **Me·licrate.** *Obs.* Also 6 melicrat, mellicrate. [ad. late L. *melicrātum*, ad. Gr. *μελίκρατον* (*-κρητον*), f. *μέλι* honey + *κρᾶ-*, *κεραννύναι* to mix.] A drink made with honey and water.

1563 HYLL *Art Garden.* (1593) 80 A spoonfull of mellicrate. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* I. xviii. 28 The leaues..dronken with Meade or Melicrat..it healeth the Sciatica. 1584 COGAN *Haven Health* (1636) 198 Eat nothing at all, or else, but a little melicrate. 1775 SIR E. BARRY *Obs. Wines* 389 Its comparative strength with that of melicrate, or water and honey.

Hence † **Melicrated** *a.*, made by mixing water and honey.

1657 TOMLINSON *Renou's Disp.* 100 The rule of confecting Melicrated mulsa.

Melilite (me·liləit). *Min.* Also **mellilite.** [a. F. *mélilite* (Delamétherie 1795), mod.L. *melilithus*, f. Gr. *μέλι* honey + *λίθος* stone: see -LITE.]

1. A silicate of calcium, aluminium and other bases, found in honey-yellow crystals.

1821 JAMESON *Man. Min.* 325 Mellilite...Strikes fire with steel. 1823 W. PHILLIPS *Introd. Min.* (ed. 3) 208 Melilite..has only been found at Capo di Bove near Rome, in the fissures of a compact black lava. 1836 T. THOMSON *Min., Geol.*, etc. I. 207 Mellilite. 1879 RUTLEY *Stud. Rocks* xiii. 255 Apatite,..melilite and garnet are among the more common accessory minerals [in nepheline basalt].

2. = MELLITE (after Kirwan).

1796 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* II. 68 Mellilite, Honigstein, of Werner. 1821 JAMESON *Man. Min.* 296 Pyramidal Mellilite, or Honeystone. 1837 DANA *Syst. Min.* 438 Mellite..Mellilite. Honey Stone.

† **Melilithic,** *a. Chem. Obs.* [f. MELILITH-US + -IC.] *Melilithic acid*, an acid found in mellite.

1803 *Med. Jrnl.* IX. 474 Chemical Analysis of the Honeystone...106 parts of it contain 46 melilithic acid.

‖ **Melilithus.** *Min. Obs.* [mod.L.: see MELILITE.] = MELILITE 2, MELLITE.

1800 *Med. Jrnl.* III. 583 Mr. Klaproth, of Berlin, has enriched chemistry with the discovery of a new acid, which he obtained by the analysis of the honey stone, or melilithus.

Melilot (me·lilɒt). Forms: 5–8 mellilot, 6 mellylot(e, melli-, millelote, 6–9 melilote, 6– melilot. [a. OF. *melilot* (mod.F. *mélilot*), ad. late L. *melilōtos*, a. Gr. μελίλωτος, *-ον*, a sweet kind of clover, f. μέλι honey + λωτός: see LOTUS. Cf. Sp., Pg. *meliloto*, It. *mel(l)iloto*.] A plant of the leguminous genus *Melilotus*, esp. *M. officinalis* or Yellow Melilot, the dried flowers of which were formerly much used in making plasters, poultices, etc.

c 1410 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) xii, Oyle of camamylle and of mellilot. 1533 ELYOT *Cast. Helthe* (1541) 11 Meates inflatynge or wyndye: Beanes: Lupines:..Mellylote. 1541 R. COPLAND tr. *Guydon's Quest. Chirurg.* Y iv b, Y^e decoction of moleyn, camomille, millelote. 1548 TURNER *Names Herbes* (E.D.S.) 52 *Melfrugum*...It may be called in englishe whyte melilote. 1587 MASCALL *Govt. Cattle, Horses* (1596) 154 One ounce of the powder of mellilot. 1728 J. GARDINER tr. *Rapin's Of Gardens* 18 Sweet-scented Mellilot. 1778 *Eng. Gazetteer* (ed. 2) s. v. *Horsheath*, This part of the county abounds with melilot, whose seeds mix so much with the corn..that it gives a taste to their bread, which is very disagreeable to strangers. 1864 SWINBURNE *Atalanta* 1354 Every holier herb, Narcissus, and the low-lying melilote. 1883 *Encycl. Amer.* I. 480/1 Such plants as white or alsike clover, or melilot, catnip..etc.

fig. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* VII. 330 Will not some serious thoughts mingle with thy melilot, and tear off the callus of thy mind?

b. *attrib.*, as †*melilot-emplaster, -flower, -plaster*; **melilot trefoil**, *Medicago lupulina*.

1676 WISEMAN *Surg.* v. i. 351 To which purpose Sponges were prest out of *Melilot Emplaster, and the Wound fill'd with them. 1694 SALMON *Bate's Dispens.* (1713) 205/1 A Melilot Emplaster or Colewort-leaf may be applied. *c* 1540 in *Vicary's Anat.* (1888) App. ix. 226 The pouldre of *mellilote flowres. 1826 *Sporting Mag.* XIX. 27 Water distilled from the melilot flowers has been held to improve the flavour of other substances. 1712 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 24 Apr., At last I advised the doctor to use it like a blister, so I did with *melilot plasters, which still run. 1795 BURKE *Corr.* (1844) IV. 276, I would not put my melilot plaister on the back of the hangman. 1760 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* App. 319 *Melilot Trefoil, *Trifolium*.

† **Meline,** *a.*[1] *Obs. rare*—[1]. [ad. L. *mēlinus*, a. Gr. μήλινος, f. μῆλον apple, quince.] Quince-yellow.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. cxci. (1495) 730 Of vyolets is thre manere of kynde: purpure whyte and melyne, that is a manere whyte colour that comyth out of the ylonde Melos.

Meline (mī·ləin), *a.*[2] [ad. L. *mēlīnus*, f. *mēlēs* 'marten or badger' (L. & Sh.), in mod. zoological Latin the generic name of the badger: see -INE.] Of or pertaining to the genus *Meles*; badger-like.

1891 FLOWER & LYDEKKER *Mammals* 567 Divided..into the Otter-like (Lutrine), Badger-like (Meline), and Weasel-like (Musteline) forms.

Meling, var. MELLING; and see under MELE *v.*

Melinite[1] (me·linəit). [Named by E. F. Glocker in 1847, f. Gr. μήλιν-ος (see MELINE *a.*[1]) + -ITE.] A clay resembling yellow ochre. Also **Me·linine.**

1868 DANA *Syst. Min.* (ed. 5) II. 477 Melinite. 1896 CHESTER *Dict. Min.*

Melinite[2] (me·linəit). [a. F. *mélinite*, f. Gr. μήλινος: see prec.] A French explosive, said to be composed of picric acid, guncotton, and gum arabic.

1886 *Daily News* 2 Dec. 5/2 France and Germany are lavishing money upon repeating rifles, melanite [*sic*] shells, and iron-plated forts. 1887 *Chicago Advance* 3 Feb. 78/4 The new French explosive, melenite, .. resembles yellow clay. 1887 *Nature* 17 Mar. 472/2 The new gunpowder melinite has already begun its work of destruction.

Melinophane, earlier name of MELIPHANITE.

† **Me·lion.** *Obs. rare*—[1]. =MELILOT.

c 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* XI. 358 An vnce of melion [L. *meliloti*].

Melior, obs. variant of MULIER.

Meliorability. *rare.* [f. **meliorable* adj., f. late L. *meliōrāre*: see next and -ABLE.] Capacity of being improved. (Only in Bentham.)

1811–31 BENTHAM *Language* Wks. 1843 VIII. 297/2 Meliorability.

Meliorate (mī·liŏreit), *v.* [f. late L. *meliōrāt-*, ppl. stem of *meliōrāre*, f. L. *meliōr-*, *melior* better.]

1. *trans.* To make better, to improve; =AMELIORATE *v.* Also, †to mitigate (suffering, ill-feeling).

a 1552 LELAND *Itin.* (1768) III. 65 This Joannes Grandisonus chaungid an hold Fundation of an Hospital of S. John's in Excester and melioratid it. 1598 in Row *Hist. Kirk* (Wodrow Soc.) 190 If he bes meliorat or deteriorat bis benefice any way to the prejudice of his successor. 1620 VENNER *Via Recta* ii. 41 They are meliorated, by putting to them sugar, nutmeg, and..ginger. 1647 JER. TAYLOR *Lib. Proph.* XIX. 248 Religion is to meliorate the condition of a people. 1702 W. J. *Bruyn's Voy. Levant* xli. 166 A Fatness which so far Meliorates the Lean and Sandy Soil of this Country. 1782 MISS BURNEY *Cecilia* I. vii, She pleased herself with the intention of meliorating her plan in the meantime. 1796 MRS. HOWELL *Anzoletta Z.* I. 125 These sentiments her brother..had meliorated, by proposing that a ball should be given [etc.]. 1802 *Noble Wanderers* II. 6 It would have meliorated his sufferings. 1854 H. MILLER *Sch. & Schm.* i. (1857) 6 The mutiny at the Nore had not yet meliorated the service to the common sailor. 1894 W. J. DAWSON *Making of Manhood* 29 Every movement which seeks to meliorate the common lot.

b. *absol.*; *spec.* in Scots Law, to effect 'meliorations' (see MELIORATION 2 b).

a 1701 SEDLEY *Grumbler* I. i, Nothing is more dangerous than chastisement *sine causa*; instead of meliorating, it pejorates. 1769 ROBERTSON *Chas. V*, III. (1796) I. 121 To squeeze and to amass, rather than to meliorate, was their object. 1838 W. BELL *Dict. Law Scot.* 641 An obligation on the tenant to meliorate or repair, if not implemented by himself, falls upon his representatives. 1845 R. HUNTER *Landlord & Tenant* (ed. 2) II. 220 By the contract, stipulations to meliorate and preserve may bind either the lessor or lessee, or both.

2. *intr.* To grow better. =AMELIORATE *v.* 2.

1654 H. L'ESTRANGE *Chas. I* (1655) 166 The Scot'sh Revolters in the state I left them, were not like to meliorate nor to goe lesse in animosity. 1681 NEVILE *Plato Rediv.* 269 That we can never Meliorate, but by some such Principles, as we have been here all this while discoursing of. 1764 GOLDSM. *Hist. Eng. in Lett.* (1772) II. 76 British ferocity [began] to meliorate into social politeness. 1793 J. TURNBULL in Sparks *Corr. Amer. Rev.* (1853) IV. 443, I hope..that circumstances in that distressed city may continue to meliorate. 1849 H. MILLER *Footpr. Creat.* xii. (1874) 219 When the climate had greatly meliorated. 1860 EMERSON *Cond. Life* i. (1861) 13 The face of the planet cools and dries, the races meliorate, and man is born.

Hence **Me·liorated** *ppl. a.*; **Me·liorating** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1649 BLITH *Eng. Improv. Impr.* XX. (1652) 132 All which as to all sorts of Land, they are of an exceeding Meliorating nature. 1665 HOOKE *Microgr.* 246 Promoted by the meliorating of Glasses. 1692 R. L'ESTRANGE *Josephus, Wars of Jews* III. ii. (1733) 663 Great Plenty of Fruits, both wild, and meliorated or domestick. 1766 *Complete Farmer* s. v. *Husbandry*, To return the meliorated earth to the corn. 1783 WASHINGTON *Circular* 18 June, The free cultivation of letters, the unbounded extension of commerce,..have had a meliorating influence on mankind. 1789 BURNEY *Hist. Mus.* IV. 350 The first movement in the overture is grave and grand, in Lulli's meliorated style, by Handel.

Melioration (mī·liŏrē·ʃən). [n. of action f. late L. *meliōrāre* to MELIORATE.]

1. The action of making better, or the condition of being made better; amelioration, improvement.

1626 BACON *Sylva* § 855 You must ever resort to the beginning of things for Melioration. *a* 1682 SIR T. BROWNE *Tracts* (1684) 47 A notable way for melioration of the Plant. 1772 PRIESTLEY in *Phil. Trans.* LXII. 184, I could not ..effect any melioration of the noxious quality of this kind of air. 1796 BURNEY *Mem. Metastasio* II. 280 Persevere in your melioration, till you are perfectly cured. 1827 STEUART *Planter's G.* (1828) 205 All soils are susceptible of melioration. 1876 BANCROFT *Hist. U. S.* III. i. 7 The generations of men are not like the leaves on the trees, which fall and renew themselves without melioration or change.

2. An instance of meliorating; a change for the better; a thing or an action by which something is made better; an improvement.

1647 LILLY *Chr. Astrol.* xxviii. 183, I concluded, that about two yeers after..he should sensibly perceive a melioration in Estate by meanes of a Wife. 1661 BOYLE *Cert. Phys. Ess.* (1669) 120 By an Insight into Chymistry one may be enabl'd to make some Meliorations (I speak not of Transmutations) of Mineral and Metalline Bodies. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* II. 568 Transplanting, engrafting, and other meliorations [in horticulture]. 1878 EMERSON *Sovereignty of Ethics* in *North Amer. Rev.* CXXVI. 406 The civil history of man might be traced by the successive meliorations as marked in higher moral generalizations.

b. *Scots Law.* In *plural*, applied *spec.* to improvements effected by a tenant upon the land rented by him.

1838 W. BELL *Dict. Law Scot.* 644 A clause binding the landlord to make the necessary meliorations. 1845 R. HUNTER *Landlord & Tenant* (ed. 2) II. 232 A proprietor stipulated in the lease to make certain meliorations, and to pay to the lessee the expense of meliorations made by him.

† **Me·liorative,** *a. rare.* [f. late L. *meliōrāre* to MELIORATE: see -ATIVE.] That meliorates; improving.

1808 G. EDWARDS *Pract. Plan* iii. 30 We..become savage in our hatred to the various meliorative processes. 1841 R. OASTLER *Fleet Papers* I. xl. 314 Peel has no meliorative and restorative principle to propose.

Meliorator, meliorater (mī·liŏreitəɹ). *rare.* [agent-n. f. MELIORATE *v.*: see -OR, -ER[1].] One who or something which meliorates.

1855 in OGILVIE *Suppl.* 1870 EMERSON *Soc. & Solit., Work & Days* Wks. (Bohn) III. 68 The greatest meliorator of the world is selfish, huckstering Trade.

Meliorism (mī·liŏriz'm). [f. L. *melior* better + -ISM.]

1. The doctrine, intermediate between optimism and pessimism, which affirms that the world may be made better by rightly-directed human effort.

As used by some writers, the term implies further the belief that society has on the whole a prevailing tendency towards improvement.

[1858: cf. MELIORIST.] 1877 GEO. ELIOT *Let. J. Sully* 1 Jan. in Cross *Life* (1885) III. 301 The doctrine of meliorism. 1877 J. SULLY *Pessimism* 399 Our line of reasoning provides us..with a practical conception..which, to use a term for which I am indebted to..George Eliot, may be appropriately styled Meliorism. By this I would understand the faith which affirms not merely our power of lessening evil—this nobody questions—but also our ability to increase the amount of positive good. 1885 J. H. CLAPPERTON (*title*) Scientific Meliorism and the Evolution of Happiness.

2. Used as the designation of a principle of action in dealing with the evils of society (see quot.).

1883 L. F. WARD *Dynam. Sociol.* II. 468 Meliorism..may be defined as humanitarianism *minus* all sentiment. .. It implies the improvement of the social condition through cold calculation, through the adoption of indirect means. It is not content merely to alleviate present suffering, it aims to create conditions under which no suffering can exist.

Meliorist (mī·liŏrist). [f. L. *melior* better + -IST.] One who believes in meliorism.

1858 J. BROWN *Horæ Subsec., Locke & Sydenham* Pref. 19, I am not however a pessimist, I am, I trust, a rational optimist, or at least a meliorist. 1877 GEO. ELIOT in Cross *Life* (1885) III. 301, I don't know that I ever heard anybody use the word 'meliorist' except myself. 1890 G. B. SHAW in *Fab. Ess. Socialism* 28 The Socialist came forward as a meliorist on these lines.

attrib. 1884 H. SPENCER in *Contemp. Rev.* July 39 The meliorist view—..that life..is on the way to become such that it will yield more pleasure than pain.

Melioristic (mī·liŏri·stik), *a.* [f. MELIORIST + -IC.] Of or pertaining to meliorism.

1888 *Academy* 3 Mar. 148/1 Perhaps too scientifically melioristic for the common herd.

Meliority (mīli·ɒriti). [ad. med.L. *meliōritās*, f. L. *meliōr-*, *melior* better: see -ITY.] The quality or condition of being better; superiority.

1578 SIDNEY *Wanstead Play* in *Arcadia*, etc. (1605) 574 [Pedant *log.*] Either according to the penetrancie of their singing, or the melioritie of their functions, or lastly the superancy of their merits. 1597 BACON *Coulers Good & Evill* No. 1 So that this couler of melioritie and preheminence is oft a signe of eneruation and weakenesse. 1640 BP. HALL *Episc.* II. xi. 154 This meliority therefore, or betternesse above the Priests and Deacons, is ascribed to the Bishop. 1715 CHEYNE *Philos. Princ. Relig.* Contents *5 Some more particular Reflections, upon the Meliority of the Frame and Constitution of the Celestial Bodies. 1845 A. DUNCAN *Disc.* 139 They may point out such a meliority of disposal, figure and size, as ever converts its essential properties to the most useful purposes.

† **Melioriza·tion.** *Obs.* [f. MELIORIZE *v.* + -ATION.] Melioration; improvement.

1599 A. M. tr. *Gabelhouer's Bk. Physicke* 38/1 Till such time as we perceaue some meliorization, or amendment.

† **Me·liorize,** *v. Obs.* [f. L. *melior* better + -IZE.] a. *trans.* To make better; to improve. b. *intr.* To grow better.

1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* *v, I desire that they woulde vouchsafe to meliorize the same. 1599 — tr. *Gabelhouer's Bk. Physicke* 115/1 Till shee beginne to meliorise, and waxe lesse.

Meliphagan (meli·fāgăn). *Ornith.* Also *erron.* melli-. [f. mod.L. *Meliphaga* (f. Gr. μέλι honey + -φάγ-ος that eats) + -AN.] A bird belonging to the Australian genus *Meliphaga* or family *Meliphagidæ* (see next).

1842 BRANDE *Dict. Sci.* etc., *Melliphagans*, a family of Tenuirosters, comprising the birds which feed on the nectar of flowers. In mod. Dicts.

Meliphagidan (melifæ·dʒidăn), *a.* and *sb.* [f. mod.L. *Meliphagid-æ* (f. *Meliphaga*: see prec. and -ID) + -AN.] a. *adj.* Belonging to the *Meliphagidæ*, a family of Australian birds which extract honey from plants. b. *sb.* A bird of this family. In recent Dicts.

Meliphagine (meli·fādʒin), *a.* and *sb. Ornith.* [ad. mod.L. *Meliphagīn-us*, f. *Meliphaga*: see MELIPHAGAN and -INE.] a. *adj.* Of or pertaining to the *Meliphaginæ*, a sub-family of the *Meliphagidæ* (see prec.). Also used for MELIPHAGIDAN. b. *sb.* A bird of this sub-family.

1884 *Ibis* July 340 The two genera *Melithreptus* and *Plectorynchus* are obviously Meliphagine. 1890–99 S. B. WILSON & A. H. EVANS *Birds Sandwich Isl.* Introd. 21 It is a very old supposition that some of the Finch-like forms were Meliphagine.

Meliphagous (meli·fāgəs), *a. Ornith.* Also *erron.* melli-. [f. mod. L. *Meliphaga* (see MELIPHAGAN) + -OUS.] Belonging to the *Meliphagidæ* or honey-eating birds.

1826 VIGORS & HORSFIELD in *Trans. Linnean Soc.* XV. 311 There are many species..which have been ranked as *Meliphagous* in consequence of the alleged filamentous conformation of their tongue. 1837 SWAINSON *Nat. Hist. Birds* II. 146 The plumage of the meliphagous birds of New Holland is almost universally dull.

Meliphanite (meli·fənəit). *Min.* Also **me·liphane.** [f. Gr. μέλι 'honey' + φαν-, φαίνεσθαι to appear + -ITE.

Named by Dana, in allusion to its colour, after LEUCOPHANE, -PHANITE; the earlier name (Scheerer 1852) was *melinophan*, prob. f. μήλινος MELINE *a.*[1]] Fluo-silicate of glucinum, calcium and sodium.

1867 DANA in *Amer. Jrnl. Sci.* Ser. II. XLIV. 405 *note*, Meliphane (melinophane) appears to bear the same relation in form and constitution to phenacite, as Leucophane to Chrysolite. 1868 — *Syst. Min.* (ed. 5) II. 263 Meliphanite.

‖ **Melisma** (mĕli·zmă). *Mus.* [Gr. μέλισμα song, air, melody.] (See quot. 1880.)

[1611 T. RAVENSCROFT (*title*) Melismata; Musical Phansies fitting the Court, Citie, and Countrey Humours.] 1880 W. S. ROCKSTRO in Grove *Dict. Mus.* II. 248/2 *Melisma.* Any kind of Air, or Melody, as opposed to Recitative, or other music of a purely declamatory character. Thus, Mendelssohn employs the term in order to distinguish the Mediation and Ending of a Gregorian Tone from the Dominant, or Reciting Note. Other writers sometimes use it (less correctly) in the sense of *Fioritura*, or even *Cadenza*. 1881 MRS. WOODHOUSE *ibid.* III. 618/2 These melodic melismas also allow the voice great scope in the so-called 'kehrreim' or refrain.

Hence **Melisma·tic** *a.*, ornate or florid in melody; also **Melisma·tics** *sb. pl.*, the art of florid or ornate vocalization. (*Cent. Dict.*)

Melissa (mɪ́lɪ·sə). *Med.* [mod.L. generic name (Tournefort), a. Gr. *μέλισσα* bee.] The herb balm (*Melissa officinalis*). *Melissa oil*, a volatile oil obtained from this plant. *Melissa water*, a distillation in water of the leaves of the plant, balm-water.

a 1593 J. Hester 114 *Exper. Paracelsus* (1596) 4 A girle ..whom I cured with the Oyle of Camomell, in the water of Melissa and Valerian. 1881 tr. *Trousseau & Pidoux' Treat. Therap.* III. 198 Melissa is proclaimed as one of the best exhilarants. 1887 *Brunton's Text-bk. Pharmacol.* etc. (ed. 3) 1007 U.S.P. Melissa..Balm—The leaves and tops of *Melissa officinalis*..used in the form of warm infusion or tea as a diaphoretic in slight febrile conditions.

† **Melissæan,** *a. Obs.* [f. Gr. *μελισσαῖ-ος* (f. *μέλισσα* bee) + -AN.] Pertaining to bees.

1609 C. Butler *Fem. Mon.* (1634) 44 The Melissæan year is most fitly measured by the Astronomicall months.

Melissic (mɪ́lɪ·sɪk), *a. Chem.* [formed as next + -IC.] *Melissic acid*: an acid obtained from melissin. *Melissic alcohol*: = Melissin.

1848 Brodie in *Phil. Trans.* CXXXIX. 95 This acid I call Melissic Acid. 1852 *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 4) 471 Mr. Brodie has prepared two alcohols, cerotylic and melissic, from bees' wax.

Melissin (mɪ́lɪ·sɪn). *Chem.* Also **melissine.** [f. Gr. *μέλισσα* bee + -IN.] A substance obtained by boiling a mixture of myricin (myricyl palmitate) and potash; called also *melissic*, *melissyl*, *myricic* or *myricyl alcohol.*

1848 Brodie in *Phil. Trans.* CXXXIX. 93 This substance I propose to call Melissin. 1880 Garrod & Baxter *Mat. Med.* 410 An acid, the melissic, which bears the same relation to melissine that acetic acid does to alcohol.

Melissyl (mɪ́lɪ·sɪl). *Chem.* [formed as prec. + -YL.] The hypothetical radical ($C_{30}H_{60}$) of certain compounds derived from wax; called also *myricyl. Melissyl alcohol*: = Melissin.

1852 *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 4) 592 Hence myricin is likewise a compound ether, namely palmitate of oxide of melissyl. 1869 Roscoe *Elem. Chem.* (1871) 335 Melisyl [*sic*] Alcohol, a solid white substance contained in beeswax.

Melissylene: see Melene.

Melissylic (melisɪ·lɪk), *a. Chem.* [f. prec. + -IC.] *Melissylic alcohol*: = Melissin.

1862 Miller *Elem. Chem.* (ed. 2) III. 264 Another wax alcohol, melissylic alcohol, or melissin, is liberated.

Melitagrous (melɪtæ·grəs), *a.* [f. mod.L. *melitagra* a synonym of Impetigo (f. Gr. *μελιτ-* honey + *-αγρα* after *ποδάγρα* gout) + -OUS.] A term applied to the honey-like secretion from the skin which occurs in such diseases as favus and is produced by some irritating ointments. (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1890.)

† **Melitane,** *a. Obs.* [as if ad. L. **Melitānus*, f. *Melita* Malta.] = Maltese.

1600 Thynne *Emblems* xxv. 1 The melitane dogge, bredd onlie for delight, whose force is smale, though voice be lowde and shrill.

† **Me·litism.** *Obs.* [app. ad. Gr. *μελιτισμός*, f. *μελιτ-* honey; but the Gr. word is known only in the sense 'use of honey in plasters'.] (See quot.)

1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, Melitism (*melitismus*), a drink made of honey and wine.

Melitose (me·lɪtōəs). *Chem.* [f. Gr. *μελιτ-*, *μέλι* honey + -OSE.] A kind of sugar obtained from the manna of Eucalyptus.

1861 *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 8) 410 The Australian manna, which is the produce of *Eucalyptus mannifera*, according to recent researches of Berthelot, contains two different isomeric sugars, called melitose and eucalyne.

† **Meliturgy.** *Obs. rare.* In 7 **melliturgie.** [a. F. *melliturgie* (Cotgr.), ad. Gr. *μελιτουργία* honey-making (but the true reading is perh. *μελιττουργία* bee-keeping).] (See quot. 1656.)

1620 T. Granger *Div. Logike* 180 [Subjects of Virgil's Georgics] Georgie, dendrographie, Ktenotrophie, melliturgie. 1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Melliturgie* (Fr.), the making of honey, Bees-work.

‖ **Melituria** (melitiū·rɪə). *Path.* Also **mell-.** [mod.L., f. Gr. *μελιτ-*, *μέλι* honey + *οὖρ-ον* urine + L. suffix *-ia.*] The presence of sugar in the urine; = *diabetes mellitus* (but see quot. 1877).

1856 in Mayne *Expos. Lex.* [as L.]. 1863 Aitken *Sci. & Pract. Med.* (ed. 2) II. 335 Any agents or conditions which cause a suspension of the functions of animal life, while the purely nutritive or organic functions remain intact, may bring about *meliturie*. 1877 tr. *H. von Ziemssen's Cycl. Med.* XVI. 858 By the constant excretion of sugar, diabetes mellitus is distinguished from those .. conditions in which appreciable quantities of sugar appear in the urine *at times*—conditions which have .. been specially designated as *melliturie* or *glycosuria*.

Melk, obs. form of Milk *sb.* and *v.*

Mell (mel), *sb.*[1] Now only *Sc.* and *dial.* [Northern var. of *mall*, Maul *sb.*[1]]

1. A heavy hammer or beetle of metal or wood (= Maul *sb.*[1] 2); † a mace or club (*obs.*); also, a chairman's hammer.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 23240 Þaa dintes ar ful fers and fell, Herder þan es here irinn mell. 1340 Hampole *Pr. Consc.* 7048 Þarfor þe devels salle stryk þam bare, With hevy melles ay. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 353 Swilk a sownd like as þe bed had bene dongen on with mellis. 1563 Winjet *Vincent. Lirin.* Ded., Euery kind of necessar waippin and werklume..as habirione, scheild, suord, bow, speir, spade, mattok, and mell, &c. 1641 Best *Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 107 Theire manner is for one to stande with a mell and breake the clottes small [etc.]. 1768 Ross *Helenore* III. 109, I hae..A..quoy..She's get the mell an' that sall be right now, As well's a quoy altho she were a cow. 1864 A. McKay *Hist. Kilmarnock* (1880) 326 The mell used on the occasion was one that had been handled by Burns. 1897 Crockett *Lads' Love* v, A mason had gaun hame wi' his square and mell ower his shooder.

b. Phrases. *As dead as a mell*, quite dead. *Mell and wedge* (*work*): used by miners for work done with those tools as opposed to 'blasting'. *To keep mell in shaft* (Sc.): to 'keep things going'; to be able to maintain oneself; also allusively.

1798 D. Crawford *Poems* 54 They'll think you're as dead as a mell, Or my ern-tangs. 1811 Pinkerton *Petral.* I. 271 The clay-bed..varies from the softness of tough clay, to the hardness of striking fire with steel; in the language of miners, from mell and wedge to blasting. 1824 Mactaggart *Gallovid. Encycl* (1876) 339 When a person's worldly affairs get disordered, it is said the mell cannot be keeped in the shaft. 1830 T. Wilson *Pitman's Pay* (1843) 33 A' bein' mell-and-wedge wark then. 1831 Mrs. Carlyle *Let.* 6 Oct. in *New Lett. & Rem.* (1903) I. 38 Carlyle is reading to-day with a view to writing an Article—to keep mall in shaft. 1850 J. Struthers *Life* vii. p. cviii. in *Poet. Wks.*, He had gained something in the way of experience, and had been able still to keep the shaft in the mell.

2. *Sc.* and *north. dial.* (See quots. and E.D.D.)

a 1743 J. Relph *Misc. Poems* (1747) 5 And still still dog'd wi' the damn'd neame o'mell? *Gloss.*, A *mell*, a beetle, signifies here the hindmost, from a custom at Horse-races of giving a mell or beetle to the hindmost. Hence they call the hindmost the *Mell*. 1837 Hogg *Sheph. Wedd.* Tales II. 161 Now for the mell! now for the mell! Deil tak the hindmost now! *Ibid.*, He..thus escaped the disgrace of winning the mell. 1869 *Lonsdale Gloss.* s.v. *Mell*, To get the mell is to obtain a mallet in prize ploughing, as a prize for the worst ploughing.

3. *Comb.*: **mell-headed** *a. Sc.* and *north. dial.*, having a head like a mell, *i. e.* large, thick, etc.

1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* lx. 60 Mell-heidit lyk ane mortar-stane. 1878–99 Dickinson *Cumberld. Gloss.*, *Mell-headit.*

† **Mell** (mel), *sb.*[2] *Obs.* Forms: 6, 9 **mel,** 6–7 **mell.** [a. L. *mell-*, *mel*, = Gr. *μελιτ-*, *μέλι*, Goth. *milip*, O. Irish *mil.*] Honey.

a 1575 Gascoigne *Dan Bartholomew* Posies *Flowers* 98 That bitter gall was mell to him in tast. 1584 Lodge *Truth's Compl.* (Shaks. Soc. 1853) 119 The drones from busie bee no mel could drawe. 1586 Warner *Alb. Eng.* IV. xx. 86 Her..lookes were..such as neither wanton seeme, nor waiward, mell, nor gall. 1648 Herrick *Hesper., Pray & prosper*, The spangling Dew dreg'd o're the grasse shall be Turn'd all to Mell, and Manna. 1864 Bamford *Rhymes* 181 Adieu to the..lip that is sweet as the mel of the bee.

b. *attrib.* (*Mel-dew* = honey-dew.)

1606 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. iv. 1. *Tropheis* 1053 Th' Heav'n .. Pours-forth a Torrent of mel-Melodies [Fr. *vn roux torrent de miel*], In David's praise. *a* 1643 Browne *Brit. Past.* III. (Percy Soc.) 27 Some choicer ones, as for the king most meet, Held mel-dewe and the hony-suckles sweet.

† **Mell,** *sb.*[3] *Obs. rare*—[1].

1726 *Dict. Rust.* (ed. 3) s.v. *Colick*, Tying down his [the horse's] Mell or Tail close between his Legs.

Mell (mel), *sb.*[4] *Sc.* and *north. dial.* The last sheaf of corn cut by the harvesters. Also *attrib.*, as **mell-day, -doll, -sheaf, -supper** (see quots.).

1777 Brand *Pop. Antiq.* xxxi. 303 A plentiful Supper for the Harvest-men..; which is called a Harvest-Supper, and in some places a Mell-Supper. 1832 J. Hodgson *Northumbld.* II. II. 2 *note*, The mell-doll or corn-baby is an image dressed like a female child, and carried by a woman on a pole, in the midst of a group of reapers. 1846–59 *Denham Tracts* (1895) II. 2 The last day of reaping..is known throughout the north by the appellation of 'Mell Day'. 1878 *Cumberld. Gloss.*, *Mell*, the last cut of corn in the harvest field. .. [It] is commonly platted, enclosing a large apple. 1892 M. C. F. Morris *Yorksh. Folk-Talk* 212 The last sheaf gathered in is, in the North and East Ridings, called the 'mell sheaf'.

† **Mell,** *v.*[1] *Obs.* Forms: 1 **mæ̆llan, mæ̆dlan,** 3–6 **mell,** 4–5 **melle,** 4 **medle, medele.** [OE. *mæ̆dlan*, f. *mæ̆del* discourse; a parallel formation with *mæ̆delian* Mathele *v.* Cf. Mele *v.*] *intr.* and *trans.* To speak, tell, say.

a 900 Cynewulf *Crist* 1338 (Gr.) Þær he [Christ]..to þam eadgestum ærest mæ̆dleð. *a* 1000 *Andreas* 1440 (Gr.) Ær awæ̆cged sie worda æniz, þe ic þurh minne muð mæ̆dlan onginne. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 26657 Dute o brath on hell, þat reues man þe tung to mell. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 797 þe profete ysaye of hym con melle. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. III. 36 Þanne come þere a confessoure..To Mede þe mayde he mellud [*MS. O* medelede] þis wordes. *c* 1387 *Ibid.* A. XI. 93 (Vernon MS.) He bi-com so confoundet he coube not medle [*other MSS.* melle]. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 109 More of thies Mirmydons mell I not now. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xvi. 195, I haue maters to mell with my preuey counsell.

Mell (mel), *v.*[2] Now *arch.* and *dial.* Also 4–6 **mel.** [a. OF. *meller*, var. of *mesler*: see Meddle *v.*]

1. *trans.* To mix, mingle, combine, blend. Also with *together, up.*

a 1340 Hampole *Psalter* ix. 9 When god melles sorow anguys & trauaile till his flescly lykynge. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* XVI. 65 Quhen byrdis syngis on the spray, Melland thair notys with syndry sowne. *c* 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) x. 38 þat es whyt of colour and a lytill reed melled þerwith. *a* 1500 *Ratis Raving* 675 A man..suld..mell Justice and mercy to gider in Jugment. 1605 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. iii. 1. *Vocation* 918 [He] That with his Prowesse Policy can mell. 1633 T. Adams *Exp.* 2 *Peter* i. 5 Both these knowledges must be so melled together, that they be not severed. 1748 Thomson *Cast. Indol.* I. xliii, And oft' began ..wintry storms to swell, As heaven and earth they would together mell. 1888 *Reports Provinc.* (E. D. D.), Us mell up one bushel o' lime to two o' sand.

† **2.** *intr.* for *refl.* To mingle, combine, blend.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 22641 Þan sal þe rainbou descend,.. Wit þe wind þan sal it mell, And drine þam [þe deuels] dun all vntil hell. 1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 222 Whan venym melleth with the Sucre.

3. *trans.* To mix or mingle (persons). Const. *with, together.* Also *pass.*

c 1300 *St. Brandan* 276 And sette hem ther wel heze I-melled with his owe covent. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) II. 155 Normans and Englischemen [ben] i-medled [*MS.* a i-melled] in alle þe ilond. *c* 1400 *Song Roland* 647 Let us now our men melle to-gedur. 1570 Buchanan *Admonitioun* Wks. (1892) 24 How yai ar mellit wt godles papistes. 1895 Crockett *Men of Moss-Hags* vii, I wonder.. if it would be possible to transplant you Gordons...Here ten score King's men melled and married would settle the land.

4. *intr.* for *refl.* To mix, associate, have intercourse *with*, to associate.

c 1350 *Ipomadon* 1663 (Kölbing) Thy brother schall the know there by, Yf ever god wolle, þat ye melle. *c* 1515 A. Williamson *Let.* in Douglas *Wks.* (1874) I. Introd. 24 She may cowis the tyme that euer she mellyt with your blood. *c* 1557 Abp. Parker *Ps.* lix. 2 From workers bad O saue my lyfe, wyth them no tyme to mell. *a* 1600 Montgomerie *Sonn.* lxvii. 13 Mell not with vs, vhose heads weirs [laurel]. 1785 *Poems Buchan Dial.* 24 But Diomede mells ay wi' me, An' tells me a' his mind. 1880 Webb *Goethe's Faust* Prol. in Heaven 23 With the dead in churchyard hidden I never care to mell or mingle. 1896 Crockett *Grey Man* vi. 39 None of us..desired to mix or to mell with loose company.

† **5.** *intr.* To copulate. *Obs.*

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxi. (*Clement*) 406 Of my wyf þis case þane fel, þat cane hyre with hyre serwandis mel. *c* 1450 *Cov. Myst.* 215 A talle man with her dothe melle. 1508 Dunbar *Tua Mariit Wemen* 56 God gif matrimony were made to mell for ane 3eir! *a* 1555 Ridley in Coverd. *Lett. Martyrs* (1564) 100 And with thys whore doth spiritually mell..all those Kinges and Princes. 1594 Wilbie *Avisa* lviii. (1605) 49 b, Their feet to death, their steps to hell Do swiftly slide that thus do mell. 1641 Brome *Joviall Crew* II. (1652) G, If you are..Dospos'd to Doxie, or a Dell, That never yet with man did Mell.

6. To mingle in combat.

c 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 3270 þe cuntre wiþ hem meld. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 3325 Þei..hadden gret ioye, þa so manli a man wold mele in here side. *c* 1400 *Beryn* 2648 Who makith a fray, or stryvith au3t, or mel to much, or prauuce. *c* 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 543 Forthi makis furth ane man,..That for the maistry dar mell With schaft and with scheild. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* x. xiv. 116 To mell with me, and to meyt hand for hand. 1594 *Battell of Batrinuess* in *Scot. Poems 16th C.* (1801) II. 353 Lat sie how we can mell wt them Into thair disaray. 1823 Scott *Quentin D.* xxxvii, Draw in within the court-yard—they are too many to mell with in the open field. 1838 *Blackw. Mag.* XLIII. 205 Beware.. how ye mell among these hosts—their darts are sharp.

† **7.** *refl.* To concern or busy oneself. *Obs.*

c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 1709 And manly sche melled hire þo men forto help. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Melib.* P 575 (Harl. MS.) He is coupable þat entremettith him or mellith him with such þing as þerteyneþ not vnto him. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 3783 Telamon..mellit hym with musike & myrthes also. 1456 Sir G. Hay *Law Arms* (S. T. S.) 161 Haye mell thame nocht tharewith. 1540 Jas. V in *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, V. 173 And quhat falt ony freir..committis..supponand it concerne Our self, We mel Ws nocht. 1600 Hamilton *Facile Traictise* in *Cath. Tract.* (S. T. S.) 226 Thair first mother Eua, for melliag hir self with maters of religion,.. procurit..a curs of God to hir and al woman kynd.

8. *intr.* To busy, concern, or occupy oneself; to deal, treat; to interfere, meddle. Const. *in*, † *of*, *with.*

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 9577 As þe maner is of men, þat mellyn with loue. 1465 *Paston Lett.* II. 202, I canne not have no knowlych tbat Haydon mellyth in the mater of Drayton. 1516 *Will of Rich. Peke of Wakefield* 4 June, And no ferder to mell nor hurtt hir. 1550 Crowley *Epigr.* 496 When none but pore Colyars dyd with coles mell. 1557 *Tottel's Misc.* (Arb.) 105 And, after, in that countrey lyue, ..Where hoonger, thirst, and sory age, and sicknesse may not mell. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* I. i. 30 With holy father sits not with such thinges to mell. 1605 Sylvester *Quadrains* lxviii, To some one Art apply thy whole affection; And in the Craft of others seldome mell. 1786 Burns *Scotch Drink* xvi, It sets you ill, Wi' bitter, dearthfu' wines to mell. 1819 Scott *Ivanhoe* xxxii, I will teach thee..to mell with thine own matters. 1851 C. L. Smith tr. *Tasso* IX. lix, Go; tell them, thou, no more henceforth to mell With war, which warriors only should sustain. 1893 Showden *Tales Yorksh. Wolds* 122 They tucked them [the bed-clothes] well in, so that they would be sure to 'feel her if shoo melled agean'.

b. Phrase. *To mell or make* (with), *to make or mell* (with). *dial.* Cf. Meddle *v.* 8 c.

1825 J. Jennings *Obs. Dial. w. Eng.* 139 Ther war naw need To mell or make wi' thic awld Creed. 1871 W. Alexander *Johnny Gibb* xix. 144 There's some fowk wud never mak' nor mell wi' naething less nor gentry.

Mell (mel), *v.*[3] Now only *dial.* [f. Mell *sb.*[1]] *trans.* To beat with a mell; hence, to beat severely.

? *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 2950 Thane sir Gawayne..Metes þe maches of Mees and melles hym thorowe. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 10994 Pirrus þis prowes pertly beheld, How his Mirmydons with might were mellit to ground. 1824 Hogg *Conf. Sinner* 332 To entertain a stranger, an' then biad him in a web wi' his head down, an' mell him to death!

Mell, obs. form of Meal *sb.*[2] and *sb.*[4]

Mellacatton, variant of Melocoton.

Mellaginous (melæ·dʒɪnəs), *a.* [f. mod.L. *mellāgin-*, *mellāgo* a preparation resembling honey (f. *mell-*, *mel* honey) + -OUS.] Pertaining to or of the nature of honey.

1681 GREW *Museum* II. 208 The Oil or Mellaginous Succus betwixt the Rind and the Kernel is that which is called *Mel Anacardinum*. 1833 F. v. MUELLER in *Chemist & Druggist* (Melbourne), The mellaginous exndations of the trusses of flowers attract..a nnmber of honey-sucking birds.

Mella-rosa: see MELA-ROSA.

Mellate (me·le^{1}t). *Chem.* Earlier -at. [a. F. *mellat* (Klaproth), f. *mell(itique)*: see MELLITIC and -ATE.] A salt of mellic or mellitic acid; = MELLITATE.

1794 G. ADAMS *Nat. & Exp. Philos.* I. App. 547 Mellats—neutralized by potass, crystallize in long prisms. 1802 T. THOMSON *Chem.* III. 527 *Aluminous salts*..Mellite—Honeystone—Mellate of Alumina.

† **Mella·tion.** *Obs. rare*$^{-0}$. [ad. L. *mellātiōn-em*, n. of action f. *mellāre* to make or collect honey.] (See quots.)

1623 COCKERAM, *Mellation*, the driuing of Bees to get out the Honie. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Mellation*, the time of taking honey out of the Hives.

Mellay (me·le^{1}), *sb.* and *a.* Forms: 4–6 melle, 5–6 mely, 5–6, (9) melly, (6 mellie, -ye, 9 -ey), 6, 9 mellay. [a. OF. *mellée, meslée*: see MÊLÉE.]

A. *sb.*

† **1.** Mixture. *Obs. rare*$^{-1}$.

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* v. 404 Syne of the tunnys the bedis ont-strak, A foull melle thair can he mak.

2. † Contention, fight, quarrel (*obs.*); *spec.*, an engagement in which the two parties or combatants are mixed together in a close hand to hand fight. Cf. MÊLÉE. *arch.*

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 342, I be-seche now with sa3ez sene, þis melly mot be myne. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XVII. 120 Thar wes gret melleis twa or thre. *c* 1400 *Ywaine & Gaw.* 504 Woso flites, or turnes ogayne, He bygins al the mellè. 1508 DUNBAR *Lament Makaris* 23 Wictour he is at all melle. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VII. x. 5 Als sone as was this gret melly begunne, The erd littit wyth blude. 1819 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* xxix, The love of battle is the food upon which we live—the dust of the mellay is the breath of our nostrils! 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* v. 491 As here and everywhere He rode the mellay, lord of the ringing lists. 1875 KINGLAKE *Crimea* (1877) V. i. 152 So that Russians..and men of the Scots Greys and men of the 5th Dragoon Guards, were here forced and crowded together in one indiscriminate melley. 1881 GREEN *Hist. Eng.* I. IV. ii. 419 The Welshmen stabbed the French horses in the melly.

† **3.** A cloth of a mixture of colours or shades of colour; also a 'mixed' colour. (Cf. MEDLEY.)

1381–4 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 592 In di. panno de Melle. 1420 *Will* in *Trevelyan Papers* (Camden) 18 Item lego Matild'..unam togam de violet, aliam de melly...Item lego Johanne..unam togam russetam & aliam togam de mely. 1587 *Acc. Bk. W. Wray* in *Antiquary* XXXII. 118, iij yeardes white mella', xij*s*. 1593 *Ibid.*, iij yeardes & a q'ter fyne mella', xiiij*s*.

† **4.** ?A kind of brass. In quot. *attrib.* (Cf. MASLIN^{1}.) *Obs.*

1545 *Richmond Wills* (Surtees) 56 A mellay pot with a kylp, a chaffer, a brewyng leyyd [etc.].

† **B.** *adj.* Of a mixed or variegated colour. *Obs.*

1515 *Will of R. West* (Somerset Ho.), My mely tawny gowne. 1551 *Aberdeen Reg.* XXI. (Jam.) The price litting of the stane of mellay hew xxxii sh. *Ibid.* XXIV. (Jam.) Ane mella kirtill. 1558 *Wills & Inv. N. C.* (Surtees) I. 173 It'm I gine to my curate..my mellye gowne.

b. *Comb.*: † **melly parted** *a.*, parti-coloured.

1418 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 37 A furre of beuer and oter medled; also a Hewk of grene and other melly parted.

Hence † **Mellay** *v. intr.*, to contend.

c 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* VIII. xv. 19 Þare Willame Walays tuk on hand, Wyth mony gret Lordys of Scotland, To mellay wyth þat Kyng in fycht.

Melle, obs. form of MEAL *sb.*^{1}, MELLAY, MILL.

† **Mellean,** *a. Obs. rare*$^{-0}$. [f. L. *melle-us* (f. *mel*: see MELL *sb.*^{2}) + -AN.] 'Of or like honey, sweet, yellow' (Blount *Glossogr.* 1656).

† **Melled,** *ppl. a.*^{1} *Obs.* Also 5 -yde, -ide, 6 -yd. [f. MELL *v.*^{1} + -ED^{1}.] Mixed.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 256 He, which hath his lust assised With melled love and tirannie. 1393 *Will of Organ or Atte Stone* (Somerset Ho.), Gonnam de viridi mellet. *c* 1400 *Rowland & O.* 1254 A nobill snerde the burde not wolde, Now for thi Mellyde hare. 1449–50 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 632 In iij pannis integris blodei mellide. 1562 *Richmond Wills* (Surtees) 152 Inprimis, iij mellyd russetts xlij*s*.

† **Me·lled,** *ppl. a.*^{2} *Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. [f. MELL *sb.*^{2} + -ED^{2}.] Sweet as honey; honeyed.

1605 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iii. III. *Law* 841 Thou.. That bas the Ayre for farm, and Heav'n for field (Which, sugred Mel, or melled sugar yeeld).

Mellefoly, obs. form of MILFOIL.

Mellegette, -ghete, obs. ff. MALAGUETTA.

Melleous (me·lĭəs), *a.* [f. L. *melle-us* (see MELLEAN) + -OUS.] Of the nature of or resembling honey; containing honey.

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Melleous*, of or like honey, sweet, yellow. 1657 TOMLINSON *Renou's Disp.* I. IV. XXXIX. 317 Apiastrum or Melissophyllon, which is a melleous leaf. 1664 BOYLE *Exp. Colours* II. vii. 145, I shall not Examine which of the Slow wayes may be best Employ'd, to free Wax from the Yellow Melleous parts. 1760 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* II. XX. (1765) 116 A melleous Liquor.

Mellet, Melley, var. ff. MELLIT, MELLAY.

† **Mellfluvious,** *a.*, blundered f. MELLIFLUOUS.

1600 ROWLANDS *Lett. Humours Blood* iv. D 8 Mellfluious, sweete Rose watred elloquence.

Mellic (me·lik), *a.*^{1} *rare*$^{-0}$. [f. L. *mell-*, *mel* honey + -IC.] Of or pertaining to honey.

In some recent Dicts.

Mellic (me·lik), *a.*^{2} *Chem.* [Shortened from MELLITIC, on the analogy of MELLATE.] *Mellic acid*: = MELLITIC *acid*.

1837 DANA *Min.* 438 Mellite...According to Klaproth.. and Wohler, it contains..Mellic Acid.

Melliceris, variant of MELICERIS.

Mellicoton, variant of MELOCOTON.

Mellicrate, obs. variant of MELICRATE.

† **Me·llie, melly.** *Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. = MELL *sb.*^{2}

1614 J. DAVIES *Eclog.* 19 in W. Browne *Sheph. Pipe* G 3 b, For, fro thy Makings milke and mellie [*ed.* 1620 melly] flowes To feed the Songster-swaines with Arts soot-meats.

Mellie, obs. form of MELLAY.

Melliferous (meli·fĕrəs), *a.* [f. L. *mellifer* (f. *mell(i)-*, *mel* honey + *-fer* bearing) + -OUS. Cf. F. *mellifère*.] Yielding or producing honey.

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Melliferous*, that bringeth or beareth honey. 1701 GREW *Cosm. Sacra* IV. ii. § 22. 149 Judæa..could not but abound with Melliferous Plants of the best kind. 1816 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* (1818) I. 296 Insects attracted by the melliferous glands of the flower. 1861 HULME tr. *Moquin-Tandon* II. iii. 196 The most perfect melliferous animals are the Bees. 1895 KERNER & OLIVER *Nat. Hist. Plants* II. 128 [These] in the case of melliferous flowers preserve..the honey from being spoilt by the wet. *fig.* 1772 *Birmingham Counterfeit* I. vi. 97 The stings of Cupid's melliferous darts.

† **Mellific,** *a. Obs. rare*$^{-0}$. [ad. L. *mellific-us* f. *mell(i)-*, *mel* honey + *-ficus*: see -FIC. Cf. F. *mellifique*.] 'That makes honey'.

1706 in PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey). 1856 in MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*

† **Mellificate,** *v. Obs. rare*$^{-0}$. [f. L. *mellificāt-* ppl. stem of *mellificāre*, f. *mellificus*: see prec.] *intr.* To make honey.

1623 in COCKERAM. 1656 in BLOUNT *Glossogr.*

† **Mellifica·tion.** *Obs.* [ad. L. *mellificātiōn-em*, n. of action f. *mellific-āre*: see MELLIFICATE *v.* and -ATION. Cf. F. *mellification*.] The action or process of making honey. (Said of bees.)

1655 G. S. in Hartlib *Ref. Commw. Bees* 31 Mellification, respects the work and labour of this Insect, not its Physical virtues. 1733 ARBUTHNOT *Ess. Effects Air* IX. 223 In judging of the Constitution of the Air, many things besides the Weather ought to be observ'd:..the Silence of Grashoppers; Want of Mellification in Bees [etc.].

† **Me·llified,** *ppl. a. rare*$^{-1}$. [f. MELLIFY + -ED^{1}.] Sweetened with honey.

1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 49/2 We may vse mellifyed or Honyed-water.

† **Mellifluat(e,** *a. Sc. Obs.* Also 6 melle-. [f. L. *mellifluu-us* (f. *mell-*, *mel* honey + *fluĕre* to flow) + -ATE.] Mellifluous.

1508 DUNBAR *Gold. Targe* 265 Your angel mouthis most mellifluate Our rude langage has clere illumynate. 1560 ROLLAND *Crt. Venus* I. 147 He bair ane plesant flour..: With Cinamone mixt, and mellifluat.

† **Mellifluе,** *a. Obs. rare.* Also -flwe. [a. OF. *mellifluе*, ad. L. *mellifluus*.] Mellifluous.

c 1450 *Mirour Saluacioun* 3690 Hire dere son mellifiwe presence. 1456 in *Coventry Corpus Chr. Plays* (E.E.T.S.) 110 The mellyflue mekenes of your person shall put all wo away.

Mellifluence (meli·flŭens). [f. next: see -ENCE.] The state or quality of being mellifluent.

a 1631 DONNE *Serm.* (1640) 806 In which, (as S. Bernard also expresses it, in his mellifluence) *Mutua* [etc.]. 1779–81 JOHNSON *L. P., Dryden* Wks. II. 418 The English ear has been accustomed to the mellifluence of Pope's numbers. 1841 D'ISRAELI *Amen. Lit.* (1867) 304 The mellifluence and flexibility of the vowelly language were favourable to unrhymed verse.

Mellifluent (meli·flŭent), *a.* [ad. late L. *mellifluent-em* adj., f. L. *mell(i)-*, *mel* honey + *fluent-em* pr. pple. of *fluĕre* to flow. Cf. F. *mellifluant* (Godef.).] = MELLIFLUOUS.

1601 WEEVER *Mirr. Mart.* B j, Descending .. Like the mellifluent brooke of Castilie. 1622 AILESBURY *Serm.* (1623) 16 It was *Opus sine exemplo* .., saies mellifluent Bernard. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 14 The ground by Floraes mellifluent vertue, was ore-spread with Flowres. 1764 J. G. COOPER *Ep. Friends in Town* iii. *Apol. Aristippus* 175 Gresset's clear pipe..Symphoniously combines in one Each former bard's mellifluent tone. 1888 *Harper's Mag.* Apr. 763 A profound, mellifluent, booming horn-tone.

Mellifluous (meli·flŭəs), *a.* [f. L. *mellifluu-us* (f. *mell-*, *mel* honey + *flu-ĕre* to flow) + -OUS.]

1. Flowing with honey, honey-dropping; sweetened with or as with honey. Now *rare.*

1485 CAXTON *Chas. Gt.* 36 By the sanour of tho mellyfluons flowres alle the cytee was puryfyed. 1536 *Primer Hen. VIII* 146 In the mouth honie so mellifluous. 1658 ROWLAND *Mouffet's Theat. Ins.* 919 The increase of Bees is more in regard of..the plenty of mellifluous dews. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* V. 429. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* IX. 239 Twelve large vessels of unmingled wine, Mellifluous. 1849 THACKERAY *Dr. Birch* 41 And no one lacked, neither of raspberry open-tarts, nor of mellifluous bull's-eyes.

2. *fig.* Sweetly flowing, sweet as honey. Chiefly of eloquence, the voice, etc.

1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) I. 3 Thei [the nowble wryters of artes] ar to be enhauncede and exaltede .. as makenge a commixtion of a thynge profitable with a swetenesse mellifluous. *c* 1485 *Digby Myst.* (1882) III. 1446 O Iesu! þi mellyflnos name Mott be worcheppyd with reverens! 1573 L. LLOYD *Marrow of Hist.* (1653) 59 Such mellifluous words and sugred sentences proceeded out of his mouth that they were amazed. 1601 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* II. iii. 54 A mellifluous voyce, as I am true knight. 1671 MILTON *P. R.* IV. 277 Wisest of men; from whose mouth issu'd forth Mellifluous streams. 1791 BOSWELL *Johnson* 20 Mar. an. 1776, A work ..written in a very mellifluous style. 1834 R. MUDIE *Brit. Birds* (1841) I. 243 Its note is not so mellifluous and varied as that of the song thrush. 1838–9 HALLAM *Hist. Lit.* IV. vi. § 42 A smoothness of cadence, which though exquisitely mellifluous, is perhaps too uniform. 1874 MOTLEY *Barneveld* I. iv. 167 The not very mellifluous title of Craimgepolder.

b. of a speaker, writer or singer.

1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 264 b/1 Saynt Bernard the mellifluous doctor. 1598 F. MERES *Pallad. Tamia* II. 281 b, Mellifluous and hony-tongued Shakespeare. *c* 1709–10 HENLEY in *Swift's Lett.* (1767) I. 17 As that mellifluous ornament of Italy, Franciscus Petrarcha, sweetly has it. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* II. v. ii. 283 Most mellifluous yet most impetuous of public speakers. 1873 SYMONDS *Grk. Poets* xi. 373 The most mellifluous of all erotic songsters.

Hence **Melli·fluously** *adv.*, **Melli·fluousness.**

1812 R. H. in *Examiner* 30 Nov. 763/2 The versification of Pope is mellifluously flowing. 1820 BYRON *Juan* V. i, In liquid lines mellifluously bland. 1821 *New Monthly Mag.* III. 445/1 A head by Corregio..abounding in that feminine loveliness and blending mellifluousness of colour and *chiaro oscuro*, which [etc.]. 1886 RUSKIN *Præterita* I. iv. 136 The little Elise, then just nine, set herself deliberately to chatter to me mellifluously for an hour and a half.

Melliform (me·lifōm), *a.* [as if ad. mod.L. *melliformis*, f. *mell(i)-*, *mel* honey: see -FORM.] Resembling honey. 1890 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

† **Mellify,** *v. Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *mellificāre* to make honey: see -FY.] **a.** *intr.* To make honey. **b.** *trans.* To sweeten with honey.

c 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* V. 151 Place apte is ther swete herbes multiplie And bees the welles haunte, & water cleche; Utilite is there to mellifie. 1597 [see MELLIFIED.]

Melligenous (meli·dʒĭnəs), *a. Obs. rare*$^{-0}$. [Two formations: (1) f. pseudo-L. *melligin-us* (a false reading in Pliny) + -OUS; (2) L. *mell(i)-*, *mel* honey + -GEN- + -OUS.] **a.** 'Of the same kind with honey' (Bailey 1721). **b.** 'Producing honey' (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1890).

† **Melligineous,** *a. Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. [f. mod.L. *mellīgine-us* (f. L. *mellīgin-*, *mellīgo* honey-like juice, f. *mell-*, *mel* honey) + -OUS.] Resembling honey.

1684 tr. *Bonet's Merc. Compit.* XVII. 591 Sometimes a Melligineous matter..is contained within the Bladder.

Mellilet, obs. form of MELILOT.

Mellilite, less correct form of MELILITE.

† **Melliloquent,** *a. Obs. rare*$^{-0}$. [f. L. *mell(i)-*, *mel* honey + *loquent-em*, pr. pple. of *loquī* to speak.] 'That speaketh sweetly'.

1656 in BLOUNT *Glossogr.* 1658 in PHILLIPS.

† **Mellinder.** *Obs.* [a. Sp. *melindre.*] A kind of pastry.

1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* IV. xvi. 255 A certaine kinde of paste, they doe make of this flower mixt with sugar, which they call biscuits and mellinders.

† **Melling** (me·liŋ), *vbl. sb. Obs.* Also 4 meling. [f. MELL *v.*^{2} + -ING^{1}.] The action of the vb. MELL.

1. Blending, combining; mixture.

c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 5257, & to meliors his quene hi messageres nobul, as to here lege lord lelli bi riȝt, þurth meling of þe mariage of meliors þe schene. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxi. (*Clement*) 399, & of þe planetis sic mellynge In þe tyme of engendryng gerris weman do adultery. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* V. 406 Meill, malt, blude, and vyne Ran all to-gidder in a mellyne.

2. Copulation.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxxii. (*Justin*) 339 For gyf sic mellyng suld nocht be..al kynd of man.. suld falȝe. 14.. LYDG. *Life Our Lady* xx. vi. (MS. Ashm. 39. lf. 32), Eke certeyn birdes called vultures Wt outten mellyng [*v.r.* medelinge] conceyven by nature.

3. The action of mixing in fight or joining in combat. *Melling while*, time of combat.

c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 3858 Meliadus in þat meling while a sturne strok set William on his stelen helm. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* VII. 481 It is hard till vndirtak Sic mellyng vith ȝow for to mak. *c* 1475 *Partenay* 1326 Ther full gret affray was at ther mellyng.

4. Dealing; interconrse; meddling.

c 1440 *W. Hylton's Mixed Life* (MS. Thornton) in *Hampole* (ed. Horstman) I. 276 By-cause of mellynge [*c* 1375 *MS. Vern.* medlyng] with swilke besynes. 1564 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 279 Nane of onre Soverane Ladiis liegis have traffique, cumpany, or melling with thame. 1579 *Sc. Acts Jas. VI* (1814) III. 182/1 Inhibiting the personis now displacet of all further melling and intromissioun with the saidis rentis. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* V. xii. 35 That euery matter worse was for ber melling. 1603 *Philotus* (1835) cxlv, Than how could wee twa disagree, That neuer had na melling.

Melliot, obs. form of MELILOT.

† **Melliphill.** *Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. [app. ad. Gr. *μελίφυλλον*, name of a plant, ?balm; lit. 'honey-leaf', f. *μέλι* honey + *φύλλον* leaf: cf. *melisphylla* (pl.) Virg. *Georg.* IV. 63.]

1595 CHAPMAN *Ovid's Banq. Sence* B 2 b, White and red lessamines, Merry, Melliphill: Fayre Crown-imperiall, Emperor of Flowers [etc.].

Mellisonant (meli·sŏnănt), *a. arch.* [f. L. *mell(i)-*, *mel* honey + *sonant-em*, pres. pple. of *sonāre* to sonnd.] Sweet-sounding.

a 1634 RANDOLPH *Amyntas* V. iv, I'le have't no more a sheep-bell; I am Knight Of the Mellisonant Tingletangle. 1893 SWINBURNE *Stud. Prose & Poetry* (1894) 46 It was

doubtless in order to relieve this saccharine and 'mellisonant' monotony that [etc.].

†**Mellit.** *Obs.* Also 7 mellet. A disease incident to horses (see quots.).

1610 Markham *Masterp.* II. lxix. 333 A Mellet is a dry scabbe that groweth vpon the heele [of a horse]. 1704 *Dict. Rust. et Urban.*, *Mellet* [ed. 1726 *Meltit*], a dry Scab that grows upon the Heel of a Horse's Fore-feet.

Mellitate (me·litēit). *Chem.* [f. Mellit(ic) + -ate 1.] A salt of mellitic acid; = Mellate.

1828 *Philos. Mag.* IV. 229 The mellite (mellitate of alumina). 1894 *Athenæum* 25 Aug. 260/2 Mellite, or honeystone, which is aluminium mellitate.

Mellite (me·ləit), *sb. Min.* [First in mod.L. *mellītēs* (Gmelin 1793), f. L. *mell-*, *mel* honey: see -ite.] Native mellitate of aluminium, occurring in honey-yellow octahedral crystals. See also Melilite 2, Honey-stone 2.

First found in brown-coal seams in Thuringia.

1801 *Nicholson's Jrnl.* IV. 516 Honigstein .. has a light yellow colour, which has caused it to obtain the name of mellite, or honey stone. 1823 W. Phillips *Introd. Min.* (ed. 3) 374. 1878 Lawrence tr. *Cotta's Rocks Class.* 66 Mellite occurs as an accessory ingredient in Brown Coal.

†**Mellite,** *a. Obs. rare*−1. [ad. L. *mellīt-us*, f. *mell-*, *mel* honey.] Honeyed, sweet.

c 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* II. 262 Summe .. honge hem [services] vp in place opake nnd drie; And wyn mellite [L. *sapa*], as seid is, saue hem shall.

Mellitic (meli·tik), *a. Chem.* [f. Mellite *sb.* + -ic, after F. *mellitique* (Klaproth).] *Mellitic acid* ($C_{12}H_6O_{12}$), the peculiar acid of mellite. (Also called Mellic.)

1794 G. Adams *Nat. & Exp. Philos.* I. App. 542. 1802 T. Thomson *Chem.* III. 527 Klaproth found the mellite composed of alumina and a peculiar acid to which he gave the name of *mellitic* acid. 1844 Fownes *Chem.* 373 Mellitic acid..is soluble in water and alcohol.

Mellitimide (meli·timəid). *Chem.* [f. Mellit(ic) + Imide.] A compound obtained from mellitate of ammonium.

1865 Watts *Dict. Chem.* III. 873 Paramide or Mellitimide.

Melliturgie: see Meliturgy.

Mellituria, less correct form of Meliturıa.

Mellivorous (meli·vŏrəs), *a.* [f. mod.L. *mellivor-us* (f. L. *mell-*, *mel* honey + *vor-āre* to devour) + -ous. Cf. F. *mellivore.*] Feeding on honey.

1801 Latham *Gen. Syn. Birds* Suppl. II. 166 *marg.*, Mellivorous Creeper. 1822 — *Gen. Hist. Birds* IV. 161 Mellivorous Honey-eater. 1878 Riley in *Amer. Naturalist* XII. 215 A..partly carnivorous, partly mellivorous diet.

Mellodion: see Melodeon.

Mellon, obs. form of Melon 1.

Mellone (me·loun). *Chem.* Also mel(l)on. [Named by Liebig in 1834; f. *mel-* (as in Melam) + -one.] A compound of carbon and nitrogen obtained as a yellow powder by the action of heat on certain cyanogen-compounds.

1835 *R. D. Thomson's Rec. Gen. Sci.* I. 185 Liebig terms this citron-coloured powder *mellon.* 1838 T. Thomson *Chem. Org. Bodies* 2 The richest body in azote known is melon, which is composed of C^6 Az^4. *Ibid.* 768 Mellon.

Mellonide (me·lŏnəid). *Chem.* [f. Mellone + -ide.] A compound of mellone with a metal.

1845 W. Gregory *Outl. Chem.* II. 311 Mellonide of potassium. 1862 Miller *Elem. Chem.* (ed. 2) III. 697.

Mellonuret (melǫ·niŭret). *Chem.* [f. Mellone + -uret.] = Mellonide.

1841 Brande *Chem.* (ed. 5) 575 Mellon..combines directly with potassium;..a mellonuret of potassium [is] formed.

Mellow (me·lou), *a.* Forms: 5 melwe, 5–6 melowe, 6 mellowe, 6– mellow. [First appears in the 15th c.; perh. developed from some unrecorded attributive use of OE. *melo* (stem *melw-*), ME. *melowe*, Meal *sb.*1 Cf. mod. Flemish *meluw* soft, mellow (Franck s.v. *Mollig*).

In sense the adj. corresponds strikingly with early ME. Merow, OE. *mearu* (a Com. Teut. word), which may possibly have influenced its development.]

1. Of fruit: Soft, sweet, and juicy with ripeness. Also *fig.*

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 332/1 Melwe, or rype (*P.* melowe), *maturus.* 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 106 b, Thynke how god may make of that grene apple a swete fruyte full melowe. 1530 Palsgr. 318/2 Melowe as fruyte is, *meur.* 1589 Nashe *Anat. Absurd.* 32 This greene fruite, beeing gathered before it be ripe, is rotten before it be mellow. 1607 Shaks. *Cor.* IV. vi. 100 As Hercules did shake downe Mellow Fruite. 1611 Cotgr. s.v. *Paré, Pomme parée*, ripened in straw, &c.; made mellow by art. 1623 Cockeram, *Melow*, ripe. 1681 Dryden *Span. Friar* III. iii. 42 Nature drops him down, without your Sin, Like mellow Fruit, without a Winter Storm. 1719 D'Urfey *Pills* (1872) I. 266 Women, like some other Fruit, Lose their relish when too mellow. 1756 Lady M. W. Montagu '*Good madam*', But the fruit that can fall without shaking Indeed is too mellow for me. 1806–7 J. Beresford *Miseries Hum. Life* (1826) VI. xxxiv, One dish of mellow apples. 1814 Scott *Ld. of Isles* III. xxi, Mellow nuts have hardest rind.

b. Of colour, odonr, taste: Indicative of ripeness.

1563 *Homilies* II. *Alms-deeds* II. 174 b, So doth the crabbe and choke pere, seeme outwardlye to haue sometyme as fayre a redde, and as melowe a colour, as the fruite which is good in deede. 1644 Digby *Nat. Bodies* i. (1645) 3 My eye telleth me it [an apple] is green or red; my nose that it hath a mellow sent.

c. Of landscape, seasons, etc.: Characterized by ripeness.

1819 Keats *To Autumn* 1 Season of mists and mellow fruitfulness. *a* 1845 Hood *Poems* (1846) II. 49, 'Twas in that mellow season of the year When the hot Sun singes the yellow leaves Till they be gold. 1862 B. Taylor *Poets Jrnl.* i, A moment she the mellow landscape scanned.

d. Of wines or their flavour: Well-matured; free from acidity or harshness. Also *fig.*

a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew*, *Mellow*,..smooth, soft Drink. 1787 J. Croft *Treat. Wines Portugal* 7 The Port Wines..being less racey and mellow than the Alicants from Spain. 1853 C. Brontë *Villette* xix, His spirit was of vintage too mellow and generous to sour.

2. *transf.* a. Of earth: Soft, rich, loamy.

1531 Elyot *Gov.* I. iv, The most melowe and fertile erth. 1577 B. Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* I. (1586) 25 If the ground be mellowe, after Barley in some places they sowe Millet. 1664 Evelyn *Kal. Hort., Mar.* (1729) 195 Sow Skirrets in rich, mellow, fresh Earth. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* II. 356 Hoary Frosts .. will rot the Mellow Soil. 1777 A. Hunter *Georg. Ess.* 168 *note*, In the North of England, when the earth turns up with a mellow and crumbly appearance, and smoaks, the farmers say the earth is *brimming.* 1815 J. Smith *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 632 It delights most in a stiff, mellow, well pulverized soil. 1879 Joaquin Miller *Nicaragua* in *Poems of Places, Brit. Amer. etc.* 175 My father old He turns alone the mellow sod.

b. In various applications: Soft; soft and smooth to the touch.

1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) III. 544/2 This frequent turning it over, cools, dries, and deadens the grain; whereby it becomes mellow. 1844 Stephens *Bk. Farm* III. 836 [Young cattle.] To be a good thriver..the hair sbould feel mossy, and the touch of the skin mellow. 1875 *Encycl. Brit.* I. 390/2 Young cattle .. are at 18 months old already of great size, with open horns, mellow hide [etc.].

3. *fig.* (from sense 1). Mature, ripe in age. Now chiefly, softened or sweetened by age or experience; having the gentleness or dignity resulting from maturity.

1592 Kyd *Sp. Trag.* I. iii. 41 My yeeres were mellow, his hut young and greene. 1611 Middleton & Dekker *Roaring Girle* I. D.'s Wks. 1873 III. 145 Maister Greene-wit is not yet So mellow in yeares as he. 1749 Smollett *Regicide* V. iv, In florid youth, or mellow age, scarce fleets One hour without its care! 1855 M. Arnold *Sonn. to Friend* 13 The mellow glory of the Attic stage. 1893 Goldw. Smith *United States* 63 He [Benjamin Franklin] was an offspring of New England Puritanism grown mellow.

4. Of sound, colour, light, etc.: Rich and soft; full and pure without harshness.

a. of sound, musical instruments, singers.

1668 H. More *Div. Dial.* III. xxxvi. (1713) 284 How sweet and mellow, and yet how Majestick, is the Sound of it! 1700 Dryden *Ovid's Met.* XII. 218 The mellow harp did not their ears employ. 1722 Snape in *Swift's Lett.* (1766) II. 27 His voice, since its breaking, is somewhat harsh, but I believe will grow mellower. 1728–46 Thomson *Spring* 604 The mellow bullfinch answers from the grove. 1742 Berkeley *Let. to Gervais* 2 Feb., Wks. 1871 IV. 284 A six-stringed bass viol of an old make and mellow tone. 1746 Collins *Ode Passions* 61 Pale Melancholy..Pour'd thro' the mellow Horn her pensive soul. 1821 Byron *Juan* IV. lxxxvii, Who swore his voice was very rich and mellow. *a* 1849 Poe *The Bells*, Hear the mellow wedding bells, Golden bells. 1863 Lever *Barrington* xviii, The hardy old squire, whose mellow cheer was known at the fox-cover. 1863 Geo. Eliot *Romola* lxi, There was silence when he began to speak in his clear mellow voice.

b. of colour, light, drawing, etc., or coloured objects. Sometimes with additional notion: Softened in colour by age.

1706 *Art of Painting* (1744) 342 His pencil was light and mellow. 1766 Goldsm. *Vic. W.* xx, The colouring of a picture was not mellow enough. 1784 Cowper *Task* IV. 314 The golden harvest, of a mellow brown. 1815 Wordsw. *Excursion* I. 958 The sun declining shot A slant and mellow radiance. 1842 Tennyson *Locksley Hall* 9 Many a night I saw the Pleiads, rising through the mellow shade. 1859 Geo. Eliot *A. Bede* vi, Pleasant jets of light were thrown on mellow oak and bright brass. 1880 Miss Braddon *Just as I am* ii, Time had toned down every colour inside and outside the good old house to mellowest half tints.

5. Good-humoured, genial, jovial.

1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 68 ¶ 3 In all thy Humours, whether grave or mellow. 1824 W. Irving *T. Trav.* I. 7 The Baronet was..as merry and mellow an old bachelor as ever followed a hound. 1871 M. Collins *Mrg. & Merch.* II. viii. 234 When .. their glasses were filled with .. port, Mowbray grew a trifle mellower in mood.

6. Affected with liqnor, partly intoxicated.

1611 Cotgr. s.v. *Enyvrer, S'enyvrer*, to be drunke, or in drinke; to be mellow, tipled, flusht, ouerseene. 1638 Brathwait *Barnabees Jrnl.* III. (1818) 85 For the world, I would not prize her, .. Had she in her no good fellow That would drinke till he grew mellow. 1775 Sheridan *Duenna* II. iii, The hateful fellow That's crabbed when he's mellow. 1895 Scully *Kafir Stories* 193 The beer was not in sufficient quantities to cause intoxication, but nevertheless all were somewhat mellow when the sun went down.

7. *Comb.*, chiefly parasynthetic and advb., as *mellow-breathing, -coloured, -deep, -eyed, -lighted, -mouthed, -ripe, -tasted, -tempered, -toned* adjs.

a 1777 Fawkes *Epithalamic Ode* 19 The merry pipe, the *mellow-breathing flute. 1895 Clive Holland *Jap. Wife* 70 Countless numbers of paper lanterns, which throw a *mellow-coloured radiance on the faces of the passers-by. 1832 Tennyson *Eleänore* 67 A sweep Of richest pauses, evermore Drawn from each other *mellow-deep. 1866 Howells *Venet. Life* x. 139 *Mellow-eyed dun oxen. 1892 Pater *Wks.* (1901) VIII. 209 The melodious, *mellow-lighted space. 1604 T. Wright *Passions* v. § 3. 182 A preacher,..knowing his auditours wallowed in sinne, ought not with..*mellow-mouthed words tickle their eares. 1579 Spenser *Sheph. Cal.* Dec. 107 Ere they were halfe *mellow ripe. 1730–46 Thomson *Autumn* 705 The *mellow-tasted burgundy. 1873 E. Brennan *Witch of Nemi*, etc. 85 *Mellow-toned laughter.

Mellow (me·lou), *v.* [f. Mellow *a.*]

1. *trans.* To render mellow; to ripen and render soft and juicy (fruits); to mature (wines or liquors), to free from harshness or acidity. Also *fig.*

1572 Gascoigne *Counc. Withipoll* Posies (1575) *Hearbes* 155 Those sunnes do mellowe men so fast, As most that trauayle come home very ripe. 1590 Greene *Orl. Fur.* (1599) 47 Me thinks I feele how Cynthya .. meloweth those desires Which phrensies scares had ripened in my head. 1593 Shaks. *Rich. II*, III. vii. 168 The Royall Tree hath left vs Royall Fruit, Which mellow'd by the stealing howres of time, Will well become the Seat of Maiestie. 1630 Donne *Lett.* (1651) 317 All this mellows me for heaven. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* II. 758 Winter Fruits are mellow'd by the Frost. 1701 Addison *Let. to Halifax* 132 On foreign mountains may the Sun refine The Grape's soft juice, and mellow it to wine. 1754 Richardson *Grandison* IV. xxxii. 203 Yours is Love mellowed into Friendship. 1781 Cowper *Conversation* 644 Age, .. As time improves the grape's authentic juice, Mellows and makes the speech more fit for use. 1818 Southey *Lett., to H. H. Southey* II. 115 Generous minds and tempers .. are mellowed, like wine, as they grow older. 1848 Lytton *Harold* III. v, The year .. had mellowed the fruits of the earth.

b. *intr.* Of fruit, wines, etc.: To become mellow; to ripen, mature. Also *fig.*

1594 Shaks. *Rich. III*, IV. iv. 1 So now prosperity begins to mellow, And drop into the rotten mouth of death. *a* 1631 Donne *On Himself* 6 Till death us lay To ripe and mellow here we are stuborne Clay. 1638 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* (ed. 2) 297 From a dark-greene, [they] mellow into a flaming yellow. 1693 Evelyn *De La Quint. Compl. Gard.* Pref., Exactly when to gather both those which ripen on the Tree, and those which attain not their full ripeness there, but must be laid up to mellow in the House. 1768–74 Tucker *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 343 Their juices will mellow by mingling together. 1830 M. Donovan *Dom. Econ.* I. 21 These were often hung in the smoke of a chimney, at some distance above the fire, in order to mellow. 1884 W. C. Smith *Kildrostan* 74 Unripe fruit is bitter oft i' the mouth, Yet mellows with the months.

2. *trans.* To make (soil) soft and loamy.

1577 B. Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* I. (1586) 23 b, The land it selfe is also called grosse and rawe, that is not well mellowed. 1634 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* 115 A small streame, which .. meloes most of the Gardens and Groues. 1707 Mortimer *Husb.* (1721) I. 52 Wind, Sun and Dews, all which sweeten and mellow the Land very much. 1846 J. Baxter *Libr. Pract. Agric.* (ed. 4) II. 288 Their surfaces soon become mellowed by the action of the air.

b. *intr.* Of soil: To become soft and loamy.

1815 J. Smith *Panorama Sci. & Art* I. 184 The earth.. should bave sufficient time to mellow and ferment. 1895 *Tablet* 9 Nov. 739 Then the soil will have mellowed sufficiently to bear wheat and potatoes.

3. *trans.* To impart softness and richness (of flavour, colour, tone, etc.) to; to soften, sweeten, free from harshness or crudity. Also (*nonce-use*), to drive (something) *out of* (a person) by a process of mellowing.

1593 Nashe *Christ's T.* 16 b, As Archesilaus ouer-melodied, and too-much melowed and sugred with sweet tunes, .. caused his eares to be new relished with harsh sower and vnsauory sounds. 1596 — *Saffron Walden* 113 The Page was easily mellowd with his attractiue eloquence. 1693 Dryden *To Sir G. Kneller* 178 Time shall .. Mellow your colours. 1742 Blair *Grave* 102 The sooty blackbird Mellow'd his pipe, and soften'd every note. 1761 Hume *Hist. Eng.* III. xlvii. 36 In order to mellow these humours. 1786 S. Rogers *Sailor* 8 Its colours mellow'd, not impair'd, by time. 1810 Scott *Lady of L.* II. xvii, At first the sounds, by distance tame, Mellowed along the waters came. 1871 L. Stephen *Playgr. Eur.* ii. (1894) 49 Lichens mellow the scarred masses of fallen rock. 1887 Saintsbury *Ess. Eng. Lit., Jeffrey* (1891) 102 The priggishness which he showed early, and never entirely lost, till fame, prosperity, and the approach of old age mellowed it out of him. 1902 A. Thomson *Lauder & Lauderdale* x. 102 The King..visited him..to endeavour by personal interview to mellow his manners.

b. *intr.* To soften, become toned down or subdued; to become free from harshness.

1737 M. Green *Spleen* 712 Unhurt by sickness' blasting rage And slowly mellowing in age. 1777 Robertson *Hist. Amer.* (1778) II. v. 4 The impetuosity of his temper, when he came to act with his equals, insensibly abated .. and mellowed into a cordial soldierly frankness. 1823 Byron *Island* II. xv, The broad sun set, but not with lingering sweep, As in the north he mellows o'er the deep. 1840 Dickens *Barn. Rudge* xi, The very furniture of the room seemed to mellow..in its tone. 1861 J. Brown *Horæ Subs.* (1863) 64 His character mellowed and toned down in his later years. 1902 A. E. W. Mason *Four Feathers* xvii. 165 The sunlight mellowed and reddened.

4. *trans.* To bring under the influence of liquor.

a 1761 Cawthorn *Poems* (1771) 189 Gods .. will, like mortals, swear and hector, When mellow'd with a cup of nectar. 1836 W. Irving *Astoria* II. 13 When he thought him sufficiently mellowed, he proposed to him to quit the service of his new employers. 1855 Tennyson *Brook* 155 There he mellow'd all his heart with ale.

Mellowed (me·loud), *ppl. a.* [f. Mellow *v.* + -ed 1.] In senses of the vb.: Rendered mellow.

1575 Gascoigne *Gloze Text* 2 Posies *Hearbes* 145 My riper mellowed yeares beginne to follow on as fast. 1593 Shaks. 3 *Hen. VI*, III. iii. 104 Call him my King, by whose iniurious doome My elder Brother..Was done to death?.. Euen in the downe-fall of his mellow'd yeeres. 1798 Bloomfield *Farmer's Boy, Spring* 63 Wide o'er the fields, in rising moisture strong, Shoots up the simple flower, or creeps along The mellow'd soil. 1830 M. Donovan *Dom. Econ.* I. 155 This water, present in exposed or mellowed malt, tends to lower the resulting temperature. *a* 1853 Robertson *Lect.* (1858) 247 Ripened with the mellowed strength of

manly life. 1889 *County* vi. in *Cornh. Mag.* Feb., The fine old room with its mellowed walls and priceless brocades.

Mellowing (me·louiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. MELLOW *v.* + -ING 1.] The action of the vb. MELLOW.

1528 PAYNEL *Salerne's Regim.* H ij, The operations of dulce wynes are digestion, mellowyng, and encressynge of nourishement. 1621 FLETCHER *Pilgrim* II. i, Fling him i' th' hay-mow, let him lie a-mellowing. 1675 GREW *Tastes Plants* iv. § 11 Sower apples, by mellowing, and harsh pears, by baking, become sweet. 1845 *Encycl. Metrop.* XXV. 1286/2 The mellowing of wine by time is a process which has baffled hitherto all scientific inquiry. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 845 Some amylic alcohol, which tends, however, to disappear in the process of mellowing.

attrib. 1871 GLADSTONE in Morley *Life* (1903) II. vi. viii. 382 In his character the mellowing process has continued to advance.

Mellowing (me·louiŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. MELLOW *v.* + -ING 2.] That mellows (in senses of the vb.).

1637 MILTON *Lycidas* 5, I com to..Shatter your leaves before the mellowing year. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* III. 504 Late from the mellowing cask restor'd to light. 1807 CRABBE *Par. Reg.* II. 454 And their full autumn felt the mellowing frost. 1894 *Athenæum* 2 June 702/3 [It] became afterwards poetized by the mellowing sun of his genius.

Mellowly (me·louli), *adv.* [f. MELLOW *a.* + -LY 2.] In a mellow manner.

1806 J. GRAHAME *Birds of Scot.* 90 Mildly the sun, upon the loftiest trees, Shed mellowly a sloping beam. 1833 TENNYSON *Poems* 106 The luscious fruitage clustereth mellowly.

Mellowness (me·lounės). [f. MELLOW *a.* + -NESS.] The quality or state of being mellow, in various senses of the adj.

1530 PALSGR. 244/2 Melowenesse, *mevreté.* 1647 TRAPP *Comm.* 2 *Pet.* iii. 18 Grow .. as an apple doth in mellownesse. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* (1721) I. 350 This perfects the Sweetness and Mellowness of the Malt. 1742 ABP. HORT *Instr. Clergy of Tuam* 9 *Suaviloquentia*, that mellowness and sweetness of speaking so much praised in some of the Roman orators, in opposition to the rusticity of noisy declaimers. 1777 SHERIDAN *Sch. Scand.* I. i. (ed. Rae) 148 She wants that delicacy of Tint—and mellowness of sneer—which distinguish your Ladyship's Scandal. 1787 J. CROFT *Treat. Wines Portugal* 5 Red Wines of a superior mellowness or body. 1805 W. IRVING in *Life & Lett.* (1864) I. 157 In the tender scenes he [Kemble] wanted mellowness. 1882 TRAILL in Morley *Gladstone* (1904) III. viii. vi. 91 The tang of the wood brings out the mellowness of a rare old wine. 1884 *Harper's Mag.* Feb. 349/1 A mellowness of light and shade unattainable in marble.

Mellowy (me·loui), *a.* [f. MELLOW *a.* + -Y.] = MELLOW *a.*, in various senses.

c 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* IV. 523 Ypuld not melowy but grene. 1612 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* x. 97 Whose mellowy gleabe doth beare The yellow ripened sheafe that bendeth with the eare. 1816 L. HUNT *Rimini* III. 428 A pavilion,.. Small, marble, well-proportioned, mellowy white.

Melltyde, variant of MEALTIDE *Obs.*

Mellwell, obs. form of MULVEL.

Melly, obs. f. MELLAY; var. MELLIE *Obs.*

Mellylot(e, obs. forms of MELILOT.

Melner, obs. form of MILLER.

‖ **Melocactus** (melǫkæ·ktŭs). *Bot.* [mod.L. (Tournefort 1700) f. late L. *mēlo* MELON + CACTUS.] A genus of cactaceous plants, natives of Central and South America (popularly called *melon-thistle*); a plant of this genus.

1733 MILLER *Gard. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Melocactus* .. Melon-Thistle. 1853 TH. ROSS tr. *Humboldt's Trav.* III. xxvi. 114 The agaves and melocactuses half-buried in the sand. 1871 KINGSLEY *At Last* i, We saw our first Melocactus, and our first night-blowing Cereus creeping over the rocks.

Melochite, obs. form of MALACHITE.

† **Melocoton.** *Obs.* Forms: 7 malacaton, -catoon, -katoone, -cotoon, malecotone, mali-, mallagatoon, melacatoon, -cotone, melicot(t)on, melicotonie, mellacat(t)on, mellicoton, melocotone, -cotune, 7-8 malacoton, malecotoon, melicotoon(e, 8 malacotoune, malocotoon, melacotoon, melicotony, melococoon, -coton, -cotony, -cotoon. [a. Sp. *melocoton*, ad. It. *melocogno*, ad. med.L. *mēlum cotōneum* (= late L. *mālum cotōneum*), ad. Gr. *μῆλον κυδώνιον* 'Cydonian apple': see COYN, QUINCE. Cf. F. *mirecoton*, *mirelicoton* (Cotgr.).] A peach grafted on a quince. Also *melocoton peach.*

The more original sense of 'quince', which occurs in Sp. and It., does not seem to have existed in Eng.

1611 COTGR., *Mirecoton*, the delicate yellow Peach, called a Melicotonie. 1614 B. JONSON *Barth. Fair* I. ii, A wife heere with a Strawbery-breath, Chery-lips, .. and a soft velvet head, like a Melicotton. 1661 RABISHA *Cookery Dissected* 8 To pickle Mallagatoons. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. 80/2 Sweetnings, as..Oranges and Lemmons and them candied, Mellacattons. 1704 *Collect. Voy.* (Churchill) III. 46/1 Melicotoons, Peaches, Auberges. 1719 LONDON & WISE *Compl. Gard.* p. iii, The Malecotoon Peach, which is not worth any ones planting. 1744 A. DOBBS *Countries Adjacent to Hudson's Bay* 144 A Fruit they called Obi, like to Melacotoons. 1745 P. THOMAS *Jrnl. Anson's Voy.* 95 Peaches, Nectarines, Melococoons, Apricots..grow plentifully.

Melodeon, melodion (mĭlō·diən). [In sense 1, an altered form of MELODIUM, with a quasi-Gr. ending; in sense 2 perh. f. MELODY in imitation of ACCORDION.]

1. A wind instrument, furnished with a key-board, the bellows being moved by means of pedals worked by the feet of the performer; an earlier form of the 'American organ'.

1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Melodeon.* 1872 'MARK TWAIN' *Innoc. Abr.* ii. 17 Our parlour organ and our melodeon were to be the best instruments of the kind. 1891 *Scribner's Mag.* Sept. 356/2 A..broken-down melodeon.

2. A kind of accordion.

1880 (*title*) The Art of playing the Melodion, or German accordion, without a Master. 1886 *Pop. Self-Instructor for the Melodeon* 4 The Melodeon, or improved German Accordion.

3. A music-hall. *? U. S.* 1864 in WEBSTER.

Melodial (mĭlō·diăl), *a.* [f. L. *melōdia* MELODY + -AL.] Of or relating to melody.

1818 BUSBY *Gram. Mus.* III *note*, So rare .. is the command of melodial modulation, that the greatest masters cannot always exhibit felicitous examples of its excellence. 1902 *Durham Exam. Papers* 174 (*For the degree of D.Mus.*) Make your work interesting in a melodial sense.

Hence **Melo·dially** *adv.*

1818 BUSBY *Gram. Mus.* 365 Modulation..Harmonically and melodially exhibited.

Melodic (mĭlǫ·dik), *a.* [ad. F. *mélodique* = Sp. *melódico*, It. *melodico*, ad. late L. *melōdicus* (Cassiodorus), a. Gr. *μελῳδικός*, f. *μελῳδία*: see MELODY and -IC.] Of or pertaining to melody.

Melodic minor scale: see MINOR *a.*

1823 *New Monthly Mag.* VIII. 132 We should not..hesitate to risk a comparison between the best Greek melodic concert, and the melharmonic strains and combinations of a modern performance. 1864 in WEBSTER. 1868 H. SPENCER *Princ. Psychol.* (1872) II. 641 The melodic element in music. 1893 *Athenæum* 23 Dec. 890/2 Scale is the accepted foundation of all music, melodic or harmonic.

† **Melo·dical,** *a. Obs.* [f. late L. *melōdic-us* MELODIC + -AL.] Melodious.

1596 FITZ-GEFFRAY *Sir F. Drake* (1881) 24 Fetch Orpheus harpe with strings harmonicall; And musicke from the Sphenres melodicall. 1601 WEEVER *Mirr. Mart., Sir J. Oldcastle* B viij, Strayned ditties most melodicall.

Melodically (mĭlǫ·dikăli), *adv.* [Formed as prec. + -LY 2.] In a melodic manner; with regard to melody.

1876 STAINER & BARRETT *Dict. Mus. Terms* (1898) 394 Form of minor mode sometimes used melodically. 1887 E. GURNEY *Tertium Quid* II. 18 The form may be far from melodically inventive.

Melodics (mĭlǫ·diks). [See MELODIC *a.* and -IC 2.] The branch of musical science that is concerned with melody.

1864 in WEBSTER; and in later Dicts.

Melodiograph (mĭlō·diŏgraf). [f. MELODY + -GRAPH.] A contrivance to record the notes of tunes played upon an instrument. Cf. MELOGRAPH.

1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl. 592/2 In the melodiograph of Zigliani, a double flat spring placed under each key is connected with a battery and with a recording apparatus.

† **Melo·dion** 1. *Obs.* [A pseudo-Gr. formation on MELODY.] (See quot.) A musical instrument consisting of a series of metal rods, actuated by being pressed against a rotating cylinder.

1830 *Edinb. Encycl.* XVII. 563 This musical instrument was invented..by M. Dietz, a German, and he has given it the name of melodion from the sweetness and harmony by which it is characterized.

Melodion 2: see MELODEON.

Melodious (mĭlō·diəs), *a.* Forms: 4-6 melodyous(e, 5 melodiose, -dyows, 6 melodi(o)us, -dyous, melodyus. [ad. OF. *melodieus* (mod.F. *mélodieux*), = Sp., Pg., It. *melodioso*, med.L. *melōdiōsus*, f. L. *melōdia*: see MELODY and -OUS.]

1. Characterized by melody or pleasing succession of sounds; sweet-sounding, tuneful.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* v. 577 Herde I myn alderleuest lady dere, So wommanly wip voys melodious, Syngen so wel. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 80 Thus thay songe..This melodious ympne. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* xxii. 66 He .. blewe so melodyous a blast. 1629 MILTON *Hymn Nativ.* xiii, Ring out ye Crystall spheares, .. And let your silver chime Move in melodious time. *c* 1700 DRYDEN *Charac. Gd. Parson* 22 A music more melodious than the spheres. 1713 BERKELEY *Guardian* No. 27 ¶ 7 A melodious consort of vocal and instrumental music. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XI. 375/2 That an air which was never set or intended for words, however melodious, cannot be imitative. 1836 EMERSON *Nature, Discipline* Wks. (Bohn) II. 156 Man .. forges the subtile .. air into wise and melodious words. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* I. iv, Melodious sounds were not long in rising from the frying-pan on the fire.

2. Producing melody; singing sweetly.

1588 SHAKS. *Tit. A.* III. i. 85 Where like a sweet mellodius bird it sung. 1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* I. iii. (Arb.) 22 By his discreete and wholesome lessons vttered in harmonie and with melodious instruments. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* IV. 697 The lovely Bride In safety goes, with her Melodious Guide [Orpheus]. 1784 COWPER *Task* IV. 574 The walk..unconscious once Of other tenants than melodious birds. 1847 EMERSON *Repr. Men, Swedenborg* Wks. (Bohn) I. 333 Melodious poets shall be hoarse as street ballads, when [etc.].

3. *nonce-use.* Susceptible to melody.

c 1586 C'TESS PEMBROKE *Ps.* XLIX. i, Wordes shall from my mouth proceed, Which I will measure by melodious eare.

4. Having a melody; pertaining to or of the nature of melody.

1727-52 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v. *Melody*, Yet so far as the bass may be made airy, and to sing well, it may be also properly said to be melodious. 1818 BUSBY *Gram. Mus.* 59 The first rudiments of the simplest province of musical composition, and musical performance,—melodious succession.

Melodiously (mĭlō·diəsli), *adv.* [-LY 2.] In a melodious manner.

c 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 157 The yelwe swan famous and aggreable, Ageyn his dethe melodyously syngyng. 1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* v. lxvii. § 12 Their discourses are heauenly, .. their tongues melodiously tuned instruments. 1616 SURFL. & MARKH. *Country Farm* 715 Birds which sing melodiously with sweet and pleasant songs. *a* 1711 KEN *Hymnotheo* Poet. Wks. 1721 I. 253 Ferventio's Song .. Instructive, and melodiously grave. 1810 SOUTHEY *Kehama* x. vii, Ganges..rippled round melodiously. 1903 *Blackw. Mag.* June 743/1 His melodiously delivered sermons..were distinctly popular.

Melodiousness mĭlō·diəsnės). [-NESS.] The quality of being melodious.

1530 PALSGR. 244/1 Melodyousnesse, *melodie.* 1727 in BAILEY vol. II. 1904 *Edin. Rev.* Jan. 116 Herrick owed most to his beloved 'Ben', whose full melodiousness emboldened his follower to rise above conceits.

Melodist (me·lǫdist). [f. MELODY + -IST.]

1. A singer.

In the first half of the 19th c. somewhat frequently used in the titles of collections of songs with music.

1789 *Trifler* No. 33. 419 Often I am constrained to listen to the broken notes of ignorant, but presumptuous melodists. 1817 (*title*) The Melodist..an excellent collection of .. songs. Selected and compiled by R. L. I. 1819 KEATS *Ode Grecian Urn* iii, Happy melodist, unwearied, For ever piping songs for ever new. 1840 SIR H. BISHOP in Grove *Dict. Mus.* III. 249, I hail the establishment of the Melodists' Club..as essentially calculated to aid the cause of the musical art in this country. 1852 HAWTHORNE *Blithedale Rom.* xxiii. (1885) 226 The choir of Ethiopian melodists. 1892 W. H. HUDSON *Natur. La Plata* 28 The rufous tinamou—sweet and mournful melodist of the eventide.

2. A composer of melodies; one skilled in melody.

1826 M. KELLY *Reminis.* I. 225, I compare a good melodist to a fine racer, and counterpointists to hack post horses. 1872 LOWELL *Milton* Prose Wks. 1890 IV. 66 Milton was a harmonist rather than a melodist. 1893 W. GRAHAM in *19th Cent.* Nov. 765 As an absolute melodist—I mean a master of word-music as distinct from other qualities—I consider Swinburne unequalled.

Melodium (mĭlō·diŭm). [A quasi-L. formation on MELODY.] = MELODEON 1.

1847 *Illustr. Lond. News* 7 Aug. 95/2 Pianos, melodiums, harmoniums, eolinas, &c., too dear at any price. 1878 GROVE *Dict. Mus.* I. 61 The instruments first made in America were known as 'Melodeons', or 'Melodiums'.

Melodize (me·lǫdaiz), *v.* [f. MELODY + -IZE.]

1. *intr.* To make melody; *occas.* somewhat jocularly, to play (*on* an instrument). Also *poet.* to blend melodiously *with.*

1662 J. SPARROW tr. *Behme's Rem. Wks., Apol. conc. Perfect.* 42 A Harmony of God, upon which the Spirit of God would melodise. 1794 SOUTHEY *Let. to H. Bedford* 24 Jan. in *Life* (1849) I. 203 Lightfoot still melodises on the flute. 1811 SCOTT *Roderick* Introd. ii, Yes! such a strain with all o'er-pouring measure, Might melodize with each tumultuous sound. 1813 SHELLEY *Q. Mab* VIII. 69 To murmur through the heaven-breathing groves And melodize with man's blest nature there. 1886 T. HARDY *Mayor Casterbr.* viii, As the Scotchman again melodised with a dying fall.

2. *trans.* To make melodious.

1759 J. LANGHORNE *Ode to River Eden* 44 Whose murmurs melodize my Song. 1766 H. WALPOLE *Let. to Lady Hervey* 11 Jan., Thy enchanting look Can melodize each note in Nature's book. 1841 D'ISRAELI *Amen. Lit.* II. 253 These repeated attempts of the learned English..to melodise our orthoepy. 1869 RUSKIN *Q. of Air* (1874) 60 Music in which the words and thought lead, and the lyre measures or melodizes them.

3. To compose a melody for (a song).

1881 DORAN *Drury Lane* II. 191 He penned and melodised hundreds of popular songs.

Hence **Me·lodized** *ppl. a.*, made melodious; **Me·lodizing** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.* Also **Me·lodizer,** one who melodizes.

1811 BUSBY *Dict. Mus.* Introd. 14 This art of *melodizing*, if I may so call it, seems in the present age to have reached its acmé. *a* 1821 KEATS *Sonn. on reading K. Lear* 3 O golden tongued Romance, with serene lute!..Leave melodizing on this wintry day. 1841 HOR. SMITH *Moneyed Man* III. ix. 240 Her bird-like singing is the melodised cheerfulness of her heart. 1890 *Temple Bar* Dec. 588 Romance! ..O golden melodizer of sweet dreams!

Melodram: see MELODRAME.

Melodrama (me·lǫdrāmă, melǫdrā·mă). [Alteration of MELODRAME, after DRAMA.]

1. In early 19th c. use, a stage-play (usually romantic and sensational in plot and incident) in which songs were interspersed, and in which the action was accompanied by orchestral music appropriate to the situations. In later use the musical element gradually ceased to be an essential feature of the 'melodrama', and the name now denotes a dramatic piece characterized by sensational incident and violent appeals to the emotions, but with a happy ending.

1809 SOUTHEY *Lett.* (1856) II. 181 They have made a melo-drama of 'Mary the Maid of the Inn'. 1818 C. E. WALKER *Sigesmar the Switzer* Pref., The following trifle was written two years back, during the rage for Melodramas. 1836 *Gentl. Mag.* Apr. 423 It [a 'comedietta'] is one of those tissues of domestic calamities..which..were a few years since denominated melodramas. 1883 D. COOK *Nts. Play* II. 333 Mr. Sims's 'Lights o' London', is a five-act melodrama of the good old Adelphi pattern.

attrib. 1879 STEVENSON *Trav. Cevennes, Cheylard & Luc*, The kitchen..was the very model of what a kitchen ought to be; a melodrama kitchen, suitable for bandits or noblemen in disguise.

b. The species of dramatic composition or representation constituted by melodramas; the mode of dramatic treatment characteristic of a melodrama.

1814 *New Brit. Theatre* I. 216 In tragedy and comedy the final event is the effect of the moral operations of the different characters, but in the melo-drama the catastrophe is the physical result of mechanical stratagem. 1838 DICKENS *Nich. Nick.* xxx, This Mr. Crummles did in the highest style of melo-drama. 1889 D. HANNAY *Capt. Marryat* viii. 122 Amine [in *The Phantom Ship*] is a very acceptable heroine of melodrama. 1902 *Daily Chron.* 22 Aug. 8/7 Melodrama thrives solely upon exaggeration.

2. *transf.* A series of incidents, or a story true or fictitious, resembling what is represented in a melodrama; also, in generalized sense, melodramatic behaviour, occurrences, etc.

1814 SIR R. WILSON *Priv. Diary* (1861) II. 306 The world will approve the catastrophe of the melodrama which metes out signal punishment to Joachim the first in the last act of his life. 1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* xii, She beheld..the old beggar who had made such a capital figure in the melo-drama of the preceding evening. 1854 EMERSON *Lett. & Soc. Aims, Immort.* Wks. (Bohn) III. 285 My idea of heaven is that there is no melodrama in it at all. 1891 J. LECKIE *Life & Relig.* 117 Open your eyes and look round you on the strange melodrama of life.

Melodramatic (melodrămæ·tik), *a.* [f. MELODRAMA, after DRAMATIC.] Of or pertaining to melodrama; having the characteristics of melodrama. Often in depreciative sense: Characterized by sensationalism and spurious pathos.

1816 *Edin. Rev.* XXVII. 79 This siege abounded in melodramatic situations. 1831 TRELAWNY *Adv. Younger Son* III. 218 Her melo-dramatic fury augmented to such a pitch ..that [etc.]. 1873 J. HANNAY in *Cornh. Mag.* Feb. 189 Sometimes his tragedy degenerates into the melodramatic. 1897 MARY KINGSLEY *W. Africa* 13 Whenever and however it may be seen, soft and dream-like in the sunshine, or melodramatic and bizarre in the moonlight, it is one of the most beautiful things the eye of man may see.

Melodramatical (melodrămæ·tikăl), *a. rare.* [f. MELODRAMATIC *a.* + -AL.] = MELODRAMATIC.

1890 in *Century Dict.*

Melodramatically, *adv.* [Formed as prec. + -LY².] In a melodramatic manner.

1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xiii, The Honourable Samuel Slumkey..melodramatically testified by gestures to the crowd, his ineffaceable obligations to the *Eatanswill Gazette*. 1873 'ANNIE THOMAS' *Two Widows* I. vii. 145 Whose manner had struck Gilbert as..melodramatically pretentious.

Melodramaticism (melodrămæ·tisiz'm). [f. MELODRAMATIC *a.* + -ISM.] Preference for what is melodramatic.

1878 T. SINCLAIR *Mount* 152 Their high art is nerve stretching, a kind of spiritual melodramaticism.

Melodramatist (melodræ·mătist). [f. MELODRAMA, after DRAMATIST.] A writer of melodramas.

1873 W. MATHEWS *Getting on in World* 27 Perils greater than any which the most daring romance writer or melodramatist ever imagined for his hero. 1883 *Contemp. Rev.* June 892 Shakespeare is..almost the first, and quite the greatest of English melodramatists.

Melodramatize (melodræ·mătəiz), *v.* [f. MELODRAMA, after DRAMATIZE. Cf. F. *mélodramatiser* (Daudet 1876).] *trans.* To make melodramatic; also, to convert the story of (a novel) into a melodrama. Hence **Melodra·matized** *ppl. a.*

1820 *Examiner* No. 613. 25/2 Booth's appearance in a melo-dramatised *Richard the Third*. *Ibid.*, Elliston .. melo-dramatised both *Richard the Third* and *Macbeth*. 1892 *Sat. Rev.* 29 Oct. 507/1 Webster melodramatizes and almost burlesques his theme by the introduction of physical terrors. 1900 *Academy* 21 July 54/1 His book was melodramatised very successfully for Mr. Benson.

Melodrame (me·lodræm), *sb.* Now *rare* or *Obs.* Also **melodram.** [a. F. *mélodrame* (1781 in Hatz.-Darm.), f. Gr. μέλο-ς song, music + F. *drame* DRAMA. Cf. Sp. *melodrama*, It. *melodramma*, G. *melodram* (from Fr.).]

1. = MELODRAMA 1, 1 b.

1802 *Sk. Paris* II. lxx. 390 Melo-drames and pieces connected with pantomime. 1803 in *Spirit Pub. Jrnls.* (1804) VII. 68 The Melo-drame, which was performed..upon the re-opening of this [the National] Theatre. 1814 *New Brit. Theat.* III. 255 (*Remarks on 'The Spaniards'; an Heroic Drama*") Had it [this piece] been condensed into three acts, and called a melo-dram, it might have, even in the opinion of the managers, served the interests of their concern [etc.]. 1815 HELEN M. WILLIAMS *Narr. Events France* xii. 254 Strangers seem to arrive in France, as they would go to a melo-drame, prepared for extraordinary events. 1818 LADY MORGAN *Autobiog.* (1859) 212 Shakspeare is supreme in melodrame, and he is its founder; and the melo-drame of Macbeth is finer than any modern exhibition which has followed it. 1825 *Gentl. Mag.* XCV. i. 362 The scenery, as usual in melo-drames, was very beautiful. 1835 J. P. KENNEDY *Horse Shoe R.* xxxiii. (1860) 372 It [the bugle] was displayed as ostentatiously as if worn by the hero of a melodrame. 1841 GEN. P. THOMPSON *Exerc.* (1842) VI. 186 Might not there be hope for the ministry, if it were to.. send its adherents to make progresses by threes and fours throughout the country, to 'solemn music' as the melo-drames have it.

2. *transf.* = MELODRAMA 2.

1817 LADY MORGAN *France* (1818) II. 346 To perform a subordinate part in this splendid melo-drame of the elements. 1822 BYRON *Vis. Judgem.* x, The torches, cloaks, and banners .. Form'd a sepulchral melodrame. 1842 J. STERLING *Ess.*, etc. (1848) I. 430 The ostentatious emptiness of the charitable melodrame. 1845 *Q. Rev.* LXXV. 234 All this melodram of Mullaghmast was but a prelude to a design of unmixed gravity.

† **Me·lodrame,** *v. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. the sb.] = MELODRAMATIZE *v.*

1836 *New Monthly Mag.* XLVII. 235 We have seldom read a novel more suited to be melodramed.

† **Melodramic,** *a. Obs. rare.* [f. MELODRAME + -IC.] = MELODRAMATIC *a.*

1852 *Blackw. Mag.* LXXI. 374 The public appetite is not to be sated..with mere melodramic romance.

Melody (me·lŏdi), *sb.* Also 4 **melodi, meloudie,** 4–6 **melodye,** 4–8 **melodie, 6 mellodie.** [a. OF. *melodie* (mod.F. *mélodie*), ad. late L. *melōdia*, a. Gr. *μελῳδία* singing, chanting, also 'a choral song, both words and air' (L. & Sc.), f. *μελῳδός* singing songs, musical, also as sb., lyric poet, f. *μέλ-ος* song + *ᾠδ-* contracted form of *ἀοιδ-*, ablaut-var. of *ἀείδ-ειν* to sing (cf. *ἀοιδός* singer, *ἀοιδή, ᾠδή* song, ODE).

In Eccl. Latin *melodia* was applied to the singing of the sequences, 'proses', or rhythmical hymns, and was also used as a general term for a Gregorian 'mode'. The word also occurs frequently in med.L. with the sense 'sweet sound', 'music' (cf. the frequent glosses, *dulcis cantus*, OHG. *suozsanc*, etc.); it was prob. influenced in meaning by etymologizing associations with *mel*, honey. It is now used in all the Rom. and Teut. langs.: cf. Sp. *melodía*, Pg., It. *melodia*, G. *melodie* (poet. *melodei*), Du. *melodie*, *melodij*, Da., Sw. *melodi*.]

1. Sweet music, whether vocal or instrumental; beautiful arrangement of musical sounds; beauty of musical sounds, tunefulness.

c 1290 *St. Christopher* 18 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 271 Þe kyng louede muche Melodie of fieþle and of songue. *a* 1300 *Leg. Rood* (1871) 28 Wiþ gret melodie of is harpe. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 7431 Gleuand he sang be-for þe king, And gert him wit his melodi Fal on-slepe. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Knt.'s T.* 2239 Thus with alle blisse and melodye Hath Palamon ywedded Emelye. *c* 1430 *Life St Kath.* (1884) 17 She herde a mer-ueylous melodye of swetnes which passed alle hertes to descriue. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 7 b, They shall ..se dayly theyr holy & blessed conuersacyon, & here theyr songe & melody. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* lii. 175 It was grete melody to here it. 1588 SHAKS. *Tit. A.* II. iii. 12 The Birds chaunt melody on euery bush. 1590 — *Mids. N.* II. ii. 13 Philomele with melodie, Sing in your sweet Lullaby. 1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* v. xxxviii. § 2 Dauid..was..the author of adding vnto poetrie melodie in publique prayer, melodie both vocall and instrumentall for the raysing vp of mens harts. 1604 R. CAWDREY *Table Alph.*, *Melody*, sweete sounding, or sweete musick. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VIII. 528 The melodie of Birds. 1728–46 THOMSON *Spring* 576 Lend me your song, ye nightingales; oh pour The mazy-running soul of melody Into my varied verse. 1819 SHELLEY *Prometh. Unb.* II. v. 77 Whilst all the winds with melody are ringing. 1870 EMERSON *Soc. & Solit., Art* Wks. (Bohn) III. 19 We are like the musician on the lake, whose melody is sweeter than he knows.

b. Phrase. *To make melody.* Now *arch.*

a 1330 *Otuel* 631 Þe king took otuwel a non, & to his paleis made him gon, & makeden murthe & melodie. *c* 1388 CHAUCER *Prol.* 9 Smale foweles maken melodye. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xv. 83 Make myrthe and melody. 1525 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* II. lxxxix. [lxxxv.] 264 They were ryght ioyous ..and made grete chere and melody. 1535 COVERDALE *Eph.* v. 19 Synginge and makynge melody vnto the Lorde in youre hertes. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VI* 108 To tel you..what melody was made in Tavernes..it were a long woorke. 1778 FLETCHER *Lett.* Wks. 1795 VII 222 Attempting to make such melody as you know is commonly made in these parts.

c. *transf.* 'Musical' quality, beauty of sound in the arrangement of words, *esp.* in poetical composition.

1789 BELSHAM *Ess.* I. xii. 224 [The] exquisite beauties of which blank verse is susceptible..are majesty, melody, and variety. 1871 SWINBURNE *Ess. & Stud.* (1875) 304 In the verse of neither is there that instant and sensible melody which comes only of a secret and sovereign harmony of the whole nature.

† 2. A song or other musical performance. *Obs.*

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 16/510 Al folk onoured al-so þe croiz ..With offringues and with song and with oþur melodies al-so. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xxv. 116 Þe mynstrallez begynnéz to do þaire melodys agayn. 1413 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton) II. xlvi. (1859) 52 Yellyng with a carful melodye. 1530 PALSGR. 244/1 Melody played in a mornynge, *reueil.*

3. A series of single notes arranged in musically expressive succession; a tune: = AIR *sb.* 19.

1609 DOULAND *Ornithop. Microl.* 31 The Melodie of the Verses in the answeres off the first Tone. 1752 AVISON *Mus. Express.* 67 By a Diversity of Harmonies, the Chain and Progression of Melodies is also finely supported. 1792 THOMSON *Let. to Burns* Sept., I have..employed many leisure hours in selecting and collating the most favourite of our national melodies for publication. 1806 CALLCOTT *Mus. Gram.* II. i. 85 A particular succession of single sounds forms a melody or Tune. 1819 KEATS *Grecian Urn* ii, Heard melodies are sweet, but those unheard Are sweeter. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. iii. 24 My guide kept in advance of me singing a Tyrolese melody.

b. The principal part in a harmonized piece of music; = AIR *sb.* 20.

1886 W. S. ROCKSTRO in Grove *Dict. Mus.* I. 761/2 Arrangements [of metrical psalms] with the melody, as usual, in the Tenor..published at Leyden in 1633.

c. *transf.* Applied to poems written to be sung to particular melodies. Also (*nonce-use*), a melodious poem or passage, an instance of verbal melody.

1807 MOORE (*title*) Irish Melodies. 1814 BYRON (*title*) Hebrew Melodies. 1842 W. CARLETON *Irish Peasantry* (1843) I. Introd. 4 The touching and inimitable Melodies of my countryman Thomas Moore. 1872 LOWELL *Milton* Writ. 1890 IV. 96 There are..some exquisite melodies (like the 'Sabrina Fair') among his earlier poems.

d. Applied to pictorial combinations of colour thought to be analogous in mental effect to melodies.

1830 GALT *Lawrie T.* III. v. (1849) 100 The rising sun was beginning to silver the leaves,..a visible melody,.. like the song of early birds. 1843 RUSKIN *Arrows of Chace* (1880) I. 23 [Turner's pictures] are studied melodies of exquisite colour. 1856 MCCOSH & DICKIE *Typical Forms* II. iii. 155 Colours are said to be in Melody when two contiguous tints..run insensibly into each other.

4. That element of musical form which consists in the arrangement of single notes in expressive succession; contradistinguished from *harmony.*

1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.*, Melody is the effect only of one single part, voice, or instrument. 1752 AVISON *Mus. Express.* Advt., Melody may be defined the Means or Method of ranging single musical Sounds in a regular Progression, either ascending or descending, according to the established Principles. 1782 BURNEY *Hist. Mus.* II. 155 Thus far Melody and Harmony..had been cultivated for the use of the church. 1880 C. H. H. PARRY in Grove *Dict. Mus.* II. 250 Melody is the general term which is vaguely used to denote successions of single notes which are musically effective.

† 5. A pretended name for a company of harpers.

1486 *Bk. St. Albans* F vj b, A melody of Harpers.

6. *Comb.*

1879 A. J. HIPKINS in Grove *Dict. Mus.* I. 667 The melody-attachment..has the effect of making the melody-note, or air, when in the highest part, predominate. 1876 STAINER & BARRETT *Dict. Mus. Terms*, *Melody Organ* or *Harmonium*, a harmonium so constructed that the upper note of the chords played is louder than the rest of the sounds.

Hence **Me·lodyless** *a.*, without melody.

1832 *Examiner* 213/2 Music..passionless, melodyless, unrememberable.

Melody (me·lŏdi), *v. rare.* [f. the sb. Cf. med.L. *melōdiāre*, OF. *melodier*.] *intr.* To make melody; to sing. Hence **Me·lodying** *vbl. sb.*

1596 FITZ-GEFFRAY *Sir F. Drake* (1881) 24 While with teares you sit melodying, Shee shall weepe with you, though she cannot sing. 1895 *Chamb. Jrnl.* XII. 748/2 He could hear something athwart the melodying which made him put his pipe away.

‖ **Meloe** (me·lo$_{1}$ī). *Ent.* [mod.L. *Meloē* (see quot. 1650), of unknown origin; applied by Linnæus as a generic name.

Paracelsus *Op.* (1603) III. 220 has (in a prescription) a genitive *melloes*, which Mouffet interprets as identical with this word. Cf. MELOLONTHA.]

The typical genus of the family *Meloïdæ*; an insect of this genus, an oil-beetle.

[1650 J. F. *Chym. Dict.*, *Melaones* or *Meloes* are Beetles that fly, and are of a golden colour, and being rubbed make a sweet smell; they are commonly found in Meadows in the moneth of May.] 1658 ROWLAND tr. *Mouffet's Theat. Ins.* II. xvii. 1080 Of the Gloworm, and the female Melo [orig. (1634) *De Cicindela, & Meloe Femina*]. *Ibid.*, The oyl Beetle or Meloe [orig. (1634) *Proscarabeum, sive Meloen*]. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XI. 376 Larvæ, which pass through the state of chrysalids in order to attain to that of meloes. 1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* IV. 226 Acrid plants, which the *Meloe* likewise feeds upon.

Melograph (me·lograf). [mod. f. Gr. μέλο-ς song + -GRAPH.] An apparatus for automatically recording music played on the organ or pianoforte.

The name was first given to an invention of Euler in the 18th c. (see Grove *Dict. Mus.* I. 499); subsequently to an electrical contrivance invented by J. Carpentier in 1887.

1888 *Sci. Amer.* 15 Dec. 376/3.

Melographic (melogræ·fik), *a.* [f. Gr. μέλο-ς song + -GRAPHIC.] (See quot.)

1863 *Jrnl. Soc. Arts* 16 Oct. 747/1 Electro-magnetic phonograph. This machine is capable of being attached to ..keyed musical instruments, by means of which they are rendered melographic, that is, capable of writing down any music that is played upon them.

Meloid (me·loid), *sb.* and *a.* [ad. mod.L. *Meloïdæ*, f. *Meloē*: see MELOE.] *a. sb.* Any member of the family *Meloïdæ* of parasitic insects.

b. *adj.* Pertaining to the *Meloïdæ*.

1878 RILEY in *Amer. Naturalist* XII. 218 A very interesting and anomalous Meloid (*Hornia minutipennis* Riley). *Ibid.* 290 What is known of the Larval Habits of other Meloid genera. 1881 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* V. 339 Another parasitic Meloïd..infesting the cells of Mason Bees.

Melologue (me·lolǫg). [f. Gr. μέλο-ς song + λόγος speech (see -LOGUE). Cf. F. *mélologue* (Berlioz 1832).] A musical composition, in which some of the verses are sung and others recited.

18.. MOORE *A Melologue upon National Music* Advt., It may not be superfluous to say, that by 'Melologue' I mean that mixture of recitation and music, which is frequently adopted in the performance of Collins's Ode on the Passions. 1881 SHEDLOCK in *Academy* 5 Nov. 354/2 Mr. Manns was.. fully justified in giving the work at a concert as a 'melologue', for in this he only followed the example of Berlioz himself.

‖ **Melolontha** (melolǫ·nthă). *Ent.* [mod.L. *mēlolontha*, ad. Gr. *μηλολόνθη* cockchafer.] A genus of lamellicorn beetles, typical of the family (or sub-family) *Melolonthidæ*, and including the common cockchafer, *M. vulgaris*. Hence **Melo-**

lo·nthian [+-IAN], **Melolo·nthidan** [+-ID+-AN], **Melolonthidian** [+-ID+-IAN] *adjs.*, belonging to the (sub) family *Melolonthidæ*; also *sbs.*, a beetle of this (sub) family; **Melolonthid** *a.*, pertaining to the *Melolonthidæ*; **Melolo·nthine** *a.*, pertaining to the genus Melolontha. (In recent Dicts.)

1706 PHILLIPS, *Melolontha*, the Beetle or May-bug; an Insect. 1842 T. W. HARRIS *Insects injur. Veget.* (1862) 30 We have several Melolonthians whose injuries in the perfect and grub state approach to those of the European cock-chafer. 1900 *Ibis* Apr. 240 A single melolonthid beetle.

Melomane (me·lomēn). [a. F. *mélomane*, f. Gr. *μέλος* song + *-μανής* mad: see -MANE.] = MELOMANIAC. 1890 in *Century Dict.*

Melomania (melomēi·niă). [ad. F. *mélomanie*, f. Gr. *μέλο-ς* song, music + *μανία* madness: see -MANIA.] A mania for music. Hence **Melomaniac**, one who has a craze for music.

1880 VERN. LEE *Stud. Italy* III. ii. 115 The Florentine aristocracy had the fashionable melomania to almost as great an extent as the Milanese. 1880 *Pall Mall Budget* 3 Dec. 10/2 M. Grévy is a melomaniac.

Melomanic (melomæ·nik), *a. rare.* [Formed as prec. + -IC.] Characterized by melomania.

1822 *New Monthly Mag.* VI. 391 Volunteers of promising ability might, in the present melomanic times, be abundantly procured.

Melomany. *rare*−°. = MELOMANIA. 1890 in *Century Dict.*

Melon[1] (me·lən). Forms: 4-6 melone, -oun, 6 millian, milon, myl(l)on, milion, mylyon, 6–7 mellon, millon, 7 millen, 6–8, 9 *dial.* million, 7 mealon, meloune, milleon, 5– melon. [a. F. *melon* = Sp. *melon*, Pg. *melão*, It. *melone*, ad. late L. *mēlōn-em*, *mēlo*, prob. a colloquial formation on the first element of L. *mēlopepo*: see MELOPEPON.]

1. A name common to several kinds of gourds, esp. the MUSK MELON, *Cucumis Melo*, and the WATER MELON, *Citrullus vulgaris*. (Applied both to the fruit and to the plant producing it.)

a 1387 *Sinon. Barthol.* (Anecd. Oxon.) 33/2 *Pepones*, melones. 1388 WYCLIF *Num.* xi. 5 Gourdis, and melouns [Vulg. *pepones*], and lekis,..comen in to mynde to vs. *c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 190 Do þerto seed of melonis maad clene. *c* 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* v. 94 Cucumber now is sowe; Melones, peletur, cappare, and leek. 1530 PALSGR. 245/1 Myllon a frute, *melon*. 1542 BOORDE *Dyetary* xxi. (1870) 285 Mylons doth ingender euyl humoures. 1563 HYLL *Art Garden.* (1593) 147 Melons, and all kindes of the Pompions, desire..the same earth and aire which the Citrones and Cucumbers doe. 1657 W. COLES *Adam in Eden* xcix, Citruls or Turkey Millions are of the same temperature as the Gourd. 1691 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2724/2 A piece of pure Gold in form of a Mellon. 1748 CHESTERF. *Let.* 13 Dec. Misc. Wks. 1777 II. 347 Could you send me..some seed of the right canteloupe melons? 1824 LOUDON *Encycl. Gard.* III. I. (ed. 2) 4208 *The pumpkin, pumpion*, or more correctly, *pompion*...This is the melon or millon of our early horticulturists, the true melon being formerly distinguished by the name of musk-melon. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* Conclus. 87 A raiser of huge melons and of pine. 1855 DELAMER *Kitch. Gard.* (1861) 118 A pretty little old-fashioned variety,—Queen Anne's Pocket Melon..produces green-fleshed well-flavoured fruit, the size of a large orange.

b. *Prickly melon*: the DURIAN.

1640 PARKINSON *Theat. Bot.* 1640 *Duriones*, the prickly fruitfull Melon. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* II. 83/1 The prickly Melon.

2. *Conch.* The shell of a mollusc of the genus *Melo*. Also *melon-shell*, *-volute* (see 4 d).

1840 SWAINSON *Malacology* 67.

3. A hemispherical mass of blubber taken from the top of the head of certain cetaceans.

1887 G. B. GOODE, etc. *Fisheries U. S.* Sect. v. II. 299 About 30 gallons of oil..being obtained from each fish, besides about 6 quarts of extra oil from the melon. The melons are taken from the top of the head [etc.].

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.* **a.** simple attributive, as *melon-bank*, *-bed*, *-flower*, *-frame*, *-garden*, *-ground*, *-harvest*, *-infusion*, *-leaf*, *-merchant*, *-monger*, *-patch*, *-pit*, *-plant*, *-plot*, *-seed*, *-vine*. **b.** parasynthetic, as *melon-formed*, *-shaped* adjs. **c.** similative, as *melon-yellow* adj. **d.** Special Comb.: **melon-beetle**, a beetle of the genus *Diabrotica*, esp. *D. vittata* and *D. duodecimpunctata*, injurious to melons (Webster 1897 and *Suppl.* 1902); **melon-blubber** = MELON[1] 3 (*Cent. Dict.*); **melon-cactus** = MELOCACTUS; **melon-caterpillar**, the larva of an American moth, *Phacellura* (*Eudioptis*) *hyalinata*, destructive to melons; † **melon-feast**, a rustic gathering at which prizes were offered for the finest melons; **melon-fruit**, the papaw, *Carica Papaya*, called also Tree-Melon (Bartlett *Dict. Amer.* 1859); **melon-hood**, a kind of fungus, *Hygrophorus pratensis*; **melon-oil**, the oil of the melon of a cetacean; † **melon-pompion** (*obs.*), **melon-pumpkin**, *Cucurbita maxima* or *C. Melopepo*; **melon-seed bodies** *Path.* (see quot. 1890); **melon-shell** = sense 2; **melon-thick** (*W. Indian*), **melon-thistle** = MELOCACTUS; **melon-tree**, the papaw (*Cassell's Encycl. Dict.* 1885); **melon-volute**, a melon-shell; **melon-ware** (see quot.); **melon-wood**, a yellow Mexican wood, which resembles sanders-wood, used for furniture (*Treas. Bot.* 1866); **melon-worm** = *melon-caterpillar* (*Cent. Dict.* 1890).

1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* (1721) II. 174 They thrive best..in such places as they have not grown in before, especially on the sides of *Melon Banks. 1622 MABBE tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* I. (1630) 25, I call my selfe his sonne,..since that from that *Mellon-bed I was made legitimate by the holy right of Matrimony. 1794 M'PHAIL *Cult. Cucumber* 83 The seeds are sown some time about the middle of April in a cucumber or melon bed. 1857 A. GRAY *First Less. Bot.* (1866) 47 In *Melon-Cactuses..with their globular or bulb-like shapes. 1885 *Riverside Nat. Hist.* (1888) II. 444 The *melon-caterpillar, *Eudioptis hyalinata*, which occurs throughout the greater portions of North America and South America. 1826 MISS MITFORD *Village* Ser. II. 4 Lending his willing aid in waiting and entertaining..at pink-feasts and *melon-feasts. 1845 BROWNING *Home Thoughts*, The buttercups, the little children's dower—Far brighter than this gaudy *melon-flower! 1819 *Hermit in London* III. 170 Her *melon-formed head and double chin. 1793 *Trans. Soc. Arts* XI. 120 Over the whole, [I] placed a large *melon-frame. ?a 1642 KILLIGREW *Parson's Wedd.* v. i. (1663) 138 One of the Watermen is gone to the *Mellon Garden. 1733 MILLER *Gard. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Melonry* or *Melon-ground. 1774 *Heroic Epist. to Sir W. Chambers* (ed. 13) 9 From his melon-ground the peasant slave Has rudely rush'd. 1849 M. ARNOLD *Strayed Reveller* 24 Worms I' the unkind spring have gnaw'd Their *melon-harvest to the heart. 1887 RAY *Brit. Fungi* 99 *Hygrophorus pratensis*, the *Melon-hood. 1881 TYNDALL *Ess. Floating Matter Air* 173 The tubes in one of the chambers containing *melon-infusion had become rapidly turbid. 1868 BROWNING *Ring & Bk.* I. 98 A broad *melon-leaf. 1727 S. SWITZER *Pract. Gard.* II. vii. 55 Good glasses, without which the *melon-merchant can't effect his purpose. 1622 MABBE tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf* II. 59, I am like a *Melon-mongers Knife cutting here a slice and there a slice. 1887 G. B. GOODE, etc. *Fisheries U. S.* Sect. v. II. 309 The *melon oil of the blackfish. 1838 GOSSE in E. Gosse *Life* (1890) 136 At length we reached the *melon-patch. 1824 LOUDON *Encycl. Gard.* III. I. (ed. 2) § 2684 Knight's *melon-pit,..which may also be applied to the culture of cucumbers. 1739 MILLER *Gard. Dict.* II. s. v. *Melo*, The Papers..may be used for covering your *Melon-plants. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* (1586) 63 When they grow rounde, they are *Melon-pompeons. 1840 PAXTON *Bot. Dict.*, *Melon-pumpkin* see *Cucurbita Melopepo*. *c* 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* IV. 176 Now *melon seed too foote atwene is sette. 1879 *St. George's Hosp. Rep.* IX. 261 An incision was made into the..tumour,..and a quantity of clear fluid containing numbers of 'melon-seed' bodies pressed out. 1890 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Melon seed bodies*, small, white, or brownish-looking bodies resembling melon seeds in shape. They are found in the sheaths of tendons which have been inflamed and in adventitious..bursæ. 1832 LINDLEY *Introd. Bot.* 374 *Melon-shaped, irregularly spherical, with projecting ribs; as the stem of Cactus melocactus: a bad term. 1840 SWAINSON *Malacology* 100 The pre-eminently typical volutes, or *melon-shells. 1864 GRISEBACH *Flora W. Ind.* 785 *Melon-thick, *Melocactus communis*. 1731–3 MILLER *Gard. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Melocactus*..*Melon-Thistle. The whole Plant hath a singular Appearance. 1763 MILLS *Syst. Pract. Husb.* IV. 182 The *melon vines will waste themselves by running out in length. 1840 SWAINSON *Malacology* 99 The truncated and wide-mouthed helmet-shells, among the *Muricidæ*, find their prototypes in the *melon volutes. 1883 SOLON *Art O. Eng. Potter* 101 The pieces upon which this fruit was introduced all went by the name of *melon-ware, and so were styled also the generality of pieces mottled green and yellow. 1773 *Phil. Trans.* LXIII. 391 An Anemone, whose limbs are of the *melon-yellow colour.

‖ **Melon**[2] (mī·lɒn). *Path.* [= F. *melon*, a. Gr. *μῆλον* apple, protuberance of the eye (Paulus Ægineta).] A kind of exophthalmus or staphyloma.

1676 J. COOKE *Marrow Chirurg.* 713 If the protuberance be..great, 'tis called *Staphyloma*...If it thrust out more, that it over-reaches the Eye-lid, 'tis called *Melon*, like an Apple hanging by the Stalk. 1802 TURTON *Med. Gloss.*, *Melon*..a protuberance of the ball of the eye from its socket. 1890 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

Melon[3] (me·lən). *Australian.* Short for PADDYMELON. Also *attrib.*, in *melon-hole*.

1847 LEICHHARDT *Jrnl.* iii. 77 The shallow depressions of the surface of the ground, which are significantly termed by the squatters 'melon-holes'. 1898 MORRIS *Austral Eng.*, *Melon*. Besides its botanical use, the word is applied in Australia to a small kangaroo, the *Paddy-melon*. *Melon-hole*, a kind of honey-combing of the surface in the interior plains, dangerous to horsemen, ascribed to the work of the Paddy-melon...The name is often given to any similar series of holes, such as are sometimes produced by the growing of certain plants.

Melon, variant of MELLONE *Chem.*

Melongena (melɒndʒī·nă). Also 8 melinzane, 9 melangeno. [a. mod.L. *melongēna*, It. *melanzana*: for the history of the word see BRINJAL.] The mad-apple or egg-plant, *Solanum Melongena*.

1775 R. CHANDLER *Trav. Asia M.* (1825) I. 341 The garden furnished..a species of fruit called melinzane. 1785 MARTYN *Rousseau's Bot.* xvi. (1794) 202 Melongena or Mad-Apple, is also of this genus. 1819 *Banquet* 91 From Iceland lichens, and St. Kitt's tomato; From Cuba melangeno and potato.

‖ **Meloniere.** *Obs.* [F. *melonnière*, f. *melon* MELON[1].] A melonry.

1658 EVELYN *Fr. Gard.* (1675) 138 Heaped up together in some place near your meloniere. 1718 J. LAWRENCE *Fruit-g. Kalendar* 60 To see what his Servants have been doing in other Parts of the Kitchen-Garden, Meloniere, &c.

Meloniform (mĭlo·nifɔ̄im), *a. Bot.* [ad. mod.L. type **mēlōniform-is*, f. *mēlōn-*, *mēlo*, MELON[1] + *form-a*: see -FORM.] Melon-shaped.

1866 *Treas. Bot.*, *Melon-shaped*, *Meloniform*, irregularly spherical, with projecting ribs.

Melonist (me·lönist). [f. MELON[1] + -IST.] One who cultivates melons.

1669 *Phil. Trans.* IV. 901 Concerning his way of ordering Melons; now communicated in English for the satisfaction of several curious Melonists in England. 1727 S. SWITZER *Pract. Gard.* II. vi. 49 At their first coming into England, there were but two kinds that our melonists..took notice of.

Melonite (me·lönəit). *Min.* [Named by F. A. Genth in 1868 after the Melonese mine, Calaveras Co., Cal., its locality.] Nickel telluride, of a reddish-white colour.

1868 GENTH in *Amer. Jrnl. Sci.* Ser. II. XLV. 313 Melonite, a new mineral, Ni_2 Te_3 ?, hexagonal.

Melonry (me·lənri). [f. MELON[1] + -RY.] A place for the cultivation of melons.

1727 S. SWITZER (*title*) Practical Kitchen Gardiner, or System for Employment in the Melonry, Kitchen Garden, and Potagery. 1824 LOUDON *Encycl. Gard.* (ed. 2) § 2479 The situation of the melonry is generally in the slip.

† **Melo·pepon.** *Obs.* [ad. L. *mēlopepon-em*, *-pepo*, a. Gr. *μηλοπέπων*, f. *μῆλο-ν* apple + *πέπων* a kind of gourd (orig. an ellipt. use of *πέπων* ripe). In the quots. *melopepones* may be the Latin plural.] A kind of melon.

1555 EDEN *Decades* 81 An other frute..in tendernes equal to melopepones. 1705 BEVERLEY *Hist. Virginia* iv. (1722) 124 Their Macocks are a sort of Melopepones, or lesser sort of Pompion. 1727 BAILEY vol. II, Melopepon.

Melophone (me·lofōun). [f. Gr. *μέλο-ς* song, music + *φωνή* sound.] **a.** = *melophonic guitar*. **b.** A kind of accordion.

1859 WRAXALL tr. *R. Houdin* xii. 169 The melophone, a species of accordion recently invented. 1879 A. J. HIPKINS in Grove *Dict. Mus.* I. 667 The only maker of melophones in 1855. 1883 *Ibid.* III. 97 Regondi..on the former of these tours [in 1841]..played both the guitar and the melophone (whatever that may have been).

Melophonic (melofo·nik), *a.* [Formed as prec. + -IC.] **a.** In *melophonic guitar* (see quot. 1842). **b.** Used, app. with the sense 'musical', in the title of a society founded in 1837 (see quot. 1880).

1842 *Mech. Mag.* XXXVII. 160 The Melophonic Guitar, is the very appropriate name of a new instrument which was introduced to the musical public, a few days ago, by the inventor, M. Barelli. 1880 MACKESON in Grove *Dict. Mus.* II. 252 The Melophonic Society, established 1837, 'for the practice of the most classical specimens of choral and other music,' by band and choir.

Melophonist (me·lofōunist). *rare*−[1]. [Formed as prec. + -IST.] A melodist.

1847 THACKERAY *Dinner in the City* iii. Wks. 1898 VI. 560 Here, as in the case of the Hebrew melophonists, I would insinuate no wrong thought.

Melopiano (melopiæ·no). [f. Gr. *μέλο-ς* song, melody + PIANO.] (See quots.)

1876 STAINER & BARRETT *Dict. Mus. Terms*, *Melopiano*, an invention by which sustained sounds can be produced on a pianoforte. 1880 A. J. HIPKINS in Grove *Dict. Mus.* II. 252 *Melopiano*, a grand piano with a *sostinente* attachment, the invention of Signor Caldera.

Meloplast (me·loplæst). [a. F. *méloplaste*, f. Gr. *μέλο-ς* song, music + *πλαστής* moulder, f. *πλάσσειν* to mould.] (See quot.)

1820 *Ann. Reg.* II. 1365 M. Galin..has lately introduced a new instrument for teaching music, called the *meloplast*. M. Galin's ingenious method consists in making his pupils sing from a stave, without either clefs or notes, according to the movements of a portable rod.

Meloplasty (me·loplæsti). *Surg.* [f. Gr. *μῆλο-ν* apple, in late Gr. used poet. for 'cheek' (perh. through influence of the L. *māla*) + *-πλαστος* moulded + -Y.] The operation of restoring a cheek which has been injured or destroyed by grafting new tissue. Hence **Meloplastic**, of or pertaining to meloplasty (Dunglison *Med. Lex.* 1857).

1883 HOLMES & HULKE *Syst. Surg.* (ed. 3) III. 681 Plastic Operations on the Cheek (Meloplasty).

‖ **Melopœïa** (melopī·ïă). *Antiq.* [a. Gr. *μελοποιία*, f. *μελοποιός* maker of songs, f. *μέλο-ς* song + *ποι-*, *ποιεῖν* to make.] The art of composing melodies; the part of dramatic art concerned with music.

1759 SIR F. H. E. STILES in *Phil. Trans.* LI. 698 By this school harmonic was divided into these seven parts; 1. of sounds..7. of melopœia. 1776 BURNEY *Hist. Mus.* I. v. 65 Of Melopœia. 1878 *N. Amer. Rev.* CXXVI. 51 This part of a drama, called the *melopœia*, is ranged by Aristotle on a level with the diction.

† **Melote.** *Obs.* Also 6 melotte. [ad. L. *mēlōta*, *mēlōtē*, a. Gr. *μηλωτή* sheepskin.] A garment made of skins, worn by monks.

1491 CAXTON *Vitas Patr.* (W. de W. 1495) I. xxxvi. 37 b/2 Nexte his flesshe he ware the hayre; and ther upon a vestement of hayre namyd Melote. *Ibid.* II. 196 b/2 He asked of them where theyr melotes were; that is to saye theyr habytes made of skynnes that they were wont to be clothed withall. *a* 1529 SKELTON *Col. Cloute* 866 Some walke aboute in melottes [cf. Vulg. Hebr. xi. 37 *circuierunt in melotis*], In gray russet and heery cotes.

Melo-tra·gedy. *rare.* [f. Gr. *μέλο-ς* song + TRAGEDY.] A tragedy in which songs occur; an operatic tragedy.

Alfieri called his play of *Abel* a 'tramelogedia', inserting *melo-* in the middle of *tragedia*, to express the intimate mixture of the lyric and dramatic element in the piece.

1818 HOBHOUSE *Hist. Illustr. Ch. Har.* etc. (ed. 2) 402 He [Alfieri] composed a sort of drama, altogether new, which he called a melo-tragedy. 1905 *Westm. Gaz.* 7 Mar. 2/3 Michael Faraday, according to tradition, would leave his investigations at the sound of the pan-pipes and see the melo-tragedy [Punch and Judy] once more.

Hence **Melotra·gic** *a.*

1872 C. KING *Mountain. Sierra Nev.* ix. 193 Nothing more effectually banishes a melotragic state of mind, than the obtrusive ugliness..of this plant.

Melotrope (me·lǒtrōup). [f. Gr. *μέλο-s* song, melody + *τροπή* turning.] A piano fitted with a mechanical device for automatically reproducing a piece of music by means of a melograph stencil.

1888 *Sci. American* 15 Dec. 376/3 The melotrope is merely mechanical in its operation, and is intended, as far as possible, to imitate the motion of the fingers in playing upon the keys of the instrument.

Melotto, Meloun(e, obs. ff. MULATTO, MELON.

Melow(e, Melowe, obs. ff. MEAL *sb.*[1], MELLOW *a.*

† **Mel-pell,** *adv. Obs.* [a. OF. *melle pelle*, inversion of *pelle-melle*] = PELL-MELL.

a 1600 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* VIII. ix. § 5 Theodosius..slew mel-pell both guilty and innocent, to the number of 7000.

† **Melpo·menish,** *a. Obs.* [f. *Melpomenē*, the Muse who presided over tragedy + -ISH.] Tragic.

1801 SURR *Splendid Misery* II. 170 Why so melpomonish, Julia?

† **Melrose.** *Obs.* [ad. pharmaceut. L. *mel rosæ* honey of the rose.] A preparation composed of powdered rose-leaves with honey and alcohol.

1790 FORDYCE *On Muriatic Acid* 8 What I used was a mixture of mel-rose with sixteen drops of the muriatic acid.

Melsh, melch (melʃ), *a.* Now *dial.* Also 4 melsch, 5 melissche. [Perh. repr. OE. *mælsc, mylsc, *mielisc* mellow (in *melsc æppla*, mellow apples), ?cogn. w. Goth. (*ga*)*malwjan* to crush. The OE. word seems to have been confused with *milisc* honeyed, cogn. w. Goth. *miliþ* honey. Cf. MULSH.] Mellow, soft, tender. Of weather: Mild and 'soft'.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. cxvi. (1495) 679 In grounde that is melch and sondy [*MS. Bodl. E. Mus.* melissche, L. *in terra leni sabulosa*]. 1737 J. BROADHEAD in *N. & Q.* 8th Ser. (1895) VII. 405/1 Very fine melch weather. 1874 E. WAUGH *Chimney Corner* (1879) 113 Nice melch mak o' a mornin'.

Comb. 1647 TRAPP *Comm. Tit.* i. 13 A metaphor from Chyrurgeons, who must not be melch-hearted, saith Celsus, but pare away the dead flesh. 1782 ELIZ. BLOWER *Geo. Bateman* II. 111 'Dad', (said the glassman .. pulling out his pocket-handkerchief) 'I didn't used to be so melch-hearted.

Hence † **Melshhead, -hood,** ripeness.

a 1325 *Prose Psalter* cxviii. [cxix.] 147 Ich com forþe in melshede [*v.r.* melschhode, Vulg. *præveni in maturitate*].

† **Melt,** *sb.*[1] *Obs.* [Fr., a. Mexican *metl.*] = MAGUEY.

1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. i. 1. *Eden* 606 There mounts the Melt [Fr. *Là se pousse le Melt*] which serves in Mexico For weapon, wood, needle, and thread (to sowe).

† **Melt,** *sb.*[2] *Obs.* (See quot.)

1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* II. 177/1 Melt of Sheep, an abundance of Blood which must be taken from them.

Melt (melt), *sb.*[3] [f. MELT *v.*[1]]

1. Phr. *On the melt*: in the process of melting.

1897 BLACKMORE in *Blackw. Mag.* Sept. 362 The rush of two streams into one another, both being buxom with snow on the melt.

2. Metal or other substance in a melted condition.

1854 *Pharmac. Jrnl.* XIII. 432 The 'melt' obtained in the manufacture of Ferrocyanide of Potassium. 1868 WHITMAN *To Working Men* 6 Iron works..men around feeling the melt with huge crowbars. 1886 E. KNECHT tr. *Benedikt's Coal-tar Colours* 216 Melting with caustic acid...The melt is then allowed to cool.

3. A quantity of metal melted at one operation.

1886 *Rep. Sec. of Treasury* 175 (Cent.) 12,867 melts of ingots were made for coinage during the year. 1890 HIORNS *Mixed Metals* 309 The 75,000 ounces of gold were divided into 14 'melts' of 5,400 ounces each, and each melt separately toughened. 1904 *Internat. Libr. Technol., Specif.* 61 *Melt*, a charge of metal placed in a cupola or pot for melting. The product of such a charge is also called a melt.

4. The quantity melted within a certain period.

1903 *Daily Rec. & Mail* 28 Dec. 2/3 The melt of this class of iron, especially in Scotland, has been exceptionally heavy.

Melt (melt), *v.*[1] *Pa. t.* **melted.** *Pa. pple.* **melted, molten.** Forms: 1 melt-, mielt-, milt-, myltan, 2–3 mealten, melten, 3 i-multen, *Orm.* melltenn, 3–6 melte, 4 meelte, 4–5 malt(e, 4–6 mylt(e, (5 molte, multe, 6 mealt, moult), 4– melt. *Pa. t.* 1 mealt (*pl.* multon), (ȝe)melte, 3–5 malt(e, 4 meltit, moltid, 5 meltid, 5–6 molte, 6 moulte, molted, 6–melted. *Pa. pple.* 1 ȝemolten, ȝemylted, 3 imealt, imelte, imolte, 4 meltid(e, meltyn, moltid, multen, mylt, 4–5 moltyn(e, 4–6 molte, 5 molton, moltynnyd, multyn, 5–7 melt, 6 melten, molted, *arch.* ymolt, 5–7 molt, moult, 7 moulten, 8 *arch.* ymolten, 4– molten, 6– melted. [Originally two distinct vbs.: (1) the intransitive strong vb. OE. *meltan* (pa. t. *mealt*, pl. *multon*, pa. ppl. *gemolten*); (2) the weak vb. (causative of the former) OE. *mieltan, myltan* (:—prehistoric **mealtjan*, **malljan*) corresponding to ON. *melta* to digest, to malt (grain), Goth. **maltjan* to dissolve, whence *gamalteins* vbl. sb., dissolution (transl. of *ἀνάλυσις* 2 Tim. iv. 6). In OE. the strong vb. was always intransitive; the weak vb. was normally transitive, but sometimes intransitive. In ME. the strong and weak inflexions were used indiscriminately, the former becoming gradually less frequent. In the 16th c. the strong pa. t. (in the form *molte*, from the analogy of the pa. pple.) was used *poet.* by a few writers, but was not generally current. The strong pa. pple. is now only poet. and rhetorical exc. as adj. (see MOLTEN *ppl. a.*), and even in that use is merely literary.

The root OTeut. **melt-* (: **malt-* : **mult-*), whence also MALT *sb.*, represents an Indogerm. **meld-* (: **mold-* : **mld-*), whence Gr. *μέλδειν* to melt, Skr. *mṛdu* soft, L. *mollis*. It is prob. a variant of OTeut. *smelt-* (:—Indogerm. **smeld-*): see SMELT *v.*]

I. Intransitive senses.

1. To become liquefied by heat. *To melt away*: be destroyed or wasted by being melted.

Beowulf 3011 Ne scel anes hwæt meltan mid þam modigan. *a* 900 *O. E. Martyrol.* 9 Mar. 38 Þa on niht com leoht of heofonum swa hat swa sunne bið on sumera, ond þæt is ȝemelte, ond þæt wæter weard wearm. *c* 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Th.) lvii. 7 Swa weax melteð. *a* 1225 *Juliana* 20 His mod feng to heaten ant his meari to melten [*Bodl. MS.* mealten]. *c* 1290 *St. Christopher* 200 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 277 Þo he was i-leid þar-on, As wex þat gredile malt awei. 1382 WYCLIF *Exod.* xvi. 21 Whanne the sunne bigan to heet, it moltid [1530 TINDALE, it moulte]. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 355 Whanne þat frost gan to þawe and to melte [*v.rr.* multe, molte, mylte]. *c* 1450 *Two Cookery-bks.* 86 Take faire grece..and sette ouer þe fyre til hit mylte. *c* 1460 *Launfal* 740 Hyt malt as snow ayens the sunne. 1575 GASCOIGNE *Fruits of Warre* xlviii, *Flowers* 123 Whose greace hath molt all caffed as it was. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 206 When the snow melts from the Mountaines. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* s.v. *Metals*, When the copper and arsenic are mixed, the tin is to be put in; this soon melts. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* II. iii. 241 Ice before it melts attains a temperature of 30° Fahr.

b. In jocular hyperbole: To perspire excessively, to suffer extreme heat.

1787 COLMAN *Inkle & Yarico* III. i, A..black boar..came down the hill in a jog trot! My master melted as fast as a pot of pomatum. 1820 KEATS *Lett., to Miss F. Brawne* Mar. (1895) 476, I have no need of an enchanted wax figure to duplicate me, for I am melting in my proper person before the fire.

2. To become disintegrated, liquefied, or softened, e.g. by the agency of moisture; to be dissolved. *To melt in the mouth*: said of articles of food that are extremely tender. † In OE. of food: To be digested.

a 1000 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 235/33 *Fatiscit,..dissolnitur,* ..mylt. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 196 Late mylt hryþeres flæsc. 1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 16 The clottes kepe the wheate warme all wynter, and at Marche they wyll melte and breake, and fal in manye small peces. 1693 EVELYN *De La Quint. Compl. Gard., Melons* 1 [Melons] which be..dry, yet melting in the Mouth. 1852 MRS. STOWE *Uncle Tom's C.* iv. 19 Can she make your real flecky paste, as melts in your mouth and lies all up like a puff?

† **b.** Of the body: To undergo corruption, to waste *away*. *Obs.*

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 76/198 A slouȝ feuere..made is bodi to melte a-wei. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* VII. lxvi. (1495) 283 He that is bytten of a Cokatryce meltyth and swellyth and castyth venym and deyeth sodaynly.

c. Of clouds, vapour: To dissolve, be evaporated or dispersed; to break or dissolve *into* rain.

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kut.* 2080 Mist muged on þe mor, malt on þe mountez. 1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* II. vii. 98 A great aboundance of vapours from the Earth and Ocean..melt into water. 1814 BYRON *Lara* II. i, The vapours round the mountains curl'd Melt into morn, and Light awakes the world. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. xiv. 96 The dense clouds which had crammed the gorge..melted away. 1873 BLACK *Pr. Thule* xxiv, The clouds had melted into a small and chilling rain.

d. To vanish, disappear.

1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* III. iii. 37 With shriekes She melted into Ayre. 1611 — *Cymb.* I. iii. 20, I would haue.. followed him, till he had melted from The smalnesse of a Gnat, to ayre. 1852 MRS. STOWE *Uncle Tom's C.* xiv. 123 When caught, she melted from them again like a summer cloud.

3. Of a person, his 'soul' or 'heart', feelings, etc.

† **a.** To be overwhelmed with dismay or grief.

The idiom is app. native, though the examples in the versions of the Bible are literal translations from the Hebrew.

c 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Th.) lxx. 8 Þonne me mægen and mod mylte on hreðre, ne forlæt þu me, lifiende God. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 434, & sebbe sike i & sing samen to-gedere, & melt neiȝh for mournyng & moche ioie make. ?*a* 1366 CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 276 She is in so greet turment..whan folk doth good, That nigh she melteth for pure wood. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxxviii. (*Adrian*) 470 Þat his hart for dred suld melt. 1546 J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* (1867) 75 My herte for wo molte. 1560 BIBLE (Genev.) *Ps.* cxix. 28 My soule melteth [1535 COVERDALE, melteth away] for heauines. 1611 BIBLE *Josh.* ii. 11 Our hearts did melt.

b. To become softened by compassion, or love; to yield to entreaty; to 'dissolve' *in* or *into* tears.

c 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 145 Þat hie mihte nexxin and mealten and nt-sanden sume tear. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 110 Þet on was his moderes wop, & þe oðres Maries, þæt fleoweden & melten al of teares. 13.. *Cristene-mon & Jew* 97 (Vern. MS.) Þe cristen mon mildely gon malt. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* IV. 339 (367) Troylus, þat felte His frend Pandare y-comen hym to se Gan as þe snow a-yen þe sonne melte. 1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* xvi. (Percy Soc.) 71 Harde is the heart that no love hath felt Nor for to love wyl than encline and melt. 1563 SACKVILLE *Induct.* lxxviii. in *Mirr. Mag.* R iv b, My hart so molte to see his griefe so great. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. ii. 22 Melting in teares, then gan shee thus lament. 1595 SHAKS. *John* v. ii. 47 My heart hath melted at a Ladies teares. 1637 MILTON *Lycidas* 163 Look homeward Angel now, and melt with ruth. 1647 SPRIGGE *Anglia Rediv.* II. ii. (1854) 80 And the governor so far melted as to send forth Tom Elliot in haste. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 104 P 7 She melted into a Flood of Tears. 1857 READE *Course True Love* 178 His resolve melted at this. 1862 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* XIV. viii. (1872) V. 249 Each had his own causes of regret, and each melted into tears. 1888 BURGON *Lives* 12 *Gd. Men* I. III. 341 At sight of the dusty..urchins, his heart evidently melted.

c. *To melt away*: To be 'dissolved' in ecstasy.

1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 159 P 2 (*Vis. Mirza*), My Heart melted away in secret Raptures. 1746 COLLINS *Ode to Pity* vii, There let me oft, retir'd by day In dreams of passion melt away. *a* 1761 CAWTHORN *Poems* (1771) 58 How weak fair faith and virtue prove When Eloisa melts away in love!

4. To waste away, become gradually smaller; to dwindle. Now chiefly with *away*. † Occas. of a swelling, *to melt down*.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 268 Herdeliche ileueð þet al þe deofles strencðe melteð þuruh þe grace of þe holi sacrament. *a* 1225 *St. Marher.* 6 Þi mihte schal unmuchelin ant melten to riht noht. *a* 1250 *Prov. Ælfred* 385 in *O. E. Misc.* 126 And vyches cunnes mædmes to mise schulen i-Multen. *a* 1400 *St. Erkenwolde* 158 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 269 He has not layne here so longe, to loke hit by kynde, To malte so out of memorie. *c* 1586 C'TESS PEMBROKE *Ps.* CVII. ix, Their might doth melt, their courage dies. 1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* III. xiii. 90 Authority melts from me of late. 1629 MILTON *Hymn Nativ.* 138 Leprous sin will melt from earthly mould, And Hell it self will pass away. 1665 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (1677) 166 His huge Army melted away, and quickly became less numerous. 1762 R. GUY *Pract. Obs. Cancers* 156 By Degrees the hard Tumour entirely melted down. 1794 BURKE *Corr.* (1844) IV. 213 The body of his party is melting away very fast. 1818 BYRON *Ch. Har.* IV. xii, Nations melt From power's high pinnacle, when they have felt The sunshine for a while. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xiii. III. 377 The host which had been the terror of Scotland melted fast away. 1860 READE *Cloister & H.* lxxviii. (1896) 223 While her heart was troubled, her money was melting. 1891 *Leeds Mercury* 27 Apr. 5/2 There was a surplus of fifty-seven million dollars when President Harrison took office, and it has all melted away. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 279 Tumours in muscle, which will wholly melt away under the influence of iodide of potassium, are sometimes [etc.].

b. *slang.* Of money: To be spent on drink. (Cf. 13.)

1765 FOOTE *Commissary* I. i, Give him the sixpence; there, there, lay it out as you will. *Coachm.* It will be to your health, mistress; it shall melt at the Meuse, before I go home.

5. To filter in, become absorbed *into*. Also *fig.*

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1566, & make þe mater to malt my mynde wyth-inne. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. ix. 31 His subtile tong like dropping honny mealt'h Into the heart, and searcheth every vaine. 1776 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* ii. I. 40 It was by such institutions that the nations of the empire insensibly melted away into the Roman name and people. 1821 SHELLEY *Epipsych.* 110 Like fiery dews that melt Into the bosom of a frozen bud.

6. Of sound: To be soft and liquid.

1626, etc. [see MELTING *ppl. a.* 1c]. 1713 YOUNG *Force Relig.* I, She clasps her lord, brave, beautiful, and young. While tender accents melt upon her tongue. 1792 S. ROGERS *Pleas. Mem.* II. 38 With rapt ear drink the enchanting serenade, And as it melts along the moonlight-glade [etc.].

7. To pass by imperceptible degrees *into* something else.

1781 COWPER *Retirement* 424 DOWNS..That melt and fade into the distant sky. 1820 W. IRVING *Sketch Bk., Rip Van Winkle* P 2 Where the blue tints of the upland melt away into the fresh green of the nearer landscape. 1865 J. THOMSON *Sunday up River* III. ii, The vague vast grey Melts into azure dim on high.

II. Transitive senses.

8. To reduce to a liquid condition by heat.

a 1000 *Elene* 1311 (Gr.) Gold..þurh ofnes fyr eall ȝeclænsod amered & ȝemylted. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 366 Nim leon ȝelynde & heortes mearȝ mylt & ȝemeng tosomne. *c* 1200 ORMIN 17415, & badd he shollde meltenn brass & geten himm a neddre. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 284 Þe caliz was imelt iðe fure & stroncliche iwelled. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* V. 10 The goldtressed Phebus heighe on lofte Thries hadde al with his bemes clere The snowes molte. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xx. (*Blasius*) 237 Þe presydent with fellone will gert melt leyd in fusione. *c* 1384 CHAUCER *H. Fame* II. 414 Nyse ykarus, That fleegh so high that the hete Hys wynges malte. *c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* IV. xxi. 1895 All the metall moltynnyd than In tyll a qwerne togydder ran. 1444 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 109/1 That no white money..be broke nor molte for the cause above said. 1474 CAXTON *Recuyell* (ed. Sommer) 18 Saturne..malte and fyned gold and metalles. *a* 1562 G. CAVENDISH *Wolsey* (1893) 267 Rather than I wold..embeselle or deceyve hyme of a myght, I wold it ware molt and put in my mouthe. 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus, Aurum fusile*, that may be molted. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* III. xi. 25 As a thonder-bolt..doth displace The soring clouds into sad showres ymolt. 1593 B. BARNES *Parthenophil* (Arb.) Sonn. xliv, Whose might all metals' mass asunder moults! 1614 *Sco. Venus* (1876) 35 Or had the bed hene burnt with wilde fire all, And thereby moult the heauens golden frame. 1647 H. MORE *Poems* Notes 362 *note*, Ice..once melt by the warmth of the Sunne it becomes one with the rest of the Sea. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* XI. 562 One who..two massie clods of Iron and Brass Had melted. 1681 HICKERINGILL *Black Non-Conf.* Postscr., Wks. 1716 II. 171 Go, then, you subtile Persecutors! fret, and be molt in your own fat. *a* 1756 MRS. HAYWOOD *New Present* (1771) 43 Till the butter is all melted. 1871 TYNDALL *Fragm. Sci.* (1879) I. i. 5 A sun or planet once molten, would continue for ever molten. 1874 TAIT *Rec. Adv. Phys. Sci.* (1876) 45 Davy showed..that the mere rubbing together by proper mechanical force of two pieces of ice was sufficient to melt the surface of each.

absol. 1535 COVERDALE *Jer.* VI. 29 The melter [1611 founder] melteth in vayne. 1683 PETTUS *Fleta Min.* IV. ix. 304, I conclude it better to melt with Coals, than with Moll.

†b. To melt and refashion *into*; also, to form (an image, etc.) out of molten material. *Obs.*

c 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 273 He prayed þat all his tresurs, þat war of grete valow, mott be molten in-to a grete mace. 1560 BIBLE (Genev.) *Isa.* xl. 19 The workeman melteth an image. 1573 CARTWRIGHT *Reply to Whitgift* 28 The Jewes when they molted a golden calfe..did neuer thinke that to be God. 1577–87 HOLINSHED *Chron.* I. 113/1 A brasen image by maruelous art melted and cast. 1582 G. MARTIN *Manif. Corrupt. Script.* iii. 56 Behold Eunomius, how he molted and cast a false image, and bowed down to that which he had molten. 1611 BIBLE *Isa.* xl. 19.

c. With advs. *To melt away*: to remove, destroy, or waste by melting. *To melt down*: to melt (coin, plate, or other manufactured articles) in order that the metal may be used as raw material. Hence (*jocularly*), to convert (property) into cash. Also, less frequently, *to melt up*. *To melt in*: to melt (a substance) so that it becomes an ingredient of a mixture.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxxii. (*Justin*) 394 He sonnere but delay meltit þane wax in fyre away. *c* 1384 CHAUCER *H. Fame* III. 59 Thoo gan I in myn herte cast, That they were molte awey with hete, And not awey with stormes bete. 1633 T. STAFFORD *Pac. Hib.* II. iv. (1821) 267 Meet to be moulten downe and brought into her majesties mint. *a* 1704 T. BROWN *Sat. Fr. King* Wks. 1730 I. 60 Old Ierom's volumes next I made a rape on, And melted down that father for a capon. 1721 BERKELEY *Prov. Ruin Gt. Brit.* Wks. 1871 III. 202 A private family in difficult circumstances,.. ought to melt down their plate. 1868 JOYNSON *Metals* 115 The solder is then..melted in, either with a blow-pipe or by being placed in a charcoal fire. 1874 MICKLETHWAITE *Mod. Par. Churches* 226 How many bronzes have been melted down to make guns. 1888 J. A. SPAVEL-BAYLY in *Antiquary* Dec. 238 Church bells shared the general fate of other church-furniture, and hundreds were sold and melted up.

d. in jocular hyperbole.

1677 W. HUBBARD *Narrative* 40 While Capt. Mosely took a little breath, who was almost melted with labouring, commanding, and leading his men.

9. To dissolve, make a solution of. †Also, in OE., to digest.

c 897 K. ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* xxxvi. 259 Sua sua sio wamb ȝemielt ðone mete. *c* 1420 *Liber Cocorum* (1862) 6 Malt hit [*sc.* salt] in bryne. 1610 BARROUGH *Meth. Physick* VII. v. (1639) 388 A Syrupe is of medicines a juyce with Sugar or Hony molten therin. 1707 *Curios. in Husb. & Gard.* 136 Nitre melted in Water..mixes itself with the Water. 1805 R. W. DICKSON *Pract. Agric.* II. 1012 This re-union, or in the dairy phrase, melting the cream, is probably the best method practised.

†b. To disintegrate, loosen (soil). *Obs.*

1615 W. LAWSON *Country Housew. Gard.* (1626) 3 The soile is made better by deluing, and other meanes, being well melted. 1708 J. C. *Compl. Collier* (1845) 21 If the Feeders be of any considerable Quantity, it will melt, or dissolve the Earth.

10. To disperse, cause to disappear. Also with *away*.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 24470 þi saul es molten [*Gött.* multen] al to ded. 1602 MARSTON *Antonio's Rev.* I. v, Comfort's a parasite, a flattering Jack: And melts resolv'd despaire. 1820 SHELLEY *Sensitive Plant* III. 73 [77] At night they [the vapours] were darkness no star could melt. 1865 PARKMAN *Huguenots* i. (1875) 8 Cold, disease, famine, thirst, and the fury of the waves, melted them away.

11. To soften or make tender; to 'touch' the feelings of (a person). †*To melt down*: to subdue by softening.

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XVII. 226 þanne flaumbeth he as fyre on fader & on filius, And melteth her myȝte in-to mercy. *a* 1400 *Octouian* 249 With that anoon hys herte was mylt. 1434 MISYN *Mending Life* xii. 129 Many truly ar multyn in teris & aftirwarde has turuyd to yll. 1608 SHAKS. *Per.* IV. i. 7 Nor let pittie..melt thee, but be a souldier to thy purpose. 1668 R. STEELE *Husbandman's Calling* x. (1672) 251 You would be melted into submission, not forced: do you the like to them, melt them rather than force them. *a* 1716 SOUTH *Serm.* (1744) VII. vii. 153 Nothing could have been spoke more gently, and yet more forcibly, to melt him down into a penitential sorrow for, and an abborrence of those two foul deviations from the law of God. 1738 WESLEY *Hymns, Infinite Power, Eternal Lord* vii, Melt down my Will, and let it flow, And take the Mould divine. 1748 THOMSON *Cast. Indol.* I. viii, Till clustering round th' enchanter false they hung, Ymolten with his syren melody. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* VI. 103 Her noble heart was molten in her breast. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* iv. I. 434 His solemn and pathetic exhortation awed and melted the bystanders to such a degree that [etc.]. 1891 HAN. LYNCH *G. Meredith* 88 Rhoda, melted to him, calls her sister down to happiness.

absol. 1818 BUSBY *Gram. Mus.* 483 A manly, yet tender quality of tone,.. which melts and cheers at the same moment.

b. *To melt away*: to 'dissolve into ecstasies'.

c 1320 R. BRUNNE *Medit.* 1001 Now certes my soule ys melted awey. 1713 ADDISON *Cato* I. iv. 11 Alas, thy Story melts away my Soul.

†12. To weaken, enervate. Also, to *melt down*.

1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* IV. i. 321 Manhood is melted into cursies, valour into complement. 1607 — *Timon* IV. iii. 256 Thou would'st haue..melted downe thy youth In different beds of Lust. 1632 LE GAYS tr. *Velleius Paterc.* 15 Pharnaces the Mede, deprived Sardanapalus, melted with easefull delicacies [L. *mollitiis fluentem*],..both of his Empire and life. *a* 1704 T. BROWN *Persius' Sat.* i. Prol., Nor Virgils great majestick lines Melted into enervate Rhimes.

13. a. To spend, squander (money). Chiefly *slang* (*spec.*, with notion of sense 9, to spend on drink); also †*to melt away*. b. *slang*. To cash (a cheque or bank-note).

a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew* s.v., *Will you Melt a Bord?* Will you spend your Shilling? 1705 PENN in *Pa. Hist. Soc. Mem.* X. 71 The vast sum of money I have melted away here in London to hinder much mischief against us. 1756 TOLDERVY *Hist. 2 Orphans* IV. 45 They had the ambition..to melt it [a crown] at Ashley's punch-house upon Ludgate-Hill. 1807 E. S. BARRETT *Rising Sun* I. 134 If Moses [money-lender] does not come soon, all the money will be melted before he brings it. 1868 READE & BOUCICAULT *Foul Play* lii, I had him arrested before he had time to melt the notes. 1897 *Daily News* 5 Oct. 3/5 Another of the 100*l.* notes was, according to the prisoner's expression, 'melted' (i. e. cashed).

14. To blend *into* one mass of colour, etc.

1778 SIR J. REYNOLDS *Disc.* viii. (1876) 456 This effect is produced by melting and losing the shadows in a ground still darker. 1823 F. CLISSOLD *Ascent Mt. Blanc* 23 The glassy pinnacles of the..Alps,..melting their outlines in the softer tints of evening. 1860 HAWTHORNE *Marb. Faun* (1879) II. iv. 49 The words..being softened and molten ..into the..richness of the voice that sung them. 1872 BLACK *Adv. Phaeton* xvii, A grey mist..melted whole mountains into a soft dull grey. 1900 JULIA WEDGWOOD in *Contemp. Rev.* Mar. 336 In him there was a strong revolutionary element, and it is difficult in looking back not to melt it in with the other revolutionary manifestations of the time.

15. [=ON. *melta*.] To make (malt); to prepare (barley) for fermentation. *Obs.* exc. *dial.* (Yorks.): see E.D.D.

1615 MARKHAM *Eng. Housew.* II. vii. (1668) 169 The Art of making, or (as some term it) melting of Malt.

Melt, *v.*2 *Sc.* ? *Obs. trans.* 'To knock down; properly by a stroke in the side, where the *melt* or spleen lies' (Jam.).

a 1585 POLWART *Flyting w. Montgomerie* 762 Skade scald, ouerbald! soone fald, or I melt thee. 1785 FORBES *Ulysses' Answ.* in *Poems Buchan Dial.* 36 But I can.. melt them ere they wit; An' syne fan they're dung out o' breath They hae na maughts to hit.

Melt, obs. and dial. variant of MILT *sb.*

Meltable (me·ltăb'l), *a.* [f. MELT *v.*1 + -ABLE.] Capable of being melted, in senses of the vb.

1610 W. FOLKINGHAM *Art of Survey* I. ii. 3 These are either Liquable or Not-Meltable. *a* 1661 FULLER *Worthies* (1840) III. 52 It is the most impure of metals, hardly meltable. 1852 R. S. SURTEES *Sponge's Sp. Tour* xxix. 176 Money's like snow,..a very meltable article.

Hence **Meltabi·lity** *rare*, capacity of being melted.

1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* IV. vii, The brittleness and meltability of wax.

Meltaith, Sc. variant of MEALTIDE.

Melte, obs. form of MILT *sb.*

Melted (me·ltĕd), *ppl. a.* [f. MELT *v.*1 + -ED 1.] In senses of the verb.

1. That has been liquefied by heat. (Cf. MOLTEN.) *Melted butter*: see BUTTER I. 1 d.

1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, III. v. 50 Rush on his Hoast, as doth the melted Snow Vpon the Valleyes. 1660 F. BROOKE tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 366 The chaldron full of rich melted mettle. 1683 TRYON *Way to Health* 302 All kind of melted Butter and fryed Foods..are hurtful to the Health of all People. 1797 tr. *C. De Massoul's Treat. Art Paint.* 44 This melted glass in Enamel, produces the same effect, that oils, gums or glues produce in the other processes of Painting. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* I. 5 Upon the surface of melted lead. 1861 FAIRBAIRN *Iron* 159 The silicium thus formed alloying the steel, gives that quietness and freedom from boiling known in the trade as 'dead melted'. 1870 J. H. FRISWELL *Mod. Men of Lett.* iii. 65 A spectacle to gods and men in these melted-butter days.

†2. Of corn: That has sprouted in harvesting.

1799 *Hull Advertiser* 26 Oct. 3/2 Every bushel of melted wheat.

†3. 'Dissolved' in emotion. *Obs.*

1628 *Brittain's Ida* vi. 9 Bathing in liquid ioyes his melted sprite.

Hence **Me·ltedness**. *rare.*

1852 J. D. MACLAREN in *Mem.* (1861) 78 There would be only more meltedness of heart.

Melteithe, variant of MEALTIDE.

Melter (me·ltəɹ). [f. MELT *v.*1 + -ER 1.]

1. One who or that which melts, in various senses of the vb.

1581 *Act* 23 *Eliz.* c. 8 § 1 The said Melter, Myngler or Corrupter,..shall forfeyte [etc.]. *c* 1586 C'TESS PEMBROKE *Ps.* CXLVII. vi, Abroad the southern wind, his melter goes. *c* 1620 FLETCHER & MASS. *False One* II. iii, Thou melter of strong mindes, dar'st thou presume To smother all his triumphes with thy vanityes? 1695 LOCKE *Short Observ. Pr. Paper* 19 The melter of our mill'd money. *a* 1764 LLOYD *On Rhyme* Poet. Wks. 1774 II. 123 The..charming melter of his purse. 1824–9 LANDOR *Imag. Conv.* Wks. 1846 I. 204, I keep both out of the crucible and out of the *aqua regia*, another great melter and transmuter. 1856 KANE *Arct. Expl.* I. xvii. 201 One of our deck-watch, who had been cutting ice for the melter.

2. *spec.* One whose trade or office it is to melt metals or other substances; esp. a workman so employed in a factory or in the Mint; also, formerly, †the designation of an officer of the Exchequer.

1535 COVERDALE *Jer.* vi. 29 The leade is consumed, the melter melteth in vayne. 1567 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 556 All Meltaris, Forgearis, and Prentaris within the said cunyehous. 1670 PETTUS *Fodinæ Reg.* 41 Then the Melters, that melt the Bullion before it come to the Coining. 1697 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) IV. 191 Then they heard the accusation against major Barton, the chief melter of York mint. 1708 MADOX tr. *Dial. de Scacc.* I. iii. 4 b, The under exchequer..has..two officers,..one who presides over the examinations, and the melter... The melter also examines the silver. 1883 P. L. SIMMONDS *Usef. Anim., Melter*, a tallow chandler. 1884 C. G. W. LOCK *Workshop Rec.* Ser. III. 254/1 The foreman may have various reasons for wanting his melter to make all these changes.

3. A small furnace or melting-pot.

1883 HALDANE *Workshop Rec.* Ser. II. 103 An improved form of melter..consists of a small furnace [etc.].

4. A variety of the peach in which the flesh parts freely from the stone when ripe; =FREE-STONE 2.

1766 *Complete Farmer* s.v. *Peach-tree*, The nivette; this is a melter, and ripens in September. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVII. 347. 1866 [see CLINGSTONE].

Melter, obs. form of MILTER.

Meltet(h, meltid, Sc. variants of MEALTIDE.

Melting (me·ltiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. MELT *v.*1 + -ING 1.]

1. The action of the vb. MELT; an instance of this.

1390–1 *Earl Derby's Exp.* (Camden) 86 Et pro meltyng de sepo et iiij lb. pinguedinum, vj s. pr. 1444 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 109/1 The maistr' of his mynt..to have and take for his labour of double meltyng, blaunchyng, wast and other costs VII d in nombre. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 234/1 A Meltynge, *deliquium, liquamen, liquefaccio.* 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 150 There foloweth the moost blessed effecte, that is a liquefaction or a meltynge of the soule. 1722 BP. E. GIBSON tr. *Camden's Brit.* (ed. 2) I. p. clxxiii, *Ley, lee, lay*, are all from the Saxon Leag, a field or pasture; by the usual melting of the letter ȝ. 1740 W. SEWARD *Jrnl.* 13 There was much melting under both Sermons. 1775 S. J. PRATT *Liberal Opin.* LXXX. (1783) III. 94, I shall be with you and your good man again, in the melting of a lump of sugar. 1797 tr. *C. De Massoul's Treat. Art Paint.* 57 If, after every melting, you perceive that any air-bubbles have arisen, or [etc.]. 1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) II. 20 Even in abscesses, where there is a loss of substance, it is not the melting down of the solids that gives rise to the pus. 1868 JOYNSON *Metals* 68 The strength is increased up to a certain number of meltings. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV. 477 The injections [of thyroid gland extract]..were found to bring about a rapid melting away of the swelling.

†b. *Surveyor of the Meltings*: the former designation of a certain officer of the mint. Hence *the Meltings*: the office of the Surveyor of the Meltings.

1684 E. CHAMBERLAYNE *Pres. St. Eng.* II. 224 The Surveyor of the Melting. 1766 ENTICK *London* IV. 341 Surveyor of the meltings, clerk of the irons. 1807–8 SYD. SMITH *Plymley's Lett.* iii. Wks. (1850) 497 Suppose the person to whom he [*sc.* the Chancellor of the Exchequer] applied for the Meltings had withstood every plea of wife and fourteen children, no business, and good character, and refused him this paltry little office [etc.]. *Ibid.*, But do not refuse me the Irons and the Meltings now.

2. *concr. pl.* That which has been melted; a substance produced by melting. ? *Obs.*

1558 WARDE (*title*) The Secretes of the reverende Maister Alexis of Piemovnt. Containyng excellente remedies against diuers diseases,..with the manner to make distillations,.. fusions and meltynges. 1712 J. JAMES tr. *Le Blond's Gardening* 188 Such Waters..are no more than a Collection of Rain-Water, and the Meltings of Snow.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.* a. Simple attributive, as *melting chamber, -furnace, -oven, -pan, -place, -shop*. b. Special comb.: **melting-book**, an account-book kept to record quantities of metal melted; **melting-cone** (see quot.); **melting-heat**, the degree of heat which is necessary to melt a given substance; **melting-house**, a building in which the process of melting is carried on, *esp.* at the Mint; **melting-point** (see quot. 1842); **melting-pot**, a vessel in which metals or other substances are melted (phrases, *to put* or *cast into the melting pot*; often *fig.* with reference to thorough remodelling of institutions, etc.).

1622 MALYNES *Anc. Law-Merch.* 283 As for your *Melting booke where the allay is entred, if you will charge the Mint-master thereby, let it be done distinctly for siluer, and copper, or [etc.]. 1890 W. J. GORDON *Foundry* 14 Into these red-hot chambers the fresh gas and air are turned and heated before they enter the *melting-chamber. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.*, **Melting Cone*, in assaying, is a small vessel made of copper or brass, of a conic figure, and of a nicely polished surface within. 1758 RETO tr. *Macquer's Chym.* I. 187 The *melting furnace is designed for applying the greatest force of heat to the most fixed bodies, such as metals and earths. 1868 JOYNSON *Metals* 102 The *melting heat is 442° Fahr. 1431 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) II. 16 Lego..Johanni Beverlay omnia instrumenta et necessaria shopæ meæ ad le *meltynghouse. 1647 HAWARD *Crown Rev.* 23 Surveyor of the melting-house. 1778 J. MILLER in Grose *Antiq. Repert.* (1807) I. 241, I should refer the three Roman numerals as a melting-house mark..to the number of Pigs melted. 1854 *Hull Improv. Act* 33 Any candle-house, melting-house, melting-place or soap-house. 1683 PETTUS *Fleta Min.* III. x. 247 The *melting Oven to try the Copper Oars from the copper-stone. 1884 *Imp. & Mach. Rev.* 1 Dec. 6711/1 The sugar..passes..into the 'blow-ups' or *melting pans. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 234/1 A *Meltynge place, *conflatorium*. 1842 FRANCIS *Dict. Arts* etc., s.v., That point of the thermometer which indicates the heat at which any particular solid becomes fluid, is termed the *melting point of that solid. 1898 *Rev. Brit. Pharm.* 51 Solubilities and melting-points are given in much fuller detail than in the last edition. 1545 *Rates Custom-ho.* b viij, *Meltynge pottes for goldsmethes. 1679 DRYDEN *Pref. to Tr. & Cr.* Ess. (ed. Ker) I. 227 If his embroideries were burnt down, there would still be silver at the bottom of the melting-pot. 1855 MILMAN *Lat. Chr.* XIV. ix. IX. 311 The avarice which cast all these wonderful statues into the melting pot to turn them into money. 1861 FAIRBAIRN *Iron* 181 These are melted in steel melting-pots. 1887 J. MORLEY in *Pall Mall G.* 10 Feb. 11/2, I think it will be best for the Constitution of this country not to send it to the melting-pot. 1555 EDEN *Decades* Pref. (Arb.) 54 In the

two *meltynge shoppes of the gold mines of the Ilande of Hispaniola is molten yearely three hundreth thousande pounde weyght. 1892 *Labour Commission* Gloss., *Melting Shop and Plaut*, the furnaces used in the melting and converting of iron into steel and the producers for the making of gas for such furnaces.

Melting (me·ltiŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. MELT *v.*[1] + -ING [2].] That melts, in senses of the vb.

1. In intransitive senses: a. That is in process of liquefaction; †capable of liquefaction, fusible (*obs.*). Also, † decaying.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVI. vii. (1495) 556 The element and mater of whiche all meltyng metall is made [L. *omnium liquidabilium metallorum*]. 1577 HANMER *Anc. Eccl. Hist.* (1650) 161 His whole body larded and distilled much like unto..melting wax. 1605 *1st Pt. Ieronimo* III. ii. 163 Honord Funerall for thy melting corse. 1799 G. SMITH *Laboratory* I. 76 The whole is to be kept in a melting state for some minutes.

b. Yielding to tender emotion; feeling or expressing tenderness or pity; tearful. Often in phr. *the melting mood*, after Shaks.

1593 SHAKS. *Lucr.* 1227 Each flowre moistned like a melting eye. 1597 — 2 *Hen. IV*, IV. iv. 32 A Hand Open (as Day) for melting Charitie. 1601 — *Jul. C.* II. i. 122 To steele with valour The melting spirits of women. 1604 — *Oth.* V. ii. 349 Albeit vn-vsed to the melting moode. 1658 *Whole Duty Man* XV. § 3 Our compassions are to be most melting towards them of all others. 1712–14 POPE *Rape Lock* I. 71 What guards the purity of Melting maids In courtly balls, and midnight masquerades? 1879 FROUDE *Cæsar* viii. 72 He was a high-spirited ornamental youth, with soft melting eyes.

c. Of sound: Liquid and soft, delicately modulated. Also of form, colour, etc.

1626 BACON *Sylva* § 223 No Instrument hath the Sound so Melting and prolonged as the Irish Harp. 1632 MILTON *L'Allegro* 142 The melting voice through mazes running. 1713 GAY *Fan* II. 14 And thus in melting sounds her speech began. *a* 1761 CAWTHORN *Poems* (1771) 37 That step, whose motion seems to swim, That melting harmony of limb. 1849 RUSKIN *Sev. Lamps* iv. § 39. 129 The most exquisite harmonies..soft and full, of flushed and melting spaces of colour. 1885 G. ALLEN *Babylon* v, Her pretty, melting native dialect.

d. That 'melts in the mouth', tender. Said esp. of varieties of pear; also of those varieties of peach that part easily from the stone: cf. MELTER.

1605 B. JONSON *Volpone* I. i. (1607) B b, You shall ha' some will swallow A melting heire, as glibly, as your Dutch Will pills of butter. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* s.v. *Nectarine*, This is a very well flavoured nectarine, of a soft, melting juice, and parts from the stone. 1766 *Complete Farmer* s.v. *Stock*, Summer peaches (commonly distinguished by the appellation of melting peaches). 1859 DARWIN *Orig. Spec.* i. (1872) 27 No one would expect to raise a first-rate melting pear from the seed of the wild pear.

2. In transitive senses: a. That liquefies or dissolves (*rare*). b. That softens the heart; deeply touching or affecting.

1611 BIBLE *Isa.* lxiv. 2 As when the melting fire burneth, the fire causeth the waters to boyle. 1656 J. OWEN *Mortif Sin* Wks. 1851 VI. 77 God's peace is humbling, melting peace. 1695 J. EDWARDS *Perfect. Script.* 439 The charms of a most melting and affectionate rhetorick. 1715–20 POPE *Iliad* XXI. 83 While thus these melting words attempt his heart. 1739 *Joe Miller's Jests* No. 118 A melting Sermon being preach'd in a Country Church. 1826 E. IRVING *Babylon* II. 409 When Jeremy the prophet poured over them his melting lamentations in vain.

3. Comb.: *melting-hearted* adj., *-heartedness*.

1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* 31 Exclayming, for some melting-harted man, to come and rydde them out of theyr lingring-lyuing death. 1647 TRAPP *Comm.* I *Cor.* xi. 11 There must be all mutuall respects and melting-heartednesse betwixt married couples.

Meltingly (me·ltiŋli), *adv.* [f. MELTING *ppl. a.* + -LY [2].] In a melting manner.

a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* II. (1590) 176 Lying..with her face so bent ouer Ladon, that (her teares falling into the water) one might haue thought, that she began meltingly to be metamorphosed to the vnder-running riuer. 1680 *Revenge* I. i. 7 Kiss him as you do me, as soft and meltingly. 1827 SCOTT *Jrnl.* 30 July, Ballantyne marched on too, somewhat meltingly, but without complaint. 1888 R. DOWLING *Miracle Gold* II. xix. 107 That wonderful, irresistible, meltingly affectionate voice.

Meltingness (me·ltiŋnės). [f. MELTING *ppl. a.* + -NESS.] The quality or state of being melting.

1622 MABBE tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* II. 38 With the ..meltingnesse of their language, they moue many to pity. 1879 G. MEREDITH *Egoist* III. x. 204 She ran through her brain for a suggestion to win a sign of meltingness if not esteem from her father.

Meltit(h, Sc. variants of MEALTIDE.

Melton (me·ltən). The name of a town in Leicestershire (more fully Melton Mowbray), a famous hunting centre. Used *attrib.* in *Melton jacket*, a kind of jacket formerly worn by hunters; *Melton pad*, a hernia truss specially suited to be worn on horseback. Also in *Melton cloth* (see quot. 1882) and *ellipt.* as *sb.*

1823 BYRON *Juan* XIII. lxxviii, Even Nimrod's self might leave the plains of Dura, And wear the Melton jacket for a space. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Melton*, a kind of broad-cloth. 1882 CAULFEILD & SAWARD *Dict. Needlework, Melton cloth*, a stout make of cloth suitable for men's wear, which is 'pared', but neither pressed nor 'finished'. 1891 *Times* 7 Oct. 4/4 The output of printed meltons at present is a good deal above the average of a year ago.

Meltonian (meltōu·niăn), *a.* and *sb.* [f. *Melton* (see prec.) + -IAN.] a. *adj.* Pertaining to Melton Mowbray. *Meltonian cream*, the name of a polish for boot-tops. b. *sb.* One who hunts at Melton Mowbray, an adept at hunting.

1825 H. ALKEN (*title*) A Few Ideas, being Hints to all Would-be Meltonians. All is not gold that glitters; Neither does Keeping Horses at Melton, and mounting the scarlet, Make The Real Meltonian. 1840 BLAINE *Encycl. Rural Sports* § 1637 All riders are not Meltonians.

Meltre: see MEDLE-*tree*.

Meltyd, Meltyre, var. ff. MEALTIDE, MELDER.

Melub, variant of MAHALEB.

† **Me·lvie,** *v. Sc. Obs.* [f. Sc. *melvie* adj. mealy (Jam.), for **melwie*, f. *melw-*, OE. and ME. stem of MEAL *sb.*] *trans.* To cover with meal.

1785 BURNS *Holy Fair* XXV, Sma' need has he to say a grace, Or melvie his braw claithing!

Melwe, Melwell, obs. ff. MELLOW *a.*, MULVEL.

Melwynge, obs. form of MEALING *vbl. sb.*[1]

Mely, Melyone, obs. ff. MELLAY, MILLION.

Melzie, melʒie, obs. Sc. form of MAIL *sb.*[4]

1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* (1858) I. 68 [*rime* assailzie], 1568 in *Satir. Poems Reform.* XLVIII. 83 [*rime* felʒie = *failʒie*, FAIL *v.*].

Mem. Abbreviation of MEMORANDUM, placed in front of a note of something to be remembered.

Colloq. and in humorous verse often treated as a word, pronounced (mem). Cf. MEMO.

1818 MOORE *Fudge Fam. Paris* IX. 234 Mem. too—when Sid. an army raises, It must not be 'incog.' likes Bayes's. 1827 WADD (*title*) Mems. Maxims, and Memoirs. 1861 CALVERLEY *Dover to Munich* 19 Tickets to Königswinter (mem. The seats objectionably dirty). 1892 J. PAYN *Mod. Whittington* II. 63 Mr. Robert made a mem. in his mind that an ample provision should now be made.

Mem, vulgar variant of MA'AM.

1700 CONGREVE *Way of World* II. v, *Mine.* O Mem, your Laship staid to peruse a Pecquet of Letters.

Member (me·mbəɹ), *sb.* [ME. *membre*, a. F. *membre* (11th c. in Littré) (= Sp. *miembro*, Pg., It. *membro*) :—L. *membrum* limb, part of the body, constituent part of anything.

By many philologists considered to represent a prehistoric **mems-ro-*, cogn. with Goth. *mimz* flesh.]

1. A part or organ of the body; chiefly, a limb or other separable portion (as opposed to the trunk). *arch.*

Privy member or *members*, †*carnal member*: the secret part or parts. *The unruly member* (after James iii. 5–8): the tongue.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 11731 Þat is priue membres hii ne corue of iwis. *c* 1325 *Song of Merci* 152 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 123 His hert al-so And alle þe Membres þat we con mynge. 1382 WYCLIF *Jas.* iii. 5 The tunge sotheli is a litel membre. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. XI. 156 Man is hym most lyk of membres and of face. *c* 1430 *Life St. Kath.* (1884) 55 Þat..she scholde by meuyng of þe wheles be rent membre from membre. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 44 If ye mowe chastise your carnal membre. 1495 *Act* 11 *Hen. VII*, c. 3 § 3 Any other offence wherfor any persone shall lose life or member. 1548–9 (Mar.) *Bk. Com. Prayer, Collect Circumcision*, That our hertes, and al our membres .. may ..obey thy blessed wil. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* IV. XXV. 145 Exceeding all others in bignesse of body and force of members. 1611 BIBLE *Deut.* XXIII. 1 Hee that .. hath his priuie member cut off. 1660 F. BROOKE tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 61 They tye a cloth only to hide their privie members. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 424 Their Masters mangl'd Members they devour. 1715–20 POPE *Iliad* XXII. 575 All her members shake with sudden fear. 1756 NUGENT *Gr. Tour, Italy* III. 316 Artificial noses, lips, ears, and other members. 1823 J. F. COOPER *Pioneers* V. (1869) 24/2 There was something noble in the rounded outlines of his head and brow. The very air and manner with which the member haughtily maintained itself [etc.].

† b. *spec.* (after L.): = 'privy member'. *Obs.*

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 306/249 Heore membres to-swellez sone. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 10524 Ȝe þat vil it is to telle, some hii lete honge Bi hor membres an hey. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 3472 (Kölbing) Vlfin him ȝaue a dint of wo þurch out þe membre & sadel also. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Pars. T.* P 256 They sowed of fige leues a maner of breches to hiden hire membres. 1582 N. LICHEFIELD tr. *Castanheda's Conq. E. Ind.* I. ii. 6 They trusse up and hide theyr members in certeine Cases made of woode.

c. *Biol.* In extended use: Any part of a plant or animal viewed with regard to its form and position.

1875 BENNETT & DYER tr. *Sachs' Bot.* 130 It is obviously best to speak in this sense not of Organs, but of Members. The term Member is used when we speak of a part of a whole in reference to its form or position and not to any special purpose it may serve. In the same manner, from a morphological point of view, stems, leaves, hairs, roots, thallus-branches, are simply members of the plant-form. 1890 *Syd. Soc. Lex., Member*...A part of a plant or animal, such as a root, stem, leaf, or hair in a plant, or an arm or leg in an animal; a segment which can be studied in a purely morphological point of view, apart from its physiological function.

2. *fig.* with reference to a metaphorical 'body'; chiefly in *member of Christ, of Satan.* (Cf. LIMB *sb.*[1] 3 a, b.)

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 458 Al arn we membrez of Ihesu kryst. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xvi. (*Magdalena*) 301 þe membyre of sathane. 1382 WYCLIF *Eph.* v. 30 We ben membris of his body, of his fleisch and of his boones. 1483 CAXTON *Cato* G iij b, To do therwith almesses to the poure members of Yhesu cryst. 1548–9 (Mar.) *Bk. Com. Prayer, Catechism*, Wherein I was made a member of Christe. 1582 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* III. 493 Enemie to Chryst and to all his faithfull members. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 21 P 3 The Body of the Law is no less encumbered with superfluous Members.

3. *transf.* Each of the constituent portions of a complex structure.

c 1391 CHAUCER *Astrol.* Prol. 3 The figures & the membres of thin Astrolabie. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* V. xii. 48 *plate*, Y^e^ names of ye members of a pece of Ordnance. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. 321/2 In it [the Vice] there are several parts and Members. 1855 BAIN *Senses & Int.* I. ii. § 11 Each couple [of nerves] contains a right and a left member. 1890 W. J. GORDON *Foundry* 45 There is not a perpendicular line in any of the cantilevers...The rising members, the members that withstand the compressing, are..all tubes. 1901 *Black's Illustr. Carp. Man., Scaffolding* 64 The horizontal members of the brackets extend out 5ft. at right angles to the uprights.

b. *Arch.* 'Any part of an edifice, or any moulding in a collection of mouldings, as those in a cornice, capital, base, &c.' (Gwilt).

1679 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* IX. 154 Architecture considers the best forming of all Members in a Building. 1849 RUSKIN *Sev. Lamps* II. § 8. 35 In later Gothic the pinnacle became gradually a decorative member. 1862 MERIVALE *Rom. Emp.* (1865) V. xli. 72 The whole space was..decorated with all the forms and members of Roman architecture.

† c. Of a range of mountains, buildings, etc.: An outlying portion. *Obs.*

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 125 As for the hils Imaus, Emodius, Paropamisus, as parts all and members of Caucasus. 1628 VENNER *Baths of Bathe* (1650) 347 The Queens Bath is a member of the Kings Bath.

4. Each of the individuals belonging to or forming a society or assembly. Also formerly, † an inhabitant or native (of a country or city).

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 130, I þe forbede to chalenge any clerke In lay courte..Bot tille þat courte com to, of whilk he is membre calde. 1521 WARHAM in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. III. I. 240 Seyng your Grace is the moost honorable membyr that ever was of that Universitie. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 314 b, And with his protection to defend the members of the church. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* IV. i. 41 Here comes a member of the common-wealth. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Past.* IX. 44 Yet have the Muses made Me free, a Member of the tuneful trade. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 34 P 1 The Club of which I am a Member. 1802 M. EDGEWORTH *Moral T., Forester* VIII. (1806) I. 63, I should be happy, if I were a useful member of society. 1842 ALISON *Hist. Europe* LXXVIII. X. 983 The state becomes poor, and its members rich. 1891 *Law Times* XCII. 123/2 The Lord Chancellor need not be a member of the House of Lords of which he is the Speaker.

b. Used *absol.* for: A 'member of the community', a person. Now *slang* and *dial.*

1525 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* II. CCXXV. [CCXXXI.] 729 Where as therle and his children shulde be great membres in Englande. 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* V. i. 237 These poore informall women, are no more But instruments of some more mightier member That sets them on. *c* 1613 BEAUM. & FL. *Coxcomb* I. v, You'll keep no whores, rogue, no good members.

† c. One who takes part in an action, participates in a benefit, etc. *Obs.*

1554–9 in *Songs & Ball. Philip & Mary* (1860) 3 To be members of mersye he hathe us up lyfft. 1569 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* II. 66 The authoris and members of the said commotioun. 1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV*, IV. i. 171 All members of our Cause, both here, and hence. 1604 — *Oth.* III. iv. 112 That..I may againe Exist, and be a member of his loue.

5. One who has been formally elected to take part in the proceedings of a parliament: in full *Member of Parliament* (abbreviated M.P.), in U.S. *Member of Congress* (M.C.).

1454 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 240/1 Any persone that is a membre of this high Court of Parlement. 1477 *Ibid.* VI. 191/2 All the membres usually called to the forseid Parlementes. 1603 *Jrnls. Ho. Comm.* I. 141/1 The Intrusion of sundry Gentlemen, his Majesty's Servants, and others (no Members of Parliament) into the Higher House. 1648 *Eikon Bas.* iii. 12 My going to the Hous of Commons to demand Justice upon the five Members, was an act, which My enemies loaded with all the obloquies and exasperations they could. 1711 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 8 Dec., I dined with Dr. Cockburn, and after, a Scotch member came in, and told us that the clause was carried against the Court in the house of lords. 1774 WASHINGTON *Writ.* (1889) II. 438 Dined at the State House, at an entertainment given by the city [of Philadelphia] to the members of the Congress. 1822 LD. J. RUSSELL in *Select. Sp. & Desp.* (1870) I. 205 My hon. Friend the member for Winchelsea. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* II. I. 175 The Commons began by resolving that every member should [etc.].

6. A component part, branch, of a political body.

1386 *Rolls of Parlt.* III. 225/1 The folk of the Mercerye of London, as a member of the same Citee. 1414 *Ibid.* IV. 22/2 The comune of youre lond, the whiche that is, and ever hath be, a membre of youre parlement. 1673 RAY *Journ. Low C., Venice* 192 The Council of Ten, though it be a member of great importance, yet is it rather accessary.. than principal. 1818 HALLAM *Mid. Ages* (1878) III. 106/1 *note*, By estates of the realm they meant members, or necessary parts, of the parliament. 1871 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1876) IV. xviii. 208 A member, doubtless the foremost member of the Danish Civic Confederation, it still kept a Danish patriciate of twelve hereditary Lawmen.

† 7. A branch, department (of a trade, art, profession); a branch, species, subdivision of a class.

1463–4 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 502/2 That..it may please unto your seid Highnes, to ordeyn..that every..Clothmaker.. pay to the Carders, Spynners, and all other the Laborers of eny membr' therof, lawfull money for all their lefull wages.. uppon peyne of forfeiture to the same Laborer, of the treble of his seid wages..as ofte as the seid Clothmaker refuseth to pay..to eny such Laborer by hym put to occupacion in eny of the seid membres of makyng of Cloth. 1540 *Act* 32 *Hen. VIII*, c. 40 § 3 The science of phisike doth..include.. the knowledge of surgery as a speciall membre and parte of

the same. *a* 1614 DONNE *Biathanatos* (1644) 132 The next Member and species of Homicide, which is, Assistance.

8. A section or district, esp. an outlying part, of an estate, manor, parish, or the like.

1450 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 187/2 Havyng estate in the seid Castell, Lordship, Maner, and Membres. 1485 *Ibid.* VI. 357/2 Oure Honour of Walingford, with the membres, in the Countie of Berks. *a* 1645 HABINGTON *Surv. Worcs.* in *Worcs. Hist. Soc. Proc.* III. 405 Werneleg a member of Owld Swinford. 1730 *Magna Brit.* I. 755/2 Crimscote... Peter de Montfort held it with Whitchurch, of which it was originally a Member. 1778 *Eng. Gazetteer* (ed. 2) s.v. *Halton*, Halton, or Haulton..is a member of the duchy of Lancaster. 1891 E. PEACOCK *N. Brendon* I. 339 Thurlford was a small hamlet, a member of a very large parish.

b. of a port.

1485 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 341/1 Men of the v Portes, or of any their members. 1676 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1084/1 If any of the said Ships shall be in any Port of this Kingdom, or in any Member or Creek thereof. 1769 *De Foe's Tour Gt. Brit.* (ed. 7) II. 364 Swanzy..is a Member of the Port of Caerdiff. 1789 *Public Papers* in *Ann. Reg.* 132 The member is distinguished by a subordination to, and dependence upon the head-port. 1813 *Beawes's Lex. Mercat.* (ed. 6) I. 246 (Wharton) *Members*, places where anciently a custom house was kept, with officers or deputies in attendance. They were lawful places of exportation or importation.

9. *Math.* a. A group of figures or symbols forming part of a numerical expression or formula.

1608 R. NORTON *Stevin's Disme* Aiij, Every three Characters of a Number is called a Member..as in the number 357,876,297, the 297 is called the first Member. 1685 WALLIS *Algebra* xxiii. 102 And here for every Figure or Member of the Root, we are to seek not only the several Members of the Cube, but of the Square also. 1875 *Chem. News* 9 Apr. 154 Its symbol will be {h k l, e f g}, where the second member of the symbol represents the poles equi-distant with the poles {h k l} [etc.].

b. *Algebra.* Either of the sides of an equation.

1702 J. RALPHSON *Math. Dict., Equation*, (in Algebra) is a Comparison between two Quantities (or Members of the Equation,) to make them equal. 1903 WALKER *Introd. Physical Chem.* (ed. 3) xxvi. 307 Eliminating what is common to both members of the equation.

10. A division or clause of a sentence; a 'head' of a discourse; a branch of a disjunctive proposition.

1534 MORE *Comf. agst. Trib.* I. Wks. 1148/1 We shall therefore to gyue it lyght wythal touch euery member somewhat more at large. 1641 J. JACKSON *True Evang. T.* I. 8, I have..cast the Text according to the number of the verses, into three plain and conspicuous members. 1654 Z. COKE *Logick* 215 Under-titles also of Controversies must be disposed according the members of the Probleme to be handled. 1659 PEARSON *Creed* (1839) 7 As, for the other member of the division, we may now plainly perceive that it is thus to be defined. 1741 WATTS *Improv. Mind* I. xiii. § 12 The opponent must directly prove his own proposition in that sense, and according to that member of the distinction in which the respondent denied it. 1762 LOWTH *Eng. Gram.* (1763) 170 The Colon, or Member, is a chief constructive part, or greater division, of a Sentence. 1824 L. MURRAY *Eng. Gram.* (ed. 5) I. 270 The simple members of compound sentences. 1891 DRIVER *Introd. Lit. O. T.* (1892) 429 The verse itself may consist of one or more members; but each member ..is divided by a *cæsura* into two unequal parts.

†b. in *Music.*

1782 BURNEY *Hist. Mus.* II. 171 Music..is now become a rich, expressive, and picturesque language in itself; having its forms, proportions, contrasts, punctuations, members, phrases, and periods. 1811 BUSBY *Dict. Mus.* (ed. 3) s.v. *Passage*, Every member of a strain or movement is a passage.

11. Each of the items forming a series.

1851 LYELL *Elem. Geol.* (ed. 3) 354 The *Orthoceras Ludense*..is peculiar to this member of the series. 1873 RALFE *Phys. Chem.* Introd. 17 Series of this kind are termed homologous series, and the members are said to be homologues of one another. 1884 BOWER & SCOTT *De Bary's Phaner.* 165 The division walls between the members of the series.

†b. *Member by member*: seriatim. (The first quot. prob. belongs to sense 1.)

[1483 *Cath. Angl.* 234 Membyr be membyr, *membratim.*] 1726 LEONI *Alberti's Archit.* I. 43 We shall treat .. of all Public Works Member by Member.

12. *Comb.*: †**member-like** *a.*, befitting a member; †**member-port** = 8 b.

1649 *N. Eng. Hist. & Gen. Reg.* (1879) XXXIII. 167 The Ch[urch]..ordered, that he be cast out of the body, till..he be brought into a more *member-like frame. 1649 J. ELLISTONE tr. *Behmen's Epist.* i. 1 From a member-like obligation (as one branch on the Tree is bound to doe to the other)..I wish unto you [etc.]. *a* 1623 CAMDEN in Hearne *Collect.* (O. H. S.) II. 279 Sandwich & the *Member-Portes in Kent. 1656 TUCKER *Rep.* in *Misc. Sc. Burgh Rec. Soc.* 24 A checque, and three wayters, some of which are still sent into the member ports.

†Me·mber, *v. Obs.* [a. OF. *membrer*:—L. *memorāre*: see MEMORATE.] *trans.* To mention; to remember. Hence **Membered** *ppl. a.*

1382 WYCLIF *Tobit* iv. 22 The above membrid [Vulg. *ante memoratum*] weigte of siluer. — *Wisd.* xi. 14 Thei membreden the Lord. 1589 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* v. xxiv. 108 They Carles garre syke a dinne, That more we member of their iapes [ed. 1602 they member vs of iapes] than mende vs of our sinne. *Ibid.* vi. xxx. 131, I member scarce thy arging.

Memberal, obs. form of MEMBRAL.

Membered (me·mbəɹd), *a.* [f. MEMBER *sb.* + -ED[1].] Having members (chiefly in parasynthetic combinations, = having members of a specified kind or number); divided into members; †consisting of links or segments.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 420 Ring, ne broche nabbe ȝe ne gurdel i-membred [*MSS. T., C.* i-membret], ne glouen. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* v. v. (Tollem. MS.), To þe ye so desposid and perfitly membrid [L. *perfecte organizatum*]. *c* 1477 CAXTON *Jason* 21, I am not grete ne membred as a geant. 1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* III. xxiii. (Arb.) 268 If..the shape of a membred body [be] without his due measures and simmetry. 1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 58 Strong-membred, and blacke haired. 1832 *Fraser's Mag.* VI. 335 It is only assumed that a quantity may be divided into members *ad infinitum*—it does not follow that it is really membered to infinity. 1854 *Pereira's Pol. Light* 195 The four-membered or two- and one-axed .. system. 1878–9 J. CAIRD *Philos. Relig.* (1880) 108 Instead of the parts being used up for the production of the end, we have a membered totality in the production and maintenance of which the parts have their own natural fulfilment or realisation.

b. *spec.* in *Her.* Said of a bird, when the legs are of a different tincture from the body. †Also (see quot. 1610).

1572 BOSSEWELL *Armorie* II. 114 b, He beareth Argent, a fesse Gules, betwene three Eaglettes Sable, membred and beaked of the second. 1610 GUILLIM *Heraldry* III. xvii. (1611) 155 All those that either are whole-footed or haue their feet diuided and yet haue no Talants should be termed membred. 1718 NISBET *Ess. Armories, Terms Her., Membred*, is said of the Legs of Birds, when they are of a different Tincture from the Body. 1763 *Brit. Mag.* IV. 238 An engle with two heads displayed, sable, armed and membered, or. 1864 BOUTELL *Her. Hist. & Pop.* xvii. (ed. 3) 280 Two storks arg., beaked and membered gu.

†**Me·mbering.** *Her. Obs.* [f. MEMBER *sb.* + -ING[1]: cf. prec.] The manner in which a heraldic bird is 'membered'; the tincture of the legs.

1610 GUILLIM *Heraldry* III. xx. (1611) 156 You shall not need to mention either the metall of these necks being argent or yet their membring, being gules, because they bee both naturall to the Swanne.

Memberless (me·mbəɹlĕs), *a.* [-LESS.] Having no member or members.

1611 COTGR., *Tronçonner*..to make headlesse, branchlesse, memberlesse. 1638 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (ed. 2) 158 A troop of leane fac't, beardlesse, memberlesse Eunuchs. 1863 DANA in *Amer. Jrnl. Sci.* Ser. II. XXXVI. 337 Thus the Crab has a very small memberless abdomen. 1866 *Sat. Rev.* 28 Apr. 494/2 Three months of a new session are not yet over; yet already not a few boroughs have been pronounced memberless.

Membership (me·mbəɹʃip), [f. MEMBER *sb.* + -SHIP.]

1. The condition or status of a member of a society or (organized) body. (Cf. CHURCH-MEMBERSHIP.)

1647 WARD *Simp. Cobler* (1843) 43, I should wish him a Membership in a strict Reformed Church. 1648 J. BEAUMONT *Psyche* x. cclxxviii. (1702) 155 Men, whose mystick obligation Of mutual Membership doth them invite To careful tenderness, and free compassion. 1861 E. GARBETT *Boyle Lect.* 16 The creeds did not add anything to Scripture that was not in it before, but were tests of membership. 1903 *Edin. Rev.* Apr. 454 The oath of membership required fidelity..to the Church as well as the State.

2. The number of members in a particular body.

1850 'BAT' *Crick. Man.* 87 The..club..compris[es] in its membership several promising young players. 1884 *Harper's Mag.* June 148/1 A large membership is necessary. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 4 Dec. 5/4 The necessity of adding to the membership of the House.

Membral (me·mbrăl), *a.* Also 7 memberal. [f. L. *membr-um* MEMBER + -AL.] Pertaining to or characteristic of a member or members (in various senses). Now *rare* exc. *Anat.* and *Zool.* = appendicular.

1603 FLORIO *Montaigne* III. xii. (1632) 596 An unnaturall ill-favourdnesse, and membrall deformity. 1650 HUBBERT *Pill Formality* 63 [Judas] was a member of the Church, and not cast out, and so had a memberal right unto it. 1804 LARWOOD *No Gun Boats* 27 The limb, though amputated, has its membral portion of parental blood still flowing through its arteries. 1827 G. S. FABER *Sacr. Cal. Prophecy* (1844) II. 25 He seems .. to have enjoyed full membral liberty, not being subjected to any other confinement than that of an inclosed park. 1882 WILDER & GAGE *Anat. Techn.* 87 A membral ('appendicular') portion, including the bones of the arms and legs.

Hence †**Me·mbrally** *adv.*, in respect of a member.

1643 R. O. *Man's Mort.* iii. 14 If Nature be deprived more or lesse in her worke of conception of her due,..her Effect is accordingly: If membrally impedited, a membrall impediment. *Ibid.* 16.

Membranaceo- (membrănē·ʃĭ,o), taken as combining form of MEMBRANACEOUS.

1854 BUSK *Catal. Mar. Polyzoa Brit. Mus.* II. 55 Polyzoary membranaceo-calcareous or calcareous. 1871 W. A. LEIGHTON *Lichen-flora* 3 Thallus membranaceo-lobate.

Membranaceous (membrănē·ʃəs), *a.* [f. late L. *membrānāceus*, f. *membrāna* MEMBRANE: see -ACEOUS.]

1. *Nat. Hist.* Resembling or of the nature of a membrane; membranous. In *Bot.* (see quot. 1832).

1684 tr. *Bonet's Merc. Compit.* VII. 253 Men observe the membranaceous Stalk .. where the Ganglium rises. 1713 DERHAM *Phys.-Theol.* IV. xi. 199 Where teeth are wanting.. the Defect is abundantly supplied by one thin membranaceous Ventricle. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* s.v. *Leaf*, Membranaceous Leaf, one merely composed of membranes with no pulp between. 1832 LINDLEY *Introd. Bot.* 397 Membranaceous .. ; thin and semitransparent, like a fine membrane; as the leaves of Mosses. 1871 HARTWIG *Subterr. W.* ii. 11 The soft membranaceous swimming feet. 1874 H. C. WOOD *Fresh-w. Algæ N. Amer.* 14 Thallus membranaceous.

2. Printed on vellum. *nonce-use.*

1824 DIBDIN *Libr. Comp.* 621 *note*, The unique copy..on vellum, in the matchless membranaceous Alduses of Spencer House.

Membranate (me·mbrănĕt), *a. rare.* [ad. mod.L. *membrānātus*, f. *membrāna* MEMBRANE.] (See quots.)

1777 ROBSON *Brit. Flora* iii. 7 Of stems...Surface... *Membranate*, covered with thin membranes. 1895 *Funk's Stand. Dict., Membranate*, having the characters of a membrane.

Membranated, *a.* [f. mod.L. *membrānāt-us* (f. *membrāna* MEMBRANE) + -ED.] (See quot.)

1776 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* Explan. Terms 380 *Membranatus*, membranated, flat like a thin pellucid Leaf.

†**Membranatic,** *a. Obs.*—° [ad. mod.L. *membrānātic-us*, f. *membrāna.*] (See quot.)

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr., Membranatick* (*membranaticus*), of or pertaining to a membrane.

†**Me·mbrance.** *Obs.* [a. OF. *membrance*, f. *membr-er* MEMBER *v.*] = REMEMBRANCE.

14.. *Customs of Malton* in *Surtees Misc.* (1890) 63 The qwyche tyme is wt owtyn man's membraunce or mynde. 1650 GENTILIS *Considerations* 6 The renoune which remained of Alcibiades, the membrance of his Country, Parents, Nurse and Tutors.

Membrane (me·mbrēn). Also 6 -aan, 7 -an. [ad. L. *membrāna* membrane, parchment (whence late Gr. *μεμβράνα, μέμβρανον*, F. *membrane*, Sp., Pg., It. *membrana*), f. *membrum* MEMBER *sb.* The etymological sense appears to be 'that which covers the members of the body'.]

1. A thin pliable sheet-like tissue (usually fibrous), serving to connect other structures or to line a part or organ. Also *collect. sing.* = membranous structure.

a. in an animal body.

1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* 77 A Membrane ingirting the whole cauity of the lower belly. 1679 M. RUSDEN *Further Discov. Bees* 5 A Horny membrane or tunicle. 1788 J. C. SMYTH in *Med. Commun.* II. 210 The membrane of the nose, commonly known by the name of Schneiders membrane. 1831 BREWSTER *Nat. Magic* ii. (1833) 10 Behind the vitreous humour, there is spread out on the inside of the eye-ball a fine delicate membrane, called the retina. 1859 J. R. GREENE *Protozoa* 34 The 'dermal membrane' of the Sponge. 1896 KIRKALDY & POLLARD tr. *Boas' Text-bk. Zool.* 336 Just below the portion of skin covered by the eyelids there is usually a thin and soft membrane, which is termed the *conjunctiva bulbi.*

fig. 1626 B. JONSON *Staple of News* III. ii, Vertue and honesty; hang 'hem; poore thinne membranes Of honour; who respects them?

b. in a vegetable body.

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr., Membrane*,..the pill or pilling betweene the bark and the tree. 1681 GREW *Museum* II. 213 A short Fibrous Lobe..Lined within with a most smooth and thin Membrane. 1835 LINDLEY *Introd. Bot.* (1848) I. 9 Membrane, as true cellulose, may be regarded as being in the beginning, a gelatinous precipitate from the organic mucus of vegetation. 1846–50 A. WOOD *Class-bk. Bot.* 21 The organic basis [of vegetable tissues] is simple membrane and fibre. 1852 HENSLOW *Dict. Bot. Terms, Membrane*... A delicate pellicle of homogeneous tissue. Also a very thin layer composed of cellular tissue. 1890 *Syd. Soc. Lex., Membrane*,..the thin testa of a seed.

c. *Ent.* The terminal part of a hemielytrum.

1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* III. 618 The Apical Area is usually most distinguished by nervures..; the object of this is doubtless to strengthen the membrane.

d. *Path.* A morbid formation in certain diseases. Also *false membrane, pseudo-membrane*, etc.

1765 F. HOME *Croup* 16 The..surface of the *Trachea* was covered with a white soft thick preternatural coat or membrane. 1797 UNDERWOOD *Disorders of Childh.* I. 346 That tough membrane found in those who have died of the inflammatory croup. 1834 *Cycl. Pract. Med.* III. 488/2 Membranes expelled in dysmenorrhœa. 1835 *Ibid.* IV. 176/1 A more severe form of pharyngeal inflammation is that which is accompanied by the formation of a false membrane. 1905 H. D. ROLLESTON *Dis. Liver* 603 Cases of gall-stone colic accompanied by membranes in the stools.

2. †Parchment (*obs.*); in modern palæography, a 'skin' of parchment forming part of a roll.

1519 HORMAN *Vulg.* 80 b, That stouffe that we wrytte vpon; and is made of beestis skynnes: is somtyme called parchement, somtyme velem, somtyme abortyue, somtyme membraan. 1601 in Nichols *Progr. Q. Eliz.* (1823) III. 552 Her rolls, bundells, membranes, and parcells that be reposed in her Majestie's Tower at London. 1651 BOATE in *Ussher's Lett.* (1686) 564 The bare transcription of the Obelisks and Asterisks out of the Membranes. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr., Membrane*,..a skin of parchment. 1870 MISS TOULMIN SMITH in *Eng. Gilds* Introd. 44 'Miscellaneous Rolls, Tower Records'; they consist of three bundles, containing in all 549 skins or membranes. 1890 GROSS *Gild Merch.* II. 137 The third membrane of this Roll.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *membrane-like* adj., *membrane plaster*; **membrane-bone** *Ichthyol.*, a bone originating in membranous tissue.

1880 GÜNTHER *Fishes* 91 The principal *membrane-bone of the mandible is the dentary. 1765 F. HOME *Croup* 54 After a severe fit of coughing a *membrane-like substance .. had been thrown out. 1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) I. 460 In the disease before us we have neither inflammation nor membrane-like secretion. 1862 *Catal. Exhib.* II. XVII. 128 Liston's *membrane plaster.

Hence **Me·mbraned** *a.*, having or consisting of a membrane; **Me·mbraneless** *a.*, devoid of a membrane.

1872 BROWNING *Fifine* Prol. iv, The membraned wings So wonderful, so wide. 1876 tr. *Wagner's Gen. Pathol.* (ed. 6) 295 Membraneless, nuclear heaps of fine fat-globules.

‖ **Membranella** (membrănē·lă). *Zool.* [mod. L., dim. of *membrāna* MEMBRANE.] The long flattened modification of cilia in some infusorians.

1880 SAVILLE-KENT *Infusoria* I. 65 These modified cilia are much flattened or compressed, and appropriately receive

from him [Sterki] the distinctive title of 'membranellæ'. 1896 KIRKALDY & POLLARD tr. *Boas' Text-bk. Zool.* 92 *note*, In some Infusoria there are the so-called membranellæ, vibrating, laminating structures, each of which is regarded as a short row of fused cilia.

Membraneous (membrē'nɪəs), *a.* [f. late L. *membrāneus*, f. *membrāna* MEMBRANE : see -EOUS.] =MEMBRANOUS.

1633 P. FLETCHER *Purple Isl.* iii. Notes, Choledochus, or the gall, is of a membraneous substance. 1688 BOYLE *Final Causes Nat. Things* iv. 195 The want of feathers in the wings is supplyed by a broad membraneous expansion. 1763 EHRET in *Phil. Trans.* LIII. 130 Leaves, having membraneous ciliated footstalks. 1836–9 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* II. 536/2 The membraneous labyrinth (*labyrinthus membranaceus*). *Ibid.* 537/1 The membraneous ampullæ.

Membraniferous (membrăni·fĕrəs), *a. rare*—°. [f. MEMBRANE + -(I)FEROUS.] 'Having or producing membranes' (Ogilvie *Suppl.* 1855).

Membraniform (membrā·nifōm), *a.* [f. MEMBRANE + -(I)FORM. Cf. F. *membraniforme*.] Having the character or structure of a membrane.

1828–32 WEBSTER, *Membraniform*, having the form of a membrane or of parchment. 1830 R. KNOX *Béclard's Anat.* 249 The Membraniform Cartilages. 1859 SEMPLE *Diphtheria* 37 Other membraniform fragments..are also expectorated.

Membra·no-, taken as combining form of MEMBRANE, with the sense 'consisting of membrane and' (something else denoted by the adj. with which it is joined), as *membrano-calcareous*, *-cartilaginous*, *-coriaceous*, *-corneous*, *-nervous*. Also **membranoge·nic** *a.*, producing membrane.

1835–6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 744/2 A membrano-cartilaginous lamina. 1836–9 *Ibid.* II. 537/1 An extremely delicate ..membrano-nervous apparatus. 1838 G. JOHNSTON *Brit. Zooph.* 289 *Flustra tuberculata*, membrano-calcareous. 1850 ALLMAN in *Brit. Assoc. Rep.* (1851) 328 Cœnœcium composed of membrano-corneous branched tubes. 1885 GOODALE *Physiol. Bot.* (1892) 227 *note*, Substances which by their mutual contact give rise to such precipitation-membranes are termed membranogenic. 1890 *Century Dict.*, *Membrano-coriaceous*, of a thick, tough, membraneous texture or consistency, as a polyzoan.

Membranoid (me·mbrănoid), *a.* [f. MEMBRANE + -OID.] Resembling membrane.

1856 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.* 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 482 The behaviour of the bowels is often irregular..; membranoid shreds, if present, must not be overlooked.

Membranology (membrănɒ·lŏdʒi). *rare*—°. [See -OLOGY.] The science of the membranes.

1775 MOTHERBY *New Med. Dict.*, *Membranologia*, membranology. It treats of the common integuments, and of particular membranes.

Membranous (me·mbrănəs), *a.* [ad. F. *membraneux* (16th c.), f. *membrane* MEMBRANE.] Consisting of, resembling, or of the nature of membrane; membranaceous. In *Bot.*, thin and more or less translucent.

1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 48/1 Certayne membranouse pellicles intermixed with the excrementes. 1646 Sir T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* III. xx. 155 Two black filaments or membranous strings which extend into the long and shorter cornicle upon protrusion. 1756 BURKE *Subl. & B.* IV. xi, The ear drum and the other membranous parts. 1765 F. HOME *Croup* 28 The *mucus* .. was formed into a membranous crust. 1811 LETTSOM in Pettigrew *Mem. Life & Writ.* (1817) III. 5 This [croupy] exudation consists of a membranous substance. 1832 LINDLEY *Introd. Bot.* 86 These [modifications] arise either from the addition of parenchyma, when leaves become *succulent*, or from the non-development of it, when they become *membranous*. 1867 J. MARSHALL *Outl. Physiol.* I. 505 The essential parts of the organ of hearing, viz., the membranous labyrinth and the cochlea. 1875 BUCKLAND *Log-bk.* 149 The stomach of the bittern is a membranous bag.

b. Of diseases: Pertaining to or involving the formation of a membrane (see MEMBRANE 1 d).

1875 tr. *von Ziemssen's Cycl. Med.* X. 334 Membranous dysmenorrhœa. 1876 BRISTOWE *Theory & Pract. Med.* (1878) 209 Although membranous croup occurs in adults, it is mainly children who suffer. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 943 Dyspeptic membranous colitis.

Hence **Me·mbranously** *adv.*, like membranes.

1750 G. HUGHES *Barbadoes* 293 The leaves..somewhat resemble those of a small curled lettuce, but are far more membranously thin.

‖ **Membranula** (membrā·niŭlă). Also anglicized **membranule**. [L. *membrānula*, dim. of *membrāna* MEMBRANE.] A little membrane. **a.** *Anat.* In the eye (see quot. 1840). **b.** *Bot.* In ferns and mosses (see quot. 1821). **c.** *Ent.* 'A small triangular flap or incurved portion on the posterior part of the base of the wings, seen in certain dragon-flies' (*Cent. Dict.*).

1821 S. F. GRAY *Nat. Arr. Brit. Pl.* I. 221 Involucrum, Indusium, Membranula, Glandulæ squamosæ [in ferns]. A membrane that covers the sori, when young. *Ibid.* 222 Membranula [in mosses]. The fine membrane that supports the teeth of the peristome. 1840 G. V. ELLIS *Anat.* 112 The folds and striæ of pigment that compose the corona ciliaris being part of a distinct structure,—the 'membranula', applied on the hyaloid membrane. 1856 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Membranula*, *Membranulum*,..a little membrane,..a membranule. 1861 HAGEN *Syn. Neuropt. N. Amer.* 133 *Macromia taeniolata*..membranule cinereous.

Hence **Membra·nulet**, in the same sense (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1890); **Membra·nulous** *a.*, membranous.

1704 TYSON in *Phil. Trans.* XXV. 1752 The one having Membranulous Scales, the other Bony.

†**Membratly**, *adv.* [? Modelled on L. *membrātim*.] Limb from limb.

c 1450 *Mirour Saluacioun* 4362 Some with sawes did he kitte, some with knyves membratly.

†**Membrature.** *Obs.*—° [ad. late L. *membrātūra*, f. *membrāre* to furnish with limbs, f. L. *membrum* MEMBER *sb.*] 'A setting or ordering of members or parts' (Blount *Glossogr.* 1656).

†**Membrifica·tion.** *Obs. rare*—¹. [as if ad. L. **membrificātiōn-em*, f. *membrum* : see MEMBER *sb.* and -FICATION.] Formation of members.

1670 MAYNWARING *Vita Sana* xv. (ed. 2) 136 Membrification or Assimilation is now changed for a Cachectick.. habit. 1731 BAILEY vol. II, *Membrification*, a making or producing members or limbs.

†**Membrose**, *a. Obs.*—° [ad. late L. *membrōsus*, f. *membrum* : see MEMBER *sb.* and -OSE.] Having large members (Bailey vol. II, 1727). Also †**Membrosity** [ad. med.L. *membrōsitas*], 'the largeness or hugeness of members' (Bailey 1721).

†**Membrous**, *a. Obs.* [ad. late L. *membrōsus* : see prec. and -OUS.] Having a large 'member.'

1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 570 Their membrous monster Priapus.

Memento (mĭme·ntō). Pl. **mementoes**, **mentos** (7–8 **memento's**). [Imperative of *meminisse* to remember, a reduplicated formation on the root **men-* : see MIND *sb.*]

1. *Eccl.* Either of the two prayers (beginning with *Memento*) in the Canon of the Mass, in which the living and the departed are respectively commemorated.

1401 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 103 Thanne was the memento put fally in the masse. 1433 LYDG. *St. Giles* 227 in Horstm. *Alteng. Leg.* (1881) 374 Beyng at thy masse,..[thou] praidest for the kyng In thy Memento. 1549 LATIMER *3rd Serm. bef. Edw. VI* (Arb.) 86 When I shuld saye masse, I haue put in water twyse or thryse for faylynge, in so muche when I hane bene at my Memento, I haue had a grudge in my conscyence, fearynge that I hadde not putte in Watter ynoughe. 1593 *Rites & Mon. Ch. Durh.* (Surtees) 82 He that sunge masse hadde alwaies in his Memento all those that had geven any thinge to that Church. 1883 *Cath. Dict.* (1897) 287 After the consecration, in the fifth prayer of the Canon, the priest makes a memento of the dead. Both mementos in some MS. Missals retain the title 'oratio super' or 'supra diptycha'.

2. A reminder, warning, or hint as to conduct or with regard to future events. ? *Obs.*

1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* I. (Arb.) 22 Bee sure, this practise wil I nick in a freendly ememento. 1603 Sir C. HEYDON *Jud. Astrol.* xx. 412, I must needes gine him another memento and tell him, that he [etc.]. 1658 Sir T. BROWNE *Hydriot.* 45 Since the brother of death daily haunts us with dying mementos. *a* 1711 KEN *Lett.* Wks. (1838) 82 God.. enable us to improve all the mementoes he is pleased to give us of eternity. 1769 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* IV. 85 This is a great security to the public,..and leaves a weighty *memento* to judges to be careful. 1791 BOSWELL *Johnson* an. 1779 (end), That this *memento*..must be in every letter that I should write to him, till I had obtained my object. 1814 *Edin. Rev.* XXIV. 243 That what we have to say may..be recorded..as a *memento* against future errors.

b. *concr.* An object serving to remind or warn in this way.

1580 G. HARVEY *Three Proper Lett.* 34 Maruell not, what I meane to send these Verses at Euensong: On Neweyeeres Euen, and Oldyeeres End, as a Memento. *a* 1623 FLETCHER *Wife for Month* I. ii. Rings, deaths heads, and such mementoes. 1658 Sir T. BROWNE *Hydriot.* Ep. Ded., Artificial Mementos, or Coffins by our Bed-side, to mind us of our Graves. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. 229, I have been, in all my Circumstances, a Memento to those who are touch'd with the general Plague of Mankind. 1839 MURCHISON *Silur. Syst.* I. v. 73 Our only present memento of the existence of volcanic action beneath us, consisting in very slight shocks of earthquake. 1885 RIDER HAGGARD *K. Solomon's Mines* (1889) 100 There he sat, a sad memento of the fate that so often overtakes those who would penetrate into the unknown.

3. Something to remind one of a past event or condition, of an absent person, of something that once existed; now chiefly, an object kept as a memorial of some person or event.

1768 C. SHAW *Monody* viii. 76 Where'er I turn my eyes, Some sad memento of my loss appears. 1791 COWPER *Lett.* Wks. 1837 XV. 226, I cannot even see Olney spire,..and still less the vicarage, without experiencing the force of those mementos, and recollecting a multitude of passages, to which you and yours were parties. 1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* III. xxx. 211 It will not suffer this memento of its former state [a cast-off skin] to remain near it. 1862 SALA *Seven Sons* II. x. 263 She came upon some boyish memento of him who was gone.

†**b.** A memory or remembrance. *Obs. rare*—¹.

1796 BURNEY *Mem. Metastasio* I. 179 It has awakened in my mind a croud of delightful mementos of laughable adventures.

¶**4.** Humorously misused for: **a.** A reverie, 'brown study'; hence, a doze; **b.** (One's) memory.

1587 GREENE *Tritam.* II. H 3, Panthia..seeing that Aretino his choller was not yet digested, willing with some discourse to bring bim out of his memento,..saide [etc.]. 1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* (1613) 164 Dormatiue potions..that when [she] lies by him,..she may steale from him, whiles he is in his deepe memento. 1594 — *Unfort. Trav.* 7 Presently he remembred himselfe, and had like to haue fallen into bis memento againe. 1619 CHAPMAN *Two Wise Men* IV. i. 43, I heare it well Sir, and haue lock'd it vp safely in my memento.

‖**5. Memento mori** (mōˑtəi). [L. = 'remember that you have to die'.] **a.** A warning of death. **b.** *concr.* A reminder of death, such as a skull or other symbolical object.

[1592 NASHE *Summers Last Will* Wks. VIII. 48 Whatsoeuer you do, memento mori, remember to rise early in the morning.] 1596 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. IV*, III. iii. 34, I make as good vse of it, as many a man doth of a Deaths-Head, or a *Memento Mori*. 1597 *Pilgr. Parnass.* II. 214 (Macray), If I doe not..He give my heade to anie good felowe to make a *memento mori* of! 1641 in W. W. Wilkins *Pol. Ballads* (1860) I. 3 Memento Mori, I'll tell you a strange story. *a* 1680 ROCHESTER *Let. fr. Artemiza in Town*, Now scorn'd by all, forsaken, and opprest, She's a *Memento mori* to the rest. 1738 G. LILLO *Marina* I. ii, Thy face is a *memento mori* for thy own sex. 1850 THACKERAY *Pendennis* II. xxiii. 229 A great man must keep his heir at his feast like a living *memento mori*.

attrib. 1877 W. JONES *Finger-ring* 372 In the same collection is a 'memento mori' ring, of bronze.

Memer(e, variants of MAMMER *Obs.*, to stammer.

†**Memerill.** *Obs. rare*—¹. Also **meimerill**, **memerel**. [represents *memerylo* in the Italian original.] An arbutus.

1592 R. D. *Hypnerotomachia* 34 b, The leaffy Memerill or Arbut. *Ibid.*, Betwixt the comare Meimerill or Arbut, and the Satire, were two little Satires. *Ibid.* 93 Fruitefull memerels.

Meminiscent, *a.* Blunder (after L. *meminisse* : see MEMENTO) for REMINISCENT.

1812 L. HUNT in *Examiner* 7 Dec. 770/1 A voice meminiscent of mouthful and burly with luxury. 1847 — *Jar Honey* i. (1848) 2 The word 'Sicilian'—a very musical and meminiscent word.

Memlo(o)k, obs. forms of MAMELUKE.

Memnonian (memnō·niăn), *a.* [f. L. *Memnoni-us* (a. Gr. Μεμνόνειος, f. Μεμνον-, Μέμνων Memnon) + -AN.] **a.** Pertaining to the demigod Memnon, traditionally said to have erected the citadel or palace at Susa; hence used as an epithet of Susa or Persia generally. **b.** Having the property of the statue at Thebes in Egypt, believed by the Greeks to represent Memnon, and said to give forth a musical sound when touched by the dawn.

1614 Sir A. GORGES tr. *Lucan* III. 96 So huge a masse of Martiall bands Came not from the Memnonian lands, When Cyrus [etc.]. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* x. 308 Xerxes,..From Susa his Memnonian Palace..Came to the Sea. 1843 Ld. HOUGHTON *Poems Many Years* (1844) 251 When my Memnonian lyre Welcomed every rising sun.

Memnonist, -ite : see MENNONIST, -ITE.

Memo. (me·mo). Abbreviation of MEMORANDUM; *colloq.* treated as a word. Cf. MEM.

1889 Sir P. WALLIS in Brighton *Life* (1892) 217 You have not received a memo. card which I posted you last week. 1903 *Blackw. Mag.* Feb. 162/2 This person annotates reports, writes memos.

Memoir (me·mwɑ̄ɪ, me·moiəɪ). Also 6 **memoyr**, **memor**, 7–9 **memoire**, (7 **memoyre**, **mesmoire**). [a. F. *mémoire* masc., a specialized use, with alteration of gender, of *mémoire* fem., MEMORY. The change of gender is commonly accounted for by the supposition that the word in this use is elliptical for *écrit pour mémoire*; Sp., Pg., and It. have *memoria* fem. in all senses.

The quasi-Fr. pronunciation, which is still most frequently heard, is somewhat anomalous, as the word is fully naturalized in use, and has been anglicized in spelling; its continued currency is prob. due to the fact that *-oir* is unfamiliar as an ending of English words.]

†**1.** A note, memorandum; record; *pl.* records, documents. *Obs.*

1567 in 6*th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* 643/2 Memoyr off the silwer veschell delyverit be me to the lard of Drumblanryk. 1580 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* III. 335 Quhairof ordanis the said maser to deliver the said Johnne sum memor in write, quhilk gif he find different from his awin speking that then he pen and put in write the same his speking. 1659 WOOD *Life* 16 Sept. (O. H. S.) I. 283 Georg Wharton..did take notice of this matter in his almanack anno 1661,..but puts the memoire under the XI of Sept. which is false. 1727 ARBUTHNOT *Tables Anc. Coins*, etc. 188 There is not in any Author a Computation of the Revenues of the Roman Empire, and hardly any Memoirs from whence it might be collected. 1755 MAGENS *Insurances* II. 261 That the Master be provided with a Memoir of Signals from the Commander of the Convoy.

2. In diplomatic and official use: =MEMORANDUM. *rare.* † Also in *pl.* official reports of business done.

1696 PHILLIPS, *Memoirs*..are papers deliver'd by Embassadors to the Princes or States to whom they are sent, upon occasions of Business. 1700 ASTRY tr. *Saavedra-Faxardo* I. 222 Examine diligently all the Qualities of your Subjects, and after having given them any Place, look now and then into their Actions, and not be presently taken with, and deluded by the Draught of their Memoirs. 1829 B'NESS BUNSEN in Hare *Life* (1879) I. ix. 323 Charles, at his request, wrote a memoir on the subject of the negociations of Protestant Powers with the Court of Rome.

3. *collect. pl.* **a.** A record of events, not purporting to be a complete history, but treating of such matters as come within the personal knowledge of the writer, or are obtained from certain particular sources of information.

1659 PEARSON *Creed* (1839) 282 *note*, Pontius Pilate kept the memoirs of the Jewish affairs, which were therefore called *Acta Pilati*. *a* 1661 FULLER *Worthies, Devon.* I.

(1662) 260 But abler Pens, will improve these Short Memoires into a large History. 1746 A. COLLINS (*title*) Letters and Memorials of State...Also Memoirs of the Lives and Actions of the Sydneys. 1762 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* VI. xxxvi, The following memoirs of my Uncle Toby's courtship. 1769 N. NICHOLLS in *Gray's Corr.* (1843) 97 Why then a writer of memoirs is a better thing than an historian. 1790 PALEY *Horæ Paul.* i. 1 To deliver the history, or rather memoirs of the history, of this same person. 1860 WESTCOTT *Introd. Study Gosp.* vii. (ed. 5) 347 Their whole structure..serves to prove that they [the Synoptic Gospels] are memoirs and not histories.

b. A person's written account of incidents in his own life, of the persons whom he has known, and the transactions or movements in which he has been concerned; an autobiographical record.

1673 EVELYN *Diary* 18 Aug., Nor could I forbeare to note this extraordinary passage in these memoires. 1676 WYCHERLEY *Pl. Dealer* Ded., Your virtues deserve..a volume entire to give the world your memoirs, or life at large. 1700 PRIOR *Carmen Seculare* 426 To write his own memoirs, and leave his heirs High schemes of government, and plans of wars. 1710 (*title*) Memoirs of an Unfortunate Young Lady. 1818 SYD. SMITH *Wks.* (1867) I. 237 Any one who provides good dinners for clever people, and remembers what they say, cannot fail to write entertaining memoirs. 1841 ELPHINSTONE *Hist. Ind.* II. 117 His Memoirs are almost singular in their own nature.

4. A biography, or biographical notice.

1826 *Life Dr. Franklin* i. 6 (Stanf.) The subject of our memoir was born at Boston in New England. 1839 G. TAYLOR (*title*) Memoir of Robert Surtees Esq. 1866 CATES *Maunder's Biog. Treas.* Pref., The space thus gained is more usefully occupied, partly by re-written and fuller notices of names more generally interesting, and partly by entirely new memoirs.

5. An essay or dissertation on a learned subject on which the writer has made particular observations. Hence *pl.* the record of the proceedings or transactions of a learned society.

a 1680 BUTLER *Rem.* (1759) I. 14 Whilst the chiefs were drawing up This strange Memoir o' th' Telescope. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 103, I shall here..relate what I have learned of some Isles of the Archipelago, where I have not been, as well by what has been told me, as by a memoire that hath come to my hands. 1731 BAILEY vol. II, *Memoirs*,..a journal of the acts and proceedings of a society, as those of the royal society, &c. 1787 JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1859) II. 247 A memoire on a petrifaction mixed with shells. 1845 G. BUSK *Steenstrup's Altern. Gener.* 102 Miescher's interesting memoir on the forms which the genus *Tetrarhynchus* passes through. 1865 (*title*) Memoirs read before the Anthropological Society of London. 1863–4.

† 6. A memento, memorial. *Obs. rare*—[1].

a 1721 KEN *Christophil* Poet. Wks. 1721 I. 518 Of Friends whom Death lays fast asleep, They Memoirs keep.

7. *Comb.*, as *memoir-writer, -writing.*

1711 SHAFTESB. *Charac.* (1737) I. 224 The raw memoir-writings and unform'd pieces of modern statesmen, full of their interested and private views. 1762 *Ann. Reg.* II. 32 Count Zinzendorf is celebrated for his profound ministerial abilities by all the memoir writers of the present age. 1860 W. G. CLARK *Vac. Tour* 44 When two memoir-writers had told the same tale, they [Suetonius and Tacitus] accept it and endorse it, without a suspicion that both may be lying.

Memoir(e, obs. forms of MEMORY.

Memoirist (me·mwɑ̄rist). [f. MEMOIR + -IST.] A writer of memoirs, or of a memoir.

1769 R. GRIFFITH *Gordian Knot* I. 154 (F. H.). 1839 TAYLOR *Mem. Surtees* in *Surtees' Durham* 95 *note*, Memoranda..which the Memoirist was allowed to read.

So **Me·moirism,** the practice of writing memoirs.

1833 CARLYLE *Misc. Ess., Diderot* (1872) V. 63 Towards reducing that same Memoirism of the Eighteenth Century into History.

Memor, obs. form of MEMORY.

‖ **Memorabilia** (me:mŏrăbi·liă). [neut. pl. of L. *memorābilis* MEMORABLE.] Memorable or noteworthy things. Also (rare) *sing.* ‖ **Memorabile** (memŏrā·bili), something memorable.

The currency of the word in Eng. may be due to its use as the Latin title of Xenophon's 'Recollections' (Ἀπομνημονεύματα) of Socrates.

1806–7 J. BERESFORD *Miseries Hum. Life* (1826) ii. Introd., Let us at once produce our memorabilia and proceed to exchange their contents. 1826 SCOTT *Diary* 14 Sept. in *Lockhart*, I should not have forgotten, among the *memorabilia* of yesterday, that two young Frenchmen made their way to our sublime presence. 1830–2 Memorabile [see MEMORABLE B. quot. 1823]. 1878 SPURGEON *Treas. Dav.* Ps. cxi. 4 The coming out of Egypt, the sojourn in the wilderness, and other memorabilia of Israel's history.

Memorability (me:mŏrăbi·lĭti). [f. next: see -ITY.] The quality of being memorable. Also, a person or thing worth remembering.

a 1661 FULLER *Worthies, Kent* II. (1662) 85 And how abundantly intituled [she was] to Memorability, the ensuing Epitaph..will sufficiently discover. 1834 SOUTHEY *Doctor* xlvii. (1848) 111 The first years of Daniel's abode in Doncaster were distinguished by many events of local memorability. 1855 CARLYLE *Prinzenraub* Misc. 1857 IV. 351 There is one memorability of his last sad moments. 1866 — *E. Irving* 145 Frank was a notable kind of man, and one of the memorabilities, to Irving as well as me. 1903 MYERS *Hum. Personality* I. 36 The memorability of an act is, in fact, a better proof of consciousness than its complexity.

Memorable (me·mŏrăb'l), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. L. *memorābilis*, f. *memorāre*: see MEMORATE *v.* and -ABLE. Cf. F. *mémorable*, Sp. *memorable*, Pg. *memoravel*, It. *memorabile.*]

A. *adj.*

1. Worthy of remembrance or note; worth remembering; not to be forgotten.

1483 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 241/1 The memorable and laudable Acts in diverse Batalls. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* I. xv. 16 b, A succinct description of the yland, and memorable things thereof. 1650 MARVELL *Horatian Ode* 58 He nothing common did or mean, Upon that memorable scene. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 86 P 3 It is memorable of the mighty Caesar, that when he was murdered in the Capitol..he gathered his Robe about him, that he might fall in a decent Posture. 1820 HAZLITT *Lect. Dram. Lit.* 40 It hardly contains a memorable line or passage. 1858 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* III. v. (1872) I. 163 That is his one feat memorable to me at present. 1895 *Law Times* C. 3/1 An interesting record of a most memorable and successful innovation in our legal system.

2. Easy to be remembered. *rare.*

1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, II. iv. 53 Witnesse our too much memorable shame. 1658 PHILLIPS, *Memorable*, easie to be remembred. 1881 RUSKIN *Love's Meinie* I. iii. 99 The easily memorable root 'dab', short for dabble. 1882 S. COX *Miracles* (1884) 14 Hence it [the Mosaic account of the Creation] must of necessity be concise, simple, memorable.

3. Awakening memories *of. rare.*

1872 HOWELLS *Wedd. Journ.* 248 The marshy meadows beyond, memorable of Recollets and Jesuits.

B. *sb. pl.* = MEMORABILIA. Also (rare) *sing.*

1611 CORYAT *Crudities* 470 These memorables of Germany. 1613 JACKSON *Creed* I. xxviii. § 1 Recorded..as one of the chiefe memorables in his raigne. 1702 C. MATHER *Magn. Chr.* III. I. (1852) 251 If no speedy care be taken to preserve the memorables of our first settlement. 1813 SCOTT *Fam. Lett.* 13 July, I spent part of Sunday in showing them the Abbey and other memorables. 1823 — *St. Ronan's Well* xxvi. (near end), The other memorable [1830–2 memorabile] is of a more delicate nature, respecting the conduct of a certain fair lady. 1856 HAWTHORNE *Eng. Note-Bks.* (1879) II. 237 These were all the memorables of our visit.

Hence **Me·morableness,** memorability; **Me·morably** *adv.*, in a memorable manner; so as to be remembered.

1727 BAILEY vol. II, *Memorableness.* 1755 JOHNSON, *Memorably*, in a manner worthy of memory. 1832 CARLYLE in *Fraser's Mag.* V. 259 It is well worth the Artist's while to examine for himself what it is that gives such pitiful incidents their memorableness. 1832 — *J. Carlyle* 34, I never saw him but once, and then rather memorably. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 12 Aug. 3/1 The power of so conceiving characters as to impress us strongly and memorably with their varied individualities.

† Me·moral, *a. Obs.* [ad. med.L. *memorālis* (OF. *memoral*), f. L. *memor* mindful: see -AL.] ? Remembering, monumental. Hence **Me·morally** *adv.*, by way of reminder.

1513 BRADSHAW *St. Werburge* I. 207 As Chester, Stafford, Lytchefelde, Couentre memorall [*rime* withall]. *c* 1530 *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 72/23 Bothe Ioye and sorowe in woo memorall [*rime* fantasticall]. *a* 1645 HABINGTON *Surv. Worc.* III. 550 On the south side of the Chancell are these memorally of our mortality. *O esca verminm* [etc.].

† Memorance. *Obs.* [as if ad. L. type **memorantia*, f. *memorāre*: see MEMORATE *v.* and -ANCE.] Memory.

c 1320 [see next B. 1]. 1480 *Charters* etc. *Peebles* (1872) 187 The quhylkis sall reman in memorans of the samyn. 1662 FORBES *Aberdeen Cantus* in *Herd's Songs* (1904) 95 So that your soverance..Mark in your memorance, mercie and ruth.

† Memorand, *a.* and *sb. Obs.* [ad. L. *memorandus, -um*: see MEMORANDUM.]

A. *adj.* Serving as a memorial.

c 1320 R. BRUNNE *Medit.* 32 A soper he made to his deciples..A memorand þyng to haue yn mynde.

B. *sb.*

1. A memorial.

c 1320 R. BRUNNE *Medit.* 195 Yn a memorand [*v.r.* In memoraunce] of hym with outyn ende.

2. = MEMORANDUM.

1686 GOAD *Celest. Bodies* I. xv. 99 God hath imprinted on the Universe..some Memorands or Signatures of his Creation. *Ibid.* III. ii. 406 Though I was no Eye-Witness of these Hail-Storms so many years ago, yet I am sure their Memorand is True. 1711 MADOX *Hist. Exchequer* xxii. 619 The Records or Bundles made up by the two Remembrancers of the Exchequer have been usually called Memoranda, the Menuorands or Remembrances.

Memora·ndist. *rare*—[1]. [f. MEMORAND-UM + -IST.] One who writes memoranda.

1866 R. CHAMBERS *Ess.* Ser. I. 210 Johnson was also a great memorandist.

Memorandum (memŏræ·ndŏm), *sb.* (Also 7 -dome.) Pl. **memoranda** (-æ·ndă), **memorandums** (-æ·ndŏmz). [L., neut. sing. of *memorandus*, gerundive of *memorāre* (see MEMORATE *v.*).]

1. '(It is) to be remembered': placed (like 'Nota bene') at the head of a note of something that is to be remembered or a record (for future reference) of something that has been done. Now only *legal.*

1433 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 423/1 Memorand', yat ye XXIIII day of Novembr', ye Communys [etc.]. 1465 *Paston Lett.* II. 175 Memorandum to Thomas More that because ye myzt forȝete myne erand to Maister Bernay, I pray you rede hym my bille. 1506 *Guylforde's Pilgr.* (Camden) 15 Memorandum, that vpon Tewysday..we come to Jaffe. 1567 in 6*th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* 643/2 Memorandum deliuerit to the lard of Drumlenrik thir pieces off siluer work efter following. 1655 in *Z. Boyd's Zion's Flowers* (1855) App. 29/2 *Memorandum*, that the whol is to repay to the Colledge, the half of the above mentioned 66 lib. 03 sh. 4d. 1763 STERNE *Let.* 12 June, Memorandum! I am not to forget how honest a man I have for a banker at Paris. 1820 GIFFORD *Compl. Eng. Lawyer* (ed. 5) 664 An Agreement for letting a First and Second Floor, Garret, and Kitchen, unfurnished. Memorandum, That it is hereby declared and agreed by and between [etc.].

2. 'A note to help the memory' (J.); by extension, a record of events, or of observations made on a particular subject, esp. when intended for the writer's future consideration or use.

1542–3 *Act* 34 & 35 *Hen. VIII*, c. 16 § 1 Diuers summes..as in the rolles, & Memorandum of the..Escheker more plainly it may appere. 1596 SHAKS. I *Hen. IV*, III. iii. 179 If there were any thing in thy Pocket but Tauerne Recknings, Memorandums of Bawdie-houses. 1622 BACON *Hen. VII* 212 And ouer against this Memorandum (of the Kings owne hand) *Otherwise satisfied.* 1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* II. vi, Taking Notes of what I spoke, and Memorandums of what Questions he intended to ask me. 1813 *Aubrey's Lett.* I. Advt., The Lives..were originally designed as memoranda for the use of Anthony a Wood, when composing his Athenæ Oxonienses. 1854 J. MARTINEAU *Ess.* (1869) II. 307 The few lines and points that are jotted down may serve, perhaps, as indicative memoranda to those who know the ground. 1903 *19th Cent.* June 961 He awoke and made a memorandum of the day and the hour and the smell.

b. *spec.* A record of a pecuniary transaction.

[1607 *Lingua* III. i, *Memorandum* that I owe; that he owes.] 1607 MIDDLETON *Michaelm. Term* V. i, He heartilye set my hand to a Memorandum. 1664 PEPYS *Diary* 30 Sept., I had not fulfilled all my memorandums and paid all my petty debts. 1711 M. HENRY *Forgiveness of Sin* Wks. 1853 II. 326/1 The memorandum of a debt is blotted out when it is paid. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* I. iv, I suppose a memorandum between us of two or three lines, and a payment down, will bind the bargain.

c. *Law.* The writing or document in which the terms of a transaction or contract are embodied. In *Marine Insurance*, a clause in a policy enumerating the articles in respect of which underwriters have no liability.

Memorandum of agreement, the heading of certain forms of agreement. *Memorandum of association*, a document required, under the Companies Acts, for the registration of a joint stock company, containing the name of the company, its object, capital, etc. *Memorandum in error*, 'a document alleging error in fact, accompanied by an affidavit of such matter of fact' (Wharton); abolished 1875.

1591 GREENE *Art Conny Catch.* II. (1592) 23 A Memorandum drawen in some legall forme. 1677 *Act* 29 *Chas. II* c. 3 § 4 Unlesse the Agreement..or some Memorandum or Note thereof shall be in Writeing. 1771 BURROW *K. B. Rep.* III. 1551 This Clause, or Memorandum was introduced, He said, to deliver the Insurers from small Averages. 1802 S. MARSHALL *Insur.* I. 139 In the common policies, used in London by private underwriters, the memorandum runs thus: N B. Corn, fish, salt, fruit, flour and seed, are warranted free from average, unless general, or the ship be stranded [etc.]. 1820 GIFFORD *Compl. Eng. Lawyer* (ed. 5) 661 Agreement to grant a Lease of a House. Memorandum made this day of 1819, between A. B. of of the one part, and C. D. of of the other part, as follows. 1836 R. THOMSON *Bills of Exch.* etc. (ed. 2) 12 Conditions of payment..contained in a separate memorandum on the bill or note. 1852 *Act* 15 & 16 *Vict.* c. 76 § 158 Either Party alleging Error in Fact may deliver to One of the Masters of the Court a Memorandum in Writing, in the Form [etc.]. 1862 *Act* 25 & 26 *Vict.* c. 89 § 6 Subscribing their Names to a Memorandum of Association.

d. 'In diplomacy, a summary of the state of a question, or a justification of a decision adopted' (Ogilvie 1882).

1658 *Mercurius Polit.* 7–14 Oct. 908 To whom cause and Reason was shewed about the non-satisfactory proffer made lately by the Portugal Ambassador, who intends to put in another Memorandum. 1853 MALMESBURY *Mem. Ex-Minister* (1884) I. 402 Sir Robert Peel.., the Duke of Wellington, and Lord Aberdeen..drew up and signed a memorandum, the spirit and scope of which was to support Russia in her legitimate protectorship of the Greek religion and the Holy Shrines. 1885 LOWE *Bismarck* II. 77 Their deliberations..resulted in the preparation of the so-called Berlin Memorandum.

† 3. An injunction to remember something. *Obs.*

1586 B. YOUNG *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* IV. 191 A certaine memorandum, that he gaue mee, which was, That..I should haue an especiall care, not to incurre at anie time the daunger of water. 1610 DAY *Festivals* iii. (1615) 70 Remember saith the Apostle St. Paul among his many Memorandums unto Timothy [etc.]. 1643 SIR T. BROWNE *Relig. Med.* § 45, I have therefore enlarged that common *Memento mori*, into a more Christian memorandum, *Memento quatuor Novissima.*

† 4. A reminder; also, a memento, souvenir. *Obs.*

a 1591 H. SMITH *Serm.* (1624) 18 Some sentence which you haue heard, shall gnaw you at the heart with a memorandum of hell. *a* 1618 W. BRADSHAW *Medit. Mans Mort.* (1621) 34 [Every day] bringing with it some iudgement and Memorandum or other of Gods anger for sin. 1659 STOKES *Explic. Min. Proph.* 577 They shall walk about like living carcases, ugly, noisome spectacles of misery, and memorandums of divine vengeance. 1679 *Exec. Bury* 4 He was found Guilty of Manslaughter, and carries a Memorandum in his Hand, to make him and others more wary for the future. 1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) IV. 91 Ye precious relics, ye delicious memorandums. 1808 PIKE *Sources Mississ.* I. App. 3 Some other trifling things, as a memorandum of my good will. 1847 DE QUINCEY *Sp. Mil. Nun* § 8 That pocket-handkerchief which he had left at St. Sebastian's fifteen years ago,..and which..was the one sole memorandum of papa ever heard of at St. Sebastian's.

† b. A mark or sign serving to identify. *Obs.*

1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1792) II. 129 Had you any particular memorandum or mark whereby you would know him to be your child?

5. *Comm.* An informal epistolary communication, without signature or formulæ of address or subscription, usually written on paper with a printed heading bearing the word 'Memorandum' and the name and address of the sender.

6. *attrib.*, as *memorandum book, paper,* † *ring, tablet*; also *memoranda rolls*; **memorandum articles**, the articles enumerated in a marine insurance memorandum (*Cent. Dict.*); **memorandum check**, 'a brief informal note of a debt of the nature of a due bill' (Ogilvie 1882); **memorandum head**, † (*a*) a head clever at making mental memoranda (? *nonce-use*); (*b*) *Comm.* the printed heading of a 'memorandum' (sec 5).

1753 *Scots Mag.* XV. 36/2 She was..entering some particulars in her *memorandum-book. 1843 Mrs. Carlyle *Lett.* I. 223 Having bethought me of a pretty memorandum-book in my reticule. 1830-57 Paige *Rep.* II. 612 (Bartlett) *Memorandum check. 1732 Lady B. Germain *Let.* 23 Feb. *Swift's Wks.* (1841) II. 667, I wish I had my dame Wadgar's, or Mr. Ferris's *memorandum head, that I might know whether it was 'at the time of gooseberries'. 1710 Swift *Jrnl. to Stella* 3 Nov., I have put M D's commissions in a *memorandum paper. 1794-6 E. Darwin *Zoon.* (1801) I. 179 As we talk of *memorandum-rings, and tie a knot on our handkerchiefs to bring something into our minds. 1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XX. 312/2 [An] important class of documents belonging to the Court of Exchequer..is the *memorandum rolls. *Ibid.*, The 'brevia regia' endorsed on the memoranda rolls. 1774 *Westm. Mag.* II. 560, I dropt my ivory *Memorandum-tablet in the Bedford Coffee-house.

Hence **Memora·ndum** *v. trans.*, to make a memorandum of; **Memora·ndumer** *nonce-wd.*, one who makes memoranda.

1787 Mme. D'Arblay *Diary* 26 Feb., I feel sorry to be named ..by that biographical, anecdotical memorandummer [Mr. Boswell]. 1805 T. Holcroft *Bryan Perdue* III. 94 The money-bills..were addressed to me, that I might memorandum their amount. 1816 Scott *Antiq.* xli, Which business will in future be carried on under the firm of Greenhorn and Grinderson, (which I memorandum for the sake of accuracy in addressing your future letters). 1817 Fosbrooke *Brit. Monarchism* 348 The Scribes also memorandumed their interlineations.

† **Me·morate,** *v. Obs.* [f. L. *memorāt-*, ppl. stem of *memorāre*, f. *memor* mindful: see Memory.] *trans.* To bring to mind; to mention, recount, relate. Hence **Me·morated** *ppl. a.*

1623 Cockeram, *Memorate*, to make mention of a thing. 1631 Heylin *St. George* 17 In his so memorated Storie of St. George and of the Dragon. 1647 Trapp *Marrow Gd. Authors* in *Comm. Ep.* 649 That so memorated jest of Tully. 1686 Goad *Celest. Bodies* II. ii. 176 An. 1501, where the Ebb overflow'd, memorated by Ly.

† **Memora·tion.** *Obs.* [ad. late L. *memorātiōn-em*, n. of action f. *memorāre* (see prec.).]

1. Mention; commemoration.

1553 Becon *Reliques of Rome* (1563) 132 This constitution concerning ye memoration and prayer for ye dead. 1627 Speed *England* xxxviii. § 9, I will forbeare to be prolixe..in the particular memoration of places in a Prouince so spatious.

2. The process of remembering.

1573 W. Fulwod tr. *Gratarolus' Castel of Memorie* vi. E vj b, Aristotle thought good, to assigne two actes of Memoration: to wit, Memorye and Remembraunce.

Memorative (me·mŏrătiv), *a.* and *sb.* ? *Obs.* [ad. med.L. **memorātīvus* (perh. through F. *mémoratif*, 13-14th c.), f. *memorāre*: see Memorate *v.* and -ative.] **A.** *adj.*

1. Reminding one of something; preserving or reviving the memory of some person or thing; commemorative.

1448-9 J. Metham *Amoryus & Cleopes* D iv b (MS.), Y^e^ memoratyf dart had wounded hym so sore Off Cleopes bryght chere. *c* 1557 Abp. Parker *Ps.* lxix. 191 No where in booke memorative wyth just men have they place. *a* 1603 T. Cartwright *Confut. Rhem. N. T.* (1618) 402 Melchisedec, which figured out this memoratiue sacrifice, brought forth bread and wine. 1777 Nicolson & Burn *Westm. & Cumb.* II. 193 A memorative epitaph for the worthy and loving Colonel Thomas Barwise. 1835 Carlyle in Froude *Life in Lond.* (1884) I. i. 20 Vernal weather of all kinds,..to me most *memorative.*

2. Of or pertaining to the memory, esp. in *memorative faculty, power, virtue.*

1481 Botoner *Tulle on Old Age* (Caxton) C 4, The vertue memoratyf callyd remembraunce. *a* 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* v. (1598) 445 Voide of sensible memory, or memoratiue passion. *a* 1677 Hale *Prim. Orig. Man.* 8 How the Species, Order, and Circumstances of things are preserved in the Memorative Faculty or Organ. 1706 Phillips, *Memorative*, belonging to the Memory; as *The memorative Power.*

b. In *art memorative* (=med.L. **ars memorativa*, Gr. *τέχνημα μνημονικόν*).

1576 Fleming *Panopl. Epist.* 303 *margin*, This Simonides was the first inuenter of the Art memoratiue. 1597 J. King *On Jonas* (1618) 383 Many haue..made a memoratiue art, appointing places and their furniture, for the helpe of such as are vnexperienced. *a* 1628 Sir J. Doderidge *Eng. Lawyer* (1631) 23 The precepts of Art Memorative.

3. Having a good memory; retentive.

1481 Caxton *Myrr.* III. xxiii. 186 Thaugh he had..a thousand hertes witbin his body the most subtyle and the most memoratyf that myght be taken. 1610 Healey *St. Aug. Citie of God* VII. vii. (1620) 252 A respectiue memory and a memoratiue prouidence must of force goe together. 1695 tr. *Martial* I. xxvii. 38 A memorative drunkard all men hate [orig. Μισῶ μνάμονα συμπόταν].

B. *sb.* Something to put one in mind of a thing; a memorial.

1597 J. King *On Jonas* (1618) 396 Short sentences and memoratiues, as *Know thy selfe, Vse moderation, Beware of suretishippe*, and the like. 1631 J. Burges *Answ. Rejoined* 137 As Rites, as helpes, as memoratiues of such duties. 1690 E. Ger *Jesuit's Mem.* Pref. 1 The Notes and Observations of this Memorative following were gathered and laid together in time of Persecution.

† **Memore,** *a. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [a. L. *memor* mindful.] Mindful *of.*

1500-20 Dunbar *Poems* lxxxv. 53 Memore of sore, stern in Aurore, Lovit with angellis stevyne.

Memore, obs. form of Memory.

† **Memoriable,** *a. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [a. OF. *memoriable*, f. *memorie* Memory: see -able.] = Memorable.

1436 *Libel Eng. Policy* in *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 194 [King Edgar was not] lasse memoriable Than Cirus was to Perse by puissaunce.

Memorial (mĭmō·riăl), *a.* and *sb.* [a. OF. *memorial* (mod.F. *mémorial*) = Sp., Pg. *memorial*, It. *memoriale*, ad. L. *memoriālis* adj. (neut. *memoriāle*, used in late Latin as sb.), f. *memoria* Memory.] **A.** *adj.*

1. Preserving the memory of a person or thing; often applied to an object set up, a festival (or the like) instituted, to commemorate an event or a person.

c 1374 Chaucer *Anel. & Arc.* 18 Thow Polymea..that.. Syngest with vois memorial in þe shade. 1426 Lydg. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 16923 Thylke Memoryal wrytyng off thy Secretys, which thyn owne Secretarye, Seynt Bernard, wroot. 1535 Coverdale *Mal.* iii. 16 It is before him a memoriall boke written for soch as feare the Lorde. 1606 Shaks. *Tr. & Cr.* v. ii. 80 Thy Maister..takes my Gloue, And giues memoriall daintie kisses to it. 1725 Pope *Odyss.* XIII. 180 A memorial stone. 1866 Rogers *Agric. & Prices* I. xix. 476 The memorial windows set up to some of Edward the Third's children and relations. 1877 W. Jones *Finger-ring* 375 A..memorial ring in connection with the death of Nelson. 1885 *Times* 29 July 10/3 A memorial service for General Grant will be held in Westminster Abbey..simultaneously with the funeral service at Mount Macgregor in America.

†const. *of.* 1725 Pope *Odyss.* I. 412 Gifts, memorial of our friendship. 1726 Broome *Pope's Odyss.* XXIV. Notes V. 286 May I..at the conclusion of a work, which is a kind of monument of his partiality to me,..place the following lines, as an Inscription memorial of it?

† **2.** Of which the memory is preserved; remembered; also, worthy to be remembered, memorable.

1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 383 Wherof his name schal be blessid, For evere and be memorial. 1503 Hawes *Examp. Virt.* VII. xlvi, They made theyr dedes to be memoryall. *c* 1566 J. Alday tr. *Boaystuau's Theat. World* L viij, In the knowledge of Histories or memoriall things done in our time. 1631 Fosbroke *Solomons Charitie* (1633) 1 The memoriall and infallible necessity of death.

3. a. Of or pertaining to memory. † **b.** Intended to assist the memory, mnemonic. † **c.** Done from memory.

c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 120 Not oonly animal vertues.. ben I-chaungid, also naturel vertues..also memorial. *a* 1734 North *Exam.* Pref. (1740) 1 To apply his rational as well as memorial Faculties in Opposition to those false and unjust Reflections upon the aforesaid Reign. 1735 B. Martin (*title*) The Young Student's Memorial Book or Patent Library. 1745 J. Mason *Self-Knowl.* I. xv. (1853) 117 Your Minutes or memorial Aids. 1774 M. Mackenzie *Maritime Surv.* p. xiv, A Memorial Sketch is, a Delineation of a Harbour, or any Part of a Coast, from the Memory only. 1821 R. Turner *Arts & Sci.* (ed. 18) 299 The Memorial lines stand thus. 1830 H. N. Coleridge *Grk. Poets* (1834) 43 One of the best instances of the memorial power in composition that I have found. 1847 Grote *Greece* II. xxxvii. (1862) III. 339 We hear of his memorial discipline.

† **4.** Mindful. Const. inf. *rare*⁻¹.

1494 Fabyan *Chron.* VII. 590 His soule to endowe, he was memoryall.

B. *sb.*

† **1.** = Memory. **a.** The bearing of something in mind; remembrance, recollection. Phr. *in (the) memorial of*: in memory or remembrance of.

1382 Wyclif *Ps.* ci. 13 Lord, in to withonte ende abidist stille; and thi memorial [Vulg. *memoriale*] in to ieneracioun and in to ieneracioun. 1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 70 An old Cronique..The which into memorial Is write. *c* 1480 Henryson *Test. Cress.* 519 For knichtly pity and memoriall Of fair Cresseid, ane girdill can he tak. 1532 More *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 471/2 A bare simple signe, and sette but onely to signify the memoriall of Christes passion. 1605 *Play Stucley* in Simpson *Sch. Shaks.* (1878) I. 265 In memoriat of this victory. 1696 Tate & Brady *Ps.* cxii. 6 The sweet Memorial of the Just Shall flourish when he sleeps in dust. 1701 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3770/2 Thy Memorial will be renowned to Posterity. *a* 1716 South *Serm.* (1744) IX. i. 19 That man who has tears to spend at the memorial of a lost friend, but none to shed at the thoughts of a lost innocence,..has but too much cause to suspect the truth of his sorrow. 1774 J. Bryant *Mythol.* II. 277 The term..was a proper name bestowed in memorial of a person.

† **b.** The faculty of remembering; (a person's) memory or power of recollection. *Obs.*

1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 19 On..Which lost hath his memorial, So that he can no wit withholde. 1412-20 Lydg. *Chron. Troy* I. i. (1555), Bothe minde and memoriall Fordulled wer. 1538 Bale *God's Promises* in Dodsley *O. P.* (1780) I. 39 The matters are such as..ought not to slyde from your memoryall. 1567 *Gude & Godlie Ball.* 32 Quhair na myndis memoriall Can think, nor tung can tell the tryne.

2. A memorial act; an act of commemoration; *spec. Eccl.* = Commemoration 2 b.

1468 *Paston Lett.* II. 312 Wyth moch lesse cost he myght make som othyr memorialle also yn Cambrygge. 1492 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 444/2 Dedes of Charite and memorialls to be doon for him. 1548-9 (Mar.) *Bk. Com. Prayer, Communion*, We..make here before thy diuine Maiestie, with these thy holy giftes, the memoryall whyche thy sonne hath wylled us to make. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 313 b, The memorial, invocation and intercession of saintes. 1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* (1614) 623 To meete, and make memoriall of their deceased friends with remembrance of their vertues. 1866 *Direct. Angl.* (ed. 3) 355 When two holidays fall together, the service of the superior one is used, and the collect of the inferior day is said after that of the Office of the Feast as its memorial.

3. Something by which the memory of a person, thing, or event is preserved, as a monumental erection, a custom or an observance. Phr. *for a memorial* (cf. 1 a).

1382 Wyclif *Exod.* iii. 15 This is name to me withouten ende, and this my memoriale in generacioun and into generacioun. *c* 1430 Lydg. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 61 These iiij. figures, combyned into one, Sette on thy mynde for a memorial. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 332/1 Memoryal on a grawe..in remembrawnce of a dede body. *c* 1449 Pecock *Repr.* Prol. 4 The memorialis or the mynde placis of Seints. 1530 Tindale *Prol. Lev.* Wks. (1573) 14/1 Baptisme is our common badge, and sure earnest, and perpetual memoriall that we pertaine vnto Christ. 1611 Bible *Mark* xiv. 9 This also that she hath done, shall be spoken of for a memoriall of her. 1648 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 202 To buy him a ring for a memoriall of me. 1726 Swift *Gulliver* IV. xii, They set up a rotten Plank or a Stone for a Memorial. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* v. I. 613 The plough and the spade have not seldom turned up ghastly memorials of the slaughter. 1853 J. H. Newman *Hist. Sk.* (1873) II. 168 The memorials of the rule of the Pharaohs are still engraved on the rocks of Libya. 1857 Ruskin *Arrows of Chace* (1880) I. 44 Every day renders the destruction of historical memorials more complete in Europe.

† **4.** A note or memorandum. *Obs.*

1577 [Dee] (*title*) General and Rare Memorials pertayning to the Perfect Arte of Navigation. 1622 Bacon *Hen. VII* 243 Full of Notes and Memorialls of his owne Hand, especially touching Persons. 1726 Swift *Gulliver* III. x, These Struldbrugs and I would mutually communicate our Observations, and Memorials through the Course of Time. 1732 — *Beasts' Confess.* Wks. 1755 IV. I. 271 His promises he ne'er forgot, But took memorials on the spot. 1817 *Parl. Deb.* 1879 That Mr. Harmer drew his petitions from memorials by T. E.

† **b.** A book of memoranda; a day book. *Obs.*

1588 J. Mellis *Briefe Instr.* B iv b, The Memorial is a booke where-in a marchaunt discrieth and writeth all his daily businesse.

c. *Law.* An abstract of the particulars of a deed, etc., serving for registration.

1813 *Act* 53 *Geo. III*, c. 141 § 2 A Memorial of the Date of every such Deed..shall be enrolled in the High Court of Chancery. 1818 Cruise *Digest* (ed. 2) II. 61 Before the registering of the memorial of the deed.

d. *Scots Law.* A statement of facts drawn up to be submitted for counsel's opinion. Also, an advocate's brief.

1752 *Acts of Sederunt* (1760) 462 The Lords, having taken into consideration the bad practice of giving in long memorials before advising prepared states, They from this day forward discharge the giving in any such memorials, and that short cases..be made by each party, and put into the Lords boxes. 1815 Scott *Guy M.* xxxvi, 'Give me the memorial, and come to me on Monday at ten', replied the learned counsel. *a* 1822 in *Kay's Portraits* (1838) II. 278 It's no in your memorial (brief).

5. A record, chronicle, or memoir; now chiefly *pl.*, a record, often containing personal reminiscences, of the history of a person, place, or event.

1513 Bradshaw *St. Werburge* 200 *An other Balade* 1 O frutefull histore o digne memoriall. *c* 1515 (*title*) The Auchinleck Chronicle: ane Schort Memoriale of the Scottis Corniklis for Addicioun [1436-1461], printed from the Asloan MS. 1667 Milton *P. L.* I. 362 Though of their Names in heav'nly Records now Be no memorial. *a* 1671 Ld. Fairfax *Mem.* (1699) 1 A short Memorial of the northern actions in which I was engaged. 1748 H. Walpole *Lett.* (1846) II. 228, I am a little pleased to have finished a slight memorial of it [*sc.* Houghton]. 1843 Sir T. D. Lauder (*title*) Memorial of the Royal Progress in Scotland in 1842. 1872 Haae (*title*) Memorials of a Quiet Life.

6. In diplomatic use: A general designation for various classes of informal state papers, either presented by an ambassador to the representative of the Power to which he is accredited, and embodying statements of facts, claims, or propositions made on behalf of his government, or sent by the ministry of foreign affairs to one of its own agents abroad, containing instructions relative to some matter of negotiation.

1536 in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* I. App. lxxvi. 182 *heading*, A memorial of such articles as were..treated of between the kings highnes counsailers &.. the French ambassadors. 1561 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 194 To gif in befoir the Quenis Grace..ane formal and sufficient roll and memorial. 1680 (*title*) The two memorials delivered by Mr. Sidney his majesty of Great Britains Envoy extraordinary to induce the States-general not to enter into a league defensive with the French king. 1696 Phillips, *Memorial*,..a Writing delivered in by a Publick Minister about some part of his Negotiation. 1758 *Ann. Reg.* 187 A memorial presented.. to the dyet of the empire, by Baron Gimmengen, electoral minister of Brunswick Lunenbourg. 1833 Alison *Hist. Europe* (1848) I. iii. § 19. 230 The king,.. unable to make up his mind on the subject, had it repeatedly debated, both orally in the council, and in written memorials of no common ability.

7. A statement of facts forming the basis of or expressed in the form of a petition or remonstrance to a person in authority, a government, etc.

1713 Steele *Guardian* No. 128 P 2 A most humble address, or memorial, presented to her majesty. 1769 Robertson *Chas. V*, IV. Wks. 1813 V. 393 They drew up and published a memorial, containing all their demands. 1832

Ht. Martineau *Demerara* ii. 15 They met from time to time to..draw up memorials to Government.

8. *attrib.*: **memorial day**, a day on which a memorial is made; *U.S.* (with initial capitals) the day (in the Northern States 30 May; in the Southern States in April) set apart for honouring the memory of those who fell in the civil war of 1861–65.

1836 Keble *Serm.* xi. (1848) 276 There seems a propriety in reading on his memorial-day in particular the account of their common calling and adherence to Christ. 1897 Kipling *Captains Courageous* 245 And Monday's Memorial Day.

Memorial (mĭmō·rĭăl), *v.* [f. Memorial *sb.*]

1. *trans.* **a.** To address a memorial to (a person); to memorialize.

1768 Sir W. Johnson in F. Chase *Hist. Dartmouth Coll.* (1891) I. 80 They had even the face..to memorial me, praying that the Indians might not be allowed to give up far to the north or west. 1778 *Phil. Surv. S. Irel.* 352 Birmingham, Sheffield and other inland towns memorial government not to execute a scheme so big with ruin. 1831 Doyle in W. J. Fitz-Patrick *Life* (1880) II. 440 Would not the proper mode of proceeding, in the case of the soldier, be to memorial the commander-in-chief? 1894 W. O'Brien in *Daily News* 25 Dec. 6/5 The tenants..meekly memorial his lordship for some consideration.

b. To denounce in a memorial.

1731 *N. Hampshire Prov. Papers* (1870) IV. 614 In order to memorial the Governour to the Right Honourable the Lords of Trade & Plantations, as a Person not a friend to the Province.

2. *intr.* To draw up a memorial; to petition *for*.

1764 P. Skene in *N. York Col. Doc.* (1856) VII. 615 The Honble Board of Trade directed that the above lands memorialed for, should not be granted. 1821 Col. Hawker *Diary* (1893) I. 242 My brother officers..expressed a wish (and even wanted to memorial) for my promotion.

3. *Law.* To enter in a memorandum.

1824 *Ann. Reg.* 64 All transfers should be null and void until so memorialled and enrolled.

Memorialist (mĭmō·rĭălist). [f. Memorial *sb.* + -ist.]

1. One who addresses or presents a memorial.

1713 Steele *Guardian* No. 128 ? 2 The nauseous memorialist, with the most fulsom flattery tells the queen of her thunder. 1741 in G. Sheldon *Hist. Deerfield, Mass.* (1895) I. 491 Your Memorialist Humbly prays that a consideration of the sd affair may be had. 1858 Greener *Gunnery* 345 And memorialist, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

2. A writer of biographical or historical memorials.

1766 *Ann. Reg.* II. 29 The pains..the celebrated memorialist takes to gloss over her actions. 1832 *Blackw. Mag.* XXXII. 559 We purpose to collect from these obscure, but most interesting memorialists, a few sketches and biographical portraits of these great princes. 1903 Morley *Gladstone* I. i. 1 In one sense a statesman's contemporaries .. must be the best if not the only true memorialists and recorders.

† **3.** One who has a good memory. *Obs.*

1719 *Freethinker* III. 40 Others..look on a mere Memorialist as an ill-digested Commonplace Book.

Memorialize (mĭmō·rĭălaiz), *v.* [f. Memorial *v.* + -ize.]

1. *trans.* To preserve the memory of; to be or supply a memorial of; to commemorate.

1798 T. Green *Diary Lover of Lit.* (1810) 82 A stone, memorialising the spot of a 'barbarous murder'. 1822–56 De Quincey *Confess.* Wks. 1890 III. 255 Those '*grammatici*' whom he [Suetonius] memorialises as an order of men flocking to Rome in the days of the Flavian family. 1892 *Blackw. Mag.* CLI. 58/1 Five arches, probably meant to memorialise the five arches of the Pool of Bethesda.

2. To address a memorial to. Also *absol.*

1798 *Hull Advertiser* 14 Apr. 2/4 The Deputies .. continue to memorialize the French Plenipotentiaries. 1855 Mrs. Gore *Mammon* II. 154 Last year, I memorialised the bishop. 1880 Disraeli *Endym.* III. xxxi. 310 The counties met, the municipalities memorialised.

Hence **Memo·rialized, Memo·rializing** *ppl. adjs.*; **Memorializa·tion,** the action of Memorialize *v.*; **Memo·rializer,** one who memorializes.

1803 *Man in Moon* (1804) 113 Memorialized. 1807 Bentham *Mem. & Corr.* Wks. 1843 X. 424 An arrangement which.. J. B. has the satisfaction of seeing proposed by the memorializing Judges. 1837 T. Hook *Jack Brag* (L.), The memorializers had taken the precaution to put their memorial in the form of a round-robin. 1874 Piazzi Smyth *Our Inheritance* II. x. 193 Those..Egyptians..delighted in .. architectural memorialization of bulls and goats and .. every bestial thing.

Memorially (mĭmō·rĭăli), *adv. rare.* [f. Memorial *a.* + -ly ².]

1. By heart; = Memoriter.

1660 J. Lloyd *Prim. Episc.* 33 A premeditated and memorially delivered prayer. 1866 *Public School Latin Primer* Pref., A concise manual of facts and codes of rules in Latin, to be memorially learnt.

2. As a memorial; so as to preserve a memory.

1876 Lowell *Among my Bks.* Ser. II. 314 Not so much living in his poems as memorially recording his life in them.

‖ **Memoria technica** (mĭmō·rĭă te·knikă). [L. = 'technical memory'.] A method by which the memory is assisted by artificial contrivances; a system of mnemonics; a mnemonic contrivance.

1730 [R. Grey] (*title*) Memoria Technica; or, a new method of Artificial Memory. 1843 R. J. Graves *Syst. Clin. Med.* Introd. Lect. 32 Must an artificial method of forgetting become even more necessary than a memoria technica? 1864 Pusey *Lect. Daniel* vi. 295 Such were the 22 Books intended by Josephus, so numbered by a sort of memoria technica, in conformity to the 22 Hebrew letters.

Memoried (me·mŏrid), *a.* [f. Memory + -ed ².]

1. Having a memory (of a specified kind), as *long-, short-memoried.*

1573 L. Lloyd *Pilgr. Princes* 138 b, The well memoried man. 1610 Healey *St. Aug. Citie of God* (1620) 249 Plato in his Theætetus saith that the cholericke person is the best memoried. 1877 Long-memoried [see Long *a.*¹ 16].

2. Full of or fraught with memories. *rare.*

1851 C. T. d'Eyncourt *Eustace* (ed. 2) 18 It is such household scenes as these which form The memoried World of Youth. 1898 W. K. Johnson *Terra Tenebr.* 141 And be the memoried tomb with rose-leaves spread.

Memorious, *a. Obs.* or *arch. rare.* [ad. med.L. *memoriōsus* (OF. *memorieux*), f. *memoria* Memory: see -ous.]

1. Having a good memory; mindful *of.*

1599 R. Linche *Fount. Anc. Fict.* Liij b, If by the Tyrannie of fore-passed times, the memorious notes of such industrious fathers were not blotted out. *c* 1600 *Timon* II. i. (Shaks. Soc.) 26 *Pseud.* Dost thou remember? *Gelas.* I am memorious. 1603 Florio *Montaigne* III. viii. 563 Learned, wise and memorious [orig. *memorieux*]. 1621 G. Sandys *Ovid's Met.* XIV. (1626) 296 Memorious [orig. *memores*] of the Trojan woes. 1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Memorious*, that hath a good memory.

2. Memorable.

1883 Burton & Cameron *Gold Coast* I. 19 Shaggy Cintra.. with its memorious convent and its Moorish castle.

Memorist (me·mŏrist). *rare.* [f. Memory or Memorize *v.*: see -ist.]

† **1.** One who prompts the memory. *Obs.*

1682 Sir T. Browne *Chr. Mor.* I. § 21 Conscience the punctual Memorist within us.

2. *U.S.* One who memorizes or commits to memory; one who has a retentive memory.

1872 *New Cycl. Illustr. Anecd.* 9/2 Fame has given me the report of being a memorist.

‖ **Memoriter** (mĭmo·rĭtəi), *adv.* [L., f. *memor* mindful, remembering.] From memory, by heart.

1612 Brinsley *Lud. Lit.* xiii. (1627) 178 All the Theames of this Author being then written of and pronounced by them memoriter. 1766 T. Clap *Hist. Yale Coll.* 82 Twice a Week five or six deliver a Declamation memoriter from the oratorical Rostrum. 1890 J. Pulsford *Loyalty to Christ* I. 330 Any man of the world with ordinary intelligence might learn it, and express it memoriter.

b. as *adj.* Spoken or speaking 'memoriter'.

1802–12 Bentham *Ration. Judic. Evid.* (1827) III. 461 In the case of memoriter evidence of this description. 1896 *Daily News* 11 Jan. 6/4 The mere memoriter preacher.

Memorize (me·mŏrəiz), *v.* [f. Memory + -ize.]

1. *trans.* To keep alive the memory or recollection of; to cause to be remembered, make memorable. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1594 J. Dickenson *Arisbas* (1878) 58 His fortune or rather misfortune..is memorized by vs in a prouerbial byword. 1605 Shaks. *Mach.* I. ii. 40 Except they meane to..memorize another Golgotha. *a* 1639 Spottiswood *Hist. Ch. Scot.* II. (1677) 28 To memorize this victory, the King did found an Episcopal See. 1657 R. Vines *Lord's Supper* (1677) 162 Memorizing him in a piece of bread and cup of wine. 1846 Landor *Hellenics* Wks. II. 484 Muses ..Who from your sacred mountain..hear and memorise The crimes of men and counsels of the Gods.

b. Said of impersonal subjects. Also *intr.* To be a memorial or memento.

1593 Nashe *Christ's T.* 36 Eate of my sonne one morsel yet, that it may memorize against you, ye are accessary to his dismembering. 1622 Drayton *Poly-olb.* xxi. 160 Nothing ..Except poore widdowes cries to memorize your theft. 1654–66 Earl Orrery *Parthen.* (1676) 621 The Hellespont, memorized by the famous death of Hero and Leander. 1822 *Blackw. Mag.* XII. 412 A Cenotaph to memorise our grave.

2. To perpetuate the memory of in writing; to put on record; to relate, record, mention. Now *rare.*

1591 Spenser *Ruines of Time* 364 Because they living cared not to cherishe No gentle wits..Which might their names for ever memorize. 1632 Lithgow *Trav.* I. 11, I arriued at Rome, of the which I will memorize, some rarest things. 1652–62 Heylin *Cosmogr.* I. (1682) 88 Here flourished the exact Martial discipline, so memorized by ancient Historiographers. 1701 J. Prince (*title*) Danmonii Orientales Illustres...A Work wherein the Lives and Fortunes of the Most famous Divines,..Natives of that most noble Province ..are memoriz'd. 1831 Lamb *Let. to Moxon* in *Final Mem.* viii, The R. A. here memorised, was George Daw. 1869 Browning *Ring & Bk.* IX. 1345 Like the strange favour, Maro memorized As granted Aristæus.

with clause. 1619 Wither *Vox Pacif.* II. 45 You have not memorized..How God..against your Enemies hath fought.

3. To commit to memory. Chiefly *U.S.*

1856 Olmsted *Slave States* 552 His power of memorizing and improvising music. 1878 W. H. Daniels *That Boy* ix. 140 He had even taken the pains to memorize a number of hymns and sonnets. 1894 Maskelyne *Sharps & Flats* vi. 150 The sharp..should be able to memorise instantly as many cards as possible.

Hence **Me·morized** *ppl.a.*, **Me·morizing** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*; **Me·morizable** *a.*, that may be memorized or committed to memory; **Memoriza·tion,** the action of the verb Memorize; **Me·morizer,** one who memorizes.

1600 Tourneur *Transf. Metam.* Wks. 1878 II. 211 Who vow'd his name should be æternized..In memorizing lines. 1634 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* 135 A place scarce worth the memorizing. 1839 J. Rogers *Antipopopr.* iii. § 2. 145 Jerome had more learning, Augustine had more logic; the former being the greater memorizer. 1884 *American* VIII. 396 Any good memorizable series. 1886–7 T. Grady *Proc. Amer. Instruct. Deaf* 261 A vast process of memorization. 1889 *Anthony's Photogr. Bull.* II. 297 An easily memorized series of shop sizes. 1890 J. G. Fitch *Notes Amer. Schools & Training Coll.* 50 What is oddly called 'memorizing'..is often confined to the reproduction of scraps of information or short passages from text-books.

† **Me·morous,** *a. Obs.* [ad. med.L. *memorōsus* (OF. *memoreux*), f. L. *memor* mindful: see -ous.] Memorable.

1513 Bradshaw *St. Werburge* I. 159 Whiche realme by processe and power vyctoryous Subdued all other to hym, full memorous. *Ibid.* 283 Whiche ladyes were buryed full memorous At Peturborowe abbay.

Memory (me·mŏri), *sb.* Forms: *α.* (chiefly *Sc.* and *north.*) 4–6 memoire, memore, memour, 5–6 -oyre, 6 memor, memoir. *β.* 4–6 memorye, 4–7 memorie, (6 memoree, -i), 4– memory. [a. OF. *memorie, memoire, memore* (mod.F. *mémoire*) = Sp., Pg., It. *memoria*, ad. L. *memoria*, noun of quality or condition f. *memor* mindful, remembering, a reduplicated formation on the root **mer-*, Indogermanic **smer-* (Skr. *smar-*) to remember.

There is no etymological connexion between L. *memor* and the vb. *meminī* I remember.]

1. The faculty by which things are remembered; the capacity for retaining, perpetuating, or reviving the thought of things past. *To commit* or † *commend to memory*: see the vbs.

1340 *Ayenb.* 107 Ac y-yeue is þe herte parfitliche and yconfermed, uor þe memorie is zuo cleuiynde ine him þet ne of no þing þenche bote ine him. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* vi. (*Thomas*) 395 For in til a man visdome is, & of þat ane þare procedis vndirstandynge, memore, & wite. 1413 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton 1483) IV. xxv. 71 God made man ryght as a Trynyte, he yaf him memory, vnderstandyng and wylle. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* X. Prol. 70 Rayson decernis, memor kepis the consait. 1530 Palsgr. 666/2, I commende it to memorie. *c* 1540 Boorde *The boke for to Lerne* C iij b, It doth acuat, quycken, and refreshe, the memorye. 1690 Locke *Hum. Und.* I. iv. (1695) 35 By the memory it [an idea] can be made an actual perception again. 1718 Lady M. W. Montagu *Let. to Lady Rich* 16 Mar., The memory can retain but a certain number of images. 1828 Scott *F. M. Perth* xxiv, Our memory is, of all our powers of mind, that which is peculiarly liable to be suspended. 1855 H. Spencer *Princ. Psychol.* (1872) I. iv. viii. 483 The subject-matter of Memory is retrospective.

personified. 1618 Bp. Hall *Righteous Mammon* 95 Memory, the Great keeper or Master of the rolles of the soule. 1831 Wordsw. *Bothwell Castle*, Memory, like sleep, hath powers which dreams obey..; How little that she cherishes is lost!

b. *Art of memory, artificial memory*: mnemonics; a system of mnemonic devices.

[1491 Petrus Ravennas (*title*) Foenix; seu artificiosa memoria.] 1541 R. Copland (*title*) The Art of Memory, that otherwyse is called the Phenix. 1573 W. Fulwood tr. *Gratarolus' Castel of Memorie* vii. F v b, Artificiall Memorie is a disposyng or placing of sensible thinges in the mynde by imagination, whereunto the naturall Memorie hauing respect, is by them admonished. 1594 Nashe *Unfort. Trav.* 70 It is not possible for anie man to learne the Art of Memorie,..except he haue a naturall memorie before. 1647 Cowley *Mistress, Soul* iii, So that thy Parts become to me A kind of Art of Memory. 1653 R. Sanders (*title*) Physiognomie ..Whereunto is added the Art of Memorie. 1747 Hoyle (*title*) A Short Treatise On the Game of Whist.. To which is added, An Artificial Memory: Or, An easy Method of assisting the Memory of those that play at the Game.

2. This faculty considered as residing in a particular individual; often with epithet denoting the extent to which the faculty is developed or the department in which it is most active.

c 1374 Chaucer *Anel. & Arc.* 14 This old story..That eeld, which þat all can frete and bite,..hath negh devoured oute of my memory. 1484 Caxton *Fables of Æsop* II. ix, Good children ought..to..put in theyr hert & memory the doctryne..of theyr parentes. 1597 Morley *Introd. Mus.* 5, I should haue a verie good wit, for I haue but a bad memorie. 1624 Heywood *Gunaik.* III. 125 For this appear'd the blazing Star Yet fresh in our memory. 1692 R. L'Estrange *Fables* cccliii. 323 Wherefore Parasites and Lyers had need of Good Memories. 1705 Addison *Italy* Pref., I took care to refresh my Memory among the Classic Authors. 1826 Disraeli *Viv. Grey* VI. iii, A good memory is often as ready a friend as a sharp wit. 1852 Mrs. Stowe *Uncle Tom's C.* xx. 213 Topsy had an uncommon verbal memory.

b. In the language of wills, etc., *of* † *good, sane,* † *safe, sound,* † *whole memory.*

1402a *E. E. Wills* (1882) 10, I, Iohn Girdeler of Harfeld, in god mynde and saf memorye, make my testement. 1483 *Act 1 Rich. III*, c. 7 § 3 Persons..within Age..or not of whole Memory at the Time of such Fine levied. 1642 tr. *Perkins' Prof. Bk.* I. § 22. 10 If a man being of good memorie make a Charter of Feofment. 1820 Gifford *Compl. Eng. Lawyer* (ed. 5) 672, I, John Mills,..linen-draper, being of sound and disposing mind, memory, and understanding. 1826 W. Roberts *Wills & Codicils* (ed. 3) I. 32 No person who is not of a reasonable mind and sane memory can make any disposition by will.

† **c.** *To come to one's memory*: to recover from unconsciousness. [Cf. OF. *revenir en sa mémoire.*]

1754 Richardson *Grandison* V. xxviii. 174, I have endeavoured to account for the noble behaviour of your sister; and am the less surprised at it, now she is come to her memory.

3. Recollection, remembrance. Chiefly in phrases, as *from memory*; *to come to* (a person's) *memory*; *to bear, have, keep in memory.* † *To draw* or *take into* or *to memory*: to recollect, remember. † *To have memory (of)*: to recollect (trans. and intr.). † *Out of memory*: forgotten.

c 1369 CHAUCER *Bk. Duchesse* 945 Hir throte, as I haue now memoyre, Semed a round tour of yvoyre. *c* 1386 — *Miller's Prol.* 4 It was a noble storie And worthy for to drawen to memorie. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 37 Who so drawth into memoire What hath befalle of old and newe. *Ibid.* II. 22 Bot al was clene out of memoire. *Ibid.* III. 166 Tak into memoire, For al this pompe and al this pride Let no justice gon aside. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 5752 Sich as..toward god have no memorie. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* lxxii. 5 Having his passioun in memorye. 1550 CROWLEY *Last Trumpet* 1021 Se thou cal to memori The ende wherfore al men are made. 1553 EDEN *Treat. Newe Ind.* (Arb.) 15 This beaste..doth wonderfulli beare in memorie benefytes shewed vnto him. 1570–6 LAMBARDE *Peramb. Kent* (1826) 156 Whilest each man was guiltie of the fault, and had fresh memorie thereof. 1590 SIR J. SMYTH *Disc. Weapons* 2 The most of the which that shall fall into my memorie. 1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* IV. ix. 7 When men reuolted shall vpon Record Beare hatefull memory. 1611 BIBLE 1 *Cor.* xv. 2 If yee keepe in memorie what I preached vnto you. *a* 1626 BACON *New Atl.* (1900) 21 Wee haue memory not of one Shipp that euer returned. 1638 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (ed. 2) 25 Suffer me (whiles in memory) to tell you of a fish or 2 which in these seas were obvious. 1802 WORDSW. *Sonn.*, When I have borne in memory what has tamed Great Nations. 1856 GROTE *Greece* II. xcviii. XII. 647 A considerable portion of the Greeks of Olbia could repeat the Iliad from memory. *Mod.* The portrait was painted from memory.

b. An act or instance of remembrance; a representation in the memory, a recollection.

1817 SHELLEY *Rev. Islam* VII. iii, She told me a strange tale.., Like broken memories of many a heart Woven into one. 1833 TENNYSON *Lady Clara* iv, You put strange memories in my head. 1854 MRS. STOWE (*title*) Sunny Memories of Foreign Lands.

c. A person or thing held in remembrance.

1842 TENNYSON *Gardener's Daughter* (end), The darling of my manhood, and, alas! Now the most blessed memory of my age. 1886 A. BIRRELL in *Contemp. Rev.* L. 28 The first great fact to remember is, that the Edmund Burke we are all agreed in regarding as one of the proudest memories of the House of Commons was an Irishman.

4. The fact or condition of being remembered; 'exemption from oblivion' (J.). ? *Obs.* exc. as in b.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xl. (*Ninian*) 1086 Þis sa schort tyme gane ves þat get it is in memor fresch. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* I. 14 To put in wryt a suthfast story, That it lest ay furth in memory. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. i. 1 To thentent that the..featis of armes..shulde..be..put in perpetuall memory. 1579–80 NORTH *Plutarch, Theseus* (1595) 15 And this is that which is worthy memorie..touching the wars of these Amazones. 1591 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. VI*, IV. iii. 51 That euer-liuing man of Memorie, Henrie the fift. 1644 MILTON *Educ.* Wks. (1847) 98/1 To say or do aught worthy memory. 1656 STANLEY *Hist. Philos.* VI. (1701) 243/2 Mortal Nature..obtaineth Eternal Memory by the greatness of such works.

b. *In memory of*, † *to the memory of*: so as to keep alive the remembrance of; as a record of. Also † *in memory*, for a memorial.

a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* xxvi. 9 In memore of his passion. ? 1370 *Robt. Cicyle* 63 Thys storye ys, witbowten lye, At Rome wretyn in memorye. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xiv. (*Lucas*) 31 In lofe & memore of þare name. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 1118 In mynde & in memory of him to make a cite. 1509 HAWES *Past. Plea.* xlv. (Percy Soc.) 220 Makyng great bokes to be in memory. 1640 BP. HALL *Chr. Moder.* I. xii. 127 A yearely fast called Arzibur, in the sad memory of the dog of Sergius. 1653 *Nissena* 154 A Livery which they wore to the memory of the deceased King. 1769 GOLOSM. *Hist. Rome* II. 490 He removed, for change of air, to Helenopolis, a city which he had built to the memory of his mother. 1781 J. MORISON in *Sc. Paraphrases* XXXV. vi, Through latest ages let it pour In mem'ry of my dying hour.

5. The recollection (*of* something) perpetuated amongst men; what is remembered *of* a person, object, or event; (good or bad) posthumous repute.

c 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 495 Þe whilk place, for þe childes memour, Es halden ȝit in grete honour. 1490 CAXTON *Eneydos* xxvii. 102 Memore shalbe therof as longe as heuyn & erthe shall last. 1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV*, IV. iv. 75 Their memorie Shall as a Patterne, or a Measure, liue. 1611 BIBLE *Prov.* x. 7 The memorie of the iust is blessed. 1625 BACON *Ess., Great Place* (Arb.) 293 Vse the Memory of thy Predecessor fairly, and tenderly. 1662 J. DAVIES tr. *Olearius' Voy. Ambass.* 125 Cyril of Alexandria, whose memory the Greeks celebrate on the 9. of June. 1711 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 28 May, I..promised to do what I could to help him to a service, which I did for Harry Tenison's memory. 1781 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xvii. II. 44 The memory of Constantine has been deservedly censured for another innovation which corrupted military discipline. 1838 ARNOLD *Hist. Rome* (1846) I. vi. 213 His father's memory..was regarded with respect and affection. 1868 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1877) II. vii. 45 He has left a dark and sad memory behind.

b. *Of blessed, happy, famous* (etc.) *memory*: a formula used after the names of sovereigns, princes, or other notable persons who have been distinguished for their actions or virtues.

[1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) V. 149 Seynte Gregory.. callethe Constantyne a man of goode memory.] 1485 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 288/2 The most famous Prince of blessed memorie King Herrie the VIth. 1509 FISHER *Funeral Serm. C'tess Richmond* Wks. (1876) 289 A comynycacyon betwyxt the woman of blessed memory called Martha and our sauyour Ihesu. 1605 CAMDEN *Rem.* 3 Our late Soveraigne, of most deare sacred and ever-glorious memorie Queene Elizabeth. 1660 LD. BRUDNELL in *Buccleuch MSS.* (Hist. MS. Comm.) I. 313 When his late Majesty of glorious memory was intended to go against the Scots. 1738 SWIFT *Pol. Conversat.* Introd. 4 His late Majesty King William the Third, of ever glorious and immortal Memory. 1762 BP. FORBES *Jrnl.* (1886) 176 The widow of Sutherland of Bogsie, of facetious memory.

6. The length of time over which the recollection of a person or a number of persons extends; chiefly in phr. *beyond*, † *past*, † *out of, within the memory* (*of man*). † *Through all memory*: for all time.

1530 TINDALE *Pract. Prelates* D vij, And in his lawe he [the pope] thrust in fayned gyftes of old emperours that were out of memorye, sayenge that [etc.]. 1542 *Aberdeen Reg.* (1844) I. 439 Vsit and perseruit all tymes bigane, past memor of man. 1555 EDEN *Decades* I. IV. 21 b, The same yeare, the sea..rose higher than euer it dyd before by the memory of man [orig. *more maiorum*]. 1570–6 LAMBARDE *Peramb. Kent* (1576) 9 Within memorie almost the one halfe of the first sorte be disparked. 1643 MILTON *Divorce* II. xi, Why then is Pilat branded through all memory? 1667 — *P. L.* VII. 637 How first this World and face of things began, And what before thy memorie was don From the beginning. *a* 1676 HALE *De Jure Maris* I. vi. in *Hargrave's Law Tracts* (1787) I. 35 That the river of the Severn *usque filum aquæ* was time out of memory parcell of that manor. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 13 ¶ 4 He..has drawn together greater Audiences than have been known in the Memory of Man. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* i. init., I purpose to write the history of England from the accession of king James the Second down to a time which is within the memory of men still living. 1870 TOULMIN SMITH *Eng. Gilds* 213 *margin*, The gild was begun at a time beyond the memory of man.

b. *Law. Time of* (*legal*) *memory*: see quots.

Cf. the corresponding phrase 'Time Immemorial, or Time whereof the Memory of Man runneth not to the contrary', *Act 2 & 3 Will. IV*, c. 71 § 1.

1642 tr. *Perkins' Prof. Bk.* ii. § 120. 54 If a Deed bear date before time of memory it is not pleadable. 1766 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* I. 31 Time of memory hath been long ago ascertained by the law to commence from the reign of Richard the first.

7. *Eccl.* A commemoration, esp. of the departed. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.*

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 7957 Þe bryde [part of the Host] he offreþ to haue memory For soules þat are yn purgatory. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. vii. 88 He is holden..to..munge me in his memorie Among alle cristene. 1463 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 18 And after the seid messe to sey a memorie of requiem for vs. 1558 in Strype *Ann. Ref.* I. App. iv. 6 If there be some other devout sort of prayers or memory said. 1591 SPENSER *M. Hubberd* 454 Their memories, their singings, and their gifts. 1853 ROCK *Ch. of Fathers* IV. xii. 125 After the collect for the day..came the 'memories', or, as we now call them, 'commemorations'. 1885 R. W. DIXON *Hist. Ch. Eng.* xviii. III. 283 (tr. *Bucer*), And I am told that there are women of title who boldly demand memories to be celebrated when there are no communicants.

† **8.** *To make memory of*: to preserve a record or memorial of; to record, mention. *Obs.*

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxv. (*Julian*) 31 Of wthyre Iulyanis sere mencione I sal mak ȝou here, & als sume memor sal I ma of Iulyane apostata. *c* 1420 LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 1515 For on the walles was made memory Singlerly of euery creature That there had byn. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* III. ii. 1 To whom no share in armes and chevalree They doe impart, ne maken memoree Of their brave gestes. *a* 1643 LD. FALKLAND, etc. *Infallibility* (1646) 85 There is no memory made how the sentence was received.

† **9.** A memorial writing; a historical account; a record of a person or an event; a history. *Obs.*

1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) II. 269 Camhises,..vnder whom the memory [L. *historia*] of that woman Iudith happede. *c* 1470 HARDING *Chron.* cv. iii, The kyng came home with honour and victorye, As Flores saieth right in his memorye. *a* 1540 BARNES *Wks.* (1573) 183 Wee doe not read in any memoryes, that our fathers haue left vs, that [etc.]. 1572 R. H. tr. *Lauaterus' Ghostes* (1596) 69 Immediately after this Historie, he putteth na other more worthie memorie than the foremost. 1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* V. xii. 359 There are certaine memories and discourses which say, that in this Temple the Divell did speake visibly. 1673 RAY *Journ. Low C.* 6 There is no memory that these places were part of the Continent. 1730 A. GORDON *Maffei's Amphith.* 57 There is no Memory of any other [Amphitheatre] to be found on Medals.

† **10.** An object or act serving as a memorial; a memento. *Obs.*

c 1470 HARDING *Chron.* CXXI. iii, The Abbay of Batayle.. He called it so then for a memorye Of his batayle. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 231/1 They fond hys rynge and one gloue whiche they brought agayn and that other the Sextayn reteyned for a wytnes and memorie. 1547 *Injunc. Edw. VI*, xxviii. c ij b, That they shall take awaie..all shrines [etc.]..so that there remain no memory of the same, in walles, glasses, windowes, or els where. 1548–9 (Mar.) *Bk. Com. Prayer, Communion*, And did institute, and in his holy Gospell commaund us, to celebrate a perpetuall memory of that his precious death. 1575 in W. H. Turner *Select. Rec. Oxford* (1880) 367 To remaine as a perpetuall memory and record of such orders. 1605 SHAKS. *Lear* IV. vii. 7 These weedes are memories of those worser houres. 1624 BEDELL *Lett.* xi. 150 It is a memorie and representation of the true Sacrifice..made on the Altar of the Crosse.

† **11.** A memorial tomb, shrine, chapel, or the like; a monument. *Obs.*

c 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 49 Men bigging þe memoryes of martres. 1579 FULKE *Refut. Rastel* 797 Miracles worked at their chappelles or memorie. 1641 MEDE *Apost. Latter T.* 120 Those who approached the shrines of Martyrs, and prayed at their memories, and sepulchers. 1656 EVELYN *Diary* 8 July, King Coilus..of whom I find no memory save at the pinnacle of one of their wool-staple houses, where is a statue. 1691 WOOD *Ath. Oxon.* I. 541 Jackson..was buried in the Inner Chappel..but hath no memory at all over his grave.

12. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *memory-haunted, -haunting* adjs.; *memory-picture, -stone*; memory-man, a professor of mnemonics; † memory-mountebank, a quack exponent of mnemonics.

1848 DICKENS *Dombey* lix, *Memory-haunted twilight.

1882 'OUIDA' *Maremma* I. 151 The wondrous, mysterious, memory-haunted land. 1899 E. J. CHAPMAN *Drama Two Lives* 14 Many a *memory-haunting face. 1815 MOORE *Epil. to 'Ina'* 35 Nothing can surpass the plan Of that Professor—(*trying to recollect*) psha!—that *Memory-man. 1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* III. x. 174 The artificiall rules which..are delivered by *Memory-mountebanks. 1887 F. FRANCIS *Saddle & Mocassin* 267 One of those *memory pictures that form the pleasantest relics of travel. *a* 1847 ELIZA COOK *To Mem. Burns* ii, None that deck thy *memory-stone.

Me·moryless, *a.* [-LESS.] Having no memory.

1857 LOWELL in *Atlantic Monthly* Dec. (1892) 755/1, I am glad you do not forget me, though I seem so memoryless and ungrateful.

Memour, -oyre, obs. forms of MEMORY.

Memphian (me·mfiăn), *a.* and *sb.* [f. *Memphi-s* + -AN.] a. *adj.* Pertaining to Memphis, a city of ancient Egypt; often used vaguely for 'Egyptian'. *Memphian stone*: Pliny's *lapis Memphites* (cf. MEPHIS). b. *sb.* An inhabitant or native of Memphis; an Egyptian.

1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. i. 783 One,..a fearfull slaughter made Of all the First-born that the Memphians had. 1605 *Ibid.* II. iii. III. *Law* 895 They long For Memphian botch-potch, Leeks, and Garlick strong. 1635 RUTTER *Shepheards Holy day* v. ii. F 5 b, A Memphian stone, that has the power To bring a deadly sleepe on all the senses. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* I. 307 Busiris and his Memphian Chivalrie. 1752 FOOTE *Taste* II. Wks. 1799 I. 19 Indisputable antiques, and of the Memphian marble. 1821 BYRON *Juan* III. lxv, Like skulls at Memphian banquets. 1827 POLLOK *Course T.* VII, The Memphian mummy now shook off its rags.

Memphitic (memfi·tik), *a.* [ad. Gr. Μεμφιτικός, f. Μεμφίτης inhabitant of Memphis: see -ITE and -IC.] Pertaining to Memphis, or to the dialect of Coptic spoken there. Also † **Memphi·tical** *a.*

1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 492 b, You builde not the consciences of men, but highe steepe Memphyticall Steeples (as I may tearme them)..of lofty speeches. 1861 *Chambers's Encycl.* II. 78/1 The duplex Egyptian [version]..the one being in the language of Lower Egypt, and termed the Coptic or Memphitic [etc.]. 1875 LIGHTFOOT *Comm. Col.* (ed. 2) 312 *note*, The readings of the Memphitic Version.

Mempris, -yse, obs. forms of MAINPRIZE.

‖ **Mem-sahib** (me·msâ,ib). [See quot. 1886 and SAHIB.] A European married lady.

1857 *Housek. Words* 19 Dec. 16/1 An Affghan..inquired if the Sahib or Mem-sahib was in want of any of these commodities. 1886 YULE & BURNELL *Hobson-Jobson, Mem-Sahib.* This singular example of a hybrid term is the usual respectful designation of a European married lady in the Bengal Presidency; the first portion representing *ma'am. Madam Sahib* is used at Bombay.

† **Men**, *indef. pron. Obs.* See also ME *indef. pron.* [Weakened form of MAN *indef. pron.*; cf. Du. *men.*] = ONE 21.

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 33 Þis beot þa twa sunne þe men fulieð alra swiðest. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* (Abbotsf.) 1372 As men [*v.r.* me] droh ham to bare deað. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1293 And morie, men seið, was ðat hil. *c* 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* Prol. 205, I bad men sholde me my covche make. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* II. vii. (1495) 33 Of the other two Ierarchyes men shall speke innermore in theyr owne place. 1483 CAXTON *G. de la Tour* f v b, Men ought not to susteyne his lord in his wrathe and yre. 1484 — *Fables of Æsop* V. vii, Men muste putte hym self at the vpper syde of hym.

Men, plural of MAN *sb.* **Men**, obs. f. MEAN.

† **Menable**, *a. Obs.* [a. OF. *menable*, f. *mener* to lead: see -ABLE.] a. Having the quality of leading; fit to lead or guide. b. Capable of being, or liable to be, led; amenable.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 197 And tho began to blowe A wynd menable fro the lond. *Ibid.* 292 Thogh a man be resonable, Yit after kinde he is menable To love.

† **Menacane.** *Min. Obs.* [a. G. *menacan* (Werner), f. the place-name *Menachan.*] = MENACHANITE. Hence (by back-formation) † **Menac**, as a name for a genus including 'menacane'.

1803 G. MITCHEL in *Trans. R. Irish Acad.* X. 11 Of the genus Menac we are already acquainted with five species or ores. *Ibid.* 23 Menacane.

Menaccanite: see MENACHANITE.

Menace (me·năs), *sb.* Now *literary.* Forms: *α.* 4 manasce, -aase, 4–5 manas(se, 4–6 manace, 5 menys, 5, 7 manesse, 6 mannace, -asshe, meanus, menasse, manasshe, 5– menace. *β. north.* and *Sc.* 4 manaunce, -anss, 4–5 man(n)ance, 5 manans. [a. OF. *manace, menace* (mod. F. *menace*), a Com. Rom. word, = Pr. *menassa*, Sp. (*a*)*menaza*, Pg. (*a*)*meaça*, It. *minaccia*:—L. *minācia*, f. *mināc-*, *minax* adj. threatening, f. *minārī* to threaten.

The β forms prob. arose from association with words in *-ance*. Editors have commonly printed *manauce*, etc., but the *-ance* is in several instances authenticated by rimes.]

A declaration or indication of hostile intention, or of a probable evil or catastrophe; a threat.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 1834 For quils þat godd þam raght his grace, Littel roght þam of his manance [*other MSS.* manace]. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 340 He bad hem trete, And stinte of the manaces grete. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 5032 He had mare drede of his trespas þan of þe Erlis manas. 1484 CAXTON *Fables of Æsop* II. xvi. (1889) 54 Somme maken grete menaces whiche haue no myghte. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. cccxxvii. 207 b, Suche wordes and manasshes abasshed greatly ye cardynals. 1584 R. SCOT *Discov. Witchcr.* IX. vii. (1886) 142 They stand in more awe of the manacies of a witch than of all the threatnings..pronounced by God. 1664 H. MORE *Myst. of Iniq.* 281 Those powerful and affrightful

words of Excommunication, that Menace of committing men to Hell-fire. 1682 N. O. *Boileau's Lutrin* III. 134 And scorn their proudest braves, their stern Menaces! [*rime* faces]. 1768 Blackstone *Comm.* III. 120 A menace alone, without a consequent inconvenience, makes not the injury. 1820 Byron *Mar. Fal.* IV. i, What means this menace? 1867 Froude *Short Stud.* (1883) IV. i. ix. 106 The fierce menace was delivered amidst frowning groups of..nobles.

b. In generalized use: The action of threatening.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 27439 He dredis manas or tresum. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 63 A pore man þei constreynen to synne bi manas. *c* 1430 Lydg. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 5 A sturdy champion..His sword upreryd, proudly gave manace. *c* 1447 in *Jarrow & Wearmouth* (Surtees) 243 Wt mony other wirdis of menys. 1470 *Gaw. & Gol.* 446 Withoutin menance [*rimes* legiance, plesance]. 1508 Dunbar *Flyting w. Kennedie* 4 Had thay maid of mannace ony mynting. 1781 Gibbon *Decl. & F.* xli. (1869) II. 511 The voice of menace and complaint was silent. 1797 Mrs. Radcliffe *Italian* iii, The Marchese persisted in accusation and menace. 1874 Green *Short Hist.* viii. § 2. 477 The English fleet..was cruising by way of menace off the Spanish coast.

†c. Phr. *to make (much, great, no) menace.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 28517 In gang, in chere, in contenance, þat i to men ha mad manace. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* xvii. 664 Thai..gret manansse till him mais. ? *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 3383 All hir mode chaungede, And mad myche manace with mervayllous wordes. *c* 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 355 And mak him na manance, bot al mesoure. 1634 Milton *Comus* 654 Though he and his curst crew Feirce signe of battail make, and menace high.

d. Attributed to impersonal agents.

c 1374 Chaucer *Boeth.* I. met. iv. 7 (Camb. MS.) The Rage ne the manesses of þe see commoeuynge or chasinge vpward heete. 1697 Dryden *Æneid* IX. 38 The dark Menace of the distant War. 1824 Byron *Def. Transf.* I. ii. 195 Wilt thou Turn back from shadowy menaces of shadows? 1841 James *Brigand* i, If yonder frowning cloud fulfil one half its menaces. 1871 Palgrave *Lyr. Poems* 19 The sudden war and menace of the skies.

e. Said of a state of things, etc., which threatens danger or catastrophe.

1857 Gallenga *Italy* 373 It was an insult to the republicans, ..it was a menace to the aristocracy of Turin. 1874 Green *Short Hist.* vii. § 3. 362 The old social discontent..remained a perpetual menace to public order.

Menace (me·năs), *v.* Forms: α. 4 manysche, *Sc.* maynysse, 4–5 manaas(s)e, manesse, 4–6 manas(s)e, mannasse, 4–7 manace, 4–5 manasce, -ashe, meanashe, 5 manece, 5–6 manasshe, -ysshe, 6 *Sc.* manes(s)e, -is(s)e, -ische, -yse, -yssyche, mannese, -esche, minisse, mynace, 6–7 chiefly *Sc.* menasse, minace, -ase, myn-, minasse, 5– menace. β. *north.* and *Sc.* 4 man(n)ance, mananse, -ance, -aunse, -aunze. [a. F. *menacer* (11th c.), also *manecier, -echier*, AF. *manasser* (Wadington) = Pr. *menassar*, Sp. (*a*)*menazar*, Pg. (*a*)*meaçar*, It. *minacciare*:—popular L. **mināciāre*, f. *minācia* Menace *sb.*]

1. *trans.* To utter or hold out menaces against; to threaten.

1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 3681 3yf þou any man manasse þurgh force or power þat þou hasse. *a* 1340 Hampole *Psalter* xxvii. 10 God manaunsid þaim with hell. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* xi. 150 Thai..Mannausit [*read* Mannansit] the Scottis men halely With gret vordis. 1472–3 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 54/1 The said Thomas Trethenry and Elizabeth his wyfe,..have thretted and manassed the Tenauntes. 1523 Ld. Berners *Froiss.* I. xxvii. 40 These infidels sore dyd manysshe Christendome. 1545 *Burgh Rec. Stirling* (1887) 41 Contrair the will of the wache, manisand and boistand thaim. 1632a Heywood *1st Pt. Iron Age* III. i. Wks. 1874 III. 304 The boldest Greeke That euer manac'd Troy. 1739 Cibber *Apol.* (1756) I. 262 When he is compell'd or menac'd into any opinion that he does not readily conceive. 1828 Macaulay *Ess., Hallam* (1851) I. 54 Her subjects were incited to rebellion; her life was menaced. 1840 Dickens *Barn. Rudge* xvii, 'Hear me', he replied, menacing her with his hand.

b. Said of impersonal agents.

1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xiii. 6 How þat elde manaced me. 1483 Caxton *Cato* 4 How the foure elementes menace alle men that [etc.]. 1594 Shaks. *Rich. III*, I. iv. 175 Your eyes do menace me: why looke you pale? *a* 1649 Drumm. of Hawth. *Poems* Wks. (1711) 4 High woods, whose mounting tops menace the spheres. 1790 Burke *Fr. Rev.* 306 These evils are great...Sooner or later they may menace the nation itself. 1840 Macaulay *Ess., Clive* (1851) II. 523 A new and formidable danger menaced the western frontier.

†c. Const. inf. *Obs.*

c 1325 *Song of Yesterday* 158 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 137 Wel þou wost..þat deþ haþ manast þe to die. 1429 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 345/2 [They] hem maneshud to bee dede if they made any resistence. *a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* (1868) 118 Thei toke hym and menaced hym to stone hym vnto dethe.

2. *intr.* To utter menaces; to be threatening.

c 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 8853 So longe he manased & þret, Atte laste to-gydere þey met. *c* 1430 Lydg. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 159 O man is meeke, anothir doth manace. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* II. iv. 74 Furtht drawin haldis this subtell hors of tree, And manysand strydis throw the myd cietie. 1601 Shaks. *Jul. C.* I. iii. 44 Who euer knew the Heauens menace so? *a* 1700 Dryden *Fables, Pythag. Philos.* 36 'Twas Death to go away, And the God menac'd if he dar'd to stay. 1774 Burke *Sp. Amer. Tax.* Sel. Wks. I. 135 Earth below shook; heaven above menaced. 1858 Froude *Hist. Eng.* III. xii. 1 It was idle to menace while he was unable to strike.

3. *trans.* To hold out as a punishment, penalty, or danger; to threaten to inflict.

a 1340 Hampole *Psalter* Prol. 3 Now manassand hell til wyckyd. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxiii. (*VII Sleperis*) 51 Þame manesand ded in þat place. 1529 More *Dyalogue* IV. Wks. 265/2 God, yt manasseth vnto them ye paines of hel. 1621 G. Sandys *Ovid's Met.* V. (1626) 89 Such as menace warre. 1796 Morse *Amer. Geog.* I. 219 Their eyes..and their brandishing forked tongues,..menaces [*sic*] a horrid death. 1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) IV. 134 The chief symptoms, menacing abortion, are transitory pains in the back..or [etc.]. 1854 Milman *Lat. Chr.* VII. iii. (1864) IV. 137 No threatened excommunication is now menaced.

b. with *inf.* or *clause* as object.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xli. (*Agnes*) 123 He..manesit hire to bet & bynd. *c* 1412 Hoccleve *Reg. Princes* 5292 Thi self manaseth þi self for to dye. 1565 Cooper *Thesaurus* s.v. *Denuntio*, To manase that he will bryng him before a iudge. 1620 Quarles *Jonah* C 1 b, Great Ashur minaces with whip in hand, To entertaine thee (welcome) to his land. 1632 Lithgow *Trav.* I. 12 The Riuer Tyber..often Manasseth to drowne the whole Mansions. 1883 J. Martine *Reminisc. Old Haddington* 73 The solitary dissentient was menacing to leave the meeting-house.

†4. To use threateningly. *Obs. rare*—1.

1649 Milton *Eikon.* 23 Swords and Pistols cockt and menac'd in the hands of about three hundred..Ruffians.

Hence **Me·naceable** *a.*, capable of being put down by threats; **Me·naceful** *a.*, threatening; **Me·nacement**, menacing, threatening; **Me·nacer**, one who menaces or threatens.

1613 Wotton in *Relig.* (1672) 416 Which feminine menacement did no doubt incite him to do it. 1642 W. Bird *Mag. Hon.* 46 The Menacer..standeth in the face of his enemy. 1746 Turnbull *Justin* XXVIII. iii. 222 Antigonus..being besieged in his palace by a menaceful mob of the Macedonians. 1802–12 Bentham *Ration. Judic. Evid.* (1827) III. 70 A threat, an act of menacement. 1864 Carlyle *Fredk. Gt.* XVII. vii. (1872) VI. 203 The malpractice seems to have proved menaceable in that manner. 1891 *Gd. Words* Aug. 556/1 Did it acquire its menaceful character because it had been placed on the head of Medusa?

Menaced (me·năst), *ppl. a.* [f. Menace *v.* + -ed 1.] **a.** Assailed by menaces or threats. **b.** Held out or indicated as an intended or probable evil or catastrophe.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 324/1 Manassyd, or thret, *minatus.* 1567 Golding *Ovid's Met.* VIII. (1593) 205 The manast oke did quake and sigh. 1644 Vicars *God in Mount* 204 Our menaced Arke was borne up above the .. waves. 1738 Glover *Leonidas* I. 10 How best their menac'd liberties to guard. 1803 *Times* 3 Oct., The accounts from France relative to the menaced invasion. 1860 Mill *Repr. Govt.* (1865) 60/2 Injured or menaced interests.

Menachanite (mĕnæ·kănəit). *Min.* Also 8 menack-, man-, 8–9 menaccanite. [f. *Menachan*, in Cornwall + -ite.] A variety of Ilmenite. Hence **Menachani·tic** *a.*, containing menachanite.

1795 E. S. *Let.* in Polwhele *Trad. & Recoll.* (1826) II. 427 The Manaccanite, a mineral or semi-metal resembling gunpowder. 1796 Kirwan *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) II. 326 Menachanite. *Ibid.* 327 The Menachanitic Calx. 1845 Newbold in *Jrnl. Asiat. Soc. Bengal* XIV. 291 Gold-dust is found associated with..menaccanite.

Menacing (me·năsiŋ), *vbl. sb.* Now *rare.* [f. Menace *v.* + -ing 1.] The action of the verb Menace; threatening; menace.

1352 Minot *Poems* i. 49 Ma manasinges 3it haue thai maked. 1451 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 330 For the meanashing done in the Maire [h]is presennce, that he wolde kyll and take certain men. 1533 Bellenden *Livy* II. xvii. (S.T.S.) I. 197 Howbeit þow was full of mynassing [*v.r.* minissing]. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* xi. 24 The thretnyng ande menassing of Gode contrar obstinat, vicius pepil. 1656 *Artif. Handsom.* 66 These..fall to cavillings and menacings. 1866 Carlyle *Inaug. Addr.* 199 Tell them..to disregard..the temporary noises, menacings, and deliriums.

Menacing (me·năsiŋ), *ppl. a.* [-ing 2.] That menaces or threatens; threatening.

1549 Coverdale, etc. *Erasm. Par. Heb.* 19 To heare these manassyng wordes of the prophecie. 1570–6 Lambarde *Peramb. Kent* (1826) 149 He mooveth the King by minacing letters to admit Stephan. 1774 Burke *Sp. Amer. Tax.* Sel. Wks. I. 134 There were in both Houses new and menacing appearances. 1867 Lady Herbert *Cradle L.* viii. 212 The population..gathered in menacing attitude.

Menacingly (me·năsiŋli), *adv.* [f. prec. + -ly 2.] In a menacing manner; threateningly.

1581 Savile *Tacitus' Hist.* (1612) 78 Setting vpon Verginius menacingly they besought him [etc.]. 1738 H. Brooke *Tasso* II. 45 With awful Grace superior Godfrey smiled, And thus rejoin'd more menacingly mild. 1874 Green *Short Hist.* IV. § 3. 179 The English fortress of Edinburgh looked menacingly across the Forth.

Menaciously, -acy: see Minaciously, Minacy.

Menad, Menadic, var. Mænad, Mænadic.

1831 Carlyle *Sart. Res.* III. x, The rites..supposed to be of the Menadic sort. 1863 Geo. Eliot *Romola* I. xviii. I. 309 Dances of satyrs and menads.

† Menadry. *Obs.* (See quots.)

1570 Dee *Math. Pref.* Dj, Menadrie, is an Arte Mathematicall, which demonstrateth, how, aboue Natures vertue and power simple: Vertue and force may be multiplied: and so, to direct, to lift, to pull to, and to put or cast fro, any multiplied or simple, determined Vertue, Waight or Force: naturally not so directible or mouable. 1620–55 I. Jones *Stone-Heng* (1725) 23 Menadry, or Art of ordering Engines for raising Weights. 1665 J. Webb *Stone-Heng* (1725) 218 It is a Maxim as well in Menadry as War,..a true and equal Draught..raiseth up mighty Weights.

Ménage, menage (menā·ʒ). Now only as Fr. Also 4 **mayngnage, manage,** 5 **maynage, manyage, meynage, menaige.** [a. OF. *manaige, menaige* (mod.F. *ménage*):—popular L. **mansiōnāticum*, f. L. *mansiōn-em* dwelling (see Mansion), whence F. *maison* house. Cf. Mesnage.]

†1. The members of a household; a man's household or 'meinie'. *Obs.*

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 3799 Al þe bachelerie þat a3t was in þe lond he nom in is compaynie & of is mayngnage [*v. r.* maynage, manyage]. 13.. *K. Alis.* 2087 Darye..With his children, and with his wyve, And with his suster, and his menage. 1490 Caxton *Eneydos* vi. 29 Jubyter..wyth his wyf and meynage, wente anone wyth theym.

2. The management of a household, housekeeping; hence, a domestic establishment (often *concr.* or semi-*concr.*).

1698 W. King tr. *Sorbière's Journ. Lond.* 3 In Paris, there are from Four to Five, and to Ten menages or distinct Families in many Houses. 1790 Sir S. Romilly in *Life* (1842) I. 297, I long to..see you in your *ménage*, which I cannot express in English, because we have no word for it. 1808 Han. More *Cælebs* (1809) I. iii. 32 Nothing tended to make ladies so..inefficient in the menage as the study of the dead languages. 1842 De Quincey *Mod. Greece* Wks. 1863 XIII. 460 No single Greek nuisance can be placed on the same scale with the dogs attached to every *menage*, whether household or pastoral. 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* lxiv, She tried keeping house with a female friend; then the double *ménage* began to quarrel and get into debt. 1887 Dowden *Shelley* II. iv. 115 An annual sufficiency to support a little ménage would be desirable.

¶ **b.** *transf.* Applied to the staff or company of a theatre. ? *nonce-use.*

1746 H. Walpole *Lett. to Mann* 12 Aug., Lord Middlesex took the opportunity of a rivalship between his own mistress, the Nardi, and the Violette,..to involve the whole ménage of the Opera in the quarrel, and has paid nobody.

3. *Sc.* and *northern.* **a.** 'A friendly society, of which every member pays in a fixed sum weekly, to be continued for a given term' (Jamieson 1825). **b.** (See quot. 1829.) Hence *Comb.* **menage-man,** an itinerant vendor of goods which are to be paid for by instalments. (See also *Eng. Dial. Dict.*)

1829 Brockett *Gloss. N. C. Words* (ed. 2), *Manadge*, a box or club instituted by inferior shop-keepers—generally linen-drapers—for supplying goods to poor or improvident people, who agree to pay for them by instalments. 1866 Mitchell *Hist. Montrose* ix. 85 They would have got their clothing by joining a menage to which they paid 1/- in the week. 1893 *Newcastle Even. Chron.* 11 Dec. 2/4 He gave his wife to understand that she had to contract no debts with the menage-man. 1904 A. Griffiths *50 Years Public Service* xix. 283 *note*, The number of debtors was always large at York on account of the widespread practices of the 'menage men' as they were called.

Menage, etc.: see Manage, etc.

Menagerie (mĕnæ·dʒĕri). Also 8–9 **-ery,** (8 managerie, menegerie). [a. F. *ménagerie* domestic administration, management of cattle, building of a cattle-farm, now chiefly in sense 1 below; f. *ménage*: see Ménage and -ery. Cf. Managery.]

1. A collection of wild animals in cages or enclosures, esp. one kept for exhibition, as in zoological gardens or a travelling show. Also, the place or building in which they are kept.

1712 J. James tr. *Le Blond's Gardening* 23 Menagery is a Place where they keep Animals of several Kinds for Curiosity. 1762–71 H. Walpole *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1786) IV. 8 Laguerre's father..became master of the menagerie at Versailles. 1829 Landor *Imag. Conv., Albani & Pict.-Dealers* Wks. 1853 II. 12/2 As to the lion, he has been in the menagery from his birth. 1886 J. G. Wood in *Leis. Hour* 445 From early childhood I have been in the habit of frequenting menageries.

b. *transf.* and *allusively.*

1784 Cowper *Tiroc.* 293 What causes move us, knowing as we must That these *Menageries* all fail their trust, To send our sons to scout and scamper there? 1850 Carlyle *Latter-d. Pamph.* vii. (1872) 241 Our menagerie of live Peers in Parliament. 1854 Macaulay *Biog., Johnson* (1860) 121 An old quack doctor named Levett..completed this strange menagerie.

†2. An aviary. *Obs.*

1749 Lady Luxborough *Lett. to Shenstone* 29 Aug., I have reared but one single Guinea-chick this year.—If I had such a command of corn and of water as you have, I should be apt to fall into the expense of a *Ménagerie*. 1757 Mrs. Delany in *Life & Corr.* 461 The menagerie is not stored with great variety, but great quantities of Indian pheasants. 1830 'B. Moubray' *Dom. Poultry* (ed. 6) 129 The Noblemen and Gentlemen who have private menageries for pheasants.

Hence **Mena·gerist,** a keeper of a menagerie.

1850 in Cansick *Epitaphs Middlesex* (1872) II. 130 To the Memory of George Wombwell (Menagerist),..died..1850.

Menagerie, -ery, variant forms of Menagery.

Me·nagogue. *rare*—0. [=F. *ménagogue* (Littré), f. Gr. *μήν* month + *ἀγωγός* leading, bringing in.] = Emmenagogue.

1755 in Johnson; and in mod. Dicts.

Menagry, Menal: see Menagery, Menial.

Menald (me·năld), *a.* Forms: 7 **menel(e)d, menelled, menild,** 9 **mennal, menald.** [? f. Meanel + -ed 2.] Of animals: Spotted, speckled. Of a deer: Of a dappled chestnut colour. Also as *sb.*, a deer of that colour.

1611 Cotgr., *Grivelé*, peckled, speckled; meneld, mayled, (blacke, and white). *Ibid.*, *Perdrix maillée*, a Menild, or spotted Partridge. 1693 Ray *Syn. Quadrup.* 86 Sunt..albis maculis pariter variegatæ,..ut à D. Robinson habeo, *Menal'd Deer* vocant. 1902 *Field* Aug. 285/3 In 1863 the following colours and shades were to be seen in Garendon Park, .. viz. :—.. black, fallow, dappled fallow, .. mennal (Col. B.'s dappled chestnut), strawberry mennal (dappled roan) [etc.]. *Ibid.*, All the light colours..were not so hardy as the blacks, dark duns, fallows and mennals.

† **Menalty.** *Obs. rare*—[1]. [f. *mene*, MEAN *a.*[2] + -AL + -TY. Cf. MESNALTY.] The middle class.

a 1548 HALL *Chron. Hen. IV* 10 b, The euill parliament for the nobilitee, the worse for the menaltie, but worste of all for the commonaltee.

Menalty: see MENIALTY, MESNALTY.

Menar, Menaret, Menas(s, Menatair, Menavelings, Menawe: see MANURE, MINARET, MENACE, MINOTAUR, MANAVILINS, MINNOW.

Mence, Menchen, -on (etc.), **Mencion, -ioun** (etc.): see MENSE, MINCE, MINCHEN, MANSION, MENTION.

Mend (mend), *sb.* Also 4-6 mende; 6-9 *Sc. pl. as sing.* mense, (6 mens). [Partly aphetic for *amend* (see AMENDS); partly f. MEND *v.*]

† **1.** Recompense, reparation; also, something given as compensation. *Obs.*

a. *pl.* in form; usually construed as *sing.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 23152 Vnnethes sal man find an in lede þat wel will scriue þam o þis sake, ne for na consail mendes mak. 1399 LANGL. *Rich. Redeles* 292 Men myȝtten as welle have huntyd an hare with a tabre, as aske ony mendis ffor that thei mysdede. *c* 1450 HOLLAND *Howlat* 72 Bot quha sall mak me ane mendis of hir worth a myte? *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) II. 19 He.. promissit that he suld haue ane suffiecent mense of the quene. *Ibid.* 147. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. i. 20 All wrongs haue mendes. 1592 KYD *Sol. & Pers.* II. i. 46 Why then the mends is made, and we still friends. 1670 LASSELS *Voy. Italy* II. 268 This country made us a full mends for all the ill way we had had before. *a* 1733 *Shetland Acts* in *Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot.* (1892) XXVI. 200 That no mends be made for corn eaten within cornyards. 1779 D. GRAHAM *Writ.* (1883) II. 21 That's better mense for a fault, than a' your mortifying o' your members. 1816 SCOTT *Bl. Dwarf* x, Westburnflat hasna the means..to make up our loss; there's nae mends to be got out o' him, but what ye take out o' his banes.

b. *sing. For, to* (a person's) *mend*: for his reparation or restoration (from sin). *To mend*: as a reecompense.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 6723 (Cott.) If he sla animans thain, Thritti schiling o siluer again Sal man giue þe lord to mend [*a* 1300–1400 *Gott.* to mendes]. *c* 1315 SHOREHAM *Poems* ii. 128 And ase he þoled þane deþ, Leuedy, for oure mende. *Ibid.* vii. 831 To mannes mende. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 302 To mak mende & mak alle stable. 1646 *Deposit. York Castle* (Surtees) 9 *note*, And pray to God for mend.

† **2.** *pl.* Means of obtaining restoration or reparation; remedy. *Obs.*

c 1450 HOLLAND *Howlat* 29 Mendis and medicyne for mennis all neidis. 1530 PALSGR. 666/1 If I pricke you with mydaggar you have your mendes in your hande. 1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* I. i. 68. 1655 GURNALL *Chr. in Arm.* I. 53 If any mischief befalls him, the mends is in his own hands.

† **3.** *pl.* Improvement in health. *Obs.*

1624 *Witch Trial* in *Abbotsford Club Misc.* I. 137 The said Margaret Corstoun haueing contractit seiknes, dwyned be the space of foure monethis, and could get no mendis.

† **4.** *To the mends*: 'to boot'. *Sc. Obs.*

1636 RUTHERFORD *Lett.* (1862) I. lxxi. 185, I will verily give my Lord Jesus a free discharge of all that I..laid to His charge, and beg Him pardon, to the mends.

5. Phr. *On the mend*: (of a person, his health, etc.) recovering from sickness; (of affairs, trade, etc.), improving in condition.

1802 COLERIDGE in Mrs. Sandford *T. Poole & Friends* (1802) II. 77 [My] health has been on the mend ever since Poole left town. 1897 *Daily News* 27 July 11/4 Home trade in finished linens is perhaps on the mend.

6. An act of mending, a repair; a repaired hole, etc., in a fabric.

1888 *Housewife* III. 436/1 If the mend is dampened and pressed with a hot iron it is almost unnoticeable. 1900 *Daily News* 28 Nov. 10/2 Mrs. A. is reluctant to let her clothes be seen by Mrs. B., for fear that lady should notice the rents and mends. 1903 *Blackw. Mag.* Dec. 803/2 A mend in the sole [of a stocking].

† **7.** *Comb.*: **mends-making**, reparation, atonement. *Obs.*

c 1400 *Cursor M.* 28617 (Cott. Galba) Schrift aw to be thrinfalde, with rewth in hert, and schewing to preste, and mendes making. 1530 TINDALE *Answ. More* IV. ii. Wks. (1573) 320/1 And as for mendes making with worldly things, that do to thy brother whom thou hast offended.

Mend (mend), *v.* [aphetic f. AMEND *v.*

The aphetic form, however, occurs in our quots. earlier than the original form. Cf. AF. *mender* in one MS. (St. John's, Camb.) of Wadington's *Manuel des Pechiez* l. 10.]

I. To remove or atone for defects.

1. a. *trans.* To free (a person, his character or habits) from sin or fault; to improve morally; to reform; *occas.* to cure *of* (a fault). Now *arch.* or *dial.* exc. in phr. *to mend one's manners, ways.*

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 217 On þe helde laȝe het ure drihten þat me ne sholde none man bitechen, bute he were teid to menden chirche. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 22436 Þar es nam[an] ..þat he ne his liif agh to mend. *Ibid.* 26507 Quen þou art mendid o þi sin. *c* 1430 *ABC of Aristotle* in *Babees Bk.*, It schal neuere greue a good man þouȝ þe gilti be meendid. 1562 J. HEYWOOD *Epigr.* i. R, If euery man mende one, all shall be mended. 1679 PENN *Addr. Prot.* I. ix. Wks. 1825 III. 39 A descreet and cool band may direct the blow right..when men of fury rather ease their passion, than mend their youth. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 112 ¶ 7 If he does not mend his Manners. 1766 GOLDSM. *Vic. W.* xxvii, Though the instruction I communicate may not mend them [prisoners], yet it will assuredly mend myself. 1868 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1877) II. viii. 211 That turbulent prelate had mended his ways. 1891 BARING-GOULD *Urith* xxxix, Have you seen how a little dog is mended of lamb worrying?

† **b.** *refl.* To reform oneself. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 25548 Þou send vs, lauerd! wijt and will to mend us of vr dedis ill. 14.. *Tundale's Vis.* 2326 (Wagner) He warned alle..To mende hem here, before her dede. 1596 HARINGTON *Metam. Ajax* (1814) 134 Let both the writer and the readers endeavour to mend ourselves. 1601 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* I. v. 50 Bid the dishonest man mend himself.

c. *intr.* for *refl.* Now *rare* exc. in the proverb *It is never too late to mend.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 23264 For þai mai haf na might to mend. ?1404–8 26 *Pol. Poems* v. 22 [He] þat nyl not mende, but ay don ylle. 1550 CROWLEY *Last Trump.* 1436 Their conscience ..saieth thei were Told of their fault, & woulde not mende. 1605 SHAKS. *Lear* II. iv. 232 Let shame come when it will, I do not call it...Mend when thou can'st, be better at thy leisure. *c* 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* (1655) IV. xxxviii. 92 It is never over-late to mend. 1785–6 BURNS *Addr. to Deil* xxi, O wad ye tak a thought an' men'! 1842 S. LOVER *Handy Andy* xxi, 'She's very young, Sir'. 'She'll mend of that, ma'am. We were young once ourselves'. 1873 BLACK *Pr. Thule* ix, I am afraid that you are a very foolish boy..but I hope to see you mend when you marry.

2. To remove the defects of (a thing); to correct (what is faulty); to improve by correction or alteration. Now only *occas.* as a transf. use of sense 5.

† *To mend (one's) mood*: to become more cheerful.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 10434 Leuedi, sco said, for drightin dere, þou mend þi mode and turn þi chere. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 69, I salle þe make .. my chefe Justise, þe lawes to mend & right. *c* 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* XII. 530 For hrousty oil, whit wex is to resolue In fynest oil [etc.]. So wol hit mende odour and taast also. 1461 *Cal. Anc. Rec. Dublin* (1889) I. 309 The sayd lawe was mendyt by autorite of a semble. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* I. (1586) 19 Heathy, Brushy, & Grauelly ground: may these be made fruitefull, and mended [L. *corrigi & fœcundari*] by arte. 1631–2 *High Commission Cases* (Camden) 237, I wish that you..that are soe ready to fynd faultes were sett to mend the booke of common prayer. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* II 324 Salt Earth and hitter are not fit to sow, Nor will be tam'd and mended by the Plough. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* 74 So where Marle is not laid too thick..it will often mend Clays. 1724 A. COLLINS *Gr. Chr. Relig.* 20 Divines; who seem to pay little deference to the Books of the New Testament, whose text they are perpetually mending in their sermons, commentaries, and writings, to serve purposes. 1820 COBBETT *Gram. Eng. Lang.* xiv. (1847) 89 Never think of mending what you write. Let it go. No patching; no after pointing. 1872 SKEAT *Chaucer's Astrolabe* (E.E.T.S.) 87, I have mended the text as well as I could by words, &c., inserted between square brackets. 1901 T. R. GLOVER *Life & Lett. 4th C.* 90 The last three books [of Q. Smyrnaeus] .. are beyond revision. To be mended they must be re-written.

b. *intr.* To become less faulty. Of conditions: To become less unfavourable, improve.

a 1300–1400 *Cursor M.* 24490 (Gött.) All mi licam bigan to light, And mi mode to mend. 1546 J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* (1867) 75 As sowre ale mendth in summer. *c* 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* (1655) II. xlix. 58, I hope the times will mend. 1708 PRIOR *Turtle & Sparrow* 416 Matters at worst are sure to mend. 1736 BERKELEY *Querist* II. § 5 Wks. 1871 III. 519 Whether..our State will mend, so long as property is insecure among us? 1826 PENN in *Pa. Hist. Soc. Mem.* I. 418 Our condition here..mends upon us. 1876 TREVELYAN *Life & Lett. Macaulay* II. 2 Things did not mend as time went on.

3. *trans.* To rectify, remedy, remove (an evil); to correct, put right (a fault, anything amiss).

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 644 Here [*sc.* the garden of Eden] lastes lijf wit-oten end, Her es nathing for to mend. *Ibid.* 5417 Bath he [Ioseph] did his lauerd byyate, And mended nede in þair state. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* v. 1425 She wolde come, and mende al that was mis. *c* 1400 26 *Pol. Poems* iv. 137 Thou3 holy chirche shulde fawtes mend, Summe put hem of for mede. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xxviii. 14 Sowtaris, with schone weill maid and meit, ȝe mend the faltis of ill maid feit. 1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* III. ii. 107 She sweats...That's a fault that water will mend. 1677 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* 20 You must examine where the fault is, and taking the Pin out, mend the fault in the Joynt. 1710 STEELE *Tatler* No. 168 ¶ 4 There is no Way of mending such false Modesty. 1816 SCOTT *Bl. Dwarf* x, But how ye are to put yoursells up, I canna see! And what's waur, I canna mend it. 1819 SHELLEY *Cenci* III. i. 302 Poverty, the which I sought to mend By holding a poor office in the state.

† **b.** To correct (a mistake, something erroneous). *Obs.*

1563–7 BUCHANAN *Reform. St. Andros* Wks. (1892) 9 Na man sal mend otheris faltis [*sc.* mistakes in a lesson] vntil they cum to the regent. 1711 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 17 Dec., I have mistaken the day of the month, and been forced to mend it thrice.

c. *intr.* Of a fault: To undergo reetification.

1712 POPE *Spect.* No. 408 ¶ 7 The Fire of Youth will of course abate, and is a Fault,..that mends every Day.

4. *trans.* To make amends or reparation for, atone for (a misdeed, an injury); also *absol.* to make reparation. Occas. const. *dat.* of person. *Obs.* exc. in the proverb, *Least said soonest mended.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 20251 If I haf anithing mis-wroght,..I wil it mend. *Ibid.* 26223 And he þat bath [church & man] þair bleith has blend, A-gains bath be-hous him mend. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 303 To wbile pape Boniface duellid opon þis, To gyue dome þorgh grace, to mende boþe þer mys. 1426 AUDELAY *Poems* 12 ȝif thai wyl mend that thai do mys, to have remyssyon. 1546 J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* (1867) 29 Ye maie syt (quoth he) mend three naies with one yée. 1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* III. ii. 26 Come, come, you haue bin too rough,..you must returne, and mend it. 1670 RAY *Prov.* 285 Little said, soon mendit. [Cf. 1659 HOWELL *Prov.* 9/1 Little said soon amended.] 1733 in *Swift's Lett.* (1766) II. 185 One soon learns to stop when it is wisbed, or to mend what is said amiss. 1841 LYTTON *Nt. & Morn.* IV. viii, At present, 'least said soonest mended'.

5. To restore to a complete or sound condition (something broken, decayed, worn, etc.); to repair. Also *to mend up* (? obs.). Also, to repair or make good (the defective part).

Now the prevailing sense: the others, so far as they survive, being more or less coloured by this. The vb. is now ordinarily used only with such objects as are commonly said to be 'worn', 'broken', or 'torn' (e. g. articles of clothing or furniture, tools, fences); e. g. we do not speak of 'mending' a house. *To mend a road*, however, is still current.

1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. III. 53 þer nis noubur Wyndou ne Auter, þat I ne schulde maken oþur mende. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xiii. (*Marcus*) 81 þe bochoure wes mendand þe scho. 1487 in T. Gardner *Hist. Dunwich* (1754) 153 Payd the Glas-wryȝte for mendyng Seynt Krysteferys Wyndown. 1535 COVERDALE *Mark* I. 19 As they were in the shyppe mendynge their nettes. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 186 As if I had been so good a husband, as to mend my own clothes. 1639 in *Coll. Conn. Hist. Soc.* (1897) VI. 5 All the fences.. shall be mended vp. 1756–7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) I. 229 The rough and stony roads have been mended. 1878 JEVONS *Prim. Pol. Econ.* 29 Hedges and ditches are mended when there is nothing else to do. 1888 *Housewife* III. 436/2 After mending the holes, the thin places..should be run thickly backwards and forwards.

transf. and *fig.* (cf. 2). 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xxviii. 22 And ȝe tailȝouris, with wellmaid clais Can mend the werst maid man that gais. 1597 SHAKS. *2 Hen. IV*, III. ii. 176.

b. To repair the garments of (a person). *colloq.*

1876 W. S. GILBERT *Sorcerer* II. (1886) 24 She will tend him, nurse him, mend him, Air his linen [etc.]. 1881 *Gd. Words* 844/2 She 'washed and mended' him to the envy of the neighbours.

c. To adjust, set right. *Obs.* exc. *Naut.*

c 1515 *Cocke Lorell's B.* 12 Some ye longe bote dyde launce, some mende ye corse. 1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* III. ii. 7 Why he will looke vppon his boote, and sing: mend the Ruffe and sing. 1606 — *Ant. & Cl.* v. ii. 322. 1682 DRYDEN & LEE *Duke of Guise* II. ii. (1683) 16 Yes, I wou'd make every Glance a Murder. Mend me this Curle. 1832 MARRYAT *N. Forster* xxvi, He therefore turned the hands up, 'mend sails', and took his station amidship on the booms, to see that this the most delinquent sail, was properly furled. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *To mend sails*, to loose and skin them afresh on the yards.

d. † *To mend the lights*: to trim the lamps, or snuff the candles (*obs.*). *To mend a fire*: to add fuel to it (cf. the earlier BEET *v.*). *To mend a pen*: to cut a worn quill pen so as to make it fit for its purpose.

c 1480 HENRYSON *Test. Cress.* 36, I mend the fyre and beikit me about. 1625 B. JONSON *Staple of News* Induct., *Book-holder.* Mend your lights, Gentlemen. Master Prologue, beginne. *marg.*, The Tiremen enter to mend the lights. 1720 PETRIE *Rules Deportm.* iii. Wks. (1877) 21 Do not spit in the Fire, nor offer to mend it. 1834 HT. MARTINEAU *Farrers* I. 15 Jane shook her head as she carefully mended the fire. 1863 A. BLOMFIELD *Mem. Bp. Blomfield* I. viii. 223 We all sit and mend our pens and talk about the weather.

6. *trans.* To restore to health, cure, heal. *arch.*

13.. *St. Nicholas* 349 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 15 þai praid all to saint Nicholas þat [dede] man þore forto rays & mend. 13.. *St. Lucy* 8 ibid. 17 Scho..fand no medcyn hir might mend. 1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 46 There be dyuers waters, & other medicyns, that wolde mende hym. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 113 Yearly thy Herds in Vigour will impair, Recruit and mend 'em with thy Yearly Care. 1736 in *Swift's Lett.* (1766) II. 235, I daily see such numbers of people mended by them [these waters], that [etc.]. 1883 R. W. DIXON *Mano* I. v. 14 And slowly some we mended of their ill, And pitied all.

transf. and *fig.* 1831 LAMB *Elia* Ser. II. *Ellistoniana*, Sir A— C—..who mends a lame narrative almost as well as he sets a fracture. 1870 MORRIS *Earthly Par., Son of Croesus* (1903) 153/2 And August came the fainting year to mend With fruit and grain.

b. *intr.* To regain health; to recover from sickness. † Const. *of.*

1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xxii. 59 May nane remeid my melady Sa weill as ȝe..And gif I mend nocht hestely. 1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 46 There be some shepe that wyll be blynd a season, and yet mende agayn. 1663 CHAS. II in Julia Cartwright *Henrietta of Orleans* (1894) 149 She mends very slowly. 1712–13 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 22 Feb., The Queen is slowly mending of her gout. 1810 SHELLEY *Zastrozzi* xi, The health of Verezzi, meanwhile, slowly mended. 1840 DICKENS *Barn. Rudge* v, The fever has left him, and the doctor says he will soon mend. 1897 HUGHES *Medit. Fever* v. 194 One day of injudicious dietary..in a case that is mending, may cause a serious relapse.

c. Of a wound, etc.: To heal. Of a malady: To abate. Now *dial.*

1607 SHAKS. *Timon* v. i. 190 My long sicknesse Of Health, and Liuing, now begins to mend. 1804 ABERNETHY *Surg. Obs.* 140 An ulcer mends in one part though it may spread in another. 1869 A. C. GIBSON *Folk-Sp. Cumbld.* 163 His hand mendit weel—(He hed gud healin flesh,..hed Joe).

II. Without distinct reference to defect: To make better, ameliorate, improve.

7. *trans.* To improve the condition or fortune of. Now *rare* or *Obs.* exc. *refl.*, to better oneself, make an advantageous change in one's condition.

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 244 Wardeyns gode he sette, to stabille þe lond & mende [orig. *Establye ses lays, fet l'estat melliour*]. *c* 1330 — *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 6552 Wiþ waryson he schold þem [marriageable maidens] mende. 1558 *Richmond Wills* (Surtees) 122, I wyll y^t^ the pore folkes of the church rawe be mended with bygge. 1625 BACON *Ess., Innov.* (Arb.) 527 Whatsoeuer is New is vnlooked for; And euer it mends Some, and paires Other. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* III. 84 He could not mend himselfe, in regard of my shelter. 1678 BUNYAN *Pilgr.* I. (1862) 58 Your service was hard..therefore..I did as other considerate persons do, look out, if perhaps I might mend myself. 1719 DE FOE

Crusoe (Globe) 390 Whether it was by Negligence in guarding them, or that they thought the Fellows could not mend themselves, I know not, but one of them run away. 1790 BURKE *Fr. Rev.* (ed. 2) 40 How either he or we should be much mended by it, I cannot imagine. 1876 J. RICHARDSON *Cummerl. Talk* Ser. II. 183 If..he duddent know what way to gang to mend his-sel, he hed to grub away fra leet to dark for a canny laal.

† **b.** *Sc.* To profit, advantage (a person); *absol.* to avail. (In negative and interrogative contexts.)

c 1470 *Col. & Gaw.* 1069 It may nocht mend the ane myte to mak it so teugh. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilzear* 653 He saw thair was na meiknes nor mesure micht mend. *c* 1560 A. SCOTT *Poems* (S.T.S.) XX. 22 Off all thy wo and cair It mends the not to mene. 1572 *Satir. Poems Reform.* XXX. 126 Quhat will it mend to murne thy senses out?

† **8.** To improve (a person) physically. Also *intr.* (of a child) to thrive (cf. 10 b). *Obs.*

a 1400–50 *Alexander* 464 Outhire mete has mendid þe full mekill..Or ane has stollen in my stede. *c* 1500 *Melusine* 103 Melusyne .. had so grete care for her children that they mended & grewe so wel that euery one that saw them merualled. 1810 HOGG *Birnieboozle* 8 I'll hunt the otter an' the brock,..An' pu' the limpet aff the rock, To hatten an' to mend ye.

† **9.** To improve by additions (*e.g.* wages, prices).

c 1440 *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* 272 Fals iudas, to mendyn hys purs, To ded hath hym sold. *c* 1470 HARDING *Chron.* (1812) 366 The market he so mended manyfolde. 1510 *Extracts Aberd. Reg.* (1844) I. 81 Thai sall caus him be pait yerlie of tene pundis..quhill thai he of puyschance to mend him his fee. 1583 STUBBES *Anat. Abus.* II. (1882) 88 If his liuing be too little, then ought the church to mend it. 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* II. iv. 94 And we will mend thy wages. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* IV. 196 Sometimes white Lillies did their Leaves afford, With wholsom Poppy-flow'rs to mend his homely Board.

b. *intr.* To improve in amount or price.

1602 *2nd Pt. Return fr. Parnass.* H 2, Then let vs leaue this baser fidling trade, For though our purse should mend, our credit fades. 1812 *Examiner* 7 Sept. 563/2 Wool mending in price.

† **c.** *trans.* To supplement, make up the deficiency of. (See also 12 a.) *Obs.*

1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* IV. iii. 60 Wee'll mend our dinner here. 1638 in Birch *Life Milton* M.'s Wks. 1738 I. 16, I would have been bold, in our vulgar phrase, to mend my draught, for you left me with an extreme Thirst. 1711 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 9 Oct., I was forced to lie down at twelve to-day, and mend my night's sleep.

10. To improve in quality; to render more excellent; to ameliorate (conditions, etc.). Now *rare.*

1603 FLORIO *Montaigne* II. Epist., So neyther is one vertue fit for all, nor all fit for one vertue: nor is that one so excellent, but by more it might be mended. 1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* II. xxii. § 5 Tacitus obserueth how rarely raising of the fortune mendeth the disposition. 1615 W. LAWSON *Country Housew. Gard.* (1626) 19 Trees..as they grow in yeeres, bignesse, and strength; so they mend their fruit. 1672 GREW *Anat. Plants* § 43 Some Vegetables lose their Smell, .. others, keep it,..others, mend it. 1700 DRYDEN *Fables* Pref. *D, Chaucer..has mended the Stories which he has borrow'd, in his way of telling. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 383 ₱ 4 The fifty new Churches will very much mend the Prospect. 1781 W. BLANE *Ess. Hunting* (1788) 21 Directions for mending and improving the Breed [of dogs]. 1781 COWPER *Hope* 452 The Sacred Book..speaks, with plainness art could never mend. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* II. 47 Cattle are small...And they would be more so, were not the breed mended by a mixture with those of other countries. 1847 L. HUNT *Men, Women, & B.* II. x. 208 The Fieldings, till Henry came up to mend the reputation, were not thought very clever. 1854 TENNYSON *To F. D. Maurice* x, How best to help the slender store, How mend the dwellings, of the poor.

† **b.** *intr.* To grow better in quality, improve. *Obs.*

1546 J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* (1867) 75 Than wolde ye mend.. as sowre ale mendth in summer. 1601 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* I. v. 80 What thinke you of this foole Maluolio, doth he not mend? 1705 ADDISON *Italy* (*Rome to Naples*) 174 St. Peters seldom answers Expectation at first entering it, but..mends upon the Eye every Moment. 1712 — *Spect.* No. 543 ₱ 1 Though it [the human body] appears formed with the nicest Wisdom, upon the most superficial Survey of it, it still mends upon the Search.

11. *trans.* To improve upon, surpass, better. In early use with personal obj. Now only *colloq.* to produce something better than.

c 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 555 Bot y þe mendi may, Wrong þan wite y þe. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* V. ii. 329 In Vshering Mend him who can. *Mod.* A very good story: I don't think I can mend it.

III. Phrases and Combinations.

12. Phrases. **a.** *To mend* (a person's) *cheer*: † (*a*) to cheer, comfort (cf. CHEER *sb.* 3); (*b*) to improve the fare of (cf. CHEER *sb.* 6).

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 4232 His oþer suns com ilkan sere For to mend þair fader chere. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 647 þanne þis maiden melior gan menden here chere. 1727 BOYER *Dict. Royal* s.v. *Mend*, I'll try if I can mend your Chear, *J'essayerai..de vous mieux regaler.* 1814 SCOTT *Ld. of Isles* III. xii, A bow full deftly can he bend, And if we meet a herd, may send A shaft shall mend our cheer.

† **b.** In asseverative phrases, esp. *So God mend me.* Also in pious wishes, as *God mend all. Obs.*

c 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 433 Lordynges, so god me mende, Lamedon me to 3ow sende. 1568 *Jacob & Esau* I. iii. B j b, The most gentle yong man aliue, as God me mende. 1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* I. v. 81 Youle not endure him, God shall mend my soule. 1600 — *A. Y. L.* IV. i. 193. 1611 — *Cymb.* V. v. 68 Heauen mend all. 1789 WOLCOT (P. Pindar) *Subj. for Painters* Wks. 1812 II. 136 Where'er they go, poor imps God mend 'em!

c. *To mend or end*: either to improve or (if that be impossible) to put an end to; in early use chiefly = 'to kill or cure'; also, † to correct or finish (a work). † Formerly also *intr.*, either to die or recover.

1578 T. WILCOCKS *Serm. Pawles* 74 Plague: what hathe it done? it hathe mended as manye as it hathe ended. 1603 FLORIO *Montaigne* II Epist., That perfect-vnperfect Arcadia, which..your all praise-exceeding father..lived not to mend or end-it. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* 805 When the King of Mexico sickened, they vsed to put a Visor on the face..of some..Idol, which was not taken away till he mended or ended. 1648 *Eikon Bas.* XV. 123, I had the Charitie to interpret, that most part of My Subjects fought against My supposed Errors, not My Person; and intended to mend Mee, not to end Mee. *c* 1680 HICKERINGILL *Hist. Whiggism* Wks. 1716 I. I. 21, I had rather we should mend than end. 1884 J. MORLEY in *Times* 31 July 11/4 The.. question of mending or ending the House of Lords.

d. *To mend the matter, to mend matters*: to improve the state of affairs concerning a person or thing. Often used *ironically.*

1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* II. xvii. § 16, I suppose they will thereby very little mend the matter, or help us to a more clear and positive idea. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* (Globe) 295 To mend the Matter,..it continued snowing. 1869 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1875) III. xii. 253 No one will argue that he would have mended matters had he fulfilled his promise.

e. *To mend* (*one's*) *pace*: to travel faster.

1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* V. i. 64 Your dull Asse will not mend his pace with beating. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* X. 859 Justice Divine Mends not her slowest pace for prayers or cries. 1781 COWPER *Expost.* 151 Judgment, however tardy, mends her pace When Obstinacy once has conquered Grace. 1851 D. JERROLD *St. Giles* VII. 66 He mended his pace, and.. jerked the pony into a trot

† **f.** *To mend one's hand*: to improve one's work or conduct. *Obs.*

1685 DRYDEN *Alb. & Alban.* Pref., Ess. (ed. Ker) I. 280 If it finds encouragement, I dare promise myself to mend my hand, by making a more pleasing fable. 1781 C. JOHNSTON *Hist. J. Juniper* I. 65 His nurse..being threatened to be turned off, if she did not mend her hand.

g. *To make or mend* (absol.): see MAKE *v.*[1] 1c.

† **13.** *Comb.* with sbs. (often as quasi-proper names) with the sense 'one who mends . . .', as *Mend-all, mendbreech, mend-fault, Mend-market.*

c 1470 HARDING *Chron.* CCVIII. Argt. (1812) 366 Howe syr Robert Vmgreuile brent Pebles on there market daye..and after the Scottes called hym Robyne Mendmarket. 1573 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 179 Feare flea smocke and mendbreech, for burning their bed. 1643 BAKER *Chron.* (1674) 190 Jack Cade..styling himself Captain Mend-all, marched..to Blackheath. 1654 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 174 The Commonwealth might better spare many famous for feats of Armes, than these Learned Mend-faults (in men, or States).

Mend, obs. form of MIND.

Mendable (me·ndăb'l), *a.* [f. MEND *v.* + -ABLE.] That can be mended; capable of improvement.

1533 MORE *Apol.* xlviii. Wks. 925/2 And those extreme vices ..diligently refourme & amende in such as are mendable. 1638 in *Bucclench MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 282 The locks..are not mendable when out of tune. 1890 *Graphic* 11 Oct. 405/3 If I thought there was aught mendable in thee that could be shaped by the hands of a good wife.

† **Mendaciloquent,** *a. Obs. rare*—0. [f. L. *mendāciloqu-us* (f. *mendāci-*, *-mendax* mendacious + *loqu-i* to speak) + -ENT: cf. *grandiloquent.*] Speaking lies. So † **Mendaci·loquence,** lying.

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Mendaciloquent*, that tels lies.. false speaking. *c* 1710 *Hist. London Clubs* I. 2 A witty and famous Gentleman in the Art of Mendatiloquence [*sic*].

Mendacious (mendē·ʃəs), *a.* [f. L. *mendāc-em, mendax* (:—*mentnax*, f. root of *mentīrī* to lie) + -IOUS.] Lying; untruthful; false.

1616 R. SHELDON *Miracles Antichr.* 63 A mendacious Legend of Ignatius his miracles. 1654 COKAINE *Dianea* IV. 266 Fame, that mixing Truth with Falsehood, renders the one and the other equally mendacious. 1840 CARLYLE *Heroes* (1858) 189 [The Pagan ages] were not mendacious and distracted, but in their own poor way true and sane! 1885 *Truth* 28 May 838/1 The..mendacious garbage that is being published in the *Nouvelle Revue.*

Hence **Menda·ciously** *adv.*, in a mendacious or lying manner; **Menda·ciousness,** mendacity.

1802–12 BENTHAM *Ration. Judic. Evid.* (1827) I. 544 The supposed mendaciously-disposed witness. 1873 *Brit. Q. Rev.* LVII. 222 Throughout it is one long record of ambitious rapacity, mendaciousness, and crime.

Mendacity (mendæ·sĭti). [ad. late L. *mendācilās*, f. *mendāc-em*: see MENDACIOUS *a.* and -ITY.] The quality of being mendacious; the tendency or disposition to lie or deceive; habitual lying or deceiving.

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Psend. Ep.* I. vi. 22 If wee call to minde the mendacity of Greece. 1660 *State Trials, John Cook* (1730) II. 344/2 In that Sense it must have the Operation of Mendacity;..there must he a Lie told in it. 1877 A. B. EDWARDS *Up Nile* ix. 245 Notwithstanding his mendacity—(and it must be owned that he is the most brilliant liar under heaven). 1895 *Bookman* Oct. 26/2 The fathers, whose rhetorical exaggeration amounts to innocent mendacity.

b. An instance of this; a lie or falsehood.

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Psend. Ep.* I. i. 2 There were no lesse then two mistakes, or rather additionall mendacites [*sic*]. 1868 FARRAR *Seekers* III. i. (1875) 270 The age of spiritual impotencies and mendacities.

c. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

1802–12 BENTHAM *Ration. Judic. Evid.* (1827) I. 191 A motive..may be termed a mendacity-prompting .. motive. *a* 1845 SYD. SMITH *Ballot* Wks. 1859 II. 316/2 The period for lying arrives, and the mendacity machine is exhibited to the view of the Wigginses.

Mendæan, -aite: see MANDÆAN, MANDAITE.

† **Menda·tion.** *Obs. rare*—1. [app. for MANDATION (not found in this sense, but cf. MANDATARY, MANDATE 2 b).] The granting of papal mandates.

1561 *Godly Q. Hester* (1873) 24 And what by mendation, and dyspensation, they gat the nomynation, of euery good benefyce.

Mende, obs. form of MIND.

Mended (me·ndĕd), *ppl. a.* [f. MEND *v.* + -ED[1].] Repaired, improved.

1595 SHAKS. *John* V. vii. 75 Shew now your mended faiths. 1859 TENNYSON *Enid* 718 So clothe yourself in this, that better fits Our mended fortunes and a Prince's bride. 1861 THACKERAY *Four Georges* i. 67 Mended morals and mended manners. 1895 *Daily News* 17 Dec. 6/4 Whether the voice of a mended bell is ever equal to that of one unmended.

‖ **Mendee** me·ndī). Also **mindy, mhendee, mendi, -y.** [Hindī *mendhī.*] An Indian name for a variety of henna, *Lawsonia alba.* Also *attrib.* as *mendee-hedge.*

c 1813 MRS. SHERWOOD *Ayah & Lady* x. 63 She..caused her to stain the palms of her hands and feet with the juice of mindy. — *Stories Ch. Catech.* x. 71 His garden..was well fenced round with a ditch and mindy hedge. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XIII. 367/2 The natives of North India distinguished the unarmed species by the name *phoolke*, or flowering *mhendee*...The thorny species is called *mhendee.* 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 734/2 *Mendee.* 1886 YULE & BURNELL *Hobson-Jobson, Mendy.*

Mendelian (mendī·liăn), *a. Biol.* [f. the name of Gregor Johann *Mendel* (1822–84) + -IAN.] Of or pertaining to Mendel, or following his law or theory of heredity.

1901 BATESON, etc. *Rep. to Evol. Comm. Roy. Soc.* (1902) 15 Cases which follow Mendelian principles. 1902 BATESON *Mendel's Princ. Heredity* 114 The Mendelian principle of heredity asserts a proposition at variance with all the laws of ancestral heredity, however formulated. 1902 *Nature* 9 Oct. 573/1 The Mendelian theory.

Mender (me·ndəɹ). [f. MEND *v.* + -ER[1].] One who mends; a repairer or improver.

a 1380 *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* XXVIII. 52 Heil mender of euen monnes mynde. 1552 [see PATCHER]. 1601 SHAKS. *Jul. C.* I. i. 15. 1774 GOLDSM. *Retaliation* 62 The Terence of England, the mender of hearts. 1836 E. HOWARD *R. Reefer* XXVI, The mender of pens groaned. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 295 A mender of old shoes, or a patcher up of clothes. 1894 ROSEBERY in *Times* 25 May 8/3, I have always been rather a mender than an ender.

† **Mendiant,** *sb.* and *a. Obs. rare.* In 5 mendiaunte, 6 -yante. [a. F. *mendiant*, pr. pple. of *mendier* to beg (:—L. *mendīcāre*: see MENDICANT).] = MENDICANT.

1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 124 b/1 They ben they that ye calle poure & mendiauntes. 1535 *Act* 27 *Hen. VIII*, c. 25 Fryers mendyantes, haue littell or nothinge to liue vpon.

Me·ndicable, *a. rare*—0. [ad. L. type **mendīcābilis*, f. *mendīcāre*: see MENDICANT and -ABLE.] 'That may be begged' (Bailey vol. II, 1727).

Mendicancy (me·ndikănsi). [f. next: see -ANCY.] The state or condition of being a mendicant or beggar; the habit or practice of begging.

1790 BURKE *Fr. Rev.* 197 Nothing..can exceed the shocking and disgusting spectacle of mendicancy displayed in that capital. 1893 STEVENSON *Catriona* XXV, I began to pull on my hose, recalling the man's impudent mendicancy at Prestongrange's.

Mendicant (me·ndikănt), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. L. *mendīcant-em*, f. *mendīcare* to beg, f. *mendīcus* beggar. Cf. MENDIANT, MENDINANT.]

A. *adj.* Begging; given to or characterized by begging. Also, characteristic of a beggar.

1613 R. CAWDREY *Table Alph.*, *Mendicant*, begging. 1631 B. JONSON *Underw.* Ixxxix. (*Heading*), To the Right Honourable, the Lord high Treasurer of England. An Epistle Mendicant. 1655 FULLER *Hist. Cambr.* (1840) 81 Begging Scholars..must be vicious, or else cannot be necessitous to a mendicant condition. 1753 RICHARDSON *Grandison* IV. viii. 71 And with that dejected air and mendicant voice. 1862 *Guardian* 1 Jan. 20/3 Keziah Kadge, the lady who.. intended to follow the mendicant profession till she could secure an annuity of £50 a year. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) III. 234 Mendicant prophets go to rich men's doors.

b. *spec.* Applied to those religious orders which lived entirely on alms.

The members of these orders were known as *Friars.* The most important (often referred to as the 'Four Orders') were the Franciscans, Dominicans, Carmelites, and Augustinian Hermits.

1547 BOORDE *Brev. Health* 4 Then dyd I go amonges the fryers mendicantes. 1626 L. OWEN *Spec. Jesuit.* (1629) 27 This proud vpstart society was declared by Pope Pius Quintus to bee of the number of the Mendicant or Begging Friers. 1868 J. H. BLUNT *Ref. Ch. Eng.* I. 395 A mendicant friar of St. Mary Spital.

B. *sb.* A beggar; one who lives by begging.

1474 CAXTON *Chesse* III. vii. 124 Haue no despyte vnto the poure mendycants. 1597–8 BP. HALL *Sat.* V. i, And but for that, whatever he may vaunt, Who now's a monk, had been a mendicant. 1643 SIR T. BROWNE *Relig. Med.* II. § 2 There is surely a Physiognomy, which tbose.. Master Mendicants observe, whereby they instantly discover a merciful aspect. 1791 COWPER *Odyss.* XVII. 264 This morsel hunting mendicant. 1863 GEO. ELIOT *Romola* XXII, They ..looked like vulgar, sturdy mendicants.

fig. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* VI. 288 What is Station high? 'Tis a proud Mendicant; it boasts, and begs.

b. A begging friar.

1530 PALSGR. 244/2 Mendycant an order of freres, *mendicant.* 1561 T. NORTON *Calvin's Inst.* IV. v. (1634) 535 Of

the Mendicants some doe preach, all the other Monks either sing or mumble up Masses in their dennes. 1606 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* XIV. lxxxix. 361 A youthfull Gentleman, enamoured on her [*sc.* a nun]..thus did his Sute preferre Faining himself a Mendicant (Nunnes might with Friers conferre). 1846 HOOK *Ch. Dict.* (ed. 5) 611 Mendicants or Begging Friars.

c. Applied to Brahmin, Buddhist, etc. priests who beg for food.

1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 454 Next..are certaine Mendicants, which liue of Rice and Barley, which any man at the first asking giueth them. 1841 ELPHINSTONE *Hist. Ind.* II. XI. ii. 479 He..put on the dress of a Hindû religious mendicant. 1848 H. H. WILSON *Brit. India* III. III. viii. 447 A sect of religious mendicants or Jogis.

Mendicanting, *a.* [f. prec. + -ING 2.] Begging.

1630 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *World runs on Wheeles* Wks. II. 239/1 The foolish women..gaue all their mony to the mendicanting Canters.

Mendicate (me·ndikēit), *v. rare.* [f. L. *mendīcāt-*, ppl. stem of *mendīcāre*: see MENDICANT.]

1. *trans.* To beg for, ask for like a beggar.

1618 *Barnevelt's Apol.* D j, I..marualle, why you should so carefully search, and as it were mendicate these things. 1826 SCOTT *Jrnl.* I. 288, I have seen..papers distributed in the boxes to mendicate a round of applause. 1865 *Pall Mall G.* 23 Sept. 1/1 A loan must be had on any terms, and is now being almost *mendicated.*

2. *intr.* To beg. *rare*—°.

1623 COCKERAM, *Mendicate*, to beg. 1721, etc. in BAILEY. 1755 in JOHNSON. Hence in mod. Dicts.

b. quasi-*trans.* with *out of.*

1768 W. LIVINGSTON *Let. Bp. Llandaff* 19 People..may be mendicated or sermonized out of their money.

Hence **Me·ndicated** *ppl. a.*

1641 J. SHUTE *Sarah & Hagar* (1649) 142 To be beholden to this borrowed, yea mendicated and begged dignity. 1819 *Blackw. Mag.* V. 571 The .. squalid establishments for mendicated instruction had become loathsome in his eyes.

Mendication (mendikē·ʃən). [ad. late L. *mendīcātiōn-em*, f. *mendīcāre* to beg.] Begging.

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* VII. xvii. 375 Cedrenus and Zonaras..omit the history of his [*sc.* Belisarius'] mendication. 1849 I. TAYLOR *Loyola & Jes.* 69 The perpetual labour of providing, by mendication, not merely for his own wants, but for those of his companions.

†**Mendicatory,** *a. Obs. rare*—1. [f. L. *mendīcāt-* (see MENDICATE) + -ORY.] Begging.

1627–77 FELTHAM *Resolves* II. liv. 271 Mendicatory or fishing Gifts..the generous have ever disdained.

†**Mendiciary,** *a. Obs. rare*—1. [f. L. *mendīcus* begging + -(I)ARY.] Appropriate to beggars.

1652 URQUHART *Jewel* Wks. (1834) 279 Like so many varlets, in mendiciary and gausapinal garments.

Mendicity (mendi·sĭti). [a. F. *mendicité* (from 13th c.), ad. L. *mendīcitās*, f. *mendīcus*: see MENDICANT and -ITY. Cf. Sp. *mendicidad*, Pg. *mendicidade*, It. *mendicità*.]

1. The state or condition of a mendicant or beggar, beggary. Also, now usually, the existence or numbers of the mendicant class.

c 1400 *Rom. Rose* 6525 For richesse and mendicitees Ben clepid .II. extremytees. *Ibid.* 6534 God thou me kepe for thi pouste Fro Richesse and mendicite. 1490 CAXTON *Eneydos* xviii. 68 Pigmalion, my cruelle brother,..shalle comme take my cyte, and put alle to destructyon, and brynge me to mendycyte. 1611 COTGR., *Mendicité*, mendicitie, beggarie, beggarlinesse. 1812 G. CHALMERS *Dom. Econ. Gt. Brit.* 401 He [Arthur Dobbs] complained, that there were 34,425 strolling beggars, in that kingdom. He explained this striking instance of mendicity [etc.]. 1815 (*title*) Report from Committee on the State of Mendicity in the Metropolis. [Parl. Paper.] 1864 H. AINSWORTH *John Law* VI. i. (1881) 293 During the reign of Louis XIV, mendicity had existed to a frightful extent.

2. The practice or habit of begging.

1801 *13th Rep. Soc. for Poor* 22 *note*, Some workhouses are rather seminaries of mendicity, than preservatives against it. 1884 *American* VIII. 105 With a view to the regular exercise of mendicity, pillage and murder.

3. *attrib.*

1819 *1st Rep. Soc. Suppress. Mendicity* 27 The Mendicity Societies at Bath, Edinburgh, Oxford, and Dublin. 1824 T. HOOK *Say. & Do.* Ser. I. III. 329 Mr. Harding was a subscriber to the Mendicity Society, an institution which proposes to check beggary by the novel method of giving nothing to the poor. 1884 *Century Mag.* XXIX. 163 To set up a library, a 'mendicity institution', or a bank.

†**Mendience.** *Obs. rare.* [a. OF. *mendience, -ance*, f. *mendiant*: see MENDIANT and -ANCE.] Mendicity.

c 1400 *Rom. Rose* 6657 (*Glasgow MS.*) He wolde not therfore that he lyue To seruen hym in mendience. *Ibid.* 6707 And for ther hath ben gret discorde..Vpon the estate of mendiciens [*sic*; Thynne 1532 mendicience].

Mendifaunte, variant of MENDIVAUNT *Obs.*

Mendil, obs. form of MANDIL.

†**Me·ndinant,** *sb.* and *a. Obs.* Also **mendyna(u)nt, -ynante, -enaunt, -inaunt, meyndenaunt.** [a. OF. *mendinant*, pr. pple. of *mendiner, mendienner* to beg, f. *mendien* (fem. *-enne*), an altered form, due to confusion of suffix, of *mendiant* (see MENDIANT). Cf. MENDIVAUNT: in 14th c. texts the two words cannot with certainty be distinguished.] = MENDICANT.

1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. XI. 198 For mendynauntz at mischief þe men were dewid. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Somp. T.* 198 We mendynantz, we sely freres, Been wedded to pouerte and continence. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) XV. 167 There ben manye religious men, and namely of Mendynantes.

Me·nding, *vbl. sb.* [f. MEND *v.* + -ING 1.]

1. The action of the vb. MEND in various senses.

a. Amendment, correction, improvement.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 26867 (Þou agh to] here his scrift and giue him rede þat to sum mendyng bim mai lede. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 452 Bot vchon..wolde ber coronuez wern worþe þe fyne, If possyble wer her mendyng. 1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* II. iii. 239 Happy are they that heare their detractions, and can put them to mending. 1631 *Star Chamb. Cases* (Camden) 55 If a man soe enter his children's names into the Church booke it is noe offence, and it is not like the mending of a sealed Indenture or a Record. 1896 A. E. HOUSMAN *Shropshire Lad* xliv, Yours was not an ill for mending, 'Twas best to take it to the grave.

b. † The action of healing (*obs.*); the action or process of advancing towards recovery. Also *attrib.*, esp. in phrase † *on* (*upon, in, of*) *the mending hand* (see HAND *sb.* 4 b). So also † *at a mending hand* (obs.), *in a mending way.*

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xli. (*Agnes*) 10 Al sekmen of his tweching of verray heile gettis mending. 1534 MORE *Comf. agst. Trib.* II. ii. (1847) 90, I look every day to depart, my mending days coming very seld. 1658 A. FOX tr. *Wurtz' Surg.* III. xxiii. 291 Go on..till you see and perceave that the member is at a mending band. 1710–11 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 10 Mar., He has no fever, and the hopes of his mending increase. 1753 N. TORRIANO *Gangr. Sore Throat* 23 She was repurged with Success, whence they judged her in a mending Way.

c. The action or process of repairing (something decayed, worn, etc.); an instance of this. Also *techn.* (see quot. 1891).

1395 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 11 Y bequeth to þe Mendyng of þe heye way..xl.s. 1429–30 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* (1904) 72 Also for mendynge of þe sepulcre xvj d. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* v. i. 263 Why this is like the mending of high waies In Sommer. 1869 PHILLIPS *Vesuv.* ii. 33 The pavement except by occasional mendings may be readily believed to have been laid by Pelasgian hands. 1891 *Labour Commission* Gloss., *Mending*, replacing (in woven worsted-coating pieces) threads of warp or of weft dropped by the weaver.

attrib. 1882 CAULFEILD & SAWARD *Dict. Needlework* s.v., Mending Cottons..may be had both white and unbleached. 1885 *Army & Navy Co-op. Soc.* Price List 1385 Silks...Spun Mending, Black and Colours.

2. *concr.* a. *pl.* Articles to be repaired. *rare.*

1863 W. B. JERROLD *Signals Distress* 98 Workmen were busy over 'boys'' strong boots and mendings.

b. *pl.* Short for *mending yarns.*

1882 CAULFEILD & SAWARD *Dict. Needlework, Mendings*, these yarns are composed of a mixture of cotton and wool, and designed for the darning of Merino stockings.

c. A repaired place; a 'mend'. *rare.*

1886 *Housewife* I. 109/2 (Darning.] Grafting can only be done when the new piece matches the old..and the mending is to be of large size.

† 3. = MENDMENT 2. *dial.*

1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* 13 Which [*sc.* overflowing of rivers] brings the Soil of the Up-lands upon them, so that they need no other mending. 1855 MORTON *Cycl. Agric.* II. 724 *Mending*, (Lanc.), manuring.

4. *Mending up*: see quot. 1892. Also *attrib.*

1885 [HOARE] *Pattern Making* 225 Mending up with sweeps becomes necessary...We then have an unbroken lower edge by which to guide the mending up sweep. 1892 — *Princ. Pattern Making* 156 *Mending up*, the necessary repairs done to a mould after it has become damaged by the rapping and the withdrawal of the pattern. *Mending up piece*, any strip, sweep, or block, which is used as a guide to obtain or to restore the damaged contour of a section of a sand mould.

Mendipite (me·ndipəit). *Min.* [ad. G. *mendipit* (Glocker, 1839), f. the name of the *Mendip* Hills (Somerset) where it was found: see -ITE.] Oxychloride of lead, found in white masses.

1851 WATTS tr. *Gmelin's Handbk. Chem.* V. 147 Mendip Lead-ore or Mendipite...This mineral is likewise found, and in a state of greater purity, at Brilow near Stadtbergen.

†**Mendivaunt.** *Obs.* Also **mendyfaunte, -vaunt.** [f. OF. (chiefly AF.) *mendif*, altered form of *mendi*:—L. *mendīcus* (see MENDICANT).

As *mendynaunt* and *mendynaunt* would usually be indistinguishable in the MSS., it is possible that some or all of the examples under MENDINANT may belong to this word. In those given below the MSS. have *f* or *v*, not *n*.]

= MENDICANT *sb.*

c 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) XIX. 210 There duellen many religious men, as it were of the ordre of Freres: for thei ben Mendyfauntes. 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 541 Other ordrys vertuous. Mendyvauntys ful nedy. *c* 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* I. lix. (1869) 35, j make him yiue and departe tbat he hath to the needy and to mendivaunts.

Mendment (me·ndmĕnt). [Aphetic f. AMENDMENT. Cf. OF. *mendement* (once in Godef., written *mandement*).]

1. = AMENDMENT; improvement, reparation, correction, reformation.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 23744 Þis lijf he [crist] has vs lent..To hald ai wel his comament, If we do mis, do mendement. ? *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 989, I am comyne fra the conquerour ..for mendemente of the pople. 1559 *Mirr. Mag., Edw. Dk. Somerset* XXV. (1563) 167 He..would have all thing mended, But by tbat mendment nothyng els he ment, But to be kyng. 1612 DEKKER *If it be not good* Wks. 1873 III. 298 *Bar.* Well, well, the world will mend. *Bra.* The pox of mendment I see.

2. Improvement of the soil; *concr.* manure; = AMENDMENT 6. Now *dial.*

1644 G. PLATTES in *Hartlib's Legacy* (1655) 289 If the mendment of their own lands were the cheapest purchase to the owner [etc.]. 1798 J. MIDDLETON *View Agric. Mdlsx.* 305 Manure is undoubtedly the great cause of fertility. (The Middlesex farmer says 'there is nothing to be done without "mendment"'.) ? 1842 LANCE *Cottage Farmer* 13 Potash and saltpetre would invigorate corn crops more than any other artificial mendment. 1883 *Hampshire Gloss.*

†**Me·ndnis.** *Obs.* [f. MEND *v.* + *-nis*, -NESS.] Amendment.

c 1400 *Rule St. Benet* 4 A stresce will I make in mendnis of 3oure sinne.

Mendole (me·ndoul). [a. It. (Venetian) *mendole.* Cf. F. *mendol(e.]* = CACKEREL 1.

1854 BADHAM *Halieut.* 276 The bream is as worthless a fish as the mendole. 1862 COUCH *Brit. Fishes* I. 206 In its native waters the Mendole is an exceedingly prolific fisb.

† **Mendose,** *a. Anat. Obs. rare*—1. [ad. L. *mendōsus* fanlty (f. *mendum* fanlt), in med.L. anatomy used to render Gr. *νόθος* spurious, as applied to the 'false' ribs, 'false' sutures, etc.]

c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 110 [Þo boonys þat vndir setten ben clepid ossa mendosa]. *Ibid.*, ij. boonys þat ben clepid mendose. *Ibid.* 111 Wiþ .ij. semes mendose. [1855 OGILVIE *Suppl., Mendose*, false, spurious.]

† **Mendo·za.** *Obs.* [? The (Spanish) surname of the inventor.] In full *mendoza wheel*, one of the wheels of a spinning-mule.

1803 *Specif. Wood's Patent* No. 2711. 2 The wheel G acts in the mendoza, called the drawing-out wheel. 1818 *Specif. of Eaton's Patent* No. 4272. 4 When the carriage [of the spinning mule] is quite out the mendoza wheel O is disengaged from the pinion. 1836 URE *Cotton Manuf.* II. 158 The large horizontal bevel-wheel 12, called the mendoza.

Mendozite (mendō·zəit). *Min.* [Named by Dana from *Mendoza*, Argentine Republic, where it is found: see -ITE 2.] A hydrous sulphate of alumina, occurring in white fibrons masses; = ALUNOGEN.

1868 DANA *Syst. Min.* (ed. 5) II. 653.

Mendy, variant of MENDEE.

† **Mene.** *Obs.* [repr. OE. *gemæne*, subst. use of *gemæne* adj.: see I-MENE *a.*] Intercourse, fellowship.

c 1200 ORMIN 1948 þatt nan ne shollde filedd ben þurrh hæþenn macchess mæne. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 501 For alied god self him toch fro mannes mene in to ðat stede ðat adam forles for iuel dede.

Mene: see MAN, MEAN, MEINIE.

Menealtie, obs. form of MESNALTY.

Meneghinite (menĭ·gĭnəit). *Min.* [f. name of Prof. J. *Meneghini*, of Pisa + -ITE.] A sulph-antimonide of lead, occurring in prismatic crystals and in fibrous masses.

1852 *Amer. Jrnl. Sci.* Ser. II. XIV. 60 The Meneghinite is a new species, established by M. Bechi. It occurs in compact fibrous forms, very lustrous [etc.].

Meneisoun, Menekin, Menel(e)d, Meneliche: see MENISON, MINIKIN, MENALD, MEANLY.

Meneress, Menese, Menesinge, Meneson, Menester, Menestral, Meneuer: see MINORESS, MENISE, MINISHING, MENISON, MINISTER, MINSTREL, MINIVER.

Meneuerance, obs. form of MANURANCE.

1473–5 in *Cal. Proc. Chanc. Q. Eliz.* II. (1830) Pref. 57 To have the meneuerance and occupacion..of the said mese lond mede and wode.

Menevian (mĕnī·vĭăn), *a.* and *sb. Geol.* Also **Min-, Mæn-.** [f. *Menevia*, med.L. name of St. David's + -AN.] a. *adj.* Of or pertaining to a very ancient group of rocks found near St. David's in South Wales, and also near Dolgelly and Maentwrog in North Wales, containing a large number of different species of fossils. b. *sb.* The Menevian formation.

1865 SALTER & HICKS in *Rep. Brit. Assoc.* (Hardwicke) 147 The authors propose the term 'Minevian' for the lowest division of the 'Lingula flag'. 1865 HICKS in *Q. Jrnl. Geol. Soc.* XXI. 477 *note*, The new term 'Mænevian Group'. 1867 SALTER & HICKS *Ibid.* XXIII. 339 The Menevian group. 1882 A. GEIKIE *Text-bk. Geol.* 654 The Menevian beds. 1894 *Geol. Mag.* Oct. 442 At this time the upper portion only of the Menevian (then called Lower Lingula Flags) had yielded any fossils.

Menew, Menew(e)s: see MINNOW, MENISE.

Me·n-folk(s. [See MAN *sb.*1]

1. The male sex; also *dial.* (see quot. 1886).

1802 R. ANDERSON *Cumbld. Ball.* 38 I've wonder'd sin I kent mysel, What keeps the men-fwok aw frae me. 1824 SCOTT *St. Ronan's* XXXVIII, 'Mr. Tyrrel', she said, 'this is nae sight for men folk—ye maun rise and gang to another room'. 1886 ELWORTHY *W. Somerset Word-bk., Men folks*, usually the male labourers on a farm. Males in general, as distinct from 'women folks'. 1896 BLACK *Briseis* xx, Some of us Gordons about Dee-side—I mean the men-folk of us—are said to be rather quick in the temper.

2. Human beings. *rare.*

1870 MORRIS *Earthly Par., Golden Apples* (1890) 328/2 Slipping through the seas Ye never think, ye men-folk, how ye seem From down below through the green waters' gleam.

Meng, *v. Obs.* exc. *dial.* Forms: *Inf.* 1 men(c)gan, mængan, 3 mengen, mengge, (3*rd pres. sing.* meinþ), 3–7, 9 menge, 5 (mengyn), meenge, meynge, 3– meng; 3–5 mynge, 3– ming, (5 mynge, 6, 9 minge). *Pa. t. Ind.* a. 1–4 mengde, 3 mengte, meng(u)d, 3–5 menged, 4 menhed, mengede, *Sc.* mengzeit, 4–5 mengid, -it, 5 mengyd, 6 menkit; 4 mynged(e, -ide, 5 mynget, -it. β. 4 meynt, 6 ment. *Pa. pple.* a. 2–5 imengd, 3 imænged, imenget, imeingt,

mengt, 3–8 menged, 4 ymengd, imengde, mengyt, -ede, 4–5 ymenged, mengid, meyng(i)d, 4–6 mengyd, 5 ymengyd, -id, mengit, menkyd, 6 menket, menkte; 5 mynged, -et, -it, -yd, mingit, 6 minged, mingde. *β.* **2–4 meind, 3 imeind(e, meynde, ime(y)nd, 3–4 ymeynd, 3–5 meynd, 4 mynd, yment, 4–5 ymeynt, 5–6 meynt, 6–7 ment, meint, 7 ymeint, imeint.** *γ.* **3 imeng(e, ymeng.** [OE. *mengan* = OFris. *mengia, menzia*, OS. *mengian* (Du. *mengen*), OHG. (MHG., mod.G.) *mengen*, ON. *menga* (Sw. *många*, Da. *mænge*):—OTeut. **mangjan*, f. the root of OE. *ge-mang* : see AMONG.

The normal form in mod. standard English would be *minge* (mindʒ): cf. *singe*. Forms with *i* occur both in literature (down to the 17th c.) and in mod. dialects: but the form *meng* has been adopted here as that occurring in the best-known instances.]

1. *trans.* To mix, mingle, blend: **a.** one thing *with* († Sc. *into*) another.

c 725 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 15/15 *Confundit*, menget. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Luke xiii. 1 Þare blod pilatus mengde [*Lindisf.* ʒemengde] mid hyra offrungum. *a* 1200 *Moral Ode* 142 in *Cott. Hom.* 169 Betere is wori water drunch þen atter meind [*later versions* meynd, imengd, imenge] mid wine. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxvii. (*Machor*) 584 Poysone .. myngyt into drink. *Ibid.* xxxiii. (*George*) 505 Þane with wyne mengʒeit he poyson. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 262 Warm melk sche putte also therto With hony meynd. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xxvi. 270 In stede of drynk thay gaf me gall, Asell thay menged it withall. 1562 TURNER *Baths* I, I founde..marquesites and stones menged with copper. 1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* July 84 Till with his elder brother Themis His brackish waves be meynt. 1633 P. FLETCHER *Purple Isl.* III. xx, The third had water..with good liquors ment. 1677 NICOLSON *Cumb. & Westm. Gloss.* in *Trans. R. Soc. Lit.* (1870) IX. 315 *Meng*, to mix.

b. two or more things (*together*).

a 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1674 Deorewurðe stanes, of misliche heowes, imenget togederes. *c* 1410 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) xii, And put alle þise þinges togidres and menge hem vpoun þe fyre and stere hem wele. 1567 TURBERV. *Ovid's Epist.* L iij b, Incense I yeeld with intermedled teares, Which mingde doe surge as wine ycast in flame. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* V. v. 12 Bath'd in bloud and sweat together ment. 1622 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* xxvi. 35 Till both within one bank, they on my North are meint.

c. With immaterial objects and *fig.*

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 332 Auh hope & dred schulen euer beon imeind togederes. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 870 Al my song is of longinge And ymeynd [*MS. Cott.* imend] sumdel myd woninge. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* VI. 360 Þis nobill kyng.. Mengit all tyme with vit manheid. 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 19596 The pley ther-off ys meynt with wo. 1555 W. WATREMAN *Fardle Facions* I. ii. 30 Heate meint with moisture is apt to engendre. 1589 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* V. xxv. 111 Then taking Scottish othes, which they did breake, and he [Edw. I] reuenge, With those Exploytes he French attempts as gloriously did menge. 1608 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iv. IV. *Decay* 253 Their Country-gods with the true God they ming. 1642 H. MORE *Song of Soul* II. ii. I. viii, When that those rayes..be closely meint With other beams of plain diversity.

2. To make a mixture of; to produce by mixing.

1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* ii. (*Paulus*) 700 A fellone poyssone, myngit and mad he tresone. *a* 1547 SURREY *Descr. Spring* 11 in *Tottel's Misc.* (Arb.) 4 The busy bee her honye now she minges. *c* 1570 *Pride & Lowl.* (1841) 59 Their good drinke as I sayd to ming and blenne. 1730 (Som.) *Churchw. Acc.* (E. D. D.), To minging lime, and to tile pins. 1807 STAGG *Poems* 140 An' meng us up thar glasses. 1825 JAMIESON s.v., 'To meng tar', to mix it up into a proper state for smearing sheep, greasing carts, &c.

3. To stir up; after OE. only in fig. applications: To disturb, trouble, confound. Also *intr.* for *pass.*

Beowulf 1449 Se þe meregrundas mengan scolde. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 606 Nes þis meiden nawiht herfore imenget in hire mod inwið. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 945 (MS. Cott.) For wraþþe meinþ [*MS. Jesus* meynþ] þe horte blod. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 27770 And sua he mengges him wit ire, þat brennes mans mede als fire. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xxiii. 437 Now thay meng my moode ffor grace thou can me hete. 1560 ROLLAND *Crt. Venus* iv. 370 Allace, now mingis my mane and mude.

b. *To meng with mirths*: to cheer.

a 1400 *Sir Perc.* 1327 The maydene mengede his mode With myrthes at the mete. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xvi. 1 Moste myghty mahowne meng you with myrth!

4. a. *trans.* To bring (living creatures) together; to join (the male *with* the female).

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 337, & ay þou meng with þe malez þe mete ho-hestez. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 6546 There mynget þai þere men, machit hom to-gedur; Mony dedly dint delt hom amonge!

b. *refl., pass.*, and *intr.* Of persons: To be mingled *together* in intercourse, or *with, among* others; to be joined in battle; to have sexual intercourse; to be united by marriage.

refl. a 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* I. xxvii. § 11 Swelce is eac bewered þæt mon hine menge wið his brodorwiife. *c* 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Th.) cv. 26 Hi..hi wið manfullum megndan [*sic*] þeode. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 26253 O man þat menges him wit best For his flexs lust to ful-fill.

pass. c 1205 LAY. 15249 Þa weoren Bruttes imænged wið þan Saxes. 1382 WYCLIF I *Cor.* V. 9 That ʒe be not meynd [*v.r.* meyngd], or comunen not, with lecchours. *c* 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 109 Lok þat ʒe be not menkyd wiþ him. *c* 1420 LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 361 And ones in the moneth with Phebus was she meynt. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* III. xi. 36 When she with Mars was meynt in joyfulnesse.

intr. c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 544 He chosen hem wiwes of caym, And mengten wið waried kin. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 19271 Fra þan durst na man wit þam meng. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 298 With þe Scottis gan he menge, and stifly stode in stoure. 1435 MISYN *Fire of Love* II. iii. 73, I lufyd not with þame to menge.

5. *intr.* Of things: To be or become mixed.

a 1000 *Cædmon's Satan* 132 Hwæt her hat and ceald hwilum mencgaþ. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 9952 Þe leme o light .. þat menges with þaa colurs hew. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 12495 Sodonly the softe winde vnsoberly blew; A myste & a merkenes myngit to-gedur. 1614 SIR A. GORGES tr. *Lucan* VI. 233 And from his springs A vertue takes, which neuer mings With other streame. 1825 JAMIESON, *To meng*, to become mixed. 'The corn's beginnin to meng', the standing corn begins to..assume a yellow tinge; Berwicks.

Meng(e, variants of MING *v. Obs.*, to remember.

† Menged, *ppl. a. Obs.* Forms: see MENG *v.* [f. MENG *v.* + -ED 1.] Mixed; disturbed, confused.

a 1250 *Owl & Night.* 823 Þenne is þes hundes smel fordo: He not þurh þe meynde smak Hweþer he schal vorþ þe abak. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 7420 He es ai vte o wite als wode, Hu sal we meke his menged mode? 1428 in *Surtees Misc.* (1888) I, xxxiij gyrdels of menged metaill. 1494 FABYAN *Chron.* VII. 665 A woman ..was .. punysshed for sellyng of false myngyd butter.

Mengel, -ill, obs. forms of MINGLE *v.*

† Menging, *vbl. sb. Obs.* [OE. *menging*, f. *mengan* : see MENG *v.* and -ING 1.] Mingling, mixture; confusion or disturbance (of mind).

a 1000 *Aldhelm Glosses* in *Zeitschr. f. deutsches Alterthum* IX. 450 *Confectio*,..mencinge. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 2098 Conan..Among hom nolde of þulke lond abbe non menging. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 27739 Menging o mode þat coms o gall. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 475 Þe mynging of þes þingis is unholsom to man to take. *a* 1485 *Prompt. Parv.* 332/2 (MS. S.) Mengynge, *mixtura, commixtio.* 1562 TURNER *Baths* 9 With some mengінge with mixture of brimstone. 1818 HOGG *Brownie of Bodsbeck* I. 288 The meinging of repentance.

Mengle, obs. form of MINGLE *sb.* and *v.*

Mengue, Mengyd, obs. ff. MANGO, MANCHET.

Menhaden(menhē'dən). Also **manhad(d)en.** [Corrupted or cognate form of Narragansett Indian *munnawhatteaûg*, 'a fish somewhat like a herring' (R. Williams *Key Lang. America*, 1643).

The fish was used by the Indians for manure, and the name seems to be connected with the vb. *munnohquohteau*, (Eliot's Indian Bible) 'he enriches the land, fertilizes'.]

A fish of the herring family, *Brevoortia tyrannus*, common on the east coasts of the United States; it is much used for manure and produces a valuable oil.

1792 *Descr. Kentucky* 42 In 1787 were exported Barrels of manhadden 236. 1792 HOMMEDIEU in *Proc. Amer. Assoc.* (1880) XXVIII. 436 *note*, The fish called menhaden or mossbankers. 1880 GOODE (*title*) in *Rep. 28th Meeting Amer. Assoc. Adv. Sci.* 425 A Short Biography of the Menhaden.

b. *attrib.*, as *menhaden fishery, oil.*

1883 C. A. MOLONEY *W. Afr. Fisheries* 64 (Fish. Exhib. Publ.) The American menhaden fisheries. 1883 *Fisheries Exhib. Catal.* 202 Menhaden oil, used in currying leather.

Hence **Menha·dener,** a steamer engaged in fishing for menhaden.

1905 E. MARSHALL *Middle Wall* 447.

Menheir, obs. variant of MYNHEER.

Menhir (me·nhiəɹ). *Archæol.* Also *erron.* **menzhir.** [a. Breton *men hir* 'long stone' (*men, mean* stone, *hir* long := Welsh *maen hir*, Cornish *medn hir*).] A tall upright monumental stone, of varying antiquity, found in various parts of Europe, and also in Africa and Asia.

1840 T. A. TROLLOPE *Summer in Brittany* II. 300 The menhir of Plouarzel. 1851 [see PEULVAN]. 1870 LUBBOCK *Orig. Civiliz.* vi. (1875) 302 Circular marks closely resembling those on some of our European menhirs. 1904 WINDLE *Rem. Preh. Age* viii. 192 The Dartmoor row begins with a circle and ends with a menhir.

Meni, obs. form of MANY.

Menial (mī·niăl), *a.* and *sb.* Forms: *a.* 4 **meynal(l, -el,** 5 **meygnall, menal(l.** *β.* 4–5 **meyneal, meynyal,** 5 **menyal, mayneal, meyneyall,** 6 **maneall, meneal, meigniall,** 7 **mæniall, meniall,** 7– **menial.** [a. AF. *meignal, menial*, f. *meiniee* MEINIE.] **A.** *adj.*

† 1. Pertaining to the household, domestic. Also *transf. Obs.*

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) II. 215 A mannes owne meynal wittes [L. *domestici sensus ejus*] beeþ his owne enemyes. 1388 WYCLIF *Rom.* XVI. 5 Grete ʒe wel her meyneal [*v. r.* meynyal, Vulg. *domesticam*] chirche. *c* 1400 *Plowman's T.* 322 The tything of *Turpe lucrum* With these maisters is meynall. 1709 MRS. MANLEY *Secret Mem.* (1720) III. 17 He had exchang'd his own Property, his very menial Necessaries for Bread to support them.

2. Of a servant: Forming one of the household; domestic. Now only in contemptuous use: see B.

1427 *Will of Sir E. Braybroke* in *Bedford. N. & Q.* (1889) II. 224, I wol that after my deces my meyne meygnall be kepte to-geder in houshold. 1444 *Close Roll*, 23 *Hen. VI*, The said Geffrey was a menall man of the worshipful household of our Sovereign Lord the King. 1450 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 179/2 The wages and fees of youre menyall servauntez. *c* 1475 *Partenay* 900 To gret and smal menal persones. 1516 *Will R. Peke of Wakefield* 4 June, Every one of my maneall servantes. 1642 CHAS. I in Clarendon *Hist. Reb.* V. § 396 And all this, whilst his Majesty had no other attendance than his own Menial Servants. 1675 *Essex Papers* (Camden) I. 294 That none shall heare Masse either at the Queen's or any Ambass^rs Chappell but their owne meniall Servants. 1765 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* I. xiv. 413 The first sort of servants therefore, acknowledged by the laws of England, are menial servants; so called from being *intra moenia*, or domestics. 1776 ADAM SMITH *W. N.* II. iii. (1869) I. 332 The labour of a menial servant..adds to the value of nothing. 1791 MRS. INCHBALD *Simple Story* I. iv. 32 She felt herself but as a menial servant.

3. Of service or employment: Proper to or performed by a menial or domestic servant. Now only with disparaging implication: Of the nature of drudgery; servile, degrading.

1673 TEMPLE *United Prov.* ii. 113 His [De Wit's] Train.. was only one man, who performed all the Menial service of his House at home. 1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* II. iii, A maid to dress her and two other servants for menial offices. *c* 1829 VISCT. PALMERSTON in Lytton *Life* (1870) I. VI. 317 *note*, The wives are forced to wash and perform all menial offices. 1836 W. IRVING *Astoria* II. 39 As to the Indian, he is a game animal, not to be degraded by useful or menial toil. 1840 DICKENS *Barn. Rudge* xxiv, The menial offices .. the numerous degrading duties .. that I've had to do for him. 1899 T. NICOL *Recent Archæol. & Bible* iv. 153 The menial character of the labour [*sc.* brickmaking].

4. Of temper, spirit, occupations: Servile, sordid.

1837 [see MENIALISM]. 1839 BAILEY *Festus* xiii. (1852) 151 Nor cold insurgent heart, nor menial mind Can compass this. 1875 JOWETT *Plato, Gorgias* (ed. 2) II. 399 All other arts which have to do with the body are servile and menial and illiberal. 1891 *Edin. Rev.* CLXXIII. 400 Devoted only to the menial care of building a fortune.

B. *sb.* A 'menial' servant (see A. 2). Now only *contemptuous*, applied chiefly to liveried menservants kept for ostentation rather than use; often suggesting an imputation of pomposity or arrogance.

1388 WYCLIF 2 *Sam.* xvi. 2 The assis ben to the meyneals of the kyng [Vulg. *domesticis regis*]. 1650 BP. HALL *Balm Gilead* xii. § 4 Surely the great Housekeeper of the World ..will never leave any of his menials without the bread of sufficiency. 1755 JOHNSON, *Menial*, one of the train of servants. 1768 T. MOSS *The Beggar* 15 A pamper'd menial forc'd me from the door, To seek a shelter in an humbler shed. 1805 SCOTT *Last Minstr.* Introd. 39 The Duchess ..bade her page the menials tell That they should tend the old man well. 1820 BYRON *Mar. Fal.* IV. i, Dismiss This menial hence; I would be private with you. 1850 PRESCOTT *Peru* II. 76 The most common soldier was attended by a retinue of menials that would have better suited the establishment of a noble. 1854 THACKERAY *Newcomes* I. vii. 68 A hot menial in a red waistcoat came and opened the door. 1901 J. WATSON *Life Master* xviii. 170 The servants .. allowed Him to pass with a menial's disdain for the poor.

Hence **Me·nialism,** the condition of a menial; a menial act; **Menia·lity,** menial character; *pl.* menial conditions; **Me·nially** *adv.*, like a menial.

1837 *New Monthly Mag.* L. 132 Menial in soul, he may as well have the hire of menialism. 1846 MRS. GORE *Eng. Char.* (1852) 105 And is such a man to be abased to the menialities of the servants' hall? 1848 *Blackw. Mag.* LXIV. 344 Lady Suffolk .. had been bedchamber woman, and of course had performed this menialism! 1882 STEVENSON *New Arab. Nts.* (1884) 169 The Prince .. handed his hat to Mr. V., his cane to Mr. R., and, leaving them..thus menially employed upon his service, spoke.

† Me·nialty. *Obs.* Also 6 **menaltie.** [f. MENIAL + -TY.] The condition of being a menial. Also, *collect.* persons of menial rank.

1581 MULCASTER *Positions* xxxviii. (1887) 176 From the lowest in menaltie, to the highest in mistriship. 1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* 91 The vulgar menialty conclude, therefore it [*sc.* the Plague] is like to encrease.

Menie, obs. form of MANY, MEINIE.

Menild, variant of MENALD.

Menilite (me·nilәit). *Min.* [a. F. *ménilite* (H. B. de Saussure, 1795), from *Ménil(montant)*, a quarter of Paris where it is found: see -ITE.] A variety of opal of a dull greyish or brownish colour, occurring in kidney-shaped masses.

[1801 *Encycl. Brit.* Suppl. II. 205/2 *Pitchstone. Menelites.* ..A specimen of Pitchstone from Mesnil-montant near Paris ..261 (Index to Mineralogy) Menalites.] 1811 PINKERTON *Petral.* I. 550 As common flint becomes menilite, from the unctuous and magnesian marl in which it is deposited.

attrib. 1829 URE *Geol.* 324 The menilite silex.

Menilla, Menille, obs. ff. MANILLA 1, MANILLE.

1781 *Gentl. Mag.* LI. 616 *Menille* seems to be a corruption of the Spanish *malilla*, a wicked woman capable of any kind of mischief.

Menin, variant of MENNOM *dial.*, minnow.

Meningeal (mĕni·ndʒiăl), *a. Anat.* and *Path.* [f. mod.L. *mēninge-us* (f. *mēning-*, MENINX: cf. F. *méningé*, It. *meningeo*) + -AL.] Of or pertaining to the meninges. *Meningeal artery*: one of the arteries supplying the dura mater of the brain.

1829 C. BELL *Anat. & Phys.* (ed. 7) I. 119 Groove of the meningeal artery. 1877 tr. *von Ziemssen's Cycl. Med.* XII. 171 Meningeal hæmorrhages.

Meninges, pl. of MENINX.

Meningic (mĕni·ndʒik), *a. rare. Path.* [f. mod.L. *mēning-* MENINX + -IC.] = MENINGEAL *a.*

1822 GOOD *Study Med.* III. 599 He [M. Serres] proposes to call the first *meningic* and the second *cerebral* apoplexy. *Ibid.* 600 Meningic or brain fever.

Meningism (mĕni·ndʒi'm). *Path.* [Formed as prec. + -ISM.] Tendency to meningitis.

1901 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 5 Jan. *Epit. Curr. Med. Lit.* 1 Galli has collected observations of a number of cases of meningitis and meningism.

Meningitic (menindʒi·tik), *a. Path.* [f. MENINGIT-IS + -IC.] Pertaining to meningitis.

1890 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 546 The meningitic exudation.

‖ **Meningitis** (menindʒəi·tis). *Path.* [mod. L., f. *mēning-* MENINX + -ITIS.] Inflammation of the membranes of the brain or spinal cord.

1828 ABERCROMBIE *Dis. Brain* 51 To prevent circumlocution, I shall employ the term *Meningitis* to express the disease, meaning thereby the inflammation of the arachnoid, or pia mater, or both, as distinct from inflammation of the dura mater. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 546 In most cases not due to injury meningitis..is caused by an invasion of micro-organisms.

Hence **Meningi·tiform** *a.* [-FORM], **Meningi·tophobia** [-PHOBIA], see quots.

1890 BILLINGS *Nat. Med. Dict.* II. 133 *Meningitophobia*,.. symptoms of cerebro-spinal meningitis produced from fear of the disease. *c* 1893 F. P. FOSTER *Illustr. Med. Dict.* III. 2276 *Meningitiform*,..resembling meningitis.

Meningo- (mĭni·ŋgo), combining form of Gr. *μῆνιγξ* MENINX in a number of pathological and other terms, of which the following are the most important: **Meni·ngocele** (-sīl) [cf. CELE *sb.*], hernia of the meninges of the brain or spinal cord; ‖ **Meni·ngo-cerebri·tis** = *Meningo-encephalitis*; ‖ **Meningo-coccus**, a coccus supposed to be the cause of cerebro-spinal fever; ‖ **Meni·ngo-encephali·tis**, inflammation of the membranes of the brain and the adjoining cerebral tissue; †**Meningo-ga·stric fever** *Obs.* =*gastric fever*; ‖ **Meni·ngo-mala·cia**, 'softening of the membranes of the brain' (Mayne *Expos. Lex.* 1856); ‖ **Meni·ngo-myeli·tis**, inflammation of the spinal cord and its membranes; hence **Meni·ngo-myeli·tic** *a.*; **Meni·ngo-my·elocele**, a hernial tumour of the spinal cord (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1890); **Meni·ngo-rachi·dian** *a.* [RACHIS], pertaining to the meninges and the spine; ‖ **Meningorrha·gia**, hæmorrhage of the meninges of the brain (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*).

1867 *Bienn. Retrosp. Med.*, etc. (Syd. Soc.) 423 A case of *meningocele in the occipital region. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 499 The chronic *meningo-cerebritis of general paralysis. 1893 DUNGLISON *Med. Dict.* (ed. 21), **Meningococcus.* 1897 *Trans. Amer. Pediatric Soc.* IX. 189 An organism resembling the meningococcus was found. 1872 COHEN *Dis. Throat* 206 Consecutive *meningo-encephalitis. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 887 Any chronic *meningo-myelitic process. 1897 *Ibid.* III. 68 A case in which *meningo-myelitis was found at the autopsy. 1842 E. WILSON *Anat. Vade M.* (ed. 2) 351 The *Meningo-rachidian veins are situated between the theca vertebralis and the vertebræ.

‖ **Meninguria** (meniŋgiū·riă). *Path.* [mod. L., f. Gr. *μηνιγγ-* MENINX + *οὖρον* urine: see -IA.] The passing of urine containing membranous shreds. Hence **Meningu·ric** *a.*

1856 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*

‖ **Meninx** (mī·niŋks). Chiefly pl. **meninges** (mĭni·ndʒīz); also 7 **menings**. [mod.L., a. Gr. *μῆνιγξ* membrane, esp. of the brain. (Late L. had *mēninga*; cf. F. *méninge*.)] Any of the three membranes enveloping the brain and spinal cord (*viz.* the dura mater, arachnoid, and pia mater).

1616 BULLOKAR *Eng. Expos.*, *Meninges*, thinne skins in which the braine is contained. 1638 A. READ *Chirurg.* xvii. 124 In the suture there is a ligament, by which the menings are tyed to the pericranium. 1666 *Phil. Trans.* I. 397 He .. inquires, whether the Nerve proceed from the Medulla itself, or its Meninx. 1747 tr. *Astruc's Fevers* 202 As to the phrenzy, it is an inflammation of the meninges, or dura and pia mater. 1839–47 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* III. 627/2 The cerebral and spinal meninges. 1884 M. MACKENZIE *Dis. Throat & Nose* II. 370 Congestion of the meninges was found at the base of the brain.

¶ b. The drum of the ear. [So in Gr.] *nonce-use.*

1630 RANDOLPH *Aristippus* 28 The Meninx of his eare is like a cut Drum, and the hammers lost.

Menis, obs. gen. pl. MAN; obs. f. MINISH *v.*

Meniscal (mĭni·skăl), *a. rare* —°. [f. MENISCUS + -AL.] Of the form of a meniscus.

1860 WORCESTER (cites *Enfield*).

Meniscate (mĭni·skĕt), *a. Bot.* [f. MENISCUS + -ATE 2.] Resembling a meniscus in form.

1866 *Treas. Bot.* 735/1 *Meniscate*, a cylinder bent into half a circle.

Menisch(e, obs. forms of MINISH *v.*

Meniscoid (mĭni·skoid), *a. Bot.* [f. MENISC-US + -OID.] Resembling a meniscus in form; of the form of a watch-glass.

1821 tr. *Decandolle & Sprengel's Philos. Plants* 28 The higher degree of the shield-shaped passes into the meniscoid (*meniscoideus*). 1832 LINDLEY *Introd. Bot.* 380 *Meniscoid*;.. resembling a watch-glass. 1863 BERKELEY *Brit. Mosses* iii. 22 In *Sphagnum* the spore-sac .. consists of .. a meniscoid cyst at the top.

So **Menisco·idal** *a.* = MENISCOID.

1881–2 SAVILLE-KENT *Infusoria* II. 870.

‖ **Meniscus** (mĭni·skŭs). Pl. **menisci** (mĭni·səi); also 8 **meniscusses**. [mod.L., a. Gr. *μηνίσκος* crescent, dim. of *μήνη* moon.] A crescent-shaped body.

1. A crescent moon. *rare.*

1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Meniscus*, a little Moon. 1881 MISS A. D. KINGSTON tr. *J. Verne's Tigers & Traitors* v. 89 Thus the meniscus .. shed a few faint beams after midnight.

2. A lens convex on one side and concave on the other; *properly*, the convexo-concave form (i. e. the one which is thickest in the middle, and thus has a crescent-shaped section), but often applied also to the concavo-convex, the two being sometimes distinguished as *converging* and *diverging meniscus* respectively.

1693 E. HALLEY in *Phil. Trans.* XVII. 969 In a Meniscus the Concave side towards the Object encreases the focal length, but the Convex towards the Object diminishes it. 1794 G. ADAMS *Nat. & Exp. Philos.* II. xiv. 85 Infinitely thin meniscusses do not sensibly change the course of the rays of light. 1879 HARLAN *Eyesight* vii. 99 The periscopic glass is what opticians call a meniscus. One surface is convex and the other concave, according as one or the other of these surfaces has the sharper curvature.

3. The convex or concave upper surface of a liquid column, caused by capillarity.

1812–16 PLAYFAIR *Nat. Phil.* (1819) I. 189 The little meniscus of water..which terminates the column. 1883 W. H. RICHARDS *Text Bk. Milit. Topogr.* 218 The 'meniscus' should be decidedly rounded; if it appears flat the barometer should be tapped [etc.].

4. *Math.* A figure of the form of a crescent.

1885 WATSON & BUMBURY *Math. Theory Electr. & Magn.* I. 117 Instead of the figure formed by the two external segments, we may take .. the meniscus formed by one internal and one external segment.

5. *Anat.* A disk-like interarticular fibrocartilage situated in the interior of some joints to adapt the articular surfaces to each other, as in the wrist- and knee-joints.

1830 R. KNOX *Béclard's Anat.* 239 The menisci, or interarticular ligaments. 1877 BURNETT *Ear* 74 The articulation between the malleus and incus is a true joint, in which is found a meniscus.

6. An organ of doubtful function in *Echinorhyncus*, a genus of acanthocephalous entozoa.

1877 HUXLEY *Anat. Invert. Anim.* 647.

7. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *meniscus form, glass, lens*; *meniscus-shaped* adj.

1787 tr. *Linnæus' Fam. Plants* I. 70 Seeds .. *meniscus-form. 1878 ABNEY *Photogr.* (1881) 203 All single lenses .. have the meniscus form given to them. 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, **Meniscus Glasses* are those which are Convex on one side, and Concave on the other. 1833 N. ARNOTT *Physics* (ed. 5) II. 203 A lens may be convex on one side and concave on the other, .. called a *meniscus lens. 1851–6 WOODWARD *Mollusca* 74 Specimens frequently occur in the lias, with the *meniscus-shaped casts of the air-chambers loose, like a pile of watch-glasses.

†**Menise.** *Obs.* Forms: 5 **menuse, -ce, menese, menys(e**, 6 **menew(e)s, menues**, 7 **men(u)ise.** [a. OF. *menuise, menuse* (mod.F. *menuise*) :—L. *minūtia*: see MINUTIA.] Small fry.

c 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 104 Menese or loche boiled. Take Menyse or loche, and pike hem faire. *c* 1460 J. RUSSELL *Bk. Nurture* 819 Flowndurs, gogeons, muskels, menuce in sewe. 1508–13 *Bk. Keruynge* in *Babees Bk.* (1867) 280 Menewes in sewe of porpasor of samon. 1585 HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 62 *Pisciculi minuti..Poissons menus, menuise.* Small fishes called mennes. 1613 J. D[ENNYS] *Secr. Angling* II. xi. C 4 b, The little Roach, the Menise biting fast. 1616 SURFL. & MARKH. *Country Farm* 507 The small fish, which is called white, are the..Loach, Menuise, and the Trout.

†**Me·nison.** *Obs.* Forms: 3 **menison(e**, 3–4 **meneisoun**, 4–5 **menysoun**, 5 **menyson, -isoun, -eson, mensone, mensoun**, 6 **mensyn, menson.** [a. OF. *menison, meneison, menoison* :—late L. *mānātiōnem* flowing, n. of action f. *mānāre* to flow.] Dysentery.

c 1290 *Beket* 2367 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 174 Toward þe deþe he dronȝ And fur-pinede in þe menisone þat is lif him þonȝte long. *c* 1305 *St. Lucy* 6 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 101 For four ȝer heo hadde .. þe meneisoun stronge. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XVI. 110 Bothe meseles and mute and in þe menysoun blody, Ofte he heled suche. *c* 1465 *Eng. Chron.* (Camden) 35 Meny men deide on the blody mensoun. 1556 WITHALS *Dict.* (1562) 76 The bloudy menson, *discenteria.*

Menisperm (me·nispəm). *Bot.* [ad. mod. L. *Menispermum* (Tournefort), f. Gr. *μήνη* moon + *σπέρμα* seed: cf. the Eng. name *moonseed*, referring to the crescent-shaped seeds.] A plant of the N.O. *Menispermaceæ*, of which *Menispermum* is the typical genus; the most widely known species are the Cocculus indicus, *Anamirta* (formerly *Menispermum*) *Cocculus*, and the Calumba. Also **Menisperma·ceous** *a.*, belonging to the N.O. *Menispermaceæ*; **Menispe·rmad**, Lindley's term for a plant of this order; **Menispe·rmal** *a.*, in *Menispermal alliance*, Lindley's term for an 'alliance' or group of orders including the *Menispermaceæ*.

1837 *Penny Cycl.* VII. 305/2 *Cocculus*, a genus of Menispermaceous plants. 1846 LINDLEY *Veg. Kingd.* 297 Menispermales—The Menispermal Alliance. *Ibid.*, The Order of Menispermads. 1880 GARROD & BAXTER *Mat. Med.* 187 The root of the Frasera Walteri, and of a Menisperm from Ceylon, have been substituted for true calumba.

Menispermine (menispə·rmin). *Chem.* Also **-ina, -in.** [f. mod.L. *Menisperm-um* (see MENISPERM + -INE 6.] An alkaloid obtained from the shells of the fruit of the Cocculus indicus, *Anamirta* (formerly *Menispermum*) *Cocculus*. Also † **Menispe·rmia.**

1837 *Penny Cycl.* VII. 306/2 The kernel [of the fruit of *Cocculus indicus*] contains about one part in the hundred of picrotoxia, or menispermia, as some term it. 1838 T. THOMSON *Chem. Org. Bodies* 224 Menispermina .. is white and opaque, and has very much the external appearance of cyanodide of mercury. 1852 J. BELL in *Lect. Gt. Exhib.* 141 Menispermin. 1880 GARROD & BAXTER *Mat. Med.* 188 An alkaloid, Menispermine.

Menitto, Meniver(e, Meniye: see MANITOU, MINIVER, MANYIE.

Menked, -et: see MENG *v.*

Men-kind. [See MAN *sb.*1 22.] Now *rare.* Also 5 **men kyn.** The male sex; men-folk.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) II. 145 He schulde raþer chese hem a kyng .. of þe wommen kyn raþer þan of þe men kyn. 1559 in Neal *Hist. Purit.* (1732) I. 153 When the name of Jesus shall..be pronounced in the church, due reverence shall be made .. with .. uncovering the heads of the Menkind. 1674 GOOKIN in *Coll. Mass. Hist. Soc.* (1806) I. 183 The menkind sitting by themselves and the womenkind by themselves. 1697 in C. Mather *Magn. Chr.* VI. 12, I had breakfasted with the Family, and the Men-kind were gone abroad. 1898 *Month* June 637 Where the family meals take place, and where the Basque menkind are served first.

Menkit, menkte, menkyd: see MENO *v.*

Menly, Mennage, Mennal, Mennam: see MEANLY *adv.*1, MANAGE, MENALD, MENNOM.

Mennard (me·nəɹd). *dial.* Also 8 **mennot, 9 menner, mennad, menot.** [Formation obscure: perh. connected with MINNOW.] = MINNOW.

1796 MARSHALL *Rur. Econ. Yorks.* II. 333 *Mennot*,..the minnow. 1869 *Lonsdale Gloss.*, *Menner*, *Mennard*, a minnow. 1904 menot [see MENNOM].

Menne, obs. pl. of MAN; obs. form of MEINIE.

Mennelled, Mennesc: see MENALD, MANNISH.

†**Me·nnesse.** *Obs. rare.* [Aphetic for I-MENNESSE: cf. MEAN *a.*1 I.] Communion, fellowship.

1340 *Ayenb.* 14 Ich y-leue holy cherch generalliche and þe mennesse of halȝen. *Ibid.* 268.

Mennesse, variant of MANNESS *Obs.*

Mennisc, Mennly: see MANNISH, MEANLY.

Mennom (me·nəm). *dial.* Forms: 7–8 **minum**, 7–9 **minim**, 8 **menin**, 8–9 **mennin**, 9 **mennom, -on, -im, -um, -am**, etc. (see E.D.D.). [? A corruption of MINNOW, due to association with MINIM.] = MINNOW.

1654 FULLER *Ephemeris* Pref. 7 Minnums will get through the holes thereof [*sc.* a drag-net]. 1674 RAY *Collect. Words, Fresh-water Fish* 111 The Minow, Minim or Pink. 1794–6 E. DARWIN *Zoon.* (1801) I. 251 A great number of little fish called minums or pinks. 1806 in *Archæologia* XV. 352 *note*, The minnow still called ..'mennom' in the north of England. *a* 1810 TANNAHILL *Poems* (1846) 76 Up frae the mennon to the whale. 1838 HALIBURTON *Clockm.* Ser. II. xix. 294 Little ponds never hold big fish; there is nothing but pollywogs, tadpoles, and minims in them. 1893 *Northumbld. Gloss.*, *Mennim, Mennam, Menowm, Mennem.* 1904 *Spectator* 28 May 847/2 Minnow, pink,..meaker, menot, minim, peer,..and minnin are all synonymous.

attrib. 1725 RAMSAY *Gentle Sheph.* III. iii, The sanghtree shades the menin pool.

Mennonist (me·nŏnist). Also 7–9 **Menonist.** [Formed as MENNONITE + -IST.] = next.

1645 PAGITT *Heresiogr.* (1646) 30 Menonists, so called of Menon, a Frisian, by whose name the Anabaptists were generally called. 1776 J. ADAMS *Wks.* (1854) IX. 403 At present some colonies have .. bodies of Quakers, and Mennonists, and Moravians, who are principled against war. 1866 H. PHILLIPS *Amer. Paper Curr.* II. 72 The Menonists refuse to sell their produce unless for hard cash.

So **Me·nnonism**, the doctrines of the Mennonites.

1684 *Answ. Remarks More's Expos.* Pref. a 4 b, All which is done in favour of his beloved Mennonism, that Christ may not be held to begin his reign where there is any visible Monarch or Civil Magistrate that rules.

Mennonite (me·nŏnəit). *Eccl.* Also 6 *erron.* **Memnonite**, 8 **Menonite.** [f. *Menno* + -ITE.] A member of a sect of Christians which was founded in Friesland by Menno Simons (1492–1559). They are opposed to infant baptism, the taking of oaths, military service, and the holding of civic offices.

1565 T. STAPLETON *Fortr. Faith* 9 b, Memnonites and Zuenckfeldians haue ben stirring. 1684 *Answ. Remarks More's Expos.* Pref. a 2 b, Which is the opinion of Daniel Brenius a Mennonite. 1876 BARCLAY *Inner Life Relig. Soc. Commw.* 73 The doctrines..of the Mennonites.

attrib. 1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v., M. Herman Schin, a Mennonite minister. 1864 EVANS *E. Eng. Baptists* 21 The Mennonite Church in Holland. 1876 BARCLAY *Inner Life Relig. Soc. Commw.* 77 Many of them .. held to the Mennonite faith and practice.

Mennot, Mennow, Mennum, Menny: see MENNARD, MINNOW, MENNOM, MANY.

Mennys, obs. gen. pl. of MAN.

‖ **Menobranchus** (menobræ·ŋkŭs). [mod.L.; irregularly f. Gr. *μέν-ειν* to remain + *βράγχος* gills.] **a.** A genus of tailed amphibians (also called *Necturus*), having permanent external gills. **b.** An animal of this genus; in this sense also in anglicized form **Menobranch** (me·nobræŋk).

1845 J. F. SOUTH *Zool.* in *Encycl. Metrop.* VII. 305/1 The Menobranch, Axolotl and Menopome. 1854 OWEN *Skel. & Teeth* in *Orr's Circ. Sci.* I. *Org. Nat.* 188 The menobranchus has four fingers and four toes. 1878 BELL tr. *Gegenbaur's Comp. Anat.* 432 The notochord..is alternately constricted and widened out in Menobranchus, Siredon, and Menopoma.

‖ **Menolipsis** (menoli·psis). *Path.* [mod.L., f. Gr. *μηνο-*, *μήν* month + *λεῖψις* failure, omission, f. *λείπειν* to leave, fail.] The failure, retention, or cessation of the menses.

1856 in MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, and in recent Dicts.

†**Menologe.** *Obs.* Also **menologue.** [ad. Eccl. L. *mēnologium*: see next.] = MENOLOGY.

1626 T. H[AWKINS] tr. *Caussin's Holy Crt.* 538 In the Menologe of the Grecians, and the Roman Martyrologe.

1653 Ld. Vaux tr. *Godeau's St. Paul* 316 The Greek Menologue saies, he was Bishop of Golophones. 1661 Blount *Glossogr.* (ed. 2) s.v., The Greek Menologe (a book so called) is their Martyrologe, or a Collection of the Saints days of every moneth in their Church.

Menology (*mĭnǫ·lŏdʒi*). Also in Gr. and Lat. forms **menologion, menologium.** [ad. mod.L. *mēnologium*, ad. late Gr. *μηνολόγιον*, f. *μηνο-*, *μήν* month + *λόγος* account: see Logos. Cf. *martyrology*.] A calendar of the months.

1. *spec.* The distinctive title of the calendar of the Greek church, containing biographies of the saints in the order of the dates on which they are commemorated.

1610 Holland *Camden's Brit.* I. 68 They report..upon the authority .. of the Greeks Menology, that St. Peter came hither. 1740 A. Clarke *Hist. Bible* II. 321 The Greek Menologies intimate that he was shot. 1881 Westcott & Hort *Gr. N. T.* App. 84 The Menologium or system of saints' days.

b. *transf.*; applied esp. to the OE. metrical church calendar first printed by Hickes in 1705.

1844 Lingard *Anglo-Sax. Ch.* (1858) II. x. 83 To search in the Anglo-Saxon menology for the most distinguished patrons of the monastic profession. 1887 Stanton (*title*) A menology of England and Wales; or, brief memorials of the ancient British and English saints, arranged according to the calendar. 1888 (*title*) A menology or record of departed friends [compiled by M. E. Barrow]. 1892 C. Plummer *Sax. Chron.* Expl. Gloss. 297 The Menologium or Metrical Calendar contained in Appendix A.

2. *gen.* An almanac. ? *Obs. rare*—°.

1727 Bailey vol. II, *Menologion*, an Account of the Course of the moon, an Almanack.

¶ 3. The department of knowledge that relates to the months.

[Properly another word, repr. an assumed Gr. type in *-λογία*: see -logy.]

1807 S. Turner *Anglo-Sax.* VII. iv. (ed. 2) II. 24 On the Menology and Literature of the Pagan Saxons.

Menonist, -ite, obs. forms of Mennonist, -ite.

Menopause (*me·nǫ̆pǫz*). *Phys.* [ad. mod.L. *mēnopausis*, f. Gr. *μηνο-*, *μήν* month + *παῦσις* cessation, Pause. Cf. F. *ménopause*.] The final cessation of the menses.

1872 Peaslee *Ovar. Tumors* 2 The 30 or 35 years of menstrual life, i. e. from puberty to the menopause. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 302.

Hence **Menopau·sic** *a.*, having symptoms of the menopause.

1889 H. Campbell *Causation Disease* viii. 55 Those menopausic patients who seek medical relief.

‖ **Menophania** (*menǫfē·niă*). *Phys.* [med. L., f. Gr. *μηνο-*, *μήν* month + *-φανία* appearance, *φαίνειν* to appear.] The first appearance of the menses. 1857 Dunglison *Med. Lex.* 583.

‖ **Menoplania** (*menǫplē·niă*). *Path.* [mod. L., from Gr. *μηνο-*, *μήν* month + *-πλανία*, *πλάνη* wandering.] A discharge of blood, at the catamenial period, from some other part of the body than the uterus.

1845 S. Palmer *Pentaglot Dict.* In some recent Dicts.

‖ **Menopoma** (*menǫpō·mă*). Also anglicized **menopome** (*me·nǫ̆pǫm*). [mod.L., irreg. f. Gr. *μένειν* to remain + *πῶμα* lid.] A genus of amphibians characterized by the persistence of the branchial apertures; an amphibian of this genus, a hellbender.

1835–6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 91/1 The *amphiuma* and *menopoma* have not as yet been observed to possess branchiæ. 1842 *Penny Cycl.* XX. 342/1 *Salamandrops*, Wagler's name for the Menopome. 1863 Wood *Nat. Hist.* III. 185 The Menopome inhabits the Ohio and Alleghany rivers.

Menor, obs. form of Minor.

Menorhynchous (*menori·ŋkəs*), *a. Ent.* [f. mod.L. *Menorhyncha* (irreg. f. Gr. *μένειν* to remain + *ῥύγχος* snout, proboscis) + -ous.] Belonging to or having the character of the *Menorhyncha* (in Brauer's classification of insects, those taking food by suction in the larval and imaginal state).

1899 D. Sharp *Insects* II. (Camb. Nat. Hist.) 542 According to Brauer's generalisations they [Hemiptera] are Menorhynchous, Oligonephrous Pterygogenea.

‖ **Menorrhagia** (*menorē·dʒiă*). *Path.* Also anglicized **Menorrhagy** (*me·nŏrēdʒi*). [mod.L., f. Gr. *μηνο-*, *μήν* month + *-ραγία*, f. *ῥαγ-*, *ῥηγνύναι* to break, burst forth.] Excessive or long-continued menstruation.

1776–84 Cullen *First Lines Pract. Physic* (1808) II. 4, I treat of menorrhagia here as an active hæmorrhagy, because I consider menstruation, in its natural state, to be always of that kind. 1856 Mayne *Expos. Lex.*, *Menorrhagia Abortus*, term for menorrhagy attendant on abortion. 1872 T. G. Thomas *Dis. Women* (ed. 3) 261 Menorrhagia may occur without pain.

Hence **Menorrhagic** (*menorædʒik*) *a.*, pertaining to or suffering from menorrhagia.

1844 Ashwell *Dis. Women* 147 She has been menorrhagic for several years. 1873 E. H. Clarke *Sex in Educ.* 62 Menorrhagic, dysmenorrhoeic girls and women. *c* 1893 F. P. Foster *Med. Dict.* III. 1576 Menorrhagic fever.

‖ **Menorrhœa** (*menorē·ă*). *Path.* [mod.L., f. Gr. *μηνο-*, *μήν* month + *ῥοία* flow, flux.] **a.** The ordinary flow of the menses. **b.** Long-continued, though moderate, flow of the menses. **c.** A too frequent return of the menses. (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*)

1856 Mayne *Expos. Lex.* 1889 J. M. Duncan *Lect. Dis. Women* xv. (ed. 4) 107 There is not amenorrhœa, but menorrhœa into the passages, not farther.

Hence **Menorrhœ·ic** *a.*, pertaining to or characterized by menorrhœa. 1856 in Mayne *Expos. Lex.*

‖ **Menostasis** (*mĭnǫ·stăsis*). *Path.* [mod. L., f. Gr. *μηνο-*, *μήν* month + *στάσις* standing.] **a.** The suppression or retention of the menses. **b.** The acute pain preceding the menses in some women (Dunglison 1855). Hence **Menosta·tic** *a.*, pertaining to menostasis.

1839 *Hooper's Med. Dict.* (ed. 7). 1856 in Mayne *Expos. Lex.*; and in mod. Dicts.

Menostation (*menǫ̆stē·ʃən*). *Path.* [ad. mod.L. *mēnostatiōn-em*, f. Gr. *μηνο-*, *μήν* month + L. *statiōn-em* a standing.] = Menostasis.

1822 Good *Study Med.* IV. 46 Yet menostation may take place from a suppression of the menses after they have become habitual. 1844 Hoblyn *Dict. Med.*, *Menostation*, a suppression or retention of the catamenial discharge.

Menot: see Mennard *dial.*, a minnow.

Menour, -ess, obs. forms of Minor, -ess.

†**Menow weed.** *West Indian. Obs.* [Cf. *many-root* (Many 6 c), applied to the same plant; Browne's *menow weed* may be a mistake for this, or possibly both names may be distortions of some foreign word.] The plant *Ruellia tuberosa*.

1756 P. Browne *Jamaica* 268 Menow weed..is very common in most parts of Jamaica.

Menow(e, obs. forms of Minnow.

Menprise, variant of Mainprize *v. Obs.*

‖ **Mensa** (*me·nsă*). [L. *mensa* table.]

1. *Eccl.* The upper surface, esp. the top slab, of an altar; an altar-table.

1848 B. Webb *Continental Ecclesiol.* 45 An original altar of solid masonry with moulded mensa and plinth. 1904 *Athenæum* 20 Aug. 250/1 In the chancel of Car-Colston.. rests the [uprooted headstone of Dr. Thoroton,.. it was originally the mensa of the high altar.

2. The grinding surface of a molar tooth.

1693 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Mensa*, the broader part of the Teeth called Grinders, which Chaws and Minces the Meat. 1856 Mayne *Expos. Lex.*

Mensal (*me·nsăl*), *a.*[1] and *sb.*[1] Also 8 mensale. [ad. late L. *mensālis*, f. *mensa* table: see -al.]

A. *adj.*

1. Pertaining to or used at the table; table-.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 333/1 Mensal knyfe, or borde knyfe. 1656 Blount *Glossogr.* 1748 Richardson *Clarissa* (J.), Conversation either mental or mensal. 1778 Dr. Warner *Let.* in Jesse *Selwyn's Corr.* (1844) III. 335 The common things, mental or mensal, which I grubbed on with contentedly.

b. *Mensal bed*: a couch used (as by the ancient Romans) for reclining at meals.

1675 Brooks *Gold. Key* Wks. 1867 V. 543 It is an allusion to their conjugal and mensal beds, on which the guests are so bestowed, that the first laid his left hand under the head of him that was next.

2. a. In Irish (and early Scottish) history, *Mensal land*: land set apart for the supply of food for the table of the king or prince.

1607 Davies *1st Let. to Earl Salisbury* Hist. Tracts (1787) 245 The Mensall land of M'Guire. 1689 R. Cox *Hist. Irel.* I. Expl. Index, *Logh tee*, Demeasn or Mensal Lands, for House-keeping. 1880 W. F. Skene *Celtic Scot.* III. 148 The office or mensal land set apart for the maintenance of the Ri or Toisech.

b. In Scotland and Ireland before the Reformation, applied to a church, benefice, etc., appropriated to the service of the bishop for the maintenance of his table. Also similarly used in the modern Roman Catholic church in Ireland.

1605 T. Ryves *Vicar's Plea* (1620) 114 All manner of Benefices as well mensall as other. 1663 *Jrnls. Irish Ho. Lords* (1779) I. 375 That Bishops that are well settled do build a Mensal-House. 1775 L. Shaw *Moray* (1827) 360 The churches of St. Andrews, Ugston, and Laggan were Mensal. 1813 Carlisle *Topog. Dict. Scot.* II, *Hoddom*, in the Shire of Dumfries: formerly a Mensal Church to the See of Glasgow. 1861 Fitzpatrick *Dr. Doyle* (1880) I. 379 As this was a mensal parish, Dr. Doyle often visited it officially.

3. *Palmistry. Mensal line*, the 'line of fortune', the table-line. [Cf. OF. *mensale* sb.]

1602 *Narcissus* (1893) 230 Thy mensall line is too direct and cragged. 1675 Salmon *Polygraph.* v. xxxix. 489.

B. *sb.*

1. *Hist.* A mensal church or benefice.

1710 J. Harris *Lex. Techn.* II, *Mensalia*, *Mensals*, were such Personages or Livings as were united formerly to the Tables of Religious Houses. 1847 W. Reeves *Eccles. Antiq. Down & Connor* (1867) 115 *note*, This parish was, of old, a mensal of the Bishop of Dromore.

†**2.** *Irish Antiq.* The provision of the royal table (see A. 2 a). *Obs.*

1782 *Vallancey's Collect. De Rebus Hibern.* III. x. 94 Lands assigned for the mensal of the chief.

Mensal (*me·nsăl*), *a.*[2] and *sb.*[2] [f. L. *mēns-is* month + -al. Cf. *mensual.*] **A.** *adj.* Monthly.

1860 Worcester (citing *Month. Rev.*). 1888 J. Nelson in *Amer. Jrnl. Psychol.* I. 390 In the male as in the female, the maturation of the reproductive elements is a continuous process, though we may hardly say that it is not influenced by the mensal periodicity.

†**B.** *sb.* A monthly account. *Obs.*

a 1483 *Liber Niger* in *Househ. Ord.* (1790) 60 The cofferer hathe..one under clerke..to make the mensall and many othyr wrytings for the Thesaurere his accompt. 1526 *Ibid.* 220 Within three dayes of the expirement of every moneth to bring in his mensall.

Mensalize (*me·nsăləiz*), *v.* [f. Mensal[1] + -ize.] *trans.* To convert into a 'mensal' parish, etc.

1893 Fahey *Hist. Diocese Kilmacduagh* 406 The parish was mensalised on the appointment of Dr. Archdeacon.

Mensanger, obs. form of Messenger.

Mense (mens), *sb. Obs.* exc. *Sc.* and *north. dial.* [Sc. pronunciation of Mensk: cf. *buss* = *busk* bush, *ass* = *ask* ashes, etc.] Propriety, decorum; neatness, tidiness.

c 1500 *Priests of Peblis* (Laing) 313 Thair manheid, and thair mense, this gait they murle; For mariage thus unyte of ane churle. 1567 *Satir. Poems Reform.* viii. 10 War 3our richt reknit to þe croun It mycht be laid with litill menss. 1737 Ramsay *Scot. Prov.* (1797) 46, I ha'e baith my meat and my mense. [Used by one who has given an invitation that has not been accepted.] 1783 Burns *Poor Mailie's Elegy* iv, I wat she was a sheep o' sense, An' could behave hersel wi' mense. 1788 W. Marshall *Yorks.* II. 342 *Mense*, manners, creditableness. 1818 Scott *Rob Roy* vi, But we hae mense and discretion, and are moderate of our mouths.

Mense (mens), *v. Obs.* exc. *dial.* Also menee. [Sc. var. of Mensk *v.*] *trans.* To grace; to adorn or decorate; to be a credit or to do honour to.

1535 Lyndesay *Satyre* 4088 Cum heir, Falset, & mense the gallows. 1606 Birnie *Kirk-Buriall* (1833) 35 Lyke Hophnees with elcrookes to minche and not Samueles to mense the offerings of God. 1780 J. Mayne *Siller Gun* III, Convener Tamson mensed the board, Where sat ilk deacon like a lord. 1818 Hogg *Brownie of Bodsbeck*, etc. II. 164 They'll..leave the good..ait-meal bannocks to..be pouched by them that draff an' bran wad better hae mensed! 1863 in Robson *Bards Tyne* 135 O bonny church! ye've studden lang, To mence our canny toon.

Mense, obs. Sc. form of *mends*: see Mend *sb.*

Menseful (*me·nsfŭl*), *a. Sc.* and *north. dial.* [f. Mense *sb.* + -ful.] Proper, decorous; neat, tidy; discreet.

1674 Ray *N. C. Words* 32 *Menseful*: comely, graceful, crediting a man, *York-sh.* 1720 Ramsay *Wealth* 119 Thus with attentive look mensfou they sit. 1816 Scott *Old Mort.* vi, Put on your Raploch grey; it's a mair mensfu' and thrifty dress. 1822 — *Pirate* xxiii, Menseful maiden ne'er should rise, Till the first beam tinge the skies. 1891 A. J. Munby *Vulgar Verses* 191 'Bud, Gaffer', said the menseful maid—.

Menseless (*me·nslĕs*), *a. Obs.* exc. *Sc.* [f. Mense *sb.* + -less.] Destitute of propriety, decorum or seemliness.

15.. *Colkelbie Sow* in *Bannatyne MS.* (Hunter. Club) 1026 This cursit company And mensles mangery. 1593 B. Barnes *Parthenophil* Sonn. xv, O, but I fear mine hopes be void, or menceless! 1787 Burns *Death Poor Mailie* 50 An warn him..no to rin an' wear his cloots Like ither menseless, graceless, brutes. 1858 M. Porteous *Souter Johnny* 32 The menseless fry Gie out its for your fame they pry, To mak it strunt, an' sten' mair high.

‖ **Menses** (*me·nsīz*), *sb. pl. Path.* [L. *mēnsēs*, pl. of *mēnsis* month.] = Catamenia.

1597 Gerarde *Herbal* I. li. 72 The seede of Darnell..prouoketh the flowers or menses. 1607 Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 431 A Musk-cat..is very profitable..for the bringing forth of those Womens menses or fluxes which are stopped. 1718 Quincy *Compl. Disp.* 92 Myrrh provokes the Menses, and forwards Delivery. 1896 Allbutt & Playfair *Syst. Gynæcology* 345 The suppression of the menses that occurs in young obese women is to be accounted for in the same way.

†**Me·nsion.** *Obs.*—° [ad. L. *mēnsiōn-em*, n. of action to *mētīri* (ppl. stem *mēns-*) to measure.] The action of measuring.

1623 Cockeram, *Mension*, a measuring. 1658 Phillips, *Mensuration*, the same as *Mension*, or measuring.

Mension, obs. form of Mention.

†**Mensk,** *sb. Obs.* Forms: 3 mensca, mensce, menke, 3–6 mensk, menske, 5 menseke. (See also Mense *sb.*) [a. ON. *mennska* humanity (Sw. *menniska*, Da. *menneske*), corresponding (exc. for declension) to OE. *menniscu* = OS., OHG. *mennisk*:—OTeut. type **manniskīn-* wk. fem., f. **mannisko-*: see Mannish *a.*]

1. Humanity, kindness; graciousness, courtesy.

a 1240 *Wohunge* in *Cott. Hom.* 269 Menske and mildeschipe and debonairte of herte and dede. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 313 Moch is þi mercy & þi miȝt, þi menske, & þi grace! 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 163 A mayden of menske, ful debonere. *a* 1440 *Sir Degrev.* 83 He lovede welle almosdede, Powr men to cloth and ffede, Wyth menske and manhede.

2. Honour, dignity, reverence; *pl.* honours, dignities.

c 1205 Lay. 2535 Ah fourti wintre heore fader mid mensca heold his riche. *Ibid.* 2681. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 192 Mid more menke, not ich non ancre þet habbe al þet hire neod is þene ȝe þreo habbeð. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 4245 Putifer..held ioseph in mensk and are. *c* 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 2118 More menske were it to þe Better for to do. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 2410 Sele you bytyde, & he ȝelde hit yow ȝare, þat ȝarkkez al menskes! 1375 Barbour *Bruce* xvi. 621 Men sall se Quha lufis the kyngis mensk to-day! *a* 1400 *Sir Perc.* 1423 If..we foure kempys agayne one knyght, Littille menske wold to us lighte, If he were sone slayne. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xx. 175 Mensk be to this meneye! 1508 Dunbar *Tua Mariit Wemen* 352, I maid that wif carll to werk all womenis werkis, And laid all manly materis and mensk in this eird. 1509 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) V. 3 ȝe shall have moch menske thereof.

b. An honour, credit, ornament.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 276 Þe meste menkes [*C.* menske] of þine nebbe, þet is, þet feirest del bitweonen smech muðes & neoses smel. *a* 1240 *Wohunge* in *Cott. Hom.* 281 Þu þat menske art of al mon kin, of alle bales bote, mon for to menske swuch schome þoledes.

† **Mensk,** *a. Obs.* [a. ON. *mennisk-r* = OE. *mennisc*: see MANNISH *a.*] Worshipful, honourable.

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kni.* 964 A mensk lady on molde.

† **Mensk,** *v. Obs.* [f. MENSK *sb.*]

1. *trans.* To reverence or honour; to dignify, grace, favour.

a 1225 *Juliana* 7 He hire walde menskin wið al þat he mahte. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 2432 Þe king .. commaunded thoru-out al his land Men suld bim mensk and hald in hand. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. III. 177 For 3it I may as I mihte menske þe wiþ 3iftes And Meyntene þi Monhede more þen þou knowest. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1855 Send hom þat semly þat I sew fore, That he may menske hur with mariage. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* ix. 140 Mahowne the menske, my lord kyng. *c* 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 446 Hym to mensk on mold withoutin manance.

2. To adorn; to render graceful.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 141 Þe abyt þat þou has vpon, no halyday hit menskez. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kni.* 153 A mere mantile abof, mensked with-inne, With pclure pured apert þe pane ful clene. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 12460 To menske bit [a cloak] þer hit was wane. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxviii. (*Margaret*) 525 One þe morne, quhen sown was brycht, þat menskis al þe warld of lycht [etc.].

† **Me·nskful,** *a. Obs.* [f. MENSK *sb.* + -FUL. Cf. MENSEFUL.] Worshipful, honourable; gracious. Of a building: Stately.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 358 Iðe menske of þe dome þet heo schulen demen is heihscbipe menskeful ouer al understonden, nȝean scheome. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 9878 A castel, ..a worthy sted menskful to hald. *a* 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* 51 Menskful maiden of myht. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 508 His maners were so menskful a-mende hem miȝt none. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xxix. 389 Was neuer madyn so menskfull here apon molde As thou art. *c* 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 408 Maneris full menskfull, with mony deip dike. *absol.* 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kni.* 555 Syr Boos, & sir Bydner, big men boþe, & mony oþer menskful.

b. Used as *adv.* = MENSKFULLY.

a 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* 52 Middel heo hath menskful smal; Hire loveliche chere as cristal.

† **Me·nskfully,** *adv. Obs.* [f. prec. + -LY 2.] Honourably; manfully; with grace or propriety.

c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 1143 Ful menskfully to þe messangeres þemperour þan seide, he wold be boun bleþeli þe bold batayle to hold. 13.. *S. Erkenwolde* 50 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 267 Metely made of þe marbre & menskefully planede. ? *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 4076 Sir Ewayne, and sir Errake,..Demenys the medilwarde menskefully thareaftyre. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 234/2 Menskfully, *honeste.*

† **Mens-kind, -kins:** see MAN *sb.*[1] 23.

† **Me·nsking,** *vbl. sb. Obs.* [f. MENSK *v.* + -ING 1.] Honour, worship; courtesy.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 5304 Knele i sal be for þe king, And thank him of his grett mensking. *Ibid.* 15048 Þou tak to thanc þat we þe mak Sli mensking als we mai.

† **Me·nskless,** *a. Obs. rare.* In 6 -les. [f. MENSK *sb.* + -LESS. Cf. MENSELESS.] Ungracious.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* IV. v. 41 This menskles goddes in euery mannis mouth Skalis thir newis est, west, north, and south.

† **Me·nskly,** *adv. Obs.* [f. MENSK *sb.* + -LY 2.] Courteously; reverently; honourably, with dignity.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 316 3if þu hatest þine sunne, hwui spekes tu menskeliche bi hire? *a* 1240 *Wohunge* in *Cott. Hom.* 269 Þat leuer is menskli to 3iuen þen cwedli to wiðhalde. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kni.* 1312 Þenne he meued to his mete, þat menskly hym keped. 1340–70 *Alisaunder* 173 The Marques of Molosor menskliche hee aught. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XIX. 86 He broucht him menskly till erding. *c* 1450 *Bk. Curtasye* 291 in *Babees Bk.*, Drynk menskely and gyf agayne.

Menslau3t, variant of MANSLAUGHT *Obs.*

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) V. 309 In þat stryf were meny menslauȝtes in þe citee.

Mensless, variant of MENSELESS.

† **Mensoigne, mensonge.** *Obs. rare*[−1]. [a. OF. *mençoigne, mensonge*:—popular L. * *mentītiōnica*, f. *mentīrī* to lie.] Falsehood.

c 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* III. xxix. (1869) 151 My tunge, whiche is mesel, is cleped periurement, and my mouht ȝ clepe mensoige [*Sic*: *corrected in the MS. from* mensonge].

Menson(e, -soun, variants of MENISON *Obs.*

Menstracie, -asy, etc., obs. ff. MINSTRELSY.

Menstraill, -al(e, -alle, obs. ff. MINSTREL.

Menstre, -strell, obs. ff. MINSTER, MINSTREL.

Menstrew, variant of MENSTRUE *Obs.*

Menstrua, pl. of MENSTRUUM.

Menstrual (me·nstrŭăl), *a.* and *sb.* [a. F. *menstruel*, ad. L. *mēnstruāl-is*, f. *mēnstru-us*, *mēnstru-um*: see MENSTRUUM and -AL.] **A.** *adj.*

1. Monthly; happening once in a month, varying in monthly periods. Now only *Astr.*, esp. in *menstrual parallax*, the difference produced by the moon in the apparent position of the sun and the primary planets.

1594 R. ASHLEY tr. *Loys le Roy* 2 The causes both of these cotidian, menstruall, annuall, and other the rarest mutations.., are attributed to the celestiall motions. 1664 EVELYN *Kal. Hort.* (1729) 187 Any Thing we have here alledg'd concerning these Menstrual Periods. 1665 WALLIS in *Phil. Trans.* I. 286 There is no other connexion between the Moon's motion and the Tydes Menstrual period, than a casual Synchronism. 1768 SMEATON *Ibid.* LVIII. 157 The difference thus produced in the apparent place of the Sun.. may..be..called the menstrual parallax. 1780 HERSCHEL *Ibid.* LXXI. 116 We have..no cause to suspect any very material periodical irregularity, either diurnal, menstrual, or annual. 1823 J. MITCHELL *Dict. Math. & Phys. Sci.* 343 Menstrual Parallax of the Sun is [etc.]. 1833 HERSCHEL *Treat. Astron.* § 451 (1839) 289 An apparent monthly displacement of the sun..which is called the menstrual equation. 1872 O. SHIPLEY *Gloss. Eccl. Terms* s. v. Epact, It [an Epact] is therefore both annual and menstrual.

b. Lasting or extending over a month; esp. *Bot.* of a plant, remaining in bloom or foliage for a month (*Treas. Bot.* 1866).

2. Of or pertaining to the catamenia.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* VI. vii. (1495) 194 The moders wombe is fedde wyth blode menstruall. 1561 T. NORTON *Calvin's Inst.* II. 152 Some..do to lewdly ask, whether we will say that Christ was engendred of the menstruall sede of the Virgin. 1607 TOPSELL *Hist. Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 308 Aristotle and others do not let to write, that menstrual bloud doth naturally void from the Mare. 1718 QUINCY *Compl. Disp.* 92 A Provoker of the menstrual Discharges. 1876 BRISTOWE *Theory & Pract. Med.* (1878) 885 Inflammation..is most apt to occur during the menstrual period. 1896 ALLBUTT & PLAYFAIR *Gynæcology* 367 It may continue during the menstrual life of the patient.

† b. Suffering from ailments connected with menstruation. *Obs.*

1669 W. SIMPSON *Hydrol. Chym.* 73 An hysterical (or I rather think menstrual) woman.

† **3.** Of parts of the body: Produced from the menstrual blood of the mother; opposed to *spermatical. Obs.*

1626 BACON *Sylva* § 58 Some Entrails..are hard to repaire: though that Diuision of Spermaticall, and Menstruall Parts, be but a Conceit.

† **4.** Pertaining to, or of the nature of, a menstruum. *Obs.*

1471 RIPLEY *Comp. Alch.* Pref., in Ashm. (1652) 126 Understond thy Water menstruall.

B. *sb.*

† **1.** *pl.* = CATAMENIA. *Obs.*

1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 12 b/1 We apply the boxes to suscitate the menstrualles of women. 1599 — tr. *Gabelhouer's Bk. Physicke* 135/1 It helpeth woemen when their menstrualles flowe to superfluouslye.

† **2.** *Alch.* The 'menstrual' element (see A. 4, and cf. A. 3, and note s. v. MENSTRUUM) supposed to be added to metal in the process of its conversion into gold. *Obs.*

1471 RIPLEY *Comp. Alch.* Pref., in Ashm. (1652) 125 For invysible ys truly thys Menstruall. 1477 NORTON *Ordin. Alch.* v. 1 ibid. 90 The seminall seed Masculine, Hath wrought and won the Victory, Upon the menstrualls worthily.

† **Menstruant,** *a. Obs. rare*[−1]. [ad. L. *mēnstruant-em*, pr. pple. of *mēnstruāre* to menstruate.] Subject to the catamenia.

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* IV. xii. 210 Women are menstruant and men pubescent at the year of twice seven. 1656 in BLOUNT *Glossogr.*

† **Menstruate,** *a. Obs.* [ad. late L. (Vulg.) *mēnstruātus*, f. *mēnstru-um*: see MENSTRUUM.] Menstruous.

1382 WYCLIF *Ezek.* xxii. 10 Thei meekeden in thee the vnclennes of the menstruate womman. *c* 1425 *Found. St. Barthol.* 18 That welle of pyte, that was and is opyne to the menstruat womane and synful man.

Menstruate (me·nstrŭeit), *v.* [f. L. *mēnstruāt-*, ppl. stem of *mēnstruāre*, f. *mēnstrua* monthly courses: see MENSTRUUM and -ATE 3.]

1. *intr.* To discharge the catamenia.

1800 *Med. Jrnl.* IV. 529 Has never menstruated. 1866 TANNER *Pregnancy* i. 8 Some few girls, however, menstruate as early as the 11th, 12th, or 13th year.

2. *trans.* To pollute as with menstrual blood.

16.. CLEVELAND *On O. P. sick* 8 Wks. (1687), The reeking Steam of thy fresh Villanies Would spot the Stars, and menstruate the Skies.

Hence **Me·nstruating** *ppl. a.*

1872 F. G. THOMAS *Dis. Women* (ed. 3) 60 Evil often results to a menstruating woman thus constantly exposed. 1901 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* No. 2097. 593 The changes in the menstruating uterus.

Menstruated (me·nstrŭeitĕd), *ppl. a.* [f. MENSTRUATE *a.* + -ED 1.] Applied to women in whom the menstrual flow is established (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1890).

Menstruation (me·nstrŭē·ʃən). [ad. L. type * *mēnstruātiōnem*, f. *mēnstruāre*: see MENSTRUATE *v.* and -ATION. Cf. F. *menstruation*, Sp. *menstruacion*, It. *menstruazione.*] The act or process of discharging the catamenia.

1776–84 [see MENORRHAGIA]. 1799 *Med. Jrnl.* I. 294 Women during menstruation, were [etc.]. 1896 ALLBUTT & PLAYFAIR *Gynæcology* 339 Menstruation usually begins in the fifteenth year.

† **Menstrue.** *Obs.* Also 5 menstrewe, 6 menstrew. [a. F. *menstrue*, ad. L. *mēnstruum*: see MENSTRUUM.]

1. The catamenia; = MENSTRUUM 1.

c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 55 A womman in tyme of menstrue [*v.r.* menstrewe]. *c* 1440 *Wyclif's Isa.* lxiv. 6 Menstrue, or unclene blood. 1550 BALE *Apol.* 57 b, Our vniuersall ryghteousnesses are afore God as clothes stayned with menstrue. 1674–7 MOLINS *Anat. Obs.* (1896) 11 A Servant Maid with a suppression of the Menstrue.

attrib. *c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 21 Þe fleisch & þe fatnes is mad of menstrue blood.

b. *pl.* In the same sense.

1579 LANGHAM *Gard. Health* (1633) 22 Anoint the breast to purge vpward, and the nanill to purge downward, and three fingers lower to prouoke menstrews. 1590 P. BARROUGH *Meth. Phisick* liii. 185 Of stopping of menstruis. 1684 tr. *Bonet's Merc. Compit.* L 2 These symptoms had happened..at the time when she us'd to have her Menstrues.

2. = MENSTRUUM 2.

1471 RIPLEY *Comp. Alch.* Pref., in Ashm. (1652) 124 Raymond his Menstrues doth them call. 1605 TIMME *Quersit.* I. xiii. 61 The heauenly menstrueese to dispoyle metalls of their colours and sulphures naturall is this [etc.]. 1610 B. JONSON *Alch.* II. iii, Are you sure, you loos'd 'hem I' their owoe menstrue? 1664 EVELYN *Sylva* (1679) 6 They flatter their hopes..with fructifying liquors, Chymical Menstrues and such vast conceptions.

† **Menstruo·sity.** *Obs.* [ad. L. type * *mēnstruōsitās*, f. * *mēnstruōsus*: see MENSTRUOUS.] The condition of being menstruous; *concr.* the menstrual discharge. *White menstruosity*, leucorrhœa.

1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 32 b/2 When as there [women's] menstruositye too superfluouslye floweth from them. 1599 — tr. *Gabelhouer's Bk. Physicke* 220/1 For the whyte menstruosytyes of a Woman. Take whyte horehownde [etc.]. 1634 H. R. *Salernes Regim.* 195 When the menstruosity keepetb due course..letting of blond should not be done. 1653 SCLATER *Funeral Serm.* 25 Sept. (1654) 16 It is but as a defiled, nasty, and polluted menstruosity.

Menstruous, *a.* [ad. OF. *menstrueus*, ad. L. type * *mēnstruōsus*, f. *mēnstruum*: see MENSTRUUM and -OUS.]

1. Of a female: Having the catamenia.

1535 COVERDALE 2 *Esdras* v. 8 Menstruous wemen shal beare monsters. 1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* 667 A menstruous woman doth infect a looking glasse as it were with some materiall corruption. 1638 G. SANDYS *Par. Lam.* i. 70 Jerusalem, O thou of late belov'd, Now like a Menstruous Woman art remov'd. 1752 T. DALE tr. *Freind's Emmenol.* viii. (ed. 2) 55 The same is also testified by Anatomists who have dissected menstruous Women.

2. Pertaining to the catamenia.

1599 T. M[OUFET] *Silkwormes* 67 From menstruous blasts and breatbing keep them freed. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 599 Their troublesome menstruous purgation. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* III. xvii. 147 At the first point of their menstruous eruptions. 1752 T. DALE tr. *Freind's Emmenol.* i. (ed. 2) 1 The menstruous Purgation. 1834 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) IV. 35 *note*, This blood has been taken for the menstruous fluid.

† b. Produced from menstrual blood. (Cf. MENSTRUAL *a.* 2 c.) Also, secreting menstrual blood. *Obs.*

1626 BACON *Sylva* § 900 Therefore all Sperme, all Menstruous Substance, [etc.] haue euermore a Closenesse, Lentour, and Sequacity. 1782 A. MONRO *Compar. Anat.* (ed. 3) 60 The only organs of generation..are two menstruous bags.

† **3.** Defiled with, or as with, menstrual blood (in the Old Testament referred to as the type of horrible pollution). Hence, in the 17th c. often: Horribly filthy or polluted. *Obs.*

1560 BIBLE (Genev.) *Isa.* xxx. 22 Ye shal..cast them away as a menstruous cloth. *Ibid.*, *Isa.* lxiv. 6 *marg.*, Our righteousnes and best vertues are before thee as vile cloutes, or, (as some read) like the menstruous clothes of a woman. *a* 1626 SCLATER *Serm. Exper.* (1638) 103 Shall man compared with God be righteous? Mans righteousnesse is more then menstruous in that comparison. *a* 1631 DONNE *Serm.* lxxvi. 768, I must carry into his presence a menstruous conscience and an ugly face. 1685 BUNYAN *Pharisee & Publ.* 53 All our Righteousnesses are as menstruous Rags.

† **4.** Lasting for a month; = MENSTRUAL *a.* 1 b. *Obs. rare.*

1657 W. BLOIS *Mod. Policies* (ed. 7) E 8, Conscience, which the Politician hath so much abused by an inveterate neglect, that it is become Menstruous, Ephemeral. 1866 in *Treas. Bot.*

Hence † **Me·nstruousness,** menstruous condition.

1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 30/1 Ther monthlye sicknes, or menstruousnes. 1642 J. EATON *Honey-c. Free Justif.* 374 The filthy menstruousnesse of our sanctification. 1682 tr. *Erastus' Treat. Excomm.* 10 Women in their menstruousness, or men having a Gonorrhea. 1727 in BAILEY vol. II.

‖ **Menstruum** (me·nstrŭŏm). *Pl.* **menstrua** (me·nstrŭă). Also 7 *erron.* **menstrum.** [L., neut. of *mēnstruus* adj., monthly, f. *mēns-*, *mēnsis* month. Cf. F. *menstrue* sing., menstruum, solvent, *menstrues* pl., monthly courses (also OF. *menstre*), Pr. *mestruas* pl., Sp., It. *menstruo.*

In classical Latin the sb. occurs only in the pl. *menstrua* (= sense 1). The development (in med. Latin) of sense 2 is to be explained by the fact that in alchemy the base metal undergoing transmutation into gold was compared to the seed within the womb, undergoing development by the agency of the menstrual blood. The medical writers spoke of the human fœtus as consisting of a 'spermatic' and a 'menstrual' part, derived from the two parents respectively; the alchemists employed this language in a transferred sense, the 'menstruum' with them being the solvent liquid. Cf. quot. 1477 s.v. MENSTRUAL B. 2, and the 14th c. quot. given by Littré under *Menstrue.*]

† **1.** The secretion produced in the womb and discharged at the monthly periods. Also *pl.* menses, catamenia. *Obs.*

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* v. xlix. (1495) 166 That superfluyte hythe menstruum for it flowyth in the cours in the mone lyght. 1527 ANDREW *Brunswyke's Distyll. Waters* A iii, An ounce therof dronke at nyght causeth women to have

her flowres named menstruum. 1650 BULWER *Anthropomet.* 222 The Maids are not to be married, till their Menstrua or natural purgation testifie their abilitie for Conception. 1726 LEONI *Alberti's Archit.* II. 127 A Tree touched with the Menstrua will lose its leaves.

† b. Menstrual blood as the nourishment of the fœtus; also *transf. Obs.*

1669 WORLIDGE *Syst. Agric.* (1681) 586 The Discovery and Application of what may be this proper Menstruum wherein each Seed most rejoyceth in. *a* 1677 HALE *Prim. Orig. Man.* III. iii. 264 The Semina..of the greater Animals required a..more effectual preparation of the Matter, or a Menstruum for their production out of those Semina.

2. A solvent; any liquid agent by which a solid substance may be dissolved.

[1610 B. JONSON *Alch.* II. iii, Take your *lutum sapientis*, Your *menstruum simplex*.] 1612 WOODALL *Surg. Mate* Wks. (1639) 183 If the vehicle or menstrum you give it [medicine] in be also good. *a* 1626 BACON *Art. Enq. Metals* in *Sylva* (1661) 226 We are to enquire what is the proper Menstruum to dissolve any Metall,..and what severall Menstrua will dissolve any Metall. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* II. i. 53 Powerfull menstruums are made for its emolition [*sc.* of crystal]. 1713 CHESELDEN *Anat.* III. iv. (1726) 165 Our digestion is performed by a Menstruum which is chiefly saliva. 1763 W. LEWIS *Commerc. Phil.-Techn.* 95 The most effectual menstruum of gold is a mixture..called *aqua regia*. 1800 VINCE *Hydrost.* v. (1806) 52 Solids are supposed to be dissolved in menstruums. 1881 B. W. RICHARDSON in *Med. Temp. Jrnl.* 72, I have given up the employment of alcohol as a menstruum for amyl nitrite in angina. 1898 *Rev. Brit. Pharm.* 33 Moisten the drug with the prescribed quantity of the menstruum.

b. *fig.*

1654 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 406 Death is a preparing Deliquium, or melting us down into a Menstruum, fit for the Chymistry of the Resurrection to work on. 1691–8 NORRIS *Pract. Disc.* (1711) III. 138 This Union will not last always, Death, that Universal Menstruum, will dissolve it. 1863 HOLLAND *Lett. to Joneses* xxi. 304 In overflowing animal spirits is to be found..the menstruum of all social materials. 1890 *Illustr. Lond. News* 26 Apr. 535/3 Paradoxes..are menstruums of friendship, they disintegrate regard.

Mensual (me·nsiŭăl, me·nʃŭăl), *a.* [a. F. *mensuel*, a. late L. *mēnsuāl-is*, irreg. f. *mēns-is* month, on the analogy of *annuālis* annual.] Of or relating to a month; occurring or recurring monthly; monthly.

1794 DK. PORTLAND in *Earl Malmesbury's Diaries & Corr.* III. 124 Most averse..from withholding the mensual payments. 1893 F. ADAMS *New Egypt* 86 These seasons must ..have dominated the life of this people, and prescribed its mensual, annual, and almost diurnal process.

Mensuer, -ir, obs. forms of MANSWEAR *v.*

Mensurability (mensiŭrăbi·lĭti, menʃŭr-). *rare.* [f. MENSURABLE + -ITY.] The state or quality of being mensurable.

1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* 66 Whatsoever is, is Extended or hath Geometrical Quantity and Mensurability in it. 1814 D. STEWART *Philos. Hum. Mind* Note (G) II. 511 The common quality which characterizes all of them is their mensurability.

Mensurable (me·nsiŭrăb'l, menʃŭr-), *a.* [a. F. *mensurable*, ad. late L. *mēnsūrābil-is*, f. *mēnsūrāre* to measure, f. *mēnsūra* MEASURE *sb.*: see -ABLE.]

1. Capable of being measured; hence, having assigned limits.

1604 T. WRIGHT *Clymact. Years* 5 Loe thou hast put my dayes mensurable. 1694 HOLDER *Disc. Time* 19 The Solar Month..[is] not easily Mensurable. 1794 G. ADAMS *Nat. & Exper. Philos.* III. xxiv. 20 Every atom..has extension, which we may suppose to have mensurable proportions. 1829 SOUTHEY *Sir T. More* II. 32 It is only our mortal duration that we measure by visible and mensurable objects. 1881 FAIRBAIRN *Stud. Life Christ* 146 It was altogether a most manifest and mensurable thing.

† **2.** Just, fair: cf. MEASURABLE *a.* 1. *Obs.*

1633 J. DONE *Hist. Septuagint* 150 It [hospitality] is to shewe ones selfe not to be ingratfull but mensurable and equitable to all the world.

3. *Mus.* Having 'measure' and fixed rhythm, with notes and rests indicating a definite duration: used to denote the style (*cantus* or *musica mensurabilis*, 'descant') which succeeded the period of simple plain-song, and in which a combination of independent voice-parts was first employed.

Cf. MEASURED 3 c, MEASURABLE 5 b, MENSURAL 2.

1782 BURNEY *Hist. Mus.* II. 179 Ravenscroft..tells us boldly that he [*sc.* Franco] was the inventor of the four first simple notes of Mensurable Music. 1893 SHEDLOCK tr. *Riemann's Dict. Mus., Mensurable Music.* 1901 WOOLDRIDGE *Oxf. Hist. Mus.* I. 169 Mensurable melody.

Hence **Me·nsurableness,** mensurable quality.

1727 in BAILEY vol. II.

† **Me·nsurage.** *Obs.* [f. L. *mēnsūra* measure + -AGE.] = MEASURAGE.

a 1676 HALE *Narr. Customes* vi. in S. A. Moore *Foreshore* (1888) 357 Other dutyes paid there, viz. chalkinge, mensurage, wharfage, 1d a diem.

Mensural (me·nsiŭrăl, me·nʃŭrăl), *a.* [a. med.L. *mensūrāl-is*, f. L. *mēnsūra* MEASURE *sb.*: see -AL.]

1. Pertaining to measure.

1651 WITTIE tr. *Primrose's Pop. Err.* IV. XXV. 301 There were among the Ancients as well pounds in measure, as in weight, for their vessels were drawn about with lines .. and whatsoever they measured after this manner, they called Mensurall: As for example, a mensurall pound of oyle or wine. 1861 L. L. NOBLE *Icebergs* 245 Do not these fifty bergs..speak more a living language to the creative, than to the mensural faculty?

2. *Mus.* = MENSURABLE 2.

1609 DOULAND *Ornith. Microl.* 39 Mensurall Musicke is a knowledge of making Songs by figures. 1893 SHEDLOCK tr. *Riemann's Dict. Mus., Mensural Note*, the note of definite duration..invented about the commencement of the 12th century. 1901 WOOLDRIDGE *Oxf. Hist. Mus.* I. 114 The mensural system. *Ibid.* 174 The kind of part-writing which is characteristic of the early mensural period.

Mensuralist (me·nsiŭrălist, me·nʃŭr-). [a. F. *mensuraliste*: cf. MENSURAL *a.* 2 and -IST.] A composer of measurable music.

1901 WOOLDRIDGE *Oxf. Hist. Mus.* I. 132 The figures adopted by the earlier mensuralists.

Mensurate (me·nsiŭrĕit, me·nʃŭrĕit), *v. rare.* [ad. L. *mēnsūrāt-us*, pa. pple. of *mēnsūrāre* to measure, f. *mēnsūra* MEASURE *sb.*: see -ATE 3.] *trans.* To measure; to ascertain the size, extent or quantity of.

1653 R. SANDERS *Physiogn.* 274 Those 9 dimensions by which the longitude of the whole body is mensurated. 1829 LANDOR *Imag. Conv., Epicur., Leont. & Tern.* V. 223 We ..mensurate the fitness and adaptation of one part to another. 1897 *Daily News* 28 Jan. 7/2 Dr. Bertillon, the discoverer of the system of mensurating criminals.

Mensuration (mensiŭrē·ʃən, menʃŭrē·ʃən). [a. late L. *mēnsūrātiōn-em*, f. L. *mēnsūrāre*: see MENSURATE *v.* Cf. F. *mensuration*, Pr. *mensuratio*, Sp. *mensuracion*.]

1. The action, or an act, of measuring (anything).

1571 DIGGES *Pantom.* I. xxi. F iv b, If there happen any error in the situation thereof, great inconuenience maye followe in your mensurations. 1635 SWAN *Spec. M.* (1670) 174 In these mensurations we must not think to come so near the truth as in those things which are subject to sense. 1704 HEARNE *Duct. Hist.* (1714) I. 400 The Waters..destroying all their Land Marks, new Mensurations were necessary every recess of the River. 1751 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 103 ₱ 5. 204 Who can believe that they who first watched the course of the stars, foresaw the use of their discoveries to the facilitation of commerce, or the mensuration of time? 1777 M. CUTLER in *Life*, etc. (1888) I. 64 A map the Doctor had procured from actual mensuration.

b. *Med.* A system of comparative measurement of each side of the chest by which the thoracic cavities of the body may be explored.

1821–34 FORBES *Laennec's Dis. Chest* 409 The .. signs afforded by ægophony, percussion, and mensuration. 1877 ROBERTS *Handbk. Med.* (ed. 3) II. 7 Mensuration merely gives more accurate information with regard to form and size.

† c. The result of measurement; size as measured. *Obs.*

1675 COCKER *Morals* 50 Then take thy Shadows length; see how much more Its Mensuration exceeds that before.

2. *Math.* That branch of mathematics which gives the rules for ascertaining the lengths of lines, the areas of surfaces, and the volumes of solids.

1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Mensuration*, or Measuring, is to find the Superficial Area, or Solid Content, of all Surfaces and Bodies. 1855 BREWSTER *Life Newton* II. xiv. 5 He studied the mensuration of round solids.

attrib. 1859 GEO. ELIOT *A. Bede* iv, With a little blue bundle over his shoulder, and his 'mensuration book' in his pocket.

Hence **Mensura·tional** *a.*, concerned with measuring.

1880 PIAZZI SMYTH in *Nature* 1 July 193/2 Three years' experimenting in mensurational spectroscopy.

Mensurative (me·nsiŭrătiv, me·nʃŭr-), *a.* [f. MENSURATE *v.* + -IVE.] Capable of measuring; adapted for taking measurements.

1831 CARLYLE *Sart. Res.* III. iii, Our Logical, Mensurative faculty. 1860 J. MARTINEAU *Ess.* (1891) III. 151 Let the mensurative and deductive calculus work out its results.

Mensurator (me·nsiŭrĕitər, me·nʃŭr-). *rare.* [a. L. *mēnsūrātor*, agent-n. f. *mēnsūrāre*: see MENSURATE *v.*] An apparatus for measuring (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1890).

1711 E. WARD *Vulgus Brit.* v. 61 So in they heav'd Time's Mensurator Who never mov'd one Moment a'ter.

† **Mensu·rnal,** *a. Obs.* [irreg. f. L. *mēnsis* month, on the analogy of *diurnal*.] Monthly; from month to month.

1603 SIR C. HEYDON *Jud. Astrol.* xx. 417 We find the effects to answer, annuall, mensurnall, diurnall, and horarie profections. 1659 H. L'ESTRANGE *Alliance Div. Off.* 316 Our Church commands no such mensurnal forbearance.

Mensweare, -eir, obs. forms of MANSWEAR *v.*

Mensyn, variant of MENISON *Obs.*

Mensyngere, obs. form of MESSENGER.

Ment: see MEAN *v.*[1], MENG *v.*, and MINT.

-ment (mĕnt), *suffix*, forming sbs. Originally occurring in adopted Fr. words in *-ment*, either representing Latin sbs. in *-mentum*, or formed in Fr. on the analogy of these by the addition of the suffix to verb-stems. The Latin *-mentum* was added to verb-stems, and the resulting sbs. sometimes expressed the result or product of the action of the verb, as in *fragmentum* fragment, and sometimes the means or instrument of the action, as in *alimentum* aliment, *ornāmentum* ornament. In late popular Latin, and hence in French, the suffix, while retaining its original functions, came (through sense-development in some of the older words) to be also a formative of nouns of action. In AF. the suffix was still more frequently employed than in continental OF. Of the many words in *-ment* adopted into English from French, some have concrete senses, as *garment*, *habiliment*; the majority are nouns of action, as *abridgement*, *accomplishment*, *commencement*. In most of the instances the Fr. verb has been adopted into English as well as the sb. derived from it. Hence the suffix came to be treated as an English formative. Early examples of its use as appended to native English verb-stems are *onement* (Wyclif's rendering of L. *unio*), and *hangment* (in the Promptorium *c* 1440 given as the equivalent of L. *suspendium*, *suspencio*). In the 16th c. the suffix was very freely added to English verb-stems, not only to those of Romanic etymology (as in *banishment*, *enhancement*, *excitement*), but also to those of native origin; examples of the hybrid formations of this period still surviving in use are *acknowledgement*, *amazement*, *atonement*, *betterment*, *merriment*, *wonderment*. Since the 16th c. many new derivatives in *-ment* have been formed from verbs of obvious French origin. Among verbs of native English etymology, those with the Romanic prefix *en-* (*em-*), and those with the native prefix *be-*, seem to have given rise to derivatives of this form with especial frequency: examples are *embankment*, *embodiment*, *enlightenment*, *entanglement*; *bedazzlement*, *bedevilment*, *bedragglement*, *bereavement*, *beseechment*, *besetment*, *bewilderment*. Of formations in *-ment* from other native verbs there are few instances since Shakspere's time. It is rarely that the suffix has been appended to any other part of speech than a verb, as in *funniment*, *oddment*.

The letter *y* (after a consonant) ending a verb is changed into *i* when the suffix is appended, as in *accompaniment*.

‖ **Mentagra** (mentæ·gră). *Path.* [L. (Pliny) *mentagra*, f. *ment-um* chin, after *podagra* gout.] An eruption about the chin, caused by inflammation of the hair follicles of the beard; sycosis.

1802 TURTON *Med. Gloss., Mentagra*, the tetter or ringworm under the chin. 1829 T. BATEMAN *Pract. Synops. Cutan. Dis.* (ed. 7) 404 Sycosis menti..Mentagra (Plenck). 1842 BURGESS *Man. Dis. Skin* 160 Mentagra is an essentially pustular affection.

Mental (me·ntăl), *a.*[1] and *sb.* [a. F. *mental*, ad. late L. *mentālis*, f. *ment-*, *mens* mind: see -AL. Cf. Sp., Pg. *mental*, It. *mentale*.] **A.** *adj.*

1. Of or pertaining to the mind.

Mental aberration, *alienation*: see the sbs.

c 1425 HOCCLEVE *Min. Poems* i. 203 But now y see with myn yen mental Thestat of al an-othir world than this. 1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* II. iii. 184 'Twixt his mental and his active parts Kingdom'd Achilles in commotion rages. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* XI. 418 The inmost seat of mental sight. 1782 V. KNOX *Ess.* xv. (1819) I. 87 Mental food is also found..to ..delight the longest, when it is not lusciously sweet. 1802 *Med. Jrnl.* VIII. 356 Avoid excess in eating, drinking, and in mental exertion. *a* 1820 T. BROWN *Lect. Philos. Human Mind* I. 240 We shall now proceed to observe..the mental phenomena. 1879 LINDSAY *Mind Lower Anim.* I. 56 The intelligence,..cunning, and other mental qualities of spiders are well known. 1892 ANSTEY *Voces Populi* Ser. II. 98 Too severe a mental strain to be frequently cultivated. 1900 *Daily News* 1 Aug. 5/7 His mental state was inherited from long-past generations.

2. Carried on or performed by the mind. *Mental arithmetic*: the art of performing arithmetical operations within the mind, without the use of written figures or other visible symbols. *Mental reservation*: see RESERVATION.

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 159 b, To..use ye maner of prayer, whether it he mentall or vocall in ye whiche he fyndeth moost swetnes. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* I. iii. 8 By Consequence,..I understand that succession of one Thought to another, which is called Mentall Discourse. 1809–10 COLERIDGE *Friend* (1865) 12 A lazy half-attention amounts to a mental yawn. 1839 J. P. FROST (*title*) A course of mental arithmetic, in three parts. 1850 MCCOSH *Div. Gov.* III. i. (1874) 287 The mental process..by which the distinction between vice and virtue is observed. 1854 DICKENS *Hard T.* I. ix, She would burst into tears on being required (by the mental process) immediately to name the cost of two hundred and forty-seven muslin caps at fourteenpence half-penny.

3. Relating to the mind as an object of study; concerned with the phenomena of mind.

a 1820 T. BROWN *Lect. Philos. Human Mind* I. 8 There is, in short, a science that may be termed *mental physiology*. 1828 G. PAYNE (*title*) Elements of Mental and Moral Science. 1831 T. C. UPHAM (*title*) Elements of Mental Philosophy. 1860 J. MARTINEAU *Ess.* (1866) I. 248 Mental Science is Self-knowledge.

¶ **4.** Characterized by the possession of mind, intellectual. *rare.*

1840 B. E. HILL *Pinch—of Snuff* 96 Platonically enamoured of the beauteous, mental, and excellent wife to a very jealous moralist.

† **B.** *sb. nonce-uses.* **a.** *pl.* Intellectual faculties. **b.** *pl.* Mental reservations. *Obs.*

1676 *Phil. Trans.* XI. 554 The intrinsick mentals or intellectuals of Mankind. 1712 ARBUTHNOT *John Bull* IV.

iv, Hast thou laid aside all thy equivocals and mentals in this case?

Mental (me·ntăl), *a.*[2] [a. F. *mental*, f. L. *ment-um* chin: see -AL.] Pertaining to the chin.

1727 BAILEY vol. II, *Mental*, belonging to the Chin. 1829 BELL *Anat. & Physiol.* I. 159 The second hole in the lower jaw..is named the mental hole. 1836–9 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* II. 213/2 This line terminates below in a triangular eminence (the mental process). 1866 HUXLEY in *Preh. Rem. Caithn.* 91 The lower jaw has a well developed mental prominence.

b. *Zool.* Pertaining to or situated on the mentum.

1853 BAIRD & GIRARD *Catal. N. Amer. Reptiles* Introd. 7 The inframaxillary or mental scutellæ or shields. 1855 GOSSE in *Phil. Trans.* CXLVI. 424, I shall call..the anterior termination of the venter, the mental edge. 1890 COUES *Field & Gen. Ornithol.* II. 144 Mental or gular lines.

Mentalism (me·ntăliz'm). *rare.* [f. MENTAL *a.*[1] + -ISM.]

1. A process of the nature of mental action.

1874 MAUDSLEY *Mental Dis.* vii. 243 Deranged nervous function—a deranged mentalism, if I may be permitted to coin such a word—of an epileptic or allied nature. 1885 MCCOOK *Tenants of an Old Farm* 134 An order of mentalism which seems to differ from human thinking more in degree than in kind.

2. (See quot.)

a 1900 SIDGWICK in *Mind* (1901) Jan. 20 It may be held broadly that 'matter in ultimate analysis is a mode of mind or consciousness', without raising the question of a conscious self or subject...Such view I think is often called Idealism. I propose to label it 'Mentalism' in broad antithesis to 'Materialism'. If, again, the 'Mentalist's' ontology expressly excludes the notion of self or subject..then perhaps we may designate him as an atomistic Mentalist.

Mentalist (me·ntălist). *rare.* [f. MENTAL *a.*[1] + -IST.]

1. In nonce-uses: a. One whose tastes are for mental rather than for material pleasures. b. One whose artistic aim is the expression of thought.

1790 CATH. GRAHAM *Lett. Educ.* 75 The mentalist, whose enjoyments depend more on those delights, which are adapted to soothe his imagination,..will find [etc.]. 1840 *Blackw. Mag.* XLVIII. 278 A purpose which is distinct both from that of the mentalists and the materialists of the [*sc.* painting] art.

2. One who maintains the doctrine of 'mentalism'.

a 1900 [see MENTALISM 2].

Mentality (mentæ·lĭti). [f. MENTAL *a.*[1] + -ITY.]

1. That which is of the nature of mind or of mental action.

1691 BAXTER *Rep. Beverley* 15 But tell us whether it be only a Spiritual Mentality, superangelical, or the Soul and Body of a Man at his Incarnation. 1890 A. R. WALLACE in *Nature* 24 July 291 An insect's very limited mentality. 1899 GRIFFITH-JONES *Ascent thro. Christ* III. iii. 385 There is a vast store of mentality even in the higher animals which has not yet been brought to perfection.

2. Intellectual quality, intellectuality.

1856 EMERSON *Eng. Traits* xiv. *Lit.* Wks. (Bohn) II. 104 Hudibras has the same hard mentality. 1900 G. SANTAYANA *Poetry & Relig.* 258 Pope..is too intellectual and has an excess of mentality.

Mentalization (me·ntălaizē·ʃən). [Formed as next + -ATION.] Mental action or process.

1883 E. C. MANN *Psychol. Med.* 101 (Cent.) Previous to the establishment of complete delirium or delusions there may be traced deviations from healthy mentalization.

Mentalize (me·ntălaiz), *v.* [f. MENTAL *a.*[1] + -IZE.] *trans.* To develop or cultivate mentally.

1885 G. S. HALL in *N. Amer. Rev.* Feb. 145 The only thing that can ever undermine our school system in popular support is a suspicion that it does not moralize as well as mentalize children.

Mentally (me·ntăli), *adv.* [f. MENTAL *a.*[1] + -LY [2].] a. In the mind, by a mental operation; often with reference to unuttered thoughts, resolves, judgements, etc. b. As regards the mind.

1661 BOYLE *Physiol. Ess.* (1679) 208 There is no assignable portion of matter so minute that it may not at least, Mentally, (to borrow a School term) be further divided. 1688 — *Final Causes Nat. Things* iv. 129 If they be so [*i.e.* useful to us] in any Measure (as for example Mentally) they are So, for what we know, as much as He design'd they should be. 1838 LYTTON *Alice* II. ii, Such, mentally, morally, and physically, was the Reverend Charles Merton. 1848 RIMBAULT *Pianoforte* 31 When a passage is acquired..it should then be counted mentally, that is, silently. 1879 LINDSAY *Mind Lower Anim.* I. 40 Such animals must be considered mentally and morally the superiors of the human infant and child. 1885 *Law Times* LXXVIII. 296/1 He is not mentally competent to form and express a wish for an inquiry before a jury. 1892 ANSTEY *Voces Populi* Ser. II. 7 John..wonders mentally if he can get away in time.

Mentation (mentē·ʃən). [f. L. *ment-*, *mens* mind + -ATION.] Mental action, esp. as attributed to the agency of the brain or other nervous organ; also, a product of 'mentation', a state of mind.

1850 KINGSLEY *Alton Locke* iv, The cerebration of each in the prophetic sacrament of the yet undeveloped possibilities of his mentation. 1876 MAUDSLEY *Physiol. of Mind* ii. 133 That substratum of mentality, which is beneath mentation, or conscious mental function. 1900 *Contemp. Rev.* Oct. 537 Successive mental images, successive 'mentations' if I may be allowed to introduce a most useful word, made in America. 1903 *Dublin Rev.* Oct. 269 *note*, Subliminal mentation is oftenest exhibited in literary composition.

Mente: see MEAN *v.*[1] (pa. t. and pple.) and MINT.

Mentel, obs. form of MANTLE.

†**Me·ntery.** *Obs.* Also 5 -eryo, -irye. [a. F. *menterie*, f. OF. *mentere*, *menteur* liar, f. *mentir*:—L. *mentīri* to lie: see -ERY.] Lying.

c 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* III. xxix. (1869) 151 Bi menterye [Fr. orig. *menterie*] is also periurement born and engendred. *Ibid.* XXX. 152 Mentirye. 1592 G. HARVEY *Four Lett.* Sonn. xix, Lowd Mentery small confutation needes.

‖ **Mentha** (me·nþă). *Bot.* [L., ad. Gr. *μίνθη*: see MINT *sb.*] A genus of fragrant herbaceous plants of the family *Labiatæ*; a plant of this genus. (The popular name of the genus is MINT.)

1846 *Penny Cycl.* Suppl. II. 272/1 The odour of the leaves, somewhat resembling a mentha.

b. *Mentha camphor* = MENTHOL (Webster 1902).

Menthene (me·nþēn). *Chem.* [a. G. *menthen*, F. *menthène*, f. L. *mentha* mint: see -ENE.] A liquid hydro-carbon obtained from peppermint oil.

1838 *Brit. Ann.* (ed. R. D. Thomson) 359 Menthene.—Walter obtained this substance by distilling crystals of essence of mint over chloride of calcium. 1849 KANE *Elem. Chem.* (ed. 2) 866 Menthen.

Menthol (me·nþŏl). *Chem.* [a. G. *menthol* (Oppenheim 1861, in *Ann. der Chem. u. Pharm.* CXX. 352), f. L. *mentha* mint: see -OL.] A crystalline camphor-like substance obtained by cooling various mint-oils, esp. oil of peppermint. *Menthol cone* or *pencil*: an appliance for the relief of facial neuralgia, consisting of a conical piece of mixed menthol and spermaccti, which is rubbed on the part affected.

1876 HARLEY *Mat. Med.* 473 Oil of Peppermint deposits hexagonal crystals of menthol or peppermint camphor. 1888 *Pall Mall G.* 30 June 5/1 Menthol cones. 1889 *Ibid.* 5 July 2/1 Menthol and pyrine are sometimes useful for headaches. 1891 F. P. FOSTER *Med. Dict.* III. 2281 Menthol Pencil. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV. 860 Locally a menthol spray may be used.

Menticultural (me·ntikʌ·ltiŭrăl), *a. rare.* [f. next + -AL.] Relating to the cultivation of the mind.

1830 MAUNDER *Treas. Knowl.* I, *Menticultural*, cultivating the mind. 1842 PUNSHON in *Life* (1887) 34, I have..established a Menticultural Society in Sunderland. 1893 G. HUNTINGTON in *Advance* (Chicago) 19 Oct., A sort of menticultural prize-animal.

Menticulture (me·ntikʌltiŭ). [f. L. *menti-*, *mens* mind + *cultūra* CULTURE, after *agriculture*.] The cultivation of the mind.

1830 MAUNDER *Treas. Knowl.* I, *Menticulture*, improvement of the mind. 1895 HOR. FLETCHER (*title*) Menticulture or the A-B-C of true living.

Menti·ferous, *a.* [Formed as prec. + -FEROUS.] Proposed as the epithet of an imagined 'ether' in which 'thought-waves' are propagated.

1884 GURNEY & MYERS in *Proc. Soc. Psych. Research* I. VI. 135 The transformation [by Dr. Maudsley] of 'brain-wave' into the more ambitious 'mentiferous ether'.

†**Me·ntiform,** *a. Obs.* [f. L. *menti-*, *mens* mind + -FORM.] Resembling the mind.

1721 BELLAMY *Th. Trinity* 31 The Spirit is mentiform, or like the Son i.e. the Understanding from which he proceeded.

Mentigerous (menti·dʒĕrəs), *a. Ent.* [f. L. *ment-um* (see MENTUM) + -GEROUS.] Bearing the mentum. (*Cent. Dict.* 1890.)

‖ **Mentigo.** *Path. Obs.* [L. *mentīgo* (Columella), f. *ment-um* chin.] a. A pustular eruption on the mouth and lips of sheep. b. = MENTAGRA (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1890).

1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Mentigo*, a Scab among Sheep, about their Mouths and Lips, call'd *The Pocks*. 1890 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

Mentil(e, obs. forms of MANTLE.

†**Mentimuta·tion.** *Obs. rare*—[1]. [f. L. *menti-*, *mens* mind + MUTATION.] A change of mind.

1650 B. *Discolliminium* 45, I..shall be allowed the full benefit of all the..illaqueations, extrications,..mentimutations, rementimutations,..that I..can devise.

Mention (me·nʃən), *sb.* Forms: 4 mencyun, 4–5 -cioun(e, 4–6 -cione, -sion(e, 4–7 -cion, 5 -syon, -sioun, -cyoun(e, 5–6 -cyon, 6 -tyon, -tioun, -tione, 6– mention. [a. F. *mention* (= Sp. *mencion*, Pg. *menção*, It. *menzione*), ad. L. *mentiōnem*, *mentio*, f. the root *men-* of *menti-*, *mens* mind, *meminisse* to remember.]

†1. Bearing in mind, consideration. *Obs.*

c 1300 *Gregorleg.* (Vernon MS.) 749 in *Archiv Stud. neu. Spr.* LV. 438 Alle þat herden þis storie rede wiþ herte and deuocioun, And in herte taken heede wiþ good Mencioun, þe pope haþ granted hem to mede and [*v.rr.* ane, an] hundred dawes to pardoun.

2. In early use, the action of commemorating or calling to mind by speech or writing. Now in more restricted sense, the action, or an act, of incidentally referring to, remarking upon, or introducing the name of (a person or thing) in spoken or written discourse. Orig. in phrase *to make mention of* (= Fr. *faire mention de*), which is now slightly *arch.* or *literary*, exc. in negative contexts.

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 10496 Vn þat messe, þey hem affye,..For hyt makeþ mencyun of þe passyun As Iesu cryst to deþ was doun. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. x. 448 Danyd maketh menciuun he spake amonges kynges. *c* 1420 LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 2054 Wherfore I toke pen and ynke And paper to make therof mencion In wrytyng. 1459 SIR JOHN FASTOLF *Will* in *Paston Lett.* I. 454 With a scripture aboute the stoon makynge mencion the day and yeer of hise obite. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* VII. 757 Mencione off Bruce is oft in Wallace buk. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 76 He..maketh mencion and rehersall of diuerse the wandreynges of Ulysses. 1559 BP. SCOT in Strype *Ann. Ref.* I. App. vii. 15 Without any mencyon of their conversation and livinge. 1603 OWEN *Pembrokeshire* (1892) 7 Doctor Powell..maketh mencion of an Ancient Author. *c* 1665 MRS. HUTCHINSON *Mem. Col. Hutchinson* 9, I have heard very honourable mention of him. *a* 1716 SOUTH *Serm.* (1727) V. I. 22 So that their Blood may rise, and their Heart may swell at the very mention of it. 1738 SWIFT *Pol. Conversat.* Introd. 8, I shall make honourable Mention of their Names in a short Preface. 1758 JOHNSON *Idler* No. 47 ¶ 11 He grows peevish at any mention of business. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* iv. I. 482 The mention of their names excites the disgust and horror of all sects and parties. 1868 MISS YONGE *Cameos* I. 268 He never heard from him one careless mention of the name of God. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 338 These two passages are the only ones in which Plato makes mention of himself. 1877 MAJOR *Disc. Prince Henry* xii. 190 The Camaldolese geographer makes no mention of the sources from which he derived his information. 1891 LOUNSBURY *Stud. Chaucer* II. v. 236 It will explain the two mentions of Lollius in 'Troilus and Cressida'.

b. *Comb.* in † *mention making*, mentioning.

1534 MORE *Treat. Passion* Wks. 1292/1 These wordes..be the wordes of..three of the .iiii. euangelistes, which by the mencion makynge of the Pascha..geue vs here..occasyon to speake of the poynte whiche I before towched. 1583 STOCKER *Civ. Warres Lowe C.* I. 21 Without anye mention making of our mutual assurance. 1679 KID in Hickes *Spir. Popery* (1680) 5, I bless him,..that ever such a poor and obscure person as I am, should be thus priviledged by him for mentionmaking of his grace.

†c. *In the mention of*: 'apropos of'. *Obs.*

1638 JUNIUS *Paint. Ancients* 149 There is in the mention of Picture a pretie tale divulged of Lepidus, who [etc.].

†d. *Of no mention*: not worthy of mention, undistinguished.

1622 FLETCHER & MASSINGER *Prophetess* V. iii, 'Tis true, I have been a Rascall, as you are, a fellow of no mention, nor no mark.

e. *Honourable mention* (rarely, after Fr. use, simply *mention*): a distinction accorded to exhibited works of art, etc., or to candidates at an examination that are considered to possess exceptional merit, but are not entitled to a prize.

1892 MRS. H. WARD *David Grieve* II. 248 'If I don't get my "mention"', she would say passionately, 'I tell you again it will be intrigue'.

†3. In occasional uses: A statement, narrative; a record, memorial; a memorial inscription. *Obs.*

c 1470 HARDING *Chron.* XCVII. iii, Of whiche came then.. batayles greate and fell discencions, As Bede wryteth amonge his mencyons. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* II. xii. 90 Kyng Arthur lete berye thys knyght rychely and made a mensyon on his tombe. *Ibid.* XI. i. 571 Whan this hermyte had made this mensyon he departed from the courte of kynge Arthur.

†4. Indication, evidence; a vestige, trace, remnant. *Obs.*

1567 in Bateson's *Hist. Northumbld.* (1893) I. 352 Westwarde by an old mencon of a dyke. *Ibid.*, Ye mencyon of an olde dike. ?*a* 1600 *Hodgson MS.* in *Northumbld. Gloss.* 475 The march .. between England and Scotland .. goeth by an old mension of a dycke called the Marche dyke. 1600 J. PORY tr. *Leo's Africa* I. 31 The verie trees are so drowned and ouerwhelmed therein [in snow], that it is not possible to finde any mention of them. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 110 The rest that Homer so much speaks of..there is no mention or token remaining of them. 1601 YARINGTON *Two Lament. Trag.* E 2 b, Harke Rachel: I will..fling this middle mention of a man, Into some ditch... *Rach.* Where haue you laide the legs and battered head? 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 532 It [the earthquake] brought vp the Sea a great way vpon the maine Land, which is carried backe with it into the Sea, not leauing mention that there had beene Land. *Ibid.* 814 Scarce any mention of the houses remained. 1633 BP. HALL *Hard Texts O. T.* 161 Where he moves in the sea he causeth a mention of his way in the waters.

Mention (me·nʃən), *v.* Also 6 mencyon, -cion, -sion, -sin. [a. F. *mentionner* (= Sp. *mencionar*, It. *menzionare*, med.L. *mentiōnāre*), f. *mention*: see prec. *sb.*]

1. *trans.* To make mention of; to refer to or remark upon incidentally; to specify by name or otherwise.

The parenthetical infinitive phrase *Not to mention* (*so-and-so*) is used as a rhetorical suggestion that the speaker is refraining from presenting the full strength of his case.

† *Not to mention it*: used parenthetically for 'not in any degree worth mention'.

1530 PALSGR. 634/2, I mencyon, I make rehersall or remembraunce of a thyng paste or a person absent, *je mencionne*. 1535 JOYE *Apol. Tindale* (Arb.) 32 Wherof Frith wrote thys warnyng to Tin[dale] whyche he here mencyoneth. 1552–3 *Inv. Ch. Goods, Staffs.* in *Ann. Lichfield* IV. 55 Md. that ij ameses mensioned in the old inventorey be stolne. *Ibid.* 67 Md. that parcells followynge ar mensined in the olde inventore. 1611 BIBLE 1 *Chron.* iv. 38 These mentioned by their names were Princes in their families. 1692 WOOD *Life* (O. H. S.) III. 405 It rain'd and drisled most of the morning, having not rain'd, not to mention it, for a month. 1702 ADDISON *Dial. Medals* Misc. Wks. 1736 III. 15 Not to mention several others, Carracio is said to have assisted Aretine. 1705 — *Italy* Pref., I think I have mention'd but few Things..that are not set in a new Light. 1729 BUTLER *Serm.* Wks. 1850 II. Pref. 5 Not to mention the multitudes who read merely for the sake of talking [etc.]. 1751 LABELYE *Westm. Br.* 25 By Means too well known to require my mentioning them. 1839 BLACKIE in *For. Q. Rev.* XXIII. 279 How the

finest lines in Milton (not to mention Southey, Wordsworth, and Coleridge) have been smothered and mangled by this curious race of syllable counters, no student of English poetry requires to be told. **1849** James *Woodman* v, Let us mention no names. **1858** Conington *Pope* Misc. Writ. I. 18 It would be a great mistake to suppose that Pope's 'Pastorals' are worthy of being mentioned in the same day with any genuine work of Virgil's. **1875** Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) V. 130 The science of dialectic is nowhere mentioned by name in the Laws.

b. With clause as obj.: To state incidentally.

1617 Morvson *Itin.* I. 60 Give me leave to mention that there lies a City not farre distant. **1714** Lady M. W. Montagu *Lett.* II. lxxxviii. 143, I am surprised you do not mention where you mean to stand. **1818** Cruise *Digest* (ed. 2) V. 594 This case is also reported by Style, who mentions that Lord Ch. J. Roll said [etc.]. *Mod.* It ought here to be mentioned that I had never met the man before.

c. *Don't mention it*: a colloquial phrase used in deprecating offered thanks or apology.

1854 W. Collins *Hide & Seek* III. iv. 84 'I was just going to swab up that part of the carpet when you came in', said Zack, apologetically. ..'Oh don't mention it', answered Valentine, laughing. 'It was all my awkwardness'. **1873** Howells *Chance Acquaintance* iv, Oh, don't mention that! I was the only one to blame.

† **2.** *intr.* To speak or make mention *of*. Also in *indirect passive*. *Obs.*

1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 102 In their letters they mentioned of the obedience unto Magistrates. *Ibid.* 176 b, In the last boke before this, I mentioned of this duke's invectives against the Duke of Saxon. **1599** Hakluyt *Voy.* II. I. 199 A Pyramide mentioned of in Histories. **1609** B. Jonson *Masque of Queens* B 4 b, Their little Masters or Martinets, of whom I haue mention'd before. **1667** Milton *P. L.* x. 1041 No more be mention'd then of violence Against our selves. **1791a** *Elvina* I. 32, I mentioned in my last of the kind attention that Mr. Falkland had shewn.

Mentionable (me·nʃənăb'l), *a.* [f. Mention *v.* + -able.] That can or may be mentioned; worthy of mention.

1833 *Fraser's Mag.* VII. 116 All sorts of accidents, mentionable and unmentionable. **1858** Carlyle *Fredk. Gt.* IX. ix. (1872) III. 148 In Germany the mentionable events are still fewer. **1871** L. Stephen *Playgr. Eur.* viii. (1894) 178 Our only mentionable adventure was the inevitable quarrel with the porter.

† **Me·ntionate,** *pa. pple. Obs.* [ad. med.L. *mentiōnātus*, pa. pple. of *mentiōnāre*: see Mention *v.*] Mentioned, recorded.

*c***1525** Warham in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. III. II. 11, I thanke your Grace for your singular goodenes afor mentionate. **1561** *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 189 For reformyng of the irrelevance of the summondis mentionat in the secund exceptioun. **1678** *Contract* in *Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot.* (1896) XXX. 20 During the tyme above mentionat.

† **Me·ntionate,** *v. Obs.* [f. prec.: see -ate 3.] *trans.* To mention, speak of. Also *intr.* (const. *of*).

1550 Hooper *Jonas* vi. 152 It is not wythoute a synguler councell of the holye goste that thys kynge is mencionated of so copiously. *c***1600** *Short Cath. Confess.* in *Cath. Tractates* (S.T.S.) 256/9 The fruites..of thir tokens aboue mentionated.

Mentioned (me·nʃənd), *ppl. a.* [f. Mention *v.* + -ed 1.] Of which mention has been made. Now *rare* exc. in Combs. *before-mentioned, undermentioned*, etc.

1592 Chettle *Kind-harts Dr.* C 4 Mopo and his mentioned companions. **1611** Cotgr., *Mentionné*, mentionned; nominated, named. **1667** Duchess Newcastle *Life of Duke* I. (1886) 53 The mentioned town of Gainsborough. **1706** S. Sewall *Diary* 24 Dec. (1879) II. 175 He is to send me 15 Fountains, which are paid for in the mention'd Sum. **1733** Tull *Horse-Hoeing Husb.* xxi. 306 Which makes the mention'd Angle more acute. **1865** J. H. Stirling *Sir W. Hamilton* 73 In reference to the mentioned doctrines of Kant.

Mentioner (me·nʃənəɹ). [f. Mention *v.* + -er 1.] One who mentions.

1607 *Scholast. Disc. agst. Antichrist* I. ii. 111 The highest mentioner of it is Vincentius. **1611** Speed *Hist. Gt. Brit.* VI. xix. 104 We will adde somewhat to wash off those false aspersions, both from the Record and from the mentioners thereof. **1660** Hexham, *Een melder*, a Mentioner, a Rehearser, a Recounter, or a Teller.

Mentioning (me·nʃəniŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. Mention *v.* + -ing 1.] The action of the verb Mention.

1603 Knolles *Hist. Turkes* (1638) 48 The men..both dismaid at the very mentioning of the matter,..said [etc.]. **1654** tr. *Scudery's Curia Pol.* 104 The very mentioning and remembrance thereof, may amaze with horrour. **1749** Fielding *Tom Jones* VIII. x, You have made my blood run cold with the very mentioning the top of that mountain. **1817** Byron *Beppo* lxxxvi, Nauseous words past mentioning or bearing. **1868** G. Stephens *Runic Mon.* I. p. viii, Many such mentionings occur in Anglo-Scandic skinbooks. **1901** *N. & Q.* 9th Ser. VII. 470/1, I find many mentionings of Haydons in the parish registers of Hinton Blewitt.

Mentionless (me·nʃənlĕs), *a. rare*—1. [f. Mention *sb.* + -less.] Not calling for mention.

1611 Speed *Hist. Gt. Brit.* VII. vii. (1623) 225 Famous in his issue, though mentionlesse for action in himselfe.

Mentism (me·ntiz'm). *Path.* [a. F. *mentisme*, f. L. *ment-em, mens* mind: see -ism.] Disturbance of mental action produced by passion or an excited imagination (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1890).

† **Mentition.** *Obs. rare*—0. [ad. L. *mentīti̯ōn-em*, f. *mentīrī* to lie.] The action of lying.

1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Mentition*, a lying, forging or telling untruths.

Mento- (me·nto), used as combining form of L. *mentum* chin, in anatomical terms, as *mento-bregmatic, -condylial, -gonial, -labial*, etc. (see *Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1890). **Me·nto-hy·oid,** (*a*) *adj.* pertaining to the chin and the hyoid bone; (*b*) *sb.* an occasional muscle in man passing from the body of the hyoid bone to the chin; so **Me·nto-hyoi·dean** *a.* **Me·nto-Meckel·ian** *a.*, in *mento-Meckelian bone* or *element*, a small bone formed by the ossification of portions of Meckel's cartilage and the lower labial cartilage.

1856 Mayne *Expos. Lex.*, *Mentolabialis*..mentolabial. **1857** Dunglison *Med. Lex.* 585 Mento-Labial Furrow. **1866** Macalister in *Proc. R. Irish Acad.* IX. 451 A small muscular mento-hyoidean band..existed single in one subject. *Ibid.* 468 Mento-hyoid muscle. **1867**—*Ibid.* X. 163 The platysma myoides, the mento-hyoid, Lucas' fibres in the axilla [etc.]. **1877** Huxley & Martin *Elem. Biol.* 172 The mento-Meckelian element of the mandible. **1883** Huxley *Pract. Biol.* 220 At the..symphysial end it [Meckel's cartilage] is ossified to form the mento-Meckelian bone.

Mentonniere (mentɒ·niēəɹ). *Antiq.* [a. F. *mentonnière* (16th c. *mentoniere*), f. *menton* chin.] A piece of armour covering the chin or lower part of the face and neck, attached either to the helmet or to the upper part of the body-armour.

1824 Meyrick *Anc. Arm.* II. 247 On this is a protuberance and two rings to hold a shield, made also with a mentoniere. *Ibid.*, They have grand guards with mentonieres and coursing-hats. **1884** *St. James's Gaz.* 20 June 11/2 A Mentonnière, engraved with the royal arms of Spain.

Mentor (me·ntɒɹ). [a. F. *mentor*, appellative use of the proper name *Mentor*, Gr. *Μέντωρ*. The name admits of the etymological rendering 'adviser', having the form of an agent-n. from the root **men-* (: *mon-*) to remember, think, counsel, etc. (cf. L. *monitor*); possibly it may have been invented or chosen by the poet as appropriately significant.]

1.a. With initial capital: The name of the Ithacan noble whose disguise the goddess Athene assumed in order to act as the guide and adviser of the young Telemachus; *allusively*, one who fulfils the office which the supposed Mentor fulfilled towards Telemachus. **b.** Hence, as common noun: An experienced and trusted counsellor.

The currency of the word in Fr. and Eng. is derived less from the Odyssey than from Fénelon's romance of *Télémaque*, in which the part played by Mentor as a counsellor is made more prominent.

1750 Ld. Chesterf. *Lett. to Son* 8 Mar., The friendly care and assistance of your Mentor. **1784** Cowper *Task* II. 595 The friend Sticks close, a Mentor worthy of his charge. **1814** Sir R. Wilson *Priv. Diary* II. 329 The same Mentor, who really is a most sincere friend, begged me to [etc.]. **1873** Dixon *Two Queens* III. XIII. vi. 36 'Too much learning is not needed in a prince', replied his mentor. **1890** Gunter *Miss Nobody* ii. (1891) 28 Phil..is helped in the selection by the experience of his mentor.

¶ **c.** Applied to a thing (more or less personified). Littré quotes from Rousseau an example of the similar use of F. *mentor* applied to a book.

1823 Byron *Island* II. viii, The deep..The only Mentor of his youth. **1869** Spurgeon *Treas. David* (Ps. xix. 11) I. 309 The Bible should be our Mentor. **1879** *Expositor* IX. 462 The δαίμων which Socrates spoke of as his mentor.

2. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

1778 Abigail Adams in *Fam. Lett.* (1876) 338 Your venerable colleague, whose Mentor-like appearance, age [etc.]. **1811** W. Spencer *Poems* 214 To smooth Reflection's mentor-frown. **1837** Miss Sedgwick *Live & let Live* 76 This made it easy for her to adopt the Mentor style.

Hence **Mento·rial** *a.*, 'containing advice' (Smart *Dict.* 1836); **Me·ntorism,** guidance by a mentor; **Me·ntorship,** the office or function of a mentor.

1882 Sir W. Harcourt in *Daily News* 23 Jan. 2/5, I wholly reject the mentorship of the noble lord. **1889** *Jrnl. Educ.* 1 Dec. 620/2 What a tragedy of mentorism is that of 'Robert Elsmere'! **1905** *Blackw. Mag.* Jan. 71/2 His occasional boredom and irrepressibly assertive mentorship.

Mentulate (me·ntiŭlēt), *a.* [ad. L. *mentulāt-us*, f. *mentula* penis: see -ate.] Having a very large penis (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1890). Also **Me·ntulated** *a.* in the same sense (Bailey vol. II, 1727).

‖ **Mentum** (me·ntŏm). [L. *mentum* chin.]

1. *Anat.* The anterior and inferior margins of the mandible or lower jaw; the chin.

[**1693** tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Mentum*, the Chinn.] **1855** Dunglison *Med. Lex.* **1866** in Brande & Cox *Dict. Sci.*, etc. In mod. Dicts.

2. *Ent.* A term variously applied to different parts of the labium; by recent entomologists commonly used for the median portion. Also *attrib.*

1826 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* III. 355 *Mentum*, the lower part of the *labium*, where it is jointed; in other cases its base. *Ibid.* 356 *note*, Our [i. e. the authors'] Mentum may generally be known by its situation between the hinges and base of the *Maxillæ*. **1828** Stark *Elem. Nat. Hist.* II. 281 Mentum large; maxillary palpi long. **1839** Westwood *Classif. Insects* I. 1 Mentum-tooth triangular. *Ibid.* 4 Mentum-lobe entire. **1888** Rolleston & Jackson *Anim. Life* 141 A palpiger borne on the external angle of the mentum.

3. *Bot.* 'A projection in front of the flowers of some orchids, caused by the extension of the foot of the column' (*Treas. Bot.* 1866).

‖ **Menu** (me·nu). [F. *menu* adj., small (:—L. *minūtus* Minute *a.*), used as sb. with the sense of detail, details collectively, detailed list.]

† **1.** Short for F. *menu peuple*: the common people. *Obs. rare*—1.

1658 Osborn *Adv. Son* (1673) 2 The Sons of the Menu lying so long under this lazie course. *Ibid.* 190 Which.. may better become the Gentry, than the Sons of the Menu.

2. A detailed list of the dishes to be served at a banquet or meal; a bill of fare. Also, the viands so served. *Menu card*, the card upon which a menu is written.

1837 C'tess Blessington in *Heath's Bk. Beauty* 198 Did you not examine the *menu*? **1849** Thackeray *Pendennis* xxii, It was a grand sight to behold him in his dressing-gown composing a *menu*. **1883** F. M. Crawford *Dr. Claudius* (1892) 38 He was thinking out a *menu* for dinner. **1896** W. Black in *Harper's Mag.* Apr. 746/2 The long tables..with ..their glossy menu-cards, and their floral decorations.

transf. **1889** *Pall Mall G.* 4 Nov. 3/1 To gain this they must qualify in Latin, Greek, Mathematics, Natural Philosophy, Logic,..[etc.]—a pretty good menu.

Menuce, variant of Menise *Obs.*

† **Menudes.** *Obs.* [app. ad. Sp. *menudos*, pl. of *menudo*, absol. use of *menudo* small (:—L. *minūtus* Minute *a.*).] ? Mincemeat.

1585 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* I. xi. 13 b, Meat dressed according to their fashion, which was a kinde of Menudes made in paste with onions.

Menues, menuise, var. ff. Menise *Obs.*

Menuet: see Minuet.

‖ **Menura** (mĭnīū·ră). *Ornith.* [mod. L. (Davies 1800, in *Trans. Linn. Soc.* VI), f. Gr. *μήνη* crescent moon + *οὐρά* tail, so called from the 'crescent-shaped spots' (*loc. cit.*) on the tail.] An Australian genus of birds, popularly called Lyre-birds; any bird of this genus, esp. *Menura superba*.

1839 *Penny Cycl.* XIV. 274/2 (tr. *Lesson*), The Mænura [*sic*] has then been arranged sometimes among the gallinaceous birds under the name of Lyre-Pheasant or Pheasant of the Woods. **1874** Wood *Nat. Hist.* (1885) 337 The Menura seldom, if ever, attempts to escape by flight. **1884** Whymper in *Girl's Own Paper* 28 June 614/2 The superb menura, or lyre-bird.

Menurance, obs. form of Manurance.

Menure, obs. form of Mainour.

a **1436** *Domesday Ipswich* in *Blk. Bk. Admir.* (Rolls) II. 21 Theves taken with litell menure or with gret menure.

Menure, obs. form of Manure *v.*

Menuse, variant of Menise *Obs.*, Minish.

Menuver, obs. form of Miniver.

Menuze, Menwu, obs. ff. Minish, Minnow.

Meny, Menyal(l, obs. ff. Many, Menial *a.*

Menyanthin (meniæ·nθin). Also -ine. *Chem.* [f. mod.L. *Menyanthēs* (Tournefort 1700), the name of a genus of plants + -in.

The etymology of the mod.L. generic name is obscure: it has been variously conjectured to be a mistake for **Minyanthēs* (a. Gr. *μινανθής* adj., blooming a short time), and to be an irregular formation on Gr. *μήν* month + *ἄνθος* flower.] A bitter principle contained in the buckbean, *Menyanthes trifoliata*.

1842 Francis *Dict. Arts, Menyanthin*, the peculiar principle of *menyanthes trifoliata*, or bog bean. **1850** Ogilvie s. v. *Menyanthes*, It contains an extractive called menyanthine. **1897** *Naturalist* 45 The most palpable ingredient of the plant is a bitter principle menyanthin.

Meny(e, obs. forms of Meinie.

Menyie, variant of Manyie *sb. Sc. Obs.*

Menykinge, obs. form of Minikin.

Menyng(e, obs. ff. Meaning, Minning.

Menys, obs. gen. pl. of Man, obs. f. Menace.

Menyso(u)n, variants of Menison *Obs.*

Menyuer, -yver(e, obs. forms of Miniver.

Menzie, variant of Manyie *v.*

Menzil, variant of Manzil.

1687 A. Lovell tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* II. 148 Commonly they make it a Menzil or days Journey from Chadgegih to Destherm. **1869** Tozer *Highl. Turkey* I. 195 We were now travelling by the Menzil or Turkish post..The charge for menzil horses is three piastres and a half..an hour. **1888** Doughty *Trav. Arabia Deserta* II. 179 The drone of millstones may be heard before the daylight in the nomad menzils.

Meoble, variant of Moble *sb. Obs.*

Meoc, obs. form of Meek *a.*

Meode, obs. form of Mead *sb.*1, Meed *sb.*

Meok(e, obs. forms of Meek *a.* and *v.*

† **Meon.** *Obs.* See also Meum. [a. late Gr. *μῆον*.] The herb Spignel, *Meum athamanticum*.

1562 Turner *Herb.* II. 56 Meon or Mew..is lyke vnto dill in ye stalk and lefe. **1617** Minsheu *Ductor, Mewe* or meon.

Meorknesse, obs. form of Mirkness.

Meovable, -ve, obs. forms of Movable, Move.

† **Mephis.** *Obs.* [Blundered form of L. *memphītēs* (Pliny), Gr. *μεμφίτης* (Dioscorides).] A stone said to have anæsthetic properties. Cf. Memphian.

1584 R. Scot *Discov. Witches.* XIII. vi. (1886) 240 Mephis, being broken into powder, and droonke with water, maketh insensibilitie of torture.

Mephistopheles (mefistɒ·filīz). Also 6–7 **Mephas-, Mephis-, Mephostophilis, Mephas-, Mephes-, Mephostophilus,** 7 **Mephistophilus, Mephostophiles;** 9 in shortened form **Mephisto.** [Appears first in the Ger. *Faustbuch* 1587 as *Mephostophiles*; of unknown origin. The now current form *Mephistopheles*, and the abbreviation *Mephisto*,

come from Goethe's *Faust*.] The name of the evil spirit to whom Faust (in the German legend) was represented to have sold his soul. Hence applied allusively to persons (in the 17th c. with reference to the character presented in Marlowe's *Doctor Faustus*, in recent use to that presented by Goethe).

[*c* 1590 MARLOWE *Faustus* (1604) B 1 b, How pliant is this Mephastophilis? *Ibid.*, Enter Mephostophilis. *Ibid.* B 4 Mephastophilus.] 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* I. i. 132 *Pist.* How now, Mephostophilus. 1598–9 B. JONSON *Case is Alter'd* II. iv, Thou art not lunatike, art thou? and thou bee'st auoide Mephostophiles. 1620 MELTON *Astrol.* 8 There came running down the stayres ..(the little Mephistophiles) his Boy demanding with whom I would speake. 1624 FLETCHER *Wife for a Month* v. ii, A Mephestophilus, such as thou art. 1629 MASSINGER *Picture* v. iii, You know How to resolue your selfe what my intents are, By the help of Mephostophiles [*i.e.* Baptista]. 1818 LADY MORGAN *Autobiog.* (1859) 201 That Mephistopheles of diplomacy, Talleyrand. 1903 *Westm. Gaz.* 22 Aug. 2/1 It changes them mostly into Machiavels and Mephistopheleses.

Hence **Mephistophele·an, Mephistophe·lian, Mephistophe·lic, Mephistopheli·stic** (*rare*), *adjs.*, pertaining to or resembling Mephistopheles or his actions.

1837 *Fraser's Mag.* XVI. 92 We have heard some ascribe a Mephistophelistic spirit to Mr. Carlyle. 1851 H. MELVILLE *Whale* xxxi. 154 He carries an everlasting Mephistophelean grin on his face. 1853 GEO. ELIOT in Cross *Life* (1885) I. 307, I am very hard and Mephistophelian just now. 1873 LELAND *Egypt. Sketch-bk.* 102 The Mephistophelic who quiz all that they cannot compass. 1887 F. FRANCIS Jun. *Saddle & Mocassin* 209 These Apaches..were handsome, too, in a Mephistophelean style. 1888 J. MARTINEAU *Study Relig.* I. i. iv. 135 The very same Mephistophilean [*sic*] agility.

Mephites, erron. form of MEPHITIS.

Mephitic (mĭfi·tik), *a.* [ad. late L. *mephīticus* (whence F. *méphitique*, Sp. *mefítico*, Pg. *mephitico*, It. *mefitico*), f. L. *mephītis*: see MEPHITIS and -IC.] Pertaining to mephitis; offensive to the smell; (of a vapour or exhalation) pestilential, noxious, poisonous. †*Mephitic air, acid, gas*: carbonic acid.

1623 COCKERAM, *Mephiticke*, stinking. 1656 in BLOUNT *Glossogr.* 1773 T. PERCIVAL *Ess.* II. 57 This celebrated spring abounds with a mineral spirit, or mephitic air, in which its stimulus, and indeed its efficacy resides. 1773 BRYDONE *Sicily* ii. (1809) 125 So mephitic a vapour that birds were suffocated in flying over it. 1775 BEWLY in Priestley *Exper. and Observ. Air* II. 339 The Mephitic Acid, as I shall already venture to call it. 1793 BEDDOES *Calculus* 250 The affinity which this mephitic gaz has for oxygene. 1832 *Veg. Subst. Food of Man* 212 This mephitic gas. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 393 Hallucinations of smell are also offensive. Patients complain of mephitic fumes, .. chloroform and other volatile poisons.

absol. 1828 H. BEST *Italy* 399 Other spiracles of mephitic might probably be found here.

fig. 1887 HUXLEY in *19th Cent.* Feb. 195 The schools kept the thinking faculty alive and active, when..the mephitic atmosphere engendered by the dominant ecclesiasticism..might well have stifled it.

b. *Mephitic weasel*: the skunk, *Mephitis mephitica*.

1837 DONOVAN *Dom. Econ.* II. 85 The Skunk, or mephitic weasel of North America.

Hence †**Mephi·tical** *a.* in the same sense.

1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Mephitical Exhalations* are poisonous or noxious ones, issuing out of the Earth. 1741 BROWNRIGG in *Phil. Trans.* LV. 238 The mephitical air of oak, which extinguishes flame. 1842 SIR A. DE VERE *Song of Faith* 206 Our very chambers clogged with steams mephitical.

‖ **Mephitis** (mĭfəi·tis). [L. *mephītis* noxious vapour; also personified, as the name of a goddess who averts pestilential exhalations.]

1. A noxious or pestilential emanation, esp. from the earth; a noisome, or poisonous stench.

1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Mephitis*, a Damp, or strong Sulphureous Smell,..a Stench, Stink, or ill Savour. 1750 *Phil. Trans.* XLVII. 53 *note*, Mephitis, a deadly or very dangerous exhalation. 1781 PENNANT *Tour Wales* II. 190 A mephites [*sic*], or pestilential vapour. 1793 BEDDOES *Calculus* 250 The mephitis, which exhales from putrefied animal substances. 1817 COLERIDGE *Satyr. Lett.* i. in *Biog. Lit.* II. 197 My nostrils, the most placable of all the senses, reconciled to or indeed insensible of the mephitis. 1856 EMERSON *Eng. Traits, Voy. to Eng.* Wks. (Bohn) II. 12 Nobody likes to be..suffocated with bilge, mephitis, and stewing oil.

2. *Zool.* A genus of skunks, typical of the family *Mephitinæ*. 1848 in CRAIG. In mod. Dicts.

Hence **Me·phitism** *sb.*, mephitic poisoning of the air; †**Me·phitized** *ppl. a.*, charged with mephitis; *mephitized nitrous acid* = next.

1794 G. ADAMS *Nat. & Exp. Philos.* I. xii. 497 Mephitized inflammable gas. 1796 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) II. 521 Mephitized Nitrous Acid. 1801 *Repert. Arts & Manuf.* XV. 425 To destroy the mephitism of the walls in the asylums of industry, indigence, and misfortune. 1813 FORSYTH *Excurs. Italy* 269 *note*, The *campus martius* is sheltered..from the winds which bring mephitism. 1890 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Mephitism.*

†**Mephito-nitrous,** *a. Chem. Obs. rare*⁻¹. In *mephito-nitrous acid*, ? = NITROGEN.

1796 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) II. 211 Neither the pure nor Mephito-Nitrous Acid, hot or cold, has any aetion on it.

†**Meprize,** *v. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [? ad. F. *mépriser*: see MISPRIZE *v.*] *trans.* ? To despise.

1633 J. DONE *Hist. Septuagint* 133 What is that he ought to doe to meprize his Enemies? [= Gr. πῶς ἂν καταφρονοίη τῶν ἐχθρῶν;]

Mer, obs. form of MAR, MARE, MAYOR, MERE.

Mer-, used in various combinations (chiefly nonce-wds.) formed after MERMAID, denoting imaginary beings of the mermaid kind, as *mer-baby, -child, -dog, -folk, -lady, -monster, -people, -wife*. Cf. MERMAN, MERWOMAN.

1894 J. GEDDIE *Fringes of Fife* 150 The radiant young rogue,..fearless as a *Mer-Baby, grins at us..from his rocking craft. 1881 *Proc. Soc. Antiquaries* 19 May, Seal.. Subject, a mermaid holding her *merchild to her breast. 1895 'Q.' *Wandering Heath* 97 Change, O change him [*sc.* a drowned dog] to a *mer-dog! 1863 BARING-GOULD *Iceland* xx. 349 With regard to the appearance of the *merfolk in other countries, I may state [etc.]. 1822 HIBBERT *Descr. Shetl. Isl.* 570 The *merlady, perceiving that she must become an inhabitant of the earth, found [etc.]. 1620 *Hic Mulier* A 4 b, These Meare-maids or rather *Meare-Monsters. 1882 *Spectator* 16 Dec. 1618 The idea of the 'child of earth..' carried away to consort with *Mer-people is as old as Hylas. 1822 HIBBERT *Descr. Shetl. Isl.* 570 The Shetlander's love for his *merwife was unbounded.

Merabolan, obs. form of MYROBALAN.

†**Mera·cious,** *a. Obs. rare*⁻¹. Also (in Dicts.) **-aceous.** [f. L. *merāc-us* (f. *merus*: see MERE *a.*) + -IOUS.] Pure, unmixed. So †**Mera·city,** purity, unmixed condition (*Obs.*⁻⁰).

1657 REEVE *God's Plea* 130 We must drink of the sweet, and it is well, if any thing be dulcy, and meracious enough for us. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Meracity*, clearness, or pureness, without mixture. 1727 BAILEY vol. II, *Meraceous*, *Meracity.*

Meracle, merakil(l, obs. forms of MIRACLE.

Meraltie, -alty, obs. forms of MAYORALTY.

Merbel, -ul, -yl, obs. forms of MARBLE.

†**Mercable,** *a. Obs.*⁻⁰ [ad. L. *mercābil-is*, f. *mercārī* to buy: see MERCHANT.] That may be bought. 1656 in BLOUNT *Glossogr.*

‖ **Mercadore.** *rare*⁻¹. [Sp. *mercader.*] A merchant, tradesman.

1595 *Maroccus Ext.* (Percy Soc.) 9 A mercadore, .. that for one or two tearmes arraie, a shall for his lives tearme.. become beggeries bondmen and usuries vassall.

‖ **Mercal** [1] (mə·ɪkăl). *Indian.* Also **mercall, marcal.** [Eng. pronunciation of Tamil *marakkāl.*] A measure for grain used in Madras.

1776 T. BROOKS *Coins E. Indies*, etc. 7, 8 Measures are equal to 1 Mercal, 400 Marcals..1 Garse. 1803 WELLINGTON in Gurw. *Desp.* (1837) II. 85 The small bags..filled up each to the full amount of three Mercalls or seventy two pounds. 1864 W. A. BROWNE *Money, Weights & Meas.* 51, 8 Puddies = 1 Marcal, 5 Marcals = 1 Parah.

Mercal [2] (mə·ɪkăl). *Sc.* Also 9 **markal.** In Orkney and Shetland: The piece of timber carrying the plough-share, which was fastened into the lower end of the beam of a wooden plough.

1793 *Statist. Acc. Scot.* VII. 585 A square hole is cut through the lower end of the beam, and the mercal, a piece of oak about 22 inches long, introduced. 1822 SCOTT *Pirate* xviii, What manners are to be expected in a country where folk call a pleugh-sock a markal?

Mercantant: see MARCANTANT *Obs.*

Mercantile (mə·ɪkăntəil, -til), *a.* (and *sb.*) Also 7 **merchantile, mercantil,** 8 **-iel.** [a. F. *mercantile*, ad. It. *mercantil*, f. *mercante*: see MERCHANT. Cf. Sp. and Pg. *mercantil.*]

1. Of or belonging to merchants or their trade; concerned with the exchange of merchandise; of or pertaining to trade or commerce; commercial.

1642 HOWELL *Instr. For. Trav.* (Arb.) 61 Navigation and Mercantile Negotiation, are the two Poles whereon that State [*sc.* Holland] doth move. *c* 1645 — *Lett.* I. xxix. (1655) I. 43 The only procede (that I may use the mercantil term) you can expect, is thanks. 1727 ARBUTHNOT *Coins* 224 The Expedition of the Argonauts..was partly mercantile, partly military. 1759 *Book of Fairs* 54 Black cattle, sheep, horses, and mercantile goods. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* vi. II. 51 Bonrepaux..was esteemed an adept in the mystery of mercantile politics. 1856 E. A. BOND *Russia* (Hakl. Soc.) Introd. 130 By joining in his mercantile ventures in Russia. 1897 WEBSTER (*citing* McElrath), *Mercantile paper*, the notes or acceptances given by merchants for goods bought, or received on consignment; drafts on merchants for goods sold or consigned.

b. *Mercantile system* (also *m. doctrine, theory*): a term used by Adam Smith and later Political Economists for the system of economic doctrine and legislative policy based on the principle that money alone constituted wealth. Hence *mercantile school*: those who upheld this system.

1776 ADAM SMITH *W. N.* IV. i. (*heading*) Of the Principle of the commercial, or mercantile System. 1848 MILL *Pol. Econ.* I. 2 The set of doctrines desigoated, since the time of Adam Smith, by the appellation of the Mercantile System. *Ibid.* 7 The Mercantile Theory could not fail to be seen in its true character. 1881 *Contemp. Rev.* Nov. XL. 806 The 'mercantile' school was right in maintaining that an influx of precious metal stimulates commerce and industry. 1885 J. K. INGRAM in *Encycl. Brit.* XIX. 354/2 The mercantile doctrine, stated in its most extreme form, makes wealth and money identical.

c. That deals with, investigates or controls commercial affairs.

1841 W. SPALDING *Italy & It. Isl.* III. 332 There are three courts,..a civil, a criminal, and a mercantile. 1848 MILL *Pol. Econ.* III. xvii. § 4 Leaders of opinion on mercantile questions. 1858 HOMANS *Cycl. Comm.* s. v., The Mercantile Agency is a name applied to various houses in the leading cities of the United States, and in Montreal and London. The principal object of the Agency is to supply, to annual subscribers, information respecting the character, capacity and pecuniary condition of persons asking credit. .. The Agency was first established in 1841 in the city of New York. 1861 GOSCHEN *For. Exch.* 113 Putting aside..the..subject of the currency altogether, and confining ourselves to the more mercantile part of the question.

2. Engaged in trade or commerce. *Mercantile marine*, the shipping collectively employed in commerce (see MARINE *sb.* 2).

c 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* II. xv. (1655) I. 94 Amsterdam..is one of the greatest mercantil Towns in Europ. 1662 J. DAVIES tr. *Mandelslo's Trav.* II. 140 The scituation of this town is upon a fair River, with a good harbour that renders it very Merchantile. *a* 1734 NORTH *Exam.* III. viii. § 29 (1740) 604 His [Fairclough's] son was then mercantiel servant to Mr. North. 1838 DICKENS *Nich. Nick.* i, Ralph Nickleby..had been some time placed in a mercantile house in London. 1841 ELPHINSTONE *Hist. India* I. 213 The Jáins..are generally an opulent and mercantile class. 1889 *Act* 52 & 53 *Vict.* c. 45 § 1 The expression 'mercantile agent' shall mean a mercantile agent having .. authority either to sell goods, or [etc.].

3. Having payment or gain as the motive; mercenary; also, simply, disposed for bargaining.

1756 WARTON *Ess. Pope* I. 260 The mercantile bard [Dryden]. 1856 EMERSON *Eng. Traits, Lit.* Wks. (Bohn) II. 103 He [the Englishman] loves the axe, the spade, the oar, the gun, the steampipe... He is materialist, economical, mercantile. 1860 RUSKIN *Unto this Last* ii. (1862) 41 The two economies, to which the terms 'Political' and 'Mercantile' might not unadvisedly be attached... Mercantile economy, the economy of 'merces' or of 'pay', signifies the accumulation, in the hands of individuals, of legal or moral claim upon, or power over, the labour of others.

4. Of or proper to a merchant.

1819 CRABBE *T. of Hall* VII, A bill That was not drawn with true mercantile skill. 1839 ALISON *Hist. Europe* xlix. § 9 (1849–50) VIII. 9 A nation in which the chivalrous and mercantile qualities are strangely blended.

†5. quasi-*sb.* A merchant. *Obs. rare*⁻¹.

1813 JANE AUSTEN *Lett.* (1884) II. 178 A great rich mercantile, Sir Robert Wigram.

Hence **Me·rcantilely** *adv.*, from a mercantile point of view; with regard to business transactions.

1827 *Examiner* 433/1 It is, mercantilely speaking, not obvious how a present expense can be met by merely possible funds. 1838 *Fraser's Mag.* XVII. 185 Before the arrest he might have been deemed mercantilely solvent.

Mercantilism (mə·ɪkăntəiliz'm). [f. MERCANTILE + -ISM. Cf. F. *mercantilisme.*]

1. The mercantile spirit; devotion to trade or commerce; the principles or practice characteristic of merchants; commercialism.

1873 P. FITZGERALD *Dumas* II. 105 *note*, The picture of 'literary mercantilism', described by this great writer [Balzac], shows that Dumas had only borrowed his system from journalism and social life. 1885 *Century Mag.* XXXI. 311/1 Mercantilism is drawing into its vortex the intellectual strength of the nation. The energies of its most promising young men are enlisted in the pursuit of wealth. 1888 *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 272 The mercantilism which succeeded ..feudalism.

2. *Pol. Econ.* The principles of the 'mercantile system'.

1881 *Contemp. Rev.* Nov. XL. 792 Is it possible that merchants, bankers, [etc.]..should all be led astray by the sophism of 'mercantilism'? 1885 *Encycl. Brit.* XIX. 364/2 It has been justly observed that there are in him [Hume] several traces of a refined mercantilism.

Mercantilist (mə·ɪkăntəilist), *sb.* and *a.* [Formed as prec. + -IST.]

A. *sb.* An advocate of the 'mercantile system'.

1854 MICHELSEN *England* 253 The physiocrats occupy a far superior position to the mercantilists. 1891 CUNNINGHAM in *Economic Rev.* 16 The mercantilists held that the direction in which capital was used should be controlled so that the power of the state might be maintained.

B. *adj.* Of or pertaining to mercantilism or the 'mercantile system'.

1881 *Contemp. Rev.* Nov. XL. 806 But from these true observations..the 'mercantilist' reasoners have deduced erroneous conclusions. 1896 CUNNINGHAM *Growth Eng. Indust.* 562 The Doctor takes the mercantilist position as distinguished from the bullionist.

Hence **Me·rcantili·stic** *a.* = prec. adj.

1881–4 *Lalor's Cycl. Pol. Sci.* II. 197 (Cent.) From the seventeenth century mercantilistic views began to exercise a more and more marked influence upon financial literature.

Mercantility (mə·ɪkănti·liti). [Formed as prec. + -ITY.] The quality of being mercantile; devotion to mercantile pursuits.

1860 READE *Cloister & H.* (1861) IV. 76 'Let us make a bargain;..what say you to that?' And his eyes sparkled, and he was all on fire with mercantility.

Mercaptal (mə·ɪkæ·ptăl). *Chem.* [f. MERCAPT-AN + AL-DEHYDE.] A compound of a mercaptan with an aldehyde.

1892 MORLEY & MUIR *Watts' Dict. Chem., Mercaptals.* .. They may be viewed as thio-acetals or as the sulphur-compounds corresponding to the alkyl derivatives of ortho-aldehydes.

Mercaptan (mə·ɪkæ·ptăn). *Chem.* [f. L. *mercurium captans* 'catching mercury' (see quot. 1834).] A sulphur alcohol; any one of a series of compounds resembling the alcohols, but containing sulphur in place of oxygen.

[1834 ZEISE in *Ann. Phys. & Chem.* XXXI. 378 Nenne ich den vom Quecksilber aufgenommenen Stoff Mercaptum

(von: Corpus mercurio aptum) und den andern Hydro-Mercaptum, oder besser..Mercaptan (d. b. Corpus mercurium captans).] 1835 *R. D. Thomson's Rec. Gen. Sci.* I. 110 Mercaptan when obtained pure from the mercaptide of mercury, is colourless, with a smell of assafœtida. 1865 WATTS *Dict. Chem., Mercaptans*, sulphydrates of the alcohol-radicles.

Mercaptide (mɔɪkæ·ptəid). *Chem.* [f. prec. + -IDE.] A compound formed by the substitution of a metal for hydrogen in a mercaptan.

1835 [see prec.]. 1836 BRANDE *Chem.* 1109 When mercaptan is acted on by potassium, hydrogen is evolved, and a mercapturet or mercaptide of potassium is formed.

Mercat(e, obs. forms of MARKET.

Mercatante: see MARCANTANT *Obs.*

†**Merca·tion.** *Obs.*—° [a. L. *mercātiōn-em*, n. of action f. *mercārī* to trade.] (See quot.)

1623 COCKERAM, *Mercation*, a buying.

†**Mercative,** *a. Obs.*—° [As if ad. L. **mercātīv-us*, f. *mercārī* to trade: see -ATIVE.]

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Mercative*, belonging to Chapmanry.

Mercatorial (mɔɪkătōə·riăl), *a.* Now *rare.* [f. L. *mercātōri-us* (f. *mercātor* merchant, agent-n. f. *mercārī*: see MERCHANT) + -AL.] Of or pertaining to merchants or merchandise; mercantile.

Mercatorial guild (Antiq.): transl. of med.L. *gilda mercatoria*, more commonly rendered 'guild merchant'.

?*c* 1700 J. BENNET (*title*) The National Merchant,..being an Essay for Regulating and Improving the Trade and Plantations of Great Britain, by Uniting the National and Mercatorial Interests. 1796 BAGE *Hermsprong* III. 231 Whose father..had sent his son upon a mercatorial tour to Europe. 1817–23 J. H. HANSHALL *Hist. Co. Chester* 490–1 in Gross *Gild Merch.* (1890) II. 174 There was established here [*sc.* Nantwich] soon after the Conquest a Mercatorial Guild. 1823 *Blackw. Mag.* XIV. 541 A country whose mercatorial advantages he so highly extols.

†**Mercatory,** *a. Obs. rare*—¹. [ad. L. *mercātōri-us*: see -ORY.] = prec.

1654 FULLER *Two Serm.* 49 Mercatorie transactions betwixt Buyer and Seller. 1656, 1862 [see GUILD 4].

†**Mercatour.** *Sc. Obs.* [a. L. *mercātor*: see MERCATORIAL. Cf. OF. *mercatour.*] A merchant, shopkeeper.

1508 *Extracts Aberd. Reg.* (1844) I. 79 Andro Gordoun, mercatour.

Mercatte, obs. form of MEERKAT.

†**Mercature.** *Obs.* [ad. L. *mercātūra*, f. *mercārī* to trade.] Trading, commerce.

a 1620 J. DYKE *Purch. & Poss. Truth* Serm. (1640) 367 That's commendable in worldly mercature: To be sure so men deale here. 1639 HEYWOOD *London's Peaceable Est.* Wks. 1874 V. 357. 1647 LILLY *Chr. Astrol.* clxxxv. 803 Our Native may expect good encrease..in that way of Mercature or course of life he shall then lead. 1755 JOHNSON, *Mercature*, the practice of buying and selling.

†**Merce,** *v. Obs.* Also 6 merse. Aphetic form of AMERCE.

1483 *Plumpton Corr.* (Camden) 43 Ye clame suyt, service & feute, of ther maner of Colthorpe, & for the same merce him in your court at Plompton. 1530 TINDALE *Exod.* xxi. 22 Then shall he be mersed, accordynge as the womans husbonde will laye to his charge. 1563–87 FOXE *A. & M.* (1596) 253/2 Walter treasurer of the kings house, was..merced at an hundred pounds. 1607 G. WILKINS *Miseries of Inforst Marr.* B 4, Then hath he power To Merce your purse. *a* 1661 FULLER *Worthies, Norfolk* II. (1662) 249 Ralph was merced in seven thousand marks, for bribery.

Merce, obs. form of MERCY.

Merceament, variant of MERCIAMENT.

‖**Merced** (mɐrþɐ̈d). Also 7 mercede. [Sp. *merced* honour, honorarium:—L. *mercēd-em* reward: see MERCY.] A gift.

[1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* (Arb.) 302 In Spaine it is thought very vndecent for a Courtier to craue..: therefore the king of ordinarie calleth euery second, third or fourth yere for his Checker roll, and bestoweth his *mercedes* of his owne meere motion, and by discretion.] 1622 MABBE tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* I. I. 99 Daraxa..did sollicit the life of her espoused husband, begging it by the way of merced and grace. *Ibid.* I. II. 356 That I might procure some mercede or favour from him. 1855 MOTLEY *Dutch Rep.* VI. I. III. 393 On promise..of a 'merced' large enough to satisfy his most avaricious dreams. 1881 RAYMOND *Mining Gloss., Merced*,..a gift. This term is applied to a grant which is made without any valuable consideration.

†**Mercedary,** *a. Obs.*—° [ad. L. *mercēdāri-us*, f. *mercēd-*, *mercēs* hire, pay: see -ARY.] (See quot.)

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Mercedary* is used both of him that gives wages for labor, or for him that receives it.

†**Mercede.** *Obs. rare*—¹. [ad. L. *mercēd-em* (nom. *mercēs*) wages.] Pay, reward, wage.

1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. IV. 292 Ac þer ys mede [and] mercede and hope men demen A desert for som doynge derne oper elles. *Ibid.* 306 And þat ys no mede bote a mercede, A maner dewe dette for þe doynge.

†**Mercement.** *Obs.* Also 4 mersy-, 4–5 merci-, merse-, 4–6 mercy-, 6 marsement. [Aphetic f. AMERCEMENT. Cf. MERCIAMENT.]

1. = AMERCEMENT. Also, in wider sense, doom, adjudged punishment.

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 5496 Þy mercyment shal be þe pyne of helle. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) I. 95 Blodwyte, mersement for schedynge of blood. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* III. xiv. 367 Forfetis, eschetis, and mercimentis, and fynys. *c* 1557 ABP. PARKER *Ps.* CXXX. 383 Because with God is ruefulnes, He oft redeemth his mercyment. *a* 1572 KNOX *Hist. Ref.* Wks. (1846) I. 361 Thay..committed the hole to the merciment of fyre. 1598 GRENEWEY *Tacitus, Ann.* XIII. vi. (1622) 187 That the Quæstors of the treasurie should not enter into record before foure months were past, the mercements adiudged by them.

2. Sc. *To stand to the merciment of*: to abide the judgement of.

1560 ROLLAND *Crt. Venus* Prol. 316, I may weill thole,.. That this small Wark stand to the mercyment Of Gentilmen, and hyde at thair subiectioun.

Mercenarian (mɔɪsĭnē·riăn), *a.*[1] and *sb.*[1] *rare.* [f. L. *mercēnāri-us* (see MERCENARY) + -AN.]

†**a.** *sb.* A mercenary, hired soldier (*obs.*). **b.** *adj.* Of or belonging to mercenary soldiers.

1598 MARSTON *Pygmal., In prayse of prec. Poem*, And then ensues my stanzaes, like odd bands Of voluntaries, and mercenarians. 1886 SHELDON tr. *Flaubert's Salammbo* IV. 72 A mercenarian camp.

Mercenarian (mɔɪsĭnē·riăn), *a.*[2] and *sb.*[2] [f. med. L. *Mercēnārius* + -AN.] **a.** *adj.* Pertaining to the Spanish religious order called in Sp. *la Orden de la Merced.* **b.** *sb.* A friar of this order.

1648 GAGE *West Ind.* 10 There are Dominicans, Franciscans,..Mercenarians [etc.]. *Ibid.* 15 Mercenarian Fryers. 1740 PINEDA *Span. Dict., Mercéd*, the religious Order of the Mercenarians first instituted in Aragon by King Jayme for Redemption of Captives.

Mercenarily (mə·ɪsĭnărili), *adv.* [f. MERCENARY + -LY[2].] In a mercenary manner.

1612 T. TAYLOR *Comm. Titus* ii. 13 But doe the godly worke mercenarily? 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 145 ₱ 6 We are..obliged by the mercenary Humour of the Men to be as Mercenarily inclined as they are.

Mercenariness (mə·ɪsĭnărinĕs). [f. MERCENARY + -NESS.] The quality of being mercenary.

a 1624 BP. M. SMYTH *Serm.* (1632) 94 Who can impeach or blemish Gods bounty and liberality, with the least note of mercinarinesse. 1752 H. WALPOLE *Lett. H. Mann* (1834) III. CCXXXIX. 14 To have one's favourite author convicted of mere mortal mercenariness. 1808 LAMB *Lett.* (1888) I. 243 Mary is very thankful..; and with the less suspicion of mercenariness, as the silk..has not yet appeared. 1883 STEPNIAK in *Contemp. Rev.* Sept. 323 The mercenariness of the officials is the only guarantee against oppression.

†**Mercenariously,** *adv. Obs. rare*—¹. [f. L. *mercēnāri-us* (see next) + -OUS + -LY[2].] Mercenarily.

1659 *Invisible John made Visible* 1 The old Roman Law ..was not more mercenariously devoted to serve the will and lust of Cæsar.

Mercenary (mə·ɪsĭnări), *a.* and *sb.* Also 4–7 mercenarie, (5 -ye), 6 mercennary, mercionary, 6–7 mercinary, (7 -ie). [ad. L. *mercēnārius*, earlier *mercennārius*, f. *mercēd-*, *mercēs* reward, wages: see MERCY. Cf. F. *mercenaire* (OF. also *mercenier*), Sp., Pg., It. *mercenario.*

The sb. occurs in Eng. earlier than the adj.: the oldest uses refer to the 'hireling' (Vulg. *mercenarius*) of John x. 12.]

A. *adj.*

1. Of persons: Working merely for the sake of monetary or other reward; actuated by considerations of self-interest. Hence of motives, dispositions, etc.

1532 MORE *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 507/2 A mercennary preacher and an hired, which seketh his own temporal aduauntage & commoditie. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* IV. i. 418 And I deliuering you, am satisfied, And therein doe account my self well paid, My mind was neuer yet more mercinarie. 1616 SIR R. DUDLEY in *Fortesc. Papers* (Camden) 17 And that, whether you move this suite or noe, for I am not mercenarie. 1662 STILLINGFL. *Orig. Sacr.* III. iii. § 1 Without any such mercenary eye (as those who serve God for their own ends). 1762 GOLDSM. *Cit. W.* xiii, Such wretches are kept in pay by some mercenary bookseller. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* III. iv, Haven't I told you what a mercenary little wretch I am?

b. Of conduct, a course of action, etc.: That has the love of lucre for its motive.

1532 MORE *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 362/2 They holde that it is not lawfull to loue..God..for obteining of reward, calling this maner of loue..seruile bonde and mercennary. 1680–90 TEMPLE *Ess. Learning* i. Wks. 1731 I. 168 Learning has been so little advanced since it grew to be mercenary. 1711 SHAFTESBURY *Charac.* II. iii. (1737) I. 97 They have made Virtue so mercenary a thing, and have talk'd so much of its Rewards. 1837 HT. MARTINEAU *Soc. Amer.* III. 128 The disgusting spectacle of mercenary marriages. 1861 DICKENS *Lett.* 6 Nov., They are all old servants,..and..are under the strongest injunction to avoid any approach to mercenary dealing.

2. Hired; serving for wages or hire. Now only of soldiers. (Cf. B. 2.)

1589 GREENE *Tullies Love* (1616) G 4, A simple shepheard, who was a mercenary man. 1590 SIR J. SMYTH *Disc. Weap.* 49 b, They..began..to go ouer to serue as mercenarie soldiers in the Low Countries. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, IV. vii. 79 Many of our Princes..Lye drown'd and soak'd in mercenary blood. 1611 CORYAT *Crudities* (1776) I. 214 Of these Gondolas..sixe thousand are priuate..and foure thousand for mercenary men, which get their liuing by the trade of rowing. 1640 WALTON *Life Donne*, 80 *Serm.* A 6 He continued that employment.., being daily usefull (and not mercenary) to his friends. 1871 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1876) IV. xviii. 232 William at this time dismissed the mercenary part of his army.

†**b.** Of services, an office, etc.: Salaried, stipendiary. Of a profession, etc.: Carried on for the sake of gain. *Obs.*

1656 STANLEY *Hist. Philos.* VI. *Aristotle* XV. 27 He shut up his poor shop, and gave over his mercenary profession. 1664 EVELYN *Diary* 5 Feb., I saw 'The Indian Queene' acted, a tragedie..so beautified with rich scenes as the like had never ben seene..on a mercenary theater. 1726 AYLIFFE *Parergon* 319 Such Things..the Judge may despatch by his mercenary Office. 1782 PENNANT *Journey* 96 These livings at that time were good rectories; now poor vicarages, or mercenary curacies, annexed to the bishoprick.

B. *sb.*

1. One who labours merely for hire; a hireling, a mercenary person. ? *Obs.*

c 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 514 He [the parson] was a shepherde and noght a Mercenarie [cf. *John* x. 12]. ?*c* 1430 LYDG. *St. Giles* 183 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 373 Pastor callid, nat a mercenarye. 1643 SIR T. BROWNE *Relig. Med.* I. § 52 Mercenaries that crouch unto him in feare of Hell ..are indeed but slaves of the Almighty. 1805 TOOKE *Purley* II. 3 Punish the wickedness of those mercenaries who utter such atrocities. 1844 LINGARD *Anglo-Sax. Ch.* (1858) II. xii. 238 The monastic institute was looked upon with scorn, as calculated only for mercenaries and slaves.

2. One who receives payment for his services; chiefly, and now exclusively, a professional soldier serving a foreign power.

1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. CCV. 242 The Almaygnes, and mercenaryes of strange countreis. 1583 STUBBES *Anat. Abus.* II. (1882) 74 The reading ministers, after they be hired of the parishes (for they are mercenaries). 1638 G. SANDYS *Paraphr., Job* VII. 10 He a poore mercenary serves for bread. 1687 DRYDEN *Hind & P.* II. 290 Like mercenaries, hired for home defence, They will not fight against their native prince. 1776 JEFFERSON *Wks.* (1859) I. 23 He is at this time transporting large armies of foreign mercenaries. 1840 BROWNING *Sordello* IV. 51 Lean silent gangs of mercenaries ceased Working to watch the strangers. 1849 GROTE *Greece* II. lx. (1862) 279 Greeks continental and insular..volunteers and mercenaries..were all here to be found. *fig.* 1861 J. PYCROFT *Ways & Words* 285 Literary mercenaries, ready to serve under friend or foe.

Mercer (mə·ɪsəɹ). Also 4 mercere, 5 meercere, 5–6 merser, 6 marsar. [a. F. *mercier* (from 13th c.) = Pr. *mercier*, *mercer*, Sp. *mercero*, Pg. *mercieiro*, It. *merciajo*:—popular L. **mercĭārius*, f. L. *merci-*, *merx* merchandise.] One who deals in textile fabrics, *esp.* a dealer in silks, velvets, and other costly materials (in full *silk-mercer*). Also, *occas.* (as in Fr.) a small-ware dealer. (For an obsolete use, see quot. 1696.)

[*c* 1123 in *Eng. Hist. Rev.* (1899) July 429 Stephanus mercer.] *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 66 Þe wreche peoddare more noise he maked to seien his sope, þen a riche mercer al his deorewurðe ware. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. VII. 255, I haue..ymade many a knyȝte bothe mercere and drapere. 1464 *Mann. & Housch. Exp.* (Roxb. Cl.) 248 Payd ffor x. ȝerdys sarsynet to Thomas Rowson merser in Chepesyde, xx. s. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 152 Neyther marchaunt ne mercer, groser, draper, ne yet ony other crafte. 1554 MACHYN *Diary* (Camden) 71 The compene of the Clarkes, and of the Marsars. 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* IV. iii. 11 Then is there heere one Mr Caper, at the suite of Master Three-Pile the Mercer, for some foure suites of Peach-colour'd Satten. 1696 PHILLIPS (ed. 5), *Mercer*, in the City one that deals only in Silks and Stuffs; In Country Towns, one that Trades in all sorts of Linen, Woollen, Silk, and Grocery Wares. 1778 MISS BURNEY *Evelina* X. (1791) 20 The shops are really very entertaining, especially the mercers. 1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* (1864) II. 539 A row of pins, arranged as neatly as in the papers sold at the mercers'. 1872 GEO. ELIOT *Middlem.* II. IV. 196 This second cousin was a Middlemarch mercer.

†**b.** *The mercer's book*: proverbial in the Elizabethan period with reference to the debts of a gallant.

1591 NASHE *Prognost.* D 1 b, Diuers young Gentlemen shall creepe further into the Mercers Booke in a Moneth, then they can get out in a yere. 1591 GREENE *Farew. Follie* To Gent. Stud.(1617), Such Wagges as..haue marched in the Mercers booke to please their Mistris eye with their brauery. 1592 — *Quip Upst. Courtier* D, A clownes sonne must be clapt in a veluet pantophle, and a veluet breech, though the presumptuous asse be drownd in the Mercers booke. 1601 B. JONSON *Poetaster* III. i, How many yards of veluet dost thou thinke they containe? *Hora.*..Faith, sir, your mercers booke Will tell you with more patience, then I can.

Merceress (mə·ɪsərĕs). *rare.* [f. MERCER + -ESS.] A female mercer.

1840 *Tait's Mag.* VII. 264 Madame Ramsden, milliner and merceress. 1872 CUTTS *Scenes Middle Ages* 509 This is a mercer's and the merceress describes her wares.

Mercerize (mə·ɪsərəiz), *v.* [f. the proper name *Mercer* (see below) + -IZE.] *trans.* To prepare (cotton goods) for dyeing by treating with a solution of caustic potash or soda, or certain other chemicals. Hence **Me·rcerized** *ppl. a.*, **Me·rcerizing** *vbl. sb.* (also *attrib.*). Also **Me·rcerization,** the process of mercerizing.

John Mercer, an Accrington dyer, is said to have discovered the process in 1844. He patented it in 1850, but the process was not made use of in the trade until *c* 1895.

1859 *Abridg. Specif. Patents, Bleaching* etc. Index 748 Mercerising: Various modes of. 1862 O'NEILL *Dict. Calico Print.* etc., *Mercerised cloth.*—The process called mercerising. 1886 E. A. PARNELL *Life J. Mercer* Contents 11 Chapter X...Process of mercerising with soda—Increased strength of mercerised cloth—..Mercerising by sulphuric acid, and by chloride of zinc. *Ibid.* 317 The mercerising process. 1899 *Warehouseman & Draper* 3 June 789 Mercerised yarn. 1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 6 Jan. 2/1 Cellulose treated with cold concentrated soda lye, or mercerisation, as the process is called.

†**Me·rcership.** *Obs. rare*—¹. [f. MERCER + -SHIP.] The trade of a mercer.

c 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* (1650) II. lxiv. 101 He confesseth himself to be an egregious fool to leave his Mercership, and go to be a Musqueteer.

Mercery (mə·ɪsəri). Forms: 3–6 mercerie, 4–5 mercerye, (4 marcerye, 5 merceyre, meercery, 5–6 mers(s)ery), 5– mercery. [a. F. *mer-*

cerie (from 13th c.), f. *mercier* MERCER. Cf. Sp. *mercería*, Pg., It. *merceria*.]

1. *collect. sing.* (rarely *pl.*) The wares sold by a mercer.

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 356/20 He founde Marchauns at rome with Mercerie wel hiende. 13.. *Metr. Hom.* (Vernon MS.) in *Archiv Stud. neu. Spr.* LVII. 313 He.. bad him take ten pound and huye Marchaundise and Mercerye. 1382 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) I. 264 Thai.. dele with dyvers marcerye, right as thai pedlers were. 1436 *Libel Eng. Policy* in *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 179 Wee bene ageyne charged wyth mercerye, Haburdasshere ware, and wyth grocerye. 1468 *Burgh Recs. Edinb.* (1869) I. 23 Item of all mersery or merchandice .. to costome it be the crowne [ij d.]. 1542 *Galway Arch.* in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 410 The said merchantes.. ys bounde to bringe the same merssery and packes to the costome housse. 1594 BLUNDEVIL *Exerc.* v. ii. (1597) 256 b, Bombazine, Fustian, Suile, Armour, all sorts of workes made of Iron, or brasse, and other merceries. 1766 ENTICK *London* IV. 309 Tradesmen.. in cloth, mercery, and linnen. 1839-41 S. WARREN *Ten Thous. a Year* viii. I. 242 She had once accompanied her sister-in-law .. to purchase some small matter of mercery.

†**2.** *The Mercery*: the Mercers' Company. Also, the trade in mercery-ware; the part of a city where this is carried on. *Obs.*

1386 *Rolls of Parlt.* III. 225/1 The folk of the Mercerye of London. 1425 in Entick *London* (1766) IV. 354 Maisters .. of the Mercery. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 333/1 Meercery, place or strete where mercerys syllen here ware. 1494 FABYAN *Chron.* VII. 630 This was done by thassent of the masters and housholders of the mercerye. 1518 COLET in Lupton *Life Colet* (1887) 281 A Cofer of Iren gevyn of me to the mercery standing in theyr hall. 1651 *Life Father Sarpi* (1676) 34 At the Sign of the Cock, in the Mercery. 1662 J. GRAUNT *Observ. Bills of Mortality* ix. § 12. 56 Canning-street, and Watlin-street have lost their Trade of Woollen-Drapery to Paul's Church-Yard..; the Mercery is gone from out of Lombard-street..into Pater-Noster-Row.

3. A mercer's shop.

1879 SALA in *Daily Tel.* 21 July, I stand before the mighty mercery of Shoolbred.

4. *attrib.*, as *mercery-ware*.

1429 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 352/1 Mercery ware. 1542 *Galway Arch.* in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 410 If any..merchantes bringith with them merssery warres and packes. 1671 CHARENTE *Let. Customs* 43 Merchants trade thither..with..Mercery-ware. 1712 ARBUTHNOT *John Bull* I. ii, Next day he would be dealing in mercery-ware.

Merch, obs. form of MARCH, MARROW *sb.*[1]

Merchall, obs. form of MARSHAL.

Merchand, obs. form of MERCHANT.

Merchandable, -dice, -die, -dies, obs. ff. MERCHANTABLE, MERCHANDY, -DISE.

†**Merchandisable**, *a. Obs. rare.* [f. MERCHANDISE *v.* + -ABLE.] Of a saleable quality or condition; merchantable.

1482 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 221/2 Broken helyed Samon, which is not merchaundizable. *Ibid.*, Good and merchaundizable Heryng. 1499 in G. Schanz *Engl. Handelspolitik* (1831) II. 425 The saide cloathes were..neyther their merchandize nor merchandizable till suche time as they were shorne.

Merchandise (mə·ɹtʃăndəiz), *sb.* Forms: *α.* 3-7 **marchandise**, 3-6 **-dis**, **marchaundise**, 4 **marchauntyse**, *Sc.* **-andiss**, 4-6 **-aundyse**, 4-7 **-andize**, 5 **-tyse**, **-endise**, **-anddysse**, 5-6 **-andyse**, **-aundye**, 5-7 **-andies**, 6 **-aundies**, **-dize**, **-auntdyse**, 6-7 **-andice**, **-ize**. *β.* 3 **mercandise**, 5 **merchauntyse**, **-antdyse**, **-andyse**, **-aundys**, 5-6 **-dyse**, 6 **merchandice**, **-dys**, 6-7 **merchandize**, 3- **merchandise**. [a. F. *marchandise* (from 12th c.), f. *marchand* MERCHANT.]

†**1.** The action or business of buying and selling goods or commodities for profit; the exchange of commodities for other commodities or for money. *To be of good merchandise*, to be easily marketable. *To go a merchandise*, to go trading. *Obs.* exc. *arch.*

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 2199 Ȝe beþ men bet iteiȝt to.. hamer & to nelde & to mercandise al so þan wiþ suerd oþer hauberc eny batailе to do. *c* 1320 *Sir Tristrem* 1383 A schip ..Wiþ alle þing..þat pende to marchandis. 1382 WYCLIF *John* ii. 16 Nyle ȝe make the hous of my fadir an hous of marchaundise [L. *negotiationis*]. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. IV. 110 What manere mester oþer merchaundise he vsede. 1428 in *Surtees Misc.* (1888) 10 To..by and sell after treu cource of merchantdyse. 1452 in Gross *Gild Merch.* II. 67 He that hawe bene aprentyse with a marchaunte at marchanddyssis. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. cccvIII. 710 Ther was made a commaundement yt non shuld go a marchandise into Flaunders. 1534 in W. H. Turner *Select. Rec. Oxford* 121 No person .. shall use eny maner of marchauntdyse or marchauntdysyng. 1553 EDEN *Treat. New Ind.* (Arb.) 21 There is little trafficque or marchaundise in this region. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* II. xiii. 49 To exercise..their handicrafts and merchandises. 1652-62 HEYLIN *Cosmogr.* I. (1682) 100 He fell from Merchandize, which was his first Profession, unto the study of Religion. 1685 BAXTER *Paraphr. N. T., Mark* ii. 17 These use Merchandize here. 1725 DE FOE *Voy. round World* (1840) 85, I produced three bales of English cloth, and said they would be of good merchandise at Gombaroon. 1731 (*title*) An Essay on the Merchandise of Slaves and Souls of Men. 1817 JAS. MILL *Brit. India* I. II. ii. 116 Their duties are to tend cattle, to carry on merchandize, and to cultivate the ground.

†**b.** *transf.* and *fig.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 16471 Quen þat he sagh his maister sua be-casten al to care..þan him reud his marchandis. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 63 Þes synnes of robberie & sathanas marchaundise. *c* 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 10 O maruelous marchandies! þe Maker of man kynd takyng a soulid body of þe virgyn. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. cclxxxviii. 431 Or we make yt marchandyse, we shall sell ourselfe so derely that it shall be spoken of a hundred yeres after our dethes. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 56 b, They establishe the marchandise of massing, and other abhominations. 1577 NORTHBROOKE *Dicing* (1843) 119 These are the fruits, and reuenues, of that wicked merchandice of diceplaying. 1656 EARL MONM. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* II. xiv. (1674) 156 [They] have turned the administration of sacred Justice into an execrable Merchandize. 1822 LAMA *Elia* Ser. I. *Distant Corresp.*, This sort of merchandise [*sc.* puns] above all requires a quick return.

c. Phr. *To make* (*a* or *one's*) *merchandise*, † to carry on or conclude a bargain (*obs.*); also (*arch.*) const. *of* = to traffic in (usually in bad sense).

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 53/3 His Marchaundise he maude a-day in þe cite of Asise. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 16490 'All for noght', coth þai, 'iudas þi marchandis es made'. *c* 1300 *Harrowing of Hell* 98 Hou mihtest þou on ani wise Of oþer mannes þing make marchandise? *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 9673 Thei made a schrewed marchaundise: Eche slo other. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* XXVI. 215 But I wolde make a marchaundyse. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 235/1 To make Merchandyse, *mercari, mercandizari, & cetera.* 1531 TINDALE *Expos.* 1 *John* 28 They made marchaundise of open penaunce. 1565 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 332 Nane of thame sall brek bouk, nor mak marchandice quhill the tyme that thair gudis be housit. 1611 BIBLE *Deut.* XXI. 14 Thou shalt not make merchandize of her. 1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. State* V. XIV. 413 [They] will rather suffer their daughter to make merchandise of her chastity, than marry the richest merchant. 1774 FRANKLIN *Ess.* Wks. 1840 II. 394 Coin may be liable, in the fluctuation of trade, to be made a merchandise of. 1814 CARY *Dante, Par.* XVII. 50 There [at Rome] Where gainful merchandize is made of Christ. 1863 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* VIII. 182 She said she would make no merchandise of her conscience.

2. The commodities of commerce; movables which are or may be bought and sold.

Petty merchandise (16th c. *pitimarchandis*): small wares.

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 53/3 In almesdede he spendede an on pouere Men muchedel is Marchaundise. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 14723 He mani chapmen fand Serekin marchandis chepand. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 4348 Þe somers schulleþ by-forn ous gon, Wyþ grete pakkes euerechon, As it were marchaundyse. 1432-50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) I. 145 Gothia is a region of Scythia ..copious of alle kyndes of marchandise. 1522 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 327 Other habordasher [?= haberdash ware] and pitimarchandis broght by marchant estrangers commyng to this citie. 1523 *Act* 14 & 15 *Hen. VIII*, c. 1 Any vitail, or other marchaundise. 1624 CAPT. SMITH *Virginia* II. 29 Ships of warre or marchandize. 1635 R. N *Camden's Hist. Eliz.* I. 57 Wooll and other English Marchandies. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* II. XXII. 119 Where but one selleth, the Merchandise is the dearer. 1734 SALE *Koran* Prelim. Disc. § 1. 4 A great fair or mart for all kinds of merchandize. 1825 BENTHAM *Ration. Reward* 238 When an article of the produce of land or labour .. is offered in exchange, it then becomes an article of commerce: it is merchandise. 1852 MRS. STOWE *Uncle Tom's C.* XII, A black woman..threw her arms round that unfortunate piece of merchandise before enumerated, 'John, aged thirty'. 1903 *Edin. Rev.* Apr. 490 Small quantities of merchandise.

†**b.** With plural construction. *Obs.*

1588 KYD *Househ. Philos.* Wks. (1901) 276 Heereof speaketh Tully,..that Merchandize, if they were small, were base and but of vile account; if great, not much to be dislyked. 1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* II. V. 104 The Marchandize which thou hast brought from Rome Are all too deere for me. *c* 1610 BACON *Impos. Merchandises* Wks. 1778 II. 223 You shall find, a few merchandise only excepted, the poundage equal upon alien and subject. 1633 MASSINGER *Guardian* Epil., I am left to enquire..at what rate His marchandise are valued.

†**c.** A kind of merchandise; a saleable commodity, an article of commerce. *Obs.*

c 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) XXVII. 270 The Marchauntes come not thidre so comounly, for to bye Marchandises. 1439 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 24/1 Chese and Buttur is a Merchaundise that may not wele be kept. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* I. (1586) 20 b, Marle..whiche caried vppon the sea in vessels is sold as a great marchandize. 1643 EVELYN *Diary* 14 Nov., They brought us choice of guns and pistolls,..being here a merchandise of greate account. 1704 ADDISON *Italy* (1733) 58 The Duties are great that are laid on Merchandises. 1758 *Descr. Thames* 211 Cavear or Kavia is a considerable Merchandize among the Turks. 1853 WHEWELL tr. *Grotius* III. 372 Nor ought there to be urged..the cases of merchandises which..are carried past the place where dues are to be paid.

d. *attrib.* in *merchandise exports, imports, mark, traffic.*

1887 *Act* 50 & 51 *Vict.* c. 28 § 1 This Act may be cited as the Merchandise Marks Act, 1887. 1892 *Daily News* 22 July 2/4 Till 1st January, 1893, on which date the new classification of merchandise traffic..will come into force on all the railways. 1898 *Ibid.* 1 Feb. 5/2 The figures show an increase of 14,700,000*l*.. in merchandise imports and an increase of 17,700,000*l*.. in merchandise exports.

Merchandise (mə·ɹtʃăndəiz), *v. arch.* [f. prec.]

1. *intr.* To trade, traffic; †also, to make merchandise *of*.

1382 WYCLIF *Luke* XIX. 13 And he seide to hem, Marchaundise ȝe [Vulg. *negotiamini*] til I come. *Ibid.* 2 *Pet.* II. 3 Thei shulen marchaundise of ȝou [Vulg. *de vobis negotiabuntur*]. 1433 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 475/1 He sende..his Servant, Factour and Attournay, to marchandise ther with Wollen Cloth. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. cccvIII. 711 They of Tourney durst nat marchaundyse with them of Flaunders. 1633 T. STAFFORD *Pac. Hib.* I. XII. 77 Such further mischiefes, as might arise by his Subjects merchandizing with the Rebels. 1673 *Ess. to Revive Educ. Gentlew.* 35 She could not Merchandize, without knowledge in Arithmetick. 1679 PENN *Addr. Prot.* II. (1692) 179 Who hath merchandized in Souls of Men. 1706 VANBRUGH *Mistake* II. 283 He that merchandises thus must be undone at last. 1737 [S. BERINGTON] *G. di Lucca's Mem.* 215 This they are doing perpetually..rather visiting than merchandizing. 1862 SALA *Ship Chandler* IV. 65 For how many years had they not merchandised together? 1890 GROSS *Gild Merch.* I. 37 Anyone who is not of that Gild may not merchandise with them.

2. *trans.* To buy and sell; to barter; to traffic in.

1538 ELYOT *Dict.*, Add., *Aginor*, to marchandyse vyle thinges, or of small value. 1592 *Conspir. Pretended Reform.* 21 Thus .. they merchandized the hasard of their friends life. *c* 1600 SHAKS. *Sonn.* cii, That loue is marchandiz'd, whose ritch esteeming, The owners tongue doth publish enery where. 1629 MAXWELL *Herodian* (1635) 115 The Romans call upon me..not [to] permit so..glorious an Empire to bee basely merchandized. 1631 MASSINGER *Emperor East* III. ii, Must I..like A prostituted creature, merchandize Our mutuall delight for hire? 1684 W. PENN in *Academy* 11 Jan. (1896) 36/1 If it be below great men to be kind for recompence, and marchandize their Powr, it is [etc.]. 1715 ROWE *Lady J. Grey* V. ii, Think'st thou that princes merchandize their grace, As Roman priests their pardons?

†**Merchandised**, *a. Obs.* [f. MERCHANDISE *sb.* + -ED[2].] Abounding in commercial activity.

1619 MILLES tr. *Mexia's* etc. *Treas. Anc. & Mod. T.* II. 364/2 A goodly.. country..greatly merchandized, in regard of the sea.

Merchandiser (mə·ɹtʃăndəizəɹ). *Obs.* exc. *arch.* [f. MERCHANDISE *v.* + ER[1].] A dealer in commodities; one who traffics. Also *fig.*

1597 J. KING *Jonas* (1618) 6 The commission..is most requisite to be weighed, that we may discerne the..faithfull dispensers from marchandisers of the word of God. 1616 R. CARPENTER *Past. Charge* 36 Christian loue .. whippeth anger..out of the heart, as Christ did the prophane Marchandizers out of the Temple. 1678 BUNYAN *Pilgr.* I. (1900) 84 That which did not a little amuse the Merchandizers, was, that these Pilgrims set very light by all their Wares. 1887 N. D. DAVIS *Cavaliers & Roundheads* 59 A luckless merchandizer who had sold goods for cotton.

†**Merchandising** (mə·ɹtʃăndəiziŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. MERCHANDISE *v.* + -ING[1].] The transaction of mercantile business; trafficking. Also *fig.*

1382 WYCLIF *Ezek.* XXVII. 15 Manye ilis [weren] the marchaundisynge of thin hoond. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* II. IV. 158 The vsing of profitable craftis and marchaundising. 1561 T. NORTON *Calvin's Inst.* IV. 88 [They] with carying about the reliques of martyrs dyd vse filthy merchandisynges. 1625 BACON *Ess., Usury* (Arb.) 546 Certaine Principall Cities and Townes of Merchandizing. 1656 SIR E. NICHOLAS in *N. Papers* (Camden) III. 265 The recompense will be deservedly the more advantageous to him if it shall be effected without any merchandising. 1769 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* IV. 63 The laws of king Athelstan forbad all merchandizing on the lord's day. 1840 CARLYLE *Heroes* (1858) 221 There were yearly fairs, and there, when the merchandising was done, Poets sang for prizes. 1904 *Athenæum* 18 June 788 Commerce comprises goods, transportation, exchange or merchandizing, money, and advertising.

attrib. 1665 E. TERRY *Voy. E. India* 368 But further, for the merchandizing Commodities the Mogul's Provinces afford, there is Musk..to be had in good quantity. 1759 *Book of Fairs* 44 Messingham, Lincolnshire, Trinity Mond. for merchandizing goods.

Merchandising (mə·ɹtʃăndəiziŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. MERCHANDISE *v.* + -ING[2].] Engaged in trade.

1624 CAPT. SMITH *Virginia* VI. 218 Citizens (whose merchandizing thoughts were onely to get wealth). 1757 DYER *Fleece* (1807) 110 Thro' Tyne, and Tees..and merchandizing Hull. 1868 BROWNING *Ring & Bk.* I. 903 The motley merchandizing multitude.

†**Merchandrise.** *Sc. Obs.* Also 6 **marchantdreis, marchandreise, merschandrise, merchandrice, -ryce.** [app. from the pl. of *marchandrie* MERCHANDRY, the ending *-ies* having been associated with the suffix -ISE 2.] Trade; merchandise, goods.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xliv. (*Lucy*) 98 Lucy in merchandrise had fundine a thing for to by. ?1495 *Ld. Treas. Acc. Scotl.* (1877) I. 219 The Charge of it that was tane fra Jhonne Williamsonne, at the Kingis command, in woll and merchandreis. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* II. 491 Rycht mony Dene that in the toun wes than In merschandrice, tha slew thame euerie man. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* VII. 69, I beheld.. al sortis of cornis,..grene treis, schips, marchantdreis [etc.]. 1561 *Aberdeen Reg.* (1844) I. 330 The wairis and merchandrices of quhatsumeuer schip. *Ibid.* 334 The wairis and merchandrises thairof. 1562 WINȜET *Cert. Tract.* Wks. I. 5 Zour merchandrice..quhay speikis not of it?

Merchandry (mə·ɹtʃăndri). *Obs.* exc. *arch.* Forms: 5 **marchandrye**, 6 **marchaundrie, -drye, merchandrie**, 7, 9 **merchandry**. [prob. a. AF. **marchanderie*, f. *marchand* MERCHANT *sb.*; see -ERY, -RY. Cf. the later MERCHANTRY.] Trade, commerce; the business of a merchant.

1436 *Libel Eng. Policy* in *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 174 And alle this is colowred by marchandrye. 1550 LEVER *Serm.* (Arb.) 29 A myscheuouse marte of merchandrie is this. *a* 1663 SANDERSON *Cases of Conse.* (1678) 44 He may follow Husbandry, and Merchandry, upon his own choice. 1889 J. PAYNE *Alaeddin* 69 The Maugrabin talked with Alaeddin upon matters of merchandry and the like.

attrib. 1561 C. HINDILL in *Child-Marr.* (1897) 72 Stockfishe, red heringes and such marchaundrie wares.

†**Merchandy.** *Obs.* Forms: 4 **marchaundye, -die, -chandie**, 5 **merchaundy**, 6 **merchandie**. [a. OF. *marchandie*, f. *marchand* MERCHANT. Cf. MERCHANTY.]

1. Trade, traffic, commerce.

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 5792 Y rede þou hye A man to do þy marchaundye. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 179 The greteste of Barbarie, Of hem whiche usen marchandie, Sche hath converted. 1599 MARSTON *Sco. Villanie* I. iii. 61 Heroes heires Are made much of: how much from merchandie?

b. *To make merchandy of*: to traffic in.

1388 WYCLIF 2 *Pet.* ii. 3 Thei schulen make marchaundie of ȝou.

2. Mercantile commodities.

c 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 14878 Marchauntz come mo childre to bye, Rather þan oþer marchaundie. 1388 Wyclif *Ezek.* xxvii. 15 Many ilis [weren] the marchaundie of thin hond. 1439 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 6/1 Every Ton of Wyne..comyng by way of Merchaundy into youre seide Roialme. *Ibid.*, In the which the same Merchaundy was shipped.

Merchant (mə·ɪtʃănt), *sb.* and *a.* Forms: *a.* 3–6 **marchaund**, 3–7 **marchand**, 5 **merchaund**, 5–7 **merchand**. *β.* 3–6 **marchaunt**(e, 3–8 **marchant**, 4 **marchont**, **machaunt**, 5 **marzhaunt**, 5–6 **merchaunt**, 4– **merchant**. [a. OF. *marchand*, earlier *marchëant* (mod.F. *marchand*) = Pr. *mercadan-s*, It. *mercatante* :—popular L. **mercātantem*, pr. pple. of **mercātāre*, freq. of *mercārī* to trade, f. *merc-*, *merx* merchandise.

It is possible that two popular Latin forms have coalesced in OF., viz. **mercātantem* and *mercantem* (whence It. *mercante* merchant), pr. pple. of *mercārī* (see above).]

A. *sb.*

1. One whose occupation is the purchase and sale of marketable commodities for profit; originally applied *gen.* to any trader in goods not manufactured or produced by himself; but from an early period restricted (exc. *Sc.* and *dial.*: see d) to wholesale traders, and *esp.* to those having dealings with foreign countries.

Often with defining word, indicating the class of goods dealt in, as in *coal-*, *corn-*, *spirit-*, *wine-merchant*, etc. (some of which combinations are frequently applied to retail traders), or the countries traded with, as *East India*, *Turkey merchant*.

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 53/2 Seint Fraunceys,..Marchaunt he was in his 3onghede. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 28031 Þe fole marchand is eth to duell. *c* 1320 *Sir Tristrem* 1543 Marchaunt icham, y wis, Mi schip liþ here bi side. *c* 1400 Maundev. (1839) xi. 122 Thidre comethe Marchauntes with Marchandise he See. *c* 1460 J. Russell *Bk. Nurture* 1071 in *Babees Bk.*, Marchaundes & Franklonz..may be set semely at a squyers table. 1474 Caxton *Chesse* 42 b, The marchans of cloth lynnen and wollen. 1513 More in Grafton *Chron.* (1568) II. 776 A wise Marchant neuer aduenture th all his goodes in one ship. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scotl.* IX. 252 In the meine tyme our Marchantes quha feiret na Ill,.. sayled (in haist) to France. 1631 Weever *Anc. Funeral Mon.* 341 He is properly called a Marchant, *qui mare trajicit*, who passeth ouer the Seas, *et merces inde avehit*, and from thence transports merchandise. 1644 Evelyn *Diary* 17 Oct., The marchands being very rich, have..no extent of ground to employ their estates in. 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 21 ¶ 7 The Cockle-shell-Merchants and Spider-catchers. 1847 A. & H. Mayhew *Greatest Plague of Life* xii. 183 If three barges and one wagon make a coalheaver, I should like to know what makes a merchant. 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) III. 242 The importers and exporters, who are called merchants. 1881 R. G. White *Eng. Without & Within* xvi. 387 He was not a merchant. He had never been engaged in foreign trade.

¶ As a mistranslation of L. *mercenarius* 'hireling'.

1382 Wyclif *John* x. 12, 13.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

c 1532 Latimer *Let. to Baynton* in Foxe *A. & M.* (1583) 1751 Maruphus,..an Italian, and in times past a marchaunt of dispensations. 1538 Starkey *England* II. i. 164 We may by al thyng of God, who ys the only marchant of al thyng that ys gud. *a* 1626 Bacon *New Atl.* (1900) 44 These wee call Merchants of Light. 1818 Shelley *Marenghi* i. 4 Until the exchange Ruins the merchants of such thriftless trade. 1893 *Westm. Gaz.* 15 May 3/2 The gagging low comedian, ('low comedy merchant' is the crushing American phrase).

†**c.** Phrases. *To play the merchant with*: to cheat, get the better of (a person). *To have* or *put on merchant's ears*: to affect not to hear. *Obs.*

1593 Nashe *Christ's T.* 83 Is it not a common prouerbe ..when any man hath cosend..vs, to say, Hee hath playde the Merchant with vs? 1593 G. Harvey *Pierce's Super.* 166 The wisest Oeconomy maketh especiall account of three singular members, a marchants eare; a pigges mouth; and an Asses backe. 1595 Lyly *Woman in Moone* I. i. 169, I see that seruants must haue Marchants ears. 1622 Mabbe tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* II. 7, I put on Merchants Eares, not vouchsafing to give them the hearing. 1632 Rowley *Woman Never Vext* IV. i. 51, I doubt Sir, he will play the merchant with us.

d. A shopkeeper. Now only *Sc.*, *north. dial.*, and *U.S.*

1362 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. II. 188 Bote Marchaundes Metten with him and maaden him to abyden, Bi-souȝten him in heore schoppes to sullen heore ware. 1609 in *North Riding Records* (1884) I. 15 Will. Foreste of Midleham [presented] for useinge the trade of a marchant, not having served, &c. *c* 1730 Burt *Lett. N. Scotl.* (1818) I. 66 A pedling shopkeeper that sells a pennyworth of thread, is a merchant. 1798 *Monthly Mag.* VI. 437 In Scotland every little retail shopkeeper is dignified with the title of merchant. 1837 Lockhart *Scott* (1839) III. 117 A merchant (that is to say a dealer in everything from fine broadcloth to children's tops). 1845 De Quincey *Autobiog.* Wks. 1889 I. 30 My father was a merchant; not in the sense of Scotland, where it means a retail dealer, ..but in the English sense. 1859 Bartlett *Dict. Amer., Merchant*, a term often applied in the United States to any dealer in merchandise, whether at wholesale or retail; and hence sometimes equivalent to 'shopkeeper'. 1871 W. Alexander *Johnny Gibb* xxxiii. 233 A lounge about the merchant's shop door..is inexpressibly grateful.

e. *Sc.* A buyer, purchaser; a customer. Also *fig.* Phrase, *To have one's eye one's merchant*: to be one's own appraiser (of goods to be bought).

1673 Fountainhall in M. P. Brown *Suppl. Dict. Decis.* (1826) III. 34 *Esto* the horse had been insufficient, *sibi imputet*, his eye being his merchant. 1835 Monteath *Dunblane* (1887) 71 (E. D. D.) His aid and assistance in procuring merchants for the goods. 1884 D. Grant *Lays & Leg. North* 83 There wis na want o' merchan's Eager for her hert an' han'.

†**2.** A supercargo. *Obs.*

1614 Raleigh *Hist. World* I. IV. ii. § 18. 204 Hee..pretending the death of his Marchant, besought the French.. that they might burie their Marchant in hallowed ground. 1681 R. Knox *Hist. Relat. Ceylon* IV. i. 118 My Father the Captain ordered me with Mr. John Loveland, Merchant of the Ship, to go on shore.

†**3.** A fellow, 'chap'. *Obs.*

1549 Coverdale, etc., *Erasm. Par. 2 Cor.* 60 Beare this muche with my foolysbenesse,..that synce these marchauntes ..so much crake of themselues, that I may also somewhat glorye of my selfe. 1567 Drant *Horace Ep.* I. viii. D vj, A giddie marchaunte I. 1573 G. Harvey *Letter-bk.* (Camden) 52 Marchant and marchant were too quiet and soft words for them. 1573 *New Custom* I. i. A iij, I woulde so haue scourged my marchant that his breeche should ake. 1576 Fleming *Panopl. Epist.* 155 You had flatterers and mealemouthed merchants in high estimation. 1606 Chapman *Gent. Usher* Plays 1873 I. 281 Nay good unkle now, sbloud, what captions marchants you be. 1610 Carleton *Jurisd.* vii. 172 The King to hold fast this slippery Merchant, required all the Bishops to set to their..seales to those Lawes.

†**4.** A trading vessel, merchantman. *Obs.*

1585 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* I. iv, [The pirates] lye in wayte thereabouts to entrap ..merchauntes comming thyther too lade salte. 1586 Marlowe *Tamburl.* I. ii, And Christian merchants that with Russian stems Plough up huge furrows in the Caspian sea. 1610 Shaks. *Temp.* II. i. 5 Some Saylors wife, The Masters of some Merchant, and the Merchant Haue iust our Theame of woe. 1709 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4533/2 The Enemy took 9 of the Merchants. 1740 Johnson *Blake* Wks. 1787 IV. 371 A fleet of merchants under his convoy.

†**5.** A kind of plum. *Obs.*

1602 Dekker *Satirom.* F 4 b, I am..to desire you to fill your little pellies at a dinner of plums behinde noone; there be Suckets, and Marmilads, and Marchants, and other long white plummes.

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.* **a.** Obvious combinations, chiefly appositive, as *merchant* † *appraiser*, *buyer*, *-charterer*, *-duke*, *-factor*, *-jeweller*, *-king*, † *leech*, † *mercer*, *preacher*, *-sovereign*, *-wine-tunner*, *woman*; also *merchant-marring* adj.

1663 in Picton *Lpool Munic. Rec.* (1883) I. 240 Assessed by the *marchant apprizers. 1670 Pettus *Fodinæ Reg.* 93 No *Merchant buyer of Oar shall touch the King's Dish. 1841 *Penny Cycl.* XXI. 403/1 The *merchant-charterer is thereby discharged. 1818 Byron *Ch. Har.* IV. lx, All hues Of gem and marble, to encrust the bones Of *merchant-dukes. 1585 Parsons *Chr. Exerc.* II. iii. 13 Consider attentiuely, as a good *marchantfactor is wont to do, when he is arriued in a strange country. 1853 Lynch *Self-Improv.* 25 Barks as it were manned and laden of God's merchant-factors, the saints and sages. 1800 *Asiatic Ann. Reg., Misc. Tracts* 41/2 His profession of *merchant-jeweller. *c* 1820 S. Rogers *Italy* (1839) 55 Of old the residence of *merchant kings. 1402 *Rolls of Parlt.* III. 510/2 Wolmongers..*Marchant Leche..Taillours [etc.]. 1596 Shaks. *Merch. V.* III. ii. 274 And not one vessell scape the dreadfull touch Of *Merchant-marring rocks? 1591 Sylvester *Du Bartas* I. iii. 522 You *Marchant Mercers and Monopolites, Gain-greedy Chapmen [etc.]. 1531 Elyot *Governor* I. xxi. (1557) 69 As fastidiouse or fulsome to the readers as suche *marchante preachers be nowe to their customers. 1826 Pounden *France & Italy* 82 These *merchant-sovereigns..importing in their galeons the precious relics of ancient literature. 1766 Entick *London* IV. 350 The vintners..were known by the name of *Merchant-wine-tunners of Gascoyne. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 120 This whiche I have spoken here of marchauntmen, concerneth also *marchaunt women called nunnes.

b. Special combinations: **merchant-bar**, a bar of 'merchant' iron; † **merchant-booth** *Sc.*, a trader's stall; **merchant** (formerly † **merchant's**) **iron**, iron in finished bars, ready for the market; **merchant's mark** († **merchant mark**), a rebus, emblem, or other distinctive figure or device adopted by a merchant to be placed on the goods sold by him; in the Middle Ages often used (e.g. on seals or monuments) as a quasi-heraldic cognizance (cf. 'merkes of marchauntes' quot. *c* 1394 under Mark *sb.*[1] 11 a); **merchant prince** (? suggested by Isaiah xxiii. 8), a merchant of princely wealth and munificence; **merchant rolls** = next; **merchant-train** (see quot. 1881).

1861 Fairbairn *Iron* vi. 109 The bars produced by this second process [of rolling] are called *merchant-bars. 1884 W. H. Greenwood *Steel & Iron* § 379 The commercial classification of malleable iron into No. 1, No. 2, best or No. 3 best-best.. No. 2 or merchant bars, which is the lowest quality of bar iron available for the general smith's use. 1618 in *Scott. Hist. Rev.* July (1905) 358 Wrangous..away takyng..fra Alexander Duff Johnsone..furth of his *merchand builth in Inverness..off..the guids geir and merchandeice. 1645–52 Boate *Irel. Nat. Hist.* (1860) 111 They had one tun of good Iron, such as is called *Merchants-Iron. 1795 *Repert. Arts*, etc. III. 366 All sorts of merchant iron. 1884 W. H. Greenwood *Steel & Iron* § 559 The mill rolls.. for rolling merchant iron. 1887 *Pall Mall G.* 5 Sept. 11/2 A contract for a considerable tonnage of what is called 'merchant iron'. 1540 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) VI. 97 Whiche morter haith my *marchaunte marke sett upon it. 1557 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 146 My litle silver pott w^t^ the cover havinge a *marchaunts marke. 1586 Ferne *Blaz. Gentrie* I. 238 What do you then say to the coate of Armes of Godfrey of Bulloigne..was that but a Merchants marke in your estimation? 1888 *Antiquary* XVII. 73 Great respect was paid to merchant's marks in the fourteenth, fifteenth and sixteenth centuries. 1847 L. Hunt *Jar Honey* Pref. 13 A noble-hearted *merchant prince. 1888 Burgon *Lives* 12 *Cd. Men* II. x. 252 Magdalen Hall..is now (through the munificence of a merchant-Prince) Hertford College. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.*, **Merchant-rolls*. 1888 *Lockwood's Dict. Mech. Engin.*, *Mill Rolls*, or *Merchant Rolls*, or *Mill Train*, the merchant rolls of a rolling mill. 1861 Fairbairn *Iron* vi. 110 Rollers for the puddling, boiler-plate, and *merchant train. 1881 Raymond *Mining Gloss.*, *Merchant-train*, a train of rolls for reducing iron piles or steel ingots, blooms, or billets to bars of any of the various ..shapes, known as merchant iron or steel.

B. *adj.*

In *law merchant*, *statute merchant*, *guild merchant*, the position of the adj. is due to the imitation of med.L. or AF.

1. Having relation to merchandise; relating to trade or commerce, *esp.* in *law-*, *statute-merchant*. Phr. † *In* (or *a*) *merchant fare*: on a trading journey.

c 1400 *Beryn* 3624 When wee out of Rome in marchant fare went to purchase buttirflyes was our most entent. 1425 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 276 His merchant lettre,..wytnessyng the value of the saide merchandise. *a* 1436 in *Blk. Bk. Admir.* (Rolls) II. 27 That he begynne his pleynt..or to the comoune lawe, or to the lawe marchaund, or to the lawe maryn. 1506 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 325 That no foraine..passe not over the see from hensforward a marchant fare except fishers and seefaring men. 1592 West *1st Pt. Symbol.* § 41 A franktenement by Statute is either by vertue of a statute Staple, or of a statute Marchant. 1641 Robinson *Trades Encrease* 4 All marchant and marchant-like Causes and differences. 1663 [see Law-merchant]. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XI. 399/2 All nations..show a particular regard to the law-merchant. 1855 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xii. III. 211 How much money had proprietors borrowed on mortgage, on statute merchant, on statute staple?

† **b.** *Merchant good*(*s* Sc.: marketable commodities (cf. *merchant iron* in A. 6 b). *Merchant weight*: the weight in use among merchants. *Obs.*

1544 *Extracts Aberdeen Reg.* (1844) I. 200 Sufficient merchand guid. 1550 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 85 To sell certane merchant gudis within the burgh. 1704 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4014/4 Three Pounds Sixteen Shillings per Hundred, Merchant Weight.

2. Of a ship: Serving for the transport of merchandise. Hence, of or pertaining to the mercantile marine, as in *merchant service*, *seaman*. (Often written with hyphen.)

1375 Barbour *Bruce* XIX. 193 Marchand-schippis that saland war Fra Scotland to Flandriss. 1598 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. i. IV. *Handy-Crafts* 23 Lo, how our Merchant-vessels to and fro Freely about our tradefull waters go. 1709 Steele *Tatler* No. 4 ¶ 7 A Fleet of Merchant Ships coming from Scotland. 1769 Falconer *Dict. Marine* (1780) s. v. *Mate*, A frigate of 20 guns, and a small merchant-ship, have only one mate in each. 1851 H. Melville *Whale* xvi, I'll take that leg away from thy stem, if ever thou talkest of the merchant service to me again. 1872 Yeats *Growth Comm.* 279 As soon as England was able to protect her merchant-shipping. 1874 Theakle *Nav. Arch.* 94 A merchant ship is little other than a shell of iron plates stiffened by transverse ribs. 1899 F. T. Bullen *Way Navy* 64 A humble merchant seaman.

3. Of a town: Occupied in commerce, commercial. Also, consisting of merchants, as in *guild-merchant*, *merchant-guild*.

1467 Veld marchaunt [see Guild 4]. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 45 A famous merchand toun, quhais name is Elgin. 1611 Bible *Isa.* xxiii. 11 The Lord hath giuen a commandement against the merchant citie to destroy the strong holdes thereof. 1764 Burn *Poor Laws* 9 All workmen shall bring..to the marchant towns their instruments. 1856 R. A. Vaughan *Mystics* (1860) I. 176 The merchant-league of the Rhineland. 1870 Brentano in Toulmin Smith *Eng. Gilds* p. xciii, The formerly-mentioned Gilds of Dover, of the Thanes at Canterbury, as well as perhaps the Gild-Merchant at London. *Ibid.* xciv, Such also were the Gild-Merchant of York [etc.]. 1874 Stubbs *Const. Hist.* I. xi. 417 The merchant-guild contained all the traders.

Merchant (mə·ɪtʃănt), *v.* Now *rare*. Also 4–5 **marchaund**(e, 5 **marchaunte**, 6 **marchant**, 7 **merchand**. [a. OF. *marcheander*, now *marchander*, f. *marchand* Merchant *sb.*]

1. *intr.* To trade as a merchant. Also, † to negotiate; in bad sense, to bargain, haggle.

1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. XIII. 394 And if I sent ouer see my seruauntz to Bruges,..To marchaunden with monoye and maken her eschaunges [etc.]. *c* 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Man.* III. xxvi. (1869) 150 To begile þilke þat ben symple,..or þat ben nyce to marchaunde. 1481 Caxton *Godeffroy* 115 The turke ..wold not suffre them of nothyng, sauf..for to marchaunte to bye and selle. 1525 Ld. Berners *Froiss.* II. cxxix. [cxxv.] 366 The duke of Lancastre and the duches his wyfe had rather marchant with you and with your sonne than with the duke of Berrey. 1614 Cornwallis in Gutch *Coll. Cur.* I. 162, I held it not fit, we should merchant with our Sovereign. 1622 Bacon *Hen. VII* 99 Besides that, Ferdinando..merchanded at this time with France for the restoring of the Counties of Russignon and Perpignian. 1679 L. Addison *1st St. Mahumedism* 80 He died in the 63 year of his age, after he had Merchanted 38, been two years in the Cave [etc.]. 1866 Carlyle *Remin., Irving* (1881) I. 170 Graham never merchanted more.

2. *trans.* To trade or deal in; to buy and sell.

1511 *Act* 3 *Hen. VIII*, c. 8 § 1 No Minister in City or Borough, which..ought to keep Assises of Wines and Victuals..should merchant Wines and Victuals. 1541 *Act* 33 *Hen. VIII*, c. 2 The said fishermen..do marchant and bie the said french fishe. 1893 W. D. Spelman in *Voice* (N. Y.) 5 Oct., The rare, rich cutlery which he merchanted.

Merchantable (mə·ɪtʃăntăb'l), *a.* Also 5 **merchand-**, 6 **mer-**, **marchaunt-**, 6–7 **marchand-**, 7–8 **merchandable**. [f. Merchant *v.* + -able.]

1. Fit or prepared for market; that may or can be bought or sold; saleable; marketable.

c 1480 *Cokwolds Daunce* 109 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* I. 43 Ther wyves hath ben merchandabull, And of ther ware compen-

abull. *a* 1502 Arnolde *Chron.* 128 J. D...affermid..that the sayd peper was as good as any in the worlde and marchauntable. 1587 Heriot in *Hakluyt's Voy.* (1600) III. 267 Which commodities, for distinction sake, I call Merchantable. 1611 Cotgr. s. v. *Emploicte*, Ware that sells well..marchandable ware. 1656 Heylin *Surv. France* 181 About the time of Clement the fifth..they [indulgences] began to be merchantable. 1713 *Grand Rebell.* II. 336 Came..to relieve their wants By mustering up a Merchandable store. 1769 *De Foe's Tour Gt. Brit.* (ed. 7) IV. 80 They [White Fish] were very well cured, merchantable, and fit for Exportation. 1776 Adam Smith *W. N.* IV. v. (1869) II. 96 A barrel of good merchantable herrings. 1875 Maine *Hist. Inst.* iii. 88 Land has become a merchantable commodity. 1894 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* June 322 Feeding stuffs guaranteed of the usual good and merchantable quality.

b. *spec.* The designation of the highest of the three grades of Newfoundland cod-fish.

1883 Joncas *Fisheries Canada* 19 (Fish. Exhib. Publ.).

c. *transf.* and *fig.*

1701 *Argt. for War* 25 The Project may pass on the other side the water, but will never be Merchantable, I hope, in England. *a* 1734 North *Exam.* I. ii. § 57 (1740) 60 Who.. will make ample Returns in good and merchandable Party-Work. 1864 G. A. Sala in *Daily Tel.* 5 May, The lawyers and inferior judges..are..mere merchantable creatures, incurably venal.

†**2.** Of or pertaining to trade; commercial. *Obs.*

a 1603 T. Cartwright *Confut. Rhem. N. T.* (1618) 176 Satisfaction from us to God, and remission from God to vs, can no more stand together, than marchandable paiment with bankerupt. *Ibid.* 469 The most traffiqueable and Marchandable Citie of all Asia. *a* 1670 Bp. Hacket *Abp. Williams* I. (1692) 90 Let every man coin what money he will and observe if ever we can make a marchandable payment.

Hence **Me·rchantableness.**

1737 Bailey vol. II. (ed. 3). 1885 *Law Times* LXXIX. 132/2 In a sale by sample there is an implied warranty of merchantableness.

Me·rchant-adve·nturer. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.* (See also Merchant-venturer.) A merchant engaged in the organization and dispatch of trading expeditions over sea, and the establishment of factories and trading stations in foreign countries. Hence, a member of an association of such merchants incorporated by royal charter or other lawful authority.

1496-7 *Act* 12 *Hen. VII*, c. 6 The Marchauntes Adventurers inhabite and dwelling in divers parties of this Realme. 1540 Elyot *Image Gov.* (1556) 59 b, He wolde not suffre any citesen to bee a Merchaunt adventurer. 1575 Laneham *Let.* (1871) 62 Mercer, Merchantauenturer, and Clark of the Councel-chamber door. 1608 in Gross *Gild Merch.* I. 148 The Lawes, Customes (&c.) of the Fellowshippe of Merchantes Adventurers. 1622 Bacon *Hen. VII* 163 There passed a Law, at the Suit of the Merchant-Aduenturers of England, against the Merchant-Aduenturers of London, for Monopolizing and exacting vpon the Trade. 1766 Entick *London* IV. 130 Mr. Robert Rogers, leatherseller and merchant-adventurer. 1890 *Spectator* 19 Apr., The merchant-adventurers who, in Africa now, as formerly in India, represent the European peoples.

fig. 1711 Shaftesb. *Charac.* (1737) I. 304 Certain merchant-adventurers in the letter-trade, who in correspondence with their factor-bookseller, are enter'd into a notable commerce with the world.

Merchanter, -teer (mə·ɹtʃăntəɹ, mə̄ɹtʃăntī·ɹ). *U.S.* [f. Merchant *sb.* + -er[1], -eer (after *privateer*).] = Merchantman 2.

1829 Marryat *F. Mildmay* xiv, I'll fit out a privateer, and take some o' your merchanters. 1890 *Public Opinion* (Washington) 30 Aug., A departure from the merchanteer type [of ship] was the immediate result.

Me·rchanthood. [f. Merchant *sb.* + -hood.] The quality or condition of being a merchant.

1866 Carlyle *Remin., Irving* (1881) I. 171 Finding merchanthood in Glasgow ruinous to weak health. 1873 *Argosy* XV. 308 He had plodded diligently through clerkhood to merchanthood.

†**Merchantical,** *a. Obs.* In 7 mar-. [f. Merchant *sb.* + -ic + -al.] ? Mercenary.

a 1618 Raleigh *Royal Navy* 7 The..true building of a Ship is not to be left barely to the fidelity of a Marchanticall Artificer.

Merchantile, obs. form of Mercantile.

Merchanting (mə·ɹtʃăntiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. Merchant *v.* + -ing[1].] The action or practice of trading as a merchant.

1894 Sir E. Clarke in *Times* 19 Feb. 3/2 Did you know they had any 'merchanting' transactions? *Ibid.*, Supposing you knew they had made a loss on 'merchanting' every successive year? 1899 *Daily News* 27 Mar. 3/5 These firms are chiefly engaged in the manufacturing and merchanting of belts and strapping for the textile trades.

Me·rchantish, *a. nonce-wd.* [f. Merchant *sb.* + -ish[1].] After the manner of a merchant.

1848 Clough *Poems*, etc. (1869) I. 120 It [the Assembly] is extremely shopkeeperish and merchantish in its feelings.

Me·rchantlike, *a.* and *adv.* [f. Merchant *sb.* + -like.] **a.** *adj.* Resembling or befitting a merchant; also, †pertaining to merchants or commerce, mercantile (*obs.*). **b.** *adv.* After the manner of a merchant.

1422-61 in *Cal. Proc. Chanc. Eliz.* I. (1827) Introd. 20 Johan Goldsmyth receyved the verray value marchantlick in wolles of the same Johan Kymburleys. 1585 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* I. viii. 7 b, This citie is very merchantlike, for that she is situated vpon the Sea. 1593 Shaks. 2 *Hen. VI*, IV. i. 41 When Merchant-like I sell reuenge, Broke be my sword. 1641 H. Robinson *Trades Encrease* 4 All marchant and marchantlike Causes and differences. 1656 Earl Monm. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* I. xlvii. (1674) 63 Shepherds Arithmetick..differs..from the Merchant-like Arithmetick used in other affairs. 1736 Ainsworth *Lat. Dict.* I, Merchantly, or Merchant like, *mercatorius*. 1855 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xxi. IV. 552 This transaction seemed merchantlike and fair.

†**Me·rchantly,** *a. Obs.* [f. Merchant *sb.* + -ly[1].] **a.** Of or pertaining to a merchant. **b.** In disparaging sense: Huckstering, pettifogging.

1599 Nashe *Lenten Stuffe* 21 An eniuersal [*sic*] marchantly formallity, in habitte, speach, gestures. 1647 Clarendon *Hist. Reb.* v. § 324 Tho' it might have some influence upon Merchantly Men, yet it stirred up most Generous minds to an Indignation on the King's behalf. 1660 Gauden *Brownrig* 142 His Parents [were] of Merchantly condition, of worthy reputation, and of very Christian conversation. *a* 1674 Clarendon *Hist. Reb.* x. § 179 Their absurd and merchandly trafficking with him for the price of returning to their Allegiance. 1736 [see Merchantlike].

Me·rchantman. [f. Merchant *a.* + Man.]

1. = Merchant *sb.* 1. *arch.*

1449 *Aberdeen Reg.* (1844) I. 402 That na merchand man of this burgh opin his both dorr to do ony merchandise..apon the Sondai. 1530 Palsgr. 737/1 He hath the best storyd house of good housholde stuffe of any marchant man that I knowe. 1550 Coverdale *Spir. Perle* xxix. (1560) 289 A marchant man maketh far voiages and great iourneis, and ventureth body and goods. 1638 Ford *Fancies* v. iii, All men of severall conditions; Soldier, Gentry, foole, scholler, Merchant man, and Clowne. 1719 D'Urfey *Pills* III. 126 'Mongst Merchant-men, there's not one in ten, But what is a cunning Angler. 1882 Ogilvie *Maremma* iii, The port dues and shipping taxes have..nearly destroyed all the commerce of the minor merchantmen of Italy. 1898 K. Tynan in *Westm. Gaz.* 12 Oct. 1/3 Battering at Dublin gates till the comfortable merchantmen within were fairly distracted.

2. A vessel of the mercantile marine.

1627 Capt. Smith *Seaman's Gram.* xii. 56 Not manned like a Merchant-man. 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 21 ¶ 9 Fleets of Merchantmen are so many Squadrons of floating Shops. 1818 Mrs. Shelley *Frankenst.* iii. (1865) 19 This letter will reach England by a merchantman now on its homeward voyage. 1856 Olmsted *Slave States* 148 Merchantmen were paying twenty-five dollars for common able seamen.

Merchantry (mə·ɹtʃăntri). [f. Merchant *sb.* + -ry. Cf. Merchandry.]

1. The business of a merchant; trade, commercial dealings.

1789 H. Walpole *Let to Miss H. More* Sept., I wish human wit, which is really very considerable in mechanics and merchantry, could [etc.]. *a* 1800 S. Pegge *Anecd. Eng. Lang.* 267 Most of the streets..have their titles from their Merchantry. 1864 Mayhew *German Life* I. 163 In England, ..where merchantry is something beyond that of mere pedlar's work.

2. The body of merchants collectively.

1862 Carlyle *Fredk. Gt.* xiii. vi. (1872) V. 73 Our Town-Council, and whole Merchantry and Citizenry, safe under this Prussian Sceptre.

Me·rchantship. *rare.* [f. Merchant *sb.* + -ship.] The office or function of a merchant. Used with *possess. adj.* as a title for a merchant.

1622 Fletcher *Beggar's Bush* v. ii, Your Merchantship May breake, for this was one of your best bottoms, I thinke.

Me·rchant-stra·nger. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.* [f. Merchant *sb.* + Stranger.] A merchant who comes from another country by sea; a foreign or alien trader.

1553 Eden *Treat. New Ind.* (Arb.) 21 Therfore the marchaund straungers lodge not out of their shippes. 1557 Machyn *Diary* (Camden) 140 The xxiiij day of June was goodly serves kept at the Frere Austens by the marchandes strangers as has bene sene. 1606 G. Woodcocke *Hist. Justine* xxxvi. 114 The elder brothers..secretly laid for him, and..sold him to a Marchant-stranger. 1641 Earl of Cork *Diary* in *Lismore Papers* Ser. I. (1886) V. 200 Mr. Michaell casteel of London, merchant stranger. 1654 Goddard *Introd. Burton's Diary* (1828) I. 125 Resolved, that the merchants, commonly calling themselves merchants of the intercourse,..shall pay..all such sum and sums of money as shall be assessed..upon them..as any merchant-strangers. 1766 Barrington *Observ. Stat.* (ed. 2) 21 By an ancient law of the Wisigoths, merchant strangers are not only to be well treated, but tried by their own laws.

Me·rchant-tai·lor. *Obs.* exc. with archaic spelling in the names of the 'Company of Merchant Taylors' and the 'Merchant Taylors' School'. [f. Merchant *sb.* + Tailor.] A tailor who supplies the materials of which his goods are made. Hence, a member of the company of *Merchant-Taylors.*

1504 Wriothesley *Chron.* (Camden) I. 5 This yeare the Taylors sued to the Kinge to be called Marchant taylors. 1533 Cromwell in Merriman *Life & Lett.* I. 356 Nicholas Glossop, an olde Auncient of youre Felisship of merchannt Taillours. 1556 *Chron. Gr. Friars* (Camden) 87 John Harres a merchant-taylor in Watlynge stret. 1687 [see Linen-armourer]. 1707 E. Chamberlayne *Pres. St. Eng.* III. xi. 386 That eminent School [Merchant-Taylors'] near Cannon-street, built by Sir Tho. White, Alderman, and Merchant-Taylor of London. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XIV. 118/2 The first twelve are called the Twelve Great Companies... 7. Merchant Tailors.

b. One educated at Merchant-Taylors' School.

1877 *N. & Q.* 3rd Ser. VII. 347 Sir Henry Ellis (himself a Merchant Taylor). *Ibid.*, Old Merchant Taylors..who take an interest in their school.

Me·rchant-ve·nturer. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.* = Merchant-adventurer. Also *fig.*

1550 Lever *Serm.* (Arb.) 131 The marchaunt venturer, which..caryeth furth suche thynges, as maye well be spared, and bryngeth home suche wares as muste needes be occupyed in thys realm. 1556 Machyn *Diary* (Camd.) 116 Gressem..marchand of the [staple] of Callys and marchand venterer. 1592 G. Harvey *Pierce's Super.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 45 This brave Columbus of tearmes, and this onely merchant venturer of quarrels. 1642 Rogers *Naaman* 188 The cause of God losing exceedingly by such Merchant venturers. 1769 *De Foe's Tour Gt. Brit.* (ed. 7) II. 125 The Merchant-Venturers of the City of Bristol. 1890 Gross *Gild Merch.* I. 152 Edward VI incorporated the 'merchant venturers' inhabiting the town of Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

†**Merchanty.** *Obs.* In 5–6 marchauntie. [Altered form of Merchandy, after Merchant *sb.*] **a.** Merchandise, goods. **b.** The whole body of merchants.

c 1480 *Childe of Bristowe* 64 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* (1864) I. 113 That good getyn by marchantye..therwith wille y melle. *a* 1502 Arnolde *Chron.* (1811) 101 The marchaunttie of Amyas of Neele and of Corby purchased a letter ensealed w^t ye common seal of y^e^ cite.

Merchasy, -aulcy, obs. ff. Marshalsea.

Merchaundise, obs. form of Merchandise.

Merchaunt(t, -tyse, obs. ff. Merchant, -dise.

Merche, obs. form of March, Marrow *sb.*[1]

Merchet (mə·ɹtʃét). *Obs.* exc. *Hist.* Also 6–8 marchet. [Anglo-Fr. *merchet* (whence med.L. *mercheta*) = ONF. *market* Market *sb.*] A fine paid by a tenant or bondsman to his overlord for liberty to give his daughter in marriage.

1208 in *Mem. Ripon* (Surtees) I. 52 Merchet. 1492 *Acta Dom. Conc.* (1839) 291/2 For þe wrangwis..awaytakin & withhaldin fra þaim of certane hereȝeldis, bludwetis & merchetis. 1552 Lyndesay *Monarche* 5711 Ȝe Lordis and Baronis,..That ȝour pure Tennantis dois oppres..With merchetis of thare marriage. 1577 Holinshed *Hist. Scot.* 258 Halfe a marke of silner to bee payde to the Lorde of the soyle, in redemption of the womans chastitie, which..is called the marchets of women. 1609 Skene *Reg. Maj.* 73 And she be the dochter of ane frie man,..her marchet sall be ane kow, or sax schillings. *Ibid.*, The marchet of the dochter of ane Earle perteines to the Queene, and is twelne kye. 1628 Coke *On Litt.* 140 Euerie tenant..shall pay to the Lord, for the marriage of his daughter without licence, a Fine; and it is called Marchet. 1900 Cheyney in *Eng. Hist. Rev.* XV. 31 Merchet is a more steady test [of a man's villainage], but even this is not always trustworthy.

Merchy, obs. Sc. form of Marrowy.

Merci, obs. form of Mercy.

†**Merciable,** *a. Obs.* Also 4 mercyabil, 4–5 merciabul, 4–6 mercyable, -byl, merciabil(l, 5 marciable. [OF. *merciable*, f. *merci*: see Mercy.] Merciful, compassionate.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 30 Merciable Louerd. *a* 1340 Hampole *Psalter* lxxvii. 42 He sall be made mercyabil till þaire synnys. 1382 Wyclif *Hebr.* ix. 5 (MS. Trin. Dubl.) The propiciatorie [*gloss*] or merciable place. 1421–2 Hoccleve *Dialog.* 368 Thankid be our lord Ihesu merciable. 1513 Braoshaw *St. Werburge* I. 2751 Who-so wyll haue mercy Must be mercyable. 1579 Spenser *Sheph. Cal.* Sept. 174 He is so meeke, wise, merciable, And with his word his worke is conuenable.

absol. 1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 3793 Blessyd be al mercyable! þey shul se God. *c* 1395 *Plowman's T.* 96 Christ so gan us teche, And meke and merciable gan bless.

†**Merciably,** *adv. Obs.* [f. Merciable + -ly[2].] Mercifully.

1387–8 T. Usk *Test. Love* III. ix. (Skeat) I. 73 So that goddes hand, whiche that merciably me hath scorged, herafter..merciably me kepe and defende. 1535 Joye *Apol. Tindale* (Arb.) 25 Yea he is redye, yf I fall, merciably to lifte me vp agayn.

Mercial(l, obs. forms of Martial.

†**Me·rciament.** *Obs. rare.* Also 5 merceament, 6 mercyament. [Aphetic form of Amerciament.] Amercement.

1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) II. 95 Blodewitte, a merciamente for effusion of bloode. 1494 Fabyan *Chron.* (1811) 344 Baylyes..were conuycte..for takynge of merceamentys otherwyse then the lawe them commaundyd. 1521 *Maldon* (Essex) *Liber B.* 57 Truly affur and sett al maner of mercyaments made highe no man for no malice, lowe no man for no love.

Mercian (mə·ɹsiăn, mə·ɹʃăn), *a.* and *sb.* Also 6 Mercyen, -tian. [f. *Mercia* (latinized from OE. *Mierce, Mierce*, pl., lit. 'people of the march, marchers, borderers', f. *mearc* Mark *sb.*[1]) + -an.]

A. *adj.* Of or belonging to the Old English kingdom of Mercia or its language.

Although the political limits of Mercia were different at different periods, it may broadly be said to have occupied the middle of South Britain, between Deira on the north and Wessex on the south, and between Wales on the west and Lindsey and East Anglia on the east. The Mercian dialect of Old English belongs to the Anglian (as opposed to the Saxon) division, and is the dialect from which modern standard English mainly descends.

1655 Fuller *Ch. Hist.* II. 89 Wolphere, the Mercian King. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XI. 400/a The extent of the Mercian territories was so ample as to admit..the constituting subordinate rulers. 1842 Wright *Lyric P.* Pref. 6 We have another Mercian legend in Latin, *De Martyrio Sancti Wistani.* 1887 Skeat *Holy Gosp. in A. S.* Pref. 7 The Old Mercian dialect. *Ibid.*, The Old Mercian glosses in the Rushworth MS. are of peculiar interest.

B. *sb.*

1. A native or inhabitant of Mercia.

1513 Bradshaw *St. Werburge* I. 121 Her fathers kyngedome the realme of Mercyens. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* III. iii. 30 It shall make The warlike Mertians for feare to quake. 1656 Blount *Glossogr.* s.v. *Merchenlage*, The third [division of England] was possessed and governed by the Mercians.

1876 LUMBY *Introd. to Higden* (Rolls) VI. p. xxxv, Victory declared for the Mercians.

2. The dialect of Old English spoken in Mercia.

1887 SKEAT *Holy Gosp. in A. S.* Pref. 7 A man whose ordinary dialect was Mercian. 1889 *Ibid.* Introd., The present edition of the Four Gospels (in Latin, Anglo-Saxon, Northumbrian and Old Mercian) brings together [etc.].

† **Merciere.** *Obs.* [a. OF. *merciere* adj., merciful, f. *merci* MERCY.] One who pities.

a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* lxxxv. 14 Þou lord merciere and merciful: suffrand and of mykil mercy and sothfast. *Ibid.*, Merciere, doand dede of mercy.

Merciful (mə·ɪsifŭl), *a.* [f. MERCY *sb.* + -FUL.] Of persons, their actions, attributes, etc.: Having or exercising mercy; characterized by mercy.

a 1300 *E. E. Psalter* cxliv. 8 Mercifulle and milde herted in lande Laneerd, and mikel milde-herted and tholand. 1382 WYCLIF *Matt.* v. 7 Blessed be mercyful men, for thei shuln gete mercye. *a* 1425 *Cursor M.* (Trin.) 18359 Lord..þi wille is merciful wiþynne So þou dost awey oure synne. 1509 FISHER *Funeral Serm. C'tess Richmond* Wks. (1876) 291 Mercyfull also & pyteous she was vnto suche as was grenyd & wrongfully tronbled. 1531 TINDALE *Expos. 1 John* (1537) 2 Understandynge them [ye promises of mercye]..after the mercifullest fashion. 1552 ABP. HAMILTON *Catech.* (1884) 25 How gratious and mercifull he is to al trew penitent persones. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* v. i. 178 Though the Seas threaten they are mercifull, I haue curs'd them without cause. 1662 STILLINGFL. *Orig. Sacr.* II. vi. § 11 The mercifull nature of God. 1715 DE FOE *Fam. Instruct.* I. i. (1841) I. 19 But God is mercifnl too, child. 1851 DIXON *W. Penn* xxvii. (1872) 247 She had obeyed the merciful promptings of her heart in sheltering a fellow-creature. 1886 CONST. F. WOOLSON *East Angels* xxxvii. 577 Merciful Heaven!..do yon care for him?—is that it?

absol. 138. WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 328 Blissed be þe mercyful. *c* 1460 *Wisdom* 1136 in *Macro Plays* 72 þe oner parte of yownr reasnn, Be wyche ye haue lyknes of Gode mest, Ande of þat mercyfull very congnycion.

b. In sarcastic use.

1805 *Med. Jrnl.* XIV. 566 It was merciful not to add a thousand [facts] whilst he was about it.

Mercifully (mə·ɪsifŭli), *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY 2.] In a merciful manner. Also *occas.* through God's mercy.

a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* cxvi. 2 Þe redempcionn of man mercyfully hight is confermyd on vs. *c* 1450 *Godstow Regist.* 4/13 Late us be nener to hym vnkynde Mercyfully þat made vs to be men. 1548–9 (Mar.) *Bk. Com. Prayer, Litany*, Mercifully forgene the synnes of thy people. 1779 J. DUCHÉ *Disc.* (1790) I. i. 20 This mortified, penitent, afflicted state is mercifully intended to bring us to a proper sense of our helplessness. 1836 LADY WILLOUGHBY DE ERESBY in C. K. Sharpe *Corr.* (1888) II. 495 Mrs. Villiers, in galloping to cover.. was pitched off,.. but mercifully escaped with life and limb. 1903 A. B. DAVIDSON *Old Test. Prophecy* xv. 251 The house of God was at last overthrown though its overthrow was mercifully postponed.

Mercifulness (mə·ɪsifŭlnĕs). [f. MERCIFUL + -NESS.] The quality of being merciful.

1526 TINDALE *Rom.* xii. 1, I beseche you therfore brethren by the mercifulnes of God, that ye make youre bodyes a quicke sacrifise. 1650 JER. TAYLOR *Holy Living* (1727) 258 The next enemy to mercifulness..is anger. *a* 1708 BEVERIDGE *Thes. Theol.* (1710) I. 193 The names given in Scripture to it [forgiveness]..Mercifulness to our sins. 1852 ROBERTSON *Lect.* ii. (1858) 198 A school of warfare where the razzias of Africa have not tanght either scrupulosity or mercifulness.

† **Mercify,** *v. Obs. rare.* [f. MERCY + -(I)FY.] *trans.* To pity, compassionate; to extend mercy to.

1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* VI. vii. 32 Many did deride, Whilest she did weepe of no man mercifide. 1733 CRAWFORD *Infidelity* (1836) 210 We must not only be mercified but justified.

Merciless (mə·ɪsilĕs), *a.* [f. MERCY + -LESS.]

1. Of persons, their actions, attributes, etc.: Devoid of mercy; showing no mercy; pitiless, unrelenting.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 250 Per was malys mercyles & mawgre much scheued. *c* 1420 LYDG. *Siege Thebes* 2206 So mercyles in his cruelte Thilke day he was vpon hem founde. 1550 CROWLEY *Epigr.* 1236 Indgemente shall be geuen,..Wythonte all mercye to snche as be merciles. 1631 GOUGE *God's Arrows* iii. § 94. 360 They..plotted the matchlesse, mercilesse, devilish, and damnable gun-powder-treason. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 249, I had rather..be devour'd alive, than fall into the merciless Claws of the Priests. 1843 PRESCOTT *Mexico* (1850) I. 291 A stern prince, merciless in his exactions. 1900 MORLEY *Cromwell* vi. 94 The merciless suppression of the rising of the Ulster chieftains.

absol. 1592 DANIEL *Delia* Sonn. xi, I pray in vaine, a merciles to mone.

b. *transf.* of inanimate things.

1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* I. (Arb.) 21 The southwynd merciles eager Three gallant vessels on rocks gnawne craggye reposed. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* IV. viii. 51 All dismayd through mercilesse despaire. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 185 The mercilesse fury of the Sea. 1714 POPE *Let. to Teresa Blount*, Whatever ravages a merciless distemper may commit,..she shall have one man as much her admirer as ever. 1880 L. STEPHEN *Pope* IV. 103 A doggrel epitaph..turned his fine phrases into merciless ridicule.

† c. As *sb.* Mercilessness. *Obs. rare.*

1584 C. ROBINSON *Handf. Delites* (Arb.) 25 The torments..Which he..had suffered long Al through this Ladies mercilesse.

† d. As *adv. Obs.*

1556 LAUDER *Tractate* 470 O Lord..help the pure that ar in stres Opprest and hereit mercyles.

† **2.** Obtaining no mercy. *Obs.*

c 1560 A. SCOTT *Poems* (S. T. S.) xvii. 11 All vertew in hir visage dois remane, Bot merciles I go from 3eir to 3eir. 1567 *Gude & Godlie Ball.* (S.T.S.) 119 God hes left us mercyles.

Mercilessly (mə·ɪsilĕsli), *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY 2.] In a merciless manner.

1609 BP. HALL *Song of Songs Paraphr.* iv. 8 Cruell and bloudy persecutors, who like Lions and Leopards haue tyrannized over thee, and mercilesly torne thee in peeces. 1660 C. ELLIS *Gentile Sinner* 197 Whilest she has been mercilessly torne in pieces, by the cruel teeth of those ravenous beasts. 1755 in JOHNSON. 1833 H. COLERIDGE *Biog. Bor., Marvell* 26 So mercilessly had the Church of Scotland been stripped.. that she could not afford an episcopal establishment. 1883 STEVENSON *Treas. Isl.* III. xiv, The sun still shining mercilessly on the steaming marsh.

Mercilessness (mə·ɪsilĕsnĕs). [f. MERCILESS *a.* + -NESS.] The quality or condition of being merciless.

1591 TURNBULL *St. James* 103 With crueltie to seeke the vttermost of them; is mercilesnes and cruelti e. 1607 HIERON *Wks.* I. 270 Mercilesnesse, cruelty..these and the like..bee our sinnes to this day. 1876 GEO. ELIOT *Dan. Der.* vi, She turned her eyes on him with calm mercilessness.

Merciment, obs. variant of MERCEMENT.

† **Mercimony.** *Obs.* In 4–5 mercymonye. [ad. L. *mercimōni-um* merchandise, f. *merci-, merx* merchandise; in med.L. also reward, from association with *mercēdem* (F. *merci*).]

1. Reward.

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XIV. 126 Ac god is of a wonder wille þy þat kynde witte sheweth, To 3iue many men his mercymonye ar he it haue deserned.

2. Merchandise.

a 1412 LYDG. *Two Merchants* 31 What mercymony that men list devise, Is ther ful reedy and ful copious. 1494 FABYAN *Chron.* VII. 339 They came with theyr mercymonyes vnto the fayre of Waltham. *a* 1550 *Image Ipocr.* ii. 257 in *Skelton's Wks.* (1843) II. 426 Making parsemonyes Of Peters patrimonyes But great mercymonyes Of his seremonyes.

Mercure, obs. form of MERCURY.

Mercurean (məɪkiŭə·rĭăn). [f. MERCURY + -EAN.] An inhabitant of the planet Mercury.

1855 J. NICHOL in *Mem.* (1896) II. 113, I wonder what view of creation the inhabitants of Jupiter, or the sunny Mercureans now illustrate and expound.

Mercurial (məɪkiŭə·rĭăl), *a.* and *sb.* [a. F. *mercuriel* and (as sb., in the sense B 1) *mercurial*, ad. L. *mercuriāl-is*, f. *Mercuri-us* MERCURY: see -AL.]

A. *adj.*

1. Of or pertaining to the god Mercury; resembling what pertains to Mercury. Now *rare.*

† *Mercurial statue, stone*: cf. MERCURY 2.

1599 B. JONSON *Cynthia's Rev.*, 1st Masque, A Petasus or Mercurial hat. 1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* IV. ii. 310, I know the shape of 's Legge: this is his Hand, His Foote Mercuriall: his martiall Thigh, The brawns of Hercules. 1637 EARL STIRLING *Paræneis to the Prince* lxxv, O! how this (deare Prince) the people charmes,..To see thee yong, yet manage so thine Armes, Have a Mercuriall minde and Martiall hands. 1638 CHILLINGW. *Relig. Prot.* I. iii. § 34. 146 As the Wisemen were led by the Starre, or as a traveller is directed by a Mercuriall statue. 1716 HEARNE *Collect.* (O. H. S.) V. 282, I take them to be old mile Stones, or Mercurial Stones. 1874 SYMONDS *Sk. Italy & Greece* (1898) I. xiii. 285 A mercurial poise upon the ankle.

b. *nonce-use.* Applied to the 'profession' of thieving.

1744 WHITEHEAD *Gymnasiad* I. 37 *note*, Tricking, lying, evasion,..are a sort of properties pertaining to the practice of the law, as well as to the mercurial profession.

2. Pertaining to the planet Mercury. † Also in *Astrology*, influenced by Mercury, proceeding from the influence of Mercury. *Mercurial finger*: the little finger. *Obs.*

1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 130 The sexte..Canis minor is; The which sterre is Mercurial Be weie of kinde. 1610 B. JONSON *Alchemist* I. iii, *Svb.*..I knew't, by certaine spots too, in his teeth, And on the naile of his mercurial finger. *Fac.* Which finger's that? *Svb.* His little finger. 1625 HART *Anat. Ur.* II. x. 120 Wilt thon..maintaine, that all Mercuriall diseases are seated in the head onely? *a* 1668 SIR W. WALLER *Div. Medit.* (1839) 40 Generally men are like that mercurial planet, good or bad according to their conjunction with others. 1690 LEYBOURN *Curs. Math.* 451 b, I shall forbear to add those distinctions which some have given them [*sc.* Comets] in reference to the Planets, they making some Solar, others Lunar, Mercurial..and Saturnine. 1862 G. WILSON *Relig. Chem.* 59 The mercurial day being, like our own, twenty-four hours long. 1881 PROCTOR *Poetry Astron.* vii. 252 The Mercurial climate.

3. Of persons: Born under the planet Mercury; having the qualities supposed to proceed from such a nativity, as eloquence, ingenuity, aptitude for commerce.

These qualities are identical with those assigned by the ancients to the god Mercury, or supposed to be due to his inspiration. Hence in some of the following quots. the allusion may be rather mythological than astrological, or perh. a mixture of the two.

1593 G. HARVEY *Pierces Super.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 63 You that intende to be fine companionable gentlemen,.. enure your Mercuriall fingers to frame semblable workes of Supererogation. 1647 LILLY *Chr. Astrol.* lxxix. 438 Mercuriall men, viz. Schollars, or Divines would be his enemies. 1652 URQUHART *Jewel* Wks. (1834) 240 He speaks too well to be valiant; he is certainly more Mercurial than military. 1691 WOOD *Ath. Oxon.* I. 287 His mind being more Martial than Mercurial, he [W. Monson] applied himself to Sea-service.

4. Volatile, sprightly, and ready-witted. Originally a specific use of sense 3; now commonly apprehended as alluding to the properties of the metal mercury.

1647 TRAPP *Comm. Jas.* i. 1 The most nimble and Mercuriall wits in the world, but light. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* v. i. § 40 He none of the most Mercurial amongst the Conclave of Cardinals, but a good heavy man. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 30 ¶ 3 One of them was a mercurial gay-humour'd Man. 1827 DISRAELI *Viv. Grey* v. ix, The gay, gallant, mercurial Frenchman. 1873 DIXON *Two Queens* I. II. iii. 84 The people were a quick, mercurial, and artistic race. 1903 *Contemp. Rev.* Sept. 327 That curious, monkeyish, mercurial person M. Guyot de Montpeyroux.

5. Of or pertaining to mercury or quicksilver; consisting of or containing mercury. Also, of certain diseases or symptoms (e.g. *mercurial eczema, glossitis, rash*): Produced by the exhibition of mercury. Hence, occas., of an organ, etc.: Showing 'mercurial' symptoms.

Mercurial ointment: the 'blue ointment' composed of metallic mercury triturated with lard. *Mercurial (pneumatic) trough*: a pneumatic trough filled with mercury.

1657 G. STARKEY *Helmont's Vind.* Epist. Rdr., I have.. rejected all Mercurial and Antimonial Medicaments, either Vomitive, Purgative, or Salivative. 1660 BOYLE *New Exp. Phys. Mech.* xvii. 108 The height of the Mercurial Cylinder. 1693 HALLEY in *Phil. Trans.* XVII. 652 The precise nicety of the Mercurial Barometers. 1744 BERKELEY *Siris* § 100 A mercurial salivation is looked on by many as the only cure. 1786 J. HUNTER *Venereal Dis.* (1810) VI. iii. 503 The gums, inside of the cheeks, and the breath, were truly mercurial. 1789 CULLEN *Mat. Med.* II. 306 Our common mercurial ointment. 1807 *Med. Jrnl.* XVII. 379 What the author calls the mercurial rash, or, as it is called by some others, the Lepra mercurialis. *a* 1823 M. BAILLIE *Wks.* (1825) I. 13 Mercurial frictions were also employed. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 525 This [Graham's] pendulum, which is called the mercurial pendulum. 1836–41 BRANDE *Chem.* (ed. 5) 401 It may often be..collected in dry phials, without a mercurial trough. 1843 R. J. GRAVES *Syst. Clin. Med.* xxviii. 362 An eruption, to which the name mercurial eczema has been given. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* 477 *Mercurial Gauge*, a curved tube partly filled with mercury, to show the pressure of steam in an engine. 1873 W. F. CLARKE *Dis. Tongue* 105 But happily 'mercurial glossitis' is now seldom seen. 1878 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* 78 He obtained it from the red mercurial powder. 1884 F. J. BRITTEN *Watch & Clockm.* 189 In the mercurial pendulum the jar of mercury does not answer so quickly to a change of temperature as the steel rod.

† **6.** *Old Chem.* Pertaining to, or consisting of, 'mercury' as one of the five 'principles' of bodies (see MERCURY 8). *Obs.*

1605 TIMME *Quersit.* I. v. 20 Sal amoniac doth participate of the mercurial beginning. 1633 HART *Diet of Diseased* II. xvii. 206 The mercuriall or waterish part [of milk] called serum.

B. *sb.*

† **1.** The plant mercury. *Obs.* [= L. (*herba*) *mercurialis*, OF. *mercuriel*, mod. F. *mercuriale.*]

1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 536 Take as much Mercurial sodden, as one's hand can hold,..and drink the same. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 41 Medecines Emollient; Such as are Milk, Honey, Mallowes, Lettuce, Mercuriall [etc.].

† **2.** A person born under the influence of the planet Mercury, or having the qualities characteristic of such a nativity; a lively or sprightly person; also, one addicted to cheating and thieving. *Obs.*

1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. i. II. *Imposture* 443 Who, for sustayning of unequall Scale, Dreads not the Doom of a Mercuriall. 1614 TOMKIS *Albumazar* I. i. (1615) B, Come brane Mercurials sublim'd in cheating,..fellow-souldiers I'th' watchfull exercise of Theevery. 1622 BACON *Hen. VII* 113 This Youth.. was such a Mercuriall, as the like hath seldome beene knowne. 1650 GENTILIS *Considerat.* 156 The Mercurials with their swiftnesse run over all things. 1696 PHILLIPS, *Mercurial*, or *Mercurialist*, one born under the Planet Mercury.

3. A preparation of mercury used as a drug in the cure of certain diseases.

1676 WISEMAN *Surg.* VII. iv. 40 By Mercurials we do more certainly resolve them [nodes] and in a less time. 1716 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* II. 352 The great Pox, which can scarce ever be cur'd without Viperals or Mercurials. 1735 BRACKEN in *Burdon's Pocket-Farrier* 71 *note*, The Cure is perform'd by Mercurials outwardly and inwardly. 1829–32 CHRISTISON *Treat. Poisons* xiii. (ed. 2) 380 The blue ointment, which is made of running mercury, will act as a mercurial when rubbed upon the skin. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 151 The judicious employment of mercurials might prove highly beneficial.

Mercurialism (məɪkiŭə·rĭăliz'm). *Path.* [f. MERCURIAL *a.* + -ISM.] The pathological condition induced by the absorption of mercury into the body.

1829–32 CHRISTISON *Treat. Poisons* xiii. (ed. 2) 372 [He] had..all the symptoms of mercurialism eight years after he had ceased to take mercury. 1862 *New Syd. Soc. Year-bk. Med. & Surg.* 319 An investigation of Constitutional Mercurialism. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV. 596 It [i.e. Mercurial inunction] must be used with caution so as to avoid any symptoms of mercurialism.

Mercurialist (məɪkiŭə·rĭălist). [f. MERCURIAL + -IST.]

† **1.** One under the influence of the planet Mercury. *Obs.*

1569 J. SANFORD tr. *Agrippa's Van. Artes* 50 b, She pronounceth..another a Venerean, Mercurialist or Lunist. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* I. iii. I. iii. (1628) 181 Mercurialists are solitary, much in contemplation, subtile, Poets, Philosophers. 1651 CULPEPPER *Astrol. Judgem. Dis.* (1658) 96 That's the reason Mercurialists (if Mercury be strong) are so swift in motions, so fluent of speech.

† **b.** One having the qualities attributed to persons born under Mercury; an eloquent or ingenious person; a trader; *occas.* in bad sense, a sharper, thief. *Obs.*

1566 DRANT *Horace, Sat.* II. iii. F vj b, My witte so deepe

soe sore to deale, such lucke, to win or saue, That me a Mercurialiste to surname then they gaue. 1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* P v, I may rather shew my selfe a Mercurialist, then a Martialist. 1589 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* Pr. Add. 152 Æneas, for personage the louilist, for well-spoken the Mercurilist. 1591 GREENE *Farew. Follie* (1617) C 2, Hee that..with a deepe insight marketh the nature of our Mercurialistes shall find as fitte a harbour for Pride vnder a Schollers Cappe as vnder a Souldiers Helmet. 1608 J. KING *Serm.* 5 Nov. 26 Where the great Mercurialists of the world for wit & deuises..haue a finger in the menaging of al Christian states. 1644 BULWER *Chiron.* 134 For such Mercurialists who addresse themselves to filch. 1655 H. L'ESTRANGE *Chas. I* 169 A foul blemish it would have been to the Mercurialists, to the Society of Jesus, should they have sate out in a work so proper to their imployment (the incitation of Kingdomes and States to turbulent commotions) as these Scot'sh broyls.

†**2.** A guide, director. (Cf. MERCURY 2.) *Obs.*

1635 GELLIBRAND *Variation Magn. Needle* 5 By the Prosthaphaereticall application thereof, the true point of the compasse (which is his principall Mercurialist) may be rectified.

3. A medical man who makes free use of preparations of mercury in the treatment of certain diseases.

During the first half of the 19th c. the authorities on the treatment of syphilis were divided into 'mercurialists' and 'non-mercurialists'.

1835 *Mem. Sir J. Y. Simpson* iii. 48 He appears to be a great mercurialist and promoter of the business of the apothecary. 1843 R. J. GRAVES *Syst. Clin. Med.* xxix. 367 The rational practitioner is neither a mercurialist nor a non-mercurialist.

Mercuriality (məɹkiūˑriæˑlĭti). [f. MERCURIAL + -ITY.]

1. The condition of being mercurial; sprightliness; also, an instance of this.

1653 R. SANDERS *Physiogn.* 68 A curious mind, given to travel .. his subtilty .. all relates to his Mercuriality. 1838 DE QUINCEY *Lamb* Wks. 1858 IX. 154 The mercurialities of Lamb were infinite. 1898 *Spectator* 23 Apr. 580 The mercuriality of the Celtic temperament.

†**2.** The mercurial part (of something). *Obs.*

1471 RIPLEY *Comp. Alch.* in Ashm. (1652) 192 A naturall Mercuryalyte which cost ryght nought, Out of hys myner by Arte yt must be brought. 1657 G. STARKEY *Helmont's Vind.* 316 The Sulphur of any metall or minerall (that may be separated from the Mercuriality..) may be made into the form of an essentiall Salt.

Mercurialization (məɹkiūˑriăləizēˑʃən). [f. next + -ATION.]

1. *Med.* The action of subjecting to mercurial treatment; the condition of being affected by mercury.

1843 R. J. GRAVES *Syst. Clin. Med.* vi. 78 By judicious mercurialization of the patient, the destructive progress of the disease is arrested. 1883 *Holmes & Hulke's Syst. Surg.* (ed. 3) II. 557 Other more marked proximate causes have been mercurialisation..and erysipelas. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV. 812 General mercurialisation is avoided.

2. A mercurial process employed in the development of photographs.

1853 R. HUNT *Man. Photogr.* 93 After the daguerreotype processes in the camera, and of mercurialization, have been completed, a very perfect picture is found.

Mercurialize (məɹkiūˑriăləiz), *v.* [f. MERCURIAL + -IZE.]

†**1.** *intr.* To play the part of a 'mercurial' person; also *to mercurialize it*. *Obs.*

1611 COTGR., *Mercurializer*, to mercurialize it; to be humorous, fantasticall, new-fangled. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Mercurialize*, to be humorous or phantastical, to be light footed; to prattle or babble; Also to be eloquent.

2. *trans.* To render mercurial in temper.

1862 *Temple Bar* VI. 195 A variety of amusements which ..mercurialise the race that delights in them.

3. *Med.* To subject to the action of mercury.

1843 R. J. GRAVES *Syst. Clin. Med.* viii. 96 You may have fully mercurialized your patient. 1880 M. MACKENZIE *Dis. Throat & Nose* I. 35 Those who have..been mercurialised are very subject to the affection [of pharyngeal catarrh].

4. *Photography.* To treat with mercury; to expose to the vapour of mercury.

1843 [W. H. T.] *Photogr. Manip.* 27 Mercurializing the Plate. 1856 MILLER *Elem. Chem., Inorg.* 1144.

Hence **Mercu·rialized** *ppl. a.*, **Mercu·rializing** *vbl. sb.*

1841 *Amer. Jrnl. Sci.* XL. 138 A..mercurializing apparatus. 1845 *Photogr. made easy* 29 The mercurializing process. *Ibid.*, The mercurializing box. 1855 GROVE *Corr. Phys. Forces* (ed. 3) 91 The mercurialised portions of a daguerreotype. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 933 Men are said to have become mercurialised by volatilisation of the metal.

Mercurially (məɹkiūˑriăli), *adv.* [f. MERCURIAL *a.* + -LY 2.]

1. In a mercurial or lively manner. *rare.*

1652 URQUHART *Jewel* Wks. (1834) 229 He [Crichtoun] would keep in that miscelany discourse of his such a climacterical and mercurially digested method, that [etc.].

2. By a mercurial process.

1881 ABNEY *Photogr.* 36 The metal plate is by contrast dark when compared with the mercurially-developed image. 1893 *Westm. Gaz.* 23 June 4/2 Fitted into holders of solid silver, mercurially gilt.

Mercu·rialness. *rare.* [-NESS.] Liveliness, sprightliness.

1817 W. IRVING *Life & Lett.* (1864) I. 390 They will serve to .. give a dash of spirit and mercurialness to his character.

Mercurian (məɹkiūˑriăn), *a.* and *sb.* [f. MERCURY + -AN.]

A. *adj.*

†**1.** = MERCURIAL *a.* 3; sometimes interpreted as alluding to the qualities of the god Mercury.

1596 NASHE *Saffron-Walden* Wks. (Grosart) III. 142 The Mercurian heauenly charme of hys Rhetorique. 1616 BULLOKAR *Eng. Expos., Mercurian*, eloquent as Mercury was. 1620 MELTON *Astrolog.* 6 Some Mercurian and nimble-finger'd Pick-pocket. 1677 W. HUBBARD *Narrative* Pref., Where Poetry, in Prose, made I did see By a Mercurian Brain, which sure was Thee.

2. Of or belonging to the god Mercury.

1838 *Brit. Cycl. Biog.* II. 206/2 [Linus] is said to have added the string lichanos to the Mercurian lyre.

3. *Astr.* Of or belonging to the planet Mercury.

1885 AGNES CLERKE *Pop. Hist. Astron.* 121 The Mercurian mass is now estimated at about $1 \div 4{,}360{,}000$ that of the Sun.

B. *sb.*

1. One born under the influence of the planet Mercury.

1640 SOMNER *Antiq. Canterb.* 267 A commendation of Archery; not my owne, nor yet any meere Mercurians. 1677 W. HUBBARD *Narrative* II. 87 If Mars and Minerva go hand in hand, they will effect more good in an hour than those Verbal Mercurians in their lives. 1892 *Pall Mall G.* 4 Oct. 7/1 The long finger of Mercury is very noticeable in his case..and proves Mr. Grossmith a true Mercurian.

2. An inhabitant of the planet Mercury.

1868 W. WHITE *Swedenborg* xviii. (ed. 2) 290 When the Mercurians met Swedenborg, they instantly explored his memory in search of all he knew.

†**Mercu·riate.** *Chem. Obs.* [f. MERCURY + -ATE 1.] A salt of the supposed mercuric acid.

1801 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) Suppl. I. 388/2 Mercuriat of lime... Mercuriat of ammonia. 1802 T. THOMSON *Chem.* I. 433 This compound may be called mercuriat [*ed.* 3, 1807, mercuriate] of lime.

Mercuric (məɹkiūˑrik), *a. Chem.* [f. MERCURY + -IC.] †**a.** *Mercuric acid*: see quot. 1828–32. **b.** The distinctive designation of salts in which mercury exists in its higher degree of valency, as *Mercuric chloride* = CORROSIVE SUBLIMATE; *Mercuric sulphide* = VERMILION.

1828–32 WEBSTER, *Mercuric acid*, a saturated combination of mercury and oxygen. 1865 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* III. 900 Normal mercuric salts..are colourless. 1874 GARROD & BAXTER *Mat. Med.* (1880) 103 Mercuric chloride and sulphate of soda are produced.

Mercurico- (məɹkiūˑrikō), combining form of MERCURIC in the names of numerous compounds of mercury with various salts, as *mercurico-barytic*, *-calcic*, *cupric*, *potassic*, etc. (See Mayne *Expos. Lex.* 1856, and *Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1890.)

Mercurification (mə̄ːɹkinrifikāˑʃən). [f. MERCURIFY: see -FICATION.]

1. †**a.** *Alch.* The action or process of obtaining the 'mercury' of a metal (*obs.*). **b.** The conversion of the ore of mercury into the pure metal.

1680 BOYLE *Produc. Chem. Princ.* IV. 148 Wary men may be excus'd, if they do not think fit to beleeve other processes of mercurification. 1757 tr. *Henckel's Pyritologia* 100 In the mercurification and regulation of cinnabar. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XI. 401/2 *Mercurification* .. the obtaining the mercury from metallic minerals in its fluid state.

2. The act of mixing with mercury or quicksilver (Worcester 1860).

†**Mercu·rify,** *v. Obs.* [f. MERCURY + -FY.]

1. *trans.* **a.** *Alch.* To change (a portion of a metallic mass) into the form of mercury. **b.** To extract liquid mercury from (metallic ore).

1680 BOYLE *Produc. Chem. Princ.* IV. 188 A part only of the metall is Mercurified. 1797 [see below].

2. To combine, treat or mingle with mercury; to mercurialize (Worcester 1846).

Hence † **Mercu·rified** *ppl. a.*

1680 BOYLE *Produc. Chem. Princ.* IV. 186 The Mercurifi'd portion. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XI. 401/2 But these mercurified metals..are a kind of philosophical mercury.

Mercu·rio-sy·philis. *Path. rare.* [f. *mercurio-* taken as combining form of MERCURY.] A diseased condition supposed to be caused in part by syphilis and in part by the mercury employed for its cure. Hence **Mercu·rio-syphili·tic** *a.*, affected by mercurio-syphilis.

1829 SIR R. CHRISTISON *Treat. Poisons* (1832) 369 An ulcerated sore-throat of the mercurio-syphilitic kind. *a* 1882 — in *Life* I. vi. 141 Mercurio-syphilis and mercurial cachexy had no place in his nosology.

†**Mercurious** (məɹkiūˑriəs), *a. Obs. rare.* [f. MERCURY + -OUS.] Of a mercurial temperament.

1591 SPARRY tr. *Cattan's Geomancie* 233 People Saturnious and Mercurious.

Hence †**Mercu·riousness,** the condition of being like Mercury (in celerity).

a 1661 FULLER *Worthies, Kent* (1662) II. 85 He had given him for the Crest of his Arms, a Chappeau with Wings, to denote the Mercuriousnesse of this Messenger.

†**Mercurism.** *Obs. rare*—1. [f. MERCURY + -ISM.] A Mercurial message.

1672 SIR T. BROWNE *Let. to Friend* P 2 Tracts (1822) 112 Your affection may cease to wonder that you had not some secret sense or intimation thereof [*sc.* of his death] by dreams, thoughtful whisperings, mercurisms [etc.].

†**Me·rcurist.** *Obs.* [f. MERCURY + -IST.]

1. = MERCURIALIST 1.

1602 R. T. *Five Godlie Serm.* 139 As being a Martialist, affecting armes, rather then a Mercurist giuen to the Artes.

1656 HEYLIN *Extran. Vapulans* 166 Keep yourself to plain Grammar learning, and leave my Lady Philology to more learned Mercurists.

2. A writer of 'Mercuries' or news-letters.

1693 *Humours Town* 78 Dedicators and Preface-makers.. Jurnalists, Mercurists.

Mercurous (mə̄ːɹkiŭrəs), *a. Chem.* [f. MERCURY + -OUS.] The distinctive designation of compounds in which mercury occurs in its lower degree of valency, as *mercurous oxide*, *sulphide*, etc.

1865 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* III. 903 Mercurous fluoride is partly dissolved by water, partly decomposed into mercurous oxide and hydrofluoric acid. 1866 ROSCOE *Chem.* 220 The black or mercurous oxide. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 926 A solution of mercurous and mercuric nitrate.

Mercury (mə̄ːɹkiŭri), *sb.* Forms: 4–5 **marcure**, 4–7 **mercurie**, 5 **mercurye**, 5–7 **mercure**, 6 **marcury**, 7 *dial.* **marcary**, **markry**, 5– **mercury**. [ad. (partly through OF. *Mercure*, *Marcure*) L. *Mercuri-us*, prob. f. *merc-*, *merx* merchandise.

The Roman deity was prob. originally the god of commerce only; but in Latin literature he appears as completely identified with the Greek Hermes.

The transferred application to the planet is found in classical Latin; like the other planetary names, *Mercurius* became in med. Latin the name of a metal. The astronomical and chemical uses are common to the mod. European langs.; the use as a plant-name is Eng. only, suggested by L. *mercurialis* (see MERCURIAL B.).

I. The god (and derived senses).

1. A Roman divinity, identified from an early period with the Greek Hermes (son of Jupiter and Maia), the god of eloquence and feats of skill, the protector of traders and thieves, the presider over roads, the conductor of departed souls to the Lower World, and the messenger of the gods; represented in art as a yonng man with winged sandals and a winged hat, and bearing the caduceus.

1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 667 For mercurie miche spak to mentaine iangle, ȝe holden him .. god of þe tounge. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 158 An other god .. Mercurie hihte .. The god of Marchantz and of thieves. 1509 HAWES *Joyf. Med.* 20 Thou Mercury the god of eloquence. 1564 *Brief Exam.* B iiij b, Wyne was consecrated vnto Bacchus,.. Letters vnto Mercury. 1595 LYLY *Woman in Moone* IV. i, I will make her false and full of slights, Theeuish, lying, suttle, eloquent; For these alone belong to Mercury. 1601 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* I. v. 105 Now Mercury indue thee with leasing. 1602 — *Ham.* III. iv. 58. 1781 COWPER *Conversat.* 838 May Mercury once more embellish man.

2. A statue or image of Mercury; *spec.* = HERMA; hence, † a sign-post.

1644 EVELYN *Diary* 8 Nov., A noble fountaine govern'd by a Mercury of brasse. 1667 DRYDEN & DK. NEWCASTLE *Sir M. Mar-all* IV, I stand here, methinks, just like a wooden Mercury, to point her out the way to matrimony. 1693 G. STEPNY in *Dryden's Juvenal* viii. (1697) 194 Those rough Statues on the Road (Which we call Mercuries). *a* 1697 AUBREY *Surrey* (1719) II. 92 Here was formerly a Mercury, or Directory-Post for travellers, with Hands pointing to each Road. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 89 P 11 You may be sure this addition disfigured the statues much more than time had. I remember .. a Mercury with a pair of legs that seemed very much swelled with a dropsy. 1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) II. 42 Have you any more blocks, madam, for the hewing out of our mercuries?

3. Applied *transf.* to persons: **a.** A messenger or news-bearer.

1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III*, II. i. 88 But he (poore man) by your first order dyed, And that a winged Mercurie did beare. 1678 BALLEN in Rigaud *Corr. Sci. Men* (1841) II. 31 Mr. Gibbons (the mercury of these) waits on horseback at the door. 1678 ABP. SANCROFT *Occas. Serm.* (1694) 131 We give the Winds Wings, and the Angels too; as being the swift Messengers of God, the nimble Mercuries of Heaven. 1864 *Athenæum* 7 May 637 These chicken-hearted Mercuries [post-boys] always pulled up in Hammersmith, and drank their pint before they faced the common.

b. One who passes to and fro with messages between parties, esp. in amorous affairs; a go-between.

1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* II. ii. 82 But what saies shee to mee? be briefe my good shee-Mercurie. 1638 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (ed. 2) 268 Elgaz-zuli a nimble mercurie undertakes it, and by miraculous conceits agrees them, and fills up the late made breach. 1749 SMOLLETT *Gil Blas* (1797) III. 138, I am on the eve of becoming Mercury to the heir of the Kingdom. 1803 *Censor* 1 Aug. 93 He should sound her maid, who..will prove herself a very Mercury in delivering the letters that may be entrusted to her on either side. 1817 BYRON *Beppo* xvi, A letter, Which flies on wings of light-heel'd Mercuries.

c. A guide or conductor upon the road.

1592 MORYSON *Lett.* in *Itin.* I. 25 The Mercury you gave to guide me, brought me meate plentifully. 1617 *Ibid.* III. 11 God for his onely begotten Sonnes sake (the true Mercury of Travellers) bring us that are here strangers safely into our true Countrey. 1641 J. W[ADSWORTH] (*title*) The European Mercury. Describing the Highwayes and Stages from place to place, through the most remarkable parts of Christendome. 1642 MILTON *Apol. Smect.* Wks. 1851 III. 284 Others, as the Stoicks, to account reason, which they call the Hegemonicon, to be the common Mercury conducting without error those that give themselves obediently to be led accordingly.

†**d.** A nimble person; also, a dexterous thief.

1599 B. JONSON *Ev. Man out of Hum.* I. ii, I would ha' those Mercuries follow me (I trow) should remember they had not their fingers for nothing. 1609 *Ev. Woman in Hum.* I. i. in Bullen *O. Pl.* IV, There again my little Mercuries, froath them up to the brimme, and fill as tis needefull.

† e. One who hawks pamphlets or news-books.
1648 *Commons' Jrnls.* V. 436 That thirty thousand of these petitions were to come forth in print this day, and delivered to the Mercuries that cry about books. 1655 FULLER *Hist. Camb.* 24 Circumforanean Pedlers (ancestors to our modern Mercuries and Hawkers) which secretly vend prohibited Pamphlets. 1721 *Lett. fr. Mist's Jrnl.* (1722) II. 256 The Croud of Coffee-Men, Mercuries, Pamphlet-Shop-Keepers, and Hawkers.

4. A title for a newspaper or journal. † Formerly also used *gen.* = newspaper.
[1626 B. JONSON *Staple of News* I. v, But what sayes *Mercurius Britannicus* to this?] 1643 (*title*) The Scotch Mercury, communicating the affairs of Scotland and the Northern Parts. No. 1, Oct. 5. 1644 NICHOLAS in *Carte Ormond* (1735) III. 279 Whereof your Excellence will find exact relation in the mercuries adjoined. 1664 BUTLER *Hud.* II. i. 56 With letters hung like Eastern Pidgeons, And Mercuries of furthest Regions. 1691 (*title*) The Athenian Mercury. Numb. 2. 1725 *Stamp-Office Notice* 3 Apr. in *Lond. Gaz.* No. 6362/1 No Journal, Mercury or Newspaper. 1791 D'ISRAELI *Curios. Lit., Orig. Newspapers* § 14 A Mercury was the prevailing title of these 'News-Books'. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xxi. IV. 542 No allusion to it [the bill of 1695 for the regulation of the press] is to be found in the Monthly Mercuries. 1906 (*title*) The Leeds Mercury.

II. The planet.

5. *Astr.* The planet nearest to the sun, and the smallest of the major planets.
c 1386 CHAUCER *Wife's Prol.* 703 And thus, god woot! Mercurie is desolat In Pisces, wher Venus is exaltat. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 110 Of the Planetes the secounde Above the Mone hath take his bounde, Mercurie. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 333/2 Mercurye, sterre, *mercurius*. 1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* xvi. (Percy Soc.) 74 Fayre golden Mercury, wyth hys bemes bryght. 1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* IV. iii. 25 My Father..who being (as I am) lytter'd vnder Mercurie, was likewise a snapper-vp of vnconsidered trifles. 1642 HOWELL *For. Trav.* v. (Arb.) 33 Mercury swayeth ore the one [a Frenchman], and Saturne ore the other [a Spaniard]. 1832 MACGILLIVRAY *Humboldt's Trav.* xxiii. 336 At..Callao, Humboldt had the satisfaction of observing the transit of Mercury. 1880 BALL *Elem. Astron.* 191 The time in which Mercury revolves round the sun is 87 days.

6. *Her.* The name for the tincture purpure in blazoning by the names of the heavenly bodies.
1562 LEIGH *Armorie* 18, I will speake of the Planet appropried therto [*sc.* to the tincture purpure] and that hyght Mercurye. 1572 BOSSEWELL. *Armorie* II. 57 The fielde is Mercury, an Equicerve, of the Moone. 1725 J. COATS *Dict. Heraldry* (1739). 1828–40 BERRY *Encycl. Herald.* I.

III. The metal (and derived senses).

7. A well-known metal (otherwise called QUICKSILVER), of a silver-white colour and brilliant metallic lustre. It is liquid at ordinary temperatures, solidifying at about −40°. It has the peculiar property of absorbing other metals, forming amalgams. It is found native, but is more commonly obtained by sublimation from cinnabar, its most important ore. Chemical symbol Hg (*hydrargyrum*). By the alchemists it was represented by the same sign as the planet Mercury (☿).
c 1386 CHAUCER *Can. Yeom. Prol. & T.* 219, 221 And in amalgaming and calceining Of quik-silver, y-clept Mercurie crude...Our orpiment and sublymed Mercurie. *c* 1485 *Digby Myst.* (1882) III. 318 Gold perteynyng to þe sonne..þe fegetyff mercury, on-to mercuryus. 1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 363 They..amalgame it..with Mercurie or quicksyluer. 1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* IV. x. 235 The fume of Mercurie is mortall. 1612 WOODALL *Surg. Mate* Wks. (1653) 226 Sublimed Mercury is called onely by the name of Mercury, and by the vulgar speech, some call it white Marcary and Markry. 1614 W. BARCLAY *Nepenthes* A 6 b, There is no vegetall in the world, hath such affinitie with any minerall, as hath Tabacco with Mercure, or quicke-siluer. 1758 [see JUPITER 2 b]. 1863 *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 9) 392 Alloys of mercury with other metals are termed amalgams.

b. A preparation of the metal or of one of its compounds (esp. the protochloride or calomel, and the bichloride or corrosive sublimate), used in medicine.
1789 W. BUCHAN *Dom. Med.* (1790) 659 Bolus of Rhubarb and Mercury. Take of the best rhubarb..half a drachm; of calomel, from four to six grains. 1801 *Med. Jrnl.* V. 73 He took no mercury nor any other medicine. 1903 SLOAN *Carlyle Country* xv. 125 Dr. Bell gave him mercury and solemnly commanded him to abstain from tobacco.

c. The column of mercury in a barometer or thermometer. Also *fig.*
1704 *Phil. Trans.* XXIV. 1629 An Experiment, to show the cause of the descent of the Mercury in the Barometer in a Storm. 1729 CLARKE tr. *Rohault's Nat. Philos.* 72, I filled a Tube three Foot and a half long, with Quicksilver,..I..observed exactly the Height of the Mercury. 1756 C. LUCAS *Ess. Waters* I. 44 The mercury falls below 33 degrees of Fahrenheit's thermometer. 1883 MRS. BISHOP in *Leis. Hour* 195/1 The mercury has not been above 83°. 1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 4 June 2/1 People would like to stand in front of the mercury of war and see it rise or fall.

d. *Vegetable mercury*: (*a*) a name for the Brazilian plant *Franciscea uniflora* (*Treas. Bot.* 1866); (*b*) see quot. 1887.
1887 *Standard* 16 Sept. 5/2 The tree tomato..on the Spanish Mainland is known as..the 'vegetable mercury', from its supposed beneficial effect on the liver.

8. *Old Chem.* a. One of the five elementary 'principles' of which all material substances were supposed to be compounded; also called *spirit*.
b. *Mercury of metals*: see quot. 1727–52.
1471 RIPLEY *Comp. Alch.* IV. vi. in Ashm. (1652) 145 Mercury and Sulphure vive. 14.. *Pater Sapientiae* ibid. 197 Some say that of Sulphur and Mercury all Bodyes minerall are made. 1592–3 G. HARVEY *New Lett.* Wks. (Grosart) I. 294 Three drops of the Mercury of Buglosse will strengthen the brain. 1605 TIMME *Quersit.* Ded., The spirit of the world..moueth..in all creatures, giving them existence in three, to wit—salt, sulphure, and mercury. 1712 tr. *Pomet's Hist. Drugs* I. 177 The Mercury of the Manna being brought to the fluid Nature of a Spirit, becomes a Solutive for Minerals. 1727–52 CHAMBERS *Cycl., Mercury of metals, or of the philosophers*, is a pure fluid substance in form of common running mercury, said to be found in all metals, and capable of being extracted from the same. 1729 CLARKE tr. *Rohault's Nat. Philos.* xx. 109 Hence they conclude, that these five Substances, viz. Mercury, Phlegm, Sulphur, Salt and Caput mortuum,..are the only and the true Elements of all..Mixed Bodies. 1731 P. SHAW *Three Ess. Artif. Philos.* 36 Attempts for procuring the Mercuries of the several Metals, to profit.

† 9. *fig.* as an emblem of sprightliness, liveliness, volatility of temperament, inconstancy, wittiness, etc. Often in phr. *to fix the mercury (of)*. *Obs.*
1682 DRYDEN *Medal* 263 Religion thou hast none: thy mercury Has passed through every sect, or theirs through thee. 1693 CONGREVE *Old Bach.* I. iv, As able as yourself and as nimble too, though I mayn't have so much mercury in my limbs. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Mercury*, Wit. 1704 SWIFT *Tale of a Tub* Pref. ¶ 4 The moderns have artfully fixed this mercury [*sc.* Wit] and reduced it to circumstances of time, place, and person. 1709 FELTON *Classics* (1718) 9 'Tis difficult to fix the Mercury, and settle a brisk, lively Temper in a laborious plodding Track of Learning. 1710 PALMER *Proverbs* 200 They are all mercury; and a piece of wit, a bottle, or a jest, is a comfort, and supports 'em. *a* 1715 BURNET *Own Time* (1724) I. 265 He [Buckingham] was so full of mercury that he could not fix long in any friendship or to any design. 1732 POPE *Ess. Man* II. 177 'Tis thus the Mercury of Man is fix'd. *a* 1797 WALPOLE *George II* (1847) II. vii. 218 He had too much mercury and too little ill-nature to continue a periodical war.

IV. As a plant-name. [After L. (*herba*) *mercurialis*, MERCURIAL B 1; cf. L. *Hermūpoa* (Pliny) a. Gr. *Ἑρμοῦ πόα.*]

10. a. The pot-herb ALLGOOD, *Chenopodium Bonus-Henricus*. Also *English, False Mercury*.
a 1400–50 *Stockh. Med. MS.* p. 203 Mercurie or papwourtz or þe more smerewourt: *mercurialis*. *c* 1450 *ME. Med. Bk.* (Heinrich) 74 Take malues, & mercurye, & sepe hem wyþ a messe of porke. 1548 [see 10 b]. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* V. xi. 561 In English, Good Henry and Algood: of some it is taken for Mercurie. 1584 COGAN *Haven of Health* xxix. 45 It is a common prouerbe among the people, Be thou sicke or whole, put Mercurie in thy coole. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. xliv. 259 English Mercurie, or good Henrie. 1620 VENNER *Via Recta* vii. 144 Mercurie is much vsed among other pot-hearbes. 1731 *Gentl. Mag.* I. 314 Take Marsh Mallow Leaves the Herb Mercury, Saxifrage and Pellitory of the Wall of each..three handfulls. 1785 MARTYN *Rousseau's Bot.* xvii. (1794) 221 The English Mercury or Allgood. 1865 W. WHITE *East. Eng.* II. 12 One of the dishes contained Mercury, a vegetable which I had never seen before.

b. The euphorbiaceous poisonous plant *Mercurialis perennis*. Also *Dog's, Wild Mercury*.
1548 TURNER *Names Herbes* (E.D.S.) 53 Mercurialis is called..in englishe Mercury...The herbe whiche is communely called in englishe mercury hath nothyng to do wyth mercurialis. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* I. lii. 77 In English wilde Mercury, and Dogges Call. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. xlviii. 263 Of wilde Mercurie..Dogs Mercurie. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 390 If you take white Hellebor, and the rindes of wilde Mercury..and lay them in the Mole-hole..it will kill them. 1762 B. STILLINGFL. in *Misc. Tracts* 216 Dogs mercury has been given internally, for want of knowing the natural classes. 1853 JOHNSTON *Bot. E. Bord.* 175 *Mercurialis perennis*. Mercury. 1887 *Pall Mall G.* 27 June 5/2 The dog's mercury raises its fresh yellow suckers for the spring shoots. 1893 E. H. BARKER *Wand. South. Waters* 57, I stood amidst the poisonous dog-mercury.

c. The euphorbiaceous plant *Mercurialis annua*. Also *Baron's, Boy's, French, Garden, Girl's, Maiden Mercury*.
According to Britten and Holland, the *baron's* or *boy's* is the female and the *girl's* the male mercury.
1578 LYTE *Dodoens* I. lii. 75 The male garden Mercury, or the French Mercury. *Ibid.* 78 Phyllon...The male is called ἀρρενογόνον, whiche may be Englished Barons Mercury or Phyllon, or Boyes Mercury or Phyllon. And the female is called in Greeke θηλυγόνον: and this kinde may be called in English Gyrles Phyllon or Mercury, Daughters Phyllon, or Mayden Mercury. 1601 R. CHESTER *Love's Mart.*, etc. (N. Shaks. Soc.) 82 Sweete Sugar Canes, Sinkefoile, and boies Mercurie.

d. *Scotch Mercury*, the snapdragon, *Digitalis purpurea*. *Three-seeded Mercury*, the euphorbiaceous genus *Acalypha*.
1846–50 A. WOOD *Class-bk. Bot.* 488 *Acalypha Virginica*. Three-seeded Mercury. 1853 JOHNSTON *Bot. E. Bord.* 157 *Digitalis purpurea*..Fox-glove...Scotch Mercury. Wild Mercury.—Common.

V. 11. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as (sense 7) *mercury cup, pump*; **mercury goosefoot** = 10 a, above; † **Mercury rod**, the caduceus; **mercury rust**, a fungus, *Uredo confluens*, on the leaves of Dog's Mercury; † **Mercury's finger**, (*a*) = HERMODACTYL 1; (*b*) a finger-post; † **mercury sublimate**, corrosive sublimate; † **Mercury's violets**, Canterbury Bells, *Campanula Medium*; † **mercury-water**, (*a*) a preparation of aqua regia and corrosive sublimate (see *aqua mercurialis* in Chambers Suppl. 1753); also (see quot. 1799); (*b*) a wash for the skin prepared from mercury; † **mercury woman** (see quot. and cf. MERCURY 3 e).
1849 NOAD *Electricity* 403 Used to connect the *mercury cups of a small battery. 1885. MISS PRATT *Flower. Pl.* IV. 276 *Mercury Goosefoot, or Good King Henry. 1873 ATKINSON *Ganot's Physics* (ed. 6) 147 Morren's *mercury pump..a mercurial air pump. 1625 BACON *Ess., Unity in Relig.* (end), Therefore it is most necessary, that..all Learnings,..as by their *Mercury Rod, doe damne and send to Hell, for euer, those Facts and Opinions. 1864 COOKE in *Pop. Sci. Rev.* III. 336 *Mercury Rust (*Uredo confluens*) on leaf of *Mercurialis perennis*. 1589 RIDER *Bibl. Scholast.* 1748 An hearb called *Mercuries finger, *Hermodactylus*. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 431 The herb called Mercuries-fingers or Dogs bane. 1640 BP. REYNOLDS *Passions* xxiv. (1647) 245 Precedents having the same precedence to Reason in vulgar judgements, which a living and accompanying guide hast to a Mercuries finger in a Travellers conceit. 1707 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) VI. 186 A French party..took some medicaments from them, among which was *mercury sublimate. 1799 G. SMITH *Laboratory* I. 86 Mercury sublimate or corrosive sublimate. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. cix. 363 Couentrie bels are called..*Mercuries violets. 1634 SANDERSON *Serm.* II. 291 There is a secret poyson in it, which in time will..seize upon every part; and, like *mercury-water or aqua fortis, eat out all. 1676 SHADWELL *Virtuoso* iii. 55 All manner of Washes, Almond-water, and Mercury-water for the Complexion. 1799 G. SMITH *Laboratory* I. 131 *note*, Mercury-water, so called by the workmen, is thus prepared. Take plate-tin of Cornwall, calcine it, [etc.]. 1661 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* s.v. *Hawkers*, Those people which go up and down the streets crying News-books, and selling them by retail, are also called Hawkers. And those women that sell them by whole-sale from the Press, are called *Mercury Women.

† **Mercury**, *v. Obs.* [f. prec. sb.] *trans.* To wash with mercury-water.
1599 B. JONSON *Cynthia's Rev.* I. i, Your palmes..are as tender as..a ladies face new mercuried, the'ile touch nothing.

Mercy (mə́ːrsi), *sb.* Forms: 2–5 merci, 4–6 mersy, mercye, 4–7 mercie, 5 merce, 6 mersye, *Sc.* marcie, 3– mercy. [a. F. *merci*, earlier *mercit* = Pr. *merce-s*, Sp. *merced*, Pg. *mercé*, It. *mercede* :— L. *mercēdem* (nom. *mercēs*) reward, fee, in Christian Latin from the 6th c. often used in the sense of *misericordia* (= 1 below) and in that of thanks.]
The post-classical uses of *mercēs* are developed from the specific application of the word to the reward in heaven which is earned by kindness to those who have no claim, and from whom no requital can be expected. The Eng. uses explained below represent OF. senses that for the most part have not survived in Fr., where the word has been in great part superseded by *miséricorde*. The chief uses of *merci* in mod. Fr. are in the sense 'thanks' (cf. GRAMERCY), and in phrases corresponding to those in 5 below.

1. Forbearance and compassion shown by one person to another who is in his power and who has no claim to receive kindness; kind and compassionate treatment in a case where severity is merited or expected. Phr. *to have mercy on, upon*, † *of*; also † *to do mercy to, take mercy on, show mercy*, etc. *In mercy (to)*, in the exercise of mercy. † *Of* or *for mercy*, from consideration of mercy.
a 1225 *Juliana* 49 Milce haue ant merci, wummon, of ini wrecchedom. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 1338 Of þe king þat is min vncle he is al at þin wille. Haue merci of him ich þe bidde. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 353 Who that lawe hath upon honde, And spareth forto do justice For merci, doth noght his office. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 8498 If ye no mercy haue on me,..Haue pite on youre pure sonnes. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* IV. viii. 128 She byddeth yow..doo batail to the vttermest without ony mercy. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xxii. 52 Thairfoir of mercy, and nocht of richt, I ask 3ow, schir,..Sum medecyne gife that 3e micht. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. clxvi. 176, I humbly requyre you..yt ye woll take mercy of these sixe burgesses. *a* 1533 — *Huon* xlix. 165 He wyll slee you without mercy. 1769 *Junius Lett.* V. (1820) 27 In mercy to him, let us drop the subject. 1781 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xxvii. III. 49 The emperor confessed, that, if the exercise of justice is the most important duty, the indulgence of mercy is the most exquisite pleasure, of a sovereign. 1792 BURKE *Corr.* (1844) IV. 17 Their enemies will fall upon them..and show them no mercy. 1796 H. HUNTER tr. *St.-Pierre's Stud. Nat.* (1799) I. 429 He massacres without mercy every thing that breathes. 1841 LANE *Arab. Nts.* I. 110 Take my body, then, in mercy, to the place where you are laid.

b. *spec.* God's pitiful forbearance towards His creatures and forgiveness of their offences.
c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 43 Lauerd haue merci of us forðon þa pinen of helle we ham ne maȝen iðolien. *a* 1225 *St. Marher.* 22 Dribtin, do me merci of þis dede. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1092 Ihesus his soule do mercy. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 29 Trustynge to Goddis mersy. 1481 CAXTON *Reynard* (Arb.) 74 God receyueth alle them that desyre hys mercy. 1548–9 (Mar.) *Bk. Com. Prayer, Morn. Prayer*, Lorde haue mercie upon us. 1591 SHAKS. *1 Hen. VI*, IV. iii. 34 Then God take mercy on braue Talbots soule. 1607 HIERON *Wks.* I. 121 What can it be but mercie, that we shall bee admitted to an inheritance immortall and vndefiled? 1641 HINDE *J. Bruen* xxxiv. 107 Betwixt the Bridge and the Brook, the Knife and the Throat, the mercy of God may appeare. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* III. 401 Father of Mercie and Grace.

† c. *To have mercy* (cf. 1): to receive pardon (*of* an offence). *Obs.*
a 1300 *Cursor M.* 9594, I sal noght fine merci to cri Betuixand he haue þi merci. *c* 1340 HAMPOLE *Prose Tr.* 43 Aske mercy and hafe it. 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 4098 But thow graunte, off thy pyte, That I may al outterly Off my Gyltes ha mercy. 1513 BRADSHAW *St. Werburge* I. 2752 Who-so wyll haue mercy Must be mercyable..; Who is without mercy of mercy shall mys.

2. Disposition to forgive or show compassion; compassionateness, mercifulness. Phr. *of* (or †*for*) *one's mercy*.

a 1225 *Juliana* 48 Nis na merci wiδ þe, for þi ne ahestu nan habben. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 30 Þet God þurh his milce & for his merci hiȝe ham ut of pine. *a* 1325 *Prose Psalter* l. 1 Ha mercy on me, God, efter þy mychel mercy. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* lxii. 21 The mersy of that sweit meik Rois, Suld soft 3ow, Thirsill, I suppois. 1523 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. 1. I. 222 God of his mercie sende his grace of suche facion that it maye bee all for the beste. 1531 ELYOT *Gov.* II. vii. In whome mercye lacketh..in hym all other vertues be drowned. 1588 PARKE tr. *Mendoza's Hist. China* 410 God for his infinite mercy conuert them. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, II. ii. 179 The taste whereof, God of his mercy giue You patience to indure. 1872 MORLEY *Voltaire* (1886) 2 The infinite mercy and loving-kindness of a supreme creator.

b. Personified.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 9561 Quen merci sagh him suagat be Of him sco can haf pite. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. VI. 123 Merci is a Mayden þer..Heo is sib to alle synful men. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 12 A lady Mercy satt on his righte side. 1621 HAKEWILL *David's Vow* 28 These bee .. the severall notes ..of Mercie's Song. 1814 BYRON *Lara* II. x, None sued, for Mercy knew her cry was vain.

†**3.** *To cry* (*one*) *mercy*: to beg for pardon or forgiveness. Hence in weakened sense = 'to beg (one's) pardon'; often *colloq.* with ellipsis of 'I'.

The personal object is expressed by simple dative, or (occas.) *to*, *on*, *upon*. In ME. also *to ask*, *bid*, *beseech*, *crave*, *seek mercy*: see numerous examples in Mätzner.

a 1225, *a* 1240, *a* 1300 [see CRY *v.* 1 b, c]. *c* 1315 SHOREHAM I. 1181–2 To oure lorde Mercy he cryþ, and biddeþ hym Mercy and misericorde. 1393 (*bis*), 1483, *a* 1533 [see CRY *v.* 1 b, c]. 1578 WHETSTONE *2nd Pt. Promos & Cass.* III. ii. I iij b, O I ken you nowe syr, chy crie you mercie. 1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* v. iv. 94 Oh, cry you mercy, sir, I haue mistooke. 1594 LYLY *Moth. Bomb.* IV. ii. 28, I crie you mercy, I tooke you for a ioynd stoole. 1672 [see CRY *v.* 1 b]. 1681 DRYDEN *Span. Friar* IV. i, I cry thee mercy with all my Heart, for suspecting a Fryar of the least good-nature. 1692 — *Cleomenes* Epil. 24, I give my judgment, craving all your mercies, To those that leave good plays, for damned dull farces. 1795 [see CRY *v.* 1 c].

4. In elliptical and interjectional uses. *Mercy* = 'may God have mercy!'; hence as a mere expression of surprise, fear, or the like. Also *mercy on us!* †*for mercy! for mercy's sake! lord-a-mercy!* (and in corrupt forms of the two last: cf. LORD *sb.* 6 b).

a 1240 *Lofsong* in *Cott. Hom.* 211 Louerd, þi merci. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 841 Merci, lauerd! strang wickedhed Broght adam to sulk a ded. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. I. 11 Ich was a-ferd of hire Face..And seide 'Merci, Ma dame, What is þis to mene?' 1595 SHAKS. *John* IV. i. 12 'Mercie on me. 1601 — *All's Well* I. iii. 155 God's mercie, maiden. 1610 — *Temp.* I. ii. 436 Alacke, for mercy. 1611 — *Wint. T.* III. iii. 70 Mercy on's, a Barne? *Ibid.* 105 Name of mercy, when was this, boy? 1634 MILTON *Comus* 695 Mercy guard me! 1671 — *Samson* 1509 Mercy of Heav'n what hideous noise was that! 1800 MRS. HERVEY *Mourtray Fam.* I. 90 A black seal! oh, mercy! it certainly is some bad news about Henry. 1840 MARRYAT *Poor Jack* xxiii, Mercy on us! what was that? 1849 JAMES *Woodman* iii, But, mercy have us, What is here? 1855 W. BROOKE *Eastford* vi. 60 Massy sakes alive John! where have you been all the morning .. ? What! a lady drownded! .. Lord-a-massy! 1858 THACKERAY *Virgin.* I. xxxii. 250 'And whom a mercy's name have we here?' breaks in Mrs. Lambert. 1860 EMILY EDEN *Semi-attached Couple* II. 127 Are you hurt? tell me, Helen, for mercy's sake. 1878 MAS. STOWE *Poganuc P.* iii. 23 Lordy massy, deacon, says I, don't you worry.

5. The clemency or forbearance of a conqueror or absolute lord, which it is in his power to extend or withhold as he thinks fit. Chiefly in phrases, as †*to come to* (*one's*) *mercy*, to submit to his authority; also, to come (to God) for forgiveness; also †*to do* or *put oneself in* or *to* (another's) *mercy*. †*To take to* (or *into*) *mercy*: to extend pardon to (one who yields at discretion); to give quarter to, receive the submission of. †(*To yield*) *to* or *upon mercy*, (to surrender) at discretion.

In early use *to take to mercy* implied the commutation of the death sentence for a fine: cf. sense 8.

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 11788, 11790 þus seyþ þe clerk, seynt Austyn, þe prestes mercy þou do þe ynne; þe prest ys crystys vycarye; Do þe alle yn hys mercy. *c* 1330 — *Chron.* (1810) 168 Þe mene folk..Com to his mercy, doand him seruise. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 816 Lordis & othire Come to þat conquerour & on knese fallis, And in [*v. r.* on] his mercy & meth mekely þaim put. 1420 in *E. E. Wills* (1882) 47, I bequethe my soule into the mercy off mythfull Ihesu. 1480 CAXTON *Chron. Eng.* lxiv, Otta a lytel while ageynst hym stode but afterward he put hym to his mercy. 1481 — *Reynard* (Arb.) 74 Thaugh one falle ofte and at laste aryseth vp and cometh to mercy, he is not therof dampned. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. ccccxvii. 730 The kynge was counsayled to take them to mercy, so that .. they shulde gyue to the kyng lx. thousande frankes. 1550 J. COKE *Eng. & Fr. Heralds* § 63 (1877) 77 Kyng Edwarde the .iii. and his sone prynce Edwarde..favoryng the nacion of Brytayne..toke hym to theyr mercy. 1577–87 HOLINSHED *Chron.* III. 271/1 Vpon their submission, the king tooke them to mercie, vpon their fine, which was seized at twentie thousand marks. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* IV. xv. 130 [Pompey] hauing..taken them [the pirates] into mercie, sent them into certaine townes..farre from the Sea. 1593 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI*, I. iv. 30 Yeeld to our mercy, proud Plantagenet. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* IX. xxiv. 331 Those they tooke to mercie upon their suhmission. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 269 The Pyrates..did cast into the Sea many Marriners yeelding to mercy. *a* 1671 LD. FAIRFAX *Mem.* (1699) 122 Which [*sc.* surrender] after 4 months close siege they were compelled to, and that upon mercy;..delivering upon mercy, is to be understood that some are to suffer, the rest to go free. 1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) IV. 98 Since it is so,..I think I must take you to mercy. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* v. I. 643 Mercy was offered to some prisoners on condition that they would bear evidence against Prideaux.

†**b.** *At mercy*: (that has surrendered) at discretion; absolutely in the power of a victor or superior, at his disposal; liable to punishment or hurt at the hands of another; on sufferance, liable to interference. Also, (*to hold*) *in mercy*. *Obs.*

1605 SHAKS. *Lear* I. iv. 350 That..He may..hold our liues in mercy. 1607 — *Cor.* I. x. 7 What good Condition can a Treatie finde I' th' part that is at mercy? *a* 1671 LD. FAIRFAX *Mem.* (1699) 121 Lord Capel, Sir George Lucas, and Sir George Lisle, who were prisoners at mercy upon the rendring of Colchester. 1690 LOCKE *Govt.* II. xvi. § 183 My Life, 'tis true, as forfeit, is at Mercy, but not my Wife's and Children's. *a* 1715 BURNET *Own Time* (1724) I. 347 A connivance, such as that the Jews lived under, by which they were still at mercy. 1727 SWIFT *State Irel.* Wks. 1755 V. II. 166 The linen of the North, a trade casual, corrupted, and at mercy. 1768–74 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) I. 265 The inhabitants of a town exert all their efforts in defending the ramparts,..because when those are taken the town lies at mercy.

c. *At the mercy of* (*a person*): wholly in his power, at his discretion or disposal; liable to any treatment he may choose to employ; liable to danger or harm from him. Similarly †*in the mercy of*; (*to leave* or *trust*) *to the mercy of*. Also *transf.* and *fig.* (with things as subj. or obj.).

c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 4411 To þis bestes mercy i howe me at alle, to worche with me is wille as him-self likes. 1481 CAXTON *Reynard* (Arb.) 106 Thy lyf is now in my mercy. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* v. ii. 856 Floutes, Which you on all estates will execute, That lie within the mercie of your wit. 1593 — *Lucr.* 364 Shee..Lies at the mercie of his mortall sting. 1593 — 2 *Hen. VI*, I. iii. 137 Thy Crueltie..hath exceeded Law, And left thee to the mercy of the Law. 1665 BOYLE *Occas. Refl.* II. xiii. 141 The Syrians..found themselves at the mercy of their enemies. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 10 We lay wholly at the mercy of the two unruly Elements, Fire and Water. 1715 DE FOE *Fam. Instruct.* I. iv. (1841) I. 84 Your character is at every body's mercy. 1819 BYRON *Juan* II. xlii, A wreck complete she roll'd, At mercy of the waves. 1888 BRYCE *Amer. Commw.* II. li. 292 Leaving the civil service at the mercy of a partisan chief. 1893 EARL DUNMORE *Pamirs* II. 50 Too precious to trust to the tender mercies of a haggage pony. 1902 *Field* 25 Jan. 134/1 Shortly afterwards Smith had the goal at his mercy, but kicked over.

6. In particularized sense: An act of mercy; esp. one vouchsafed by God to His creatures; an event or circumstance calling for special thankfulness; a gift of God, a blessing. *One's mercies*, the good things which one has received from God.

a 1300 *E. E. Psalter* lxxxviii. 1 (Egerton MS.) Mercis of lauerd ouer al In euer-mare singe I sal. 1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* xxiv. 6 Call to remembraunce, O Lorde, thy tender mercyes & thy louinge kyndnesses. 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* v. i. 489 Thou'rt condemn'd, But for those earthly faults, I quit them all, And pray thee take this mercie to prouide For better times to come. 1651 [see CROWNING *ppl. a.* 2]. 1662 GURNALL *Chr. in Arm.* III. 518 Thou must not onely praise God for some extraordinary mercy, which once in a year betides thee,..but also for ordinary, every-day mercies. *a* 1716 SOUTH *Serm.* (1727) VI. vii. 227 Deliverance out of Temptation is undoubtedly one of the greatest Mercies that God vouchsafes his People. 1824 SCOTT *Redgauntlet* Let. i, I know your good father would term this *sinning my mercies*. 1829 — *Jrnl.* 16 July, May Heaven continue this great mercy, which I have so much reason to be thankful for! 1851 LONGF. *Gold. Leg.* VI, Death never takes one alone .. Perhaps it is a mercy of God, Lest the dead there under the sod..should be lonely! 1852 MRS. STOWE *Uncle Tom's C.* xii, There was even room to doubt whether Tom appreciated his mercies. *Mod.* It is a mercy that you were able to come when you did.

7. *Works of mercy* (also †*deeds*, †*duties of mercy* and simply †*mercies*): acts of compassion towards suffering fellow-creatures.

Mediæval theology enumerated seven spiritual and seven corporal works of mercy (*opera misericordiæ*: cf. Luke x. 37 Vulg. *qui fecit misericordiam in illum*). *Sisters of Mercy*, title of a R. C. sisterhood founded at Dublin in 1827 (*Catholic Dict.*); popularly often applied to the members of any nursing sisterhood. *House of Mercy*, a name for a penitentiary or house of refuge.

1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 5764 Werkes of mercy and of almus. *c* 1340 — in *Prose Tr.* Pref. 11 In fulfillynge..of the seven dedis of mercy bodili and gostly to a manys euen cristen. *c* 1380 *Lay Folks Catech.* (Lamb.) 1158 As þe sowle is better þan þe body So þese gostly mercyes be better þan þe bodyly mercyes. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 198 Here goode name may noght deie For Pite, which thei wolde obeie, To do the dedes of mercy. *c* 1412 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 919 God wille þat þe nedy be releeued; It is on of þe werkes of mercy. 1533 GAU *Richt Way* (1888) 15 Thay that dois notht the dedis of marcie to thair nichtburs. 1647 *Conf. Faith Assemb. Div. Westm.* xxi. (1650) 46 In the duties of necessity, and mercy. 1647 *Larger Catechism* (1650) 112 Making it our whole delight to spend the whole time (except so much of it as is to be taken up in works of necessity and mercy) in the publick and private exercises of Gods worship. 1824 SCOTT *Redgauntlet* ch. xiii. [Trumbull *log.*], A work of necessity and mercy. 1868 *Nat. Gazetteer* I. 595 *Clewer*,..There is..a penitentiary, called the House of Mercy, founded in 1849.

†**8.** = AMERCEMENT. *To do* or *put in the mercy*, to amerce; *to be in mercy* (= med.L. *in misericordia*), to be liable to a fine. *Obs.*

(See the note under sense 5.)

[1292 BRITTON I. v. § 9 [Soint] trestouz es autres en la merci pur la fole suffrannce.] 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 11155 Hii clupede sir Ion giffard, þat siwte ssolde þer to, To come oþer he ssolde in þe merci be ido. 1303 [see MERCY *v.* 1]. *c* 1350 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 349 3if hii be þennes, by-þowte ry3tful enchesoun, euerych by hym-selue be in mercy of one besaunt. *Ibid.* 356 He is in þe kynges mercy vpon þe quantyte of þat mysdede. *a* 1500 in Arnolde *Chron.* (1811) 217 Non of ye forsaid mercyes shalbe put but be othe of sad and honest men. ?15.. *Rules Court York* in Drake *Eboracum* (1736) I. vi. 191 If the defendant put him in the mercie, the sheriffs shall have amerciaments of the defendant. 1768 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* III. App. i. 5 That the same William and his pledges of prosecuting, to wit, John Doe and Richard Roe, be in mercy for his false complaint.

†**9.** Thanks. *Obs. rare.* (Cf. GRAMERCY.)

1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. I. 41 'A Madame, Merci I' quaþ I, 'me likeþ wel þi wordes'. 1377 — B. XIX. 72 Kynges..offred mirre & moche golde, with-outen mercy askynge, Or any kynnes catel. *c* 1500 *Melusine* 129 Right grete thankes & thousand mercys to the damoyselle tha so moche honour sheweth to me.

10. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *mercy-angel*, †*-doing*, *-gate*, †*-shewer*; *mercy-greatening*, *-guided*, *-lacking*, *-tempered*, *-wanting*, *-winged* adjs.; †**mercy-stock**, **-stool**, **-table** = MERCY-SEAT (*fig.*); †**mercy-stroke**, a *coup de grâce*.

1849 ROCK *Ch. of Fathers* II. 468 To watch, as it were by the grave, and like a *mercy-angel, cry aloud on all Christians. 1382 WYCLIF *Ps.* l. 3 After the multitude of thi grete *mercy doingus [Vulg. *miserationum*]. *a* 1600 in FAIT *S. P., Eliz.* (1845) II. 473 Lamenting sore his sinfull life Before thy *mercy-gate. 1675 BROOKS *Gold. Key* Wks. 1867 V. 559 It is a *mercy-greatening mercy. 1833 ROCK *Hierurg.* (1892) I. 322 That God..whose sway Is *mercy-guided. 1595 SHAKS. *John* IV. i. 121 Fierce fire and Iron..Creatures of note for *mercy-lacking [*Fo.* mercy, lacking] vses. *a* 1565 R. TURNAR in Marbeck *Bk. of Notes* 332 In the power of God & *mercie shewer. 1550 BECON *Gov. Virtue* Wks. 1564 I. 244 And he is a *mercy stocke for our sinnes [1 John ii. 2]. 1550 HUTCHINSON *Image of God* Ep. Ded., Our sauiour & mercie stock saieth y^t^ this knowledge is eternal lyfe. *a* 1536 TINDALE *Pathw. Script.* Wks. (1573) 379 Christ..is called in Scripture Gods *mercy stole. 1549 COVERDALE, etc. *Erasm. Par. Rev.* 17 The euerlasting word of God, which is and euer hath bene ye Mercie-stoole of all the worlde. 1702 C. MATHER *Magn. Chr.* VII. 70 His Hatchet in his hand, ready to bestow a *Mercy-stroak of Death upon her. 1549 COVERDALE, etc. *Erasm. Par. Rom.* 7 Nowe hath God declared Christ to be vnto all people the very propiciatory, *mercie table, and sacrifice. 1822 WORDSW. *Eccles. Sonn.* I. XXVI, With *mercy-tempered frown. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* III. 111 Transported here and there, Led with the *mercy-wanting winds. 1819 SHELLEY *Cenci* III. ii. 4 If so, the shaft Of *mercy-winged lightning would not fall On stones and trees.

†**Me·rcy**, *v.* *Obs.* [ad. OF. *merci-er* to thank, amerce, etc., f. *merci* MERCY *sb.*]

1. *trans.* To amerce.

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 5490 3yf þou haue be so coueytous To mercs [*v. r.* mercye] men ouer outraious, And pore men, specyaly, þat ferde þe wers for þat mercy. *c* 1330 — *Chron.* (1810) 112 Who þat was gilty þorgh þe foresters sawe, Mercied was fulle hi. 1426 AUDELAY *Poems* 39 Thai mercyn hem with mone and med prevely.

2. To thank. Const. *of* (= for).

1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. III. 21 Mildeliche þenne Meede Merciede hem alle Of heore grete goodnesse. 1483 CAXTON *G. de la Tour* cxlii, Al the people..thanked & mercyed God ..of the delyueraunce of Cathonet. *c* 1500 *Melusine* 71 Therof I mercy & thanke you. *Ibid.* 90 Raymondin.. humbly mercyed the king of his good justice that he had doon to hym.

3. To clothe with mercy. *nonce-use.*

1645 RUTHERFORD *Tryal & Tri. Faith* (1845) 104 If all that a saint hath be blessed, and every thing (to speak so), mercied and christianed,..his inheritance must be blessed.

Hence †**Mercying** *vbl. sb.*, pitying, having mercy; used by Hampole to render L. *miseratio*.

a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* xxiv. 6 Vmthynke ye of þi mercyingis lord. *Ibid.* cii. 4 The whilke corouns þe in mercy and in merciyngis.

Mercyabil, -ble, -bull, obs. ff. MERCIABLE.

Mercyall, obs. form of MARTIAL.

Me·rcy-seat. The golden covering placed upon the Ark of the Covenant and regarded as the resting-place of God. Hence applied to the throne of God in Heaven, and to Christ as 'the propitiation for our sins'.

Heb. *kappōreth*, LXX. ἱλαστήριον, Vulg. *propitiatorium*, Wyclif 'propiciatorie'. Tindale's first rendering (1526) was 'the seate off grace' (*Hebr.* ix. 5); in both this and his later rendering he followed Luther's *Gnadenstuhle*. Cf. also *mercy-stock*, *stool*, *table*, in MERCY *sb.* 10.

1530 TINDALE *Ex.* XXV. 17, 18 And thou shalt make a merciseate of pure golde..and make .ii. cherubyns off thicke golde on the .ii. endes of the mercyseate. 1581 MARBECK *Bk. of Notes* 18 Brethren, we haue Iesus Christ the righteous and aduocate with the Father, he is the mercie seate of our sinnes. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* XI. 2 From the Mercie-seat above Prevenient Grace descending. 1710 ADDISON *Tatler* No. 267 P 6 We find him prostrating himself before the great Mercy-Seat. 1779 COWPER *Hymn*, Jesus! where'er thy people meet, There they behold thy mercy-seat. 1875 MANNING *Mission H. Ghost* i. 9 The infinite merits of the Redeemer of the world are before the Mercy-seat of our Heavenly Father.

transf. 1592 DAVIES *Immort. Soul* I. xix. (1714) 24 The Man whom Princes do advance, Upon their gracious Mercy-seat to sit.

†**Merd.** *Obs.* Also 5 **merde**, 6–7 **mard.** [a. F. *merde*:—L. *merda* dung.] Dung, excrement; a piece of excrement, a turd.

1477 NORTON *Ordin. Alch.* iii. in Ashm. (1652) 39 In Haire, in Eggs, in Merds, and Urine. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* b viij,

For this sekennese take merde of a dove. 1577 KENDALL *Flowers of Epigr.* 82 If after thou of Garlike strong, the sauour wilt expell: A Mard is sure the onely meane, to put away the smell. 1610 B. JONSON *Alch.* II. iii, Haire o' the head, burnt clouts, chalke, merds, and clay. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* II. iii. II. 391 To dispute of gentry without wealth, is ..to discusse the originall of a Mard. [*a* 1733 NORTH *Exam.* III. viii. (1740) 644 He..deals forth his Merda by the Hirelings of the Times.]

† **Merdaille.** *Obs. Sc.* Also 4 merdale. [Fr., f. *merde* (see prec.) with collective suffix, lit. 'heap of dung'.] A dirty crew, rabble, 'scum'.

c 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* IX. 249 Behynd thame set thai thar merdale. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xl. (*Ninian*) 921 Quheine eschapit, but merdale, þat for to tak ves nan awaile. 1687 CLEVELAND *Rust. Rampant* 467 This Merdaille, these Stinkards, throng before the Gates.

† **Merdi·ferous,** *a. Obs.*—° [f. L. *merd-a* MERD + -(I)FEROUS.] (See quot.)

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr., Merdiferous* (*merdifer*), that farmeth dung, a Gold-finder.

Merdivorous (mɑɹdi·vŏrəs), *a. rare*—°. [f. mod.L. *merdivor-us* (f. *merda* MERD + *-vorus* eating) + -OUS.] Feeding on dung (said of insects).

1856 in MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*; and in mod. Dicts.

† **Merdous,** *a. Obs.*—° [f. MERD + -OUS.] 'Full of dung or ordure' (Bailey 1721). Also † **Merdose** in same sense, whence † **Merdosity** (both in Bailey vol. II, 1727).

† **Merdu·rinous,** *a. Obs. rare.* [f. L. *merda* MERD + *ūrīna* URINE *sb.* + -OUS.] Composed of dung and urine. Also *fig.*

a 1616 B. JONSON *Epigr., On famous Voy.* 65 Who shall discharge first his merd-vrinous load. 1630 J. TAYLOR (Water-P.) *Wks.* II. 99/2 If shee thriue and grow fat, it is with the merdurinous draffe of our imperfections.

Mere (mīəɹ), *sb.*[1] Forms: 1 meri, 2-3 mære, 4 marre, 5 mer, 5-7 meere, 6-8 meare, 7 mayre, 7-9 meer, 9 *dial.* mare, mar, marr, 1- mere. [OE. *mere* str. masc., corresp. to OS. *meri* fem., sea (MDu., MLG. *mere* fem., neut., Du. *meer* neut., sea, pool), OHG. *meri, marī* (MHG., mod.G. *meer*) neut., sea, ON. *mar-r* masc., sea (MSw. *mär*, MDa. *mær* are from MLG.), Goth. *mari-* (nom. **mar*) in *mari-saiws* sea (also the derivative *marei* :—OTeut. type **marîn-* wk. fem.) :—OTeut. **mari-* :—WAryan **mori-* or **mori-*, represented in OSl. and Russ. MOPE, OIrish *muir*, Welsh *mor*, L. *mare* neut. (It. *mare*, Pr., Sp., Pg. *mar*, F. *mer* fem.).

The word is often referred to the Indogermanic root **mer-* (: *mor-*, *mr-*) to die, and supposed to have originally designated the sea as 'lifeless' in contrast with the land as abounding in vegetable life; but this is very doubtful; Brugmann suggests that the *r* may belong to the suffix.

The form *marr* (14th c. *marre*), occurring in senses 2 and 4, is abnormal. Cf. ON. *marr* (which, however, is known only in the sense 'sea'), and F. *mare* pond (from 12th c.).]

† **1.** The sea. *Obs.*

Mere Mediterane in quot. *c* 1425 is prob. from French.

a 1000 *Andreas* 283, & þu wilnast nu ofer widne mere? *c* 1205 LAY. 21773 Þer walleð of þan mæren a moniare siden. [*c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* IX. xii. 1332 The Lord wes of the Oryent, Of all Jude, and to Jordane And swa to the Mere Mediterane.] 1447 BOKENHAM *Seyntys* (Roxb.) 74 O lord.. Wych..pharoo..drynklyddyst in the salt mere.

2. A sheet of standing water; a lake, pond. Now chiefly *poet.* and *dial.*

Beowulf 1362 Nis þæt feor heonon milgemearces, þæt se mere standeð. *a* 700 *Epinal Gloss.* 962 *Stagnum*, staeg *vel* meri. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* John ix. 7 Ga & þweah þe on syloes mere. *c* 1205 LAY. 21739 Þat is a seolcuð mere iset a middelærde mid fenne & mid ræode. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 158, I seȝ by-ȝonde þat myry mere, A crystal clyffe ful relusannt. *a* 1400-50 *Alexander* 4093 Sone was he dreuyn with his dukis in-to a dryi meere. 1548 UDALL, etc. *Erasm. Par. Matt.* xvi. 85 b, He came vnto a meere which is called the sea of Galile. 1581 MULCASTER *Positions* xxiii. (1887) 95 Swimming in lakes and standing meres. 1651-7 T. BARKER *Art of Angling* (1820) 23 Either in mayre, or pond. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) VI. 40 The meres of Shropshire and Cheshire. 1823 SCOTT *Peveril* i, As a tempest influences the sluggish waters of the deadest meer. 1842 TENNYSON *Sir Gal.* iv, Sometimes on lonely mountain-meres I find a magic bark. 1888 ANNIE S. SWAN *Doris Cheyne* iii. 53 She loved to..watch the lovely shadows in the silent depths of the placid mere. 1896 BLASHILL *Sutton-in-Holderness* 4 Dotted over with sedgy marrs, of which Hornsea Marr, a veritable lake, is practically the last survivor.

† **3.** An arm of the sea. *Obs.*

1573-80 BARET *Alv.* M 271 A Mere, or water whereunto an arme of the sea floweth. 1622 CALLIS *Stat. Sewers* (1824) 70, I take it that a Bay and a Creek be all one, and that a Mere and a Fleet be also of that nature. *a* 1676 HALE *De Jure Maris* I. v. in *Hargrave's Tracts* (1787) I. 21 The abbot..had..the fishing, yea and the soil of an arm or creek of the sea called a meere or fleete.

4. A marsh, a fen. Now *dial.*

13.. *Childh. Jesus* 598 in *Archiv Stud. neu. Spr.* LXXIV. 335, I salle the gyffe bothe..Marre and mosse, bothe feldes and fene. 1609 HOLLAND *Amm. Marcell.* XXII. viii. 201 The seventh [mouth of the Danube] is a mightie great one, and in manner of a meere, blacke. 1629 MAXWELL tr. *Herodian* (1635) 360 Being come to a mighty great Meare or Marish, whither the Germanes had fled. 1670 EVELYN *Diary* 22 July, We rod out to see the greate meere or levell of recover'd fen lande. 1706 PHILLIPS, *Meer* or *Mear*,.. a low marshy Ground. 1876 *Mid-Yorksh. Gloss.*, *Mere*, heard, at times, applied to ground permanently under water.

5. *attrib.*, as † *mere-rush.*

1555 W. WATREMAN *Fardle Facions* I. v. 72 They feede them [children] with the rootes of mererusshes.

Mere, mear (mīəɹ), *sb.*[2] *arch.* and *dial.* Forms: 1 ȝemǽre, mǽre, 2 mære, 3 mær, mare, 3-4 mer, 4-9 meer(e, 5 merre, 5-6 meyre, 6-9 meare, 3- mere, 5- mear. [OE. *gemǽre, mǽre* str. neut. = MDu. (Flemish) *mere, meer*, ON. *(landa)-mæri* (Sw. *landamäre*) :—OTeut. **(gā)-mairjo*[m], cogn. w. L. *mūrus* (:—**moiros*) wall.]

1. A boundary; also, an object indicating a boundary, a landmark.

c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* ii. 8, & mæhte ðine ȝemæru eorðan [*et possessionem tuam terminos terrae*]. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Mark vi. 56 In londum uel in mærum [*c* 975 ȝimæru, Vulg. *in vicos uel in villas*]. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Mark v. 17 Hi hædon þæt he of hyra ȝemærum [*c* 1160 *Hatton* of hire mæren] fore. *c* 1205 LAY. 2133 Locrines mær [*c* 1275 mer] eode suð & east forð. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) I. 137 Þilke men destingeþ nouȝt noþer to sette her feeldes by boundes, noþer by meres. *a* 1400-50 *Alexander* 211 With-in þe merris of Messedoyn þar na man him knewe. 1488 *Cal. Anc. Rec. Dublin* (1889) I. 493 They ridde over a meare westward till thei came to Our Lady well, and so straight over the said mer. 1546 LANGLEY *Pol. Verg. De Invent.* I. xv. 28 The meeres and buttrelles with whiche they desseuered theyr porcions of lande. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* 1403 The god of Meeres and Bounds *Terminus*. 1672 PETTY *Pol. Anat.* (1691) 310 Planting 3 millions of timber-trees upon the bounds and mears of every denomination of land. 1787 in *N. W. Linc. Gloss.* s. v., Where a person knows his own land by meres or boundaries. 1849 JAMES *Woodman* xviii, Such things as have been done this night shall not happen within our meres and go unpunished.

fig. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* III. ix. 46 So huge a mind could not in lesser rest, Ne in small meares containe his glory great.

b. *spec.* A green 'balk', or a road, serving as a boundary.

1607 MARKHAM *Caval.* IV. (1617) 13 Either some faire Hie-way, or else some plaine green Meare. 1893 J. T. FOWLER *Let. to Editor*, The road dividing Winterton and Winteringham is commonly called 'The Mere' or 'Winteringham Mere'.

2. *Derbysh. Lead-mining.* A measure of land containing lead ore.

1653 MANLOVE *Lead Mines* 123 Such as orders, to observe refuse; Or work their meers beyond their length and Stake. 1670 PETTUS *Fodinæ Reg.* 92 If any Miners..find any new Rake or Vein, the first Finder shall have two Meers. 1829 *Glover's Hist. Derby* I. 67 Marking out in a pipe, or rake-work, two meeres of ground, each containing twenty-nine yards. 1851 *Act* 14 & 15 *Vict.* c. 94 Sched. i. § 18 Every Meer of Ground shall contain Thirty-two Yards in Length.

3. *attrib.*, as in *mere-balk*, † *-bound*, *-furrow*, † *-mark*, † *-staff*, *-stake*, † *-thorn*, *-tree*. Cf. MERESMAN, MERESTONE.

1630 in *N. W. Linc. Gloss.* s. v., Of Richard Welborne for plowing vp the kings *meere balk. 1667 *Providence* (*R. I.*) *Rec.* (1892) I. 37 Bounded with a Meere bauke betweene the land of Henry Browne & his running to Mosshossick river. 1840 SPURDENS *Suppl. Forby's Voc. E. Anglia, Mear-balk, Meare-balk*, a ridge left unploughed in a field, as a division of lands. 1600 DYMMOK *Ireland* (1843) 22 North Clanneboy is devided into two partes; the ryver of Kellis being the *meare bounde. 1896 BLASHILL *Sutton-in-Holderness* 17 These strips were called at a later time '*mere-furrows', or 'balks'. 1611 SPEED *Hist. Gt. Brit.* IX. ii. § 32 Some ruines of which *Meere-marke are yet appearing. 1631 WEEVER *Anc. Funeral Mon.* 866 The meere-markes, limits, or bondaries. 1552 HULOET, Bowne, buttell, or *merestafe, or stone. 1629 *Brasenose Coll. Muniments* 27. 104 Removed the *meere-stakes and boundaries. *a* 1000 in Kemble *Cod. Dipl.* III. 168 Of ðæm pytte on ðone dic, ðæt on *mærðorne. 1241 in *Newminster Cartul.* (1878) 202 Usque ad Merethorne. 1585 HIGINS *Junius' Nomenclator* 139 A *meere tree: a tree which is for some bound or limit of land.

† **Mere,** *sb.*[3] *Obs. rare*—[1]. [Sbortened from *mereman* MERMAN.] A merman or mermaid.

c 1220 *Bestiary* 584 He hauen herd told of ðis mere..half man and half fis.

† **Mere,** *sb.*[4] *Obs.* [a. OF. *mere* :—L. *mātrem* MOTHER.] A mother.

a 1250 *Five Joys Virg.* in *Rel. Ant.* I. 48 Seinte Marie, maydan ant mere. ?*c* 1400 *Minot's Poems* (1897) App. ii. 104/80 þan sal þe land duel in were, Als a stepchild without þe mere. *c* 1460-70 *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* 232/763 To-fore þi fadir, [&] mere maree, þou schewist þi woundis rent on roode.

† **Mere,** *sb.*[5] *Obs.* [subst. use of MERE *a.*[2]] (See quot. 1607.)

1544 tr. *Nat. Brevium* 2 Ioynynge the myses vpon the mere. [Cf. MERE *a.*[2] 3, quot. 1628.] 1607 COWEL *Interpr.*, *Meere*, though an adiective, yet is vsed for a substantive, signifiing meere right, *Owld nat. br.* fol. 2.

† **Mere,** *a.*[1] *Obs.* Also 1 mǽre, mére, 2-3 mære, 2-4 mere, 3 (*Lay.*) mare, meare. [OE. *mære* = OS. *mâri*, OHG. *mâri*, *mâre* (MHG. *mære*), ON. *mærr* (:—older *mâri-r*, in Runic inscriptions), Goth. *-mērs* (in *wailamērs* εὔφημος) :—OTeut. **mærjo-*.] Renowned, famous, illustrious; beautiful, noble. (Said of persons and things.)

Beowulf 103 Wæs se grimma gæst Grendel haten, mære mearcstapa, se þe moras heold. *a* 700 *Epinal Gloss.* 737 *Percrebuit*, mere uneard. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Saints' Lives* II. 334 Crist ȝeswutelaþ mannum þurh his mæran halȝan þæt he is ælmihtiȝ god. *a* 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 221 Forði ðe god bi ȝeworhte to meren anglen. *c* 1200 ORMIN 806 Þatt child.. Shall ben biforenn Drihhtin Godd Full mahhtiȝ mann & mære. *c* 1205 LAY. 27877 He..lette makien beren riche and swiðe maren [*c* 1275 meare]. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 7045 Constant was eldest & mere. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 878 Penne a mere mantyle was on þat mon cast.

Mere (mīəɹ), *a.*[2] and *adv.* Forms: 6 meare, mer, *Sc.* meir, 6-8 meer(e, (7 mear, myere). [ad. L. *merus* undiluted, unmixed, pure. Cf. OF. *mer, mier* (AF. *meer*, which is the source of the Eng. word in legal uses), It., Sp., Pg. *mero*.

In the OE. *mære peneas* (see B.-T.), app. = med.L. *meri denarii* (see Du Cange), the adj. may be viewed as an adaptation of L. *merus*, or better as a use of MERE *a.*[1] suggested by the similarity in sound to the Latin word.]

A. *adj.*

† **1.** a. Of wine: Not mixed with water. *Obs.*

1545 RAYNOLD *Byrth Mankynde* 133 Let not the nourse vse any watered wyne, or myxed but mere and in his owne kynde. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 275 Three cyaths of meere wine ful of the grape. 1660 JER. TAYLOR *Worthy Communn.* I. i. 35 Our wine is here mingled with water and with myrrhe, there it is mere and unmixt.

† **b.** Of a people or their language: Pure, unmixed. Chiefly in *mere Irish* (see IRISH *sb.* 1 a), now often misunderstood as a term of disparagement, the adj. being apprehended as in sense 5.

1561 T. HOBY tr. *Castiglione's Courtyer* I. (1577) Evj, Though it were not the meere ancient Tuscane tong, yet should it be the Italian tongue. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 286, I will repeople the towne againe wyth mere Englishe men. 1577-87 STANYHURST *Descr. Irel.* viii. 44/2 in *Holinshed*, The disposition and maners of the meere Irish, commonlie called the wild Irish. 1605 VERSTEGAN *Dec. Intell.* (1628) Pref. Ep. [They] doe rather seeme to vnderstand them for a kind of forraine people, then as their owne true and meere Ancestors. 1623 LISLE *Ælfric on O. & N. Test.* To Rdr. 17 The meere Saxon monuments of.. Sir H. Spelman. 1648 GAGE *West Ind.* 55 There may not be above two thousand Inhabitants of meer Indians. 1711 J. GREENWOOD *Eng. Gram.* 10 Cardinal Wolsey, in his Embassy into France, commanded all his servants to use no French, but meer English. 1732-33 WOGAN in *Swift's Wks.* (1824) XVII. 456 Scarce any people are taken for mere Irish, either in England, or on the continent, but the vulgar of the country, and the few unfortunate exiles. 1836 H. G. WARD *Sp. Ho. Comm.* 28 Mar., No man who is 'a mere Irishman' can exist without feeling deep gratitude to the Honourable and Learned Member for Dublin.

† **c.** Of other things material and immaterial: Pure, unmixed. *Obs.*

1535 HEN. VIII in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* (1721) I. App. liv. 140 The true, mere, and sincere word of God. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 84 Earthly happinesse.. is neuer meere and vnmixed, but hath some sowre sauce to rellish it. 1665 NEEDHAM *Med. Medicinæ* 388 The vitious humor.. not sincere or mere [*at non sincerum*], but mingled with the.. profitable humor. 1703 *Art & Myst. Vintners* 43 Take about 8 or 10 ounces of mere Chalk.

† **d.** quasi-*adv.* in comb. *mere-pure* adj. *Obs.*

1650 W. BROUGH *Sacr. Princ.* (1659) 17 Mere-pure-papists holding and doing all things in opposition to us. *Ibid.* 207 A meer-pure-sin, without motive.

2. Done, performed, or exercised by a person or persons specified without the help of any one else; sole. Chiefly *Law*, in phrases *mere motion*, etc.

1444 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 87/1 Of his especial grace, mere motion, and singuler devotion. 1449 *Ibid.* 161/1 This devout Collage is of his mere foundation. 1527 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* 342 But leue theym to the mer disposicion of the said parson & parisheners. 1558 in 10*th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 388 Of our own meare gifte and volantary willis. 1650 EARL MONM. tr. *Senault's Man bec. Guilty* 55 His nature being the meer work of God had no defaults. *a* 1718 PENN *Tracts* Wks. 1726 I. 681 It is said to be out of his meer and free Will, as if it were his meer Favour. 1881 JOWETT *Thucyd.* I. 211 We were wrong if of our mere motion we..fought with you, and ravaged your land.

3. *Law. Mere right* [AF. *meer dreit*, law-Latin *jus merum*]: right as distinguished from possession.

[1292 BRITTON IV. v. § 4 Qe cesti pleintif, qi est dreit heir celi qi drein presenta, ad meer dreit par le title de successioun.] 1559-60 *Act* 2 *Eliz.* in Bolton *Stat. Irel.* (1621) 284 That your Majestie.. is, and in verie deed, and of most meere right ought to bee.. our most rightful.. soveraigne. 1628 COKE *On Litt.* III. viii. 279 If..hee ioyne the mise vpon the meere right. 1766 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* II. 197 This is frequently spoken of in our books under the name of the mere right, *jus merum*; and the estate of the owner is in such cases said to be totally devested, and put to a right.

† **4.** That is what it is in the full sense of the term; nothing short of (what is expressed by the sb.); absolute, entire, sheer, perfect, downright. *Obs.*

Collocations such as 'mere lying', 'mere folly', are still possible, but the adj. no longer means 'nothing less than', but 'nothing more than' (sense 5).

1536 HEN. VIII in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. II. 86 We.. wyll se yf.. be wyll of hys awne mynde confesse the mere trawthe. 1551 ROBINSON tr. *More's Utopia* II. (1895) 244 Whyche thynge they doo of meere pytye and compassion. 1577 *F. de L'isle's Legendarie* B viij, A kinde of importunatenes not farre different from meere violence. 1594 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* I. ii. § 2 Our God is One, or ratber very Oneness, and meer Unity. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* XXII. xliii. 459 Complaining first of the dearth of victuals, and in the end, of meere hunger and famine. 1600 in 10*th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 458 Thobstinacie, willfull disobedience, myere lienge and disceite of the countrie gentlemen. 1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* II. ii. 3. 1607 HEYWOOD *Wom. Killed w. Kindn.* Wks. 1874 II. 115 Pride is grown to vs A meere meere stranger. 1625 BACON *Ess., Friendship* (Arb.) 165 That it is a meere, and miserable Solitude, to want true Friends. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 214 [The rivulet] discends so violently, that it makes meere Cattaracts by its motion. 1668 M. CASAUBON *Credulity* (1670) 31 The Greek Grammarians.. (meer strangers to the Hebrew). 1719 D'URFEY *Pills* (1872) III. 306 It blows a mere Storm. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* (1840) I. 146, I.. became, in a little time, a mere pastry-cook, into the bargain. 1746 CHESTERF. *Lett.* (1792) I. cviii. 295 You are a mere Oedipus, and I do not believe

a Sphynx could puzzle you. 1749 SMOLLETT *Gil Blas* (1797) III. 45 He was .. fair as Love himself, a mere pattern in shape. 1775 WESLEY *Wks.* (1872) IV. 50 He seems to think himself a mere Phenix.

5. Having no greater extent, range, value, power, or importance than the designation implies; that is barely or only what it is said to be.

1581 PETTIE tr. *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* II. (1586) 49 h, If I speake rather lyke a meere Citizen, than a Philosopher. 1586 HOOKER *Disc. Justif.* § 32 (1612) 54 Nestorius..held, that the Virgin .. did not bring forth the sonne of God, but a sole and a mere man. 1594 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* II. 345 The throate .. being onely a meere way and place of passage, through which meates and drinkes passe to and fro. 1610 A. COOKE *Pope Joan* 104 A meere layman. 1650 BAXTER *Saints' R.* II. vii. § 7 To the meer English Reader I commend especially these [books]. 1671 MILTON *P. R.* IV. 535 To the utmost of meer man both wise and good, Not more. 1720 OZELL *Vertot's Rom. Rep.* I. 1. 9 This military Function became a meer Title of Honour. 1750 GRAY *Long Story* 137 Decorum's turn'd to mere civility. 1758 S. HAYWARD *Serm.* p. xiv, Our public performances are .. looked upon as a meer form. 1820 W. IRVING *Sketch Bk.* I. 3 Even when a mere child I began my travels. 1827 HARE *Guesses* (1859) 339 Mere art perverts taste; just as mere theology depraves religion. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* v. I. 532 Those who had pecuniary transactions with him soon found him to be a mere swindler. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* vi. § 4. 300 Immersed as Archbishop Warham was in the business of the State, he was no mere politician. 1892 *Law Rep., Weekly Notes* 188/1 The defendant had been maliciously making noises for the mere purpose of .. annoying the plaintiffs.

b. Used in the superlative and comparative.

1642 MILTON *Apol. Smect.* Wks. 1851 III. 305, I rather deeme it the meerest, the falsest, the most unfortunate guift of fortune. 1841 MISS SEDGWICK *Lett. Abr.* I. 269, I have never seen people that seemed merer animals. 1868 FARRAR *Seekers* II. i. (1875) 201, I shall live despised and the merest nobody.

† B. *adv.* = MERELY *adv.*[2] *Obs.*

1534 in W. H. Turner *Select. Rec. Oxford* (1880) 126 Lawes..repugnante and meere contrarie to ye Kings statuts. 1577 HANMER *Anc. Eccl. Hist.* (1619) 259 All such crimes as Athanasius was charged with, were meere false. 1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* III. v. 58 *Dia.* .. Thinke you it is so? *Hel.* I surely meere the truth. 1618 WITHER *Motto, Nec Curo*, I hate to have a thought o're-serious spent In things meere triviall, or indifferent. 1635 PAGITT *Christianogr.* I. ii. (1636) 51 Authority over the Clergie and matters meere ecclesiasticall.

† **Mere,** *v.*[1] *Obs.* [OE. *merian*; cf. the more frequent *á-merian*, of the same meaning.] *trans.* To purify. Hence † Mered *ppl. a.*

a 1000 *Sal. & Sat.* 55 (Gr.) To begonganne ðam ðe his gast wile meltan wið morðre, mergan [*MS. B.* merian] of sorge. *a* 1272 *Luue Ron* 115 in *O. E. Misc.* 96 Hwat spekestu of eny bolde þat wrouht þe wise salomon Of iaspe, of saphir, of merede golde. 1340 *Ayenb.* 94 Huanne he [God] nhesseþ þe herte and makeþ zuete and tretable ase wex ymered.

Mere, mear (mīəɹ), *v.*[2] *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Also 6 mere, meyre, 6–7 meare, 6–9 meer. [f. MERE, MEAR *sb.*[2] (ONorthumbrian had *gimæra*).]

1. *trans.* To mark *out* (land) by means of 'meres' or boundaries.

a 950 *Rituale Eccles. Dunelm.* (Surtees) 164 *Diterminans* [glossed] ȝimnerende. 1507 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) II. 190 A certeyn parcell of Grounde .. meryd and staked by the maisters of both the said Collegges. 1577–87 HOLINSHED *Chron.* II. 22/1 The paroch was meared from the Crane castell, to the fish shambles. 1598 *Manchester Crt. Leet Rec.* (1885) II. 136 Wee..haue sett downe certen stakes w[ch] meyre out ye saide landes. 1621 EARL OF CORK in *Lismore Papers* (1888) Ser. II. III. 18 This purchase will..meare and bounde his owne [property]. 1725 in S. O. Addy *Hall of Waltheof* (1893) 155 A place there comonly called Campo Lane being the overend of the said croft, as the same is now meared and staked out. 1863 in Curwen *Kirbie-Kendall* (1900) 84 The Scotch Burial Ground..never had any trustees for itself alone, being only meered or walled off and excluded from the title made in 1804.

† 2. *intr.* To abut *upon*; to be bounded *by*. *Obs.*

1577 STANYHURST *Descr. Irel.* in *Holinshed* (1808) VI. 2 Ireland is divided into foure regions .. and into a fift plot, defalked from everie fourth part, and yet mearing on each part. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* II. 99 The County of Gallway meereth South upon Clare—West upon the Ocean. 1713 *Conn. Col. Rec.* (1870) V. 396 From the said ford of Cowissick River meering with the said Cowissick River, to a great oak tree markt,..and thence meering on the east or easterly by and with the said Quinebaug River.

Mere: see MAR, MARE, MAYOR, MERI[2], MERRY, MYRRH.

† **Mered,** *ppl. a. Obs. rare*—[1]. In 7 meered. Formation and sense doubtful; possibly a corrupt reading. By some referred to MERE *v.*[2]; by others regarded as f. MERE *a.*[2] + -ED [1], and explained as 'sole, entire' (Schmidt).

1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* III. xiii. 10 The itch of his Affection should not then Haue nickt his Captain-ship, at such a point, When halfe to halfe the world oppos'd, he being The meered question?

† **Me·regoutte.** *Obs.* Also -gout. [a. F. *mère-goutte*, ad. med.L. *mera gutta* 'pure drop'.] The first running of juice from grapes or oil from olives, before pressure is applied.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 331 A little vnpressed wine of the first running, called Mere-goutte. *Ibid.* 381 The Mere-gout of the grape that runneth out first without pressing.

Mereid, obs. form of MARRIED.

c 1485 in *Cal. Proc. Chanc. Q. Eliz.* (1830) II. Pref. 74 The which Alis is mereid and covertbaren.

Mereit, obs. Sc. form of MERIT.

Merel (me·rĕl). Forms: *sing.* 4 merel, 9 marl; *pl.* 5 mereles, merellis, -ys, 5–7 merelles, 7 merills, 7–8 merils, 9 merrels, merril(l)s, merls, 5– merels. Also *corruptly* 7 miracle, moral; and see MORRIS. [a. OF. *merel, marel* (mod.F. *méreau*) masc., *merelle, marelle* (mod.F. *mérelle, marelle*) fem.; the word in OF. meant a token coin, metal ticket, or counter.

Cf. Sicilian *marrella*, in 1617 used for the game of draughts (Carrera *Il Giuoco degli Scacchi*).]

1. One of the counters or pieces used in the game of 'merels' (see 2). Also *fig.*

1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 18 So that under the clerkes lawe Men sen the Merel al mysdrawe. *Ibid.* III. 201 Wherof ensamples ben ynowhe Of bem that thilke merel drowhe. 1611 [see 2].

2. Chiefly *pl.* a. A game played on a board between two players, each with an equal number of pebbles, disks of wood or metal, pegs, or 'pins'. Called also *fivepenny morris*, and *ninepenny* or *nine men's morris*, according to the number of pins or men used. Also *attrib.* † b. The game of FOX AND GEESE. *Obs.*

On the continent the name was applied also to a game nearly identical with draughts, and to 'hop-scotch'.

a. *c* 1400 *Beryn* 1250 Leve now al thy foly, and thy rebawdy As Tablis, & merellis & þe hazardry. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* I. xx. 120 Where is it also grondid in Holi Scripture that men..schulden pleie..bi sitting at the merels? 1611 COTGR., *Merelles. Le Ieu des merelles.* The boyish game called Merills, or fiue-pennie Morris; played here most commonly with stones, but in France with pawnes, or men made of purpose, and tearmed Merelles. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* (1905) II. 68/1 A 9 Hole Board..some terme this a miracle board and the game Miracles. 1694 HYDE *Hist. Nerdiludii* Wks. (1767) 359 Alia habet nomina secundum numerum frustulorum quibus luditur..: sicut est marlin: alias three men's Morals, & nine men's Morals, & nine penny miracle,.. alias three penny moris, aut five penny moris, aut nine penny moris [etc.]...Pro his autem omnibus verius & rectius dicendum est three pin merells aut nine pin merells. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Merils*,..otherwise call'd Fivepenny Morris. 1826 in *Hone's Every-day Bk.* II. 983 There is an ancient game, played by the 'shepherds of Salisbury Plain', and 'village rustics' in that part of the country, called 'Ninepenny Marl'. 1867 B. BRIERLEY *Marlocks* 95 One [chair] in particular had supplied the material for a 'merril' board. 1877 *Holderness Gloss., Merrils*, a game played on a square board with 18 pegs, nine on each side. Called in many parts nine men's morris. 1889 *Folk-Lore Jrnl.* VII. 233 The boys of a cottage near Dorchester had..carved a 'marrel' pound on a block of stone by the house.

b. 1902 REDSTONE in *Trans. R. Hist. Soc.* XVI. 195 The Royal household [under Edw. IV] found delight in games of chess and 'merelles'. For the latter game '2 foxis and 46 hounds of silver overgilt' were purchased to form 2 sets.

† **Me·rely,** *adv.*[1] *Obs.* [f. MERE *a.*[1] + -LY [2].] Wonderfully, beautifully.

c 1205 LAY. 2677 Þe king..ane neowe burh makede..mærliche feier. *c* 1400 *Sc. Trojan War* I. 337 Ascendande up þe greces gray Rith merely maide of marble-stane.

Merely (mīə·ɹli), *adv.*[2] [f. MERE *a.*[2] + -LY [2].]

† 1. Without admixture or qualification; purely.

1548 CRANMER in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* II. App. AA. 98 Soch other moral lernynges as are merely deryved out of scripture. 1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* II. i. § 4 These Narrations ..not to be mingled with the Narrations which are meerely and sincerely naturall. 1637 GILLESPIE *Eng.-Pop. Cerem.* III. iv. 63 Such things as are not merely, but mixedly Divine. 1645 PAGITT *Heresiogr.* (1662) 125 The witnesse of the spirit is merely immediate.

† b. Without the help of others. *Obs.*

1608 D. T[UVIL] *Ess. Pol. & Mor.* 2 To deliuer it vnto them, as if it had proceeded meerly from himselfe.

† 2. Absolutely, entirely; quite, altogether. *Obs.*

1546 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 197 What goodes, catalles,..or other stuff, do merely belong..to all the sayd promocions. 1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* v. lxii. § 18 That therefore baptisme by heretiques is meerely voyde. 1601 R. JOHNSON *Kingd. & Commw.* (1603) 48 The government is meerely tyrannicall: for the great Turke is so absolute a lord [etc.]. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* I. ii. 137. 1613 FLETCHER, etc. *Honest Man's Fort.* v. iii, I..am as happy In my friends good, as it were meerly mine. *a* 1619 FOTHERBY *Atheom.* II. iii. § 2 (1622) 214 It is meerely impossible, that any thing should be the cause of it selfe. 1633 BP. HALL *Hard Texts* 29, I have not meerly lied in saying, she is my sister, but onely dissembled. 1728 MORGAN *Algiers* I. Pref. 2, I wished, nay merely languished for their Destruction. 1788 WESLEY *Wks.* (1872) VI. 283 Those countries that are merely Popish; as Italy, Spain, Portugal.

† b. As a matter of fact, actually. *Obs.*

c 1596 HARINGTON in *Metam. Ajax* (1813) Introd. 13 As I sny merely in the booke, the 118 page. 1601 LD. MOUNTJOY in Moryson *Itin.* (1617) II. 204 Not onely have [I] taken all occasions by the death of Captaines to extinguish their entertainement, but also have meerely discharged above five thousand.

3. Without any other quality, reason, purpose, view, etc.; only (what is referred to) and nothing more. Often preceded by *not*.

c 1580 SIDNEY *Ps.* XXXIX. iii, The greatest state we see, At best, is meerely vanity. 1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* v. liv. § 4 The incarnation of the Sonne of God consisteth meerely in the vnion of natures. 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* v. i. 459 Thoughts are no subiects Intents, but meerely thoughts. 1622 PEACHAM *Compl. Gent.* x. 94 Diuers of his workes, are but meerely translations out of Latine and French. 1690 LOCKE *Govt.* I. ix. § 88 Men are not Proprietors of what they have meerly for themselves. 1729 BUTLER *Serm.* Wks. 1874 II. Pref. 5 The multitudes who read merely for the sake of talking. 1841 MISS MITFORD in L'Estrange *Life* (1870) III. viii. 117 The hero must be young and interesting—must have to do, and not merely to suffer. 1856 SIR B. BRODIE *Psychol. Inq.* I. iv. 131 It is not very common for any one to die merely of old age. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 99 Perhaps Nicias is serious, and not merely talking for the sake of talking. 1888 F. HUME *Mme. Midas* I. iv, To many people Cowper is merely a name.

Merely, obs. form of MERRILY.

Meremaid, etc., obs. forms of MERMAID, etc.

‖ **Merenchyma** (mĕre·ŋkimă). *Bot.* Also anglicized **merenchym.** [mod. L., f. Gr. *μέρος* part + *-enchyma* in PARENCHYMA.] Tissue consisting of ellipsoidal and spheroidal cells. Also *attrib.*

1839 LINDLEY *Introd. Bot.* I. i. (ed. 3) 7 *note*, Professor Morren has proposed the following nomenclature of tissue, which has some advantages over that now more commonly in use. I. *Parenchyma*; 1. *merenchyma*, or *sphærenchyma*, spherical; 2. *conenchyma*, conical [etc.]. *Ibid.* 15 Meyen has *Merenchyma* [*ed.* 1848 *Merenchym*] for ellipsoidal and spheroidal cells. 1849 BALFOUR *Man. Bot.* § 5. 1900 JACKSON *Gloss. Bot. Terms, Merenchyma cells*, unpitted cells in the pith of trees, with intercellular spaces, and much elongated radially.

Hence **Merenchy·matous** *a.*, of the character of merenchyma.

1840 *Ann. Nat. Hist.* IV. 392 A cuticle with merenchymatous cells, swollen up, like bladders.

‖ **Mere·nda.** [Sp. *merienda* (cf. *merendar* vb., to eat one's 'merenda'):—L. *merenda.*] A light meal or collation. Also **merendar** [from the verb].

1622 MABBE tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* II. (1630) 282 Now they were beginning to fall to their merendar or inter-mealary repast. 1740 C'TESS HARTFORD *Corr.* (1805) II. 81 At every one of these visits there is a merenda provided for the ladies that attend the princess.

† **Me·reness.** *Obs.*—[0] [f. MERE *a.*[2]] Purity.

1648–60 HEXHAM *Dutch Dict., Louterheyt*, Purety, Meerenesse, or Cleanenesse.

† **Me·resauce.** *Obs.* Also 5 mersaus(e, mire sauce. [? repr. AF. **muiresauce*:—L. *muria salsa* salt pickle. Cf. the synonymous OF. *salmuire*, mod.F. *saumure.*] Brine used for pickling.

?*c* 1400 in *Househ. Ord.* (1790) 435 Take felittes of braune and let hom lye in mersaus an houre. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 240/2 Mire sauce, *muria*. 1494 FABYAN *Chron.* VI. CCXIV. 230 He..slewe the sayde seruauntes of his brother, and hacked theym in small pecys, and cast them after in meresawce or salte. 1530 PALSGR. 244/2 Mere sauce for flesshe, *savimure*. 1681 W. ROBERTSON *Phraseol. Gen.* (1693) 877 Meer sauce, or brine.

Mereschaum, variant of MEERSCHAUM.

Meresman (mīəɹzmăn). *Obs.* exc. *dial.* [f. *mere's*, genit. of MERE *sb.*[2] + MAN.] A man appointed to find out the exact boundaries of a parish, etc.

1867 HT. PARR *Stone Edge* vii. in *Cornh. Mag.* XV. 737, I were a fool to promise thretty shillin' a year for't,—the Meresmen said as how it werna much above three acre. 1875 PARISH *Sussex Gloss., Meresman*, a parish officer who attends to the roads, bridges and water-courses. 1884 *Times* 29 May 8/4 The boundaries laid down..were pointed out to the Ordnance Surveyors by Meresmen, or persons appointed by Her Majesty's Justices of the Peace. 1895 *Edin. Rev.* July 55 Great trouble was taken to secure the most trustworthy meresmen in each barony.

Merestead: see MESESTEAD.

Merestone (mīəɹstōun). *arch.* and *dial.* [f. MERE *sb.*[2] + STONE.] A stone set up as a landmark.

956 in Birch *Cartul. Sax.* III. 154 Ðis synton ða landzemæro..On mærstan, of mærstane on ðone ealdan ȝaran. ?1360 *Durham Halm. Rolls* (Surtees) 26 Amovit unum merstane. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 232/2 A Meyre stane, *bifinium*. 1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* (1592) 395 Thou shalt not remoue thy neighbours merestone. 1679 *Coll. Conn. Hist. Soc.* (1897) VI. 190 The meere stones of the lot. 1782 *MS. Indenture Estate at Balworth, co. Nottingham.*, Closes.. lying East of the meerstones or boundaries set up by Robert Rogers. 1839 STONEHOUSE *Axholme* 384 A Mere Stone called God's Cross. 1879 JEFFERIES *Amateur Poacher* iii, By the pond stood a low three-sided merestone or landmark. *fig.* 1617 BACON *Sp. to Hutton* Resusc. (1657) I. 94 That you contain the Jurisdiction of the Court within the ancient Meere-stones, without Removing the Mark. 1877 TRENCH *Lect. Med. Ch. Hist.* 15 The merestone to mark where one era terminated and another began.

† **Me·reswine.** *Obs.* Forms: see MERE *sb.*[1] and SWINE; also 6 marswyn, *Sc.* meir-, meyrswyne, 8–9 meer swine. [OE. *mereswín*, lit. 'sea-swine', f. *mere* MERE *sb.*[1] + *swín* SWINE. Cf. the equivalent OHG. *meriswin* (MHG. *mereswin*, mod. G. *meerschwein*), whence F. *marsouin.* Cf. MARSOUIN.] A dolphin or porpoise.

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) B. 166 *Bacarius*, meresuin. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 334 Nim mere-swines fel. *c* 1325 *Metr. Hom.* 25 The thride dai mersuine and qualle, And other gret fises alle Sal yel. 1419 *Liber Albus* (Rolls) I. 343 Item, de mereswyn, quantum dabit. 1541 BELLENDEN *Descr. Alb.* ix. in *Cron. Scot.* B vj b, This Frith [of Forth] is rycht plentuus of coclis,..pellok, merswyne, and quhalis. 1710 SIBBALD *Hist. Fife & Kinross* 49 The bigger [sort] beareth the Name of Dolphin; and our Fishers call them Meer-swines. 1822 CARLYLE *Early Lett.* (1886) II. 70 Waugh fixed his eye on an enormous meerswine.

Merete, Meretorious, obs. ff. MERIT, MERITORIOUS.

† **Meretric,** *a. Obs. rare*—[1]. = MERETRICIOUS.

1545 JOYE *Exp. Dan.* xii. 215 b, Thei thinke it impossible to be any knaueryе or errours in so holy fathers with their meretrik mother.

† **Meretricate,** *v. Obs.*—[0] [f. late L. *meretrīcāt-* (*-trīcārī*), f. *meretrīc-em* harlot.]

1623 COCKERAM, *Meretricate*, to play the whore.

†**Meretri·cial,** *a. Obs.* [f. L. *meretrīci-us* (see MERETRICIOUS) + -AL.] = MERETRICIOUS 1.

1751 LAVINGTON *Enthus. Meth. & Papists* III. 335 He saw them..standing before a public Stew, in meretricial Habits.

†**Meretri·cian,** *a.* and *sb. Obs.* [Formed as prec. + -AN.] **a.** *adj.* = MERETRICIOUS 1. **b.** *sb.* A harlot.

1630 BRATHWAIT *Eng. Gentlem.* (1641) 403, A mercenarie meretrician. *a* 1704 T. BROWN *Declam. in Def. Gaming* Wks. 1709 III. 142 Take from human Commerce Meretrician Amours, you will find a horrid Confusion of all things, and incestuous Lusts disturb every Family.

Meretricious (merĭtri·ʃəs), *a.* [f. L. *meretrīci-us* (f. *meretrīc-*, *meretrix* harlot, fem. agent-n. f. *meretī* to earn money, serve for hire: see MERIT *sb.*) + -OUS.]

1. Of, pertaining to, characteristic of, or befitting a harlot; having the character of a harlot.

a 1626 BACON *New Atl.* 27 The Delight in Meretricious Embracements (wher sinne is turned into Art) maketh Marriage a dull thing. 1664 H. MORE *Exp. 7 Epist.* (1669) 101 Jezebel,..for all her paintings and fine meretricious pranking her self up,..was to be thrown out at the window. 1765 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* I. 436 It is a meretricious, and not a matrimonial, union. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* VII. vij, A young stagefinch who had evidently suffered himself to be caught in the birdlime of her professional or meretricious talents. 1814 SHELLEY *Prose Wks.* (1888) II. 394 The lying and meretricious prude.

2. Alluring by false show of beauty or richness; showily attractive. Now often applied to the style of a painter or a writer.

1633 P. FLETCHER *Purple Isl.* VIII. ix, Strip thou their meretricious seemlinesse. 1662 S. P. *Acc. Latitude-men* in *Phenix* II. 503 The meretricious Gaudiness of the Church of Rome, and the squallid Sluttery of Fanatick Conventicles. 1709–10 ADDISON *Tatler* No. 120 ₱ 5 The Front of it was raised on Corinthian Pillars, with all the meretricious Ornaments that accompany that Order. 1790 BURKE *Fr. Rev.* 59 A lust of meretricious glory. 1843 PRESCOTT *Mexico* I. vi. (1864) 55 The meretricious ornaments..with which the minstrelsy of the East is usually attended. 1846 WRIGHT *Ess. Mid. Ages* I. v. 185 The style he aims at is gaudy and meretricious. 1879 SEGUIN *Black For.* vi. 85 The meretricious excitement of the gambling-room.

absol. 1838 LYTTON *Alice* 55 No critic ever more readily detected the meretricious and the false.

Hence **Meretri·ciously** *adv.*, **Meretri·ciousness.**

1727 BAILEY vol. II, *Meretriciousness.* 179. BURKE *Tracts on Popery Laws* Wks. 1812 V. 258 And meretriciously to hunt abroad after foreign affections. 1850 L. HUNT *Autobiog.* xxi. (1860) 343 The face [of the Venus de Medici] has the very worst look of meretriciousness, which is want of feeling. 1859 GULLICK & TIMBS *Paint.* 118 Its generally dauby meretriciousness. 1892 LOUNSBURY *Stud. Chaucer* III. vii. 181 The outspokenness of the original has been generally .. omitted. For it, however, there has been substituted a veiled coarseness and meretriciousness.

†**Meretri·culate,** *v. nonce-wd.* [f. L. *meretrīce-*, parodying *matriculate.*] *trans.* To deceive as a harlot does.

1611 CHAPMAN *May Day* 32, I haue not beene matriculated in the Vniuersity, to be meretriculated by him.

‖**Meretrix** (me·rĭtriks). Pl. **meretrices** (merĭtrəi·sīz). [L.] A prostitute, harlot.

1564 MARTIAL *Treat. Cross* 139 Yff she were blacke, browne, barren, or common to mo, as *Meretrix* is a common name to them all. 1605 B. JONSON *Volpone* I. i, From Pithagore, she went into a beautiful peece Hight Aspasia, the Meretrix.

Mereuh, -ewe: see MARROW, MEROW.

Merewi: see MARROWY.

Merganser (məɪgæ·nsəɹ). [mod.L. (Gesner 1555), f. *merg-us* diver (water-fowl) + *anser* goose. The name is given by Willughby (1676) and Albin (1731) as Latin, with the Eng. equivalent 'goosander.'] Any bird of the genus *Mergus* or subfamily *Merginæ*, fish-eating ducks of great diving powers, with long narrow serrated bill hooked at the tip, inhabiting the northern parts of the Old World and N. America; esp. *Mergus merganser*, the common merganser or GOOSANDER. *M. serrator* is the Red-breasted Merganser, *M. cucullatus* the Hooded Merganser of N. America, *M. albellus* the White Merganser or SMEW.

1752 J. HILL *Hist. Anim.* 437 Mergus crista dependente, capite nigro-cærulescente collari albo. The Merganser. 1759 B. STILLINGFL. tr. *Biberg's Econ. Nat.* in *Misc. Tracts* (1762) 103 In the autumn, when the fishes hide themselves in deep places, the merganser..supplies the gull with food. 1768 PENNANT *Zool.* (1776) II. 471 Red Breasted Merganser. 1840 *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 266 The Bay-breasted M[erganser] (*M. serrator*). *Ibid.* 267 The Hooded M[erganser]. 1852 MACGILLIVRAY *Brit. Birds* V. 199 The Mergansers, although few in number, seem yet to form a very distinct family. 1856 F. O. MORRIS *Brit. Birds* V. 270 Smew...White Nun. White Merganser. 1879 C. NAPIER *Lakes & Rivers* iv. 117 The Red-breasted Merganser (*Mergus serrator*) is one of the most beautiful of our ducks.

Merge (mɔ̄ɹdʒ), *sb. rare.* [f. the vb.] An act or instance of merging.

1805 FOSTER *Ess.* I. vii. (1806) 101 In him it was no debility of reason, it was at the utmost but a merge of it. 1905 *Pall Mall G.* 24 Apr. 3/2 The first barony of Pelham.. merged in the Dukedom of Newcastle. .. The 'merges' of the 1611 baronetcy, Pelham of Laughton, have been many.

Merge (mɔ̄ɹdʒ), *v.* [ad. L. *mergĕre* to dip, plunge. The surviving uses (senses 2 and 3) come through Law Fr. *merger*, earlier translated 'drown' (see DROWN *v.* 6 b).]

†1. *trans.* To plunge or sink *in* a (specified) activity, way of living, environment, etc.; to immerse. (In quots. *refl.* and *pass.*) *Obs.*

1636 PRYNNE *Unbish. Timothy* 134 [They] merge themselves in pleasures, idlenesse, or secular affaires. 1637 — *Brev. Prelates* 64 Thomas Woolsie..wholly merged himselfe in secular offices and state affairs. 1751 HARRIS *Hermes* III. iv. (1765) 350 The Vulgar merged in Sense from their earliest Infancy,..imagine nothing to be real, but what may be tasted or touched.

¶ b. rarely *lit.*: To plunge or dip *in* a liquid.

1866 J. M. NEALE *Hymns Paradise* (ed. 2) 30 All his spite the Tempter urges; Casts in fire, in water merges [L. *aquis mergit*]. 1865 J. B. ROSE tr. *Ovid's Fasti* V. 754 So Tiber said, And in his grotto merged his dripping head.

2. In *Law*: To sink or extinguish (a lesser estate, title, etc.) *in* one which is greater or superior. Hence *gen.*, to cause (something) to be absorbed into something else, so as to lose its own character or identity; to sink or make to disappear.

a. Const. *in*, occas. *into.*

1728 [see MERGER[1] 1]. 1729 JACOB *Law Dict.* s.v. *Merger*, An Estate-tail cannot be merged in an Estate in Fee. 1766 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* II. 177 Whenever a greater estate and a less coincide and meet in one and the same person, without any intermediate estate, the less is immediately annihilated; or, in the law phrase, is said to be *merged*, that is, sunk or drowned, in the greater. 1791 BURKE *Let. Memb. Nat. Assemb.* Wks. 1792 III. 346 Their object is to merge all natural and all social sentiment in inordinate vanity. 1842 H. ROGERS *Ess.* (1874) I. i. 36 He is content to merge his historic character in that of a retailer of amusing oddities. 1856 KANE *Arct. Expl.* II. vii. 81 These shelves, though sometimes merged into each other, presented distinct and recognisable embankments. 1863 GEO. ELIOT *Romola* xix, That..his library..should not be merged in another collection. 1866 CRUMP *Banking* i. 7 This business he merged into a banking-house. 1868 STANLEY *Westm. Abb.* vi. (ed. 2) 447 The diocese, after ten years, was merged in the See of London. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* ii. § 3. 68 The same forces which merged the Dane in the Englishman.

b. Without const.

1729 JACOB *Law Dict.* s.v. *Merger*, Where a Man hath a Term in his own Right, and the Inheritance descends to his Wife, so as he hath a Freehold in her Right; the Term is not merged or drowned. 1809 PINKNEY *Trav. France* 202 The ornaments may..lose their own effect by being attached to a building which, by exciting stronger emotions, necessarily merges the less. 1818 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) I. 380 The estate of the copyholder being only at will, becomes merged by the accession of any greater estate. 1832 COLERIDGE *Table-T.* 13 Aug., That is the most excellent state of society in which the patriotism of the citizen ennobles, but does not merge, the individual energy of the man. 1835 I. TAYLOR *Spir. Despot.* iii. 98 None would pretend that.. individual fitness for the office..should be so merged as is implied in adapting the hereditary principle to the clerical order. 1845 STEPHEN *Comm. Laws Eng.* (1874) II. 58 The contract by specialty merges or extinguishes that by parol.

3. *intr.* In *Law*: To be extinguished by absorption in a greater title, estate, etc. Hence *gen.*, to sink and disappear, to be swallowed up and lost to view, lose character or identity by absorption into something else. Const. *in, into.*

1726 VERNON *Chanc. Cases* I. 22 If a Copyholder pays a Rent to the Lord, and the Lord grants or releases this Rent to his Tenant, this shall Merge in the Copyhold. 1766 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* II. xii. 186 If an estate is originally limited to two for life, and after to the heirs of one of them, the freehold shall remain in jointure, without merging in the inheritance. 1802 SIR WM. SCOTT *Sp. April* 27 He is to take care..that the ecclesiastic shall not merge in the farmer, but shall continue the presiding and predominating character. 1814 CHALMERS *Evid. Chr. Revel.* v. 128 The Jews..merge into the name and distinction of Christians. 1841 J. R. YOUNG *Math. Dissert.* ii. 37 These roots can never merge into one and coincide. 1856 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* (1858) I. i. 13 Serfdom had merged or was rapidly merging into free servitude. 1858 LD. ST. LEONARDS *Handy-Bk. Prop. Law* ix. 62 The tax has merged, and does not remain as a charge of which you can avail yourself. 1859 MILL *Liberty* ii. (1865) 31 But this, though an important consideration,..merges in a more fundamental objection. 1894 *Times* 16 Apr. 3/3 That was ..an indication that the cause of action had not merged.

Hence **Me·rging** *vbl. sb.*

1839 YEOWELL *Anc. Brit. Ch.* viii. (1847) 77 It was the merging the individual in the corporate character. 1880 J. CAIRD *Philos. Relig.* 278 This absolute merging of the individual in the universal life.

Mergence (mɔ̄·ɹdʒĕns). [f. MERGE *v.* + -ENCE.] The action of merging or condition of being merged.

1865 *Intell. Observ.* No. 42. 411 The mergence of twilight into night. 1874 GEO. ELIOT *Coll. Breakf. P.* 573 Say, the small arc of Being we call man Is near its mergence, what seems growing life Nought but a hurrying change towards lower types. 1893 H. WALKER *Three Cent. Scott. Lit.* II. 81 The mergence of self in the character of another.

Mergent(e, obs. forms of MARGENT.

Merger[1] (mɔ̄·ɹdʒəɹ). [Law Fr. *merger*: see MERGE *v.* and -ER[4].]

1. *Law.* Extinguishment of a right, estate, contract, action, etc., by absorption in another.

1728 VERNON *Chanc. Cases* II. 90 The Plaintiff..insisted that the Term was merged in the Daughter, as being also Heir at Law. The Court upon the Hearing relieved against the Merger. 1729 JACOB *Law Dict.*, If a Lessor, who hath the Fee, marries with the Lessee for Years; this is no Merger, because [etc.] 1818 COLEBROOKE *Obligations* 216 Where there is a confusion of rights, where debtor and creditor become one,..an immediate merger takes place. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XV. 109/1 Estates tail are not subject to merger. 1861 MAY *Const. Hist.* (1863) I. v. 240 This increase is exhibited by the existing peerage alone—notwithstanding the extinction or merger of numerous titles in the interval. 1894 *Times* 16 Apr. 3/3 That depended upon whether the judgment did operate as a merger of the action on the guarantee.

b. *U.S.* The combination or consolidation of one firm or trading company with another.

1889 *Boston* (Mass.) *Jrnl.* 17 Apr. 4/3 Ample powers of consolidation and merger, transfer and absorption of stock and kindred franchises are given. 1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 7 May 5/1 The Attorney-General is watching the steamship merger closely. 1904 *Daily News* 7 Apr. 6 A week or two ago a merger between two railways was forcibly dissolved by the judges of the Supreme Court.

2. *gen.* An act of merging; the fact of being merged.

1881 *Athenæum* No. 2791. 556 A very little additional lapse of time witnessed the merger of the diocesan in the statesman. 1883 M. D. CHALMERS *Local Govt.* iv. 55 This ..would be a practical merger of the smaller in the larger parish. 1886 POSNETT *Compar. Lit.* 90 This progressive merger underlies the development of institutions and language. 1898 RENTON *Encycl. Laws Eng.* X. 622 The two latter [officers] have ceased to exist, the former of the two upon merger of the duties with those of the Queen's Remembrancer.

Merger[2] (mɔ̄·ɹdʒəɹ). *rare*—°. [f. MERGE *v.* + -ER[1].] One who or something which merges.

1846 in WORCESTER; and in later Dicts.

Mergery-prater, variant of MARGERY-PRATER.

Mergh(e, obs. forms of MARROW.

Mergin, obs. f. MARGIN; var. MURGEON *sb.*[1]

Mergrave, obs. form of MARGRAVE.

†**Meri**[1]. *Anat. Obs.* Also 5 mary, 5–6 mery. [a. med.L. *meri*, OF. *meri*, a. Arab. مرئ *marī'*.] The gullet or œsophagus.

c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 148 Bitwene þe necke & gula wiþinneforþ þere is ordeyned mary [*v. r.* mery], þat is to seie þe wesant. 1541 R. COPLAND *Guydon's Quest. Chirurg.* F ij b, The Meri otherwyse called Ysophagus. 1547 BOORDE *Brev. Health* ccclxxx. 121 b, In Englyshe it is named Isofagon or the mery.

Meri[2] (me·ri). Also marree, mere. [Maori.] A Maori war-club, from 12 to 18 inches long, made of hard wood, whalebone, or greenstone.

1830 J. D. LANG *Poems* (1873) 116 Beneath his shaggy flaxen mat The dreadful marree hangs concealed. 1851 MRS. WILSON *New Zealand*, etc. 48 The old man has broken my head with his meri. 1859 [see GREENSTONE 2 *attrib.*]. 1883 RENWICK *Betrayed* 36 Full half-revealed a greenstone mere swung Upon his hip.

Meri, Merialtie, obs. ff. MERRY, MAYORALTY.

Meribauk, variant of MERRIBOWK *Obs.*

Mericarp (me·rikāɹp). *Bot.* [a. F. *méricarpe*, irreg. f. Gr. μέρος part + καρπός fruit.] A portion of a fruit which splits away as a perfect fruit; *esp.* each of the two one-seeded carpels which together constitute the fruit (or eremocarp) in umbelliferous plants.

1832 LINDLEY *Introd. Bot.* 179 M. De Candolle calls the half of the fruit of Umbelliferæ *mericarp.* 1864 OLIVER *Elem. Bot.* II. 176 The mericarps are popularly called 'seeds', as Caraway-seeds, &c. 1875 BENNETT & DYER *Sachs' Bot.* 841 The fruit of *Erodium gruinum* and other Geraniaceæ splits up into five mericarps. 1887 GARNSEY & BALFOUR tr. *Goebel's Classif. & Morphol. Plants* 427 Two or more parts each containing a seed, and appearing to be a separate fruit; each of these may be called a mericarp or partial fruit, and the whole is a schizocarp.

Meridarch (me·ridāɹk). *Hist.* [ad. Gr. μεριδάρχ-ης, f. μεριδ-, μερίς part + -αρχης ruler.] (See quot.)

1866 G. F. MACLEAR *N. T. Hist.* I. III. iv. (1877) 46 Jonathan .. was .. raised to the rank of *meridarch*, or ruler of a part of the empire [1 Macc. x. 65; in *Bible* 1611 partaker of his dominion; *margin*, governour of a prouince].

Meridean, obs. form of MERIDIAN.

Merides, pl. of MERIS.

†**Meridial,** *a. Obs.* In 6 merydyal(l. [ad. L. *meridiāl-is*, f. *meridiēs* mid-day.] **a.** South (wind). **b.** Belonging to mid-day.

c 1540 BOORDE *The boke for to Lerne* B ij b, The merydyall wynde of all wyndes is the most worst. *Ibid.* C iv b, Whule men..shuld..eschew merydyall slepe.

Meridian (mĕri·diăn), *sb.* Also 4–5 meridien, 5 merydien. [From various elliptical uses of MERIDIAN *a.*, chiefly adopted from OF. or med.L. Cf. L. *meridiānum* (sc. *tempus*), noon; *meridiānum*, the south; med.L. *meridiāna* (OF. *méridiane*, earlier *meriene*; mod.F. *méridienne*), noon, midday rest, siesta; F. *méridien* = sense 4 below; *méridienne* (= *ligne m.*), a meridian line.]

†1. Mid-day, noon. *Obs.* exc. in humorously pedantic use.

a 1380 *St. Augustine* 1673 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1878) 90 Vppon a day aftur þe meridien Austin apeered to him þen. *c* 1391 CHAUCER *Astrol.* II. § 44 Adde hit [to-geder], and þat is thy mene mote, for the laste meridian of the december, for the same 3ere wyche þat þou [hast] purposid. 1637 HEYWOOD *Lond. Mirrour* Wks. 1874 IV. 311 The very day that doth afford him light, Is Morning, the Meridian, Evening, Night. 1871 G. MEREDITH *H. Richmond* xlii, If any thing fresh occurred between meridian and six o'clock, he should be glad, he said, to have word of it by messenger.

b. *Night's meridian*: 'the noon of night', midnight. *nonce-use.*

1826 CARRINGTON *Darlmoor* 62 A fearful gloom, deep'ning and deep'ning, till 'Twas dark as night's meridian.

c. *Hist.* A mid-day rest or siesta. [tr. med.L. *meridiana*; cf. F. *méridienne*, OF. *merien(n)e*.]

1798–1801 J. Milner *Hist. Winchester* II. 101 There was now a vacant space of an hour or an hour and an half, during part of which those [monks] who were fatigued were at liberty to take their repose,..which was called from the time of day when it was taken, The Meridian. 1820 Scott *Monast.* xix [Abbot *log.*], As we have..in the course of this our toilsome journey, lost our meridian, indulgence shall be given [etc.].

d. *Sc.* A mid-day dram. (See also E.D.D.)

1818 Scott *Hrt. Midl.* iv, Plumdamas joined the other two gentlemen in drinking their *meridian* (a bumper-dram of brandy). 1825 Chambers *Trad. Edinb.* II. 243 It was then [18th c.] the custom of all the shop-keepers in Edinburgh to drink what they called their *meridian*. This was a very moderate debauch,—consisting only in a glass of usquebaugh and a draught of small ale.

2. The point at which the sun or a star attains its highest altitude.

c 1450 Lydg. *Secrees* 347 Phebus..In merydien fervent as the glede. 1647 Crashaw *Poems* 130 Sharp-sighted as the eagle's eye, that can Outstare the broad-beam'd day's meridian. *a* 1667 Cowley *Ess., Greatness*, There is in truth no Rising or Meridian of the Sun, but only in respect to several places. 1728 Pope *Dunc.* III. 195 *note*, The device, A Star rising to the Meridian, with this Motto, Ad Summa. 1843 James *Forest Days* viii, The sun had declined about two hours and a half from the meridian.

b. *fig.* The point or period of highest development or perfection, after which decline sets in; culmination, full splendour.

1613 Shaks. *Hen. VIII*, III. ii. 224 And from that full Meridian of my Glory, I haste now to my Setting. 1638 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* (ed. 2) 93 Yet in the meridian of his hopes [he] is dejected by valiant Rustang. *c* 1645 Howell *Lett.* (1655) III. ix. 17 Naturall human knowledg is not yet mounted to its Meridian, and highest point of elevation. 1673 Temple *United Prov.* Wks. 1731 I. 67, I am of Opinion, That Trade has, for some Years ago. pass'd its Meridian, and begun sensibly to decay among them. 1700 Dryden *Fables* Pref. *Bb, Ovid liv'd when the Roman Tongue was in its Meridian; Chaucer, in the Dawning of our Language. *a* 1761 Cawthorn *Poems* (1771) 61 My merit in its full meridian shone. *a* 1859 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xxiii. (1861) V. 67 This was the moment at which the fortunes of Montague reached the meridian. The decline was close at hand. 1893 Georgiana Hill *Hist. Eng. Dress* II. 268 Dress was in its meridian of ugliness.

c. The middle period of a man's life, when his powers are at the full.

c 1645 Howell *Lett.* I. vi. lx. (1655) 307 You seem to marvell I do not marry all this while, considering that I am past the Meridian of my age. 1703 E. Ward *Lond. Spy* xvii. (1706) 406 As for her Age, I believe she was near upon the Meridian. 1795 Mason *Ch. Mus.* ii. 133 When Purcel was in the meridian of his short life. 1864 H. Ainsworth *John Law* Prol. iii. (1881) 19 Though long past his meridian, and derided as an antiquated beau by the fops of the day. 1873 Hamerton *Intell. Life* iv. ii. (1875) 143 Any person who has passed the meridian of life.

†3. The south. *Obs.* [So L. *meridianum.*]

1430–40 Lydg. *Bochas* vi. i. (1494) t ij b, Nowe in the west, nowe in the oryent, To sech stories north and meredien Of worthy princes that here to fore haue ben. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) I. 47 Asia..whiche goenge from the meridien or sowthe by the este vn to the northe, is compassede on euery syde with the occean. *Ibid.* VI. 41 Machomete made an ydole..havynge the face of hit towarde the meridien. 1601 Holland *Pliny* I. 34 With vs the stars about the North Pole neuer go downe, and those contrariwise about the Meridian neuer rise. *Ibid.* 48 From the Meridian or South-point to the North.

4. [Ellipt. for *meridian circle* or *line.*] a. *Astr.* (More explicitly *celestial m.*) The great circle (of the celestial sphere) which passes through the celestial poles and the zenith of any place on the earth's surface. b. (More explicitly *terrestrial m.*) The great circle (of the earth) which lies in the plane of the celestial meridian of a place, and which passes through the place and the poles; also often applied to that half of this circle that extends from pole to pole through the place.

So named because the sun crosses it at noon. A terrestrial globe, or a map of the earth or part of it, has usually a number of meridians drawn upon it at convenient distances, marked with figures indicating their respective longitude or angular distance on a parallel from the *first meridian*, i. e. the meridian (in British maps that of Greenwich) conventionally determined to be of longitude 0°.

c 1391 Chaucer *Astrol.* II. § 39 And [yf] so be þat two townes haue illike Meridian, or on Meridian, than is the distance of hem bothe ylike fer fro the Est. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* vi. 51 Quhen the sune rysis at our est orizon, than it ascendis quhil it cum til our meridian. 1555 Eden *Decades* 243 And commaunded a line or meridian to bee drawen Northe and south. 1594 Blundevil *Exerc.* iv. xviii. (1636) 461 Whereas the Terrestriall Globe is traced with 12 Meridians,..The Celestiall Globe is only traced with 6 Meridians. 1669 Sturmy *Mariner's Mag.* II. 93 You must wait..till the Sun is upon the Meridian. 1678 Hobbes *Decam.* viii. 101 It will turn it self till it lye in a Meridian, that is to say, with one and the same Line still North and South. 1698 Keill *Exam. Th. Earth* (1734) 231 All those who live under the same Meridian have twelve of the Clock at the same time. 1715 tr. *Gregory's Astron.* I. 211 Any such Secondary Circle drawn thro' any Place upon the Earth, is called the Meridian of that Place. *Ibid.* 212 They feigned therefore a first Meridian passing thro' the most Western Place of the Earth, that was then known. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XV. 110/1 The terrestrial meridian is the section of the earth made by the plane of the celestial meridian. 1841 Elphinstone *Hist. Ind.* II. 177 These two rájas soon reduced the Mussulman frontier to the Kishna on the south, and the meridian of Heiderábád on the east.

c. *transf.* (*a*) *Geom.* Occasionally applied to any great circle of a sphere that passes through the poles, or to a line, on a surface of revolution, that is in a plane with its axis. (*b*) *Magnetic meridian*: the great circle of the earth that passes through any point on its surface and the magnetic poles.

1704 J. Harris *Lex. Techn.* I, *Meridian Magnetical*, is a Great Circle passing through or by the Magnetical Poles. *a* 1721 Keill *Maupertuis' Diss.* (1734) 47 The Meridians of the Spheroids are continually Algebraic Curves. 1832 *Nat. Philos.* II. *Magnet.* iii. 23 (Usef. Knowl. Soc.), The magnetic meridian. 1837 Brewster *Magnet.* 11 He .. made numerous experiments with bars of iron and steel placed in the magnetic meridian.

d. *Meridian of a globe* or *brass meridian*: a graduated ring (sometimes a semicircle only) of brass in which an artificial globe is suspended and revolves concentrically.

1633 G. Herbert *Temple*, *Size* viii, An earthly globe, On whose meridian was engraven, These seas are tears, and heav'n the haven. 1727–51 Chambers *Cycl.* s. v. *Globe*, The globe itself thus finished, they hang it in a brass meridian.

e. *attrib.* in **meridian circle** (see also Meridian *a.* 3), an astronomical instrument consisting of a telescope carrying a large graduated circle, by which the right ascension and declination of a star may be determined; a transit-circle; **meridian-mark**, a mark fixed at some distance due north or south of an astronomical instrument, by pointing at which the instrument is set in the meridian.

1849 Herschel *Outl. Astron.* § 190. 114 Thus also a meridian line may be drawn and a meridian mark erected.

5. *transf.* and *fig.* A locality or situation, considered as separate and distinct from others, and as having its own particular character; the special character or circumstances by which one place, person, set of persons, etc. is distinguished from others. Chiefly in figurative uses of astronomical phrases such as *calculated to* or *for the meridian of* = 'suited to the tastes, habits, capacities, etc., of'.

1589 R. Harvey *Pl. Perc.* Ded. 4, I will present you at the law day for a ryot, though I be neither side man for this Meridian, nor Warden. 1621 Burton *Anat. Mel.* II. ii i. i. (1651) 231 Which howsoever I treat of, as proper to the Meridian of Melancholy. 1625 B. Jonson *Staple of N., Prol. Court*, A Worke .. fitted for your Maiesties disport, And writ to the Meridian of your Court. 1647 Clarendon *Hist. Reb.* VII. § 73 He was, at his suit, brought to the House of Commons' bar; where..with such flattery as was most exactly calculated to that meridian [etc.]. *a* 1677 Hale *Prim. Orig. Man.* I. i. 7 All other knowledge meerly or principally serves the concerns of this Life, and is fitted to the meridian thereof. 1712 Arbuthnot *John Bull* III. Publisher's Pref., Though they had been calculated by him only for the meridian of Grub-street, yet they were taken notice of by the better sort. *a* 1718 Penn *Tracts* Wks. 1726 I. 471 His words of the Trinity are modest, neither highly Athanasian, nor yet Socinian,..but calculated to both Meridians. 1748 Smollett *Rod Rand.* xxviii. (1804) 186 This suggestion .. had the desired effect upon the captain, being exactly calculated for the meridian of his intellects. 1751 Earl Orrery *Remarks Swift* (1752) 141 As this pamphlet was written for the meridian of Ireland. 1816 *Sporting Mag.* XLVIII. 34 This..could not fail in exciting ludicrous ideas, in the minds of the illiterate [vulgar, for whose meridian it was calculated. 1835 W. Irving *Newstead Abbey* Crayon Misc. (1863) 306 A course of anecdotes ..such as suited the meridian of the..servants' hall.

Meridian (mĕri·diăn), *a.* [a. OF. *meridien* (mod.F. *méridien*), or ad. L. *meridiānus*, f. *meridiēs* mid-day, noon, dissimilated form of older *medidiēs* (Varro), f. *medii-*, *medius* middle + *diēs* day.]

1. Of or pertaining to mid-day or noon. Now *rare* (humorously pedantic) exc. as in 2.

1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) V. 373 The kynge Albinnus beynge in slepe in his meridien tyme. *c* 1450 Lydg. & Burgh *Secrees* 1601 Moche sleep wyl kepe the in hih Estat, ..Merydien Reste, mylk whight and Argentyne. 1602 *2nd Pt. Return fr. Parnass.* III. iii, Hang me if he hath any more mathematikes then wil..tell the meridian howre by rumbling of his panch. 1620 Venner *Via Recta* viii. 191 The morning and euening cold, and meridian heate, is cheifely to be auoyded. 1678 R. L'Estrange *Seneca's Mor.* (1702) 349 The Romans had their Morning, and their Meridian Spectacles. 1788 Gibbon *Decl. & F.* xlviii. (1869) III. 27 At the meridian hour he withdrew to his chamber. 1806–7 J. Beresford *Miseries Hum. Life* (1826) iv. xliii, The meridian midnight of a thick London fog. 1862 Merivale *Rom. Emp.* xli. (1871) V. 80 Every citizen..plunged into the dark recess of his sleeping chamber for the enjoyment of his meridian slumber. 1881 Trollope *Dr. Wortle's School* v. ii, The writer has perhaps learned to regard two glasses of meridian wine as but a moderate amount of sustentation.

†b. *Meridian devil*: transl. of Vulg. *dæmonium meridianum* Ps. xc[i], for which the Eng. Bible has 'the destruction that wasteth at noonday'.

a 1550 *Image Ipoc.* II. in *Skelton's Wks.* (1843) II. 429 Thou arte a wicked sprite,..A beestely bogorian, And devill meridian. 1550 Bale *Eng. Votaries* II. 118 O deuyls merydyane, as the Prophet doth call yow.

c. *Meridian ring*, a ring so marked within the hoop as to serve the purpose of a sun-dial.

1867 *N. & Q.* 3rd Ser. XI. 381 Some years since I became possessed of a brass ring, about an inch and a half in diameter, which I was told was a meridian ring, and that at some period they were used as a means of ascertaining the time. 1877 W. Jones *Finger-ring* 451 Among the singular uses to which rings have been applied, I may mention what were called 'meridian'.

2. *esp.* Pertaining to the station, aspect, or power of the sun at mid-day.

c 1391 Chaucer *Astrol.* II. § 39 Whan that the sonne.. cometh to his verrey meridian place, than is hit verrey Midday. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* lxxxv. 70 Aue Maria, gratia plena! Haile, sterne meridiane! 1635 Quarles *Embl.* II. x. (1718) 101 Thou may'st as well expect meridian light From shades of black-mouth'd night. 1664 H. More *Myst. Inig.* xvii. 61 Do naturally vanish in this Meridian and Vertical Sun-shine of the Gospel. 1762–9 Falconer *Shipwr.* II. 141 The sun his high meridian throne Had left. 1781 Crabbe *Library* 9 Care veils in clouds the sun's meridian beam. 1840 Barham *Ingol. Leg., Leech of Folkestone*, The sun rode high in the heavens, and its meridian blaze was powerfully felt. 1898 R. Bridges *Growth of Love* Sonn. xxii, Strutting on hot meridian banks.

b. *fig.* Pertaining to or characteristic of the period of greatest elevation or splendour (of a person, state, institution, etc.).

1672 (*title*) A Prophecie lately transcribed..of Doctor Barnaby Googe,..predicting the rising, meridian, and falling condition of the States of the United Provinces. 1751 Earl Orrery *Remarks Swift* (1752) 69 The poem itself is dated in the year 1713, when Swift was in his meridian altitude. 1796 Morse *Amer. Geog.* II. 275 It [Dantzic] seems to be somewhat past its meridian glory. 1818 Hazlitt *Eng. Poets* iii. (1870) 59 Those arts, which depend on individual genius,..have always leaped at once..from the first rude dawn of invention to their meridian height and dazzling lustre. 1903 Morley *Gladstone* I. 25, 'I was bred', said Mr. Gladstone when risen to meridian splendour, 'under the shadow of the great name of Canning'.

†c. Of supreme excellence, consummate; also in bad sense. *Obs.*

1662 Glanvill *Lux Orient.* Pref. (1682) 3 They lay stress on few matters of opinion, but such as are..very meridian truths. 1728 Young *Love Fame* vi. 47 But with a modern fair, meridian merit Is a fierce thing, they call a nymph of spirit. *a* 1734 North *Exam.* (1740) 186 Was it not strange Usage of a Queen Consort, when such an Effrontery, out of the Mouth of a Meridian Villain, in Public..should be let pass without so much as a Reprehension.

3. Pertaining to a meridian. Chiefly in collocations orig. referable to sense 2. *Meridian circle* = Meridian *sb.* 4. *Meridian line*: in early use = Meridian *sb.* 4; now usually, a line (on a map, etc.) representing a meridian; also, a line traced on the earth's surface, indicating the course of a portion of a meridian as ascertained by astronomical observations. *Meridian altitude*: the angular distance between the horizon and the sun at noon, or (in later use) any heavenly body when crossing the meridian.

[*Meridian circle* represents L. *circulus meridianus*, transl. of Gr. κύκλος μεσημβρινος (f. μεσημβρια mid-day).]

c 1391 Chaucer *Astrol.* Prol., Tables..for to fynde the altitude Meridian. *Ibid.* II. § 39 The arch meridian þat is contienedor intercept by-twixe the cenyth and the equinoxial. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* vi. 47 It sal declair the elenatione of the polis, and the lynis parallelis, and the meridian circlis. 1559 W. Cunningham *Cosmogr. Glasse* 138 If there be no Angle of sighte, it bathe the same Longitude and meridiane Line, and is plaine North or South from you. 1668 Moxon *Mech. Dyall.* 11 If the Sun shine just at Noon, hold up a Plumb-line so as the shaddow of it may fall upon your Plane, and that shaddow shall be a Meridian Line. 1669 Sturmy *Mariner's Mag.* iv. vii. 168 The true Meridian-distance between Lundy and Barbadoes. *Ibid.* vi. iii. 128 The Meridian-Altitude of an unknown Star. 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* II. (Globe) 487, I shall not pester my Account..with .. Latitudes, Meridian-Distances, .. and the like. 1833 Herschel *Treat. Astron.* (1839) 56 The plane of the meridian is the plane of this circle, and its intersection with the sensible horizon of the spectator is called a meridian line. 1882 Floyer *Unexpl. Baluchistan* 216 After getting a meridian altitude at noon, we left..for..Jangdā.

b. Passing along a meridian. *nonce-use.*

1658 Sir T. Browne *Hydriot.* 1st Epist. Ded., These may seem to have wandered farre, who in a direct and Meridian Travell, have but a few miles of known Earth between your selfe and the Pole.

4. Southern, meridional. *rare.*

1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) II. 253 Therefore peple descendenge from Sem..hade in possession the londe meridien [L. *terram meridianam*]. 1819 Byron *Stanzas to the Po*, A stranger..Born far beyond the mountains, but his blood Is all meridian, as if never fann'd By the black wind that chills the polar flood.

5. *Geol.* [fig. use of sense 1: cf. the second quot.] Applied by Professor Rogers to the middle stage of the American palæozoic period, and to the formations representing that stage.

1858 H. D. Rogers *Geol. Pennsylv.* I. 351 Meridian Strata in Perry County...The Meridian sandstone..is never more than 20 feet thick. *Ibid.* II. ii. 749 These periods, applicable only to the American Palæozoic day, are the Primal, Aural,..Pre-Meridian, Meridian, Post-Meridian, Cadeot, Vergent [etc.].

†**Meridiation.** *Obs.*—° [ad. L. *meridiātiōnem*, f. *meridi-ēs* noon.] A mid-day rest, siesta.

1623 Cockeram, *Meridiation*, a sleeping at noone tide. 1658 in Phillips.

†**Meridie.** *Obs.* [ad. L. *meridiēs.*] Noon.

c 1391 Chaucer *Astrol.* II. § 44 Consider thy rote furst.. & entere hit in-to thy slate for the laste merydye of December. *Ibid.*, The residue þat lewyth is thy mene mote fro the laste mer[y]die of December.

Meridien, obs. form of Meridian.

‖ **Meridies** (mĕri·diiz). *rare*—¹. [L. *meridiēs* noon, middle point.] In quot. humorously bombastic for: The middle point (of night).

a 1667 Cowley *Ess., Country Mouse*, About the Hour that Cynthia's Silver Light Had touch'd the pale Meridies of the Night.

Meridional (mĕri·diŏnăl), *a.* and *sb.* [a. F. *méridional*, ad. late L. *meridiōnāl-is*, irreg. f. *meridiēs* mid-day, south : see MERIDIAN *a.*]

A. *adj.*

1. Of or belonging to the south; situated in the south : southern, southerly.

c 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) xiv. 156 The Est partie & the Meridionalle partie. *c* 1520 BARCLAY *Jugurth* (1557) 49 b, The meridyonall parte of the countrey. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* vi. 48 The pole antartic austral or meridional. 1653 R. SANDERS *Physiogn.* 169 The Meridional people are, for the most part, black and curled. 1703 T. N. *City & C. Purchaser* 36 Kitchins..ought to be placed in the Meridional part of the Building. 1830 *Fraser's Mag.* I. 594 We must not forget that Adosinda and Roderick are meridional Europeans. 1880 HAUGHTON *Phys. Geog.* v. 208 The Meridional Chain..extends along the Western Coast.

absol. 1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* III. ii. 120 The meridionall (which they of the Ocean call South, and those of the Mediterranean sea, *Mezo giorno*) commonly is raynie and boisterous.

b. Pertaining to or characteristic of the inhabitants of the south (of Europe).

1847 *Blackw. Mag.* LXII. 418 His voice..retained..'a slight meridional accent'. 1860 MOTLEY *Netherl.* v. I. 138 A dark, meridional physiognomy .. such was the Prince of Parma. 1905 *Q. Rev.* July 11 That there is such a thing as Latin rhetoric, which corresponds now, as in every preceding age, to the temperament best summed up in the word 'meridional'.

† **2.** Pertaining to the noontide position of the sun. *Meridional line* = MERIDIAN *sb.* 4. *Obs.*

c 1386 CHAUCER *Sqr.'s T.* 255 Phebus hath laft the Angle meridional. *c* 1391 — *Astrol.* II. § 3 Whan þat þe sonne is ney the Meridional lyne. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 75 The sonne beynge in the centre meridionalle. 1608 WILLET *Hexapla Exod.* 245 The sun ascendeth vnto the meridianall [*sic*] point. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* I. 590 Mr. Ellicott drew a true meridional line by celestial observation. 1834 *Nat. Philos.* III. *Astron.* i. 15 (Usef. Knowl. Soc.), They are called meridians, or meridional lines, and the equator bisects all the meridians.

3. Pertaining to or characteristic of noonday; chiefly *fig.* Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1624 DONNE *Serm.* xix. (1640) 192 The Meridionall brightnesse, the glorious noon, and heighth, is to be a Christian. 1673 *Lady's Call.* I. v. § 39 Are God's safeguards to be only meridional, to shine out only with the noon-day sun? 1762 tr. *Busching's Syst. Geog.* III. 273 So large were the demesnes of this abbey, when in its meridional glory. 1839 *Fraser's Mag.* XIX. 469 All my troubles, cares, anxieties, perplexities—matutinal, meridional, and vespertinal.

4. Of or pertaining to a meridian.

1555 EDEN *Decades* 247 We..sayled from thense .lxxxx. degrees in lengthe meridionale. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* IV. vii. 166 This Table of Latitudes, or Meridional Parts. 1709 BERKELEY *Th. Vision* § 74 When the moon is viewed .. in the meridional position. 1812 WOODHOUSE *Astron.* vii. 47 The meridional altitudes of heavenly bodies. 1882 PROCTOR in *Knowledge* No. 19. 399/2 Stars whose places were already determined by the use of their great meridional instrument.

b. Applied to designate markings on a roundish body that lie in a plane with its axis. Cf. MERIDIAN *sb.* 4 c.

1658 Sir T. BROWNE *Gard. Cyrus* iv. *Hydriot.* etc. 62 In the circinations and sphærical rounds of Onyons,..the circles of the Orbes are ofttimes larger, and the meridional lines stand wider upon one side then the other. 1881 CARPENTER *Microsc. & Rev.* § 427 (ed. 6) 507 Along one side of this body is a meridional groove, resembling that of a peach. 1893 TUCKEY *Amphioxus* 46 This [furrow] is likewise a meridional one, and is at right angles to the first. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 209 Those [anastomoses] between the anterior and the posterior interventricular branch near the apex of the heart, forming a vertical or meridional circle.

B. *sb.* An inhabitant of the south; now *spec.* an inhabitant of the south of France.

1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. iii. 209 The Sea..flows again; and then again it falls When she doth light th' other Meridionals. 1621 MOLLE *Camerar. Liv. Libr.* III. xiii. 189 The Meridionalls or Southern inhabitants. 1675 G. R. tr. *Le Grand's Man without Passion* 165 The Meridionals who banish formal courts and reveling from their assemblies, despise not gay cloathing. 1898 BODLEY *France* III. ii. 126 The hero of the trial was..a characteristic Meridional. 1899 Miss V. M. CRAWFORD *Stud. For. Lit.* 50 Daudet was able to paint a real sober picture of the Meridional in *Numa Roumestan*.

Meridionality (mĕri·diŏnæ·lĭti). [f. prec. + -ITY.] The state of being meridional or on the meridian; aspect towards the south.

1664 POWER *Exp. Philos.* III. 166 So that in process of time it is very probable it [the magnetical needle] will come to an exact Meridionality. 1721 BAILEY, *Meridionality*, it's Scituation in Respect to the Meridian, or the Scituation of its meridian. 1755 JOHNSON, *Meridionality*, position in the South; aspect towards the South.

Meridionally (mĕri·diŏnăli), *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY 2.] In the direction of the meridian; north and south. Also, in the direction of the poles (of a magnet).

1613 M. RIOLEY *Magn. Bodies* 33 Cut a part from a Magnet stone meridionally. 1646 Sir T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* II. ii. 58 In this manner pendulous, they [wires] will conforme themselves Meridionally; directing one extreame unto the North, another to the South. 1705 DERHAM in *Phil. Trans.* XXV. 2140 They would exert the same effects that Magnets are said to do, when sawn in two Meridionally. 1886 A. WINCHELL *Walks Geol. Field* 267 Here this broad ocean was interrupted by the meridionally disposed Colorado, Medicine-Bow, and Park Ranges.

Merie, Merierum, obs. ff. MERRY, MARJORAM.

Merigal, variant of MERRYGALL.

Merihedral, -hedric, -hedrism : incorrect forms (in recent Dicts.) of MEROHEDRAL, -IC, -ISM.

Merillon, obs. f. MERLIN. **Meril(l)s** : see MEREL.

Merily, obs. form of MERRILY.

Mering, mearing (mī·rĭŋ), *vbl. sb.* Also mereing. *Obs.* exc. *dial.* [f. MERE *v.*2 + -ING 1.]

1. The action of the verb MERE; fixing of boundaries.

1574 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 335 Foure Aldermen shalbe elected surveighours yearely..to determyne all mischaunces and variaunces of mearing betwixt thinhabitaunts. 1579–80 NORTH *Plutarch, Numa* (1595) 78 For bounding & mearing, to him that will keepe it iustly: is a bond that brideleth power & desire. *c* 1600 in Renaud *Prestbury* (Chetham Soc.) 44 The meeringe and devydynge of the Churchyarde.

2. *concr.* = MERE *sb.*2 1.

1616 BOYLE *Diary* (1886) I. 132, I had a mearing between Kynaltalloon and Condons Lands held by Mr Thomas ffitz John. 1756 C. LUCAS *Ess. Waters* II. 123 These are within the districts of Franchimont, Malmendy and Stavelot, or thereabouts. I can not pretend to distinguish meerings. 1843 BLACKER in *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* IV. II. 445 The necessity for drainage..; the advantage of straight mearings. 1873 O'CURRY *Manners Anc. Irish* III. 4 The same name [*Dun*] ..would apply to any boundary or mearing formed of a wet trench between two raised banks or walls of earth.

3. *attrib.* as in *mering-balk, -drain.*

1769 FRENCH in A. Young *Tour Irel.* (1780) I. 370 He also made a deep mearing drain. 1865 W. WHITE *E. Eng.* II. 194 A strip of land a rod in width, called a..mereing balk.

‖ **Meringue** (məræng). Also 9 erron. **marang.** [a. F. *meringue* (1739 in Hatz.-Darm.), of obscure origin. Cf. Sp. *merengue*, G. *meringe, meringel.*] A delicate confection the chief ingredients of which are pounded sugar and whites of eggs. It is made up in small cakes, or spread as an 'icing' over fruit, tarts, etc. Also, a small cake made of this. Hence ‖ **Meringué** (mərængē), a dish composed of fruit with meringue; **Meringued** *ppl. a.*, iced with meringue (= F. *meringué*).

1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Meringues* (Fr. in *Cookery*), a sort of Confection made of the Whites of Eggs whipt; fine Sugar, and grated Lemmon-peel, of the bigness of a Wal-nut; being proper for the garnishing of several Dishes. 1725 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* II. s. v., Meringue; a small sugar work of great use. 1845 ELIZA ACTON *Mod. Cookery* 456 Meringué of Pears...Put the meringue immediately into a moderate oven, and bake it half an hour. 1859 *Eng. Cookery Bk.* 299 Meringued Apples. Pare and core some large pippin apples,..cover them all over with a meringue put on in tablespoonfuls. 1860 O. W. HOLMES *Elsie V.* (1887) 90 There were also *marangs*, and likewise custards. 1892 *Encycl. Cookery* I. 933 Meringue consists essentially of whites of eggs beaten with caster sugar to a froth, and then set in a quick oven. 1896 Mrs. CAFFYN *Quaker Grandmother* 8 He..insisted on her partaking of a large glass of iced lemonade, and three meringues.

Merino (mĕrī·no). [a. Sp. *merino* adj., the distinctive epithet of 'a breed of sheep which is pastured in winter in Estremadura and in summer in *la montaña*' (Sp. Acad.); also applied to the wool of these sheep. Hence F. *mérinos* adj. and sb.

Sp. *merino* adj. represents L. *mājōrīnus* (f. *mājor* greater), prob. in its early sense 'of a larger kind' (Pliny). Etymologists, however, have supposed it to be derived from *merino* sb., overseer of cattle pastures (also the title of certain judicial officers), which represents certain substantival uses of *mājōrīnus* in med. Latin.]

1. In full *merino sheep* : A variety of sheep prized for the fineness of its wool, introduced from Spain to England at the close of the 18th c. and extensively used for the improvement by crossing of the fleece-bearing sheep of Britain and the Colonies. Also *attrib.* as *merino breed, fleece, flock, stock, wool.*

1781 DILLON *Trav. Spain* 48 The Merino sheep, of which it is computed there are between four and five million in the kingdom. *Ibid.* 53 These Merino flocks. 1810 WELLINGTON in Gurw. *Desp.* (1838) VI. 558 Neither Americans nor English will ever derive any general advantage from the Merinos. 1812 E. SHEPPARD in *Nicholson's Jrnl.* (1813) XXXIV. 122 Having had the experience of more than ten years, both in the growth and manufacture of British Merino wools. 1813 JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1898) IX. 442 The Merino sheep are spreading over the continent and thrive well. 1837 YOUATT *Sheep* v. 146 The Merino flocks and the Merino wool have improved under the more careful management of other countries. *Ibid.* 154 The Merino fleece is in Spain sorted into four parcels. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 260/1 Sheep sprung from the Merino stock.

2. A soft woollen material resembling, but finer than, French cashmere, originally manufactured of merino wool, and later of a fine wool mixed with cotton. Also *attrib.*

1823 *Repos. Arts*, etc. Ser. III. I. 120 Gowns for homedress..are of velvet, Merino, and *gros de Naples.* 1831 *Lincoln Herald* 9 Sept. 3/6 Trowsers, a pale lavender Merino. 1842 BISCHOFF *Woollen Manuf.* II. 415 They.. imitated the article of cotton jeans, in worsted,..to which they gave the name of plainbacks out of which has sprung that..valuable branch of merinos. 1869 E. A. PARKES *Pract. Hygiene* (ed. 3) 405 In merino and other fabrics it [cotton] is used with wool. 1898 G. B. SHAW *Plays* II. *Candida* 82 A black merino skirt.

b. A dress made of this.

1873 'SUSAN COOLIDGE' *What Katy Did at Sch.* ix. 148 She shook her head over the simple, untrimmed merinoes and thick cloth cloaks.

3. A fine woollen yarn used in the manufacture of hosiery. Also *attrib.*

1886 *Housewife* I. 109/1 Garments made of merino, stockingette [etc.]. *Ibid.*, Merino underclothing. *Ibid.*, The material used for darning is..merino. 1888 MAUDE BRADSHAW *Indian Outfits* 23 Gauze-flannel and gauze-merino vests are principally worn. 1903 *Longm. Mag.* June 130 A pair of ordinary merino socks.

Meriolyne, obs. Sc. form of MARJORAM.

† **Merion.** *Obs.* [a. OF. *meriane, meriene* :—L. *merīdiāna* : see MERIDIAN *sb.*] Mid-day.

a 1400 *Pistill of Susan* 51 Wiþ two Maidenes al on, Semelyche Suson, On dayes in þe merion, Of Murþes wol here.

‖ **Meris** (me·ris). *Biol.* Pl. **merides** (me·ridīz). [mod.L., a. Gr. *μερίς* part (stem *μεριδ-*); after F. *méride* (Perrier).] A permanent colony of cells which may either remain isolated or multiply by germination to form demes.

[1883 P. GEDDES in *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 842/2 Starting from the cell or plastid, he [Perrier] terms a permanent colony a méride. *Ibid.* 843/1 Tissues and organs result from division of labour in the anatomical elements of the mérides, and so have only a secondary individuality.]

Merise (mĕrī·z). See also MERRY *sb.*2 [a. F. *merise* (from 13th c.), of unknown origin.] A kind of small black cherry.

1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Merise*, a kind of small bitter Cherry. 1836 *Penny Cycl.* VI. 431/1 The Merise or Merisier, Morello, Kentish and All Saint or everflowering cherry. 1849 *Knife & Fork* 23 About sixty years ago, a fragrant and delightful brandy was distilled from a small tart cherry called merises, a fruit peculiar in the Black Forest.

Merish, obs. form of MARISH.

Merism (me·riz'm). *Biol.* [f. Gr. *μέρ-os* part, member + -ISM. Cf. Gr. *μερισμός* division.] (See quot.)

1894 BATESON *Materials Study Variation* 20 This phenomenon of Repetition of Parts..comes near to being a universal character of the bodies of living things. It will.. be..convenient to employ a single term to denote this phenomenon... For this purpose the term Merism will be used.

Merismatic (merizmæ·tik), *a. Biol.* [f. mod. L. *merisma*, a. Gr. *μέρισμα* separated part, f. *μερίζειν* to divide into parts : see -ATIC. In Fr. *mérismatique.*] Of cells, tissues, etc.: Having the property of dividing into portions by the formation of internal partitions. Of processes: Involving this kind of division.

1849 *Rep. & Pap. Botany* (Ray Soc.) 283 On merismatic Formation of Cells in the Development of Pollen. 1861 H. MACMILLAN *Footn. Page Nat.* 185 Diatoms, which carry on the process of merismatic division. 1876 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex.* s. v., 'Merismatic multiplication or reproduction'; that which occurs by the splitting or division of cells or of whole beings.

Merismoid (mĕri·zmoid), *a. Bot.* [f. mod.L. *merisma* (see prec.) + -OID.] Of sporophores, esp. agarics: Having the cap branched or laciniate.

1857 BERKELEY *Cryptog. Bot.* § 393 *Odontia* makes way rapidly for *Hydnum* in all its varied forms, resupinate, apodous, lateral, merismoid, and mesopod. 1886 STEVENSON *Hymenomycetes Brit.* II. 325 Merismoid,..resembling a Merisma—i. e. having a branched or laciniate pileus.

Merispore (me·rispōəɹ). *Biol.* [irreg. f. Gr. *μέρος* part + *σπόρος, σπορά* sowing, seed.] One of the secondary cells of a pluricellular spore.

1875 BENNETT & DYER tr. *Sachs' Bot.* 241 Each separate secondary cell of a spore of this description is usually capable of germination, and may be termed a Merispore. 1887 GARNSEY & BALFOUR *De Bary's Fungi* 98 The number of members (merispores) in a compound spore is different in different cases.

‖ **Merissa** (mĕri·să). A fermented beverage made from maize by the natives of the Soudan.

1884 J. COLBORNE *Hicks Pasha* 72 Merissa, the 'national' beverage of the Soudan. 1899 *19th Cent.* Aug. 277 The boy forgot his work over a pot of merissa beer.

Merist (me·rist). *rare*—1. [ad. Gr. *μεριστής*, f. *μερίζειν* to divide.] A divider.

1872 RUSKIN *Munera P.* 117 *note*, The administrators of the three great divisions of law are severally Archons, Merists, and Dicasts.

Meristem (me·ristem). *Bot.* [irreg. f. Gr. *μεριστός* divided, divisible, f. *μερίζειν* to divide, f. *μέρος* part; with ending after PHLOEM, XYLEM.] The unformed growing cellular tissue of the younger parts of plants; merismatic tissue. Also *attrib.*

1874 *Q. Jrnl. Microsc. Sci.* XIV. 304 The three systems of meristem in the stem. 1882 VINES *Sachs' Bot.* 129 In *Calodracon* (*Cordyline*) *Jacquini*, the meristem-ring is derived immediately, according to Nägeli, from the primary meristem of the apex of the stem.

Hence **Meristema·tic** *a.*, of or of the nature of meristem; **Meristema·tically** *adv.*, after the manner of meristem (*Cent. Dict.* 1890).

1882 VINES *Sachs' Bot.* 18 The meristematic cells of Phanerogams. 1894 OLIVER tr. *Kerner's Nat. Hist. Plants* I. 582 The groups of constructive, dividing, and enlarging cells, the so-called meristematic tissue.

Meristic (mĕri·stik), *a. Biol.* [f. MERISM : see -ISTIC. Cf. Gr. *μεριστικός* pertaining to division.] Pertaining to the phenomena of merism. Hence **Meri·stically** *adv.*, in a meristic manner.

1894 BATESON *Materials Study Variation* 22 These numerical and geometrical, or, as I propose to call them, meristic changes. *Ibid.* 24 The tarsus of a Cockroach..

may, through meristic variation, be divided into only four joints. *Ibid.* 26 The Similar Variation of Parts which are repeated Meristically in Series.

Meristogene·tic, *a. Bot.* [f. Gr. *μεριστό-ς* (see MERISTEM) + -GENETIC.] Produced by a meristem.

1887 GARNSEY & BALFOUR *De Bary's Fungi* 497.

Merit (me·rit), *sb.* Forms: 3–7 **merite,** 4 **meriȝt,** 4–5 **meryt,** 4–6 **meryte,** 5 **merote, -et, -yde, -ytte, merrette,** 6 **merete, merrit,** *Sc.* **mereit,** 6–7 **meritt(e,** 3– **merit.** [a. OF. *merite* (mod.F. *mérite*), ad. L. *merit-um,* neut. pa. pple. of *merēre, merērī* to obtain for one's share, earn as pay, deserve; perh. cogn. w. Gr. *μείρεσθαι* to receive a share, *μέρος* share, part.]

†1. That which is deserved or has been earned, whether good or evil; due reward or punishment.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 12890 Ion!..Hu þat a costes þou was clene, Thoru þi merite was it sene [i. e. *through his being allowed to baptize Jesus*]. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 613 ȝyf euer þy mon vpon molde merit disserued. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Doctor's T* 277 Heere men may seen how synne hath his merite! *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 5226 With me pas to my prayse modire þat þou may merote haue & menske & mede for þi werkis. 1484 CAXTON *Curiall* 1, Thou..reputest them the more worthy for to haue rewardes and merites. 1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II*, I. iii. 156 A deerer merit, not so deepe a maime,..Haue I deserued at your Highnesse hands. *a* 1598 ROLLOCK *Lect. Passion* xvii. (1616) 156 Lord, saue us from the merite of sinne. 1602 MARSTON *Antonio's Rev.* v. v, Now murder shall receive his ample merite. 1643 SIR T. BROWNE *Relig. Med.* I. § 7 It is but the merits of our unworthy Natures, if wee sleep in darkness until the last Alarum. 1706 PRIOR *Ode to Queen* 85 Those laurel groves (the merits of thy youth), Which thou from Mahomet didst greatly gain.

2. The condition or fact of deserving; 'character with respect to desert of either good or evil' (T.). Also *pl.* in the same sense. Now *rare.*

c 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* IV. Pr. vi. 109 (Camb. MS.) Alle men wenen þat they han wel deseruyd it [*i. e.* sorowful thinges], and þat they ben of wykkede meryte. *a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* (1868) 89 So had she rewarde of her merite in the ende. 1513 BRADSHAW *St. Werburge* Prol. 69 After our meryte we shalbe sure To be rewarded. 1548–9 (Mar.) *Bk. Com. Prayer, Communion,* Not waiyng our merites, but pardonyng our offences, through Christe our Lorde. 1580 SIDNEY *Ps.* XLI. v, Raise me up, that I may once haue might, Their meritts to requite. 1594 T. BEDINGFIELD tr. *Machiavelli's Florentine Hist.* (1595) 222 Either of them with others guiltie of the treason, were rewarded with the paines of their merit. 1605 SHAKS. *Lear* v. iii. 44, I do require them of you so to vse them, As we shall find their merites, and our safety May equally determine. 1635 PAGITT *Christianogr.* III. (1636) sig. I 7, I set the Death of our Lord Jesus Christ betwixt me and my bad merit. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* 253 They must be presented according to the merit of the business, whether good or bad. 1722 WOLLASTON *Relig. Nat.* IX. 214 In the future state men shall be placed and treated according to their merit.

b. *The merits* or, rarely, † *the merit* (of a case, question, etc.): chiefly in *Law,* the intrinsic 'rights and wrongs' of the matter, in contradistinction to extraneous points such as the competence of the tribunal or the like. Hence, *to discuss, judge* (a proposal, etc.) *on its merits,* i. e. without regard to anything but its intrinsic excellences or defects. *To have the merits* (Law): of a party to a suit, to be in the right as to the question in dispute (said esp. when for technical reasons a favourable decision cannot be given).

1569 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 687 The saidis Provest.. and Counsale..quha best knew the meritis of the saidis actionis. 1621 ELSING *Debates Ho. Lords* (Camden) 115 He humbly desyred a favourable hearing of the meritts of his cause. 1713 SWIFT *Cadenus & V.* 134 Which, if it sped, Wou'd shew the Merits of the Cause Far better, than consulting Laws. 1760 FOOTE *Minor* I. Wks. 1799 I. 235 It is always the rule, to administer a retaining fee before you enter upon the merits. 1813 TAUNTON *Comm. Pleas Cases* III. 170 Inasmuch as the merits were with the Plaintiff.. he [the judge] refused to nonsuit him. 1885 *Law Times* LXXX. 133/1 It did not appear from the affidavits that the defendant had the merits. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 10 July 5/4 It is not easy to ascertain the exact merits of the dispute. 1887 *Times* (weekly ed.) 17 June 3/2 Men are everywhere examining his policy on its merits. 1898 A. LANG *Making Relig.* iv. 74 The 'merits' of stories of second sight need discussion.

3. The quality of deserving well, or of being entitled to reward or gratitude.

1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. I. 157 Ȝe naue no more merit In Masse ne In houres þen Malkyn of hire Maydenhod, þat no Mon desyreþ. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 5909 Selling axeth no guerdoning; Here lyth no thank, ne no meryte. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 471 This man was utterly unprofitable,..reioycenge the name of dignite withowte merytte. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* XC. 69 Small merit is of synnes for to irke Quhen thow art ald. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* II. ix. 39 For who shall goe about To cosen Fortune, and be honourable Without the stampe of merrit, let none presume To weare an vndeserued dignitie. 1612 BACON *Ess., Marriage,* The best works, and of greatest merit for the publike, haue proceeded from the vnmarried or childlesse men. 1781 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* XXXVI. (1869) II. 311 His merit was rewarded by the favour of the prince. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* Prol. 35 For merit lives from man to man, And not from man, O Lord, to thee. 1881 *Contemp. Rev.* XL. 646 The principle of promotion by merit.

b. *spec.* in *Theology,* the quality, in actions or persons, of being entitled to reward from God.

Merit of CONUIGNITY, *of* CONGRUITY: see those words.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 160 He biȝet þeos þreo biȝeaten—priuilege of prechur, merit of martirdom, & meidenes mede. *c* 1315 SHOREHAM i. 756 Take hys deaþ in þy meende: Nant lyȝt[e]: þe more þou þenkest so on hys deaþ, þe more hys þy meryte. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Sec. Nun's T.* 33 Do me endite Thy maydens deeth, that wan thurgh hire merite The eterneel lyf. *c* 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 4380 þis meracle þus y-do þorow þe meryde of þis blessud virgyn seynt Ede. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* I. xx. 119 Bi no deede a man hath merit, saue bi a deede which is the seruice and the lawe of God. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 4 b, Feyth hath no meryte, where naturall reason of it selfe may discerne.. yᵉ thynge. 1692 ED. PATRICK *Answ. Touchstone* 138 It is frivolous to alledg the word Merit, so often used by the Fathers; for they mean no more thereby, but obtaining that which they are said to merit. *a* 1716 SOUTH *Serm.* (1727) V. x. 387 Merit is an unpardonable Piece of Popery. 1825 CANNING *Sp.* 21 Apr. *Sp.* (1828) V. 394 The next objection..is, that the Roman Catholics ascribe an overweening merit and efficacy to human actions. 1898 A. G. MORTIMER *Cath. Faith & Practice* II. xi. 311 Merit..implies a proportion between the work done and the reward given.

c. Claim to gratitude as the cause of some favourable state of things; the honour or credit of bringing about (something).

1711 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 15 Aug., And if there be no breach, I ought to have the merit of it. 1844 LD. BROUGHAM *Brit. Const.* xii. (1862) 177 The whole merit of the great change..belongs to the Barons.

4. Claim or title to commendation or esteem, excellence, worth.

c 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* IV. 808 But thingis iiij in hem [stalons] is to biholde: fourme and colour, merite and beaute. *Ibid.* 831 And next hem in merit is dyuers hued: Blacke hay, & permixt gray, mousdon also, The fomy, spotty hu, and many mo. 1606 G. W[OODCOCKE] *Hist. Iustine* XXV. 93 There was so much of merit in him, That whereas he had continual warres with Lysimachus [etc.],..yet was never ouercome by any of them. 1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* II. ii. 24 What merit's in that reason which denies The yeelding of her vp? 1709 POPE *Ess. Crit.* 728 To him [Roscommon] the wit of Greece and Rome was known, And ev'ry author's merit but his own. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 178 ¶ 4 A Woman of Merit. 1713 SWIFT *Cadenus & V.* 342 Merit should be chiefly plac'd In Judgment, Knowledge, Wit, and Taste. 1797 GODWIN *Enquirer* I. vi. 41 The dramatic merit..of Livy. 1889 D. HANNAY *Capt. Marryat* 147 It is a child's story of merit—nothing more.

†b. The condition of being valued or honoured; esteem. *Obs.*

1752 FOOTE *Taste* Pref., Wks. 1799 I. 4 A man, who had ever great merit with his friends.

5. Something that entitles to reward or gratitude. Chiefly *pl.*; *spec.* in *Theology,* good works viewed as entitling to reward from God; also, the righteousness and sacrifice (of Christ) as the ground on which God grants forgiveness to sinners.

In the 17th c. sometimes const. *towards* (the person obliged); cf. L. *merita erga aliquem.*

c 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 423 Bot merytes of men ben dedis or lyves, þat God of his grace acceptis to mede. *c* 1491 *Chast. Goddes Chyld.* 9 Some for uncunnynge of receyuing of..al suche gostly comfortis mene that they receyue hem by her owne merites. ? *a* 1500 *Chester Pl.* (Shaks. Soc.) II. 73 To bringe the people to Saulvacion By mirrette of thy bitter passion. 1542–5 BAINKLOW *Lament.* (1874) 86 Manifestly ye cast Christes meretes asyde. *Ibid.* 87 For who soeuer will seke..to be made righteouse by the lawe, he is gone quite from Christ, and hys merites profyte hym not. 1662 *Bk. Comm. Prayer,* Collect 13th Sund. Trin., That we fail not finally to attain thy heavenly promises, through the merits of Jesus Christ our Lord. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* III. 290 Thy merit Imputed shall absolve them who renounce Thir own both righteous and unrighteous deeds. 1675 tr. *Camden's Hist. Eliz.* IV. (1688) 586 The large Extent of the Spanish Empire, his Powerfulness,..his great merits towards the Church of Rome, and his taking Place..before the French King [etc.]. 1807 CRABBE *Par. Reg.* III. 57 His merits thus and not his sins confest, He speaks his hopes and leaves to Heav'n the rest. 1885 *Cath. Dict.* (ed. 3) 495/2 Protestants hold..that a man really has been justified by faith, or, in other words, that the merits of Christ have been imputed to him. 1897 A. G. MORTIMER *Cath. Faith & Practice* I. v. 83 His superabundant merits, which are laid up as a rich treasure for His Church.

6. A commendable quality, an excellence.

1700 DRYDEN *Fables* Pref. *Ah, I soon resolv'd to put their Merits to the Trial, by turning some of the Canterbury Tales into our Language. 1774 GOLDSM. *Retal.* 49 Would you ask for his merits? Alas! he had none. 1874 MICKLETHWAITE *Mod. Par. Churches* 185 The other method has the merit of economy. 1897 R. LE GALLIENNE in *Westm. Gaz.* 19 May 2/1 Faults first, merits afterwards! Such is our uncomfortable critical habit.

7. Phr. *To make a merit of*: to account or represent (some action of one's own) as meritorious. † *To make merit with*: to establish a claim to the gratitude of (a person).

1682 DRYDEN & LEE *Duke of Guise* IV. iii. (1683) 47 Stay here, and make a merit of your Love. 1691 DRYDEN *K. Arthur* II. 20 You might have made a Merit of your Theft. 1741 RICHARDSON *Pamela* (1824) I. 220 It made her a great merit with me, that she kept it [the secret]. 1759 FRANKLIN *Ess.* Wks. 1840 III. 271 He makes a merit of having gone farther in his condescensions. 1780 BURKE *Sp. at Bristol* Wks. 1842 I. 261, I might not only secure my acquittal, but make merit with the opposers of the bill. 1832 HT. MARTINEAU *Homes Abr.* vii. 104 He had made a merit of remaining at his work. 1860 READE *Cloister & H.* lxxx, He..made a merit of it to himself.

8. Short for *merit card* (see 9, quot. 1879).

9. *attrib.* and *Comb.,* chiefly in recent terms denoting rewards for proficiency in school work, or prizes for skill in some athletic pursuit, as *merit certificate, cup, grant, medal*; also *merit-conscious, -like* adjs.; **merit-card,** in English elementary schools (see quot.); † **merit-merchant** = MERIT-MONGER; **merit system,** the system of giving promotion in the civil service according to the deserts of the candidates (in U.S. opposed to 'spoils system'); † **merit-works,** 'good works' done for the sake of acquiring merit; so † **merit-worker** = MERIT-MONGER.

1879 RICE-WIGGIN & GRAVES *Elem. Sch. Manager* 105 The '*merit-card' system. Under this system, a cheap coloured ticket..is given..to every scholar who has made the total number of attendances possible in the previous week. When a scholar has gained twelve of these 'merits' he receives a prize in exchange for them. 1901 *Westm. Gaz.* 13 Feb. 10/1 They refuse to give a *merit-certificate to any child known to be addicted to cigarette-smoking. 1757 MR. & MRS. GREVILLE *Maxims, Charac. & Refl.* 130 A determined *merit-conscious air. 1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 29 Oct. 12/2 The 42nd..won the *merit cup in open competition in shooting. 1882 *New Educ. Code* (ed. J. Russell) 28 No *merit grant is made unless [etc.]. 1645 RUTHERFORD *Tryal & Tri. Faith* (1845) 175 This would seem pharisaical, and *merit-like, if holiness did not relate to the free promise of the covenant of grace. 1902 *Daily Chron.* 27 Oct. 9/6 Mr. Robert Maxwell, who won the *merit medal last year,.. proved successful. 1647 TRAPP *Comm.* 1 *Cor.* ix. 17 God will cast all such *merit-merchants out of his Temple. 1880 D. B. EATON *Civ. Service Gt. Brit.* 161 The *merit system of appointments and promotions. 1899 *Nation* (N. Y.) 1 June 414/3 Some of the characteristics of the merit system as exemplified in the consular and diplomatic service of Great Britain. 1635 PAGITT *Christianogr.* I. iii. (1636) 109 Workes of Supererogation and *Merit workes. 1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* III. ix. 467 The name of Merits is..not vsed in the Scriptures. For in that signification wherein our *Merite woorkers vse it, to wit, for meritorious woorkes, [etc.].

Merit (me·rit), *v.* [a. F. *mérite-r,* f. *mérite* MERIT *sb.* Latin had *meritāre* (frequentative of *merērī*) to earn (money), to serve as a soldier.]

†1. *trans.* To reward, recompense. *Obs. rare.*

1484 CAXTON *Fables of Æsop* II. xix, An almesse that is done for vayne glorye is not merited but dismeryted. *c* 1500 *Melusine* XXXVI 264, I thanke you of this lyberall offre to goo with me & I shall meryte you, therfore, yf it playse god. *c* 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* IX. 258 Which if thou wilt surcease, The king will merite it with gifts.

2. To be or become entitled to or worthy of (reward, punishment, good or evil fortune or estimation, etc.); = DESERVE *v.* 1 and 2.

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 11 b, Who may meryte or deserue Grace beynge in synne? 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* IV. iii. 41, I am sure sweet Kate, this kindnesse merites thankes. 1601 ? MARSTON *Pasquil & Kath.* II. 313 Any that meriteth the name of man. 1671 MILTON *P. R.* II. 456 Extol not Riches then,..more apt To slacken Virtue,..Then prompt her to do aught may merit praise. 1718 *Free-thinker* No. 8. 54 This presumptuous Wretch highly merited the Sentence pronounced upon him by Law. 1746 W. HORSLEY *Fool* (1748) I. 203 To what End, but to merit being robbed again? 1775 HARRIS *Philos. Arrangem.* Wks. (1841) 357 Others that less merit, or at least that we esteem less to merit our regard and attention. 1805 tr. *Lafontaine's Hermann & Emilia* III. 249 God knows how I have merited.. that my last days should pass with so much satisfaction. 1813 SHELLEY *Q. Mab* III. 85 She only knows How justly to proportion to the fault The punishment it merits. 1842 TENNYSON *St. Simeon* 132 Good people, you do ill to kneel to me. What is it I can have done to merit this? 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 14 May 5/2 They would richly merit the severest censure.

b. with *inf.* as *obj.* (In early use occas.: † To obtain as one's deserts.)

a 1533 LD. BERNERS *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) H viij b, He merited to lese his life with .xxiii. strokes of penknyues. 1621 LADY M. WROTH *Urania* 488 Shee was farre from being contemptible, though not merriting to be admired. 1709 MRS. MANLEY *Secret Mem.* (1736) I. 114 You merit to be beloved. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* (1840) II. vi. 123 He merited..to be trusted. 1805 tr. *Lafontaine's Hermann & Emilia* III. 123 His wife..who merited to be the intimate friend of Emilia. *a* 1814 *Theodora* I. i. in *New Brit. Theatre* I. 280 Have I not merited to be unhappy?

c. Said of things.

1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* II. iii. 291 France is a dog-hole, and it no more merits The tread of a mans foot. 1626 C. POTTER tr. *Sarpi's Hist. Quarrels* 182 His counsels merited to be followed. 1656 EARL MONM. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* I. xxxi. 55 It merits memory, that.. Virgil..caused Servius to be bastinadoed by his servant Daretes. 1768–74 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 170 Should he add that the combatants had the dress and appearance of gentlemen, I should think, to use the newspaper phrase, the thing merited confirmation. 1769 E. BANCROFT *Guiana* 350 My knowledge..being too imperfect to merit a communication. 1792 *Gentl. Mag.* 9/2 The subject..merits the attention of..discerning minds.

3. *absol.* or *intr.* To be deserving of good or evil. Chiefly in phrase *to merit well* (*of* a person), and in clauses with *as* or *than,* where there is ellipsis of an infinitive.

1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* III. i. 19 When I doe name him, let it be thy part, To praise him more then euer man did merit. 1626 C. POTTER tr. *Sarpi's Hist. Quarrels* 147 It seemed vnto the Spaniards that they had well merited of the Holy See. 1647 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* II. § 51 The Earl of Essex who had merited very well throughout the whole Affair..was discharged..without ordinary Ceremony. 1719 *Freethinker* III. 183 The late Mr. Savery..merited largely from Posterity by the Invention of an Engine. 1767 S. PATERSON *Another Trav.* I. 120 Those men have merited so well of the republic of letters. 1887 BOWEN *Virg. Æneid* IV. 549 Die! as thy frailties merit; let steel thy sufferings close.

4. *trans.* To earn by meritorious action; *spec.* in *Theology*, to become entitled to (reward) at the hands of God; also, of Christ, to obtain by his merits (spiritual blessings) for mankind.

1543 Joye *Confut. Winchester's Articles* 1 Winchester wold proue that workes muste iustifye, that is to saye, with owr workes we muste merite the remission of owr synnes. 1586 Hooker *Disc. Justif.* § 21 (1612) 27 Did they think that men doe merit rewards in heaven by the workes they performe on earth? 1588 A. King tr. *Canisius' Catech.* 153 Christ is .. that Lamb of God .. quha onelie culd meritt vnto ws remission of sinnes. 1654 Fuller *Two Serm.* 53 For whom Christ merited Faith, Repentance, and Perseverance. 1674 Hickman *Quinquart. Hist.* (ed. 2) 107 Christ by his death did merit some supernatural things for the wicked. 1697 Dryden *Æneid* v. 465 What Prize may Nisus from your Bounty claim, Who merited the first Rewards? 1748 Butler *Serm.* Wks. 1874 II. 304 By fervent charity he may even merit forgiveness of men. 1898 A. G. Mortimer *Cath. Faith & Practice* II. xi. 316 No man..can merit the first grace, or justification, nor, if he fall into mortal sin, can he merit a recovery from that state. Nor can he merit final perseverance.

5. *intr.* To acquire merit; to become entitled to reward, gratitude, or commendation. *Obs.* exc. *Theol.*

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 160 b, I meryte not in so sayenge my duty. 1530 Palsgr. 635/1 Some man maye meryte as moche to drinke small wyne as some do whan they drinke water. 1577 Fulke *Confut. Purg.* 451 Euery man must merite for him selfe. 1648 H. Gresby tr. *Balzac's Prince* 260 The Mahometans think they merit when they kill strangers. *a* 1715 Burnet *Own Time* II. (1724) I. 147 Scotland, that had merited eminently at the King's hands ever since the year 1648. *a* 1718 W. Penn *Tracts* Wks. 1726 I. 481 No Man can merit for another. 1724 Swift *Drapier's Humble Addr.* Wks. 1751 IX. 80, I..am resolved that none shall merit at my Expence. 1897 A. G. Mortimer *Cath. Faith & Practice* I. xi. 166 While we are in a state of mortal sin we cannot merit.

Meritable (me·rităb'l), *a.* ?*Obs.* [f. Merit *sb.* + -able.] = Meritorious.

1415 in Visct. Tarbat *Vindic. Rob. III* (1695) 37 That is meritable thing to bere Witness to the suthfastness. 1420 in Tytler *Hist. Scot.* (1864) II. 380 It is needeful and meritabil to ber lele witness to suthfastness to your Universitie. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* XI. Prol. 162 Haill thy meryt thou had tofor thi fall, That is to say, thy warkis meritable, Restorit ar agane. 1598-9 B. Jonson *Case is Altered* II. iv, The people generally are very acceptiue, and apt to applaud any meritable worke. 1708 Cibber *Lady's Last Stake* v. 62 O! there s a meritable Goodness in those Fears that cannot fail to Conquer. 1791-1823 D'Israeli *Cur. Lit.* (1851) 158 Several pious persons have considered it as highly meritable to abstain from the reading of poetry.

Merited (me·ritĕd), *ppl. a.* [f. Merit *v.* + -ed 1.] Deserved; well-earned.

1603 Shaks. *Meas. for M.* III. i. 206, I doe make my selfe beleeue that you may most vprightеously do a poor wronged Lady a merited benefit. 1787 Mme. D'Arblay *Diary* 19 Aug., Seeing me the only person punished by her merited resentment. 1800 *Proc. E. Ind. Ho.* in *Asiat. Ann. Reg.* 149/2 A well merited compliment to the abilities and integrity of Sir Thomas Strange. 1835 Ure *Philos. Manuf.* 412 To secure to New Lanark mills a merited celebrity. 1887 *Athenæum* 19 Feb. 251/2 Mr. Hall has acquired a merited reputation.

Hence **Me·ritedly** *adv.*, deservedly.

1665 Manley *Grotius' Low C. Wars* 95 Meritedly therefore, they desire an equal share of Liberty. 1857 Hooper *Chapman's Iliad* Introd. 8 Many of these were of mushroom growth, and have meritedly sunk into oblivion.

†**Me·riter.** *Obs.* Also 7 meritour. [f. Merit *v.* + -er 1.] One who or something which merits.

1607 Hieron *Wks.* I. 423 God the Sonne reneweth, as being the mediator and meriter of this changed estate. 1617 [see Meritress]. *a* 1626 Bacon *Confess. Faith* Resusc. (1657) II. 120 A Meriter of Glory and the Kingdom. 1651 Baxter *Inf. Bapt.* 143 We smart by that sin for which we smart, so that it is the means as well as the meriter of our misery.

†**Me·ritful,** *a. Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. [f. Merit *sb.* + -ful.] Full of merit, meritorious.

1660 Waterhouse *Arms & Arm.* 91 Meritful instances of Vertue.

Merithal (me·riþæl). *Bot.* Also in mod.L. form **meritha·llus** (pl. *-thalli*). [f. Gr. *μέρο-ς* part + *θαλλός* a young shoot, frond.] A name originally given by Du Petit-Thouars (1756–1831) to an internode, but later applied with qualifying word to each of the three parts of the plant leaf, and by Gaudichaud to each of the three parts of a compound plant, the *radicular*, *cauline* and *foliar merithal*.

1849 *Rep. & Pap. Botany* (Ray Soc.) 255 On Gaudichaud's Theory of the Merithals. 1849 Balfour *Man. Bot.* § 139, § 169, § 639.

Meriting (me·ritiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [-ing 1.] The action of the verb Merit in various senses.

1549 Coverdale, etc. *Erasm. Par. Ephes.* Prol., Stickyng to olde beathenyshe idolatrous worshippinges, .. masse meritinges, .. popyshe customes [etc.]. 1671 Woodhead *St. Teresa* II. iii. 20 They must help each other both in suffering, and meriting. 1851 C. L. Smith tr. *Tasso* v. xvi, The other was proud of his own meritings.

Meriting (me·ritiŋ), *ppl. a.* Now *rare.* [f. Merit *v.* + -ing 2.] That merits (something indicated in the context); also in 17th c. often *gen.*, deserving, meritorious.

1603 B. Jonson *Sejanus* v. x, If I could loose All my humanity now, 'twere well to torture So meriting a Traytor. 1605 Bacon *Adv. Learn.* I. i. § 3 It hath rather a sounding and vnworthie glorie, than a meriting and substantiall vertue. 1633 Rogers *Treat. Sacram.* I. 86 The Holy Ghost expresses the meriting causes diversly. 1656 S. Holland *Zara* (1719) 87 The most merriting Madam in the world. 1732 Swift *Advantages repealing Sacram. Test.* Wks. 1761 III. 292 There may be another Seminary in View, more numerous and more needy, as well as more meriting. 1742 J. Glas *Treat. Lord's Supper* III. v. 137 The infinite, atoning, meriting Virtue of the Sacrifice. 1747 Richardson *Clarissa* (1811) I. 243 Punishments are of service to offenders; rewards should be only to the meriting.

†**Me·ritist.** *Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. [f. Merit *v.* + -ist.] A believer in the merit of good works.

1612 R. Sheldon *Serm. St. Martin's* 58 Let Leo an Ancient Pope confront against these latter Pontificians all of them being meritists (*de condigno* or *de congruo*) out of condignitie or congruitie. *Ibid.* 59 All yee Pontifician Meritists out of congruitie and *de congruo*.

Meritless (me·ritlĕs), *a.* [f. Merit *sb.* + -less.]

1. Without merit; undeserving; worthless.

1596 Drayton *Leg.* I. 769 Esteeming Titles meritlesse and nought. 1630 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Wks.* I. 40, I am altogether meritlesse of any good. 1786 *Francis the Philanthropist* I. 217 Titles, too often right honourable only in the herald's book and the meritless patent of creation. 1891 *Athenæum* 1 Aug. 154/3 The volume is, in fact, as meritless as such volumes often are.

†2. Unmerited, undeserved. *Obs. rare.*

1603 *Cont. Adv. Don Sebast.* in *Harl. Misc.* (1810) V. 468, I have been grieved for your meritless afflictions. 1621 Brathwait *Nat. Embassie*, etc. 251 Will..your flatt'ring humour nere haue end, Of all other meritlesse?

Me·rit-mo·nger. *contemptuous.* One who trades in merits; one who seeks to merit salvation or eternal reward by good works. (Very common in 16–17th c.)

1552 Latimer *Serm.* (1562) 92 b, These merites mongers [*marg.* Merite mongers] haue so many good workes, that they be able to sell them for money. 1626 Prynne *Perpet. Regen. Man's Est.* 258 Such a one which is justified, meerely by his owne righteousnesse, as your Popish merit mongers seeke to be. 1696 Lorimer *Goodwin's Disc.* vii. 85 Augustin, the great Defender of the Freeness of God's Grace..against all Merit-Mongers. 1846 Hare *Mission Comf.* (1850) 243 When merit-mongers teach, they add one thirst to another, and spin one law out of another.

Hence **Merit-mongering** *vbl. sb.*; **Merit-mongy**, a dealing in merits; **Merit-monging** *ppl. a.*

1611 W. Sclater *Key* (1629) 28 Let all..merit-monging-Preachers, iudge how well they carie themselues in their ministerie, that by magnifying the power of nature, crosse the verie end of their ministerie. 1845 H. Rogers *Ess.* (1874) I. iii. 139 Luther..asserted against that whole system of spiritual barter and merit-mongering..his counter principle of the perfect gratuitousness of salvation. 1856 Spurgeon *Serm. New Park Street Pulpit* II. 95 Even among Protestants meritmongery is not gone by.

Meritoir(e, variants of Meritory.

Meritor, variant of Meriter, Meritory.

†**Merito·rian.** *Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. [f. L. *meritōri-us* (see Meritorious) + -an.] One who believes or teaches the saving efficacy of good works.

1689 T. Plunket *Char. Gd. Commander* 53 What Paul or Peter, what Boanerges can Reach Meritorians to the Son of Man?

†**Meritorily,** *adv. Obs.* [f. Meritory *a.* + -ly 2.] Meritoriously. Also, deservedly.

c 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 15 No creature mai do iustli, wele, meritorili, .. ne perseuerantli ani þing, not but if God wirk þat þing bi him, & in him. *c* 1449 Pecock *Repr.* I. xx. 120 Ech of these deedis mowe be doon..vertuoseli and merytorili. 1502 Arnolde *Chron.* (1811) 177 Worthi and merytoryly they fallen in this sentence of corsyng.

Meritorious (meritō·riəs), *a.* [f. L. *meritōri-us* pertaining to the earning of money, earning or serving to earn money (f. *merēre, -ērī* to earn, deserve: see Merit *sb.* and -ory 2) + -ous.]

1. Of actions: Serving to earn reward; esp. in *Theology*, said of good works, penance, etc., as entitling to reward from God; productive of merit (†const. *to* the agent).

1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 405 The pilgrimage made to thapostles was more meritorius to the sawle than the faste of ij. yere. *Ibid.* VII. 169 Noble men of the realme purchasede of the pope that iourney to be prohibite, and to be chaungede into oþer meritorious dedes. *a* 1539 in *Archæologia* XLVII. 56 Charyte..without whiche..noo vertue can..be acceptable to almighty god, nor merytoryous to the doer. 1665 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* (1677) 84 'Twixt Baroch and Amadavad is intombed Polly-Medina a Mahometan Saint, highly reputed by the people; who in a way of meretorious Pilgrimage repair thither. 1681–6 J. Scott *Chr. Life* (1747) III. 176 In the precious Blood of this our meritorious and accepted Sacrifice we openly behold the Mercy of God. 1851 Pusey *Let. Bp. London* 130/1 That our due sufferings might be sanctified by His, the Atoning and Meritorious Sufferings. 1856 P. E. Dove *Logic Chr. Faith* VI. § 5. 363 Man could not observe the law in any sense of meritorious observance.

†2. Of an action or agent: That earns or deserves some specified good or evil. Const. *of. Obs.*

1561 T. Norton *Calvin's Inst.* I. Pref., Workes meritorious of eternall saluation. 1567 Fenton *Trag. Disc.* 1 b, If he ..seame justly meritorious of reproche, we maye worthely imparte treble prayse to a barbarous Turke. 1641 H. L'Estrange *God's Sabbath* 136 Which abuse..is I think condignly meritorious of severe punishment. 1641 J. Shute *Sarah & Hagar* (1649) 140 Shall we think the doing of our duty to be meritorious of that which God hath promised? 1679 Puller *Moder. Ch. Eng.* xi. 318 The Penances in the Church of Rome, which..are counted Deletory of Sin, and Meritorious of Pardon, our Church doth account no otherwise than Superstitious. 1682 *2nd Plea Nonconf.* 63 He must really be persuaded..that all ways of Worship.. different..from the Church of England, is meritorious of personal Ruine. 1709 Mrs. Manley *Secret Mem.* (1736) III. 181 Cataline..would do something meritorious of his Promotion. *a* 1716 South *Serm.* (1717) V. 130 These Practices were satisfactory for Sin, and meritorious of Heaven. *a* 1758 Edwards *Hist. Redemption* III. ii. (1793) 322 [He] made it meritorious of salvation to fight for Him.

b. *Meritorious cause*: an action or agent that causes by meriting (some good or evil result).

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 136 h, God is the werker of ye sycknes & payne, .. though man of hymselfe or woman be the cause merytoryous. 1688 Bunyan *Jerus. Sinner Saved* (1700) 138 His Blood..is the meritorious cause of mans redemption. *a* 1703 Burkitt *On N. T.* Luke v. 26 Sin is the meritorious cause of sickness. 1828 A. Jolly *Observ. Sund. Serv.* (1848) 178 The death which He endured was the meritorious cause of our life.

3. Deserving of reward or gratitude. Also (now usually) in vaguer use: Well-deserving; meriting commendation; having merit.

In recent literary criticism the word tends to be a term of limited praise, applied, e. g., to work that is recognized as painstaking and useful, but does not call forth any special warmth of commendation.

1494 Fabyan *Chron.* VII. 482 Good and merytoryous dedys shulde be holden in memorye. 1596 Spenser *State Irel.* (Globe) 612/2 Insteede of so great and meritorious a service as they host they performed to the King..they did great hurt unto his title. 1625 B. Jonson *Staple of N.* II. iv, My meritorious Captaine..Merit will keepe no house nor pay no house rent. 1651 Hobbes *Leviathan* II. xxvii. 153 What Marius makes a Crime, Sylla shall make meritorious. 1773 *Parl. Deb.* 21 May, Mr. Solicitor General then moved, That Robert Lord Clive did, at the same time, render great and meritorious services to this country. 1781 Gibbon *Decl. & F.* xxxviii. (1869) II. 399 Revenge was always honourable, and often meritorious. 1817 Brougham in *Parl. Deb.* 1791 The more this transaction was sifted, the more blameless .. would the conduct of that meritorious individual appear. 1832 Ht. Martineau *Ella of Gar.* vi. 67 His patience had been most meritorious. 1905 *Athenæum* 24 June 774/2 In regard to historical accuracy..the volume is on the whole meritorious.

absol. 1682 Dryden & Lee *Duke of Guise* II. ii. (1683) 18, I will have strict Examination made betwixt the Meritorious and the Base. *a* 1704 T. Brown *Praise of Wealth* Wks. 1730 I. 84 None but the meritorious shall be fortunate.

Comb. 1821 Lamb *Elia* Ser. I. *All Fools' Day*, A pair of so goodly-propertied and meritorious-equal damsels.

†4. Bestowed in accordance with merit; merited.

1597 Middleton *Wisd. Solomon* I. 9 God's heavy wrath and meritorious blame. 1632 Lithgow *Trav.* X. 456 The Heauens haue reducted me to this meritorious reward, and truely deserued.

†5. In the sense of L. *meritorius*: That earns money (by prostitution). *Obs. rare*$^{-1}$.

1636 B. Jonson *Discov., Mali Choragi fuere*, Some love any Strumpet (be shee never so shop-like or meritorious) in good clothes.

Merito·riously, *adv.* [f. prec. + -ly 2.]

1. In a meritorious manner; †so as to acquire merit (*obs.*); †as a 'meritorious cause' (*obs.*); so as to deserve commendation.

1502 *Ord. Crysten Men* (W. de W. 1506) II. i. 87 That man may shewe synne & them kepe entyerly & merytoryously. 1576 Fleming *Panopl. Epist.* 24 What is there..whereof either you, or shee might meritoriously powre out your complaintes against..Fortune? 1609 Downam *Chr. Liberty* 22 Christ..hath meritoriously wrought our freedome. *a* 1639 Wotton *Relig.* (1651) 182 Nani had carried himself meritoriously in forraign Imployments. 1695 Humfrey *Mediocria* 34 Christs righteousness is the meritorious, indeed the only meritorious, or meritoriously procuring efficient.. cause of mans justification. *a* 1716 South *Serm.* (1727) IV. iii. 122 They also faced down the World, that they did well and meritoriously in those very Things, in which their Hypocrisy..did consist. 1816 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* (1818) I. 47 Would not the humblest contributor to such an end be deemed most meritoriously engaged? 1856 W. Collins *Rogue's Life* ii, [She] was, at that very moment, meritoriously and heartily engaged in eating her breakfast.

†2. Deservedly; in accordance with its deserts.

1607 Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 138 They are to their masters..a singular safegard;..for which consideration they are meritoriously termed..Canes Defensores. *a* 1647 Boyle in Birch *Life* B.'s Wks. (1772) I. p. xxvi, Nizza, a place .. meritoriously famous for that strength, which nature and art have emulously given it. 1665 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* (1677) 13 That great Cape which meritoriously is now call'd of good Hope.

Merito·riousness. [f. Meritorious *a.* + -ness.] The state or quality of being meritorious.

1639 Fuller *Holy War* III. x. (1640) 125 These murderers being instantly put to death, gloried in the meritoriousnesse of their suffering. *a* 1708 Bp. Beveridge *Thes. Theol.* (1711) III. 244 The reality and meritoriousness of Christ's death and Passion. 1884 A. R. Pennington *Wiclif* viii. 271 The study of the works of that holy man..led him..to oppose the meritoriousness of good works.

†**Meritory,** *a. Obs.* Forms: 4–5 meritoire, -orie, -orye, 4–6 meritory, 6 meritori, meretory, merytory (e, -torie, 6 meritor, meretorie. [a. OF. *meritoire*, ad. L. *meritōrius*: see Meritorious.] = Meritorious.

1. Of actions: Serving to earn reward; productive of merit to the agent. Also, possessing merit, deserving, praiseworthy.

13.. *S. Erkenwolde* 270 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 272 More he menskes mene for mynnynge of riȝtes þen for al þe meritorie medes þat men one molde vsene. 1390

Gower *Conf.* I. 19 How meritoire is thilke dede Of charite. *c* 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 50 It semiþ good, spedi, & meritori, þat þe kirk be honorid. *c* 1412 Hoccleve *De Reg. Princ.* 351 Oure feiþ not were vnto vs meritorie If þat we myghten by reson it preue. 1485 Caxton *Chas. Gt.* 24 So many other labours merytoryes adioyned in the seruyce of god. 15.. *Aberdeen Reg.* (Jam.), Sene meritor, is to beir leill & suchtfast witnessing. [Cf. quots. 1415, 1420 s. v. Meritable.]

2. Earned, merited; = Meritorious 4.

1523 Skelton *Garl. Laurel* 429 So am I preuentid of my brethern tweyne In rendrynge to you thankkis meritory.

†**Meritot.** A supposed variant of Merry-totter, occurring as a corrupt reading in Chaucer, and hence in Blount and later Dictionaries.

14.. *Chaucer's Miller's T.* (MS. Camb.) 584 Sum gay gerl god it wot Hath brou3t 3ow þus vp on the merytot [*other texts* viritoot, vyritote, veritote, verytrot]. Hence 1602 *Speght's Chaucer's Works* (ed. 2) *ibid.* Merytote. 1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Meritot*, a sport used by children by swinging themselves in Bel-ropes, or such like, till they be giddy..*Chauc.*

Meritour, variant of Meriter.

†**Me·ritress.** *Obs. nonce-wd.* [f. Meriter + -ess.] A female meriter.

1617 Collins *Def. Bp. Ely* 1. v. 206 Which is first very insolent,..that faith should be a meritour at Gods hands, or a meritresse, if you will haue it so.

Meritt(e, Merk(e: see Merit, Mark, Mirk.

Merkat(e, obs. forms of Market.

Merket(e, -kett, obs. forms of Market.

Merkin (mɔ̄·ɹkin). Also 7 mirkin. [app. a variant of Malkin; but it is doubtful whether the various applications belong to the same word.]

†**1.** The female pudendum. *Obs.*

[1535 Lyndesay *Satyre* 1920 Mawkine.] 1656 Fletcher *Martial* 95 Why dost thou reach thy Merkin now half dust? Why dost provoke the ashes of thy lust? 1671 Skinner *Etymol. Ling. Angl.*, Merkin, *Pubes mulieris.* 1714 A. Smith *Lives Highwaymen* II. 151 This put a strange Whim in his Head; which was, to get the hairy circle of her Merkin... This he dry'd well, and comb'd out, and then return'd to the Cardinall, telling him, he had brought St. Peter's Beard.

b. (See quot. 1796.)

1617 J. Taylor (Water-P.) *Trav. Bohemia* Wks. 1630 III. 94/2 A thousand hogsheads then would haunt his firkin, And Mistris Minks recouer her lost mirkin. 1660 *Mercurius Fumig.* No. 7. 56 The last week was lost a Merkin in the Coven-Garden. *a* 1680 Rochester *To Author Play 'Sodom'* 35 Or wear some stinking Merkin for a Beard. 1796 *Grose's Dict. Vulg. Tongue* (ed. 3), *Merkin*, counterfeit hair for women's privy parts.

2. = Malkin 3 b.

1802 James *Milit. Dict.*, *Merkin*, a mop to clean cannon. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.*

Merkit, obs. form of Market.

Merkland, variant of Markland.

Merkyte, obs. form of Market.

Merle (mɜ̄ɹl). Also 6 mirle, meryll, 7–8 mearl(e. [a. F. *merle* masc. (OF. also fem.) :—L. *merulus*, *merula* blackbird or ousel (also, the sea-carp). Cf. Pr., Sp. *merla*, Pg. *merlo*, *melro*, It. *merla*, *merlo*; also (from Fr.) MDu., MLG., early mod.G. *merle*, Du. *meerle*.]

1. The blackbird, *Turdus merula*. *arch.*

Perhaps never in popular use, but constantly occurring in Scottish poetry from the 15th c. Drayton adopted from some Scottish poet the traditional association of 'mavis and merle', which he frequently repeats, and which in the 19th c. often appears in English and American poetry from imitation of Scott or Burns. As used by Caxton and perh. by Philemon Holland, the word is an independent adoption from French.

For quots. 1450, 1549, 1604, 1725, 1810, see Mavis.

1483 Caxton *Gold. Leg.* 146 b/2 A blacke byrde that is called a merle came on atyme to saynt benet. *c* 1524 *Thomas of Erceld.* (Lansd. MS.) 29, I harde the Meryll and the Iay. 1593 Drayton *Eclogues* i. 11 The jocund Mirle perch'd on the highest spray. 1612 — *Poly-olb.* xiii. 62 Vpon his dulcet pype the Merle doth only play. 1601 Holland *Pliny* II. 382 The Tbrush or Mauis..is soueraigne for the dysenterie: so is the Merle or black-bird. 1617 Sir W. Mure *Misc. Poems* xxi. 100 Heir Mearle and Mavis sing melodious layes. 1684 E. Chamberlayne *Pres. St. Eng.* I. (ed. 15) 6 What abundance of..merles, field-fares, ousles. 1736 Ainsworth *Lat. Dict.* II, *Merula*,..a mearle, a blackbird. 1791 Burns *Lam. Mary* ii, The merle, in his noontide bow'r, Makes woodland echoes ring. 1863 Longf. *Wayside Inn* I. *Birds of Killingw.* 2 It was the season, when through all the land The merle and mavis.. building sing Those lovely lyrics. 1884 W. C. Smith *Kildrostan* 64 My old heart Goes pit-a-pat to hear it; like the merle That sees a gled o'erhead.

¶ **2.** Used to render L. *merula*, the sea-carp.

1745 tr. *Columella's Husb.* VIII. xvi, A rocky sea nourishes fishes of its own name,..as the merle, the sea-thrush, and the sea-bream.

¶ **3.** Used for: The merlin, *Falco æsalon.*

1838 Longf. *Drift-Wood* Prose Wks. 1886 I. 382 He can no longer fly his hawks and merles in the open country.

Merle, obs. f. Marl; var. Medle *Obs.*, medlar.

Merligo, variant of Mirligo.

Merlin[1] (mɜ̄·ɹlin). Forms: 4 merlioun, 4–5 merlion, -youn, 4–6 merlyon, 5 merlyn, -yone, -lone, *Sc.* merl3eon, 5–6 marlyon, 6 merline, meryllon, marleon, -ian, -yne, murleon, *Sc.* marl3eon, 6–7 marlion, 6–8 marlin, 7 merling, marlyn, 6– merlin. [a. AF. *merilun* (Stengel *Descr. MS. Digby* 86, p. 10), aphetic from OF. *esmerillon* (mod.F. *émerillon*) = Pr. *esmerilho*, Sp. *esmerejon*, Pg. *esmerilhão*, It. *smeriglione*; an augmentative f. Com. Rom. **smerillo*, whence med.L. *smerillus*, OF. *csmeril* merlin, Sp., Pg. *esmeril* a kind of cannon (for the sense cf. 'falconet'); the Pr. *esmirle*, It. *smerlo* merlin, are cognate, but do not correspond formally. The word appears also in Teut. as OHG., MHG., *smirl* (mod.G. *schmerl*), ON. *smyrill* (13th c.); also MHG. *smerlîn* (mod. G. *schmerlin*), Du. *smerlijn*. It is disputed whether the word was adopted from Rom. into Teut., or vice versa; Kluge regards it as originally Teut. The view of Diez, that it represents L. *merula* (see Merle) with prefixed *s*, is unlikely both on account of form and sense.

A few examples of forms without initial *s* occur outside Eng., e.g. med.L. *merillus* (Germany, 15th c.), G. *merle*, *mirle* (Nemnich), early mod.Flemish *merlijn*, *marlijn* (Kilian); their relation to the longer forms is obscure.]

A European species of falcon, *Falco æsalon* or *lithofalco*, one of the smallest, but one of the boldest, of European birds of prey; the male bird (distinguished as *jack-merlin*: see Jack *sb.*[1] 27, 37) is remarkable for the beauty of its plumage. In recent use sometimes in a wider sense, corresponding to the mod.L. *Æsalon*, as applied by some ornithologists to a subdivision of the genus *Falco* including the merlin proper and some closely allied species.

In the 17th c. some writers regarded the name as properly belonging to the female bird.

c 1325 *Song of Mercy* 9 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 119 A merlyon a brid hedde hent. *Ibid.* 172 For Merlions feet been colde. *c* 1381 Chaucer *Parl. Foules* 611 3e have the glotoun fild I-now his paunche, Thanne are we wel! sayde thanne a Merlioun. 1382 Wyclif *Lev.* xi. 13 An egle and a griffyn and a merlyoun. 14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 563/25 *Ametus*, a merlyn. *c* 1450 Holland *Howlat* 638 Than rerit thir Merl3eonis that mountis so hie. *c* 1475 *Pict. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 761/8 *Hic aluctor*, a merlone. 1517 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* (1903) V. 128 My lord governouris halkis and marle3onis. 1530 Palsgr. 910 Meryllons, *esmerillons.* 1557 *Tottel's Misc.* (Arb.) 132 Lyke as the lark within the marlians foote With piteous tunes doth chirp her 3elden lay. 1567 R. Edwards *Damon & Pithias* (1571) F j b, Masse, cham well be set: heres a trimme caste of Murleons. *a* 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* II. (1590) 114 A cast of Merlins there was besides. ? *a* 1600 in *Lyly's Wks.* (1902) III. 491 The Marlyne cannot euer sore on high. 1613 Fletcher, etc. *Honest Man's Fort.* v. i, Keep a four-nobles nag and a black [*mod. edd.* Jack-] Merling. 1613 Boyle in *Lismore Papers* (1886) I. 20, I sent..to my lo[d] Carew a caste of marlyns and a goshawk. 1616 Surfl. & Markh. *Country Farm* 712 Of all sorts of Merlins, the Irish Merlin is the best,..you shall know her by her pale greene legs, and the contrarie Merlin by her bright yellow legs. *Ibid.* [see Jack *sb.*[1] 37]. 1668 Wilkins *Real Char.* II. v. § 4. 146 Being the least of all Hawks called F. Merlin, M. Jack-Merlin. 1710 *Acc. Last Distemper Tom Whigg* I. 3 A jolly marlin that sate pruning..himself. 1893 Newton *Dict. Birds* 235 The majority of the Falcons.. may be separated into five very distinct groups: (1) the Falcons pure and simple (*Falco* proper);..(4) the Merlins (*Æsalon*, Kaup); and (5) the Hobbies (*Hypotriorchis*, Boie). 1904 *Longm. Mag.* Apr. 533 The hen harrier and the little merlin are equally mischievous.

attrib. 1851 Mayne Reid *Scalp Hunt.* xii. 88 Noble dames watching the flight of the merlin hawks.

†**Merlin**[2], *Obs.* The name of the soothsayer of the Arthurian legend; used as the title of various prophetic almanacs and the like.

1644 Lilly (*title*) England's propheticall Merline, fortelling..the actions depending upon the influence of the conjunction of Saturn and Jupiter 164[4]. 1653 (*title*) The Madmerry Merlin, or the Black Almanack [for 1654]. 1654 (*title*) The Royal Merlin, or Great Britains Royal Observator. 1656–1838 (*title*) Rider's Brit[t]ish Merlin.

Merlin[3] (mɜ̄·ɹlin). [Perh. from the name of *Merlin*, a celebrated racehorse, from which the Welsh breed of ponies is said to be descended (Youatt *The Horse* 58).] A small Welsh pony.

1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 789/1 [Montgomery] was long famous for its hardy breed of small horses called *merlins.*

Merlin, obs. form of Marline.

Merlin-chair. An invalid wheel-chair (so called after its inventor J. J. Merlin 1735–1803).

1835 Smedley *Let.* 4 May in *Poems* (1837) 429 A Merlin.. chair with many appendages and fashions of transformation. 1876 Albemarle *Fifty Years of My Life* I. 242 He [C. J. Fox] used to wheel himself about in what was called a 'Merlin chair'. 1884 *Health Exhib. Catal.* 102/2 Self-propelling Merlin Chair.

†**Me·rling.** *Obs.* Also 4–5 marlynge, 4–6 merlinge, 5 marlyng, 5–6 merlyng(e, 8 merlin. [ad. OF. *merlanke*, *merlanc*, *merlenc* (mod.F. *merlan*), f. *merle* :—L. *merula* some kind of fish (app. a transferred use of *merula* blackbird, Merle); the suffix is believed to be of Germanic origin, = -ing 3.] The whiting, *Gadus merlangus.*

1307–8 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 3 Merlinges. *c* 1460 J. Russell *Bk. Nurture* 834 Mustard is metest with.. makerelle, & also withe merlynge. 1513 *Bk. Kervynge* in *Babees Bk.* 167 Marlynge, makrell, and hake, with butter. 1525 in *Excerpta e libris domicilii Jacobi Quinti* (Bann. Cl.) 71 lxxxiiij merlingis,..perches,..fundolis. 1611 Cotgr., *Merlan*, a whiting, a Merling. 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Merlin* or *Merling*, a kind of Fish. 1736 Ainsworth *Lat. Dict.* II, *Merula*..a fish called a merling, a whiting.

Merlin's grass. The aquatic plant *Isoetes lacustris* or Quill-wort.

[17.. *S. Brewer's Bot. Journ. Wales in* 1726 (MS.) in Britten & Holland *Plant-n.*, The fish are larger there [at Llyn Ogwen, Carnarvonshire] than in any of the other lakes, which they attribute to the eating of [this plant], which they call *Gwair Merllyns*; *gwair* is hay, and *Merllyn* was a Welsh prophet.] 1837 G. W. Francis *Analysis Brit. Ferns* 56 *Isoetes lacustris.* European Quillwort. Merlin's Grass.

Merlion, marlion (mɔ̄·ɹ-, mɑ̄·ɹliən). *Her.* [Perh. orig. a use of *merlion*, *marlion*, variants of Merlin[1], but in the extant heraldic instances misapplied owing to association with F. *merlette*: see Martlet, Marlet.] A heraldic bird, figured either as identical with the heraldic Martlet 2, or with the *merlette* of French heraldry, which is depicted as having neither feet nor beak.

It is doubtful whether *merlyons* in the first quot. refers to embroidered figures of heraldic 'merlions' or of merlins, or whether it is not a wholly distinct word; in the latter case cf. med.L. *merlinus*, a hood worn by canons (Du Cange).

1553 *Inv. Ch. Surrey* (1869) 155 A sute of vestementes with merlyons solde for xx[s]. *Ibid.*, A cope of velvit with marlyons solde for xx[s]. 1610 Guillim *Heraldry* III. xvii. 159 He beareth Gules fiue Marlions wings in Saltire Argent. 1828–40 Berry *Encycl. Herald.* I, *Merlette* or *Merlion*, an heraldic term used by French heralds for the martlet, but which they represent without beak, thighs, or legs. 1874 *Papworth's Ord. Brit. Armorials* 42/1 Sa. three marlions sinister wings displ. arg. 1889 Elvin *Dict. Heraldry* s. v. *Marlions*, Two Marlions wings conjoined and expanded. *Merlet, Merlette* or *Merlion*, a Martlet.

Merlio(u)n, variants of Merlin[1].

Merlon (mɜ̄·ɹlən). *Fortification.* [F. *merlon* (= Sp. *merlon*, Pg. *merlão*), ad. It. *merlone*, augm. of *merlo*, *merla* battlement, perhaps a contraction of the synonymous *mergolo* (Florio), *mergola*, app. a dim. f. L. *mergæ* (pl.) pitchfork.] The part of an embattled parapet between two embrasures; † a similar structure on a battleship.

1704 J. Harris *Lex. Techn.* I, *Merlon*, in Fortification, is that Part of the Parapet which lies betwixt two Embrasures. 1757 W. Smith *Hist. New York* 188 This Battery is built of Stone, and the Merlons consist of Cedar Joists, filled in with Earth. 1790 Beatson *Nav. & Mil. Mem.* I. 101 Having her merlons filled with earth or sand, she [the Gallicia] drew full as much water as some of our eighty gun ships. 1833 Straith *Fortif.* 5 The solid portion of the parapet between two embrasures is called the merlon. 1894 R. S. Ferguson *Hist. Westmorld.* 285 One of the merlons in the parapets is pierced for a small cannon.

Comb. *a* 1849 J. C. Mangan *Poems* (1859) 238 He trained a horse to pace round narrow stones laid merlon-wise.

Merlone, obs. form of Merlin[1].

Merls: see Merel.

Merlyng(e, obs. forms of Marline, Merling.

Merlyo(u)n, obs. forms of Merlin *sb.*[1]

Mermaid (mɜ̄·ɹmēid). Forms: 4–9 mer-, 5 meer-, 5–6 mar-, 5–7 mere-, 6 meyr(e)-, mayr-, 6–7 mear(e)-, 6–8 mare-, mair-, 7 meir- (see forms of Maid *sb.*); also 8 mermade. [f. Mere *sb.*[1] + Maid; cf. OE. *merewif* and Mermin; also G. *meerjungfrau*, *meerfräulein.*]

1. An imaginary species of beings, more or less human in character, supposed to inhabit the sea, and to have the head and trunk of a woman, the lower limbs being replaced by the tail of a fish or cetacean. † In early use often identified with the Siren of classical mythology.

c 1386 Chaucer *Nun's Pr. T.* 450 Chauntecleer so free Soong murier than the Mermayde in the see. 1406 Hoccleve *La Male Regle* 236 It spekith of meermaides in the See. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) II. 369 Poetes feyne iij meremaydes [orig. *sirenes*] to be in parte virgines and in parte bryddes. *a* 1533 Ld. Berners *Huon* lvi. 190 So swete a sownde that it semed to be the mermaydes of the see. 1592 Davies *Immort. Soul* II. vi, Did sense perswade Vlysses not to hear The Mermaids songs. 1601 Holland *Pliny* I. 236 As for the Meremaids called Nereides, it is no fabulous tale that goes of them..onely their bodie is rough & skaled all ouer. *a* 1661 Holyday *Juvenal* 265 Sea-monsters, such as mear-maids, and young tritons, half men, half fish. 1681 Dryden *Sp. Friar* IV. ii. 60 This Mermayd's melody Into an unseen whirl-pool draws you fast. 1762 Goldsm. *Cit. W.* lxxxi, They have laid their hoops aside, and are become as slim as mermaids. 1814 Scott *Ld. of Isles* III. xxviii, Mermaid's alabaster grot, Who bathes her limbs in sunless well. 1819 Keats *Eve St. Agnes* xxvi, Half-hidden, like a mermaid in sea-weed. 1867 Roby *Mermaid of Martin Meer* in *Trad. Lanc.* (ed. 4) II. 174 'Tis said a mermaid haunts yon water.

† b. Sometimes applied to the manatee or similar animals, whose form reminded observers of the mermaid of tradition. *Obs.*

1622 R. Hawkins *Voy. S. Sea* xxxii. 78 These..are part terrestryall, and part aquatile, as the Mare-maide, Sea-horse, and other of that kind. 1756 Nugent *Gr. Tour, Netherl.* I. 102 Among other things there is..the hand of a mermade.. and several other curiosities.

2. A representation of this being, esp. *Her.*

Usually if not invariably depicted heraldically with long flowing golden locks, and holding in the right-hand a comb and in the left a mirror or hand-glass.

1464 *Will of Kent* (Somerset Ho.), Vnum meremayde de argento. 1533 *Visit. Lancs.* (Chetham Soc. No. 98) 55 A meyre mayd haire come & glasse or. 1631 Heywood *London's Ius Hon.* Wks. 1874 IV. 276 Upon the top of the one stands a Sea Lyon vpon the other a Meare-maide or Sea-Nimphe. 1761 *Ann. Reg.* 238 The fishmongers pageants

consisted of..two mairmaids [etc.]. 1874 *Papworth's Ord. Brit. Armorials* 983/1 Vert a mermaid arg. crined or holding a comb and glass of the third.

b. A favourite sign for a shop, inn or tavern.

1428 in *E. E. Wills* (1882) 78 My mancion that is cleped the Mermaid in Bredstreet. 1463 *Mann. & Househ. Exp.* (Roxb.) 151 The dynnere at the Mermayde,..xiiij.s. vj.d. 1527 Rastall *Abridg. Statutes* (Colophon), Enprynted in the chepe syde at the sygne of the mere mayde next to poulys gate. *a* 1616 Beaumont *Let. to B. Jonson* 44 What things have we seen Done at the Mermaid? 1639 Mayne *City Match* III. iii. 30, I had made an Ordinary.. at the Mermaid. 1678 Dryden *Kind Keeper* II. i. (1680) 13 How sits my *Chedreux*? *Ger.* O very finely! with the Locks comb'd down, like a Maremaids, on a Sign-post.

3. *transf.* † **a.** = Siren; in 16–17th c. applied to a prostitute. *Obs.* **b.** *jocularly.* A woman who is at home in the water.

1590 Shaks. *Com. Err.* III. ii. 45 Oh traine me not sweet Mermaide with thy note,..Sing Siren for thy selfe, and I will dote. 1595 Markham *Sir R. Grinvile* lxxii, Honie-tongd Tullie, Mermaid of our eares. 16.. Massinger, etc. *Old Law* IV. i, *Gnotho.* I have Siren here already. *Agatha.* What? a mermaid? *Gnotho.* No, but a maid, horse-face! 1602 Dekker *Satiromast.* Wks. 1873 I. 234 A Gentleman..shall not..sneake into a Tauerne with his Mermaid, but [etc.]. 1880 'Ouida' *Moths* I. 3 She had floated..semi-nude, with all the other mermaids *à la mode*.

4. The name of a country dance.

1701 *Newest Acad. Compliments* (N.), The Mermaid.—The leaders up change sides, then turn each the other's partner [etc.]. 1716 *Playford's Dancing-Master* (ed. 16) I. 105 Maremaid [music and directions].

5. *False Mermaid*, a plant of the North American genus *Flærkea*, esp. *F. proserpinacoides*.

1845–50 Mrs. Lincoln *Lect. Bot.* App. v. 103/2 *Flærkia palustris* (false mermaid). 1846–50 A. Wood *Class-bk. Bot.* 200 *Flærkea proserpinacoides*... False Mermaid. 1860 in A. Gray *Man. Bot. North. U. S.* 74.

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *mermaid-bride*; *mermaid-like* adv.; **mermaid-fish**, the monk-fish or angel-fish, *Rhina squatina*; **mermaid-pie**, a sucking pig baked whole in a crust; **mermaid-weed** *U.S.*, a name for aquatic plants of the genus *Proserpinaca*, having leaves toothed like a comb.

1823 Byron *Island* IV. ix, Proud and exulting in his *mermaid bride. 1758 Borlase *Nat. Hist. Cornw.* 265 The monk or angel-fish (otherwise termed the *Mermaid-fish, as Artedi says). 1602 Shaks. *Ham.* IV. vii. 177 Her cloathes spred wide, And *Mermaid-like, a while they bore her vp. 1661 Rabisha *Cookery Dissected* 175 To bake a Pigg to be eaten cold, called a *Maremaid Pie. 1846–50 A. Wood *Class-bk. Bot.* 267 *Proserpinaca palustris.* Spear-leaved *Mermaid-weed. .. *P. pectinacea*...Cat-leaved Mermaid-weed.

b. With possessive, as **mermaid's egg** = *mermaid's purse* (*Cent. Dict.* 1890); **mermaid's fish-lines**, a common cord-like seaweed, *Chorda filum* (ibid.); **mermaid's glove**, (*a*) a British sponge, *Halichondria palmata*, somewhat resembling a glove; (*b*) *pl.* = Dead-man's fingers 2, *Alcyonium digitatum*; **mermaid's hair**, a dark green filamentous seaweed, *Lyngbya majuscula* (*Cent. Dict.*); **mermaid's head**, one of the small rounded sea-urchins, as *Spatangus cordatus*; **mermaid's lace**, (*a*) an alleged name for a kind of coralline; (*b*) applied to a kind of Venetian point lace whose pattern is said to have been imitated from this; **mermaid's purse**, the horny egg-case of a skate, ray or shark (= Sea-purse); **mermaid's trumpet**, the shell of one of the Turbinacean gasteropods (? *Nerita*).

1808 Forsyth *Beauties Scotl.* V. 138 The sponge called *mermaid's glove. 1865 Gosse *Year at Shore* 74 The animal is sometimes, however, called cow's paps, and sometimes mermaid's gloves. 1863 Wood *Nat. Hist.* III. 769 The Mermaid's Glove..is certainly the largest of the British Sponges. 1662 Ray *Three Itin.* III. 169 A pretty shell covered with prickles or bristles, which the Welch call *mermaid's heads. 1865 Mrs. Bury Palliser *Hist. Lace* 46 In the islands of the Lagune there still lingers a tale of the first origin of this most charming production. A sailor youth..brought home to his betrothed a bunch of that pretty coralline known..as the *mermaid's lace. The girl..imitated it with her needle, and..produced that delicate guipure which before long became the taste of all Europe. 1882 Caulfeild & Saward *Dict. Needlework*, *Mermaids Lace*, a name sometimes given to fine Venetian Points, from the legend of a lace maker having copied the seaweed known as Mermaid—making of it one of the patterns in Venetian Point. 1836 Yarrell *Brit. Fishes* II. 368 These cases..are called *Mermaid's purses. 1668 Charleton *Onomasticon* 182 *Nerites*..the *Mere-maids Trumpet.

Mermaiden (mɜ·ɹmēd'n). Now *rare*. Forms: see prec. and Maiden. [f. Mere *sb.*[1] + Maiden; cf. prec.] = Mermaid 1, 2.

?*a* 1366 Chaucer *Rom. Rose* 680 But it was wondir lyk to be Song of meremaydens of the see. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 150 A mermayden of þe se..hath a body as a womman, & a tayl as a fysch, & clawys as an eryn. 1538 *Ace. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* in Pitcairn *Crim. Trials* I. *293 Ane Terget of Gold, with ane Marmadyne in it of dyamontis. 1584 Cogan *Haven Health* (1636) 170 A Syren or Mermayden, that is, halfe fish and halfe flesh. 1848 E. Forbes *Naked-eyed Medusæ* 70 Sufficiently graceful to be the nightcap of the tiniest and prettiest of mermaidens. 1849 M. Arnold *Forsaken Merman* vi, The cold strange eyes of a little Mermaiden.

Mermalade, obs. form of Marmalade.

Merman (mɜ·ɹmæn). Also 7 mere-, mare-, mairman. [f. Mere *sb.*[1] + Man *sb.*, after Mermaid; cf. G. *meermann*, Du. *meerman*.]

1. The male of the mermaid; an imaginary marine creature with a man's head and trunk, and a fish's or cetacean's tail instead of the lower limbs.

In *Heraldry*, the merman (also called *triton* or *Neptune*) is depicted as holding in the right hand a trident, and in the left a conch-shell trumpet.

1601 Holland *Pliny* I. 236 Knights of Rome..who testifie, that..they haue seen a Mere-man, in euery respect resembling a man. 1611 Munday *Chryso-thriambos*, A Mareman and a Mare-maid..do figure the long continued loue and amity, which..hath been betweene the Goldsmiths and Fishmongers. 1678 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1344/1 He and his Company, upon their crossing the Severne, saw a Mair-man appear a pretty while above water. 1711–12 Swift *Jrnl. to Stella* 12 Mar., Mermen are he-mermaids; Tritons, natives of the sea. 1823 Byron *Island* IV. v, Did they with ocean's hidden sovereigns dwell, And sound with mermen the fantastic shell? 1893 Cussans *Handbk. Her.* (ed. 4) 101 A Triton is sometimes called a Merman or Neptune.

Comb. a 1845 Hood *Sub-marine* ii, But (merman-like) he look'd marine All downward from the waist.

2. *Merman's shaving brushes*, 'a name given in North America to different species of *Chamædoris* and *Penicillus*' (*Treas. Bot.* 1866).

Mermayd, -en, obs. forms of Mermaid, -en.

Mermelade, obs. form of Marmalade.

Mermiden, -on, obs. forms of Myrmidon.

† **Mermin.** *Obs.* Forms: 1 meremenin, -en (gen. pl. meremenna, -mennena), 1, 3 meremen, 3 mereman, mer(e)minne, mermyn(n. [OE. *meremenen*, app. f. *mere* sea, Mere *sb.*[1] + *menen* neut., female slave:—prehistoric **manīnō*[m]; cf. ON. *man* neut., slave (male or female), girl. Corresponding or cognate forms in other Teut. langs. are OHG. *meremanni*, *merimenni*, *mer(i)-min* neut., *meriminna* fem. (MHG. *mereminne*, *merminne* fem.), Du. *meermin* fem., mermaid or siren, ON. *marmennill*, *-mendill* masc., merman, triton (mod.Icel. corruptly *marbendill*; also ON. *margmelli*, mod.Norw. *marmæle*, prob. an etymologizing perversion, as if 'one who speaks much').

The 13th c. form *mereman* prob. belongs here rather than to Merman, which does not otherwise occur before 17th c.]

A mermaid or siren.

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) S 349 *Sirina*, meremenin. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 506/5 *Sirenarum*, meremennena. *c* 1050 *Ags. Voc.* ibid. 277/28 *Serina*, meremen. *c* 1205 Lay. 1321 Þer heo funden þe merminnen [Wace *seraines*] þ beoð deor of muchele ginnen. *c* 1220 *Bestiary* 557 De mereman is a meiden ilike on brest and on bodi. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1500 Ah ich drede þæt tis dream me dreie toward deaðe, as deð mereminnes. 1382 Wyclif *Josh.* Prol., The deth berynge songis of mermynns [Jerome *mortiferos Sirenarum cantus*]. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) V. 397 Þe oost of Rome siȝ mermyns in liknes of men and of wommen [Higd. *sirenæ in specie viri et mulieris*].

Mermole, obs. variant of Mormal.

Mermoset, obs. form of Marmoset.

† **Mermoyse.** *Obs. rare*—[1]. [a. MDu. *mermoeyse*, *marmoyse*, believed to be a shortening of F. *marmouset*: cf. Marmose.] = Marmoset 1.

1481 Caxton *Reynard* xxxiv. (Arb.) 98, I wende hit had be a mermoyse a baubyn or a mercatte for I sawe neuer fowler beest.

Mermydon, obs. form of Myrmidon.

‖ **Mero** (mē·ro). [Sp.] A name applied to the sea-perch (*Serranus*) and various other serranoid fishes, now esp. the genera *Epinephelus* and *Promicrops*, otherwise known as jew-fishes.

1763 W. Roberts *Nat. Hist. Florida* 18 There is very good fishery, where is plenty of meros and pardos. 1772–84 *Cook's Voy.* (1790) IV. 1225 Fishes are found in great quantities, particularly dolphins, sharks, meros, lobsters, mussels. 1883 *Fisheries Exhib. Catal.* 351 Two Tins of..Mero in oil; two of Mero, pickled; one of Mero, with tomato sauce. 1884 *Health Exhib. Catal.* 159/2 Mero (*Terranus* [*read* Serranus]),..Prepared Mero.

Mero-[1] (me·ro), before a vowel **mer-**, combining form of Gr. *μέρος* 'part, fraction', occurring in various scientific and technical terms; sometimes opposed to Holo-. In terms of *Crystallography* (Merohedral, Merosymmetry, etc.), it denotes that a crystal or crystalline form is deficient in the number of faces requisite to build up the geometrically complete form belonging to its system. **Me·rocyte** *Biol.* [Gr. *κύτος* hollow: see -cyte], the segmenting nucleus of a meroblastic ovum (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1890). **Meroga·strula** *Biol.*, the gastrula of a meroblastic egg (*Cent. Dict.* 1890). **Meroge·nesis** *Biol.*, segmentation; hence **Merogene·tic** *a.*, pertaining to or characterized by merogenesis (*Cent. Dict.*). **Meroistic** (-i·stik) *a. Biol.* [Gr. *ᾠόν* egg], producing imperfect as well as fully developed ova. **Me·romorph, Meromo·rphic** *adjs. Math.* [Gr. *μορφή* form], similar in nature to a rational fraction (*Cent. Dict.*). **Meroparo·nymy** [Paronymy], incomplete paronymy. **Me·rosome** *Zool.* [Gr. *σῶμα* body], a segment of the body of a segmented animal (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*); hence **Meroso·mal** *a.*, pertaining to or of the nature of a merosome.

1881 Lankester in *Encycl. Brit.* XII. 555/1 The *merogenesis (segmentation or bud-formation) can only show itself by..compelling..the organs or regions of the body of the primary unit to assume the form of new units. 1877 Huxley *Anat. Inv. Anim.* vii. 443 Dr. A. Brandt has proposed the term panoistic for ovaries of the first mode, and *meroistic for those of the second and third modes of development of the ova here described. 1888 (see Panoistic). 1889 *Buck's Handbk. Med. Sci.* VIII. 519/2 The host of cases (easily found in any large English dictionary) in which two or more possible forms are wanting, may be accepted as illustrations of partial paronymy or *meroparonymy.

Mero-[2] (mī·ro-, mi·rɒ-), combining form of Gr. *μηρός* 'thigh', occurring in certain mod. scientific terms. **Me·rocele** *Path.*, femoral hernia; hence **Meroce·lic** *a.*, of or belonging to merocele (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1890). **Merocerite** (-ρ·sĕrəit) *Zool.* [Gr. *κέρας* horn], one of the joints in the antennæ in crustaceans, which rests upon the ischiocerite; hence **Meroceritic** (-sĕri·tik) *a.*, of the nature of or pertaining to a merocerite. **Merognathite** *Zool.* [Gr. *γνάθος* jaw: see -ite], the fourth joint of a crustacean gnathite. **Meropodite** (-ρ·pŏdəit) *Zool.* [Gr. *ποδ-*, *πούς* foot], that joint of an endopodite which is borne on the ischiopodite; **Meropodi·tic** *a.*, pertaining to or of the nature of a meropodite (*Cassell's Encycl. Dict.* 1902).

1802 Turton *Med. Gloss.*, *Merocele. 1835–6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 396/1 Hernia of the bladder..is developed at the same point as a merocele. 1877 Huxley *Anat. Inv. Anim.* vi. 314 To its inner portion an ischiocerite is connected, bearing a *merocerite and carpocerite. 1859 Salter in *Brit. Org. Rem.*, *1st Monograph* 43 *Merognathite. 1870 Rolleston *Anim. Life* 94 The fourth, the longest of all the segments..is known as the *meropodite.

† **Merobibe.** *Obs.*—[o] [ad. L. *merobib-us* (Plautus), f. *mero-*, *merum* unmixed wine + *bib-ĕre* to drink.] 'One who drinks pure Wine without a mixture of Water' (Bailey 1727 vol. II).

Meroblast (me·roblæst). *Biol.* [f. Mero-[1] + Gr. *βλαστός* germ, -blast.] An ovum which is only partly germinal. Hence **Merobla·stic** *a.*, having only a partial power of germination. (Opposed to *holoblast*, *-ic*.)

1870 Nicholson *Man. Zool.* 193 The ovum is 'meroblastic', a portion only of the vitellus undergoing segmentation. 1884 Caldwell in *Anstralasian* Suppl. 8 Nov. 3/3 Monotremes oviparous, meroblast ovum. 1888 Rolleston & Jackson *Anim. Life* 371 *Monotremata*... The ova are large and meroblastic.

Mero·cracy. *nonce-wd.* [f. Gr. *μέρο-s* part: see -cracy.] Government by a part.

1679 Filmer *Free-holder* XII. 173 Why must an Assembly of part be called an Aristocratie, and not a Merocratie?

Merogony (mĕrɒ·gŏni). *Biol.* [f. Mero-[1] + Gr. *-γονία* begetting.] The production of an embryo from a portion of an egg not containing a nucleus. Hence **Merogo·nic** *a.*, pertaining to or effected by merogony.

1899 *Nature* 2 Nov. 24/1 On merogonic impregnation and its results, by M. Yves Delage. *Ibid.*, Since it [the fertilization of non-nucleated ovular cytoplasm]..is a process which may be generalised, the author [M. Yves Delage] proposes to give it the name of merogony.

Merohedral (merohī·drăl), *a. Cryst.* [f. Mero-[1] + Gr. *ἕδρα* seat, base + -al.] Of a crystal: Having less than the full number of faces admitted by the type of symmetry to which it belongs. So **Merohe·dric** *a.* in the same sense (Webster Suppl. 1902); **Merohe·drism**, the property of being merohedral.

1888 Teall *Brit. Petrogr.* 438 *Merohedrism*, a crystallographic term embracing both *hemihedrism* and *tetartohedrism*. 1895 Story-Maskelyne *Crystallogr.* § 137 The term merohedral will be reserved for certain cases in which a defalcation is met with in the faces of a crystal out of accord with any fixed law of symmetry; though sometimes such a merohedral crystal simulates the mode of grouping of a crystal belonging to a different type of symmetry from its own. 1899 W. J. Lewis *Crystallogr.* 149 The forms of certain classes were regarded as merohedral divisions of a more symmetrical form. *Ibid.* 259 The views underlying the ideas of merohedrism lead to inconsistencies.

Merology (mĕrɒ·lŏdʒi). *Biol.* [f. Gr. *μέρο-s* part, member + -logy.] That branch of anatomy which deals with the elementary tissues and fluids of the body (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1890).

1857 Dunglison *Med. Lex.*

Meroon, obs. form of Maroon.

Merop (me·rɒp), *a. nonce-wd.* [a. Gr. *μεροπ-*, *μέροψ* speaking articulately.] Gifted with the power of speech. So **Mero·pic** *a.* (in same sense).

1854 Badham *Halieut.* 224 Mute creatures [seem] as capable of jealousy and resentment as loud-tongued meropic man! 1864 Blackmore *Clara Vaughan* (1889) 172 He has no tongue, no merop tongue, I mean.

‖ **Meropia** (mĕrō·pĭă). *Path.* [mod.L., f. Mero-[1] + Gr. *-ωπία*, f. *ὤπ-*, *ὤψ* eye: cf. *myopia*, *amblyopia*.] Dullness or obscuration of sight (Mayne *Expos. Lex.* 1856).

Meropidan (mĕrǫ·pidăn), *a.* and *sb. Ornith.* [f. mod.L. *Meropid-æ* + -AN.] **a.** *adj.* Of or pertaining to the picarian family *Meropidæ* (*Cassell's Encycl. Dict.* 1885). **b.** *sb.* A bird of the family *Meropidæ*.

1842 BRANDE *Dict. Sci.* etc., *Meropidans*, *Meropidæ*, the family of Insessorial birds of which the bee-eater (*Merops*) is the type.

† **Meropie.** *Her. Obs.* [a. L. *merops*, a. Gr. *μέροψ* bee-eater.] = MEROPS.

1572 BOSSEWELL *Armorie* III. 26 b, On a torce d'Argente and Azure, a Meropie volante, Sable, membred Gules.

‖ **Merops** (me·rǫps). [L., a. Gr. *μέροψ*.] The bee-eater, *Merops apiaster*. (*Obs.* exc. *Ornith.* as the name of the genus.)

[1678 RAY *Willughby's Ornith.* 148 Bellonius..writes thus concerning the Merops.] 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* II. 262/1 The Merops, or Bee-eater, is like the Kings-Fisher in shape. 1706 in PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey).

Meroquin, meror, obs. ff. MAROQUIN, MIRROR.

Mero·rganize, *v. rare.* [f. MERO-[1] + ORGANIZE *v.*] *trans.* To bring into a partially organized state. Hence **Merorganized, Merorganizing,** *ppl. adjs.* Also **Merorganiza·tion** (see quot. 1855).

1827 PROUT in *Phil. Trans.* CXVII. 375, I have provisionally adopted the term *merorganized*,..meaning to imply by it that bodies on passing into this state, become partly, or to a certain extent, organized. Thus starch I consider as *merorganized* sugar. *Ibid.*, *note*, Any substance may be supposed capable of performing the part of a merorganizing body. 1855 OGILVIE *Suppl.*, *Merorganization*, organization in part, or partial organization.

‖ **Meros** (mī·rǫs). In Dicts. also **merus.** [mod. L., a. Gr. *μηρός* thigh.]

1. *Arch.* (See quots.)

1823 P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Build.* 582 Meros; the middle part of a trigliph. 1842-59 GWILT *Archit.* 1004 *Meros*, the plane face between the channels in the triglyphs of the Doric order.

2. *Anat.* The thigh.

1802 TURTON *Med. Gloss.* 1890 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

3. One of the joints of a maxilliped.

1855 BATE in *Rep. Brit. Assoc.* 33 The third leaf-like plate consists of two joints, the fourth and the fifth, the meros and the carpus. 1857 — in *Phil. Trans.* CXLVIII. 604 Fig 10 to 14. Pereiopoda :—*a*, Coxa; *b*, Basos; *c*, Ischium; *d*, Meros.

Merostome (me·rostōum). *Zool.* [ad. mod.L. *Merostomata* neut. pl., f. MERO-[1] + Gr. *στόμα, στοματ-* mouth; so called as having the mouth divided into separate parts.] Any arthropod of the order *Merostomata*. So **Merosto·matous, Mero·stomous** *adjs.*, of or belonging to the *Merostomata*.

1881 GILL in *Smithson. Rep.* 431 The Merostomes, i.e. the Horseshoe Crabs of the present epoch.

Merosymmetry (merǫsi·mėtri). *Cryst.* [f. MERO-[1] + SYMMETRY.] The condition or quality of being merohedral. So **Merosymme·trical** *a.* = MEROHEDRAL.

1875 *Chem. News* 19 Mar. 121 Such partially developed forms Mr. Maskelyne designated as mero-symmetrical forms. *Ibid.*, The varieties of mero-symmetry that a crystal may present. 1878 GURNEY *Crystallogr.* 55. 1895 STORY-MASKELYNE *Crystallogr.* § 137 Mero-symmetrical forms may be hemi-symmetrical.

Merosystematic (merǫsistėmæ·tik), *a. Cryst.* [f. MERO-[1] + SYSTEMATIC.] Having less than the number of normals by the law of symmetry.

1878 GURNEY *Crystallogr.* 39 Such forms are called merosystematic or merosymmetrical, or partially symmetrical forms. 1895 STORY-MASKELYNE *Crystallogr.* § 139 Holo- and mero-systematic forms.

Merour(e, obs. forms of MIRROR.

† **Meroure.** *Obs. rare*—[1]. [a. L. *mæror*, f. *mærēre* to moum.] Lamentation, sorrowing.

c 1450 *Mirour Saluacioun* 3770 In whas absence..eure sho contynuyd in weping and in meroure.

-merous, the ending of the adjs. *dimerous, trimerous, tetramerous, pentamerous*, etc., used *Bot.* in the sense of 'having (a specified number of) parts'. The numeral part of these words is often expressed in writing by an arabic figure, which is sometimes replaced by the English numeral word, as in *2-merous, five-merous*.

1870 HOOKER *Stud. Flora* p. x, Papaveraceæ. Flowers regular 2-merous. 1888 *Athenæum* 18 Aug. 228/2 A corolla of four petals could not have been provided with the same amount of nutritive material as a five-merous one.

Merovingian (merovi·ndʒiăn), *a.* and *sb.* [a. F. *Merovingien*, f. med.L. *Merovingī* pl., the designation of Clovis and his descendants, repr. a Germanic word formed with patronymic suffix -ING [3] from the name (in L. form *Meroveus*) of the reputed ancestor of the family.] **A.** *adj.* Pertaining to the line of Frankish kings founded by Clovis (Chlodovech, in OHG. Hludwîg), and to the kingdoms reigned over by them in Gaul and Germany from about A.D. 500 to A.D. 751–2, when their rule was succeeded by that of the Carolingian dynasty. In *Palæogr.*, applied to the style of handwriting peculiar to the Merovingian period in the Frankish empire. **B.** *sb.* A king or other member of this royal line. In *Palæogr.* = Merovingian script.

1694 *Hist., Geogr. & Poet. Dict., Meroveans*, or *Merovingians*, a Name given to the Kings of France of the First Race. 1781 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xxxv. III. 400 The Franks.. had wisely established the right of hereditary succession in the noble family of the Merovingians. *Ibid.* xxxviii. III. 592 The wealth of the Merovingian princes consisted in their extensive domain. *Ibid.* 594 The..silent decay of the Merovingian line. 1867 J. B. DAVIS *Thesaur. Craniorum* 74 Merovingian Frank. *Ibid.*, Nos. 208 to 210 are from the Merovingian Cemetery at Envermeu, near Dieppe. *Ibid.* 75 Average Measurements of..Merovingian Skulls. 1892 E. M. THOMPSON *Gr. & Lat. Palaeogr.* xvi. 226 Merovingian Writing. *Ibid.* 231 The extravagances of the cursive Merovingian. 1900 EARL ROSEBERY *Napoleon* xii. 152 The ladies of his party..had to be conveyed in a Merovingian equipage drawn by several yoke of oxen.

Merow, -owe, -owȝ, obs. ff. MARROW *sb.*[1]

Meroxene (mĕrǫ·ksīn). *Min.* [ad. G. *meroxen* (W. Haidinger 1845), after A. Breithaupt's *Astrites meroxenus* (1841), 'probably from *μέρος* a part, and *ξένος* strange, because it is a part of what had been called uniaxial mica' (A. H. Chester).] A variety of biotite.

1854 DANA *Syst. Min.* (ed. 4) II. 226 The Vesuvian biotite occurs in brilliant crystals (Meroxene).

Merpeople : see MER-.

† **Merpyss.** *Obs. rare*—[1]. = PISMIRE.

1527 ANDREW *Brunswyke's Distyll. Waters* F iv, Than the merpysses shall..leve theyr egges behynde them.

Merquisate, obs. form of MARCASITE.

Merre, obs. form of MERE *sb.*[2], MYRRH.

Merrels : see MEREL.

† **Merribowk.** *Obs.* Also **meribauk, merry bauks.** [f. MERRY *a.* + BOWK. Cf. *sillibouk.*] A sillibub or posset.

1611 COTGR., *Laict aigre*, whay; also, a sillibub, or merribowke. 1613 BEAUM. & FL. *Coxcomb* III. iii. (1647) 108/2 And can you milke a Cow? and make a merry-bush [*? read* -buck *or* -bouk]? 1664 O. HEYWOOD *Diaries*, etc. (1883) III. 86 She had drunk six meribauk pots ful of ale. 1674 RAY *N. C. Words, Merry bauks* : a cold Posset, *Derb.*

† **Me·rrify,** *v. Obs. nonce-wd.* [f. MERRY *sb.*[1] + -FY.] *trans.* To cause to be merry.

1780 MME. D'ARBLAY *Diary* (1904) I. 347 It merryfied us all.

Merril(l)s : see MEREL.

Merrily (me·rili), *adv.* Forms : see MERRY *a.* and -LY[2]; also 4–6 **merely,** 4–7 **merily,** 5 **merelly,** 6 **merrellie, -ely, merelie, -ye,** 6– **merrily.** [f. MERRY *a.* + -LY [2].]

1. In early use : Pleasantly, agreeably, cheerfully, happily. In modern use : With exuberant gaiety, joyously, mirthfully, hilariously.

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 2295 Þen muryly efte con he mele, þe mon in þe grene. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Manciple's T.* 34 No nyghtyngale Ne koude .. Syngen so wonder myrily and weel. *a* 1400-50 *Alexander* 3862 Þe mone ouir þe montayns meryly it schynes. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* xvi. 58 (Harl. MS.) The brid, þat sang so murely in the top of the tre, is þi conscience. 1552 in *Liturg. Serv. Q. Eliz.* (1847) 247 That I may..even in the very pangs of death, cry boldly and merrily unto thee. 1553 BRENDE *Q. Curtius* x. 208 b, When he had spoken those wordes, he went merelye [orig. *alacriter*] into the fire. 1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* v. x. 42 Full merrily the humble Bee doth sing. 1656 EARL MONM. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* 126, I see the fire of Heresie..breaks most forth there, where they drink merriliest. 17.. in Scott *Redgauntlet* ch. iv, Merrily danced the Quaker's wife, And merrily danced the Quaker. 1799 WORDSW. *Fountain* 22 No check, no stay, this Streamlet fears; How merrily it goes! 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* iv, 'Oh, very well, Uncle', said the boy, merrily. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 462, [I] would not go out of life less merrily than the swans.

† **2.** Jocularly, facetiously, wittily, in jest. *Obs.*

c 1386 CHAUCER *Wife's T.* 336 Iuuenal seith of pouerte myrily The poure man [etc.]. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Edw. V* 21 This man merely..saied to his awne sonne that he would make him inheritor of ye croune meaning his awne house. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 16 Philip the French king beyng merely disposed, sayde that william lay in Childebed, and norrisshed his fat belly. *a* 1626 BACON *New Atl.* 14 We knew he spake it but merrily. 1704 HEARNE *Duct. Hist.* (1714) I. 431 Treves..is..of no great Beauty of it self..and the Air generally so clouded .. that it is by some called merrily *Cloaca Planetarum*.

Comb. 1767 S. PATERSON *Another Trav.* I. 129 The fleers of some of my merrily-disposed readers.

3. With alacrity; hence, with reference to inanimate things, briskly. Somewhat *arch.*

1530 PALSGR. 547/1 These beestes fede meryly towardes nyght. 1720 DE FOE *Capt. Singleton* v. (1840) 80 We went merrily up the river with the flood. 1899 *Times* 25 Oct. 5/3 The Mauser bullets rattled merrily, but impotently, on the armour [of a train].

Merriment (me·rimėnt). [f. MERRY *v.* + -MENT.]

† **1.** Something that contributes to mirth; a jest; 'a piece of fooling'; *spec.* a brief comic dramatic entertainment. *Obs.*

1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 151 Your talke replenished with pleasant meriments. 1589 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* VI. xxx. (1612) 146 When they, indeed of merriments in Loue did theare conspire. *c* 1590 MARLOWE *Faustus* (1604) E 3, Beleeue me maister Doctor, this merriment hath much pleased me. 1592 NASHE *P. Penilesse* (ed. 2) 27 They shal not be brought vpon the Stage for any goodnes, but in a merriment of the Usurer and the Diuel. 1597 SHAKS. *2 Hen. IV*, II. iv. 324 Hee will..turne all to a merryment, if you take not the heat. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* VI. 292, I kept ..the Germanes from langour, cherishing them with iouiall merriments.

† **b.** A humorous or scurrilous publication. *Obs.*

1697 BENTLEY *Diss. Epist.* etc., *Æsop* § 9. 148 Not a bit better than our Penny-Merriments, printed at London-Bridge. 1824 DIBDIN *Libr. Comp.* 598 The rapid increase of cheap pamphlets (under the title of *Merriments*).

2. The action (or † an act) of merry-making, or of 'making merry' over something; hilarious enjoyment or jocularity; mirth, fun; † a festivity.

1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* v. ii. 139 They doe it but in mocking merriment. 1596 — *Merch. V.* II. ii. 212 We haue friends That purpose merriment. 1602 — *Ham.* v. i. 210 Your flashes of Merriment that were wont to set the Table on a Rore? 1663 BUTLER *Hud.* I. i. 674 [People] to crack'd Fiddle and hoarse Tabor, In Merriment did drudge and labour. 1674 PLAYFORD *Skill Mus.* I. 61 Feasts and other Merriments. 1699 BENTLEY *Phal.* 199 The Merriments in the Attic Villages. 1796 CRAUFURD in *Ld. Auckland's Corr.* (1862) III. 337 Beaulieu and his exploits were subjects of merriment in the army. 1869 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* III. xii. 162 And, mingled with all this, there is a certain element of grim merriment. 1903 *Edin. Rev.* Apr. 498 The old harvest or 'horkey' suppers with their feasting and merriment.. have too often been allowed to die out.

b. Used for : A subject for mirth.

1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* I. xvi, A summer night, in greenwood spent, Were but to-morrow's merriment.

† **c.** Entertainment, amusement. *Obs.*

1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* III. ii. 146, I see you are all bent To set against me, for your merriment.

Merriner, obs. form of MARINER.

Merriness (me·rinės). Now *rare.* [f. MERRY *a.* + -NESS.] The quality or condition of being merry (in various senses of the adj.).

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 20510 Sittes stell now mar and lesse, And hers now þis nirines. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* III. Pr. ii. 52 (Camb. MS.) Wyf and chyldren þat men desyren for cause of delit and of merynesse. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xxiii. 31 Tak thow example and spend with mirriness. 1567 *Gude & Godlie Ball.* (S.T.S.) 76 The Angellis sang with merynes. 1599 JAS. I *Basil. Δωρον* (1603) 115 Tempering it with graunitie, and quicknesse, or merrinesse, according to the subject, and occasion of the time. 1638 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (ed. 2) 2 We vomited out a like eccho of thunder, plowing up the liquid seas in merrinesse. 1848 *Tait's Mag.* XV. 114 Joy and merriness are not for me. 1886 *Manch. Exam.* 16 Nov. 5/5 The merriness which is supposed to be characteristic of the music of a peal of bells.

Merring, variant of MARRING *vbl. sb.*

Merro(u)r(e, obs. forms of MIRROR.

Merrow (me·rǫu). *Anglo-Irish.* [a. Irish *muir-úghach.*] A mermaid.

1828 T. C. CROKER *Fairy Leg.* II. 17 The Irish word Merrow ..answers exactly to the English mermaid. 1889 FROUDE *Two Chiefs Dunboy* XXV, You slip through their hands like a merrow.

Merrowre, obs. form of MIRROR.

Merry (me·ri), *sb.* [altered form of MERISE, probably due to interpretation of the *s* as a plural ending.] A kind of black cherry. Also *attrib.*

1595 CHAPMAN *Ovid's Banq. Sence* B 2 b, White and red Iessamines, Merry, Melliphill. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* (1721) II. 265 They [cherries] do best grafted on the Black-Cherry-stock, or the Merry-stock. 1757 COOPER *Distiller* III. lii. (1760) 221 The black cherry, the Merry or Honey Cherry. 1825 COBBETT *Rur. Rides* 86 There are not many of the merries, as they call them in Kent and Hampshire. 1899 *Longm. Mag.* Dec. 179 The wild cherry tree, or merry-tree, also known..as the 'Gean'.

Merry (me·ri), *a.* and *adv.* Forms : 1 **myrȝe, murȝe, myriȝe, miriȝe, merȝe,** 1–3 **meriȝe,** 3 **murȝe** (*comparative* **murgre, murgore,** *superl.* **murgost, -gust**), 3–4 **murye, murl,** 3–5 **murie,** 4 **murye** (*compar.* **murer**), 4–5 **mury;** 3–4 **miri(e,** 4–5 **myry, miry,** 4–6 **myrie,** 4–5 **myri,** (5 *compar.* **mirgurre**), 5–6 *Sc.* **mirrie, mirry, myrrie,** 6 **myrry,** *Sc.* **mirre;** 3–6 **meri,** 4–5 **merey,** 4–6 **merie, -y(e,** 5 **merrye,** 5–6 **mere,** 6 *Sc.* **meary,** 6–7 **merrie,** 6– **merry.** [OE. *myr(i)ge* (:—OTeut. type **murgjo-*), whence *myrgð* MIRTH; outside English the only cognate corresponding in sense is MDu. **merch*, whence *merchte* = MIRTH, *merchtocht* rejoicing, *mergelijc* joyful, *mergen* = MERRY *v.* It is, however, probable that the word is identical with the OTeut. **murgjo-* short, represented by OHG. *murg-fâri* lasting a short time, and by the Gothic derivative *ga-maurgjan* to shorten, and presumably descending, with Gr. *βραχύς*, from an Indogermanic *mṛghu-*.

The transition from the assumed original sense 'short' to the OE. sense 'pleasant' is somewhat difficult, but may have been brought about through the intervention of a derived factitive verb, meaning 'to shorten', and hence 'to shorten time', 'to cheer'; cf. ON. *skemta* to amuse, f. *skamt*, neut. of *skamm-r* short.]

A. *adj.*

1. Of things : Pleasing, agreeable.

† **a.** Of occupations, events, or conditions : Causing pleasure or happiness; pleasing, delightful. *Obs.*

A merry meal : see MEAL *sb.*[2] 2 f.

c 888 K. ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxxi. § 1 For þy ic nat hwæt þa woruldlustas myrȝes bringað [L. *quid habeat jucunditatis*] hiora lufigendum. *a* 1000 *Boeth. Metr.* xiii. 45 Him þa

twigu þincað emne swa merȝe þat hi þæs metes ne recð. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Hom.* (Th.) I. 154 Þeos woruld, þeah ðe heo myrige hwiltidum ȝebuht sy. *c* 1205 Lay. 10147 Þa þuhte Elæuðerie þat tiðende swiðe murie. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 390 He..spek swuðe sweteliche & so murie wordes þet heo muhten þe deade arearen urom deaðe to liue. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 179/19 Guod it is and murie : breþren to wonie i-fere. *c* 1325 *Spec. Gy Warw.* 905 Hu murie hit were, to haue þe siht Off godes face, þat is so briht. 1435 Misyn *Fire of Love* 57 No þinge is meriar þen Ihesu to synge. 1502 Atkinson tr. *De Imitatione* III. vi. 200 Nothynge is more swete than is loue,..nothynge..meryer [L. *jucundius*]. 1567 Turberv. *Epit.*, etc. 110 b, Let others then that feelen ioy Extole the merrie Month of May.

b. † Of a place or country: Pleasant, delightful in aspect or conditions (*obs.*). So originally in the designation *Merry England*, in which the adj. was subsequently apprehended as in sense 3.

c 1205 Lay. 24964 For grið makeð godne mon gode workes wurchen,..þat lond bið þa murgre. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 212 God har him in-to paradis,..bi-taste him al ðat mirie stede. *a* 1300–1400 *Cursor M.* 8 (Götting.) Brut þat berne bolde of hand, First conquerour of meri ingland. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 935 Now tech me to þat myry mote [Jerusalem]. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xv. v. (Tollem. MS.), It [Armenia] is most mery londe with herbes, corne, wodes and frute. 1415 Hoccleve *To Sir J. Oldcastle* 487 Remember yow, heuene is a miry place And helle is ful of sharp adversitee. 1436 *Siege Calais* in *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 156 The crown of mery Yngland. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* xxv. 21 Edinburgh the mirry toun. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* I. x. 61 Saint George of mery England, the signe of victoree. 1596 — *Prothal.* 128 To mery London, my most kyndly Nurse. [1782 Cowper *Gilpin* 125 Thus all through merry Islington These gambols he did play. 1828 Scott *F. M. Perth* i, Perthshire contains..tracts, which may vie with the richness of merry England herself.]

Proverbial phrase. 1550 Hutchinson *Image of God* Epist. (1560) ☞ iij, It was a mery world (quod yᵉ papist) before the Bible came forth in englysh, all thinges were good chepe and plentyful. 1593 Shaks. *2 Hen. VI*, IV. ii. 9 It was neuer merrie worlde in England, since Gentlemen came vp. 1601 — *Twel. N.* III. i. 109.

† **c.** Of sound or music: Pleasant, sweet. Hence of animals, esp. birds: Having a pleasant voice. *Obs.* (Cf. sense 3.)

c 1000 *Ags. Hymn* (Surtees) 141 Mid meriȝum..lofsange *dulci ymno*. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 2192 Alle men þat mut herde of þe muri houndes. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Nun's Pr. T.* 31 His voys was murier than the murie Orgon. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 307 þe emperour bouȝt þat mery bridde. *c* 1400 Lydg. *Chorle & Bird* xv, Ryngyng of feters is no mery sowne. *c* 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 2101 A mery masse þer was y-songe. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* xlvi. 3, I hard a merle with mirry notis sing. *Ibid.* 26 This mirry gentil nychtingaill. 1535 Coverdale *Ps.* lxxx[i]. 2 Brynge hither the tabret, the mery harpe & lute.

† **d.** Of weather, climate, atmospheric conditions, etc.: Pleasant, fine. Of a wind: Favourable.

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 5697 þe erþe ȝeld betere & þet weder was murgore by is daye & lasse tempeste in þe se þan me er ysaye. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 804 In þe myry mornyng ȝe may your waye take. 1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 332 He telth..hou ther schon a merye Sunne. *c* 1400 *Land Troy Bk.* 14412 Seuen dayes fauȝt thei to-gedre, And al that while was mury wedre. *c* 1410 Love *Bonavent. Mirr.* v. (1510) C ij, Our Lorde God after tempeste sendethe soft and mery wedder. *c* 1450 *Merlin* 384 The seson was myri and softe. 1576 Fleming *Panopl. Epist.* 423 Euen as Gouernours of shippes..cut the waues as they are furthered with a merrie winde : euen so let us frame our studie and labour. 1590 Shaks. *Com. Err.* IV. i. 90 The merrie winde Blowes faire from land. 1599 Hakluyt *Voy.* (1904) IV. 360 At the next mery wind tooke shipping. 1630 Winthrop *New Eng.* (1853) I. 18 We tacked about..with a merry gale in all our sails. 1685 Dryden tr. *Hor. Ode* III. xxix. 101 In my small Pinnace I can sail,..And running with a merry gale,..my safety seek..Within some little winding Creek.

fig. 1402 *Repl. Friar D. Topias* in *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 72 Whi with not thi cow make myry weder in thi dish?

† **e.** Of dress: Handsome, gay. *Obs.*

a 1400–50 *Alexander* 2864 A mery mantill of mervailous hewis.

† **f.** Of herbs, drugs, etc.: Pleasant to the taste or smell. *Obs.*

c 1386 Chaucer *Nun's Pr. T.* 146 Ye shul haue digestyues ..Of herbe yue, growyng in oure yeerd, thir mery is. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xvii. xxvii. (1495) 620 Cassia is swete and mery of smell.

† **g.** *A merry mean* : a happy medium.

1399 Langl. *Rich. Redeles* II. 139 But mesure is a meri mene þouȝ men moche yerne. *c* 1460 J. Russell *Bk. Nurture* 107 Mesure is a mery meene whan God is not displesed. *a* 1575 Gascoigne *Posies, Flowers* 41 Thus learne I by my glasse, that merrie meane is best. 1616 Surfl. & Markh. *Country Farm* 580 So greatly..is the merrie meane commended.

h. Of a saying, jest, etc.: Amusing, diverting, funny. *Obs.* or *arch.*, with mixture of sense 3.

c 1470 Henry *Wallace* II. 36 Quhen Wallas herd spek of that mery saw, He likyt weill at that mercat to be. 1530 Palsgr. 244/2 Mery taunt, *lardon. Ibid.*, Mery jeste a ryddle, *sornette.* 1563 *Homilies* II. *Idolatry* III. (1859) 265 Seneca much commendeth Dionysius, for his merry robbing of such decked and jewelled puppets. 1588 Shaks. *Tit. A.* v. ii. 175 Two of her Brothers were condemn'd to death, My hand cut off, and made a merry iest. 1595 Duncan *App. Etymol.* (E. D. S.) 68 *Facetiæ*, mirrie bourds. 1632 Lithgow *Trav.* IX. 378 There is a merry secret heere concerning the women. 1728 Morgan *Algiers* I. vi. 185 The Notions all the Mussulmans have of the Antichrist..are really merry. *Ibid.* 188, I had like to have left out the very merriest Passage in the whole Story. 1769 E. Bancroft *Guiana* 328 A variety of fables which are merry. 1849 James *Woodman* ii, He gave me the merry book [a copy of Chaucer].

2. Of looks or appearance: † Pleasant, agreeable, bright (*obs.*); hence, expressive of cheerfulness, mirthful, hilarious (in modern use merged in sense 3).

a 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 314 þi leor is, meiden, lufsum, & ti muð murie. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2258 Her non hadden ðo loten miri. 13.. *Seuyn Sag.* (W.) 3357 The erl come with meri chere, Omang al that folk in fere. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 338/2 Myry yn chere, *letus.* 1559 *Passage Q. Eliz.* A ij, Her grace by holding vp her handes, and merie countenaunce to such as stode farre of,..did declare her selfe [etc.]. 1703 *Loud. Gaz.* No. 3948/4 A dun Gelding..with a round Barrel, longish Legg'd,..a merry Countenance. 1861 Hughes *Tom Brown at Oxf.* iii, He was a pleasant-looking fellow,..with dark hair, and a merry brown eye.

3. Of persons and their attributes: Full of animated enjoyment (in early use chiefly with reference to feasting or sport); joyous, mirthful, hilarious. Also of permanent temper or disposition: Given to joyousness or mirth.

The Merry Monarch: a frequent designation for Charles II. † *Merry meinie* (obs.), *merry men* (see Merry man 1): applied in ballad poetry to the followers of Robin Hood; hence sometimes used *allusively.*

c 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 1198 A miriman were he ȝif he o liue ware. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 4926 As þei muriest at þe mete þat time seten, þer come menskful messageres. *c* 1375 *Cursor M.* 4812 (Fairf.) Quen þai saghe þer corne plente Murer [*earlier texts* gladder, hliþer] men miȝt neuer be. *a* 1380 *Min. Poems fr. Vernon MS.* 680 Whon men beoþ muryest at heor Mele : I rede ȝe þenke on ȝusterday. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 4787 Mery was the menye & maden gret ioye. *c* 1461 *E. E. Misc.* (Warton Cl.) 48 The boy was mery y-nowe. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* xxv. 27 Bring ȝow sone to Edinburgh ioy, For to be mirry amang ws. *c* 1510 *Lytell Geste Robyn Hood* iv. in *Neuengl. Leseb.* (1895) I. 180/14 And he founde there Robyn hode And all hys mery meyne. *Ibid.* v. 180/115 Buske you my mery yonge men. 1513 More in Grafton *Chron.* (1568) II. 784 King Edward woulde say that he had three concubines,..one, the meriest, one the wyliest, the thirde the holyest harlot in the realme... But the meriest was Shores wife. 1606 Shaks. *Tr. & Cr.* I. ii. 27 He is melancholy without cause, and merry against the haire. 1632 Lithgow *Trav.* III. 90, I was exceeding merry with my old friends. ?*c* 1665 Rochester *Sat. on King* 19 Restless he rolls about from Whore to Whore, A merry Monarch, scandalous, and poor. 1712 Steele *Spect.* No. 462 ¶ 5 This very Mayor afterwards erected a statue of his merry Monarch in Stocks-Market. 1794 Mrs. Radcliffe *Myst. Udolpho* xxv, Poor Ludovico would be as merry as the best of them, if he was well. 1832 W. Irving *Alhambra* II. 262 His memory was always cherished as that of a merry companion. 1849 James *Woodman* ii, She was the merriest little abbess in the world.

† **b.** Happy. *Obs.*

a 1380 *S. Ambrosius* 426 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1878) 15/1 He..wepte for holymen and murie þat passed weren vp to glorie. 1388 Wyclif *Job* xxi. 23 This yuel man dieth..riche and blesful, that is, myrie. 1513 More in Grafton *Chron.* (1568) II. 781 The true Lorde Hastinges.. was neuer merier, nor thought his life in more suretie in all his dayes. 1529 More in *Four C. Eng. Lett.* (1880) 12, I pray you be with my..household mery in God.

transf 1634 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* 184 [Silkworms] will be no where merry nor vsefull, but where are store of Mulbery Trees.

c. Pleasantly amused; hence, facetious, 'pleasant'. Const. *with, on, upon* (a person). *Obs.* or *arch.* (Cf. *make merry*, 3 e below.)

1607 Shaks. *Timon* III. ii. 42, I know his Lordship is but merry with me. 1703 Rowe *Fair Penit.* Ded., There is hardly such a thing as being merry, but at another's Expence. 1694 Atterbury *On Prov.* xiv. 6, Serm. 1726 I. 195 They were Men who..took their Fill of all the Good Things of this World; and..were very merry, and very bitter upon those that did not. 1709 Swift *Merlin's Proph.* Wks. 1755 II. I. 179 Astrology..is by no means an art to be despised, whatever Mr. Bickerstaff, or other merry gentlemen are pleased to think. 1714 *Spectator* No. 573 (init.), You are pleased to be very merry, as you imagine, with us Widows. 1772 Foote *Nabob* I. 17 You are merry, Sir. 1831 Lytton *Godolphin* 9 You are merry on me, I see.

d. Hilarious from drink; slightly tipsy. (Cf. *market-merry.*)

1575–6 *Durham Depos.* (Surtees) 287 The said Sr Richerd, being mery with drinke, maid a quarrell to this examinate. *Ibid.* 288 The said Sr Richerd will he mery with drinke ther, but not dronken. 1681 Luttrell *Brief Rel.* (1857) I. 134 Mr. Verdon..returning home pretty merry, took occasion to murder a man on the road. 1719 D'Urfey *Pills* III. 7 Drunk, which the vulgar call merry. 1838 James *Robber* vi, Doveton, who was beginning to get merry, and eke good-humoured in his cups.

e. Phrases. *To make merry* (refl. and intr.): to be festive or jovial; to indulge in feasting and jollity. *To make merry* (*over*, † *with*): to make fun (of), to ridicule.

c 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 3085 Boþe seiȝe he Wiþ too houndes mirie made. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 1880 Make we vs merie for mete haue we at wille. *c* 1440 *Cast. Persev.* 2709 Make us mery, & lete hym gone ! he was a good felawe. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* xiii. 32 Sum makis him mirry at the wynis. 1530 Palsgr. 625/2 Make mery, syrs, we shall go hence to morowe. 1628 Earle *Microcosm., Tavern* (Arb.) 33 Men come heere to make merry. 1761 Hume *Hist. Eng.* II. xxviii. 135 The people made merry with the Cardinal's ostentation. 1771 Goldsm. *Hist. Eng.* II. 403 The people made merry with this absurd and brutal statute. 1791 *Gentl. Mag.* 19/1 My horse took fright at some hay-makers who were carousing and making merry. 1832 Tennyson *Pal. of Art* 3 Oh, foul, make merry and carouse. 1890 *Sat. Rev.* 25 Oct. 481/2 He makes merry over their deficiencies.

f. In proverbs and proverbial comparisons. (See also Cricket *sb.*¹ 1 d, Grig *sb.*¹ 5.)

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 850 Bot vchon enle we wolde were fyf, þe mo þe myryer. 13.. *K. Alis.* 1163 Swithe mury hit is in halle, When the hurdes wawen alle. 1546 J. Heywood *Prov.* (1867) 65 It is mery in halle, when berds wag all. 1562 — *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 433 Tis good to be mery and wyse: How shall fooles folow that aduyse? 1564 Pilkington *Let.* Wks. (Parker Soc.) Pref. 7 The bishop of Man liveth here at ease, and as merry as Pope Joan. 1595 Shaks. *John* IV. i. 18, I should be as merry as the day is long. *a* 1643 W. Cartwright *Ordinary* III. iv, I'l be As merry as a Pismire. *a* 1745 Swift *Direct. Servants, Footman*, Live a short life and a merry one. 1768–74 Tucker *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 337 He knew how to be merry and wise. 1792 Burns *'Here's a health to them that's awa'*, It's gude to be merry and wise, It's gude to be honest and true. 1873 Hamerton *Intell. Life* I. v. (1876) 29 Merry as a lark.

4. Of times or seasons: Characterized by festivity or rejoicing.

1567 [see 1]. 1596 Shaks. *2 Hen. IV*, v. iii. 38 Welcome merry Shrouetide. 1617 Moryson *Itin.* II. 87 To keepe a merry Christmas. 1667 Ld. Sandwich *Let.* in *Sir W. Temple's Wks.* (1720) II. 136, I wish you a very merry Christmas. 1710 Swift *Jrnl. to Stella* 21 Dec., But first I will wish you a merry Christmas and a happy New Year. 1710–11 *Ibid.* 25 Mar., 25. Morning. I wish you a merry new year : this is the first day of the year, you know, with us. 1843 Dickens *Christmas Carol* iii. They wished each other Merry Christmas in their ean of grog.

5. Special collocations: † **merry-bout**, *slang*, an act of sexual intercourse; † **merry main** (see Main *sb.*³ 1), a game at dice; † **merry Monday**, the Monday before Shrove Tuesday; **merry night**, *north. dial.*, a night given up to festivities and sport. For **merry dancers, Greek, grig, pin**, see Dancer 5, Greek *sb.* 5, Grig *sb.*¹ 5, Pin *sb.* 11. See also Merry-andrew, Merry-man, etc.

1780 *Newgate Cal.* V. 314 Being asked..if she thought it proper for a woman of decency to ask another 'how she did after this *merry-bout', and 'whether she thought a rape was a merry-bout'. 1665 *Merry main [see Main *sb.*² 1]. 1667 Dryden *Secr. Love* IV. i, Come, gentlemen, let's lose no time : While they are talking, let s have one merry main before we die, for mortality sake. 1729 Gay *Polly* III. (1772) 198 Does not this drum-head here,..tempt you to fling a merry main or two? 1565 in Picton *L'pool Munic. Rec.* (1883) I. 35 Monday next before Fasten's eve or Shrovetide called *Merry Monday. 1803 R. Anderson *Cumbld. Ball.* 65 Aa, lad ! see a *murry-neet we've hed at Bleckell. 1819 Wordsw. *Waggoner* II. 30 'Tis the village Merry-Night ! 1837 *Penny Cycl.* VIII. 223/2 Cumbrian peasantry have various festive meetings, called the *kirn*, or harvest-home, sheep-shearing, merry nights, and upshots.

6. *Comb.* **a.** parasynthetic, as *merry-conceited, -eyed, -faced, -hearted, -lipped, -minded, -witted* adjs.

1547–64 Bauldwin *Mor. Philos.* (Palfr.) 6 Aristippus..was a merry-witted fellow. 1548 Sir P. Hoby in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* (1721) II. App. Y. 79, I hear say he is a man somewhat aged and merry-conceited when he list. 1611 Bible *Isa.* xxiv. 7 All the merrie hearted doe sigh. 1625 K. Long tr. *Barclay's Argenis* IV. xii. 277 He was..merry-conceited in words. 1648–60 Hexham, *Klucht-sinnigh*, Merrie-minded. 1684 Otway *Atheist* III. i, You Plump-cheek'd merry-ey'd Rogue. 1816 L. Hunt *To J. H.* 20 It [*sc.* a mouth] breaks into such sweetness, With merry-lipped completeness. 1838 Dickens *Nich. Nick.* vi, The merry-faced gentleman sent round the punch. 1851 Ruskin *Stones Ven.* (1874) I. xx. 220 Clear, crisp, ringing, merry-minded waves.

b. quasi-*adv.* with another adj.

a 1618 Sylvester *Auto-machia* 125 Sailing all my Life On merry-sorry Seas. 1865 Kingsley *Herew.* x, They are laughing and roaring now, merry-mad every one of them.

B. *adv.* = Merrily.

c 1220 *Bestiary* 570 Mirie ȝe singeð ðis mere. *c* 1320 *Seuyn Sag.* (W.) 556 Foules songe tberinne murie. *c* 1381 Chaucer *Parl. Foules* 592 Daunsith he murye that is myrtheles? 14.. *Sir Beues* 107 (MS. E.) Bellys he herde merye rynge. 14.. *Arth. & Merl.* 2485 (Kölbing) He was grauen & layd full merrye In the towne of Glasenburye. 1546 *Supplic. Poore Commons* (E.E.T.S.) 87 They wedde and bury, and synge ful mery, but all for money. 1567 *Gude & Godlie Ball.* (S.T.S.) 68 We suld..Without ony dissemnuillance Be blyith, and myrrie sing.

b. *Comb.*, as *merry-running, -singing, -turned*; **merry-begot, -begotten** *dial.*, illegitimate; also *sb.*, a bastard.

1549 Chaloner *Erasm. on Folly* L j b, With suche taunts and meritourned answers they provoke men to laughter. 1593 Nashe *Christs T.* Wks. (Grosart) V. 109 The younger men in their merry-running Madrigals. 1606 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. iv. II. *Magnif.* 1133 A willing Troup of merry-singing Swains. 1785 Grose *Dict. Vulg. Tongue, Merry begotten*, a bastard. 1890 Hall Caine *Bondman* I. vi, Maybe you think it nice to bring up your daughter with the merry-begot of any ragabash that comes prowling along.

† **Merry**, *v. Obs.* [OE. *myrgan* (:—**murgjan*), related to *myrge* Merry *a.*]

1. *intr.* To be merry.

c 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Th.) xlvi. 1 Fæȝniað and myrȝað Gode mid wynsumre stemne. *a* 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* xiv. 45 In May hit murgeth when hit dawes. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xiii. 714 Lo, he merys; lo, he laghys, my swetyng.

2. *trans.* To make (a person, etc.) merry.

a 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* xiii. 44 Wowes this wilde drakes, Miles murgeth huere makes. *c* 1400 *Pride of Life* (Brandl, 1898) 296 A ha, solas, now þou seist so þou miriest me in my mode. 1627–77 Feltham *Resolves* I. xxv. 44 Though pleasure merries the Senses for a while: yet horror after vulturs the unconsuming heart.

Merry-andrew, Merry-Andrew (meri,-æ·ndru). [app. f. Merry *a.* + *Andrew* proper name (cf. Andrew 2).

Hearne's statement, in the preface to his edition of Benedictus Abbas (1735) that 'Merry Andrew' was originally

applied to Dr. Andrew Borde (died 1549) has neither evidence nor intrinsic probability, though Borde had a reputation for buffoonery, as is shown by the traditional attribution to him of various collections of jests. In 1668 (29 Aug.) Pepys says that he saw at Bartholomew Fair a ridiculous play called 'Marry Andrey', but that this title has any connexion with *merry-andrew* is very doubtful.]

1. One who entertains people by means of antics and buffoonery; a clown; properly (in early use), a mountebank's assistant.

1673 Dryden *Epil. to Univ. Oxford* 11 Th' Italian Merry-Andrews took their place, And quite Debauch'd the Stage with lewd Grimace. 1677 W. Sherlock *Answ. T. Danson* 69 As ridiculous..as it would be very gravely to confute Tom Thumb, or merry Andree, of a Town Lampoon. 1697 Dryden *Æneid* Ded., This is like Merry Andrew on the low rope, copying lubberly the same tricks which his master is so dexterously performing on the high. 1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* xii. viii, He found the master of the puppet-show belabouring the back and ribs of his poor Merry-Andrew. 1851 Borrow *Lavengro* lii. (1893) 202 Listening to the jokes of the merry-andrews from the platforms in front of the temporary theatres.

b. *fig.*

1694 Wood *Life* (O.H.S.) III. 458 *note*, To make your self the merry andrew of the company [you] did venter upon a person freely to expose him to scorne. 1772 Nugent tr. *Hist. Fr. Gerund* I. 488 Those who are not sought out as the Merry-Andrews of the pulpit. 1827 Carlyle *Misc., Richter* (1857) I. 11 Richter is a man of mirth, but he seldom or never condescends to be a merryandrew.

c. *attrib.* or as *adj.*

1689 *Answ. Lords & Commoners Sp.* 25 A Reverend Prelate..whom he stiles, in a sort of a Merry-Andrew-vein, Church of England Apostle and Captain of her Life-Guard. 1798 *Lit. Mem. Living Authors* I. 119 The jokes and merriment of this merry-andrew philosopher. 1816 *Sporting Mag.* XLVII. 177 Scroggins made some merry-andrew tricks to save his wind. 1847 Alb. Smith *Chr. Tadpole* xlix. (1879) 422 A poor fellow who went about the country in the merry-Andrew line.

d. *Comb.*, as *merry-andrew-like* adv.

1787 Wolcot (P. Pindar) *Lousiad* II. Wks. I. 238 Turn it [thy wig] inside out, And wear it, Merry-Andrew like, about.

2. *pl.* Playing cards of the lowest quality.

1866 [see Harry *sb.*[2] 3]. 1867 Fry *Playing-Card Terms* in *Philol. Soc. Trans.* 55 *Andrews, Merry Andrews*, Playing-cards of the fourth or lowest class or quality.

Hence **Merry-a'ndrew, Merry-a'ndrewize** *vbs. intr.*, to play the merry-andrew; **Merry-a'ndrew-ism,** buffoonery, clownishness.

1836 *Fraser's Mag.* XIII. 37 Nothing is more distasteful .. than the undiscriminating Merryandrewism of an ingrained vulgarian. 1861 T. L. Peacock *Gryll Gr.* viii. Arch-quacks have taken to merry-andrewizing in a new arena. 1891 G. Meredith *One of our Conq.* III. iii. 40 He can, if imps are in him, merryandrew as much as he pleases.

Merry-bauks, -bush: see Merribowk.

† Merry-gall. *Obs.* Also 6 **merrygald,** 7 **merigal.** [See Gall *sb.*[2]: the first element might so far as form is concerned be *mery* Marrow I, but the sense of the combination is not obvious.] A sore produced by chafing.

1575 Turberv. *Venerie* 139 (May be) he seekes to hane my Sewet for himselfe, Whiche sooner heales a merrygald then Pothecaries pelfe. 1597 Gerarde *Herbal* III. I. 1202 If such as iourney or trauell do carry with them a branch or rod of *Agnus castus* in their hand, it will keepe them from merry gals, and wearines. 1601 Holland *Pliny* II. 101 It healeth all merry-gals and raw places where the flesh is rubbed off or chafed: it helpeth the rank rammish smel vnder the arm-holes [L. *intertriginum et alarum vitiis perfrictionibusque .. non dubie mederi*]. *Ibid.* 319 It is good to anoint merigals therwith, namely, when one part of the body is fretted & chafed against another [L. *prodest et confricatis membris*].

Merryghe, obs. form of Marrow *sb.*[1]

† Me'rry-go-down. *slang. Obs.* Strong ale.

a 1500 *Songs & Carols* (Percy Soc.) 92 Where is the best wyn? tell yow me..I know a drawght off mery-go-downe, The best it is in all thys towne. 1577 Harrison *England* II. xi. 86 A pot of hufcappe or mery go downe. 1599 Nashe *Lenten Stuffe* Ded. A 3 b, You..can do no lesse then present mee with the best mornings draught of merry-go-downe in your quarters.

Me'rry-go-round.

1. A revolving machine carrying wooden horses or cars, on or in which persons ride round and round for amusement; a roundabout.

1729 *Daily Post* 23 Aug., Here's the merry-go-rounds: Come, who rides? 1806-7 J. Beresford *Miseries Hum. Life* (1826) xx. 252 May she fall to the ground From a merry-go-round. 1858 Hawthorne *Fr. & It. Note-Bks.* (1883) 26 There were merry-go-rounds, wooden horses, and other provision for children's amusements. 1896 E. A. King *Ital. Highways* 76 It [*sc.* a steam organ] belonged to a travelling merry-go-round.

2. *fig.* A 'whirl'.

1856 R. W. Procter *Barber's Shop* xiii. (1883) 98 This elysium of a business, this merry-go-round of trade. 1890 H. G. Dakyns *Xenophon* I. p. cxx, What a merry-go-round of soldierly adventure!

† Merry-go-sorry. *Obs.* A mixture of joy and sorrow.

1599 Breton *Mis. Mavillia* (Grosart) 49/2 Joying to see the kinde heart of this other olde gentleman, sorie to be an occasion of such anger to himselfe, and trouble to his house, betwixt a merrie, goe sorie, I fell to such weeping, as quite spilde mine eyes. 1600 — *Fort. two Princes* 52. 1606 [? Breton] *Choice, Chance,* etc. (1881) 76 Thou hast told me of such a Merry goesory, as I haue not often heard of: I am sory for thy ill fortune, but am glad to see thee aliue.

† Merry land = *Maryland*, the name of a district in N. America (now one of the United States), applied to a kind of tobacco. Cf. F. *maryland*.

1688 R. Holme *Armoury* III. xxii. (Roxb.) 274/1 Sorts of Tobacco..Merry land, leafe Tobacco.

Merrymaid, *dial.* variant of Mermaid.

1865 R. Hunt *Pop. Rom. W. Eng.* (1881) 149 The 'merry-maids' of the Cornish fishermen and sailors possess the well-recognised features of the mermaid.

Merry-make (me'rimēk), *sb. arch.* [app. f. vbl. phr. *make merry*, with inversion as in the later Merry-making.] = Merry-making.

1579 Spenser *Sheph. Cal.* Nov. 9 Now nis the time of merimake. *a* 1586 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xxxvii. 51 Gif ȝe lyk musik, mirthe, or myrrie mak. 1633 P. Fletcher *Purple Isl.* I. xxviii, With fearless merry-make and piping. 1638-48 G. Daniel *Eclog* iii. 29 The Simple Merrie-make of older Swains Was Innocent. 1822 W. Tennant *Thane of Fife* vi. xlviii, The din of merry-make and boast! 1833 Longf. *Outre-Mer* Prose Wks. 1886 I. 52 The rural sports and merrimakes of the village. 1844 Mrs. Browning *Drama of Exile* Poems 1850 I. 5 We'll have feasts And funerals also, merrymakes and wars. 1893 Kath. L. Bates *Eng. Relig. Drama* 23 England was wonted to take her merry-makes as a gift from the hand of Religion.

Me'rry-make, *v. rare.* [Formed as pree.] *intr.* To make merry; to be festive.

1714 Gay *Sheph. Week* Tues. 50 Whilom with thee 'twas Marian's dear delight To moil all day and merry-make at night. 1853-8 Hawthorne *Eng. Note-Bks.* (1879) I. 240 Dancing and otherwise merrymaking. 1859 FitzGerald tr. *Omar* xxxv, I think the Vessel, that with fugitive Articulation answer'd, once did live, And merry-make. 1894 Du Maurier *Trilby* I. 220 Ye young who pawn each other's watches, and merrymake together on the proceeds.

Merry-maker (me'rimēkəɹ). [f. Merry *a.* + Maker, after next.] One who makes merry or takes part in festivities.

1843 *Zoologist* I. 35 A party of merry-makers, who resorted to this unwonted saloon to sip their wine. 1884 *Illustr. Lond. News* 13 Sept. 243/3 The merrymakers did not break up until a late hour.

Me'rry-making, *vbl. sb.* [f. Merry *a.* + Making *vbl. sb.*] The action of making merry; conviviality; also, an occasion of festivity, a convivial entertainment.

1714 Mandeville *Fab. Bees* (1725) I. 186 If a woman at a merry-making dresses in man's cloathes. 1779 Mme. D'Arblay *Diary* 13 June, Her..gay, laughing face inspires an almost immediate wish of conversing and merry-making with her. 1819 *Sporting Mag.* IV. 209 A merry-making, on the death of a relation. 1830 Tennyson *Poems* 93 See! our friends are all forsaking The wine and the merry-making. 1833 Ht. Martineau *Briery Creek* v. 107 The Irish betake themselves to rebellion when stopped in their merry-makings. 1876 Green *Stray Stud.* 55 The tedious length of an English merry-making would be unintelligible to him [*sc.* an Italian].

attrib. 1870 Morris *Earthly Par.* (1890) 310/1 We Twain Not oft again..Unto this merry-making place shall ride.

So **Me'rry-making** *ppl. a.*

1838 Dickens *Nich. Nick.* vi, Such jolly, roystering, rollicking, merry-making blades. 1873 Symonds *Grk. Poets* iii. 94 First must merry-making men address the gods with holy songs.

Merry man, me'rryman.

1. *pl. Merry men*: the companions in arms or followers of a knight, an outlaw chief, etc.

c 1386 Chaucer *Sir Thopas* 128 His murie men comanded he To make hym bothe game and glee. *c* 1400 *Gamelyn* 774 Yong Gamelyn..fond his mery men vnder woode-bough. *c* 1510 *Lytell Geste of Robyn Hood* iv. in Child *Ballads* III. 66 And Robyn and his mery men Went to wode anone. *c* 1550 *Hunting of Cheviot* 37 *Ibid.* III. 309 Fyghte ye, my myrry men, whyllys ye may. 1600 Shaks. *A. Y. L.* I. i. 121 They say he is already in the Forrest of Arden, and a many merry men with him. 1810 Scott *Lady of L.* v. xviii, Still at the gallop prick'd the Knight, His merry-men follow'd as they might.

2. (As one word.) A jester or buffoon. ? *Obs.*

1785 Grose *Dict. Vulgar Tongue, Merry Andrew*, or *Mr. Merryman*, the jack pudding, jester, or rany of a mountebank, usually dressed in a party coloured coat. 1838 Thoms in *Bentley's Misc.* III. 623 The equestrian clown at Astley's, as the Mister Merryman who attends the horsemanship at that theatre is professionally designated. 1858 Doran *Ct. Fools* 58 In the fifteenth century, when the fashion of wearing bells was abandoned to the professional merry-men.

‖ **3.** The surname Merriman has sometimes been used allusively.

1596 Harington *Metam. Ajax* 84 *Hæc tria mens læta, requies, moderata dieta*, Doctor Diet, Doctor Quiet, and Doctor Meryman.

Merry-meeting. A festive or convivial gathering.

a 1653 Jer. Taylor *Serm. Gold. Grove, Winter* xv. 191 This..struck their fancy luckily, and maintained the merry meeting. 1699 South *Serm.* (1842) III. 51 He can..in those higher speculations forget all his merry-meetings and companions. 1723 Dk. Wharton *True Briton* No. 58. II. 505 If he has not that Zeal without Knowledge to improve a Merry-meeting into a Riot. 1847 L. Hunt *Men, Women, & B.* II. xi. 268 He had carried his merry-meetings to an unusual extent. 1890 'R. Boldrewood' *Col. Reformer* (1891) 293 He was..made free of all their small gatherings and merry-meetings.

Merryment, -nes, obs. ff. Merriment, -ness.

Merry-sole, var. *Mary-sole*: see Mary I c.

1880-4 F. Day *Brit. Fishes* II. 22 *Arnoglossus megastoma*...Names.—*Whiff, merry sole*, a term applied due to its active movements when in the water.

Merrythought (me'riþōt). [f. Merry *a.* + Thought *sb.*: see below.] The Furcula or forked bone between the neck and breast of a bird; also, the portion of a bird when carved that includes this bone. Also *attrib.*

The name, like the synonym *wish-bone*, alludes to the playful custom of two persons pulling the furcula of a fowl until it breaks; according to the popular notion, the one who gets the longer (in some districts, the shorter) piece will either be married sooner than the other, or will gain the fulfilment of any wish he may form at the moment.

1607 Dekker *Northw. Hoe* III. Wks. 1873 III. 42, I longd for the merry thought of a phesant. 1611 Cotgr., *Lunette*, the merrie-thonght; the forked craw-bone of a bird, which we vse, in sport, to put on our noses. 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 7 P 2, I..have seen a Man in Love grow pale and lose his Appetite, upon the plucking of a Merry-thought. 1716 R. Waller in *Phil. Trans.* XXIX. 513 Under the Clavicula or Merry-thought-bone. *a* 1756 Mrs. Haywood *New Present* 269 Then cut up the merry-thought. 1843 Lever *J. Hinton* ii, Simpering old maids cracked merry thoughts with gay bachelors. 1890 Coues *Field & Gen. Ornithol.* II. 136 The lower belly of the curve, convex forward, fitting in between the forks of the merrythought (Lat. *furculum*).

Me'rry-totter. *dial.* Also 8-9 **-trotter.** [f. Merry *a.* + Totter *sb.*] A see-saw; a swing.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 338/2 Myry tottyr [*v. r.* miritotyr], chylderys game, .. *oscillum*. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 235/2 A Merytotyr, *oscillum, petaurus*. 1659 C. Hoole tr. *Comenius' Orbis Sensualium* (1672) 277 Boyes..tossing and swinging themselves upon a Merry-totter [L. *super Petaurum*]. 1790 Grose *Provinc. Gloss., Merry-totter*, a see-saw. 1862 'Tom Treddlehoyle' *Bairnsla Foaks Ann.* 4 (E.D.D.) Merry-trotter.

Me'rry-wing. [f. Merry *a.* + Wing *sb.*; app. with reference to the rapid beating of the wings.]

† 1. A kind of gnat or mosquito found in the West Indies, esp. Jamaica and Barbados. *Obs.*

1671 Ogilby *Amer.* 340 In some parts of the Countrey [in Jamaica] there are also a sort of stinging Flies, call'd Muschilli and Merrywings. 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Merry-wings*, a sort of Fly; very troublesome in the Night, in the Island of Barbadoes. 1750 G. Hughes *Barbados* 87 The Merry-Wing..is a very minute Fly...They seem to be exactly of the same Species with the Gnat in England.

2. *U. S.* The golden-eye, *Clangula glaucion.*

1888 G. Trumbull *Names of Birds* 78.

† Mers. *Sc. Obs.* Also 6 **merse.** [a. MDu. *merse* (mod.Du. *mars*) 'top' of a mast, literally 'basket'.] A round-top surrounding the lower masthead. Also *attrib.* in *mers clothes*, streamers and hangings suspended from the 'mers'.

1494 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* (1877) I. 253 Item for ane gret mast, ane ra, ane swken, a pygy mast; and thir nis and the takling with ane mers,..and for ane pomp and other small graith, x *li.* 1504-6 *Ibid.* (1901) III. 89 Item xxvj elne carsay blew, rede, quhit and ȝallow to be ij mers clathis to the schip. 1505-6 *Ibid.* 183 Item..to the man that maid the mers of the schip, in drinksilvir xiiij*s.* 1506 *Ibid.* 189 Item..to Alexander Chamir, payntour, quhilk payntit the mers of the Kingis schip x Franch crounis. 1508 Dunbar *Gold. Targe* 52 A saill, als quhite as blossum vpon spray, Wyth merse of gold, brycht as the stern of day.

Mersatorial (mɑ̄ɹsătō'ɹiăl), *a. Ornith.* [f. mod.L. *mersātor* diver: see -ial.] Belonging to Macgillivray's order *Mersatores*.

1852 Macgillivray *Brit. Birds* V. 424 They [*sc.* the Procellariinæ] are mersatorial birds.

Mersaus(e, Mersch, Merschale: see Meresauce, March *sb.*[3], Marsh, Marshal.

Merschaundrice, Merschion: see Merchandise, Marchion.

Merse (mers), *sb. Sc.* [Sc. repr. OE. *mersc*, Marsh.] Low flat land, usually beside a river or the sea; marsh. Also *attrib.*

The Merse is used as the proper name of the district of Berwickshire between the Lammermoors and the Tweed.

a 1810 in Cromek Rem. *Nithsdale Song* 234 There's a mnid has sat o' the green merse side Thae ten lang years and mair. 1856 Aird *Poet. Wks.* 188 Go the rooks Down to the sea..on the flat merse To tear up tufts of grass for grubs below. *a* 1856 in G. Henderson *Pop. Rhymes Berwick* 105 A Merse mist alang the Tweed In a harvest mornin's gnde indeed. 1869 Landreth *Life Adam Thomson* I. 5 A bloody skirmish between Merse-men and Northumbrians. 1875 W. McIlwraith *Guide Wigtownshire* 78 A little bit of merse-land, detached by the windings of the River Luce, is called St. Helen's Island.

Merse, Mersement: see Merce, Mercement.

Merser, Mersh, Mershal(l: see Mercer, March *v.*[2], Marshal.

Mersion (mə̄'ɹʃən). ? *Obs.* [a. F. *mersion*, ad. L. *mersiōn-em*, n. of action f. *mers-*, *mergĕre* to dip: see Merge *v.*] The action, or act, of dipping; *spec.* with reference to baptism.

1659 H. L'Estrange *Alliance Div. Off.* 365 Mersion or dipping is not of the necessity of the Sacrament, sprinkling being in every way as operative. 1669 Barrow *Sacraments* in *Creed* etc. (1697) 444 The mersion also in Water, and the emersion thence, doth figure our death to the former, and receiving to a new life. 1691 W. Nicholls *Answ. Naked Gospel* 32 The custom of the trine mersion seems to be very ancient in the Church, if not Apostolical.

Merss(h, Merssery: see Marsh, Mercery.

Mersshall: see Marshal.

Mersy(e, Mersyment, Merte, Mertelage, Mertenet(te: see Mercy, Mercement, Mart *sb.*[2], Martiloge, Martinet.

Merth(e: see Mart *sb.*[1], Mirth.

Mertilloge, Mertinet, Mertle, Mertlete: see Martiloge, Martinet, Myrtle, Martlet.

Mertri(c)k: see MARTRIX.

†**Mertun.** *Obs. rare*⁻¹. [? From the name of *Merton* Abbey (Surrey).] A kind of church bell.

1536 *Nottingham Rec.* III. 198 Compositura sive factura cujusdam campanae mediocris Anglice 'a mertun'.

Mertymas, -mes, obs. forms of MARTINMAS.

†**Merul.** *Obs. rare*⁻¹. [ad. L. *merula*.] = MERLE.

1694 MOTTEUX *Rabelais* v. (1737) 230 The gay Merul and warbling Philomel.

Meruline (me·rĭŭlin), *a. Zool.* [ad. mod.L. *merulinus*, f. L. *merula* MERLE.] Of or pertaining to the genus *Merula* or to the subfamily *Merulinæ* (*Cent. Dict.* 1890). So **Meruli·nous** *a. Zool.* in the same sense (Mayne *Expos. Lex.* 1856).

†**Merumsuratum** = *Marum Syriacum*: see MARUM.

c 1710 CELIA FIENNES *Diary* (1888) 190 Wᵗʰ..ffilleroy finely Cut, and ffirrs and merumsuratum wᶜʰ makes the fine snuff.

Merur(e, obs. forms of MIRROR.

†**Meruw,** *a. Obs.* Forms: 1 mearu, *Mercian* meru, 3 meruw, mereuh, 4 meruȝ. [OE. *mearu* (stem *mearw-*) = OHG. *marawi* (MHG. *mar, marw-*), ablaut var. of OHG. *mur(u)wi* (MHG. *mürwe, mür*, mod.G. *mürbe*) of the same meaning.] Soft, tender.

c 975 *Rushw. Gosp.* Matt. xxiv. 32 þonne telȝra his merwe biþ..ȝe witan þæt neh is sumer. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 216 ȝyf þonne se lichoma mearu [*var.* mearuw] sy seoð on hunige lexe to þam sare. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 378 Ȝunge impen me bigurt mid þornes, leste bestes ureten ham þeo hwule þet heo beoð meruwe. *c* 1275 *Lune Ron* 44 in *O. E. Misc.* 94 Hwenne hit schal to-glide hit is fals and mereuh and frouh. *c* 1320 *Sir Beues* (A.) 2525 Ich was so lite & so meruȝ, Eueri man me clepede dweruȝ.

Merv (mɔ̄ɪv). [Short for F. (*satin*) *merveilleux*.] A silk material for ladies' dresses and dress-trimmings.

1887 *Daily News* 11 May 5/7 A skirt of black Merv, covered with tulle. 1890 *Ibid.* 10 June 7/5 Rich satin Mervs. All silk.

Mervail(e, -veil(l(e, etc., obs. ff. MARVEL.

‖ **Merveilleux, -euse** (mɛrvɛyö, -öz). [Fr.: see MARVELLOUS.] Contemporary names for the extravagantly dressed French fops and 'fine ladies' of the period of the Directory, who affected a revival of the classical costume of ancient Greece.

[1819: cf. MARVELLOUS B.] 1892 *Daily News* 19 Oct. 5/1 The 'merveilleuse' of the Directory in France. The 'merveilleuse', or 'ultra-fashionable', as the writer .. rather inadequately translates her title, 'walked..half naked in the Champs Elysees'. 1898 LADY MARY LOYD tr. *O. Uzanne's Fashion in Paris* i. 8 The Ecrouelleux, the Inconcevables, the Merveilleux, with their chins sunk in their huge cravats. *Ibid.* 19 The Merveilleuses survived the Incroyables by a couple of years.

Merviade: see MARAVEDI.

Merwaal, -waill(e, etc., obs. ff. MARVEL.

Merwe, merwe(i)ll: see MARROW *sb.*¹, MARVEL.

Merwoman (mɔ̄·rwumăn). [See MER- and cf. G. *meerfrau, meerweib*.] A name for a MERMAID when older or wedded.

1809 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg* 394/2 In a History of the Netherlands it is stated that in the year 1403, the dikes were broken near Campear by an inundation; and when the inundation had returned, a Merwoman was left in the Dermet Mere. 1884 F. J. CHILD *Eng. & Sc. Pop. Ball.* I. 366/1 The merman asks her the reason, and she answers, They all say that you are the merwoman's son.

transf. 1846 M. J. HIGGINS *Ess.* (1875) Mem. 26 It was really admirable to watch the good-humour, dexterity, and patience of the old merwoman.

Mery, obs. form of MARROW *sb.*¹, MERRY.

Merycism (me·risiz'm). *Path.* [ad. mod.L. *mērycismus*, ad. Gr. *μηρυκισμός* rumination, f. *μηρυκίζειν* to ruminate, f. *μηρυκ-, μήρυξ* occurring as the name of a ruminating fish.] A rare disease of the stomach, in which the food, after having been swallowed some time, is returned into the mouth and remasticated.

1856 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.* s. v. *Merycismus.* 1860 *New Syd. Soc. Year-Bk. Med. & Surg.* 235 Abdominal Merycism (regurgitation of chyme) appearing as the symptom of a masked ague.

Meryhed, Meryly, Merynes, Meryt(e, etc.: see MARROWED, MERRILY, MERRINESS, MERIT, etc.

†**Mes.** *Obs.* Also 4–5 messe, 5 measse. [a. AF. *mes* (see Skeat *Chaucer's Wks.* I. 429 and Du Cange *Glossarium Gallicum* s.v.), app.:—L. *missum*, neut. pa. pple. of *mittĕre* to send, put forth.] Proper distance or range for shooting. *To mark* (a person) *at* or *with a mes*: to strike.

The use in the first quot. is obscure; the word may have been used in a strained sense for 'a blow', 'the force of a blow'. But the reading of the passage seems doubtful.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 215 Dryȝtyn with his dere dom hym drof to þe abyme, In þe mesure of his mode, his mes neuer þe lasse Bot þer he tynt þe tyþe dool of his tour ryche. ?*a* 1366 CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 1453 To shete, at good mes, to the dere. *a* 1380 *Pistill Susan* 320 (Phillips MS.) An anngil..haþ braundisshid his broud..To marke þi myddil at a messe in more þan in þre. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xi. 162 Bot þe Jewes þat wonnes in Jesseu Sall noȝt be merked with þat messe [*c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* viii. 175 measse].

Mes, obs. form of MASS *sb.*¹, MEASE, MESS.

‖ **Mesa** (mē·să). *South. U.S.* [Sp. *mesa*, lit. 'table':—L. *mēnsa*.] A high table-land. Also *attrib.*

1775 ROMANS *Florida* App. 57 This Table Land is called Mesa Maria. 1859 MARCY *Prairie Trav.* 314 The road..ascends to a low mésa. 18.. *Reports on Pacific Railroad* I. 84 (Bartlett) The mesa, or table-land character, is exhibited only along the line of river-valleys. 1882 *Rep. to Ho. Repr. Prec. Met. U. S.* 636 The top sometimes several miles wide, mesa-like and comparatively level.

Mesaconic (mesăkɒ·nik), *a. Chem.* [f. Gr. *μεσ-ός* middle + (IT)ACONIC; intended to denote the intermediate position of this acid between the itaconic and citraconic acids.] *Mesaconic acid*: an acid, isomeric with itaconic acid, obtained by boiling a weak solution of citraconic acid with nitric acid. *Mesaconic ether*: see quot. 1865. Hence **Mesa·conate,** a salt of mesaconic acid.

1854 THOMSON *Cycl. Chem., Mesaconic Acid.* 1856 WATTS tr. *Gmelin's Handbk. Chem.* X. 428 Mesaconate of Ammonia. 1865 WATTS *Dict. Chem., Mesaconic Ether*, $C_9H_4O_4$. ..Obtained by distilling a mixture of mesaconic acid, sulphuric acid, and alcohol.

Mesad (me·sæd), *adv.* [f. Gr. *μέσ-ος* middle + *-ad* as in DEXTRAD.] = MESIAD.

1882 WILDER & GAGE *Anat. Technol.* 27 Substituting *mesal* for *mesial*,..we have *mesad. Ibid.* 212 Lift the border near its middle, and trace it mesad. 1894 GOULD *Illustr. Med. Dict., Mesad*, toward the mesial or mesal line or plane; towards the meson.

Mesager, obs. form of MESSENGER.

Mesail. *Antiq.* Also mursail, mezail. [a. F. *mésail, mézail, mursail*, app. repr. OF. *muçaille* concealment, f. *mucier* to hide.] (See quot.)

1869 BOUTELL *Arms & Arm.* viii. (1874) 127 This piece, called the *mesail*, or *mursail*..but more generally known in England as the *ventaile*, or visor, was pierced for both sight and breathing. 1870 C. C. BLACK tr. *Demmin's Weapons of War* 278 The armet is the most perfect form of helmet. It is composed of the crown with crest, the vizor, nose-piece and ventoyle (these latter three forming altogether the *mezail*), and the gorget.

Mesairaick, obs. form of MESARAIC.

Mesais, variant of MISEASE.

Mesal (me·săl), *a.* [f. Gr. *μέσ-ος* middle + -AL.] = MESIAL. Hence **Me·sally** *adv.* = MESIALLY.

1882 [see MESAD *adv.*]. In recent Dicts.

Mesallantoid (mesălæ·ntoid), *a. rare.* [f. Gr. *μέσ-ος* middle + ALLANTOID.] Having an allantois of intermediate size. (Cf. MEGALLANTOID, MICRALLANTOID.)

1877 W. TURNER *Hum. Anat.* II. 869 M. H. Milne-Edwards..has placed the Carnivora and Pinnipedia..in a Mesallantoid legion of mammals.

‖ **Mésalliance** (mezalyāns). [Fr., f. *més-* MIS- + *alliance* ALLIANCE. Cf. MISALLIANCE.] A marriage with a person of inferior social position.

1782 H. WALPOLE *Let. to Mason* 25 June, We are well off when from that mesalliance there spring some bastards called Episodes. 1827 CANNING *Sp. Ho. Com.* 12 June in *Hansard* (1828) XVII. 1255 An account of a union, or rather of what the French called a *mésalliance* between a man of colour and a white woman. 1840 THACKERAY *Paris Sk.-bk.* (1869) 39 In England..a grocer's daughter would think she made a mesalliance by marrying a painter. 1885 MABEL COLLINS *Prettiest Woman* x, It seems hardly likely that another prince will make a mésalliance for the sake of a Milovitch.

Mesamœboid (mesămī·boid), *a.* and *sb. Biol.* [f. Gr. *μέσ-ος* middle + AMŒBOID.] a. *adj.* In *mesamœboid cell* = b. b. *sb.* One of the amœba-like cells which are developed in the mesoderm.

1890 *Syd. Soc. Lex., Mesamœboid cells..Mesamœboids.* 1905 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 25 Feb. 441 A special ingrowth of microuuclear cells derived from the pigmented group gave rise to the mesamœboid (mesoblastic) cells.

Mesanger, obs. form of MESSENGER.

‖ **Mesaræum** (mesărī·ŏm). *Anat.* ? *Obs.* Also 7 mezereum. Also after the Gr. form, 6 mesareon, 9 mesaraion. [mod.L., a. Gr. *μεσάραιον*, f. *μέσον* middle + *ἀραιά* flank, belly.] = MESENTERY 1.

1594 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* II. 353 The mesentery ..is also called by some mesareon...Others take mesareon to be the highest part of the mesentery. 1661 LOVELL *Hist. Anim. & Min.* 517 The humour..which is in the ventricle, intestines, and mezereum. 1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.*, Mesaræum, is also used in a more restrained sense for a part, or division of the mesentery; being that fastened to the small guts. 1890 *Syd. Soc. Lex., Mesaraion.*

Mesaraic (mesărē·ik), *a.* and *sb. Anat.* Forms: 5 miseraic, -ayke, -ak, 6 -aike, mes(s)erayke, 7 mesairaick, meserai(c)k, -aique, -iacke, miseraick, 7–8 mesaraick(e, 7–9 meseraic, (9 *erron.* mesaræic), 8– mesaraic. [ad. med.L. *mesaraïcus*, a. Gr. *μεσαραϊκός*, f. *μεσάραιον* MESARÆUM.]

A. *adj.* Of or pertaining to the mesentery; = MESENTERIC.

c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 27 Veynis miserak ben smale veynes þat comeu out of þe veyne þat is clepid porta. 1541 R. COPLAND *Guydon's Quest. Chirurg.* H iij b, To brynge the Chilus to the lyuer by meanes of the veynes mescraykes [*sic*]. 1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* 104 Duodenum, Ieiunum, and Ileon,..are easily distinguished by their scituation, length, and by their Meseraick veines. 1651 BIGGS *New Disp.* P 117 Scammony..and vitriol do equally liquate the mesaraick blond. 1831 R. KNOX *Cloquet's Anat.* 786 Its veins [*sc.* of the pancreas] pour their contents..into the small mesaraic and splenic veins. 1869 HUXLEY *Introd. Classif. Anim.* 139 *Meseraic* = mesenteric. The omphalo-meseraic vessels pass from the intestine to the umbilical vesicle in the embryo.

B. *sb.* One of the mesaraic veins.

1528 PAYNEL *Salerne's Regim.* D ij b, Whiche departeth to the lyuer by þe veines called miseraikes. 1615 TOMKIS *Albumazar* I. i. B 1 b, And what they [*sc.* the guts] spare, The meseraicks filch, and lay't i'th liver. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* II. v. § 3. 85 At the mouthes of the miseraicks. 1836–9 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* II. 43/1 The venous sinus gives out..the mesaraics to the under surface of the cœca.

†**Mesara·ical,** *a. Obs.* [f. MESARAIC + -AL.] = MESARAIC *a.*

1569 R. ANDROSE tr. *Alexis' Secr.* IV. III. 37 To heale.. the obstruction of the Mesaraicall veynes. 1623 HART *Arraigum. Ur.* II. 5 The naturall voluntary expulsion of that superfluous humour into the guts by the miseraicall veines.

Mesarteritis (mesaɹtĕrəi·tis). *Path.* [mod. L., f. Gr. *μέσ-ος* middle + *ἀρτηρία* artery + -ITIS.] Inflammation of the middle coat of an artery.

1875 JONES & SIEV. *Pathol. Anat.* 374 The outer and middle coats are chiefly or solely affected, and it is called by some periarteritis and mesarteritis.

Hence **Mesarteritic** (mesaɹtĕri·tik) *a.*, relating to mesarteritis.

1890 *Syd. Soc. Lex., Mesarteritic induration*, a form of granulation, or cicatricial, tissue found in the coats of an artery affected with chronic endarteritis.

Mesaticephalic (me·sătiˌsĭfa·lik) *a.* [f. Gr. *μέσατ-ος* midmost (superl. of *μέσος* middle) + *κεφαλή* head + -IC (after *cephalic*).] = MESOCEPHALIC.

1879 FLOWER *Catal. Mus. Coll. Surg.* I. 251 The indices of breadth..are:—Dolichocephalic..below 750. Mesaticephalic..750 to 800. Brachycephalic..above 800.

So **Me·saticeˌphalism,** the condition of being mesaticephalic; **Me·saticeˌphalous** *a.* = MESATICEPHALIC; ‖ **Me·saticeˌphalus,** (*a*) a skull to which is applied the term mesaticephalic; (*b*) a person with a mesaticephalic skull; **Me·saticeˌphaly** = MESATICEPHALISM.

1863 THURNAM in *Mem. Anthrop. Soc.* (1865) I. 150 An intermediate ovoid form (mesati- or ortho-cephalism). 1880 A. H. KEANE in *Nature* XXI. 281 [Afghan] Type, long, oval face, arched nose, head mesaticephalous. 1896 *Nat. Science* Sept. 154 The mesaticephaly..may be due to a crossing between brachycephalous Negrillos and Negros.

Mesauenteur, -ure, obs. ff. MISADVENTURE.

Mesbyleue, obs. form of MISBELIEVE.

‖ **Mescal** (meska·l). Also mexical, mexcal, mezeal. [Sp. *mezcal*, a. Mexican *mexcalli*.]

1. A strong intoxicating spirit distilled from the fermented juice of the American aloe.

1828 SIR H. G. WARD *Mexico* I. 59 A strong kind of brandy called mexical, or Aguardiente de Maguey. 1854 BARTLETT *Explor. Texas*, etc. I. 290 Mezcal, or aguardiente. 1888 FANNY C. GOOCH *Face to face w. Mexicans* 562 Mescal is made from a liquor obtained by pressing the leaves of the maguey in a mill.

2. *Mescal-plant*: the American aloe. *Mescal fibre*: the fibre of this plant (cf. MAGUEY).

1851 MAYNE REID *Scalp Hunt.* I. 14 The agave, the far-famed mezcal-plant of Mexico. 1886 *Ann. Rep. Smithsonian Inst.* (1889) II. 652 Mescal fiber, Arizona.

Mescel(l)in(e, obs. forms of MASLIN ².

Meschance, obs. form of MISCHANCE.

†**Meschancie.** *Obs. rare*⁻¹. In quot. mis-. [f. MESCHANT: see -ANCY.] Wickedness.

1609 *Pitcairn's Crim. Trials* III. 5 For forder manifestatioun of ȝoure extreame and maist vnnaturall mischancie.

†**Meschant,** *a.* and *sb. Obs.* Forms: 5 meschaunt(e, mysch(e)aunt(e, 5, 7 mischaunt, 6 mischand, -eant, mechient, meschante, mysch(e)ant, mechant, 6–7 mischant, mishant, meschant. [a. OF. *mescheant* unlucky, wicked (mod.F. *méchant* wicked), orig. pr. pple. of *mescheoir* to be unlucky + *mes-* MIS- + *cheoir* to fall:—popular L. **cadĕre* for class. L. *cadĕre*. Frequent in Caxton; in the 16th c. mainly Sc.] A. *adj.*

1. Wicked, bad, base.

a 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* 126 It is a myschaunt thinge for any gentille woman, other to striue or to chide in ani manere. *c* 1570 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xx. 146 All thay yat dois..With mischant mynde maling Aganis the treuth. 1629 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* Ser. II. III. 4 The..purging of the land frome suche a mischaunt persoun. 1649 BP. GUTHRIE *Mem.* (1702) 6 This Meschant Business..gave the Ministers Affairs such a Blow, that..they were never able to make it up again.

2. Miserable, wretched.

1471 CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) 48 Than he retorned poure and myschant vnto his fader Tytan. 1530 PALSGR. 318/2 Meschante myserable, *meschant.*

B. *sb.* A wretch, a villain.

c 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* iv. 125 Thenne he sayd to his children 'Myschaunt, your ledernes and slouth hath overcomen you'. 1570 in Spottiswood *Hist. Ch. Scot.* v. (1677) 238 They..had unworthily cut off his Uncle and Regent, by suborning a mischaunt to kill him treacherously. *a* 1585 POLWART *Flyting w. Montgomerie* 131 Mischiewous mishaut. 1664 PEPYS *Diary* 6 Sept., Cromwell, notwithstanding the meschants in his time, which were the Cavaliers, did [etc.].

Hence †**Meschantly** *adv.*, †**Meschantness.**

1491 CAXTON *Vitas Patr.* (W. de W. 1495) II. 256/2 The tyme that he had lost & wasted in lyuyng myschauntly.

1573 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xl. 205 Upricht men ar murtherit mischantlie. 1623 in Pitcairn *Crim. Trials* III. 549 How mischantlie and barbaruslie the innocent Gentillman was murdreist. 1644 D. HUME *Hist. Doug.* 153 Which I confesse is so profound and deep a folly, and mischantnesse, that I can by no means sound it. 1661 R. BAILLIE *Lett. & Jrnls.* (1842) III. 468 Mr. Blair, Mr. Dickson, and Mr. Hutcheson, were, without all cause, mischantly abused by his pen.

† **Meschantery.** *Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. [f. MESCHANT + -ERY.] A wicked deed.

1665 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (1677) 337 The good man by that delusive spell is rendred a ridiculous spectator, and seemingly an assentor to their meschanteries.

Meschaunce, -cheaunce, obs. ff. MISCHANCE.

Meschef, -chief, etc., obs. ff. MISCHIEF.

Meschit(e, -ito: see MESQUITA *Obs.*, mosque.

† **Meschyne.** *Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. [? a. OF. *meschine*, fem. of *meschin, mesquin*: see MESQUIN. (But cf. MDu. *meskijn* girl, wench.)] A bad woman.

1490 CAXTON *Eneydos* xv. 58 This mescbyne..that loyeth ber to recyte..more lesyng than trouth.

Mescita, variant of MESQUITA *Obs.*

Mesclin, obs. form of MASLIN [2].

Mescontent, -creance, etc.: see MIS-.

Mescroyance. quasi-*arch. rare*$^{-1}$. [a. OF. *mescroyance*, f. *mescroyant*: see next.] Misbelief.

1876 RUSKIN *Fors Clav.* lxxii. 383 The elements of Croyance and Mescroyance are always chemically separable.

† **Mescroyant.** *Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. [a. OF. *mescroyant*, var. of *mescreiant, mescreant*: see MISCREANT.] A misbeliever.

1711 HICKES *Two Treat. Chr. Priesth.* (1847) II. 365 The Church and clergy..are every day..insulted by every vile mescroyant, and every blaspheming tongue.

Mescuite, variant of MESQUITA, MESQUIT *Obs.*

‖ **Mesdames** (medam). [Fr., pl. of MADAME.]

1. The plural of MADAME.

c 1573 GASCOIGNE *Posies. Flowers* 43 And wherefore marvaile you Mez Dames, I praye you tell mee then. 1774 GIBBON *Let.* 24 May in *Life & Lett.* (1869) 233 The Mesdames, by attending their father, have both got the smallpox.

2. Used to supply the want of an Engl. pl. of 'Mrs.'

1792 WOLCOT (P. Pindar) *Ode to Margate Hoy* 37 My good friend Johnson—Mesdames Windsor, Kelly. 1879 *Illustr. Lond. News* 15 Mar. 258/2 Mesdames Down and Jamieson.

‖ **Mesdemoiselles,** pl. of MADEMOISELLE.

1792 W. ROBERTS *Looker-on* No. 52 (1795) III. 27 The practice among fashionable mothers of committing their children to the care of French Mesdemoiselles.

Mesdo, obs. form of MISDO.

Mese (mīz), *sb.*[1] *Obs.* exc. *s.w. dial.* Also 7–9 meese, 9 meesh, mews, etc. [OE. *méos* = Flem. *mies* (cited Kilian as obsolete), OHG. *mios* (MHG., mod.G. dial. *mies*), ON. *mýr-r* (see MIRE *sb.*) :— OTeut. types **meu̯so-z*, **meu̯zo-z*, related by ablaut to **moson-*, ON. *mose* Moss *sb.*] Moss.

a 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* III. ii. § 2 Þa brohte him sumne dæl ealdes meoses, þe on þam halxan treo aweaxen wæs. 13.. *Sir Orfeo* 246 (Zielke 1880) 98 Þis king mote make his bed in mese. 14.. *Treat. Gardening* in *Archæologia* LIV. i. 161 Upon the clay thu schalt mese layne. *c* 1639 *Berkeley MS.* in *Glouc. Gloss.* (E. D. S.), Meese, meesy, i. e. mosse, mossy. 1886 ELWORTHY *W. Somerset Wordbk.*, *Mews* (múe'z), moss. 1886 *Dorset Gloss.*, *Meesh*, moss. 1893 *Wiltsh. Gloss.*, *Mesh* (*e* long), moss or lichen on an old apple-tree.

† **Mese,** *sb.*[2] *Obs.* Forms: 4–7 mees, 5–6 mes, 5–7 messe, mese, 5–8 mease, meese, 6 meas, meis(s)e, myse, 7–8 mise. [a. OF. *mes* masc., *mese* fem. :—late L. *mansum* (*-us*), *mansa*: see MANSE.] = MESSUAGE.

[1321–2 *Rolls of Parlt.* I. 405/1 Un mees de iiij^{xx} acres de terre.] 1402 HOCCLEVE *Let. Cupid* 334 Ne men bereve hir landes ne hir Mees. 1467 *Godstow Reg.* 347 A dwellyng place (or a mese) with a plough-lond. 1527 in *Visit. Southwell* (Camden) 132 My capitall meas in Ragenhill. 1546 *Yorks. Chantry Surv.* (Surtees) I. 150, j myse buylded lying in Wodhouse. *a* 1604 HANMER *Chron. Irel.* (1633) 194 The eldest can demand no more than her sisters; but the chiefe mease by reason of her auncienty. 1720 STAYPE *Stow's Surv.* (1754) II. vi. iii. 634/1 In the Palace yard were anciently pales within which were two Messes, the one called Paradise and the other called the Constabulary. 1729 *MS. Indenture estate at Crich, co. Derby*, A messuage.. closes thereto belonging, called the meese, furlongs [etc.].

fig. 1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. iv. 239 Thou [Aries].. Doest hold the First house of Heav'n's spacious Meese [Fr. *possedant du Ciel la premiere maison*].

‖ **Mese** (me·sī), *sb.*[3] [Gr. *μέση* (sc. χορδή string), fem. of *μέσος* middle.] In ancient Greek music, the middle string of the seven-stringed lyre, and its note; snbsequently, the key-note of any of the scales in use.

1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 796 The three termes or bounds which make the intervals in an octave or eight, of musicke harmonicall, to wit, *Nete, Mese*, and *Hypate*, that is to say, the Treble, the Meane, and the Base. *Ibid.* 1252 Thus may a man soone perceive..who plaieth upon a pipe after the old maner: For by his good will, the Hemitone in the Mese, will be incompounded. 1760 *Phil. Trans.* LI. 700 The antients agree in their accounts of the relative pitch of the meses. 1905 *Athenæum* 22 July 122/3 The direct descendant of the *mese* in the old Greek music.

Mese (mīz), *v. Sc.* and *north. dial.* Forms: 4–5 mes, 4–9 mease, 5 meese, 5, 9 mees, (6 maiss, meiss, meys, miess, mise), 6–7 meis(e, 4– mese. [Aphetic f. AMESE *v.*]

1. *trans.* To mitigate, assuage, appease, calm (a person's anger, sorrow, etc.); to settle (disputes).

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 764 Wylt þou mese þy mode & menddyng abyde? *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xliii. 238 Nowe might þer Jewes þare malise meese. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 1051 Þe childe with mylde wordes be meesyd. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S. T. S.) 21 To mes all thir debatis, it was ordanyt that Rome suld be..soverane kirk. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* II. 104 The nobillis..With fair wordis misit the multitude. *c* 1560 A. SCOTT *Poems* (S. T. S.) iv. 60 Sum luvis dance vp and doun, To meiss thair malancoly. 1629 SIR W. MURE *Trve Crvcifixe* 596 Yet did not mease the causeless spight. 1721 KELLY *Scot. Prov.* 138 He should be sindle angry, that has few to mease him. 1862 HISLOP *Prov. Scot.* 107 If you be angry, sit laigh and mease you.

2. To calm (wind, tempest, etc.), quench (fire).

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* iii. (*St. Andreas*) 62 Swyth þe gret fyre can he mes. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* III. ii. 2 The blastis mesit, and the fluidis stabill. 1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* II. xxiii. (S.T.S.) 227 Þe noyes..was sum parte mesit.

Mese: see MASS *sb.*[1], MEASE, MESS.

Mesease, obs. form of MISEASE.

Meseems (mĭsī·mz), *impers. v. arch.* Also meseemeth. *Pa.t.* meseemed. [Orig. two words, *me* (dative: see ME *pron.*[1] 2 a) and *seems* 3rd pers. sing. of SEEM *v.* Cf. METHINKS.] It seems to me. (Used with dependent clause or parenthetically.)

c 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) v. 61, I seyde..that thei diden synne, to hide Goddis Myracle, as me seemed. 1487 CAXTON *Bk. Gd. Manners* IV. v. (*c* 1515) I vj, And me semeth yᵗ the partye that forfayteth his maryage dooth ngaynst the lawe of nature. 1564 HAWARD *Eutropius* To Rdr. 1 For which causes (me semes) I have taken upon mee..a hard enterprize. 1586 A. DAY *Eng. Secretary* II. (1625) 68 It were a comfort vnto vs all to see you, hauing beene as me seemeth very long absent. 1627 W. SCLATER *Exp. 2 Thess.* (1629) 71 Mee seemes hee makes it something more excellent then Faith it selfe. 1850 CARLYLE *Latter-d. Pamph.* ii. (1872) 47 Meseems I could discover fitter objects of piety! 1859 TENNYSON *Elaine* 672 For they talk'd, Meseem'd, of what they knew not. 1876 MORRIS *Sigurd* (1877) 307 Meseemeth this is the hour when men array the dead.

Meseise, obs. form of MISEASE.

† **Me·sel,** *a.* and *sb. Obs.* Forms: 3–6 mesel, -el(l)e, (4 meosel, mesale, meseile, mezel, myssel(e, -ale, musel, mysale), 4, 7 messel(l, 4–6 mesell, mesyl(l, mysel, (6 messille, mesall, 7 mesill, mezill, meazel, 8 meazle). [a. OF. *mesel* leprous, leper :—L. *misellus* wretched, wretch, dim. of *miser* wretched.] **A.** *adj.* Leprous.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 14446 And o ten men þat war mesell,.. he gaf til ilkan þair hele. 1340 *Ayenb.* 202 Naaman þet wes mezel. *c* 1450 *Mirour Saluacioun* 4628 Ane horrible seke mesel man. *a* 1550 *Image Ipocr.* IV. in *Skelton's Wks.* (1843) II. 444 Oh mesell Mendicantes, And mangy Obseruauntes. 1607 R. C[AREW] tr. *Estienne's World of Wonders* 357 Thou measell wretch.

b. Of fish. (So in OF.)

a 1400 *Chalm. Ayr* xx. in *Sc. Acts* (1814) I. 335 Quhen þai opyn fische þai luke nocht quheder þai be mesale fische or wane. 1536 BELLENDEN *Cron. Scot.* (1821) I. p. xliii, Utheris..brekis thaimself be thair fall, and growis mesall.

c. Of swine: see MEASLE *a.*

B. *sb.*

1. A leper.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 8963 [She] wess þe meseles [*v.rr.* mysseles, myseles] vet echone. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 8169 Thoru þe..sal þis mesele, Be sauf and sund of al vuhele. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. III. 128 As Comuyn as þe Cart-wei.. To Preostes, to Minstrals to Mesels in hegges. *c* 1422 HOCCLEVE *Min. Poems* xxiv. 469 He eet ther-of..But he therthurgh becam a foul mesel. *c* 1550 BALE *K. Johan* (Camden) 82 Both crypple, halte, and blynde, Mad men and mesels.

b. *fig.* A foul person. (Used in 17th and 18th c. as a term of abuse.)

c 1422 HOCCLEVE *Jereslaus's Wife* 797 Woost tbow nat weel thow art a foul mesel? Telle out, let see shryue thee cleene and wel. *c* 1520 *Wyse chylde & Emp. Adrian* (W. de W.) (1860) 14 Those that sellen them [*sc.* benefices] shall be mesellys in the soule as Jesse [*i. e.* Giezi, *Gehazi*]. 1605 *Lond. Prodigal* C 2 b, Chil be abaffeled vp and downe for a messell and a scoundrel. 1606 *Choice, Chance*, etc. (1881) 6 An old mezill will haue a misers tricke. 1746 *Exmoor Scolding* (E.D.S.) 30 What's me-an by that, ya long-hanjed Measle?

2. Leprosy. Also *transf.*, an affliction.

c 1375 *Cursor M.* 11827 (Fairf.) Ouer alle he was with mesel playne [*earlier texts* was he mesel plain]. *c* 1400 *Prymer* in Maskell *Mon. Rit.* (1847) II. 104 That thou fouche suaf to.. releeue the meselis [L. *miserias*] of pore men and thrallis. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* XVII. xl. 705 Whanne she had layne a grete whyle she felle vnto a mesel. 1530 PALSGR. 244/2 Mesyll the sickenesse, *mesellerie*.

3. *attrib.*, as *mesel-cote, house.*

1402 *Will of Neve* (Somerset Ho.), Les meselcotes in Kentstrete. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 136 To meselle houses of þat same lond, þre þousand mark vnto þer spense he fond.

Mesel, Mesalade: see MEASLE, MALASADE.

† **Me·seled,** *ppl. a. Obs.* Also 7 measel'd, meselled, mezel'd. [f. MESEL + -ED.] Leprous. Cf. MEASLED *a.*

1607 CHAPMAN *Bussy D'Ambois* Plays 1873 II. 126 Not a pezzants entrailes you shall finde More foule and mezel'd. 1611 COTGR., *Meseau*, a meselled, scuruie, leaporous, lazarous person. *a* 1616 BEAUM. & FL. *Scornf. Lady* II. iii, Steward, you are an Asse, a measel'd mungrell.

Hence † **Me·seledness.**

1611 COTGR. *Meseldnesse*, leprosie, scurvinesse.

Meself, *Obs.*: see MYSELF.

† **Me·seling,** *a. Obs.* [f. MESEL *a.* + -ING [2].] Leprous; full of disease.

c 1425 *Macro Plays* (E.E.T.S.) 144 In meselynge glotonye..I norche my syster Lecherye.

Meselle, -elled, obs. ff. MEASLE, MEASLED.

† **Me·selness.** *Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. [f. MESEL *a.* + -NESS.] Leprosy.

c 1520 M. NISBET *New Test. in Scots* Luke v. 12 (S.T.S.) I. 207 A man full of meselnes [WYCLIF lepre].

† **Me·selry.** *Obs.* Forms: see MESEL. [a. OF. *mesel(l)erie*, f. *mesel* MESEL: see -RY.] Leprosy.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 29185 Þar was a woman hight mari, þat sumtime wat [*? read* smetyn was; *Cotton Galba has* was smetyn] wit meselri. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 140 For foule meselrie he comond with no man. 14.. *Nom.* in Wr.-Wülcker 707/24 *Hec lepra*, a mesylery. 1496 *Dives & Paup.* (W. de W.) IX. iv. 350 Giezi was smyten with foule myselrye. *c* 1500 *Rowlis Cursing* 45 in Laing *Anc. Poet. Scott.*, Maigram, madness or missilry. *c* 1520 M. NISBET *New Test. in Scots* Luke v. 13 And anon the meselrie passit away fra him. 1623 tr. *Favine's Theat. Hon.* III. x. 447 Infected with Leaprosie, Meazelrie, and the like.

b. Measly condition (of swine).

1587 MASCALL *Govt. Cattle, Hogges* (1627) 265 The cause of measelry in a hog.

† **Me·sely,** *a. Obs.* In 6 misly, 7 meezlie, mezely. [f. MESEL + -Y.] Leprous; in quots. a term of contempt; cf. MEASLY.

a 1585 MONTGOMERIE *Flyting w. Polwart* 754 Misly kyt! and thou flyt, Ile dryt in thy gob. *a* 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. xlviii. 386 There is no scurvy, mezely, leprous or pocky Ruffian [etc.].

absol. *a* 1640 DAY *Peregr. Schol.* Wks. 1881 I. 44 For Lerneing che could not abid un, the fowle meezlie wod Imake a game playe on un & send [etc.].

‖ **Mesembryanthemum** (mese·mbriæ·nθĭmŏm). *Bot.* [mod.L., miswritten for **mesēmbrianthemum*, ad. assumed Gr. type **μεσημβριάνθεμον*, f. *μεσημβρία* noon + *ἄνθεμον* flower.

The name, rendered in Eng. as *Midday-flower* and in Ger. as *Mittagsblume*, refers to the fact that several species open their flowers only for a short time at mid-day.]

The typical genus of the N.O. *Mesembryaceæ*; a plant of this genus, a fig-marigold.

[1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* s. v., Mesembryanthemum, in botany, the name by which Dillenius, Linnæus, and others, have called the plants usually named *Ficoides*.] 1825 *Greenhouse Comp.* I. 105 Mesembryanthemums require it [*sc.* water] chiefly when they are in flower. 1884 MRS. C. PRAED *Zéro* xxi, Grey walls were ablaze with mesembryanthemum.

Mesen, obs. form of MIZEN.

Mesencephal(e (mesĕnse·fāl). *Anat.* [a. F. *mésencéphale*.] = MESENCEPHALON.

1839–47 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* III. 684/2 The mesocephale or mesencephale. The name was suggested by Cbaussier. 1889 *Buck's Handbk. Med. Sci.* VIII. 128/2 In early embryonic stages the mesencephal is the most conspicuous region of the entire brain.

Mesencephalic (mesensfæ·lik), *a. Anat.* [f. MESENCEPHALON + -IC. Cf. *cephalic*.] Pertaining to or connected with the mesencephalon.

1854 OWEN *Skel. & Teeth* in *Circ. Sci.* I. *Org. Nat.* 193 The mesencephalic vertebra. 1880 GUNTHER *Fishes* 86 Mesencephalic arch.

‖ **Mesencephalon** (mesense·fălǫn). *Anat.* [mod.L., f. Gr. *μέσ-ος* middle + *ἐγκέφαλον* ENCEPHALON.] The mid-brain.

1846 OWEN *Vertebr. Anim.* II. 177 The next succeeding primary division of the brain, is called the 'mesencephalon'. 1875 HUXLEY in *Encycl. Brit.* I. 767/1 The mesencephalon is divided above..into two optic lobes.

‖ **Mesenchyma** (mese·ŋkimă). *Biol.* Also anglicized **mesenchyme** (me·seŋkəim). [mod.L. *mesenchyma*, f. Gr. *μέσ-ος* middle + *ἔγχυμα* infusion.] The cellular tissue which, arising from the hypoblast or the epiblast, constitutes, in some of the lower forms of animal life, the mesoblast. Also *attrib.* in *mesenchyme cell* = MESAMŒBOID.

1888 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* Gen. Introd. 28 The cells arise as immigrants (mesenchyme cells) from the walls of the blastosphere. 1890 *Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1904 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 10 Sept. 584 The primary leucocytes, or wandering mesenchyme cells.

Hence **Mese·nchymal, Mesenchy·matous** *adjs.*, pertaining to the mesenchyma.

1886 *Buck's Handbk. Med. Sci.* III. 194/1 The ordinary mesenchymal cells. 1886 *Jrnl. Roy. Microsc. Soc.* Feb. 54 The body-cavity [of the Polyzoa] contains 'mesenchymatous' (Hertwig) elements.

Mesenterial (mesentī·riăl), *a.* [f. med.L. *mesenterium* MESENTERY + -AL.] = MESENTERIC.

1605 TIMME *Quersit.* Ded. 2 The anatomizing of every mesenteriall veine. 1880 GÜNTHER *Fishes* 128 The commencement and end of the intestinal tract are fixed by mesenterial folds. 1890 *Nature* 20 Mar. 457 The mesenterial filaments of the Alcyonarians.

Mesenteric (mesente·rik), *a.* [ad. mod.L. *mesentericus*, f. *mesenterium* MESENTERY: see -IC.] Pertaining to, connected with, or affecting the mesentery.

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* s.v. *Artery*, Mesenterique Arteries, are two, an upper, which distributes it self among the small guts, and an under one, which goes to the lower part of the Mesentery. 1710 T. FULLER *Pharm. Extemp.* 129 The Bark..being the cause of..Mesenteric Obstructions. 1836 J. M. GULLY *Magendie's Formul.* (ed. 2) 105 M. Brera is not the only one who has given iodine in mesenteric disease.

So † **Mesente·rical** *a.* Hence **Mesente·rically** *adv.*, like the mesentery.

1664 POWER *Exp. Philos.* III. 191 The Mesenterical and Thoracical Lacteae. 1829 J. L. KNAPP *Jrnl. Nat.* 130 Bolton and Micheli represent the pileus as cellular, like a honeycomb. All that I have seen are mesenterically puckered.

Mesente·riform, *a. rare.* [f. MESENTERY + -(I)FORM.] Resembling the mesentery.

1846 DANA *Zooph.* (1848) 708 Mesenteriform, consisting of suberect plicately aggregated laminæ.

‖ **Mesenteritis** (mesentĕrəi·tis). [mod.L., f. *mesenterium* MESENTERY: see -ITIS.] Inflammation of the mesentery.

1802 TURTON *Med. Gloss.* 1844 HOBLYN *Dict. Med.*

‖ **Mesenteron** (mese·ntĕrɒn). [mod.L., f. Gr. *μέσ-os* middle + *ἔντερον* gut, bowel.] 'The digestive portion of the primitive alimentary canal or archenteron' (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*). Hence **Mesentero·nic** *a.* (in recent Dicts.).

1877 RAY LANKESTER in *Q. Jrnl. Microsc. Sci.* 431 As archenteron divides into parentera and metenteron, so metenteron divides into *hepatentera* or hepatic cæca and *mesenteron*. 1893 A. E. SHIPLEY *Zool. Invert.* 312 Two long white tubes—the Malpighian tubules—open into the posterior end of the mesenteron.

Mesentery (me·sĕntĕri). Also 6 mis-. [ad. med.L. *mesenterium*, a Gr. *μεσεντέριον*, f. *μέσ-os* middle + *ἔντερον* intestine. Cf. F. *mésentère*.]

1. *Anat.* A fold of peritonæum which attaches some part of the intestinal canal (in restricted use, the jejunum and ileum only) to the posterior wall of the abdomen.

1547 BOORDE *Brev. Health* II. xlv. 14 The misentery whiche is a pellycle or a skyn the whiche doth tye the guttes together. 1663 BOYLE *Usef. Exp. Nat. Philos.* II. i. 10 The discoveries of the milky Vessels in the Mesentery by Asellius. 1718 J. CHAMBERLAYNE *Relig. Philos.* (1730) I. iv. § 11 Notwithstanding all its Turnings, it [*sc.* the Bowels] is fastened in such a Manner to the Mesentery, that it is not possible for the Food to mistake its Way. 1872 MIVART *Elem. Anat.* ix. (1873) 403 Those folds of membrane, the mesenteries which suspend the viscera from the backbone.

‖ *β.* In Latin and Greek forms **mesenterium, mesenterion,** († **mezentereon**).

1541 R. COPLAND *Guydon's Quest. Chirurg.* H iv b, Howe may the Mezentereon be knowen by Anathomy? 1594 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* II. 350 The manifolde knitting of it [*sc.* the ileum] to the mesenterium. 1631 WIDDOWES *Nat. Philos.* 63 The lesse principall parts of concoction, are the gutts and mesenterion. 1857 L. AGASSIZ *Contrib. Nat. Hist. U. S. A.* II. 601 To form a pendent double curtain, or support of the intestine, the mesenterium.

2. *Zool.* (*pl.*) The vertical plates which divide the body cavity in actinozoa.

1861 J. R. GREENE *Man. Anim. Kingd., Cælent.* 172 In *Cerianthus* two of the mesenteries descend..almost to the orifice at the base of the general cavity. 1875 HUXLEY in *Encycl. Brit.* I. 129/2 Thin membranous lamellæ, the so-called mesenteries, which radiate from the oral disk and the lateral walls of the body to the parietes of the visceral tube.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

1626 BACON *Sylva* § 44 The Mesentery Veines. 1846 DANA *Zooph.* iv. (1848) 35 A thin and extensile membrane, which has a mesentery-like appearance.

† **Mese-place.** *Obs.* Also 5 **mesplace,** 7 *corruptly* **meest place,** 7–8 **mise-place.** [f. MESE *sb.*[1] + PLACE *sb.*] = MESE *sb.*[1]

14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 596/6 *Messuagium*, a mesplace. 1441 in W. P. Baildon *Sel. Cases Chanc.* (1896) 131 To bye of hym a mees-place. 1523 FITZHERB. *Surv.* xx. (1539) 41 I. B. holdeth a mese place frely of the lord by charter. 1607 NORDEN *Surv. Dial.* II. 55 The parcell of the Land lately belonging to this heriotable meest place. 1672 *Cowell's Interpr., Mease*,..in some places called corruptly a *Mise* or *Miseplace*.

Meseraic, -ai(c)k, etc., obs. ff. MESARAIC.

Mesereon, obs. form of MEZEREON.

Mesestead. Forms: α. 6 **meastead, mestede,** 6–7 **meestead,** 7–8 **measestead, mested.** β. 7 **misted.** γ. 7 **meadstead,** 7–9 **midstead.** δ. 7 **meerstead,** 9 **merestead.** [f. MESE *sb.*[2] + STEAD *sb.* The γ and δ forms are etymologizing perversions, due to association with MEAD *sb.* and MERE *sb.*[2] respectively.] A messuage.

α. 1546 *Yorks. Chantry Surv.* (Surtees) I. 179 One mestede in Extborpe. 1590 *Crt. Rolls Manor of Dewsbury* in *N. & Q.* 9th Ser. V. 349/2 A messuage or tenement called meestead or the New Walles. 1622 *MS. Indenture Sir R. Swifte's Estate at Doncaster*, All those several meesteads as they now lie unbuilt upon and walled in from the street. *c* 1700 DE LA PRYME *Diary* (Surtees) 316 A larg map of ye whole parish, having every field, ing, close, mested, croft, cavel, intack, &c...in it. 1714 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5204/8 A Messuage or Measestead, where a House or Barn formerly stood.

β. 1633 *Plymouth Col. Rec.* (1855) I. 16 Richard Higgens hath bought of Thomas Little his now dwelling house and misted. *Ibid.* 18, 24, 45.

γ. 1637 *Plymouth Col. Rec.* (1855) I. 57 A midstead is graunted to George Russell in the towne of Plymouth. 1640 *Ibid.* 145 Willm Sherman is graunted a meadstead about the Stoney Brooke, in Duxborrow. 1896 S. O. ADDY in *N. & Q.* 8th Ser. X. 349 In the township of Royston, near Barnsley, there are eighteen freeholders..known as 'midstead owners'. *Ibid.*, For more than two centuries the 'midstead owners' have kept a book in which their rules and ordinances..have been recorded. *Ibid.* 470 A certain number of houses were known as 'midstead houses'.

δ. *c* 1620 *Plymouth Col. Rec.* XII. 3 The meersteads and garden plotes of [those] which came first. 1858 LONGF. *M. Standish* viii. 4 Busy with hewing and building, with garden-plot and with mere-stead. [1883 *New Eng. Hist. & Gen. Reg.* XXXVII. 277 Peter Brown, whose first house and 'meerstead' was on the south side of Leyden Street.]

Mesethmoid (mese·þmoid). *Anat.* [f. Gr. *μέσ-os* middle + ETHMOID.] The middle ethmoid bone. Also *attrib.* in *mesethmoid cartilage*.

1875 C. C. BLAKE *Zool.* 46 The ossified portion of the mesethmoid. 1875 HUXLEY & MARTIN *Elem. Biol.* (1877) 193 The Olfactory organs are two wide sacs which occupy all the space between the mesethmoid cartilage, the antorbital processes, and the premaxillæ and maxillæ.

So **Mesethmoi·dal** (in recent Dicts.).

Meseyn, Meseyse: see MIZEN, MISEASE.

Mesfeat, variant of MISFAIT *Obs.*

Mesh (meʃ), *sb.* Forms: 6–7 **meishe, meash,** 6–8 (9 *dial.*) **mash,** (8 **marsh**), 6– **mesh.** [Known only from the 16th c.; cogn. w. OE. *max* (? **mæsc.*) neut., net and ON. *mǫskve* (see MASK *sb.*[1]); but the precise nature of the relation is undetermined.

The Teut. langs. have words with this meaning representing two ablaut-types: (1) OTeut. **mask-* (OE. *max*, ? **mæsc* ? neut.; OHG. *masca*, MHG., mod.G. *masche* fem.; M.Du. *masche* fem.; ON. *mǫskve*, Norw. *moske* wk. masc.; Sw. *maska*, Da. *maske* fem. are from LG.); (2) OTeut. **mâsk-* (OHG. *mâsca*, MHG. ? *mâsche*; MDu. *maesche*). The Eng. form *mash* would regularly represent an OE. **mæsc*, but the OE. word occurs only once in the metathetic form *max*, and in that instance means 'a net'. The 16th c. forms *meishe, meash*, indicate a pronunciation with long vowel, mēʃ; for the shortening to *mesh* cf. *flesh*. On the whole, on account of the absence of the word in ME., its form-history in the 16th c., and the frequency with which fishing terms were adopted from Du., it seems not improbable that *meash* (shortened to *mesh*) and *mash* represent adoptions respectively of the MDu. forms *maesche* and *masche*. The resemblance between the Eng. form *marsh* (18th c.) and the Flemish *maersche* (Stallaert) is prob. accidental.

The Teut. **mâsk-* (: **mask-*) is cognate with the Lithuanian *mezgù* I knit, *mazgas* knot.]

1. One of the open spaces or interstices of a net, the size of which is determined by the distance of adjacent knots from one another. Also, the similar space in any network, as a sieve.

1558–9 *Act* 1 *Eliz.* c. 17 § 3 Onely withe Nett or Tramell, wherof every Meshe or Maske shalbee twoo ynches and a half broade. 1586 FERNE *Blaz. Gentrie* II. 33 A Mascle in Armory, is a representation of the mash of a net. 1615 E. S. *Britain's Buss* in Arb. *Garner* III. 629 Netting (of sixty masks or mashes or holes deep). 1727 DE FOE *Hist. Appar.* iv. (1840) 44 They are like those foolish fish that are caught in large nets, that might get out at every square of the mesh. 1747 *Gentl. Mag.* 311 The mashes of the iron wire sieve were..small. 1749 *Wealth Gt. Brit.* 49 The marshes of the nets..are to be one inch square. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 577 The masses are..sifted through sieves having 20 meshes in the square inch. 1873 *Act* 36 & 37 *Vict.* c. 71 § 39 (4), Such mesh shall not be less than one and a half inch from knot to knot. 1879 *Plain Knitting*, etc. 46 Pass the twine round the mesh-stick from above to form the mesh.

b. *pl.* The threads or cords which bound the interstices of a net; hence (also *collect. sing.*) network, netting.

1602 CAREW *Cornwall* 32 Square nets..thorow which the schoell of Pilchard passing, leaue many behind intangled in the meashes. 1685 DRYDEN *Horace* Epode ii. 52 To betray The Larkes that in the Meshes light. 1734 *Phil. Trans.* XXXVIII. 235 The Mashes, or Filaments of the Net are not very perceptible. 1860 PUSEY *Min. Proph.* 47 The net, with its thin light meshes. 1879 HARLAN *Eyesight* iii. 41 If we hold a veil between our eyes and a book, we can either read through it, or see its meshes distinctly, but we cannot do both at the same time.

2. *fig.* chiefly with reference to entanglement in a snare.

1540–1 ELYOT *Image Gov.* 20 It shall be almost impossible for hym to escape, but that in one meishe or other he shall be tangled. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* III. ii. 122 Here in her haires The Painter plaies the Spider, and hath wouen A golden mesh t' intrap the hearts of men. 1613 FLETCHER, etc. *Captain* III. iv, I doubt mainly, I shall be i' the mash too. 1648 HERRICK *Hesper., On Julia's Haire*, 'Tis I am wild, and more then haires Deserves these mashes and these snares. 1754 FIELDING *Jrnl. Voy. Lisbon* (1755) 204 While a fisherman can break through the strongest meshes of an act of parliament, we [etc.]. 1823 SCOTT *Peveril* xlvii, The strongest meshes that the laws of civil society ever wove to limit the natural dignity of man. 1897 GLADSTONE *E. Crisis* 15 Greece has extricated it from the meshes of diplomacy.

3. *transf.* Network, interlaced structure: a. in animal and vegetable bodies.

1712 BLACKMORE *Creation* VI. 380 The greatest Portion of th' Arterial Blood, By the close Structure of the Parts withstood, Whose narrow Meshes stop the grosser Flood By apt Canals [etc.]. 1834 MCMURTRIE *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 259 The branchiæ usually consist of large lamellæ covered with vascular meshes. 1884 BOWER & SCOTT *De Bary's Phaner.* 285 Very elongated meshes are found in the runner-like branches of the rhizome of Struthiopteris.

b. in other things.

1818 KEATS *Endymion* II. 312 The ivy mesh, Shading its Ethiop berries. 1858 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* X. i. (1872) III. 198 The loitering waters straggle, all over that region, into meshes of lakes. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* II. v. 250 Air which was originally entangled in the meshes of the fallen snow.

4. *Machinery.* [f. MESH *v.*] See quot.

1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech., Mesh.* 1. (*Gearing.*) Or *mash.* The engagement of the teeth of wheels with each other or with an adjacent object, as the rack, in a rack and pinion movement.

5. Short for *mesh-stick*.

1882 CAULFEILD & SAWARD *Dict. Needlework*, s. v., Implements made of ivory, hone, or boxwood, and employed in Embroidery and Netting, are known as Meshes.

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *mesh-pin*; *mesh-like* adj., *mesh net, screen*; **mesh-stick,** 'a flat slat with rounded ends, used to form the mesh of nets, the loops being made over it and knotted on its edge' (Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1875).

1845 J. F. SOUTH *Zool.* in *Encycl. Metrop.* VII. 262/2 The *mesh-like spaces of the cavernous bodies. 1883 SIR A. SHEA *Newfoundland Fisheries* 12 (Fish. Exhib. Publ.), Herrings are taken in *mesh nets and in seines. 1795 in *Abridgm. Specif. Patents, Needles*, etc. (1871) 2 [Bell, William.—Manufacturing] all sorts of needles,.. netting needles, *mesh pins, and sail needles. 1877 RAYMOND *Statist. Mines & Mining* 426 Dry ore, sized between 10 and 20 *mesh screens (to the linear inch). 1879 *Mesh-stick [see sense 1].

Mesh (meʃ), *v.* Also 6 **meash, masshe,** 7 **meishe,** 6–8 **mash.** [f. MESH *sb.*, but found somewhat earlier in our quots.]

1. *trans.* To catch in the meshes of a net.

a 1547 SURREY in *Tottel's Misc.* (Arb.) 7, I know..How smal a net may take and mesh a hart of gentle kinde. 1843 LYTTON *Last Bar.* III. iii, And shew him how even the lion may be meshed. 1888 *Whitby Gaz.* 23 Nov. 3/1 The large ones cannot get meshed in the small meshes.

2. *transf.* and *fig.* or in figurative context: To entangle, involve inextricably.

1532 MORE *Con. nt. Tindale* Wks. 491/1 Luther was hymselfe also so meshed in thys matter,.. that [etc.]. 1583 STOCKER *Civ. Warres Lowe C.* II. 67 And so bee masht in the net, by fayre speeches. 1627 DRAYTON *Quest Cinthia* 121 The Flyes by chance mesht in her hayre. 1789 E. DARWIN *Bot. Gard.* II. (1791) 111 Fine hapless swains..The harlot meshes in her deathful toils. 1836 LYTTON *Athens* (1837) II. 562 Headlong from the car Caught and all meshed within the reins he fell. 1848 KINGSLEY *Saint's Trag.* IV. iii. 141 Poor soul whose lot is fixed here Meshed down by custom.

3. *refl.* and *intr.* (for *refl.* or *pass.*). To become enmeshed or entangled.

1589 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* VI. xxiv. (1602) 144 She pitched Tewe, he masshed. 1594 PLAT *Jewell-ho.* III. 54 [The fish] will run forwarde and mash themselues in the tramell. 1604 PARSONS *3rd Pt. Three Convers. Eng., Relation of Trial* 215 As a hare in the nett [he] mesheth himselfe more and more by struglinge. 1801 PENNANT *Journ. Lond. to Isle of Wight* 72 After which they [mackarel] will not mesh, but are caught with hooks. 1827 in J. G. Cumming *I. of Man* (1848) 312 In the summer fishery the herrings always mesh with their heads to the north. 1864 J. BRUCE in *Glasgow Daily Herald* 24 Sept., When the herring are very large they swim lazily, and do not mesh well.

b. *intr.* (*machinery.*) Of the teeth of a wheel, etc.: To be engaged *with* another piece of machinery.

1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 1383/2 *Mangle-rack*, a rack having teeth on opposite sides, engaged by a pinion which meshes with the opposite sides alternately. 1895 *Outing* (U. S.) XXVII. 55/1 Wooden cogs, which meshed into a horizontal wheel.

† c. *intr.* To thread one's way *through*. *Obs.*

1665 HOOKE *Microgr.* 214, I..have seen it [a Mite] very nimbly meshing through the thickets of mould.

4. *trans.* † a. To make meshes in. *Obs.*

1666 *Third Adv. Painter* 20 Our stiffe Sayls, Masht and Netted into Lace.

b. To construct the meshes of (a net). *rare*—[1].

[1615: see MESHING *vbl. sb.*] 1882 *Harper's Mag.* LXV. 5 Mending old nets and meshing new ones.

Mesh: see MASH, MEASE, MEUSE.

Meshed (meʃt), *a.* [f. MESH *sb.* + -ED [2].] Having the form or appearance of mesh-work; tangled, intricate. Also, intricately marked *with*.

1664 POWER *Exp. Philos.* I. 11 Her eyes are most neatly latticed or mashed like a net. 1776–96 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) IV. 57 Wrinkled or meshed, with hollows on each side. 1878 H. M. STANLEY *Dark Cont.* I. x. 221 The tangle of meshed undergrowth. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV. 119 It commonly shows several little pits on its surface, which give it a meshed appearance.

Meshese, obs. form of MISEASE.

Meshing (me·ʃiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. MESH *v.* + -ING [1].] The making of meshes in a net.

1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* 904 Their coniunction is like the Meishing of a net or Plashing of a hedge. 1884 PATON in *Encycl. Brit.* XVII. 359/1 A little practice in meshing is sufficient to develop wonderful dexterity of movement.

b. *attrib.*: **meshing-knot,** a knot used in making meshes; **meshing-net** (also *mashing-*), a net in which fish are caught in the meshes by their gills.

1795 HUTTON *Math. Dict.* s. v. *Knot*, Fig. 10, a Meshing knot, for nets; and is to be drawn close. 1883 E. P. RAMSAY *Food-Fishes N. S. Wales* 5 (Fish. Exhib. Publ.), The ordinary drawing-seines and mashing-nets.

Me·shing, *ppl. a.* [-ING [2].] Entangling.

1586 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* II. xi. 47 By any pleasant tale, Or dazeling toye of mashing loue.

Me·sh-work. Meshes collectively; structure consisting of meshes; network. *lit.* and *fig.*

1830 LINDLEY *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 263 A meshwork of cellular tissue. 1844 STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 280 A riddle consists of open mesh-work forming its bottom.

attrib. 1854 J. SCOFFERN in *Orr's Circ. Sci., Chem.* 222 A mesh-work cage of wire gauze. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 171 A porous meshwork structure.

Meshy (me·ʃi), *a.* [f. MESH *sb.* + -Y.] Consisting of meshes.

1602 CAREW *Cornwall*, '*Lines on Sammon*' 29 b, Some build his house but his thence issue barre. Some make bis meashie bed, but reaue his rest. 1726 POPE *Odyss.* XXII. 427 And scarce the meshy toils the copious draught contain. 1869 TOZER *Highl. Turkey* II. 156 The net's meshy folds.

Mesiad (mī·ziăd, me·siăd), *adv.* [f. MESI-AL + -AD: see DEXTRAD *adv.* Cf. MESAD.] Towards the median line of a body.

1803 J. BARCLAY *New Anat. Nomencl.* 166 In the head and trunk, Mesiad will signify towards the mesial aspect. 1857 GOODSIR in *Edinb. New Philos. Jrnl.* V. 150 Situated mesiad of any part of this bone.

Mesial (mī·ziăl, me·siăl), *a.* [irreg. f. Gr. *μέσ-ος* middle + -IAL.] Pertaining to, situated in, or directed towards the middle line of a body; = MEDIAN *a.*[1] 2. Also, situated mesially with respect *to*.

1803 J. BARCLAY *New Anat. Nomencl.* 144 Supposing the falx a mesial plane. 1808 — *Muscular Motions* 374 Where clavicles are present, the heads of the scapulæ are removed farther from the mesial line. 1880 GÜNTHER *Fishes* 69 The hyoid consists generally of a pair of long and strong lateral pieces, and a single mesial piece. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 786 Bechterew places the sensory fibres of the cranial nerves mesial to the fillet in the pons Varolii.

Mesially (mī·ziăli, me·siăli), *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY[2].] In a mesial position or direction.

1849–52 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* IV. 939/2 The chin is thrust forward mesially when both joints are affected. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 274 The most mesially situated fibres of the crus.

Mesian (mī·ziăn, me·siăn), *a.* [irreg. f. Gr. *μέσ-ος* middle + -IAN.] = MESIAL.

1837 W. STOKES *Diagn. & Treatm. Dis. Chest* I. ii. (N. Syd. Soc.) 164 The morbid signs extend across the mesian line. 1862 H. W. FULLER *Dis. Lungs* 7.

Mesidine (me·sidin). *Chem.* [f. MESI(TYL) + *-idine* as in *cumidine* (G. Maule 1849: see NITRO-MESIDINE).] An oily liquid obtained by boiling nitro-mesitylene with tin and hydrochloric acid.

1866 ODLING *Anim. Chem.* 60 Certain highly complex bodies procurable from vinegar, such as mesidine $C_9H_{13}N$, and nitro-mesidine $C_9H_{12}N_2O_2$.

Me·sio-, used as combining form of MESIAL.

1803 J. BARCLAY *New Anat. Nomencl.* 174 The position of the heart in the thorax will be expressed by the two compounds *mesio-sinistral* and *atlanto-sacral*. 1872 HUMPHRY *Observ. Myology* 107 Especially is this the case..in the 'mesio-dorsal' part of the lateral muscle.

Mesion (mī·ziŏn, me·siŏn). *Anat.* [irreg. f. Gr. *μέσ-ος* middle.] = MESON.

1803 J. BARCLAY *Anat. Nomencl.* 121 Suppose a plane, to pass along the middle of the neck, the mediastinum, and linea alba, and to dividing (*sic*) the neck and the trunk into similar halves..and let this plane be denominated Mesion.

Mesistem (me·sistem). *Bot.* Shortened form of MESOMERISTEM. 1884 [see PERIMERISTEM].

Mesite (mī·səit). *Chem.* Also **mesit.** [ad. mod.L. *mesīta, mesītēs*, a. Gr. *μεσίτης* go-between, f. *μέσ-ος* middle. Cf. F. *mésite*.]

†**1.** A name given to acetic ether, 'because it holds a middle place between alcohol and ether' (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*). *Obs.*

1838 T. THOMSON *Chem. Org. Bodies* 366 Reichenbach considers mesite as identical with acetone.

2. (See quot. 1865.)

1842 T. GRAHAM *Elem. Chem.* 836 Mesite. 1849 KANE *Elem. Chem.* (ed. 2) 826 Mesit. 1865 WATTS *Dict. Chem.*, *Mesite*, an oxygenated oil..said to be obtained by distilling lignone with sulphuric acid. (Wiedemann and Schweizer.)

Mesitene (me·sitīn). *Chem.* [f. MESITE + -ENE. Cf. F. *mésitène*.] A volatile oil resembling mesite (sense 2).

1842 T. GRAHAM *Elem. Chem.* 836 Mesiten. 1855 WATTS tr. *Gmelin's Handbk. Chem.* IX. 52 Mesitene. Produced by distilling lignone, mesite, or xylitic naphtha with oil of vitriol. *a* 1864 GESNER *Coal, Petrol.*, etc. (1865) 89 Mesetine. 1865 WATTS *Dict. Chem.*

Mesitic (mĭsi·tik), *a. Chem.* [f. MESITYL + -IC. Cf. F. *mésitique*.] Derived from mesityl: see quots.

1838 R. D. THOMSON *New Chem. Subst.* in *Brit. Ann.* 344 Mesitic ether. 1855 WATTS tr. *Gmelin's Handbk. Chem.* IX. 6, 27, etc. 1865 — *Dict. Chem.*, *Mesitic Alcohol.* A name given to acetone, on the supposition that it is an alcohol containing the radicle mesityl, C^3H^3, isomeric with allyl... *Mesitic Ether.* Syn. with Oxide of Mesityl.

Mesitine (me·sitin). *Min.* [ad. G. *mesitin* (*mesitinspath*, A. Breithaupt 1827), f. Gr. *μεσίτης* go-between, 'because its rhombohedron is intermediate in angle between magnesite and siderite' (A. H. Chester).] Carbonate of magnesium and iron, called also *mesitine-spar*. Also **Me·sitite.**

1828 *Edinb. Jrnl. Sci.* VIII. 181 Mesitine-spar. 1865 WATTS *Dict. Chem.*, *Mesitin-Spar*...Breunnerite, Pistomesite. This mineral occurs in rhombohedral crystals isomorphous with spathic iron ore and magnesite. 1868 DANA *Syst. Min.* (ed. 5) II. 687 Mesitite.

Mesityl (me·sitil). *Chem.* Also **mesitule.** [Formed as MESITE + -YL.] The hypothetical radical of acetone. Hence **Mesitylene** (mĭsi·tilēn), 'a hydrocarbon, isomeric with cumene, produced by the action of sulphuric acid upon acetone' (Watts); **Mesityle·nic** *a.*, derived from mesitylene; **Mesity·lic** *a.*, derived from or containing mesityl; **Mesitylol** (mesi·tilŏl) = MESITYLENE.

1838 R. D. THOMSON *New Chem. Subst.* in *Brit. Ann.* 332 Mesitylene. 1855 WATTS tr. *Gmelin's Handbk. Chem.* IX. 17 *Mesitylene* or *Mesitylol* C^9H^4. *Ibid.* 27 Chloride of Mesityl. 1859 *Fownes' Chem.* 397 It has received the name *mesititole*. *Ibid.*, An organic salt-basyle, containing C_6H_5, to which the name of *mesityl* has been given. 1873 WILLIAMSON *Chem.* § 289 The so-called mesitylic oxide ($C^6H_{10}O$), which has been considered as the ether of acetone. 1885 REMSEN *Org. Chem.* (1888) 246 Mesitylene..when boiled with dilute nitric acid,..yields mesitylenic acid, $C_9H_{10}O_2$.

Meskal, variant of MISKAL.

Mesked, -keeto, -kite, etc., var. ff. MESQUITA.

Meskin(s, Meslade: see MASKINS, MALASADE.

†**Mesle.** *Her. Obs.* [Subst. use of OF. *meslé* pa. pple., see next.] A partition by an indented or irregular line.

1562 LEIGH *Armorie* 134 b, Nowe I will shewe you of nyne sondry mesles whiche are so called, because they enter meddell the one within the other, contrary to plaine partition. 1586 FERNE *Blaz. Gentrie* 204.

‖**Meslé(e,** *a. Her. Obs.* [OF. *meslé* pa. pple. of *mesler* (mod.F. *mêler*) to mix.] (See quots.)

1632 GUILLIM *Heraldry* VI. vi. (ed. 2) betw. 420–1 The Marquesse his Coronet is Meslée, that is, part flowred and part pyramidall pearled. 1894 *Parker's Gloss. Her.*, *Meslé*: mingled. Used by a few old writers in describing a field of metal and colour in equal proportions, as gyronny, paly.

Mesledine, meslen, etc.: see MASLIN[2].

Mesmeree·, 'the person on whom a mesmerist operates' (Ogilvie 1882).

Mesmerian (mezmĭ·riăn), *a.* and *sb. rare.* [f. *Mesmer* (see MESMERISM) + -IAN. Cf. F. *mesmérien*.] a. *adj.* Mesmeric. b. *sb.* A follower of Mesmer, a believer in mesmerism.

1802 ACERBI *Trav.* I. 271 The mesmerians..have their minds so heated by the extraordinary..aspect of those phenomena [etc.]. 1840 *Fraser's Mag.* XXI. 533 The knight did not try the Mesmerian process on himself.

Mesmeric (mezme·rik), *a.* [f. *Mesmer* (see MESMERISM) + -IC.] Pertaining to, characteristic of, producing, or produced by mesmerism. *Mesmeric passes*: see PASS *sb.*[2] 11.

1829 R. CHENEVIX in *Lond. Med. & Phys. Jrnl.* VI. 222 This day, after mesmerising her for nine minutes, she fell into mesmeric sleep. *Ibid.* VII. 117 Ireland having been thus put to sleep by my mesmeric action. 1847 DICKENS *Haunted M.* (C. D. ed.) 219 This example had a powerful, and apparently, mesmeric influence on him of the boots. 1876 C. M. DAVIES *Unorth. Lond.* (ed. 2) 55 She was making mesmeric passes.

So **Mesme·rical** *a.* (*rare*) in the same sense; **Mesme·rically** *adv.*, by means of mesmerism.

1840 C. H. TOWNSHEND *Facts in Mesmerism* II. ii. 115 A cousin of mine could not be influenced by me mesmerically. *Ibid.* iii. 204 While he was sleeping mesmerically. 1852 HAWTHORNE *Blithedale Rom.* I. vi. 102 Zenobia's sphere..transformed me, during this period of my weakness, into something like a mesmerical clairvoyant. 1862 LYTTON *Str. Story* I. 90 Armed with a lock of Lilian's hair and a glove she had worn, as the media of mesmerical rapport.

Mesmerism (me·zmĕriz'm). [f. name of F. A. *Mesmer*, an Austrian physician (1734–1815) + -ISM. Cf. F. *mesmérisme*.] The doctrine or system, popularized by Mesmer, according to which a hypnotic state, usually accompanied by insensibility to pain and muscular rigidity, can be induced by an influence (at first known as 'animal magnetism') exercised by an operator over the will and nervous system of the patient. b. The process or practice of inducing such hypnotic state; the state so induced. c. The influence supposed to operate. Cf. *animal magnetism* (ANIMAL C. 1), MAGNETISM 3.

1802 ACERBI *Trav.* I. 89 One subject on which the Duke ..has been charged with weakness, namely, mesmerism, or animal magnetism. 1829 R. CHENEVIX in *Lond. Med. & Phys. Jrnl.* VI. 223 The touch of my finger..roused her from her state of mesmerism. 1844 E. FITZGERALD *Lett.* (1889) I. 142 And Miss Martineau has been cured of an illness of five years by Mesmerism! 1883 'OUIDA' *Wanda* I. 300 You believe in mesmerism and disbelieve in God.

Mesmerist (me·zmĕrist). [f. *Mesmer* (see prec.) + -IST.] One who practises mesmerism. Also *occas.* a believer in mesmerism.

1840 C. H. TOWNSHEND *Facts in Mesmerism* I. 16 Perhaps the error has originated with the Mesmerists themselves. 1852 SMEDLEY *L. Arundel* i. 16, 'I made use of one of the secrets of the mesmerist', replied Lewis; 'I managed her by the power of a strong will over a weak one'. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 427 According to the mesmerists, offences against the person might be committed in hypnosis.

Mesmerite (me·zmĕrəit). *rare*[—1]. [f. *Mesmer* (see MESMERISM) + -ITE.] A believer in mesmerism.

1842 MISS MITFORD in L'Estrange *Life* (1870) III. ix. 156 He told me .. that Mrs. Trollope is a thorough-going mesmerite, constantly at Dr. Elliotson's.

Mesmerizable (me·zmĕrəi·zăb'l), *a.* Also **-ible.** [f. MESMERIZE *v.* + -ABLE.] Capable of being mesmerized. Hence **Mesmerizabi·lity.**

1840 J. ELLIOTSON *Hum. Physiol.* 1180 A thing not directly mesmerisable, but mesmerisable by contact with a directly mesmerisable metal. 1840 C. H. TOWNSHEND *Facts in Mesmerism* II. iii. 134 An experiment..as to the mesmerisibility (*sic*) of mankind in general.

Mesmerization (me·zmĕrəizē·ʃən). [f. MESMERIZE *v.* + -ATION.] The action of mesmerizing.

1829 R. CHENEVIX in *Lond. Med. & Phys. Jrnl.* VII. 117 In two minutes' mesmerization, Ireland's eyes began to water. 1845 *Blackw. Mag.* LVII. 223 The mesmerisation of water.

Mesmerize (me·zmĕrəiz), *v.* [f. *Mesmer* (see MESMERISM) + -IZE.] *trans.* a. To subject (a person) to the influence of mesmerism.

1829 R. CHENEVIX in *Lond. Med. & Phys. Jrnl.* VI. 222, I mesmerised the patient through the door. 1863 MRS. A. E. CHALLICE *Heroes*, etc. *Time Louis XVI*, II. 77 Dr. Mesmer found it impossible to mesmerize Dr. Franklin. *transf.* 1862 H. AÏROÉ *Carr of Carrl.* I. 137 Carr would almost have forgotten her existence, had it not been for those eyes which mesmerised him every now and then, in spite of himself. 1886–94 H. SPENCER *Autobiog.* II. xlvi. 188 The judicial faculty has been mesmerised by the confused halo of piety which surrounds them.

b. with inanimate object.

1840 C. H. TOWNSHEND *Facts in Mesmerism* II. iii. 224, I have..*mesmerised*, as it is called, a glass of water, half an hour before it was presented to the sleep-waker.

c. *absol.* or *intr.*

1829 R. CHENEVIX in *Lond. Med. & Phys. Jrnl.* VI. 227 Every one can mesmerise, though not all with equal effect. 1865 TENNYSON in Ld. Tennyson *Memoir* (1897) II. 21, I can't mesmerize, I never mesmerized anyone in my life.

Hence **Me·smerized** *ppl. a.*, **Me·smerizing** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1829 R. CHENEVIX in *Lond. Med. & Phys. Jrnl.* VI. 222 The use of mesmerised water..had entirely assuaged the thirst. *Ibid.* 223 The spasmodic contractions were entirely removed after the twelfth day of mesmerising. 1840 C. H. TOWNSHEND *Facts in Mesmerism* II. i. 80 Having heard it said that mesmerised persons could feel any injury that was inflicted on the mesmeriser. 1886 *Athenæum* 6 Mar. 323/3 Verena Tarrant, daughter of a vulgar mesmerizing quack.

Mesmerizee (mezmĕrəizī·). [f. MESMERIZE *v.* + -EE.] One who is mesmerized.

1829 R. CHENEVIX in *Lond. Med. & Phys. Jrnl.* VI. 226 Here neither the mesmeriser nor the mesmerisee had the slightest conviction upon the subject.

Mesmerizer (me·zmĕrəizəɹ). [Formed as prec. + -ER[1].] One who mesmerizes.

1829 [See MESMERIZEE]. 1855 BROWNING *Lovers Quarrel* xi, When the mesmerizer Snow With his hand's first sweep Put the earth to sleep. 1859 DICKENS *Lett.* (1880) II. 100 The alleged mesmeriser.

Mesmero- (me·zmĕro), taken as the combining form of MESMERISM, as in **mesmero-phrenology**, the application of mesmerism to the phrenological 'organs', in order to evoke or control their specific activities (cf. *phreno-mesmerism*); hence *mesmero-phrenological* adj. Also **Me·smero-ma·nia,** a mania for mesmerism.

1842 *Medico-Chirurg. Rev.* XXXVII. 593 Mesmero-Phrenology. *Ibid.*, Various mesmero-phrenological experiments. 1843 *Ibid.* XXXVIII. 577 The Mesmero-mania has nearly dwindled, in the metropolis, into anile fatuity.

Mesmoire, rare obs. variant of MEMOIR.

†**Mesnage,** *sb. Obs.* [a. obs. F. *mesnage*, var. *ménage* (cf. MANAGE *sb.* and MÉNAGE).] Careful or economical management.

1664 JER. TAYLOR *Dissuas. Popery* II. Introd., Some [reasons] rely upon the state of exterior affairs, and introduced œconomics, or accidental mesnage of things.

†**Mesnage,** *v. Obs.* [a. obs. F. *mesnager*, var. *ménager* (cf. MANAGE *v.*, etym. note).] *trans.* a. To take advantage of, 'husband'. b. To control, manage.

1654 BRAMHALL *Just Vind.* iv. (1661) 56 With what a depth of prudence the Roman court hath mesnaged all occasions..to the advantage..of that See. 1695 LD. PRESTON *Boeth.* IV. 202 Whilst the World's Creator..ruling mesnageth the Reins of things.

†**Mesnagery.** *Obs.* [a. obs. F. *mesnagerie*: cf. MENAGERIE.] Management; economy.

1652–3 BRAMHALL *Let.* 27 (17) Feb., Wks. 1842 I. p. xciii, The most ill mesnagery of those who were trusted by the other adventurers. *a* 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. ii, Many speak of..that Vertue of mesnagery that know not what belong to it.

†**Mesnagier.** *Obs.* [a. obs. F. *mesnag(i)er*, f. *ménager* to control.] A manager.

a 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. ii, If he should..not become a better mesnagier it would prove..impossible for him..to make him rich.

Mesnality (mĭnæ·lĭti). *Law.* [Altered form of next: cf. COMMONALITY.] = next.

1643 PRYNNE *Sov. Power Parl.* I. (ed. 2) 100 As all Mesnalities..by the deaths of their Tenants without heire, returne..to those Lords..by whom they were originally created. 1848 in WHARTON *Law Lex.*

Mesnalty (mī·năilti). *Law.* Also 6 **menalte, -tie,** 6–7 **-ty,** 7 **menealtie.** [a. Law F. *menalte, mesnalte*, f. OF. *mene, mesne* MESNE *a.*, after AF. *comunalte* COMMONALTY.] The estate of a mesne lord; the condition of being a mesne lord.

1542–3 *Act* 34 & 35 *Hen. VIII*, c. 5 § 15 If any person .. shall..make by fraude..any estates, condicions, menalties, tenures, or conueiaunces. 1577–87 HOLINSHED *Chron.* (1807–8) III. 27 A subsidie..of everie knights fee twentie shillings, whether the same were holden of him by menaltie, or otherwise. 1628 COKE *On Litt.* 152 b, If the lord confirm the tenant to hold of him..the mesnalty is extinct. 1642 tr. *Perkins' Prof. Bk.* v. § 322. 142 If there be Lord, Mesne and Tenant..and the Mesne taketh a wife..and dyeth the wife shall be endowed of the menealtie. 1768 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* III. 234 If he [the mesne lord] makes default therein, ..he shall be forejudged of his mesnalty, and the tenant shall hold immediately of the lord paramount himself.

Mesne (mēn), *a.*, *sb.*, and *adv.* Also 5 meosne, 5–7 measne, 6 mesn, 7–8 measn. [a. Law F. *mesne*, altered spelling of AF. *meen* MEAN *a.*]

A. *adj.*

1. *Feudalism.* a. *Mesne lord*: a lord who holds an estate of a superior lord.

1614 SELDEN *Titles Hon.* II. v. § 4 [The vavasour] either held of a mesne lord, and not immediately of the king, or at least of the king as of an honour or mannor, and not in chief. 1754 HUME *Hist. Eng.* I. App. ii. 251 Men..whose duty was immediately paid to the mesne lord that was interposed between them and the throne. 1869 W. S. ELLIS *Antiq. Her.* x. 236 The mesne lord did not, as a customary practice.., imitate the insignia of his feudal chief.

¶ b. *Mesne tenant*: inaccurately used to denote one who holds of a mesne lord.

1853 PARKER *Dom. Archit.* II. Introd. 24 The mesne tenants of the great barons. 1869 W. S. ELLIS *Antiq. Her.* x. 232 The theory of derivative coats having been adopted by mesne tenants from their feudal superiors.

† c. *Mesne land*: = MESNALTY. *Obs.*

a 1575 GASCOIGNE *Posies, Flowers* 41 He racketh vp our rentes and keepes the best in hand, He makes a wondrous deale of good out of his own measne land.

2. Occurring or performed at a time intermediate between two dates.

Mesne encumbrance: an encumbrance the right of priority of which is intermediate between the dates of two other encumbrances. *Mesne profits*: the profits of an estate received by a tenant in wrongful possession between two dates.

1548 STAUNFORD *King's Prerog.* (1567) 84 b, Where the king is to be answered of the mesne issues and profits percened and taken of any landes which [etc.]. 1648 MILTON *Observ. Art. Peace* Wks. 1738 I. 327 That no Man shall be question'd by reason hereof, for Measne Rates or Wastes, saving wilful Wastes. 1709 J. JOHNSON *Clergym. Vade M.* II. 137 That [where a bishop has died] the Mesne profits of the widow church be secured by the *Oeconomus*. 1883 Sir R. BAGGALLAY in *Law Times Rep.* L. 193/2 A mortgagee was prohibited from tacking so as to gain priority against a mesne registered incumbrance.

b. *Mesne process*: that part of the proceedings in a suit which intervenes between the primary and the final process.

a 1625 Sir H. FINCH *Law* (1636) 436 Mesne processe which is for any necessarie act to be done, not onely for the plaintife against the defendant, but for ether of them against any other. 1721 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5953/1 He had been committed by Mesne Process. 1861 MAY *Const. Hist.* (1863) II. xi. 280 In the reign of George I arrests on mesne process, issuing out of superior courts, were limited to sums exceeding £10.

3. Intermediate, intervening: applied to persons.

1810 J. MARSHALL *Const. Opin.* (1839) 129 Neither James Greenleaf nor Peck nor any of the mesne vendors between Greenleaf and Peck, had any notice [etc.]. 1884 *Q. Rev.* Jan. 161 One or more of the middlemen or mesne lessees.

† B. *sb. Obs.*

1. = MEAN *sb.*[2] 1 and 10.

1447 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 130/1 Execute by such processe and meosnes, as it shall seme hym resonable. 1472–3 *Ibid.* VI. 39/1 To aredye youre self by all measnes to you possible. 1822 C. BUTLER *Remin.* (ed. 3) 240 These are extreme cases,—the application of them to the mesne is not very difficult.

2. = *Mesne lord* (see A. 1).

1531 *Dial. on Laws Eng.* I. xxx. G v b, Assyse may lye for the lorde..agaynste the mesne onely. 1641 *Termes de la Ley* 202 s.v., He of whom the Mesne holdeth, is called chiefe Lord. 1642 [see b]. 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Mesn*, or *Measn*,..signifying him that is Lord of a Manor.

b. *Writ of mesne*: 'an ancient and abolished writ, which lay when the lord paramount distrained on the tenant paravail; the latter had a writ of mesne against the mesne lord' (Wharton *Law Lex.*).

1602 FULBECKE *1st. Pt. Parall.* 48 The writ of mesne, because it is in the realty, ought alwaies to suppose the husband and wife to be mesnes. 1642 tr. *Perkins' Prof. Bk.* v. § 432 (1657) 161 If there be Lord, Mesne, and tenant, ..& the tenant bringeth a Writ of Mesne against the Mesne. 1818 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) V. 75 A fine may be levied on every writ by which lands may be demanded,..such as a writ of mesne.

C. *adv.* At a time intermediate (*between* two other times).

1439 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 17/2 Mesne bitwene ye date of ye seide writte, and ye dai of ye retourne yereof. 1642 tr. *Perkins' Prof. Bk.* xi. § 806 (1657) 311 As if the day of payment of the annuity bee incurred Mesne after his admission and his induction.

Meso- (mē·sō), before a vowel sometimes **mes-**, combining form of Gr. *μέσος* middle, used in scientific terms of mod. formation, many of which have correlates with PRO-, or PROTO-, and META-. The words of this formation that are specially important, or require detailed explanation, are treated in their alphabetical place. Of the others, which are almost innumerable, the following are examples:—

Me·so-appe·ndix *Anat.*, the fold of peritonæum attached to the vermiform appendix. ‖ **Mesoarium** (-ēə·riŏm) *Anat.* [Gr. *ᾠάριον* taken as = OVARIUM], the fold of peritonæum which suspends the ovary; hence **Mesoarial** (-ēə·riăl) *a.* **Mesobra·nchial** *a. Zool.*, applied to that lobe of the carapace of a crab which overlies the middle part of the branchial chambers. **Mesocalca·neal** *a.*: see quot. and CALCANEAL. **Mesoca·mbrian** *a.* and *sb.*, = Middle Cambrian (H. S. Williams *Journ. Geol.* 1894). **Mesocampho·rio** *a. Chem.*, the name of a basic acid formed by heating a mixture of dextrocamphoric acid and hydrochloric acid (Watts *Dict. Chem.* 2nd Suppl. 1875, 235). **Mesochil** (me·sokil), ‖ **Mesochilium** (-kĭ·liŏm) *Bot.* [Gr. *χείλος* lip: see -IUM], the middle portion of the labellum of an orchid. ‖ **Mesocœle** (me·sosīl), **-cœlia** (-sī·liă) *Anat.* [Gr. *κοιλία* cavity, ventricle], the ventricle of the mesencephalon of invertebrates; hence **Mesocœlian** (-sī·liăn) *a.*, pertaining to this. **Mesoco·racoid** *Ichthyol.* [see CORACOID], in some teleostean fishes, a bone situated between and bridging the HYPERCORACOID and HYPOCORACOID. **Mesocune·iform** *Anat.* [see CUNEIFORM], the middle cuneiform bone of the tarsus; also **Mesocu·niform** (in recent Dicts.). **Mesocyst** (me·sosist) *Anat.* [see CYST], 'the donble layer of peritonæum attaching the gall-bladder to the liver when the former is completely snrrounded by serous membrane' (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1890). **Mesodesm** (me·sodez'm) *Bot.* [Gr. *δεσμός* band]: see quot. **Me·sodevo·nian** *a.* and *sb.*, = Middle Devonian (H. S. Williams *Journ. Geol.* 1894). **Meso-diasto·lic** *a.*, occurring in the middle of the diastole. **Me·sodont** *a.* [Gr. *ὀδοντ-*, *ὀδούς* tooth], (*a*) *Anthropology*, having the teeth of medium size; (*b*) *Ent.* of Coleoptera, having the mandibles of medium size. **Mesodo·rsal** *a. Zool.*, situated on the middle of the back. ‖ **Mesoduode·num** *Anat.*, the fold of peritonæum that supports the duodenum (*Cent. Dict.* 1890); hence **Mesoduode·nal** *a.* **Mesogenous** (mesǫ·dʒĭnəs) *a.* [see -GEN and -OUS], increasing by growth at or from the middle, as the spores of certain fungi (*Cent. Dict.*). ‖ **Mesoglœa** (-glī·ă) *Zool.* [Gr. *γλοία* glue], the mesodermal layer in sponges and other *Cœlenterata*; hence **Mesoglœ·al** *a.* ‖ **Mesoglutæ·us**, the middle gluteal muscle, *glutæus medius* (*Cent. Dict.*); hence **Mesoglutæal** (-glutī·ăl) *a.* **Mesognathic** (-gnæ·þik), **Mesognathous** (mesǫ·gnăþəs) *adjs. Anthropology* [Gr. *γνάθος* jaw], applied to those skulls the gnathic index of which ranges between 98 and 103. Hence **Meso·gnathism** (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*), **Meso·gnathy** (*Cent. Dict.*), the condition of being mesognathous. ‖ **Mesohe·par** [see HEPAR], 'a fold of peritonæum attached to the free edge of the right lobe of the liver in many animals' (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*). ‖ **Mesohepaticon** [Gr. *ἡπατικός* HEPATIC] = prec. ‖ **Mesohippus** (-hi·pŏs) *Palæont.* [Gr. *ἵππος* horse], one of the ancestral forms of the horse, the remains of which are found in the Lower Miocene. **Mesolobe** (me·solǫb) *Anat.* [LOBE], the corpus callosum of the brain; hence **Mesolobar** (mesolō·băr) *a.* **Mesomere** (me·somīəɹ) *Zool.* [Gr. *μέρος* part], (*a*) a protovertebra (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*); (*b*) a blastomere of medium size (Webster *Suppl.* 1902). **Mesomeristem** (-me·ristem) *Bot.* [see MERISTEM], the innermost layer of the exomeristem. **Me·sometatarse** *Anat.* [see METATARSUS], the middle metatarsal bone. ‖ **Mesometritis** (-mĭtrəi·tis) *Path.* [see -ITIS], inflammation of the ‖ **Mesometrium** (-me·triŏm) or **Mesometry** (mesǫ·mĭtri) *Anat.* [Gr. *μήτρα* womb], the fold of peritonæum supporting the uterus or (in birds) the oviduct. **Mesona·sal** *a. Anat.* [see NASAL], belonging or relating to the middle of the nose. **Mesonemertine** (-nĕmə·rtəin) *a.* [generic name *Nemertes*], belonging to the *Mesonemertini*, a division of the *Vermes* intermediate between the *Protonemertini* and *Metanemertini*. **Mesonotum** (-nōu·tŏm) *Ent.* [Gr. *νῶτον* back], the dorsal portion of the mesothorax; hence **Mesonotal** (-nōu·tăl) *a.* **Mesopa·raffin** *Chem.*, one of a class of paraffins intermediate between the isoparaffins and the neoparaffins. ‖ **Mesopara·pteron** *Ent.* [see PARAPTERUM], the parapteron of the mesothorax; hence **Mesopara·pteral** *a.* (*Cent. Dict.*). ‖ **Me·sophlebi·tis** *Path.* [Gr. *φλέψ*, *φλεβ-* vein], inflammation of the middle coat of a vein. **Mesopic** (mesǫ·pik) *a. Anthropology* [Gr. *ὤψ*, *ὠπ-* face], see quot. ‖ **Mesopla·nkton** *Biol.*, the PLANKTON living between about a hundred fathoms from the bottom and a hnndred from the surface; hence **Mesoplankto·nic** *a.* **Mesoplast** (me·soplæst) *Biol.* [Gr. *πλαστ-ός* moulded], the nuclear matter of a cell (Ogilvie 1882); hence **Mesopla·stic** *a.*, relating to the mesoplast (*Cent. Dict.*). ‖ **Mesoplastron** (-plæ·strǫn) *Zool.* [see PLASTRON], an inclusive name for two parts of the plastron that are developed in certain tortoises; hence **Mesopla·stral** *a.* ‖ **Mesopleuron** (-plūə·rǫn), pl. **-pleura** *Ent.* [Gr. *πλευρόν* rib], one of the pleura of the mesothorax; hence **Mespleu·ral** *a.* ‖ **Mesorchium** (-ə·kiŏm) *Anat.* [Gr. *ὄρχις* testicle], the fold of peritonæum which supports the genital gland in some animals; hence **Meso·rchial** *a.* ‖ **Mesore·ctum** *Anat.*, the fold of peritonæum which supports the RECTUM; hence **Mesore·ctal** *a.* (in recent Dicts.). **Mesore·tina** *Anat.*, the mosaic layer of the RETINA. **Mesorostral** (-rǫ·străl) *a. Zool.* [ROSTRUM], in the cetaceous genus *Mesoplodon* or *Ziphius*: see quot. ‖ **Mesoscapula** (-skæ·pĭŭlă) *Anat.*, the spine of the scapula; hence **Mesosca·pular** *a.* ‖ **Mesoscute·llum** *Ent.* [SCUTELLUM], the smaller and posterior part of the notum of an insect; hence **Mesoscute·llar** *a.* ‖ **Mesoscu·tum** *Ent.* [SCUTUM], the larger and anterior part of the notum of an insect. **Mesoseismal** (-səi·zmăl) *a.* [Gr. *σεισμός* earthquake], pertaining to the centre of intensity of an earthquake. **Mesostaphyline** (-stæ·filəin) *a.* [Gr. *σταφυλή* uvula], having a palatal index of from 80 to 85 (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*). **Mesostasis** (mesǫ·stăsis) *Min.* [Gr. *στάσις* placing], the interstitial substance of rocks that are partly amorphous and partly crystalline. **Mesostate** (me·sostēit): see quot. ‖ **Mesostethium** (-stī·þiŏm) *Ent.* [Gr. *στηθίον*, *στῆθος* breast]: see quot. **Mesostome** (me·sostōum) *Zool.* [Gr. *στόμα* mouth], a planarian of the genus *Mesostoma*. **Mesostylous** (-stəi·ləs) *a. Bot.* [STYLE], applied to flowers that have styles intermediate in length between the macrostylous and the microstylous. **Mesosuchian** (-siū·kiăn) *a. Zool.* [Gr. *σοῦχος* crocodile], belonging to the extinct suborder *Mesosuchia* of crocodiles; *sb.* a crocodile of this suborder; also **Mesosu·chious** *a.* (in recent Dicts.). **Mesosysto·lic** *a. Path.*, occurring in the middle of the systole. ‖ **Mesotarsus** *Ent.*, the tarsus of the middle leg of an insect; cf. *protarsus*, *metatarsus*: hence **Meso·tarsal** *a.* (in recent Dicts.). **Mesotarta·ric** *a. Chem.*, inactive tartaric acid. **Mesotheca** (-þī·kă), **-theque** (-þīk) *Zool.* [Gr. *θήκη* case], the middle one of the three laminæ of the perigonium in Hydrozoa. ‖ **Mesothecium** *Bot.* [THECIUM], (*a*) the intermediate layer of cells in an unripe anther (*Cassell's Encycl. Dict.*); (*b*) the thecium of lichens (Jackson *Gloss. Bot. Terms* 1900). ‖ **Mesothelium** (-þī·liŏm) *Embryology* [Gr. *θήλη* nipple], the epithelium of the body-cavity of the embryo; hence **Mesothe·lial** *a.* ‖ **Mesotherium** (-þī·ə·riŏm) *Palæont.* [Gr. *θηρίον* wild beast], a genus of fossil rodents of South America; a rodent of this genus. **Mesotympa·nic** *Ichthyol.* [TYMPANIC] = SYMPLECTIC. **Meso-u·terine** *a. Anat.*, the epithet of the fold of peritonæum supporting the uterus. ‖ **Mesovarium** (mesovēə·riŏm) *Anat.* [L. *ōvārium* OVARY] = MESOARIUM. ‖ **Mesoventri·culum** *Anat.*, 'the gastro-hepatic omentum' (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*).

1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 880 The *meso-appendix. 1875 HUXLEY in *Encycl. Brit.* I. 768/2 The *mesoarial and mesorchial folds of the peritoneum. 1846 OWEN *Vertebr. Anim.* I. *Fishes* 288 In the young Lamprey the ovarium is a..membranous plate, suspended by a fold of the peritoneum (*mesoarium). 1877 HUXLEY *Anat. Inv. Anim.* vi. 343 The branchial region is sub-divided into epibranchial, *mesobranchial, and metabranchial lobes. 1854 OWEN *Skel. & Teeth* in *Circ. Sci.* I. *Org. Nat.* 225 There are three calcaneal processes; one, called the 'entocalcaneal',..a second, called the '*mesocalcaneal'. 1866 *Treas. Bot.*, **Mesochil*, *Mesochilium*. 1849 BALFOUR *Man. Bot.* § 1058 This labellum [in *Orchidaceæ*]..is sometimes divided by contraction, so as to exhibit three distinct portions, the lowest being the hypochilium .. the middle, *mesochilium .. and the upper, epichilium. 1884 T. J. PARKER *Zootomy* 23 They contain a cavity, the aqueduct of Sylvius, or *mesocœle. 1887 WILDER in *Amer. Nat.* XXI. 914 Mammalia—Mesocœle tubular; *mesocœlian roof quadrilobate. 1868 W. K. PARKER *Shoulder-girdle Vertebr.* 8 The middle bar, which underprops the middle glenoid facet, is the '*meso-coracoid'. *Ibid.* 152 A short curved meso-coracoid process. 1854 OWEN *Skel. & Teeth* in *Circ. Sci.* I. *Org. Nat.* 244 The small bone, called 'splint-bone'..articulated to the '*mesocuneiform'. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 1018 Mid-diastolic or *meso-diastolic murmur. 1884 FLOWER in *Jrnl. Anthrop. Inst.* XIV. 186 *Mesodont Races. Chinese, American Indians [etc.]. 1890 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Mesodont*, a term applied to those skulls in which the product of the division of the length of the crowns of the molar and bicuspid teeth multiplied by 100, by the basin[as]al length, lies between 42 and 44. 1899 D. SHARP *Insects* II. (Camb. Nat. Hist.) 193 Mesodont. 1871 PHILLIPS *Geol. Oxford* 178 These are usually *mesodorsal spines. 1886 *Proc. Zool. Soc.* 574 Silicea with soft *mesoglœa or mesodermal ground substance. 1889 GEDDES & THOMSON *Evol. Sex* 90 The ova [of sponges] are highly nourished *mesoglœal cells. 1891 CUNNINGHAM in *Trans. R. Irish. Acad.* XXIX. 581 The *mesognathic class. 1878 FLOWER in *Proc. Roy. Inst.* VIII. 615 When the latter dimension [*sc.* basi-alveolar length] exceeds the former [*sc.* basi-nasal length], the face is said to be prognathous; when the reverse is the case, it is orthognathous; when the two dimensions are equal or thereabouts, it is *mesognathous. 1884 T. J. PARKER *Zootomy* 391 *Mesohepar. 1905 ROLLESTON *Dis. Liver* 24 The connective tissue uniting the right lobe of the liver to the diaphragm (the *mesohepaticon). 1877 LE CONTE *Elem. Geol.* II. (1879) 509 Next came [after Eohippus and Orohippus] in the Lower Miocene the *Mesohippus. 1855 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex.*, **Mesolobar*, belonging to the *Mesolobe* or *Corpus callosum*. *Mesolobar Arteries*,..are the arteries of the corpus callosum. **Meso-*

lobe, corpus callosum. 1884 *Mesomeristem [see PERIMERISTEM]. 1890 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, **Mesometritis*. 1835–6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 357/2 The oviduct..is attached to and supported by a duplicature of peritoneum called the **mesometrium*. *Ibid.*, The *mesometry differs most from the mesentery when the female organs are in full sexual action. 1868 W. K. PARKER *Shoulder-girdle Vertebr.* 24 On the head may be seen the quasi-ethmoid or *meso-nasal; two nasals [etc.]. 1890 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, **Mesonasal cavity*, a blind membranous pouch, situated in the diverging angle of the posterior forks of the internasal cartilage in the developing salmon. 1902 A. E. SHIPLEY in *Encycl. Brit.* XXXI. 120/2 The *Mesonemertine and one or two aberrant species. 1836 SHUCKARD tr. *Burmeister's Man. Entom.* 78 The *mesonotum. 1876 ODLING in *Lond.* etc. *Phil. Mag.* Mar. 206 *Mesoparaffins. 1875 JONES & SIEV. *Pathol. Anat.* 400 The *mesophlebitis and periphlebitis of Virchow. 1885 O. THOMAS in *Jrnl. Anthrop. Inst.* XIV. 334 Individual skulls or races having indices above 107·5 might be called platyopic or flat-faced; from 107·5 to 110·0, *mesopic. 1898 G. H. FOWLER in *Proc. Zool. Soc.* 575 Prof. Agassiz..refuses to accept the alleged existence of a *mesoplankton. *Ibid.* 1029 The supposition that *Globigerina pachyderma* is a *mesoplanktonic form. 1889 *Nature* 2 May 7/1 In the Pleurodira the first two families are distinguished from one another by the presence or absence of a *mesoplastral bone. 1848 MAUNDER *Treas. Nat. Hist.* 704 **Mesopleura*, the lateral surfaces of the *mesothorax*. 1875 *Mesorchial [see *Mesoarial* above]. 1855 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex.*, **Mesorchium*. 1875 HUXLEY & MARTIN *Elem. Biol.* (1877) 183 A sort of testicular mesentery or mesorchium. 1835–6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 506/1 Along the posterior wall we find the rectum with its *mesorectum. 1889 J. LEIDY *Anat.* (ed. 2) 877 The processes of the pigment-cells of the ectoretina extend between the rods of the *mesoretina. 1872 SIR W. TURNER in *Trans. Roy. Soc. Edinb.* XXVI. 768, I have named the dense solid bar in the middle of the beak the *meso-rostral bone. 1868 W. K. PARKER *Shoulder-girdle Vertebr.* 11 The præ-scapula and *mesoscapula in one half-cleft ray. *Ibid.* 27 A scapular, a *mesoscapular, and a præ-scapular bar. 1899 D. SHARP *Insects* II. (Camb. Nat. Hist.) 312 In some of the higher forms this *mesoscutellar lobe is prominent. 1833 *Entomologist's Mag.* I. 28 The *meso-scutellum has a yellow margin, interrupted toward the base. 1883 JOHNSTON-LAVIS in *Nature* 6 Sept. 438/2 Most people not in the *mesoseismal area felt first the 'susultatorio' or vertical movement. 1888 *Nature* 15 Mar. 459/2 The presence of a hypocrystalline interstitial substance (*mesostasis) wedged in between the felspars. 1885 M. FOSTER in *Encycl. Brit.* XIX. 19/1 The specific material of a secretion, such as the trypsin of pancreatic juice, comes from the protoplasm of the cell, through a number of intermediate substances, or *mesostates as they are called. 1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* III. xxxiii. 382 **Mesostethium*...A central piece between the intermediate and posterior legs, and bounded laterally in *Coleoptera* by the *Parapleuræ*—along the middle of which, where it exists, the *Metasternum* runs. 1876 *Beneden's Anim. Parasites* 161 In the autumn of 1871, nearly all the *mesostomes perished through the presence of those parasitical organisms. 1887 WARD tr. *Sachs' Physiol. Plants* 790 In addition to those with macrostylous and those with microstylous flowers, there is found also one with *mesostylous flowers. 1886 GÜNTHER in *Encycl. Brit.* XX. 466/1 The surviving *Mesosuchian Crocodiles of the Jurassic period. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 976 It [a cardiac murmur] is manifested only of the ventricular contraction, and is *mesosystolic. 1865 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* III, *Mesotartaric Acid. 1859 ALLMAN in *Ann. Nat. Hist.* Ser. III. IV. 140 They [*sc.* tentacles] surround an orifice in the *mesotheque. 1871 — *Gymnobl. Hydroids* Introd. 15 *Mesotheca*. 1876 ALSTON in *Proc. Zool. Soc.* 98 Fossil genus:—*Mesotherium. 1883 FLOWER in *Encycl. Brit.* XV. 372/2 The extinct South American *Mesotherium*, half Rodent and half Ungulate. 1846 OWEN *Vertebr. Anim.* I. *Fishes* v. 110 The stylo-hyoid being attached near the junction of the epi-tympanic with the *meso-tympanic. 1876 tr. *Wagner's Gen. Pathol.* 339 The..*meso-uterine folds of the peritoneum. 1890 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, **Mesovarium*.

Mesoblast (me·sǫblæst). *Biol.* [f. MESO- + -BLAST.] The middle layer of the BLASTODERM, between the EPIBLAST and the HYPOBLAST. Also *attrib.* Hence **Me·soblasted** *a.*, having a mesoblast.

1857 AGASSIZ *Contrib. Nat. Hist. U.S.A.* II. 467 The mesoblast of the yolk cell. *Ibid.* II. 617 Some of the mesoblasted cells are united to those without mesoblasts. 1873 F. M. BALFOUR in *Q. Jrnl. Microsc. Sci.* XIII. 269 The mesnblast-cells.

Mesoblastic (mesǫblæ·stik), *a.* [f. MESOBLAST + -IC.] Of or pertaining to the mesoblast.

1874 F. M. BALFOUR in *Q. Jrnl. Microsc. Sci.* XIV. 342 Primitively a true hypoblastic structure which has only by adaptation become an apparently mesoblastic one. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 201 Histologically all new growths may be classed in two series, viz. those of mesoblastic and those of epithelial origin.

Mesobranchial: see MESO-.

‖ **Mesocæcum** (mesǫsī·kŏm). *Anat.* A fold of peritonæum which sometimes supports the cæcum. Hence **Mesocæ·cal** *a.*, pertaining to the mesocæcum (in recent Dicts.).

1835–6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 14/2 On the right side..it [the peritoneum] sometimes forms a fold termed *mesocæcum*. 1858 H. GRAY *Anat.* 602 The Meso-Cæcum .. serves to connect the back part of the cæcum with the right iliac fossa.

Mesocalcaneal, -camphoric: see MESO-.

Mesocarp (me·sǫkaːp). *Bot.* [ad. mod.L. *mesocarpium, -carpum, -carpus*, f. Gr. *μέσο-ς* MESO- + *καρπός* fruit.] The middle layer of a PERICARP.

1849 BALFOUR *Man. Bot.* § 524 The pericarp consists usually of three layers: the external, or epicarp..; the middle, or mesocarp..; and the internal, or endocarp. 1861 BENTLEY *Man. Bot.* 300.

† **Mesocephale, -cephalon**, = MESENCEPHAL(E, MESENCEPHALON.

1839–47 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* III. 684/2 The mesocephale or mesencephale. 1853 CARPENTER *Hum. Phys.* (ed. 4) 734 The part of the encephalon known as the Tuber Annulare to which the name of Mesocephale has been given. 1890 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Mesocephalon*, the *Mesencephalon*.

Mesocephalic (me·sǫsɪfæ·lik), *a.* [f. Gr. *μέσο-ς* MESO- + *κεφαλ-ή* head + -IC: cf. CEPHALIC.]

1. *Craniometry.* Applied to skulls intermediate between *dolichocephalic* and *brachycephalic*; also to skulls having a capacity of from 1350 to 1450 cubic centimetres.

1866 MEIGS *Observ. Cran. Forms Amer. Aborigines* 13 Such deviations fall naturally into an intermediate or mesocephalic group. 1887 *Academy* 17 Sept. 188/1 The Tchuds are either mesocephalic or dolichocephalic.

2. Anat. *Mesocephalic flexure*: 'the angular bend of the floor of the craniospinal cavity'.

1858 HUXLEY in *Proc. Roy. Soc.* IX. 421.

So ‖ **Mesocephali** (-se·fălə͡ɪ) *sb. pl.* [mod.L.], persons having mesocephalic skulls; **Mesoce·phalism, Mesoce·phaly**, the condition or quality of being mesocephalic.

1866 MEIGS *Observ. Cran. Forms Amer. Aborigines* 24 The Huron crania belong partly to the Brachycephali, and partly to the Mesocephali. 1885 *Athenæum* 27 June 827/1 In the former locality there exists a taller, darker, and more brachycephalic race, whilst in the latter mesocephaly prevails. 1888 CLEVENGER in *Amer. Nat.* XXII. 614 Departures from a width of eight and length of ten (mesocephalism)..determine whether the skull shall be considered long [etc.].

Mesocephalon: see MESOCEPHALE.

Mesochil, -cœle, -cœlian: see MESO-.

‖ **Mesocolon** (mesǫkōʊ·lǫn). *Anat.* [mod.L., a. Gr. *μεσόκωλον*, f. *μεσο-* MESO- + *κῶλον* COLON.] The fold of peritonæum which supports the colon.

1693 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Mesocolon*, that part of the Mesentery which is continued to the great Guts. 1835–6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 14/1 The folds respectively termed right and left *mesocolon*. 1858 H. GRAY *Anat.* 602 The ascending Meso-Colon.

Hence **Mesocolic** (-kǫ·lik) *a.*, relating to the mesocolon.

1831 R. KNOX *Cloquet's Anat.* 761 Mesocolic Ganglia. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 806 Mesocolic or mesenteric hernia.

Mesocoracoid: see MESO-.

Mesocracy (mesǫ·krăsi). *rare*—°. [f. Gr. *μέσο-ς* middle + *-κρατία*: see -CRACY.] Government by the middle classes. So **Mesocra·tic** *a.*, pertaining to the middle classes.

1857 *Q. Rev.* Oct. 331 Rugby, a local foundation of mere mesocratic origin. 1895 *Funk's Stand. Dict., Mesocracy.*

Mesocuneiform to **Mesocyst**: see MESO-.

Mesode (me·sǫud). *Gr. Prosody.* [ad. Gr. *μεσῳδός*, f. *μεσο-* MESO- + *ᾠδή* ODE.] A portion of a choral ode, coming between the strophe and antistrophe, without anything to correspond with it.

1850 MURE *Lit. Greece* III. 58. 1888 J. GOW *Comp. to Classics* 285 We are told that mesodes and epodes were sung by the chorus standing.

Mesoderm (me·sǫdə͡ɪm). [f. Gr. *μέσο-ς* middle + *δέρμα* skin.]

1. *Bot.* a. 'The middle layer of tissue in the shell of the spore-case of an urn-moss' (*Treas. Bot.* 1866). b. 'The middle layer of the bark' (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1890).

1874 *Q. Jrnl. Microsc. Sci.* XIV. 159 As soon as the two primary germ-lamellæ begin to differentiate and to develop between them a middle cell-layer (mesoderm).

2. *Biol.* = MESOBLAST.

1873 W. S. DALLAS (tr. Haeckel) in *Ann. Mag. Nat. Hist.* Ser. IV. XI. 257 The origin of the Mesoderm. 1877 RAY LANKESTER in *Q. Jrnl. Microsc. Sci.* XVII. 416 The contractile fibrous appendices of the ectoderm .. formed a .. primitive mesoderm or mesoblast.

attrib. 1874 *Q. Jrnl. Microsc. Sci.* XIV. 159 The mesoderm-layer. 1884 *Ibid.* XXIV. 90 To determine the part played by wandering mesoderm cells immediately below the thin ectoderm.

Hence **Mesode·rmal, Mesode·rmic** *adjs.*, of, relating to, or derived from the mesoderm.

1877 HUXLEY *Anat. Inv. Anim.* iii. 143 The mesodermal layer. 1884 *Q. Jrnl. Microsc. Sci.* XXIV. 107 Mesodermal Plasmodia, are..found even in the higher animals, not excepting Man himself. 1884 W. PATTEN *ibid.* 590 The fusion of the edges of the mesodermic folds.

Mesodesm, -diastolic: see MESO-.

Mesodic (mesǫ·dik), *a. Gr. Prosody.* [ad. Gr. *μεσῳδικός*, f. *μεσῳδός* MESODE.] Relating to, or having the character of, a mesode.

1879 J. W. WHITE tr. *Schmidt's Rhythmic & Metric* 127 A mesodic period arises from the inverted arrangement of the sentences about an interlude. 1883 JEBB *Sophocles, Œdipus Tyr.* p. lxxxi, A mesodic stichic period.

Mesodont, -duodenum: see MESO-.

‖ **Mesogaster** (mesogæ·stəɹ). *Anat.* [mod.L., f. Gr. *μέσο-ς* middle + *γαστήρ* stomach.] A membrane, part of the mesentery, which attaches the stomach to the dorsal wall of the abdomen. Hence **Mesoga·stral** *a.*, pertaining to the mesogaster (in recent Dicts.).

1807 HOME in *Phil. Trans.* XCVII. 161 The pyloric [portion] is bent upwards and retained in that situation by the mesogaster. 1884 T. J. PARKER *Zootomy* 297 The mesogaster, or sheet of peritoneum connecting the stomach with the dorsal wall of the abdominal cavity.

Mesogastric (mesogæ·strik), *a.* [f. mod.L. MESOGASTRIUM + -IC.]

1. *Anat.* Pertaining to the mesogastrium.

1843 OWEN *Invertebr. Anim.* Gloss., *Mesogastric*. The membrane which forms the medium of attachment of the stomach to the walls of the abdomen. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 806 Meso-gastric hernia.

2. *Zool.* In Crustacea, the middle lobe of the gastro-hepatic area of the carapace.

1877 HUXLEY *Anat. Inv. Anim.* vi. 343 A median mesogastric lobe.

‖ **Mesogastrium** (mesogæ·strĭŏm). *Anat.* Also (anglicized) **Mesogastry** (-gæstri). [mod. L., f. Gr. *μέσο-ς* middle + *γαστρ-*, *γαστήρ* stomach.]

1. The umbilical region of the abdomen, between the EPIGASTRIUM and the HYPOGASTRIUM.

1855 in OGILVIE.

2. = MESOGASTER.

1846 OWEN *Vertebr. Anim.* I. *Fishes* ix. 241 There are two parallel mesogastries in the Eel. 1878 BELL tr. *Gegenbaur's Comp. Anat.* 565 The changes of the mesogastrium.

Mesogenous to **Mesognathy**: see MESO-.

† **Me·sograph.** *Obs.* [ad. Gr. *μεσόγραφον* mean proportional, neut. of *μεσόγραφος*, f. *μέσο-ς* middle + *-γραφος* written.] In quot. taken = MESOLABE.

1579–80 NORTH *Plutarch, Marcellus* (1595) 335 Certain instruments, called Mesolabes or Mesographes, which serue to find these meane lines proportionall.

Mesohepar to **Mesohippus**: see MESO-.

Mesolabe (me·sǫlēɪb). [ad. L. *mesolabium* (Vitr.), f. Gr. *μεσόλαβος* (or *-ον*), f. *μέσο-ς* middle, mean + *λαβ-*, *λαμβάνειν* to take.] An instrument used for finding mean proportional lines.

1579–80 [see MESOGRAPH]. 1675 COLLINS in Rigaud *Corr. Sci. Men* (1841) I. 219 The spiral line, with M. Tschirnhaus's angular instrument, makes the mesolabe. 1789 BUANEV *Hist. Mus.* III. ii. 164 The Mesolabe..is said to have been invented either by Archytas of Tarentum or Eratosthenes for the purpose of halving an interval.

Mesole (me·sǫul). *Min.* [Named by Berzelius 1822 to indicate its close relation to *mesolite*.] A variety of THOMSONITE.

1822 BERZELIUS in *Edin. Philos. Jrnl.* VII. 6 These two minerals have a great relation with the Mesolite; and in order to distinguish them, I shall call the upper stratum Mesole, and the lower grained Mesoline. 1843 PORTLOCK *Geol.* 210 Angite occurs..in the cavities of the augitic rock at Portrush, coated by, and associated with, Mesole.

Mesoline (me·sǫlə͡ɪn). *Min.* [Named by Berzelius 1822: cf. prec.] A white granular mineral found in the Faroe Islands, 'now classed with levynite' (Chester *Names Min.* 1896).

1822 [see MESOLE].

Mesolite (me·sǫlə͡ɪt). *Min.* [ad. G. *mesolith* (1816), f. Gr. *μέσο-ς* middle: see -LITE.] A hydrated silicate of aluminium, calcium, and sodium: so named because it is chemically intermediate between natrolite and scolecite.

1822 BERZELIUS in *Edin. Philos. Jrnl.* VII. 8 Mesolite or Needlestone from Faroe. 1883 M. F. HEDDLE in *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 423/2 *Fargite*, consisting of two equivalents of natrolite and one of scolecite, and *Mesolite*, consisting of one of the former, and two of the latter.

Mesolithic (mesǫli·þik), *a.* [f. Gr. *μέσο-ς* middle + *λίθος* stone + -IC.]

1. *Geol.* Used for MESOZOIC. *rare.*

1876 RAY LANKESTER tr. *Haeckel's Hist. Creat.* II. xv. 12 The mesolithic or mesozoic epoch.

2. *Archæol.* Belonging to a part of the prehistoric 'stone age' intermediate between the PALÆOLITHIC and the NEOLITHIC.

1888 *Pall Mall G.* 2 Apr. 10/1 Penka's attempt, in his 'Herkunft der Arier', to make out a mesolithic age. 1892 J. A. BROWN in *Jrnl. Anthrop. Inst.* XXII. 94, I venture to suggest the following four divisions...1. Eolithic...2. Palæolithic...3. Mesolithic...4. Neolithic.

Mesolobar, -lobe: see MESO-.

Mesology (mesǫ·lŏdʒi). [f. Gr. *μέσο-ν* (neut. of *μέσος* middle, taken as = 'medium') + -LOGY.]

1. The science of means (of attaining happiness). Only in Bentham.

1811–31 BENTHAM *Logic* App., Wks. 1843 VIII. 283/2 Then so it is that with that portion of the field of eudæmonics which is occupied by mesology, the whole field of ontology..is coincident.

2. The science of the relations between organisms and their environment.

1883 QUAIN *Dict. Med.* 973 *Mesology*...This term, recently introduced by Bertillon, conveniently expresses the investigation of the mutual relationship existing between living beings and their surroundings.

Hence **Mesolo·gical** *a.*, pertaining to mesology; **Meso·logist**, a student of mesology (*Funk's Stand. Dict.* 1895).

1886 *Buck's Handbk. Med. Sci.* III. 382/1 Grapes contain the mineral salts in variable quantity, the proportion depending on the variety of grape and on mesological conditions.

Mesomere to **Mesometry**: see MESO-.

Mesomur, obs. form of MIDSUMMER.

Mesomyodian (me·sǫˌməiˌǫʊ·diăn), *a. Ornith.* [f. mod.L. *Mesomyodi* pl. (see below) + -AN.

The mod.L. name was introduced by Garrod in 1876, and was f. MESO- + *-myodi* after *Polymyodi*, a name introduced by Joh. Müller 1847 for one of the three groups in his classification of Passerine birds; this name was intended to express 'having many song-muscles', being (irreg.) f. πολυ- (see POLY-) + μυ-ς muscle + ᾠδή song.]

Belonging to the *Mesomyodi*, a division of birds in

which the intrinsic muscles of the syrinx are inserted at the middle of the upper bronchial half-ring.

1876 Garrod in *Proc. Zool. Soc.* 518 A large collection of Mesomyodian birds. 1884 Coues *Key N. Amer. Birds* (ed. 2) 239 The mesomyodian or clamatorial type of syrinx.

So **Mesomyo·dic, Mesomyo·dous** *adjs.*

1890 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Mesomyodic*, having lateral muscles only, as the syrinx of the Suborder *Clamatores*, Order *Coracomorphæ*. 1890 *Century Dict.*, *Mesomyodous*.

‖ **Meson** (me·sɒn). *Anat.*, etc. [mod.L., a. Gr. *μέσον*, neut. of *μέσος* middle.] The median plane, which divides a body into two symmetrical halves.

1883 Wilder & Gage *Anat. Techn.* 33 The Meson..is a plane passing lengthwise of the body and dividing the whole into approximately equal and similar right and left halves. 1889 *Buck's Handbk. Med. Sci.* VIII. 536/1 The meson, mesal, or medial plane.

Meson, obs. form of Mason, Mizzen.

Mesonasal: see Meso-.

†**Mesonaut.** *Obs.*—° [ad. L. *mesonauta*, one in the middle bench of rowers, f. Gr. *μέσο-ς* middle + *ναύτης* sailor.]

1623 Cockeram, *Messonant* [sic], a gally-slaue.

Mesondewe, -dieu, etc., obs. ff. Measondue.

Mesonemertine: see Meso-.

‖ **Mesonephron, -nephros** (mesɒne·frɒn, -ne·frɒs). *Zool.* [mod.L., f. Gr. *μέσο-ς* middle + *νεφρός* kidney.] The Wolffian body. Hence **Mesone·phric** *a.*, pertaining to the mesonephron.

1877 Ray Lankester in *Q. Jrnl. Microsc. Sci.* XVII. 429 The archinephric duct splits into two—one, the 'pronephric duct'..; the other, 'the mesonephric duct', in connection with the posterior nephridia, forming the 'mesonephron'. 1887 *Amer. Nat.* XXI. 590 It is possible..that ..an anterior section (pronephros) came to be developed earlier than the posterior portion (mesonephros). 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV. 340 A mesonephric fold of peritoneum.

Mesonotal to **Mesophlebitis:** see Meso-.

‖ **Mesophlœum** (mesoflī·ŏm). *Bot.* [mod.L., f. Gr. *μέσο-ς* middle + *φλοιός* bark.] The middle layer of the bark in exogens.

1839 Lindley *Introd. Bot.* I. ii. (ed. 3) 89 The Mesophlœum of Link, or cellular integument of others, composed of cells, usually green.

Mesophragm (me·sŏfræm). *Zool.* Also in Latin form. [ad. mod.L. *mesophragma*, f. Gr. *μέσο-ς* middle + *φράγμα* partition.] **a.** *Ent.* The partition that separates the mesothorax from the metathorax. **b.** In Crustacea (see quot. 1880).

1826 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* III. 379 *Mesophragma* (the Mesophragm). 1880 Huxley *Crayfish* iv. 158 The inner prolongation of the capital [of an endosternite] is called the mesophragm. 1899 D. Sharp *Insects* II. (Camb. Nat. Hist.) 312 The great mesophragma.

Hence **Mesophragmal** (mesofræ·gmăl) *a.*, pertaining to the mesophragm.

1877 Huxley *Anat. Inv. Anim.* vi. 310 The mesophragmal [apophysis].

Mesophyll (me·sofil). *Bot.* Also in Latin form. [ad. mod.L. *mesophyllum*, f. Gr. *μέσο-ς* middle + *φύλλον* leaf.]

1. The parenchyma of a leaf; the soft inner tissue of a leaf lying between the upper and lower layers of epidermis. (Cf. Diachyma, Diploe.)

1839 Lindley *Introd. Bot.* (ed. 3) 122 The cellular tissue of which the rest of the leaf is composed is parenchyma, which Link then calls *diachyma*, or that immediately beneath the two surfaces *cortex*, and the intermediate substance *diploe*. De Candolle calls these two, taken together, the *mesophyllum*. 1848 — *Introd. Bot.* (ed. 4) I. 253 The cellular tissue of the bark, mesophyll or cortical integument.

attrib. 1881 Darwin *Veg. Mould* 41 Some of the mesophyll cells contained nothing but broken down granular matter.

2. The line of demarcation between a leaf and the leaf-stalk. ? *Obs.*

1839 Lindley *Introd. Bot.* II. v. (ed. 3) 319 The line of demarcation between the internode and petiole is called the *mesophytum*; that between the lamina and petiole the *mesophyllum*.

Mesophyllic (mesofi·lik), *a. Bot.* [f. Gr. *μέσο-ς* + *φύλλ-ον* leaf + -ic.] Belonging to or situated in the middle of a leaf.

1882-4 Cooke *Brit. Freshw. Algæ* I. 202 A tube..which.. proceeds as far as the mesophyllic parenchyma.

Mesophyte (me·sofəit). *Bot.* [f. Gr. *μέσο-ς* middle + *φυτόν* plant.]

1. A plant belonging to a class intermediate between hydrophytes and xerophytes, *i.e.* avoiding extremes of moisture and dryness.

1899 Halsted in *Pop. Sci. Monthly* Nov. 110. 1902 J. M. Coulter *Plant Studies* 175 There is a great middle region of medium water supply, and plants which occupy it are known as mesophytes, the plants of medium conditions.

2. (See quot.)

1890 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Mesophyte*, applied by Clarion to that which is commonly called the vital knot in plants, that is to say, the line of demarcation between the ascending and descending parts of the vegetable.

Hence **Mesophy·tic** *a.*, pertaining to or characterized by the class of plants called mesophytes.

1899 *Nat. Science* July 10 The mesophytic woods.

‖ **Mesophytum** (mesɒ·fitŏm). *Bot.* [mod.L. form of Mesophyte.] **a.** The line of demarcation between the internode and the petiole. **b.** = Mesophyte 2. 1839 [see Mesophyll 2]. In mod. Dicts.

Mesopic to **Mesopleuron:** see Meso-.

Mesopod, -pode (me·sɒpɒd, -pōud), *sb. Zool.* Anglicized form of Mesopodium.

1877 Ray Lankester in *Q. Jrnl. Microsc. Sci.* XVII. 431 Development of a mesopod (molluscan foot). 1890 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Mesopode*.

Mesopod (me·sŏpɒd), *a. Bot.* [ad. mod.L. *mesopod-us*, f. Gr. *μέσο-ς* (see Meso-) + *ποδ-*, *πούς* foot.] Having a short stalk centrally placed.

1857 Berkeley *Cryptog. Bot.* § 393 Hydnum in all its varied forms, resupinate, apodous, lateral, merismoid, and mesopod.

‖ **Mesopodium** (mesɒpō·diŏm). [mod.L., f. Gr. *μέσο-ς* middle + *ποδ-*, *πούς* foot: see -ium.]

1. *Zool.* The median region of the foot in mollusca.

1853 Huxley in *Phil. Trans.* CXLIII. I. 36 The posterior edge of the propodium carries a cup-shaped disk...This is commonly called the sucker...It may be called the mesopodium. 1883 Ray Lankester in *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 653/1 The foot of the Azygobranchia..often divided into..a fore, middle, and hind lobe, pro-, meso-, and metapodium.

2. *Bot.* The intermediate portion of the phyllopodium. 1895 Vines *Bot.* II. 45.

Hence **Mesopo·dial** *a.*, relating to the mesopodium. In recent Dicts.

Mesopotamia (mesŏpŏtē·miă). [a. Gr. *μεσοποταμία* (sc. *χωρά*) country between two rivers (applied spec. as below), f. *μέσο-ς* middle + *ποταμός* river.] A proper name for the tract between the Tigris and the Euphrates. Sometimes used *allusively* in etymological sense for: A country between two rivers.

1854 R. G. Latham *Native Races Russian Emp.* 177 The Doab, Entre Rios, or Mesopotamia, bounded by the rivers Obi and Irtish.

Mesopotamian (mesŏpŏtē·miăn), *a.* [f. prec. + -an.] Pertaining to Mesopotamia.

1880 R. S. Poole in *Encycl. Brit.* XI. 808/2 Mesopotamian cuneiform.

Mesopotamic (mesŏpŏtæ·mik), *a. rare.* [Formed as prec. + -ic.] Of the nature of a 'Mesopotamia' or district between two rivers.

1895 *Archæol. Æliana* XVII. II. 283 French antiquaries assign the mesopotamic part of Belgium as the birth-place of Caranusius.

‖ **Mesopterygium** (mesɒ|ptĕri·dʒiŏm). *Ichthyol.* [mod.L., f. Gr. *μέσο-ς* middle + *πτερύγιον* fin, dim. of *πτέρυξ* wing.] The central flat cartilaginous portion of the fin in certain fishes.

1878 Mivart in *Nature* 18 July 309/2 Three basal cartilages .. called respectively the *Propterygium*, the *Mesopterygium*, and the *Metapterygium*.

Hence **Mesoptery·gial** *a.*, pertaining to the mesopterygium. In recent Dicts.

Mesopterygoid (mesɒ|pte·rigoid). *Zool.* [f. Meso- + Pterygoid.]

1. In full *mesopterygoid process*: In birds, the part of the pterygoid which articulates with the palatine bone or the basipterygoid process of the splenoid, or with both.

1875 W. K. Parker in *Encycl. Brit.* III. 706/2 'Mesopterygoid process'. *Ibid.* 711/1 All the *Schizognathæ*, except the Fowl tribe, have 'meso-pterygoids'.

b. *Mesopterygoid fossa*: see quot.

1881 Mivart *Cat* iii. 70 The very considerable space included between the two pterygoid plates is called the mesopterygoid fossa, and that is single and median.

2. In teleostean fishes, a thin bony lamina in the skull, which fits against the upper edge of the pterygoid. 1890 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

Mesorchium to **Mesorostral:** see Meso-.

Mesorrhine, mesorhine (me·sorəin), *a. Anthropology.* [f. Gr. *μέσο-ς* middle + *ῥιν-*, *ῥίν* nose.] Applied by Broca to noses, skulls, or persons having a nasal index from 48 to 53 (intermediate between *leptorrhine* and *platyrrhine*).

1878 Flower in *Proc. Roy. Inst.* VIII. 616. 1896 A. H. Keane *Ethnol.* 284 Narrower nose, often mesorrhine and prominent.

Mesorrhinian, mesorhinian (mesori·niăn, mesorəi·niăn), *a.* and *sb. Anthropology.* [f. prec. + -ian.] **a.** *adj.* = Mesorrhine. **b.** *sb.* A person having a mesorrhine skull.

1878 Bartley tr. *Topinard's Anthrop.* II. ii. 257 The mesorrhinians, with the nasal skeleton moderate. 1887 *Nature* 10 Feb. 357/1 Including under the platyrhinian section all the black races, under the mesorhinian the yellow races.

‖ **Mesorrhinium, -inum** (mesori·niŏm, -əi·nŏm). *Ornith.* [mod.L., f. Gr. *μέσο-ς* middle + *ῥιν-*, *ῥίν* nose.] (See quots.)

1896 Mayne *Expos. Lex.*, *Mesorhinium*...Term used by Illiger for the part of the beak which is comprised between the two nostrils. 1892 Mivart *Elem. Ornithol.* 147 The part of the bill between the nostrils is called the *mesorhinum*.

Mesoscapula to **Mesoseismal:** see Meso-.

Mesoseme (me·sosēm). [a. F. *mésosème* (Broca), f. Gr. *μέσο-ς* middle + *σῆμα* sign, 'index'.] Of skulls: Having an orbital index from 84 to 89.

1878 Flower in *Proc. Roy. Inst.* VIII. 617 It is convenient to group them [orbital indices] into three—the high (*megaseme*), intermediate (*mesoseme*), and low (*microseme*). 1886 Macalister in *Jrnl. Anthrop. Inst.* XVI. 151 The average Fijian being platyrhine and mesoseme. 1896 *Nat. Science* Sept. 154 The skull is mesoseme (87·8).

‖ **Mesosoma** (mesosō·mă). *Zool.* Also anglicized **mesosome** (in Dicts.). [mod.L., f. Gr. *μέσο-ς* middle + *σῶμα* body.] **a.** In lamellibranchiate molluscs, the middle region of the body which gives rise to the foot. **b.** In Arachnids, the middle portion of the animal, between 'head' and 'tail'. Hence **Mesosoma·tic** *a.*, pertaining to the mesosoma.

1877 Huxley *Anat. Inv. Anim.* viii. 475 From the sides of the mesosoma .. the branchiæ project into the pallial cavity. 1893 Shipley *Zool. Invertebr.* xx. 391 The seventh appendage, or the first mesosomatic, consists of a semicircular plate-like structure hinged on to the body.

Mesosperm (me·sosp3m). *Bot.* [ad. mod.L. *mesosperm-um*, f. Gr. *μέσο-ς* middle + *σπέρμ-α* seed.] The middle coat or covering of a seed.

1849 Balfour *Man. Bot.* § 578 Sometimes the secundine remains distinct in the seed, forming what has been called a *mesosperm*. 1852 Henslow *Dict. Bot. Terms*, *Mesospermum*. Synonyme for Sarcodermis.

Mesospore (me·sospō1). *Bot.* Also in Latin from mesosporium. [ad. mod.L. *mesosporium*, f. Gr. *μέσο-ς* middle + *σπόρ-ος* seed.] The middle layer of a spore. Hence **Mesospo·ric** *a.*, pertaining to a mesospore (in recent Dicts.).

1882-4 Cooke *Brit. Fresh-w. Algæ* I. 109 The cell-contents surround themselves with a new layer of cellulose (mesosporium) within the original one (exosporium). *Ibid.* 311 Mesosporium, Mesospore.

Mesostaphyline, -stasis: see Meso-.

Mesosternal (mesostɔ·năl), *a.* and *sb.* [f. Mesosternum + -al.]

A. *adj.* Pertaining to the mesosternum.

1816 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* vi. (1843) I. 162 *note* 1, Those tribes of *Melolontha* F., that have mesosternal prominence. 1868 W. K. Parker *Shoulder-girdle Vertebr.* 119 The two additional meso-sternal segments of the Cyclodonts.

B. *sb.* A mesosternal part or element.

1854 Owen *Skel. & Teeth* in *Circ. Sci.* I. *Org. Nat.* 216 In some extinct chelonia the number of these lateral elements of the plastron is increased by an intercalated pair, which I have called, 'mesosternals'. 1868 W. K. Parker *Shoulder-girdle Vertebr.* 223 In Cercocebus there are five well-made meso-sternals.

‖ **Mesosternebra** (mesostɔ·nɪ̆bră). *Anat.* Also anglicized **-sterneber.** [mod.L., f. Gr. *μέσο-ς* middle + *sternebra*: see Sterneber.] Any of the sternebræ which intervene between the manubrium of the sternum and the ensiform appendage. Hence **Mesoste·rnebral** *a.* In recent Dicts.

Mesosternite (mesostɔ·nɪ̆ait). *Zool.* [f. Meso- + Sternite.] A mesosternal sternite.

1888 Rolleston & Jackson *Anim. Life* 303 [In the Geometrical Spider.] Mesosternite, surrounded by the basal joints of the four ambulatory limbs.

‖ **Mesosternum** (mesostɔ·nɪ̆ŏm). [mod.L., f. Meso- + Sternum.]

1. *Ent.* †**a.** In Kirby's use (see quot. 1826). **b.** By later writers applied to the middle 'sternum'.

1826 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* III. 566 The central part of the *medipectus*, or that which passes between the mid-legs when elevated, protruded, or otherwise remarkable, is called the *mesosternum* or mid-breast-bone. 1836 Shuckard tr. *Burmeister's Man. Entom.* 82 The *mesosternum* (*peristethium* of Kirby and Spence), is, as well as the scapulæ, divided into two parts.

2. *Anat.* That part of the breast-bone lying between the præsternum and the xiphisternum.

1868 W. K. Parker *Shoulder-girdle Vertebr.* 71 The three great divisions into manubrium (præ-sternum), body (mesosternum), and xiphoid process (xiphisternum) are marked out. 1872 Nicholson *Palæont.* 399 All the other ribs are connected with the mesosternum.

Mesostethium to **Mesotherium:** see Meso-.

Mesotherm (me·sɒp3m). *Bot.* [f. Gr. *μέσο-ς* middle + *θερμός* hot. Cf. Meiotherm.] A plant requiring a moderately warm temperature.

1875 J. G. Baker *Bot. Geog.* 48 Mesotherm, characteristic of the subtropical or warm-temperate zone, and therefore needing to be entirely protected from frost. *Ibid.* 51 Mesotherm types. *Ibid.* 102 Geographical Range of the Mesotherms.

Mesothesis (mesɒ·pĭsis). *rare.* [f. Gr. *μέσο-ς* middle + *θέσις* action of putting: see Thesis.] Something interposed, serving to connect or reconcile antagonistic agencies or principles.

1812-29 Coleridge in *Lit. Rem.* (1838) III. 93 Both alike have quenched the Holy Spirit, as the mesothesis of the two. 1849 Froude *Nemesis of Faith* 157 The final mesothesis for the reconciling the two great rivals, Science and Revelation.

Mesothet (me·sɒpet). *rare*—1. [f. Gr. *μέσο-ς* middle + *θετόν* neut. of *θετός* placed.] = prec. (In quot. humorously pedantic.)

1850 Kingsley *Alt. Locke* xxi, A curious pair of 'poles' the two made; the mesothet whereof, by no means a *punctum indifferens*, but a true connecting spiritual idea, stood on the table—in the whisky-bottle.

So **Mesothetic** (mesɒpe·tik), **Mesothe·tical** *adjs.*, occupying a middle position.

1837 *Fraser's Mag.* XVI. 97 Mr. Carlyle avoids the synthetical, as well as the analytical, and looks down upon both from the mesotbetical. 1848 Kingsley *Yeast* xv, An honest development of the true idea of Protestantism, which is paving the way to the mesothetic art of the future. 1871 — in *Devon. Assoc. Trans.* IV. 384 While the true philosopher sought for the mesothetic or middle truth.

‖ **Mesothorax** (mesoþō·ræks). *Ent.* [mod.L., f. MESO- + THORAX.] The middle ring or segment of the thorax of insects.

1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* xxxiii. III. 371. 1833 G. R. GRAY *Entom. Australia* I. 18 The mesothorax [of *Trigonoderus Childrenii*] is somewhat triangular in form, and keeled down the centre. 1870 ROLLESTON *Anim. Life* 77 The dorsal part of the mesothorax.

Hence **Mesothoracic** (-þŏræ·sik) *a.*, pertaining to the mesothorax.

1839 WESTWOOD *Mod. Classif. Insects* I. 17 The mesothoracic and metathoracic segments. 1878 RILEY in *Amer. Nat.* XII. 215 The first pair of spiracles are distinctly mesothoracic and dorsal in the triangulin.

Mesotonic (mesoto·nik), *a. Mus.* [f. Gr. *μέσο-ς* middle + *τόν-ος* TONE + -IC.] = MEAN TONE *adj.*

1864 A. J. ELLIS in *Proc. Roy. Soc.* XIII. 408 This is known as the System of Mean Tones, or the *Mesotonic System*, as it will be here termed. 1896 A. J. HIPKINS *Pianoforte* 103 To extend Mesotonic or Mean tone tuning to the keys of E flat and A flat major.

‖ **Mesotrocha** (meso·trŏkă), *sb. pl.* Also -æ. [mod.L., f. Gr. *μέσο-ς* middle + *τροχός* wheel, rim.] Ciliated larvæ of polychætous annelids in which one or more rows of cilia encircle the middle of the body. Hence **Meso·trochal** *a.*, also **Meso·trochous** *a.* (in recent Dicts.), having a ciliated ring round the middle.

1877 HUXLEY *Anat. Inv. Anim.* v. 243 Mesotrocha. *Ibid.* 248 A mesotrochal Annelidan larva. 1888 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* 606 Mesotrochae.

Mesotympanic : see MESO-.

† **Me·sotype.** *Min. Obs.* [a.F. *mésotype* (Haüy 1801), f. Gr. *μέσο-ς* middle + *τύπος* TYPE.] A name including the minerals now called natrolite, scolecite, mesolite, and thomsonite.

(The form of the crystal is intermediate between those of analcite and stilbite; hence the name.)

1804 *Edin. Rev.* III. 311 The mezotype corresponds to the fibrous and acicular zeolytes. 1815 MACCULLOCH in *Trans. Geol. Soc.* III. 86 Mesotype..is found in three states, a compact, a mealy, and a crystallized form. 1852 TH. ROSS *Humboldt's Trav.* II. xvii. 79 Crystals of pyroxene and mesotype.

Meso-uterine to **-ventriculum** : see MESO-.

Mesoxalic (mesǫksæ·lik), *a. Chem.* [f. MESO- + OXALIC *a.*] *Mesoxalic acid* : a dibasic acid obtained from alloxan. Hence **Mesoxalate** (mesǫ·ksălēt), a salt of mesoxalic acid. Also **Mesoxalyl** (mesǫ·ksălil), the radical of alloxan (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1890); *attrib.* in **mesoxalyl-urea**, a synonym of alloxan (ibid.).

1838 R. D. THOMSON in *British Ann. for* 1839, 381 Mesoxalic acid..mesoxalate of barytes. 1878 KINGZETT *Anim. Chem.* 203 Alloxan is resolved into urea and mesoxalic acid by the action of boiling baryta water. 1894 *Nature* 26 July 311/2 Bismuth mesoxalate. 1895 THOMSON & BLOXAM *Bloxam's Chem.* 749 Alloxan .. or mesoxalyl-urea.

Mesozeugma : see MESO-.

‖ **Mesozoa** (mesozō·ă), *pl. Zool.* [mod.L., f. Gr. *μέσο-ς* middle + *ζῷα* pl. of *ζῷον* animal.] Van Beneden's name for forms intermediate in structure between the Protozoa and the Metazoa. (The Orthonectids and Dicycmids, which he placed in this division, are now recognized as Metazoa, but it is believed that true Mesozoa exist.) Also *sing.* **Mesozo·on**, one of the mesozoa.

1877 *Q. Jrnl. Microsc. Sci.* XVII. 144 The 'Mesozoa'.. may be characterized as multicellular organisms, composed of two kinds of cells, one layer of which..is a true ectoderm; whilst the second layer..constitutes the endoderm. 1877 HUXLEY *Anat. Inv. Anim.* 676 The representatives of a distinct division, the Mesozoa, intermediate between the Protozoa and the Metazoa. 1892 *Ann. & Mag. Nat. Hist.* Ser. VI. IX. 79 The Mesozoon *Salinella*.

Mesozoic (mesozō·ik), *a. Geol.* [f. Gr. *μέσο-ς* middle + *ζῷον* animal + -IC.] The name given by Phillips to the secondary period, intermediate between the PALÆOZOIC and the CAINOZOIC.

1840 J. PHILLIPS in *Penny Cycl.* XVII. 154/1 Corresponding terms (as Palæozoic, Mesozoic, Kainozoic, &c.) may be made, nor will these necessarily require change upon every new discovery. 1861 J. R. GREENE *Man. Anim. Kingd., Cælent.* 239 Mesozoic, Cainozoic, and Recent Corals, which occur in more than one Geological Period. 1880 HAUGHTON *Phys. Geog.* vi. 269 The Marsupials of the Mesozoic strata.

† **Me·spile.** *Obs.* Also 6 **mespy(l)le, myspylle.** [ad. L. *mespilus, -um, -a*, a. Gr. *μέσπιλον, μεσπίλη*, whence (ultimately) MEDLAR.] A medlar.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* xvii. cxxxvi. (E. Mus. MS.), Þe sauour þerof [the fruit of the rose] is bitinge and somdele soure as þe sauour [of] mespiles. 1500 BOLLARD tr. *Godfredi on Pallad.*, Of mespyles v. medlers. 1545 RAYNOLD *Byrth Mankynde* 81 Wyld peres, medlers or myspylles.

‖ **Mespilus** (me·spilŭs). *Gardening.* [L.; see prec.] Applied to certain ornamental trees formerly included in the genus *Mespilus*, but now placed in the genus *Cratægus*.

1767 ABERCROMBIE *Ev. Man his own Gard.* (1803) 606 Hardy kinds of flowering shrubs and trees .. such as .. mezereons, mespiluses. 1885 LADY BRASSEY *The Trades* 397 Planted..with oranges, lemons, hibiscus, and mespilus.

‖ **Me·splier.** *Obs.* [a. OF. *mesplier* (= *nesplier*, mod.F. *nèflier*), f. *mesple* (= *nesple*, mod.F. *nèfle*) :—L. *mespilus* ; see MESPILE.] A medlar-tree.

1480 CAXTON *Ovid's Met.* x. iv. (Roxb. Club), To this assemblement came..Lawrers, Mespliers [etc.].

Mespresion, Mesprise, etc., obs. ff. MISPRISION, MISPRISE.

‖ **Mesquin** (męskæn̆), *a.* [Fr.] Mean, sordid, shabby.

1706 EVELYN *Acc. Architects & Archit.* (ed. 2) 10 They [*sc.* the Moors] set up those Slender and Misquine [*sic*] Pillars..and other incongruous Props. 1828 MARQ. NORMANBY *Engl. in France* II. 102 It heightens the beauty of the picturesque, and slurs over the *mesquin* and the mean. 1871 KINGSLEY *At Last* ii, The mesquin and scrofulous visages, which crowd our alleys.

† **Mesquita, mesquit** [1]. *Obs.* Forms : *α.* 6 **meschita, -quito, moskyta, -quita,** 6–7 **mes-, mezquita,** 7 **mescita, -keeto, -keito, -kita, mosquetto, -quito.** *β.* 6 **muscot,** 6–7 **meskit,** 7 **machit, meschit(e, -cuite, mesked, mes-, mosquit(e,** 7–8 **meskite.** [a. Sp. *mezquita* and It. *meschita*, ad. African Arab. *masgid*, dial. pronunciation of MASJID. Some of the *β* forms may come directly from Arab.] = MOSQUE.

α. 1576 EDEN *Trav. W. & E. Indies* (1577) 365 b, A Temple or Meschita. 1598 W. PHILLIP *Linschoten* I. xliii. 79 The Moores like wise haue their Mesquitos. 1599 HAKLUYT *Voy.* II. i. 208 This famous and sumptuous Mosquita hath 99. gates, and 5. steeples. 1627 R. ASHLEY *Almansor* 9 The Friday .. hee .. went in solemnitie to the great Mesquita. 1657 HOWELL *Londinop.* 384 The Gran Cairo in Egypt, a City .. having five and thirty thousand Meskeetos. 1661 COWLEY *Cromwell* Verses & Ess. (1669) 73 They said he [*sc.* Cromwell] ..would have sold .. St. Peters (even at his own Westminster) to the Turks for a Mosquito.

β. *c* 1564 A. JENKINSON in *Hakluyt's Voy.* (1598) I. 347 Prince Ismael lieth buried in a faire Meskit. 1590 WEBBE *Trav.* (Arb.) 21 In the said Cittie [*sc.* Cairo], there is 12 thousand Churches, which they tearme Muscots. 1612 BREREWOOD *Lang. & Relig.* xxvi. 227 The publick service of the Jews and of the Mahumetans, in their synagogues and meskeds. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 229 There is also a Meschit there for the Arabians and Turkes. *Ibid.* v. xvii. 538 They neuer goe to their Watches before they haue prayed in the Mesquit. 1658 PHILLIPS, *Meskite*, a Church, or Synagogue among the Turks and Moors. 1665 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (1677) 308 They.. lodge the Carcass not in the Machits or Churches but Church-yards.

Mesquite, mesquit [2] (me·skīt, meskī·t). Also **mezquit(e, mezkeet, mesketis, muskeet.** [a. Mexican Sp. *mezquite*.]

1. Either of two leguminous trees growing in S.W. North America, *Prosopis juliflora* (honey mesquite), and *P. pubescens* (screw-pod mesquite).

1851 MAYNE REID *Scalp Hunt.* i. 14 Here and there are trees of acacia and mezquite, the denizens of the desert land. 1854 BARTLETT *Mex. Boundary* I. iv. 75 The mezquit .. belongs to the same natural family as our locust. 1872 SCHELE DE VERE *Americanisms* 121 The *Mesquite* or *Muskeet* (Algarobia glandulosa), a bastard-locust.

2. In full *mesquite-grass* : A general name for grasses growing in the neighbourhood of the mesquite tree, esp. the genera *Bouteloua* and *Buchloe*.

1851 MAYNE REID *Scalp Hunt.* xxvi. 187 A desert country, covered with wild sage and mezquite. 1857 OLMSTED *Journ. Texas* 135 A great change occurred here in the prairie grass —we had reached the mesquit grass. 1904 *Blackw. Mag.* Nov. 649/2 A shimmering prairie of mesquite.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *mesquite bush, flour, leaf, tree, wood*; **mesquite bean,** the pod of the mesquite tree ; **mesquite grass** (see 2).

1869 in *Daily News* Sept. (1892) 6/7 He ate a few green pods and leaves of a *mezquit bush...A few *mezquit beans. 1887 F. FRANCIS Jun. *Saddle & Mocassin* 73 Wave after wave of rolling country sparsely covered with *mesketis*-bush. 1854 BARTLETT *Explor. Texas*, etc. II. 217 The *mezquit flour, which is ground very fine, has a sickish sweetness. 1859 MARCY *Prairie Trav.* 291 There is but little grass here, but in the season the *mesquite leaves are a good substitute. 1860 *Merc. Marine Mag.* VII. 212 A few..*mesquit trees are now and then met with. 1891 C. ROBERTS *Adrift Amer.* 149, I used to hitch up a team and go out on the prairie and pick up *mesquite wood.

† **Mesqui·tical,** *a. Obs.* In 7 **meschiticall.** [f. MESQUITA + -ICAL.] Pertaining to a mosque.

1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 315 The multitudes of other Churches, as silly captiued Damsels, attending and following thee into this Meschiticall slauerie.

Mesquito, variant of MESQUITA *Obs.*

Mess (mes), *sb.* Forms: 3–6 **mes,** (3 **meisse**), 4–5 **mees,** 4–7 **messe,** 5–6 **mese,** *Sc.* **mais,** (6 *Sc.* **meis,** 7 *Sc.* **meiss**), 5–7 **measse,** 6 **mease, meace** (**meesse, meece**), 5– **mess.** [a. OF. *mes* = sense 1 below (mod.F. *mets* viand, dish) = It. *messo* course of a repast :—late L. *missum*, neut. pa. pple. of L. *mittĕre* to send (in Rom. use, to put).]

I. Portion of food (and transferred uses).

1. A serving of food ; a course of dishes ; a prepared dish (of a specified kind of food). Now only *arch.* exc. as in 2.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 12559 Noþer durst þai..brek þair brede, ne tast þair mes Til he .. wit beniscun þaim badd. *c* 1330 *King of Tars* 86 The Soudan sat at his des, Iserved of his furste mes. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xxxiv. 154 þai bring him mete and euermare fyfe meesez togyder. *c* 1425 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 658/8 *Hoc frustrum*, mese, gobyt. 1577 HOLINSHED *Chron.* III. 920/1 The which [servants] togither kept also a continuall messe in the hall. 1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* IV. i. 211, I will chop her into Messes : Cuckold me? 1631 HEYWOOD *Eng. Eliz.* (1641) 175 Before the second messe came in, he fell sick at the table. 1751 HUME *A Dialogue* in *Eng. Princ. Morals* 228 My friend Alcheic form'd once a Party for my Entertainment,..and each of us brought his Mess along with him. 1819 BYRON *Juan* II. xli, For want of water, and their solid mess Was scant enough. 1841 JAMES *Brigand* xix, Here comes the old woman with my mess of food. 1888 STEVENSON *Black Arrow* 144 Three or four men sat drinking ale and eating a hasty mess of eggs.

fig. 1563 FOXE *A. & M.* (1583) II. 1845/2 What an euill messe of handling this Whittle had, and bow he was..all to beaten..manifestly may appeare. 1603 DEKKER *Wonderfull Yeare* C j b, Most blisfull Monarch..Seru'd with a messe of kingdomes. *a* 1764 LLOYD *Poet* Poet. Wks. 1774 II. 17 As colleges, who duly bring Their mess of verse to every king. 1770 N. NICHOLLS in *Corr. w. Gray* (1843) 117 In hopes of learning a little profane history to mix with my divine, which is really a bad mess by itself.

† b. *Worms' mess*, food for worms. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Sarmun* vi. in *E. E. P.* (1862) 2 Þi fleisse nis naȝte bot worme-is meisse. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xxxi. 118 Ne flesh he was wonte to fede, It shall be Wormes mese.

c. A quantity (of meat, fruit, etc.) sufficient to make a dish. (Now *dial.* and *U.S.*) Also, the quantity of milk given by a cow at one milking.

1513 MORE *Rich. III* (1883) 46 You haue very good strawberies at your gardayne in Holberne, I require you let vs haue a messe of them. *a* 1533 FRITH *Agst. Rastell* 242 A shrewd cow, which, when she hath given a large mess of milk, turneth it down with her beel. 1597 SHAKS. *2 Hen. IV*, II. i. 103 Goodwife Keech .. comming in to borrow a messe of Vinegar. 1621 in *Black Bk. Taymouth* (Bannatyne Cl.) 313 Off new salt beiff i quarter iiii meiss. 1870 LOWELL *Study Wind.* 8 His is the earliest mess of green peas.

d. *U.S.* A take or haul of fish.

1854 THOREAU *Walden, Spring* (1884) 338, I got a rare mess of golden and silver and bright cupreous fishes. 1901 R. D. EVANS *Sailor's Log* vi. 59 The captain..sent me a mess of the finest mackerel I ever saw.

2. Applied (in early use only contextually, in later use *spec.*) to a 'made dish', or to a portion or a kind of liquid, partly liquid, or pulpy food, such as milk, broth, porridge, boiled vegetables, etc.

The expression *a mess of pottage*, proverbially current in allusions to the story of Esau's sale of his birthright (Gen. xxv. 29–34), does not occur in the Bible of 1611, though found in this connexion as early as 1526 (see quot. below). It appears in the heading of ch. xxv. in the Bibles of 1537 and 1539, and in the Geneva Bible of 1560. Coverdale (1535) does not use it either in the text or heading of this chapter (his words being 'meace of meate', 'meace of ryse'), but he has it in 1 Chron. xvi. 3 and Prov. xv. 7.

14.. *Sir Beues* 83 (MS. C.), But onys yn a weke a symple messe Of sodyn barley was hart lees. *c* 1456 *How wise man taught his son* 99 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* I. 173 Bettyr it is .. A mes of potage .. Then for to have a M. mes, With great dysese and angyr sore. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) I. xi. 30 Som for a messe of potage, with Esau, careth nat to sell the euerlastyng inheritaunce of heuen. *a* 1592 LODGE & GREENE *Looking Gl. Lond. & Eng.* (1881) 20, I want my mease of milke when I goe to my worke. 1595 DUNCAN *App. Etymol.* (E.D.S.) 70 *Insculum*, a mease of brue. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* III. i. 63, I had as lief you would tell me of a messe of porredge. 1632 MILTON *L'Allegro* 85 Hearbs, and other Country Messes. 1633 HEYWOOD & ROWLEY *Fortune by Land* III. i, Give .. a word to the dayry maid for a mess of cream. 1669 WORLIDGE *Syst. Agric.* (1681) 41 The Meal makes..good Pottage, and several other Messes. 1711 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 23 Dec., I have .. eaten only a mess of broth and a roll. 1772–84 COOK *Voy.* (1790) V. 1771 Having observed several messes of porpoise broth preparing. 1884 *Fortn. Rev.* Mar. 379 They are fond of farinaceous messes.

b. A quantity of liquid or mixed food for an animal ; a kind of such food.

1738 POPE *Epil. to Sat.* ii. 176 If one [*sc.* bog]..Has what the frugal, dirty soil affords, From him the next receives it, thick or thin, As pure a mess almost as it came in. 1810 *Sporting Mag.* XXXVI. 251 The infernal mess alluded to .. being ordered for race-horses. 1841 BROWNING *Pippa Passes* ii, 'Tis only a page..Crumbling your hounds their messes! 1860 MISS YONGE *C'tess Kate* i, [He was] mixing a mess of warm milk for the young calves.

c. In contemptuous or disgusted use : A concoction, jumble, medley.

1828–32 WEBSTER, *Mess*, 2. A medley ; a mixed mass. 1836 *Backwoods of Canada* 124 Rice, sugar, currants, pepper and mustard all jumbled into one mess. 1854 MISS BAKER *Northampt. Gloss., Mess*, a hodge-podge, or dirty, disagreeable mixture. Any culinary preparation that is unpalatable would be called 'a nasty mess'.

3. A state of confusion or muddle ; a condition of embarrassment or trouble ; esp. in phr. *to get into a mess. To make a mess of* : to bungle (an undertaking).

1834 MARRYAT *P. Simple* xxxiii, Here's a pretty mess! if I put on my great coat I shall be dead with sweating ; if I put on no jacket I shall be roasted brown. 1862 DARWIN in *Life & Lett.* (1887) II. 392, I am rejoiced that I passed over the whole subject in the 'Origin', for I should have made a precious mess of it. 1875 RUSKIN *Fors Clav.* lv. 199 Their affair gets into a mess. 1891 S. C. SCRIVENER *Our Fields & Cities* 173 But never mind, Charlie boy, keep out of messes.

b. A dirty or untidy condition of things.

1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* (1864) II. 193/1 They make it a rule when they receive neither beer nor money from a house to make as great a mess as possible the next time they come. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk., Mess*, .. the state of a ship in a sudden squall, when everything is let go and flying.

c. (See quot.)

1844 STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 165 The London butcher .. will .. reject such cattle or sheep as are what is termed in a *mess* ; that is, depressed, after excitation by being overlaid or overdriven.

II. Company of persons eating together.

4. Originally, each of the small groups, normally of four persons (sitting together and helped from the same dishes), into which the company at a ban-

quet was commonly divided. Now only in the Inns of Court, a party of four benchers or four students dining together. Hence, a company of persons (members of some official or professional body) who regularly take their meals together; e.g., the company of judge and barristers who dine together when on circuit (see also b).

c 1420 LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 257 So he her set furst at hys owne messe. *c* 1460 J. RUSSELL *Bk. Nurture* 1050 in *Babees Bk.* 72 Bisshoppes, Merques, vicount, Erle goodly, May sytte at .ij. messez. *Ibid.* 1057 Of alle oþer estates to a messe iij. or iiij. *Ibid.* 1065 Of alle oþur estates to a messe ye may sette foure & foure. 1591 *Wills & Inv. N.C.* (Surtees) II. 199 For the charges of xij mease, that dyned at his owne house, 2*l.* 8*d.* 1607 BEAUMONT *Woman Hater* I. ii, Nor should there stand any..pyes, at the nether end, fill'd with mosse and stones, partly to make a shew with, and partly to keepe the lower messe from eating. 1654 GATAKER *Disc. Apol.* 40 His fellow-Benchers that were in the same Messe with him. 1671 H. M. tr. *Erasm. Collog.* 395 To every mess of guests set three dishes. 1681 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) I. 99 An addresse .. was moved by some in the hall [in Grayes Inn] that day at dinner, and heing (as is usuall) sent to the barr messe to be by them recommended to the bench. 1821 in *N.Eng. Hist. & Gen. Reg.* (1876) XXX. 191 Here a number of members [of Congress], vulgarly called a 'Mess', put up, and have a separate table. 1866 MANSFIELD *School Life* (1870) 219 [Winchester], The Præfects' tables in Hall were called 'Tub, Middle, and Junior Mess' respectively. 1882 SERJ. BALLANTINE *Experiences* I. v. 65 *page heading*, Circuit mess. [Account of its usages, *c* 1834.] 1899 ATLAY *Famous Trials* 388 Dr. Kenealy's fellow-barristers on the Oxford Circuit called upon him to show cause before the mess on the allegation of having [etc.]...He declined to appear, and was duly expelled from the mess.

b. In the Army and Navy: Each of the several parties into which a regiment or ship's company is systematically divided, the members of each party taking their meals together. Phr. *To lose the number of one's mess*: to die, be killed.

1536 *Ld. Treas. Acc. Scotl.* (1905) VI. 450 The expensis of xxxij meis of marineris, gunnaris, and utheris in the New Havin. 1599 E. WRIGHT *Voy. Azores* 17 They willingly agreed that every mease should bee allowed at one meale but halfe so much drinke as they were accustomed. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1780), *Mess*, a particular company of the officers or crew of a ship, who eat, drink, and associate together. 1822 *Gen. Regul. & Orders Army* 123 Commanding Officers are enjoined, when practicable, to form a Serjeants' Mess, as the means of supporting their consequence and respectability in the Corps. 1834 MARRYAT *P. Simple* xxxiii, I have an idea that some of us will lose the number of our mess. 1840 ALISON *Hist. Europe* (1849–50) VIII. liii. § 26. 421 The situation of privates who had risen to the officers' mess was not so comfortable. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Mess*..a number of men who take their meals together; thus in vessels of war there are ward-room and gun-room messes, comprising commissioned and subordinate officers. The seamen and marines' messes consist of a dozen or more under the superintendence of a non-commissioned or petty officer. 1886 BARING-GOULD *Court Royal* iv, When one of H. M. vessels was put in commission, the mess was furnished with new linen, plate, china, glass. 1890 G. STABLES *For England*, etc. xvi. 234 The mess to which this man belonged is little more than a hot-bed of mutiny.

c. Without article: The taking of such a meal.

1778 *Camp Guide* 7 I'm summon'd to mess. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) III. 294 They will go to mess and live together like soldiers in a camp. 1876 BESANT & RICE *Gold. Butterfly* xiii, One evening after mess he told Colquhoun that [etc.].

d. *gen.* = 'Table' (in the senses 'company at an entertainment'; 'provision of food').

1861 G. F. BERKELEY *Sportsm. W. Prairies* xiv. 239 He never brought anything from my kitchen to the general mess. 1840 ARNOLD *Hist. Rome* II. 551 The members of the aristocracy [of Athens] had their clubs, where they habitually met at a common mess or public table. 1878 BOSW. SMITH *Carthage* 26 There were public messes, as they were called, but these were not..analogous to the Spartan Syssitia.

†5. *transf.* A company or group of four persons or things. *Obs.*

1526 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 1009 Let me se..Yf I can fynde out So semely a snowte Amonge this prese: Euen a hole mese. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* IV. iii. 207 You three fooles, lackt mee foole, to make vp the messe. 1593 — 3 *Hen. VI*, I. iv. 73 Where are your Messe of Sonnes, to back you now. *a* 1625 FLETCHER, etc. *Fair Maid Inn* III. i, The messe and halfe of suiters. *a* 1661 FULLER *Worthies* I. (1662) 13, I meet with a mess of English Natives advanced to that Honour...Yea, I assure you, four Popes was a very fair proportion for England.

punningly. 1617 (*title*) Ianva Lingvarvm Qvadrilingvis, or a Messe of Tongves: Latine, English, French, and Spanish. Neatly serued vp together, for a wholesome repast.

6. *U.S.* Short for *mess-beef* (see 7).

1859 *New York Herald* Market Report (Hoppe), Prime mess and beef ham. 1884 *Harper's Mag.* July 299/1 [Chicago.] The average weight of the class of animals used for 'mess' and 'canning' is 950 pounds...The division [of the carcasses] is made into .. pieces .. viz. loins, ribs, mess, plates, chucks, rolls, rumps, [etc.]...'Extra mess' is composed of chucks, plates, rumps, and flanks.

III. 7. *attrib.* and *Comb.* (sense 4), as *mess-article, -beef, -berth, -bread, -cabin, -chest, -deck, -jacket, -kid* (see KID *sb.*4), *-list, -making, -meat, -money, -pork, -room* (also *attrib.*), *-sergeant, -table, -tent, -tin, -traps, -writer*. Also MESSMATE.

1828 P. CUNNINGHAM *N. S. Wales* (ed. 3) II. 215 All the *mess-berths and *mess articles numbered according to their corresponding messes. 1766 W. GORDON *Gen. Counting-ho.* 319, 45 barrels full bound *mess-beef. 1883 P. L. SIMMONDS *Useful Anim., Mess Beef.* This is usually put up in pieces of 8 lbs., and sold in tierces of 304 lbs. 1615 E. S. *Britain's Buss* in Arb. *Garner* III. 628 Baskets for *mess-bread. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk., Ward-room*, the commissioned officers' *mess cabin. 1888 *Century Mag.* 851/1 We have a stout four-horse wagon..; in its rear a *mess-chest is rigged to hold the knives, forks, cans, etc. 1855 OGILVIE Suppl., **Mess-deck*, the deck on which a ship's crew mess. 1891 E. KINGLAKE *Australian at. H.* 91 The *mess-jackets of one or two officers..may be seen, and some naval uniforms. 1851 *Catal. Gt. Exhib.* 786 Ships'..*mess kid, brass hooped. 1828 P. CUNNINGHAM *N. S. Wales* (ed. 3) II. 215 On the *mess-list being arrranged upon deck, they are..placed..in their respective messes. *a* 1734 NORTH *Life Ld. Guilford* (1742) 35 This Friendship began by *Mess-making in the Temple-Hall. 1903 *Daily Chron.* 29 Dec. 5/3 Russia has given..an urgent order for 1,000,000lb. of *mess meat. 1833 MARRYAT *P. Simple* vi, The three guineas which you received as *mess-money. 1874 C. GEIKIE *Life in Woods* I. 10 A piece or two of sailor's *mess-pork. 1811 *Sporting Mag.* XXXVII. 152 No Officer was permitted to carry the newspapers out of the *messroom. 1855 THACKERAY *Newcomes* II. 298 Not disturbed by the mess-room raillery of the Campaigner. 1859 LANG *Wand. India* 361, I will introduce to you all the servants—the *mess-sergeant especially. 1830 M. DONOVAN *Dom. Econ.* I. 45 An officer,..after getting intoxicated at the *mess-table [etc.]. 1774 LD. HARRIS in *Life & Services* (1845) 34 She..passed close by our *mess-tent. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 215 Our men carry a *mess-tin, and a water bottle. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, **Mess-traps*, the kids, crockery, bowls, spoons, and other articles of mess service. 1893 FORBES-MITCHELL *Remin. Gt. Mutiny* 175 For many years [he] had filled the post of *mess-writer, keeping all the accounts of the mess.

Mess (mes), *v.* [f. MESS *sb.*; the senses represent independent formations.]

1. *trans.* To serve up (food); to divide (food) into messes or portions. *Obs.* exc. *dial.*

?*c* 1390 *Form of Cury* lxii. (1780) 35 Take alkenet..and droppe above with a feþer, and messe it forth. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 30 Florche it a-bouyn with Pome-garned, & messe it; serue it forth. 1530 PALSGR. 635/1, I messe meate, I sorte it or order it in to messes, as cookes do whan they serve it. 1886 *Cheshire Gloss.*, Come an' tay th' cheilt, wheile aw mess th' dinner for th' men.

b. *intr.* To prepare messes for animals. *rare.*

1840 *Cottager's Man.* 36 in *Libr. Usef. Knowl., Husb.* III, There will be no necessity for messing every time the pig wants a meal.

†2. To divide (a ship's company) into messes. *Obs.*

1627 CAPT. SMITH *Seaman's Gram.* ix. 39 To messe them foure to a messe. 1690 STRUTTON *Relat. Cruelties of French* 10 We Mest our selves seven and seven together.

3. *intr.* To take one's meals, esp. as a member of a mess; also *rarely* to feed *upon* (a specified kind of food).

1701 FARQUHAR *Sir H. Wildair* III. ii, I shall find better mutton commons by messing with you, brother. 1743 BULKELEY & CUMMINS *Voy. S. Seas* 196 We never us'd to mess together. 1786 tr. *Beckford's Vathek* (1868) 82 It was his horrible look that sent us hither to listen to sermons and mess upon rice. 1833 MARRYAT *P. Simple* iv, Now that we are in harbour, I mess here. 1876 DAVIS *Polaris Exp.* vii. 176 The officers who had messed with him, ..knew that the life of the expedition was gone.

b. *trans.* To supply with meals.

1811 WELLINGTON in Gurw. *Desp.* (1838) VIII. 295 The soldiers..were not at all times messed in the manner pointed out by your order. 1882 FLOYER *Unexpl. Baluchistan* 79 The Khan..was most hospitable, even to the extent of messing me at his own 'table'.

4. *intr.* To make a mess, put things into a disorderly or untidy state; to dabble in water, mud, etc. Also, to 'potter', busy oneself in an untidy way, or with no definite purpose or result (const. *about* or with advs. *about, away*).

1853 MRS. LYNN LINTON in *Life* vii. 83, I mess about my flowers and read snatches of French. 1886 *Tit Cat* xix. 263 Messing about with sulphur and lime and all the rest of it. 1886 G. ALLEN *Maimie's Sake* xxi, Sydney was..messing away..at his nasty chemicals. 1894 K. GRAHAME *Pagan P.* 129 What boy has ever passed a bit of water without messing in it?

5. *trans.* To make a mess of; to disorder, make dirty, soil (a thing); to muddle (a business). Also with *up*.

1854 W. COLLINS *Hide & Seek* III. iv. 108 That's the first pair of trousers I ever ventured to cut out for you..; and the long and short of it is, I've messed 'em. 1859 C. READE *Love me Little* i, It messes one's things so to pick them to pieces. 1862 H. MARRYAT *Year in Sweden* I. 165 The authorities,..convinced of the folly of messing matters, have caused a plan to be drawn out on a grand..scale. 1883 FREEMAN in W. R. W. Stephens *Life & Lett.* (1895) II. 275 The friars' churches at Gloucester..are utterly messed and made up into houses. 1901 *Scribner's Mag.* (U.S.) XXIX. 404/1 Lank told him that he had messed the whole business.

6. *To mess about*: to handle roughly or too familiarly. *dial.* or *vulgar.*

1874 *Slang Dict., Mess*, to interfere unduly. Costermongers refer to police supervision as 'messing'. 1901 *Essex Weekly News* 8 Mar. 3/3 Defendant was 77 years old, and had never been messed about by policemen before.

7. *Sc.* To mix, associate *with*; only in phr. *to mess or* (*and*) *mell.*

1821 GALT *Ann. Parish* xxiv. (1895) 159 She..would not let me..mess or mell wi' the lathron lasses of the clachan. 1822 — *Steam-boat* iv. 88 This is an observe that I have made..since I began..to mess and mell more with the generality of mankind. 1887 J. SERVICE *Dr. Duguid* (ed. 3) 281 He would neither mess nor mell wi' ony o' the new reformers.

Mess, obs. form of MASS *sb.*1

Message (me·sẽdʒ), *sb.*1 Forms: 4–7 massage, 5 masage, (4 messag, missage, 5 massache, 6 mesuage, messege, 6, 8 messuage, 7 meswage), 3– message. [a. F. *message* = Pr. *messatge*, Sp. *mensaje*, Pg. *mensage*(*m*, It. *messagio* :—popular L. **missāticum* (a med.L. word of this form occurs in the 12th c.), f. L. *miss-*, *mittĕre* to send.]

1. A communication transmitted through a messenger or other agency; an oral or written communication sent from one person to another; also, †intelligence, tidings, news. *Obs.*

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 3645 To þe king com message þat þe scottes..dude him gret outrage. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 40 Þis was his message, his Danes wild he venge Ageyn him in bataile. 1382 WYCLIF 2 *Kings* vii. 9 This is forsothe a day of good message. 1462 MARG. PASTON in *P. Lett.* II. 99, I have spoken with my modre and seide to here as ye desired me to doo, and sche seide sche knewe the massache weele inowe before. 1503–4 *Act* 19 *Hen. VII*, c. 34 *Preamble*, Dyvers messeges and writinges to hym sent. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* I. i. 164 Sometimes from her eyes I did receiue faire speechlesse messages. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* XI. 299 Gently hast thou tould Thy message. 1722 DE FOE *Relig. Courtsh.* I. i. (1840) 22 You cannot desire me to carry such a message. 1840 MISS MITFORD in L'Estrange *Life* (1870) III. vii. 107, I had a kind message from Captain Marryat once, when somebody whom he knew was coming here. 1902 T. M. LINDSAY *Church in Early Cent.* viii. 355 They [acolytes] were the servants of the Christian priests.. carrying their messages or letters.

¶ Often applied to a communication sent by telegraph; hence *transf.*

1847 TENNYSON *Princess* Prol. 78 Thro' twenty posts of telegraph They flash'd a saucy message to and fro Between the mimic stations. 1884 J. TAIT *Mind in Matter* (1892) 71 Messages can pass through the brain and the nerves every moment.

b. In religious language: A divinely inspired communication by a prophet; tidings sent by God.

1546 BALE *Eng. Votaries* I. (1560) Ep. Ded., A ioyfull massage declaring full remission to be geuen frely in Christe. 1781 J. LOGAN in *Sc. Paraphr.* XXXIV. iv, His oracles of truth proclaim the message brought to man. 1892 WESTCOTT *Gospel of Life* p. xviii, If we are to deliver our message as Christians we must face the riddles of life. 1902 A. B. DAVIDSON *Called of God* vii. 201 Isaiah's message is twofold; first ruin and then redemption.

transf. 1828 CARLYLE *Misc.* (1857) I. 238 Byron and Burns ..had a message to deliver. 1895 ELLACOMBE *Gloue. Garden* XXV. 279 Every plant has its own separate message and lesson.

c. An official communication from the Sovereign to Parliament; *U.S.* a communication from a chief executive officer to a legislative body conveying instructions or information on matters of policy; *esp.* the Presidential address transmitted to Congress at the opening of the Session.

1625 WHITELOCK *Mem.* (1853) 3 The commons..voted to give the king two subsidies, for which the king thanks them by a message. 1711–12 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 17 Jan., The Queen's message was only to give them notice of the peace she is treating. 1758 *Mem. Last War* 35 The Governor thereupon moved the Assembly in two other Messages to resume the Consideration of this Enterprize. 1801 HAMILTON *Wks.* (1886) VII. 200 Instead of delivering a speech to the Houses of Congress,..the President has thought fit to transmit a Message. *a* 1859 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xxiv. (1861) V. 177 William..sent down to the Commons a message, ..written throughout with his own hand. 1862 J. M. LUDLOW *Hist. U.S.* 169 The President, in his message of the year.. referred in terms of sympathy with Texas to its struggle with Mexico.

2. The business entrusted to a messenger; the carrying of a communication; a mission, an errand.

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 24/26 Heo weoren Messagers: and from an heiz mon heo come To don to him a Message. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 272 Þat an angel of God schal not do Goddis massagis to save Cristene soulis. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 300 His doghter..He bad to gon on his message. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 72 Such men sulde be no baillays, nor go no messagies. 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 401 Our souerane Arthour .. Has maid ws thre as mediatour, His message to schaw. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 32 b, Yf man shall haue sufficyent faculty to do the message of God. 1591 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. VI*, IV. vii. 53 On what submissiue message art thou sent? 1667 MILTON *P. L.* V. 289 All the Bands Of Angels..to his message high in honour rise; For on som message high they guessd him bound. 1720 PETRIE *Rules Deportm.* ii. Wks. (1877) 6 A Gentleman ought not to run or walk too fast in the Streets, lest he be suspected to be going a Message. 1840 MARRYAT *Poor Jack* iv, I..ran messages. 1849 THACKERAY *Pendennis* xvii, She bethought her..how he had gone on messages for her.

†b. Phrase. (To go, send, etc.) *in* (also *of, on*) *message*: on the business of carrying a communication or of doing an errand. *Obs.*

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 7405 A monek he sende him in message. 1382 WYCLIF 2 *Cor.* v. 20 Therfore we ben sett in legacie, or message, for Crist. 1443 *Acts Privy Council* (1835) V. 238 To paie to Coler pursivant þe whiche goethe now in þe Kynges message beyonde þe see xl.s. 1456 SIR G. HAVE *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 116 Quhen ony is send in message to the inymyes. 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VII* 12 b, He sent on message Christopher Urswicke to Charles. 1557 F. SEAGER *Schoole of Vertue* 726 in *Babees Bk.*, How to order thy selfe being sente of message. 1593 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. VI*, IV. i. 113, I go of Message from the Queene to France. 1622 BACON *Hen. VII* 142 The King..sent Sir Richard Gvilford into Kent in message.

†3. A person or body of persons conveying a communication; one or more messengers or envoys, an embassage. [So in OF.] *Obs.*

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 78 A message tille him

nam vnto Normundie, Teld William eueridele of Malcolme robberie. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Man of Law's T.* 235 The hooly lawes of oure Alkaron, Yeuen by goddes message Makomete. *a* 1450 *Le Morte Arth.* 2256 Then was A bischope at Rome, Off Rowchester,.. Tylle ynglande he, the message, Come. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* VIII. 541 Wallace has herd the message say thair will. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilzear* 905 Fra the Chane of Tartarie, At him this message wald I be, To tell him [etc.].

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *message-carrying*; **message-boy** *Sc.*, an errand-boy; **message card**, a card on which a message may be written; in the 18th c. *spec.* a card of invitation to a reception or entertainment; **message-form**, a printed form for a telegraphic message; **message rate**, in the British Post Office, a fixed rate of payment per message sent by telephone (opposed to a subscription entitling to 'unlimited service'); **message stick**, a stick or small block of wood carved with significant marks, used as a means of communication among the Australian aborigines.

1896 CROCKETT *Cleg Kelly* (ed. 2) 56, I came .. to ask about the situation of a *message-boy. 1755 W. WHITEHEAD in Dodsley *Poems* II. 264 (*title*) On a *Message-Card in Verse, Sent by a Lady. 1804 *European Mag.* XLV. 418/2 His visits were admitted without the punctilios of message-cards. 1851 *Illustr. Catal. Exhib.* 102/2 Paper and Stationery... Message Cards, plain and ornamental. 1829 BENTHAM *Justice & Cod. Petit.* 179 The business of *message-carrying. 1900 *Post Office Guide* Jan. 518 Postage stamps are used for the payment of telegrams, and the public are required to affix them to the *message-forms. 1901 *Daily Chron.* 30 Nov. 7/7 [Post Office Telephones.] Most of these [agreements] are at what is known as the *message rate. 1881 *Academy* 24 Sept. 243 Three *message-sticks from Australia which prove that even degraded savages may invent real written characters. 1898 in MORRIS *Austral Eng.*

† **Me·ssage,** *sb.*[2] *Obs. rare*—[1]. [? f. *mess* MASS *sb.*[1] + -AGE.] ? The action of saying mass.

c 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 58 He sente þurgh all his bisshoppryke, & garte do message & oders prayers & suffrage of halie kurk for hym.

Message (me·sẽdʒ), *v.* [f. MESSAGE *sb.*[1]]

1. *trans.* To send as a message; to send by messenger; *spec.* to transmit (a sketch, plan, etc.) by means of signalling, telegraphing, etc.

1583 STANYHURST *Æneis* IV. (Arb.) 107 Hee did, in expressed commaund, to me message his erraund. 1636 W. DENNY in *Ann. Dubrensia* (1877) 14 Then by and by swift racing Naggs contend Who first, shall message Conquest to the end, Of their appointed course. 1886 *Longm. Mag.* VII. 416 The result obtained .. is easier to message. 1887 *Pall Mall G.* 24 Mar. 11/1 A series of rules by which any drawing may be 'messaged' and signalled. 1896 *Columbus (Ohio) Dispatch* 18 Mar. 7/1 The bill was messaged over from the house last evening.

2. *intr.* To carry a message. *nonce-use.*

1840 DICKENS *Barn. Rudge* xxiv, Our people go backwards and forwards .. lettering and messaging, and fetching and carrying.

Hence **Me·ssaging** *vbl. sb.*

1865 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* XV. iii. V. 289 We can get no free messaging from part to part of our own Army even. *Ibid.* XIX. ii. (1873) VIII. 127 Montalembert's watching, messaging about.

Messageer, -er(e, obs. ff. of MESSENGER.

Messagery (me·sẽdʒĕri). *Obs.* or *arch.* Also 4 **messagerie,** 7 **-gry.** [a. F. *messagerie,* f. *messager*: see MESSENGER and -ERY.]

1. The office or function of a messenger; the performance of a message or errand. *Obs.* exc. *arch.*

c 1384 CHAUCER *Parl. Foules* xxxiii, I saw .. Fool hardynesse & flatterye, & desyr, Messagerye & meede & oþer thre. 1658 PHILLIPS, *Messagry,* (old word) diligence in doing a message. 18.. CARLYLE *Hist. Sk.* (1898) 80 There are the country carriers [on a market day], packing, unpacking; swift diligence, thousandfold messagery looking through their eyes.

2. A body of messengers. *Obs. rare*—[1].

c 1500 *Melusine* 69 In this messagery or embassade were sent two wyse knightes.

Messagier, -gre, -gy(e)r, obs. ff. MESSENGER.

Messal, -ale, obs. ff. MISSAL *sb.*

Messalian (mesē·liăn), **Massalian** (mæsē·liăn), *sb.* and *a. Eccl. Hist.* Also 6–9 **Massilian,** 8 **Messallian.** [ad. late Gr. **Μεσσαλιανός** (Theodoret), **Μασσαλιανός** (Epiphanius), ad. Syr. ܡܨܠܝܢܐ *mṣ̈alyânâ* given to prayer; the Greek writers render it by **εὐχίτης** (see EUCHITE) and **εὐχόμενος** one who prays. Some of the forms of the word are due to association with the place-name *Massalia, Massilia,* Marseilles.]

A. *sb.* A member of an ancient heretical sect, variously identified by early writers with the Euchites and with the Hesychasts.

a 1591 H. SMITH *Serm.* (1637) 380 If your lippes be not alwayes going, which was the heresie of the Messalians. 1708–22 BINGHAM *Orig. Eccl.* XX. iii. § 5 The Massalians, or Euchites [kept Sunday as a fast]. 1833 MOORE *Trav. Irish Gentl. in Search Relig.* I. 262 The Messalians .. imagined that the whole atmosphere was brimful of devils. 1880 *Encycl. Brit.* XI. 782/2 Hesychasts (.. sometimes referred to as Euchites, Massalians, or Palamites), a quietistic sect.

B. *adj.* Of or pertaining to the Messalians.

1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* V. lxxiv. § 1 We..should be like those Massilian heretiques which doe nothing else but pray. 1654 H. L'ESTRANGE *Chas. I* (1655) 127 He was .. dis-relisht by them who inclined to the Massilian and Arminian Tenets. 1882–3 SCHAFF *Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* III. 2152 The Massilian Monks are described as holding, that by faith and baptism any one can be saved, if he only will.

Messan (me·săn). *Sc.* Forms: 6-8 **messen,** 8 **messon,** 9 **messin,** 5- **messan.** [? a. Gael. *measan* = Irish *measán,* M.Irish *mesán* (Macbain).] A lap-dog; also applied to a person as a term of abuse. Also *attrib.* as *messan-dog, -cur, -tyke.*

a 1500 *Bernard. de cura rei fam.* (E.E.T.S.) 13 Litile doggis and messanys with þar bellis. 1508 KENNEDIE *Flyting w. Dunbar* 495 A crabbit, scabbit, euill facit messan tyke. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scott.* I. 22 The varietie of Messen dogs, wᵗ quhilkes gentle women vses to recreate thame selfes. 1719 HAMILTON *Ep.* I. iii. in Ramsay *Poems* (1877) II. 232 To petty poets, or sic messens. 1786 BURNS *Twa Dogs* 18 Na pride had he, But wad hae spent an hour caressan, Ev'n wi' a Tinkler-gipsey's messan. 1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* xv, I met him..with a common minstrel wench, with her messan and her viol on his..arm. 1853 CARLYLE in *Atlantic Monthly* LXXXII. (1898) 685 The white mat on Jane's lap is her wretched little messin-dog.

Messangier, -yer, -yre, obs. ff. MESSENGER.

Messaye, obs. form of MISSAY *v.*

Messchance, obs. form of MISCHANCE.

Messe: see MASS *sb.*[1], *v.*[1], MEASE, MESSIAH.

Messeger, obs. form of MESSENGER.

Messeline, -ling, obs. forms of MASLIN [2].

Messelinge, -yne, -yng, obs. ff. MASLIN [1].

† **Messellawny.** *Obs.* Also 7 **messelane, misselane.** Some textile fabric.

1612 *Sc. Bk. Customs* in *Halyburton's Ledger* (1867) 322 Misselanes the peice contening xxx elnis xxxvi li. *a* 1625 *Rates Merchandizes,* Misselanes the peece, containing thirtie yards. 1642 *Ibid.,* Messelanes. 1640 in Entick *London* II. 178 Messellawny, the piece.

Messell(e, variants of MEASLE *a. Obs.*

Messelyng, obs. form of MASLIN [1].

Messenger (me·sẽndʒəɹ). Forms: *α.* 3–6 **messager,** 3–5 **-ere,** (4 **mesager, messagyr, -gre**), 3–4 **messagyer, messeger,** (4 **messagere, masager**), 5 **massageer** (**messageer**), 4 **mas(s)eger,** 5 **-gere,** 5–6 **messagier,** (5 **massagier,** 6 **messurger**). *β.* 4–6 **messanger,** 4–5 **-ere, -ir,** 5–6 **-aunger,** (4 **mesanger,** 5 **messongere, myssanger**), 4–7 **messinger,** 5 **-ere,** 4–5 **messynger(e,** (4 **mensanger, -syngere, massingere,** 5 **masynger,** 6 **mesynger**), 4–5 **massenger,** 5 **massanger(e, messengere, (masenger, -yr, messengyr),** 5 **messangier, -yer, -yre,** 6 **messengier,** 4– **messenger.** [ME. *messager, -ier,* a. F. *messager* (OF. also *messagier*), f. *message*: see MESSAGE *sb.* Cf. Pr. *messatgier,* Sp. *mensajero,* Pg. *mensageiro,* It. *messaggiero, -ere.* For the insertion of *n* in the *β* forms, cf. PASSENGER, etc.]

1. One who carries a message or goes on an errand; † an envoy, ambassador (*obs.*). *Corbie messenger*: see CORBIE 2.

(*God's*) *messenger*: (*a*) used for ANGEL, as representing the etymological sense of that word, and as expressing the function assigned to angels in Scripture; (*b*) applied to a prophet, or to a clergyman, as charged with a message from God to mankind.

α. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 190 Heie monnes messager, me schal heiliche underuongen. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* IV. 115 Bote hit heo Marchaund..or Messager with lettres. 1481 CAXTON *Godeffroy* i. 18 Machomet..whiche was messager of the deuil. 1521–2 DOUGLAS in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. III. I. 295 For baith by messurger and write I declarit him playnlie I wald pass throᵗ this Realme. 1558 KNOX *First Blast* (Arb.) 6 The especiall dutie of Goddes messagers is to preache repentance. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 389 The next day..came messagers and letters that Auspurge was taken.

β. 13.. *K. Alis.* 7609 Ac, hy special messangere, Y wol sende hire love-drewry. *c* 1450 HOLLAND *Howlat* 231 The Dow, Noyis messinger. 1460 *Lybeaus Disc.* 1747 (Kaluza) A maide, þat is her messengere..brouȝt me her. 1535 COVERDALE 1 *Sam.* XIX. 20 Saul sent his messaungers to Dauids house, that they shulde..kyll him. 1588 in *Harl. Misc.* (1809) II. 87 If he minded to revenge against any other nation, he would plead the cause by messengers. 1624 S. WARD in *Ussher's Lett.* (1686) 321 This Messenger bringeth the Book, and things from Mr. Crane. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VII. 572 God..Thither will send his winged Messengers On errands of supernal Grace. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* (1840) II. xiv. 295 Messengers were sent express. 1859 W. COLLINS *Q. of Hearts* (1875) 14 [He] sent off a mounted messenger with the letter.

b. The bearer *of* (a specified message).

α. 1577 DEE *Relat. Spir.* I. (1659) 63 Those that are the Messagers and Angles of the Dignified and Triumphant Glory. 1583 GOLDING *Calvin on Deut.* CIX. 672 Yet doth God appoint vs to be..messagers of his vnfallible trueth.

β. *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* CIII. 5 When þou wol þou makis þaim [gostis] messangers of þi will. 1595 SHAKS. *John* II. i. 260 Messengers of Warre. *a* 1625 FLETCHER, etc. *Fair Maid Inn* III. ii, At next visit, Madam, I'll be a messenger of comfort. 1703 DE FOE in *15th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. IV. 76 You must not refuse to be the messenger of my acknowledgments.

† **c.** In New England (17th c.), the representative of a Congregational church at a synod. *Obs.*

The title may have been suggested by ἄγγελος 'angel' (of a church) in Rev. i–iv.

1646 in *Rec. Massachussets* (1853) II. 155 To assemble the churches, or their messengᴿˢ, upon occasion of counsell. *Ibid.,* A publike assembly of the elders and other messengers of the severall churches. 1665 J. ELIOT *Commun. of Churches* 4 The Intrinsecall and proper Efficients of a Council, are the Churches, who elect and send Messengers to that end. *Ibid.,* The Members Constituent of a Council, are Church-Messengers.

d. *fig.*

c 1400 *Rom. Rose* 2919 The eye is a good messangere, Which can to the herte..Tidyngis sende. 1490 CAXTON *Eneydos* xix. 71 [Mount Caucasus] sendeth doun her colde messagers as snowe, froste, heyle, & tempeste. 1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* II. ii. 77 His teares, pure messengers, sent from his heart. 1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* 535 The Sences..are the messengers and interpreters of the Soule. 1812 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 83 Casting these leaden messengers of death [*sc.* bullets]. 1832 W. IRVING *Alhambra* II. 39 Day after day he watched for the return of the messenger of love [*sc.* a bird]. 1860 RUSKIN *Mod. Paint.* V. VI. vi. 43 It [the trunk] is rather a messenger to the roots.

† **2.** *esp.* A servant sent forward to prepare the way; a forerunner, precursor, harbinger. *Obs.*

c 1325 *Metr. Hom.* (1862) 44 He [St. John] was ryt Cristes messager. 1340 *Ayenb.* 195 Huanne a riche man ssel come to ane toune..he zent his messagyers be-uore uor to nime guod in. 1382 WYCLIF *Luke* ix. 52 And he sente messangeris hifore his siȝt. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* V. i. 117 There is come a Messenger before To signifie their comming. [1884 BIBLE (R. V.) *Mat.* iii. 1 (as in earlier versions).]

b. *fig.*

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 190 Ich am þe scheadewe, seiδ þis messager, þet is, worldes pine. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* III. 1368 [1417] And lucifer, þe dayes messager, Gan for to ryse, and out here bemys throw. *c* 1386 — *Knt.'s T.* 633 The bisy larke, messager of day. — *Man of Law's Prol.* 6 Of Aprill, that is messager to May. 1545 *Primer, Lauds* C iij h, The birde, of day messinger, Croweth and sheweth, that light is nere. 1601 SHAKS. *Jul. C.* II. i. 104 Yon grey Lines, That fret the Clouds, are Messengers of Day.

c. *Cuckoo's messenger*: (see quot.).

1885 SWAINSON *Prov. Names Birds* 103 Wryneck...From its arrival the same time as, or a little before, the cuckoo, it has the names of..Cuckoo's messenger [etc.].

d. *pl.* Small clouds detached from the main mass.

1787 BEST *Angling* (ed. 2) 145 When..there are small black fragments of clouds like smoke, flying underneath, which some call messengers, .. rain is not far off. 1880 JEFFERIES *Gr. Ferne F.* 133.

3. A government official employed to carry dispatches, and, formerly, to apprehend state prisoners; esp. one employed by the Secretaries of State. *Messenger of the Exchequer* (see quot. 1706). *King's* or *Queen's messenger,* one who conveys dispatches to or from the Sovereign.

1535 *Act* 27 *Hen. VIII*, c. 27 § 3 There shalbe..one other person, which shalbe called Messanger of the same Courte. 1694 WOOD *Life* 2 Aug. (O.H.S.) III. Most of the messingers are gone into the country to fetch up persons seised upon account of the plot. 1696 PHILLIPS, *Messenger,* one that attends upon the King and his Council to carry Dispatches, and waits upon the Sergeant at Arms to Apprehend Prisoners of State. 1706 — (ed. Kersey), *Messengers of the Exchequer,* certain Officers in that Court, four in Number, who as Pursuivants, attend the Lord Treasurer, to carry his Letters and Orders. 1713 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 31 Mar., Mr. Noble..was..seized again by the Sheriff, and is now in a messenger's hands at the Black Swan in Holborn. 1732 BERKELEY *Alciphr.* I. § 9 A man had better a thousand times be hunted by bailiffs or messengers. 1866 *Guide to Employm. in Civ. Serv.* 71 War Department... Messengers, Queen's Messengers, and Letter-carriers. 1874 *Act* 37 & 38 *Vict.* c. 81 § 4 The office of messenger or pursuivant of the Great Seal shall as a separate office be abolished. 1879 C. MARVIN *Public Offices* 201 A Queen's Messenger who is about to set off in five minutes' time for Cairo.

b. *Sc.* **Messenger(-at-arms):** see quot. 1838.

1482 in Rymer *Foedera* (1711) 166/1 We..Constitute.. the same Gartier and Northumberlond, our Ambassadours, Oratours, Procuratours, Factours, and Masseagers. 1587 *Sc. Acts Jas. VI* (1814) III. 449/2 Of late ȝeiris þair is enterit in the office of armes sindry extraordinar maseris.. and a verie greit nowmer of messingeris. 1753 R. THOMSON (*title*) A Treatise of the Office of Messenger. *Ibid.* 2 There ought only to be in all Scotland 200 Messengers, or Officers of Arms (including Heralds, Macers and Pursuivants, 17 in Number). 1812 TENNANT *Anster F.* II. xxxiii, Sheriffs learn'd..and messengers-at-arms, with brows of brass. 1838 BELL *Dict. Law Scot.,* *Messenger-at-arms*; an officer appointed by, and under the control of the Lyon King-at-Arms...They are employed in executing all summonses and letters of diligence, both in civil and criminal matters. Our signet letters..were constantly directed to messengers-at-arms, as sheriffs in that part. 1872 MICHIE *Deeside Tales* 17 (E.D.D.) A messenger-at-arms..the terror of evil doers far and wide.

† **c.** *Messenger of the Press,* an officer appointed to search for unlicensed publications and presses.

1682 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) I. 226 The Stationers company .. have called one Robert Stephens (a common messenger of the presse) on the livery. 1694 WOOD *Life* 16 Oct. (O.H.S.) III, Tomson the printer was seized on by Stephens the messenger of the press, in the act of printing a pamphlet reflecting on the Government. 1706 in PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey).

d. *Bankruptcy law.* (See quot. 1894.)

1732 *Act* 5 *Geo. II*, c. 30 § 4 That every such Bankrupt.. shall be..required..to deliver up..all his..Bookes of Accounts..not seized by the Messenger of the said Commission. 1883 *Act* 46 & 47 *Vict.* c. 52 § 153 The official solicitors and messengers in bankruptcy..shall be transferred to and become officers of the Board of Trade. 1894 G. Y. ROBSON *Law Bankruptcy* (ed. 7) 77 The messenger was a sort of sheriff's officer employed to execute the orders and warrants of the court. Originally..a messenger was attached to the court of each commissioner...In the Bankruptcy Act, 1883, the messenger and his staff are transferred to..the Board of Trade, and are to perform analogous duties to those previously discharged by them.

e. (See quot.)

1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Messengers*, boys appointed to carry orders from the quarter-deck.

4. An endless rope or chain passing from the capstan to the cable to haul it in. Also, a similar contrivance for hauling-in a dredge.

1633 T. JAMES *Voy.* 80 We..put our Cables ouer-boord, with Messengers vnto them. 1784 J. KING *Cook's Voy. Pacific* III. 475 Having, in our endeavours to heave the anchor out of the ground, twice broken the old messenger, and afterward a new one. 1882 NARES *Seamanship* (ed. 6) 159 The messenger is an endless chain passing round the capstan and two rollers in the manger.

5. (See quot.)

1746 CHESTERF. *Lett.* (1845) I. 53 My long and frequent letters..put me in mind of certain papers, which you have very lately, and I formerly, sent up to kites, along the string, which we called messengers; some of them the wind used to blow away,..and but few of them got up and stuck to the kite. 1864 *Every Little Boy's Bk.* 99 Some boys amuse themselves by sending messengers up to their kites when they have let out all their string. A messenger is formed of a piece of paper three or four inches square.

6. The secretary-bird. 1793 *Buffon's Birds* VII. 316.

7. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *messenger-authority, -bird, -boy, -wind*; *messenger-like* adv.; **messenger sword**, a sword-like implement, constituting a credential of the royal messengers of Ashantee (*Cent. Dict.* 1890).

1594 G. ELLIS in *Buccleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) 25 He is vpon a journey, messenger like,..to apprehend..her Majesty's loving subjects. 1711 SHAFTESB. *Charac.* (1737) III. 337 There are further miracles remaining for 'em to perform, e'er they can in modesty plead the apostolick or messenger-authority. 1869 TOZER *Highl. Turkey* II. 327 A messenger-bird is described as issuing from the gloomy dungeon. 1898 *Blackw. Mag.* Mar. 427 The messenger-wind that drives before the dawn.

Messengership (me·sĕndʒəʃip). [f. MESSENGER + -SHIP.] The office or function of a messenger.

1611 COTGR. s.v. *Messagerie*, A messengership; the estate, office, or function of a messenger. 1880 FAWCETT *Sp.* in *Ho. Comm.* 20 Aug., Candidates for messengerships—by which I presume is meant rural letter carrierships.

Messengery. *Sc.* ? *Obs.* Also 6 **messingerie.** [f. MESSENGER + -ERY. Cf. MESSAGERY.] The office of messenger-at-arms.

1587 *Sc. Acts Jas. III* (1814) III. 449/2 He..commandis lioun king of armes That he onnawys ressaue ony maner of personis to the office of messingerie in tyme cuming except it be [etc.]. 1753 R. THOMSON *Office of Messenger* 17 That the said M, Messenger within the Sheriffdom of — shall leilly, truly and honestly use and exerce the Office of Messengery.

Messer (me·səɹ). ? *Obs.* [? f. MESS *v.* + -ER[1].] ? A purveyor of meat for ships.

1644-5 *Will W. Cruse* (Somerset Ho.), W. Cruse of co. Somerset, Messer. 1746 in W. Thompson *R. N. Advoc.* (1757) 24 Though strongly opposed by Messers and Salters, they were obliged to..salt them [*sc.* the hogs].

Messer, obs. form of MACER[1].

Messerayke, obs. form of MESARAIC.

Messet (me·sĕt). *dial.* Also 7 **misset.** [? Altered from Sc. MESSAN, after dim. ending -ET.] A lap-dog. Also *attrib.* (Cf. MESSAN.)

1631 BRATHWAITE *Whimzies, Pedler* 139 Would you have a true survey of his family..? You shall finde them subsist of three heads: himselfe, his truck, and her misset. 1640 — *Lanc. Lovers* iv. C 3, Hee would..carry her Misset, open her pue [etc.]. 1646 J. HALL *Poems* 10 Suppose dame Julia's Messet tbinkes it meet To droop or hold up one of 'ts hinder feet. *a* 1694 M. ROBINSON *Autobiog.* (1856) 51 A breed of messet spaniels, very little, beautiful, and of rare conceit. 1822 BEWICK *Mem.* 27 She kept a messet dog.

† **Messi·acal,** *a. Obs. rare*[−1]. [f. MESSIAH + -ACAL.] = MESSIANIC.

1614 JACKSON *Creed* III. xviii. § 3 Nor Propheticall, nor Apostolicall, nor Messiacall, much lesse could Papall authority make them believe.

Messiah (mėsəi·ă). Forms: *α.* 4 **Messie,** 4–5 **Messye,** 5 **Messy, Messe, Myssye**; *β.* 3 **Messyas,** 4–8 **Messias**; *γ.* 7 **Messiah.** [The *α* forms are a. F. *Messie*, ad. L. (Vulg.) *Messīās*, a. Gr. Μεσσίᾶς, ad. Aramaic מְשִׁיחָא *m'shīḥā*, Heb. מָשִׁיחַ *māshīaḥ* anointed (in the LXX rendered Χριστός, CHRIST), f. מָשַׁח *māshaḥ* to anoint. These forms do not occur in any Eng. transl. of the Bible, though common in other literature down to the 15th c. The form *Messias* was used in John i. 41 and iv. 25 (the only passages in which the word is found in the Gr. or Latin N.T.) by Wyclif after the Vulgate, and by later translators from 1526 to 1611 directly after the Greek. The form *Messiah*, invented by the translators of the Geneva Bible of 1560, is an alteration of the traditional *Messias*, intended to give it a more Hebraic aspect (the translators having on principle eliminated the Græcized forms of proper names from the O.T., though retaining them in the N.T.). In the Bible of 1611 it was adopted in Dan. ix. 25, 26, and although it occurs in no other passage of the 'Authorized Version', it eventually became the only current form. The Revisers of 1880–84 have substituted it for *Messias* in the two N.T. passages, but on the other hand have removed it from its original place in Dan. ix, where they read 'the anointed'.] The Hebrew title (='anointed') applied in the O.T. prophetic writings to a promised deliverer of the Jewish nation, and hence applied to Jesus of Nazareth as the fulfilment of that promise. (Chiefly preceded by *the* or defining word, exc. in the three Bible passages and sometimes in poetry, where it is treated as a proper name.) Hence *transf.*, an expected liberator or saviour of an oppressed people or country. (Written with capital M.)

α. 13.. *Propr. Sanct.* (Vernon MS.) in *Archiv Stud. neu. Spr.* LXXXI. 87/152 Andrew þenne to Symound tolde: 'Messye we ha founde'. ? *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 3998 Here I make myn avowe,..To Messie, and to Marie. 1430–40 LYDG. *Bochas* IX. i. 20 b, Sayd openly that he was Messy. *c* 1500 *Cov. Corpus Chr. Plays* i. 425 Yt ys seyd..That of the lyne of Jude Schuld sprynge a right Messe.

β. [*c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* John i. 41 We ʒemetton messiam þæt is ʒereht crist.] *c* 1275 *Woman of Samaria* 55 in *O. E. Misc.* 85 Louerd heo seyde nv quiddeþ men þat cumen is Messyas. 1382 WYCLIF *John* i. 41 We han founde Messias, that is interpretid Crist. [So all later versions down to 1611.] 1595 B. BARNES *Spir. Sonn.* x, Heavenly Messias! sweete anointed King! 1644 HOWELL *Eng. Teares* (1645) 181 To beat Religion into brains with a Pole axe, is to make Moloch of the Messias. 1681–6 J. SCOTT *Chr. Life* (1747) III. 531 Therefore do the modern Jews say, that the Messias is not yet come.

γ. 1560 BIBLE (Genev.) *Dan.* ix. 25 From the going forthe of the commandement..to builde Ierusalem, vnto Messiah the prince...26 And after thre score & two wekes, shal Messiah be slayne. [So 1611.] 1653 MILTON *Ps.* ii. 6 Against the Lord and his Messiah dear. 1666 DRYDEN *Ann. Mirab.* cxiv, The wily Dutch, who, like fallen angels, feared This new Messiah's coming. *a* 1716 SOUTH *Serm.* (ed. 6) III. 299 All pretended false Messiahs vanish'd upon the Appearance of Christ the true one. 1776 J. ADAMS in *Fam. Lett.* (1876) 158 We are waiting, it is said, for Commissioners; a messiah that will never come. 1821 SHELLEY *Hellas* notes 57 The Greeks expect a Saviour from the West. It is reported that this Messiah had arrived..in an American brig.

attrib. 1850 CARLYLE *Latter-d. Pamph.* IV. 5 A People whose bayonets were sacred, a kind of Messiah People, saving a blind world in its own despite.

Messiahship (mėsəi·ăʃip). [f. MESSIAH + -SHIP.] The character or office of the Messiah or of a Messiah.

1627 S. WARD *Happin. Practice* 23 By this, Christ demonstrated..his Messiasship. *a* 1716 SOUTH *Serm.* (ed. 6) III. 299 The Messiaship was pretended to by several Impostors. 1856 R. A. VAUGHAN *Mystics* (1860) II. 289 Hegel condescends to throw to Behmen some words of patronising praise, as a distant harbinger of his own philosophical Messiahship.

Messianic (mesiæ·nik), *a.* [ad. mod.L. *Messiānic-us*, f. *Messiās*: see MESSIAH and -IC. Cf. F. *messianique*, G. *messianisch*.] Of, pertaining to, or relating to the Messiah.

a 1834 COLERIDGE *Lit. Rem.* (1838) III. 15 It [Ps. lxxxvii] seems clearly Messianic. *Ibid.* 179 Doubts of his [Christ's] Messianic character and divinity. 1883 FARRAR *St. Paul* (1883) 107 In all ages the Messianic hope had been prominent in the minds of the most enlightened Jews.

Hence **Messia·nically** *adv.*, as referring to the Messiah.

1896 *Academy* 18 July 52/1 This expression..was very soon after understood Messianically.

So **Messi·anism,** belief in a coming Messiah; **Messi·anize** *v.* (nonce-wd.) *trans.*, to imbue with a Messianic character.

1876 BP. ALEXANDER *Witness of Ps.* (1877) 23 It will be observed that any one Psalm, definitively Messianised, is pregnant with the Messianic principle. *Ibid.*, Messianism becomes at once the central scheme. 1904 *Contemp. Rev.* Aug. 198 Jesus Christ gets behind the formal Messianism of his time.

Messias, variant of MESSIAH.

‖ **Messidor** (mɛsidɔr). [Fr.; f. L. *messi-s* harvest + Gr. δῶρον gift.] The tenth month of the French revolutionary calendar.

1838 NICOLAS *Chronol. Hist.* 182 Messidor (Harvest Month) June 19–July 18.

Messie, obs. form of MESSIAH.

† **Messi·ess.** *Obs. nonce-wd.* [f. MESSIAH + -ESS.] A female Messiah.

1685 LOVELL *Gen. Hist. Relig.* 50 That the Messiah came into the world onely for Men, and that the Lady Iean was to be the Messiess of the Women.

Messieurs (me·siŭɹz, ‖ *mesiœ̄*), *sb. pl.* [a. Fr., pl. of MONSIEUR.]

1. a. The plural of MONSIEUR, in its various uses. (When used as a prefixed title, now commonly represented, as in Fr., by the abbreviation *MM.*)

1624 MASSINGER *Parl. Love* I. v, My lord of Orleans.. assisted By the messieurs Philamour and Lafort. 1696 VANBRUGH *Relapse* I. iii, Hey, messieurs, entrez. 1731 FIELDING *Tom Thumb* I. iii, Let Rome her Cæsar's and her Scipio's show, Her Messieurs France, let Holland boast Mynheers. 1770 J. Z. HOLWELL *Orig. Princ. Anc. Bramins* viii. § 102 (1779) 119 However Mess. Yvon and Bouillet refute the Cartesian hypothesis, by [etc.]. 1827 SCOTT *Napoleon* VIII. 83 The two Messrs. de Polignac were deeply engaged. 1841 EMERSON *Method Nat.* Wks. (1881) II. 225 Why should not then these messieurs of Versailles strut and plot for tabourets and ribbons?

b. *nonce-use.* Imitating the Fr. use of the title before a personal designation in the plural.

1809 BYRON *Bards & Rev.* ix. *note*, Messieurs the Spirits of Flood and Fell. 1854 THACKERAY *Newcomes* I. i. 8, I warrant Messieurs the landlords their interests would be better consulted by keeping their singers within bounds.

c. nonce-use. *The Messieurs* = the French.

1889 DOYLE *Micah Clarke* 162 Two campaigns with the Messieurs in the Palatinate.

2. a. Used to supply the want of an English plural of MR. (Commonly in the abbreviated form **Messrs.**)

1779 MME. D'ARBLAY *Diary* (1842) I. 211 Lord Mordaunt, Messieurs Murphy, Fisher, and Fitzgerald. 1793 SMEATON *Edystone L.* § 131, I returned with Messrs. Jessop and Richardson to Plymouth. 1849 THACKERAY *Pendennis* I. xviii. 164 Lady Agnes..voted the two Messieurs Pendennis most agreeable men. 1888 MAPLESON *Mem.* (ed. 2) I. 215 Messrs. Steinway now..undertook to supply each leading member of the Company with pianos.

b. *nonce-use.* As a title of address (without reference to foreigners); = 'Gentlemen'; 'Sirs'.

1789 WOLCOT (P. Pindar) *Tithe Rencounter* Wks. 1792 III. 27 Messieurs! I've search'd our ancient *Modus* over.

Messilling, obs. form of MASLIN[1].

Messin, obs. form of MESSAN.

† **Me·ssing,** *sb. Obs.* [? a. Du. *messing* (see MASLIN[1]).] = MASLIN[1].

1371 *Fabric Rolls York Minster* (Surtees) 10, xxj lb. de messyng emptis de Ricardo Kyng 3*s.* 6*d.* 1379 *Mem. Ripon* (Surtees) III. 99 In ij petr. ij lb. de messyng emp. 4*s.* 2*d.*

Me·ssing (me·siŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. MESS *v.* + -ING[1].] The action of the verb MESS[1].

† 1. Feasting, banqueting. *Obs. rare*[−1].

1340 *Ayenb.* 71 Gerlondes, robes, playinges, messinges, and alle guodes byeþ ous yfayled. [*Orig.* (ed. 1495) *has*: Chapeaux, deduis, et tous biens nous sont faillis.]

2. Participation in a mess or common meal.

1822 *Regul. & Ord. Army* 123 The Regularity of the Men's Messing is an object of primary Importance. 1864 *Athenæum* 5 Nov. 598/1 The introduction of the system of messing in our jails. 1898 *Folk-Lore* June 118 A right of free messing at the table of the Homeric king.

3. The providing of food to a (soldier's) mess; also *concr.* the food served out to a man; *rarely* payment for such food.

1811 WELLINGTON in Gurw. *Desp.* (1838) VIII. 295 By what you had seen of the messing of both regiments..it does appear that the soldiers..were not at all times messed in the manner pointed out by your order. 1884 SIR F. S. ROBERTS in *19th Cent.* June 1069 Rations should include what is now known as 'extra messing'. 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 9 Sept. 6/1 Out of the private's pay, after deducting 'messing'..he has to [etc.]. 1895 R. BLATCHFORD *Merrie England* vi. 48 His duty is to expend the messing money and superintend the messing.

4. *attrib.*, as *messing allowance, money.*

1892 *Pall Mall G.* 25 Feb. 6/2 The soldier..should receive a messing allowance of 3*d.* a day. 1889 *Daily News* 2 Jan. 2/4 Nor has the soldier been called on to pay a farthing more than the 3*d.* a day messing money he has always paid.

Messinger(e, obs. forms of MESSENGER.

‖ **Messire** (mesīr). Now only *Hist.* [Fr.; repr. the nom. (L. *meus senior*), while *monsieur* represents the accusative (L. *meum seniōrem*).] A title of honour (=Sir) prefixed to the name of a French noble of high rank, and later to the names of persons of quality, and members of the learned professions; also used as a form of address.

1477 EARL RIVERS (Caxton) *Dictes* 2 A worschipful man callid messire Jehan de Teonuille. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII* 206 Messire Pomoray the Frenche Ambassador. 1865 BARING-GOULD *Werewolves* xii. 215 Do you think then, messire, that your servants will accuse you?

Mess-John: see MAS 2.

Messlyng, obs. form of MASLIN[1].

Messmate (me·smēt). [f. MESS *sb.* + MATE *sb.*]

1. A companion at meals; one of a mess, esp. of a ship's mess.

1746 *Brit. Mag.* 346, I..had him for a Mess-mate. 1771 SMOLLETT *Humph. Cl.* 10 June, At two in the afternoon, I found myself one of ten messmates seated at table. 1835 MARRYAT *Jac. Faithf.* x, He was..a good, quiet, honest messmate, as ever slung a hammock.

Proverbial. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk* s.v., Messmate before a shipmate, shipmate before a stranger [etc.].

2. *Biol.* = COMMENSAL B. 2.

1876 *Beneden's Anim. Parasites* i. 1 Animal messmates. *Ibid.* 3 There are some free messmates which never renounce their independence...The others, the fixed messmates, instal themselves with a neighbour, and live at their ease. *Ibid.* 48 We only know one Ophiurus which lives as a messmate on a comatula. 1879 [see COMMENSAL B. 2].

3. *Austral.* A name given to some species of Eucalyptus; esp. *E. amygdalina* and *E. obliqua.*

1889 J. H. MAIDEN *Usef. Plants* 429 Because it is allied to, or associated with, 'Stringybark', it [*Eucalyptus amygdalina*] is also known by the name of 'Messmate'. 1890 *Melbourne Argus* 7 June 13/4 Dead messmates and white gums rise like gaunt skeletons from..the underwood.

Hence **Me·ssmatism** *Biol.* = COMMENSALISM.

1886 *Lond. Q. Rev.* July 246 Marine Messmatism. One of the most interesting features of life in the waters is that which has been called 'Commensalism', or, if we may adopt a newly coined word, 'Messmatism'.

Messon, Messongere, obs. ff. MESSAN, MESSENGER.

‖ **Me·ssor.** *Obs.*−° [a. L. *messor*.] 'A reaper or mower' (Blount *Glossogr.* 1656). Hence † **Messo·rious** *a.*, belonging to reaping (ibid.).

Messo-tinto, obs. form of MEZZOTINTO.

Messour, obs. form of MACER ¹.

1625 *Burgh Rec. Glasgow* (1876) I. 345 Ane presentatioune to be maid in favouris of Williame Fischer, sone to Matho Fischer, messour, of the first vacant place of ane brussour within the colledge of Glasgw.

Messrs.: see MESSIEURS 2 a.

Messuage (me·swēdʒ). Also 5–7 mesuage. [a. AF. *messuage, mesuage*, prob. orig. a graphic corruption of *mesnage*: see MENAGE.

The main difficulty in the way of this etymology is the existence of a continental OF. *masuage, masuage, masowaige*, denoting a tenement of some kind, and a related *masuier, masuuier, masoier, mazowier*, tenant of a '*masuage*' (cf. Frankish Latin *mansuarius, mansoarius*). OF. had also *masurage* denoting a tenement, and *masurier* the corresponding term for the tenant, f. *masure*:—late L. type **mansūra* dwelling, f. *manēre* to dwell.]

Originally, the portion of land intended to be occupied, or actually occupied, as a site for a dwelling-house and its appurtenances. In modern legal language, a dwelling-house with its outbuildings and curtilage and the adjacent land assigned to its use. *Capital messuage*: see CAPITAL *a.* 6 b.

[1290 *Rolls of Parlt.* I. 53/2 De uno Messuagio cum pertin' ibidem.] *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Reeve's T.* 59 The person of the toun.. In purpos was to maken hir his heir Bothe of his catel and his messuage. 1463 *Will J. Baret* in *Bury Wills* (Camden) 24, I beqwethe to William Baret,..myn hefd place, othir wyse callyd a mesuage, wiche I dwellyd in. 1577 in *Misc. Gen. & Her.* Ser. III. I. 83 The said William was also seised ..of one messuage non edeficat. 1588 FRAUNCE *Lawiers Log.* I. vi. 31 b, A messuage is made of two partes, del terre et structure. 1609 SKENE *Reg. Maj.* 33 Reservand alwaies the chiefe messuage, to the eldest sonne. 1639 *MS. Indenture, estate at Knedlington, co. York*, A sellion, being the fourth part of one messuage lying on the marsh. 1797 *Trans. Soc. Arts* XV. 120 John Sutton certifieth, that he is the occupier of a messuage and a farm. 1820 Miss MITFORD in L'Estrange *Life* (1870) II. v. 91 Our residence is a cottage..—a messuage or tenement, such as a little farmer.. might retire to. 1837 LOCKHART *Scott* III. 69 The magnificent Castle of Drumlanrig in Nithsdale, the principal messuage of the dukedom of Queensberry. 1842 TENNYSON *Edwin Morris* 126 They wedded her to sixty thousand pounds, To lands in Kent and messuages in York.

b. *Comb.*: †**messuage-stead.**

1564 *Yorks. Chantry Surv.* (Surtees) 277, ij messuage steids, with one kilnehouse. *Ibid.* 334 One mesuage stede, not buylded upon.

Messuage, obs. form of MESSAGE.

†**Messuager.** *Obs. rare.* [f. MESSUAGE + -ER ¹.] One who holds or possesses a messuage.

1666–7 *N. Riding Rec.* VI. 108 The cottagers, the husbandmen, and the messuagers of Melmerby. 1739 *Bewholm Inclos. Act* 6 Proprietors, messuagers, cottagers.

Messurger, rare obs. form of MESSENGER.

Messy (me·si), *a.* [f. MESS *sb.*² + -Y¹.] Of the nature of a mess; attended with 'messes' or disorder; untidy.

1843 Mrs. CARLYLE *Lett.* I. 235, I have had your letter, for consolation in my messy job [glazing and painting]. 1890 *Spectator* 15 Feb., The boy who holds the mirror..is, for Velarquez, somewhat messy in execution. 1899 F. T. BULLEN *Log Sea-waif* 210 How we did hate the messy, fiddling abomination.

Hence **Me·ssiness.**

1893 *Brit. Jrnl. Photogr.* 15 Dec. 793 Although there is no difficulty in making it, yet is there a certain amount of messiness.

Mest(e, obs. ff. MOST. **Mestee:** see MUSTEE.

Mestelyn, obs. form of MASLIN ².

Mesteque. ? *Obs.* Also **mastique, mestica, mestique.** [Of obscure origin.

Réaumur *Hist. des Insectes* (1738) IV. 90 says: 'Elle [la cochenille fine] est appelée cochenille Mesteque, parce qu'on en fait des recoltes à Meteque [*sic*] dans la province de Honduras'. No such place-name is known to have existed in Honduras; perh. what is meant is *Mixteca*, the name of the ancient Mexican province corresponding to the present Oaxaca. It is doubtful whether the word ever had any English currency: there is some ground for the suspicion that Réaumur is the source of all the later references to it.]

The finest kind of cochineal.

[1600 *Hakluyt's Voy.* III. 455 [Voy. R. Tomson in N. Hisp. 1555.] There is a place called the Misteca, fiftie leagues to the Northwest [of Mexico], which doth yeeld great store of..Cochinilla.] 1667 PETTY *Dyeing* in Sprat *Hist. R. Soc.* (1722) 298 Cochineal is of several sorts, *viz.* Silvester and Mestequa. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* s.v. *Progall-insect*, There are two kinds of cochineal, the finer called *mestique*, the other termed wild cochineal. 1780 *Ann. Reg.* II. 104 [citing Réaumur] A much finer cochineal, known by the name of mestica. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) V. 109/2 In trade, four sorts [of cochineal] are distinguished, *Mastique, Campeschane, Tetraschale*, and *Sylvester*. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 303 Two sorts of cochineal are gathered—the wild..and the cultivated, or the *grana fina*, termed also *mesteque*, from the name of a Mexican province.

Mester, variant of MISTER *Obs.*

†**Me·stful,** *a. Obs. rare.* [f. L. *mæst-us* sad + -FUL.] = MESTIVE.

1577 T. KENDALL *Flowers of Epigrammes* F v, Emong all other birds, moste mestfull birde am I. 1598 TOFTE *Alba* (1880) 17 Vnto whom shall I (now) dedicate This mestfull verse, this mournfull Elegie?

Mesti, variant form of MUSTEE.

Mestica, variant form of MESTEQUE.

Misticall, variant form of MISKAL.

Mistick, Mestico, variant forms of MESTIZO.

Mestier, variant form of MISTER *Obs.*, trade.

†**Mesti·fical,** *a. Obs.*—° [f. L. *mæstific-us* (f. *mæstus* sad + *-ficus* making) + -AL.]

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Mestifical*, that maketh heavy or sad.

Mestigo, Mestilione: see MESTIZO, MASLIN ².

[**Mestino,** a spurious form of MESTIZO in Brande *Dict. Sci.* etc. (1842), and in later Dicts. (Webster *Suppl.* 1902 confounds it with the Sp. *mesteño* MUSTANG.)]

Mestique, var. MESTEQUE, kind of cochineal.

Mestisa, -ise, -iso, -ito, obs. ff. MESTIZO.

†**Me·stive,** *a. Obs.* Also 7 mæstive. [as if ad. L. type **mæstīvus*, f. *mæs-, mærēre* to mourn: see -IVE.] Mournful.

1578 T. PROCTOR *Gorg. Gallery* M ij b, A carking care, a mount of mestiue mone. 1609 J. DAVIES *Holy Roode* (Grosart) 6/2 This kinde Pellican in mæstiue moode.

‖ **Mestiza** (mestī·zä). Also 7 mestisa, mus-, mostesa. [Sp., fem. of *mestizo*.] A woman of the mestizo race. Also *attrib.*

c 1582 M. PHILIPS in *Hakluyt's Voy.* (1600) III. 482 Paul Horsewell is maried to a Mestisa, as they name those whose fathers were Spaniards, and their mothers Indians. 1697 DAMPIER *Voy.* (1729) I. 388 Mr. Fitz-Gerald had in this time gotten a Spanish Mustesa Woman to Wife. 1760–72 tr. *Juan & Ulloa's Voy.* (ed. 3) I. 121 The Mestiza, or Negro women, or the coloured women as they are called here [Panama]. 1851 MACMICKING *Recoll. Manilla* 61 The Mestiza girls being frequently good-looking. 1890 *Pall Mall G.* 5 Aug. 2/1 The olive-skinned mestizas.

‖ **Mestizo** (mestī·zo). Forms: 6 mastizo, 6–7 mestico, 7 mastiso, mestiso, -tisa, mostesa, musteese, -tezo, mestick, 7–8 mestise, mostese, 7–9 mestize, 8 mestigo, mestito, mustice, -tizo, 6– mestizo. [Sp. *mestizo*, Pg. *mestiço*, = Pr. *mestis*, F. *métis*:—popular L. type *mixtīcius*, f. L. *mixt-us*, pa. pple. of *miscēre* to mix.] A Spanish or Portuguese half-caste; now chiefly, the offspring of a Spaniard and an American Indian.

In the occasional application to a Portuguese half-caste, it should now have the Pg. spelling *mestiço*.

c 1588 PRETTY in *Hakluyt's Voy.* (1600) III. 814 A Mestizo is one which hath a Spaniard to his father and an Indian to his mother. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 486 The Portugalls many of them are married with Indian women, and their posteritie are called Mesticos. *a* 1616 HAKLUYT *Divers Voy.* App. (1850) 167 Worsted stockings knit which are worn of the mastizoes. 1678 in *Notes & Extracts Rec. Fort St. George* I. (1871) 88 (Y.) Europeans, Musteeses, and Topasees. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 57 Beyond the Outworks live a few Portugals Mustezos or Misteradoes. 1704 *Collect. Voy. & Trav.* III. 76/1 The Mestito's or Mongrel Breed of a Spanish Man and Indian Woman. 1782 H. WALPOLE *To Mason* 8 July *Lett.* (1858) VIII. 251 Even demigods have intermarried till their race are become downright *mestises*. 1842 PRICHARD *Nat. Hist. Man* v. (1845) 21 What gives these Mestizos a peculiarly striking appearance is the excessively long hair of the head. 1875 JAGOR *Trav. Philippines* 290 Creoles and mestizes are for the most part too idle even to keep sheep.

b. *attrib.*, as *mestizo-lad*, etc.; **mestizo-wool,** South American wool from mixed breeds of sheep (*Funk's Stand. Dict.*).

1617 COCKS in *Lett. E. Ind. Comp.* (1901) V. 15 There came a Mestisa Indian to me. 1727 A. HAMILTON *New Acc. E. Ind.* II. xxxiii. 10 A poor Seaman had got a pretty Mustice Wife. 1880 C. R. MARKHAM *Peruv. Bark* 136 Pablo Sevallos the mestizo lad.

Mestlen, -lin(g, -lyon, obs. ff. MASLIN ¹, ².

Mestome (me·stōum). *Bot.* [ad. Gr. *μέστωμα* (taken in the sense 'filling up'), f. *μεστοῦν* to fill up, f. *μεστός* full.] Schwendener's term for those parts of a fibro-vascular bundle which do not conduce to its strength.

1885 GOODALE *Physiol. Bot.* 191.

Mestor, Mestrall, Mestres(se, Mestyer(e, Mestyf, Mestylyon: see MISTER, MISTRAL, MISTRESS, MASTIFF, MASLIN ².

Mesuage, Mesure, Meswage, Mesyl(le, Mesyng, Mesynger: see MESSUAGE, MEASURE, MESSAGE, MEASLE, MASSING *vbl. sb.*¹, MESSENGER.

Met (met), *sb. Obs.* exc. *dial.* Forms: [I ȝe-met(t], 3– met, mett. Also 3, 5–6 mete, (7 meat). Also I-MET. [OE. *gemet* neut. = OS. *gimet* (Du. *gemet* acre), OHG. *gamez*, ON. *mét* neut. pl., weight of a balance:—OTeut. **ga-meto-m*, f. root **met-* to measure: see METE *v.*

The form I-MET survived only to the beginning of the 13th c. in the south; in other dialects the prefix was lost still earlier, according to the general rule with regard to sbs.]

= MEASURE *sb.* in various senses.

†**1.** Size, dimension, or quantity as determinable by measurement; = MEASURE *sb.* 2, b, c. Sometimes = distance. *Obs.*

[*c* 888 K. ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xviii. § 1 [Ptolomeus] se towrat ealles þises middanȝeardes ȝemet on anre bec. *c* 1050 *Laws Northumbr. Priests* Ivi. (Liebermann), Betweonan Eferwic & six mila ȝemete.] 13.. *Cursor M.* 8123 (Gött.) And all þair schapp was turned new, Of man-kind had þai þe mett. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 14978 Þe lengþe of þe Ilde of Tenet, Sex myle þen ys þe met. *c* 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* III. 199 A xl foote of mette Vche elm away from other most be born. *a* 1529 SKELTON *E. Rummyng* 333 She..bad Elynour..fyll in good met.

2. The action of measuring. *By* or *with met*: as determined by measuring.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 8814 þai lete it [þe tre] don wit-vten lett, And fand it merc inogh wit mett [*a* 1425 (Trin.) bi met]. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Parson's T.* 725 To take þy neighebours catel agayns his wille..be it by mette or by mesure. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 9480 Two hundred fet was it be met.

†**3.** A method or system of measuring; = MEASURE *sb.* 6. *Obs.*

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 439 Met of corn, and wiȝte of se, And merke of felde, first fond he. 1580 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* III. 300, XXXII bollis wattir mett. 1627 *Rep. Parishes Scotl.* (Bann.) 2 Four bollis otis rining mett.

4. A unit of measurement, esp. of capacity. Now *dial.* = a bushel or (in some parts) two bushels.

[*c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Deut.* XXV. 15 Hæbbe ælc man.. rihte ȝemetu on ælcum þingum.] *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3333 A met ðor was, it het Gomor. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 28437 Again þe lagh in land is sett, Haf i wysed fals weght and mette. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VIII. *Prol.* 40 The myllar mythis the multur wyth a met scant. 1624 A. HUNTAR (*title*) Treatise of Weights, Mets and Measures of Scotland; with their quantities, and true foundation. 1660 HEXHAM, *Een Gemeet Landes*, a Meat or Measure of Land. 1691 RAY *N. C. Words* 48 A *Met*: a Strike or four Pecks,..in York-sh. two Strike. 1793 *Statist. Acc. Scot.* VII. 589 Herrings..sell for 1d. per score, or 3s. per mett, nearly a barrel of fresh ungutted herrings. 1876 *Whitby Gloss., Met*, two bushels.

5. An instrument for measuring = MEASURE *sb.* 4. *Obs.* exc. *dial.* (see E.D.D.).

[*c* 1030 *Laws of Cnut* II. ix. (Liebermann), ȝemeta & ȝewihta rihte man ȝeorne.] *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 12398 Þe knaue þat þis timber fett Heild noght graithli his mett, Bot ouer scort he broght a tre. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 330 Sho..tuke hur mettis & hur messurs at sho fillid ale with. *a* 1733 *Shetland Acts* 16 in *Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot.* (1892) XXVI. 199 The trying and adjusting of bismers with the stoups, cans, and other mets and measures.

6. A quantity measured out; *esp.* a quantity of anything as measured out according to a certain unit of measurement, as a *met of coals*. Now only *dial.*

[*c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xiii. 33 On þrim ȝemetum melwes.] *c* 1200 ORMIN 14034, & twafald oþerr þrefald mett þa fetless alle tokenn. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 625 Þre mettez of mele menge & ma kakez. 1522 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) V. 145 To every of them oon mette of corne, scilicet, half of whete, and the other halfe malte. 1636 *Farington Papers* (Chetham Soc.) 22, 23 Metts Banberie Malte. 1765 *Lond. Chron.* 3 Jan. 16 The prisoners in Ouse-Bridge gaol received..10 mets of coals from his Grace the Archbishop. 1891 A. MATTHEWS *Poems & Songs* 19 A wab o' claith, a pirn wheel A met o' coals, a cheese, a neep.

fig. *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* 273 [He] earneð him..met of heouenliche mede. 1572 *Satir. P. Reform.* xxxiii. 343 Quhilks for to out with dowbill met and mesure, The vther tway ȝe ludgeit at thair plesure.

b. In Matt. vii. 2 and echoes.

[*c* 975, *c* 1175: see I-MET.] *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 25318 Wit sli mett als yee bi and sell, Wit þat ilk sal you be mett. *c* 1330 *Spec. Gy de Warewyke* 549 Alswich met as þu metest me, Alswich i wole mete to þe.

c. *By* or *with large met*: in abundance.

c 1290 *St. Nicholas* 150 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 244 And hou heo hadden bi large met wel more corn i-brouȝt. *c* 1450 *Hymns Virg.* 118 Hytt [the rayne] schalle ouergo wyth large mett Alle that ys in erth I-sett.

†**7.** Extent not to be exceeded; limit, bounds; = MEASURE *sb.* 12. *Withute met(e*: beyond bounds. *With met*: 'by measure'. *Obs.*

[*c* 888 K. ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xl. § 1 Þylæs hi cweþan þ wit sprecan ofer monnes ȝemet. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xxiii. 32, & ȝefylle ȝe þ ȝemet eowra fædera.] *c* 1200 ORMIN 17986 Forr Godd ne ȝifeþþ nohht wiþþ mett Hiss Gastess Hallȝhe Frofre. *a* 1240 *Sawles Warde* in *Cott. Hom.* 251 Helle is wid wið ute met ant deop wið ute grunde. *Ibid.* 263 Ha luuieð god wið ute met.

†**8.** Moderation, temperance; = MEASURE *sb.* 13. Also, modesty. *Obs.*

[*a* 1000: see I-MET.] *c* 1200 ORMIN 6116 Wiþþ mett & mæþ i mete & drinnch, & ec inn ȝure clabess. *a* 1240 *Sawles Warde* in *Cott. Hom.* 255 For ne mei na wunne ne na flesches licunge..bringe me ouer þe midel of mesure and of mete. *c* 1357 *Lay Folks Catech.* 445 Methe is mesur and met [*Lamb. MS.* mede] of al that we do.

9. *Comb.*, as **met-loom,** instrument for measuring; **met-poke,** a bag serving as a measure. (See also *met-line, -rod, -stick, -wand, -yard* s.vv. METELINE, METEROD, etc.)

1528 *Burgh Rec. Stirling* (1887) 33 The baillies sall caus all metloumis pyntis, quhartis and chopynnis, to cum to the tolbouit. 1641 BEST *Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 100 When wee sende wheate [etc.]..to markette..wee putte it into mette-poakes.

†**Met,** *ppl. a. Obs.* [See METE *v.*[1]] Measured.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* XL (*Ninian*) 1406 Twa hundre myle of met way. *a* 1400 *Sir Perc.* 1708 The stede..Leppe up over an hille Fyve stryde mett. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* XII. 484 This botell..It holdys a mett potell.

Met: see METE.

‖ **Meta** (mī·tă). *Rom. Antiq.* Pl. **metæ** (mī·tī). [L. *mēta.*] One of the conical columns set in the ground at each end of the Circus, to mark the turning-place in a race. Hence *transf.* A boundary.

1577 HARRISON *Descr. Brit.* I. 2 in *Holinshed*, So that the aforesaid line shall henceforth be their *Meta* and partition from such as be ascribed to America. 1662 RAY *Three Itin.* III. 183 In Somersetshire they have a way of setting their mows of corn on a frame..standing upon four stones cut with a shank, and upon that an head like a meta. 1845 *Athenæum* 1 Feb. 126 We have the cross erected between two 'metæ'.

Meta- (me·tă), *prefix*, before a vowel normally met- (also before *h*, the resulting *meth-* being pro-

nounced meþ), repr. Gr. *μετα-*, *μετ-* (*μεθ-*), which occurs separately as the prep. *μετά* with, after; etymologically corresponding to MID *prep.* In Gr. the prefix is joined chiefly to verbs and verbal derivatives; the principal notions which it expresses are: sharing, action in common; pursuit or quest; and, especially, change (of place, order, condition, or nature), corresponding to L. *trans-*. In some few formations *μετα-* represents the prep. *μετά* in syntactical combination, with the sense after or behind, as in *μετάφρενον* METAPHRENON.

The words derived from Gr. words containing the prefix, or from assumed Greek types normally constructed, are given in their alphabetical place. The words enumerated in this article are modern formations, in which the prefix is employed in ways not strictly in accordance with Greek analogies. The prefix is often hyphened, and the *a* remains unelided before a vowel or *h*.

1. The supposed analogy of METAPHYSICS (misapprehended as meaning 'the science of that which transcends the physical') has been followed in the practice of prefixing *meta-* to the name of a science, to form a designation for a higher science (actual or hypothetical) of the same nature but dealing with ulterior and more fundamental problems. **Metache·mistry** ? *nonce-wd.*, the chemistry of the supersensible. **Metamathema·tical** *a.*, beyond the scope of mathematics. **Metamathema·tics**, 'the metaphysics of mathematics; the philosophy of non-Euclidean geometry and the like' (*Cent. Dict.* 1890). **Metaphysio·logy**, a name invented by G. H. Lewes for a doctrine of life and vital phenomena which should base itself on principles ontside of and higher than those of physiology and the material organism; hence **Metaphysiolo·gical** *a.*, **Metaphysio·logist**. **Metatheo·logy** *nonce-wd.*, a profounder theology than that recognized by divines. Similarly in **Meta·element**, **Metagno·stic** *a.* [cf. GNOSTIC *a.*], **Metaorganism** (see quots.); **Metapheno·menal** *a.*, existing behind phenomena. See also METAGEOMETRY, METEMPIRIC.

1856 EMERSON *Eng. Traits, Lit.* Wks. (Bohn) II. 106 It seems an affair of race, or of *metachemistry. 1888 W. CROOKES in *Jrnl. Chem. Soc.* LIII. 487 The possible existence of bodies which, though neither compounds nor mixtures, are not elements in the strictest sense of the word; —bodies which I venture to call '*meta-elements'. 1886 H. MAUDSLEY *Nat. Causes & Supern. Seemings* 122 Regions.. that are beyond knowledge, not beyond nature; *metagnostic, not metaphysical. 1866 MYERS *Phantasms of Living* II. 278 That this body of ours..is interpenetrated with a '*metaorganism' of identical shape and structure, and capable sometimes of detaching itself from the solid flesh. 1833 SIR W. R. HAMILTON in R. P. Graves *Life* II. 68 In the application of the mathematics themselves there must (if I may venture on the word) be something *meta-mathematical. 1844 TAPPAN *Elem. Logic* 12 Those objects which, by supposition, lie beyond immediate consciousness, are *metaphenomenal. 1882 G. S. MORRIS *Kant's Critique* vi. (1886) 189 No distinction of phenomena from the metaphenomenal, as objects of knowledge. 1876 LEWES in *Fortn. Rev.* Apr. 479–86 *Metaphysiology. *Metaphysiological. *Metaphysiologists. *a* 1615 DONNE *Ess.* (1651) 129 A *Meta-theology and a Superdivinity above that which serves our particular consciences.

2. *Path.* Used to form adjs. applicable to diseases or symptoms, with the sense 'arising subsequently to' (that which is indicated in the body of the word). **Meta-arthri·tic**, following or consequent on gout. **Metapneumo·nic**, following or consequent on pneumonia. **Metasple·nomega·lic** [Gr. *σπλήν* spleen, *μεγαλο-*, *μέγας* great], preceded by enlargement of the spleen.

1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 862 The *meta-arthritic endocarditis. *Ibid.* 164 *Metapneumonic pleurisy. 1905 H. D. ROLLESTON *Dis. Liver* 308 *Metasplenomegalic hypertrophic biliary cirrhosis.

3. *Anat. and Zool.* Used to express the notion of 'behind' (cf. METAPHRENON); also often that of 'hinder', 'hindmost', 'situated at the back'; sometimes correlated with PRO- and MESO-. **Metabra·nchial** *a.* [Gr. *βράγχια* gills], applied to a division of the carapace of a crab situated behind and to one side of the mesobranchial lobe. **Meta·fa·cial** *a.*, applied to the angle which the pterygoid processes make with the base of the cranium. ‖ **Metapara·pteron** *Ent.*, the parapteron of the metathoracic segment; hence **Metapara·pteral** *a.* (*Cent. Dict.*). **Metapneustic** (-pniū·stik) *a. Ent.* [Gr. *πνευστικ-ός* relating to breathing], having a single pair of spiracles situated at the posterior end of the abdomen. **Metapore** (me·tăpoəɹ) [PORE], an orifice in the pia mater covering the fourth ventricle of the brain; the foramen of Magendie. ‖ **Metascute·llum**, ‖ **Metascu·tum**, the scutellum and scutum (respectively) of the metathorax of an insect; hence **Metascute·llar**, **Metascu·tal** *adjs.* (in recent Dicts.). **Metasthenic** (-sþe·nik) *a. Ent.* [Gr. *σθένος* strength], having most strength in the hinder part of the body; *sb. pl.*, a division of insects characterized in this way.

1877 *Metabranchial [see *Mesobranchial* s.v. MESO-]. 1878 BARTLEY tr. *Topinard's Anthrop.* II. iii. 291 The *metafacial angle of Serres, which the pterygoid processes form with the base of the skull. 1891 BERNARD tr. *Lang's Comp. Anat.* I. 482 The tracheal system is then called *metapneustic. 1899 D. SHARP *Insects* II. 450 (Camb. Nat. Hist.) Some begin life in the metapneustic state, and afterwards become amphipneustic. 1889 *Buck's Handbk. Med. Sci.* VIII. 123/2 The orifice here called *metapore. 1899 D. SHARP *Insects* II. 313 (Camb. Nat. Hist.) The hind margin of the *metascutellum. 1863 DANA in *Amer. Jrnl. Sci.* Ser. II. XXXVI. 323 The condition may be described as..*Metasthenic..if a posterior pair [of locomotive organs] is the more important and the anterior are weak or obsolete. *Ibid.* 335 The two highest divisions, Prosthenics and Metasthenics.

4. *Bot.* and *Zool.* Used with the sense 'later', 'subsequent', 'more developed'; sometimes indicating the latest of three stages, correlated with PROTO- and MESO-. **Me·taphase**, **Metaphasis** (metæ·fāsis), the separation of the daughter chromosomes in nuclear division. **Me·taphyte**, ‖ **Meta·phyton**, a multicellular plant; hence **Metaphy·tic** *a.* (Jackson *Gloss. Bot. Terms* 1900).

1890 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, **Metaphase*...the stage of the nuclear spindle in karyokinesis. 1887 tr. *Strasburger's Bot.* 363 Now begin the phases of separation and rearrangement of the daughter-segments, the *metaphases of division. 1893 SHIPLEY *Zool. Invert.* 3 The *Metaphyta and Metazoa, or the multicellular plants and animals. 1897 HAATOG in *Nat. Science* Oct. 234 The higher animals and plants we term Metazoa and *Metaphytes respectively.

5. *Geol.* In imitation of METAMORPHISM, the prefix has been used irregularly to form words referring to certain specific varieties of metamorphic processes, as **Metache·mic** *a.*, **Metape·psis** (hence **Metape·ptic** *a.*), **Metata·xis** (hence **Metata·xic** *a.*), **Meta·tropy**: see quots.

1893 GEIKIE *Text-bk. Geol.* IV. VIII. 596 *note*, *Metasomatosis*, *metasomatic*..and **metachemic* applied to chemical metamorphism or alteration of constitution or substance. 1878 KINAHAN *Geol. Irel.* 175 One kind of Metamorphism is Regional, or extends over large areas. The rocks affected by it seem to have been under the influence of intensely heated water or steam, which, as it were, stewed them, from which the action may be called *metapepsis. *Ibid.* 177 *Metapeptic rocks. *Ibid.*, Metapeptic action. 1889 A. IRVING *Metamorph. Rocks* 65 *Metataxic work done by Solar and Lunar Tides. *Ibid.* 5 Slaty cleavage and its concomitant phenomena..will be considered under the term *Metataxis. *Foot-n.* This term is preferred to the cognate term Metastasis (Bonney). *Ibid.*, *Metatropy, or changes in the physical characters of rock-masses.

6. In *Chemistry.* **a.** *Meta-* is used to designate compounds derived from, metameric with, or resembling in composition those to the names of which it is prefixed, as *metachloral*, METALDEHYDE, etc. More systematically, it is used to distinguish one class of acids and their corresponding salts from another class (the ORTHO- acids) consisting of the same elements in different proportions, the *meta-* acids containing one, two, or three molecules of water less than the *ortho-* acids; the salts of these acids have names formed by replacing *-ic* by *-ate*. (A few of these compounds will be found in their alphabetical place; the most important of those remaining are placed below.)

The use of the prefix in chemistry was first introduced by Graham in 1833 (*Phil. Trans.* 253): see METAPHOSPHATE, METAPHOSPHORIC. The more definite use (correlated with *ortho-*) was introduced by Odling in 1859.

1861 ODLING *Man. Chem.* I. xiii. *Contents*, Phosphorus and Oxygen... Meta-compounds. 1892 MORLEY & MUIR *Watts' Dict. Chem.*, Meta-acids and meta-salts.

Metabo·ric *acid*, 'a white powder, obtained by heating ordinary boric acid or orthoboric acid to 100° C.' (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1890). **Metace·llulose**, the substance of which the cell-walls of fungi consist, differing from ordinary cellulose. **Metachlo·ral**, a white amorphous solid formed by the action of sulphuric acid on chloral. **Metacre·sol**, one of the three modifications of cresol (*ortho-*, *meta-* and *paracresol*). **Metage·latin**, a form of gelatin that remains fluid, used in photography, made by boiling and cooling a solution of gelatin several times. **Metagu·mmic** = METARABIC. **Metalu·mina**, a name given to the soluble dihydrate of aluminium obtained by the action of heat on a solntion of the acetate. **Metamo·rphia**, **Metamo·rphine**: see quots. **Meta·mylene**, 'a compound polymeric with amylene, contained in the higher portion of the distillate produced by heating amylic alcohol with sulphuric acid' (Watts). **Meta-ole·ic** (also **Metole·ic**) *acid*, an acid resulting from the action of sulphuric acid on oleic acid. **Metaoxybenzo·ic** *acid*, 'an isomeride of salicylic acid' (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*). **Metape·ctic** *acid*, the final prodnct of chemical action upon pectin. **Metape·ctin**, an isomeric form of pectin produced by boiling with dilute acids. **Meta·rabic** *acid*, 'a substance, also called *Cerasin*, obtained by heating gum arabic to 100° C.' (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*). **Meta·rsenic** *acid*: see quot. **Metasili·cic** *acid*, a transparent vitreous substance obtained by drying silicic acid over anhydrous sulphuric acid. **Metatarta·ric** *acid*, a modification of tartaric acid obtained by melting it. **Metatita·nic** *acid*: see quot. **Metato·luic** *acid*: see quot. **Metatu·ngstic** *acid*, a yellow solid used as a test for alkaloids.

1863 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* I. 639 Nearly all borates may be arranged in two classes, orthoborates and *metaborates (so called from their analogy with the ortho- and metaphosphates and silicates). 1885 GOODALE *Physiol. Bot.* (1892) 35 *note*, Cellulose dissolves at once in cuprammonia; paracellulose, only after the action of acids; *metacellulose, not even then. 1876 *Encycl. Brit.* V. 676/2 When kept for some days..chloral undergoes spontaneous change into the polymeride *metachloral,..a white porcelaneous body. 1881 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* VIII. 1286 *Metacresol. 1858 SUTTON *Dict. Photogr.*, **Metagelatine*. 1879 *Encycl. Brit.* X. 131/2 Gelatin so treated [with hot solutions of oxalic acid] has been called *metagelatin*. 1862 WATTS tr. *Gmelin's Handbk. Chem.* XV. 205 *Metagummic Acid. *Ibid.* 206 *Metagumate of lime. 1862 GRAHAM in *Jrnl. Chem. Soc.* XV. 247 Two soluble modifications of alumina appear to exist, alumina and *metalumina. 1890 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, **Metamorphia*, one of the alkaloids separated from laudanum. 1865 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* III. 976 **Metamorphine*, an opium-base, the hydrochlorate of which is obtained, as a residue, in the preparation of opium-tincture by means of lime and sal-ammoniac. 1838 T. THOMSON *Chem. Org. Bodies* 124 M. Fremy was unable to obtain any of the *meta-oleates in a crystallized state. *Ibid.* 123 *Meta-oleic acid differs from it [*sc.* oleic acid] by containing two additional atoms of water. 1873 RALFE *Phys. Chem.* 132 The parapeptone being removed by filtration, the neutralized filtrate is again acidified when another precipitate, *metapeptone, is thrown down. 1861 ODLING *Man. Chem.* I. 338 *Metarsenates and pararsenates are converted respectively into monometallic and dimetallic common arsenates by the action of water. *Ibid.*, *Metarsenic acid $HAsO_3$, is formed by gradually heating common arsenic acid to a temperature of 200°–205°. 1859 *Meta-silicates [see ORTHO- 2]. 1872 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* VI. 825 *Metasilicic Acid. 1848 BRANDE *Chem.* (ed. 6) 1315 Saccharic Acid. .. Erdmann, who repeated Guérin Varry's experiments in 1837, regarded this acid as isomeric with tartaric acid, and called it *metartaric acid. 1856 WATTS tr. *Gmelin's Handbk. Chem.* X. 328 *Metatartrate. 1854 R. D. THOMSON *Cycl. Chem.*, **Metatitanic Acid*, TiO_3. Small shining plates, separating when anhydrous bichloride of titanium is saturated with carbonate of barytes, adding water and boiling rapidly. 1873 *Jrnl. Chem. Soc.* XI. 276 Uvitic acid prepared by Finckh's process from pyrotartaric acid decomposes into *metatoluic acid when heated with lime. 1854 R. D. THOMSON *Cycl. Chem.*, **Metatungstic Acid*.

b. In the names of isomeric benzene di-derivatives, *meta-* denotes those compounds in which the two radicals that replace hydrogen in the benzene-ring are regarded as attached to alternate carbon atoms. (The use was introduced by Körner in 1867; cf. ORTHO- 2 b, PARA- 2 b.) See also *metacoumaric acid*, *metacoumarate*.

As the number of these is unlimited, no list is given; a few examples are appended in the quots. below.

1873 *Jrnl. Chem. Soc.* XI. 1147 The metadiamidobenzene of Griess. 1875 *Ibid.* XIII. 156 When metachlorophenol is fused with potash, it is readily converted into pyrocatechin; the relation between metanitrophenol, metachlorophenol, and pyrocatechin being thus proved. *Ibid.*, Metanitrometachlorophenol appears to be converted into metanitrodichlorophenol by the action of chlorine. 1876 H. E. ARMSTRONG *ibid.* I. 212 The three Isomeric Dibromobenzenes... Paranitrobromobenzene,.. Metanitrobromobenzene, ..Orthonitrobromobenzene. 1879 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* VIII. 210, *a-* or metapherylene-diamine. 1899 CAGNEY *Jaksch's Clin. Diagn.* vii. (ed. 4) 381 Metadiamido-benzol is coloured a deep yellow by nitrites. 1905 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 27 May 1144 They [i.e. benzenoid ortho- and para- compounds] both differ markedly from their isomerides of the meta-series...In the meta-compound these groups [i.e. ortho-coumaric and para-coumaric acids] are in apothetic positions with respect to each other so that the meta-acid might be expected to exhibit the dual properties of a phenol and a cinnamic acid. *Ibid.*, Sodium meta-coumarate...The meta-coumaric acid required for this preparation was produced synthetically from meta-nitrobenzaldehyde.

7. *Min.* **a.** Used to designate a mineral that is found along with another or is closely related to it, as *metabrushite* (a calcium phosphate allied to brushite), *metachlorite*, *metacinnabar(ite*, *metagadolinite*, *metalonchidite*, *metanocerite*, *metasericite*, *metastibnite*, *metavoltine* (see A. H. Chester *Dict. Min.* 1896).

1854 DANA *Syst. Min.* (ed. 4) II. 297. 1865 JULIEN in *Amer. Jrnl. Sci.* Ser. II. XL. 371 Metabrushite. This new mineral has been observed to occur only with the guano as a matrix.

b. Proposed by Dana to designate minerals produced by metamorphism of sediments, as *metadiorite*, *metadolerite*, *metagranite*, *metasyenite*, (1876 *Jrnl. Sci. & Arts* XI. 119.)

Meta-acids, Meta-arthritic: see META- 6, 2.

‖ **Metabasis** (metæ·băsis). [mod.L., a. Gr. *μετάβασις*, related to *μεταβαίνειν* to change one's place, f. *μετα-* META- + *βαίνειν* to go. (Cf. BASIS.)] A transition, *spec.* in *Rhetoric*, from one subject or point to another, in *Medicine*, from one remedy, etc. to another (= METABOLA).

1657 J. SMITH *Myst. Rhet.* 137 Metabasis... A figure whereby the parts of an oration or speech are knit together: and is, When we are briefly put in mind of what hath been said, and what remains further to be spoken. 1693 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Metabasis*, the passing from one Indication to another, from one Remedy to another. 1882 *Sat. Rev.* LIV. 347 A somewhat dangerous metabasis

which he strives to make from the genus of natural science into that of social philosophy.

Metabatic (metăbæ·tik), *a.* [ad. Gr. *μεταβατικ-ός*, f. *μεταβαίνειν*: see prec. and -IC.]

1. *Rhet.* Pertaining to metabasis.

1900 *Expositor* Nov. 391 Even if the *δέ* be genuine..it is not adversative but metabatic.

2. *Thermodynamics.* In *Metabatic function* (see quot.).

1855 RANKINE *Misc. Sci. Papers* (1881) 225 The function ..whose identity for the two substances expresses the condition of equilibrium of the actual energy between them, may be called the *metabatic* function for that kind of energy. In the science of thermodynamics the metabatic function is *absolute temperature.*

Metable·tic, *a.* [ad. Gr. *μεταβλητικός*, f. *μεταβάλλειν* to exchange.] Of the nature of barter.

1754 FIELDING *Voy. Lisbon* (1755) 180 Merchants..changed the Metabletic, the only kind of traffic allowed by Aristotle in his Politics, into the Chrematistic.

‖ **Metabola** (metæ·bŏlă), *sb. pl. Ent.* Formerly metabolia. [mod.L. neut. pl., f. Gr. *μεταβόλος* changeable.] A division of insects comprising those which undergo complete metamorphosis.

1817 LEACH *Zool. Misc.* III. 58 *Subclassis* II, Metabolia. 1855 DALLAS *Nat. Hist.* I. 342 The suctorial *Metabola.* 1888 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* 508 In the *Metabola*, three well-marked stages are distinguishable.

‖ **Metabole** (metæ·bŏlī). *Med.* Also -bola. [late L., a. Gr. *μεταβολή*, related to *μεταβάλλειν* to change.] (See quots.)

1693 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Metabole*, a change of Time, Air, or Diseases. 1722 QUINCY *Lex. Physico-Med.* (ed. 2), *Metabasis*, and *Metabole*, signifies any Change from one thing to another, either in the curative Indications, or the Symptoms of a Distemper. 1755 JOHNSON, *Metabola.*

Metabolian (metăbō·ulĭăn). *Ent.* [f. mod.L. *metabolia* (see METABOLA) + -AN.] An insect of the division *Metabola.*

1835 KIRBY *Hab. & Inst. Anim.* II. 18 Dr. Leach..subdivides..Insects into *Ametabolians* and *Metabolians.*

Metabolic (metăbp·lik), *a.* [ad. Gr. *μεταβολικ-ός* changeable, or f. METABOLE + -IC.]

1. Pertaining to or involving transition.

(In quot. humorously pedantic.)

1743 FIELDING *Phil. Trans.* Wks. 1775 IX. 231 We are forced to proceed .. by the metabolic or mutative [method], not by the schystic or divisive.

2. *Biol.* and *Chem.* Pertaining to, involving, characterized or produced by, metabolism.

[An adaptation of G. *metabolisch*, first used in 1839 by Schwann (*Mikroskopische Untersuchungen* 229).]

1845 G. E. DAY tr. *Simon's Anim. Chem.* I. 140 A dialytic, catalytic, or, as Schwann terms it, a metabolic change on the plasma of the blood. 1902 D. N. PATON in *Encycl. Brit.* XXXI. 560/1 When such functional disturbances affect the general nutrition of the body they have been termed Metabolic Diseases (*Stoffwechselkrankheiten*).

3. *Ent.* = METABOLOUS. 1882 in OGILVIE.

4. *Zool.* (See quot.)

1882 SAVILLE-KENT *Infusoria* II. 870 *Metabolic*, changeable in form; applied by Cohn to the Infusoria in the same sense as polymorphic.

So **Metabo·lical** *a.*, pertaining to METABOLISM 2.

1880 *Brit. Q. Rev.* Oct. 309 The next stage..in the history of our doctrine was the..elaboration of the *metabolical* theory.

Metabolism (metæ·bŏliz'm). [f. Gr. *μεταβολή* change + -ISM.]

1. *Biol.* and *Chem.* The process, in an organism or a single cell, by which nutritive material is built up into living matter (*constructive metabolism, anabolism*), or by which protoplasm is broken down into simpler substances to perform special functions (*destructive metabolism, katabolism*).

1878 FOSTER *Phys.* Introd. 2 The protoplasm is continually undergoing chemical change (metabolism). 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 154 In the accession of fever increased metabolism precedes rise of temperature.

2. *Theol.* A term proposed to describe the views of some early fathers upon the Eucharist (see quot.).

1880 MCCLINTOCK & STRONG *Cycl. Bibl. Lit.*, *Metabolism* is a term coined by..Rückert to describe the doctrinal views of..Ignatius, Justin, and Irenæus on the Lord's Supper. They stand midway between strict transubstantiation and the merely symbolical view.

Metabolite (metæ·bŏləit). [f. prec. + -ITE.] A product of metabolism.

1884 *Pop. Sci. Monthly* XXIV. 770 Uren being a nitrogenous metabolite. 1899 CAGNEY *Jaksch's Clin. Diagn.* vi. (ed. 4) 248 Certain colourless metabolites or chromogens of bilirubin.

Metabolize (metæ·bŏlaiz), *v. Biol.* [f. Gr. *μεταβολή* change + -IZE.] *trans.* To affect by metabolism. Hence **Meta·bolized** *ppl. a.*

1887 *Science* 18 Mar. 264/1 We doubt the value to a man of a mass of indefinite ill-digested text-book information. Occasionally an omnivore can take in everything, and digest and so metabolize it as to organize it into healthy mental tissue. 1900 *Lancet* 28 July 248/1 The removal of the incompletely metabolised end products. 1905 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 25 Feb. 444 His plain rational diet is digested—metabolized and assimilated.

Metabolous (metæ·bŏlŏs), *a. Ent.* [f. Gr. *μεταβόλ-os* changeable + -OUS.] Undergoing complete metamorphosis; belonging to the division METABOLA of insects.

1861 J. HOGG *Microsc.* (1867) 601 Some metabolous insects,

Metaboly (metæ·bŏli). [f. Gr. *μεταβολή* change + -Y, or ad. rare Gr. *μεταβολία*.] = METABOLISM. 1890 in *Century Dict.*

Metaboric, Metabranchial, Metabrushite: see META- 6 a, 3, 7 a.

Metacarp (me·tăkāɪp). *Anat.* Now *rare* or *Obs.* [ad. mod.L. METACARP-US. Cf. F. *métacarpe.*] = METACARPUS.

1683 A. SNAPE *Anat. Horse* IV. xix. (1686) 182 The Metacarp, or back of the hand in men. 1808 BARCLAY *Muscular Motions* 409 The two first, with the abductor indicis manus, which should have been added to this number, being inserted into the metacarp.

Metacarpal (metăkā·rpăl), *a.* and *sb.* [f. METACARP-US + -AL.]

A. *adj.* Of or belonging to the metacarpus.

1739 S. SHARP *Surg.* 223 When you cut the Finger from the Metacarpal Bone. 1851 D. WILSON *Preh. Ann.* (1863) I. iv. 123 The metacarpal bone of a wolf.

B. *sb.* A metacarpal bone.

1854 OWEN *Skel. & Teeth* in *Circ. Sci.* I. *Org. Nat.* 212 The four normal metatarsals are much longer than the corresponding metacarpals. 1890 COUES *Field & Gen. Ornith.* II. 159 No bird now has free metacarpals in adult life.

b. *attrib.*

1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 1421/2 *Metacarpal saw*, a narrow-bladed saw..used for dividing the bones of the fingers or middle hand or of the foot in amputation. 1895 *Arnold's Catal. Surg. Instr.* 26.

‖ **Metaca·rpion, -ium.** *Anat.* ? *Obs.* [Gr. *μετακάρπιον*, mod.L. *metacarpium*, f. *μετά* META- + *καρπός* wrist.] = METACARPUS.

1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 29 b/2 The first [hand vein] descendeth alongest the *Metacarpion* of the hande. 1693 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Metacarpus* and *Metacarpium*, the back of the Hand, made of Four Oblong little Bones. 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I. 1890 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Metacarpion.*

Metaca·rpo-, used as comb. form of next in *metacarpo-carpal, -metacarpal, -phalangeal* adjs.; *metacarpo-phalanges* sb. pl.

1840 E. WILSON *Anat. Vade M.* (1842) 92 The..metacarpo-phalangeal and phalangeal joints. 1846 OWEN *Vertebr. Anim.* I. 160 Metacarpo-phalanges. 1890 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Metacarpo-metacarpal articulations*, the four inner metacarpal bones are connected to each other at their carpal extremities by their arthrodial articulations, each provided with dorsal, palmar, and interosseous ligaments. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 209 Flexion of the metacarpo-carpal joint cannot be performed by the long flexor alone.

‖ **Metacarpus** (metăkā·rpŏs). *Anat.* [mod.L., altered from Gr. *μετακάρπιον* METACARPION.] That part of the hand which is situated between the wrist and the fingers: in vertebrates generally, that part of the manus which is situated between the carpus and the phalanges.

1676 WISEMAN *Chirurg. Treat.* VII. ii. 479 Where the Conjunction is called Synarthrosis; as in the joyning of the Carpus to the Metacarpus. 1881 MIVART *Cat* 89 The middle solid part of the paw, called the metacarpus. 1896 NEWTON *Dict. Birds* 859 The *Metacarpus* is composed of three bones, the first, second, and third metacarpals, while trace of a fourth has been observed in embryos.

Metacellulose: see META- 6 a.

Metacentral (metăse·ntrăl), *a. rare.* [f. next + -AL.] = METACENTRIC.

1887 *Westm. Rev.* June 368 Signor Poli..believes it necessary in the case of armoured ships to take the areas of the several compartments into consideration in constructing the metacentral dingram.

Metacentre (me·tăsentəɹ). [ad. F. *métacentre* (Bouguer 1746), f. *méta-* META- + *centre* CENTRE.]

1. *Hydrostatics* (and *Shipbuilding*). The limiting position of the point of intersection between the vertical line passing through the centre of gravity of a floating body when in equilibrium and the vertical line drawn through the centre of buoyancy when the body is slightly displaced; the *shifting centre.* To ensure stable equilibrium this point must be above the centre of gravity.

1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* II. 283 The metacenter..has been likewise called the *shifting center.* 1873 J. PEAKE *Nav. Archit.* (ed. 3) 47 The Height of the Metacentre above the Centre of Gravity of displacement.

2. *Biol.* (See quot.)

1902 MITCHELL in *Encycl. Brit.* XXVIII. 343/2 A new centre of modification..a metacentre.

Metacentric (metăse·ntrik), *a.* [ad. F. *métacentrique*, f. *métacentre*: see prec. and -IC.] Of or pertaining to a metacentre.

1798 *Phil. Trans.* LXXXVIII. 242 The curve..is termed the metacentric curve, being the line traced by the successive metacentres. 1881 *Times* 6 Jan. 11/2 The result of the inclination at Pembroke is shown in a metacentric diagram.

Metacetic (metăsī·tik), *a. Chem.* [f. META- 2 + ACETIC.] = PROPIONIC.

1854 R. D. THOMSON *Cycl. Chem.*, *Metacetic Acid. Metacetonic acid.* A synonyme of Propionic acid.

Metacetone (metæ·sĭtōun). *Chem.* [a. F. *métacétone* (Fremy): see META- 2 and ACETONE.] A colourless oil obtained by the distillation of sugar or starch with quicklime.

1838 T. THOMSON *Chem. Org. Bodies* 364 M. Fremy discovered that when 1 part of sugar is intimately mixed with 8 parts of unslacked lime, and distilled, the product consists of two liquids, one of which is acetone, and to the other he has given the name of metacetone. 1844 FOWNES *Chem.* 409.

Hence **Metacetonic** (-æsĭtp·nik) *a.* = META-CETIC; **Metacetonate,** a salt of metacetonic acid.

1848 BRANDE *Chem.* (ed. 6) 1733 Metacetonic Acid. Metacetylic Acid. *Ibid.*, Metacetonate of soda. 1862 [see METACETIC].

Metacetyl (metæ·sĭtil). *Chem.* [f. META- 2 + ACETYL.] = PROPIONYL. Hence **Metacety·lic** = METACETONIC.

1848 BRANDE *Chem.* (ed. 6) 1732 Metacetone. Oxide of Metacetyle. *Ibid.* 1733 Metacetylic Acid. 1890 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Metacetyl.*

Metachemic, Metachemistry, Metachloral, Metachlorite: see META- 5, 1, 6 a, 7 a.

Metachromatic (me·tăkrōumæ·tik), *a.* [f. META- + Gr. *χρῶμα, χρωματ-* colour + -IC.] Pertaining to metachromism.

1876 *Chem. News* 11 Feb. 60/2 From a study of the two classes [of metachromes] the following metachromatic scale was arrived at:—White, colourless, violet, indigo, blue [etc.].

Metachromatism (metăkrō·umătiz'm). [Formed as prec. + -ISM.] Change or variation of colour (see quots.).

1876 ACKROYD in *Chem. News* 25 Aug. 75/1 We venture, therefore, to propose for the phenomenon the name of Metachromatism. 1890 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Metachromatism*,..a change or alteration of colour, as in the hair or feathers, from advance of age. 1904 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 3 Dec. 1507 Under certain conditions of staining, different parts of the cell protoplasm possess different chemical affinities to the dye..(metachromatism).

Metachrome (me·tăkrōum). [f. META- + Gr. *χρῶμα* colour.] A body that changes colour.

1876 *Chem. News* 11 Feb. 60/2 The author..passed on to the classification of metachromes, which he [Ackroyd] arranges in two groups.

Metachromism (metăkrō·umiz'm). [Formed as prec. + -ISM.] Colour-change.

1876 *Chem. News* 11 Feb. 60/2 Metachromism, as he [Ackroyd] terms the changes of colour which various substances undergo when heated.

Metachronism (metæ·krŏniz'm). [ad. med.L. *metachronism-us*, a. late Gr. type **μεταχρονισμός*, f. *μετα-* META- + *χρόνος* time. Cf. F. *métachronisme.*

Normally the word should mean 'transposition of dates' (cf. quot. 1656 below); but it has been associated with Gr. *μετάχρονος, μεταχρόνιος* happening later, f. *μετά* after + *χρόνος* time; hence the sense explained below, which seems to be that of all the available instances.]

An error in chronology consisting in placing an event later than its real date. (Cf. PARACHRONISM.)

1617 HALES *Serm.* 36 There are in Scripture..anachronismes, metachronismes, and the like, which bring infinite obscuritie to the text. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Metachronism*, an error in the connexion of things or times, by reckoning or accounting short or beyond the truth. 1677 R. CARY *Chronology* II. I. I. xx. 157 Our Authour..is..guilty of a foul Metachronysm, in accomodating the 5th of Cambyses to his 4986 of the World.

‖ **Metachrosis** (metăkrō·usis). [mod.L., f. Gr. *μετα-* META- + *χρῶσις* colouring.] Colour-change.

1887 E. D. COPE *Orig. Fittest* 211 The power of metachrosis, or of changing the color at will, by the expansion under nerve-influence of special pigment cells.

Metacinnabar(ite: see META- 7 a.

Metaci·nnamein. Also -ine. *Chem.* [a. F. *métacinnaméine* (Fremy): see META- 6.] A substance isomeric with cinnamein, obtained by keeping cinnamein under water.

1848 FOWNES *Chem.* (ed. 2) 451. 1874 GARROD & BAXTER *Mat. Med.* 236 Metacinnamein.

Metaci·nnamene. *Chem.* [See META- 6 a.] (See quot. 1886.)

1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem.* III. vii. § 1 (1862) 560 Metacinnamene, or styracin. 1886 *Athenæum* 30 Jan. 172/3 Metacinnamene, a highly refracting glass-like solid, obtained by the action of light or heat upon cinnamene.

Metacism (me·tăsiz'm). [ad. late L. *metacism-us*, corruptly ad. late Gr. *μυτακισμός* 'fondness for the letter *μ*' (L. & Sc.), f. *μῦ* the name of the letter. Cf. ITACISM.] The placing of a word with final *m* before a word beginning with a vowel; regarded as a fault in Latin prose composition.

This is the sense in the original of quot. 1844; but the grammarians explain *metacismus* or *myotacismus* as the fault of pronouncing a final *m* which ought to be elided before a following vowel.

[1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Metacism*, a fault in pronouncing.] 1844 tr. *St. Gregory's Morals on Job* I. Epist. 11, I do not escape the collisions of metacism.

Metacœle (me·tăsīl). *Biol.* [f. Gr. *μετα-* META- + *κοῖλος* hollow.] That type of cœlom which is of secondary development.

1884 BOURNE in *Q. Jrnl. Microsc. Sci.* XXIV. 477 An archaic enterocœle thus gradually undergoes diacœlosis, being replaced by a metacœle.

‖ **Metacœlia** (metăsī·liă). [mod.L., f. Gr. *μετα-* META- + *κοιλία* ventricle.] The posterior part of the fourth ventricle of the brain.

1882 WILDER & GAGE *Anat. Techn.* 482 Metacœlia,..Syn. Ventriculus quartus, caudal portion.

Metacœlome (metăsī·loum). *Biol.* Also -om. [f. META- + CŒLOME.] (See quot.)

1888 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* 223 Nephridial funnels appear to be present in all Leeches..They are perforate in Nephelis and Trochaeta, and in these genera they

open into special spaces developed in the botryoidal tissue, termed by Gibbs Bourne 'metacoelome'.

So ‖ **Metacœlosis** (-sīlō·sis): see quot.

1884 Bourne in *Q. Jrnl. Microsc. Sci.* XXIV. 477 This development of new cœlomic space (botryoidal tissue) may be termed metacœlosis.

Meta-compounds: see Meta- 6.

‖ **Metacondylus** (metăkɒ·ndilŏs). *Anat.* Also anglicized **metaco·ndyle**. [mod.L.: see Meta- and Condyle.] That phalanx of a finger that bears the nail.

1693 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Metacondyli*, the utmost bones of the fingers. 1848 Craig, *Metacondyle*.

Metacoumarate, -coumaric: see Meta- 6 b.

‖ **Metacrasis** (metăkrē·sis). [f. Meta- + Crasis.]

1. *Bot.* 'Kinetic metabolism, transmutation of energy' (Jackson *Gloss. Bot. Terms* 1900).

1884 Bower & Scott *De Bary's Phaner.* 509 The process of metacrasis which produces the duramen.

2. *Geol.* (See quot.)

1886 Bonney in *Proc. Geol. Soc.* 59 *Metacrasis* (recombination), denoting changes like the conversion of a mud into a mass of quartz with mica and other silicates. 1893 Geikie *Text-bk. Geol.* IV. VIII. 596 *note*, *Metacrasis*, denoting such transformations as the conversion of mud into a mass of mica, quartz, and other silicates.

Metacresol: see Meta- 6 a.

‖ **Metacromion** (metăkrō·u·miɒn). *Zool.* [f. Meta- + Acromion.] In some mammals, a process of the spine of the scapula behind the acromion. Hence **Metacro·mial** *a.*

1868 W. K. Parker *Shoulder-girdle Vertebr.* 204 At its root this large acromion sends backwards a rudimentary 'metacromion'. *Ibid.* 207 The metacromial process.

Metacyclic (metăsi·klik), *a. Math.* [f. Meta- + Cycle *sb.* + -ic.] Pertaining to the permutation of a set of elements in a cycle. (*Cent. Dict.* 1890.)

Metadiorite, -dolerite: see Meta- 7 b.

Metadore, obs. form of Matador.

Meta-element: see Meta- 1.

Metafacial: see Meta- 3.

Metafor, obs. form of Metaphor.

Metagadolinite: see Meta- 7 a.

Metagallic (metăgæ·lik), *a. Chem.* [f. Meta- + Gallic *a.*[2]] *Metagallic acid*: an acid obtained by heating gallic acid. Hence **Metaga·llate**, a salt of metagallic acid.

1835 *Amer. Jrnl. Sci.* XXVIII. 126 Metagallic acid. 1836 Braude *Chem.* (ed. 4) 933. *Ibid.*, Metagallate of potassa. 1855 Watts tr. *Gmelin's Handbk. Chem.* XV. 458 Metagallic acid (Mulder's melangallic, Gerhardt's gallulmic acid).

‖ **Metagaster** (metăgæ·stəɹ). *Biol.* [mod.L.: see Meta- and Gaster.] Haeckel's phylogenetic term for the later, more highly differentiated stomach of the Craniota, as distinguished from the primitive intestine or protogaster. Hence **Metaga·stral** *a.* (in recent Dicts.).

1879 tr. *Haeckel's Evol. Man* II. 321 The differentiated or secondary intestine ('after intestine or metagaster').

Metagastric (metăgæ·strik), *a. Zool.* [f. Meta- + Gr. γαστήρ belly + -ic.] Applied to portions of the carapace in brachyurous crustaceans situated towards the hinder part of the gastro-hepatic area.

1877 Huxley *Anat. Inv. Anim.* vi. 343 The latter [gastric lobe area] is again subdivided into two epigastric lobes, two protogastric lobes, a median mesogastric lobe, two metagastric lobes, and two urogastric lobes.

‖ **Metagastrula** (metăgæ·strŭlă). *Biol.* [mod. L.: see Meta- and Gastrula.] Haeckel's term for a secondary modified gastrula (see quot.).

1879 tr. *Haeckel's Evol. Man* I. 199 The more or less varying Gastrula-form, which results from this kenogenetic egg-cleavage, may be called, generally, the secondary, modified Gastrula, or Metagastrula.

Metage (mī·tėdʒ). Also 6 *Sc.* **mettage, mettege**, 7 **meatage**. [f. Mete *v.* + -age.]

1. The action of measuring officially the content or weight of a load of grain, coal, etc.

15.. *Aberd. Reg.* XXIV. (Jam.), The mettege of colis, salt, lym, corne, fruit, and sic mensturable [*sic*] gudis. 1576 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* II. 578 To pay thre penneis for the mettage of every laid [of malt] quhilk sal happin to be presentit. 1636 *Maldon, Essex, Borough Deeds* (Bundle 110) 1 For the meatage of 10 quarter of barly, 5*d.* 1753 *De Foe's Tour Gt. Brit.* (ed. 5) II. 137 Acts have very lately passed in relation to the Admeasurement or Metage of Coals for the City of Westminster. 1872 *Daily News* 15 Apr. 5/2 The arrangements with respect to the metage of grain in the port of London.

2. The duty paid for such measuring. (Cf. Measurage.)

1527 *Burgh Rec. Edin.* (1869) I. 232 Togidder with the mettage, viz. viijd. for ilk chalder. 1854 *Fraser's Mag.* XLIX. 564 The right of the Corporation to the metage of corn, fruit, and other articles, is recognised and confirmed in the first charter of James I. 1887 *Times* 27 Aug. 11/4 The ordinary fruit metage produced £654.

3. *attrib.*

1546–7 *Burgh Rec. Stirling* (1887) 46 Thai sall pay tharfor iiijd. of the chalder of mettege silveir. 1746 *Act* 19 *Geo. II*, c. 35 § 10 The Amount of the Metage Charge [of Coals]. 1800 Colquhoun *Comm. Thames* xv. 456 On payment of the Metage Duty. 1865 *Daily Tel.* 16 Nov. 8/1 Merchants ..interested in the question of the metage dues.

Metagelatin: see Meta- 6 a.

Metagenesis (metăʤe·nĭsis). *Biol.* [mod.L.: see Meta- and Genesis.]

†1. Used by Owen (*Parthenogenesis*, 1849) for: Alternation of generation (see Alternation 1 b).

Owen, however, included under this designation certain metamorphoses not now recognized as instances of alternation of generation.

2. Now used in more restricted sense (see quot.).

1889 Geddes & Thomson *Evol. Sex* XV. 207 Simple alternation between sexual and asexual reproduction..is called..metagenesis.

Me·tagene·tic, *a.* [f. Meta- + Genetic.]

1. *Zool.* Pertaining to, characterized by, or involving metagenesis.

1849 Owen *Parthenogenesis* 17 The successive generations, which..complete the metagenetic cycle. 1877 Balfour in *Encycl. Brit.* VII. 629/1 The peculiar metagenetic mode of development.

2. *Cryst.* Applied to certain twin crystals (see quot.).

1883 Heddle in *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 367/1 In metagenetic twins the crystal was at first simple, but afterwards, through some change in the material furnished for its increase or possibly induced in itself, it received new layers, or an extension *in a reversed position*.

Hence **Metagene·tically** *adv.*, by metagenesis.

1868 Darwin *Anim. & Pl.* II. 367 If, instead of a single individual, several were to be thus developed metagenetically within a pre-existing form.

Metageo·metry. [See Meta-.] The geometry of non-Euclidean space. So **Metageo·meter**, one who studies metageometry. **Metageome·trical** *a.*, pertaining to metageometry.

1882 Stallo *Concepts Mod. Physics* 258 'Space in general' (as distinguished from 'flat space', in the metageometrical sense). 1897 B. A. W. Russell *Found. Geom.* Cont. p. vii, Metageometry began by rejecting the axiom of parallels. *Ibid.* 56 To urge, with the Metageometers, that non-Euclidean systems are logically self-consistent. 1898 Cayley *Coll. Math. Papers* (Suppl. Vol.) Index, Metageometry.

Metagnathous (metæ·gnăþŏs), *a.* [f. Gr. μετά Meta- + γνάθος jaw + -ous.] Having the tips of the mandibles crossed. Hence **Meta·gnathism**, the condition of being metagnathous.

1872 Coues *Key N. Amer. Birds* 24 The metagnathous [class], in which the points of the mandibles cross each other. 1890 — *Field & Gen. Ornithol.* II. 150 Each mandible may be oppositely falcate, as in the crossbill, constituting metagnathism.

Metagram (me·tăgræm). [f. Gr. μετα- Meta- + γράμμα letter, after *anagram*.] A kind of puzzle turning on the alteration of a word by removing some of its letters and substituting others.

1867 *London Society* XII. 307 We therefore welcome a new sort of 'gram...Its name, metagram, is derived from two Greek words, signifying a 'change of letters'. It is on this change that the whole thing turns. 1882 Grosart in *Spenser's Wks.* III. p. lxxxii, An anagram or metagram.

†**Metagra·mmatism.** *Obs.* [ad. Gr. μεταγραμματισμός (Galen), f. μετα- Meta- + γραμματ-, γράμμα letter: see -ism.] The transposition of letters in a word or phrase; anagrammatism. So **Metagra·mmatize** *v.* [Gr. μεταγραμματίζειν (Tzetzes)], 'to alter the letters' (L. & Sc.).

1605 Camden *Rem., Anagr.* 150 Anagrammatisme, or Metagrammatisme. 1702 C. Mather *Magn. Chr.* III. i. iii. (1852) 319 Mr. Ward,..observing the great hospitality of Mr. Wilson, in conjunction with his metagrammatising temper, said, 'That the anagram of John Wilson was, I pray, come in: you are heartily welcome'.

Metagranite: see Meta- 7 b.

Metagraphy (metæ·grăfi). [f. Gr. μετα- Meta- + -γραφία writing, -graphy.] Transliteration. Hence **Metagra·phic** *a.*

1872 Latham *Dict., Transliteration*, translation or rendering of the letter of one alphabet by its equivalent in another; metagraphy: (this latter word giving *metagraphic* as its adjective, a more convenient one than *transliterative* or *transliterational*). 1888 T. Watts in *Athenæum* 17 Mar. 340/2 It was his [Latham's] belief in the system of metagraphy as applied to non-European alphabets that made him a very early advocate of phonetic spelling.

Metagrobolize (metăgrɒ·bŏləiz), *v. humorous.* Also 7–8 **-grabolise, -ize**. [ad. obs. F. *metagraboulizer* (Rabelais) 'to dunce vpon, to puzzle, or (too much) beate the braines about' (Cotgr.).] *trans.* a. To puzzle, mystify. b. To puzzle out. So **Metagro·bolism**, mystification.

1653 Urquhart *Rabelais* I. xix, I have been these eighteen dayes in metagrabolising this brave speech. *a* 1693 *Ibid.* III. xxii, The Antonomatick Metagrobolism of the Romish Church. *Ibid.* xxvi. 212, I find my Brains..metagrobolized and confounded. 1788 H. Clarke *Sch. Candidates* (1877) 10 My prolegomena to a public speech which I had been a whole synodical month in matagrabolizing [*sic*]. 1899 Kipling *Stalky* 119 Come to think of it, we have metagrobolised 'em.

Metagummic: see Meta- 6 a.

‖ **Métairie** (metęri). [Fr., f. *métayer*.] A farm held on the Métayer system.

1817 C. Clairmont in Dowden *Shelley* (1887) II. 115, I should choose..to cultivate a little *métairie* among the mountains. 1848 Mill *Pol. Econ.* II. viii. § 3 (1876) 190 In the other parts of Tuscany, where the metairies are larger.

Metal (me·tăl, me·t'l), *sb.* (and *a.*). Forms: 4 **matalle, matel, metail(le, -tayl**, 4–6 **metel(l**, 4–7 **metall(e**, 4–8 **mettal**, 5 **metelle, mettaill**, 6 **meatall(e, metale, metle, mettel(l**, 6–9 **mettle**, 7 **mattell**, 3– **metal**. [a. OF. *metal, metail* (mod.F. *métal*), ad. L. *metallum* mine, quarry, substance obtained by mining, metal, ad. Gr. μέταλλον mine; app. related in some way to μεταλλᾶν to seek after, explore. The word has passed (directly or indirectly) from Latin into all the Rom. and Teut. langs.: cf. Pr. *metalh*, Sp., Pg. *metal*, It. *metallo*; G. *metall*, Du. *metaal*, Sw. *metall*, Da. *metal*.]

1. Any member of the class of substances represented by gold, silver, copper, iron, lead, and tin. Originally this class was regarded as including only these bodies together with certain alloys (as brass and bronze), and hence as definable by their common properties, viz. high specific gravity and density, fusibility, malleability, opacity, and a peculiar lustre (known specifically as 'metallic'). In process of time other substances were discovered to have most but not all of these properties; the class was thus gradually extended, the properties viewed as essential to its definition becoming fewer. From the point of view of modern Chemistry, the 'metals' are a division (including by far the greater number) of the 'elements' or simple substances. Among them are all the original (simple) 'metals'; of the later additions to the list some possess all the properties formerly viewed as characteristic of a metal, while others possess hardly any of them; the 'metallic lustre' is perhaps the most constant. By some chemists the radical ammonium (NH_4) and derivatives thereof have been designated as 'metals', on account of the analogy of their compounds with those of the metals potassium and sodium.

In popular language the term is not applied to a metallic element when in such a state of combination that its identity is disguised. (Cf. Metallic *a.* 2.)

†*Noble* or *perfect metals*: gold and silver, as being the only metals that were known to be capable of enduring any ordinary fire without being 'destroyed'; opposed to *base* or *imperfect metals*.

a 1300–1400 *Cursor M.* 2298 (Götz.) Þai made ymagis of meteles sere. 1340 *Ayenb.* 167 Be þise uirtue is strang þe man ase þet ysen þet alle metals a-dauntep. 1474 Caxton *Chesse* III. ii, Vnto the goldsmythes behoueth golde and siluer and alle other metallys, yren and steel to other. 1588 Shaks. *L. L. L.* III. i. 60 Is not Lead a mettall heauie, dull, and slow? 1651 J. Childrey *Brit. Bacon.* 112, I should think Lead were the easiest of all metalls to melt. 1751 J. Hill *Mat. Med.* 4 The Class of the Metals..includes only six Bodies, which are, 1. Gold. 2. Silver. 3. Copper. 4. Tin. 5. Iron. And 6. Lead...The Chemists have divided the Metals into two Classes, the perfect and the imperfect. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XI. 443/2 To free the noble metals from the stony matter which surrounds them, and to reduce the baser ones from their calciform to a metallic state. 1874 Roscoe *Elem. Chem.* xiv. 142 The metals of the alkalies and alkaline earths. *Ibid.* xvii. 186 [Hydrogenium] has ..been shown to conduct heat and electricity, and to be magnetic, in these respects acting as a metal.

b. The constituent matter of a metal or of metals collectively; metallic substance.

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 144 Ire at gloucestre, Metal, as led and tyn, in þe contreie of eccestre. 13.. *K. Alis.* 6242 Pilers of matel strong. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 169 Alle þe metail anamayld was þenne. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 10 He made hym drynke reed brennying metal moltyn. 1551 Robinson tr. *More's Utop.* I. (1895) 64 Them they condempned into ston quarris, and in to myenes to dygge mettalle. 1649 Bp. Reynolds *Serm. Hosea* i. 12 The hammer breaks mettall, and the fire melts it. *a* 1725 Whitworth *Acc. Russia* (1758) 108 Every battalion having two long three pounders of mettle. 1820 Combe *Dr. Syntax, Consol.* IV. 361 If they had nought but polished mettle, Or the bright cover of a kettle. 1880 *Expositor* XI. 291 Like a mirror of polished metal.

c. As the material of arms and armour.

c 1400 *Destr. Troy*. 9520 Mallyng þurgh metall maynly with hondes,..knockyng þurgh helmys. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* v. 190 His suerd he drew of nobill metall keyne. 1595 Shaks. *K. John* v. ii. 16 That I must draw this mettle from my side To be a widdow-maker. 1663 Butler *Hud.* I. ii. 83 Both kinds of metal he prepar'd, Either to give blows or to ward. *c* 1672 *Sir H. of Grime* xxiii. in Child *Ballads* IV. 11/2 My sword, That is made of the mettle so fine.

d. *pregnantly* for: Precious metal, gold.

1590 Shaks. *Com. Err.* IV. i. 82 But sirrah, you shall buy this sport as deere, As all the mettall in your shop will answer. 1594 — *Rich. III*, IV. iv. 382. 1596 — *Merch. V.* I. iii. 135. 1601 — *Twel. N.* II. v. 17 Heere comes the little villaine: How now my Mettle of India?

e. *spec.* = Cast-iron. (More fully *cast-metal*: see Cast *ppl. a.* 8.)

Other specific uses (besides those referred to under 5) are current in particular trades: e. g. as applied to the fittings of pocket knives *metal* denotes brass as opposed to German silver.

1794 [see Cast *ppl. a.* 8]. 1862 *Catal. Internat. Exhib.* No. 6057 Kitchener..the back and sides fitted with metal covings or plates. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1423/1 *Metal*, the workman's term for cast-iron.

f. *fig.* (In 16–17th c. often = the 'stuff' of which a man is made, with reference to character: cf. Mettle.)

1552 Latimer *Serm. Lord's Prayer* v. (1562) 34 b, What? (say they) they be made of such metall as we be made of.

1588 SHAKS. *Tit. A.* IV. iii. 47 Marcus, we are..No big-bon'd men,..But Mettall, Marcus, steele to the very backe. 1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* III. v. (Arb.) 161 Men doo chuse their subiects according to the mettal of their minds. 1642 ROGERS *Naaman* To Rdr. II. iii, Then she shewes the metall she is made of. 1681 DRYDEN *Abs. & Achit.* 310 Too full of Angels Metal in his Frame. 1687 T. BROWN *Saints in Uproar* Wks. 1730 I. 73 A notable fellow of his inches, and metal to the back. 1887 *Athenæum* 8 Oct. 461/3 Defoe wrought no base metal into the fine gold of his mother-tongue. 1895 *Harper's Weekly* Feb. 340/2 It seems to me that there was lighter metal in the crews.

2. *Her.* Either of the tinctures or and argent.

c 1450 HOLLAND *Howlat* 420 Signess..Off metallis and colouris in tentfull atyr. 1562 LEIGH *Armory* 1 There are nine soondrye fieldes, of the whiche, seuen of them be termed Colours, & two, Mettalles...The two metalles, are Goulde and siluer. 1610 GUILLIM *Heraldry* II. ii. 41 In Blazoning of any Armes, you must first express the Metall, Colour or Furre of the Field. 1625 MARKHAM *Souldiers Accid.* 31 Mettall may not be carried on mettall. *a* 1659 CLEVELAND *On Sir T. Martin* 24 Metal on Metal is false Heraldry. 1881 A. MACGEORGE *Flags* 109 The Dutch and Russian ensigns have the same tincture as those of the present French flag...The latter has the metal, the white, uppermost, and the two colours, the blue and the red.. placed together below.

3. = ORE (after Spanish).

1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* IV. vi. 223 They say..that the metall lay above the ground the height of a launce, like unto rockes. 1881 RAYMOND *Mining Gloss., Metal*, Sp. 1. This term is applied both to the ore and to the metal extracted from it.

†**4.** A mine; in phr. *to condemn to metals* [L. *condemnare ad metalla*]. *Obs. rare*—[1].

1660 JER. TAYLOR *Duct. Dubit.* I. Ep. Ded., As Slaves live, that is, such who are civilly dead, and persons condemn'd to metals.

5. With qualification (see below): A specific alloy of two or more metals used in an art or trade. Also used, without qualification, as short for any of these (see quots.).

Bath, Britannia, composition, Dutch, fusible, organ, pipe, plate, prince's, queen's, red, refined, type, white, yellow metal: see these words. Also BELL-METAL, GUN-METAL. A certain number of alloys are named after their inventors, as *Aich's, Gedge's, Kier's, Muntz's, Newton's, Rose's, White's metal.*

1729 *Extracts Burgh Rec. Stirling* (1889) 205 One McLaren, who was..incarcerat in the tolbooth..for offering to sell hard mettle instead of silver to some people in this burgh. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* App. 711 Metal for Flute-key Valves 4 oz. lead and 2 oz. antimony. 1845 *Encycl. Metrop.* VIII. 655/2 The tin is first converted into what is called hard metal or alloy, 75 parts copper and 25 parts tin. 1868 JOYNSON *Metals* 97 The metal [is] run into pigs, in the state known technically as coarse metal, or more generally 'regulus'. 1876 HILES *Catech. Organ* iv. (1878) 22 Metal is a technical name applied by Organ builders to a mixture of tin and lead, and generally should mean half tin, and half lead.

6. An object made of metal.

†**a.** A medal or coin. (Cf. METALLIC *a.* 6.) *Obs.*

1574 HELLOWES *Gueuara's Fam. Ep.* (1577) 21 Hence it proceedeth, that the true and moste auncient metalls be not of golde but of iron.

†**b.** A speculum or reflector of a telescope. *Obs.*

1693 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2909/4 Concave Metals, Concave Burning, and Reading Glasses, of all sizes. 1777 MUDGE in *Phil. Trans.* LXVII. 324 A very distinct and perfect two-foot metal.

c. *pl.* The rails of a railway, tramway, etc.

1841 *Ann. Reg.* 119 He found the deceased lying on the road, between the 'metals'. 1894 *Times* 12 Jan. 11/6 The trunk of a tree over 50ft. long fell upon the metals, and the express..cut right through it.

d. *Electr.*

1881 SIR W. THOMSON in *Nature* No. 619. 435 Imagine a domestic servant going to dust an electric lamp with 80,000 volts on one of its metals.

7. *Gunnery.* The metal composing the barrel of a gun. Also (= *line of metal*, quot. 1859) in phr. *over metal*, etc. (see quots. 1688, 1704).

1644 NYE *Gunnery* (1670) 40 If the Piece lye point-blank, or under metall. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* V. xi. 46 A Gunner ought..to proportion his Charge according to the thinnest side of the Metal. *Ibid.* xii. 68 The difference of Shooting by the Metal, and by a Dispert. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. xviii. (Roxb.) 140/2 She lies ouer mettle, when the mouth is higher then the breech. She lies right with her mettle, that is she lies point blank, or streight. 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn., Metal*, a word frequently used about a Piece of Ordnance, or Great Gun: The Outside or Surface of her is called, the Superficies of her Metals: When the Mouth of a Great Gun lies lower than her Breech, they say, She lies under Metal. 1859 F. A. GRIFFITHS *Artil. Man.* (1862) 52 *The Line of metal* is an imaginary line drawn along the surface of the metal between the two sights.

b. The aggregate number, whole mass or effective power of the guns on a ship of war. *Heavy metal*: see HEAVY *a.*[1] 6.

1757 CHESTERF. *Lett.* cccxx. (1792) IV. 91 They had eighteen [ships] and a greater weight of metal, according to the new sea phrase. 1762 FALCONER *Shipwr.* II. 495 From the torn ship her metal must be thrown.

fig. 1871 R. W. B. VAUGHAN *Life St. T. Aquin* I. 773 He possessed all the qualities necessary for success—weight of metal, as well as precision of aim.

8. Material, matter, substance, *esp.* earthy matter.

c 1570 *Durham Depos.* (Surtees) 197 Two skepfull of sande; no other mettell, stone, clay, or rubbish. 1593 *Rites of Durham* (Surtees 1903) 3 Cressetts of Earthen mettall. 1599 MINSHEU *Sp. Dial.* 12/2 With glasse, or China mettall, or earth. 1684 T. BURNET *Theory Earth* II. 46 Clayey soils, and such like, may by the strength of fire be converted into brick, or stone, or earthen metal. 1689 SHADWELL *Bury F.* II. 19 There's a pair of Gloves of the same mettle.

9. The material used for making glass, in a molten state.

1589 *Pappe w. Hatchet* D iv, A settled raigne is not like glasse mettal, to be blowne in..fashion of euerie mans breath. 1660 BOYLE *New Exp. Phys.-Mech.* ix. 71 The Vessels..being made of much purer and clearer metall, as the Glass-men speak. 1845 G. DODD *Brit. Manuf.* IV. 49 The pots are full of 'metal' looking like liquid fire. 1890 W. J. GORDON *Foundry* 132 One of the men rolls up on its end just enough 'metal' to make the bottle.

10. Hardened clay, shale.

1708 J. C. *Compl. Collier* (1845) 15 To keep the Earth, or some times soft Mettle, or Minerals,..from falling into the Pit. 1799 J. ROBERTSON *Agric. Perth* 34 The azure [slates] are the best metal. 1808 H. HOLLAND *Surv. Cheshire* 28 The workmen distinguish the clay by the appellation of *metal*, giving it the name of red, brown, or blue metal, according to its colour. 1883 GRESLEY *Coal-mining Gloss., Metals*, marl beds more or less indurated.

b. *Sc.* 'All the rocks met with in mining ore' (Raymond *Mining Gloss.* 1881).

1807 HEADRICK *Arran* 78 This must be a trouble in the metals, not a vein.

11. Broken stone used in macadamizing roads or as ballast for a railway. Also *road metal.*

1838 *Civ. Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* I. 275/1 The quantity of the metal deposited would have formed, on ordinary ground, an embankment twenty-four or twenty-five feet high. 1845 ATKINSON in *Proc. Berw. Nat. Cl.* II. No. 13. 132 The roads of Hutton..with their wayside heaps of greenstone 'metal'. 1879 LUBBOCK *Addr. Pol. & Educ.* IX. 155 The Sarsen stone is unsurpassed for road metal.

†**12.** (See quot.) *Obs.*

1611 FLORIO *Soudtta*, a strap or leather of a whip, our boyes call it mettall.

13. *attrib.* and *Comb.* **a.** simple attrib., as † *metal-matter*, † *-ore, -yield.* This passes into an adj. = 'consisting or made of metal'.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 67 It is a knowen þing þat hillis holden stoones and metal-oor. 1612 STUBTEVANT (*title*) Metallica,.. comprehending the doctrine of diverse new Metallical Inventions, but especially how to..work all kinde of mettle-oares. *Ibid.* 107 Mettle matter [see METALLAR]. 1636 JAMES *Iter Lanc.* (Chetham Soc.) 236 This faire cleere springe which courses through ye hills Conveys summe mettall tincture in hir rills. 1724 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 6260/3 A ..Coat, with..white Mettal Buttons. 1845 P. BARLOW in *Encycl. Metrop.* VIII. 489/1 Enamels, as before stated, are usually laid upon a metal ground. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Pegged boots*, boots with wooden pegs in the soles, instead of metal nails or brads. 1877 RAYMOND *Statist. Mines & Mining* 284 The total metal-yield for that year amounted to $5,362,383. 1879 MCCARTHY *Own Times* II. xxvii. 317 The intensity of the cold was so great that no one might dare to touch any metal substance in the open air.

b. objective and obj. gen., as *metal-broker, -grinder, -melter, -mining,* † *-monger,* † *-monging, -roller, -turner, -worker, -working*; *metal-bearing* adj. **c.** parasynthetic and instrumental, as *metal-bound, -clasped, -lined, -sheathed* adjs.

1882 *Rep. to Ho. Repr. Prec. Met. U. S.* 12 Where there has been no *metal-bearing ore to defray expenses, assessments have been levied. 1869 TOZER *Highl. Turkey* I. 200 The long *metal-bound guns without one of which an Albanian rarely moves. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, **Metal-broker*, a dealer in metals or minerals. 1899 KIPLING *Stalky* 203 A red-bound *metal-clasped book. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 253 The pulmonary fibrosis of *metal-grinders, of stone-workers, of potters. 1876 VOYLE & STEVENSON *Milit. Dict.* 254 *Metal-lined cases are used as portable magazines. 1626 JACKSON *Creed* VIII. XXVII. § 2 Cast them into the furnace, or to the *metal-melter. 1855 J. R. L[EIFCHILD] *Cornwall Mines* 284 The great advantage..of *metal-mining over coal-mining is [etc.]. 1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 283 They dig the ground like greedie *metal mongers. 1631 J. DONE *Polydoron* 85 A *Mettall-monging Alchimist is but a hors-keeper to a Coyner however he curries his tromperie. 1900 *B'ham Weekly Post* 4 Aug. 16/3 *Metal-rollers not only worked themselves, but had men under them. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, **Metal-turner*. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 24 Knife-grinders, metal-turners, and needle-pointers. 1860 PIESSE *Lab. Chem. Wonders* 69 *Metal-workers find it of great service. 1882 *Rep. to Ho. Repr. Prec. Met. U.S.* 598 *Metal-working tools, that is, tools for cold processes, such as turning, planing [etc.].

14. Special comb.: **metal bath**, a bath (of mercury, lead, fusible alloys, etc.) used in chemical operations requiring a higher temperature than can be produced by means of a water bath; **metal bed**, the bed of 'metal' or broken stone laid down in the process of macadamizing a road; **metal carrier** (see quot.); **metal drift**, 'a heading driven in stone' (Gresley *Coal-mining Gloss.* 1883); **metal-edge** *Coal-mining* (see quot.); **metal gauge**, a gauge for determining the thickness of sheet-metal (Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1875); †**metal jeter**, one who casts metal, a founder; **metal leaf**, a name commonly applied to the Dutch leaf to distinguish it from gold-leaf (*Ure's Dict. Arts* 1875); **metal maw**, a stomach strong enough to digest anything; **metal paper** (see quot.); †**metal pit**, a mine containing metal; **metal polish**, a polish used for brightening metals; **metal proof**, ? bullet-proof; **metal ridge, rig** *Coal-mining* (see quots.); †**metal smith**, one who forges metal, a metal-worker; **metal stone**, † (*a*) the ore of a metal; (*b*) (see quot. 1851); **metal value**, value (of coin) considered merely as metal; **metal-visaged** *a.*, having a hard immobile countenance; **metal-work**, work, esp. artistic work, in metal.

1861 SMILES *Engineers* II. 429 He specified that the *metal bed was to be formed in two layers. 1892 *Labour Commission* Gloss., **Metal Carriers*, those who take the pig-iron out of the troughs of sand into which it has been placed to cool, and stack it on the trucks used in conveying it away for sale. 1845 *Encycl. Metrop.* VIII. 215/1 In the third stage, the crack is completed, and the edges assume a sharp distinct form called *metal edges. 13.. *K. Alis.* 6735 A queynte mon, a *metal geoter, That couthe caste in alle thyng. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 92 It is not to bee doubted but the *mettall-mawes of those Ostriges could also digest the other. 1901 *J. Black's Carp. & Build., Home Handicr.* 39 If the paste is not to be used for gilt papers (sometimes called ''metal' or 'gold' papers), add 2 oz. of powdered alum. *a* 1603 T. CARTWRIGHT *Confut. Rhem. N. T.* (1618) 656 He is verily worthy to be condemned to dig in the *mettall pits. 1851 GREENWELL *Coal-trade Terms, Northumbld. & Durham* 36 *Metal Ridge. 1883 GRESLEY *Coal-mining Gloss., Metal ridges*, pillars forming themselves into supports to the roof, formed by the creep in the boards. 1860 *Eng. & For. Min. Gloss., Newc. Terms*, **Metal rig*, the strata forced up by a creep. 1382 WYCLIF *Isa.* xli. 7 The *metal smyth [1388 A smyth of metal; L. *faber ærarius*] smytende hym with an hamer. 1612 S. STURTEVANT *Metallica* 35 Prepared or roasted oares, Minestones, or *Mettle-stones beeing the fitt matter of Metallique liquours. 1851 GREENWELL *Coal-trade Terms, Northumbld. & Durh.* 36 *Metal stone*, a mixture of shale with sandstone. 1901 *Munsey's Mag.* (U. S.) XXIV. 772/1 A deposit of coins was found on Richmond's Island, near Portland, Maine, which, though of the *metal value of only a hundred dollars, was of great interest because [etc.]. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xlviii, Even the *metal-visaged Mr. Martin condescended to smile. 1850 *Parker's Gloss. Archit.* (ed. 5) I. 302 **Metal-work.* 1872 YEATS *Growth Comm.* 52 [Corinth] being especially celebrated for metal-work and porcelain.

Metal, *v.* [f. METAL *sb.*]

1. *trans.* To furnish or fit with metal.

1617 CAPT. PEPWELL in *Lett. E. Ind. Comp.* (1901) V. 155 The muskets are generally naught, being not well metalled. 1876 PREECE & SIVEWRIGHT *Telegraphy* 230 Where the pipes run side by side with gas-pipes, it is desirable to metal the joints.

†**2.** To provide the 'metal' or material of. *Obs.*

1610 HEYWOOD *Gold. Age* III. i. Wks. 1874 III. 38 Oh you crownes, Why are you made, and mettald out of cares?

3. To make or mend (a road) with 'metal'.

1806 FORSYTH *Beauties Scotl.* IV. 269 [The stone] is soft, and..has been found totally unfit for metalling roads. 1890 *Spectator* 6 Sept., Roads..so well metalled with granite that they are hardly ever dusty.

Metalbu·min. *Chem.* [f. META- + ALBUMIN.] A form of albumin found in dropsical fluids, etc. Also **metalbu·men** [see ALBUMEN].

1854 R. D. THOMSON *Cycl. Chem.* 1875 tr. *von Ziemssen's Cycl. Med.* X. 369 Paralbumen and metalbumen are, however, not fixed bodies. 1878 KINGZETT *Anim. Chem.* 381 Metalbumin is met with in dropsical fluids. 1885 [see *paralbumin*, PARA-[1] 2 a]. 1899 CAGNEY *Jaksch's Clin. Diagn.* viii. (ed. 4) 422 Metalbumin.

Metal'd, obs. form of METTLED.

Meta·ldehyde. *Chem.* [f. META- 2 a + ALDEHYDE.] A solid isomeric with aldehyde.

1841 BRANDE *Chem.* 1330 By long keeping, aldehyd spontaneously changes into two isomeric compounds, *metaldehyd*, and *elaldehyd*; the former solid, the latter liquid. 1885 REMSEN *Org. Chem.* (1888) 49 Metaldehyde.

‖ **Metalepsis** (metăle·psis). *Rhet.* [a. L. *metalēpsis*, Gr. *μετάληψις*, n. of action to *μεταλαμβάνειν* to substitute, to change the sense of (words), f. *μετα-* META- + *λαμβάνειν* to take.] A rhetorical figure mentioned by Quintilian, consisting in the metonymical substitution of one word for another which is itself figurative. (In many English examples the use appears to be vague or incorrect.)

1586 A. DAY *Eng. Secretary* II. (1625) 79 *Metalepsis*, or *Transumptio*, when by a certaine number of degrees we goe beyond that we intend in troth, and haue meaning to speake of, as to say Accursed soyle that bred my cause of woe. 1657 J. SMITH *Myst. Rhet.* 3 Metalepsis, which is when divers Tropes are shut up in one word: as, 2 King. 2. 9. I pray thee let me have a double portion of thy spirit. 1783 BLAIR *Rhet.* xiv. (1812) I. 339 When the Trope is founded on the relation between an antecedent and a consequent, or what goes before, and immediately follows, it is then called a Metalepsis.

Metalepsy (me·tălepsi). *Chem.* [ad. F. *métalepsie*, f. Gr. *μετάληψις*: see prec.] Dumas' term for the substitution theory in Chemistry.

1852 WATTS *Gmelin's Hand-bk. Chem.* VII. 71.

Metaleptic (metăle·ptik), *a.* [ad. mod.L. *metalēpticus*, a. Gr. *μεταληπτικός*, f. *μεταλαμβάνειν*: see METALEPSIS.] **a.** Participating or acting with: *spec.* applied to muscles. **b.** Pertaining to metalepsis or to metalepsy.

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Metaleptick*..that hath the power of participating, or pertains to the figure *Metalepsis*. 1693 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Metalepticus*, a Metaleptick Motion of the Muscles. 1890 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

So **Metale·ptical** *a.* 1850 in OGILVIE.

Metale·ptically, *adv.* ? *Obs.* [f. METALEPTIC *a.* + -AL + -LY[2].] By metalepsis.

1655 tr. *Sanderson's Promiss. Oaths* i. § 9. 19 The name of Promises may Metaleptically be extended to Comminations. 1672 W. PENN *Spir. Truth Vind.* 46 The Holy

Spirit is properly given unto men, and not Metonymically nor Metolepsically [*sic*]. 1674 OWEN *Holy Spirit* Wks. 1852 III. 85 One or other of these things is or may be metaphorically or metaleptically ascribed unto this or that thing which are not persons when [etc.].

‖ **Metalik** (metæ·lik). Also **metallic, metalick.** [Turkish, prob. f. mod. Gr. *μέταλλον* METAL + *-lik* suffix as in *beshlik* five-piastre piece.] A Turkish coin worth 10 paras or about a halfpenny.

1895 CALLAN *From Clyde to Jordan* xx. 222 Each cup costs a *metallic* (value ½*d.*), and there are usually four metallics in a piastre. 1897 MRS. W. M. RAMSAY *Every Day Life in Turkey* ii. 60 On the babies I generally bestowed a *metalik* (value a halfpenny) 'for luck'.

Metaline (me·tălīn). [f. METAL *sb.* + -INE 4.]

1. (See quot. 1875.)

1870 S. GWYNNE *Patent* No. 190 Metaline. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 1220/2 *Metaline* is a material formed of metals, oxides of metals, and organic matter, reduced to powder, compounded with wax, gum, or fatty matters, and subjected to heavy pressure, so as to form solids of proper shape to form boxes and bearings for shafts or axles. 1883 *Fisheries Exhib. Catal.* (ed. 4) 80.

2. A kind of thread for sewing leather, made of twisted strands of linen and brass, copper, or steel wire. (*Cent. Dict.* 1890.)

Hence **Me·talined** *a.*, lined with metaline (see 1).

1878 *Eng. Mechanic* 23 Aug. 254 Metalined Bearings.

† **Me·tallar,** *a.* and *sb. Obs. rare*⁻¹. In quot. **mettellar.** [f. METAL *sb.* + -AR.] **a.** *adj.* Metallic. **b.** *sb.* A metallic substance.

1612 STURTEVANT *Metallica* 107 The mettle-matter is that Mettellar substance which is put into the Furnace to be baked, boyled, or nealed, which in one word may be called Mettellar... There are three sorts of Mettellars.

† **Me·tallary.** *Obs.* [ad. L. *metallārius* miner, f. *metallum* METAL *sb.*: see -ARY. Cf. OF. *metallaire.*] **a.** A miner or worker in metals. **b.** One skilled in the nature and kinds of metals.

1641 J. TRAPPE *Theol. Theol.* iii. 135 Do herein as the Wise Merchant or Metallary, who..digs deeper and deeper till he be owner of the whole treasure. 1657 TRAPP *Comm. Ps.* xvii. 611 Thou hast tryed mee, as Metallaries do their gold and silver. 1686 HORNECK *Crucif. Jesus* 793 Metallaries, and Lapidists,..that make a very strict examination, whether the precious stone be truly oriental or no.

Metall'd, obs. form of METTLED.

Metalled (me·tăld, me·t'ld), *ppl. a.* [f. METAL *sb.* or *v.* + -ED.]

1. † **a.** Consisting or made of metal; containing metal. Also in comb., as *pure-metalled. Obs.*

1591 JAS. I *Poet. Exerc., Lepanto,* Sonet, The mettal'd minds [=mines]. 1609 DAVIES *Holy Roode* F 3 b, Looke on this Crosse .. It cures forth-with, like Moises metl'd Snake. *a* 1638 MEDE *Wks.* III. (1672) 587 The four metalled parts thereof [*sc.* The Monarchical Image in Daniel] were Types of four..Kingdoms. 1655 GURNALL *Chr. in Arm.* verse xv. § 1 (1669) 358/2 That is the pure metall'd Sword or Knife, which bends this way, and that way, but returns to its straitness again.

† **b.** *transf.* Composed of material (of a certain kind). *Obs.*

1575 LANEHAM *Let.* (Ballad Soc.) 20, I cannot tell what too make of him, saue that I may gesse hiz bak be metalld like a Lamprey.

c. Having a covering or fittings of metal.

1821 W. C. WELLS *Ess. on Dew* (1866) 36 These differences were caused by the metalled case obstructing the transmission of the temperature of the air to the enclosed instrument. 1876 DIXON *White Conq.* I. xvi. 155 A stream of sunshine lies on painted wall and metalled roof. 1885 *Pall Mall G.* 14 Feb. 7/2 The expediency of replacing the heavily metalled lamps at the Guards' Memorial with globes of modern construction.

2. Of roads: Made with 'metal'.

1839 *Penny Cycl.* XX. 31/1 The formation of metalled roads. 1878 *N. Amer. Rev.* CXXVII. 154 Railways and good metaled roads.

† 3. In *well-metalled*: well paid, remunerative.

a 1734 NORTH *Lives* (1826) I 249 The traverses of these indictments, tried at the assizes,..are..beyond what are had in most of the circuit beside, and well-metalled causes.

Metalleity (metălī·ĭti). [ad. F. *métallēité,* as if ad. L. **metalleitās,* f. *metalleus* of the nature of metal, f. *metallum* METAL *sb.*] The quality of being metallic; metallic qualities in the aggregate.

1754 HUXHAM in *Phil. Trans.* XLVIII. 859 The most perfect metallic bodies, which loose their metalleity, as Becher calls it, as malleahility, and other metallic properties. *a* 1834 COLERIDGE *Hints Theory of Life* (1848) 69 The metalleity, as the universal base of the planet.

† **Me·taller.** *Obs.* In 7 **mateller.** [f. METAL *sb.* + -ER¹.] One who works in metal.

1658 *Rec. Elgin* (New Spald. Club) I. 305 Matellers of all sortes, such as pewterars [etc.].

Metallescent (metăle·sĕnt), *a. rare*⁻⁰. [ad. F. *métallescent,* f. L. *metallum* METAL *sb.*: see -ESCENT.] 'Applied to a body of which the surface exhibits metallic colours' (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1890).

Metallic (mĭtæ·lik), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. L. *metallic-us* (or the derived F. *métallique*), a. Gr. *μεταλλικ-ός,* f. *μέταλλον* METAL *sb.*] **A.** *adj.*

1. Of or pertaining to, consisting of or containing, a metal or metals; of the nature of or resembling a metal.

Metallic beds, 'beds consisting of iron ore' (Ogilvie 1850). *Metallic glasses* (see quot. 1807).

1567 MAPLET *Gr. Forest* A vij b, Ye Mettals Roote is eyther Mettal, or some thing Metallick. 1654 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 566 Metallick Transmutation. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* I. 673 Metallic Ore. 1670 PETTUS *Fodinæ Reg.* Introd., The true Electrum, or Metallick Amber, or seventh Metal. 1756 C. LUCAS *Ess. Waters* III. 237 Many metallic minerals are likewise found. 1800 tr. *Lagrange's Chem.* I. 102 The phosphoric acid unites itself to metallic oxides, and forms salts. 1806 *Med. Jrnl.* XV. 564, I did not imagine, that, on the former supposition, any of the metallic medicines could be of material service. 1807 AIKIN *Dict. Chem. & Min.* II. 97/2 At a high heat they [metals] become more or less transparent, assume the vitreous texture, and are called metallic glasses. 1874 ROSCOE *Elem. Chem.* xvii. 185 The chemical composition of the alloys is not so definite..as that of the other metallic compounds. 1890 *Syd. Soc. Lex., Metallic sulphide,* a combination of a metal with sulphur.

b. Involving coin as distinguished from paper money. *Metallic currency*: the gold, silver, and copper in use as money; opposed to *paper currency.*

1790 BURKE *Fr. Rev.* Wks. 1808 V. 426 They made a sort of swaggering declaration,..that there is no difference in value between metallick money and their assignats. 1833 HT. MARTINEAU *Charmed Sea* vii. 109 Day by day, did he look with jealous eyes on the heaps of silver which he must not touch, and long for the security of metallic currency. 1895 *Daily News* 2 Jan. 5/7 No transactions except on a metallic basis were possible.

c. Made of metal. *rare.*

1711 W. KING *Rufinus, or Favourite* 195 A palace..With Parian pillars and metallic beams.

d. *Metallic pencil*: a pencil with a tip made of lead or alloy, for writing indelibly on paper with a prepared surface, used for note-books. (? Hence) *metallic book, paper.*

1855 OGILVIE *Suppl., Metallic paper,* paper, the surface of which is washed over with a solution of whiting, lime, and size. Writing done with a pewter pencil upon paper prepared in this manner is almost indelible. 1862 *Catal. Internat. Exhib.* No. 5150 Metallic betting books. 1866 LIVINGSTONE *Last Jrnls.* (1873) I. Introd. 4 The doctor always had metallic note books in use. 1874 [see METALLICIAN 1].

2. Having the form or outward characters of a metal; *esp.* said of a metal when occurring uncombined with other substances.

1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XI. 433/2 The platina is found native like the gold, and in its metallic state. 1831 [see METALLICITY]. 1874 ROSCOE *Elem. Chem.* xx. 222 Metallic aluminium is obtained by passing the vapour of aluminium chloride over metallic sodium. 1877 RAYMOND *Statist. Mines & Mining* 240 The ore is..free from base metals, and carries metallic silver.

3. Of a quality: Such as is characteristic of metals. **a.** Of colour or appearance, esp. in *metallic lustre,* the peculiar sheen characteristic of metals. Hence, of things, having a lustre of this kind.

1794 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) I. 333 The external lustre is casual, but the internal is strong and inclining to the metallic. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XI. 450/2 A shining metallic colour. 1822 LATHAM *Gen. Hist. Birds* III. 274 Metallic Cuckow...Inhabits Sierra Leone. 1854 MEALL *Moubray's Dom. Poultry* 64 *Metallic*—the indescribable rainbow hues and tints seen on live fish, on some minerals and ores, and on bright steel when placed in the fire. 187- *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* IV. 31 Some peculiar metallic-plumaged birds, known as the Metallic Cuckoo Shrikes (*Campophaga*). 1882 *Garden* 17 June 433/1 The sepals are a sort of metallic green. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* (1891) 214 The long lagoon lay darkly metallic. 1893 NEWTON *Dict. Birds* 97 Subjective structural, prismatic, or metallic colours...The metallic portions of the radii are composed of [etc.].

b. Of sound: Resembling that produced by metal when struck; often applied to a voice or tone of a harsh unmusical timbre.

Used in Pathology to describe auscultatory sounds, as *metallic breathing, echo, heart-sounds, jingling, resonance, ring, tremor* (Syd. Soc. Lex.).

1834 J. FORBES *Laennec's Dis. Chest* (ed. 4) 313 The cavernous respiration and metallic tinkling. 1839-40 W. IRVING *Wolfert's R.* (1855) 253 Their deep metallic voices. 1872 J. C. JEAFFRESON *Brides & Bridals* I. x. 151 It is strange that..a singularly hard and harsh voice should be stigmatized as 'metallic'. 1883 E. INGERSOLL in *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 204/2 A finch..chirping in a metallic manner.

c. Of taste: 'Coppery'.

1803 *Med. Jrnl.* X. 39 Metallic taste, fetid breath [etc.].

d. *fig.*

1828 CARLYLE *Misc.* (1857) I. 161 Among clear metallic heroes, and white, high stainless beauties. 1848 CLOUGH *Amours de Voy.* I. 110 With metallic beliefs and regimental devotions. 1875 KINGLAKE *Crimea* (1877) V. i. 364 A courage so rigid, that almost one might call it metallic. 1882 *Society* 14 Oct. 18/2 Your style is somewhat metallic and unsympathetic.

4. Yielding or producing metal; metalliferous.

1689 PACKE tr. *Glauber's Wks.* (title-p.), Choice secrets in Medicine and Alchemy, working of Metallic Mines. 1758 JOHNSON *Idler* No. 55 P 4 The black inhabitants of metallic caverns. 1796 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) I. 421 Metallic veins are never found in beds of lava. 1870 YEATS *Nat. Hist. Comm.* 112 In the small islands of volcanic origin, metallic lodes, or ores are rare.

† 5. Connected with mining or metallurgy. *Obs.*

1670 PETTUS *Fodinæ Reg.* Introd., A Dictionary of such words as concern the Metallick and Chemick Arts. 1762 tr. *Busching's Syst. Geol.* III. 580 All metallic attempts there, a few iron mines excepted, have turned out to the disadvantage of the undertakers. 1834 W. GODWIN *Lives Necromancers* 359 He visited the mines of Bohemia, Sweden and the East to perfect himself in metallic knowledge.

† 6. *Metallic history* [F. *histoire métallique*]: history as shown by coins struck during the period dealt with. Cf. MEDALLIC *a.*¹ *Obs.*

1727-41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Metallic,* F. Romani has published a metallic history of the popes.

7. *Comb.,* as *metallic-coloured, -looking* adjs.

1839 WESTWOOD *Classif. Insects* I. 12 Body subquadrate, metallic coloured. 1874 GARROD & BAXTER *Mat. Med.* 56 It occurs in crystalline metallic-looking powder of a steel-grey colour.

B. *sb. pl.* a. Articles or substances made of or containing metal.

1612 STURTEVANT *Metallica* 35 Metallica is an Ignick inuention, for the cheaper making of all kindes of mettles or Metalique concoctures, .. wherevpon the materials and things made by this Arte, are called Metaliques. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* II. 425 Bituminous particles, mixed with..minerals, metallics, and vitrified sandy substances. 1880 J. PERCY *Metallurgy, Silver & Gold* I. 248 The 'metallics' or unpulverizable metallic residue may be assayed by cupellation direct, or by [etc.].

b. *U. S.* (*Mech.*) Powdered metal for lining the bearings of machine shafts.

1894 *U. S. Tariff* § 180 in *Times* 16 Aug. 6/4 Bronze powder, metallics or fitters, bronze or Dutch metal, or aluminium, in leaf.

Metallical (mĭtæ·likăl), *a.* ? *Obs.* [f. METALLIC *a.* + -AL.] = METALLIC.

1577 HARRISON *Descr. Brit.* III. xi. 238 in *Holinshed,* Whose mixture would induce a metallicall toughnesse vnto it, whereby it should abide the hammer. 1650 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* VI. xii. (ed. 2) 285 Whether black tinctures from metallicall bodies be not from vitriolous parts contained in their sulphur.

Metallically (mĭtæ·likăli), *adv.* [f. METALLICAL *a.* + -LY².]

1. By means of a metal or metals.

1839 NOAD *Lect. Electricity* 190 One [of the plates] was insulated, and the other metallically fixed by its extremity to a plate of platinum.

2. With regard to (the constituent) metal.

1889 *Pop. Sci. Monthly* Jan. 299 A metallically pure cylinder of wrought or cast iron.

3. With a metallic voice.

1872 HOWELLS *Wedd. Journ.* (1884) 129 The tram-boy came back, and metallically, like a part of the machinery, demanded 'Ten Cents!'

Metallician (metăli·shăn). [f. METALLIC: see -ICIAN.]

1. *Racing slang.* A bookmaker (see quot. 1874).

1874 *Hotten's Slang Dict., Metallician,* a racing bookmaker. Bookmakers use metallic books and pencils. 1887 *Daily Tel.* 12 Mar. 5/2 In Australia the bookmaker has to pay dearly...As for the long-suffering Australian public, they are mulcted..as heavily as the much-taxed metallician.

2. A stone-breaker. ? *nonce-use.*

1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* (1891) 55 'This entertainment, which is given by me', continued the metallician.

Metallicity (metăli·sĭti). *rare.* [f. METALLIC *a.* + -ITY.] The quality of being metallic.

1831 *Amer. Jrnl. Sci.* XIX. 188 The..method which Dr. Wollaston employed to discover metallic titanium in the scoria of iron, and to prove the metallicity of the small crystals of titanium. 1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 32/1 The alchemists..held that mercury..enters into the composition of all metals, and is the very cause of their metallicity.

Metallicly (mĭtæ·likli), *adv.* [f. METALLIC *a.* + -LY².] = METALLICALLY.

1897 in WEBSTER. 1901 WATERHOUSE *Conduit Wiring* 14 The galvanizing practically closing and metallicly uniting the edges of the Conduit.

† **Metalli·colous,** *a.* [f. L. *metallum* METAL + *col-ĕre* to worship + -OUS.] Worshipping metals.

1657 TOMLINSON *Renou's Disp.* 400* Which the metallicolous alchymists say, is produced by their sulphur.

Metallifacture (mĭtæ·lifæktiŭ). *rare*⁻¹. [f. L. *metallum* METAL *sb.* + *factūra* making, FACTURE.] The manufacture of metal articles.

1847 R. PARK *Pantalogy* (ed. 4) 478 Under the head of Metallifactures, we include the manufacture of hardware, brassware and jewelry.

Metalliferous (metăli·fĕrəs), *a.* [f. L. *metallifer* (f. *metallum* METAL *sb.* + *-fer* bearing): see -FEROUS.] Bearing or producing metal.

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr., Metalliferous,* that brings forth metals. 1796 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) I. 455 The metalliferous stone of Born. 1869 E. A. PARKES *Pract. Hygiene* (ed. 3) 95 In the metalliferous mines the air..is poor in oxygen.

† **Metallifica·tion.** *Obs.* [f. L. *metallum* METAL *sb.* + -FICATION.] The process of becoming a metal.

1669 W. SIMPSON *Hydrol. Chym.* 221 Each Metal possesseth the predominancy of..one of the Planetary Orders.. by the cooperation of the septenary properties at Metallification.

Metalliform (mĭtæ·lifōm), *a.* [f. L. *metallum* METAL *sb.* + -(I)FORM.] Having the form of a metal, resembling metal.

1796 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) I. 167 Metalliform asbestoid.

Metallify (mĭtæ·lifəi), *v.* [Formed as prec.: see -IFY.] *trans.* To extract the metal from (ore).

1887 *Encycl. Brit.* XXII. 70/1 The Augustin process of silver extraction is only a peculiar mode of metallifying and collecting the silver of an ore after it has been by some preliminary operation converted into chloride or sulphate.

Metalline (me·tălən), *a.* Also 6 **mettalline, mettalyne, metallyen,** 6-7 **metaline,** 6-8 **metaline,** 7 **metallin.** [ad. F. *métallin,* f. *métal* METAL *sb.*: see -INE¹.]

1. = METALLIC 1.

1471 RIPLEY *Comp. Alch.* Ep. iii. in Ashm. *Theat. Chem. Brit.* (1652) 111 Bodies .. Minerall and Mettaline. 1555 EDEN *Decades* 334 This metalline body that we caule golde. 1563 T. GALE *Antidot.* II. 7 b, Emplasters be medicynes whyche take into their composition, dyuers kyndes of symples, but chefelye metallyen bodyes and these are..to be boyled together. 1592 CHETTLE *Kinde-harts Dr.* (1841) 25, I muse not a little what wonderfull mettaline preparatiue it is ye boast on. 1622 MALYNES *Anc. Law-Merch.* 272 Mines, Mettaline and Minerall. 1634 T. JOHNSON *Parey's Chirurg.* XII. ix. (1678) 298 Adding to the former Ointments Metalline Powders. 1781 HORNBLOWER in J. Nicholson *Operat. Mechanic* (1825) 182, I condense the steam, by causing it to pass in contact with metalline surfaces. 1804 *Edin. Rev.* IV. 139 The metalline salts. 1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) I. 132 Various metalline emetics. 1855 BREWSTER *Newton* I. iii. 49 Without separating the sulphureous from the metalline part of that mixture.

b. Impregnated with metallic substances. Also, of vapours, arising from or produced by metals.

1626 BACON *Sylva* § 84 Smiths water or other Metalline water. *Ibid.* § 918 Those that deale much in Refining.. have their Braines Hurt and Stupefied by the Metalline Vapours. 1633 T. ADAMS *Exp. 2 Peter* ii. 3. (1865) 270 Physicians..send them to the mineral or metalline baths. 1719 HAUKSBEE *Phys.-Mech. Exp.* (ed. 2) Supp. 285 Damps, or Steems..impregnated with Metalline Effluvia. 1890 *Syd. Soc. Lex., Metalline waters* = mineral waters.

c. Made of metal.

1575 BANISTER *Chyrurg.* II. (1585) 275 By mettalline instrumentes, and manuall operation. 1665 G. HAVERS *P. della Valle's Trav. E. India* III A combustible liquor, which the man..carries..in a metalline bottle. 1731 P. SHAW *Three Ess. Artif. Philos.* 41 The Art of Printing on Paper, with Metalline Types. 1778 BP. LOWTH *Isaiah* Notes 68 A metalline mirror.

2. Resembling metal in appearance, lustre, etc.

1596 RALEIGH *Discov. Guiana* 58 The rocks of a blew mettaline colour, like vnto the best steele ore. 1664 EVELYN *Sylva* (1679) 25 [A kind of oak] seeming to partake of a ferruginous, and metallin shining nature. 1822 LATHAM *Gen. Hist. Birds* III. 301 Metalline Cuckow...Inhabits Africa. [Cf. METALLIC *a.* 3.] 1831 BREWSTER *Optics* XX. 179 A plate of a highly refractive metalline glass.

3. Yielding or producing metals, metalliferous. Cf. METALLIC *a.* 4.

1620 VENNER *Via Recta* 8 [Springs] which rise from sulphurous, bituminous, or metalline places. 1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v. *Gold*, They first break the metalline stone with iron mallets.

Metalling (me·tăliŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. METAL *v.* (or *sb.*) + -ING[1].]

1. The process of making or mending roads with 'metal'. Also *concr.* = METAL *sb.* 11.

1819 TELFORD in McAdam *Rem. Road Making* (1823) 193 We ..make use of metalling, or broken stones, on the middle part of the road. 1885 SIR N. LINDLEY in *Law Rep.* 15 Q. B. D. 4 The metalling of the roads is better and more quickly consolidated by steam rollers.

2. Metal-work. *rare*—[1].

1878 C. T. NEWTON in *Academy* 19 Jan. 59/1 The bowl seems like a local imitation of Phoenician metalling.

†**Me·tallish,** *a. Obs.* [f. METAL *sb.* + -ISH.] Resembling or of the nature of metal, metallic.

1530 PALSGR. 318/2 Metallysshe belongynge to metall, *metallicque.* 1581 MULCASTER *Positions* XXXVII. (1887) 158 If any metall be to massie, .. or if any metallish meane, where money will scale, do enter that fort. 1683 PETTUS *Fleta Min.* II. xlvii. 218 Both these species are Metallish and go in the Gold.

Metallist (me·tălist). Also **metalist.** [f. METAL *sb.* + -IST.]

1. One who is skilled in or works in metals. Now *rare.*

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* VI. xii. 336 Iron (as Metallists expresse it) consisting of impure Mercury and combust sulphur, becomes of a darke and sad complexion. 1703 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* 243 Metalists use a kind of Tarrace in their vessels for fining of Mettals. 1834 *Oxf. Univ. Mag.* I. 411 A cautious metallist from Cornwall demanded fiercely what a stratum was.

2. An advocate of the use of a particular metal as currency. (Cf. BIMETALLIST, MONOMETALLIST.)

1886 *Science* 23 July 75/1 He has recently reaped a golden harvest by carrying out the principles of the silver metallists.

Metallity (mĭtæ·lĭti). *rare*—[1]. [f. METAL *sb.* + -ITY. Cf. METALLEITY.] The quality or condition of being a metal.

1884 tr. *Lotze's Logic* 37 Only metallity explains their degree of specific gravity.

Metallization (metăləizē·ʃən). [f. next + -ATION.] The process of metallizing or condition of being metallized; conversion into a metallic state. Also, the result of such a process.

1669 W. SIMPSON *Hydrol. Chym.* 57 Middle minerals, which are in the road to metalization. 1796 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) II. 90 Susceptible of metallization. 1808 DAVY in *Phil. Trans.* XCVIII. 362, I have heated the amalgam of potassium, in contact with both hydrogene and nitrogene, but without attaining their metallization. 1811 PINKERTON *Petral.* II. 556 Some substances collected in tolerably large heaps, boiled up having the appearance of a brilliant metalisation. 1819 BRANDE *Chem.* 307 *note*, When mercury is negatively electrized in a solution of ammonia..the metal ..becomes of the consistency of butter, an appearance which has sometimes been called the *metallization of ammonia.*

Metallize (me·tăləiz), *v.* [f. METAL *sb.* + -IZE.]

1. *trans.* To render metallic; to impart a metallic form or appearance to.

1594 PLAT *Jewell-Ho.* I. 22 By wood that is both metalized and petrified in clay groundes. 1782 KIRWAN in *Phil. Trans.* LXXII. 200 Inflammable air is then the principle that metallizes metallic earth. 1800 HENRY *Epit. Chem.* (1808) 213 The lead is again metallized. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 769 The surface of the iron thus becomes perfectly metallized.

fig. 1849 CLOUGH *Poems*, etc. (1869) I. 298 Better far that this precious imponderable lie crystallised or metallized within us, than be..let free to escape.

2. To treat with sulphur and heat, as india-rubber; to vulcanize. (*Funk's Stand. Dict.* 1895.)

Hence **Me·tallized, Me·tallizing** *ppl. adjs.*

1754 HUXHAM in *Phil. Trans.* XLVIII. 839 It appears then, that some internal metallizing sulphur..is absolutely necessary to combine the metallic earth togetber. 1882 E. O'DONOVAN *Merv Oasis* II. xliv. 246 Had I not been told of the origin of the metallized appearance, I should have decidedly said that it was some lacquered surface, developed in the process of baking the brick itself.

Metallo-, before a vowel **metall-,** comb. form of Gr. *μέταλλον* METAL *sb.*, used in a number of technical terms, as **Metallochrome** (me·tălokrōum) [Gr. *χρῶμα* colour], a prismatic tinting imparted to polished steel plates by depositing on them a film of lead oxide. **Metallochromy,** the art or process of colouring metals (1860 in Worcester citing Nobili). †**Metallo·gnomy** [after PHYSIOGNOMY], the art of discovering hidden metals. **Meta·llophone** [Gr. *φωνή* sound], (*a*) a keyed instrument with outside resemblance to a piano, but having metallic bars instead of strings (Knight *Dict. Mech.* IV. 1884); (*b*) see quot. 1887. **Metallopla·stic** *a.*, pertaining to the arts of depositing metals or obtaining metal casts by either electric or chemical methods (*Cent. Dict.* 1890). **Metalloscopy** (metălo·skŏpi) [-SCOPY]: see quot.; hence **Metallosco·pic** *a.* †**Metallostatics** *sb. pl.*, the art of discovering the composition of metals and minerals. **Meta·llotechny** (-te·kni) [Gr. *τέχνη* art], the art of working in metals. **Metallothe·rapy** [Gr. *θεραπεία* healing], the use of metals in healing or preventing diseases. So **Metallotherapeu·tic** *a.*

1841 BRANDE *Chem.* (ed. 5) 836 *Metallo-chromes.—..Those beautiful prismatic tints which Nobili originally described under the above name. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* 237 The colours of tempered metals and the beautiful metallochrome of Nobili are..due to a similar cause. 1884 W. H. WAHL *Galvanoplastic Manip.* 407 (Cent.) *Metallo-chromy is used to produce decorative effects upon objects of copper, tombac, and brass, previously treated to a thin electro-gilding. 1665 *Phil. Trans.* I. 112 Of *Metallognomy or the signs of latent Metals, and by what art they may be discovered. 1887 *Sci. Amer.* 19 Feb. 120/2 The *metalophone is similar in form to the xylophone, but as its name suggests, the vibrating bars are made of metal—hardened steel. 1888 *Amer. Jrnl. Psychol.* I. 503 *Metaloscopic phenomena are most analogous to those here described. 1887 *Buck's Handbk. Med. Sci.* IV. 749 *Metalloscopy..is the art of determining by external application what metals or metallic substances act most easily and favorably upon a given person. 1890 *Syd. Soc. Lex., Metalloscopy*, a term applied to the phenomena observed in cases of hysterical anæsthesia after the application of a metallic plate or plates to the skin of the affected part which recovers its sensibility, while the corresponding point of the other and unaffected limb loses its sensibility. 1665 *Phil. Trans.* I. 113 Fifthly, of *Metallostaticks, whereby the mixture of Mettals and Minerals may be certainly known. 1881 T. E. BRIDGETT *Hist. Holy Eucharist* I. 8 It will be sufficient for my purpose to touch on architecture, *metallotechny, embroidery, just so far as they served devotion. 1877 *Eng. Mechanic* 8 June 299/1 *Metallotherapy.

Metallograph (mĭtæ·lŏgrɑf). [Back-formation from METALLOGRAPHY: see -GRAPH.] A print produced by the process of metallography.

In recent Dicts.

Metallographer (metălo·grăfəɹ). [f. METALLOGRAPH-Y + -ER.] A student of metallography.

1904 [see METALLOGRAPHIC 2].

Metallographic (mĭtæ·lŏgræ·fik), *a.* [f. METALLOGRAPHY + -IC. Cf. F. *métallographique.*]

1. Relating to the description of coins.

1838 B. CORNEY *Ideas on Controversy* xix. 19 You have been censured for some metallographic absurdity.

2. Relating to metallography (sense 2).

1904 J. E. STEAD *Osmond's Microsc. Anal. Metals* Pref. 5 The accuracy of Mons. Osmond's metallographic work has received universal recognition, as is amply proved by the writings of metallographers in Europe and America.

3. Pertaining to or produced by metallography.

1888 *Times* 3 Oct. 5/3 If Kaiser Friedrich really confided metallographic copies of his diary to..such persons as Dr. Geffken.

Metallographist (metălo·grăfist). *rare*—[0]. [f. METALLOGRAPHY + -IST.] 'A writer concerning metals' (Bailey, folio, 1736).

Metallography (metălo·grăfi). [ad. mod.L. *metallographia*, a. Gr. *μεταλλογραφία*, f. *μέταλλον* METAL *sb.* + *-γραφία* -GRAPHY. Cf. F. *métallographie.*]

1. 'A treatise or description of metals' (Bailey 1721). *rare*—[0].

2. The descriptive science relating to the internal structure of metals.

1871 T. A. BLYTH (*title*) Metallography as a separate Science, or the Student's Handbook of Metals, etc., etc. 1901 *Engineering Mag.* XIX. 751/1 We have long been accustomed to ascribe all mechanical changes in metals directly to molecular displacements, but metallography has thrown a new light on this subject.

3. A printing-process akin to lithography, in which metal plates are used instead of stones.

1875 in KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*

†**Meta·llogy.** *Obs. rare*—[1]. [Badly f. METAL *sb.* + -LOGY.] The science of metals.

1811 PINKERTON *Petral.* Introd. 4, I would propose..that the mineral kingdom be considered as divided into three provinces: 1. Petralogy..2. Lithology..3. Metallogy, or the knowledge of metals.

Metalloid (me·tăloid), *a.* [f. METAL *sb.* + -OID. Cf. F. *métalloïde.*]

A. *adj.* Having the form or appearance of a metal. Also, of or pertaining to metalloids.

1836 BUCKLAND *Geol. & Min.* (1837) I. 41 The metalloid bases of the earths and alkalies. 1855 in OGILVIE *Suppl.*

B. *sb. Chem.* †a. The metallic base of a fixed alkali or alkaline earth. *Obs.*

1832 in WEBSTER. 1837 PHILLIPS *Geol.* 27 The remaining substances are metallic or metalloidal. Seven of them are earthy metals or metalloids.

b. A non-metallic element.

1832 *Amer. Jrnl. Sci.* XXII. 250 *note*, [Berrelius remarks] Hence the division into *metallic* and *non-metallic* bodies; the latter class I call by the name of *metalloids.* 1836 BRANDE *Chem.* (ed. 4) 318 Berzelius divides them [*i.e.* non-metallic substances] into three classes,..2ndly, Metalloids: sulphur, phosphorus, carbon, boron, and silicon. 1869 ROSCOE *Elem. Chem.* 185 In the compounds with the metalloids the physical properties of the metals as a rule disappear.

Metalloidal (metăloi·dăl), *a.* [f. METALLOID *sb.* + -AL.] = METALLOID *a. Metalloidal diallage*, an obsolete synonym of hypersthene (Chester *Dict. Names Min.*).

1837 [see METALLOID]. *a* 1864 GESNER *Treat. Oils* (1865) 118 The metalloidal elements. 1880 PROCTOR *Rough Ways made Smooth* 86 The matter forming the solid centre of the earth consists probably of metallic and metalloidal compounds.

Metallurgic (metălū·ɹdʒik), *a.* [f. METALLURGY + -IC. Cf. F. *métallurgique.*] = next.

a 1797 H. WALPOLE *Mem. Geo. II* (1847) II. iv. 130 The metallurgic artist loses gold; the State artist gets it. 1860 R. H. LAMBORN *Metall. Copper* 105 The metallurgic processes of copper smelting. 1871 CARLYLE in *Mrs. Carlyle's Lett.* II. 362 Partner in some prosperous metallurgic or engineering business.

Metallurgical (metălū·ɹdʒikăl), *a.* [Formed as prec. + -AL.] Pertaining to the working of metals; of, pertaining to, or connected with metallurgy.

1812 SIR H. DAVY *Chem. Philos.* 20 A metallurgical school had before this time been founded in Germany. 1827 FARADAY *Chem. Manip.* i. 11 Metallurgical processes. 1868 GLADSTONE *Juv. Mundi* XV. § 4 (1869) 530, I have high metallurgical authority for stating, that the sheathing of Chalcos on walls..must..have been some material other than bronze.

Metallurgist (me·tălūɹdʒist). [f. METALLURGY + -IST. Cf. F. *métallurgiste.*] One who is skilled in metallurgy; a worker in metal.

1670 W. SIMPSON *Hydrol. Esa.* 22 If you be a good metallurgist and skilful mechanick. 1796 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) II. 245 That eminent Metallurgist Dr. Swab. 1871 *Athenæum* 3 June 690 The miners and metallurgists of the United States are trying to form an organization on the model of our Iron and Steel Institute.

Metallurgy (me·tălɹdʒi). [ad. mod.L. *metallurgia*, a. Gr. **μεταλλουργία*, f. *μέταλλουργός*, f. *μέταλλον* METAL- *sb.* + *-εργος* working, worker. Cf. F. *métallurgie* (1741 in Hatz.-Darm.).] The art of working metals, comprising the separation of them from other matters in the ore, smelting, and refining; often, in a narrower sense, the process of extracting metals from their ores.

1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I., *Metallurgy*, is the Working or Operation upon Metals, in order to render them most fine, hard, bright, beautiful, serviceable or useful to Mankind. 1785 WARTON *Milton's Poems* 188 *note*, Drayton personifies the Peak in Derbyshire, which he makes a witch skilful in metallurgy. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XI. 422/1 With others, therefore, we have chosen to restrain *Metallurgy* to those operations required to separate metals from their ores for the uses of life. 1868 H. BAUERMAN (*title*) A treatise on the metallurgy of iron.

Metally (me·tăli), *a.* [f. METAL *sb.* + -Y[1].]

†1. Metallic, metalline. *Obs.*

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* VI. xxi. (1495) 210 Metally water [L. *aqua metallina*] folowyth the doynge of & kinde of metall. 1559 MORWYNG *Evonym.* 61 Certaine metallye thynges as requyre to be destilled with a greate and continuall fyre.

2. *dial.* Mixed with shale (see E. D. D.).

Me·tally, *adv. Obs. rare.* [f. METAL *sb.* + -LY[2].] With a metallic sound or ring.

1661 *Sir A. Haslerig's Last Will & Test.* 3 A Fift-Monarchy-Man I was cordially, whose Spirits now when I am dying sound in mine ears mettally stirring.

Metal-man.

1. A worker or dealer in metal; also, a miner.

1566 *Eng. Ch. Furniture* (Peacock) 71 Sensors ij crewetes and ij handbells—Robt Warren..being then churchwarden had who sold theim to a metle man. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* I. ii. III. x. (1651) 111 A Smith, or a Metalman, the pot's never from's nose. 1658 BROMHALL *Treat. Specters* I. 30 Drowsy dotards, habited like the mettal-men.

2. A man made of metal.

1591 SYLVESTER *Ivry* 344 Whence coms this iron spawn? These metal-men?

3. 'One who repairs underground roads' (Gresley *Gloss. Terms Coal-mining* 1883).

Metalogic (metălǫ·dʒik). [f. META- + LOGIC.] The part of metaphysics which relates to the foundations of logic.

1842 THOMSON *Outl. Laws Th.* Introd. 23 Only according to our view it is not Logic. Let it be called by an old name, Metalogic, or what its constructors will. 1878 S. H. HODGSON *Philos. Refl.* I. 358 The logical branch of metaphysic,..which we may fitly call Metalogic.

Metalogical (metălǫ·dʒikăl), *a.* [f. META- + LOGICAL.] Belonging to metalogic. Also, beyond or outside the province of logic.

1865 S. H. HODGSON *Time & Space* 345 Chapter vii, Metalogical. 1873 *Contemp. Rev.* XXI. 446 Certain logical, metalogical, empirical and transcendental truths. *a* 1881 A. BARRATT *Phys. Metempiric* (1883) 193 From the nature of the other metalogical assumptions.

Metalonchidite: see META- 7 a.

Metals, variant of METELS *Obs.*, a dream.

Metalumina, Metamathematical, -mathematics: see META- 6 a, 1.

Metameconic, *a. Chem.* [META- 2 a.] = COMENIC. Hence **Metameconate**, a salt of metameconic acid.

1836 BRANDE *Chem.* (ed. 4) 1021 [If the crystals of meconic acid are] boiled in water, carbonic acid is evolved, the solution becomes brown, and metameconic acid is formed. *Ibid.* 1022 The neutral metameconates of ammonia and potassa.

Metamer (metămēr). *Chem.* Also **-mere.** [Back-formation from METAMERIC.] A compound which exhibits the phenomena of metamerism; a compound which is metameric with something else.

1882 *Nature* 11 May 43 Ammonium sulphocyanite, and its metamer theocarbamide.

Metameral (metæ·mĕrăl), *a.* [f. next + -AL.] = METAMERIC. 1890 in *Century Dict.*

Metamere (metămēr). *Zool.* Also **meta·meron**, pl. **-mera.** [f. Gr. μετα- META- + μέρος part.] One of the several similar segments of which certain bodies consist.

'Thus, in the crayfish a metamere consists of a central part termed the somite, with two appendages; each segment of the body can be reduced to this common type; the whole structure being capable of resolution into the skeletons of twenty separate metameres' (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*).

1877 HUXLEY *Anat. Inv. Anim.* i. 53 The middle line of each of the ambulacral metameres. 1879 tr. *Haeckel's Evol. Man* I. ix. 268 In Man the number of these like segments or metamera is about forty.

Metameric (metămĕ·rik), *a.* [f. Gr. μετα- META- + μέρος part + -IC.]

1. *Chem.* Characterized by metamerism.

1847 *Turner's Elem. Chem.* (ed. 8) I. 176. 1885 REMSEN *Org. Chem.* 31 Bodies may have the same per centage composition and the same molecular weights. Such bodies are said to be metameric.

2. *Zool.* Of or pertaining to metameres.

1875 tr. *Schmidt's Desc. & Darw.* 54 The metameric formation, as it is termed by Haeckel,—is totally foreign to the Molluscs. 1877 RAY LANKESTER in *Q. Jrnl. Microsc. Sci.* XVII. 427 This transient metameric segmentation of the Holothurian.

Hence **Metame·rically** *adv.*, with metameric segmentation.

1878 BELL tr. *Gegenbaur's Comp. Anat.* 602 A dilatation of these metamerically arranged canals. 1888 BEDDARD in *Q. Jrnl. Microsc. Sci.* XXIX. 278 Metamerically disposed tufts of tubules.

Metameride (metæ·mĕrəid). *Chem.* [f. METAMER-IC + -IDE.] = METAMER.

1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem., Org.* i. Introd. 5 The formation of isomerides, metamerides, and polymerides, as bodies which possess the same percentage composition may be termed.

Metamerism (metæ·mĕriz'm). *Chem.* [Formed as METAMERIC: see -ISM.]

1. *Chem.* The condition of those isomeric compounds, which, although they have the same composition and molecular weight, have different chemical properties.

1848 WATTS tr. *Gmelin's Handbk. Chem.* I. 110 Metamerism. This term is applied by Berzelius to the case in which the compound atoms of two chemical compounds containing the same elementary atoms, and for the most part in the same proportions, are nevertheless made up of different proximate elements. 1885 REMSEN *Org. Chem.* Index.

2. *Zool.* The condition of consisting of metameric sections; metameric segmentation; also, an instance of this.

1877 RAY LANKESTER in *Q. Jrnl. Microsc. Sci.* XVII. 427 This latter..breaks up into four circlets by development of cross-pieces in correspondence with a metamerism.

Metamerized (metæ·mĕrəizd), *a.* [Formed as prec.: see -IZE.] Divided into metameric segments. Similarly **Metameriza·tion**, the condition of being metamerized.

1878 BELL tr. *Gegenbaur's Comp. Anat.* 602 Although the vertebrate body is a metameric one, this archinephric duct is not a metamerised organ. 1880 *Q. Jrnl. Microsc. Sci.* XX. 232 The metamerisation is less distinct than in Rhopalura.

Metamerous (metæ·mĕrəs), *a. Zool.* [See METAMERIC and -OUS.] = METAMERIC 2. Hence **Meta·mery** = METAMERISM.

1887 HUBRECHT in *Q. Jrnl. Microsc. Sci.* XXVII. 610 All those cases of metamery in the animal kingdom which do not fall under the head of strobilation... Incipient metamery ..may further differentiate in the most diverse directions. *Ibid.* 613 A regular, rigorously metamerous arrangement of this multiple material. *Ibid.* 618 The metamerous gill-slits.

Metamorphia: see META- 6 a.

Metamorphic (metămǭ·ɹfik), *a.* [irreg. f. Gr. μετα- META + μορφή form + -IC: suggested by *metamorphosis*. Cf. F. *métamorphique*.]

1. Characterized by or exhibiting metamorphosis or change of form.

1816 G. S. FABER *Orig. Pagan Idol.* III. 114 The more complex metamorphic transmigration, by which the same human soul was thought to pass successively through the bodies of animals. 1870 LOWELL *Among my Bks.* Ser. I. (1873) 195 How futile is any attempt at a cast-iron definition of those perpetually metamorphic impressions of the beautiful.

b. in scientific uses (cf. METAMORPHOSIS 3).

1850 *Fraser's Mag.* XLI. 656 The first sight of it suggests the presence of a salamander in a metamorphic stage. 1876 tr. *H. von Ziemssen's Cycl. Med.* V. 542 When the cavities have become larger,..we not infrequently hear also, what has been described by Seitz as metamorphic respiration. 1882 SAVILLE-KENT *Infusoria* II. 870 *Metamorphic*, changeable in form.

2. *Geol.* Pertaining to, characterized by or formed by metamorphism. Of a rock or rock-formation: That has undergone transformation by means of heat, pressure, or natural agencies.

1833 LYELL *Princ. Geol.* III. 375 For these last [*sc.* altered stratified rocks] the term 'metamorphic' (from μετα, *trans*, and μορφη, *form*) may be used. 1862 WHEWELL in *Life* (1881) 528, I was not much in the Geological Section [of the Brit. Assoc.], and do not know if they had there any discussion of metamorphic doctrines. 1865 PAGE *Geol. Terms* s.v., It is usual to restrict the term 'Metamorphic System' to those crystalline schists—Gneiss, Quartz-rock, Mica-schist, and Clay-slate—which underlie all the fossiliferous strata.

transf. 1845 DARWIN *Voy. Nat.* xv. (1873) 325 In frozen snow the columnar structure must be owing to a 'metamorphic' action, not to a process during deposition. 1861 MAX MÜLLER *Sci. Lang.* 42 In Sanskrit..what remains is a kind of metamorphic agglomerate which cannot be understood without a most minute microscopic analysis.

3. That causes metamorphism or metamorphosis.

1853 CARPENTER *Hum. Physiol.* (ed. 4) 48 This metamorphic action of the liver would seem to be influenced by conditions of the nervous system. 1882 GEIKIE *Text-bk. Geol.* IV. viii. 571 Rocks..altered by the action of percolating water or other daily acting metamorphic agent. 1892 LD. LYTTON *King Poppy* Epil. 132 Nor all your metamorphic philtres.

Metamorphine: see META- 6 a.

Metamorphism (metămǭ·ɹfiz'm). [Formed as METAMORPHIC + -ISM.]

1. *Geol.* The process of change of form or structure produced in a rock by various natural agencies; the quality of being metamorphic.

1845 *Encycl. Metrop.* VI. 564/1 By the metamorphism of the chalk into the characters of primary limestone. 1854 WOODWARD *Mollusca* II. 223 Shell impunctate: Profr. King attributes this to metamorphism. 1865 PAGE *Geol. Terms* s.v., This change, or metamorphism, whether produced by heat, pressure, or chemical agency, has conferred upon them [*sc.* the crystalline schists] the term of Metamorphic rocks.

2. The process of metamorphosis (of an insect).

1866 TATE *Brit. Mollusks* iv. 153 An insect in its second stage of metamorphism.

Metamorphist (metămǭ·ɹfist). [f. META-MORPH-OSIS + -IST.]

†1. (See quot.) *Obs.*

1694 *Hist., Geogr. & Poet. Dict., Metamorphists*, or Transformers, a Name given in the XVIth Century to those Sacramentarians, who affirmed, That the Body of Jesus Christ ascended into Heaven, is wholy Deified. 1752 in CHAMBERS *Cycl.*

2. One who holds the theory of metamorphism.

1889 A. IRVING *Metamorph. Rocks* 65 A general *laissez-faire* sort of acceptance of the views of the more advanced metamorphists.

†**Metamorphize**, *v. Obs.* Also -ise. [f. Gr. μετα- META- + μορφή form + -IZE; after *metamorphosis*.] = METAMORPHOSE *v.*

1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* II. i. 32 And now you are Metamorphis'd with a Mistris, that when I looke on you, I can hardly thinke you my Master. 1596 HARINGTON *Metam. Ajax* 45 Masselyna..was worthie..to have bin metamorphized into Ajax. 1656 S. HOLLAND *Zara* (1719) 52 Metamorphize Men into Beasts, and Beasts into Men. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* III. viii. 383 The greatest part of them were strangely metamorphised by the heat of the hold.

Hence **Metamo·rphized** *ppl. a.*, **Metamorphizing** *vbl. sb.*

1613 F. ROBARTS *Revenue of Gosp.* 96 They are not men of reason..but metamorphised wolues, dogs, and tygres. 1609 J. RAWLINSON *Fishermen*, etc. 8 The metamorphising of men into fishes.

Metamorphology (metămǫɹfǫ·lŏdʒi). [f. METAMORPHO-SIS + -LOGY.] The scientific study of the post-embryonic metamorphosis of animals.

1879 tr. *Haeckel's Evol. Man.* II. 460 Later [i. e. post-embryonic] changes form the subject of the science of Metamorphoses, or Metamorphology.

‖**Metamorphopsia** (metămǫɹfǫ·psiă). [mod. L., irreg. f. *metamorph-ōsis* + Gr. -οψία kind of sight, f. root ὀπ- to see (in ὄψομαι fut. of ὁρᾶν).] An affection of the sight characterized by distortion of things seen.

1823 in CRABB *Technol. Dict.* 1855 in MAYNE *Expos. Lex.* 1894 G. MACKAY *Blinding of Retina* 36 He [the patient] had noticed some metamorphopsia, for in walking along a street the area railings at a certain distance appeared to have an upward bend.

Metamorphosable (metămǭ·ɹfǭsăbl), *a. rare*⁻¹. [f. METAMORPHOSE *v.* + -ABLE.] Capable of change of form.

1887 M. ARNOLD *Ess. Crit.* Ser. II. (1895) 310 Amiel tells us of his 'protean nature essentially metamorphosable, polarisable, and virtual'.

Metamorphoscope (metămǭ·ɹfǫskōup). [f. METAMORPHOSIS + -SCOPE.] (See quot.)

1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 1426/2 *Metamorphoscope*, a toy having an opening at which the pictures on several belts are presented, the respective belts having head, body, and leg portions of figures. The belts are of different lengths, so as to mismatch the sections as they are revolved.

Metamorphose (metămǭ·ɹfǫus, -fōz), *sb.* Also 7 -os. [Anglicized form of METAMORPHOSIS. Cf. F. *métamorphose*.]

1. = METAMORPHOSIS. Now *rare*.

1608 MIDDLETON *Fam. Love* IV. ii, My Metamorphos is not held vnfit. *a* 1649 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Poems* Wks. (1711) 1 What metamorphose strange is this I prove? My self now scarce I find my self to be. 1732 SIR C. WOGAN in *Swift's Wks.* (1841) II. 671 This wonderful metamorphose of mere animals into smart and dexterous fellows, by the change of air. 1810 *Splendid Follies* II. 116 The evident improvement, and elegant metamorphose the room had undergone. 1865 MOZLEY *Mirac.* ii. 47 But thus transmuted, the inductive principle issues out of this metamorphose, a fiction not a truth. 1870 *Eng. Mech.* 28 Jan. 484/1 The same metamorphose takes place in animals.

2. A kind of firework.

1818 in *Pall Mall G.* (1885) 5 Nov. 4/2 Superior Fireworks...A metamorphose, with alternate change.

Metamorphose (metămǭ·ɹfǫuz, -fōz), *v.* Also 6–7 -oze. [a. F. *métamorphoser* (1553 in Hatz.-Darm.), f. *métamorphose* sb.: see METAMORPHOSIS.]

1. *trans.* To change in form; to turn *to* or *into* something else by enchantment or other supernatural means.

1576 GASCOIGNE *Del. Diet for Drunkards* (1792) 15 They feigned that Medea, Circe, and such other coulde Metamorphose & transforme men into Beastes, Byrdes, Plantes, and Flowres. 1589 GREENE *Menaphon* (Arb.) 40 This..draue Menaphon into such an extasie for ioy, that he stood as a man metamorphozed. 1642 W. PRICE *Serm.* 14 Remember Lots wife: she was metamorphoz'd to a pillar of salt. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 21 ₱ 9 Many of the said Men were by the Force of that Herb metamorphosed into Swine. 1859 GEO. ELIOT *A. Bede* xii, Perhaps they metamorphose themselves into a tawny squirrel. 1874 LADY HERBERT tr. *Hübner's Ramble* (1878) II. iii. 530 A god metamorphosed into a dragon.

2. (Chiefly *transf.* and *fig.* of 1; also *gen.*) To change the form or character of; to alter the nature or disposition of; to transform. Const. *to*, *into*.

1576 GASCOIGNE *Del. Diet for Drunkards* (1792) 12 For was not Noah .. through this beastly vice, so Metamorphosed, that he lay in his Tent uncovered. 1598 BARET *Theor. Warres* I. i. 2 Long peace, and neglect of Martiall discipline hath metamorphosed manly mindes. 1621 LADY M. WROTH *Urania* 12, I was at that instant metamorphosed into miserie it selfe. 1741 W. OLDYS *Eng. Stage* vi. 93 They formed a Select Company, and Metamorphosing the Tennis-Court .. opened their new Theatre. 1777 BURKE *Corr.* (1844) II. 152 Never were a people so metamorphosed. The plain farmer and even the plain quaker is become a soldier. 1820 W. IRVING *Sketch Bk.* I. 80 He recognised on the sign, the ruby face of King George..but even this was singularly metamorphosed. 1866 LIDDON *Bampt. Lect.* vi. (1875) 344 The regenerate man has been metamorphosed, his moral being is reconstructed. 1876 GEO. ELIOT *Dan. Der.* I. viii, This patient..from being the brightest..spirit in the household was metamorphosed into an irresponsive dull-eyed creature.

3. In scientific applications: To subject to METAMORPHOSIS or METAMORPHISM.

1664 POWER *Exp. Philos.* I. 27 When she was metamorphos'd into a Locust, I could discern no Mouth in the Microscope. 1665 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (1677) 184 The Worm is metamorphosed into a Butter-Fly. 1839–47 CARPENTER in *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* III. 742/2 The wonderful processes of chemical and vital transformation, which take place during the period of incubation [of an egg], the albumen which it contained at first is metamorphosed into bone, cartilage, nerve,..feathers, &c., &c. 1851 OWEN in *Edin. New Philos. Jrnl.* Apr. 271 Before the individual has finally metamorphosed itself into the winged male or winged oviparous female. *Ibid.* 273 They..become circular flattened pupæ: and are finally metamorphosed into monostomes. 1858 GEIKIE *Hist. Boulder* xii. 246 A portion of the shale.. has become in consequence highly metamorphosed. 1882 — *Text-bk. Geol.* IV. viii. § 1. 571 Nearly all rocks..have been metamorphosed.

Metamorphosed (metămǭ·ɹfǫuz'd, -fōst), *ppl. a.* [f. METAMORPHOSE *v.* + -ED¹.] In senses of the verb.

1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turks* (1621) 1117 Yet..would not these metamorphosed monsters yeeld the towne vnto the Turkes. 1656 S. HOLLAND *Zara* (1719) 76 A number of Metamorphosed Men turned into Beasts by the Inchantments of this wicked Sorceress. 1703 MAUNDRELL *Journ. Jerus.* (1732) 85 The Monument of Lot's Metamorphos'd Wife. 1729 FIELDING *Temple Beau* (1775) I. 102 These cloaths! these looks! these airs! give me reason to wonder how I recollected my metamorphosed friend. 1859 DARWIN *Orig. Spec.* xiii. (1903) 175 Naturalists frequently speak of the skull as formed of metamorphosed vertebræ; the jaws of crabs as metamorphosed legs; the stamens and pistils of flowers as meta-

morphosed leaves. 1878 A. H. Green *Coal* ii. 43 The rocks ..are highly metamorphosed Lower Silurian beds. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 160 These old, metamorphosed thrombi.

Metamorphoser (metămɔ̄·ɪfōuzəɹ, -fōsəɹ). [f. Metamorphose *v.* + -er[1].] One who or that which metamorphoses.

1576 Gascoigne *Del. Diet. for Drunkards* (1792) 14 What shall I name this man, but a beastly Metamorphoser, both of himself & of others? 1769 B. Alexander in *Monthly Rev.* XLII. 102 The impositions of a crafty metamorphoser. 1839 Lady Lytton *Cheveley* (ed. 2) III. i. 23 He was as good a metamorphoser of bipeds as the Yorkshire ostler was of quadrupeds.

Metamorphosic (metămɔ̄·ɪfō·sik), *a.* [f. Metamorphos-is + -ic. Cf. F. *métamorphosique.*] Of or pertaining to metamorphosis.

1782 Pownall *Treat. Antiq.* 69 All the metamorphosic fables of the Ancients, turning policied and commercial people into horrid and savage monsters, will..evaporate before the light of truth. 1890 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Metamorphosic breathing*, Gerhard's term for a respiratory sound, which begins as a puerile breathing, but during the course of the inspirations assumes another character..; he believes it to be a reliable sign of a pulmonary cavity.

Metamorphosical (metămɔ̄ɪfō·zikăl), *a. nonce-wd.* [Formed as prec. + -al.] Changeable.

1811 *Sporting Mag.* XXXVIII. 28 It was me lot to be in a metamorphosical humour

Metamorphosing (metămɔ̄·ɪfōziŋ, -fōsiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. Metamorphose *v.* + -ing[1].] The action of the verb Metamorphose.

1608 Topsell *Serpents* (1658) 596 From this changing of rods into Serpents, came the several metamorphosing of sundry other things into Serpents also. 1878 T. Sinclair *Mount* 253 None has been nearer to seeing the Shakespearean metamorphosing here than Macdonald.

attrib. ?1730 *Royal Remarks* 21 We were soon hurried away to a Metamorphosing House in the Hay-Market.

Metamo·rphosing, *ppl. a.* [f. Metamorphose *v.* + -ing[2].] That metamorphoses or causes metamorphosis.

1620 T. Granger *Div. Logike* 32 All things are become new, spirituall, faithfull,..by the metamorphosing Spirit. 1878 Bell tr. *Gegenbaur's Comp. Anat.* 8 [It] in effect operates as a modifying and even metamorphosing agent. 1888 *Pall Mall G.* 15 June 13/2 That..current of civilization from whose metamorphosing waves a woman inevitably emerges either a Vera or a Princess Napraxine.

b. That undergoes metamorphosis.

1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) IV. 507 The flea undergoes all the changes of the metamorphosing tribes of insects. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 205 The 'metamorphosing' breathing of Seitz consists of an inspiratory sound harsh or rough at its commencement, becoming hollow or tubular towards the end of the act of inspiration.

Metamorphosis (metămɔ̄·ɪfō·sis). Pl. **metamorphoses** (-sīz). [a. L. *metamorphōsis*, a. Gr. μεταμόρφωσις, n. of action f. μεταμορφοῦν to transform, f. μετα- Meta- + μορφή form. Cf. Metamorphose *sb.*]

1. The action or process of changing in form, shape or substance; *esp.* transformation by magic or witchcraft.

1533 More *Debell. Salem* Wks. 929/1 Salem & Bizans sometime two great townes..were..with a merualilouse metamorphosis, enchaunted and turned into twoo englishe men. 1618 Bolton *Florus* (1636) 77 As if by a kind of metamorphosis, the gods had..changed trees to Vessels. 1674 *Govt. Tongue* xii. 204 One would think we were fallen into an Age of Metamorphosis, and that the Brutes did (not only Poetically and in fiction) but really speak. For the talk of many is so bestial, that [etc.]. 1794 Sullivan *View Nat.* IV. 179 From the metempsychosis, however, arose the doctrine of the metamorphosis. 1856 Ruskin *Mod. Paint.* III. iv. xvii. § 6 A fourth..will begin to change them in his fancy into dragons and monsters, and lose his grasp of the scene in fantastic metamorphosis. 1869 Tozer *Highl. Turkey* II. 264 The points..on which the stories turn are transformations and metamorphoses of various kinds.

b. A metamorphosed form.

1589 Greene *Menaphon* (Arb.) 73 Samela..stoode amazed like Medusaes Metamorphosis. 1638 Randolph *Hey for Honesty* II. i, But come you pig-hogs, let us leave jesting. I restore you to your old metamorphosis, as you may see in the first leaf of Virgil's *Bucolics.* 1859 Geo. Eliot *A. Bede* vi, An amount of fat on the nape of her neck, which made her look like the metamorphosis of a white sucking-pig.

2. *transf.* A complete change in the appearance, circumstances, condition, character of a person, of affairs, etc.

a 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VI* 161 Ihon Cade..departed secretly in habite disguysed, into Sussex: but all his metamorphosis or transfiguracion litle prevailed. 1598 Barckley *Felic. Man* (1631) 195 The Hermit .. asked him how it chanced that he was fallen into such a metamorphosis? 1656 Earl Monm. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* I. xxix. (1674) 32 The Metamorphosis is too great, when from being a private man, one becomes a Prince. 1691 Wood *Ath. Oxon.* I. 825 News was brought him of a metamorphosis in the State at home. 1791 Boswell *Johnson* an. 1753 (1816) I. 233 Whatever agreement a Chief might make with any of his clan, the Heralds-Office could not admit of the metamorphosis. 1820 W. Scoresby *Acc. Arctic Reg.* I. 386 The mountains along the whole coast, assumed the most fantastic forms..These varied and sometimes beautiful metamorphoses..suggested the reality of fairy descriptions. 1853 C. Bronte *Villette* xxvii, His visage changed as from a mask to a face:..I know not that I have ever seen in any other human face an equal metamorphosis. 1857 Buckle *Civiliz.* viii. 519 By a singular metamorphosis, the secular principle was now represented by the Catholics, and the theological principle by the Protestants. 1867 Lydia M. Child *Rom. Repub.* v. 64 The disguises were quickly assumed, and the metamorphosis made Rosa both blush and smile.

3. In scientific uses.

a. *Physiology.* Change of form in animals and plants, or their parts, during life; *esp.* in *Ent.*, a change or one of a series of changes which a metabolous insect undergoes, resulting in complete alteration of form and habit. *Coarctate metamorphosis* (Ent.): see Coarctate b.

1665 *Phil. Trans.* I. 88 Their [silkworms] metamorphoses are four. 1722 Quincy *Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Metamorphosis*, is applied by Harvey to the Changes an Animal undergoes both in its Formation and Growth; and by several to the various Shapes some Insects in particular pass through, as the Silk Worm and the like. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XIV. 712/1 A new form or change of appearance is always implied in metamorphosis or transformation..; as when the lobes of a seed are converted into seminal leaves. 1828 Stark *Elem. Nat. Hist.* II. 232 The transformations or metamorphoses of insects embrace three states. 1835–6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 106/1 We find that the whole of its [*sc.* the terrestrial salamander's] metamorphosis takes place whilst in the oviduct. 1881 F. M. Balfour *Comp. Embryol.* II. 113 The change undergone by the Tadpole in its passage into the Frog is so considerable as to deserve the name of a metamorphosis. 1888 Rolleston & Jackson *Anim. Life* 161 A perfect metamorphosis, such as that of Sphinx, with three well-marked stages, larva, pupa, and imago. 1897 Parker & Haswell *Zool.* II. xiii. 32 It [the Ascidian] .. soon begins to undergo the *retrogressive metamorphosis* by which it attains the adult condition.

b. *Morphology.* The modification of organs or structures in form or function (including teratology).

1839 *Penny Cycl.* XV. 131/2 Metamorphosis of organs, in the Vegetable Kingdom, consists in an adaptation of one and the same organ to several different purposes. 1849 Balfour *Man. Bot.* § 641 307 The different parts of the flower may be changed into each other, or into true leaves... These changes may take place from without inwards, by an ascending or direct metamorphosis, as in the case of petals becoming stamens; or from within outwards, by descending or retrograde metamorphosis, as when stamens become petals.

c. *Evolution.* Secular change of form.

1847–9 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* IV. 623/2 A unity which has undergone such an infinitely graduated metamorphosis of its parts as to yield these unequal skeletal forms. 1876 Ray Lankester tr. *Haeckel's Hist. Creat.* I. 90 His [Goethe's] idea of metamorphosis is almost synonymous with the theory of development. 1903 tr. *Strasburger's Bot.* (ed. 2) I. 10 The various modifications which the primitive form has passed through constitute its metamorphosis.

d. *Histol.* The change of form which goes on in the elements of living organic structures; *e.g.* in blood-corpuscles, animal or vegetable tissue, etc. *Path.* 'The morbid change of the elements of tissues into another form of structure' (*Funk's Stand. Dict.*).

1839–47 Carpenter in *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* III. 750/1 The production of the simple structureless membranes..must be attributed, we think, to the consolidation of a thin layer of blastema, rather than to any metamorphosis of cells. 1845–6 G. E. Day tr. *Simon's Anim. Chem.* I. 133 The metamorphosis [of blood-corpuscles] occurs in the peripheral system. 1857 *G. Bird's Urin. Deposits* (ed. 5) 440 Every animal developes,..during the process of metamorphosis of tissue, a series of nitrogenized substances. 1869 E. A. Parkes *Pract. Hygiene* (ed. 3) 184 There is a much more rapid metamorphosis of tissue in carnivorous animals. 1882 Vines *Sachs' Bot.* 708 These reserve-materials [in dormant seeds, bulbs, tubers] must undergo repeated Metamorphosis while they are being conveyed to the growing organs.

e. *Chem.* The change of a compound to a new form; *esp.* 'the chemical change occurring in a compound substance under the influence of some other body which itself does not change' (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1890).

1853 Carpenter *Hum. Physiol.* (ed. 4) 47 When there is a deficiency of fatty matters in the food, these may be formed by a metamorphosis of its saccharine constituents. *Ibid.* 52 The chemical metamorphoses which take place in the economy. *Ibid.* 90 The lactic acid, chiefly generated in the substance of the muscles (probably by the metamorphosis of a saccharine compound). 1862 Miller *Elem. Chem.* III. 58, 61 Production of Chemical Metamorphoses...1. Oxidation...2. Metamorphoses by Reduction...3. Metamorphoses by Substitution. 1843 R. J. Graves *Syst. Clin. Med.* Introd. Lect. 34 Professor Liebig applied the name of metamorphosis to those chemical actions in which a given compound by the presence of a peculiar substance, is made to resolve itself into two or more compounds.

Metamo·rphosist. *rare*—°. [f. Metamorphos-is + -ist.] = Metamorphist. 1848 in Craig.

†**Metamorphostical,** *a. Obs. rare.* [irreg. f. Metamorphos-is. Cf. *metamorphosical.*] Of or pertaining to metamorphosis.

1722 Arauthnot, etc. *Ann. Mirab.* in *Miscell.* 1732 III. 86 The *Annus Mirabilis*, or the Metamorpbostical Conjunction: a Word which denotes the mutual Transformation of Sexes. 1895 Wood Martin *Pagan Ireland* 84 The soul of a man might pass into a deer, a boar..&c.,..a continuous metamorphostical existence.

†**Metamo·rphosy.** *Obs.* Anglicized form of Metamorphosis.

c 1530 L. Cox *Rhet.* (1899) 71 And so dothe Ulysses conclude his oracyon in the .xiii. boke of Ouide Metamorphosy. 1606 Warner *Alb. Eng.* xiv. lxxxix. (1612) 363 Like tales and Metamorphosies passe many in this Chat, *a* 1698 Temple *Poems* 46 If ever any reasonable Soul Harbor'd in shape of either brute or fowl, This was the Mansion: Metamorphosie Gain'd here the credit lost in Poetrie.

Metamorphotic (metămɔ̄ɪfo·tik), *a.* [f. Metamorphosis: see -otic.] Pertaining to or based on metamorphosis; causing metamorphosis.

1816 Bentham *Chrestomathia* Wks. 1843 VIII. 145 *Metamorphotic*, is the appellation by which these several branches of the Psychico-physical division of the aggregate system of sources of motion may be designated. 1826 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* IV. 420 The Era of Swammerdam and Ray, or of the Metamorphotic System. 1827 Carlyle *Germ. Rom., Quintus Fixlein* III. 282 To his eyes, this birth-day, in the metamorphotic mirror of his superstitious imagination .. would burn forth like a red death-warrant.

Metamorphy (metămɔ̄·ɪfi). [Formed as Metamorphic: see -y.] = Metamorphosis.

1869 Masters *Veget. Terat.* 241 In the present work the term metamorphy is employed to distinguisb cases where the ordinary course of development has been perverted or changed. 1879 Stormonth *Man. Sci. Terms*, *Metamorphosis* ..bot...sometimes called *metamorphy.*

Metamylene: see Meta- 6 a.

‖ **Metanephron, -nephros** (metăne·frɔn, -ne·frɔs). *Zool.* [mod.L., f. Gr. μετα- Meta- + νεφρός kidney.] The hinder division of the typical segmental organ in vertebrates, from which are developed the kidney and the ureter. Hence **Metane·phric** *a.*

1877 Ray Lankester in *Q. Jrnl. Microsc. Sci.* XVII. 430 A metanephron with metanephric duct distinct from the Wolffian or mesonephric duct. 1884 A. Sedgwick *ibid.* XXIV. 79 The metanephros persists as the functional kidney.

Metanocerite: see Meta- 7 a.

‖ **Metanotum** (metănō·tŭm). *Ent.* [mod.L., f. Gr. μετα- Meta- + νῶτον back.] The dorsal part of the metathorax in insects. Hence **Metano·tal** *a.* (in recent Dicts.).

1860 J. Duncan *Introd. Entom.* I. 109 The dorsal portion [of the metathorax] is the *metanotum*, commonly quadrangular. 1877 Huxley *Anat. Inv. Anim.* vii. 400 The metanotum, or tergal portion of the metathorax.

Metantimonic (metæntimo·nik), *a. Chem.* [ad. F. *métantimonique* (Fremy): see Meta- and Antimonic.] *Metantimonic acid*: the hydrate produced when pentachloride of antimony is treated with water.

1854 R. D. Thomson *Cycl. Chem.* 1869 Roscoe *Elem. Chem.* 256.

Hence **Metantimo·n(i)ate,** a salt of metantimonic acid.

1863 *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 9) 368 Metantimonate of potassa. 1863 Brande & Taylor *Chem.* Index, Metantimoniates.

Meta-oleic to **Metaphenomenal:** see Meta-.

Metaphery (mĕtæ·fĕri). *Bot.* [f. Gr. μετα- Meta- + -φερεια (cf. Periphery), φέρειν to carry.] 'The displacement of organs, as when alternate become opposite' (Jackson *Gloss. Bot. Terms*).

1869 M. T. Masters *Veget. Terat.* 91 Morren..speaks of this transposition as metaphery. 1879 in Stormonth *Man. Sci. Terms.*

Metaphony (metæ·fŏni). *Philol.* [a. F. *métaphonie*, f. Gr. μετα- Meta- + φωνή sound.] A term proposed to take the place of Umlaut. Hence **Metapho·nical** *a.*, **Metapho·nized** *ppl. a.*

1894 V. Henry *Comp. Gram. Eng. & Germ.* II. i. § 4.

Metaphor (me·tăfəɹ). Forms: *α.* 6–7 metaphore, (6 metafor), 6– metaphor. *β.* 6–7 metaphora. [a. F. *métaphore*, ad. L. *metaphora*, a. Gr. μεταφορά, f. μεταφέρειν to transfer, f. μετα- Meta + φέρειν (root φερ-: φορ-) to bear, carry.] The figure of speech in which a name or descriptive term is transferred to some object different from, but analogous to, that to which it is properly applicable; an instance of this, a metaphorical expression. *Mixed metaphor*: see quot. 1824.

α. 1533 Hen. VIII in Wotton *Lett.* (1654) Suppl. 8 And rather then men would note a lye when they know what is meant, they will sooner by allegory or metaphor draw the word to the truth. 1553 T. Wilson *Rhet.* 91 b, A metaphor is an alteration of a woorde from the proper and naturall meanynge, to that whiche is not proper, and yet agreeth therunto, by some lykenes that appeareth to be in it. 1555 Bonner *Homilies* 71* Chryste alwayes in hys speakynge dyd vse fygures, metaphores and tropes. 1563 *Mirr. for Mag., Collingbourne* xxxvii, These metafors I vse with other more. 1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* v. ix. 247 An horn is the hieroglyphick of authority, power, & dignity, and in this Metaphor is often used in Scripture. 1712 Addison *Spect.* No. 289 ₱ 8 Those beautiful Metaphors in Scripture, where Life is termed a Pilgrimage. 1821 Lamb *Elia* Ser. I. *Imperf. Sympathies*, He stops a metaphor like a suspected person in an enemy's country. 'A healthy book!'..'Did I catch rightly what you said?' 1824 L. Murray *Eng. Gram.* (ed. 5) I. 493 We should avoid making two inconsistent metaphors meet on one object. This is what is called mixed metaphor. 1841 Trench *Parables* i. (1877) 9 The allegory stands to the metaphor,..in the same relation that the parable does to the..simile. 1876 Mozley *Univ. Serm.* xvi. (1877) 265 The metaphor of the poet is perfectly true in fact, for life *is* a stage.

β. 1586 A. Day *Eng. Secretary* II. (1625) 77 *Metaphora*, which is, when a word from the proper or right signification is transferred to another neere vnto the meaning. 1598 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. ii. II. *Babylon* 369 Better then Greek with her..Fit Epithets, and fine Metaphora's. 1650 Earl Monm. tr. *Senault's Man bec. Guilty* 175 The Metaphora, which is so frequent with them,..is it not an imposture?

b. *Comb.*, as *metaphor-making, -monger.*

1670 EACHARD *Cont. Clergy* 46 These indiscreet and horrid metaphor-mongers. 1889 MIVART *Orig. Hum. Reason* 273 This power of metaphor-making.

†**Metaphorally,** *adv. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. METAPHOR + -AL + -LY 2.] Metaphorically.

1548-50 THOMAS *Ital. Dict., Chimera*, a proper name, but *metaphorollie* [sic], it is many times taken for an harde or subtill imaginacion.

Metaphoric (metăfo·rik), *a.* [f. METAPHOR + -IC.] = METAPHORICAL.

1597 in Farr *S. P. Eliz.* (1845) II. 447 Restraine your haughtie metaphoricke lines. 1669 GALE *Crt. Gentiles* I. i. ii. 11 Traditions; which he wraps up in..metaphoric, and Allegoric notions. 1726 SWIFT *To a Lady in Heroic Style* 119 Metaphoric Meat and Drink Is to understand and think. 1875 M. & FR. COLLINS *Sweet & Twenty* I. xvi, Sarah .. did not understand Miss Litton's metaphoric language.

Metaphorical (metăfo·rikăl), *a.* [f. METAPHOR + -IC + -AL.] Of or characterized by the use of metaphor; of the nature of metaphor; used metaphorically; not literal; figurative.

a 1555 LATIMER in Foxe *A. & M.* (1563) 1312/2 They thinke not that it is a corporal worme, but a spiritual & a Metaphorical worme. 1665 BUNYAN *Holy Citie* (1669) 251 For both the word Water, and that of Life, they are but metaphorical Sayings. 1741 RICHARDSON *Pamela* (1824) I. cii. 490 [She] delights..in..metaphorical flourishes. 1825 COLERIDGE *Aids Refl.* 2 A man without reflection is but a metaphorical phrase for the instinct of a beast. 1883 H. DRUMMOND *Nat. Law in Spir. W.* vii. (1884) 235 To impose a metaphorical meaning on the commonest word of the New Testament is to violate every canon of interpretation.

Hence **Metapho·ricalness.** 1882 in OGILVIE.

Metaphorically (metăfo·rikăli), *adv.* [f. METAPHORICAL + -LY 2.] In a metaphorical sense; by the use of metaphor.

1571 GOLDING *Calvin on Ps.* ii. 3 By terming his government metaphorically by the name of 'Bondes and yoke'. 1660 T. GOUGE *Chr. Directions* ix. (1831) 56 Which words, 'If thy right hand offend thee, cut it off' &c., are not literally to be taken, but metaphorically. 1756 BURKE *Subl. & B.* III. xxvi, We metaphorically apply the idea of sweetness to sights and sounds. 1844 STANLEY *Arnold* (1858) I. vi. 244 Literally as well as metaphorically blind. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 2 May 6/2 Mr. Broadhurst metaphorically fell upon Mr. Bentinck's neck.

Metaphorist (me·tăfŏrist). *rare.* [f. METAPHOR + -IST.] One who deals in metaphors.

1727 POPE, etc. *Art of Sinking* 115 A poet or orator would have no more to do but to send to the particular traders in each kind, to the metaphorist for his allegories, to the simile-maker for his comparisons. 1891 HANNAH LYNCH *G. Meredith* 33 The marvellous performance of a juggling metaphorist.

Metaphorize (me·tăfŏɹaiz), *v.* [f. METAPHOR + -IZE. Cf. F. *métaphoriser.*] *trans.* a. To change metaphorically *into.* b. To ply with metaphor.

1789 T. TWINING *Aristotle's Treat. Poetry* (1812) II. 292 Every reader will recollect Milton's beautiful application of this metaphor.. to the dew-drops, metaphorized into pearls. 1801 SOUTHEY *Let.* 25 July in *Life* (1850) II. 153 Every character [in the play] reasoning, and metaphorising, and metaphysicking the reader most nauseously.

†**Metaphorous,** *a. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. METAPHOR + -OUS.] Full of or characterized by metaphor.

1658 BROMHALL *Treat. Specters* VII. 362 Metaphorous speeches.

Metaphosphate (metăfo·sfĕt). *Chem.* [META- 2 a.] A salt of metaphosphoric acid.

1833 [see next]. 1869 ROSCOE *Elem. Chem.* 160 Sodium metaphosphate.

Metaphosphoric (metăfosfo·rik), *a. Chem.* [META- 2 a.] *Metaphosphoric acid* (HPO_3): an acid containing a molecule of water less than orthophosphoric acid.

1833 T. GRAHAM in *Phil. Trans.* 277, I shall take the liberty to designate provisionally the acid of the fused biphosphate of soda, the Metaphosphoric acid..; and the fused salt itself, the Metaphosphate of soda. 1899 tr. *R. von Jaksch's Clin. Diagn.* vii. (ed. 4) 299 If to urine which contains albumin a little solid metaphosphoric acid be added, a precipitate or turbidity forms.

Metaphragm (me·tăfræm). *Ent.* Also in Latin form. [ad. mod.L. *metaphragma*, f. Gr. *μετα-* META- + *φράγμα* partition.] The wall that separates the abdomen from the thorax in insects.

1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* III. 382 Metaphragma (the Metaphragm). *Ibid.* IV. 591 The cavity of the chest..between the mesophragm and metaphragm.

Metaphrase (me·tăfrēiz), *sb.* [ad. mod.L. *metaphrasis*, ad. Gr. *μετάφρασις*, n. of action from *μεταφράζειν* to translate, paraphrase: see META- and PHRASE *sb.* Cf. F. *métaphrase.*]

†1. A metrical translation. *Obs.*

1627 BP. HALL *Danids Ps. Metaphr.* Ded., Apollinarius ..wrote..all the Hebrew scriptures in Heroicks;..his metaphrase of the Psalmes is still in our hands. 1631 in *Bannatyne Club Misc.* I. 245 The receaving of this new metaphrase, and rejecting of the old, salt geve occasion to foranners to call us light headed Scots. 1767 HARTE *Amaranth* Pref., A paraphrase (or metaphrase rather) of the xxviiith chapter of Deuteronomy; which, I believe, hath never yet been turned into English verse.

2. A rendering into other words; a translation; in later use, a word-for-word translation in contradistinction to a paraphrase.

1640 SHIRLEY *Hum. Courtier* IV. i. G 1 b, *Orseolo.* What does she thinke? *Lau.* Y'are insufficient. *Or.* How? a metophrase [*sic*] upon that word. *a* 1646 J. GREGORY *Posthuma* (1650) 224 Where the English Metaphrase readeth, Thou shalt accept [etc.]...The Hebrew saith, Thou shalt consume, &c. 1680 DRYDEN tr. *Ovid's Ep.* Pref., Ess. (ed. Ker) I. 237 Metaphrase, or turning an author word by word, and line by line, from one language into another. 1697 — tr. *Virg. Æneid* Ded. (e) 4 b, The way I have taken is not so streight as Metaphrase, nor so loose as Paraphrase. 1823 DE QUINCEY *Lett. to Yng. Man* Wks. XIV. 84 *note*, It is too much of a mere metaphrase of Kant. 1903 W. R. ROBERTS in *Class. Rev.* XVII. 131/2 Metaphrase can hardly be made to do duty for paraphrase.

fig. 1822 LAMB *Elia* Ser. I. *Some Old Actors*, Such playful selections and specious combinations rather than strict metaphrases of nature.

Metaphrase (me·tăfrēiz), *v.* [f. prec. sb.: but cf. Gr. *μεταφράζειν.*]

†1. *trans.* To translate, esp. in verse. *Obs.*

1608 BP. HALL in *Sylvester's Du Bartas* To Author, To Mr Iosuah Syluester, of his Bartas Metaphrased. 1633 FLETCHER *Poet. Misc.* 86 Certain of the royal Prophets Psalmes metaphrased. 1649 T. W[EAVER] (*title*) Plantagenets Tragicall Story: or the Death of King Edward the Fourth. ..Metaphrased by T. W. gent.

2. To alter the phrasing or language of; to render into other words.

1868 *Contemp. Rev.* IX. 294 He [Simeon Metaphrastes] did not in all cases assemble materials in their original shape, but often 'metaphrased' or manipulated them in such a way as to deprive the mass of all value. 1883 SCRIVENER *Introd. Crit. N. T.* 508 He too [Clement of Alexandria] complains of those who tamper with (or metaphrase) the Gospels for their own sinister ends.

Hence **Me·taphrasing** *vbl. sb.*

1631 in *Bannatyne Club Misc.* I. 237, I have not as zit.. considdered what libertie they have takin in the metaphrasing to add, insert, or degresse.

‖**Metaphrasis** (metæ·frăsis). *Obs.* [mod.L.: see prec.] = METAPHRASE.

a 1568 ASCHAM *Scholem.* II. (Arb.) 104 *Metaphrasis* .. is all one with *Paraphrasis*, saue it is out of verse, either into prose, or into some other kinde of meter: or els, out of prose into verse. 1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 984 Some rhetoricall figures, catachreses and metaphrases. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Metaphrasis*, a bare Translation out of one Language into another.

Metaphrast (me·tăfræst). [ad. Gr. *μεταφράστης*, f. *μεταφράζειν* to translate, f. *μετα-* META- + *φράζειν* to speak.] One who renders a composition into a different literary form, e.g. by turning prose into verse, or one metre into another; also, †a translator.

1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 68 Simeon that great Metaphrast. 1642 CUDWORTH *Lord's Supper* 13 For so both the Syriack Metaphrast expounds it. and the Arabick. *a* 1695 WOOD *Fasti Oxon.* (1815) 516 George Sandys, esq.; the famous traveller and excellent poetical metaphrast. 1778 WARTON *Hist. Eng. Poetry* II. 190 He [Symeon] obtained the distinguishing appellation of the Metaphrast, because.. he modernised the more antient narratives of the miracles and martyrdoms..for the use of the Greek church. 1896 J. W. MACKAIL *Lat. Lit.* (ed. 2) 128 The later metaphrasts, who occupied themselves with turning heroic into elegiac poems by inserting a pentameter between each two lines.

Metaphrastic (metăfræ·stik), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. Gr. *μεταφραστικός*, f. *μεταφράστης*: see prec.]

A. *adj.*

1. Of the nature of metaphrase.

1778 WARTON *Hist. Eng. Poetry* II. 169 Maximus Planudes..has the merit of having familiarised to his countrymen many Latin classics..by metaphrastic versions.

2. *Gram.* (See quot.) *rare*⁻¹.

1861 MAX MÜLLER *Sci. Lang.* Ser. I. viii. (1864) 338 The formation of such phrases as the French *j'aimerai*, for *j'ai à aimer*..may be called analytical or metaphrastic.

B. *sb. pl.* The art of translation or interpretation.

1895 *Q. Rev.* Oct. 328 There is no lost work on Hermeneutics or Metaphrastics to be recovered from an Egyptian grave.

So **Metaphra·stical** *a.* = METAPHRASTIC.

1860 in WORCESTER.

Metaphra·stically, *adv.* [Formed as prec. + -LY 2.] By way of metaphrase.

1577 HANMER *Anc. Eccl. Hist.* (1663) 73 Some report that he presumed metaphrastically to alter the words of the Apostle, correcting as it were the order of the phrase. 1652 T. MANLEY *Afflict. Saints* title-p., The whole Booke of Job, composed into English Heroicall Verse, metaphrastically. 1894 R. FENTON in W. W. Lloyd *E. Fenton* 121 Which we may metaphrastically translate:—Milton, now, a disappointed, blind, distressed old man.

‖**Metaphrenon, -phrenum** (metæfrĭnŏn, -frĭnŭm). Also 7 *anglicized* **metaphren(e.** [Late L., a. Gr. *μετάφρενον*, f. *μετά* after + *φρήν* midriff.] The part of the back that is behind the diaphragm.

1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* I. v. III. i. (1651) 401 The metaphrene, or part of the back which is over against the heart. 1661 LOVELL *Hist. Anim. & Min.* 90 Brest strong, metaphren broad. 1693 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Metaphrenum.* 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Metaphrenum*, that part of the Back which comes after the Diaphragm, or Midriff. 1856 MAYNE *Expos. Lex., Metaphrenon, Metaphrenum.*

Metaphysic (metăfi·zik), *sb.*[1] In 4 **methaphesik,** 5 **metaphesyk, methephisike,** 6 **methaphisick,** 6–7 **metaphisi(c)k(e, -physi(c)ke,** (7 **-phisique**), 7–8 **-physick,** (9 **-physique**). [ad. scholastic L. *metaphysica* fem. sing., substituted (on the analogy of other names of sciences: cf. *physic*) for the older *metaphysica* neut. pl.; see METAPHYSICS. Cf. F. *métaphysique*, G. *metaphisik.*

The sing. form alone appears in Eng. before the 16th c. In the 17th and 18th c. it was almost superseded by METAPHYSICS; in the 19th c., owing to German influences it began to be preferred by many philosophical writers.]

1. = METAPHYSICS 1.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) III. 365 He [Aristotle] made .. problemys of perspective and of methaphesik [1432-50 problemes perspective and methaphisicalle, orig. *et perspectiva problemata et metaphysicam*]. *c* 1450 *Cov. Myst., Doctori in Temple* 189 Ageyn oure argemente is no recystence In metaphesyk ne astronomye. 1527 TINDALE *Par. Wicked Mammon* Wks. (1573) 88/1 How shoulde he vnderstand the scripture, seing he is no Philosopher, neyther hath sene his metaphisike? 1586 T. B[EARD] *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* I. 72 Physike, which is the studie of naturall things: Metaphysike, which is of supernaturall things. 1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* II. vii. § 3 The one part which is Phisicke enquireth and handleth the Materiall & Efficient Causes, & the other which is Metaphisicke handleth the Formal and Final Causes. 1742 POPE *Dunc.* IV. 645 Physic of Metaphysic begs defence, And Metaphysic calls for aid on Sense. 1775 HORSLEY in *Phil. Trans.* LXV. 182 The uncertain conclusions of an ill-conducted analogy, and a false metaphysic, were mixed with the few simple precepts derived from observation. 1817 COLERIDGE *Biog. Lit.* ix. (1882) 71 [Fichte] supplied the idea of a system truly metaphysical, and of a metaphysique truly systematic. 1873 M. ARNOLD *Lit. & Dogma* (1876) 399 The mis-attribution to the Bible.. of a science and an abstruse metaphysic which is not there. 1883 E. CAIRD in *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 79 For Aristotle, metaphysic is the science which has to do with Being as such, Being in general.

b. = METAPHYSICS 1 b.

1865 J. H. STIRLING *Sir W. Hamilton* 41 The true metaphysic of the subject nowhere finds itself represented in the preceding discussion. 1874 LEWES *Probl. Life & Mind* Ser. I. I. Introd. I. iv. 67 Every science has its metaphysic.

¶ 2. Something visionary.

1606 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* XIV. LXXI. (1612) 341 Or for a Metaphysick hold the Proiect of her prayse.

Metaphysic (metăfi·zik), *a.* and *sb.*[2] [ad. scholastic L. *metaphysicus* adj., developed from *metaphysica* sb. pl.: see METAPHYSICS. Cf. F. *metaphysique*, Sp. *metafísico*, It. *metafisico.*]

A. *adj.* = METAPHYSICAL. Now *rare.*

1528 TINDALE *Obed. Chr. Man* To Rdr. 18 Alleginge vnto them textes of logycke, of naturall philautia, of methaphisick and morall philosophy. 1569 J. SANFORD tr. *Agrippa's Van. Artes* liii. 70 The whiche because they be not in the nature of thinges, but are supposed to be aboue nature, therefore they call them transnaturall or Metaphisicke. *a* 1631 DONNE *Paradoxes* (1652) 25 And that poore knowledg..we call Metaphysicke, supernaturall. 1663 BUTLER *Hud.* I. i. 150 He knew what's what, and that's as high As metaphysic wit can fly. 1683 E. HOOKER *Pref. Pordage's Mystic Div.* 102 Even the most Metaphysic subtilissimoes after that thei haue fatigated..themselves with their Divisions and Subdivisions. 1750 WALPOLE *Let. to Mann* 2 Aug., The Bishop of Durham [Chandler]..is succeeded by Butler of Bristol, a metaphysic author. 1779 JOHNSON *L. P., Cowley* Wks. II. 26 Milton tried the metaphysick style only in his lines upon Hobson the Carrier. 1790 BURKE *Fr. Rev.* 8 The metaphysic knight of the sorrowful countenance. 1793 W. F. MAVOR *Chr. Politics* 18 A metaphysic liberty and equality intoxicated the mad multitude. 1873 BROWNING *Red Cott. Nt.-cap* 1178 What foe would dare approach? Historic Doubt?..Acumen metaphysic?

†B. *sb.*[2] A metaphysician. *Obs.*

a 1586 SIDNEY *Apol. Poetrie* (Arb.) 25 And the Metaphisick, though it be in the seconde and abstract notions, and therefore be counted supernaturall: yet doth hee indeede builde vpon the depth of Nature. 1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* I. iv. (Arb.) 25 They [poets] were the first Astronomers and Philosophists and Metaphisicks. 1623 COCKERAM, *Metaphisicks*, one skild in these Artes. *Metaphysicke.*

Metaphy·sic, *v. rare.* [f. prec. sb. Cf. F. *métaphysiquer.*] *trans.* a. To treat metaphysically. b. To ply with metaphysics.

1782 H. WALPOLE *Lett. to G. Hardinge* Priv. Corr. (1820) IV. 306 A piece of genuine French, not metaphysicked by La Harpe, by Thomas, &c. 1801 [see METAPHORIZE *v.*].

Metaphysical (metăfi·zikăl), *a.* [f. METAPHYSIC + -AL.]

1. Of or belonging to, or of the nature of, metaphysics; such as is recognized by metaphysics.

1432-50 [see METAPHYSIC *sb.*[1] 1]. 1532 MORE *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 386/1 Argumentes grounded vpon philosophy & metaphisicall reasons. 1550 NICOLLS *Thucyd.* v b, The sciences that he calleth speculatiue, be the metaphisicals. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* VII. iii. 345 A popular expression, which will not stand a Metaphysicall and strict examination. 1660 JER. TAYLOR *Duct. Dubit.* I. v. Rule i. § 6 Negative doubt is either Metaphysical or Moral. 1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* IV. vi. (1695) 333, 1. Moral Truth... 2. Metaphysical Truth, which is nothing but the real Existence of Things, conformable to the Ideas to which we have annexed their Names. 1792 D. STEWART *Philos. Hum. Mind* I. 72 The word *cause* expresses something which is supposed to be necessarily connected with the change; and without which it could not have happened. This may be called the *metaphysical* meaning of the word; and such causes may be called *metaphysical* or *efficient causes.* 1867 BP. FORBES *Explanation* 39 *Articles* i. (1881) 14 The triple distinction of God's attributes into metaphysical, intellectual, and moral. 1884 tr. *Lotze's Metaph.* II. v. 301 Instead of a metaphysical theory, what he gives is scarcely more than a logical classification.

b. Applied with more or less of reproach to reasoning, ideas, etc. which are considered oversubtle, or too abstract.

1646 BP. MAXWELL *Burd. Issachar* 31, I confesse, this Divinitie is so transcendent and Metaphysicall, that it exceeds my capacitie. 1720 SWIFT *To Yng. Clergyman* Wks. 1751 V. 24 Some Gentlemen..are apt to fill their Sermons with Philosophical Terms and Notions of the metaphysical or abstracted Kind. 1727-41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v., The word is also used to denote something subtile, abstract, and refined.

In which sense we say, such a reasoning, such a proof, is too *metaphysical*, &c.

2. Based on abstract general reasoning; determined on theoretic or *a priori* principles.

1647 Clarendon *Hist. Reb.* v. § 361 When they saw.. that, from metaphysical considerations what might be done in case of necessity, the militia of the kingdom was actually seized on. 1773 Johnson in *Boswell* 8 May, There seems (said he), to be in authours a stronger right of property than that by occupancy; a metaphysical right, a right, as it were, of creation, which should from its nature be perpetual. 1826 Scott *Woodst.* vi, In many a case, where wars have been waged for points of metaphysical right, they have been at last gladly terminated, upon the mere hope of obtaining general tranquillity.

3. [Partly in a pseudo-etymological sense = 'beyond what is physical'.] **a.** Applied, esp. in explicit contrast to *physical*, to what is immaterial, incorporeal, or supersensible.

1577 G. Harvey *Letter-bk.* (Camden) 56 And all that glorious company Of parsonages heroicall To greete with salutations Divine and metaphysicall. 1608 Topsell *Serpents* (1658) 591 The blessed Trinity..framed both the beneficial and hurtful Creatures, either for a Physical or Metaphysical end. 1668 H. More *Div. Dial.* I. xxviii. (1713) 58 *Hyl.*..There is also a Substance distinct from Matter, which therefore must be immaterial, and consequently Metaphysical. 1775 Harris *Philos. Arrangem.* (1841) 377 Thus, having before considered physical motion, have we now considered what may be called metaphysical, or..causative motion. 1864 Lowell *Fireside Trav.* 316 Beautiful as fire is in itself, I suspect that part of the pleasure is metaphysical, and that the sense of playing with an element which can be so terrible adds to the zest of the spectacle. 1877 S. Cox *Salv. Mundi* iv. 56 That..the wicked will be turned into a place of..torment physical or metaphysical.

b. That is above or goes beyond the laws of nature; belonging to an operation or agency which is more than physical or natural; supernatural.

1590 Marlowe *2nd Pt. Tamberl.* iv. ii, The essentiall fourme of Marble stone, Tempered by science metaphisicall, And Spels of magicke from the mouthes of spirits. 1605 Shaks. *Macb.* I. v. 30 The Golden Round, Which Fate and Metaphysicall ayde doth seeme To haue thee crown'd withall. 1628 Wither *Brit. Rememb.* II. 1059 The Pestilence.. partly metaphysicall appears, And partly naturall. 17.. Warburton *Note on Rape of Lock* I. 20 As the subject of the epic consists of two parts, the metaphysical and the civil. 1822 Scott *Pirate* xxxviii, In these plain words there is no metaphysical delusion. 1847 Emerson *Repr. Men, Goethe* Wks. (Bohn) I. 392 The lurking dæmons sat to him, ..and the metaphysical elements took form.

†**c.** Surpassing what is natural or ordinary; extraordinary, transcendent. *Obs.*

1589 Greene *Menaphon* (Arb.) 75 The excellence of such a Metaphysicall vertue, I meane (shepheards) the fame of your faire Samela, honering in the eares of euerie man as a miracle of nature.

4. Of persons, their minds, etc.: Addicted to or fitted for the study of metaphysics.

a 1628 F. Greville *Sidney* (1652) 175 Many Metaphysicall Phormio's before me, who had lost themselves in teaching Kings, and Princes, how to govern their People. *a* 1652 J. Smith *Sel. Disc.* I. 24 The fourth is ἄνθρωπος θεωρητικος, the true metaphysical and contemplative man. 1683 Pettus *Fleta Min.* II. 3 Majerus and Spagnetus..being a sort of Metaphisical Chimists, who do make it a chief Principle of that Science to be strict in their Devotion towards God. 1853 Kingsley *Hypatia* I. Pref. 12 In the more metaphysical and contemplative East. 1856 Mrs. Stowe *Dred* I. xv. 203 His metaphysical talent.

Comb. 1654 Gayton *Pleas. Notes* 117 A Metaphysicall pated Disputant.

5. Adopted by Johnson as the designation of certain 17th cent. poets (chief of whom were Donne and Cowley) addicted to 'witty conceits' and far-fetched imagery.

[1693 Dryden *Orig. & Progr. Satire* Ess. (ed. Ker) II. 19 He [Donne] affects the metaphysics, not only in his satires, but in his amorous verses, where nature only should reign; and perplexes the minds of the fair sex with nice speculations of philosophy, when he should engage their hearts... In this..Mr. Cowley has copied him to a fault.] *a* 1744 Pope in J. Spence *Anecd.* (1820) 173 Cowley..as well as Davenant borrowed his metaphysical style from Donne. 1779 Johnson *L. P., Cowley* Wks. II. 22 About the beginning of the seventeenth century appeared a race of writers that may be termed the metaphysical poets...The metaphysical poets were men of learning, and to shew their learning was their whole endeavour. 1785 T. Warton *Milton's Poems* Pref. 15 But what are these conceptions [of Cowley's]? Metaphysical conceits, all the unnatural extravagancies of his English poetry. 1814 Southey in *Q. Rev.* XII. 82 The metaphysical school, which marred a good poet in Cowley, and found its proper direction in Butler, expired in Norris of Bemerton.

6. Used for: Fanciful, fantastic, imaginary.

1727–41 Chambers *Cycl.* s. v., A *metaphysical* case, is an imaginary or chimerical case, which can scarce ever happen, or not without much difficulty; and which ought not to be laid down as a rule for common occasions. 1809 J. Lawrence *Hist. Horse* 125 The colours of horses, notwithstanding the metaphysical notions of former days, are of very little consequence in relation to their goodness. 1827 Scott *Chron. Canongate* Introd. i, Those metaphysical persons whom the law of the neighbouring country terms John Doe and Richard Roe.

Metaphysically (metăfi·zikăli), *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY[2].] In a metaphysical manner or sense; according to the principles of metaphysics; from a metaphysical point of view.

1579 J. Jones *Preserv. Bodie & Soule* I. lx. 90 Whether they be Mathematically measured, or Metaphisically pondered. 1616 Champney *Voc. Eps.* 13 To haue true authoritie or calling; and to haue true and sufficient proofe of the same, are not heere nicely or metaphysically distinguished. 1748 Hartley *Observ. Man* I. iv. § 3 The same Conclusion follows, tho' we should suppose the Punishments of a future State not to be absolutely and metaphysically infinite. 1790 Burke *Fr. Rev.* Wks. 1808 V. 126 The pretended rights of these theorists are all extremes; and in proportion as they are metaphysically true, they are morally and politically false. 1897 B. A. W. Russell *Found. Geom.* 68 Metaphysically, space has no elements.

†**b.** Supernaturally; preternaturally. *Obs.*

1580 G. Harvey *Three Proper Lett.* 20 The Eclipse of the Sunne that darkened all the Earth..at Christes Passion, happening altogether prodigiously and Metapbysically in *Plenilunio*. 1607 Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 384 The proverb..may as well be applyed metaphysically to the Beast Linx, as Poetically to the man Lynceus.

Metaphysician (metăfizi·shăn). [a. F. *métaphysicien* (14th c.), f. Metaphysic: see -ician.] One who is versed in metaphysics.

1597 G. Harvey *Trimm. Nashe* Wks. (Grosart) III. 22 Thoughe (as I am a Cirurgeon) I coulde picke your teeth, for the other stinkinge breath, yet this I durst not meddle with, this hath neede of a metaphisition. 1654 Whitlock *Zootomia* 160 The very essence of them, or *immediatè consequens Essentiam* (as the Metaphysitians word it), that which is but one degree from their Essence. 1677 Horneck *Gt. Law Consid.* iv. (1704) 239 The Metaphysician, that speculates things above sense and nature. 1796 Burke *Let. Noble Ld.* Wks. 1808 VIII. 57 Nothing can be conceived more hard than the heart of a thoroughbred metaphysician. 1818 Byron *Juan* I. xci, He..turn'd, without perceiving his condition, Like Coleridge, into a metaphysician. 1877 E. R. Conder *Bas. Faith* iv. 145 Metaphysicians, it seems, have always been trying to get at the back of knowledge.

Hence **Metaphysi·cianism** *nonce-wd.*, metaphysical philosophizing.

a 1849 Poe *Imp of Perverse* Wks. 1865 I. 353 Phrenology, and in great measure, metaphysicianism have been concocted *à priori*. —*E. B. Browning* ibid. III. 423 The preposterously anomalous metaphysicianism of Coleridge.

Metaphysicize (metăfi·zisəiz), *v.* [f. Metaphysic + -ize.]

1. *intr.* To indulge in metaphysical speculation; to think, talk or write metaphysically. Also quasi-*trans.* with *away*: To get rid of by such studies. Hence **Metaphy·sicizing** *vbl. sb.*

1793 Southey *Let. to G. C. Bedford* 26 Oct. in *Life* (1849) I. 185, I have been reading the history of philosophy..till I have metaphysicized away all my senses. ?1796 Coleridge *Unpubl. Lett. to J. P. Estlin* (1884) 18, I would write Odes and Sonnets morning and evening, and metaphysicize at noon. 1823 De Quincey *Walking Stewart* Wks. 1858 VIII. 3 He was everlastingly metaphysicising against metaphysics. 1889 J. M. Robertson *Ess. Crit. Method* 164 We are either witnessing a confusion of thought or a very subtle piece of metaphysicizing.

2. *trans.* To treat or expound metaphysically.

1830 Wilson in *Blackw. Mag.* XXVII. 943 Boscovich has metaphysicized matter, and shewn that there need be none...Others have metaphysicized vision.

Metaphysico- (metăfi·ziko), used as combining form of Metaphysic *a.*, in the sense 'partly metaphysical, partly . . .'

1757 Warburton in W. & Hurd *Lett.* (1809) 229 Pray ask our friend..whether my metaphysico-ethical philosophy be right. 1904 *Q. Rev.* July 266 The absence of the metaphysico-religious element in his constitution. 1904 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 15 Oct. 961 'Responsibility' was not a medical conception: it was a metaphysico-legal conception.

†**Metaphysi·cous,** *a. Obs. rare*[−1]. [f. Metaphysic + -ous.] Versed in metaphysics, metaphysical.

1683 E. Hooker *Pref. Pordage's Mystic Div.* 95 Let men boast of..their elaborate Demonstrations, made out by the most Metaphysicous Divines, in Religion.

Metaphysics (metăfi·ziks), *sb. pl.* [pl. of Metaphysic *sb.*, repr. med.L. *metaphysica* (neut. pl.), med.Gr. (τὰ) *μεταφυσικά* (neut. pl.), an alteration of the older *τὰ μετὰ τὰ φυσικά*, 'the (works) after the Physics' (cf. Meta- and Physics), the title applied, at least from the 1st century A.D., to the 13 books of Aristotle dealing with questions of 'first philosophy' or ontology.

This title doubtless originally referred (as some of the early commentators state) to the position which the books so designated occupied in the received arrangement of Aristotle's writings (*τὰ φυσικά* being used to signify, not the particular treatise so called, but the whole collection of treatises relating to matters of natural science). It was, however, from an early period used as a name for the branch of study treated in these books, and hence came to be misinterpreted as meaning 'the science of things transcending what is physical or natural'. This misinterpretation is found, though rarely, in Greek writers, notwithstanding the fact that *μετά* does not admit of any such sense as 'beyond' or 'transcending'. In scholastic Latin writers the error was general (being helped, perhaps, by the known equivalence of the prefixes *meta-* and *trans-* in various compounds); and in English its influence is seen in the custom, frequent down to the 17th c., of explaining *metaphysical* by words like 'supernatural', 'transnatural', etc.]

1. That branch of speculative inquiry which treats of the first principles of things, including such concepts as being, substance, essence, time, space, cause, identity, etc.; theoretical philosophy as the ultimate science of Being and Knowing.

Formerly often preceded by *the* (cf. 'the mathematics'). Now usually construed as singular.

1569 J. Sanford tr. *Agrippa's Van. Artes* liii. 70 Of the Metaphisickes, that is, thinges supernaturall and the Science of them. 1596 Shaks. *Tam. Shr.* I. i. 37 The Mathematickes, and the Metaphysickes, Fall to them as you finde your stomacke serues you. *a* 1619 Fotherby *Atheom.* II. xiv. § 2 (1622) 356 The Metaphysickes, considering the pure essence of things. 1651 Hobbes *Leviath.* IV. xlvi. 376 If such Metaphysiques..be not Vain Philosophy, there was never any. 1677 Gale *Crt. Gentiles* II. iv. 211 May we not take it for granted that nothing properly belongs to Metaphysics but what is Supernatural, as the name importes. 1697 J. Sergeant *Solid Philos.* 459 Hence is demonstrated, that Metaphysicks is absolutely the Highest Science. 1718 J. Chamberlayne *Relig. Philos.* Pref. (1730) 1, I have not made use of the Metaphysicks. 1775 Harris *Philos. Arrangem.* (1841) 368 Metaphysics are properly conversant about primary and internal causes. 1845 Maurice *Mor. & Met. Philos.* in *Encycl. Metrop.* II. 545/1 It is impossible to follow the track of any great moral question without entering into the region of pure Metaphysics. 1847 Tennyson *Princess* III. 283 'How', she cried, 'you love The metaphysics!' *a* 1862 Buckle *Misc. Wks.* (1872) I. 506 Metaphysics, as it must be the end of all Knowledge, so it was the beginning of all Knowledge.

fig. a 1658 Cleveland *Gen. Poems* (1677) 13 Call her the Metaphysicks of her Sex, And say she tortures Wits, as Quartans vex Physicians.

b. With *of*: The theoretical principles or higher philosophical *rationale* of some particular branch of knowledge.

1845 Craik *Hist. Lit. Eng.* V. 200 Burke was our first ..writer on the philosophy of practical politics. The mere metaphysics of that science..he held..in..contempt. 1872 O. W. Holmes *Poet Breakf.-t.* iv. 125 The metaphysics of attention have hardly been sounded to their depths.

c. In various inaccurate or extended uses (partly based on the erroneous etymology mentioned above): see quots.

1727–41 Chambers *Cycl.* s. v., Some define metaphysics, that part of science which considers spirits, and immaterial beings. 1776 Adam Smith *W. N.* v. i. (1869) II. 355 What are called metaphysics or pneumatics were set in opposition to physics. 1836–7 Sir W. Hamilton *Metaph.* vii. (1859) I. 121 The Philosophy of Mind,—Psychology or Metaphysics, in the widest signification of the terms,—is threefold. 1857 Buckle *Civiliz.* iii. 149, I mean by metaphysics, that vast body of literature which is constructed on the supposition that the laws of the human mind can be generalized solely from the facts of individual consciousness.

†**2.** Used by Marlowe for: Occult or magical lore. (Cf. Metaphysical *a.* 3 b.) *Obs.*

c 1590 Marlowe *Faust.* i. (1604) A 3 These Metaphysickes of Magicians, And Negromantike bookes are heauenly.

Metaphysiology, etc.: see Meta- 1.

Metaphysis (metæ·fisis). *rare*[−0]. [mod.L., ad. assumed Gr. **μετάφυσις*, f. *μεταφύεσθαι* to become by change, f. *μετα-* Meta- + *φυ-* to grow.] Transformation; metamorphosis.

1755 in Johnson (citing *Dict.*).

Metaphyte, -phytic, -phyton: see Meta- 4.

‖ **Metaplasia** (metăplē·ziă). *Phys.* and *Path.* [mod.L., as if a Gr. **μεταπλασία*, f. *μεταπλάσσειν* to mould into a new form, f. *μετα-* Meta- + *πλάσσειν* to mould.] Transformation of one kind of adult tissue into another.

1890 *Syd. Soc. Lex.* s.v., Cartilage is transformed into mucoid or areolar tissue, or into bone, by undergoing metaplasia. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 202 Among normal tissues a transformation of one variety into another..has received from Virchow the distinctive name of metaplasia.

‖ **Metaplasis** (metæ·plăsis). *Biol.* [mod.L., after G. *metaplase* (Haeckel 1866), a. Gr. *μετάπλασις*, n. of action f. *μεταπλάσσειν*: see prec.] Haeckel's term for the middle or adult period of ontogenetic development: correlated with *anaplasis* and *cataplasis*.

1888 Hyatt in *Proc. Boston Soc. Nat. Hist.* XXIII. 405.

Metaplasm[1] (me·tăplæz'm). [ad. L. *metaplasmus* (app. used by Quintilian in the sense of rhetorical figure), Gr. *μεταπλασμ-ός* (explained by L. & Sc. as the formation of cases or tenses from a stem different from that of the nom. or pres.), f. *μεταπλάσσειν*: see prec.] **a.** *Rhet.* The transposition of words from their usual or natural order. **b.** *Gram.* The alteration of a word by addition, removal or transposition of letters or syllables. Also, the formation of oblique cases from a stem other than that of the nominative.

[1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 183 Of the rewles of feete metricalle, of metaplasmus, of dialog metricalle.] 1617 Collins *Def. Ep. Ely* II. x. 475 So fares it in this Metaplasme of names many times: *Dignos et indignos non iam discernit dignitas, sed confundit.* 1758 Nugent tr. *Port Royal's Method Lat. Tongue* I. 327 This Metaplasm or transformation is made by adding, taking away, or changing, either a letter, or a syllable. 1889 Hanssen in *Amer. Jrnl. Philol.* X. 39 *Intercalarius* (but it is possible that this latter is simply a metaplasm for *intercalaris*).

Metaplasm[2] (me·tăplæz'm). *Biol.* [f. Meta- + *-plasm* as in *protoplasm.*] That part of protoplasm which contains the formative material.

1875 Bennett & Dyer tr. *Sachs' Bot.* 41 *note*, J. Hanstein gives to the substances mingled with the true protoplasm and which undergo many transformations, the collective name of 'Metaplasm'. 1877 Ray Lankester in *Q. Jrnl. Microsc. Sci.* XVII. 403 Granular matter, which as metaplasm is distinguished from the hyaline protoplasm in which such granules float.

Metaplast (me·tăplæst). *Gram.* [as if ad. Gr. **μεταπλαστόν* neut. vbl. adj., f. *μεταπλάσσειν*: cf. Metaplasm[1].] A noan of which the cases are formed from different stems.

1864 in Webster. 1877 March *Comp. Ags. Gram.* § 100.

32 Irregular Nouns. Such are without case-endings (Indeclinable),..or they vary..in stem (Metaplasts), [etc.].

Metaplastic (metăplæ·stik), *a.* [ad. assumed Gr. **μεταπλαστικός*, f. *μεταπλάσσειν*: see METAPLASIA.]

1. *Gram.* Characterized by METAPLASM (1 b).

1877 MARCH *Comp. Ags. Gram.* § 100. 52 Many conforming regulars, and heteroclites, are metaplastic.

2. *Biol.* Relating to metaplasis.

1888 HYATT in *Proc. Boston Soc. Nat. Hist.* XXIII. 405 Metaplastic relations.

3. *Phys.* Relating to metaplasia.

1890 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

Metaplastology (metăplæstǫ·lodʒi). *Biol.* [f. METAPLAST-IC + -(O)LOGY.] Haeckel's term for the relationship of the phenomena of metaplasis to those of the acme in phylogeny.

1888 HYATT [see METAPLASTIC 2].

‖ **Metapleuron** (me·tăplūəɹǫn). Pl. **metapleura** (-plūə·ră). Also in anglicized forms **metapleur(e.** [mod.L., f. Gr. *μετα-* META- + *πλευρά* rib.] See quot. 1875. **a.** *Ent.* (see quot. 1848). **b.** *Zool.* In the Amphioxus (see quot.). Hence **Metapleu·ral** *a.*, relating to the metapleura.

1848 MAUNDER *Treas. Nat. Hist.* 794 *Metapleura*, the lateral surfaces of the metathorax. 1875 RAY LANKESTER in *Q. Jrnl. Microsc. Sci.* XV. 267 Metapleura, the upstanding hollow ridges or latero-ventral folds which, in Amphioxus, form the lateral margins of the ventral surface. *Ibid.* 262 The latero-ventral (metapleural) lymph space. *Ibid.* 263 The lumen of the metapleur of Amphioxus. 1888 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* 439 The epipleures form two prominent longitudinal folds—the metapleures.

Metapneumonic, -pneustic: see META- 2, 3.

Metapodial (metăpōʊ·diăl), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. mod.L. *metapodiālis* (neut. pl. *metapodiālia*: see B), f. *metapodium*: see next and -AL.]

A. *adj.* (In recent Dicts.)

1. Pertaining to the metapodium of molluscs.

2. Pertaining to the metapodialia (see B).

B. *sb.* One of the ‖ **Metapodia·lia** *sb. pl.*, the bones of the metacarpus and metatarsus taken together.

1882 WILDER & GAGE *Anat. Techn.* 42 The metapodials are comparatively simple elements. 1896 MARSH in 16*th Rep. U.S. Geol. Survey* I. 185 The metapodials are much more slender and the phalanges are less robust than in the other members of the order.

‖ **Metapodium** (metăpōʊ·diǒm). [mod.L., f. Gr. *μετα-* META- + *ποδ-*, *πούς* foot.]

1. *Anat.* = METATARSUS.

1856 in MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*

2. The posterior lobe of the foot in molluscs. Also anglicized **Metapode** (me·tăpǫʊd).

1853 HUXLEY in *Phil. Trans.* CXLIII. i. 36 The tail or metapodium is subcylindrical at its base. 1875 NICHOLSON *Man. Zool.* xlvii. (ed. 4) 342 In the *Heteropoda*..and in the Wing-shells (*Strombidæ*), the foot exhibits a division into three portions—an anterior, the 'propodium'; a middle, the 'mesopodium'; and a posterior lobe, or 'metapodium'.

Metapolitical (me·tăpǫli·tikăl), *a.* [See META- 1. Cf. G. *metapolitisch* (Stein, 1817).]

†1. Lying outside the sphere of politics. *Obs.*

1647 M. HUDSON *Div. Right Govt.* II. x. 156 The limitation of the Kings power, in order to Evangelicall duties, which are *extra-regalia*, and Metapoliticall matters.

2. Relating to metapolitics; given to the study of metapolitics.

1809–10 COLERIDGE *Friend* (1818) II. 82 The metaphysical (or as I have proposed to call them, *metapolitical*) reasonings hitherto discussed, belong to Government in the abstract. 1878 SEELEY *Stein* III. 391 Fries, as Professor, taught a new political creed founded on the philosophy of Kant. Stein was assuredly not wrong in calling the new school *metapolitical*. 1889 CAMPION in *Lux Mundi* xi. 461 If man is 'metaphysical *nolens volens*', it is equally true that he is metapolitical, to use Martensen's happy word, *nolens volens*.

Metapolitician (me·tăpǫliti·ʃăn). [f. next, after *politician*.] One who holds or advocates metapolitical theories.

1809–10 [see METAPOLITICS]. 1816 SOUTHEY *Ess.* (1832) I. 390 The meta-politicians, as they have aptly been called, who bewilder themselves with abstractions. 1878 SEELEY *Stein* I. 30 Lest .. the management of affairs should .. pass into the hands of those whom he calls, with strong contempt, *metapoliticians*.

Metapolitics (metăpǫ·litiks), *sb. pl.* Also *occas.* sing. **metapolitic.** [See META- 1.] Abstract political science; the investigation of the speculative basis of political doctrines; *contemptuously*, unpractical political theorizing.

1784 DE LOLME *Eng. Const.* II. xvii. (ed. 4) 419 *note*, It may, if the reader pleases, belong to the Science of *Metapolitics*, in the same sense as we say *Metaphysics*. 1809–10 COLERIDGE *Friend* (1818) I. 309 *note*, As 'Metaphysics' are the science which determines what can, and what can not, be known of Being..so might the philosophy of Rousseau and his followers not inaptly be entitled, *Metapolitics*, and the Doctors of this School, Metapoliticians. 1889 CAMPION in *Lux Mundi* xi. 461 Every statesman..has consciously or unconsciously such a metapolitic.

‖ **Metapophysis** (metăpǫ·fisis). Pl. **-ses.** *Anat.* [mod.L., f. META- + APOPHYSIS.] A small vertebral prominence.

1866 in BRANDE & COX *Dict. Sci.*, etc. 1897 PARKER & HASWELL *Zool.* II. xxii. 420 Metapophyses and anapophyses.

‖ **Metapterygium** (me·tăptĕri·dʒiǒm). *Ichth.* [See META-.] The hindmost section of the pterygium in certain fishes.

1878 BELL tr. *Gegenbaur's Comp. Anat.* 478 The metapterygium represents the stem of the archipterygium and the rays on it. 1880 GÜNTHER *Fishes* iv. 80 The pectoral fin is supported by three bones, pro-, meso-, and metapterygium.

Hence **Metaptery·gial** *a.* (in recent Dicts.), **Metaptery·gian** *a.* (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*), belonging or relating to the metapterygium.

Metapterygoid (metăpte·rigoid). *Ichth.* [f. META- + PTERYGOID.] In full *metapterygoid bone*: A bone in the skull of a teleostean fish, which fits against the anterior border of the hyomandibular and symplectic bones.

1872 MIVART *Elem. Anat.* 395 In osseous Fishes a yet further segmentation occurs, as we find in addition a third bone, called the meta-pterygoid.

‖ **Metaptosis** (metăptōʊ·sis). [mod.L., a. Gr. *μετάπτωσις*, n. of action of *μεταπίπτειν* to undergo a change, f. *μετα-* META- + *πίπτειν* (*πτω-*) to fall.

1. *Med.* Change in the nature or the seat of a disease. ? *Obs.*

1693 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Metaptosis*, the degenerating of one Disease into another, as of a Quartane Ague into a Tertian; and on the contrary, of an Apoplexy into a Palsie.

2. *Logic.* 'The change of a proposition from being false to being true, or the reverse' (*Cent. Dict.* 1890).

Metar, obs. form of METER *sb.*[1]

Metarabic: see META- 6 a.

Metargon (metā·ɹgǫn). *Chem.* [f. META- + *argon*.] The name given by Sir W. Ramsay to an elementary substance obtained by him from the volatilization of the white solid which remained after the evaporation of liquid argon.

1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 17 June 7/2 Professor Ramsay, F.R.S., in continuation of his recent research on a new gas in atmospheric air, has this week gone still further...Argon, it now seems, has companion gases, their names, using the professor's nomenclature, being 'neon' (new) and 'metargon'.

Metarsenic, Meta-salts: see META- 6 a.

Metaschematism (metăskē·mătiz'm). [ad. mod.L. *metaschēmatismus*, a. Gr. *μετασχηματισμός*, vbl. sb. of *μετασχηματίζειν* to change the form of, f. *μετα-* META- + *σχηματ-*, *σχῆμα* form: see -ISM.]

1. *Path.* 'A change of the form of a disease, as when hæmoptysis follows suppression of the menses' (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*, s.v. *Metaschematismus*).

1847 tr. *Von Feuchtersleben's Med. Psychol.* (Syd. Soc.) 266 *note*, Perhaps every metastasis is only a metaschematism. 1876 tr. *Wagner's Gen. Pathol.* 320 At other times they [*sc.* calculi] are transformed into other substances: Metaschematism.

2. *gen.* A fresh arrangement.

1888 *Athenæum* 18 Aug. 214/2 A new arrangement or metaschematism of atoms.

Metascutellum, -scutum, Metasericite, Metasilicic: see META- 3, 7 a, 6 a.

‖ **Metasoma** (metăsōʊ·mă). *Zool.* Also anglicized **metasome** (me·tăsǫm). [mod.L., f. Gr. *μετα-* META- + *σῶμα* body.]

1. In Cephalopods, the posterior portion of the body, enveloped in the mantle.

1872 NICHOLSON *Palæont.* 272 A posterior portion, enveloped in the mantle, and containing the viscera (metasoma). 1882 OGILVIE, *Metasome, Metasoma.*

2. In Lamellibranchs, the part of the body which lies behind the foot.

1877 HUXLEY *Anat. Inv. Anim.* 475 The part which.. contains the posterior adductor may be termed the metasoma.

3. In Arthropods and Arachnids, the hinder portion of the animal, into which the abdomen is continued; the hinder part of the abdomen.

1893 SHIPLEY *Zool. Invert.* 398 The heart..is continued backward in the scorpion as a posterior aorta which traverses the metasoma.

Metasomatic (me·tăsoʊmæ·tik), *a.* [f. prec. or next: see -IC.]

1. *Zool.* Pertaining to the metasoma.

1890 in *Century Dict.* 1893 SHIPLEY *Zool. Invert.* 398 Extends into the narrow metasomatic segments.

2. *Geol.* Pertaining to or of the nature of METASOMATISM.

1886 T. S. HUNT *Min. Physiol. & Physiogr.* 84 A metasomatic hypothesis of the origin of crystalline rocks. 1896 VAN HISE in 16*th Rep. U.S. Geol. Surv.* I. 690 Minerals.. produced from other minerals by metasomatic processes.

Metasomatism (metăsoʊ·mătiz'm). *Geol.* [f. META- + Gr. *σωματ-*, *σῶμα* body + -ISM.] = METASOMATOSIS.

1886 T. S. HUNT *Min. Physiol. & Physiogr.* 83 Constituting what has been appropriately designated metasomatism. 1896 VAN HISE in 16*th Rep. U.S. Geol. Surv.* I. 689 Metasomatism may be defined as the process of metamorphism by which original minerals are partly or wholly altered into other minerals, or are replaced by other minerals, or are recrystallized without chemical changes.

Hence **Metaso·matist,** one who holds the geological theory of metasomatosis (*Funk's Stand. Dict.* 1895).

Metasomatome (metăsōʊ·mătǫm). *Anat.* [f. META- (app. used unjustifiably in the sense 'between') + SOMATOME.] (See quot.) Hence **Metasomato·mic** *a.*

1857 GOODSIR in *Edin. New Philos. Jrnl.* V. 122 As the mouth is only one of a number of openings situated between somatomes, I find such openings conveniently distinguished as metasomatomic. 1858 HUXLEY in *Proc. Roy. Soc.* (1859) IX. 426 Professor Goodsir's terms of *Somatomes* for the segments and *Metasomatomes* for their interspaces. *Ibid.* 427 The intervals between every pair of metasomatomes.

‖ **Metasomatosis** (me·tăsōʊmătōʊ·sis). *Geol.* [mod.L., f. META- + Gr. *σωματ-*, *σῶμα* body + -OSIS.] The transformation of one rock into another of an entirely different kind.

1886 T. S. HUNT *Min. Physiol. & Physiogr.* 105 Although the crystalline rocks .. have been supposed to be .. the subject of wide-spread metasomatosis. 1888 TEALL *Brit. Petrogr.* 438 *Metasomatosis*, the change of material due to chemical agencies, undergone by rocks subsequent to their formation.

Metasome: see METASOMA.

Metasperm (me·tăspǫm). *Bot.* [f. META- + Gr. *σπέρμα* seed.] = ANGIOSPERM.

1878 MACNAB *Bot.* ix. (1883) 160 Phanerogamia. A. Archisperms or Gymnosperms... B. Metasperms or Angiosperms. 1890 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

Metasplenomegalic: see META- 2.

‖ **Metastasis** (metæ·stăsis). Pl. **metastases** (metæ·stăsīz). [late L., a. Gr. *μετάστασις* removal, change, n. of action of *μεθιστάναι* to remove, change: see META- and STASIS.]

1. *Rhet.* A rapid transition from one point to another.

1586 A. DAY *Eng. Secretary* II. (1625) 96 *Metastasis* or *Transitio*, when in briefe words we passe from one thing to another. 1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* III. xix. (Arb.) 240 *margin*, *Metastasis*, or the flitting figure, or the Remoue. 1696 PHILLIPS (ed. 5).

2. In various scientific uses.

a. *Phys.* and *Path.* The transference of a bodily function, of a pain or a disease, of morbific matter, etc. from one part or organ to another.

1663 BOYLE *Usef. Exp. Nat. Philos.* II. xx. 294 What not unfrequently happens in distempered Bodies by the *Metastasis* of the Morbifique matter. 1747 tr. *Astruc's Fevers* 354 The milk..is very often thrown on other parts, where it creates *metastases* the most incorrigible and obstinate. 1842 *Medico-Chirurg. Rev.* XXXVII. 557 Hysteria; Catalepsy; Metastasis of Hearing, &c. 1898 P. MANSON *Trop. Diseases* ix. 175 The metastasis of the pains. 1903 MYERS *Hum. Personality* I. Gloss. 19 *Metastasis*, change of the seat of a bodily function from one place..to another.

b. *Biol.* The transformation of chemical compounds into other compounds in the process of assimilation by an organism.

By some writers restricted to signify the change of non-living into other non-living matter; by others treated as synonymous with METABOLISM.

1875 BENNETT & DYER tr. *Sachs' Bot.* 626 Assimilation and Metastasis (Stoffwechsel). 1878 BELL tr. *Gegenbaur's Comp. Anat.* 13 Metastasis, or change in the arrangement of chemical elements. The body nourishes itself by replacing the material used up in metastasis by fresh matter, which is received from without.

c. *Geol.* (See quot.)

1886 BONNEY in *Proc. Geol. Soc.* 59 Metastasis (change of order), denoting changes rather of a paramorphic character, such, for example, as the crystallization of a limestone, the devitrification of a glassy rock.

3. *gen.* Transformation; change from one condition to another. *rare.*

1831 SIR W. HAMILTON *Discuss.* (1852) 21 *note*, The Infinite and Absolute are only the names of..two subjective negations, converted into objective affirmations... Some, more reasonably, call the thing unfinishable—infinite; others, less rationally, call it finished—absolute. But in both cases, the metastasis is in itself irrational. 1887 STEVENSON *Mem. & Portraits* vii. 116 The lamp and oil man, just then beginning, by a not unnatural metastasis, to bloom into a lighthouse-engineer.

Metastatic (metăstæ·tik), *a.* [f. METASTASIS: cf. STATIC and rare Gr. *μεταστατικός*.]

1. *Min.* (See quot.)

1816 R. JAMESON *Char. Min.* (ed. 2) 218 A crystal is named .. Metastatic (metastatique), that is to say, transferred, when its plane angles and solid angles are the same as those of the nucleus, and are thus transported to the secondary form. Example, Metastatic calcareous-spar.

2. Pertaining to, characterized or prodnced by metastasis.

a. *Path.* 1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) IV. 316 As sometimes happens in metastatic dropsy from repelled gout. 1841 *Medico-Chirurg. Rev.* XXXV. 563 Metastatic Abscess. 1892 *Tuke's Dict. Psychol. Med.* II. 697 *Metastatic Insanity*, any form of insanity which appears and disappears with the disappearance or appearance of certain physical affections, *e.g.* asthma, gout, erysipelas, &c.

b. *Biol.* 1880 BESSEY *Bot.* 186 Those metastatic changes which take place in the ordinary growth of plants.

So **Metasta·tical** *a.* = METASTATIC 1. **Metasta·tically** *adv.*, by metastasis (in recent Dicts.).

1817 R. JAMESON *Char. Min.* (ed. 3) 224 The metastatical variety of calcareous spar.

‖ **Metasternum** (metăstə·ɹnǒm). [mod.L., f. META- + STERNUM.]

1. *Ent.* The median ventral piece of the metathorax in insects.

1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* III. xxxv. 579 The central part of the *mesosternum* when elevated or porrected, or otherwise remarkable, is called the *metasternum*. 1838 WESTWOOD *Entom. Text-bk.* 272 The under surface of ..the metasternum is generally a horny covering.

2. *Anat.* The xiphisternum or ensiform appendage.

1868 W. K. PARKER *Shoulder-girdle Vertebr.* 123 A supplementary sternal plate ('metasternum'). 1884 DISTANT in *Proc. Zool. Soc.* 460 Disks of meso- and metasternums pitchy. 1890 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

Hence **Metaste·rnal** *a.*, pertaining to the metasternum; *sb.* a metasternal plate.

1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* III. xxxv. 579 The *Tettigoniæ* F. have usually a distinct metasternal point between their hind-legs. 1868 W. K. PARKER *Shoulder-girdle Vertebr.* 121 These plates are rudimentary 'meta-sternals'. 1873 LE CONTE *Classif. Lepidoptera N. Amer.* II. 312 Metasternal pores distinct.

Metasthenic, Metastibnite: see META- 3, 7 a.

‖ **Metastoma** (metæ·stō·mă). *Zool.* Also anglicized **metastome** (me·tăstōm). [mod.L., f. Gr. *μετα-* META- + *στόμα* mouth.]

1. The LABIUM or lower lip of crustaceans.

1859 HUXLEY in *Brit. Org. Rem., 1st Monograph* 16 The Metastoma [in Pterygotus]..is an oval plate with margins much thinner than the centre. 1876 PAGE *Adv. Text-bk. Geol.* xii. 210 A broad heart-shaped metastome or mouth-piece.

2. Haeckel's term (1872) for the secondary (*i. e.* permanent) mouth in the vertebrata.

1879 tr. *Haeckel's Evol. Man* II. 469.

‖ **Metastomium** (metăstō·miŭm). *Zool.* [Formed as prec.] Lankester's term for the whole hinder (*i. e.* the mouthed) portion of a simple metazoan soma. Hence **Metasto·mial** *a.*

1877 RAY LANKESTER in *Q. Jrnl. Microsc. Sci.* XVII. 427.

Metastrophe (metæ·strŏfi). [a. Gr. *μεταστροφή* change from one thing to another; related to *μεταστρέφειν* to turn round, f. *μετα-*, META- + *στρέφειν* to turn.]

†**1.** *? nonce-use.* (See quot.)

1654 H. L'ESTRANGE *Chas. I* (1655) 93 The Town suffering a metastrophe, change of name as well as nature, was ordered to be called..Borgo Maria.

2. *Cryst.* (See quot.) Hence **Metastro·phic** *a.*

1895 STORY-MASKELYNE *Crystallogr.* 99 A solid figure is symmetrical to an axis when every *radius vector* moving in a plane perpendicular to the axis and meeting a point of the figure would also meet corresponding points at the same distances from the axis at each revolution through an arc-angle of $2\pi/n$. The aspect of such a solid figure will not therefore be changed by a revolution of the solid round this axis through the angle $2\pi/n$, and any portion of its surface so revolving will move into a position in which it will be congruent with another portion of the surface entirely corresponding to it. DEF.—Congruence of this kind will be termed *metastrophe*, and such corresponding parts will be said to be *metastrophic* to each other. 1899 W. J. LEWIS *Crystallogr.* 18 We shall generally express the relation by saying that the like faces, edges and coigns disposed about an axis of symmetry are interchangeable or *metastrophic*.

Metasyenite: see META- 7 b.

‖ **Metasyncrisis** (metăsi·nkrisis). *Path.* [mod.L., a. Gr. *μετασύγκρισις*, f. *μετασυγκρίνειν* to use diaphoretics: see META- and SYNCRISIS.] **a.** The evacuation of morbid matter, esp. through the pores of the skin. **b.** (See quot. 1706.)

1541 R. COPLAND *Galyen's Terap.* 2 E j b, Metasyncresis, which may sygnyfy as moche as Metaporopoesis in Greke. That is to say, mutacyon of the state of pores & smal conduytes. 1693 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Metasyncrisis*, the Operation of a Medicine externally applied, which fetches out the Humours from their closest Recesses. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Metasyncrisis*, a restoring of the Parts or Passages of the Body to their natural State. 1847 tr. *Feuchtersleben's Med. Psychol.* (Syd. Soc.) 38 The Methodist, Thessalus..the inventor of Metasyncrisis (*μετασύγκρισις*) (*recorporatio*), a method which still forms our principal..corporeal means in the treatment of insanity.

Metasyncritic, -ical (metăsinkri·tik, -ikăl). [f. Gr. *μετασυγκριτικ-ός*, f. *μετασύγκρισις*: see prec.] Of the nature of, pertaining to, or producing metasyncrisis.

Metasyncritic(al circle, cycle: 'the methodical use of metasyncritic remedies' (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1890).

1651 WITTIE tr. *Primrose's Pop. Err.* IV. xxxii. 329 A very strong metasyncriticall plaister. 1725 FREIND *Hist. Physick* I. 124 The Resumptive or Metasyncritical Circle. 1847 tr. *Feuchtersleben's Med. Psychol.* (Syd. Soc.) 332 The metasyncritic method. *Ibid.* 338 To excite, through the nervous system, a salutary (metasyncritical) action.

Metatarsal (metătā·rsăl), *a.* and *sb.* *Anat.* [f. METATARS-US + -AL.]

A. *adj.* Of or belonging to the metatarsus.

1739 S. SHARP *Surg.* 223 It may happen that the Bones of the Toes, and part only of the Metatarsal Bones are carious. 1899 A. H. EVANS *Birds* 10 A fusion of the second, third, and fourth metatarsal bones.

B. *sb.* Any bone of the metatarsus.

1854 OWEN *Skel. & Teeth* in *Circ. Sci.* I. *Org. Nat.* 212 The second metatarsal supports three phalanges. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 666 Tight or badly fitting shoes exerting pressure on the head of the metatarsal.

‖ **Metatarsalgia** (me·tătārsæ·ldʒiă). *Path.* [f. METATARSUS + Gr. *-αλγία* pain.] Pain in the metatarsus. 1889 *Lancet* 6 Apr. 707/1.

Me·tatarse. Anglicization of METATARSUS.

1890 in *Century Dict.* 1894 NEWTON *Dict. Birds* 616 Their tendons unite about the middle of the metatarse.

Metatarso- (metătā·rso), comb. form of next used to denote 'belonging to the metatarsus and ..'; in **metatarso-phalangeal** *a.*, belonging to the metatarsus and the phalanges; *sb.* a metatarso-phalangeal joint; also **metatarso-digital** in the same sense.

1831 R. KNOX *Cloquet's Anat.* 390 The last four metatarso-phalangeal articulations. 1876 *Quain's Anat.* (ed. 8) I. 181 In the first metatarso-digital articulation. 1879 *St. George's Hosp. Rep.* IX. 331 The ankle, elbow, and first metatarso-phalangeal. 1887 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 2 Apr. 728/1 The Metatarso-Phalangeal Joint of the Great Toe.

‖ **Metatarsus** (metătā·rsŭs). *Anat.* Pl. **meta-tarsi** (-ai). [mod.L.: see META- and TARSUS.] The group of five long bones of the foot lying between the tarsus and the toes. In birds, the bone which corresponds to tarsus and metatarsus together.

1676 WISEMAN *Surg.* VII. ii. 479 The joyning of .. the Tarsus to the Metatarsus. 1682 in *Phil. Collect.* No. 5. 147 Sixty three large Scales, reaching up all along his [*sc.* the Oestridge's] Foot before, or before those Bones which answer to the Metatarsus. 1879 WRIGHT *Anim. Life* 7 In the Jerboa, among the rodents, the three middle metatarsi form but a single bone. 1899 A. H. EVANS *Birds* 10 The covering of the metatarsus is usually 'scutellated'.

b. *Ent.* (*a*) The proximal joint of the tarsus, esp. when much developed. (*b*) The entire tarsus of the hind foot.

1816 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* xv. (ed. 2) I. 494 [The bee] next seizes one of the laminæ of wax with a pincer formed by the posterior metatarsus and tibia.

Metatartaric, Metataxis: see META- 6 a, 5.

‖ **Metate** (mətā·te). [Aztec *metatl.*] A flat or somewhat hollowed oblong stone, upon which grain, cocoa, etc. is ground by means of a smaller stone. Also *metate-stone* (Funk's *Stand. Dict.*).

1854 BARTLETT *Explor. Texas*, etc. II. 245 Several broken metates, or corn-grinders, lie about the pile. *Ibid.* 276.

Meta-theology: see META- 1.

‖ **Metatheria** (metăþi·ə·riă), *sb. pl.* *Zool.* [mod.L., f. Gr. *μετα-* META- + *θηρίον* animal.] Huxley's term (correlative with *Prototheria* and *Eutheria*) for the Marsupials. Hence **Meta-the·rian** *a.*, belonging to the *Metatheria*; *sb.*, an animal of this division.

1880 HUXLEY in *Proc. Zool. Soc.* 654 An intermediate type between that of the Prototheria and that of the higher mammals, which may be termed that of the Metatheria. *Ibid.* 657 There is no known .. Marsupial which has not far more widely departed from the Metatherian type. 1894-5 *Roy. Nat. Hist.* (ed. Lydekker) III. 283 Mammals are divided into three primary groups or subclasses, viz.: 1. Eutherians, or Placentals. .. 2. Metatherians, or Implacentals, including the Pouched Mammals. 3. Prototherians, represented only by the Egg-laying Mammals.

Metathesis (metæ·þĭsis). Pl. **metatheses** (metæ·þĭsīz). [a. late L. *metathesis* (in sense 1), a. Gr. *μετάθεσις*, n. of action of *μετατιθέναι* to transpose, change: see META- and THESIS. Cf. F. *métathèse.*]

1. †**a.** *Rhet.* The transposition of words (*obs.*). **b.** *Gram.* The interchange of position between sounds or letters in a word; the result of such a transposition.

1608 HIERON *2nd Pt. Def. Ministers' Reasons for Refusal Subscript.* 114 By a metathesis or transposition [he] hath misplaced some of their words. 1660 JER. TAYLOR *Duct. Dubit.* IV. i. rule 2 § 36 *Tahur*, which is the Metathesis of *Hurta*, a thief. 1796 PEGGE *Anonym.* (1809) 347 It is necessary sometimes to attend to the metathesis, or transposition of letters. I make no doubt but Sir John Falstaff is formed from Sir John Fastolph. 1862 RAWLINSON *Anc. Mon., Chald.* I. viii. 196 The Assyrian Nipur, which is Nipru, with a mere metathesis of the two final letters. 1890 *Athenæum* 15 Feb. 208/2 The suggested metathesis *kiryika* to *kirikya* does not recommend itself strongly.

erroneous use. 1751-2 FIELDING *Covent Gard. Jrnl.* 9 Nov., The first syllable is Bob, change o into a, which is only a metathesis of one vowel for another, and you have Bab.

†**2.** *Path.* **a.** = METASTASIS. **b.** The transposition of a solid morbific substance (that cannot be evacuated) from one part to another where it will be less injurious.

1696 PHILLIPS (ed. 5), *Metathesis*...In Physick it is when a Disease goes from one part to another. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* Suppl., *Metathesis*,..a change of place in such humours, or other diseased parts, as cannot be absolutely removed or sent off. Thus a *Metathesis* of a cataract is a depression thereof, so that it no longer shuts out the light. 1832 WEBSTER (citing *Coxe*), *Metathesis* in medicine, a change or removal of a morbid cause, without expulsion.

3. *gen.* Change or reversal of condition.

1705 GREENHILL *Art Embalm.* 105 What a Metathesis is this! that he who perhaps was born of Royal Blood..shall now cry out with Job 17. 14, To Corruption, thou art my Father. 1873 H. ROGERS *Orig. Bible* v. (1878) 153 *note*, The slow processes, the abrupt transitions, the sudden metatheses, which history so often reveals.

4. *Chem.* (See quots.)

1872 J. P. COOKE *New Chem.* (1874) 245 Metathesis consists in the interchange of atoms or groups of atoms between two molecules, and implies that the structure of these molecules is not otherwise altered. 1887 REMSEN *Elem. Chem.* 11 Double decomposition or metathesis...In double decomposition two or more substances act upon one another and give rise to the formation of two or more new ones. Thus when hydrochloric acid acts upon marble two substances, calcium chloride and carbonic acid, are formed.

Metathetic (metăþe·tik), *a.* [ad. Gr. *μεταθετικός*, f. *μετατιθέναι* (see prec.).] Characterized by or involving metathesis. So **Metathe·tical** *a.*

1855 both in OGILVIE *Suppl.* 1872 J. P. COOKE *New Chem.* (1874) Index 324 Metathetical reactions.

Metathoracic (me·tăþŏræ·sik), *a.* [f. next: cf. THORACIC.] Of or belonging to the metathorax.

1836-9 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* II. 972/2 The metathoracic segment. 1877 HUXLEY *Anat. Inv. Anim.* vii. 425 The metathoracic wings.

‖ **Metathorax** (metăþō··ræks). *Ent.* [mod.L.; see META- and THORAX.] The hindmost segment of the thorax in insects.

1816 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* xxiii. (1818) II. 318 The..abdomen and metathorax. 1877 HUXLEY *Anat. Inv. Anim.* vii. 400 The..tergal portion of the metathorax.

†**Meta·tion.** *Obs.*—° [ad. L. *mētātiōn-em*, n. of action f. *mētārī* to mark or lay out (a camp).] (See quot.) Also **Meta·tor** [agent-n.].

1623 COCKERAM, *Metation*, a setting in order. *Ibid.*, *Metator*, hee which setteth in order. 1661 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* (ed. 2), *Metator* (Lat.), a planter or setter in order, a measurer out of the place for a Camp to pitch in, a measurer of Land.

Metatitanic, Metatoluic: see META- 6 a.

Metatome (me·tătōm). *Arch.* [f. Gr. *μετα-* META- + *-τομή* cutting (*τέμνειν* to cut).] The space or interval between two dentels.

1842 GWILT *Archit.*

Metatropy, Metatungstic: see META- 5, 6 a.

Metatype (me·tătəip). [f. META- + TYPE *sb.*]

†**1.** = ANTITYPE. *Obs.*

1658 T. WALL *Charac. Enemies Ch.* 37 Amaleck is a true Metatype of the divel.

2. *Zool.* (See quot.)

1893 O. THOMAS in *Proc. Zool. Soc.* 242 A metatype is a specimen received from the original locality after the description has been published, but determined as belonging to his own species by the original describer himself.

Metavoltine: see META- 7 a.

Metaxin (metæ·ksin). [f. Gr. *μεταξύ* between + -IN.] A proteid forming the material of the fibrils of plastids.

1890 in *Century Dict.* 1900 in Jackson *Gloss. Bot. Terms.*

Metaxite (metæ·ksəit). *Min.* [Named (*metaxit*) by A. Breithaupt in 1832, f. Gr. *μέταξα* silk, in allusion to its lustre.] A name for some fibrous varieties of serpentine.

1836 T. THOMSON *Min. Geol.*, etc. I. 171 The metaxite of Breithaupt is also a variety of serpentine. 1866 *Reader* 10 Feb. 156/1 Tufts of Metaxite.

‖ **Métayage** (metęyā3). [Fr., irreg. f. *métayer*: see next.] A system of land tenure in Western Europe and also in the United States, in which the farmer pays a certain proportion (generally half) of the produce to the owner (as rent), the owner generally furnishing the stock and seed or a part thereof. Also *attrib.* in *métayage system.*

1877 D. M. WALLACE *Russia* xxi. 336 They..farmed part of their land on the *métayage* system. *Ibid.* xxxi. 519 The third solution was the system commonly known as *métayage*. 1898 *Nat. Rev.* Aug. 907 The system of 'métayage' is not used in Southern Italy.

‖ **Métayer** (metęyē). Also 9 **metayar.** [F. *métayer*:—med.L. *medietārius*, f. *medietās* half: see MEDIETY, MOIETY.] A farmer who holds land on the métayage system. Also *attrib.* as in *métayer system, tenancy.*

1776 ADAM SMITH *W. N.* III. ii. I. 473 A species of farmers known at present in France by the name of Metayers. 1804 *Edin. Rev.* IV. 321 The system of rural economy in Hindustan, closely resembles .. the metayer system. 1856 CRAUFORD in *Encycl. Brit.* XII. 691/1 Rural labourers [in Japan] were occupants or at best metayers. 1875 MAINE *Hist. Inst.* vi. 163 Metayer tenancy. 1886 A. WEIR *Hist. Basis Mod. Europe* (1889) 110 Dauphiny, where the worst kinds of metayer farming obtained.

†**Metay·ing.** *Obs. rare.* [irreg. f. MÉTAYER: see -ING 1.] Farming on the métayage system. Also *attrib.*

1792 A. YOUNG *Trav. France* 399 The metaying system. *Ibid.* 401 The evils of metaying.

Metayl, Metayn, obs. ff. METAL, MITTEN.

‖ **Metazoa** (metăzō·ă), *sb. pl.* [f. Gr. *μετα-* META- 4 + *ζῷα* pl. of *ζῷον* animal.] Haeckel's term for one of the two great divisions (the other being PROTOZOA) of the animal kingdom, comprising those animals whose bodies consist of many cells. Also sing. **Metazo·on**, one of the metazoa.

1874 HUXLEY in *Jrnl. Linn. Soc., Zool.* XII. 202 The Metazoa of Haeckel. *Ibid.* 205 The next stage in the development of the embryo of a Metazoon consists [etc.]. 1878 BELL tr. *Gegenbaur's Comp. Anat.* 89 This division is the first of the Metazoa, or organisms which are undoubtedly animals.

Metazoan (metăzō·ăn), *a.* and *sb.* [f. prec. + -AN.] **a.** *adj.* Belonging to or characteristic of the Metazoa. **b.** *sb.* One of the Metazoa.

1884 HYATT in *Proc. Boston Soc. Nat. Hist.* XXIII. 140 The adult ascon, the lowest Metazoan. 1886 GEDDES in *Encycl. Brit.* XX. 419/1 The Metazoan segmentation of the ovum. 1904 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 15 Oct. 971 For every character presented by a Metazoan individual, a man for example, there is always a second character latent or dormant in his germ-cells.

So **Metazo'ic** *a.* = METAZOAN *a.*

1877 HUXLEY *Anat. Inv. Anim.* i. 47 What distinguishes the metazoic aggregate is that [etc.].

Metbord, -buird, Metch(e, Metcorn: see MEAT-BOARD, MATCH, METECORN.

Mete (mīt), *sb.*[1] Also 5 mette, 6 met, 6–7 mett, 7 meate, 7–8 meet. [a. OF. *mete, mette*, ad. L. *mēta* goal, boundary.]

†**1.** A goal. *Obs.*

1402 *Repl. Friar Daw Topias* in *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 86 Thou concludist thi silf, and bryngest thee to the mete there I wolde have thee. 1480 CAXTON *Ovid's Met.* x. viii, He passed her and cam to the mette to fore her.

2. A boundary or limit (material or immaterial); a boundary stone or mark; *esp.* in phrase *metes and bounds* [= AF. *metes et boundes* (1325 in *Rolls Parlt.* I. 434/2)], common in legal use; also *fig.*

1471 CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) 363 And fynably they were brought to so strayte metes and boundes that [etc.]. 1525 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* II. cci. [cxcvii.] 615 The kynge hathe clerely gyuen to hym..the hole duchy of Acquytayne, so as it extendeth in metes and tymytacyons. 1563 J. DOLMAN in *Mirr. Mag., Ld. Hastings* xcii, Untimely neuer comes the liues last mett. 1607 NORDEN *Surv. Dial.* i. 19 If the ditches, which are the ordinary meeres, meates and bounds betweene seueral mens lands, be confounded. 1768 *Conn. Col. Rec.* (1885) XIII. 52 To ascertain by meets and bounds the width of said cart-road thro said meadow. 1818 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) I. 197 Dower was assigned by metes and bounds, because it was a tenancy of the heir. 1878 LANIER *Marshes of Glynn* 39 As a belt of the dawn, For a mete and a mark To the forest-dark. 1894 *Q. Rev.* Jan. 30 The introspective genius knows his metes and bounds.

†**Mete,** *sb.*[2], anglicized form of MEATUS.

1460–70 *Bk. Quintessence* 16 þe palesye vniuersel comeþ of haboundaunce of viscous humouris closynge þe metis of vertu animale, sensityue, and motyue.

Mete (mīt), *sb.*[3] [f. METE *v.*[1]; cf. MET *sb.*] Measure.

1768 J. ROSS *Ode loss Friend* Wks. 224 (MS.) The pow'r Of soleinn Young or softer Thomson's mete! 1834 HOGG *Mora Campbell* 30 Noted for heroes tall and fair Of manly mete and noble mien. *a* 1871 MISS CARY *Nobility* ii. (Funk), We get back our mete as we measure.

Mete (mīt), *v.*[1] Inflected meted, meting. Forms: *Inf.* 1 metan, (meotan), 3, 6 mette, 4–6 meet(e, 6–7 meat(e, mett, 8 met, 3– mete. *Pa. t.* 1 mæt, 4–6 mett(e, 4–7 met, (4 mat(te, maat, mete, me(e)tid, 4–5 metede, 6 mott), 7– meted. *Pa. pple.* 1–2 ȝemeten, 1–6 meten, 2–3 imeten, 3–6 mett(e, (4 ymeten, metun, 5 metyn, 6 metten, -on, mottun, meated, 7 mete, *dial.* 9 metit), 4–6 moten, metid, 4–8 (9 *dial.*) met, 7–meted. [A Com. Teut. originally str. vb.: OE. *metan* (*mæt, mǽton, gemeten*) corresponds to OFris. *meta*, OS. *metan* (Du. *meten*), OHG. *mezzan* (MHG. *mezzen*, mod.G. *messen*), ON. *meta* to value (Sw. *māta* to measure), Goth. *mitan*:—OTeut. **met-* (: *mat-*: *mēt-*):—pre-Teut. **med-* (: *mod-*: *mēd-*) cogn. w. Gr. *μέδιμνος* MEDIMN, L. *modius* bushel; other cognates are L. *meditārī* and the words cited s.v. MEDITATE.

The Teut. **met-* has no direct connexion with the synonymous L. *mētīri*; but many scholars regard the W. Indogermanic **mēd-* and *mēt-* as parallel extensions of *mē-*.

The verb was frequently conjugated weak as early as the 14th c.; the original strong inflexions did not entirely disappear until late in the 16th c.]

1. *trans.* To ascertain or determine the dimensions or quantity of; = MEASURE *v.* 2. Also with dimensions as obj. Now only *poet.* and *dial.*, exc. in allusions to Matt. vii. 2.

c 975 *Rushw. Gosp.* Matt. vii. 2 In ðæm ȝemete þe ȝe metaþ biþ eow meten. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gram.* xiii. (Z.) 84 Ælc þæra ðinga, þe man wihð on wægan oððe met on fate. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 213 Gif hit eþeninge be þe me shule meten oðer weien þe [etc.]. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 244/142 þe schipmen..token þe hischope wel i-metene Ane houndred quarteres ȝwete. 1382 WYCLIF *Ezek.* xl. 5 He metid [1388 mat] the breede of the beeldyng with oo ȝerd. 1388 — *Ruth* iii. 15 He mete [1535 COVERDALE meet] sixe buyschels of harly. *c* 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 4620 And wt hurre fote he metede þe lengthe of þat space. *c* 1483 CAXTON *Dialogues* 44 Paulyn..Hath so moche moten Of corne.. That he may no more for age. 1556 J. HEYWOOD *Spider & F.* xcii. 49 Our mesurs mette to other, shal to vs be mottun. 1607 TOURNEUR *Rev. Trag.* II. i, Lands that were mete by the Rod. 1781 CRABBE *Library* 302 She..Metes the thin air and weighs the flying sound. 1805 in Chambers *Pop. Poems Scot.* (1862) 152 Says Tam, 'We'll hae them met;' They measured just eight score o' pecks. 1865 SWINBURNE *Lament.* 23 No hand has meted his path.

with clause. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 232 He þet meteð hu heih is þe heouene & hu deope is þe eorðe. *c* 1391 CHAUCER *Astrol.* II. § 42 a, Mete how many foot ben be-twen þe too prikkis.

fig. *d* 1556 LD. VAUX in *Parad. Dainty Dev.* (1578) 7 b, When I..mette in mind eache steppe youth strayed a wry. 1876 BLACKIE *Songs Relig. & Life* 48 All men Who..mete with kingly ken The starry-peopled sky.

b. To be the 'measure' of. *poet. rare.*

1844 MRS. BROWNING *Drama of Exile* Poems 1850 I. 52 Cast out, cast down—What word metes absolute loss?

†**c.** To complete the full 'measure' or amount of. Also with *forth, out. Obs.*

1600 FAIRFAX *Tasso* xv. xxxix. 274 Nor yet the time hath Titans gliding fire Met forth. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 12 Their Wings..mete out twice their length. *Ibid.* 240 To Bury metes out Twelve Miles more. 1791 BURNS *To Mr. Maxwell of Terraughty on his Birthday* ii, This day thou metes threescore eleven.

†**2.** *absol.* or *intr.* To take measurements; = MEASURE *v.* 1 b. *Obs.*

1388 WYCLIF *Exod.* xvi. 18 Thei metiden [1382 mesurden] at the mesure gomor. *c* 1483 CAXTON *Dialogues* 16 Dame, mete well. 1530 PALSGR. 635/2, I wyll nat mete by your busshell. 1649 R. HODGES *Plain Direct.* 13 A yard to mete withal.

†**b.** To measure distances *for* shooting at a mark; hence, to aim *at. Obs.*

1534 MORE *Comf. agst. Trib.* I. Wks. 1157/2 We shal nowe meate for the shoote and consider..how farre of your arrowes are from the prik. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* IV. i. 134 Let the mark haue a pricke in't to meat at.

†**3.** *trans.* To mark (*out*) the boundary or course of; = MEASURE *v.* 3. *Obs.*

In late use prob. regarded as a derivative of METE *sb.*[1]

c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* lix. 9, & ȝemære ȝetelda ic meotu [Vulg. *metibor*]. *a* 1000 *Cædmon's Exod.* 92 (Gr.) Wicsteal metan. 1382 WYCLIF *Deut.* xxi. 2 The spacis of alle the cytees bi enuyroun shal be meetid from the place of the careyn. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 336/1 Meete londe, or set bowndys, *meto*. 1513 [see MEASURE *v.* 3]. 1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* lix. [lx.] 6, I wil deuyde Sichem, & mete out the valley of Suchoth. 1567 DRANT *Horace, Ep.* I. xvi. E vij, Hebrus that meteth Thracia. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* I. 96 He met out a large and great circuit of ground. 1609 SKENE *Reg. Maj.* 29 Command sall be giuen to the Schiref, to cause mett, and measure the samine [*sc.* a dowry]. 1632 HEYWOOD *1st Pt. Iron Age* I. i. Wks. 1874 III. 267 Of all your flourishing line..Not one shal liue to meate your Sepulchre. *a* 1637 B. JONSON *Sad Shepherd* I. ii, And a fair dial to mete out the day. 1819 W. TENNANT *Papistry Storm'd* (1827) 137 The heralds had the rink-room metit, The barriers set, and lists completit.

4. To estimate the greatness or valuc of; to appraise; = MEASURE *v.* 6. *arch.*

In *OE.* also = to compare (const. *wið, be*).

c 888 K. ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xiii. § 1 Ne sint hi no wið eow to metanne. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 133 Se sweȝ was þæs Halȝan Gastes be winde meten. 1382 WYCLIF 2 *Cor.* x. 12 We metinge, or mesuringe, vs in vs silf, and comparisownynge vs silf to vs. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* II. iv. (1495) 31 They [aungels] deuyde mete and waye all mennes werkes good and cuyll. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xxiii. 116 þat goddis sone is þis, Euyn with hym mette and all myghty. 1595 SPENSER *Col. Clout* 365 For not by measure of her owne great mynd, And wondrous worth, she mott my simple song. 1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV*, IV. iv. 77 A Patterne, or a Measure..By which his Grace must mete the liues of others. 1702 JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1830) III. 489 A simple measure by which every one could mete their merit. 1866 J. H. NEWMAN *Gerontius* § 3 Spirits and men by different standards mete The less and greater in the flow of time.

†**5.** To traverse (a distance); = MEASURE *v.* 11. Also *absol.* or *intr.* (and *refl.*) To go, procced. *Obs.*

Beowulf 1633 Ferdon forð..foldweȝ mæton. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 7695 Himself fra erth, upward met þat way, When he stey tylle heven. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 455 þan metis he him to Messadone. *Ibid.* 4803 þan metis he doun of þe mounte in-to a mirk vale. 1621 QUARLES *Feast for Worms* viii. G 3, A Citty..whose ample wall, Who vnder-takes to mete with paces, shall [etc.]. 1697 CREECH tr. *Manilius* III. 107 Take all that space the Sun Meets out, when every daily Round is Run.

impers. pass. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 374 Qwen it was metyn to þe merke þat men ware to ryst. *Ibid.* 564 Fra þe none tyme Till it to mydday was meten on þe morne efter.

6. (Often with *out.*) To apportion by measure; to assign in portions; to portion or deal out; *esp.* to allot (punishment, praise, reward, etc.).

Uncommon till the 19th c.; now the chief current sense, but only in literary use.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 26529 [Christ] þat metes ilk man his mede. *a* 1600 MONTGOMERIE *Misc. Poems* ii. 23 Thou..mett thame moonshyn ay for meill. 1676 TOWERSON *Decalogue* 463 Our recreations should be meted by smaller portions. 1721 RAMSAY *Tartana* 263 When beauty's to be judg'd without a vail, And not its powers met out as by retail, But wholesale. 1798 MALTHUS *Popul.* (1817) I. 278 The food of the country would be meted out..in the smallest shares that could support life. 1842 TENNYSON *Ulysses* 3, I mete and dole Unequal laws unto a savage race. 1858 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* IV. viii. (1872) II. 17 His very sleep was stingily meted out to him. 1878 H. M. STANLEY *Dark Cont.* II. xiii. 382 What punishment shall I mete to this thief?

†**Mete,** *v.*[2] *Obs.* Forms: *Inf.* 1 mǽtan, 3–6 mete, 4 meete(n, 6 meit. *Pa. t.* 1 mǽtte, 1–5 mete, 3 matte, 3–5 mette, 3–6 mett, 3–7 met. *Pa. pple.* 3 imet, 3–4 met, 4 mete, 4–5 ymet. [OE. *mǽtan* wk. vb.; not found outside English.]

1. *impers. Me mette*: it occurred to me in a dream; I dreamt. Also with *sb.*, as *me mette sweven*, I dreamt a dream.

The analogy of ON. *draum dreymdi mik* (see DREAM *v.*[2] 3) suggests taking *sweven* (or equivalent sb.) as accus. and the vb. as impers.; on the other hand, the sb. may be the nom. and the vb. may have the meaning 'to occur to (a person) in a dream'.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gen.* xxxvii. 5 Witodlice hit ȝelamp þæt hine mætte. *c* 1000 — *Deut.* xiii. 1 Gif æniȝ witeȝa .. secge þæt him mætte swefen. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 4140 At tyme of midniȝt of þe niȝt him mette a greuous cas. ? *a* 1366 CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 26 Me mette swiche a swevening, That lykede me wonders wel. *c* 1385 — *L. G. W.* Prol. 210 Me mette how I lay in the medewe thoo. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. VI. 109 Thenne mette [*v.r.* mete] me moche more þan ich hy-fore tolde Of þe mater þat ich mette fyrst on maluerne hulles. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 422 Quen he wroȝt had his will þen witrely him metis, þat he bowes to hire belecbiste. *a* 1643 W. CARTWRIGHT *Ordinary* II. ii. (1651) 26 All night me met eke that I was at Kirke. [The speaker is 'Robert Moth, an Antiquary'.]

2. *trans.* To dream (a dream, *that* something happened, etc.).

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* III. 176 Gyf man mete þæt he fela gosa hæbbe. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 281/104 Seint Domenic matte..þat seint petur him bi-tok Ane staf. 13.. *Seuyn Sag.* (W.) 2063 Ich mot mete a sweuen to-night. *c* 1381 CHAUCER *Parl. Foules* 104 The louere met he hath his lady wonne. *c* 1430 *Hymns Virg.* 81 Al þat we haue lyued heere, It is but as a dreem y-met. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* II. v. 36 The first quiet Of naturale sleip..Stelis on fordoverit mortale creaturis, And in thair swewynnis metis quent figuris. *c* 1570 *Pride & Lowl.* (1841) 65, I..mused of these matters that I mett.

3. *intr.* To dream (*of*).

a 1300 *K. Horn* 1522 (Camb. MS.) þat niȝt horn gan swete, And heuie for to mete Of Rymenhild his make. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. XII. 167 In a wynkynge ich worth and wonderliche ich mette. *c* 1430 *Syr Gener.* (Roxb.) 6567 Al night I haue of him met.

Hence **I-met** *ppl. a.*

a 1225 *Juliana* 74 Ant as imet sweuen aswindeð hire murhðen.

†**Mete,** *v.*[3] *Obs.* [OE. *mǽtan*; not found outside Eng.] *trans.* and *intr.* To paint, design.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gram.* xxviii. (Z.) 174 *Pingo* ic mete. *c* 1200 ORMIN 1047 Þe33 haffdenn liccness meteddᵹ Off Cherubyn. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2701 He carf..Two likenesses, so grauen & meten [etc.].

Mete: see MATE *a.*, MEAT, MEET, MET.

†**Metecorn.** *Obs.* Also 4 mette-, 5 met-. [OE., f. *mǽte* MEAT *sb.* + CORN[1].] An allowance (properly, of corn) made to servants, to inmates of a hospital, etc.

1050 in Thorpe *Charters* (1865) 580 Ilk hahbe his..metecu & his metecorn. 1320 *Rolls of Parl.* I. 367/1 Stipendia & metecorn, ac cetera debita seruientum in monasterio predicto. 1385–6 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 391 Tribus seruientibus apud le Hough pro le mettecorn. 1402–3 *Ibid.* 218 Pro frumento et pecunia datis pro metkorn hominibus de hospitalibus de Witton et de Maudelens. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 335/2 Mete corne, *panicium*. 1522–3 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 255 Pro le metcorn sowlsilver et aliis necessariis. [1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey).]

†**Mete-custi,** *a. Obs.* Also -cousti. [f. MEAT *sb.* + CUSTI *a.*, liberal.] Liberal with food, hospitable.

c 1205 LAY. 19932 He wes mete-custi [*c* 1275 mete-cousti]. *Ibid.* 23257.

Meted (mī·tĕd), *ppl. a.* [f. METE *v.*[1] + -ED[1].] Measured; apportioned.

1775 ASH, *Meted*, measured, reduced to a measure. 1887 MORRIS *Odyss.* XI. 185 In peace Telemachus dwelleth, and meted feasts doth he share.

Meteer, obs. form of METRE.

†**Metefetill.** *Obs.* [OE. *mǽtefǽtels*: see MEAT *sb.* and FETLES.] A cupboard for food.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 107/5 *Sitarchia*, metefætels, *uel* sceatcod. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 335/2 Metefytel [*printed* metesytel], to keep in mete [*Pynson* mete fetyll or almery], *cibilum*.

†**Metegift,** *a. Obs.* [f. *mete* MEAT *sb.* + ? GIFT. (The formation of the second element is obscure.) Cf. MEAT-GIVER.] Hospitable.

a 1400 *R. Brunne's Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 4076 (Petyt MS.), & metegift man viandoure [*Lamb. MS.* & lyberal man, & vyaundour].

†**Metekin.** *Obs.* Also 3 mætecun. [f. *mete* MEAT *sb.* + KIN *sb.*[1]] Kind of food; provision.

c 1200 ORMIN 8645 þin Laferrd Godd Allmahhtiȝ wat..þatt nafe icc nohht off metekinn Till me. *c* 1205 LAY. 941 þat..he us ȝeue..al his beste mæte cun.

Metel (mī·tĕl). Also 6 methel. [a. mod.L. *methel*, a. Arab. جوز ماثل *jauz māṯil* (where *jauz* means 'nut'). Cf. F. *noix met(h)elle* 'thorn-apple' (Cotgr.), *métel* = sense b (Littré).] †**a.** *Methel nut, nut methel*: a narcotic fruit or seed described by Avicenna as resembling a nut covered with small spines, and also as similar to nux vomica; probably the Thorn-apple, *Datura Stramonium. Obs.* **b.** In the form *Metel*, applied by Linnæus as the specific name of the Hairy Thorn-apple, *Datura Metel*, and hence sometimes used as the Eng. name of that plant.

1528 PAYNEL *Salerne's Regim.* (1541) 63 The nutte methel which, as Auicen saythe, is venomous, wherfore hit sleeth. 1568 TURNER *Herbal* III. 49 Of the nutte called the vomitinge nutt, and of the nut of Methel. The vomitinge nut and the Methel are not in al poyntes vnlyke..Matthiolus writeth that the flat nuttes like litle cheses which haue ben solde hytherto: for vomitinge nuttes are nuttes methel, and they that haue bene hytherto vsed for methel nuttes are the righte *nuces vomicæ*. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. lvii. 278 The first of these Thorne apples may be called in Latin *Stramonia*, and *Pomum* or *Malum spinosum*.. of Serapio and others it is thought to be *Nux methel*: Serapio in his 375. chapter saith, that *Nux methel* is like vnto *Nux vomica*. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp., Metel*, .. the name of a sort of *nux vomica*, of the same shape with the common kind, but somewhat larger. 1887 MOLONEY *Forestry W. Afr.* 395 Metel or Hairy Thorn Apple.

Meteles: see METELS and MEATLESS.

†**Meteline.** *Obs.* [f. METE *v.*[1] + LINE *sb.*[1] Cf. Du. *meetlijn*.] A measuring line.

1535 COVERDALE 2 *Chron.* iv. 2 A metelyne of thirtie cubites. 1583 GOLDING *Calvin on Deut.* xi. 63 Hee..hath stretched out his meeteline to appoint euery people their countrey to dwell in.

†Metels. *Obs.* Also meteles, -is, -us, meetel(e)s, metals. [f. METE *v.*[2] + -ELS.] A dream.

1340 *Ayenb.* 165 Ydelnesse be bysihede. Vor þise bysyhedes byeþ ase meteles. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. VIII. 131 Musyng on þis Meeteles [*v.r.* metelis, 1393 C. X. 297 meteles] A myle wei Ich ȝeode. 1382 WYCLIF *Acts* ii. 17 ȝoure eldris schulen dreme meetels.

Metely, obs. form of MEETLY *a.* and *adv.*

Metembryo (metɛ·mbrĭ,o). [f. META- + EMBRYO.] The gastrula stage of a metazoon.

1887 HYATT in *Proc. Boston Soc. Nat. Hist.* 397 The proper name for these stages would .. be Metembryo, in allusion to the fact that the ovum at this stage is probably essentially a Metazoon.

Hence **Metembryo·nic** *a.*, 'of or pertaining to a metembryo' (*Cent. Dict.* 1890).

Metempiric (metempi·rik). [f. META- + EMPIRIC.

Introduced, together with the related words, by G. H. Lewes in 1874.]

1. (Also **Metempirics** with sing. construction: cf. *metaphysic, metaphysics.*) The philosophy of things that lie outside the sphere of knowledge derived from experience.

The writers quoted differ greatly in their application of the term, but the question between them is what is meant by 'experience'; the definition given above would be accepted on both sides.

1874 LEWES *Probl. Life & Mind* Ser. I. I. 18 Metempirics sweeps out of this region in search of the *otherness* of things. *a* 1881 A. BARRATT *Phys. Metempiric* xi. (1883) 130 Any metempiric which does more than numerically multiply, or vary in degree, existence such as we have it in experience, or which postulates beings whose qualities bear no resemblance to those of experience, must be at once rejected.

2. One who believes in or supports metempirical philosophy; a metempiricist.

a 1881 A. BARRATT *Phys. Metempiric* iii. (1883) 19 Every man who believes in the consciousness of his fellows—every man who uses the word 'we'—is a Metempiric. 1882 in OGILVIE, and in later Dicts.

Metempirical (metempi·rikăl), *a.* [f. META- + EMPIRICAL.] Pertaining to matters outside the range of knowledge derived from experience. Also, of opinions and their advocates: Maintaining the validity of concepts and beliefs based otherwise than on experience.

1874 LEWES *Probl. Life & Mind* Ser. I. I. 17 If then the Empirical designates the province we include within the range of Science, the province we exclude may fitly be styled the Metempirical. *a* 1881 A. BARRATT *Phys. Metempiric* ii. (1883) 17 The simplest Metempirical assumption, and one made by every man, is that there *is* a Metempirical existence, that he and his own experience are not all that has ever existed. 1888 *Athenæum* 11 Feb. 184 It appropriated for empiricism doctrines hitherto the special property of metempirical schools.

Hence **Metempi·rically** *adv.*, in a metempirical sense or manner.

1884 *Spectator* 2 Feb. 161 Every atom .. is .. 'metempirically', as he [*sc.* Barratt] calls it—a centre of consciousness.

Metempiricism (metempi·risiz'm). [f. METEMPIRIC + -ISM.] Metempirical philosophy.

1882 in OGILVIE.

Metempiricist (metempi·risist). [Formed as prec. + -IST.] = METEMPIRIC *sb.* 2.

1874 LEWES *Probl. Life & Mind* Ser. I. I. 28 *note*, The distinction between the empiricist and metempiricist. 1874 — in *Contemp. Rev.* XXIV. 689 This is the empirical standpoint. It is of course disputed by metempiricists.

Metempsychic, *a. rare.* [f. METEMPSYCHOSIS after *psychic.*] Pertaining to metempsychosis.

1886 LADY BURTON *Arab. Nts.* (Abr. ed.) I. Foreword 7 A reminiscence of some by-gone metempsychic life in the distant Past.

†Metempsychize, *v. Obs.* [f. METEMPSYCH-OSIS + -IZE.] = METEMPSYCHOSE *v.*

1618 *Barnevelt's Apol.* Ded. A iv, Lest I also .. bee commanded .. to metempsychize and turne my selfe into a Swine.

Metempsycho·sal, *a.* [f. METEMPSYCHOS-IS + -AL.] Of the nature of metempsychosis.

1848 *Tait's Mag.* XV. 704 Composed, or metempsycosal immortality, is one of the pivots of the system of harmony.

†Metempsychose, *sb. Obs.* [a. F. *métempsycose* (Charron, 16th c.), ad. late L. *metempsychōsis.*] = METEMPSYCHOSIS.

1630 LENNARD tr. *Charron's Wisd.* (1658) 32 The Metempsychose and transanimation of Pythagoras. 1786 HAN. MORE *Bas Bleu* 161 And he, who wilder studies chose [might] Find here a new metempsychose.

Metempsychose (metempsikō·z), *v.* Also 7 metempseuc(h)ose, -psuchose. [f. METEMPSYCHOS-IS.] *trans.* To transfer or translate (a soul) from one body to another. Also *transf.* and *fig.* Hence **Metempsycho·sed** *ppl. a.*

1594 W. PERCY *Coelia* (1877) 15 To other bodies of like simpathie, Thou art the last of these Metemps'chosed. *a* 1634 RANDOLPH *To Mr. Feltham* 10 When minds change oftner then the Greek could dream, That made the Metempseucos'd soule his theame. 1651 BIGGS *New Disp.* Pref. 5 It is great pity she [*sc.* England] should .. thereby have her metempseuchos'd Genius transmigrate into another People. *a* 1678 MARVELL *Loyal Scot* 167 Wks. (Grosart) I. 222 Lest in time he were Metempsychos'd to some Scotch Presbyter. 1843 *Fraser's Mag.* XXVIII. 277 Their passion .. having, in the meantime, metempsychosed itself into a platonisation.

†Metempsychosical, *a. Obs.* [Formed as prec. + -ICAL.] Relating to metempsychosis.

1622 'JACK DAWE' *Vox Graculi* 38 All Metempsichosicall coniectures.

Metempsychosis (metɛmpsikō·sis). Pl. -oses (-ō·sīz). Also 6 metempsichosis, 7 metempsuchosis, metemsychosis, metampsycosis, 7–8 metempsycosis. [Late L. *metempsȳchōsis*, a. Gr. *μετεμψύχωσις*, formed on the analogy of other nouns of action from *μετα-* META- + *ἐν* in + *ψῡχή* soul. Cf. F. *métempsychose.*

Formerly often stressed *metempsy·chosis*: cf. *metamorphosis.*]

Transmigration of the soul; passage of the soul from one body to another; *chiefly*, the transmigration of the soul of a human being or animal at or after death into a new body (whether of the same or a different species), a tenet of the Pythagoreans and certain Eastern religions, esp. Buddhism.

c 1590 MARLOWE *Faust.* (1604) F 2 b, Ah Pythagoras *metem su cossis* [sic] were that true, This soule should flie from me, and I be changde Vnto some brutish beast. 1591 JAS. I *Furies* 1059, *Poet. Exerc.* E 3 b, The Fond Metempsichosis straunge. 1606 DEKKER *Newes from Hell* Non-Dram. Wks. (Grosart) II. 103 Into whose soule (if euer there were a Pithagorean Metempsuchosis). 1659 T. PECKE *Parnassi Puerp.* 2 Suppose Pythagoras the white did kiss, When he talkt of a Metemsychosis. 1661 A. BROME *To Mr. J. B.* Poems 111 How great a joy 'twould be, how great a bliss, If we could have a *Metampsycosis*! 1682 SIR T. BROWNE *Chr. Mor.* III. § 23 Dream not of any kind of Metempsychosis or transanimation, but into thine own body, and that after a long time, and then also unto wail or bliss, according to thy first and fundamental Life. 1757 J. H. GROSE *Voy. E. Indies* 297 Their belief of the Metempsychosis makes them [Gentoos] extend it to every animated creature. *a* 1862 BUCKLE *Misc. Wks.* (1872) I. 330 In the oldest Hindoo book we find the metempsychosis into animals.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1619 PURCHAS *Microcosmus* lix. 593 If .. it [Athens] be there sunke into the ground, and be by some Metempsychosis reuiued in England. *a* 1834 COLERIDGE *Shaks. Notes* (1849) 23 Follow the wandering spirit of poetry through its various metempsychoses, and consequent metamorphoses. 1864 LOWELL *Fireside Trav.* 298 Departed empire has a metempsychosis, if nothing else has.

Metempsychosist (metempsikō·sist). [f. METEMPSYCHOS-IS + -IST. Cf. F. *métempsychosiste.*] One who believes in metempsychosis.

1834 J. WHITE *Let.* in Mrs. Gordon *'Chr. North'* xiv. (1879) 390 Have you ever thought of making Hogg a metempsychosist? what a famous description he would give of his feelings when he was a whale..or a tiger [etc.]. 1885 MRS. LYNN LINTON *C. Kirkland* I. vii. 198 She was..in a sense a metempsychosist, and believed that we had all known each other in another life—all of us who loved in this.

Metempsychosize (metempsikō·səiz), *v.* [f. as prec. + -IZE.] *trans.* = METEMPSYCHOSE *v.*

a 1843 SOUTHEY *Doctor* ccxii. (1847) VII. 135 If Rhadamanthus and his colleagues..had..sewed him [Izaak Walton] metempsychosized into a frog, to the arming iron, with a fine needle and silk, with only one stitch.

‖ Metemptosis (metemptō·sis). [mod.L., f. Gr. *μετά* after + *ἔμπτωσις*, n. of action of *ἐμπίπτειν* to fall in or upon. In F. *métemptose.*] The solar equation necessary to prevent the calendar new moon from happening a day too late. (The opposite of *proemptosis.*)

1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v., By the metemptosis, a bissextile is suppressed each one hundred thirty four years, that is, three times in four hundred years.

†Me·ten, *ppl. a.* Also meeten. [Strong pa. pple. of METE *v.*[1]] Measured.

c 1375 *Cursor M.* 7332 (Fairf.) He [Saul] was heyer þen any man large bi a meten span. 16.. *Will Stewart & John* xvii. in Child *Ballads* II. 434/1 And as they did come home againe—I-wis itt was a meeten mile.

Metencephalon (metense·fălɒn). *Anat.* Also mete·ncephal. [mod.L., f. Gr. *μετά* after + *ἐγκέφαλ-ος* brain, f. *ἐν* in + *κεφαλ-ή* head.] a. In Huxley's use: The cerebellum with the pons Varolii. b. 'The posterior division of the third, or posterior primary, cerebral vesicle. It corresponds with the medulla oblongata, the fourth ventricle, and the auditory nerve' (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1890).

1871 HUXLEY *Anat. Vert.* 57. 1876 *Quain's Anat.* (ed. 8) II. 755 Metencephalon. Medulla Oblongata, Fourth Ventricle, Auditory nerve .. afterbrain. 1882 WILDER & GAGE *Anat. Techn.* 419 Note the lateral expansion of the myelon to form the metencephalon (medulla). 1889 *Buck's Handbk. Med. Sci.* VIII. 123/2 Metencephal.

Hence **Metencepha·lic** *a.*, of or pertaining to the metencephalon. 1890 *Century Dict.*

‖ Metensarcosis (metensākō·sis). [f. Gr. *μετα-* (denoting change) + *ἐνσάρκωσις* (f. *ἐν* in + *σάρξ* flesh), after *metensomatosis*: see -OSIS.] The transference of the flesh of one body to another.

1875 A. W. WARD *Hist. Dram. Lit.* II. 589 *note*, Almeria's offer to clothe the rotten bones of her (supposedly) dead lover with her own flesh—a species of metensarcosis altogether original.

‖ Metensomatosis (metensōmătō·sis). Also 7 metempsomatosis. [mod.L., a. Gr. *μετενσωμάτωσις* (Clement of Alexandria), f. *μετα-* (denoting change) + *ἐνσωμάτωσις* (f. *ἐν* in + *σωματ-*, *σῶμα* body); see -OSIS.] a. Re-embodiment (of the soul). b. 'The transference of the elements of one body into another body and their conversion into its substance, as by decomposition and assimilation' (Ogilvie 1882).

1630 LORD *Banians* 51 Plato and Pythagoras that haue name for defending this Metempsychosis or Metempsomatosis. 1865 FARRAR *Chap. Lang.* iv. 50 Man's body .. is composed of the very same materials .. which constitute the inorganic world .. and which may serve in endless metensomatosis for we know not what organisms yet to come. 1890 *Contemp. Rev.* LVII. 262 The leading doctrine of Buddhism is the theory of metensomatosis.

‖ Metenteron (metɛ·ntərɒn). *Biol.* [mod.L., f. Gr. *μετά* after + ENTERON.] The enteron (or alimentary canal) in any modification of its primitive form. Hence **Metentero·nic** *a.* (in recent Dicts.).

1877 RAY LANKESTER in *Q. Jrnl. Microsc. Sci.* XVII. 419 Digestive Sac or Metenteron. *Ibid.* 428 When once the cælom is accomplished as a cavity definitely shut off from the 'metenteron'—the name we now give to what remains of the archenteron.

Meteor (mī·tĭ,ɒ). Also 6 metior, 6–7 meteore, 7 meator, meatu(a)re, meteour. [ad. mod.L. *meteōrum*, a. Gr. *μετέωρον* in pl. = atmospheric phenomena, subst. use of *μετέωρος* raised, lofty, 'sublimis', f. *μετα-* META- + *ἐωρ-* ablaut-var. of the root of *ἀείρειν* to lift up. Cf. F. *météore* (13–14th c.), It. *meteora*, Sp., Pg. *meteoro.*]

1. Any atmospheric phenomenon. Now chiefly confined to technical use.

Atmospheric phenomena were formerly often classed as *aerial* or *airy meteors* (winds), *aqueous* or *watery meteors* (rain, snow, hail, dew, etc.), *luminous meteors* (the aurora, rainbow, halo, etc.), and *igneous* or *fiery meteors* (lightning, shooting stars, etc.).

1471 RIPLEY *Comp. Alch.* Ep. iii. in Ashm. *Theat. Chem. Brit.* (1652) 111 In the boke of Meteors. 1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 352 Hoare frostes, .. and such like colde meteors. 1602 ROWLANDS *Tis Merrie when Gossips meete* 13 A vicious man is like a fyrie Meature, Which shewes farre off a terror to the eye. 1604 JAS. I *Counterbl.* (Arb.) 104 Vapours..are..turned into raine and such other watery Meteors. 1659 STANLEY *Hist. Philos., Epicurus* (1687) 902/1 These are the aerial Meteors. .. We shall begin with the Clouds. 1857 S. P. HALL in *Merc. Marine Mag.* (1858) V. 10 The centre of the meteor [a cyclone] passing to the southward of the island. 1866 WHITTIER *Snow-Bound* 46 In starry flake, and pellicle, All day the hoary meteor fell. 1905 *Edin. Rev.* Jan. 220 It is therefore incumbent on him to study the nature of these meteors [typhoons].

2. *spec.* a. A luminous body seen temporarily in the sky, and supposed to belong to a lower region than that of the heavenly bodies; a fireball or shooting star (in the 17th c. also †a comet).

In its modern restricted use, the term may be scientifically defined to mean: A small mass of matter from celestial space, rendered luminous by the heat engendered by collision with the earth's atmosphere.

1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II*, II. iv. 9 And Meteors fright the fixed Starres of Heauen. 1608 D. T[UVIL] *Ess. Pol. & Mor.* 90 The difference betweene a starre, and a Meteor. 1609 ARMIN *Maids of More-Cl.* (1880) 96 Pine let me in them, if the Sonne of hope Shine as a troubled meatnare in the sky. *a* 1625 FLETCHER *Hum. Lieut.* IV. viii, I am above your hate, as far above it, .. As the pure Stars are from the muddy meators. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* I. 537 Th' Imperial Ensign .. Shon like a Meteor streaming to the Wind. 1680 EVELYN *Diary* 12 Dec., I saw a meteor of an obscure bright colour, very much in shape like the blade of a sword. 1695 PRIOR *Eng. Ballad on Taking Namur* xii, If thou hadst dubb'd thy star a meteor, That did but blaze, and rove, and die. 1750 *Phil. Trans.* XLVII. 3 A meteor was seen at Norwich by thousands of people. 1819 S. ROGERS *Hum. Life* 35 And such is Human Life; .. It glimmers like a meteor and is gone. 1878 NEWCOMB *Pop. Astron.* III. v. 388 The varied phenomena of aërolites, meteors, shooting-stars.

b. Applied to other luminous appearances, as the aurora borealis, the ignis fatuus, etc.

1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* III. v. 13 Yond light is not daylight, .. It is some Meteor that the Sun exhales. 1783 HEY in *Phil. Trans.* LXXX. 39 A species of that kind of meteor called aurora borealis. 1786 tr. *Beckford's Vathek* 176 Those phosphoric meteors that glimmer by night in places of interment. 1847 LYTTON *Lucretia* II. Epil. III. 295 You may enlighten the clod, but the meteor still must feed on the marsh. 1868 FARRAR *Silence & V.* ii. (1875) 4 That he may plunge after the delusive meteor which flickers hither and thither over the marsh of death.

†c. *Next the meteors*: high up. *Obs. rare*[−1].

1638 BAKER tr. *Balzac's Lett.* (vol. III.) 49, I always find you in the chamber next to the Meteors; which high region I conceive you have chosen, that you may be the nearer to take the inspirations of heaven.

d. *loosely.* A meteoroid.

1884 *Leisure Hour* Nov. 681/1 To the meteors which thus move in streams the appropriate designation meteoroids has recently been given. 1903 A. R. WALLACE *Man's Place in Universe* vi. 119 Collisions of meteors within each swarm or cloud would produce luminous nebulosity.

3. *transf.* and *fig.* (from sense 2 a).

1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* IV. ii. 6 His hearts Meteors tilting in his face. 1643 SIR T. BROWNE *Relig. Med.* I. § 13 The Devils do know Thee, but those damned meteors Build not Thy Glory, but confound Thy Creatures. 1752 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 208 ₱ 3, I have seen the Meteors of fashion rise and fall. 1769 G. WHITE *Selborne* (1789) 70 Th' impatient damsel hung her lamp on high: True to the signal, by love's meteor led, Leander hasten'd to his Hero's bed.

†4. *pl.* A study of or a treatise on meteors. *Obs.*

1594 PLAT *Jewell-ho.* II. 40 Neither out of Aristotles physicks..nor Garseus meteors, nor out of any of the olde philosophicall Fathers, &c. 1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's*

Hist. Indies III. xiv. 162 This second opinion is true..not so much for the reasons which the Philosophers give in their Meteors, as [etc.]. 1656 EARL MONM. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* 257 Apollo some months ago..made Ptolemy, that prince of cosmographers, the chairman..to whom he gave Aristotle for his companion in Meteors, Euclid in the Mathematicks [etc.].

5. A name for a confection (see quot.).

1827 G. A. JARRIN *Hal. Confectioner* (ed. 3) 195 Meteors. Three whites of Eggs, 1lb. Sugar, made into Syrup, and any Essence you please.

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.* **a.** Simple attrib., as *meteor-field, -fire, -light, -shower*; *meteor-like* adj. and adv. **b.** obj., as *meteor-breathing, -eclipsing* adjs. **c.** instrumental, as *meteor-blazoned, -lighted* adjs. **d.** Special combs.: **meteor-cloud,** 'a cloud-like train left by a meteor in the upper air' (*Cent. Dict.* 1890), also 'an expanse of space thickly studded with meteors or meteoric particles' (*Cassell's Encycl. Dict.* 1885); **meteor-current,** 'the current or stream of meteors moving together in the same orbit' (*Ibid.*); **meteor-dust,** matter in a state of fine division, supposed to be diffused through interstellar space; **meteor-powder,** a powdered-up alloy which is mixed with steel to form *meteor-steel*; **meteor-spectroscopy,** the spectroscopic observation of meteors; **meteor-spectrum,** the spectrum produced by the light from a meteor; **meteor-steel,** an alloyed steel with a wavy appearance, resembling Damascus steel; **meteor-stone** = *meteoric stone* (see METEORIC 3); also *fig.*; **meteor-streak,** a streak of light left behind by a meteor after it has disappeared; **meteor-stream** = *meteor-current*; **meteor-swarm, -system,** an aggregation of meteoroids pursuing the same orbit.

1813 SCOTT *Trierm.* III. xiv, No misty phantom of the air, No *meteor-blazon'd show was there. 1819 SHELLEY *Prometh. Unb.* II. iii. 3 The mighty portal, Like a volcano's *meteor-breathing chasm. 1870 *Rep. Brit. Assoc.* 76 The *meteor-currents .. will shortly be supplemented [etc.]. 1869 HUXLEY *Lay Serm.* xi. (1870) 273 Sir W. Thomson..shows that *meteor-dust .. would account for the remainder of retardation. 1819 SHELLEY *Prometh. Unb.* IV. 5 For the sun..Hastes, in *meteor-eclipsing array. 1718 BLACKMORE *Alfred* x. (1723) 343 Their peaks survey the *Meteor-Fields below. 1753 MASON *Elegy to Yng. Noblem.* 23 The Muse full oft pursues a *meteor fire. 1804 CHARLOTTE SMITH *Conversations*, etc. I. 178 False *meteor-lights their steps entice. 1795 SOUTHEY *Joan of Arc* II. 149 Upon the topmost height the Maiden saw A *meteor-lighted dome. *a* 1631 DONNE *Calme* 22 We can nor lost friends, nor sought foes recover, But *meteorlike, save that wee move not, hover. 1646 CRASHAW *Musick's Duel* 137 The lute..Whose flourish (meteor-like) doth curle the aire With flash of high-borne fancyes. 1813 BYRON *Giaour* vii, As meteor-like thou glidest by. 1827 *Repert. Patent Invent.* III. 206 The mixture.. we call *meteor powder, 1877 G. F. CHAMBERS *Astron.* IX. iii. (ed. 3) 798 Another *meteor shower of great importance occurs annually on August 10. 1881 HERSCHEL in *Nature* XXIV. 507 Some *meteor-spectrum observations, which.. unfold some of the most important results arrived at in *meteor-spectroscopy since its commencement in the year 1866. 1827 *Repert. Patent Invent.* III. 205 This said alloyed steel we [the patentees] call *meteor steel. 1822 MOORE *Mem.* (1853) IV. 153 One of those *meteor-stones which generate themselves so unaccountably in the high atmosphere of his fancy. 1869 *Rep. Brit. Assoc.* 216 Certain persistent *meteor-streaks determined by Professor Newton in the United States, on the 14th of November last. 1877 G. F. CHAMBERS *Astron.* X. ii. (ed. 3) 835 The incalculable number of *meteor-streams that must exist in the solar system. *Ibid.*, The only *meteor-systems whose orbits have been determined travel on the same orbits with well-known comets.

7. Passing into *adj.* = **a.** Blazing or flashing like a meteor.

a 1711 KEN *Hymns Evang.* Poet. Wks. 1721 I. 88 A Crown of meteor-stars adorn'd his Head, All calculated for exciting Dread. 1765 BEATTIE *Judgm. Paris* xlix, Fate scatters lightning from thy meteor-shield. 1786 BURNS *Vision* II. xviii, Misled by Fancy's meteor-ray. 1799 CAMPBELL *Pleas. Hope* I. 59 With meteor-standard to the winds unfurl'd. 1801 — *Ye Mariners* iv, The meteor flag of England Shall yet terrific burn. 1810 *Associate Minstrels* 88 For thee his glowing torch did Genius fire:—Who now its meteor-brightness shall recal? 1864 BROWNING *Abt Vogler* iv, Meteor-moons, balls of blaze.

b. Of short duration, passing rapidly, transient.

1803 BEDDOES *Hygëia* x. 49 With the help of this scaffolding, his castles run up into the air with meteor rapidity. 1811 W. R. SPENCER *Poems* 49 Can bid the meteor-forms of mem'ry last. 1813 SHELLEY *Q. Mab* IV. 101 The meteor-happiness, that shuns his grasp. 1902 A. LANG *Hist. Scot.* II. xiii. 394 Bothwell's meteor course was run.

Meteoric (mītĭ,ŏ'rik), *a.* [Partly ad. med.L. *meteōric-us* ('elevatus, attentus', Du Cange), f. Gr. *μετέωρος* (see METEOR); partly f. METEOR + -IC. Cf. F. *météorique.*]

†**1. a.** Pertaining to the region of mid-air. **b.** *nonce-use.* Elevated, lofty. *Obs.*

a 1631 DONNE *Lett.* (1651) 46 Our nature is Meteorique, we respect (because we partake so) both earth and heaven. 1832 S. TURNER *Sacr. Hist.* I. i. 14 *note* (tr. Diodorus Siculus), The fiery particles ascended to the most meteoric or highest regions [Gr. *πρὸς τοὺς μετεωροτάτους τόπους*].

2. Of or pertaining to the atmosphere or its phenomena; meteorological, atmospherical.

1830 HERSCHEL *Stud. Nat. Phil.* III. iii. (1851) 286 The action of meteoric agents, rain, wind, frost, &c. 1834 MRS. SOMERVILLE *Connex. Phys. Sci.* xxvi. (1849) 299 Wind, rain, snow, fog, and the other meteoric phenomena. 1856–64 THOMAS *Med. Dict., Meteoric*...Applied..to waters which accrue from condensation of the vapours suspended in the atmosphere.

b. *Bot.* Dependent upon atmospheric conditions (see quots.).

1789 E. DARWIN *Bot. Gard.* II. 62 *note*, Linneus..divides them first into *meteoric* flowers, which..are expanded sooner or later, according to the cloudiness, moisture, or pressure of the atmosphere. 2d, *Tropical* flowers .. 3d, *Æquinoctial* flowers. 1849 J. H. BALFOUR *Man. Bot.* § 484 Many flowers, or heads of flowers, do not open during cloudy or rainy weather, and have been called *meteoric.* 1857 BERKELEY *Cryptog. Bot.* § 226 That a large portion of them [*sc.* fungi] are dependent entirely on matters contained in the air, and in consequence that many are essentially meteoric.

3. Of, pertaining to, or derived from meteors; consisting of meteors. *Meteoric stone* = METEORITE.

1812 SIR H. DAVY *Chem. Philos.* 424 In all the meteoric stones that have been examined it is remarkable that the iron is alloyed by from 1·5 to 17 per cent. of nickel. 1822 FARADAY *Exp. Res.* xvi. (1859) 70 Specimens of meteoric iron. 1835 OLMSTED in *Jrnl. Franklin Instit.* XVI. 374 On the morning of the 13th of November, there was a slight repetition of the *Meteoric Shower*, which presented so remarkable a spectacle on the corresponding morning of 1833. 1842 DICKENS *Amer. Notes* viii, Like something meteoric that has fallen down from the moon. 1856 KANE *Arct. Expl.* I. xxxi. 428 The annual meteoric shower. 1869 *Rep. Brit. Assoc.* 217 These meteoric epochs of the 10th, 20th, and 30th of April. 1870 *Ibid.* 78 Each of these meteoric dates in the coming year. 1897 W. F. DENNING in *Observatory* Mar. 123 Meteoric observers..are extremely fortunate as regards their prospects in the immediate future.

b. *Meteoric paper* = natural flannel (FLANNEL *sb.* 4). *Meteoric steel* = meteor steel (METEOR 6).

1831 J. HOLLAND *Manuf. Metal* I. 249 Meteoric steel. 1856 GRIFFITH & HENFREY *Microgr. Dict.* 424 Meteoric Paper.

4. *fig.* Transiently or irregularly brilliant, flashing or dazzling like a meteor; also rapid, swift.

1836 H. F. CHORLEY *Mrs. Hemans* (1837) I. 76 To his [Kean's] splendid meteoric talent she did full justice. 1861 CRAIK *Hist. Eng. Lit.* II. 235 The first Earl [of Shaftesbury], the famous meteoric politician of the reign of Charles II. 1895 *Daily Chron.* 16 Jan. 5/7 We had occasion to undertake a somewhat meteoric flight from Balmoral.

†**Meteo·rical,** *a. Obs. rare.* [Formed as prec.: see -ICAL.] = METEORIC *a.*

1651 BP. HALL *Soliloq.* xii. 42 The meteoricall light which appears in Moorish places. 1662 J. CHANDLER *Van Helmont's Oriat.* 119 Thus far the Church admitteth of Meteorical Predictions, the barrennesses of years, and their fruitfulnesses,..Plagues, inundations [etc.].

Meteorically (mītĭ,ŏ'rikăli), *adv.* [f. METEORIC: see -ICALLY.] In accordance with atmospheric conditions.

1882 VINES tr. *Sachs' Bot.* 875 A rise of temperature at 3 a.m. distinctly accelerated the assumption of the diurnal position by the leaves of *Impatiens*, but it seemed to have little or no effect upon other meteorically sensitive leaves.

Meteorism (mītĭ,ŏ'riz'm). *Path.* [ad. medical L. *meteōrism-us*, a. Gr. *μετεωρισμ-ός* elevation, f. *μετεωρίζειν* (see METEORIZE). Cf. F. *météorisme* (16th c., Paré).] Flatulent distention of the abdomen with gas in the alimentary canal.

1843 R. J. GRAVES *Syst. Clin. Med.* x. 109 Tenderness of the belly, meteorism and exhausting diarrhœa. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 576 Diarrhœa..with meteorism.

‖ **Meteorismus** (mītĭ,ŏri·zmŭs). [See prec.]

1. *Path.* = METEORISM.

1879 *St. George's Hosp. Rep.* IX. 735 Meteorismus is an early symptom in intussusception. *Ibid.*, Meteorismus is restrained somewhat by the external application of ice.

2. = SUBLIMATION. 1890 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

Meteorist (mītĭ,ŏrist). [f. METEOR + -IST.] One versed in the study of meteors.

1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 19 Jan. 8/1 Our Leading Meteorist.

Meteoristic (mītĭ,ŏri·stik), *a. Path.* [f. METEORISM: see -ISTIC.] Pertaining to or affected by meteorism.

1877 tr. *von Ziemssen's Cycl. Med.* VII. 609 These overloaded and meteoristic loops [of intestine]. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 872 The abdomen soon becomes retracted in cholera, but meteoristic in acute strangulation.

Meteorite (mītĭ,ŏrəit). [f. METEOR + -ITE[1].] A fallen meteor; a mass of stone or iron, that has fallen from the sky upon the earth; a meteoric stone. Also (*loosely*), a meteor or meteoroid.

1834 OLMSTED in *Amer. Jrnl. Sci.* XXVI. 132 Although bodies of this class, or *Meteorites*, may occasionally present the same appearance as a 'shooting star', yet [etc.]. 1853 PHILLIPS *Rivers Yorks.* iii. 106 A great meteorite or mass of iron 56 lbs. in weight fell from the sky. 1874 TAIT *Rec. Adv. Phys. Sci.* x. (1876) 254 Meteorites, the so-called falling stars,..follow a perfectly definite track in space.

attrib. 1880 AGNES GIBERNE *Sun, Moon & Stars* 216 Among the many different Meteorite-rings which are known, two of the most important are the so-called August and November systems. *Ibid.*, A certain number of meteorite-systems are now pretty well known to astronomers.

Hence **Me·teori·tal, Meteori·tic** *adjs.*, of, pertaining to, or relating to meteorites.

1867–77 G. F. CHAMBERS *Astron.* 781 The produce of a meteoritic shower may be divided into meteoric iron and meteoric stone. 1889 A. WINCHELL in J. C. Irons *J. Croll* (1896) 466 The theory of meteorital aggregation.

Meteorization (mītĭ,ŏrəizē'·ʃən). *Path.* [f. next + -ATION.] 'The state or process of generating gas in the abdomen' (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1890). 1856 in MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*

†**Meteorize,** *v. Obs.* or *arch.* [ad. Gr. *μετεωρίζειν* to elevate (*μετεωριζόμενος* suffering from flatulency), f. *μετέωρ-ος* raised, lofty: see METEOR and -IZE. Cf. F. *météoriser.*]

1. *trans.* To vaporize, convert into vapour. Also *intr.* to become vaporized, pass into the air in vapour. Only in Evelyn, who uses it frequently.

1657–83 EVELYN *Hist. Relig.* (1850) I. 27 The grosser exhalations are meteorized, circulated, and condensed into clouds. 1664 — *Sylva* (1679) 29 The dew that impearls the leaves [of oaks] in May, insolated, meteorizes and sends up a liquor, which is of admirable effect in ruptures. 1675 — *Terra* (1676) 173 Of all Waters, that which descends from Heaven, we find to be the richest..; as having been already meteoriz'd, and circulated in that great digestory.

2. *intr.* To resemble a meteor; to flash, sparkle.

1828 *Blackw. Mag.* XXIV. 268 It was imperative upon them to scintillate—to coruscate—to meteorize—to make the natives..believe that 'a new sun had risen on mid-day'.

3. *trans.* To affect with meteorism. 1826 [see next].

Me·teorized, *ppl. a. Path.* [f. prec. + -ED[1].] Characterized by meteorism.

1826 H. BEST *Four Yrs. France* 347 This proceeded from a meteorized state of the bowels.

Meteorograph (mītĭ,ŏrŏgraf). [a. F. *météorographe*, f. Gr. *μετεωρο-* METEOR + *-γράφος* -GRAPH.] An apparatus for automatically recording several different kinds of meteorological phenomena at the same time.

1780 *Monthly Rev.* LXIII. 499 A piece of mechanism, which he [Magellan] calls a *perpetual meteorograph.* 1879 *Smithsonian Rep.* (1880) 519 A universal meteorograph, designed for detached observatories. 1900 *Standard* 21 July 3/1 A Richard meteorograph..by which traces of the barometric pressure, temperature, and humidity are continuously and automatically recorded on rotating papered cylinders.

Meteorography (mītĭ,ŏrŏ·grăfi). [f. Gr. *μετεωρο-* METEOR + *-γραφία* -GRAPHY.] The descriptive science of meteors, or of meteorological phenomena.

1736 BAILEY (folio) Pref., *Meteorography*..a Treatise or Description of Meteors. 1776 B. MARTIN *Bibl. Technol.* (ed. 4) 330 Meteorography is a description of the meteors of the air; as vapours, clouds, rain, thunder, &c.

Hence **Meteorogra·phic, -gra·phical** *adjs.*, of or pertaining to meteorography.

1867 *Every Saturday* IV. 472 (Poole's Index), Meteorographical Apparatus. 1882 OGILVIE, *Meteorographic*; and in recent Dicts.

Meteoroid (mītĭ,ŏroid), *a.* and *sb.* [f. METEOR + -OID.] **a.** *sb.* A body moving through space, of the same nature as those which when passing through the atmosphere become visible as meteors. **b.** *adj.* Of the nature of a meteoroid.

1865 H. A. NEWTON in *Amer. Jrnl. Sci.* Ser. II. XXXIX. 198 The term *meteoroid* will be used to designate such a body before it enters the earth's atmosphere. 1867 PHIPSON *Meteors*, etc. xvi. 176 The perturbations of meteoroid masses circulating in space..must be considerable. *Ibid.* 178 The satellite and planetary theories of meteoroids. 1871 *Rep. Brit. Assoc.* 45 A very small nebular mass of meteoroids or of cometoids having been deflected [etc.].

Hence **Meteoroi·dal** *a.*, of or pertaining to meteoroids.

1881 *Smithsonian Rep.* 29 This remarkable group of planetoidal or meteoroidal bodies forms a tolerably wide zone or ring between the orbits of Mars and Jupiter. 1883 *American* VII. 152 The meteoroidal or cosmical dust of the realms of space.

Meteorolite (mītĭ,ŏrŏləit). Also 9 meteorolithe. [ad. F. *météorolithe*, f. Gr. *μετεωρο-* METEOR + *λίθος* stone: see -LITE.] = METEORITE.

1812 SOUTHEY *Omniana* II. 204 [*heading of paragraph*] Meteorolithes. 1821 URE *Dict. Chem., Meteorolites*, or *Meteoric Stones.* 1822 P. CLEAVELAND *Min. & Geol.* (ed. 2) II. 772 Meteorolite. *a* 1835 MCCULLOCH *Attributes* (1837) II. 412 If the meteorolites should ever be proved to be fragments of the presumed planet. 1866 HERSCHEL *Fam. Lect. Sci.* ii. 73 Meteorolites which..have come to the earth from very remote regions of the Planetary spaces.

Hence **Meteoroli·tic** *a.*

1824 MACCULLOCH *Highl. Scot.* IV. 159 It is more ingenious to imagine the fashion derived from some similar respect paid to a meteorolitic Palladium in former days.

†**Meteoro·loger.** *Obs.* [f. Gr. *μετεωρολόγ-ος*: see METEOR and -LOGER.] = METEOROLOGIST.

1683 J. GADBURY in *Wharton's Wks.* Pref. 15 The watchful and industrious Meteorologer, who makes it his Work to attend the Motions of Winds, Rains, Thunders. 1686 GOAD *Celest. Bodies* II. i. 147 The Trajections and shooting of the Stars..of which Meteorologers write.

†**Meteorolo·gian.** *Obs.* [Formed as prec.: see -LOGIAN.] = METEOROLOGIST.

1614 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (ed. 2) 537 The Athenians persecuted Naturall Philosophers, and Meteorlogians [*sic*], as aduersaries to Diuinitie. 1635 PERSON *Varieties* I. 18 These our meteorologians call *Ignes fatui*,..wildefires. *Ibid.* II. 55.

Meteorologic (mītĭ,ŏrŏlo·dʒik), *a.* [Formed as next: see -LOGIC.] = next.

1760 WINTHROP in *Phil. Trans.* LII. 7 But no such thing occurs at present; unless you should be of opinion, that the two following accounts, in the meteorologic way, are so in some degree. 1857 H. SPENCER in *Westm. Rev.* Apr. 447 Not only has every extensive region its own meteorologic conditions, but [etc.]. 1873 *Nature* 11 Dec. 103/2 Meteorologic sections of the atmosphere.

Meteorological (mītĭ,ŏrŏlo·dʒikăl), *a.* (*sb.*) [f. Gr. *μετεωρολογικ-ός*, f. *μετεωρο-* METEOR: see -LOGIC and cf. F. *météorologique.*] Pertaining to

or connected with the science of meteorology. Also, pertaining to atmospheric phenomena.

1570 DEE *Math. Pref.* b iij b, His [Aristotle's] Meteorologicall bookes, are full of..demonstrations of the..power of the heauenly bodies. 1572 R. T. *Discourse* Ep., The generation and causes of Raine, Winde, Snowe, and such Meteorologicall things. 1674 BOYLE *Excell. Theol.* i. iii. 93 His Meteorological Epistle to Pythocles. 1791 BOSWELL *Johnson* (1831) I. 307 A very curious meteorological instrument. 1803 *Med. Jrnl.* X. 313 As I kept no meteorological diary, the facts relative to the weather are deduced from my memory. 1840 *Abstr. Papers in Phil. Trans.* (1843) IV. 200 Meteorological Register kept at Port Arthur, Van Diemen's Land, during the year 1838.

Meteorologically (mītɪ̆ɹɒ·lɒ·dʒikălĭ), *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY².] According to or by means of the science of meteorology; with regard to meteorological facts.

a 1673 Jos. CARYL in Spurgeon *Treas. Dav.* Ps. xxix. 2 David answereth meteorologically as well as theologically. 1794 SULLIVAN *View Nat.* I. 336 This vapour..or as it is meteorologically explained, this thin vesicle of water, or other humid matter. 1894 *Naturalist* 13 The season..will long he remembered meteorologically on account of the marvellous weather experienced.

†**Meteorologi·cian.** *Obs. rare.* [f. Gr. *μετεωρολόγος*: see METEOROLOGER and -ICIAN.] = METEOROLOGIST.

1580 G. HARVEY in *Three Proper Lett.* 21 Aristotle, Plinie, and other Meteorologicians. 1588 J. HARVEY *Disc. Probl.* 91 A cunning Astronomer, and expert Meteorologician.

†**Meteorologics,** *sb. pl. Obs.* [repr. Gr. *τὰ μετεωρολογικά*, neut. pl. of *μετεωρολογικός* METEOROLOGIC: see -ICS.] = METEOROLOGY.

(In quots. representing the title of Aristotle's treatise.)

1700 S. PARKER *Six Philos. Ess.* 45 Aristotle..in his Second Book of Meteorologicks. 1837 WHEWELL *Hist. Induct. Sci.* I. 41 The 'Meteorologics' [of Aristotle]..does not exhibit the doctrines..of the school in so general a form.

Meteorologist (mītɪ̆ɹɒ·lŏdʒist). [f. Gr. *μετεωρολόγος* (see METEOROLOGER): see -LOGIST and cf. F. *météorologiste.*] One who is skilled in meteorology.

1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* I. ii. I. ii. (1651) 46 Whirlewindes ..and..stormes; which..our Meteorologists generally refer to natural causes. 1685 BOYLE *Effects of Mot.* ii. 14 The wonderful effects Lightning has produced: of which effects .. the Writings of Meteorologists afford good store. 1820 SCORESBY *Acc. Arctic Reg.* I. 348 Professor Leslie .. in his invention of a correct hygrometer .. has presented the meteorologist with a gift which [etc.]. 1878 JEVONS *Prim. Pol. Econ.* iii. 32 Meteorologists have now prepared maps of the oceans showing the sea-captain where he will find winds and currents most favourable to a rapid voyage.

Meteorology (mītɪ̆ɹɒ·lŏdʒi). [ad. Gr. *μετεωρολογία*, f. *μετεωρο-* METEOR + *-λογία* -LOGY. Cf. F. *météorologie.*]

1. The study of, or the science that treats of, the motions and phenomena of the atmosphere, *esp.* with a view to forecasting the weather.

1620 T. GRANGER *Div. Logike* 301 In the first Booke hee prosecuteth more common, and generall things; as, Astrologie, Meteorology. 1650 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* III. x. (1658) 161 In sundry Animals we deny not a kind of natural Meteorology, or innate presention both of wind and weather. 1768–74 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 466 Zoology [is] the knowledge of animals;..meteorology and mineralogy, that of vapours and fossils. 1816 T. L. PEACOCK *Headlong Hall* i, The various knotty points of meteorology, which usually form the exordium of an English conversation. 1862 SIR H. HOLLAND *Ess., Atlantic Ocean* 208 Meteorology cannot yet take its place among the exact sciences.

2. The character, as regards weather, atmospheric changes, etc., *of* a particular region.

1684 T. BURNET *Th. Earth* II. v. 224, I easily discover'd, that .. the Meteorology of that World was of another sort from that of the present. *a* 1850 J. A. MASON (*title*) A Treatise on the Climate and Meteorology of Madeira. 1879 A. R. WALLACE *Australasia* ii. 31 The hot winds, which are another remarkable feature of the meteorology of Australia, occur in [etc.].

Meteoromancy (mītɪ̆ɹɒ·rŏmænsi). [f. Gr. *μετεωρο-* METEOR + *μαντεία* divination, -MANCY. Cf. F. *météoromancie.*] Divination by the observation of meteors.

1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XI. 622/1. 1845 SMEDLEY in *Encycl. Metrop.* XVIII. 174/2 In Etruria, the frequency of sacrifice and the temperament of the air, gave popularity to Extispicy and Meteoromancy.

Meteorometer (mītɪ̆ɹɒ·rŏmĭtəɹ). [f. Gr. *μετεωρο-* METEOR + -METER.] An apparatus for receiving and transmitting records of atmospherical conditions and changes.

1862 in KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* (1875) s.v.

Meteoroscope (mītɪ̆ɹɒ·rŏskōʊp). [In sense 1, ad. Gr. *μετεωροσκόπιον*; in sense 2, f. *μετεωρο-* METEOR + -SCOPE.]

†**1.** An instrument for taking observations of heavenly bodies. *Obs.*

1614 TOMKIS *Albumazar* II. v. (1615) E 1 b, With Astralobe [*sic*] and Meteoroscope Il'e find the Cuspe [etc.].

2. 'An instrument for measuring the apparent path of a meteor' (*Funk's Stand. Dict.* 1895).

†**Meteoroscopics,** *sb. pl. Obs. rare.* [ad. Gr. *μετεωροσκοπικά* neut. pl.: see METEOR, -SCOPIC, and -ICS.] The science of observing the stars.

1788 T. TAYLOR *Proclus* I. 79 The other is metheoroscopics [*sic*], which finds out the differences of elevations, and the distances of the stars [etc.].

Meteoroscopy (mītɪ̆ɹɒ·skŏpi). *rare.* [f. Gr. *μετεωρο-* METEOR + *-σκοπία* -SCOPY. Cf. F. *météoroscopie.*] Observation of the stars.

1658 PHILLIPS, *Meteoroscopie*, that part of Astrology, which handleth the difference of Sublimities, and distance of Stars. 1686 GOAD *Celest. Bodies* III. iii. 455 A Gentleman given to Metoroscopy [*sic*], looking on the two Stars in ♂ saw three. 1829 T. L. PEACOCK *Misfort. Elphin* xiii. 180 The topographers .. had not the advantage of this piece of meteoroscopy.

Hence **Meteoro·scopist** *rare*⁻°, an observer of the stars. 1727 in BAILEY vol. II.

Meteorosophi·stical, *a. rare*⁻¹. [f. Gr. *μετεωροσοφιστ-ής* 'astrological sophist' + -ICAL.]

1814 T. L. PEACOCK *Wks.* (1875) III. 121 A delectable treat to the observer of phenomena, who may be desirous of contemplating a meteorosophistical spider completely entangled in his own cobweb.

Meteorous (mītɪ̆ɹəs, also *poet.* mītɪ̆·ɹəs), *a.* [f. Gr. *μετέωρ-ος* raised on high, *μετέωρ-α* neut. pl. METEOR + -OUS.] = METEORIC.

1667 MILTON *P. L.* XII. 629 Gliding meteorous, as Ev'ning Mist..o're the marish glides. 1720 POPE *Iliad* XXIV. 101 Iris .. Meteorous the face of ocean sweeps. 1750 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 68 ₱ 3 Meteorous pleasures which dance before us and are dissipated. 1807 WRANGHAM *Serm. Transl. Script.* I The wavering and meteorous glare of the Eighth Henry. 1841 D'ISRAELI *Amen. Lit.* (1859) II. 343 We must conclude that there are meteorous beings, whose eccentric orbits we know not how to describe. 1882 SUTTON in *Society* 7 Oct. 16/1 Thy wavering, meteorous, quixotic indulgence [said of a comet].

†**Meteory.** *Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. METEOR + -Y.] Condition of atmosphere.

1600 TOURNEUR *Transf. Metam.* xlii. Plays & P. 1878 II. 204 And chaoiz'd Ideas of conceit Doth make his gesture seem a troubled skie: And fills his count'nance with sad meteorie.

Metepencephalon (mɛ·tɛpense·fălŏn). *Anat.* Also anglicized metepencephal (-se·făl). Pl. **metepencephala.** [mod.L., f. META- + EPENCEPHALON.] In Wilder's nomenclature, the metencephalon and epencephalon taken together and considered as one segment.

1885 WILDER in *N. Y. Med. Jrnl.* 21 Mar. 326 It is elsewhere suggested that those who admit only one segment between the mesencephalon and the myelon may apply thereto the comprehensive name *metepencephalon*, and to its cavity *metepicœle.* 1889 — in *Buck's Handbk. Med. Sci.* VIII. 130/2 The compacted motor and sensory conductors between the prosodiencephal and metepencephal.

Hence **Metepencepha·lic** *a.*, of, pertaining to, or connected with the metepencephalon.

1890 in *Century Dict.*; and in later Dicts.

Metepicœle (mɛtɛ·pisīl). *Anat.* [f. META- + EPICŒLE.] The fourth ventricle of the brain.

1885 [see METEPENCEPHALON]. 1889 WILDER in *Buck's Handbk. Med. Sci.* VIII. 130/1 There is no evidence of the lines of division of the endyma in exposing the metepicœle ('fourth ventricle').

†**Me·tepole.** *Obs.* [f. METE *v.*¹ + POLE.] A measuring rod.

1571 GOLDING *Calvin on Ps.* lxxiv. 2 They wer wont to butte out grounds with metepoles as with lynes.

Meter (mī·təɹ), *sb.*¹ Also 5 **metere, metar,** 6 **meater,** 6–7 **metter,** 8 **meeter.** [f. METE *v.*¹ + -ER¹.] One who measures; a measurer; *esp.* one whose duty or office is to see that commodities are of the proper measure, as *coal-meter, land-meter*: see these words.

1382 WYCLIF *Zech.* ii. 1 In his hond a litil covrde of meters [1388 meteris, Vulg. *funiculus mensorum*]. 1468 *Maldon, Essex* Liber B. lf. 15 (MS.) And the metere shall stryke the busshell & make the hepe trewely betwixe party and party. And the comounn meter shall mete trewely the corne to be delyuered atte hythe. *c* 1483 CAXTON *Dialogues* 44 Paulyn the metar of corne. 1519 *Burgh Rec. Edin.* (1869) I. 190 And at na metter mett the said meill bot the bringare thairof to the merkat vnder the payne of banesing. 1542–3 *Act* 34 & 35 *Hen. VIII*, c. 9 § 5 The said common meater to haue for the measuring of euery way of corne .ii. *d.* 1577 HARRISON *England* II. v. (1877) I. 127 A verie sharpe imprecation..promiseth like measure to the meter, as he dooth mete to others. 1666 *Act* 18 & 19 *Chas. II*, c. 8 § 34 Before they shall breake Bulke or have a Meter assigned for the measureing or weighing of any Coales..to be delivered from on board any such Shipp. 1681 *MS. Indenture Finkill Street, Hull*, William Haward metter. 1796 BURKE *Let. Noble Ld.* Wks. VIII. 38 But the aulnager, the weigher, the meter of grants, will not suffer us to acquiesce in the judgement of the prince reigning at the time when they were made. 1800 COLQUHOUN *Comm. Thames* xi. 331 To appoint sworn Meters, for measuring Coals in the Port of London. 1861 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* III. 260 After the ship is sold she is admitted from the Section into the Pool, and a meter is appointed to her from the coalmeter's office. 1881 *Times* 11 Apr. 4/5 When a barge with the plaintiff's corn in it arrived in the creek .. the creek men were to hand over the meter's ticket of the corn to the plaintiff's foreman.

fig. 1825 HAZLITT *Spirit of Age* 44 Reason is the meter and alnager in civil intercourse, by which each person's .. pretensions are weighed.

†**Me·ter,** *sb.*² *Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. METE *v.*² + -ER¹.] A dreamer.

1340 *Ayenb.* 32 Þe meteres þet habbeþ drede of hare metinges.

Meter (mī·təɹ), *sb.*³ Also 9 (*rarely*) **metre.** [First used in *gas-meter*; probably an application of METER¹, suggested by the earlier GASOMETER or by the other words with the ending -METER.]

1. a. (In full *gas-meter.*) An apparatus for automatically measuring and recording the volume of gas supplied for lighting or other purposes.

In the ordinary forms, the gas is made to pass through receptacles of known capacity, each filling and discharge of one of these being registered by the movement of an index on a dial. *Dry meter*: a meter in which no water is used; the earlier and still commonly used form being called for distinction *wet meter.*

1815 [see GAS *sb.* 7]. 1830 in *Fifesh. Advert.* 21 Sept. (1888) 4/3 To limit the price of gas by meter to 12*s.* nett per 1000 cubic feet. 1874 MICKLETHWAITE *Mod. Par. Churches* 195 After turning all off at the meter.

b. In extended sense: Any apparatus for automatically measuring and recording the quantity of a fluid or the like flowing through it. Used with prefixed word, as *water-meter, electric light meter*, etc., exc. where the purpose is sufficiently indicated by the context.

Also, with prefixed attributive word, in the names of instruments for measuring electrical quantities of various kinds, as *ampere-meter, coulomb-meter, farad-meter, ohm-meter, voltmeter, watt-meter*, which see under their respective first elements. See the remarks on these under -METER.

1832 BABBAGE *Econ. Manuf.* viii. (ed. 3) 57 The sale of water by the different companies in London, might also, with advantage, be regulated by a meter. 1858 GREENER *Gunnery* 52 This machine I termed an explosion metre;.. In each of these experiments the greatest accuracy was observed, in preparing the metre as well as in weighing the charge.

c. *fig.* A 'gange', self-acting measure of the fluctuations of something.

1860 EMERSON *Cond. Life, Wealth* Wks. (Bohn) II. 351 The coin is a delicate meter of civil, social, and moral changes. 1870 — *Soc. & Solit., Eloq.* ibid. III. 26 The audience is a constant meter of the orator.

2. *attrib.*, as *meter box, chamber, house, inspector, rent, -wheel.*

1882 *Worcester Exhib. Catal.* iii. 16 Mr. Palmer's Patent *Meter Boxes. 1889 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 1 July 6/3 The pumps discharge into a *meter chamber, where the sewage is measured. 1897 *Daily News* 1 June 3/3 Land for *meter houses and other works. 1895 *Ibid.* 10 Oct. 6/4 The *meter inspectors. 1895 *Westm. Gaz.* 17 Apr. 3/3 It is fairer to charge a *meter rent than to charge a higher price for the gas. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, **Meter-wheel*, one used in connection with gas and liquid meters and air-carbureting machines.

Hence **Me·ter** *v. trans.*, to measure by means of a meter.

1884 *Science* III. 497 The real proportions of air and gas were not determinable, except by metering both. 1894 *Times* 14 Aug. 11/4 The oil, waste, water, and general engine-room stores work out to ·0657 penny per unit metered.

Meter (mī·təɹ), *sb.*⁴ ? *U.S.* Either of two strengthening lines of a seine or gill net.

1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl. [In later Dicts.]

†**Meter,** *sb.*⁵ *Obs. rare*⁻¹. [? a. F. *métier*: see MESTIER.] ? Office.

c 1510 BARCLAY *Mirr. Gd. Manners* (1570) F ij, O Priest.. Howe muche more thou passest in great auctoritie, In meter or order, in office or prebende, So muche loke in vertue and maners to ascende. [Orig. *Aspice quam differs alijs in veste sacerdos, Tantum differre moribus ipse velis.*]

Meter: see METRE ¹ and ².

-meter, in actual use commonly *-o·meter*, and in some later formations *-i·meter*, a terminal element in words denoting scientific instruments for automatically measuring something. Many words with this ending, as *barometer, hydrometer, hygrometer, thermometer*, were formed in the 17th c., and represent mod.L. forms in *-metrum* (F. *-mètre*, It. *-metro*). In these early examples the ending is always appended to Gr. noun-stems, or combining forms in *-o*, and the mod.L. form shows that it was intended to represent the Gr. *μέτρον* measure (see METRE ¹); the formation is irregular, as the Gr. word does not occur in combination with sbs., and would not correctly express the required notion of 'instrument that measures'. In the 18th and 19th c. many additional words were formed with this ending on Greek bases, as *actinometer, anemometer, chronometer, eudiometer*, etc. Near the end of the 18th c. hybrid formations began to be introduced (many of them first occurring in Fr.). In some of these the form of Greek compounds is imitated, as in *gasometer, galvanometer, alcoholometer, lactometer, pedometer*; in others the combining-vowel *i* of the Latin first element is retained, as in *calorimeter, gravimeter, densimeter, velocimeter.* In some late formations *-meter* is appended to modern words without any attempt to assimilate the form of the first element to that of a Gr. or Latin combining form, as in *voltameter, ammeter.* Cf. also the names of electrical measuring instruments mentioned under METER *sb.*³ 1 b, which might perhaps be more correctly viewed as examples of the suffixed *-meter* than as examples of the sb. with defining word.

Jocular nonce-words in *-ometer* have been frequently formed; chiefly in imitation of Sydney Smith's FOOLOMETER, with the sense 'a means of measuring or ascertaining the opinion or prevalent

character of some class of people'; also occasionally in names of imaginary instruments for measuring the amount or degree of something, as in *obscenometer*. Similar hybrid formations have sometimes been adopted as trade names for certain instruments, e.g. *comptometer* [F. *compte* account], a kind of calculating machine, *distance-ometer*.

1828 *Athenæum* 16 Jan. 44/1 We shall be obliged by an account, for our Scientific Report, of the obscenometer by which the 'Stock Board' of the Company are enabled so curiously to apportion the measures of indecency. 1859 *Sat. Rev.* VII. 141/2 The member for Birmingham has supplied Parliament with an admirable democratometer, without which it might have been hurried into violent and uncalled-for changes, through a total misapprehension of the real state of public feeling. 1864 *Daily Tel.* 29 Oct., Archdeacon Denison .. may be .. taken as a kind of clericometer for what is most violent and least sensible in the ecclesiastical world. 1883 *Eng. Mech.* 6 Apr. p. vii, The New Distanceometer. 1894 *Times* 19 Mar. 13/5 The comptometer .. is a machine specially adapted for subtraction, multiplication and division.

Meterage (mī·tərēdʒ). [f. METER *sb.*[1] + -AGE.] **a.** 'The act of measuring' (Ogilvie 1882). **b.** 'The measurement itself'. **c.** 'The price paid for measurement' (Cassell's *Encycl. Dict.* 1885).

Metereza: see METREZA.

† **Me·terod.** *Obs.* Also metrod. [f. METE *v.*[1] or MET *sb.* + ROD *sb.* Cf. MDu. *meteroede*, Du. *meetroede*.] A measuring rod. Also *fig.*

1535 COVERDALE *Ezek.* xl. 5 The meterodde that he had in his honde, was six cubites longe and a spanne. 1556 WITHALS *Dict.* (1568) 14/1 A metrod, to measure the land with. 1579 J. JONES *Preserv. Bodie & Soule* I. xli. 92 Measured by the meterod of affection.

† **Me·tership.** *Obs.* [f. METER *sb.*[1] + -SHIP.] The office of meter or measurer.

1536 HENRY VIII in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. II. 90 The office of metershippe of lynyn clothe and canvas within our Cytie of London. 1541 WRIOTHESLEY *Chron.* (Camden) I. 129 The metersbippe of cloth of gould, velvett, silkes, and lynnen cloath.

† **Me·tesel.** *Obs.* [f. *mete* MEAT *sb.* + *sel* SEEL, fitting time.] Meal-time.

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 334 It neghed nere metesel.

† **Me·teship.** *Obs.* Forms: 1 metscype, 3 metisupe, 4 metscip, 4–5 mets(c)hip, meteship(e, -shep, meetship. [OE. *mętscipe*, f. *męte* MEAT *sb.*: see -SHIP.] The action of taking food; a repast.

a 1000 *Laws Athelstan* VI. c. 8 § 1 (Schmid) Habban þa xii menn heora metscype togædere. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 11 At ferme and at feste and masthwat at ilche laðeð metisupe. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 7453 Of his metscip was mesur nan, He wald ete seuen scep him an. *a* 1300–1400 *Ibid.* 12565 (Gött.) Quen he suld to metschip ga. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* VI. xxiii. (Tollem. MS.), Mete and drynke han ordinaunce and respecte to meteshep and to festis.

† **Me·tesome,** *a. Obs. rare*[−1]. [f. METE *v.*[1] + -SOME.] Measurable.

1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* 107 It [the atom] may be metesom by Mathematical measures of the minds making.

† **Metessing.** *Obs.* Dung (of a hawk).

1486 *Bk. St. Albans* c iiij b, Hir metessing will defowle hir foundement.

Me·testick, me·tstick. [f. METE *v.*[1] or MET *sb.* + STICK *sb.*] A stick or staff for measuring. **a.** *Naut.* (See quot. 1815.) **b.** *Sc.* 'A wooden instrument or bit of wood used for taking the measure of the foot' (Jam.).

1815 *Falconer's Dict. Marine* (ed. Burney), *Mete-stick*, a staff of a certain length, fixed on a broad board at right angles, in order to..determine the necessary height of a hold, and to level the ballast. 1821 *Blackw. Mag.* VIII. 432 The 'met-stick' pair'd away to suit the size.

Metetherial (metiþī·riăl), *a.* [f. META- + ETHERIAL.] (See quot.)

1903 F. W. H. MYERS *Hum. Personality* I. Gloss. 19 *Metetherial*, that which appears to lie after or beyond the ether; the metetherial environment denotes the spiritual or transcendental world in which the soul exists.

Metewand (mī·twǫnd). Also 6–7 meat-, 5–7, 9 *dial.* met-, 7 meet-. [f. METE *v.*[1] or MET *sb.* + WAND *sb.*] A measuring rod. Now *dial.*

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 336/1 Metwande, *idem quod* 3erde. 1549 ALLEN *Jude's Par. Rev.* 36 The golden reed is as it were a golden met wonde. 1624 F. WHITE *Repl. Fisher* 318 A measure containing the length of a man, which was the meat-wand, or measure which the Angell held. 1668 CULPEPPER & COLE *Barthol. Anat.* Man. IV. xx. 355 The Drapers Metwand termed an Ell. 1876 *Whitby Gloss., Met-wand, Met-wood*, or *Met-yard*, a measuring-rod. A draper's yard-stick.

b. *fig.* A standard of measurement or estimation. *literary*.

a 1568 ASCHAM *Scholem.* II. (Arb.) 101 A true tochstone, a sure metwand lieth before both their eyes. *a* 1656 BP. HALL *Rem. Wks.* (1660) 205 Time is the common measure of all things, the universal met-wand of the Almighty. 1700 C. NESS *Antid. agst. Armin.* (1827) 8 Measuring supernatural mysteries with the crooked metewand of degenerate reason. 1809–10 COLERIDGE *Friend* xiii. (1887) 53 The degree of his moral guilt is not the mete-wand of his condemnation. 1866 LOWELL *Lessing* Prose Wks. 1890 II. 223 He continually trips and falls flat over his metewand of classical propriety.

Meteyard (mī·tyārd). Also 6 mette-, 6–7 meat(e-, 5, 9 *dial.* met-. [f. METE *v.*[1] or MET *sb.* + YARD *sb.*] = METEWAND. Now *dial.*

c 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* III. xxvi. (1869) 150 With þe grete met yerde she wole mesure þat þat she biggeth. 1535 COVERDALE *Lev.* xix. 33 Ye shal not deale wrongeously in iudgment, with meteyarde, with weight, with measure. 1553 T. WILSON *Rhet.* 83 b, The tailor hath his mette yarde and his measure. 1611 BIBLE *Transl. Pref.* ¶ 9 Neither is it the plaine dealing Merchant that is vnwilling to haue the waights, or the meteyard brought in place, but he that vseth deceit. 1876 [see METEWAND].

b. *fig.* (Cf. METEWAND b.)

a 1533 FRITH *Disput. Purgat.* Pref. A iij b, The verye worde of god .. whiche is the sure metyarde and perfeyte touchstone that iudgeth and examineth all thynges. 1658 ROWLAND *Monfet's Theat. Ins.* Pref., It shall suffice us to have measured the causes by humane capacity and meteyard. 1898 R. F. HORTON *Commandm. Jesus* xii. 201 It is what this regenerate Ego desires that becomes the meteyard of what we should do to others.

Meteyne, Meth, obs. ff. MITTEN, MEAD[1].

Methæmoglobin (meþīmoglō·u·bin). *Chem.* [See META- and HÆMOGLOBIN.] A derivative of hæmoglobin obtained by the exposure of an aqueous solution of oxyhæmoglobin to the air; called also **Methæmoglo·bulin.** Hence **Methæmoglobine·mia** *Path.* [Gr. αἷμα blood], presence of methæmoglobin in the blood. **Methæmoglobinu·ria** *Path.* [Gr. οὖρον urine], presence of methæmoglobin in the urine.

1870 SORBY in *Q. Jrnl. Microsc. Sci.* X. 400 Hoppe-Seyler's and Preyer's 'methæmoglobin'. 1888 *Med. News* LIII. 240 The author, in two cases, observed cyanosis, depending upon methemoglobinemia. 1890 BILLINGS *Nat. Med. Dict., Methæmoglobinuria,..Methæmoglobulin.* 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV. 288 The latter [i.e. hæmoglobinuria] is frequently a mixture of hæmoglobin with various derivatives such as methæmoglobinuria. 1899 CAGNEY tr. *Jaksch's Clin. Diagn.* i. (ed. 4) 73 The methæmoglobin acid solution.

Methamatic, obs. form of MATHEMATIC.

Methane (me·þēn). *Chem.* Also -an. [f. METH(YL) + -ANE.] Light carburetted hydrogen, methyl hydride or marsh-gas (CH_4), a colourless odourless gas emanating from stagnant pools, volcanoes, petroleum wells, and esp. from coal-seams, in which, mixed with seven or eight parts of air, it forms a violent explosive (cf. FIRE-DAMP).

1868 *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 10) 178 Methane or Marsh Gas;.. Fire-damp.—This gas is but too often found to be abundantly disengaged in coal-mines. 1893 *Brit. Jrnl. Photogr.* XL. 812 The mean temperatures of explosions with methane, ethane and propane were 667°, 616°, and 547° respectively. 1899 CAGNEY tr. *Jaksch's Clin. Diagn.* vii. (ed. 4) 383 The urine held hydrogen, nitrogen,..and probably methan.

Methaniline (meþæ·nilǝin). *Chem.* [f. METH(YL) + ANILINE.] = *Methylaniline*: see METHYL.

1857 WATTS tr. *Gmelin's Handbk. Chem.* XI. 300. 1881 *Athenæum* 17 Dec. 819/2 The chlorhydrates of methaniline and other aniline products.

Methanometer (meþănǫ·mĭtǝr). *Mining.* [f. METHANE + -(O)METER.] An instrument invented by Monnier (see quot.).

1881 *Nature* XXIV. 94 Automatic methanometer, or automatic analyser of fire-damp. [Also, in recent Dicts.]

Methaphesik, -physick, obs. ff. METAPHYSIC.

† **Methe,** *sb. Obs.* Forms: 1 mǽþ, 3 maþe, mæþ, meaþ, 3–5 meþ, 4–5 methe, 5 meeþ. [OE. *mǽþ* fem.:—OTeut. type **mǽþi-z* (not found outside Eng.) = Gr. μῆτι-ς counsel, Skr. *māti* measure:—Indogermanic **mēti-s* whence L. *mētīrī* to measure; f. root **mē-* (Teut. **mǣ-*) to measure, whence OTeut. **mǽlo*[m] MEAL *sb.*[2]]

1. Measure, proportion, fixed quantity.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Exod.* xxii. 17 3if se fæder hiz him syllan nelle, 3ilde be þære 3iftan mæðe. *c* 1205 LAY. 977 3if we sceoteð to heora mæðe [*c* 1275 meþe] þat bið ure imone deað. *a* 1300 *E. E. Psalter* lxxix. 6 Þou salt..gif vs drink in teres in meth [Vulg. *in mensura*].

2. Moderation, temperance.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 29 Cune sume meðe þenne þu almesse makest. *a* 1240 *Sawles Warde* in *Cott. Hom.* 257 Mi þridde suster meað speked of þe middel sti bitubhe rihL *c* 1357 *Lay Folks Catech.* (MS. T.) 440 The seuent vertu and the laste is methe or methefulnesse,—*Temperancia*.

3. Respect, consideration; kindness.

c 1000 *Inst. Polity* c. 25 in Thorpe *Laws* II. 338 Ælc cristen man ah mycele þearfe þæt he on þam griðe mycle mæþe wite. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2498 Alle he fellen him ðor to fot, To beðen meðe and bedden oc. *a* 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* 103 3ef ich the buere to muche meth, Thou wolt me bringe to helle deth. *c* 1320 *Cast. Love* 318 Heo him duden in prisun of deþ, And pynede him sore wiþ-outen meþ. 13.. *Propr. Sanct.* (Vernon MS.) in *Archiv Stud. neu. Spr.* LXXXI. 102/315 But þer as God, ful of meþ, ffleih to Egipte from his deþ [etc.]. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 816 All.. on knese fallis, And in his mercy & meth mekely þaim put.

4. Modesty, gentleness.

c 1325 *Know Thyself* 35 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 132 With þi maistrie medel þi meþ For vche mon ouȝt hym self to knowe. *c* 1325 *Metr. Hom.* 107 And Mari ledd hir lif with methe, In a toun that hiht Nazarethe. 13.. *Metr. Hom.* (Vernon MS.) in *Archiv Stud. neu. Spr.* LVII. 269 But heo hedde Meth, as worschipful wyf, ffor beo nas nout to hastyf. *c* 1375 *Cursor M.* 7858 (Fairf.) Of him come Iesse meke of meth. *c* 1450 *Cov. Myst.* (Shaks. Soc.) 157 Amos spak with mylde methe.

† **Methe,** *a. Obs.* Cf. MYTH *a.* [? From the attrib. use of prec.] Gentle, courteous.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 10152 Elizabeth, An hali leuedi mild and meth, þat spused was to zachari. *a* 1440 *St. John Evang.* (Thornton MS.) 57 Thou was methe and meke as maydene for mylde.

† **Methe,** *v. Obs.* [OE. *mǽðian*, f. METHE *sb.*]

1. *trans.* To spare, have mercy upon. (In OE. with dative.)

c 1000 WULFSTAN *Hom.* 59/17 He sylð arleasnysse þæt he ne arize ne eac ne mæðize his underþeoddum ne his ȝelicum. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1046 Quad god, 'find ic ðor ten or mo, Ic sal meðen ðe stede for ðo'.

2. To moderate, regulate, temper.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 13 Det foremeste is riht medeme mel þe man þe hit meðeð riht þe suneð aleð gestninge [etc.]. *Ibid.* 139 He..meðede þo his lifiode swo þat he was bicumelich to swiche wike. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 13615 3yf þey hem self couþe haue meþed & als þer strokes couþe haue leþed..Gret prowesse of þem had ben told.

Methe, variant of MATHE, MEAD *sb.*[1]

† **Me·theful,** *a.*[1] *Obs.* [OE. *mǽþfull*: see METHE *sb.* and -FUL.] Moderate; gentle.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gram.* xxxviii. (Z.) 236 *Humanus* mæðfull oððe menniselic. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 430 Inouh meðful ich am, þet bidde so lutel. *a* 1240 *Sawles Warde* in *Cott. Hom.* 257 Meaðful in alles cunnes estes. *a* 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* 32 A mihti methful mai, that ous hath cast from cares colde. 13.. *Minor Poems Jr. Vernon MS.* l. 557 Drink þat þou beo meþful. And lyue in hele good. *c* 1425 *Eng. Cong. Irel.* 112 He was a man methefull, suttell, & stalwarth.

Hence † **Methefully** *a.* and *adv.*, moderate(ly); † **Methefulness,** moderation.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 414 Non ancre ne ouh forto nimen bute gnedeliche [*MS. C.* meðfulliche] þet hire to neodeð. *a* 1300 *E. E. Psalter* xxxviii. 7 Loke, methfullike [*mensurabiles*] mi daies set þou. 1357 Methefulnesse [see METHE *sb.* 2].

† **Me·theful,** *a.*[2] *Obs.* In 3 methful. [f. OE. *męðe* weary + -FUL.] Weary.

a 1300 *E. E. Psalter* iii. 5, I am methful, for i slepe.

Metheglin (mĭ·þe·glin). *Obs.* exc. *Hist.* and *dial.* Forms: 6 methglen, -eghelen, -line, -lem, 6–7 metheglen, -lyn, 7 mathiglin, metheglings, (methæglen); 6– metheglin. [a. Welsh *meddyglyn*, f. *meddyg* healing, medicinal (ad. L. *medicus*) + *llyn* liquor.] A spiced or medicated variety of mead, originally peculiar to Wales.

1533 ELYOT *Cast. Helthe* (1541) 36 Metheglyn, whiche is moste used in Wales, by reason of hotte herbes boyled with hony, is hotter than meade. 1550 J. COKE *Eng. & Fr. Heralds* § 207 (1877) 117 We have good-ale, bere, methe-ghelen, sydre, and pirry. 1568-70 in H. Hall *Soc. Eliz. Age* (1887) 245 A Cupp of methglen. 1620 VENNER *Via Recta* ii. 41 If Rosemary, Hyssop, Time, Orgaine, and Sage, be first well boyled in the water, wherof you make the Metheglin, it will be the better. 1623 C. BUTLER *Fem. Mon.* x. X ij, Methæglen is the more generous or stronger Hydromel, being vnto Mede as Vinum to Lora. 1633 ROWLEY *Match at Midnight* II. i, Some metheglings, the wine of Wales. 1666 PEPYS *Diary* 25 July, I drinking no wine, had metheglin for the King's own drinking. 1731 P. SHAW *Three Ess. Artif. Philos.* 49 The Method of Brewing with Honey, for Mead, Metheglin [etc.].

attrib. 1887 G. MEREDITH *Ballads & P.* 105 Cambria's old metheglin demon Breathed against our rushing tide.

Hence **Methe·glinist** *nonce-wd.*, a brewer of metheglin.

1655 SIR J. MENNIS *Musarum Del.* 29 While there's a Cider-Man Or a Metheglenist,..I do forswear to sup Of wicked Sack.

Methel: see METEL.

† **Me·theless,** *a. Obs.* [OE. *mǽþléas*: see METHE *sb.* and -LESS.] Immoderate.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* (Th.) II. 516 Ða het Martinus ða mæðleasan fuzelas ðæs fixnoðes ȝeswican. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 96 3if he is meðleas, ileueð him þe wurse. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 273 Þose wern men meþelez & maȝty on vrþe.

† **Me·thely,** *a. Obs.* [OE. *mǽþlic*: see METHE *sb.* and -LY[1].] Moderate, proper, suitable.

958 *Will* in Thorpe *Charters* 509 3if hwilc forwyrht man hiowan ȝesæce, bio se þingad swa hit medlic sio be þæs geltes meðe. *a* 1035 *Cnut's Secular Laws* c. 71 (Lieberm.) Beon þa hereȝeata .. swa hit mæðlic si. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 63 Meðeliche eting and drinking aȝen to temien þe lichames orguil.

b. Of medium stature. (Cf. MEETLY *a.*)

c 1425 *Eng. Cong. Irel.* 98 Meyler was a man..of body, somdel more than methlych, ful stalwarth, wel I-brested.

† **Me·thely,** *adv. Obs.* [OE. *mǽþlice*, f. prec.: see -LY[2].] Moderately, temperately; meekly.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gram.* xxxviii. (Z.) 236 *Humane* and *humaniter* mæðlice oððe menniselice. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1758 Ðus meðelike spac ðis em. *c* 1425 *Eng. Cong. Irel.* 76 His maner was euer-more to hold hym methelyche.

Methene (me·þēn). *Chem.* [f. METH-YL + -ENE.] = METHYLENE. 1885 in *Cassell's Encycl. Dict.*

Methenyl (me·þǝnil). *Chem.* [f. METHENE + -YL.] The hypothetical hydrocarbon radical CH; usually *attrib.*

1868 *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 10) 557 Methenyl chloride (chloroform).

Methephisike, obs. form of METAPHYSIC.

Mether, variant of MADDER *sb.*[2], *Anglo-Irish.*

1841 S. C. HALL *Ireland* III. 297 The mether was square, and not round .. and to drink out of it was no easy task.

Metherinx, variant of MEDRINACKS *Obs.*

Methide (me·þǝid). *Chem.* [f. METH-YL + -IDE.] A combination of methyl with a metal.

1868 *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 10) 596 Zinc methide. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 933 Mercuric methide.

Methinks (mɪ̇þi·ŋks), *impers. v.* Now *arch.* and *poet.* Pa. t. **methought** (mɪ̇þɒ·t). Forms: see below and cf. THINK *v.*[1] [OE. *mé þyncþ* (pa. t. *mé þúhte*), where *mé* is dative, and *þyncþ* the 3 pers. sing. of *þyncean* to seem: see THINK *v.*[1]

As THINK *v.*[1] did not, exc. in this phrase, survive beyond the 14th c., and had no very wide currency after 1250, the syntax of *methinks* became obscure. Hence it underwent various alterations of form. The verb being supposed to be THINK *v.*[2], it followed that it ought to be in the first person; hence the form *me think*, in which probably the pronoun was still correctly apprehended as a dative. In the 16–17th c. there occur the forms *my think*, *my thought(s*, which are attempts to obtain a normal syntax by taking *think*, *thought*, as sbs. The curious form *methoughts*, used in the 17th and the first half of the 18th c., prob. owes its *s* to the analogy of the present tense *methinks*.]

It seems to me. (Used with dependent clause or parenthetically.)

1. *Present tense.* †**a. methinketh.**

c 888 K. ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxiv. § 3 Me þincð þæt hit hæbbe ȝeboht sume swiðe leaslice mærðe. *a* 1200 *Moral Ode* 5 Vnnet lif ich habbe iled, and ȝet me þingþ ilede. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 95 With such gladnesse I daunce and skippe, Me thenkth I touche noght the flor. 1447 BOKENHAM *Seyntys* (Roxb.) 2 And yet methinkyth it were pete That my werk were hatyd for me. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* I. (1586) 10 There is a Hopper (mee thinketh) ouer the toppe of the Oast. 1607 HIERON *Wks.* I. 439 Me thinketh this motiue should not be without effect.

▸ *Substantive use.* 1594 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* IV. iv. § 2 When they opposed their *Me thinketh* vnto the orders of the Church of England.

β. **methinks.**

1560 WHITEHORNE *Arte Warre* (1573) 103 b, Nor me thinkes that there resteth other to tell you then certaine general rules. 1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* III. ii. 16 Methinkes you are sadder. 1661 MARVELL *Corr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 76 'Tis methinks an unpleasant business. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 6 ▸ 5 Respect to all kind of Superiours is founded methinks upon Instinct. 1762–71 H. WALPOLE *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1786) IV. 281 Methinks a strait canal is as rational at least as a mæandring bridge. 1863 HAWTHORNE *Our Old Home* (1879) 119 Methinks a person of delicate individuality .. could never endure to lie buried near Shakespeare. 1871 R. ELLIS tr. *Catullus* xciii. 1 Lightly methinks I reck if Caesar smile not upon me.

†γ. **methink.**

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 16332 (Cott.) Me thinc it es noght sua. 13.. *Guy Warw.* (A.) 616, & he wald me so o loue ȝerne, Me þenke y no myȝt it him nouȝt werne. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* I. 385 It war resone, me think, yhe suld haif part. 1554–78 BULLEYN *Dial. agst. Pest.* (1888) 19 Me thinke I see twoo men in long gounes with short beardes at the gates. 1659 *Gentl. Calling* v. x, So dismal a consequent, as, methink, should like Lot's wife, remain a perpetual monument to deter others.

†δ. **my think(s.**

1530 CROME in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* III. App. x. 20 And my think that this manner of praying dooth not dysanull .. purgatorye. *a* 1619 FLETCHER *Mad Lover* II. iii, My thinks a gentleman should keepe his word.

2. *Past tense.* **a. methought.**

c 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 13 And ȝif ic nadde, me ðuhte þat hit nas naht wel betowen, ðar ic hit idon hadde. *a* 1300–1400 *Cursor M.* 8171 (Gött.) Me thoght [*Cotton* me thoght] to night on þis-kyn wise, þat we war bath in paradise. *c* 1420 LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 343 Me thought he was gayly dysgysyd at that fest. 1535 COVERDALE *Judg.* vii. 13 Me thoughte a baken barlye lofe came rollinge downe to ye hoost of ye Madianites. 1651 H. MORE *Enthus. Tri.*, etc. (1656) 309, I dream'd thus. Methought I was at a friends house in the rode betwixt London and Scotland. 1711 POPE *Temp. Fame* 498 While thus I stood .. One came, methought, and whisper'd in my ear. 1832 TENNYSON *Dream Fair Wom.* xiv, At last methought that I had wander'd far In an old wood. 1878 H. PHILLIPS *Poems fr. Spanish & Germ.* 48 Methought my days were ended.

†β. **methoughts.**

1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III*, I. iv. 9 Me thoughts that I had broken from the Tower. 1620 WOTTON *Let. to Bacon* in *Reliq.* (1651) 413 The draught of a Landskip on a piece of paper, me thoughts masterly done. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 63 ▸ 3 Methoughts I was transported into a Country that was filled with Prodigies. 1751 *Female Foundling* I. 30 The inward Satisfaction which I felt, had spread in my Eyes I know not what of melting and passionate, which methoughts I had never before observed.

†γ. **my thought.**

a 1300 [see a]. 1503 HAWES *Examp. Virt.* iv. 3 My thought it was an heuenly syght. 1621 LADY M. WROTH *Urania* 435 Then my thought I saw he had commission.

Methionic (meþɪ·ɒ·nɪk), *a. Chem.* [f. ME(THYL) + Gr. θεῖον sulphur: see -IC.] *Methionic acid*, a disulpho-acid obtained from aniline. Hence **Methionate** (meþəi·ɒ̈neɪt), a salt of methionic acid.

1842 T. GRAHAM *Elem. Chem.* 779 Two other acids of this class have been obtained, methionic acid .. and althionic acid. 1853 WATTS tr. *Gmelin's Handbk. Chem.* VIII. 435 Evaporating the filtrate till it begins to deposit needles of methionate of baryta. 1862 MILLER *Elem. Chem., Org.* v. § 2 (ed. 2) 310 The first compound upon this list [disulphomethylic acid] is identical with Liebig's methionic acid.

†**Methium.** *Obs.* Some kind of drug.

1610 [see KERMES 1].

Method (me·þɒd), *sb.* [a. F. *méthode* (Rabelais) or ad. L. *method-us*, a. Gr. μέθοδος pursuit of knowledge, mode of investigation, also as a term in Medicine (see below); f. μετα- META- + ὁδός way.

The word is now common to all Rom. and Teut. langs. (It. *metodo*, Sp. *método*, G. *methode*, etc.) with approximately the same senses as in Eng. The sense of 'systematic arrangement' (branch II below) is foreign to Greek: it was developed through the special application of L. *methodus* by some logicians of the 16th c. (see sense 4).]

I. Procedure for attaining an object.

†**1.** *Med.* The regular, systematic treatment proper for the cure of a specific disease. *Obs.*

(Now merged in sense 3, where see quots. 1725, 1800, 1887.)

1541 R. COPLAND *Galyen's Terap.* 2 A iij, Euery kynde of dysease hath his owne Methode. 1563 T. GALE *Inst. Chirurg.* 21 b, The Methode of curyng compounde tumors against nature. 1578 BANISTER *Hist. Man* Epist. A iv, Then did I clearely see, how that to write Methodes or means to cure the affected partes of the body .. might [etc.]. 1696 PHILLIPS, *Method*, .. that part of Physick whereby, remedies are found out by the Indications for the Restoration of Health.

fig. 1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* v. i. § 1 To see wherein the harm which they feel consisteth, .. and the method of curing it. *a* 1716 SOUTH *Serm.* (1744) IX. 38 Let such persons .. not quarrel with the great physician of souls for having cured them by easy and gentle methods.

b. *Hist.* The system of medicine practised by the 'methodics' or 'methodists'.

1541 R. COPLAND *Galyen's Terap.* 2 D iv, That is the maner to heale by Methode .. yf it so be that Methode is an vnyuersall way. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 344 Thessalus [*marg.*] He reduced Physicke into a Method: and from him descended the sect called Methodici. *a* 1790 W. CULLEN *Lect. Hist. Med.* Wks. 1828 I. 383 This easy plan was, by way of eminence called the Method, and the persons who followed it the Methodics.

2. A special form of procedure adopted in any branch of mental activity, whether for the purpose of teaching and exposition, or for that of investigation and inquiry.

1586 SIR E. HOBY *Pol. Disc. Truth* iv. 8 And Plato called a Methode, a fire sent from heauen, which giueth the light that maketh the trueth knowen. 1604 R. CAWDREY *Table Alph., Method*, an order, or readie way to teach, or doo any thing. 1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* II. xvii. § 4 Knowledge .. ought to be delivered and intimated, if it were possible, in the same method wherein it was invented. 1644 MILTON *Educ.* 2 The same method is necessarily to be follow'd in all discreet teaching. *a* 1721 KEN *Hymnotheo* Poet. Wks. 1721 III. 254 He has of Knowledge the true Method shewn, To rise to Truths abstruse, from Truths well-known. 1780 BENTHAM *Princ. Legisl.* xviii. § 56 The method of division here pursued. 1852 J. CURWEN (*title*) The Pupil's Manual of the Tonic Sol-Fa Method of teaching to sing. 1869 J. MARTINEAU *Ess.* II. 55 Mental science does not differ from physical in its methods. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) IV. 136 The theses of Parmenides are expressly said to follow the method of Zeno. 1875 MAINE *Hist. Inst.* I. 18 It is a distinct property of the Comparative Method of investigation to abate national prejudices. 1876 L. STEPHEN *Eng. Th. 18th C.* I. § 30 I. 30 Hume .. agrees with Descartes .. in pursuing the simple introspective method. 1879 LUBBOCK *Sci. Lect.* v. 139 The methods of archæological investigation are as trustworthy as those of any natural science.

†**b.** The rules and practice proper to a particular art. *Obs.*

1662 EVELYN *Diary* 22 Aug., The intention being to reduce that art [*sc.* ship-building] to as certaine a method as any other part of architecture.

c. in the names of certain specific procedures in mathematics and experimental science.

1685 WALLIS *Algebra* lxxiii. 280 The Method of Exhaustions. *Ibid.* lxxxv. 318 Another Method of Approximation, by Mr. Isaac Newton. 1718–19 *Phil. Trans.* XXX. 923 A letter of M. l'Abbé Conti .. concerning the dispute about the Invention of the Method of Fluxions, or Differential Method. 1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl., Method, methodus*, is more peculiarly used in mathematics for divers particular processes for solving problems.—In this sense we say *Method of exhaustions .. Method of fluxions .. Method of tangents.* 1838 DE MORGAN *Th. Probab.* in *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) II. 451 The method of correction known by the name of that of *least squares* .. was proposed by Legendre in 1806. 1843 MILL *Logic* III. viii, Of the Four Methods of Experimental Inquiry. *Ibid.* III. xi, Of the Deductive Method.

d. in the title of treatises of instruction in an art or science.

1686 (*title*) A new and easie Method to learn to sing by book, etc. 1758 NUGENT (*title*) A new Method of learning with Facility the Latin Tongue. 1842 TENNYSON *Amphion* 79 They read Botanic Treatises, And Works on Gardening thro' there, And Methods of transplanting trees To look as if they grew there.

3. In wider sense: A way of doing anything, esp. according to a defined and regular plan; a mode of procedure in any activity, business, etc.

1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* II. ii. 34 If you will iest with me, know my aspect, And fashion your demeanor to my lookes, Or I will beat this method in your sconce. 1606 — *Ant. & Cl.* I. iii. 7 Madam, me thinkes if you did loue him deerly, You do not hold the method, to enforce The like from him. 1620 [? COOKE] *How a man may choose good wife* B 3 b, I will prescribe a methode How thou shalt win hir without al peraduenture. 1660 BARROW *Euclid* I. ix. *Coroll.*, The method of cutting angles. 1684 BUNYAN *Pilgr.* II. 42 The Hen did walk in a fourfold Method towards her Chickens. *a* 1715 BURNET *Own Time* (1724) I. 359 He did very often assure me he was against all violent methods, and all persecution for conscience sake. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. 336 The old Man began to ask me, if he should put me in a Method to make my Claim to my Plantation. 1725 N. ROBINSON *Th. Physick* 262 This is the only Method to be continued while the Symptoms are not extremely dangerous. 1761 GRAY *Sketch* 2 Too poor for a bribe, and too proud to importune, He had not the method of making a fortune. 1793 SMEATON *Edystone L.* § 274 In our work, it was performed in the following method. 1800 *Med. Jrnl.* IV. 494 Mr. P. was delighted to hear that I thought a cure was not impracticable, and laboured ardently to persuade me to inform him of the method I should use. 1800 tr. *Lagrange's Chem.* I. 365 Scheele has given two methods for obtaining this acid. 1819 BYRON *Juan* I. vii, This is the usual method, but not mine—My way is to begin with the beginning. 1868 LOCKYER *Elem. Astron.* vii. (1879) 256 There are two methods of observing the time of transit over a wire, one called the eye and ear method, the other the galvanic method. 1874 MICKLETHWAITE *Mod. Par. Churches* 200 A perfect method of warming churches has yet to be invented. 1887 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 26 Feb. 448/2 Benefit from this line of treatment must not be expected immediately, and the method should be persevered with for at least some months.

†**b.** A scheme, plan of action. *Obs.*

1704 J. TRAPP *Abra-Mulé* I. i. 319 All my Designs and Methods still were cross'd.

†**c.** A mode (of employment). *Obs.*

1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 294 ▸ 1 Sixteen hundred Children, including Males and Females, put out to Methods of Industry.

d. In generalized use: The methods of procedure in any department, considered as the object of a branch of study; *esp.* with reference to teaching. Cf. sense 6.

1848 W. ROSS (*title*) The Teacher's Manual of Method; or general principles of teaching and school-keeping. 1879 A. PARK (*title*) A Manual of Method for Pupil-Teachers and Assistant Masters.

II. Systematic arrangement, order.

4. A branch of Logic or Rhetoric which teaches how to arrange thoughts and topics for investigation, exposition, or literary composition.

1551 T. WILSON *Logike* E iv b, The maner of handeling a single Question, and the readie waie howe to teache and sette forth any thyng plainlie, and in order, as it should be, in latine Methodus. *Ibid.* K ij, We spake before of a methode, or directe order to be vsed in all our doinges. 1588 FRAUNCE *Lawiers Log.* I. i. 7 Methode hath only to deale with the ordering and setling of many axioms. 1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* II. xvii. § 2 Methode hath beene placed, and that not amisse in Logicke, as a part of Iudgement; For as the Doctrine of Syllogismes comprehendeth the rules of Iudgement vppon that which is inuented. So the Doctrine of Methode contayneth the rules of Iudgement vppon that which is to bee deliuered. 1627 HAKEWILL *Apol.* 1630) 261 To this body [the art of Logic] have they not improperly added the doctrine of Methods as a necessary limbe thereof. *a* 1679 HOBBES *Rhet.* (1681) 1 We see that all men naturally are able in some sort to accuse and excuse: Some by chance; but some by method. This method may be discovered: and to discover Method is all one with teaching an Art. 1713 STEELE *Englishm.* No. 7. 46 Their Children were instructed early in the Rules of Method. 1725 WATTS *Logic* IV. i, In logic .. Method is the disposition of a variety of thoughts on any subject, in such order as may best serve to find out unknown truths. 1780 BENTHAM *Princ. Legisl.* xvi. § 1 *note*, The particular uses of method are various: but the general one is, to enable men to understand the things that are the subjects of it. 1827 HUTTON *Course Math.* I. 3 Method is the art of disposing a train of arguments in a proper order, to investigate either the truth or falsity of a proposition, or to demonstrate it to others when it has been found out. 1849 ABP. THOMSON *Laws Th.* (ed. 2) 95 *Method*, which is usually described as the fourth part of Logic, is rather a complete practical Logic. 1870 JEVONS *Elem. Logic* xxiv. 201 Method is .. defined as consisting in such a disposition of the parts of a discourse that the whole may be most easily intelligible.

5. Orderly arrangement of ideas and topics in thinking or writing; orderliness and sequence of thought or expression.

1559 W. CUNNINGHAM *Cosmogr. Glasse* 3 They [certain writers] obserue no order or Methode in their teaching. 1581 LAMBARD *Eiren.* II. vii. (1588) 223 To me, that am desirous to follow some order, and methode of discourse, the generall must alwayes go before the particular. 1592 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* VII. xxxv. (1612) 171 Though his words lackt methode, yeat they moued. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* II. ii. 208 Though this be madnesse, Yet there is Method in't. 1649 ROBERTS *Clavis Bibl.* Introd. iii. 39 Method and order, as it is the mother of memory, so it is a singular friend to a cleare understanding. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* II. xxx. 184 Unlesse we shall think there needs no method in the study of the Politiques. 1709 POPE *Ess. Crit.* 654 Horace still charms with graceful negligence, And without method talks us into sense. 1753 JOHNSON *Adventurer* No. 85 ▸ 17 Method is the excellence of writing, and unconstraint the grace of conversation. *a* 1834 COLERIDGE *On Method* in *Encycl. Metrop.* I. Introd. 2 The total absence of Method renders thinking impracticable. 1842 H. ROGERS *Ess.* (1874) I. i. 33 His very method .. consists in a contempt of all method. 1880 W. SANDAY in *Expositor* XI. 362 He sought to give to the allegorical interpretation a greater method.

6. The order and arrangement observed in framing a particular discourse or literary composition; an author's design or plan.

1591 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. VI*, III. i. 13 *Verbatim* to rehearse the Methode of my Penne. 1594 — *Rich. III*, I. ii. 116 To leaue this keene encounter of our wittes, And fall something into a slower method. 1596 SPENSER *State Irel.* Wks. (Globe) 609/2 Tell them then, I pray you, in the same order that you have now rehearsed them; for there can be noe better methode then this which the very matter it self offereth. 1597 MORLEY *Introd. Mus.* Pref., As for the methode of the booke, although it be not such as may in euery point satisfie the curiositie of Dichotomistes: yet is it such as I thought most conuenient for the capacitie of the learner. 1622 WITHER *Fair Virtue* C 2 b, If my Methode they deride, Let them know, Loue is not tide In his free Discourse, to chuse Such strict rules as Arts-men vse. 1653 H. MORE *Antid. Ath.* III. xii. (1712) 126, I had here ended all my Stories, were I not tempted by that remarkable one in Bodinus to outrun my method. 1706 LONDON & WISE *Retir'd Gard'ner* I. Pref. A j b, The first of these Books was .. perus'd by several ingenious Gentlemen, who liking the Method of it, were desirous to have it translated. 1784 COWPER *Task* III. 279 What's that which brings contempt

upon a book, And him who writes it, though the style be neat, The method clear, and argument exact?

†**b.** A regular, systematic arrangement of literary materials; a methodical exposition. *Obs.*

1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* I. ii. (Arb.) 21 If Poesie be now an Art,..and yet were none, vntill by studious persons fashioned and reduced into a method of rules and precepts. 1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* II. xvii. § 6 The deliuerie of knowledge in Aphorismes, or in Methodes; wherein wee may obserue that it hath beene too much taken into Custome, out of a fewe Axiomes or Obseruations, vppon any Subiecte, to make a solemne, and formall Art; filling it with some Discourses, and illustratinge it with Examples; and digesting it into a sensible Methode. But the writinge in Aphorismes hath manye excellent vertues, whereto the writinge in Methode doth not approach. *Ibid.* § 7. 1611 BIBLE *Transl. Pref.* ¶ 3 Cutting off the superfluities of the lawes, and digesting them into some order and method. 1680 (*title*) A brief Method of the Law. Being an exact alphabetical disposition of all the heads necessary for a perfect Commonplace. 1706 LONDON & WISE *Retir'd Gard'ner* I. Pref. A ij, Several gentlemen would often have ask'd us Questions relating to our Profession, but were at a Loss how to form them into a Method, and word them so that we might rightly understand what they meant. 1829 BENTHAM *Justice & Cod. Petit.* Prelim. Expl. p. v, In the disposition made of the matter of the original draft..a method..has been given to it.

†**c.** The scheme or summary of the contents of a book, set forth in a table. *Obs.*

1601 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* I. v. 244 *Ol.* In his bosome, In what chapter of his bosome? *Vio.* To answer by the method in the first of his hart. *a* 1613 OVERBURY *A Wife* (1614) B, The Method. First of Mariage, and the effect thereof, children. Then of his contrarie, Lust; then [etc.]. 1652 NEEDHAM tr. *Selden's Mare Cl.* 3 And with these wee shall now begin; for the Method of the second Book is more conveniently put there before it.

7. In wider sense: Orderliness and regularity in doing anything; the habit of acting according to plan and order.

1611 BEAUM. & FL. *King & no K.* v. iv, There is a method in mans wickednesse, It growes vp by degrees. 1647 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* I. § 33 That so putting the Houses into some method and order of their future debate, they would be more easily regulated than if they were in the beginning left to that liberty which they naturally affected. 1714 SWIFT *Pres. St. Affairs* ¶ 2 After which I know no Talents necessary besides Method and Skill in the common forms of business. 1754 RICHARDSON *Grandison* (1811) V. xiv. (cont.) 125 But early hours, and method, and ease, without hurry, will do every thing. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVII. 231/2 No man ever gave himself up more entirely to any object, or prosecuted it..with..more method and skilful management.

†**8.** A particular state of orderly arrangement; a disposition of things according to a regular plan or design. *Obs.*

1635 SHIRLEY *Coronat.* I. (1640) C, A small wound Ith' head, may spoyle the method of his haire. 1677 MARVELL *Corr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 561, I am frequent with Mr. Fisher and our Counsell, having put all things into the best method for an hearing. *a* 1715 BURNET *Own Time* (1724) I. 207 The king was beginning to put things in great method, in his revenue, in his troops [etc.]. 1716 ADDISON *Drummer* IV. i, I would have all the knives and forks..laid in a method. 1754 RICHARDSON *Grandison* (1811) V. xiv. (cont.) 125 All is in such a method, that it seems impossible for the meanest servants to mistake their duty.

9. *Nat. Hist.* A system; scheme of classification.

Now most naturally interpreted as short for 'method of classification', which would commonly be apprehended as an instance of sense 2 or 3. Of the difference between 'system' and 'method', contradictory accounts were formerly given: see quots.

1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* IV. 355 *Method* and *System* ..have often been..used indifferently to signify the same thing...But if we consider their real meaning,—a *Method* should signify an *Artificial*, and a *System* a *Natural* arrangement of objects. 1828-32 WEBSTER, *Method*...3. Classification;..as,..the method of Ray; the Linnean method...A distinction is sometimes made between *method* and *system*. *System* is an arrangement founded, throughout all its parts, on some one principle. *Method* is an arrangement less fixed and determinate... Thus we say, the *natural method*, and the *artificial* or *sexual system* of Linnæus. 1834 MCMURTRIE *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 4 This scaffolding of divisions, the superior of which contain the inferior, is called a *method*.

III. 10. *Comb.*: † *method-monger*, a contemptuous term for one who deals in logical 'method'; in quot. 1647 with a play on Gr. *μεθοδεία* (rendered 'wiles' in the Revised Version of 1881).

1617 DONNE *Serm.* Luke xxiii. 40 (1661) III. 5 We steal our Learning if we..deale upon Rhapsoders, and Common placers, and Method-mongers. 1647 TRAPP *Comm. Eph.* iv. 14 The devil and his disciples are notable method-mongers, so as to deceive, if it were possible, the very elect. 1676 R. DIXON *Two Test.* To Rdr. 12 Such are our systematical Method-mongers, blundering in their Dichotomies after the way of Ramus or Keckerman.

†**Me·thod,** *v. Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. [f. METHOD *sb.*] *trans.* To methodize, arrange.

1640 BP. REYNOLDS *Passions* xlii. 547 He [the Devil] is able..so to method and contrive his devices, that [etc.].

Methodee, variant form of METHODY.

†**Metho·dian.** *Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. [f. METHOD *sb.* + -IAN.] = METHODIST 1.

1612 COTTA *Disc. Dang. Pract. Phys.* I. ii. 10 The Empericke trusting to experience alone without reason, and the methodian unto the abuse of right reason.

Methodic (mĭthŏ·dik), *a.* and *sb. Obs.* exc. *Hist.* Also 6 **-yke.** [ad. late L. *methodic-us*, a. Gr. *μεθοδικ-ός*, f. *μέθοδος* METHOD: see -IC and cf. F. *méthodique* (16th c.).] **A.** *adj.*

†**1.** The distinctive epithet of one of the three ancient schools of physicians, holding views intermediate between those of the Dogmatic and the Empiric school.

1541 R. COPLAND *Galyen's Terap.* 2 B iv, After the sentence of the Methodyke secte. 1701 GREW *Cosm. Sacra* IV. viii. 266 Thessalus, the Head of the Methodick Sect in the Reign of Nero. 1751 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 156 ¶ 1 Every animal body, according to the methodick physicians, is, by the predominance of some exuberant quality, continually declining towards disease and death.

2. = METHODICAL *a.* in various senses: pertaining to method; constructed, performed, or carried on in accordance with method; *rarely* of persons, observant of method, characterized by regularity of procedure.

1620 K. JAMES *Let. to Bacon* 16 Oct. in *Resuscitatio* (1657) II. 83 You could not have made choice of a Subject more befitting..your universal, and Methodick, Knowledge. 1663 J. SPENSER *Prodigies* (1665) 137 Some native and methodick powers, and springs of motion in things. 1669 GALE *Crt. Gentiles* I. III. x. 104 There is no piece of Pagan Oratorie so methodic and harmonious, as sacred Scriptures. 1729 T. COOKE *Tales*, etc. 120 When was I known basely to court the Schools, Or not to rail at dull Methodic Fools..? 1869 SEELEY *Lect. & Ess.* i. 17 The nation which .. by methodic study and science of destruction, had crushed all the surrounding nationalities. 1886 MRS. BURNETT *Little Ld. Fauntleroy* x, It was as unlike the methodic old lawyer to be agitated..as it was to be late.

B. *sb.*

1. *Hist.* A physician of the 'methodic' school; = METHODIST 1.

1541 R. COPLAND *Galyen's Terap.* 2 G j, That is to wyt the indycacyon yᵗ is taken of the myghtynes of the dysease, which the Methodykes onely haue nat left..but also dyuers of the racyonalles, & Emperykes. 1659 MACALLO *Can. Physick* i. 1 The Methodick practizing in Physick hath, First, a knowledge of the Disease: next, foretelleth the event of it; and last, goeth about to cure the same. 1771 T. PERCIVAL *Ess.* (1777) I. 25 Themison..founded a new sect called the Methodics. *a* 1790 W. CULLEN *Hist. Med.* Wks. 1828 I. 383 This easy plan was..called the Method, and the persons who followed it the Methodics. 1864 *Chambers's Encycl.* VI. 385/2 During the greater part of the first two centuries of our era, the Methodics were the preponderating medical sect.

2. *pl.* The science of method; methodology. (Ogilvie 1882, and later Dicts.)

Webster 1864 has the sing. in this sense.

Methodical (mĭthŏ·dikăl), *a.* [f. late L. *methodicus*: see prec. and -ICAL.]

1. *Hist.* = METHODIC *a.* 1.

1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 49 b/1 The Empiricke medicamentes which the Methodicall Physicianes doe so disdayne. 1650 GENTILIS *Considerations* 50 Though a great wise man compared a man that wanted Science, and had Experience, to an Empyrick Physitian, and the learned man to the Methodicall; yet hee was deceived in the comparison. 1727-41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v. *Methodists*, Galen..scrupled not to assert, that the *methodical heresy* ruined every thing that was good in the art [of medicine]. 1837 WHEWELL *Hist. Induct. Sci.* (1857) I. 192 That .. medical sect which was termed the empirical, in contradistinction to the rational and methodical sects.

2. Characterized by method or order; constructed, performed, or carried on in accordance with method; arranged or disposed with order or regularity.

1570 DEE *Math. Pref.* b j, There are other (very many) Methodicall Artes. 1645 MILTON *Tetrach.* 23 Yet Moses .. condescends in this place to such a methodical and School-like way of defining, and consequencing, as in no place of the whole Law more. 1698 FARQUHAR *Love & Bottle* IV. ii, Then they bate to hear a fellow in Church preach methodical Nonsense, with a Firstly, Secondly, and Thirdly. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 3 ¶ 2, I fell insensibly into a kind of Methodical Dream, which disposed all my Contemplations into a Vision or Allegory. 1862 BURTON *Bk. Hunter* (1863) 99 This is to be a methodical discourse. 1903 *Expositor* May 390 Methodical directions for the management of missions were not bequeathed by the Lord to his disciples.

b. Of material things: Arranged in a neat or orderly manner. *rare.*

1650 FULLER *Pisgah* II. Gad § 15. 79 No methodicall monument but this hurdle of stones was fittest for such a causer of confusion [Absalom]. 1904 *Union Mag.* Jan. 5/2 He always wore a tightly buttoned up frock-coat..and a methodical black neck-tie.

3. Of persons, their actions, etc.: Acting with or observant of method or order.

1664 PEPYS *Diary* 29 Feb., I find him a most exact and methodicall man. 1706 ADDISON *Rosamond* I. ii, Let me appear, Great sir, I pray Methodical in what I say. 1820 W. IRVING *Sketch Bk., Angler* ¶ 13 The English are methodical even in their recreations. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* II. i, Small,..neat, methodical, and buxom was Miss Peecher. 1875 *Lyell's Princ. Geol.* II. III. xxxvi. 289 Unconscious selection acts more powerfully than methodical selection.

Hence **Methodica·lity,** *rare*, the property of being methodical.

1861 *Temple Bar* II. 549 You can see the methodicality of these folks in every thread of their clothes.

Methodically (mĭthŏ·dikăli), *adv.* [f. METHODICAL *a.* + -LY 2.] In a methodical manner; in accordance with a prescribed method; with method or regularity.

1570 DEE *Math. Pref.* c iv, You may Methodically register the whole. 1668 HALE *Pref. Rolle's Abridgm.* c, A Stock of learning, methodically digested and fitted to his use. 1756 C. LUCAS *Ess. Waters* II. 3 Great pains have been taken to class mineral waters methodically. 1758 J. S. *Le Dran's Observ. Surg.* (1771) 61, I dressed the Patient methodically. 1859 C. BARKER *Assoc. Princ.* i. 26 An apartment..fitted up with forms and desks methodically arranged. 1890 BOWEN in *Law Times Rep.* LXIII. 690/1 The Lord Chancellor or some other authority should methodically inquire into these differences.

Metho·dicalness. [f. METHODICAL *a.* + -NESS.] The quality of being methodical.

1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* I. iii. 139 A mere fortuitous and temerarious nature, devoid of all order and methodicalness. 1706 tr. *Dupin's Eccl. Hist. 16th C.* II. v. 27 Tapper writes with great Methodicalness and Easiness.

Methodism (me·thŏdiz'm). [f. METHOD *sb.* + -ISM, after next.]

1. The system of religious doctrine, practice, and organization characteristic of Methodists.

1739 WESLEY *Wks.* (1872) I. 225 The true old Christianity, which, under the new name of Methodism, is now also everywhere spoken against. 1768 WHITEFIELD *Let. to Dr. Durell* Wks. 1771 IV. 328 If you should desire..a definition of Methodism itself..you may easily be gratified. It is no more nor less than 'faith working by love'. 'A holy method of living and dying to the glory of God'. 1851 CARLYLE *Sterling* III. iii. (1872) 190 An honest, ignorant good man, entirely given-up to Methodism.

2. Adherence to fixed methods; excessive regard for methods.

1856 *Chamb. Jrnl.* V. 178 The Somerset House gentlemen usually introduce their official methodism at home. 1874 BLACKIE *Self-Cult.* 67 Such a formal methodism of conduct springs from narrowness. 1881 LIDDON in *Chr. World Pulpit* XX. 98/1 When..habit is merely the surviving methodism or the skeleton of a life which is no more. 1885 T. P. O'CONNOR *Gladstone's Ho. Comm.* 59 Sir Stafford Northcote's dull..methodism of words and thought.

Methodist (me·thŏdist). [ad. mod.L. *methodista*: see METHOD *sb.* and -IST. Cf. F. *méthodiste.*]

1. *Hist.* A physician of the 'methodic' school. (See METHODIC *a.* 1.) In the 17th c. sometimes applied to the regular or orthodox medical practitioners of the day, in contradistinction to those who favoured the use of new remedies.

According to Celsus, the members of this school (called in Latin *methodici*, in Gr. *μεθοδικοί*) differed from the Dogmatic school in basing their treatment not on principles deduced from a classification of diseases according to their origin, but on the theory that morbid conditions consisted either in 'looseness', 'tightness', or a mixture between the two (*fluens, strictum, mixtum*), each of the three states having its appropriate set of remedies. The founder of the school was Themison, about A.D. 100.

1598 MARSTON *Sco. Villanie* I. i, As many more, As methodist Musus kild with Hellebore. 1607 WALKINGTON *Opt. Glass* 44 The inexpert phisician, I meane Empyricall, as also the methodist or dogmatist. 1733 CHEYNE *Eng. Malady* II. (1734) 227 The true Foundation of the Distinction between .. the strait and loose of the ancient Methodists. 1845 F. ADAMS tr. *Ægineta* II. xxxix. Comm. I. 293 Soranus, the great master of the Methodists.

fig. 1615 JACKSON *Creed* IV. III. v. § 2 All of us have some or other tender part of our souls which we cannot endure should be ungently touched; Every man must be his own methodist to find them out.

2. One who is skilled in, or attaches importance to, method; one who follows a (specified) method. Now *rare.*

1593 G. HARVEY *Pierces Super.* 110 The finest Methodists, according to Aristotles golden rule of artificiall Boundes, condemne Geometricall preceptes in Arithmetique, or Arithmeticall preceptes in Geometrie, as irregular, and abusiue. 1621 BP. MOUNTAGU *Diatribæ* 79 Aristotle..was too good a Methodist, and Logician to confound the limits and boundaries of Arts. 1647 FARINDON *Serm.* xx. (1672) I. 394 He teacheth us how we shall fear *rectâ methodo*, to be perfect Methodists in Fear, and that we misplace not our fear. 1658 J. SPENCER *Things New & Old* 161 Our..plain pack-staffe Methodists, who esteem of all flowers of Rhetorick in Sermons, no better then stinking weeds. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Methodist*, one that treats of a Method, or affects to be methodical. 1802 BEDDOES *Hygëia* I. 87 What are these methodists in meat and drink, whom we are all so justly averse to the idea of resembling? 1824 J. JOHNSON *Typogr.* II. lxv. 95 But some, who are still better methodists..divide each side of the paper into two columns. 1886 *Cycl. Tour. Club Gaz.* IV. 121 They..despise the cut-and-dried programme of the methodist..and prefer to wander of their own free will.

b. *Nat. Hist.* One who classifies or arranges according to a particular method or scheme. Also, in Kirby's use, an advocate of an artificial in preference to a natural method of classification.

1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp., Methodists*,..persons who have .. bestowed their labours upon the disposition and arrangement of plants. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1824) I. xxxvi. 291 The methodists in natural history. 1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* IV. 356 Under this view system-makers would be divided into two classes—the Methodists and Systematists. 1893 NEWTON *Dict. Birds* 276 Several systematists referring it [the genus *Henicurus*] to the *Motacillidæ*,..while other methodists..placed it next to *Cinclus.*

3. *Eccl.* †**a.** One who advocates a particular 'method' or system of theological belief; applied esp. to the Amyraldists or Semi-Arminians. *Obs.*

1692 R. TRAILL *Sel. Writ.* (1845) 167 The new methodists about the grace of God had too great an increase in the French churches. [1702 I. MATHER in C. Mather *Magn. Chr.* (1702) IV. 132 Parum aut nihil asserunt Amyraldistæ, quos Novatores & Methodistas vocant.]

b. The name given in the 17th c. to a class of Roman Catholic apologists.

1686 WAKE *Def. Exposition* 85, I was willing to hope, that..such a peaceable Exposition of the Doctrine of the Church of England might..have been received with the same civility by them, as that of the Church of Rome was by us; and that our new Methodists had not so wholly studied the palliating part of their Master, as not [etc.]. 1765 MACLAINE tr. *Mosheim's Eccl. Hist.* XVII. II. I. XV, This new species of polemic doctors were called Methodists, and the most eminent of them arose in France. 1882-3 *Schaff's Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* III. 1863 The Jesuits were the first to give systematic representations of the method of polemics; hence they were called 'Methodists'.

4. a. Originally, a term applied to the members of a religious society (nicknamed 'the Holy Club'), established at Oxford in 1729 by John and Charles Wesley and other members of the University, having for its object the promotion of piety and morality; subsequently applied to those who took part in or sympathized with the evangelistic movement led by the Wesleys and George Whitefield. **b.** In later use, a member or adherent of any one of a number of religious bodies or denominations which originated directly or indirectly from the labours of the Wesleys and Whitefield.

In England, the designation belongs especially to the members and adherents of the Wesleyan-Methodist Society founded by John Wesley, and of the various other bodies that have proceeded from it or from each other by succession, as the New Connexion Methodists, the Primitive Methodists, the United Methodist Free Church, and others. All these bodies accept in the main the Arminian theology of Wesley, and in nearly all of them the ministers (called 'travelling preachers') change their place of abode after a certain period (usually three years). In the U. S. the most influential body of Methodists is the Methodist Episcopal Church, which was directly founded by John Wesley (who ordained its first bishop, Dr. Coke), and which is recognized by the English Wesleyan-Methodist Society as in full communion with it. There are also several other bodies in the U. S. that adopt the name as a part of their official designation. In Wales the name 'Methodists' commonly denotes the body more fully known as 'Calvinistic Methodists', which was founded by Welshmen influenced by the teaching of Whitefield; it is now federated with the United Free Church of Scotland and the Presbyterian Church of England.

The origin of the name, as applied to the associates of the Wesleys at Oxford, is somewhat obscure. Cf., however, sense 3 a, and the 17th c. use in examples like quots. 1647, 1658, in sense 2.

1733 (*title*) The Oxford Methodists, some account of a Society of Young Gentlemen in that City. 1741-3 WESLEY *Extract of Jrnl.* (1749) 68, I know no principles of the Methodists (so called) which are contrary to the word of God. 1770 *Junius Lett.* XXXVI. *To Dk. Grafton* 14 Feb., You gave us nothing but the..whining piety of a Methodist. 1771 SMOLLETT *Humph. Cl.* 10 Aug., Nobody reads sermons but Methodists and Dissenters. 1846 MCCULLOCH *Acc. Brit. Empire* (1854) II. 279 The principal classes of dissenters are denominated methodists, independents, baptists, presbyterians,.. &c. 1858 T. MCCOMBIE *Hist. Victoria* XXII. 317 It is but justice to the Wesleyan Methodists to say, that their church seems well adapted for propagating Christianity in new countries. 1864 *Chambers's Encycl.* VI. 427/1 The Welsh Calvinistic Methodists..are not a secession from the followers of Wesley, but originated partly in the preaching of..Whitefield, and partly in that of Howel Harris, a Welsh clergyman of the Church of England. 1887 W. S. GILBERT *Ruddigore* I. Plays, Ser. III. (1895) 222 He combines the manners of a Marquis with the morals of a Methodist.

c. *transf.* Applied contemptuously to a person of strict religious views.

1758 MRS. DELANY in *Life & Corr.* 523 We met with an archdeacon Golden..in his appearance a jolly, open, cheerful countenance,.. he thinks it his duty to uphold any orthodox point; and that, I suppose, has gained him the title of methodist. *c* 1813 MRS. SHERWOOD *Stories Ch. Catech.* XXXIII. 353 The women of the regiment soon gave her the name of a methodist. [*Footnote*] This term, as used in India,..is a name of reproach given to those..who are more serious than their neighbours. 1834 *Tait's Mag.* I. 387/2 For this hardship his remedy was, that the Methodists, his general term for all dissenters, should be made to contribute double, to relieve churchmen of such burdens.

5. *attrib.* (sense 4), passing into *adj.* with the sense: Pertaining to Methodists or Methodism. Also comb. *methodist-like, -mad* adjs.

1751 LAVINGTON *Enthus. Meth. & Papists* III. 317 How horrible the Process was in these Methodist-like Initiations will appear [etc.]. 1766 WESLEY *Jrnl.* 5 Sept., A Methodist Preacher. 1768-74 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) I. 493 Had I run opera-mad..or methodist-mad..I might have found companions enow. 1771 SMOLLETT *Humph. Cl.* 18 July, He attended Mrs. Tabby to the methodist meeting. 1850 LYELL *2nd Visit U. S.* II. 18 Four neat and substantial wooden churches,..the Presbyterian, Baptist, Methodist, and Episcopalian. 1840 B. E. HILL *Pinch—of Snuff* 102 A good woman..was driven Methodist-mad. 1859 [see CONNEXION 8]. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* X. (1880) 720 But the Methodists themselves were the least result of the Methodist revival. 1903 COURTHOPE *Hist. Eng. Poetry* XI, *heading*, The Methodist movement in poetry.

Methodistic (meþǒdi·stik), *a.* [f. prec. + -IC.] **1.** Of or pertaining to the doctrines, beliefs, methods or appearance of the Methodists; characteristic of or pertaining to the Methodists.

1791 HAMPSON *Mem. Wesley* II. 3 His first labours in the methodistic vineyard. 1811 BYRON *Hints fr. Horace* 31 Then spare our stage, ye methodistic men! 1820 POLWHELE in *Lavington's Enthus. Meth. & Papists* Introd. 203 A further specimen of methodistic cant on the subject of inspiration. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XV. 142/2 [The candidate for admission as a minister] undergoes an examination as to his personal acquaintance with Christianity, his Methodistic orthodoxy, and attachment to its discipline. 1849 CLOUGH *Dipsychus* I. iv. 124, I recognise, and kiss the rod—The methodistic 'voice of God'.

Methodistical (meþǒdi·stikăl), *a.* [Formed as prec.: see -ICAL.] Of or pertaining to the Methodists or Methodism; resembling a Methodist; usually with disparaging implication.

1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* VIII. viii, She is at present.. free from any methodistical notions. 1820 SOUTHEY *Wesley* II. 462 Meeting a man there one day, he asked him, in a methodistical manner, if he knew Jesus Christ. 1889 D. HANNAY *Capt. Marryat* 38 What was called in the navy a 'blue light', that is a pious man of a somewhat Methodistical turn.

Hence **Methodi·stically** *adv.*, in accordance with the principles of Methodism or the practice of Methodists.

1787 ANNA SEWARD *Lett.* (1811) I. 301 And so Mr. — talks methodistically. 1820 POLWHELE in *Lavington's Enthus. Meth. & Papists* Introd. 26 We..term those Methodists who (whether Clergymen or Laymen) are Methodistically religious. 1884 *American* VIII. 84 The whole course of the Christian life, as conceived Methodistically, seems to us to labor under this defect.

†**Methodi·stico-,** used as combining form of METHODISTIC.

1751 LAVINGTON *Enthus. Meth. & Papists* III. 350 Thus endeth this Methodistico-Monkish Story. 1805 T. HARRAL *Scenes of Life* II. 193 Methodistico-jacobinical rant.

Me·thodisty, *a. rare*—1. [f. METHODIST + -Y.] Of a Methodist appearance or character.

1837 MARRYAT *Dog Fiend* liv, It would have made you laugh to see his methodisty face.

Methodization (meþǒdəizē·ʃen). [f. next + -ATION.] The action or process of methodizing; the state of being methodized, esp. in *Logic*.

1802-12 BENTHAM *Ration. Judic. Evid.* (1827) II. 231 When, in order to allow the necessary time..for research and methodization, depositions in the form of ready-written answers have been allowed. *a* 1866 J. GROTE *Exam. Utilit. Philos.* (1870) 104 No greater results have flowed..from the theoretical methodization..of the object, which utilitarianism teaches.

Methodize (me·þǒdəiz), *v.* Also **-ise.** [f. METHOD *sb.* + -IZE.]

1. *trans.* To reduce to method or order; to arrange (thoughts, ideas, expression, etc.) in an orderly manner.

1589 NASHE *Anat. Absurd.* Ep. Ded. 2, I..coulde not but methodize this admiration in this digression. 1671 BAXTER *Holiness Design Chr.* lxiv. 18 They have not the skil to word and methodize their notions rightly. 1700 DRYDEN *Sigism. & Guisc.* 258 The royal spy..retired unseen, To.. methodize revenge. 1713 BERKELEY *Guardian* No. 39 ¶ 8 He should be taught..to order and methodise his ideas. 1881 SHORTHOUSE *J. Inglesant* (1882) II. 371 That art of reasoning..which methodizes and facilitates our discourse.

absol. 1707 POPE *Let. to Wycherley* 29 Nov., To methodize in your Case, is full as necessary as to strike out. *a* 1834 COLERIDGE *On Method* in *Encycl. Metrop.* I. Introd. 5 The mind..is disposed to generalize and methodize to excess.

b. To render (a person) orderly or methodical.

1814 MME. D'ARBLAY *Let.* 3 Apr., I have given him..to soberise and methodize him a little, a private tutor.

2. *intr.* To talk methodistically.

1771 SMOLLETT *Humph. Cl.* 12 Sept., She was grave and gay by turns. She moralized and Methodized; she laughed, and romped [etc.].

Hence **Me·thodized** *ppl. a.*; **Me·thodizing** *vbl. sb.* Also **Me·thodizer,** one who methodizes.

a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* III. (1598) 312 All her long methodized oration was inherited onely by such kinde of speeches. 1646 R. BAILLIE *Lett. & Jrnls.* (Bannatyne Club) II. 401 Yet, in the review, the alteration of words, and the methodizeing, takes up so much time, that we know not when we shall end. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* VI. ii. 294 Their methodizing was meerly managed by the will of the Clerk of the Writs. 1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* I. iv. § 13 God was only the Orderer, or the Methodizer and Harmonizer thereof. 1796 BURKE *Regic. Peace* ii. Wks. VIII. 235 The methodized reasonings of the great publicists and jurists. 1841 D'ISRAELI *Amen. Lit.* (1867) 158 This methodiser of commonplaces. 1886 A. WEIR *Hist. Basis Mod. Europe* (1889) 113 The methodised frivolity of their lives.

Methodizing (me·þǒdəiziŋ), *ppl. a.* [-ING 2.] **1.** That methodizes.

1832 CARLYLE in *Fraser's Mag.* V. 412 Hume has the widest, methodising, comprehensive eye. 1902 J. H. ROSE *Napoleon I*, I. xii. 284 This methodizing genius.

2. Inclined to Methodism.

1820 SOUTHEY *Wesley* II. 396 The greater part of the methodizing clergy adhered to Lady Huntingdon's party in the dispute. 1842 WHATELY *Let.* in *Life* (1866) II. 6 A Methodising sailor might call it the log-book of a voyage to heaven.

Methodless (me·þǒdlĕs), *a.* [f. METHOD *sb.* + -LESS.] Devoid of method, order or regularity; lacking the habit of order.

1609 A. CRAIG *Poet. Recreat.* To Rdr. 5 Excuse me (good Reader) for the methodlesse placing of these Passions. 1849 ROCK *Ch. of Fathers* II. 373 Hearne, that untiring, but methodless antiquary. 1887 SAINTSBURY *Hist. Eliz. Lit.* X. (1895) 369 The very maddest, most methodless, of the 'Metaphysicals' cannot touch Crashaw in his tasteless use of conceits.

Methodology (meþǒdǫ·lŏdʒi). [ad. mod.L. *methodologia* (J. F. Bnddeus *Isagoge*, 1727) or F. *méthodologie*: see METHOD *sb.* and -LOGY.] The science of method, 'methodics'; a treatise or dissertation on method. Also *Nat. Hist.* Systematic classification.

1800 *Med. Jrnl.* III. 579 The first treats..of the methodology of medicine. 1809-10 COLERIDGE *Friend* (1818) III. 181 A very different school of methodology and philosophy than Paris could have afforded. 1835 *R. D. Thomson's Rec. Gen. Sci.* II. 65 These divisions [*sc.* De Candolle's divisions of botanical science] are Organography..; Physiology..; Methodology [etc.]. 1837-8 SIR W. HAMILTON *Logic* (1866) III. iii. 56 Such treatises are..only methodologies of the art or science to which they relate. 1902 *Dial* (Chicago) XXXII. 79/1 Bibliographical methodology (*i. e.* methods of compilation and recording).

Hence **Methodolo·gical** *a.* [cf. mod.L. *methodologicus* (A. H. Francke, *c* 1720)], of or pertaining to methodology. **Methodolo·gically** *adv.*, in a methodological manner or respect. **Methodo·logist,** one who treats method as a science.

1849 LANKESTER tr. *Schleiden's Sci. Bot.* Pref., A Methodological Introduction. 1865 *Fraser's Mag.* May 609 The French are miraculous methodologists. 1883 *American* VI. 10 Lord Bacon was the first to call in question the doctrine of final causes. He did so only as a methodologist. 1895 G. F. MOORE *Crit. & Exeget. Comm. Judges* Introd. 26 It is methodologically an unreasonable demand [etc.]. 1897 F. C. S. SCHILLER in *Contemp. Rev.* June 872 As a methodological device this was quite justifiable; every inquiry must begin somewhere, and Darwin chose to begin here.

Methody (me·þǒdi). Also 9 **-dee.** Vulgar or dialectical perversion of METHODIST. Also *attrib.*

1847 W. E. FORSTER in Reid *Life* (1888) I. vii. 207 Last evening I deluded them into a Methody meeting-house. *Ibid.* 208 Said rotten blanket being the Methody garment of the religious idea. 1848 MRS. GASKELL *Mary Barton* vi, A good fellow, though too much of the Methodee.

Methol (me·þǫl). *Chem.* [ad. F. *méthol*, f. *méthyle* METHYL: see -OL 1.] A colourless liquid, produced in the distillation of wood.

1842 T. GRAHAM *Elem. Chem.* 837. *a* 1864 GESNER *Coal, Petr.*, etc. (1865) 89.

Methologie, -y, obs. forms of MYTHOLOGY.

Methomania (meþǫmē·niă). *Path.* [f. Gr. *μέθη* strong drink, drunkenness + -MANIA. Cf. F. *méthomanie.*] Periodic or intermittent drunkenness.

1856 in MAYNE *Expos. Lex.* 1876 FISKE *Unseen World* xiv. 334 We have an increased amount of insanity, methomania, consumption [etc.]. 1887 *Buck's Handbk. Med. Sci.* IV. 120/2 Dipsomania, Methomania, Oinomania.

Methopa, obs. form of METOPE.

Methought, pa. t. of METHINKS.

Methoxyl (meþǫ·ksil). *Chem.* [f. METH(YL) + OX(YGEN) + -YL.] A hypothetical radical, CH_3O, analogous to hydroxyl.

1866 FRANKLAND in *Jrnl. Chem. Soc.* XIX. 376 These radicals may be named *hydroxyl, methoxyl, ethoxyl*, &c.

Methranee, variant form of MATRANEE.

1845 STOCQUELER *Handbk. Brit. India* (1854) 223 A methranee, or female sweeper.

Methredate, -ridat(e, var. ff. of MITHRIDATE.

†**Me·thuen.** *Obs.* A name jocularly applied to Portuguese wines imported under a preferential duty in accordance with the provisions of the commercial treaty of 1703 between England and Portugal, negotiated by Paul Methuen, the English minister at Lisbon.

1753 ARMSTRONG *Taste* 53 The Man to genuine Burgundy bred up Soon starts the dash of Methuen in his Cup. 1754 FIELDING *Voy. Lisbon* (1755) 205 That generous liquor which all humble companions are taught to postpone to the flavour of Methuen, or honest Port.

Methule, obs. form of METHYL.

Methuselah (mĭþiū·zĕlă). Also 4-5 **Matus(s)ale, Mathusalah,** 6 **Mathusalah,** 7-8 **Methusaleh, -salem.** [Heb. מְתוּשֶׁלַח *mᵉthūshe·lah.*

The corruption *Methusalem* (after *Jerusalem*) still survives in vulgar use. Purvey 1388 has *Matusalem* beside *Matusale*, perhaps from the accusative form *Matusalam* in the Vulgate.]

The name of one of the pre-Noachian patriarchs, stated to have lived 969 years (*Gen.* v. 27); hence used as a type of extreme longevity.

a 1380 *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* XXXIX. 186 3if a Mon may libben heer As longe as dude Matussale. 1647 COWLEY *Mistr., Love & Life* i, So though my Life be short, yet may I prove The great Methusalem of Love. 1711 tr. *Werenfelsius' Meteors of Stile* 225 The Heliotrope is the Methusalem of Flowers. 1756 H. WALPOLE *Let. to Conway* 4 Mar., It is impossible not to laugh at him as if he was a Methusaleh! 1849 H. ROGERS *Ess.* II. vi. 316 A good book is the Methuselah of these latter ages. 1888 J. B. BAILEY (*title*) Modern Methuselahs, or Short Biographical Sketches of a few Advanced Nonagenarians, or actual Centenarians.

Hence **Methu·salemess,** a female 'Methuselah'.

1790 H. WALPOLE *Let. to Miss A. Berry* 29 Nov., Madame Grifoni..would now be a Methusalemess.

‖ **Me·thy.** ? *Obs.* In 8 (? *erron.*) **marthy.** [Cree *methai* (in other dialects *menai, melai, meyai*).] (See quot. 1772.)

1772 FORSTER in *Phil. Trans.* LXIII. 152 The second of the Hudson's Bay fish, is called, by the wild natives of that country, *Marthy*, and is nothing else than our common Burbot, *Gadus Lota*, Linn. only vastly superior in size. 1836 J. RICHARDSON *Fauna Bor.-Amer.* III. 248 *Gadus (Lota) maculosus* (Cuvier). The Methy.

Methyl (me·þil). *Chem.* Formerly also **methule, -yle.** [a. F. *méthyle*, G. *methyl*, a back-formation from F. *méthylène*, G. *methylen*, METHYLENE.

The G. *methyl* occurs in papers by Regnault in *Ann. der Pharmacie* XXXIII. 328 and XXXIV. 28 (1840). The

back-formation was suggested by the fact that *-yl* (which Berzelius preferred to spell *-ule*), from the Gr. ὕλη in the sense of 'matter', had already been used in names of organic radicals (*benzoyl*, Wöhler & Liebig 1832; *ethyl*, Liebig 1834). The analysis of *methylene* into *methyl*+*-ene* gave rise to the use of -ENE as a chemical suffix, as in *ethylene*, *benzene*, etc., and the identification of the last syllable of *methyl* with the suffix *-yl* led to the use of *meth-* as an element in the names of substances connected with or derived from wood spirit.]

The hypothetical radical of the monocarbon series (CH_3), the base of pyroxylic or wood spirit or pyroligneous naphtha, of formic acid and of a large series of organic compounds.

1844 HOBLYN *Dict. Med., Methyl*, the newly-discovered radical, or basyle, of wood spirit. 1847 HORSFORD in *Amer. Jrnl. Sci.* Ser. II. IV. 333 The same is true of .. oxyd of methyle and alcohol. 1848 CRAIG, *Methule*, the name given to the hypothetical radical of pyroxylic acid. 1850 DAUBENY *Atom. Theory* vii. (ed. 2) 226 A then hypothetical principle, composed of C_2H_3, which he [*sc.* Liebig] called methyle. 1871 TYNDALL *Fragm. Sci.* (1879) I. xvii. 449 The positions of chloroform and iodide of methyl are inverted.

b. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *methyl compound, radical*, etc.; esp. in names of salts of methyl, e.g. *methyl bromide, chloride, hydride*. Also prefixed (often without hyphen) to the name of an organic compound to express the addition of methyl to its composition, or the replacement of hydrogen atoms by equivalents of methyl, as in *methylacetonamine, methylaniline, methylcarbonic (acid), methyl-codeia, methyluramine*, etc.

1844 FOWNES *Chem.* Index, Methyle-compounds. 1865 ODLING *Anim. Chem.* 45 Leave the urea and methylamine residues combined with one another in the form of methyluramine or methyl-guanidine. 1866 ROSCOE *Elem. Chem.* 81 Metbyl Hydride..is a colourless, tasteless, inodorous gas. 1868 F. GUTHRIE in *Rep. Brit. Assoc., Sections* 38 Iodide of methylacetonamine. 1874 GARROD & BAXTER *Mat. Med.* 201 The hypnotic effect of codeia is wholly destroyed by its conversion into methyl-codeia. 1878 *Nature* 25 July 337/1 Use of Methyl Chloride for the Production of Low Temperatures. 1885 REMSEN *Org. Chem.* (1888) 357 Methylsulphonic acid..methyl-carbonic or acetic acid. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 225 The methyl compound depresses the spinal cord. 1899 *Ibid.* VIII. 577 [Cacodylic acid] is a combination of arsenic with methyl radicals.

c. Special combinations: **methyl alcohol**, pyroxylic spirit; **methyl green**, a green dye obtained by heating Paris violet with methyl chloride, much used in microscopical preparations; **methyl mercaptan**, methyl hydrosulphide, CH_3HS; **methyl violet**, Paris violet, a reddish-blue coal-tar dye obtained from dimethylaniline.

1847 HORSFORD in *Amer. Jrnl. Sci.* Ser. II. IV. 333 *Methyl alcohol. 1850 DAUBENY *Atom. Theory* viii. (ed. 2) 240 *Methylaniline, where the second atom is replaced by methyle instead of ethyle. 1899 CAGNEY tr. *Jaksch's Clin. Diagn.* v. (ed. 4) 156 A violet coloured watery solution of *methyl-aniline-violet. 1880 FRISWELL in *Jrnl. Soc. Arts* 445 By the action of methyl chloride, the well-known *methyl green was produced. 1844 FOWNES *Chem.* 420 *Methyl-mercaptan..is a colourless liquid, of powerful alliaceous odour.

Methylal (me·þilæl). *Chem.* [ad. F. *méthylal*, f. *méthyle* METHYL + *al*(*cool*) ALCOHOL.] A mobile aromatic liquid obtained by heating methyl alcohol with manganese dioxide and sulphuric acid; occasionally employed as an anæsthetic.

1838 R. D. THOMSON in *British Ann. for* 1839, 363 Methylal..is contained in the formomethylal discovered by Dr. Gregory. 1881 B. W. RICHARDSON in *Med. Temp. Jrnl.* XLVI. 81 Methylic alcohol, or methylal.

Methylamine (me·þilămən). *Chem.* Also **-min.** [f. METHYL + AMINE.] A compound in which one atom of the hydrogen in ammonia has been replaced by methyl. Also *attrib.*

1850 DAUBENY *Atom. Theory* viii. (ed. 2) 239 Methylamine. 1873 WATTS *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 11) 569 Methylamine nitrate. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 788 From decomposing fish ..methylamine..cadaverine and putrescine were extracted. 1898 *Ibid.* V. 35 Methylamin, ammonia and sulphuretted hydrogen are also found [in the sputum of fetid bronchitis].

Methylate (me·þilēt), *sb. Chem.* [Formed as METHYLIC: see -ATE[1].] A salt formed by the union of methyl with oxygen and a metallic base.

1835 KANE in *Rep. Brit. Assoc., Sections* 42 The sulphomethylate of potash. 1865 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* III. 1002 Methylate of ethylene. 1880 *Athenæum* 27 Nov. 713/1 Aluminic methylate.

Methylate (me·þilēt), *v. Chem.* [f. METHYL + -ATE.] *trans.* To mix or impregnate with methyl; usually, to mix (spirit of wine) with such a quantity of pyroxylic spirit or some other substance as will render it unfit for drinking, so as to exempt it from the duties imposed in Great Britain and other countries upon alcohol. Hence **Me·thylated** *ppl. a.*; **Methyla·tion**, the process of methylating; **Me·thylator**, one who methylates.

Methylated spirit, containing about ten per cent. of pyroxylic spirit, is the form in which alcohol is most commonly employed for industrial purposes.

c 1865 J. WYLDE in *Circ. Sci.* I. 63/2 Each lens should..be..washed..with spirits of wine (not methylated spirits, because these contain a resin in solution). 1866 ROSCOE *Elem. Chem.* 334 Each of these methylated benzols yields an important series of derivatives. 1880 *Act* 43 & 44 *Vict.* c. 24 § 3 'Methylate' means to mix spirits with some substance in such manner as to render the mixture unfit for use as a beverage. *Ibid.* § 83 Spirits warehoused may..be delivered out, without payment of duty, for methylation. *Ibid.* § 126 A retailer..must not receive methylated spirits except from an authorised methylator. 1880 FRISWELL in *Jrnl. Soc. Arts* 444 This inference, was that the methylated derivatives of roseine could be obtained by the oxidation of the methylated derivatives of aniline. *Ibid.* 445 The violets obtained by the methylation of rosaniline. 1888 *Jrnl. Chem. Soc.* LIII. 778 An attempt was made to methylate acetyl-metanitranilide by the action of sodium ethylate and methyl iodide.

Methylene (me·þilēn). *Chem.* [ad. F. *méthylène* (Dumas & Peligot, *Ann. de Chimie physique* 1835, LVIII. 9), irregularly f. Gr. μέθυ wine + ὕλη wood; the inventors of the name explain its etymological meaning as 'vin ou liqueur spiritueuse du bois'.] A hypothetical radical of the hydrocarbons (CH_2); unknown in the free state, but occurring in many compounds, as *methylene hydrate*, etc. **Methylene-azure**, an oxidation product of methylene blue; **methylene-blue**, a coal-tar colour used in dyeing, and as a bacterioscopic reagent; **methylene-violet** = *methyl-violet*.

1835 *R. D. Thomson's Rec. Gen. Sci.* II. 375 Dumas has..coined a new name to distinguish this base, viz. Methylene. 1838 T. THOMSON *Chem. Org. Bodies* 180 This is the compound to which Dumas and Peligot have given the name of hydrate of methylene, and which I have considered as methylene. 1874 GARROD & BAXTER *Mat. Med.* 167 Bichloride of Methylene has been recommended by Dr. Richardson as a safer anæsthetic than chloroform. 1890 *Syd. Soc. Lex.* s.v., *Methylene azure, M. blue.* 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 412 Another most useful basic stain is methylene blue. 1904 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 10 Sept. 583 Methylene-azure.

Methylic (mĭþi·lik), *a. Chem.* [Orig. f. METHYL(ENE) + -IC; the term METHYL, to which the adj. was afterwards more normally referred, was introduced somewhat later. Cf. F. *méthylique*.] Of or pertaining to methyl. Chiefly in names of compounds, in which *methyl* is more commonly used attributively.

1835 KANE in *Rep. Brit. Assoc., Sections* 43 Methylic æther. 1849 — *Elem. Chem.* (ed. 2) 826 In its action upon other bodies this substance ranges itself completely with wine-alcohol, and it is hence frequently termed methylic alcohol. 1849 R. V. DIXON *Heat* I. 75 Amylic, ethylic, and methylic alcohol follow sensibly the same law of contraction. 1873 WATTS *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 11) 705 Methylic diethoxalate is easily decomposed by baryta-water.

Methylosis (meþilō·sis). *Geol.* [f. Gr. μετα- META- + ὕλη matter : see -OSIS.] Change of matter or composition. Hence **Methylo·tic** *a.*, pertaining to or produced by methylosis.

1878 KINAHAN *Geol. Irel.* 177 A third class of Metamorphism..is due to the introduction and action of chemical substances from without; it has been called Methylosis. *Ibid.* 188 Some of the beds have been subjected to methylotic action..Some of which seem to be methylotic rocks. 1893 GEIKIE *Text-bk. Geol.* IV. VIII. 596 *note, Methylosis, methylotic*,..applied to chemical metamorphism or alteration of constitution or substance.

‖ **Methysis** (me·þisis). *Path.* [mod.L., a. Gr. μέθυσις drunkenness, f. μεθύειν to be drunk, f. μέθυ strong drink.] The state of being addicted to the excessive use of intoxicants (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1890).

1856 in MAYNE *Expos. Lex.* In mod. Dicts.

Methystic (mĭþi·stik), *a. Med.* [ad. Gr. μεθυστικός, f. μεθύειν : see prec.] Of or belonging to drunkenness; intoxicating. 1856 in MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*

Metic (me·tik). *Gr. Antiq.* [irreg. ad. Gr. μέτοικος (late L. *metœcus, metycus*), f. μετα- (denoting change) + -οικος dwelling, οἰκεῖν to dwell.] A resident alien in a Greek city, having some of the privileges of citizenship.

1808 W. MITFORD *Hist. Greece* xxi. III. 12 An imposition, in the manner of a poll-tax, on the metics, those numerous free residents in Attica who were not Athenian citizens. 1881 JOWETT *Thucyd.* I. 114 The entire Athenian force, including the metics, invaded the territory of Megara.

transf. 1904 *Speaker* 23 Jan. 401/1 The British Imperialists..have found that the rich metics are their Masters.

attrib. 1850 GROTE *Greece* II. lxv. (1862) V. 592 Exempt from the metic-tax and other special burthens.

Metical(le: see MISKAL.

Meticulo·sity. [f. L. *meticulōsus* METICULOUS + -ITY. Cf. F. *méticulosité*.] The quality of being meticulous; †timorousness (*obs.*); excessive scrupulousness.

1654 H. L'ESTRANGE *Chas. I* (1655) 60 So that such Leagues may more properly be called Leagues of meticulosity and fear, then of amity. 1656 in BLOUNT *Glossogr.* 1906 *Daily News* 20 Feb. 9/1 Meticulosity of detail.

Meticulous (mĭti·kiŭləs), *a.* [ad. L. *meticulōsus* (or the derived F. *méticuleux*), f. *metus* fear.] †1. Fearful, timid. *Obs.*

1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* II. 649 Gif thow be..Meticulos, and dar nocht se blude drawin. *a* 1550 *Image Hypocr.* IV. 544 in *Skelton's Wks.* (1843) II. 445 Madd and meticulous. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* II. vii. (1686) 78 Melancholy and meticulous heads. 1674 [Z. CAWDREY] *Catholicon* 16 They strive not so much to ingage Meticulous Scrupulous Women and Mechanicks.

2. Over-careful about minute details, over-scrupulous.

1827 *Blackw. Mag.* XXII. 489 He does many things which we ourselves, and we do not hold ourselves peculiarly meticulous, will not venture upon. 1877 SYMONDS *Renaiss. in It., Rev. Learn.* II. vii. 300 The decadence of Italian prose composition into laboured mannerism and meticulous propriety. 1904 MAJ. A. GRIFFITHS 50 *Yrs. Public Service* xii. 162 The rule was enforced by a stringent and meticulous discipline.

Meticulously (mĭti·kiŭləsli), *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY[2].] In a meticulous manner; †timidly (*obs.*); with excessive care about minute details, over-scrupulously.

1682 SIR T. BROWNE *Chr. Mor.* I. § 33 (1716) 39 Move circumspectly not meticulously, and rather carefully sollicitous than anxiously sollicitudinous. 1900 *Academy* 31 Mar. 275/1 A dish meticulously concocted upon a recipe.

†**Me·tient,** *a. Obs.*[−0] [ad. L. *mētient-em*, pres. pple. of *mētīrī* to measure.]

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Metient*, measuring, esteeming.

‖ **Métier** (metye). [Fr. :—popular L. **misterium*, alteration of L. *ministerium* (see MINISTRY), prob. influenced by *mystērium* MYSTERY.] A trade or profession: in Eng. use chiefly *transf.*, a person's 'line', that in which one is specially skilled.

1792 CHARLOTTE SMITH *Desmond* I. xiii. 253 They wanted, indeed, to make me a monk; but I had a mortal aversion to that *métier*. 1842 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. II. *Auto-da-fé*, Heretic-burning—in fact, 'tis his *métier*. 1895 ZANGWILL *Master* II. vii. 211 Black-and-white was no more his *métier* than humour.

‖ **Metif** (mē·tif, mī·tif, ‖ *metif*). Also **-iff.** [F. *métif*, OF. *mestif* mongrel, ?derived from *mêlis* (see METIS) with substitution of suffix.] The offspring of a white and a quadroon. Also *attrib.*

1808 PIKE *Sources Mississ.* (1895) II. 510 The hospitality and goodness of the Creoles and Metifs began to manifest itself. 1827 J. F. COOPER *Prairie* I. x. 281 The metiffs or half-breeds, who claimed to be ranked in the class of white men. 1864 E. SARGENT *Peculiar* I. 42 A certain metif girl. 1859 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer., Metif*, the offspring of a white person and a .. quadroon. 1884 G. P. LATHROP *True* ii. 14 She was not of octoroon or metif parentage.

Metigat(e, Meting, obs. ff. MITIGATE, MITTEN.

Meting (mī·tiŋ), *vbl. sb.*[1] Forms: see METE *v.*[1] [f. METE *v.*[1] + -ING[1].] The action of METE *v.*[1]; measuring; portioning *out*; etc.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Serm.* Sel. Wks. I. 11 Siche metyng of corn, of niele, or oþer þing. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 336/1 Metynge wythe mesurys, *mensuracio*. 1543 *Act* 35 *Hen. VIII*, c. 17 § 7 The..meting and bounding of the said fourth Part of the said Woods. 1548 PATTEN *Exped. Scot.* Pref. ¶ 1 Although it bee not allways the truest meanes of meting to measure all mens appetites by one mans affeccion. 1624 A. HUNTER (*title*) Treatise of Weights, Mets and Measures of Scotland...Together with the Art of Melting, measuring and compting all sort of Land. 1644 BULWER *Chiron.* 122 The meeting and scanning of verses upon the Fingers. 1829 R. STORY *Mem. Isab. Campbell* vii. (1854) 104 She was in the habit also of acknowledging in every feeling or personal application of the words [of Scripture] the metings out of his sovereign love. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk., Metcings*, the measurement and estimate of timber.

† **b.** *pl.* Dimensions. *Obs. rare*[−1].

1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* 110 The three meteings or dimensions of a body.

c. *Comb.*: **meting-pole, -rod** = METE-POLE, METE-ROD.

1606 HOLLAND *Sueton.* 4 With ten foote perches [*marg.* Or meeting poles] in their hands. 1881 ROSSETTI *Ballads & Sonn.* (1882) 275 To take the meting-rod In turn, and so approve on God Thy science of Theometry.

† **Meting,** *vbl. sb.*[2] *Obs.* Forms: see METE *v.*[2]; also 4 **matyng.** [f. METE *v.*[2] + -ING[1].] The action of METE *v.*[2]; dreaming; a dream.

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* III. 156 Seo mætingc. *c* 1250 *Kent. Serm.* in *O. E. Misc.* 27 Þo nicht efter þet aperede an ongel of heuene in here slepe ine metinge. 13.. *K. Alis.* 261 By theo planetis, and by the steorres, Y can jugge alle weorres, Alle plaies, in alle matynges, And on alle othir thynges. *c* 1369 CHAUCER *Dethe Blaunche* 282 Ioseph..that red so The kynges metynge pharao. *c* 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* II. xxxiii. (1869) 87, I wolde weene al were lesinge, or elles that it were meetinge.

Metior, Metir(e, obs. forms of METEOR, METRE.

Metis (mē·tis). [a. F. *métis* :—late L. *mistīcius*, whence also MESTIZO.] The offspring of a white and an American Indian, esp. in Canada.

1839 *Penny Cycl.* XV. 158/2 The mixed race [in Mexico] is mostly composed of the descendants of the Europeans and the aboriginal tribes: these are called *Metis* or *Mestizos*. 1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XV. 491/2 Of the latter [Indian half-breeds] one half are of English-speaking parentage..the remainder are known as Metis or Bois-brûlés. 1902 *Ibid.* XXVI. 531/1 Then Manitoba was principally inhabited by English and French half-breeds (or Metis).

Metisupe, Metkorn: see METESHIP, METECORN.

Metle, obs. form of METAL, METTLE.

† **Me·tleyship.** *Obs.* [f. MET *sb.* + *-ley* (of uncertain origin) + -SHIP.] The office of 'meter'.

1587 LD. BURGHLEY in *12th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. VII. (1890) 12 [Concerning the office of the] weyleyship and metleyship [in Penrith].

Metly, obs. form of MEETLY *a.* and *adv.*

Metochy. *Obs. rare*[−1]. [ad. Eccl. Gr. μετόχιον.] A grange belonging to a monastery.

1682 WHELER *Journ. Greece* IV. 325 Near this Harbour the Convent hath a Metochy, or Farm.

Metœcious (mĭtī·ʃəs), *a. Bot.* [f. Gr. μετα- (denoting change) + οἰκία house: see -IOUS.] = HETERŒCIOUS.

1882 VINES *Sachs' Bot.* 332 Such forms as these are said to be heterœcious (metœcious), to distinguish them from those above-mentioned which inhabit the same host throughout their whole life (autœcious).

Hence **Metœcism** (mĭtī·siz'm) = HETERŒCISM. 1887 GARNSEY & BALFOUR *De Bary's Fungi* 388 Metoecism, that is, enforced change of the living host, is not known outside the group of the Uredineae.

Metol (me·tŏl). *Photogr.* [a. G. *metol*: arbitrarily named by the inventor.] The name of a developer (see quot. 1893). Also *attrib.*

1893 *Photogr. Ann.* 90 Metol, according to the statement of the maker (Hauff, of Feuerbach), is the sulphate of methylparamidometacresol. It is a white powder, soluble in water. *Ibid.* 92 Metol solutions harden gelatine. 1902 ABNEY in *Encycl. Brit.* XXXI. 687/1 Metol Developer.

Metoleate, -oleic: see META- 6 a.

Metonic (mĭtɒ·nik), *a.* [ad. mod.L. *Metōnic-us*, f. *Metōn*, Gr. Μέτων, the name of the Athenian astronomer by whom the cycle was discovered.] *Metonic cycle, period,* † *year*: the cycle of 19 Julian years (closely approximating to 235 lunations) in which the moon returns (nearly) to the same apparent position with regard to the sun, so that the new and full moons occur at the same dates in the corresponding year of each cycle.

1696 PHILLIPS, *Metonic-Year*, is the Space of 19 years, in which space of Time, the Lunations return and happen as they were before. 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Metonick Year*, or *Period*..'tis sometimes called *The Great Metonic Year*, and is the same with the *Cycle of the Moon.* 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XV. 144/1 The first year of the first Metonic period commenced with the summer solstice of the year 432 B.C. 1881 ROUTLEDGE *Science* i. 12 The golden number being simply the ordinal position of the year in the Metonic cycle of nineteen years.

Metonimical, -my: see METONYMICAL, -MY.

† **Metono·masy.** *Obs.* [ad. Gr. *μετονομασία*, n. of action of *μετονομάζειν* to change in name, f. *μετα-* (denoting change) + *ὄνομα* name.] A change (or translation) of name.

1609 Bp. W. BARLOW *Answ. Nameless Cath.* 32 Hee is by his Metamorphosis, or Metonomasie translated into Mathæus Tortus.

Metonomatosis (metɒ:nŏmătōu·sis). *nonce-wd.* [f. Gr. *μετα-* (denoting change) + *ὀνοματ-*, *ὄνομα* name + -OSIS.] A change of name.

1827 HARE *Guesses* Ser. I. (1873) 132 The Jacobinical metonomatosis of the months, and of the days of the week, might be lookt upon as a parody of the Quakerian.

Metonym (me·tŏnim). [ad. assumed Gr. **μετώνυμον*: see METONYMY and cf. *paronym.*] A word used in a transferred sense.

In quot. 1837–8 misused (? misprinted) for *metonymy.*

1837–8 SIR W. HAMILTON *Logic* xxxiii. (1860) II. 177 The term *testimony*, I may notice, is sometimes, by an allusive metonym employed for *witness.* 1862 MERIVALE *Rom. Emp.* liv. (1865) VI. 434 Tertullian and Lactantius explain this word as a metonym for Christ, signifying just or good.

Metonymic (metoni·mik), *a.* [Formed as next + -IC.] = next. 1775 in ASH; and in later Dicts.

Metonymical (metoni·mikăl), *a. Rhet.* Also 6–7 metonimical(l. [f. Gr. *μετωνυμικ-ός*, f. *μετωνυμία* METONYMY: see -ICAL.] Pertaining to or involving metonymy. Of words: Used in a transferred sense.

1579 FULKE *Heskins' Parl.* 210 The whole speache being figuratiue, both allegoricall, and metonymicall. 1610 J. DOVE *Advt. Seminaries* 9 The meaning of Saint Chrysostome is metonimicall, and not proper. 1674 OWEN *Holy Spirit* Wks. 1852 III. 115 This expression is metonymical, that being spoken of the cause which is proper to the effect. 1711 HICKES *Two Treat. Chr. Priesth.* (1847) II. 71 Learned men have taken altar here in the metonymical sense for the altar-offering. 1811 A. M'LEAN *Comm. Hebr.* vi. (1847) I. 245 The apostle continues the metonymical use of the word *hope*, by which it is put for the object or ground of it.

Metonymically (metoni·mikăli), *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY 2.] By metonymy.

1574 WHITGIFT *Def. Answ.* 152 But be it that they [*sc.* the words of the text] may be taken there metonimically (whiche is but a coniecture) that can not excuse [etc.]. 1671 FLAVEL *Fount. Life* xxx. 92 Hence sins are metonimically called Debts. 1708 *Brit. Apollo* No. 113. 1/1 *Anathema* .. signifies..Metonymically, a Person Devoted, or Accurs'd. 1884 J. PAYNE *Tales fr. Arabic* I. 46 *note*, The word *bilal* signifies 'moisture' or (metonymically) 'beneficence'.

Metonymy (mĭtɒ·nimi). *Rhet.* Also 6–7 metonymie, -imie, -imy, 9 metonomy. Also 6–7 in Lat. form. [ad. late L. *metōnymi-a*, a. Gr. *μετωνυμία*, lit. 'change of name', f. *μετ(α)-* META- + *ὄνομα*, Aeol. *ὄννυμα* name.] A figure of speech which consists in substituting for the name of a thing the name of an attribute of it or of something closely related.

In quot. 1547 *metonomian* = *μετωνυμίαν* (accus.).

[1547 HOOPER *Answ. Winchester's Bk.* D 1 b, Men seyth that they admyt metonomian, and say under the forme of breade is the trew bodye of Christ.] 1562 COOPER *Answ. Def. Truth* 106 b, The figure is named Metonymia: when the name of the thynge is geuen vnto the signe. 1573 CARTWRIGHT *Reply to Whitgift* 14 The Apostle by a metonimie *Subiecti pro adiuncto*, dothe giue to vnderstand from whence y° assured persuasion doth spring. 1625 GILL *Sacr. Philos.* II. 156 *Shebet* signifies either a staffe, a truncheon, or Scepter,..and so by a metonymia it may signifie authority. 1657 J. SMITH *Myst. Rhet.* 15 A metonymie of the effect, is when the effect or thing caused, is put for its cause. 1668 H. MORE *Div. Dial., Schol.* 575 Here is a double Metonymie, Christ is put for the Doctrine of Christ, and Hope for the Cause of Hope. 1676 W. HUBBARD *Happin. People* 4 By times we are to understand things done in those times, by a metonimy of the adjunct. 1868 BAIN *Ment. & Mor. Sci.* IV. xi. 403 By what is called 'metonymy', the fact intended to be expressed is denoted by one of the adjuncts.

Metope 1 (me·tōpī). *Arch.* Forms: 6 methopa, 7–8 metop, metops, 8–9 metopa, 7– metope. [ad. L. *metopa* (Vitruvius), a. Gr. *μετόπη*, f. *μετά* between + *ὀπαί* holes in a frieze to receive the beam-ends. Cf. F. *métope*, OF. *methope.*] One of the square spaces, either plain or sculptured, between the triglyphs in the Doric frieze. *Demi-, Semi-metope*, the half-space between the corner and the triglyph next the corner.

1563 SHUTE *Archit.* C iij b, Bitwixte the .2. Triglyphos, you shall set Methopa. 1624 WOTTON *Archit.* in *Reliq.* (1651) 230 A sober garnishment now and then..of Triglyphs and Metopes alwayes in the Frize. 1665 MOXON tr. *Vignola* (1702) 34 The square place of the Friese between the Triglyphs is called a Metops. 1703 BOYER tr. *Perrault's Vitruvius* 32 Towards the Corners must be placed the Demi-Metops. 1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Metope*, Semi-Metope is a space somewhat less than half a metope, in the corner of a Doric frieze. 1776 R. CHANDLER *Trav. Greece* (1825) II. 62 All the metopes were decorated with large figures in *alto relievo.* 1876 HUMPHREYS *Coin-coll. Man.* vi. 58 A metope of the Parthenon.

Metope 2 (me·tōup). *Zool.* [a. Gr. *μέτωπ-ον* forehead.] Applied by Huxley to the face of a crab.

1880 HUXLEY *Crayfish* 283 The fore part of the head is modified so as to bring about the formation of the characteristic metope.

Metopic (mĭtɒ·pik), *a.* [f. Gr. *μέτωπ-ον* forehead + -IC.] a. Of or pertaining to the forehead; frontal. b. Of a skull: Having the metopic suture persisting.

1878 BARTLEY tr. *Topinard's Anthrop.* II. ii. 234 Metopic point.., a point situate in the median line between the two frontal eminences. 1879 FLOWER *Catal. Mus. Coll. Surg.* I. 14 A metopic cranium of a European. 1889 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 28 Sept. 736/2 The presence of the metopic suture is considered as an indication of criminality.

Metopism (me·tŏpiz'm). [f. Gr. *μέτωπον* forehead + -ISM.] (See quot.)

1879 FLOWER *Catal. Mus. Coll. Surg.* I. 14 Crania showing Metopism, or persistence of the frontal suture.

† **Metopomancy.** *Obs.* [f. Gr. *μέτωπο-ν* forehead + *μαντεία* divination: see -MANCY.] Divination by the forehead or face.

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* *a* 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. xxv, Ye know how by the Arts of Astrology,..Chiromancy, Metopomancy,..he foretelleth all things to come.

† **Metopo·scoper.** *Obs.* [Formed as METOPOSCOPIST + -ER 1.] = METOPOSCOPIST.

1569 J. SANFORD tr. *Agrippa's Van. Artes* 50 b, A certaine man..did so passingly depainte the likenesses of Images that by them the Metoposcoper hath tolde the yeares of death paste or to come. 1649 BULWER *Pathomyot.* II. iii. 146 Whatsoever inward..affection of the mind is..observed by Metoposcopers and others to appeare in the Forehead.

Metoposcopic (metŏpskɒ·pik), *a.* [ad. mod.L. *metōposcopic-us*, f. *metōposcopia* METOPOSCOPY. Cf. F. *métoposcopique.*] = next.

1864 in WEBSTER.

Metoposcopical (metŏpskɒ·pikăl), *a. rare* −1. [Formed as prec. + -ICAL.] Pertaining or relating to metoposcopy.

1820 SCOTT *Abbot* xxxii, His learned face stooping until a physiognomist might have practised the metoposcopical science upon it, as seen from behind betwixt his gambadoes.

Metoposcopist (metɒpskŏ·pist). [f. late L. *metōposcop-us*, a. Gr. *μετωποσκόπ-ος*, f. *μέτωπο-ν* forehead + *-σκόπ-ος* observer: see -IST.] One who is versed in metoposcopy.

1570 DEE *Math. Pref.* c iv, The Anatomistes will restore to you, some part:..The Metaposcopistes some. 1652 GAULE *Magastrom.* 188 Which way go the physiognomists, metoposcopists, and chiromantists to work? 1885 MACALISTER in *Encycl. Brit.* XIX. 4/1 Apion speaks of the metoposcopists who judge by the appearance of the face.

Metoposcopy (metɒpɒ·skŏpi). Also 7 erron. metap-. [ad. mod.L. *metōposcopi-a*, f. *metōposcopus* (see METOPOSCOPIST).]

1. The art of judging a person's character or of telling his fortune from his forehead or face.

1569 J. SANFORD tr. *Agrippa's Van. Artes* 50 b, Metoposcopie..doth auaunte that she can foretel al mens beginninges, proceedinges, and endinges..by the onely beholding of the foreheade. 1610 B. JONSON *Alch.* I. iii. A rule.. In metaposcopie, which I doe worke by. 1696 AUBREY *Misc.* 38 There was a Seam in the middle of his Fore head (downwards) which is a very ill sign in Metoposcopie. 1746 PARSONS in *Phil. Trans.* XLIV. 47 The Art of Physiognomy, especially the Metoposcopy, or what relates to the Face. 1893 LELAND *Mem.* II. 248 Interested..as he always was in anything like chiromancy or metoscopy [*sic*].

2. The physiognomical characters of a man's forehead.

1653 R. SANDERS *Physiogn.* 200 This is the Metoposcopy of an excellent man. *a* 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. xxv. 203 Thou hast the Metoposcopy, and Physiognomy of a Cuckold.

Metops, obs. form of METOPE 1.

Metoroscopy: see METEOROSCOPY.

‖ **Metosteon** (metɒ·stĭɳɒn). *Ornith.* [mod.L., f. Gr. *μετά* behind + *ὀστέον* bone.] The centre of ossification for the posterior lateral processes of the sternum, behind the pleurosteon. Hence **Meto·steal** *a.*, pertaining to the metosteon.

1868 W. K. PARKER *Shoulder-Girdle Vetebr.* 100 The bony patches..keep very clear of the metosteal 'interclavicle'. *Ibid.* 144 Behind each 'pleurosteon' there is, in the Gallinaceæ, and a few other types, in the Crows, for instance, another bony centre, the 'metosteon'. 1896 NEWTON *Dict. Birds* IV. 910.

‖ **Metovum** (metōu·vŭm). [mod.L., f. *μετα-* META- + OVUM.] 'The entire egg of a bird, consisting of the true ovum and the surrounding nutrient matter' (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*).

1879 tr. *Haeckel's Evol. Man* I. 223 The *protovum* is thus transformed into the *metovum* (after-egg) which is many times larger..but..is only a single..cell.

Metoxenous (metɒ·ksĭnəs), *a.* [Badly f. META- + Gr. *ξένος* stranger, guest.] = METŒCIOUS.

1887 GARNSEY & BALFOUR *De Bary's Fungi* 387 They [these Uredineae] are accordingly termed *heteroecious*, or still better *metoecious* or *metoxenous* as changing their place of habitation or host.

‖ **Metran** (me·træn). [Ethiopic.] The abuna, or head of the Abyssinian Church. Hence **Me·tranate**, the office or the province of the metran.

1850 NEALE *East. Ch.* I. Introd. 24 The Catholicate of Ethiopia, under the Metran of Axum, had no Metropolitans. *Ibid.* 111 The Patriarchate of Alexandria, and Metranate of Ethiopia.

Metre (mī·tɔi), *sb.*1 Forms: 1 meter, 4 metur, 4–5 metir(e, 5–6 meetre, metyr, 5–8 meeter, 6 myter, mytre, 6–7 miter, 7 metar, 8 meteer, 6–8 (9 *U.S.*) meter, 4– metre. [OE. *meter* (? *méter*) was ad. L. *metrum*, a. Gr. *μέτρον*, f. Indogermanic root **mĕ-* to measure; in the 14th c. the word was adopted afresh from OF. *metre* (mod.F. *mètre*); cf. Sp., Pg., It. *metro*, G. *meter.*]

1. Any specific form of poetic rhythm, its kind being determined by the character and number of the feet or groups of syllables of which it consists.

a 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* v. Concl., Ymenbec misenlice metre [*v. r.* metere]. Boc epigrammatum eroico metre [*v. r.* metere]. *c* 1050 *Eyrhtferth's Handboc* in *Anglia* (1885) VIII. 314 Pæt þæt riht meter vers sceal habban. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Man of Law's Prol.* 48 Chaucer thogh he kan but lewedly On metres and on rymyng craftily. 1450–1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* 91 Whyche thre [verses] ar of dyuerse meter from the tother. *a* 1568 ASCHAM *Scholem.* II. (Arb.) 144 For the meter sake, some wordes in him [Terence], somtyme, be driuen awrie. 1599 THYNNE *Animadv.* 6 Bothe in matter, myter, and meaninge, yt must needes gather corruptione, passinge throughe so manye handes. 1657 SPARROW *Bk. Com. Prayer* (1661) 361 They used all decent and grave variety of rhymes and Meeters in their Hymns and Psalms. 1749 *Power Pros. Numbers* 74 To one or other of which [three Measures] (however various be the Metre) almost all kinds of English Verse may be reduced. 1864 TENNYSON *Hendecasyllabics* 4 All composed in a metre of Catullus. 1874 SYMONDS *Sk. Italy & Greece* (1898) I. xii. 250 Poetry employs words in fixed rhythms, which we call metres.

b. In the names of certain forms of verse used in English hymns, as *common, long, particular, short metre*: see these words. Also, *Peculiar metre, proper metre* (abbreviated P. M.): a metre used only in a particular hymn, or at least not identical with any of the metres having recognized names.

1798 *Select. Psalms & Hymns*, Hymn vii. Pec. M. *Ibid.*, Hymn x. Prop. M. *Ibid.*, Hymn xxii. Pecul. Metre. *Ibid.*, Hymn xxxvi. P. M.

2. Metrical arrangement or method.

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 196 After þe Inglis kynges he [Langtoft] says ber pris þat all in metir fulle wele lys. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Monk's Prol.* 93 In prose eek been endyted many oon, And eek in metre, in many a sondry wyse. *c* 1450 HOLLAND *Howlat* 35, I haue mekle matir in metir to gloss Of aue nothir sentence. *a* 1568 ASCHAM *Scholem.* I. (Arb.) 77, I will recite the very wordes of Homere and also turne them into rude English metre. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* Pref., Rime being..the Invention of a barbarous Age, to set off wretched matter and lame Meeter. 1779–81 JOHNSON *L. P., Milton* Wks. II. 174 It is..by the musick of metre that poetry has been discriminated in all languages. 1828 WHATELY *Rhet.* in *Encycl. Metrop.* I. 290 Then arrange this [prose] again into metre. 1858 MARSH *Eng. Lang.* XXV. 544 Metre may be defined to be a succession of poetical feet arranged in regular order, according to certain types recognized as standards, in verses of a determinate length. 1905 W. H. COBB (*title*) A Criticism of Systems of Hebrew Metre.

3. a. Composition 'in metre'; verse. † **b.** In particularized sense: A piece of metrical composition; a verse or poem; *occas.* a metrical version.

1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 489 Þis vers of metre þat es wreten here: *Dicentes E. vel A. quot-quot nascuntur ab Eva.* *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 5524 Þough þe metur be nouȝt mad at eche mannes paye. *c* 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* Prol. 562 Here byn twenty thousand mo [ladies] syttyng..Make the metres of theym as the lest. 1423 JAS. I *Kingis Q.* iv, His metir suete, full of moralitee. 1475 *Bk. Noblesse* (Roxb.) 21 The vij^the metre of the .v. booke of Boecius. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) I ij, To wryte workes, to make metres, to studie antiquitees. 1556 ROBINSON tr. *More's Utop.* (1895) p. xciv, A meter of iiii verses in the Utopian tongue. 1577 HELLOWES *Gueuara's Chron.* 31 Traiane .. persuaded the Oratours to compounde many meetres to his praise. 1584 COGAN *Haven Health* (1636) 195 According to that old meeter, *Distentus venter vellet dormire libenter.* 1631 WEEVER *Anc. Funeral Mon.* 140 A certaine Lollard..composed certaine virulent meeters against this and other of the Religious orders. 1662 PLAYFORD *Skill Mus.* I. i. (1674) 5 There is an old Metre..it contains a true Rule of the Theorick part of Musick—, It begins thus, 'To attain the Skill of Musicks Art Learn Gam-Ut up and down

by heart.' 1679 PULLER *Moder. Ch. Eng.* (1843) 43 The english metre of the Psalms. 1794 BLAKE *Songs Exper., Clod & Pebble* 8 A pebble of the brook Warbled out these metres meet. *a* 1800 COWPER *Ode to Apollo* 3 Those luckless brains That..Indite much metre with much pains.

4. A metrical group or 'measure'; *spec.* a dipody in iambic, trochaic, and anapæstic rhythms.

1880 W. S. ROCKSTRO in Grove *Dict. Mus.* II. 317/1 Two feet usually constitute a Metre (or *Dipodia*). But in Dactylic Verse, each foot is regarded as a complete Metre in itself. 1903 W. R. HARDIE *Lect.* 210 Metres..are 'lengths' or 'sections' of rhythm, beginning in a certain way, either with ἄρσις or θέσις, and of a fixed length.

5. *Gr. Mus.* = METRIC *sb. rare*⁻⁰.

1811 BUSBY *Mus. Dict., Metre*, that part of the ancient music which consulted the measure of the verses.

6. *attrib.*, as *metre ballad, -maker, -making* (sb. and adj.), *-monger*; **metre psalm**, a Bible psalm translated in verse.

1596 SNAKS. *1 Hen. IV*, III. i. 130, I had rather be a Kitten, and cry mew, Then one of these same *Meeter Balladmongers. 1611 COTGR., *Rimoyeur*, a rimer, a *meeter-maker. 1789 T. TWINING *Aristotle's Treat. Poetry* (1812) I. 253 A versifier—a meter-maker. 1841-4 EMERSON *Ess., Poet* Wks. (Bohn) I. 157 It is not metres, but a *metre-making argument, that makes a poem. 1880 SWINBURNE *Stud. Shaks.* i. (ed. 2) 9 The guidance which can be given by no *metre-monger or colour-grinder. 1655 SANDERSON *Serm.* (1681) II. Pref. 7 Where your *metre-psalms? 1863 J. L. W. *By-gone Days* 102 Those beautiful Metre Psalms first versified by Francis Rous, an Englishman.

Metre (mī·tə1), *sb.*[2] Also *U. S.* **meter**. [ad. F. *mètre* (mɛtr), ad. Gr. *μέτρον* measure. (Still often written as in Fr.)] The fundamental unit of length of the metric system, equal to 39·37 English inches.

It was intended to represent one ten-millionth of the length of a quadrant of the meridian; the standard metre kept at Paris nearly corresponds to this theoretical value.

1797 *Monthly Mag.* III. 434 The measures of length above the mètre are ten times [etc.]..greater than the metre. 1831 *Jrnl. Roy. Instit.* I. 599 M. Francœur..has found that the mètre is equal to 39·37079 English inches. 1869 ROSCOE *Elem. Chem.* (1871) 24 This metre, like all other standards of length, is an arbitrary length. 1877 RAYMOND *Statist. Mines & Mining* 442 We may assume..that it would fall through 10 meters in .3·63 seconds. 1885 *Times* (weekly ed.) 2 Oct. 17/7 Houses, costing..only £10 per cubic mètre.

b. *attrib.*, as *metre gauge*; **metre-gramme, -ton**, etc., the amount of work required to raise a gramme, a ton, etc. one metre in one second; **metre-seven**, the name recommended by a committee of the British Association for the quantity 10^7 (ten million) metres.

1885 *Pall Mall G.* 20 Mar. 6/1 The Government of India has adopted the *metre gauge for all the new branches of the various State railways. 1891 KIPLING *City Dreadf. Nt.* 78 The trucks were unloaded into the waggons of the metre-gauge colliery line in this wise. 1868 L. CLARK *Electr. Meas.* 45 The conventional unit of work *W* ordinarily employed in metrical measure is..that which will raise a weight of one gramme one metre in one second, and is called the *metre-gramme unit. 1873 *Rep. Brit. Assoc.* 224 The approximate length of a quadrant of one of the earth's meridians is a *metre-seven or a centimetre-nine. 1881 SIR W. THOMSON in *Nature* No. 619. 434 Ideal water-wheels ..would give just one *metre-ton per square metre of area.

Metre (mī·tə1), *v.* Also 5 **meetre**, 6 **metyr, mitre**, 7 **meeter**. [f. METRE *sb.*[1]]

1. *trans.* To compose in or put into metre. ? *Obs.*

1447 BOKENHAM *Seyntys* (Roxb.) 58 The weddynge dytees metryd coryously. 1563 *Mirr. Mag., Collingbourne* x, They murdred me for metryng thinges amys. 1577-87 HOLINSHED *Chron. Scot.* 214/1 One Henrie, who was blind from his birth,..composed a whole booke in vulgar verse, in which he mitred all those things vulgarlie spoken of this Wallase. 1841 CATLIN *N. Amer. Ind.* (1844) I. xviii. 126 Perfectly metred but without rhyme. 1858 RAMSAY *Remin.* Ser. I. (ed. 7) 174 Jean said she thought David hadna taen much pains when he metred the Psalms.

2. *intr.* To compose verses; to versify.

c 1430 *Freemasonry* 569 Rethoryk metryth with oone speche amonge. *c* 1448 HOCCLEVE *Balade Dk. York* 48 If þat I in my wrytynge foleye..Meetrynge amis, or speke vnfittyngly. 1530 PALSGR. 635/2 Many a man can ryme well, but it is harde to metyr well. 1614 W. B. *Philosopher's Banquet* (ed. 2) 117 He..thus merrily Meeterd.

Hence † **Me·tring** *vbl. sb.*, versification.

1644 DIGBY *Nat. Bodies* xxviii. 250 Such of the liberall artes are employed, which belong to the cultiuating mans voyce; as Rhetorike, meetering, and singing.

Metred (mī·təid), *ppl. a.* [f. METRE *v.* + -ED[1].] Composed in metre; metrical. Also *loosely*, rhythmical.

1711 SHAFTESB. *Charac.* (1737) III. Misc. v. i. 264 In their elegant Stile and metred Prose. 1851 TAPPING *Manlove's Lead Mines* Pref., Manlove within the compass of 300 metred lines has produced a perfect and accurate digest of the voluminous mass of intricate mining customs. 1863 COWDEN CLARKE *Shaks. Char.* ix. 228 With what metred decorum the triumvirate would have bandied the festal amenities!

† **Me·trede.** *Obs.* [f. METE *v.*[2] + *-rēde*, -RED.] A dream.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 68 Nectanabus which causeth al Of this metrede the substaunce. *Ibid.* 69.

Metreless (mī·təlės), *a.* [f. METRE *sb.*[1] + -LESS.] Without metre.

1895 *Athenæum* 2 Mar. 273/1 If the name 'metreless poem' can properly be given to any form of imaginative literature. 1904 *Daily Chron.* 17 Sept. 3/2 There is the throb of metreless song in that passage.

† **Me·trely,** *adv.* [f. METRE *sb.*[1] + -LY[2].] In metre, metrically.

c 1475 *Partenay* 6566 Ho it metre will..He most torn and wend, metrely to close.

† **Metrenchyte.** *Obs. rare*⁻[1]. [ad. Gr. *μητρεγχύτης* (mod.L. *mētrenchyta, -tes*), f. *μήτρα* womb + *ἐγχεῖν* to pour in.] An instrument used for injections into the womb.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 207 By infusion or injection with the metrenchyte. [1693 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Metrenchyta.* 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp., Metrenchytes.*]

† **Me·trer.** *Obs.* In 4 **metrere, metriour**, 7 **meterer**. [f. METRE *sb.* + -ER[1].] One who writes in metre, a versifier.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) II. 81 A metrere brekeþ out in þis manere in preisynge of þis citee. *Ibid.* VIII. 169 Another metriour seide in þis manere [etc.]. 1627 DRAYTON *Agincourt*, etc. 205 Gascoine and Churchyard..Accoumpted were great Meterers many a day.

Metrete (mĭtrī·t). *Antiq.* Also 7 **mettret**. [ad. L. *metrēta*, ad. Gr. *μετρητής*, f. *μετρεῖν* to measure, f. *μέτρον*: see METRE *sb.*[1]] An ancient Greek liquid measure, equivalent to about 9 gallons.

1388 WYCLIF *John* ii. 6 There weren set sixe stonun cannes, ..holdynge ech tweyne ether thre metretis. *c* 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* XI. 443 Of fynest must in con metrete. 1633 J. DONE *Hist. Septuagint* 56 These cups..helde more then two mettrets. 1890 *Century Dict.* s. v., The Attic, Macedonian, and Spanish metrete was about 40 liters...In Egypt the artaba was sometimes called a metrete.

† **Metre·za.** *Obs.* Also **metereza**. [Pseudo-Italian alteration of F. *maîtresse*.] = MISTRESS.

1604 MARSTON & WEBSTER *Malcontent* I. iii, Me thinkes I see that Signior pawn his foot-cloth: that Metreza her Plate. *a* 1627 MIDDLETON *More Dissemblers* v. i. 92 Metereza Celia. *Ibid.* 107 Come, metereza.

Metric (me·trik), *a.*[1] and *sb.* [ad. L. *metric-us* (Quintilian), a. Gr. *μετρικ-ός*, f. *μέτρον* METRE *sb.*[1] Cf. F. *métrique*.]

A. *adj.*

1. = METRICAL *a.*[1] 1. *rare.*

18.. BLACKIE (Ogilvie), Hesiod with his metric fragments of rustic wisdom.

2. = METRICAL *a.*[1] 2. 1885 in *Cassell's Encycl. Dict.*

B. *sb. sing.* and *pl.* The science or art that deals with metre, esp. with the laws of versification in Greek and Latin. (Cf. G. *die metrik*, F. *la métrique*, Gr. *ἡ μετρική, τὰ μετρικά*.)

1760 STILES *Gr. Music* in *Phil. Trans.* LI. 730 To harmonic, rhythmic and metric, in the theoretic, respectively answered melopœïa, rhythmopœia, and poetic, in the practic. 1884 MAHAFFY in *Contemp. Rev.* June 904 Is the study of metric really banished from English classics? 1898 KEEP in *Amer. Jrnl. Philol.* XIX. 123 They were able to lecture on grammar, epigraphy, numismatics,..mythology, metrics, art, archaeology. 1905 *Athenæum* 29 July 140/2 The great Orientalist..attempted..to connect the laws of Hebrew metrics with Oriental poetry in general.

Metric (me·trik), *a.*[2] [ad. F. *métrique*, f. *mètre* METRE *sb.*[2]] Pertaining to that system of weights and measures of which the metre is the fundamental unit.

The system is decimal throughout, and the unit in each of its branches has a definite relation to the metre; for instance, the gramme, the unit of weight, represents the weight of a cubic centimetre of water.

1864 *Act* 27 & 28 *Vict.* c. 117 An Act to render permissive the Use of the Metric System of Weights and Measures... This Act may be cited as the 'Metric Weights and Measures Act, 1864'. 1873 MAXWELL *Electr. & Magn.* (1881) I. 2 In France, and other countries which have adopted the metric system. 1873 I. GREGORY *Brit. Metric Syst.* 47 How many metric pints are there in 20 thousand 'reputed pint' bottles? 1898 *Daily News* 27 May 7/3 That the government be urged to adopt the metric weights and measures.

Metrical (me·trikăl), *a.*[1] [f. late L. *metricus* relating (1) to measuring, (2) to metre: see METRIC *a.*[1] and -ICAL. Cf. OF. *metrical*.]

I. 1. Pertaining or relating to metre or versification; consisting of or composed in metre; having the characteristics of metre.

1432-50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 183 Of..the rewles of feete metricalle,..of dialog metricalle. 1570-6 LAMBARDE *Peramb. Kent* (1826) 173 She uttered sundry metricall and ryming speeches. 1612 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* iv. 186 Their Quantities, their Rests, their Ceasures metricall. 1774 WARTON *Hist. Eng. Poetry* v. (1840) I. 181 The old metrical romances. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* II. vi. *note*, Graham (which, for metrical reasons, is here spelt after the Scottish pronunciation). 1815 W. H. IRELAND *Scribbleomania* 73 *note*, The productions of Lord Thurlow indicate a considerable share of metrical energy. 1855 KINGSLEY *Lett.* (1878) I. 456, I have adopted a sort of simple, ballad tone, and tried to make my prose as metrical as possible.

II. 2. Relating to, involving, used in, or determined by measurement. *Metrical geometry*: see quot. 1897 (opposed to 'descriptive geometry').

1650 J. WYBARD *Tactometria* 6 These kinde of metricall lines (or linear numbers). 1690 LEYBOURN *Curs. Math.* 192 All kind of Arithmetical and Metrical Operations. 1830 R. KNOX *Béclard's Anat.* 70 Its metrical extent, or its extent as compared with that of the body or with some of its parts. 1858 CAYLEY in *Math. Pap.* (1889) II. 592 We are then in the region of pure descriptive geometry: we pass out of it into metrical geometry by fixing upon a conic of the figure as a standard of reference and calling it the Absolute. 1878 PETRIE in *Jrnl. Anthrop. Inst.* (1879) VIII. 111 As an illustration of the metrical character of earthworks, we may refer to the East Everley works in Wiltshire. 1885 LEUDESDORF *Cremona's Proj. Geom.* ix. 50 Most of the propositions in Euclid's *Elements* are metrical, and it is not easy to find among them an example of a purely descriptive theorem. 1897 B. A. W. RUSSELL *Found. Geom.* 149 Metrical Geometry..may be defined as the science which deals with the comparison and relations of spatial magnitudes.

Hence **Me·trically** *adv.*, with regard to metre; (translated) into metre.

1789 *Elegant Extracts, Poetry* Pref. (1816) 7 Explaining every thing grammatically, historically, metrically, and critically. 1819 CAMPBELL *Ess. Eng. Poetry* II. *Specim.* I. 113 The heroic measure of Chaucer will be found in general ..to be metrically correct. 1855 NEIL *Z. Boyd's Zion's Flowers* Introd. 16 Metrically translated books of the Bible.

Metrical (me·trikăl), *a.*[2] [f. F. *métrique* METRIC *a.*[2]: see -ICAL.]

1. = METRIC *a.*[2] (which is now more usual).

1797 *Monthly Mag.* III. 209/1 The ensuing year; when the French republic will have immortalized the first years of its establishment, by the adoption of a Metrical System. 1816 P. KELLY *Metrol.* Introd. 16 It was computed in France, that in three generations, their metrical system would be fully established. 1869 ROSCOE *Elem. Chem.* (1874) 444 Comparison of the Metrical with the Common Measures.

2. 'Having the dimensions of a French meter; as metrical blocks' (Webster 1847-54).

b. Of lenses or their measurement: Pertaining to the system of which the unit is the 'dioptric', i. e. a focal length of one metre.

1879 BRYANT *Pract. Surg.* (ed. 3) I. 301 The trial glasses ..are arranged according to what is known as the 'metrical system'. *Ibid., margin*, Metrical lenses.

Metrician (mĭtri·ʃən). Also 4 **-cion**, 6 **-cien**. [f. L. *metric-us* METRIC *a.*[1], after *physician*.]

† **1.** One who writes in metre. *Obs.*

1432-50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) II. 19 To the lawde of whom a metricion [L. *metricus*] seithe [etc.]. 1494 FABYAN *Chron.* VII. 322 A metrician made theyse baladis of them. *c* 1530 *Crt. Love* v, Ye that ben metriciens me excuse. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Rich. III* 42 Because the fyrste lyne ended in dogge, the metrician coulde not..ende the seconde verse in Bore, but called the bore an hogge.

2. One who studies or is learned in metre.

1835-8 S. R. MAITLAND *Dark Ages* (1844) 445 Why..are you..trifling with the metricians, deceiving with the poets, and deceived with the philosophers? 1864 J. HADLEY *Ess.* (1873) 97 These Latin metricians..seem in their scanning of poetry to have beat time in the same way. 1892 W. R. HARDIE in *Class. Rev.* June 249/2 The most advanced metrician probably falls short of being able to..reconstruct the exact scheme which Æschylus or Pindar intended.

Metricist (me·trisist). [f. METRIC *a.*[1] + -IST.] One who is skilled in handling metre.

1881 *Athenæum* 7 May 618/2 But even if the poet were a sufficiently skilled metricist to [etc.].

Metricize (me·trisəiz), *v.*[1] *rare.* [f. METRIC *a.*[1] + -IZE.] *trans.* To analyse the metre of.

1831 T. L. PEACOCK *Crotchet Castle* vi, She who can construe and metricise a chorus shall..pass in by herself.

Metricize (me·trisəiz), *v.*[2] [f. METRIC *a.*[2] + -IZE.] *trans.* To adapt to the metric system. Hence **Me·tricized** *ppl. a.*

1873 *Brit. Q. Rev.* LVII. 547 A graphic representation of the size of the different metricized measures as compared with the old ones is given in a chart at the end of the volume.

Metricks, occas. var. MARTRIX *Obs.*, marten.

1769 *De Foe's Tour Gt. Brit.* IV. 316 Metricks, a four-footed creature, about the size of a large cat.

Metridate, obs. form of MITHRIDATE.

† **Me·trificate,** *v. Obs. rare.*—[1] [f. ppl. stem of med.L. *metrificāre*, f. *metrum* METRE *sb.*[1]: see -FICATE.] *trans.* To write in metre.

1432-50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) V. 321 His wife..metrificate her owne epitaphy in this wise.

Metrification (me·trifikē·ʃən). [ad. L. type **metrificātio*, n. of action f. *metrificāre* (see prec.).] The construction of a metrical composition; also, metrical structure.

1861 WRIGHT *Ess. Archæol.* II. xx. 153 As..these final rhymes came..into use, the old system of metrification was ..abandoned. 1864 TENNYSON *Hendecasyllabics* 10 Should I flounder awhile without a tumble Thro' this metrification of Catullus. 1875 A. W. WARD *Hist. Eng. Dram. Lit.* (1899) I. 326 The metrification of *Tamburlaine* still shows some signs of uncertainty.

Metrify (me·trifəi), *v.* Also 6 **metrefy**. [ad. F. *métrifier* (14th c.), ad. L. *metrificāre*: see METRIFICATE and -FY.] *trans.* To put into metre, make a metrical version of. Also *intr.*, to make verses. Hence **Me·trified** *ppl. a.*, **Me·trifying** *vbl. sb.* Also **Me·trifier** (in quot., one who adopts classic metres in English verse).

1523 SKELTON *Garl. Laurel* 1382 Also a deuoute Prayer to Moses hornis, Metrifyde merely, medelyd with scornis. *Ibid.* 1464 Wherevpon he metrefyde after his mynde. 1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* II. xi[i]. (Arb.) 109 It [an obelisk] holdeth the altitude of six ordinary triangles, and in metrifying his base can not well be larger than a meetre of six. *a* 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. xvii. 143 It is metrified in this Octastick. 1836 SOUTHEY *Life Cowper* C.'s Wks. II. 129 The license which the metrifiers took in this respect, infected other poets. 1861 IRVING *Hist. Scot. Poetry* 392 Twenty psalms were metrified hy two individuals. 1887 *Sat. Rev.* 16 Apr. 552 The grimly metrified psalter.

Metriour, variant of METRER *Obs.*

Metrist (me·trist). [ad. med.L. *metrista*, f. *metrum* METRE *sb.*[1]: see -IST.] **a.** A metrical writer. **b.** One who is skilled in metrical composition; an adept in the handling of metre.

1535 Stewart *Cron. Scot.* III. 223 In Lating toung ane metrost [*sic*] wes he. 1550 Bale *Image Both Ch.* II. h j b, Thomas smith..wyth such other blind Popish poetes and dirtye metristes. 1819 Coleridge in *Lit. Rem.* (1836) II. 378 There are not five metrists in the kingdom to whom I could..have spoken so plainly. 1864 Knight *Passages Work. Life* I. viii. 289 A very singular..poet, quite set apart from the troop of every-day metrists. 1875 Lowell *Spenser* Prose Wks. 1890 IV. 328 Spenser was no mere metrist, but a great composer. 1894 R. C. Jebb in A. W. Ward *Eng. Poets* IV. 763 As a metrist he [Tennyson] is the creator of a new blank verse, different both from the Elizabethan and the Miltonic.

‖ **Metritis** (mĭtrəi·tis). *Path.* [mod.L., f. Gr. *μήτρα* womb: see -ITIS. Cf. F. *métrite.*] Inflammation of the uterus.

1843 R. J. Graves *Syst. Clin. Med.* vii. 80, I lately attended a fatal case of metritis after delivery. 1876 tr. *Wagner's Gen. Pathol.* 592 Diffused metritis originates most frequently in lacerations of the vagina.

Hence **Metritic** (mĭtri·tik) *a.*, of or pertaining to metritis. 1856 in Mayne *Expos. Lex.*

† **Me·trize,** *v. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. Metre *sb.*¹ + -IZE.] *trans.* To put into metre.

1572 Bossewell *Armorie* 12 b, The whiche verses I haue thus metrized in Englishe.

† **Metro.** *Obs.* [It. or Sp.] = Metre *sb.*¹

1619 H. Hutton *Follies Anat.* Ep. Ded., Pernse my writ, And vse these Metroes of true meaning wit. *Ibid.* A 6 b, Nor in a Metro shew my Cupide's fire.

Metrochrome (me·trŏkrōum). [f. Gr. *μέτρο-ν* measure + *χρῶμα* colour.] An instrument for measuring colours.

1817 G. Field *Chromatics* (1845) 223 Thus used in conjunction the three gauges constituted a Metrochrome, or general measure and standard of colours.

Metrocracy (mĭtrɒ·krăsi). [f. Gr. *μητρ-, μήτηρ* mother + -(o)CRACY.] = Matriarchy.

1891 E. Westermarck *Hist. Hum. Marriage* (1894) 98 North America which is acknowledged..to have been one of the chief centres of 'mother-right', or metrocracy.

Metrod, variant of Meterod *Obs.*

Metrograph (me·trograf). [f. Gr. *μέτρο-ν* measure: see -GRAPH.] An apparatus for indicating the speed of a railway-train, and the hour of arrival and departure at each station.

1858 in Simmonds *Dict. Trade.*

Metrographer (metrɒ·grăfəɹ). [f. Gr. *μέτρο-ν* Metre *sb.*¹ + -GRAPHER.] ? A writer on metre.

1821 *Blackw. Mag.* X. 388 Our worthy metrographer has been so unfortunate as to scan him wrong.

Metrology (metrɒ·lŏdʒi). [f. Gr. *μέτρο-ν* measure + -LOGY. Cf. F. *métrologie.*]

1. a. A system or series of measures. **b.** The science of weights and measures.

1816 P. Kelly (*title*) Metrology; or an exposition of weights and measures. 1821 J. Q. Adams *Rep. Weights & Meas.* 84 The principle of decimal divisions can be applied only with many qualifications to any general system of metrology. *Ibid.* 85 The French metrology. 1846 Grote *Greece* II. iv. II. 425 M. Boeckh's recent publication on Metrology. 1878 *Nature* 23 May 110/2 Mr. W. M. Flinders Petrie read a paper on inductive metrology, the purpose of which..is to deduce the units of measure employed by ancient peoples from the dimensions of existing remains.

2. The science of poetic metres. *rare*⁻¹.

1889 A. Sidgwick in *Jrnl. Educ.* Feb. 116.

Hence **Metrolo·gical** *a.*, pertaining or relating to metrology; **Metro·logist, Me·trologue,** a writer on weights and measures.

1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVII. 206/2 No metrologist has given the Romans credit for seeing that water would do just as well to..adjust standards by, as wine. 1843 Grote in *Class. Museum* (1844) I. 2 The cardinal principle of his metrological reasonings. *Ibid.* 7 'Great Attic talents', as they are called by Dardanus the ancient Metrologue. 1856 *Sat. Rev.* 8 Nov. 617/1 All sorts of weights and measures, from the cubit of Noah to the metrological standard of John Quincy Adams. 1883 *Jrnl. Hellenic Studies* IV. 340 The metrological analysis of the fathom must consequently entirely exclude the Attic foot. 1889 *Yale Coll. Obit. Record* 491 The American Metrological Society.

Metromania (metrōmē·niă). [f. Gr. *μέτρο-ν* Metre *sb.*¹ + -MANIA; after F. *métromanie.*] A mania for writing poetry. Hence **Metroma·niac,** one affected with metromania; also *attrib.* or as *adj.*; **Metromani·acal** *a.*, pertaining to or affected with metromania (Mayne *Expos. Lex.* 1856).

1794 Gifford *Baviad* (1811) 46 This pernicious pest, This metromania, creeps thro' every breast. [1818 *Blackw. Mag.* III. 519 Of all the manias of this mad age, the most incurable..seems to be no other than the *metromanie.*] 1830 W. Taylor *Hist. Surv. Germ. Poetry* I. 183 On a sudden [Bodmer] seemed to have acquired the facility of versification, and to display it with almost metromaniac eagerness. 1884 Hunter & Whyte *My Ducats & My Dau.* xiii. (1885) 179 No one knows what I have had to endure from the metromaniacs.

Metrometer[1] (metrɒ·mĭtəɹ). *rare*⁻⁰. [ad. F. *métromètre* (1780 in Hatz.-Darm.), f. Gr. *μέτρο-ν* Metre *sb.*¹ + *-mètre* -METER.] = Metronome.

1876 in Stainer & Barrett *Dict. Mus. Terms.*

Metrometer[2] (mĭtrɒ·mĭtəɹ). *rare*⁻⁰. [ad. mod.L. *mētrometr-um,* f. Gr. *μήτρα-* womb: see -METER.] = Hysterometer.

1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.*

Metronome (me·trŏnōum). [f. Gr. *μέτρο-ν* Metre *sb.*¹ + *νόμος* law, rule. Cf. F. *métronome.*] An instrument used in music for marking the time by means of a graduated inverted pendulum with a sliding weight which can be regulated to make the required number of beats in a minute.

1816 *Repert. Arts, Manuf.,* etc. XXVIII. 128 [Patents] John Malzl, of Poland-street, Middlesex, Machinist; for an instrument or instruments..for the improvement of musical performance, which he denominates a Metronome, or musical time-keeper. Dated December 5, 1815. *a* 1845 Hood *To Kitchener* i, Or boiling eggs—timed to a metronome. 1889 *Infantry Drill* 504, ♩ = 108 Maelzel's Metronome. 1904 *Athenæum* 5 Nov. 626/1 The seconds of exposure [were] counted by a metronome.

attrib. 1857 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 8) XIV. 695/2 It is very desirable that composers should always affix *metronome* numbers to their compositions. 1880 W. S. Rockstro in Grove *Dict. Mus.* II. 319/2 Maelzel..in 1816 set up the first Metronome Manufactory on record.

b. *fig.* (In the first quot. app. used for: A conventional rule for metrical quantity.)

1812 Tillbrook *Rem. Mod. Hexametrists* 73 Why leave the public without a guide to the accents and divisions of the Georgian hexameter? This should have been done either by—borrowing from the Latin rules,—adopting those of the early prosodians,—or by inventing a new *metronome.* 1858 O. W. Holmes *Aut. Breakf.-t.* xi. (1891) 265, I should love to..listen to the great liquid metronome as it beats its solemn measure. 1865 G. Macdonald *A. Forbes* 11 And listen to the unfailing metronome of the flails.

Metronomic (metrɒnɒ·mik), *a.* [f. Metronome + -IC.] Of or pertaining to a metronome.

Metronomic mark, the indication, placed at the head of a piece of music, of the pace at which it is to be performed. 1881 *Chicago Advance* 29 Dec. 832 The metronomic mark of most of the tunes is too fast. 1896 *Daily News* 17 Apr. 8/5 Mr. Edwards reprints the facsimile of the metronomic times for each number from a Mendelssohn MS.

So **Metrono·mical** *a.*, **Metrono·mically** *adv.*, according to the metronome.

1822 *Repository* No. 80. 100 The vague directions as to tempo—'slow', 'very slow', &c. should be avoided..when it is in our power to mark the time metronomically. 1866 Engel *Nat. Mus.* v. 177 The published collections of tunes seldom possess metronomical signs.

Metronomy (metrɒ·nŏmi). [f. Metronome + -Y.] The measuring of time by a metronome.

1850 in Ogilvie.

Metronymic (mētroni·mik), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. Gr. *μητρωνυμικ-ός,* f. *μητρ-, μήτηρ* mother + *ὄνυμα, ὄνομα* name. Cf. the earlier *matronymic*(*al.*)] **a.** *adj.* Derived from the name of a mother or other female ancestor, esp. by addition of a suffix or prefix indicating descent. Also said of such a suffix or prefix. (In recent Dicts.) **b.** *sb.* A metronymic name; a name derived from that of a mother or maternal ancestor.

1868 Lightfoot *Comm. Philippians* (1873) 55 In not a few instances a metronymic takes the place of the usual patronymic. 1904 J. A. Nairn *Herodas* 9 It is noticeable that Gryllos has a metronymic, not a patronymic.

So **Metronymy** (mĭtrɒ·nimi), the practice of using metronymics.

1891 *Sat. Rev.* 31 Jan. 140/1 M. Reclus finds what he calls 'metronymy' in Egypt under the Ptolemies. 'The newly-married man even dropped his own name to take that of his wife'.

‖ **Metroperitonitis** (mētroperitonəi·tis). *Path.* [mod.L., f. Gr. *μήτρα* womb + Peritonitis.] Inflammation of the uterus and the peritoneum.

1845 Day tr. *Simon's Anim. Chem.* I. 270. 1859 *Todd's Cyc. Anat.* V. 688/1 The pathological conditions of the serous coat are chiefly those of..metroperitonitis.

‖ **Metrophlebitis** (mētroflĭbəi·tis). *Path.* [mod.L., f. Gr. *μήτρα* womb + Phlebitis.] Inflammation of the veins of the uterus.

[1845 Day tr. *Simon's Anim. Chem.* I. 252 Metrophlebitis puerperalis.] 1859 *Todd's Cyc. Anat.* V. 704/1 The introduction of..venous pus..in metrophlebitis.

Metropole (me·trŏpōul). [a. OF. *metropole,* ad. L. *mētropolis*: see Metropolis.]

† **1.** A chief town; = Metropolis. *Obs.*

13.. *S. Erkenwolde* 26 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 266 Londone..þe metropol & þe mayster-tone. 1586 J. Hooker *Hist. Irel.* in *Holinshed* II. 4/1 Bath, which was the metropole of Summersetshire. *Ibid.* 151/2 Dublin.. being the metropole and chiefe citie of the whole land. 1685 Stillingfl. *Orig. Brit.* iv. 196 Those Cities which had the Title of *Augusta* conferred upon them, were..chief Metropoles of the Provinces.

2. *Eccl.* The see of a metropolitan; = Metropolis 1.

1862 Neale *Ess. Liturgiol.* (1867) 300 That was a remarkable erection of metropoles which occurred just before the outbreak. 1888 *Ch. Times* 27 Apr. 364/3 York was designated as a metropole by St. Gregory, and did exercise some undefined jurisdiction over other sees in the North.

† **Metropolic,** *a. Obs.* [f. Metropol-is + -ic.] = Metropolitan, Metropolitical.

1574 Hellowes *Gueuara's Fam. Ep.* (1577) 326 Paphlagonia, whose Capital or Metropolike towne is Gernapolis. 1681-6 J. Scott *Chr. Life* (1747) III. vii. 445 Rogatianus, a Bishop of his [St. Cyprian's] metropolick Church.

So **Metropo·lical** *a.*, in the same sense; hence **Me·tropolica·lity.**

1550 Bale *Eng. Votaries* II. 50 b, Bryngyng with hym the metropolycall mantell of Anselme. 1637 Bastwick *Litany* I. 21, I will..so plauge [*sic*] the Metropolicallity of Yorke and Canterbury..as I will neuer leaue them.

† **Metropolie.** *Obs.* [? irreg. ad. L. *mētropolis*; some writers may have intended *metropolies* for a Latin plural.] = Metropolis.

1633 P. Fletcher *Purple Isl.* II. xiv, The whole Isle, parted in three regiments, By three Metropolies is joyntly sway'd. *Ibid.* II. xxiii, This low regions Metropolie. 1635 Pagitt *Christianogr.* II. v. (1636) 19 The Metropolies and Arch-bishoprickes..belonging to the Patriarch of Constantinople. 1665 J. Webb *Stone-Heng* (1725) 184 The Towns ..were Metropolies of Kingdoms, not Country Towns.

Metropolis (mĭtrɒ·pŏlis). Also 6- **polus**; *pl.,* 7 **-polisses,** 8 **-polis's,** 9 **-polises.** [a. L. *mētropolis,* a. Gr. *μητρόπολις,* f. *μητρο-, μήτηρ* mother + *πόλις* city.]

1. The seat or see of a metropolitan bishop.

1535 Stewart *Cron. Scot.* II. 425 The bischopis sait..Fra Abirnethie translatit hes he..To Sanct Androis..Metropolns of all Scotland to be. 1542 Udall *Erasm. Apoph.* 117 And therof is metropolis called the chief citee where the archebishop of any prouince hath his see. 1595 Shaks. *John* v. ii. 72 The great Metropolis and Sea of Rome. 1612 Drayton *Poly-olb.* xviii. 740 Let this Town [Canterbury].. Of all the British Sees be still Metropolis. 1727-41 Chambers *Cycl.* s. v., In Asia, there were metropolis's merely nominal, that is, which had no suffragan, nor any rights of metropolitans. 1760-72 tr. *Juan & Ulloa's Voy.* (ed. 3) II. 145 Plata was erected into a bishopric in 1551,..and in the year 1608 was raised to a metropolis. 1844 Lingard *Anglo-Sax. Ch.* (1858) I. App. E. 342 Irenaeus was the bishop of Lyons, the metropolis of Gaul. 1850 Neale *East. Ch.* I. Introd. 44 Marcianopolis lost its metropolitical rights, though it still continued a See; and Debeltus or Zagara became the Metropolis of the province.

2. The chief town or city of a country (*occas.* of a province or district), esp. the one in which the govemment of a country is carried on; a capital.

The metropolis, often somewhat pomposnly used for 'London'. Also, in recent use, occasionally applied to London as a whole, in contradistinction to *the City.*

1590 Marlowe *2nd Pt. Tamburl.* III. v. 36 That sweet land, whose brane Metropolis Reedified the faire Semyramis. 1636 Davenant *Wits* IV. i, O, to live here i' th' fair metropolis Of our great isle. 1666 Dryden *Ann. Mirab.* (*heading*), To the Metropolis of Great Britain, the most renowned ..City of London. 1695 Echard *Gazetteer* Pref., All the metropolisses of provinces. 1726 Franklin *Jrnl.* Wks. 1887 I. 104 Newport..is the metropolis of the island [Isle of Wight]. 1805 W. Irving in *Life & Lett.* (1864) I. 149, I have not taken a single note since I have been in this metropolis [Paris]. 1807 Southey *Espriella's Lett.* I. 291 London is now so often visited, that the manners of the metropolis are to be found in every country gentleman's house. 1838 *Athenæum* 31 Mar. 233/2 Liverpool, New York, and the 'Great Metropolis'. 1862 P. M. Irving *Life & Lett. W. Irving* (1864) I. i. 17 Kirkwall, the metropolis of the island group [Orkneys]. 1892 *Nation* (N. Y.) 21 July 44/1 She [Trinity College, Dublin] lives in a workaday world, because she lies at the heart of a metropolis.

fig. 1806 *Med. Jrnl.* XV. 195 The stomach is the metropolis, and all the other parts and provinces of the frame are dependent upon the proportion of its vigour or decay. 1863 Hawthorne *Our Old Home, Civic Banq.* II. 255 His stomach [appearing] to assume the dignified prominence which justly belongs to that metropolis of his system.

b. A chief centre or seat of some form of activity.

1675 Traherne *Chr. Ethics* 517 Heaven is the metropolis of all perfection. 1743 J. Morris *Serm.* vii. 198 Their city was the fountain and metropolis of idolatry. 1783 Burke *Sp. East-India Bill* Wks. IV. 78 This center and metropolis of abuse [the Carnatic], whence all the rest in India and England diverge, from whence they are fed and methodized. 1816 Scott *Tales of My Landld.* Ser. I. Introd., Our metropolis of law, by which I mean Edinburgh, or..our metropolis and mart of gain, whereby I insinuate Glasgow. 1864 Bryce *Holy Rom. Emp.* xvi. (1875) 272 To half the Christian nations Rome is the metropolis of religion, to all the metropolis of art.

c. *Nat. Hist.* The district in which a species, group, etc., is most represented.

1826 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* IV. 489 The metropolis of the group [*Petalocera*] is within the temperate zone. 1859 Darwin *Orig. Spec.* vi. (1873) 135 Almost every species, even in its metropolis, would increase immensely in numbers, were it not for other competing species.

3. *Greek Hist.* The mother-city or parent-state of a colony. Hence occas. applied to the parent-state of a modern colony.

a 1568 Ascham *Scholem.* II. (Arb.) 135 Doing the dewtie of a good Colonia to her Metropolis. 1651 Hobbes *Leviath.* II. xxiv. 131 The Common-wealth from which they [*sc.* the colonists] went, was called their Metropolis, or Mother. 1837 *Penny Cycl.* VII. 359/1 If a colony wished to send out a new colony, this was properly done with the sanction of the metropolis. 1852 J. A. Roebuck *Hist. Whig Ministry* II. 197 The best means of making the wants of the colonies known to..the metropolis which founds them.

Metropolitan (metrŏpɒ·lităn), *a.* and *sb.* Also 6-7 **metra-.** [ad. late L. *metropolītānus,* f. Gr. *μητροπολίτ-ης* (see Metropolite).] **A.** *adj.*

1. Belonging to an ecclesiastical metropolis; *metropolitan bishop* = B. 1. Also, pertaining to or characteristic of a metropolitan.

a 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VIII* 247 The metrapolitan Churche of Saint Andrewes. *a* 1600 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* VII. viii. § 12 Archiepiscopal or Metropolitan prerogatives are those mentioned in old Imperial constitutions, to convocate the holy Bishops under them within the compass of their own Provinces. 1647 N. Bacon *Disc. Govt. Eng.* I. xii. (1739) 22 London had the Metropolitan See, or was the chiefest in precedency. 1726 Ayliffe *Parergon* 91 An Archbishop .. was elected by Provincial Bishops meeting together in the Metropolitan Church. 1902 A. M. Fairbairn *Philos. Chr. Relig.* II. ii. iii. 487 The Synagogue was provincial and sectarian, but the Temple was metropolitan and collective.

†b. *Metropolitan toe.* (The allusion is obscure.)
1642 MILTON *Apol. Smect.* 19 A Bishops foot that hath all his Toes..and a linnen Sock over it, is the aptest emblem of the Prelate himselfe. Who being a pluralist, may under one Surplice which is also linnen, hide foure benefices besides the metropolitan toe. 1673 [R. LEIGH] *Transp. Reh.* 127 When Arch-bishop Abbot was suspended we might say his metropolitan toe was cut off.

2. Of, pertaining to, or constituting a metropolis; *metropolitan city* or *town* = METROPOLIS. Also, belonging to or characteristic of 'the metropolis' (London).

In recent use occas. applied to designate institutions, etc. pertaining to London as a whole, in contradistinction to those that pertain to 'the City', as in *metropolitan police.*

1555 EDEN *Decades* 259 The metrapolitane citie of Muscouia called Mosca. 1739 CIBBER *Apol.* (1756) II. 17 A great deal of that false flashy wit and forc'd humour which had been the delight of our metropolitan multitude. 1784 COWPER *Task* III. 737 Are not wholesome airs..To be preferred to smoke, to the eclipse That metropolitan volcanoes make? 1864 *Act 27 & 28 Vict.* c. 116 § 8 This Act may be cited..as the 'Metropolitan Houseless Poor Act, 1864'. 1886 BYNNER *A. Surriage* xv. 173 How fast he was losing metropolitan tone and polish in the wilds of America. 1887 DOWDEN *Shelley* I. vi. 236 Dublin had sunk from a metropolitan to a provincial city.

3. Belonging to or constituting the mother-country.

1806 JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1830) IV. 60 A safe carriage of all her productions, metropnlitan or colonial. 1810 BENTHAM *Offic. Apt. Maximized* (1830) Pref. 21 On the question—by the metropolitan country shall this or that distant dependency be kept up,—there are two sides.

†4. *fig.* (from 1 and 2). Principal, chief. *Obs.*
1626 JACKSON *Creed* VIII. xxi. § 1 Of which [feasts] the passeover was the principal, or (as Chrysostome with some other of the ancients instile it) Metropolitan. 1632 BROME *Crt. Beggar* II. i. Wks. 1873 I. 201 Some call him the metrapolitane wit of Court. 1645 MILTON *Tetrach.* Wks. 1851 IV. 237 To acknowledge Gods ancient people their betters, and that language the Metropolitan language. 1651 BIGGS *New Disp.* P 198 The Ascendand and first house, the metrapolitane place in the systeme of indications. 1686 J. DUNTON *Leit. fr. New-Eng.* (1867) 74 Mr. Increase Mather:.. He is deservedly called, The Metropolitan Clergy-Man of the Kingdom.

B. *sb.*

1. *Eccl.* [In Gr. *μητροπολίτης*, in L. *mētropolītānus.*] A bishop having the oversight of the bishops of a province; in the early church his see was in the metropolis of the province. In the West the term is now approximately co-extensive with *archbishop*; in the Greek church the metropolitan ranks above an archbishop and below a patriarch.

1432-50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) II. 111 And to the metropolitan of London alle the cuntre of Cornewaile and alle Englonde was subiecte vn to the floode of Humbre. 1530-1 *Act 22 Hen. VIII*, c. 15 Wyllyam Archebysshoppe of Cantnrburye metropolytane and primate of all Englande. *a* 1643 LD. FALKLAND, etc. *Infallibility* (1646) 26 It hath beene agreed on, that all that are under the Metropolitan of Canterbury, should be called the Province of Canterbury. *a* 1674 MILTON *Hist. Mosc.* i. Wks. 1851 VIII. 480 The Emperor esteemeth the Metropolitan next to God, after our Lady and Saint Nicholas, as being his spiritual Officer. 1710 PRIDEAUX *Orig. Tithes* iii. 149 All the Metropolitans and Bishops of King Gontrans Kingdom. 1814 SOUTHEY *Roderick* xx. 318 If thou wert still The mitred metropolitan. 1833 R. PINKERTON *Russia* 189 The Council of Moscow.. was attended by..five metropolitans, five archbishops [etc.]. 1897 *Catholic Dict.* (ed. 5) 50/2 At present the terms 'archbishop' and 'metropolitan' have the same meaning, except that the latter implies the existence of suffragans, whereas there may be archbishops without suffragans, as in the case of Glasgow.

transf. 1686 tr. *Chardin's Coronat. Solyman* 59 A new Sadre, or Mahometan Pontiff, or Metropolitan of the whole Empire.

b. *fig.* (in jocular or sarcastic use).
1630 RANDOLPH *Aristippus* Wks. (1875) 32 The Catholic Bishop of Barbers, the very Metropolitan of Surgeons. 1780 COWPER *Progr. Error* 186 Let Comus rise Archbishop of the land; Let him your rubric and your feasts prescribe, Grand Metropolitan of all the tribe.

2. A chief town or metropolis.

1549 *Compl. Scot.* xiii. 110 The toune of tribie, quhilk is the methropolitane & capital cite of that cuntre. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* II. ix. 72 b, Mytilene.. metropolitane of al the townes of Eolea. 1628 GAULE *Pract. Theory* (1629) 104 Christ could haue chosen Rome..; or Athens..; or Jerusalem..; And yet poore Nazareth, and little Bethlehem..are..preferred to those renowned Metropolitans. 1692 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) II. 531 Grenoble, the metropolitane of Dauphigny. 1874 SPURGEON *Treas. Dav.* Ps. lxxxvii. 3 The true 'eternal city', the metropolitan, the mother of us all.

†3. *fig.* = METROPOLIS 2 b. *Obs.*
a 1619 FOTHERBY *Atheom.* II. ix. § 2 (1622) 296 The prime and Metropolitan of the Mathematicall Sciences. 1704 N. N. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* II. 204 That Naples should be allow'd the Title of Metropolitan of all Cities whatever for breaking of Colts, and Rome for managing of Men.

4. One who lives in a metropolis; one who has metropolitan ideas or manners.

1795 *Jemima* I. 83 You are a Paisley by nature as well as by birth, and incapable of becoming a worthy metropolitan. 1815 J. JEKYLL in *Bentham's Wks.* (1843) X. 486 To so inveterate a metropolitan as myself this is no grievance. 1882 O'DONOVAN *Merv Oasis* II. liv. 407 The people at Merv considered themselves altogether as metropolitans.

5. A citizen of the mother-city or parent-state of a colony.

1846 GROTE *Greece* II. ii. II. 311 Both metropolitans and colonists styled themselves Hellens, and were recognised as such by each other.

Metropolitanate (metrǫpǫ·litănēˡt). [f. METROPOLITAN + -ATE 1.] The office or see of a metropolitan bishop.

1854 MILMAN *Lat. Chr.* III. 363 That ascending ladder of ecclesiastical honours, the priorate, the abbacy, the bishopric, the metropolitanate. 1895 W. H. HUTTON *Laud* iii. 120 He..claimed the right to visit the Universities as inherent in the metropolitanate.

Metropo·litancy. *rare*−1. [f. METROPOLITAN *a.* + -CY.] The position of metropolis.

1889 WESTGARTH *Austral. Progr.* 45 Melbourne.. the.. rival of..Sydney for the metropolitancy of the Australasian section of our Empire.

Metropolita·neously, *adv.* [f. METROPOLITAN + -EOUS + -LY 2.] In metropolitan fashion.

1852 DICKENS *Let.* 19 Oct., Are you never coming to town any more? Never going to drink port again, metropolitaneously, but always with Fielden?

Metropolitanism (metrŏpǫ·litănizˈm). [f. METROPOLITAN + -ISM.] Metropolitan spirit, ideas, or institutions.

1855 R. R. MADDEN *C'tess Blessington* II. 174 In the exuberance of his metropolitanism, he had a sort of reverential feeling even for the stones of London. 1861 J. S. BREWER *Giraldi Cambrensis Op.* (Rolls) I. Pref., The name Giraldus was bandied about from mouth to mouth, as the undoubted successor to the see of St. David's...The golden era of Metropolitanism had dawned on benighted..Cambria. 1883 *Century Mag.* XXVI. 824 The architectural manifestations of metropolitanism.

Metropolitanize (metrŏpǫ·litănəiz), *v.* [f. METROPOLITAN + -IZE.] *trans.* To make metropolitan in position, manners, ideas, etc.

1855 *Fraser's Mag.* LI. 630 Poor little Kirkwall..seemed a mere village to the metropolitanized apprentice. 1897 *Spectator* 25 Dec. 919 He was himself not sufficiently metropolitanised for these efforts.

Metropolitanship (metrŏpǫ·litănʃip). [f. METROPOLITAN *sb.* + -SHIP.] The office, position, or see of a metropolitan bishop. In first quot. *fig.*

a 1638 MEDE *Wks.* (1672) III. 60 The Apocalyptical Babylon is not Babylon in Chaldæa, but a Counter-type thereof, most like for Universal Ambition and Metropolitanship of Spiritual Fornication. 1640 BASTWICK *Lord Bps.* ii. B iij, What a hot stirre was..heretofore between the Prelates of Canterbury and Yorke for the universall Metropolitanship over all England? 1838 G. S. FABER *Inquiry* 267 Some further divisions produced another metropolitanship in Slavonia. *a* 1878 MOZLEY *Lect.* xvi. (1883) 261 The metropolitanship stood upon the Letters Patent.

Metropolite (mĕˈtrǫ·pǒləit). [ad. late L. *mētropolīta*, a. Gr. *μητροπολίτης*, f. *μητρόπολις* METROPOLIS. Cf. F. *métropolite.*]

1. A metropolitan bishop; = METROPOLITAN B. 1.

1578 *Chr. Prayers* Y iij b *marg.*, Archb. & Metropolite. 1591 G. FLETCHER *Russe Commw.* xxi. 82 b, The Metropolite of Mosko. 1679 RYCAUT *Pres. St. Grk. Armen. Ch.* 95 The Patriarch of Constantinople is elected by the Metropolites, or Bishops. 1882-3 SCHAFF *Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* I. 595 With reservation of the right of the Bishop of Caesarea as metropolite.

†2. A metropolis. *Obs.*

1591 G. FLETCHER *Russe Commw.* i. 1 b, Nonogrod velica was the Metropolite or chiefe cittie. 1635 PAGITT *Christianogr.* 34 These sixe Sees, the chiefe of Provinces and Metropolites.

3. *attrib.* or as *adj.* = METROPOLITAN.

1591 G. FLETCHER *Russe Commw.* iv. 12 b, The whole countrey of Russia is tearmed by some by the name of Moscouia the Metropolite citie.

†**Metropolitic,** *a. Obs.* [ad. med.L. *mētropolīticus*, f. *mētropolīta* (see METROPOLITE).] = next.

1555 RIDLEY in Coverdale *Lett. Martyrs* (1564) 93 Farewell the cathedrall churche of Caunterburye, the Metropoliticke sea. 1612 SELDEN *Illustr. Drayton's Poly-olb.* xviii. 303 Canterbury [was] then honor'd with the Metropolitique See.

Metropolitical (metrŏpǫ̈li·tikăl), *a.* [Formed as prec. + -AL.]

1. *Eccl.* Of, pertaining to, or constituting a metropolitan bishop or see; = METROPOLITAN A. 1.

1541 *Act 33 Hen. VIII*, c. 31 The..diocese..to be of the prouince of the Archebyshoppe of Caunturburie, and vnder the iurisdiction metropolitical of the same. 1621 BP. MOUNTAGU *Diatribæ* 58 The new made Patriarch of Constantinople, sometime but a Suffragane to the Metropoliticall Sea of Heraclea. 1765 *Act 5 Geo. III*, c. 26 Preamble, The Bishoprick .. [was] united to the Prouince and Metropolitical Iurisdiction of York. 1901 *Standard* 9 Sept. 3/6 Preaching in York minster yesterday, Canon Fleming said: —Speaking to-day in this metropolitical Church [etc.].

fig. 1655 OWEN *Vind. Evang.* Ep. Ded., Affirming, that that Heresy hath fixed its Metropolitical seat here in England.

2. Of, pertaining to, or constituting a metropolis (capital or mother-city); = METROPOLITAN A. 2.

1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turks* I. (1621) 1 The metropoliticall citie of Riga. 1667 WATERHOUSE *Fire Lond.* 90 The River of Thames..will I trust in God for ever keep her in her Metropolitical station. 1710 STRYPE *Life Grindal* I. vii. 70 They..proceeded as far as the Metropolitical City. 1726 AYLIFFE *Parergon* 91 A Metropolis or Metropolitical City is in respect to a Colony, what a Mother is to a Daughter.

Metropolitically (metrŏpǫli·tikăli), *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY 2.]

1. As a metropolitan.

1637 BASTWICK *Litany* 1. 13 If Father William of Canterbury think that I am affraid of him, he is metropolitically mistaken. 1644 LAUD in Neal *Hist. Purit.* (1736) III. 205 In all churches, and in all other places where you visit metropolitically. 1834 *Edin. Rev.* LVIII. 479 Visiting metropolitically the body of both universities.

†2. As in a mother-state. *Obs.*

1723 H. ROWLANDS *Mona Antiq. Restaurata* 78 That the Druids resided Originally and Metropolitically in the Isle of Mona.

Metropolize (mĭˈtrǫ·pǫləiz), *v.* [f. METROPOLIS + -IZE.]

1. *trans.* (*nonce-use*) ? To concentrate in one place.

a 1658 CLEVELAND *Obsequies* 79 Wks. (1687) 235 To beg a Neck with Claudius, metropolize all Worth.

2. *intr.* To visit 'the metropolis'. *nonce-use.*

1815 BYRON in J. Paget *Paradoxes & Puzzles* (1874), We mean to metropolise to-morrow, and you will address your next to Piccadilly.

Metrorrhagia (mītrorēˡdʒiă). *Path.* Also anglicized **metro·rrhagy.** [mod.L., f. Gr. *μήτρα* womb + *-ραγία* breaking forth.] Uterine hæmorrhage. Hence **Metrorrha·gic** *a.*

[1776-84 CULLEN *First Lines Pract. Physic* (1808) II. 1 Which discharges alone, are those properly comprehended under the present title [*sc.* menorrhagia]. The title of *Metrorrhagia* or *hæmorrhagia uteri*, might comprehend a great deal more.] 1856 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Metrorrhagicus* .. metrorrhagic. .. *Metrorrhagy.* 1879 *St. George's Hosp. Rept.* IX. 455 Abdominal pain and metrorrhagia. 1889 J. M. DUNCAN *Clin. Lect. Dis. Wom.* x. (ed. 4) 64 For there may be profuse menorrhagia with more irregular and less severe metrorrhagic loss.

Metroscope 1 (mī·trŏskōup). [ad. F. *métroscope*, f. Gr. *μήτρα* womb; see -SCOPE.] **a.** An instrument for examining the uterus. **b.** An instrument for listening to the sounds of the heart of the fœtus during gestation.

1855 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex.*, *Metroscope*, an instrument invented by M. Nauche, for listening to the sounds of the heart of the fœtus in utero-gestation, when the sounds.. are imperceptible through the parietes of the abdomen.

Hence **Metro·scopy,** examination of the womb (Mayne *Expos. Lex.* 1856).

Metroscope 2 (me·trŏskōup). [f. Gr. *μέτρο-ν* measure + -SCOPE.] An instrument for determining dimensions.

Snellen's metroscope, an instrument for ophthalmostatometric research (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1890).

1876 *Catal. Sci. App. S. Kens.* 38 Metroscope. For the determination of dimensions of distant bodies.

‖ **Metrostaxis** (mītrostæˈksis). [mod.L., f. Gr. *μήτρα* womb + *στάξις* dropping, falling in drops: cf. *epistaxis.*] Uterine hæmorrhage.

1889 J. M. DUNCAN *Clin. Lect. Dis. Wom.* xvii. (ed. 4) 134 Metrostaxis or bloody flow from the womb.

Metrotome (me·trŏtōum). [f. Gr. *μήτρα* womb + *-τόμος* cutter, *τέμνειν* to cut.] A cutting instrument used in operating on the womb.

1856 in MAYNE *Expos. Lex.* 1861 *Med. Times* June 573 Front and Profile View of Dr. Coghlan's Probe-pointed Metratome [*sic*].

-metry (repr. Gr. *-μετρία* action or process of measuring, f. *-μέτρης* measurer, *μέτρον* measure), a terminal element of sbs. with the general sense 'action, process, or art of measuring (something specified by the initial element)'. A few of the words with this ending represent actual Greek words, as *geometry*, *stichometry*; many have been formed in modern times on assumed Gr. types, as *aerometry*, *anthropometry*, etc.; in the 19th c. there were many hybrid formations in which the initial element is a Latin or a modern word, as *alkalimetry*, *calorimetry.* Most of the sbs. in -METER have correlative words in *-metry*, denoting specifically the process of measuring by the instrument called '—meter'.

Metsc(h)ip, -ship, variants of METESHIP *Obs.*

Metstick, variant of METESTICK.

Mett: see MEAT, MET, METE.

†**Mettadel.** *Obs.* [ad. It. *metadella*, f. *metade*, *metà* half.] In Italy: 'A Measure of Wine, containing one Quart and near half a Pint, two whereof make a flask'.

1731 in BAILEY (ed. 5). 1833 J. BENNETT *Artificer's Compl. Lex.*

Mettaill, -al, obs. forms of METAL.

†**Mette.** *Obs.* [OE. *gemętta*:—OTeut. type **ga-matjon-*, f. **ga-* (synon. with L. *com-*) + **mat-* MEAT *sb.*] A companion at meat.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* (Th.) II. 282 Þa gemettan ne moston þæs lambes ban scænan. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. XVI. 41 Pacience and ich weren yput to be mettes, And seten by our selue at a syd-table.

Mette: see MEET, MET, METE.

Mettege, Mettel(l, obs. ff. METAGE, METAL.

Metter, obs. form of METER *sb.*1

Mettle (me·tˈl), *sb.* (and *a.*). Also 6-7 **mettal(l,** 6-9 **metal.** [Originally the same word as METAL *sb.*, of which *mettle* was a variant spelling used indiscriminately in all senses. The senses explained below are in origin figurative uses of METAL *sb.* and developments of these, but they are so remote from the literal sense that the con-

sciousness of the identity of the word has long been lost. The graphical differentiation is recognized in Kersey's Phillips, 1706, and in all succeeding Dicts., but was not always observed by writers of the 18th and early 19th c.]

1. Quality of disposition or temperament. (See METAL *sb.* 1 f.)

1584 LYLY *Campaspe* IV. i. 41 Swearing commeth of a hot mettal. 1601 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* III. iv. 300, I am one, that had rather go with sir Priest, then sir knight: I care not who knowes so much of my mettle. 1642 ROGERS *Naaman* 19 To try the spirit of men, of what mettle they are made of. 1789 WOLCOT (P. Pindar) *Subj. for Painters* Wks. 1792 III. 104 Showing the mettle of an arrant Quean. 1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* iii, Thou ken'st not the mettle that women are made of. 1897 GEN. H. PORTER in *Cent. Mag.* June 206 It showed the mettle of which he was made.

2. Of a horse, and occas. of other animals: Natural vigour and ardour; spirit.

1596 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. IV*, IV. iii. 22 Your Vnckle Worcesters Horse came but to day, And now their pride and mettall is asleepe. 1662 J. DAVIES tr. *Olearius' Voy. Ambass.* 323 The taking away of the excess of Metal, which Stone-Horses are guilty of. 1655 WALTON *Angler* i. (1661) 8 Her [a falcon's] mettle makes her careless of danger. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 209 As for the Females,..Take down their Mettle, keep 'em lean and bare. 1709 POPE *Ess. Crit.* 87 The winged courser, like a generous horse, Shows most true mettle when you check his course. 1867 J. MARTINEAU *Ess.* II. 394 They have..horses of best descent and mettle.

3. Of persons: Ardent or spirited temperament; spirit, courage.

1581 PETTIE tr. *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* III. (1586) 149 It dulleth their wittes, and represseth their natural vigour, in such sorte, that there is no mettall left in them. 1596 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. IV*, II. iv. 13 A Corinthian, a lad of mettle. *a* 1655 VINES *Lord's Supp.* (1677) 368 When Jacob had seen the sweet vision in Bethel .. it put mettle into him. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Mettle*, Vigour, Fire, Life, Sprightliness, Briskness; as *the Mettle of Youth*. 1718 *Free-thinker* No. 103. 346, I like the Lady's Wit and Mettle. 1866 G. MACDONALD *Ann. Q. Neighb.* xxxiv. (1878) 575, I found this only brought out his mettle.

punningly. 1604 DEKKER *Honest Wh.* I. i. Wks. 1873 II. 6 If the Duke had but so much mettle in him, as in a coblers awle. 1614 RALEIGH *Hist. World* V. i. 312 What other worldly help than the golden metall of their Souldiers, had our English Kings against the French?

4. Phrases. †**a.** *To give mettle to*: to encourage. **b.** *To be on* or *upon one's mettle*: to be incited to do one's best. **c.** *To put* or *set* (a person) *on* or *upon his mettle, to put to* (occas. *up to*) *his mettle*: to test his powers of endurance or resistance. **d.** † *To put* (a person) *off his mettle*: to daunt his courage. **e.** *To try* (a person's) *mettle* = c.

a. 1689 *Andros Tracts* II. 191 Our Conscience was that which gave metal to our Patience.

b. 1756 MITCHELL in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. IV. 374, I think it hardly possible he can escape, as everybody here are upon their mettle. 1887 *Times* 9 Apr. 5/5 They would have to contend against cavalry, who would be upon their mettle to show their superiority over the cyclists.

c. 1733 *Portland Papers* VI. (Hist. MSS. Comm.) 47 In such a manner as has put the gentlemen pretty much upon their mettle. 1800 WEEMS *Washington* i. (1877) 6 Even the common passions..will put him up to his mettle, and call forth his best and bravest doings. 1859 LEVER *Dav. Dunn* xiii. 14 It puts us on our mettle, too, to see our old enemies the French taking the work with us. 1895 SNAITH *Mistr. D. Marvin* xlii, His..sarcasm set me on my mettle. 1900 W. BAIRD *Gen. Wauchope* iii. 44 The soldiers were put to their mettle.

d. *a* 1745 SWIFT *Direct. Serv.* P 2 Wks. 1751 XIV. 3 When you have done a Fault,..behave yourself as if you were the injured Person; this will immediately put your Master or Lady off their Mettle.

e. 1786 *Har'st Rig* ii. (1794) 5 Let nane tyne heart, nor hand refrain, But try their mettle. 1882 FROUDE in *Longm. Mag.* Dec. 210 Romsdal's Horn .. will try the mettle of the Alpine Club when they have conquered Switzerland.

5. *attrib.* passing into *adj.* Spirited, mettlesome, 'game'. Now *arch.* and *Sc.*

1592 *Nobody & Someb.* A 4 b, *Arch.* Is not this Lasse a pretty Neat browne Wench? *Sicoph.* She is my liege, and mettell I dare warrant. 1651 FULLER *Abel Rediv.* 487 Where mettle Colts or restie jades are to be broken. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xxxii, Thou wouldst be a mettle lass enow, an thou wert snog and snod a bit better. 1886 STEVENSON *Kidnapped* xxiii, He is an honest and a mettle gentleman. *Ibid.* xxviii, As he went by upon a mettle horse.

Mettle, obs. form of METAL.

†**Me·ttleable,** *a. Obs. rare*⁻¹. In 6 mettelable. [f. METTLE *sb.* + -ABLE.] Mettlesome.

1557-75 *Diurn. Occurr.* (Bannatyne Cl.) 58 The watch of the Ingliss horsemen..brak vpone the said Frenchemen with mettelahle audacitie.

Mettled (me·t'ld), *a.* Also 6 mettald, 6–7 metled, 7 metal'd, metteld, 7–8 metall'd. [f. METTLE *sb.* + -ED².]

1. Full of mettle; mettlesome. Also in comb. *high-mettled*, etc. **a.** of horses, etc.

1615 LATHAM *Falconry* (1633) 21 Such great metteld and selfe wilde hawkes. 1638 JUNIUS *Paint. Ancients* 267 He shall wonder that there is such a mettled fervencie in horses, as [etc.]. *a* 1764 R. LLOYD *Poetry Prof.* 22 Fine-bred things of mettled blood, Pick'd from Apollo's royal stud. 1870 EDGAR *Runnymede* xiv, Their mettled palfreys.

b. of persons.

1599 SANDYS *Europæ Spec.* (1632) 35 What great imployment with stirring and mettald spirits. 1668 ETHEREDGE *She wou'd if she cou'd* III. iii, They are mettled girls, I warrant them, Sir Joslin, let 'em be what they will. 1672 EARL ORRERY *Tryphon* Prol., As metled School-boys set to cuff. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1811) V. xii. 152 The sex love us mettled fellows at their hearts.

c. of actions.

1633 B. JONSON *Love's Welcome, Welbeck*, Such a light and metall'd Dance Saw you never yet in France. 1682 T. FLATMAN *Heraclitus Ridens* No. 74 (1713) II. 206 'Twas a mettled Speech, seasonable and successful. 1701 CIBBER *Love Makes Man* v. iii, I find thou hast done a mettled Thing. 1768 *Woman of Honor* II. 54 Not having a heart for such a mettled enterprize.

†**2.** Half-drunk. *Obs. rare*⁻⁰.

1678 LITTLETON *Eng.-Lat. Dict.*, Mettled or fudled, *madulsa, semiebrius.*

3. With prefixed word: Having a 'mettle' or temperament of a specified kind.

1598 Heauie metled [see HEAVY *a.*¹ 31]. 1660 H. MORE *Myst. Godl.* II. xii. 55 Where their minds are enraged and heightned by the sound of the Drum and the Trumpet, (which are able to put but an ordinarily-metall'd man out of his wits). 1828 SIR J. S. SEBRIGHT *Hawking* 52 The goshawk is so slack mettled, that it requires the most skilful management to make him fly at all.

Mettlesome (me·t'lsŏm), *a.* [f. METTLE + -SOME.] Full of mettle; spirited. **a.** of horses, etc.

1662 J. DAVIES tr. *Mandelslo's Trav.* 29 *marg.*, The Indian Oxen as metalsome as the Horses in Germany. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* IV. xiii, Her horse, whose mettlesome spirit required a better rider. 1852 MRS. STOWE *Uncle Tom's C.* vi. 39 The instant Haley touched the saddle, the mettlesome creature bounded from the earth with a sudden spring.

b. of a person.

1710 PALMER *Proverbs* 229 Imagination..'tis .. increas'd by that love men have to themselves, which at once makes 'em blind and mettlesome. 1859 THACKERAY *Virgin.* lxii, A powerful mettlesome young Achilles.

†**c.** Of an organ of the body: Vigorous. *Obs.*

1668 CULPEPPER & COLE *Barthol. Anat.* II. vi. 104 In the Systole the Heart is vigorated and mettlesome, not in the Diastole.

†**d.** of actions. *Obs.*

1681 NEVILE *Plato Rediv.* 267 Some smart mettlesome Debates.

Hence **Me·ttlesomely** *adv.* (1755 in Johnson), **Me·ttlesomeness** (1727 in Bailey, vol. II).

Mettzotinto, obs. form of MEZZOTINTO.

Metuloid (me·tiuloid). *Bot.* [f. L. *mētula* a small pyramid (dim. of META) + -OID.] (See quot.)

1900 JACKSON *Gloss. Bot. Terms, Metuloids*, modified cystidia, encrusted with lime, which project from the hymenium of *Peniophora*, giving it a velvety appearance.

Metur, obs. form of METRE.

‖ **Meturgeman** (mĭ·tūrgĭmăn). [Late Heb. מתרגמן *mᵉthurgᵉmān*, f. Aram. *mᵉthurgām*, pa. pple. of *targēm* to interpret. Cognate with TARGUM, DRAGOMAN.] (See quots.)

1865 DIXON *Holy Land* II. 146 The Meturgeman, an interpreter of the Law, whose duty it was to stand near the reader for the day, and translate the sacred verses, one by one, from the Hebrew into the vulgar tongue. 1881 *Ch. Rev.* Apr. 49 Persons were appointed to translate the Hebrew into Chaldee, and explain the sense as the reader proceeded. This was the office of meturgeman, or interpreter, which..came to be recognized in every synagogue.

Metus, obs. pl. form of MEAT.

†**Metu·siast.** *Obs. rare*⁻¹. [ad. Eccl. Gr. μετουσιαστής, agent-n. f. *μετουσιάζειν to change the substance of, f. μετα- META- + οὐσία substance, essence.] A believer in transubstantiation.

1607 T. RDGERS 39 *Art.* xxviii. (1633) 176 The Metusiastes and Papists..beleeue the substance of Bread and Wine is so changed into the substance of Christ his Body, as nothing remaineth but the reall Body of Christ, besides the accidents of Bread and Wine.

Metwand, -yard: see METEWAND, METEYARD.

Metyr, obs. form of METRE.

Metzotin(c)to, obs. forms of MEZZOTINTO.

Meu (miū). Also 6 mewe, 6– mew. [irregularly ad. L. *mēum.*] = MEUM².

1548 TUANER *Names Herbes* (1881) 53 Meum..is called of the Poticaries Meu. *Ibid.*, It may be called in englishe mewe or duche Dyl. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* III. xv. 337 Mew groweth plenteously in Macedonia and Spayne. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Meu* or *Meum*, (Gr.) Mew, Spiknel, wild Dill, an Herb with a Stalk and Leaves like *Anis.* 1828 J. E. SMITH *Eng. Flora* II. 84 Spignel, Meu, or Bald-money. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 740/2 Mew, *Meum athamanticum.*

‖ **Meubles** (mōbl), *sb. pl.* [Fr.: see MOBLE *sb.*] Honsehold furniture.

1786 COWPER *Let. to Lady Hesketh* 26 Nov., This house, .. since it has been occupied by us and our *Meubles*, is [etc.]. 1835 H. GREVILLE *Diary* (1883) 78 The apartments of Louis XIV..are filled with many of the old *meubles* originally taken from the old palace.

†**Meu·bling,** *vbl. sb. Obs.* [f. F. *meubler* to furnish, f. *meuble* (see MOBLE *sb.*).] Furnishing.

1621 JAS. I in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. I. III. 169 These provisions for her lying in and meubling are lyke to coste tenne thowsande.

Meuer, variant of MURE *a. Obs.*

Meule, obs. form of MULE.

‖ **Meum**¹ (mī·ŏm). [Latin, neut. of *meus* mine.] 'Mine', 'that which is mine', in the phr. **Meum and tuum:** 'mine and thine'; what is one's own and what is another's. A popular phrase to express the rights of property. Also *meum, tuum*; *meum or tuum.*

1594 GREENE & LODGE *Looking-gl.* (1598) C iij, *Rasni.* What, wooe my subiects wife that honoureth me? *Radag.* Tut, Kings this *meum, tuum* should not know. 1612 BACON *Ess., Judicature* (Arb.) 458 For many times the thing deduced to Iudgement, may bee *meum et tuum*, when the reason and consequence thereof may trench to point of estate. 1627 ABBOT in Rushw. *Hist. Collect.* (1659) I. 448 You have allowed a strange Book yonder; which if it be true, there is no *Meum* or *Tuum*, no man in England hath any thing of his own. 1681-6 J. SCOTT *Chr. Life* III. (1696) 67 That which is the one's is the other's: their *Meums* and *Tuums* are confounded together. 1772 JOHNSON in *Phil. Trans.* LXIII. 146 They [N. Amer. Indians] are strict observers of *meum* and *tuum*. 1847 RUXTON *Adv. Mexico* 242 Regardless of the laws of *meum* and *tuum*. 1887 MOLONEY *Forestry W. Afr.* 82 The distinction between 'meum' and 'tuum' having been temporarily overlooked.

‖ **Meum**² (mī·ŏm). Also anglicized MEU, and in Gr. form MEON. [L., a. Gr. μῆον.] A genus of umbelliferous plants of the N.O. *Seselineæ*, containing only one species, *Meum athamanticum*, usually called spignel.

1548 TURNER *Names Herbes* (1881) 53 Meum called of the grecians Meon and Meion. 1727 BAILEY vol. II, *Meum*, the Herb Mew, wild Dill or Spikenel. 1854 S. THOMSON *Wild Fl.* III. (ed. 4) 296 The root[s] of the gout-weed.., of the meum or spignel,..have..been held in esteem.

Meure, -ely: see MURE *a. Obs.*, MURELY *adv. Obs.*

†**Meu·rte.** *Obs. rare*⁻¹. [a. OF. *meurté*, f. *meür* ripe: see MURE *a.* and -TY.] Maturity, finished excellence.

1474 CAXTON *Chesse* III. v. G vj b, In al thyse maner of people ther oughte to be meurte of good maners [etc.].

‖ **Meurtrière** (mörtrĭ·ĕr). [Fr.; fem. of *meurtrier* murderer, murderous, f. *meurtre* MURDER.] (See quot. 1802.)

1802 C. JAMES *Milit. Dict.*, *Meutrières*, small loop holes, sufficiently large to admit the barrel of a rifle, gun or musquet, through which soldiers may fire, under cover, against an enemy. They likewise mean the cavities that are made in the walls of a fortified town or place. 1843 THACKERAY *Irish Sk. Bk.* I. xiv. 266 The points of whose weapons may be seen lying upon the ledge of the little narrow *meurtrière* on each side of the gate.

Meuse, muse (miūs, miūz), *sb.* Now *dial.* Forms: 6–muce, muse, 8 mewse, 8–9 mews, 7–meuse; also 6 mows, meuze, 7 muise, 8 muish, 9 muese, meesh. [a. OF. *muce, musse, mouce*, mod. dial. *muche* hiding-place, hole in a hedge, f. *musser, muchier* to hide (whence MICHE *v.*). Cf. the synonymous MUSET.]

1. An opening or gap in a fence or hedge through which game, *esp.* hares, habitually pass, and through which they run, when hunted, for 'relief'.

1523 SKELTON *Garl. Laurel* 1384 He wrate of a muse [*ed.* 1568 mows] throw a mud wall; How a do cam trippyng in at the rere warde. 1575 TURBERV. *Venerie* 164 She .. will all the daye long bolde the same wayes .. and passe through the same muses untill hir death or escape. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* V. xlviii. 612 This herbe is founde in this Countrie in the Meuze of Corne feeldes. 1599 HARSNET *Agst. Darell* 140 But the Fox was neare driuen when he took this muce and hee ferreted out of it by verie pregnant depositions. 1623 SCOT *Highw. God* 55 A Hare started before Greyhounds will haue her accustomed way and muse, or die for it. 1754 COWPER *Ep. to R. Lloyd* 52 The virtuoso .. The gilded butterfly pursues O'er hedge and ditch, through gaps and mews. 1756 *Gentl. Mag.* XXVI. 180 The most effectual method of destroying hares is by laying snares .. in the muishes of hedges, dykes, and other fences. 1805 R. W. DICKSON *Pract. Agric.* II. 1206 A sort of small trap door, to which they are led by a narrow track or meuse. The rabbits, being thus taken [etc.]. 1821 *Blackw. Mag.* VIII. 531 It is doubted whether the stoutest March hare will have sufficient vivacity to carry him to his muese. 1884 *Upton-on-Severn Gloss.* s.v. *Muse*, Them Welshmen [Welsh sheep]'d go through a rabbit run or a har' muce. 1886 BARNES *Dorset Gloss., Meesh*, the run or lair of a hare. 1895 *Athenæum* 2 Mar. 285/3 In a stone-wall country you will not find a hare close to the lee side..because of the concentrated wind which whistles through every 'meuse'.

b. *transf.* and *fig.* A loophole or means of escape; a device for, or way of, getting out of a difficulty.

a 1529 SKELTON *Replyc.* 212 How..ye had..deuyllysshely deuysed The people to seduce, And chace them thorowe the muse Of your noughty counsell. 1606 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* XVI. cii. (1612) 404 When desprate Ruffins fraught with faults finde readily a Meuse. 1647 N. BACON *Disc. Govt. Eng.* I. lix. (1739) 115 In this Tragedy the Pope observing how the English Bishops had forsaken their Archbishops, espied a muse through which all the game of the Popedom might soon escape. 1655 R. FANSHAWE tr. *Camoens' Lusiad* III. lxxix, Stopt is each Meuse, and guarded in each part. 1858 R. S. SURTEES *Ask Mamma* xxix. 116 The Major, after trying every meuse, and every twist, and every turn.. was at length obliged to whip off.

2. The 'form' of a hare.

[1597: see MEAZE.] 1611 SPEED *Hist. Gt. Brit.* VI. vii. (1623) 69 Like to fearfull Hares..who no sooner shall heare the cry of their pursuit, but their Muise or Fortresse will be left. 1890 *Gloucestersh. Gloss., Mews*, a hare's form.

Hence **Meuse** *v. intr.*, to go through a 'meuse'; **Meusing** (*meshing*) *vbl. sb.* (also *attrib.*).

1666 *Voy. Emp. China* in *Misc. Cur.* (1708) III. 196 They Locked themselves together so closely, that they left no meshing Place for them to make their Escape by. 1681 *Relig. Clerici* 55 Their [the Romanists'] boldest champions, to avoid the danger of a close pursuit, muce nimbly, and sculk in the subterfuges of this thorny wilderness. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Musing*..among Hunters, the passing of a Hare thro' a Hedge. 1827 *Sporting Mag.* XX. 201 *note*, In counties so close as Yorkshire, hounds must occasionally meuse, when smaller hounds have advantage.

Meuse, Meute, obs. forms of MEWS, MUTE *sb.*

Meuve, obs. form of MOVE.

Meuwe, Meuze, obs. ff. MEW *sb.*[1], MEUSE.

Mev(e)able, obs. forms of MOVABLE.

Meve, obs. form of MEW, MOVE.

‖ **Mevy.** *Obs. rare*—[1]. [Related in some way to MEW *sb.*[1]] A sea-mew.

1613–16 W. BROWNE *Brit. Past.* II. i. 17 About his sides a thousand Seaguls bred, The Meuy, and the Halcyon.

Mevyng(e, obs. forms of MOVING *vbl. sb.*

Mew (miū), *sb.*[1] Forms: 1 mǽw (méau, méu, méз), 5 mewe, 7 meaw(e, 6– mew. [OE. *mǽw* str. masc. corresponds to OS. *mêu* (MDu., MLG. *mêwe* fem., whence mod.Ger. *möwe*; Du. *meeuw* fem.):—OTeut. type **mai*[g]*wi-z*; related by consonant-ablaut to the synon. **maihwo-z*, whence OHG. *mêh*, ON. *má-r* (pl. *mávar*, *máfar*); the pre-Teut. forms would be **moi·qo-s*, *moiqi·-s*.] A gull, esp. the common gull, *Larus canus*; a sea-mew.

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) A. 478 *Alcido*, meau. *a* 900 *Gloss.* in Cockayne *Shrine* 29/2 Larum, meu *vel* meg. *a* 1000 *Andreas* 371 (Gr.) Se ȝræga mæw. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 346/1 Mowe, hyrd, or semewe, *aspergo*. *a* 1490 BOTONER *Itin.* (Nasmith 1778) 147 Aves vocatæ mewys. 1558 PHAER *Æneid* v. M ij b, A pleasant playne of feeld, where often Mewes and birds of seas doth kepe their haunting walke. 1624 CAPT. SMITH *Virginia* VI. 216 Meawes, Gulls, ..and many other sorts [of birds]. 1693 DRYDEN *Persius' Sat.* vi. (1726) 292 And on her shatter'd Masts the Mews in Triumph ride. 1814 SCOTT *Ld. of Isles* III. xxvii, And clamour'd shrill the wakening mew. 1867 JEAN INGELOW *Poems, Sea Mews* iv, A rock, Where many mews made twittering sweet.

Mew (miū), *sb.*[2] Forms: 4–5 muwe, meuwe, 5 mu, mwe, 4–7 mewe, 4–8 mue, (7 miew), 5– mew. [a. F. *mue* fem., vbl. sb. f. *muer* MEW *v.*[1] Cf. the equivalent Pr., Sp., It. *muda*.]

1. A cage for hawks, *esp.* while 'mewing' or moulting.

13.. *Guy Warw.* (Caius) 77 As demure [she was] As girfauk, or fawkon to lure, That oute of muwe were drawe. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Sqr.'s T.* 635 And by hire beddes heed she made a Mewe [for a hawk]. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 347/2 Mv, of hawkys, *falconarium*. 1509 BARCLAY *Shyp of Folys* (1874) I. 222 They make of the churche, for theyre hawkes a mewe. 1623 SIR T. STAFFORD in *Lismore Papers* Ser. II. (1888) III. 79 The faulcon your Lordship sent was so brused and ragged..[that I] haue put her into a mieu. 1678 RAY *Willughby's Ornith.* 430 So leave them [*sc.* sparrow-hawks] in the Mew till they are clean mewed. 1783 BURKE *Sp. East-India Bill* Wks. IV. 67 A notorious robber and villain, ..kept as a hawk in a mew, to fly upon this nation. 1820 SCOTT *Abbot* iv, He chanced..to descend to the mew in which Sir Halbert Glendinning kept his hawks.

fig. 1628 *Private Mem. Sir K. Digby* (1827) 64, I beseech you give me leave..to please myself awhile with flying abroad before I be put into the mewe. 1635 [GLAPTHORNE] *Lady Mother* IV. i. in Bullen *O. Pl.* II. 175 Were my soule Drawn from this mew of flesh twould quickly stretch Like a swift Falcon her aspiring wings.

b. *In mew* (rarely *in the mew*): in process of moulting; also *fig.* in process of transformation.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 326 As a bridd which were in Mue Witbinne a buissh sche kepte hire clos. 1486 [see MEW *v.*[1] 1 a]. 1708 T. WARD *Eng. Ref.* (1716) I When Old King Harry youthful grew, As Eagles do, or Hawks in Mew. 1813 JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1830) IV. 202 Our present government was in the mew, passing from Confederation to Union.

2. †a. A coop or cage in which animals, *esp.* fowls, were confined for fattening. Also without article in phr. *in mew*, cooped up. *Obs.* b. Now *dial.* a breeding-cage.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 349 Ful many a fat partrich hadde he in Muwe. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 350/1 Mwe, or cowle (*MS. K.* mv), *saginarium*. 1556 WITHALS *Dict.* (1568) 38/2 A coupe or mewe for capons or other birdes to be kepte in, *auiarium*. 1566 ADLINGTON *Apuleius* IX. xli. 96 She thrust him into a mew made with twigges [L. *viminea cauea*]. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 297 A Barton and Mue to keepe foule. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* IV. iv, I must take care of my partridge mew. 1861, 1892 [see *Eng. Dial. Dict.*].

¶ c. Misused to render med.L. *muta* MUTE *sb.*

1766 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* II. xxviii. 427 The king, according to the record vouched by sir Edward Coke, is entitled to six things; the bishop's best horse, ..his cloak, or gown [etc.]: and, lastly, his *muta canum*, his mew or kennel of hounds.

3. †a. phr. *In mew*: in hiding or confinement, cooped up. *Obs.*

c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 3336 But conwardli as caitifs couren [ȝe] here in meuwe. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* I. 381 To hiden his desir in muwe From every wight y-born. *a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* (1868) 85 The quene was gretly ashamed, whanne she saye she most be in mue. *c* 1450 LYDG. & BURGH *Secrees* 2063 Keep tonge in mewe. 1471 J. PASTON in *P. Lett.* III. 12, I wold fayne my gray horse wer kept in mewe for gnattys. *c* 1530 LD. BERNERS *Arth. Lyt. Bryt.* (1814) 503 The dolphin said:..it anoyeth me grently thus long to be closed in mewe! 1594 SPENSER *Amoretti* lxxx, Give leave to me, in pleasant mew To sport my muse and sing my loves sweet praise. 1600 FAIRFAX *Tasso* v. xliii, If my good seruice reape this recompence, To be clapt vp in close and secret mew.

†b. A place of confinement. *Obs.*

c 1400 *Rom. Rose* 4778 To escape out of his [Love's] mewe. 1526 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 35 Yet Lyberte hath ben lockyd vp and kept in the mew. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. v. 27 Captiv'd eternally in yron mewes And darksom dens. 1615 BRATHWAIT *Strappado* (1878) 120 Her husband..kept her in a Mew. 1622 J. REYNOLDS *God's Revenge* II. vii. 94 Vnaccustomed to bee pent vp in so strait and darke a mew.

c. A secret place, a place of concealment or retirement; a den. Sometimes without article in †*to mew*. Now *rare*.

c 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 251 Skore that place [*sc.* the soul] from al goostly felthe..Thyn Hooly Goost close in that litil mwe. 1436 *Libel Eng. Policy* in *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 170 Oure enmyse .. flede to mewe, they durste no more appere. 1601 WEEVER *Mirr. Mart.* F ij, Some watchfull Poets secret mew. 1625 W. PEMBLE *Justification* (1629) 83 An Anchorites Mue. 1855 BROWNING *Fra Lippo* 47 I've been three weeks shut within my mew, A-painting for the great man, saints and saints. 1898 T. HAROV *Wessex Poems* 109 To shun his view By her hallowed mew I went from the tombs among To the cirque of the Gladiators.

4. *Comb.* †Mew-house = sense 1.

c 1470 HARDING *Chron.* CLXXXIX. v, Maister of the Mew house & his haukes fayre.

Mew, *sb.*[3]: see MEW *int.*

Mew (miū), *v.*[1] Forms: 4 muwe, 4–7 mewe, 5 mwe, 6–7 (9) mue, 6– mew. [a. F. *muer* to moult, also to shed horns (OF. also in wider sense, to change) = Pr., Sp., Pg. *mudar*, It. *mutare* to moult, change:—L. *mūtāre* to change, whence MUTABLE, MUTATION.]

1. a. *trans.* Of a hawk: To moult, shed, or change (its feathers); also of other birds. Also in *passive* with the bird as subject. Often in figurative context. Now only *arch.*

c 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 1738 An .C. of gyrfacouns y asky to y-muwed ouer ȝere. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* b j, Iff an hawke be in mewe yᵗ same sercell feder shall be the last feder that she will cast, and tyll that be cast, she is neuer mewed. 1606 DRAYTON *Odes, To Cupid* 17 He [Cupid]..in the air hovers; Which when it him deweth, His feathers he meweth. *a* 1613 OVERBURY *A Wife*, etc. (1638) H iv b, Now she has mewed three coats, now shee growes weary [etc.]. *Ibid.*, She mewes her pounces, at all these yeares she flies at fooles and kils too. 1616 SURFL. & MARKH. *Country Farm* 716 For how much the earlier bird she [*sc.* a nightingale] is, by so much will she become the more perfect, .. because that comming .. to mue her feathers, if she [etc.]. 1639 T. DE GRAY *Compl. Horsem.* 167 Foules..in the summer season mowting and mewing their feathers. *a* 1682 SIR T. BROWNE *Tracts* iv. (1683) 106 Considering..his [the Hoopebird's] latitancy, and mewing this handsome outside in the Winter; they [*i. e.* the old Ægyptians] made it an Emblem [etc.]. 1869 BROWNING *King & Bk.* IX. 1233 Proud that his dove which lay among the pots Hath mued those dingy feathers.

¶ b. Peculiarly used by Milton.

The precise sense intended is difficult to determine: perhaps 'to renew by the process of moulting'; some would render 'exchanging her mighty youth for the still mightier strength of full age'.

1644 MILTON *Areop.* 34 Methinks I see in my mind a noble and puissant Nation rousing herself like a strong man after sleep..: Methinks I see her as an Eagle muing her mighty youth, and kindling her undazl'd eyes at the full midday beam.

†c. *transf.* and *fig.* To shed or change (anything comparable to plumage, e. g. hair, clothes); to change (colour). Also in *passive*. *Obs.*

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* II. 1209 (1258) With þat he gan hire humbly to saluwe With dredful chere and ofte his heweis muwe. 1614 TOMKIS *Albumazar* III. iv. (1615) F 3, Stand forth transform'd Antonio fully mued From browne soare feathers of dull yeomanry To th' glorious bloome of gentry. 1620 QUARLES *Jonah* (1638) 42 Their nakednesse with sackcloth let them hide And mue the vestments of their silken pride. *c* 1620 FLETCHER & MASS. *Lit. Fr. Lawyer* III. ii, 'Tis true, I was a Lawyer, But I have mewd that coat, I hate a Lawyer. 1633 FORD *Broken H.* II. i, The King has mew'd All his gray beard, in stead of which is budded Another of a pure Carnation colour. *a* 1658 CLEVELAND *Gen. Poems*, etc. (1677) 58 The Sun hatb mew'd his Beams from off his Lamp.

causatively. *c* 1620 FLETCHER & MASS. *Double Marriage* III. ii, How he has mew'd your head, has rub'd the snow off, And run your beard into a peak of twenty.

d. *absol.* and *intr.* To moult. †Also *transf.* and *fig.* to change or lose one's covering; to assume a new aspect.

c 1530 DU WES *Introd. Fr.* in *Palsgr.* 950/3 To mue as a hawke, *muer*. 1567 TURBERV. tr. *Spagnuoli's Eclogues* ii. C iij, Euerything doth mewe, And shiftes his rustie winter robe. 1613 FLETCHER, etc. *Hon. Man's Fort.* v. i, One only suit to his backe which now is mewing. 1616 SURFL. & MARKH. *Country Farm* 721 Those [finches] which are taken in the neast, doe mue within a moneth that they are put in [the cage]. 1725 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Mewing*, Those.. which mew about the End of July, do it with Success. 1828 SIR J. S. SEBRIGHT *Hawking* 62 Hawks must be fed very high, and kept very quiet when they mew.

†**2.** *trans.* Of a stag: To cast or shed (his horns). Also *to mew his head. Obs.*

c 1410 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) ii, Þei [harts] mewe [*MS. Douce* meve] þer hornes. *Ibid.*, Þenn þei mewe þ hir heedes. *Ibid.* (MS. Bodley 546), And whanne þei haue meved [*v.r.* mwed] bure heedes. 1577 [see 2 b]. 1674 N. COX *Gentl. Recreat.* (1677) 65 The time of Harts Mewing, or Casting the Head.

fig. 1700 DRYDEN *Cinyras & Myrrha* 320 Nine times the Moon had mew'd her horns.

b. *intr.*

1577 HARRISON *England* III. iv. (1878) II. 26 It is also much to be maruelled at, that whereas they [deer] do yeerelie mew and cast their horns: yet in fighting they neuer breake off where they doo grife or mew. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1824) I. 384 When they [deer] cast their heads, they are said to *mew*.

†**3.** In gen. sense: To change, transmute. *Obs.*

15.. *Helyas* in Thoms *Prose Rom.* III. 76 They found hut vi. children, to whome they did nothing but tooke away theyr chaines that was about their neckes wherby incontinent thei were mued in white swannes.

Mew (miū), *v.*[2] Forms: 5–7 mewe, 5–8 mue, 6– mew. [f. MEW *sb.*[2]]

1. *trans.* To put a hawk in a 'mew', or cage, at moulting time; to keep up. *To mew at large, at the stock* or *stone*: see quot. 1611.

a 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* lii. 177, I can mew a sparhawke. 1575 TURBERV. *Falconrie* 173 The place wherin you shoulde mew a hawke at the stocke should be a lowe parler or chamber upon the grounde. 1611 MARKHAM *Country Contentm.* I. viii. (1615) 95–6 Mewing at the stone or stocke... If you mewe at the stocke, you shal haue a broad Table..on which you must place..a free-stone or blocke of two foote hie, to which you shal fasten your hawke...If you mewe your hawke at large you shall put her loose into the mewe. *c* 1640 J. SMYTH *Lives Berkeleys* (1883) II. 285 Merlins, which sometimes she mewed in her own chamber. 1828 SIR J. S. SEBRIGHT *Hawking* 62 They [hawks] are sometimes kept loose in a room; but it is, in my opinion, much better to mew them on perches or on blocks. *Ibid.* 63 As it is difficult to procure Icelanders and gyrfalcons, these valuable birds are well worth mewing.

†**2.** To coop or shut *up* (poultry, etc.) in a coop for fattening. *Obs. rare.*

c 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 169 Fat Capons up mewed to the fulle. 1522 SKELTON *Why not to Court?* 219 He eateth capons stewed, Fesaunt and partriche mewed. 1639 HORN & ROB. *Gate Lang.* xiv. § 147 Poultry shut up [*marg.* Coopt or mued up in a mue].

b. *transf.*

1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III*, I. i. 132 More pitty, that the Eagles should be mew'd, Whiles Kites and Buzards play at liberty.

3. To shut up, confine, enclose; to hide, conceal.

a 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* (1868) 85 Euery woman that disobeyed..her husbonde..shulde be mued alle a year. 1577–87 STANYHURST in Holinshed I. Ded. 8 The little paine I tooke therein was not so secretlie mewed within my closet, but [etc.]. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. iii. 34 The bush..In which vaine Braggadocchio was mewd. *a* 1625 FLETCHER *Hum. Lieut.* IV. iv, They keep me mew'd up here as they mew mad folkes. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 109 [He] mewes himselfe, his Wife, two sonnes and ten thousand men in this..Castle. 1693 DRYDEN *Juvenal* i. 186 Close mew'd in their Sedans, for fear of air. 1719 D'URFEY *Pills* (1872) I. 250 I'm mew'd in a smoky house. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* V. vi, The young King mew'd in Stirling tower, Was stranger to respect and power. 1882 'OUIDA' *Maremma* I. 72 There, galley-slaves are mewed in a bitter company.

fig. 1817 SHELLEY *Rev. Islam* II. xxxvi, The servitude In which the half of humankind were mewed Victims of lust.

b. *To mew up*, in the same sense. (Now more usual.)

1581 PETTIE tr. *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* I. (1586) 8 You cannot goe to visite the sicke..if you remaine alwaies mewed vp. 1617 HALES *Gold. Rem.* I. (1673) 11 Not to suffer your labours to be copst and mued up within the poverty of some pretended method. 1628 PRYNNE *Cens. Cozens* 39 Those Munkes and Nunnes, which..are mued vp in Forraine Cells and Cloisters. 1703 FARQUHAR *Inconstant* II. i, What does the old Fellow mean by mewing me up here with a couple of green girls? 1791–1823 D'ISRAELI *Cur. Lit.* (1858) I. 8 Heinsius was mewed up in the library of Leyden all the year long. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xxix, Amy was no longer mewed up in a distant and solitary retreat. 1880 MRS. RIDDELL *Myst. Pal. Gard.* xxvi, I have been kept mewed up, seeing nothing, knowing no one, going nowhere.

refl. 1581 RICHE *Farew.* (Shaks. Soc.) 95 What moves thy mynde to mewe thee up so close. 1605 *Hist. Stukeley* E iij, We make them proud by mewing vp our selues In walled towns. 1622 MABBE tr. *Aleman's Guzman D'Alf.* (1623) 139 [He] mewes himselfe up in a corner and dares not be seene. 1669 PENN *No Cross* I. v. § 12 If every Body..should mew himself up within Four Walls. 1695 CONGREVE *Love for L.* I. i, 'Slife, Sir, what do you mean, to mew your self up hear with Three or Four musty Books? 1736 AINSWORTH *Lat. Dict.*, To mew up one's self from the world, *ab hominum consortio secedere*.

†**4.** ? To restrain (speech, the tongue). *Obs.*

c 1530 *Interl. Beauty & Gd. Prop. Women* A iij b, It is a wonder to se theyre dyssemblyng, .. Theyre folyshnes, theyre langlyng not mewde. 1594 LYLY *Moth. Bombie* II. i. 113 Mew thy tongue, or weele cut it out.

Mew (miū), *v.*[3] [Echoic: see MEW *int.* Cf. MAW, MIAOU *vbs.*] *intr.* Of a cat (*occas.* of other animals): To utter the sound represented by 'mew'. Also of sea-birds.

c 1325 [see MEWT *v.*]. 14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 571/23 *Catello*, to mewe. 1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 100, I neuer herd thy catte once mew. 1605 SHAKS. *Macb.* IV. i. 1. 1711 *Acc. Sev. Late Voy.* II. 111 Of the Sea-dogs.. Their little or young ones mew like Cats. 1747 GRAY *Death Cat* 32 Eight times emerging from the flood She mew'd to ev'ry wat'ry God, Some speedy aid to send. 1843 MARRYAT *M. Violet* xiii, The cub [of a bear]..hurt itself, and mewed. 1877 L. MORRIS *Epic Hades* II. 102 The sea birds mewed Around me. 1884 PAE *Eustace* 129 The cat mews very little in the Hector. 1902 R. W. CHAMBERS *Maids of Paradise* IX. 167, I heard the white-winged gulls mewing.

b. *transf.* Of a person: To utter this sound derisively. Cf. MEW *int.* 2,

1606 DEKKER *Sev. Deadly Sins* To Rdr. (Arb.) 3 You stand somtimes at a Stationers stal, looking scurvily (like Mules champing vpon Thistles) on the face of a new Booke bee it neuer so worthy: and goe (as il fauouredly) mewing away. 1611 MIDDLETON & DEKKER *Roaring Girl* Prol. 6 Each one comes And brings a play in's head with him; yp he summes What he would of a Roaring Girle haue writ; If that he findes not here, he mewes at it.

c. *trans.* To express by mewing.

1900 AFLALO in *Cornh. Mag.* Nov. 628 The gulls were still mewing their plaintive dirge over the fishy harbour.

Mew (miū), *int.* and *sb.*[3] [Echoic: cf. MIAOU.]

1. *int.* Used to represent the cry of a cat. Also *sb.* as a name for this sound.

1596 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. IV*, III. i. 129, I had rather be a Kitten,

and cry mew, Then [etc.]. 1718 Bp. Hutchinson *Witchcraft* 37 Whereupon the Cat whin'd and cried Mew. 1791 Cowper *Retired Cat* 88 A long and melancholy mew,.. Consoled him. 1851 Borrow *Lavengro* xcix, The silent mew of my mother's sandy-red cat.

† **2.** Used as a derisive exclamation. *Obs.*

1606 Day *Ile of Guls* Prol. (1881) 7 The rest thinking it in dislike of the play,..cry 'Mew! by Jesus, vilde!' *Ibid.* IV. iv. 91 Let their desarts be crowned with mewes and hisses. 1607 Dekker & Webster *Northward Ho* I. ii. Dekker's Plays 1873 III. 11 Pox a your gutts, your kidneys; mew: hang yee, rooke. 1633 Ford *Love's Sacr.* I. ii, And how does my owne Julia, mew vpon this sadnesse? What's the matter you are melancholly?

Mew, variant of Maugh.

c 1598 D. Ferguson *Sc. Prov.* (1785) 24 Make na twa mews of ae daughter.

Mew: see Meu; obs. f. Move *v.*; obs. and dial. pa. t. of Mow *v.*[1]; obs. var. Muid.

Me-ward(s, orig. *to me ward(s* = towards me: see -ward and Toward, Towards.

1849 Mrs. Carlyle *Lett.* II. 74 The eyes starting out of them me-ward. 1882 Swinburne *Tristr. of Lyonesse*, etc. 87 Alas! to these men only grace, to these, Lord, whom thy love draws Godward, to thy knees—I, can I draw thee meward, can I seek, Who love thee not, to love me?

Mewe, obs. f. Mew, pa. t. Mow *v.*, obs. var. Muid.

Mewed (miūd), *ppl. a.*[1] [f. Mew *v.*[1] + -ed[1].] Of a bird: That has moulted (once or more).

c 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 1750 Gyrfaconns y-mawed & white stedes & hertes of gresse y wene. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* a viij b, And iff she be a mewed hawke. 1621 Sir R. Boyle in *Lismore Papers* (1886) II. 20, I..am to send my mewed goshawk to thearle of Bath. 1674 N. Cox *Gentl. Recreat.* (1677) 233 Mew'd-hawks, are such which have once or more shifted the Feather. 1727–41 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v. *Hawk.*

Mewed (miūd), *ppl. a.*[2] [f. Mew *v.*[2] + -ed[1].] In senses of the vb.: Confined in a mew; shut up, concealed. Also with *up*.

1610 W. Folkingham *Art of Survey* I. x. 29 The dung found in the Bartons of mewed Blacke-birdes. 1638 Rawley tr. *Bacon's Life & Death* (1651) 10 Amongst Mewed Hawkes, some have been found to have lived thirty years. And amongst Wild Hawkes forty years.

† **Mew·er**[1]. *Obs. rare.* [f. Mew *v.*[1] + -er[1].] See quot. 1688.

c 1450 *Bk. Hawking* in *Rel. Ant.* I. 305 If it [thi hawke] be a mewer put her [in mewe] in the month of January. 1688 R. Holme *Armoury* II. 236/2 A Mewer, or Mewed Hawk.. are so called from December to the middle of May.

† **Mew·er**[2]. *Obs.* [f. Mew *v.*[2] + -er[1].] One who mews, shuts *up*, or confines (another).

1626 Purchas *Pilgrims* II. 1270 They were..jealous mewers up of their wives.

† **Mew·er**[3]. *Obs.* [f. Mew *v.*[3] + -er[1].] One who mews; a cat. Also, one who catcalls.

1611 Cotgr., *Miauleur*, a mewler, or mewer. 1649 W. M. *Wandering Jew* (1857) 54 Jew, I would have thee know, I am..a mewer of Playes, a jeerer of Poets [etc.].

Mewet, obs. form of Mute *a.*

Mewing (miū·iŋ), *vbl.sb.*[1] [f. Mew *v.*[1] + -ing[1].] The action of Mew *v.*[1]

1611 Cotgr., *Mue*,..the muing of a Hawke. 1655 Walton *Angler* I. i. (1661) 14 If I should..treat of their several Ayries, their Mewings,..and the renovation of their Feathers. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XI. 633/2 *Mewing*, the falling off or change of hair, feathers, skin, horns, or other parts of animals.

b. *attrib.*, as *mewing time*.

1652 N. Bacon *Disc. Govt. Eng.* II. vi. (1739) 35 Thus began the Mewing time of Prelacy, and the principal Feather of their wings to fall away. *a* 1653 G. Daniel *Idyll* iv. 27 'Tis but a mewing Time; what matter if Cold Gorges crampe the feet?

Mewing (miū·iŋ), *vbl. sb.*[2] [f. Mew *v.*[2]] The action of shutting up in a mew.

1575 Turberv. *Falconrie* 177 Martins are also woorth the mewyng if they be hardie. 1611 Markham *Country Contentm.* I. viii. (1615) 95 The mewiog of long winged hawks.

Mewing (miū·iŋ), *vbl. sb.*[3] [f. Mew *v.*[3] + -ing[1].] The act of uttering mews.

1611 Cotgr., *Miaulement*, a mewling, or mewing. 1849 James *Woodman* xviii, Pshaw, I am sick of their mewing. 1881 Mivart *Cat* 226 All forms of mewing, howling, and other vocal manifestations, are modified expiratory actions.

Mewing (miū·iŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. Mew *v.*[3] + -ing[2].] Uttering mews.

1871 G. Meredith *H. Richmond* xiii, No mewing sanctimoniousness. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 944 A piping or mewing sound.

Mewl (miūl), *sb.* [f. Mewl *v.*] = Mew *sb.*[3]

1857 Mrs. Marsh *Rose of Ashurst* I. iii. 95 A woman's voice and a baby's mewl were heard.

Mewl (miūl), *v.* Also 9 **mule**. [Echoic; cf. Miaul *v.*] *intr.* **a.** To cry feebly, whimper, like an infant; to make a whining noise. Also *trans.* with *out*. **b.** To mew like a cat.

1600 Shaks. *A. Y. L.* II. vii. 144 The Infant, Mewling, and puking in the Nurses armes. 1611 Cotgr., *Miauler*, to mewle, or mew, like a cat. 1818 Hazlitt *Eng. Poets* vi. (1870) 151 Gargantua mewls, and pules, and slabbers his nurse. 1819 Moore *Mem.* (1853) III. 91 It [the music] was squalled and mewled out by Madames Branchia and Albert. 1861 *Crt. Life at Naples* II. 204 He would bid her dry her eyes, and not be puling and muling like a baby. 1882 P. Fitzgerald *Recreat. Lit. Man* II. xvii. 95 [A dog] growling, snarling, and even mewling with rage.

Hence **Mew·ling** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.* Also **Mew·ler.**

1611 Cotgr., *Miaulement*, a mewling, or mewing. *Ibid. Miauleur*, a mewler, or mewer. 1755 Smollett *Quix.* (1803) IV. 67 The mewling of the cats. 1831 Moore *Mem.* (1854) VI. 210 His enharmonics like the mewlings of an expiring cat. 1844 Dickens *Mart. Chuz.* xxviii, You mewling, white-faced cat!

Mewle, Mewlyter, obs. ff. Mule, Muleteer.

Mewre, obs. form of Mure.

Mews (miūz). Forms: 4 **muwes**, 4–7 **mewes**, 6 **mewys, mowse**, 7 **mues, muze, muse, mewse**, 8 **meuse**, 7– **mews**. [Plural of Mew *sb.*[2]; now construed as sing. in the senses below.]

1. The royal stables at Charing Cross in London, so called because built on the site where the royal hawks were formerly mewed. Now *Hist.*

c 1394 J. Malverne *Contn. Higden's Polychron.* an. 1387 (Rolls) IX. 104 Le Muwes apud Charryngg. 1529 Rastell *Pastyme* (1811) 280 At the Mewys, at Charynge Crosse. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VIII* 225 b, The kynges stable at Charyng crosse otherwise called the Mowse. 1667 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 132/4 A Bay brown Horse..taken out of the Muse on Thursday night. 1668 *Ibid.* No. 272/4 There was stoln out of His Majesties Stables at the Mews, a Baye Mare. *a* 1674 Clarendon *Hist. Reb.* XI. § 204 The other Officers, with their Troops [quarter] in Durham House, the Mues, Covent Garden [etc.]. 1691 Wood *Ath. Oxon.* II. 711 He was hurried away in a Coach from the Mewse..to the Exchange in Cornhill. 1720 Gay *Trivia* Poems II. 215 His treble voice resounds along the Meuse, And Whitehall echoes —Clean your Honour's shoes. 1765 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 152/2 Eleven fine barbs arrived at the royal meuse, Charing-cross. 1820 Greville *Mem.* 16 June (1874) I. 30 There was some disturbance last night in consequence of the mob assembling round the King's mews.

2. A set of stabling grouped round an open space, yard, or alley, and serving for the accommodation of carriage-horses and carriages.

a 1631 Donne *Sat.* IV. 175 All whom the Mues, Baloune, Tennis, Dyet, or the stewes, Had all the morning held. 1632 Quarles *Div. Fancies* II. l. (1660) 77 The other Steed did stand In Persia's Mues. 1639 T. de Gray *Compl. Horsem.* 26 Others..by sometimes frequenting the muze and other places where riders use to menage. 1785 Trusler *Mod. Times* II. 20, I..made my escape into the Meuse, in which our stables stood. 1805 *Med. Jrnl.* XIV. 146 Mrs. Cottis, of Great York Mews, Baker Street. 1852 Dickens *Bleak Ho.* xiv, We went..into Mr. Turveydrop's great room, which was built into a mews at the back. 1894 G. Moore *Esther Waters* 109 She..saw the black dot [*sc.* a sparrow] pass down a mews and disappear under the eaves.

b. as *plural*.

1848 Dickens *Dombey* vii, Miss Tox's bedroom (which was at the back) commanded a vista of Mews. 1851 Mayhew *Lond. Labour* II. 207/2 The mews of London..constitute a world of their own. 1872 Black *Adv. Phaeton* xviii, The large hotels in Liverpool have no mews attached to them.

3. *attrib.*

1707 E. Chamberlayne *Pres. St. Eng.* III. (ed. 22) 552 Mense keeper, James Lewis. 1817 W. Bray *Evelyn's Diary* 23 Feb. an. 1684 *note*, In Castle-street, near the Mews gate.

Mews(e, var. ff. Meuse; obs. form of Muse *v.*

Mewstead, obs. variant of Mowstead *dial.*

Mewt (miūt), *v. Obs.* exc. *dial.* Forms: 4 **meut**, 5 **mewte**, 8– **mewt**. [Echoic.] = Mew *v.*[3]

c 1325 *Gloss. W. de Bibbesw.* in Wright *Voc.* 152 *Chat mynowe*, meutet [*MS. Camb. Univ. Gg. I.* 1. mewith]. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 238/2 To Mewte as a catte, *catellare*. 1737 Ramsay *Sc. Prov.* (1797) 86 Wae's them that ba'e the cat's dish, and she ay mewting.

Mewys, obs. form of Mews.

Mex, Mexen: see Mix *sb.*, Mixen.

† **Me·xic**, *a. Poet. Obs.* = Mexican *a.*

a 1678 Marvell *Bermudas* 36 Which, thence (perhaps) rehouoding, may Eccho beyond the Mexique Bay. 1806 Fessenden *Orig. Poems* 153 Mexick gulphs of brighter rays.

Mexical, variant of Mescal.

Mexican (me·ksikăn), *a.* and *sb.* Also 7 **Mexicaine**. [ad. Sp. *Mexicano* (now written *Mejicano*), f. *Mexico*: see -an.] **A.** *adj.* Of or pertaining to Mexico, a tract of country (now a republic) in the south-west of North America.

1696 Phillips, *Mexico*, a great and famous City of the Mexican Province of *Nova Hispania*. *a* 1846 J. H. Frere tr. *Aristoph., Birds* Introd. (1886) 178 War is not immediately declared against the gods, but a sort of Mexican blockade is established by proclamation. 1903 *Blackw. Mag.* Apr. 506/1 The parson lopes by sitting loose in his Mexican saddle.

b. In various names of natural and artificial products, etc.; as **Mexican allspice**, the fruit of *Eugenia Pimenta* (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1890); **M. banana**, a name sometimes given to a species of *Yucca*; **M. bird cherry, bit, blue-jay** (see quots.); **M. cloth**, 'a silk and wool French goods' (Knight *Dict. Mech.* Suppl. 1884); **M. clover** = next (*Cent. Dict.* 1890); **M. coca**, an American herb, *Richardsonia scabra*, yielding a nutritious fodder (Webster 1897); **M. embroidery**, a kind of embroidery, the patterns of which resemble the grotesque designs of ancient Mexican carving; **M. gamboge**, 'a gum-resin like gamboge obtained from *Vismia guttifera* and other species' (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*); **M. goose**, the snow-goose (G. Trumbull *Names Birds* 1888, p. 9); **M. goosefoot**, 'the *Chenopodium ambrosioides*' (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*); **M. gum**, 'the gum-resin obtained from *Chrysophyllum glycyphlœum*' (*ibid.*); **M. lily**, a plant with scarlet flowers, *Amaryllis reginæ*; **M. mulberry** (see quot.); **M. onyx**, a stalactitic variety of calcite; **M. orange-flower**, 'a handsome white-flowered shrub, *Choisya ternata*' (*Cent. Dict.*); **M. persimmon** (see Persimmon 2); **M. poppy**, *Argemone mexicana*; **M. sarsaparilla** (see quot.); **M. shilling**, a silver coin of the value of 12½ cents formerly current in some of the United States (*Cent. Dict.* s.v. *Bit*[2] 7); **M. snake-root** (see quot.); **M. tea**, (*a*) = *M. goosefoot*; (*b*) = *Jesuit's tea*, see Jesuit *sb.* 4 c; **M. thistle**, *Cnicus* (*Erythrolæna*) *conspicuus*; also = *M. poppy*; **M. tiger-flower**, *Tigridia pavonia*; **M. weasel** = Kinkajou (*Cent. Dict.*).

1884 Sargent *Forests N. Amer.* (Final Rep. 10th Census IX.) 219 *Yucca baccata* Torrey...Spanish Bayonet. *Mexican Banana. 1836 *Penny Cycl.* VI. 432/2 *Cerasus Capollini*, *Mexican bird cherry. 1884 Knight *Dict. Mech.* Suppl., **Mexican Bit*, a stiff cheek bit, having a high port, to which is attached a large ring, which, when the bit is in the horse's mouth, encircles the jaw. 1887 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* IV. 16 The two *Mexican Blue Jays (*Cyanocitta coronata* and *C. diademata*). 1882 Caulfeild & Saward *Dict. Needlework*, **Mexican Embroidery*. 1884 *Health Exhib. Catal.* 90/1 *Mexican Grass Hammocks. 1760 J. Lee *Introd. Bot.* App. 317 Lily, *Mexican, *Amaryllis*. 1884 Sargent *Forests N. Amer.* (Final Rep. 10th Census IX.) 128 *Morus microphylla* Buckley...*Mexican Mulberry. 1895 Rider Haggard *Heart of World* xix, Polished blocks of the beautiful stone known as *Mexican Onyx. 1884 Sargent *Forests N. Amer.* (Final Rep. 10th Census IX.) 105 *Diospyros Texana*, Scheele...Black Persimmon. *Mexican Persimmon. Chapote. 1860 Gray *Man. Bot.* 25 *Argemone Mexicana*, *Mexican Prickly Poppy [1874 (ed. 5) M. Poppy]. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 1066/1 *Mexican Sarsaparilla is yielded by *Smilax medica*. 1890 Billings *Nat. Med. Dict.*, *Mexican snakeroot, *Asclepiodora decumbens* Gray; plant used as a specific for snake-bite. 1829 Loudon *Encycl. Plants* 638 *Psoralea glandulosa*, *Mexican tea. *Ibid.* 562 *Tigridia Pavonia*. *Mexican Tiger Flower.

B. *sb.*

1. A native or inhabitant of Mexico.

1604 E. G[rimstone] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* V. iv. 337 Heere the Mexicaines Idolatry hath bin more pernicious and hurtfull then that of the Inguas. 1776 Mickle tr. *Camoens' Lusiad* Introd. 30 *note*, These authors..have..greatly softened the horrid features of the Mexicans. 1837 W. Irving *Capt. Bonneville* I. 195 The young Mexican saw her struggles and her agony. 1876 Besant & Rice *Gold. Butterfly* Prol. i, The Mexicans rode in silence.

2. = *Mexican dollar*: see Dollar 4.

c 1890 A. Murdoch *Yoshiwara Episode* iv. 36 Two thousand seven hundred and thirty-six Mexicans!..Only about £450.

Hence **Me·xicanize** *v. trans.*, 'to cause to become like the Mexicans or Mexico, especially in respect to frequent revolutions' (*Funk's Stand. Dict.* 1895); *intr.* 'to become like Mexico or the Mexicans' (*ibid.*); hence **Me·xicanized** *ppl. a.*

1887 C. F. Thwing *Serm., Foes Chr. Civ.* 8 The Mexicanized Spaniard is here, too proud to work. *Ibid.* 10.

† **Mexico·nian**, *a. Obs.* [irreg. f. Mexico + -ian.] = Mexican *a.*

1727 Ramsay *To Critic* 28 In Mexiconian forests fly Thousands [of creatures] that never wing'd our sky.

Mey, obs. f. May. **Meycock**, var. Meacock *Obs.* **Meyde, -en**, obs. ff. Mead, Maiden; **Meydine**, var. Medine. **Meydles**, var. Meedless *a. Obs.* **Meyd vyf**, obs. f. Midwife. **Meyer**, obs. f. Mayor. **Meygnall**, obs. f. Menial. **Meygne, meyheme**, obs. ff. Maim *v.* **Meyk**, obs. f. Meek *a.* **Meyle**, obs. f. Meal. **Meyme, -pryse**, obs. ff. Maim *v.*, Mainprise *v.* **Meyn**, obs. f. Main, Mean. **Meynal(l**, obs. ff. Menial. **Meynchen(e, -yn**, var. ff. Minchen *Obs.* **Meynd(e**, obs. pa. pple. of Meng *v.* **Meyne**, obs. f. Many, Mean, Meinie, Mien; var. Mayne *v. Obs.* **Meyneal**, obs. f. Menial. **Meynee**, obs. f. Meinie. **Meynel**, obs. f. Menial. **Meynete(y)ne**, obs. ff. Maintain. **Meyney**, obs. f. Many, Meinie; **Meyneyall**, obs. f. Menial. **Meynge**, var. Meng *v.* **Meyni(e, Meynne**, obs. ff. Meinie. **Meynpernour, -prise, -prize**, obs. ff. Mainpernor, Mainprise. **Meynt**, obs. pa. t. of Meng *v.* **Meynteine**, etc.: see Maintain, etc. **Meynyal, Meynye**, obs. ff. Menial, Meinie. **Meyr(e**, obs. ff. Mayor. **Meyre**, obs. f. Mear, Mere[2]. **Meyser**, obs. f. Mazer. **Meyt(e**, obs. ff. Meat. **Mezail**, var. Mesail. **Mezanine, -i, -o**, obs. ff. and pl. of Mezzanine. **Mezcal**, var. Mescal. **Mezeled**, obs. f. Measled *ppl. a.*

Mezentian (mĭze·nʃăn), *a.* [f. *Mezent-ius* + -an.] Comparable to the cruel action of Mezentius, a mythical Etruscan king, who caused living men to be bound face to face with corpses, and left to die of starvation (Virg. *Æn.* VIII. 485–8). So † **Mezentism**, action resembling that of Mezentius.

1659 Fuller *App. Inj. Innoc.* III. 81 A piece of Mezentism in his joyning of the Dead and Living together. 1837 Syd. Smith *Let. to Archd. Singleton* Wks. 1859 II. 259/2 That fatal and Mezentian oath which binds the Irish to the English Church. 1874 Stubbs *Const. Hist.* I. I. 6 England ..spared from the curse of the..Mezentian union with Italy, ..developed its own common law.

Mezereon (mɛzĭē·rĭən). Forms: 5 mizerion, 7–8 mezerion, 8 mesereon, 6– mezereon. [a. med.L. *mezereon*, ad. Arab. مازريون *māzaryūn* (Avicenna).]

1. The low shrub *Daphne Mezereon* of Europe and Asia, having purplish or rose-coloured flowers and red berries; also called † *Dutch mezereon*.

1477 Norton *Ord. Alch.* iii. in Ashm. (1652) 39 Celondine and Mizerion. 1578 Lyte *Dodoens* III. xxxvii. 368 Mezereon, as Auicenne, Mesne, and Serapio do write, is of two sortes. 1597 Gerarde *Herbal* III. lix. 1216 Apothecaries of our countrie name it Mezereon, but we had rather call it *Chemelæa Germanica*: in English Dutch Mezereon. 1626 Bacon *Sylva* § 577 Mezerions. 1664 Evelyn *Kal. Hort., Mar.* (1679) 13 Dutch Mezereon. 1706 J. Gardiner tr. *Rapin Of Gardens* (1728) 59 Lib'ral of Boughs and Leaves Mezerions bold,..defy the sharpest Cold. 1789 Mrs. Piozzi *Journ. France* II. 376 Pots of Mazerion [*sic*] in flower at the windows. 1862 Chr. G. Rossetti *Goblin Market*, etc. 85 My leafless pink mezereons. 1872 Oliver *Elem. Bot.* II. 126 The berries of Mezereon..are poisonous.

2. *Pharm.* The dried bark of the root of the plant described above, used in liniments.

1789 W. Buchan *Dom. Med.* (1790) 513 Those who chuse to use the mezereon by itself, may boil an ounce of the fresh bark [etc.]. 1807 *Med. Jrnl.* XVII. 255 Decoctions of elm bark, mesereon, sassafras. 1874 Garrod & Baxter *Mat. Med.* 346 Mezereon is a powerful local irritant.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *mezereon bark, berry, ointment, root, tree*.

1837 *Penny Cycl.* VIII. 308/2 A decoction of *mezereon bark. 1874 Garrod & Baxter *Mat. Med.* 346 Mezereon Bark. The dried bark of Daphne Mezereum, or Mezereon; or of Daphne Laureola. 1837 *Penny Cycl.* VIII. 307/2 Linnæus speaks of a person having been killed by a dozen *mezereon berries. 1890 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, **Mezereon ointment*. 1789 W. Buchan *Dom. Med.* (1790) 513 The *mezereon-root is..found to be a powerful assistant to the sublimate. 1626 Bacon *Sylva* § 592 A *Mezerion-Tree. 1851 Mrs. Marsh *Ravenscliffe* xiii, A few mezereon-trees were putting forth their blossoms.

‖ **Mezereum** (mɛzĭē·rĭəm). [mod.L., alteration of Mezereon.] = prec.

a 1819 G. Pearson in *Pantologia* VII. s.v., The mezereum has not the power of curing the venereal disease in any one stage. *Ibid.*, No mezereum had been taken. 1846 Lindley *Veget. Kingd.* 531 Mezereum bark. 1860 Gray *Man. Bot.* 380 *Thymeleaceæ*. (Mezereum Family.)

Mezle, Mezlings, obs. ff. Measle *v.*, Measlings.

Mezquita, -e, var. ff. Mesquita, Mesquite.

‖ **Mezuza(h** (mĕzū·zä). Pl. **mezuzoth** (mĕzū·zōth). [Heb. מְזוּזָה *mᵉzūzāh* door-post (Deut. vi. 9, etc.); in Rabbinic Heb. used as below.] Among the Jews, a piece of parchment inscribed on one side with the texts Deut. vi. 4–9 and xi. 13–21 and on the other with the divine name Shaddai, enclosed in a case which is attached to the door-post of the house, in fulfilment of the injunction in Deut. vi. 9.

The case is a glass tube, or has an opening covered with glass, talc, or horn, through which the name Shaddai is seen. On leaving or entering the house, a pious Jew touches the mezuza with his finger and puts the finger to his lips, repeating the words of Ps. cxxi. 8.

1650 Chilmead tr. *Leo of Modena's Rites, Customs* etc. *Jews* I. ii. 6 As often as they go in and out, they make it a part of their devotion to touch this Parchment, and kisse it: and this they call .. *Me-Zuzah*, that is, *The Post*. 1707 Ockley tr. *Leo of Modena's Hist. Jews* I. ii. 7 And this they call *Mezuza*. 1732 D'Oyly & Colson tr. *Calmet's Dict. Bible* II. 194 *Mezuzoth*. 1855 Smedley, etc. *Occult Sci.* 342 The mezuzoth or schedules for door-posts. 1892 Zangwill *Childr. Ghetto* II. 3 They don't kiss the Mezuzahs often in that house—the impious crew.

‖ **Mezza** (mɛ·dzä), *a. Mus.* Fem. of Mezzo *a.* In various Italian combinations, as *mezza-bravura, -manica, orchestra* (see quots.); also Mezza voce.

1811 Busby *Dict. Mus.* (ed. 3), *Mezza Bravura*, an expression used by the Italians to signify an air of moderate passion and execution. 1876 Stainer & Barrett *Dict. Mus. Terms, Mezza manica*, half shift [in violin-playing]. *Mezza orchestra*, with half the orchestra.

‖ **Mezza-majolica** (mɛ·dzäˌmäyo·likä). [It.: lit. 'half-majolica' (see Mezzo).] Italian decorative pottery of the 15th, 16th, and 17th centuries; less ornamental and elaborate than true majolica.

1868 J. Marryatt *Pottery & Porcelain* (ed. 3) 25 The outlines of the figures in mezza majolica are traced in black or blue. 1873 Fortnum *Catal. Maiolica S. Kens. Mus.* 212 Circular Dish. 'Bacile.'..'Mezza Majolica.'

Mezzanine (mɛ·zănēn). Also 8 mezanine, (9 mezzonine); *Italian* 8 mezanino, 8–9 mezzanino, *pl.* 8 mez(z)anini, mezaninis. [a. F. *mezzanine*, ad. It. *mezzanino*, dim. of *mezzano* middle:—L. *mediānus* Median.]

1. A low story between two higher ones; *esp.* a low story between the ground floor and the story above, occas. between the ground floor and the basement. Cf. Entresol. Also *attrib.* (quasi-adj.), *esp.* in *mezzanine floor, story*.

1711 [see Entresol]. 1715 Leoni *Palladio's Archit.* (1742) I. 46 The Closets..have Mezzanino's or half Stories above them. *Ibid.* 59 On the Closets are Mezanini. 1726 — *Designs* 1/2 The smaller stairs..ascend to the Mezzanines. 1741 *Corr. betw. C'tess Hartford & C'tess Pomfret* (1805) III. 80 The princess di Forano,..took us into the mezzanini, where the family live. 1754 Pococke *Trav.* (Camden) II. 140 To the saloon and hall there are as mezaninis above the windows. 1837 *Civ. Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* I. 59/2 The domestic offices are admirably arranged in the basement and mezzanine stories. 1870 *2nd Rep. Dep. Kpr. Irel.* 11 The ground-floor and mezzanine story of this part of the building are arched constructions. 1876 B. Champneys in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) III. 237 A large cupboard for stowage on a mezzanine. *Ibid.*, The stowage room on the mezzanine floor.

b. A platform or flooring laid over a floor to bring its height up to some required level.

1715 Leoni *Palladio's Archit.* (1742) I. 27 If any little Room or Closet should happen to be lower than the rest, what is wanting must be supplied by a Mezanine, or false Floor-Cieling.

c. *Theatr.* A floor beneath the stage, from which the short scenes and traps are worked. Also *mezzanine floor*.

1859 Sala *Gas-light & D.* ii. 31 Work underneath the stage, on the umbrageous mezzonine floor. 1881 P. Fitzgerald *World Behind Scenes* 46 Below the stage on the mezzanine floor. 1886 *Stage Gossip* 69 The 'mezzanine' is the name of the lower stage—the one immediately below the 'boards' proper—and it is from here that all 'rises', 'sinks' and 'traps' are worked.

2. A small window, less in height than breadth, occurring in entresols and attics, etc. Also *mezzanine window*.

1731 Bailey vol. II, *Mezzanine*, an Entresole, or little window, less in height than breadth, serving to illuminate an Attic, &c. 1837 *Foreign Q. Rev.* XIX. 78 There are mezzanine windows behind the entablature.

‖ **Mezza voce** (mɛ·dzäˌvō·tʃe), *adv. Mus.* [It. *mezza* (see Mezza) + *voce* Voice.] With but half the voice; not loud, with a medium fullness of sound. Also more correctly *a mezza voce*.

1775 *Ann. Reg.* II. 64/2 Instead of singing her airs as other actresses do, for the most part she only hums them over, a mezza voce. 1792 Charlotte Smith *Desmond* I. v. 60 Interrupting a tune he had been humming, *a mezza voce*. 1811 in Busby *Dict. Mus.* (ed. 3), *Mezza Voce*.

Mezzin, obs. form of Muezzin.

‖ **Mezzo** (mɛ·dzo), *sb.*[1] Short for Mezzo-soprano, also *attrib.* as *mezzo voice*.

1832 *Westm. Rev.* XVII. 357 The distinct soprano, mezzo, contr'alto, and tenor voices. 1892 Gunter *Miss Dividends* (1893) 78 This young lady..has a brilliant mezzo voice.

Mezzo (mɛ·dzo), *sb.*[2] Short for Mezzotint.

1886 *Athenæum* 3 July 18/1 He was offered 240*l.* for a lot of early mezzos...One of these early mezzotints was worth a thousand pounds.

‖ **Mezzo** (mɛ·dzo), *a. Mus.* [It. *mezzo* middle, half:—L. *medius*: see Medium.] In various Italian combinations, as *mezzo carattere, forte, piano, staccato* (see quots.); **mezzo tenore** 'a voice of tenor quality and baritone range' (Stainer & Barrett 1876). See also Mezzo-soprano, and the feminine Mezza.

1811 Busby *Dict. Mus.* (ed. 3), *Mezzo Carattere*, an expression applied to airs of a moderate cast in point of execution. *Ibid.* Introd. 30 The Mezzo Forte, or rather loud. *Ibid.*, The Mezzo Piano, or rather soft. *Ibid.*, The Mezzo Staccato..or extremely smooth and distinct. 1878 T. Helmore *Catech. Mus.* xxxiii. 68 Mezzo-staccato marks.

Mezzograph (mɛ·dzograf). [f. Mezzo *sb.*[2] + -graph.] A photographic print imitating the effect of mezzotint.

1890 *Pall Mall G.* 1 Sept. 3/3 Meritorious mezzographs after Messrs. Burgess and Normand.

‖ **Mezzo-rilievo** (mɛdzo rĭlye·vo). Pl. -os. Also 7 mezo-, 7–9 -relievo. [It. *mezzo* half + *rilievo* Relief *sb.*]

1. Half-relief; relief in which the figures project half their true proportions from the surface on which they are carved.

1598 R. Haydocke tr. *Lomazzo* v. iii. 189 Imbossing halfe rounde called *mezzo relievo*. 1673 Ray *Journ. Low C.* 330 Having three pair of brass doors artificially cast or engraven with curious figures in *mezo relievo*. 1703 Maundrell *Journ. Jerus.* (1810) 49 We saw..figures of men, carv'd in the natural rock, in mezzo relievo. 1820 T. S. Hughes *Trav. Sicily*, etc. I. vii. 227 A piece of sculpture in mezzo-relievo representing a Jupiter and a Leda. 1860 J. Newlands *Carp. & Joiner's Assist.* Gloss., *Demi-relievo*...It is also called mezzo-rilievo.

2. *concr.* A sculpture or carving in half-relief.

1665–6 Evelyn *Diary* 3 Jan., There are some mezzo-relievos as big as the life. 1821 Whitaker *Richmondsh.* I. 155 A mezzo relievo by Westmacott, very finely wrought.

Hence † **Mezzo-relievo** *v.*

1644 Evelyn *Diary* 27 Feb., In the Court is a Volary, and the statues of Charles IX, Hen. III, IV, and Lewis XIII, on horseback, mezzo-relievod in plaster.

‖ **Mezzo-soprano** (mɛ·dzo sǫprā·no), *sb.* and *a. Mus.* [It.: see Mezzo *a.* and Soprano.] **a.** The part intermediate in compass between the soprano and contralto; **b.** a voice of this pitch or compass; **c.** a person having such a voice.

1753 Chambers *Cycl. Supp.*, *Mezzo Soprano*, in the Italian music, is the high tenor, which has the cleff C on the second line. 1878 T. Helmore *Catech. Mus.* xliii. 84 The contraltos and mezzo-sopranos may sing the bass an octave higher in the exercises.

d. *attrib.* or *adj.*

1811 Busby *Dict. Mus.* (ed. 3), *Mezzo Soprano Cliff*, the name given to the Cliff when placed on the first line of the stave, in order to accommodate the Mezzo Soprano voice. 1885 Miss Braddon *Wyllard's Weird* I. iii. 94 Hilda had a superb mezzo-soprano voice.

‖ **Mezzo termine** (mɛ·dzo tɛ·rmine). *Pl.* -i. [It.: *mezzo* middle, *termine* term.] A middle term, measure, or period.

1768 H. Walpole *Let. to G. Montagu* 13 Aug., He only takes the title of *altesse*, an absurd mezzotermine, but acts King exceedingly. 1827 Scott *Chron. Canong.* Introd. i, I have all my life hated those treacherous expedients called *mezzo-termini*. 1841 Laov Blessington *Idler in France* II. iv. 84 Oh, the misery of the *mezzo termini* in the journey of life, when time robs the eyes of their lustre [etc.].

Mezzotint (mɛ·dzo-, mɛ·zotint), *sb.* [Anglicized form of Mezzotinto.]

1. = Mezzotinto 1. *Obs.* or *arch.*

1738 Fritsch tr. *Lairesse's Art Paint.* 11 The half Tint which is laid next to the Extremity on the light Side and called Mezzo-tint. 1774 'J. Collier' *Mus. Trav.* 28 Her back-ground; her mezzo-tints; and her clare-obscure were charming. 1880 Shorthouse *J. Inglesant* (1882) II. vii. 162 Born in the dull twilight of the north, and having most of his mature years among the green mezzotints of Germany, he was now transplanted into a land of light and colour.

2. (= Mezzotinto 2.) A method of engraving copper or steel plates for printing, in which the surface of the plate is first roughened uniformly, the 'nap' thus produced being afterwards completely or partially scraped away in order to produce the lights and half-lights of the picture, while the untouched parts of the plate give the deepest shadows. Also, a print produced by this process.

The invention has often been ascribed to Prince Rupert, who certainly practised the method, and made it known in England; but it is now established that he learned it from a Hessian colonel, Ludwig von Siegen, of whom an example is extant dated 1642.

1800 J. Dallaway *Anecd. Arts Eng.* 474 *note*, There is a mezzotint taken from it by Faber. 1850 W. Irving *Goldsmith* xxvii. 272 His portrait is to be engraved in mezzotint. 1886 Swinburne *Misc.* 86 Aurora Raby is a graceful sketch in sentimental mezzotint.

b. *attrib.*

1753 Hogarth *Anal. Beauty* xii. 94 Could mezzo-tint prints be wrought as accurately as those with the graver, they would come nearest to nature, as they are done without strokes or lines. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XV. 169/1 Previous to the mezzotint ground having been laid. 1870 Ruskin *Lect. Art* v. 129 The arts of etching and mezzotint engraving.

c. *Photogr.* (See quot.)

18.. Lea *Photogr.* 194 (Cent.) Others modify the effects and soften their paper prints by interposing a sheet of glass, of gelatin, of mica, or of tissue paper between the negative and the paper; in this way are made the so-called Mezzotint Prints.

Me·zzotint, *v.* [f. Mezzotint *sb.*] *trans.* To engrave in mezzotint.

1827 *Gentl. Mag.* XCVII. II. 3 Mezzotinting those on the motto. 1829 *Ibid.* XCIX. I. 347 By this discovery the lithographer acquires a very valuable process for mezzotinting. 1881 *Blackw. Mag.* Nov. 601 The picture was..afterwards mezzotinted very indifferently.

b. *transf.* and *fig.* To represent as if in mezzotint.

1854 Lowell *Jrnl. Italy* Pr. Wks. 1890 I. 168 The..passengers..crawled out again,..their vealy faces mezzotinted with soot. 1870 — *Study Wind.* (1871) 42 How many times I had lingered to study the shadows of the leaves mezzotinted upon the turf.

Hence **Me·zzotinted** *ppl. a.*, **Me·zzotinting** *vbl. sb.*

1877 'Rita' *Vivienne* VI. ii, The room was furnished with quaint mezzo-tinted cinque-cento furniture. 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 13 Mar. 3/2 For the mezzotinting the authorities have allowed Mr. Seymour Haden to remove the picture.

Mezzotinter (mɛ·dzo-, mɛ·zotintəɹ). [f. Mezzotint *sb.* + -er[1].] One who engraves or is skilled in mezzotint.

1763 H. Walpole *Catal. Engravers* (1765) 116 Mr. John Smith 1700. The best mezzotinter that has appeared, who united softness with strength, and finishing with freedom. *Ibid.* 130 John Faber junr...was the next mezzotinter in merit to Smith. 1895 *Daily News* 25 Nov. 3/6 Such an etcher or mezzotinter as Mr. Frank Short. 1902 A. Whitman (*title*) British Mezzotinters, Valentine Green.

‖ **Mezzotinto** (mɛdzotī·nto), *sb.* and *a.* Also 7 **metzo-tincto, mezo tinto, mascy tinter**, 8 **met(t)zotinto, messo-tinto.** [It.: *mezzo* half, *tinto* tint.]

† 1. In the Italian sense: A half-tint. *Obs.*

1660 *A. Durer Revived* 18 Take a print done in *Metzo-Tincto*. 1739 Eliz. Carter tr. *Algarotti on Newton's Theory* (1742) II. 25 Neither Correggio, Titian, nor his rival Rosalba, did ever unite and shade their *Metzo Tintoes* with so much Exactness to form the Oval of a Face. 1787 P. Beckford *Let. Italy* (1805) I. 437 The Mosaic of the floor..was improved and finished by Beccafumi in 1500, who made use of yellow marble as a mezzotinto. 1788 Burke *Sp. agst. W. Hastings* Wks. XVI. 224 You will see, by this letter, that he [Hastings] kept his accounts in all colours, black, white, and mezzotinto: that he kept them in all languages, in Persian, in Bengallee, [etc.].

2. = Mezzotint *sb.* 2.

1661 Evelyn *Diary* 21 Feb., Prince Rupert first shewed me how to grave in Mezzo Tinto. 1665 Pepys *Diary* 5 Nov., Mr. Evelyn..showed me..the whole secret of mezzo-tinto. 1669 A. Browne *Ars Pictoria* 110 The Manner or Way of Mezo Tinto. 1688 R. Holme *Armoury* III. 156/1 Mascy Tinter..is a New and Late Invention of taking from a Plate any form or shape..by smooty shadows. 1715 Hearne *Collect.* (O.H.S.) V. 104 The picture that is done in Mezzotinto of him. 1727 Swift *Let. to Gay* 23 Nov., Get me likewise Polly's Messo-tinto. 1780 *Newgate Cal.* V. 204 The prisoner..was indicted for causing to be engraved and cut in mezzo-tinto, on a plate of copper, a blank promissory note, containing the word *twenty* in white letters, on a black ground. 1883 S. C. Hall *Retrospect* II. 226 Martin 'scraped' in mezzo-tinto the major part of the many engraved plates he produced.

b. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

1688 G. Parker & J. Stalker *Treat. Japanning*, etc. (title-p.), The Method of Guilding.., with the Art..of Painting Mezzo-tinto-Prints. 1697 Mezzo-Tinto Graving [see Melanochalcographer]. 1745 *Daily Advertiser* 1 Oct. 3/3 A Metzotinto Print of that worthy Prelate Dr. Hough, late Bishop of Worcester. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XI. 687/2 Edial..became a mezzotinto painter. 1812 R. H. in *Examiner* 28 Dec. 828/1 Mr. Meyer's ability in mezzotinto scraping..ranks with the most eminent. 1825 C. Turner in *Phil. Mag.* LXV. 427 The deficiencies .. in mezzotinto engraving. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XV. 169/1 The mezzotinto ground being thus laid. 1845 Darwin *Voy. Nat.* xv. (1873) 329 The sky..appeared like a mezzotinto engraving.

fig. *a* 1788 N. Cotton *A Fable* 34 Baxter, with apostolic grace, Display'd his metzotinto face; While here and there some luckier saint Attain'd to dignity of paint.

Hence **Me·zzotinto** *v.* = Mezzotint *v.*

a 1846 *Gentl. Mag.* cited in Worcester (1846).

Mezzotype (me·dzǝtəip). *Photogr.* [f. Mezzo *sb.*[2] + -type. Cf. *photo-mezzotype*.] A kind of paper for photographic printing.

1894 *Brit. Jrnl. Photogr.* XLI. 56 With plain salted papers, or at any rate, with mezzotype, the only chemicals used are the necessary chloride of silver and a little acid. *Ibid.* 57 We believe that mezzotype is as perfect a paper of its class as it is possible to make.

Mhendee, variant of Mendee.

Mho (mōu). *Electr.* [Proposed by Sir W. Thomson (now Lord Kelvin): reversed spelling of Ohm.] The unit of conductivity, being the conductivity of a body whose resistance is one ohm.

1883 Sir W. Thomson *Pop. Lect.* (1889) I. 130 Such an instrument at once gives conductivity, and you want a name (suppose you adopt *mho*) for the unit of conductivity, and call the instrument a *mhometer*..The number of *mhos*, or of *millimhos* will..measure the number of lamps in circuit. 1892 *Gtoss. Electr. Terms* 12 in *Lightning* 3 Mar. Supp., *Mho*. The *mho* is the conductivity of a column of mercury of a constant cross section of one square millimetre, and of a length of 106·3 centimetres at the temperature of melting ice. (*Note.*—The conductivity of a conductor is the reciprocal of its resistance.)

So **Mhometer** (mo·mĭ·tǝr), an instrument for measuring electrical conductivities.

1883 [see above].

Mhorr (mōr). Also **m'horr, moh(o)r.** [Morocco Arabic.] A West African gazelle named by E. T. Bennett *Gazella mhorr*, having horns annulated with ten or twelve prominent rings.

'The animal is much sought after by the Arabs on account of producing the bezoar stones so highly valued in eastern medicine. These stones are commonly called in Marocco, Baid-el-Mhorr, mhorr's eggs' (*Penny Cycl.* 1834 II. 86).

1833 E. T. Bennett in *Trans. Zool. Soc.* (1835) I. 1 The M'horr Antelope. 1834 *Penny Cycl.* II. 85/2 The Mhorr.. is four feet two inches long from nose to the origin of the tail. 1852 J. E. Gray *Catal. Mammalia Brit. Mus.* III. 59 *Gazella Sœmmeringii*. The Abyssinian Mobr.

Mi (mī). *Mus.* Also 6 **my**, 7, 9 **me.** [Orig. the first syllable of L. *mīra*: see Gamut.] The name given by Guido to the third note in his hexachords, and since retained in solmization as the third note of the octave; also used (as in Fr. and It.) as a name for the note E natural, the third note in the scale of C major. (In Tonic Sol-fa often written *me*.)

a 1529 Skelton *Bowge Courte* 258 Lerne me to synge, Re, my, fa, sol. 1588 Shaks. *L. L. L.* IV. ii. 102 Old *Mantuan*. Who vnderstandeth thee not, *vt re sol la mi fa*. *c* 1645 Howell *Lett.* (1650) II. 77 The other [a German]..will drink often musically a health to every one of these 6 notes, Ut, Re, Mi, Fa, Sol, La. 1727–41 Chambers *Cycl.* s. v. *Gammut*, We may begin at *ut* in *c*, and pass into the first series at *mi*. 1811 Busby *Dict. Mus.* (ed. 3) s. v. *Scale*, The denomination first given to the arrangement made by Guido, of the six syllables *ut, re, mi, fa, sol, la*.

Mi, obs. form of My.

† **Mi·agite.** *Min. Obs.* [f. *Miage* the name of a glacier near Mont Blanc + -ite.] (See quot.)

1811 Pinkerton *Petralogy* II. 63 *Miagite*. The rock is generally considered as the most beautiful which has yet been discovered..it consists of concentric but irregular circles of white felspar and black siderite, disposed in broad or narrow lines. *Ibid.* 68 It was thought advisable..to term it Miagite, from the place where it was discovered by Saussure.

Mia-mia (mǝimǝi·). Also **miam, miami, mi-mi, mia-mie.** The Western Australian and Victorian native name for: A hut, a rude shelter.

1845 R. Howitt *Australia* 103 There she stood, in a perfect state of nudity, a little way from the road, by her miam. 1852 Mrs. Perry in Goodman *Ch. in Victoria* (1892) 167 One of the mia mias..was as large as an ordinary-sized circular summer-house. 1861 T. McCombie *Austral. Sk.* 15 Many diggers resided under branches of trees made into miamis or wigwams. 1868 Carleton *Austral. Nts.* 2 The mia-mia that the native dark Had formed from sheets of stringy bark. 1870 Tucker *Mute* 85 He yells the war-cry of his tribe around That makes the warriors from their mimis bound.

Miana-bug (miā·nă,bʊg). [*Miana* the name of a town in Persia + Bug.] A species of tick, *Argas persicus*, whose bite is said to be occasionally fatal.

[1821 Porter *Trav. Georgia*, etc. I. 265 Mianna..is a poor place, being best known by the ill name of its bugs.] 1862 *Chambers's Encycl.* IV. 100/2 The Miana Bug, or *Argas persicus*.

Miaow (miau), *int.* and *sb.* Forms: 7 **miau, 7–8 meaw, 9 miaw, mieaou, meaow, miauw, miaow, miow, mi-owe, meeow.** [Echoic: the spelling is partly influenced by F. *miaou*. Cf. Mew *int.* and *sb.*[3]] The cry of a cat. Also, the name of this cry.

1634 T. Johnson *Parey's Chirurg.* 151 They..cryed with the Cats miau, miau. 1833 *Penny Cycl.* I. 372/2 The word *mew* would be more expressively written *mieaou*. 1840 Marryat *Poor Jack* xxiii, '*Miaw!*' was the reply. They had heard the loud *miaw*. 1862 H. Kingsley in *Macm. Mag.* June 112 'Pussey, pussey!' she [Mrs. O'Neil] began, 'kitty, kitty, kitty! *Miaow, miaow!*' (Mr. Malone had accumulated property in the cats' meat business.) 1866 Miss Braddon *Trail Serpent* IV. v, The feeble miauw of an invalid member of the feline species. 1879 E. Garrett *Ho. by Works* I. 80 He [a cat] rose with a lazy *mi-owe*.

Hence **Miaow** *v. intr.*, to make or counterfeit the cry of a cat (cf. Maw, Mew *vbs.*). **Miaow·ing** *vbl. sb.*, the crying of a cat; **Miaow·ing** *ppl. a.*, calling like a cat. Also **Miaow·er.**

1632 Sherwood, To meaw, or meawle (as a cat), *miauler*. ..A meawing, or meawling, *miaulement*...A meawer, or meawler, *miauleur*. Meawing, or meawling, *miauleux*. 1731 Bailey vol. II, *Meawing*, the crying of a cat. 1825–80 Jamieson, To *Miawve*, to mew as a cat, Buchan. 1894 Baring-Gould *Kitty Alone* III. 167 A stray cat came..and meeowed.

Miargyrite (məi,ā·ɹdʒirəit). *Min.* [ad. G. *miargyrit* (H. Rose 1829), f. Gr. *μείων* less + *ἄργυρος* silver + -ite.] A black sulph-antimonide of silver, which contains a smaller quantity of silver than red silver ore.

1836 T. Thomson *Min. Geol.*, etc. I. 650 The constitution of miargirite must be 11 atoms sesquisulphite of antimony, 6 atoms sequisulphuret of silver. 1845 *Encycl. Metrop.* VI. 514/1 *Miargyrite*...Occurs in attached crystals. 1872 Raymond *Statist. Mines & Mining* 52 Our ores are chiefly antimonial sulphides, miargyrite, dark red silver ore, and light red silver ore.

‖ **Mias** (məi·ăs). *Sing.* and *pl.* Also 9 **maias.** [Dayak *maias* (Howell & Baily *Sea-Dyak Dict.* 1900).] The orang-utan, *Simia satyrus*.

1840 J. Brooke *Jrnl.* in Mundy *Narr. in Borneo*, etc. (1848) I. 220 While lazily waiting the report of our Dyaks who were detached in search of the mias, we fell in with a party of Balows. *Ibid.* 221 After our interview with the Balow other mias were discovered. *Ibid.* 226 The mias, both pappan and rembi..have nests or houses in the trees. 1866 C. Brooke *Sarawak* I. 63 The Maias, or Orang-utan, ..is very common in some parts [of Sarawak]. 1869 A. R. Wallace *Malay Archip.* I. iv. 62 Just a week after my arrival at the mines, I first saw a Mias.

Miascite (məi·ăskəit). *Petrology.* Also **miascyte** and (in Dicts.) **miaskite.** [ad. G. *miaszit* (Wuttig 1814), f. *Miask* the name of a town in the Ural Mountains where the mineral was obtained: see -ite.] (See quot. 1888.)

1854 Dana *Syst. Min.* (ed. 4) II. 246 *Miascite*, a granular slaty rock consisting of orthoclase, mica, and elæolite, with sometimes quartz, albite, and hornblende. 1868 *Ibid.* (ed. 5) II. 359 *Miascyte*. 1888 Teall *Brit. Petrogr.* 359 *Miascite*, term introduced by G. Rose for a rock occurring in the Ilmen Mountains in Russia, essentially composed of orthoclase, elæolite, and dark mica.

Miasm (məi·æz'm). Also 7–8 **miasme.** [a. F. *miasme*: see next.] = Miasma.

1650 Charleton *Paradoxes* Proleg. B 4, Upon every Solution of Continuity there is impressed an exotick Miasm, or putrefactive acidity. 1669 W. Simpson *Hydrol. Chym.* 71 It carrys of..the very seminal miasmes. 1799 Underwood *Dis. Children* (ed. 4) I. 288 Children born in an air, saturated as it were with the miasm of this disease [*i.e.* smallpox]..have nevertheless escaped the disease. 1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) II. 423 The miasm of gaol fever. 1876 Bristowe *Theory & Pract. Med.* (1878) 282 The miasm may be carried by the wind and atmospheric currents beyond the limits of the area in which it is produced.

‖ **Miasma** (məi,æ·zmă). *Pl.* **miasmata** (məi,æ·zmătă), **miasmas.** [mod.L., a. Gr. *μίασμα* pollution, related to *μαίνειν* to pollute. Cf. F. *miasme*.] Infectious or noxious exhalations from putrescent organic matter; poisonous particles or germs floating in and polluting the atmosphere; noxious emanations, esp. malaria.

1665 Needham *Med. Medicinæ* 395 The Miasma or Malign Inquination of blood and humors. 1720 Quincy tr. *Hodges' Loimologia* 54 The pestilential Miasmata may be destroyed by the occursion of others. 1827 Macculloch *Malaria* i. 1 It has long been familiar to physicians that there was produced by..marshes and swamps, a poisonous and æriform substance, the cause, not only of ordinary fevers, but of intermittents; and to this unknown agent of disease the term marsh miasma has been applied. 1844 H. H. Wilson *Brit. India* II. 20 The deadly miasmata which render the forests on the skirts of the hills utterly impassable. 1862 Merivale *Rom. Emp.* xxxiv. (1865) IV. 181 Sardinia..was afflicted by a pestilential miasma. 1882 'Ouida' *Maremma* I. 35 It was full of miasma and fever in the hot season.

fig. 1836 Hor. Smith *Tin Trump., Mor. Cholera*, It seems to be the object of these institutions to propagate and disseminate the miasmata of vice instead of preventing their circulation. 1878 Smiles *Robt. Dick* ii. 13 The noxious miasmas that poison the whole human heart.

Miasmal (məi,æ·zməl), *a.* [f. prec. + -al.] Containing miasmatic effluvia or germs.

1853 *Fraser's Mag.* XLVIII. 267 You wittingly expose your innocent wife To this miasmal atmosphere of death. 1856 Mrs. Browning *Aur. Leigh* VII. 300 We respond with our miasmal fog. 1895 R. F. Horton *Teaching of Jesus* II. 175 Like a sunbeam on some forlorn and miasmal place, sterilising the germs of evil.

Miasmatic (məi,æzmæ·tik), *a.* [f. Gr. *μιασματ-*, *μίασμα* Miasma + -ic.] Pertaining to or having the nature of miasma; caused by noxious or infectious exhalations; malarial.

1835 *Cycl. Pract. Med.* IV. 57/1 The softening in intermittents is owing to the miasmatic poison altering the qualities of the blood. 1857 R. Tomes *Amer. in Japan* ix. 194 The entire absence of marshes..must exempt it from all miasmatic disease. 1881 Du Chaillu *Land of Midnt. Sun* II. 60 The miasmatic equatorial African jungle.

Hence **Miasma·tical** *a.*, in the same sense; **Miasma·tically** *adv.*, after the manner of miasma.

1855 Ogilvie *Suppl., Miasmatical.* 1876 tr. *Wagner's Gen. Pathol.* 132 The infectious material may..increase also outside of the organism, in the substrata of the surrounding soil, i. e. miasmatically.

Miasmatist (məi,æ·zmătist). [f. *miasmat-*, Miasma + -ist.] One versed in the phenomena of miasmatic exhalations; one who makes a special study of malarial diseases. 1890 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

Miasmatize (məi,æ·zmătəiz), *v.* [Formed as prec.: see -ize.] *trans.* To affect by miasma.

1831 T. L. Peacock *Crotchet Castle* xi. (*init.*), The Captain was neither drowned nor poisoned, neither miasmatised nor anatomised.

Miasmatology (məi,æ·zmătǫlŏdʒi). *Med.* [f. *miasmat-*, Miasma + -(o)logy.] The study of miasmata; miasmology (Webster 1902).

Miasmatous (məi,æ·zmătəs), *a.* [Formed as prec. + -ous.] Generating miasma.

1864 *Sat. Rev.* 9 July 67/2 Cambodia .. is overspread with miasmatous forests.

Miasmic (məi,æ·zmik), *a.* [f. Miasm + -ic.] = Miasmatic.

1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) I. 588 In a pure atmosphere, the miasmic materials easily become dissolved or decomposed. 1895 G. Parker *When Valmond came to Pontiac* vi. (1896) 97 Beyond the mountain were unexplored regions,..lost in a miasmic haze.

Miasmifuge (məi,æ·zmifiūdʒ). [f. Miasma + -(i)fuge.] That which destroys or disperses miasmata (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1890).

Miasmology (məi,æzmǫ·lŏdʒi). [f. Gr. *μίασμ-α* miasma + -(o)logy.] A treatise on miasma; the science that treats of miasmata (Ogilvie 1882).

Miasmous (məi,æ·zməs), *a.* [f. Miasm + -ous.] Miasmatic, miasmal.

1884 J. P. Mahaffy in *Harper's Mag.* May 903/1 A fertile but miasmous desert. [Also in mod. Dicts.]

Miau, obs. form of Miaow.

Miaul (mi,ǭ·l), *v.* Forms: 7 **meawle, miol, 8 meaul, 9 mioul, miaul.** [ad. F. *miauler*, of echoic origin. (The form *meawle* perh. belongs to Mewl.)]

1. *intr.* To call or cry as a cat; to mew.

1632 Sherwood, To meaw, or meawle (as a cat), *miauler*. 1771 Smollett *Humph. Cl.* 8 Nov., The poor animal [a cat] ..meauled. 1824 Scott *St. Ronan's* xxii, Lady Penelope is miauling like a starved cat. 1859 H. Kingsley *G. Hamlyn* II. 71 Domestic cats may miaul in the garden at night. 1886 R. F. Burton *Arab. Nts.* I. 134 A black tom-cat, which miauled and grinned and spat.

2. *trans.* To sing with a voice like that of a cat.

1862 Wraxall *Hugo's Misérables* III. xxii. (1877) 11 Her tom-cat, who might have miauled the Allegri Miserere. 1866 G. Meredith *Vittoria* xii, The boy..concluded by miauling 'Amalia' in the triumph of contempt.

Hence **Miau·ling** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.* Also **Miau·ler**, a cat.

1632 Meawler, meawling [see Miaower, Miaowing]. *a* 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. xiii. 107 The..mumbling of Rabets, ..humming of Wasps, mioling of Tygers, bruzzing of Bears. 1821 Scott *Kenilw.* xxxiii, I mind a squalling woman no more than a miauling kitten. 1884 *Graphic* Christmas No. 4/1 He..sang in a shrill miawling treble. 1885 *Ibid.* 3 Jan. 7/1 While Bully is asleep the marauding miaulers come and appropriate his bone. 1885 *Punch* 13 June 280/1 Hark the..miauling of Cats.

Miauw, variant form of Miaow.

Mica (məi·kă). *Min.* [a. L. *mica* grain, crumb. The mod.L. use in Mineralogy was prob. originally contextual; the development of the specialized meaning may have been due to erroneous association with *micāre* to shine.]

† 1. A small plate of talc, selenite, or other glistening crystalline substance found in the structure of a rock. In pl. *micæ*. *Obs.*

1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Mica*,..Glimmer, or Cat-silver; a Mettallick Body like Silver, which shines in Marble, and other Stones, but cannot be separated from them. *a* 1728 Woodward *Nat. Hist. Fossils* (1729) I. i. viii. 170 A pale brown Earth, with very small Micæ in it. 1748 J. Hill *Hist. Fossils* 556 Dr. Woodward imagin'd the white parts of this as of the other Micæ in general to be Spar. 1803 Sarrett *New Pict. Loud.* 114 A great variety of Micæ or spangle stones.

2. Any one of a group of similar minerals composed essentially of silicate of aluminium variously combined with the silicates of other bases, such as soda, potash and magnesia, and occurring either in minute glittering plates or scales in granite and other rocks, or in crystals characterized by their perfect basal cleavage and their consequent separability into thin, transparent and usually flexible laminæ.

1778 Woulfe in *Phil. Trans.* LXIX. 29 Mica or Glimmer. This..is composed of very thin flexible flakes, more or less large. 1835 *R. D. & T. Thomson's Rec. Gen. Sci.* II. 445 Pinchbeck mica, iron pyrites, and titaniate of iron occur as

accidental constituents. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* 3 Mica is a crystal which cleaves very readily in one direction. 1903 *Edin. Rev.* Oct. 390 A film of mica.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *mica battery, goggles, insulation, plate*; **mica-powder**, a form of dynamite in which the siliceous earth is replaced by mica in fine scales; **mica-schist, -slate**, a slaty metamorphic rock composed of quartz and mica.

1849 NOAD *Electricity* (ed. 3) 148 The lacquered knob of the *mica battery. 1905 *Daily Chron.* 10 Aug. 5/6 A polo cap, *mica goggles,..and the usual..allowance of lard constituted Burgess's costume. 1897 *Daily News* 20 July 6/2 It fused the *mica insulation of wires. 1837 BREWSTER *Magnet.* 312 The successive thicknesses of the *mica plates. 1881 RAYMOND *Mining Gloss.*, **Mica-powder*. 1833 LYELL *Princ. Geol.* III. 237 The sterile *mica-schist is barely covered with vegetation. 1878 LAWRENCE tr. *Cotta's Rocks Class.* 234 A complete series of transitions from..gneiss through mica-schist into clay-slate. 1819 BAKEWELL *Introd. Mineral.* 477 *Mica-slate, or micaceous schistus. 1877 RAYMOND *Statist. Mines & Mining* 229 A large number of fine lodes, all occurring in limestone and mica-slate.

Mica·ceo-calca·reous, *a. Geol.* [f. *micaceo-* taken as comb. form of next + CALCAREOUS.] Containing mica and lime (*Cent. Dict.* 1890).

Micaceous (məikē·ʃəs), *a. Min.* [f. MICA + -ACEOUS.] Containing or resembling mica; pertaining to or of the nature of mica, esp. in Combs. forming the descriptive names of various rocks, as *micaceous lava, sandstone, schist, shale, slate.*

1774 PENNANT *Tour Scotl. in* 1772, 153 A micaceous slate, mixed with quartz. 1813 SIR H. DAVY *Agric. Chem.* (1814) 193 Micaceous schistus, which is composed of quartz and mica arranged in layers. 1849 DANA *Geol.* ix. (1850) 463 Blue micaceous shale. 1882 GEIKIE *Text-bk. Geol.* II. II. iii, As this silvery lustre is..due to the presence of mica, it is commonly called distinctively micaceous.

Micacious (məikē·ʃəs), *a.* [as if f. L. **micāc-em* (f. *micāre* to shine, sparkle) + -IOUS.] Sparkling.

1836 LOUDON *Encycl. Plants* 42 *Watsonia brevifolia* has its blossoms of a micacious hue, glittering in the sun. *a* 1843 SOUTHEY *Doctor* Interch. xxii. (1848) 537 There is the Cyclopean stile, of which Johnson is the great example; the sparkling, or micacious, possessed by Hazlitt.

Micanite (məi·kănəit). *Telegraphy.* [f. MICA, after *vulcanite.*] A prepared form of mica used as an insulator.

1900 *Engineering Mag.* XIX. 709 The micanite used for the commutator sleeve.

† **Mi·cant,** *a. Obs.* [ad. L. *micant-em*, pres. pple. of *micāre* shine.] Shining, glittering.

1657 TOMLINSON *Renou's Disp.* 435 When micant sparks ascend from the metal.

Micarelle (məi·kărel). *Min.* Also -el. [App. irreg. f. MICA.]

1. A micaceous mineral pseudomorphous after scapolite.

1794 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) I. 213 Hence the presence of magnesia is merely casual; therefore it must be regarded as a distinct species from mica, and hence I have given it the name of micarelle. 1811 PINKERTON *Petral.* I. 123 The white mica, which might be called micarel. 1836 T. THOMSON *Min. Geol.*, etc. I. 271 *Meionite*, or *Scapolite*. Paranthine, ..micarelle [etc.]. 1896 CHESTER *Dict. Min.*

2. A name used to designate an unknown mineral from which the pinite of Stolpen was derived.

1836 T. THOMSON *Min. Geol.*, etc. I. 386 *Pinite*. Micarell. 1845 *Encycl. Metrop.* VI. 525/1 *Micarelle*. Pinite or Scapolite.

So **Micare·llite** in the same senses (*Cassell's Encycl. Dict.* 1885).

Micasiza·tion, Micatiza·tion. *Geol.* [irreg. f. MICA + -IZE + -ATION.] (See quot. 1893.)

1893 GEIKIE *Text-bk. Geol.* (ed. 3) 617 Micasization—the production of mica as a secondary mineral from felspars or other original constituents. 1896 VAN HISE in *16th Rep. U.S. Geol. Surv.* I. 691 Some of the more important of these processes are micatization, feldsparization [etc.].

† **Mica·tion.** *Obs.* [ad. L. *micātiōn-em*, n. of action f. *micāre* to move swiftly, *micāre digitīs* to play at mora ('How many fingers do I hold up?').] **a.** The action used in playing at mora. **b.** A beat of the pulse.

c 1645 *Vox Turturis* 8 Hence Causabonus saith *dimicare* to duell or fight is derived, which is properly by Lot or mication to put an end to controversie. 1656 STANLEY *Hist. Philos.* VIII. (1687) 466/2 By Lot, or Mication with the Fingers (*ginoco della mora*). 1725 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* s. v. *Pulse*, This Strength is made up with the Multiplicity and Frequency of less Mications [*sc.* of the pulse] as in the Heights of Fevers.

† **Mice-eyed,** *a. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. *mice*, pl. of MOUSE + EYED.] Having the keen eyes of mice.

1599 NASHE *Lenten Stuffe* 67 O for a Legion of mice-eyed dicipherers and calculaters vppon characters, now to augurate what I meane by this.

Micelium, obs. variant of MYCELIUM.

‖ **Micella** (misе·lă). *Biol. Pl.* micellæ (-ī). [mod.L., dim. of L. *mīca* crumb.] Nägeli's term (1877) for the hypothetical solid molecular aggregates of which he considered the organized structures of plants to consist. The micella is distinguished from the PLEON in that it consists of a much larger number of molecules, and in that increase or decrease of size does not affect the chemical constitution. In certain cases the micellæ were assumed to be crystals. Hence **Mice·llar** *a.*, pertaining to or composed of micellæ.

1882 VINES tr. *Sachs' Bot.* 664 *note* 1. 1885 GOODALE *Physiol. Bot.* (1892) 218 In the adherent film of water around each micella new micellae of cellulose are supposed to be produced. 1893 W. N. PARKER tr. *Weismann's Germ-Plasm* 474 (Index) Micellar theory.

Mich: see MICHE *v.*, MUCH *a.* and *adv.*

Michael (məi·kĕl). Forms: *α.* 1 Micha(h)el, 3 (*Ormin*) Michaæl, 4 Mychael, 4, 6– Michael. *β.* 3 Missel, 4–5 Michel, 5 Mychel, 6 Mychell. *γ.* 3 Mihael, Miȝhel, 4 Mihel, Myȝhell, 5 Myghell, Myghele, 7 (in Comb.) Mighill-. [repr. Hcb. מִיכָאֵל *Mīkhāēl*, lit. 'who is like God?' Gr. Μιχαήλ, L. *Michael*, whence OF. *Michiel*, F. *Michel*, It. *Michele*, Sp. *Miguel*, Pg. *Miguel*, G. *Michael* (the archangel), *Michel* (in popular uses).

The γ forms, implying a pronunciation (miyel), are difficult to account for. They occur only in application to the archangel or his feast; for the baptismal name the β forms only were used down to the 17th c.]

1. The name of one of the archangels. *The feast of St. Michael, St. Michael's day*: Michaelmas.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* I. 518 Michahel. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 412 Seinte Mihaeles dei. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 11032 A sein Misseles [*v.r.* Myhelles] dai. 1340 *Ayenb.* 1 Holy archanle Michael. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* VIII. 36, I schal sende ow my-self seint Mihel myn Aungel. 1382 WYCLIF *Dan.* X. 13 Mychael [1388 Myȝhel]. 14.. *Customs of Malton* in *Surtees Misc.* (1888) 59 Eftyr þe fest of Sayntt Myghell. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* II. 294 So much the fear Of Thunder and the Sword of *Michael* Wrought still within them.

b. *St. Michael's pear* [= F. *poire de St.-Michel*, G. *Michaelisbirne*]: a kind of pear that is ripe at Michaelmas.

1837 HAWTHORNE *Twice-told T.* viii, They strung him up to the branch of a St. Michael's pear-tree.

c. *Order of St. Michael*: an old French military order instituted by Louis XI in 1462. *Order of St. Michael and St. George*: an English civil order of knighthood instituted in 1818, shortly after the acquisition by Great Britain of Malta and the Ionian Islands, for the purpose of affording a special decoration to the natives of those islands; now granted as a reward for distinguished services in the colonies and abroad.

1530, 1591 [see ORDER *sb.* 8]. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XIII. 246/2 There are also..knights of the Ionian order of Saint Michael and Saint George.

† **2.** = MICHAELMAS. Also *attrib.* in *Michael-cry, day, term*; **Michael('s)-tide,** Michaelmas-tide.

1406 HOCCLEVE *Misrule* 422 For Michel terme þat was last. 1426 in *Catal. Anc. Deeds in P. R. O.* IV. 547 That the said Richard be at Chestir the next Seterday after Mygheleday in presens of the Chamberlayn. 1573 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 28 Fresh herring plentie, Mihell brings. *Ibid.* 74 No danger at all to geld as they fall. Yet Michel cries please butchers eies. 1611 SPEED *Hist. Gt. Brit.* IX. XV. (1623) 802 From the next Michaels-tide vnto Easter. 1615 W. LAWSON *Country Housew. Gard.* (1626) 12 At Mighill-tide it will be good to sow Wall-flowers. *Ibid.* 51 Generally no keeping fruit [*sc.* will be ready] before Michael-tide. 1622 S. WARD *Life Faith in Death* (1627) 87 To be haunted with a Quartan from Michael to Ester. 1622 in *Buccleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 210 By Michael next my Lord ..makes accompt to bring her over.

3. As a common Christian name of men. Also in proverbial phrases.

1340 *Ayenb.* 1 Þis boc is dan Michelis of Northgate, ywrite an englis of his owene hand. 1500-20 DUNBAR *Poems* xxii. 71 Twa curis or thre hes vpolandis Michell [*rimes* knitchell *and* nichell (=L. *nihil*)]. *a* 1625 FLETCHER *Woman's Prize* I. iii, *Petru.* Well there are more Maides then Maudlin, that's my comfort. *Mar.* Yes, and more men then Michael. 1785 GROSE *Dict. Vulg. T.*, *Michael.* Hip, Michael, your head's on fire.

Michaelite (məi·kĕləit). *Min.* [f. name of *St. Michaels*, in the Azores: see -ITE.] = FIORITE.

1821 WEBSTER in *Amer. Jrnl. Sci.* III. 391 From the island where this variety [*sc.* of siliceous sinter] occurs (St. Michaels) it might perhaps be distinguished by the term *Michaelite*.

Michaelmas (mi·kĕlmăs). Forms: 1 Sanct Michaeles mæsse, 3 Miȝheles-masse; 3 miel-, missel-, 3, 5 miȝhel, 3–5 mychel, 4 myel-, mihele-, misschel, 4–5 myhel, 5 myhil, myhell, michel-, miȝele-, mighell-, meghel-, mykel-, mykyl, myȝhel-, 5–6 myghel(l-, mighel-, 6 myell-, myhyl-, mihel-, michall-, 7 michal-; 3– masse, etc. (see MASS *sb.*¹); 4 mykames; 7– Michaelmas. Also 9 *dial.* Mihil-, Mile-, Mildmas. [f. the name of St. *Michael* the Archangel: see MASS *sb.*¹] The feast of St. Michael, 29 Sept., one of the four quarter-days of the English business year.

[*a* 1123 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1101 Se eorl syððan oð ðet ofer sce Michaeles mæsse her on lande wunode.] *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 53/229 Op-on Miȝhel-masse fourtene-nyȝht. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 9508 Þe kinges poer & is ost..wende vorþ to oxenford aboute mielmasse. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XII. 240 Fro mychelmesse to mychelmesse I fynde hem with wafres. 1389 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 35 Be-twixen þe feste of the natiuite of oure lady & Misschelmasse. 1435 *Nottingham Rec.* II. 361 At ye Anounsiacion of oure Lady and Meghelmes. 1452 in *Berks, Bucks & Oxon Archæol. Jrnl.* Oct. (1903) 78 For ij lb wex candells a ghens myhellmas xij.d. 1469 M. PASTON in *P. Lett.* II. 365 Wednsday or Thursday aftyr Mykylmes. 1475 *Presentm. Juries* in *Surtees Misc.* (1888) 26 At the gret cowrles at Mykelmes, þe yer [etc.]. 1530 PALSGR. 804/2 At Mychelmesse, *a la saynt Michel* or *le jour de sainct Michel.* 1536 *Anc. Cal. Rec. Dublin* (1889) I. 497 The wyche off trewythe was grawntyd att myellmas last past. 1539 in W. A. J. Archbold *Somerset Relig. Ho.* (1892) 117 We intende..to letowte the pastures and demeynes now from mighelmas forthe quarterly. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* I. i. 212 Alhallowmas last, a fortnight a-fore Michaelmas. 1609 SKENE *Reg. Maj., Burrow Lawes* c. 43. 124 The first [*sc.* head-court] is after the feast of Michalmes. 1661 MARVELL *Corr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 70 Which sum..shall be collected..at Michal masse and Lady day. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 424 ₱ 5 By Michaelmas 'tis odds but we come to downright squabbling. 1819 *Sport. Mag.* 274 He will blow upon his fingers before Mildmas [*footnote*, Michaelmas]. 1864 TENNYSON *North. Farmer, Old Style* xii, And I'd managed for Squoire coom Michaelmas thutty year.

b. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *Michaelmas goose, onion, rent*; **Michaelmas blackbird,** the ring ouzel (*Turdus torquatus*); **Michaelmas crocus,** the autumn crocus (*Colchicum autumnale*); **Michaelmas daisy,** a sea-starwort, (*a*) wild aster (*Aster Tripolium*); (*b*) one of several garden asters of a shrubby habit and bearing masses of small purplish flowers; **Michaelmas day** = sense 1; **Michaelmas eve,** the evening before Michaelmas; † **Michaelmas moon** = HARVEST MOON; † **Michaelmas pardon** (see PARDON *sb.*¹ 3b); **Michaelmas spring,** an autumnal spring; also *fig.*; **Michaelmas term,** a term or session (beginning soon after Michaelmas) of the High Court of Justice in England; and also of Oxford, Cambridge, and various other universities; **Michaelmas tide,** the season of Michaelmas.

Old Michaelmas day: the day that would have been called 29 Sept. if the Old Style had been retained without correction: from 1900 onwards this has been 12 Oct.

1822 LATHAM *Hist. Birds* V. 39 *note*, Ring Ouzel .. a British Species, only seen in spring and autumn. By some called the *Michaelmas Blackbird. 1785 MARTYN *Rousseau's Bot.* XXVI. (1794) 391 Many [Asters] as confounded under the Vulgar title of *Michaelmas Daisies. 1882 *Garden* 24 June 437/2 A brown-centred small Michaelmas Daisy. [*c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 304/165 Men synguez a-*Miȝheles-masse-day In holie church also Of one bataile þat seint Miȝhel with a dragun scholde do.] 1359 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 97 And yis gilde schal haue, by ȝere, foure mornspeches..ye ferthe schal be on mykames day. 1463 *Mann. & Househ. Exp.* (Roxb.) 154 The fryday next afftyr Myhelmesse day my mastyr delyveryd to my sayd lord..vj.s. viij.d. 1864 *Chambers' Bk. Days* II. 387/2 Michaelmas Day, the 29th of September, properly named the day of St. Michael and All Angels. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 8793 So þat a *Missel-masse eue mid hor ost hii come. 1792 *Statist. Acc. Scot.* II. 438 *note*, The son-in-law binds himself to give him [the father-in-law] the profits of the first *Michaelmas moon. 1763 MILLS *Syst. Pract. Husb.* IV. 34 One of these crops, known by the name of *Michaelmas onions, is sown in August. 1624 CAPT. SMITH *Virginia* IV. (Arb.) 619 Thus they spend *Michaelmas rent in Mid-summer Moone, and would gather their Haruest before they haue planted their Corne. 1763 *Museum Rust.* (ed. 2) I. 75 If the markets are low, they fail in the payment of their Michaelmas rent. 1573 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 135 Be mindfull abrode of *Mihelmas spring. 1658 GURNALL *Chr. in Arm.* Verse 16. X. (1669) 210/1 God promised him a Michaelmas spring (I may so say) a son in his old age. 1721 AMHERST *Terræ Fil.* App. (1754) 281 He was, in *michaelmas-term following, admitted commoner in Oriel college. 1765 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* I. ix. 329 The morrow of All Souls ..(which day is now altered to the morrow of St. Martin by the last act for abbreviating Michaelmas term). 1903 *Oxf. Univ. Cal.* p. xiii, Oct. 10. Oxford Michaelmas Term begins. 1903 *Longm. Mag.* Oct. 516 At *Michaelmas-tide heavy waggons lumber through the villages.

Michaelsonite (mi·kĕlsənəit). *Min.* [f. the name of A. *Michaelson* (1868), who first analysed it: see -ITE.] = ERDMANNITE.

1868 DANA *Min.* (ed. 5) II. 289 Michaelsonite *Dana*. An orthite-like mineral occurring near Brevig..., containing, like muromontite, little alumina and some glucina.

Michall, variant of MECHAL *Obs.*

Michal(l)mas, -mes, obs. ff. MICHAELMAS.

Michare, obs. form of MICHER.

† **Miche,** *sb.*¹ *Obs.* [a. OF. *miche*, of obscure origin; it does not regularly represent L. *mīca* crumb. The same word appears in MDu., MLG. *micke* (mod.Du. *mik*), but it is uncertain whether it was adopted from Du. into Fr. or vice versa.]

A loaf of bread.

c 1290 *St. Brandan* 296 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 227 Twelf ȝwite Miches [*v. r.* suche loues] men brynguth us. *a* 1300 *Rel. Ant.* II. 192 He sal sitte in helle flitte with-oute wyn and miche. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 5585 He that hath miches tweyne, ..Liveth more at ese,..Than [etc.]. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. cclxvi. 598 The lorde of Verby sent hym wyne largely, and thretie myches therwith. *c* 1640 J. SMYTH *Lives Berkeleys* (1883) I. 40 Fifty loafes called miches.

Hence † **Michekin,** a little cake.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 336/2 Mychekyne, *pastilla.*

† **Miche,** *sb.*² *Naut. Obs.* Also 6 meche, 5–6 *Sc. pl.* mykkis. [Cf. G. *micke* in the senses below; also Du. *mik* forked stick. Cf. Sc. dial. *mitch*, a support for a mast when lowered (E. D. D.).] **a.** A forked shaft for a pump. **b.** A wedge for sighting a cannon.

1495 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 157 Miches with a swivell a bolte & Ryng belongyng to the Ingyn to draw water owte of the seid dokke. *Ibid.* 194 Serpentynes of yron..yche of them with his miches & forloke of yron.. Stone gonnes of yron .. with miches & forlokkes to the

same .. Serpentynes of Brasse with his miche & forloke. *Ibid.* 261 Yron worke for xx of the seid gonnes that is to say xx miches xx boltes & xx forelokes. 1497 *Ibid.* 209 Michies with a swevell a bolt & a ryng of yron belongyng to the Ingynne to draw water at the Dokke. 1496 *Ld. Treas. Acc. Scotl.* (1877) I. 292 For mykkis and bandis to the gunnys. 1513 *Ibid.* (1902) IV. 485. 1514 *Lett. & Papers of Hen. VIII*, I. 4968 (MS.) Every chamber having one meche and one forlock.

Miche (mitʃ), *v.* Now *dial.* Also 6 myche, 6–7 mitche, 9 mich, mitch, meech. [app. a. OF. *muchier, mucier* to hide, also intr. to skulk, lurk.]

†**1.** *trans.* To pilfer. *Obs.*

[*a* 1225: cf. MICHER *sb.*] 1390 [Implied in MICHING *vbl. sb.*]. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 337/1 Mychyn, or pryuely stelyn smale things. 1496 *Dives & Paup.* (W. de W.) I. liii. 94/1 That he myght haue myched or deled the moneye awaye, for he bare the purce. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 115/32 To Mych, *suffurari*. *Ibid.* 130/10 To Pilch, miche, *suffurari*.

2. *intr.* To shrink or retire from view; to lurk out of sight; to skulk. Also *pass.* and Const. *off.*

1558 PHAER *Æneid* v. (1573) O ij b, To woods, and mountayn caues, and holes of rocks they miching ronne. 1581 STUDLEY *Seneca's Herc. Œtæus* II. 193 b, Myche where thou mayst vnspyde. 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* IV. (Arb.) 104 What doe ye forge? wherefore thus vaynely in land Lybye mitche you? 1602 HEYWOOD *Wom. Killed w. Kindn.* Wks. 1874 II. 113, I neuer look'd for better of that rascall Since he came miching first into our house. 1605 *Hist. Stukeley* D 3, Then will we not come miching thus by night But charge the towne and winne it by day light. 1612 CHAPMAN *Widowes T.* v. i. K 4 b, Where found you him? My truant was mich't, Sir, into a blind corner of the Tomb. 1728 BAILEY, To *Miche*, to stand off, to hang back.

b. To play truant.

1580 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 279 What made the Gods so often to trewant from Heauen, and mych heere on earth, but beautie? *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Astr. & Stella* xlvi, Yet, deare, let me his pardon get of you, So long, though he from book myche to desire, Till without fewell you can make hot fire. 1624–5 *Exeter City Mun.* in *Notes & Gleanings* (Exeter) II. 187/1 Some of o^r children pretendinge that they went to schoole went a meechinge half a yeare or more together. 1672 [H. STUBBE] *Rosemary & Bayes* 18 Like truant children forsook their school, to go miching after black-berries. *c* 1806 T. SWIFT *Town Scene* in *Poet. Reg.* (1806–7) 157 On mischief bent, the imps had mitch'd from school. 1879 in Fitzpatrick *Life Lever* I. 10 One day Charley and I mitched from school. 1900 UPWARD *Eben. Lobb* 96 The limp and trembling boy..now looked as if he could never mich from Sahbath-school or throw a stone..again.

†**3. a.** To grumble secretly. **b.** To pretend poverty. *Obs.*

1598 FLORIO, *Nicchiare*, to lament..to miche, to grumble closely or show some signe of discontent. 1611 COTGR., *Faire le senaud*..to miche it, or a rich man to make shew of pouertie.

Miche, Michel, obs. ff. MUCH, MICKLE.

Michelangelesque (mə:kĕlændʒĕlĕ·sk), *a.* [f. the name of *Michelangelo* Buonarroti (1475–1564), a famous Italian artist: see -ESQUE.] Pertaining to or after the manner of Michelangelo.

1784 J. BARRY in *Lect. Paint.* iii. (1848) 133 The arm is a little too square and michelangelesque. 1864 LOWELL *Fireside Trav.* 220 The Michael Angelesque olive-trunks. 1886 RUSKIN *Præterita* II. 50, I..progressed greatly and vitally in Michael-Angelesque directions. 1887 DOWDEN *Shelley* II. v. 239 Visions..of Michelangelesque sublimity.

So **Michela·ngelism,** the manner or tendencies in art of Michelangelo.

1883-C. C. PERKINS *Ital. Sculpture* III. iv. 350 The greater part of the sculpture..shuns the Scylla of nullity and bad taste only to fall into the Charybdis of Michelangelism.

Michelmasse, obs. form of MICHAELMAS.

Micher (mi·tʃəɹ), *sb.* Now *dial.* Forms: 3 muchare, 4–5 mycher, 4–6 michare, 6 mychare, 4, 6 michir, 7 meecher, mitcher, 4– micher. [Early ME. *muchare*, app. a. OF. **muchere, muchëor*, agent.-n. f. *mucher* MICHE *v.* (which is not recorded in Eng. till much later).]

1. A secret or petty thief. *Obs.*

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 150 Þis world..is al biset of helle muchares þet robbeð al þe gold-hordes þet heo muwen underziten. *c* 1357 *Lay Folks Catech.* (L.) 825 Who brekys þe seuynt comaundement, Mechers, Robbers and extorcioners. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 3541 To þis michare out of Messedone þis mandment I write. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* xxvii. 107 (Harl. MS.) To slepe, when obere men wakithe, as dothe thevis and mychers. 1530 PALSGR. 244/1 Mecher a lytell thefe, *laronceav.* *c* 1555 HARPSFIELD *Divorce Hen. VIII* (Camden) 204 Where is Miser and Micher Micheas? where doth he now micher? 1563–83 FOXE *A. & M.* II. 804/2 Callyng him [*sc.* Beckett] micher and theefe, for that hee wrought by craftes and imaginations. 1669 WORLIDGE *Syst. Agric.* (1681) 102 This [Fence] makes a speedy shelter for a Garden from Winds, Beasts, or such like injuries, rather than from rude Michers. 1787 GROSE *Provinc. Gloss.*, *Michers*, thieves, pilferers. Norf. 1823 SCOTT *Peveril* xxvii, Thou art turned micher as well as padder—Canst both rob a man and kidnap him!

†**2.** One who goes 'sneaking about' for dishonest or improper purposes; esp. in 16–17th c., a pander or go-between. *Obs.*

14.. *Nom.* in Wr.-Wülcker 687/1 *Hic circumforarius*, a mycher. *c* 1530 *Hyckescorner* 378 (Manly) Wanton wenches, and also mychers, With many other of the devylles offycers. 1547–64 BAULDWIN *Mor. Philos.* (Palfr.) 128 Hee detesteth & viterly abhorreth the whole brood of priuie michers, secret vnderminers, hypocrites, & double dealers. *a* 1550 *Image Ipocr.* I. in *Skelton's Wks.* (1843) II. 419 Oh ye kynde of vipers,..That haue so many miters! And yett ye be but mychers. *a* 1619 FLETCHER *Bonduca* I. ii, It may be a whore too; say it be: come, meecher, Thou shalt have both [drink and whore]. 1630 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Agst. Cursing & Swearing* Wks. I. 48/2 He is altogether ashamed, and like a Micher muffles his face in his hat.

†**b.** One who pretends poverty. *Obs.*

1611 COTGR., *Senaud*..a rich micher, a rich man that pretends himselfe to be verie poore. 1696 PHILLIPS, A *Micher*, a covetous Person, a niggardly Pinch-penny.

3. A truant; one who improperly absents himself.

1530 PALSGR. 245/1 Michar, *buissonnier*. 1532 MORE *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 577/1 He like a mycher and a trewant, played at buckle pitte by the way. 1594 LYLY *Moth. Bomb.* I. iii. 191 How like a micher he standes, as though he had trewanted from honestie! 1596 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. IV*, II. iv. 450 Shall the blessed Sonne of Heauen proue a Micher, and eate Black-berryes? 1775 ASH, *Micher*, a lazy loitering fellow, one who keeps out of sight to avoid working. 1840 HOOD *Friend in Need* Wks. 1862 V. 275 When a young micher plays truant, it is not for a lounge about the homestead. 1891 S. MOSTYN *Curatica* 67 My schoolmaster ..who had gained a high reputation for his skill in dealing with the 'micher'.

4. Comb., as *micher-like* adv.

1586 B. YOUNG *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* IV. 194 Hee hath dronke so micherlike [It. *furtivamente*], as though he were none of this companie.

†**Mi·cher,** *v. Obs. rare*—1. [f. MICHER *sb.*] *intr.* To sneak. Hence † **Mi·chering** *ppl. a.*

c 1555 [see MICHER *sb.* 1]. 1615 W. HULL *Mirr. Maiestie* 6 One meechering hypocrite crept into the marriage feast, with-out his wedding garment.

†**Mi·chery.** *Obs.* Also 4–5 micherie, mecherie, 5 mychery(e. [f. MICHER *sb.* + -Y.] Pilfering, thievishness; cheating.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 346 With Covoitise yit I finde A Servant of the same kinde, Which Stelthe is hote, and Mecherie With him is evere in compainie. *Ibid.* 355 For Venus, which was enemie Of thilke loves micherie, Discovereth al the pleine cas To Clymene. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 196 þou hast get good in raueyn, thefte, & mycherye. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 337/1 Mychery, *capacitas, manticulatus, furtulum*. 1496 *Dives & Pauper* (W. de W.) VII. iv. 279/2 Somtyme a thynge is stolen preuely without wetynge of the lorde or of the keper and ayenst ther wyll, & it is called mycherye. 1565–73 *Durham Depos.* (Surtees) 251 He was suspect of michery and untreweth.

Michil, variant of MICKLE.

Miching (mi·tʃiŋ), *vbl. sb. Obs.* exc. *dial.* Also 7 micking. [f. MICHE *v.* + -ING 1.] The action of the verb MICHE; pilfering, skulking, playing truant. Also Comb., as *miching-time.* † *In miching wise*: in a skulking or surreptitious manner.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 347 For noman of his conseil knoweth; What he mai gete of his Michinge. *c* 1480 HENRYSON *Fable Fox & Wolf* 5 This Fox..durst no more with miching intermell. 1577 STANYHURST *Descr. Irel.* in *Holinshed* (1808) VI. Ep. Ded., His historie in mitching wise wandred through sundrie hands. 1875 BLACKMORE *Alice Lorraine* I. xvii. 183 She laid upon Hilary all the burden of this lengthened mitching-time. 1889 P. H. GOSSE in *Longm. Mag.* Mar. 517 We called it [*sc.* playing truant] 'miching', pronouncing the *i* in 'mich' long, as in 'mile', whereas in Devonshire the same word, in the same sense, is pronounced with the *i* short, as in 'mill'. 1891 S. MOSTYN *Curatica* 67 The schoolboy's miching is the clergyman's Mondayishness. 1894 *Q. Rev.* July 136 These servants..were skilful in devising means of interrupting the performance, or miching from it to the nearest tavern.

Miching (mi·tʃiŋ), *ppl. a. Obs.* exc. *dial.* Also 7 micking, meiching, 8–9 meeching. [f. MICHE *v.* + -ING 2.] In various senses of the verb: Pilfering, skulking, truant-playing, pretending poverty.

1581 LAMBARDE *Eiren.* II. vi. (1588) 196 Either miching or mightie theeues. 1592 SYLVESTER *Tri. Faith* IV. v, Here, myching Jonas (sunk in sudden Storm) Of his Deliverance findes a Fish the mean. 1609 BP. W. BARLOW *Answ. Nameless Cath.* 68 A miching Curre, biting her behinde, when she cannot turne backe. 1614 DYKE *Myst. Selfe-deceit* (1615) 40 They are no miching and scraping niggards, but rather wasteful and riotous prodigals. 1621 T. WILLIAMSON tr. *Goulart's Wise Vieillard* 72 What myching couetousnesse is it, not to bee willing to part with somewhat of that which we haue. *a* 1625 FLETCHER *Noble Gent.* I. i, O my meiching varlet—I'll fit ye as I live. 1766 J. ADAMS *Diary* 2 Jan., Wks. 1850 II. 173 Meeching, sordid, stupid creatures,..they deserve to be made slaves to their own negroes! 1857 KINGSLEY *Two Y. Ago* I. 116 You loafing, miching, wrecking crow-keepers. 1866 BLACKMORE *C. Nowell* II, Not even a shark's fin, or a mitching dolphin. 1877 — *Eremа* xliii, Two miching boys, who meant to fish for minnows with a pin.

†**Miching malicho.** Occurs only in the Shaks. passage quoted, and echoes of it; of uncertain form, origin, and meaning.

It is probable, though hardly certain, that the first word is MICHING *ppl. a.* The conjecture that the second word represents Sp. *malhecho* misdeed (whence Malone and subsequent editors print *mallecho*) yields a fairly satisfactory sense; but there is no evidence that the Sp. word was familiar in English, and its pronunciation (malet∫o) does not account for the forms in the early editions.

1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* III. ii. 146 Marry this is Miching Malicho [*sic* Fol. 1 (1623): Q 1 (1603) myching Mallico; Q 2 (1604) munching Mallico], that meanes Mischeefe. 1836 E. HOWARD *R. Reefer* xliii, There was no 'minching malicho', or anything like mischief. 1882 STEVENSON in *Longm. Mag.* I. 71 Other spots again seem to abide their destiny, suggestive and impenetrable, 'miching mallecho'.

Micht, obs. Sc. form of MIGHT.

Mick (mik). Shortened form of proper name *Michael*, applied jocularly to an Irishman.

1882 'MARK TWAIN' *Innoc. at Home* ii, When the Micks got to throwing stones through the Methodis' Sunday-school windows. 1893 A. FULLER *Lit. Courtship* x. 93 If once she gets hold of that fact, you will wish you had been born a 'mick'.

Mickel(l, Mickeson, obs. ff. MICKLE, MIXEN.

Mickle (mi·k'l), **muckle** (mʊ·kl), *a., sb.* and *adv. Obs.* exc. *dial.* and *arch.* Forms: α. 1–2 micel, mycel, 3 michil, 3–5 michel, mychel, 4–5 mychell, mechil, mechel, mychil. β. 2–3 muchele, 2–5 muchel, 3 mucchel, 3–5 mochil, 4 muchil, mochill, 4–5 mochel, 4–6 mochell, 5 mochyll, 6 (*arch.*) muchell. γ. [1–2 micl-], 3 mikel(l, -ul, mickel, 3–4 mikil, mykil, 3–6 mykel(l(e, mykyll, 4–5 mykill, -yl, 4–6 mykle, 5 mikille, mycul(le, 5–7 micle, mycle, 6 mykkylle, mickell, mycki l, 5– mickle. δ. 3–5 mekyll, 3–6 mekil(l, 4 *Sc.* meekle, 4–5 mekille, -yl, 4–6 mekile, 5 mekel(l, -ul(l, mecul(le, 6 meakle, 6–7 *Sc.* meikill, 5–8 mekle, 9 *Sc.* meickle, 6– *Sc.* meikle. ε. 3 mucle, 4, 6 mokel(l, 8 mukel, 8– muckle. [Com. Teut.: OE. *micel* (also *mycel*) = OS. *mikil* (MLG. *michel*), OHG. *mihhil* (MHG. *michel*), ON. *mikell*, also *mykell* (nom. and acc. neut. *miket, mykel*, acc. masc. *mikenn, mykenn*; Sw. *mycken*, neut. *mycket*; Norw. dial. *myken*, neut. *mykel*; Da. *meget* neut.), Goth. *mikils*:—OTeut. **mikilo-*, corresponding to Gr. μεγαλο-, lengthened stem of *μέγας* great; the shorter form of the adj. is represented in Teut. only by ON. *mjǫk* adv., very, which formally corresponds to Gr. *μέγα* neut. The root **meg-* (represented also in Armenian *mets* great, and perh. in L. *magnus*) appears to be allied to the Aryan root **magh-* of Skr. *mah, maha, mahan* great.

The OE. form *mycel* (which is not a mere graphic variant of *micel*, but stands for an actual pronunciation) is difficult to explain; it is commonly supposed to be due to association with *ỹðel* LITTLE *a.* The similar change of *i* into *y* in ON. *mykell, mykl-*, is believed to proceed from the influence of the *u* in the inflected forms *miklu, miklum*; but this explanation is not applicable to OE.

The phonology of the ME. and modern forms is in many points obscure. Normally, OE. *y* would become in the S.W. *u*, pronounced (ü), and elsewhere *i*; the abnormal *u* (in ME. also written *o*) of the β and ε forms has not yet been satisfactorily explained. The forms with *k* are northern and north-midland; the regular southern forms with *ch* are obsolete, having given place to the shortened *mich*, MUCH.

In present dialectal use the prevailing form is *muckle*; but *mickle* and *meikle* are often used by modern Scottish writers even when their own colloquial dialect has only *muckle*. The archaistic use in non-dialectal poetry is rare, and almost confined to the form *mickle*.]

A. *adj.*

1. = GREAT *a.*, in various applications.

a. with reference to size, bulk, stature.

o. 825 in Birch *Cartul. Sax.* I. 542 Þonon on anne micelne stan. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gen.* i. 16 And god ȝeworhte twa micele leoht. *c* 1425 *Cursor M.* 1320 (Trin.) A mychel tre.

γ. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 1320 Out-ouer þat well þan lokes he, And sagh þar stand a mikel tre. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 12341 By a mykel fir he sat. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxvii. (*Machor*) 874 A man þat mykill vas. 1560 *Burgh Rec. Stirling* (1887) 72 Ane mykle pot, ane les pot, ane tyn pynt [etc.]. *a* 1657 MURE *Wks.* (S.T.S.) II. 254 She bure vnto him..Ard. called mickle Archibald. 1789 BURNS *Toothache* iii, I throw the wee stools o'er the mickle.

δ. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* x. (*Mathou*) 43 A citte, þat mekile wes & of gret fame. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XVIII. 308 His mekill hude helit haly The armyng that he on hym had. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 62 þis Assenech was a mekull large womman as Sarra was. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* liv. 5 My ladye with the mekle lippis. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 14 Thay mekle gret horse quhilkes..beiris armed men of weir. 1725 RAMSAY *Gentle Sheph.* II. i, Set the meiklest peat-stack in a low. 1863 R. QUINN *Heather Lintie* 249 Glib cantin' Bauldy S—— now lies 'Neath this rouch meickle stane.

ε. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 366 Was no brymme þat abod vnbrosten bylyue, þe mukel lauande loghe to þe lyte rered. 15.. *Wyf Auchtirmwchty* 113 in *Bannatyne MS.* (Hunter. Club) 345 Vp scho gat ane muckle rung. 1748 THOMSON *Cast. Indol.* II. vii, [He] grew at last a knight of muckel frame. 1814 SCOTT *Wav.* xlii, Mr. Waverley's wearied wi' majoring yonder afore the muckle pier-glass. 1866 J. B. ROSE tr. *Ovid's Met.* 337 The cormorant short-legged, with muckle throat. 1889 BARRIE *Window in Thrums* xi. He was a terrible invalid, an' for the hinmost years o' his life he sat in a muckle chair nicht an' day.

†**b.** as a distinctive epithet for a place, building, etc. *Obs.*

1379 *Rolls of Parlt.* III. 69/1 Son College appellez Mokel Universite Hall en Oxenford. *c* 1400 *Brut* lvi. 50 Auri-lambros & Vter..assemblede a grete hoste forto come into michel Britaigne. 1459 *Paston Lett.* I. 462 Castre faste by Mikel Yermuth, in the shire of Norffolk.

c. said of a numerical aggregate, proportion, etc.

c 1200 ORMIN 169, & he shall turrnenn mikell flocc Of þiss Judisskenn þeode Till Goddes Sune Jesu Crist. *c* 1205 LAY. 1746 þa Corineus of wode com mid michelene ferde. *Ibid.* 31435 Mucchel del heo slogen of þan monweorede. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XVII. 183 He had A mekill rout of worthy men. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 69 Slik was þe multitude of mast so mekil & so thike, þat all him þo3t bot he treis a hare wod it semyd. *Ibid.* 927 þe multitude sa mekill of men.

d. with reference to amount or degree. Now *rare* or *Obs.*; merged in sense 2, from which, when the sb. has no article, it is often hardly to be distinguished.

a. *c* 888 K. Ælfred *Boeth.* xxxviii. § 2 Swiðe oft se micla bnwald ðara yflena ȝehrist swiðe færlice. *a* 900 *O. E. Chron.* an. 664 (MS. A.), Þy ilcan ȝeare wæs micel mancuealm. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1208 Michel gestninge made abraham. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Anel. & Arc.* 99 But natheles ful mychell besynesse Had he or þat he myght his lady wynne. 1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 381 Mechil grace ther uppon Unto the Citees schulde falle. *a* 1425 *Cursor M.* 18123 (Trin.) Þer coom a mechel steuen. *c* 1430 *Syr Gener.* (Roxb.) 8445 Than had the Soudon michel care.

β. *a* 1200 *Moral Ode* 211 Godes wisdom is wel muchel and alswa is his mihte. *c* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 47 Hit is me to muchel iswinch ðar embe to þenken. *c* 1330 *Assump. Virg.* (B.M. MS.) 747 And ihesu, þorw his mochil myȝt, Here feet and handes gan to ryȝt. ? *a* 1366 Chaucer *Rom. Rose* 45 And that is she that bath, y-wis, So mochel prys. *c* 1386 — *Knt.'s T.* 1494 Thou shalt ben wedded vn to oon of tho That han for thee so muchel care and wo. 1413 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton 1483) v. xiv. 110, I was ful sory that I was so soone departid fro so mochel ioye. *c* 1460 *Launfal* 282 A man of mochell myghte.

γ. *c* 1200 Ormin 788 Forr þatt wass to þatt gode preost Well swiþe mikell blisse. *c* 1220 *Bestiary* 319 He lepeð ðanne wið mikel list, Of swet water he haueð ðrist. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 18123 And eft þar come a mikel steuen, Als it a thoner war of heuen. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 2 Þe Bretons, men of mykelle myght. *c* 1420 *Anturs of Arth.* xliii. (Ireland MS.), He wulle stond the in stoure, in-toe so mycul styd. 1522 *World & Child* (Roxb.) A iv, Mykyll is his myght. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* II. iv. 7 He was a man of mickle might. *Ibid.* III. iv. 20 He..mickle fame Did get through great adventures hy him donne. 1591 Shaks. 1 *Hen. VI*, IV. vi. 35 To morrow I shall dye with mickle Age. 1627 Drayton *Nimphidia* lxxxviii, To the Fayrie Court they went, With mickle ioy and merriment. 1819 Keats *Eve St. Agnes* xiv, But let me laugh awhile, I've mickle time to grieve. 1850 Blackie *Æschylus* II. 269 The riches stored by me with mickle care. 1891 E. Field *Western Verse, Death Robin Hood* 24 With mickle woe His heart was like to break.

δ. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* i. (*Petrus*) 537 He had þerof rycht mekil wondir. *c* 1400 *Rowland & O.* 484 Þe Sarazene cryed with mekill myghte. *c* 1420 *Anturs of Arth.* xxxviii. (Ireland MS.), The kinge commawundet kindeli the Erle of Kente, For his meculle curtasy, to kepe the tother knyȝte. *c* 1420 *Sir Amadace* (Camden) xlv, Ther he wanne fulle mecul honoure. 1616 *Barbour's Bruce* (ed. Hart) II. 245* Men of meekle might.

ε. 1205 Lay. 29752 And mid wurðscipe mucle haldeð his wike. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1164, & he hem halȝed for his & help at her nede In mukel meschefes mony, þat meruayl is to here.

e. with reference to power or importance. Now somewhat *rare*.

a. *a* 900 *O. E. Martyrol.* 28 Apr. 66 On þone ylcan dæg bið sancte Cristofores þrowung þæs miclan martyres. *a* 1325 *Prose Psalter* xlviii[i]. 1 Our Lord is michel & werþi to be praysed.

β. *a* 1200 *Moral Ode* 92 Hwet scule we seggen oðer don et þe muchele dome. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Boeth.* IV. Pr. i. 86 (Camb. MS.) The rith ordenee hows of so mochel a fader.

γ. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 17827 And tboru þair godd adonai, Þair mikel godd of israel, Þai coniurd þam na soth to hel. 15.. *Peebles to Play* xxiii, The meikill devill gang wi you.

δ. 1572 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xxxviii. 39 Solyman, Tamerlan, nor yit the mekle Deill..was neuer sa wickit. 1796 Burns *To Mitchell* 3 Alake! alake! the meikle deil Wi' a' his witches Are at it. 1800 Tannahill *Poems* (1900) 120 Yon meikle folk Think siller stands for sense.

ε. 1600 W. Watson *Decacordon* (1602) 144 Great rich farmers or muckle carles of the countrey. 1819 W. Tennant *Papistry Storm'd* III. (1827) 97 Our anchor's lost,..We're perish'd a', haith sma' and muckle! 1896 'L. Keith' *Indian Uncle* i. 4 There's nae gainsaying that oor Adam's the muckle man o' the family noo.

f. Const. *of, at.*

γ. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 283 Þis lauerd þat is so mikul o might. *Ibid.* 15124 O þis iesu þat es sa wis Sa mikel alsua o lare. *Ibid.* 17969 Þat goddes sone so mychel of myȝt, Among monkynde shal he liȝt.

δ. *c* 1375 *Cursor M.* 17969 (Gött.) Þat goddes sun, sua mekil of might. 1500-20 Dunbar *Poems* xxxiv. 11 Than swoir ane courtyour mekle of pryd. ? *a* 1550 *Droichis part of play* 42 in *Dunbar's Poems* (S.T.S.) 315 Bot eftir he grew mekle at fowth.

2. A great quantity or amount of; = Much *a.* (In Sc. now chiefly in negative and interrogative context.)

a. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 76 ȝif mon on mycelre rade.. weorðe ȝeteorad [etc.]. 1154 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1137 Micel hadde Henri King gadered gold & syluer.

β. *c* 1205 Lay. 7283 Heo nomen of Romanisce londe muchel seoluer & gold. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 92 Prelatis ouere þis robben oure lond of mochil tresour. 1579 Spenser *Sheph. Cal.* Feb. 109 A goodly Oake sometime had it bene..And mochell mast to the husband did yielde.

γ. *c* 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) i. 4 Þe kyng..haldes grete and mykill land. *Ibid.* iv. 13 Scho had mykill tresoure. *c* 1450 *Mirour Saluacioun* 3417 The Jewes..gaf thaym mykel monee als. *c* 1450 *M. E. Med. Bk.* (Heinrich) 68 Take as mykel salt, as þow hast pouder. 1526 Skelton *Magnyf.* 1356 By me is conueyed mykyll praty ware.

δ. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* x. (*Mathou*) 464 He gert Inwirone al hyre In with mekil fuel, It to bryne. 1508 Dunbar *Flyting w. Kennedie* 189 Thow purchippit, vgly averill, ..Quhilk brewis mekle barret to thy bryd. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 26 He gathiris mekle money. 1676 W. Row *Contn. Blair's Autobiog.* xii. (1848) 439 The honest Earl of Crawford feared mickle evil from this Session of Parliament. 1786 *Har'st Rig* xii, Duncan brags how meikle meal She's eaten here. 1823 Scott *Quentin D.* xxxi, You have had as meikle good fortune as if you had been born with a lucky-hood on your head.

ε. 1720 Ramsay *Edinb.'s Salut. to Ld. Carnarvon* iv, I'll no make muckle vaunting. 1816 Scott *Old Mort.* xiv, Neither of our sorrows will do muckle gude, that I can see. *a* 1859 in J. Watson *Living Bards of Border* 8 They were nae folk o' muckle gear. 1872 C. Gibbon *For the King* xxii, Madam, your father has not brought you muckle comfort.

†**b.** Qualifying *folk, people*: A great number of, many. *Obs.*

β. *c* 1275 *Passion of our Lord* 49 in *O. E. Misc.* 38 Mochel volk hym vulede.

γ. *c* 1200 Ormin 15748 He full wel wisste þatt tær wass sammnedd mikell follc þatt heȝhe daȝȝ to frellsenn.

δ. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 60 Mekle peple þat was in þe kurk war sparrid in with þe watir.

3. Comb.: **mickle-hammer** (see quot.); **mickle-mouthed** *a.*, applied proverbially to one whose face is rather disfigured by the disproportionate size of the mouth; **micklewame**, the stomach, esp. that of the ox used for culinary purposes; †**mickle-what** (cf. Little-what), a great deal, something of many kinds; **mickle wheel**, the great wheel of a spinning wheel.

1843 Holtzapffel *Turning* I. 171 The spallers employ heavy axe-formed or *muckle-hammers, for spalling or scaling off smaller flakes [of granite]. 1721 Kelly *Sc. Proverbs* 253 *Mickle mouth'd Folk are happy to their Meat. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 94 Thay take the hail *meklewame of ane slain ox [etc.]. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 320 As he which cowthe *mochel what. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 130 Quadrentis coruen all of quyte siluyre full quaynte, Mustours & mekil quat mare þen a littill. *Ibid.* 5468. 1821 Galt *Ann. Parish* xii, Both little wheel and *meikle wheel. 1824 Scott *St. Ronan's* xvi, She .. talked something of matrimony, and the mysteries of the muckle wheel.

B. *absol.* and *sb.*

I. The adj. used *absol.*

1. A great quantity or amount; much. *To make mickle of*: to make much of, cherish.

a. *a* 1123 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1101 His men mycel to hearme æfre ȝedydon.

γ. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxx. (*Theodera*) 350 Hyme þat mykil of hyre mad. *c* 1400 *Sowdone Bab.* 1016 Mikille of my people have thay slayn. *a* 1529 Skelton *Col. Cloute* 559 The Church hath to mykel, And they haue to lytell. *a* 1701 Sedley *Poet. Pieces* Wks. 1722 II. 9 Hold, there's enough; nay, 'tis o'er mickle.

δ. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xiii. (*Marcus*) 10 Sanct Ione þe ewangeliste, þat of cristis priwete mekil wyste. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 4397 Bot ay mekill wald haue mare as many man spellis. 1508 Dunbar *Tua Mariit Wemen* 60 Birdis hes ane better law na bernis be meikill.

ε. 1865 G. Macdonald *A. Forbes* 2 There'll be no muckle o' him to rise again. 1871 C. Gibbon *Lack of Gold* i, How muckle will this be worth, think ye.

†**b.** Most, the greatest part (*of* something). *Obs.*

a 1578 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 324 Quhene George Douglas come to Sanctandrois and remanitt thair mekill of ane day in dressing of his bussieness.

c. *So mickle* (in 17th c. Sc. written *sameikill*) = so much.

1437 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 503/2 Yef so mekill be necessarie yerto. *c* 1440 *Generydes* 6451 Ye will doo so mekill as take yᵉ payn, To come so ferre. 1609 Skene *Reg. Maj.* I. 39 b, Ilke ane of them sall haue sameikill, as is within his awin lordship and dominion. *Ibid.*, *Stat. Alex. II*, 15 b, Quhat he hes taken fra anie man, he sall restore sameikill to him.

d. In certain adverbial phrases: *for as mickle as*, forasmuch as; *in as* (†*sa*) *mickle as*, in so far as, inasmuch as; †*unto so mickle*, so much that; †*as mickle to say as* = 'as much as to say'.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 19596 Sua aght all preistes.. In als mikel als in þaim es. *c* 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) Pref. 2 For als mykill as it es lang tyme passed sen þare was any general passage ouer þe see in to þe haly land [etc.]. *c* 1420 Lydg. *Assembly of Gods* 92 In as mekyll as hit ys now soo That ye hym here haue as your prysonere, I shall you shew my compleynt loo. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 145 Hur moder..blamyd hur & reprovid hur þerfor, vnto so mekle, sho slew hur moder. *c* 1550 *Exam. W. Thorpe* in Foxe *A. & M.* (1583) I. 534 For as mikle as your asking passeth my vnderstanding, I dare neither deny it nor graunt it. 1563 J. Davioson in *Wodrow Misc.* (1844) I. 192 For that war als mekle to say as God had appointit the Kirk to be judge betuix the thing that is and is not. *a* 1572 Knox *Hist. Ref.* Wks. 1846 I. 283 Never twa of thame universsallie aggreing in all pointis, in samekle as thei ar of men.

†**2.** (*The*) *mickle*: those who are great. *Obs.*

c 1220 *Bestiary* 548 Ðo arn ðe litle in leue laȝe, Ðe mikle ne maiȝ he to him draȝen. *a* 1400 *Octavian* 1 Lytyll and mykyll, olde and yonge, Lystenyth now to my talkynge.

II. *sb.*

†**3.** Size, stature; bigness. *Obs.*

c 1369 Chaucer *Dethe Blaunche* 454 A wonder wel faryngne knyght..Of good mochel [*v.r.* mykil] and right yong therto. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 142 Bot mon most I algate mynn hym to bene, & þat þe myriest in his muckel þat myȝt ride. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xvi. 182 Þre leodes in o lith non lenger þan other, Of one mochel & myȝte in mesure and in lengthe. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 6246 Ector..Of whose mykill, & might, & mayn strenght, Dares..duly me tellus. *c* 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) xxi. 96 Þe mykill of a mannes thee. *Ibid.* xxii. 103 Þai er riȝt faire and wele proporciound of þaire mykill. 1622 Drayton *Poly-olb.* xxviii. 335 Stones of a Spherick forme of sundry Mickles fram'd.

4. A large sum or amount. Chiefly in proverb, *Many a little* (or *pickle*) *makes a mickle.*

1599 Middleton *Micro-Cynicon* Wks. (Bullen) VIII. 126 Some little dirty spot..Nothing in many's view, in her's a mickle. 1605 Camden *Rem., Prov.* (1614) 310 Many a little makes a micle. 1712 Steele *Spect.* No. 509 ᵖ 6 But, I think, a Speculation upon Many a Little makes a Mickle.. would be very useful to the World. 1905 *Westm. Gaz.* 29 Apr. 3/1 Mony a pickle maks a muckle.

C. *adv.* [OE. has in advb. use several cases of the adj.: accus. neut. *micel*, genit. *micles* (early ME. *mucheles*), dat. pl. *miclum*, instrumental *micle*.]

1. To a great extent or degree; greatly; by far. Also in relative sense with *as*, *how*, *so* (see the corresponding use of Much *adv.*).

In Sc. *so mickle* was in 16–17th c. often written *sameikill.*

a. *c* 897 K. Ælfred *Gregory's Past. C.* ix. 60 Se læce bið micles to hald..þe [etc.]. *a* 1000 *Cædmon's Gen.* 2713 Ic þegnum þinum dyrnde & sylfum þe swiðost micle. *c* 1250 *Kent. Serm.* in *O. E. Misc.* 26 Herodes i-herde þet o king was i-bore þet solde hi king of geus, swo was michel anud. *a* 1325 *Prose Psalter* lii[i]. 7 He was michel worþ in his vanite. *c* 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 841 Kynge Edgar was so mechel adredde. *a* 1425 *Cursor M.* 451 (Trin.) To god hym self wolde he be pere Not pere alone but mychel more.

β. *a* 1200 *Moral Ode* 258 Þo þe sungede muchel a drunke and an ete. *c* 1205 Lay. 3201 He mochul a þa wodeloker wilnede þeos mædenes. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 292 Muchel luuede he us. *c* 1275 *Wom. Samaria* 74 in *O. E. Misc.* 86 Þo byleuede þat folk mucheles þe more. 1340 *Ayenb.* 57 Mochel hi wolden ham wreþi. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* I. 386 And ouer al þis ȝet muchel more he þouȝt what for to speke. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 3442 Thy request Is not to mochel dishonest. *a* 1425 *Cursor M.* 10981 (Trin.) Muchel for riȝte shal he swynke.

γ. *c* 1220 *Bestiary* 235 De mire is maȝti, mikel ȝe swinkeð In sumer and in softe weder. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 4082 It bitidd mikel in þan dauus. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 1697 He triste to mykel on his myght. *a* 1340 Hampole *Psalter* Prol., In þe translacioun i follow þe lettre als mykyll as i may. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* 11 Mikyl walde he fle pride, þe prophete, als hali writ sais. *c* 1420 *Sir Amadace* (Camden) xx, On the dede cors..Ful myculle his thoȝte was on! 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* x. xiii. 434 Kynge Marke rode after hym prayesynge hym mykel. 1526 Skelton *Magnyf.* 1289 He wyll make it mykyll worse than it is. *c* 1620 A. Hume *Brit. Tongue* (1865) 13 They usurped y, a voual not mikle different from i. 1859 T. Moore *Song Sol., Durham Dial.* iv. 10 How mickle better's the luv then weyne!

δ. *a* 1300–1400 *Cursor M.* 6565 (Gött.) Mekil haue i trauayled for ȝou. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 213 Mekyll comfordes me the crowne of this kyde realme. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 897 Þen merualid þam þe messangirs mekill of his speche. 1533 Gau *Richt Vay* (1888) 4, I traistit mekil of siclik orisons. 1573 Tyrie *Refut. Knox* To Rdr. 1 Thair is within his buke.. sum thinges nocht meakle appertenand to the caus. 1588 A. King tr. *Canisius' Catech.* 66 Thay ar mair..to be lamentit, yat thay traist samekle in yair auin blinde iudgment. *a* 1600 Montgomerie *Misc. Poems* iii. 10 Sho is mair mobile mekle nor the mone. 1616 J. Maitland *Apol. W. Maitland* in *Scot. Hist. Soc. Misc.* (1904) II. 166 Abot of Londores he never wes, nor zit President of the Session, mekle les of the Privie Councell. 1813 E. Picken *Misc. Poems* II. 80 He reek'dna meikle on their trim. 1839 W. M'Dowall *Poems* 39 (E.D.D.) Meikle wish'd the coming light Might be fu' clear an' sinny.

ε. 1786 Burns *Brigs of Ayr* 175 Ye've said enough, And muckle mair than ye can mak to through. 1818 Scott *Br. Lamm.* viii, I think it may do—I think it might pass, if they winna bring it ower muckle in the light o' the window! 1893 Crockett *Stickit Minister*, etc. viii. 104, I would be muckle the better o't.

2. *Comb.*, as † *micklewise* adj., greatly wise.

1650 Bulwer *Anthropomet.* viii. 102 All which commodities our micklewise mothers defraud us of.

†**Mi·ckle,** *v. Obs. rare.* [OE. *miclian, mycclian*, f. *micel* Mickle *a.*] *trans.* To magnify. (In OE. also *intr.* to increase.)

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 13 Lufian we hine nu & his noman mycclian. *a* 1000 *Andreas* 1526 Myclade mereflod. *a* 1300 *E. E. Psalter* lxxi. 17 Alle genge mykel him þai salle.

†**Mi·ckledom, mu·ckledom.** *Obs. rare.* [f. Mickle *a.* + -dom.] Size, magnitude, greatness.

1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scotl.* I. 31 Almaist of that same mekledome. 1665 Sir J. Lauder *Jrnls.* (Scot. Hist. Soc.) 28 In the wery center..of the table is planted about the meikledoom of a truncher a beautifull green smaradyes. 1686 G. Stuart *Joco-ser. Disc.* 60 The muckledom of half a crown. 1681 W. Robertson *Phraseol. Gen.* (1693) 684 For the michel-dome or greatness of it.

†**Mi·cklehead, -hood.** *Obs.* Forms: *α.* 3 **mikelhode, mikelhade, mykelhede,** 4 **mikelhed**; *β.* 4 **moch-, mechelhede.** [f. Mickle + -head, -hood.] Greatness; fullness, abundance.

a. *a* 1300 *E. E. Psalter* viii. 2 For vpebouen es þi mykelhede [*v.r.* mikelhade, mikelhode; *Ags. Ps.* micelnis; *Vulg.* magnificentia] Ouer heuens þat ere brade. *Ibid.* xxviii. 3 God of masthede [*v.r.* mosthed, mikelhed] þonnered he Ouer watres fele þat be. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 13324 Vnder an hil he [Arthur] set þem þere..þat when þe Romayns on þem had sight, þe mikelhed schuld make þem aflight.

β. *a* 1300 *Floriz & Bl.* (Camb. MS.) 51 Þu art hire ilich of alle þinge, Boþe of semblaunt and of murninge, Of fairnesse and of muchelhede. 1340 *Ayenb.* 93 O god hou is nou grat þe muchelhede of þine zuetnesse. *Ibid.* 204 Vor be þe mochelhede of þe herte þe mouþ spekþ þet zayþ our lhord ine his spelle. *Ibid.* 218 Hy..makeþ þe greate to mochelhedes and eteþ þe blodi snoden. *a* 1400 *Prymer* (1891) 26 Prayse ȝe hym aftir the mechelhede of his gretehed. *c* 1400 *Lay Folks Mass Bk.* App. iii. 125 For whi lord in helynge of my deedly sykenesse schal wel be schewyd and commendyd þe michilheed of þi goodnesse.

Micklemote, micklegemote (mi·k'lmōut, -gĕmōut). *OE. Hist.* (Now *rare* or *Obs.*) [ad. OE. *micel gemót* great meeting: see Mickle *a.* and Moot *sb.*] The great council or parliamentary assembly under the Anglo-Saxon kings.

[*OE. Chron.* an. 977 (MS. C.) Her wæs þæt myccle ȝemot æt Kyrtlingtune.] 1647 N. Bacon *Disc. Govt. Eng.* I. xx. (1739) 36 Unto the Kings, Lords, and Clergy, must be added, as I said, the Freemen, to make up the Micklemote compleat. 1672–5 Comber *Comp. Temple* (1702) 560 A Micelgemot or Great Council (now called a Parliament). *a* 1683 Stoney *Disc. Govt.* III. xxviii. (1704) 349 Sometimes meeting personally in the Micklegemots. 1832 Austin *Jurispr.* (1879) II. xxviii. 536 The Mickle-mote or Wittenage-mote of the Anglo-Saxons was both the legislature and a court of justice.

1844 LD. BROUGHAM *Brit. Const.* x. (1862) 131 Whether a Great Council or a Witenagemote, or a Michelgemote, or a Colloquium, or a Parliament.

Mickleness (mi·k'lnės). *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Forms: see MICKLE *a.* [f. MICKLE *a.* + -NESS.] Greatness, 'bigness' (in any sense); largeness; size.

a. *a* 1300 *E. E. Psalter* xxviii. 4 Steuen ofe tauerd in mikelnes [*v. r.* micelnisse, *Vulg.* magnificentia]. *Ibid.* l. 2 And after of þi reuthes þe mikelnes þou do awai mi wickednes. *a* 1325 *Prose Psalter* v. 7 Ich am, Lord, in þe miclenes of þy mercy. 1382 WYCLIF *Baruch* ii. 18 The soule that is sori vp on the mykilnesse of euel,..3yueth to thee glorie. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xvii. 79 Men fyndez dyamaundes..of þe mykilnes of hesill nuttes. 14.. *MS. Lincoln* A. i. 17, lf. 28 (Halliw.) A grete multitude of swyne, that ware alle of a wonderfulle mekilnesse. 1868 ATKINSON *Cleveld. Gloss., Micklish*, pretty large; of something in which the quality of 'mickleness' exists.

β. c. 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 135 þe childes michelnesse shende þe engel on fuwer þingen. *a* 1325 *Prose Psalter* l[i]. 2 And efter þe mychelnes of þy pites do way my wickednes. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 19 In mychilnes of þi glorie þou didist doun alle myn adversaries. 1388 — *Gen.* xxxii. 12 The grauel of the see, that mai not be noumbrid for mychilnesse. — *Exod.* ix. 24 It was of so greet mychelnes ..sith that folk was maad.

Mickson, obs. form of MIXEN.

Micky (mi·ki). [Applications of *Micky*, familiarly used for *Michael*. Cf. MICK, MIKE *sb.*]

1. *Australian slang.* A young wild bull.

1881 A. C. GRANT *Bush-life in Queensland* xvi. (1882) 165 There are three or four Mickies and wild heifers. 1890 'R. BOLOREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* xviii. II. 98 The wary.. 'Micky', a two-year-old bull.

2. *U. S. slang.* An Irishman.

1890 BARRÈRE & LELAND *Dict. Slang, Mickey.*

Micle, -nes, obs. forms of MICKLE, -NESS.

‖ **Mico** (mī·ko). *Obs.* [Sp. *mico*, a. Tupi *micó*, = Carib *mecou*, applied to various species of monkey.] A small South American marmoset of the genus *Hapale.*

1760–72 tr. *Juan & Ulloa's Voy.* (ed. 3) I. 55 Among the monkies of this country [Carthagena], the most common are the micos, which are also the smallest. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1824) II. 158 The last, least, and most beautiful of all [the sagoins], is the Mico. 1867–8 *Nat. Encycl.* IX. 36 *Mico*, a beautiful species of monkey.

Micracoustic (məikrăkau·stik), *a.* and *sb.* Also erron. 8–9 microcoustic. [a. F. *micracoustique*, f. Gr. *μῑκρό-s* small + *ἀκουατικός* ACOUSTIC *a.*]

A. *adj.* Epithet of an instrument which makes weak sounds audible.

1855 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex., Microcoustic.* *a* 1874 J. CHALMERS tr. *Erckmann-Chatrian* in *Casq. Lit.* V. 304/2 My micracoustic cornet. 1890 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

†B. *sb.* An instrument contrived to magnify small sounds (Chambers *Cycl. Supp.* 1753). *Obs.*

1683 *Phil. Trans.* XIV. 482 Microphones or Micracousticks that is Magnifying ear instruments. 1704 in J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I.

Micræsthete (məikre·sθīt). *Biol.* [f. Gr. *μῑκρό-s* small + *αἰσθητής* 'one who perceives' (here used for 'organ of sense').] One of the numerous supposed tactile organs occupying the small pores (micropores) in the dorsal plates of certain chitons.

1884 MOSELEY in *Rep. Brit. Assoc.* (1885) 781 These megalæsthetes and micræsthetes. 1885 — in *Q. Jrnl. Microsc. Sci.* XXV. 45 To the organs contained within the micropores I shall give the name micræsthetes.

Micrallantoid (məikrălæ·ntoid), *a. rare.* [f. MICR(O)- + ALLANTOID.] Having a small allantois. (Cf. MEGALLANTOID, MESALLANTOID.)

1877 W. TURNER *Hum. Anat.* II. 869 Milne Edwards has grouped them [the Rodentia, Insectivora, Cheiroptera, Quadrumana, and Man] together in a Micrallantoid legion.

Micrander (məikræ·ndəɹ). *Bot.* Also -dre. [f. Gr. *μῑκρό-s* small + *ἀνδρ-*, *ἀνήρ* male.] A dwarf male plant produced by certain confervoid algæ.

1890 in *Century Dict.* 1900 JACKSON *Gloss. Bot.*

Hence **Micra·ndrous** *adj.*, pertaining to or connected with the dwarf males of fresh-water algæ (*Cassell's Encycl. Dict.* Suppl. 1902).

‖ **Micranthro·pos.** *nonce-wd.* [Assumed Gr., f. *μῑκρ-ός* small + *ἄνθρωπος* man, after MICROCOSM.] That which represents the whole man in little.

1825 COLERIDGE *Aids Refl.* Concl. 389.

Micrencephaly (məikrense·fāli). *Path.* [f. Gr. *μῑκρό-s* small + *ἐγκέφαλος* brain.] General smallness of the brain, sometimes, but not necessarily accompanied by microcephaly (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1890). Hence **Micrencepha·lic** *a.*, of or belonging to micrencephaly (*Ibid.*). **Micrence·phalous** *a.*, small-brained; having a small brain (*Cent. Dict.* 1890).

Micrify (məi·krifəi), *v.* [Irregularly f. Gr. *μῑκρό-s* small, after *magnify.*] *trans.* To make small; to render insignificant.

1836 EMERSON *Nature* 67 This power which he [the poet] exerts..to magnify the small, to micrify the great. 1862 TYNDALL *Mountaineer.* viii. 71, I should look less cheerily into the future did I not hope to micrify, by nobler work, my episodes upon the glaciers.

Micristology (məikristɒ·lŏdʒi). *Biol.* [Irregularly f. MICRO- + HISTOLOGY.] (See quot.)

1864 THOMAS *Med. Dict., Micristology*, the science which treats of the minutest organic fibres.

Micro (məi·krɔ). *Ent.* [Subst. use of MICRO- in *microlepidoptera, microcoleoptera.*] A name applied by collectors to any insect belonging to a group notably smaller than the remaining insects of the same kind, esp. one of the microlepidoptera.

1890 in *Century Dict.*

Micro- (məi·krɔ), before a vowel **micr-**, repr. Gr. *μῑκρο-*, comb. form of *μῑκρός* small, used chiefly in scientific terms.

1. Prefixed to a sb. to indicate that the object denoted by it is of relatively small size or extent, as *microbacillus, -bacterium, -conidium, -ferment, -fungus, -gamete, -gonidium*, rarely in anglicized form *-gonid* (hence *-gonidial* adj.), *-parasite* (hence *-parasitic* adj.), *-pore* (hence *-porous* adj.), *-sporophyll* (hence *-phyllary* adj.), *-zoogonidium.* **Mi·croblast** *Biol.* = MICROCYTE. **Microgame·tocyte** *Biol.*, a cell containing microgametes. **Mi·cror(h)abd** *Zool.*, a name given by Sollas to certain minute flesh-spicules in the form of a 'rhabdus' found in some sponges. **Mi·crosclere** *Zool.*, a minute or flesh spicule of a sponge, which supports only a single cell; hence **Microscle·rous** *a.*, having the character of a microsclere (*Cent. Dict.* 1890). **Microse·ptum** *Zool.*, a small imperfect or sterile septum or mesentery of an actinozoan (*Ibid.*). **Mi·crosphere,** ‖ **Microsphæ·ra** *Biol.*, (*a*) epithet applied by Cohn to the micrococci found in vaccine lymph and in small-pox pustules; (*b*) the small initial chamber of a foraminifer in which there are a number of small nuclei; hence **Microspheric** *a.* **Mi·crostome** [Gr. *στόμα* mouth] *Bot.*, a small mouth or orifice, as that belonging to the capsule of certain mosses (*Cent. Dict.*). **Microtylote** *Zool.*, a small TYLOTE. **Microxea** *Zool.* [Gr. *ὀξία*, var. *ὀξύα* spear], a minute spear-shaped sponge spicule. **Microzoogoni·dium** (*pl.* -ia) *Bot.*, a zoogonidium of minute size. **Microzoospore** *Bot.*, a minute motile spore.

1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 904 The *microbacillus of Unna. 1875 tr. *von Ziemssen's Cycl. Med.* I. 588 *Microbacteria (rod-like bacteria); bacterium termo. 1890 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, Microblast. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 528 These [corpuscles] according to their sizes have been named normoblasts, megaloblasts, and *microblasts. 1871 COOKE *Handbk. Brit. Fungi* II. 776 Hypomycetes... *Microconidia or Conidia proper very copious. 1883 H. I. SLACK in *Knowledge* 1 June 323/1 Former articles upon *micro-ferments afford some information concerning .. the bacillus. 1874 *Hardwicke's Sci.-Gossip* 256 That rare and interesting *Micro-fungus *Xenodochus carbonarius.* 1891 HARTOG in *Nature* 17 Sept. 484 *Microgamete. 1905 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 25 Feb. 442 After entering the stomach of the gnat, the *microgametocytes .. produce microgametes. 1857 BERKELEY *Cryptog. Bot.* § 123, The *micro-gonidia, which are supposed to be true antheridia, have..been described. 1884 HYATT in *Proc. Boston Soc. Nat. Hist.* XXIII. 67 These zoons..assume characteristics of true males or *microgonids. 1890 *Century Dict.*, *Microgonidial. 1884 *Science* 1 Feb. 130/1 The number of substances which are less injurious to man than to *micro-parasites is very small. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 196 Febrile *micro-parasitic type. 1884 MOSELEY in *Rep. Brit. Assoc.* (1885) 781 A series of smaller pores (*micropores'). 1885 — in *Q. Jrnl. Microsc. Sci.* XXV. 40, I shall call them megalopores and micropores. 1890 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Microporous. 1887 SOLLAS in *Encycl. Brit.* XXII. 423/1 The flesh spicules when present are usually *microrabds or spirasters. *Ibid.* 417/2 It is doubtful whether a distinction between megascleres and *microscleres can be maintained in the calcareous sponges. 1875 tr. *von Ziemssen's Cycl. Med.* II. 381 In the blood..he has demonstrated the *microspheres. 1891 DALLINGER *Carpenter's Microsc.* xiv. 727 The 'microsphere' is followed by a larger number of chambers. 1894 LISTER in *Phil. Trans.* CLXXXVI. 437 The microspheres in the two *microspheric examples measure 15 × 12·5 μ and 13 × 11 μ. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 83 The microspheræ previously referred to as infesting the amœba. 1898 SEDGWICK *Text-bk. Zool.* I. 9 The intervening stages between the zoospore, produced by the megalospheric form, and the microsphere. 1895 VINES *Textbk. Bot.* I. 432 In .. Phanerogams..the *microsporophylls are morphologically simpler. *Ibid.* 78 When .. the flower includes only microsporophylls, it is called *microsporophyllary. 1887 SOLLAS in *Encycl. Brit.* XXII. 417 (Fig. 17), *Microscleres .. r*, *microtylote. *Ibid.*, *Microscleres .. n*, oxyaster; .. *q*, the same, with two actines (a centrotylote *microxea). 1882 VINES tr. *Sachs' Bot.* 257 Other of the cells..give birth to 16 or 32 *microzoogonidia. 1875 *Q. Jrnl. Microsc. Sci.* XV. 396 *Microzoospores (which conjugate, but otherwise in most cases appear incapable of germination).

2. Prefixed to sbs. and derived adjs. to denote 'microscopic' in the sense 'with the microscope', 'revealed by the microscope'.

a. Denoting operations or branches of research carried on by means of microscopic examination, as *micro-analysis, -cautery, -chemistry* (hence *-chemic, -chemical*, adjs., *-chemically* adv.), *-crystallogeny, -crystallography, -geology* (hence *-geological* adj., *-geologist* sb.), *-metallography* (hence *-metallographer*), *-mineralogy* (hence *-mineralogical* adj.), *-pathology* (hence *-pathological* adj., *-pathologist* sb.), *-petrology* (hence *-petrologist*), *-physics, -physiography, -zoology.*

1856 HIGHLEY in *Q. Jrnl. Microsc. Sci.* IV. 224 *Micro-Analysis. 1904 tr. *Osmond's Microsc. Anal. Metals* 65 (*heading*) Micro-analysis of carbon steels. 1899 *Allbutt's *Syst. Med.* VIII. 835 The *micro-cautery has been used also with fair results. 1890 *Syd. Soc. Lex.* s. v., **Microchemic a.*, of or pertaining to micro-chemistry. 1856 HIGHLEY in *Q. Jrnl. Microsc. Sci.* IV. 221 An instrument of structural, physical, *micro-chemical, and crystallological research. 1847–9 *Todd's Cyl. Anat.* IV. 137/2 *Microchemically the cells of cancer are insoluble in cold and boiling water. 1890 *Syd. Soc. Lex.* s. v., **Micro-chemistry*, the chemical examination of minute bodies under the microscope. 1856 HIGHLEY in *Q. Jrnl. Microsc. Sci.* IV. 124 *Micro-Crystallogeny. *Ibid.* 223 *Micro-Crystallography. 1875 DAWSON *Dawn of Life* v. 104 The *micro-geologist well knows how..mineral matter in solution can penetrate the smallest openings that the microscope can detect. 1857 *Amer. Jrnl. Sci.* Ser. II. XXIV. 434 *Micro-geology of Ehrenberg. 1862 STODDART in *Q. Jrnl. Microsc. Sci.* II. 147 On Micro-Geology. 1895 *Nature* 15 Aug. 367/2 It may be that the *micro-metallographer has much to learn from the Japanese. *Ibid.* 367/1 The progress which has been made in *micro-metallography during the past ten years. 1856 HIGHLEY in *Q. Jrnl. Microsc. Sci.* IV. 223 The instruments of *Micro-Mineralogical research. 1887 BONNEY in *Q. Jrnl. Geol. Soc.* XLIV. 44 The result is micro-mineralogical change only. 1856 HIGHLEY in *Q. Jrnl. Microsc. Sci.* IV. 220 (*title*) Contributions to *Micro-Mineralogy. 1879 RUTLEY *Stud. Rocks* vii. 47 The special study of *micro-petrology. *Ibid.* xiii. 268 A determination of their precise origin is a difficult exercise for *micro-petrologists. 1885 *Athenæum* 11 Apr. 477/2 He had met with a success that gave him pre-eminence in this department of *micro-physics, and that was the preparation of the diamond ruling points. 1872 *Q. Jrnl. Microsc. Sci.* XII. 409 *Microzoology.

b. Denoting properties revealed by microscopic examination, as *micro-character, foliation, structure.*

1890 *Century Dict.*, **Microcharacter*, any zoological character derived from microscopic or other minute examination. 1887 BONNEY in *Q. Jrnl. Geol. Soc.* XLIV. 44 A *microfoliation only is produced, which..appears to be parallel to the original stratification. 1885 GEIKIE *Text-bk. Geol.* (ed. 2) 136 *Micro-structure. 1898 *Engineering Mag.* XVI. 155/1 The Microstructure of Bearing Metals.

c. Denoting objects prepared for microscopic examination, as *micro-section, -slide.*

1890 *Century Dict.*, **Microsection*, a slice, as of rock, cut so thin as to be more or less transparent, and mounted on a glass in convenient form to be studied with the aid of the microscope.

3. *Phys.* and *Path.*, in sbs. of mod.L. form in *-ia*, compounded with Gr. names for different parts or functions of the body, and signifying arrested development of the part or function in question, as **Microcepha·lia** (see MICROCEPHALY). **Microglo·ssia,** congenital smallness of the tongue (Mayne *Expos. Lex.* 1856). **Microphtha·lmia** (also anglicized **Mi·crophthalmy**) [Gr. *ὀφθαλμός* eye], 'a Disease in the Eyes, the having little Eyes' (Bailey, 1731); hence **Microphtha·lmic** *a.* **Micro·psia** [Gr. *-οψία* kind of vision], term for the state of vision in which objects appear smaller than natural (Mayne).

1856 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, **Microphthalmia*, term for a morbid shrinking or wasting of the eye-balls; microphthalmy. 1849 CRAIG, **Microphthalmy*, a preternatural or morbid smallness of the eyes. 1868 DARWIN *Anim. & Pl.* II. 24 Two sons were *microphthalmic. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 107 *Micropsia, or macropsia may be associated with the monocular diplopia.

4. Prefixed to an adj. with the sense 'containing or possessed of some object or constituent in minute form, quantity or degree', as **Micro-aëro·philous** [Gr. *ἀερ-*, *ἀήρ* air, *φίλ-ος* friend: see -OUS] *Bot.*, needing but little free oxygen (Jackson *Gloss. Bot.* 1900). **Microca·rpous** [Gr. *καρπός* fruit] *Bot.*, having small fruit; also applied to mosses, having small urns (Mayne *Expos. Lex.* 1856). **Microce·ratous, -cerous** [Gr. *κέρας* horn] *Ent.*, having small antennæ (*Ibid.*). **Micro-cla·stic** [CLASTIC] *Geol.*, minutely clastic. **Micro-da·ctylous** *Path.* [Gr. *δάκτυλος* digit], having small digits (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1890). **Mi·crodont** *Anat.* [Gr. *ὀδοντ-*, *ὀδούς* tooth], having small or short teeth. **Microdo·ntous** [f. prec.], in the same sense (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*). **Micro-ele·ctric,** having electric properties in a very small degree (*Cent. Dict.*). **Mi·croförm** *Bot.*, epithet of a heteroecious fungus with teleutospores only, which require a period of rest before germinating (Jackson *Gloss. Bot.*). **Microgranuli·tic** *Geol.* (see quot.). **Microlepido·tous** *Zool.* [Gr. *λεπιδωτός* scaly, f. *λεπιδ-*, *λεπίς* scale], having very small scales (Mayne). **Micro-pe·talous** *Bot.* [Gr. *πέταλος* a petal], having very small petals (Craig 1849). **Microphy·llous** *Bot.* [Gr. *φύλλον* leaf], having small leaves (Smart 1840). **Microporphyri·tic** *Geol.*, consisting of porphyritic rock in which the felspar or other crystals are of microscopic size. **Microptery·gious** *Zool.* [Gr. *πτέρυξ* fin], having small fins (Mayne). **Microspe·rmous** *Bot.* [Gr. *σπέρμα* seed], having very small seeds or grains (Mayne). **Microspheruli·tic** *Geol.*, characterized by the presence of microscopic spherulites. **Mi·crospined,** furnished with minute spines or spicules. **Microsple·nic** *Path.*, not accompanied by enlargement of the spleen; **Microsto·matous, micro·stomous** [Gr. *στοματ-*, *στόμα* mouth], having a small mouth

(Mayne). **Microsty·lar** *Arch.*, having a small style or column, epithet applied to a form of architecture in which there is a separate small order to each floor (Ogilvie, 1882).

1888 Teall *Brit. Petrogr.* 439 **Microclastic*, an epithet applied by Naumann to such clastic rocks as are composed of small fragments. 1884 Flower in *Jrnl. Anthrop. Inst.* XIV. 185 The *Microdont section, containing all the so-called Caucasian or white races. *Ibid.*, Microdont Races. 1885 Geikie *Text-bk. Geol.* (ed. 2) 109 Where the minerals are grouped in small isolated grain-like individuals,..the structure has been named by French petrographers *granulitic*, or where only discernible by the aid of the microscope, **micro-granulitic*. 1878 Lawrence tr. *Cotta's Rocks Class.* 67 *Micro-porphyritic textures or structures of rock. 1879 Rutley *Stud. Rocks* xi. 185 Rocks in which very small isolated crystals occur only being spoken of as micro-porphyritic. 1885 Geikie *Text-bk. Geol.* (ed. 2) 111 In many cases spherulites are only recognisable with the microscope, when they each present a black cross between crossed Nicol-prisms, and thereby characteristically reveal the *micro-spherulitic structure. 1881 P. M. Duncan in *Jrnl. Linn. Soc.* XV. 324 These..have flesb-spicula acerate, fusiform, curved and *microspined. 1905 H. D. Rolleston *Dis. Liver* 318 Gilbert .. speaks of this as the *microsplenic or asplenomegalic form of biliary cirrhosis.

5. a. *Physics.* Prefixed to the name of a unit to form a name for one-millionth part of that unit, as *micro-ampere*, *-coulomb*, *-farad*, *-gramme* (Webster 1902), *-litre* (*Cent. Dict.* 1890), *-millimetre* (see also below), *-ohm*, *-volt*, *-weber*. **b.** In microscopic botany, *micro-millimetre* has by some been used for one-thousandth of a millimetre.

[1873 *Rep. Brit. Assoc.* 224 For multiplication or division by a million, the prefixes *mega* and *micro* may conveniently be employed.] 1904 *Westm. Gaz.* 16 July 10/3 A *micro-ampere is the millionth part of an ampere. 1892 *Gloss. Electr. Terms* 12 in *Lightning* 3 Mar. Supp., *Microcoulomb. 1873 *Rep. Brit. Assoc.* 224 The *microfarad is the millionth part of a farad. 1890 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, **Micro-gramme*. A measure of weight..it is equivalent to the one thousandth of a milligramme. 1868 L. Clark *Electr. Meas.* 43 One millionth part of an ohm = 1 *microhm. 1884 Flint *Princ. & Pract. Med.* (ed. 5) 62 Whose size is between two and six *micromillimetres. 1887 tr. *Nägeli & Schwendener's Microscope* 293 Harting's proposal to use the micromillimetre (= ·001 mm.) as the standard of unity deserves general acceptance. 1868 L. Clark *Electr. Meas.* 43 One millionth of a volt = 1 *microvolt. 1896 *Jrnl. Soc. Arts* 10 July 701/1 *Microwebers × linkages = microcoulombs × ohms.

6. Prefixed to the names of certain instruments, as: **Micro-audiphone**, an instrument for reinforcing or augmenting very feeble sounds (*Cent. Dict.* 1890). **Micro-barograph**, an instrument designed to magnify the minor fluctuations of atmospheric pressure. **Micro-battery**, a very small galvanic battery (Knight *Dict. Mech.* Suppl. 1884). **Micro-detector**, a sensitive galvanoscope (*Cent. Dict.*). **Micropantograph**, an instrument invented by Mr. Peters in 1852 for the production of microscopically small writing (Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1875). **Micro-polariscope**, a polariscope for the analysis of microscopic objects. **Micro-refractometer**, a refractometer specially constructed for the detection of differences in the minute structure of blood corpuscles. **Micro-rheometer**, an instrument for measuring the rate of flow of liquids through a capillary tube; hence **Microrheome·trical** *a.*, pertaining to or indicated by a microrheometer (*Cassell's Encycl. Dict.* 1885). **Micro-tasimeter**, an instrument invented in 1878 by T. A. Edison for measuring infinitesimal pressure. **Micro-telephone**, a telephone constructed to render audible very weak sounds; hence **Micro-telepho·nic** *a.* (*Cent. Dict.*).

1904 *Athenæum* 31 Dec. 911/3 The authors described an apparatus called the '*micro-barograph'. 1878 *Eng. Mechanic* 23 Aug. 602 A *Micro-battery for the Microphone. 1867 J. Hogg *Microsc.* I. ii. 147 The powers of the *micro-polariscope cannot be better displayed than in the exhibition of the foregoing phenomena. 1886 *Athenæum* 27 Mar. 427/1 Mr. Crisp exhibited .. Prof. Exner's new *micro-refractometer. 1879 *Proc. Roy. Soc.* XXVIII. 280 The author [J. B. Hannay] proposes to use for liquids the term 'Micro-rheosis',..the instrument being called the *microrheometer. 1878 *Jrnl. Franklin Inst.* CVI. 173 Edison's *Micro-tasimeter. 1881 *Athenæum* 12 Feb. 238/2 Father Deuza, the Italian astronomer, has been making some experiments with the *micro-telephone.

Micro-aërophilous, -ampere, -analysis, -audiphone: see Micro- 4, 5, 2, 6.

Microbacillus, -bacterium: see Micro- 1.

Microbal (məikrō·u·băl), *a. Biol.* [f. Microbe + -al.] = Microbial.

1888 *Med. News* 12 May 506 Careful covering of the wound to guard against microbal invasion.

Micro-barograph, -battery: see Micro- 6.

Microbe (məi·krōub). *Biol.* [a. F. *microbe* (Sédillot 7 March 1878 in *Comptes rendus Acad. Sci.* LXXXVI. 634), f. Gr. *μῑκρό-s* small + *βίος* life.

The Gr. *βίος* is here, as in mod. scientific formations generally, used in an incorrect sense: see Bio-. The sense of Gr. **μικροβιος* would be 'short lived'.]

An extremely minute living being, whether plant or animal; chiefly applied to the bacteria concerned in causing diseases and fermentation.

1881 *Times* 1 Feb. 5/6 A small organism, or microbe, which ..he finds good reason to regard as the agent of the malady. 1893 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 20 May 1084 Ice..has been found to contain dangerous microbes. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 546 The meningitis may be produced by a growth of microbes.

Microbia, pl. of Microbion.

Microbial (məikrō·u·biăl), *a. Biol.* [f. Microbi-on + -al.] Of or pertaining to microbes; due to or produced by microbes.

1887 *19th Cent.* Aug. 244 There is a considerable difference found in the microbial richness of the air in different places. 1898 *Nature* 10 Feb. 355/2 Alcohol in relation to microbial diseases. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 471 Rheumatism is..due to an infection..by an agent of microbial nature.

So **Micro·bian** *a.*, in the same sense.

1883 *American* XVI. 318 Positively alive with microbian organisms. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 34 The bronchitis is secondary to the microbian invasion.

Microbic (məikrō·u·bik), *a. Biol.* [f. Microbe + -ic.] = prec.

1881 *Lancet* Apr. 553/1 M. Pasteur did not assert that this was the special microbic organism of rabies. 1905 H. D. Rolleston *Dis. Liver* 329 It is .. remarkable that ..microbic infection does not more often occur.

Microbicide (məikrō·u·bisəid), *sb.* and *a. Biol.* [f. Microbe + -(i)cide 1.]

A. *sb.* Something that kills microbes.

1887 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 12 Mar. 588 Many microbicides .. may therefore be employed subcutaneously.

B. *adj.* Microbicidal.

1885 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* II. 1097/1 The sulphates of copper and zinc..have an effective microbicide power. 1890 *Fortn. Rev.* XLVIII. 87 *note*, Essences and spices are to a very high degree microbicide.

Hence **Microbici·dal** *a.*, pertaining to the killing of microbes.

1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 715 The use of..microbicidal agents. 1904 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 10 Sept. 561 The microcytase being chiefly concerned with microbicidal action.

Microbiology (məikrɔi,bəiɔ·lŏdʒi). *Biol.* [f. Micro- + Biology.] The science which treats of micro-organisms; the study of microbes.

1888 *Pop. Sci. Monthly* XXXIII. 341 There was great reason for creating in the Faculty of Sciences the chair of Microbiology. 1892 *Nature* 20 Aug. 366/1 Important as are the researches into microbiology, there are other factors to reckon with. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 347 Microbiology has thrown great light upon this..idiopathic pleurisy.

Hence **Microbiolo·gical** *a.*, of or pertaining to microbiology; **Microbio·logist**, a student of microbiology.

1885 *Science* V. 73 Ideas which are just now very prominent in the minds of microbiologists. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 900 This..extremely delicate micro-biological method.

‖ **Microbion** (məikrō·u·biŏn). *Biol.* Pl. **microbia**. Mod. Latin form of Microbe.

1883 *Athenæum* 27 Oct. 538/1 The treatment of diseases due to microbia. 1884 *Science* IV. 145/1 These [reports]..by no means demonstrate that the active principle of cholera resides in a microbion.

Microbious (məikrō·u·biəs), *a.* [f. Microbion + -ious.] = Microbial (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1890).

Microblast, -carpous, -cautery: see Micro- 1, 4, 2.

‖ **Microcephale** (məikrɔse·fēil). *Path.* [a. F. *microcéphale.*] = Microcephalus 1.

1878 Bartley tr. *Topinard's Anthrop.* v. 165 All in whom the brain has not attained a certain degree of development, or the cranial cavity a given capacity at adult age, are termed microcephales. 1893 *Westm. Gaz.* 19 Apr. 2/3 Idiots, especially microcephales, have flattened retreating foreheads.

Microcephali, -lia: see Microcephalus, -ly.

Microcephalic (məikrɔsĭfæ·lik), *a.* and *sb. Path.* and *Anthropology.* [ad. F. *microcéphalique*, f. mod.L. *mīcrocephal-us*: see Microcephalus and -ic.] **a.** *adj.* Pertaining to, or characterized by, microcephaly. **b.** *sb.* A microcephalic person.

1896 in Mayne *Expos. Lex.* 1864 W. Turner in *Q. Jrnl. Sci.* I. 257 Now the Neanderthal skull cannot be regarded as microcephalic. 1873 *Eng. Cycl., Arts & Sci.* Suppl. 1552 *Microcephalics*, persons with small heads. This deformity is associated with mental defect. 1879 Maudsley *Pathol. Mind* v. 176 A microcephalic idiot. 1880 *Nature* 8 Jan. 224/1 The now extinct Tasmanian race was..microcephalic.

Microcephalism (məikrɔse·fălizm). *Path.* [f. mod.L. *mīcrocephal-us* (see Microcephalus) + -ism.] = Microcephaly.

1861 *N. Syd. Soc. Year-bk. Med.* 2 Memoir on Microcephalism. 1879 tr. *De Quatrefages' Hum. Spec.* 111 Microcephalism, idiotcy, and crétinism constitute so many teratological or pathological states.

Microcephalous (məikrɔse·făləs), *a.* [f. mod.L. *mīcrocephal-us* (a. Gr. *μικροκέφαλος* small headed, f. *μικρό-s* small + *κεφαλ-ή* head) + -ous.] Small-headed. **a.** *Path.* and *Anthropology.* Having an abnormally small head; characterized by microcephaly. **b.** *Bot.* 'Applied to a plant that has flowers disposed in small heads' (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*).

1840 Smart, *Microcephalous*, little-headed, applied to the beryx, [a] fossil fish. 1871 Darwin *Desc. Man* I. iv. 121 The arrested brain-development of microcephalous idiots. 1872 — *Emotions* viii. 206 The eyes of microcephalous idiots ..brighten slightly when they are pleased. 1877 Black *Green Past.* iv. (1878) 34 Before I would marry one of those bedizened and microcephalous playthings.

‖ **Microcephalus** (məikrɔse·fălŭs). Pl. **microcephali** (-se·făləi). *Path.* [mod.L.: see prec.]

1. A person having an abnormally small skull.

1863 *N. Syd. Soc. Year-bk. Med.* 94 Healthy parents may produce one or several microcephali. 1879 tr. *De Quatrefages' Hum. Spec.* 111 Vogt has compared the brain of microcephali to that of the anthropomorphous apes.

2. [Cf. Hydrocephalus.] A pathological condition in which the smallness of the cranium prevents the proper development of the brain.

1897 L. E. Holt *Dis. Infancy* 702 The symptoms of microcephalus are those of idiocy and cerebral paralysis.

Microcephaly (məikrɔse·făli). Also in mod.L. form **microcephalia**. [ad. F. *microcéphalie*, f. mod.L. *mīcrocephal-us*: see Microcephalous.] The condition of having an abnormally small head, esp. **a.** in *Anthropology*, having a skull of a capacity less than 1350 cubic centimetres (Flower *Catal. Mus. Surg.* 1879); **b.** *Path.*, having an abnormally small or atrophied skull.

1863 Gore in *Anthrop. Rev.* I. 168 The valuable essay of Wagner on the subject (*Vorstudien*, Th. 2) of micro-cephaly. 1863 *N. Syd. Soc. Year-bk. Med.* 94 On Microcephalia. 1886 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 30 Jan. 184/2 The theory which attributes microcephaly to premature cranial syntosis.

Microceratous, -cerous, -character, -chemistry: see Micro- 4, 2.

Microclase (məi·krɔklē·s). *Min.* [ad. G. *mikroklas*, f. Gr. *μικρό-s* small + *κλάσις* cleavage.] A potash-soda felspar occurring intercrystallized with orthoclase, from the St. Gotthard, Switzerland (*Cassell's Encycl. Dict.* 1885).

Microclastic: see Micro- 4.

Microcline (məi·krɔkləin). *Min.* [ad. G. *mikroklin* (A. Breithaupt 1830), f. Gr. *μῑκρό-s* + *κλῖνειν* to incline, as indicating that the angle between its cleavage plane differs a little from 90 degrees.] A green and blue variety of felspar.

1849 Watts tr. *Gmelin's Handbk. Chem.* III. 442 Microcline [has] precisely the same composition as felspar. 1902 Miers *Min.* 459 Microcline is the name given to anorthic potash felspar.

attrib. 1888 F. H. Hatch in Teall *Brit. Petrogr.* 439 Microcline structure. The mineral microcline shows .. a cross hatching.

‖ **Micrococcus** (məikrɔi,kɔ·kŭs). *Biol.* Pl. **micrococci** (-kɔ·ksəi). [mod.L., f. Gr. *μῑκρό-s* small + *κόκκος* berry.] Any one of a genus of minute spherical or slightly oval organisms, generally regarded as fission-fungi, belonging to the biological group of *Sphærobacteria* or *Schizomycetes*.

1870 T. R. Lewis *Physiol. & Pathol. Res.* (1888) 4 A 'micrococcus colony'. *Ibid.* 29 Writers who advocate the pre-existence of a germ..to every living thing, this germ.. being called its 'micrococcus'. 1875 Darwin *Insectiv. Pl.* vii. 173 The smallest micrococci which are distinctly discernable under a power of 800 diameters are estimated to be from ·0002 to ·0005 of a millimetre..in diameter.

attrib. 1898 P. Manson *Trop. Diseases* xxxvii. 560 The little vesicles [of prickly heat] may pustulate, doubtless from micrococcus infection.

Hence **Micrococcal** (-kɔ·kăl) *a.*, relating to or caused by micrococci. **Micrococco·logist**, a student of micrococci.

1893 W. R. Gowers *Man. Dis. Nerv. Syst.* (ed. 2) II. 329 The micrococcal embolism of minute vessels. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 702 We must distinguish several kinds of that disease [diphtheria] (bacillary, micrococcal, and so forth). 1902 A. Lang in *Longm. Mag.* Apr. 568 An eminent micrococcologist.

‖ **Microcoleoptera** (məi·krɔ,kɔlĭɔ·ptĕră), *sb. pl. Ent.* [f. Micro- + Coleoptera.] The smaller kinds of coleoptera.

1872 Wood *Insects at Home* 220.

Microconidium: see Micro- 1.

Microcosm (məi·krɔkɔz'm). In 5 **mycrocosme**, 5–7 **microcosme**. Also occas. in L. and quasi-Gr. forms **microcosmus, -cosmos**, 3 *Ormin* **mycrocossmŏs**. [ad. F. *microcosme* (14th c.), ad. med.L. *mīcrocosmus*, *mīcroscosmus*, ad. late Gr. *μικρὸς κόσμος* (*μικρός* small, *κόσμος* world). Cf. Macrocosm.]

1. The 'little world' of human nature; man viewed as an epitome of the 'great world' or universe.

c 1200 Ormin 17595 Mycrocossmŏs, þat nemmnedd iss Affterr Englisshe spæche þe little wereld. 1426 Lydg. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 12370 Merveylle nat .. That thow be let in thy vyage,..Syth 'Mycrocosme', men the calle; And microcosme ys a word Wych clerkys calle 'the lasse world'. 1477 Norton *Ord. Alch.* v. in Ashm. (1652) 62 Wherefore amonge Creatures theis two alone Be called Microcosmus, Man and our Stone. 1570 Dee *Math. Pref.* c iiij, The description of him, who is the Lesse world: and, from the beginning, called Microcosmus (that is, The Lesse World). 1597 *1st Pt. Return fr. Parnass.* I. i. 281 What an unmanerlie microcosme was this swine-faced clowne. 1603 Florio *Montaigne* II. xii. (1632) 301 They have thence had reason to name it [man's Nature] Microcosmos, or little world. 1604 James I *Counterbl.* (Arb.) 102 The diuers parts of our Microcosme or little world within our selues. 1625 Hart *Anat. Ur.* I. i. 2 God..at last made man, that microcosme, or little world, as it were an epitome or abridgment of this great vniuersall world. 1663 Gerbier *Counsel* 34 The Dimensions the Creator hath been pleased to give to the Microcosme Man. 1727 De Foe *Syst. Magic* I. ii. 47 Among these, some studied the Microcosm of human Bodies, and search both Distemper and Medicin. 1768 Foote *Devil on 2 Sticks* I. Wks. 1799 II. 243 Woman..is

a microcosm, and rightly to rule her requires as great talents as to govern a state. 1838–9 HALLAM *Hist. Lit.* III. III. iii. § 19. 14 The doctrine of a constant analogy between universal nature, or the macrocosm, and that of man, or the microcosm. 1893 KROPOTKIN in *19th Cent.* Aug. 252 The molecule thus becomes a particle of the universe on a microscopic scale—a microcosmos which lives the same life.

¶ b. Jocularly used for 'body'.

a 1680 BUTLER *Rem.* (1759) II. 83 He puts both Ends of his Microcosm in Motion, by making Legs at one End, and combing his Peruque at the other.

¶ *nonce-use.* (See quot.)

1606 B. JONSON *Masques, Hymenæi* B 1 b, Here out of a Microcosme, or Globe (figuring Man)..issued forth the first Masque.

2. In extended sense, applied to a community or other complex unity regarded as presenting an epitome of the world, or as constituting 'a little world' in itself.

1562 EDEN *Let. to Sir W. Cecil* in *Decades* (Arb.) p. xliv, An experiment, wrought by arte to the similitude of the vniuersall frame of the worlde..and maye therfore in my iudgement more woorthely be cauled Michrocosmos, then eyther man or any other creature. 1587 GREENE *Euphues to Philautus* Wks. (Grosart) VI. 235 This city was Microcosmos, a little Worlde, in respect of the Cytties of Greece. 1590 in Tytler *Hist. Scotl.* (1864) IV. 179 This microcosme of Britain, separate from the continent world. 1791 BENTHAM *Panopt.* I. Postscr. 79 That scene of clock-work regularity which it would be so easy to establish in so compact a microcosm. 1814 SCOTT *Wav.* ii, The more judicious politicians of this microcosm. 1826 DISRAELI *Viv. Grey* I. ii, The microcosm of a public school. 1845 FORD *Handbk. Spain* I. 338 [Gibraltar] this microcosmus where all creeds and nations meet.

b. Adopted as the name of a travelling mechanical exhibition in the 18th c.

1756 B. LYNDE *Diaries* (1880) 182, P. M. went to see microcosms. *a* 1817 R. L. EDGEWORTH *Mem.* (1820) I. 110 By accident I was invited [in 1765] to see the Microcosm, a mechanical exhibition, which was then frequented by every body at Chester.

c. A 'miniature' representation *of*.

1808 ACKERMANN (*title*) The Microcosm of London, or London in Miniature. 1860 *All Year Round* No. 52. 36 He intended his wardrobe-shop to be a satirical microcosm of Petty France. 1872 MORLEY *Voltaire* vii. (ed. 2) 344 A microcosm of the whole battle. 1877 F. HEATH *Fern W.* 105 That microcosm of the Fern World, the case, or pot.

¶ d. In the 17th c. sometimes used (? ignorantly) for: A 'world', huge mass.

1611 CORYAT *Crudities* 79 It [a mountain] is couered with a very Microcosme of clowdes. 1641 CAPT. A. MERVIN in Rushw. *Hist. Coll.* III. (1692) I. 216 Let then that Microcosm of Letters Patents..rise up in Judgment.

†**3.** *Alch.* The philosopher's stone. *Obs.*

1477 [see 1].

Hence †**Microco·smal** *a.*, pertaining to or of the nature of a microcosm.

a 1644 QUARLES *Sol. Recant.* ch. xii. (1645) 58 Before the Sun, and Moon, and Stars appear Dark in thy Microcosmal Hemisphear. 1651 BIGGS *New Disp.* P 55 As if he were the microcosmall Councel of State's chief Physitian.

†**Microco·smetor.** *Obs.* Also *erron.* -meter. [mod.L. f. Gr. *μῑκρό-s* small + *κοσμήτωρ*, agent-n. f. *κοσμεῖν* to set in order, f. *κόσμος* COSMOS; after MICROCOSM.] Term used by Dolæus for the essence or principle of life. Hence †**Micro-cosmetoric** *a.* (Mayne *Expos. Lex.* 1856).

1684 *Phil. Trans.* XIV. 704 The *Anima Brutorum* with him is called Microcosmeter. 1725 FREIND *Hist. Physick* I. 265 Calling in to his aid his ancient good ally, Microcosmetor, Governor of the Animal Spirits, he gives battle to the disturbers of his rest.

Microcosmic (məikrǿkɒ·zmik), *a.* [f. MICROCOSM + -IC.]

1. Of or pertaining to a microcosm or 'little world'; of the nature of a microcosm.

1816 G. S. FABER *Orig. Pagan Idol.* III. 281 The imitative Caer-Sidee represented the microcosmic Ship resting on the top of the mountain. 1871 E. TAYLOR *Faust* iii. I. 65 Man, that microcosmic fool. 1893 HUXLEY *Evol. & Ethics* 13 The microcosmic atom should have found the illimitable macrocosm guilty.

2. *Microcosmic salt* [= L. *sal microcosmicus*, Bergmann *Opusc.* 1773 (ed. 1780) II. 12]: a phosphate of soda and ammonia ($HNaNH_4PO_4 + 4H_2O$), originally derived from human urine, and much used as a blow-pipe flux. †*Microcosmic acid*: phosphoric acid as obtained from this salt.

1783 WITHERING tr. *Bergmann's Outl. Min.* 36 A precipitate of cobalt..which makes a blue glass with borax or microcosmic salt. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XIV. 629–30 *Acid of Phosphorus.* This acid, called also the microcosmic acid, has already been described. 1816 *Encycl. Perth.* V. 566/1 Urine contains the fusible salt of urine, or microcosmic salt. 1902 MIERS *Mineral.* 271 The treatment in the bead of microcosmic salt.

Microcosmical (məikrǿkɒ·zmikăl), *a.* [Formed as prec. + -AL.] = prec. 1.

1570 DEE *Math. Pref.* c iiij b, Whereby, good profe will be had, of our Harmonious, and Microcosmicall constitution. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* II. iii. 69 This opinion confirmed would much advance the microcosmicall conceite, and commend the Geography of Paracelsus. 1790 SIBLY *Occult Sci.* (1792) I. 67 He [man] hath a microcosmical sun, moon, and stars within himself.

Microcosmography (məi·krǿkɒsmɒ·grăfi). ? *Obs.* [f. MICROCOSM + -(O)GRAPHY.] The description of the 'microcosm' or man. Also (*nonce-use*), microcosmic representation.

1606 BIRNIE *Kirk-Burial* Ded., Ye can see no singular thing that in some compendious Micro-cosmo-graphy does not shine in your self. 1628 EARLE (*title*) Micro-cosmographie, or, a Peece of the World Discovered; in Essayes and Characters. 1696 in PHILLIPS. 1856 in MAYNE *Expos. Lex.* In mod. Dicts.

Microcosmology (məikrǿkɒzmɒ·lŏdʒi). *rare.* [f. MICROCOSM + -(O)LOGY.] A treatise or dissertation on the 'little world' or human body.

1856 in MAYNE *Expos. Lex.* In mod. Dicts.

Microcoulomb: see MICRO- 5.

Microcoustic, erron. form of MICRACOUSTIC.

Microcrith (məi·krǿkriþ). *Physics.* [f. MICRO- + CRITH.] A unit of molecular weight; the half hydrogen-molecule.

1873 J. P. COOKE *New Chem.* (1874) 73, I propose to call the unit of molecular weight we have adopted a *microcrith*, even at the risk of coining a new word.

Micro-crystal (məikrǿkri·stăl). *Chem.* [f. MICRO- + CRYSTAL *sb.*] A crystal visible only by the microscope.

1895 tr. *Fock's Chem. Crystall.* 42 The methods of recognizing..micro-crystals became more perfect.

Microcrystalline (məikrǿkri·stălәin), *a. Geol.* and *Min.* [f. MICRO- + CRYSTALLINE.] Formed of microscopic crystals.

1876 A. H. GREEN *Phys. Geol.* 46 The aid of a pocket lens becomes necessary..to recognise their crystals, and these [rocks] are known as Micro-crystalline. 1879 RUTLEY *Stud. Rocks* xi. 188 The central portion consists of vitreous, and at times, micro-crystalline matter. 1891 *Athenæum* 24 Jan. 126/1 A heavy, yellow, microcrystalline powder.

Microcrystallitic (məi·krǿkristălі·tik), *a. Geol.* and *Min.* [f. MICRO- + CRYSTALLITE + -IC.] Belonging to microscopic crystallites.

1882 GEIKIE *Text-bk. Geol.* 104 This ground-mass..may be..still further devitrified, until it becomes an aggregation of such little granules, needles, and hairs between which little or no glass base appears (microcrystallitic).

Microcrystallogeny, -crystallography: see MICRO- 2.

Microcyst (məi·krǿsist). *Bot.* [f. MICRO- + CYST.] An enclosed swarm-cell, an encysted swarm-spore (of Myxomycetes).

1887 tr. *De Bary's Comp. Morph. & Biol. Fungi* 427 The term Microcyst was given by Cienkowski to the resting-state of the swarm-cells [of Myxomycetes]. 1902 tr. *Strasburger's Bot.* 303 They [the swarm-spores] surround themselves with a wall, and as microcysts pass into a state of rest.

Microcyte (məi·krǿsəit). *Path.* [f. MICRO- + -CYTE.] A minute red blood-corpuscle.

1876 tr. *Wagner's Gen. Pathol.* 518 Microcytes..are small elements, not exceeding ·003 or ·004 mm. in diameter, brightly shining, of the same colour (or even deeper) as the red corpuscles. 1884 A. FLINT *Princ. Med.* (ed. 5) 62 These microcytes are regarded by some as red blood corpuscles in process of formation, by others as atrophied or degenerated red corpuscles. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV. 579 Small red corpuscles or microcytes may occur in varying numbers.

‖ **Microcythæmia** (məikrǿsiþī·miă). *Path.* [mod.L. f. prec. + Gr. *αἷμα* blood.] The condition of the blood when it contains many microcytes.

1876 tr. *Wagner's Gen. Pathol.* 518 Microcythæmia is the name given..to a disease..characterized by the appearance in the blood of..microcytes.

Microdactylous: see MICRO- 4.

Microdentism (məikrǿdе·ntiz'm). [mod. f. Gr. *μῑκρό-s* small + L. *dent-, dens* tooth + -ISM.] Smallness of the teeth.

1889 *Lancet* June 1152/2 Microdentism..was associated with overgrowth of the molars.

[**Microdermatous,** *a. Path.* A spurious word originating in a misreading of MYCODERMATOUS.

1856 in MAYNE *Expos. Lex.* 1890 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*]

Micro-detector, -dont: see MICRO- 6, 4.

Micro-electric, -farad: see MICRO- 4, 5.

Microfelsite (məikrǿfе·lsəit). *Geol.* and *Min.* [f. MICRO- + FELSITE.] A form of felsite incapable of resolution under the microscope. Hence **Microfelsi·tic** *a.*, of, belonging to, or consisting of, microfelsite.

1879 RUTLEY *Stud. Rocks* x. 171 It yet remains to be shown whether micro-felsitic matter is inert upon polarised light. 1888 TEALL *Brit. Petrogr.* 439 *Microfelsite*, a term first introduced by Zirkel,..is now generally defined as a microscopic substance, forming the base of some porphyries, which is characterized by the possession of a granular, scaly, and fibrous structure without the power of exerting any definite action on polarized light.

Microferment, -foliation, -form: see MICRO- 1, 2 b, 4.

Micro-gamete, -geology, etc.: see MICRO-.

Micro-germ (məi·krǿdʒɜ̃m). *Path.* [f. MICRO- + GERM.] A microbe. Hence **Microge·rmal** *a.*

1887 A. M. BROWN *Anim. Alkal.* 117 The category of affections admittedly micro-germal, parasitic. *Ibid.* 150 It is..an absurdity to introduce micro-germs into the question.

Microglossia, -gonidium, -gramme: see MICRO- 3, 1, 5.

Microgranite (məikrǿgræ·nit). *Geol.* [f. MICRO- + GRANITE.] A granite rock, recognizable as crystalline only under the microscope. Hence **Micrograni·tic** *a.*, of, or pertaining to, microgranite. **Microgra·nitoid** *a.*, like microgranite.

1885 GEIKIE *Text-bk. Geol.* (ed. 2) 109 Where a similar structure is so fine that it can only be recognised with the microscope, it has been called microgranitic or euritic. 1888 TEALL *Brit. Petrogr.* 307 The former he [Rosenbusch] proposed to call micro-granites. 1893 [see MICRO-SYENITE]. 1903 GEIKIE *Text-bk. Geol.* II. II. v. (ed. 4) 151 Where their elements are minute the structure becomes micro-granitoid or euritic. *Ibid.* vii. 209 Granite-porphyry (micro-granite) a fine grained granitoid rock.

Microgranulitic: see MICRO- 4.

Micrograph (məi·krǿgrɑf). [f. MICRO- + -GRAPH.]

1. A picture or photograph of greatly reduced size.

1874 DRAPER *Relig. & Sci.* v. (1875) 134 In her [the Mind's] silent galleries are there hung micrographs of the living and the dead?

2. An instrument constructed for producing extremely minute writing or engraving (Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1875). Cf. MICROPANTOGRAPH.

Micrographer (məikrɒ·grăfəɹ). [f. MICROGRAPHY: see -GRAPHER.] One who practises micrography; one who describes or delineates microscopic objects. So **Micro·graphist** in the same sense (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1890).

1839–47 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* III. 527/2 The accounts given of it by some of the earlier micrographers. 1849 OWEN *Parthenogenesis* 32 *note*, The masterly Micrographer [Ehrenberg].

Micrographic (məikrǿgræ·fik), *a.* [f. MICROGRAPHY: see -GRAPHIC.]

1. Of or pertaining to the delineation of microscopic objects or to micrography.

1856 GRIFFITH & HENFREY (*title*) The Micrographic Dictionary; a guide to the examination and investigation of the structure and nature of microscopic objects. 1895 *Nature* 15 Aug. 368/2 The applications of micrographic analysis.

2. Minutely written (as symptomatic of nervous disorder). 1899 [see MACROGRAPHY].

Micrography (məikrɒ·grăfi). [f. MICRO- + Gr. *-γραφία* writing. Cf. F. *micrographie.*]

1. The description or delineation of objects visible only by the aid of a microscope.

1658 PHILLIPS, *Micrography*, the description of minute bodies by a magnifying glass. 1665 *Phil. Trans.* I. 58 He was much surprised when he saw the Micrography of Mr. Hook. 1670 *Moral State Eng.* 41 By the study of Micrography..they have displaied a new Page of the Book of Nature. 1731–3 TULL *Horse-Hoeing Husb.* xvi. 233 'Tis unreasonable to believe, that Water can have such extraordinary Skill in Botany, or in Micrography [etc.]. 1869 tr. *Pouchet's Universe* (1871) 7 Will any one accuse micrography of giving rise to those vain illusions with which those ..are pleased to reproach it?

2. a. The art or practice of writing in microscopic characters. **b.** *Path.* Abnormally small handwriting, as a symptom of nervous disorder.

1899 [see MACROGRAPHY]. 1905 *Daily News* 3 July 12 The achievements in micrography of Mr. Sofer, who is giving the King a portrait composed of a biography of 44,000 letters.

Microhm: see MICRO- 5.

‖ **Micro-lepido·ptera,** *sb. pl. Ent.* [f. MICRO- + LEPIDOPTERA.] A collector's term for certain small moths.

1852 H. T. STAINTON (*title*) The Entomologist's Companion; being a Guide to the Collection of Micro-Lepidoptera. 1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 8 Mar. 8/1 The special library formed by Lord Walsingham for the study of micro-lepidoptera.

Hence (in recent Dicts.) **Microlepido·pter,** one of the micro-lepidoptera. **Microlepido·pteran,** (*a*) *adj.*, microlepidopterous; (*b*) *sb.*, one of the micro-lepidoptera. **Microlepido·pterist,** one who studies the micro-lepidoptera. **Microlepido·pterous** *a.*, of or pertaining to the micro-lepidoptera.

1852 STAINTON *Entom. Comp.* 3 Book-muslin..is therefore best adapted for Micro-lepidopterists.

Microlepidotous: see MICRO- 4.

Microline (məi·krǿlәin). *Microscopy.* [f. MICRO- + LINE.] A unit of diameter for objects viewed under the microscope.

1857 *Rep. Brit. Assoc., Trans. Sect.* 115 He (Dr. Lyons) would propose that some definite micrometric integer should be assumed, being a determinate part of unity. He proposed that this measure should be denominated a Microline.

Microlite (məi·krǿlәit). [f. MICRO- + -LITE.]

1. *Min.* Impure calcium pyrotantalate, $Ca_2Ta_2O_7$. First found in very small crystals, whence the name.

1835 C. U. SHEPHARD in *Amer. Jrnl. Sci.* XXVII. 361 Microlite, a New Mineral Species. 1868 DANA *Min.* (ed. 5) II. 513.

2. *Petrology.* = MICROLITH.

1878 LAWRENCE tr. *Cotta's Rocks Class.* 69 These bubbles, as well as the above-mentioned microlites. 1888 TEALL *Brit. Petrogr.* 14 Microlites differ from crystallites in possessing the internal structure of true crystals.

Microlith (məi·krǿliþ). *Petrology.* [f. Gr. *μῑκρό-s* small (see MICRO-) + *λίθος* stone.] A term proposed in 1867 by Vogelsang for the microscopic acicular particles contained in the glassy portions of felspar, hornblende, etc. (Cf. MICROLITE 2.)

1879 RUTLEY *Stud. Rocks* x. 107 Microliths of hornblende are comparatively rare.

Microlithic (məikrǿli·þik), *a.*[1] *Antiq.* [f. Gr. *μικρός* small + *λίθος* stone: see -IC.] Consisting or constructed of small stones. Hence, of a period, a people, etc. Characterized by the erection of microlithic monuments (opposed to MEGALITHIC).

1872 FERGUSSON *Rude Stone Mon.* ii. 40 The people..affected..what may be called microlithic architecture. *Ibid.*

47 The cognate examples in the microlithic styles afford us very little assistance in determining either the origin or use of this class of monument.

Microlithic (məikrǫli·þik), *a.*[2] [f. MICROLITH + -IC.] Pertaining to microliths; characterized by the presence of microliths.

1877 GEIKIE In *Nature* 4 Oct. 474/2 The abundance of the glassy microlithic base. 1882 — *Text-bk. Geol.* 131 *Microlithic*, characterized by the abundance of microliths.

Microlitic (məikrǫli·tik), *a.* [f. MICROLITE + -IC.] = MICROLITHIC *a.*[2]

1879 RUTLEY *Stud. Rocks* xi. 185 [The term] microlitic.. might..be given to..rocks which contain..microliths. 1903 GEIKIE *Text-bk. Geol.* II. II. § vii. (ed. 4) 228 This microlitic felt is a distinctive character of the Andesites.

Microlitre: see MICRO- 5.

Micrological (məikrǫlǫ·dʒikăl), *a.* [f. MICROLOGY + -ICAL.]

1. Characterized by minuteness of investigation or discussion.

1879 O. W. HOLMES *Motley* § 7. 53 He [*sc.* Balzac] is.. a micrological, misanthropical, sceptical philosopher.

2. Of or pertaining to the study of minute objects; belonging to MICROLOGY 2.

1847 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* IV. 71 The existing impulse towards micrological study.

Hence **Microlo·gically** *adv.*

1872 LOWELL *Milton* Prose Wks. (1890) IV. 88 *note*, If things are to be scanned so micrologically, what weighty inferences might not be drawn from [etc.].

Micrologist (məikrǫ·lŏdʒist). [f. MICROLOGY + -IST.] One skilled in the examination and description of minute objects. So **Micrologue** (məi·krǫlǫg), one who is occupied with microscopic research (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1890).

1841–71 T. R. JONES *Anim. Kingd.* (ed. 4) 13 The distinguished German micrologist Kölliker, whose researches ..are calculated to clear up many doubtful points.

Micrology (məikrǫ·lŏdʒi). [ad. Gr. *μικρολογία*, f. *μικρό-s* small + *-λογία*: see -LOGY. Cf. F. *micrologie*.]

1. The discussion or investigation of trivial things or petty affairs; 'hair-splitting'.

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Micrologie*, curiosity about things of no value; a speaking or treating of petty affairs. 1727 in BAILEY vol. II. 1820 W. TOOKE tr. *Lucian* I. 400 What a parcel of fiddle-faddle and micrology. 1829 I. TAYLOR *Enthus.* ii. (1867) 35 The philanthropist..is not found to spend his nights and days in pursuing any such subtile micrologies. 1882 FARRAR *Early Chr.* I. 525 How could one who had never learnt letters,..listen without reverence to that micrology of erudition.

2. (Properly a distinct word formed after MICROSCOPE.) That part of science which depends upon the use of the microscope; a treatise on microscopic animals and plants.

1849 in CRAIG; and in later Dicts.

Microm, mikrom (məi·krǫm). [f. MICRO- + the initial letter of METRE.] A term suggested by Lord Kelvin in place of MICRON.

1898 LD. KELVIN in *Nature* 17 Nov. 57/1 Langley, fourteen years ago, used..the word 'mikron' to denote the millionth of a metre. The letter *n* has no place in the metrical system, and I venture to suggest a change of spelling to 'mikrom'.

Micromania (məikrǫmē·niă). *Path.* [f. Gr. *μικρός* small (see MICRO-) + MANIA.] 'A form of mania in which the patient thinks himself, or some part of him, to be reduced in size' (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1890). Also, an insane habit of belittling oneself.

Microma·niac, one affected with micromania.

1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 703 Micromania is a name used in contrast to megalomania and to indicate what Dr. Mickle calls 'belittlement'. *Ibid.*, Micromania is met with..in senile degeneration or mental degeneration of one kind or another. 1902 *Speaker* 8 Nov. 142/2 The cult of humility is a wholly spurious micromania. *Ibid.*, He is the one micromaniac of whom we have any record.

‖ **Micromelus** (məikrǫ·mĭlŭs). *Path.* [mod. L., f. Gr. *μικρό-s* small + *μέλος* limb. (Gr. had *μικρομελής* adj., small-limbed, f. the same elements.)] A human being with all limbs dwarfed.

1890 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1903 J. COATS *Man. Pathol.* 44 Partial dwarfing..may affect all four limbs, micromelus.

Micromere (məi·krǫmīǝ). *Embryology.* [f. Gr. *μικρό-s* small + *μέρος* part.] The smaller of the two masses into which the vitellus of the developing ovum of *Lamellibranchiata* divides (cf. MACROMERE). Hence **Micromeral, Micromeric** *adjs.*, of or pertaining to the micromere.

1877 HUXLEY *Anat. Inv. Anim.* viii. 484 Layer of blastomeres, of which those of one hemisphere have proceeded from the micromere, and those of the other from the macromere. *Ibid.* 498 The edges of the micromeral layer. 1886 *Jrnl. R. Microsc. Soc.* Ser. II. VI. i. 224 The segmentation resembles that of other molluscs, the 'micromeres' appearing at the formative pole by separation of the 'protoplasmic' portion of the 'macromeres'.

Micromeritic (məikrŏmĕri·tik), *a.* [f. MICRO- + Gr. *μέρ-ος* part + -ITE + -IC.] Of granitoid rocks: Having a structure discernible only with the microscope. 1882 [see MACROMERITIC]. In mod. Dicts.

Micro-metallography: see MICRO- 2.

Micrometer (məikrǫ·mĭtǝ). [ad. F. *micromètre* (Azout 1667), f. Gr. *μικρό-s* small + *μέτρον* measure: see -METER.] An instrument for measuring minute objects or differences of dimension.

1. An astronomical instrument applied to telescopes for the purpose of measuring very small angular distances.

Of this instrument, which was first invented by W. Gascoigne about 1640, there are several forms, as the *annular* or *circular*, *dioptric* (*catadioptric*) or *double-image*, *double-refraction*, *duplex*, *filar*, *prism*, *ring*, *wire micrometer*.

1670 FLAMSTEED in Hone *Every-day Bk.* I. 1092, I..had Mr. Townly's Micrometer presented to me by Sir Jonas Moor. 1759 *Gentl. Mag.* 72 The method of using Mr. Dollond's new catadioptric Micrometer. 1836 *Penny Cycl.* V. 228/2 The double-refraction micrometer. 1853 HERSCHEL *Pop. Lect. Sci.* v. § 17 (1873) 193 What astronomers call a 'ring micrometer'. 1866 BRANDE & COX *Dict. Sci.*, etc. II. 517/2 The prism micrometer..has this important defect [etc.]. 1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 248/1 Grubb's duplex micrometer. *Ibid.* 249/2 Double-Image Micrometers with Divided Lenses..Ramsden's dioptric micrometer.

2. An instrument applied to the microscope for the purpose of measuring small objects.

c 1790 IMISON *Sch. Art* I. 240 The new micrometer is nothing more than a stage (on which the objects are placed) moveable by a fine screw which has a hand..passing over the divisions of a graduated circle. 1855 tr. *Wedl's Rudim. Pathol. Histol.* I. i. (Syd. Soc.) 10 The glass micrometer.. has supplanted the..screw micrometer. 1866 BRANDE & COX *Dict. Sci.*, etc. II. 518/1 The instruments in use among microscopists are Jackson's micrometer and the cobweb micrometer. 1877 DARWIN *Forms of Fl.* i. 16, I measured with the micrometer many specimens, both dry and wet.

3. An instrument used in machine-construction, watchmaking, etc., for obtaining an extreme degree of accuracy in measurement.

1884 F. J. BRITTEN *Watch & Clockm.* 76 The new one [a plug] may be gauged with a Micrometer or Registering Callipers.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *micrometer cell*, *eye-piece*, *measurement*, *pointer*, *scale*, *slide*, *square*, *wheel*, *wire*; **micrometer balance**, a balance for ascertaining minute weights with exactitude, esp. used for weighing coins; **micrometer gauge**, a gauge fitted with a micrometer, used in machine-making; **micrometer-microscope**, an apparatus for reading and subdividing the divisions of large astronomical and geodetical instruments; **micrometer screw**, a screw attached to optical and other instruments for the exact measurement of very small angles.

1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 1431/2 Kenshaw's *micrometer-balance, invented about 1842, consists of a beam or steel-yard supported on a knife-edged fulcrum. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 443 The lines which form the divisions of the *micrometer cell may be made more distinct [etc.]. 1835 URE *Philos. Manuf.* 126 For very nice measurements Troughton's *micrometer eye-piece..may be attached to the instrument. 1902 MARSHALL *Metal Tools* 10 Another very useful type of gauge for making fine measurements is the *micrometer gauge. 1835 URE *Philos. Manuf.* 96 *Micrometer measurements taken from the spectral image..are apt to lead to great fallacies. 1849 R. V. DIXON *Heat* I. 25 The microscope E' was hence called the *micrometer microscope. 1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 249/2 A dull phosphorescence sufficient to make the *micrometer pointer.. faintly visible. 1854 *Pereira's Pol. Light* 45 A very minutely grooved surface..presents an iridescent appearance in white light...*Micrometer scales frequently present the same appearances. 1788 *Trans. Soc. Arts* VI. 190 Moved by the *micrometer screw. 1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 244/1 The oblong frame, containing the *micrometer slides. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 441 The corpuscles .. are reckoned by means of a series of *micrometer squares ruled over a certain area of the glass floor of the chamber or cell. 1862 *Catal. Internat. Exhib.* II. xi. 23 The tangent back sight is elevated by a rack and pinion, the latter having a *micrometer wheel for finer readings. 1806 J. A. HAMILTON in *Trans. Roy. Irish Acad.* III In adjusting the telescope and *micrometer wires.

Micrometric (məikrǫme·trik), *a.* [f. prec. + -IC. Cf. F. *micrométrique*.] = next.

1835 URE *Philos. Manuf.* 126 A microscope, provided with a micrometric glass plate. 1837 *Athenæum* 28 Jan. 64/2 Diameter of Penumbra by micrometric measure = 58″. 4. 1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 243/2 Sir William Herschel's discovery ..gave an impulse to micrometric research.

transf. 1880 T. W. WEBB in *Nature* XXI. 213/2 The Italian professor .. inconvenienced by colour-blindness, but of micrometric vision,..has plotted a sharply-outlined chart.

Micrometrical (məikrǫme·trikăl), *a.* [f. prec. + -AL.] Pertaining to or of the nature of a micrometer; carried on by or resulting from the use of the micrometer.

1712 DERHAM in *Phil. Trans.* XXVII. 523, *l. u.* The enlightned part of the Moon, being 1025 Micrometrical Parts, or 20′. 1829 HERSCHELL *Ess.* (1857) 537 The micrometrical measurements of double stars. 1837 GORING & PRITCHARD *Microgr.* 48 The divisions of the scale of micrometrical eye-pieces. 1882 *Athenæum* No. 2833. 194 A third catalogue of micrometrical measures of double stars made at..Rugby, ..is contained in the volume..before us.

Hence **Microme·trically** *adv.*, by means of a micrometer.

1834 MRS. SOMERVILLE *Connex. Phys. Sci.* (1849) 419 Whose motions have been micrometrically measured. 1876 G. F. CHAMBERS *Astron.* II This was micrometrically established in a lateral direction by Challis in 1857.

Micrometry (məikrǫ·mĕtri). [f. Gr. *μικρό-s* small + *-μετρία* measuring (see -METRY) after MICROMETER.] The measurement of minute objects; the use of the micrometer.

1853 C. JOHNSON in *Bot. & Physiol. Mem.* (Ray Soc. 1854) 416 Mohl has discussed the methods of micrometry in a profound manner. 1862 *Q. Jrnl. Microsc. Sci.* II. 306 Micrometry. A good deal was written some time ago about the best form of micrometer.

Micromillimetre, -mineralogy: see MICRO- 5, 2 a.

Micromorph (məi·krǫmǫ̃ıf). *Zool.* [f. Gr. *μικρό-s* small + *μορφή* form.] A specimen smaller than is normal in the species.

1888 HUDLESTON *Gasterop.* (Palæont. Soc.) 112 Micromorphs..occur..in many parts of the Inferior Oolite.

Micron, mikron (məi·krǫn). [ad. Gr. *μῑκρόν*, neut. of *μῑκρός* small.] The one-millionth part of a metre; denoted by the symbol *μ*.

1892 BARKER *Physics* 15 Divided into..thousandths of a millimeter; i. e. into microns. 1898 LD. KELVIN in *Rep. Brit. Assoc.* 783 Measured wave-lengths as great as 15 mikrons in radiant heat. 1905 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 25 Feb. 404 The lymphocytes showed all variations in size, from the smallest to some which were 15 microns in diameter.

Micronesian (məikrǫnī·ʃăn), *a.* and *sb.* [f. *Micronesia* (see below: f. Gr. *μῑκρό-s* small + *νῆσ-os* island) + -AN.

The name, modelled after *Polynesia*, was intended to mean 'the region of small islands'.]

A. *adj.* Of or pertaining to Micronesia (a group of small islands in the western region of the North Pacific, including the Caroline, Ladrone, Marshall and Gilbert Islands, etc.), its inhabitants, language, etc. B. *sb.* a. A native of Micronesia. b. The language of the Micronesians.

1896 COORINGTON *Dict. Mota* Pref. 6 The Micronesian Group [of languages] takes in the Caroline Islands, Pellew, Marshall, and Gilbert Islands. 1899 CHRISTIAN in *Jrnl. Anthrop. Inst.* XXVIII. 288 On Micronesian Weapons, Dress, Implements, etc. 1899 ELLA *Ibid.* XXIX. 159 Melanesian and Micronesian tongues are to some extent inflexional. 1900 *Edin. Rev.* Apr. 490 The Micronesians will be the happier for this transfer.

Micronucleus (məikrǫnīū·klĭ,ĭŭs). *Zool.* Pl. **-nuclei**. [f. MICRO- + NUCLEUS.] The smaller of the two nuclei of a protozoon. Hence **Micronu·clear** *a.*, of or pertaining to a micronucleus.

1892 [see MACRO-NUCLEUS]. 1901 G. N. CALKINS *Protozoa* 194 The micronuclei play the most important part in conjugation. *Ibid.*, The new macronucleus is formed by the enlargement of a daughter-micronucleus. 1905 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 25 Feb. 441 A special ingrowth of micronuclear cells..gave rise to the mesamœboid (mesoblastic) cells.

Micro·nymy. *nonce-wd.* [f. Gr. + *μῑκρό-s* small + *ŏνυμα* name, *ŏνομα*, after *synonymy*, etc.] The use of short words in scientific nomenclature.

1889 *Buck's Handbk. Med. Sci.* VIII. 529/1 Astronomers have set an example in micronymy that anatomists might well follow.

Micro-organic (məikrǫıǫgæ·nik), *a.* [f. MICRO- + ORGANIC.] Pertaining to or connected with micro-organisms.

1884 J. TAIT *Mind in Matter* (1892) 317 The micro-organic world is found to be silent as the grave on evolution.

Micro-organism (məikrǫıǫ·gănizm). *Biol.* [f. MICRO- + ORGANISM.] A microscopic animal or plant; a microbe. Hence **Micro-organi·smal** *a.*, of or induced by micro-organisms.

1880 MACCORMAC *Antisept. Surg.* 105 The presence of micro-organisms in the atmosphere .. is certain. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 564 A manifestation of a micro-organismal disease.

Micropantograph, -parasite, -pathology: see MICRO- 6, 1, 2.

Micropegmatite (məikrǫpe·gmătəit). *Min.* [f. MICRO- + PEGMATITE.] (See quot. 1888.) Hence **Micropegmati·tic** *a.*, having the structure of micropegmatite or of graphic granite.

1885 GEIKIE *Text-bk. Geol.* (ed. 2) 110 The structure is.. micropegmatitic where the help of a microscope is needed. 1888 TEALL *Brit. Petrogr.* 30 Graphic granite and .. its microscopic equivalent, generally termed micro-pegmatite. 1896 *Nat. Sci.* Aug. 86 The garnet often streams out.. forming micropegmatitic intergrowths with other materials.

Microperthite (məikrǫpə·ıþəit). *Min.* [f. MICRO- + PERTHITE.] (See quot. 1885.) Hence **Microperthi·tic** *a.*, pertaining to or resembling microperthite.

1885 GEIKIE *Text-bk. Geol.* (ed. 2) 132 *note*, F. Becke.. described this structure and names it *microperthite*. *Ibid.* 133 The felspar..presents the peculiar fibrous structure referred to in the foregoing description of gneiss (microperthite, microcline). 1888 TEALL *Brit. Petrogr.* 31 The microscopic equivalent of perthite termed microperthite by F. Becke. 1888 *Nature* 15 Mar. 459/2 Judging from the frequent occurrence of striated and microperthitic felspars.

Micropetalous, -petrology: see MICRO- 4, 2.

Microphage (məi·krǫfēıdʒ). *Phys.* Also **microphag**. [ad. G. *mikrophag* (Metchnikoff), f. Gr. *μῑκρό-s* small + *phag* short for PHAGOCYTE.] A certain form of the white blood-corpuscles (see quot. 1903). Also *attrib.*

1890 [see MACROPHAGE]. 1893 STARLING tr. *Metchnikoff's Comp. Pathol.* 191 In..acute inflammations it is mainly the microphages, or neutrophile polynuclear leucocytes, that are involved. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 953 The microphage cells in the spleen. 1903 COATS *Man. Path.* (ed. 5) 148 Polymorphonuclear leucocytes are called Microphags, and the cells derived from the fixed cells of the tissues, which are larger, and have large oval nuclei, are macrophags.

Microphagist (məikrɒ·fădʒist). [f. Gr. *μικρό-s* small + *φαγ-*, *φαγεῖν* to eat + -IST.] An eater of microscopic organisms.

1853 W. SMITH *Brit. Diatom.* I. p. xxxiii, Several species [of diatoms]..have been supplied in abundance by a careful dissection of the above microphagists.

Microphagocyte (məikrɒfæ·gŏsəit). *Phys.* [f. MICRO- + PHAGOCYTE.] = MICROPHAGE.

1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 79 Classifications of the varieties of leucocytes...Microphagocyte.

†**Microphily.** *Obs. rare*⁻¹. In 7 -philie. [Badly f. Gr. *μικρό-s* small + *φιλία* friendship.] The friendship of a 'small' man with a great.

1608 D. T[UVIL] *Ess. Pol. & Mor.* 95 b, So likewise, where there is a disproportion eyther in meanes, or mindes, there can bee no other friendship, then that Microphilie, which Plato had with Dionysius the Tyrant.

Microphone (məi·krɒfōun). [f. Gr. *μικρό-s* small + *φωνή* sound.]

1. An instrument by which small sounds can be intensified.

1683 *Phil. Trans.* XIV. 482 Microphones or Micracousticks that is Magnifying ear instruments. 1727 in BAILEY vol. II. 1827 C. WHEATSTONE in *Q. Jrnl. Sci.* II. 69 An instrument which, from its rendering audible the weakest sounds, may with propriety be called the Microphone. 1842 BRANDE *Dict. Sci.*, etc., *Microphone*, an instrument for increasing the intensity of low sounds.

2. *spec.* An instrument (invented almost simultaneously in 1878 by Prof. Hughes and Dr. Lüdtge) by means of which the telephone is made to reproduce faint sounds with more than their original intensity.

1878 HUGHES in *Proc. Roy. Soc.* XXVII. 365, I have also devised an instrument suitable for magnifying weak sounds, which I call a *microphone*. The microphone, in its present form, consists simply of a lozenge-shaped piece of gas carbon, one inch long [etc.].

Hence **Microphonic** *a.*, pertaining to the microphone; *sb. pl.*, the science of magnifying sounds.

1846 BUCHANAN *Technol. Dict., Microphonics*, the science of magnifying small sounds. 1878 *Jrnl. Franklin Inst.* CVI. 270 Microphonic Anticipations. 1879 *N. Eng. Hist. & Gen. Reg.* XXXIII. 158 Look at the amazing progress in telegraphic, microscopic, telephonic and microphonic arts! 1881 *Athenæum* 2 July 19/1 Dr. Moser read a paper 'On the Microphonic Action of Selenium Cells'. 1893 PREECE & STUBBS *Man. Telephony* 121 The adoption of the microphonic transmitter in any case necessitates the employment of a battery.

Microphonograph (məi·krɒfōu·nŏgrɑf). [f. MICRO- + PHONOGRAPH.] An instrument combining the principles of the microphone and the phonograph, designed for rendering sound audible to deaf-mutes.

1897 *Daily News* 26 Mar. 2/2 The microphonograph he [Professor Dussaud] has just issued to the world magnifies the human voice in the same way as a lens magnifies a picture. 1898 *Nature* 13 Jan. 255/2 It is suggested that the micro-phonograph may become an important factor in the education of deaf and dumb subjects.

Microphonous (məikrɒ·fŏnəs), *a.*[1] *rare*⁻⁰. [f. MICROPHONE + -OUS.] Having the property of augmenting weak sounds. 1855 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex.*

Micro·phonous, *a.*[2] *rare*⁻⁰. [f. Gr. *μικρό-φων-ος* (see next) + -OUS.] 'Having a slender weak voice' (Mayne *Expos. Lex.* 1856).

Microphony (məikrɒ·fŏni). *rare*⁻⁰. [ad. Gr. *μικροφωνία*, f. *μικρόφων-ος* weak-voiced, f. *μικρό-s* small + *φωνή* voice.] Weakness of voice.

1849 in CRAIG.

Microphotogram (məi·krɒfōu·tŏgræm). [f. MICRO- + PHOTOGRAM.] A microphotograph.

1898 P. MANSON *Trop. Diseases* i. 20 Microphotogram shewing the necessary disposition of blood-corpuscles in slides for examination for the plasmodium.

Microphotograph (məi·krɒfōu·tŏgrɑf). [f. MICRO- + PHOTOGRAPH *sb.*]

1. A photograph reduced to microscopic size; a microscopic photograph.

1858 [see PHOTOMICROGRAPH].

2. A photograph of a microscopic object on a magnified scale: = PHOTOMICROGRAPH.

1860 *Photogr. News* 13 Jan. 228/1 The production of good micro-photographs appears very much to depend on the employment of a suitable collodion. 1875 tr. *Vogel's Chem. Light* xiv. 208 The beauty of the micro-photograph depends essentially on the beauty of the preparation to be photographed. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 183 Microphotographs of two pyramidal cells from a case of general paralysis of the insane.

Hence **Microphotogra·phic** *a.*, pertaining to or connected with microphotography. **Microphotogra·phically** *adv.*, by means of microphotography.

1858 T. SUTTON *Dict. Photogr.* 296 Micro-photographic operations. 1865 *Brit. Jrnl. Photogr.* 24 Mar. 153/1 Description of the Micro-photographic Apparatus. 1882 R. NORRIS (*title*) Physiology and Pathology of the Blood... With mikro-photographic illustrations. 1895 *Daily News* 26 July 3/1 Insect anatomy, illustrated micro-photographically.

Microphotography (məi·krɒfŏtɒ·grăfi). [f. MICRO- + PHOTOGRAPHY.]

1. The art or process of making photographs of very small size.

1858 T. SUTTON *Dict. Photogr.*, *Micro-Photography*. Under this head may be included two different processes. One.. consists in copying objects on an exceedingly small scale, the photograph being intended to be viewed through a magnifier... The other .. consists in producing enlarged photographs of minute objects—that is, in fixing the images obtained in the microscope. 1867 SUTTON & DAWSON *Dict. Photogr.*, *Micro-Photography*. This term is now used to designate the reduction of negatives to a very minute size, and serves to distinguish it from the process denominated 'Photo-micrography'. 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 12 Sept. 8/2 A letter printed in microphotography is gummed to his [a bee's] little back, and he is thrown into the air.

2. The art or process of producing by photography an enlarged image of a microscopically minute object: = PHOTOMICROGRAPHY.

1858 [see 1]. 1875 tr. *Vogel's Chem. Light* xiv. 209 Excellent results have been achieved in microphotography by Neyt at Ghent. 1889 *Anthony's Photogr. Bull.* II. 104 Examples may also be given of balloon, stellar, and microphotography.

Microphthalmia, etc.: see MICRO- 3.

Microphylline (məikrɒfi·ləin), *a. Bot.* [Formed as next: see -INE.] Composed of minute leaflets or scales.

1872 E. TUCKERMAN *Gen. Lichenum* 245 The foliaceous *Verrucariacei* .. passing .. into microphylline and .. into finally almost crustaceous forms.

Microphyllous: see MICRO- 4.

Microphyte (məi·krɒfəit). [mod.f. Gr. *μικρό-s* small + *φυτόν* plant. Cf. F. *microphyte*.] A microscopic plant, esp. a bacterium. Hence **Microphy·tal, Microphy·tic** *adjs.*, pertaining to microphytes.

1863 SLACK in *Intell. Observ.* Dec. 379 In the fermentation of wheat flour he [Lémaire] observed in the course of fifteen days, *bacterium*, *vibrio*, *spirillum*, *amœba*, *monas*, and *paramecium*, after which came what he calls *microphytes*. 1867 MURCHISON *Siluria* App. O. (ed. 4) 546 The microphytes above mentioned. 1876 PAGE *Adv. Text-bk. Geol.* xx. 440 The innumerable organisms in microphytal and microzoal deposits. 1881 J. SIMON in *Nature* No. 616. 373 The microphytic origin of an important cancroid disease of horned cattle. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 210 After the rise of modern bacteriology the first attempts made were to cultivate a specific microphyte from such tumours.

Micropod (məi·krɒpɒd). *Zool.* [ad. mod.L. *Micropoda*, f. Gr. *μικρό-s* small + *ποδ-*, *πούς* foot.] Any one of the *Micropoda*, in some classifications a division of bivalve molluscs including the oyster.

1854 ADAMS, etc. *Man. Nat. Hist.* 158 Micropods (Micropoda).

Micropodal (məikrɒ·pōdăl), *a.* [f. Gr. *μικροποδ-*, *μικρόπους* (f. *μικρός* small + *ποδ-*, *πούς* foot) + -AL.] Small-footed; esp. having the foot abnormally small though regularly developed. So **Micropo·dic, Micro·podous** *adjs.*

1857 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.* (s.v. *Micropodus*) *Micropodous*. 1859 *Chamb. Jrnl.* XI. 323 The micropodic young person. 1902 WEBSTER, *Micropodal*.

Micro-polariscope, -pore, -porphyritic, -prismatic, Micropsia: see MICRO- 6, 1, 4, 3.

†**Micropsychy.** *Obs.* [ad. Gr. *μικροψῡχία*, f. *μικρόψῡχ-ος* pusillanimous, f. *μικρο-s* small + *ψῡχή* soul.] Pusillanimity.

1651 BIGGS *New Disp.* 149 The powers .. being .. exanimated into a dull and faint mycropsychie. 1654 GAYTON *Pleas. Notes* IV. xvii. 259 To what purpose didst thou kneel for a Licence, if thou wilt not take the liberty to fight? Though Cyd Hameti Benengeli doth not discover the reason of this Micropseuchy [*printed* Micropseachy] of the Don. 1674 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* (ed. 4), *Micropsychy*, feeble courage, faintness of heart.

Micropterous (məikrɒ·ptĕrəs), *a. Zool.* [f. Gr. *μικρόπτερ-ος* (f. *μικρό-s* small + *πτερ-όν* wing) + -OUS.] Small winged or finned. So **Micro·pte·rism,** abnormally small wing-development.

1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* IV. xli. 141 Most of the micropterous tribes (*Staphylinus* L.) have a fetid smell. 1895 D. SHARP *Insects* I. 339 (Camb. Nat. Hist.) Some species are always micropterous. *Ibid.*, A curious form of variation occurs in this family [Gryllidae], and is called micropterism by de Saussure.

Micropterygious: see MICRO- 4.

Micro·ptic, *a. nonce-wd.* [f. Gr. *μικρό-s* small + *ὀπτικός* OPTIC *a.*] Microscopic.

1800 HURDIS *Fav. Village* 104 If to the spot invisible we strain Our aching sight, and with microptic tube Bring it at last within our feeble ken.

Micropylar (məi·krɒpəilă), *a.* [f. next + -AR.] Pertaining to or of the nature of a micropyle.

1869 W. S. DALLAS tr. *Müller's Facts for Darwin* 132 The formation of the 'micropylar apparatus' [in the Amphipoda].

Micropyle (məi·krɒpəil). [a. F. *micropyle*, f. Gr. *μικρό-s* small + *πύλη* gate.]

1. *Bot.* The foramen or orifice in the integument of an ovule, by which the pollen penetrates to the apex of the nucleus or radicle. Also, the external aperture which represents this foramen in the mature seed.

1821 tr. *Decandolle & Sprengel's Elem. Philos. Plants* 79 In the seeds of many of the Leguminous plants, a small cavity appears under the umbilicus, called *micropyle*, but its use is unknown. 1830 LINDLEY *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 181 The woody shell of the seed of Sapoteae is certainly testa,..as is proved by the presence of the micropyle upon it. 1875 BENNETT & DYER tr. *Sachs' Bot.* 429 It [the pollen] then forces itself into the micropyle and advances as far as the embryo-sac.

2. *Zool.* A special opening in a female cell for the entrance of the fertilizing cell.

1859 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* V. [97]/2 Discoveries .. as to the existence of the micropyle in fishes. 1875 RAY LANKESTER in *Q. Jrnl. Microsc. Sci.* XV. 38 The egg-shell..has a small hole at the narrower pole, which may be called a micropyle. 1893 TUCKEY *Amphioxus* 41 This .. explains how it is that without the formation of a micropyle the spermatozoon can force its way into the egg.

Micror(h)abd, microsclere: see MICRO- 1.

Micro-refractometer, etc.: see MICRO- 6.

Microscope (məi·krŏskōup), *sb.* Also 7 **mycroscop**(e. [ad. mod.L. *mīcroscopium*, f. Gr. *μικρό-s* small + *σκοπ-εῖν* to look, see: see -SCOPE. Cf. F. *microscope*, Sp. *microscópio*, It. *microscopio*, G. *mikroskop*.]

1. An optical instrument, consisting of a lens or a combination of suitably adjusted lenses, (or, rarely, also of mirrors) by which objects are so magnified that details indistinct or invisible to the naked eye are clearly revealed.

1656 tr. *Hobbes' Elem. Philos.* I. IV. xxvii. 332 There are now such Microscopes .. that the things we see with them appear a hundred thousand times bigger, then they would do if we looked upon them with our bare Eyes. 1662 S. P. *New Sect Latitude-men* 21 The severall discoveries we are beholden to the new invented microscope for. 1678 *Depos. Cast. York* (Surtees) 233 Polishing glasses for prospectives, and spectackles and mycroscops. 1706 *Reflex. upon Ridicule* 244 The effects of prejudice .. are the same with those of microscopes. 1831 BREWSTER *Optics* v. 51 When such a lens is used to magnify the magnified image produced by another lens, the two lenses together constitute a compound microscope.

attrib. 1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* III. xxix. 193 Till.. they may first enter the range of the microscope-aided eye. 1875 HUXLEY & MARTIN *Elem. Biol.* (1877) 247 Microscope-needle. 1899 CAGNEY tr. *Jaksch's Clin. Diagn.* x. (ed. 4) 431 An Abbe's or other condenser adjusted movably to the microscope-stand.

b. *Lucernal, solar, oxy-hydrogen microscopes*: instruments of the nature of the magic lantern, in which the illumination employed comes from a lamp, the sun, and an oxy-hydrogen lime-light respectively.

1740 H. BAKER in *Phil. Trans.* XLI. 516 The Solar or *Camera Obscura* Microscope, and the Microscope for opake objects. 1787 G. ADAMS *Ess. Microscope* 65 This [lucernal] microscope was originally thought of, and in part executed by my father. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XI. 725 The improved lucernal microscope. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XV. 188/2 A few achromatic glasses for oxy-hydrogen microscopes have been made. 1845 *Encycl. Metrop.* III. 470/2 The solar microscope differs entirely..from those above described.

2. *transf.* and *fig.*

1671 MILTON *P. R.* IV. 57 Many a fair Edifice .. (so well I have dispos'd My Aery Microscope) thou may'st behold Outside and inside both. 1742 POPE *Dunc.* IV. 233 The critic Eye, that microscope of Wit, Sees hairs and pores, examines bit by bit. 1839–52 BAILEY *Festus* xiv. 162 Watching the thoughts of men and angels Through moral microscopes. 1903 *Westm. Gaz.* 21 Feb. 7/1 The Board would work .. under the microscope of a Committee of Censure.

3. *Astron.* (Also in mod.L. form **Microscopium.**) A constellation south of Capricorn, introduced by Lacaille in 1752.

Microscope (məi·krŏskoup), *v. rare.* [f. MICROSCOPE *sb.*] *trans.* a. To magnify. b. To scrutinize minutely. Hence **Mi·croscoped** *ppl. a.*, *fig.* microscopically selected.

1888 T. DE W. TALMAGE in *Voice* (N.Y.) 6 Sept., He talked against you. He microscoped your faults. 1896 MRS. CAFFYN *Quaker Grandmother* 206 He looked much more likely to spring upon her unawares, and microscope her. 1889 J. M. ROBERTSON *Ess. Crit. Method* 87 The specialist's literature of microscoped minutiae.

†**Microsco·pial,** *a. Obs.* [f. mod.L. *mīcroscopi-um* + -AL.] = MICROSCOPICAL.

1738 D. BAYNE *Gout* 102 No secretion or excretion is performed without a mixture..of several sorts of particles..as appears by microscopial observations. 1740 BAKER in *Phil. Trans.* XLI. 453 Being aware how much Imagination has frequently had to do with microscopial Observations, I distrusted my own Eyes.

Microscopic (məikrɒskɒ·pik), *a.* [ad. mod.L. *mīcroscopic-us*, f. *mīcroscopium*: see MICROSCOPE and -IC. Cf. F. *microscopique*, It. *microscopico*, Sp. *microscópico*.]

1. = MICROSCOFICAL *a.* 1. Now *rare* exc. *fig.*

1857 *G. Bird's Urin. Deposits* (ed. 5) 199 The microscopic examination of a sediment composed of cystine. 1863 RAY LANKESTER in *Q. Jrnl. Microsc. Sci.* III. 83 Nor are they generally known to microscopic observers in this country. 1877 W. THOMSON *Voy. Challenger* I. i. 15 The substances in common use in mounting microscopic preparations.

fig. 1779–81 JOHNSON *L. P., Rowe* Wks. III. 38 Few characters can bear the microscopick scrutiny of wit quickened by anger. 1850 ROBERTSON *Serm.* Ser. III. viii. 111 It is not a microscopic self-examination. 1877 STUBBS *Lect. Med. & Mod. Hist.* v. (1886) 103 The tree..bears to the microscopic investigator marks of every winter that has passed over it. 1904 *Sat. Rev.* 29 Oct. 551 The microscopic inquiry of the Dictionary of National Biography.

2. Possessing or exercising the functions of a microscope.

1732 POPE *Ess. Man* I. 193 Why has not Man a microscopic eye? For this plain reason, Man is not a Fly. 1744 THOMSON *Summer* 288 Gradual, from These what numerous Kinds descend, Evading even the microscopic Eye! *a* 1761

CAWTHORN *Antiquarians* 80 To ev'ry corner of the brass They clapp'd a microscopic glass. 1876 LOWELL *Among my Bks.* Ser. II. 278 Gulliver's microscopic eye.

fig. a 1680 BUTLER *Rem.* (1759) I. 10 His Excellence In ..magnifying all he writ With curious microscopick Wit. 1863 KINGLAKE *Crimea* (1877) II. vii. 65 His intellect being subtle and microscopic. 1903 MORLEY *Gladstone* I. 4 The microscopic subtlety of a thirteenth century schoolman.

3. Of such minute size or proportions as to be invisible or indeterminate without the use of a microscope.

1776 WESLEY *Serm.* lxxiv. I. § 11 Wks. (1811) IX. 314 Are Microscopic Animals, so called, *real* Animals or not? 1770 HORSLEY in *Phil. Trans.* LX. 431 The eyes of the smallest microscopic animals. 1802 BOUANON *ibid.* XCII. 300 We may..by means of a lens, perceive small microscopic crystals of thallite. 1819 CHILDREN *Chem. Anal.* 271 From the mountainous elephant to the microscopic insect. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 891 Some of which vessels..presented evidences of microscopic gummata.

fig. 1849 STOVEL *Canne's Necess.* Introd. 78 Every..care was taken to find .. terms the most microscopic to express the littleness of those '*mere ceremonies*'. 1887 G. H. DARWIN in *Fortn. Rev.* Feb. 273 They are microscopic .. earthquakes. 1887 RUSKIN *Præterita* II. 24 Turner's microscopic touch.

Microscopical (məikrɒskɒ·pikăl), *a.* [Formed as prec. + -AL.]

1. Pertaining or relating to the microscope or its use; resembling what pertains to a microscope.

1664 *Phil. Trans.* I. 28 The Microscopical view of the Edges of Rasors. 1681 GLANVILL *Sadducismus* I. (1682) 7 The certainty of which I believe the improvement of microscopical Observations will discover. 1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* II. xxiii. § 12. 140 And if by the help of such Microscopical Eyes (if I may so call them) a Man could penetrate farther than ordinary into the..radical Texture of Bodies. 1796 BP. WATSON *Apol. Bible* ix. (ed. 2) 94 The microscopical discoveries of modern times. 1879 RUTLEY *Stud. Rocks* x. 104 Unsatisfactory in the present state of microscopical knowledge. 1883 PROCTOR in *Knowledge* 18 May 300/2 Are not microscopical papers in progress?

2. = MICROSCOPIC 3. Now *rare*.

1769 BARRINGTON in *Phil. Trans.* LIX. 31 Still smaller microscopical insects. 1771 W. JONES *Zool. Eth.* 76 The microscopical feathers upon the wing of a moth. 1871 HARTWIG *Subterr. W.* ii. 10 The aggregated remains of microscopical animals. 1880 GÜNTHER *Fishes* 114 It is the *membrana argentea*, and composed of microscopical crystals.

Microscopically (məikrɒskɒ·pikăli), *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY 2.] By means of a microscope; so minutely as to be visible only with a microscope.

1795 HAIGHTON in *Phil. Trans.* LXXXV. 192 Metals, when microscopically examined, have convoluted fibrous appearances. 1836–9 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* II. 122/2 One of these worms, when examined microscopically, presented a rupture in the middle of its body. 1876 BRISTOWE *Theory & Pract. Med.* (1878) 57 Microscopically, they are found to be identical in structure with the uterine muscular walls. 1879 tr. *Semper's Anim. Life* 40 The ovum cell being always microscopically small.

b. *fig.* and *hyperbolically.*

1824 SCOTT *St. Ronan's* V, The company examined even microscopically the response of the stranger. 1874 tr. *Lommel's Light* 18 The rays of light which reach the microscopically small earth. 1885 C. F. WOOLSON in *Harper's Mag.* Apr. 787/2 The little advances she had made had been microscopically small.

Microscopico- (məikrɒskɒ·pikɒ), mod. combining form of MICROSCOPICAL.

1839 LINDLEY *Introd. Bot.* I. i. (ed. 3) 7 Some beautiful microscopico-chemical experiments.

Microscopist (məikrɒ·skŏpist, *U.S.* məi·krɒskōupist). [f. MICROSCOPE + -IST.] One skilled in the use of the microscope.

1835–6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 405/2 We find marked discrepancies in the conclusions come to by different microscopists. 1867 J. HOGG *Microsc.* I. ii. 33 The simple hand magnifier, so often employed by microscopists in the preliminary examinations of objects. 1879 H. GRUBB in *Trans. Roy. Dublin Soc.* 188 Looked into at a convenient angle somewhat similar to that usually adopted by microscopists.

transf. 1851 WYTHES (*title*) The Microscopist, or a Complete Manual on the use of the Microscope.

Microscopize (məikrɒ·skŏpəiz), *v. nonce-wd.* [f. MICROSCOPE + -IZE.] *trans.* To work with a microscope.

1846 HUXLEY in *Life & Lett.* (1900) I. 27, I may read, draw, or microscopise at pleasure.

Microscopy (məikrɒ·skŏpi). [f. MICROSCOPE + -Y.] The art or practice of using the microscope; the science of the microscopist.

1664–5 PEPYS *Diary* 20 Jan., To my bookseller's, and there took home Hook's book of microscopy. 1867 J. HOGG *Microsc.* I. ii. 70 The many important contributions to microscopy by Owen, Carpenter, Quekett, Ralfs, etc. 1887 *Times* 1 Sept. 6/3 The value of microscopy when brought to bear on pharmacy.

Microsection: see MICRO- 2 c.

Microseism (məikrɒsəi·z'm). [f. Gr. *μικρό-s* small + *σεισμός* shaking, earthquake.] A faint earthquake tremor.

1887 G. H. DARWIN in *Fortn. Rev.* Feb. 271 Earth tremors or 'microseisms' are not confined to countries habitually visited by the grosser sort of earthquakes. 1888 *Times* 24 Nov. 15/2 There may have been a succession of microseisms perceptible only to the delicate senses of quadrupeds and other dumb creatures.

Microseismic (məikrɒsəi·zmik), *a.* [f. prec. + -IC.] Pertaining to or of the nature of a faint earth tremor. So also **Microsei·smical** *a.*, in the same sense.

1877 *Eng. Mechanic* 10 Aug. 533/3 More than 20,000 microseismic observations, made from 1870 to 1875. 1886 J. MILNE *Earthquakes* xix. 316 The most satisfactory observations which have been made upon microseismic disturbances are those which have been made during the last ten years in Italy. *Ibid.*, A series of microseismical observations.

Microseismograph (məikrɒsəi·zmɒgrɑf). [mod. f. Gr. *μικρό-s* small + *σεισμό-s* earthquake : see -GRAPH.] An instrument for recording slight earth tremors, as well as the feeble effects of distant earthquake shocks.

1881 *Friends' Intelligencer* XXXVIII. 556 The Microseismograph..with which Professor Palmieri..may detect the first faintest quiver which hints the coming earthquake. 1899 *Nature* 30 Mar. 523/1 The microseismograph devised a few years ago by Prof. Vicentini, of Padua.

Microseismology (məikrɒsəizmɒ·lŏdʒi). [f. MICROSEISM + -OLOGY.] The study or science of minute earth-tremors.

1884 *Chamb. Jrnl.* 762 The study of these slight movements of our great Mother is called microseismology. 1884 *Athenæum* 1 Nov. 566/2 The new branch of science which is directed to the observation of these minute tremors is to be called micro-seismology.

Microseismometry (məikrɒsəizmɒ·mĕtri). [f. MICROSEISM + -(O)METRY.] The art or process of measuring slight earth tremors.

1889 *Nature* 7 Feb. 338/1 The account that is given of the labours of Italian observers in the field of microseismometry is meagre and unsatisfactory.

Microseme (məi·krɒsīm), *a.* and *sb. Anthropology.* [a. F. *microsème* (Broca), f. Gr. *μικρό-s* small + *σῆμα* sign, 'index'.] a. *adj.* Of a skull: Having a small orbital index, i. e. one below 83. b. *sb.* A skull having an orbital index below 83.

1878 [see MESOSEME]. 1880 *Nature* 8 Jan. 224 The now extinct Tasmanian race was .. prognathous, platyrhine, microseme. 1886 A. MACALISTER in *Jrnl. Anthrop. Inst.* XVI. 150 The skulls agree with the ordinary Bushman skull in most respects, being microseme, platyrhine, tapeinocephalic, mesaticephalic. 1897 SHRUBSALL *ibid.* XXVII. 283 A special feature of the Akka skull is the microseme orbit.

Microseptum: see MICRO- 1.

Microsiphon (məikrɒsəi·fən). *Zool.* [f. MICRO- + SIPHON.] The small siphon, or siphuncle, characteristic of the majority of Nautiloids and Ammonoids.

1887 HYATT in *Proc. Boston Soc. Nat. Hist.* 402 None of these forms, however, attained a true microsiphon.

‖ **Microsiphonula** (məikrŏsifō·niňlă). *Zool.* [mod.L. dim. of prec.: see -ULE.] A larval stage in certain Cephalopods, when the microsiphon begins. Hence **Microsipho·nular** *a.*, of or pertaining to the microsiphonula stage. **Microsipho·nulate** *a.*, having a microsiphonula stage. **Microsiphonula·tion**, the formation of the microsiphonula stage.

1887 HYATT in *Proc. Bost. Soc. Nat. Hist.* XXIII. 401 This was the beginning of the small siphon and can be appropriately termed the Microsiphonula. The microsiphonula was the typical stage of nearly all the known genera of Nautiloids. *Ibid.* 402 These organs entirely disappeared in the true microsiphonulate forms. *Ibid.*, Sannionites was a genus in which the siphon was smaller than in Endoceras, and probably..inherited the tendency to microsiphonulation at the first septum at an earlier age than in Endoceras.

Microsiphuncle (məikrɒsifv·ŋk'l). *Zool.* [f. MICRO- + SIPHUNCLE.] = MICROSIPHON.

1893 HYATT in *Proc. Amer. Phil. Soc.* XXIII. 414 The metanepionic substage must obviously begin with the advent of the characteristics of the tubular microsiphuncle.

Microsome (məi·krɒsoum). *Biol.* Also quasi-L. microso·ma, *pl.* -so·mata. [mod.L. *mīcrosōma*, f. Gr. *μικρό-s* small + *σῶμα* body.] A name given by Hanstein (1880) to certain small granules which abound in vegetating cells of protoplasm. So **Microso·matous** *a.*, epithet applied to animals of minute size (Mayne *Expos. Lex.* 1856).

1885 GOODALE *Physiol. Bot.* 211 Imbedded in the protoplasm,..there are generally minute granules which have a high degree of refringency..; these are the microsomata of Hanstein. 1887 WARD tr. *Sachs' Physiol. Plants* 79 This.. is thickly set with very numerous small granules (microsomes). 1900 EWART tr. *Pfeffer's Physiol. Plants* (ed. 2) I. ii. 43 Cytoplasm may contain minute bodies..which..may be termed microsomes or microsomata.

Microsomite (məikrɒsɒ·məit). *Zool.* [f. MICRO- + SOMITE.] A permanent segment formed during the embryonic stage of an insect. Hence **Microsomi·tic** *a.*, belonging to a microsomite.

1888 *Amer. Naturalist* XXII. 941 The secondary or microsomitic segmentation of the primitive body. *Ibid.* 942 If the macrosomites of the primitive body were to persist, as such, together with their later subdivisions (microsomites).

Microsommite (məikrɒsɒ·məit). *Min.* [f. Gr. *μικρό-s* small, as being in small crystals + *Somma*, name of one of the volcanic peaks of Vesuvius + -ITE. Named by A. Scacchi 1872 (Chester).] An impure silicate of aluminium and other bases, found in the matter discharged from volcanos.

1885 in *Cassell's Encycl. Dict.* 1900 DANA *Min.* (ed. 6) 411 Davyne is in part at least microsommite.

Microspe·ctroscope. [f. MICRO- + SPECTROSCOPE.] A combination of the microscope and spectroscope devised by Sorby and Browning for the examination of very minute traces of substances.

1867 J. HOGG *Microsc.* I. ii. 115 Such additions as the microspectroscope can be as easily used with it as in the old form. 1895 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 460 Human hæmoglobin invariably crystallizes in the reduced condition, as may be shown by the micro-spectroscope.

Hence **Mi·crospectrosco·pic** *a.*, of or pertaining to the microspectroscope; **Microspectro·scopy**, the art or process of using the microspectroscope (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1890).

1871 tr. *Schellen's Spectr. Anal.* 454 Relating to the microspectroscopic and microspectroscope investigations.

Microspermous: see MICRO- 4.

Microsphere, -spherulitic: see MICRO- 1, 4.

Microspined, -splenic: see MICRO- 4.

Microsporange (məi·krɒ|spɒræ·ndʒ). Also in mod.L. form -sporangium. [f. MICRO- + SPORANGE.] A capsule containing microspores.

1881 J. S. GARDNER in *Nature* XXIV. 75 When the microsporangium or seed becomes detached. 1875 [see MACROSPORANGE]. 1882 *Gard. Chron.* XVIII. 40 The microspores ..occupy the cavity of the microsporange. 1887 WARD tr. *Sachs' Phys. Plants* xlii. 746 The..micro-sporangia become expelled. 1900 in JACKSON *Gloss. Bot.*

Microspore (məi·krɒspōə1). [f. MICRO- + SPORE.]

1. *Bot.* and *Path.* A parasitic fungus which has small spores, characteristic of ringworm. = MICROSPORON.

1856 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Microsporum* .. term for the cryptogamious plant in *Porrigo decalvans*,..a microspore. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 855 The microspores and trichophytes all belong to the same family,

2. *Bot.* A small spore, especially one connected with reproduction.

1858 CARPENTER *Veg. Phys.* § 734 One containing a mass of fine powdery granules (microspores); the other including only three or four roundish fleshy bodies (megaspores). 1875 BENNETT & DYER *Sachs' Bot.* 336 The Marsiliaceæ and Selaginellæ produce their antherozoids within the microspore itself. 1877 LE CONTE *Elem. Geol.* (1879) 355 [There are in Lepidodendrids] two kinds of spores—microspores and macrospores—corresponding to stamens and pistils.

3. *Zool.* A spore-like form in Protozoa. Also used for MICROGAMETE.

1882 KENT *Man. Infusoria* II. 870 Microspores. The spore-like elements, of exceedingly minute size but very numerous, produced through the encystment and subsequent subdivision of many monads. 1905 MCCABE tr. *Haeckel's Evol. Man* I. 140 The smaller microspores have the same shape as the larger macrospores.

Hence **Microspo·ric** *a. Bot.*, of or pertaining to a microspore (Webster 1897). **Mi·crospo·rous** *a. Bot.*, having small seeds or grains (Mayne *Expos. Lex.* 1856); resembling or derived from a microspore (*Cent. Dict.* 1890).

Microsporidian: see MICRO- 1.

‖ **Microsporon** (məikrɒ·spŏrɒn). *Bot.* [mod. L., f. Gr. *μικρό-s* small + *σπορά* or *σπόρος* seed, SPORE.] = MICROSPORE 1. Also *attrib.*

1876 tr. *Wagner's Gen. Pathol.* 217 Klebs describes as septic, or tertiary hæmorrhages those dependent on the penetration of his microsporon into the arteries or veins. 1898 P. MANSON *Trop. Diseases* xxxvii. 581, I believe that those cases of microsporon..dhobie itch are more easily cured than the trichophyton varieties. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 776 In microsporon ringworm also, there are round bald patches.

Microsporophyl(l: see MICRO- 1.

Microsthene (məi·krŏsθīn). *Zool.* [mod.L. *Microsthena* pl. (see below), f. Gr. *μικρό-s* small + *σθένος* strength.] A member of the *Microsthena*, one of the orders in Dana's classification of the Mammalia, comprising the smallest and structurally least powerful mammals. Hence **Microsthe·nic** *a.*, of or pertaining to the microsthenes. (Cf. MEGASTHENE.)

1862 DANA *Man. Geol.* 345 They are of a small type..such as are styled Microsthenic in the remarks on Mammals. *Ibid.* 421 The Microsthenes .. the inferior type. 1863 — in *Amer. Jrnl. Sci.* Ser. II. XXXVI. 9 A general structural characteristic may yet be detected corresponding to these megasthenic and microsthenic qualities. 1876 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex.*, *Microsthenes*, a group of the mammalia having a small size. 1890 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Microsthenes* .. *Microsthenic.*

Microstome, -stomatous, -stomous: see MICRO- 1, 4.

Micro-structure, -stylar: see MICRO- 2 b, 4.

Microstylous (məikrɒstəi·lŏs), *a. Bot.* [mod. f. Gr. *μικρό-s* small + *στῦλο-s* pillar, STYLE + -OUS.] Having a short style in association with elevated anthers.

1887 WARD tr. *Sachs' Phys. Plants* xlv. 790 When the pollen of the macrostylous flowers is transferred to the microstylous stigma.

Microtasimeter, -telephone: see MICRO- 6.

Microtherm (məi·krɒθɑm). *Bot.* [f. Gr. *μικρό-s* small + *θέρμη* heat, *θερμός* hot.] A plant, native of an arctic or alpine region.

1875 J. G. BAKER *Bot. Geog.* 48 Microtherm, characteristic of the arctic-alpine zone. *Ibid.* 50 The seeds of many of the Microtherms ..will germinate at a temperature of little over 32°. 1884 *Trans. Vict. Inst.* 38 Microtherms—plants inhabiting alpine or arctic regions. 1888 *Our Earth & its*

Story (ed. Brown) II. 275 *note*, *Microtherms*, plants of the Arctic-Alpine zone. 1900 JACKSON *Gloss. Bot.*

Microtome (mə·ikrŏtōum). [f. Gr. *μικρό-ς* small + *-τόμος* that cuts, f. *τομ-*, *τεμ-*, root of *τέμνειν* to cut.] An instrument for cutting extremely thin sections for microscopic work.

1856 CARPENTER *Microsc. & Rev.* 211 The 'microtome' of M. Strauss-Durckheim. 1864 in WEBSTER. 1875 H. G. BIAD in *Q. Jrnl. Microsc. Sci.* XV. 24 If placed dry in a rigid tube, as that of the microtome..the addition of..water will..cause the pith-cells to expand.

Hence **Microto·mic, Microto·mical** *adjs.*, relating to the use of the microtome. **Microto·mist**, one expert in the use of the microtome. **Microto·my**, the scientific use of the microtome.

1885 LEE (*title*) The Microtomist's Vade-Mecum. 1887 *Amer. Naturalist* XXI. 1130 The development of microtomical technique has made it a comparatively easy matter.

Microtylote, -volt, -weber: see MICRO- 1, 5.

Microxea: see MICRO- 1.

‖ **Microzoa** (məikrɒzōu·ă), *sb. pl. Zool.* In *sing.* **-zoon** (-zōu·ŏn). [mod.L., f. Gr. *μικρό-ς* small + *ζῷον* animal.] A general name for infusoria, rotifers, etc. Hence **Microzo·al, Microzo·ic** *adjs.*, of the nature of, containing, or consisting of microzoa.

1862 STODDART in *Q. Jrnl. Microsc. Sci.* II. 150 These small microzoa seem to be the most ubiquitous of any known beings. *Ibid.* 147 Its zoophytes and other microzoic wonders. 1876 PAGE *Adv. Text-bk. Geol.* xx. 440 The innumerable organisms in microphytal and microzoal deposits. 1884 BRADY in *Challenger Rep., Zool.* IX. 136 Microzoa from the Upper Lias of Banbury. *Ibid.* 148 In microzoic strata.

Microzoan (məikrɒzōu·ăn), *a.* and *sb. Zool.* [f. MICROZOA: see -AN.] **a.** *adj.* Pertaining to the Microzoa. **b.** *sb.* Any member of the Microzoa (*Cassell's Encycl. Dict.* Suppl. 1902).

Microzo·ary. *Zool.* [ad. mod.L. *mīcrozōaria*, pl. of **mīcrozōarion*, f. Gr. *μικρό-ς* small + *ζῳάριον* dim. of *ζῷον* animal.] = MICROZOON.

1863 SLACK in *Intell. Observ.* Dec. 379 During the fœtid stage he [*sc.* Lemaire] observed thirty species of microzoaries.

So **Microzoa·rian**, *a.* and *sb.* = MICROZOAN (*Cent. Dict.* 1890).

Microzoogonidium: see MICRO- 1.

Microzooid (məikrɒzōu·oid), *sb.* and *a.* [f. MICRO- + ZOOID.] **a.** *sb.* (See quot.) **b.** *adj.* Pertaining to a microzooid (*Cent. Dict.* 1890).

1882 KENT *Man. Infusoria* II. 870 *Microzooids*, free-swimming zooids of abnormally minute size, which conjugate with, or become buried within the substance of the bodies of the normally sized sedentary animalcules of many Vorticellidæ.

Microzoology: see MICRO- 2.

Microzoon: sing. of MICROZOA.

Microzoospore: see MICRO- 1.

Microzyme (mə·ikrɒzəim). *Phys.* Also **microzyma** (məikrɒzəi·mă). [mod. f. Gr. *μικρό-ς* small + *ζύμη* yeast: cf. ZYMIC.] A zymotic microbe; one of a class of minute and lowly organized living beings, to whose presence are attributed epidemic and other zymotic diseases.

1873 HUXLEY *Critiques & Addr.* x. 242 Two of the most destructive of epizoötic diseases .. are also dependent for their existence..upon extremely small living solid particles, to which the title of microzymes is applied. 1881 *Athenæum* 23 July 118/2 These microzymas and those of chalk and other rocks have the same origin as the microzymas of every living organism. 1885-8 FAGGE & PYE-SMITH *Princ. Med.* (ed. 2) 25 The word 'microzyme' was suggested by Béchamp and adopted by Sanderson. 1902 *Longm. Mag.* July 257 Water which he had obtained from the purest ice contained microzymes.

† **Mi·ction.** *Obs.* [ad. late L. *mictiōn-em* (also *minctiōn-em*), n. of action f. *mingĕre* to make water. Cf. F. *miction.*] The action of urinating.

1663 H. MORE *Div. Dial.* I. 372 But the Laws of Miction amongst those of the West-Indies is a pitch of Slovenliness beyond all Cynicism, the men and women not sticking to let fly their Urine even while they are conversing with you. 1689 G. HARVEY *Curing Dis. by Expect.* viii. 60 The risque of a troublesome Cure of the Wound, that seldom is performed without..difficulty of miction. 1856 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*

Micturate (mi·ktiŭre·it), *v.* [Incorrectly f. L. *micturīre*: see MICTURIENT. (The sense is incorrect as well as the form.)] *intr.* To urinate.

1842 *Lancet* 26 Mar. 903/2 Another, in long-winded phrase, tells us that his patient 'desires to micturate'. 1889 J. M. DUNCAN *Clin. Lect. Dis. Wom.* xxvii. (ed. 4) 220 She now complains of pain on micturating. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 19 If the transverse spinal lesion be complete, the desire to micturate will be lost.

† **Mictu·rient,** *a. Obs.* [ad. L. *micturient-em*, pres. pple. of *micturīre*, desiderative vb. f. *mict-*, *minct-*, *mingĕre* to make water.] Desirous of making water.

1654 GAYTON *Pleas. Notes* IV. xxii. 274 Which..gave Sancho to perceive his condition very micturient, and cacaturient.

Micturition (miktiŭri·ʃən). [agent-n. f. L. *micturīre*: see MICTURIENT. Cf. F. *micturition.*] The desire to make water; a morbid frequency in the voiding of urine. Often incorrectly used for: The action of making water.

1725 HUXHAM in *Phil. Trans.* XXXIII. 388 In the confluent kind, generally a Micturition and Dysury came on about the 12th, or 13th Day. 1799 *Med. Jrnl.* II. 200 Frequent painful micturition. 1818-20 E. THOMPSON *Cullen's Nosol. Method.* (ed. 3) 256 Without swelling of the hypogastrium or micturition. 1860 SIR H. THOMPSON *Dis. Prostate* (1868) 58 The barrier which the swollen prostate offers to micturition. 1889 J. M. DUNCAN *Clin. Lect. Dis. Wom.* xxix. (ed. 4) 236 Micturition very difficult.

Mid (mid), *a.*, *sb.*[1], and *adv.* Forms: 1 mid(d)-, 3-6 myd, 4 myde, 4-7 midde, 5 mydde, 6 midd, 3- mid. [Com. Teut. and Indogermanic: OE. *midd* (found only in inflected forms, *midde*, *middes*, *midre*, *midne*, etc.) corresponds to OFris. *midde*, *medde*, OS. *middi*, OHG. *mitti* (MHG. *mitte*), ON. *mið-r*, Goth. *midjis* :—OTeut. **meðjo-* :—Indogermanic **medhyo-*, whence Skr. *mádhya*, Zend *maidya*, Gr. *μέσσος* (:—**methyos*), later *μέσος*, L. *medius*, OCeltic *medio-* (in place-names), OIrish *mide* sb., middle.]

A. *adj.*

1. In partitive concord, expressing adjectivally the sense: (The) middle or midst of. (In mod. Eng. usually hyphened.)

Originally *mid* in this sense could be used without restriction, but in mod.Eng. its application has been greatly narrowed. It is still extensively used in scientific and technical language; and it is common (though rather literary than colloquial) in advb. phrases formed with *in* prep., the article being most frequently omitted, as *in mid-career*, *in mid-volley* (see d); but the use of phrases of this type not traditionally current is apt to seem affected. The attributive use of the combinations of *mid-* is also frequent.

c 1160 *Hatton Gosp.* Mark vi. 47 And þa æfen wæs þæt scyp wæs on midre sæ. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 3605 Ac williams spere was stef wittow for sope, & mette þat oþer man in þe midde scheld. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XVIII. 132 Quhen in myd cawse war thai [etc.]. *a* 1400 *Sir Perc.* 2062 The clobe in the erthe stode To the midschafte it wode. 1489 *Paston Lett.* III. 347 It [a whale] is xj. fadam and more of length, and ij. fadam of hygnes..in the mydde fyssh. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* IV. ii. 53 Begyn scho wald to tell furth hir intent And in the myd word stop, and hald hir still. 1557-75 *Diurn. of Occurr.* (Bannatyne Cl.) 104 Quhair at ane tabill sat the quenis Majestie at mydburd. 1609 T. HEYWOOD *Troia Brit* ii. 2 Nor did that Nation first on earth begin Vnder the mid Equator. 1610 HEALEY *St. Aug. Citie of God* XVI. viii. (1620) 548 Some that haue but one eye in their mid-fore-head. 1618 M. BARET *Horsemanship* I. 48 He must obserue that the vse of the hand is not to cut and teare the Horses mouth vp to the mid-cheeke, as many heauy hands doe. 1647 J. HALL *Poems* II. 104 Thou who canst stop the Sea In her mid-rage, stop me. *a* 1667 MILTON in Birch *Life* M.'s Wks. 1738 I. 43 Next some Shepheard or companie of Merchants passing through the Mount in the time that Abram was in the midwork, relate to Sarah what they saw. 1681 DRYDEN *Span. Friar* I. i, I'll plant my Colours down In the Mid-breach. 1727-46 THOMSON *Summer* 9 Hence, let me haste into the mid-wood shade. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* IX. 954 Now Sons of Riot in Mid-Revel rage. 1753 G. WEST *Odes of Pindar*, etc. I. 228 The sacred Image, that fell down from Heav'n, In the Mid-Gally utter'd thus her Voice. 1810 SIR A. BOSWELL *Edinb.* Poet. Wks. (1871) 48 In mid-street, fit theme for laureate bard, The proper Castle of the City Guard. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* III. xiv, The plough was in mid-furrow stayed. 1818 KEATS *Endym.* I. 18 The mid-forest brake, Rich with a sprinkling of fair musk-rose blooms. 1829 SCOTT *Doom of Devorgoil* III. iv, We counter'd..even in mid-chamber. 1833 L. RITCHIE *Wand. by Loire* 59 A column of smoke rising from the mid-surface of a perpendicular rock. 1852 WIGGINS *Embanking* 86 Between the mid-tide level and the low-water level of neaps. *Ibid.*, An hour before mid-ebb, and for the same time after mid-flow. 1853 GROTE *Greece* II. lxxxviii. XI. 513 Though this seems a strange proceeding during mid-war, yet [etc.]. 1853 WHYTE MELVILLE *Digby Grand* I. viii. 206 Every oar above the surface, as though arrested in mid-stroke by a charm. 1859 TENNYSON *Elaine* 553 A Prince In the mid night and flourish of his May. *Ibid.* 874 Yet the great knight in his mid-sickness made Full many a holy vow and pure resolve. 1860 READE *Cloister & H.* xxxvii, He..suddenly rising in mid narrative, said [etc.]. 1862 G. A. LAWRENCE *Barr. Hon.* I. v. 95 Just as a fencer might do touched sharply in mid-chest by his opponent's foil. 1871 FARRAR *Witn. Hist.* ii. 82 A prophet of anarchy and naturalism, in the mid confession of his faith. 1873 RUSKIN *Fors Clav.* xxiii. 17 If the spider, or other monster in mid web, ate you. 1879 SIR G. G. SCOTT *Lect. Archit.* I. 278 By placing the glass in..the mid-thickness of the wall. 1896 *Brit. Birds* I. 41 It will stop in midflight and poise itself. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 94 Occasionally it [*sc.* a pain] is felt in the mid-axilla.

b. With article or possessive adj. interposed between the adj. and sb. *Obs.*

Prob. due to association with the construction of *on middan*: see AMID. Cf. the still surviving similar use of HALF *a.* (t b).

c 897 K. ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* xlix. 383 Gað from ȝeate to ȝeate ðurh midde ða ceastre. *a* 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* v. i. § 2 Ða we ða wæron on midre ðære sæ. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 146 Hwni drawest tu ut þine rihte hond of midden þine boseme [tr. L. *de medio sinu*]? *c* 1420 *Liber Cocorum* (1862) 19 Be sleȝe and powre in water þenne To myd þo pot.

c. Prefixed to the name of a month or season, or the designation of a period of time. Also in † *mid eld*, middle age.

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* III. 162 He leng ne leofað þonn on midre ilde. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 4005 Amidde harnest [MS. δ at myd harnest] we þe setteþ day of þis nexte ȝere. *a* 1330 *Roland & V.* 10 Opon his fest in midmay Ther on is front of gret noblay. 14.. *Stockh. Med. MS.* II. 332 in *Anglia* XVIII. 315 Betwen mydde march & mydde aprille. *c* 1485 *E. E. Misc.* (Warton Cl.) 11 At myd-undure-none wonderly I waxe. 1508 DUNBAR *Twa Mariit Wemen* 297 He was a man of myd eld. 1586 EARL OF LEICESTER *Corr.* (Camden) 251, I would haue Antwerpe towne and Burges or midd June. 1615 BRATHWAIT *Strappado* (1878) 130 Bout mid-belten twas. 1722 DE FOE *Plague* (Rtldg.) 25 It was now mid-July. 1859 TENNYSON *Geraint* 612 As a leaf in mid-November is To what it was in mid-October. 1893 F. ADAMS *New Egypt* 86 From mid-June to mid-October. 1896 HOWELLS *Impressions & Exp.* 222 The wind rises, and by mid-afternoon, blows half a gale. 1902 B. GRUNDY *Thames Camp* 123, I have trouble over my mid-morning bathes on account of passing boats.

d. In various customary collocations or combinations with sb., as *mid-career*, *-channel*, *-ocean*, *-river*, *-thigh*, *-volley*. Also **mid-brain** = MESENCEPHALON; **mid-breast** *Ent.* = MEDIPECTUS; **mid-breast-bone** *Ent.* = MESOSTERNUM; † **mid-calf**, the 'pluck' of a calf; **mid-chest** *Ent.* = MESOTHORAX; **mid-kidney** *Anat.* = MESONEPHROS; **mid-sun** (*rare*) = midday sun; **mid-totality** *Astr.*, the middle of the duration of the totality of an eclipse; **mid-wicket**, in *Cricket*, the fieldsman or his position on the off-side; when there is a corresponding fieldsman on the other side of the wicket, the two are distinguished as *mid-wicket on* (or MID-ON) and *mid-wicket off* (or MID-OFF).

1875 HUXLEY & MARTIN *Elem. Biol.* (1877) 185 The encephalon lies in the cranial cavity, which it nearly fills, and is divisible into the hind-brain, the *mid-brain, and the fore-brain. 1826 KIRBY & Sp. *Entomol.* III. xxxv. 562 We will next say something upon those..that compose the medipectus or *mid-breast. *Ibid.* 566 The central part of the medipectus, or that which passes between the mid-legs when elevated, protended, or otherwise remarkable, is called the *mesosternum* or *mid-breast-bone. 1789 FARLEY *Lond. Art Cookery* I. xi. (ed. 6) 116 A *Midcalf. Stuff a calf's heart .. and send it to the oven..When you dish it up, pour the mincemeat in the bottom.. Set the heart in the middle, and lay the [fried] liver and bacon over the minced meat. 1805 ELIZ. RAFFALD *Eng. Housekeeper* (new ed.) 101 A good way to dress a Midcalf. 1816 *Yng. Woman's Comp.* I In a Calf,..the head and inwards are called the pluck; in some places they are called the calf's race, and in others, the mid-calf. 1730-46 THOMSON *Autumn* 363 How, in his *mid-career, the spaniel, struck Stiff by the tainted gale. 1839-40 W. IRVING *Wolfert's R.* (1855) 92 He sees their concussion, man to man, and horse to horse, in mid-career. 1879 FARRAR *St. Paul* I. 207 Souls which have been arrested in mid-career by the heart-searching voice of God. 1762 MORE in *Phil. Trans.* LII. 452 It being a light Levant, ..and both ships near *mid-chanel. 1879 FROUDE *Cæsar* xvi. 267 At sunrise they were in midchannel,.. with the cliffs of Britain plainly visible. 1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* III. xxxiii. 379 A partition .. passing down vertically into the *mid-chest. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneid* I. 161 Fierce Eurus.., in *mid Ocean left them moor'd a-land. 1881 *Athenæum* 15 Jan. 97/3 Very interesting is the account of the pelagic fishes, or those which inhabit the mid ocean. 1571 GOLDING *Calvin on Ps.* lx. 1 (Interamnis) which may be termed in Englishe, (*Midriver). 1897 MARY KINGSLEY *W. Africa* 186 We paddled on towards it, hugging the right-hand bank again to avoid the mid-river rocks. 1810 SOUTHEY *Kehama* XXIII. x, The Diamond City blazing on its height With more than *mid-sun splendour. *c* 1275 *Xl Pains of Helt* 97 in *O. E. Misc.* 150 Summe..þat stondeþ vp to heore kneon And summe to heore *myd-þeyh. 1506-7 *Acc. Ld. Treas. Scotl.* (1901) III. 252 Item, for ij elne quhit, to be tua pair hos for the King to his myd thee, vijs. 1725 DE FOE *Voy. round World* (1840) 158 The grass..being as high as our mid-thigh. 1872 TENNYSON *Gareth & Lynette* 790 Mid-thigh-deep in bulrushes. 1879 PROCTOR *Rough Ways* (1880) 5 At the time of *mid-totality a bright light shone round the moon. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VI. 854 Yet half his strength he put not forth, but check'd His Thunder in *mid Volie. 1744 J. LOVE *Cricket* 15 He, at *Mid-wicket, disappoints the Foe. 1849 *Boy's Own Bk.* 78 Mid-wicket on, long slip, and mid-wicket-off. 1850 'BAT' *Cricket. Man.* 44 Mid-Wicket divides the ground between the cover point and bowler.

e. Occasionally the combination of *mid* + sb. (without prep.) is used adverbially. (Probably *mid* in this use is apprehended as a prep. = *amid*: cf. *amidships*.)

1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* v. xx. (S.T.S.) II. 214 Þai sufferit þe Inemyis to ascend myd montane. 1706 MAULE *Hist. Picts* in *Misc. Scot.* I. 59 Inch Keth lyeth mid-firth almost betwixt Leith and Kinghorn. 1808 FORSYTH *Beauties Scotl.* V. 298 About mid-hill there is commonly moss. 1837 SIR F. PALGRAVE *Merch. & Friar* (1844) 80 An open gallery, midheight in the guildhall wall. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* IV. 170 To drench his dark locks in the gurgling wave Mid-channel. 1871 — *Last Tourn.* 487 The red dream Fled with a shout, and that low lodge return'd, Mid-forest, and the wind among the boughs. 1884 CHILD *Ballads* I. 376/1 She struck him midshoulders, so that he fell to the ground. 1887 G. MEREDITH *Ballads & P.* 86 Light that Caught him mid-gallop, blazed bim home.

f. In comb. with adjs. with the general sense, 'belonging to the middle portion of the designated tract or period'; as *mid-agrarian*, *-arctic*, *-diastolic*, *-dorsal*, *-facial*, *-frontal*, *-Italian*, *-monthly*, *-thoracic*, *-Victorian* adjs.

1855 J. G. BAKER *Flower. Pl.* 9 Climatic zones...3. *Mid-agrarian to Midarctic. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 944 At the apex was heard a *mid-diastolic murmur. 1879 *St. George's Hosp. Rep.* IX. 242 The fracture was in the *mid-dorsal region. 1890 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, **Midfacial height*,.. the distance from the naso-frontal suture to the alveolar border of the superior maxillary bone measured on the median line. *Ibid.*, **Midfrontal area*, the area of the skull included between two vertical lines drawn upwards from the supra-orbital arch through the frontal eminence to the coronal suture. *Midfrontal process*, the median azygous process of the fronto-nasal process in the embryo. 1895 MACKAIL *Lat. Lit.* i. 11 The keen and narrow political instinct, by which the small and straggling *mid-Italian town grew to be arbitress of the world. 1895 *Daily News* 15 Apr.

2/6 The declaration of options for the *mid-monthly settlement gave a little animation to the first part of the day's business. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 980 It [i. e. the cardiac apex] may overpass the vertical *mid-thoracic line. 1901 *Monthly Rev.* Aug. 150 The domestic style which we in England call the *Mid-Victorian.

2. Occupying a central, medial, or intermediate position. Now *rare* (exc. as in b, c, d); superseded in ordinary use by MIDDLE *a.*

c 1440 *Jacob's Well* 187 Feendys comyn & brokyn vp .. two cheynes of þat stonyn coffre. Þe myd-cheyne was stylle hole. *c* 1550 *Exam. W. Thorpe* in Foxe *A. & M.* (1583) I. 534 In the secret of the midde Masse on Christmas day it is written thus: *Idem* [etc.]. 1577–8 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* II. 665 To remove the occasioun be sum mid and indifferent way. 1611 DONNE *Elegy on Death Pr. Henry* 85 Our Soules best baiting, and midd-period, In her long journey, of considering God. 1648 BP. HALL *Sel. Th.* § 63 Betwixt both these extremes, if we would have our souls prosper, a middisposition must be attained. 1656 STANLEY *Hist. Philos.* v. (1701) 196/1 Betwixt these is a mid-nature. *c* 1810 COLERIDGE in *Lit. Rem.* (1838) III. 339 The spirit of life in the mid or balancing state between fixation and reviviscence. 1819 KEATS *Isabella* xxxii, In the mid-days of autumn. 1838 MRS. BROWNING *Seraphim* II. (1892) 75 A woman kneels The mid cross under.

b. In collocations, generally hyphened, as *mid-current, -dish, -division, -hour, -incisor, -link, -lobe, -part, -pillar, -point, -region, -term, -toe, -vein, -walk, -zone.*

1870 LOWELL *Among my Bks.* Ser. I. (1873) 364 The *mid-current of ever-gathering faith in duty. 1764 ELIZ. MOXON *Eng. Housew.* (ed. 9) 84 They [*sc.* oyster loaves] are proper either for a side-dish or *mid-dish. 1885 *Act* 48 & 49 *Vict.* c. 23 Sched. vii. II, County of Lanark .. The *Mid Division. 1415 in *York Myst.* Introd. 34 At the *myd-howre betwix iiij^th^ and v^th^ of the cloke. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* v. 376 These mid-hours, til Eevning rise I have at will. 1703 ROWE *Ulyss.* III. i, The Mid-hour of rowling Night. 1879 FLOWER *Catal. Mus. Coll. Surg.* I. 36 The deciduous *mid-incisors, canines, and molars. 1904 *Athenæum* 25 June 821/2 Prof. W. P. Ker offers important suggestions regarding French *mid-links between the Danish and the Scottish ballads. 1870 HOOKER *Stud. Flora* 263 Lower lip spreading, *mid-lobe smallest. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 337/1 Myddys, or the *myd part of a thynge, *medium.* 1665 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (1677) 121 Their mid parts circled with a Zone of vari-coloured Plad. 1535 COVERDALE *Judg.* xvi. 29 He toke holde of ye two *mydpilers, that the house stode vpon & was holden by. *c* 1369 CHAUCER *Dethe Blaunche* 660 Therwith fortune sayd checke here And mate in *mydde poynte of ye checkere. 1856 HAWTHORNE *Eng. Note-bks.* (1879) II. 80 The dreary midpoint of the .. plain. 1879 *St. George's Hosp. Rep.* IX. 80 In one, the left *mid-region was the part most involved. 1869 J. MARTINEAU *Ess.* II. 231 [We] refer it to the *mid-term of ordinary life. 1894 *Geol. Mag.* Oct. 454 Projecting at a right angle to the line of the *mid-toe. 1857 T. MOORE *Handbk. Brit. Ferns* (ed. 3) 168 Venation (pinnules) consisting of a flexuous *midvein. 1860 ALLINGHAM in *Athenæum* 10 Mar. 340 By yellow-leafy *midwalk slow foots that aged Sexton. 1886 A. WINCHELL *Walks Geol. Field* 115 A constant temperature would then exist .. at the *mid-zone in the crust.

c. *Mid-sixties, -nineties* etc.: the middle years of the seventh, tenth, etc., decade of a century.

1898 *Nat. Rev.* Aug. 843 In the mid-sixties, abundant experiment had seemed to show that [etc.]. 1900 *Daily News* 1 June 6/4 The progress which has been made since the mid-nineties in the fostering of Irish not only as a literary, but as a spoken language.

d. Special collocations: **mid-angle**, an angle of 45° (*Cent. Dict.* 1890); **mid-circle**, †(*a*) the great circle equidistant from the poles of a sphere; (*b*) the circle passing through the middle points of the sides of a triangle; †**mid cost**, the midrib; **mid couple**, *Sc.* †(*a*) a link for fastening garments; (*b*) *pl.* in *Law*, the documents by which an heir, assignee, etc., is connected with a precept of sasine granted to his predecessor or author; †**mid-dinner**, a meal between dinner and supper; **mid-distance** = *middle distance*; **mid-finger** (*obs.* exc. *dial.*) = *middle-finger*; **mid-gut**, the mesenteron; **mid-impediment**, *Sc. Law* (see quot. 1838); **mid-iron** *Golf*, an 'iron' with medium degree of 'pitch' or 'loft'; also a stroke made with this; †**mid knowledge**, mediate knowledge; **mid-layer** *Biol.* = MESODERM (*Cent. Dict.*); **mid-line**, a median line; †**mid-meat**, ? = *mid-dinner*; †**mid-motion**, mean motion; **mid-parent** *Anthropol.* (see quot. 1889); **mid-parentage**, relation to the 'mid-parent'; so **mid-parental** *a.*; †**mid-part** *adv.*, as far as the middle, half-way; †**mid-person** *Sc.*, an intermediary; †**mid-row grains** *Coal Mining* (see quot.); **mid-spoon** *Golf*, a 'spoon' of medium size; †**mid-Sunday**, the Sunday next Midsummer day; **mid superior** *Sc. Law*, one who is superior to those below him, and vassal to those above him (Ogilvie 1882), a mesne lord; hence **mid-superiority**, the position of a mid-superior; **mid-watch**, the middle watch; **mid-workings**, workings with other workings above and below in the same mine or colliery (Gresley *Coal-mining Gloss.* 1883).

1790 WILDBORE in *Phil. Trans.* LXXX. 529 If the two great circles DOE, CQA, be continued, they will meet in a point of the *midcircle 90° from O. 1883 Mid-circle [see INCIRCLE *sb.*]. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* v. 824 Baith cannell bayne an schuldir blaid intwa, Throuch the *myd cost.

1583 *Invent. Roy. Wardrobe* (1815) 309 With twa buttonis or *midcuppillis of gold joynit to the saidis settis. 1832 MOAE *Note* in Stair *Instit.* I. clix, Where an heir [etc.] .. takes infeftment by virtue of a procuratory of resignation or precept of seisin granted in favour of his predecessor or author, it is necessary to set forth, in the instrument, the mid-couples, or writings, whereby he is connected with the said procuratory or precept. 14.. *Nom.* in Wr.-Wülcker 739/18 *Hoc auncinium, hoc inuranda, hoc mararium*, a *myddyner undermete. 1842 FRANCIS *Dict. Arts* etc., s. v. *Distance*, The *mid-distance. 1885 *Athenæum* 23 May 669/1 In the mid-distance is a clump of sober-coloured and softly shadowed elms. 1644 BULWER *Chiron.* 76 The *Mid-finger prest to the Palm. 1875 F. M. BALFOUR in *Q. Jrnl. Microsc. Sci.* XV. 213 The ventral wall of the *mid-gut. 1880 HUXLEY *Crayfish* ii. 66 The liver may be regarded as a much divided side-pouch of the mid-gut. 1896 KIRKALDY & POLLARD tr. *Boas' Zool.* 23 The mid-gut (mesenteron), which is usually long, and in which digestion and absorption go on. 1838 W. BELL *Dict. Law Scot.* 644 *Mid-impediment; the Romanlaw *medium impedimentum*; is any thing which intervenes between two events, and prevents, *quoad* the former event, the retrospective operation of the latter. 1856 MENZIES *Convey.* III. iii. 605 There shall be no mid-impediment. 1905 *Westm. Gaz.* 23 Aug. 5/1 Braid, with a magnificent *mid-iron, was dead on the pin. 1640 BP. HALL *Chr. Modcr.* II. vi. 36 Betwixt which two some have placed a third, a *mid-knowledge of future conditionate Contingents. 1868 W. K. PARKER *Shoulder-Girdle Vertebr.* 8 There is no stoppage of the ossification at the *mid-line. *c* 1435 *Torr. Portugal* 1189 He wold not in passe, Till they at *myd mete was. 1588 A. KING tr. *Canisius' Catech.* i. iv, To seike yerlie hir place in ye zodiake according to hir *midde motion on ye letter day of december at noone. 1885 GALTON in *Rep. Brit. Assoc.* 1212 A mean regression from 1 in the *mid-parents to ¼ in the offspring would indicate [etc.]. 1889 — *Nat. Inher.* 87 The word 'Mid-Parent' .. expresses an ideal person of composite sex, whose Stature is half way between the Stature of the father and the transmuted Stature of the Mother. 1885 — in *Rep. Brit. Assoc.* 1209 By the use of this word ['deviate'] and that of '*mid-parentage', we can define the law of regression very briefly. *Ibid.*, The offspring of similar mid-parentages. *Ibid.* 1208 The average height of the two parents, or, as I prefer to call it, the '*mid-parental' height. 1583 *Leg. Bp. St. Androis* 1058 Or ever the preiching was *midpartdone. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* II. 505 Betuix Scotland and Ingland for till be Ane *mid persone haifand auctoritie. 1567 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 590 Mark .. hes gevin and set in fewferme to his spous and bairnis be ane myd persoun, the saidis mylnis. 1609 SKENE *Reg. Maj., Stat. David II* 42 It is lesome to them to cause their campions or ane midde persone to fecht againis the defender. 1712 H. BELLERS in *Phil. Trans.* XXVII. 542 A hard grey Iron Oar, with some white spots in it, called the *Mid-row Grains. 1862 *Rambling Remarks on Golf* 13 In some links, several of these clubs, such as the *mid-spoon, baffing-spoon, driving putter, and niblick may be dispensed with; but in greens such as St. Andrews, Musselburgh, Prestwich, and some others, they all come into requisition more or less. 1906 *Price List Golf Clubs*, Bulger Mid Spoons. 14.. in *Rel. Ant.* I. 85 The Pame sonday be-fele that yere one *Mydesonday. 1850 G. ROSS *Leading Cases Law Scot.* II. 316 His taking up the *mid-superiority of the lands sold was no obstacle. 1535 COVERDALE *Judg.* vii. 19 Aboute the time whan the *myd-watch begynneth. 1901 *Munsey's Mag.* XXV. 344/2 Another kind of deep sea courage is known as 'mid-watch Pluck'.

B. *sb.*[1] *Obs.* exc. *dial.*

1. The *adj.* used *absol.* = MIDDLE *sb.* in various senses.

a 1300 *E. E. Psalter* cxxxv. 11 Þat led Irael fra mid of Þa. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 9765 (Kölbing) Ȝete he tok þe þridde & cleued him to þe midde. *c* 1400 *Three Kings Cologne* 121 (Camb. MS.) Euerych of þe ij kyngis departed a-sonder and ȝaf place to her thrid felowe, and so resceyued hym to lye in þe mydde bitwix hem boþe. *a* 1542 WYATT *Ps.* li. The Author 3 Like as the pilgrim .. In some fresh shade lieth down at mid of day. 1561 HOLLYBUSH *Hom. Apoth.* 21 The urioe is whyte, thick, and pale above and in the midde it is clere. 1566 PAINTER *Pal. Pleas.* I. Ded. 5 Among the mid of my reioyce of those before remembred, I cannot pretermit the lamentable loss of the best approued Gonner that euer [etc.]. 1634–5 BREERETON *Trav.* (Chetham Soc.) 46 A great number of Dutchwomen, who resolved to keep their seats in the mid of the aisle. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* III. ii. § 58 Next his skin he was a Hermite, and wore sack-cloth; in the midd he had the habit of a Monk. 16.. *Robin Hood newly revived* iii. in Child *Ballads* III. 145/1 It was in the mid of the day. 1700 DRYDEN *Fables, Cinyras & Myrrha* 124 'Twas now the mid of Night. 1851 *Cumbld. Gloss.*, *Mid*, the middle; the centre.

b. *Comb.*: **Mid-deep** adv., as deep as the middle of the body.

1812 J. J. HENRY *Camp. agst. Quebec* 91 Jumping into the water middeep.

2. A lamb of medium class.

1831 *Sutherland Farm Rep.* 80 in *Libr. Usef. Knowl., Husb.* III, The wedder lambs are divided into three sorts, called tups, mids, and paleys.

†**C.** *adv.* In the middle. *Obs.*

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1730 Ȝe he lad hem bi laȝ, mon, þe lorde & his meyny; On þis maner bi þe mountes, quyle myd, ouer, vnder. 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 4680 To clothe the poore, wych nakyd stood Myd off the gate. 1570–6 LAMBARDE *Peramb. Kent* (1826) 197 It ran midde betweene the two Bishopricks.

Mid (mid), *sb.*[2] Jocular shortening of MIDSHIPMAN. Cf. MIDDY.

1797 MRS. A. M. BENNETT *Beggar Girl* (1813) III. 120 He put on the uniform of a mid. 1836 MARRYAT *Midsh. Easy* xxv, When a mid is in love, he always goes aloft to think of the object of his affection. 1893 SLOANE-STANLEY *Remin. Midshipm. Life* xxii. 301 On reaching the gun-room they were received by the expectant Mids with a host of questions.

†**Mid,** *prep.*[1] (*adv.*). *Obs.* Forms: 1–4 **mid,** myd, 1–3 **miȝ,** 3 midd. Also (before dentals and sibilants) 1–3 **mit,** 3 **myȝt.** See also MIDE. [Com. Tent.; OE. *mid,* Northumb. *mið,* corresponds to OFris. *milh,* OS. *mid* (Du. *met*), OHG. (MHG., mod.G.) *mit,* ON. *með* (Sw., Da. *med*), Goth. *miþ* (in comb. *mid-*), cogn. w. Gr. *μετά* (see META-) and Zend. *maṭ* with. The word became obsolete before the end of the 14th c.; superseded by WITH.

It had approximately all the modern senses of *with*, except that of opposition (as in *to fight with*), which was the prominent sense of *wiþ* in OE. In OE. *mid* and *wiþ* were sometimes opposed, as in the first quot. below; our 'with the stream' was in OE. *mid stréame*, while *wiþ stréame* meant 'against the stream'.]

1. Denoting association, connexion, accompaniment, proximity, addition, conjunction, communication, intercourse.

a 900 *O. E. Chron.* an. 837 Æþelhelm ealdorman ȝefeaht wiþ þa Deniscan on Port mid Dorsætum. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Luke xiii. 1 Þara *vel* hiora blod [pilatus] ȝemengde miþ nsæȝdnisum hiora. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 77 Hu scal þat þon soþþen na Mon mine likame irineð ne mid me flesliche hefde to donne. *a* 1200 *Moral Ode* 142 Betere is wori water drunch þen atter meind mid wine. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 248 God Almihti .. alihte adun to helle uorto sechen feolawes, & delen mid ham þet god þet he hefde. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 5859 Ac let me speke mid my broþer vor me longeþ him to se. *a* 1300 *K. Horn* (Camb. MS.) 666 'Kyng', he sede, 'wel þu sitte, And alle þine knigtes mitte'. *c* 1315 SHOREHAM v. 214 *Dominus tecum* .. (þat hys to seggene 'god es myȝtte'). *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 1468 (Kölbing), The king was wondred of þis cas & al, that euer mid him was. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 3133 And þat menskful maide þat þere myd þe lies. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. IV. 77 Wisdome and witte .. toke Mede myd hem mercy to winne. 1393 *Ibid.* C. XVII. 182 And so is man þat haþ hus mynde myd *liberum arbitrium.*

b. In the same direction as (a stream, a wind).

709 *Grant* in Birch *Cartul. Sax.* I. 183 Onlong broces midstreame. *c* 1205 LAY. 13792 Þreo scipen gode comen mid þan flode. 1340 *Ayenb.* 180 Þeruore hi byeþ ase þe wedercoc þat is ope þe steple þat him went mid eche wynde.

c. In agrecment with, following the action of; analogously to, like.

c 961 ÆTHELWOLD *Rule St. Benet* vii b. (1885) 29 And þus mittan witezan clypiȝe: 'To nahte ic wæs ȝehworfen, and ic hit nyste'. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 264 Mid te gode Iosaphat, sendeð heoden uor sondesmon anon efter sukurs to þe Prince of heouene. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. v. 75 Drynke but myd [A. v. 58 with] þe doke and dyne but ones.

2. Indicating an accompanying circumstance, condition, action, disposition of mind. With a noun expressing feeling or attitude of mind it often forms a combination equivalent to an adverb.

a 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* I. vii. (1890) 36 Mid his sylfes willan. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Josh.* vi. 25 And hiȝ siþðan leofodon mid sibbe betwux him. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 3 Heo urnen on-ȝein him al þa hebreisce men mid godere heorte and summe mid ufele þeonke. *c* 1205 LAY. 10782 Þat þu mid griðe me leten naren forð toward Rome. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 32 Þeonne ualleð adun mid þeos gretunge. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 2932 Hii come & mette hom haldeliche mid god ernest ynou. *a* 1300 *Vor & Wolf* 148 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* I. 63 Mid thilke wordes the volf lou. *c* 1300 *Beket* 451 The kyng aros mid [*earlier version* in] wrathþe ynouȝ. *c* 1315 SHOREHAM v. 331 Þanne ich dar segge mid gode ryȝte þat [etc.].

b. = Having (an attribute or quality).

c 1220 *Bestiary* 444 De deuel is tus ðe fox ilik mið iuele breides and wið swik. *Ibid.* 736 Panter .. is blac so bro of qual, mið wite spottes sapen al. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1430 Ah mit se swiðe iufsume leores ha leien [etc.].

3. Indicating (*a*) the means or instrument; (*b*) the instrumentality or cause.

a 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* I. xvi [xxvii] (1890) 74 To ðon þætte .. untrume mid þinre trymenisse syn ȝestrongade, & unrehte mid þinre aldorlicnesse seon ȝerehte. *a* 1000 *Cædmon's Gen.* 251 (Gr.) Forþon he heom ȝewit forȝeaf & mid his handum ȝeceop haliȝ drihten. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 25 He seið mið þa muðe, þet nis naut in his heorte. *Ibid.* 87 Þet heo sculden .. merki mid þan blode hore duren. *c* 1205 LAY. 23572 And no lete noht þat wræcche uolk uor-faren al mid hungre. *c* 1220 *Bestiary* 578 And to late waken, ðe sipes sinken mitte suk, ne cumen he nummor up. *a* 1225 *St. Marher.* 4 Al þat biset is mit see ant mit sunne, buuen ha ant bineoðen. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 835 Cloþeþ him mid þe beste cloþ þat ȝe mowe bise. *Ibid.* 11865 He was al so sik mid goute & oþer wo. 1340 *Ayenb.* 44 Ase doþ þise tavernyers þet uelleþ þe mesure myd scome.

4. With regard to; in respect of; touching.

a 1000 *Cædmon's Gen.* 2253 (Gr.) Þæs sie ælmihtiȝ drihtna drihten dema mid unc twih. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 47 Wich þeau wes on þe olde laȝe mid wimmen. *c* 1205 LAY. 17808 Lauerd hu mid þe? *a* 1225 *Juliana* 10 To wurchen þi wil & al þat te wel likeð as mit tin ahne. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 190/24 'Louerd', seide Saule þo, 'ȝwat woltþov do mid me?' 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 833 Alas quaþ þe quene þo, is it nou mid him so?

5. In the sight, estimation, or opinion of.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. vi. 1 Mearde nabbaȝe mið fader iurre seðe in heafnas is. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Saints' Lives* iii. 498 Þæt he him ȝeswutelode hwylc basilius wære on wurðscype mid him. *c* 1205 LAY. 12638 Þæt wes holi man .. & mid godde swiðe hæh. 1340 *Ayenb.* 182 Vor him þingþ þet he is a wel guod man and wel mid gode.

6. In the possession or power of.

a 1000 *Ags. Ps.* cxxix. [cxxx.] 4 Ys seo mildheortnes mid þe [Vulg. *apud te.*] *c* 1320 *Cast. Love* 399 Þer beþ rihte domes mitte [= mid þe], Alle þine werkes beþ ful of witte. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XVII. 167 Al þe myȝte myd hym is in makyng of þynges.

7. In adverbial phrases. (See also MIDIDONE.)

a. *Mid alle* (in OE. *mid ealle, eallum*): altogether; entirely; .. and all; at the same time, WITHAL.

a 900 *O. E. Chron.* an. 893 Swa þæt hie asettan him on anne siþ ofer mid horsum mid ealle. *c* 1000 *Ags. Leg. St. Andrew*

& St. Veronica (Camb. Antiq. Soc.) 38 Hyne myd scryne myd eallum on feastum cwearterne beclysdon. *c 1000 Ælfric Gram.* xxxviii. (Z.) 239 *Stirpitus* grundlunge oðde mid stybbe mid ealle. .. *radicitus* grundlunga oðde mid wyrttruman mid ealle. *c 1200 Trin. Coll. Hom.* 51 He gedere-rede michel ferde mid alle and sende in to ierusalem. *a 1225 Juliana* 15 Ich chulle þat he wite hit ful wel & tu eke mid al. *a 1250 Owl & Night.* 666 Her to heo moste answere vnde Oþer mid alle beon bihinde. *c 1305 St. Cristopher* 172 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 64 And tuo faire wymmen mid alle seint Cristofre he broȝte.

b. *Mid the best, the most*: as good, as great as possible. So *mid the first*, as soon as possible.

c 1205 Lay. 9801 Alle dæi þer ilæste fæht mid þan mæste. *Ibid.* 9806 Þær wes hærm mid þon meste bi-uoren Exchæstre. *a 1300 K. Horn.* 1073 Apulf, mi gode felaȝe, God knist mid [*Laud MS.* wyt] þe beste, And þe treweste. *Ibid.* 1199 (Laud MS.) Schenk hus Myd þe furste.

c. *Mid childe*: with child (see CHILD *sb.* 17).

? c 750 Laws of Abp. Egbert c. 28 (*title*) in Thorpe *Laws* II. 130 Wif ðonne heo mid cylde biþ. *c 1200 Trin. Coll. Hom.* 21 Þe holie gast wile cumen uppen þe, and godes mihte make ðe mid childe. *Ibid.*, And þus bicam ure lafdi Sainte Marie mid childe. *c 1205* Lay. 13869 Þa wif fareð mid childe. *1340 Ayenb.* 82 Þe wyfman grat myd childe.

d. *Mid iwisse*: see I-WIS *sb.*

c 1275 Sinners Beware 32 in *O. E. Misc.* 73 þat is in heouene blysse; Heo cumeþ þer myd iwisse, þat luuyeþ godes love. *c 1325 Spec. Gy Warw.* 689 He shal haue comfort and solaz Off þe holi gost..þat wole..make men haue, mid iwisse, Tristi hope to heuene blisse.

8. Placed after the word that it governs.

Beowulf 41 Him on bearme læȝ madma mæniȝo, þa him mid scoldon on flodes æht feor ȝewitan. *c 1205* Lay. 732 Cnihtes fuseð me mid [*c 1275* mid me]. *a 1240 Sawles Warde* in *Cott. Hom.* 245 For ðan þe se helende under-feng þa sinfullan and ham mid imone hafede. *a 1300 Cursor M.* 21590 Þe feurth to ber hir-self mid to constantinopil.

9. *absol.* or as *adv.* With the person or thing specified; together.

c 950 Lindisf. Gosp. Luke xiv. 15 Sume of ðæm mið vel ȝelic hlinȝendum [*L. quidam de simul discumbentibus*]. *c 1000 Sax. Leechd.* I. 158 Wið slæpleaste ȝenym þysse ylcan wyrte wos, smyre þone man mid. *c 1200 Trin. Coll. Hom.* 115 Swo us longe to him alse diden hise apostles and teo hus to him alse he hem dide and understonde mid on his riche. *a 1250 Owl & Night.* 136 Þe3 appel trendli from thon trowe, Thar he and other mid growe. *c 1400 Laud Troy Bk.* 15314 Ther him hid With twenti armed knyȝtes myd That were hardy & wondir strong.

Mid, 'mid (mid), *prep.*[2] Poetical aphesis of AMID.

1808 SCOTT *Marm.* I. xxiii, Mid thunder dint and flashing levin. 1853 M. ARNOLD *Scholar-Gipsy* vii, But 'mid their drink and clatter he would fly. 1870 MORRIS *Earthly Par., Man born to be King* 23 Mid the faces so well known Of men he well might call his own He saw a little wizened man.

Mid, dial. pronunciation of *might*, pa. t. of MAY.

1789 CHARLOTTE SMITH *Ethelinde* (1814) III. 70 To have a little item of where I mid look for her frinds. 1796 — *Marchmont* I. 235, I thought perhaps it middent be too late. 1891 T. HARDY *Tess* I. iii, You mid last ten years; you mid go off in ten months, or ten days.

‖ Mi·da. *Ent. Obs.*—° [mod.L., ad. Gr. *μίδας* 'a destructive insect in pulse' (L. & Sc.).] The larva of the bean-fly.

1753 in CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* In recent Dicts.

† Mid-age. *Obs.* [f. MID *a.* + AGE *sb.*] = MIDDLE AGE.

c 1440 Jacob's Well 171 Thynk in þi ȝouthe, in þi myd-age, & in þin age,..how þou hast mysspendyd hem in synne & in euyll gouernaunce. 1509 BARCLAY *Shyp of Folys* (1874) II. 172 Whether thou be olde, yonge, or of myd age Set nat thy trust to moche on berytage. 1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* II. ii. 104 Virgins, and Boyes, mid-age & wrinkled old. 1757 MRS. GRIFFITH *Lett. Henry & Frances* (1767) IV. 130 We.. return back, from Midage, to Childage, again.

Hence **† Mid-aged** = MIDDLE-AGED.

1556 J. HEYWOOD *Spider & F.* xxxvi. 14 Frosen to death: midaged, yonge, and olde. 1821 SIR J. D. PAUL *Rouge et Noir* 69 Now mark bis mid-aged neighbour.

Mid air. The middle region of the air; the tract between the clouds and the part of the atmosphere near the ground. Chiefly in phrase *in mid air*. Also *rarely* used as *adv.* (= in mid-air) and *attrib.*

1667 MILTON *P. L.* VI 536 Zophiel, of Cherubim the swiftest wing, Came flying, and in mid Aire aloud thus cri'd. 1706 POPE *Winter* 54 No more the mounting larks, while Daphne sings, Shall list'ning in mid air suspend their wings. 1776 J. BRYANT *Mythol.* III. 229 Here towering steep The rock Aornon rises high in view E'en to the mid-air region. 1830 LYELL *Princ. Geol.* I. 300 Large quantities of fine sand, which, being in mid-air when detached, are carried by the winds to great distances. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* I. ix, Mr. and Mrs. Boffin sat staring at mid-air. 1883 *Contemp. Rev.* June 874 A sort of spiritualistic unattached garment, floating about in mid-air. 1886 W. J. TUCKER *E. Europe* 409 All those doors mid-air lead to the lofts above.

Midan, variant of MAIDAN.

1882 MRS. B. M. CROKER *Proper Pride* II. i. 14 He..was galloping away over the moonlit midan.

Midas (mə·idæs). [a. L. *Midās*, Gr. Μίδᾶς.]

1. The name of a fabled king of Phrygia, to whom Bacchus granted that all he touched should turn to gold (a boon that had to be withdrawn to prevent his perishing of hunger), and to whom Apollo gave ass's ears as a punishment for dullness to the charm of his lyre. Hence used *allusively*.

1568 T. HOWELL *Poems* (Grosart) 150 She..will..make the weare kyng Midas eare. 1575 G. HARVEY *Letter-bk.* (Camden) 98 Eied like an Argus, eared like a Midas. 1591 NASHE *Pref. to Sidney's Astr. & Stella* A 3 A number of Midasses. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* III. ii. 102 Thou gaudie gold, Hard food for Midas. 1728 POPE *Dunc.* III. 324 Our Midas sits Lord Chancellor of Plays! 1861 MUSGRAVE *By-roads* 211 We are looked upon as men made of money,—as so many Midases, making gold with a touch.

b. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 439 Ve must vnderstand that Princes haue sometyme Argus eyes, and Midas eares. 1670 LASSELS *Voy. Italy* II. 350 Braue Raphael, whose only touch of a finger could, Midas like, turne gally pots into gold. 1784 COWPER *Task* IV. 507 Ten thousand casks, .. Touched by the Midas finger of the State, Bleed gold for ministers to sport away. 1901 E. J. DILLON in *Contemp. Rev.* Apr. 474 He is cordially hated by bankers, promoters, speculators and most men of the Midas-eared class.

2. *Midas's ear*: the shell of a gastropod, *Auricula Midæ*.

1713 PETIVER *Aquat. Anim. Amboinæ* 2 Auris Midæ.. Midas Ear. 1835 *Penny Cycl.* III. 109 *Auricula Midæ* (Lam.), *voluta auris Midæ* (Linn.), the Midas's ear of collectors, is a good example of the genus.

Miday, obs. form of MIDDAY.

Mid-course. [f. MID *a.* + COURSE.]

1. The middle of one's course. Now chiefly in phrase *in mid-course*.

1561 T. NORTON *Calvin's Inst.* III. 190 Hope stretcheth fayth to the vttermoste bonde, that it faint not in the midde course nor in the very beginning. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* XI. 204 Why in the East Darkness ere Dayes mid-course. 1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) III. 93 Three of them, in mid-course, bore off a small ring .. on the point of his lance. 1894 H. D. LLOYD *Wealth agst. Commw.* 317 The gas-company suspended its operations in mid-course.

2. A middle course or mode of procedure.

In some recent Dicts.

Middæn eard, Middanerd, var. ff. MIDDENERD.

Midday (mi·d,dē). Forms: see MID *a.* and DAY. Also 4 **miday, 6 myday.** [OE. *middæg* (also as syntactical comb.) = OHG. *mittitag* and *mitter tag* (MHG. *mittetac, mittac*, also syntactically in oblique cases *mitten tac* etc.; mod. G. *mittag*), MDu., MLG. *middach* (mod. Du. *middag*), ON. *miðdagr* and *miðr dagr* (Sw., Da. *middag*).]

1. The middle of the day; the time when the sun is at its highest point, noon.

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 47 Þriddan siþe on midne dæȝ. *c 1000 Sax. Leechd.* III. 218 On þone twelftan dæȝ byð seo sceadu to underne & to none xxv fota & to middæȝe xxii. *c 1200 Vices & Virtues* 125 Alswa wel on buton mid-niht alswa on mid-daiȝ. *a 1225 Ancr. R.* 34 Abute mid dei hwose mei, & hwose ne mei þeonne, o summe oðer time, þeoche o Godes rode. *a 1300 Floriz & Bl.* 151 Biþat hit was middai hiȝ, Floriz was þe brigge niȝ. *c 1330 Arth. & Merl.* 5189 (Kölbing) Miday passed & none cam. *c 1460 Towneley Myst.* xxvi. 522 Sich melody, myd-day ne morne, As was maide thore. *1526 Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 73 b, The lyght of the mornynge & the lyght of the myddaye .. is all of one nature. 1594 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* II. 179 They are like to men compassed and couered with darknes at Midday. *a 1631* DONNE *Lett., To M. I. W.* 8 Like infancy or age to mans firme stay, Or earely or late twilights to mid-day. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VIII. 112 Ere mid-day arriv'd In Eden. 1718 ATTERBURY *Serm.* (1734) I. vii. 184 Had he [Jesus] appeared at Mid-day to all the People, yet all the People would not have believed in him. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. vi. 42 The sun at mid-day shines down the glacier. 1866 G. MACDONALD *Ann. Q. Neighb.* xiii, The church was always clean and ready for me after about mid-day.

fig. 1837–9 HALLAM *Hist. Lit.* IV. iv. vii. § 10. 297 Her letters..were written in the mid-day of Louis's reign.

† b. *Eccl.* One of the canonical hours; = SEXT.

a 1000 Colloquy of Ælfric in Wr.-Wülcker 101/17 Æfter þisum we sungan middæȝ. *c 1050 Suppl. Ælfric's Gloss.* ibid. 175/45 *Sexta*, middæȝ. *c 1290 St. Brendan* 225 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 225 Þe foweles sunge ek here matyns wel riȝt,..& of þe sauter seide þe uers & siþþe also prime, & vnderne siþþe, & middai. *? a 1400 Morte Arth.* 1587 He salle haue maundement to-morne or myddaye be rouugene.

† 2. The South. [Cf. L. *meridies*, F. *midi.*] *Obs.*

1481 CAXTON *Myrr.* II. i, This place Aaron is named the ryght mydday as she that is sette in the myddle of the worlde. 1526 TINDALE *Acts* viii. 26 Aryse and goo towardes midde daye. 1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* III. ii. 121 The Southerne which blows from the Midday or South, is bote.

3. *attrib.*, as (in sense 1) *midday-coach, -devotions, -dinner, -heat, -light, -meal, -mealtime, -post, -rest, -slumber, -splendour, -sun, -thermometer, -time, -train*; † (in sense 2) *midday field, forest, side.* Also **† midday circle** = MERIDIAN *circle*; **† midday devil, fiend,** transl. of Vulg. *dæmonium meridianum* Ps. xc[i], for which the Eng. Bible has 'the destruction that wasteth at noonday' (cf. *meridian devil*); **midday flower,** a flower belonging to the genus *Mesembryanthemum*, which opens its flowers only for a short time at midday; **† midday line** = MERIDIAN *line*; **midday song** = sense 1 b; **† midday sphere,** ? the southern heavens; **† midday sprite** ? = *midday devil.*

1559 W. CUNNINGHAM *Cosmogr. Glasse* 21 The meridiane or *middaie circle (saith he) is described and drawen by the poles of the worlde [etc.]. 1861 DICKENS *Gt. Expect.* XXX, To London by the *mid-day coach. *a 1340* HAMPOLE *Ps.* xc[i]. 6 Thou sall noght drede..of inras and *mydday deuyll. 1534 MORE *Comf. agst. Trib.* III. ii. (1553) N vij b, In this temptacion he sheweth himself such as the prophet nameth him, *demonium meridianum*, the mid day denill. 1709 POPE *Jan. & May* 48 They style a wife..A night-invasion and a mid-day-devil. 1694 F. BRAGGE *Disc. Parables* xiii. 435 Our *midday devotions, because we are then in the midst of the dangers and temptations of the day. 1852 MISS MULOCK *Agatha's Husband* xx. (1875) 273 A *mid-day country dinner. 1382 WYCLIF *Ezek.* xx. 46 Prophecy thou to the wodi place, or wildernes, of the *myddai, or south, feeld [Vulg. *agri meridiani*]. 1388 — *Ps.* xc[i]. 6 Of asailing, and a *myddai feend. *a 1400* HYLTON *Scala Perf.* (W. de W. 1494) II. xxxviii, They are begyled of the myddaye fende. 1388 WYCLIF *Ezek.* xx. 47 And thou schalt seie to the *myddai forest [Vulg. *saltui meridiano*]. 1592 SHAKS. *Ven. & Ad.* 177 Titan tired in the *midday heate, With burning eye did hotly ouer-looke them. 1614 JACKSON *Creed* III. 315 As if there were no difference betwixt *mid-day-light and mid-night-darkenesse. 1554 *Lydgate's Bochas* I. i. 2 The sonne..more clere dyd shine Than it doth now in his *midday lyne. 1878 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* 7 The line indicated by the shadow at noon is known as the meridian line or mid-day line. 1861 DORA GREENWELL *Poems* 224 Come and share My *mid-day meal. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl. C.* x. 246 At *mydday meel-tyme ich mete with hem ofte. 1857 MRS. CARLYLE *Lett.* II. 314, I may have a letter by the *midday post. 1821 BYRON *Cain* III. i, His hour of *mid-day rest is nearly over. 1612 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* I. 172 Let vs (nobler Nymphs) vpon the *mid-daie side, Be frolick with the best. 1837 WHEWELL *Hist. Induct. Sci.* (1857) I. 14 The period of the first waking of science, and that of its *mid-day slumber. 1853 ROCK *Ch. of Fathers* III. II. 8 In like manner, *midday-song or sext, and none-song, were gone through. 1430–40 LYDG. *Bochas* IV. xi. (1494) o viij b, Towarde Septemptrion [and] vnder the *mydday spere his power raught and his regalye. 1854 J. S. C. ABBOTT *Napoleon* (1855) II. iv. 72 A brilliant moon diffused an almost *midday splendor. *a 1529* SKELTON *Sp. Parrot* 507 So myche coniuracions for elvyshe *myday sprettes. *c 1420 Pallad. on Husb.* II. 159 The *mydday sonne ek stonde bit with to mete, In placis colde. 1591 SHAKS. *1 Hen. VI*, I. i. 14 His sparkling Eyes,..More dazzled and droue back his Enemies, Then mid-day Sunne, fierce bent against their faces. 1745 WESLEY *Answ. Ch.* 22 The Difference between them is as great as the Difference between the Light of the Morning and that of the Mid-day Sun. 1856 KANE *Arct. Expl.* II. vii. 78 So mild that our *mid-day thermometers gave but 7°. *a 1300 Cursor M.* 22512 Þe sun .. quen it es þe fairest on to loke At *middai time. 1874 BURNAND *My time* xi, He could dispose of me by a *mid-day train.

Midde(l(l, variant forms of MID, MIDDLE.

Midden (mid'n). Now *dial.* (rarely *arch.*). Forms: 4 **medynge, myding, 4–5 myd(d)yng, 5 middynge, myddyn, 5–6 mydding, 5–9 midding, 6 myddin, 6–7 mydinge, 7 miding(e, 7–9 middin, 7– midden.** [Of Scandinavian origin: ME. *myddyng* corresponds to Da. *møding*, altered form of *møgdynge*, f. *møg* (see MUCK) + *dynge* heap. (The ON. form would be **myki-dyngja*, but *dyngja* in the sense of 'heap' has not been found.)]

1. A dunghill, manure-heap, refuse-heap.

c 1375 Sc. Leg. Saints xviii. (*Egipciane*) 468 Ay valouand me in þat syne, as sow a medynge dois vithine. *Ibid.* xxx. (*Theodera*) 615 Þe mylk of sowis has be tane, þat lay by in þe myddyng. *c 1420 Pallad. on Husb.* I. 750 The mydding, sette it wete as it may rote. *c 1470* HENRYSON *Mor. Fab.* I. (*Cock & Jasp.*) iii, Pietie it war, thow suld ly in this midding. 1533 *Nottingham Rec.* III. 367 A garden .. next to the mydding. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 134/9 A Myddin, *fimarium*. *1667 *Vestry Bks.* (Surtees) 225 For takeing away the miding of ashes out of the churchyard 12. *4d.* 1718 RAMSAY *Christ's Kirk Gr.* III. xix, The wives and gytlings a' spawn'd out O'er middings and o'er dykes. 1826 E. SWINBURNE in J. Raine *Mem. J. Hodgson* (1858) II. 74 A midden is well placed on the opposite side of them. 1887 MORRIS *Odyss.* X. 412 The herded kine as full-fed of grass withal They come aback to the midden [Gr. *ἐς κόπρον*].

b. *Proverbs* and *allusions.*

c 1598 D. FERGUSON *Scot. Prov.* (1785) 4 A cock is crouse on his ain midding. 1588 CHURCHYARD *Challenge* (1593) 78 Much like bold Cocks that lowd on midding crowes. 1894 HALL CAINE *Manxman* VI. xiii, Any cock can crow on his own midden.

c. *fig.*

1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 628 A fouler myddyng saw thow never nane. 1588 A. KING tr. *Canisius' Catech.* 27 b, Forgiue me all my sinnes, and raise me poor creatur out of the midding. 1637–50 ROW *Hist. Kirk* (Wodrow Soc.) 437 Alace! I see all the middin (or dungbill) of the muck of the corruption of the Kirk of Ingland comeing on upon us. 1859 KINGSLEY *Misc.* (1860) II. 30 That everlasting midden which men call the world.

2. Short for KITCHEN MIDDEN.

[1851 D. WILSON *Preh. Ann.* (1863) I. i. 37 True shell mounds corresponding to the Danish kitchen middens.] 1866 LAING *Preh. Rem. Caithn.* 3 In the case of the lowest Danish middens we are carried very far back in the scale both of time and civilization.

3. *attrib.*, as *midden-fly, -head, -heap, -hill, -tike.* **midden cock** = *dunghill cock*; **midden creel,** a basket for carrying manure; **midden crow,** the carrion crow; **midden fowl** = *dunghill fowl*; **midden hole,** a place excavated to hold a manure-heap; **† midden lair** *Sc.* = MIDDENSTEAD; **midden mavis,** a ragpicker (Jam.); **† midden mount,** a mound made of refuse; **midden pit,** a pit for holding manure; **midden stance** = MIDDENSTEAD; **† midden tulȝear,** one who fights over the 'midden', a quarrelsome person.

1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xliii, He was as uplifted as a *midden-cock upon pattens. 1865 KINGSLEY *Herew.* xvii, The midden cock sole rival to the eagle! 1792 BURNS *Willie's Wife* iv, Her walie sieves like *midden-creels. 1832 *Montagu's Ornith. Diet.* 113 Black Neb. Corby Crow. .. *Midden Crow. 1728 RAMSAY *Fables* xxiii. 2 A paughty Bee Observ'd a humble *midding flie. 1900 H. G. GRAHAM *Soc. Life Scot. in 18th C.* (1901) I. 6 The *midden-fowls feasted and nursed their broods among nettles and docks. 1768 ROSS *Helenore* (1789) 85 Wese no be heard upon the *midden head. 1823 GALT *Gilhaize* II.

x. 104 Its roots of rankness are in the midden-head of Arminianism. 1886 Willock *Rosetty Ends* xviii. 129 Rowin' owre an' owre ane anither in the parental *midden-heap. 1564-78 Bullein *Dial. agst. Pest.* (1888) 9 Like vnto greate stinkyng mucle *medin hilles. 1785 Burns *Halloween* xxii, She..ran thro' *midden-hole an a'. 1692 in *Rec. Convent. Royal Burghs Scot.* (1880) IV. 571 Item, a years [rent] of the *midding lairs at the east and west ports 18 0 0. 1832-53 *Whistle-Binkie* (Scot. Songs) Ser. I. 88 Ilk *midden-mavis, we black jaudy, A' dread and fear thee. *a* 1670 Spalding *Troub.* (Bannatyne Club) I. 193 The toun of Edinburghe .. raised *midden montis at Heriot's Wark. 1340 Hampole *Pr. Consc.* 8770 Þat alle þis world, þare we won yhit War noght bot als a *myddyng-pytt. 1844 Stephens *Bk. Farm* II. 654 This is easily effected by draining the '*midden' stance. 1500-20 Dunbar *Poems* li. 14 He barkis lyk ane *midding tyk. 1535 Stewart *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) III. 440 Seindill [is]..Ane *mydding tulzear in ane battell bydar.

†Mi·ddenerd. *Obs.* Forms: 1 middan-ȝeard, -eard, 2 middanerd, middennard, midenarde, 3 middæn eard, middeneard, middenerd, middenherde, myddenerd. [OE. *middangeard* (later *-eard* by association with *eard* dwelling, Erd), corresp. to OHG. *mittingart*, Goth. *midjungards*. The exact formation is obscure, but the elements are OTeut. **midjo-* Mid *a.* + **garđo-z* enclosure, tract, Yard. Cf. ON. *miðgarðr* Midgard, OS. *mittilgard*, OHG. *mittigart* and *mittilgart*; also Middle-erd.

According to Brugmann, the first element is OTeut. **miđjumo-*, superlative of **miđjo-* Mid *a.*: cf. Midmost.]

The world; the earth as situated between heaven and hell; also, the inhabitants of the earth.

Beowulf 75 Manizre mæzþe ȝeond þisne middanȝeard. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* John iv. 42 We witon þæt he is soþ middan-eardes hælynd. *a* 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 225 Ic wille senden flod ofer alne middennard. *c* 1205 Lay. 24778 Whar þu þat mod nime a þisse middenerde. *c* 1275 *Passion our Lord* 478 in *O. E. Misc.* 50 Hit wes welneyh mydday þo þusternesse com In alle Middenherde fort þet hit wes non. *Ibid.* 544 Iesus crist .. com in-to þis myddenerd sunfulle men to ryhte.

Middenstead (mi·d'nsted). [f. Midden + Stead. Cf. MDa. *møddingstede* (Kalkar).] The place where a dunghill is formed; a laystall.

*1607 *Burgh Rec. Glasgow* (1876) I. 273 To tak in the stanis of the vttir syd of his midinge sted. 1654 *Manch. Court Leet Rec.* (1887) IV. 131 Mr. Nicholas Mosley of Collyhurst for not repaireing the middinge stidd in the Toadlane. 1860-1 Fl. Nightingale *Nursing* ii. (ed. 2) 2 One of the most common causes of disease in towns is having..middensteads close to the houses.

fig. 1889 Swinburne *Study B. Jonson* I. 77 A very middenstead of falsehood and of filth.

Middes, variant of Mids.

Middest (mi·dest), *a. superl.* [f. Mid *a.* + -est.] Most central; in the middle.

1590 Spenser *F. Q.* I. iv. 15 Yet the stout Faery mongst the middest crowd Thought all their glorie vaine in knightly vew. *Ibid.* II. ii. 13 The eldest did against the youngest goe, And both against the middest meant to worken woe. 1593 Q. Eliz. *Boeth.* IV. pr. vi. 72 As .. Circle is to the middest poynte: So [etc.]. *a* 1645 Habington *Surv. Worcs.* in *Worcs. Hist. Soc. Proc.* III. 417 East wyndowe .. consystinge of fyve panes, in the myddest pane are no Armes. 1713 C'tess Winchilsea *Misc. Poems* 29 Reputation, Love, and Death, (The last all Bones, the first all Breath, The Midd'st compos'd of restless Fire). 1840 Lytton *Pilgr. Rhine* ii, The moon was..at her middest height.

Middest(e, obs. forms of Midst.

Middil(le, obs. forms of Middle.

Middin(g, Middis(s, var. ff. Midden, Mids.

Middle (mi·d'l), *a.* and *sb.* Forms: 1 middel, midel, 3-6 middil, 3-5 midel, 3-6 middel, myddel, 3, 6-7 midle, 4 medel, -il, 4-5 medill(e, myddil(l, -ul, mydil, 4-6 middille, myddelle, myddyll(e, mydel(l, mydle, 5 medil(le, -ull(e, -ylle, middell, midil, -yl, 5-6 myddell, myddle, 6 medyl, myddle, 7 *Sc.* meidle, 6- middle. *Comparative.* 7 midler. *Superlative.* 1 midlest, 3-4 midlest(e, 4 middelest, midel(e)st, midliste, mydleste, 4-5 myddelest(e, 5 medellust, medlyste, myddlest, 6 mydlest. [OE. *middel, midl-* adj., also sb. masc. (by ellipsis of *dæl* part) = OFris. *middel* adj., OS. *middil-* in compounds (LG., Du. *middel* adj. and sb. neut. and fem.), OHG. *mittil* adj. (MHG. *mittel* adj. and sb. neut. and fem., mod.G. *mittel* adj. and sb. neut.):—WGer. **middil-*, f. **middî*:—OTeut. **miđjo-* Mid *a.* The Teut. langs. have also synonymous formations in which the suffix *-lo, -ilo* is attached directly to the root (OTeut. **med-*): OHG. *metal* adj., ON. *meðal* in advb. phrase *á meðal* between (Sw. *medel* sb.); also ON. *miðil*, whence *mill-* for *miðl-* in *á milli, á millom* between (Sw. *mellan, emellan*, Da. *mellem, imellem* between, among).]

A. *adj.*

Not in predicative use. In OE. and ME. mainly found in the superlative; the present use of the positive partly descends from compounds, in which *middel-* may be equally well taken as adj. or as sb. The superlative does not appear in our quots. later than the middle of the 16th c., but is given in the *Leeds Glossary*. The comparative, which is the prevailing form in mod.Ger., has never been current in English: for a solitary example, see quot. *a* 1682 in 2 b.

1. (Originally in *superlative.*) Used to designate that member of a group or sequence, or that part of a whole, which has the same number of members or parts on each side of it: said with reference to position in space, time, order of succession or enumeration, or the like. Sometimes qualifying a plural sb.

a 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* IV. xxiv. [xxiii.] (1890) 334 Þa wæron þus hatne & nemde, Bosa, Ætla, Oftfor, Iohannes & Wilfrið. .. Bi þæm midlestan is nu to secgenne [etc.]. *c* 900 *Laws of K. Ælfred* c. 58 Se midlesta finger. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 370 Þe meidenes eoden furðre to þe midleste. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 308/313 Þe nexte finguer hatte 'leche'..' Longue-man' hatte þe midleste for he lenguest is. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* III. 615 [666] In þis myddel chaumbre þat ye se Shul youre wommen slepen wel and softe. *a* 1400 Hylton *Scala Perf.* (W. de W. 1494) I. lxxxii, I telle the of the myddelest of hym that boughte the oxen. *c* 1450 *M. E. Med. Bk.* (Heinrich) 77 Do awey þe ouerest rynde, and take þe meddellust, & stampe hit. 1577 B. Goode *Heresbach's Husb.* III. (1586) 145 b, Shutte them vp the foure middle houres of the day. 1599 B. Jonson *Ev. Man out of Hum.* III. i, The middle Isle in Paules. 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Base*...In Heraldry, the lowest part of an Escutcheon, consisting of the Dexter, Middle and Sinister Base-points. 1769 Goldsm. *Hist. Rome* (1786) II. 324 He was at that middle time of life which is happily tempered with the warmth of youth. 1822-34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) I. 515 The three arterial coats are generally called external, middle and internal. 1860 Tyndall *Glac.* I. xi. 70 The middle portion of the glacier. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 284 Occupying the middle third, or rather middle two-fourths of the central convolutions.

b. *Middle brother, sister, son,* etc.: the second in age of three brothers, etc. In ME. also in *superlative.*

c 1205 Lay. 2116 Cambert hehte þe oðer þat wes þe midleste broðer. *c* 1275 *Ibid.* 12909 After him was an oþer þat was þe middel broþer. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 770 (Kölbing) Ȝete wald þe deuel ful of ond þe midel soster a gile fond. *a* 1400 *Siege of Troy* 430 in *Archiv Stud. neu. Spr.* LXXII. 21 Penne com forþ Alisaunder Parys þe kyngis medlyste sone of prys. *c* 1447 in F. M. Nichols *Lawford Hall* (1891) App. 22 John Baddele wedded Agnes the middell daughter of Thomas Cokefeld. 1531 *Dial. on Laws Eng.* I. vii. 12 If there be thre bretherne & the mydlest brother purchase landes [etc.]. 1757 Sir J. Dalrymple *Hist. Feudal Property* (1758) 176 A middle brother dying without children, and leaving an elder and younger brother alive. 1818 Cruise *Digest* (ed. 2) II. 522 She should have a writ of partition at common law, against the middle sister.

c. Of a point or line († formerly sometimes of a concrete object): Equidistant from the extremities or boundaries; situated at the centre or middle.

c 1400 Maundev. Prol. (1839) 2 He wil make it to ben cryed and pronounced in the myddel place of a Town. 1591 Shaks. *1 Hen. VI*, II. ii. 6 The middle centure of this cursed Towne. 1667 Milton *P. L.* IV. 195 Thence up he flew, and on the Tree of Life, The middle Tree and highest there that grew, Sat like a Cormorant. 1821 Craig *Lect. Drawing* 351 In the same way you will get the middle line of the mouth.

†d. Average, mean. *Obs.*

1699 Bentley *Phal.* 84 We examine the Platonic, or Stoic, or Epicurean Successions; and compute by a middle rate. 1788 Priestley *Lect. Hist.* II. x. 86 The seventeen intervals by the father's side, and the eighteen by the mother's at a middle reckoning amount to about 507 years. 1790 Burke *Fr. Rev.* 191 The middle term for the rest of France is about 900 inhabitants to the same admeasurement.

e. Stock Exchange. *Middle price*: see quot.

1893 Cordingley *Guide Stock Exch.* 42 With most outside brokers the 'cover' runs off 'at middle prices'; that is to say, the middle price between a jobber's buying and selling prices. Thus, if a quotation were 142½–143, the middle price would be 142¾.

2. Intermediate, intervening.

a. With reference to position in space, time, or order. Also of persons: Intermediary (now *rare*: cf. *middle person* in 6, and Middleman).

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 169 Warð blisfuller his [*sc.* Job's] ende, þene was his higinninge, and on þe midleste biwist þe he þolede þe ȝimere pine. *a* 1240 *Sawles Warde* in *Cott. Hom.* 257 Mi þridde suster meað speked of þe middel sti bituhhe riht ant luft. 1599 Davies *Nosce Teipsum* 59 Will, seeking good, finds manie middle ends. 1700 Dryden *Pal. & Arc.* III. 586 They..speed the race, And spurring see decrease the middle space. 1718 Rowe tr. *Lucan* VI. 569 The middle Space, a Valley low depress'd. 1757 Foote *Author* I. Wks. 1799 I. 138, I wonder what makes your poets have such an aversion to middle floors—they are always to be found in the extremities; in garrets, or cellars. 1776 Adam Smith *W. N.* V. ii. (1869) II. 496 All the middle buyers, who intervened between either of them and the consumer.

b. Of size, stature, rank, quality: Intermediate between the two extremes, medium. Of a course of action, an opinion: Mediating. Hence rarely of a person: † That takes a middle course, trimming.

c 1374 Chaucer *Anel. & Arc.* 79 Yong was this quene, of xx^ti yere elde, Of myddell stature. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 3751 A medull size, Betwene the large & the litill. 1442 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 61/1 Beddes of the middel assise. 1525 in *Visit. Southwell* (Camden) 124 A gowne of myddle coloure. 1545 Brinklow *Compl.* 43 That the pore and myddel sort of the peple may be easyd therby. 1603 Florio *Montaigne* II. xvi. (1632) 353, I have, in my daies, seene a thousand middle, mungrell and ambiguous men .. loose themselves, where I have saved my selfe. *a* 1682 Sir T. Browne *Tracts* 119 The first produceth a Female and large Hawk, the second of a midler sort, and the third a smaller Bird Tercellene. *a* 1716 South *Serm.* (1823) IV. 130 And therefore men of a middle condition are indeed doubly happy. 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 3 That the middle Station of Life was calculated for all kind of Virtues and all kind of Enjoyments. 1774 Burke *Sp. Amer. Tax.* Sel. Wks. I. 136 An Administration, that having no scheme of their own, took a middle line. 1782 Priestley *Corrupt. Chr.* I. i. 145 A middle opinion has been adopted by some Arians. 1826 Scott *Woodst.* i, He was a stout man of middle stature. 1858 T. D. Acland *Oxford A. A. Exam.* 3 The want of better education, accessible to the middle ranks on easy terms. 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) V. 74 The best condition is a middle one. 1884 *Times* (weekly ed.) 5 Sept. 5/5 These societies take a middle ground between agnosticism and theism. 1902 A. E. W. Mason *Four Feathers* xiv. 135 He was a man of the middle size.

c. Middle-sized. *Obs.* in general sense. Of wool: Having the staple of medium length. † Of the voice: Moderately loud.

c 1410 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) xiv, It is goode þat he haue both of þe gret and of þe smale and of the mydel. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 87 Þe psalm was begon in a medull voyce. 1642 *Bk. Rates* 2 Balkes, great, the hundred containing 120, 12..00..00, middle .. 05..00..00, small .. 02..00..00. 1663 in *Kirkcudbr. War-Comm. Min. Bk.* (1855) 187 *note*, Ane great pot, meidle pot, and ane lytle pot. 1837 Youatt *Sheep* 304 A kind of middle wool. 1859 *Stationers' Handbk.* 17 Thin post, ranging from 11 to 15 lbs.; Middle post, ranging from 16 to 18 lbs.; Thick post, comprising 19 to 23 lbs.

†d. Of a battle: Indecisive. *Obs.*

1625 Yonge *Diary* (Camden) 84 A middle fight.

3. In partitive concord: = '(The) middle or middle part of; mid'. Now *rare.*

785 in Birch *Cartul. Sax.* I. 339 Be midelen streame. 1382 Wyclif *Mark* vi. 47 Whanne euenyng was, the boot was in the myddil see [1388 myddil of the see]. 1568 Grafton *Chron.* II. 8 Marcarus..Erle of Northumberland, and Edwyn Erle of middle England, with Edgar Athelyng [etc.]. 1590 Shaks. *Mids. N.* II. i. 82 Neuer since the middle Summers spring Met we on hil, in dale, forrest, or mead. 1625 Milton *Death of Fair Infant* 16 Through middle empire of the freezing aire He wanderd long. 1629 — *Hymn Nativ.* 164 When at the worlds last session, The dreadfull judge in middle Air shall spread his throne. *a* 1631 Donne *Sat.* i. 15 Thou wilt not leave mee in the middle street. 1632 Lithgow *Trav.* IX. 402, I stepped downe to my middle thigh in the water. 1663 Butler *Hud.* I. ii. 1142 So foul [the Stocks], that whoso is in, Is to the Middle-leg in Prison. 1812 Byron *Ch. Har.* II. xxix, Calypso's isles, The sister tenants of the middle deep. 1827 Macculloch *Malaria* viii. 352 The two months of middle summer and the four of middle winter are .. the freest from original attacks of .. Malaria. 1860 Hawthorne *Marb. Faun* xxxix. 302 The holy cloud of incense,..which had risen into the middle dome.

4. *Philology.*

a. *Gram.* Intermediate between active and passive: primarily (after Gr. *μέση διάθεσις, μέσον ῥῆμα*), the designation of a 'voice' of Gr. verbs which normally expresses reflexive or reciprocal action, action viewed as affecting the subject, or intransitive conditions. Hence applied (*a*) to the system of conjugation in other Indogermanic langs. morphologically corresponding to the Gr. middle voice; (*b*) to verbal forms in various langs. serving to express a reflexive or reciprocal sense.

1751 Harris *Hermes* (1765) 176 That Species of Verbs, called Verbs Middle. 1844 *Proc. Philol. Soc.* I. 232 The middle verbs in the Icelandic language have been called .. reciprocal instead of reflective. 1871 Earle *Philol. Eng. Tongue* § 299 It gives to the English language a Middle Voice, or a power of verbal expression which is neither active nor passive. 1906 J. H. Moulton *Gram. N. T. Grk.* I. 161 *note*, Formal passives with middle meaning.

b. Prefixed (after G. *mittel-* as used by J. Grimm) to the name of a language, to denote a period in the history of the language intermediate between those called *Old* and *New* or *Modern*, as in *Middle-English* (see English *sb.* 1 b), *Middle High-German, Middle-Irish.* Similarly *Middle-Latin*, by some used for Mediæval Latin.

On the other hand *Middle German* (without the limiting *High* or *Low*) is used only in a local sense, for the dialects of middle Germany (geographically and phonologically intermediate between Low and High German).

†c. *Phonetics.* Of consonant sounds: = Medial *a.* 5. *Obs. rare*—°. (In recent Dicts.)

5. *Geol.* Prefixed to the name or adjectival designation of a formation or period, to denote a subdivision intermediate between two others called 'Upper' and 'Lower'.

1838 *Penny Cycl.* XI. 138 Middle lias shale. 1855 Ogilvie Suppl., *Middle epoch*, in *geol.*, an epoch characterized by the presence of the new red sandstone. 1859 J. R. Greene *Man. Protozoa* 25 They are chiefly characteristic of the Middle Eocene.

6. Special collocations: **middle bachelor,** a B.A. of standing between 'senior' and 'junior', i.e. in his second year (now only *U. S.*); **middle band** *Naut.*, 'one of the bands of a sail, to give additional strength' (Adm. Smyth); **†middle bend,** some card-sharping device (see quot.); **middle C,** *Mus.* (see quot. 1876); **middle chest** *Mil.*, the front chest on the body of an artillery caisson, so-called from its position between the rear chest on the body and the chest on the limber (*Cent. Dict.* 1890); **middle comedy** (see Comedy[1] 2); **middle cut file,** a file whose teeth have a grade of coarseness between the *rough* and *bastard* (Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1875); **middle deck,** the deck between the upper deck and the lower deck; **†middle dish**

Cookery, an entrée; **middle distance** (see DISTANCE *sb.* 10 c); **middle ear**, the tympanum, sometimes also used for the tympanum together with the mastoid cells and the Eustachian tube (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1890); used *attrib.* in *middle ear disease*, etc.; †**middle eld**, = MIDDLE AGE 1; **Middle Empire** = *Middle Kingdom*; **middle frame**, in *Organ building* (see quot.); **middle genus**, a genus which is at the same time a species of a higher genus (*Cent. Dict.*); **middle ground**, (*a*) *Naut.* a shallow place, as a bank or bar; (*b*) *Painting* = *middle distance*; **middle height**, (*a*) the middle of the height, the distance half-way up a mountain, etc.; (*b*) medium stature; **middle horn**, one of a breed of cattle having horns that are neither long nor short (cf. *Longhorn, Shorthorn*); †**Middle Inn**,? = *Middle* TEMPLE; **Middle Kingdom**, a name for China; **middle landlord**, in Ireland, a landlord who leases a tract of land, and sub-lets it to tenants; **middle latitude** (see quots.); **middle life**, (*a*) the middle of a person's life, middle age; (*b*) the life of the middle classes; **middle line** *Naut.* (*a*) (see quot.); (*b*) *Croquet*, the line of hoops placed in the middle of the lawn; in quot. *attrib.*; †**middle mast** = MAINMAST; †**middle mean**, moderation; **middle motion** = *mean motion* (see MEAN *a.*[2] 7 a); **middle oil**, that part of the distillate obtained from coal tar which passes over between 170° and 230° Centigrade; distinguished from the *light*, and the *heavy* or *dead* oil (Webster 1897); **middle passage**, the middle portion (i.e. the part consisting of sea travel) of the journey of a slave carried from Africa to America; **middle piece**, (*a*) in *Farriery*, the part of a horse's body between the fore and the hind legs; (*b*) *transf.* in *Pugilistic Slang*, the chest; (*c*) *U.S.* = MIDDLING 4; **middle pointed** *a.*, *Arch.*, a name for the style commonly called Decorated Gothic; **middle post**, in *Carpentry* = KING-POST; **middle rail**, the rail of a door level with the hand, on which the lock is usually fixed; **middle school** = MIDDLE CLASS *school*; **middle shot wheel**, a breast-wheel which receives the water at about its middle height (Knight); **middle space** *Printing*, a space intermediate in size between 'thick' and 'thin' (see quot.); **middle spear** *local* (see quot.); **Middle States**, the States which originally formed the middle part of the United States, intermediate between New England and the Southern States, namely New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Delaware (*Cent. Dict.*); **middle stead** *dial.* (see quot.); **Middle Temple** (see TEMPLE); **middle term**, † (*a*) a partial degree; (*b*) *Logic*, the term which is common to the premises of a syllogism, and disappears in the conclusion; **middle timber**, that timber in the stern which is placed amidships (Adm. Smyth); **middle tint** *Painting*, 'a mixed tint in which bright colours never predominate' (Fairholt *Dict. Art* 1854); **middle topsail**, a deep roached sail, set in some schooners and sloops on the heel of their top-masts between the top and the cap (Adm. Smyth); **middle tree**, † (*a*) ? a middle post in a gateway; (*b*) a pole for a cart drawn by oxen; †**middle vein**, the median vein; **middle Victorian** *a.*, belonging to the middle of the Victorian era; **middle wall**, a partition wall; **middle watch** *Naut.*, the watch from midnight to 4 a.m.; also the portion of the crew on deck duty during the middle watch; **middle watcher**, the slight meal snatched by officers of the middle watch about 2.30 a.m. (Adm. Smyth); **middle weight**, a man of average weight, *esp.* a boxer whose weight is between 10 stone and 11 stone 4 lb.; **middle wicket** = *mid-wicket* (see MID *a.* 1 d); †**middle woof**, applied *attrib.* to a kind of yarn; **middle years**, the years in the middle of one's life, middle age.

1758 *Ann. Reg.* 91 Two *middle batchelors of the University of Cambridge. 1840 J. QUINCY *Hist. Harvard Univ.* II. 540 A Senior Sophister has authority to take a Freshman from a Sophomore, a Middle Bachelor from a Junior Sophister [etc.]. 1626 CAPT. SMITH *Accid. Yng. Seamen* 9 For clamps, *middle bands and sleepers, they be all of 6. inch planke for binding within. 1734 R. SEYMOUR *Compl. Gamester* (ed. 5) 11. 6 [Whist.] The other is vulgarly called Kingston-Bridge, or the *Middle-bend. It is done by bending your own or Adversary's Tricks two different Ways [etc.]. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVI. 493/1 A *middle C stop-diapason pipe. 1876 STAINER & BARRETT *Dict. Mus. Terms, Middle C.* The note standing on the first leger line above the bass stave, and the first leger line below the treble stave. 1758 J. BLAKE *Plan Mar. Syst.* 2 The *middle deck tier on board in their proper places, lashed fore and aft. 1747 MRS. GLASSE *Cookery* ix. 84 Salamangundy for a *Middle Dish at Supper. 1813 *Middle-distance [see DISTANCE *sb.* 10 c]. 1858 HAWTHORNE *Fr. & It. Note-Bks.* (1872) II. 47 Its great Duomo was seen in the middle distance. 1887 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 19 Feb. 407/1 Mr. Baker confined his remarks to abscess from *middle-ear disease. *a* 1400 *Parlt.* 3 *Ages* 280 In his *medill elde. 1698 A. BRAND *Emb. Muscovy to China* 100 China is known under several names..the Chineses have retained two,..Chungehoa, that is, the *Middle Empire, and Chunque, which is Middle Garden. 1881 C. A. EDWARDS *Organs* 42 Sixteen ribs are used in the reservoir of bellows ..divided..by a wooden frame called the *middle-frame. 1801 NELSON in Duncan *Life* (1806) 146 The Channel of the Outer Deep, and the position of the *Middle Ground. 1850 *Weale's Dict. Arch.* etc. s.v., Pictures are divided into three parts: fore-ground, middle-ground, and back-ground. 1875 BEDFORD *Sailor's Pocket Bk.* v. (ed. 2) 136 Where a middle ground exists in a channel, each end of it will be marked by a buoy of the colour in use in that channel. 1812 SIR H. DAVY *Chem. Philos.* 91 The Andes, placed almost under the line, rises in the midst of burning sands; about the *middle height is a pleasant and mild climate. 1843 BORROW *Bible in Spain* xxxiv, He was a thin man of about the middle height. 1834 YOUATT *Cattle* ii. 10 For these reasons we consider the *middle horns to be the native breed of Great Britain. 1450 *Paston Lett.* I. 159 Prentise is now in the *Mydle Inne. 1662 J. DAVIES tr. *Mandelslo's Trav.* 215 The Chineses themselves give it the name of Chunghoa, or Chungque, whereof the former signifies the *Middle Kingdom. 1817 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Ormond* xxiii, The tenants..during the time of the late *middle landlord, had been in the habit of making their rents by nefarious practices. 1710 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* II, *Middle Latitude*, in Navigation, is half the Summ of any two given Latitudes. 1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.*, *Middle latitude sailing*, is used for a method of working the several cases in sailing, nearly agreeing with Mercator's way, but without the help of meridional parts. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 5391 (Kölbing) Þis were noble knigtes fiue & alle of *midel liue. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* II. init., It might be allowed me to have bad Experience of every State of middle Life. 1779–81 JOHNSON *L. P., Otway* Wks. II. 219 It is a domestick tragedy drawn from middle life. 1855 HT. MARTINEAU *Autobiog.* (1877) II. 115 The scene [of Deerbrook] being laid in middle life. 1895 R. L. DOUGLAS in *Bookman* Oct. 23/1 The king..does his best in a toilsome old age to mitigate the disastrous effects of the blunders of his middle life. 1805 *Shipwright's Vade-M.* 117 **Middle line*, a line dividing the ship exactly in the middle. In the horizontal..plan, it is a right line bisecting the ship from the stem to the stern-post; and, in the..body-plan, it is a perpendicular line bisecting the ship from the keel to the height of the top of the side. 1891 *Laws Croquet* 1 The middle-line hoops. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* II. 62 We shot away their *middle mast. 1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* II. v. (1592) 161 In both, there must be had a *middlemeane and measure. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* VI. iii. 106 The Table of the *Middle-Motion of the Sun. 1812 *Examiner* 28 Sept. 621/1 Captains of the slave ships, on board whose ships..the..cruelties of a *middle passage had been practised. 1829 MACAULAY *Pitt* Misc. Writ. 1860 II. 346 A humane bill which mitigated the horrors of the middle passage. 1817 *Sporting Mag.* L. 54 Randall closed this round by a terrible blow in the *middle-piece. 1843 LD. G. BENTINCK in *Racing Life* ix. (1892) 201 Colonel Anson says he is a very clever horse, and one that must run, but thinks him rather small in the middle-piece. 1891 H. S. CONSTABLE *Horses, Sport & War* 63 A horse with big ends and a small middle-piece is more likely to become a roarer than a horse with a good middle piece and thence a good constitution. 1902 ELIZ. L. BANKS *Newspaper Girl* 161 Your Boston beans done in an earthen pot with the middle-piece pork just rightly browned. 1879 SIR G. G. SCOTT *Lect. Archit.* I. 347 It was to be the earliest phase of the later form of *Middle Pointed. 1823 P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Build.* 588 *Middle-post; in a roof the same as King Post. 1812 — *Mech. Exerc.* 200 *Middle Rail [of a door]. 1842 GWILT *Archit.* § 2130 In doors, the upper rails are called top rails; the next in descending, frize rails; the next, which are usually wider than the two first, are called the lock or middle rails. 1838 BP. WILBERFORCE in Ashwell *Life* I. iv. 117 It is very desirable that ultimately we should get the *middle schools to as much uniformity as possible in the books they use. 1860 A. JESSOPP *Middle-Class Exams.* 15 Middle Schools—schools which occupy that large 'terra incognita' between the National School and the Grammar School. 1871 *Amer. Encycl. Printing* (ed. Ringwalt) s.v. *Spaces*, Five to an em or five thin spaces; four to an em, or four *middle spaces; three to an em, or three thick spaces. 1863 W. BARNES *Dorset Gloss.*, *Harrow of a gate*, the backer upright timber of a gate by which it is hung to its post. The one in the middle, between the harrow and the head, is the **middle spear*, which is also the name of the upright beam that takes the two leaves of a barn's door. *a* 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia*, **Middlestead*, the compartment of a barn which contains the threshing floor; generally in the middle of the building. 1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* I. vii. § 1 Which honour [Apotheosis], being so high, had also a degree or *middle tearme. 1725 WATTS *Logic* III. ii, Syllogisms are divided into various Kinds, either according to the Question which is proved by them,..or according to the middle Term. 1805 *Shipwright's Vade-M.* 117 **Middle timber*. 1395 in *Archæologia* XXIV. 316 De quibus..expenduntur in j *mideltree imposito in port[is] Manerii per longitudinem. 1834 *Brit. Husb.* I. 159 A tongue, or middle-tree, or shafts, are alternately fixed to the axle of the fore wheels. *a* 1400 in *Rel. Ant.* I. 190 The *medyl weyn betuen bam two The coral is cleppyt also. 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 14 Mar. 3/2 His mental crises belong to a *middle-Victorian phase of thought. 1448 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) II. 8 All the tymber that..shall be ocupyed.. on the *Midelwalles and on the steires. 1611 BIBLE *Ephes.* ii. 14 Who..hath broken downe the middle wall of partition betweene vs. [1611 BIBLE *Judg.* vii. 19 Gideon .. came in the beginning of the *middle watch.] 1851 H. MELVILLE *Whale* xliii, It was the middle watch—a fair moonlight. 1890 ALLANSON-WINN *Boxing* 82 '*Middle' weights. 1833 NYREN *Yng. Cricketer's Tutor* (1893) 49–50 The *middle wicket should stand on the off-side, not more than eleven yards from the bowler's wicket...There is no place in the whole field where so many struggles occur to save a run.. as at the middle wicket. 1866 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* 511 Thus, long-leg to one bowler may come to cover-point to the other; *middle-wicket-on may be cover-slip, short-leg may be middle-wicket-off. 1547 *Act* 1 *Edw. VI*, c. 6 § 4 Such of the said Worsted Yarn as is called..*Middle-wuffe Yarn. 1642 ROGERS *Naaman* 452 Whether in youth or *middle yeares or old age.

7. *Comb.* in parasynthetic adjs., as *middle-coloured, -growthed, -horned, statured,* †*-witted, woolled.*

1849 *Florist* 195 Satisfaction, a very good-shaped *middle-coloured flower [Pelargonium]. 1690 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2607/4 John Boone, aged 17, a straight Youth, *middle growth'd. 1811 W. H. MARSHALL *Rev. Rep. Board Agric.* III. 396 The cattle of Norfolk—evidently a variety of the *middlehorned breed, reduced in size [etc.]. 1846 MCCULLOCH *Acc. Brit. Empire* (1854) I. 495 They may..be divided..into the four classes of middle-horned, long-horned, short-horned, and polled. 1679 *Trials of Wakeman*, etc. 26 He was a *middle-statured man. 1651 WALTON *Life Wotton* d 4 in *Reliq. W.* (1672), Many *middle-witted men (which yet may mean well). 1826 K. DIGBY *Broadst. Hon.* (1848) III. *Morus* 116 There is nothing so easy as to catch the phraseology which middle-witted sophists regard as the stamp of men of judgment. 1837 YOUATT *Sheep* 304 Scarcely a *middle-woolled sheep can now be found in the whole of this county.

B. *sb.*

1. The middle point or part (of a line, area, volume, or anything that has spatial magnitude; also of a number, a period of time, a process, etc.).

a 900 CYNEWULF *Elene* 864 He asettan heht on þone middel þære mæran byriz beamas mid bearhtme. *c* 1050 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 396/2 *Ex centro*, of midle. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 85 Here lifes ende was bicumeliche þe middel and þe biginnenge. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 1399 Aboute ierusalem þis noumbringe he bigan As in þe middel of þe world to noumbri eche man. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 2092 Aboute þe middel of þe nith Wok ubbe. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XVII. 189 Were þe myddel of myn honde ymaymed or yperssbed. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Serm.* Sel. Wks. I. 367 Þis gospel tellip þe middil of a storie of Seint Joon Baptist. 1420 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 46, 1. bord mausure with a bond of seluer, & ouerguld, wyth a prent in þe myddylle. *c* 1450 *Merlin* 108 After the myddill of August, after that Arthur was crowned, he held court roiall, grete and mervelouse. 1530 PALSGR. 245/1 Myddle of the day, *midy*. 1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III*, III. v. 2 Canst thou..Murther thy breath in middle of a word, And then againe begin. 1611 BIBLE *Judg.* ix. 37 See, there come people downe by the middle of the land. 1715 LEONI tr. *Palladio's Archit.* (1742) II. 11 The middle of the upmost Wall ought to be perpendicular with the middle of the nethermost. 1749 J. MARTYN tr. *Virg. Bucol.* Life Virgil (1820) p. lxxix, The fourth Georgick, from the middle to the end, was [etc.]. 1772 PRIESTLEY *Inst. Relig.* (1782) I. 423 Pausanias..wrote about the middle of the second century. 1863 *Chambers's Encycl.* V. 715/2 In 1395 they [*sc.* the Jews] were indefinitely banished from the middle of France. 1865 TYLOR *Early Hist. Man.* vi. 133 The heads, middles, and roots of plants. 1902 A. B. DAVIDSON *Bibl. & Lit. Ess.* 266 Beginnings or middles or ends of poems.

†**2.** The position of being among or surrounded by (a number of people) or within (a town, etc.); = MIDST. Chiefly in phr. *in the middle of* = in the midst of, among. *Obs.*

a 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Spelman) CXXXV. 11 Se ðe alædde Israhel of middele heora. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Mark ix. 36 Þa nam he anne cnapan & ȝe-sette on hyra middele. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 342 But oonhede on heed of holi Chirche is Jesus Crist here wiþ us, þat is ever in þe myddil of þree þat ben gedrid in his name. 1382 — *Gen.* xviii. 26 If Y shal fynde in Sodom fifti riȝtwis in the myddil of the cytee, I shal forȝyue to al the place for hem. *a* 1400 *Transl. N. T.* (Selwyn MS.) 2 Cor. vi. 17 (Paues 69) Wherfore God seyþ, Goo ȝe a-wey from þe myddel of hem. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) Pref. 2 He will ger crie it openly in þe middell of a toune. 1548 UDALL, etc. *Erasm. Par. Acts* XXVII. 18–26 Than Paul standyng in the mydle amonge them, sayed [etc.]. 1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) III. 121 [He] is come to rob me in broad day, and in the middle of my own people.

b. *In the middle of*: while (something) is going on; 'in the thick of'. Now *rare* or *Obs.*; cf. MIDST.

1609 J. MORE in *Buccleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) 82 As I was yesterday in the middle of removing to my house in the Old Bayley, I [etc.]. 1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) II. 111, I went and went again, in the middle of my wants, and in the middle of my sorrows, to ask..for his pay from the Admiralty. 1822 SHELLEY *Faust* II. 373 A red mouse in the middle of her singing Sprung from her mouth. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 373, I have often been stopped in the middle of a speech.

3. The middle part of the human body; the waist.

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 141 Hie ȝegripan on hire middel. *c* 1205 LAY. 28069 Þa leo me orn foren to and iueng me bi þan midle. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 8962 Gurde aboute hire middel a uair linne ssete. ? *a* 1366 CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 1032 Yong she was, .. Gente, and in hir middel smalle. ? *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 4168 Schuldirs and scheldys thay schrede to the hawnches, And medilles thourghe mayles thay merkene in sondire ! *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* VII. 307 The myddyll off ane he mankit ner in twa. 1494 in *Lett. & Papers Rich. III & Hen. VII* (Rolls) I. 400 [Ladies] with great chenys of gold about their middlys, and mervyleuse riche bees a bowt their nekkes. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 3 Aboue ye myddle he was the moost amiable stature of a man. 1653 H. COGAN tr. *Pinto's Trav.* xlvi. 268 The Water came up to our Middles. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 407 ¶ 5 Stroaking the sides of a long Wigg that reaches down to his Middle. 1769 E. BANCROFT *Guiana* 370 A piece of coarse blue, or brown linen, which is applied to the middle in both sexes. 1811 *Sporting Mag.* XXXVIII. 220 They hold each other tight by the middle. 1843 BORROW *Bible in Spain* xxxi, He has got it buckled round his middle beneath his pantaloons.

Comb. 1894 *Field* 1 Dec. 838/1, I sit comfortably, middle-deep under a writing table.

4. A mean, something intermediate between two extremes of quality or degree. *Excluded middle* (Logic): see EXCLUDED *ppl. a.*

a 1240 *Sawles Warde* in *Coll. Hom.* 247 Þat ha leare ham mete þat me meosure hat þe middel of twa nueles. *Ibid.* 255 For ne mei na wunne ne na flesches licunge..bringe me ouer þe midel of mesure ant of mete. 1340 *Ayenb.* 249 Sobreté ne is oþer þing þanne to loki riȝte mesure þet alneway balt þane middel ine to moche and to lite. 1626 Bacon *Sylva* § 616 Bulbous Roots, Fibrous, Roots and Hirsute Roots...The Hirsute is a Middle betweene both. 1667 *Decay Chr. Piety* v. 72 There being in this case no middle between devout reverence and horrid blasphemy. 1683 A. D. *Art Converse* 46 These two extreams we must avoid and search a middle. 1745 *De Foe's Eng. Tradesman* (1841) I. xxii. 209 To keep the safe middle between these extremes. 1790 Burke *Fr. Rev.* 92 The pretended rights of these theorists are all extremes:..The rights of men are in a sort of middle.

†**5.** An intermediate cause or agency. *Obs.*

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 180 Þeos cumeð also of God, auh nout ase doð þe oðre, wiðuten euerich middel. 1678 Cudworth *Intell. Syst.* I. iv. § 30. 468 The worshipping (besides one supreme God) of other created Beings,..as middles or mediators betwixt Him and Men.

†**6.** An intervening point or part in space, time, or arrangement; something intermediate. *Obs.*

1665 Manley *Grotius' Low C. Warres* 397 The little River of Neths, scituate in the middle between Antwerp and Mecblin. 1667 Milton *P. L.* IX. 605, I..with capacious mind Considered all things visible in Heav'n, Or Earth, or Middle, all things fair and good.

b. Something placed in a central position.

1796 Ld. Colchester *Diary* (1861) I. 35 The second course had a pig at top, a capon at bottom, and the two centre middles were turkey and a larded Guinea fowl.

†**7.** = Medium *sb.* 4. *Obs.*

1570 Dee *Math. Pref.* c j, So that both theyr mouynges be in ayre, or both in water: or in any one Middle.

8. *ellipt.* **a.** *Logic.* = *middle term.* (Cf. Medium *sb.* 2.)

1826 Whately *Logic* II. iii. § 2. (1827) 92 From negative premises you can infer nothing. For in them the Middle is pronounced to disagree with both extremes.

b. *Gram.* = *middle voice* (see A. 4 a).

1818 Blomfield tr. *Matthiæ's Gk. Gram.* II. 712 The proper signification of the middle is most evident in the aorists. 1906 J. H. Moulton *Gram. N.T. Grk.* I. 155 As a matter of fact, the proportion of strictly reflexive middles is exceedingly small.

9. *Naut.* = '*middle ground*' (see A. 6).

1702 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3844/4 The Sands..of the small Middle, in the Narrow off of Winterton near Yarmouth. 1801 Nelson in Duncan *Life* (1806) 136 The Agamemnon.. could not weather the shoal of the Middle.

10. *Paper-making.* The sheet, or one of the sheets, of inferior paper placed between the two outer sheets in making pasteboard.

1859 *Stationers' Handbk.* 73 *Middles*, a paper used for forming the middle or inner portion of card and pasteboard.

11. *Football.* A return of the ball from one of the wings to mid-field in front of the goal.

1899 G. O. Smith *Football* vi. (Badm.) 108 A middle should never be made high up in the air unless the forwards of one's side are a heavy lot. 1902 *Field* 1 Mar. 314/1 Evans actually found the mark from a middle by Corbett, but was pronounced offside.

12. (Originally *middle article.*) A newspaper article of a particular class (treating more or less discursively some social, ethical, or literary subject), such as is in certain journals placed between the leading articles and the reviews.

1862 J. F. Stephen *Let.* 10 Apr. *Life* (1895) 175 Last night I finished a middle at two. 1893 G. Allen *Scallywag* III. 68 Working away with all his might at a clever middle for an evening newspaper. Paul was distinctly successful in what the trade technically knows as middles.

Middle (mi·d'l), *v.* [f. Middle *sb.* Cf. Du. *middelen*, G. *mitteln*, ON. *miðla.*]

†**1.** *intr.* ? To be at the middle point; ? to intervene. *Obs.*

1382 Wyclif *John* vii. 14 Forsoþe now the feeste day medlinge [Vulg. *mediante*], or goynge bitwixe, Jhesu wente vp in to the temple.

†**2.** *intr.* or *absol.* To perform some kind of operation in the making of iron wire (cf. Middleman 1). *Obs.*

1435 *Coventry Leet Bk.*, For alsomyche as Joh. Stafford, Joh. Blakemon, sen.,..& Wal. Bonde heldon for the most part as well smethyng, brakyng middelyng and cardwiredraweng.

†**3.** *trans.* To take a middle view of. Also *to middle it* (contemptuously): to adopt a middle course. *Obs.*

1648 Manton *Spir. Languish.* 16 We content ourselves with a lukewarmnesse and a mambling of profession midling it between Christ and the world. 1748 Richardson *Clarissa* I. 173 To middle the matter between both, it is pity, that [etc.].

4. To find the middle of; to bisect.

1703 Moxon *Mech. Exerc.* 268 Draw the Line *ab*, bisect, or middle it.

5. *Naut.* To fold or double in the middle.

1841 R. H. Dana *Seaman's Man.* 76 Get up a hawser, middle it, and take a slack clove-hitch at the centre. *c* 1860 H. Stuart *Seaman's Catech.* 27 How do you make a reef point? By taking five foxes and middling them. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.* 479 *Middling a sail*, arranging it for bending to the yard. 1882 Nares *Seamanship* (ed. 6) 124 The sail is middled and hauled taut out.

6. *techn.* To place in the middle.

1883 W. H. Richards *Textbk. Milit. Topogr.* (1888) 119 All the micrometers should be kept nearly 'middled', or half way through their nuts. 1898 *Chamb. Jrnl.* Mar. 188 A grandfather's clock with a bullet-hole nicely middled in its case. 1899 *Daily News* 25 July 6/6 We started to heave in on the starboard cable in order to middle the ship between her anchors.

b. *intr.* To fit into the middle.

1888 Hasluck *Model Engin. Handybk.* (1900) 67 If these holes do not exactly middle, a small round file can be used to draw the hole over as required.

7. *trans.* in *Football.* To return (the ball) from one of the wings to mid-field in front of goal; to 'centre'. Also *absol.*

1871 *Field* 28 Jan. 61/3 The ball which had been previously middled by A. M. Jones, was driven through the goal. 1902 *Ibid.* 1 Mar. 314/1 Corbett made a run and middled.

8. *slang.* To befool, cheat.

1869 E. Farmer *Scrap Bk.* (ed. 6) 53 For I've been humbugged, middled, got the best on.

Middle, obs. form of Meddle.

Middle age, *sb.*

1. The period between youth and old age. Cf. *middle eld, middle life*: see Middle *a.* 6.

1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. XII. 7 And of thi wylde wantounesse tho thow ȝonge were, To amende it in thi myddel age. *c* 1440 *Ipomydon* 1588 He had an eme was stiffe and stronge; Of mydille age. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 13 h, Some in theyr youth: some in theyr myddell age: and some in theyr last dayes. *c* 1600 Shaks. *Sonn.* vii, Resembling strong youth in his middle age. *a* 1631 Donne in *Select.* (1840) 24 That all thy spring, thy youth, he spent in wantonness, all thy summer, thy middle-age, in ambition. 1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* II. viii, His time of life, which was only what is called middle age. 1810 Scott *Lady of L.* I. xxi, On his bold visage middle age Had slightly press'd its signet sage. 1884 Pae *Eustace* 37 He was considerably past middle age.

2. *The Middle Age*, now usually *the Middle Ages*: the period intermediate between 'ancient' and 'modern' times; in earlier use commonly taken as extending from *c* 500 to *c* 1500; now used without precise definition, but most frequently with reference to the four centuries after A. D. 1000. Cf. mod.L. *medium ævum*, G. *mittelalter*, F. *moyen âge.*

a. sing. 1753 Chambers *Cycl. Supp.* s. v. *Age, Middle Age* denotes the space of time commencing from Constantine, and ending at the taking of Constantinople by the Turks, in the fifteenth century. *a* 1780 Harris *Philol. Inquiries* I. (1781) Addr. to E. Hooper, An Essay on the Taste and Literature of the middle Age. 1882 J. C. Morison *Macaulay* 70 His acquaintance with the Middle Age generally, may without injustice be pronounced slight.

β. pl. 1722 *Mem. Literature* VI. 296 Mr. Juncker,..has published in the German Language an Excellent Introduction to the Geography of the middle Ages. 1819 Hallam *Mid. Ages* (ed. 2) III. I. ix. 304 The Middle Ages, according to the division I have adopted, comprize about one thousand years, from the invasion of France by Clovis to that of Naples by Charles VIII. 1842 Brande *Dict. Sci.* etc., *Middle ages.*.. The centuries between the ninth or tenth and the end of the fifteenth after Christ are generally comprehended under this loose denomination. 1887 J. C. Morison *Service of Man* 177 The great hollow which is roughly called the Middle Ages, extending from the fifth to the fifteenth century.

3. *attrib.*, quasi-*adj.* (with hyphen). Belonging to the Middle Ages; mediæval.

1840 Gen. P. Thompson *Exerc.* V. 31 With the same precaution that they would have consorted with the evil spirits of middle-age romance. 1853 Ruskin *Lect. Archit.* iv. 217 That child is working in the middle-age spirit—the other in the modern spirit. 1869 F. W. Newman *Misc.* 46 Perhaps it incapacitated the Arabs and the middleage Schoolmen for all but formal reasoning.

Middle-aged (mid'l,ēdʒd), *a.* (Stress variable.) [f. Middle *a.* + Age *sb.* + -ed 2.]

1. Of middle-age, neither young nor old.

1676 Collins in Rigaud *Corr. Sci. Men* (1841) II. 453 The admirable M. Leibnitz, a German, but a member of the Royal Society, scarce yet middle aged. 1709 Steele *Tatler* No. 77 ₱ 2 When I was a middle-aged Man. 1880 G. Meredith *Tragic Com.* (1881) 81 A middle-aged, grave and honourable man.

b. Characteristic of middle-aged people.

1886 Lowell *Latest Lit. Ess., Gray* (1891) 2 Cowper was really mad at intervals, but his poetry, admirable as it is in its own middle-aged way, is in need of anything rather than a strait-waistcoat. 1887 Ruskin *Præterita* II. 269 His already almost middle-aged aspect of serene sagacity.

†**2.** Belonging to the Middle Ages; mediæval. *Obs.*

1710 Hearne *Collect.* (O.H.S.) III. 49 The reading and perusing of middle-ag'd Antiquities. 1804 Mitford *Inquiry* 318 Of the modern and middle-aged Greek. 1845 *Proc. Philol. Soc.* II. 145 The English *hunger* bears a strong resemblance to the Spanish *hambre*, formed from the middle-aged Latin *famina.*

Middle-ageing, *ppl. a. nonce-wd.* Becoming middle aged.

1882 Howells in *Longm. Mag.* I. 53 Only a score of middle-aging veterans remained.

Middle-ageism. *nonce-wd.* [f. Middle age + -ism.] Mediævalism.

1840 Thackeray *Pict. Rhapsody* Wks. 1900 XIII. 348 May we add a humble wish that this excellent painter will ..not busy himself with Gothicism, middleagism?

Middle class, *sb.* The class of society between the 'upper' and the 'lower' class. Also (now more commonly) *plural* in the same sense.

1812 *Examiner* 31 Aug. 556/1 Such of the Middle Class of Society who have fallen upon evil days. 1831 Brougham *Sp.* 7 Oct. (1838) II. 617 By the people..I mean the middle classes, the wealth and intelligence of the country, the glory of the British name. 1843 Borrow *Bible in Spain* iii, Several of these were of the middle class, shopkeepers and professional men. 1891 H. D. Traill in *National Rev.* Mar. 15 The great body of the upper middle classes.

b. *attrib.*, as in *middle-class education, life, public, society*, etc.; **middle-class examination,** a name sometimes given to the 'local examinations' (see Local *a.* 2 d) in their early years; **middle-class schools,** schools established for the education of the middle classes, intermediate between primary schools and the great public schools.

1848 Mill *Pol. Econ.* I. xi. § 4 To get out of one rank of Society into the next above it is the great aim of English middle-class life. 1857 T. D. Acland *Oxford A. A. Exam.* (1858) 33 The Exeter Middle Class Examination. *Ibid.* 81 The education given in commercial and middle-class schools. 1858 *Ibid.* p. xx, The consideration of the Middle Class Examinations happened to come before the members of the Senate at a very inconvenient time. *Ibid.* 3 To prepare the way for a practical and truly English Middle-class Education. 1868 M. Pattison *Academ. Org.* 3 For centuries our middle-class public were slowly travelling. 1890 *Spectator* 18 Oct. 518/1 The tastes of the average middle-class buyer of books.

c. Used as *adj.*, with the sense: Characteristic of the middle classes; having the characteristics of the middle classes. (With depreciative implication. Cf. Bourgeois *a.* 2.)

1893 Saltus *Madam Sapphira* 106 Don't talk back, it is middle-class to begin with. 1905 Dicey *Law & Publ. Opin.* vi. 186 Benthamism was fundamentally a middle class creed.

Hence (*nonce-wds.*) **Middle-classer,** one who belongs to the middle class; **Middle-classness,** middle-class quality.

1886 Morris in Mackail *Life* (1899) II. 157, I met some very agreeable middle-classers there, and had much talk. 1887 *Sat. Rev.* 21 May 745 The slovenly middle-classness of Dublin. 1894 Miss Broughton *Beginner* xii, I recognise the middle-classness.

Middle earth. Forms: see Middle and Earth *sb.*

1. [An etymologizing perversion of Middle-erd.] The earth, as placed between heaven and hell, or as supposed to occupy the centre of the universe. Now only *arch.*, sometimes applied to the real world in contradistinction to fairyland.

c 1275 Lay. 7205 He þohte to bi-winne mid strengþe and mid ginne al þe middelerþes [*c* 1205 middel ærde] lond. *Ibid.* 9066 Com a þisse middilherþe [*c* 1205 middel ærde] hone maidenes sune. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 8003 Bituix þe midel erth and þe lift. 1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 94 Fro the seconde, as bokes sein, The moiste dropes of the reyn Descenden into Middilerthe. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* ix. 158 Fadir, what may þis meruaylle mene? Wher-to made god medilerth and man? 1522 *World & Child* (Roxb.) A v, All mery medell erthe maketh meucyon of me. 1598 Shaks. *Merry W.* v. v. 84 But stay, I smell a man of middle earth. 1600 W. Watson *Decacordon* (1602) 238 O monster of mankinde fitter for hell, then middle earth. 1813 Scott *Trierm.* I. ix, That maid is born of middle earth, And may of man be won. 1819 Crabbe *T. of Hall* x, A kind of beings who are never found On middle-earth, but grow on fairy-ground. 1860 Hawthorne *Transform.* xxxviii, It is difficult to imagine it [*sc.* Catholicism] a contrivance of mere man. Its mighty machinery was forged and put together, not on middle earth, but either above or below.

†**2.** The middle of the earth. *Obs.*

Sea of middle earth, middle earth sea, the Mediterranean. *Middle earth ocean*, an imaginary ocean in the middle of the earth.

1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) I. 53 Þe grete see of myddel erþe bygynneþ in þe west at Hercules pilers. 1494 Fabyan *Chron.* v. lxxvii. 56 In the South see of Myddell Erth. 1555 W. Wateman *Fardle Facions* I. iii. 34 The floude of Nilus ..passeth into the middle earth sea, with seuen armes. 1593 Norden *Spec. Brit., M'sex.* I. 8 The forme of this land is Trianguler, much like Cicilia an Island in the middle-earth sea. 1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* VII. ii. 663 So would those good men drowne a great part of the African and American World..by their imagined middle-earth Ocean.

Middle-erd. *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Forms: see Middle and Erd; also 4 **myddelnerde,** 2–3 **middelert,** 4 **midulert,** 5 **medlert,** 8 **midlert, 5 middle yorde, myddell yarde.** See also Middle earth. [Formed by substitution of *middel* Middle *a.* for *middan-* in *middaneard, -geard*: see Middenerd. There may have been an OE. **middel*(ȝ)*eard* corresponding to OS. *mittilgard*, OHG. *mittilgart.*] The world; the earth taken as situated between heaven and hell; also, the people dwelling on the earth.

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 15 Þas laȝen weren from Moyses a þet dribten com on þis middilert for us to alesnesse of deofles onwalde. *c* 1200 Ormin 3638 Godess þeowwess blomenn a33 Inn alle gode þæwess, Her i þiss middellærdess lif. *c* 1205 Lay. 25569 Lauerd drihten crist domes waldende midelarde mund. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 9052 Me nuste womman so vair non in þe middel erde. *c* 1315 Shoreham VII. 580 Wy nedde by be ine helle y-stopped For euere mo, Ac Nauȝt her in þys myddelnerde, For to maky men offerde. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 2100 More he is þen any mon vpon myddelerde. *a* 1400 *Pistill of Susan* 263 (MS. A.) Þou maker of myddelert, þat most art of miht. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* iii. 100 Therfor shall I fordo All this medill-erd. ? *a* 1500 *Chester Pl.* IV. 267 Father,..I hope for all middle-yorde you will not slaye your childe. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* VI. viii. 11 Tbair saw he als, with huge greit and murnyng In mydle erd most menit, thir Troianis. 1768 Ross *Helenore* (1789) 59 This gate she could not long in midlert be.

Middle finger. The finger having the position in the middle of the five; the second finger.

Cf. 'middlest finger' in Middle *a.* 1 (quots. *c* 900, *c* 1290).

c 1000 Ælfric *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 158/35 *Medius, uel impudicus,* middelfinger. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* v. xxix. (1495) 140 The thyrde fyngre is the mydle fingre, and hyght Inpudicus also. 1643 Steer tr. *Exp. Chyrurg.* vi. 21 There followed..onely two pustels, the one in her thumbe, the other by her middle finger. 1787 Hunter *Whales* in *Phil. Trans.* LXXVII. 385 In the fore-finger there are five bones, in the middle and ring-finger seven. 1861 [see Finger *sb.* 1].

†**Mi·ddlegood.** *Obs.* [app. f. Middle *a.* + Good *sb.*; cf. G. *mittelgut* ore of middle quality.] Some kind of linen fabric.

1582 *Rates Custome Ho.* D iij, Middlegood the c. elles.. xxvi.*s.* viii.*d.* 1612 *Sc. Bk. Customs* in *Halyburton's Ledger* (1867) 320 Linning cloth called Hinderlandis Middlegood and Heidlak the hundreth elnis xvi li. *a* 1618 *Rates Marchandizes* I 3, Linnen cloath vocat. Hinderlands, Middlegood, & Headlake the hundred ells..xxvj.*s.* viij.*d.*

Middlehard, variant of Middle-erd.

†**Mi·ddlehead.** *Obs.* In 3 middel-hed. [f. Middle *a.* + -head.] The middle.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 522 Dis midelerdes biginning, And middel-hed, and is ending.

Middleing, obs. form of Middling *a.*

†**Mi·ddle-land.** *Obs.*

1. = Midland *sb.* Also *attrib.* = Midland *a.*, Mediterranean *a.*

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 5134 Al walis & al þe march & al middel lond ywis þat is al bituene temese & homber is. 1565 Stapleton tr. *Bæda's Hist. Ch. Eng.* 125 Edilred kinge of the Marshes or middleland englishmen came into Kent with a terrible and fell hoste. 1650 Fuller *Pisgah* I. i. 3 Not all the water of Kisbon, of Jordan, of the Red, of the Dead, of the Middle-land Sea..should serve to quench the fire.

2. *Agric.* Land of medium elevation. In quot. *attrib.*

1790 Marshall *Midl. Counties* I. 269 The species of grass-land..are chiefly, Lowland grass..and Middleland grass, or 'Turf'; there being no Upland grass or sheepwalk within it.

Hence †**Middle-lander,** an inhabitant of the Midlands.

1644 Featly *Roma Ruens* 42, I am sure Bede affirmeth that the Eastern Angli or English were first gained to Christ by Fœlix,..and the middle-landers by Finanus.

†**Mi·ddlely,** *adv. Obs. rare.* In 5 middilly. [f. Middle *a.* + -ly 2.] In a medium manner.

c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 320 þou schalt streyne middilly, & not to faste.

Middleman (mi·d'lmæn). [f. Middle *a.* + Man *sb.*]

†1. ? A workman employed in some particular operation in the making of iron wire. *Obs.*

1435 *Coventry Leet Bk.*, The Cardwirdrawers and the myddelmen most nedes bye the wire that they shull wirche of the smythiers.

†2. *Mil.* One of the soldiers in the fifth or sixth rank in a file of 10 deep. *Obs.*

1616 *Orders establ. by Soc. of Armes, Lond.* A v, Item, That no man take the place of Leading or Middle-man.. without hee be thereunto appointed by the Captaine or Lieutenant. 1625 Markham *Souldiers Accid.* 28 The fifth Ranke from the Front downeward towards the Reare, are called *Middlemen* to the reare, and the sixth Rank are called *Middlemen* to the front. 1672 T. Venn *Milit. & Mar. Discip.* v. 11 A File so drawn is distinguished according to their dignity of Place, a Leader, a Follower, two Middlemen, a Follower and a Bringer-up. 1696 Phillips, *Middleman* (a term in the Art-military), he that stands middlemost in a File.

3. One who takes a middle course.

1741 Warburton *Div. Leg.* v. § 6 Wks. 1788 III. 167 Neither Unbelievers nor Believers will allow to these middle men that a new-existing Soul..can be identically the same with an annihilated Soul. 1884 A. Birrell *Obiter Dicta* 179 Middle men may often seem to be earning for themselves a place in Universal Biography. 1902 A. B. Davidson *Called of God* vi. 168 There were three parties, the true worshippers of Jehovah, the strict idolaters, and the middle-men who were neither.

b. *nonce-use.* (See quot.)

1845 Disraeli *Sp.* 11 Apr. in Hansard *Parl. Deb.* Ser. III. LXXIX. 565 We have a great Parliamentary middleman. It is well known what a middleman is: he is a man who bamboozles one party, and plunders the other, till, having obtained a position to which he is not entitled, he cries out, 'Let us have no party questions, but fixity of tenure'.

4. (Originally two words.) A person standing in an intermediate relation to two parties concerned in some matter of business: usually in somewhat unfavourable sense, as implying that direct relations between these parties would be more advantageous. Chiefly applied, in discussions on the theory of commerce, to the trader or any of the series of traders through whose hands commodities pass on their way from the maker or producer to the consumer.

1795 Burke *Th. on Scarcity* Wks. VII. 401 If the object of this scheme should be..to destroy the dealer, commonly called the middle man [etc.]. 1805 East *Reports* V. 178 The Metcalfes..were middlemen between the vendors and the vendees. 1845 *Encycl. Metrop.* VIII. 52 In one Trade at least..a class of middle-men, who were formerly interposed between the maker and the merchant, now no longer exists. 1861 J. G. Shepparo *Fall Rome* viii. 414 While to the odious middle-man, or bailiff, was left the management of those patrimonial estates. 1866 C. W. Hatfield *Hist. Notices Doncaster* I. 100 There are middlemen and others who encourage and aid them in disposing of the stolen goods. 1880 Lomas *Alkali Trade* 245 A considerable part of the demand for low-strength ash and alkali emanates from certain unscrupulous vendors or 'middle-men'. 1887 *Westm. Rev.* June 315 The helpless victims of grasping middlemen and a grinding competition which [etc.].

attrib. 1851 Mayhew *Lond. Labour* (1864) II. 373 The workmen gradually became transformed from journeymen into 'middlemen', living by the labour of others... The middleman system is the one crying evil of the day.

b. In Ireland, one who leases land, and sub-lets it again at an advanced rate.

1802 Mar. Edgeworth *Rosanna* i. Wks. 1832 IV. 297 Mr. Hopkins was what is called in Ireland a middle-man. 1903 *Edin. Rev.* July 209 Absenteeism with its resulting evils of middlemen and rackrents was the worst bane of Ireland.

5. *U. S.* a. 'In *negro minstrelsy*, the man who sits in the middle of the semicircle of performers during the opening part of the entertainment, and leads the dialogue between songs.' b. 'In the *fisheries*, a planter.' (*Cent. Dict.*)

Hence **Mi·ddlemanism, Mi·ddlemanship,** the system of employing middlemen.

1848 *Fraser's Mag.* XXXVII. 383 A sort of middlemanship, somewhat of the nature of the 'butty' system carried on in Staffordshire. 1889 G. J. Holyoake in *Co-operative News* 6 Apr. 330 Middlemanism was becoming in every country a serious question. 1899 A. White *Mod. Jew* 132 Their trading instincts and intuitive taste for middlemanship.

Middlemost (mi·d'lmōust), *a.* Now somewhat *rare.* [f. Middle *a.* + -most.] That is in the very middle, or nearest the middle. Now only with reference to position; formerly also with reference to age, size, quality, etc. Cf. Midmost and *middlest* superl. of Middle *a.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 10023 þe baile midelmast o thre, Bitakens wel hir chastite. *a* 1400 *Isumbras* 184 His medilmast sone 3it lefte he thare. 14.. in *Rel. Ant.* I. 52 Tak the rote of walwort..and do away the overmast rynd, and tak the mydilmaste rynde. 1577–87 Holinshed *Chron.* I. 14/2 Cunedag the sonne of Hennius and Ragaie (middlemost daughter of Leir before mentioned). 1638 Junius *Paint. Ancients* 282 Although it require great skill to paint the bodie and middlemost parts of figures, yet [etc.]. 1658 Rowland *Mouffet's Theat. Ins.* 952 For there are these several sorts of them, the bigger, lesser, middlemost and least. 1671 H. M. tr. *Erasm. Colloq.* 14 My middlemost son hath lately entred into holy Orders. 1721 Mortimer *Husb.* II. 222 The undermost part of the middlemost Joints are to be cut off half through. 1812 J. Bigland *Beauties Eng. & Wales* XVI. 517 Folding gates, the middlemost of which is of iron. 1862 Borrow *Wild Wales* xxiii. (1901) 72/1 Three men—the middlemost was praying in Welsh.

b. *absol.* The part in the middle.

1382 Wyclif *Matt.* Prol. 1 In the whiche gospel it is profitable to men desyrynge God, so to knowe the first, the mydmeste [*MS. O* mydelmest] other the last. 1673 Penn *Chr. Quaker* vii. (1699) 60 God himself inhabits the Lowest, and Highest, and the Middlemost.

Middle night. *Obs.* exc. *dial.* = Midnight. *Beowulf* 2782 Lizeȝesan wæȝ hatne for horde, hioroweallende middelnihtum. *c* 1205 Lay. 20607 Hit was to þere middel-niht. *a* 1300 *K. Horn* 1391 þat schup gan ariue, Abute middleniȝte. 1893 Stevenson *Catriona* xxi. 253 When my father and my uncles lay in the hill, and I was to be carrying them their meat in the middle night.

Middler (mi·d'lə). Also 6 middeler, midler. [f. Middle *a.* + -er 1. Cf. MDu. *middelare* (Du. *middelaar*), OHG. *mittilâri* (MHG. *mitteler*, mod.G. *mittler*).]

†1. An intermediary, mediator. *Obs.*

1531 Frith *Judgem. Tracy's Test.* (1535) C iii, A middeler [1573 Wks. 79/1 mid dealer] betwene God and man. *a* 1540 Barnes *Wks.* (1573) 350/1 Heare you not playnly how we do sooner obtayne our petityon of God our owne selfe, then by any other midlers? 1551 Matthew (Hyl) *Isa.* xxviii. Notes, Christ..being here mediatour or middeler betwene God & men. 1675 Brooks *Gold. Key* Wks. 1867 V. 177 This word, μεσίτης, doth..signify a mediator or a middler.

2. The workman who performs the middle one of three operations in the preparation of flax.

1847 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* VIII. II. 385 It is taken up by the second man or middler, who puts it through the same process.

3. *U. S.* 'A member of the middle class in a seminary which has three classes—senior, middle, and junior—as in theological seminaries' (*Cent. Dict.*).

1882 in *Minutes of Triennial Convention* (U. S.) 43 In reading Hebrew at sight Middlers and Juniors did well.

Middle-rate (mi·d'lrē·t), *a.* [f. Middle *a.* + Rate *sb.*] Mediocre, not first-rate.

1738 tr. *Guazzo's Art Conversation* 196 A middle-rate Beauty is most commendable in a woman. 1791 Boswell *Johnson* 10 Apr. an. 1775 Here (I observed) was a very middle-rate poet.

†**Mi·ddleriff.** *Obs.* [f. Middle *a.* + Riff. Cf. MLG., Du. *middelrif.*] = Midriff.

1599 A. M. tr. *Gabelhouer's Bk. Physicke* 264/1 Take in Maye the Middlereefe of a kidde.

Mi·ddle-sized, *a.* [f. Middle *a.* + Size *sb.* + -ed 2.] Of medium size, neither large nor small.

1632 Brome *Court Beggar* II. (1653) P 2, I thinke you able to maintaine your selfes midle-sis'd Gent. 1667 Boyle in *Phil. Trans.* II. 582 We put it into a middle-sized Receiver. 1793 Smeaton *Edystone L.* § 201 From the bigness of a pea to that of a middle-sized turnip. 1883 F. M. Wallem *Fish Supply Norway* 30 (Fish. Exhib. Publ.) A middle-sized .. stockfish. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 4 The middle-sized bronchi.

Hence **Middle-sizedness,** the condition of being middle-sized; mediocrity.

1903 G. Matheson *Repr. Men of Bible* 86 What is their mental average? It is not greatness, it is not smallness, it is not even middle-sizedness: it is shortcoming.

†**Mi·ddleward.** *Obs.* [f. Middle *a.* + -ward; in sense 2 perh. f. Ward *sb.* as in *rearward, vanward.* Cf. Midward.]

1. The middle part of anything.

c 1450 *Pallad. on Husb.* VIII. 135 All the rynde is for this nothing fyne, Then oonly take the tender myddelwardes.

2. The middle body of an army.

?*a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 1988 The kynge .. Demenys the medylwarde menskfully hyme selfene. 1577–87 Holinshed *Chron.* III. 828/1 The earle himself led the middle-ward. 1665 Manley *Grotius' Low C. Warres* 673 Three Battels.. of which the Middleward being double fill'd the whole breadth of the Shore.

Middle way.

1. A course between two extremes. Cf. mod.L. *via media.*

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 336 þe middel weie of mesure is euer guldene. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 2, I wolde go the middel weie And wryte a bok betwen the tweie. 1704 Norris *Ideal World* II. ii. 98 Which absurd consequence .. falls upon those of the middle way, who unite matter and thought in Brutes. 1725 Watts *Logic* II. v. § 2 Where two extremes are proposed..and neither of them has certain and convincing evidence, it is generally safest to take the middle way.

2. The middle of the way; one's mid-course.

1633 P. Fletcher *Purple Isl.* XI. xxii, Aselges..met the virgin in the middle way. 1718 Pope *Iliad* XVI. 952 Apollo dreadful stops thy middle way.

attrib. 1648 Gage *West Ind.* 116 A plain champaign Countrey, which continued till within a league of the middle way lodge.

b. Used *advb.* Half-way, on the way.

1568 Grafton *Chron.* II. 981 The King removed his campe to a village myddell way betwene Sainct Omers and Tyrwine. 1860 Whittier *Truce of Piscataqua* III One alone, a little maid, Middleway her steps delayed.

†**Middle world.** *Obs.* = Middle earth.

c 1200 Ormin 17538 Off þise fowwre shaffte iss all þiss middell werelld timmbredd. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 98 Of waters froen, of yses wal, ðis middel werld it luket al. 1822 Scott *Pirate* xxiv, He spoke mair like a man of the middle world, than she had ever heard him since she had [etc.].

Middle yorde, variant of Middle-erd.

Middling (mi·dliŋ), *sb.* In 6 midlyng, 7 midling. [Prob. orig. f. Mid *a.* + -ling 1, suggested by the earlier Sc. Middling *a.* The surviving senses, however, represent absolute or elliptical uses of the adj.

The sb. (except for the doubtful example quoted in 2 below) occurs first at the beginning of the 17th c., concurrently with the adoption of the Scottish adj. by southern writers.]

†1. Something intermediate; a mean, middle term. *Obs.*

1614–15 Bovs *Expos. Fest. Ep. & Gosp.* Wks. (1630) 573 John Baptist, the last of the Prophets, and first of Apostles, a midling as it were betweene both. 1620 T. Granger *Div. Logike* 89 But the midlings are disparates both to the extremes, and among themselues.

2. *pl.* Pins of medium size.

The sense in the first quot. is doubtful; Jamieson explains it as above. Possibly the word may be a. MDu. *middelinc,* which appears to denote some kind of nail (=*middelnagel*); cf. MLG. *middelink,* the middle finger.

1543 *Aberdeen Reg.* XVIII. (Jam.), xviiij paperis of prenis, the price xxvij sh., ane bout of midlyngis the price vj. sh., & tua hankis of wyir the price xxiiij sh. 1824 Miss Mitford *Village* Ser. I. 227 Pincushions..capable..of containing.. a whole paper of short-whites and another of middlings.

3. *pl.* Used as a trade name for the middle one of three classes into which goods are sorted according to quality. (Cf. Middling *a.* 3.)

a. of fuller's teasels.

1766 *Museum Rust.* VI. 2 The next smallest which are sound, and are commonly such as grow as side heads on each branch, are thrown for a second sort, and are called *middlings.* 1797 Billingsley *View Agric. Somerset* 111 [Teasels] are sorted into..kings, middlings, and scrubs.

b. *U. S.* of cotton.

1793 Washington *Lett.* Writ. 1891 XII. 382 The middlings and ship stuff may be sold to answer the money calls which you will have upon you. 1881 *Standard* 14 Sept. 4/7 The class of cotton known as 'middlings'.

c. of flour or meal.

1842 *P. Parley's Ann.* III. 126 One of the nicest, cleanest, fattest pigs that was ever killed,..fattened with nothing but peas and middlings. *a* 1845 Hood *Lament of Toby* ii, But must I give the classics up, For barley-meal and middlings? 1893 Gunter *Miss Dividends* 244 Some bread made of middlings.

4. *U. S.* (See quot.)

1859 Bartlett *Dict. Amer., Middlings* 2. A term used in the West for pork, meaning the portion of the animal between the hams and shoulders. Thus the Price Current quotes hams, shoulders, and middlings.

5. 'That portion of a gun-stock between the grasp and the tail-pipe or ramrod-thimble' (Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1875).

Middling (mi·d'liŋ), *a.* and *adv.* Forms: 5 mydlyn, 6 midiling, 6–8 midling, 7 middleing, 7– middling. [App. of Sc. origin: the earliest examples in Eng. writers belong to the reign of James I.

Prob. orig. f. Mid *a.* + *-ling* in adjs. like *eastling, westling* (where the suffix seems to represent a blending, in attributive use, of -ling 1 and -ling 2). In English use of the beginning of the 17th c., the adj. appears to have been apprehended as an attributive application of the sb., which came in at the same time; Ben Jonson uses both freely.]

A. *adj.*

†1. Intermediate between two things; forming a mean between two extremes. *Obs.*

Quot. 1645 may belong to MIDDLING *ppl. a.*

1456 Sir G. Haye *Law Armis* (S. T. S.) 118 Bot than is vertu morale in the mydlyn way. 1614 B. Jonson *Barth. Fair* II. ii, A certaine midling thing, betweene a foole and a madman. 1645 Milton *Tetrach.* Wks. 1851 IV. 234 As the Physician cures him who hath taken down poyson, not by the middling temper of nourishment, but by the other extreme of antidote. 1677 Gale *Crt. Gentiles* III. 103 These Demons the Romans called Semi-Gods and Medioxumi or midling Gods. 1684 tr. *Bonet's Merc. Compit.* v. 138 A middling Medicine, between a Plaster and a Cataplasm. 1733 Cheyne *Eng. Malady* II. i. § 2 (1734) 115 If Care be taken to keep up the Juices in this middling condition. 1767 tr. *Voltaire's Ignorant Philosopher* xxxii. 86 The middling state between health and disease.

2. Of medium or moderate size; moderately large. Now (exc. in *middling size, middling degree*, etc.) only *colloq.* or *vulgar*, as an application of sense 3 b.

1596 *Aberdeen Reg.* (1848) II. 139 Thrie midling schippis, to pass to the Ilis for snbdewing of the hieland men. 1598 in *Black Bk. Taymouth* (Bannatyne Cl.) 330 Off midling plaittis thair, ii do. vi; off greit plaittis thair, xiii. 1671 Marten *Voy. into Spitzbergen* in *Acc. Sev. Late Voy.* II. (1694) 80 He is as big as a midling Duck. 1707 Mortimer *Husb.* (1721) II. 316 As you gather your Fruit, separate the fairest and biggest from the middling. 1792 tr. *Brissot's Trav.* 249 Quarries of Marble of a middling fineness. 1831 Sir J. Sinclair *Corr.* II. 269 Being able to carry a soldier of a middling size in each hand, when his arms were extended. 1853 Kane *Grinnell Exp.* xxx. (1856) 264 When colder, say—40°, with a middling breeze. 1871 Blackmore *Maid of Sker* (1881) 77 A middling keg of Hollands, and an anker of old rum. 1898 'R. Boldrewood' *Rom. Canvass Town* 71 You have a middling cheque, I believe.

b. *Comb.*, as *middling-sized* (†*-size*) adj.

a 1756 Mrs. Haywood *New Present* (1771) 62 Get four or five middling-sized eels. 1776 *Trial of Nundocomar* 42/1 *Q.* What sort of a man was Mahomed Comaul? *A.* A middling size man. 1840 Dickens *Barn. Rudge* iv, A middling-sized dish of beef and ham.

†c. Average. *Obs.*

1754 Hume *Hist. Eng.* I. xii. 296 This is near half of the middling price in our time.

3. *Comm.* Used as a designation for the second of three grades of goods.

1550 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 107 The best moutoun for ixs, the midiling moutoun for viiis, and the worst moutoun for viis. 1693 Luttrell *Brief Rel.* (1857) III. 86 Middling wheat at 56*s.* a quarter; middling sort of rye at 36*s.* a quarter. 1859 *Stationers' Handbk.* (ed. 2) 111 Sample of the make termed Blue wove. This is a middling quality, commoner sorts would be *lower*, .. better kinds *higher* in colour. 1864 De Coin *Cotton & Tobacco* 192 Substantial upland middling cottons of good staple. 1887 *Daily News* 23 Feb. 2/6 Coffee..low middling to middling, 77*s* to 83*s*; good middling to fine middling, 83*s* 6*d* to 88*s*. 1889 *Century Dict.* s. v. *Fair a., Fair to middling*, moderately good: a term designating a specific grade of quality in the market.

b. Moderately good, mediocre, second-rate.

1652 Tatham *Scotch Fig.* iv. i. *Dram. Wks.* (1878) 161 Children, you talk not like men, you are but middling Christians. 1677 Dryden *Apol. Her. Poetry*, Longinus.. has judiciously preferr'd the sublime Genius that sometimes erres; to the midling or indifferent one which makes few faults but seldome or never rises to any Excellence. 1756 Burke *Subl. & B.* Introd. Wks. 1842 I. 27 The middling performance of a vulgar artist. 1833 Hood *Epping Hunt* xxxii, All sorts of vehicles and vans, Bad, middling, and the smart. 1882 M. Arnold *Irish Ess.* 247 The abundant consumption of middling literature. 1895 H. Beveridge in *Speaker* 14 Sept. 288/1 In the matter of trade disputes, however, he was only a middling success.

†4. Middle-aged. *Obs.*

1610 Boys *Exp. Dom. Epist. & Gosp.* Wks. (1622) 228 Young Lawyers, old Physitians, and midling Divines are best; an old Preacher cannot teach so painfully, and the young not so profitably, but the midling may doe both [etc.].

5. Belonging to the middle classes. *Middling class* = Middle class.

1692 R. L'Estrange *Fables* ccxxx. 201 There was a Middling sort of a Man that was left well enough to pass by his Father, but could never think he had enough, so long as any Man had more. 1718 *Free-thinker* No. 19. 129 The Middling People of England are generally Good-natured and Stout-hearted. 1789 Anburey *Trav.* II. 393 This diversion is a great favourite of the middling and lower classes. 1847 Grote *Greece* II. xxxvii. (1862) III. 357 He was a citizen of middling station. 1897 Maitland *Domesday & Beyond* 65 Now if these things are being done in the middling strata of society [etc.].

absol. 1782 Crevecoeur *Lett.* 72 The rich stay in Europe, it is only the middling and poor that emigrate.

†6. Occupying a middle position. *Obs.*

1747 *Gentl. Mag.* XVII. 330 *note*, In many of the midling counties, ..there is scarce any difference between the whole number of members at that time and this.

†7. *Middling teeth* (see quot.). *Obs.*

1753 Chambers *Cycl. Supp., Middling-Teeth*, .. are the four teeth of a horse that come out at three years and a half, in the room of other four foal teeth; from which situation they derive the title of Middling.

B. *adv.* (Now chiefly *colloq.*: common *dial.* and in vulgar use.)

1. Qualifying an adj. or adv.: Moderately, fairly, tolerably.

1719 De Foe *Crusoe* II. (Globe) 411 He form'd out of one of the Iron Crows a middling good Anvil. 1779 E. Beatty in *J. L. Hardenbergh's Jrnl.* (1879) 63 The road middling hilly. 1848 Lowell *Biglow P.* Ser. I. ii. 109 Mister Sawin, sir, you're middlin' well now, be ye? 1880 H. James *Portr. Lady* v, She was thin, and light, and middling tall. 1892 Stevenson *Across the Plains* v, If a light is not rather more than middling good, it will be radically bad.

2. Fairly well; chiefly *predicatively*, fairly well in health; not very well.

1810 W. B. Rhodes *Bomb. Fur.* i. (1830) 7 We are but middling—that is, but so so. 1852 Dickens *Bleak Ho.* xxi, 'How de do?' 'Middling', replies Mr. George. 1877 P'cess Alice in *Mem.* 6 Nov. (1884) 367, I am but very middling. 1894 Hall Caine *Manxman* v. iii. 287 'We'll do middling if we get a market', said Pete.

Hence **Mi·ddlingish** *adv., dial.* or *vulgar.*

1820 J. A. Dowling *Coroners Inquest on J. Lees* 18, I believe it was a middlingish good hat before he went to the meeting. 1876 Farjeon *Love's Victory* ii, 'A gentleman, then?' 'Well, yes, sir; middlingish'.

†Mi·ddling, *ppl. a. Obs. rare*—[1]. [f. Middle *v.* + -ing [2].] Acting as a go-between, intermediary.

1616 B. Jonson *Devil an Ass* I. vi. 219 What doe you say vnto a middling Gossip To bring you aye together, at her lodging?

Middlingly (mi·dlinli), *adv.* [f. Middling *a.* + -ly [2].] In a middling manner; fairly, indifferently, tolerably; also, not very well in health.

1755 Johnson, *Indifferently* 3. Not well; tolerably; passably; middlingly. 1814 Moore *Mem.* (1853) II. 44, I dare say I thought but middlingly of them while they existed. 1819 J. Jebb *Corr.* (1834) II. 373 For the last two days I have felt but middlingly. 1891 H. Johnston *Kilmallie* I. viii. 133 Even then she was but middlingly pleased.

Middlingness (mi·dlinnės). [f. Middling *a.* + -ness.] The state of being middling; mediocrity.

1866 Geo. Eliot *F. Holt* v, 'Tis a poor climax, to my weaker thought, That future middlingness.

Middow, obs. form of Meadow.

Middrift, -dryfe, obs. forms of Midriff.

Midds, Middst, obs. forms of Mids, Midst.

Middy (mi·di). *colloq.* [f. Mid *sb.*[1] + -y.] A midshipman.

1833 Marryat *P. Simple* xxix, Then went two of the middies, just about your age, Mr. Simple. 1894 C. N. Robinson *Brit. Fleet* 410 The middies, with naval cadets, are now designated 'subordinate officers'.

†Mide, *prep.* and *adv. Obs.* [Related to Mid *prep.* and *adv.* It has not been found in OE., but corresponds in form and use to OS. *midi*, OHG. *mili* (MHG. *mite*).] A synonym of Mid *prep.* and *adv.*, employed **a.** as *adv.* (sometimes = 'wherewith'); **b.** as *prep.*, usually placed after its regimen or used *elipt.* at the end of a sentence.

c 1160 *Hatton Gosp.* Mark xv. 41, & manege oðre þe him mide ferden on ierusalem. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 51 And hwat þa clades bi-tacneð þe þe rapes weren mide biwunden. *c* 1205 Lay. 2831 Alle his cnihtes þe mide him weoren. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 372 Nicodemus brouhte smuriles uorte smurien mide ure Louerd. *c* 1315 Shoreham I. 241 In water ich wel þe cristny her.. For mide to wessche nis nobynge þat man comeþ to so liȝte. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 3094 (Kölbing), .vi. hundred knistes he brouȝt him mide.

Mid-earth. a. The middle of the earth. *Mid-earth sea*, the Mediterranean Sea. (Cf. Middle earth 2.) **b.** quasi-*arch.* = Middle earth I.

1559 W. Cunningham *Cosmogr. Glasse* 143 Not farre distante from the midde Earthe Seas. 1895 A. Nutt in K. Meyer *Voy. Bran* I. 240 That tract of earth is not Accessible to many o'er mid-earth. 1895 Jane Menzies *Cynewulf's Elene* 15 Since heaven's Lord in low degree In this mid-earth a man was born.

Midegaitt, variant of Midgait.

Midel, obs. form of Middle *sb.* and *a.*

Midenarde, variant of Middenerd *Obs.*

Miderede, obs. form of Midred.

Mides, Midest, obs. forms of Mids, Midst.

Mid-e·thmoid. *Anat.* = Mesethmoid.

1884 Coues *Key N. Amer. Birds* (ed. 2) 160 The permanent plate,..to which the name *mesethmoid* or mid-ethmoid is more strictly applicable.

Mid-e·val, *a. rare*—[1]. [f. Mid *a.* + Eval; perhaps after *coeval.*] = Mediæval.

1840 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* III. 365/1 The mid-eval architects.

†Mid-fasten, mid-fast. *Obs.* [f. Mid *a.* + Fasten *sb.*, Fast *sb.* Cf. ON. *miðfasta*, MDu., MLG. *midde-, midvasten*, MHG. *mitte(n)vaste, mitvaste* (mod.G. *mitfasten*).] = Mid-lent. Also *attrib.*

c 1122 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1047 Her on þisum ȝeare wæs mycel ȝe mot on Lundene to midfestene. *c* 1205 Lay. 22256 He ferde to Æxchæstræn to þan mid-festen. 1480 *Newcastle Merch. Vent.* (Surtees) I. 2 The .. persones .. shall.. halden wppon Thursday next after Midfast Sunday [etc.].

Mid feather.

1. (See quots.)

1753 [see Feather *sb.* 16 d]. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVI. 626/1 The body of the furnace consists of two chambers, divided from each other by a brick partition called the mid-feather. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech., Mid-feather*, a water-bridge in a steam boiler furnace which occupies a middle position in the flue-space, the flame passing both above and below it.

2. *Mining.* A support for the centre of a tunnel (Webster 1897).

Mid-field. [f. Mid *a.* + Field *sb.*] The middle of the Field (in various senses of that word). Now chiefly in *Football.*

a 1400-50 *Alexander* 955 He..metes hym in þe myd-feld with a much nowmbre. 1533 Bellenden *Livy* II. xiii. (S. T. S.) I. 181 þe dictator..come on þe myd feild of sabynis..with his Oist of futemen. 1613 Heywood *Silver Age* II. i. Wks. 1874 III. 101 King Ptelera ..with a fresh supply Takes vp the mid-field. 1901 *Essex Weekly News* 29 Mar. 8/3 Woodford were the smarter team in mid-field, but they did not equal Chelmsford in front of goal.

attrib. 1896 *Bootle Times* 18 Jan. 3/1 Midfield play ensued.

†Midgait, *adv. Sc. Obs.* Also 6 midegaitt. [f. Mid *a.* + Gait *sb.*[1]] = Midway.

1557-75 *Diurn. Occurr.* (Bannatyne Cl.) 256 He wes met be the nobilities horsmen midgait. *a* 1578 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S. T. S.) II. 153 The Earle Marchall, or he come midegaitt, tyrit and grew seik that he might do no thing nor no goode at that tyme. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* v. 290 Bot or he was midgait, Cadhard..slew him at the castel of Meffen.

‖Midgard (mi·dgaad). *Myth.* [repr. ON. *Miðgarð-r*: see Middenerd.] The proper name, in Scandinavian mythology, of the world inhabited by living men, in contradistinction to Asgard (*Asgarðr*), the home of the gods. Also *attrib.*, as *midgard sea, snake.*

1882 C. F. Keary *Outl. Prim. Belief* 73 The mid-earth serpent called Jörmungandr..lying at the bottom of the mid-gard sea.

Midge (midʒ). Forms: 1 micge, mycg, myge, mygg, 4–6 mydge, 5 migge, 5–6 myge, 6 mige, myghe, 6– midge. [OE. *mycg* masc., *mycge* wk. fem., corresponding to OS. *muggia* fem. (Essen glosses), MDu. *mugghe* (Du. *mug*), OHG. *mucca* (MHG. *mucke, mücke*, mod.G. *mücke*), Sw. *mygg, mygga*, Da. *myg*;—OTeut. types **mugjo-z, *mugjôn-*. It is uncertain whether the synonymous ON. *mý* is related, and the alleged cognates outside Teut. are very doubtful.]

1. A popular name loosely applied to many small gnat-like insects; by some entomologists restricted to the *Chironomidæ*.

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) C 947 *Culix*, mygg. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 54 Wið gnættas & micgeas. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 122/7 *Culex*, micge. *a* 1340 Hampole *Psalter* civ. 29 He sayd & hundfle come & mydge [L. *cynomia et sciniphes*] in all þaire endis. *c* 1450 *Mirour Saluacioun* 459 Some tymes diseses man a migge or els a flee. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* XII. Prol. 172 To knit hyr nettis and hir wobbys sle, Tharwith to caucht the myghe and littill fle. 1520 M. Nisbet *N. Test. in Scots* Matt. xxiii. 24 Blind leidars, clengeand a myge, bot suelliand a camele. 1551 Turner *Herbal* I. A v b, The smoke of it [wormwood], dryueth away gnates or mydges. 1625 Purchas *Pilgrims* II. 1771 *margin*, They are called Wall-lice, because they breed in Wals; but in true English they are called Midges, and in Latin *Cimices*. 1658 Rowland *Mouffet's Theat. Ins.* 953 These small Summer Gnats..are properly called in English Midges. 1668 Charleton *Onomasticon* 43 *Culices*..Gnats, & *si parvi sunt* Midges. *a* 1732 T. Boston *Crook in Lot* (1805) 88 Midges in the summer will fly about those walking abroad in a goodly attire, as well as about those in sordid apparel. 1808 Scott *Fam. Lett.* 31 Oct., There is a foundation for the other part of the story, though no larger than a midge's wing. 1850 Rossetti *Blessed Damozel* vi, Where this earth Spins like a fretful midge. 1867 F. Francis *Angling* vi. (1880) 236 The Green Midge, a very delicate little insect. 1886 *Times* 18 Aug. 10/6 The wheat midge ..produces the red maggots which so seriously damage the ripening ears of corn. 1896 Kirkaldy & Pollard tr. *Boas' Zoöl.* 276 Midges (*Nemocera*) are usually slender with long antennæ, which in the males are often furnished with long hairs.

b. Applied to a diminutive person.

1796 Burns *Wha will buy my troggin?* ix, By a thievish midge They had amaist been lost. 1847 C. Bronte *J. Eyre* xxxvi, A more spirited, bolder, keener gentleman than he was before that midge of a governess crossed him, you never saw, ma'am. 1866 *Reader* 17 Mar. 276 As compared to the men and women about him he is a mere midge.

2. An artificial fly for fishing.

1799 G. Smith *Laboratory* II. 311 Black-midge, or gnat. Dubbing, of the down of a mole.

3. The fry of various fishes (Funk). Cf. *mackarel-midge.*

1832 Couch in *Mag. Nat. Hist.* V. 15 Midge (*Ciliata glauca*). *Ibid.* 16 It is the mackarel midge of our fishermen. ..For brevity's sake I have retained only the name Midge.

4. A kind of small one-horse 'fly' or cab.

1877 *Rep. Provinc.* 133 (E. D. D.) Small flys licensed to carry two or at most three persons, to be seen on all the cab-stands about Torquay, are almost always called Midges about that town. 1896 Mrs. Oliphant *Old Mr. Tredgold* ii. (1898) 16 [Refers to Isle of Wight.] A midge is not a graceful nor perhaps a very safe vehicle.

5. *Mining.* (See quot.) Cf. Midgy.

1883 Gresley *Coal-mining Gloss., Midges*, lamps (not safety) carried by putters, &c.

6. *attrib.*, as *midge-like* adj., *midge-tail*; **midge cap** (see quot.); **midge fly,** a midge; **midge grass,** *Holcus lanatus* (Britten & Holland, 1886).

1814 J. Hodgson in J. Raine *Mem.* (1857) I. 144 The labourers are under the necessity of wearing a sort of veil before their faces which they call *midgecaps. 1806 Wolcot (P. Pindar) *Tristia* Wks. 1812 V. 259 The Bard, to kill a *Midge-fly pours her Thunder. 1785 Burns *Death & Dr. Hornbook* xxii, Sal-alkali o' *Midge-tail clippings.

†Midgern. *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Also 1 miegern(e, 5 medryn, mydrun, myg(g)erne, 9 *dial.* midgen, midgerum, middren, etc. (see E.D.D.). [OE. *miegern* = OS. *midgarni*, OHG. *mittigarni*:—OTeut. type **midjogarnjo*ⁿ, f. **midjo-* Mid *a.* +

**garnd* (ON. *gorn* fem.) bowel, gut, cogn. w. **garno^m* YARN.] The fat about the entrails of an animal; suet; in mod. dial. use the fat about the kidneys of a pig; leaf-lard.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 162/28 *Exugium*, micgern. 14.. *Nom.* ibid. 678/22 *Hec omomestra*, a medryn. 14.. *Voc.* ibid. 599/3 *Omentum*, a pauncheclout (*vel* Myggerne). *c* 1420 *Liber Cocorum* (1862) 10 Take..þo mydrun and þe kydnere, And hew bom smalle. *c* 1475 *Pict. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 747/31 *Hoc omestrum*, a mygerne.

¶ b. App. confused with MIDRIFF.

a 1440 *Promp. Parv.* [Several texts have *midrym*, *middryn*, instead of *midrif*, rendered *diafragma*.] 1893 *Northumb. Gloss.*, *Middern*, the midriff or diaphragm.

Midget (mi·dʒėt). [f. MIDGE + -ET.]

1. An extremely small person; *spec.* such a person publicly exhibited as a curiosity.

1865 *W. Cornw. Words* in *Jrnl. R. Inst. Cornw.* Apr. 50 *Midget*, very small, a mite. 1869 MRS. STOWE *Old Town Folks* xvi. (1870) 159 Now you know Parson Kendall's a little midget of a man. 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 22 Aug. 10/2 A child.. which had been exhibited by a showman..as the smallest 'Midget' in the world. 1892 E. REEVES *Homeward Bound* 7 There are 120 saloon passengers, adults, 40 children, and 2 'midgets' on board. 1903 *Review of Rev.* Apr. 347 The undersized midgets of new recruits.

2. A Canadian name for the Sand-fly.

1859 in BARTLETT *Dict. Amer.*

3. More fully *midget-photograph*. The trade name for a very small size of photographic portrait.

1888 *Lady* 25 Oct. 374/3 A smaller frame, screen shape,.. to hold six 'midget' photographs.

Mi·dgety, *a.* [f. MIDGET + -Y.] Very small.

1798 JANE AUSTEN *Lett.* (1884) I. 177 [My] cap..was before too midgetty to please me.

Midgy (mi·dʒi), *sb. Mining.* [f. MIDGE + -Y.] See quot., and cf. MIDGE 5.

1849 GREENWELL *Coal Trade Gloss.* (E.D.D.), *Midgy*, an oblong box without a front, carried upright, the use of which is to carry a lighted candle or small lamp in a current of air.

Midgy (mi·dʒi), *a.* [f. MIDGE + -Y.] Consisting of midges.

1806 J. GRAHAME *Birds Scot.* II. 65 When dance the midgy clouds in warping maze Confused.

Mid-heaven. [MID *a.*]

1. *Astron.* and *Astrol.* The meridian, or middle line of the heavens; the point of the ecliptic on the meridian.

1594 BLUNDEVIL *Exerc.* VI. xxix. (1597) 308 b, The Fiduciall line of the label crossing the Zodiaque, will shew the degree of mid heauen at that houre. 1610 HEALEY *St. Aug. Citie of God* 203 Mid-heaven, the point between the Horoscope and the west-angle. 1819 J. WILSON *Dict. Astrol.* 272 The 10th [house] is the midheaven, or medium cœli, or south angle.

2. The middle of the sky.

1612 T. TAYLOR *Comm. Titus* ii. 11 The sunne is not only risen and in our midheauen, but the light of it is seauen fold bigger then it was before. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* XII. 263 Or how the Sun shall in mid Heav'n stand still. 1871 TENNYSON *Last Tourn.* 737 The red fruit Grown on a magic oak-tree in mid-heaven.

3. The midst of heaven as the abode of angels.

1667 MILTON *P. L.* IX. 468 But the hot Hell that alwayes in him burnes, Though in mid Heav'n, soon ended his delight.

†Mididone, *adv. Obs.* Also 4 midydone. [Orig. a syntactical phrase, *mid idone*, where MID *prep.* governs *i-done* pa. pple. of Do *v.* The literal sense is thus 'with this being done'.] Forthwith, immediately.

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 468/226 He helpez bobe king and kny3ht, þe pouere alle mididone. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 4138 (Kölbing) Þe cherl hent his bowe sone & smot a doke mididone.

Midil, Midilerth(e, Midiling, obs. ff. MIDDLE *a.*, MIDDLE EARTH, MIDDLING *a.*

Miding, obs. form of MIDDEN.

Midis, obs. form of MIDS.

Mi·dlag. *Antiq.* [Source unknown: Meyrick's explanation 'mid-leg' cannot well be correct.] An alleged name for a kind of tabard: see quots.

1824 MEYRICK *Ant. Armour* II. 84 These long tabards were peculiar to the English, being called midlags, because as they were made in imitation of the surcoat, they reached to the middle of the legs. 1830 [E. HAWKINS] *Anglo-French Coinage*, This feeble monarch [Ric. II] is represented in his state tabard or midlag.

Midland (mi·dlănd), *sb.* and *a.* [f. MID *a.* + LAND.]

A. *sb.* The middle part of a country. Also *pl.* esp. applied to the middle counties of England; and, in hunting use, with narrower sense to the champaign country including parts of the counties of Leicester, Rutland, Northampton, Warwick, Nottinghamshire, and Derbyshire.

1555 EDEN *Decades* 320 The three sayde prouinces occupy this mydlande of the worlde. 1612 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* xiii. 1 Vpon the Mid-lands now th' industrious Muse doth fall. *a* 1637 B. JONSON *Discov., De orationis dignitate..Metaphora*, As if..a Gentleman of Northampton-shire, Warwickshire, or the Mid-land, should fetch all the Illustrations to his countrey neighbours from shipping. 1684 T. BURNET *Th. Earth* I. ii. 15 If the Sea lie..lower generally than the shore, and much more than the mid-land. 1727 A. HAMILTON *New Acc. E. Ind.* II. l. 216 The mid Lands seem very mountainous. 1889 C. EDWARDES *Sardinia* 340 The Sarde midlands. 1898 *Story of Midlands* 10 The Midlands are rich in mineral wealth.

B. *adj.*

1. Situated in the middle of the land; inland; remote from the sea. *Midland counties* (of England): the counties south of the Humber and Mersey and north of the Thames, with the exception of Norfolk, Suffolk, Essex, Middlesex, Hertfordshire, Gloucestershire, and the counties bordering on Wales. The counties now forming the *Midland circuit* (see CIRCUIT *sb.* 5) are Derby, Nottingham, Lincoln, Leicester, Rutland, Northampton, Warwick, Bedford, and Buckingham.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 40 In the midland parts far from the sea. 1675 OGILBY *Britannia* (1698) 6 The chief Trade [of Bristol] is manag'd from Wales, and the Midland-Countries. 1785 J. PHILLIPS *Treat. Inland Navig.* p. vi, The inhabitants of the Northern .. parts of England, would be little acquainted .. with those of the mid-land parts. 1851 STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* I. 157 In use in Forfarshire and the midland districts. 1878 F. S. WILLIAMS *Midl. Railw.* 8 Such was the origin of the Midland Counties Railway.

b. Belonging to the Midlands.

Midland dialect: (*a*) with reference to the ME. period, the dialect (divided into *East* and *West* Midland) spoken in the region between those of the 'northern' and 'southern dialects'; in addition to the central parts of England this region included South Lancashire, the Welsh borders, Lincolnshire, and East Anglia; (*b*) in A. J. Ellis's classification of modern English dialects, the dialect of an area extending from Wharfedale in Yorkshire to Stratford on Avon, and from Chester to the Lincolnshire coast.

1837 YOUATT *Sheep* viii. 341 The Midland Long-woolled Sheep.

2. = MEDITERRANEAN *a.* 2. *Midland Sea*, the Mediterranean Sea.

1579 FULKE *Heskins' Parl.* 34 From the mid lande sea to both the Oceans. 1683 T. HOY *Agathocles* 3 Fruitful Italy, The Pride, and Envy of the Mid-land Sea. 1818 BYRON *Ch. Har.* IV. clxxv, The midland ocean breaks on him and me. 1853 M. ARNOLD *Scholar-Gipsy* xxv, O'er the blue Midland waters with the gale, Betwixt the Syrtes and soft Sicily.

† b. Of or pertaining to the Mediterranean Sea.

1660 R. COKE *Power & Subj.* 36 In lib. 3. cap. 4 he [Diodorus] makes four kinds of Libyans to inhabit the midland coasts about Cyrene and Cirtes.

Hence **Mi·dlander,** one who lives in the Midlands; **Mi·dlandize** *v. trans.*, to assimilate to the Midland dialect; **Mi·dlandward** *adv.*, towards the Midlands.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 91 Vpon whom ioine the midlanders, to wit, the Getuliianders. 1865 KINGSLEY *Herew.* xviii, The young earls went off—one midlandward, one northward. 1879 T. F. SIMMONS in *Lay Folks Mass Bk.* Introd. 58 The Northern form may have been copied mechanically by the scribe, although Midlandized in other cases.

Midle, obs. Sc. f. MEDDLE; obs. f. MIDDLE.

Mid leg. [MID *a.*]

1. The middle of the leg.

1590 SIR J. SMYTH *Disc. Weapons* Ded. 10 b, Their souldiors in their watches..stoode to the mid legges in dyrt and myre, 1748 *Earthquake Peru* iii. 259 A large Handkerchief, which hangs down behind to the Mid-Leg.

b. Used *advb.*: To the middle of the leg.

1829 W. H. MAXWELL *Stories of Waterloo* I. 194 His jockey boots..were in the newest style; the top..was met midleg by short tights of tea-coloured leather. 1878 H. S. WILSON *Alp. Ascents* ii. 42 We are wading mid-leg through it.

c. *Comb.*, *mid-leg deep*, *mid-leg high*.

1772 WESLEY *Jrnl.* 16 Mar., Snow .. lay mid-leg deep in .. the streets. 1788 M. CUTLER in *Life*, etc. (1888) I. 404 We found fine feed in the road, clover mid-leg high. 1837 HAWTHORNE *Twice-told T.* (1851) II. ix. 131 A solitary passenger is seen, now striding mid-leg deep across a drift.

2. *Ent.* One of the intermediate or second pair of legs of an insect. Also *attrib.*

1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* III. xxxiii. 379 *Pedes Intermedii* (the Mid-legs). *Ibid.* III. xxxv. 534 The first or mid-leg segment is not nearly so elevated as that of the hind-legs.

Mid-lent. [MID *a.*] The middle of Lent.

1470 *Paston Lett.* II. 394, I am halffe in purpose to com home with in a monythe her afftr, or abowt Med Lente. 1517 TORKINGTON *Pilgr.* (1884) 1 The ffryday a for mydlent. 1667–8 J. BRETON in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) II. 706 It is possible he may be in London by Midlent.

b. *attrib.*, in *Mid-lent Sunday*, the middle or fourth Sunday in Lent.

c 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 194 At two termes in the yere.., that is to sey, the Sonday of Sexagesyme.., and on mydlent Sonday. 1517 TORKINGTON *Pilgr.* (1884) 1 Midlente sonnday, the xxij Day of Marche. 1623–4 LAUD *Diary* 7 Mar., Mid-Lent Sunday. I preached at Whitehall. 1837 *Penny Cycl.* VIII. 31/2 Saturday after Midlent Sunday.

†Midle·nten. *Obs.* [f. MID *a.* + LENTEN.] = MID-LENT. Chiefly in *Midlenten Sunday.*

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XVI. 172 Þanne mette I with a man a mydlenten sondaye. 1513 BRADSHAW *St. Werburge* II. 1600 On sonday in mydlenton the viii houre. 1538 *Aberdeen Reg.* XVI. (Jam.), Betuix this & Sonday mydlentrene nixt to cum.

Midlenting (midle·ntiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. MIDLENT + -ING[1].] The custom of visiting parents and giving them presents on Mid-lent Sunday.

1720 WHEATLY *Bk. Com. Prayer* (ed. 3) 225 The Appointment of these Scriptures upon this Day [Midlent-Sunday], might probably give the first Rise to a Custom still retain'd in many Parts of England, and well known by the name of *Midlenting* or *Mothering*.

Midler, obs. comparative of MIDDLE; obs. f. MIDDLER.

Midlerd, Midlert, var. forms of MIDDLE-ERD.

†Mi·dless, *a. Obs.* [f. MID *sb.* + -LESS.] Having no middle.

1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. i. 343 An un-beginning, midlesse, endlesse Ball [*sc.* the World].

Midlest(e, obs. superlatives of MIDDLE.

†Mi·dlike, *adv. Obs.* [f. MID *sb.* + -LIKE.] Moderately.

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* III. 71 He set ensample thus mydlike.

†Mid-lying, *vbl. sb. Obs.* [f. MID *adv.*[2] + LYING *vbl. sb.*] Adultery.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 13 Unrihte luue is hordom and mid-liggunge þe men drigen bi-twenen hem.

†Mid man. *Obs.* [MID *a.*]

1. A mediator, umpire.

1646 R. BAILLIE *Anabaptism* (1647) 17 In this accomodation these mid men proceeded so far. 1652–5 — *Lett. & Jrnls.* (Bannatyne Club) III. 179, 254, 296.

2. A man-midwife.

1706 BAYNARD in Sir J. Floyer *Hot & Cold Baths* II. (1709) 345 The Mid-men have so far consented to this fatal and pernicious Practice as never to..forbid it.

Midmast, obs. form of MIDMOST.

†Midmeasure, *v. Obs.* [f. MID *adv.* + MEASURE *v.*] *trans.* To divide in the middle.

1578 BANISTER *Hist. Man* VII. 90 This reduplication .. of Pleura, is in this place, called Mediastinum, because it midmeasureth the brest.

Midmest(e, obs. forms of MIDMOST.

Midmore, -morewe, var. ff. MIDMORROW.

Mid morn. The middle of the morning; 9 a.m.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 24 Also vrom Prime vort mid morwen hwon þe preostes of ðe worlde singeð hore messen. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1073 Cum to þat merk at mydmorn. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* C iij, Yeue the hawke therof eueri day at mydmorne and att Noone. 1876 LANIER *Clover* 5 The midmorn empties you of men.

†Midmorrow. *Obs.* Also 4 midmor(e)we, mydmorw, 5 mydmor(o)we, mydmore, myde morroo. [f. MID *a.* + MORROW.] = MIDMORN.

13.. *S. Eng. Leg.* in *Archiv Stud. neu. Spr.* LXXXII. 308 To mydmorw, vndrin & mydday. 13.. *Seuyn Sag.* (W.) 1626 The stiward made moche sorewe, Til hit were half wai midmorewe. *c* 1430 *Hymns Virg.* (1867) 83 At mydmore y lerned to go, And plaied as children doon in strete. 1496 *Dives & Paup.* (W. de W.) IX. xi. 363/1 For thou woldest not helpe me as I badde the, therfore as this daye mydmorowe thou shalt dye.

b. *attrib.*, as *midmorrow day*, *tide*.

c 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 7982 (Kölbing) Þis was in time of May, Riȝt aboute midmorwe day. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. II. 42 In middes on a Mountayne at Midmorwe tyde Was piht vp a Paulon.

Midmost (mi·dmoust), *a.* and *adv.* Forms: 1 midmest, middemyst, 3 mydmest, 3–4 midmeste, 4 mydemyst, mydmest(e, 5 midmast, 6 midmest, 7– midmost. [OE. *midmest*, formed with suffix -EST on WGer. **middjumo-* (OHG. *in mittamen* in the middle), OTeut. **midjumo-* (see MIDDENERD): —Indogermanic **medhyomo-* (Skr. *madhyama*), superlative of **medhyo-* MID *a.*

OE. had also a synonymous *medemest*, formed with suffix -EST on OTeut. **međumo-* (Goth. *miduma*, OHG. *metamo* in compounds; cf. *metami*, OE. *medume*, *medeme*: —**međumjo-*, moderate): —Indogermanic **medhomo-*, a superlative formed directly from the root **medh-*.]

A. *adj.* 1. That is in the very middle, with regard to position, age, etc.

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* III. 112 Þanne sceal hym man lætten blod on þan earme on þan middemyste ædra. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 685 Þre dozтren þe king adde þe eldost het gornorille Þe midmeste het regan. *c* 1375 *Cursor M.* 10023 (Fairf.) The mydmest bayly of þe thre Bytokenyþ wele hir chastite. 1587 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* IV. 205 Thai..hes dismemberit him..of the haill twa midmest fingaris. 1663 COWLEY *Verses Sev. Occas., Christ's Passion* iii, My greedy eyes fly up the hill, and see Who 'tis hangs there the midmost of the three. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneid* X. 1083 Proud Mezentius .. rush'd into the Plain, Where tow'ring in the midmost Ranks he stood. 1716 POPE *Iliad* VIII. 270 High on the midmost bark the king appear'd. 1882 FARRAR *Early Chr.* I. 308 He [Philo] compares it [the Word of God] to the midmost branch of the golden candlestick.

b. *absol.* The midmost part, the middle.

1382 WYCLIF *Matt.* Prol. 1 In the whiche gospel it is profitable to men desyrynge God, so to knowe the first, the mydmeste, other the last, that [etc.]. 1865 PALGRAVE *Arabia* I. 102 A huge parallelogram, placed almost diagonally across the midmost of Arabia. 1865 SWINBURNE *Dolores* 333 From the midmost of Ida. 1905 *Edin. Rev.* Oct. 367 We are made to feel the young girl's enjoyment.. even in the midmost of her grief.

2. In partitive concord: The middle or midst of.

1807 J. BARLOW *Columb.* VII. 420 Where York and Gloster's rocky towers bestride..Virginia's midmost tide. 1885–94 R. BRIDGES *Eros & Psyche* Oct. xvii, She sank Silently weeping on the temple stair, In midmost night. 1887 BOWEN *Virg. Æneid* II. 329 High in the midmost city the horse pours forth from its side Warriors armed.

3. Most intimate.

1846 HAWTHORNE *Mosses* I. i. 19 It comes flowing softly through the midmost privacy.

B. *adv.* In the middle or midst.

1700 DRYDEN *Pal. & Arc.* III. 536 The king goes midmost. 1800 COLERIDGE *Piccolom.* V. iii, Then midmost in the battle was I led In spirit. 1892 'M. FIELD' *Sight & Song* 13 Midmost of the breeze.

b. *prep.* In the middle or midst of.

1870 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* Introd., Midmost the beating of the steely sea. 1892 *Longm. Mag.* Aug. 397 It stands midmost a marsh-country.

Midnight (mi·dnəit), *sb.* Forms: **a.** see MID *a.* and NIGHT; in 1 inflected midder, mid(d)re, middyre niht(e; **β.** 1 middernæht, 3 middernihт(e. [OE. *midniht* = MDu. *midnacht, middenacht*, OHG. *mittinaht* (MHG. *mitnaht*), Sw. *midnatt* (ON. had a derivative form, *miðnætti* :— **miðjonahtjo*^{m}), f. MID *a.* + NIGHT. OE. had also the syntactical combination *midde niht*, frequently occurring in the dative as *middre niht*; this inflected form survived into the 13th c.; it corresponds to Du. *middernacht*, G. *mitternacht*, which from the 14th c. have been used in all cases.]

1. The middle of the night; 12 o'clock at night.

a 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* IV. x. (1890) 286 Þa ongon heo seminga on midde neaht cleopian þæm þe hire þeȝnodon. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Luke xi. 5 Sua huelc iuer hæfeð friond & gaeð to him æd middernæht [etc.]. *a* 1000 *Phœnix* 262 Æt middre nihte. *c* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 125 Alswa wel onbuten mid-niht alswa on mid-daiȝ. *c* 1205 LAY. 15943 Ælche middernihte heo bigunneð to fihten. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1748 Ha wenden from hire, abuten þe midniht. 1382 WYCLIF *Judg.* vii. 19 Gedeon wente in .. into a part of the tentis, bigynnynge the watchis of the mydnyȝt. 1413 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton) v. xiv. (1859) 81 Sodenly the belle gan sowne the hour of mydnyght. 1535 COVERDALE *Matt.* XXV. 6 At mydnight there was a crye made. 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* IV. ii. 67 'Tis now dead midnight. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IX. 58 By Night he fled, and at Midnight return'd From compassing the Earth. 1726–46 THOMSON *Winter* 202 As yet 'tis midnight deep. 1813 SHELLEY *Q. Mab* V. 146 Specks of tinsel, fixed in heaven To light the midnights of his native town! 1882 PEBODY *Eng. Journalism* xix. 143 There are not many subjects upon which, if he takes up his pen at ten o'clock, he cannot by midnight turn out a chatty and readable column for the next morning.

2. *transf.* and *fig.* Intense darkness or gloom; a period of intense darkness.

1593 B. BARNES *Parthenophil* Sonn. xxiii. in Arb. *Garner* V. 352 Her forehead's threatful clouds from hope removed me, Till Midnight reared on the mid-noctial line. *c* 1665 MRS. HUTCHINSON *Mem. Col. Hutchinson* (1885) I. 99 When the dawn of the gospel began to break upon this isle, after the dark midnight of papacy. 1781 COWPER *Charity* 376 Philosophy, .. while his province is the reasoning part, Has still a veil of midnight on his heart. 1879 FARRAR *St. Paul* (1883) 182 It was the darkest midnight of the world's history.

†**3.** slang. *Mother midnight* (see quots.). *Obs.*

1602 F. HERING *Anat.* 11 One while hee playeth the Apothecarie, other whiles serueth in stead of Mother Midnight. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Mother Midnight*, a Midwife (often a Bawd). 1725 MRS. CENTLIVRE *Gotham Elect.* Wks. 1872 III. 180 [To the Midwife] And you too, Mrs. Midnight; kiss me, you old Jade you—.

4. *attrib.* passing into *adj.*

a. Of or pertaining to midnight, occurring at midnight, meeting at midnight.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 260 That was ate mydnyht tyde. 1634 MILTON *Comus* 103 Mean while welcom Joy, and Feast, Midnight shout and revelry. 1698 [R. FERGUSON] *View Eccles.* 32 The fittest and best Qualified Candidate to be A Midnight Gold Gatherer or an Emptier of Houses of Office. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* VII. 1244 Survey this Midnight Scene. 1815 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 70 About fifty armed men came .. and swore all the inhabitants to be faithful to the new system enacted by the midnight legislators of this country [*sc.* Kilkenny]. 1851 LONGF. *Gold. Leg.* IV. *Refectory*, Are you such asses As to keep up the fashion of midnight masses? 1905 *Westm. Gaz.* 26 Sept. 7/3 The mishap occurred to the midnight train from Liverpool-street to Norwich.

b. Dark as midnight.

1601 WEEVER *Mirr. Mart.* D 8 Whilst there I lie in midnight-dark immur'd, My friends emblazoned forth mine injurie. 1664 BUTLER *Hud.* II. ii. 770 It is an Antichristian Opera Much us'd in midnight times of Popery. 1755 YOUNG *Centaur* 99 Dungeon them in midnight Dens of Fraud and Destruction. 1855 BROWNING *Bp. Blougram's Apol.* 253 What's midnight doubt before the dayspring's faith? 1860 HAWTHORNE *Marble Faun* xi, In all that labyrinth of midnight paths.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *midnight-shrouded, -woven* adjs.; **midnight appointments** *U.S. politics*, appointments made during the last hours of an administration; specifically, those so made by President John Adams (*Cent. Dict.*); †**midnight cart**, a cart for carrying away night soil; **midnight oil**, used *fig.* in phrase *to burn* (etc.) *the midnight oil*, to sit up or work after midnight; **midnight sun**, the sun as seen in the Arctic regions at midnight.

1698 J. COLLIER *Immor. Stage* 204 To present Nature under every Appearance would be an odd undertaking. A *Midnight Cart, or a Dunghil would be no Ornamental Scene. 1635 QUARLES *Embl.* II. ii. 33 Wee spend our mid-day sweat, our *mid-night oyle; Wee tyre the night in thought; the day, in toyle. 1744 SHENSTONE *Elegies* xi, I trimm'd my lamp, consum'd the midnight oil. 1882 SERJT. BALLANTINE *Exper.* iii. 32, I cannot say that I burnt much midnight oil. 1857 DUFFERIN *Lett. High Lat.* (ed. 3) 316 The nights were even brighter than the days, and afforded Fitz an opportunity of taking some photographic views by the light of a *midnight sun. 1810 *Associate Minstrels* 76 Then desolation's *midnight-woven pall Shall in one sable fold envelope all.

†**Mi·dnight,** *v.* [f. MIDNIGHT *sb.*] *trans.* To plunge into midnight darkness.

1627–47 FELTHAM *Resolves* I. lxi. 187 Of all objects of sorrow, a distressed king is the most pitifull; because it presents most the frailty of humanity: and cannot but most midnight the soule of him that is falne.

†**Mi·dnighting,** *vbl. sb.* [Formed as prec. + -ING 1.] ? The coming (of a star) to the meridian.

1570 DEE *Math. Pref.* d iiij b, By foreseing the Rising, Settyng, Nonestedyng, or Midnightyng of certaine tempestuous fixed Sterres.

Midnightly (mi·dnəitli), *a.* and *adv.* [f. MIDNIGHT *sb.* + -LY.] **a.** *adj.* Taking place at midnight, or every midnight. **b.** *adv.* Every midnight.

1836 *Fraser's Mag.* XIV. 107 'The Highflyer' .. rushed midnightly through a village about nine miles distant. 1873 LELAND *Egypt. Sketch Bk.* 194 To this day he may be seen midnightly .. counting the graves and waiting his turn.

†**Mid-noctial,** *a. nonce-wd.* [hybrid f. MID *a.* + *-noctial* in EQUINOCTIAL.] Belonging to midnight.

1593 [see MIDNIGHT 2].

Midnoon (midnūn: stress variable). [f. MID *a.* + NOON.] Midday; noon.

1580 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 442 The Gentlewoemen in Greece and Italy, who begin their morning at midnoone. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* V. 311 Seems another Morn Ris'n on mid-noon. 1725 WATTS *Logic* II. v. § 7 They can tell precisely .. what Altitude the Dog-star had at Midnight or Midnoon in Rome. 1832 TENNYSON *Œnone* 91 It was the deep midnoon. *a* 1864 HAWTHORNE *Amer. Note-Bks.* (1879) I. 157 Far towards midnoon.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1814 WORDSW. *Excurs.* VI. p. 305 The approved Assistant of an arduous course From his mid noon of manhood to old age! 1860 LD. LYTTON *Lucile* II. ii. i. 27 A man of your years, At the midnoon of manhood, with plenty to do.

c. *attrib.* passing into *adj.* Of or pertaining to midnoon; occurring at midnoon.

1804 J. GRAHAME *Sabbath* (1808) 64 Here nature in her midnoon whispers speaks. 1805 SOUTHEY *Madoc in W.* VI, From early morning till the midnoon hour.

Mid-off. *Cricket.* [Short for *mid-wicket off*: see MID *a.* 6.] A fieldsman on the off-side, in front of the batsman and near the bowler. Also the place where this player stands.

1881 *Daily News* 9 July 2 He was badly missed at mid-off from a very easy chance by Cave. 1894 *Times* 23 May 7/3 Davidson .. hit the ball into the hands of mid-off.

Mid-on. *Cricket.* [Cf. prec.] A fieldsman on the on-side, in front of the batsman and near the bowler. Also the place where this player stands.

1881 *Daily News* 9 July 2 Routledge was neatly caught by mid-on running in at 194. 1888 A. G. STEEL *Cricket* (Badm. Libr.) 208 On a true hard wicket we never like to see a captain putting his mid-on or short-leg close to the batsman, to field what is called 'silly' mid-on. 1891 W. G. GRACE *Cricket* 265 Mid-on is one of the easiest places in the field.

†**Midovernoon.** *Obs.* [f. MID *a.* + OVER *prep.* + NOON.] The middle of the afternoon. (In quot. *a* 1300 app. used by mistake for MIDOVERUNDERN, which is the reading of other MSS.)

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 7302 Fram anon amorwe uorte mid ouer non, þe bataile ilaste strong. *Ibid.* 7487 Fram þat it was amorwe þe bataile ilaste strong Vorte it was hei midouernon, & þat was somdel long. *a* 1300 *E. E. Psalter* xxxvi. 6 And he sal lede als light þi rightwisnes, And als mid over-none [WYCLIF, as mydday] þi dome þat es. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 10673 He was two hundred mennes ban,— Or it was passed myd-ouer-none.

fig. c 1430 *Hymns Virg.* (1867) 84 At vndren to scole y was sett .. At mydday y was dubbid kny3t .. At hi3 noon y was crowned king .. At mydouernoon y droupid faste, Mi lust & liking wente away.

†**Midoverundern.** *Obs.* [f. MID *a.* + OVER *prep.* + UNDERN.] ? Midday.

a 1300 *E. E. Psalter* xxxvi. 6 He sal lede þi rihtwisnes als liht, And þi dome als midoverunder briht. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 3853 Þus ra3t he fra þis reuir be many ru3e waies To it was meten to þe mere to myd-ouir-vndorne.

Mid place.

†**1.** A place in the middle. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 21539 Vnto þe tun bar þai þaa tre, þar war þai don als in mide place. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) xxviii. 280 In mydd place of that vale, vnder a roche, is an hed and the visage of a deuyl bodyliche. 1610 HEALEY *St. Aug. Citie of God* 350 The mid-place is neither the highest nor the lowest. 1658 W. BURTON *Itin. Anton.* 131 In the midplace between, the River Dee runnes along.

2. *dial.* (See quot.)

1871 C. GIBBON *Lack of Gold* xvi, Entering the door there was an apartment on each side, a 'mid-place'—that is, a big cupboard.

‖ **Midrash** (mi·dræʃ). Also 7 med-, midrasch. *Pl.* **midrashim** (midrā·ʃīm). [Heb. מדרש *midrash* 'commentary' (2 Chron. xxiv. 27, Revised Version 1884), f. root דרש to investigate, search.] An ancient Jewish homiletic commentary on some portion of the Hebrew scriptures, in which free use was made of allegorical interpretation and legendary illustration. Also, the mode of treatment characteristic of this class of commentaries.

1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 192 Mardochæus (saith their Medrasch) sucked the breasts of Hester. 1625 T. GODWIN *Moses & Aaron* (1641) 28 The Disputer. He insisted upon allegories, and searched out mysticall interpretations of the Text. Hence himselfe was tearmed Darschan, and his exposition, or homily, Midrasch. 1878 SCHILLER-SZINESSY in *Academy* 28 Dec. 606/1 It [the *Yalqut*] saved a goodly number of the smaller Midrashim .. from perishing altogether. 1879 FARRAR *St. Paul* (1883) 501 A happy Rabbinic midrash on the non-muzzling of the ox that treadeth out the corn.

Hence **Midra·shic** *a.*, of or pertaining to the Midrashim; of the nature of midrash.

1874 DEUTSCH *Rem.* 403 Midrashic literature.

Midred (mi·drėd). *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Forms: 1 midhridir, -hriðre, -hryð(e)re, 5 miderede, midredyn, mydred(e, -rid, -ryde, 6 midridde, *Sc.* modereid. Also 9 *dial.* midred, middrit, etc. (see E.D.D. and Jam.). [OE. *midhriðre* (:—OTeut. type **midjohriþrjo*^{m}), f. *midd* MID *a.* + *hreðer* inward part; = OFris. *mithridri, miarithere, midrith, midrede.*] The diaphragm, midriff. Sometimes misused for MIDGERN.

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) I 44 *Ilia*, mid hridir, nioðan weard hype. *a* 1100 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 293/5 *Omentum*, midhriðre. *c* 1325 *Gloss W. de Bibbesw.* in *Rel. Ant.* II. 78 Miderede, *li gist rate.* 14.. *Nom.* in Wr.-Wülcker 678/5 *Hec diafragma*, a mydrede. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 2388 With half þe mydrid of a swyne. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 239 A Midredyn (*MS. A.* mydryde), .. *omentum.* 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* II. 432 Livar and lungis, modereid and melt. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 116/10 V^{o} midridde, *diaphragma.*

Midrefe, obs. form of MIDRIFF.

Midriasis, obs. form of MYDRIASIS.

Midrib (mi·drib). [f. MID *a.* + RIB.]

†**1.** In phrase *mid-rib deep*, up to the middle of the ribs (of a horse). *Obs.*

1696 *Phil. Trans.* XIX. 350 Nets trailed on the Ground by two Horses, one goeth Mid-rib deep into the Sea. 1807 P. GASS *Jrnl.* 236 A north branch .. is 40 yards wide and was mid-rib deep on our horses.

2. *Bot.* A principal rib continuous with the petiole extending through the central part of the blade of a leaf.

1776–96 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) II. 91 Scales spear-shaped, skinny, yellow, with a green midrib. 1794 in MARTYN *Lang. Bot.* 1884 BOWER & SCOTT *De Bary's Phaner.* 445 The petiole and midrib of the leaves.

3. *Bee-keeping* (see quot.).

1884 PHIN *Dict. Apiculture* Introd. 13 The word midrib has been used to denote the septum or partition between the two sheets of cells which are found in every comb.

Midribbed (mi·dribd), *ppl. a. Bot.* [f. MIDRIB + -ED 2.] Having a midrib.

1776–96 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) III. 326.

Midridde, obs. form of MIDRED.

Midriff (mi·drif). Forms: 1 midhrif, midrif, 4–6 mydryf, 5 mydref(e, mydrif, mydderreffe, 5–6 mydryff(e, 6 middryfe, midrefe, mydd-reffe, mydryfe, 6–7 midrif(f)e, 7 middrift, 6– midriff. [OE. *midhrif*, f. *midd* MID *a.* + *hrif* belly, RIFF. Cf. OFris. *midref.*]

1. The diaphragm. *To shake, tickle the midriff*: said of what causes laughter.

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 278 Hwilum onginneð of þam midhrife se is betweox þære wambe & þære lifre. *c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 148 He [*sc.* the œsophagus] declineþ into þe ynnere partie til þat he peerse þorȝ þe mydrif. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 337/1 Mydryf of a beste, .. *diafragma.* 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* E viij, In the mydref that callid is the rondell also. 1533 ELYOT *Cast. Helthe* (1541) 49 The entrayles, which be underneth the myddreffe. *c* 1550 LLOYD *Treas. Health* A viij, A wounde in the braynes, hert, midrife, .. or lyuer is deadly. 1596 SHAKS. *1 Hen. IV*, III. iii. 175 There's no roome for Faith, Truth, nor Honesty, in this bosome of thine: it is all fill'd vppe with Guttes and Midriffe. 1613 M. RIDLEY *Magn. Bodies* 28 An Aequator, or middle fence, that divideth the whole body in the middest between the two Poles, like a Middrift. 1641 MILTON *Reform.* II. Wks. 1851 III. 67 We would burst our midriffes rather then laugh. 1725 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* s. v. *Oesophagus*, It .. passes through the Midriff. 1831 LAMB *Elia* Ser. II. *Newsp.* 35 *Yrs. Ago*, That conceit .. still tickles our midriff to remember. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* I. 198 A sight to shake The midriff of despair with laughter.

Comb. 1884 TENNYSON *Becket* III. iii, Many midriff-shaken even to tears.

†**2.** *transf.* A partition. (Cf. *diaphragm.*) *Obs.*

1660 BOYLE *New Exp. Phys. Mech.* Proem 12 In the midst of which frame, is .. nail'd a board, .. which may not improperly be call'd a Midriff. 1766 *Compl. Farmer* s. v. *Ventilator*, A square box .. in the middle of which is placed a broad partition, or midriff, made to move up and down.

†**b.** Applied as a term of contempt. *Obs.*

1600 DEKKER *Shoomakers Holiday* Wks. 1873 I. 13 *Wife.* Seuen yeares husband? *Eyre.* Peace Midriffe, peace, I know what I do, peace. *Ibid.* 19 [*Eyre.*] What Nan, what Madge-mamble-crust, come out you fatte Midriffe-swag-belly whores.

Midryde, obs. form of MIDRED.

Mids, *sb., adv.,* and *prep.* Forms: 3–6 myddes, 4 mides, mydis, -ys, 4–6 myddis, 4–7 middes, 5–6 middys, mydds, 5–7 middis, 6 mydes, myds, *Sc.* middiss, 6–7 midds, 7 *Sc.* midis, 6– mids. Also 7–9 *Sc.* (in senses 2 and 3) midse. [ME. *middes*, evolved from the advs. *in-middes, on-middes* (see IN-MIDS and AMIDST) which are altered forms of OE. *in middan, on middan* (where the prep. regularly governs the dative of *midde* sb. or of the wk. neuter adj.: see MID *a.* and *sb.*). The alteration is due to the analogy of *tó middes* in the middle (see TO-MIDS), where *to* governs the genitive as in some other phrases.]

A. *sb.*

1. The middle, middle part or point; the midst. Chiefly in phrase *in* (*the*) *mids* (*of*). *Obs.* exc. *Sc.* (see E.D.D.).

1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 5192 Þar-for Crist sal sytte þar þat day, Onence þe myddes of erth þus for to say. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xix. (*Cristofore*) 14 Of his lyf al þe begynnynge, & þe

mydis, & als þe endynge. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XV. 167 Syne with his baneris hardely [The] myddis of the toune he tais. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. II. 184 And thus fals and fauel fareth forth togideres, And Mede in þe myddes and alle þise men after. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1548 The walle..of marbill was most fro þe myddes vp, Of diuers colours. 1449 in *Cal. Proc. Chanc. Q. Eliz.* (1830) II. Pref. 55 The beames shullen be in brede atte myddes xij inches and in thiknes viij inches. *c* 1450 HOLLAND *Howlat* 1 In the myddis of May. 1530 PALSGR. 245/1 Myddes parte of a channell, *le fil dune riuiere*. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Gold Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) I, A spyder that is in the myddes of her webbe. 1536 R. BEERLEY in *Four C. Eng. Lett.* (1880) 35 Sume cum to mattens begenynge at the myddes, and sume when yt ys allmost done. 1544 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) I. 213 In breadythe in the mydds Fyftye and fyve Foote. 1548–9 (Mar.) *Bk. Com. Prayer, Communion*, The Priest standing humbly afore the middes of the Altar. 1564 HARDING *Answ. Jewel* ix. 122 King Dauid thought it very vnfitting..that..the Arke of God was putte in the myddes of skynnes, that is, of the tabernacle. 1611 BIBLE *Luke* iv. 30 He passing thorow the mids of them. *Ibid.* 35 When the deuill had throwen him in the middes. 1621 AINSWORTH *Annot. Pentat., Gen.* xxiv. 22 (1639) 92 A weight called in Hebrew bekagh, which signifieth cleft or cut in the mids. 1641 HINDE *J. Bruen* xli. 129 A man who knew right well.. what it was that did make a mans face to shine in the mids of his own house and in the Congregation.

†**2.** A means. *Obs.*

1520 *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, II. 32 We truste..of this your hard and goode begynning shall folowe a better myddes. 15.. *1st Bk. Discipl. Ch. Scot.* (1621) 74 He useth the ministery of men, as the most necessary middes for this purpose. 1616 J. MAITLAND *Apol. Maitland of Lethington* in *Scot. Hist. Soc. Misc.* (1904) 200, I hoip that my father his dealings sal appeir sincer..& his endis & midis lauful & honest. 1646 R. BAILLIE *Lett. & Jrnls.* (Bannatyne Club) II. 355 Your debates about the midses mak the end among your hand to he lost. *a* 1658 DURHAM *Exp. Rev.* II. iv. (1680) 129 A sinful midse for attaining an end. 1710 WODROW *Corr.* (1843) I. 144 This is the midse [method] that is fallen upon at present to prevent rents.

3. A mean between two extremes; a middle course, a compromise. *Obs.* exc. *Sc.*

1553 KENNEDY *Compend. Tract.* in *Wodr. Soc. Misc.* (1844) 143 Betuix thir twa extremiteis geve it plesit God that the myddis sulde cum furth, apperandlie it wer ane gret ease. 1582–8 *Hist. Jas. VI* (1804) 172 Quhair they conferrit lang with the Lordis upoun the xxi day of May for sum articles of peace, bot neuer concludit any midds. 1637–50 ROW *Hist. Kirk* (Wodr. Soc.) 111 The Assemblie laboured to take a mids in the mater. 1709 W. STEWART *Collect. Worship. Ch. Scot.* 244 Temperance is the Golden Mids between Abstinence and Intemperance. 1720 T. BOSTON *Fourfold State* (1797) 238 There is a mids betwixt omitting duty and the doing of it as thou dost it. 1875 W. ALEXANDER *Sk. Ain Folk* xii. 67 There's a midse i' the sea, ye ken, an' it is not wisse-like to gae sic len'ths.

†**4.** *attrib.* and *Comb.*: **midsfinger**, the middle finger; **midsman**, (*a*) a mediator; (*b*) in Ireland = MIDDLEMAN; **mids-world**, = MIDDLE EARTH.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 42 Do bad god wurðen stund and stede, Dis middes werld ðor-inne he dede. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 239/1 Þe Middis fynger, *medius digitus* [sic]. *a* 1662 R. BAILLIE *Lett.* (1775) II. 401 Mr. Blair and Mr. Durham appeared as mids-men [*ed. Bannatyne Club* midmen: see MIDMAN]. 1801 *Ann. Reg.* 23 What has been the main cause of the wretchedness of the Irish and the Highlanders of Scotland? The midsmen of the former, and the tacksmen of the latter.

†**B.** *adv.* In the middle or midst. *Obs.*

c 1407 LYDG. *Reson & Sens.* 5197 And myddys of the soote herbage Ther be bestys eke savage. *c* 1430 — *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 12 Middes above, in fiulle riche aray, Ther satt a child off beaute precellyng.

†**C.** *prep.* In the middle of. *Obs.*

a 1400–50 *Alexander* 1061 Þan metis him myddis þe way was mernale to sene, A hert. *c* 1475 *Partenay* 5779 Thys wonderfull and meruelous best ne but on ey hath middes the forehed. *c* 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* XVIII. 549 To end which two begun (Mids all) a song.

†**Mids**, *v. Obs.* [f. MIDS *sb.*] *trans.* To take a middle view of.

1693 STAIR *Instit.* II. i. § 41. 177 Tribonian midseth the matter thus.

Mid-sea. The middle of the sea, the open sea.

1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* III. (Arb.) 73 Thee Creet Ile in mydseas dooth stand too luppiter hallowd. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VII. 403 Shoales Of Fish that with thir Finns & shining Scales Glide under the green Wave, in Sculles that oft Bank the mid Sea. 1853 GROTE *Greece* II. lxxxiv. XI. 123 A gentle and steady Etesian breeze carried them across midsea without accident or suffering. 1871 R. ELLIS tr. *Catullus* lxiv. 167 He rides far already, the mid sea's boundary cleaving.

b. *attrib.* quasi-*adj.*

1579 J. STUBBES *Gaping Gulf* D vj b, When it was not yet enlarged with hir Italian dominions and midsea Iles. 1897 KIPLING *Captains Courageous* viii. 153 Three boats found their rodings fouled by these reckless mid-sea hunters.

Mid-season.

†**1.** The time in the middle of the day; noon.

1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* I. ii. 239 *Pro.* What is the time o' th' day? *Ar.* Past the mid season.

2. The middle of the season.

1902 ELIZ. L. BANKS *Newspaper Girl* 166, I was wearing my new Paris hat, which, as it was mid-season, I had bought for eighteen shillings and sixpence.

attrib. 1882 *Garden* 14 Jan. 30/3 A mid-season house containing mixed kinds may now be started in the usual way. 1889 *Daily News* 22 Oct. 6/1 A few really tasteful and appropriate mid-season dresses.

Midship (mi·dʃip). *Naut.* [f. MID *a.* + SHIP.] The middle part of a ship or boat.

1555 *Act 2 & 3 Ph. & Mary* c. 16 § 7 Any Wherry..which shall not be..iv. Foot and a Half broad in the Midship. *a* 1618 RALEIGH *Royal Navy* 33 It is a great weakening to a ship to have so much weight..at both the ends, and nothing in the Mid-Ship. 1865 J. H. INGRAHAM *Pillar of Fire* (1872) 31 A singer that stood upon the bridge across the mid-ship.

b. The rower who sits in the middle of a boat.

1897 MARY KINGSLEY *W. Africa* 173 Midship backed and flapped like fury.

c. *Comb.*: **midship beam** (see quots.); **midship bend**, = *midship frame*; **midship body** (see quot.); **midship frame**, that timber or frame in a ship which has the greatest breadth; **midship port**, a porthole in the middle part of a ship.

1692 *Capt. Smith's Seaman's Gram.* II. xv. 122 The breadth upon the *Midship-beam 20 foot. *c* 1850 *Rudim. Navig.* (Weale) 95 The Midship-Beam is the longest beam of the ship, lodged in the midship frame, or between the widest frame of timbers. 1805 *Shipwright's Vade-M.* 117 **Midship-bend or frame*, that bend which is called Dead-Flat. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* s. v. *Midship-bend*, When the middle of the ship has a portion of a uniform cross-section, such is called the **midship body*. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1780) C 2 b, The most capacious of these represents what is called the **midship-frame*. 1836 MARRYAT *Midsh. Easy* xxx, Two of the *midship ports of the antagonist were blown into one.

Midshipman (mi·dʃipmăn). [f. prec. + MAN. So called because stationed 'amidships' when on duty.]

1. In the navy, the designation of a rank intermediate in the line of promotion between that of naval cadet and that of the lowest commissioned officer (i. e. in the British navy that of sub-lieutenant, in the U.S. navy that of ensign).

[1626, 1627: see *midships-man* s. v. MINSHIPS.] 1685 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2054/3 Mr. Littleton, and..Mr. Brisbane, both Midshipmen Extraordinary. 1701 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) V. 100 Her lieutenant and 2 midship men killed. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1780), *Midshipman*, a sort of naval cadet, appointed by the captain of a ship of war, to second the orders of the superior officers. 1855 MRS. GASKELL *North & S.* xiv, How well he looked in his midshipman's dress. 1900 W. BAIRD *Gen. Wauchope* ii. 33 Midshipmen's amusements and practical jokes are proverbial.

2. *U.S.* 'A batrachoid fish, *Porichthys margaritatus*: so called from the rows of round luminous bodies along the belly, like the buttons of a naval cadet's coat' (*Cent. Dict.*).

1882 JORDAN & GILBERT *Synop. Fishes N. Amer.* 751 *Porichthys porosissimus*—Midshipman.

3. *Comb.*: **midshipman's butter**, the Avocado, *Persea gratissima*; **midshipmau's half pay** (see quot.); **midshipman's nuts**, broken pieces of biscuit as dessert (Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.* 1867).

1866 *Treas. Bot.* 867/1 *Persea gratissima*...They contain a large quantity of firm pulp possessing a buttery or marrow-like taste, and are hence frequently called Vegetable Marrow or *Midshipman's Butter. 1871 KINGSLEY *At Last* ii, Avocado, or Alligator pears, alias midshipman's butter. *c* 1851 — *Lett. & Life* (1877) I. 277 *Midshipman's half-pay (nothing a-day and find yourself).

Hence **Mi·dshipmanship**, the office or position of a midshipman.

1789 COWPER *Let.* (in *Pearson's 76th Catal.* (1894) 16), I ..rejoice with thee that thou hast succeeded in procuring a midshipmanship (there's a word for you) for the poor young man in question. 1857 *Chamb. Jrnl.* VIII. 103 He was undergoing the preliminary ordeal of midshipmanship.

Midshipmite (mi·dʃipməit). A sailor's perversion of MIDSHIPMAN. (Adopted by humorous writers as suggesting MITE *sb.*)

1833 MARRYAT *P. Simple* viii, One of them ere midshipmites. 1868 W. S. GILBERT *Bab Ball., Nancy Bell*, A bo'sun tight, and a midshipmite. 1880 *Theatre* Jan. 39 As for the Midshipmite, he creates a roar whenever he struts across the deck.

Midships (mi·dʃips), *sb.* and *adv.* [App. aphetic for AMIDSHIPS, though appearing earlier in our quots.] **A.** *sb.* The middle part of a vessel either with regard to her length or breadth.

1626 CAPT. SMITH *Accid. Yng. Seamen* 7 In a fight the Forecastle is his [the Lieutenant's] place, to make good; as the Captaine doth the halfe decke; and the quarter Maisters the midships. 1705 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4116/3 Only her Hull from the Taffrill to the Midships remained above Water. 1762–9 FALCONER *Shipwr.* II. 901 Both stay-sail sheets to mid-ships were convey'd.

b. *Comb.*: †**midships man** = MIDSHIPMAN.

1626 CAPT. SMITH *Accid. Yng. Seamen* 2 His Mates are onely his Seconds, allowed sometimes for the two Midships men. 1627 — *Seaman's Gram.* xiii. 61 Midships men see the tops and yards well manned.

B. *adv.* = AMIDSHIPS.

1838 *Civ. Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* I. 384/2 Clear beam midships..32 ft. 1852 H. W. PIERSON *Missionary Memorial* 145 On retiring, we stopped midships to sing a hymn of thanksgiving. 1883 *Law Times Rep.* XLIX. 332/2 The *Clan Sinclair* with her stem took the port side of the *Margaret* abaft midships.

Mid-side. [MID *a.*] The middle of the side.

c 1220 *Bestiary* 622 In water ȝe sal stonden, In water to mid side. *a* 1300 *Body & Soul* in *Map's Poems* (Camden) 338 Forth was brouȝt there, with a hridel, A corsed devel als a cote..With a sadel to the mid side. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* VII. 991 Wallace selff, at mydsid off the toune, With men of armys thai was to bargane bown. 1581 BURNE *Disput.* 107 Sun that sence thay are al enterit in the scheip-fauld of Christ, nocht be the dur bot be the midsyd of the house, it is [etc.]. 1651–7 T. BARKER *Art of Angling* (1820) 17 The fish may lie up to the mid-sides in the liquor.

Comb. 1794 WEDGE *Agric. Chester* 55 The cheese..is then taken and placed midside deep in brine.

Mid-sky. [MID *a.*] The middle of the sky.

1634 MILTON *Comus* 957 Com let us haste, the Stars grow high, But night sits monarch yet in the mid sky. 1667 — *P. L.* VI. 314 Two Planets rushing from aspect maligne Of fiercest opposition in mid Skie. 1860 HAWTHORNE *Marble Faun* (1879) II. iii. 37 Out of the mid-sky.

attrib. 1807 J. BARLOW *Columb.* I, Thro all the midsky zones, to yon blue pole, Their green hills lengthen.

Midst (midst), *sb., adv.*, and *prep.* Forms: 5 **medeste**, 5–7 **myddest**, 5–8 (9 *arch. rare*) **middest**, 6 **middeste**, **mydst**, 7 **middst**, **midd'st**, **midest**, 8 **mid'st**, 6– **midst**. [First appears in the 15th c. as *middest*. Prob. two different formations have been confused: (1) an extended form of *middes*, MIDS, with the excrescent (euphonic or analogical) *t* as in *amongst*, *against*, *whilst*, and the dialectal *onst* for *once*, *nice't* (nəist) for *nice*; (2) an absolute use of the superlative MIDDEST *a.*] **A.** *sb.*

1. The middle point or part; the centre, middle. *Obs.* or *arch.*

a 1400–50 *Alexander* 5396 He saȝe a dym cloude Full of starand sternes and stiȝtild in þe myddest A grete grysely god. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 455 He was at þe myddest of þe brygg. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Blanchardyn* liv. 208 Subbion in the middest, and Blanchardine the hindmost. 1517 *Acc. Bk. W. Wray* in *Antiquary* XXXII. 214 King James .. about the middest of march tooke his p'gresse towards Scotland. 1570–6 LAMBARDE *Peramb. Kent* (1826) 197 Hee died before he had brought the worke to the midst. 1588 KYD *Househ. Phil.* Wks. (1901) 250 Ierusalem..is in the midst of our Hemysphere. 1592 TIMME *Ten Eng. Lepers* Fj, I will but touch three parts: to wit, the beginning, the middest, and the end. 1654 EARL MONM. tr. *Bentivoglio's Wars Flanders* 210 About the midst of Jannary. *a* 1661 FULLER *Worthies, Shropsh.* (1662) III. 1 This Shire being almost in the middest of England. 1671 H. M. *Erasm. Colloq.* 319 If thou open the black stone Cyamea, thou shalt find a bean in the midst. 1695 DRYDEN *Dufresnoy's Art Painting* Pref. 44 One Play ..where there is nothing in the First Act, but what might have been said or done in the Fifth; nor any thing in the Midst, which might not have been plac'd as well in the Beginning or the End. *a* 1894 STEVENSON *Tales and Fantasies, J. Nicholson* (1905) 76 He was not past the midst of the first field.

2. The position of being in the interior of, involved or enveloped in, or surrounded by (something, or a number of things or persons, specified or implied). Now almost exclusively in the phrase *in the midst of* (formerly also †*among the midst of*), chiefly in the senses: Among, amid, surrounded by (a number of things or persons); while fully engaged with, 'in the thick of' (occupations, troubles, etc.); during the continuance of (an action or condition).

? *a* 1500 *Chester Pl., Salut. & Nativ.* (Shaks. Soc. 1843) 113 And one his breste written also The landes naimes and goodes bouth too, And sette also in the medeste [E. E. T. S. ed. p. 127, myddes] of thoe, God of Rome righte as a kinge. 1535 COVERDALE *Luke* iv. 35 And the deuell threw him in the myddest [1611 middes] amonge them. 1548–9 (Mar.) *Bk. Com. Prayer, Burial of Dead*, In the myddest of lyfe we be in death. 1558 KNOX *First Blast* (Arb.) 12 A woman sitteth crowned in parliament amongest the middest of men. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* I. (1590) 58 While you were in the middest of your sport. 1606 G. W[OODCOCKE] *Hist. Iustine* XXXII. 109 In the midest of the battell. 1611 BIBLE *Deut.* iv. 12 And the Lord spake vnto you out of the midst of the fire. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* VI. 270 In the middest of all this hurley burley. 1632 SANDERSON *Serm.* 315 To plucke thee out of the middest of a froward and crooked generation. *a* 1658 CLEVELAND *Rustick Rampant* Wks. (1687) 445 Made his Way with his Sword alone..into the middest of their Troops. 1751 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 153 ¶ 6 In the midst of an adventure. 1818 SHELLEY *Rosal. & Helen* 860 In the midst of a city vast and wide. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* iii. I. 289 Armies..were kept up in the midst of peace. 1863 GEO. ELIOT *Romola* II. i, From the midst of those smiling heavens he had seen a sword hanging. 1887 BOWEN *Virg. Æneid* III. 104 Crete, in the midst of the waters lies. *Mod.* In the midst of his enormous labours, he has found time to [etc.].

†**b.** *To leave in the midst* [= L. *in medio relinquere*]: to leave undecided, abstain from giving an opinion on.

1625 GILL *Sacr. Philos.* I. 107, I leave it in the middest, till further proofe of the truth be made.

c. With a possessive, usually of plural pronoun, (*in*) *our, your, their midst.*

This use is scarcely found before the 19th century; the solitary example from the 16th c. does not prove that it was current. Cf. 'in her middes' (=in their midst) *Apol. Loll.* (*c* 1400) 12.

c 1586 C'TESS PEMBROKE *Ps.* CXXXV. iv, Not so his dreadfull showes he ceas'd, But did them still in Ægipts mid'st renew. 1794 C. JOHN in Southey *Life A. Bell* (1844) I. 205 If we then could have had our dear Dr. Bell in our midst, our pleasures and improvements would have been greatly heightened. 1825 J. MONTGOMERY in *Chr. Psalmist* (1828) 414 Lo, in their midst his form was seen, The form in which He died. 1864 BRYCE *Holy Rom. Emp.* xi. (1866) 200 When..his shield [should] be hung aloft again as of old in the camp's midst, a sign of help to the poor and the oppressed. 1867 W. L. NEWMAN in *Quest. Reformed Parl.* 119 Her vast and available coalfields, her iron mines, the energy of her people, founded cities in her midst. 1869 J. MARTINEAU *Ess.* II. 133 The enduring light that broke out in their midst.

d. With omission of article, *in midst* (*of*). Now only *poet.* (*rare*).

1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. vii. 5 In middest of the race. *Ibid.* I. ix. 10, I ever..ioyde to stirre up strife, In middest of

their mournfull Tragedy. *a* 1617 BAYNE *On Eph.* (1643) 114 To reckon him in middest of his dearest favorites. 1617 *Janua Ling.* Advt., That should haue brought thee in midst a faire orchyard. 1861 LYTTON & FANE *Tannhäuser* 112 In midst, His worn cheek channell'd with unwonted tears, The Landgrave. 1880 WATSON *Prince's Quest* 63 There towered In middest of that silent realm deflowered A palace.

¶ *poet.* with transposition of possessive adj.

1671 MILTON *Samson* 1339 And in my midst of sorrow and heart-grief To shew them feats.

†3. A medium, middle course or term, mean. *Sc. Obs.* Cf. MIDS.

c 1610 SIR J. MELVIL *Mem.* (1735) 19 Rather following the Extremity than the right Midst. *a* 1649 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Hist. Jas. II*, Wks. (1711) 30 The majesty of a prince hardly falleth from a height to a midst, but easily is precipitated from any midst to the lowest degree and station. 1678 R. BARCLAY *Apol. Quakers* vii. § 2. 202 They have laboured after a Midst betwixt these two extreams. 1786 A. GIB *Sacr. Contempl.* I. vii. ii. 158 There can be no proper midst in a Soul, betwixt moral good and evil.

B. *adv.*

1. In the middle place. Only in Milton's phrase. [Prob. to be regarded as a contracted form of MIDDEST *a.* used advb.]

1667 MILTON *P. L.* v. 165 On Earth joyn all yee Creatures to extoll Him first, him last, him midst, and without end. 1773 BURKE *Corr.* (1844) I. 426 May God grant you every blessing. Remember Him first, last, and midst. 1854 DE QUINCEY *War* Wks. 1862 IV. 271 Every nation's duty first, midst, and last, is to itself.

2. = 'In the midst'. Const. *of. poet. rare.*

1675 N. LEE *Nero* IV. i, If I gaze long, I shall my nature lose; Mid'st of my full carreer, I stop and muse. 1883 R. W. DIXON *Mano* I. vi. 16 And midst there was a goodly chantry seen. 1885-94 R. BRIDGES *Eros & Psyche* June v, The grassy plat 'Midst of her garden, where she had her seat.

C. *prep.* In the midst of; †between. Commonly written *'midst*, as if aphetic for AMIDST.

1591 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. VI*, I. ii. 24, I would ne're haue fled, But that they left me 'midst my Enemies. 1593 — *Lucr.* 566 And midst the sentence so her accent breakes, That twise she doth begin ere once she speakes. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VI. 28 From whence a voice From midst a Golden Cloud thus milde was heard. 1682 CREECH *Lucretius* (1683) 77 The peaceful Ox contains most parts of Air, Not subject unto too much Rage, nor Fear, A temper, 'midst the Lion, and the Deer. 1704 POPE *Windsor For.* 26 And 'midst the desart fruitful fields arise. 1821 SHELLEY *Adonais* XXXI, Midst others of less note, came one frail Form, A phantom among men.

Midstream (mi·dstrīˑm). [f. MID *a.* + STREAM.] The middle of the stream. Also *fig.*

c 1315 *Greenwich Hosp. MS. Documents* (P. R. O. Box 20, bundle O, No. 12), En primis a commensere de mydstreme de Derwent. 1669 DAVOEN *Tyrannic Love* II. i, The midstream's his; I, creeping by the side, Am shoulder'd off by his impetuous Tide. 1735 SOMERVILLE *Chase* III. 546 Down the Mid-stream he wafts Along. 1827 E. MACKENZIE *Hist. Newcastle* II. 742 *note*, The midstream of the river, taken at low water, is considered the boundary between the coalmines. 1849 E. B. EASTWICK *Dry Leaves* 99 He was obliged to have the boat kept in mid-stream. 1899 T. NICOL *Recent Archæol. & Bible* ii. 94 We are brought into the midstream of Biblical History.

attrib. 1894 *Outing* (U. S.) XXIV. 452/2 On the mid-stream side of the rocky islet..the bank was eight or ten feet high. 1905 *Daily Chron.* 13 Mar. 4/4 The ford would land us on a mid-stream island.

b. Used *advb.*

1872 TENNYSON *Gareth & L.* 1015 Whom Gareth met mid-stream.

Midsummer (mi·dsʊmə(r)). Forms: see MID *a.* and SUMMER *sb.*; also, 3–5 **missomer**, 4 **mesomur, misomere, myssomer**(e, **mysomer**. [OE. *midsumor*; see MID *a.* and SUMMER; cf. ON. *miðsumar* (Sw. *midsommar*, Da. *midsommer*), MDu. *midsomer, middesomer, middensomer* (Du. *midzomer*), mod.G. *mittsommer*. In OE. also as two words, with inflexion of the adj.]

1. The middle of summer; the period of the summer solstice, about June 21st.

a 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* v. xii. (1890) 425 Swa sunnan upgong bið æt middum sumere. *c* 1055 *Byrhtferth's Handboc* in *Anglia* (1885) VIII. 311 Þæt ys on lyden solstitium & on englisc midsumor. *a* 1123 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1101 Þa to midde sumeran ferde se cyng ut to Pefenesæ. *c* 1290 *Beket* 1693 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 155 A-3ein Midsomer it bi-ful. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 10546 Subþe he nom iwis Winchestre aboute missomer. 1389 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 313 Every person..shalle pay, euery yere, ffor hys ffeste, at Myssomere, xij*d.* 1412 *Catterick Ch. Contract* (Raine 1834) 11 Be mysomer next. 1473 WARKW. *Chron.* (Camden) 6 At myssomere, the Duke of Clarence passede the see to Caleis. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 153 His wyfe..after aboute Midsomer, ended her life there. 1596 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. IV*, IV. i. 102 Gorgeous as the Sunne at Mid-summer. 1625 N. CARPENTER *Geog. Del.* I. x. (1635) 223 Their longest day at Midsummer is 24 houres. 1714 GAY *Sheph. Week* IV. 27 At Eve last Midsummer no Sleep I sought. 1840 J. BUEL *Farmer's Comp.* 44 The crops may then mature before they BE injured by the intense heats of our mid-summers.

fig. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 18 Bryng us mydsomer of heuenly blys, I pray 3ow, martyrs both, Paule and Iohn.

†b. *Phr. To have but a mile to midsummer*: to be somewhat mad. (Cf. *midsummer madness.*)

c 1465 *Eng. Chron.* (Camden 1856) 92 Tho bestys that thys wioughte to midsomer have but a myle.

2. = *Midsummer day*, June 24th.

1530 PALSGR. 245/1 Mydsomer, *la saincte Jehan.* 16.. *Robin Hood & Pr. Arragon* xix. in Child *Ballads* III. 148/2 'On Midsummer next', the damsel said, 'Which is June the twenty-four'.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *midsummer-beauty, fair, -night, -pomp, -quarter, -rose, -sunbeam, term*, †*-tide, -time*; †**midsummer ale**, a festive gathering held at midsummer; **midsummer chafer** *U.S.*, a beetle, *Rhizotrogus solstitialis* (Cent. Dict. 1890); **midsummer daisy**, *Chrysanthemum Leucanthemum* (Prior *Plant-n.* 1879); **Midsummer Day**, the 24th of June, one of the recognized 'quarter-days' in England; **midsummer eve**, † even, the evening before Midsummer Day; **midsummer games**, festivities held at midsummer; **midsummer growth**, a second start into growth after ceasing (Jackson *Bot. Terms* 1900); **midsummer madness**, the height of madness (cf. *midsummer moon*); **midsummer men**, *Sedum Telephium*, a plant used by girls on midsummer eve to divine whether their lovers are true; †**midsummer moon**, ? the lunar month in which Midsummer Day comes; sometimes alluded to as a time when lunacy is supposed to be prevalent; †**midsummer sights**, rural dramatic performances at midsummer; **midsummer silver**, the silver-weed, *Potentilla anserina.*

1633 MARMION *Antiquary* IV. (1641) I 3, And now next *Midsummer ale, I may serve for a fool. 1867 'OUIDA' *C. Castlemaine* (1879) 5 The country was in its glad green *midsummer beauty. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 90 Wið lifre sar genim on *midde sumeres dæg þa ylcan wyrte. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 10266 Alle þe bissopes..þat ar missomer day in to this londe come. 1359 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 97 On mesomur day. *c* 1425 *St. Mary of Oignies* II. x. in *Anglia* VIII. 177/45 Fro þe annuncyacyone of oure lady vnto myssomer-daye. 1556 *Chron. Gr. Friars* (Camden) 29 The mydsomer day followynge was his sonne crownyd Henry the viij*th* at Westmyster. 1710 ADDISON *Tatler* No. 221 ₱2 Upon Midsummer-Day last, as he was walking with me in the Fields. 1426–7 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* 66 On *mydsomer eve a dawber and his man..xiiij d. 1820 W. IRVING *Sketch Bk.* II. 128 On Midsummer eve, when it is well known all kinds of ghosts, goblins, and fairies, become visible and walk abroad. 1904 *Edin. Rev.* Jan. 53 The elderbush is cut on Midsummer Eve. 1352 *Wynnere & Wastoure* 166 in *Parl. Three Ages* (Roxb. Club) 95 One *Missomer euen. 1556 *Chron. Gr. Friars* (Camden) 16 On mydsomer evyn [1433] the duke with hys wyffe came to London. *c* 1566 *Scogin's Jests* (Hazl.) 145 On a time about *Midsummer faire, he..went to Barnwell. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* I. 6 b, The Fathers .. busied them selues rather with Pageantes and *Midsommer games, then with the Vineyard. 1601 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* III. iv. 61 Why this is verie *Midsommer madnesse. 1755 *Connoisseur* No. 56 ₱ 5, I likewise stuck up two *Midsummer Men, one for myself, and one for him. Now if his had died away, we should never have come together. 1877 W. JONES *Finger-ring* 169 It was an olden superstition that the bending of the leaves to the right or to the left of the orpine plants, or Midsummer men, as they were called .. would never fail to tell whether a lover was true or false. 1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 124 Wede them clene in *mydsomer mone. 1589 *Marprel. Epit.* (1843) 14 Whether it be midsommer Moone with him or no. 1690 DRYDEN *Amphitryon* IV. i, What's this? midsummer-moon! Is all the world gone a-madding? *a* 1350 *Birth Jesus* 641 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1875) 93 þe schorteste niȝt þat was þo, was *missomerniȝt. 1600 SHAKS. *A.Y. L.* IV. i. 102 If it had not been for a hot Midsomer-night. 1866 M. ARNOLD *Thyrsis* vii, Soon will the high *Midsummer pomps come on. 1553–4 in Swayne *Sarum Churchw. Acc.* (1896) 99 Wyllyam lobbe for kepynge of the clocke for *mydsomer quarter xx d. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 22 All start in chaunge like a *mydsomer rose. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* I. 16 The husbandes..spent their time rather in Maygames and *Midsommer sightes, then with tylling the ground, or planting of Vines. *a* 1697 AUBREY *Nat. Hist. Surrey* (1718) III. 62 In this place [Lingfield, Surrey] the Inhabitants are very fond of Ghirlands, or Garlands, made of *Midsummer Silver, a little Herb, which continues all the Year of a bright Ash Colour, and have crowded the Church and their own Houses with them. 1809 MANNING & BRAY *Hist. Surrey* II. 340 No such custom now prevails (1808), nor do old people remember it. The Midsummer Silver is common here. 1859 GEO. ELIOT *A. Bede* xii, Warmed by the *midsummer sunbeams. 1538 *Ld. Treas. Acc. Scotl.* (1905) VI. 430 Item, Charles Geddes, in compleit payment of xl merkis for his fe of the *mydsomer terme last bipast. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 224 Fro *Midsomertide to þe Apostle S. Thomas. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* x. 823 Gif at *Mydsummer tyme ane ȝeir To cum, it war nocht with bata[i]ll Reskewit, than [etc.]. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 45 The riuer Nouanus at euery midsummertime swelles and runs ouer the bankes.

Midsummerish (mi·dsʊməriʃ), *a.* [-ISH.] Having the characteristics of midsummer.

1836 MRS. GORE *Mrs. Armytage* I. 302 The days, long and Midsummerish as they were, passed away.

Midsummery (mi·dsʊməri), *a.* [f. MIDSUMMER + -Y.] Of or pertaining to midsummer.

1866 MOTLEY *Corr.* (1889) II. 217 The weather has been mid-summery. 1883 *Century Mag.* XXVII. 108 A species of golden-rod with a midsummery smell.

†**Mid-terra·nean**, *a. Obs.* = MEDITERRANEAN.

1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. ii. III. *Colonies* 86 Northward with narrow Mid-terranean Sea, Which from rich Europe parts poor Africa.

†**Midtholing.** *Obs.* [f. MID *prep.* + THOLE *v.* + -ING 1.] Compassion.

1340 *Ayenb.* 157 Ich ssel habbe pité and mid þolyinge.

Midtime (mi·dtəim). [f. MID *a.* + TIME.] The time in the middle (of the day, etc.).

1571 GOLDING *Calvin on Ps.* lv. 17 The midtyme was appoynted for theire Sacrifices. 1619 DRAYTON *Bar. Wars* VI. lxxiii, It being then the mid time of the Night. 1650 *Sc. Metr. Ps.* cii. 24 O take me not away In mid-time of my dayes.

Midulert, variant of MIDDLE ERD *Obs.*

Midwald, -wall, var. ff. (in Dicts.) of MODWALL.

Midwall (mi·dwɔ̄l). *Arch.* [f. MID *a.* + WALL.] Used *attrib.* in *midwall shaft*, a shaft or baluster, placed in the middle of the thickness of the wall, in an early type of English belfry windows.

1880 FREEMAN in *Macm. Mag.* No. 246. 453, I doubt whether a midwall shaft is to be found between the Avon and Exmoor. 1893 C. HODGES in *Academy* Jan. 17 The mid-wall shafts, which are slightly barrel-shaped, are ten inches in diameter.

Mi·dward, *a., sb., adv.* and *prep.* Forms: 1 **middeweard** (as sb. *-weardˇ*), **-wærd, -ward, -weard**, 2 **middewarðe**, 4 **mydwarde**, *pl.* **myddwardis**, 4–5 *Sc.* **mydwart**, 4–6 **midwarde**, 5 *pl.* **midwardis**, 5–6 **mydward**, 4– **midward**. [OE. *middeweard*: see MID *a.* + -WARD. Cf. MDu. *middewaert.* (The 12th c. form *middewarðe* may be a misreading for *middewardre* dat. fem.)]

A. *adj.*

†1. In partitive concord: The middle of. *Obs.*

After OE. only preceded by *in*; the definite article, when used, was placed between the adj. and sb. *In midward* as thus used has the appearance of being a prepositional phrase governing the sb.: cf. AMIDWARD, EMIDWARD.

c 893 K. ÆLFRED *Oros.* II. vi. § 1 Æfter þæm Eufrate þa ea, seo is mæst ealra ferscra wætera, & is irnende þurh middewearde Babylonia burg. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 43 Scoðþan he him sceawede and stude inne midde-warðe helle. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 655 Bot yhon tre cum þon nawight to, þat standes in midward paradis. ?*c* 1325 *K. Horn* 590 (Laud MS.), Ich sal do pruesce, For þe lef wyt schelde, In midward þe felde. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 6319 'Als a litel spark of fire', says he, 'In mydward þe mykel se, Right swa alle a mans wykkednes Un-to þe mercy of God es'.

2. Occupying the middle. *Obs.* exc. *arch.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 9921 (Cott.) Þe midward heu es þat i mene. *c* 1375 *Ilid.* 764 (Fairf.) Of al þe trees [we ete] bot of ane, þe midwarde tree ys vs out-tane. 1876 MORRIS *Sigurd* (1877) 2 The midward time and the fading, and the last of the latter days.

†B. *sb.* The middle, the middle part. *Obs.*

c 1000 *Ags. Ps.* xxi. 15 (Lamb.) On middeweardan innoþes mines *in medio ventris mei.* 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 9664 God ys shapper of alle þyng, He wote þe mydwarde, and þe endyng. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* III. 682 Ane ile..may weill in mydwart be Betwuix Kyntyr and Irland. *c* 1400 *Beryn* 2759 In mydward of this gardyn stant a feire tre. *c* 1450 LOVELICH *Grail* xl. 550 But as In the Midwardis, vndirstonde þou here, that whanne he Cam to his Middyl Age, he wax A man bothe sad and Sage. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* VI. 503 Als mony syne in the mydwart put he. 1505 in *Mem. Hen. VII* (Rolls) 231 The fashion of her nose is a little rising in the midward. *c* 1550 R. BIESTON *Bayte Fortune* B j b, Yf thou were in Tems in midwarde of the sande.

†C. *adv.* In the middle. *Obs.*

c 1470 HENRY *Wallace* V. 920 Off kyn he was, and Wallace modyr ner, Off Craufurd syd that mydward had to ster.

D. *prep.* In the middle of. *Obs.* exc. *arch.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 1032 Midward þat land a wel springes. 1817 SCOTT *Harold* V. ii, Midward their path, a rock of granite grey From the adjoining cliff had made descent.

Mid-water. [f. MID *a.* + WATER *sb.*] The middle portion of the water vertically, near neither to the bottom nor the surface.

1653 WALTON *Angler* xii. 183 Letting him [a minnow] swim up and down about mid-water, or a little lower. 1816 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* xxii. (1818) II. 295 Some move in midwater, either by the same motion of the legs as they use in walking, or by strokes, as in swimming. 1905 HOLMAN HUNT *Pre-Raph.* I. 69 Red-spotted trout poised in mid-water.

attrib. 1868 *Daily Tel.* 5 June 5/1 It is the same with herrings, cod, ling, and all the mid-water fish.

†**Mid waters**, *adv. Obs.* [f. MID *a.* + WATER, with advb. *s.*] In the middle of the waters.

a 1800 *Coble o' Cargill* vi. in Child *Ballads* IV. 359 Before that he was mid-waters, The weary coble began to fill.

Midway (mi·dwe|, midwē·), *sb., a., adv.* and *prep.* [f. MID *a.* + WAY. Cf. MDu. *middewech*; also Da. *midtvei.*] A. *sb.*

†1. The middle of the way or distance. *Obs.*

c 897 K. ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past C.* li. 399 Donne bið ðæt swa swa Segor stod on midweze betweox ðæm muntum & ðæm merscum ðe Sodoma on wæs. ?*a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 2682 Sir Wychere, Sir Walchere, theis weise mene of armes, ..Mett him in the mydwaye. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) iv. 31 Fro Calabre or fro Cecyle to Akoun, be See, is 1300 Myles of Lombardye. And the Ile of Crete is right in the myd weye. 1586 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* I. 68 The studie of letters is..so long and uneasie a journey, that they which thinke to finish it, oftentimes staie in the midwaie. 1677 W. HUBBARD *Narrative* (1865) I. 36 Newhaven..seated near the Midway betwixt Hudsons River and that of Connecticut. 1770 KING in *Phil. Trans.* LXI. 256 She mentioned a very steep shelf, or descent, in the midway.

†2. A medium; a middle course. Now *rare.*

1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* II. i. 8 Hee were an excellent man that were made just in the mid-way betweene him and Benedicke. 1606 — *Ant. & Cl.* III. iv. 19 No midway 'Twixt these extreames at all. *a* 1656 BP. HALL *Rem. Wks.* (1660) 168 Our sorrow must walk in a mid-way betwixt neglect and excess. 1677 *Govt. Venice* 56 The Senat having chosen the midway, which in great dangers, and doubtful, is always the worst. 1847 EMERSON *Poems* (1857) 39 Nor mount, nor dive; all good things keep The midway of the eternal deep.

B. *adj.*

1. Situated in the middle of the way, occupying the middle. *rare* exc. *poet.*

1605 SHAKS. *Lear* IV. VI. 6 The Crowes and Choughes, that wing the midway ayre Shew scarce so grosse as Beetles. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* IX. 1218 In Mid-way Flight Imagination tires. 1879 GEO. ELIOT *Theo. Such* 221 The midway parting of his crisp hair. 1898 G. MEREDITH *Odes Fr. Hist.* 29 No more at midway heaven.

2. †a. Medium, moderate. *Obs.*

1573 TYRIE *Refut. Knox* To Rdr., Als conuenient to begyle the simple reader, as to impesche and trauel men of gude ingyne and midway knawlage, to cum to the vnderstanding of the veritie. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* VII. 43 He was of midway stature. 1675 G. R. tr. *Le Grand's Man without Passion* 59, I confess that I understand not that competent or midway knowledg by him found out.

b. Of an opinion: Mediating. *rare.*

1905 JAS. ORR *Problem Old Test.* ix. 327 The midway theory advocated by Nöldeke.

C. *adv.*

1. In the middle of the way or distance; half-way.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 412 A sunedei midwei bitweonen þet and ester. 1577-87 HOLINSHED *Chron.* III. 1116/1 Lithquo, midwaie betwixt Sterling and Edenburgh. 1608 SHAKS. *Per.* v. i. 48 She..would..make a battrie through his defend parts, which now are midway stopt. 1692 R. L'ESTRANGE *Fables* CXXXIII. 123 The Hare lay'd himself down about Mid-way. 1794 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Myst. Udolpho* IV, The vapours floated mid-way down the mountains. 1868 MISS YONGE *Cameos* (1879) I. XXVII. 225 Midway in the strait he met the French fleet. 1896 HOWELLS *Impressions & Exp.* 197 The band.. playing in the afternoon midway of the long veranda.

2. †a. In a medium manner, tolerably. *Obs.*

1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 117 Nathir sulde ony mervel heirof, quhen na man, quha leines bot midway temperat, in the tounes of Scotland, is nocht sune rich.

D. *prep.* In the middle of. *rare.*

185- MAURY in Olmsted *Journ. Cotton Kingd.* (1861) I. 143 Norfolk [Virginia] is..midway the coast. 1868 SWINBURNE *Ess. & Stud.* (1875) 374 A boat is moored, and women..are about to enter it: one is already midway the steps of the pier.

Mid-week. [f. MID *a.* + WEEK. Cf. MDu. *middeweke*, MHG. *mittwoche* (mod.G. *Mittwoch*), ON. *miðvika*, Wednesday.] The middle of the week. In Quaker language, a synonym for Fourth-day or Wednesday.

1707 S. SEWALL *Diary* 23 July, Midweek, visited Madam Leverett. 1898 *Daily News* 10 Jan. 8/7 By mid-week there was a good attendance on 'Change again.

b. *attrib.*

1706 S. SEWALL *Diary* 27 Apr., He had a Tooth pull'd out ..on Mid-week night. 1883 J. PARKER *Apost. Life* II. 35 Herein is a justification for mid-week meetings. 1898 *Cycling* 88 Two or more severe races on the Saturday, with perhaps a mid-week meeting in between.

Midwife (mi·dwəif), *sb.* Forms: 4 medewife, -wyve, meedwijf, midewyve, midwiif, mydwijf, -wyffe, 4-5 midwyf, 4-6 medwyf(e, mydwife, -wyf(e, 5 medwif(e, myddewyffe, mydewyf, mydwif, -wyff, 5-6 midwyfe, 6 mede wif, meyd vyf, 4- midwife. [f. either MID *a.* or MID *prep.* (*adv.*) + WIFE (in the older sense of 'woman'). On the former view the primary sense would be 'a woman by whose means the delivery is effected'; on the latter view, 'a woman who is *with* the mother at the birth'. The latter seems the more likely, though analogies are wanting for this mode of formation. The Sp. *comadre*, which is sometimes quoted, is not to the point, as the sense 'midwife' is merely developed from that of 'gossip', originally 'fellow-(god)mother'. The mod.G. *beifrau*, midwife's assistant, has also been compared.

The early (but not earliest) form *medewife* seems to be due to etymologizing association with MEED *sb.*, as *mede-* does not otherwise occur as a ME. variant of *mid-*. The colloquial pronunciation (mi·dif) is now seldom heard.]

1. A woman who assists other women in childbirth, a female accoucheur.

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 9633 Þe prest askede þe mydwyffe, 3yfe hyt were cristenede whan hyt hade lyffe. *a* 1400 *Maria Magd.* 78 in *Archiv Stud. neu. Spr.* XCI. 219 In alle my grete sorowe of my trauail of childe thou were to me a mydwife. *c* 1400 *Arth. & Merl.* 1001 (Kölbing), Ful glad was þo þe medwif And tok þeo child al so blyue. 1486 *Materials Hist. Hen. VII* (Rolls) II. 65 Alice Massy ..medwif to our derest wif the quene. 1502 *Ld. Treas. Acc. Scotl.* (1900) II. 47 Item..to the mede wif, xlij s. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* XV. 129 His mother vas ane meyd vyf. 1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* I. iv. 54, I see Queene Mab hath beene with you: She is the Fairies Midwife. 1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* 269 Adde hereto the skilfull hand of the heads-woman or Midwife as we cal them. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) II. 104 Women, in these circumstances, are said, by the midwives, to be all mouth and eyes. 1839 FR. A. KEMBLE *Resid. in Georgia* (1863) 28 A ludicrous visit this morning from the midwife of the estate.

†2. = MAN-MIDWIFE. *Obs.*

1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* III. (1586) 139 It behoooueth the shepehearde to be skilfull in medcening of his cattell, and so cunning a midwife withal, as if neede require he may helpe his Ewe. 1711 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 29 Apr., The Admiral is your Walker's brother the midwife. 1770 *Phil. Trans.* LX. 451 Mr. John Latham, Surgeon and Midwife.

3. *fig.* One who or that which helps to produce or bring anything to birth.

1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II*, II. ii. 62 So Greene, thou art the midwife of my woe, And Bullinbrooke my sorrowes dismall heyre. 1658 OSBORN *Adv. Son* (1896) p. xxvii, There is another piece of mine ready to peep abroad, but that Mr. Wood, my Midwife, is so taken up with raising an estate in Ireland, as he cannot attend the press. 1700 DRYDEN *Pal. & Arc.* II. 562 And Midwife Time the ripen'd Plot to Murder brought. 1771 SMOLLETT *Humph. Cl.* 10 June, Let. i, This midwife of the Muses used exercise on horseback. 1883 J. T. MORSE *Jefferson* iii. (1885) 39 Jefferson..had acted as undertaker for the royal colonies and as midwife for the United States of America.

†4. An effeminate man. *Obs.*

1596 DRAYTON *Mortimeriados* T, No Apish fan-bearing Hermophradite, Coch-carried midwyfe, weake, effeminate.

Midwife (mi·dwəif), *v.* Now *rare.* Also mid-wive. [f. MIDWIFE *sb.*]

1. *trans.* To act as midwife to.

1674 BREVINT *Saul at Endor* IV. 86 Whil'st she is elsewhere ..in a rich Abby Mid-wiving an Abbess, whom her Steward had unfortunately gotten with Child.

2. To help in bringing (a child) to the birth by acting the part of a midwife. Also with *out.*

1638 BP. H. KING in Sandys *Div. Poems* To Author 34 This Child of yours, borne without spurious blot, And Fairely Midwivd, as it was begot. 1653 in *Verney Mem.* (1894) III. 203 Madcapp saith though she sould you the mare, yett she did not sell you the colt, therefore she laies her commands on you, to midwife it out, and to tittle it upp. 1708 T. WARD *Eng. Ref.* (1710) 2 So Jove himself..Bred in his Head his Daughter Pallas, Whom Vulcan Midwiv'd [etc.]. 1736 AINSWORTH *Lat. Dict.* IV. s. v. *Pallas*, The daughter of Jupiter's own brain,..and midwived by Vulcan.

b. *fig.* To help in bringing to light or into being.

1647 WARD *Simp. Cobler* (1843) 6 That he might watch a time to midwife out some ungracious Toleration for his own turne. 1725 BAILEY *Erasm. Colloq.* 124, I have something runs in my Mind, and I'm with Child to have it out... If it be a Dream, you shall be the Interpreters, or midwife it into the World. 1829 LAMB *Let. to H. C. Robinson* 27 Feb., Expectation was alert on the receipt of your strange-shaped present, while yet undisclosed from its fusc envelope... When midwifed into daylight, the gossips were at a loss to pronounce upon its species.

Hence **Mi·dwifing** *vbl. sb.*

1382 WYCLIF *Exod.* i. 19 Thei forsothe han the kunnyng of mydwyuyng [Vulg. *ipsæ enim obstetricandi habent scientiam*]. 1750 WARBURTON in *W. & Hurd's Lett.* (1809) 47 Where was the Genius loci of the school when this disaster happened! perhaps in the office of Diana when her Temple was a burning, gone a midwifing to some Minerva of the brain.

†**Mi·dwifely,** *a. Obs.* [f. MIDWIFE *sb.* + -LY 1.] Of or pertaining to a midwife.

1607 MARKHAM *Caval.* I. (1617) 25 With other such like midwifely precepts, which I wish euery good breeder rather to hazard then proue the experiment.

†**Mi·dwifer.** (See quot.)

1825 D. D. DAVIS *Elem. Midwifery* 3 Julian Clement.. was soon after appointed to the new and lucrative office of Midwifer to the Princesses of France. 1828 M. RYAN *Man. Midwifery* p. vi, Professor Davis, of the London University, has proposed the term midwifer, for the word accoucheur.

Midwifery (mi·dwəifri, mi·dwifri, mi·difri). Also 5 medewifry, 6 midwifrey, -rie, 6-8 midwifry. [f. MIDWIFE *sb.* + -ERY.] The art or practice of assisting women in childbirth; the department of medical knowledge relating to this; obstetrics.

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 232/2 To be Medwyfe (MS. A. to do Medewifry), *obstetricare.* 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 105/10 Midwifery, *obstetricium.* *a* 1673 CARYL in Spurgeon *Treas. Dav.* Ps. xxix. 9 He..shows his midwifery in helping these savage beasts when their pains come upon them. 1799 *Med. Jrnl.* II. 191 Dr. Osborn and Dr. Clarke propose to begin their lectures on the principles and practice of midwifery. 1845 MCCULLOCH *Acc. Brit. Empire* (1854) II. 361 The professors of Pathology,..Midwifery, and Clinical Medicine, receive no fixed salaries. 1900 H. G. GRAHAM *Soc. Life Scotl. in 18th C.* XIII. ii. (1901) 481 *note*, Midwifery was practised entirely by women.

fig. 1597 *Pilgr. Parnass.* I. 35 What wisedom manie winters hath begott Tyme's midwifrey at length shall bringe to light. *a* 1707 STEPNEY *To Earl of Carlisle* 61 So hasty fruits, and too ambitious flowers, Scorning the midwifery of ripening showers,..spring from th' unwilling earth.

b. *attrib.*

1791 J. JONES in Beddoes *Calculus* (1793) 30 Upon the principle of Smellie's midwifry forceps. 1799 *Med. Jrnl.* I. 81 The midwifery-wards in the house. 1829 GOOCH *Acc. Some Dis. Women* 75 A general practitioner, in large midwifery practice. 1884 M. MACKENZIE *Dis. Throat & Nose* II. 282 The ordinary midwifery forceps.

†**Mi·dwifish,** *a. Obs.* [f. MIDWIFE *sb.* + -ISH.] (See quot.)

1755 JOHNSON, *Obstetrick*, midwifish, befitting a midwife; doing the midwife's office.

Midwinter (midwi·ntəɹ). [f. MID *a.* + WINTER. In OE. found both as compound and as two words with inflexion of the adj. Cf. OFris. *midwinter*, MDn., MLG. *mid-*, *middewinter*, MHG. *mittewinter* (mod.G. *mittwinter*), ON. *miðr vetr*, Sw. *midvinter.*] The middle of winter; spec. the winter solstice, Dec. 21st, or the period about that time. Also formerly applied to Christmas.

a 900 *O. E. Chron.* an. 827 Her mona ábistrode on middes wintres mæsse niht. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* III. 164 gif seo midwinter bið on wodnesdæg þonne bið heard winter. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 55 We auen forgult ure saules wille siðe mid winter com hiderwardes and ouercumen it. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 7160 He sende after is barony at midewinter mid him to be. ?*a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 77 Whas neuer syche noblay, in no manys tyme, Mad in mydwynter in tha weste marchys! 1590 GREENWOOD *Answ. Def. Read Prayers* 25 You compel men to pray against thunder and lightning at midd winter. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* I. 319 Nor cease your sowing till Mid-winter ends. 1882 A. W. WARD *Dickens* iii. 49 A journey across the Atlantic in midwinter is no child's-play even at the present day.

b. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *midwinter month, morning, snow*, etc.; †**midwinter('s) day,** Christmas Day; †**midwinter('s) eve, even, night,** Christmas eve; †**midwinter('s) tide,** Christmas time.

1154 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1135, & halechede him to kinge on *mide-wintre-daei. *c* 1205 LAY. 22905 A midewinteres dæi. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) V. 19 Me schulde synge þre masses wiþ Gloria in excelsis a mydwynter day [orig. *in festo Natalis Domini*]. 1867 FREEMAN *Norm. Cong.* (1877) I. iii. 71 On Midwinter-day, eight hundred years back. 1300–1400 *R. Gloucester's Chron.* (Rolls) App. XX. 141 In þe pridde 3ere of his crouning A *midewinteres ene to bedeforde he com. *c* 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 4081 Gerleyne was þat monnus name y-wys þe whiche in *midwintrus-3evyn to þat chirche dude gone. 1814 WORDSW. *Excurs.* V. 804 Three dark *midwinter months. 1896 *Atlantic Monthly* Feb. 203 How well the rapture of that frosty *midwinter morning is remembered. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 7 Swo abiden ure helendes tocume þat neihlacheð nuðe fram dai to daie and beð on *midewintres niht. *a* 1450 MYRC *Festial* 51 Þys geanology þat ys red yn mydwyntyr-nyght. 1877 BRYANT *Sella* 63 Two slippers, white As the *midwinter snow. *c* 1030 *Eccl. Laws of Cnut* Prol., On ðære halgan *midewintres tide. *c* 1330 *Amis & Amil.* 1887 It was mid winter tide.

c. *quasi-adj.* (*fig.*), cold as midwinter.

1870 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* III. IV. 29 Because youth and maid Midwinter words of hope that day had said Before the altars. 1884 TENNYSON *Becket* I. ii, 'Tis known you are midwinter to all women.

Mid-winterly, *a.* [f. MIDWINTER + -LY 1.] = MID-WINTRY.

1892 *Pall Mall G.* 16 Apr. 4/3 The thoughts of Londoners ..will naturally turn..to amusements more in accordance with the mid-winterly temperature.

Mid-wintry, *a.* [f. MIDWINTER + -Y.] Of or pertaining to midwinter.

1852 MUNNY *Our Antipodes* (1857) 4 At 3 P.M. of an Australian mid-wintry but splendid day the anchor was dropped in that snug little haven. 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 27 Aug. 8/1 The stars last night were of a mid-wintry brightness.

Midwise (mi·dwəiz), *adv.* [f. MID *a.* + WISE *sb.*] In a medium or moderate manner.

1889 J. PAYNE *Alaeddin* 110 They ceased not to live at their sufficiency, midwise [betwixt rich and poor], without excessive spending or squandering.

†**Mi·dwoman.** *Obs.* A midwife.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 5543 Bremli command he and badd Midwimmen be o þe self land.

Mid world. †a. = MIDDLE EARTH (*obs.*). b. An intermediate 'world' (in various applications of the word).

c 1530 tr. *Erasmus' Serm. Child Jesus* (1901) 8 Who is of wider imperye than he, whiche they in heuen magnifie, they in helle trembleat, this mydde worlde humbly worshyppeth..? 1853 LYNCH *Self-Improv.* iii. 61 Poetry is seen in him; and the mid world of feudality and chivalry shines around in a light soft and lustrous. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 3 Dec. 3/2 The sombre desolation of the mid-world between the snows and the pastures.

Mid-year. [f. MID *a.* + YEAR.]

†1. Midsummer. *Obs.*

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* XXV. (*Julian*) 446 Þe chyld semyt þan fere mare clere þane is þe sowne in myd-3ere.

2. *U.S.* Used *attrib.* in *Mid-year examinations* (also *Mid-years*), the Harvard university examinations held in the middle of the academic year (in January).

1897 HOWELLS *Landl. Lion's Head* 216 He had reckoned upon..a dance after the Mid-Years. *Ibid.* 236 A large party was given on the eve of the Harvard Mid-Year Examinations.

Midyl, obs. form of MIDDLE *sb.*

Mieke, Mieknesse, obs. ff. MEEK, -NESS.

Mielch, Mielde, obs. forms of MILCH, MILDS.

Mieldew, obs. form of MILDEW.

Miele, variant of MEAL *sb.*3 *Obs.*

Mielmesse, obs. form of MICHAELMAS.

Miemite (məi·əmait). *Min.* [Named by M. H. Klaproth (*Miemit*) in 1802, from *Miemo* in Tuscany, its locality: see -ITE.] A greenish variety of Dolomite.

1819 BRANDE *Chem.* 225 Magnesium. A variety found at Miemo, in Tuscany, has been called Miemite. 1843 PORTLOCK *Geol.* 214 Miemite of a rich yellowish-green, or oil yellow colour.

Mien (mīn), *sb.* Only *literary.* Forms: 6 men(e, 6-7 meane, 6-8 mine, 7 meine, 7-8 meen, mein, 7- mien. [Prob. orig. an aphetic form of DEMEAN *sb.*; afterwards partly assimilated in sense and form to F. *mine*, expression or aspect of countenanee, hence *gen.* look, appearance, whence G. *miene* in the same sense.

The origin of F. *mine* is uncertain; connexion with Rom. *minare* (F. *mener*) to lead, is impossible. A Celtic origin has been suggested: cf. Breton *min* muzzle, beak, Welsh *min* lip, Cornish *mein*, *men* lip, mouth, Irish *men* mouth.]

The air, bearing, carriage or manner of a person, as expressive of character or mood.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VIII. xi. 20 Lyk as he had dyspyt and bostand men. *Ibid.* XII. Prol. 210 To hant bawdry and onlesum mene. 1593 J. ELIOT *Fruits* 167 He is an Alchymist by his mine [F. *mine*]. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* VI. ix. 11 Her rare de-

meanure, which him seemed So farre the meane of shepheards to excell, As that [etc.]. 1632 J. Hayward tr. *Biondi's Eromena* 158 The Princesse, who had now converted her widdowly meane into fresh teares of conjugall affection. 1713 Steele *Englishman* No. 1. 2 It is a Jest..to talk of amending the Mein and Air of a Cripple. 1784 Cowper *Tiroc.* 829 See..Fops at all corners, lady-like in mien. 1865 Trollope *Belton Est.* v, He could assume a look and mien that were almost noble. 1887 Ruskin *Præterita* II. 174 Gordon's downcast mien did not change.

† b. *transf.* Appearance (of a thing). *Obs.*

a 1641 Suckling *Lett.* Wks. (1646) 60 Nothing, Madam, has worse Mine than counterfeit sorrow. 1684 Burnet *Th. Earth* I. i. iii. 31 Then what can have more the figure and meen of a ruine, than Crags and Rocks, and Cliffs. 1695 Woodward *Nat. Hist. Earth* I. 18 Some..had..Metallick or Mineral Matter..insinuated into their substance..so as to disguise them very much, and give them a face and mien extremely unlike to that of those Shells [etc.].

¶ c. Expression (of the face). *Obs. rare.* [After F. *mine du visage.*]

1680 H. More *Apocal. Apoc.* 196 The mien of his face conjoyned with the posture of his body betrayed such a pitch of veneration and worship, as [etc.]. 1697 Bentley *Phal.* xiii. 51 The same word is inverted to a new sense and notion; which in tract of time makes as observable a change in the air and features of a language, as Age makes in the lines and mien of a Face. 1699 *Ibid.* Pref. 96 Another happy phrase, which he [Boyle] says, I have newly minted, is the Meen of a Face; which as he takes it, is much the same thing with the Behaviour of a Look or the Carriage of a Smile...Meen does not signifie behaviour, even when it's spoken of the whole Person, but the Air and Look that results from it.

d. Phrases (chiefly Gallicisms). † *With full mien*, undisguised (*obs.*). † *To make good mien upon*, to put a good face upon (*obs.*). *To make (a) mien to* do or *of* doing (something), to pretend to do or make a show of doing (something).

1649 G. Daniel *Trinarch., Hen. IV*, xlix, That Masque put off, she comes in wth full Meine. 1683 Temple *Mem.* Wks. 1731 I. 457 The Court there were surpriz'd,.. but made good Mien upon it, took it gently. 1711 Blackader *Diary* 25 July, The French made a mien to oppose us. 1851 Gallenga *Italy* 253 The Austrians made mien of holding out to the last.

† **Mien,** *v. Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. [f. Mien *sb.*] *refl.* To comport oneself (in a specified way). Cf. Demean *v.*^{1} 6.

c 1680 Beveridge *Serm.* (1729) I. 354 Methinks I see him looking upon them, and miening himself as angry with them.

Miene, obs. form of Mine *sb.*

Mier: see Mire, Myer.

Mierie, -ness, obs. forms of Miry, -ness.

Mieu, Mieve, obs. forms of Mew, Move.

Miff (mif), *sb. colloq.* and *dial.* [Perh. imitative of an instinctive expression of disgust; cf. early mod.G. *muff* int. (also *miff-muff*), whence *muff* sb., a manifestation of disgust (see M. Heyne in *Grimm* s.v.).] A fit of peevish ill-humour; a petty quarrel; a huff, tiff; esp. in phr. *to get, have, take a miff,* † *to take miff, to be in a miff.*

1623 C. Butler *Fem. Mon.* v. (ed. 2) Liv, This is not to be done..lest some of the Bees take a miffe and goe home again. 1726 Arbuthnot *Let. to Swift* 8 Nov., I gave your service to Lady Harvey. She is in a little sort of a miff about a ballad, that was wrote on her. 1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* III. vi, When a little quarrel, or miff, as it is vulgarly called, arose between them. 1821 Mrs. Nathan *Langreath* I. 136, I should take miff every time I come into your house. 1825 J. Neal *Bro. Jonathan* I. 374 If she should git another miff, we'd never be able to appease her. 1844 Willis *Lady Jane* II. 716 Like ladies in a miff who won't explain! 1854 De Quincey *War* Wks. 1890 VIII. 378 We have a French anecdote .. which ascribes one bloody war to the accident of a little 'miff' arising between the king and his minister upon some such trifle as [etc.]. 1894 T. Hardy *Life's Little Ironies* (ed. 3) 232 'Twill cause 'em to kick up a bit of a miff, for certain.

Miff (mif), *a. rare.* [f. Miff *sb.*] Out of humour, offended (*with*).

The first quot. may belong to Miff *v.*

1797 Coleridge *Sonn., To Simplicity,* But should a friend and I Grow cool and *miff,* O! I am *very* sad! 1802 W. Taylor *Let. to Southey* 6 Feb. in Robberds *Mem.* I. 447 You are right about Burnett, but being miff with him myself, I would not plead against him in the least particular.

Miff (mif), *v.* [f. Miff *sb.*]

1. *intr.* To take offence *with* or *at.* Also *transf.* of a plant, *to miff off,* to go off, fade.

1797 Lady A. Barnard *Lett.* (1901) 73 We wish to have no quarrels and no miffs. They had wished to miff with us, but we are so civil,..they cannot make it out. 1879 Miss Jackson *Shropsh. Word-bk., Miff,* to take offence hastily. "E miffed at it direc'ly.' 1895 Ellacombe *Glouc. Garden* xviii, Another alpine which is very apt to 'miff off' if grown in the open border.

2. *trans.* To put out of humour. Chiefly in *pa. pple.*

1824 Scott *Redgauntlet* let. xii, 'What needs she another ..?' answered my Thetis, a little miffed perhaps—to use the women's phrase—that I turned the conversation upon my former partner. 1851 Mayne Reid *Scalp Hunt.* xxx. 230 'No-o', slowly drawled Rube, apparently 'miffed' at being thus interrupted.

Miffy (mi·fi), *a. colloq.* and *dial.* Also 8 **mifty.** [f. Miff *sb.* + -y.] Liable to 'take a miff'; easily offended. Also *transf.* of a plant.

a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Mifty,* apt to take Pet, or be out of Humor. 1725 in *New Cant. Dict.* 1739 Cibber *Apol.* (1756) I. 221 She mutter'd out her words in a sort of mifty manner at my low opinion of her. 1810 Beresford *Bibliosophia,* etc. 119 And very lucky it was, by the way (considering how very miffy those Ladies are said to have been). 1835–40 Haliburton *Clockm.* (1862) 126 Well, says I, I'll tell you if you won't be miffy with me. 1850 Glenny *Hand-bk. Fl. Gard.* 220 This [*Lotus Jacobæus*] is rather a delicate, or what is called a 'miffy' plant, being liable to damp off in winter. 1879 Miss Jackson *Shropsh. Word-bk., Miffy,* apt to take offence; touchy. 1894 Blackmore *Perlycross* 301 The slightest change of human weather is inevitably fatal to our very miffy plant [*sc.* gratitude].

Hence **Mi·ffiness,** the condition of being miffy.

1845 Ford *Handbk. Spain* I. 84 We must never compare the sensitiveness of the punctilious hidalgo with the vulgar miffyness of the newly-enriched upstart.

Mig (mig). *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Forms: 1 micge, migga, migge, 3 migge, 5– mig. [OE. *micge* wk. fem., *migga* wk. masc.:—prehistoric **migjôn-, -on,* f. **mig-* wk.-grade of OTeut. **mīg-* (OE. *mīgan,* ON. *miga*) to make water, cogn. w. L. *mingĕre.*] Urine; or the drainings from manure. Also *fig.*

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 354 Drince eft buccan micgan. *Ibid.* III. 132, & his [*sc.* the man's] migga byþ hwit. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 402 And tet [*sc.* Greek fire] ne mei noðing bute migge, and sond, and eisil, ase me seið, acwenchen. *c* 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 58 Þe swyn of vnclennes drowniþ himself in þe mig of lecherie. 1868 Atkinson *Cleveland Gloss., Mig,* liquid manure; the fluid which runs away from the midden, or from the stall drains of a cow-house, &c.

† **Migale.** *Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. [ad. L. *mygalē,* ad. Gr. μυγαλῆ, f. μῦς mouse + γαλέη weasel.] A shrew-mouse or field-mouse.

1382–8 Wyclif *Lev.* xi. 30 Thes forsothe among polutid thinges shulen be holde..a mygal. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xviii. lxxv. (1495) 829 A fyrette hyghte Migale. 1609 Bible (Douay) *Lev.* xi. 30 The migale, and the camelean.

Mige, migge, obs. forms of Midge.

Mighel(l)mas, Mighill: see Michaelmas, Michael.

Might (məit), *sb.* Forms: 1 meaht, maht, mæht, meht, mieht, miht, 2–3 maht(e, meht(e, 3 mæht(e, *Ormin* mahht(e, (3 mayht), 2–4 miht(e, 3 *Ormin* mihht, 3–4 miȝt(e, myht(e, 3–5 myȝt(e, (3 miȝhte, 4 mit), 3–6 *Sc.* micht, 4–6 myght(e, *Sc.* mycht, (4–5 mygth(e, 5 myhth, 6 miht, mighte), 3– might. See also Maught, to which some of the early forms above may belong. [OE. *miht,* Anglian and Kentish *mæht,* fem. = OS. *maht* (Du. *macht*), OHG., MHG. *maht* (mod.G. *macht*), Goth. *mahts*:—OTeut. **mahti-z* f. root **mag-* to be able or powerful: see May *v.*^{1} ON. had **mátt-r*:—**mahtu-z* from the same root, whence Maucht; the late Olcel. *makt* fem., MSw. *makt* (mod.Sw. *makt, magt*) fem., Da. *magt* are from German.

Outside Teut. a corresponding formation exists in OSl. *mošti* (:-pre-Slav. **mokti-s*).]

1. The quality of being able (to do what is desired); operative power (whether great or small). Const. *inf. Obs.* exc. *poet.*

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 31 Forðon..he [*sc.* the Devil] nænize mehte wið us nafaþ. *c* 1200 Ormin 2956 Drihhtin me ȝifeþ witt & mihht To forþenn wel min wille. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 4853 Þanne vyȝteþ hii aȝen vs, as moche as is hor miȝte. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 26271 Þar-til has simple preist na might .. wit-vten biscop ordinance. *c* 1384 Chaucer *H. Fame* I. 41 Yf that spiritis haue the myght To make folke to dreme a-nyght. ? 1464 *Paston Lett.* II. 171 Ze have no myght, neyther power to absteyne and rewle yourself. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* xxxvii. 13 The knychtis..Fell doun as deid, afferit of his licht, Quhome to behald thay had no grace nor mycht. 1606 Shaks. *Tr. & Cr.* III. ii. 164 For to be wise and loue, Exceedes mans might, that dwels with gods aboue. 1850 Tennyson *In Mem.* cviii, What profit lies in barren faith,..tho' with might To scale the heaven's highest height. 1869 M. Arnold *Urania,* But our ignoble souls lack might.

b. In various phrases; esp. *over might,* beyond one's powers; † *to lay might,* to do one's utmost. *Obs.* exc. in the phrase *with all one's might,* with all one's powers; to the utmost of one's ability.

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 39 Þu scalt sahtnien þa þe beoð unisahte mid alle þine mahte. *c* 1200 Ormin 945 Follȝhenn itt [hiss lare] Aȝȝ affterr ȝure mihhte. *c* 1275 *Passion our Lord* 111 in *O. E. Misc.* 40 Þu [Iudas] hit seyst..and dest al þine mihte. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 30/35 [They] duden him harm bi al heore miȝhte. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 19625 It es to þe vte ouer might A-gain þe stranger for to fight. *Ibid.* 26294 If..þou haf oft-sith laid might [*c* 1375 *Fairf.* done þi miȝt] his wrangwis liuelade for to right. 1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 156 Cinichus..A Somme which was over myht Preide of his king Antigonus. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xv. 28 Tyll egypp shall thou fare with all the myght thou may. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* x. 36 Be myrthfull now, at all ȝour mycht. 1611 Bible *Eccl.* ix. 10 Whatsoeuer thy hand findeth to doe, doe it with thy might. 1667 Milton *P. L.* IV. 346 Th' unwieldly Elephant To make them mirth us'd all his might. 1782 Cowper *J. Gilpin* 92 He grasped the mane with both his hands, And eke with all his might.

c. As an attribute of impersonal agents: Power, efficacy, virtue. *Obs.* exc. *poet.* † Also in particularized sense, a specific virtue or active property.

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 126 ȝenim þas ylcan wyrte heo of sumre wundurlicre mihte helpeð. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 47 For heo [sunne dei] hafð mid hire þreo wurdliche mihte. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 119 Fire haueð on him þre mihtes. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 8454 Lerd he, Bath o tres, and gress fele, Quil war þair mightes soth and lele. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Sqr.'s T.* 125 This mirrour..Hath swich a myght þat men may in it see Whan ther shal fallen any Aduersitee. *c* 1402 Lydg. *Compl. Bl. Knt.* 87 The water was so holsome and vertuous, Thurgh myghte of herbes growynge there beside. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* I. vii. 30 One pretious stone Of wondrous worth, and eke of wondrous mights. 1599 Shaks. *Hen. V,* II. i. 70 An oath of mickle might. 1600 — *A. Y. L.* III. v. 82 Dead Shepheard, now I find thy saw of might. *c* 1600 — *Sonn.* lvi, Appetite, Which but to-day by feeding is allay'd, To-morrow sharpen'd in his former might. 1820 Shelley *Witch of Atlas* 177 Liquors..whose healthful might Could medicine the sick soul to happy sleep. — *Hymn Merc.* lxv, I swear by these most gloriously-wrought portals (It is, you will allow, an oath of might). 1832 Tennyson *Eleanore* vii, In thee all passion becomes passionless,..Losing his fire and active might.

† d. *pl.* Active powers (of the heart, soul, brain, etc.). *The fivefold mights*: the five senses. *Obs.*

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 75 Þe alde deouel blou on adam and on eue..swa þet heore fif-falde mihte hom wes al binumen. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 35 And þurh þes fifealde gultes forleas þe fiffeald mihten þe god him ȝef. *c* 1340 Hampole *Psalter* xii. 6 When all þe myghtis of my hert ere raised in till þe soun of heuen. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 3 Sibbe þei myȝten..ocupie al þe myȝtis boþe of soule & body be þat clene religioun. *Ibid.* 217 Bi þis glotonye..þei..lesen.. myȝttis of þe soule, as vnderstondynge, mynde & reson. *a* 1400 Hylton *Scala Perf.* (W. de W. 1494) II. iv, Thenne shall the soule receyue the hole and the full felynge of god in all myghtes of it. 14.. *Stockh. Med. MS.* II. 64 in *Anglia* XVIII. 309 It comfortyth þe stomak & mythys degestyf. 1450–1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* 191 Adam loued god wyth all the myghtes of hys harte. 1460–70 *Bk. Quintessence* 17 If it..a-sende vp to þe heed, it troubliþ alle þe myȝtis of þe brayn.

† 2. Bodily strength (great or small). *Obs.*

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 254 ȝif hæto oþþe meht ne wyrne læt him blod. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1670, & wiltu, wrecche, wiþ me vyhte? Na, nay, nauestu none Mihte. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 7090 He [Samson] had tuenti mens might. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* VI. xiii. 203 Now by my feythe..I wylle preue sir kayes myghte. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* li. 17 He is ane mastyf, mekle of mycht. 1587 Mascall *Govt. Cattle, Horses* (1627) 102 Whereas a horse is weak in couering, so much weaker shal the colt be in growing & might. 1601 Shaks. *Jul. C.* II. iv. 8, I haue a mans minde, but a womans might. 1611 Bible *Jer.* li. 30 Their might hath failed, they became as women.

3. Great or transcendent power or strength; mightiness. Now somewhat *rhetorical.*

a. As an attribute of God.

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 31 Forþon his miht bið a ece, his rice ne bið ȝewemmed. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 59 In eorðe in heuene in his mahte. 1567 *Satir. Poems Reform.* iv. 23 And puir anis did pryse thair Maker of mycht. 1650 *Scotch Psalms* xciii. iv, The Lord that is on high is more of might by far Than noise of many waters is. 1781 Cowper *Conversat.* 473 Fruits of his love and wonders of his might.

b. Of persons or living beings, nations, etc., with reference to bodily or mental power, commanding influence, military resources, extent of dominion, etc.

a 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* II. viii. [ix.] (1890) 120 ȝeweox meaht eorðlices rices [of Eadwine]. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 547 Þes were as þre kinges & men of muchel miȝte. 1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 4 Ther mai nothing his [love's] miht withstonde. *a* 1400 *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 262 Loue, þou art of mikel mit. *c* 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) xxvii. 126 He es a grete lord of myȝt and of landes. *c* 1460 Fortescue *Abs. & Lim. Mon.* ix. (1885) 129 We haue sene a subgett off the ffrench kynges in such myght, þat he hath gyven bataill to the same kyng, and putt hym to flight. *c* 1475 *Ranf Coilȝear* 182 The gentill King, Charlis of micht. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* lxxxviii. 7 Of merchauntis full of substaunce and myght. 1597 Shaks. 2 *Hen. IV,* IV. v. 130 England, shall giue him Office, Honor, Might. 1667 Milton *P. L.* IV. 986 On th' other side Satan allarm'd Collecting all his might dilated stood. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* III. 363 When he [*sc.* a bull] stands collected in his might. 1818 Shelley *Eugan. Hills* 196 As divinest Shakespeare's might Fills Avon and the world with light. 1857 Gladstone *Sp.* 3 Mar., That metamorphosed consul is forsooth to be at liberty to direct the whole might of England. 1891 T. Roosevelt *Hist. Towns, New York* i. 2 (Funk), Spain..was a power whose might was waning.

† c. *pl.* in the same sense. Also, acts of power; mighty works. *Obs.*

a 1000 *Cædmon's Hymn* 2 (Gr.) Nu scylun herȝan hefaenricaes uard, metudæs maecti end his modȝidanc. *c* 1300 *St. Margarete* 169 Also yneleone hit noȝt þt his miȝtes were so stronge Eni so holi creatoure in his wombe afonge. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* III. 366 God help him, that all mychtis may! *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xii. 485 He that all myghtys may the makere of heuen. *a* 1550 *Christis Kirke Gr.* x, For he eschapit, throw michts of Mary.

d. Of things or impersonal agencies. (Cf. 1 c.)

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 584 Fowerti dais and fowerti niȝt. So wex water mið maȝti miȝt. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 22679 Quen all þe stanes..Sal smitt togedir wit sli maght Als thoner dos. 1728 Pope *Dunc.* II. 318 Whirlpools and storms..With all the might of gravitation blest. 1819 Shelley *Peter Bell* IV. xix, He proudly thought that his gold's might Had set those spirits burning. 1831 Wordsw. *Depart. Sir W. Scott* 8 The might Of the whole world's good wishes with him goes. 1833 Tennyson *Fatima* i, O Love, Love, Love! O withering might!

4. Superiority of strength or power as used to enforce one's will. Chiefly in contrast with *right.* Also † *by might*: by wrongful force or violence.

a 1327 *Pol. Songs* (Camden) 254 For miht is right, the lond is laweles. 1381 in Knighton *Chron.* (Rolls) II. 139 Lat myȝt helpe ryȝt, and skyl go before wille and ryȝt before myȝt, tban goth oure mylne aryght. 1559 *Mirr. Mag., Dk. York* iv, To kepe by murder that they get by might. 1573 G. Harvey *Letter-bk.* (Camden) 3 Miht had alreddi overcumd riht.

1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* IV. ix. 6 He her unwares attacht, and captive held by might. 1657 LD. SAY & SEALE in *Eng. Hist. Rev.* (1895) X. 107 With them [your lawers] thearfore whear thear is might thear is right, it is dominion if it succeed, but rebellion if it miscarry. 1881 JOWETT *Thucyd.* I. 192 They went to war, preferring might to right.

5. In senses 1–3 formerly often strengthened by being coupled with the synonymous *main*. Now *rare* exc. in phr. *with (all one's) might and main*, which is now only a more emphatic substitute for 'with all one's might' (see 1 b). Also as advb. phrase, *might and main*; strenuously, vigorously.

c 950 *Lindsf. Gosp.* Luke iv. 36 Þæt is ðis word þætte in mæhte & mæȝne [*in potestate et uirtute*] ȝehateð gastum unclænum & ȝeongas. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 218 Þes were in þisse bataile of mest miȝt & mayn. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 17028 For sin þat suet iesus had sua mikel might and main. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 56 Toward Wircestre he com with myght & mayn. *c* 1400 *Melayne* 282 Fyfty Lordis af gret Empryce,.. Hase loste bothe Mayne & myghte. 1522 *World & Child* 195 (Manly) To serue hym truely..With mayne and all my myght. *Ibid.* 243, I haue myght and mayne ouer countrees fare. 1577 VAUTROUILLIER *Luther on Ep. Gal.* 80 The Deuill set vppon him with all might and maine. 1650 HOWELL *Giraffi's Rev. Naples* 1. (1664) 48 The Card. Archb. of Naples with all his might and main..did not spare pains. 1787 MME. D'ARBLAY *Diary* 4 June, The hair-dresser..went to work first, and I second, with all our might and main. 1804 NELSON *Lett.* (1814) II. 7 They call out, might and main, for our protection. 1860 EMERSON *Cond. Life* iii. (1861) 56 The manly part is to do with might and main what you can do. 1873 BLACK *Pr. Thule* xiv, Two or three idlers..were staring with might and main in at the door of the shop. 1888 BRYCE *Amer. Commw.* III. lxxxiv. 121 Men..who did not regard even the gods, but trusted to their own might and main.

† **6.** As rendering of L. *virtus*. **a.** A virtue. *Obs.*

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 105 Nu beoð .viii. heafod mihtan þe maȝen ouercumen alle þas sunnan. *c* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 25 An hali mihte is icleped *fides recta*. *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* 14 [Meiðhad is] mihte ouer alle mihtes.

† **b.** *pl.* The fifth of the nine orders of angels of the celestial hierarchy according to the arrangement of Dionysius the Areopagite. Cf. VIRTUE. Also *gen.* heavenly powers, angels. *Obs.*

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* I. 342 Uirtutes [sind ȝecwedene] mihta, ðurh ða wyrcð God fela wundra. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* i. 33 Of all þe mightes I haue made moste nexte after me, I make þe [Lucifer] als master and merour of my mighte. 1535 COVERDALE *Eph.* i. 21 And set him..aboue all rule, power, and mighte, and dominacion. 1652 BP. HALL *Invis. World* I. vii. (1847) 88 The presumption of those men, who..have taken upon them to marshal these Angelical spirits...In the second [Hierarchy] of universal regency; finding..Mights, to be the Generals of the heavenly Militia...In the third of special government, placing..Powers, forty times more than Principalities: Mights, fifty more than Powers.

† **Might,** *a. Obs. rare.* Forms: 3 miȝt, 5 myght. [? f. MIGHT *sb.*: cf. ALMIGHT *a.* (OE. had *meaht* adj.:—prehistoric **mahto-*, a ppl. formation from the same root.)] = MIGHTY.

[*a* 1000 *Phœnix* 377 (Gr.) Forȝeaf him se meahta moncynnes fruma.] *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3038 And knowen sal ben In euerilc lond min miȝte name. *c* 1460 *Play Sacram.* 85 For of a merchante most myght therof my tale ys told. *Ibid.* 182 Mace, mastyk that myght ys.

Might, pa. t. of MAY *v.*[1]

† **Mi·ghtand,** *a. Obs.* [f. MIGHTY *sb.* with pr. pple. ending.] Mighty. Also *absol.*, a mighty man.

a 1300 *E. E. Psalter* xxiii. 8 Laverd strang And mightand in fight. *Ibid.* lxxxviii. 20, I sete helpe unto mightand. *Ibid.* lxxxix. 10 And if in mightandes [*v.r.* weldinges] four-skore yhere And mare, of þam swinke and sorw here.

Mi·ght-be. [Cf. MAY-BE, MIGHT-HAVE-BEEN.] What might be; an unlikely possibility.

1633 AMES *Agst. Cerem.* II. 306 [He] bringeth meer conceits and might bees for proving Arguments. 1872 GEO. ELIOT *Middlem.* xii, Better than any fancied 'might-be' such as she was in the habit of opposing to the actual. 1891 LECKY *Poems* 99 He sought not far The 'might-be' in the things that are.

† **Mi·ghted,** *a. Obs. rare*—[1]. [f. MIGHT *sb.* + -ED [2].] Having might. (In comb. *cleanest-mighted.*)

1470-85 MALORY *Arthur* x. lviii. 512 He was the clenest mynded man and the best wynded of his age, that was on lyue.

Mightful (mə·itful), *a. arch.* [f. MIGHT *sb.* + -FUL; cf. G. *machtvoll.*]

1. Mighty, powerful; † efficacious.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 100 He ðe it made is miȝtful and wis. 1340 *Ayenb.* 237 Þe sacremeut þet is y-mad..be þe hand of þe kueade ministre ne is naȝt .. lesse miȝtuol uor to haȝy ham. 1420 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 47, I bequeth my soule into the mercy off mythfull Ihesu. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* II. 396 The michtfull maker of the sone and mone. 1586 FERNE *Blaz. Gentrie* I. 55 Musicke..is so mightfull, that it preuayleth in the taming of beastes. 1588 SHAKS. *Tit. A.* IV. iv. 5 The mightfull Gods. 1859 TENNYSON *Geraint & Enid* 95 Far liefer had I..watch his mightful hand striking great blows At caitiffs. 1876 BLACKIE *Songs Relig. & Life* 58 Not with blasts of mightful preaching. 1891 *Blackw. Mag.* CL. 837 Mightful arms and thoughtful brains.

† **b.** *absol.* Also *sb.*, a 'mightful' man. *Obs. rare.*

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3755 And two miȝtful he hauen taken,.. On dathan an oðer Abiron. *a* 1400 *Relig. Pieces fr. Thornton MS.* (1889) 53 We rede in a buke of Danyele þat a myghtfull was þat [etc.].

2. Of actions: Proceeding from arbitrary power.

1895 *Tablet* 25 May 804 These mightful assaults by the State on the Church.

Hence **Mi·ghtfully** *adv.*, **Mi·ghtfulness.**

c 1325 *Metr. Hom.* 14 He herid hel als mihti thain, And broht thaim al that war his, Mihtfullik in till his blis. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 754 If in myghtfulnes four seor yhere falle, Mare es þair swynk and sorow with-alle. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* lxi. 256 (Harl. MS.) As he Iustid with a sone of the knyȝtes, he caste him downe of his horse myȝtfully. 1567 *Gude & Godlie Ball.* (S.T.S.) 108 He sall saif the mychtfullie.

Might-have-been. [Cf. MAY-BE, MIGHT-BE.] That which might have been; something which might have happened; a person who might have been greater or more eminent.

1848 CLOUGH *Bothie* III. 158 He to the great might-have-been upsoaring, sublime and ideal. 1886 KIPLING *Departm. Ditties* (1888) 19 Boanerges Blitzen, servant of the Queen, Is a dismal failure—is a 'Might-have-been'.

† **Mi·ghthead.** *Obs.* [f. MIGHT *sb.* + *-hed*, -HEAD; but cf. MIGHTSOME *v.*] Mightiness.

a 1300 *E. E. Psalter* cxliv. 7 Minde of mighthed of þi softnesse [Vulg. *Memoriam abundantiæ suauitatis tuæ*].

† **Mi·ghtiful,** *a. Obs.* [f. MIGHTY + -FUL.] = MIGHTFUL.

a 1300–1400 *Cursor M.* 15161 (Gött.) Þat suete mightiful king was comen. 1421 SIR H. LUTTRELL in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. I. 84 Wel excellent, and myghtyfull Prince. 1548 UDALL *Erasm. Par. Luke* vii. 14 Onlesse Iesus vouchesalue with his mightifull hande to touche the biere.

† **Mi·ghtihead.** *Obs. rare*—[1]. In 4 myȝtihed. [f. MIGHTY *a.* + -HEAD.] Power.

1382 WYCLIF *Ecclus.* x. 11 Of eche myȝtihed [Vulg. *potentatus*; 1388 power] short lif.

Mightily (mə·itili), *adv.* Forms: see MIGHTY *a.* and -LY [2]; also 4 **mythylyke**, 5 **mythyle**, 7 **mitily.** [f. MIGHTY *a.* + -LY [2].]

1. In a mighty manner, with great power or strength; with powerful effect; † also, with great effort, vigorously, vehemently.

c 888 K. ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxxv. § 4 Þæt hehste god, ðæt hit eall swa mihtiȝlice macað. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 23551 Sua mightili þair [*sc.* the saints'] might to fill. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 2290 He myntez at hym maȝtyly. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* v. 262 Another tyme he sholde mightily Conforte him-self, and seyn it was folye. 14.. *Stockh. Med. MS.* II. 46 in *Anglia* XVIII. 308 Þat purgyth þe neris mythylyke. *c* 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* XI. 471 Moue it [the wyne] myghtily [L. *vehementer*] With reed al grene. 1490 CAXTON *Eneydos* xxvii. 95 Eneas made the mariners to rowe myghtyli. 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* I. ii. 279 Do as aduersaries do in law, Striue mightily, but eate and drinke as friends. 1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* V. xxii. § 4 The power of the word of God..worketh mightily..to their conversion. 1611 BIBLE *Jonah* iii. 8 Let man and beast..cry mightily vnto God. 1680 SIR C. LYTTELTON in *Hatton Corr.* (Camden) I. 237 My L[d] Essex mitily opposes this. 1746–7 HERVEY *Medit. & Contempl.* (1818) 67 Ye..cry mightily to the Father of your spirits for faith in his dear Son.

† **2.** So as to be strong or powerful. *Obs.*

1414 BRAMPTON *Penit. Ps.* (Percy Soc.) 29 My bonys were stronge, and myghtyly made. *c* 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* I. 399 But se that hit be tymbred myghtyly. 1464 *Paston Lett.* II. 160 Arme yowr selve as myghtyly as ye kan ageyn yowr enmyes.

3. In a great degree, to a great extent; greatly, very much. Now somewhat *rare*; very common in 17–18th c.

1593 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI*, III. ii. 74 Therein thou wrong'st thy Children mightily. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* II. 74 [Athens] was after mightily inlarged by Theseus. 1667 PEPYS *Diary* 6 Feb., I sat mightily behind, and could see but little. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 145 ¶ 2 A Gentleman..who deals mightily in Antique Scandal. 1756–82 J. WARTON *Ess. Pope* (ed. 4) II. xii. 278, I should be mightily obliged to you if you could get me a copy of his verses. 1760 GRAY *Corr.* (1843) 204 A carpet mightily finished. 1838 DICKENS *Lett.* (1880) I. 13 It amused us mightily. 1886 RUSKIN *Præterita* I. 421, I wonder mightily now what sort of a creature I should have turned out.

Mightiness (mə·itinės). [f. MIGHTY + -NESS.] The state or condition of being mighty.

13.. *S. Augustin* 1273 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1878) 83 Þi mihtinesse we worschupeþ, lord, Boþe in dede and in word. *c* 1511 *1st Eng. Bk. Amer.* (Arb.) Introd. 30/2 Pope Iohn whose myghtynes & rychedome amounteth aboue all prynces of the world. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 274 b, Yf he so do, the myghtynesse of the newe wyne wyll breke the vessell. 1534 MORE *Conf. agst. Trib.* III. xxvii. (1553) V viij, To shewe y[e] mightines of theyr malice. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* III. (1590) 318 b, A cunning mastiffe, who knowes the .. strength of the Bul, fights low .. answering mightines with nimblenes. 1613 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII*, Prol. 30 Thinke you see them Great..: Then, in a moment, see How soone this Mightinesse meets Misery. 1725 POPE *Postscr. to Odyss.* (1840) 390 Language, which..rattles like some mightiness of meaning in the most indifferent subjects. 1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) III. 37 The weak would have the mightiness of the law for their support. 1802 WOROSW. *Sonn.*, '*Inland, within a hollow vale, I stood*', What power is there! What mightiness for evil and for good! 1838–42 ARNOLD *Hist. Rome* III. xliv. 146 The mightiness of her energy.

† **b.** As a title of dignity *Your mightiness.*

1588 SHAKS. *Tit. A.* II. iii. 126 This Minion..braues your Mightinesse. *c* 1590 GREENE *Fr. Bacon* xvi, In royalizing Henry's Albion With presence of your princely mightiness. 1622 FLETCHER & MASS. *Prophetess* III. i, Does your Mightinesse..yet understand our faces?

c. *High Mightiness* (also † *High and Mightiness*): a title of dignity; esp. in pl. = Du. *hoogmogendheden*, the title of the members of the States-General of the United Provinces of the Netherlands. Now only *Hist.* Also as an ironical title.

1668 TEMPLE *Let. to De Witt* Wks. 1731 II. 88 His Majesty and their High and Mightinesses have begun..this glorious .. Design of a general Peace. 1700 T. BROWN *Amusem. Ser. & Com.* IV. (1709) 43 Now for that Majestical Man and Woman there, stand off, there is no coming within a Hundred Yards of their High Mightinesses, they have revolted like the Dutch. 1707 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4389/2 Monsieur Lintelo, Envoy Extraordinary of the States General, delivered the King a Letter from their High Mightinesses. 1733 BUDGELL *Bee* I. 71 A Letter directed to the States General, in which their High and Mightinesses are reproached. 1792 M. CUTLER in *Life*, etc. (1888) I. 486 However important their High Mightinesses of Congress may appear abroad. 1825 R. P. WARD *Tremaine* II. vii. 68 To lay my whip across his high mightyness's shoulders. 1883 BLACK *Shandon Bells* xxx, Being particular about good dinners..is beneath their high mightinesses' notice.

† **Mi·ghting.** *Obs. rare.* Power.

a 1300 *E. E. Psalter* lxiv. 7 Gird with mightinge [Vulg. *accinctus potentia*]. *Ibid.* cv. 2 Wha sal speke of lauerd mightinges [Vulg. *potentias domini*].

† **Mi·ghtious,** *a. Obs. rare*—[1]. In 5 **myghtyus.** [f. MIGHTY *a.* + -OUS.] Full of might or power.

c 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xvi. 220 Of bedlem a gracyus lord shall spray, That of Iury myghtyus kyng shalbe ay.

Mightless (mə·itlės), *a.* Now *arch.* [f. MIGHT *sb.* + -LESS.] Without might; impotent; powerless.

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 111 He..bið swa mihtles on his modes streche þet [etc.]. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 280 Priue pride in pes es nettille in herbere, þe rose is myghtles, þe nettille spredis ouer fer. *c* 1450 MYRC *Festial* 55 Þys vnycorn .. layth hys hed yn hur barme, myghtles without strengthe: and soo ys taken. 1553 BECON *Reliques of Rome* (1563) 172 b, Olde people y[t] beoe myghtlesse, weake, and impotente. *a* 1584 MONTGOMERIE *Cherrie & Slae* 305 Baith sichtles, and michtles, I grew almaist at ainis. 1887 MORRIS *Odyss.* x. 521 Utter thou thy praying to the mightless heads of the dead. 1888 *Ibid.* XVIII. 130 There is nought more mightless than man of all that Earth doth breed.

b. Const. *inf.*

1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 74 Þat may not be graunted Of me, þat miȝtteles am my silf so to kepe. *a* 1450 MYRC *Festial* 82 Old men passed age and myghtles to fast. 1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. ii. II. *Babylon* 125 Might-lesse our selves to succour, or advise.

† **Mi·ghtly,** *adv. Obs.* In 1 **meahte-, mihte-, mihtlice**; for later forms see MIGHT *sb.* and -LY [2]. [OE. *mihtelice*, app. a var. of *mihtiglice* MIGHTILY; for the form cf. *cræftellce, hęfelice, grædelice, gęhyldelice.*] = MIGHTILY in various senses.

a 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* V. xix. [xxi.] (1890) 468 Mid þam he ðy mihtlicor wiðscufao mihte. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* I. 108 Sæ oncneow ða Cristofer hyre yða mihtelice eode. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 17267 Þou spede me, lauerd! for-to spell Hu mighteli þou harud hell. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 92 This souhtil water myhtely,..The strengthe of therthe perceth ofte. *c* 1410 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) xv, It is þe best hounde..forto take alle manere of beestes and holde myghtliche. 1420–22 LYDG. *Thebes* I. in *Chaucer's Wks.* (1561) 363/2 A porche, bilte of square stones Ful mightely. 1480 CAXTON *Chron. Eng.* ccxxix. 241 That he myght the myȝtloker fyght and defende the reame. 1526 TINDALE *Rom.* viii. 26 The Sprete maketh intercession mightely for us. 1582 N. LICHEFIELD tr. *Castanheda's Conq. E. Ind.* I. i. 4 Whereby the Christian faith is so greatly increased.. and the royall house of Portingale so mightely honoured. 1610 BIBLE (Douay) *Wisd.* viii. 1 She reacheth therfore from end vnto end mightely, and disposeth al thinges swetely. 1744 *Col. Rec. Pennsylv.* IV. 707 Finding what friendship subsisted between us and the Dutch, he approved it mightly.

[**Mightsome,** *v.*, **Mightsomnes,** which render L. *abundare, abundantia* in the Early English Psalter, presumably originated from misreading of early ME. **inihtsumien, -sumnis*:—OE. *genyhtsumian, -sumnis*, these being the words used in the same passages in the Vespasian Psalter.

In some of the passages the Surtees editor prints *nuhtsom*, which is impossible in a northern text.

a 1300 *E. E. Psalter* xxix. 7, xlix. 20, lxiv. 14, lxxii. 12, lxxvii. 38.]

Mighty (mə·iti), *a.* and *adv.* Forms: 1 **mæhtiȝ, meahtiȝ, mihtiȝ**, 1–2 **mehtiȝ**, 2–4 **mihti**, 2–3 *Ormin* **mahhtiȝ**, 3 **mæhti, mahti, maȝti, miȝti, michti**, 4 **mihty, myhti, -y**, 4–5 **maȝte, miȝty, -i, myȝty, -i**, (4 **-tty**, 5 **-tie**), **miȝeti, myhety**, 3–5 **mighti**, 4–5 *Sc.* **mychty**, 4–6 **myghty**, (5 **myghti, -tty, myȝhty, myȝthty, mythty, mytheti**, *Sc.* **michtie**), 5–6 *Sc.* **mychti**, 6 **myȝghty, myghty**(e, *Sc.* **michti, -ie, -y, -tty, mychte, -ie, myghti**, 6–7 **mightie, -ye**, 4– **mighty.** [OE. *mihtig* = OFris. *mechtig, machtig*, OS. *mahtig* (MLG. *mechtig*, MDu. *machtich*, Du. *machtig*), OHG. *mahtig* (MHG. *mehtic*, mod.G. *mächtig*), ON. *máttegr, mǫttugr* (also contracted in inflected *máttk-*), Goth. *mahteigs*:—OTeut. types **mahtigo-*, **mahtugo-*, f. **mahti-z*, **mahtu-z*: see MIGHT *sb.* and -Y [1].]

1. Possessing 'might' or power; powerful, potent, strong. Now only *rhetorical*, connoting a transcendent or imposing degree of power.

a. Said of God, rulers, nations, etc.

c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* xxiv. 8 Dryhten strong & maehtiȝ, dryhten mæhtiȝ in ȝefehte. *a* 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* I. xiv. [xxv.] (1890) 56 Ða wæs on þa tid Æðelbyrht eyning haten on Centrice, & mihtiȝ. *a* 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 231 An rice king wes, strang and mihti. *a* 1240 *Wohunge* in *Cott. Hom.* 273 Drihtin is maihti strong and kene ifihte. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 16 Thei sein that god is myhti there, And schal ordeine what he wile. *c* 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 682 Thai mighty men vpon mold ane riale course maid. 1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* V. i. 282 Most mightie Duke, vouchsafe me speak a word. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* XII. 124 God..from him will raise A mightie Nation. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* IV. 809 Mighty Cæsar, thund'ring

from afar, Seeks on Euphrates' Banks the Spoils of War. 1761 GRAY *Odin* 83, I know thee now; Mightiest of a mighty line. 1864 TENNYSON *Boädicea* 40 Fear not, isle of blowing woodland,..thou shalt be the mighty one yet!

ellipt. and *absol.* *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 129 Drihten alesde þene wrechan of þan mehtigan. 1340 *Ayenb.* 103 He is þe riȝt guod,..þe riȝt miȝti.

b. of persons, with reference to wealth, social position, or influence. Formerly often predicatively, const. *of*, *in*.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xli. (*Agnes*) 105 My spouse is mychtyere þane þi son, & fere richere. 1486 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* 6 That the saide Preest..be chosen and presented.. by iiij of the worthyest & myghtyest men of the said parissh. 1508 DUNBAR *Tua Maritt Wemen* 296 Syne maryit I a marchand, myghti of gudis. 1601 R. JOHNSON *Kingd. & Commw.* (1603) 40 This prince is so mightie in gold and silver. 1650 FULLER *Pisgah* II. ix. 186 They were all richly married to nighty matches of landed men.

absol. 1484 CAXTON *Fables of Æsop* I. vi. (1889) 11 The poure ought not to hold felaushin with the myghty. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* II. xxx. 180 As well the rich, and mighty, as poor and obscure persons.

c. of persons or animals, their actions or attributes, with reference to physical strength or valour. † In early use often merely: Able-bodied. *Obs.*

c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* cxxvi. 4 Swe swe strelas in honda maehtiges. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Knt.'s T.* 565 Wel koude he hewen wode..ffor he was yong and myghty. *c* 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 111 Bi lawe cyuil it is not leful to a miȝty body to beg. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) I. 263 Thei gette myȝhty childer [1387 *Trevisa* stalworþe: *L. robustam sobolem*]. *a* 1500 in Arnolde *Chron.* (1811) 92 Yf ony..myghty beggar be within the warde. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* lxxvii. 36 And syne the Bruce..cum rydand..As nobill, dreidfull, michtie campioun. *a* 1525 *Vergilius* in Thoms *E. E. Prose Rom.* II. 23 Her chyld..began to wexe bygge and stronge and myghty anough to bere armes. 1530–1 *Act* 22 *Hen. VIII*, c. 12 If any person..beynge hole and myghty in body..be taken in begging. 1535 COVERDALE *Gen.* x. 9 Nemrod..was a mightie hunter. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. vi. 29 Their mighty strokes their haberjeons dismayld. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* II. 163 The Scottis couragious, of a blyth hope, and a mychtie spirit, leipis to straikis. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* III. i. 111 Your hearts are mighty. 1601 — *Jul. C.* v. i. 81 On our former Ensigne Two mighty Eagles fell. 1622 R. HAWKINS *Voy. S. Sea* (1847) 126 Our ship gave a mightie blow upon a rocke. 1733 POPE *Ess. Man* III. 297 Where small and great, where weak and mighty, made To serve, not suffer, strengthen, not invade. 1839 LONGF. *Vill. Blacksm.* i, The smith, a mighty man is he, With large and sinewy hands. 1859 TENNYSON *Lancelot* 63 For so by nine years' proof we needs must learn Which is our mightiest.

d. of persons, their actions and attributes, with reference to mental ability or executive skill. Formerly often predicative, const. *in* or *inf.* *Mighty works*: in Biblical use (= Gr. δυνάμεις), miracles.

c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* li. 3 Ðu mæhtiȝ erð in unrehtwisnisse. *c* 897 K. ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* xv. 90 Se lareow sceolde beon mihtiȝ to tyhtanne on halwende lare. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* I. 150 Þeiȝ ȝe be miȝty to mote beþ meke of ȝour werkis. 1382 WYCLIF *Acts* xviii. 24 Apollo..a man eloquent,..myȝti in scripturis. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* VI. 346 Thar feild..Quhar claryowns blew full mony mychty sonis. 1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* xxviii. 4 The voyce of the Lorde is mightie in operacion [Vulg. *Vox Domini in virtute*]. — *Matt.* xiv. 2 He is rysen agayne from the deed, therfore are his deedes so mightie. 1611 BIBLE *Matt.* xiii. 54 Whence hath this man this wisedome, and these mighty works? 1718 ECHARD *Hist. Eng.* II. II. ii. 565 b, Thomas Lydyat..of a great Soul and incomparable Learning; being a Match for the mighty Scaliger and Selden. 1737 POPE *Hor. Epist.* II. i. 137 Or what remain'd so worthy to be read By learned Critics, of the mighty dead. 1742 — *Dunc.* IV. 211 Thy mighty Scholiast, whose unweary'd pains Made Horace dull. 1802 WORDSW. *Resol. & Independ.* xvii, And mighty Poets in their misery dead. *a* 1853 ROBERTSON *Lect.* ii. (1858) 146 Out of which a mightier master of the art than Pope could scarcely have struck the notes of true passion. 1881 BIBLE (R. V.) *Mark* ix. 39 For there is no man which shall do a mighty work [WYCLIF a virtue; 1535 COVERDALE, 1611 a miracle] in my name. [So also Acts ii. 22.]

e. of things or forces, or their operation.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3797 A fier maȝti ðat folc fest on. *a* 1300–1400 *Cursor M.* 9384 (Gött.) For sune and mone.. Had seuen sith mar þan nou of liht, And all thinges was þan.. Wele mihtier þan þai er nou. 1535 COVERDALE *Exod.* xv. 10 They sancke downe as leed in the mightie waters. 1593 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI*, II. v. 5 Now swayes it this way, like a Mighty Sea, Forc'd by the Tide, to combat with the Winde. 1611 BIBLE 1 *Esdras* iv. 41 Great is trueth, and mightie aboue all things. 1781 COWPER *Charity* 283 But shipwreck, earthquake, battle, fire, and flood, Are mighty miscbiefs, not to be withstood. 1806 WORDSW. *Ode Intim. Immort.* 168 And hear the mighty waters rolling evermore. 1864 TENNYSON *Enoch Arden* 767 Then he,.. Because things seen are mightier than things heard, Stagger'd and shook.

f. Of drugs, liquors, spells: Potent, efficacious. † Also, of a material: Stout, strong. *Obs.*

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* III. 32 Ond þu wexbrade wyrta modor eastan opone innan mihtiȝu. *a* 1240 *Ureisun* in *Cott. Hom.* 187 Min heouenliche leche þet makedest us of þi seolf se mihti medicine. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Miller's T.* 311 This Carpenter..broghte of myghty Ale a large quart. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xxii. 102 It es riȝt myghty wyne. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 12 Take myghty brothe of Beef. *c* 1448 HEN. VI *Avyse* in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) I. 367 Good and myghtty morter. 1497 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 242, lxvj boltes of Grete myghty canvas. 1576 BAKER *Jewell of Health* 230 Where the spyrit of the wyne shall be sufficient myghtye. 1610 ROWLANDS *Martin Mark-all* 22 Their Beere is..so mightie, that it serueth them in steade of meate, drinke, fire, and apparrell. 1781 COWPER *Anti-Thelyph.* 37 On every mind some mighty spell she cast. 1819 W. TENNANT *Papistry Storm'd* (1827) 115 Barls o' michtie beer.

† **g.** Of a legal document: Valid, efficacious. *Obs.*

c 1450 *Oseney Reg.* (E. E. T. S.) 19 This present writyng, with þe strengh of our seele we haue i-made hit myȝghty and stronge.

† **h.** Forcible, emphatic. *Obs.*

1642–7 JER. TAYLOR *Episc.* 229 The Councell of Aquileia ..is full and mighty in asserting the Bishops power over the Laity.

2. Of huge proportions; massive, bulky.

1413 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton 1483) IV. ii. 59 This tree is wondre stronge and myghty aretchyng in to heuen 1420–22 LYDG. *Thebes* I. in *Chaucer's Wks.* (1561) 357 b/1, The citee Thebes, of mightie square stones As I you told. 1658 SIR T. BROWNE *Hydriot.* I. (1736) 17 That large Urn found at Ashbury, containing mighty Bones. 1760 FAWKES tr. *Anacreon, Ode* lvii. 1 Bring hither, Boy, a mighty Bowl. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* I. iii, And silence settled..On the lone wood and mighty hill. 1851 RUSKIN *Stones Ven.* (1874) I. xxviii. 327 A plain, deep-cut recess, with a single mighty shadow. 1895 SAFFLING *Land of Breads* 6 The older farmhouses, with their mighty kitchens.

3. Of things, actions, events, etc.: Very great in amount, extent or degree. In later use, chiefly colloquial or familiar.

1586 A. DAY *Eng. Secretary* I. (1625) 68 The..mutuall society betwixt man & wife being of such mighty efficacie. 1605 SHAKS. *Lear* III. v. 17 If the matter of this Paper be certain, you haue mighty businesse in hand. 1668 CULPEPPER & COLE *Barthol. Anat.* Man. II. i. 317 There is a mighty flux of blood. 1697 tr. *C'tess D'Aunoy's Trav.* (1706) 220 The difference of times makes a mighty alteration in the Events of things. 1754 FIELDING *Jonathan Wild* II. iv, That gentleman .. made such mighty expedition that he was now upwards of twenty miles on his way. 1843 BORROW *Bible in Spain* xi, Huge serpents..which sometimes come out and commit mighty damage. 1865 KINGSLEY *Herew.* i, Mighty fowling and fishing was there in the fen below. 1871 R. ELLIS tr. *Catullus* lxxxiii. 2 This to the fond weak fool seemeth a mighty delight.

b. With agent-nouns, etc.: That does or is to a very great degree (what is indicated by the noun).

1692 BULSTRODE in *15th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. II. 21 He was..a mighty Tory. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 466 ₱ 7, I, who set up for a mighty Lover..of Virtue. 1743 BULKELEY & CUMMINS *Voy. S. Seas* 81 This Plastow was a mighty Favourite with the Captain. 1843 BORROW *Bible in Spain* xxx, He is a mighty liberal.

4. quasi-*sb.* (with *pl.*). A mighty or powerful person. Chiefly *pl.*, as in (*David's*) *three mighties*.

1382 WYCLIF 1 *Chron.* xi. 12 Eliazar, the sone of his vncle Ahoites, that was among the thre myȝty [1388 miȝti men; 1611 the three mighties. Vulg. *inter tres potentes*]. *c* 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 300 Quhan thai saw that mighty [the king] sa mouit in his mude. 1600 W. WATSON *Decacordon* (1602) 200 Emperors and kings and the mighties of the world. 1606 W. CRASHAW *Rom. Forgeries* E ij, Our royall Dauid and many of his Mighties. 1647 TRAPP *Comm.* 1 *Cor.* i. 26 Hence so many mighties miscarry. 1901 'IAN MACLAREN' *Yng. Barbarians* iv, Speug's officers, such mighties as Bauldie and Johnston,..clustered round their commander.

5. ellipt. in the interjections *Mighty! Mighty me! Sc.* and *dial.*

1867 GREGOR *Banffs. Gloss., Michtie, interj.* expressive of surprise. *Michtie me* is another form. 1869 A. MACDONALD *Disput. Settlement* (1877) 61 (E.D.D.) Eh, mighty! that surely canna be. 1874 T. HARDY *Madding Crowd* xxxii, Mighty me! Won't mis'ess storm..when she comes back!

6. *Comb.*, parasynthetic, as *mighty-brained, -handed, -minded, -mouthed, -spirited* adjs.

1611 BEAUM. & FL. *Maid's Trag.* v. iii, Though he be mighty-spirited, and forward To all great things. 1855 LYNCH *Rivulet* lxxxii. iii, How came it, men of faith, to pass That ye were mighty-handed? 1864 TENNYSON *Milton* I O mighty-mouth'd inventor of harmonies. 1865 SWINBURNE *Atalanta* 1009, I am not mighty-minded, nor desire Crowns. 1892 W. WATSON *Lachrymæ Mus.* Poems (1898) 21 Mightiest-brained Lucretius.

B. *adv.* (Qualifying an adj. or adv., † *rarely* an adj. phrase.) In a great degree; greatly; exceedingly; very. Now *colloq.* or *familiar*, often with ironical implication; = 'vastly', 'precious'.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 14396 Þair blisced lauerd..þat..was.. Sa mighti meke, sa mild o mode. 1535 COVERDALE *Exod.* ix. 18 Tomorow..wyll I cause a mightie greate hayle to rayne. 1602 MARSTON *Antonio's Rev.* v. iii, He is mightie on our part. 1660 BARROW *Euclid* Pref. (1714) 2 The mighty near affinity that is between Arithmetick and Geometry. 1715 DE FOE *Fam. Instruct.* I. iv. (1841) I. 91 You are a mighty good obedient thing. 1767 GRAY in *Corr. G. & Nicholls* (1843) 70 To this purpose..would I write, and mighty respectfully withall. 1838 DICKENS *O. Twist* xlix, This is all mighty fine. 1844 KENDALL *Santa Fé Exped.* I. 32 'You'll be mighty apt to get wet', said a thoroughbred Texan. 1862 MRS. CARLYLE *Lett.* III. 105, I myself know always mighty well what I want. 1883 STEVENSON *Treas. Isl.* xxix, It..looks mighty like a horn-pipe in a rope's end at Execution Dock.

Mi·ghtyship. *nonce-wd.* [f. MIGHTY + -SHIP.] Only in the mock title *your mightyship*.

a 1726 ALSOP *Tale, To Chlorinda* xv. in Dodsley *Poems* (1755) VI. 248 Is it fit, let your mightysbip say..?

Mignature, obs. form of MINIATURE.

† **Migniard,** *a.* and *sb. Obs.* Also 7 mignard, miniard, *Sc.* minȝeard. [a. F. *mignard*; related to MIGNON.]

A. *adj.* Dainty; mincing; caressing.

1599 JAS. I Βασιλ. Δωρον III. (1603) 107 In the forme of your meat-eating, be neither vnciuill..nor affectatlie mignarde. *Ibid.* III. 115 In your language be plaine..eschewing .. all mignard and effœminate termes. 1611 COTGR., *Mignard*, migniard, prettie, quaint, neat, feat; wanton; daintie, delicate. 1616 B. JONSON *Devil an Ass* I. iv, Loue is brought vp with those soft *migniard* handlings. 1622 A. BYSSET in G. G. Smith *Middle Scots* (1902) 240 Neither have I vsed minȝeard nor effeminate, tanting, invectiue, or skornefull wordis. 1652 URQUHART *Jewel* Wks. (1834) 294 The milder sexe and miniard youth. 1653 — *Rabelais* I. lvii. (1664) 250 Never were seene Ladies so proper and handsome, so miniard and dainty.

Hence † **Migniardly** *adv.*, daintily.

1653 URQUHART *Rabelais* I. lvii. (1664) 249 Their fists miniardly begloved.

B. *sb.* [= OF. *mignarde*.] A courtesan, mistress.

1616 in *Crt. & Times Jas. I* (1849) I. 416 She says the honour..of his embassy consists in three mignards, three dancers, and three fools. 1652 KIRKMAN *Clerio & Lozia* 93 Idle Migniards, dinner hath waited for you till it is cold.

† **Migniardise.** *Obs.* Also mignardize, miniardise. [a. F. *mignardise*, f. *mignard*: see prec.] Caressing treatment; affected delicacy of behaviour or appearance.

1603 FLORIO *Montaigne* III. xiii. 636 The disdainfull churlishnesse wherewith they beate them, are but mignardizes and affectations of a motherly favour. 1625 B. JONSON *Staple of N.* III. i, Entertaine her, and her creatures, too, With all the migniardise, and quaint Caresses, You can put on 'hem. 1652 URQUHART *Jewel* Wks. (1834) 233 The gracefulness of his hand and foot, with the quaint miniardise of the rest of his body. 1689 H. BEESTON in *Vota Oxoniensia*, No.. Patches and spots, No Migniardize of face at all From Spanish paper or from English gall.

† **Migniardize,** *v. Obs.* Also 7 miniardize. [f. MIGNARD + -IZE.] *trans.* To make (language) affected in character; to treat (a person) caressingly. Hence **Migniardized** *ppl. a.*, **Migniardizing** *vbl. sb.*

1598 FLORIO, *Vezzo*, a wantonnes, a quaintnes, a squeamishnes, a dandling, a dalliance, a wantonizing, a mignardizing, a pampring [etc.]. *c* 1645 HOWELL. *Lett.* (1655) IV. xix. 49 Softnes of pronunciation proceeding from wanton spirits that did miniardize, and make the Language more dainty and feminine. *a* 1670 HACKET *Abp. Williams* I. (1693) 95 Men that are sound in their Morals, and in Minutes imperfect in their Intellectuals, are best reclaimed when they are migniarized [*sic*], and strok'd gently.

Mignion, obs. variant of MINION.

‖ **Mignon** (mi·nyŏn), *a.* Also (with fem. reference) 6 mignone, 7–9 mignonne; and see MINION *a.* [F. *mignon*, *-onne* adj. and sb.]

A. *adj.* Delicately formed; prettily small or delicate.

1556 *Aurelio & Isab.* (1608) Lvj, My mignone Isabel. [1668 DRYDEN *Evening's Love* VI, That sigh too, I think, is not altogether disagreeable; but something *charmante* and *mignonne*.] 1772 MRS. SARAH SCOTT *Test Filial Duty* II. 59 Salvator Rosa's wildest designs are mignonne and finical to some places in this neighbourhood. 1859 G. MEREDITH *R. Feverel* xxxvii, A mignonne beauty. 1873 PATER *Stud. Hist. Renaiss.* 42 Bright small creatures of the woodland, with arch baby faces and mignon forms. 1886 MARIE CORELLI *Rom. two Worlds* I, Her pretty mignonne face and graceful figure.

B. *sb.* A pretty child.

1827 *Souvenir* I. 71/2 (Stanf.) Little mignons, not three feet high, were there, arrayed like puppets.

Hence † **Mi·gnon** *v. trans.*, to treat tenderly; † **Mi·gnonness,** over-delicacy, effeminacy.

1530 PALSGR. 245/1 Mignyonnesse, *mignotise*. 1597 DANIEL *Philotas* Apol., Wks. (Grosart) III. 183 For though the affection of the multitude, (whom he did not mignion).. discerned not his ends..: Yet [etc.].

Mignon: see MINION *sb.*

Mignonette (mi·nyəne·t). Also 8 mign(i)onet, minionette, mennuet, minianet, 8–9 mignionette. [a. F. *mignonnette*, fem. of † *mignonnet*, dim. of *mignon*: see MIGNON *a.*]

1. A plant (*Reseda odorata*) cultivated for the fragrance of its blossoms.

When trained to grow with a bushy head it is known as *tree-mignonette*. *Wild mignonette*, the plant *R. luteola*.

The ordinary Fr. name for mignonette is *réséda*; but Littré says that *mignonnette* is applied to this plant as well as to several others.

[1752 MILLER *Gard. Dict.* (1759) s.v. *Reseda*, 6. *Reseda foliis integris trilobisque*. .. Bastard-rocket .. commonly called sweet *Reseda*, or *Mignonette d'Egypt*.] 1798 C. MARSHALL *Garden.* xix. 333 Hardy Annuals...Mignonette, (trailing) or sweet-scented resedn. 1799 SIR H. DAVY in Beddoes *Contrib. Phys. & Med. Knowl.* 154 A small plant of Minianet in a state of healthy vegetation. 1817 *Bot. Register* III. 227 *Reseda odorata. β. suffrutescens.* Tree-Mignonette. 1820 *Trans. Horticult. Soc.* III. 178 With Lord Bateman [who sent the seed from France in 1742] the appellation of Mignonette originated;..he gave to it this name of endearment, by which it is not known in France. 1832 TENNYSON *Miller's Dau.* xi, A long green box of mignonette. 1861 MISS E. A. BEAUFORT *Egypt. Sepulchres*, etc. II. xix. 116 The ground is strewed with wild mignonnette. *fig.* 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* Prol. 164 They..miss'd the mignonette of Vivian-place, The little hearth-flower Lilia.

b. *Jamaica mignonette*: the name given in the West Indies to the henna plant, *Lawsonia alba* or *inermis*, which is naturalized there.

1866 *Treas. Bot.* 665/2.

c. A colour resembling that of the flowers of mignonette; greyish green or greenish white.

1885 *Daily News* 19 Feb. 2/1 The soft tints of greyish green known as 'mignonette' are to be in great favour this year. 1899 B. W. WARHURST *Colour Dict.* 47 Mignonette. Should be delicate light green.

2. A kind of lace: see quots. 1865, 1900. (More fully *mignonette lace.*) Also, a fine kind of net.

[1699 *Le Mercure Galant* in Mrs. Palliser *Hist. Lace* (1865) 31 *note*, On employe aussi pour les coëffures de la

mignonette, et on a tellement perfectionné cette dentelle, que, etc.] 1757 JEFFREY *Coll. Dresses* ii, A pink lutestring dress covered with a white mignonet. 1762 *Lond. Chron.* 16–18 Feb. 167/3 The Ranelagh Mob...This is a piece of Ganze, Minionett,..&c., &c. which is clouted about the head. 1771 SMOLLETT *Humph. Cl.* 13 July, Laces of Mechlin or mignionette. 1865 MRS. PALLISER *Lace* 30 The laces known at that period [1665] were—..5. Mignonette.—A light, fine, pillow lace... This lace was..at times in high favour..for head-dresses and other trimmings. 1900 MRS. F. N. JACKSON *Hand-made Lace* 182 Mignonette was a narrow lace, never exceeding two or three inches... Mignonette pattern is still largely made.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *mignonette-coloured* adj., *mignonette-green*, *-grey* (see 1 c), *mignonette-pot*; **mignonette netting** (see quot.); **mignonette pepper**, coarsely ground pepper; **mignonette-vine** (see quot.).

1897 *Daily News* 2 Mar. 5/4 *Mignonette-coloured crêpe de Chine. 1888 *Lady* 25 Oct. 374/3 Alternate bows or loops of *mignonette-green and pale salmon-coloured ribbon. 1900 *Daily News* 3 Mar. 6/5 Tones of..cigar-brown, and *mignonette-grey are in great favour. 1882 CAULFEILD & SAWARD *Dict. Needlework* 361/2, *Mignonette Netting.—This is used for curtains and window blinds, it being extremely easy, and worked with one Mesh. 1877 *Cassell's Dict. Cookery* 1177 *Mignonette Pepper. 1840 THACKERAY *Pict. Rhapsody* Wks. 1900 XIII. 331 The *mignonette pots in a Cockney's window. 1896 T. W. SANDERS *Encycl. Gard.* (ed. 2), *Madaria* (*Mignonette Vine).—*Ord.* Compositæ. Hardy Annual. *Nat.* California...*Flowers*, yellow.

† **Mignote.** *Obs. rare*⁻¹. [a. OF. *mignote* fem. of *mignot* wanton, cogn. w. *mignon*: see MIGNON, MINION.] A wanton woman.

1489 CAXTON *Faytes of A.* I. vii, Ne that he be not curyous of mygnotes, Jolyetes, ne of iewellis.

‖ **Migraine** (mi·grɛn). [F. *migraine*: see MEGRIM.] = MEGRIM ¹ 1, HEMICRANIA.

1777 H. WALPOLE *Lett.* (1857) VI. 444 Madame de Jarnac had a *migraine*. 1837 B'NESS BUNSEN in Hare *Life* I. x. 446, I am obliged to take to my bed by an unusual degree of migraine. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 107 Ophthalmic migraine—that is paroxysmal pain in the eye or temple.

Migrainous (migrē·nəs), *a.* [f. MIGRAINE + -OUS.] Pertaining to or of the nature of migraine.

1889 *Lancet* 30 Mar. 640/2 All the various forms of headache—dyspeptic, migrainous, .. and so on. 1897 *Trans. Amer. Pediatric Soc.* IX. 123 Migrainous epilepsy. [So called] because it commonly occurs in patients who have suffered from migraine.

Migram, obs. form of MEGRIM ¹.

c 1450 in *Vicary's Anat.* (1888) App. ix. 230 Warke in þe swldyrs & migram in þe heue[de].

Migrant (mə·grănt), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. L. *migrant-em*, pr. pple. of *migrāre* to MIGRATE.]

A. *adj.* Migrating; given to migration.

a. of animals; *spec.* of birds.

1672 SIR T. BROWNE *Let. Friend* § 4 Passager and migrant birds..whom no seas nor places limit. 1768 PENNANT *Zool.* II. 278 They [Grosbeaks] visit us only in hard winters, and are not regularly migrant. 1842 *P. Parley's Ann.* III. 306 The usual watering-places of the migrant animals. 1876 MRS. WHITNEY *Sights & Ins.* II. xxxvi. 651 Do you wonder we felt ourselves more like happy migrant birds than ever?

b. of persons, a tribe.

1807 J. BARLOW *Columb.* II. 178 And migrant tribes these fruitful shorelands hail. 1899 B. KING *Ital. Unity* I. 84 Migrant labourers came in gangs from the hills in harvest-time.

B. *sb.* One who or something which migrates.

a. A migratory animal; *spec.* a bird of passage.

1768 PENNANT *Zool.* II. 511 The migrants of this genus continue longest in Great-Britain in the southern counties. 1876 A. R. WALLACE *Geog. Distrib. Anim.* I. 1. i. 20 The chaffinch is a constant resident in England..; but a migrant in the south of France.

b. A person who migrates; *rarely* † a traveller.

1760 FOOTE *Minor* Ded., Wks. 1799 I. 225 The unhappy migrants may be..at least hospitably entertained. 1864 R. A. ARNOLD *Cotton Fam.* 383 To facilitate migration from the cotton districts, and to direct the migrants to the best markets for their labour.

Migrate (məi·grēⁱt), *v.* [f. L. *migrāt-*, ppl. stem of *migrāre*.]

1. *intr.* To pass from one place to another. Also *trans.* in *pass.* To be transported.

1697 POTTER *Antiq. Greece* II. x. (1715) 292 A blow..dissever'd the Sutures of his Skull, thro' which his Soul migrated. 1768–74 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) I. 386 If one of us were migrated into their enormous hulks. 1784 COWPER *Task* II. 108 The sylvan scene Migrates uplifted,..Alighting in far distant fields [Sicilian earthquake].

2. *intr.* Of persons, a tribe, etc.: To move from one place of abode to another; *esp.* to leave one's country to settle in another; to remove *to* another country, town, college, etc. Also *transf.*

1770 LANGHORNE (Worc.), The Tuscans were a branch of the Pelasgi that migrated into Europe. 1784 JOHNSON *Let. to Ld. High Chancellor* Sept. in *Boswell*, If I grew much better, I should not be willing, if much worse, not able, to migrate. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* iii. I. 356 Almost all the noble families of England had long migrated beyond the walls. 1862 SIR B. BRODIE *Psychol. Inq.* II. iv. 117 The agricultural labourer is tempted..to migrate to a manufacturing town. 1882 L. CAMPBELL *Clerk Maxwell* vi. 147 The advice which was pressed upon him..that he should migrate to Trinity.

b. *Nat. Hist.* Of animals: To go from one region or habitat to another; *spec.* of some birds and fishes, to come and go regularly with the seasons (see MIGRATION).

1753 [cf. MIGRATING *ppl. a.*]. 1768 PENNANT *Zool.* I. 121 This kind of eagle sometimes migrates into Caernarvonshire. *Ibid.* 225 The birds [Fieldfares] that migrate here come from Norway. 1808–14 A. WILSON *Amer. Ornith.* II. 112 They [robins] not only migrate from north to south, but from east to west, to avoid the deep snows. 1889 A. R. WALLACE *Darwinism* 27 Of those [birds] which migrate in autumn a considerable proportion are probably lost at sea.

3. *Histol.* Of a cell: To move out of the blood-vessels into the tissues. (Cf. MIGRATORY *a.* 1 c.)

1896 [see MIGRATED *ppl. a.*].

Hence **Migrated** *ppl. a.*; **Migrating** *vbl. sb.*

1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* II. 72 Migrated Europeans from every part of Europe. 1831 TRELAWNY *Adv. Younger Son* III. 198 A migrated settler. 1884 W. J. LINTON *Poems & Transl.* (1889) 182 Knows He not, stork! the hour thy migratings begin? 1885 *Riverside Nat. Hist.* (1888) IV. 18 Diagram showing the main migrating routes of the littoral..birds of Europe. *Ibid.* 20 The origin of the migrating habit. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 88 A large collection of migrated leucocytes.

Mi·grating, *ppl. a.* [f. MIGRATE *v.* + -ING ².] That migrates, in the senses of the verb.

1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.*, Migrating-Birds. *Ibid.*, *Migrating-Bog.*—These soft masses of earth have been sometimes known to move out of their place. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1824) III. 70 Of all migrating fish, the Herring and the Pilchard take the most adventurous voyages. 1788 PRIESTLEY *Lect. Hist.* v. xliv. 329 The whole body of the migrating people. 1893 NEWTON *Dict. Birds* 572 These noises proceed from migrating birds.

Migration (məigrēⁱ·ʃən). [ad. L. *migrātiōn-em*, n. of action f. *migrāre* to MIGRATE.] The action of moving from one place to another; also, an instance of this. **a.** *gen.* chiefly of things.

1611 COTGR., *Migration*, a migration, a remouing, or shifting of places. 1650 HOBBES *De Corp. Pol.* 133 The Tenets of Aristotle..concerning Substance and Accidents, Species, Hypostasis, and the Subsistence and Migration of Accidents from place to place. 1695 WOODWARD *Nat. Hist. Earth* I. 45 Although such Alterations,..Transitions, and Migrations of the Centre of Gravity:..have actually happened, yet [etc.]. 1727–52 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v., The migration of the souls of men into other animals after death. 1871 BLACKIE *Four Phases* I. 154 To pray to the gods, that our migration hence may take place with good omens. 1873 T. H. GREEN *Introd. Pathol.* (ed. 2) 100 The migration or transmission of elements from some primary growth, which..constitute the centres of secondary formations. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 373 There is a change and migration of the soul from this world to another.

b. *esp.* of persons, a tribe: The action of moving from one country, locality, etc., to settle in another; also, simply, removal from one place of residence to another.

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* VI. vi. 302 The first man ranged farre before the Flood, and laid his bones many miles from that place, where its presumed he received them: And this migration was the greater, if..he was cast out of the East-side of Paradise. 1766 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* II. 17 The right of migration, or sending colonies to find out new habitations. 1766 GOLDSM. *Vic. W.* i, All our adventures were by the fireside, and all our migrations from the blue bed to the brown. 1817 MOORE *Lalla R.* (1824) 290 A favourite resting place of the Emperors in their annual migrations to Cashmire. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* i. I. 10 In the ninth century, began the last great migration of the northern barbarians. 1891 S. C. SCRIVENER *Our Fields & Cities* 49 The poverty of the majority is the cause of the continual migration to London.

c. *Nat. Hist.* Of animals: The action of moving in flocks, shoals, etc. from one region or habitat to another; *spec.* of some birds and fishes, the periodical departure from and return to a region at a particular season of the year. *Bathic migration* (see quot. 1877). *Equatorial migration*, ordinary meridional migration from or towards the equator.

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* IV. xiii. 223 By this way Aristotle through all his bookes of Animals, distinguisheth their times of generation, Latitancy, migration, sanity and venation. 1704 RAY *Creation* (ed. 4) 149 The migration of Birds..according to the Seasons. *Ibid.*, The migration of divers sorts of Fishes. As for example; The Salmon. *Ibid.* 366 They [frogs travelling across dry land] had lived (till that time of their migration) in the Waters. 1830 LYELL *Princ. Geol.* (1875) II. II. xxxviii. 339 The former wide range of these quadrupeds implies a migration of Old World Forms into the new World. 1876 A. R. WALLACE *Geog. Distrib. Anim.* I. 1. ii. 18 The term 'migration' is often applied to the periodical or irregular movements of all animals; but it may be questioned whether there are any regular migrants but birds and fishes. 1877 G. B. GOODE *Menhaden* 51 (U. S. Fish Comm. Rep.), The former may be called equatorial, the latter [*i. e.* changing to waters of less or greater depth] bathic migration. 1880 GÜNTHER *Fishes* 648 Comparatively few are subject to periodical migrations to the sea, like *Salmo*.

d. Of a bodily organ: Alteration of position whether from normal or pathological causes.

1890 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

¶ The alleged sense 'Residence in a foreign country; banishment' given in some recent Dicts. is fictitious. The word in the authority cited is a misreading of a later edition for 'extermination'.

e. *attrib.* and *Comb.* (sense **c**), as *migration-route*; **migration-station**, a fixed place for the regular observation of the migration of birds.

1893 NEWTON *Dict. Birds* 561 Every species on Migration goes its own way, and what is called a *Migration-route is only the coincidence of the way taken by more or fewer of them. 1884 *Science* 17 Oct. 374/2 *Migration-stations now exist in every state and territory of the Union, excepting Delaware and Nevada.

Migrational (məigrēⁱ·ʃənal), *a.* [f. prec. + -AL.] Of or pertaining to migration or movement to another place.

1888 J. T. GULICK in *Linn. Soc. Jrnl.* XX. (*Zool.*) 223 In the case of plants and low types of animal life, the suitable situation is reached by a wide distribution of a vast number of seeds, spores, or germs, and the same situation is maintained by a loss of migrational power as soon as the germs begin to develop.

Migrationist (məigrēⁱ·ʃənist). *rare.* [Formed as prec. + -IST.] An individual that participates in a migration.

1887 GOMME in *Jrnl. Anthrop. Inst.* XVII. 130 The descendants of previous ages of migrationists.

Migrative (məi·grətiv), *a.* [Formed as prec. + -IVE.] Given to migration; migratory.

1831 J. RENNIE *Montagu's Ornith. Dict.* 322 The migrative species. *Ibid.* 534 It is a migrative bird, visiting our coasts in August. 1863 CARLYLE in *Mrs. Carlyle's Lett.* (1883) III. 181, I was as if stupefied more or less, and flying on like those migrative swallows of Professor Owen, after my strength was done.

Migrator (məigrēⁱ·təɹ). [a. L. *migrātor*, f. *migrāre*: see MIGRATE.] One who migrates; also *spec.* a migratory bird.

1818 SHELLEY *Let. to Peacock* 25 July, It would be a little dangerous to the newly unfrozen senses and imaginations of us migrators from the neighbourhood of the pole. 1836 SWAINSON *Nat. Hist. Birds* I. 1. iii. 97 The swallows..are ..both the swiftest and the most distant migrators. 1852 BAISTED *Five Yrs. Eng. Univ.* 100 A migration is generally tantamount to a confession of inferiority, and acknowledgment that the migrator is not likely to become a Fellow of his own College. 1889 R. B. ANDERSON tr. *Rydberg's Teut. Mythol.* 31 Everywhere this great multitude of migrators was well received by the inhabitants.

Migratorial (məi·grătō·riăl), *a. rare.* [f. MIGRATORY + -AL.] Of or pertaining to migration; migratory.

1865 *Daily Tel.* 28 July, Among their migratorial visitors are quails, landrels, and wrynecks. 1876 SMILES *Sc. Nat.* xi. (ed. 4) 209 Those [locusts] here alluded to are..the best known from their migratorial flights.

Migratory (məi·grătəri), *a.* and *sb.* [f. L. *migrāt-*, ppl. stem of *migrāre* to MIGRATE.]

1. Characterized by migration; given to migrating.

1755 JOHNSON, *Horde*, a clan; a migratory crew of people. 1815 ELPHINSTONE *Acc. Caubul* (1842) II. 79 The .. migratory tribes to the west of the pass of Gholairee. 1839 YEOWELL *Anc. Brit. Ch.* xi. (1847) 116 The migratory nature of the primacy seems to have weakened its stability. 1878 WOLSELEY in *19th Cent.* Mar. 449 Our population is so migratory that recruits are seldom enlisted in the parishes they were born in. 1879 FROUDE *Cæsar* v. 41 A vast migratory wave of population had been set in motion behind the Rhine and Danube.

b. Of animals; *spec.* in *Nat. Hist.*: Characterized by or given to periodical migration. Sometimes as a rendering of a mod.L. specific name, as in *Migratory Locust*, *Pigeon*.

[*a* 1672 WILLUGHBY *Ornithol.* I. ix. (1676) 17 Avium..quæ statis anni temporibus advolant iterumque discedunt, migratoriæ dictæ. (RAY translates: Which we call Birds of passage.)] 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* s. v. *Bird*, Migratory Birds, the same with birds of passage. 1793 tr. *Buffon's Birds* VI. 489 [Swallows.] Some are there permanent settlers and others migratory. 1808–14 A. WILSON *Amer. Ornith.* II. 293 *Columba migratoria*, Linnæus and Wilson. Migratory Pigeon...The wild pigeon of the United States. 1835 W. IRVING *Tour Prairies* 206 We were on the great highway of these migratory herds. 1839 T. C. HOFLAND *Brit. Angler's Man.* iv. (1841) 107 It [the grayling] is very migratory, and frequently leaves one part of the river for another. 1875 NICHOLSON *Man. Zool.* (ed. 4) 290 The Migratory Locust (*Acrydium migratorium*) of Africa and Southern Asia. 1876 A. R. WALLACE *Geog. Distrib. Anim.* I. 1. i. 20 The same species is often sedentary in one part of Europe and migratory in another.

c. Of a bodily organ, a disease, etc.: Characterized by movement from its normal position; esp. in *Histol.* of a cell: Given to migration from the blood-vessels to the tissues.

1876 QUAIN *Anat.* (ed. 6) II. 12 The pale blood-corpuscles may some of them make their way out of the blood-vessels and move freely in the surrounding tissues: hence the term 'migratory cells' (*Wanderzellen*) applied to them. 1877 tr. *H. von Ziemssen's Cycl. Med.* XV. 763 The Movable (Migratory) Kidney. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 13 One of the most characteristic features of the disease [Acute Rheumatism] is the migratory nature of the joint affection.

2. Of or pertaining to migration.

1757 BURKE *Abridgem. Eng. Hist.* Wks. X. 274 This purpose [intermixture of mankind] is sometimes carried on by a sort of migratory instinct, sometimes by the spirit of conquest. 1839 SELBY in *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* I. No. 7. 190 The wild-fowl began to..yield to that influence which directs their migratory movements. 1856 KANE *Arct. Expl.* I. viii. 80 The migratory passages of the reindeer.

B. *sb.* A migratory bird. *rare.*

1898 G. MEREDITH *Odes Fr. Hist.* 27 Winged migratories, having but heaven for home.

Migrym, obs. form of MEGRIM ¹.

Mihel, Mihel(e)mas(se, obs. ff. MICHAEL, MICHAELMAS.

Miht(e, obs. forms of MIGHT *sb.*

Miin, mijn, obs. forms of MINE *poss. pron.*

‖ **Mikado** (mikā·*do*). Also 8–9 **Mikaddo.** [Japanese *mi* august + *kado* door: for the

sense cf. 'Sublime Porte'.] The title of the emperor of Japan.

It was usual for European writers to describe the Mikado as a 'spiritual' emperor, and the Shogun (who was the *de facto* ruler until 1867) as a second or 'temporal' emperor.

1727 SCHEUCHZER tr. *Kæmpfer's Japan* III. ii. I. 211 In Spiritual Affairs, they are under the absolute jurisdiction of the Mikaddo. *Ibid.* 212 The Secular Monarch professes the religion of his forefathers, and pays his respect and duty once a year to the Mikaddo. 1845 *Encycl. Metrop.* XX. 476/1 Their Spiritual ruler is the *Mikado, i.e.* Sublime Porte, a term commonly used to express the Dairi himself as well as his Court. 1875 W. E. GRIFFIS in *N. Amer. Rev.* CXX. 282 The restoration of the mikado, or true emperor [of Japan] to his ancient and rightful supreme power. 1890 B. H. CHAMBERLAIN *Things Japanese* 155 Japan.., though ..avowedly ruled by the Shōguns from A. D. 1190 to 1867, always retained the Mikado as theoretical head of the state.

Hence **Mika·doate,** the office of Mikado.

1899 F. V. DICKINS in *Eng. Hist. Rev.* Apr. 229 The mikadoate of old Japan entered upon its final stage.

† **Mike,** *sb.*[1] *Obs. rare.* Forms: 3 mik, 4–5 myke. ? A friend.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 2807 'Has þou her', þai said, 'ani man, Sun or doghter, mik or mau to be langand'. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 572 For mony ben calle[d] þa3 fewe be mykez. *c* 1470 HARDING *Chron.* LXXII. iv, He made.. Hymselfe like Brethel in all semblaunce That [then was] the dukes preuy myke.

† **Mike,** *sb.*[2] [? a. MDn. *micke* (mod.Du. *mik*): cf. MECK, MICHE *sb.*[2]] ? A 'crutch' or forked support on which a boom rests when lowered.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 417 Hit waltered on þe wylde flod,..With-outen mast, oþer myke, oþer myry bawelyne.

Mike (məik), *sb.*[3] *slang.* [Belongs to MIKE *v.*] In phr. *To do* or *have a mike,* to idle away one's time (see quots.).

1825 EGAN *Life Actor* 28 The performances of the last night at the theatre are often discussed over a *mike* at the fireside the next morning respecting the abilities of the actors. *Foot-n., Mike* or *Shammock.* Technical or cant phrases amongst printers. To have a *mike* is to loiter away the time, when it might be more usefully or profitably employed. 1890 BARRÈRE & LELAND *Dict. Slang* s. v., *Mike* (tailors), to do a *mike,* to pretend to be working or hang about.

Mike (məik), *sb.*[4] *slang.* [Shortened from *Michael.*] = MICK.

1874 *Hotten's Slang Dict., Mike,* an Irish hodman, or general labourer.

Mike (məik), *v. slang.* [Of obscure origin: cf. MICHE *v.*] *intr.* To 'hang about', doing nothing or waiting for a job.

1859 *Hotten's Slang Dict., Mike,* to loiter; or as a costermonger defined it, to 'lazy about'. 1887 W. E. HENLEY *Villon's Gd. Nt.* 3 You spunges miking round the pubs.

Mike, -lik, -ness, obs. ff. MEEK, -LY, -NESS.

Mikel(l, mikil(le, mikle, obs. ff. MICKLE.

Mikrom, -on, variant forms of MICROM, MICRON.

Mikul, obs. form of MICKLE.

Mil (mil). Also 8 mill. [ad. L. *mille* thousand. In senses 2 and 3 short for L. *millēsimum* thousandth, on the analogy of CENT 2, 3.]

1. *Per mil*: per thousand. (Cf. *per cent.*)

1721 C. KING *Brit. Merch.* I. 294 Ox-bones | 30400 | o. 6. 8 per Mill | 10. 2. 8. 1753 HANWAY *Trav.* (1762) I. VII. LXXXVIII. 407 Koeninsburg draws in current money, 1 per mil, according to custom, being deducted.

2. A proposed coin of the value of the thousandth part of a pound sterling. See also MILL *sb.*[5] b.

1854 HUMPHREYS *Coin. Brit. Emp.* 149 It is proposed that the smallest coin, one thousand to the pound, shall be called a *mil.* 1875 JEVONS *Money* xiv. 176 The two principal schemes [of decimalization]..are the Pound and Mil scheme, and the Penny and Ten-franc scheme.

3. A unit of length used in measuring the diameter of wire, $=\frac{1}{1000}$ of an inch. **Circular mil,** a unit of area for measuring cross-sections of wires, tubes, and rods, being the area of a circle whose diameter is one mil.

1891 L. CLARK *Dict. Metric Meas.*

4. Used in *Pharmacy* for MILLILITRE.

Proposed (together with *decimil* for ·0001 litre, and *centimil* for ·00001 litre) by Mr. J. Humphreys in 1904. The three terms were authorized by the Board of Trade in 1905.

‖ **Milady** (mile·di). Also miladi. [F. *milady*: cf. MILORD.] A continental rendering of 'my lady', used as an appellation in speaking to or of an English noblewoman or great lady.

1839 JAMES *Gentl. Old School* xii, 'I did not wish to listen to your conversation, miladi', interrupted Philippina. 1873 E. FITZGERALD *Lett.* (1889) I. 361 What do you and Miladi think of these two Lines of his which returned to me the other day? 1886 *Boston* (Mass.) *Jrnl.* 13 Aug. 2/3 In the outfit of the full-dressed dog of the English milady.

Milage, variant of MILEAGE.

Milan[1] (mi·lăn). Forms: 5 Melayne, -eyn, Mylleyn, 5–6 Mil(l)ayn(e, 6 Myllain, Myll-, Millan, -en, -in, -on, Myllane, Melane, Mul(l)ane, Mil(l)ion, Millian, 6–7 Millane, Millain(e, 6– Milan. [ad. It. *Milano.*] The name of the chief city of Lombardy; used *attrib.* to designate certain of its manufactures, chiefly textile fabrics and steel-work, as † *Milan bonnel,* † *fustian,* † *gloves, lace,* † *sleeves*; † Milan needle, a sail-needle; Milan point (see quot. 1882); Milan steel (*Hist.*), steel used by the armourers of Milan in the manufacture of coats-of-mail, swords, etc. (so *Milan hauberk, knife, mail*).

[1431 *Test. Ebor.* II. 13 Unam loricam de Milan.] 1495 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 276, vjC. mylleyn nedylles ..spent abought reparacion & amendyng of the seyd Sayles. 1503 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* (1900) II. 234 Item for thre elne Melane fustiane. 1507 *Ibid.* (1902) IV. 15 Five Melane bonetis. 1530 in *Form of Cury* (1780) 167 A pair of Myllen Sleves of white sattin. 1532 *Proclam.* 18 Aug. in *Chron. Calais* (Camden) 116 To apparell there servauntes in..red Myllen bonnettes. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) I. 235 The Millane mel3eis mendit nocht ane myte, The brandis bricht sa bitterlie did byte. 1545 *Rates Custome Ho.* b viij, Millin gloues or canary the groce, xxvi.*s.* viii.*d.* 1588 in *Anc. Invent.* (Halliw. 1854) 126 A quilte..lyned with Million fustian. 1601 J. WHEELER *Treat. Comm.* 23 Milan Fustians. 16.. *K. Arth. & K. Cornw.* 168 in *Percy Fol. MS.* I. 68 He sayes, 'Collen brand Ile haue in my hand, And a Millaine knife fast by my knee.' 1622 MABBE tr. *Aleman's Guzm. d'Alf.* I. 158 A Buffe Ierkin, laid on with a costly Milane-Lace. 1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* xi, Canst thou take up a fallen link in my Milan hauberk? 1882 CAULFEILD & SAWARD *Dict. Needlework* s. v. *Milan Point,* The Milan Points.. were fine hand made laces similar to the Spanish and Venetian Points.

† b. Short for *Milan steel. Obs.*

1464 *Mann. & Househ. Exp.* (Roxb.) 194 A stondard of mayll..and a salat wyth a vesere of meleyn. 15.. *Chevy Chase* 65 (Ashmole MS.), With swordes that wear of fyn myllan. 16.. *Eger & Grine* 169 in *Percy Fol. MS.* I. 359 My Habergion that was of Millaine fine.

† **Milan**[2]. *Obs. rare.* In 5 myl(l)an, 6 myllaine. [a. F. *milan.*] A kite.

c 1484 CAXTON *Fables of Æsop* I. iv. (1889) 8 The myllan. *Ibid.* II. ii. 34 The kyte or mylan. 1575 TURBERV. *Falconrie* 124 The Myllaine and the Lanerette.

Milaner, -ery, obs. ff. MILLINER, MILLINERY.

Milanese (milănī·z), *a.* and *sb.* Forms: 5 mylannoys, 8 Milaneze, 8– Milanese. [ad. It. *Milanese*: see -ESE.] **A.** *adj.* Of or pertaining to Milan, its inhabitants, manufactures, etc. Milanese lace (see quot. 1882).

1756–7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) I. 384 The freedom and liberality of the Milanese ladies. 1866 G. MEREDITH *Vittoria* xxix, A printed song in the Milanese dialect. 1882 CAULFEILD & SAWARD *Dict. Needlework, Milanese Lace.*— This is made in the Philippine Isles, with Manilla grass. The work is a combination of Drawn Work and open Embroidery, and has not much the appearance of lace. 1896 HENTY *Knt. White Cross* xvii. 269 A superb suit of Milanese armour.

B. *absol.* or as *sb.*

1. A native or an inhabitant of Milan.

Unchanged for pl.: cf. *Chinese, Maltese.* In 6 † *Milanesis.*

1484 CAXTON *Fables of Poge* iv. (1889) 297 A mylannoys named Paulus. 1582 N. LICHEFIELD tr. *Castanheda's Cong. E. Ind.* I. liv. 116 b, With them went two Milanesis, which were Lapidaries. *a* 1715 BURNET *Own Time* VI. (1734) II. 177 That the Milaneze should have a neutrality granted them. 1886 RUSKIN *Præterita* I. vi. 200 To drive to the Corso, where at that time the higher Milanese were happy and proud as ours in their park.

2. *The Milanese*: the territory of the old duchy of Milan.

a 1715 BURNET *Own Time* VII. (1734) II. 354 If the King of France..became Master of the Milaneze. 1769 ROBERTSON *Chas. V*, II. Wks. 1851 III. 483 Seizing by surprise, or force, several places in the Milanese. 1841 W. SPALDING *Italy & It. Isl.* III. 44 The allies overran the Milanese and Piedmont.

Milboard, obs. form of MILLBOARD.

† **Milce,** *sb. Obs.* Forms: 1 milds, 1–2 milts, 2–3 mildce, 2–4 milce, 3 millce (*Orm.*), milze, milzce, mildze, milche, 3–4 milse, mulce, 4 mylse. [OE. *milds, milts* fem.:— OTeut. type **mildisjō*, f. **mildjo-* MILD *a.*: cf. BLISS *sb.* The *z* of early ME. forms = *ts.*]

1. Mercy, clemency, forbearance, favour. Often coupled with *ore, grace,* or *mercy.* Also *pl.* mercies.

Beowulf 2921 (Gr.) Us wæs a syððan Merewioinga milts unzyfeðe. *c* 825 *Vesp. Psalter* xxiv. 6 gemyne mildsa ðinra dryhten. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 119 Bidde we nu þe holigost þat he haue milce of us. *c* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 81 After ðine manifealde mildces ðe ðu hafst ihafd to mannkenne, do awei fram me ðese michele unrihtwisnesse. *c* 1205 LAY. 21889 We 3eorneð þine milzce. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1083 Ic hadde of hire Milce [*MS. Cott.* milse] & ore. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3603 Louerd,..Merci 3et for ðin milde mod! Or ðu ðis folc wið milche moð [*read* loc] Or do min name ut of ðin boc. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 775 He..hopede vor to finde of hire betere mulce & grace. *a* 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* xviii. 58 Tharefore y bidde thin mylse ant ore, Merci, lord, ynnl na more! *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 667 (Kölbing), Hou Jesu of a maide þurch his milce was ybore.

2. Comb.: *milce-hearted* adj. [cf. OE. *milts-heort*]; milce-witter *a.*, knowing mercy.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2903 Ne taȝte ic hem noȝt..Min miȝtful name adonay; Min milche witter name eley He knewen wel, and ely. *a* 1300 [see MILCER].

† **Milce,** *v. Obs.* Forms: 1 mildsian, 1–2 mil(t)sian, 2 milcian, -en, 3 millcenn (*Orm.*), milse, mylce, milce. [OE. *mildsian*:—OTeut. type **mildisōjan*, f. **mildjo-* MILD- *a.*] *trans.* To have mercy on, or show mercy to (a person); to be kind, compassionate, or gracious to. Also *absol.* Hence Milciende *ppl. a.*, merciful.

c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* l. 1 *Miserere mei,* mildsa min. *c* 888 K. ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxxviii. § 7 Nis nan riht þæt mon þone yflan hatize, ac hit is rihtre þæt him mon miltsize. *a* 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 235 Maȝie wiman forȝeten his oȝe cild þat hi ne milsi hire barn of hire oȝen innoð. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 11 Muchel is us þenne neod..þet we 3erne bidden ure milciende drihten þet [etc.]. *c* 1275 LAY. 16784 For þe loue of God al-mihti milce me and mine cnihtes. *c* 1275 *Duty of Christians* 18 in *O. E. Misc.* 141 Iblessed beo such eþeling vs mylce þat he wolde. *a* 1300 *E. E. Psalter* cxiv. 5 (Horstm.) And oure god milse sal.

† **Mi·lceful,** *a. Obs.* [f. MILCE *sb.* + -FUL.] Merciful, gracious. Hence † **Mi·lcefulness.**

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 30 Milcefule Louerd. *Ibid.* 264 Milsfule. *a* 1225 *Juliana* 52 (Roy. MS.), Ne beoð cristene men.. merciable ant milzful. *c* 1320 *Cast. Love* 543 Þou art, Fader, so milsful kyng. *c* 1330 W. HERBERT *Antiphones* in *Rel. Ant.* I. 88 The mylde gode sped in rithfolnesse, To sunfole men sheu mylsfolnesse.

† **Mi·lcer.** *Obs. rare*—[1]. [f. MILCE *v.* + -ER [1].] One who shows mercy or pities.

a 1300 *E. E. Psalter* cxliv. 8 (MS. Egerton), Milzer & milzeherted [L. *miserator et misericors*].

† **Milch,** *sb. Obs.* [? f. the vb.] The capacity or condition of giving milk; also, a yield or quantity of milk.

1634 W. WOOD *New Eng. Prosp.* I. iv, [Cattle] being generally larger and better of milch. 1642 J. EATON *Honey-c. Free Justif.* 380 Like a shrewd cow, that gives a good milch, and then kicketh it all downe, when she hath done.

Milch (miltʃ), *a.* Forms: 3 mielch, 3, 6–7 milche, 4–6 melche, 5–7 mylche, 6 mellche, mylch, 6–7 meloh, 6– milch. [ME. *mielch, milche,* repr. OE. **milce* (in *þri-milce,* month of May, when the cows can be milked thrice in the day):—OTeut. type **melukjo-*, f. **meluk-* MILK *sb.*

The adj. actually found in OE. with this sense is *meolc, melc,* corresponding to MDu., MLG. *melk,* OHG. *melch* (MHG. *melch, melc,* mod.G. *melk*), ON. *miolk-r*; the stem of this adj. is identical with that of MILK *sb.*, and is probably evolved from compounds.]

1. Of domestic mammals: Giving milk, kept for milking, 'in milk'. (The opposite of *dry.*) See also MILCH COW.

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 351/228 Swane heo [*sc.* the cow] cam hom at eue, fair and round heo was, And swyþe Mielch al-so. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 37 þe tythe of þe pasture to þe drye beestys owȝte to be payid as wel as to þi melche beestys. 1548 in *Rel. Ant.* II. 17 Item, ij. mellche beastes, whiche were belonginge to the norceryе. 1560 BIBLE (Geneva) *Gen.* xxxii. 15 Thirty milche camels with their coltes. 1592 SHAKS. *Ven. & Ad.* 875 Like a milch Doe, whose swelling dugs do ake, Hasting to feed her fawne. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 778 Mixtures of Water in Ponds for Cattell, to make them more Milch. 1759 CHESTERF. *Lett.* 16 Mar., I have just now bought a milch-goat, which is to graze, and nurse me at Blackheath. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* III. 14 That fine milch breed, which excels the cattle of any other part of the world. 1789 G. WHITE *Antig. Selborne* v. 324 Though barrow-hogs and young sows found no inconvenience from this food [yew-berries], yet milch-sows often died after such a repast. 1887 MORRIS *Odyss.* IX. 341 So to the milking his milch-ewes and his bleating goats he sat.

† b. Applied to a woman, esp. a wet-nurse. *Obs.*

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 472/362 Þat child wolde souke and it nuste 3wam, Þare nas no milk a-boute, ne no mielch wumman. *c* 1325 *Lai le Freine* 196 He..tok it [the child] his douhter, and hir bisought, That hye schuld kepe it as sche can, For sche was melche and couthe theran. 1563 HYLL *Art Garden.* (1593) 49 And neither women in childebed, nor milch nourses,..may eate Parcely with their meats. 1662 GRAUNT *Bills Mort.* iii. 19 [Deaths] caused by carelessness, ignorance, and infirmity of the Milch-women. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 15 P 2 One Country Milch-Wench, to whom I was committed, and put to the Breast.

c. *fig.*

1658 J. HARRINGTON *Prerog. Pop. Govt.* I. xi. Wks. (1700) 300 Thus a populous City makes a Country milch, or populous by sucking.

† d. applied to the breasts or teats; also *transf.* to the eyes when weeping. *Obs. rare.*

1600 J. LANE *Tom Tel-troth* 123 Pallas, the Nurse of Nature-helping Art,..From whose milch teates no pupils would depart. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* II. ii. 540 The instant Burst of Clamour that she made..Would haue made milche the Burning eyes of Heauen.

† 2. *nonce-uses.* a. Of plants: Milky, full of milk. b. Of dew: Exuding like milk. *Obs.*

c 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* III. 1081 Item [*sc.* plants] that beth melche in ver novelles grene [L. *uerno magis cum lactent nouella virentia*] Beth nought to fede. 1612 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* xiii. 171 Exhaling the milch dewe which there had tarried long, And on the ranker grasse till past the noone-sted hong.

† **Milch,** *v. Obs.* [app. f. MILCH *a.*

Not repr. OE. *melcan* str. vb. or *meolcian, (ge)milcian* wk. vb.: see MILK *v.*]

trans. To milk (an animal). Also *fig.* Hence **Milched** *ppl. a.*, **Mi·lching** *vbl. sb.*

1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 130/7 To Milch, *mulgère.* 1589 FLEMING *Virg. Bucol.* III. 9 And let him couple foxes too, and milch the male-kind gotes. 1648 H. FERNE *Serm.* (1649) 8 Two new-milcht Kine drawing the Arke of God. 1648 HEXHAM, *Een melckinge,* a Milking, or a Milching. 1784 TWAMLEY *Dairying* 23 The owner made a point of never keeping a Cow that was too old Milcht, or Milk'd too long from the time of Calving; or when any Cow went off her Milk..he always replaced her with a new Milcht one. 1805 R. W. DICKSON *Pract. Agric.* II. 986 Where they [*sc.* calves] suck stale milched cows.

b. *Comb.* (the verb-stem used *attrib.*), as *milch-barn, -bowl, -house.*

1599 *Acc. Bk. IV. Wray* in *Antiquary* XXXII. 243, XV milche boules. *Ibid.,* In the milche house. 1810 *Splendid Follies* II. 177 The equestrians..arrived at the milch-barn.

Mi·lch-cow. [MILCH *a.*]

1. A cow 'in milk'; a cow giving milk or kept for milking.

1424 in *E. E. Wills* (1882) 57, I wul my wyf haf half my mylche kye. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 337/2 Mylche cowe, *bassario, vel vacca mulsaria.* 1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 70 Melch kye and draught oxen, wyll eate a close moche barer than as many fatte kye and oxen. 1583 STUBBES *Anat. Abus.* II. (1882) 47 And so solde the former barren cowe with hir adulterate calfe, for a melch cowe. 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* II. i. 359, I haue a hundred milch-kine to the pale. 1879 HINGSTON *Australian Abr.* ix. 102 China, as a Nation, is as weak and defenceless now as a milch cow.

transf. 1816 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* xvii. (1818) II. 65 Aphides and Cocci, which are the milch kine of our little pismires.

2. *fig.* A source of regularly-accruing gain or profit; *esp.* a person from whom money is easily drawn, one who 'bleeds freely'. (So F. *vache à lait.*)

1601 J. WHEELER *Treat. Comm.* 40 So profitable a Milch-cowe as the English Trade was vnto the Lowe Countries. 1617 CHAMBERLAIN *Let.* in *Ct. & Times Jas. I*, II. 8 That he had been a good milch cow to Dixon .. and that he had yielded £200 a year. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Milch-kine,* a Term us'd by Goalers, when their Prisoners will bleed freely to have some Favor, or be at large. 1712 ARBUTHNOT *John Bull* I. xii, John's cause was a good milch cow, and many a man subsisted his family out of it. 1885 *Ch. Times* 18 Dec. 993/4 The .. private patron .. far more frequently viewed his advowson as a milch-cow for his private profit.

Milche, obs. f. MELSH, *a.* (With *milche-hearted* cf. early ME. *milce-herted* s.v. MILCE *sb.*)

1552 HULOET, Milche harted, *lemosus.*

Milcher (mi·ltʃəɹ). [f. MILCH *a.* or *v.* + -ER 1.] An animal that yields milk; a milch-beast.

1823 E. MOOR *Suffolk Words* 229 A good milcher. 1890 'R. BOLOREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* (1891) 417 Those miniature milchers [*sc.* goats]. 1891 T. HARDY *Tess* xvi, All prime milchers, such as were seldom seen out of this valley.

Milchy (mi·ltʃi), *a.* [f. MILCH *a.* + -Y 1.]

†1. Milk-giving, yielding milk. *Obs. rare.*

1635 SIR T. HAWKINS tr. *Horace, Odes* Epode xvi. (ed. 3) 86 There, milchy Gotes come freely to the Paile.

2. ? *U.S.* 'Milky, as an oyster' (*Cent. Dict.* 1890).

Milcie, var. MILCE *v. Obs.*, MILSEY *Sc.*

†**Mild,** *sb. Obs. rare.* [f. MILD *a.*1 Cf. ON. *mildi,* OHG. *miltî.*] Gentleness, pity.

c 1430 in *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 197 Lete mylde & meekenes [*v.r.* mylde mekenes] melte in þin herte. 1576 GASCOIGNE *Philomene* (Arb.) 112 Then Progne phy for thee, Which kildst thine only child, Phy on the cruel crabbed heart Which was not movde with milde.

Mild (məild), *a.* Forms: 1–7 milde, 3–6 mylde, mylde, myyld, 5–6 myild(e, 6 miled, 3– mild. [Com. Teut.: OE. *milde* = OFris. *milde,* OS. *mildi* (MDn. *milde,* Du. *mild*), OHG. *milti* (MHG. *milte,* mod.G. *mild*), ON. *mild-r* (Sw., Da. *mild*), Goth. *-mild-s* (in compounds, *friaþwamildjai* masc. pl., loving, *unmildjai* masc. pl., unkind; also in derivative *mildiþa* kindness):—O Teut. **mildjo-,* **mildi-,* f. Indogermanic root **meldh-* (: *moldh-* : *mldh*), whence Gr. *μαλθακός* soft, mild, OIrish *meldach* tender, Skr. *mṛdh* to neglect, also to be moist.]

1. Of persons, their disposition and behaviour.

a. (Chiefly of a superior, e. g. a king): Kind, considerate, gracious, merciful, indulgent; not harsh or severe. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

a 725 *Laws K. Wihtræd* Prol., Ðam mildestan cyninge Cantwara Wihtræde rixigendum. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 483 þat tyme Theohald þe mylde [L. *pius*], eorle of Campania, was in his flounes. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* x. 1046 Remember with what mild And gracious temper he both heard and judg'd Without wranth or reviling. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* XIV. 160 So mild a master never shall I find. 1832 HERAUD *Voy. & Mem. Midshipm.* ix. (1837) 157 This mild prince..is deservedly popular with his..subjects.

b. Applied to God, Christ, and the Virgin Mary. *Obs.* exc. in traditional collocations.

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 71 Secggaþ Siones dohtrum þæt heora cining cymeþ, milde & monþwære. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 21 Þus mildeliche andswerede þe milde quen of henene. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 2411 Milde Iesu. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 24748 Quen i ma mening o þat mild [the Virgin]. 1389 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 47 His mild modir seynt marye. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S. T. S.) 84 Thow blissit Virgin mylde. 1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turks* (1621) 121 Libertie would availe me nothing, if Christ by his most milde incarnation had not taken away our captivitie. *a* 1729 J. ROGERS 19 *Serm.* i. (1735) 5 It teaches us..to adore him as a mild and merciful Being, of infinite Love..to his Creatures. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* III. xxix, Ave Maria! maiden mild! 1818 JOLLY *Sunday Serv.* (1848) 206 This mild Majesty of God incarnate ..was now about to ascend to Heaven.

c. const. *to* or †dative; occas. †*with.*

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 47 God bi þ milde þæm moannm þe..on hine geleſaþ. *c* 1205 LAY. 14802 He [Vortimer] wes milde ælche cnafe. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1775 Wið heore cunne heo beoþ mildre. 13.. *Assump. Virg.* 888 (Add. MS.) For oure ladi hure schal be mylde. *a* 1450 MYRC 29 In worde and dede þou moste be mylde Bothe to mon and to chylde. 1579 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 165 Yet is he milde to those that aske forgiuenesse. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 58 They erect a stone over the head of the deceased, to serve for a seat to the Angels who are to examine him, that they may be the milder to him.

d. Gentle and conciliatory in disposition or behaviour; not easily provoked, and giving no offence to others; not rough or fierce in manners.

In mod. prose used with more or less disparaging implication: cf. 6 b.

a 1000 *Guthlac* 711 (Gr.) Swa þæt milde mod .. dryhtne þeowde. *c* 1200 ORMIN 2938 Milde he [Joseph] wass..I þatt he nollde wrezenn þatt wimmann þatt wass gilltelæs. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. x. 83 Drede is such a Mayster þat he makeþ Men Meoke and Mylde of heore speche. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) I. 173 And þere ynne beþ more mylde peple [L. *quæ gentem habet magis piam,* contrasted with *feras gentes*]. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 337/2 Myyld, and buxum, *pius, benignus, mansuetus.* 1530 PALSGR. 776/1, I have knowen hym a heedye felowe, but he is waxen mylde nowe: *je lay congneu vng testart, mays il se est bien humylié mayntenant.* 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* V. xii. 42 Most bitter wordes they spake..That they the mildest man alive would make Forget his patience. *c* 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* (1655) II. liv. 63 A harsh Mother may bring forth somtimes a mild daughter. 1720 POPE *Iliad* XXIV. 963 In whom the gods had join'd The mildest manners with the bravest mind. *a* 1862 BUCKLE *Civiliz.* (1873) III. ii. 53 The mildest spirit might well have been roused by this.

absol. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 113 Drihten .. on-hefð þa mildan. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxiv. (*Alexis*) 103 Syne dyliuere was þat myld, thru godis helpe, of a knaf chyld. 1813 H. G. KNIGHT *Alashtar* III. xiii, Let the weak bewail! Well may the mild, the woman-hearted fail.

e. of looks, language, etc.

Beowulf 1172 Sprec mildum wordum. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 45 Þa onswerede him drihten mildere steuene. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 123 Þe ilke louerd..þe þus lokeð of henene to men mid his milde eȝen. *c* 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 1013 Hure voys was bothe myelde & swete. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 36 With such mylde aunsweres he put off the tyme. 1771 *Junius Lett.* xlix. (1788) 266 But this language is too mild for the occasion. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XI. 759 Their features are extremely mild and pleasing. 1813 SHELLEY *Q. Mab* III. 158 His mild eye beams benevolence no more. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xxii. IV. 754 If he sometimes stooped to be a villain—for no milder word will come up to the truth.

f. of rule, punishment, treatment of persons, influence, and the like. Now chiefly in *comparative*: Less severe.

1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* II. viii. (1592) 191 But this kind of quieting and setting parties at one, is verie milde in comparison of reuengement and punishment. *a* 1645 WALLER *Pens-Hurst* I. 44 Ah! cruel Nymph!..her humble swaine..from the winds and tempests doth expect A milder late then from her cold neglect! *c* 1655 MILTON *Sonn.,* '*When I consider*', Who best Bear his milde yoak, they serve him best. 1776 ADAM SMITH *W. N.* IV. viii. (1869) II. 232 The penalties imposed by this milder statute. 1825 MACAULAY *Ess., Milton* (1899) 17 But..why not adopt milder measures? 1871 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1876) IV. xvii. 73 The South .. was put under the milder rule of the Bishop.

g. in proverbial similes, *As mild as a dove, as May, as milk,* etc.

1530 PALSGR. 626/2 Whan he is angryest of all I can make hym as mylde as a lambe. 1599 ? SHAKS. *Pass. Pilgr.* vii, Faire is my lone, but not so faire as fickle; Milde as a Done, but neither true nor trustie. 1704 POPE *Pastorals, Spring* 81 Sylvia's like autumn ripe, yet mild as May. 1874 T. HARDY *Madding Crowd* iv, A temper as mild as milk.

†h. *Mild mother* (tr. PIA MATER): see MOTHER.

2. Of an animal: Tame, gentle; not wild or fierce. (*Obs.* exc. as directly *transf.* from 1 d.)

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 39/183 Þe Bollokes and þe ȝoungue steores þat weren er so wilde, Anon so huy tonward heom come huy woxen tame and milde. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. xv. 275 Egydie after an hynde cryede, And þorw þe mylke of þat mylde best þe man was sosteyned. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 39 Of so good mesure He song, that he the bestes wilde Made of his note tame and milde. 1671 MILTON *P. R.* I. 310 Among wild Beasts: they at his sight grew mild. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* IV. 254 Mild, peaceful, and brave, it [the elephant] never abuses its power or its strength. 1801 J. JONES tr. *Bygge's Trav. Fr. Rep.* viii. 154 The menagerie seems to be separated into two parts, the one for mild animals, and the other for the wild and ferocious. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVIII. 476/1 The Kinkajou is very mild in captivity.

b. Of a plant: Cultivated, not wild. *Obs. rare.*

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 168 As many vertues as the mild fig-tree hath, yet the wild is much more effectuall.

3. Of weather, etc.: Not rough or stormy, not sharp or severe; calm, fine, and moderately warm. Of a climate: Temperate.

14.. *Seven Deadly Sins* 3 in *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1866) 215 Apon a mylde mornyng of may. 1530 PALSGR. 318/2 Mylde of wether, *paisible.* 1634 MILTON *Comus* 4 In Regions milde of calm and serene Ayr. 1714 GAY *Trivia* I. 144 Signs..Of milder weather, and serener skies. 1819 SHELLEY *Prometh. Unb.* I. 793 Spring..Whose mild winds shake the elder brake. 1892 EMILY LAWLESS *Grania* I. 1 A mild September afternoon.

fig. 1608 SHAKS. *Per.* III. i. 27 Now mylde may be thy life, For a more blusterous birth had neuer Babe.

4. Of light, or a luminous body: Shining with tempered lustre, softly radiant.

a 1645 WALLER *To Yng. Lady Lucy Sidney* 10 The rosy morne resignes her light, And milder glory to the Noon. 1768–74 TUCKER *Lt. Nat., Theol.* xviii. (1852) I. 367 The Governor of the Universe is a more discernible object, .. clothed with milder rays of glory. 1819 KEATS *Lamia* I. 382 A silver lamp, whose phosphor glow Reflected in the slabbed steps below, Mild as a star in water. 1832 STANDISH *Maid of Jaen* 21 The moon's mild orb was shining seen.

5. Of a medicine: Operating gently; not violent or strong in its effects. Of food, tobacco, etc.: Soft to the palate, not rough or sharp or strong in taste or odour, not over-stimulating or over-feeding. Of pathological secretions: Not acrid or irritating.

a 1400–50 *Alexander* 4824 Was neuir no mede ne no milke so mild vndire heuen. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* II. (1586) 58 b, The smoother the leafe is, the mileder and the sweeter is the roote. 1652 CULPEPPER *Eng. Physic.* 12 The milde Arsmart is good against hot Imposthumes. 1732 ARBUTHNOT *Rules of Diet* in *Aliments,* etc. 257 Anti-acids of a milder kind. 1768 BICKERSTAFF *Lionel & Clarissa* I. (1786) 9 Why, one bottle [of hock] won't hurt you, man—this is old, and as mild as milk. 1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) IV. 62 The matter discharged is whitish and mild, producing no excoriation..or other disquiet. 1831 YOUATT *Horse* x. 171 A very mild dose of physic. 1845 ELIZA ACTON *Mod. Cookery* 122 Mild Ragout of Garlic..By changing very frequently the water in which it is boiled, the root will be deprived of its naturally pungent flavour and smell, and rendered extremely mild. 1855 *Anti-Maud* xxix, Sipping their Seltzer and Hock, and smoking a mild cigar. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 614 The milder form of sulphur lotion is preferable.

fig. 1781 COWPER *Charity* 502 Most satirists are indeed a public scourge; Their mildest physic is a farrier's purge.

b. Of ale or beer: In early use app. free from acidity, not sour or 'stale'; now applied to those kinds that are not strongly flavoured with hops (opposed to *bitter*). Also *absol.* = mild ale. For the phr. *to draw it mild* see DRAW *v.* 40 b.

1626 BACON *Sylva* § 52 A good draught of Milde Beer. 1717 PRIOR *Alma* II. 203 Suppose your eyes sent equal rays Upon two distant pots of ale, Not knowing which was mild or stale. 1818 KITCHINER *Cook's Oracle* (ed. 2) 502 Cool Tankard, or Beer Cup. A quart of mild ale, a glass of white wine, one of brandy [etc.]. 1886 'JOHN BICKEROVKE' *Curios. Ale & Beer* 391 A pint..of mild beer, half a pint of brandy [etc.]. 1889 A. BARNARD *Noted Breweries* I. 357 Cellars..for racking and storing mild ales.

c. Of a disease, or an attack of disease: Not severe or acute.

1744 BERKELEY *Siris* § 3 Others had it [small-pox] in the mildest manner. 1800 *Med. Jrnl.* IV. 187 The inoculated Cow-Pox is a much milder and safer disease than the inoculated Small-Pox. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* iii. I. 401 The..genius of Butler, if it did not altogether escape the prevailing infection, took the disease in a mild form.

6. Of bodily exercise: Moderate, gentle, easy. Of amusement or recreation: Not boisterous, not exuberant in enjoyment or mirth.

1831 YOUATT *Horse* x. 171 Mild exercise should be used. 1882 A. BAIN *Jas. Mill* 388 There should also be social amusements of a mild character, such as to promote cheerfulness rather than profuse merriment.

b. Used sarcastically to connote tameness or feebleness (in persons and their actions), where audacity, cleverness, recklessness, etc. might have been expected.

1885 *Sat. Rev.* 7 Feb. 166/1 Most of us have no wish to cheat railway Companies by travelling first class at third-class prices, but there are ingenious adventurers who practise this mild swindle. 1886 *Pall Mall G.* 2 Oct. 3 A mild attempt to anarchize English grammar. 1897 BARRÈRE & LELAND *Dict. Slang, Mild bloater,* weak young man who has pretensions to being horsey. *Mod.* We had a mild game of whist.

†7. *Chem.* ? Neutral. *Obs.*

1796 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) I. 6 Mild Calx (so I call lime united with fixed air). 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) IX. 346/2 The brown calx of iron united with the white calx of manganese, and mild calcareous earth in various proportions. 1799 KIRWAN *Geol. Ess.* 149 The limestone of Malta contains both calcareous earth and magnesia, but most probably in a mild state. *Ibid.,* The selenite is decomposed by the mild magnesia contained in the stone.

8. a. Of soil, wood: Soft, easy to work. *dial.*

1852 S. W. HOSKYNS *Talpa* xix. 163 This'll be mild enough for anything presently; you don't call this a stiff soil? 1875 T. LASLETT *Timber* xiv. 84 The Modena, Roman, and Sardinian [Oaks] are what the workmen call milder in character—that is to say, they are easier to work, and a little less hard than the former [kinds]. 1880 JEFFERIES *Gt. Estate* ix. 164 'These old French burrs be the best stone; they be hard, but they be mild and takes the peck well.'

b. *Mild steel*: steel containing only a small percentage of carbon, of great strength and toughness, but not readily tempered or hardened.

1868 JOYNSON *Metals* 90 What is called in the trade 'homogeneous iron' is a species of 'mild-steel', and has been introduced by a Sheffield firm. 1884 W. H. GREENWOOD *Steel & Iron* 202 The mild steels produced by the Siemens and the Bessemer processes. *Ibid.* 399 The elongation of the milder qualities of steel before fracture occurs is superior to that of malleable iron.

c. *Physics.* (See quot.)

1878 J. C. MAXWELL in *Encycl. Brit.* VI. 312/1 A body which can have its form permanently changed without any flaw or break taking place is called *mild.* When the force required is small the body is said to be *soft*; when it is great the body is said to be *tough.*

¶9. Peculiarly used by Byron. Of a slope: Gentle. Of a wood: Not thorny.

1818 BYRON *Ch. Har.* IV. lxvii, Upon a mild declivity of hill. 1823 — *Island* II. xx, For even the mildest woods will have their thorn.

10. Used *poet.* in the place of an adv., = MILDLY.

a 900 CYNEWULF *Crist* 249 (Gr.) Þu þisne middangeard milde ȝeþlissa þurh ðinne hercyme, hælende Crist! 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VII. 110 And thus the Godlike Angel answerd milde. 1730-46 THOMSON *Autumn* 1098 The pale deluge.. streaming mild O'er the sky'd mountain to the shadowy vale. 1739 C. WESLEY *Christmas Hymn* 21 Mild he lays his Glory by, Born—that Man no more may die. 1784 COWPER *Task* III. 443 As oft As the sun peeps and vernal airs breathe mild.

11. *Comb.* (chiefly parasynthetic and adverbial), as *mild-aspected,* †*-aspecting, -brewed, -cured, -eyed, -faced, -flavoured, -mannered, -mooned,*

† *-persuading, -scenled, -seeming, -spiriled* († *-spriled*), *-spoken, -tempered, -worded* adjs.

1597 DRAYTON *Heroic Ep., Isab. to Mortimer* 17 That blessed night, that *mild-aspected howre, Wherein thou mad'st escape out of the Towre. 1601 WEEVER *Mirr. Mart.* C 6 b, On Sea the *mild-aspecting heauens would guide me. 1905 W. L. COURTNEY *Father Time & Childr.* in *Queen's Christmas Carol* 95 October comes to give men cheer, With purple grapes and *mild-brewed beer! 1832 TENNYSON *Lotos-Eaters* 27 The *mild-eyed melancholy Lotos-eaters came. 1862 HOWELLS *Venet. Life* vii, A very *mild-faced old priest. 1575-85 ABP. SANDYS *Serm.* xvi. 284 Let her bee milde-worded and *milde-manered. 1821 BYRON *Juan* III. xli, He was the mildest manner'd man That ever scuttled ship or cut a throat. 1819 KEATS *Lamia* I. 156 A deep volcanian yellow took the place Of all her *milder-mooned body's grace. 1601 WEEVER *Mirr. Mart.* D 3 b, In *mild-perswading words and deedes. 1776-96 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) III. 677 Prickly, or *Mild-scented Lettuce. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* III. (1598) 386 The sheepe [gave] *mild-seeming face. 1607 T. CAMPION *Maske* B 4 b, *Mild sprited Zephyrus haile. 1712-27 ARBUTHNOT *John Bull* I. v. Miscell. II. 12 The Neighbours reported that he was Henpeck't, which was impossible, by such a mild spirited Woman, as his Wife was. 1727 *Art Speaking in Publick* vi. 84 An Orator ought not to be too Remiss, neither in his Action, nor too *Mild-spoken. 1838 DICKENS *Nich. Nick.* xxix, You're always so mild spoken. 1747 tr. *Astruc's Fevers* 169 A cold *mild-tempered easy patient. 1575-85 *Milde-worded [see *mild-mannered*].

† Mild, *v. Obs.* [f. MILD *a.*[1] OE. had *mildian* intr., to become mild.] *trans.* To make mild or gentle. Also *refl.*

1340 *Ayenb.* 117 We byeþ þe more ymylded and þe dredloller. *Ibid.* 177 Þeruore ssel þe zenezere him mildi ase moche are ha may beuore god. 1494 FABYAN *Chron.* VI. cxcvii. 203 This message mylded nothyng the kynges courage. 1627-47 FELTHAM *Resolves* I. xvi. 55 As for man, it [the Gospel] teaches him to tread on cottons, nulds his wilder temper.

Mildce, Milde, var. MILCE *sb.*, MILE *sb.*[2] *Obs.*

Milded: see MILE *v. Obs.*

Milden (məi·ld'n), *v.* [f. MILD *a.* + -EN[5.]]

1. *trans.* To make mild or milder.

1603 FLORIO *Montaigne* III. xii. 620 The very names by which they call diseases doe somewhat mylden and diminish the sharpnes of them. 1820 L. HUNT *Indicator* No. 63 (1822) II. 83 What follows .. is mildened a little by the introduction of the name of Erasmus, More's intimate friend. 1900 A. B. DAVIDSON in *Expositor* Jan. 9 Polygamy and slavery were treated in two ways: their use was mildened and circumscribed.

2. *intr.* To become mild or milder.

1853 [see *Mildening, ppl. a.*]. 1882 in *Imperial Dict.* Suppl.

Hence **Mi·ldened, Mi·ldening** *ppl. adjs.*

1842 CARDL. WISEMAN *Prayer & Prayer-Bks.* Ess. 1853 I. 397 It is not Saul alone .. that hath felt the mildening and calming influence of David's harp. 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* xxxvii. (1856) 341 The mildening temperature. 1864 LOWELL *Fireside Trav.* 315 Suffused with a tremulous, glooming glow, a mildened glory.

Mi·lder, *v. dial.* (Lincs.) [? cogn. w. MOULDER *v.*] *intr.* To moulder, decay; to crumble *away. lit.* and *fig.* Hence **Mildering** *ppl. a.*

1610 W. FOLKINGHAM *Art of Survey* I. ix. 20 This practise is most approuable and peculiar in mildring Clay, which otherwise by shooting and melting downe into open Trenches, would choake vp the water-passages. 1632 SANDERSON *Serm.* 353 Their estates crumble and milder away. 1647 H. MORE *Cupid's Conflict* xv, Unthankfull wretch! Gods gifts thus to reject And maken nought of Natures goodly dower. That milders still away through thy neglect. 1671 SKINNER *Etymol. Ling. Angl.*, Moulder, *agro Linc.* Milder. 1886 *S. W. Linc. Gloss.* s.v., The stone-work is so mildered. It's clean mildered away. The frost lays hold on it and it milders down.

Mildernix, variant of MEDRINACKS *Obs.*

Mildew (mi·ldiū), *sb.* Forms: 1 meledéaw, mildéaw, 3 mildeu, 4-6 myldew, 4-8 meldew, 5-7 meldewe, 6 myldewe, mild-, myldeawe, 6-7 mildewe, 7 mieldew, 7-8 milldew, (8 mealy-dew), 4- mildew. [OE. *meledéaw, mildéaw* = OHG. *miltou* (MHG. *miltou*, mod.G. with etymologizing alteration *mehlthau*), Sw. *mjöldagg*, Da. *meldug*; f. OTeut. **meliþ* (Goth. *miliþ*) honey + **đawwo-* DEW *sb.* The first element is in most of the Teut. langs. assimilated to **melwo-* MEAL *sb.*[1]]

† 1. = HONEY-DEW. *Obs.*

a 1000 *Phœnix* 260 No he foddor þiżeð mete on moldan, nemne mele-deawes dæl żebyrże, se dreoseð oft æt middre nihte. *c* 1050 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 455/19 *Nectar*, huniż, oððe mildeaw. *a* 1240 *Wohunge* in *Cott. Hom.* 269 Swetter is munegunge of þe þen mildeu o muðe. 1563 W. FULKE *Meteors* (1571) 53 b, Ther is another kind of swete dewes, that falleth in England called the meldewes, which is as sweet as hony. 1598 F. ROUS *Thule* T, She .. with sweete Mel-dewes doth anoint her face. 1608 TOPSELL *Serpents* 65 The Honny of Bees is longer kept pure and fine, then any Manne or Meldew. 1658 ROWLAND *Moufet's Theat. Ins.* 908 A kinde of heavenly Ambrosia falls down upon the leaves of plants (which they call honey dew, but I rather mieldew). *fig.* 1600 FAIRFAX *Tasso* II. lxi. 31 While on the Christian Lords Downe fell the mildew of his sugred words.

2. A morbid destrnctive growth upon plants, consisting of minute fungi, and having usually the appearance of a thin whitish coating. Also, a similar growth on paper, leather, wood, etc., when exposed to damp. Usn. *collect. sing.*; also with *a* and *pl.*, denoting a particular attack of the disease.

1340 *Inquisitiones Nonarum* 334 b (Record Comm.), Maxima pars frumenti in parochia praedicta seminati distruebatur .. hoc anno .. per quendam rorem qui vocatur mildew. 1382 WYCLIF *Gen.* xli. 6 Seuene. eerys, thinne and smytun with meldew. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 337/2 Myldew, *uredo.* 1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 54 They [*sc.* pasture-shepe] selden rot but with myldewes. 1570 B. GOOGE *Pop. Kingd.* III. 39 Indocus doth defende the corne, from myldeawes and from blast. 1677 PLOT *Oxfordsh.* 246 If the place be subject to the annoyances of Smutting, Meldews, Birds, &c. 1763 MILLS *Syst. Pract. Husb.* II. 411 The rust of corn, the honey-dew, the mealy-dew. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XV. 209/2 The common orange-red mildew of the Berberry is *Æcidium Berberides.* 1850 OGILVIE, *Mildew*, .. spots on cloth or paper caused by moisture. 1899 JEPHSON *Brittany* x. 153 Damp and moss and mildew are not such deadly enemies to art as the chisel of the modern stonemason.

fig. 1640 LD. J. DIGBY *Sp. in Ho. Com.* 9 Nov. 7 [It] hath fallen againe upon the Land..in Hailstones and Milldews, to batter and prostrate .. our liberties, to blast .. our affections. 1818 HALLAM *Mid. Ages* (1872) III. 84 Neither the blasts of arbitrary power could break them off, nor the mildew of servile opinion cause them to wither. 1894 L. STEPHEN *Hours in Library* (1892) I. iv. 138 Something of the mildew of time is stealing over the Waverley Novels.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *mildew-blast, -drop, -plant*; **mildew-gangrene, -mortification,** gangrene produced by diseased grain, such as gangrenous ergotism (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1890); **† mildew-grass,** grass tainted with mildew.

1634 MILTON *Comus* 640 Of sov'ran use 'Gainst all inchantments, *mildew blast, or damp. 1808 SCOTT *Marm.* II. xviii, The *mildew-drops fell one by one, With tinkling plash, upon the stone. 1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 54 *Myldewe-grasse is not good for shepe. 1822-29 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 3) III. 493 *Gangræna nstilaginea.* *Mildew-mortification. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XV. 209/2 Every precaution should be taken to prevent the spores of the *mildew-plants from being communicated to the soil.

Mildew (mi·ldiū), *v.* Also 7 melldew, 8 milldew. [f. the sb.]

1. *trans.* To taint with mildew.

1552 [see MILDEWED *ppl. a.*]. 1605 SHAKS. *Lear* III. iv. 123 Hee .. Mildewes the white Wheate. 1747 FRANKLIN *Let.* Wks. 1887 II. 76 A great deal of hay has been lost, and some corn mildewed. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xxi. IV. 541 The Licensing Act..detains valuable packages of books at the Custom House till the pages are mildewed.

fig. 1631 BRATHWAIT *Whimzies, Almanack-maker* 14 Whole summer nights long hee lyes on his hacke, as if hee were melldew'd or planet-struck, gazing on the starrie gallerie. 1807 MONTGOMERY *Molehill* 72 Tyrants, the comets of their kind, Whose withering influence .. smote and mildew'd man. 1898 BODLEY *France* II. III. i. 47 Nor are the members of the Institute, with all their learning, recluses mildewed in the dust of folios.

2. *intr.* To become taintcd with mildew.

1651 R. CHILD in *Hartlib's Legacy* (1655) 14 Rank Land where Corn is apt to lodge, and consequently to Mildew. 1824 J. JOHNSON *Typogr.* II. xiii. 482 Authors sometimes detain proofs so long, that the paper allotted for those sheets will mildew. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XV. 210/1 Mr. Knight prevented his peas from mildewing by watering them abundantly and constantly.

fig. 1864 TENNYSON *Aylmer's F.* 383 These old pheasant-lords,..Who had mildew'd in their thousands, doing nothing.

Hence **Mi·ldewer.**

1807 ANNA SEWARD *Lett.* (1811) VI. 389 The man .. is a noted mildewer on the profits of the noblest verse.

Mildewed (mi·ldiūd), *ppl. a.* [f. MILDEW *v.* + -ED[1].] Tainted with mildew.

1552 HULOET, Mylle dewed, *rubiginosus.* 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* III. iv. 64 Like a Mildew'd eare. *a* 1721 POPE *Lett., to Dk. Buckhm.* Wks. 1737 VI. 26 Two or three mill-dew'd pictures of mouldy ancestors. 1813 SIR H. DAVY *Agric. Chem.* (1814) 265 Great care should be taken that no mildewed straw is carried in the manure used for corn. 1897 HARE *Story of my Life* (1900) VI. xxx. 472 The mildewed rooms have some scanty remnants of their old furniture.

fig. 1605 MARSTON *Dutch Courtesan* III. i. 128 *Tisse.* Fayth Ioyce is a foolish bitter creature. *Crisp.* A pretty mildewed wench she is. *Tisse.* And faire. 1626 E. F. *Hist. Edw. II* (1680) 24 His hypocritical Entreaties and mildewed Promises.

Mildewy (mi·ldiūi), *a.* [f. MILDEW *sb.* + -Y[1].] Tainted with mildew; of the nature of, or resembling, mildew.

1835 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Scenes* xiii. (1892) 113 The damp mildewy smell which pervades the place. 1838 — *O. Twist* xxvi, Heaps of mildewy fragments of woollen-stuff. 1862 THOREAU *Excursions, Wild Apples* (1863) 296 Foggy mildewy days.

fig. 1884 R. BUCHANAN *Foxglove Manor* III. xxxiv. 147 A creed so worn out, mildewy, and old-fashioned.

† Mi·ldful, *a. Obs.* [? f. MILD *sb.* + -FUL. See also MILFUL.] Merciful. Hence **† Mi·ldfulness.**

a 1225 *Juliana* 55 þe mihti mildfule godd. *a* 1300 *E. E. Psalter* cxiv. 5 Mildeful lauerd al And rightwise [Vulg. *misericors Dominus et justus*]. *c* 1440 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 8966 (MS. δ) Mildfol. *Ibid.* 8975 (MS. ε) Myldefulle. 1489 CAXTON *Faytes of A.* III. xvii. N viij, But of ryght vryton he ought to be myldefull vnto hym. *Ibid.*, Thou hast sayde ..that to a prysoner is myldefulnes due of ryght vnto hym.

† Mild-heart, *a. Obs.* (For forms see HEART.) [f. MILD *a.* + HEART *sb.* Cf. OHG. *milt-herzi.*] Merciful, kind-hearted.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. v. 7 Eadze biðon miltheorte [*c* 1000 *Ags.*, *c* 1160 *Hatton*, þa mild-heortan] forðon hiora *vel* ða miltheortnise him zefylges. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 121 Mild-heorte he is togenes heom. *c* 1205 LAY. 16813 þe king wes mild-heorte & heold hine stille. [1340 *Ayenb.* 142 þe milde herten and simple.]

Hence **† Mildheartful** *a.*, merciful; **Mildheartlaik** (*Ormin*), **† Mildheartness,** mercifulness.

c 900 *Laws of Ælfred* c. 49 Hie ða gesetton, for ðære mildheortnesse þe Crist lærde,..þætte [etc.]. *c* 1200 ORMIN 1142 Þatt he þe33m þurrh hiss mildherrtle33c Forr3æfe þe33re gilltess. *Ibid.* 2893 Forr a33 birrþ rihhtwisnesse ben þurrh mildheorrtnesse temmpredd. *a* 1225 *Juliana* 66 Mildheortfule godd milce þi meiden. *a* 1300 *E. E. Psalter* lxxxviii. 1 Mildehertnesses of lauerd [Vulg. *misericordias Domini*].

Mild-hearted, *a.* [Formed as prec. + -ED[2].] Tender-hearted, gentle, merciful.

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 23 Forðon drihten is mildheorteð inoh he wule hit me forȝeuen. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 95 Mildheorted beð þe man þe reouð his nehȝebures unselðe. *a* 1300 *E. E. Psalter* cii. 8 Rewful and mildeherted lauerd gode. 1843 MARRYAT *M. Violet* xxxiii, Mild-hearted savages.

Hence **Mild-heartedness.**

1867 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1877) I. App. 553 King Ælfred's notion..that the..wergild was introduced by the Christian Bishops in imitation of the mild-heartedness of Christ. [Cf. quot. *c* 900 s.v. MILDHEARTNESS.]

† Mi·ldhede. *Obs.* [f. MILD *a.* + *-hede*, -HEAD.] Mildness, mercifulness; meekness.

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 291/108 þat swete mayde [*sc.* the Virgin Mary] so hende cudde hire milde-hede, and fiam heouene to him a-doun gan wende. 1340 *Ayenb.* 133 Þet is ariȝt pouerte of gost and mildehede of herte. 1489 CAXTON *Faytes of A.* III. xvii. N vii, Yf myldehede is due to hym [a prisoner].

Mildish (məi·ldiʃ), *a.* [f. MILD *a.* + -ISH[1].] Somewhat mild.

1853 G. J. CAYLEY *Las Alforjas* II. 145 So they changed their cries of *m'alegro* for '*Que lastima!*' (what a pity), a mildish reparation under the circumstances.

† Mildly, *a. Obs.* [f. MILD *a.* + -LY[1]. Cf. ON. *mildligr.*] = MILD *a.*

a 950 *Durham Ritual* (Surtees) 37 Mildelic, *propitius.* *c* 1205 LAY. 8832 Mid mildliche worden.

Mildly (məi·ldli), *adv.* [f. MILD *a.* + -LY[2].] In a mild manner. (See the senses of the adj.)

c 893 K. ÆLFRED *Oros.* I. viii. § 1 His se cyning .. mildelice onfeng. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 136 Ine swete munegunge of þe soðe wunden þet he oð soðe rode mildeliche þolede. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2778 Forð he nam to sen witterlike, Hu ðat fier brende milde-like. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 15651 Ful mildli to þam he spak. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 97 Canute .. afterwarde dede more myldely [*MS. β*, myldeloker, γ, myldelokur] wiþ seynt Edmond. *c* 1450 tr. *De Imitatione* III. li. 123, I owte in euery blamyng & repreuyng to meke myself & suffre myldely. 1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II*, v. i. 32 Wilt thou, Pupill-like, Take thy Correction mildly, kisse the Rodde..? 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 375 The Aire once heated ..maketh the Flame burne more mildly, and so helpeth the Continuance. 1646 MAYNE *Serm. Unity* 13 Pardon the hardnes of the language, I cannot make the Scripture speak mildlyer then it doth. 1843 R. J. GRAVES *Syst. Clin. Med.* xxviii. 360 We ought to have treated her mildly, giving small doses of calomel or blue pill.

Comb. 1567 DRANT *Horace, Ep.* I. xv. E vj, Then do I hope to drinke Lyuely and myldlie rellesde wynes. 1876 GEO. ELIOT *Dan. Der.* xxviii, The mildly-uttered suggestion. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 681 The patient became mildly demented.

Mildness (məi·ldnės). [-NESS.] The quality of being mild (see the adj.): **a.** as an attribute of persons, their actions, etc.

a 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* xxv. 73 Iesu, thi mildenesse froreth me. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. xv. 169 And alle manere meschiefs in myldenesse he suffreth. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 31 b, To haue myldnes, gentylnes, and good maner in all our conuersacyon. 1593 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI*, IV. iv. 20 This is it that makes me bridle passion, And beare with Mildnesse my misfortunes crosse. 1643 MILTON *Divorce* II. vii. Wks. 1851 IV. 79 The terror of the Law was as a servant to amplifie and illustrat the mildnesse of grace. 1768 STERNE *Sent. Journ., Calais* (1775) I. 5 The Bourbon is by no means a cruel race .. there is a mildness in their blood. 1813 EUSTACE *Italy* (1815) III. vi. 226 The Roman Government .. though despotic and above all control,.. is exercised by the Pontiff with mildness. 1839 THIRLWALL *Greece* VI. 131 Ariaspes..was generally beloved on account of the mildness of his character.

b. of things.

1605 CAMDEN *Rem.* 9 Being mellowed and mollified by the mildenes of the soyle and sweete aire. 1608 D. T[UVIL] *Ess. Pol. & Mor.* 73 b, Let him not glorie in the mildnesse of his starres. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* 273 The Drink..hath a delicate mildness. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) V. 21 The mildness of the season. 1832 LEWIS *Lett.* (1870) 25 The perfect mildness and serenity of the weather is extraordinary.

Mildrop, variant of MELDROP.

Milds, miles. *dial.* Forms: 1 melde, 5 mielde, medles, 7 meedles, 8 mails, 9 melgs, meals, meols, myl(i)es, miles, milds. [OE. *melde* wk. fem., cogn. w. OHG. *melda, melde* (MHG., mod.G. *melde*), also with different ablautgrades *malta, molto*, MLG., Du. *melde.* Some scholars suggest that the Teut. word may be cogn. w. Gr. βλίτον (? = *μλίτον) BLITE.] A name for various species of *Atriplex* and *Chenopodium.*

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* III. 6 Mugwyrt, organa, melde, quinque folium. *Ibid.* 54 Nim eac meldon ða wyrt. *c* 1350 *Med. MS.* in *Archæologia* XXX. 410 Medles. *c* 1450 *Alphita* (Aneed. Oxon.) 16 *Attriplex agrestis*,..ang. mielde. 1633 *Gerarde's Herbal* Suppl. to Gen. Table, Meedles, Arage. 1808 JAMIESON, *Middenmylies*...Chenopodium viride, et album, Linn.; thus denominated, as growing on dunghills. 1811 W. AITON *Agric. Surv. Ayrs.* 675 (Jam.) Chenopodium several species, Goosefoot; wild spinage, or mails. 1839 *Mag. Dom. Econ.* IV. 248 The mild succulent weeds, such as chick-weed, and miles or fat-hen. 1853 G. JOHNSTON *Bot. E. Bord.* 171 *Chenopodium album.* Myles. 1878 *Cumberld. Gloss.* Introd. 19 *Chenopodium album.* Meols, Fat hen.

† Mi·ldship. *Obs.* [-SHIP.] Mildness.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 49 Habbe we..mildship of dune. *c* 1205 LAY. 17146 Whan..mon me mid milde-scipe wulle me bisechen. *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* 659 Miltschipe & meokeschipe

of heorte. *a* 1240 *Wohunge* in *Cott. Hom.* l. 273 Meknesse and mildschipe makes mon eihwer luued.

†**Mi·ldy,** *a. Obs.* [f. MILD *a.* + -Y.] Mild.

1598 Q. ELIZ. *Englishings* 139/24 Who..is Of mildy spirit [Gr. φύσει πραΰς].

Mile (məil), *sb.*[1] Forms: 1 **mil**, 3–7 **myle**, 4–6 **myl**, 5 *Sc.* **myill**, 5–6 **mylle**, 7 **mille**. [OE. *mīl* fem. = MDn. *mīle* (Du. *mijl*), OHG. *mīla*, *mīlla* (MHG. *mīle*, mod.G. *meile*), ON. *mīla* (prob. from OE.; Sw., Da. *mil*) :—WGer. **mīlja*, a. L. *mīlia*, *millia*, pl. of *mile*, *mille* thousand. In the Rom. langs. the L. sing. is represented by F. *mille*, It. *miglio* masc., and the pl. by Pr., Sp. *milla*, Pg. *milha* fem.]

1. Originally, the Roman lineal measure of 1,000 paces (*mille passus* or *passuum*), computed to have been about 1,618 yards. Hence, the unit of measure derived from this, used in the British Isles and in other English-speaking countries. Its length has varied considerably at different periods and in different localities, chiefly owing to the influence of the agricultural system of measures with which the mile has been brought into relation (see FURLONG). The legal mile in the British Empire and the U.S. is now 1,760 yards. The Irish mile of 2,240 yards is still in rustic use. The obsolete Scottish mile was longer than the English, and probably varied according to time and place; one of the values given for it is 1,976 yards.

The use of the sing. form with a plural numeral is now only vulgar or dialectal; in the earlier part of the 19th c. it was recognized as permissible colloquially.

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 129 Ac eac swylce Gerusalem þa hurh, seo is west þonon from þære stowe on anre mile. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 147/22 *Miliarium*, leouue, mile. *c* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 127 Se ðe net þe to gonne mid him twa milen, ga mid him þrie. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 48/48 Þat bote þreo Mile þanne it nas. ?*a* 1300 *Shires & Hundreds of Eng.* in *O. E. Misc.* 145 Engle lond is eyhte hundred Myle long, from penwyþ steorte þat is fyftene Mylen hy-yonde Mihhales steowe. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 7683 And þat ilka myle fully contene A thowsand pases or cubites sene. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* v. 782 The Inglishmen was than within a myill. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* IV. iv. 123 Kyng Pellinore was within thre myle with a grete hoost. 1532 MORE *Epitaph* Pref., Wks. 1419/1 Thre smal Miles from London. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 27 The craig is a myl within the Sey. 1655 FULLER *Hist. Camb.* 37 An hairs breadth fixed by a divine finger, shall prove as effectuall a separation from danger, as a miles distance. 1672 PETTY *Pol. Anat.* 375 Eleven Irish miles make 14 English. 1690 MARLBOROUGH in Ld. Wolseley *Life* (1894) II. 213 A place called Macrom twelfe milles from hence. 1699 BENTLEY *Phal.* I. 97 The Mistake in the Situation, might perhaps he five Mile. 1769 GOLDSM. *Hist. Rome* (1786) II. 51 In this plain..were two little hills at about a mile distance from each other. *a* 1796 BURNS *'O, my luve's like a red, red rose'*, And I will come again, my luve, Tho' it were ten thousand mile. 1838 THIRLWALL *Greece* XX. III. 154 The channel between the two points is not quite a mile broad. 1850 DICKENS *Dav. Copp.* xl, I'd go ten thousand mile.

b. (Explicitly *square* or *superficial mile.*) A measure of area equal to the content of a square with a side one mile in length. So, rarely, *cubic* (†*cubical*) mile: a measure of volnme equal to that of a cube bounded by lines one mile in length.

1698 KEILL *Exam. Th. Earth* (1734) 129 Twenty six Po's will pour into the Sea one Cubical mile of water in a day. 1864 TREVELYAN *Compet. Wallah* (1866) 121 A thousand square miles.

c. A race, or a portion of a race, extending over a mile's length of the course.

1901 *Daily Tel.* 12 Oct. 10/2 Fourier..broke all automobile records...The time for the fastest mile was 66·4–5 sec.

d. *transf.* and *fig.* Chiefly *adverbially* in plural, implying a great distance or interval.

1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* v. ii. 54 The Letter is too long by halfe a mile. 1592 — *Rom. & Jul.* III v. 82 Villaioe and he, he many Miles assunder. 1889 RUSKIN *Præterita* 109 My eldest Irish pupil..was miles and miles my superior. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* (1891) 282 Awful fuss always made about him. No swell within miles of him.

2. Used to render its etymological equivalent in other European languages.

In Italy (where there are many different miles), Spain, and Portugal, the 'mile' has been developed from the ancient Roman measure, and its length ranges between ¾ and 1¼ English mile. In Germany, Austria, Holland, and the Scandinavian countries, on the other hand, the 'mile' seems to represent the ancient Germaoic *rasta*, to which the Latin name was nparently applied arhitrarily; its values range from about 3¼ to over 6 English miles.

c 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) v. 55 It is wel a 1880 Myle of Lombardye. 1538 ELYOT *Dict.*, *Rasta*, a duche myle. 1559 W. CUNNINGHAM *Cosmogr. Glasse* 57, 8. of these furlonges do make an Italian or Englishe mile, which beyng multiplied by 4. makes .32. furlonges, the length of a comon Germanie mile. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 179 After I had ridden four houres space (for the Sweitzers miles are so long, ..); I wondered to heare that we had ridden but one mile. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* IX. 415 The Hungarian miles are the longest vpon earth, for euery one of theirs, is sixe of our Scots miles, nine English. 1753 HANWAY *Trav.* (1762) I. VII. LXXXIX. 408 *note*, These computed German miles are in some places four, in others five miles English.

3. *Geographical, geometrical,* †*maritime, nautic(al mile*: a measure of length = one minute of a great circle of the earth.

Owing to the fact that the earth is not a true sphere, the 'mile' as thus defined varies considerably, the difference between the extreme values being about 62 feet; when taken as a minute of the meridian, the value increases with the latitude, in consequence of the varying curvature. It has therefore been found convenient to assign a standard value for nautical use; the British Admiralty fixes it at 6,080 feet.

1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* VIII. 362 Three hundred Maritine miles. 1697 DAMPIER *Voy.* (1729) I. 287 Italian or geometrical miles (at the rate of 60 to a degree). 1834 *Nat. Philos., Navig.* II. ii. 15 (Usef. Knowl. Soc.), A geographical or nautical mile is $\frac{1}{60}$ of a degree of a great circle of the earth. 1875 BEDFORD *Sailor's Pocket Bk.* v. (ed. 2) 201 *note*, The Nautical mile as defined by hydrographers is the length of a minute of the meridian, and is different for every different latitude. 1890 E. F. KNIGHT *Cruise of 'Alerte'* viii. 131 Trinidad is roughly 680 nautic miles from Bahia.

†**4.** As a vagne measure of time; the time in which one might journey a mile; = MILEWAY. *Obs.*

c 1330 *Florice & Bl.* (1857) 504 Hire cussing laste amile And that hem thoughte litel while. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 24 And thogh I stonde there a myle, Al is foryete for the while. 14..*Sir Beues* 775 (MS. C.), A long myle he soght, Or he the bore fynde moght. *c* 1440 *Ipomydon* 1466 He had not slepyd but a while, Not the space of a myle. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 5059 For before a litil while Noght þe space of half a mile. 1594 SPENSER *Amoretti* lxxxvi, And maketh euery minute seem a myle.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.* **a.** simple attrib., as in *mile-race*; also in combinations with prefixed numeral, as *twenty-mile walk, six-mile track.*

b. Combined with adjs., as in *mile-deep, -high, -long.* Also (*nonce-uses*) in attributive or adjectival uses of advb. phrases, as *mile-away, mile(s-off.*

1897 KIPLING *Captains Courageous* 101 The tiny black buoy-flag on the shoulder of a *mile-away swell. 1903 — *Settler* 20 in 5 *Nations* 154 The locust's *mile-deep swarm. 1834 DE QUINCEY in *Tait's Mag.* I. 85/1 At times we turned off into some less tumultuous street, but of the same *mile-long character. 1870 MISS BROUGHTON *Red as Rose* I. 140 The rooks .. have flapped heavily home to the *mile-off rookery. 1881 T. HARDY *Laodicean* v. v, There was a miles-off expression in hers [*sc.* her eyes].

c. Special comb.: **mile-horse**, a horse trained for a mile race; **mile-hunter**, a cyclist who is intent on accomplishing great distances; **mile-mark**, a milestone or other object placed to indicate the distance of a mile from a starting-point or from another mark; **mile-post**, a post serving as a mile-mark; †**mile-square**, a square mile.

1829 *Sporting Mag.* XXIII. 266 As to the *mile horses, I spoke of rackers, and not of trotters. 1898 *Cycling* 26 En route—Do not degenerate into a '*mile-hunter'. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 423 London-stone, which I take to have beene a Milliarie or *Milemarke. 1892 STEVENSON *Across the Plains* 308 Christmas is not only the mile-mark of another year. 1812 *Sporting Mag.* XXXIX. 50 Beal headed Wood at every *mile-post. 1754 EDWARDS *Freed. Will* IV. viii. (1762) 242 'Tis improper to talk of Months and Years of the Divine Existence, and *Mile-squares of Deity.

†**Mile,** *sb.*[2] *Obs.* Forms: 1 **mil**, **mil**, 4–5 **mylie**, 4–6 **myle**, **mile**, 5 **myld(e**, **milde**. See also MILL *sb.*[2] [OE. *mil* (and, prob. independently, ME. *myle*), ad. L. *milium*: see MILLET.] = MILLET.

a 800 *Ags. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 32/35 *Milium*, miil. *c* 1050 *Voc.* ibid. 443/19 *Milium*, mil. 1382 WYCLIF *Isa.* XXVIII. 25 Barly, and myle, and ficche. — *Ezek.* IV. 9 Take thou to thee whete, and barli, and bene, and lent, and mylie. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. CV. (1495) 669 Myle [*v. r.* mile] is an herbe with a longe stalke. *c* 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* I. 722 Eek myld is good [for geese]. 1551 TURNER *Herbal* II. 40 Lithospermon .. is called gray mil .. to put a difference betwene it and the other mile or millet. 1568 *Ibid.* III. Pref., Myle called in Duche Herse, in Latin *Milium.*

†**Mile,** *v. Obs. rare. trans.* To ornament (a cloth) with stripes near the edge. Only in **Mlled** (later **milded**) *ppl. a.*; **Miling** *vbl. sb.*, a stripe.

The sense seems to be certain from a comparison of quot. 1523 with an entry of 1496–7 in the same document, p. 32: 'An Awlter clothe diaper..with iiij Blewe Rayes at euery ende of the saide cloth'.

1512 in *Jacob's Hist. Faversham* (1774) 164 A lyttel olde towell pleyn miled with blewe. 1523 *Rec. St. Mary-at-Hill* (1904) 35 An aulter cloth of fine dyapre with a Cros of Sylke in the Middes..& at euery ende v. blewe Mylynges. 1548 *MS. Acc. St. John's Hosp., Canterb.*, A Towell of dyapar myleed wyth blewe. 1566 *Churchw. Acc. St. Dunstan's, Canterb.*, A towell mylded with blewe. One towelle mylded. One towelle mylded with whyt. 1590 in *Archæologia* XL. 340 Itm, two mylded napkins.

Mileage (məi·lêdg). Also 8 **milage**. [f. MILE *sb.*[1] + -AGE.]

1. A travelling allowance at a fixed rate per mile; spec. *U.S.* the allowance made to a member of congress to cover the expenses of the journey between his home and the capital.

1754 FRANKLIN *Place of Union* Wks. 1887 II. 345 Members' Pay.—shillings sterling per diem, during their sitting, and milage for travelling expenses. 1776 H. GATES in Sparks *Corr. Amer. Rev.* (1853) I. 281 The militia were promised their milage and billeting-money. 1888 BRYCE *Amer. Commw.* (1890) II. xl. 95 A small allowance, called mileage, for travelling expenses.

b. See quot.

1845 MCCULLOCH *Taxation* II. vi. (1852) 280 The duty on stage-carriages consists of a licence duty of 3*l.* 3*s.* a year, and of a mileage, or duty of so much per mile travelled over, according to the number of passengers the carriage is licensed to carry.

2. The aggregate number of miles of way made, used or travelled over; extent or distance in miles. Also, rate of travel in miles.

1861 SMILES *Engineers* I. 220 The total mileage of turnpike roads..was about one hundred and eighty miles. 1881 LUBBOCK in *Nature* No. 618. 412 The present mileage of railways is over 200,000 miles. 1890 *Spectator* 7 June 792 To compute the speed or mileage of quick-moving animals. 1891 T. HARDY *Tess* xliv, As the mileage lessened between her and the spot of her pilgrimage, so did Tess's confidence decrease. 1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 5 Apr. 10/1 There has been a very material decline in the traffic receipts though the mileage run has been practically the same.

b. *fig.*

1860 RUSSELL *Diary India* I. x. 155 It has been a heavy mileage of neglect for which we have already paid dearly. 1902 *Daily Chron.* 15 Oct. 3/2 A study less common than the mileage of metrical English might lead one to suppose.

c. *attrib.*

1885 H. O. FORBES *East. Archipelago* 52 Stations..which private travellers can obtain permission to make use of on payment of small mileage dues. 1895 *Westm. Gaz.* 14 May 8/2 The mileage rate of threepence for each first-class passenger.

Mi·le-castle. *Antiq.* One of a series of fortifications erected by the Romans at intervals along the lines of their military walls.

1732 HORSLEY *Rom. Antiq. Brit.* 118 These *castella* seem to have stood closest, where the stations are widest, and are by some modern authors called *mile castles* or *milliary castella.*

Mileguetta, obs. variant of MALAGUETTA.

1727 BAILEY vol. II, *Mileguetta*, Cardamoms, Grains.

Miled, obs. form of MILD.

†**Miler**[1]. *Obs. rare*—[1]. [a. F. *millier* (from 11th c.) :—L. *milliārium*, f. *mille* thousand.] A military corps or company of one thousand men.

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 13527 By milers & by centeners Sette þey þe bataille seers.

Miler[2] (məi·ləɹ). *Sporting slang.* [f. MILE[1] + -ER[1].] A man or a horse specially qualified or trained to run or race a mile course.

1891 *Lock to Lock Times* 24 Oct. 14/1 Allen is one of the best 'milers' in the country. 1894 ASTLEY 50 *Years Life* II. 100 Vexation colt..turned out a real good miler.

Miles, variant of MILDS *dial.*

Milesian (məilī·ʃiăn, mi-), *a.*[1] and *sb.*[1] [f. L. *Milēsius* (Gr. Μιλήσιος) of or pertaining to Miletus + -AN.] **a.** *adj.* Of or pertaining to Miletus, a city of Asia Minor, or to its inhabitants. **b.** *sb.* An inhabitant of Miletus.

Milesian tales (Gr. τὰ Μιλησιακά, L. *Milesiæ* sc. *fabulæ*), a class of voluptuous romances mentioned by ancient writers.

1649 OGILBY tr. *Virg. Georg.* III. (1684) 102 In rich Milesian Fleeces cloth'd. 1655 STANLEY *Hist. Philos.* II. (1687) 61/1 Anaximander a Milesian. 1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XXI. 319/1 The Milesian tale .. grew in the hands of Petronius and Apuleius into the satirical romance.

Milesian (məilī·ʃiăn, mi-), *a.*[2] and *sb.*[2] [f. the name of *Milesius* (Miledh), a fabulous Spanish king whose sons are reputed to have conquered and reorganized the ancient kingdom of Ireland about 1300 B.C.] **a.** *adj.* Of or pertaining to King Milesius or his people; Irish. **b.** *sb.* A member of the race descended from the companions of Milesins. Hence (sometimes *jocularly*), an Irishman.

1771 MRS. GRIFFITH *Hist. Lady Barton* I. 54 The old Irish families stile themselves *Milesians*, from Milesius, a Spaniard, who brought over a colony of his countrymen to people the island. 1771 MACPHERSON *Introd. Hist. Gt. Brit.* 102 Some Irish annalists affirm, that the Picts..were tributary to the Milesian Scots of Ireland. 1773 — *Ossian's Poems, Dissert.* (1806) I. p. xli, As a Scotchman, and of course, descended of the Milesian race.

Mi·lestone. [f. MILE *sb.*[1] + STONE.]

1. A pillar set up on a highway or other road or conrse to mark the miles.

a 1746 HOLDSWORTH *Virgil* (1768) 483 The first mile-stone on the Via Appia. 1774 *Beverley & Hessle Road Act* ii. 17 Roads to be measured and mile stones erected. 1858 LYTTON *What will he do* I. iii, The cobbler seated himself on a lonely milestone.

fig. 1847 EMERSON *Repr. Men, Uses Gt. Men* Wks. (Bohn) I. 288 For a time, our teachers serve us personally, as metres or milestones of progress. 1897 *N. & Q.* 8th Ser. XII. 154/2 Ever since I have passed my eightieth milestone.

2. *slang.* (See quot.)

1812 J. H. VAUX *Flash Dict.*, *Milestone*, a country booby.

Milet, obs. form of MILLET.

†**Mi·leway.** *Obs.* [f. MILE *sb.*[1] + WAY.]

1. The space of time in which a mile may be travelled on foot; a period of twenty minutes. Hence *Astr.*, a third of an hour of angular measurement.

13.. *Evang. Nicod.* 704 in *Archiv Stud. neu. Spr.* LIII. 404 Þe sonne at his ded wex all wan wele thre myle way or mare. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 1578 Alle þe surgens of salerne so sone ne coþen Haue lesed his langour and his liif saued, As þe maide meliors in a mile wei dede. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Shipman's T.* 276, I shal nat faille surely of my day, Nat for a thousand frankes, a myle-way. *c* 1391 — *Astrol.* I. § 16 As I have said, 5 of thise degrees maken a mile-wey, and 3 mile-wey maken an houre.

2. A distance of one mile.

13.. *K. Alis.* 3487 He swam in thilke hevy armes; A mile waie with strengthe of armes. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. VIII. 131 On Maluerne hulles, Musyng on þis Meeteles A myle wei Ich 3eode. *c* 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 572 Thus thai mellit on mold, ane myle way and maire. 1530 PALSGR. 862/1 Over a myle way, *oultre vne mile.*

3. A name applied to certain roads in the neighbourhood of Oxford. Also *attrib.*

1771 *Act* 11 *Geo. III*, c. 19 (*title*) An Act for amending certain of the Mile-Ways leading to Oxford. *Ibid.*, Whereas such of the several Roads near the University and City of Oxford usually called the Mile-Ways, as are not Part of any Turnpike Road, are in a very bad State [etc.]. 1798 in Mrs. B. Stapleton *Three Oxford Parishes* (O.H.S.) 164 Paid Scroggs, surveyor, the Mileway money, £7 0 0.

Mileyner, obs. form of MILLINER.

Milfoil (mi·lfoil). Forms: 4 mille-, mylfoly, 5 myllefoyle, millefoil, melle-, myllyfoly, 5–6 mylfoile, 6 mylfoyle, myllefoly, 6–7 milfoile, 7 millefoil(e, 3, 7– milfoil. [ME. *milfoil*, a. OF. *milfoil* masc. (also *millefueille*, mod.F. *mille-feuille* fem., after *feuille* leaf):—L. *mīlifolium*, *millefolium*, f. *mīle*, *mille* thousand + *folium* leaf. The name alludes to the many finely-divided leaves of the plant. Cf. the synonymous Gr. χιλιόφυλλος (f. χίλιοι thousand + φύλλον leaf), It. *millefoglio*, *millefoglie*, Pg. *millfolhas*.]

1. The common yarrow, *Achillea Millefolium*.

[*c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 194 Wið ȝeswell, ȝenim þas ylcan wyrte myllefolium.] *c* 1265 *Voc. Plants* in Wr.-Wülcker 555/9 *Millefolium*, Milfoil. 14.. in *Rel. Ant.* I. 55 Tak confery, marigolde, matfelon, mylfoyle. 14.. *Stockh. Med. MS.* 1. 173 in *Anglia* XVIII. 299 Take mylfoly & flour & comyn. *c* 1450 *ME. Med. Bk.* (Heinrich) 112 Take betoyne, verneyne millefoil, & quintfoile, ana, wasshe hem, & grynde hem in a morter. 1567 MAPLET *Gr. Forest* 52 Mylfoile, of some Yarrow or Nosebleede, is a small and short set or shrub. 1579 LANGHAM *Gard. Health* (1633) 397 Milfoile or yarrow: The decoction thereof doth cure the bloudy flixe and all other lasks. 1615 BRATHWAIT *Strappado* (1878) 88 The pinke, the plantaine, milfoile, euery one. 1728 J. GARDINER tr. *Rapin On Gardens* 41 The Milfoil next her thousand Leaves displays. 1877 BESANT & RICE *Harp & Cr.* i, The ..yellow hawkweed, pink herbrobert, and the white milfoil.

b. The genus *Achillea*.

1789 W. AITON *Hortus Kewensis* III. 239 *Achillea Santolina*..Lavender-cotton-leav'd Milfoil. *Ibid.*, *A. Ageratum*.. Sweet Milfoil, or Maudlin. *Ibid.*, *A. tomentosa*..Woolly Milfoil...*A. pubescens*..Downy Milfoil [etc.]. 1882 *Garden* 12 Aug. 134/2 Unlike most of the Milfoils, it is..a decidedly handsome and stately border plant.

2. In the names of plants of other genera, as **hooded (water) milfoil**, the genus *Utricularia*; **knight's milfoil,** *Stratiotes aloides*; **water milfoil,** (*a*) the genus *Myriophyllum*; (*b*) the water violet, *Hottonia palustris*.

1578 LYTE *Dodoens* I. ci. 142 Water Milfoyle or Yearrow. *Ibid.* 143 Knights Milfoyle: souldiers Yerrow. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. cclxxxvi. 678 Water Milfoile or water Yarrow hath long and large leaues [etc.]. 1741 *Compl. Fam.-Piece* II. iii. 380 Likewise these in the Water-tubs, .. the Water Violet, and Water Milfoil, with some others. 1760 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* App. 319 Milfoil, Water, *Hottonia*. *Ibid.*, Milfoil, Water, *Myriophyllum*. *Ibid.*, Milfoil, Water, *Utricularia*. 1854 S. THOMSON *Wild Fl.* III. (ed. 4) 205 We may find one or other of the water mill-foils. 1863 PRIOR *Brit. Plants* s. v., Hooded-Milfoil, *Utricularia*, L., Water Milfoil, *Myriophyllum*, L. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* s. v., Water Milfoil, *Myriophyllum*; also *Hottonia palustris*.

†**Milful,** *a.* ? var. MILDFUL or MILCEFUL.

c 1400 *R. Glouc.* (Rolls) 8966 (MS. B) Mylfol. *Ibid.* 8975 (MS. B) Mylfol, (MS. 8) milfol.

†**Milge,** *a. Obs.* In 5 **mylge.** *trans.* To dig round about. Hence **Mi·lging** *vbl. sb.*

c 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* II. 296 Mylge hem not [orig. *circumfodi non debent*] in tymes whan thai floure. *Ibid.* 362 In their age a mylging they desireth, Lest thai therynne al hoor yherded goo. *Ibid.* III. 522 In the semynary sholde The plauntes now be mylged euerychon.

‖ **Milia** (mi·liă), *sb. pl. Path.* [L., pl. of *milium* MILLET, MILIUM.] Minute spots, resembling those of measles, which occur in miliary fever.

1876 DUHRING *Dis. Skin* 119 Milia have their seat for the most part upon the face, especially on the forehead and about the eyelids. 1890 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

Milia: see MILLY *Obs.*

Miliaceous (mili,ē·ʃəs), *a.* [f. prec. + -ACEOUS.] Of the nature of milia; like millet or the millet-seed.

1684 tr. *Bonet's Merc. Compit.* XVIII. 610 Some miliaceous roughnesses..arose upon the skin. 1890 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

†**Mi·liad.** *Obs. rare.* [irreg. f. L. *mīlia*, pl. of *mille* thousand: cf. MYRIAD.] A collected thousand.

1616–61 HOLYDAY *Persius* 298 Thou shalt not buy .. This my dear scoff, my nothing, for whole miliads Of any base poets long-winded Iliads. 1732 STACKHOUSE *Hist. Bible* (1767) III. vi. i. 575 This miliad of wives and concubines.

†**Mi·liar.** *Obs. rare*—1. In 5 **milyair.** [ad. L. *miliārium*.] A tall narrow vessel used in Roman baths for drawing and warming water.

c 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* I. 1093 A milyair of leed [orig. *miliarium plumbeum*].

‖ **Miliaria** (mili,ē·ri,ă). [mod.L. uses of L. *miliāria*, fem. of *miliārius*: see MILIARY *a.*]

†**1.** The corn-bunting, *Emberiza miliaria*. *Obs.*

1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Miliaria*, a Bird that feeds upon Millet, a Linnet.

2. *Path.* Miliary fever: see MILIARY *a.* 2.

1807 *Med. Jrnl.* XVII. 399 Section 2. *Exanthemata* .. miliaria, urticaria, .. and variola vaccina. 1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) III. 408 Various species of ecpyesis, small-pox and in one instance miliaria. 1876 DUHRING *Dis. Skin* 230 Miliaria is an acute, inflammatory disorder of the sweat-glands. 1890 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

Miliary (mi·liări), *a.* [ad. L. *miliārius* pertaining to millet, f. *milium* MILL *sb.*2, MILLET: see -ARY.]

1. *Phys.* and *Path.* Resembling a millet-seed in size or form; resembling an aggregation of millet-seeds. *Miliary gland*: one of the sebaceons glands of the skin. *Miliary tubercle*: a greyish-white spherical body about the size of a millet-seed, common in diseased tissues of the lungs and in the membrane of the brain.

1685 BOYLE *Salubr. Air* 23 The minute or miliary Glandules of the Skin. 1715 CHEYNE *Philos. Princ. Relig.* I. vi. 325 Between these Scales the Excretory Ducts of the Miliary Glands of the true Skin open. 1725 HUXHAM in *Phil. Trans.* XXXIII. 380 There would appear in the Interstices of the Pox several miliary Pustules. 1816 KEITH *Phys. Bot.* I. 68 The miliary glands of animals. 1834 J. FORBES *Laennec's Dis. Chest* (ed. 4) 325 We find a great many ulcers in the intestines, and in most of these, small miliary tubercles. 1854 JONES & SIEV. *Pathol. Anat.* (1875) 241 The deposit of tubercle..occurs in the shape of small miliary granules. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 478 A firm, miliary or prurigo-like papular projection.

2. *Path.* Attended or characterized by spots or vesicles resembling millet-seeds or an aggregation of millet-seeds. *Miliary fever*: a specific disease characterized by the presence of a rash resembling measles, the spots of which exhibit in their centres minute vesicles of the form of millet-seed.

1737 D. HAMILTON (*title*) A Treatise of a Miliary Fever. 1742 H. WALPOLE *Let. to Mann* 15 Apr., The Duchess of Cleveland died last night of what they call a miliary fever. 1844 T. J. GRAHAM *Dom. Med.* 647 It [scarlet fever] may be distinguished from miliary fever by the miliary eruption being..attended by considerable perspiration. 1874 *Q. Jrnl. Microsc. Sci.* XIV. 311 A form of grey degeneration occurring in the brain and spinal cord, and designated by Drs. Batty Tuke and Rutherford, 'miliary sclerosis'.

3. *Nat. Hist.* Having numerous small granulations or projections. *Miliary gland* (*Bot.*), a stoma or stomate.

1760 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* III. xviii. (1765) 211 *Miliary*, like grains of Millet. 1836 LOUDON *Encycl. Plants* 655 *Citron Medica*...The outer [rind] thin, with innumerable miliary glands. *Gloss.*, *Miliary*, granulate, resembling many seeds. 1852 DANA *Crust.* I. 447 A smooth even surface, excepting a neat miliary granulation. 1866 *Treas. Bot.*, *Miliary Glands*, the same as Stomates.

b. *Miliary sized*: having the size of millet-seeds.

1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 592 It [*sc.* the polygonal papule of lichen] is miliary to pepper-corn sized.

4. As *sb. Zool.* A minute tubercle on the shell or skin of some animals (Webster 1897).

Miliary, obs. form of MILLIARY.

†**Milice.** *Obs.* [a. F. *milice* 'warlike discipline' (Cotgr.), ad. L. *mīlitia* warfare.] Militia; military service or training.

1635 J. HAYWARD tr. *Biondi's Banish'd Virg.* 139 My Father not knowing how to refuse the destinated milice, bethought himselfe of sending me into Persia. 1673 SIR W. TEMPLE *Observ. Netherl.* i. 13 The Forces of these Counts were composed of..a Milice, which was call'd *Les gens d'ordonnance*, who served on foot, and were not unlike our Train-bands. *Ibid.* vii. 227 Out of this Revenue is supplied the charge of the whole Milice.

Milicia, obs. form of MILITIA.

‖ **Milieu** (mi,lyö). [F. *milieu* middle, medium, f. *mi*:—L. *medius* (see MEDIUM) + *lieu* place.] A medium, environment, 'surroundings'.

1877 J. A. SYMONDS *Renaiss. It., Reviv. Learn.* 4 The intellectual and moral milieu created by multitudes of self-centred, cultivated personalities was necessary for the evolution of that spirit of intelligence,..that formed the motive force of the Renaissance. 1893 *Fortn. Rev.* Mar. 322, I prepared a Milieu, consisting of seventy-five parts of broth and twenty-five parts of the liquid, to which I wished to habituate the Microbe. 1900 *Daily News* 15 Aug. 6/4 The story, which is set in a middle-class milieu, succeeds in being pleasantly homely.

†**Miligant.** *Obs.*

a 1500 *Colkelbie Sow* Proem i. 55 (Laing), A miligant and a michare.

Miliner, obs. form of MILLINER.

Miling: see MILE *v. Obs.*

‖ **Miliola** (mili·ŏlă), *pl.* **-æ.** *Zool.* [mod.L., dim. of L. *milium* millet.] An important genus of imperforate foraminifera; an animal of this genus.

1836 BUCKLAND *Geol. & Min.* (1837) I. 385 The *Miliola*, a small multilocular shell, no larger than a millet seed, with which the strata of many quarries in the neighbourhood of Paris are largely interspersed. 1879 CARPENTER in *Encycl. Brit.* IX. 376/2 The shells of the *Miliolæ*..are at present found in the shore sands of almost every sea.

Miliolid (mi·liŏlid). *Zool.* [f. MILIOLA + -ID.] Any member of the foraminiferal family *Miliolida*.

1894 LISTER in *Phil. Trans.* CLXXXVI. 408 The forms which had been shown to exist in the species of Nummulites and Miliolids.

Milio·liform, *a. Zool.* [f. MILIOL-A + -(I)FORM.] = MILIOLINE. In recent Dicts.

Milioline (mi·liŏlin), *a.* and *sb. Zool.* [f. MILIOLA + -INE.] **a.** *adj.* Pertaining to or consisting of Miliolæ. **b.** *sb.* A foraminifer belonging to the genus *Miliola* or to the family *Miliolida*.

1873 DAWSON *Earth & Man* 243 The milioline limestone of the Eocene, so called from its immense abundance of microscopic shells of the genus Miliolina. 1879 CARPENTER in *Encycl. Brit.* IX. 376/2 Milioline shells .. often show some kind of 'sculpture'. *Ibid.*, From this simple undivided spire we may pass along two divergent lines, one conducting us to the *milioline* and the other to the *orbiculine* type. *Ibid.*, In the typical Miliolines it [the structure] is more or less obscured by the extension of the later chambers over the earlier. 1884 BRADY in *Challenger Rep., Zool.* IX. 137 The more strictly Milioline Foraminifera.

Miliolite (mi·liŏlait), *a.* and *sb. Geol.* and *Palæont.* In 9 *erron.* milliolite. [f. MILIOLA + -ITE 1.] **a.** *adj.* Formed or consisting of Miliolæ. **b.** *sb.* A fossil milioline foraminifer. Hence **Miliolitic** *a.*, containing miliolites.

1833 LYELL *Princ. Geol.* III. 246 Coarse marine limestone through which the small multilocular shell, called milliolite, is dispersed in countless numbers. 1847 ANSTED *Anc. World* xii. 289 The beds of nummulites and miliolites contemporaneous with those containing the Sheppey plants. 1872 NICHOLSON *Palæont.* 66 The Miliolite Limestone of the Paris basin. 1883 *Ann. & Mag. Nat. Hist.* July 68 All the species of Miliolites that we have studied are dimorphous.

Milion, obs. f. MELON, MILAN, MILLION.

Milioun, obs. form of MILLION.

Militancy (mi·litănsi). [f. MILITANT *a.*: see -ANCY.] The condition of being militant.

1648 W. MOUNTAGUE *Devoute Ess.* I. x. § 7. 122 All humane life, especially the active part, is constituted in a state of continual militancy [*printed* malitancy]. 1826 E. IRVING *Babylon* II. vii. 180 Emblem of the Church's passage from militancy to glory upon the earth. 1856 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* (1858) I. i. 88 The nation was in a normal condition of militancy against social injustice.

b. In Herbert Spencer's use: The condition of being a 'militant' community; social organization framed with a view to a state of war.

1876 H. SPENCER *Princ. Sociol.* (1877) I. 708 Where..the chiefly power is small, the militancy is not great.

Militant (mi·litănt), *a.* and *sb.* [a. F. *militant*, a. L. *mīlitant-em*, pr. pple. of *mīlitāre* to serve as a soldier, wage war (see MILITATE *v.*), f. *milit-*, *mīles* soldier.] **A.** *adj.*

1. Engaged in warfare, warring. *Church militant*: see CHURCH 4 b.

1413 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton) v. vi. (1859) 76 The chirche militant, that laboureth here in erthe. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* lxx. 19 Thow, that art of mercy militant. *c* 1550 COVERDALE *Carrying Christ's Cross* viii. 94 Yet shoulde they [*sc.* the departed] in this case be discerned from the myltaunte members, they beyng at reste. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. viii. 2 How oft do they with golden pineons cleave The flitting skyes..Against fowle feendes to ayd us militant! 1615 BRATHWAIT *Strappado* (1878) 223 For his abiding, hee's as in a Tent, Wherein hees militant, not permanent. 1672 WILKINS *Nat. Relig.* 251 Our condition, whilst we are in this world, is militant, wherein every one is without reluctancy to submit to the orders of his great captain or general. 1755 YOUNG *Centaur* v. Wks. 1757 IV. 223 This is a militant state; nor must man unbuckle his armour, till he puts on his shroud. 1873 J. H. NEWMAN *Hist. Sk.* III. i. 1 The Church is ever militant; sometimes she gains, sometimes she loses.

b. *Sociology.* Epithet employed by Spencer for a system of social organization in which efficiency in war is the primary object aimed at.

1882 H. SPENCER *Princ. Sociol.* § 521 II. 662 Under the militant type [of society] the individual is owned by the State.

†**2.** Of a standard: Military. *Obs.*

1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 22 b/1, The kynge of heven perdurable hath hys signes mylytant in the chirche. 1609 HOLLAND *Amm. Marcell.* Annot. b j, The militant ensignes or banners in the Romane legion.

3. Combative.

1603 FLORIO *Montaigne* I. xlix. 161 He would maintaine by militant reasons [orig. *par vives raisons*] that the waste was in his right place. 1809–10 COLERIDGE *Friend* (1865) 57 That we be sedulous, yea, and militant in the endeavour to reason aright, is His implied command. 1841 MYERS *Cath. Th.* III. § 40. 147 This is a condition which must instigate to resistance in the most pacific, and to rebellion in the more militant. 1903 J. WILLCOCK *Gt. Marquess* vi. 88 The expenses of the militant Presbyterians.

Hence **Mi·litantness,** the quality of being militant (1727 in Bailey, vol. II).

B. *sb.* One engaged in war or strife.

1610 G. FLETCHER *Christ's Vict.* II. xxx, Looking down on His weake militants. 1643 SIR T. BROWNE *Relig. Med.* II. § 3 Even amongst wiser militants, how many wounds have been given, and credits slain. 1814 SOUTHEY *Let. to J. White* 2 May in *Life* (1850) IV. 74 Horsley was the militant of the last generation. 1900 *Daily News* 6 Apr. 6/5 They [Anarchists in England] are divided into two bodies: 'Idealists' and 'Militants'.

b. A member of the military profession.

1842 *United Service Mag.* II. 540 Will this modicum of embryo scientific militants suffice for every regiment?

Militantly (mi·lităntli), *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY 2.] In a militant or combative manner.

1628 B. HALL *Serm. Lds. Parl.* 5 Apr. 48 How do they looke vp at us, as euen now Militantly-triumphant, whiles [etc.]. 1886 *Academy* 2 Oct. 215/2, I do not in the least mean that *Faust*, any more than 'Hamlet', is a militantly heathen poem. 1887 BENSON *Laud* 225 Laud's ideal was a high one, but it was..too militantly..held.

†**Militar(e,** *a. Obs.* [ad. F. *militaire*: see -AR 2. Cf. MILITARY.] Military, martial.

1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* II. xix. (S.T.S.) I. 205 It was governit be ressoun militare. 1588 J. HARVEY *Disc. Probl.* 82 What were states..without..the militar discipline of armies..? 1624 WOTTON *Archit.* in *Relig.* (1651) 216 They are surely fitter for Militar Architecture. 1625 BACON *Ess.*, *Vain-Glory*, In Militar Commanders and Soldiers, Vaine-Glory is an Essential Point. 1640 HABINGTON *Edw. IV* 142 The militar exercise of the French.

Militarily (mi·litărili), *adv.* [f. MILITARY + -LY 2.]

1. In a military or warlike manner.

1660 *Trial Regicides* 155 Because we were militarily affected. 1831 Gen. P. Thompson *Exerc.* (1842) I. 430 There is no disgrace in being militarily conquered after resisting to the last. 1870 W. R. Greg *Polit. Problems* 38 We could not interfere militarily without the assistance of a Continental Power.

2. From a military point of view.

1793 Sir M. Eden in *Ld. Auckland's Corr.* III. 207 The Emperor's journey, civilly and militarily, has had an excellent effect. 1839 T. Hook in *New Monthly Mag.* LVI. 2 This, militarily speaking, 'signifieth nothing'. 1898 G. W. Steevens *Egypt* xiv. 163 Egypt was left militarily in the most exposed situation imaginable.

Militariness (mi·litărinĕs). [f. Military + -ness.] The state or condition of being military.

1834 M. Scott *Cruise Midge* xvi, Don't be surprised at the militariness of my lingo, for I am colonel of the regiment of foot militia here. 1897 Maitland *Domesday & Beyond* 152 All sense of militariness .. seems to be disappearing.

Militarism (mi·litărizm). [a. F. *militarisme*, f. *militaire*: see Military and -ism.]

1. The spirit and tendencies characteristic of the professional soldier; the prevalence of military sentiment or ideals among a people; the political condition characterized by the predominance of the military class in government or administration; the tendency to regard military efficiency as the paramount interest of the state.

1864 *Daily Tel.* 28 Apr. (tr. G. Garibaldi), An army, bright in glory, yet untainted with that disease of modern times, known under the sinister name of militarism. 1868 *Macm. Mag.* XIX. 156 Prussian officialism is supreme and .. Prussian militarism as well. 1891 J. W. Cross in *Fortn. Rev.* 469 Industrialism as opposed to militarism, is now the central idea of the New World.

2. A military habit or mannerism.

1893 D. C. Murray *Time's Revenges* III. xlvii. 268 Their militarisms and legalities made the more openly sentimental-minded folk altogether ill at ease.

Militarist (mi·litărist). [f. Military + -ist.] A soldier, warrior; one who studies military science; one dominated by military ideas.

1601 Shaks. *All's Well* IV. iii. 161 This is Mounsieur Parrolles the gallant militarist, that was his owne phrase. 1860 Gen. P. Thompson *Audi Alt.* (1861) III. cxvi. 51 Questions for the solution of the youthful militarist. 1884 J. R. Seeley in *Encycl. Brit.* XVII. 226/1 Napoleon .. a ruthless militarist, cynic, and Machiavellian.

Hence **Militari·atic** *adj.*, characterized by militarism.

1905 *Athenæum* 15 July 73/1 A political organization and a moral tendency common to all nascent civilization of the militaristic order.

Militarization (militărəizē··fən). [f. Militarize *v.* + -ation.] Conversion to a military status or to military methods.

1881 *Fortn. Rev.* Mar. 356 This voluntary militarization in a country where the people may calculate upon continual peace. 1891 *Sat. Rev.* 1 Aug. 133/2 There are some who..talk about the 'militarization' of the annual rifle competitions.

Militarize (mi·litărəiz), *v.* [f. Military + -ize.] *trans.* To convert to military methods; to train as a soldier; to imbue with militarism.

1880 *Fortn. Rev.* Feb. 293 A war by which a military dominion is yet further militarised. 1888 *Lanc. Even. Post* 3 Feb. 2/4 Sir Charles Warren..had done his best to militarise Scotland Yard. 1889 *Times* 21 Oct. 5/4 The militarizing of the Civil Service.

Military (mi·litări), *a.* and *sb.* Also 6–7 -rie. [f. F. *militaire*, ad. L. *mīlitar-is*, f. *milit-*, *mīles* soldier. Cf. Sp., Pg. *militar*, It. *militare*.]

A. *adj.*

1. Pertaining to soldiers; used, performed, or brought about by soldiers; befitting a soldier.

1585 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* III. iii. 74 The Pretorian legions..began to become rulers over their maisters, vnder pretext of such a Militarie gift. 1591 Garrard *Art Warre* 17 Which he must weare to honour the Militarie profession. 1597 Shaks. 2 *Hen. IV*, II. iii. 30 So that in Speech, in Gate,..In Militarie Rules,..He was the Marke and Glasse..That fashion'd others. 1611 Heywood *Gold. Age* II. i. Wks. 1874 III. 21 Train'd my youth, In feats of Armes, and military prowesse. 1665 Manley *Grotius' Low C. Warres* 119 They esteem luxury, and all other licentiousness, as Military Gallantry. 1667 Milton *P. L.* IV. 955 Was this..Your military obedience..? *Ibid.* XI. 241 Over his lucid Armes A militarie Vest of purple flowd. *a* 1718 Penn *Tracts* Wks. 1726 I. 575 Maugre all the Military Opposition of the Jews. 1776 Burney *Hist. Mus.* I. i. iv. 340 With respect to Military Music, the trumpet is mentioned by Homer in a simile. 1836 Dickens *Sk. Boz, Scenes* xiv, A military band commenced playing. 1843 Borrow *Bible in Spain* xliv, The late military revolution. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* vi. II. 142 Tyrconnel..knew nothing of military duty. 1860 *All Year Round* No. 42 370 They march along with their military heels, their shortened petticoats abruptly terminating. 1901 *Daily Chron.* 4 June, The allied troops rendered military honours to the departing commander-in-chief.

2. Engaged in the life of a soldier; belonging to the army.

1597 Shaks. 2 *Hen. IV*, IV. i. 62 The Throngs of Militarie men. 1617 Moryson *Itin.* II. 45 That dependancy which all military men already had on him. 1682 Dryden *Medal* 179 Thy military chiefs are brave and true.

transf. 1816 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* xvii. (1818) II. 65 When the military ants before alluded to go upon their expeditions.

b. Having the characteristics of a soldier; soldierly.

1588 Shaks. *L. L. L.* v. i. 38 Most militarie sir, salutation. 1612 Bacon *Ess., Greatn. Kingd.* (Arb.) 472 Walled Towns, ..Ordinance, and Artillerie, they are all but a Sheep in a Lions skin, except the breed and disposition of the people be militarie. 1839 Bailey *Festus* xii. (1852) 146 Man is a military animal, Glories in gunpowder, and loves parade. 1863 Kinglake *Crimea* I. 64 He was a man too military to be warlike.

3. Having reference to armed forces or to the army; adapted to or connected with a state of war; distinguished from *civil*, *ecclesiastical*, etc.

1590 Sir J. Smyth *Disc. Weapons* Ded. 1 b, Our auncient proceedings in matters Militarie. 1600 J. Pory tr. *Leo's Africa* App. 373 His fourth militarie forces, are the Arabians. 1602 Warner *Alb. Eng.* Epit. (1612) 357 Ætius..caused this maruellous and militarie Wall then to be huilded. 1612 Selden *Illustr. Drayton's Poly-olb.* xv. 244 Excepting those [orders] of Templars..and such like other which were more Religious then Military. 1768 Blackstone *Comm.* III. 115 The public ecclesiastical, military, and maritime jurisdictions. 1804 Duke of Grafton in *Autobiog.*, etc. (1898) 3 A parent, who, had he lived, would probably have been as distinguished a character in the civil, as he had shown that he was in the military [*i. e.* naval] line. 1825 J. Neal *Bro. Jonathan* III. 115 Washington would have lost a part, or the whole of..his military stores. 1850 W. D. Cooper *Hist. Winchelsea* 37 The Strand Gate..leading by the new Military road to Rye.

b. In special collocations. **Military architecture**, the science of fortification. **Military art**, †**art military**, the art of war (also *fig.*). **Military board**, a board specially appointed to deal with the affairs of the army. **Military chest**, the treasury of an army. **Military drum**, the side or 'snare' drum. **Military engineering** = *Military architecture.* **Military execution** (see quot. 1704). **Military feud**, a feudal estate held on certain conditions of armed service to be rendered to the feudal superior. **Military fever**, enteric or typhus fever. **Military hospital**, a hospital designed for the reception of soldiers, esp. a field hospital. **Military law**, the body of enactments and rules for the government of an army; also, an enactment or rule forming part of this. **Military mast**, a mast carried by a war-ship for fighting purposes only. **Military offence**, an offence cognizable by a military court. **Military service**, the service in war due from a vassal to his feudal superior. **Military tenure**, a feudal tenure under which a vassal owed his superior certain defined services in war. **Military testament**, a nuncupative will by which, in the Roman law, a soldier might dispose of his possessions without the formalities required in an ordinary testament. **Military top**, an armoured platform placed on a military mast for signalling and other warlike purposes. †**Military yard**, a place set apart for the training of soldiers.

1688 Capt. J. S. *Fortification* 23 Fortification, or *Military Architecture, is a Science [etc.]. 1590 Sir J. Smyth *Disc. Weapons* Ded. 1 And speciallie in the *Arte Militarie. 1693 Congreve *Old Bach.* v. xv, That you are overreached too, ha! ha! ha! only a little art-military used. 1726 Swift *Gulliver* IV. xii, Their prudence..would amply supply all defects in the military art. 1800 Wellington in Gurw. *Desp.* I. 233, I admire the attention to economy in the *Military board. 1753 Hanway *Trav.* (1762) II. v. i. 126 The *military chest..fell also into the hands of the Abdollees. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* vi. II. 63 The Universities were preparing to coin their plate for the purpose of supplying the military chest of his enemies. 1872 *Nature* 11 Apr. 465/1 It is to the School of *Military Engineering that the young lieutenants of Engineers are sent. 1704 J. Harris *Lex. Techn.* I, **Military Execution*, is delivering a Country up to be ravaged and destroyed by the Soldiers, when it refuses to pay Contribution, &c. 1730 M. Wright *Law Tenures* 32 *Military Feuds in most Countries began to descend to the eldest Son only. 1885–8 Fagge & Pye-Smith *Princ. Med.* (ed. 2) I. 131 *Morbus Castrensis* or **military fever.* 1799 *Med. Jrnl.* I. 455 The want of proper *military hospitals has been severely felt. 1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 295/2 The *military law of England in early times existed ..in a period of war only. 1887 *Daily News* 25 July 2/5 One bare pole called a *military mast. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 8 June 5/2 One of the Spanish shot hit the military mast of the *Massachusetts.* 1848 Wharton *Law Lex.*, **Military offences*, those matters which are cognizable by the courts military, as insubordination, sleeping on guard, desertion, &c. 1818 Hallam *Mid. Ages* ii. I. (1868) 79 It by no means appears, that any conditions of *military service were expressly annexed to these grants. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XII. 14/2 Soon after the restoration of king Char. II. when the *military tenures were abolished. 1879 *Ibid.* (ed. 9) IX. 175/2 The king..had a right to the military service of such among his subjects as held lands by military tenure. 1797 Tomlins *Jacob's Law Dict.*, **Military Testament.* 1887 *Times* (weekly ed.) 26 Aug. 8/1 Two mainmasts with *military-tops. 1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 28 That little use which he hath had of his Armes in the Artillery garden, and *Military yard. 1635 Barriffe *Mil. Discip.* xcix. (1643) 286 The Gentlemen of the Military yard. 1659 Rushw. *Hist. Coll.* I. 422 The Military-yard near St. Martins in the Fields.

B. *sb.*

1. Soldiery; soldiers generally. Chiefly, *the military*; now with plural verb.

1757 J. H. Grose *Voy. E. Indies* 202 None..of the Parsees either meddle at all with the government, or with the military. 1772 *Ann. Reg.* 93/1 The military marched down to the ship. 1813 *Chron.* ibid. 76 The whole escorted by 400 military. 1868 M. E. G. Duff *Pol. Surv.* 16 Their procession was interrupted by the military.

†b. The military profession, the army. *Obs.*

1775 *Tender Father* I. 189 Even to the gentlemen in the military,..Mr. N—— would not allow of any material excuses.

†2. A military man, esp. an officer in the army.

1736 Mrs. Manley *Secret Mem.* I. 157 A certain Military's Wife has had more Darts for him than are necessary. 1804 Anna Seward *Mem. Darwin* 149 Fox-hunting squires, dashing militaries, and pedantic gownsmen. 1837 *Lett. fr. Madras* (1843) 94 The civilians all expect to come to us..; and the militaries go to Captain Price.

Hence **Mi·litaryism**, militarism. **Mi·litary-ment**, military experience or ability.

1776 Jefferson *Let.* Writ. 1893 II. 88 Pray regard militaryment alone. 1886 E. B. Bax *Relig. Socialism* 6 Hence the prominence of militaryism in all early civilisations. 1885 *Athenæum* 31 Oct. 569/3 In England and the United States ..militaryism is less dominant.

†**Mi·litaster.** *Obs. rare.* [f. L. *mīlit-*, *mīles* soldier + -aster.] A soldier without military skill or knowledge.

1640 Brome *Antipodes* III. iv, *Dia*...But who comes here? a woman? *Let.* Ves; that has taken up the newest fashion Of the towne-militasters. *a* 1652 — *Covent Gard.* v. iii, What would an upstart Militaster now, That knew no rudiments of discipline, nor Art of warre, do in a sudden service?

Militate (mi·litēt), *v.* [f. L. *militāt-*, ppl. stem of *militāre* to serve as a soldier, f. *milit-*, *mīles* soldier: see -ate 3.]

1. *intr.* Of persons: To serve as a soldier; to take part in warfare.

1625 W. B. *True School War* 41 This..moues many Italian Canaliers to militate in the warres of Holland. 1662 Earl Orrery *State Lett.* (1743) II. 437 The faithful Christians..militating against the hereticks. 1769 Burke *Late St. Nat.* Wks. 1842 I. 82 The supply of her armies militating in so many distant countries. 1831–40 K. Digby *Mores Catholici* (1847) III. 148 Men who militate merely for pay. 1832 De Quincey *Cæsars* Wks. 1859 X. 216 Originally it had militated for glory and power; now its militancy was for a free movement of aspiring and hopeful existence.

†b. *transf.* and *fig.* To contend, make war, exert power or influence; to strive. *Obs.*

1643 Prynne *Sov. Power Parl.* App. 199 Lest .. whiles they seeke to deserve well of the Common-wealth, they militate to the private lust of any. 1675 Baxter *Cath. Theol.* I. III. 22 God doth not militate against himself. 1735 Berkeley *Reasons* § 17 This learned professor, who at bottom militates on my side. 1781 Gibbon *Decl. & F.* xxvii. III. 64 The invisible powers of heaven..seemed to militate on the side of the pious emperor. 1799 E. Du Bois *Piece Family Biog.* III. 157 To incur the severe displeasure of his father and sir David, by disobeying the one, and militating against the peace of the other, was what he could not bear. 1851 Landor *Popery* 36 They who litigate and militate in the church about him.

2. Of things. †**a.** To conflict, be inconsistent *with*; also (of speech or action), to be directed *against*. *Obs.* **b.** Of evidence, facts, circumstances: To have force, 'tell' *against* (rarely †*for*, *in favour of*) some conclusion or result.

1642 Heylin *Hist. Episc.* II. 4 The discourse of Clemens.. doth militate as well against the one, as against the other. 1658 Baxter *Saving Faith* 22 Your reasons..do learnedly militate for the Assertion that I maintain. 1756 Amory *Buncle* (1770) II. 193 It militates with the revealed truths of God. 1791 Burke *App. Whigs* Wks. VI. 132 Something which militates with any rational plan. 1796 Earl Malmesbury *Diaries & Corr.* III. 355 It militated directly against the principle..laid down. 1804 tr. *La Martelière's Three Gil Blas* II. 272 The same reasons militated in their favour. 1816 Peacock *Headlong Hall* xiii, Your observation militates on my side of the question. 1838 Sir W. Hamilton *Logic* xxxiv. (1866) II. 195 Everything may militate for, and nothing militate against, its authenticity. *a* 1852 Webster *Wks.* (1877) III. 210 Dispatches are read, which, it is said militate with one another. 1853 Mansel *Lett., Lect.*, etc. (1873) App. 102 The whole character and history of mathematical science militates against the admission of this consequence. 1864 Maine *Anc. Law* 122 Its connexion with Scripture rather militated than otherwise against its reception as a complete theory. 1874 A. J. Christie in *Ess. Relig. & Lit.* Ser. III. 65 The same reasons which militated in favour of the necessity of the Church's living authority in the first four centuries, militate for it now.

†3. *trans.* To fight out, debate (a question). *Obs.*

1754 A. Murphy *Gray's Inn Jrnl.* No. 78 The present question must be militated before any other question can be received. 1762 Foote *Orator* I. Wks. 1799 I. 198 When affairs of state are weighed at a common-council, religious points militated at the Robin Hood,..or politics debated near Westminster-abbey [etc.].

Hence **Milita·tion** *sb.*, conflict.

1659 Z. Crofton in *Morn. Exerc.* (1845) V. 387 Repentance doth not cut down sin at a blow; no, it is a constant militation, and course of mortification. 1778 B. Lincoln in Sparks *Corr. Amer. Rev.* (1853) II. 241 Dissension between the civil and military, and a militation of orders.

Militaunt, obs. form of Militant *a.*

Militia (mili·ſă). Also 6 milicia, 7 melitia, mal(l)itia. [a. L. *mīlitia*, f. *mīlit-*, *mīles* soldier. Cf. F. *milice*.]

†1. A system of military discipline, organization, and tactics; manner of conducting warfare; the arts of war. *Obs.*

1590 Sir J. Smyth *Disc. Weapons* Ded. 3 Diuers Nations that haue had notable Milicias and exercises Militarie in great perfection. 1598 Barret *Theor. Warres* III. i. 32

The true and orderly trayning of your people in this our Moderne Militia. 1605 RALEIGH *Introd. Hist. Eng.* (1693) 23 The Normans had a peculiar Militia, or Fight, with Bowes and Arrowes. 1636 MASSINGER *Bashf. Lover* v. i. *Pisa.* Where's your Regiment? *Mart.* Not rais'd yet; All the old ones are cashier'd, and we are now To have a new Militia. 1646 J. HALL *Horæ Vac.* 162 The modern Militia differs much from the ancient, there being in it more roome for stratagems then personall valour. 1651 HOBBES *Govt. & Soc.* xiii. § 14. 203 The Militia, was of old reckoned in the number of the gaining Arts. 1658 EARL MONM. tr. *Parruta's Wars Cyprus* 121 The enemy were still the same, weak, and unexperienced in the true Militia.

fig. *a* 1678 MARVELL *Appleton Ho.* 330 Unhappy! shall we never more That sweet Militia restore, When Gardens only had their Towers, And all the Garrisons were Flowers.

† **b.** Military service; warfare. *Obs.*

a 1635 NAUNTON *Fragm. Reg.* (Arb.) 48 He first exposed himself to the Land service of Ireland, a Militia which then did not yeeld him food and rayment. 1656 EARL MONM. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* II. lxi. (1674) 213 They ended their unfortunate Militia with the Romans. 1682 SIR T. BROWNE *Chr. Mor.* I. § 18 Raise timely batteries against those strongholds built upon the rock of nature; and make this a great part of the militia of thy life. 1684 *Contempl. St. Man* I. vi. (1699) 66 He entred us into this Milita [*sic*] and Warfare. 1685 BAXTER *Paraphr. N. T.* (1701) 1 Thess. ii. 15–16 Because this Preaching is the Means to save Souls, it is that Satan aimeth his Militia against it.

† **c.** Weapons; instruments of war. *Obs.*

1656 EARL MONM. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* II. vi. (1674) 144 [Princes] should wear the powerful Militia of boundless Empire..by their side, for the security of such as are good, but..should never make use of it..[to shield] such as were guilty. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Militia*, Warfare, or all implements of War. 1694 WESTMACOTT *Script. Herb.* (1695) 25 Box-Combs, which .. bear no small part in the Militia of the Female Art.

† **2.** The control and administration of the military and naval forces of a country. *Obs.*

1622 BACON *Holy War* Misc. Wks. (1629) 129 Now let me put a Feigned Case..of a Land of Amazons, where the whole Gouernment, Publike and Priuate, yea the Militia it Selfe, was in the hands of Women. 1641 VERNEY *Notes Long Parl.* (Camden) 132, [7 Dec.] Sir Arthur Hazelrigg did bring in a bill to dispose all the militia of England into two generalls for life. 1641 in Rushw. *Hist. Coll.* III. (1692) I. 525, I do heartily wish that this Great Word, this New Word, the Militia, this Harsh Word might never have come within these Walls;..I take the meaning of those Gentlemen, who introduced this Word to be, the power of the Sword,..which is a great and necessary power, and properly belonging to the Magistrate. 1642–3 *Jrnls. Ho. Comm.* 20 Jan. II. 389 They humbly beseech Your Sacred Majesty to raise up unto them a sure Ground of Safety..by putting the Tower, and other principal Forts of the Kingdom, and the whole Militia thereof, into the Hands of such Persons as Your Parliament may confide in. 1643 in Clarendon *Hist. Reb.* VII. § 166 That the militia, both by sea and land, might be settled by a bill. 1647 MAY *Hist. Parl.* II. v. 94 He was esteemed by the Parliament (in this important husinesse of setling their Militia by Land and Sea) the fittest man to take Command of the Navie.

3. A military force, esp. the body of soldiers in the service of a sovereign or a state; in later use employed in more restricted sense (=F. *milice*), to denote a 'citizen army' as distinguished from a body of mercenaries or professional soldiers.

1590 SIR J. SMYTH *Disc. Weapons* Ded. 3 Any forraine Nation or Nations, that haue had a puissant and formed Milicia. 1625 BACON *Ess., Greatn. Kingd.* (Arb.) 475 Let any Prince or State thinke soberly of his Forces, except his Militia of Natiues be of good and Valiant Soldiers. *Ibid.* 481 [The Spaniards are accustomed] To employ, almost indifferently, all Nations, in their Militia of ordinary Soldiers. 1665 *Surv. Aff. Netherl.* 93 The High and Mighty draw in their Money,..raise Fortifications,..Rendezvouz Militiaes, and withdraw 200 Families at least to Hamburgh. 1672 PETTY *Pol. Anal.* (1691) 42 There be in Ireland, as elsewhere, two Militias; one are the Justices of Peace, their Militia of High and Petty Constables; also the Sheriffs Militia of his Servants and Bailiffs, and *Posse Comitatus*... There is also a Protestant Militia, of about 24000 Men. 1696 PHILLIPS, *Militia*, the People and Inhabitants of a Kingdom trained up in War for the Defence of it. 1706 — (ed. Kersey), *Militia*, a certain Number of the Inhabitants of the City and Country formed into Regular Bodies, and train'd up in the Art of War, for the Defence and Security of the Kingdom. 1776 ADAM SMITH *W. N.* V. v. i. (1869) II. 281 It [the state] may..oblige either all the citizens of the military age, or a certain number of them to join in some measure the trade of a soldier to whatever other trade or profession they may happen to carry on. Its military force is (then) said to consist in a militia. 1844 LD. BROUGHAM *Brit. Const.* XX. (1862) 383 A good militia, that is, a certain portion of the people called out in turn to learn the use of arms. 1865 MERIVALE *Rom. Emp.* VIII. lxvii. 311 A genuine militia, chosen from the citizens themselves.

† **b.** A particular species of warlike force; a branch or department of the establishment maintained for purposes of war. *Obs.*

1647 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* V. § 36 They had their eye upon another militia, the royal navy. 1654 H. L'ESTRANGE *Chas. I* (1655) 19 Mighty preparation was made..for the reinforcing of Navall strength. Nor was the Land-Militia left unregarded.

c. *transf.* and *fig.*

1599 SANDYS *Europæ Spec.* (1632) 157 Fourty hundred sure Catholikes in England alone, with foure hundred English Romane Priests to maineraine that Militia. 1630 B. JONSON *New Inn* Argt. Act II, The Fly of the Inne is discouer'd .., with the Militia of the house, below the stayres, in the Drawer, Tapster, Chamberlaine, and Hostler, inferiour officers. *Ibid.* II. iv, He has form'd a fine militia for the Inne too. 1712–14 POPE *Rape Lock* I. 42 Know then, unnumber'd Spirits round thee fly, The light Militia of the lower sky. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xix, Out tumbled Will Hostler, John Tapster, and all the militia of the inn. 1838 PRESCOTT *Ferd. & Is.* (1846) I. Introd. 38 The mendicant orders..that spiritual militia of the popes.

4. *spec.* The distinctive name of a branch of the British military service, forming, together with the volunteers, what are known as 'the auxiliary forces' as distinguished from the regular army. Also, a similar force raised in British North America. (Construed either as *sing.* or *plural.*)

The militia consists of bodies raised by the several counties in numbers varying according to the population and other circumstances, the number or 'quota' to be provided by each shire being fixed by the government. Since 1803, the law has been that the quota may, if necessary, be raised by compulsory enlistment, a ballot being taken among the men between 18 and 35; but as sufficient numbers are at present obtainable by voluntary enlistment, a 'Militia Ballot Suspension Act' is passed annually. The militia are bound to assemble for 28 days in every year for training, and may at any time be embodied for compulsory service within the kingdom, but cannot be sent abroad except as volunteers, and then only by consent of Parliament.

1659–60 PEPYS *Diary* 29 Feb., We found..the militia of the red regiment in arms. *Ibid.* 2 Mar., I hear the City militia is put into good posture. 1699 in *Archives of Maryland* (1902) XXII. 562 An Act for the Ordering and Regulating the Militia of this Province for the better Defence & Security thereof. 1724 DE FOE *Mem. Cavalier* (1840) 187 They..fired..very regularly, considering them as militia only. 1755 JOHNSON, *Militia*, the trainbands. 1759 H. WALPOLE *Let. to Mann* 16 Nov., I am one of the few men in England who am neither in the army or militia. 1761 CHURCHILL *Rosciad* Poems 1763 I. 30 Like Westminster militia train'd to fight. 1763 *Brit. Mag.* IV. 50 The following aldermen took the oaths to qualify them for colonels of the six regiments of the city militia, viz...Beckford,..col. of the white regiment...Ladbroke, col. of the blue...Rawlinson, col. of the red...Glyn, col. of the orange. .. Blackiston, col. of the green...Fludyer, col. of the yellow. 1903 *Westm. Gaz.* 7 July 12/2 The attempt..was opposed..on the ground that the Militia must in future be 'more soldierly'.

b. *U.S.* 'The whole body of men declared by law amenable to military service, without enlistment, whether armed and drilled or not' (*Cent. Dict.* 1890).

1777 W. HEATH in Sparks *Corr. Amer. Rev.* (1853) I. 329 Our troops are all militia, and, although perhaps as good as any militia, yet they are not disciplined. 1789 *Constit. U. S.* I. § 8 Congress shall have power..to provide for calling forth the militia. 1865 H. PHILLIPS *Amer. Paper Curr.* II. 85 Militia were kept constantly guarding the Schuylkill. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 14 Mar. 2/3 The naval militia in the recent war between the United States and Spain.

5. *attrib.*, as *militia act, army, bill, carpenter, commission, force, guard, officer, regiment, service*; **militia reserve** (see quot. 1876).

1882 *Act* 45 & 46 *Vict.* c. 49 § 1 This Act may be cited as the *Militia Act, 1882. 1813 WELLINGTON in Gurw. *Desp.* (1838) XI. 140, I should very much doubt that a large *militia army would be very useful in the field. 1902 *Encycl. Brit.* XXVIII. 226/1 Voluntary enlistment under the new *Militia Bill [of 1852] was to be the rule. 1756 WASHINGTON *Writ.* (1889) I. 356 Forty pounds of tobacco per day, which is provided by act of Assembly for *militia carpenters. 1844 *Regul. & Ord. Army* 4 Their *Militia Commissions. 1802 *Act* 42 *Geo. III*, c. 72 § 29 Any Act made..concerning the *Militia Forces of England. 1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* II. iv, A *militia guard of five hundred horse. 1775 SHERIDAN *St. Patr. Day* I. ii, I hate *militia officers; a set of dunghill cocks with spurs on. 1655 *Clarke Papers* (Camden) III. 23 The citty have named Alderman Underwood, Alderman Tichborne, and —— to bee 3 of theire Collonells to comand theire *Militia regiments. 1876 VOYLE & STEVENSON *Milit. Dict.*, **Militia Reserve*, a force created by the act of 1867; its numbers not to exceed one-fourth of militia quota; the men to be enlisted for five years, during which time they remain on the strength of militia regiments, but are liable to be drafted into the army in time of war. 1818 COBBETT *Pol. Reg.* XXXIII. 83, I mean the *Militia Service and other compulsory military and naval service.

† **Mili·tia,** *v. Obs.* [f. prec.] *trans.* ? To call *out* as militia.

1724 WARBURTON *Misc. Transl.* 106 Their Country's Cause provokes to Arms The active Pigmy Troops militia'd out, In fronted Brigades.

Militiaman (mili·ʃămăn). [f. MILITIA *sb.* + MAN.] A member of a militia force.

1780 HAMILTON *Wks.* (1886) VIII. 21 The militiamen replied they were of the lower party. 1844 LD. BROUGHAM *Brit. Const.* XX. (1862) 383 Militiamen drafted into the regular forces. 1876 BANCROFT *Hist. U. S.* VI. lii. 393 Six hundred militia-men of Virginia.

† **Mili·tiate,** *v. Obs.* [f. MILITIA *sb.*: see -ATE.] **a.** *trans.* To organize for warfare. **b.** *intr.* (*nonce-uses.*) To raise militia; to be occupied in soldiering. Hence **Mili·tiating** *ppl. a.*

1642 *Answ. Observ. agst. King* 15 He must not have the reason that he is a King, who in extraordinary danger will not militiat his kingdome. 1759 H. WALPOLE *Let. to Mann* 16 Nov., We continue to *militiate* and to raise light troops. 1761 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* IV. xxii, I had no thoughts ..in the character of my uncle Toby—of characterizing the militiating spirits of my country.

Milium (mi·liŏm). In 4 mylium, 6 millium. [a. L. *milium* millet.]

1. =MILLET. *Obs.* exc. as mod.L. in *Pharmacy.* Also *Bot.* the name (Linnæus) of a graminaceous genus, 'millet-grass'.

1388 WYCLIF *Isa.* XXVIII. 25 Barli, and mylium, and fetchis. 1535 COVERDALE *Ezek.* IV. 10 Take vnto the..growell sede, milium and fitches. 1598 HAKLUYT *Voy.* I. 104 They haue the seed of Millium in great abundance.

b. *Milium Solis:* Graymill or Gromwell, *Lithospermum officinale.* (Cf. MILLENSOLE.)

[1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. clxxx. 487 Gromell is called.. in shops and among the Italians *Milium solis.*] *a* 1648 LD. HERBERT in *Life* (1886) 44 Posset drinks of herbs, as milium solis, saxifragea, &c.

2. *Path.* An affection of the sebaceous glands in which hard white or yellowish tubercles resembling millet-seeds are produced, immediately below and projecting from the cuticle. Cf. MILIA.

1856 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Milium*...Name for a white hard tubercle. 1876 tr. *Wagner's Gen. Pathol.* 331 Colloid milium of the skin. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 764 Milium forms firm white or yellowish masses.

b. *Surgery.* (See quot.)

1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl., *Milium Needle*, a fine needle with curved hastate point used in skin grafting.

Milk (milk), *sb.* Forms: 1 meolc, 1–3 milc, 3 millc, 4 melke, 4–5 melk, 4–6 mylk(e, 4–7 milke, 6 mylcke, milcke, 7 milck, 3–milk. [Com. Teut.: OMercian *milc* (rare) = WS. *meolc, meoluc* fem. (whence the southern ME. *melk*), corresponding to OFris. *melok*, OS. *miluk* (Du. *melk*), OHG. *miluh* (MHG. *milich, milch*, mod.G. *milch*), ON. *miolk* (Icel. *mjólk*, Sw. *mjölk*, Da. *mælk, melk*), Goth. *miluk-s*:—OTeut. **meluk-s* fem., f. Teut. root **melk-* to milk (in the str. vb. OE. *melcan*, LG., Du. *melken*, OHG. *melchan*, MHG. *melchen*; the mod.G. *melken* is also conjugated weak):—pre-Teut. **melg-*, cogn. w. Gr. ἀμέλγειν, L. *mulgēre*, OSl. *mlĕsti*, OIrish *bligim* (:—**mlg-*), to milk.

A corresponding sb. (exc. in declension) occurs in OIrish *melg* milk (:-**melgos-*). The synonymous OSl. *meleko* (Russian *moloko*, Czech *mleko*) is adopted from Teut., as it has *k* instead of the regular *g*. For the phonology of the OE. forms see Bülbring *Ags. Gramm.* § 202.]

1. An opaque white or bluish-white fluid secreted by the mammary glands of the female individuals of the Mammalia including man, and adapted for the nourishment of their young.

a 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* III. xix. (1890) 244 Elles ne þeah nemne medmicel hlafes mid þinre meolc. *c* 1200 ORMIN 6446 Forr naffde 3ho nan millc till himm, 3iff þatt 3ho nære hiss moderr. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B XV. 462 Þe cow-calf coueyteth swete mylke. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 262 Warm melk sche putte..therto With hony meynd. *c* 1460 J. RUSSELL *Bk. Nurture* 93 Milke, crayme, and cruddes, and eke the Ioncate. 1471 CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) 31 The melk of a goot. 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus* s. v. *Lac*, Glauciscus eaten in broth make women haue plentie of milke. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* II. i. 288 They'l take suggestion, as a Cat laps milke. 1616 R. C. *Times' Whistle* iii. 1048 Goats pure milck. 1661 LOVELL *Hist. Anim. & Min.* 110 Of milks the Womans is most temperate. 1725 N. ROBINSON *Th. Physick* 208 If the Ass's Milk stands twelve Hours, it will gather no Cream. 1836–41 BRANDE *Chem.* (ed. 5) 1353 Fresh milk slightly reddens litmus. 1861 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* XXII. I. 35 These milks came from the same dairy. 1896 tr. *Boas' Text-bk. Zool.* 496 The young ones [*sc.* of the Duck-billed Platypus], when hatched, are fed with milk by the mother.

b. In proverbial comparison *as white as milk.* Also *as like as milk to milk* (a Latinism).

? *a* 1366 CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 1196 Through hir smokke, wrought with silk, The flesh was seen, as whyt as milk. *c* 1420 *Anturs of Arth.* ii, One a mule as þe mylke Gaili she glides. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* III. ii. 86 How manie cowards..Who inward searcht, haue liuers white as milke. 1638 CHILLINGW. *Relig. Prot.* I. ii. § 160 They are as like your own, as an egge to an egge, or milke to milke. 1660 JER. TAYLOR *Duct. Dubit.* (1676) 417 It looks so like intemperance, as milk to milk.

c. Phrases. *Mother's-milk*: in literal and figurative contexts. *In milk*, †(*a*) *fig.* (a Latinism) in infancy; (*b*) in a condition to yield milk. *Brought to milk*, brought to be in milk. † *Water of milk* = milk-water (see 10).

1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* lxxv. 37 My clype, my vnspaynit gyane, With moderis milk 3it in 3our mychane. 1565 JEWEL *Repl. Harding* (1611) 391 There be certaine men, that.. fearing, that if they attaine to any knowledge, they shall be proud: and so they remaine still only in Milke [tr. Augustine: *et remanent in solo lacte*]. 1611 COTGR. s.v. *Laict*, *Eau de laict* .. also, water of milke or drawne by stillatorie from milke. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 40 The earth squeezes the poor wretch so hard, that his Mothers milk comes running out at his nose. 1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.*, *Milk*...In the *Philosophical Transactions*, we have an account of a wether brought to *milk* by the sucking of a lamb. 1797 *Monthly Mag.* III. 486 The best three-year-old heifer, which..shall be in milk at the time of show. 1847 JAMES *Convict* II. 50 His auditor..had sucked in such doctrines with his mother's milk. 1852 R. S. SURTEES *Sponge's Sp. Tour* I, When people talk of cream, and ask how many cows you have, they mean in milk.

† **d.** Milk considered as in process of secretion; hence, the milk-yielding condition induced by childbirth, lactation. *Obs.*

1512 *Ld. Treas. Acc. Scotl.* (1902) IV. 356 To ane nurice to the Prince .. at was prewit with sex wolkis mylk. 1616 SIR E. MOUNTAGU in *Buccleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 249 One nurse with one milk did suckle six of us. 1676 WISEMAN *Surg.* I. iv. 25 Milk..is certainly the occasion of many Tumours of divers kinds. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Past.* III. 152 When Milk is dry'd with heat, In vain the Milk-maid tugs an empty Teat.

† **e.** Put for: The period of infancy. *Obs.*

a 1637 B. JONSON *Discov.*, *Imo seruiles* (1640) 114 Wee see in men, even the strongest compositions had their beginnings from milke, and the Cradle [transl. of Quintilian I. i. 21 *a lacte cunisque*].

f. The quantity of milk drawn from a cow at a single milking.

1611 Cotgr., *Mousson*, a Cowes milke,..as much as she yeelds at a milking.

2. *fig.* a. As the appropriate food of infancy; often (after 1 Cor. iii. 2, Heb. v. 12) contrasted with '(strong) meat'.

c 1386 Chaucer *Pars. T.* ¶ 539 Flatereres been the deueles norices, that norissen bise children with Milk of losengerie. 1426 Lydg. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 14706 With my mylk off fflaterye I was noryce, and ek guyde, In especyal vn-to Pryde. 1641 H. Peters (*title*) Milke for Babes, and Meat for Men: or, Principles necessary to be knowne..of such as would know Christ. 1772 Nugent *Grosley's London* I. 318 Tithes were the first milk of these rising establishments [*sc.* monasteries]. 1803 (*title*) Milk for Babes; or, a catechism in verse. 1810 *Sporting Mag.* XXXVI. 121 Neither are their consciences of that puling kind, that will submit to be fed with this milk of babes. 1860 Pusey *Min. Proph.* 70 He was nourished, not by solid food, but by milk, i. e. by the rudiments of piety and righteousness.

b. As a type of what is pleasant and nourishing.

1592 Shaks. *Rom. & Jul.* III. iii. 55 Aduersities sweete milke, Philosophie. 1654 Z. Coke *Logick* a j, It..turneth into Milk bony Paradoxes. 1797 Coleridge *Kubla Khan* 53 For he on honey-dew hath fed, And drunk the milk of Paradise.

c. In proverbial phrases. *Milk and honey* (or †*mellie*): (*a*) in the Bible phrase 'flowing with milk and honey', hyperbolically descriptive of the richness of the Promised Land; hence (*b*) used to express the abundance of means of enjoyment. *Milk and roses*: said of a beautiful pink-and-white complexion. *Milk of human kindness* (after Shaks.): compassion characteristic of humane persons. *Spilt milk*: anything which once misused cannot be recovered. † *To wash the milk off (one's) liver*: to purge (oneself) of cowardice. † *To give down (its) milk*: to yield the expected assistance or profit; to consent to be 'milked'.

c 1000 Ælfric *Num.* xvi. 13 Of þam lande, þe weoll meolce and hunie. 1382 Wyclif *Ezek.* xx. 6 The loond which Y hadde purueiede to hem, flowynge with mylk and hony. *c* 1592 Marlowe *Jew of Malta* IV. (1633) H 2 b, *Ith.* How now? hast thou the gold? *Pil.* Yes. *Ith.* But came it freely, did the Cow giue down her milk freely? 1605 Shaks. *Macb.* I. v. 18 Yet doe I feare thy Nature, It is too full o' th' Milke of humane kindnesse. 1611 Cotgr. s. v. *Souhait*, Wash thy milke off thy liuer (say we). 1614 J. Davies *Eclogue* 19 For fro thy Makings, milke, and mellie, flowes To feed the Songster-swaines with Arts sootmeats. *a* 1628 Preston *Breastpl. Love* vii. (1630) 181 They shall not give downe that milke for your comfort. 1641 S. Marmion *Antiquary* I. B j, I must flatter him, and stroke him too, he will give no milk else. 1654 H. L'Estrange *Chas. I* (1655) 187 The City was sullen, would not give down their milk, and pleaded..poverty. 1783 J. King *Th. on Difficulties*, etc. ii. 28 America is now the fancied land of milk and honey. 1826 Disraeli *Viv. Grey* II. i, The milk and honey of the political Canaan. 1860 Trollope *Castle Richmond* I. vi. 113 It's no use sighing after spilt milk. 1894 Howells in *Harper's Mag.* Feb. 380 The die is cast, the jig is up, the fat's in the fire, the milk's spilt. 1900 H. Sutcliffe *Shameless Wayne* ii, Dainty of figure she was, with a face all milk and roses.

3. A milk-like juice or sap secreted by certain plants. Cf. Latex 2.

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. lxi. (1495) 637 The mylke of the fygge tree. 1565 Cooper *Thesaurus* s. v. *Lac*, The milke that is in greene figges. *Herba lactaria*, an hearbe that hath milke in it as spurge, &c. 1626 Bacon *Sylva* § 639 There be Plants, that have a Milk in them when they are Cut; as Figs, Old-Lettuce, Sow-Thistles, Spurge, &c. 1757 J. H. Gaose *Voy. E. Indies* 30 The milk of cocoa nuts. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) X. 83/1 The milks of wild-poppies garden-poppies, dandelion, hawk-weed, and sow-thistle gave brown or brownish-red stains. 1898 *Engineering Mag.* XVI. 138/1 Analyses of the milk of a variety of rubber plants.

b. Of grain: *In the milk*: having a milky consistency due to incomplete development. *Out of the milk*: beginning to mature.

1792 Belknap *Hist. New Hampsh.* III. 21 The corn then being in the milk. *a* 1817 T. Dwight *Trav. New Eng.*, etc. (1821) II. 341 When the kernels of wheat..are in the milk. 1878 *Ure's Dict. Arts* IV. 153 At the time when the contents of the berry [*sc.* of wheat] are in the condition technically known as 'milk'. 1899 *Evesham Jrnl.* 29 Apr. (E.D.D.), The sparrows began [*sc.* to eat the wheat] as soon as the corn was just out of the milk.

4. A culinary, pharmaceutical, or other preparation of herbs, drugs or the like, having some more or less real resemblance to milk.

Milk of almonds = Almond-milk. *Milk of lime*: hydrate of lime mixed in water. † *Milk of mercury*: corrosive sublimate beaten up in fumitory water. *Milk of sulphur*: precipitated sulphur.

c 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 48 Take gode Milke of Almaundys, & flowre of Rys. 1626 Bacon *Sylva* § 50 Pistachoes..made into a Milk of themselves, like unto Almond Milk. 1686 W. Harris tr. *Lemery's Chym.* (ed. 2) 493 This Tincture is a dissolution of the Rosine of Benjamin made in Spirit of Wine. When it is mixed in a great deal of water, it makes a Milk. 1694 Salmon *Bate's Dispens.* (1713) 561 Milk of Mercury...Milk of Scammony. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XII. 23/1 The name of milk is given to substances very different from milk properly so called. *Ibid.*, Milk of Sulphur. *Ibid.* 23/2 Water in which quicklime has been slaked, which ..has hence been called the milk of lime. *a* 1814 *Intrigues of a Day* in *New Brit. Theatre* I. 76 A little milk of roses. 1875 *Ure's Dict. Arts* III. 1059 Milk of Wax is a valuable varnish. 1880 Lomas *Alkali Trade* 298 Milk of lime. 1898 *Rev. Brit. Pharm.* 41 Milk of sulphur.

5. *Bristol milk*: originally a slang name for sherry; now, the name in the wine trade of a particular class of sherry.

1644 [see Bristol]. *a* 1661 Fuller *Worthies, Bristol* (1662) III. 35 Bristol Milk. .. This Metaphorical Milk, whereby Xeres or Sherry-Sack is intended. 1895 *Westm. Gaz.* 31 Dec. 1/1 Pale sherry (Bristol cream) realised £7 per dozen, and 95*s.* was the price per dozen of the sherry known as Bristol milk.

† 6. *Milk of the moon*: 'a white, porous, friable, insipid earth, frequently found in form of a white farinaceous powder, but sometimes concreted into a mass, not unlike agaric' (Chambers *Cycl.* 1727–52).

7. A cloudy impurity found in some diamonds.

1875 *Ure's Dict. Arts* II. 24.

8. † a. The milt of a fish. *Obs.* [So G. *milch*, Da. *melk*, Sw. *mjölke*.]

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* XIII. xxvi. (1495) 458 Whan the female of fysshes lay egges or pesen, the male comyth after and shedeth hys mylke vpon the egges. 14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 591/16 *Lactes*, roof of fyshe, or mylke of fyshe. 1718 [see Milter].

b. The spat of an oyster before its discharge.

1858 Homans *Cycl. Comm.* 1480/2 The breeding-time of oysters is in April or May, from which time to July or August the oysters are said to be *sick* or *in the milk*.

9. *attrib.* and *Comb.* a. Simple attrib. in sense (*a*) 'made or consisting of, prepared with, or obtained from milk', as *milk-arrowroot*, *-butter*, *-curd*, *-diet*, *-fat*, *-flow*, *-globule*, *-porridge*, *-pottage*, *-pudding*, *-scone*, *-soup*, *-yeast*; (*b*) 'of or pertaining to milk', as *milk-†ambry*, *-board*, *-bowie* (Sc.), *-bowl*, *-bucket*, *-can*, *-cart*, *-cellar*, *-cog*, *-cooler*, *-dish*, *-float*, *-jug*, *-keeler*, *-kettle*, *-pail*, *-piggin*, *-pot*, *-ranch*, *-shop*, *-sieve*, *-skeel*, *-stall*, *-sye* (dial.), *-tin*, *-tub*, *-vein*; *milk-secretion*; (*c*) 'having dealings with milk', as *milk-boy*, *-folk*, *-girl*, *-lass*, *-nurse*; (*d*) (of animals) 'producing milk', as *milk-ass*, *-camel*, *-sow*; also Milk-cow; (*e*) used to designate the deciduous teeth formed in the mammalian jaw during the suckling period, as *milk-canine*, *-dentition*, *-molar*, *-tusk*; also Milk tooth.

1594 *Knaresborough Wills* (Surtees) I. 199 *Milk ambry. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 401 *Milk arrowroot and a little brandy with it is useful. 1688 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. IV. 157 Though I can (to my sorrow) say why *milk-asses are provided for. 1602 in Grosart *Spenser's Wks.* I. p. xix, One stone or *milk-board. 1724 Ramsay *Tea-t. Misc.* (1733) II. 222 To bear the *milk-bowie nae pain was to me. 1570 *Wills & Inv. N. C.* (Surtees) I. 341, lxxxx *mylke bowlles iij[l]. 1609 Armin *Maids of More-Cl.* (1880) 84 They are maids of More-clacke, homely milke-bole things. 1815 *Sporting Mag.* XLVI. 17 A new milk-bowl, of wood skilfully carved. 1884 W. H. Rideing in *Harper's Mag.* June 70/1 Chantrey was a *milk-boy in Sheffield. 1830 Miss Mitford *Village* Ser. IV. 103 Her *milk-bucket in her hand. *c* 1830 *Glouc. Farm Rep.* 35 in *Libr. Usef. Knowl., Husb.* III, Making cheese of the first quality is more profitable than either making *milk-hutter or feeding veal. 1535 Coverdale *Gen.* xxxii. 15 Thirtie *mylck camels. 1838 Dickens *O. Twist* xlv, Three pint-pots and a *milk-can. 1879 Flower *Catal. Mus. Coll. Surg.* I. 39 The *milk-canine permanently retained. 1808 Curwen *Econ. Feeding Stock* 64 The *milk-cart was met before it reached the town. 1787 Garthshore in *Phil. Trans.* LXXVII. 355 A woman at a *milk-cellar .. was delivered [etc.]. 1595 Duncan *App. Etymol.* (E. D. S.), *Mulctra, vel -um, mulctrale*; a *milk-cog. 1844 H. Stephens *Bk. Farm* III. 900 Stone *milk-coolers. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 339 Small patches of adherent *milk-curd. 1863 Huxley *Man's Place Nat.* i. 23 The *milk dentition consists of 20 teeth. 1677 Temple *Gout* in *Misc.* I. (1680) 221, I concluded..if it..continued to confine my self wholly to the *Milk-dyet. 1844 H. Stephens *Bk. Farm* III. 900 After it has cooled, the milk is passed through the milk-sieve into the *milk-dishes. 1901 *Daily Chron.* 7 Aug. 6/4 When a sample of milk .. shall be found to contain less than 3 per cent. of *milk fat,..it shall be presumed .. that the milk is not genuine. 1887 *Bury Times* 3 Sept. 6/4 He noticed the defendant driving a *milk float towards him at a great speed. 1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) IV. 74 *Galactia Præmatura.* Premature *Milk-Flow. *Ibid.* 75 *Galactia Defectiva.* Deficient Milk-Flow. 1700 T. Brown *Amusem. Ser. & Com.* vi. (1709) 58 The Noisy *Milk-Folks, crying, A can of Milk, Ladies. 1810 *Splendid Follies* III. 66 [Madam Lynx] having caught her immaculate husband chucking the *milk-girl under the chin. 1864 *Chambers's Encycl.* VI. 454/2 In addition to *milk globules, colostrum globules .. occur in the milk. 1852 Bristed *Five Yrs. Eng. Univ.* 60 Drowning mice in his *milk jug. 1600 in W. F. Shaw *Mem. Eastry* (1870) 226 Three *milk keelers. 1596 *Wills & Inv. N. C.* (Surtees) II. 271 The milke-house stuffe..j *milke kettle 24*s.* 1805 R. W. Dickson *Pract. Agric.* II. 993 Brass milk-kettle. *a* 1690 G. Fox *Jrnl.* (1827) I. 79 He told my troubles..to his servants, so that it was got among the *milk-lasses. 1849–52 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* IV. 911/1 The fourth premolar displaces the .. tubercular *milk-molar. *c* 1826 *Earl Richard* ix. in Child *Ballads* (1886) II. 462 My mither was a gude *milk-nurse. *c* 1440 *Mylke payle [see *milk-stop*]. *c* 1475 *Pict. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 793/23 *Hoc multrum*, a mylkepayle. 1833 Scott *Jrnl.* 3 Jan., Cadell is of opinion if I meddle in politics,..I shall break the milk-pail. 1579–80 North *Plutarch, P. Æmilius* (1595) 267 Womens brests are not alwaies full of milke (as *milke pans are..). 1840 T. A. Trollope *Summer in Brittany* I. 40 A brown dish of the size and shape of a milk-pan. 1885 Miss Murfree *Prophet Gt. Smoky Mts.* iii. 57 She carried her *milk-piggin. 1567 Harman *Caveat* (1869) 86 Baken, chese and *mylke porrage. 1711 Swift *Jrnl. to Stella* 15 May, My breakfast is milk porridge. 1535 Coverdale *Judg.* iv. 19 Then opened she a *mylke pot, & gaue him to drynke. 1838 Dickens *O. Twist* xxvii, Mr. Bumble..made a closer inspection of the milk-pot. 1620 Middleton *Chaste Maid* II. ii. 109 Herrings and *milk-pottage. 1899 Annie E. Holdsworth *Valley Gt. Shadow* iv, Beef-tea and *milk-pudding had had their day. 1856 *Farmer's Mag.* Jan. 7 The Physiology of *Milk-Secretion. 1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XV. 797/2 The privy council has issued an order, under the Contagious Diseases (Animals) Act of 1878, called the Dairies, *Milkshops, and Cowsheds Order. 1844 *Milk-sieve [see *milk-dish*]. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 240/1 A *Milke skele, *mulgarium*. 1767 Mrs. Glasse *Cookery* App. 343 *Milk soop the Dutch way. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV. 191 From three and a half, to four pints [of milk] a day may be given to an adult..in the form of a milk soup. 1797 *Monthly Mag.* III. 531 A *milk sow was offered at the opening of the assembly. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 338/1 *Mylke stop, or payle, *multra, vel multrum*. *c* 1440 *Medulla Gram.* in *Promp. Parv.* 79 *note*, *Colum*, a *mylke syhe. 15.. *Wowing Jok & Jynny* 28 in *Bannatyne MS.* (Hunter. Cl.) 388 Ane milk syth. 1846 J. Baxter *Libr. Pract. Agric.* (ed. 4) I. 209 The whole mass .. with the cream and new milk is run through the searce into the milk-sye. 1868 Atkinson *Cleveland Gloss.*, **Milk-tin*, the metal vessel in which the milk is set to cream. 1805 R. W. Dickson *Pract. Agric.* II. 1017 The *milk-tub is covered up by a board. 1799 Corse in *Phil. Trans.* LXXXIX. 211 The first or *milk tusks of an elephant never grow to any size. 1844 H. Stephens *Bk. Farm* II. 445 The *milk-veins along the lower part of the abdomen become larger. 1876 tr. *Wagner's Gen. Pathol.* 86 *Milk-yeast can grow fungus-like, if submerged.

b. objective, as *milk-carrier*, *-dealer*, *-heater*, *-seller*, *-tester*, *-vendor*; *milk-breeding*, *-curdling*, *-drinking*, *-making*, *-yielding* adjs. Also (of the secretions of plants) *milk-giving*, *-bearing* adjs.

1855 Sir E. Smith in *Syst. Nat. Hist.* I. 28 The *milk-bearing tissue so readily inferred to exist from the white exuding juice of the cut dandelion [etc.]. 1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Lactifical*, *milk-breeding, milk-making, milk-yeelding. 1805 *Mod. London* App., Cream is sold by the *Milk-carriers at 1*s. 4*d. per pint. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 287 'Rennin', a *milk-curdling ferment. 1805 R. W. Dickson *Pract. Agric.* II. 969 Cows for the supply of the *milk-dealer. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 7 Drihten þu dest þe lof of *milc drinkende childre muðe. 1898 *Daily News* 4 Apr. 2/1 The productive or *milk-giving [rubber] trees. 1905 *Westm. Gaz.* 5 Oct. 5/2 Ovens, grillers, ..*milk-heaters, .. sterilisers, and other things are all there. 1656 *Milk-making [see *milk-breeding*]. 1600 J. Pory tr. *Leo's Africa* III. 132 Next vnto them stand the *milke-sellers. 1902 *Daily Chron.* 5 Dec. 6/5 It is quite easy for the consumer to protect himself—in quality, by purchasing a 1*s. 6*d.* *milk tester. 1851 Maynew *Lond. Labour* I. 191/2 The *milk-vendors sell ..twenty quarts per day. 1611 Cotgr., *Laictier*, milkie,.. *milke-yeelding. 1897 *Daily News* 28 Sept. 8/3 The herd is entirely of the milk-yielding..Ayrshires.

c. parasynthetic and instrumental, as *milk-barred*, *-blended*, *-borne*, *-budded*, *-faced*, *-fed*, *-hued*, *-outstretched*, *-washed* adjs.

1849 M. Arnold *Strayed Reveller* 197 Jasper and chalcedony, And *milk-barr'd onyx-stones. 1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 3 Mar. 11/3 The compound called '*milk-blended butter'. 1904 *Daily Chron.* 14 July 5/1 Epidemics of definite '*milk-borne' diseases. 1905 F. L. Dodd *Municip. Milk* 6 Epidemics of milk-borne scarlet fever. 1865 Swinburne *Dolores* xl, And *milk-budded myrtles with Venus..he trod. 1815 Milman *Fazio* III. i. That *milk-faced mercy will come whimpering to me. 1856 Kane *Arct. Expl.* II. i. 13 The two last of the family, who will then..he tolerably *milk-fed, I shall reserve for my own eating. 1887 *Pall Mall G.* 16 Aug. 5/1 The well-known *milk-hued gem. 1886 T. Harov *Mayor of Casterb.* i, New, milk-hued canvas. 1600 Fairfax *Tasso* XII. xxxi, The gentle beast with *milke out stretched teat; (As nurses custome) proffred thee to feed. 1598 F. Rous *Thule* B 4, Viceina whose most pure *milk-washed hart Neuer supposde what fraud before did plot, Told him [etc.].

d. similative, as *milk-like*, *-mild* adjs. Also Milk-warm.

1813 T. Busby tr. *Lucretius* v. 1028 *Milk-like nurture from her bosom flowed. *c* 1800 *Misc.* (1829) 52 Grass cut Virginia, or *milk-mild Oronoko [tobacco].

10. Special combinations, as **milk-abscess**, an abscess occurring in the breasts of women during lactation; **milk-blotch**, an eruption of the skin in sucking infants, *porrigo larvalis*; **milk-brother**, a foster-brother; **milk-cell**, *Bot.*, the cell in which the milky juice or latex of plants is contained; † **milk-circle** = Milky-way; **milk-crust**, an eruption of the skin in infants, *crusta lactea* (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1890); † **milkdame**, a wet-nurse; **milk-diphtheria**, epidemic diphtheria spread by means of infected milk; **milk-duct**, *Anat.*, any one of the several ducts which convey milk from the secretory glands through the nipple to the exterior (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*); **milk escutcheon**, an area covered by a reversed arrangement of the direction of the hair on the udder and thighs of a milch cow; **milk factory**, a factory in which cream is extracted from milk; **milk-farm**, a dairy farm; **milk-farmer**, a dairy farmer; **milk-fever**, a slight feverish attack which sometimes occurs in women two or three days after childbirth; also, a similar complaint in milch cows; **milk-fish**, a clupeoid fish, *Chanos salmoneus*, from the Indo-Pacific (*Cent. Dict.* 1890); **milk-fungus**, any fungus of the genus *Lactarius*; **milk-giver**, one who or that which gives milk; also *fig.*; **milk-glass**, (*a*) a semi-translucent or opalescent glass, cryolite glass; (*b*) a glass vessel applied to the breast to receive a superabundant flow of milk (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*); **milk-house**, a dairy, a place for the storing or sale of milk; also *attrib.*; **milk-kinship**, the kinship arising from adoption or

fostering; **milk-leg**, 'white swelling', a painful swelling, usually of the lower extremities, very common after parturition; †**milkmadge**, a milkmaid; **milk-mirror** = *milk escutcheon*; **milk-mite** = CHEESE-MITE (*Cent. Dict.*); †**milk-pap**, a teat or nipple; **milk-pump** = *breast-pump* (Mayne *Expos. Lex.* 1857); **milk-quartz**, an opaque white variety of quartz (cf. *milky quartz*); **milk-ranch** *U.S.* (California), a dairy farm (Schele de Vere 1872); **milk-scab, -scall**, the same as *milk-blotch* and *milk-crust*; **milk-scarlatina**, epidemic scarlatina spread by means of infected milk; **milk-score**, a tally or other account of the purchase and sale of milk; **milk sea**, a particular kind of phosphorescent appearance on the sea (also *milky sea*); **milk-shield** = *milk escutcheon*; **milk-sick** *a.*, affected with milk-sickness; also as *sb.* = *milk-sickness*; **milk-sickness** *U. S.*, an endemic disease in cattle peculiar to the Western States of America, and sometimes communicated to man through the consumption of infected meat; **milk-spot**, (*a*) a lustrous white callosity frequently observed upon the surface of the pericardium; (*b*) a white mucous patch in secondary syphilis (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*); (*c*) a form of tooth-rash (*Ibid.*); **milk-sugar**, sugar of milk, lactose; **milk-teething**, the process of cutting the milk-teeth; **milk-thrush** = APHTHA; **milk-tie** = *milk-kinship*; **milk-tube** *Bot.*, a laticiferous tube; **milk-vessel**, (*a*) a dairy utensil for holding milk; (*b*) the udder of a cow; (*c*) *Bot.*, one of many tubes in which a milky fluid is secreted; **milk-walk**, a milkman's regular round for the sale of milk; †**milk-water**, a cordial water distilled from milk and herbs; † **milk way** = MILKY-WAY; also *fig.*; **milk-whisky** = KOUMISS; †**milk-wife** = next; **milk-woman**, a woman who carries round milk for sale.

1799 UNDERWOOD *Dis. Childr.* (ed. 4) III. 111 *note*, A Treatise .. in which the *milk-abscess, and sore nipples are fully considered. 1797 *Ibid.* I. 97 *Milk-blotches appear first on the forehead. 1890 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, Milk-blotch. 1897 *Strand Mag.* Christm. No. 617/1 Ivan was what is termed in Russian the '*milkbrother' of Alexia Bobrofsha. 1884 BOWER & SCOTT tr. *De Bary's Phaner.* 195 Those solitary spindle-shaped initial cells of the *milk-cells do not exist. 1890 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, Milk-cells. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 16 That white, which hath taken the name of the *Milk circle [marg. *Galaxi*]. 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* IV. (Arb.) 118 Her owne *mylckdame in byrth soyl was breathles abyding. 1887 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 7 May 1020/1 *Milk-diphtheria at Camberley and York Town. 1881 J. P. SHELDON *Dairy Farm.* 7/2 This *milk escutcheon, or shield, then, is one of those theories of which [etc.]. 1886 BAGOT *Handbk. Dairy Factories* 8 Factories [in Ireland] .. where the whole milk is purchased from the farmer—we call *milk factories. 1867 *Crim. Chronol. York Castle* 195 She had a small *milk-farm, which the prisoner managed. 1805 R. W. DICKSON *Pract. Agric.* II. 968 The sort of cow most adapted to the intentions of the *milk-farmer must of course vary. 1758 J. S. *Le Dran's Observ. Surg.* (1771) Dict. Cc b, *Lactea Febris*, the *Milk-Fever attending Women for some Days after their Delivery. 1894 'MARK RUTHERFORD' *Catharine Furze* iv, My belief is, she'll have milk fever. 1888 CLODD *Story of Creation* (1894) 129 The Marsupials, or pouched *milk-givers. 1874 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 931 It [Cryolite] is found in great abundance and purity in Greenland, and serves to make a fine *milk-glass. 1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* III. xxiv. (Arb.) 290 Who would not thinke it a ridiculous thing to see a Lady in her *milke-house with a veluet gowne? 1596 *Wills & Inv. N. C.* (Surtees) II. 271 The milke-bouse stuffe. 1891 T. HARDY *Tess* xvii. (1892) 146 It was a large room over the milk-house. 1885 W. R. SMITH *Kinship & Marr.* v. 149 We find among the Arabs a feeling about *milk-kinship so well established that [etc.]. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 216 Tense, shiny, smooth, white or mottled skin, marked often by dilated veins, whence comes the name *milk-leg or white leg. 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* IV. (Arb.) 114 Shal I now, lyke a castaway *milk-madge, On mye woers formoure bee fawning? 1881 J. P. SHELDON *Dairy Farming* 6/2 The '*milk-mirror' or 'escutcheon' theory of M. Guenon. 1607 SHAKS. *Timon* IV. iii. 115 Those *Milke pappes That through the window Barne bore at mens eyes. 1836 T. THOMSON *Min., Geol.*, etc. I. 64 Rock crystal, .. rose quartz, *milk quartz, siderite. 1856 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Milk-Scab, another common term for *Porrigo larvalis*, or *Crusta lactea*, or milk-blotch. ..*Milk-scall. Same as *Milk-scab*. 1887 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 19 Feb. 409/2 Mr. Power's report of the Hendon *milk-scarlatina outbreak. 1687 T. BROWN *Saints in Uproar* Wks. 1730 I. 77 A pack of vermin, bred up to .. rubbing out of *milk-scores. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 482 ₱ 4 He is better acquainted with the Milk-Score, than his Steward's Accounts. 1898 F. T. BULLEN in *Nat. Rev.* Aug. 859 That beautiful, inexplicable phenomenon of the '*milk sea' suddenly appeared! 1881 *Milk-shield [see *milk-escutcheon*]. 1885 Miss MURFREE *Prophet Gt. Smoky Mts.* ii. 46 The bars of the *milk-sick pen. *Ibid.*, She [a cow] lay down an' died o' the milk-sick. 1834 HOFFMAN *Winter in West* (1835) II. 66, I passed a deserted village, the whole population of which had been destroyed by the '*milk sickness'. 1859 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer., Milk Sickness*, a fatal spasmodic disease, peculiar to the Western States. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV. 530 These thickenings, which resemble the *milk-spots on the heart, are not [etc.]. 1846 *Penny Cycl.* Suppl. II. 635/2 *Milk-sugar is an integral constituent of the milk of the mammalia. 1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) I. 30 *Milk teething. 1855 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex., Aphthæ*... Thrush or sore mouth... White Thrush. *Milk Thrush. 1870 LUBBOCK *Orig. Civiliz.* iii. (1875) 89 The symbol of adoption represented not the birth, but the *milk-tie.

1884 BOWER & SCOTT tr. *De Bary's Phaner.* 198 The sharp difference of structure between the sieve- and *milk-tubes is always particularly clear. 1902 *Encycl. Brit.* XXV. 409/1 In one genus (*Lactarius*) 'milk-tubes', recalling the laticiferous tubes of many vascular plants, are found. 14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 573/39 *Coagulatorium*, a *mylkefessell. 1566 in Peacock *Eng. Ch. Furniture* (1866) 41 He haith melted yt [a 'hallywater fatt'] and made mylke vessell thereof. 1855 SIR E. SMITH in *Syst. Nat. Hist.* I. 29 Milk vessels from the stipules of the *Ficus elastica*. 1842 J. AITON *Dom. Econ.* (1857) 210 He must examine .. the calf itself, —its head, and above all, its milk-vessel and its teats. 1805 *Mod. London* App., *Milk-Walks, that is, a certain proportion of neighbouring streets served by a particular person. 1697 KIDDER *Horneck* (1698) 53 He wd sup with an Apple or two, with a little Bread, and small Ale, or *Milk-water. 1769 MRS. RAFFALD *Eng. Housekpr.* (1778) 365 To distill Milk Water. 1555 EDEN *Decades* 245 The parte of heauen cauled *Via Lactea*, that is the *mylke waye. 1593 G. HARVEY *New Let. Notable Cont.* B, The ascending scale and Milk-way to heauenly excellency. 1511 *MS. Acc. St. John's Hosp., Canterb.*, Payd to þe *mylke wyffe for a hoole yere. 1642 *Ord. & Declar. Ho. Parlt., Lord's Day* 6 Or [that they suffer] any *milke-woman to cry milke on that day.

b. Prefixed to names of plants, chiefly in the sense 'containing milk', as **milk-bush**, (*a*) = *milk-hedge*; (*b*) a milk-yielding shrub of the apocynaceous genus *Wrightia*, native of India; (*c*) a similar shrub, *Wrightia saligna*, native of Queensland (Morris *Austral Eng.* 1898); **milk-grass** = CORN-SALAD; **milk-hedge**, a shrub or small tree, *Euphorbia Tirucalli*, native of Africa, and cultivated or naturalized in parts of India; **milk lentil** = MILKWORT (?); **milk-parsley**, *Peucedanum palustre*; **milk pea, plant**, a prostrate leguminous plant of the genus *Galactia*, esp. *G. glabella* and *G. mollis*, native of the warmer parts of America; **milk purslane**, *Euphorbia maculata*; †**milk-reed** = SPURGE; **milk-thistle**, (*a*) = LADY'S THISTLE; (*b*) = SOW-THISTLE; **milk-tree**, (*a*) = *milk-hedge*; (*b*) any tree yielding a wholesome milky juice, esp. the COW-TREE; (*c*) an apocynaceous tree, *Tanghinia venenifera*, native of Madagascar, the poisonous seed of which is employed by the natives in trials by ordeal; †**milk-trefoil**, *Medicago arborea*; **milk-vetch**, a plant of the leguminous genus *Astragalus*; **milk-wood (tree)**, (*a*) a Jamaican milk-yielding tree, *Pseudolmedia spuria*; (*b*) a species of *Bignonia*; (*c*) the Australian paper-bark tree, *Melaleuca leucadendron*; (*d*) one of the sapotaceous ironwood trees, *Sideroxylon inerme*, native of the Cape of Good Hope; (*e*) a sapotaceous timber-tree, *Mimusops obovata*, native of South Africa.

1780 MUNRO *Narr.* (1789) 80 Thorn hedges are sometimes placed in gardens; but in the fields the *milk bush is most commonly used. 1882 FLOYER *Unexpl. Baluchistan* 15 Pitching the tent so as to enclose three large milk bushes. 1893 'R. IRON' *Dream Life* 13 Jannita sat alone beside a milk-bush. 1744 in W. Ellis *Mod. Husbandm.* (1750) III. III. xxi. 161 In June, at a Distance, the Fields look as if all covered with spilt Milk; which is from a Flower, for that reason called *Milk-Grass. 1780 MUNRO *Narr.* (1789) 80 A horse will have his head and eyes prodigiously swelled from standing for some time under the shade of a *milk hedge. 1840 E. E. NAPIER *Scenes & Sp. Foreign Lands* II. vi. 183 The .. green rows of the milk hedges. 1787 tr. *Linnæus' Fam. Plants* I. 182 *Selinum*... *Milk Parsley. 1874 GRAY *Less. Bot.* 142 *Galactia* .. *Milk-Pea. 1845–50 MRS. LINCOLN *Lect. Bot.* App. 104 *Galactia mollis*... *Milk plant. 1611 COTGR. s.v. *Laictier*, *L'herbe laictiere*. Tythimal, Spurge, *Milke-reed, Wolues-milke. 14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 610/5 *Scariola*, the *mylkthystel. 1562 TURNER *Herbal* II. 146 Leucacantha .. named in English milkthystel. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 1072 *Sonchus oleraceus* and *S. asper* or Milk Thistle. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 105 The Hedges and Lanes are chiefly set with two sorts of Bushes, called by us *Milk-Trees. 1830 LINDLEY *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 214 A milk-tree called Hya-hya in Demerara. 1885 LADY BRASSEY *The Trades* 112 The milk-tree (*Tanghinia lactaria*) yields a sap in colour and taste like milk, if drunk while fresh. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* III. xi. 1121 Of *milke Trefoile, or shrub Trefoile. *Ibid.* II. cccccii. 1058 Of *milke Vetch. 1760 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* App. 319 Bastard Milk Vetch, *Phaca*. 1856 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Milk-Vetch, Slemless.* Common name for the *Astragalus escapus*. 1725 SLOANE *Jamaica* II. 21 *Milk-wood Tree. The bark of this tree being deeply gash'd yields a great quantity of milk. 1759 MILLER *Gard. Dict.* (ed. 7) s.v. *Bignonia*, Tree Milkwood, having Pods, with five Leaves, .. commonly called in America, White or Milkwood, and Tulip Flower. 1887 MRS. DALY *Digging & Squatting* 43 Ironbark trees, casuarinas, and the bright green milkwood tree grew here.

¶ **11.** Used as *adj.* = MILKWHITE. *rare*$^{-1}$.

1853 M. ARNOLD *Sohrab & Rustum* 162 That vast sky-neighbouring mountain of milk snow.

Milk (milk), *v.* Forms: 1 meolc(g)ian, milcian, mylcian (*Northumb.* gemilciza), 3, 5, 7 milke, 4 melke, 4–6 mylke, 6 molke, mylcke, 6– milk. [OE. *milcian, meolcian*, f. *milc, meolc* MILK *sb.*; cf. ON. *miolka* (OIcel. *mjólka, molka*, MSw. *molka*, Sw. *mjölka*, Da. *malke*). OE. had also the str. vb. *melcan* (*mealc, molcen*) inherited from OTeut. (see MILK *sb.*); no clear traces of this have been found later than the OE. period; a solitary instance of *molken* pa. pple. occurs in 1527, but it translates the Ger. *gemolken*.]

I. In literal sense.

1. *trans.* To extract milk by handling from the teats of (a cow, goat, ewe, etc., rarely, a woman). Also *absol.*

To milk the ram, the bull: *fig.* to engage in an enterprise doomed to failure. (Cf. *mulgeat hircos*, Virg. *Ecl.* iii. 91.)

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* III. 178 Hyt bið æac god ceap to milcian. *a* 1000 in Cockayne *Shrine* 130 Se ðeþyrsta mon meolcode ða hinde. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 351/230 Heo ne ȝaf a-morewe noþe lasse, þei heo were i-milked an eue. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) I. 359 Olde wyfes.. were i-woned .. forto schape hem self in liknes of hares for to melke here neiȝhebores keen. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. XVIII. 10 An hynde oþer-while To hus selle selde cam and suffrede to be melked. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) vi. 71 For as meche as sche had to meche Mylk in hire Pappes, .. sche mylked hem on the rede Stones. *a* 1450 *Paston Lett.* I. 98 He speke with wemen which were mylkand kyne. 1530 PALSGR. 636/1, I mylke a womans brest, *je tire du laict dune femme*. 1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* III. i. 302 *Speed*. Inprimis She can milke. *a* 1656 HALES *Tract Sacr.* Tracts (1677) 40 That fell out which is in the common proverb, *sc.* Whilst the one milks the Ram, the other holds under the Sieve. 1718 POPE *Let. to Lady M. W. Montagu* 1 Sept., When she milked, it was his morning and evening charge to bring the cows to her pail. 1725 RAMSAY *Gentle Sheph.* v. ii, To leave the green-sward dance when we gae milk. 1806 *Med. Jrnl.* XV. 382 This cow being troublesome .. he had .. milked her himself.

b. To extract or draw (milk). Chiefly *passive*.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XIX. lxv. (1495) 901 That mylke is beste that is next to the complexyon of mankynde: .. And the nere it is mylked the better it is. 1527 ANDREW *Brunswyke's Distyll. Waters* G iv, The mylke whiche is molken in the mornynge. 1846 J. BAXTER *Libr. Pract. Agric.* (ed. 4) I. 196 If the same milk had been put into the milk-pans directly after it is milked.

†**c.** To cause (milk) to flow. Also with *out*.

c 1400 MAUNDEV. (ROXB.) ix. 36 And for scho had to mykill mylke in her pappes, .. scho mylked it oute apon þe reed stanes. 1544 PHAER *Regim. Lyfe* (1560) A vij b, Also ye muste shave hys heade, and mylke theron womans mylke.

†**d.** To obtain milk from by sucking. *Obs.*

1605 SHAKS. *Macb.* I. vii. 55, I haue giuen Sucke, and know How tender 'tis to loue the Babe that milkes me.

e. To keep (cattle) for the purpose of milking.

1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 4 Apr. 10/1 The largest farmer in England .. milks at least a thousand cows.

2. *intr.* To give or yield milk. In early use of women (? = sense 3 *absol.*); now only of cattle.

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 93 Þa breost þa þe mæfre meolcgende næron. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 5418 For liche a moder she can cherishe And milken as doth a norys. 1765 *Museum Rust.* IV. 225 The eating of the first shoots of rye makes ewes milk extraordinarily. 1886 C. SCOTT *Sheep Farming* 178 Some of the breeds of sheep milk very heavily.

†**b.** To eject milk. *Obs.*

c 1450 MYRC *Festial* 110 Þerwyth [she] toke out hyr swete pappe, and mylked on hys þrote.

†**3.** *trans.* To suckle. *Obs.*

1382 WYCLIF *Isa.* lx. 16 With the tete of kingis thou shalt be mylkid. *c* 1475 *Partenay* 6456 Glorius virgin .. which milkest with-all The sone of god with thy brestes brod. 1573 L. LLOID *Pilgr. Princes* (1607) 1 b, A Bitch .. fedde him and milkt him.

II. *transf.* and *fig.*

4. *trans.* To drain away the contents of; to get money out of, 'bleed' pecuniarily; to exploit, turn into a source of (usually) illicit profit. In early use const. *from*.

c 1526 FRITH *Disp. Purg.* To Rdr. A vj, This theyr painful purgatorye .. hath of longe time but deceaued the people and mylked them from theyr monye. 1532 MORE *Conf. Tindale* Wks. 639/2 They mylke them so euaungelically, that when their maisters call theim home, they gyue theim a very shrewed rekening. 1537 BIBLE (Matthew) *Ezek.* xviii. *Comm.* (end), Or yᵗ the prestes benefyces were not sufficient for them to lyue on, with out soch pyllage: or yet that the pore people coulde by any other meane be mylcked from that thynge, wherwyth they, their wynes, their housholde and chyldren shulde lyue. 1591 LYLY *Endym.* III. iii. 23 Loue hath as it were milkt my thoughts, and drained from my hart the very substance of my accustomed courage. 1695 VENTRIS *Rep.* (1716) II. 28 He would milk her Purse and fill his own large Pockets. 1721 RAMSAY *Prospect of Plenty* 51 [Spain] grasps the shadows, but the substance tines, While a' the rest of Europe milk her mines. 1893 SALTUS *Madam Sapphira* 204 'They have got something', he would insist, 'or else Tooth is milking his client'. 1904 *Daily News* 8 Oct. 6/2 It will be possible for the Department to 'milk' these grants as much as they like.

Comb. 1658 J. JONES *Ovid's Ibis* 41 Milk-purse Lawyers (so Erasmus termes them) are far more tolerable then Cut-purse tyrants.

b. U.S. slang. *To milk the market, street*, to hold stock so well in hand as to make it fluctuate at will, and so yield any financial result desired.

1870 MEDBERY *Men & Myst. Wall St.* 336 To use the slang of the financial quarter, they 'milk the street'. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* 820/2 The .. process of 'milking the market'.

c. *Horse-racing* (see quot.).

1862 *Times* 2 Jan. 8/6 By such tricks as 'milking'—*i. e.* by keeping a horse a favourite at short odds for a race in which he has no chance whatever, only to lay against him [etc.]. 1865 *Hotten's Slang Dict.* s. v. *Milk*. .. When a horse is entered for a race which his owner does not intend him to win, and bets against him, the animal is said to be 'milked'.

d. To 'tap', steal the message from (a telegraph or telephone wire); to intercept (a telegram).

1879 PRESCOTT *Sp. Telephone* 108 The .. simplicity of the means by which a wire could be milked .. struck the whole of the party. 1899 *Tit-Bits* 3 June 185/1 'Milking' telegrams .. is a fairly common practice.

†**5.** To 'handle' a person enticingly; to draw *on* by wiles. *Obs.*

1623 FLETCHER *Rule a Wife* II. iv, All this is but in seeming To milke the lover on.

6. a. To elicit, draw *out*.

a 1628 PRESTON *New Cov.* (1630) 477 To milke consolation out of the promises. 1662 GURNALL *Chr. in Arm.* III. 176 If ever you had but the sweetness of any one promise in it [*sc.* the water of life] milked out unto you. 1831 MRS. CARLYLE *Early Lett.* (1889) 189, I took nothing in hand the whole day but milking news from her (a rather rural metaphor), which she with unabating copiousness supplied.

b. To drain *away*, *out of*.

1652 NEEDHAM tr. *Selden's Mare Cl.* Ep. Ded. 6 Hee never made any farther use of them than to milk away the Subjects monie under pretence of building Ships. 1891 C. E. NORTON *Dante's Purgat.* xxiv. 152 Here it is not forbidden to name each other, since our semblance is so milked away by the diet. 1900 KIPLING in *Daily Mail* 24 Apr. 4/4 Dysentery that milks the heart out of a man.

7. To extract juice, virus, etc. from.

1746 *Mass. Acts & Resolves* (1878) III. 307 Any liberty obtained..from any Indian or Indians, for cutting off any timber, wood, hay, milking pine-trees,..shall not be any bar to said guardians in their said action or actions. 1871 R. ELLIS tr. *Catullus* lxviii. 112 Strainer of ooze impure milk'd from a watery fen. 1896 *Westm. Gaz.* 31 Jan. 2/1 A large black snake..not milked for, say, eight days, will give as much as four and a half grains of liquid poison.

8. To manipulate as one does the teat in milking.

1642 H. MORE *Song of Soul* I. II. lxxxiii, He..with his fingers milked evermore The hanging frienge. 1905 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 1 July 16 The other loops of distended bowels may then be 'milked' between the rubber-covered fingers.

†**9.** *nonce-use.* To instil with the mother's milk.

1682 DRYDEN & LEE *Dk. Guise* IV. i. (1683) 39 You..milk'd slow Arts Of Womanish Tameness in my Infant Mouth.

Milk-and-water. Milk diluted with water; hence *transf.* and *fig.*

†**1.** The colour of milk and water; a bluish white colour. Also, a kind of cloth of this colour. *Obs.*

1511 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* (1902) IV. 245 For iij elnis Franche claith of the new mylk and wattir, to be him ane coit. 1515–16 *Ibid.* (1903) V. 75, xvj elne of claith callit mylk and watter. 1555 in *Beck's Draper's Dict.* (1886) s. v., xj yards of mylke and watter, 18s. 1562 *Richmond. Wills* (Surtees) 152 To Charles my Sone..one clock [cloak] of colour callid milk and watter. 1571 in *Wills & Inv. N. C.* (Surtees) I. 363, xv yeardes of blewe carsay xv^{s}—j pece of mylk & watter j^{l} ij^{s} [etc.].

2. Feeble or insipid discourse; mawkish or weakly amiable sentiment.

1819 BYRON *Let. to Murray* 1 Feb., The discouragement of the milk and water they have thrown upon the First [Canto]. 1844 THACKERAY *Crit. Rev.* Wks. 1886 XXIII. 208 Inspired by that milk-and-water of human kindness. 1867 TROLLOPE *Chron. Barset* II. li. 79 The conversation had had so much of milk-and-water in its composition, that [etc.]

3. *attrib.* as *adj.* Like milk diluted with water; hence 'wishy-washy', insipid, feeble, mawkish, weakly amiable.

1783 *Jrnl. Amer. Congr.* (1823) IV. 209 Change the milk-and-water style of your last memorial; assume a bolder tone. 1823 BYRON *Juan* VIII. xc, All their pretty milk-and-water ways. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* viii, My rascals are no milk-and-water rascals. 1870 FRISWELL *Mod. Men of Lett.* i. 14 A milk-and-water damsel of the real Dickensian ideal.

Comb. 1864 KIMBALL *Was he successful?* iv. 36 A pale, milk-and-water-looking youth.

Hence **Milk-and-wa·ter** *v. intr.*, to feed upon milk and water. Also **Milk-and-wa·terish, -wa·tery,** *adjs.*, **Milk-and-wa·teriness.**

1807 SCOTT *Fam. Lett.* Nov. (1894) I. iii. 87 It..would be giving the signal to build some vile milk-and-waterish legendary tale upon so beautiful a subject. 1819 *Metropolis* II. 94 As milk-and-watery as a Roman senator. 1834 *Westm. Rev.* XX. 268 The ancient beauty .., however, opines in the milk-and-wateriness of her benevolence, that 'an adjustment of the question on this footing would satisfy all reasonable persons'. 1836–9 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Tuggses at Ramsgate*, Five children milk-and-watering in the parlour. 1865 — *Mutt. Fr.* IV. iii, This gentleman..is more milk and watery with you than I'll be.

Milk-cow. Now *dial.* = MILCH-COW 1, 2.

1535 COVERDALE 1 *Sam.* vi. 7 Two mylke kyne vpon y^{e} which there neuer came yock. 1606 *Choice, Chance*, etc. (1881) 48 What a spight it was to see..a milk-cowe to be stung by a hedgehog. 1727 A. HAMILTON *New Acc. E. Ind.* I. xxv. 315 Whether our East-india Company got or lost by that War, I know not..; but this I know, that the Chief lost a good Milk Cow. 1794 W. HUTCHINSON *Hist. Cumberld.* I. 210 *note*, Several farmers keep about twenty milk cows. 1862 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* XIII. i. (1872) V. 5 Hanover was the Britannic Majesty's beloved son; and the British Empire his opulent milk-cow.

Milken (mi·lk'n), *a.* Now *rare* or *Obs.* [f. MILK *sb.* + -EN [5]. OE. had *mylcen*, but the word was prob. formed afresh in the 16th c.]

1. Consisting of milk; *occas.* abounding in milk.

1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 62/39 Mylken, *lacteus*. 1607 R. C[AREW] tr. *Estienne's World of Wonders* 18 The hony and milken riuers. *a* 1618 RALEIGH *Pilgrimage* 16 There will I ..drink mine euerlasting fill Vpon euery milken hill. 1677 SIR W. TEMPLE *Gout* in *Misc.* I. (1680) 229 A constant course of the Milken-dyet.

2. Of the colour of milk, milk-white.

a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* IV. (1598) 407 A prety palenesse (which did leaue milken lines vpon her rosie cheekes). 1633 T. ADAMS *Exp. 2 Peter* i. 16 She [i. e. truth] reacheth forth to us her milken hand.

3. *fig.* Soft, mild, gentle.

1648 GAGE *West. Ind.* V. (1655) 15 A quiet and milken sea. 1650 TRAPP *Comm. Num.* XXXI. 3 Lactantius being (according to his name) a mild and milken man.

4. *Milken way, race* = MILKY WAY.

a 1586 SIDNEY *Astr. & Stella* Song V. ii. (1591) G 2 b, I said thy eyes were starres, thy breasts the milken way. 1596 C. FITZ-GEFFREY *Sir F. Drake* F 2 b, O you once matchlesse monarches of the seas, But now aduanced to an higher place..In that faire palace neere the milken race. 1612 BACON *Ess., Fortune* (Arb.) 376 The way of fortune is like the milken way in the skie.

Milker (mi·lkəɹ). [f. MILK *v.* + -ER [1].]

1. One who milks (cows, etc.); one who draws milk from the udders of cattle. *Milker's cramp*, a form of cramp to which milkers are liable.

c 1475 *Pict. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 793/23 *Hic mulsor*, a mylker. 1598 FLORIO, *Caprimulgo* ..a milker of goates. 1641 BEST *Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 134 In hyringe of mayde servants yow are to make choice of such as are good milkers. 1891 T. HARDY *Tess* xvii. (1892) 140 The milkers formed quite a little battalion of men and maids. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 14 Milker's cramp.

†**2.** = MILT. Cf. MILK *sb.* 4 and Du. *melker*.

c 1475 *Pict. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 765/26 *Hec lactis*, mylkere.

3. An animal that yields milk, esp. a milch cow. Chiefly with adj., *good*, *bad*, etc.

1807 A. YOUNG *Agric. Essex* (1813) II. 276 They [Yorkshire cows] are excellent milkers. 1886 *All Year Round* 14 Aug. 34 Weed out the bad milkers, and never keep a cow after her fifth calf. 1891 *Eng. Illustr. Mag.* No. 88. 299 The gentle lowing of the milkers in the stockyard.

4. An apparatus for milking cows mechanically. Also, *cow-milker* (Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1875).

5. One who 'milks' a telegraphic message.

1891 *Cassell's Sat. Jrnl.* Sept. 1036/2.

Hence **Mi·lkeress,** a milkmaid.

1839 *John Bull* 28 July 354/1 The red-elbowed cow-milkeress of Cornwall.

Milkful (mi·lkfŭl), *a. Obs.* exc. *dial.* [f. MILK *sb.* + -FUL.] Abounding in or replete with milk.

1589 FLEMING *Virg. Georg.* II. 35 Kine downward stretch their milkfull vdders. 1608 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iv. IV. *Decay* 1053 O Milk-full Vales, with hundred Brooks indented. 1882 J. WALKER *Jaunt to Auld Reekie* 227 Milkful crummies rowtin' up the loans.

Milkiness (mi·lkinés). [f. MILKY *a.* + -NESS.]

1. The state of being milky; the condition of resembling milk in appearance or quality.

1696 FLOYER *Anim. Humours* viii. 88 The Saltness and Oyliness of the Blood, which absorbing the Acid of the Chyle, it loses its Milkiness. *a* 1722 LISLE *Husb.* (1757) 395 This milkiness of the eyes shows that such sheep are far gone. 1891 *Anthony's Photogr. Bull.* IV. 96 If no milkiness appears, a solution of common washing soda..should be made. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 444 The milkiness [of certain ascitic fluids] is due to the presence of albumin.

b. Of sidereal and meteorological phenomena: Cloudy whiteness.

1791 HERSCHEL in *Phil. Trans.* LXXXI. 77 Among them is..Orionis, a cloudy star..but it does not seem to be connected with the milkiness any more than the rest. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. xxvii. 196 After which a milkiness slowly stole over the heavens. 1879 NEWCOMB & HOLDEN *Astron.* 458 So distant as to cause the individual stars to disappear in a general milkiness or nebulosity.

2. *fig.* Mildness, softness, gentleness; weakness. (Very common in the 18th c.)

1692 DRYDEN *Cleomenes* I. i. 4 Would I could share thy Balmy, even Temper, And Milkiness of Blood. 1753 SMOLLETT *Cnt. Fathom* (1784) 51/2 One may therefore easily conceive with what milkiness of resignation he bore the loss of the whole. 1768–74 TUCKER *Lt. Nat., Hum. Nat.* XXXIV, There is a softness and milkiness of temper that cannot say nay to any thing. 1864 HAWTHORNE *S. Felton* (1883) 378 The doctor..by no means increasing the milkiness of his mood by frequent applications to the black bottle.

Milking (mi·lkiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. MILK *v.* + -ING [1].] The action of the verb MILK.

1. The drawing of milk from the udders of cows or other animals.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 477/1 Stoppe, vessel for mylkynge, *..multra*. *c* 1574–5 G. HARVEY *Lett.-bk.* (Camden) 144 P. watchd her going a milking a mile from ye towne. 1834 YOUATT *Cattle* iii. 18 Their qualities may be referred to three points; their working, fattening, and milking. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. iii. 24 Milking was over when we returned to the châlet.

2. *concr.* The quantity of milk drawn from a cow or from a dairy at one time or operation.

1538 ELYOT *Dict.*, *Mulctra*, the mylkyng, the payle, wherinto it is milked. 1611 COTGR., *Mousson*, a Cowes..milking; as much as she yeelds at a milking. 1850 J. STRUTHERS *Life* Poet. Wks. I. p. xxix, The whole milking went to the floor.

3. *techn.* The steeping of cloth in sour milk during the bleaching process.

1837 WHITTOCK, etc. *Bk. Trades* (1842) 31 The next process is called the milking, or the souring.

4. *attrib.*, as *milking cow, cramp, gear, machine, pail, pot, side,* †*skeel, stool, time, trade, tube, yard*; **milking-loan** *dial.* (see quot.).

1784 TWAMLEY *Dairying* 97 The people..who buy Cows, always make a large bag in a *Milking Cow their first object. 1890 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, **Milking-cramp.* 1891 T. HARDY *Tess* xvii. (1892) 145 Without the *milking-gear nobody could have guessed what he was. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* III. 824 The shepherd or cattle-man taking it as a part of his duty to bring them to a certain spot of the field to be milked, and which is usually named the *milking loan. 1891 *Daily News* 14 Oct. 2/6 A good deal of curiosity was attracted..by Mr. J. Gray's '*milking machine'. 1548 ELYOT *Dict.*, *Mulctrale*, a *mylkyng payle. 1897 CROCKETT *Lads' Love* xvi, The white streams hissed.. into the milking pails. 1511 *MS. Acc. St. John's Hosp., Canterb.*, For a new *mylkyng pot jd. ob. 1844 STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 456 There is one side of a cow which is usually called the *milking side. 1577 *Wills & Inv. N. C.* (Surtees) I. 421 In The Kitchinge And Larder House..iiij *milken skeales, and one wassinge toobe. 1830 MISS MITFORD *Village* Ser. IV. 103 Her little brother following with the *milking-stool. 1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* IV. iv. 246 Is there not *milking-time? 1725 POPE *Odyss.* IX. 263 Full pails, and vessels of the *milking trade. 1881 J. P. SHELDON *Dairy Farm.* 58/1 A silver 'syphon' or '*milking-tube'. 1888 W. SENIOR *Near & Far* 281 The magpie fluted sweetly from the three gum-trees by the *milking-yard.

Milking (mi·lkiŋ), *ppl. a. rare.* [f. MILK *v.* + -ING [2].] That milks.

1821 CLARE *Vill. Minstr.* I. 203 Milking maids and boys. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* V. 213 You did but come as goblins in the night,..Nor burnt the grange, nor buss'd the milking-maid. 1891 T. HARDY *Tess* xxii. (1892) 178 One or two of the milking-men.

†**Mi·lkish,** *a. Obs.* [f. MILK *sb.* + -ISH.] Milky.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* V. xlv. (1495) 162 Amonge the colours of vryne some bytoken defawte of digestion as white mylkysshe and yelowe. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 322 The Occidental [pearls] are of a Milkish Colour.

Milkless (mi·lklés), *a.* [f. MILK *sb.* + -LESS.]

1. Having no milk, devoid of milk.

c 1620 Z. BOYD *Zion's Flowers* (1855) 33 The sucklings..Doe from their milklesse mother's brests draw blood. 1816 'QUIZ' *Grand Master* V. 120 With musty bread, and milkless tea. 1903 *Contemp. Rev.* Mar. 311 Helpless babes were slowly dying at their milkless breasts.

fig. 1643 T. GOODWIN *Child of Light* 179 Hast thou found a promise, which is a breast of consolation, milklesse?

2. *Bot.* Not secreting 'milk' or latex. (Said of certain fungi.)

1871 COOKE *Handbk. Brit. Fungi* I. 217 Russula..Gills nearly equal, milkless, rigid, brittle, with an acute edge.

Milk-livered, *a.* Cowardly, 'white-livered'.

1605 SHAKS. *Lear* IV. ii. 50 Milk-Liuer'd man, That bear'st a cheeke for blowes. 1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) III. 20 You..hare-hearted, milk-livered poltroon.

Mi·lkmaid. [f. MILK *sb.* + MAID.]

1. A woman that milks or is employed in a dairy.

1552 HULOET, Mylker or mylke mayde. 1570 FOXE *A. & M.* (ed. 2) 2294/2 Elizabeth..hearyng..a certeine milke-mayde singing pleasauntly, wished her self to be a milke-mayde as she was. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Past.* III. 153 In vain the Milk-maid tugs an empty Teat. 1768 BEATTIE *Minstr.* I. xxxix, Crown'd with her pail the tripping milk-maid sings. 1849 JAMES *Woodman* ii, Barons' heirs would be marrying milkmaids.

Comb. *c* 1860 PATMORE in B. Champneys *Mem.* (1900) I. x. § 5. 141 So splendid a beauty with so milkmaid-like an absence of pretension.

2. Local or book name of several plants (see quots.).

1853 *Naturalist* III. 225 *Ilex aquifolium albo-pictum*, White-spotted-leaved Common Holly; known also by the name of Milkmaid. 1886 BRITTEN & HOLLAND *Plant-n.* 335 Milk Maid, or Milk Maids (1) *Cardamine pratensis*,..(2) *Stellaria Holostea*, .. (3) *Lotus corniculatus*, .. (4) The flowers of *Convolvulus sepium*,..(5) *Primula vulgaris*, L. var. (the 'oxlip'). 1887 F. FRANCIS *Saddle & Mocassin* 88 Myriads of daisies and 'milkmaids' powder it [the grass] with snowy flakes.

Milkman (mi·lkmăn). [f. MILK *sb.* + MAN.]

1. A man who sells milk.

1589 RIDER *Bibl. Schol.*, A milke man, *lactarius*. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Lactary*, a Dairyhouse, and may be used for a Dayry-man, Milk man, or Chees-monger. 1679 *Trials of Green, Berry*, etc. 65 On Friday morning our Milkman came and told us, that one Mr. Godfrey was found murdered. 1838 DICKENS *O. Twist* x, The butcher throws down his tray,..the milk-man his pail.

2. A man who milks cows.

1902 *Contemp. Rev.* Dec. 831 The milkmen had donned their blouses of grey hemp-linen.

†**Mi·lkmeat.** *Obs.* [f. MILK *sb.* + MEAT.] Food made with or from milk.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 338/1 Mylke mete, or mete made wythe mylke. *c* 1450 *Two Cookery-bks.* 106 Milkemete. Take faire mylke and floure [etc.]. 1699 *Phil. Trans.* XXI. 62 The various sorts of Cheese, and some other Milk-Meats, made in Italy. 1764 HARMER *Observ.* x. iv. 154 One would have imagined..the Septuagint would have been at no loss in translating passages which speak of cheese, or in determining what they meant, if some other kind of milk-meats were meant in them.

Milkness (mi·lknés). *Obs.* exc. *Sc. dial.* [f. MILK *sb.* + -NESS.] The aggregate yield of milk of a cow, ewe, etc., or of a dairy of milking cattle. Also milk and its products generally, dairy produce.

1492 *Acta Dom. Concil.* (1839) 280/2 The saidis personis sall .. pay.. for þe proffit of þe mylkness of þe said five ky [etc.]. *Ibid.*, For þe proffit of þe mylknes of þe said iiij^{xx} of 3owis be þe said thre 3eris xlviij stane of cheiss, price of þe stane ijs. 1536 BELLENDEN *Cron. Scot.* (1821) I. 46 The residew of the Scottis .. debaitit thair miserabill liffis, .. with scars and hard fude; levand, in the somer, on milknes, ..and in the winter, of wild flesche of the montanis. 1674 in *Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot.* (1896) XXX. 19 At least ane stirk to be brought up betwixt each twa [cows], reserving to the said persones the milkness. 1678 *Ibid.* 21 Reserving ther milknes to the said Duncane. *a* 1774 FERGUSSON *Drink Ecl.* Poems (1845) 52 Crummie nae mair for Jenny's hand will crune Wi milkness dreepin' frae her teats adown. 1842 J. AITON *Dom. Econ.* (1857) 89 Meat very soon communicates a taint to milkness in all its states of..preservation.

Mi·lk-pu·nch. A drink made of spirits mixed with milk, etc.

1704 T. POCOCK in *Torrington Mem.* (Camden) 181 He treated me this evening with a bowl of milk punch. 1764 ELIZ. MOXON *Eng. Housew.* 153 To make Milk Punch. Take two quarts of old milk, a quart of good brandy, the juice of six lemons or oranges, .. and about six ounces of

loaf sugar, mix them altogether [etc.]. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* I, It smells, I think, like milk-punch.

Mi·lksile. *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Also 5 -sele, -syle. [f. MILK *sb.* + SILE. Cf. *milk-sye*, MILSEY.]

1. A strainer for milk. (See *E. D. D.*)

1459 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 89, j Milksyle.

2. *Lady's milksile*: the milkmaid, *Cardamine pratensis* (Britten & Holland, 1886).

Mi·lk-snake. [See quot. 1863.] A handsome colubrine snake, *Ophibolus eximius*, common in many localities in the United States.

1842 HOLBROOK *N. Amer. Herpetol.* III. 69 *Coluber eximius*...House Snake or Milk Snake, *Vulgo.* 1863 WOOD *Nat. Hist.* III. 131 The Milk Snake, or House Snake (*Coluber eximius*) is common in many parts of North America, and has derived its popular names from its habit of entering houses and its fondness for milk, which some persons fancy it obtains from the cows.

Mi·lksop. [f. MILK *sb.* + SOP *sb.*]

†1. A piece of bread soaked in milk. *Obs. rare.*

c 1420 *Liber Cocorum* (1862) 53 Melle white brede in dysshes aboute, Powre in wellyd mylke, with outen doute, Þat called is mylke soppys in serves For Satyrday at nyȝt.

† b. *fig.* in *pl.* 'Soft sayings'. *Obs.*

1577 HANMER *Anc. Eccl. Hist.* 71 Lingering in their milksoppes and smoothe Exhortacions.

† c. *Milksop dishes*, dishes made of 'milkmeats'.

1628 EARLE *Microcosm.* (Arb.) 47 Quaking Tarts and quiuering Custards, and such milke sop Dishes.

2. †a. An infant not advanced beyond a milk diet. *Obs. rare.*

c 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xii. 469 *Secundus pastor.* hayll, lytyll tyn mop.. hayll lytyll mylk sop! hayll, dauid sede!

b. *fig.* An effeminate spiritless man or youth; one wanting in courage or manliness.

[1246-56 in *35th Rep. Dep. Kpr. Rec.* (1874) App. 17 A villein called Robert Milcsop.] *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Monk's Prol.* 22 Allas she seith that euere þat I was shape To wedden a Milksope or a coward ape. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 847 The Erle of Richmond Capitayne of thys rebellion, he is a Welshe milksop. *a* 1619 FLETCHER, etc. *Knt. Malta* II. i, Thou milksop, .. canst thou feare to see A few light hurts, that blush they are no bigger? 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* XI. vii, I ought to be d—n'd for having spoiled one of the prettiest fellows in the world, by making a milk-sop of him. 1876 L. STEPHEN *Eng. Th. in 18th C.* II. 377 Fielding has a contempt for Richardson as a milksop.

c. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

1549 CHALONER *Erasm. on Folly* P ij, Farre more milkesoplyke and womannishe to cast foorth teares. 1750 *Student* I. 141 The milksop looks and mincing steps of the pretty gentlemen. *a* 1839 PRAED *Poems* (1864) II. 97 Like a fool Ripe from a milksop boarding-school.

Hence **Mi·lksoppishness, Mi·lksopism,** the characteristics of a milksop. **Mi·lksopping** *a.*, imbued with 'milksopism'. **Mi·lksoppy** *a.* = MILKSOPPING.

1832 J. WILSON in *Blackw. Mag.* XXXII. 392 This new dandyfied era of milksoppism. 1888 STEVENSON *Black Arrow* I. ii, Y'are a milk-sopping baby, so to harp on women. 1871 T. A. TROLLOPE *Durnton Abbey* II. viii. 126, 'I think I won't take any brandy this morning', said Reginald, blushing painfully at the consciousness of his milksoppishness in this respect. 1886 G. ALLEN *Maimie's Sake* xi, About eighty-seven per cent. of male humanity belongs absolutely to the milksoppy section.

Milkstone (mi·lkstōun). [f. MILK *sb.* + STONE.]

1. A name for various white stones (see quots.).

1856 MAYNE *Expos. Lex., Milk-Stone.* Common name for the *Galactites.* 1860 PIESSE *Lab. Chem. Wonders* 2 Two rounded whitish flint pebbles such as boys call milkstones. 1890 *Syd. Soc. Lex., Milk-stone.* Same as *Galactites.* Also, the same as *Morochthus.*

2. *Path. pl.* 'Hard concretions resulting from the retention or extravasation of milk in the breast, and its gradual inspissation and calcification by the absorption of its watery constituent (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1890).

Mi·lk-tooth. One of a temporary set of mammalian teeth which are replaced by the permanent teeth (cf. *milk-canine, molar*, etc.).

1727-52 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Tooth*, Twelve foal-teeth or milk-teeth [of a horse]. 1835 *Todd's Cyel. Anat.* I. 68/1 The milk-teeth..by the end of the seventh year have given way to the .. permanent series. 1886 C. SCOTT *Sheep Farming* 15 At a month old a lamb will have eight incisors or milk teeth, which are temporary.

Milk-warm, *a.* Of the approximate temperature of milk fresh-drawn from the cow; new-milk warm.

c 1410 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) xii, Caste þer in oyle of camamyle mylke warme III. dropes. *a* 1608 DEE *Relat. Spir.* I. (1659) 253 The first part let her drink (being milk-warm) by little and little. 1766 SMOLLETT *Trav.* II. xxxii. 135 They had baths of cool water for the summer: but in general they used it milk-warm. 1837 *Flemish Husb.* 62 in *Libr. Usef. Knowl., Husb.* III, This mess is given milk-warm to the calf.

Milkweed (mi·lkwīd). [f. MILK *sb.* + WEED *sb.*]

1. A name given to certain British wild plants with milky juice. a. The sow-thistle, *Sonchus oleraceus.* b. The brimstone-wort, *Peucedanum palustre*; called also *Marsh milkweed.* c. The sun-spurge, *Euphorbia Helioscopia.*

1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Milk Weed.* 1736 AINSWORTH *Lat. Dict.*, Milk weed, *Sonchos* vel *sonchus.* 1796 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) II. 293 *Selinum sylvestre*..Marsh Milkweed. *Ibid.* III. 675 *Sonchus oleraceus*...Sowthistle. ..Milkweed.

2. Any plant of the North American genus *Asclepias*, esp. *A. syriaca* or *Cornuti*, the common milkweed or silkweed of the United States, which has a copious milky juice, and seeds tufted with long silky hairs. *Green milkweed*, the asclepiadaceous genus *Acerates.*

1845-50 MRS. LINCOLN *Lect. Bot.* App. 77 *Asclepias syriaca* (common milkweed). 1860 GRAY *Man. Bot. U. S.* 350 *Asclepiadaceæ* (Milkweed Family). *Ibid.* 354 *Acerates*, Green Milkweed.

attrib. 1862 LOWELL *Biglow P.* Ser. II. No. vi, While Fancy's cushin'..Makes the hard bench ez soft ez milk-weed-down.

Mi·lk-white, *a.* White as milk.

Usually employed in the sense of 'pure white'; for a proposed use in botanical descriptions, see quot. 1839.

? *c* 1000 *Prudent. Gloss.* in *Germania* N. S. XI. 389/70 Of meolc hwyttre, *lacteo. Ibid.* 397/32 Meolchwitum, *lacteis. c* 1205 LAY. 15938 Þe oder [drake] is milc-whit. *c* 1325 *Chron. Eng.* 621 (Kitson) Thre hondred steden mylk-whyte. 1595 *Alcilia* (1879) 19 The snow, Whose milke-white mantell ouerspreeds the ground. 1639 T. DE GRAY *Compl. Horsem.* 59 The horse which is milke-white. 1718 PRIOR *Dove* 78 Her blushing face the lovely maid Rais'd just above the milk-white sheet. 1808 SCOTT *Marm.* IV. vii, On milk-white palfrey forth he paced. 1839 LINDLEY *Introd. Bot.* 477 Milk-white..; dull white verging to blue. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* (1891) 154 A broad, milk-white beach received the vast rollers.

absol. 1683 A. SNAPE *Anat. Horse* I. i. (1686) 2 The Horse will be of a milk-white or yellow-dun.

† b. *Milk white way* = MILKY WAY. *Obs.*

1555 EDEN *Decades* 94 The tracte of heauen cauled *Lactea via*, that is the mylke whyte waye. 1594 *Taming of a Shrew* (1607) D 3 b, As faire as is the milke white way of Ioue. 1594 BLUNDEVIL *Exerc.* IV. xix. (1636) 475 Having described unto you .. as many stars as are named in the Globe, and also the milkewhite way [etc.].

Milkwort (mi·lkwŭrt). [f. MILK *sb.* + WORT.]

1. Any plant of the genus *Polygala*, formerly supposed to increase the milk of nurses; esp. *Polygala vulgaris*, a common British plant bearing racemes of very irregular bright blue or sometimes pink or white flowers. *Bitter milkwort*: the *Polygala amara* (*Treas. Bot.* 1866).

1578 LYTE *Dodoens* I. xxxiii. 48 There be two kyndes of Mylkewurte, differing both in name and figure: whereof one is called *Glaux*, and the other *Polygala.* 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. clx. 448 Of Milkewoorte. 1671 SALMON *Syn. Med.* III. xxii. 420 Polygala Πολυγαλον Milkwort, a handful steeped all night in white wine .. purgeth Choller. 1759 B. STILLINGFLEET tr. *Gedner's Use Curios.* in *Misc. Tracts* (1762) 191 No physician would have even suspected, that our milkwort would be usefull in the bite of serpents, .. unless the principles of botany had led him to it. 1873 MISS THACKERAY *Wks.* (1891) I. 70 Dandelions and milkwort among the beds.

2. A primulaceous plant, *Glaux maritima*, common on the sea-coast and in salt marshes. Also *Sea milkwort.*

1578 LYTE *Dodoens* I. xxxiii. 48 *Glaux.* Milkewurte, or sea Tryfoly. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. clix. 448 The true *Glaux* or Milkwoort groweth very plentifully in salt places and marshes neere the sea. *Ibid.*, It shall suffice to call it in English Sea Milkwoort. 1640 PARKINSON *Theat. Bot.* Index 1741/2 Blacke Milkewort, or Sea Milkewort.

3. (*Our*) *Lady's milkwort*: lungwort, *Pulmonaria officinalis.*

1578 LYTE *Dodoens* I. lxxxv. 125 We call it in English ..Cowslip of Ierusalem:..in base Almaigne Onser vrouwen melck cruyt,..that is to say, Our Ladies Milkewort, bycause the leaues be full of white spottes.

4. Any plant of the genus *Euphorbia.*

1640 PARKINSON *Theat. Bot.* 184 *Tithymalus sive Lactaria.* Spurge or Milkewort. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* Add., *Milk-wort*, or *Wart-wort*, is also a name sometimes given to the *Euphorbia.* 1886 BRITTEN & HOLLAND *Plant-Names* App., Milkwort, *Euphorbia Helioscopia* and other species (Essex).

5. *pl.* Name for the root of *Campanula rotundifolia* (Jam. 1880).

Milky (mi·lki), *a.* [f. MILK *sb.* + -Y.]

1. Having the appearance of milk, or of water into which milk has been dropped. Also (chiefly *poet.*), resembling milk in colour, milk-white.

Milky white: in poetical use = MILK-WHITE; in prose use, rather, white resembling that of milk diffused through water.

1384 [see MILKY WAY]. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* xv. lxvi. (1495) 511 Sibel callyth frensshmen, Galles, that is whyte and sayd that in one yere mylky neckes shall be mynyd. 1567 MAPLET *Gr. Forest* 76 The Caladrius sayth Aristotle is of milkie colour, without any black spot. 1653 *Nissena* 8 Lips of Coral .. Eyes brighter then the Sun, Milky hands; such .. were the ravishing graces. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 600 With Fleeces milky white. 1758 REID tr. *Macquer's Chym.* I. 395 With regard to the white powder that renders the solution milky..it is nothing but a portion of the Lead. 1791 HERSCHEL in *Phil. Trans.* LXXXI. 81 A star with a pretty strong milky nebulosity. *Ibid.* 85 Tinged with milky nebulosity. 1818-20 E. THOMPSON tr. *Cullen's Nosol. Method.* (ed. 3) 226 A milky humour like chyle. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* cxiv, The flocks are whiter down the vale, And milkier every milky sail. 1859 — *Geraint & Enid* 150 A hart Taller than all his fellows, milky-white. 1869 G. LAWSON *Dis. Eye* (1874) 157 A piece of tough milky-white looking lens capsule. 1878 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* 82 The liquid becomes milky as the carbonic acid gas..bubbles through. 1883 *Times* 27 Aug. 8/3 The whole of the bay wore a milky look.

b. said of the juices of plants and fruits.

1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* II. (1586) 109 b, The sappe .. in the Figge tree .. is milkie. 1660 HICKERINGILL *Jamaica* (1661) 24 The Coco Nuts .. in whose content, is barrell'd up..a milky liquor. 1766 *Compl. Farmer* s.v. *Sap*, In plants, particularly in such as abound with a milky sap. 1855 SIR E. SMITH in *Syst. Nat. Hist.* I. 30 The *latex*, or milky fluid, is of immense service to man. *Ibid.* 31 The following is the mode in which the India-rubber is prepared from the milky juice. 1884 BOWER & SCOTT *De Bary's Phaner.* 184 The slightly milky latex.

c. Path. *Milky ascites*: that variety of ascites in which the contained fluid is milky.

1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 449 Such cases [of ascites] are described as milky, non-fatty ascites.

2. Of or consisting of milk. *rare.*

1552 HULOET, Milkye meates, or meates made of milke. *Lactaria.* 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 482 The salacious Goat .. twice as largely yields her milky Store. 1791 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Rom. Forest* III. xxvi. 339 Several peasant girls..were dispensing the milky feast.

3. Containing, abounding in, or yielding milk.

1641 J. JACKSON *True Evang. T.* II. 103 The milkie fruitfulnesse of the Cow. 1675 G. R. tr. *Le Grand's Man without Passion* 36 When those two Milky Mountains become one double bag full of Blood, they are no more desired by men. 1714 GAY *Sheph. Week* Mon. 78 As my Buxoma .. With gentle finger stroked her milky care. 1870 BRYANT *Iliad* IX. 272 Argos, richly stocked In milky kine.

b. *Bot.* Yielding milk-like juice.

1861 BENTLEY *Man. Bot.* 583 The Goodenia Order.—Herbs or rarely shrubs, not milky. *Ibid.*, The Stylewort Order.—Herbs or under-shrubs, not milky. 1884 BOWER & SCOTT *De Bary's Phaner.* 432 In milky plants provided with phloem-portions..these also are accompanied by laticiferous tubes.

c. Of food: Promoting the secretion of milk.

1886 C. SCOTT *Sheep Farming* 50 Cabbages..are also preferable..for ewes at lambing time, and are very 'milky'.

d. Of an oyster: Full of spawn. Cf. MILK *sb.* 8 b.

1865 *Chambers's Encycl.* VII. 324/1.

4. *transf.* and *fig.* Of persons, their actions, attributes, etc. Soft, gentle; in bad sense, timorous, effeminate, weakly amiable.

1602 *2nd Pt. Return fr. Parnass.* I. iv. (Arb.) 17 See what a little vermine pouerty altereth a whole milkie disposition. 1607 SHAKS. *Timon* III. i. 57 Has friendship such a faint and milkie heart, It turnes in lesse then two nights? 1658 MANTON *Exp. Jude* 20 Peter writeth in a milky, sweet, middle way. 1764 FOOTE *Patron* III. Wks. 1799 I. 352 If you find the audience too indulgent, inclined to be milky, [etc.]. 1782 MRS. H. COWLEY *Bold Stroke for Husb.* I. ii, I long to set a pattern to those milky wives, whose mean compliances degrade the sex. 1813 BYRON 5 Sept. in Moore *Lett. & Jrnls.* (1830) I. 426 They made .. me (the milkiest of men) a satirist. 1883 J. PARKER *Tyne Ch.* 3 People who .. spoke a soft and milky language. 1884 W. C. SMITH *Kildrostan* 92, I hate Your meek and milky girls, that dare not kiss A burning passion, clinging to your lips.

5. *Comb.*, as *milky-farinaceous, -looking, -watery* adjs.; **milky cap**, one of the gill-bearing fungi, *Russula lactea*; †**milky circle**, the milky way; **milky-fever, -hedge, -parsley, -scall, -sea** = *milk-fever, -hedge*, etc. (see MILK *sb.* 10, 10 b); **milky tree** = COW-TREE 1.

1887 HAY *Brit. Fungi* 112 *Russula lactea*, The *Milky-cap. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* VII. iv. 346 The Galaxia or *milky Circle. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 411 The most satisfactory diet .. is a *milky-farinaceous one. 1747 tr. *Astruc's Fevers* 355 A fever, with a swelling of the breasts can be taken for no other than a *milky fever. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XII. 23/2 **Milky-Hedge*, the English name of a shrub growing on the coast of Coromandel. 1862 MILLER *Elem. Chem., Org.* (ed. 2) 268 A *milky-looking fluid or emulsion. 1640 PARKINSON *Theat. Bot.* 928, I have entituled it .. Wild *milkie Parsley. 1759 MILLER *Gard. Dict.* (ed. 7) s.v. *Selinum*, Milky Parsley. 1822-34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) IV. 487 Whence the French name of *croute de lait* and our own of *milky scall. 1871 KINGSLEY *At Last* I, That most rare and unexplained phenomenon of a '*milky sea'. 1666 J. DAVIES *Hist. Caribby Isles* 49 Others have venemous qualities, as the *Milkie tree. 1886 J. R. REES *Pleas. Bk.-Worm* V. 168 Languishing *milky-watery young men.

Hence **Mi·lkily** *adv. rare.*

1881 WATSON in *Jrnl. Linn. Soc.* XV. 247 The shell is milkily transparent. 1903 N. MUNRO in *Blackw. Mag.* June 813/2 The byre was warm and odorous milkily.

Milky Way. [f. MILKY *a.* + WAY *sb.*, transl. of L. *via lactea*. Cf. *milk way* (MILK *sb.* 10).]

1. = GALAXY 1.

c 1384 CHAUCER *H. Fame* II. 429 Se yonder loo the Galoxie Whiche men clepeth the melky weye. 1551 RECORDE *Cast. Knowl.* (1556) 105 The Milkye way in heauen, whiche many men in England do call Watlyng streete. 1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* 455 As we thinke the *via lactea* or Milky Way in heauen is occasioned by an infinite number of small starres. 1732 POPE *Ess. Man* I. 102 Far as the solar walk, or milky way. 1868 LOCKYER *Elem. Astron.* i. § 1 (1879) 11 This belt is the Milky Way.

2. *fig.* and allusively. a. A way brilliant in appearance, or leading to heaven.

1649 W. M. *Wandering Jew* (1857) 56 The path to Heaven is a milky way; not a bloudy. 1670 EACHARD *Cont. Clergy* 60 Goodness is the milkey-way to Jupiter's palace.

† b. *Poet.* The region of a woman's breast. *Obs.*

1622 WITHER *Fair Virtue* E, Whatsceuer others say, There's alone the Milkie-way, That to beauties walkes doth goe. 1630 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Flowres Sion* 48 From her heauie Eyne Along her Cheekes distilling christall Brine, Which downe-wards to her yuorie Brest was driuen, And had bedewed the milkie-Way of Heauen. *a* 1704 T. BROWN *On Beauties* Wks. 1730 I. 43 Two snowy mounts, so near her heart... Between those hills, a milky way there leads. 1721 RAMSAY *Tartana* 243 Behold her heav'nly face and heaving milky way,

Mill (mil), *sb.*[1] Forms: *α.* 1 **mylen**, 1–2, 6–7 **myln**, 3–7 **mulne**, 4–7 **mylne**, 5 **myllne**, **myllen**, 7, 8–9 *dial.* **miln**; *β.* 1 **myll**, 3–4 **mulle**, 4 **mille**, 4–5 **mylle**, 4–6 **melle**, 5 **myl**, 6–7 **myl(l**, 6– **mill**. [OE. *mylen* masc. and fem.:—prehistoric **mulīno-*, **mulina*, a late L. *molīnum*, *molīna* (whence F. *moulin*, Pr. *molin-s*, *moli-s*, Sp. *molino*, Pg. *moinho*, It. *mulino*, *molino*), f. *mola* mill, f. *mol-* root of *molĕre* to grind: see MEAL *sb.*[1] The late L. word was early adopted into the other Teut. langs.: cf. MDu. *molene* fem. (Du. *molen*, †*meulen* masc.), OHG. *muli(n* fem. (MHG. *müil*, mod.G. *mühle*), ON. *mylna* fem., perh. from Eng. (Sw. *mölla*, Da. *mølle*).

For the loss of the *n* cf. *kiln*, in most dialects pronounced (kil).]

1. A building specially designed and fitted with machinery for the grinding of corn into flour. Also forming the second element in certain obvious combinations, as *water-*, *wind-mill*, *flour-*, *grist mill*, many of which are treated under the first element.

c 961 ÆTHELWOLD *Rule St. Benet* lxvi. (Schröer 1885) 127 Pæt is wæterscype, mylen [*c* 1020 (Logeman) myll], wyrtun and zehwylce misenlice cræftas [etc.]. 982 in Kemble *Cod. Dipl.* III. 189 Se mylenham and se myln ðærto. *a* 1100 *Gerefa* in *Anglia* (1886) IX. 261 Faldian, fiscwer and mylne macian. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 88 Vrom mulne & from cheping, from smiðe, & from ancre huse, me tiðinge bringeð. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 2203 What! hit wharred, & whette, as water at a mulne. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Former Age* 6 Onknowyn was þe quyerne and ek the melle. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1604 There were bild by the bankes of þe brode stremes, Mylnes full mony. 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 5422 Thys greyn was to the melle brouht. 1481 CAXTON *Godeffroy* xx. 51 They sawe vij myllenes, whiche stode at brygge nyghe the town and sette them a fyre. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 526 A Miller that kept a Mill adioinyng to the wall. 1601 FULBECKE *1st Pt. Parall.* (1602) 39 She shal not so be indowed of a milne, but shall haue the third part of the profit of the milne, because the milne cannot be seuered. *a* 1632 G. HERBERT *Jac. Prudent.* 153 The mill cannot grind with the water that's past. *a* 1766 J. CUNNINGHAM *Miller* 2 In a plain pleasant cottage, conveniently neat, With a mill and some meadows. 1770 GOLDSM. *Des. Vill.* 11 The never-failing brook, the busy mill. 1818 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) VI. 496 Edward Manning being possessed of the moiety of a mill for the term of fifty years, made his will. 1903 *Blackw. Mag.* Sept. 365/1 A leet..whose waters work the mill below.

b. In figurative and other phrases. *To draw water to (one's) mill*: to seize every advantage. *To go (pass) through the mill*: to pass through a definite course of labour or experience; similarly, *to put through the mill*. *To bring more sacks to the mill*: to supplement argument with argument or weight with weight. *Much water runs by the mill that the miller knows not of*: many things happen before us of which we know nothing.

1522 SKELTON *Why nat to Court?* 107 They may garlycke pyll Cary sackes to the myll. 1546 J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* (1867) 60 Muche water goeth by the myll, That the miller knowth not of. 1590 NASHE *Pasquil's Apol.* I. C ij b, To the next, to the next, more sacks to the Myll. 1622 MABBE tr. *Aleman's Guzman D'Alf.* I. (1630) 136 When there was nothing to be done at home, your Lackies..would..fright me with Snakes, hang on my backe, & weigh me downe, crying, More sackes to the Mill. 1649 HOWELL *Pre-em. Parl.* 10 Lewis the eleventh..could well tell how to play his game, and draw water to his owne Mill. 1677 W. HUGHES *Man of Sin* II. viii. 118 The Invention of bringing more water to the Popes Mill. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* (1891) 147 Going to do wonders, and make important changes. That will wear off—we've all passed through that mill.

c. A mechanical apparatus, whether simple or complicated, for grinding corn.

Not found until the 16th century; the quots. 1535 hardly prove its currency, as Luther, whom Coverdale very often follows, has *mühle* in both passages. The older word for a handmill was QUERN; in the case of a water-mill or windmill, there was little occasion to separate the notion of the machinery from that of the containing fabric which was necessarily connected with it.

1535 COVERDALE *Exod.* xi. 5 The mayde seruaunte which is behynde ye myll. — *Matt.* xxiv. 41 Two shal be gryndinge at the Myll. 1563–87, 1573–80 [see HANG-MILL]. 1614 MARKHAM *Cheap Husb.* (1668) I. v. 40 If you cause these Beans to be spelted upon a Miln, and so mixt with Oats, it will recover him. 1674 BOYLE *Grounds Mech. Hypothesis* 21–2 A Water-mill, or a Wind-mill, or a Horse-mill, or a Hand-mill. 1791 COWPER *Odyss.* XX. 135 She rested on her mill, and thus pronounced The happy omen by her lord desired. 1903 *Pilot* 22 Aug. 179/2 San-niang-tzŭ then produced a small mill and ground the wheat to flour.

2. A machine or apparatus for grinding or reducing to powder or pulp some solid substance. Also, a building fitted with machinery for this purpose. Often as the second element of obvious combinations, as in *coffee-*, *pepper-mill*, *paper-*, *powder-mill*, etc.

1560 GRESHAM in Burgon *Life* (1839) I. 294 The Quene's Majestie should do well to macke..iiij or vi mylles for the macking of powdyr. 1596 LAMBARDE *Peramb. Kent* 453 Two Milles of rare deuise..the one emploied for the making of all sortes of Paper..the other exercised for the drawing of Iron into Wyres [etc.]. 1666–7 in *Boyle's Wks.* (1772) VI. 551 Tin always..must be prepared..by stamping, or knocking mills, which reduce the whole body to a very small sand. *Ibid.* 552 The tin-slag, may, by being exposed to the open air and rain for a time, be sooner prepared in the mill, and melted down. 1712–14 POPE *Rape Lock* III. 106 The board with cups and spoons is crown'd, The berries crackle, and the mill turns round. 1800 tr. *Lagrange's Chem.* II. 71 The result will be a sulphate of lead of a beautiful whiteness, and exceedingly fine, if it be washed in a large quantity of water, and then carefully mixed in a mill. 1889 C. G. W. LOCK *Pract. Gold-mining* 226 A new mill for reducing cement, known as Drake's cement-mill..is in form of a tube [etc.]. *Ibid.* 437 The order in which the stamps drop varies in different mills.

fig. *a* 1633 G. HERBERT *Jacula Prud.* 747 Gods Mill grinds slow; but sure. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* lxxxviii, Ground in yonder social mill We rub each other's angles down. 1870 LONGF. tr. *Von Logau*, *Retribution*, Though the mills of God grind slowly, yet they grind exceeding small.

b. An instrument designed to express the juices from any succulent matter by grinding or crushing; usually with defining prefix, as *cane*, *cider mill*.

1676 WORLIDGE (*title*) Vinetum Britannicum: or, a Treatise of Cider...And a Description of the new-invented Ingenio or Mill, For the more expeditious and better making of Cider. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* II. 757 Then Olives, ground in Mills, their Fatness boast. 1794 J. CLARK *Agric. Hereford.* 40 The [*sc.* cider] mill consists of a stone like a mill-stone (runner) set on its edge, with an axle through the center [etc.]. 1853 URE *Dict. Arts* (ed. 4) II. 284 They give the name *virgin oil* to that which is first obtained from the olives ground to a paste in a mill.

c. *Sc.* A snuff-box; originally, †one in which tobacco could be ground to powder by a simple mechanism. (Cf. MULL.)

1776 C. KEITH *Farmer's Ha'* vi. (1794), Wi' mill in hand, and wise adage He spent the night. *a* 1780 SHIRREFS *Poems* (1790) 215 And there, o'er pot o' beer right spruce, And mill in hand, The carls crack'd awa' fell crouse About the land. 1805 G. M'INDOE *Million Potatoes* in Chambers *Pop. Hum. Scot. Poems* (1862) 150 In the laird's nieve John ramm'd his mill, The laird ca'd in anither gill.

3. In the 15–16th c., applied by extension to any machine worked by wind or water power in the manner of a corn-mill, though not used for the purpose of grinding. In later use applied to various machines for performing certain operations upon material in the process of manufacture; often with defining word, as in *flatting-*, *fulling-*, *rolling-*, *saw-mill*.

1417–18, etc. [see *fulling-mill* s.v. FULLING *vbl. sb.*]. 1463–4 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 502/2 Wollen Cloth, fulled in milles called Gygmylles and Toune Milles. 1596 [see 2]. 1621 ELSING *Debates Ho. Lords* (Camden) App. 138 Ireland and Norton came back and..surprised one milne used for other works of his trade. 1725 WATTS *Logic* IV. i. § 1 In order to make mills and engines of various kinds. 1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.*, *Mill*.. among gold-wire-drawers, is a little machine consisting of two cylinders of steel, serving to flatten the gold, or silver wire, and reduce it into laminæ, or plates...They have also *mills* to wind the gold-wire or thread on the silk. *Ibid.*, There are also *Silk*-Mills, for spinning, throwing, and twisting silks. 1863 P. BARRY *Dockyard Econ.* 242 The productive power of this mill is astonishing: it will manufacture armour-plates from 20 to 40 feet long [etc.].

fig. 1771 SMOLLETT *Humph. Cl.* 10 June Let. iii, He observed, that her ladyship's brain was a perfect mill for projects. 1848 LOWELL *Biglow P.* Ser. I. iv. Poet. Wks. (1879) 200 Babel was..the earliest mill erected for the manufacture of gabble. 1883 G. H. BOUGHTON in *Harper's Mag.* Apr. 694/1 Model villages,..all turned out of the same mill.

b. A machine invented by Antoine Brucher in the 16th c. for the stamping of gold and silver coins. In the English Mint it permanently superseded the earlier practice of striking with the hammer in 1662.

1661 *Order in Counc.* in Folkes *Table Eng. Silver Coins* (1745) 104 Materials for the coining of money by the mill. 1662 *Ibid.*, Several proposals..about coining bis majesty's moneys by the mill and press. 1695 W. LOWNDES *Amendm. Silver Coin* 93 All the Moneys we have now in England..are reducible to Two Sorts..one stampt with the Hammer, and the other Prest with an Engine, called the Mill. 1817 RUDING *Ann. Coinage* I. 139 The advantage of this machine (which is known by the name of The Mill and Screw) over the old mode of striking with an hammer, consists [etc.]. 1854 HUMPHREYS *Coin. Brit. Emp.* 113 Pierre Blondeau..who had carried to perfection the..modes of stamping coins by the mill and screw, was invited to England...He produced patterns of half-crowns, shillings, and half-shillings, coined by the new mill and screw, by which means a legend was impressed for the first time upon the edge.

c. *Calico* and *Bank-note printing*: A roller of hardened steel having impressed upon it, from a hand engraved die, a pattern which by pressure is transferred in intaglio to the calico-printing cylinder or note-printing plate.

1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 218 The first roller engraved by hand is called the die; the second..is called the mill. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, *Mill*...The hardened steel roller having the design in *cameo*, and used for impressing in *intaglio* a plate..or a copper cylinder.

d. A hollow revolving cylinder in which leather is 'tumbled' in contact with oil, tan, or any ameliorating liquid.

1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl. 606/2 The mill is used for stuffing light leather, and for other purposes. After stoning, skiving, and shaving, the sides are put in the mill with some tan liquor to soften them and make them porous.

4. A building or other place or establishment fitted with machinery in which a certain industry, manufacture or manufacturing process is carried on; esp. with prefixed word, as in *cotton-*, *silk-*, *silver-mill*, etc., q.v. under the first element.

1502 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* (1900) II. 143 Item..to the Franch armorar to set up his harnas myln. 1531 *Ibid.* VI. 34. 1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 347 Six mills, in which they make plate for armour. 1674 RAY *Collect. Words, Smelting Silver* 113 The Smelting and Refining of Silver at the Silver Mills in Cardiganshire. 1835 URE *Philos. Manuf.* 287 He [Mr. Graham] cannot admit a new hand into his mill unless he has joined the combination. 1854 RONALDS & RICHARDSON *Chem. Technol.* (ed. 2) I. 132 Large quantities of saw-dust accumulate at the mills. 1881 RAYMOND *Mining Gloss.*, *Mill*, 1, Eng. That part of an iron works where puddle-bars are converted into merchant-iron. 1905 *Edin. Rev.* Apr. 478 He..built mills in the neighbouring villages..for the manufacture of tools [etc.].

5. A machine which performs its work by rotary motion, esp. a lapidary's mill.

1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 1096 It [the seal engraver's lathe] consists of a table on which is fixed the mill. *Ibid.*, Having fixed the tool..in the mill, the artist applies to its cutting point, or edge, some diamond-powder [etc.]. 1860 TOMLINSON *Arts & Manuf.* Ser. II. *Pens* 44 Each of these lengths is then pointed at each end at a machine called a *mill*, consisting of a circular single-cut file and a fine grit-stone. 1879 *Encycl. Brit.* X. 663/2 The [glass] articles are held in the hand, and applied to the mill while rotating. 1882 *Ibid.* XIV. 299/1 Another form of lapidary's mill consists [etc.].

6. *slang.* Shortened form of TREADMILL.

1842 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. II. *Misadv. Margate*, A landsman said, 'I twig the chap—he's been upon the Mill. 1888 *Pall Mall G.* 6 June 7/1 When after three days of the mill I got off at night I found my feet were four or five times their ordinary weight.

7. A pugilistic encounter between two persons.

1825 C. M. WESTMACOTT *Eng. Spy* I. 270 To cut a dash at races or a mill. 1864 [HEMYNG] *Eton School Days* vii. 77 We are waiting to see your mill with Butler Burke. 1869 BLACKMORE *Lorna D.* ii, They who made the ring intituled the scene a 'mill', whilst we who must be thumped inside it tried to rejoice in their pleasantry.

8. *Mining.* **a.** An excavation in rock, transverse to the workings, from which material for filling is obtained (Webster 1897). **b.** A passage underground through which ore is shot (*Ibid.*).

9. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *mill-bridge*, *-builder*, *-burn*, *-clack*, *-close*, *-gearing*, *-girl*, †*-knave*, *-labour*, *-lade*, *-lead*, *-lord*, *-owner*, *-process*, *-rent*, *-roller*, *-room*, *-sluice*, *-wall*; *mill-spun* adj.

1833 TENNYSON *Poems* 41, I stepped upon the old *mill-bridge. 1759 SMEATON in *Phil. Trans.* LI. 148 All our modern *mill-builders [etc.]. 1843 BETHUNE *Sc. Fireside Stor.* 111 The mill from which the *mill burn..sweeped nearly half round the village. 1768 *Ann. Reg.* 73 His servant-man..carried him into the *mill-close. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 364 The appropriate modes described under the article '*Mill-geering'. 1856 WHITTIER *Mary Garvin* 18 O *mill-girl watching late and long the shuttles' restless play! 1609 SKENE *Reg. Maj.*, *Stat. Will.* 3 All they quha hes milns..sall haue ane maister, and tua servants *mil-knaves. 1862 KINGSLEY in *Life* (1877) II. 138 *Mill-labour effeminates the men. 1868 PEARD *Water-farm.* iv. 39 The dangers produced by *mill-lades and sluices. 1609 SKENE *Reg. Maj., Chalm. Air* c. 11 § 4 Myllers..take the fry, or smolts of salmon, in the mylne dame or *lead, contrair the ordinance of the law. 1897 *Daily News* 21 Apr. 6/2 The water flowing in the mill-lead. 1880 DISRAELI *Endym.* lxiii, Perhaps we shall get rid of them all some day—landlords and *millords. 1835 URE *Philos. Manuf.* 348 Assassins who had hired themselves..to murder *mill-owners. 1854 HUMPHREYS *Coin. Brit. Emp.* 113 They are exceedingly well executed by the *mill process, and have the laureated bust of the protector, with OLIVAR. D.G. [etc.]. 1872 RAYMOND *Statist. Mines & Mining* 136 The ore..produces very base bullion by mill process. 1894 R. S. FERGUSON *Hist. Westmorld.* 165 Mills..still pay *mill-rents to this day. 1834 M. SCOTT *Cruise Midge* xx. (1836) 332 It being part of Rory's trade to prepare *mill-rollers and other large pieces of hard-wood required for the estates below. 1696 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3186/4 Ordered that none but..those concerned in the Coinage, be permitted to enter the Melting-houses, *Mill-rooms [etc.]. 1844 STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* I. 273 The protective effects of running water, such as water-falls from *mill-sluices. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 389 *Mill-spun yarn answers better for the coarse as well as the finer fabrics. 1870 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* I. i. 157 While the smooth *millwalls white and black Shook to the great wheel's measured clack.

10. Special Combinations, as **mill-banding**, belting for the wheels of mill machinery; **mill-bar (iron)**, rough bar iron as drawn out by the puddlers' rolls; **mill-bed**, the cast-iron bed of a machine for breaking flax, expressing oil, etc.; **mill-beetle**, the cockroach; **mill bill**, a steel adze fixed in a wooden thrift used for dressing and cracking millstones; **mill-boom**, the barrier of floating timber stretched about a saw-mill to retain floating logs; **mill-brack**, a rent in cloth made during the process of fulling (see BRACK *sb.*[1] 3); **mill-bundle** (see quot.); **mill-cake**, (*a*) the mass resulting from the incorporation of the ingredients in the process of manufacture of gunpowder; (*b*) linseed cake (Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1875); †**mill-case** (see quot. 1611); **mill-cinder**, the slag from the puddling-furnace of a rolling-mill (Raymond *Mining Gloss.* 1881); **mill-clack**, †(*a*) = CLACK 3; (*b*) *Her.* a representation of a mill-clack; **mill-cog**, one of the cogs of the wheel on the driving shaft of a wind-mill or water-mill; **mill-course** = MILL-RACE; **mill-dog**, (*a*) a dog used for turning a mill; (*b*) in Canada, a kind of clamp for securing logs in a saw-mill; **mill-dust**, the fine floury dust thrown out during the process of grinding corn; **mill-eye**, the eye or opening in the runner of a mill through which the meal

escapes; **mill-fever**, a form of low fever prevalent amongst the young hands in linen mills; **mill-file** (see quot. 1884); †**mill-fleam**, a mill-stream; **mill-gang** *Warping*, that part of the warp which is made by a descending and ascending course of the threads round the warping-mill (Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1875); **mill-gold**, ? gold obtained by stamping; **mill-hand**, one employed in a mill or factory; **mill-head**, (*a*) that part of a horse-mill from which the driving-gear is suspended; (*b*) (see quot. 1825); **mill-head, -headed** *adjs.*, having a milled head; †**mill-holm**, a watery place about a mill-dam (Ray *N.C. Words* 1674); †**mill-hoop** = *mill-case*; **mill-hopper** = HOPPER 3, 4; **mill-iron** = ? MILL-PICK or MILL-RIND; **mill-jade**, a mill-horse; **mill-lodge** *dial.*, a mill-pond; †**mill-mail**, toll paid in feudal times for grinding corn at the superior's mill; †**mill-money**, money coined in the mill and press, not struck with the hammer (cf. *mill-sixpence, -tester*); **mill-moth** = *mill-beetle*; **mill-ore** *Mining*, metallic ore fit for stamping or crushing; **mill-pin**, (*a*) ? = *mill-spindle*; (*b*) *Her.* a representation of this; **mill-pot**, ? a basket contrived to capture and retain fish; **mill-puff** *dial.*, a kind of flock used for stuffing mattresses, etc.; **mill-ream** (see quot.); †**mill-reek** *dial.*, a disease to which workers in lead-mines are subject; **mill-ring**, (*a*) the space in a mill between the runner and the frame surrounding it; (*b*) the meal which remains about the millstones (regarded as a perquisite of the miller); (*c*) the dust of a mill (Jam.); **mill-run**, (*a*) *Gold Mining*, the work of an amalgamating mill between two 'clean-ups'; (*b*) a mill-race; (*c*) *Mining*, a test of a given quantity of ore by treatment in a mill; hence **mill-run** *v.*, *Mining*, to yield (a given percentage) at a mill-run; **mill-sail**, the sail of a wind-mill; so **mill-sail-shaped** *a.* (see quot.); **mill-saw**, a saw for use in a saw-mill; **mill-saw file**, a file used for sharpening mill-saws; **mill-saw web**, the blade of a mill-saw; **mill-scale**, an incrustation of black oxide of iron formed on the surface of iron in the process of being rolled (*Cent. Dict.* 1890); **mill-seat**, a site suitable for a water-mill; **mill-seed** (see quot.); **mill-shaft**, (*a*) a metal shaft used for driving machinery in a mill; (*b*) the tall chimney of a mill; **mill-sixpence**, a sixpence coined in a mill; **mill-spindle**, a vertical shaft supporting the 'runner' of a flour-mill; **mill-staff**, an oak staff designed to test the flat face of a millstone; **mill-stank**, a mill-pond; †**millstock** = *fulling-stock*; **mill-stream**, a mill-race; also *fig.*; **mill-tester**, a tester coined in a mill; **mill-timber**, ? timber that has been dressed in a saw-mill; †**mill-tooth**, a grinding or molar tooth; †**mill-trough**, (*a*) a corn-bin; (*b*) a mill-race or -pond; **mill-wash**, ? = MILL-TAIL; **mill-way**, a thoroughfare leading to a mill; **mill-work**, (*a*) the machinery used in mills or factories; (*b*) the designing or erection of the machinery in mills or factories; **mill-worker**, one who works at or in a mill; †**mill-yemer**, one who has the custody of a mill. Also MILL-DAM, MILL-HORSE, MILL-HOUSE, MILL-INK, etc.

1894 *Daily News* 11 Dec. 7/4 Unpuncturable Canvas Lining, for *mill-banding, driving belts,..and cycle tyres. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 706 Passing through the remaining grooves till it comes to the square ones, where it becomes a *mill-bar. *Ibid.* 707 This iron called mill-bar iron, is however of too inferior a quality to be employed in any machinery. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 406 Fig. 436 represents the section of a *mill-bed. 1771 J. R. FORSTER tr. *Osbeck's Voy.* I. 170 The *Mill beetles..annually come in ships from the East Indies. 1631 WINTHROP *Let.* in *New Eng.* (1825) I. 381 Bring..mill-stones..with bracings ready cast, and rings, and *mill-bills. 1897 in *Sheffield Trade List* 27 Mill Picks and Bills to order. 1877 *Michigan Rep.* XXXV. 518 Complainants had a large quantity..of timber ..in their *mill-boom at East Tawas. 1552 *Act* 5 & 6 *Edw. VI*, c. 6 § 27 If..Cloth..prove..to be full of Holes, *Mill-bracks, or to be holely. 1859 *Stationers' Handbk.* (ed. 2) 74 *Bundle of Paper* (*mill bundle), a parcel of paper tied in one bundle as it comes from the mill. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 629 The *mill-cake powder of Waltham Abbey is submitted to a mean theoretic pressure of 70 to 75 tons per superficial foot. 1594 PLAT *Jewell-ho.* III. 56 The worme..which is found in a *mil-case, or where Bakers vse to boult their meale. 1611 COTGR., *Archure*, a..mill-case; the open chest that holds the mill-stones. 1638 FORD *Fancies* III. iii, His tongue trouls like a *mill-clack. 1874 PAPWORTH & MORANT *Ord. Brit. Arm.* 957 Az. a millclack in fess or *Mills. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* (1721) II. 42 The Timber is useful for *Mill-coggs. 1802 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Rosanne* iv, The neighbours all joined in restoring the water to the *mill-course. 1402 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 53 But thou, as blynde Bayarde, berkest at the mone, as an olde *mylne dog when he hygynnith to dote. 1877 *Lumberman's Gaz.* 24 May, Parties are attempting to introduce Mill Dogs which are infringements of mine. 1880 *Ibid.* 28 Jan., A. Rogers.. is the inventor and owner of a mill dog. 1543 TRAHERON *Vigo's Chirurg.* II. iii. 18 The place..muste be playstred with floure of barleye, and wyth *myldust. 1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) I. 257 There can be little doubt, that much of the mill-dust..is derived from the powder furnished by these [mill-] stones. 1641 BEST *Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 103 Measure the meale therein..just as it commeth from the *milne-eye, and afore it be temsed. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 147 To find the weight of a quantity of stone equal to the mill-eye. 1889 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 30 Mar. 704/1 The disturbance of health called '*mill-fever', which attacks young hands. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl., **Mill File*, a thin flat file used in machine shops for lathe work and draw filing. 1475–6 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 646 Pro le scowrynge medietatis de le *mylnfleme. 1486–7 *Ibid.* 650 Operantibus super le mylnfleme. 1877 RAYMOND *Statist. Mines & Mining* 289 The following is the currency and gold value of *mill-gold. 1865 *Daily Tel.* 6 Dec. 4/4 The party which would now refuse the suffrage to the *mill-hands. 1805 R. W. DICKSON *Pract. Agric.* I. Plate xviii, The *mill-head is erected on a floor about seven or eight feet above the ground floor. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* Gloss., *Mill-head*, the head of water which is to turn a mill. 1865 KINGSLEY *Herew.* i, A duck put into Bourne pool would pass underground into the mill-head of the said village. 1805 *Trans. Soc. Arts* XXIII. 296 By the help of the *mill-headed nut. 1790 ROY in *Phil. Trans.* LXXX. 153 The insertion of a small *mill-head key, on a square pin fitted to receive it. 1611 COTGR., *Archure*, a *mill-hoope, or mill-case; the open chest that holds the mill-stones. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 80/8 A *Mil-hopper, *infundibulum*. 1858 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* v. vi. (1872) II. 110 A stiff-backed, close-fisted old gentleman, with mill-hopper chin. ?*c* 1343 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 543 In.. ij *Milnyrenes. 1471–2 *Ibid.* 643 Pro factura del milniryns dictorum molendinorum. 1610 B. JONSON *Alch.* III. iii, Would you haue me stalke like a *mill-iade, All day, for one, that will not yeeld vs graines? 1891 *Jrnl. Oldham Microsc. Soc.* May 101 The shades of green in our *mill-lodges are continually changing. 1891 *Morn. Post* 23 Dec. 3/2 A number of boys were skating on a mill lodge at Stubbins, near Bury. 1287 *Yorks. Inquis.* (Yorks. Rec. Soc.) II. 61 [In Newland] *milnemale [6*d*.]. 1613 FLETCHER, etc. *Captain* I. iii, Only to live to make their children scourge-sticks And hoord up *mill-money. 1658 ROWLAND tr. *Mouffet's Theat. Ins.* 998 There are three sorts of Blattæ; the soft Moth, the *mill Moth, and the unsavoury or stinking Moth. 1877 RAYMOND *Statist. Mines & Mining* 294 The *mill-ore produced has been of high grade. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. CCCXXV. 507 Sir George of Besmede..bare in his armes syluer, a *myllpyn gowles, a border endented gowles. 1630 in *Descr. Thames* (1758) 66 No Fisherman..shall use..any Weel called a Lomb, or a *Mill Pot, or any other Engine, with the Head thereof against the Stream. 1851 *Catal. Gt. Exhib.* II. 496 Specimens of mattress-wools, woollen *millpuffs, and flocks. 1881 *Instr. Census Clerks* (1885) 64 Mill Puff Maker. 1884 *West. Morn. News* 3 Sept. 1/2 Milpuff Pillows...Full-size Milpuff Beds. 1859 *Stationers' Handbk.* (ed. 2) 101 A ream of writing paper.. is required to contain 18 quires of 24 good sheets and 2 quires of 20 sheets of *outsides*,..472 sheets in all, good and bad—this is called a **mill ream*. 1754 J. WILSON in *Ess. & Observ. Edinb. Soc.* I. 459 The disease which the people at Leadhills call the *mill-reek. 1811 G. S. KEITH *Agric. Surv. Aberd.* 506 (Jam.) A number of the mill-masters apply the *mill-ring to the feeding of horses. 1828 *Earl Richard, Queen's brother* xlii. in Child *Ballads* II. 467 And she would meal you with millering [*sic*], That she gathers at the mill. 1875 W. MCILWRAITH *Guide Wigtownshire* 136 A workman, in making an excavation near the mill-ring, came on a large, flat stone, aneath which were the remains of a clay urn. 1874 RAYMOND *Statist. Mines & Mining* 292 The *mill-runs have been as high as 3 oz. gold with from 30 to 60 oz. in silver. 1877 LD. HATHERLEY in *Law Repts., App. Cas.* II. 842 What is called a mill-lade or mill-run. 1882 *Rep. to Ho. Repr. Prec. Met. U. S.* 306 The ore gives mill-runs of $60 to the ton. 1898 *Daily News* 8 Mar. 2/7 The mill-run during February has been irregular. *c* 1449 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 222 *Wylloby*. Oure *Mylle-sayll wille not abowte, Hit hath so longe goone emptye. 1835 LINDLEY *Introd. Bot.* III. Gloss. (1839) 451 *Mill-sail-shaped*; having many wings projecting from a convex surface; as the fruit of some umbelliferous plants. 1897 in *Sheffield Trade List* 15 *Mill Saws, Mill Saw Webs [etc.]. *Ibid.*, Mill Saw Files, one round edge. 1792 *Descr. Kentucky* 56 The cheapness of *mill seats and mill work in the United States. *a*1817 T. DWIGHT *Trav. New Eng.*, etc. (1821) II. 27 Directly under the bridge commences a romantic fall, which..furnishes a number of excellent mill-seats. 1842 J. AITON *Domest. Econ.* (1857) 194 As some of the shells still remain among the meal, they are separated from it by hand-sieves; these shells, thus separated, and having the finer particles of meal adhering to them, called **mill-seeds*, are preserved for sowins. 1833 J. HOLLAND *Manuf. Metal* II. 141 Turning very large articles, such as the outsides of cylinders, *mill-shafts, cannon, &c. 1898 *Daily News* 21 Nov. 8/6 We should stir ourselves, and clap the stopper on these belching mill-shafts. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* I. i. 158 Seauen groates in *mill-sixpences. 1639 MAYNE *City Match* II. iii. 14 Had I..but forty Mark..And were that fortie Mark Mil sixpences, I would despise you. 14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 596/31 *Molucrum*, [the *mylle syndelle]. 1880 JEFFERIES *Gt. Estate* 166 He laid down the millpeck, and took his *millstaff to prove the work he had done. 14.. *Iter Camer.* xi. in *Sc. Acts* (1814) I, þai [*sc.* millers] tak smoltis in þe *myll stank again þe inhibicioun of law. 1546 in W. H. Turner *Select. Rec. Oxford* (1880) 182 For carege of one *myllstock for the fullyng myll. *c* 931 in Birch *Cartul. Sax.* II. 377 Of hlippenham in to þam *milestreame, Of þam mylestreame innan þa norð lange dic. 1794 COLERIDGE *Parl. Oscill.* 33 Both plunged together in the deep mill-stream. 1636 DAVENANT *Wits* I. i. B 3 b, His wives Bracelet of *Mill-Testers. 1804 *Naval Chron.* XI. 156 Laden with mahogany and *mill-timber. 1731 ARBUTHNOT *Aliments* (1735) 223 The best Instruments..for cracking of hard Substances..[are] Grinders, or *Mill-Teeth. 1890 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Mill tooth*, a molar tooth. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 198/25 *Canalis*, þruh, *vel* *mylentroh. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 338/1 Mylle trow, or benge (mill troughe, or beugge, *sic*, *P.*), *farricapsa*. 1530 PALSGR. 245/1 Myll troughe or broke, *auge*. 1861 W. LONGSTAFFE in *Siege Pontefract Castle* (Surtees) Introd. 17 An old bridge over the *millwash. *c* 1325 in Kennett *Par. Ant.* I. 566 Item una acra apud le *mulnewey. 1598 MANWOOD *Lawes Forest* xxiii. (1615) 228 If any man haue stopped or strayted any Church-way, Mill-way, or other wayes in the Forest or Purlieu .. you shall do us to weet thereof. 1791 W. JESSOP *Rep. River Witham* 8 Have an increase of power for *Mill-work. 1799 *Hull Advert.* 29 June 2/2 A colour manufactory..together with the mill-work and several utensils. 1814 R. BUCHANAN (*title*) Practical Essays on Mill Work. 1892 *Daily News* 12 Dec. 2/3 Machinery and millwork. 1835 URE *Philos. Manuf.* 348 An astonishing difference between their intelligence and that of the *mill-workers. 1895 *Daily News* 3 Sept. 2/4 The strike of thirty thousand millworkers in Dundee. 1530 in J. Allen *Hist. Liskeard* (1856) 268 *Millemers and downemers. 1604–5 *Ibid.* 234 Le millheymers and downheymers.

† **Mill**, *sb.*[2] *Obs.* Also 6 myll(e, mill(e. [a. F. *mil*. Cf. MILE *sb.*[2]]

1. = MILLET. *Turkey mill* = Turkey millet.

1525 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* II. CCXXIII. [CCXIX.] 697 Bredde, made of a grayne called mylle. 1533 ELYOT *Cast. Helthe* (1541) 10 b, Meates inflatynge or wyndye: Beanes:..Mille: Cucumbers. 1545 RAYNOLD *Byrth Mankynde* 52 Ryse, myll, & many other thynges. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* I. lv. 77 It is called..Turkie Mill or Turkie Hirsse. 1610 W. FOLKINGHAM *Art of Survey* I. xi. 35 Tare, Cich and Mill loue moisture. 1660 F. BROOKE tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 323 They..get Mill, Rice, Pulse, and other graine.

b. *Mill-seed* = MILLET-SEED.

1565 COOPER *Thesaurus*, *Cenchrites*, a precious stone, hauyng in it thinges lyke mill seede.

2. *Mill of the sun*, transl. of mod. Latin *milium solis*: see MILIUM 1 b.

1559 MORWYNG *Evonym.* 139 Take the rotes of fenell.. mill of the sunne, *scariolæ*, of everye one like much.

† **Mill**, *sb.*[3] *Obs.* [? f. MILL *v.*, or short for some comb. of MILL *sb.*[1]] Ground oak-bark for tanning.

1626 BACON *Sylva* § 625 The Conservation of Fruit would be also tried in Vessels, filled with Fine Sand,..Or in Meal and Flower; Or in Oakwood; or in Mill. 1697 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3285/4 All other Makers or Dressers of Leather in Wooze, Mill, Oyl, Salt, Allom. 1711 *Ibid.* No. 4862/4 Skins ..to be tanned, tawed or dressed in Wooze, Mill, Alom.

† **Mill**, *sb.*[4] *slang. Obs.* = MILL-KEN.

1607 DEKKER & WILKINS *Iests to make you Merie* 43 A word or two of the mill, *quasi* breakehouse. *Ibid.*, A strong Iron barre made sharpe at one end, and they which trade with that are called Mils. 1676 *Warning for House-Keepers* (title-p.), Thieves and Robbers which go under these titles, viz. the Gilter, the Mill, the Glasier [etc.].

Mill (mil), *sb.*[5] [Shortened from L. *millēsimum* thousandth part, on the analogy of CENT. Cf. MIL.] a. A money of account in the U.S., being one-thousandth of a dollar (one-tenth of a cent). b. A proposed coin in value the one-thousandth of a pound (to replace the farthing) in a projected system of decimal coinage for Great Britain.

An alleged sense 'a thousandth part of anything' appears in recent U. S. dictionaries, but without quotations.

1791 JEFFERSON in *Harper's Mag.* Mar. 535/1 At 20 cents p[r] lb it is 8 mills per dish. 1809 KENDALL *Trav.* I. xviii. 193 The denominations of money in the United States are dollars, cents or hundredth parts of dollars, and mills or thousandth parts. 1811 P. KELLY *Univ. Cambist* I. 9 A uniform way of keeping Accounts has been established in the United States (by an act of Congress in 1789) namely, in Dollars of 10 Dimes, 100 Cents, or 1000 Mills. 1821 J. Q. ADAMS *Rep. Weights & Meas.* 55 Ask a tradesman..in any of our cities what is a dime or a mille, and the chances are four in five that he will not understand your question. 1882 SCUDDER *Noah Webster* ii. 71 A premium for copyright of five mills a copy. 1896 H. W. BROUGHTON in *Westm. Rev.* June CXLV. 668 Let the $\frac{1}{1000}$ of a pound, the coin to be issued in lieu of the farthing, be called a 'mill', and let ten of these make a 'victoria'. 1902 *Encycl. Brit.* XXXI. 292/1 The denominations [of coins in Hong Kong] are the dollar and 50, 20, and 5 cents in silver, and the cent and mill in bronze.

Mill (mil), *v.*[1] Also 6 myll, mil. [f. MILL *sb.*[1]]

I. *trans.* To subject to the operation of a mill.

1. To pass (cloth or other material) through a fulling-mill; to thicken (cloth, etc.) by fulling.

1552 *Act* 5 & 6 *Edw. VI*, c. 6 § 1 And beinge well scowred, thicked, mylled, and fully dried, everie yarde of everie suche Clothe shall waye thre pound at the leste. 1633 *Proclam.* in Rymer *Foedera* XIX. 447/2 All such white Worcester Clothes..as shall be milled in Gloucestershire. 1706 BOYER *Ann. Q. Anne* IV. 27 All broad-cloaths..after the same are fully mill'd and furnish'd. 1844 G. DODD *Textile Manuf.* iii. 103 The cloth.. is then 'milled', fulled', or 'felted', that is, beaten until the fibres of the wool become so locked into each other [etc.].

transf. 1902 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* No. 2146. 378, It [*sc.* the folded 'form'] is then 'milled' or pounded with heavy oak hammers.

2. To grind (corn) in a mill; to produce (flour) by grinding.

Chiefly in *passive*, used in market reports and the like.

1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 123/31 To Mil, *molere*. 1830 *Kyle Farm Rep.* 47 in *Libr. Usef. Knowl., Husb.* III, The grain thrashed is set down on one side,..and, when milled, the meal is entered separately. 1902 *Q. Rev.* July 327 By Lord Stanley's Act of 1843 a certain advantage was given to flour milled in Canada.

b. To pound or powder (tobacco).

1782 COWPER *To Rev. W. Bull* 38 This oval box, well filled With best tobacco finely milled. 1887 BLACKMORE *Springhaven* xxvi, Shaving with his girdle-knife a cake of rich tobacco, and then milling it complacently betwixt his horny palms.

c. To hull seeds by means of a mill. Also *intr.*, to undergo hulling or milling.

1863 BUCKMAN in *Gard. Chron.* 23 May 493 The best plan ..to pursue is to mill the Sainfoin seed, in which case its outer covering is removed. *Ibid.*, The Burnet..will not mill, but simply gets its wings broken off.

d. *Porcelain manufacture.*

1875 FORTNUM *Maiolica* v. 4 The vitreous substance.. being milled with water to the consistency of cream.

3. To roll (metal); to flatten (metal) under a roller or beater.

1677 [see MILLED *ppl. a.* 4]. 1691 T. H[ALE] *Acc. New Invent.* 60 When this way of Milling Lead for Sheathing of Ships was first invented.

4. To stamp (coins) by means of the mill and press (see MILL *sb.*[1] 3 b).

1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* II. 89 They [*sc.* coins] are stamped (as all the rest of their money) with the hammer, and not milled.

b. To flute the edge of (a coin or any piece of flat metal); to produce uniform or regular markings upon the edge of (a coin).

1724 SWIFT *Drapier's Lett.* iii. Wks. 1751 VIII. 329, I find the Half-pence were milled; which..is of great Use to prevent Counterfeits. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xxii. IV. 805 The new crowns and half-crowns, broad, heavy and sharply milled, were ringing on all the counters. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 1441/1 Castaining's machine for milling coin was introduced into the French mint in 1685. 1889 *Science* 20 Dec. 414 These bearings are conical, and milled through.

5. To beat or whip (chocolate, etc.) to a froth. *To mill up*, to beat together. Also *fig.*

1662 H. STUBBE *Indian Nectar* ii. 9 They dissolved it [*sc.* chocolata] (being pouder'd) and milled it, tempering it by little and little with water in an Indian cup. 1747 MRS. GLASSE *Cookery* xvi. (1767) 290 Mill the cream till it is all of a thick froth. *Ibid.*, Then..over that whip your froth which you saved off the cream very well milled up. 1764 ELIZ. MOXON *Eng. Housew.* (ed. 9) 116 Take four ounces of chocolate,..and boil it in a pint of cream, then mill it..with a chocolate stick. 1769 MRS. RAFFALD *Eng. Housekpr.* (1778) 207 Mill them with a chocolate mill, to raise the froth, and take it off with a spoon as it rises. 1829 LANDOR *Imag. Conv.* Wks. 1853 II. 83/2 A chaplain milling an egg-posset over the fire. 1859 DICKENS *T. Two Cities* II. vii, A second milled and frothed the chocolate. 1897 KIPLING *Captains Courageous* vii. 142 Graaa—ouch! went the conch, while sea and sky were all milled up in milky fog.

fig. 1817 COLERIDGE *Satyrane's Lett.* i. in *Biog. Lit.*, etc. (1882) 245 What Pericles would not do to save a friend's life, you may be assured I would not hazard merely to mill the chocolate-pot of a drunken fool's vanity.

6. To throw, as undyed silk.

1844 G. DODD *Textile Manuf.* v. 151 Directions were also drawn up for..grassing, milling, and hand-scutching the flax. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, *Mill*.. to throw undyed silk.

7. To tumble (leather) within a wheel or cylinder containing some softening or tanning liquid.

1885 C. T. DAVIS *Manuf. Leather* xxvii. (1897) 415 Then they [*sc.* the sides] are put into a pin-wheel and milled for ten minutes.

8. To cut (metal) with a milling-tool.

1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, *Mill*..a machine designed for milling where only a light or medium cut is required. 1884 *Ibid.* 607/1 By means of the swinging sleeve true circles of greater or less diameter can be milled on the face of the work.

9. To saw (timber) in a saw-mill.

18.. *Art Age* IV. 46 (Cent.), Lumbermen charge the consumer for the full measurement of the boards [for floors] before they are milled.

10. *Mining.* To crush or pound into fragments; to grind to powder.

1883 *Standard* 20 Jan. 1/5 The whole of the quartz removed has been milled. 1895 *Times* 19 Feb. 3/6 For the year 1894 there was milled 2,827,365 tons.

b. To yield under the process of crushing or grinding.

1877 RAYMOND *Statist. Mines & Mining* 247 The quartz ..will mill about $20 to the ton. 1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 19 Oct. 8/3, I would not like to say that it will mill that. It will certainly mill 1 oz.

II. 11. *slang.* To beat, strike, thrash; to fight, overcome; to smash, break, break open. Also *intr.* or *absol.* to box; occas. with *away*.

c 1700 *Street Robberies Consider'd*, Mill, to beat. 1753 *Discov. J. Poulter* (ed. 2) 39 Mill the Cull to his long Libb; kill the Man dead...Mill the Quod; break the Gaol. *Ibid.* 40 Mill his Nobb; break his Head. 1810 *Sporting Mag.* XXXVI. 231 The Black..threatens to mill the whole race of fighters of the day. 1825 C. M. WESTMACOTT *Eng. Spy* I. 282 Milling the glaze. 1840 THACKERAY *Cox's Diary* Wks. 1900 III. 223 Tug..milled away—one, two, right and left,—like a little hero as he is. 1864 [HEMYNG] *Eton School Days* vii. 75 Butler Burke was going to mill Chorley. *Ibid.* 77 Are you going to mill, or are you not?

b. *To mill doll, dolly*: to beat hemp or flax as a prison occupation. Cf. MILL-DOLL *sb.*

1714 A. SMITH *Highwaymen* (ed. 2) I. 141 Having been often punisht at hard Labour in Bridewell, which beating of Hemp the Thieves call Mill dolly. 1733 BUDGELL *Bee* IV. 477 Then mill on dear Polly,..The Hemp thou art beating may hang him to-Morrow. 1780 R. TOMLINSON *Slang Past.* vi. 7 When sitting with Nancy, what sights have I seen!.. But now she mills doll. 1785 GROSE *Dict. Vulg. Tongue.*

III. To go round like a mill.

12. *intr.* Of cattle: To keep moving round and round in a mass; also, to move in a circle.

1888 T. ROOSEVELT in *Century Mag.* Apr. 862/1 The cattle may begin to run, and then get 'milling'—that is, all crowd together into a mass like a hall, wherein they move round and round. 1895 KIPLING *2nd Jungle Bk.* 79 The deer and the pig and the nilghai were milling round and round in a circle of eight or ten miles' radius.

b. *trans.* To cause to 'mill' or mass in a circle.

1901 *Munsey's Mag.* XXV. 406/2 At last the cattle..ran with less energy, and it was presently easy to 'mill' them into a circle and to turn them where it seemed most desirable.

13. *intr.* Of a whale.

1840 F. D. BENNETT *Whaling Voy.* II. 221 A whale 'milled', or turned suddenly round, upon receiving the harpoons. 1874 SCAMMON *Marine Animals* 311 Gloss., *Mill*, to turn in an opposite direction, or nearly so; as, "The whale was running to windward, but "milled", and ran to leeward'.

Mill (mil), *v.*[2] *slang.* [Possibly a use of prec.: cf. MILL *v.*[1] 11.] *trans.* Orig. in phrase *To mill a ken*, to rob a house. Later, to steal.

1567 HARMAN *Caveat* 84 To myll a Ken, to robbe a house. 1609 DEKKER *Lanth. & Candle Lt.* ciij b, If we niggle or mill a bowsing ken. 1621 B. JONSON *Gipsies Metamorph.* (1640) II. 65 Can they Cant, or Mill? are they masters of their Arts? *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew*, *Mill*, to Steal, Rob, or Kill. 1753 *Discov. J. Poulter* (ed. 2) 10 When we went a Milling that Swagg, that is, a Breaking open that Shop. 1811 *Sporting Mag.* XXXVII. 13 He had milled my wipe. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xxx, One might have milled the Bank of England, and less noise about it.

Mill, obs. form of MIL.

Millage (mi·lĕdʒ). *U.S.* [f. MILL *sb.*[5] + -AGE.] The rate of taxation in mills per dollar to which a given place is liable.

1891 in *Columbus* (Ohio) *Dispatch* 20 Feb., There are cities in which the rate is higher than in Toledo, for instance, Findlay 35·7 mills, Lima 33·4 mills, Tiffin 30·4 mills,..but in the eastern or southern part of the State, excepting Ironton, as great millage as Toledo is not presented in the tables.

Millain(e, -an(e, -ayn(e, obs. ff. MILAN[1].

Millainer, -aner, obs. forms of MILLINER.

Millathowme, obs. form of MILLER'S THUMB.

Mi·llboard. [Altered from *milled board*: see MILLED *ppl. a.* 4.] A kind of stout pasteboard, made of a pulp of old rope, sacking, paper, and other coarse matter and 'milled' or rolled with high pressure. Also, a 'board' or piece of this material. *Millboard cutter* (see quot. 1884).

1712 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5014/5 Duties upon..Pastboard, Millboard, Scaleboard. 1812 J. SMYTH *Pract. of Customs* (1821) 155 Mill Boards are the thickest sort of Pasteboard, used by Book-binders for the covering of Books. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl., *Mill Board Cutter*, a machine for cutting to size mill and card boards for binding, etc.

b. A specially prepared 'board' for sketching.

1854 THACKERAY *Newcomes* I. xxvii. 258 Those smooth mill-boards, those slah-tinted sketching blocks [etc.]. 1859 GULLICK & TIMBS *Paint.* 217 Millboards are..well adapted for sketching in oil colours from nature.

Mi·ll-dam. [MILL *sb.*[1]] A dam constructed across a stream to interrupt its flow and raise its level so as to render it available for turning a mill-wheel. Also, the entire area covered by the water held in check by the dam.

1182 in Kennett *Par. Ant.* (1818) I. 187 Per le mulnedam ..in veterem rivulum et ipsam mulnedam. 1394–5 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 599 Mosse pro le Milndam. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 183 He went furth vnto þe myln dam of þe abbay, & þer he lowpid in & drownyd hym. *c* 1575 in *Balfour's Practicks* (1754) 581 Thay tak smoltis or salmond in the miln-dammis. 1632 *Morpeth Ct. Leet Rec.* in *Archæol. Æliana* XVI. 72 For Castinge hir yarne into the millne dame..and dampnum iijs. 1763 *Brit. Mag.* IV. 51 As thirteen boys were sliding near a mill dam..the ice broke by the miller's suddenly drawing up the sluices. 1880 JAMIESON, *Mill-dam*,..the water collected, by means of a dam, to supply a mill.

attrib. 1833 TENNYSON *Poems* 33 Fishing in the milldam-water.

Milldew, obs. form of MILDEW *sb.*

†**Mill-doll**, *sb. Obs. slang.* [f. MILL *v.*[1] + DOLL *sb.*[1]] The bridewell. Cf. MILL *v.*[1] 11 b.

1781 MESSINK *Choice of Harlequin* (Farmer), '*Keeper of Bridewell's Song*', I'm Jigger Dubber here, and you are welcome to mill doll. 1823 'JON BEE' *Dict. Turf.* 1812 J. H. VAUX *Flash Dict.*, *Mill-doll*, an obsolete name for Bridewell house of correction in Bridge-Street, Blackfriars.

Mi·ll-doll, *v. Whaling.* [Prob. in some way connected with the phr. in MILL *v.*[1] 11 b. (Cf. DOLLY *sb.* 4 b.)] (See quot.)

1820 SCORESBY *Acc. Arctic Reg.* I. 310 *note*, Mill-dolling, consists in breaking a passage through thin ice..by a sort of ram, let fall from the bowsprit.

Mille (mil), *sb.* In certain card games: A counter representing ten 'fishes' or 'points'.

1830 'EIDRAH TREBOR' *Hoyle Made Fam.* 37. 1876 CAPT. CRAWLEY *Card Player's Man.* 196 (Quadrille), *Mille* is a mark of ivory which is sometimes used, and stands for ten fish. 1878 H. H. GIBBS *Ombre* 8 The small round counters, which used to be called Milles, count as ten points.

Mille, obs. form of MILE.

Millecrate, variant of MELICRATE *Obs.*

1563 HYLL *Art Garden.* (1593) 111 Buglosse steeped in wine, and tempered with Millecrate.

†**Millecuple**, *a. Obs.* [irreg. f. L. *mille* thousand, after *decuple*.] Thonsand-fold. Hence †**Millecupla·tion**, the action of increasing a thonsand-fold.

1659 H. MORE *Immort. Soul* III. iv. 367 Every Object that is near would not onely seem double, but centuple, or millecuple. 1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* I. § 37. 173 Nor any Triplication or indeed Millecluplation [*sic*] of them improve the same into Reason and Understanding. 1754 HILDROP *Mitc. Wks.* II. 47 If any of these [*sc.* People] should..be created your Lordship's Peers, they would be in the same millecuple Proportion greater, and wiser, and better than they were before.

Milled (mild), *ppl. a.* [f. MILL *v.*[1] + -ED[1].]

†**1.** ? Polished by some mechanical process. *Obs.*

1622 F. MARKHAM *Bk. War* I. x. 39 All these seuerall parts of Armor is rather to bee of a Russet or blacke collour then mil'd.

2. Of coins: **a.** Coined or struck by the mill and press; made in a mill. **b.** Having the edge fluted or grooved by the operation of milling.

1659 *Lond. Chanticleers* xii. 26 He has got my box of mill'd sixpences and Harry groates. 1662 in Folkes *Table Eng. Silver Coins* (1745) 111 Milled unites of the same weight. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* Ded. (f) 2, I had certainly been reduc'd to pay the Publick in hammer'd Money for want of Mill'd; that is in the same old Words which I had us'd before. 1702 ADDISON *Dial. Medals* iii. 153, I have seen several modern Coins..that have had part of the Legend running round the edges, like the *Decus et Tutamen* in our milled money. 1854 HUMPHREYS *Coin. Brit. Emp.* 116 In 1663 the first issue of the improved milled coinage took place. 1880 *Academy* 29 May 406 A selection of rare..milled shillings from Elizabeth to George III.

c. *transf.* Marked with transverse grooves or ribs; *esp.* of the head of a screw, etc., serrated to afford a hold for adjustment.

1705 J. PETIVER in *Phil. Trans.* XXV. 1953 The Striæ are flat and milled, like the edges of a new Shilling. 1803 MUDGE *ibid.* XCIII. 404 At E E are seen two milled-headed screws. 1861 C. W. KING *Ant. Gems* (1866) 167 These borders are milled, or formed of small strokes set close together. 1872 NICHOLSON *Palæont.* 106 Above the Acetabulum..there is a..ring, more or less 'milled', for the attachment of the muscular fibres which move the spine. 1898 *Cycling* 38 A milled or hexagonal ring K is then screwed over the inner steering tube.

†**d.** Of stockings and caps: ? Ribbed. *Obs.*

1684 OTWAY *Atheist* I. i, Buzzing about your Ears concerning Poets, Plays..mill'd Stockings..and everything else which they do not understand. 1691 *Satyr agst. French* 7 Nay, we are grown so arrogantly vain, Our Stockings must be Mill'd, our Shooes Campaign. 1789 *Trans. Soc. Arts* I. 25 Cambrick, Lace, Milled Caps, and various Kinds of Paper. 1809 A. HENRY *Trav.* 34, I..covered myself only with..a molton, or blanket coat; and a large, red, milled worsted cap.

3. Pressed, rolled, 'fulled'.

1642 *Rates Merchandizes* 48 Double Sayes, or Flanders Searges...Mild Sayes the piece..06. 00. 00. 1670 *Lond. Gaz.* No 517/4 A Stuff Cloak lined with Mill'd serge. 1802 in *Spirit Publ. Jrnls.* (1803) VI. 283 Her coachman..within the cumbrous circumference of a double-milled great coat. 1831 Double-milled [see DOUBLE C 4].

4. Flattened by rolling or beating; esp. in *milled board* (= MILLBOARD), *milled lead.*

1677 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1232/4 The late Invention for Milled Lead. 1691 T. H[ALE] *Acc. New Invent.* (title-p.), The Mill'd-Lead-sheathing, and the Excellency and cheapness of Mill'd-Lead in preference to Cast Sheet-Lead. 1707 *Loud. Gaz.* No. 4342/4 At the Pastboard Warehouse..are sold brown Mill'd Boards ready beat, fit for Bookbinders. 1711 *Act* 10 *Anne* c. 18 § 37 All Pastboards, Mildboards and Scaleboards which shall be imported. 1858 *Skyring's Builders' Prices* (ed. 48) 105 Milled Lead, per cwt. £1 7*s* 0*d*. 1859 *Stationers' Handbk.* 74 *Milled Boards*, strong flexible boards, of various thicknesses and sizes, made from old tarred rope. 1868 *Ibid.* (ed. 4) 119 *Milled*, a term applied to paper, when rolled to an ordinary surface.

5. Whipped or beaten to a froth.

1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) I. 171 They.. breakfasted on a pot of milled chocolate.

6. a. Ground in a mill. **b.** Hulled. **c.** Pressed in a mill to extract juice.

1813 T. DAVIS *Agric. Wilts* Gloss., *Milled Hop*, hop clover-seed cleaned from the husk. *a* 1831 BENTHAM *Lang.* Wks. 1843 VIII. 317/1 Milled corn is not cold; ice is cold. 1884 G. W. CABLE *Creoles of Louisiana* xxxii. (1885) 249 Milled breadstuffs still sought the cheapest rates of freight.

7. (See quot.; perh. not the same word.)

1886 C. SCOTT *Sheep-Farming* 18 When they [ewes] have been crossed with rams of a different breed, they are called crones, crocks, or milled ewes.

Millefiore (milfiō·rĕ). Also -flori. [a. It. *millefiori*, f. *mille* thousand + *fiori* pl. of *fiore* flower.] (Also *millefiore glass.*) A kind of ornamental glass made by fusing together a number of glass rods of different sizes and colours, and cutting the mass into sections which exhibit ornamental figures of varying pattern, and are usually embedded in colourless transparent glass to make paper-weights, etc.

1849 PELLATT *Curios. Glass Making* 25 Millefiore Glass. *Ibid.* 110 The *Mille-Fiore*, or star-work of the Venetians. 1874 *Jrnl. Archæol. Assoc.* Dec. 440 It is of early Millefiori glass, the mass looking much like chalcedony.

‖ **Millefleurs** (milflōr). [F. *eau de mille-fleurs*, lit. 'water of a thousand flowers'.] A perfume distilled from flowers of different kinds.

1854 THACKERAY *Newcomes* v, When you appeared in your neat pulpit with your fragrant pocket-handkerchief (and your sermon likewise all millefleurs). 1868 MISS BRADDON *Dead Sea Fr.* iii, The letters exhaled a faint odour of millefleurs.

Millefiorous (milflō·rəs), *a. Bot.* [f. L. *mille* thousand + *flōr-*, *flōs* flower + -OUS.] Having very numerous flowers.

1856 in MAYNE *Expos. Lex.* 1890 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

Millefoil(e, obs. forms of MILFOIL.

Millefoliate (milfō·li,ĕt). *Bot.* [f. L. *mille* thousand + *foli-um* leaf + -ATE[2].] 'Having leaves that are very much incised, so as to resemble many smaller leaves' (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1890).

Millelote, obs. form of MELILOT.

Millemeter, obs. form of MILLIMETER.

Millen, obs. form of MILAN.

† **Millenar**, *sb.* and *a. Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. [ad. L. *millēnārius*: see MILLENARY.] = MILLENARIAN.

1654 VILVAIN *Theol. Treat.* iv. 118 Prophecies in the old Testament of the Messiah..Millenars apply..to Christ's second coming. *Ibid.* vii. 198 The Millenar doctrine was.. general in the next age after Apostles.

Millenarian (mil/nē·riăn), *a.* and *sb.* Also 8–9 **millennarian**. [f. L. *millēnārius* (see MILLENARY) + -AN.] **A.** *adj.*

1. Of or pertaining to the millennium; holding the doctrine of the millennium.

1631 HEYLIN *St. George* 46 So the Papists adore Papias a Millenarian Hereticke. 1785 *Gentl. Mag.* LV. 392 Those Millennarians, believing the certainty of Christ's second coming, and his Millennarian Kingdom, lived not the holy life enjoined them. 1853 W. H. GOOLD in *Owen's Wks.* XI. 3 Goodwin may have held some millenarian views akin to the notion of a fifth monarchy.

b. Suited or appropriate to a millenarian.

1684 T. BURNET *Th. Earth* II. 175 As to the epistle of Barnabas,..the genius of it is very much millenarian.

2. In the etymological sense: Relating or pertaining to a thousand. In mod. Dicts.

B. *sb.* One who holds or believes that Christ will reign on earth in person for a thousand years; a believer in the millennium.

[1552 *Articles of Religion* xli, Thei that goe aboute to renewe the fable of heretickes called Millenarii, be repugnant..to holie Scripture.] *a* 1674 CLARENDON *Surv. Leviath.* (1676) 221 He makes his Reign longer upon Earth than ever the Millenarians imagin'd. 1787 *Minor* IV. ii. 206 Was I a millenarian, I probably should not hesitate to pronounce it the spot intended for the thousand years enjoyment after the day of judgment. 1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 318/1 The millenarians of the ancient church. 1890 *Spectator* 6 Sept. 305 It is hard to be honestly contemptuous of a convinced Millenarian.

Millenarianism (mil/nē·riăniz'm). [f. prec. + -ISM.] The doctrine of or belief in the coming of the millennium.

1864 *Chambers's Encycl.* VI. 459/2 From this time, the church formally rejected millenarianism in its sensuous 'visible' form. 1881 STANLEY *Chr. Instit.* v. (ed. 2) 85 The whole history of early Millenarianism implies the same incapacity for distinguishing between poetry and prose.

† **Millenarism.** *Obs.* [f. MILLENAR + -ISM.] = MILLENARIANISM.

1650 BP. HALL *Rev. Unrevealed* viii, The First Paradox of Millenarism.

Millenarist (mi·l/nărist). In 9 **millennarist**. [f. MILLENAR-Y + -IST.] = MILLENARY *sb.*

1862 E. B. ELLIOTT *Horæ Apoc.* (ed. 5) I. 21 The works of both Irenæus and of other early Millennarists.

Millenary (mi·l/nări), *a.* and *sb.* Also 7 **millinary**. [ad. L. *millēnāri-us* consisting of or containing a thousand (in Eccl. Latin used *sb.* in the sense B 4 below), f. *millēnī* a thousand each, f. *mille* thousand. Cf. F. *millénaire*.]

A. *adj.*

1. Consisting of or pertaining to a thousand, esp. a period of a thousand years.

a 1641 BP. MOUNTAGU *Acts & Mon.* (1642) 250 Yet the Jews..gave not over complaints and petitions.., a Millenary number of Complainants there were. *a* 1646 J. GREGORY *Posthuma*, Καίνων Δεύτερος (1649) 84 After six daies, that is six thousand Years duration of the World there shall bee a seventh daie, or Millenarie Sabbath of Rest. 1727 ARBUTHNOT *Tables Anc. Coins*, etc. 13 The millenary Sestertium..is marked with a line cross the top thus $\overline{\text{HS}}$. 1783 COWPER *Let. to J. Newton* 30 Nov., I have wondered in former days at the patience of the Antediluvian world; that they could endure a life almost millenary, with so little variety as seems to have fallen to their share. 1796 PEGGE *Anonym.* (1809) 270 The elliptical expressions, *in the year* 20, or *in the year* 88, wherein the millenary and the centenary numbers are omitted, are not altogether modern. 1855 W. H. MILL *Apptic. Panth. Princ.* (1861) 132 The millenary periods of Greek and Roman domination. 1888 *Pall Mall G.* 12 May 6/1 In 1886 was the millenary commemoration of the Domesday Book.

b. Commanding one thousand men.

1608 WILLET *Hexapla Exod.* 274 There were sixe hundred tribunes or millenarie officers. 1632 HOLLAND *Cyrupædia* 167 Cyrus commaunded the Persian millenarie Colonels..to come unto him.

c. Hist. *Millenary petition*: a petition presented by a number of Puritan ministers (represented as one thousand) on the progress of James I to London in April 1603, praying for certain changes in ecclesiastical ceremonial, etc. *Millenary plaintiffs*: the ministers who presented this petition.

1603 BP. W. BARLOW *Confer. Hampton Crt.* (1604) 2 Agentes for the Millenarie Plaintiffes. 1733 NEAL *Hist. Purit.* II. 5 The Puritans presented their Millenary Petition, so called because it was said to be subscribed by a thousand hands. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* viii. § ii. 464 The Millenary Petition..which was presented to James the First..by nearly eight hundred clergymen.

2. Of or pertaining to the millennium, or those believing in the millennium.

1577 HANMER *Anc. Eccl. Hist.* (1663) 50 He said there should be the term of a Millenary feast allotted for marriage. 1651 JER. TAYLOR *Serm. Summer Half-yr.* xii. 154 We are apt to dream that God will make his saints raigne here as kings in a millenary kingdom. 1690 BAXTER *Kingd. Christ* ii. (1691) 12 The Millenary Opinion was..early received by some followers of Papias.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1700 DRYDEN *Pal. & Arc.* Ded. to D'chess Ormond 81 When at Your second Coming You appear, (For I foretell that Millenary Year) The sharpen'd Share shall vex the Soil no more. 1722 POPE *Let. R. Digby* 10 Oct., 'Tis like the Kingdom of the Just upon Earth...Why will you ever, of your own accord, end such a Millenary Year in London?

B. *sb.*

1. An aggregate of one thousand; esp. a continuous period of one thousand years; ten centuries.

1550 BALE *Eng. Votaries* II. 10 b, Thys most deuylysh Syluestre, after the full accomplyshement of thys myllenary of yeares,..ded many tymes..make sacryfyce to yᵉ deuyll. 1622 MALYNES *Anc. Law-Merch.* 11 Others doe account the same by thousands, or millinaries. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* VI. i. 278 He conceaveth the Elementall frame shall end in the seventh or Sabbaticall millenary. 1684 T. BURNET *Th. Earth* II. 35 Johannes Damascenus..takes seven millenaries for the entire space of the world. 1704 HEARNE *Duct. Hist.* (1714) I. 31 It [this Period of 4000 Years] fills up the Vacancies which the Silence of the Scripture has left towards the end of the Fourth Millenary. 1855 J. H. NEWMAN *Callista* (1890) 44 We danced through three nights, dancing the old millenary out, dancing the new millenary in. 1875 E. WHITE *Life in Christ* III. xxiii. (1878) 332 If that prophetic millenary stands, by a figure of days, for years.

2. *Hist.* One of the signatories of 'Millenary Petition' (see A. 1 c above).

1691 WOOD *Ath. Oxon.* I. 351 Dr. Sparke was..called to the Conference at Hampton-Court .. appearing in the behalf of the Millinaries.

3. An officer in command of a thousand men.

1555 W. WATREMAN *Fardle Facions* II. x. 211 The Centuriane obeied the Millenarie, that had charge of a thousande. 1598–1600 HAKLUYT *Voyages* I. 62 Ouer ten Millenaries or captains of a 1000 he [Chingis Cham] placed, as it were, a Colonel.

4. A believer in the millennium; one who holds that Christ will reign in person over the earth for a period of one thousand years.

1561 T. NORTON *Calvin's Inst.* III. xxv. 264 b, In a little after there folowed the Millenaries, whiche limited the reigne of Christe to a thousande yeares. 1605 CHAPMAN, etc., *Eastw. Hoe* v, I have had of all sorts of men .. vnder my Keyes: & almost of all Religions i' the land, as Papist, Protestant,..Millenary, Famely o' Loue,..&c. 1645 R. BAILLIE *Lett. & Jrnls.* (Bannatyne Cl.) II. 313 Send me the rest of Forbes's..I marvell I can find nothing in its index against the Millenaries: I cannot think the author a Millenarie. 1708 *Brit. Apollo* No. 39. 1/2 The Millenaries found their Opinion upon several Texts. *c* 1810 COLERIDGE in *Lit. Rem.* (1838) III. 262 The Catholic Millenaries looked forward to carnal pleasures in the Kingdom of Christ. 1860 *All Year Round* No. 38. 270 Of Millenaries or Chiliasts there have been three classes.

Millenary, -n(d)er, obs. ff. MILLINERY, -NER.

† **Millenier.** *Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. [a. OF. *millenier*, ad. L. *millēnārius*.] = MILLENARY *sb.* 2.

1689 *Def. Liberty agst. Tyrants* 69 The ordinary Judges of Jerusalem, to wit the Milleniers, and the Centurions.

Millenier, obs. form of MILLINER.

† **Millenize,** *v. Obs.* [f. L. *millēn-ī* (see MILLENARY) + -IZE.] *intr.* To favour millenarian views.

1593 BELL *Motives conc. Rom. Faith* Ded. (1605) 1 If Tertullian..erred montanizing;..if Eusebius arrianizing:.. if Ambrose millenizing [etc.].

Millennial (mile·niăl), *a.* and *sb.* Also *erron.* **millenial.** [f. L. type **millenni-um* (see MILLENNIUM) + -AL.]

A. *adj.* 1. Of a thousand years.

1807 J. BARLOW *Columb.* I. 763 Millenial cedars wave their honors wide. 1819 BYRON *Proph. of Dante* III. 11 The bloody scroll of our millennial wrongs. 1830 TENNYSON *Kraken* 6 Huge sponges of millenial growth and height. 1899 D. G. HOGARTH in *Authority & Archæol.* 231 The middle of the second millennial period B.C.

2. Of or pertaining to the millennium, or Christ's anticipated reign of a thousand years on earth.

1664 H. MORE *Exp.* 7 *Epist.* Pref. c vij b, This is that illustrious Reign of Christ in his Millenniall Empire of Love. 1690 BAXTER *Kingd. Christ* ii. (1691) 12 The Millennial Opinion I have never been a censorious opposer of. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* IX. 703 Their [*sc.* the planets'] reciprocal, unselfish aid Affords an emblem of millennial love. 1825–9 MRS. SHERWOOD *Lady of Manor* III. xviii. 12 The last millennial glory. 1877 SPARROW *Serm.* xxvii. 229 But in Millenial times, how will things be changed!

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1859 GEO. ELIOT *A. Bede* vii, Every tenant was quite sure..there was to be a millennial abundance of new gates, ..and returns of ten per cent. 1897 MRQ. SALISBURY *Sp. Ho. Lords* 19 Jan., You must not think that we are the victims of millennial anticipations if we hope that something may be done by an arbitration treaty.

B. *sb.* A thousandth anniversary, or its celebration.

1896 *Westm. Gaz.* 9 Mar. 1/3 In order to celebrate the millennial of Hungary with proper respect.

Hence **Mille·nnialist,** one who believes in a millennial reign of Christ on earth (Webster 1847 citing *Stowe*). **Mille·nnially** *adv.*, during a thousand years or during the millennium.

1851 G. S. FABER *Many Mansions* 326 The Abyss, in which he will be millennially confined, is that proleptic Hell.

Millennian (mile·niăn), *sb.* and *a.* Also 7 **millenian.** [Formed as prec. + -AN.]

A. *sb.* A believer in the millennium.

1657–83 EVELYN *Hist. Relig.* (1850) II. 230 Chiliasts, or Millenians..held that our Blessed Lord should reign on earth a thousand years. 1827 G. S. FABER *Sacr. Calend. Prophecy* (1844) I. 277 The gradual corruption of the once holy millennians.

B. *adj.* 1. Of or pertaining to the millennium.

1806 G. S. FABER *Diss. Proph.* (1814) I. 51 The millennian reign of Christ upon earth. 1851 — *Many Mansions* 193 A Millennian Kingdom upon Earth.

2. Belonging to a period of a thousand years.

1867 BURTON *Hist. Scot.* (1873) I. xii. 411 It [*sc.* the terror caused by the expectation of the end of the world in A. D. 1000] is known as the millennian panic.

Hence † **Mille·nnianism,** the doctrine of the millennians. † **Mille·nnianite** = MILLENARY *sb.* 4.

1692 WOOD *Ath. Oxon.* II. 49 'Tis said that he [Sir W. Ralegh] wrot a Tract of Millinanism [1721, II. 96 Milleninanism]. *a* 1845 MRS. BRAY *Warleigh* xliv, The constable, who was a Millennianite, was with some difficulty stopped in the midst of his harangue.

Millenniarism (mile·niăriz'm). [f. next + -ISM.] = MILLENARIANISM (*Cent. Dict.* 1890).

Millenniary (mile·niări), *a.* [f. MILLENNI-UM + -ARY.] = MILLENNIAL 2.

1828 PUSEY *Hist. Enq.* I. 81 The millenniary dreams of apocalyptic writers. *Ibid.* II. 289 Fanatical expectations of a visible millenniary kingdom of Christ.

† **Millennist, millenist.** *Obs.* [Either f. MILLENN(IUM) or f. L. *millēn-ī* (see MILLENARY) + -IST.] One who believes in the millennium, a millenarian. So **Mi·llenism,** millenarianism.

1664 H. MORE *Synopsis Proph.* 512 Every faction will be content to be Millennists upon condition that Christ may reign after their way or mode. 1676 *Doctrine of Devils* 121 So was the Church in respect of Millenisme, Arrianisme [etc.]. 1755 JOHNSON, *Millenist.* 1795 SEWARD *Anecd.* (ed. 2) I. 318 So feeble-minded as to be a Seeker and Millennist.

Millennium (mile·niŭm). Pl. **millenniums,** *occas.* **millennia.** [ad. mod.L. type **millennium*, f. L. *mille* thousand + *annus* year, on the analogy of *biennium, triennium*, etc.]

1. A period of one thousand years. Also, a thousandth anniversary.

a 1711 KEN *Hymnarium* Poet. Wks. 1721 II. 54 They on one Theme Milleniums spend. 1762 MACPHERSON *Ossian's Poems, Dissert.* (1806) I. p. xxxv, It is..needless to fix its [the kingdom of the Scots] origin a fictitious millenium before. 1840 DE QUINCEY *Mod. Superstit.* Wks. 1862 III. 341 We may pass by a vast transition of two and a half millennia. 1832 TENNYSON *Two Voices* 89 Let Thy feet, millenniums hence, be set In midst of knowledge. 1899 E. MARKHAM *Man with Hoe*, etc. 33 The wise King out of the nearing heaven comes To break the spell of long milleniums.

2. The period of one thousand years during which (according to one interpretation of Rev. xx. 1–5) Christ will reign in person on earth.

a 1638 MEDE *Wks.* V. (1672) 892 The Millennium of the Reign of Christ is that which the Scriptures call The Day of Judgment. 1772 PRIESTLEY *Inst. Relig.* (1782) II. 417 Arguments [are] advanced..against the literal interpretation of the millenium. 1890 R. BUCHANAN *Coming Terror* (1891) 62 Possibly, until the Millennium, there will always be drones.

3. *fig.* and in figurative context: A period of happiness and benign government.

1820 BYRON *Mar. Fal.* IV. ii. 156 But this day, black within the calendar, Shall be succeeded by a bright millenium. 1857 TOULMIN SMITH *Parish* 421 The millennium will indeed have come for professional vagrants. 1899 *Edin. Rev.* Jan. 187 A millennium, which lasted a fortnight, succeeded his [George IV's] visit.

Hence **Mille·nniumism,** the doctrine of the millennium. **Mille·nniumite,** one who believes in the millennium.

1832 *Fraser's Mag.* V. 121 Who writes Political Economy, and Phrenology, and Millenniumism, but Scotchmen? 1837 *New Monthly Mag.* XLIX. 341 The movement party, with its train of optimists, millenniumites, and other indescribable shades and varieties of perfectibility-men.

† **Millensole.** *Obs.* Also 6 **myllin soole, millium sole.** [Corruption of *milium solis*: see MILIUM 1 b and MILL *sb.*^{2} 2.] Gromwell.

1545 *Rates Custome Ho.* b viij, Myllin soole the pounde iiii d. 1582 *Ibid.* D iij, Millensole...Millium sole.

Millepede (mi·l/pēd). *Zool.* Also 7 **millipeed,** 7–8 **millepide,** 8, 9 (in Dicts.) **milleped,** 8–9 **millipede.** [ad. L. *millepeda* woodlouse, f. *mille* thousand + *ped-, pēs* foot. Cf. F. *mille-pieds*.]

1. Any one of the chilognathan myriapods (esp. of the British genera *Iulus* and *Glomeris*), in which the numerous legs are usually placed on each of the segments in double pairs, except the three or four pairs immediately behind the head.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XX. ii. 37 The Millipeed, which the Greeks call Seps, a long Worme with hairie feet. [1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Millepeda*, a Worm, having a great number of furry Feet; a Palmer.] 1835 KIRBY *Hab. & Inst. Anim.* II. xvi. 65 These [Chilognathans] are called Millipedes. 1877 HUXLEY *Anat. Inv. Anim.* vii. 391 In the Millipedes, the sternal region is rudimentary.

2. Any one of several terrestrial isopod crustaceans, esp. the common woodlouse, *Oniscus asellus*; the armadillo, *Armadillo vulgaris*; and the slater, *Porcellio scaber*.

1651 FRENCH *Distill.* iv. 101 Take..of Millepides (*i*) Woodlice one hundred. 1667 E. KING in *Phil. Trans.* II. 428 Millepedes and Earwigs. 1757 PARSONS *ibid.* L. 406 This body seems to be a Milleped, or Wood-louse. 1883 WOOD in *Gd. Words* Dec. 764/1 The millepedes .. are plentiful under the stones and flower-pots. 1890 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Millepede*,..the *Oniscus armadillo*.

3. = CENTIPEDE.

1705 tr. *Bosman's Guinea* 379 It is not more prejudicial than the Sting of the Millepedes. 1756 A. RUSSELL *Nat.*

Hist. Aleppo 264 The third kind of *Mal*, which they call the pinch of a millepedes, begins like the two others, but [etc.]. 1861 HULME tr. *Moquin-Tandon* II. v. ii. 265 The Scolopendra are..commonly termed Millipedes.

4. *attrib.* or as *adj.*: Thousand-footed.

1834 *Fraser's Mag.* X. 562 Many frightful hydra-headed and millipede insects.

Millepore (mi·lǐpōəɹ). *Zool. Obs.* exc. *Hist.* [ad. mod.L. *millepora*, f. *mille* thousand + *por-us* passage, PORE *sb.*, or ad. F. *millépore*. (See the note s.v. MADREPORE.)] Any one of the *Hydromedusæ* (formerly regarded as zoantharian corals) of the genus *Millepora* or of the family *Milleporidæ*, in which the coral-like calcareous skeleton is covered with minute pores.

1751 STACK in *Phil. Trans.* XLVII. 449 The several species of vermicular tubes found in the sea, the madrepores, millepores, lithophytons, corallines, sponges. 1862 STODDART in *Q. Jrnl. Microsc. Sci.* II. 149 Millepores, Madrepores, Seriatopores [etc.].

Hence **Millepo·riform** *a.*, having the form or appearance of a millepore (*Cent. Dict.* 1890). **Mi·lleporine** *a.*, pertaining to or having the characters of the hydrozoan family *Milleporina*; resembling a millepore (*Cent. Dict.*). **Millepo·reous** *a.* = *Milleporous* (Mayne *Expos. Lex.* 1856). **Mi·lleporite**, a fossil millepore. **Millepo·rous** *a.*, belonging to or resembling a millepore; having thousands of pores (Mayne).

1755 J. ELLIS *Corallines* Contents d, Foliaceous milleporous Eschara. 1802-3 tr. *Pallas' Trav.* (1812) II. 128 We occasionally noticed single entrochites, or almost obliterated traces of milleporites.

Millepunctate (milǐpv·ŋkteit), *a.* [f. L. *mille* thousand + *punctātus* marked with points, f. *punctum* POINT *sb.*: see -ATE 2.] Covered with a multitude of points (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1890). So **Millepu·nctated** *a.*, in the same sense (Mayne *Expos. Lex.* 1856).

Miller (mi·ləɹ). Forms: α. 4 mulnere, mylnere, 5 milnare, mylnar, melner, 5-7 mylner, 6 myllner, 7 millner, 5-8, 9 *dial.* milner. β. 4 mellere, millere, 5 mylur, myllar(e, 6 myller, millar, 7 miler, 4- miller. [Not found before the 14th c.; the α and β forms perh. represent formations of that period on the two ME. forms of MILL *sb.*[1] (*mylne*, *myll*) + -ER [1].

The late appearance of the word is unfavourable to the assumption of an OE. **mylnere*; if such a form existed, it might, with some of the synonyms in continental Teut., represent a WGer. adoption of late L. *molinārius* (whence F. *meunier*) f. *molina* MILL *sb.*[1] Cf. OS. *mulinīri* (MDu. *molenare*, *mulner*, *muldener*, MLG. *molner*, mod.Du. *molenaar*, *mulder*), OHG. *mulināri* (MHG. *mülnære*, *müllner*, mod.G. *müller*), ON. *mylnari* (Sw. *mjölnare*, Da. *møller*). That the Eng. word was adopted from Du. or LG. is not altogether impossible.]

1. One whose trade is the grinding of corn in a mill; the proprietor or tenant of a corn-mill. Also (*? dial.*) applied to that workman in a mill who has charge of the actual grinding.

The OE. word was *mylnweard* (lit. 'mill-keeper': see MILLWARD), denoting the custodian or manager of the mill belonging to the lord. The word *miller* would have the same application so long as 'the lord's mill' continued to be one of the customary appurtenances of a manor.

α. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. II. 80 Monde þe Mulnere [*later texts* mellere, mylnere], and moni mo opure. *c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* VI. xvi. 1625 This milnare had a dowchtyr fayre. 1432-50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 319 A mylner callede Athus. 1523 FITZHERB. *Bk. Surv.* 10 But dout ye nat the mylners wyll be no losers. 1619 in Ferguson & Nanson *Munic. Rec. Carlisle* (1887) 278 We amercye Archilles Armestronge for keping his wief to play the milner,..iiis. 4*d.* 1725 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 6384/7 John Hodgson,..Milner.

β. 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 542 Ther was also a Reue and a Millere. *Ibid.* 545 The Millere was a stout carl. *c* 1425 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 650/22 *Hic molendinarius*, mylur. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 337/2 Myllare, *molendinarius*. *c* 1515 *Cocke Lorell's B.* 3 A myller dusty-poll than dyde come. 1646 Sir T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* VII. xiii. 365 Gillius..who.. made enquiry of Millers who dwelt upon its shoare received answer, that it [*sc.* the Euripus] ebbed and flowed foure times a day. 1824 R. STUART *Hist. Steam Engine* 133 A similar irregularity in the motion of corn-mills..had early exercised the ingenuity of millers.

fig. 1657 COKAINE *Obstinate Lady* Poems (1669) 301 My noble milner of words, thou that dost grind thy speeches with a merry pronunciation.

¶ b. In proverbs imputing to millers dishonesty in the taking of toll.

The proverb given by Ray seems to mean that there are no honest millers, and to allude to the use of the thumb in taking toll of flour. It is probable that this is the original form, and that Chaucer and Gaseoigne played upon the phrase, taking the 'thumb of gold' to mean one that brings profit to the owner.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 563 Wel koude he [*sc.* the miller] stelen corn and tollen thries And yet he hadde a thombe of gold pardee. 1576 GASCOIGNE *Steele Gl.* (Arb.) 79 When smithes shoe horses, as they would be shod, When millers toll not with a golden thumbe. 1678 RAY *Prov.* (ed. 2) 176 An honest miller hath a golden thumb. 1876 MRS. EWING *Jan of Windmill* xxxii, Was 'ee ever in a mill? 'ee seems to have a miller's thumb.

c. Proverb. *Too much water drowned the miller*: used to express that one can have too much of a good thing. Hence in figurative phrase *To drown the miller*: to add too much water to spirits, dough, etc. (in this use also to *put the miller's eye out*); also † *Sc.* 'to become bankrupt' (Jam.). For recent examples see *Eng. Dial. Dict.*

1805 A. SCOTT *Poems* (1808) 136 Honest men's been ta'en for rogues, Whan bad luck gars drown the miller. 1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* xxi, The hale folk here..hae made a vow to ruin my trade, as they say ower muckle water drowns the miller. 1822 — *Pirate* xvi, 'A fine, a fine', said the Udaller, '..he shall drink off the yawl full of punch, unless he gives us a song on the spot!' 'Too much water drowned the miller', answered Triptolemus. 1834 ESTHER COPLEY *Housekpr.'s Guide* x. 233 If after..'putting out the miller's eye' by too much water, you add flour to make it stiff enough for rolling out [etc.].

d. One who regulates or works any machine called a 'mill'. Chiefly in parasynthetic compounds, as *cloth-*, *saw-*, *scribbling-miller*, etc.

1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 992 The use of this machine [a lamp called a *steel mill*] entailed on the miner the expense of an attendant, called the miller, who gave him light. 1888 BARRIE *When a Man's Single* i, The saw-miller's letter. 1900 *Daily News* 10 Oct. 7/3 He was a cloth miller.

2. Applied **a.** to certain white or white-powdered insects, as (*a*) the cockchafer, *Melolontha vulgaris*; (*b*) a neuropterous insect, *Sialis lutaria*; (*c*) a small moth often used by anglers; also, the ghost moth, *Hepialus humuli* (E.D.D.); **b.** to certain hairy caterpillars. See also *dusty miller*, DUSTY *a.* 5.

1668 CHARLETON *Onomasticon* 47 *Blatta*...*Molendinaria*, the Miller, because alwayes whited with a delicate Down. 1681 GLANVILL *Sadducismus* II. 144 A Fly like a great Millar flew out from the place. 1829 *Glover's Hist. Derby* I. 177 White miller or owl fly..yellow miller or owl fly. 1858 H. W. BEECHER *Life Th.* (1859) 170 Would you put the lamp out in your house because moths and millers burn their wings in it? 1869 E. NEWMAN *Brit. Moths* 251 The Miller (*Acronycta leporina*). 1883 Miss BURNE *Folk-Lore Shropsh.* 194 Another amulet..is composed of a 'miller', or hairy caterpillar.

3. Applied to certain vertebrates, as **a.** one of the rays, *Myliobatis aquila*; **b.** *dial.* the young of the spotted flycatcher, *Muscicapa grisola*; **c.** the hen-harrier, *Circus cyaneus*, and Montagu's harrier, *C. cinereaceus*; **d.** the whitethroat, *Sylvia rufa* or *cinerea*; **e.** the ringed plover (*Manx Bird-names* in *Zoologist* Feb. 1897).

1620 J. MASON *New-found-land* in *Capt. John Mason* (Prince Soc. 1887) 152 What should I speake of..Cunners, Catfish, Millers, thunnes, &c.? 1836 YARRELL *Brit. Fishes* II. 446 From..the crushing power of these teeth, the fish has acquired the additional name of the Miller. 1885 SWAINSON *Prov. Names Birds* 49 In Salop the name of Miller is given to young flycatchers. *Ibid.* 132 Hen harrier..Miller. 1893 NEWTON *Dict. Birds* 572 Miller, a name given to the grey males of *Circus cyaneus* and *C. cinereaceus*..; and also locally to the Whitethroat.

† **4.** A vaulting trick in horsemanship = *Miller's pass* (see 7 b). *Obs.*

1641 W. STOKES *Vaulting Master* C 3 The fifth Passe, called the Miller.

5. *slang.* **a.** A pugilist. † Also, a murderer. *Obs.*

a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew*, *Miller*, a Killer or Murderer. 1812 *Sporting Mag.* XXXIX. 143 Next rings the fame of gallant Crib A cool and steady miller. 1823 'JON BEE' *Dict. Turf, Millers*—second rate boxers, whose arms run round in rapid succession [etc.]. 1830 S. WARREN *Diary Physic.* vii. (1832) I. 135 The Captain..being a first-rate 'miller', as the phrase is,..let fall a sudden shower of blows.

† **b.** Applied to a vicious horse. *Obs.*

1825 C. M. WESTMACOTT *Engl. Spy* I. 236 An incurable miller.

6. A milling-machine. In mod. Dicts.

7. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *miller-maiden*; **miller-dog**, a kind of dog-fish, *Galeus canis*; † **miller-grape**, a kind of grape; **miller-moth**, a white or 'mealy-scaled' moth (cf. sense 2); † **miller-pit** = MILL-POOL; † **miller quarrier**, one who quarries (millstones) for a miller.

1848 *Zoologist* VI. 1974 *Miller Dog, *Galeus vulgaris*. 1763 MILLS *Pract. Husb.* IV. 381 The *meunier*, or *miller grape, delights in light sands. 1828 Miss MITFORD *Village* Ser. III. 237 Our simple *miller-maiden. 1819 SAMOUELLE *Entomol. Compend.* 382 *Miller moth (*Noctua leporina*). 1878 T. HARDY *Ret. Native* IV. vii, White miller-moths flew into the air. 14.. *Nom.* in Wr.-Wülcker 725/8 *Hic assicus*, a *mylnerpyt. 1497 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* (1877) I. 328 Giffin to the foure *millar quareouris in Dunbar for stanis wynnyng and breking, iiij lib. xviij s.

b. With possessive: **miller's coat**, a coat of fence in use in the sixteenth century, apparently a buff-coat or similar defence of leather (*Cent. Dict.* 1890); **miller's dog**, a kind of dog-fish, *Galeus canis*; **miller's-maze**, *? = miller's round*; † **miller's pass** = sense 4 (see quot. 1653); **miller's round**, a kind of dance; **miller's soul**, a large white moth, probably the ghost-moth, *Hepialus humuli*. Also MILLER'S THUMB.

1836 YARRELL *Brit. Fishes* II. 390 It is known by the names of Penny Dog and *Miller's Dog. 1880-4 F. DAY *Brit. Fishes* II. 292 *Galeus vulgaris*..miller's dog, from its light gray colour. 1597-8 Bp. HALL *Sat.* IV. iii. 59 Some of thy stallion-race Their eyes boar'd out, masking the *millers-maze. 1641 W. STOKES *Vaulting Master* Plate 5 The *Millers Passe. 1653 URQUHART *Rabelais* I. XXXV, He brought himself betwixt the horses two eares, springing with all his body into the aire, upon the thumb of his left hand, and in that posture turning like a windmill, did most actively do that trick which is called the Millers Passe. 1585 J. HIGINS *Junius' Nomenclator*, *Pyrallis*..a candle flie; a stout or *millers soule. 1894 T. HARDY *Life's Ironies* 253 He saw one of those great white miller's-souls, as we call 'em—that is to say, a miller-moth. 1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* Oct. 52 Carroll lowde, and leade the *myllers rownde.

Milleress (mi·lərès). *rare.* [f. MILLER *sb.* + -ESS.] A miller's wife.

1680 J. AUBREY in *Lett. Eminent Persons* (1813) III. 391 My father was a miller, and my mother a milleresse, and I am now a ladie.

Millering (mi·lərin), *vbl. sb.* [f. MILLER *v.* + -ING [1].] The work or trade of a miller.

1798 WASHINGTON *Lett.* Writ. (1893) XIV. 4 To carry on the millering and distillery business. 1817-18 COBBETT *Resid. U. S.* (1822) 337 Any of the men..could do the millering very well.

Millerite [1] (mi·lərəit). *U.S.* [f. the proper name *Miller* (see below) + -ITE [1].] A believer in the doctrines of William Miller (*died* 1849), an American preacher who interpreted the Scriptures as foretelling the early coming of Christ and the end of the world. So **Mi·llerism**, the doctrines of William Miller.

1846 O. BROWNSON *Wks.* VI. 221 St. Paul writes to the Thessalonians not to believe the Millerites of their time. 1854 E. G. HOLLAND *J. Badger* XV. 418 Millerism came along showing large maps of the world's chronology..and all that. 18.. WHITTIER *World's End* Prose Wks. 1889 II. 424 One of the most ludicrous examples of the sensual phase of Millerism.

Millerite [2] (mi·lərəit). *Min.* [ad. G. *millerit*: named by W. Haidinger in 1845 after W. H. Miller, professor of mineralogy at Cambridge 1832-1870: see -ITE [1].] Native sulphide of nickel, usually occurring in brassy or bronze crystals; capillary pyrites.

1854 DANA *Syst. Min.* (ed. 4) II. 49 Millerite, *Haid.* Capillary Pyrites. Sulphuret of Nickel [etc.]. 1881 RUSKIN *Let.* in *St. George* (1903) VI. 358, I would have kept the millerite, but the specimen was not pretty.

Miller's thumb. Also 5 millathowme. [Suggested by the proverbial phrase under MILLER *sb.* 1 b; the head of the fish so called has some resemblance to a thumb.]

1. A small freshwater fish, *Cottus gobio* (*Aspidophorus cataphractus*); the bullhead.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 337/2 Myllarys thowmbe, fysche (*King's Coll. MS.* millathowme, fischel, *capito*. 1530 PALSGR. 245/1 Myllers tbombe a fysshe, *chabot*. *c* 1614 FLETCHER, etc. *Wit at sev. Weap.* v. i, *Clow.* 'Twill ne're be a true water. *Cun.* Why thinke you so? *Clow.* I warrant you, I told a thousand Millers thumbs in it. 1634 T. JOHNSON *Parey's Chirurg.* XX. iv. (1678) 457 The little Fish which the French call Chabot, we a Millers Thumb. 1741 *Compl. Fam.-Piece* II. ii. 350 Bull-Head, or Miller's Thumb, is to be met with in Holes, or among Stones, in clear Water. 1895 *Cornh. Mag.* Oct. 387 A bullhead or 'miller's thumb' has proved too much for a water rail.

2. Applied to other fishes, as **a.** the whiting-pout, *Gadus luscus*; **b.** *U.S.*, any fresh-water sculpin of the genus *Uranidea*; **c.** (see quot. 1838).

1838 J. COUCH *Cornish Fauna* I. 37 Rock Goby, *Gobius niger*..Miller's Thumb, Black Goby. 1880-4 F. DAY *Brit. Fishes* I. 287 *Gadus luscus*... Names—Bib, pout, whiting-pout [etc.]. It is likewise said to be 'Miller's thumb'. 1888 JORDAN & GILBERT *Synops. Fishes N. Amer.* 693 *Uranidea*..Miller's Thumbs. *Ibid.* 696 *U. richardsonii*..Miller's Thumb, Blob, Muffle-jaw, Bullhead.

3. Applied locally to certain small birds (see quots.).

1838 J. COUCH *Cornish Fauna* I. 13 White Throat..Wood Wren..Willow Wren..Chiff Chaff..Lesser White Throat. The three or four latter Species are sometimes seen crossing the Channel to us, in Spring; and are confounded together by Sailors under the name of Miller's Thumbs. 1878 *Cumberld. Gloss.* 63/2 Milly thoom, Miller's thumb, the willow wren. 1885 SWAINSON *Prov. Names Birds* 25 Golden-crested wren..Miller's thumb. *Ibid.* 32 British long-tailed titmouse..Millithrum, *i. e.* Miller's thumb.

Millesimal (mile·simăl), *a.* and *sb.* [f. L. *millēsim-us* thousandth + (f. *mille* thousand) -AL.] **a.** *adj.* Thousandth; consisting of thousandth parts. Also, of or belonging to a thousand, dealing with thousandths. **b.** *sb.* A thousandth (part).

1719 I. POUND in *Phil. Trans.* XXX. 1022 The addition of the equation of Numb. B. gives the true angle of Commutation in the same Millesimals of a Circle. 1741 WATTS *Improv. Mind* I. i. Wks. 1753 V. 188 He laboured long in millesimal fractions. 1873 I. GREGORY *Brit. Metric Syst.* Note to Rdr., Calculating in units with fractions in decimals, centesimals or millesimals. 1874 *8th Rep. Warden of Standards* xxiii, The legal allowance of error for gold coin in millesimal fineness is 0·002 in excess or deficiency.

† **Millesm,** *Obs.* Also 7 -sme. [a. F. *milliesme*, now *millième* :—L. *millēsim-um*, neut. of *millēsimus*: see prec.] A thousandth part.

1635 GELLIBRAND *Variation Magn. Needle* 2 The Horizon supposed..to be divided into 360 parts, and each part subdivided into Centesmes or Millesmes. 1640 W. CRABTREE in *Phil. Trans.* XXVII. 289 We intend to use the Centesmes or Millesmes of Degrees, because of the ease in Calculation.

Millet (mi·lĕt). Forms: 5, 7 milet, 6 mylet(t, mylet, millette, 8 millett, mellet, 6- millet. [a. F. *millet*, dim. of *mil*: see MILL *sb.*[2]]

1. A graminaceous plant, *Panicum miliaceum*, native of India but extensively cultivated as a cereal in the warmer parts of Europe, growing three or four feet high, and bearing on a terminal spike or panicle a large crop of minute nutritious seeds. **a.** The grain.

c 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xxx. 134 Þai ete milet and rysr. 1562 TURNER *Herbal* II. 57 Millet in brede norisheth lesse

then other cornes do. 1634 PEACHAM *Gentl. Exerc.* II. vii. 125 A handfull of Millet Oates, and Panicle. 1772 *Ann. Reg.* 165/2 He has subsisted chiefly for these ten years past on raw onions and millet. 1865 MISS CARY *Ball. & Lyrics* 227 Turn in the little seed, brown and dry, Turn out the golden millet.

b. The plant.

1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* (1586) 31 b, Millet called in Latine *Millium*,..having as it were a thousand graines in an eare. 1653 H. COGAN tr. *Pinto's Trav.* xxviii. 109 Great plains full of wheat, rice, beans, pease, millet, panick [etc.]. 1762 MILLS *Syst. Pract. Husb.* I. 448 Millet, either green, or after its grain is threshed out, is very good fodder for cattle. 1859 JEPHSON *Brittany* xi. 177 Besides the usual crops, I observed extensive fields of millet.

2. Applied to other graminaceous plants, esp. *Sorghum vulgare* (African, Black, Indian, Turkey Millet) and *Setaria italica* (Italian or German Millet). (See quots.)

1548 TURNER *Names of Herbes* 54 Milium indicum is nowe muche sowen in Italy... It were better to cal it .. turkish millet. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* I. liii. 73 *Milium nigrum*, Blacke Millet. *Ibid.* I. lv. 77 Tvrkie Millet is a stranger in England. 1640 PARKINSON *Theat. Bot.* 1136 *Melica sive Sorghum*. Indian Millet. *Ibid.* 1137 Turkie or Indian Millet, and of some [called] Italian Millet. 1764 GRAINGER *Sugar Cane* IV. 567 Let Indian millet rear its corny reed. 1765 *Museum Rust.* V. 74 The African millet, *sorghum, milium nigrum*. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XV. 225/1 Caffre millet (*Holcus Cafer*) is a native of the Cape of Good Hope. *Ibid.* 225/2 Drooping millet (*Sorghum cernuum*) is cultivated in Arabia, Syria, and various parts of the Levant. 1846–50 A. WOOD *Class-bk. Bot.* 596 *Piptatherum nigrum*. Black-seeded millet. 1861 SWINHOE *N. China Camp.* 372 The chief produce of the country is the Kaouleang, or Barbadoes Millet (*Sorghum*). 1864 *Chambers's Encycl.* VI. 461/2 *Penicillaria spicata*, or *Pennisetum typhoideum*, is very extensively cultivated in Africa...It often receives the names Egyptian Millet and Guinea Corn. 1869 E. A. PARKES *Pract. Hygiene* (ed. 3) 178 The Hindu diet consists of some of the millets (cholum, raggee) [etc.]. 1874 *Treas. Bot.* 1318/1 Millet, Texas, *Sorghum cernuum*.

¶ *Grey millet*: see GREY *a.* 8.

3. †**a.** *pl.* A skin disease attacking the fetlocks of horses. *Obs.*

1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 110 Myllettes is an yll sorance, and appereth in the fetelockes behynde.

b. *sing.* A disease of the mouth, most common in infants, in which small white points or patches appear.

1842 GUY *Hooper's Physician's Vade Mecum* 352 Stomatitis, with alteration of the Secretion—Muguet—Millet.

†**4.** = CENCHRINE. *Obs.*

1608 TOPSELL *Serpents* (1658) 743 Of the Millet or Cenchrine. 1661 LOVELL *Hist. Anim. & Min.* 253 Mullet, or Cenchrine...They are..venimous in the second degree... They are spotted like millet seed, about two cubits in length, attenuated towards the taile, the colour is darke like the Millet, and is then most ireful when this herb is highest.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *millet-field, flour, grain, -meal, pudding, -straw*; **millet-ale,** beer, a fermented liquor made from millet-seed; **millet-rash,** miliary fever. Also MILLET-GRASS, MILLET-SEED.

1834 PRINGLE *Afr. Sk.* I. 19 The honey-mead, the *millet-ale, Flow round. 1890 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, **Millet beer*, a fermented liquor made from millet-seed in Roumania. 1873 'OUIDA' *Pascarel* I. 107 We went through the *millet-fields at sunrise. 1747 tr. *Astruc's Fevers* 334 Many pustules .. of the bigness of *millet-grains. 1765 *Museum Rust.* V. 76 The millers .. return a good third of a bushel of *millet-meal for every bushel sent to them. 1747 MRS. GLASSE *Cookery* ix. 107 A *Millet Pudding. You must get half a Pound of Millet-seed [etc.]. 1762 W. GELLEROY *London Cook* 175 A Mellet Pudding. 1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) IV. 440 Species IV. Exormia Milium. *Millet-Rash. 1844 STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 379 They considered *millet-straw as the best for cattle.

Millet, obs. variant of MULLET.

Mi·llet-grass. The genus *Milium*, esp. *M. effusum*, a tall handsome grass, widely distributed throughout the northern hemisphere.

1597 GERARDE *Herbal* I. iv. 6 *Gramen Miliaceum*. Millet Grasse. 1796 WITHERING *Brit. Pl.* (ed. 3) II. 122 Soft Millet. Millet Grass. Wet woods, common. 1864 *Chambers's Encycl.* VI. 461/2 The Millet Grass (*Milium effusum*) of Britain.

Mi·llet-seed. The seed or grain of millet. Also *attrib.*, as **millet-seed papula,** an isolated pimple as seen in miliary fever; **millet-seed rash,** miliary fever.

1599 T. M[OUFET] *Silkwormes* 66 Their egges..are likest of all thinges to Millet seede. 1671 SALMON *Syn. Med.* I. 113 The Measles are Pustules like Millet-seed. 1707 *Curios. in Husb. & Gard.* 350 Little Cray-fish, no bigger than Millet-seeds. 1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) I. 176 An efflorescence on the surface [of the skin] sometimes in the form of minute red millet-seed papulæ. 1851 CARPENTER *Man. Phys.* (ed. 2) 429 Minute lobules .. about the average size of a millet-seed. 1890 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Millet seed rash.*

Mill-foil, variant of MILFOIL.

Millful (mi·lful). [f. MILL *sb.*[1] + -FUL.] As much as a mill will contain; †*spec.* the quantity produced at one operation by a thread-mill.

1799 *Hull Advertiser* 23 Feb. 3/2 Nine thread-mills and upwards of 500 millfuls of twined thread.

Mi·ll-horse. [f. MILL *sb.*[1] + HORSE *sb.*] A horse used for turning or working a mill.

1552 HULOET, Myll horse, *molarius equus*. 1577–87 HOLINSHED *Chron.* II. 17/1 As if a man would reason thus: Before saint Patrike his time there was no horssemill in Ireland: *Ergo* before his time there was no milhorsse. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* II. (1590) 197 His *Impresa* was, a mill-horse still bound to goe in one circle. 1650 B. *Discollimitium* 19 Hob, my blind Mil-horse. 1781 C. JOHNSTON *Hist. J. Juniper* II. 219, I was obliged to drudge on like a blinded mill-horse.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1600 W. WATSON *Decacordon* (1602) 47 And so by consequent all runne Hysteron Protheron, a milne horse, a King Pope, a Curch Spaniard. 1673 DRYDEN *Amboyna* II. i, You are the mill-horses of mankind. 1890 *Spectator* 21 June, Will the work of intellectual mill-horses suit the ..more sensitive natures of women?

c. *attrib.*

1881 RUSKIN in *Lett. Art & Lit.* (1894) 65 It cost Turner forty years of mill-horse toil. 1903 *Contemp. Rev.* Oct. 514 Her mill-horse round of vain repetitions.

Mi·ll-house. A building in which milling or grinding is carried on; † in early use = MILL *sb.*[1] 1.

c 1300 *Havelok* 1967 Summe grop tre, and sum grop ston, And drinc hem ut, þei be weren crus, So dogges ut of milnehous. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 337/2 Myllehowse, *molendina*. 1508 DUNBAR *Flyting w. Kennedie* 243 Chittirlilling, tuch rilling, lik schilling in the milhouse. 1657 R. LIGON *Barbadoes* (1673) 90 [Sugar-making.] From the Mill-house to the boyling house. 1766 *Compl. Farmer* s. v. *Flax*, It requires a less expensive mill-house [*sc.* for flax dressing]. 1888 WARREN & CLEVERLY *Wanderings 'Beetle'* 129 A bridge bearing four tumble-down mill-houses.

Milli- (mi·li), combining form of L. *mille* thousand, used esp. in the metric system of weights and measures to denote the thousandth part of the unit, as *millilare*, $\frac{1}{1000}$ of an are, etc.

1816 P. KELLY *Metrology* 17 The word *Milli* expresses the 1000th part.

Millia, variant of MILLY *Obs.*

Mi·lliad. *rare.* [Badly f. L. *mille* thousand, after *myriad.*] A period of one thousand years.

1851 H. TORRENS in *Jrnl. Asiatic Soc. Bengal* 2 Not by centuries but by milliads. 1891 L. CLARK *Dict. Metric Meas., Milliade*, a thousand years.

Milliampère (mi·liæmpēə·r). *Electr.* [f. L. *mille* thousand + AMPÈRE.] An electrical unit equal to the thousandth part of an ampère. Also *attrib.* **milliampère meter,** an instrument for measuring milliampères of electricity.

1891 in L. CLARK *Dict. Metric Meas.* 1893 A. S. ECCLES *Sciatica* 56 From five to eigbt milliampères of current. 1905 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 16 Sept. 620 A milliampèremeter to indicate the current going through the tube.

Millian, obs. form of MILAN, MILLION.

Milliard (mi·liărd). [a. F. *milliard*, f. *mille* thousand.] A thousand millions.

1793 A. YOUNG *Examp. France* (ed. 3) 185, I may state their extra resources, from the regal and ecclesiastical plunder, at four *milliards*. 1823 BYRON *Juan* XIV. c, I'll bet you millions, milliards. 1874 DEUTSCH *Rem.* 290 All those untold milliards of human beings.

Milliare (miliē·ı). [a. F. *milliare*: see MILLI- and ARE *sb.*] In the metric system, the thousandth part of an are; 154·07 square inches.

1889 E. NOEL *Sci. Metrology* 12 The deciare..is not a real square measure;..the milliare..is non-existent. 1891 in L. CLARK *Dict. Metric Meas.*

Milliary (mi·liări), *a.* and *sb.* Also miliary. [ad. L. *milliārius* (neut. *-um*), f. *mille* thousand (paces), MILE.] **A.** *adj.*

1. Pertaining to the ancient Roman mile of a thousand paces; marking a mile.

1644 EVELYN *Diary* 7 Nov., Before this was once placed a Miliary Column. 1753 *Phil. Trans.* XLVIII. 136 Milliary pillars [are] erected to mark out the distance of the ways. 1778 *Eng. Gazetteer* (ed. 2) s.v. *Spittle in the Street, Linc.*, It is pleasant riding from hence to Lincoln, in a country wholly champaign, or heath, with miliary stones all the way, of which some are thought to be Roman. 1860 J. NEWLANDS *Carp. & Join. Assist.* Index & Gloss., *Milliary column*, a column set up to mark distances; a milestone. *Ibid.* s. v. *Column*, The miliary column, set up as a centre from which to measure distances.

†**2.** Of or pertaining to a millennium. *Obs.*

1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* s. v. *Age*, Milliary or Millenary Age, *sæculum milliarium*, or *millenarium*, on medals denotes the last year of a Millennium or thousand year.

B. *sb.*

1. A stone or mark set up by the ancient Romans to form a point of departure in measuring distances of a thousand paces; a milestone.

1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* 423 London-stone..I take to haue beene a Milliarie or Milemarke. 1741–3 POCOCKE *Descr. East* (1745) II. 85, I saw, about a mile from the town, an antient Roman milliary. 1865 *Reader* 18 Mar. 313/2 He found no traces whatever of the letters, and therefore he inferred that they had never been inscribed on the milliary.

†**2.** A believer in the millennium. *Obs.*

1650 BP. HALL *Rev. Unrevealed* § 4 The ancient heresy of the Milliaries, as Austin calls them.

Milliary, obs. form of MILIARY.

†**Mi·llifold,** *a. Obs.* [f. L. *mille* thousand + -FOLD.] Thousand-fold.

1609 J. DAVIES *Holy Roode* I 2 b, Yet ere he parts, his kisses millifold, Bewray his loue, and louing diligence.

†**Mi·lliform,** *a. Obs.* [f. L. *mille* thousand + -FORM.] Of a thousand shapes or aspects.

c 1581 in *Grindal's Rem.* (Parker Soc.) 471 It was like that religion, which of his own nature sbould be uniform, would against his nature have proved milliform, yea, in continuance nulliform.

Milligrade (mi·ligrēd), *a.* [f. L. *mille* + *grad-us* step, degree.] Having a thousand degrees.

1802–12 BENTHAM *Ration. Judic. Evid.* (1827) I. 76 Substitute..a centigrade scale: and if that be not yet sufficient a milligrade.

Milligramme (mi·ligræm). Also 9 **-gram.** [F. *milligramme*: see MILLI- and GRAMME.] In the metric system, a weight equal to $\frac{1}{1000}$ of a gramme, or ·0154 of an English grain.

1810 *Naval Chron.* XXIV. 302 Milligram (weight of cubic millimeter of water). 1875 BENNETT & DYER *Sachs' Bot.* 776 In *Passiflora gracilis* a pressure of 1 milligram is sufficient to cause curvature in a very short time.

Millilitre (mi·lilītəı, Fr. *mililitr*). Also 9 **-littre.** [Fr.: see MILLI- and LITRE.] In the metric system, a measure of capacity equal to $\frac{1}{1000}$ of a litre, or ·061 of a cubic inch.

1810 *Naval Chron.* XXIV. 301 Millilittre, Centimeter cube.

Millimetre (mi·limītəı, Fr. *milimɛtr*). Also **-meter.** [F. *millimetre*: see MILLI- and METRE.] In the metric system, a measure of length equal to $\frac{1}{1000}$ of a metre, or ·0393 inch. Also *attrib.* Frequently abbreviated *millim* or *mm.*

1807 *Med. Jrnl.* XVII. 418 An incision..about the length of six millemeters (three lines). 1877 W. THOMSON *Voy. Challenger* I. 41 A paper millimetre scale. 1883 MCLACHLAN in *Ann. & Mag. Nat. Hist.* Oct. 237 Length of abdomen δ 37 millim. 1887 WARD tr. *Sachs' Physiol. Plants* 47 A lamella..a few tenths of a millimeter thick.

†**Millimillenary,** *a. Obs. rare*[−1]. In 7 **millimillinary.** [f. MILLI- + MILLENARY *a.*] Correct within a millionth part.

1690 LEYBOURN *Curs. Math.* 311, I shall lay before you these..Proportional Conclusions in the Circle, and that to a Millimillinary solution of the Truth.

†**Milli-millesm.** *Obs. rare*[−1]. [f. MILLI- + MILLESM.] A millionth part.

1650 J. WYBARD *Tactometria* 22 The fractionall part of that solidity, $\frac{5}{1}$, being converted into milli-millesms, or Cubicall centesms.

Millin, Millinary, obs. ff. MILAN, MILLENARY.

Milliner (mi·linəı). Forms: myllaner, -ener, -oner, -yner, mileyner, millioner, millainer, (millender), 6–7 milner, 6–8 millener, 7 millaner, millenier, 7–8 milaner, 6– milliner. [f. MILAN[1] + -ER[1].]

1. A native or inhabitant of Milan.

1529 RASTELL *Pastyme, Hist. Fr.* (1811) 83 He was encountered by the Mylleners and the Venicyans. 1604 DEKKER *1st Pt. Honest Wh.* Plays 1873 II. 9 You know we Millaners love to strut vpon Spanish leather. *Ibid.* 42 Stranger? no sir, I'me a naturall Milaner borne. 1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* xi, The Milaner shall not know my work [on a Milan hauberk] from his own.

2. †**a.** A vendor of 'fancy' wares and articles of apparel, esp. of such as were originally of Milan manufacture, e.g. 'Milan bonnets', ribbons, gloves, cutlery (*obs.*). **b.** In modern use, a person (usually a woman) who makes up articles of female apparel, esp. bonnets and other headgear.

1530 in *Privy Purse Exp. Hen. VIII* (1827) 33 Paied to the Mylloner for certeyne cappes trymmed..with botons of golde. 1531 *Ibid.* 173 Paied to the mylloner for a knif for the king. *c* 1550 *Disc. Common Weal Eng.* (1893) 64 No not so much as a spurre, but it must be fett at the milliners hand. *Ibid.* 91 Mercers, grocers, vinteners, haberdasbers, mileyners, and such as doe sell wares growinge beyond the seas. 1573 in Cunningham *Revels at Crt.* (1842) 24 To the Millioner for one yard q^tr of counterfete cloth of gold. 1592 GREENE *Quip Upstart Courtier* G 4 b, The other a Frenchman and a Myllaner in saint Martins, and sels shirts, bandes, bracelets, Iewels, and such pretty toies for Gentle women. 1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* IV. iv. 192 No Milliner can so fit his customers with Gloues. 1617 MINSHEU *Ductor* 562a An Haberdasher of small wares...In London also called a Millenier, à Lat. *mille*, i. a thousand, as one hauing a thousand small wares to sell. 1693 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) III. 7 Two [highwaymen] are said to be tradesmen in the Strand, one a goldsmith, th'other a milliner. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Millener*, one that sells Ribbons, Gloves, &c. 1713 GAY *Guardian* No. 149 P 22 The milliner must be thoroughly versed in physiognomy; in the choice of ribbons she must have a particular regard to the complexion. 1742 RICHARDSON *Pamela* IV. 280 Tailors, Wigpuffers, and Milaners. 1777 SHERIDAN *Sch. Scand.* IV. iii, 'Tis a little French milliner, a silly rogue that plagues me. 1797 *Directory Sheffield* 56 Calton, Godfrey, haberdasher, and milliner. 1799 HAN. MORE *Fem. Educ.* (ed. 4) I. 191 Among milleners, mantuamakers, and other trades where numbers work together. 1827 WORDSW. in *Lit. Crit.* (ed. N. C. Smith) 258 He [T. Moore] is too lavish of brilliant ornament. His poems smell of the perfumer's and milliner's shops. 1884 *West. Daily Press* 29 May 3/7 A black butterfly is unknown to entomologists, but at present is a favourite insect with milliners.

Hence †**Mi·llineress,** a female milliner. **Millinerial** *a.*, pertaining to milliners or millinery. **Mi·llinering** *vbl. sb.*, milliner's work; *ppl. a.*, that works as a milliner (in quot. *fig.*).

1802 in *Spirit Publ. Jrnls.* (1803) VI. 93 The advertisements of the lady millineresses. 1831 TRELAWNY *Adv. Younger Son* CXXIX, They have no Miss Edgeworth, nor any of those millinering cutters-out of human nature into certain patterns of given rules in education. 1886 ROSA MULHOLLAND *Marcella Grace* I, To go running about after millinering and dressmaking. 1888 *Lond. Society* May 557 The dramatic interest is fairly divided with the millinerial.

Millinery (mi·linəri). Forms: see MILLINER. [f. MILLINER: see -ERY.]

1. The articles made or sold by milliners.

1679–88 *Secr. Serv. Money Chas. & Jas.* (Camden) 91 To

Benj[a] Drake, in full of a hill for millenary, wares [? *read* millenary wares], &c. bought of him by the Dutchess of Cleaveland. 1796 BURKE *Regic. Peace* III. (1892) 236 You will hardly expect me to go through the tape and thread, and all the other small wares of haberdashery and millinery to be gleaned up among our imports. 1855 TENNYSON *Maud* I. vi. 43 That dandy-despot, he, That jewell'd mass of millinery. 1901 MAX MÜLLER *Autobiog.* 289, I could not understand how these men..could put aside the fundamental questions of Christianity and give their whole mind to what seemed to me rightly called in the newspapers 'mere millinery'.

2. The trade or business of a milliner.

1838 DICKENS *Nich. Nick.* xvii, Processes known only to those who are cunning in the arts of millinery and dress-making.

3. *attrib.*

1741 RICHARDSON *Pamela* II. 351 What can be done in Town, as the Milanery Matters, &c., to be completed there. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. x. 246 European millinery ware for the women. 1880 MRS. HERVEY *Mourtray Fam.* IV. 96 My maid came to ask, if I chose to see some very pretty millinery articles. 1882 *Daily News* 4 Mar., Cotton millinery laces are still greatly run upon. 1896 *Ibid.* 26 Sept. 6/4 Chrysanthemums in all colours are the millinery flower of the moment. 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 5 Dec. 9/1 The eminent millinery establishment.

Millinet (milinet). ? *Obs.* [? f. MILLIN(ERY) + -ET.] 'A sort of coarse, stiff, thin muslin' (Worcester 1860).

1832 MRS. CHILD *Girl's Own Bk.* (ed. 4) 118 Baskets of millinet and straw...Pieces of millinet should be cut [etc.].

Milling (mi·liŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. MILL *v.*[1] + -ING [1].]

1. The action or process of subjecting something to the operation of a mill. a. The action or bnsiness of grinding (esp. corn) in a mill.

High milling, milling in which the wheat grain is reduced to flour by successive crackings or slight and partial crushings, alternating with siftings and sortings of the product, resulting in a flour of extreme whiteness and nutritive quality. *Low milling*, milling in which the corn is reduced to flour by a system of mashing, repeated scraping and squeezing, usually attended with some heating of the product, and a single bolting.

1466 *Mann. & Househ. Exp.* (Roxb.) 346 Item, delyverd to Blowbolle fore mellenge and otemelle, vj.d. 1669 WORLIDGE *Syst. Agric.* (1681) 158 The description and manner of drying and Milling thereof [i. e. madder roots]..I leave to those that are better experienced therein. 1879 *Encycl. Brit.* IX. 344/2 Thus we have these various systems:—(1) flat milling or grinding; (2) high milling or granulation; (3) roller milling or crushing; (4) disintegrator milling or crushing. 1903 *Q. Rev.* Oct. 641 There is little hope, however, of rural milling being revived.

b. The treatment of a substance or material in any of the machines known as mills; e.g. the operation of fulling cloth, rolling metals, crushing minerals, etc.

c 1617 LEDSAM & WILLIAMS in *Buccleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 208 The drawing of gold and silver wire, and milling of it after the manner of England and France. 1679 HOUGHTON *Collect. Husb. & Trade* No. 266 (1727) II. 211 Lead is mightily improv'd of late by a new invention of milling. 1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl., Milling*, or *throwing of silk*, is the last preparation of silk before dyeing...To prepare the silk for *milling*, they first put it in boiling water. 1872 RAYMOND *Statist. Mines & Mining* 35 The prices of labor, lumber, and charges for milling [*sc.* quartz] during the year, have not varied much. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech., Milling*, ..the mastication and grinding of slip for porcelain. 1884 W. S. B. MCLAREN *Spinning* I. (ed. 2) 12 We have seen a piece of worsted cloth..shrink after two hours' milling into one-third of its former dimensions. 1892 HASLUCK *Milling Machines* 1 Milling is a term now generally understood as meaning the shaping of metals with rotary cutters.

2. *Coining.* The operation of producing by special machinery a crenation or series of transverse lines on the edge of a coin as a protection against clipping. Now only *concr.* the crenation itself.

Another sense, 'the action of upsetting the edge of a coin, so as to make raised flanges protecting the devices on the faces', given in Knight *Dict. Mech.* and the U. S. Dictionaries, is not known at the English Mint, where this operation is called 'marking'.

1817 RUDING *Ann. Coinage* I. 141 A graining has been devised for the protection of their [the smaller coins] outer edge. This, which is generally known by the technical term Milling, was first used in 1663. *Ibid.* 142 The whole operation of Milling is yet kept a profound secret in the Mint. 1876 MATHEWS *Coinage* i. 7 The saw-like edge possessed by modern coins is called the milling.

3. *slang.* a. The action of robbing or stealing. b. The action of beating or fighting with the fists; a beating. †c. 'Old term for kicking in horses' (*Encycl. Sport* 1897).

1567 HARMAN *Caveat* 67 They wyll send them into some house..to steale and robbe, which they call in their language, Milling of the ken. 1670 R. RHODES *Floras Vagaries* 16 We have all the Querks and Nicety of Roguery, Prigging,...Milling, all, all, Sir. 1815 *Sporting Mag.* XLVI. 148 All three got a merited milling in a few minutes.

4. Simple *attrib.*, as *milling-cutter, -machine, -power, -right, -tool*; also with the sense 'snitable for being milled', as *milling-gold, -ore, -wheat.*

1884 F. J. BRITTEN *Watch & Clockm.* 177 *Milling cutters have the advantage of retaining their sharpness for a considerable time. 1895 *Daily News* 3 Dec. 9/3 The average yield of free *milling gold is about 1½ ounce per ton. 1876 J. ROSE *Pract. Machinist* xvi. 301 The position occupied by the *milling-machine in modern practical mechanics is almost as important as that occupied by the lathe or planing-machine. 1877 RAYMOND *Statist. Mines & Mining* 257 A large part of the ore is *milling-ore. 1856 OLMSTED *Slave States* 540 Running water, frequently affordiog excellent *milling power. 1870 *Law Rep., Comm. Pl.* V. 671 The exercise of a *milling right on a river. 1876 J. ROSE *Pract. Machinist* xvi. 303 One of the main advantages of *milling-tools is that the work will, in nearly all cases, be true. 1895 *Model Steam Engine* 90 A Milling tool is similar to a steel cog-wheel. 1865 *Public Opinion* 4 Mar. 218/2 Where are the *milling and corn trades, formerly so prosperous in Ireland? 1887 *Pall Mall G.* 23 Sept. 2/2 It..makes so excellent a *milling wheat that [etc.].

b. In the sense 'pertaining to pugilism or pugilists', as *milling-match, mug, phrase.*

1819 T. MORE *Tom Crib's Mem.* (ed. 3) 49 Account of the *Milling-match between Entellus and Dares. 1812 *Sporting Mag.* XL. 249 The qualifications of the renowned Jem Belcher's weight, a *milling mug and fearless resolution. 1814 BYRON *Let. to Moore* 3 Aug., London..is the only place to take the conceit out of a man—in the *milling phrase.

Milling (mi·liŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. MILL *v.*[2] + -ING 2.]

1. *slang.* Fighting, pugilistic.

1812 J. H. VAUX *Flash Dict., Milling-cove*, a pugilist. 1815 SCOTT *Let. to Dk. of Buccleuch* Aug. in Lockhart *Life*, Shaw, the milling Life-Guards' man.

2. That carries on a mill or mills.

1886 *Leeds Mercury* 16 Feb. 6/6 The large milling firms in London. 1902 *Daily Chron.* 6 Oct. 7/6 Information circulated in milling circles yesterday.

3. Of cattle, fish, etc.: Going round in a circle. Cf. MILL *v.*[1] 12.

1901 *Munsey's Mag.* XXIV. 483/2 They were passing in front of the milling herd.

Mi·ll-ink. A mill-rind: in *Her.*, a conventional figure or representation of this.

1572 [see INK *sb.*[2]]. 1874 PAPWORTH & MORANT *Ord. Brit. Arm.* 956 Or on a mill-ink sa. five estoiles of the first. *Jaque.*

Millio: see MILLY *Obs.*

Million (mi·lyən). Forms: 4 melione, milyon, 4–5 mi-, mylioun, 4–7 milion, 5 myl(l)ione, melyone, mi-, myllyon, *Sc.* mylȝon(e, mulȝeon, 6 myllyant, -io(u)n, -ian, mylion, millian, 7 *Sc.* milleoune, 4, 6- million. [a. F. *million* (1359 in Hatz.-Darm.) = Sp. *millon*, Pg. *milhão*, ad. It. *millione* (now written *milione*), f. *mille* thousand + *-one* augmentative suffix. From Fr. the word has passed into the Teut. langs.; G. *million*, Du. *miljoen*, Sw., Da. *million.*]

1. The cardinal number equal to a thousand thousands. (Often used indefinitely or hyperbolically for an enormous number.)

a. As sb. or quasi-sb., with plural

(*a*) In singular. Usually *a*, emphatically *one million*; in phrases expressing rate, *the million.*

1370–80 *XI Pains of Hell* 316 in *O. E. Misc.* 232 þen kneled Poul, and Mihel And a Milioun Angeles, wel. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Somp. Prol.* 21 Now sire quod he han freres swich a grace That noon of hem shal come to this place? Vis quod this Angel many a Millioun. *c* 1420 *Anturs of Arth.* 706 (Douce MS.) Prestes with processione to pray were prest, With a mylione of masses to make þe mynnynge. 1480 CAXTON *Chron. Eng.* CCXXX. 243 Ve shal vnderstonde that a myllyon is /M/M/. 1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 391 What is he among a myllian that is not surprised with sorrowe, when [etc.]. 1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* II. i. 105 Oh, 'giue ye-good-ev'n: heer's a million of manners. 1629 WADSWORTH *Pilgr.* i. 5 Through a Million of dangers we arriued the Spanish coasts. 1710 PALMER *Proverbs* 334 'Tis a million to one but they wish it had never been done. 1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* IV. v, A million of yahoos might have been killed. 1778 MISS BURNEY *Evelina* (1791) II. XXVII. 171 He had a million of things to say to me. 1800 MRS. HERVEY *Mourtray Fam.* II. 6 We charged him with a million of thanks. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* I. 524 The sun is a million of times larger than the earth. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 24 July 5/1 He could count his soldiers by the million.

(*b*) In plural: *millions.*

1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. x. 148 Mony Milions mo of Men and of Wymmen. 1494 FABYAN *Chron.* VII. 471 Thre millyons of scutes of golde. 1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 277 His head being fraught wt myllians of imaginations. 1597 J. KING *On Jonas* (1618) 18 Ten and ten millions of men. 1611 BIBLE *Gen.* XXIV. 60 Be thou the mother of thousands of millions. 1615 MURE *Misc. Poems* XIV. 12 Till contrarie fortoun .. Metamorphos'd his thowsands in milleounes of lyce. 1708 J. PHILLIPS *Cyder* I. 345 The polish'd Glass, whose small Convex Enlarges to ten Millions of Degrees The Mite. 1834 *Penny Cycl.* II. 339/1 Hundreds of thousands of millions of millions. 1893 R. T. JEFFREY *Visits to Calvary* 366 After millions of millenniums.

(*c*) After a numeral adjective, *million* sometimes occurs as a collective plural. (Cf. *dozen, hundred.*) Now *rare* or *Obs.*

c 1530 *Crt. of Love* 589 Vet eft again, a thousand milion, Rejoysing, love, leding their life in blis. *c* 1590 GREENE *Fr. Bacon* ii. 160 A thousand thousand million of fine bells.

b. As adj. or quasi-adj. (in prose use, always with *a* or prefixed multiplier), followed immediately by a plural (or collective) noun.

1843 BORROW *Bible in Spain* XV. 107 The roar of a million cannon. 1846 LANDOR *Imag. Conv., Windham & Sheridan* Wks. 1853 II. 179/2 The crown-lands in Ireland,..are large enough to support half a million subjects. 1868 LYNCH *Rivulet* CLXV. iii, From Thee million spirits have their name. 1885 W. WATSON *Poems* (1892) 106 Her veins are million but her heart is one.

c. The cardinal form *million* is also used as an ordinal when followed by other numbers, the last of which alone takes the ordinal form.

1866 J. H. NEWMAN *Gerontius* § 3 Divide a moment, as men measure time, Into its million-million-millionth part.

2. Elliptical uses. a. A million coins or units of money of account of some understood value, esp. (in British use) a million pounds or (in the U.S.) dollars.

1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. III. 255 Coueyte not his goodes For Milions of Moneye. *c* 1422 HOCCLEVE *Learn to Die* 397 Many a milioun Of gold and siluer. *c* 1430 *Batayle of Eyngecourte* 82 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* II. 96 Our kynge they solde, For a myllyant of golde. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* IV. 142 Of cler gold a fyne mylȝone and mor. 1570 *Ibid.* VII. 1280 Thocht he him gaif ane mulȝeon of gold. *c* 1586 C'TESS PEMBROKE *Ps.* CXIX. I. iv. [verse 72], Millions then, and mines adien, Gold and silver, drosse you be. 1625 MASSINGER *New Way* I. iii, We must be strangers, Nor would I haue you seene here for a million. *a* 1704 T. BROWN *Sat. Fr. King* Wks. 1730 I. 59 I'd not be, for a million, in thy jerkin. 1790 BEATSON *Nav. & Mil. Mem.* I. 391, Increasing the national debt to near eighty millions Sterling. 1841 R. P. WARD *De Clifford* III. vii. 111 By loans,..and other speculations, he achieved his million, and now acts the grandee. 1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 10 June 2/2 This four millioos was taken account of in the Budget statement.

b. *The million*: the multitude; the bulk of the population.

1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* II. ii. 457 The Play I remember pleas'd not the Million. 1762 FOOTE *Lyar* I. Wks. 1799 I. 283 If you would descend a little to the grovelling comprehension of the million, I think it would be as well. 1894 K. GRAHAME *Pagan P.* 29 The two-and-sixpenny edition for the million.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, (*a*) simple attrib. or objective, as *million maker*; (*b*) forming adjectival compounds with sb., as *million dollar* (*bill*, etc.); (*c*) parasynthetic, as *million-billowed, -eyed, -handed, -minded* adjs.; instrumental, as *million-peopled* adj.; **million-act**, an act of parliament authorizing a lottery to be held in 1694 and succeeding years, by which a million pounds was to be raised by the sale of lottery tickets at ten pounds each; so *million lottery.*

1694 J. BRISCOE (*title*) A Discourse on the late Funds of the Million-Act, Lottery-Act, and Bank of England. 1895 W. WATSON *Apologia*, He..beholds..In *million-billowed consentaneousness, The flowing, flowing, flowing of the world. 1892 A. E. LEE *Hist. Columbus, Ohio* II. 90 The General Assembly .. passed this *milliondollar bill. 1893 CHR. ROSSETTI *Verses* 101 Wisdom that loveth thee grows million-eyed. 1847 EMERSON *Poems* (1857) 47 The *million-handed painter pours Opal hues and purple dye. 1710 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 15 Sept., Colonel Freind, and I, went to see the *million lottery drawn at Guildhall. 1849 ROBERTSON *Serm.* Ser. I. i. (1866) 10 The *million-minded Poet. 1819 SHELLEY *Prometh. Unb.* I. 551 A *million-peopled city.

Million, obs. form of MELON, MILAN [1].

Millionaire (milyənēə·ɹ). Formerly also in Fr. form. [a. F. *millionnaire*, f. *million*: see MILLION.] A person possessed of a 'million of money', as a million ponnds, dollars, francs, etc.; a person of great wealth.

1826 DISRAELI *Viv. Grey* I. ix, Were I the son of a Millionaire, or a noble, I might have all. 1830 GEN. P. THOMPSON *Exerc.* (1842) I. 225 He was what the French call a millionnaire. 1853 MISS MITFORD in L'Estrange *Life* (1870) III. xiv. 254 MRS. Stowe, from the poorest of the poor, is become quite a millionaire.

b. quasi-*adj.* Possessing a million of money.

1865 *Sat. Rev.* 11 Nov. 614 A few millionaire families.

Hence **Millionai·redom**, the condition of being a millionaire. **Millionai·ress** *jocular*, a female millionaire. **Millionai·rish** *a.*, of or pertaining to a millionaire. **Millionai·rism**, the existence or rule of millionaires as a characteristic of a social system.

1881 J. PAYN *Grape from a Thorn* xiii, Even though he married an heiress or even a Millionairess. 1888 *Pall Mall G.* 8 Feb. 4/2 The schoolboy of to-day, with his millionairish ideas of pocket-money. *c* 1890 A. MURDOCH *Yoshiwara Episode* 23 He had not as yet struck the path that leads unto millionairedom. 1891 *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 320/2 Our political turmoil, our demagogism, our millionairism.

Millionary (mi·lyənări), *a.* and *sb.* [f. MILLION + -ARY, after F. *millionnaire*: see prec.] **A.** *adj.*

1. Possessing millions (of money).

1816 JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1830) IV. 284 All this to feed the avidity of a few millionary merchants. 1897 KIPLING *Captains Courageous* 230 He had a dread that these millionary people..might take undue interest in his companion.

2. Pertaining to or consisting of millions (Pinkerton, cited by Webster 1864).

B. *sb.* = MILLIONAIRE.

1834 *Fraser's Mag.* IX. 116 And sighs—the millionary sighs—for more. 1855 MRS. GORE *Mammon* II. 81 Fortunately for the new millionary, his wife, like the spouse of John Gilpin, possessed a frugal mind. 1873 M. COLLINS *Squire Silchester* II. vi. 70 Could not some English millionary give a few hundred thousands to endow such an institution?

Millioned (mi·lyənd), *a.* [f. MILLION + -ED 2.]

1. Numbered by the million.

In the Shaks. quot. *milliond* may be a form of *million.* (So often in mod. dialects.)

c 1600 SHAKS. *Sonn.* CXV, But reckening time, whose milliond accidents Creepe in twixt vowes, and change decrees of Kings. 1749 *Deity* 41 Thy hand thou open'st, million'd myriads live. 1899 'H. DELUSCAR' *Merris* 157 The ramping, millioned mob.

2. Possessed of millions (of money).

1747 P. WHITEHEAD *Honour* (1748) 44 The million'd Merchant seeks her [Honour] in his Gold. 1858 O. W. HOLMES *Aut. Breakf.-t.* ii, A few Northern millionaires more or less thoroughly millioned.

Millioner (mi·lyənəɹ). [f. MILLION + -ER 1.] = MILLIONAIRE.

1882 LOWELL *Last Poems* (1895) 38 No millioner, poor I fill up With wishes my more modest cup.

Millioner, obs. form of MILLINER.

Millionfold (mi·lyənfōald), *a.* and *adv.* [f. MILLION + -FOLD.] **a.** *adj.* A million times as much or as many. **b.** *adv.* A million times (in amount); in a millionfold proportion: always with the indefinite article *a.*

1865 MASSON *Rec. Brit. Philos.* 256 Strengthened, enlarged, and educated by millionfold repetitions and associations. 1869 PROCTOR *Light Sci. Leis. Hours* (1871) 296 The radius ..might be increased a million-fold.

Millionism (mi·lyəniz'm). [f. MILLION + -ISM.] The state of possessing a million (of money).

1858 O. W. HOLMES *Aut. Breakf.-t.* xii, The tea-spoon is of white silver,..solid, but not brutally heavy,—as people in the green stage of millionism will have them.

Millionist (mi·lyənist). *rare*—1. [f. MILLION + -IST.] A millionaire.

1834-43 SOUTHEY *Doctor* ccxxxiii, His revenue is less than that of many a..commercial Millionist.

Millionize (mi·lyənəiz), *v.* [f. MILLION + -IZE.] *trans.* **a.** To multiply by a million or millions. **b.** To enrich greatly or to the extent of millions (of money).

c 1700 *Eternity* in *Coll. Poems* 90 Ages, Worlds, Thousands, Myriads Millionize, Fatigue Conception, 'twill not all comprize Thee, O Eternity! 1841 R. CASTLER *Fleet Papers* I. xii. 96 Which enables a very large capitalist to ruin a whole neighbourhood, and millionize himself.

Hence **Mi·llionized** *a.*, accustomed to millions.

1849 SMYTH in *Archæologia* XXXIII. 201 To our now millionized conceptions the foregoing 'accompts' appear to be in a very moderate ratio.

Millionnaire, French form of MILLIONAIRE.

Millionocracy (mi·lyənɒ·krăsi). *nonce-wd.* [f. MILLION + -(O)CRACY.] The rule of millionaires.

1860 O. W. HOLMES *Elsie V.* i, The millionocracy..is not at all an affair of persons and families, but a perpetual fact of money with a variable human element.

†**Mi·llionous,** *a. Obs. rare*—1. [f. MILLION + -OUS.] Numbered by the million.

1666 G. ALSOP *Char. Prov. Maryland* (1869) 42 They [water-fowl] arrive in millionous multitudes in Mary-Land about the middle of September.

Millionth (mi·lyənþ), *a.* (*sb.*) Also 7–8 **millioneth.** [f. MILLION, on the analogy of HUNDREDTH.] The ordinal number belonging to the cardinal MILLION. *Millionth part*, one of a million equal parts into which a whole is or may be divided. Also *absol.*, *attrib.*, and quasi-*sb.*

1673 FLAMSTEED in Rigaud *Corr. Sci. Men* (1841) II. 164 So that I find the earth is but the millionth part of the sun. 1684 T. BURNET *Th. Earth* I. 312 'Tis not the millioneth part of the universe that is known to us. *c* 1763 BAYES in *Phil. Trans.* LIII. 410 There would be the odds of the millioneth power of 2 to one. 1838 DE MORGAN *Ess. Probab.* 28 A millionth of certainty. *a* 1853 ROBERTSON *Lect.* i. (1858) 14 It is but the millionth part of the injury which may arise from a bad law. 1876 *Catal. Sci. Apparatus S. Kens. Mus.* (1877) 49 Millionth Measuring Machine. 1893 SIR R. BALL *Story of Sun* 94 The millionth part of a second.

Milliped, variant of MILLEPEDE.

Millistere (mi·listiəɹ). [a. F. *millistère*: see MILLI- and STERE.] In the metric system: A thousandth part of a STERE.

1810 *Naval Chron.* XXIV. 301 Millistere, cubic Decimeter.

Military, Millium, obs. ff. MILITARY, MILIUM.

Millium sole: see MILLENSOLE.

Millivolt (mi·livɒlt). *Physics.* [f. MILLI- + VOLT.] The thousandth part of a volt.

1890 in *Century Dict.*

Milliweber (mi·liwēbəɹ). *Physics.* [f. MILLI- + WEBER.] The thousandth part of a weber.

1897 in WEBSTER.

Mill-ken. *slang. Obs.* [f. MILL *v.*2 + KEN.] A housebreaker.

1669 *Nicker Nicked* in *Harl. Misc.* (1809) II. 108 Kidnappers, vouchers, mill-kens, piemen, decoys [etc.]. 1673 in R. Head *Canting Acad.* 191 The fourth is a Mill-ken, to crack up a Door. 1743 FIELDING *Jon. Wild* I. v, The same capacity which qualifies a Mill-ken..to arrive at any degrees of eminence..would likewise raise a man in what the world esteem a more honourable calling.

Mill-lands, *pl.* [MILL *sb.*1] Certain lands which by legal custom appertained to a corn-mill, esp. in Scotland.

1563 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 245 Tua mylnis of North Berwick, with the myllandis, multuris, and sukkin thairof. *c* 1680 DALLAS *Stiles* (1697) 724 The Towns, Lands, Milns, Miln-Lands, Patronages, Teinds, and other after-mentioned [etc.]. 1710 *Contract* in *Sheriff Court-bk. Inverness* (MS.) (5 Apr. 1723), The miln of Davochgarrioch, miln Lands, multures, suckeu, sequells and Knaveship of the samyn [etc.]. 1892 BLOMFIELD *Hist. Over Heyford* 15 All rents and farm of the mill-lands and tenements.

Mi·ll-leat. [MILL *sb.*1] An artificial channel for the conveyance of water to a mill.

1609–10 *Act* 7 *Jas. I*, c. 19 § 1 A newe Milleate or Trench for the Conveyance of the said Water to the said Milles. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Leat* or Mill-leat, corruptly Milleat, a Trench for conveying Water to or from a Mill. 1832 *Act* 2 & 3 *Will. IV*, c. 64 Sched. (O) 9 Along Hall's Mill lane to the point at which the same meets the Mill leat.

Millman (mi·lmăn). [f. MILL *sb.*1 + MAN *sb.*] **a.** A man who has charge of and works a mill of any kind. **b.** A man employed in a mill.

1551–2 *Act* 5 & 6 *Edw. VI*, c. 6 § 6 Yf..any Clothe..prove..thoroughe the defaulte or negligence of the Milman or otherwise to be full of holes [etc.]. 1837 HAWTHORNE *Twice-told T.* (1851) I. vii. 136 The whole population of Parker's Falls, consisting of shopkeepers, mistresses of boarding houses, factory girls, millmen, and schoolboys. 1874 RAYMOND *Statist. Mines & Mining* 501 You cannot ask the mill-man to vary the weight or speed of his stamps. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 25 Mar. 5/4 The puddlers and millmen..resolved.. to give their services, for a week, gratuitously.

Mi·ll-mountain. ? *Obs.* [Of obscure origin; the 1633 editor of Gerarde says the plant was sold under this name at Winchester.] Fairy flax, *Linum catharticum.*

1633 *Gerarde's Herbal* II. clxvii. 560 Take a handfull of Mill mountaine [etc.]. 1640 PARKINSON *Theat. Bot.* 1336. 1828 J. E. SMITH *Eng. Flora* II. 119 Purging Flax. Mill-mountain.

†**Mi·llocke.** *Obs. rare*—0. [f. MILL *sb.*1 + -OCK.] A little mill.

1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 159/12 Millocke, *parua mola.*

Millocracy (milɒ·krăsi). *nonce-wd.* [f. MILL *sb.*1 + -(O)CRACY.] The rule of mill-owners; the body of mill-owners regarded as a dominant class.

1843 CARLYLE *Past. & Pr.* III. i, In hydra-wrestle, giant 'Millocracy' so-called..wrestles and wrings.

Millocrat (mi·lɒkræt). [f. MILL *sb.*1 + -(O)CRAT.] A member of the mill-owning class viewed as a ruling caste.

1839 MRS. F. TROLLOPE *M. Armstrong* xiii, Millocrats who pile thousands upon thousands, and acres upon acres. 1851 W. E. AYTOUN in *Blackw. Mag.* LXX. 227, I prefer a feudal baron to a modern millocrat.

Hence **Millo·cratism,** the rule of the millocrats.

1849 LYTTON *Caxtons* XIII. iv. II. 334 The misery which accompanies the reign of millocratism.

Millon, obs. form of MELON, MILAN.

Mi·ll-pick, -peck. [f. MILL *sb.*1 + PICK *sb.*, PECK *sb.*2] An iron tool for giving to mill-stones the requisite corrugated surface.

c 1357 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 560, 6 Milnpikkes. 1525 in W. H. Turner *Select. Rec. Oxf.* (1880) 55 The makyng of spyndyll and the myll pycks. 1588 in Nichols *Progr. Q. Eliz.* (1823) III. 3 Furred throrough with mynnyover and calloper like myll pykes. 1880 JEFFERIES *Gt. Estate* 163 The millpeck is a little tool like a double adze.

b. *Her.* A figure or representation of a mill-pick.

1562 LEIGH *Armorie* (1597) 92 b, The Frenchmen take it [the Fusil] for a spindell,..and the Dutchmen take it for a mülpeck. 1634 PEACHAM *Gentl. Exerc.* III. 150 Very honourable and ancient. As the Crosse Moline (given by the..family of Molineux) Mil-peckes, and most irons appertaining to the Mill. 1874 PAPWORTH & MORANT *Ord. Brit. Arm.* 979 Arg. three mill-picks gu. *Pickworth.*

So † **Mill picker,** one who fashions the grinding surfaces of millstones.

c 1515 *Cocke Lorell's B.* 5 Here is wyll wyly the myl peker.

Mi·ll-pond. [MILL *sb.*1] The water retained above a mill-dam for driving a mill. Also *attrib.*

1697 DAMPIER *Voy.* I. 217 It was quite calm, and the Sea as smooth as a Mill-pond. 1766 SMOLLETT *Trav.* I. xix. 301 In the month of November, when the Mediterranean is always calm and smooth as a mill-pond. 1886 A. WINCHELL *Walks Geol. Field* 51 The farmer's fields contributed the material that lies in the bottom of the mill-pond.

attrib. *a* 1706 EVELYN *Sylva* III. iv. (1776) 521 Lay therefore your boards a fortnight in the water, (if running, the better, as at some mill-pond head).

b. *humorous.* The Atlantic, esp. that part of the ocean traversed by ships passing between Britain and North America. Cf. HERRING-POND.

1885 G. ALLEN *Babylon* xi. (1886) 79 And now, while Minna Wroe was waiting at table in Regent's Park,..how was our other friend Hiram Winthrop employing his time beyond the millpond?

Mi·ll-pool. [MILL *sb.*1] A mill-pond.

c 800 in Birch *Cartul. Sax.* I. 418 In þone mylen pol of þam pole to þære port stræte. *c* 883 *Ibid.* II. 174 On myle pul of mylen pulle in afene stream. *c* 1530–40 J. HEYWOOD *Play of Wether* 461 (Brandl) Our floodgate, our mylpoole, our water whele. 1604 BRETON *Grimellos Fortunes* D iv, This..man, drawing one daie a Mill-poole, among other fish, lighted on a verie great Eele. 1808 *Sporting Mag.* XXX. 248 The mill-pool of Mr. Rodwell of East Harling, Norfolk. 1905 *Macm. Mag.* Nov. 6 The chub are beginning to rise in the mill-pool.

Mi·ll-post. [f. MILL *sb.*1 + POST *sb.*]

1. The post on which a windmill was formerly often supported. Often in similative phrases, as the type of something thick and massive; hence *jocularly* a massive leg.

a 1327 *Pol. Songs* (Camden) 70 The Kyng..Makede him a castel of a mulne post. 1378–9 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 588, 2 milnepostes, 4*s.* 1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 204 A pooddyng pricke is one, a mylpost is an other. 1592 G. HARVEY *Pierces Super.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 244 He hath thwittled the milpost of his huge conceit to a pudding-pricke. 1668 R. L'ESTRANGE *Vis. Quev.* (1708) 27 A dressing with Dr. Whackum's Plaister, that shall fetch up a Man's Leg to the size of a Mill-post. *a* 1704 T. BROWN *Walk round Lond., Quaker's Meet.* (1709) 21 His Mill-post Legs are well adapted for the Load of his Body. 1727 SWIFT *Wonder of Wonders* Wks. 1755 II. II. 57 Her legs are as thick as mill-posts. 1739 'R. BULL' tr. *Dedekindus' Grobianus* 4 Let dangling Stockings, with becoming Air, Leave to the Sight your brace of Mill-posts bare. 1855 LADY HOLLAND *Syd. Smith* I. vii. 163 Out-of-doors reigned Molly Mills,..with her short red petticoat, legs like mill-posts [etc.]. 1858 HOGG *Life Shelley* II. 247 The daughters of Erin lost no opportunity of exhibiting their millposts to an unprejudiced and observant stranger.

2. *U.S.* 'A post upon which the cap of a smock-mill, bearing the sails, turns' (*Cent. Dict.* 1890).

Mi·ll-race. [f. MILL *sb.*1 + RACE *sb.*] The current of water that drives a mill-wheel; the channel in which the water runs to the mill.

1478–9 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 647 Operantibus in muracione murorum et posicione del Milnrasses et le bay ejusdem molendini. 1536–7 *Ibid.* 702 Le mylnerasse de Scaltok. 1822 BEWICK *Mem.* 49 Others were digging a mill-race of about a quarter of a mile in length. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* ii. § 7. 100 To rescue his hawk..he once plunged into a millrace, and was all but crushed by the wheel.

Millree, -reye, obs. forms of MILREIS.

Mill-rind (mi·lrəind). Also 6–9 **-rynd,** 7–8 **milrine.** [f. MILL *sb.*1 + RIND *sb.*] The iron which supports the upper millstone of a corn-mill, and carries the eye which rests upon the end of the mill spindle.

1542 *Rutland MSS.* (1905) IV. 325 A spendyll and a melle rynd for the lyttel Itallyon melle. 1870 *Eng. Mech.* 11 Mar. 624/1 'Back lash'..frequently occasions a 'break down' by fracturing the 'millrynd'. 1888 J. WARD in *Jrnl. Derbysh. Archæol. Soc.* X. 54 Mr. Jno. Evans.. suggest that they were for the insertion of a 'millrine'.

b. *Her.* A conventional representation of this.

1562 LEIGH *Armorie* (1597) 34 b, Yee should cal it a Ferde-molene, which is as much to say, as a Milrind. 1680 MACKENZIE *Heraldry* 46 A cross milrine. 1727 BAILEY vol. II, s.v., A *Cross Milrine*, is a Cross that has the 4 Ends clamped and turned again .. only the *Milrine* hath but 2 Limbs, whereas the *Cross Moline* hath 4. 1874 PAPWORTH & MORANT *Ord. Brit. Arm.* 956 Or on a millrind sa. five estoiles arg.

Mi·ll-round. The circular path travelled by a mill-horse. In quots. *fig.*

1851 EMERSON *Ess.* Ser. I. vi. *Motto*, O Friend.. The mill-round of our fate appears A sun-path in thy worth. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 377 Melancholics left to their own thoughts are assuredly beating the mill-round of their disorder deeper and deeper.

Millstone (mi·lstōun). Forms: see MILL *sb.*1 and STONE *sb.* [f. MILL *sb.*1 + STONE *sb.*; cf. Du. *molensteen*, MHG. *mülstein* (mod.G. *muhlstein*), Da. *mølleste*n.]

1. One of a pair of circular stones (the upper of which rotates upon the lower or 'nether'), used for grinding corn in a mill. *Nether millstone*: see NETHER *a.*

c 1050 *Ags. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 273/1 *Lima*, mylenstan. *Ibid.* 430/28 *Lima*, feol, oððe mylenstan. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 316 580 A Mulleston, he scholde al-to-drinc. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 61 It spedip to him þat a mylneston of assis be hangid in his necke. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. XXI. 295 Sette mahon at þe mangonel and mulle-stones þroweþ. *c* 1450 *Mirour Saluacioun* 4041 A pece of a mylnestone threwe doune there a womman. 1560 BIBLE (Geneva) *Rev.* xviii. 21 Then a mightie Angel toke vp a stone like a great milstone, & cast it into the sea. 1609 SKENE *Reg. Maj.* I. 151 They malitiouslie occupyes ane greater space betwix the happer and the mylnstane, for their awin profite. 1622 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* XXVI. 391 Shee Mil-stones from the Quarrs, with sharpned picks could get. 1751 J. FERGUSON in *Fam. Rose Kilravock* (Spald. Cl.) 443 The water-wheel moves a train for turning two mill-stones. 1877 BRYANT *Song of Sower* ii, Steadily the millstone turns Down in the willowy vale.

b. Stone suitable for the making of millstones.

1661 J. CHILDREY *Brit. Baconica* 153 Millstone is digged in this shire.

c. *Carpenter's millstone* (see quot.).

1859 R. HUNT *Guide Mus. Pract. Geol.* (ed. 2) 55 The carpenter's millstone, is a hard and close variety of the Yorkshire sandstones.

d. *Her.* A representation of a millstone (usually depicted with the mill-rind attached).

1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. 341/1 He beareth Sable, a Mil-Ston Argent. 1874 PAPWORTH & MORANT *Ord. Brit. Arm.* 1100 Az. three millstones ppr. *Melveton.*

2. In phrases: *To see far in* (*into, through*), *to look into* (*through*), *to dive into a millstone*, used chiefly in ironical commendation of pretended extraordinary acuteness.

1546 J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* (1867) 21 She thought Ales, she had seene far in a milstone Whan she gat a husbande. 1577 STANYHURST *Descr. Irel.* in *Holinshed* (1808) VI. 18 He would see further in a milstone than others. 1580 LYLY *Euphues* Wks. 1902 II. 67 Your eyes are so sharpe, that you cannot onely looke through a Milstone, but cleane through the mind. 1625 HART *Anat. Ur.* II. vii. 92 They.. could see as farre into a milstone as any of our..Physitians. *a* 1704 T. BROWN *Lett. to Gentl. & Ladies* Wks. 1709 III. II. 93 Thou..can'st see as far into a Mill-stone, as the oldest Match-maker in Town. 1871 C. GIBBON *Lack of Gold* ii, That's all the length your learning helps you to see through a mill-stane.

¶ b. (*His*) *eyes drop millstones*: said of a hard-hearted person. (Perhaps suggested by the hyperbolical phrase in quot. *c* 1400.)

[*c* 1400 *Beryn* Prol. 35 Teris..As grete as eny mylstone.] 1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III*, I. iii. 354 Your eyes drop Mill-stones, when Fooles eyes fall Teares. 1606 — *Tr. & Cr.* I. ii. 158. 1607 *Cæsar & Pompey* II. iv. C 3, Mens eyes must mil-stones drop, when fooles shed teares.

† c. Of dice: *To run a millstone.*

1680 COTTON *Compl. Gamester* (ed. 2) 11 Placing the one [die] a top the other, not caring if the uppermost run a Mill-stone (as they use to say) if the undermost run without turning. 1680 KIRKMAN *Eng. Rogue* IV. xvi. 226 Knapping,

is when you strike one Die dead, either at Tables or Hazzard let the other run a Milstone, as we use to say.

3. *fig.* **a.** A heavy burden (suggested by Matt. xviii. 6); **b.** a grinding or crushing instrument.

a **1720** Sewel *Hist. Quakers* (1795) I. iv. 272 When I was between the mill-stones, and as one crushed with the weight of his adversary. **1787** Bentham *Def. Usury* x. 109 The mill-stone intended for the necks of those vermin ..the dealers in corn, was found to fall upon the heads of the consumers. **1875** Stubbs *Const. Hist.* II. xiv. 99 John's heart was of millstone, Henry's of wax. **1877** 'Rita' *Vivienne* iv. iv, It is the millstone they hang round our necks.

†**4.** The appellation of a form of taxation in Spain.

1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 232 There doe not want also other meanes and devices to raise money, as the imposition of the Milstone; which as it is supposed,..will amount to two millions of gold yearely. **1642** Howell *For. Trav.* (Arb.) 74 The Tally and taillage of France, the Milstone of Spaine,..the Gabels of Italy.

5. *Bell-founding.* (See quot.)

1756 *Dict. Arts & Sci.* s.v. *Foundery of Bells*, The stake is surrounded with a solid brick-work perfectly round, 5 or 6 inches high, and of a diameter equal to that of the bell. This they call a mill-stone.

6. *attrib.*, as *millstone-maker*, *-quarry*; **millstone bridge** (see quot.); **millstone dress** = Dress *sb.* 3 c; **millstone dresser**, (*a*) a machine for cutting grooves in the grinding-face of a millstone (Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1875); (*b*) one who dresses or prepares millstones (*Cent. Dict.* 1890); **millstone hammer, pick** = Mill-pick (Knight); †**millstone rag**, a coarse stone suitable for the making of millstones; †**millstone silver**, the fee payable for the grinding of corn.

Also in many technical terms, as *millstone-alarm*, *-balance*, *-bush*, *-crane*, *-curb*, *-driver*, *-exhaust*, *-feed*, *-hoist*; see Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1875 and *Suppl.* 1884.

1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1443/1 **Millstone-bridge*, the bar across the eye of a millstone by which it is supported on the head of the spindle. **1875** *Ibid.*, The draft of a *millstone dress is the degree of deflection of its furrows from a radial direction. **1876** Dunglison *Med. Lex.*, **Millstone-makers' Phthisis*, a form of severe bronchitis dependent on the inhalation of the fine particles which separate in the manufacture of millstones. **1806** *Gazetteer Scotl.* (ed. 2) 9 Two *millstone quarries of excellent quality are wrought to good account. **1709** Hearne *Collect.* 16 Apr. (O. H. S.) II. 187 Coarse *millstone rag. **1661** *Min. Baron Crt. Stitchill* (1905) 21 Dew for payment of Grass maill & *mylle stain silver at thes term of Mertinmas.

Millstone grit. *Geol.* [f. Millstone + Grit *sb.*[1]] A hard siliceous rock belonging to the carboniferous series and occupying in Britain and elsewhere a stratigraphical position immediately below the coal-measures.

1786 Whitehurst *Orig. St. Earth* (ed. 2) 182 Millstone-Grit,.. a coarse sandstone, composed of granulated quartz and quartz pebbles. **1813** Bakewell *Introd. Geol.* 136 A mass of coarse grit-stone, called by Mr. Whitehurst mill-stone grit. **1876** Page *Adv. Text-bk. Geol.* xiv. 250 Thick beds of quartzose sand-stone known as the millstone grit.

Mi·ll-tail. [f. Mill *sb.*[1] + Tail *sb.*] The water which runs away from a mill-wheel; also, the channel in which the water runs away.

1611 Cotgr. s.v. *Moulin*, He that hurts himselfe to helpe others, will dye of thirst at the Mill-tayle. **1667** *Boston Rec.* (1881) VII. 33 Will Whitwell hath liberty..to wharfe one the North side of the mille taile for landing wood. **1724** *De Foe's Tour Gt. Brit.* I. iii. 87 The Mill Tayl, or Floor for the Water below the Wheels is Wharft up on either Side with Stone. **1887** Sir R. H. Roberts *In the Shires* x. 166 [He] tells me the mill-tail is full of fish!

attrib. **1875** Croll *Climate & T.* vi. 113 This..water.. would flow off in currents with almost mill-tail velocity.

†**Mi·llward.** *Obs.* Forms: 1 **mylenwyrd, myleward**, 4 **milwarde**, 5 **millewarde, mylnard**, 6 *Sc.* **mylvart**, 7 *Sc.* **milwar(s**, 8–9 *Sc.* **millart**, 9 *dial.* **millard, -ert.** [OE. *mylen(n)-weard*, f. *mylen* Mill *sb.*[1] + *weard* Ward *sb.*, keeper.] Originally, the keeper of a (manorial) mill; in later use = Miller 1.

c **1000** Ælfric *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 141/1 *Molendinarius, uel molinarius*, mylenwyrd. *c* **1050** *Voc.* ibid. 448/18 *Molendarius*, myleward. *c* **1305** *Pilate* 6 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 111 Þe meleward þat hire fader was. **1380** *Poll Tax* in Rogers *Oxf. City Doc.* (1891) 11 DeWillelmo le Mulleward et Johanna vxore eius xviij.*d.* **1387** Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 319 He gat a sone on oon Pila a milwardes dou3ter þat heet Atus. *c* **1430** *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* III. xvii. (1869) 144 Millewardes also that filleth here resoun with oute clepinge of resoun. **1598** *Aberdeen Reg.* (1848) II. 175 Alexander Marschall, mylvart at the nather mylne of this burght. **1650** *Croy Parish Session Min. Bk.* 16 Aug. (MS.), Alexander McPhail Milware. *Ibid.* 15 Sept., Ye minister having askit ye elderie .. giffe yai did try any privat hanting betwixt ye said William Dolas and his Milwars wyffe yai .. Declairis yat yai could not [etc.]. *c* **1760** Skinner *Christmas Ba'ing* xxv. in *Misc. Poet.* (1809) 130 The millart's man, a suple fallow, Ran's he had been red wud. **1880** Mrs. Parr *Adam & Eve* xiii, I've brushed till my arms ache, but my things is still like a millard's. **1881** *Instr. Census Clerks* (1885) 62 Corn miller...Millard.

Mill-weir (milwī·ɹ). [f. Mill *sb.*[1] + Weir.] = Mill-dam.

1044 in Kemble *Cod. Dipl.* IV. 92 Andlang streames ðæt it cymð to ðam mylewere. **1890** in *Century Dict.*

Millwell, variant of Mulvel.

Mi·ll-wheel. [f. Mill *sb.*[1] + Wheel *sb.*]

1. A wheel used to drive a mill, esp. a water-wheel used for that purpose.

c **1000** *Sax. Leechd.* III. 232 Seo heofon .. tyrnð onbutan us, swiftre þonne æniȝ mylnn-hweol. *c* **1460** *Towneley Myst.* xii. 126 Syr, a letter of youre grace, Here comys slaw-pase ffro the myln whele. **1591** Spenser *Daphn.* lxii, So all the world .. round about doth goe Like a Mill-wheele in midst of miserie. **1610** Shaks. *Temp.* I. ii. 281 Imprison'd, thou didst painefully remaine A dozen yeeres:..where thou didst vent thy groanes As fast as Mill-wheeles strike. **1789** J. Pilkington *View Derby* I. 344 Cogs for mill-wheels are made of it. **1871** B. Taylor *Faust* (1875) I. iv. 78, I feel as stupid from all you've said, As if a mill wheel whirled in my head.

b. *Her.* A figure or representation of this.

1688 R. Holme *Armoury* III. 341/1 He beareth Azure..a Mill Wheel, or a Clock Wheel, Argent. **1874** Papworth & Morant *Ord. Brit. Arm.* 1122 Gu. three mill-wheels or. *Chawcers.*

c. *fig.* or in figurative context.

1861 Mrs. Norton *Lady La G.* III. 122 Till in his brain the grief he tries to cheat, A dreary mill-wheel circling seems to beat. **1891** Kipling *Light that Failed* (1900) 210 The mill-wheel of thought swung round slowly.

†**2.** A form of grindstone employed for polishing armour. *Obs.*

1473-4 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* (1877) I. 65 Gevin to Cuthbert Knychtsone .. for mylne quhelis for the dicb[t]ing of the Kingis harnes.

Millwin, variant of Mulvel.

Mi·llwright. [f. Mill *sb.*[1] + Wright.] An engineer or mechanic whose occupation it is to design or set up mills or mill machinery.

1481-90 *Howard Househ. Bks.* (Roxb.) 197 The same day, I payd to Bochen the mylle wryte v.j.s. viij.d. **1562-3** *Act 5 Eliz.* c. 4 § 23 Tharte or Occupation of a Smithe .. Mylwright, Carpenter [etc.]. **1650** B. *Discolliminium* 14 A French Millwright who was an exquisite workman. **1702** Savery *Miner's Friend* 28 According to the different Genius and Abilities of the Mill-right. **1866** Hatfield *Hist. Notices Doncaster* I. 203 Experiments..were made by a mill-wright.

attrib. **1835** Ure *Philos. Manuf.* 35, I have frequently been at a loss, in walking through several of the millwright factories, to know whether the polished shafts..were at rest or in motion.

Hence **Mi·llwrighting** *vbl. sb.*, the labour or trade of a millwright.

18.. *Engineering* LXVII. 63 (Cent.) Engineering and millwrighting, though synonymous, are often two distinct branches in a shop.

†**Mi·lly.** *Obs.* Also 7 **millya, millio, mil(l)ia.** [a. Pg. *milho* Millet: cf. Mealie.] A kind of millet.

a **1600** May in *Hakluyt's Voy.* III. 571 In this pangaia we had certaine corne called *millio*. **1613** Purchas *Pilgrimage* (1614) 650 The Guineans..stamp their milia as we do spice,..and grinde it..till it be dowe, which they temper with fresh water and salt, and make rolls thereof. **1629** Capt. J. Smith *Trav. & Adv.* Wks. (Arb.) 856 Their bread is made of..Cuskus a small white seed like Millya in Biskay. **1665** *Golden Coast* 14 Their Corn is of two sorts, 1 Milly. 2 Mais. 1 Milly, and that hath long Ears, and is a seed of colour like Hemp-seed, and long like Canary-seed, having no shells, but growing in a little husk, which is very white within. *Ibid.* 76 Their bread is of Millia, or Mais, baked on a warme Harth.

Millyon, Miln(e, obs. ff. Million, Mill *sb.*[1]

Milner, obs. variant of Miller and Milliner.

‖**Milor(d** (*milor*). [F. *milord* (in 16th c. *milour*), a. Eng. *my lord* (see Lord *sb.* 15). Cf. It. *milordo*; also the following Scottish example:

1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 14 Thair ar Knichtes, Barrounis and mony vthiris Nobilis, quhome we cal milordis.]

The French designation for: An English lord; often applied to any wealthy Englishman.

1824 Byron *Juan* xvi. xxxviii, 'Jest I' quoth Milor. **1863** Sala *Qualk the Circumnav.* 70 An eccentric child of Albion, a milord, afflicted with the 'spleen'. **1876** Geo. Eliot *Dan. Der.* liv, The milord, owner of the handsome yacht.

Milreis (mi·lrēis). Also 6 **millreye**, 6, 8 **milrey**, 7 **milreise, milleray**, 8 **mill-ree, millrea**, 9 **milree.** [a. Pg. *milreis*, f. *mil* thousand + *reis* (see Reis).] A Portugnese gold coin and money of account equal to 1,000 Reis, and of the value of 4*s.* 5½*d.* English money. Also, a Brazilian silver coin of the value of 2*s.* 3*d.*

In the 17th cent. the Portuguese milreis was valued at between 13*s.* and 14*s.*, and afterwards at 10*s.*

1589 *Discourse Voy. Spaine & Port.* 9 Missing of their Portegues and Milrayes they dreamed on in Portingall. **1598** W. Phillip tr. *Linschoten* I. iii. 4 The Master and Pilot haue .. each man 120 Milreyes, euery Milreyes being worth .. seauen guilders. **1611** Cotgr., *Milrai*, a Milleray; a coyne of gold worth betweene 13 and 14 shillings sterl. **1694** tr. *Milton's Lett. State* Wks. 1738 II. 205 Seven thousand of our Pounds, or twice as many Milreys of Portugal Money. **1721** C. King *Brit. Merch.* I. 348 They have cost..22 Millrees per Pipe at a Medium. **1885** *Pall Mall G.* 17 Mar. 5/2 Government intend to propose certain measures tending to restore to par the real value of the milreis—namely, 2*s.* 3*d.* **1890** *Daily News* 25 Jan. 5/6 The paper milrei is now worth 2*d.*

Milrine, obs. f. Mill-rind; **Milse**, var. Milce *sb.*

Milsey (mi·lsi). *Sc.* Forms: 6 **milsie**, 9 **milcie**, 9– **milsey.** [Contraction of *milk-sye* (see Milk *sb.* 9 a). Cf. *milk-sieve* (ibid.: perh. an interpretative rendering of this word) and Milk-sile.] A milk-strainer.

1724 *Rob's Jock* iv. in *Ramsay's Tea-t. Misc.* (1775) I. 182 A milsie and a sowen-pail. **1811** W. Aiton *Agric. Ayr.* 451 The milk is dropped through a sieve (provincially called a milsey).

attrib. **1801** J. Thomson in *Mod. Scott. Poets* (1893) XV. 317 It minds me o' a milcie-cloul Nae sooner filled than it rins out.

Milsi, Milstone, var. ff. Milce *v.*, Millstone.

Milt (milt), *sb.* Forms: 1 **multi, miltl**, 1, 3–6 **milte**, 4–6 **mylte**, 5–6 **mylt**, 6 **melte**, 4, 6– (now *dial.*) **melt**, 6 **milt.** [OE. *milte* str. masc., also wk. fem., spleen = OFris. *milte* fem., spleen, MDu. *milte* (Du. *milt*) fem., spleen, also milt of fish, OHG. *milzi* neut. (MHG. *milze* neut., mod.G. *milz* fem.), ON. *milti* neut., spleen (OSw. *mjälte*, *mjälter*, *miller*, mod.Sw. *mjelte* masc., Da. *milt*, spleen, Norw. *mjelte* masc., spleen, milt of fish):—OTent. types **miltjo-*, **miltjôn-*, perh. f. the root of Melt *v.*, with reference to the supposed digestive function of the spleen. The sense 'spawn of fish' may have been adopted from Du.; as the milt of a fish is of soft substance like the spleen, the transferred use was not unnatural, but it was no doubt helped to gain currency by the resemblance in sound between *milt* and *milk* (Du. *milch*: see Milk *sb.*), the older name for the soft roe of fish. The sense also exists in Norwegian, where it is to be noted that *mjelte* milt is homophonous with *mjelte* a milking, connected with ON. *mialta* to milk.

The spelling *multi* in the Epinal Glossary cannot be explained with certainty, but it certainly cannot represent an ablaut-variant, of which there is no trace in any Tent. laog.]

I. 1. The spleen in mammals; also, an analogous organ in other vertebrate animals.

a **700** *Epinal Gloss.* 594 *Lien*, multi. *c* **725** *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) L. 172 *Lien*, milte. *Ibid.* S. 472 *Splenis*, milte. *c* **1000** *Sax. Leechd.* II. 242 Hu se milte bið emlang & gædertenge þære wambe hæfð þynne filmene sio hæfð fætte & þicce ædra. *c* **1250** *Death* 171 in *O. E. Misc.* 178 Nu schal for-rotien..þi mahe and þi milte þi liure and þi lunge. **1398** Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* v. xli. (1495) 157 The substaunce of the mylte is blacke. *c* **1489** Caxton *Sonnes of Aymon* i. 52 His nayles stacke in to my lyuer and my mylte. **1533** Elyot *Cast. Helthe* (1541) 22 The splene or mylte is of yl juice, for it is the chamber of melancholy. **1658** Rowland tr. *Mouffet's Theat. Ins.* 1110 In the milts of Sheep .. innumerable worms are oft-times found. *c* **1710** W. Gibson *Farrier's Guide* I. ii. (1738) 12 The Spleen, or Milt is a soft, spungy Substance. **1764** *Museum Rust.* II. li. 146 The melt or spleen was very small and thin. **1847** W. C. L. Martin *Ox* 130 Inflammation of the spleen or melt.

b. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as **milt-grown** *a.*, affected by an enlarged spleen; **milt-like** *a.*, resembling the substance of the mammalian milt; **milt-pain**, a disease amongst swine; **milt-sickness**, a disease of the spleen amongst cattle; so **milt-sick** *a.*; †**milt-vein** (see quot.); **milt-wort** = Miltwaste.

1731 *Gentl. Mag.* I. 101 [The world] has an ugly hoskey cough, and is *milt-grown. **1822–34** *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) I. 187 One [polypus] is termed *miltlike by Professor Munro. **1704** *Dict. Rust. et Urb.*, *Milt-pain is a Disease in Hogs, proceeding from greediness of eating Mast. **1882** *Times of Natal* 8 June, He never knew of a case of illness from eating a *melt-sick ox. *Ibid.*, An ox suffering from *melt-sickness. **1597** A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 29 b/2 In the left hande, shee [the Liver vayne] is called the *miltvayne. **1611** Cotgr., *Scolopendrie*, Spleenwort, *Miltwort, Finger-fearn. **1668** Wilkins *Real Char.* Index, Miltwort [*text* p. 71 *Miltwast*].

2. *transf.* (See quot. 1599.)

1587 Mascall *Govt. Cattle* (1596) 106 If a colt when he is fold do not cast his milt, husbandmen say he will not liue long,.. some colt will cast two miltes, no horse that liues xii. yeares hath any milt within him. **1599** A. M. tr. *Gabelhouer's Bk. Physicke* 23/1 In the first foalinge of a Mare, her Foale hath .. on the tung a peece of fleshe which resembleth the Milt of an Oxe, and of some is also called a Milt. **1677** Johnson in *Ray's Corr.* (1848) 128 Horsemen have not agreed what that is the foal is said to sneeze, which they call a milt.

II. 3. The roe or spawn of the male fish; the 'soft roe' of fishes.

1483 Caxton *Gold. Leg.* 77 b/1 Open the fysshe and take to the the herte the galle and the mylte. **1530** Palsgr. 245/1 Mylte [of] a fysshe, *la laicte; laicte de poisson.* **1596** Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 19 Quhen now thay ar gutted, and the meltis takne out, thay [etc.]. **1611** Cotgr., *Laicte*, the milt, or soft roe, of fishes. **1653** Walton *Angler* viii. 162 You shall scarce or never take a Male Carp without a Melt, or a Female without a Roe or Spawn. **1718** J. Chamberlayne *Relig. Philos.* (1730) II. xxii. § 36 Some of the Females discharge their Spawn, and the males their Melt or Seed in the Water near each other. **1884** Braithwaite *Salmonidæ Westmld.* i. 3 Milt is found in the males and ova in females.

b. *attrib.*, as **milt-like** *a.*, resembling the contents of the soft roe of a fish.

1808 *Edin. Rev.* XI. 322 The milt-like fluid of the drones might be seen in the cells.

Milt (milt), *v.* [f. prec.] *trans.* 'To impregnate the roe or spawn of the female fish' (J.).

1694 Motteux *Rabelais* v. xxxi. (1737) 143, I..saw..Fish ..milting, spawning. **1884** *Field* 6 Dec. 787/1 A female [char] gave 146 eggs, which were milted from a male of the same hybrid race.

Milter (mi·ltəɹ). Also 7 **meltere**, 8 **miltor.** [f. Milt *sb.* + -er[1]; perh. adopted from the equivalent Du. *milter*.] **a.** A male fish, esp. in spawning time. **b.** = Milt *sb.* 3.

1601 Holland *Pliny* I. 245 If a man do the same with a female in spawning time, hee shall haue as many milters follow after her. **1653** Walton *Angler* viii. 164 Three

Melters for one Spawner. 1718 JACOB *Compl. Sportsman* 121 The Spawner lays her Spawn, and upon it the Melter drops his Milk. 1758 *Descr. Thames* 172 Then the Male, or Miltor, advances, and covers the Spawn with his Belly. 1834 MEDWIN *Angler in Wales* I. 332 At this time also the melter is more easily distinguished from the roe. 1883 *Blackw. Mag.* Feb. 281 A greater stock of 'Spawners' and 'Milters' than its tributaries have room to contain.

†**Milth**, *sb. Obs.* [f. MILD *a.* + -TH.] Mercy. Hence †**Milth** *v. intr.*, to have mercy (*of, to*). †**Mi·lthlich** *adv.*, kindly. †**Mi·lthness** *sb.*, mildness.

a 1300 *E. E. Psalter* xxiv. 6 Laverd, of þine reuthes mine þou mare, And of þine milþes of werld þat are. *Ibid.* xxiv. 11 Laverd, milþe to my sinne. *Ibid.* lv. 1 Milþe of me, lauerd, for man fortrade me. *Ibid.* lxxvi. 8 Or he sal awai kerue is milþe in ende Fra geting and geting of strende. *Ibid.* lxxxvii. 12 Wher ani in thrughes sal telle þi milthnes. *c* 1300 *St. Brandan* 51 He welcomede ous everechon miltheliche and suete.

†**Mi·lting**, *vbl. sb.* (See quot. 1587.)

1587 MASCALL *Govt. Cattle* (1596) 45 The milting of Oxe, Cow, or other beast is called of husbandmen, when he will sodaine lie down if ye shall stay neuer so little, being at plough or cart. 1614 MARKHAM *Cheap Husb.* (1623) 99 Of milting of a beast. Milting, is when a beast will oft fall.

Miltonian (miltō·niăn), *a.* [f. the name of the poet John Milton + -IAN.] Of or relating to Milton, or resembling his style or imagery.

1708 J. PHILIPS *Cyder* I. 1 Thy gift Pomona in Miltonian verse Adventrous I presume to sing. 1816 KEATS *Epist. C. C. Clarke* 57 Miltonian storms, and more, Miltonian tenderness. 1872 LOWELL *Milton* Prose Wks. 1890 IV. 76 It is merely a Miltonian way of saying that he took regular exercise.

Miltonic (miltɒ·nik), *a.* (and *sb.*) [f. *Milton*: see prec. and -IC.]

1. *adj.* = prec.

1708 GAY *Wine* 15 Inspir'd, sublime, on Pegasean wing By thee upborne, I draw Miltonic air. 1818 BYRON *Juan* Ded. x, If Time, the Avenger, execrates his wrongs, And makes the word 'Miltonic' mean 'sublime' [etc.]. 1886 SWINBURNE *Misc.* 14 A Shakespearean adept may be a Miltonic believer.

2. quasi-*sb.* Miltonic language.

1712 HENLEY *Spect.* No. 396 P 2 That Mungrel miscreated (to speak in Miltonic) kind of Wit, vulgarly termed the Pun.

3. *sb. pl.* Verses of Milton. *nonce-use.*

1792 COWPER *Wks.* (1837) XV. 237 Having translated all the Latin and Italian Miltonics, I was proceeding merrily with the Commentary on the Paradise Lost.

Hence **Milto·nically** *adv.*

1905 *Q. Rev.* July 8 To speak Miltonically, the Muse utters the oracle, and her 'prophet' renders it in rhyme.

Miltonism (mi·ltəniz'm). [f. *Milton* + -ISM.] A form of expression imitating Milton.

1802 LAMB *Lett.* (1888) I. 190 Cowper's blank verse detains you every step with some heavy Miltonism.

Miltonist (mi·ltənist). [f. *Milton* + -IST.] A follower of Milton in his views on divorce.

1806 SYMMONS *Milton* (1810) 250 A party, distinguished by the name of Miltonists, attested the power of his pen, and gave consequence to his pleading for divorce. 1836 SOUTHEY *Cowper* III. 81 Hayley .. had reasons for being what in the days of the Commonwealth was called a Miltonist.

Miltonize (mi·ltənəiz), *v.* [f. *Milton* + -IZE.] **a.** *trans.* To impart a Miltonian dignity to. **b.** *intr.* To imitate the literary style of Milton.

1893 *Athenæum* 25 Feb. 254/3 This [*sc.* painting] is a noble example of Palmer's ability to Miltonize landscape. 1903 *Academy* 4 Apr. 336 Mr. Johnstone has .. gone to Milton for his model, and Miltonizes as best he may.

Miltor, Milts, Miltschipe, var. ff. MILTER, MILCE, MILDSHIP.

Miltwaste (mi·ltweist). Also 6–7 **-wast**, 7 **-waist.** [f. MILT *sb.*[1] + WASTE.] The finger-fern, one of the spleenworts, *Asplenium Ceterach.*

1578 LYTE *Dodoens* III. lxv. 406 Of brode or large Splenewort or Miltwast. *Ibid.* III. lxvii. 408 This herbe is called .. in English .. Scaleferne, Finger ferne .. and Myltewaste. 1657 B. W. *Expert Phisician* 189 Agrimony, Burnet, Miltwaist, Mercury, each a handful. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 258/2 A commonish native fern called Miltwaste or Scale Fern.

Milty (mi·lti), *a.* [f. MILT *sb.* + -Y.] Resembling or of the nature of the milt or spleen.

1662 J. CHANDLER *Van Helmont's Oriat.* 306 Nothing is milty or like to the milt, if it do not swell with the properties of the milt.

Milvine (mi·lvəin), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. mod.L. *milvīn-us*, f. L. *milv-us* kite + -INE.] **a.** *adj.* Pertaining to a kite; belonging to the genus *Milvus* or the family *Milvinæ.* **b.** *sb.* A member of the genus *Milvus* or of the family *Milvinæ*; a kite.

1727 BAILEY vol. II, *Milvine*, belonging to a Kite or Glede. 1842 BRANDE *Dict. Sci.* etc., *Milvines*, Milvini, a family of Raptorial birds, of which the kite (*Milvus*) is the type.

Hence **Milvinous** (milvəi·nəs) *a.*, in the same sense (Mayne *Expos. Lex.* 1856).

Milwarde, -well, -wyn, var. forms of MILLWARD, MULVEL.

Milz(c)e, variant forms of MILCE *sb. Obs.*

Mim (mim), *a. Sc.* and *dial.* [Imitative of the action of pursing up the mouth; cf. MUM.] Affectedly modest, demure, primly silent or quiet. Also 'affecting great moderation in eating and drinking' (Jam.).

? 1679 MCWARD in *Earnest Contend. Faith* (1723) 323 The best of our Synods (for as mim as we have made it to this Day) are justly chargeable with the Blood of that renowned Martyr [Guthrie]. 1715 RAMSAY *Christis Kirke Gr.* II. 48 She was .. mim that day. 1768 ROSS *Helenore* (1789) 106 Now Nory all the while was playing prim, As ony lamb as modest, and as mim; And never a look with Lindy did lat fa'. 1785 FERGUSSON'S *Prov.* 24 Maidens should be mim till they're married, and then they may burn kirks. 1816 SCOTT *Bl. Dwarf* ii, Did I not say it wasna want o' spunk that made ye [*sc.* the young Laird] sae mim? *a* 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia, Mim*, primly silent, with lips closed lest a stray word should escape. 1880 MRS. PARR *Adam & Eve* xiii, Worth twenty o' that stuck-up London consarn, with her pasty face and mim ways.

b. Used adverbially.

1786 BURNS *Holy Fair* xvi, See, up he's got the word o' G—, An' meek an' mim has view'd it.

c. *Comb.*, as *mim-looking, -spoken*; also **mim-mouthed**, 'reserved in discourse, not communicative, implying the idea of affectation of modesty' (Jam.). Also *fig.* Hence **Mim-mouthedness.**

1721 RAMSAY *Lucky Spence* iii, Mim-mou'd Meg. 1820 *Smugglers* I. xiii. 164 I'm no for being mim-mou'd when there's no reason; but a man had as gude, whiles, cast a knot on his tongue. 1849 C. BRONTE *Shirley* vii, Some o' t' bonniest and mimest looking too. 1889 *Sat. Rev.* 12 Jan. 37/1 That 'mimmouthedness' which has become a fashion of late. 1896 'LESLIE KEITH' *Indian Uncle* xi. 189 Douce, plod-plodding, mim-spoken lads.

†**Mimature.** *Obs. rare*[−1]. [f. L. *mīm-us* MIME *sb.* + -ATE[3] + -URE.] Mimicking, mimicry.

1638 MAYNE *Lucian* (1664) 253, I shall present her to you various, and in diverse shapes, and shall approve my selfe not outdone by you in Mimature. Imagine her, then.

Mime (məim), *sb.* [a. L. *mīm-us*, a. Gr. *μῖμος.* Cf. F. *mime*, Sp., Pg., It. *mimo.*]

1. *Antiq.* A performer in the dramatic pieces described in sense 4.

[*a* 900 *O. E. Martyrol.* 25 Aug. 152 Se wæs ærest sumes kaseres mima, þæt is leasere, ond sang beforan him scandlicu leoð ond plegode scandlice plegan.] 1784 T. DAVIES *Dram. Misc.* III. 51 The antient mimes were so expert at the representation of thought by action. 1888 LOWELL *Heartsease & Rue* 51 Mime and hetæra getting equal weight With him whose toils heroic saved the State.

2. A mimic, jester, buffoon; a pantomimist.

1616 B. JONSON *Epigr.* I. cxxix, Think'st thou, Mime, this is great? 1642 MILTON *Apol. Smect.* 9 Whereas he tels us that Scurrilous Mime was a personated grim lowring foole. 1760 FOOTE *Minor* I. (1767) 14 He is an admirable mime, or mimic, and most delectable company. 1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* xvii, That which may well shock the nerves of a prince of mimes and merry-makers. 1840 CARLYLE *Heroes* (1858) 251 Della Scala stood among his courtiers, with mimes and buffoons (*nebulones ac histriones*) making him heartily merry. 1902 J. CONRAD *Heart Darkn.* 142 In motley, as though he had absconded from a troupe of mimes.

b. in figurative context.

1877 MORLEY *Crit. Misc.* Ser. II. 245 That dance of mimes which passes for life among the upper classes.

3. *transf.* and *fig.* An imitator.

1677 GALE *Crt. Gentiles* II. III. 82 Mimes or imitators make only phantasmes or pictures not things. .. The Mime wil neither know nor think aught of those things he imitates as to good or evil. 1902 CORNISH *Naturalist Thames* 166 Those .. famous mimes, the Indian mynahs.

4. *Antiq.* A kind of simple farcical drama among the Greeks and Romans, characterized by mimicry and the ludicrous representation of familiar types of character; a dialogue written for recital in a performance of this kind. Also occasionally applied *transf.* to similar performances or compositions in modern times.

1642 MILTON *Apol. Smect.* 9 Scaliger describes a Mime to be a Poem imitating any action to stirre up laughter. 1693 DRYDEN *Persius' Sat.* II. (1726) 255 *note*, Liberius in the Fragment of his Mimes, has a Verse like this. 1790 MALONE *Eng. Stage* in *Shaks. Wks.* I. II. 118 The *Exodiarii* and *Emboliariæ* of the Mimes are undoubtedly the remote progenitors of the Vice and Clown of our ancient dramas. *a* 1834 COLERIDGE *Shaks. Notes* (1849) 12 The mimes of Sophron were written in prose. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* cv, No more shall wayward grief abuse The genial hour with mask and mime. 1904 J. A. NAIRN *Herodas* Introd. 22 A Mime is a piece depicting actual life, generally the life of the common people, and employing their language.

†**5.** An imitation. *Obs. rare.*

1650 T. VAUGHAN *Anthroposophia* To Rdr., Excellent patterns commend their Mimes.

6. *attrib.*, as *mime-play*; †**mime-man**, a mimic.

1630 B. JONSON *New Inn* v. i, Tipto, and his Regiment of mime-men [*printed* (1631) mine-men], al drunk dumbe. 1894 *Daily News* 7 May 3/4 'Jean Mayeux', the new 'mime play', .. will be performed at the Princess's.

Mime (məim), *v.* [f. prec. sb. Cf. F. *mimer*; Gr. has *μῖμεῖσθαι* to imitate.]

1. *intr.* To act or play a part, with mimic gesture and action and usually without words.

1616–1837 [see the *vbl. sb.*]. 1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 18 May 10/2 Mlle. Jane May .. can sing and act as well as mime.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1728 NORTH *Mem. Music* (1846) 36 Our paltry imitators are mistaken when they attempt to mime it upon a silent stage. 1843 CARLYLE *Past & Pr.* III. XV, Miming and chattering like a Dead-Sea Ape. 1887 RIDER HAGGARD *Jess* xviii, We cannot bedeck our inner selves and make them mime as the occasion pleases, and sing the old song when their lips are set to a strange new chant.

c. *trans.* To represent by mimic action.

a 1894 STEVENSON *Weir of Hermiston* iv, She made it (the hearthrug) a rostrum, mimeing her stories as she told them.

2. *trans.* To imitate, mimic.

1733 *Introd. Verses to Fielding's Intrig. Chambermaid*, Mark, in his mirth how innocent he plays! And while he mimes the mimick, hurts not Bayes. 1890 *Harper's Mag.* Feb. 422/2 Miming the cuttle-fish devouring its prey.

Hence **Mi·ming** *vbl. sb.*

1616 B. JONSON *Epigr.* I. CXV, [He] Acts old Iniquitie, and in the fit Of miming, gets th'opinion of a wit. 1642 MILTON *Apol. Smect.* Wks. 1851 III. 262 But in an ill houre hath his unfortunate rashnesse stumbl'd upon the mention of miming. 1837 HOWITT *Rur. Life* VI. xi. 520 All kinds of pageants, mimings, masks, and frolics.

Mimeograph (mi·miəgrɑf), *sb.* [irreg. f. Gr. *μῑμέομαι* 'I imitate' + -GRAPH.] An apparatus, invented by T. A. Edison, for producing stencils of written pages, from which a large number of copies may be obtained.

1889 *Voice* (N. Y.) 19 Sept., The 'mimeograph' and the 'autocopyist' .. will give any number of copies of a letter. 1903 *T. P.'s Weekly* 6 Nov. 720/1 A typewriter who could multiply for him copies of these stories on the mimeograph.

Hence **Mi·meograph** *v. trans.*, to reproduce by means of a mimeograph. **Mi·meographed** *ppl. a.*

1895 MARY E. BAMFORD in *Chicago Advance* 6 June 1290/2 The copies were mimeographed at last, thanks to her mother's help. 1903 MISS FAITHFULL *W. Lond. Typewr. Off. Circular*, Terms for mimeographing. Mimeographed Circulars can be sent by the ½d. post.

Mimer (məi·mə1). [f. MIME *v.* + -ER[1].] A mime or mimic, a buffoon or jester.

1755 JOHNSON [quoting Milton *Samson* 1325, where *Mimirs* in the first edition is a misprint, corrected in the Errata to *Mimics*]. 1819 H. BUSK *Vestriad* II. 128 The Muse, who taught th' enliv'ning dance, In Greece to mimers, and to gods in France. 1835 W. IRVING *Newstead Abbey* Crayon Misc. (1863) 298 We had mummers and mimers too.

‖**Mimesis** (məimī·sis). [Gr. *μίμησις* imitation, f. *μῑμεῖσθαι* to imitate, f. *μῖμος* MIME *sb.*]

1. *Rhet.* A figure of speech, whereby the supposed words or actions of another are imitated.

1650 TRAPP *Comm. Eccles.* xi. 9. 154 Solomon .. by a Mimesis brings in a wild yonker thus bespeaking himself. Rejoice [etc.]. 1681 FLAVEL *Meth. Grace* XXXIV. 568 Satan called here (by a Mimesis) the god of this world, not simply and properly, but because he challenges to himself the honour of a god.

2. *Biol.* = MIMICRY 3.

1845 STRICKLAND in *Lond.* etc. *Philos. Mag.* XXVIII. 356 This term [Iconism], suggested by the Rev. Dr. Ingram, .. appears preferable to Mimesis, which I had originally proposed to use. 1885 in *Cassell's Encycl. Dict.* 1896 A. H. KING *Ethnology* 196 With the growing needs of society, it could not fail to develop by various processes—mimesis, reduplication, repetition [etc.].

Mimester (məi·mstə1). *rare.* [f. MIME *v.* + -STER.] = MIME *sb.* 2, a mimic.

1873 T. COOPER *Paradise of Martyrs* (1877) 299 The mimesters who beclout themselves anew with rags of Rome.

†**Mimetene, Mimetese, Mimetesite.** *Min.* [Orig. F. *mimétène* (Beudant 1832) meant to represent Gr. *μῑμητής* imitator. *Mimetene, Mimetesite* (G. *mimetesit*, Breithaupt 1841), and MIMETITE are alterations intended to make the name less anomalous in form.] Older names for MIMETITE.

1835 C. U. SHEPARD *Treat. Min.* II. II. 46 Mimetene. 1843 CHAPMAN *Min.* 33 Mimetese. 1867 *Pract. Mechanic's Jrnl.* 1 Sept. 190 An arseniated plumbic apatite (mimetesite).

Mimetic (məime·tik), *a.* (and *sb.*). [ad. Gr. *μῑμητικός*, f. *μῑμεῖσθαι* to imitate: see MIMESIS.]

A. *adj.*

1. Addicted to or having an aptitude for mimicry or imitation. Also, pertaining to imitation.

1637 WHITING *Albino & Bellama* 9 But Fucus, lead by most mimetick Apes, Could not depinge Don Fuco's antick shapes. 1762 GOLDSM. *Cit. W.* lxxix, The mimetic troops .. begin their campaign [at the theatres] when all the others quit the field. 1769 R. WOOD *Ess. Genius Homer* To Rdr. 2 We shall confine our inquiry to Homer's Mimetick Powers. 1843 CARLYLE *Heroes* (1858) 316 Chatham himself lives the strangest mimetic life, half-hero, half-quack, all along. 1845 R. W. HAMILTON *Pop. Educ.* IV. (ed. 2) 70 The .. mimetic tendency of infancy. 1876 GEO. ELIOT *Dan. Der.* lxii, Crying when she expected him to cry, and reflecting every phase of her feeling with mimetic susceptibility.

2. Characterized by, or of the nature of, imitation.

1669 GALE *Crt. Gentiles* I. III. i. 18 Mimetic Poesie: which the Platonists distribute into .. Eicastic, and .. Phantastic. 1744 HARRIS *Three Treat.* Wks. (1841) 33 The mimetic art of poetry has been hitherto considered, as fetching its imitation from mere natural resemblance. 1884 H. JENNINGS *Phallicism* ix. 99 Among the Greeks all dancing was of the mimetic kind. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 338 Cases .. in which with lesion of the optic thalamus there has been no defect in the mimetic movements.

3. = MIMIC *a.* 3.

1756 J. G. COOPER in *World* No. 159 V. 169 They may be enabled to make an exit as they have lived, in mimetic grandeur. 1841 D'ISRAELI *Amen. Lit.* (1859) I. 59 When the Duke of Normandy visited .. Edward the Confessor, he beheld in England a mimetic Normandy. 1892 STEVENSON *Across the Plains* 266 A false and merely mimetic poverty.

4. **a.** *Zool.* and *Bot.* Of animals or plants: Characterized by 'mimicry' or resemblance in external appearance to some essentially different animal or plant, or to some inorganic object. Of appearances or processes: Of the nature of 'mimicry'.

1851 WOODWARD *Mollusca* I. 56 A second class of ana-

logical resemblances are purely external and illusive, they have been termed mimetic. 1861 H. W. Bates in *Trans. Linn. Soc.* XXIII. 502 Mimetic analogies .. are resemblances in external appearance, shape and colours between members of widely distinct families. 1870 Nicholson *Man. Zool.* Gen. Introd. § 7 (1875) 19 It appears that the mimetic species is protected from some enemy by its outward similarity to the form which it mimics. 1882 *Garden* 28 Jan. 53/2 There are also cases of mimetic variation.

b. *Path.* (See quots.)

1856 Mayne *Expos. Lex.*, *Mimetic*, applied to diseases that resemble, or appear like imitations of others.

c. *Cryst.* (See quot. 1888.)

1881 W. J. Lewis in *Nature* No. 616. 355 Twin and mimetic crystals. 1888 Teall *Brit. Petrogr.* 440 *Mimetic.* Tschermak proposed to call those crystals mimetic which possess externally a high degree of symmetry, but are built up by polysynthetic twinning of crystals having a low grade of symmetry. Thus chabasite is termed a mimetic rhombohedral crystal. 1895 Story-Maskelyne *Crystallogr.* Index, Mimetic crystals.

5. *Gram.* (See quot.) *rare.*

1877 March *Comp. Ags. Gram.* § 40. 27 Mimetic changes are those occurring through the influence of other words.

† B. *sb.* ? A mime, buffoon.

1631 R. H. *Arraignm. Whole Creature* Ep. Ded. 8 It is rather fit for the Mimeticks to dispute, then for mee to determine.

† **Mime·tical**, *a. Obs. rare.* [Formed as prec. + -ical.] = Mimetic *a.* 2.

a 1617 Bayne *On Coloss.* (1634) 360 He doth unfold it by a mimeticall expressing the charges that these false teachers gave. 1764 Hurd *Dial.* vii. *Foreign Trav.* (1765) III. 5 A Dialogue in the old mimetical, or poetic form.

Mimetically (məime·tik'li), *adv.* [f. prec. + -ly 2.] In a mimetic or imitative manner; by mimesis.

1647 Trapp *Comm. Col.* ii. 21 The words of those impostours, which are here mimetically or by way of imitation related. 1795 MacKnight *Comm. Epistles* (1820) II. 574 The apostle writes mimetically here, personating the false teachers. 1857 H. Spencer in *Westm. Rev.* Apr. 464 The deeds of the god-king, chanted and mimetically represented in dances round his altar.

Mimetism (məi·mɪtiz'm). *Biol.* [f. Mimet-ic + -ism.] = Mimicry.

1882 in Ogilvie; and in later Dicts.

Mimetite (məi·mɪtəit). *Min.* [ad. G. *mimetit* (Haidinger 1845), f. Gr. *μῑμητ-ης* imitator + -ite. (See Mimetene.)] 'Arsenate of lead, found in yellow to brown crystals, resembling pyromorphite' (Chester *Dict. Min.* 1896).

1852 Brooke & Miller *Phillip's Min.* 481.

Mimetry (məi·mɛ̀tri). *Cryst.* [f. Mimet-ic + -ry.] = Pseudosymmetry.

1895 in *Funk's Stand. Dict.*

Mi-mi, variant of Mia-mia.

‖ **Mimiambi** (məi-, mimiæ·mbəi), *sb. pl.* (In Dicts. as sing. **mimiambus.**) [Latin, a. Gr. *μῑμίαμβοι pl.*, f. *μῖμο-ς* Mime *sb.* + *ἴαμβος* Iambus.] Mimes written in iambic or scazontic verse.

1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Mimiambus*, a kind of Verse, anciently us'd in Lampoons, Farces, &c. 1721 in Bailey. 1905 *Academy* 4 Nov. 1145/1 The mimiambi of Herodas.

Mimiambic (məi·-, mi·miæmbik), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. mod.L. *mīmiambic-us*, f. *mīmiambī*: see prec.]

A. *adj.* Pertaining to or of the nature of mimiambi. Of a poet: That wrote mimiambi.

1700 Collier *2nd Def. Short View* 7 Another Mimiiambick poet. 1846 *Smith's Dict. Biogr. & Mythol.* II. 695/2 Matius .. a mimiambic poet.

B. *sb. pl.* = Mimiambi.

1845 *Encycl. Metrop.* X. 412/1 Contemporary with Laberius and Publius was Cneius Matius, who wrote Mimiambics, which differed from the Mimes of the two former authors only by being written in scazontics. 1894 *Athenæum* 27 Jan. 108/3 The mimiambics of Herondas have already made a sensation in the learned world.

Mimic (mi·mik), *a.* and *sb.* Forms: 6–7 mimmick, mimicke, -ique, 6–8 -ick, 7 mimik, mymik, 7– mimic. [ad. L. *mīmic-us*, ad. Gr. *μιμικός*, f. *μῖμ-ος*: see Mime *sb.* and -ic. Cf. F. *mimique*, Sp. *mímico*, Pg., It. *mimico.*] A. *adj.*

1. † a. Exercising the profession of a mime or buffoon; having the characteristics of, or resembling, a mime (*obs.*). b. Addicted to or having aptitude for mimicry; imitative.

1598 Marston *Sco. Villanie* III. x. H vij b, The long fooles coat, the huge slop, the lugg'd boot From mimick Piso all doe claime their roote. 1647 Ward *Simp. Cobler* 26 They would disdain to be led about like Apes, by such mymick Marmosets. 1667 Milton *P. L.* v. 110 Oft in her absence mimic Fansie wakes To imitate her. 1708 Rowe *Rey. Convert* II. i, Some mimick Fantom wears the lovely Form. 1726 Arbuthnot *It cannot rain but it pours* in *Swift's Wks.* 1751 VI. 200 Aristotle saith, that Man is the most Mimick of all Animals. 1730 Swift *Market-hill* Wks. 1751 X. 146 Sly Hunters..To catch a Monkey by a Wile, The mimic Animal amuse, They place before him Gloves and Shoes. 17.. Cowper *Transl. fr. V. Bourne, Parrot* iii, 'Sweet Poll!' his doting mistress cries, 'Sweet Poll!' the mimic bird replies. 1821 Bryant *Ages* iii, Let the mimic canvass shew His calm benevolent features.

2. Of actions, expression of countenance, etc. † a. Pertaining to or characteristic of a mime; histrionic; hence, hypocritical. *Obs.* b. Pertaining to, or of the nature of, mimicry or imitation.

1601 Marston *Antonio's Rev.* I. v, Woulds't have me.. wring my face with mimic action? 1624 Gataker *Transubst.* 113 Where are all those..mimicke gestures and apish fooleries that their Masse-bookes enjoyne? 1638 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* (ed. 2) 10 They circle the grave with mimmick gestures and ejaculations. *c* 1645 Howell *Lett.* (1655) I. 219 No simpring smiles, no mimic face, Affected gesture, or forc'd grace. 1727 Swift *Misc., On Dreams* 10 The busy Head with mimick Art runs o'er The scenes and Actions of the Day before. 1797 Mrs. Radcliffe *Italian* xxvi, Vivaldi concluded, that his dream had mocked him with a mimic voice. 1865 Tylor *Early Hist. Man.* ii. 19 As I taught him the written signs of our language, Massieu taught me the mimic signs of his.

3. That is a copy of, or imitatively resembles, what is properly denoted by the name; imitative as opposed to real.

Unlike its approximate synonyms, 'counterfeit', 'mock', 'simulated', etc., the word does not now imply any deceptive intention or effect, being applied primarily to artistic or playful imitation, and usually suggesting that the copy is ludicrously diminutive or insignificant as compared with the reality imitated.

1625 K. Long tr. *Barclay's Argenis* III. xix. 213 This mimicke Goddesse, who usurped divine honours. 1641 Milton *Ch. Govt.* v. Wks. 1851 III. 119 To frame out of their own heads as it were with wax a kinde of Mimick Bishop limm'd out to the life of a dead Priesthood. 1726 Pope *Odyss.* xvi. 54 A bowl..Around whose verge a mimic Ivy twines. 1749 Smollett *Regicide* iv. iii, Not all this pride Of mimic virtue..Shall shelter thee, deceiver! 1751 Franklin *Lett.* Wks. 1840 V. 225, I send you some [needles], that have had their heads and points melted off by our mimic lightning. 1757 Mrs. Griffith *Lett. Henry & Frances* (1767) II. 193 Instances in brutes of what we partially stile mimic reason. 1812 *Gen. Hist.* in *Ann. Reg.* 212 The mimic monarch [of Hayti] has been encountered with superior force by his rival. 1822 Scott *Life in Forest*, Along the silver streams of Tweed 'Tis hlithe the mimic fly to lead. 1839 Alison *Hist. Europe* liv. § 62 (1850) VIII. 524 The mimic warfare of the opera stage. 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) V. 399 If any one dies in these mimic contests, the homicide is involuntary.

4. *Path.* (See quot.)

1890 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Mimic convulsion*, same as *Facial spasm. Mimic facial palsy*, an immobility and relaxation of the facial muscles which are supplied by the paralysed nerve... *Mimic spasm*, sudden and transient contraction of the muscles supplied by the portio dura of the seventh pair of cerebral nerves.

B. *sb.*

1. † A mime, burlesque actor (*obs.*); a performer who imitates the manner, attitudes, or voice of another in order to excite laughter; hence, in wider sense, one who practises or is skilled in mimicry or ludicrous imitation.

1590 Shaks. *Mids. N.* III. ii. 19 Anon his Thisbie must be answered, And forth my Mimmick comes. 1599 B. Jonson *Cynthia's Rev.* III. iv, Waited on By mimiques, jesters. 1609 Dekker *Guls Horne-bk.* vi. 31 Draw what troope you can from the stage after you: the Mimicks are beholden to you, for allowing them elbow roome. *c* 1660 Wood *Life* 8 Oct. (O. H. S.) I. 336 He was a great mimick, and acted well in several playes. 1697 Potter *Antiq. Greece* I. iv. (1715) 19 [They] preferr'd a Mimick, or a Stage-player before the most Valiant Captain. 1739 Cibber *Apol.* (1756) I. 123 The mimick..is a great assistant to the actor. 1772 Boswell 21 Mar. in *Johnson*, A mimick can not only give you the gestures and voice of a person whom he represents; but even what a person would say on any particular subject. 1830 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 249 Deaths..Mr. Ralph Sherwin, mimic and comedian. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* ii. I. 196 The mimics, revellers, and courtesans who crowded the palace.

b. 'A mean or servile imitator' (J.). Occasionally of a thing: Something that mimics or feebly resembles.

1624 Wotton *Archit.* I. 7 What are the most iudicious Artisans but the Mimiques of Nature? 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 225 ¶ 7 Cunning is only the Mimick of Discretion. 1791 Burke *To Member of Nat. Assemb.* Wks. 1792 III. 346 When full grown, it [vanity] is the worst of vices, and the occasional mimic of them all. It makes the whole man false. 1818 Byron *Ch. Har.* IV. clii, Turn to the mole which Hadrian rear'd on high, Imperial mimic of old Egypt's piles. 1840 Dickens *Barn. Rudge* xxiv, Despisers of mankind—apart from the mere fools and mimics, of that creed—are of two sorts. 1871 Palgrave *Lyr. Poems* 22 The cottage gable, bare and high, Poor forlorn mimic of the mountain crest.

† 2. A writer of mimes, mimographer. *Obs.*—o

1721 Bailey, *A Mimick*, a Writer of Lampoons or short jests.

3. *Zool.* and *Bot.* A mimetic animal or plant. Also *appos.* in *mimic beetle* (see quot. 1855).

1855 W. S. Dallas in *Syst. Nat. Hist.* I. 408 This position is always assumed by these Beetles [*Histeridæ* and *Byrrhidæ*] when alarmed; and, from this assumption of a death-like attitude, some of the commonest species have received the name of *Mimic Beetles.* 1893 Newton *Dict. Birds* s. v. *Mimicry*, It is pretty clear that the *Mimeta*..is rightly named the mimic, since it is a comparatively weak bird, and must benefit by being mistaken for the strong, pugnacious and noisy *Philemon.*

4. 'Play-acting', mummery (*obs.*); mimicry, imitation. *rare.*

a 1631 Donne *Poems* (1650) 6 Compar'd to this, All honour's mimique; All wealth alchymy. 1832 *Fraser's Mag.* V. 197 The son of the soldier already will dare To mount the old charger, in mimic of war.

Mimic (mi·mik), *v.* [f. Mimic *sb.*]

1. *trans.* To ridicule by imitating or copying (a person, his speech, manner, gestures, etc.).

1697 Burghope *Disc. Relig. Assemb.* 121 To misrepresent his words and mimick his gestures. 1700 Dryden *Ovid's Met.* XI. *Ceyx & Alcyone* 330 Morpheus..express'd The Shape of Man, and imitated best; The Walk, the Words, the Gesture cou'd supply, The Habit mimick, and the Mien bely. 1770 Langhorne *Plutarch* (1879) I. 229/2 Androcles ..accused Alcibiades..of mimicking the sacred mysteries. 1821 Shelley *Chas. I*, ii. 98 He mocks and mimics all he sees and hears. 1838 Dickens *Nich. Nick.* xiii, Mimicking the voice and manner of the usher. 1871 C. Gibbon *Lack of Gold* vi, The laird was mimicking the miller's voice and manner as well as he could. 1891 Kipling *Light that Failed* (1900) 91 'This is disgraceful', said Maisie, mimicking Mrs. Jennett's tone.

2. To imitate or copy with minute accuracy in external characteristics, e. g. in voice, gesture, style, or manner of doing anything. Chiefly in contemptuous use, as implying servile, unintelligent, or otherwise ridiculous imitation.

1687 Dryden *Hind. & P.* I. 40 The buffoon Ape..mimicked all sects and had his own to chuse. 1697 — *Virg. Past.* v. 116 Alphesibœus, tripping, shall advance; And mimick Satyrs in his antick Dance. 1761 Churchill *Rosciad* Poems 1763 I. 50 Just in the way that monkies mimic man. 1843 Macaulay *Ess., Addison* (1899) 724 Thus much..is certain, both Swift and Voltaire have been successfully mimicked, and that no man has yet been able to mimic Addison. 1844 Thirlwall *Greece* VIII. 27 The rest only mimicked the hero [*sc.* Alexander the Great]..in their demeanour, and in the trappings and state of royalty. 1871 L. Stephen *Playgr. Eur.* (1894) viii. 168 The absurdity of mimicking a man who was his junior.

b. with an action or attribute as object.

1726 Swift *Gulliver* II. iii, He observed how contemptible a Thing was human Grandeur, which could be mimicked by such diminutive Insects as I. 1726 De Foe *Hist. Devil* II. x. (1840) 328 The devil is known to mimic the methods, as well as the actions of his maker. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* ii. I. 165 When a sect becomes powerful..men crowd into it, ..conform strictly to its ritual, mimic its peculiarities. 1858 Buckle *Civiliz.* (1869) II. viii. 570 They mimicked the voice of liberty—they aped her very gestures. 1905 W. H. Mallock in *19th Cent.* Sept. 497 The devil had mimicked the art of the Creator.

c. of immaterial or inanimate things personified.

1712 Granville *Poems* 173 Who wou'd with Care some happy Fiction frame, So mimicks Truth, it looks the very same. 1712 Steele *Spect.* No. 514 ¶ 2 Vice has learned so to mimick Virtue, that it often creeps in hither under its Disguise. 1750 Johnson *Rambler* No. 77 ¶ 3 The prattle of affectation mimicking distresses unfelt. 1854 Patmore *Angel in Ho.* I. II. vii, The leaves, all stirring, mimick'd well A neighboring rush of rivers cold. 1878 Stevenson *Edinburgh* (1889) 8 Behold the palace re-awakened and mimicking its past.

3. To represent imitatively, as by drawing, painting, etc. Of things: To have a close resemblance to, to have or assume the appearance of.

1770 T. Whately *Observ. Gardening* 23 Such whimsical wonders, however, lose their effect, when represented in a picture, or mimicked in ground artificially laid. 1814 Wordsw. *Excursion* VI. 315 Like..clouds that mimicked land Before the sailor's eye. 1819 Keats *Lamia* II. 125 Fresh carved cedar, mimicking a glade Of palm and plantain, met from either side. 1860 Reade *Cloister & H.* lxiii, He showed her how closely he could mimic marble on paper.

4. *Path.* Of a disease: To exhibit symptoms that have a deceptive resemblance to those of (another disease); to simulate.

1744 Berkeley *Siris* § 90 The scurvy..which indeed must be allowed to create or mimic most other maladies. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 473 Nodular forms are closely mimicked by the..febrile outbursts of nodular leprosy.

5. *Zool.* To have a 'mimetic' resemblance to (something else) in form or colour.

1861 H. W. Bates in *Trans. Linn. Soc.* XXIII. 504 The Leptalides..fly in the same parts of the forest, and generally in company with the species they mimic. 1879 Lubbock *Sci. Lect.* ii. 62 The *Geometridæ*..closely mimic bits of dry stick.

Mimical (mi·mikăl), *a.* (and *sb.*). Also 7 mymicall. [f. Mimic *a.* + -al.] A. *adj.*

† 1. = Mimic *a.* 1. *Obs.*

1603 Harsnet *Pop. Impost.* 104 The Puppets have alwaies a Mimicall prolocutor to tel what they meane. *a* 1618 Raleigh *Rem.* (1644) 264 A Mimical French-man whom I entertained .. for his lests. *a* 1661 Fuller *Worthies, Kent* (1662) II. 80 A Mimical Ape. 1693 J. Edwards *Author. O. & N. Test.* 293 Devils..are a mimical sort of creatures..diligent emulators of the most holy persons.

2. † Befitting a mime or burlesque actor (*obs.*); pertaining to, characterized by, or of the nature of mimicry.

1610 Healey *St. Aug. Citie of God* VI. i. (1620) 226 It were like Mimicall scurrility to demand any thing of any one of them [*sc.* gods], which resteth vnder the disposing of another. 1617 Moryson *Itin.* III. 7, I beheld the mimicall gestures..of the Roman Priests. 1617 Bp. Hall *Quo Vadis?* (1628) § 14 A few waste complements and mimicall courtesies. 1676 Wiseman *Surg.* I. xxiii. 132 Without speakIng or opening his Eyes for many months, onely some odd mimicall gestures he used. 1709 Steele *Tatler* No. 99 ¶ 1 By introducing mimical Dances, and fulsom Buffoonries. 1711 Shaftesb. *Charac.* III. ii. 93 The petty Tyrannys and mimical Politys of some new Pretenders. 1774 Warton *Hist. Eng. Poetry* (1775) I. i. 49 No priest shall be a poet, or exercise the mimical or histrionical art in any degree. 1840–1 De Quincey *Style* Wks. 1859 XI. 171 The mimical situations of novels. 1873 *Q. Rev.* Oct. 340 She had musical and mimical talents.

† 3. = Mimic *a.* 3. *Obs.*

1624 Gee *New Shreds of O. Snare* 17 The Actor that puts life into this mimicall Artillery by motion and voice. 1663 *Proposal to use no Conscience* 2 Small mimical oaths, as when we swear by our Honor..or Faith. 1693 *Emilianne's Hist. Monast. Ord.* II. i. 232 The Nuns..did in progress of time attribute to their cutting off their Hair,..and mimical Habits, a holy Virtue.

B. *sb.* An imitator; an actor.

1688 R. Holme *Armoury* II. 9/2 Enterpe..is the goddess of Mymicals.

Hence **Mi·mically** *adv.*, † **Mi·micalness.**

1623 Cockeram II, Scoffingly, *Irronically, Mimically.*

1642 Fuller *Holy & Prof. St.* III. xii. 181 So long mimically imitating mad men that he became one. *a* 1661 Fuller (Ogilvie 1882), The mimicalness of the ape. 1711 Puckle *Club* 107 Be neither mimically in, nor ridiculously out of the fashion.

† **Mimica·tion.** *Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. Mimic *v.* + -ation.] A mimicking, counterfeit.

1716 M. Davies *Athen. Brit.* III. *Arianism* 83 Several imperfect notions and mimications of the Christian Religion.

Mimicked (mi·mikt), *ppl. a.* [f. Mimic *v.* + -ed¹.] In senses of the verb.

1818 Byron *Ch. Har.* IV. xli, The lightning rent from Ariosto's bust The iron crown of laurel's mimick'd leaves. 1886 Darwin *Orig. Spec.* xiii. (1866) 507 Many of the mimicking forms of the Leptalis, as well as of the mimicked forms, can be shown by a graduated series to be merely varieties of the same species.

Mimicker (mi·mikəɹ). [f. Mimic *v.* + -er¹.] One who or something which mimics.

1847 in Webster; and in later Dicts. 1861 H. W. Bates in *Trans. Linn. Soc.* XXIII. 509 Amongst the living objects mimicked by insects are the predacious species from which it is the interest of the mimickers to be concealed.

Mimicking (mi·mikiŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. Mimic *v.* + -ing².] In senses of the vb.; *Zool.* = Mimetic *a.*

1733 Cheyne *Eng. Malady* II. xii. § 5 (1734) 244 Saint Vitus's Dance, (as it is call'd) the mimicking Distemper. 1886 [see Mimicked]. 1872 Nicholson *Introd. Stud. Biol.* 52 The mimicing butterflies..are liable at a distance to be mistaken for the distasteful *Heliconidæ*. 1877 E. Leigh *Cheshire Dial.* s. v. *Mimick*, 'Mimicking work' is work made to look well for a time, but not to last, like bad contract work.

Mimicry (mi·mikri). Also 7 mimmickry. [f. Mimic *sb.* + -ry.]

1. The action, practice, or art of mimicking or closely imitating, either in sport or otherwise, the manner, gesture, speech, or mode of action of persons, or the superficial characteristics of a thing.

1709 Steele *Tatler* No. 38 ₱ 6 A wretched Belief, That their Mimickry passes for Real Business, or True Wit. 1810 Scott *Lady of L.* II. xxvi, The chase I follow far, 'Tis mimicry of noble war. 1829 Cunningham *Brit. Paint.* i. 58 Mimickry, common to all children, was remarkable in me. 1870 Huxley *Lay Serm.* iii. (1874) 49 The successful mimicry of the measure of a Greek song. 1903 R. D. Shaw *Pauline Epist.* 175 A learned and distinguished Comedian ..daily went through his antics and mimicry on the Capitol.

b. *In mimicry of*: in imitation of.

1814 Southey *Roderick* VIII. 107 As if in mimickry of insect play. 1839 Thirlwall *Greece* xlviii. VI. 139 [He] wore a lion's skin, and armed himself with a club, in mimicry of Hercules.

c. An act, instance, or mode of mimicking. Also *concr.* a production by which something is mimicked.

1687 N.N. *Old Popery* 17 Those trivial upstart Mimmickries of them [*sc.* the Roman Church] practiced only within the narrow Limits of the Church of England. 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 169 ₱ 4 We shall find it [Good-Breeding] to be nothing else but an Imitation and Mimickry of Good-nature. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) IV. 219 They [*sc.* monkeys] soon begin to exert all their sportive mimickries. 1877 Shields *Final Philos.* 236 The Latin apologists .. had denounced the myths and oracles of paganism as Satanic mimicries. 1879 C. H. Wilson in *Encycl. Brit.* X. 673/2 In France an imitative school..has executed mimicries of ancient glass painting.

2. *Zool.* A close external resemblance which a living creature (or sometimes a nest, etc.) bears to a different animal, or to some inanimate object.

1861 H. W. Bates in *Trans. Linn. Soc.* XXIII. 509 *note*, The author [Rössler] enumerates many very singular cases of mimicry; he also states his belief that the mimicry is intended to protect the insects from their enemies. 1893 Newton *Dict. Birds* s. v. *Mimicry*, We must always remember that the Mimicry, however produced, is unconscious.

Miminy-piminy (mi·mini,pi·mini), *a.* and *sb.* Also mimminee-pimminee. [Intended as phonetically symbolic: cf. Mim; also Niminy-piminy.]

A. *adj.* Ridiculously delicate or over-refined; finicking.

1815 Mrs. Pilkington *Celebrity* II. 229 Your miminy-piminy fears of hurting the feelings. 1863 Reade *Hard Cash* xxxiii, In a miminy-piminy voice [she] said she was come to make her submission. 1881 W. S. Gilbert *Patience* II, A miminy piminy, *Je-ne-sais-quoi* young man.

B. *sb.* Finicking or affected composition.

1818 Hazlitt *Eng. Poets* viii. 293 All the tantalizing, teasing, tripping, lisping mimminee-pimminee of the highest brilliancy and fashion of poetical diction. 1825 — *Spirit of Age* 397 The two lines immediately after..are a mere piece of enigmatical ingenuity and scientific mimminee-pimminee.

Mimique, obs. form of Mimic.

† **Mi·mist.** *Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. Mime *sb.* + -ist.] One who imitates. (Erroneously used by Puttenham.)

1589 Puttenham *Eng. Poesie* I. xi. (Arb.) 42 There were others [*sc.* poets] that..vsed in places of great assembly, to say by rote nombers of short and sententious meetres, very pithie and of good edification, and thereupon were called Poets *Mimistes*: as who would say, imitable and meet to be followed for their wise and graue lessons.

Mimmation (mimē·ʃən). *Assyrian Gram.* Also mimation. [f. Arab. *mīm*, name of the letter *m* + -ation, after Nunnation.] The appending of *m* to the flexional vowels in Assyrian. (A characteristic of the Babylonian dialect of that language, as *nunnation* is of classical Arabic.)

1873 *Eng. Cycl. Arts & Sci.* Suppl. 173. 1896 W. St. C. Boscawen *Bible & Mon.* i. 30 The .. elaborate power of word-building, as well as the preservation of the mimation ..attest this similarity. 1903 *Expositor* Oct. 280 Jaum is the same as Jau only with the Babylonian mimmation added.

Mi·mmering, *a.* ? Pseudo-*arch.* [Cf. next.] ? Doting, dreaming.

1827 G. Darley *Sylvia* 64 A half-brain'd loon! A mimmering driveller!

† **Mimmerkin.** *Obs. Sc.* In 6 mymmerken, -in. [Cf. Du. *mijmeren* (MDu. *mimmeren, mimeren*) to dote; and see -kin.] ? A dotard.

1508 Kennedie *Flyting w. Dunbar* 29 Mandrag mymmerkin, maid maister bot in mowis. *Ibid.* 514 Cankrit Caym, ..Tutinillus, Marmaidyn, mymmerken, monstir of all men.

Mimmick, -ry, obs. forms of Mimic, Mimicry.

Mimmulus, obs. form of Mimulus.

Mimness (mi·mˌnės). [f. Mim *a.* + -ness.] Primness, demureness.

c 1817 Hogg *Tales & Sk., Edin. Baillie* (1878) V. 224 My angel Lady Jane .. had now lost all her jocularity and flippancy of speech; there was nothing but mimness and reserve in the Marquess's presence.

† **Mi·mograph.** *Obs. rare*⁻¹. [ad. L. *mīmographus*, Gr. μῖμογράφ-ος: see next. Cf. † *geograph, bibliograph.*] = next.

1656 Stanley *Hist. Philos.* v. 13 (*Plato*), Sophron the Mimographe.

Mimographer (məimɒ·grăfəɹ). [f. L. *mīmograph-us* (a. Gr. μῖμογράφος, f. μῖμο-ς Mime *sb.* + -γράφος writer) + -er¹: see -grapher.] A writer or composer of mimes.

1638 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* (ed. 2) 235 Mimographers I needs must call them. *Ibid.* 267 Some are Poëtasters, or Mimographers. 1711 Shaftesb. *Charac.* (1737) I. 196 'Tis in this that the great mimogranher, the father and prince of poets, excels so highly; his characters being wrought to a likeness beyond what any succeeding masters were ever able to describe. 1858 Donaldson tr. *C. O. Müller's Hist. Lit. Anc. Gr.* xxxix. § 4 II. 215 Sophron the mimographer.

† **Mimo·loger.** *Obs.*⁻⁰ [f. Gr. μῖμολόγ-ος reciter of mimes (f. μῖμο-ς Mime + -λόγος that speaks) + -er¹: see -loger.] A reciter of mimes. So **Mimo·logist.**

1727 Bailey vol. II, *Mimologer*, one who recites Rhymes. 1832 *Examiner* 21/1 She is the Psyche of the Mimologists.

† **Mimo·logy.** *Obs.* [ad. Gr. μῖμολογία, f. μῖμολόγος: see prec.] Recitation of mimes.

1727 Bailey vol. II, *Mimology*, a making of Rhymes.

Mimophyre (məi·mŏfəiəɹ). *Petrology.* [f. *mimo-* (see next) + *-phyr* ending of G. *porphyr* porphyry.] An uncrystallized rock having the appearance of porphyry.

1841 *Penny Cycl.* XX. 56/2 Mimophyre. Cement argillaceous, uniting distinct grains of felspar, &c.

† **Mimo-prophet.** *Obs. nonce-wd.* [f. Gr. μῖμο-ς Mime (taken in the sense of 'mimic', 'sham') + Prophet.] A mock or pretended prophet. Hence † **Mimoprophetic** *a.*

1668 H. More *Div. Dial., Schol.* (1713) 567 When the whole Empire of the World was promised..to the Familists, by their Mimo-Prophet H. N. *Ibid.* 571 The Quakers.. are to be esteemed..a Mimoprophetick sort of People.

‖ **Mimosa** (mimō·ză, mimō·să). Pl. **-as,** also Lat. **-æ.** [mod.L. (Colin 1619: see Hatz.-Darm. s.v.), app. f. L. *mīm-us* Mime *sb.* + *-ōsa* fem. of *-ōsus* suffix: see -ose. The name seems to have been meant to allude to the 'mimicry' of conscious life shown by the Sensitive Plant.]

1. a. *Bot.* A genus of leguminous shrubs, natives of tropical and sub-tropical regions; the best known representative is the common Sensitive Plant, *M. pudica.* The genus was originally nearly co-extensive with the present sub-order *Mimoseæ*, but has been greatly narrowed by the separation of *Acacia* and other genera. Also, a plant of this genus. **b.** In popular language applied chiefly to the Sensitive Plant and to certain trees of the genus *Acacia*, esp. the Australian species otherwise known as Wattle-trees.

[1704 J. Harris *Lex. Techn.* I, *Mimosæ Plantæ*, the same with *Sensative.*] 1751 J. Hill *Hist. Plants* 474 The legume of the Mimosa is articulated, and the leaves are sensitive. 1753 Chambers *Cycl. Supp.*, The species of Mimosa, enumerated by Mr. Tournefort, are these: 1. The common sensitive shrub. 2. The prickly and more sensitive Mimosa... 5. The prickly Pernambuco Mimosa. 1775 *Nat. Hist.* in *Ann. Reg.* (1783) 93 The Mimosæ, or sensitive plants. 1801 Southey *Thalaba* I. xiv, Beneath a tall mimosa's shade .. They saw a man reclined. 1808 Scott *Marm.* IV. Introd. 196 For not Mimosa's tender tree Shrinks sooner from the touch than he. 1847 Longf. *Ev.* II. ii. 42 At the tramp of a horse's hoof on the turf of the prairies, Far in advance are closed the leaves of the shrinking mimosa. 1857 Livingstone *Trav.* xi. 203 White-thorned mimosa (*Acacia horrida*). 1862 G. T. Lloyd 33 *Yrs. in Tasmania* iii. 33 The Mimosa or Wattle, which prevails throughout the most fertile lands of Tasmania. 1867 Baker *Nile Tribut.* I. (1872) 9 A few miserable stunted thorny mimosas.

2. The bark of various Australian species of *Acacia*, used in tanning; also called *Wattle-bark.*

1852–4 *Tomlinson's Cycl. Usef. Arts*, etc. (1866) II. 28 Mimosa or Wattle-bark, is procured from different species of mimosa, which grow in Australia and New Zealand.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *mimosa-bush, family, scrub, shrub, -thorn*; **mimosa-bark** = sense 2; **mimosa gum** = *gum arabic* (see Arabic *a.* 2).

1848 W. Westgarth *Australia Felix* xvii. 255 The other exports of Australia Felix consist chiefly of tallow,..*mimosa hark, and gum-wood. 1900 Kipling in *Daily News* 16 June 4/5 McManus went for a walk through the *mimosa-bushes. 1860 Gray *Man. Bot.* 91 *Mimoseæ*, the *Mimosa Family. 1890 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, **Mimosa gum.* 1900 Doyle *Green Flag* 4 Thick clumps of *mimosa scrub. 1830 R. Dawson *Pres. State Austral.* v. (1831) 202 Gum arabic, which exudes from the *mimosa shrubs. 1894 Sir G. H. Portal *Mission Uganda* 35 Clumps of *mimosa thorns. 1898 *Daily News* 6 Sept. 4/7 They stood behind the thin breastwork of mimosa thorn bushes. 1775 Masson *Journeys at Cape* in *Phil. Trans.* LXVI. 290 We encamped under a large *mimosa tree.

Mimose (mimō·s). *Petrology.* [a. F. *mimose.*] A uniformly greyish coloured lava composed of compact feldspar closely united with pyroxene.

1841 *Penny Cycl.* XX. 56/2 Mimose. Laminated felspar, and augite.

Mimosite (mimō·səit). *Palæont.* [ad. mod.L. *Mimōsitēs* (see J. H. Balfour *Man. Bot.* 1849, § 1189): see Mimosa and -ite.] Any fossil remains of plants supposed to have belonged to the sub-order *Mimoseæ.*

1882 in Ogilvie; and in later Dicts.

Mimotannic (mimotæ·nik), *a. Chem.* [f. Mimo(sa) + Tannic *a.*] *Mimotannic acid*: a variety of tannic acid found in the mimosa.

1857 Miller *Elem. Chem., Org.* v. § 4 (1862) 403 The essential constituents of catechu are mimotannic acid and catechin. 1874 Garrod & Baxter *Mat. Med.* 235 Kino contains a species of tannin, called mimotannic acid (or catechu-tannic acid).

Mimotype (mi·mətəip). *Zool.* [f. Gr. μῖμο-ς Mime *sb.* (taken in the sense of 'mimic') + Type *sb.*] 'A type or form of animal life which in one country is the analogue or representative of a type or form found in another country, to which it is not very closely related' (*Cent. Dict.*).

1881 T. Gill in *Smithsonian Rep.* 460 The quasi-representative forms are not only isotypes, but simply mimotypes. Foot-n. *Mimotypes*, forms distantly resembling each other, but fulfilling similar functions.

Hence **Mimotypic** (mimoti·pik) *a.*, relating to or having the character of a mimotype.

1890 in *Century Dict.*; and in later Dicts.

Mimp (mimp), *sb.* and *a.* [Phonetically symbolic: cf. Mim.]

A. *sb.* A pursing up of the lips.

? 1820 *Heiress* 54, I am preparing the cast of the lips for the ensuing winter..thus...It is to be called the Paphian mimp.

B. *adj.* Prim, precise, affected, mim.

1882 in *Lanc. Gloss., Mimp*, prim, precise, affected.

So **Mi·mpetty mimp** *adv.*, in prim silence.

1798 Charlotte Smith *Yng. Philos.* I. 168, I am so teased and so lectured by the old folks that I sit mimpetty mimp before them merely for peace sake.

Mimp (mimp), *v. dial.* [Cf. Mimp *sb.*]

† **1.** *trans.* To purse *up* (one's mouth).

1710 *Brit. Apollo* III. No. 35. 2/2 She mimp'd up her Mouth with scorn.

2. *intr.* 'To speak or act in an affected or mincing manner; to toy or play with one's food in an affected manner' (E. D. D.).

c 1861 Staton *Rays from Loominary* 41 Peggy coom mimpin up besoide him, lookin bonnily confused. 1880 Mrs. Parr *Adam & Eve* vi. 83, I thought you'd be mimpin' and mincin', and that nothin' nd please 'ee.

† **Mi·mpins.** *Obs.* ? *School slang.* (See quot.)

1820 L. Hunt *Indicator* No. 35 (1822) I. 275 There used to be a mystery called mimpins, which as Dr. Johnson would say, made a pretty sweetmeat.

Mimsey (mi·mzi), *a. dial.* Also **mimzy.** [f. Mim *a.*: cf. *clumsy, flimsy, tipsy.*] 'Prim, prudish; contemptible' (E. D. D.).

1880 *Antrim & Down Gloss., Mim, Mimsey*, prim, prudish. 1895 S. Christian *Sarah* (ed. 4) 262 She is no mimzy miss to be scared, or a reed to break if you lean your hand on it.

‖ **Mimulus** (mi·miŭlŭs). *Bot.* Also 8 mimmulus. [mod.L.; app. dim. of L. *mīmus* Mime *sb.* The application by Linnæus (sense 2) is supposed to allude to the resemblance of the flowers to a mask.]

† **1.** The Louse-wort or Red Rattle, *Pedicularis sylvatica. Obs.*⁻⁰

1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Mimmulus*, the Herb Rattle, or Louse-wort. 1727 Bailey vol. II.

2. A genus of flowering plants (N.O. *Scrophularineæ*), indigenous in America, Asia, and Africa; a plant of this genus (in popular use esp. *M. luteus*, the 'monkey-flower' or 'monkey-plant').

M. moschatus is commonly known as the musk plant.

1824 Loudon *Encycl. Gardening* Index, Mimulus, monkey-flower. 1882 *Garden* 10 June 406/3 Single Mimuluses in variety..have been the most brilliant outdoor hardy flowers I have. 1905 *Longm. Mag.* Jan. 253 The showy yellow flowers of the North American mimulus may be seen.

‖ **Mimus** (məi·məs). *Ornith.* [mod.L. use of L. *mīmus* Mime *sb.*] A genus of American birds including the mocking-bird, *M. polyglottus*; a bird of this genus.

1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Mimus*,..the Indian Mock-bird, not much unlike the Jay, but somewhat smaller. *attrib.* 1896 Newton *Dict. Birds* 958 In the *Mimus*-group the tarsus is anteriorly scutellated.

† **Mi·my,** *a. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. Mime *sb.* + -y¹.] Of or pertaining to a mime or mimic.

1683 O. U. *Parish Ch. No Conventicles* 4 When his mimy Face should appear, with Gravity and Laughter at the same instant.

† **Min,** *sb.*[1] *Obs.* Forms: 1, 4 myne, mine, 3 mune-, 3–4 min, 4 minne, 4–5 myn(ne. [OE. *myne* masc., = OS. *muni-* (in *munilīc* lovable), ON. *mun-r* mind, desire, love, Goth. *mun-s*:—OTeut. **muni-z*, f. wk.-grade of the Indogermanic root **men-* (: **mon-* : *mn-*): see MIND *sb.*]

1. a. Mind, purpose, intention (OE. only). b. Remembrance, memory, mention. *To make min of*: to mention.

Beowulf 2572 Læssan hwile..þonne his myne sohte. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 5174 Yee ha sin þat yee mak of him ani min. *Ibid.* 8835 To haf o þat tre lastand min. *a* 1450 MYRC 1852 On þy power þen haue þow mynne, þat þou myȝt a-soyle of alle synne. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xxiv. 361 Now, gramercy agayn! Mekill thank and myn and this shalbe ment.

2. *Comb.*: min-day = MIND-DAY; also *attrib.*

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 22 Ine anniuersaries, þet is ine munedawes of ower leoue vreond. 1532 in Weaver *Wells Wills* (1890) 84 A myndey cowe that I had of my mother.

† **Min,** *sb.*[2] *Sc. Obs.* Shortened form of MINNIE, mother.

1 ... *Johnnie Faa* in Child *Ballads* IV. 284 (Cent.) I'm Johnny Faa o' Yetholm town, There dwall my min and daddie O.

† **Min,** *a. Obs.* Also 3 minne, 4–5 myn(n)e, 4–6 myn. [a. ON. *minne* (:—**minra*) = OFris. *minnera, minra*, OS. *minnero* (MDu. *minre, minder*, Du. *minder*), OHG. *minniro* (MHG. *minre, minner*, mod.G. *minder*), Goth. *minniza*:—OTeut. **minnizon-*, **minwizon-*, cogn. w. Gr. μινύθειν to make or grow smaller, L. *minuĕre* to diminish, L. *minor* less.

The alleged OE. *min* does not exist; the word in the supposed examples is *minne* with the sense 'wicked, harmful', prob. cognate with *mán* MAN *a.* and *sb.*[2]]

Less. Always coupled with *more.*

a 1300 *E. E. Psalter* ix. 5 þou snihhid genge mare and minne, Forworthed wiked for his sinne. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1881 þere he schrof hym schyrly, & schewed his mysdedez, Of þe more & þe mynne, & merci besechez. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* 175 Who so makes myrth mor or min, In god behoues his ioy begin. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* ix. 34 My Fadir knewe both more and mynne,..That al þis worlde shuld synke for synne. 1571 H. CHARTERIS *Lyndesay's Wks.* Adhort. a vj b, Idolateris..Reid heir ȝour lyfe at large, baith mair and min.

† **Min,** *v.*[1] *Obs.* Forms: 1 (**mynian, *mynnan*), 3*rd sing. pres.* **mineþ,** *subj.* **meneȝe**; 4–5 **myn**(n. [OE. **mynian*, f. *myne* MIN *sb.*[1]] *intr.* To intend, purpose; to direct one's course, go.

a 1000 *Guthlac* 1061 þær min hyht myneð to gesecenne. *a* 1000 in Cockayne *Shrine* 163 Ic lære ælcne ðara þe maȝa si & manigne wæn hæbbe þæt he menige to þam ilcan wuda. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 982 þe lorde..Mynned merthe to be made vpon mony syþez. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 4787 Vp at a maȝte mountane he myns with his ost.

† **Min,** *v.*[2] *Obs.* Forms: 2–4 mine, 3–4 munne, min(ne, 4–5 myn(e, mynne. [a. ON. *minna* (:—OTeut. type **minjan*, **menjan*, f. root **men-*: see MIND *sb.* The first quot. may belong to OE. *mynegian*: see MING *v.*]

1. *trans.* To remind.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 139 And he minede alle men to forleten here sinnes, and beten. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 4613 Ne neuire na mercy ȝow emell as mynes me ȝour pistill. *a* 1450 *Le Morte Arth.* 169 Syr, of one thinge I wolle you mynne.

2. impers. *Me mins* = I recollect, I remember, I think. Const. *of, on.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 5274 Ne minnes yow noght, now mani dai, Of a drem, lang siþen gan? 13.. *Sir Beues* (A.) 185 'Ȝe', ȝhe seide, 'of a wilde bor I wene, me mineþ boute for, Al of þe feure!' *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 1625 For in þe marche of Messedone me mynes [*MS. Dublin* me menys] on a tyme, þat [etc.]. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xxviii. 200 Cryst saide his self, mynnes me, That [etc.].

3. *trans.* To remember, to have or bear in mind; to call to mind or remembrance, recollect.

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 995 On þe morne, as veh mon mynez þat tyme, *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1434 Happye is þe here In no hate lengis,..Ne mynnes no malis þat is of mynd past. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 1094 As ȝone ȝondire hiȝe hill sall ay hald his place, So sall þi name fra now furth be mynned in mynde. 14.. in *Polit. Relig. & Love Poems* (1903) 219 My merci, if þou it mynned, Y haue schewed it þee on many wise.

b. *intr.* and *refl.* Also, to think (of something or some one). Const. *of, on, upon.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 112 A lastand warc apon to myn. *Ibid.* 8252 Of cercles þat he toke a-wai Offrand he made at min on ai. *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* viii. 5 What is man þat þou ert mynand of him? 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 583 Fyrst of my hyre my lorde con mynne. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. xv. 454 Ȝe mynnen wel how Mathew seith how a man made a feste. *a* 1425 *Cursor M.* 21873 (Trin.) Hongres & deeþ vpon to mynne. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xxviii. 136 Myn ye noght that I you told..That my body shuld be sold.

4. *trans.* To commemorate.

a 1225 *St. Marher.* 2 Þe eadi meiden þat we munnið to dei.

5. *trans.* To say, tell, mention, record, relate.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 23953 Of hir truli it es mi tale, Hir murning for to min. ?*c* 1325 *Old Age* iv. in *E. E. P.* (1862) 149 Iset ic am wiþ sunne þat i ne mai noȝt munne. *a* 1375 *Lay Folks Mass Bk.* App. iv. 456 Sebbe trewely trouwe þer-Inne, And fulliche out of ȝor mouþ hit mynne, þer-to liht muche mede. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* Prol. 37 Amonges þat menye,—to myn hym be nome,—Homer was holden haithill of dedis. *a* 1600 *Flodden Field* lxxii. in Child *Ballads* III. 358 The first word that our prince did myn, 'Welcome, dukes and erles, to mee!'

Min, obs. form of MINE.

‖ **Mina**[1] (məi·nă). *Pl.* **minæ** (məi·nī), **minas** (məi·năz). Also 7 **myna, mine,** 8 **minah**; *pl.* 7 **minaes, mynaes.** [L. *mina*, ad. Gr, μνᾶ (see MNA), prob. from a Babylonian source: cf. MANEH.]

1. A unit of weight anciently used in Western Asia, Greece, and Egypt.

In Greek-speaking countries it contained 100 drachmas; it varied according to locality and time, but was not far from 1 lb. avoirdupois; 100 minas made a talent. In Assyria and Babylonia there seem to have been two different *minas*, one being double of the other.

1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch* Explan. Words, *Mina* or *Mna*, a weight, answering to *Libra*, that is to say, a pound. 1771 RAPER in *Phil. Trans.* LXI. 487 It weighed 72 Attic Minas. 1845 P. SMITH in *W. Smith's Dict. Gr. & Rom. Ant.* s. v. *Talentum*, Another standard of the talent, which was used in commercial transactions,..the mina of which was called the *commercial mina*...This mina is mentioned .. as weighing 138 drachmae. 1903 *19th Cent.* Aug. 271 The Babylonian ordinary mina was equal to 982·4 grammes. Sixty minae made one talent.

2. A denomination of money anciently current in Greece and Greek-speaking countries, = 100 drachmas, or about £4. (Rendered 'pound' in the English versions of the N.T.)

1579–80 NORTH *Plutarch, Lysander* (1595) 486 A tallent of siluer, two and fifty Minas [etc.]. 1638 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (ed. 2) 242 Each supper stood him in a hundred Mynaes of gold, each mina or dina, in our money valuing six and twenty shillings and eight pence. 1659 STANLEY *Hist. Philos.* XI. (1687) 768/2 He [Protagoras] was the first, that took a hundred Minæ for a gratuity. 1685 COTTON tr. *Montaigne* xxxiv. (1711) I. 312 He was presently awarded ten Attick Mines. 1776 ADAM SMITH *W. N.* I. x. (1869) I. 141 Four minæ were equal to thirteen pounds six shillings and eight pence. 1838 THIRLWALL *Greece* xxxiii. IV. 296 Cyrus had promised them a largess of five minas a-piece. 1845 P. SMITH in *W. Smith's Dict. Gr. & Rom. Ant.* s.v. *Talentum*, The [Attic] mina was *4l.* 11*s.* 3*d.*..The Aeginetan mina was, according to the existing coins, *5l.* 14*s.* 7*d.* 1877 C. GEIKIE *Christ* liv. (1879) 657 He gave them each, only a mina, one hundred drachmae.

3. = MANEH.

1737 WHISTON *Josephus* p. cl, Maneh, Mna, or Mina, as a coin = 60 Shekels. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XII. 37/2 [Ezekiel] tells us that the minah or maneh was valued at 60 shekels.

‖ **Mina**[2] (məi·nă). Forms: 8 **maynat,** 8–9 **mino, minor,** 9 **minah, minar, miner, myna, mynah, myneh, maina,** 9– **mina.** [Hindī *mainā*.] A name applied to several different stumoid passerine birds of India and countries further east, belonging to the genera *Acridotheres* and *Eulabes*, esp. *Eulabes* (formerly *Gracula*) *religiosa*, the common talking starling of India. In Australia also applied to various species of the genera *Manorhina* and *Myzantha*.

1769 LADY M. COKE *Jrnl.* 11 Aug. (1892) III. 131 A number of fine Birds presented themselves before me: an Noble Mino that I wanted to Buy, but [etc.]. 1800 *Misc. Tracts* in *Asiat. Ann. Reg.* 4/2 The maynat. 1813 J. FORBES *Oriental Mem.* I. 47 The myneh is a very entertaining bird,..articulating several words in the manner of the starling. 1831 TRELAWNY *Adv. Younger Son* III. 246 The mina, of deeper blue than the sky. 1848 GOULD *Birds Australia* IV. pl. 79 Yellow-throated Miner. 1859 LANG *Wand. India* 263 A minar was chased by a small hawk. 1879 M. STOKES *Ind. Fairy Tales* iv. (1880) 18 So the dog went to a maina and said: 'What shall I do to hurt this cat?' 1888 D. MACDONALD *Gum Boughs* 146 Yellow-legged minahs, tamest of all Australian birds. 1893 Myna, Maina, Minor [see GRACKLE 1].

b. *Comb.*, as *mina-bird, -grackle.*

1782, 1842 Minor Grakle, mino grakle [see GRACKLE 1]. 1864 *Chambers's Encycl.*, *Mina bird.*

Minace, obs. Sc. form of MENACE *v.*

Minacious (minā·ʃəs), *a.* [f. L. *mināci-, minax* (f. *minārī* to threaten) + -OUS. Cf. It. *minaccioso.*] Menacing, threatening; of a threatening character; full of threats or menaces.

1660 H. MORE *Myst. Godl.* III. iii. 63 Whether the face of Heaven..look upon us with a..sad and minacious countenance. *a* 1711 KEN *Hymnotheo* Poet. Wks. 1721 III. 349 He ghostly Wants supplies, gives inward Joys, Which most minacious Crosses overpoise. 1889 ABP. BENSON in *Life* II. 286 He went away with a kind of minacious 'Very well'.

absol. 1824 *Blackw. Mag.* XVI. 68 You have often a touch of the minaceous [*sic*].

Hence **Mina·ciously** *adv.*, **Mina·ciousness.**

1674 *Rec. Presbyt. Inverness* (S.H.S.) 43 Donald dow Mack conachie..menaciouslie threatened the Minister. 1864 *Q. Rev.* Oct. 571 The attitude of the Papal communion before this new enemy is that of a startled, trembling minaciousness. 1895 *Punch* 21 Dec. 300/2 Two..terriers, which barked minaciously at my legs.

Minacity (minæ·sĭti). [f. L. *mināc-em, minax* threatening (see MINACIOUS *a.*) + -ITY.] 'Disposition to use threats' (J.); denunciation.

1656 in BLOUNT *Glossogr.* 1841 L. HUNT *Seer* II. (1864) 76 Nor is the district without its historical minacities. 1854 MILMAN *Lat. Chr.* VI. iii. (1864) III. 481 The warning was couched in words of prophetic minacity.

† **Minacy.** *Obs.* Also 6–7 **menacy.** [ad. L. *minācĭæ* threats, f. *minācĭ-, minax* threatening: see MINACIOUS and -ACY.] = MENACE.

1565 STAPLETON tr. *Bede's Hist. Ch. Eng.* 17 Saynt Albane ..litle heeded the menacies [L. *minas*] of the Prince. 1645 FEATLY *Dippers Dipt* (1646) 79 According to that dreadfull menacy in the second Commandment. *a* 1670 HACKET *Abp. Williams* II. (1693) 17 Yet was I left under that minacy and the minacer..left to his course against me.

Minah, variant of MINA[1] and MINA[2].

Minal, variant of MONAUL.

Minam, var. MENNOM *Obs.* exc. *dial.*, a minnow.

1656 SPELMAN *Villare Angl.* Pref. 3 What Dragg-net.. can be so cast to catch all Minams that come under it?

† **Mi·nant,** *a. Obs.* [f. L. *minant-em*, pr. pple. of *minārī* to threaten.] That threatens.

1646–8 G. DANIEL *Poems* Wks. 1878 I. 197 A Minant Exhalation.

‖ **Minar** (minā·ɪ). Also 7 **mynar.** [a. Arab. منار *manār*, f. root of نار *nār* fire.] A lighthouse, a tower, or turret. Cf. MINARET.

1665 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (1677) 142 High slender Turrets which the Mahometans..term..Minars, i.e. Towers. *Ibid.* 318 A Tower, Mynar [*edd.* 1634, 1638, manor]. 1864 *Chambers's Encycl.* s. v., In India, *Minars*, or pillars of victory, are frequently erected in connection with mosques... They..are divided into stories by projecting balconies, like the minarets. 1898 G. SMITH *Twelve Ind. Statesm.* iii. 100 The Taj itself..was illumined by the electric light from its four minars and the mosques on either side.

Minar, variant of MINA[2].

Minaret (mi·nărĕt). Forms: *α.* 7 **minoret,** 8 **minarat, mineret,** 9 **menaret,** 7– **minaret**; *β.* 8–9 **minaree, minareh, menareh.** [a. Arab. مناره *manārah*, **manārat** (in Turkish pronunciation *mināre*), f. root of *nār* fire: cf. MINAR. The immediate source may be F. *minaret*; cf. Sp. *minarete*, Pg. *minareto*, It. *minaretto.*] A tall slender tower or turret, connected with a mosque, surrounded by one or more projecting balconies from which the muezzin calls the people to prayer.

α. 1682 WHELER *Journ. Greece* v. 364 They have built a Minoret, or tall, slender Steeple; out of which they make a Noise, to call People together, at their set times of Prayer. 1695 MOTTEUX *Saint-Olon's Morocco* 72 Two Mosques, whose Minarets are of a considerable height. 1728 MORGAN *Algiers* I. iv. 157 This Khalifa was the first who erected Minarets in the Mosques. 1760 *Ann. Reg.* 87 All the minerets..were thrown down. 1812 BYRON *Ch. Har.* II. xxxviii. The cross descends, thy minarets arise. 1839 LANE *Arab. Nts.* I. 18 The..menaret of each mosque. 1869 TOZER *Highl. Turkey* I. 51 The minarets and the castle which crowns the highest position produce a striking effect.

β. 1775 CHANDLER *Trav. Asia M.* (1825) I. 59 Amid these the tall minarees rise, and white houses glitter, dazzling the beholder. 1798 TWEDDELL in *Rem.* (1815) I. 235 One of the minarehs of St. Sophia. 1839 LANE *Arab. Nts.* I. 379 The muĕddins on the menarehs had chanted the Selam of Friday.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. ii. 13 This beautiful minaret of ice. 1870 B. HARTE *Dickens in Camp* i, The dim Sierras, far beyond, uplifting their minarets of snow.

c. *attrib.*, as *minaret-top, -tower.*

1856 KANE *Arct. Expl.* I. xviii. 224 A solitary column or minaret-tower. 1867 LADY HERBERT *Cradle L.* i. 37 The only call for prayer is from the minaret top.

Minareted (mi·nărĕtĕd), *a.* Also **minaretted.** [f. MINARET + -ED[2].] Possessing, furnished with, or characterized by minarets.

1844 LD. HOUGHTON *Palm Leaves* 138 In the minaretted distance gleamed Purple and faint-green relics of the day. 1893 W. S. BURRELL & EDITH E. CUTHELL *Ind. Mem.* 37 The family mosque, a tiny minareted building.

Minargent (minā·ɹdʒĕnt). [f. (ALU)MIN(IUM + ARGENT.] A kind of aluminium-bronze.

1875 in KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* s. v. 1889 BRANNT *Krupp & Wildberger's Metallic Alloys* 322 Minargent. This alloy, which has a very beautiful white color, is composed of copper 1000 parts, nickel 700, tungsten 50, aluminium 10.

Minas(s)e, obs. Sc. forms of MENACE *v.*

Minati, obs. form of MANATEE.

Minatorial (minăto·rĭăl), *a.* [f. MINATORY + -AL.] Minatory, threatening.

1885 in *Cassell's Encycl. Dict.*; and in later Dicts.

Hence **Minato·rially** *adv.* = MINATORILY.

1847 in WEBSTER; and in later Dicts.

Minatorily (mi·nătŏrĭli), *adv.* [f. MINATORY + -LY[2].] In a minatory or threatening manner.

a 1670 HACKET *Abp. Williams* I. (1693) 103 His other Works being prohibited so strictly and minatorily, that Bishops might not read them.

Minatory (mi·nătŏri), *a.* and *sb.* Also 6 **minotary, mynatory,** 6–7 **minatorie.** [ad. OF. *minatoire*, ad. late L. *minātōrius*, f. *minārī* to threaten.]

A. *adj.* Expressing, uttering, or conveying a threat; also, of the nature of a threat or menace; threatening, menacing.

1532 MORE *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 612/1 Those wordes be mynatory and threttes. 1543 GRAFTON *Contn. Harding* 522 Kyng Rychard..reiected the dukes request with many spitefull and minotary woordes. 1577 STANYHURST *Descr. Irel.* in *Holinshed* (1808) VI. 29 With rough and minatorie speeches [he] began to menace them. 1644 BULWER *Chirol.* 59 This minatory Agitation of the Hand. 1851 CARLYLE *Sterling* I. xiii, Considerable clouds of Invasion .. hung minatory over the North and North-East of Spain. 1898 BODLEY *France* II. iv. vii. 425 A doctrine minatory to the army of France.

† **B.** *sb.* A threat, a menace. *Obs. rare.*

1572 BURLEIGH in Digges *Compl. Ambass.* (1655) 334 With some sweet minatories, he intrated that he might be staied.

1686 Evelyn *Diary* 22 Sept., The Emperor sending his Minatories to the King of Denmark.

Minature, obs. form of Miniature.

‖ **Minauderie** (*mĭnōdərĭ*). [Fr., f. *minauder* to put on affected expressions, f. *mine* expression of face: see Mien.] Coquettish airs.

1763 H. Walpole *Let. to Mann* 11 Aug., The Duchess.. is a heap of minauderies and affectations. 1813 Scott *Peveril* xl, [She] neglected nothing that effrontery and minauderie could perform to draw upon herself some portion of the King's observation. 1849 Thackeray *Pendennis* xlvii, How much pleasanter than the minauderies of the young ladies in the ball-rooms.

Minaul, variant of Monaul.

†**Minaway.** Chiefly *Sc. Obs.* Also 7 minnaway, 8 minuwae, 9 minowaye, minua. Phonetic adoption of F. *menuet*, Minuet.

?1695 *Ballad, Constant Coridon* ii, No Minnaway Dance, or Boree, Was ever so sweet a strain. 1787 Burns *Let. to W. Nicol* 1 June, She..tipper-taipers when she taks the gate, first like a lady's gentlewoman in a minuwae. 1816 Hogg *Poetic Mirror* (1817) 202 The Otar dancit ane minowaye. 1821 [see Mince *v.* 6 b]. 1826 Galt *Last of Lairds* xiv, Like a maid of honour dancing a minaway wi' the lord-chancellor.

Mince (mins), *sb.* [f. Mince *v.*]

1. Minced meat; mincemeat.

a 1850 Rossetti *Dante & Circ.* ii. (1874) 274 Then let them hew me to such mince As a man's limbs may make. 1863 [see Hash *sb.* 1]. 1869 Mrs. Stowe *Old-town Folks* xxvii. (1870) 305 'We children' were employed in chopping mince for pies. 1899 O. Seaman *In Cap & Bells* (1900) 84 Those pies at which you annually wince, Hearing the tale how happy months will follow Proportioned to the total mass of mince You swallow.

2. An act of 'mincing' in speech or gesture.

Richardson 1837 has a quot. in which *mince* is a misprint for *minde*. The sense appears in many later Dicts., and though no authority is cited, it is so completely according to analogy that it might be used without producing any sense of novelty.

Mince (mins), *v.* Forms: α. 4–6 mynce, 5–6 mynse, 5 mence, (7 minze), 6–7 minse, 6– mince; β. *dial.* 5 mynsh, 7 minche, 9 minsh, 6– minch. [Late ME. *mynce, mynsh*, ad. OF. *mincier, minchier* (mod.F. *mincer*), accentual variant of *menuisier*:—popular L. **minūtiāre*, f. L. *minūtia* (see Minutia), f. *minūtus* Minute *a.* Cf. It. *minuzzare* and (*am*)*mencire*.]

1. *trans.* To cut or chop (meat, etc.) small, or in little pieces. †Also, to cut up tobacco.

α. ?*c* 1390 *Form of Cury* (1780) 12 Mynce Oynouns and cast þer to Safronn and Salte. *c* 1420 *Liber Cocorum* (1862) 18 Above þese herbus a lytul larde Smalle myncyd. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 41 Þen mence Sawge. *c* 1460 J. Russell *Bk. Nurture* 400 Mynse hem [*sc.* partridges, etc.] smalle in þe siruppe. 1555 W. Watreman *Fardle Facions* I. 48 Rawe fleshe very finely minced. 1611 Middleton & Dekker *Roaring Girle* II. i. C 3 Shee that minces Tobacco. 1693 J. Dryden in *Dryden's Juvenal* xiv. (1697) 353 The least Remains of which they mince, and dress It o'er again to make another Mess. 1726 Swift *Gulliver* II. i, [At dinner] The Wife minced a bit of Meat, then crumbled some bread on a Trencher, and placed it before me. *a* 1756 Mrs. Haywood *New Present* (1771) 159 Mince very fine the white of a chicken. 1863 Mrs. Gaskell *Sylvia's L.* xxxiv, The sergeant asked for pepper and salt; minced the food fine and made it savoury. 1887 *Spon's Househ. Managem.* 284 Mince the flesh of a hen lobster to the size of small dice.

absol. 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 230 And who has to kill and skin and mince and boil and roast? The cook, I said.

β. 1760–72 H. Brooke *Fool of Qual.* (1792) I. 291 A small joint of meat,..served us cold, hashed and minched, from one week to the other. 1821 [see 7]. 1880 Jamieson, *To Minch, Minsh*, to cut into small pieces.

b. To chop up or grind small with a knife or mincing-machine and cook (meat, usually the remains of a joint, etc., left from a previous meal).

Mod. We will have the cold meat minced for dinner to-day.

c. *transf.* To cut (a person) in small pieces.

1602 Shaks. *Ham.* II. ii. 537 She saw Pyrrhus make malicious sport In mincing with his Sword her Husbands limbes. 1607 — *Timon* IV. iii. 122 Spare not the Babe..Thinke it a Bastard..And mince it sans remorse. 1648 Gage *West Ind.* 200 Fearing that many would fall upon him cowardly and mince him small in pieces. 1742 Pope *Dunc.* IV. 120 Revive the Wits! But murder first, and mince them all to bits. 1819 Shelley *Cyclops* 359 He..minces their flesh and gnaws their bone With his cursed teeth. 1896 Farmer & Henley *Slang, Mince* (medical students'), to dissect.

β. 1635 Heywood *Hierarchie* II. 64 Thinking to minch me into parts and fleece Me of my right.

†d. To cut or slash. *Obs. rare.*

a 1560 Becon *Jewel of Joy* Wks. II. 19 b, Theyr dublets and hoses,..for the most parte are so mynsed cutte and iagged, that [etc.]. 1582 Stanyhurst *Æneis* II. (Arb.) 63 Lyk on a mountayn thee tree dry wythered oaken Sliest by the clowne Coridon rusticks with twibbil, or hatchet. Then the tre deepe minced, far chopt dooth terrifye swinckers.

†e. The alleged proper term for: To carve (a plover). *Obs.*

1486 *Bk. St. Albans* F vij b, A Plouer Mynsed. 1513 *Bk. Keruynge* in *Babees Bk.* 151 Wynge that quayle mynce that plouer thye that pegyon. 1661 Rabisha *Cookery Dissected* 253 Mince that Plover. 1840 H. Ainsworth *Tower of London* xxxix, In the old terms of his art, he leached the brawn,..minced the plovers, thighed the pigeons.

2. *transf.* and *fig.* To cut up, subdivide minutely. Also with *up*. †*To mince away*: to nullify by multiplied petty exceptions.

α. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 6758 All northumberlande prouynce He thoght as croms of brede to mynce. 1581 Mulcaster *Positions* xxxix. (1887) 190 To mince his labour so, as ech one can haue but some litle. 1639 Fuller *Holy War* V. xxi. (1640) 264 We will not take notice of Germanie as it is minced into pettie Principalities. 1689 T. R. *View Govt. Europe* 62 The Jesuits there have..minc'd away all the old remains of Morality and Conscience. *a* 1748 Watts *Improv. Mind* II. vi. § 2 (1801) 241, I have always thought it a mistake in the preacher to mince his text or his subject too small, by a great number of subdivisions. 1853 Marsden *Early Purit.* 244 Their [*sc.* the Puritans'] sermons were not studiously minced up in tiny fragments.

refl. 1643 Sir T. Browne *Relig. Med.* I. § 8 Nor contented with a general breach or dichotomy with their Church do subdivide and mince themselves almost into Atoms.

β. 1637 Rutherford *Lett.* II Mar., And let Christ have all your love, without minching or dividing it. 1712 M. Henry *Life P. Henry* Wks. 1853 II. 647/1 In his expositions, he reduced the matter of the chapter..read to some heads; not by a logical analysis, which often mincheth it too small.

†**3.** To diminish, take away from. *Obs.*

α. 1646 J. Benbrigge *Usura Accom.* 20 He that minceth his estate, doth diminish the Magistrate's Right [=Taxes].

β. 1499 in *N. Riding Rec.* (1894) 178 Wherby the seid wode is mynshed and hurt. 1606 Birnie *Kirk-Buriall* (1833) 35 Lawlesse publicans, lyke Hophnees with elcrookes to minche and not Samueles, to mense the offerings of God.

4. To lessen or diminish in representation; to make little of, minimize; to disparage; to palliate, extenuate (faults). Now *rare.*

a 1591 H. Smith *Serm.* (1637) 395 Wee mince our sins as though they needed no forgivenesse. 1609 W. M. *Man in Moone* (Percy Soc.) 46 To mince and extenuate any laudable part in her, but to display and augment whatsoever deformity you know by her. 1638 Ford *Lady's Trial* I. iii, Be gone Futelli, doe not mince one syllable Of what you heare. *a* 1676 Hale *Prim. Orig. Man.* II. vii. 186 The Author of the Dissertation..seems to mince the Universality of the Flood. 1685 Dryden *Sylvæ* Pref. a 3 b, If to mince his meaning,..I had..omitted some part of what he [*sc.* Lucretius] said,..I certainly had wrong'd him. 1727 Swift *Gulliver, Let. fr. Capt. G. to Sympson* 14 You have either omitted some material circumstances, or minced or changed them in such a manner that I do hardly know mine own work. 1736 Ainsworth *Lat. Dict.*, To mince or pass a thing slightly over. 1839 Bailey *Festus* v. (1848) 41 Ye see I do not mince the truth for ye.

†b. *absol. Obs.*

1615 Jackson *Creed* IV. II. vi. § 5 Abraham..was then rejustified not by works though not without faith, as Bellarmine minceth, but by faith without works, as the Apostle strongly and peremptorily infers. 1621 *1st Bk. Discipl. Ch. Scot.* Pref. (1641) A 3, Some of the Disciples..at first did mince, and sparingly speake, but afterward practise and loudly preach; that [etc.]. 1681 Glanvill *Sadducismus* II. (1726) 455 Who confidently and without mincing, denied that there was any such Being.

c. *To mince the matter*: in early use, to extenuate or make light of the particular matter in question. Now only in negative contexts, to moderate one's language in condemnation, to express oneself politely or delicately. So *to mince matters.*

a 1535 [see Mincing *vbl. sb.* 2]. 1604 Shaks. *Oth.* II. iii. 247 Iago, Thy honestie and love doth mince this matter, Making it light to Cassio. 1649 Bp. Hall *Cases Consc.* (1650) 160 Some Doctors..would either excuse, or mince the matter. 1668 Owen *Nat. & Power Indw. Sin* Wks. 1851 VI. 315 Here it [*sc.* the law] minceth not the matter with Sinners. 1679 J. Goodman *Penit. Pard.* III. v. (1713) 335 A learned Jew endeavours to mince the matter, and to turn the story into an allegory. 1741 Richardson *Pamela* II. 82 Well, Tom, said he, don't mince the matter. Tell me, before Mrs. Andrews, what they said. 1778 Mme. D'Arblay *Diary* 26 Aug., His determination not to mince the matter, when he thought reproof at all deserved. 1840 Carlyle *Heroes* ii. (1858) 239 A candid ferocity, if the case call for it, is in him; he does not mince matters! 1857 W. Collins *Dead Secret* II. ii. (1861) 49 A man's speculative view depends—not to mince the matter—on the state of his secretions. 1891 Mrs. Oliphant *Jerus.* IV. iii. 483 Language of condemnation..made when men did not mince matters.

d. †To report (expressions) euphemistically (*obs.*); to moderate (one's language), restrain (one's words) within the bounds of politeness or decorum. Also *to mince it. To mince an oath*: to substitute some euphemistic perversion for it (also used in sense 5).

1599 Shaks. *Hen. V*, v. ii. 130, I know no wayes to mince it in loue, but directly to say, I loue you. 1606 — *Ant. & Cl.* I. ii. 109 *Ant.* Speake to me home, Mince not the generall tongue, name Cleopatra as she is call'd in Rome. 1720 Swift *Let. Advice Yng. Poet* Misc. (1722) 107 My young Master, who at first but minc'd an Oath, is taught there to mouth it gracefully, and to swear, as he reads French, *Ore rotundo*. 1754 Richardson *Grandison* III. vii. 112 Shall I give it you in plain English? You don't use to mince it. 1826 Disraeli *Viv. Grey* II. ii, I will not mince my words. 1897 S. S. Sprigge *Life T. Wakley* xxxii. 294 These were hard sayings, but men did not mince their words in those days.

5. a. *trans.* To utter in an affectedly refined manner; to pronounce with affected elegance, 'clip' (one's words). b. *absol.* or *intr.* To speak with affected elegance or delicacy of pronunciation.

1549 Coverdale, etc. *Erasm. Par. Thess.* 3 We came not unto you with bragging,..nor curiously mincing a sorte of great wordes. 1807 Crabbe *Par. Reg.* II. Wks. 1834 II. 179 Low spake the lass, and lisp'd and minced the while. 1874 L. Stephen *Hours in Library* (1892) I. x. 347 [The] fine gentleman who minced his mother tongue.

6. *intr.* To walk with short steps or with affected preciseness or nicety; to walk in an affected manner; to show affectation or affected delicacy in manner of gait. Also *to mince it.*

1562 *Jack Juggler* (Roxb. Club) 9 She minceth, she bridleth, she swimmeth to and fro. 1567 Drant *Horace, Ep.* I. xiv. E v, Thou hast no trippinge trull to mince it with the now That thou mighst foote it vnto her as nimble as a cow. 1593 Drayton *Ecl.* vii. 13 Now Shepheards..in neate Jackets minsen on the Playnes. 1598 Shaks. *Merry W.* v. i. 9 *Fall.* Away I say, time weares, hold vp your head & mince. 1611 Bible *Isa.* iii. 16 The daughters of Zion are hautie, and walke with stretched forth necks, and wanton eyes, walking and mincing [*marg.*, tripping nicely] as they goe, and making a tinkeling with their feet. 1616 R. C. *Times' Whistle* etc. (1871) 133 Then gan she trip it proudlie one the toe, And mince it finely vpon London streetes. *a* 1639 W. Whatelev *Prototypes* I. xix. (1640) 240 Mincing with ones feete, or any other affected kind of going, is an act of haughtinesse. 1736 Ainsworth *Lat. Dict.*, To mince it in walking. 1753 Foote *Eng. in Paris* I. Wks. 1799 I. 36 The men are all puppies, mincing and dancing, and chattering. 1826 *Blackw. Mag.* XX. 484 She..minced, and primmed, and tossed her head. 1868 Miss Alcott *Lit. Women* xix, It was a comical sight to see her mince along. 1892 Stevenson & L. Osbourne *Wrecker* ii. 28 My aunt might mince and my cousins bridle, but there was no getting over the solid physical fact of the stone-mason in the chimney-corner.

b. *trans.* To perform or enact mincingly.

1603 Dekker *Batchelar's Banq.* xi, Fine Dames and dainetye Girles..whoe can finely mince their measures. 1605 Shaks. *Lear* IV. vi. 122 Behold yond simpring Dame, ..that minces Vertue & do's shake the head to heare of pleasures name. 1648 J. Beaumont *Psyche* III. clxxxii, To the ground Three times she bows, and with a modest grace Minces her spruce retreat. 1821 in A. Lowson *J. Guidfollow* (1890) 233 [The witch] Could mince a minua on mist, Or caper on a cloud!

7. *Comb.* The verb-stem used *attrib.* a. with object-noun, as in †mince-speech, one who 'minces' his language; b. in the sense of 'minced', as in †*mince-collop*, Mincemeat, Mince-pie.

α. 1621 Brathwaite *Nat. Embassie*, etc. (1877) 278 Minsspeech, nuff-pace sleeke-skin, and perfum'd breath.

β. 1821 Galt *Ayrsh. Leg.* xxv. (1895) 223 A steam-ingine that minches minch-collops as natural as life.

†**Mi·nceative,** *a.* and *sb. Obs.* In 7 mynsative, minsitive. [f. Mince *v.* + -ative.] a. *adj.* ? Mincing, affected. b. *sb.* ? One given to mincing.

1601 B. Jonson *Poetaster* IV. i, Neuer say, your Lordship, nor your Honour; but, you, and you my Lord, and my Ladie: the other they count too simple and minsitiue. 1606 *Sir G. Goosecappe* I. ii. B ij b, Tis the mind of man, ..to affect new fashions; but to our Mynsatiues for sooth, if he come like to your *Besognio*, or your bore, so he bee rich or emphaticall, they care not.

Minced (minst), *ppl. a.* [f. Mince *v.* + -ed 1.]

1. Of meat, etc.: Cut up or chopped into very small pieces. *Minced collops*, see Collop 1 2 c. See also Minced meat, Minced-pie.

c 1420 *Liber Cocorum* (1862) 17 Frye smalle mynsud onyone In oyle. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 15 Also mencyd Dates, Clowes, Maces [etc.]. *c* 1450 *Ibid.* 110 Take vynegre and poudre gingere, salt, and cast a-pon þe mynced shulder [of mutton]. ?*a* 1584 *Tom Thumbe* 100 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* II. 181 His mother..Into a pudding thrust her sonne instead of minced fat. 1821 Lamb *Elia* Ser. I. *Grace before meat*, One who professes to like minced veal. 1893 *Mrs. Beeton's Cookery Bk.* 111/1 Minced Fowl—an Entrée (Cold Poultry Cookery).

b. *fig.* (See Mince *v.* 2.)

1581 Mulcaster *Positions* viii. (1887) 53 Writers make to many, and to finely minced distinctions. 1606 Shaks. *Tr. & Cr.* I. ii. 279 Is not birth, beauty,..and so forth: the Spice and salt that seasons a man? *Cres.* I, a minc'd man and then to be bak'd with no Date in the pye, for then the mans' dates out.

2. Uttered or performed in a mincing or affected manner. ? *Obs.*

1545 Brinklow *Compl.* i. 8 The mombled and mynsed Masse (wherby neither God is glorifyed, nor the hearers edifyed). 1553 Becon *Reliques of Rome* (1563) 117 The minsed musike that now beareth chief rule in Churches.

†**3.** Diminished; deprived of some essential part, mutilated. *Obs.*

1609 J. Rawlinson *Fishermen Fishers of Men* 34 A minced and curtall mainteinance. 1695 Sage *Fund. Charter Presb.* (1697) 216 Giving us only a Minced account of this Petition. 1707 *Vulpone* 15 [Of the Scotch Representation at the Union.] To agree to such a minced Representative, and give away the Birth-rights of their Lords, Barons and Boroughs.

b. Of an oath: see Mince *v.* 4 d.

1880 Brewer *Reader's Handbk.* (1885) 606 Mr. Mantalini ..is..noted for..his minced oaths [etc.].

Minced meat.

1. a. Meat cut or chopped up very small.

1578 Lyte *Dodoens* I. ciii. 146 Chopte or minsed meate. 1585 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy* III. xi. 90 b, Pies of minced meate, and rice. 1626 Bacon *Sylva* § 46 With a good strong Chopping-knife, mince the two Capons..as small as ordinary Minced Meat. 1839 Lane *Arab. Nts.* I. 123 Stuffed with rice and minced meat.

b. = Mincemeat 1 b. Also *attrib.* *rare* or *Obs.*

1762 Gelleroy *Lond. Cook* 236 Mix your minced meat and sweetmeats accordingly. 1824 Miss Mitford *Village* Ser. I. 235 The apple-room, the pear-bin, the cheese-loft, the minced-meat closet were household words. 1885 in *Cassell's Encycl. Dict.*

2. *fig.* Any thing cut up very small; *esp.* in phrases: see Mincemeat 2.

1649 G. Daniel *Trinarch., Hen. IV*, xxxiv, Neighbour Kings..Hee Courts hy his Ambassadors; and fitts with a new minc't-meat, seueral appetites. 1668 Dryden *Evening's Love* IV. ii, The sun and moon, and those little minced-meats of them. 1772 Nugent *Hist. Fr. Gerund* II. 208 So as to displume him,.. so, in short, as to make minced-meat of him. 1898 A. Balfour *By Stroke of Sword* xxi, Father Miguel..was straightway resolved into minced meat.

†**Mi·ncedness.** *Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. MINCED *ppl. a.* + -NESS.] Affected delicacy.

1583 STUBBES *Anat. Abus.* I. (1879) 78 Their coynesse in gestures, their minsednes in woords and speaches.

Minced-pie.

1. = MINCE-PIE 1. Now only *U.S.*

a. 1607 R. JOHNSON *Pleas. Conceites Old Hobson* (Percy Soc.) 9 Cramming their bellies with minced pyes. 1655 MOUFET & BENNET *Health's Improv.* (1746) 297 Dates are usually put into..minced pies. 1748 MRS. HARRISON *House-Kpr.'s Pocket-Bk.* ii. (ed. 4) 6 Christmas or Minced Pyes, are generally brought in with the first Course. 1753 *Scots Mag.* Oct. 491/1 The fore corner of my hat was considerably elevated and shortened, so that it resembled..the corner of a minced pye. 1762 GELLEROY *Lond. Cook* 237 Minced Pies with Eel, or Oysters. 1872 SCHELE DE VERE *Americanisms* 506 Minced-pies represent in America the English Christmas-pies.

β. 1609 DEKKER *Worke for Armorours* Wks. (Grosart) IV. 117 And vpon Christmas day (in stead of minched pyes) had no better cheere then prouant.

2. = MINCE-PIE 2.

1739 GRAY *Let. to West* 22 May, Sugar-loaves and minced-pies of yew.

Mi·ncemeat. [Altered from MINCED MEAT: see MINCE *v.* 7 b.]

1. † *a.* = MINCED MEAT 1 *a. Obs.*

1747 MRS. GLASSE *Cookery* iv. 60 Then lay in your Dish a layer of Mince-meat.

fig. 1742 POPE *Dunc.* IV. 228 *note*, Stobæus,..an author, who gave his Common-place book to the public, where we happen to find much Mince-meat of old books.

b. A mixture made of currants, raisins, sugar, suet, apples, almonds, candied peel, etc., and sometimes meat chopped small; used in mince-pies.

1845 ELIZA ACTON *Mod. Cookery* 358 Mince Pies. Butter some tin pattypans well, and line them evenly with fine puff paste rolled thin; fill them with mincemeat [etc.]. 1886 G. R. SIMS *Ring o' Bells*, etc. IV. ii. 129 My wife makes her own mincemeat and her own plum-puddings.

2. *To make mincemeat of* (a person), and similar phrases: To cut or chop him into very small pieces; to destroy, to annihilate.

a. 1663 COWLEY *Cutter Colman St.* II. iv, I'll hew thee into so many Morsels, that [etc.]...Thou shalt be Mince-meat, Worm, within this Hour. 1708 MRS. CENTLIVRE *Busy Body* II. iii, If I should find a man in the house I'd make mince-meat of him. 1853 LD. STRANGFORD in *Croker Papers* (1884) III. xxviii. 296 They blame you for letting Johnny Russell off so easily [in a review], when you might have made mincemeat of him. 1902 L. STEPHEN *Stud. Biog.* IV. ii. 76 Macaulay .. makes mincemeat of Southey's .. expositions of political economy.

β. a 1774 D. GRAHAM *Writings* (1883) I. 136 Which made him minch-meat for the grave.

Hence **Mi·ncemeat** *v. trans.*, to cut to pieces.

1879 ATCHEALEV *Boërland* 202 Concluding that I was about to be mincemeated by a Basuto impi. 1897 GUNTER *Susan Turnb.* ii. 15 Bring him up here, or..I'll mincemeat you!

Mince-pie'. [Alteration of MINCED-PIE: see MINCE *v.* 7 b.]

1. A pie containing mincemeat (see MINCEMEAT 1 b). Usually, one of the small pies (now commonly round, but cf. quots. 1807 below and 1753 s. v. MINCED-PIE) which form a prominent part of English Christmas fare.

a. 1600 [see 3]. 1661-2 PEPYS *Diary* 6 Jan., We had, besides a good chine of beef and other good cheer, eighteen mince pies in a dish, the number of the years that he hath been married. 1673 SHADWELL *Epsom Wells* IV. Wks. 1720 II. 247 For currants to make mince-pyes with. 1711-12 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 2 Jan., I see nothing here like Christmas, except brawn and mince-pies in places where I dine. 1747 MRS. GLASSE *Cookery* 116 Lent Mince Pies. 1807 SOUTHEY *Espriella's Lett.* III. 384 Old bridges dangerously narrow, and angles in them like the corners of an English mince-pie, for the foot-passengers to take shelter in. *a* 1825 PARR in Chambers *Bk. Days* (1864) II. 755/2 Please to say Christmas-pie, not mince-pie; mince-pie is puritanical. 1867 TROLLOPE *Chron. Barset* I. xix. 167 There was roast pork and mince-pies, and a bottle of wine.

β. 1846 M. A. RICHARDSON *Local Histor. Table-bk.* VIII. 377 'Tis I that's to .. send thee to Satan to make minch Pies. 1889 *N. W. Linc. Gloss.*, *Minch-pie*, a mince-pie. It is said that *mince-pies* and *minch-pies* are not quite the same. *Minch-pies*, we are told, have meat in their composition; *mince-pies* have not.

2. *transf.* A yew-tree or other shrub cut or trimmed to the shape of a mince-pie.

1756 MRS. DELANY in *Life & Corr.* (1861) III. 435 The gardens laid out in the old-fashioned way of mince-pies, arbours, and sugarloaf yews.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

1600 ROWLANDS *Lett. Humours Blood* ii. 8 Or Mincepie-like Ile mangle out the slaue. 1906 *Month* Jan. 35 Pitt's 'mince-pie' Administrations, as they were sarcastically called.

Mincer (mi·nsəɹ). [f. MINCE *v.* + -ER 1.]

1. A person who minces or chops small.

1611 MIDDLETON & DEKKER *Roaring Girl* II. i. C 3 b, *Green.* Troth, this [tobacco] is finely shred. *Lax.* Oh women are the best mincers. 1850 SCORESBY *Cheever's Whalem. Adv.* v. (1859) 67 The mincer with a two-handed knife slashes it nearly through into thin slices.

b. A mincing-machine.

1885 *Pall Mall G.* 31 Mar. 3/2 How many mincers are in use at workhouses which [etc.]. 1904 *Daily News* 19 May 9 In the East-end .. there is a large trade in converting horse flesh by means of the mincer. One thing is certain—these are not sold as horse flesh sausages.

†2. One who diminishes or disparages. *Obs.*

Tennyson's use (quot. 1847) is fig. of 1, but prob. echoes some example of the sb. in this sense or of MINCE *v.* 4.

1619 PURCHAS *Microcosmus* lxxiv. 737 She accounted his Fame a Mincer, and .. a Halfe-reporter of his Prosperitie and Wisedome. [1847 TENNYSON *Princess* IV. 494 Mincers of each other's fame.]

3. One who minces words: one who speaks mincingly or in an affected manner.

1587 FLEMING *Contn. Holinshed* III. 1284/2 Nicholas Stanleie, whome Leland the minser and refiner of all English names dooth most curiouslie in Latine call *Nicholaum Stenelegium.* 1867 A. J. ELLIS *E. E. Pronunc.* I. iii. § 4. 194 The mincer, so far from dropping the front of the tongue from the palate, raises the middle part and produces (ij) which degenerates into (i), as in Modern French.

†**Mi·nchen.** *Obs.* Forms: 1 mynecenu, -cænu, munecenu, 3 mun(e)chene, 4-5 mynchoun, 4-6 -yn, 5 -on, -eon, -un, -ine, 5-6 -ion, 5, 8-9 -en, 6-7 minchun, -eon, 6, 8 mynchin, 7 minching, 7-9 -in, -en, (9 mynekin); 4-5 meynchen(e, -yn; 4-5 menchon, -en, 5 -one, 7 -ion, mention; 4-5 monchyn, -on(e, -en, 5 -ioun. [OE. *mynecenu* (:—prehistoric **munikinî*) fem. of *munuc* MONK.] A nun.

The distinction suggested in quot. 1844 between 'minchens' and 'nuns' does not seem to have any foundation in the use of the words.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 155/26 *Monacha, uel monialis*, mynecenu. *c* 1205 LAY. 28476 And heo wes .. munechene. *c* 1315 SHOREHAM 7 *Sacraments* 1780 Sudeakne mey be ywedded nauȝt, Monek, munechene, ne frere [*MS.* muneche, ne no frere]. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 403 Sche was i-made mynchoun [*v.r.* monchon, meynchyn]. 1395 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 6 My suster Thomase Blount, Menchoun of Romeseye. *c* 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 3927 Þere was a mynchun wᵗ-inne þat abbay þo, þe wheche was come off heyȝe lynage. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 7164 Þar war, in diuers mansiouns Duelland, monkys and monchiouns. 1485 CAXTON *Paris & V.* (1868) 39, I would rather make you a noune or a menchon. 1495 *Will of Terbuck* (Somerset Ho.), Euery mynchion wᵗ in the same abbey. 1538 in *Lett. Suppress. Monasteries* (Camden) 228 Many of the mynchys [*read* mynchyns] be also agyd. *a* 1539 in *Archæologia* XLVII. 54 That euery nunne and mynchin of this house .. obserue ther deuyne seruice. 1603 STOWE *Surv.* 134 Pertayning to the Minchuns, or nuns of Saint Helens. 1611 SPEED *Hist. Gt. Brit.* VII. v. 215 Ermengith a mention. *Ibid.* xi. 256 Lady Nithgith .. was a Menchion. 1658 PHILLIPS, *Minchings*, an ancient word for those consecrated, whom we call Nuns. 1844 LINGARD *Anglo-Sax. Ch.* (1858) I. v. 198 *note* 1 The mynekins were so called from the Saxon 'munuc', because they observed the rule of the monks, while the nuns observed the rule of the canons.

transf. 1531 ELYOT *Gov.* III. xviii, A Mynchen in the temple of Diana.

b. *attrib.*, as *minchen clothing*; also in the names of places, as *Minchen lane, -meadow, -wood.*

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 473 Þis Wilfritha was nouȝt verrayliche a mynchoun .. hut for drede of kyng Edgar..sche took mynchene cloþynge. 1598 STOW *Surv.* 97 A thirde lane out of Tower-streete, on the North side, is called Mincheon or Minion lane. 1640 SOMNER *Antiq. Canterb.* 69 The which Wood retaines to this day the name of Minchen-Wood. *a* 1691 AUBREY *Nat. Hist. Wilts* (1847) 49 About Priory St. Maries, and in the Minchin-meadowes there,..there is infinite variety of plants.

Minchery (mi·ntʃəri). *Hist.* Forms: 7 mincherie, minchionrea, 8 minshery, 9 mynchery, 8– minchery. [f. MINCHEN + -RY.

First recorded as the proper name of the conventual building at Littlemore near Oxford, and thence adopted in general application by archaizing writers.]

1661 WOOD *Life* (O. H. S.) I. 403 An antient house called *Mincherie*, or *Minchionrea*, that is 'the place of nunns', founded there of old time. 1710 HEARNE *Collect.* (O. H. S.) III. 84 A great many .. Bones of Men, etc., found at the Minshery by Littlemore. 1841 F. E. PAGET *Tales of Village* (1852) 225 Upon condition that a mynchery (as the Saxon nunneries were called) should be forthwith erected. 1893 W. D. MACRAY *Catal. Bodl. MSS.* v. III. 474 The view of Littlemore Minchery is given in three states.

‖ **Minchiate** (mĭŋkiā·te). [It., sb. pl.; in Florio (1611) *menchiatte.*] A card game chiefly played in Tuscany, a modification of tarot. Also, as *plural* (the original use), the cards used in the game.

1768 BARETTI *Acc. Manners & Cust. Italy* II. 219 The games I mean, are those which we form out of those cards called *Minchiate* and *Tarrocco's*. *Ibid.*, Both the minchiate and the tarrocco's consist of five suits instead of four, as common cards do. 1803 R. SMITH in *Archæologia* XV. 140 There is no game on the cards, .. that requires closer attention .. than this of Minchiate. *Ibid.*, A complete set of Minchiate cards, such as have been long in use at Florence. *Ibid.* 141 A Minchiate pack consists of ninety-seven cards, of which fifty-six are called *Cartiglia*, forty *Tarocchi*, and one *Matto.* 1905 *Athenæum* 18 Nov. 684/1 For those with a taste for long-drawn-out pleasures, tarot and minchiate—for others, hasset, trappola, [etc.]—succeeded each other as fashionable games.

Minchun, variant of MINCHEN *Obs.*

Mincing (mi·nsiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. MINCE *v.* + -ING 1.]

1. The action of chopping or cutting up into very small pieces; †*concr.* a small shred or piece (of meat, etc.).

1598 FLORIO, *Sminuzzoli*, mincings, mammocks, shreds or small peeces. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 54 Mincing of meat, as in Pies, .. saueth the Grinding of the Teeth. 1638 RAWLEY tr. *Bacon's Life & Death* (1650) 47 Gravies of Meat, and the Mincings of them small well-seasoned. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 797 Scarification consists in a mincing of the lupus tissue hy the knife.

2. The action of extenuating, minimizing, palliating, or glossing over a matter; the suppression of part of a fact or statement.

a. 1533 MORE *Debell. Salem* Wks. 964/2 The myncynge of suche matters. *a* 1591 H. SMITH *Wks.* (1866-7) I. 449 A spiritual ear can hear God reproving this land for this mincing of his worship. 1701 NORRIS *Ideal World* I. ii. 131 What means this mincing and this disguising of a plain and unavoidable truth? 1866 FELTON *Anc. & Mod. Gr.* I. 100 If they [Homer's characters] get angry, out it comes,..with no mincing of phrase.

β. 1604 T. WRIGHT *Passions* (1620) 290 It is admirable how the minching and particularizing of the object of delight increaseth and augmenteth delight.

3. The action or habit of speaking or acting in an affectedly nice or elegant manner.

1613 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII*, II. iii. 31 Which guifts (Sauing your mincing) the capacity Of your soft Chiuerell Conscience, would receiue. 1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* xii, Such shalt thou be, for all thy mincing and ambling [etc.].

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as **mincing-horse**, a wooden horse or stand on which whale-blubber is minced or chopped; **mincing-knife**, a knife used in mincing meat, etc.; also in whaling, for cutting up blubber into small pieces; **mincing-machine**, a machine for mincing meat, etc.; also for cutting up blubber; **mincing-spade**, a spade used for cutting up blubber.

1586 *Wills & Inv. N. C.* (Surtees) II. 149, ij minsinge knives. 1634 in *Anc. Invent.* (Halliw. 1854) 18, 3 beefe forks, 2 mincinge knyves, 1 cleaver [etc.]. 1874 C. M. SCAMMON *Marine Mammals* 238 The blubber is transported in strap-tubs to the mincing-horse, where the ordinary two-handled knife is used. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, *Mincing-machine*,..a sausage-machine. 1884 *Ibid.* Suppl., *Mincing-knife* (Whaling). *Ibid.*, *Mincing machine*, a machine with knives on a roller, used in cutting blubber small for trying. *Ibid.*, *Mincing spade.* 1885 *Pall Mall G.* 31 Mar. 3/2 The Eastbourne board of guardians have ordered a mincing machine to be supplied for the use of aged and toothless paupers in their workhouse.

Mincing (mi·nsiŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. MINCE *v.* + -ING 2.]

1. That minimizes, extenuates, or diminishes.

1581 T. HOWELL *Deuises* (1879) 233 My symple meaning plaine, not carued with mincing stile. 1593 RAINOLDS *Ouerthrow Stage-pl.* (1599) 108 My speech was too minsing, when I named bawderie. If I had termed it most filthy beastly bawderie, my wordes had bene broder, though not brode enough yet. *a* 1640 J. BALL *Answ. to Canne* I. (1642) 127 Your minsing figure of extenuation. 1778 MRS. SCOTT in Doran *Lady of last Cent.* x. (1873) 242, I hate those mincing names, designed only to palliate wrong actions. 1827 SCOTT *Jrnl.* 10 Mar., The mincing English edition in which he has hitherto been alone known.

2. Of speech, gait, mien, etc.: Affectedly dainty or elegant.

1530 PALSGR. 830/2 A mynsynge pace, *le pas menu.* 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* III. iv. 67 Ile .. turne two minsing steps Into a manly stride. *c* 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* (1650) II. 4 The fawning and soft glances of a mincing smile. 1727 POPE, etc. *Art of Sinking* 111 The Finical Style, which consists of the most curious, affected, mincing metaphors. 1776 MME. D'ARBLAY *Early Diary* 2 Dec., Her voice low, and delicate, and mincing. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* i, Possibly her mincing gait encouraged the belief, and suggested that her clipping of a step of ordinary compass into two or three, originated in her habit of making the most of everything. 1861 GEO. ELIOT *Silas M.* iii, 'Oho', said Dunsey..trying to speak in a small mincing treble. 1893 A. GRIFFITHS *Secrets Prison Ho.* II. IV. ii. 63 She walked with a mincing, self-satisfied air down the passage.

b. Of a person: Speaking, walking, or behaving, in an affectedly dainty or nice manner.

1560 INGELEND *Disob. Child* D j b, This myncing Trull. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. ii. 37 Fitt mate for such a mincing mincon. 1634 MILTON *Comus* 964 As Mercury did first devise With the mincing Dryades On the Lawns. 1700 DRYDEN *Fables* Pref. C 1 b, Distinguish'd from each other as much as the mincing Lady Prioress and the broad-speaking gap-tooth'd Wife of Bathe. 1849 JAMES *Woodman* vii, I can be as delicate and mincing as a serving maid should need be. 1887 A. J. C. HARE *Story my Life* xxiv. (1900) VI. 94 [She] frightened a mincing curate out of his life.

c. In jingling reduplication. ? *nonce-use.*

1822 MOORE in *Mem.* (1853) IV. 7 The mincing-pincing style of talking among the French women.

Hence **Mi·ncingness.**

1866 GEO. ELIOT *F. Holt* xix, That frigid mincingness called dignity.

Mincingly (mi·nsiŋli), *adv.* Also 6 **mins-**, 7 **minz-**, **minchingly.** [f. MINCING *ppl. a.* + -LY 2.]

†1. In small pieces. *Obs.*

1598 FLORIO, *Sminutamente*, mincingly, ..in small peeces.

2. †Sparingly, in grudging measure (*obs.*); in a minimizing or extenuating manner.

a. 1594 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* I. xi. § 5 The iustice of one that requiteth nothing mincingly, hut all with pressed and heaped and euen ouer-inlarged measure. 1699 F. BUGG *Quakerism Exposed* To Rdr. 1 Several do Certifie (tho' mincingly) that they have Publicly Charged him with Lies. 1736 AINSWORTH *Lat. Dict.*, Mincingly, or slightly, *leviter*. 1892 *Chicago Advance* 18 Feb., [Jeremiah] must speak the truth. ..And better to speak it plainly, than mincingly.

β. a 1624 BP. M. SMITH *Serm.* (1632) 256 It is written of Galba, that he gaue pinchingly and minchingly, as though he had not beene Emperour.

3. In a mincing or affectedly elegant manner.

1596 NASHE *Saffron-Walden* M 3, A turne or two hee mincingly pac't with her about the roome. 1598 FLORIO, *Mangiare a miccino*, to eate minsingly, a crum, a iot. 1657 J. SERGEANT *Schism Dispach't* 601 Though it seeme to speak coyly and mincingly. 1741 RICHARDSON *Pamela* (1824) I. xxix. 293 She trips up and down mincingly, and knows not how to set her feet. 1838 DICKENS *Nich. Nick.* xxxiv, He led her mincingly away. 1878 HESBA STRETTON *Needle's Eye* II. 146 She tossed her head higher, and stepped more mincingly than usual.

transf. 1824 *New Monthly Mag.* X. 133 Crow-quills that move mincingly between embossed margins. 1841 *Tait's Mag.* VIII. 69 A soul of large capacity will not sip mincingly.

Mincks, obs. form of MINX.

Mind (mәind), *sb.*[1] Forms: 1 ȝemynd, 2–3 imunde, 3 ymunde, 2–4 munde, 2–7 minde, 3–4 muynde, muinde, 4–5 mende, meende, (5 myynde), 4–7 mynd(e, 3– mind. [ME. *mynd*, repr. (the prefix *ge-* being lost as in all other sbs.) OE. *gemynd* fem. (also neut.) = OHG. *gimunt*, Goth. *gamund-s* memory:—OTeut. **ga-mundi-z*, f. **ga-* prefix (see Y-) + **mun-* wk.-grade of the root **men-*, *man-*, *mun-* (:—Indogermanic **men-*, *mon-*, *mn-*) to think, remember, intend. A parallel formation with different ablaut-grade is OTeut. **gaminþjo*ᵐ neut., whence Goth. *gaminþi* memory, ON. *minni* neut. (Sw. *minne*, Da. *minde*) memory, memorial. Other derivatives of the root are OE. *munan*, *gemunan* to think, remember (= ON. *munu*, Goth. *gamunan*), *myne* thought (see MIN *sb.*[1]), *manian* to admonish. Outside Teut. the root (Skr. *man*) is represented by innumerable derivatives, e.g. Skr. *mati* thought (= L. *mens*:—OAryan *mṇti-*), *manas* mind (= Gr. *μένος* rage); Gr. *μέμονα* I yearn, L. *meminī* I remember, *monēre* to advise.]

I. Memory.

†**1.** The faculty of memory. *Obs.*

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* (Th.) I. 288 Þurh þæt ȝemynd se man ȝeðencð þa ðing ðe he ȝehyrde, oþþe ȝeseah, oþþe ȝeleornode. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 774 His mynde es short when he oght thynkes. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Man of Law's T.* 429 She seyde she was so mazed in the see That she forgat her mynde by hir trouthe. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) II. 191 He was so myȝty of mynde [L. *tanta memoria viguit*] þat he rehersed two þowsand names arewe by herte. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 332/1 Meendfulle, or of good meende, *memoriosus*.

2. The state of being remembered; remembrance, recollection. Chiefly in phrases, as †**a.** (*To be*) *in mind*, to be remembered, be kept in memory. So *to come in mind*, to occur to one's thoughts.

a 1000 *Boeth. Metr.* vii. 39 Þær se wisdom a wunað on ȝemyndum. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 636 So wolde þat ire name were eueremo in munde. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. xi. 49 Coueytyse-of-eyes cam ofter in mynde þan dowel or dobet amonge my dedes alle. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 67 The whos knyhthode is yit in mende, And schal be to the worldes ende. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* lxiii. 28 Als lang in mynd my wark sall hald..As ony of thair werkis all.

b. *To have, bear, keep,* (†*hold*) *in mind*: to remember, retain in memory. Now only with mixture of sense 7: To keep before one, keep one's attention fixed upon. Also in Arithmetic, † *To keep in mind*: to 'carry'.

a 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* IV. xxiv. (ed. Miller) 344 Þa aras he from þæm slæpe, & eal þa þe he slæpende song fæste in ȝemynde hæfde [L. *memoriter retinuit*]. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 209 Listeð nu..and undernimeð hit on heorte and habbeð hit on minde. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 67/460 Azein kuynde huy sounguen þere, ase þei huy hadden in muynde hou muche he was anoured er of foules. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Man of Law's T.* 1029 In the olde Romane geestes may men fynde Maurices lyf I bere it noght in mynde. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 415 He dede oon dede þat is worþy to be kepte in mynde [*v.r.* munde]. *c* 1425 *Cursor M.* 6095 (Trin.) In mynde shal ȝe holde þis day. 1431 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* 27 Also haue in mende of ij chales. 1550 CROWLEY *Epigr.* 1228 The Lorde wyll haue all theyr inell doynges in mynde. *c* 1586 C'TESS PEMBROKE *Ps.* CXV. v, Iehovah..us in mind doth beare. 1612 COLSON *Gen. Treas., Art Arithm.* G gg 4, Which maketh 17. pence, I write 7. in a place further towards the right band, and keepe 1. in minde, then 2. times 9. is 18. and 1. in minde maketh 19. 1656 WILLSFORD *Arithm.* 33, 4 times 5 is 20, for which subscribe a cypher, and keep 2 decimalls in minde;..then say 4 times 3 is 12, and 2 in minde is 14. 1827 DISRAELI *Viv. Grey* VI. v, Bearing in mind the exact position..in which I stand. 1881 MRS. CRAIK *Sydney* I. vii. 154 Will you keep in mind that we have got to be better friends? 1895 SIR A. KEKEWICH in *Law Times Rep.* LXXIII. 662/2 Keeping that fact in mind.

†**c.** *To come, fall, run* (to a person) *to mind*: to occur to his recollection. *Obs.*

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* II. 553 [602] And euery word [she] gan vp and doun to wynde, That he hadde seyd as it come here to mynde. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xii. (*Mathias*) 219, & alsa rane hyme þane to mynd, þat he, as a wykyt man & vnkynd, had slane hyr sone. *c* 1412 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 22 Me fel to mynde how that, not long ago [etc.]. 1433 LYDG. *St. Edmund* III. 61 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 415 But now to mynde kometh the champioun Off Estyngland..Callid seynt Edmund.

d. *To bring, call to mind*: to summon to remembrance, remember, set before one.

1433 LYDG. *St. Edmund* III. 381 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 420 The olde serpent..Brouht onto mynde his stat, his regalye Off tyme passid [etc.]. 1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* xvi. (Percy Soc.) 65 Be not to pensyfe; call to mynde agayne How of one sorowe ye do now make twayne. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg., Past.* IX. 76 These, and more than I to mind can bring. 1788 BURNS *Auld Lang Syne* i, Should auld acquaintance be forgot And never brought to mind? 1868 DICKENS *Uncomm. Trav.* xxi, Calling these things to mind as I stroll among the Banks.

e. *To be* (*go, pass*) *out of mind* (also † *of, from mind*): to be forgotten. So † *to set out of mind*, to forget, disregard. *Obs.* exc. in the proverb, 'Out of sight, out of mind', and 'time out of mind' (see f).

c 1381 CHAUCER *Parl. Foules* 69, & al schulde out of mynde That in this worlde is don of al mankynde. 1421 HOCCLEVE *Complaint* 80 Forgeten I was, all owte of mynde a-way. *a* 1425 *Cursor M.* 3196 (Trin.) Þi dede shal neuer of mynde go. *c* 1450 tr. *De Imitatione* I. xxiii. 30 Whan man is oute of siȝt, sone he passiþ oute of mynde. 1539 TAVERNER *Erasm. Prov.* (1552) 30 Oure Englyshe prouerbe..Oute of syght, oute of minde. ? *a* 1550 *Droichis Part Play* 89 in *Dunbar's Poems* (S. T. S.) 317 One thowsand ȝeir is past fra mynd, Sen I was generid of his kynd. 1704 M. HENRY *Friendly Visits* 16 Though they are out of sight they are not out of Mind.

f. *Time out of mind*, used as adv. phr. = from time immemorial; occas. † *in, from time out of mind*. († Also *rarely*, for an inconceivably long future time: cf. sense 7 c.) Formerly also *of, from, out of time that no mind is* (*of*); *before, without time of mind*; and simply *out of mind*. Similarly *sith, in, within time of mind, time within mind of man* = within the memory of man.

? 1386 *Rolls of Parlt.* III. 225/2 As out of mynde hath he used. 1414 *Ibid.* IV. 60/1 By old tyme, and sithe tyme of mynde. 1432 *Ibid.* 417/1 [The inhabitants of Lymington petition] That hough tyme oute of mynde..there were wont many diverse Shippes..to come..yn to the saide Havenes. 1455 *Ibid.* V. 337/1 Had, enjoyed and prescribed, fro the tyme that no mynde is. 1473–5 *Cal. Proc. Chanc. Q. Eliz.* (1830) II. Pref. 61 Unto the which maner the advoweson of the church..ys and withoute tyme of mynde hath he appendaunt. 1530 PALSGR. 591/1 This countray is nothyng so well inhabyted as it hath ben within tyme of mynde. 1544 tr. *Littleton's Tenures* (1574) 36 By tytle of prescription, that is to say, from time whereof is no mind. 1566 PAINTER *Pal. Pleas.* II. 307 My..sleepinge body, under toumbe, shall dreame time out of mynde. 1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* I. iv. 69. 1623 T. SCOT *Highw. God* 12 To follow that faith which his forefathers professed time out of minde. 1700 DRYDEN *Sigismonda & Guisc.* 140 The Cavern-mouth alone was hard to find, Because the Path disus'd was out of mind. 1898 G. W. E. RUSSELL *Coll. & Recoll.* xxii. 292 A favourite theme of satirists time out of mind.

3. [? Developed from 2 c.] *To put* (a person) *in mind*: to remind. Const. *of*; also *how* or *that* with clause, *to* with infin.

1530 PALSGR. 674/2 Within this syxe dayes I wyll put hym in mynde of bis promesse. 1665 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (1677) 120 This being in Asia puts me in mind, That no part of the World is so subject to earth-quakes as Asia is. 1711–12 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 30 Jan., Stella used to do such tricks formerly; he puts me in mind of her. 1839 JAMES *Gentl. Old Sch.* xii, Pray..put my young friend, Ralph, in mind, that he promised me a visit this afternoon. 1853 LYTTON *My Novel* III. xxix, You put me in mind of an old story. *Ibid.* v. ii, Jarvis, put me in mind to have these inexpressibles altered.

†**4.** That which is remembered *of* (a person or thing); the memory or record *of*. Also in phr. *of good mind* = 'of happy memory'. *Obs.*

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *De Vet. Test.* (init.), Þa ȝimeleasan men,..heora ȝemynd is forȝiten on halȝum ȝewritum. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) I. 5 But besines of writers to oure vnkunnynge hadde i-holde and i-streyned mynde of olde dedes [L. *memoriam transactorum*]. 1489 in *Exch. Rolls Scotl.* X. 121 *note*, The charter of umquhile owre grauntsir and faider of gud mynd quham God assoilze.

5. The action or an act of commemorating; something which serves to commemorate; a commemoration, a memorial.

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 189 And feower syllice stanas on þære ilcan stowe alexdon, to ȝemynde & to cyþnesse þæs apostolican sizes oþ þysne andweardan dæȝ. *c* 1320 R. BRUNNE *Medit.* 196 Yn a memorand of hym with outyn ende, He seyd, 'makeþ þys yn my mende'. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Knt.'s T.* 1048 (Harl. MS.) And westward in þe mynde and in memory Of mars he haþ i-maked such an oþer [altar]. 1388 WYCLIF *Luke* xxii. 19 Do ȝe this thing in mynde of me. 1412–20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* II. xvii. (1513) Kiij, Nynus..an ymage dyde make..And sette it vp, for consolacion And for a mynde, and a memoryall. 1423 JAS. I *Kingis Q.* lxxxv, Here bene the princis..In mynd of quhom ar maid the bukis newe. 1433 LYDG. *St. Edmund* I. 769 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 390 At bis comyng he bilt a roial toun Which stant ther yit for a manier mynde For his arryuaile into this Regioun. ? *a* 1500 *Wycket* (1828) p. xiv, The breade is the fygure or mynde of Christes bodye in earth.

†**b.** *spec.* The commemoration of a departed soul, esp. by a requiem said or sung on the day of the funeral in any month or year following. Also, in OE., the annual commemoration of a saint. Chiefly in MONTH('S MIND, TWELVE-MONTH('S or YEAR('S MIND.

a 900 *O.E. Martyrol.* 2 May 70 On þone æfteran dæȝ þæs monðes bið þæs halȝan biscopes ȝemynd sancte Athanasi. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 315 At Wynchestre he took his fader tresorie, and ȝaf moche for his fader mynde [*v.r.* munde; L. *pro patris memoria*]. 14.. in *Collectanea Topogr.* (1836) III. 260 That xx.s. be yeve to eche of the places wher as our bodyes lyith, for holding of the mendys. 1418 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 32, Y bequethe to..holde my Mynde euery ȝere duryng vij ȝere next folwyng after my desese,..vij li. 1486 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* 11 In due fourme as to a yerely mynde perteyneth. 1526 in Strutt *Mann. Cust.* etc. (1776) III. 172 For yerely obytes, and yerelye myndes. 1649 JER. TAYLOR *Gt. Exemp.* III. Disc. xviii. 112 In the monethly minds and anniversary commemorations. 1660 — *Duct. Dub.* II. ii. Rule vi. § 55 Upon the Anniversary, or the monthly, or weekly minds.

†**6.** Mention, record. Chiefly in phr. *To make mind*: const. *of* or with *clause*.

c 1325 *Deo Gracias* 38 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 125 Holichirche Muynde of hit maas. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. IX. 121 Of such synful shrewes þe sauter maketh mynde. *c* 1410 LOVE *Bonavent. Mirr.* vi. (Gibbs MS.), And ȝytte þowe þer was so myche nede I fynd noo mynde of furrures or pylches. *c* 1412 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 1723 The bible makiþ no maner of mynde Wheþer þat pharão lay by hire oght. 1433 LYDG. *St. Edmund* III. 765 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 427 Blyssid Fremund,—afforn heer put in mynde. 1450–1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* 70 Specyally on fryday, where is made mynde of oure lordes holy passyon. *Ibid.* 191 Holy scrypture..makyth no mynde that he was vnobedyente [etc.].

II. Thought; purpose, intention.

†**7.** The action or state of thinking about something; the thought *of* (an object). Chiefly in phrase *to have mind of* (also *on, upon*): to think of, give heed to. Also const. *how* or *that* and clause, and *to* with inf. (= be careful *to do*). Similarly *to take mind to, upon. Obs.*

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 83 Se þe nu forhoȝaþ þæt he Godes bebodu healde, oþþe æniȝ ȝemynd hæbbe Drihtnes eaþmodnesse. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 252 So doþ þat beoþ of þine cunde, Of linte nabbeþ hi none imunde. *c* 1275 *Passion of our Lord* 6 in *O. E. Misc.* 37 Lute ymynde hi hedde of gode. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 5867 Pers, I haue mynde of þe. *c* 1325 *Poems temp. Edw. II* (Percy) lxvi, And ȝet is ther non man That to God taketh mynde With ryȝte. *c* 1380 *Lay Folks Catech.* (MS. L) 607 Fyrst haue mende how god made heuyn and erthe. *c* 1412 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 4997 þat þei þat haue of him lest þought & mynde By þis peynture may ageyn him fynde. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 93 Þer was a bruther þat gretelie was turment with mynd of a womman þat he saw som tyme. *c* 1450 *Cov. Myst.* XXV. (Shaks. Soc.) 240 But now mervelous mendys rennyn in myn remembrawns. 1493 *Festivall* (W. de W. 1515) 7 He shall fynde ye mynde of deth ye principall salue of all manner synnes. 1550 CROWLEY *Last Trumpet* 245 Haue minde, therfore, thyselfe to holde Within the bondes of thy degre. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 302 b, Yᵗ..they will haue some consideration, and mynde of hym [L. *ut ipsius rationem habeant*]. 1589 R. ROBINSON *Gold. Mirr.* (Chetham Soc.) 34 Haue minde vpon thy mercy Lord.

†**b.** *To put* (a person) *in mind*: to suggest an idea to (him). *Obs.*

1579 GOSSON *Sch. Abuse* (Arb.) 37 He feared that hee shoulde rather put men in minde to commit such offences.

†**c.** *Out of mind*: more than one can calculate.

a 1400–50 *Alexander* 3018 He had of men out of mynde many mayn hundreth.

8. That which a person thinks about any subject or question; one's view, judgement, or opinion. Now chiefly in phrases: see 9.

a 1400 *Octouian* 888 The good wyf seyd: 'Be Seynt Denys, Swyche ys my mende'. 1512 *Act* 4 *Hen. VIII*, c. 19 *Preamble*, The seid Frensche Kyng..abydyng in his seid indurat & pervart opynyons & erronyous mynde. 1530 PALSGR. 680/1 I reason with one in a mater to fele his mynde in it. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 1 b, Such as could not be there present he desyred to send their myndes in wryting. 1593 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI*, III. ii. 17 Widow, we will consider of your suit And come some other time to know our minde. 1689 *Col. Rec. Pennsylv.* I. 250 The Governor Desired Every Member of ye board would deliver his minde, and give him advice therein. 1706 POPE *Let. to Wycherley* 10 Apr., Pray let me know your mind in this, for I am utterly at a loss. 1781 J. MOORE *View Soc. It.* (1790) II. lxv. 294 Would to heaven these doubters would keep their minds to themselves.

9. Phrases. **a.** *To speak one's mind* (*out*): to give one's judgement or opinion; *esp.* to express one's sentiments candidly or plainly, to speak freely. Similarly *to tell* (a person) *one's mind, to let* (a person) *know one's mind*. For *a piece* or *bit of one's mind*, see PIECE *sb.* 2 d, BIT *sb.*[2] 4.

1508 FISHER 7 *Penit. Ps.* cii. Wks. (1876) 140 A mannes entent or mynde spoken by his owne mouth moueth more the herer than it were shewed & spoken by ony other. 1530 PALSGR. 478/2 And I may catche hym ones, I shall tell hym more of my mynde. 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* IV. iii. 75 Your betters haue indur'd me say my minde. 1600 — *A. Y. L.* II. vii. 59 Giue me leaue To speake my minde. 1676 MARVELL *Mr. Smirke* 44 'Tis happy that some or other of this Few chances ever and anon to speak their minds out, to shew us plainly what they would be at. 1806–7 J. BERESFORD *Miseries Hum. Life* VII. lxxvii, I let them know my mind in a manner that pretty effectually secures me from this 'misery', for the rest of that sitting. 1845 BROWNING *Soul's Trag.* I. 207 I've spoke my mind too fully out.

b. *To be of* (†rarely *in*) *a* (specified) *mind*: to hold an opinion. *To be of* (another's) *mind*: to be of his way of thinking, agree in opinion.

1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* Ep. Ded., Hee was alwaies of opinion and minde, that..learning, is not to be sought for in bookes. 1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II*, V. ii. 107 Sweet Yorke, sweet husband, be not of that minde. 1600 — *A. Y. L.* V. iv. 75 He sent me word, if I said his beard was not cut well, hee was in the minde it was. 1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* II. xvii. § 20 If these men are of the Mind, That they have clearer Ideas of infinite Duration, than of infinite Space. 1717 LADY M. W. MONTAGU *Let. to Pope* 1 Apr., I don't doubt you'll be of my mind. 1871 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* Apr. 242 I'm of Bradshawe's mind in the matter.

c. *In my mind*: in my judgement or opinion, as I think. ? *Obs.* Similarly *to my mind* (cf. 14 b).

1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. xxiv. 34 The kyng..sayd, in bis mynde, there was no realme coude be compared to ye realme of Fraunce. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* IV. i, Antbonio, gratifie this gentleman, For in my minde, you are much bound to him. 1602 — *Ham.* I. iv. 14 (Qo. 1604) But to my minde .. it is a custome [etc.]. 1663 COWLEY *Ess.* iii. *Obscurity*, It is, in my Mind, a very delightful Pastime. 1813 HOBHOUSE *Journey* (ed. 2) 501 The modern cestus,..is not, in my mind, an agreeable ornament. 1866 MRS. GASKELL *Wives & Dau.* I. xvi. 182 The other is but a loutish young fellow, to my mind.

d. *To be of one* or *a mind*: to agree in judge-

ment, purpose, or opinion; to be unanimous. † *With one mind*: unanimously, with one accord.

? 1496 in *Lett. & Papers Rich. III & Hen. VII* (Rolls) II. 67 If we hadde alle here ben of oone mynde in folowyng directly the Kinges mynde. 1570 *Satir. Poems Reform.* x. 178 With ane mynde thay did consent togidder Dauid to slay. 1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* I. iii. 244 He and his Phisitions Are of a minde. 1611 — *Cymb.* v. iv. 212, I would we were all of one minde, and one minde good. *a* 1712 GRANVILLE *Ess. Unnat. Flights Poetry* 74 And, by the Tyrant's Murder, we may find That Cato and the Gods were of a Mind. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) IV. 537 When men have anything to do in common, that they should be of one mind is a pleasant thing. 1877 SPURGEON *Serm.* XXIII. 70 Here they were, all of a mind, and all ready to start.

† e. *Against the mind of* (a person): in opposition to his judgement, wish, or opinion, without his approbation or consent. Also *without the mind of*. *Obs.*

1512 *Act* 4 *Hen. VIII*, c. 20 *Preamble*, The said John.. fortuned to be slayn..ayenst the will and mynde of your seid Beseecher. 1553 BECON *Reliques Rome* (1563) 213 The Councell which is celebrated without the mynde and consent of the Romyshe Byshop. 1668 CULPEPPER & COLE *Barthol. Anat.* III. x. 151 Cassenius against the mind of all Anatomists draws its original from the Pinnæ of the Nose. 1698 HEARNE *Duct. Hist.* I. III. ix. 324 Themistocles..brought the Athenians back to their City, which they fortified, and added the Pyreum to it much against the Spartans' Mind.

10. Purpose or intention; desire or wish. *Obs.* exc. in phrases: see 11.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 9544 Þo was it muche is munde To come & winne engelond. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. clxxvi. 213 With hym went a varlet, who was priuy to his mynde. *c* 1555 HARPSFIELD *Divorce Hen. VIII* (Camden) 125 God's mind was to astringe and bind the Church perpetually to it. 1588 SHAKS. *Tit. A.* v. iii. 1 Vnckle Marcus, since tis my Fathers minde That I repaire to Rome, I am content. 1597 BACON *Ess., Suitors* (Arb.) 40 Manie ill matters are vndertaken, and many good matters with ill mindes. 1656 in *Burton's Diary* (1828) I. 302 To enquire with what mind this was done. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* v. 452 Sudden mind arose In Adam, not to let th' occasion pass.

11. Phrases. † a. *To fulfil one's mind, bring one's mind to pass*: to accomplish one's purpose, satisfy one's desire. *To have* or *obtain one's mind*: to get what one wants. *For one's mind's sake*: to gratify one's whim. *Obs.*

1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* xvi. (Percy Soc.) 75 Longynge ryght sore my mynde to fulfyll. 1530 PALSGR. 499/1 It shall coste me a fall, but I wyll have my mynde. *Ibid.* 865/1 For my myndes sake, *pour satisfaire a ma phantasie*. 1598 F. ROUS *Thule* N 2 b, And she as women wont will haue her minde. 1614 RALEIGH *Hist. World* II. v. iv. § 1. 585 This war he vndertooke as it were for his mindes sake: hauing receiued no iniurie. 1671 H. M. tr. *Erasm. Colloq.* 82 Because I see that thou dost so earnestly desire it, I will fulfil thy mind as well as I can.

† b. *By, according to the mind of* (a person): by desire or after the direction of. (Cf. 14 b.) *Obs.*

1523-4 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* (1904) 322 Paid to the Orgon maker by þe mynde of Mr person for mendyng the Orgons, iij s iiij d. 1618 *Vestry Bks.* (Surtees) 74 Item more they receyved which was given by Willlam Ord, and lent to fower poore folk according to his minde, xl s.

c. *To know one's own mind*: to form and adhere to a decision without shilly-shallying; to have a line of action and keep to it.

1824 SCOTT *St. Ronan's* xii, The report..that the young Earl of Etherington..intended to pass an hour, or a day, or a week, as it might happen, (for his lordship could not be supposed to know his own mind,) at St. Ronan's Well. 1864 TENNYSON *En. Ard.* 475 And others laugh'd at her and Philip too, As simple folk that knew not their own minds. 1888 [see CHOP *v.*2 4 c].

d. *To make up one's mind*: see MAKE *v.*1 96 k.

e. † *To be of divers* or *many minds*: to waver in purpose, to chop and change (*obs.*). *To be in two minds*: to vacillate between two intentions; similarly *to be in twenty minds*.

1530 PALSGR. 428/1, I am of dyverse myndes, *je me varie*. ..I wolde be glad to deale with hym, but the man is of so dyverse myndes that there is no holde at hym. 1738 SWIFT *Pol. Conversat.* 55 You'll never be mad, you are of so many Minds. 1751 R. PALTOCK *P. Wilkins* (1884) I. xxi. 208, I was in twenty minds whether to take her first, and then catch the chickens, or to let her go off, and then clap upon them. 1850 DICKENS *Dav. Copp.* xxv, This missive (which I was in twenty minds at once about recalling, as soon as it was out of my hands). *Ibid.* xli, I was in several minds how to dress myself on the important day. 1853 — *Child's Hist.* II. 171 Jack [Cade]..was in two minds about fighting or accepting a pardon. 1881 E. D. BRICKWOOD in *Encycl. Brit.* XII. 197/2 However bold the horse may be, he will soon refuse water if his rider be perpetually in two minds when approaching a brook.

† f. *To be in* or *of mind*, to be disposed or minded, to purpose, desire (*to do* something); occas. *to be in great mind, of good mind, in a good mind* (cf. 13 a). *Of mind*, with purpose or intention (*to do* something). *To run* (*one*) *in mind*, to become a purpose or resolution. *To bring one in mind*, to persuade. *Obs.*

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* vi. (*Thomas*) 248 Þane rane hym in mynde in hy þat he vald firste quyke þam fla. *a* 1400-50 *Alexander* 1254 Sir meliager was in grete mynd a man owt to send To alexander. 1513 MORE *Rich. III* in Grafton *Chron.* (1568) II. 763 He secretly..caused the Queene to be perswaded and brought in minde, that it..should be ieopardous the king to come vp so strong. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. ccccli. 796 Wherof complayntes came to the heryng of the duke of Berrey, who was in mynde to remedy it. 1586 *Let. Earle Leycester* 13 Neither did I it of minde to circumvent her. 1599 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* (1884) VI. 40 His Majestie being of gude mynd that the said Sir George be satisfeit of the saidis deburstmentis, as ressone requyris. *a* 1617 BAYNE *Lect.* (1634) 233 Pharaoh [was] in a good minde, as wee say, to let the people goe. 1661 C. LYTTELTON in *Hatton Corr.* (Camden) 24, I doe not find my brother of the mind he seemed at first to be of to buy it. *a* 1814 *Gonzanga* II. i. in *New Brit. Theatre* III. 113 Oh lud! if I can but get her in the mind to have me.

12. *To change one's mind*, to alter one's purpose, opinion, way of thinking, disposition towards others, etc. Similarly, *one's mind changes*.

1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* III. ii. 59 You are already loues firme votary, And cannot soone reuolt, and change your minde. 1601 — *Jul. C.* II. ii. 96 If you shall send them word you will not come, Their mindes may change. 1615 W. LAWSON *Country Housew. Gard.* (1626) 44, I haue changed my mind concerning the disease called the worme. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 121 Cardinall Allan an Englishman, having used to persecute the English..had changed his mind, since the English had overthrowne the Spanish Navy. 1719 J. ALLEN in J. Duncombe *Lett.* (1773) I. 214, I have lived to change my mind, and am almost of the contrary opinion. 1842 TENNYSON *Dora* 45 It cannot be: my uncle's mind will change! 1883 F. M. CRAWFORD *Dr. Claudius* vi, Her first impulse was to change her mind and not go after all.

13. *To have a mind*: a. (With expressed inf.) To wish, desire, be inclined or disposed *to do* (something). Also with qualifying word, *to have a great, good*, etc., *mind, to have no mind*. Somewhat *arch.* exc. in *to have a good* or *great mind, to have half a mind*, now = to be strongly disposed or inclined (to do something which one can do if one wishes), to have nearly made up one's mind (to do it). (See also MONTH'S MIND.)

The confused form *I'm a good mind* is still current in some localities as a vulgarism.

a 1400 in *Rel. Ant.* II. 44 For the greet mynde that he hath to done his maystris wille. *c* 1550 BALE *K. Johan* (Camden) 12, I have a great mynd to be a lecherous man. 1618 BOLTON *Florus* (1636) 268 Pompey driven away, and fled, he had a more minde to take order for securing the Provinces, than to pursue him. 1632 CHAPMAN & SHIRLEY *Ball* III. i. (1639) D 3 b, Harke you Mounsieur, this gentleman has a great Minde to learne to dance. 1666 S. PARKER *Free & Impart. Censure* (1667) 181 And now I have a mind to set up for a Maker of Hypotheses. *a* 1674 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* XIII. § 179 The duke of Lorrayne had a very good mind to get a footing in Ireland. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 45 P 6 As I had a mind to hear the Play, I got out of the Sphere of her Impertinence. 1726 SHELVOCKE *Voy. round World* (1757) 462 They had half a mind to refuse me a passage. 1833 L. RITCHIE *Wand. by Loire* 26 It was lucky for us that we did not follow the nuptial procession (which we had more than half a mind to do). 1852 R. S. SURTEES *Sponge's Sp. Tour* (1893) 65 I'm a good mind to have his throat cut. 1853 LYTTON *My Novel* X. iii, She had half a mind to reply.—'Is that so strange?' But her respect for Harley stopped her. 1858 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* VI. ii. (1865) II. 47 My Brother and I had all the mind in the world to laugh. 1870 ROGERS *Hist. Gleanings* Ser. II. 102 He had little mind to be a martyr, but he had still less a mind to be a knave. 1871 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1876) IV. xvii. 54 He had no mind to be a mere conqueror.

b. with ellipsis of the *inf.* (In relative and 'if' clauses.)

a 1674 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* VIII. § 38 Without..restraining them from making incursions where they had a mind. 1737 [S. BERINGTON] *G. di Lucca's Mem.* (1738) 261 When they have dropp'd all [the wild Boars] that are dangerous, and as much as they haue a mind, they open their Toils. 1826 SCOTT *Let. to J. B. S. Morritt* 6 Feb. in *Lockhart*, I have no idea of these things preventing a man from doing what he has a mind. 1848 THACKERAY *Lett.* I Aug., Those who had a mind were free to repair to a magnificent neighbouring saloon. 1874 WHYTE MELVILLE *Uncle John* xxi. III. 22 They could..burn us out if they had a mind.

¶ In mod. colloquial use the *to* of an inf. suppressed by ellipsis is often retained. (See To *prep.*)

The quots. below enclosed in square brackets are probably to be explained as instances of the idiom by which a prep. governing a relative expressed or understood is removed to the end of the sentence (cf. quots. 1674, 1711, 1726 in d). But the indefiniteness of the antecedent and the presence of a transitive verb in the sentence render the passages liable to be taken as anticipations of the modern colloquial practice, which may indeed have been partly developed from expressions of this kind.

[1671 H. M. tr. *Erasm. Colloq.* 519 Enquire what thou hast a mind to. 1734 LD. CHESTERF. in *Lett. C'tess Suffolk* (1824) II. 115 Amoretto was with difficulty prevailed upon to eat and drink as much as he had a mind to. 1744 ELIZA HEYWOOD *Female Spect.* No. 4 (1748) I. 189 As our sex has the privilege of saying whatever we have a mind to. 1827 SCOTT *Highl. Widow* v, In order to gain his consent to do something he had no mind to.] 1852 MRS. STOWE *Uncle Tom's C.* ii, I don't need to hire any of my hands out, unless I've a mind to. 1871 *Lippincott's Mag.* 27 Mar. 282 You can call me when you are a-mind to. 1895 'HEATHERBELL' in *Scott. Antiquary* X. 79 They..thought they could deal as they had a mind to with his property.

c. with dependent clause.

1673 TEMPLE *Observ. United Prov.* ii. 95 They had no mind that Her Ambassador should be present. 1705 PENN in *Pa. Hist. Soc. Mem.* X. 65, I believe he had no mind it should be done whilst I was there.

d. With *to* and *sb.*: † To be favourably disposed towards (a person) (*obs.*); to have a liking for (an occupation); to wish to possess or obtain (something). Now somewhat *arch.*

1530 PALSGR. 580/1, I have a mynde to one, I have a favoure to hym. 1605 *Lond. Prodigal* I. ii, I have a great mind to this gentleman in the way of Marriage. 1616 B. JONSON *Devil an Ass* I. ii, They doe say, H'will meet a man (of himselfe) that has a mind to him. If hee would so, I haue a minde and a halfe for him. 1674 BUTLER *Hud.* I. i. 214 That..Compound for Sins, they are inclin'd to, By damning those they have no mind to. 1683 TEMPLE *Mem.* Wks. 1731 I. 457, I never had less mind to any Journey in my Life. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 145 P 6 There visits among us an old Batchelor whom each of us has a Mind to. 1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* II. ii, In a few Days, I was able to call for whatever I had a Mind to. 1876 GEO. ELIOT *Dan. Der.* lviii, The blacksmith said to me the other day that his 'prentice had no mind to his trade.

e. With *for*, † *of*: To wish for, desire.

1616 [see d]. 1775 JOHNSON *Let. to Taylor* 8 Apr., When shall I come down to you? I believe I can get away pretty early in May, if you have any mind of me. 1790 *Bystander* 134 When he has a mind of a little fun. 1855 PRESCOTT *Philip II*, II. iii, Philip had no mind for a second collision with the papal court. 1871 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* Jan. 45 We have no mind for a sousing.

14. Bent or direction of thoughts, desires, inclinations, etc. In phrases, as *One's mind is* (or *runs*) *on*, one attends to, thinks of, is interested in. *To set* (*have, keep*) *one's mind on*: to desire to attain or accomplish, put or keep before one as an object of desire. *To give one's mind to*: to addict oneself to (a study or practice); to bend one's energies towards accomplishing or attaining (an object).

a 1400-50 *Alexander* 269 Se bebald me sa bogely, quare-on is 30ur mynd? 1475 SIR J. PASTON in *P. Lett.* III. 129 My mynde is now nott most uppon bokes. 1509 BARCLAY *Shyp of Folys* (1874) II. 106 For a ryche man settynge theron his mynde Shal into heuen right hardly passage fynde. *Ibid.* 169 Gyue nat your myndes to gylefull vsury. 1677 HORNECK *Gt. Law Consid.* iv. (1704) 105 The wolf..sent to school to learn to spell, could make nothing of all that was said to him but *sheep*. His mind still ran upon that. 1827 DISRAELI *Viv. Grey* v. xv, I've set my mind upon your joining the party. 1850 DICKENS *Dav. Copp.* xxxv, Sordid and selfish as I knew it was..to let my mind run on my own distress so much. 1859 TENNYSON *Vivien* 476 And since he kept his mind on one sole aim. 1861 STANLEY *East. Ch.* vi. (1869) 254 But each of the sacraments must often have been deferred to a time when the candidates could give their whole minds to the subject.

b. *To one's mind*: according to one's wish, to one's taste or liking, as one would have it to be. Also † *according to, after one's mind*.

1530 PALSGR. 580/1, I have a person or a beest accordyng to my mynde, I have them in suche awe as I desyre. 1535 COVERDALE *Ecclus.* vii. 26 Yf thou haue a wife after thine owne mynde, forsake her not. — 1 *Macc.* iv. 6 Which had nether harnesse ner sweardes to their myndes. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* II. (Globe) 509 It was however, some Time before we could get a Ship to our Minds. *c* 1790 IMISON *Sch. Art* II. 92 You may brighten it to your mind by the above mixture. 1847 HELPS *Friends in C.* (1873) I. viii. 130 Commands are expected to be fulfilled..exactly to the mind of the person ordering.

15. Inclination, tendency, or way of thinking and feeling, in regard to moral and social qualities; moral disposition; a spirit or temper of a specified character. † *To bear a* (specified) *mind*: to entertain (such and such) sentiments. For *frame of mind* see FRAME *sb.* 6.

1500-20 DUNBAR *Poems* ix. 129 Off mynd dissymvlat, Lord! I me confess. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 3 b, Luther.. reproveth his cruell and bloudy mynde. 1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* v. iii. 13 Feare not: he beares an honourable minde, And will not vse a woman lawlesly. 1633 EARL MANCH. *Al Mondo* (1636) 29 To be willing to die, and content to liue is the minde of a strong Christian. 1777 BURKE *Let. Sheriffs of Bristol* Wks. 1842 I. 207 But the war is not ended; the hostile mind continues in full vigour. 1859 TENNYSON *Guinevere* 334 For manners are not idle, but the fruit Of loyal nature, and of noble mind. 1867 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1877) I. App. 748 He was then brought to a better mind by a rebuke from a Christian. 1884 CHILD *Ballads* I. 278/1 Hugo was evidently not in a state of mind to go [*sc.* to mass].

† b. The way in which one person is affected towards another; disposition or intention towards others. *To bear good mind to*: to be well disposed towards. *Obs.*

1470 TIPTOFT *Cæsar's Comm.* x. (1530) 12 Whome he had knowen and sene so specyally aboue other to bere hys good myne [? *read* mynde] and fydelyte toward hym. 1530 PALSGR. 449/2, I beare hym good mynde, *je suis affectionné enuers luy*. *c* 1550 BALE *K. Johan* (Camden) 74 Ye knowe very well she beareth the Churche good mynde. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 707 The more number of the nobilitie, bare towarde king Henry.. their good minds and fixed hartes. 1580 STOW *Chron. Eng.* Ep. Ded. P iij b, Not doubting but your Lordship..will..vouchesafe to accepte this Monument of my affectionate minde. 1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* I. ii. 33, I would I knew his minde. 1611 BIBLE *Acts* xii. 20 *marg.*, Herode bare an hostile mind intending warre.

16. State of thought and feeling in respect to dejection or cheerfulness, fortitude or fearfulness, firmness or irresoluteness, and the like.

1500-20 DUNBAR *Poems* lxvii. 7 Quho had all riches vnto Vnd, And wer not satisfiet in mynd. 1530 PALSGR. 674/2 He was never quyette in his mynde tyll I did put hym in a suertye. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* IV. i. 163 A turne or two I'le walke To still my beating minde. 1611 BIBLE *Acts* ii. 6 The multitude were confounded [*marg.* troubled in mind]. *a* 1631 DONNE *Paradoxes* (1652) 24 For our minde is heavy in our bodies affliction. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IX. 1120 Not at rest or ease of Mind, They sate them down to weep. *Ibid.* 1125 High Passions..shook sore Thir inward State of Mind. 1743 SHENSTONE *Past. Ballad* III, O how, with one trivial glance, Might she ruin the peace of my mind! 1852 M.

Arnold *Empedocles* I. ii. 29 Nature, with equal mind, Sees all her sons at play.

III. Mental or psychical being or faculty.

17. The seat of a person's consciousness, thoughts, volitions, and feelings; the system of cognitive and emotional phenomena and powers that constitutes the subjective being of a person; also, the incorporeal subject of the psychical faculties, the spiritual part of a human being; the soul as distinguished from the body.

a 1340 Hampole *Psalter* cxviii. 93 For i lif in þi laghe, it may noght slip out of my mynde. *c* 1440 *Generydes* 480 She ..told hym all that lay sore in hir mynd. 1530 Palsgr. 430/2, I am wery for occupyeng of the mynde to moche. 1598 Shaks. *Merry W.* IV. vi. 30 While other sports are tasking of their mindes. 1643 R. Baillie *Lett. & Jrnls.* (1841) II. 109 While they stand, the scribe and others number them in their mind. 1690 Locke *Hum. Und.* I. ii. § 5 No Proposition can be said to be in the Mind..which it was never yet conscious of. 1692 — *Educ.* § 31 Due care being had to keep the Body in Strength and Vigour, so that it may be able to obey and execute the Orders of the Mind. 1768, 1834 [see Cross *v.* 13]. 1794 W. Roberts *Looker-On* No. 88 III. 425 Suppose a person..to store up in his mind certain leading passages from Scripture. 1827 Southey *Penins. War* II. 352 No such thought had ever entered Reding's mind. 1851 Bp. C. Wordsw. *Mem. Wordsw.* I. 81 His mind was filled with gloomy forebodings. 1871 Morley *Voltaire* (1886) 6 Hardly a sentence is there that did not come forth alive from Voltaire's own mind. 1887 Miss E. Money *Dutch Maiden* (1888) 56 Now, will you turn this over in your mind?

b. Instances of philosophical definition of this.

1704 Norris *Ideal World* II. iii. 133 By Mind I think we are properly to mean that power which both perceives and wills. 1785 Reid *Intell. Powers* I. ii. 42 We do not give the name of mind to thought, reason, or desire; but to that being which thinks, which reasons, which desires. 1843 Mill *Logic* I. iii. § 8 Mind is the mysterious something which feels and thinks. 1846 G. Moore *Power of Soul over Body* (ed. 3) 73 Unfortunately the word mind has been almost universally employed to signify both that which thinks, and the phenomena of thinking.

c. *On one's mind*: occupying one's thoughts; said esp. of something which causes anxiety.

1850 Dickens *Dav. Copp.* xxxiv, I knew my aunt sufficiently well to know that she had something of importance on her mind. 1853 Lytton *My Novel* VI. v, I asked him if he had not anything on his mind. 1864 Tennyson *En. Ard.* 396 Annie, there is a thing upon my mind.

d. *One's mind's eye*: mental view or vision, remembrance.

c 1412 Hoccleve *De Reg. Princ.* 2895 Haue often him byfore your myndes ye. 1602, 1818 [see Eye *sb.*1 4 d]. 1883 S. C. Hall *Retrospect* II. 320 One such scene is in my mind's eye at this moment.

e. Used with reference to God.

1612 Bacon *Ess. Atheism* (Arb.) 330, I had rather beleeue all the fables in the *Legend*, and the *Alcaron*, then that this vniuersall frame is without a minde. 1690 Locke *Hum. Und.* IV. x. (end), That eternal infinite Mind, who made and governs all Things. 1732 Pope *Ess. Man* I. 266 Just as absurd, to mourn the tasks or pains The great directing Mind of All ordains. 1807 Wordsw. *Ode Intimat. Immortality* viii, Haunted for ever by the eternal mind.

f. In generalized sense: Mental or psychical being: opposed to *matter*.

1759 Johnson *Rasselas* xlviii, The immateriality of mind, and..the unconsciousness of matter. 1879 Lindsay *Mind in Lower Anim.* I. 51 Little is at present known of the phenomena of mind in the lowest classes of animals. 1898 Illingworth *Divine Immanence* i. § 1. 4 Thus matter, as we know it, is everywhere and always fused with mind.

g. A person regarded abstractly as the embodiment of mental qualities (thought, feelings, disposition, etc.).

c 1580 Sidney *Ps.* xxxiv. ix, To humble broken minds, This Lord is ever, ever neare. *c* 1600 Shaks. *Sonn.* cxvii. 5 That I haue frequent binne with vnknown mindes. 1642 Lovelace *To Althea, from Prison* iv, Mindes innocent and quiet take That for an Hermitage. 1776 Mickle tr. *Camoens' Lusiad* Introd. 35 Some of the Portuguese courtiers, the same ungenerous minds perhaps who advised the rejection of Columbus because he was a foreigner. 1864 Bryce *Holy Rom. Emp.* vii. (1875) 109 The Papacy..under the guidance of her greatest minds, of Hildebrand, of Alexander [etc.].

h. In collective sense.

1812 Sir H. Davy *Chem. Philos.* 13 In this age it was peculiarly easy to deceive, but difficult to enlighten, the public mind. 1837 Ht. Martineau *Soc. Amer.* III. 206 If the national mind of America be judged of by its legislation, it is of a very high order. 1883 *Daily Tel.* 10 Nov. 5/1 This cleavage of the religious mind of Europe into two extreme camps.

18. In more restricted application: The cognitive or intellectual powers, as distinguished from the will and emotions. Often contrasted with *heart*.

c 1200 Ormin 17572 & sawle iss ec wurrplike shridd þurrh Godd..Wiþþ witt & wille & minde. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 4123 Wel I wot..þat he [the werwolf] has mannes munde more þan we boþe. 1382 Wyclif *Matt.* xxii. 37 Thou shalt loue the Lord thi God, of al thin herte, and in al thi soule, and in al thi mynde. *c* 1412 Hoccleve *De Reg. Princ.* 997 Mynde, ee, and hand, non may fro othir flitte. *c* 1639 Cowley *On Death of Sir H. Wotton*, He did the utmost Bounds of Knowledge find, He found them not so large as was his Mind. 1784 Cowper *Tiroc.* 722 Possessor of a soul refined, An upright heart, and cultivated mind.

b. Intellectual quality, intellect, mental power.

c 1586 C'tess Pembroke *Ps.* xliv. x, His eye of deepest minde Deeper sincks then deepest working. 1826 Disraeli *Viv. Grey* II. ix, Blue eyes, lit up by a smile of such mind and meaning! 1827 *Ibid.* VI. iv, But his pupil appears to be a man of mind. 1855 Tennyson *Maud* I. I. vii, But these are the days of advance, the works of the men of mind. 1876 'Ouida' *Winter City* iii, You mean there can be no mind in an imitation.

c. Absence, Presence *of mind*: see those words.

19. The healthy or normal condition of the mental faculties, the loss or impairment of which constitutes insanity; one's 'reason' or 'wits'. Chiefly in phrases, as (*to be*, *go*) *out of one's mind*, †*out of mind*, (Sc.) *by one's mind*; *to lose one's mind*; *to be in one's right mind*, etc.

c 1369 Chaucer *Dethe Blaunche* 511 For he had welnye loste his mynde. 1412–20 Lydg. *Chron. Troy* (E.E.T.S.) 4270 Almost for wo he went out of his mynde. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* lxix. 317 (Harl. MS.) þe maister of þe ship was halfe out of mynde. 1509 Barclay *Ship of Folys* (1874) I. 295 Than lepe they about as folke past theyr mynde. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* x. 353 Normond with this answer was halfe by his mynd. 1605 Shaks. *Lear* IV. vii. 63, I feare I am not in my perfect mind. 1847 Tennyson *Princess* VII. 84 And still she fear'd that I should lose my mind. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* v. I. 663 He was drunk, they said, or out of his mind, when he was turned off.

b. in wills, etc., *of sound* (or *unsound*) *mind*, †*in good mind*, †*whole of mind*, etc.

1395 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 4, I Alice West,..in hool estat of my body, and in good mynde beynge. 1418 *Ibid.* 30 Hole of mynde & in my gode memorie beyng. 1430 *Ibid.* 85 Beyng in full mende. 1438–9 *Ibid.* 129 Beyng yn hole mynde & goode witte. 1818 Cruise *Digest* (ed. 2) V. 541 To prove that the said Nicholas was of unsound mind at the time of the said fine taken. 1826 [see Memory 2 b].

†**c.** One's waking consciousness. *Obs.*

c 1384 Chaucer *H. Fame* II. 56 And with that vois soth for to seyne My mynde came to me ageyne.

†**IV. 20.** A quantity, number, or amount (of something). [Of obscure development: cf. 7 c.]

c 1150 *Gen. & Ex.* 3676 Fro lond ortigie cam a wind, And broȝte turles michel mind. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 1888 In fewe ȝeres al þe kynde Of folk, þey woxen mykel mynde. *Ibid.* 16436 Þorow roten eyr, þorow wykkede wyndes, In alle stedes men dide gret myndes. 13.. *Propr. Sanct.* (Vernon MS.) in *Archiv Stud. neu. Spr.* LXXXI. 113/24 Heuene-kyngdom is lyk ȝut To a net..Þat of alle tfissches kuynde, Gedereþ in to him muche muynde. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 1245 Slik a mynd vn-to me ware meruaill to reken, Thretti thousand in thede of thra men of armes.

V. 21. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *mind-malady*, †*-parts*, *-picture*; *mind-changing*, *-healing*, *-infected*, †*-mudding*, *-perplexing*, *-ravishing*, *-sick*, †*-stricken*, *-torturing* adjs.

1597 Morley *Introd. Mus.* 116 What strange humor or *mind-changing opinion tooke you this morning? 1826 Hor. Smith *Tor Hill* (1838) III. 41 The placid beauties of the country, in whose *mind-healing influences he never failed to find consolation. *a* 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* I. (1590) 70 b, These fantasticall *mind-infected people, that children and Musitians cal Louers. 1646 Fuller *Wounded Conse.* iv. (1647) 25 There is such a gulfe of disproportion betwixt a *Mind-malady and Body-medicines. 1642 H. More *Song of Soul* II. i. III. xxxi, To chase away *Mind-mudding mist. *a* 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* IV. (1598) 394 Thinking perchance her feeling sence might call her *mind-parts vnto her. 1631 Quarles *Samson* ii. 8 In whose eares she brake This *mind-perplexing secret. 1868 Sala in *Lamb's Wks.* I. p. xix, Wealth and piety scarcely fill up the *mind-picture one would draw of Lord Byron. 1593 Nashe *Christs T.* 10, I for-sooke all my immortall pleasures, and *mind-ranishing melody. 1577 Harrison *England* II. i. (1877) I. 29 Although manie curious *mindsicke persons vtterlie condemne it as superstitious. *a* 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* II. (1590) 135 b, This noble-man..had bene so *mind-striken by the beautie of vertue in that noble King. 1595 Daniel *Civ. Wars* III. xciv. 60 O thou *mind-tortring misery Restles ambition, borne in discontent.

b. Special comb.: **mind-cure**, the curing of a disease by the influence of the healer's mind upon the patient's; **mind-curer**, (*a*) one who cures diseases of the mind; (*b*) one who practises 'mind-cure'; †**mind-day**, the day on which a person's death is commemorated, *esp.* the anniversary; **mind-healer**, **-healing** = *mind-curer*, *-cure*; †**mind-hill**, a memorial mound or cairn; †**mind-making**, commemoration; †**mind-place**, a place where the memory of a saint is observed; **mind-reader**, one who professes to discern what is passing in another's mind, a thought-reader; so **mind-reading** *vbl. sb.*; **mind-sight** (*rare*), mental vision (after *eyesight*); **mind-stuff**, W. K. Clifford's name for the supposed rudimentary form of psychical existence, which he regards as the reality of which matter is the phenomenal aspect; †**mind-taking**, consideration (*upon* a matter); †**mind-token**, a memorial.

1885 W. F. Evans (*title*) Healing by Faith; or, Primitive *Mind-cure. 1896 Miss Yonge *Daisy Chain* II. ix. 427 Dr. May, *mind-curer, as well as body-curer. 1886 Buckley in *Century Mag.* June 234/1 The Mormons, Spiritualists, Mind-curers [etc.]. *a* 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* IV. xxx. (1890) 374 Þy dæȝe þe his *ȝemynddæȝ wære and his forðfor. *a* 1380 *Enfrosyne* 665 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1878) 182 Vche ȝeer þei don his mynde-day holde Anon to þis day. 1438 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 109, I bequeth for my mynde day, xx li. 1900 *Century Mag.* LIX. 635/1 The doctrines of faith-healing, *mind-healing, and Christian Science. 1382 Wyclif *Josh.* xxii. 10 Whanne thei weren comen to the *mynde hyllis of Jordan [Vulg. *ad tumulos Jordanis*], 1496 *Dives & Paup.* (W. de W.) I. iii. 35/1 Euery masse syngynge is a specyall *mynde makynge of Crystus passyon. *c* 1449 Pecock *Repr.* Prol. 4 Pilgrimage in going to the memorialis or the *mynde placis of Seintis. 1888 *Pop. Sci. Monthly* Dec. 154 The professional '*mind-reader'..takes his clew from indications which his subject is absolutely confident he did not give. 1882 *Proc. Soc. Psych. Research* I. 17 It was shewn that *mind-reading so called, was really muscle-reading. 1587 Golding *De Mornay* v. (1592) 48 Neither the Sunne, nor any thing vnder the Sunne, can well be seene without the Sunne: likewise neyther God nor any thing belonging to God can be seene without God, how good eyesight or *mindsight so euer we haue. 1849 Hare *Par. Serm.* II. 243 The more we gaze at them the more is our mindsight improved to discern them. 1878 W. K. Clifford in *Mind* III. 65 Mind-stuff is the reality which we perceive as Matter. That element of which ..even the simplest feeling is a complex, I shall call '*Mind-stuff*. A moving molecule of inorganic matter does not possess mind, or consciousness; but it possesses a small piece of mind-stuff. *c* 1449 Pecock *Repr.* I. xix. 114 The remembraunce and *mynde taking upon these vij maters is so necessarie a meene into the loue and drede of God. 1382 Wyclif *Isa.* lvii. 8 And bihynde the dore..thou settedest thi *mynde tocne [Vulg. *memoriale tuum*].

Mind (mind), *sb.*2 *Archæol.* Also minn. [Middle Irish *mind*, mod.Irish *mionn*.] A name given to crescent-shaped ornaments found in Ireland, supposed to have been used as diadems.

1862 *Catal. Spec. Exhib. S. Kens.* 41, No. 851. Gold-ornament, believed to be the ancient Celtic 'mind' or head-ornament. Formed of a thin semi-lunar plate of gold with raised ribs. 1880 W. B. Dawkins *Early Man in Brit.* 358 The golden coronets or minns..worn in Ireland in legendary times. 1881 W. K. Sullivan in *Encycl. Brit.* XIII. 257/1 The richer..kings wore..a golden *mind* or diadem.

†**Mind**, *a. Obs.* [OE. *gemynde*:—prehistoric **gamundjoz*, f. OTeut. **gamundi-*: see Mind *sb.*1]

1. With dat. of person: Present to one's thought.

c 1220 *Bestiary* 611 Oc he arn so kolde of kinde Þat no golsipe is hem minde. *a* 1225 *St. Marher.* 12 Me þu makest to asteoruen wiþ þe strencðe of þine heoden, þe beoð þe so imunde. *a* 1275 *Prov. Ælfred* 601 in *O. E. Misc.* 135 And ower alle oþir þinke God be þe ful minde.

2. Of a person: Mindful, taking thought: const. *of*, *for*, *about*, *gain*; also with inf.

a 1000 *Elene* 1063 (Gr.) Þa ȝen Elenan wæs mod ȝemynde ymb þa mæran wyrd ȝeneahhe for þam næȝlum. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 21895 And he gain us, sa meke and mind, Sua mikel luues nathing als ur kind. *Ibid.* 26457 Qua-so wrethes his lauerd king, and he o merci find him mind. *Ibid.* 28952 Þat þou be noght for þi flexs mind bot for to sustain manes-kind. 1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 727 And y am euer so mynde For to pray for al mankynde.

Mind (mɑind), *v.* Forms: 4–5 mende, 4–7 mynd(e, 5–7 minde, 6– mind. [f. Mind *sb.*1

The OE. (*ge*)*myndgian* to remember, remind (f. *gemyndig* mindful, f. *gemynde* Mind *sb.*1), usually cited in Dicts. as the source of this vb., is not immediately connected.]

1. *trans.* To put (one) in mind *of* something; to remind. Also, † to admonish, exhort. Also const. †*til*, *on*, and with *clause* or *inf.* Now *rare*.

1340 Hampole *Pr. Consc.* 230 Knawyng of all þis shuld hym lede And mynd with-alle, til mekenes and drede. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 4210 Ne mynd not þes men of þe mykyll harme, That a sone of our folke before hom has done. 1599 Shaks. *Hen. V*, IV. iii. 13 Farewell good Salisbury, and good luck go with thee. And yet I doe the wrong, to mind thee of it. 1645 Evelyn *Diary* Easter Monday, The season of the yeare ..minding us of returning Northwards. 1657 Sparrow *Bk. Com. Prayer* (1661) 67 Minding the people what they are about. 1658–9 *Burton's Diary* (1828) III. 575 It was minded you by my learned countryman, that no law was rightly made, but by King, Lords, and Commons. 1669 Col. T. Middleton in *State Papers, Dom.* 575, I hope you will mind the treasurers about the workmen, as they would fain have money. 1670–98 Lassels *Voy. Italy* Pref. 3 These must be minded that I am writing of the Latin country. 1693 Evelyn *De la Quint. Compl. Gard.* I. 56, I must not forget minding those who dig along a Wall, to take care not to come too near the Foundations. 1713 Swift *Let. to W. Draper* 13 Apr., I have been minding my lord Bolingbroke ..to solicit my lord-chancellor to give you a living. 1788 Burns *I Love My Jean* ii, There's not a bonie bird that sings, But minds me o' my Jean. 1847 Tennyson *Princess* IV. 109 They mind us of the time When we made bricks in Egypt. 1851 Mrs. Browning *Casa Guidi Wind.* 76 Spain may well Be minded how from Italy she caught,..A fuller cadence and a subtler thought. 1890 W. A. Wallace *Only a Sister* 95 [He] began to curse and swear like a trooper at Elizabeth for not minding him on what he was doing.

†**b.** To bring (an object) *to* one's mind. *Obs.*

1590 Spenser *F. Q.* II. ii. 10 That, as sacred Symbole, it may dwell In her sonnes flesh, to mind revengement. 1600 Abp. Abbot *Exp. Jonah* x. 219 In the last place I haue noted, that misery mindeth God vnto vs. Then the greater our miserie is, the more is our mind on our maker.

2. To remember, have in one's memory; to think of (a past or absent object). Now *arch.* and *dial.*

1382 Wyclif *Rom.* Prol. i, Therfore he afermeth hem nedi to be confermed, the vices of her paynymrie rathere mynd-ende. 15.. *Myst. Resurr.* in *Rel. Ant.* II. 156 Now she spekes of the scornes, Now she remembers the thornes,.. Now she spekes of his pacience, Now she myndes his obedience, That unto deth was. *c* 1586 C'tess Pembroke *Ps.* lxxvii. viii, Nay, still thy acts I minde; Still of thy deedes I muse. 1586 Warner *Alb. Eng.* II. vii. (1589) 28 King Achelous minding her for whom began that broile, Alcmenas Sonne remembring too, whose cause he did defend. 1625 B. Jonson *Staple of N.* II. iv. 100 Hee minds A curtesie no more, then London-bridge, What Arch was mended last. 1666 J. Fraser *Polichron.* (S.H.S.) 42 He minded often his mother Queen Margaret's advice. 1667 Milton *P. L.* II. 212 Our Supream Foe in time may much remit His anger, and perhaps thus farr remov'd Not mind us not offending. 1786 Burns *Halloween* xv, Ae Hairst afore the Sherra-moor, I mind't as weel's yestreen. 1864 Tennyson *En. Ard.* 848, I mind him coming down the street. 1896 A. E. Housman *Shropshire Lad* iii, The lads you leave will mind you Till Ludlow tower shall fall.

b. with obj. a *clause*, or † with direct obj. and *complement*. Also *absol.*

1621 AINSWORTH *Annot. Pent., Gen.* iii. 24 Minding himselfe an exile and pilgrime here one earth. 1721 WODROW *Hist. Suff. Ch. Scot.* I. 455 The Instances of invading of Pulpits are yet fewer, that is, none at all, as far as I mind, in the preceeding Years. 1723 *Wodrow Corr.* (1843) III. 2, I mind, before Mr. Webster's death, he spoke to me about one of that name. 1800–24 CAMPBELL *Power of Russia* ix, But, Poles, when we are gone, the world will mind Ye bore the brunt of fate. 1860 DICKENS *Uncomm. Trav.* ix, The lovers..so superlatively happy, that I mind when I..went with my Angelica to a City church. 1861 HUGHES *Tom Brown at Oxf.* xviii, Tunes..as ha' been used in our church ever since I can mind. 1893 STEVENSON *Catriona* xxiii, I minded how easy her delicacy had been startled with a word of kissing her in Barbara's letter. 1897 RHOSCOMYL *White Rose Arno* 144, I mind you promised us a Welsh army by the time we reached this place.

c. In *imperative*, or in context implying a counsel or warning: To take care to remember, to bear in mind (a fact communicated or already known, a duty to be done, etc.). Chiefly with obj. a *clause*.

[1340 *Ayenb.* 262 Ymende þet þis boc is uolueld ine þe eue of þe holy apostles Symon an Iudas.] 1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* xxiv. 154 Mynde thow how thow arte dedly. *c* 1450 *Osney Reg.* (E. E. T. S.) 1 It is to be myndyd that Robert Doyly and Roger of Iuory..come to the conquest of Inglonde with Kyng William bastarde. 1675 R. BURTHOGGE *Causa Dei* 19 But it must be minded that though the Son of Man shall Judge the World, yet that he shall come to do so..in the Glory of his Father. 1787 BURNS *Let.* 17 Apr. (in *Pearson's Catal.* May (1888) 8), In making up the accounts of my copies, please mind that I am paid for the following number of copies, which money I retain in my own hands. 1878 BROWNING *La Saisiaz* 14 Mind to-morrow's early meeting.

d. *intr.* with *of, on, upon*: To remember. (Now *dial.*) Also quasi-*refl.* in *I mind me, he minds him*, etc. (*arch.*)

1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* xxi. 148, I ne may not mynde me that the Emperours of Rome..wer vnlettride while that hare lordshupp was well gouernyd in his streynth. 1699 R. L'ESTRANGE *Erasm. Colloq.* (1725) 92 Yet it seems reasonable enough, that the poor man should mind him of that in Hosea. 1810 *Cromek's Rem. Nithsdale Song* 219 O ask your heart gif it minds o' me! *a* 1855 THACKERAY *Ballad of Bouillabaisse* x, I mind me of a time that's gone, When here I'd sit, as now I'm sitting. 1871 MRS. H. WOOD *Dene Hollow* i, I mind me that something was said about that paper at the time, resumed the Squire. 1896 'L. KEITH' *Indian Uncle* ii. 21 'Did Adam ever mention him before?' 'Never, that I mind of.'

3. *trans.* In pregnant senses.

† a. To mention, record. Also *absol. Obs.*

c 1450, 1494 (see MINDED 1). 1513 BRADSHAW *St. Werburge* I. 2972 And was incarnate, scrypture dothe mynde, In the vyrgynall wombe of blessed marye. 1530 PALSGR. 636/1, I mynde a thyng, I make mencyon of a thyng or mater. *Je mencionne.*

† b. To remember or mention in one's prayers, to pray for. *Obs.*

c 1420 *Anturs of Arth.* 230 (Douce MS.) To mende vs with masses, grete myster bit were. 1444 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) II. 106 To yᵉ vicar of Mitton a pare of get bedds for to myn my saule and mynde me in his prayers. 1688 M. SHIELDS in *Faithf. Contendings* (1780) 327 Mind us when at the throne of grace.

c. To 'remember', i.e. to give to (those who need); to remember in a will. *dial.*

1714 RAMSAY *Elegy on J. Cowper* ix, And to keep a' things hush and lown He minds the poor. 1886 WILLOCK *Rosetty Ends* xix. (1887) 143 Aboot twenty o' the leadin' inhabitants had been mindit by Ebenezer to the extent o' sums ranging frae seventeen pounds to fifty-five pounds.

4. To perceive, notice, be aware of; to have one's attention attracted by (something presented to one's eyes or outward perceptions). Also *rarely* with *clause* as obj. *Obs.* exc. *dial.*

c 1489 CAXTON *Blanchardyn* viii. 33 He mynded and dyde byholde his loyouse esperyte. 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* I. i. 254 My Lord you nod, you do not minde the play. 1610 — *Temp.* II. ii. 17 I'le fall flat, Perchance he will not minde me. 1701 NORRIS *Ideal World* I. i. 21 A finite intelligence ..may sometimes..think of somewhat else than what he is doing, so as to be said in a manner not to mind what he is about. 1703 T. N. *City & C. Purchaser* 32 A Term used commonly..but I did never mind it in any one of the Treatises of the..Italian Architects. 1708 SWIFT *Tritical Ess.*, And Archimedes, the famous Mathematician, was so intent upon his Problems, that he never minded the Soldier who came to kill him. 1709 E. W. *Life Donna Rosina* 63 He not minding the figure that stood near the wall told his Master there was no body. 1781 J. MOORE *View Soc. It.* (1790) I. vi. 66 One of the company had already passed [the picture] without minding it. 1789 MRS. PIOZZI *Journ. France* I. 2, I recollect minding that his..story struck Dr. Johnson exceedingly. 1821 CLARE *Vill. Minstr.* I. 159, I minded him oft when at church, How under the wenches' fine bonnets he'd glower. 1880 *Antrim & Down Gloss.* s.v., See! d'ye mind the way she's walkin'.

absol. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IX. 519 Shee busied heard the sound Of rusling Leaves, but minded not.

5. To attend to, give heed to. Often, to give heed to (a person, his wishes, etc.) with the intention of obeying.

1559 BP. SCOT in Strype *Ann. Ref.* (1824) I. App. vii. 422 If men wolde diligently mind St. Paul's wordes. 1673 *Vain Insolency of Rome* 28 A short History, which I minded, when I heard it, the more heedfully. 1709 MRS. MANLEY *Secret Mem.* (1736) III. 107 The Emperor, is no more minded than a Baby in Leading-strings. 1738 SWIFT *Pol. Conversat.* 124 First it should swim in the Sea (do you mind me?) then it should swim in Butter. 1739 CHESTERF. *Lett.* (1792) I. xxxi. 107, I looked upon it as a sign that you liked and minded my letters. *Ibid.* lix. 167 It signifies nothing to read a thing once if one does not mind and remember it. 1782 MISS BURNEY *Cecilia* IV. v, I have had..much ado to make him mind me, for he is all for having his own way. 1819 SHELLEY *Cyclops* 494 By all means he must be blinded, If my counsel be but minded. 1824–9 LANDOR *Imag. Conv.* Wks. 1846 II. 90 Would our father have minded the caitiffs?..Would he.. have minded parliament? 1866 G. MACDONALD *Ann. Q. Neighb.* ii, But if your reverence minds what my wife says, you won't go wrong. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 85 Let us take his advice, though he be one only, and not mind the others.

b. with obj. a *clause*.

1642 H. MORE *Song of Soul* I. III. vi, They neither minded who, nor what I ask. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* 17 Mind at Helmne what is said to you carefully. 1709–10 STEELE *Tatler* No. 132 ᵖ 9 Old Reptile..winked upon his Nephew to mind what passed.

c. *absol.* or *intr.* To pay heed or attention. Chiefly *colloq.* in *imperative*, used to call attention to, or emphasize, what the speaker is saying.

1806–7 J. BERESFORD *Miseries Hum. Life* (1826) I. Introd., So I har Latin, mind. 1832 COLERIDGE *Table-t.* 17 Mar., Something feminine—not effeminate, mind—is discoverable in the countenances of all men of genius. 1853 LYTTON *My Novel* IV. xxiii, Now mind, mother, not a word about Uncle Richard yet. 1855 BROWNING *Fra Lippo* 113 But, mind you, when a boy starves in the streets..Why, soul and sense of him grow sharp alike.

† 6. *trans.* To have in view, have a mind to (an action, plan, etc.); to contemplate, purpose, intend, aim at (doing something); also, to plan, provide for (something external to oneself). Sometimes with clause as obj. *Obs.*

1513 BRADSHAW *St. Werburge* I. 575 In meane whyle the kynge mynded maryage. 1513 MORE in *Hall's Chron., Edw. V.* (1550) 2 Which thyng in all apparaunce he resisted, although he inwardly mynded it. 1564 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 310 The saidis Lordis na wyise willing to call in doubt the autoritie and credit of the saidis lettres.., hot rather mynding that all strangearis, freindis, and confideratis of this realme..find all favour [etc.]. 1596 SPENSER *State Irel.* Wks. (Globe) 615/1 And that noble prince begann to cast an eye unto Ireland, and to mynd the reformation of thinges there runn amiss. 1622 BACON *Hen. VII* 246 If this King did no greater Matters, it was long of himselfe; for what he minded, he compassed. 1660 SHARROCK *Vegetables* 94 A convenient descent must be minded. 1663 GERBIER *Counsel* (1664) 55 Those that mind the making use of Chalk in their walls, must [etc.]. 1691 T. H[ALE] *Acc. New Invent.* p. lxvii, He could find no foot-steps of their having minded the Power of such Conservacy.

b. With *infinitive* as obj.: To have a mind *to do* something; to wish, be inclined, purpose, intend. *Obs.* exc. *dial.* (see E. D. D.).

1513 MORE in *Hall's Chron., Edw. V.* (1550) 1 The duke not entendynge so longe to tary but mindynge..to preuent the time. 1548–9 (Mar.) *Bk. Com. Prayer, Communion*, All other (that mynde not to receive the said holy Communion). 1593 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI*, IV. i. 106 Belike she minds to play the Amazon. 1634 in *Black Bk. Taymouth* (Bannatyne Cl.) 440 In the North, quhair I mynd to stay for tuo monethes. 1671 MILTON *Samson* 1603, I sorrow'd at his captive state, but minded Not to be absent at that spectacle. 1683 D. A. *Art Converse* 2 If you mind to play the logician. 1791 BOSWELL *Johnson* an. 1763, Roubiliac..minding to put a trick on him, pretended to be so charmed with his performance, that [etc.].

c. *ellipt.* (in relative clause).

1573 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xlii. 463 Quhilk, gif thay mynd as thay pretend, Thay wald haue begun at this end. 1890 W. A. WALLACE *Only a Sister* 124 He was wandering round the shelves, taking down a book here and there as he minded.

† d. To direct one's thoughts *toward. Obs.*

1633 W. STRUTHER *True Happiness* 145 So if we minde toward heaven, wee must walk through the world as Strangers.

7. To bend one's attention to (e.g. something that one is doing or occupied with); to direct or apply oneself to, bring one's mind or energies to bear upon, or practise diligently.

To mind his book (colloq.; now obs. or arch.), of a schoolboy, to be diligent in his studies. *To mind one's business*, to attend to it, prosecute it diligently; hence *to mind one's own business*, to attend to one's own affairs and leave other people's alone (see BUSINESS 16 d).

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 9305 Achilles..Myche myndit the mater, in the mene tyme, And to bryng hit aboute besit hym sore. 1530 PALSGR. 636/1, I mynde a thynge, I regarde it, or set my myndeupon it. *Je mets le cueur dessus*, or *je prens au cueur.* It can nat go forwarde with the, for thou myndest it nat. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* I. (1586) 13b, A man would thinke you had neuer minded any other profession. 1611 BIBLE *Rom.* viii. 5 For they that are after the flesh doe minde the things of the flesh. 1625, etc. [see BUSINESS 16 d). 1660 *Trial Regic.* 52 All those..had a mind for Peace, that minded their duty, and Trust, and Allegiance to their King. 1662 GERBIER *Princ.* 1 Whereas Building is much minded in these times. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 383 ᵖ 1 Bidding him be a good Child and mind his Book. 1732 BERKELEY *Alciphr.* II. § 19 If some certain persons minded piety more than politics. 1835 J. H. NEWMAN *Par. Serm.* (1837) I. xviii. 272 Mind little things as well as great. 1877 SPURGEON *Serm.* XXIII. 360 He went back to Samaria and minded his business. 1889 BROWNING *Pope & Net*, So much the more his boy minds book.

† b. To care for, like, value, wish for. *Obs.*

1648 GAGE *West Ind.* 137 The only want of wheat is not a want to them that mind bread of Wheat more then of Maiz, for in two dayes it is easily brought. 1666 STILLINGFL. *Serm.* (1673) 13 They [the kine of Bashan] minded nothing but ease, softness, and pleasure. 1748 SMOLLETT *Rod. Rand.* ii. (1760) I. 10 His heir..minded nothing but fox-hunting.

8. In negative, interrogative, and conditional sentences: (Not) to care for, trouble oneself or be concerned about, be affected by. Hence: (Not) to object to, be troubled or annoyed by, dislike (something proposed, something offered to one, etc.). Often in polite or tentative formulas, as *I should not mind* (something) = I should rather like it, I shonld be glad to have it or do it; *do you* or *would you mind* (doing something)? = be so kind as to do it; *if you don't mind*, if you have no objection.

1608 SHAKS. *Per.* II. v. 20 Now absolute she's in't, Not minding whether I dislike or no. 1710 STEELE *Tatler* No. 206 ᵖ 2, I did not mind his being a little out of humour. 1747–96 MRS. GLASSE *Cookery* xxiii. 365 They will look quite yellow, and stink, but you must not mind that. 1750 LADY BRADSHAIGH in *Richardson's Corr.* (1804) VI. 95, I do not mind him of two straws. 1776 FOOTE *Capuchin* I. Wks. 1799 II. 389 Why, yes, you may venture, Sir Harry: it is not minded in London. 1777 SHERIDAN *Sch. Scand.* IV. i, Never mind the difference, we'll balance that another time. 1860 DICKENS *Uncomm. Trav.* vi, I am rather faint, Alexander, but don't mind me. 1863 *Ibid.* xx, Would you mind my asking you what part of the country you come from? 1874 WHYTE MELVILLE *Uncle John* xviii. II. 200, I shouldn't mind a cup of tea myself. 1889 'J. S. WINTER' *Mrs. Bob* (1892) 48 Stay, do you mind ringing the bell for me first?

b. Hence occasionally in an affirmative sentence: To object to, dislike.

1861 CUNNINGHAM *Wheat & Tares* 136 Yet her heart smote her now, for Ella minded going dreadfully and was unusually nice and affectionate.

c. *absol.* and *intr.* = (not) to care, trouble oneself, object, etc. Const. *about.* Often in colloq. imper. phr. *never mind* = don't let it trouble you, it does not matter; also offensively (see quot. 1837) = it is none of your business.

1786 MISS BURNEY *Diary* 25 July, She begged me not to mind, and not to hurry myself, for she would wait till it was done. *a* 1814 *Gonzanga* II. i. in *New Brit. Theatre* III. 112 Never mind, father, don't be obstreperous about it. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xxiv, There must be something very comprehensive in this phrase of 'Never mind', for we do not recollect to have ever witnessed a quarrel in the street,..in which it has not been the standard reply to all belligerent inquiries. 'Do you call yourself a gentleman, sir?'—'Never mind, sir'. 1837 S. R. MAITLAND 6 *Lett. Fox's A. & M.* 70 *note*, The person whom Fox calls the Bishop of Penestrum (for we will not mind about a supposed misspelling). 1849 THACKERAY *Pendennis* xxxi, The public don't mind a straw about these newspapers rows. 1884 MRS. EWING *Mary's Meadow* ii, Mother was very angry, but Father did not mind. 1898 *Times* 5 Oct. 3/3 Sir Herbert Kitchener told them never to mind and to come as they were.

9. To bear in mind and be careful *to do* (something); to remember and take care *that* something is done. *Mind you do* (so and so) = don't fail to do it.

1641 BEST *Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 16 In setting of tbeir barres they are allwayes to minde to sett that side of the barres inwarde. 1710 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 12 Oct., But I will mind and confine myself to the accidents of the day. 1782 MISS BURNEY *Cecilia* VIII. vii, But pray mind that she is kept quiet. 1837 DISRAELI *Venetia* I. xix, Never mind about your handwriting; but mind you write.

10. To be careful about, take care of; to employ carefully or heedfully; to take heed (what one does). *Mind your eye*, 'look out', keep your eyes about you (see EYE *sb.*¹ 2 a). *To mind one's P's and Q's*: see P 3 b.

1737 BRACKEN *Farriery Impr.* (1757) II. 33 It is an easy Matter to .. skreen Blemishes in the Hoof, if you don't mind your Eye. 1759 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* I. i, I wish either my father or my mother..had minded what they were about when they begot me. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* V. I ᵖ 2, I began to mind a little what I was about. 1840 DICKENS *Barn. Rudge* XXX, He would recommend him..to mind his eye for the future. 1892 MRS. H. WARD *D. Grieve* II. ii, 'Mind what you're about', cried Purcell, angrily.

b. To be wary concerning, be on one's guard against, look out for (something that is to be avoided). Now only in the imperative or in contexts conveying counsel or warning.

1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* II. xxxiii. § 8 And though those [impressions] relating to the health of the body, are, by discreet people, minded and feoced against. 1881 RUSKIN *Morn. in Florence* 25 You may let your eye rest .. on the glow of its glass, only mind the steps half way. 1881 A. C. GRANT *Bush Life Queensl.* x. (1882) 94 'You better mind that fellow, Mr. Fitzgerald', said the Native.

c. *absol.*, esp. in colloq. phr. *if you don't mind* = if you are not carefnl (to avoid something).

1691 WOOD *Life* 9 Apr. (O. H. S.) III. 359 Being in hast, not minding, [she] set the cotton .. on fire. 1839 JAMES *Gentl. Old Sch.* xiii, Take care .. they'll see you, if you don't mind, as you get over the bank in the moonlight. 1894 R. BRIDGES *Feast Bacchus* IV. 1290 You'll certainly be his death, unless you mind.

11. *trans.* To take care of, take charge of, look after; to have the care or oversight of.

1694 DRYDEN *Love Triumphant* Epil. 34 The wife, that was a cat, may mind her house. 1732 NEAL *Hist. Purit.* I. 26 They were .. to exhort them to stay at home and mind their families. 1802 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Moral T.* (1816) I. 246 The men .. were gone to dinner: I stayed to mind the furnace. 1873 W. COLLINS *New Magd.* xviii. II. 8 The lodge-keeper's wife..is minding the gate. 1884 MRS. EWING *Daddy Darwin's Dovecot* iv, Let me mind your pigeons.

Minded (mə̀indĕd), *ppl. a.* [f. MIND *sb.*¹ and *v.* + -ED.]

† I. [From the vb.] 1. That has been mentioned. Also *fore-minded* = forementioned. *Obs.*

c 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 147 Þe fore sayde Iohn perschore .. scholde warantije to þe fore-myndyd religiouse women, .. þe fore-sayde londes. *Ibid.* 424 The mynded luke yaf to the mynded William at the entryng vij. mark. 1494 FABYAN *Chron.* v. xcii. 68 He then buylded the Castell before myndyd.

II. [From the sb.] **2.** 'Having a mind' *to do* something; intending, disposed, inclined. Also (*rarely*) with clause. *To be so minded*: to be inclined to do what has been mentioned.

1503–4 *Act* 19 *Hen. VII* c. 28 *Preamble*, His Highnes is not mynded .. to calle & somone a newe parliament. 1530 PALSGR. 482/1 He was so mynded yesterday, but I have chaunged his purpose nowe. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1559) Oo iij b, For if that the goddes gine me longe life, I am mynded for to amende. 1653 H. COGAN tr. *Pinto's Trav.* lxx. 285, I am not minded to make mention of them. 1703 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* 249 They are minded to make their Plastering very streight and even. 1775 SHERIDAN *Rivals* IV. i, Ne'er a St. [*sic*] Lucius O'Trigger in the kingdom should make me fight, when I wa'n't so minded. 1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* xxxvii, I am no minded to answer ony o' thae questions. 1861 MRS. CARLYLE *Lett.* III. 73 Mr. C. was minded to go nowhere this summer. 1874 H. H. GIBBS *Ombre* 29 Discarding at once himself .. if he be so minded. 1887 BOWEN *Virg. Æneid* IV. 638, I am minded to finish the rite..Sacred to Stygian Jove.

†**3.** Having a certain disposition (favourable or hostile) towards a person or thing. *Well-minded*: well-disposed, friendly. *Obs.*

1513 MORE in *Grafton's Chron.* (1568) II. 758 Which [*sc.* Clarence's death] he [Richard] resisted openly, how be it somewhat (as men demed) more faintly than he that were hartily mynded to his welth. 1577–87 HOLINSHED *Chron.* I. 148/2 This worthie prince minded well toward the common wealth of his people..did studie [etc.]. 1579 W. WILKINSON *Confut. Familye of Loue* 3 He .. standeth minded agaynst God, and his Church. 1613 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII*, III. i. 58 We come..to know How you stand minded in the weighty difference Betweene the King and you. 1677 W. HUBBARD *Narrative* 98 A well minded Squaw that was among them.

4. Qualified by advs. (forming combinations which when used *attrib.* are often hyphened): Having one's habitual thoughts, tastes, or sympathies, inclined in a specified direction.

1611 BIBLE *Rom.* viii. 6 For to be carnally minded, is death: but to be spiritually minded, is life and peace [COVERDALE 1535, *has* fleshly mynded, goostly mynded]. 1890 Imperially-minded [see IMPERIALLY *adv.* 1 b]. 1903 *Daily Chron.* 9 Jan. 3/3 Rather monotonous even to the most commercially and statistically-minded.

¶ **b.** The combinations with adv. have sometimes been used in the senses more properly expressed by parasynthetic formations with the corresponding adj.

1712 A. PHILIPS *Distrest Mother* IV. vii. 43 Pyrrhus is nobly minded; and I fain Would live to thank him for Astyanax. 1828 *Sporting Mag.* XXII. 229 This man was strongly minded. 1843 RUSKIN *Mod. Paint.* II. III. iv. § 10 We are in the constant hope of seeing this finely-minded artist shake off his lethargy.

III. 5. Having a mind of a specified character. Chiefly in parasynthetic formations with prefixed adj. (The more common words of this formation, as *absent-*, *bloody-*, *double-*, *feeble-*, *healthy-*, *high-*, *noble-*, *strong-minded*, are either given as Main words, or are illustrated under their first element.)

1503 [see HIGH-MINDED *a.*]. 1528 [see FLESHLY *a.*]. 1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* I. (Arb.) 33 Being a quiet mynded man and nothing ambitious of glory. 1603 DEKKER *Batchelor's Banq.* vii. *heading*, The humor of a couetous minded woman. 1872 LEVER *Ld. Kilgobbin* (1875) 172 Supporters, one-minded with them in everything. 1872 RUSKIN *Eagle's N.* § 207 You want to know what sort of a minded and shaped creature it is.

Minder (mə·ndəɹ). Also 5 **mendowre**. [f. MIND *sb.*[1] and *v.* + -ER [1].]

†**1.** One who remembers. *Obs. rare.*

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 332/1 Meende haver, or mendowre, *memor*.

¶ **2.** As transl. of τὸ νοοῦν (the thinking subject).

1587 GOLDING *De Mornay* vi. 86 [Plotinus] his conclusion is, that the Mynder, the Mynding, and the Mynded, are in the Godhead all one thing.

3. One who minds. †**a.** One who sets his mind upon (something). *Obs.*

1650 O. SEDGWICK *Christ the Life* 25 The Apostle speaks of Some who are Lovers of themselves .. and who are Minders of themselves; they mind Earthly things.

b. One whose business is to 'mind' or attend to something; often with defining word as *card-*, *cattle-*, *engine-minder*.

1835 URE *Philos. Manuf.* 214 His machine should reduce the minder and the screwer to one person. 1867 *Even. Stand.* 14 Feb., Henry Clearby, a minder of carts. 1874 *Sunday Mag.* 610 'Minders', I echoed. 'Yes, women who make a trade of baby minding, taking them by the day at so much a head'. 1884 W. S. B. MCLAREN *Spinning* (ed. 2) 215 When the lap is large enough, it is taken off by the card-minder. 1885 *Spectator* 30 May 698/2 The engine minder who goes to the parish doctor because a spark has flown in his eye. 1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 4 Apr. 6/2 One of the King's cattle-minders.

4. A child who is 'minded' or taken care of at a 'minding school'.

1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* I. xvi, 'Those are not his brother and sister?'..'Oh, dear no, ma'am. Those are Minders'. 'Minders?' the Secretary repeated. 'Left to be Minded, sir'. 1903 *Treasury* Sept. 1046 There had been a dame school, kept by an old woman. .. She was quite illiterate, and her pupils were simply minders.

Mindererus (mindĕrī·rŭs). *Pharmacy.* [Latinized name of R. M. *Minderer* of Augsburg (*died* 1621) who first recommended its use.] *Spirit of Mindererus*, †*Mindererus's spirit*: a solution of acetate of ammonia, which is used medicinally as a febrifuge. (Now often with small initial.)

1776 FOTHERGILL in *Phil. Trans.* LXVI. 589 Spirit of Mindererus, volatile spirit of sal ammoniac. 1842 FRANCIS *Dict. Arts*, etc., *Mindererus's Spirit*. 1871 NAPHEYS *Prev. & Cure Dis.* III. xi. 1646 Spirits of mindererus are of service.

Mindful (mə·ndfŭl), *a.* Forms: see MIND *sb.*[1] [f. MIND *sb.*[1] + -FUL.]

1. a. Taking thought or care *of*; heedful *of*; keeping remembrance *of*. Also const. with *obj. clause* and *how* or *that*.

a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* lxii. 7 If I was myndefull of the of my bede. 1382 WYCLIF *Heb.* ii. 6 What thing is man, that thou art myndeful of him? 1579 B. GOOGE tr. *Mendoza's Prov.* 49 That where hee [*sc.* Cæsar] was verie mindefull of all other thinges, hee neuer would remember any iniurie doone vnto him. 1661 MARVELL *Corr. Let.* xxvi. Wks. (Grosart) II. 63 We beseech you be mindfull that the 29th of May be kept for a thanksgiving. 1736 BERKELEY *Discourse* Wks. 1871 III. 421 In all their actions to be ever mindful of the last day. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* iv. I. 428 He had always been mindful of his health even in his pleasures. 1873 BLACK *Pr. Thule* x, Mindful of the fastidious ways of his friend.

b. Having remembrance *of*. *nonce-use.*

1859 TENNYSON *Geraint & Enid* 191 Guinevere, not mindful of his face..desired his name.

c. const. with *inf.*

1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 420 To be Baptized in Churchyardes ..was an auncient custome .. that so such as were to be Baptized might be made ye more myndefull to confesse a rising agayne from ye dead. 1664 EVELYN *Kal. Hort., Mar.* (1679) 13 Be mindful to uncover them [the plants] in all benign, and tolerable seasons. 1692 SPRAT *Contriv. Blackhead* I. 19, I was not so mindful to preserve the Letters that came to me. 1889 GRETTON *Memory's Harkb.* 324 The monks were always mindful to establish themselves where there was water close at hand.

d. without const.

1567 TURBERV. *Ovid's Epist.* 141 b, So she with mindefull wrath Upon my corse for thee awroken is. 1605 CAMDEN *Rem.* 32 Antient families have given those names to their heires, with a mindefull and thankefull regard of them. 1728 POPE *Dunc.* I. 93 Much to the mindful Queen the feast recalls. 1747 COLLINS *Ode to Liberty* 16 Let not my shell's misguided power E'er draw thy sad, thy mindful tears. 1854 S. DOBELL *Balder* i, Point with mindful shadow day and night, Where we lie dust below.

†**2.** Minded, inclined *to do* something. Also with ellipsis of vb. of motion. *Obs.*

1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* II. 59 A great number of passengers ..that were all mindefull to Zante. *Ibid.* 61 The Turkes retired till morning, and then were mindfull to give vs .. a second alarum. 1672 in *L'pool Munic. Rec.* (1883) I. 285 Any that shall bee mindfull to build upon or improve any such wast. 1681 CHETHAM *Angler's Vade-m.* xxxii. § 1 (1689) 173 Tired and mindful to rest.

Mindfully (mə·ndfŭli), *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY [2].] In a mindful manner; 'attentively; heedfully' (J.); thoughtfully, earnestly, intently.

1382 WYCLIF *Job* xxxv. 5 Behold heuene, and loke, and myndefulli see the clondis, that is hegere than thou. *c* 1540 *Compl. Roderyck Mors* xxiv. G viij b, We must regard, that our mouthe, spirit and hart be eleuated together mindfully in faith. *a* 1568 ASCHAM *Scholem.* II. (Arb.) 122 Tullie did.. purposelie and mindfullie bend him selfe to a precise and curious Imitation of Plato. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* I. ii, The Ambassadour being mindfully bent to his charge. 1871 *Daily News* 20 Jan., He has mindfully left for me a message.

Mindfulness (mə·ndfŭlnĕs). [Formed as prec. + -NESS.] The state or quality of being mindful; 'attention; regard' (J.); †memory; †intention, purpose.

1530 PALSGR. 245/2 Myndfulnesse, *pencee*. 1561 T. HOBY tr. *Castiglione's Courtyer* II. (1577) G iv, To lose..the mindfulnesse of them. 1577–87 HOLINSHED *Chron.* I. 169/2 There was no mindfulnesse amongest them of running awaie. 1612 T. TAYLOR *Comm. Titus* iii. 1 (1619) 541 To keepe in mens memories the mindfulnesse of their duties. 1817 MOORE *Lalla R.* (ed. 2) 72 That deep-blue, melancholy dress Bokhara's maidens wear in mindfulness, Of friends or kindred, dead or far away. 1820 JAY *Prayers* 355 Let us not forget our souls, in our mindfulness of the body.

Minding (mə·ndiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. MIND *v.* + -ING [1].] The action of the verb MIND.

1. The action of remembering, regarding, paying attention to, or caring for; also (now only *dial.*), remembrance, recollection.

c 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* II. ix. 191 Into suche now seid remembrauncis and myndingis to be gendrid and had .. mai and wole serue at ful Holi Scripture [etc.]. 1534 MORE *Comf. agst. Trib.* III. Wks. 1257/2 This matter cosin lacketh, as I beliene, but either full fayth or sufficiente mynding. 1611 BIBLE *Rom.* viii. 7 The carnal mind [*marg.* the minding of the flesh] is enmitie against God. *a* 1652 J. SMITH *Sel. Disc.* ix. 482 To awaken and exhort every one to a serious minding of religion. 1701 HOWE *Carnality Relig. Content.* Wks. (1846) 230 Souls for their too intent minding of earthly things are called enemies to the Cross of Christ.

2. *dial.* A reminder; = MINGING *vbl. sb.* 1. Also, *pl.* 'the marks on a stone about to be sawn, for the guidance of the sawyers' (E. D. D.).

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XXIV. xvii. II. 202 If a man or woman happen to be sick of any disease, at what time as this Aproxis is in the flower, although he or shee bee throughly cured of it, yet shall they have a grudging or minding [L. *admonitionem*] thereof as often as it falleth to flower ngaine. 1893 *Wiltshire Gloss.* s.v., After a severe illness you are apt to have 'the mindings on't' now and again.

3. *Comb.*, as **minding-school**, a dame-school of which the chief purpose is to keep the children out of mischief.

1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* I. xvi, I keep a minding-school: I can take only three.

†**Mi·nding,** *ppl. a. Obs.* [f. MIND *v.* + -ING 2.] That reminds.

c 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* II. ii. 137 The vsing of hem [*sc.* images in churches] as rememoratijf or mynding signes is not reproued by eny ground of feith.

Mindless (mə·ndlĕs), *a.* [f. MIND *sb.*[1] + -LESS.]

1. Chiefly of persons and their attributes: Destitute of mind; unintelligent, senseless. Also, †that is out of his mind, stupefied, insane.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* II. 326 Se wisdom..hine sylfne ætbret fram..myndleasum ġeðohtum. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 5399 Oure mode kyng was so maied myndles him semed. 1509 BARCLAY *Shyp of Folys* (1570) 118 As men mindelesse. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* IV. ii. 30 And, half myndles, agane sche langis sair. 1592 DAVIES *Immort. Soul* IX. ii, God first made Angels bodiless, pure Minds; Then other Things, which mindless Bodies be. 1633 *Orkney Witch Trial* in *Abbotsford Cl. Misc.* I. 151 Scho was senceles and myndles for ane long speace. *a* 1679 W. OUTRAM *Serm.* (1682) 468 Nor is the Devil asleep or mindless. 1843 RUSKIN *Mod. Paint.* I. I. i. 5 The mindless copyist studies Raffaelle, but not what Raffaelle studied. 1866 *Sat. Rev.* 19 May 602/2 What an amount of mindless rubbish a well-educated gentleman has the audacity .. to lay before the public. 1885 J. MARTINEAU *Types Eth. Th.* I. 35 It..stands fast in mindless immobility.

2. Unmindful, thoughtless, heedless, disregardful, negligent, forgetful, careless *of*.

a 1547 SURREY *Æneid* IV. (1557) F iij b, Beastes and fowles ..Laide downe to slepe by silence of the night.. ; mindlesse of trauels past. 1641 HINDE *J. Bruen* viii. 30 So mindlesse of their owne duties. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneid* v. 225 Mindless of others Lives .. and careless of his own. 1795 *Hist. in Ann. Reg.* 22 The ministers of Russia, .. mindless of this representation, insisted on the appointment. 1895 SIR J. CROWE *Remin.* ix. 242 The younger men .. dive for sixpences, mindless of sharks.

b. const. *in*, *whether*.

1641 HINDE *J. Bruen* xviii. 58 Being both mindlesse in obserning, and carelesse in retaining what they heare. 1786 ANNA SEWARD *Lett.* (1811) I. 232, I choose .. the strongest which spontaneously occur, to express my idea..; mindless whether they do, or do not form a part of the fashionable vocabulary of Lord Fillagree and Lady Pamtickle.

Hence **Mi·ndlessly** *adv.*, in a mindless or unintelligent manner. **Mi·ndlessness**, the state or condition of being mindless, heedlessness; *occas.* total privation of mental power.

1646 T. COLEMAN *Brotherly Exam. Re-ex.* 5 There was either ignorance or mindlessnesse in him that sets it downe. 1681 H. MORE *Exp. Dan.* vi. 171 He observed the luxury and dissoluteness of Philopator and his mindlesness of his affairs. 1704 M. HENRY *Fam. Relig.* Wks. (1853) I. 266/2 Your backwardness and mindlessness will be their greatest discouragement. 1857 *Nat. Mag.* II. 15 A poor idiot-girl who always came,—but as I thought mindlessly,—burst into tears and exclaimed, My mother, my Mother! 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 304 We should have mindlessness before complete organic decay and death take place. *Ibid.* 383 The general aspect is that of mindlessness.

†**Mi·ndly,** *a.* [f. MIND *sb.*[1] + -LY [1].]

1. Mindful.

1435 MISYN *Fire of Love* I. v. 10 Whylk fyer hyrnand in þam þat is chosyn, myndely euer makes þame vp forto loke, and dede in þer desyre continuly to with-hald. *c* 1445 LYDG. *Nightingale* 128 Enprinte that fall [*sc.* Lucifer's] right myndely in thy herte.

2. Pertaining to the mind; mental.

1434 MISYN *Mending Life* xii. 128 Myendly [*sic*] sight truly is takyn vp heuenly to behald be schadoly syght 3it & meroly, not clere and opyn. 1587 GOLDING *De Mornay* vi. (1592) 62 The Father created the mindly shapes, and gaue the gouernment of them to this second Minde. *Ibid.* 81 By his mindly Inworking he is the verie eternitie it selfe. 1832 *Fraser's Mag.* VI. 732 There to put off your lingering mindly drop of mortality, and be one of the blessed.

Mi·ndsman. *nonce-wd.* A man of mind.

1837 C. LOFFT *Self-formation* I. 96 Those whose ambition it is to separate themselves from the herd, to rise to the rank of mindsmen.

†**Mi·ndy,** *a. Obs. rare.* [OE. *myndig*, *gemindig*, f. (*ge*)*mynd* MIND *sb.*[1]] Mindful. Hence **Mi·ndiness** (Ormin), mindfulness.

c 975 *Rushw. Gosp.* Mark xiv. 72, & myndiȝ wæs petrus wordes ðætte cweden wæs him ðe hæland. *c* 1200 ORMIN 11508 Forr sawle onnfoþ att Drihhtin Godd Innsihht & minndiȝnesse. 1435 MISYN *Fire of Love* II. xi. 98 That parfite lufe to god .. makis man myndy of his god.

Mindy, variant of MINDEE.

Mine (məin), *sb.* Forms: 4–7 **myn**(e, 6 **myene, miene, mynne**, *Sc.* **mynd**(e, 4– **mine**. [a. F. *mine* (1314 in Hatz.-Darm.), whence Pr., Sp., It. *mina*; also G., Da. *mine*, Dn. *mijn*, Sw. *mina*.

The origin of the Fr. word is doubtful. The evidence seems to point to the derivation of the sb. from the vb. (see MINE *v.*), which in the earliest instances had the general sense to excavate, make underground passages, undermine. (The alleged 9th c example of med.L. *mina plumbi* 'lead-mine' given by Du Cange is from a spurious charter.) This renders it difficult to accept the otherwise plausible connexion of the sb. with the OCeltic **meini-* ore, metal (Welsh *mwyn*, Irish *méinn*).]

1. An excavation made in the earth for the purpose of digging out metals or metallic ores, or

certain other minerals, as coal, salt, precious stones (in 16th–17th c. occas. building stones, sand). Also, the place from which such minerals may be obtained by excavation.

Royal mine, mine royal: in English Law, any mine yielding more gold or silver than will cover the cost of working: all such mines being liable to be claimed as the property of the Crown.

1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 10737 A perylous chaunce to hym fyl; For, a grete party of þat yche myne Fyl dowun yn þe hole, and closed hym ynne. 1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 83 Ferst forto gete it out of Myne, And after forto trie and fyne. *c* 1407 Lydg. *Reson & Sens.* 6080 Of awmber ryche and fyn, Pulshed ful clene out of the Myn. 1467–8 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 582/2 Mynes of Coles and Leede, and all other Possessions. 1535 Coverdale 1 *Macc.* viii. 3 The Mynes of syluer and golde that are there. 1551 Robinson tr. *More's Utopia* I. (1895) 64 Them they condempned into ston quarris, and in to myenes to dygge mettalle. 1555 Eden *Decades* I. iii. 11 By reason of a myne of stones which was nere vnto the same, seruynge well bothe to buylde with, and also to make lyme. ? 1568 in Pettus *Fodinæ Reg.* (1670) 54 The Governours, Assistants, and Commonalty for the Mines Royal. 1638 Rawley tr. *Bacon's Life & Death* (1650) 3 Stones continue longer, if they be laid towards the same Coast of Heaven, in the Building, that they lay in the Mine. 1649 Blithe *Eng. Improv. Impr.* (1653) 149 Bring in severall Loades of Sands either out of the streets or wayes, or from a sand-pit or mine once or twice a week. 1672 Boyle *Ess. Gems* 31 In East-India,.. they are wonderfully unskillful at digging Mines; as I have gathered from the Answers of some, who..went to visit the Diamond Mines, as they call them. 1696 Phillips (ed. 5), *Mine* is also that part of the Earth where Metals and Minerals are found, and out of which they are digg'd. 1698 Keill *Exam. Th. Earth* (1734) 37 If we descend into the Mines or Pits, we shall find the matter there to be three or four times heavier than the earth above. 1813 Bakewell *Introd. Geol.* (1815) 276 The deepest mine that has been worked in Europe .. is one at Truttenberg in Bohemia. 1870 Yeats *Nat. Hist. Comm.* 113 Gold and silver mines abound in the Andes. 1882 *Rep. to Ho. Repr. Prec. Met. U. S.* 96 The hydraulic and drift-mines during the last year have produced large sums.

† b. *hyperbolically*. An abundant mass of gold.

1656 Cowley *Pindar. Odes, Extasie* ix, The Horses were of temper'd Lightning made, .. The noblest, sprightful'st Breed, And flaming Mines their Necks array'd.

c. *fig.* An abundant source of supply; a store from which (something specified) may be obtained in plenty.

1541 R. Copland *Guydon's Quest. Chirurg.* O ij, Specyally aboute the pryncipal membres that are the mynes of strength. 1601 Shaks. *Phœnix & Turtle* 36 So betweene them Loue did shine, That the Turtle saw his right, Flaming in the Phœnix sight; Either was the others mine. *a* 1764 Lloyd *Dial.* Poet. Wks. 1774 II. 4 You must have a fund, a mine, Prose, poems, letters. 1819 Byron *Juan* I. xi, Her memory was a mine; she knew by heart All Calderon and greater part of Lopé. 1905 *Athenæum* 30 Dec. 887/2 Her book is a mine of valuable information.

† d. *transf.* A subterranean cavity. *Obs.*

1604 Shaks. *Oth.* IV. ii. 79 The baudy winde that kisses all it meetes, Is hush'd within the hollow Myne of Earth And will not hear't. *c* 1611 Chapman *Iliad* XVII. 51 When a whirlewind .. tosseth therewithall His fixt root from his hollow mines.

e. *dial.* (See quot.)

1750 W. Ellis *Mod. Husbandm.* VI. I. xvi. 92 The Middlesex Farmers about Harrow .. get a .. great deal of Sullidge out of the Bottom of Drains in Roads, Commons, and other Places, which they here call a Mine.

2. Mineral or ore. Now only used for iron ore. Also with defining prefix, forming adjs. (often used *ellipt.*): *all-mine*, designating the best quality of pig-iron, made from ore only; *part-mine*, designating pig-iron made from ore mixed with cinder.

Orange mine: see Orange *sb.*[1] B 2 c.

c 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) xxxiii. 149 þe erthe es full of myne of gold and siluer. 1460–70 *Bk. Quintessence* 3 Good gold naturel, and of þe myn of þe erþe, is clepid of philosophoris sol in latyn. 1581 Lambarde *Eiren.* II. vii. (1588) 305 Every occupier of any maner of Ironworks, which shall cary any coles, Mine, or Iron, to or from the same. *a* 1650 Boate *Irel. Nat. Hist.* xvi. (1652) 126 In Ireland,..in some places the Oar of the Iron is drawn out of Moores and Bogs, in others it is hewen out of Rockes, and in others it is digged out of Mountains: of which three sorts the first is called Bog-mine, the other, Rock-mine, and the third with severall names, White-mine, Pin-mine, and Shel-mine. 1651 French *Distill.* v. 166 Take of the Mine of allum, or allum stones. 1674 Ray *Collect. Words, Prep. Tin* (E. D. S.) 12 The water runs out, and carries away with it the mine that is pounded small enough to pass the holes. 1861 Faibairn *Iron* 53 To increase the quantity of mine or ore to the charge. 1900 *Daily News* 24 Oct. 2/4 Pig iron sells slowly at..65*s.* for part-mine, 62*s.* 6*d.* to 70*s.* for all-mine.

fig. 1608 Machin *Dumb Knt.* I. i. B 4 b, The mine Which doth attract my spirit to run this marshall course, Is the faire guard of a distressed Queene.

† b. Applied *spec.* to gold. *Obs.*

1627 P. Fletcher *Locusts* II. xxi, Poore Soules, they dare not soile their hands with precious mine. 1633 — *Purple Isl.* VIII. xxvi, Thus wallowing on his god, his heap of mine, He feeds his famished soul with that deceiving shine.

3. *Mil.* In ancient warfare, a subterranean passage excavated under the wall of a besieged fortress, for the purpose either of directly giving entrance to the besiegers, or of causing the wall to fall by removal of its foundation. In modern warfare, a subterranean gallery in which gunpowder is placed, for blowing up the enemy's fortifications; the charge of powder contained in such a gallery. Also, in recent naval warfare, a receptacle filled with dynamite or other explosive, sunk at the entrance to a harbour, and provided with machinery by which it can be made to explode so as to destroy an enemy's vessel attempting to enter. *Contact-mine*: see Contact *sb.* 6.

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 240/1 A Myne, *cunus, via subterranea, cunulus, cuniculus.* 1523 Lo. Berneas *Froiss.* (1812) I. cix. 132 Then he called to hym his myners, to thyntent tbat they shuld make a myne vnder all the walles. 1533 Bellenden *Livy* v. viii. (xix.) (S. T. S.) II. 173 þai made ane mynde [*MS. B.* myn] vnder þe erde to mak ane gate be quhilk þai mycht cum to þe castell of Veos. 1568 Grafton *Chron.* II. 981 Sir Alexander Baynam..caused a myne to be enterprised to enter into the towne, but the Frenchmen perceyuing that, made a countermine. 1574 Whitgift *Def. Answ.* 141 To buyld vp the walles of Jerusalem, whiche you haue broken downe: and to fill vp the Mines that you haue digged. 1599 Shaks. *Hen. V*, III. ii. 61 To the Mynes? Tell you the Duke, it is not so good to come to the Mynes: for looke you, the Mynes is not according to the disciplines of the Warre. 1695 Prior *Ballad* 36 Cannons above, and mines below, Did death and tombs for foes contrive. 1781 Gibbon *Decl. & F.* (1869) I. xxiv. 689 A mine was carried under the foundations of the walls. 1844 H. H. Wilson *Brit. India* II. 476 The fort was carried by storm after the destruction of part of its defences by the successful explosion of a mine. 1853 Herschel *Pop. Lect. Sci.* § 24 (1873) 18 As if a succession of mines had been sprung.

fig. 1639 S. Du Verger tr. *Camus' Admir. Events* 30 All the subtilties, which he invented to intrap her, were as so many vented mines, without any effect. 1647 May *Hist. Parl.* III. vi. 100 Many Mynes and Countermynes were every day working..on both sides. 1720 De Foe *Col. Jack* (1840) 286 An unseen mine blew up all this tranquillity.

4. (See quot.)

1869 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* 632 The mine..is a firework in which a number of crackers .. are thrown up into the air.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.* a. simple attrib., as *mine-agent, -fire, -owner, -pump* (in quot. *attrib.*), *-shaft, -water*. b. objective, as *mine-digger, -digging*.

1855 J. R. Leifchild *Cornwall Mines* 262 What exactly suits the views of a *mine-agent, may not exactly suit yours. *a* 1691 Boyle (J.), A *mine-digger may meet with a gem, which he knows not what to make of. 1648 Owen *Toleration* Wks. 1851 VIII. 176 Which penalty..was inflicted unto banishment, imprisonment, *mine-digging. 1813 Scott *Trierm.* III. xxxiii, Foul vapours rise and *mine-fires glare. 1877 Raymond *Statist. Mines & Mining* 341 *Mine-owners are naturally elated and hopeful under this new..condition of affairs. 1824 R. Stuart *Hist. Steam Engine* 117 The *mine-pump end of the lever-beam. 1831 Carlyle *Sart. Res.* I. iv, On the whole, as in opening new *mine-shafts is not unreasonable, there is much rubbish in his Book. 1882 *Rep. to Ho. Repr. Prec. Met. U. S.* 640 A very ingenious utilization of a portion of the *mine-waters is made.

6. Special comb.: **mine adventure**, a speculation in mines; **mine-adventurer**, one who takes part in a mine adventure; **mine-captain**, the overseer of a mine (Worcester, 1860); **mine-clearing**, the operation of freeing a harbour from mines; **mine-dial** (see quot.); **mine-dragging**, the operation of dragging the bottom of the sea in order to remove the mines laid by the enemy; **mine dredger**, an apparatus for taking up mines laid; **mine earth** (see quot. and cf. sense 2); **mine field**, a portion of the sea in which mines have been laid; **mine greys**, 'thin beds of shelly limestone' (E.D.D.); **mine ground** (see quot.); **mine-iron** = *mine pig*; **mine-lamp**, a lamp used in a mine; also *fig.*; † **mine man**, a miner; **mine-master**, (*a*) *Mil.* one who superintends the laying of mines; (*b*) the overseer of a mine; **mine-pig**, pig-iron made from mine or ore, as distinguished from *cinder-pig*; **mine-pit**, a pit or shaft belonging to a mine; **mine ship** *Naut.*, (see quot.); **mine-spirit**, a spirit supposed to inhabit a mine (cf. Fairy *sb.* 4 b); **mine-stone, -stuff**, ore, *esp.* ironstone; **mine surveyor** (see quot.); **mine-sweeper**, a ship for mine-sweeping; **mine-sweeping** = *mine-dragging*; **mine tin**, tin worked out of the lode, cf. *moor-tin, stream-tin*; **mine-town**, a town of which the population consists chiefly of miners; **mine-viewer** = *mine surveyor*; **mine-work**, (*a*) *Mil. pl.* subterraneous passages of the nature of mines; (*b*) a system of 'workings' or excavated passages belonging to a mine.

1700 *Broadside*, List of all the Adventurers in the *Mine Adventure, May the First, 1700. 1703 Steele *Tend. Husb.* II. i. 26, I consider'd all the Stocks..and Mine-Adventures, till she told me [etc.]. 1778 *Eng. Gazetteer* (ed. 2) s. v. *Pullox-Hill*, A gold mine was discovered here .. by the society of royal *mine-adventurers. 1905 *Q. Rev.* Jan. 204 Several smaller craft were destroyed in the operation of *mine-clearing. 1701 Moxon *Math. Instrum.* 12 *Mine-dial*, a Box and Needle with a brass Ring, divided into 360 degrees, with several Dials Graduated thereon, generally thus made for the use of Miners. 1905 *Blackw. Mag.* Jan. 167/1 On May 12 *mine-dragging operations in Talien Bay cost him a torpedo-boat. 1904 *Daily Chron.* 9 Aug. 5/1 Our ships, preceded by *mine dredgers, steamed towards Lungantan. 1883 Gresley *Coal-mining Gloss.*, *Mine Earth* (N.S.). Synonymous with ironstone in beds: a term used as much as 200 years ago. 1886 *Pall Mall G.* 21 Aug. 1/2 It has been already shown by similar attacks upon *mine fields unprotected in this way that the removal of such obstacles is a simple enough affair. 1862 A. C. Ramsay, etc. *Descr. Catal. Rock Spec.* (ed. 3) 149 In many of the localities in the Weald these limestones are known by the name of *mine greys. 1883 Gresley *Coal-mining Gloss.*, *Mine Ground*, strata containing ironstone in layers. 1838 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* I. 144/1 The iron is..to be made wholly of pure or *mine-iron. 1820 Shelley *Sens. Plant* I. 63 As *mine-lamps enkindle a hidden gem. 1579–80 North *Plutarch, P. Æmilius* (1595) 268 They are confuted by the common experience of these *mine men, that dig in the mines for mettall. 1755 Johnson, *Adit*,..a term among the minemen. 1598 Barret *Theor. Warres* v. iii. 133 There must be, *Mine-maisters, Smithes [etc.]. 1665 *Phil. Trans.* I. 112 The Requisits to a perfect knowledge of the Metallick Art, and of the qualities of the Mine-master. 1683 in Cochran-Patrick *Rec. Coinage Scotl.* (1876) II. 200 That he or his deput or the myn master be judges in all dehaits about myns and levells. 1881 Raymond *Mining Gloss.*, **Mine-pig*, Eng. See *Pig-iron*. 1884 W. H. Greenwood *Steel & Iron* iv. 56 Cinder-pig in contradistinction to all mine pig—i. e., pig smelted entirely from ore or mine—is obtained by [etc.]. 1650 Trapp *Comm. Num.* iv. 3 A labouring even to lassitude; compared therefore to..digging in *mine-pits. 1862 A. C. Ramsay, etc. *Descr. Catal. Rock Spec.* (ed. 3) 148 These still go by the name of 'mine-pits', and must not be confounded with the 'marl-pits', or those other deeper openings. 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey) **Mine Ships* or *Powder-Ships*, Ships fill'd with Gun-powder, enclos'd in strong Vaults of Brick or Stone; to be brought up, and fired in the midst of the Enemies Fleet. 1756–7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) IV. 144 It is said that the miners of Idra have formerly been so superstitious as to set some provisions for the *mine-spirit every day. 1612 Sturtevant *Metallica* 35 Prepared or roasted oares, *Mine-stones, or Mettle-stones beeing the fitt matter of Metallique liquours. 1703 T. N. *City & C. Purchaser* 185 'Tis the first Iron that runs from the Mine-stone when 'tis melting. 1862 A. C. Ramsay, etc. *Descr. Catal. Rock Spec.* (ed. 3) 148 The sites ..where the 'iron-mine' or 'mine-stone' was extracted. 1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 969 During this operation, all the water and *mine-stuff are drawn off by the pit. 1860 *Eng. & For. Min. Gloss.* (S. Staffs.), **Mine Surveyor*, a person who dials the working of a colliery as often as requisite, and makes plans of the mines got and ungot. 1905 *Westm. Gaz.* 27 Sept. 4/2 *Mine-sweepers are to play a great part, it seems certain, in future naval warfare. 1905 *Daily Chron.* 12 Sept. 3/1 He took part in the risky game of *mine-sweeping. 1904 *Ibid.* 9 Nov. 5/2 Five mine-sweeping steamers have been sunk by Japanese shells. 1602 Carew *Cornw.* (1723) 15 b, A foote of..the *Myne Tynne..[will weigh] fiftie two pound. 1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 1244 Mine tin requires peculiar care in its mechanical preparation or dressing. 1802 *Brookes' Gazetteer* (ed. 12), Platen, a *mine-town of Bohemia. 1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 1271 At the pleasure of the skilful *mine-viewer. 1583 Stocker *Civ. Warres Lowe C.* IV. 49 b, The Enemie had in suche sorte wrought his *Mine woorkes, as that he had gotten into a Monasterie within the Citie. 1665 *Phil. Trans.* I. 112 Other chief Overseers of the Mine-works. 1900 Baring-Gould *Bk. Dartmoor* 231 An old mine-work, now filled with water.

Mine (main), *poss. pron.* Forms: 1 **min**, 2–4 **min**, 3–6 **myn**(e, 4 **mein**, **miin**, 6 **mijn**, *Sc.* **mynn**(e, 3– **mine**. In 1–3 inflected as str. adj. (2–3 *dat. sing. fem.* **mire**); in 4 *sing.* **min**, *pl.* **mine**. [Com. Teut.: OE. *mín* = OFris., OS. *mîn* (Du. *mijn*), OHG. *mîn* (MHG. *mîn*, mod.G. *mein*), ON. *mín-n* (Sw., Da. *min*), Goth. *mein-s*:—OTeut. **mîno-*, f. **me-*: see Me *pers. pron.*

A case-form (whether ablative, locative, or instrumental is uncertain) of this possessive adj. serves in all early Teut. langs. as the genitive of the pronoun of 1 pers. sing.: OE. *mín*, OFris., OS., OHG. *mîn*, ON. *mîn*, Goth. *meina*. The OE. *mín* as genitive did not survive into ME. (uses like *malgre min* being not survivals, but imitations of French); and is therefore not illustrated here.]

The possessive pronoun of the first person sing.

1. Qualifying a following sb. Now only *arch.* or *poet.* before a vowel or *h*; otherwise superseded by My, q.v. for the various uses.

Already in the 13th c. the rule in southern and midland Eng. was to use *myn* before vowels and *h*, and *my* before consonants, and this subsisted until the 18th c., though occasional examples of *mine* before consonants are found even in the 16th c. In Sc. the longer form was commonly used in all contexts down to the 15th c.

c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Luke xv. 24 For-þam þes min sunu wæs dead. *a* 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 225 Þanne beo ic ȝemenezed mines weddes. *c* 1200 Ormin 2956 Drihhtin me ȝifeþ witt & mihht To forþenn wel min wille. *c* 1205 Lay. 8407 Þe oðer wes mire suster sune. *Ibid.* 28220 Þat ich habbe minne æm awræke mid þan bezste. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 406 Bute ȝif ich parti mrom ou, þe Holi Gost, þet is, min and mines Federes luue, ne mei nout kumen to ou. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Compl. Mars* 57 Then seyde he thus—myn hertes lady swete [etc.]. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* Prol. 169 At Petir firste I wald begyne, And sa furtht to myn purposs win. 1400 in *Ancestor* July (1904) 14, I bequeth to Hawys myn wyff all myn necessaries that arn in myn place. 1467 in *Bury Wills* (Camden) 46, I wyll that John myn sone haue myn seid place callyd Upwode Halle. 1484 Caxton *Fables of Æsop* I. vi, He shall be myn mortal enemy. 1526 Tindale *John* xvi. 26 At that daye shall ye axe in myne name. 1558 in Strype *Ann. Ref.* (1824) I. ii. 72, I do send you at this present mine faithful Chaplain. 1596 Shaks. 1 *Hen. IV*, III. iii. 93 Shall I not take mine ease in mine Inne. 1628 Hakewill in *Ussher's Lett.* (1686) 399 During mine abode in the University. 1726 Swift *Gulliver* II. vii, Till I had gotten a little below the level of mine eyes. 1756 C. Lucas *Ess. Waters* I. Ded., [It] would be very far from desireable, in mine estimation. 1871 R. Ellis tr. *Catullus* lxiv. 223 Rather, first in cries mine heart shall lighten her anguish.

b. In association with another possessive, *mine* is by some used (without intention of archaism) instead of *my*.

1559 Hales in Foxe *A. & M.* (1583) II. 2117/1, I haue.. discouered myne, yours, and Englands enemies. 1610 Shaks. *Temp.* III. iii. 93 His, and mine lou'd darling. 1611 — *Cymb.* v. v. 230 Oh Gentlemen, helpe, Mine and your

Mistris. 1761 Mrs. F. Sheridan *Sidney Bidulph* III. 165 As mine and my child's future welfare must be [etc.]. 1804-6 Syd. Smith *Mor. Philos.* (1850) 209, I bought them both the same day, mine and your ticket.

†c. Phr. *Min dieu* repr. F. *mon Dieu!* my God! *Obs.*

c 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 961 (Kölbing) 'A, min dieu', seyd the justise, 'þine tales ben gode & wise'.

2. Placed after the sb. Now only *arch.* in vocative.

c 1200 Ormin Ded. 1 Nu, broþerr Wallter broþerr min. *c* 1205 Lay. 12064 3if hit wule Appolin þat is deore lauerd min. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 711 (Jesus MS.) Hwy axestu of craftes myne. *a* 1300 *E. E. Psalter* vii. 6 (Horstm.) Fylegh saule mine þe faa. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 1442 (Kölbing) Tel me now, sone mine, Whi [etc.]. *Ibid.* 4977 Y dar legge heued min, þat [etc.]. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Clerk's T.* 309 This is ynogh Grisilde myn quod he. *c* 1402 Lydg. *Compl. Bl. Knt.* 639 O gladde sterre, O lady Venus myne! *c* 1550 Cheke *Matt.* xxvi. 25 Js it J Mr mijn, quoth he. 1567 *Gude & Godlie Ball.* (S. T. S.) 38 O Father myne, how lang haif I Thy trew and faithfull seruand bene. 1592 Shaks. *Rom. & Jul.* II. iii. 82 *Rom.* Thou chid'st me oft for louing Rosaline. *Fri.* For doting, not for louing pupill mine. 1611 Florio, *Mamma*, ..alsn Mam, Mother-mine, or Mammie, as children first call their Mothers. 1852 Pristed *Five Yrs. Eng. Univ.* 67 There, reader mine! Is that last page grave and solid enough for you?

†3. In idiomatic phrases, *mine* Alone, *mine* One, *mine* Unwitting, Maugre *mine*; see those words.

4. As predicative adj.: Belonging to me.

c 1000 Ælfric *Exod.* xix. 5 Eall eorðe ys min. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 35 Me were leofere þenne al world þat hit were min. *c* 1200 Ormin 17964 þiss blisse iss min la fuliwiss. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 970 (Cott.) Of alkin fruit haf þou þe nine For i wil þat þe tend be mine [*Gött.* mein, *riming with* neien]. 1362 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. v. 90, I wusshe hit weore myn. *c* 1385 Chaucer *L. G. W.* Prol. 145 Blessed be seynt Valentyne! For on his day I chees yow to be myne. 1484 Caxton *Fables of Æsop* I. vi, The fyrst part is myn by cause I am your lord. 1535 Coverdale *John* vii. 16 My doctryne is not myne, but his that hath sent me. 1603 Shars. *Meas. for M.* v. i. 497 Giue me your hand, and say you will be mine. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Eclog.* x. 54 Ah! that your Birth and Bus'ness had been mine. 1832 Tennyson *May Queen* Conclus. x, It's not for them: it's mine. 1864-8 Browning *James Lee's Wife* IV. v, Such as you were, I took you for mine.

5. *Elliptically*, equivalent to My with a sb. supplied from the context.

a 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 223 For þan þe [þu] were hihersam þines [wifes] wordum mor ðan mine. *c* 1205 Lay. 676 He deð him selua freoma þa helpeð his freondene swa ich wlle mine. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Reeve's T.* 165 Lay doun thy swerd and I wil myn alswa. 1395 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 7 To preye for my lordes soule Sir Thomas West, and for myn. *c* 1500 *Melusine* 157 Your wylle & myne be one. 1592 Shaks. *Rom. & Jul.* II. iii. 59 My hearts deare Loue is set, On the faire daughter of rich Capulet: As mine on hers, so hers is set on mine. 1625 K. Long tr. *Barclay's Argenis* III. xix. 211 If more holily and religiously wee esteeme of my Fathers preserver and mine. 1786 G. Horne *Duty Contend. Faith* 8 *note*, When a man deceives me once, says the Italian proverb, it is his fault; when twice, it is mine. 1843 Borrow *Bible in Spain* xxxii, I am pleased with your company, as I make no doubt you are with mine. 1866 J. C. Maxwell in *Phil. Trans.* CLVI. 268 In M. Meyer's experiments the time of vibration is shorter than in most of mine.

6. *absol.* a. Those who are mine; chiefly, my family, my kindred.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* John xvii. 10 Mino alle ðino sint & ðino mino sint. *c* 975 *Rushw. Gosp.* ibid., Mine alle ðine sindun & ðine mine sindun. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 5371 He has saued me and mine fra mikel nede. *c* 1300 *Harrow. Hell* 64 Y shal þe bringe of helle pyne, ant wyþ þe alle myne. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Melib.* P 915, I..foryeue yow outrely alle the offenses Iniuries and wronges þat ye haue doon agayn me and myne. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 16851 3it I hope that I & myne Schal venge his dethe on the & thine. 1456 Sir G. Have *Law Arms* (S. T. S.) 164 Unharmyt of me or ony of myn. 1594 Shaks. *Rich. III*, II. i. 24, I will neuer more remember Our former hatred, so thriue I, and mine. 1683 *Robin Conse.* 15 Both I and mine alas would starve. 1829 Worosw. *Mem.* II. 209, I and mine will be happy to see you and yours here or anywhere. 1884 A. Phelps *Let.* 14 Dec. in E. S. Phelps *Mem.* (1891) 275 God is so unspeakably good to me and mine. 1891 Sir J. Paget in *Mem. & Lett.* (1901) 387 The unhappiness of being here alone is greater than the happiness of seeing things which, if any of 'mine' had been with me, I should [etc.].

†b. That which is mine; my property; also, my affair, my business. *Obs.*

Beowulf 2737 Ic on earde bad mælgesceafta, heold min tela. *a* 1225 *St. Marher.* 8 Ich .. hit neauer nuste þat be of min hearm hefde. *c* 1300 *Harrow. Hell* 97 Seþþe he wes boht wyþ myn, wyþ resoun wolle ich hauen hym. *a* 1300–1400 *Cursor M.* 2429 (Gött.) Of þin wil i neuer a dele, Bot leuer me es of mine þu haue. 1382 Wyclif *John* xvi. 14 Of myne he schal take. *c* 1450 tr. *De Imitatione* III. lv. 132 To þe I committe me & all myne to correcte. 1555 Eden *Decades* I. III. 17 b, Myne and Tbyne (the seedes of all myscheefe) haue no place with them. 1568 Grafton *Chron.* II. 86 Your grace hath betherto cherished mee but for mine, but now I will go to him that is more redier to gene then to take. 1596 Shaks. *Tam. Shr.* II. i. 385 She shall have me and mine. 1603 — *Meas. for M.* II. ii. 12 Goe to; let that be mine.

c. *Of mine*: belonging to me: see Of *prep.* 44.

†7. Comb. mine-take-it, app. a phrase in some childish game. *Obs.*

1694 S. Johnson *Notes Past. Let. Bp. Burnet* I. 28 The ridiculous Ownership we have, is the ridiculous English word, Mine-take-it; which all the Children in England Know, is equivalent to Your's-take-it.

Mine (məin), *v.* Forms: 4 mini, myny, 4–6 myne, (7 moine), 4- mine. *Pa. pple.* 4 ymyned. [ad. F. *mine-r* (from 12–13th c.) = Pr., Sp., Pg. *minar*, It. *minare*; related to *mine* Mine *sb.*

The view of Diez, that the vb. is identical with popular L. *mināre* to lead, drive, is not without semasiological plausibility (cf. Drive *v.* 10); but the normal phonetic representative of *mināre* in Fr. is *mener*. Scheler's hypothesis, that F. *miner* was a learned adoption of med.L. *minārе* used in technical works, would remove the phonological difficulty, but seems in itself somewhat unlikely.]

1. *intr.* To dig in the earth; esp. in a military sense, to dig under the foundations of a wall, etc., for the purpose of destroying it. Also, to make subterraneous passages. ? *Obs.*

13.. *K. Alis.* 1216 Alisaundre quic hoteth his hynen, Under heore walles to myne. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 179 R. had minoures, þat myned vndere þe walle. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* XVII. 600 With armyt men enew tharin, And instrumentis als for to myne. *c* 1425 Wyntoun *Cron.* VIII. xxxvii. 5538 Wndyre the erde he gert thaim myne. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* xxx. 110 (Harl. MS.), He saw..an hidowse pitte, and an orible dragon þere in, myning at the tree. 1480 Caxton *Chron. Eng.* v. (1520) 43/1 Do you myne depe tyll your men come to the ponde. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 240/2 To Myne, *arapagere, cunire.* 1568 Grafton *Chron.* II. 327 They beganne to mine vnder the Castell. 1609 C. Butler *Fem. Mon.* (1634) 57 Then, making more room beneath, by moining and carrying out the earth, they [*sc.* wasps] hang an other comb under the first, by little pins. 1614 Ralegh *Hist. World* II. v. iii. § 9. 465 The Enemie mined; and they countermined.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1340 *Ayenb.* 108 Þanne nymþ he his pic and his spade and beginþ to delue and to myny and geþ in-to his herte. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* II. 628 [677] His manhod and his pyne Made loue with-Inne hire for to myne. 1387–8 T. Usk *Test. Love* I. Prol. (Skeat) I. 5 Dul wit and a thoughtful soule so sore haue myned and graffed in my spirites. *c* 1407 Lydg. *Reson & Sens.* 6918 Water that droppeth euer in oon Myneth ful depe in-to A stoon. 1426 — *De Guil. Pilgr.* 4282 Thys mortal werm wyl neuere fyne Vp-on hys mayster for to myne. *Ibid.* 11872 And many kankres wych on hem myne. *c* 1430 — *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 233 In amerous hertys brennyng of Kyndenesse, This name of Jhesu moost profoundly doth myne. 1605 Bacon *Adv. Learn.* II. xxv. § 6 To search and mine into that which is not reuealed.

2. *trans.* To dig or burrow in (the earth); also, to make (a hole, passage, onc's way) underground.

c 1400 Maundev. (1839) xxvi. 267 A Fox schalle..mynen an hole. *Ibid.*, So longe he schalle mynen and perce the Erthe, til that he schalle passe thorghe. 1555 W. Watreman *Fardle Facions* I. vi. 93 The Troglodites myne them selues caues in the grounde, wherin to dwell. 1813 Scott *Rokeby* II. ii, Condemned to mine a channell'd way, O'er solid sheets of marble grey.

b. *transf.* and *fig.* To make a hollow or groove in; to burrow below the surface of; to make (a passage) by burrowing.

c 1477 Caxton *Jason* 20 b, How well the stone is myned and holowed by contynuell droppyng of water. 1802 Er. Darwin *Orig. Soc.* IV. 35 The cruel larva mines its silky course. 1811 Pinkerton *Petral.* II. 551 This stump and the trunk, hollowed and mined by the subterranean heat. 1816 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* xxii. (1818) II. 279 A subcutaneous larva..that mines the leaves of the rose. 1820 Hazlitt *Lect. Dram. Lit.* 165 He may be said to mine his way into a subject, like a mole.

c. To supply with subterranean passages; to make subterranean passages under.

1820 Shelley *Witch Atl.* lx. 5 Through fane, and palace-court, and labyrinth mined With many a dark and subterranean street. 1862 Merivale *Rom. Emp.* (1865) VII. lix. 245 The site of Jerusalem itself is mined with vaults and galleries.

†3. To bury in the ground. *Obs. rare*—1.

c 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* III. 334 The long endurid, old, forfreton vine Is not to helpe..To delue hit vnder al, but to reclyne Hit lyke a bowe and vnder lond hit myne.

4. To dig away or remove the foundations of (a wall, fort, etc.); to undermine in order either to cause collapse or to effect a hostile entrance. ? *Obs.*

c 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* II. 408 If þe hosebonde man wiste what hour þe þeef were to come, certis he wolde wake, and suffre him not to myne his hous. 1388 — *Job* xxiv. 16 Thei mynen housis in derknesses. ? *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 351 Merke vn-to Meloyne, and myne doune the wallez. *c* 1400 *Brut or Chron. Eng.* (E. E. T. S.) 136 William Bastard..hade taken al þe lande aboute Hastynge, & hade also mynede þe castell. *c* 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* III. vi. (1869) 139 The kyng first bifore wente, and mynede the foundement. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* v. viii. 42 To mynd the castell on the rochis hie, Lurkand in harnes wachis round about. 1570 Levins *Manip.* 139/22 To Mine, *suffodere.*

transf. 1807 J. Barlow *Columb.* I. 375 Pastaza mines proud Pambamarca's base. 1824 Bryant *Green River* ii, The plane-tree's speckled arms o'ershoot The swifter current that mines its root.

b. *fig.* To attack, overcome, ruin, or destroy by slow or secret methods; to undermine. Occas. with *down*, *away*.

c 1412 Hoccleve *De Reg. Princ.* 3133 They at þe fulle kunne his herte myne. 1426 Lydg. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 15650 Whan Ire doth myn herte myne. 1600 Shaks. *A. Y. L.* I. i. 21 Hee..mines my gentility with my education. 1605 B. Jonson *Volpone* III. i, I haue done Base offices in..Whispering false lies, or mining men with prayses. 1751 J. Brown *Shaftesb. Charac.* 239 'Till .. irreligion and licentiousness appear; mine the foundations of the fabric, and sink it in the general abyss of ignorance and oppression. *a* 1814 *Love, Honor & Interest* I. i. in *New Brit. Theatre* III. 260 While love is mining down The strength and virtue of my own esteem. 1847 Lytton *Lucretia* 31 The wreck of man is fretted and mined away by small pleasures and poor excitements.

absol. 1748 Johnson *Van. Hum. Wishes* 332 The rival batters, and the lover mines.

5. In modern warfare: To lay mines (see Mine *sb.* 3) under, for the purpose of destruction.

1630 Hayward *Edw. VI* 60 They mined the walls, laid the powder and rammed the mouth. 1686 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2158/1 A Deserter..had informed the Imperial Generals that the said Towers were Mined. 1775 Johnson *West. Isl.* Wks. X. 482 It is built upon a rock, as Mr. Boswell remarked, that it might not be mined. 1820 Greville *Mem.* 10 Dec. (1874) 41 The Prussians arrived, mined the arches, and attempted to blow up the bridge. 1851 Gladstone in Morley *Life* (1903) I. III. vi. 403 The ground is mined and the train is laid. 1862 Thackeray *Philip* vii. I. 135 Old Parr Street is mined, sir,—mined! And some morning we shall be blown into blazes. 1885 *N. Amer. Rev.* Sept. 274 Although the waters may be reported as mined in all directions, a bold test would show them to be clear of such dangers.

6. *trans.* To obtain (metals, etc.) from a mine.

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* XVI. xciv. (1495) 585 In Capodoce is yelow salt digged and myned. *Ibid.* XIV. ii. (Tollem. MS.), Noble metal is myned out of veynes of mounteynes. 1866 Rogers *Agric. & Prices* I. xxiii. 509 The Eastern produce [of tin] not being yet introduced into Europe, if indeed it were mined at that time. 1878 D. C. Davies *Slate & Slate Quarrying* 78 The stone is mined underground and brought up by shafts to the surface. 1878 *Fraser's Mag.* XVIII. 273 Lignite..is mined near Brousa. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 10 July 5/3 Gold and other mineral wealth..are as yet not mined on any considerable scale.

7. *intr.* To dig for the purpose of obtaining minerals, etc.; to make a mine; to work in a mine.

? *c* 1400 [see Mineral *sb.*1]. ? 1568 in Pettus *Fodinæ Reg.* (1670) 60 She grants unto them to search, dig, and mine for the Callamine stone in all places of England. 1677 *Phil. Trans.* XII. 912 The Earth they Mine in, is very red. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* I. v. 50 The workmen break off the rocks, and do not properly mine into them. 1819 Byron *Juan* I. CXXII, Coals Are safely mined for. 1828 Scott *F. M. Perth* XXII, He considered Ramorny as one whom nature had assigned to him as a serf, to mine for the gold which he worshipped.

8. *trans.* To dig in or penetrate for finding ore, metals, etc.

1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 748 Lead veins have been traced even further down,..but they have not been mined. 1867 W. W. Smyth *Coal & Coal-mining* 78 The..rich coalfield..of Westphalia: which, although mined..as early as 1302, has only within the last quarter of a century risen to a high degree of importance. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 2 Aug. 3/1 We must leave the reader to mine this rich quarry for himself.

Mineable (məi·nəb'l), *a.* Also 6–7 minable. [f. Mine *v.* + -able.] Capable of being mined (in any sense of the vb.).

1570 Levins *Manip.* 2/46 Myneable, *fossilis.* 1579–80 North *Plutarch, Camillus* (1595) 144 He beganne to vndermine it (finding the earth all about very minable). 1589 *Late Voy. Sp. & Port.* (1881) 60 General Norris having..found one place thereof myneable,..did presently set workmen in hand withal. 1611 Speed *Hist. Gt. Brit.* IX. xxiv. (1623) 1208 One place was found mineable, where the Generall the fourth day of this siege set men on worke. 1647 Sprigge *Anglia Rediv.* II. iii. (1854) 91 Being well informed that the ground wheron it stood was minable. 1893 *Columbus* (Ohio) *Dispatch* 11 Sept., Coal is being found in mineable deposits in all parts of the world.

Mined (məind), *ppl. a.* [f. Mine *v.* + -ed 1.]

1. That has been excavated.

c 1400 tr. *Secreta Secret., Gov. Lordsh.* 87 It ys lyk in manere to stoones of mynyd hilles, and of planetz, and of þinges hauynge soule.

2. Produced from mines.

1903 *Daily Chron.* 9 Aug. 3/3 The value of her mined wealth has mounted up from 314,000,000 marks in 1871 to 1,263,000,000 marks in 1900.

3. Furnished with mines.

1870 *Instr. Milit. Engin.* I. 76 The following description of a mined magazine, is suitable for a site where [etc.].

Mined, obs. form of Mind *v.*

Mi·nehood. *nonce-wd.* [f. Mine *poss. pron.* + -hood.] The fact of being 'mine'.

1662 J. Sparrow tr. *Behme's Rem. Wks., 2nd Apol. to Tylcken* 17 He inclineth himself to my Minehood, and my Ihood inclineth it self up into him.

Minekin, obs. form of Minikin *sb.*

†**Mi·neless**, *a. Obs.* [f. Mine *sb.* + -less.] Without mines.

1614 Sylvester *Little Bartas* 866 There, without stroak to conquer in the field; And mine-less make their tumbling wals to yeeld.

Minem, obs. form of Minim.

Minement, obs. form of Muniment.

Mineon, obs. form of Minion *sb.*1

Miner1 (məi·nəɹ). Forms: 3–4 mynur, 4–5 minour(e, myno(u)r, mynowre, 5 minere, mynere, -oure, *Sc.* myndoure, 5–7 myner, 7 minor, mioner, myoner, 5– miner. [M.E. *mynur, minour*, a. OF. *minëor, miuour* (mod.F. *mineur*), f. *miner* to Mine: see -or 2 b.]

1. One who excavates the ground, or makes subterranean passages; *esp.* one who undermines a fortress, etc.; now *Mil.* a soldier whose special duty is the laying of mines. *Sappers and Miners*: see Sapper.

c 1275 *Lnue Ron* 123 in *O. E. Misc.* 97 Ne may no Mynur hire vnderwrote. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 179 R. had minoures, þat myned vndere þe walle. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 4774 Mynours then mightely the moldes did serche, Ouertyrnet the toures, & the tore walles. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* IX. 1139 Mynouris sone thai gert perss throw the wall. 1530 Palsgr. 245/2 Myner under the grounde, *pionnier.* 1606 *Arraign. late Traitors* in *Harl. Misc.* (Malh.) III. 48 [Guy] Fawkes the minor, justly called The Devil of the Vault. 1645 Lo. Fairfax *Let. to Lenthall*

conc. Sherborn Castle 15 Aug. 4 The Myoners having fully wrought the Mine through the Castle wall. 1692 LUTTRELL *Brief Ret.* (1857) II. 470 A miner and another person were taken fixing a train. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 38 ₱ 13 A great Body of Miners are summoned to the Camp to countermine the Works of the Enemy. 1711 *Milit. & Sea Dict.* I, *Miners*, Men appointed to work in the Mines, being a particular Company of themselves, commanded by a Captain of the Regiment of Fuzileers. 1816 BYRON *Ch. Har.* III. lviii, Here Ehrenbreitstein, with her shatter'd wall, Black with the miner's blast.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

c 1614 CORNWALLIS in Gutch *Coll. Cur.* I. 158 Jesuites, and Priests, the only moths, and miners of this commonwealth. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* I. 352 Death's subtle seed within, (Sly, treacherous miner!) working in the dark, Smil'd at thy well-concerted scheme. 1784 COWPER *Task* I. 273 Hillocks green and soft, Raised by the mole, the miner of the soil. 1879 JEFFERIES *Wild Life in S. Co.* 215 Sometimes when waiting quietly on a bank, you may see the miner [a rabbit] at work. 1897 W. ANDERSON *Surg. Treat. Lupus* 2 Rarely attempting to deal with the apparently healthy tissues which conceal the bacillary sappers and miners who are at work in advance of the main body.

†**c.** Phr. *To fix* or *attach the miner, to fix miners.*

1676 *Loud. Gaz.* No. 1123/3 We fixed the Miner to the Ravelin, and filled up the Ditch. 1684 *Ibid.* No. 1951/3 The Imperialists had on the 20th attached their Miners to the Wall of the Upper Town in four several places. 1685 TRAVESTIN *Siege Newheusel* 23 This night we attempted to fix our Miners. 1685 *Lond. Gaz.* 17–20 Aug. 1 We made a lodgment in the Ditch in order to fix the Miner. 1704 *Collect. Voy.* (Churchill) III. 737/2 Being afterwards advanc'd to the Ditch, they fix'd their Miners. 1834 SIR W. NAPIER *Penins. War* XIII. iii. (1846) IV. 43 The besiegers ..attached the miner to the scarp.

2. One who works in a mine; one engaged in extracting minerals from the earth.

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 10733 Þys mynur soȝte stones vndyr þe molde, þat men make of, syluer and golde. 13.. *Metr. Hom.* (Vernon MS.) in *Archiv Stud. neu. Spr.* LVII. 287 A Mynour wonede in a Citee, Mynours þei makeþ in hulles holes As men don þat secheþ coles. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. Prol. 221 Masons and mynours and many other craftes. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1532 Mynors of marbull ston & mony oþer thinges. 1489 CAXTON *Faytes of A.* I. xiv. 38 Mynours that coude ful craftly digge vndre the erthe. 1555 EDEN *Decades* 22 The myners dygged the superficiall or vppermost parte of the earthe of the mynes. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 525 This (he saith) may be tryed in Laborers, Mioners, Diggers, and Husbandmen. 1625 N. CARPENTER *Geog. Del.* II. ix. (1635) 153 Minors and such as digg deepe into the earth. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) I. 78 If we examine the complexion of most miners, we shall be very well able to form a judgment of the unwholsomness of the place where they are confined. 1881 RAYMOND *Mining Gloss., Miner*, Penn. The workman who cuts the coal, as distinguished from the laborer who loads the wagons, etc. 1901 *Census Schedule, Instruct.*, Miners .. should always state the kind of mine in which they work—as, Lead-miner.

3. A name applied to various burrowing insects or larvæ. (See also *leaf-miner.*)

1816 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* xvii. (1818) II. 81 Another species of ant, which I shall call the miners (*Formica cunicularia*, L.). 1890 ELEANOR A. ORMEROD *Injur. Insects* (ed. 2) 49 [Celery and Parsnip Fly]. The 'miner' maggots go through their changes from the egg to the perfect fly so rapidly [etc.].

4. A kind of plough.

1805 R. W. DICKSON *Pract. Agric.* I. 12 The *Miner* is another plough, which is used for opening ground to a great depth; it is made very strong, but with a share only. *Ibid.* 385 The land may be opened up as deep as possible by the common plough, having others, such as that which has been termed a *miner*, following in the bottom of the furrow. 1845 *Encycl. Metrop.* XIV. 232/1 The miner is very similar to the binot.

5. A vessel used for the purpose of laying submarine mines.

1898 *Daily News* 8 June 2/7 In a sudden squall, the miner he was on collided with the steam launch Volta.

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *miner-like* adj.; **miner ant**, see sense 3; **miner's friend**, a name for the Davy safety-lamp; **miner's inch** = INCH 1 d; **miner's right**, in Australia, a licence to dig for gold.

1816 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* xvii. (1818) II. 84 The negro and *miner ants. 1842 FRANCIS *Dict. Arts*, etc., **Miner's Friend*, or *Miner's Lamp.* 1867 J. A. PHILLIPS *Min. & Metall. Gold & Silver* 152 *note*, The *miner's inch of water, in California, is the quantity which will flow through an opening one inch square under a mean head of six inches. 1880 S. HARPER in *Pioneer Mining Co., Debenture Prospectus* 3 If the above property be carried out in a *miner-like manner..it will not fail to become one of the best Mines. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Miner's Right* I. (1899) 7, I am a real gold-digger .. and the holder of a *Miner's Right, a wonderful document, printed and written on parchment.

b. In names of diseases contracted by miners, as *miner's anæmia, -asthma, -consumption, disease, elbow, -lung, phthisis, -rot, sickness, -worm.* (See *Syd. Soc. Lex.*)

1898 P. MANSON *Trop. Diseases* XXXVI. 557 In Europe it [i. e. ankylostomiasis] is sometimes known as '*miners' anæmia'. 1855 J. R. LEIFCHILD *Cornwall Mines* 285 There is a disease called the *miner's consumption. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 244 'Grinders' rot', '*miners' rot' and so forth. 1903 *Daily Chron.* 21 Oct. 4/2 An Ayrshire medical man, who wrote to the Home Secretary asking whether his Department is doing anything to stop the disease known as '*miners' worm'.

†**Mi·ner**[2]. *Obs.* [Anglicized form of MINERA. Cf. G. *miner*, MDu. *minere, mineer.*] = MINERA. Also, a mineral impregnation.

1471 RIPLEY *Comp. Alch.* VI. XXVII. in Ashm. (1652) 167 And make them then together to be Dysponsat By Congelacyon into a myner metallyne. 1562 TURNER *Baths* I Then seynge that there can not be found any other miner or mater to be the chefe ruler in these baths. *Ibid.* (1568) 3 Two thinges whereby the miner or metall, or vayne of a bath may be knowne.

Miner, variant of MINA *sb.*[2]

‖**Mine·ra.** *Obs.* [med.L., ad. OF. *miniere, minere* mine = Pr. *meniera*, Sp. *minera*, Pg. *mineira*, It. *minera*:—Com. Rom. type **minaria* (a med.L. *minaria* is found in the 13th c.), f. **mina, minare*: see MINE *sb.* and *v.*] The matrix in which a metal or a precious stone was supposed to grow; in later use, the ore of a metal. Also *fig.*

1652 GAULE *Magastrom.* 42 He hath discovered the *Minera* of man, or that substance out of which man..was made. 1655 T. VAUGHAN *Euphrates* 120 This made the Philosophers seek a more crude minera, whose fume was moist. 1667 *Phil. Trans.* II. 469 Extracting the perfect Mettals out of their Minera's without Lead..by casting a Powder upon the Minera. 1673 RAY *Journ. Low C.* 246 A large piece of the minera or matrix of Emeralds, with the stones growing in it. 1754 HUXHAM in *Phil. Trans.* XLVIII. 839 Thus the dust, or minera, or ashes of iron, are harmless, and may be swallowed safely. 1890 *Syd. Soc. Lex., Minera*, ..a mine, also used frequently to designate a mineral which contains a shining metallic substance.

†**Mi·nerable,** *a. Obs.* [a. OF. *minerable*, f. med.L. MINERA: see -ABLE.] = MINERAL *a.*

1560 WHITEHORNE *Ord. Souldiours* (1573) 24 b, The other writers beleved that it [salt-peter] was minerable.

Mineral (mi·nĕrăl), *sb.* Forms: 4–7 **minerall**, 5 **minorale**, 5–7 **myneral**, 6 **minorall, mynoralle**, *Sc.* **manerialle**, 6–7 **mynerall**, 7 **minerale, minrall**, 4– **mineral**. [a. (perh. through OF. *mineral*) med.L. *minerāle*, neut. of *minerālis* MINERAL *a.* Cf. F. *minéral*, Sp., Pg. *mineral*, It. *minerale*, G. *mineral* (pl. *mineralien*).]

1. Any substance which is obtained by mining; a product of the bowels of the earth. In early and in mod. technical use, the ore (of a metal).

? *c* 1400 LYDG. *Æsop's Fab.* Prol. 25 Who, that myneth lowe in the grounde, Of gold and siluer fyndith the myneral. 1471 RIPLEY *Comp. Alch.* VI. XX. in Ashm. (1652) 166 Mineralls be nurryshyd by mynystracyon; Of Moysture radycall. 1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 288 Some dig for mettalls and mineralls to erect stately buildinges. *c* 1615 BACON *Adv. Sir G. Villiers* vi. § 16 The minerals of the kingdom, of lead, iron, copper, and tin,..are of great value. 1634 HABINGTON *Castara* I. (Arb.) 28 In a darke cave..It doth like a rich mineralll lye. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr., Mineral*, any thing that grows in Mines, and contains metal. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VI. 517 Part hidd'n veins diggd up..of Mineral and Stone. 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Minerals*, are hard Bodies dug out of the Earth or Mines, (whence the Name) being in part of a Metalline, and in part of a Stony Substance. 1727 DE FOE *Syst. Magic* I. i. (1840) 7 As one to music, another to working in and finding out metals and minerals in the earth. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XV. 235/2 By this plan the ore or mineral is divided into more convenient masses for extraction. 1858 LD. ST. LEONARDS *Handy Bk. Prop. Law* xvi. 105 With special provisions as to minerals and the interests therein of remainder-men. 1881 RAYMOND *Mining Gloss., Mineral*, in miners' parlance, ore.

fig. 1598 F. ROUS *Thule* Q 4 He sees where death with greedie spade, Meanes vp to dig the minerals of his hart.

†**b.** *pl.* The science of minerals. [Perh. with allusion to the *Liber Mineralium* (or *De Mineralibus*) of Albertus Magnus.] *Obs.*

c 1590 MARLOWE *Faust.* i, He that is grounded in astrology, Enrich'd with tongues, well seen in minerals, Hath all the principles magic doth require.

†**2.** Mining or metallurgical industry or art. *Obs.*

c 1470 HENRYSON *Mor. Fab.* V. (*Parl. Beasts*) xliv, Richt as the minor in his minorale Fair gold with fire may fra the leid weill win. 1570–6 LAMBARDE *Peramb. Kent* (1826) p. v, It is the manner..of such as seek profit by Minerall, first to set men on woorke to digge and gather the Owre: Then [etc.].

†**3.** A mine. *Obs.*

1598 BP. HALL *Sat.* VI. i. 87 Shall it not be a wild-figg in a wall, Or fired Brimstone in a Minerall? 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* IV. i. 26 O're whom his very madnesse like some Oare Among a Minerall of Mettels base Shewes it selfe pure. 1602 *Life T. Cromwell* I. ii, My study, like a mineral of gold, Makes my heart proud wherein my hope's enroll'd.

4. A material substance that is neither animal nor vegetable; a substance belonging to the 'mineral kingdom'. ? *Obs.*

1602 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* XIII. lxxvi. 316 Vigitiues, as trees, fruits, herbes, and such: Dead-Beings too, as Mynerales. 1661 LOVELL *Hist. Anim. & Min.* Introd. 78 As for Minerals, they are bodies perfectly mixt; inanimate, not having sense or motion. 1695 WOODWARD *Nat. Hist. Earth* IV. 174 Nor do Metalls only sort and herd with Metalls in the Earth; and Minerals with Mineralls. 1874 J. H. COLLINS *Metal Mining* 20 Any natural substance which is not of animal or vegetable origin, and which is in all parts of the same composition, is called a mineral. Among miners, however, the term is only applied to such substances as are usually obtained from mines.

†**b.** *spec.* in *Alchemy.* One of the three varieties of the philosophers' stone (the others being *lapis animalis* and *lapis vegetabilis*). *Obs.*

It is doubtful whether quot. 1610 may not belong to 4 or 4 c.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 87 The thridde Ston in special Be name is cleped Minerall... This Mineral, so as I finde, Transformeth al the ferste kynde. 1610 B. JONSON *Alch.* I. i, All your alchemy and your algebra Your mineralls, vegetalls, and animalls.

†**c.** A mineral medicine or poison. See also ÆTHIOPS MINERAL. *Obs.*

1563 T. GALE *Antidot.* II. 54 Make all these mynoralles in fyne pouder and mixe with the Oyle. 1588 GREENE *Perimedes* Wks. (Grosart) VII. 20 Our late Phisitions haue found out a singular minerall, called Hope: applie this to your stomack as a souereine simple against disquiet and feare. 1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* I. ii. 74 That thou hast practis'd on her with foule Charmes, Abus'd her delicate Youth, with Drugs or Minerals. 1611 — *Cymb.* V. v. 50 She did confesse she had For you a mortall Minerall. 1622 FLETCHER *Sea Voy* V. i, [Famine] as the wise man says, Gripes the guts as much as any minerall. *a* 1634 CHAPMAN *Alphonsus* IV. (1654) 49 [They] Gave me a mineral not to be digested, Which burning eats, and eating burns my heart. 1730 BURDON *Pocket Farrier* 40 Sweet Oil a Spoonful, Æthiops Mineral an Ounce.

5. In modern scientific use, each of the species or kinds (defined by approximate identity of chemical composition and physical properties) into which inorganic substances as presented in nature are classified.

1813 BAKEWELL *Introd. Geol.* Pref. (1815) 9 The number of simple minerals which form rocks and strata is small. 1823 H. J. BROOKE *Introd. Crystallogr.* 80 Cleavage alone cannot be relied on for determining the primary form of a mineral. 1896 A. H. CHESTER (*title*) A Dictionary of the Names of Minerals.

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *mineral dealer, -train*; *mineral-bearing* adj.; **mineral map**, a map for the purpose of showing the localities where minerals are to be found; **mineral right** (see quots.); **mineral rod**, a divining-rod for finding mineral veins.

1877 RAYMOND *Statist. Mines & Mining* 174 The croppings of a heavy *mineral-bearing lode are clearly traceable. 1878 GURNEY *Crystallogr.* 57 This is generally sold by the *mineral dealers. 1876 *Nature* 14 Dec. 150/1 Along with this is a *mineral map of New South Wales, showing the localities of the principal minerals. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XV. 237/2 Certain stipulations are then entered into between the company and the proprietor of the land in which the vein or deposit is situated, or should the *mineral right not belong to him, with [etc.]. 1881 RAYMOND *Mining Gloss., Mineral right*, the ownership of the minerals under a given surface, with the right to enter thereon, mine, and remove them. 1809 KENDALL *Trav.* III. 101 The mysteries of the *mineral-rods are many. 1894 LD. TWEEDMOUTH in *Daily News* 5 Oct. 5/6 Our express had a short distance to the north of Northallerton run into a *mineral train.

Mineral (mi·nĕrăl), *a.* [a. F. *minéral*, ad. med.L. *minerālis* pertaining to mines, f. *minera*: see MINERA. Cf. Sp., Pg. *mineral*, It. *minerale*. The adj. is in Eng. of later appearance than the sb., and is in some uses not to be distinguished from the attributive use of the sb.]

†**1.** Pertaining to mines or mining. Of persons: Skilled in mining matters. *Obs.*

1592 STOW *Annals* 11 The saide Philosopher..in this land taught the knowledge of mynerall workes. *c* 1600 NORDEN *Spec. Brit., Cornw.* (1728) 18 It were not amiss that Mineral Artistes dyd strayne their skyll to make a more generall proofe by a more exacte searche. *Ibid.* 70 The howse of Mr. Windesore, situate amonge the minerall hills. 1602 CAREW *Cornwall* 13 Sir Francis Godolphin..entertained a Duch mynerall man. 1667 COLEPRESSE in *Phil. Trans.* II. 481 John Gill, a Man well experienced in Mineral affairs. 1672 BOYLE *Ess. Gems* 31 As I have been inform'd, not only by some Mineral Writers of good credit, but also by eye witnesses. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Mineral Courts*, certain peculiar Courts for regulating the Concerns of Lead-Mines, as Stannary-Courts are for Tin.

¶**b.** *nonce-use.* Deeply buried; recondite.

a 1615 DONNE *Ess.* (1651) 28 Nothing was too Minerall, nor centrick for the search and reach of his wit.

†**2.** *Mineral virtue*: the supposed occult power by which metals are developed. *Obs.*

1477 NORTON *Ord. Alch.* I. in Ashm. (1652) 19 The vertue Minerall. 1750 tr. *Leonardus's Mirr. Stones* 22 By an example which we shall bring from the animal seed, it will appear, in what manner the mineral virtue operates in stones.

3. Having the nature of a mineral (MINERAL *sb.* 1); obtained from the bowels of the earth.

1581 in *Trans. Jewish Hist. Soc. Eng.* (1903) IV. 98 The vth corruption [of copper ore] is Calcator, beinge the mother or corpus of vitriall, and a mynerall substance. 1600 J. PORY tr. *Leo's Africa* Introd. 11 Heere also you haue minerall salt. 1612 WOODALL *Surg. Mate* Wks. (1653) 207 Under the name of mineral salt is comprehended the salts of all metals [etc.]. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* III. 80 Minerall salt which in Poland they dig out of pits like great stones. 1695 WOODWARD *Nat. Hist. Earth* IV. 175 By Experience..in any Place or Mine, a Man may be enabled to give a near Conjecture at the Metallick or Mineral Ingredients of any Mass commonly found there. 1712 BLACKMORE *Creation* III. 422 Endless Store Of Min'ral Treasure and Metallic Oar. 1875 *Ure's Dict. Arts* III. 304 When the mineral ores lie in nearly vertical masses, it is [etc.].

b. Impregnated with mineral substances. (See MINERAL WATER.) Also of colour, †indicating mineral impregnation.

1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* II. 57 Two Riuers, Acheron and Cocytus; who for their minerall colours, and bitter tasts, were surnamed the Riuers of Hell. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) IX. 346/1 About two leagues to the eastward is a brackish mineral spring. 1834 *W. India Sk. Bk.* II. 139 Invalids, many of whom come..for the..mineral baths.

4. Of material substances: Neither animal nor vegetable in origin; inorganic.

1599 B. JONSON *Cynthia's Rev.* V. ii, I haue an excellent mineral Fucus, for the purpose. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 454 Men vpon a couetous mind would needs seeke for siluer, and not satisfied therwith, thought good withall to find out Minerall vermilion. 1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* II. x. § 9 Mineral medicines have been extolled. 1685 BOYLE *Salub.*

Air 35 Some Metalline ores, and some mineral earths themselves have been observ'd by Mineralogists. 1794 Sullivan *View Nat.* II. 104 Other opinions, indeed, would fix it a solid mineral bitumen. 1796 Kirwan *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) II. 5 The other, extracted from some maritime plants, but most frequently of mineral origin, and thence called Mineral Alkali. *Ibid.* 51 Mineral Carbon, impregnated with Bitumen. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) IX. 347/2 Mr. Rinman..has found that dephlogisticated calces of iron, and particularly its solutions in mineral acids, have no binding power. 1834 *Cycl. Pract. Med.* III. 109/2 Of medicines, the vegetable tonics are scarcely so serviceable as the mineral. 1843 J. A. Smith *Product Farming* (ed. 2) 139 Of Manures of Mineral Origin, or Fossil and Artificial or Chemical Manures.

b. Pertaining to inorganic matter. *Mineral kingdom*: see Kingdom 5.

1876 *Encycl. Brit.* V. 520/2 The study of the remaining elements and of their compounds constituting inorganic, or, as it is also termed, mineral chemistry.

5. Special collocations and combinations: **mineral candle** (see quot.); **mineral caoutchouc** = Elaterite; **mineral chameleon** (see Chameleon 5); **mineral charcoal**, 'a charcoal-like substance, often found between layers of coal' (Chester *Dict. Names Min.*); **mineral coal**, † (*a*) a variety of coal in which there are no traces of vegetable structure (*obs.*); (*b*) native coal, in contra-distinction to charcoal; **mineral cotton**, † **mineral crystal** (see quots.); **mineral jelly**, vaseline (Webster *Suppl.* 1902); **mineral oil**, a general name for petroleum and the various oils distilled from it; **mineral pitch**, asphaltum; **mineral solution** (see quot.); **mineral tallow** = Hatchettite; **mineral tar** = Pissasphalt; **mineral wax**, = Ozocerite; **mineral wool**, a variety of mineral cotton, slag-wool (Raymond *Mining Gloss.* 1881). Also Mineral water.

1890 *Century Dict.*, **Mineral candle*, a kind of candle made from a semi-fluid naphtha obtained from wells sunk in the neighbourhood of the Irrawaddy river in Burma. 1801 *Encycl. Brit.* Suppl. II. 230/2 *Mineral caoutchouc. 1805 R. Jameson *Syst. Min.* (1816) II. 401 *Mineral Charcoal. 1802 Playfair *Illustr. Hutton. Theory* 150 *Mineral-coal ..is the same which Dr. Hutton derives from the vegetable juices..carried into the sea and there precipitated..to become afterwards mineralized. 1854 Ronalds & Richardson *Chem. Technol.* (ed. 2) I. 37 Mineral or pit coal. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.*, **Mineral cotton*, a fiber formed by allowing a jet of steam to escape through a stream of liquid slag, by which it is blown into fine white threads. 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), **Mineral Crystal* (among Chymists), a Composition of Salt-peter well putrify'd, and Flower of Brimstone. 1805 R. Jameson *Syst. Min.* (1816) II. 358 *Mineral Oil, or Petroleum. 1796 Kirwan *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) II. 45 *Mineral Pitch, Asphaltum. Mineral Tar exposed to a moderate heat, and the action of the air, hardens into this substance. 1855 Ogilvie Suppl., **Mineral solution*, arsenical liquor, or *liquor potassæ arsenitis*. 1796 Kirwan *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) II. 47 *Mineral Tallow. Its colour is white, its consistence that of Tallow, it feels greasy and stains paper. *Ibid.* 44 *Mineral Tar, Barbadoes Tar. This is Petrol still further altered by exposure to the air. 1864 Webster, **Mineral wax*.

b. in names of pigments: **mineral black**, a native impure variety of carbon; **mineral blue**, a variety of Prussian blue, made lighter by the addition of alumina; **mineral grey**, a pale blue-grey pigment obtained in the making of ultramarine from lapis lazuli; **mineral green**, Scheele's green, arsenite of copper; **mineral lake** (see quot. 1902); **mineral purple**, (*a*) see quot. 1850; (*b*) purple of Cassius (*Cassell's Encycl. Dict.* 1882); **mineral white**, permanent white (see Permanent I d); **mineral yellow**, a lead pigment made by digesting litharge with common salt.

1849-50 Weale *Dict. Terms Archit.* etc., **Mineral black*. 1890 *Century Dict.*, **Mineral gray*. 1815 J. Smith *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 382 If to this sulphate of copper be added a solution of arseniate of potass, a beautiful green precipitate is formed, called Scheele's green, or *mineral green. 1902 Webster Suppl., **Mineral lake*, a pink pigment consisting of a glass colored with tin chromate. 1850 G. Field *Painters' Art* 79 Purple Ochre, Or *Mineral Purple, is a dark ochre, native of the Forest of Dean. 1902 Webster Suppl., **Mineral white* = permanent white. 1844 Hoblyn *Dict. Med.*, **Mineral Yellow*, Patent Yellow, a pigment consisting of chloride and protoxide of lead.

† **Mineralˈity.** *Obs.* [f. Mineral *a.*, after *corporeity*, etc.] The attribute of being mineral.

1757 tr. *Henckel's Pyritol.* 148 A material cause and property of mineraleity.

† **Miˈneraline,** *a. Obs.* [f. Mineral *sb.* + -ine.] Composed of mineral substances.

1674 R. Godfrey *Inj. & Ab. Physic* 33 A Mineralline dose which another .. unlearned Chymist gave him. *Ibid.* 171 Their perverse Mineraline Remedies.

† **Miˈneralist.** *Obs.* [f. Mineral *sb.* + -ist.]

1. One who is skilled in or employed with minerals; a mineralogist.

1631 Capt. Smith *Advt. Planters* 3 Better there may be, for I was no Mineralist. 1670 Pettus *Fodinæ Reg.* Table, *Mineralist*, such as deal in Minerals. *a* 1728 Woodward *Nat. Hist. Fossils* (1729) I. 1. 84 The .. Mineralists of Germany ..all agree that the Ludus Paracelsi is the tessellated Pyrites. 1796 Morse *Amer. Geog.* I. 660 The mountain..has several of the appearances described by mineralists.

2. One who follows Paracelsus in the use of minerals in medicines.

1628 Ford *Lover's Mel.* I. ii, Mountebanck, Empiricks, Quacksalvers, Mineralists [etc.].

Minerality (minĕræˑliti). [f. Mineral *a.* + -ity.] The quality of a water containing mineral salts. 1890 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

Mineralizable (minĕrălәiˑzab'l), *a.* [f. Mineralize *v.* + -able.] Capable of being mineralized.

1890 in *Century Dict.*

Mineralization (minĕrălәizēiˑʃәn). [f. Mineralize *v.* + -ation.]

1. The action or process of mineralizing, or the state of being mineralized.

1757 tr. *Henckel's Pyritol.* ix. 145 The mineral damps, that lodge any where for mineralisation, may happen to be of different mixtions. 1798 Hatchett in *Phil. Trans.* LXXXVIII. 580 This tarnish is principally a commencement of mineralization on the surface. 1837 Buckland *Geol. & Min.* I. 352 *note*, As happens when vegetables are converted into coal, under the process of mineralization. 1885 Goodale *Physiol. Bot.* 39 Mineralization of the [cell-] wall may be general or local. .. General mineralization of the wall depends most frequently on silicic acid. 1895 Oliver tr. *Kerner's Nat. Hist. Plants* I. 264 The final result of the decomposition of organic bodies by bacteria has been termed mineralization.

b. *concr.* A product of this process, a petrifaction.

1799 W. Tooke *View Russian Emp.* I. 109 In which mineralizations the tender white rind..is preserved quite in its natural appearance.

2. *Mining.* The condition of being well supplied with ore.

1899 *Daily News* 3 May 6/6 A sufficient proof..that City men believe in the mineralisation of the country.

Mineralize (miˑnĕrălәiz), *v.* Also 7 mineral-lise, 8–9 mineralise. [f. Mineral *sb.* and *a.* + -ize.]

1. *trans.* To combine with (a metal) so as to convert (it) into the state of ore. ? *Obs.*

1655 T. Vaughan *Euphrates* 29 When it is Minerallised by it self, and without any fæculent mixture, then [etc.]. 1757 tr. *Henckel's Pyritol.* 151 Sulphur in its separate state.. mineralises, or reduces metals to an ore-state. 1796 Hatchett in *Phil. Trans.* LXXXVI. 291 This yellow colour probably occasioned the supposition that the lead was mineralized by the tungstic acid. 1813 Bakewell *Introd. Geol.* 221 They [metals] are usually combined with some substance by which they are mineralized. 1855 J. R. Leifchild *Cornwall Mines* 84 Iron, lead, and mercury,..when mineralized by sulphur, form respectively the following sulphurets, iron pyrites, galena, and cinnabar. 1880 D. C. Davies *Metallif. Min. & Mining* (ed. 2) 4 These metalliferous minerals occur in nature in two distinct forms :—1st. Native..2nd. Mineralised, or associated with other minerals, and in combination with the gases or earthy admixtures.

2. *trans.* To convert into a mineral substance.

1799 W. Tooke *View Russian Emp.* I. 109 Here are seen ..leaves, and roots of birch-trees..entirely mineralized by iron. 1823 Buckland *Relig. Diluv.* 9 The bones found in caverns are never mineralised. 1872 W. S. Symonds *Rec. Rocks* v. 142 The rocky axis, even in that far remote period was as consolidated and mineralised as at present.

b. *intr.* for *refl.* To become mineralized. In quot. *fig.*

1845 Mozley *Ess., Laud* (1878) I. 192 A mind, by undergoing a certain ordeal, mineralises and turns into hard transparent crystal.

3. *trans.* To impregnate with mineral matters.

1789 Pilkington *View Derby.* I. 235 M. de Fourcroy imagines, that some waters contain the liver of sulphur; and that others are mineralized by hepatic gaz.

4. *intr.* To seek for minerals; to study minerals.

1792 A. Young *Trav. France* 26 Can he clamber the rocks to mineralize? 1857 Mrs. Crosse *Mem. A. Crosse* 171 [He] was walking with his eyes fixed on the ground (a habit acquired from mineralising).

5. *passive.* To be stocked with ore.

1890 *Melbourne Argus* 28 May 7/6 A great quantity of stone, well mineralised, in the level. 1899 *Daily News* 23 May 7/2 By cablegrams :..Lode is heavily mineralised, in so far as 3 feet, average assay value 10 dwts. per ton.

Mineralized (miˑnĕrălәizd), *ppl. a.* [f. Mineralize *v.* + -ed 1.]

1. Changed to a mineral.

1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XI. 428/1 *Mineralised ores*, 1878 A. H. Green *Coal i.* 16 Coal is little else but mineralised vegetable matter. 1890 *Nature* 27 Feb. 392 The bone-corpuscles differ from the dentine-corpuscles in becoming completely embedded in the mineralized matrix.

2. Of water: Impregnated with minerals; containing mineral substances.

1893 *Nation* (N. Y.) 27 July 70/3 Were there not lines of weakness in the earth, along which lavas and hot mineralized solutions could penetrate. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 319 Many other slightly mineralised warm-waters..might be mentioned.

3. *Mining.* Of a district: Abounding in ore.

1881 Raymond *Mining Gloss.*, *Mineralized*, charged or impregnated with metalliferous mineral. 1895 *Tablet* 2 Feb. 158 It was also a highly mineralized country, and a highly 'payable' country.

Mineralizer (miˑnĕrălәizәr). [f. Mineralize *v.* + -er 1.]

1. A substance that combines with a metal to form an ore, as sulphur, arsenic, etc.

1795 Nicholson *Dict. Chem.* 503 The commonest mineralizers are sulphur, arsenic, and fixed air. 1807 Aikin *Dict. Chem.* II. 105/1 *Mineralizer* is any substance found in natural combination with a metal. 1854 J. D. Whitney *Metallic Wealth U.S.* ii. 81 Silver, tin, copper, lead, zinc, and iron are obtained almost exclusively in the form of ores, that is, in combination with a mineralizer.

2. The mineral with which a water is impregnated.

1799 *Med. Frnl.* II. 358 The principal mineralisers of this water are the sulphats of iron and alumin.

Mineralizing (miˑnĕrălәiziŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. Mineralize *v.* + -ing 2.] That mineralizes.

1796 Hatchett in *Phil. Trans.* LXXXVI. 286 Although the substance was indisputably proved to be an ore of lead, yet the mineralizing principle of it remained unknown. 1875 Lyell *Princ. Geol.* I. II. xvii. 405 In some instances, alumina..is the mineralizing material. 1890 *Athenæum* 18 Jan. 88/1 The action of fluorine as a mineralizing agent has been widely recognized.

† **Mineraˑllic,** *a. Obs.* [f. Mineral + -ic.]

1778 Pryce *Min. Cornub.* p. ix, Tin..is..more rich in its minerallick Ore than Copper.

† **Miˑneralness.** *Obs.* [f. Mineral *a.* + -ness.] The quality of being impregnated with minerals.

1661 J. Childrey *Brit. Baconica* 33 The Mineralness of these waters appears.

† **Mineraloˑgic,** *a. Obs.* [Formed as next.] = Mineralogical..

1811 Pinkerton *Petral.* I. 242 The description of the latter has been given by several mineralogic authors. *Ibid.* II. 129 Saxony, the very focus of mineralogic knowledge.

Mineralogical (minĕrălәˑdʒikăl), *a.* [f. Mineralogy: see -logical.] Of or pertaining to mineralogy; concerned with the study of minerals; used in the study of minerals.

1791 Beddoes in *Phil. Trans.* LXXXI. 64 This rule has been found to hold good by so many mineralogical travellers that [etc.]. 1859 Darwin *Orig. Spec.* x. (1873) 272 The frequent and great changes in the mineralogical composition of consecutive formations. 1867 J. Hogg *Microsc.* I. iii. 208 The sharp edge of a mineralogical hammer. 1876 Page *Adv. Text-bk. Geol.* v. 99 Geological, mineralogical, and chemical considerations are thus inseparably interwoven.

Mineralogically (minĕrălәˑdʒikăli), *adv.* [f. Mineralogical *a.* + -ly 2.] In a mineralogical manner; with regard to mineralogy.

1801 Chenevix in *Phil. Trans.* XCI. 239 Whether we consider it mineralogically or chymically, it certainly is an interesting substance. 1845 *Encycl. Metrop.* VI. 562/1 The most important point of view under which mica slate can be considered mineralogically is [etc.].

Mineralogist (minĕræˑlŏdʒist). [f. Mineralogy + -ist.]

1. One who is versed in or studies mineralogy.

1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* II. i. 49 Yet are there also many Authors that deny it, and the exactest Mineralogists have rejected it. 1791 Newte *Tour Eng. & Scot.* 429 The patrons of church livings,..would naturally, like King Charles, desire that his spiritual pastor might be a good chymist, a good mineralogist, and a good botanist. 1830 Herschel *Stud. Nat. Phil.* 139 The number of simple minerals actually recognised by mineralogists does not exceed a few hundreds. 1860 Piesse *Lab. Chem. Wonders* 33 The shop of Mr. Tennant, the mineralogist. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 310/2 John James Ferber, the eminent Swedish mineralogist.

2. *Zool.* A name given by collectors to the gasteropods of the genus *Phorus*, which attach stones to the margin of their shells; a carrier shell.

1851 S. P. Woodward *Mollusca* I. 136 Most of the phori attach foreign substances to the margins of their shells as they grow; particular species affecting stones,..are called 'mineralogists',..by collectors.

Mineralogize (minĕræˑlŏdʒәiz), *v.* [f. Mineralogy + -ize.] *intr.* To look for minerals.

1804 Mar. Edgeworth *Ennui* vi, Wks. 1832 XI. 143 While he was not studying, he was botanizing or mineralogizing with O'Toole's chaplain. 1807 Southey *Espriella's Lett.* II. 43 Some to mineralogize, some to botanize, some to take views of the country.

Mineralogy (minĕræˑlŏdʒi). [f. Mineral *sb.* + -logy. Cf. F. *minéralogie* (1732 in Hatz.-Darm.), G. *mineralogie*, Sp. *mineralogía*, It. *mineralogia*.] The science which treats of minerals.

1690 Boyle *Prev. Hydrostat. Way of Estimating Ores* Advt. 149 This..will not perhaps be unwelcome to some that Love Mineralogy, much better than they vnderstand it. 1796 Kirwan *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) I. Pref. 5 In the preceding decennial period, from 1774 to 1784, mineralogy may be said to have for the first time assumed its rank among the sciences. 1876 Page *Adv. Text-bk. Geol.* v. 97 The student must on no account learn to underrate the value of Mineralogy as a branch of Geology.

Mineral water. a. Originally, water found in nature impregnated with some mineral substance, usually, such as is used medicinally. Also (with *a* and *plural*) a kind of such water. **b.** Later, applied also to artificial imitations of natural mineral waters, e.g. soda-water, seltzer-water; and in recent use extended to include other effervescent drinks, as lemonade and ginger-beer.

1562 Turner *Baths* 9 Thys minorall water is cleare..and springeth out of sande. 1577 B. Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* (1586) 903 Their drinesse they cure with baths, and their throat with drinking mineral waters. 1694 Salmon *Bate's Dispens.* (1713) 406/2 To be drank at several Draughts, as you drink Mineral-waters, for the cutting and loosening of gross Humours. 1747 tr. *Astruc's Fevers* 340 The purgative mineral waters, as those of Val, &c. prove the most universal remedy. 1831 J. Davies *Man. Mat. Med.* 91 We apply the name Mineral Waters to such as contain in solution one or more foreign substances in sufficient quantity to exercise a more or less marked action on the animal economy. These waters are either natural or artificial.

attrib. 1851 in *Illustr. Lond. News* 5 Aug. (1854) 119/2 Mineral-water manufacture. 1903 *Daily Chron.* 16 Mar. 3/7 There are 3,500 mineral-water manufacturers in the United Kingdom.

† **Miˑnerist.** *Obs.* [f. Minera + -ist.] A mining expert.

1683 PETTUS *Fleta Min.* I. Pref., This art is very profitable to Minerists and such as work in Mines.

† **Mi·nerous,** *a. Obs.* [f. MINERA + -OUS. Cf. It. *mineroso.*] Containing minerals.

1611 FLORIO, *Mineroso*, minerous, miny, full of mines. 1612 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* iii. 212 That naturall power .. Which in that minerous earth insep'rably doth breed.

Minerva (minō·ɪvă). Also 4 mynerfe, mynerff, 4–6 minerve, 6 mynerve. [a. L. *Minerva*, earlier *Menerva* :—pre-L. **menes-wā* (cf. Skr. *manasvin* 'full of mind or sense', *Manasvinī* name of the mother of the moon) f. **menes-* = Skr. *manas* mind, Gr. *μένος* courage, fury, f. root **men-*: see MIND *sb.*]

1. The Roman goddess of wisdom, anciently identified with the Greek Pallas Athene, 'the goddess of wisdom, warlike prowess, and skill in the arts of life' (L. & Sc.). † *In spite of Minerva* (tr. L. *invītā Minervā*) : contrary to one's natural bent, without natural aptitude.

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* IV. 262 He callit hir his deir mynerfe. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 79 A Sacrifice unto Minerve. 1503 HAWES *Examp. Virt.* iv. 2 A noble vyrgyn there dyde her serue That fyrst made harnes called Mynerue. 1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* III. XXV. (Arb.) 311 That which he doth by long meditation rather then by a suddaine inspiration, .. (and as they are woont to say) in spite of Nature or Minerua. 1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* V. v. 164 For Feature, laming The Shrine of Venus, or straight-pight Minerua. 1638 JUNIUS *Paint. Ancients* 333 In spight (as the common saying is) of Minerva, that is, our nature not giving way to it. 1835 THIRLWALL *Greece* iii. I. 67 The goddess Athené, whom, with the Romans, we name Minerva.

† b. *fig.* a. Used for: Wisdom, ability. b. With allusion to the myth that Minerva (Athene) was born from the head of Jupiter. *Obs.*

1615 CHAPMAN *Odyss.* XIII. 179 Then, the Strand They strew'd with all the goods he had, bestow'd By the renown'd Phæacians, since he show'd So much Minerua. 1655 GLANVILL *Scepsis Sci.* xvi. 99 Self-love engageth us for any thing, that is a Minerva of our own. 1685 *Gracian's Courtiers Orac.* 178 Every one then ought to labour to know his Destiny, and to try his Minerva. *a* 1734 NORTH *Exam.* III. vi. § 26 (1740) 442 The Thing itself [is] no better than a Minerva of his own fertile Brain.

2. *transf.* A woman having the stately mien of Minerva as represented in sculpture.

1877 READE *Woman Hater* iii, Ashmead .. chuckled internally at the idea of this Minerva giving change in a *café*.

3. Short for *Minerva machine* (see 4).

1883 *B'ham Daily Post* 11 Oct., Printers.—Youth Wanted, accustomed to Minerva.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *Minerva birth*; *Minerva-like* adj. **Minerva machine** *Printing* (see quot.). **Minerva press,** (*a*) the name of a printing-press formerly existing in Leadenhall Street, London; hence, the series of ultra-sentimental novels issued with the imprint of this press *c* 1800; (*b*) (*Printing*) = *Minerva machine.*

1632 BROME *North. Lasse* Ded., A Countrey Lass I present you, that *Minerva-like was a brayn-born Child, and Jovially begot. 1894 H. GAMLIN *Romney* 51 Reynolds was fortunate in having so Minerva-like a model. 1888 JACOBI *Printer's Vocab.*, **Minerva machine*, a small platen jobbing machine —the original Cropper machine. 1828 CARLYLE *Misc.* (1857) I. 173 So *Meister* was ranked among the legal coin of the *Minerva Press. 1850 *Athenæum* 7 Dec. 1274/1 The relief provided for the Begum [in *Pendennis*] .. is Minerva Press every grain of it. 1866 *Ibid.* 10 Nov. 602/2 Such a flow of Minerva-press melo-dramatic diction. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIII. 705 (art. *Typography*) Fig. 11, Minerva Press.

Minerval (minō·ɪvăl), *sb.* [a. L. *minerval*, f. *Minerva* : see prec.] A gift given in gratitude by a scholar to a master; also, money paid to a schoolmaster for teaching.

1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 454 You are well enough served and receive a due Minervall for your schoolage. 1674 CNARLETON in *Lett. Eminent Persons* (1813) I. 5 To accept my mean oblation, .. not as an ornament to her public library, but a minerval or simple testimony of my respects and gratitude. 1700 J. BROME *Trav. Eng., Scot.*, etc. iii. (1707) 117 The School .. was Built and Endowed by King Edward .. with a generous Minerval for a Master and Usher. 1885 W. CORY *Lett. & Jrnls.* (1897) 513 At the end of our year's Greek reading, they [girls] gave me a minerval, to wit, the simple 'Autobiography of George Napier'.

† **Mine·rval,** *a. Obs.* [ad. L. *Minervālis* : see MINERVA and -AL.] Pertaining to Minerva.

1625 C. BROOKE *On Sir A. Chichester* 201 Thus he spun Honor's Minervall web.

Minery (məi·nəri). [ad. med.L. *minēria, mināria*, f. *mināre* to MINE.]

1. A place where mining operations are carried on; † also, a mine.

[1279 *Northumb. Assize Rolls* (Surtees) 266 Quod Aldeneston' et mynaria ejusdem et homines ejusdem minariæ .. fuerint alienati.] 1567 MAPLET *Gr. Forest* 13 It is found also in Mineries in maner like to Grauell and Sande. 1577 FRAMPTON *Joyful News* III. (1596) 103 Euery day they discouer in those countries great Mineries of metals. 1633 T. ADAMS *Exp. 2 Peter* iii. 5 If we dig into her inwards, we find metals, mineries, quarries. 1670 PETTUS *Fodinæ Reg.* 88 Every other Trespass done upon the Minerie shall be fined at 2d. 1799 W. TOOKE *View Russian Emp.* II. 506 Certain wrought goods for the army and navy, as cannon-balls from the mineries. 1876 W. WHITE *Holidays Tyrol* xvii. 134 A thank-offering from the minery to the church. 1898 RAYMOND *Two Men o' Mendip* iii, I'll ride across to the mineries, myzelf, so quiet as I can.

attrib. 1681 in *Phil. Trans. Abr.* (1722) II. 369 Which came from the Washing of Lead in the Minery Ponds.

† b. *fig.*

a 1653 BINNING *Chr. Love* ii. Wks. (1847) 528 All these lusts .. are the mineries of contentions, and strifes, and wars.

† 2. A military mine. *Obs.*

1591 SPARRY tr. *Cattan's Geomancie* 86 Vnlesse it bee to put fire vnto Myneries or Artillerie.

† b. Materials for mining. *Obs.*

1687 RYCAUT *Knolles' Hist. Turks* II. 312 The besiegers had endeavoured to pass the Ditch in Boats, and so carry over their Minery.

† 3. The science of mining. *Obs.*

1777 tr. *Born's Trav. Hungary* xiii. 107 A naturalist endowed with a proper knowledge of minery.

Minestrale, obs. form of MINSTREL.

Minette[1] (mine·t). *Min.* [a. F. *minette.*] (See quot. 1888.)

1878 LAWRENCE tr. *Cotta's Rocks Class.* 166 It is sometimes difficult to distinguish minette from mica-porphyry. 1878 BONNEY & HOUGHTON in *Q. Jrnl. Geol. Soc.* XXXV. 166 We propose the analogous term minette-felsite. 1888 TEALL *Brit. Petrogr.* 350 *Minette*, this is a local name used by miners in the Vosges for a rock essentially composed of dark mica, orthoclase and a felspathic matrix. It was introduced into geological literature by Voltz in 1828.

Minette[2] (mine·t). The smallest of regular sizes of portrait photographs. 1897 in WEBSTER.

Minever, variant of MINIVER.

Minew, obs. form of MINNOW.

Ming (miŋ), *sb. dial.* [f. *ming*, MENG *v.*] a. A mixture. b. (See quot. 1856.)

1823 *Caledonian Merc.* 4 Dec. (Jam.), Various sorts of mixtures, in none of which tar is an ingredient. These mings do not clot the fleece as tar does. 1856 P. THOMPSON *Hist. Boston* 715 Land of different proprietors lying mixed, is said to be lying in ming. 1866 J. E. BROGDEN *Prov. Words Lincs.*

† **Ming,** *v. Obs.* Forms: 1 mynġ-, mynegian, menegian, 2–3 munegen, -eȝen, 3 minegen, -eȝen, -iȝen, moneȝen, muniȝen, 5 miniye, mynye, munye, 4 7 minge(n, 4–6 mynge(n, 4–5 menge(n, 4 meneȝe(n, menewe, monewe, munge(n, mynewe, 6– ming. [OE. (*gē*)*mynegian, myngian* wk. vb. :—WGer. **munigôjan* (cf. OHG. *bi-munigôn*), f. OTeut. **muni-* (OE. *myne* : see MIN *sb.*[1]).]

1. *trans.* To put in mind, remind (a person); to admonish. Const. *of* (in OE. genit. case), *on, to* with *inf.*; also with dependent clause.

a 1023 WULFSTAN *Hom.* (1883) 210/9 Drihten .. us þonne myngað þæs sunnandæȝes weorces. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 147 Þet luued world wunne he munegeð. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 413/368 Seint Iohan him [i. e. the Bishop] chargede of is warde; and muneguede him wel ofte þat he him wuste swiþe wel. 1415 HOCCLEVE *To Sir J. Oldcastle* 424 The sighte us myngith to the seint to preye. — *Min. Poems* 71/144 Mynge him ther-on. *c* 1425 *Eng. Conq. Irel.* 84 He miniyed the Erle of his beheste.

b. *absol.* with clause.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 215 Prest specð inne chirche of chirche neode and mineȝeð þat me niwe cloðes oðer elde bete.

2. To bring into remembrance; to commemorate; to mention. (In OE. with obj. in *genitive.*)

c 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Th.) xliii. argt., Dauid .. myngode þæra ȝyfa, þe he his fædrum and his foregengum sealde. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 169 He minegede alle his wrecche siðes þe he þolede on þis wrecche worelde. *c* 1315 SHOREHAM I. 1892 More godsibrede nys þer nauȝt þane hys y-meneȝed here. *c* 1320 *Cast. Love* 1193 Marie, Mayden schene, .. For deol mungen I ne may þe pyne þ' þe poledest þulke day. *a* 1450 MYRC 1915 More, I pray þat þow me mynge, In þy masse when thow dost synge. 1522 *World & Child* 426 (Manly) Ye must loue God aboue all thynge, His name in ydelnes ye may not mynge. 1598 BP. HALL *Sat.* IV. ii. 80 Could neuer man worke thee a worser shame Than once to minge thy fathers odious name. 1623 LISLE *Ælfric on O. & N. Test.* To Rdr. 13 This that I minged last was not the least motiue I had. *a* 1656 *Sir Cawline* xxi. in Child *Ballads* II. 59/1 For because thou minged not Christ before, The lesse me dreadeth thee. 1674 RAY *N. C. Words* 48 To *Ming* at one, to mention. 1787 GROSE *Prov. Gloss.*, To *ming* at one, to remind, give warning or allude to a thing.

3. To remember. Also *refl.* to bethink oneself.

1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* VII. 88 He is holden, ich hope to haue me in muynde, And munge me in his memorie. 1377 *Ibid.* B. IV. 94 And thanne gan Mede to mengen here and mercy she bisought. 1596 BP. HALL *Elegy on Dr. Whitaker* 100 The memorie of his mightie name Shall liue as long, as aged Earth shall last : .. Aye ming'd, aye mourn'd.

4. *intr.* To give an account; to relate.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 855 For þay of mote couthe neuer mynge. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 1067 Hit tidde after bi time as þe tale minges. *c* 1460 *Emare* 926 The Kyng yn herte was full woo, When he herd mynge tho Of her that was his qwene.

† **Minge,** *v. Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *mingĕre* to void urine.] *trans.* To discharge as urine.

1611 *Tarlton's Jests* (1844) 43 A horse mingeth whay, madam, a man mingeth amber, A horse is for your way, madam, but a man for your chamber.

Ming(e, variant ff. of MENG *v. Obs.* exc. *dial.*

Mingel, obs. form of MINGLE *v.*

† **Mi·ngent,** *a. Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *mingent-em*, pr. pple. of *mingĕre*.] Discharging urine.

c 1685 *Dk. Buckhm.'s Confer.* (1714) 22 She .. continued in mingent Circumstances from the Morning till Night.

† **Mi·nging,** *vbl. sb. Obs.* [f. MING *v.* + -ING[1].]

1. The action of the verb MING; an admonition; a warning or reminder. In 17–18th c. a premonitory symptom. (Cf. MINDING *vbl. sb.* 2.)

a 940 *Laws of Æthelstan* V. vii, Ne forlæte he .. þa mynegunge. 1674 RAY *N. C. Words* 48 *Mynegung* an admonition, warning or minding; so it is usually said, I had a *minging*, suppose of an Ague or the like Disease, that is, not a perfect Fit, but so much as to put me in mind of it. 1703 M. WARWICK in Floyer *Hot & Cold Bath.* II. 298 When the Wind is Northward, I meet a little minging of Pains, but no contraction.

2. A memorial.

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 45 Uwilc sunne-dei is to locan alswa ester dei for heo is muneȝing of his halie ariste. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 136 Cus þe wunde studen, ine swete munegunge of þe soðe wunden. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1623 Sette he up ðat ston for muniging.

Mingle (miŋg'l), *sb.* Now *rare.* [f. MINGLE *v.*] The action of mingling, the state of being mingled; mixture. Also *concr.* a mingled mass, a mixture.

1548 ELYOT *Dict.*, *Aceruatim*, on heapes, without ordre, in a mengle [1545 mengley]. 1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* I. v. 59 He was not sad .. He was not merrie, Which seem'd to tell them, his remembrance lay In Egypt with his ioy, but betweene both. Oh heauenly mingle! *Ibid.* IV. viii. 37 Trumpetters With brazen dinne blast you the Cities eare, Make mingle with our ratling Tabourines. 1621 LADY M. WROTH *Urania* 156 Neither Masque nor properly any one thing, but a mingle of diuers sorts. 1668 DRYDEN *Dram. Poesy* Ess. (ed. Ker) I. 61 Scenes admirable in their kind, but of an ill mingle with the rest. 1714 SWIFT *Let. to Ld. Bolingbroke* 7 Aug., To represent persons and things without any mingle of my own interest or passions. 1720 T. BOSTON *Fourf. State* (1797) 385 In a mingle of many different seeds the expert gardener can distinguish between seed and seed. 1811 *Ora & Juliet* IV. 76 Her thoughts were a mingle of thankfulness and dread.

b. *Comb.*, in † *mingle-coloured* adj.

1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* (1613) 62 Her high roofe was mingle-coloured with mounting drops of bloud. 1660 *Mercurius Publ.* 24–31 May 349 A mingle-coloured wrought Tabby Gown of Deer colour and white.

Mingle (miˑŋg'l), *v.* Forms: 5 **myngel,** *Sc.* **mengill,** 5–6 **mengel, mengle, myngle,** 6 **mengyll, mingel, -il, myngell,** 6– **mingle.** [Late ME. *mengel*, frequentative f. MENG *v.*: see -LE 3. Cf. MDu., Du. *mengelen* (which may possibly have suggested the formation), MHG., mod.G. *mengeln*, of the same meaning.]

1. *trans.* To mix (things together or one thing *with* another) so that they become physically united or form a new combination; to combine in a mixture, to blend.

1495 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 225 Talowe .. mengeled with pytche. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 3 Electrum is a myxture of syluer & golde myngled togyder. 1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* ci. 9, I .. mengle my drynke with wepynge. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 31 There is a little Bason .. and over it a cock of warm water; and .. above .. another cock, for cold water, so that you may mingle them as you please. 1706 LONDON & WISE *Retir'd Gard.* I. II. xii. 167 Take some Mould mingled with soft Hay. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 826 The sulphuret of antimony mingled with its gangue may be subjected to the same mode of assay. *a* 1852 WEBSTER *Wks.* (1877) III. 317 The bones of her sons .. now lie mingled with the soil of every State from New England to Georgia.

† b. *fig.* To put together so as to make one, to 'pool'. *Obs.*

1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* I. vi. 186 Some dozen Romanes of vs .. haue mingled summes To buy a Present for the Emperor.

† c. Const. *to. Obs. rare.*

1563 HYLL *Art Garden.* (1593) 18 To this water also mingle a little dunge.

d. *poet. nonce-use.* To put in as an ingredient.

1842 TENNYSON *Vision Sin* IV. XXXVI, Fill the cup, and fill the can! Mingle madness, mingle scorn!

2. To bring together, intersperse, or associate (material or immaterial things, persons, etc. *with* or *among* others), to unite or join in company. Also *to mingle up.*

c 1450 tr. *De Imitatione* III. lviii. 135 Grace .. suffrib not itself to be menglid with straunge þinges. *s494* FABYAN *Chron.* I. CXI. 126 They were greatly myngelyd or medelyd wt other nacions. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 217 He myngleth ye trewth with errour & heresy. 1596 SHAKS. *1 Hen. IV*, III. ii. 63 The skipping King .. Mingled his Royaltie with Carping Fooles. 1598 GRENEWEY *Tacitus' Ann.* I. viii. (1622) 14 Besides this, womens quarrels were mingled among. 1630 PRYNNE *God no Impostor* 16 Reprobates are mingled with the Elect, as the weedes, the tares are with the corn and grasse. 1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* IV. vii, To devour everything that came in their way, whether herbs, roots, berries, the corrupted flesh of animals, or all mingled together. 1817 JAS. MILL *Brit. India* II. IV. iv. 151 In an instant the two regiments were mingled at the push of the bayonet. 1840 DICKENS *Barn. Rudge* iii, A strong tendency to mingle up present circumstances with others which have no manner of connexion with them. 1859 JEPHSON *Brittany* I. 2 We must mingle our regrets when our only fare is a *gigot*. 1875 LYELL *Princ. Geol.* II. III. xlvi. 544 Mingled with the rest, the corpses of two men and one woman. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) V. 235 The order of the voice, in which high and low are duly mingled, is called harmony.

b. *refl.*

14.. *How Good Wife taught Dau.* 86 Thoill thaim nocht .. mengill thame [*sc.* women] with neuir vith ladry. 1535 COVERDALE 1 *Esdras* viii. 70 Both they and their sonnes haue mengled them selues with the daughters of them. 1702 ECHARD *Eccl. Hist.* (1710) 65 He caus'd soldiers .. to mingle themselves among the people in private apparel. 1725 DE FOE *Voy. round World* (1840) 258 It is impossible to describe how the sound [of falling water], crossing and interfering, mingled itself. 1856 KANE *Arct. Expl.* I. xxix.

384 The renewed chorus..mingling itself sleepily in my dreams with school-boy memories.

†c. To associate (a person) *in* common action.

c 1607 DONNE *Lett.* (1651) 60, I owe you so much of my health,..as I would not mingle you in any occasion of repairing [1839 ed. impairing] it.

†d. To join (conversation, friendship, etc.) *with* another person. Also *to mingle eyes*, look into each other's eyes. *Obs.*

1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* III. xiii. 156 To flatter Cæsar, would you mingle eyes With one that tyes his points. 1611 — *Wint. T.* I. ii. 109 To mingle friendship farre is mingling bloods. *Ibid.* IV. iv. 471 Oh cursed wretch, That knew'st this was the Prince, and wouldst aduenture To mingle faith with him. 1650 HOWELL *Giraffi's Rev. Naples* I. 20 The Bishop..being not able to com himself to mingle speech with him.

e. *Card-making.* (See quot. 1867.)

1837 [see MINGLING *vbl. sb.*]. 1867 FRY *Playing-Card Terms* in *Philol. Soc. Trans.* 57 *Mingle*, to place papers, or cardboards, intended to be pasted, in such a way, that the paster can readily take up the sheets in the order in which they are to be pasted.

3. To form or make up by mixing various elements or ingredients, to concoct, compound.

1611 BIBLE *Isa.* v. 22 Woe unto them that are..men of strength to mingle strong drinke. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VI. 277 Hence then,..to the place of evil, Hell, Thou and thy wicked crew; there mingle broiles, Ere this avenging Sword begin thy doome. 1871 BLACKIE *Four Phases* I. 153 The man whose duty it was to administer the drug mingled in a bowl.

absol. 1635 PAGITT *Christianogr.* I. iii. (1636) 121 He took the Cup of the fruit of the Vine mingling, giving thankes [etc.].

†b. To mix up so as to cause confusion in, to confound. *Obs.*

1549 LATIMER *Ploughers* (Arb.) 32 Thys is the marke at the whyche the Deuyll shooteth,..to mingle the institucion of the Loordes supper. 1551 BIBLE (Matthew) *Gen.* xi. 7 Let vs..myngle theyr tonge euen there, that one vnderstand not what an other sayeth.

4. *intr.* Of things material and immaterial: To unite or combine in some intimate relation; to join together (or *with* another); to mix, blend.

1530 PALSGR. 634/2 Oyle and water wyll never mengyll togyther. 1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV*, v. ii. 132 The Tide of Blood in me,..Now doth it turne, and ebbe backe to the Sea, Where it shall mingle with the state of Floods. 1671 MILTON *P. R.* IV. 453, I heard the rack As Earth and Skie would mingle. 1756–7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) III. 176 Which discharge themselves into the Topino, and under that name mingle with the Chiascio. 1787 G. WHITE *Selborne* I. 4 The soil becomes an hungry lean sand, till it mingles with the forest. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* II. App. 427 In nature, mechanical and molecular laws mingle, and create apparent confusion. 1885 W. C. SMITH *Kildrostan* 52 When a wave, Broken and spent, ebbs back, what should it do But mingle with the new wave flowing in, And swell its volume?

5. Of a person: To mix or join oneself in any kind of association *with* others; to have intercourse *with*; to move about *among*, or *in* a gathering. Also, to be associated or take part with others *in* some action or combination.

1605 SHAKS. *Macb.* III. iv. 3 Our selfe will mingle with Society, And play the humble Host. 1683 TEMPLE *Mem.* Wks. 1731 I. 380 Some of the Train'd Bands..mingled among them. 1685 OTWAY *Windsor Castle* 24 Imagine Fate I have..mingled in the Throng. 1769 ROBERTSON *Chas. V*, VI. Wks. 1813 VI. 106 He is dead to the world and ought not to mingle in its transactions. 1818 SHELLEY *Homer's Hymn Moon* 21 The Son of Saturn with this glorious Power Mingled in love and sleep—to whom she bore Pandeia. *c* 1820 S. ROGERS *Italy, Bologna* 32 Observed, nor shunned the busy scene of life, But mingled not. 1852 THACKERAY *Esmond* I. x, Nor caring to mingle with the mere pleasures and boyish frolics of the students. 1870 E. PEACOCK *Ralf Skirl.* I. 8 They often mingled in Court society. 1872 YEATS *Growth Comm.* 138 The Batavians mingled afterwards with the Frisians. 1885 *Law Times* LXXX. 10/1 He is very anxious to avoid any appearance of mingling in party disputes.

Mingleable (mi·ŋg'lˌăb'l), *a.* ? *Obs.* [f. MINGLE *v.* + -ABLE.] That may be mingled; miscible.

1666 BOYLE *Orig. Formes & Qual.* 196 Distill'd Liquors, readily & totally mingleable with Water. 1682 GREW *Anat. Plants, Disc. Mixture* App. 237 So as to become easily mingleable with any unoyly Liquor.

Mingled (mi·ŋg'ld), *ppl. a.* [f. MINGLE *v.* + -ED 1.] In senses of the verb.

1535 COVERDALE *Lev.* xix. 19 Nether sowe thy felde with myngled sede. 1611 BIBLE *Jer.* xxv. 20 All the mingled people. *a* 1729 J. ROGERS 19 *Serm.* (1735) 330 Even the best of us appear contented with a mingled, imperfect Virtue. 1746 HERVEY *Medit.* (1818) 32 See their mingled graces transfused into their offspring. 1859 KINGSLEY *Misc.* (1860) I. 40 Her mingled justice and mercy.

b. Of textile fabrics: Woven in mixed colours.

1555 E. TERRY *Voy. E. India* 118 Silk, of which they make Velvets, Sattins, Taffataes, either plain, or mingled, or striped in party-colours. 1659 HOWELL *Vocab.* XXV, Mingled cloath, *panno mischio, o panno vergato.*

Hence †**Mi·ngledly** *adv. rare.*

1573 BARET *Alv.* H 381 Here and there, mingledly, *sparsim.* 1650 W. SCLATER *Comm. Malachy* 24 Duties to him performed, mingledly, of feare and love.

Mingle-mangle (mi·ŋg'lˌmæ·ŋg'l). Also 6 **myngle mangle, mingle mangel.** [A varied reduplication of MINGLE *sb.*] A mixture; †a mess of mixed food for swine. Chiefly in contemptuous or disgusted use, a confused medley (of things or persons).

1549 LATIMER *3rd Serm. bef. Edw. VI* (Arb.) 98 They say in my contrye, when they cal theyr hogges to the swyne troughe Come to thy myngle mangle, come pyr. 1549 COVERDALE, etc. *Erasm. Par. Jas.* 25 Their doctrine is ouer muche tempred with myngle mangle. 1603 DEKKER *Wonderful Year* D j, The maine Army consisting..of a mingle-mangle, viz. dumpish Mourners, merry Sextons [etc.]. 1623 LISLE *Ælfric on O. & N. Test.* Tu Rdr. 37 Tell me not it [the English tongue] is a mingle-mangle. 1741 S. A. LAVAL *Hist. Reform* IV. VIII. 1035 A Speech..no better than a Mingle-mangle of base Adulations. 1860 *All Year Round* No. 70. 476 This mingle-mangle of dirty lanes, solemn, sorrow-stricken gaols [etc.].

b. *attrib.* or as *adj.* Like a mingle-mangle or hotch-potch, mixed confusedly.

1577 HANMER *Anc. Eccl. Hist.* (1663) 73 Tatianus..patched together, I wot not what kind of mingle-mangle consonancy of the Gospels. 1589 J. RIDER *Bibl. Schol.*, In mingle mangle wise, or confusedlye. *a* 1641 BP. MOUNTAGU *Acts & Mon.* (1642) 468 Professing a mingle-mangle hotch-potch religion. 1799 SOUTHEY *St. Gualberto* XXV, The mingle-mangle mass of truth and lies. 1888 *Pall Mall G.* 2 Oct. 9/1 The wine drunk nowadays was a mingle-mangle mixture of all things except that which was good.

So **Mi·ngle-mangle** *v. trans.*, to make a mingle-mangle of, whence **Mi·ngle-mangler.** Also **Mingle-ma·ngleness.**

1549 COVERDALE, etc. *Erasm. Par. Jas.* iv. 7-17 Who so euer backbiteth his neighbour, he either condemneth the lawe,..or backbiteth it as though it were to muche myngle mangled, and walowyshe. 1550 LATIMER *Last Serm. bef. Edw. VI* (1562) 119 Yet ther be Leaueners yet styll and mingle manglers, that haue sowred Christes doctrine, with the leauen of the Pharises. 1614 J. TAYLOR (Water-P.) *Nipping Abuses* B 3 b, How pitteous then mans best of wit is martyr'd,..So mingle mangled and so hack't and hewd. 1694 MOTTEUX *Rabelais* IV. lx. (1737) 247 Then is sacrific'd to him, Haberdines, Poor-Jack, minglemangled, mishmash'd. 1827 SOUTHEY *Lett.* (1856) IV. 56, I wish you could see what is done, which for oddity, mingle-mangleness, and out-of-the-wayness may vie with anything that has ever preceded it.

Minglement (mi·ŋg'lmėnt). [f. MINGLE *v.* + -MENT.] The action of mingling; an instance or result of this, a mixture.

1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* 28 'Tis taking in a daily minglement of bigger bodies. 1823 MOORE *Loves of Angels* III. xii. 259 That happy minglement of hearts. 1868 *Contemp. Rev.* VIII. 560 The difficulty is, not to produce minglement of race, but to keep blood pure.

Mingler (mi·ŋgləɹ). [f. MINGLE *v.* + -ER 1.] One who mingles, in senses of the verb.

1581 *Act* 23 *Eliz.* c. 8 § 1 The said Melter, Myngler or Corrupter, Causer or Procurer thereof, shall forfeyte [etc.]. 1605 VERSTEGAN *Dec. Intell.* vii. 203 Chaucer..was in deed a great mingler of English with French. 1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* 306 Proclus..was indeed a confounder of the Platonick theology, and a mingler of much unintelligible stuff with it. 1888 A. S. WILSON *Lyric of Hopeless Love* 121 No sense of mine can hear or spy The mingler of the spell.

Mingling (mi·ŋglĭŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. MINGLE *v.* + -ING 1.] The action of the vb. MINGLE.

1513 MORE *Edw. V*, Wks. 63/2 The mengling of whose bloodes together, hath bene the effusion of great parte of the noble bloode of this realme. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 232 Sound is likewise Meliorated by the Mingling of open Aire with Pent Aire. 1819 T. CHALMERS in *Mem.* (1850) II. 259 From my extensive minglings with the people, I am quite confident in affirming [etc.]. 1837 WHITTOCK, etc. *Bk. Trades* (1842) 99 (*Card-maker*) The various sorts of paper of which a card-board is composed are then placed alternately in the manner called by the trade 'mingling'. 1883 *Athenæum* 1 Dec. 695/1 There was a constant mingling of merchant princes and illustrious professors.

Mingling (mi·ŋglĭŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. MINGLE *v.* + -ING 2.] That mingles, in senses of the verb. Hence **Mi·nglingly** *adv.* (Webster 1847–54).

1735 SOMERVILLE *Chase* II. 408 The Forest seems One mingling Blaze. 1812 BYRON *Ch. Har.* II. xxiii, When mingling souls forget to blend, Death hath but little left him to destroy!

†**Mingly.** *Obs. rare.* Also 6 **mengl(e)y.** [? Alteration of *mengle*, MINGLE *sb.*, after MEDLEY.] A mixture or medley.

1545 ELYOT *Dict.*, *Aceruatim*, in heapes, without ordre, in a mengley [1548–52 mengle]. 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus*, *Cinnus*..a mengly [1578 mingly] of diuers thinges together.

Minheer, obs. form of MYNHEER.

Miniaceous (miniē·ʃəs), *a.* [f. L. *miniāce-us*, f. *minium* native cinnabar, also red-lead: see -ACEOUS.] Of a cinnabar-red colour. = MINIATE *a.*

1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* II. 313/1 Miniaceous colour, a scarlet, or vermilion colour. 1846 DANA *Zooph.* (1848) 643 Cortex miniaceous within.

Miniard, Miniardize: see MIGNIARD, -IZE.

Miniate (mi·niĕt), *a. rare*—°. [ad. L. *miniāt-us*, pa. pple. of *miniāre* to MINIATE.] (See quots.)

1890 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Miniate*, coloured like red-lead; vermilion-coloured. 1900 JACKSON *Gloss. Bot. Terms*, *Miniate*, the colour of red lead; more orange and duller than vermilion.

Miniate (mi·niēt), *v.* [f. L. *miniāt-*, ppl. stem of *miniā-re* (f. *minium*: see MINIUM) + -ATE 3.] *trans.* To colour or paint with vermilion; to rubricate or (in extended sense) to illuminate (a manuscript). Also *transf.*

1657–83 EVELYN *Hist. Relig.* (1850) I. 30 Flowery parterres of roses, lilies, tulips..dressed, figured, fringed, folded, miniated and decked by the band of Him who made the heavens. 1670 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* (ed. 3), *Miniated*, painted, or inlaid; as we read of Porcellane-dishes miniated with gold. 1774 WARTON *Hist. Eng. Poetry* (1781) III. *Gesta Rom.* 5 All the capitals in the body of the text are miniated with a pen. 1862 BURGON *Lett. fr. Rome* ii. 16 Vermilion is introduced abundantly. Thus, the first verse of St. John's gospel is miniated.

Miniator (mi·nieĭtəɹ). [a. L. *miniātor*, agent-noun f. *miniāre*: see MINIATE *v.* Cf. It. *miniatore*, Sp. *miniador* (Minsheu).] One who 'miniates' (a manuscript), a rubricator, an illuminator.

1865 M. PATTISON in *Q. Rev.* Apr. 339 But for copies 'de luxe',..copyist and miniator still continued in request.

Miniatous (miniēĭ·təs), *a.* [f. L. *miniāt-us*, pa. pple. of *miniāre*: see MINIATE *a.* and -OUS.] Of the colour of minium or red-lead; miniate.

1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* IV. xlvi. 279 Miniatous,..the colour of red lead.

Miniature (mi·niătiŭɹ, mi·nitiŭɹ), *sb.* and *a.* Also 7–8 **mignature, minature, miniture.** [ad. It. *miniatura*, a. med.L. *miniātūra*, f. *miniāre* to rubricate, illuminate: see MINIATE *v.* Cf. F. *miniature* (1653 in Hatz.-Darm.).

The small size characteristic of paintings in miniature has led to a pseudo-etymological association of the word with the L. *min-* expressing smallness (in *minor* less, *minimus* least, *minuĕre* to diminish), which has prob. affected the development of the transferred and figurative senses.]

A. *sb.*

†1. The action or process of rubricating letters or of illuminating a manuscript. *Obs.*

1645 EVELYN *Diary* 18–23 Jan., MSS. of remarkable miniature. 1686 [G. HICKES] *Spec. B. Virginis* 9 If the names of other Saints are distinguished with Miniature, Her's ought to Shine with Gold.

2. *concr.* A picture in an illuminated manuscript, an illumination; also, illuminated work in general.

1680 EVELYN *Diary* 2 Sept., [There] were 3 or 4 Romish breviaries, with a great deal of miniature and monkish painting and gilding...There is also the processe of the philosophers great elixer, represented in divers pieces of excellent miniature. 1803 ASTLE *Orig. Writing* viii. 195 Miniatures preserved in some of the finest and best executed manuscripts in Europe. 1895 E. M. THOMPSON *Eng. Illum. MSS.* 36 It is a very beautiful manuscript, written on fine vellum.., and decorated with miniatures.

3. The designation of the branch of pictorial art developed from the art of the mediæval illuminator; the painting of 'miniatures' (in sense 4 below). Chiefly in phrase *in miniature.*

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Miniature*,..the art of drawing pictures in little, being commonly done with red lead. 1669 A. BROWNE *Ars Pictoria* 77 The Art of Miniture or Limning. 1679 EVERARD *Popish Plot* 3 She further produced a picture in mignature of the said Chancellor. 1712 tr. *Pomet's Hist. Drugs* I. 14 A sort of Pink for Painting in Oil and Miniature. 1759 JOHNSON *Idler* No. 64 ? 4, I..heard every day of a wonderful performer in crayons and miniature, and sent my pictures [*sc.* portraits] to be copied. 1771 H. WALPOLE *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* IV. 90 Painters in Enamel and Miniature. 1821 CRAIG *Lect. Drawing* vi. 345 The practice of portrait painting in miniature. 1887 PROPERT *Miniature Art* Pref. 5 Materials..illustrative of the history of miniature.

4. *concr.* A portrait 'in miniature'; a portrait painted on a small scale and with minute finish, usually on ivory or vellum; formerly always in water colour, but now often in oil.

1716 LADY M. W. MONTAGU *Lett.* 10 Oct. (1887) I. 129 There are a vast quantity of paintings, among which are many fine miniatures. 1765 H. WALPOLE *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* I. 73 His [Holbein's] miniatures have all the strength of oil-colours joined to the most finished delicacy. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 743 Miniatures are painted with extreme precision and brilliancy...They may be executed either with oil or water-colours. 1854 THACKERAY *Newcomes* I. 53 A feeble miniature of the lady with yellow ringlets.

5. *transf.* and *fig.* A reduced image; a representation on a small scale. Also *occas.* a minutely finished production.

a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* II. (1590) 150 As the Ladies plaid them in the water,..the water (making lines in his face) seemed..with twentie bubbles, not to be content to haue the picture of their face in large vpon him, but he would in ech of those bubbles set forth the miniature of them. *a* 1680 ROCHESTER *Let. fr. Artemiza in Town*, Kiss me, thou curious Minature of Man [*sc.* a Monkey]. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* Ded., Ess. (ed. Ker) II. 157 Tragedy is the miniature of human life; an epic poem is the draught at length. *a* 1711 KEN *Preparatives* Poet. Wks. 1721 IV. 35 The great Creator's Power and Wisdom shine, Concenter'd in this Miniature Divine [*sc.* a fly]. 1827 DE QUINCEY *Murder* Wks. 1862 IV. 9 As to Shakspere..witness his incomparable miniature in Henry VI of the murdered Gloucester. 1842 TENNYSON *Gard. Dan.* 12 A miniature of loveliness, all grace Summ'd up and closed in little. 1856 EMERSON *Eng. Traits, Land* Wks. (Bohn) II. 18 In variety of surface, Britain is a miniature of Europe.

b. *In miniature*: on a small scale; in a brief or abridged form.

1700 SOUTHERNE *Fate of Capua* IV. iv, How have I hung upon the little lines Of that dear face,..To find the mother there in minature. 1704 SWIFT *T. Tub* Wks. 1768 I. 32 Their persons I shall describe particularly and at length; their genius and understandings in mignature. 1813 T. BUSBY *Lucretius* I. II. *Comm.* 34 That which is correct in miniature will be true in the large. 1860 MAURY *Phys. Geol. Sea* (Low) xvi. 698 Land and sea breezes are monsoons in miniature. 1872 SPURGEON *Treas. Dav.* Ps. lxv. 4 This verse is a body of divinity in miniature.

c. Minuteness of workmanship. *rare*—1.

c 1790 IMISON *Sch. Art* I. 243 The human mind is infinitely insufficient to explore the amazing and inconceiveable gradations of miniature in every part of nature.

¶6. A lineament.

1629 MASSINGER *Picture* IV. i, There are lines Of a darke colour, that disperse themselues Ore euery miniature of her face. 1636 — *Gt. Dk. Flor.* v. ii, There's no miniature In her faire face, but is a copious theme Which would..make a volume. What cleare arch'd browes? what sparkling eyes?

7. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *miniature art, colour, drawing, -kind, painter, painting, -picture, portrait*; **miniature-initial**, an ornamental initial having a miniature picture painted within it.

1711 SHAFTESB. *Charac.* (1737) I. 143 *note*, When a Piece is of the Miniature-kind; when it runs into the Detail, and nice Delineation of every little particular. 1733 *School of Miniature* 15 Miniature Colours. *Ibid.* 17, I advise all Miniature Painters to practise it. 1781 (*title*) Miniature Pictures. Written Originally by Mr. Gray... Newly adapted to The most Fashionable and Public Characters. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XII. 146 Miniature-painting. 1806 SUAR *Winter in Lond.* (ed. 3) III. 85 A very small miniature portrait of a gentleman. 1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 439/2 With regard to miniature art in Germany..little can be said. 1895 E. M. THOMPSON *Eng. Illum. MSS.* 43 The first fifty-six leaves are occupied by a series of most exquisite miniature drawings. *Ibid.* 60 The..ornamental-initial (to be distinguished from the miniature-initial).

B. *adj.* Represented on a small scale.

1714 GAY *Fan* I. 170 Here shall the Pencil bid its Colours flow, And make a Miniature Creation grow. 1740 CHEYNE *Regimen* 180 He might, no doubt, have foreknown every thing..by the self-motive Powers of his created miniature Judges. 1816 ACCUM *Chem. Tests* (1818) 321 Very little can be determined in these miniature assays. 1822-56 DE QUINCEY *Confess.* (1862) 122, I..took a very miniature suite of rooms. 1872 JENKINSON *Guide Eng. Lakes* (1879) 150 This stream contains many lovely miniature cascades.

Miniature (mi·niătiŭr, mi·nitiŭr), *v.* [f. MINIATURE *sb.*]

1. *trans.* To embellish (a manuscript) with miniatures.

1716 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* III. 85 A MS...in Golden Letters upon Vellum miniatur'd.

2. To represent or describe in miniature.

1833 *New Monthly Mag.* XXXVIII. 402 Take this round orb; it miniatures the world. 1865 S. LANIER *Poems* (1884) 231 Still shine the words that miniature his deeds. 1895 H. CALLAN *From Clyde to Jordan* xxix. 302 Is not the whole Anglo-Egyptian situation miniatured in this incident?

3. To reduce to miniature dimensions. Hence **Miniaturing** *vbl. sb.* (in quot. *attrib.*).

1881 *Nature* No. 622. 514 Three sets of achromatic lenses forming a focal power of forty at ten inches, or a miniaturing power of one fortieth.

Miniaturist (mi·niătiurist, mi·nitiŭrist). [f. MINIATURE *sb.* + -IST. Cf. F. *miniaturiste.*]

1. One who executed the miniature-illuminations of a manuscript; a miniator.

1851 MILLINGTON tr. *Didron's Chr. Iconogr.* I. 260 It is possible..that the deficiency is owing to an error of the miniaturist. 1892 J. H. MIDDLETON *Illum. MSS.* 255 When the scribe, the rubricator, the illuminator and the miniaturist ..had completed the manuscript it was ready for the binder.

2. One who paints miniature pictures or portraits.

1856 THACKERAY *Christmas Bks.* (1872) 52 A couple of young artists, young Pinkey the miniaturist and George Rumbold the historical painter.

Minibus (mi·nibŭs). ? *Obs.* [f. L. *minimus* least, smallest, after *omnibus.*] (See quots.)

1849 CRAIG, *Minibus*, a light covered vehicle, constructed for the expeditious conveyance of passengers for short distances. 1857 OTTÉ tr. *Quatrefages' Rambles Nat.* II. 143 A tolerably good road now joins Biarritz to Bayonne. Various omnibuses and minibuses..carry on an active traffic. 1864 *Macm. Mag.* X. 205/2 When the first street cab or 'minibus' was set up in it [St. Andrews].

Minié (mi·nie). The name of the inventor of the Minié bullet (see below) used *attrib.*, as *Minié ball, bullet*, an elongated bullet invented by M. Minié of Vincennes, which, when fired, was expanded by the powder contained in an iron cup inserted in a cavity at its base; *Minié rifle*, a rifle adapted for firing the Minié bullet (see quot. 1876).

1853 STOCQUELER *Milit. Dict.*, *Minie Rifle*, or *Culot Ball*, a new species of fire-arm. 1858 GREENER *Gunnery* 350 In 1847 and 1848 Captain Minié..proposed a hollow iron cup to fill up the cavity in Delvigne's bullet, and from this circumstance we get the name of Minié rifle. 1859 LEVER *Dav. Dunn* xiii. 113 Under all that hailstorm of Minié-balls. 1876 VOVLE & STEVENSON *Milit. Dict.* s. v., In 1851 a rifle musket of the Minié pattern was supplied to the English army...It was found to be defective in practice, and was superseded by the Enfield rifle in 1853. 1884 H. BOND *Milit. Small Arms* 202 This discovery caused..the Minié rifle (an ordinary rifle firing a Minié bullet) to become the favourite arm.

Minifer, variant of MINIVER.

Minify (mi·nifəi), *v.* [Incorrectly f. L. *minor* less, *minimus* least, after *magnify.*]

1. *trans.* To diminish in estimated size or importance; to regard or represent (something) as smaller than it really is.

1676 *Doctrine of Devils* Ep. Rdr., Their magnifying his body into an immensity sometimes; and then again at the same time minifying him in the smallest atomes of a wafer-cake. 1834-43 SOUTHEY *Doctor* cxcvii. (1862) 524 Is man magnified or minified by considering himself as under the influence of the heavenly bodies? 1892 LOUNSBURY *Stud. Chaucer* II. v. 304 The achievements of these celebrated men were minified rather than magnified.

2. To reduce in actual size or importance; to lessen.

1866 *Contemp. Rev.* I. 91 These are powerless,—we will not say altogether to repress and eradicate these evils, but to minify them.

Hence **Mi·nified** *ppl. a.*, **Mi·nifying** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1837 J. DIXON *M'Nicoll's Wks.* Mem. D. M'Nicoll 20 It [Divine truth] is crude or well-digested,..minified or sublime, just in proportion to the qualities of his [the instructor's] mind. 1850 T. PARKER *Wks.* (1863) IV. 205, I have not seen anything very great in General Taylor, though I have diligently put my eye to the magnifying glasses of his political partizans; neither have I seen anything uncommonly mean and little in him, though I have also looked through the minifying glasses of his foes. 1906 J. ORR *Problem O. T.* viii. 266 On these [phenomena] the minifying end of the critical telescope is persistently turned.

Minik (mi·nik). Short for MINIKIN (sense 5).

1899 *N. & Q.* 9th Ser. IV. 535 *Minik.* This name is applied by match-makers to their smaller-sized wooden splints.

Minikin (mi·nikin), *sb.* and *a.* Forms: 6 **mynykyn, menekyn, -in, menyking**, 6–8 **miniken, minnekin**, 7 **mynnikin**, 7–8 **miniking**, 6–9 **minnikin, minikin**. Also 7 **minckins** (*sing.*). [ad. early mod.Du. *minneken* (MDu. *minnekijn*), f. *minne* love + *-kijn* -KIN.]

A. *sb.*

1. A playful or endearing term for a female. *Obs.* exc. *dial.* (see quot. 1879).

a 1550 *Image Ipocr.* in *Skelton's Wks.* (1843) II. 419/1 Your riche ringes,..Which your mynykyns And mynyon babbes,..When masse and all is done, Shall were at afternone. 1605 *Lond. Prodigal* III. iii. E 3 Minckins looke you doe not follow me. 1608 DAY *Hum. out of Br.* II. v, You take your parts too low, you are trebble Courtiers, and will neuer agree with these Country Mynnikins. 1618 B. HOLIDAY *Technog.* v. vi. (1630) O 3 *Melan* [to *Musica*]..Come, my little Minikin, thou and I will be play-fellowes. 1640 GLAPTHORNE *Hollander* II. C 4 b, Surely the Minikin is enamoured on me. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Minnekin* or *Minks*, a nice Dame, a mincing Lass. 1879 MISS JACKSON *Shropsh. Word-bk.*, *Minikin*, a slight, delicate, affected girl —'sich a minikin as 'er is'.

† 2. A thin string of gut used for the treble string of the lute or viol. Also *attrib.*, as *minikin string.*

1541 *Rutland MSS.* (1905) IV. 325 For ij dossen off lewte stringes callyd 'menekyns'. 1545 ASCHAM *Toxoph.* I. 2 b, In luting..a treble minikin string must alwayes be let down, but at suche time as when a man must nedes playe. 1580 *Acc. Bk. W. Wray* in *Antiquary* XXXII. 81, ij knotes of menykinges, iiij d. 1667 PEPYS *Diary* 18 Mar., Mr. Cæsar told me a pretty experiment of his, of angling with a minnikin—a gut-string varnished over. *a* 1670 HACKET *Abp. Williams* I. (1693) 147 Sir Francis Answered him with the Old Simile, That his Lordship was no good Musician, for he would peg the Minikin so high, till it crack'd. 1676 T. MACE *Musick's Mon.* 65 Be carefull to get Good Strings, which would be of three sorts, viz. Minikins, Venice-Catlins, and Lyons. 1721 C. KING *Brit. Merch.* I. 284 Lutestrings Catlings..Minikings.

b. esp. in the phrase † *to tickle (the) minikin*, to play the lute or fiddle. (Frequently used by early 17th c. dramatists, often with allusive suggestion of sense 1.)

1601 ? MARSTON *Pasquil & Kath.* I. 14 When I was a yong man and could tickle the Minikin,..I had the best stroke, the sweetest touch, but now..I am falne from the Fidle, and betooke me to thee [the Pipe]. 1608 MIDDLETON *Fam. Love* I. iii, Of which consort you two are grounds, one touches the Base, and the other tickles the minikin. 1635 [GLAPTHORNE] *Lady Mother* II. i. in Bullen *O. Pl.* II. 131 Thou dost tickle minikin as nimbly.

fig. phrase. 1606 DEKKER *News from Hell* H j b, *Perge mentiri.* Tickle the next Minkin [*sic*].

† c. *transf.* of a high-pitched voice. *Obs.*

1602 MARSTON *Ant. & Mel.* III. ii, *Cast.* Good, very good, very passing passing good. *Fel.* Fut, what trebble minikin squeaks there, ha? good? very good, very very good?

3. *transf.* and *fig.* A small or insignificant thing; a diminutive creature.

1761 COLMAN *Genius* No. II. in *Prose Sev. Occas.* (1787) I. 22 A make-weight in the scale of mortality; a minim of nature; a mannikin, not to say minnikin. 1787 *Minor* IV. viii. 232 I shan't advance a minikin beyond the truth. 1804 WOLCOT (P. Pindar) *Ep. to Ld. Mayor* Wks. 1816 IV. 278, I shall suppose, That Addington's invet'rate foes Impede this honest scheme of thine. Then take this minikin of mine. 1808 E. S. BARRETT *Miss-led General* 166 A son—a very minnikin indeed. *Ibid.* 168 *Le pauvre petit garçon*, the fiddler's minnikin.

4. A small kind of pin (cf. B. 5 below).

1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Minnekins*, the smallest sort of Pins, us'd by Women for their Clothes. 1755 in JOHNSON. 1857 MRS. MATHEWS *Tea-Table Talk* I. 235 [An] apprentice ..with haply a provident row of minikins darned with precision on his sleeve. 1881 in *Leicestersh. Gloss.*

5. (See quot.; also MINIK.)

1852-4 *Tomlinson's Cycl. Useful Arts* (1866) II. 143/1 The large [match] splints or the second size called minnikins.

6. *Typogr.* A size of type smaller than 'brilliant'.

1890 JACOBI *Printing.*

7. *Comb.*: † **minikin tickler**, a fiddler.

1607 MARSTON *What you will* IV. i, A fiddler, a scraper, a miniken tickler, a pum, pum.

B. *adj.*

1. Dainty, elegant, sprightly. Now contemptuously: Affected, mincing.

a. of a person; formerly of a girl or woman, but now applied to a person of either sex. Also in jingling combinations, *minikin-finikin, -finical.*

1573 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 20 The credite..of mistresse, to minnekin Nan. 1598 FLORIO, *Mingherlina*, a daintie lasse, a minnikin smirking wench. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* XXXIX. vi. 1026 Then came up the maner of having at bankets singing miniken wenches, and such as could play upon the dulcimers. 1696 TRYON *Misc.* IV. 121 Fare..such as the Proud Wives and Miniking Daughters would scarce offer to their .. Dogs. 1768 BICKERSTAFF *Lionel & Clarissa* I. (1781) 9 A coxcomb, a fop..A minikin, Finikin, French powder-puff. 1858 HAWTHORNE *Fr. & It. Note-bks.* II. 143, I wish I could put into..one sentence the pettiness, the minikin-finical effect of this little man. 1888 *Sheffield Gloss.*, *Minikin*, delicate, effeminate. Frequently used in the phrase, 'he's a minikin-finikin fellow'.

b. of a person's actions, attributes, etc.

1545 ASCHAM *Toxoph.* I. 10 b, The minstrelsie of lutes, pipes, harpes, and all other that standeth by suche nice, fine, minikin fingering..is farre more fitte for the womannishnesse of it to dwell in the courte among ladies. 1781 T. TWINING in *Sel. Papers Twining Fam.* (1887) 101 What have you and I to do with..the minikin duties of civility and *bienséance*? 1872 S. MOSTYN *Perplexity* I. x. 190 None of your minnikin governess-schemes for me.

Comb. 1876 BROWNING *Pacchiarotto* viii, And his voice, that out-roared Boanerges, How minikin-mildly it urges.

† 2. Of a voice: Shrill. (Cf. A. 2 c above.)

1602 MARSTON *Ant. & Mel.* v. i, I had rather haue a seruant with a short nose, and a thinne haire, then haue such a high stretcht minikin voice. 1608 SHAKS. *Lear* III. vi. 45 (Qtos. 1–2) For one blast of thy minikin mouth, thy sheepe shall take no harme.

3. Of a thing: Diminutive in size or form; miniature; tiny. Also in † *minikin name*, a pet name, endearing diminutive.

1589 R. HARVEY *Pl. Perc.* 9 Euery cut-purse vseth them [their words] at the Old Bayly, that hath had any skill in his miniken Handsaw. 1617 COLLINS *Def. Bp. Ely* II. x. 444 The Church is the better for beeing without them [*sc.* miracles], without sicke dogges healed, and lame cattes cured by your minikin-miracles, done at Minich. 1756 MRS. F. BROOKE *Old Maid* No. 34 (1764) 279 Polly Instep, the dancing-master's daughter, insists upon being called Pally, 'because (says she) ..it is the minikin name for Pallas'. 1778 [W. MARSHALL] *Minutes Agric.* 1 July an. 1775 Make it into light minikin cocks. 1784 COWPER *To the Halibut*, In thy minikin and embryo state. 1826 HOOD *Fairy Tale* i, A little house some years ago there stood, A minikin abode. 1847 *Tait's Mag.* XIV. 449 He was pervious all over, and allowed minnikin arrows..to rouse bis rage. 1851 THACKERAY *Eng. Hum.* IV. (1858) 188 They [*sc.* pastorals] are to poetry what charming little Dresden figures are to sculpture; graceful, minikin, fantastic. 1887 RUSKIN *Præterita* II. 154 In the distance..the great walnut-trees have become dots, and the farmsteads, minikin as if they were the fairy-finest of models to be packed in a box.

† 4. Used to designate some kind of baize. *Obs.*

1604 *Lismore Papers* Ser. II. (1887) I. 108, Vij yeards halfe of minikin bayste to make ye same gowne. *a* 1616 BEAUM. & FL. *Scornf. Lady* I. (1616) C 2, Steward this is as plaine as your olde minikin breeches. 1721 C. KING *Brit. Merch.* II. 306 Bays (Double or Minikin) by the same Tariff.

5. *Minikin pin* (see A. 4 above).

1742 *Phil. Trans.* XLII. 57 Minnikin Pins, or small Pins. 1843 HOOD *Drop of Gin* iii, No prospect in life worth a minnikin pin.

Hence **Mi·nikinly** *adv.*

1580 BARET *Alv.* G 30 Galantly, gaily, minikinly [1573 *reads* miniorly]. 1623 tr. *Favine's Theat. Honour* II. vi. 110, I think it a matter hard to..represent a Floure de Luce minikinly trussed, but by an excellent Painter.

Minim (mi·nim), *a.* and *sb.* Forms: 5 **mynyn, mynnym**, 6 **mynym(me, minnum**, 6–7 **minime, minum**, (6 **minnem**, 7 **minem, min(n)om, minimme, (minume)**, 6– **minim.** [ad. L. *minim-us* smallest, a superlative f. the root *min-*: see MINOR. The sb. represents various elliptical or absolute uses of the adj. in med.L. Cf. F. *minime* adj. and sb.]

A. *adj.* Smallest, extremely small. † Of a particle: Atomic. *Obs.*

a 1670 HACKET *Christian Consolat.* ii. in Heber *Taylor* (1822) I. 108 For nailing our great sins to the cross of Christ, and for acquitting us from the innumerable fry of minim sins. 1684 tr. *Bonet's Merc. Compit.* XVIII. 620/2 [Quicksilver] is a Body most exactly mixt, and its minime Parts do pertinaciously one stick to another. 1690 N. LEE *Massacre of Paris* III. ii, Fat Porcpise Bands, the Mermaids too of Honour, The Minim Pages, all the twinkling Host So fill'd, the Snare of Hell must crack to hold you. 1821 *Blackw. Mag.* VIII. 663 The savage tribes..sent forth their puny fleets Athirst for blood, and wing'd with minim sails. 1876 GEO. ELIOT *Dan. Der.* v. xxxviii, A minim mammal which you might imprison in the finger of your glove. 1876 R. BRIDGES *Growth of Love* lv, For man, a minim jot in time and space.

B. *sb.*

1. *Mus.* A symbol for a note half the value of a semibreve and double the value of a crotchet; a note of this value. Also *attrib.*, as *minim rest.*

In ancient music this note was of the shortest duration, hence its name *nota minima*; in modern music it is second in value to the semibreve. The symbol is figured with an open head, in shape round, inclining to oval (formerly lozenge-shaped), and with a tail.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 338/1 Mynyn' of songys (*Harl. MS.* 2274, *P.*, mynym), *minima.* 14.. *Proverbs* in *Antiq. Rep.* (1809) IV. 408 He maakithe so his mynnyms fro the square, that it shall sownde wronge. 1550 MARBECK *Bk. Com. Prayer noted* A ij, The iii. (note is) a prycke and is a mynymme. 1587 GOLDING *De Mornay* xii. (1617) 184 Our life is lesse than a short Minim in comparison of a whole song. 1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* II. iv. 22 He fights as you sing pricksong,..he rests his minum, one, two, and the third in your bosom. 1609 DOULAND *Ornith. Microl.* 39 A Minime is a Figure like a Sembreefe hauing a tayle, ascending or descending. 1622 PEACHAM *Compl. Gentl.* xi. (1634) 101 A minim rest. 1782 BURNEY *Hist. Mus.* II. iii. 185 A Long and a Breve..differ no more in their effect on the ear, than a Minim and Crotchet.

transf. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* VI. x. 28 Great Gloriana.. Pardon thy shepheard, mongst so many layes As he hath sung of thee..To make one minime of thy poore handmayd.

2. *Calligraphy.* A single down stroke of the pen; esp. in Court- or Secretary-hand, the short down stroke in the letters *m*, *n*, *u*, etc.; also *attrib.* † *To be in one's minims*: to be learning to write 'straight strokes'.

1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 1029 Those who when they write a running hand in haste, doe not alwaies make out the letters full, but use pricks, minims and dashes. 1607 DEKKER & WEBSTER *Westw. Hoe* II. i. She tooke her letters very suddenly: and is now in her Minoms. 1612 BRINSLEY *Lud. Lit.* 39 Striuing..to make minimes, and such like letters sharp at tops & bottoms, or iust to the proportion of their copies. 1658 COCKER *Pen's Triumph* 14 For Set Secretary...Your minums must be all alike, as the down-right stroke of the *a*, the strokes of the *i*, *m*, *n*, *u*, and the first of the *w*. 1674 JEAKE *Arith.* (1696) 293 And so increasing the Minnoms according to the Index of the Figural Number. *c* 1680 COCKER *Pens Perfection* 6 You must shape the nib of your pen to the breadth of the minum stroke. 1771 LUCKOMBE *Hist. Printing* 254 So far [IIII] they [the Romans] could easily number the miniums [*sic*] or strokes with a glance of the eye. 1890 *Collectanea* (O.H.S.) II. 290 Mr. Jacobs reads 'pointeur'. It might be read 'poniteur', there being three minims between the *o* and the *t*.

3. The least possible portion (of something), a 'jot'; in scientific use, † an atom, minute particle.

1592 NASHE *Four Lett. Confut.* (1593) 54 Canst thou exemplifie vnto mee..one minnum of the particular deuice of his play that I purloind? 1599 — *Lenten Stuffe* 28, I vary not a minnum from him. 1657 TRAPP *Comm. Ps.* ii. 12 'When his wrath is kindled but a little'. It it sometimes let out in minnums. 1662 STILLINGFL. *Orig. Sacr.* III. ii. § 16 Therefore Tully asks that question, *Cur declinet uno minimo, non declinet duobus aut tribus*? why only it declines one minime, and not two or three. 1686 GOAD *Celest. Bodies* III. ii. 440 The Red Earth may be more resolvable into Minims, than a White Chalk, or Marble. 1766 AMORY *Buncle* (1770) IV. 94 By impregnating the most generous white wine, with the minims or leasts of antimony. 1884 *Public Opinion* 5 Sept. 290/2 He has not the smallest intention of..yielding one minim of the rights and interests of Germany.

4. A creature or thing of the least size or importance. Chiefly used contemptuously of a person. *Minim of nature*, one of the smallest forms of animal life.

1590 BP. ANDREWES *Serm.* (1629) 279 They be the base people, the minims of the world. 1609 *Ev. Woman in Hum.* II. i. D 3, What will ye? heere he is, you minime. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VII. 482 At once came forth whatever creeps the ground..not all Minims of Nature; some of Serpent kinde Wondrous in length. 1679 V. ALSOP *Melius Inquirendum* II. viii. 367 The Minims of Justice ought to vail to the Magnalia of Charity. 1762 GOLDSM. *Cit. W.* CXV, With what a degree of satirical contempt must they..see..minims, the tenants of an atom, thus arrogating a partnership in the creation of universal nature! 1823 LAMB *Elia* Ser. II. *Tombs in Abbey*, These insignificant pieces of money, these minims to their sight. 1863 COWDEN CLARKE *Shaks. Char.* xii. 314 He must be a minim of a historian who confines himself to those facts only. 1873 BROWNING *Red Cott. Nt.-cap* 228 This insect on my parapet,—Look how the marvel of a minim crawls!

5. A friar belonging to the mendicant order (*Ordo Minimorum Eremitarum*) founded by St. Francis of Paula (c. 1416–1507). Also *attrib.*

1546 LANGLEY tr. *Pol. Verg.* VII. v. 142 b, The order of Minimes or lest brethren were founded by one Franciscus Paula. 1638 BAKER tr. *Balzac's Lett.* (vol. III.) 49 The Fathers of the Minimme Order. 1671 WOODHEAD *St. Teresa* II. xxxv. 232 The Fathers Minims were then come hither to found. *a* 1718 PENN *Maxims* Wks. 1726 I. 825 He [the covetous man] always looks like Lent: a sort of Lay-Minim. *a* 1774 GOLDSM. tr. *Scarron's Com. Romance* (1775) I. 124 Two Minim friars of the Trinity of the Mount ..ran to my assistance. 1885 W. W. ROBERTS *Pontif. Decrees* Introd. 53 The Minims Le Seur and Jacquier were permitted to bring out the treatise.

6. (See quot.) [In Fr. *minime* († *couleur de minime, gris de minime*, Cotgr.); according to Littré from the colour of the robe of the Minim Friars: see 5.]

1659 HOWELL *Vocab.* XXV, Minim colour; *Minimo, ô color di nocella.* 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Minim* or *Dark Minim*, a brown, tawny, or dun Colour.

† **7.** *Printing.* A certain small size of type: ? = MINION. *Obs.*

1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Minim* is also a small sort of Printing-Letter. 1818 in TOOD.

8. The smallest unit of fluid measure, about equivalent to one drop of liqnid; the sixtieth part of a fluid drachm. Also *attrib.*, as *minim-measure.*

1809 R. POWELL tr. *Pharmacopœia* (ed. 2) 3 The fluidrachm contains Sixty minims. 1890 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Minim measure*, a measure usually holding a drachm graduated into sixty parts. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 37 A minim or two of a..trinitrine solution may often be added.

Minim, variant of MENNOM, minnow.

Minimal (mi·nimăl), *a.* [f. L. *minim-us* smallest, least (see MINIM) + -AL.] Extremely minute in size; of the nature of or constituting a minimum; of a minimum amount, quantity, or degree; that is the least possible.

1666 G. HARVEY *Morb. Angl.* x. 89 Choler being set on fire, and acting upon Melancholy, or rather calcining it into small acuated minimal bodies. 1878 *Smithsonian Rep.* 367 The strength of which [elements of an electric battery] was reduced so as to produce a minimal contraction. 1891 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 17 Jan. 142/1 Without charge, save a minimal one for drugs. 1894 LISTER in *Phil. Trans.* CLXXXVI. 428 Multitudes of minute nuclei of minimal size. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 846 The minimal limit [of the field of vision] in health is 55 degrees.

† **Mi·nimate**, *v. Obs. nonce-wd.* [f. L. *minim-us* (see MINIM) + -ATE 3.] *trans.* To reduce to the smallest size.

1623 BP. ANDREWES *Serm. Nativ.* xvi. (1629) 154 When was it, that He was so *capite minutus*? Sure, never lesse, never so little, never so minorated, so *minimated*..as now.

Miniment, obs. form of MUNIMENT.

Minimeter (mini·mĭtəɹ). [f. MINIM + -METER.] 'Alsop's term for an apparatus for measuring minims' (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1890).

1855 in DUNGLISON *Med. Lex.*

Minimifidian (mi nimifi·diăn), *a.* and *sb.* [f. L. *minim-us* least + *fid-ēs* faith + -IAN.] a. *adj.* Reducing faith to a minimum. b. *sb.* One who has the least possible faith in something. Hence **Minimifi·dianism.**

1825 COLERIDGE *Aids Refl.* (1848) I. 164 Again, there is a scheme constructed on the principle of retaining the social sympathies, that attend on the name of believer, at the least possible expenditure of belief. .. And this extreme I call Minimi-fidianism. *Ibid.* 295 The Minimi-fidian party err grievously in the latter point. 1882 *Spectator* 2 Dec. 1547 Lady Bloomfield's 'supernatural' stories..are not of a kind to challenge the scrutiny of a minimifidian in pneumatology.

Miniminess. *nonce-wd.* [f. L. *minim-us* (see MINIM) + -NESS.] The condition of being very small or insignificant.

1615 BP. ANDREWES *Serm. Nativ.* x. (1629) 87 But these, though they agree well, yet none of them, so well, as this, that it [Bethlehem] was *minima*: the very *miniminesse* (as I may say) of it.

Minimism (mi·nimiz'm). [f. L. *minim-us* (see MINIM) + -ISM.]

1. *nonce-use.* Absorption in minute details.

1820 COLERIDGE in *Blackw. Mag.* VII. 630/2 Your advicemongers..whose critical minimism..might remind one of those tiny night-flies, that, as they hurry across one's book, contrive..to cover a word at a time.

2. *Theol.* The disposition to minimize the implications of an accepted dogma; the minimizing view of what is involved in a dogma, esp. that of papal infallibility.

1874 J. H. NEWMAN *Cert. Diffic. Anglic.* (1876) 339 Such a tone of mind [*sc.* a generous loyalty towards ecclesiastical authority] has a claim..to be met and to be handled with a wise and gentle *minimism*. 1884 W. PALMER *Narr. Events* Suppl. iv. 278 The doctrine of Minimism, adopted by Newman from Bishop Fessler..gives liberty to the theologian to examine whether the Papal decree on any given point is or is not infallible.

† **Minimistic** (minimi·stik), *a.* [f. L. *minim-us* (see MINIM) + -ISTIC.] Characterized by or of the nature of MINIMISM 2.

1897 *19th Cent.* July 100 Seeing how very far the ancient ..Church..was from accepting alien orders on the minimistic principles for which anglicans contend.

Minimite (mi·niməit). [f. MINIM (sense 5) + -ITE.] A friar belonging to the order of Minims. In quot. *attrib.*

1879 *Encycl. Brit.* IX. 695/1 The building of a chapel in 1436 is generally considered as marking the first beginning of the Minimite order.

Minimization (mi·niməizē·ʃən). [f. MINIMIZE *v.* + -ATION.] The action of reducing to, or estimating at, the least possible amount or degree.

1802 BENTHAM *Princ. Judic. Procedure* Wks. 1843 II. 9 How to unite the maximization of redress for the injured in the character of pursuers, with the minimization of hardship..in the character of defendants. 1830 — *Offic. Apt. Maximized* Pref. 9 Maximization of official aptitude, and minimization of official expense. 1889 *Sat. Rev.* 9 Feb. 167/2 Dr. Struthers's minimization of sea-sickness.

Minimize (mi·niməiz), *v.* [f. L. *minimus* (see MINIM) + -IZE.]

1. *trans.* a. To rednce to the smallest possible amount, extent, or degree. b. To estimate at the smallest possible amount.

1802 BENTHAM *Princ. Judic. Procedure* Wks. 1843 II. 8 The adjective branch..may be said to have two specific ends: the one positive, maximizing the execution and effect given to the substantive branch: the other negative, minimizing the evil [etc.]. 1825 — *Offic. Apt. Maximized, Observ. Peel's Sp.* (1830) 27 You may maximize attendance, and you may minimize it. 1882 J. H. BLUNT *Ref. Ch. Eng.* II. 413 The vestments of the clergy were to be minimized. 1884 *Chr. World* 28 Aug. 649/5 Let no one think..Jesus ever minimised the exceeding sinfulness of sin. 1888 BRYCE *Amer. Commw.* II. xliii. 124 Other causes were at work to mitigate and minimise their evils.

2. *intr.* To take the most moderate view possible of what is implied by an accepted dogma.

1875, 1898 [see MAXIMIZE *v.* 2].

Hence **Mi·nimized** *ppl. a.*; **Mi·nimizing** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1868 J. H. BLUNT *Ref. Ch. Eng.* I. 90 Comparing the original design for Christ Church with its minimized execution. 1874 J. H. NEWMAN *Cert. Diffic. Anglic.* (1876) 332 That principle of minimizing so necessary..for a wise and cautious theology. 1875 GLADSTONE *Vaticanism* 51 Dr. Newman and the minimising divines. 1878 — *Glean.* (1879) I. 112 We are now..witnessing the expansion of the minimised demands of the Conference. 1906 *Athenæum* 3 Mar. 264/1 We cannot support his minimizing of Froude's inaccuracy.

Minimizer (mi·niməizəɹ). [f. MINIMIZE *v.* + -ER 1.] One who minimizes. Chiefly in *Theol.*

1867 *Union Rev.* V. 361 Anglicans in 1866, see numbers of those who went over in the interval stigmatised as 'minimisers'. 1874 J. H. NEWMAN *Cert. Diffic. Anglic.* (1876) 321 A few years ago it was the fashion among us to call writers, who conformed to this rule of the Church, by the name of 'Minimizers'. 1880 LITTLEDALE *Plain Reas.* lxxxix. 162 The two parties..are now called *Maximizers* and *Minimizers*; the Maximizers pushing the dogma of Infallibility to its furthest possible extent..; the Minimizers endeavouring to reduce within the narrowest limits so dangerous a proposition.

Minimum (mi·nimŭm), *sb.* and *a. Pl.* **minima** (mi·nimă); 7–8 *errou.* minimaes, minima's. [a. L. *minimum*, neut. of *minimus* least, smallest: see MINIM.] A. *sb.*

† **1.** *Nat. Philos.* The smallest portion into which matter is divisible; an atom. Also, the hypothetical smallest possible portion of time or space. *Obs.*

1663 HARVEY *Archæol. Philos. Nova* II. I. vi. 29 For minima's are indivisibles, otherwise they could not be *minima*. *Ibid.* 30 There is a *minimum* and *maximum* in all natural bodies. *Ibid.* vii. 32 Neither are we to imagine, that God did create all the *minima's* of the world, before he united them to one Mass. 1691 RAY *Creation* I. (1692) 19 Why do they [atoms] decline the least interval that may be, and not a greater? Why not two or three *minima* as well as one? 1739 HUME *Hum. Nat.* I. ii. § 1 (1888) 27 The imagination reaches a *minimum*, and may raise up to itself an idea, of which it cannot conceive any sub-division. *Ibid.*, Because they are remov'd beyond that distance, at which their impressions were reduc'd to a *minimum*, and were incapable of any farther diminution.

† **b.** A creature of the smallest size. *Obs. rare*$^{-1}$.

1796 *Mod. Gulliver* 25 Architecture must have been a science earlily studied by these minimæs of mankind.

2. The least amount attainable, allowable, usual, etc. Also in the phrase *to reduce to a minimum.*

1676 W. ROW *Contn. Blair's Autobiog.* xii. (1848) 390 That was the minimum that was to be required of every intrant. 1740, 1806 [see MAXIMUM 2]. 1823 BENTHAM *Not Paul* 128 Of the length of this interval three years is the minimum. 1857 MRS. CARLYLE *Lett.* II. 323 The maximum of bother to arrive at the minimum of comfort. 1861 SMILES *Engineers* II. 217 Means should be provided..to reduce the recoil of the waves to a *minimum*. 1863 GEO. ELIOT *Romola* xlvi, The minimum of time had been given him for decision. 1871 TYNDALL *Fragm. Sci.* (1879) I. i. 20 Her motion, and consequently her *vis viva*, is then a minimum. 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 29 Jan. 11/3 About 60 per cent. of the parcels which we [barge-owners] carry are what is known as minimums of twenty tons. 1903 H. B. SWETE in *Expositor* June 412 There must be at least two disciples acting in Christian fellowship. .. But this *minimum* is assured of Christ's presence no less than the largest congregation.

‖ **3.** *Psychol.* In mod. Latin phrases *minimum audibile, sensibile, tangibile, visibile* (see quots.).

1709 BERKELEY *Th. Vision* § 54 There is a *Minimum Tangibile*, and a *Minimum Visibile*, beyond which Sense cannot perceive. 1836-7 SIR W. HAMILTON *Metaph.* xviii. (1859) I. 350 The *minimum visibile* is the smallest expanse ..which can consciously affect us,—which we can be conscious of seeing. *Ibid.*, In this sense [of hearing], there is, in like manner, a *Minimum Audibile*, that is, a sound the least which can come into perception and consciousness. 1874 J. SULLY *Sensation & Intuition* 45 Impressions of sound and light,..which approached very closely the *minimum sensibile.*

4. *Math.* = *minimum value*: see B. below.

1743 EMERSON *Fluxions* 123 When a Quantity is required to be the greatest or least possible, under certain Conditions, it is called a Maximum or Minimum. 1807 HUTTON *Course Math.* II. 304 Others again decrease continually; and so have no minimum... But, on the other hand, some.. decrease to a certain finite magnitude, called their Minimum, or least state...And lastly, some quantities have several maxima and minima.

5. The lowest amount or degree of variation (of temperature, a spectrum, etc.) attained or recorded.

1823 J. MITCHELL *Dict. Math. & Phys. Sci.* 512/1 On increase of temperature, the spirit [in the thermometer] goes forward and leaves the index, which therefore shows the minimum of temperature since it was set. 1831 BREWSTER *Optics* vii. 73 The two *Minima* of each of the three primary spectra coincide at the two extremities of the solar spectrum. 1860 MAURY *Phys. Geog. Sea* (Low) vii. § 348 At the same hours, the needle attains the maxima and minima of its diurnal variations. 1894 W. L. DALLAS in *Indian Meteorol. Mem.* VI. 2 The heat given out by the sun goes through a cycle which reaches..its minimum at the time of minimum sunspots.

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *minimum period*; **minimum thermometer**, one which records automatically the lowest point to which the temperature has fallen since its last adjustment.

1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. xvi. 113 A minimum-thermometer. 1868 [see MAXIMUM 5 b].

B. *adj.* [The sb. used appositively.] That is a minimum; that is the lowest attainable, allowable, usual, etc. *Minimum value* (of a function) *Math.*, its value when it ceases to decrease and begins to increase, as the value of the variable changes continuously.

1810 BENTHAM *Packing* (1821) 44 But this is the minimum rate. 1845 STOCQUELER *Handbk. Brit. India* (1854) 301 Its minimum height from the sea is 900 feet. 1885 WATSON & BURBURY *Math. Th. Electr. & Magn.* I. 19 [It] has a minimum value when [etc.]. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 849 The rule is to begin with a minimum dose. 1904 *Daily News* 25 Feb. 12/3 Parliament..has enacted that a minimum number of trains with a minimum mileage shall be run.

Minimus (mi·nimŭs), *sb.* and *a.* Pl. **minimi** (mi·nimai). [a. L. *minimus*: see MINIM.] A. *sb.*

1. A creature of the smallest size; a small or insignificant creature.

1590 Shaks. *Mids. N.* III. ii. 329 Get you gone you dwarfe, You *minimus*. 1879 G. Macdonald *Sir Gibbie* I. xx. 273 An evil cloud of anger at the presumption of the unknown minimus [*sc.* 'a tiny ragged urchin'] began to gather. *Ibid.* III. v. 83 Mr. Sclater beheld only the minimus which the reversed telescope of his own enlarged importance..made of him.

2. 'The fifth or smallest digit of the hand or foot' (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1890).

1881 Mivart *Cat* iv. 99 The fifth [toe, or digit, of the fore-paw] is the *minimus*, or little digit.

3. *Numism.* (See quot.)

1852 T. Wright *Celt, Roman, & Saxon* xiv. 430 On many Roman sites..are found very small coins in brass...These coins from their diminutive size, are termed by numismatists *minimi*, and are supposed to have been struck during the period between the abandonment of the island by the imperial government and the establishment of the Saxon kingdoms.

4. *Path.* Short for *lupus minimus*, the least virulent form of Lupus. In quot. *attrib.*

1889 J. M. Duncan *Dis. Women* xxv. 205 But there are other cases where, without inflammation, and generally in minimus cases, the sensitiveness is extreme.

B. *adj.* In some schools, appended to a surname to designate the youngest (in age or standing) of three or four boys having the same surname. Abbreviated *min.* or *mini.* (Cf. Minor A. 7 b.)

1791 in *Eton School Lists* (1863), Langford *mi.*..Langford *min.* 1808 *List of Eton Coll.*, Cookson *mi.* Cookson *mini.* 1852 Rowcroft *Conf. Etonian* I. 72 The boys at Eton are not known by their Christian names, and when there are more than one bearing the same surname,..the individuals are distinguished by the addition of maximus, major, minor, and minimus. 1891 Blew *Vyner's Not. Venat.* (1892) Pref. 8 Musters minimus. 1899 E. Phillpotts *Human Boy* 101 Corkey minimus.

Mining (mǝi·nin), *vbl. sb.* [f. Mine *v.* + -ing 1.]

1. The action of the verb Mine in various senses.

1523 Ld. Berners *Froiss.* I. ccli. 372 They coude nat geat it by no assaute, nor none other wayes at their ease, without it were by mynynge. 1579-80 North *Plutarch, Camillus* (1595) 145 Now when his mining fell out according to his good hope, he gaue an assaulte to the walles. 1645 Milton *Tetrach.* Wks. 1851 IV. 257 St. Paul having thus clear'd himselfe, not to goe about the mining of our Christian liberty. 1764 Grainger *Sugar Cane* iv. 305 They..'melt with minings of the hectic fire'. 1776 Adam Smith *W. N.* I. xi. (1869) I. 181 Mining..is considered..as a lottery. 1845 Darwin *Voy. Nat.* xii. (1879) 258 The rage for mining has left scarcely a spot in Chile unexamined.

b. with qualifying word prefixed, as *gold-, lead-, tin-mining*; *placer-, vein-mining*; *hydraulic-mining*, etc., for which see those words.

†2. *concr.* A (military) mine. *Obs.*

1598 Barret *Theor. Warres* 136 Pioners to make trenches, Rampiers, Minings.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *mining-camp, -district, -lamp, -speculation, -statute, -tool, -town, -township* (Austral.), *-work*; **mining-hole**, a hole bored to receive a blasting-charge in mining; **mining-ship**, one that carries and lays down submarine mines in naval warfare.

1555 Eden *Decades* 49 All maner of dygginge or myninge tooles. 1633 T. James *Voy.* 69 Wee continued our myning worke. 1824 R. Stuart *Hist. Steam Engine* 121 The failure of some of the great mining speculations. 1838 *Murray's Handbk. N. Germany* 421 The mining district of the Erzgebirge. 1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 852 The ore..was attacked by a single man, who bored a mining hole. 1890 'R. Boldrewood' *Col. Reformer* (1891) 283 The mining township of Turonia. 1893 *Dublin Rev.* July 652 The most perfect combination of mining-lamp and fire-damp indicator yet produced. 1902 Eliz. L. Banks *Newspaper Girl* 87 The mining towns of Lancashire and Yorkshire. 1905 *Westm. Gaz.* 28 Jan. 2/2 If the Russians took mines out ten miles from the shore in a mining-ship and laid them there.

Mining (mǝi·nin), *ppl. a.* [f. Mine *v.* + -ing 2.] That mines, in the senses of the verb.

1561 Norton & Sackv. *Gorboduc* I. ii. (1590) B iiij b, That myning fraude shall finde no way to creepe, Into their fenced eares. *a* 1639 Wotton in *Relig.* (1651) 526 The mining Conies shroud in rockie Cels. 1816 Byron *Ch. Har.* III. xciv, The..Rhone..whose mining depths so intervene, That they can meet no more.

†Minio·grapher. *Obs.*—° [f. L. *mini-um* (see Minium) + *-ographer*. Cf. med.L. *miniografare* (Du Cange).] (See quot.) So **†Minio·graphy.**

1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Miniographer*..he that paints or writes with Vermilion, or any red colour. 1727 Bailey vol. II, *Miniography*, a writing with Vermilion.

Minion (mi·nyǝn), *sb.*[1] and *a.* Forms: 6-7 **minyon, mynyon**(e, **mynion, mineon**, 6 **mynny**(e)**on, mygnyon, mynon, mignyon**, *Sc.* **moyn3eoun, mun3**(e)**oun, min3eo**(u)**n, myn3on, -3eoun**, 7 **minnion**, (**minione**), 7-8 **mignion**, 7-9 **mignon**, 6- **minion**. [a. F. *mignon* (also fem. *mignonne*) sb. and adj.

The ultimate etymology is disputed; according to some the word is a derivative of OHG. *minnja, minna* love; others refer it to Celtic *min-* small.]

A. *sb.*

1. A beloved object, darling, favourite.

a. A lover or lady-love. Chiefly, and in later use exclusively with contemptuous or opprobrious sense, a mistress or paramour. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1500-20 Dunbar *Poems* lxxv. 52 Quod scho, 'Now tak me be the hand,..My chirrie and my maikles mun3oun'. 1548 Latimer *Ploughers* B iiij b, They pastyme in their prelacies ..with theyr daunsyng minyons. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* II. ii. 37 A mincing mineon, Who in her loosenesse tooke exceeding ioy. 1597 J. Payne *Royal Exch.* 27 Sum gay professors (kepinge secret minions) do love there wynes..to avoyde shame. *a* 1677 Barrow *Serm.* Wks. 1716 I. 250 What will not a fond lover undertake..for his minion although she be..the worst enemy he can have? 1815 Byron *Parisina* x, The minion of his father's bride,—He, too, is fetter'd by her side.

b. One specially favoured or beloved; a dearest friend, a favourite child, servant, or animal; the 'idol' of a people, a community, etc. Often *fig.*, as in *minion of fortune*. Now only in contemptuous sense.

1566 Painter *Pal. Pleas.* I. 44 One of his dearest frends named Araspas which was..the very minion, playe felow and companion of Cyrus from his youth. 1581 Pettie *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* III. (1586) 150 b, I cannot abide the folly of some fathers who make some one of their children their darling and minion. 1596 Shaks. *1 Hen. IV*, I. i. 83 A Sonne..Who is sweet Fortunes Minion, and her Pride. *Ibid.* ii. 30 Gentlemen of the Shade. Minions of the Moone. *c* 1626 *Dick of Devon* I. ii. in Bullen *O. Pl.* II. 13 That wonder of the land and the Seas minyon, Drake, of eternall memory. *a* 1627 Hayward *Edw. VI* (1630) 17 For enterprises by armes, he was the Minion of that time, so as few things he attempted, but he atchieued with honour. *a* 1631 Donne *Serm.* cxv. Wks. 1839 V. 24 John the minion of Christ upon earth. 1735 Somerville *Chase* III. 125 That pamper'd Steed, his Master's Joy, His Minion, and his daily Care. 1753 Hanway *Trav.* (1762) I. vii. xc. 411 His disinterested practice,..and his great charity to the poor, render him the minion of the people. 1859 Macaulay *Pitt* Biog. (1860) 176 Pitt was..the minion, the child, the spoiled child of the House of Commons. 1865 Dickens *Mut. Fr.* II. vii, All offered up sacrifices to the minion of fortune and the worm of the hour!

c. *esp.* A favourite of a sovereign, prince, or other great person; *esp.* opprobriously, one who owes everything to his patron's favour, and is ready to purchase its continuance by base compliances, a 'creature'.

1501 Douglas *Pal. Hon.* III. lx, The kingis min3eoun roundand in his eir, Hecht Veritie. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. IV*, 7 b, Item the same kyng put oute divers shrives lawefully elected and put in their romes divers other of his owne minions. *a* 1593 Marlowe *Edw. II* (1598) B 3, The king is loue-sicke for his minion. *a* 1635 Naunton *Fragm. Reg.* (Arb.) 16 Her Ministers and Instruments of State.. were many,..but they were onely Favourites, not Minions. 1639 G. Daniel *Vervic.* 147 The fall Of Mignion Somerset. 1726 Swift *Gulliver* IV. x, I had no Occasion of bribing, flattering, or pimping, to procure the Favour of any great Man, or of his Minion. 1828 D'Israeli *Chas. I*, II. vii. 162 The portrait of Buckingham is usually viewed in the caricature of a royal minion. 1888 Bryce *Amer. Commw.* II. lxiii. 455 It is no wonder if he helps himself from the city treasury and allows his minions to do so.

d. *transf.* applied to things.

a 1640 Day *Peregr. Schol.* (1881) 65 Violets, roses, and lillies, and like mineons and darlings of the springe. 1699 South *Serm.* (1842) III. 54 That one [thing] which is the sole minion of their fancy and the idol of their affections. 1793 Coleridge *Songs of Pixies* iii, When noontide's fiery-tressed minion Flashes the fervid ray.

e. As a form of address: †(*a*) endearingly = darling, dear one (*obs.*); (*b*) contemptuously = hussy, jade; servile creature, slave.

1560 Rollano *Crt. Venus* I. 194 Myn3eoun, quhairfoir do ze sustene Sic displesure in hert be countenance. *a* 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* II. (1598) 163 b, Minion said she (indeed I was a pretie one in those daies though I say it) I see a number of lads that loue you. 1591 Shaks. *Two Gent.* I. ii. 92 You (Minion) are too saucie. 1600 Heywood *2nd Pt. Edw. IV*, P 2 b, Come away minion you shall prate no more. 1825 Scott *Betrothed* vi, 'Go hence, thou saucy minion', said the monk. 1835 Lytton *Rienzi* II. iii, Peace, minion! draw back!

†2. A gallant, an exquisite. *Obs.*

1547 Boorde *Introd. Knowl.* i. (1870) 117, I wyll get a garment, shal reche to my tayle; Than I am a minion, for I were the new gyse.

†3. A small kind of ordnance (see quot. 1644).

1547 in *Archæologia* LI. 262 Gonnes of Brasse..Culverynes vj^{x}. Sacres vj^{x}. Mynnyons x^{xx}. 1587 Harrison *England* II. xvi. (1877) I. 281 Minion poiseth eleauen hundred pounds, and hath three inches and a quarter within the mouth. 1644 Whitelock *Memorials* (1853) I. 273 They lost five drakes, a minion, and two leather guns. 1644 Nye *Gunnery* (1670) 77 Minions of the largest size, are three inches and a quarter Diameter in the mouth...The ordinary Minion, the mouth 3 inches high. 1894 C. N. Robinson *Brit. Fleet* 217 Sakers (5-pounders) and minions (4-pounders) were mounted on skids.

4. a. A kind of peach, in full *minion peach*. [=F. *pêche mignonne*.] b. A small kind of lettuce.

1699 Evelyn *Kal. Hort.*, Aug. (ed. 9) 100 Minion Peach. *Ibid.* 170 Peaches and Nectarins..Maudlin, Mignon. 1706 London & Wise *Retir'd Gard.* I. viii. 37 [Peaches.] The Minion is very large, but not so round as long. 1707 Mortimer *Husb.* (1721) II. 148 Of this sort there are two others, viz. George Lettices..and the Minion which is the least sort. 1766 *Compl. Farmer* s. v. *Peach-tree*, The French mignon; this is a most excellent melting peach.

5. *Printing.* (In full *minion type* or *letter*.) The name of a type intermediate in size between 'nonpareil' and 'brevier'. [So F. *mignonne* (*mignone*, Fournier *Man. Typogr.* 1766).]

1659 Howell *Vocab.* li, Letters of all sorts, as..Non-paril, Minion, Breviere [etc.]. 1770 [Luckombe] *Hist. Printing* 152 (Specimens of Printing Types) Minion. 1824 J. Johnson *Typogr.* II. 83 Why this letter was denominated Minion, we have not yet been informed. 1865 M. Pattison *Ess.* (1889) I. 72 A pocket Greek Testament in mignon letters. 1894 D. C. Murray *Making of Novelist* 19 Three columns of leaded minion.

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.*: a. (sense 1) as *minion maintainer; minion-guided* adj.; *minion-like* adv. (Cf. also B. 1.)

1599 *Broughton's Let.* v. 17 An whoremaster and a minion maintainer. 1605 Camden *Rem.* 18 Hitherto will our sparkefull Youth laugh at their great grandfathers English, who had more care to do well, than to speake minion-like. 1612 Drayton *Poly-olb.* xvii. 23 That with the fern-crown'd Flood he [the Wey] minion-like doth play. 1773 *Gentl. Mag.* XLIII. 455 Third Henry's feeble minion-guided rule.

†b. (sense 3), as *minion-bore, gun*; **minion drake**, some kind of small cannon; **minion proof** *a.*, proof against miaion shot; **minion shot**, shot used with a minion, also, the range of a minion. *Obs.*

1633 Winthrop *New Eng.* (1853) I. 148 A vessel..to be minion proof, and the upper deck musket proof. 1647 Clarendon *Hist. Reb.* VI. § 248 Two small iron minion-drakes (all the artillery they had). 1648 — *St. Papers* II. 415 The Vice-Admirals..were within minion shot one of the other. *a* 1661 Fuller *Worthies, Cornw.* (1662) I. 212 Two small Mynion-Drakes..were planted on a little Barrough witbin Randome-shot of the Enemy. 1699 Dampier *Voy.* II. 144 He had 2 or 3 small brass Guns of a Minion bore. 1727 A. Hamilton *New Acc. E. Ind.* I. xxx. 374 [I] had eight minion Guns to scour the Sands.

B. *adj.* Now *rare*. (Cf. Mignon *a.*)

1. Dainty, elegant, fine, pretty, neat. a. of a person, his actions, attributes, etc.

15.. *Songs Costume* (Percy Soc.) 58 Off servyng men I wyll begyne...For they goo mynyon trym. 1529 Frith *Antithesis* 100 b, Some enter [the fold] thorow their curious singinge and minyon dawnsinge. 1530 *Songs* in *Anglia* XII. 591, I shal deck your mynyon face that yt shal shyne in euery place. 1542 Udall *Erasm. Apoph.* 125 A young ruffleer trymmyng hymselfe after ye moste galaunte and mynion facion. *Ibid.* 189 b, A passyng faire damysel, beeyng a mynion dooer in syngyng. *a* 1553 — *Royster D.* (Arb.) 86 Who so to marry a minion Wyfe, Hath hadde good chaunce and happe. 1579 Puttenham *Partheniades* xi, O migbtye Muse, The mignionst mayde of mounte Parnasse. 1605 Camden *Rem.* 28, I may be charged by the minion refiners of English, neither to write State-English, Court-English, nor Secretarie-English. 1718 Rowe tr. *Lucan* I. 313 In silken Robes the minion Men appear, Which Maids and youthful Brides shou'd blush to wear. 1864 Tennyson *Aylmer's F.* 533 My lady;—who made..A downward crescent of her minion mouth.

b. of a thing, an animal.

1528 *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, I. 307 His Hynes lykythe youre mynyon howse so well, that [etc.]. 1543 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) VI. 175 To my lorde of Northfolke a mynyon geldinge. *a* 1552 Leland *Itin.* V. 123 Wreshil a very fayre and mynion Castle. 1581 J. Bell *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 264 What shall he regarde the lofty grace of Cicero?..or his mynion deuises and toyes?

2. Dearly loved, favourite, pet. (Cf. F. *péché mignon*, one's 'darling sin'.)

a 1716 South *Serm.* (1823) III. 257 A secret love to some base minion lust. *Ibid.* VI. 167 When the tempter shall dress up any beloved minion sin. *a* 1849 H. Coleridge *Ess.* (1851) I. 89 They will have some pet production, some favourite passage, some minion thought.

Minion (mi·nyǝn), *sb.*[2] [a. F. *minion* (Cotgr.), f. L. *minium*.]

†1. = Minium. *Obs.*

1621 Burton *Anat. Mel.* III. ii. III. iii. (1651) 477 Let them paint their faces with minion and cerusse. 1654 R. Codrington tr. *Iustine* xliv. 517 The Countrie doth abound with Lead, and Brass, and with Minion also. *Ibid.* xliv. 514.

2. Calcined iron ore, 'used with lime as a watercement' (Ogilvie 1850).

1793 Smeaton *Edystone L.* § 213 What I used was the siftings of the iron stone, after calcination at the iron furnaces..This material, among the furnace men in these parts, is called *Minion*. *Ibid.* § 214 *Minion*, or iron stone burnt. 1873 *Weale's Dict. Terms, Minion*, the siftings of iron-stone after calcination at the iron-furnaces.

†Mi·nion, *v. Obs. rare.* [f. Minion *sb.*[1]] *trans.* To treat as a minion; to caress. Implied in †Mi·nioning *vbl. sb.*

1604 Marston *Malcontent* IV. i, Sooner hard steele will melt with Southerne wind..Then women vow'd to blushlesse impudence, With sweet behauiour and soft minioning, Will turne from that where appetite is fixt.

Minion, var. *munnion*, obs. f. Mullion.

†Mi·nionate, *a. Obs. rare*—[1]. In 5 **mynyonat.** [f. Minion *a.* + -ate.] = Minion *a.* 1.

c 1495 *Epitaffe*, etc. in *Skelton's Wks.* (1843) II. 391 Ladyes, damosels, mynyonat and gorgayse.

Minionette (minyǝne·t), *sb. U.S. Printing.* [f. Minion *sb.*[1] + -ette.] (See quot.)

1871 *Ringwalt's Amer. Encycl. Printing, Minionette*, a very small size of type, used chiefly in small ornamental borders.

†Minione·tte, *a. Obs. rare*—[1]. [ad. F. *mignonnette* fem. adj., after Minion *a.*] Small and pretty.

1749 H. Walpole *Lett.* (1857) II. 163 His minionette face.

Minionism (mi·nyǝniz'm). [f. Minion *sb.*[1] and *a.* + -ism.] †a. The quality of being 'minion'; a manifestation of this quality (*obs.*). b. Partiality for a minion or favourite. *rare*—[1].

1611 Florio, *Mignardaggine*, minionisme, wantonnesse. *Mignardigie*, mignardises, minionismes. 1611 Cotgr., *Mignonneté*, minionisme, quaintnesse, trimnesse, delicacie, sprucenesse, featnesse, finesse. 1818 Coleridge in *Lit.*

Rem. (1838) III. 198 Yet how many points..must be brought together before we can fairly solve the intensity of James's minionism, his Kingly egotism [etc.].

† Mi·nionize, *v. Obs. rare.* [f. MINION *sb.*[1] + -IZE.] a. *trans.* To raise to the position of a minion; hence †Minio·nized *ppl. a.* b. *intr.* (See quot. 1604.)

1604 R. CAWDREY *Table Alph., Mignionise*, play the wanton. 1609 J. DAVIES *Holy Roode* 1 j b, His Minions..Whom, of base Groomes, his Grace did Minnionize. 1616 [T. G.] *Rich Cabinet* 3 b, Anger, made Great Alexander..kill his minionized friend Clytus.

† Mi·nionly, *adv. Obs.* [f. MINION *sb.*[1] and *a.* + -LY 2.] In a 'minion' manner; delicately, elegantly.

1539 TAVERNER *Erasm. Prov.* (1545) 100 At Athens he wolde..liue mynionly and elegantly. 1633 J. DONE *Hist. Septuagint* 171 A house..very stately and minionly decked and trimmed.

† Mi·nionness. *Obs. rare*[−1]. [f. MINION *sb.*[1] + -NESS.] The condition or behaviour of a minion.

a 1533 LD. BERNERS *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) R j, He muste suffre hir nice myniionnesse [orig. Sp. *sus regalos*], for euery faire woman will passe hir life in plesure.

† Mi·nionship. *Obs. rare*[−1]. [f. MINION *sb.*[1] + -SHIP.] The position of a minion or favourite.

c 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* I. i. xvii, The Favourit Luines strengthneth himself more and more in his minionship.

† Mi·nious, *a. Obs. rare*[−1]. [f. L. *minium* MINIUM + -OUS.] Of the colour of minium, red.

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* VI. ix. 320 They which hold the [Red] Sea receiveth a red and minious tincture from springs..that fall into it. [Whence 1656 in Blount; and in later Dicts.]

Minise, obs. form of MINISH.

Minish (mi·niʃ), *v.* Now only *arch.* Forms: 4–5 menus(e, (4 mynus(c)h, menus(c)h, *Sc.* menes, myniss, 5 menuze), 4–6 mynyssh(e, 5 minussh, (minys, minise, -issh, mynes(ch, mynuyssh, mynyss), 5–6 mynys, 6 mynish(e, (-issh, -essh, -usshe, myn(n)yshe), minishe, -issh(e), mynysch(e, *Sc.* menis(che, 6–minish. [ad. OF. *menusier, menuisier* = Pr. *menuzar*, It. *minuzzare*:—vulgar Latin **minūtiāre*, f. *minūt-us* MINUTE *a.* Cf. MINCE *v.*]

1. *trans.* To make fewer in number or less in size; to make less in amount or degree; to reduce in power, influence, etc. (rarely † const. *of*).

c 1375 [see MINISHING *vbl. sb.*]. 1382 WYCLIF *Wisd.* xi. 8 Whan thei weren mynusht [Vulg. *minuerentur*]..thou 3eue to them abundende water. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Pars. T.* P 303 (Cambr. MS.) Ek 3if he withdrawe or menuse the almesse of the poore. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 31, I remevid þis stone in þe feld, to þe entent þat I wolde enlarge myne awn ground & mynys oþer mens ground. 1465 *Paston Lett.* II. 175 And yff they wold wyrke ayenst me to minussh my power. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* I. Prol. 371 Latyne wordis..That in our leid ganand translatioun hes nane, Les than we menis thar sentence and grauite. 1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* cvi[i]. 39 When they are minished & brought lowe thorow oppression. 1538 STARKEY *England* I. i. 14 Vertues..be no les vertues, nor mynyschyd of theyr excellency, by any such frantyke fansy. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. V* 46 b, His armie by sickenesse was sore minished and appaired. 1614 JACKSON *Creed* III. xxi. § 18 The testimonies of the Law and Propbesies, serued as a light..to minish the terrors of the night. 1826 SCOTT *Woodst.* iii, I may come to trouble, since it may be thought I have minished their numbers. 1848 LOWELL *Biglow P.* Poems 1890 II. 68, I would not..minish by a tittle the respect due to the Magistrate.

absol. 1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* (Percy Soc.) 111 She [Nature] werketh upon all wonderly, Bothe for to minysshe and to multeply.

b. To break up *into* (powder, parts).

1382 WYCLIF 2 *Kings* xxiii. 15 And that heeȝ auter he.. mynuschede in to poudre. 1851 LANDOR *Popery* 33 Our kingdom is minished into parts and parcels.

† c. To reduce (a coin) by clipping or sweating. *Obs. rare.* Cf. DIMINISH *v.* 1 b.

1622 [see MINISHED *ppl. a.*].

2. To remove, withdraw (a portion *of* or *from* something).

c 1483 CAXTON *Chaucer's Cant. T., Proheme*, I had made it accordyng to my copye and by me was nothyng added ne mynusshyd. 1525 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) V. 207 Shall mynysche noe part of yere. 1581 W. STAFFORD *Exam. Compl.* i. (1876) 19 We are forced, either to minishe the third part of our householde, or to raise the thirde part of our reuenewes. 1860 PUSEY *Min. Proph.* 342 What they minish from the measure, that they add to the wrath of God.

b. *absol.*

c 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 3 Not presumand to put to His lawe, ne to minys þerfro. ? 1421 *Lett. Marg. Anjou & Bp. Beckington* (Camden) 28 And ever to have libertee to adde and minise chaunge and amende. 1506 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 108 Myn executours shall mynysshe as they thynke accordyng to conciens. 1526 TINDALE *Rev.* xxii. 19 And yf eny man shall mynnyshe of the wordes off the boke of this prophesy.

3. To decry the importance or worth of; to depreciate, belittle.

1402 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 53 Thi baffyng, lye thou never so lowde, may not menuse this seint [Wyclif]. *Ibid.* 85 Thou assentist thi silf in tresoun, menusynge the kyngis majeste. 1866 J. B. ROSE tr. *Ovid's Metam.* 136 Vaunted the Titan deeds, and minished those Of the great gods.

4. *intr.* To become less in quantity, number, size, power, etc.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* IV. vii. (1495) 90 As fatnesse wexyth the blode mynysshyth. 1494 FABYAN *Chron.* v. cxviii. 94 Careticus..prouyd the strengthe of his enemyes, and sawe yᵗ they increasyd, and his knyghtis lassed and mynysshed. 1511–12 *Act* 3 *Hen. VIII*, c. 3 Preamble, Archerie..is right litell used but dayly mynessheth decayth and abateth. 1535 COVERDALE 2 *Sam.* iii. 1 But Dauid wente and increased, and the house of Saul wente and mynished. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* III. 539 Quhilk causit science to grow..And vice to menische ilk da les and les. 1901 HENLEY *Hawthorn & Lavender* 7 The sovran sun, As he goes southing, weakening, minishing, Almighty in obedience.

Hence **Mi·nished** *ppl. a.* Also **Mi·nisher.**

1564 BECON *Wks.* Pref. A v, He is not Episcopus, but Aposcopus, not a Minister, but a Minisher. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. xi. 43 The paw yett missed not his minisht might. 1622 BACON *Hen. VII* 215 In making all clipped, minished, or impaired Coines of Siluer, not to bee currant in payments.

Minishing (mi·niʃiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [-ING 1.] The action of the verb MINISH, in various senses.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxxvii. (*Vincencius*) 184, & þare-fore wil nocht ony wyse þou to my loy mak lessing, na to my reward menesinge. 1485 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 338/2 Savyng only to the abatement, discharge, mynesyng, and relesyng of the Fee Ferme of the said Towne. 1513 MORE *Rich. III* in Stow *Ann.* (1592) 743 Inticing him to many things highly redounding to the minishing of his honour. 1551 TURNER *Herbal* I. Prol. A iij b, Euery man..will become a Phisician, to the hynderaunce and minishyng of the study of liberall artes. 1651 R. CHILD in *Hartlib's Legacy* (1655) 137 The dulling and minishing of the Spirit. 1860 DORA GREENWELL *Patience of Hope* 18 [It] has set the ideals of Christ and Humanity so far apart, that the wealth of the one can only be attained through the minishing of the other.

† Mi·nishment. *Obs.* [f. MINISH *v.* + -MENT.] The action or process of lessening; diminution.

1533 MORE *Debell. Salem.* Wks. 967/2 If you fynde..that the putting away of that lawe, be better..for this lande without the minishment of the fayth in the same. 1577–87 HOLINSHED *Chron.* III. 1140/1 That the castell with all.. munitions of warre, should be wholie rendred without wasting, hiding, or minishment thereof. 1664 ATKYNS *Orig. Printing* 9 That they shall keep all the Lands, Honours, and Dignities..whole, without any manner of minishment.

Minisse, -issh, obs. ff. MENACE, MINISH.

† Ministe·llo. *Obs.* [f. MINISTER + It. dim. suffix *-ello.*] A petty minister.

1659 GAUDEN *Tears of Ch.* II. xiv. 194 Consider, I beseech you, what pitifull Ministellos, what pigmy Presbyters,..this Nation in after-ages is like to have if [etc.].

Minister (mi·nistəɹ), *sb.* Forms: 3–6 ministre, 4 minystre, mynystyr, mynystere, mynistere, minster, 4–6 mynyster, -ister, -istre, 5 minstre, mynestre, -ter, mynstre, minestre, mynnyster, *Sc.* mynistir, 4– minister. [a. OF. *menestre, ministre*, a. L. *minister* servant, f. **minis-*, *minus* less, parallel in formation to the correlative *magister* MASTER *sb.*, f. *magis* more. Cf. Sp., Pg., It. *ministro*, G. *minister*.]

† **1.** A servant, attendant. *Obs.*

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxii. (*Laurentius*) 121 Fadyr, quhare gais þu bot minsteris? *a* 1500 *Chaucer's Dreme* 2132 With ladyes, knightes, and squieres, And a grete ost of ministeres, With instrumentes and sounes diverse. 1513 BRADSHAW *St. Werburge* I. 1728 The mynysters were redy theyr offyce to fulfyll To take vp the tables at theyr lordes wyll. 1572 SIR T. SMITH in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. III. 15 Scarcely the ministers cowld have rowme to bring the meate or the drinck to the table. 1611 BIBLE 2 *Kings* vi. 15 When the servant [*marg.* minister] of the man of God was risen early. 1612 WOODALL *Surg. Mate* Wks. (1653) 406 Let the Surgeon have at hand at the least two or three ministers or servants besides himself, to assist him in the work. 1781 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xxxi. III. 206 A multitude of cooks, and inferior ministers, employed in the service of the kitchens.

b. One who waits upon, or ministers to the wants of another. *arch.*

1818 BYRON *Ch. Har.* IV. clxxvii, Oh! that the Desert were my dwelling-place, With one fair Spirit for my minister. 1868 FITZGERALD tr. *Omar* lv, And lose your fingers in the tresses of The Cypress-slender Minister of Wine.

2. One who acts under the authority of another; one who carries out executive duties as the agent or representative of a superior. Now *rare.*

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 301/65 Godes ministres aungles beoth, seint Michel and oþere mo. *c* 1327 *Rolls of Parlt.* II. 430 His writings and other goods, &c., arrested by the King's ministers. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 61 Pride..hath with him in special Ministres five ful diverse, Of whiche,..The ferste is seid Ypocrisie. *c* 1412 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 2535 If þe ministres do naght but instice To poore peple, in contre as þei go, Thogh þe Kyng be vniust, yit is his vice Hid to þe peple. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) II. 339 Iosue, the minister of Moyses, rewlede the peple of Israel. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 139 b, The goostly ennemy our olde aduersary & all his mynysters put to flyght & confusyon. 1535 COVERDALE *Rom.* xiii. 6 He is the minister of God for thy wealth. *c* 1586 C'TESS PEMBROKE *Ps.* CIII. xii, Spirits of might,..You ministers that willing work his will..His praise extoll. 1593 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. VI*, v. ii. 34 O Warre, thou sonne of hell, Whom angry heauens do make their minister. 1628 COKE *On Litt.* 147 The Kings Baily should be but his Minister to distreine for his rent. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* v. 460 His wary speech Thus to th' Empyreal Minister he fram'd. 1681–6 J. SCOTT *Chr. Life* (1747) III. 314 The first and supreme Minister by which Christ rules his Kingdom is the Holy Ghost. 1750 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 81 P 6 The community, of which the magistrate is only the minister.

b. Const. *of*: One who is employed by another to carry into effect (a purpose or intention) or to convey (a gift, etc.). Also *transf.* of things. *Obs.* exc. as coloured by religious use.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Serm.* Sel. Wks. I. 18 Jesus Crist dide more miracle, and bad hise disciples serve þe puple at þe mete, to teche us þat we ben mynystris and not autouris of miracle. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Can. Yeom. Prol. & T.* 747 Al to symple is my tonge to pronounce As Ministre of my wit, the doublenesse Of this Chanon. 1580 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 354 Philautus determined, hab, nab, to sende his letters,..and ..he thus beganne to frame the minister of his loue. 1593 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. VI*, III. i. 355 For a minister of my intent, I haue seduc'd a head-strong Kentishman. 1720 OZELL tr. *Vertot's Rom. Rep.* II. XII. 215 Catiline..had been the Minister of the Cruelties of Sylla. 1722 WOLLASTON *Relig. Nat.* ix. 186 Why doth the scene of thinking lie in our heads, and all the ministers of sensation make their reports to something there. 1784 COWPER *Task* v. 816 Those fair ministers of light to man That fill the skies. 1866 LIDDON *Bampton Lect.* vi. (1875) 321 The Angels are ministers of the Divine Will.

† c. An officer entrusted with the administration of the law, or attached to a court of justice. *Obs.*

c 1386 CHAUCER *Nun's Pr. T.* 223, I crye out on the Ministres quod he That sholden kepe and reulen this Citee. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 149 Vndurshreuys, or oþer ballyfs or mynysters what-so-euer they be. 1483 *Anc. Cal. Rec. Dublin* (1889) I. 303 The clerkys and mynnysters of the courte of Tolsyll. 1526 TINDALE *Matt.* v. 25 Lest..the iudge delivre the to the minister. 1538 STARKEY *England* I. iii. 83 Gud mynystrys of justyce are to few. 1723 *Royal Proclam.* in *Lond. Gaz.* No. 6135/3 Before the next Magistrate or Minister of Justice.

† d. An officer subordinate to another, an underling. *Obs.*

1442 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 54/2 Custumers..have diverse persones to be here Clerkes, Deputees and Ministres in here seide Offices. 1601 LD. MOUNTJOY in *Moryson's Itin.* II. (1617) 174 It grieveth me to see her Majesty so ill served in her Musters,..for all the Ministers in that kind, are but ciphers or false numbers. 1602 *Ibid.* 256 Errours of subordinate Ministers in these matters of accompts and reckonings. 1625 GLANVILLE *Voy. Cadiz* (1883) 29 The Captaine is to give them [his superior's commands] in charge to all other officers and ministers in the shipp.

3. A high officer of state. a. A person appointed by the chief of a state to act for him in a particular department of government; one entrusted with the administration of a department of state; a minister or secretary of state, as *minister* † *at* (now *for, of*) *war, minister for foreign affairs*, etc. † *First minister*, the same as *Prime minister*. † *Premier, prime minister*, see the adjs.

In plural often without article = the Ministry, the members of the Government.

1625 BACON *Ess., Envy* (Arb.) 516 This publique Enuy, seemeth to beat chiefly, vpon principall Officers, or Ministers, rather then vpon Kings and Estates themselues. 1696 PHILLIPS, *Minister* of State, is one upon whom a Prince reposes the Administration of his Kingdom. 1741 *Lords' Protest* in Morley *Walpole* vii. (1889) 163 We are persuaded that a sole, or even a First Minister, is an officer unknown to the law of Britain. 1745 HAROWICKE in G. Harris *Life* (1847) II. 109, *Chancellor*.. Your Ministers, sir, are only your instruments of government. *King*—(*smiles*)—Ministers are the King, in this country. 1795 ANNA SEWARD *Lett.* (1811) IV. 140, I blame ministers for such an evident waste of English blood and treasure. 1803 LD. MELVILLE in Morley *Walpole* vii. (1889) 162 That power must rest in the person generally called the First Minister, and that minister ought, he [*sc.* Pitt] thinks, to be the person at the head of the finances. 1805 JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1850) IV. 45 That there is only one minister who is not opposed to me, is totally unfounded. 1836 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Tales* ii, Well, Brogson, what do Ministers mean to do? Will they go out or what? 1838 GREVILLE *Mem.* II. (1885) I. 87 In the first place the Colonial Minister should have made some arrangement [etc.]. 1843 BORROW *Bible in Spain* xiii, Isturitz became head of the cabinet, Galiano minister of marine, and a certain Duke of Rivas minister of the interior. 1868 M. E. G. DUFF *Pol. Surv.* 16 The King..immediately dismissed his Ministers. 1877 D. M. WALLACE *Russia* (ed. 2) I. 315 The Procureur..is directly subordinated to the Minister of Justice. *Ibid.* 322 The Minister for Foreign Affairs explained that [etc.].

b. A political agent accredited by one sovereign state to another; an envoy from one country to another charged with the duty of protecting and furthering the interests of the state by which he is accredited.

1709 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4547/1 He received the compliments of the Foreign Ministers residing here. 1711 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 5 Dec., The Elector of Hanover's Minister here has given in a violent memorial against the peace. 1789 *Const. U. S.* ii. § 3 The president..shall receive ambassadors and other public ministers. 1860 MALMESBURY *Mem. Ex-Minister* (1884) II. 234 In consequence of this violent act of invading Romagna, Louis Napoleon has recalled his Minister from Turin, leaving a *chargé d'affaires*. 1880 W. CORY *Mod. Eng. Hist.* I. 158 *note*, The term Minister is applied..to an envoy residing in a foreign capital.

4. Ecclesiastical and religious uses.

a. In Pre-Reformation English, applied to a person in orders officially charged with some function in the celebration of worship in a particular church, chapel, chantry, etc. In the rubrics of the Book of Common Prayer the word denotes the clergyman, or any of a number of clergymen, engaged in conducting worship on a particular occasion.

c 1315 SHOREHAM I. 1539 3ef her nys suiche mynystre non, þys temple stent iuere. 1482 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 209/2 The noumbre of ministres daily servyng Almyghty God in the seid Chapell. 1501 in *Bury Wills* (Camden) 89, I beqwethe to the vicars and to the chawntery prestys..to eche of them vj. *d.* and to mynysters and quieresteres after the rate. 1549 *Bk. Com. Prayer, Communion*, Then shall this generall confession bee made, in the name of all those that are minded to receyue the holy Communion, eyther by one of them, or els by one of the ministers, or by the Prieste hymselfe. 1662 *Ibid.*, When all have communicated, the Minister shall return to the Lord's Table..Then shall the Priest say the Lord's Prayer.

b. In phrases such as *minister of the church, of the gospel*, and the scriptural phrases *minister of God, of Jesus Christ, of the sanctuary*, applied as general designations for a person officially charged with spiritual functions in the Christian Church. Hence from the 16th c. onwards (after the example of foreign Protestant, esp. Calvinistic, use) employed *absol.* in the same sense, at first chiefly by those who objected to the terms *priest* and *clergyman* as implying erroneous views of the nature of the sacred office. The use of *minister* as the designation of an Anglican clergyman (formerly extensively current, sometimes with more specific application to a beneficed clergyman) has latterly become rare, and is now chiefly associated with Low Church views; but it is still the ordinary appellation of one appointed to spiritual office in any non-episcopal communion, esp. of one having a pastoral charge. The term *minister of religion*, as applied to a 'clergyman' or 'minister' of any religious denomination, is common in official use.

Minister's man: in Scotland, a man who acts as personal servant to a parish minister, and is employed by him in various offices connected with the church and parish.

1340 *Ayenb.* 236 Þe gerdel huermide þe ministres of holy cherche ssolle ham gerde ope þe lenden is chastete. 1485 Caxton *Chas. Gt.* 196 The bysshop wyth other mynystres of the chyrche dyd halowe the fonte. 1560–1 Machyn *Diary* (Camden) 249 Parson Veron the Frenche man dyd pryche ther, for he was parson ther, and ys menyster. 1583 Stubbes *Anat. Abuses* II. (1882) 106 Such [names] as at anie hande a Minister of the Gospell ought not to bee called by. 1590 *Articles agst. Cartwright* in Fuller *Ch. Hist.* IX. vii. 198 We do object..against him, that he, being a Minister (at least a Deacon) lawfully called, ..hath forsaken, ..and renounced the same orders Ecclesiastical. *Ibid.* 199 The manner of Ordination of Bishops, Ministers and Deacons. 1609 B. Jonson *Sil. Wom.* II. v, Get me a minister presently, with a soft low voice to marry vs. 1641 J. Trappe *Theol. Theol.* 253 A Minister, if any man, had need to bee godly. 1678 Wanley *Wond. Lit. World* v. iii. § 8. 474/1 Sixtus [I]..ordered that holy things and vessels should be touched by none but Ministers. 1698 J. Collier *Immor. Stage* 137 To make the Ministers of Religion less upon the score of their Function, would be a Penalty on the Gospel. 1704 Nelson *Fest. & Fasts* II. iii. (1705) 395 Bishops..only have Authority to send Ministers into the Lord's Vineyard. 1722 De Foe *Relig. Courtsh.* i. 13 Ministers are but Men. 1726 Ayliffe *Parergon* 71 Tho' the word Minister sometimes denotes an Office, as that of a Priest or Deacon; and sometimes it is put for a Rector of a Parish. 1727 Swift *What passed in London* Wks. 1755 III. i. 187 The like might be observed in all sorts of ministers though not of the church of England. 1813–15 *Proc. Ch. Miss. Soc.* IV. 338 The minister of the Gospel ought not to be left alone among a heathen people. 1833 *Tracts for Times* No. 11. 12 The minister of the Independent chapel. 1837 Lockhart *Scott* vii. (1839) 48/1 Macdonald.. then officiated as minister to a small congregation of Episcopalian nonconformists. 1867 Geo. Eliot in Cross *Life* III. 5 Renan's appearance is something between the Catholic priest and the dissenting minister. 1901 *Scotsman* 29 Mar. 6/8 Everyone .. was .. familiar with the duties which a minister's man had to perform.

Comb. 1589 R. Harvey *Pl. Perc.* (1590) 17 How dare these fellowes aspire to further authoritie in Minister-making.

c. Applied to non-Christian religious functionaries. *Obs.* exc. *occas.* with reference to Jews.

c 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) xix. 87 Þe mynisters þat kepez þat ilk mawmet. *Ibid.* xxxiv. 153 Þe prestez and ministres of ydoles er obedient to him. 1582 N. Lichefield tr. *Castanheda's Conq. E. Ind.* I. vii. 18 A white Moore which was a Minister of the Moores of Mousambicke. 1687 A. Lovell tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* II. 164 One of their Ministers goes along with the Man that carries the Child; and when they are come to the River-side the Minister says these words [etc.]. 1770 Langhorne *Plutarch* (1879) I. 166/2 The priests and ministers of the gods.

d. The title of the superior of certain religious orders; also *minister general.* In the Society of Jesus, each of the five assistants of the general.

1450 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 195/2 Nicholas, nowe Maistir or Minister of the ordre of Seynt Gilbert of Sempyngham. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* II. 289 Thomas Rimour in to the Faile [*sc.* monastery] was than, With the mynystir, quhilk was a worthi man. 1727–41 Chambers *Cycl.* s. v., Minister is also the title which certain religious orders give to their superior. In this sense we say, the *minister* of the Mathurins, or Trinitarians. *Minister*, among the Jesuits, is the second superior of each house. The general of the Cordeliers order is also called the *minister general.* 1884 *Catholic Dict.* (1885) 580/1 *Minister*, among the Franciscans and Capuchins the head of the order is the minister-general. ..Again, the general of the Society of Jesus has five assistants, called ministers, who are elected by the general congregation.

†e. An assistant clergyman, curate (an application of sense 2 d). *Obs.*

1624 in *Ripon Ch. Acts* (Surtees) 364 To Mr. Thompson, my minister at Dighton, 40 s. To Mr. Beilbe, now vicar of Pately Bridge, which was my minister at Dightonn, one whole suite of my workeday apparell.

†5. *Law.* An executor of a will; an administrator of an estate. *Obs.*

1433 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 472/1 That he be not..greved by the Kyng, nor his heirs, nor his Ministres in tyme to come. 1463 in *Somerset Medieval Wills* (1901) 197 My trieu executors, feoffees and ministers, as they wille answere afore God. 1546 in *Trans. Cumb. & Westm. Archæol. Soc.* X. 26, I gif to Godfray muncastor j quy by the Discrecion of my mynistour.

†6. One who administers (medicine). *Obs.*

1559 Morwyng *Evonym.* Advert., Without any great profit to the pacient or worship to the minister, because their medicines are negligently prepared.

7. *U.S.* The catfish, *Amiurus nebulosus.*

[From sense 4 b: see quot.]

1872 Schele de Vere *Americanisms* 382 A species [of the Catfish] is known also as *Mudpout*,..and irreverently, from its black color perhaps, as *Minister*.

Minister (mi·nistəɹ), *v.* Forms: see prec. sb. [a. OF. *ministrer*, ad. L. *ministrāre*, f. *minister* Minister *sb.* Cf. Sp., Pg. *ministrar*, It. *ministrare*.]

I. Transitive uses.

†1. To serve (food or drink). *Obs.*

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 644 Abraham..Mynystred mete byfore þo men þat myȝtes alweldez. 1426 Lydg. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 3286 Off that foode..He Gaff to etyn to hem alle Thys newe mete most vnkouth, Mynystryng yt in-to ther mouth. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* lxx. 322 (Harl. MS.) Euery day he mynystrid to þe Emperour of drynke. 1662 H. Stubbe *Ind. Nectar* ii. 10 Chocolatte..which they minister in great cups of above a pint.

2. To furnish, supply, impart (something necessary or helpful. Now only (*arch.* or *literary*) with immaterial object.

c 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 377 Bi occasion of grace of god mynystred to eny creature. 1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 119 His Monthe assigned ek also Is Averil, which of his schoures Ministreth weie unto the floures. *c* 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) vii. 23 þai bafe na moisture bot þat þe forsaid ryuer ministers. *c* 1450 *Mirour Saluacioun* 4206 To whame so salutere techinges he mynystres so freely. 1517 Torkington *Pilgr.* (1884) 40 The lyght ys ther mynystred by many lampes. 1533 P'cess Mary in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. I. II. 30 Ye thereyn shulde mynestre unto me veraye acceptable pleasor. 1535 *Goodly Primer* (1834) 33 He tbat doth minister house, license, place, time, or help, to the works of this abominable lust. 1553 Eden *Treat. Newe Ind.* (Arb.) 33 The sea also ministred vnto them great abundaunce of shelfishe. 1605 Bacon *Adv. Learn.* I. vi. § 16 They minister a singuler helpe and preservative against vnbeleefe and error. 1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* (1614) 90 How great a quantity soeuer [*sc.* of glassie sand] is by ships carried thence, is supplied by the Winds, which minister new sands. 1653 H. Cogan tr. *Pinto's Trav.* lxxix. 320 We were thus ministring matter for the company to laugh at us. 1742 Young *Nt. Th.* VIII. 598 Wisdom,..Was meant to minister, and not to mar, Imperial pleasure. 1862 Stanley *Jew. Ch.* (1877) I. xvi. 317 The story..was able to minister true consolation. *a* 1872 Maurice *Friendship Bks.* iii. (1874) 83 The wisdom and consolation which it [learning] ministered to the common wayfarer.

†b. To communicate, make known. *Obs.*

1535–6 *Act* 27 *Hen. VIII*, c. 63 (Deputy's oath) Yf any defaulte ye fynde therein ye shall mynyster and shewe it unto theym.

†c. To prompt, suggest. In quot. *absol. Obs.*

1603 Shaks. *Meas. for M.* IV. v. 6 Sometimes you doe blench from this to that As cause doth minister.

†3. To dispense, administer (a sacrament, the 'elements' or the like). *Obs.*

c 1400 *Lay Folks Mass Bk.* App. iii. 123 To ministre þis moste worschipeful sacramente. 1510–20 *Everyman* 742 Thou mynystres all the sacramentes seuen. 1549 *Bk. Com. Prayer, Commun.* 118 b, As yᵉ prist ministreth the Sacrament of the body, so shal he [*sc.* the deacon]..minister yᵉ Sacrament of the bloud. 1637 *Sc. Prayer Bk., Confirmation* (Rubric), It was ordained that confirmation should be ministred to them that were of perfect age. 1816 J. Wilson *City of Plague* III. i. 197 'Tis but two nights ago I thither went To minister the sacrament.

4. To apply or administer (something healing); also *absol.* and *fig.* ? *Obs.*

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* VII. lix. (1495) 275 Agaynst the Canker men shall mynistre medycynes whyche brennen and frete the deed flesshe. 1426 Lydg. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 1540 For they mynystre ther oynement To boystously, & no thing soffte. 1484 Caxton *Fables of Poge* x, [He] mynistyred alwey his pylles to euery man that came to hym for ony remedy. 1542–3 *Act* 34 & 35 *Hen. VIII*, c. 8 An Acte that persones being no comen Surgeons maie mynistre medicines owtwarde. 1590 Barrough *Meth. Physick* I. v. (1639) 8 If the patient be any thing costive, you may minister this decoction. 1619 Fletcher *M. Thomas* III. i, Such a Physicke May chance to find the humour: be not long Lady, For we must minister within this halfe houre. 1680 Otway *Orphan* I. i, As calmly as the wounded Patient bears The Artist's hand that Ministers his Cure.

†5. To execute or dispense (justice, law); to administer (punishment). *Obs.*

1454 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 239/2 After the cours of lawe to mynystre justice. 1467–8 *Ibid.* 622/2 This Londe was full naked and bareyn of Justice, the Peas not kepte, nor Lawes duely mynystred within the same. *c* 1550 Bale *K. Johan* (Camden) 52 Her custome ys to mynyster ponyshment To kynges and princes beyng dyssobedyent. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. II. 169 Justice and æquitie he ministerit amang his awne wᵗ gret commendatione.

†6. *Law.* To administer (an interrogatory, oath or the like). *Obs.*

1425 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 271/1, I ynne his name, shall answer to ye boke last mynystred by ye partie of my Lord Mareschall, and synglerly to each article yrof. *a* 1541 Wyatt *Defence* Wks. (1861) p. xxx, What they mean by denying of this: minister interrogatories. Let them have such thirty-eight as were ministered unto me. 1562 *Act* 5 *Eliz.* c. 1 § 5 Every Archebushopp..shall have full power..to tender and minister the Othe. *a* 1631 Donne *Serm.* viii. 84 Is he not thy Father? is an Interrogatory ministered by Moses. 1722 De Foe *Plague* (1756) 46 To minister unto them Oaths for the Performance of their Offices.

†7. To guide, direct, manage (affairs, etc.). *Obs.*

c 1374 Chaucer *Boeth.* III. met. vi. 61 (Camb. MS.) On allone is fadyr of thynges. On allone mynystreth alle thinges. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 391 And 3itt þai claymen so ferforþli þes tiþis, þat no man lawfully may wiþ-holde hem or minystre hem save þai. 1492 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 323 They that ony maters shall have in courte to be mynstred. 1540–1 Elyot *Image Gov.* (1549) 104 A counsaile, wherby the affaires of the citee..shoulde be ruled and ministred.

†b. To execute the duties of (an office). *Obs.*

1542 Udall *Erasm. Apoph.* 284 b, That he bad in suche wyse executed & ministred yᵉ office of a capitaine that [etc.].

II. Intransitive uses.

8. To serve, wait at table; to attend to the comfort or wants of another; to render aid or tendance. Const. *to*, *unto*, †*for* (a person, his wants); also † *dat.* of person.

c 1380 *Antecrist* in Todd 3 *Treat. Wyclif* 124 He þat mynystriþ me folowe he me seiþ Crist. 1382 Wyclif *Luke* xxii. 27 Forwhi who is the more, he that restith, other he that mynistrith? 1388 — *Isa.* lx. 10 The kyngis of hem schulen mynystre to thee. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl.* C. xix. 97 Maidenes and marteres ministred hym her in erthe. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) II. 353 The peple of Israel ministrede [orig. *servivit*] to Eglon the fatte kynge of Moab. 1509 Fisher *Funeral Serm. C'tess Richmond* Wks. (1876) 297 In theyr sykenes.. mynystrynge vnto them with her owne handes. 1611 Bible *Mark* x. 45 The Sonne of man came not to bee ministred vnto, but to minister. 1667 Milton *P. L.* v. 444 Mean while at Table Eve Ministerd naked. 1732 Law *Serious C.* v. (ed. 2) 69 To assist, protect, and minister for them who shall be heirs of Salvation. 1816 J. Wilson *City of Plague* II. iv. 131 For these three months, Hath she been ministering at the dying bed. 1866 G. Macdonald *Ann. Q. Neighb.* xvii. (1878) 342 Add to your kindness this day, by letting my wife and me minister to you.

9. To serve or officiate in worship; to act as a minister of the Church.

c 1330 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 80 Þei ordeynd a couent, to ministre in þat kirke. *c* 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 11 If minstris of þe kirke wele not frely minster to hem þat þei [schuld ?] frely minster to, not but if mony or oþer þing be ȝeuen to hem. 1521 Bp. Longland in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. III. I. 252, I mynystred as my weykenes wold serve, in pontificalibus. 1563–83 Foxe *A. & M.* II. 1613/2 Such Byshops as Minister not, but Lord it. 1672–5 Comber *Comp. Temple* (1702) 53 While he that Ministred repeated this Office, all present were to joyn with him. 1710 Prideaux *Orig. Tithes* ii. 86 Who then Ministred in holy things. 1855 Milman *Lat. Chr.* (1864) XIV. vi. IX. 213 The Tentons..were compelled to possess one qualification, the power of ministering in that Latin Service.

10. To be helpful or serviceable; also, to be conducive, contribute *to* something.

1696 Whiston *Theory Earth* IV. (1722) 332 The Waters.. were so dispos'd as to minister to his Necessities. 1711–12 Smalridge 12 *Serm.* (1717) 343 Fasting is not Absolutely.. Good, but Relatively, and as it ministers to Other Virtues. 1831 Lytton *Godolphin* 3, I ministered to their amusement. 1850 McCosh *Div. Govt.* II. i. (1874) 137 The useful..ministers to the love of the beautiful.

Hence **Mi·nistered** *ppl. a.*

c 1425 *Found. St. Bartholomew's* (E.E.T.S.) 31 Plenty of mynystryd grace from God.

Minister, obs. form of Minster.

Ministerial (mi·nistī·riăl), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. F. *ministériel*, ad. med.L. *ministeriālis*, f. L. *ministerium* Ministry. But the word appears to have been generally apprehended as a direct derivative of Minister *sb.*, and this view of the etymology has influenced the sense.] A. *adj.*

1. Pertaining to, or entrusted with, the execution of the law, or of the commands of a superior; pertaining to or possessing delegated executive authority.

Ministerial act: an act which is a necessary part of a person's official duty, or which is required by law in a given state of circumstances, so that the agent is exempt from responsibility for its propriety or consequences.

1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* (1592) 836 And there is also one sort of power which is free and absolute, and another sort of power which is limited, which is also called ministeriall. 1647 N. Bacon *Disc. Govt. Eng.* I. xxiii. (1739) 41 He was partly ministerial, and partly judicial. *a* 1680 Butler *Rem.* (1759) II. 104 He is but subordinate and ministerial to his Wife, who commands in chief. 1765 Blackstone *Comm.* I. 427 There is yet a fourth species of servants, if they may be so called, being rather in a superior, a ministerial, capacity; such as stewards, factors, and bailiffs. 1824 J. Marshall *Const. Opin.* (1839) 325 The warrant of a ministerial officer may authorize the collection of these penalties, &c. 1846 McCulloch *Acc. Brit. Empire* (1854) II. 221 The ministerial or executive duties of the sheriff are multifarious. 1863 H. Cox *Institit.* I. vii. 92 He ..puts questions to the vote, .. and performs various functions of a ministerial character.

2. Concerned as a subordinate agent, or as an instrument or means; subsidiary; instrumental.

1607 Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) Pref., As Life is the Ministerial Governor and Mover in this World, so is Learning the Ministerial Governor and Mover in Life. *a* 1619 Fotherby *Atheom.* I. xi. § 4 (1622) 118 The most abiect and ministeriall parts of his body. *Ibid.* II. i. § 8. 186 Inferior and ministeriall Arts. 1665 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* (1677) 238 Cyrus .. with Harpagus .. were ministerial together in the subduing Astyages. *a* 1674 Clarendon *Hist. Reb.* XIII. § 7 The States of Holland thought they had merited much in suffering their ships to transport him, and so being ministerial to his greatness. 1713 Derham *Phys.-Theol.* IV. xi. 195 From the Teeth, the grand Instruments of Mastication, let us proceed to the other Ministerial Parts. 1840 De Quincey *Rhetoric* Wks. 1859 XI. 29 We may admit arts of style and ornamental composition as the ministerial part of rhetoric. *a* 1859 — *Conversat.* Wks. 1860 XIV. 167 In speaking above of conversation, we have fixed our view on those uses of conversation which are ministerial to intellectual culture. *a* 1871 Grote *Eth. Fragm.* V. (1876) 136

The supreme, or architectonic, ends, are superior in eligibility to the subordinate, or ministerial.

3. Pertaining to the office, function, or character of a minister of religion.

1561 T. NORTON *Calvin's Inst.* IV. vi. 34 There may be vnder hym [Christ] an other ministerial hed (as they terme it) that may be his vicegerent in earth. 1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* v. lxxvii. § 2 Ministeriall power is a marke of separation, because it seuereth them that haue it from other men. 1653 MILTON *Hirelings* Wks. 1851 V. 347 It will not be deni'd that in the Gospel there be but two ministerial Degrees, Presbyters and Deacons. *a* 1716 BLACKALL *Wks.* (1723) I. 199 Not that 'tis lawful for any Man to invade the ministerial Office, who is not call'd and ordain'd thereto. 1894 H. GARDENER *Unoff. Patriot* 65 The exigencies of his ministerial life had so far made it necessary for him to leave the plantation but twice.

4. Of or pertaining to a minister of state; of or belonging to or having relations with a public minister or ministry; siding with or supporting the Ministry as against the Opposition.

1655 DIGGES *Compl. Ambass.* Pref., The cheif ministerial parts lay upon Burleigh and Walsingham. 1735–8 BOLINGBROKE *On Parties* Ded. 21 There are Persons, who take to Themselves the Title of ministerial Writers. *Ibid.* 8 They who could never brook a Regal, will have the Merit of saving their Country from the Danger of a Ministerial Tyranny. 1747 H. WALPOLE *Lett.* (1846) II. 200 My connexions with anything ministerial are as little as possible. 1830 LD. VALLETORT in *Hansard's Parl. Deb.* XXIV. 1233 Those who sat on the Ministerial side of the House. 1850 HT. MARTINEAU *Hist. Peace* v. i. (1877) III. 183 Parliament was to be dissolved on the first ministerial reverse. 1863 H. COX *Institit.* III. viii. 723 The supreme ministerial authority is delegated by the Crown to a Secretary of State. 1889 *Daily News* 14 May 3/3 Ministerial cries of 'Oh,' and cheers from the Irish members.

B. *sb.*

†1. *pl.* Subsidiary provisions. *Obs.*

1647 TRAPP *Comm. Matt.* v. 18 The ministerials of this law shall pass away together with this life.

2. *Hist.* An executive household officer under the feudal system. (Cf. Du Cange s.v. *Ministeriales.*)

1818 HALLAM *Mid. Ages* (1872) I. 182 Prelates and barons, who surrounded themselves with household officers called ministerials. 1849 KEMBLE *Saxons in Eng.* II. viii. 391 They [the clergy] were called upon to take their place with other landowners, lords, or ministerials in the popular councils.

Ministerialism (mĭnĭstĭ·rĭălĭz'm). [f. prec. + -ISM.]

1. Partisanship of the ministry in power.

1830 *Fraser's Mag.* II. 258 His unbending ministerialism ..cut him off from Whig sympathy. 1873 *Daily News* 28 July 4/7 An exaggerated Ministerialism is ill met by an exaggerated sectarianism.

2. The ideas and conduct characteristic of a minister of religion.

1884 FULLERTON in *Sword & Trowel* July 342 There are scores of men whose sole ambition seems to be to sink their manliness in ministerialism.

Ministe·rialist. [f. MINISTERIAL *a.* + -IST.] A supporter of the Ministry in office.

1793 BURKE *Policy of Allies* Wks. VII. 152 *note*, This was the language of the ministerialists. 1820 W. IRVING in *Life & Lett.* (1864) I. xxvii. 455 The visitors are men of different politics, though most frequently ministerialists. 1882 *Times* 24 Oct. 9 Those Ministerialists who are not in office themselves.

Mi·nisteria·lity, *nonce-wd.* [f. MINISTERIAL *a.* + -ITY.] The quality or fact of being ministerial.

1858 DE QUINCEY *Language* Wks. IX. 95 It is a capital error, under the idea of its ministeriality, to undervalue this great organ of the advancing intellect.

Ministerially (mĭnĭstĭ·rĭălĭ), *adv.* [f. MINISTERIAL *a.* + -LY 2.] In a ministerial manner or capacity; as a minister (in any sense of the word).

1601 DEACON & WALKER *Spirits & Divels* 145 The husbandman (by applying and mixing wheat with earth,) may ministerially be saide to bring foorth the said wheat. 1652 GAULE *Magastrom.* 207 Whether the good angels can do miracles? Ministerially and instrumentally they may, but not principally and authoritatively. 1752 J. GILL *Trinity* ii. 38 The angel of the Lord..spoke in his own name, and not ministerially in his who sent him. 1848 C. A. JOHNS *Week at Lizard* 201 My informant was called on to visit ministerially one of the..persons..,then..lying on his deathbed. 1885 *Law Times* 11 Apr. 421/1 [He] must have been acting judicially and ministerially.

Ministe·rialness. *rare.* [f. MINISTERIAL *a.* + -NESS.] The quality of being ministerial.

1836 PUSEY in Liddon, etc. *Life* (1893) I. xvii. 401 The Ministerialness of the act consists in that it has pleased God that the absolution should be conveyed through a minister.

Ministerie, obs. form of MINISTRY.

Ministering (mĭnĭstərĭŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. MINISTER *v.* + -ING 1.] The action of the verb MINISTER; ministration, administration.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 437 Prests shulden have betere ordre in minstryng of sacraments. 1530 PALSGR. 583/1, I heale one by mynystrynge of medycines to hym, *je medicine.* 1611 BIBLE *Rom.* xii. 7 Or ministery, let vs wait, on our ministring. 1824 LAMB *Elia* Ser. II. *Capt. Jackson*, The anxious ministerings about you. 1901 *Macm. Mag.* Apr. 412/2 The Church of Ireland clergy as a rule do a deal of ministering to the Roman Catholic sick and poor.

attrib. 1535 COVERDALE 1 *Chron.* x. 28 Some of them had the ouersight of the mynistrynge vessell. 1566 (*title*) A briefe discourse against the ontwarde apparrell and ministring garments of the Popishe church.

Ministering (mĭnĭstərĭŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. MINISTER *v.* + -ING 2.] That ministers or serves; serving as a subordinate agent; performing helpful services; administering, officiating.

1535 COVERDALE *Heb.* i. 14 Are they [*sc.* Angels] not all mynistrynge spretes? 1654 JER. TAYLOR *Real Pres.* 71 The Greek Church universally taught that the Consecration was made by the prayers of the ministring man. 1764 FOOTE *Mayor of G.* I. Wks. 1799 I. 162 Is it your Worship's will that I lend a ministring hand to the maim'd? 1808 SCOTT *Marm.* VI. 30 O Woman!..When pain and anguish wring the brow, A ministering angel thou! 1886 A. WEIR *Hist. Basis Mod. Eur.* (1889) 27 Though despotic, [both monarchs] were conscious of the ministering nature of their office.

‖ **Ministerium** (mĭnĭstē·rĭŭm). *Eccl.* [L.: see MINISTRY.]

1. (See quot.)

1858 *Direct. Angl.* 233 *Ministerium*, the Epistle corner of the altar. So called from the Sacred Ministers preparing the chalice, &c., there when the elements are removed from the credence.

2. The body of ordained ministers of the Lutheran church in any district, charged with the ruling of the congregation and the selection of candidates for clerical preferment.

1881 *Philad. Record* No. 3457. 1 In to-day's session of the Lutheran Ministerium a report on Muhlenberg College showed [etc.]. 1882–3 *Schaff's Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* III. 2126 Schmuker, S. S..was admitted into the ministry by the Lutheran Ministerium of Pennsylvania in 1820.

Ministership (mĭnĭstəʃĭp). [f. MINISTER *sb.* + -SHIP.] The office of a minister; the position or fact of being a minister.

1565 JEWEL *Def. Apol.* (1611) 412 How vainely you snap ..now at our Superintendentships: now at our Ministerships. 1742 H. WALPOLE *Lett. to Mann* 3 Mar. (1857) I. 137 Think of his talking of making it dangerous for anyone else to accept the first ministership! 1863 *Daily Tel.* 8 Oct., We are obliged to write of Sir James Hudson's Ministership as a thing of the past. 1872 *Daily News* 1 Oct. 5, I am not a footman, and the ministership you would give me under a régime such as this would be a menial office.

Ministery, obs. form of MINISTRY.

†**Ministral,** *a. Obs. rare.* [a. F. *ministral*, L. *ministrāl-is*, f. L. *minister*: see MINISTER *sb.* and -AL.] Pertaining to a minister or agent.

1727 BAILEY vol. II, *Ministral*, belonging to a minister. 1851 G. S. FABER *Many Mansions* 105 When our Bodies shall be glorified, they will be capable .. of a divestment of their glory, should such a divestment be..necessary for accomplishing the ministral purposes of the Deity.

Ministralle, obs. form of MINSTREL.

Ministrant (mĭ·nĭstrănt), *a.* and *sb.* [a. L. *ministrant-em*, pr. pple. of *ministrāre* to MINISTER.]

A. *adj.* That ministers. Const. *to.*

1667 MILTON *P. L.* x. 87 Him Thrones and Powers, Princedoms, and Dominations ministrant Accompanied to Heaven Gate. 1718 POPE *Odyss.* x. 413 Ministrant to their Queen, with busy care Four faithful handmaids the soft rites prepare. 1805 SOUTHEY *Madoc in W.* xii, The place To that despondent mood was ministrant. 1871 B. TAYLOR *Faust* (1875) I. i. 31 The sweet, consoling chant, Which, through the night of Death, the angels ministrant Sang.

B. *sb.* One who ministers.

1818 KEATS *Endym.* I. 285 Strange ministrant of undescribed sounds. 1874 S. COX *Pilgr. Ps.* xv. 323 The heavenly ministrants do, we know, look down on us with..compassion. 1884 BROWNING *Founder of Feast* 14 When, night by night ..Music was poured by perfect ministrants. 1885 *L'pool Daily Post* 23 Oct. 4/7 Ministrants at the altar.

†**Mi·nistrate,** *v. Obs.* Also *pa. pple.* 6–7 *Sc.* **ministrat**(e. [f. L. *ministrāt-*, ppl. stem of *ministrāre* to MINISTER.]

1. *trans.* To administer.

1533 BELLENDEN tr. *Livy* III. xvi. (S. T. S.) II. 8 M. Claudius had complenit a litill þat na Iustice was ministrate to him. 1559 in Tytler *Hist. Scotl.* (1864) III. 391 Their minister shall have full liberty..to ministrate the sacraments, publicly and privately. 1639 MARQ. HAMILTON *Explan. Meaning Oath & Covenant* 12 [They] refuse the participation of the holy sacraments as they are now ministrate. 1727 BAILEY vol. II, *To Ministrate*, to minister or serve.

2. *intr.* To minister *to.*

1887 BROWNING *Parleyings, Furini* 154 Learn how they ministrate to life and death.

Ministration (mĭ·nĭstrē·ʃən). [ad. L. *ministrātiōn-em*, n. of action f. *ministrāre* to MINISTER. Cf. obs. F. *ministracion* (14th c.).]

1. The action (*rarely*, an act) of ministering or serving; the rendering of aid or service.

a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter, Cant.* 524 Grete thing he did til hur in quantite of grace, gretter in mynystracyon of Aungell. 1382 WYCLIF 2 *Cor.* iii. 7–8 If the mynistracioun of deeth defformyd by letteris in stoones was in glorie..hou not more the mynistracioun of spirit schal be in glorie? 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 49 b, Let them not be covetous, nor for theyr ministration extorte money gredelye. *a* 1683 OWEN *True Nat. Gosp. Ch.* Wks. 1853 XVI. 110 Ministration unto the poor of the Church, for the supply of their temporal necessities is an ordinance of Christ. 1712 M. HENRY *Daily Commun.* II. (1847) 126 What a security is the ministration of those good spirits against the malice of evil spirits! 1875 JOWETT *Plato* I. 206 Nor is any one to be blamed for doing any honourable service or ministration to any man.

†b. Exercise of official functions. *Obs.*

1651 HOBBES *Govt. & Soc.* x. § 15. 162 Content with the nomination of Magistrates, and publique Ministers, that is to say, with the authority without the ministration.

†c. Agency, instrumentality. *Obs.*

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* IV. iv. (1495) 85 The vertues of the spirites werke their effectes in al the lymmes of the body by mynystracion and seruyse of humours. 1555 EDEN *Decades* 80 What so euer god by the ministration of nature hath created.

2. *spec.* The action of ministering in religious matters; service as a priest or minister; *pl.* the services of ministers of religion.

1535 COVERDALE *Acts* i. 17 For he was nombred with vs & had opteyned the felashippe of this mynistracion. 1548–9 [see MINISTRY 3]. 1660 SOUTH *Serm.* (1727) IV. i. 62 At the thirtieth Year of their Age they began their Levitical Ministration. 1841 A. R. C. DALLAS *Past. Superintend.* 5 A snare had long been spread for us..leading us to injure our means of usefulness, through a depreciation of order in our ministrations. 1884 *Law Times* 14 June 122/2 There should be a provision for religious ministrations.

†b. A ministerial office or employment. *Obs.*

1550 CROWLEY *Waie to Wealth* (E. E. T. S.) 145 Ye haue benefices, or other spirituall promotions, as you call theym, for ye are ashamed to call them ministracions.

†3. The action of administering the sacraments, justice, law, an estate or revenue, etc.; administration; *occas.* executorship. *Obs.*

c 1340 HAMPOLE *Prose Tr.* (1866) 25 Thes holy menne lefte not witterly the ministracion of the lokynge and the dispendynge of worldely goodis. 1422 *E. E. Wills* (E.E.T.S.) 50, I wole þat he haue hem vpon this condicion, .. þat he lete hem note off ministration of myn other goode. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) V. 109 The ministracion of baptym and of beryenge. 1439 *E. E. Wills* (E. E. T. S.) 128 Wich of hem as laboureth for the execucion of his will, and taketh vpon him mynystracion shall [etc.]. 1442 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 57/1 The ministration of the revenuez. 1512 *Act* 4 *Hen. VIII*, c. 20 *Preamble*, Your true Subgectes beyng in Compeny with hym for mynystracion of your lawes. 1527 *Rastell's Abridg. Stat.* 99 b, Any other that take vppon them the mynystracion of the forest. 1533 MORE *Debell. Salem* Wks. 1023/1 Their authorite in ministracion of the sacramentes. *c* 1550 COVERDALE *Calvin's Treat. Sacram.* etc. F j b, The mynistracion of holye baptime. *Ibid.*, The due ministracyon of holy wedloke. 1579 FULKE *Heskins' Parl.* 309 Many corruptions, that were crept into the Church about the ministration of the cup.

4. The action of supplying, providing, or giving (something). Const. *of.*

1460–70 *Bk. Quintessence* 15 Panne comforte him wiþ ministracioun of oure quinte essencie afore seid. 1547 BOORDE *Brev. Health* 2 The ministracion of phisicke. 1862 TYNDALL *Mountaineer.* I. 3 The ministration of unwholesome food. 1873 BROWNING *Red Cott. Nt.-cap* 184 Yours the care That any world .. be easy of access Through ministration of the moneys due.

Ministrative (mĭ·nĭstrĕ·ĭtĭv), *a.* [ad. L. **ministrātīv-us*, f. *ministrāre*: see MINISTER *v.* and -IVE.] Pertaining to or of the nature of ministration; affording service or assistance.

1833 J. H. NEWMAN *Arians* I. v. (1876) 125 His ministrative office in the revealed Economy of the Godhead. 1850 GLADSTONE *Homer* II. 105 When Minerva alters the personal appearance of Telemachus, [etc.]..she uses no sign or ministrative act.

Ministrator (mĭ·nĭstrē·ĭtəɹ). *rare.* [a. L. *ministrātor*, agent-n. f. *ministrāre*: see MINISTER *v.*] One who ministers or administers; †a testamentary executor.

1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 165 Prayer..must nedes be done in the chyrche by the mynystratours of the same before the people. 1559 *Richmond Wills* (Surtees) 132 Whome I maike iuntly together executores and ministratores of yis my last wyll and testament. 1598 *Durham Wills* (Surtees No. 38) 332 Widowe Maire,..lawfull ministrator to hir laite husband. 1654 R. CODRINGTON tr. *Justine* XIII. 208 Who would therefore wonder that the world should be conquered by such ministrators. *a* 1734 NORTH *Exam.* (1740) 74 The Law, and the Ministrators of it. 1884 *Schaff's Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* s.v. *Angels*, They were the ministrators of the law.

†**Ministrato·riously,** *adv. Obs. rare*—1. [f. late L. *ministrātōri-us* (see next) + -OUS + -LY 2.] In the capacity of an administrator.

1563–83 FOXE *A. & M.* I. 432/1 A man cannot onely ministratoriously gene any temporal or continuall gift, eyther as well to his naturall sonne, as to his sonne by imitation.

†**Ministratory,** *a. Obs. rare*—1. [ad. L. *ministrātōri-us*, f. *ministrātor*, agent-n. f. *ministrāre*: see MINISTER *v.* and -ORY.] Having the function of ministering.

1625 GODWIN *Moses & Aaron* (1655) 255 To shew his ministratory office.

Ministre, -trele, obs. ff. MINISTER, MINSTREL.

Ministrer (mĭ·nĭstrəɹ). [f. MINISTER *v.* + -ER 1.] One who ministers or serves.

?14.. in *Wars Eng. in France* (1864) II. 525 Officers royalle and mynystroures belongyng aftir the custome of Fraunce. 1509–10 *Act* 1 *Hen. VIII*, c. 16 § 1 Wages due ..to the Officers and Ministrours of the same. 1530 PALSGR. 245/2 Mynistrer of justyce, *droicturier.* 1836 *New Monthly Mag.* XLVIII. 219 My business is not with the 'sincere and conscientious' ministrer of comfort.

Ministress (mĭ·nĭstrĕs). [f. MINISTER *sb.* + -ESS. Cf. F. *ministresse* (Cotgr.).] A woman who ministers or serves. Also *transf.* and *fig.*

1600 *Hosp. Incur. Fooles* a j, Nature (diuine ministresse) contending .. to imprint in them the seale and forme of Diinitie. 1662 J. SPARROW tr. *Behme's Rem. Wks., Apol. conc. Perfect.* 48 It should, as a Noble Ministresse or Maid of Honour to its Bridegroom the Soul, draw the Soul thereunto. 1744 AKENSIDE *Pleas. Imag.* I. 373 Thus was Beauty sent from heaven, The lovely ministress of truth and good In this dark world. 1891 C. E. NORTON *Dante's Hell* xxix. 159 The ministress of the High Lord—infallible Justice.

Ministring, obs. form of MINISTERING.

Ministry (mi·nistri). Forms: 4 mynysterye, -ie, mynisterie, minstri, 5–6 mynistery, 5–8 ministery, 6 mynystery, ministeree, minstirie, -y, 6–7 ministerie, -trie, 8 ministrey, 6– ministry. [ME. *ministerie*, ad. L. *ministerium* office, service, f. *minister*: see MINISTER *sb.* Cf. F. *ministère* (16th c.), Pr. *ministeri*, Sp., Pg., It. *ministerio*. Cf. MISTER *sb.*]

1. The action of ministering; the rendering of service; the performance of any office or labour for another. Now only in religious use or coloured by association with this.

1382 WYCLIF *Ezek.* xliv. 14, I shal ȝeue hem porters of the hous, in al the mynysterie therof. *c* 1450 tr. *De Imitatione* III. xi. 78 Þou hast ordeined also angels in to mannys mynistery. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 257 b, More pleasaunt was to hym ye poore seruyce of his mortall creatures than shold haue ben ye gloryous mynystery of aungels. *c* 1555 HARPSFIELD *Divorce Hen. VIII* (Camden) 245 That woman doth not pertain to matrimony with whom .. there was no matrimonial ministry. 1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 354 The Oxe is a fellowe labourer with his maister, .. so that wee finde speciall benefites redounding to vs, by and through the vse of their ministerie. 1681–6 J. SCOTT *Chr. Life* (1747) III. 379 Another of those Ministries which Princes are obliged to render his Church, is, to chasten and correct the irregular and disorderly Members of it. 1777 ROBERTSON *Hist. Amer.* v. (1778) II. 112 People who were unacquainted with the ministry of domestic animals, or the aid of machines, to facilitate any work of labour. 1892 TENNYSON in *Mem.* (1897) II. 421 My idea of heaven is the perpetual ministry of one soul to another.

†**2.** A mode or kind of service; a specific department of usefulness; a function, office. *Obs.*

1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) III. 461 Whiche suppose benefites grauntede to vs for necessites as thynges grevous, seyenge þe ministerys of artes as wickede thynges, destroyenge at the laste the lawes off lyvynge. 1546 LANGLEY *Pol. Verg. De Invent.* Pref. 5 They that have excogitated .. any .. handy craftes or ministeries to the maintenance, aid and comfort of the Body. 1553 BALE *Vocac.* 9 b, From the shippe, from ye costomehowse, & from other homily ministerys, called he not ye stought, sturdye & heady sort of men. 1635–56 COWLEY *Davideis* II. *note* 30 The daughters of Cocalus washt Minos at his arrival in Sicilie. But the more ordinary, was to have young and beautiful servants for this and the like ministeries. 1644 MILTON *Areop.* (Arb.) 75 It is not possible for man to sever the wheat from the tares ..; that must be the Angels Ministery at the end of mortall things.

3. The functions, or any specific function, pertaining to a minister of religion; the action, or an act, of ministering in holy things.

1382 WYCLIF *Col.* iv. 17 Se the mynisterie, that thou hast takun of the Lord, that thou fulfille it. *c* 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 32 It semiþ þat God enioniþ to doctors and dekunis þe minstri of presthed, and of dekunhed, þat are rigtful. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 405 Seynte Petyr ordeynede ij. bischoppes at Rome, other ij. helperes to hym .. to fullefille the ministery off pristes to the peple. 1548–9 (Mar.) *Bk. Com. Prayer, Communion* (Rubric), The Priest that shal execute the holy ministery, shall put upon hym the vesture appointed for that ministracion. 1581 MARBECK *Bk. of Notes* 602 In the Baptime, the outward ministerie or mysticall washing doth regenerate. 1612 T. WILSON *Chr. Dict.*, To Prophesie sig[nifieth] .. to bee present at the publicke ministry, and partake in the Doctrine thereof. 1635 SWAN *Spec. M.* (1670) 311 A certain Priest .. was suspended from his ministry at the Altar. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VII. 149 This high Temple to frequent With Ministeries due and solemn Rites. 1704 NELSON *Fest. & Fasts* t. xi. (1705) 133 Whereas the other Apostles chose this or that Province as the main Sphere of their Ministry, St. Paul over-ran as it were the whole Roman Empire. 1868 W. B. MARRIOTT (*title*) Vestiarivm Christianvm. The Origin and Gradual Development of the Dress of Holy Ministry in the Church.

†**b.** A ministerial office or charge. *Obs.*

1588 J. UDALL *Demonstr. Discipl.* ii. (Arb.) 24 A minister ought not to be ordained before there he a ministery whervnto he is to be allotted.

c. The ministration of a particular minister.

1623 N. ROGERS *Str. Vineyard* 168 Many who haue heard the Word with thee, beene of the same Parish, vnder the same Ministery. 1879 GEO. ELIOT *Theo. Such* ii. 50 The roofs that have looked out .. below the square stone steeple, gathering their .. olive-green mosses under all ministries.

d. The office of minister of the church, or of a religious body or congregation.

1824 SCOTT *St. Ronan's* xvi, A weak constitution .. induced his parents .. to educate him for the ministry. 1845 S. AUSTIN *Ranke's Hist. Ref.* II. 37 He was reproached with having intruded himself uncalled into the ministry. 1900 *Daily News* 11 Dec. 11/3 The Rev. A. B. has retired from the ministry of the M— Congregational Church.

e. The body of men set apart for spiritual functions in the Christian church or in any religious community. Now *rare*.

1566 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 494 Hes assignit for sustentatioun of the said ministerie certane victuales and money .. to be tane up and disponit be the said Ministerie and thair Collectouris or Chalmerlanis. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S. T. S.) II. 315 The maist pairt of the nobilitie and ministrie var in Edinburgh. 1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* v. xiii. 364 There were in them [*sc.* temples] places for the ministerie, colleges, schooles, and houses for priests. 1659 SOUTH *Serm.* (1727) I. iii. 84 We have Christ consulting the Propagation of the Gospel; .. sending forth a Ministry, and giving them a Commission. 1847–54 in WEBSTER. [And in later Dicts.] 1848 A. THOMSON *Orig. Secess. Ch.* 164 Patronage .. was the most effective instrument of placing a hireling ministry in the pulpits of Scotland.

4. The condition or fact of being employed as an executive agent or instrument; agency, instrumentality. Now only with religious colouring.

1581 LAMBARDE *Eiren.* I. v. (1588) 28 All others .. be ordained by the meane of the great Seale, and by the ministerie of the L. Chauncellor. 1672 CAVE *Primit. Chr.* III. ii. (1673) 264 Not by the Ministery of her servants .. but with her own hands. 1705 ATTERBURY *Serm.* 28 Oct. 29 The Ordinary Ministry of Second Causes. *a* 1718 PARNELL *Hermit* 231 'Twas my Ministry to deal the Blow. 1753 SMOLLETT *Cl. Fathom* (1784) 44/1 The messenger, doubly rejoiced at her atchievement, which not only recommended her ministry, but also gratified her malice, returned to her principal. 1817 COLERIDGE *Biog. Lit.* xii. (1882) 120 This becomes intelligible to no man by the ministry of mere words from without. 1891 A. PHELPS *Note-Bk.* i. 24 Heroic believers become such by the ministry of heroic pains.

†**b.** (Good or bad) conduct as an executive agent. *Obs.*

1700 TYRRELL *Hist. Eng.* II. 894 The Kingdom .. felt the Effects of their ill Ministery.

5. The body of ministers charged with the administration of a country or state. †In the 18th c. often used without article.

1710–11 SWIFT *Lett.* (1767) III. 83 The ministry hear me always with appearance of regard. 1779 WILKES *Corr.* (1805) V. 213 You told him, that you had voted with ministry as long as any man of honour could. 1791 BURKE *App. Whigs* Wks. VI. 145 A Whig ministry, and a whig house of commons. 1795 — *Regic. Peace* iii. Wks. VIII. 324 The parliament has assented to ministry; it is not ministry that has obeyed the impulse of parliament. *a* 1859 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xxiv. (1861) V. 124 The date from which the era of ministries may most properly be reckoned is the day of the meeting of the Parliament after the general election of 1695. 1865 LD. IDDESLEIGH *Lect. & Ess.* (1887) 251 The Cabal Ministry were in power. 1879 MCCARTHY *Own Times* xxiii. II. 186 Their existence as a Ministry was only a question of days.

6. With reference to foreign nations: A ministerial department of government; a minister and his associated subordinates. Also, the building in which the business of a (specified) government department is transacted.

1877 D. M. WALLACE *Russia* (ed. 2) I. 302 Immediately below these three institutions stand the Ministries, ten in number. *Ibid.* 305 The Governor .. is the local representative of the Ministry of the Interior.

7. *Hist.* The name applied to the houses of certain religious orders. [med.L. *ministerium.*]

1889 W. LOCKHART *Ch. Scot. in 13th C.* 25 *note*, Their [the Red Friars'] houses were called hospitals or ministries.

Mi·nistryship. *rare*⁻¹. [f. MINISTRY + -SHIP.] The office of a minister of state.

1730 PULTENEY in *Swift's Lett.* (1768) IV. 249, I suppose it is not yet in your view to entail the ministryship in your family.

Minitabund (mi·nitābʊnd), *a. rare*⁻¹. [ad. L. *minitābund-us* threatening, f. *minitā-rī*, frequentative f. *minārī* to threaten.] Threatening.

1890 *Sat. Rev.* 14 June 720/2 Mr. Stanley, who passes, minitabund to Lord Salisbury, throughout the land.

Minitant (mi·nitănt), *a. rare*⁻¹. [ad. L. *minitant-em*, pr. pple. of *minitārī*: see prec.] Threatening, forming a menace.

1854 R. G. LATHAM *Native Races Russian Emp.* 327 Azov was made into a naval arsenal, minitant to the Crimea.

Minite, obs. form of MINUTE *sb.*

†**Mi·nitive,** *a. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [aphetic form of DIMINUTIVE.] Diminutive.

1602 *Narcissus* (1893) 425 Loves little minitive god.

Miniture, obs. form of MINIATURE.

Minium (mi·niŏm). *Obs.* exc. *Hist.* [a. L. *minium* native cinnabar; also, red lead.]

1. = VERMILION. Also *attrib.*

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XIX. XXVI. (1495) 878 Minium is a red colour and the Grekis founde the matere therof in Ephesym. In Spayne is more suche pigment than in other londes. 1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* IV. xi. 238 The Antients made great accompt of this Minium or vermillion, holding it for a sacred colour. 1866 H. SHAW *Art Illum.* 2 The use of minium, or vermilion, in marking .. particular words of manuscripts, is of very high antiquity.

2. = RED LEAD. Sometimes *red minium.* Also, †the colour of red lead.

1650 J. F. *Chym. Dict.*, *Minium* is the Mercury or rather Crocus of Lead precipitated. 1665 HOOKE *Microgr.* 52 White, Yellow, Orange, Minium, Scarlet, Purple. 1686 AGLIONBY *Painting Illustr.* 133 In a little Book of Designs .. I have .. two or three little Things of his in Red Minium. 1732 J. PEELE *Water-Colours* 38 The Minium, or Red Lead, is as heavy and strong a Colour as most we have. 1806 SMITHSON in *Phil. Trans.* XCVI. 267, I have found minium native in the earth. 1882 A. S. HERSCHEL in *Nature* No. 642. 362 One or two ounces of powdered minium, or red-lead.

3. *transf.* Red earthy matter resembling minium.

1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 90 The winds .. doe .. carry downe alongst the streame a great quantitie of that red Earth or Minium of Libanus whereby it passeth. 1703 MAUNDRELL *Journ. Jerus.* (1732) 35 A sort of Minium, or red Earth, washed into the River.

Miniver (mi·nivəɹ). Forms: 3 menivieyr, menuver, 3–5 menyvere, 3–4, 7–8 meniver, 4 meyneveir, menevayr, -veyr, -voir, menivere, menuveyr, -voyr, menyvaire, 4–5 menevere, menyver, 5–6 menever, mynever, 6 miniveere, 6, 9 minivere, 6–9 minever, 7 minerver, 7, 9 *dial.* minifer, -fa, 9 mineveer, 6– miniver. [a. F. *menu vair* (14th c. in Godef.), 'the furre Mineuer; also, the beast that beares it' (Cotgr.); lit. 'little vair' (*menu* :—L. *minūtus* MINUTE *a.*, and *vair*: see VAIR).]

1. A kind of fur used as a lining and trimming in ceremonial costume.

French lexicographers say that *menu vair* is the fur of the *petit-gris*, a variety of the common squirrel. What the Eng. *miniver* meant in early use is uncertain; some have supposed that it was the white fur of the Siberian squirrel; the application may have varied at different times, but etymology would suggest that it must have been an artificially spotted or variegated fur, with a smaller pattern than that of *vair*. In 1688 R. Holme explains *miniver* as 'plain white fur', and this (notwithstanding Cotgrave's divergent explanation) may have been the meaning of the word as used with reference to the costume of judges and the lower nobility in the 16–17th c. In this sense the term was revived in the official regulations for the coronation of Edward VII, and it has since had some currency in the description of the ceremonial costume of peers.

Pured miniver, miniver pure = AF. *meniver puré*, 'powdered miniver'; but in modern times the adj. has been misinterpreted as 'pure white'.

a 1300 *Floriz & Bl.* 515 (Hausknecht) A mantel of scarlet Ipaned al wiþ meniver. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XX. 137 For a mantel of menyuere he made lele matrimonye Departen ar deth cam. *a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* (1868) 65 Her good and gay clothing and furres of gray[,] meniuere and letuse. 1463–4 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 505/1 Furres of Mattrones, Funes, Letyce, pured Grey, or pured Menyver. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* XII. i. 593 A lykely knyghte and wel appayraylled in scarlet furred with myneuer. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII* 214 The knightes of the bath in Violet gounes with hoddes purfeled with Miniuer lyke doctors. 1593 DRAYTON *Ecl.* iv. 178 His Hood of Miniveere. 1611 COTGR. s. v. *Vair, Menu Vair*, Mineuer; the furre of Ermines mixed, or spotted, with the furre of the Weesell called *Gris.* 1647 WARD *Simp. Cobler* 76 It seems in fashion for you to .. dapple your speeches with new quodled words. Ermins in Minifer is every mans Coate. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. iii. 50/2 They [*sc.* Viscounts] have no Ermine on their Mantles, but three doublings of Miniver, or plain White Furr, the Baron having but two on the cape of his Mantle. 1766 ENTICK *London* IV. 33 If they be of Cambridge, they wear white meniver. 1867 JEAN INGELOW *Story Doom* VI. 214 And served in gold, and warmed with minivere. 1901 *Lond. Gaz.* 4 Oct. 6477 That the robe or mantle of the Peers be of crimson velvet, edged with miniver, the cape furred with miniver pure, and powdered with bars or rows of ermine (*i. e.*, narrow pieces of black fur).

¶ Recent Dicts. attribute to the word the sense that belongs to *menu vair* in Fr. heraldry, viz. a fur distinguished from *vair* in that the shield *menu vair* has six rows of spots instead of four. But this use has never been recognized in English heraldry.

2. †**a.** The animal from which the fur was supposed to be obtained (*obs.*). **b.** *dial.* The stoat or ermine, *Mustela erminea*, when wearing its white winter coat.

1665 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (1677) 189 Furs of Foxes, Sables, .. Miniver, Beaver, Otter, Squirrel and the like. *a* 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia, Minifer*, the white stoat or ermin. 1895 P. H. EMERSON *Birds*, etc., *Norf.* 345 In winter, of course, he [*sc.* the stoat] is often white, with a black tip to his tail—hence his name of 'minifa'. 1895 *Daily News* 27 Nov. 6/3 To this day the white stoat is called 'minifer' in Norfolk.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *miniver cap, hood, mantle, skin.*

1589 RIDER *Bibl. Schol.*, A *Menever cappe, *redimiculum.* 1600 DEKKER *Gentle Craft* Wks. 1873 I. 72 Shall Sim Eyre learne to speake of you Lady Maggy? vanish mother Mineuer-Cap. 1632 MASSINGER *City Madam* IV. iv, You wore .. somtimes A dainty Miniver cap. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl. C.* XXIII. 138 For a *menyuer mantel he made leel matrimonye Departe er deþ come. 1656 EARL MONM. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* I. x. (1674) 12 *Minerver-skins, Sables, and other very pretious Furrs.

Minivet (mi·nivĕt). [Etym. obscure.] Any bird of the campophagine genus *Pericrocotus.*

1862 JERDON *Birds of India* I. 418 The Red Shrikes or Minivets (as Mr. Blyth has called them in the Museum Asiatic Society). *Ibid.* 425, I have found this Minivet extensively spread throughout India. 1887 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* IV. 30 The Grey Minivet (*Pericrocotus cinereus*). 1880 A. R. WALLACE *Isl. Life* iii. 44 The brilliant little minivets are almost equally universal.

Mink (mink). Also 5–6 **mynk**(e, 8 **minck**, 8–9 **minx**. [Fonnd in Sw. as *mänk, menk*, 'a stinking animal in Finland'. (The word is app. not known as Finnish.)]

1. The skins or fur of the animals mentioned below (see sense 2).

1466 *Mann. & Housch. Exp.* (Roxb.) 371 My mastyr bout of the skynner of Bury xx. mynkes prise xiij.s. viij.d. 1530 PALSGR. 245/2 Mynkes a furre, *minques.* 1545 *Lanc. Wills* (1857) II. 63 My gowne faced withe mynkys and welted withe tawnye velvet. 1707 E. CHAMBERLAYNE *Pres. St. Eng.* III. ii. 256 Of Furrs, Filches, .. Mincks, Sables, 40 Skins is a Timber. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Dec. 90/1 The bewitching little muff trimmed with mink.

2. A small semi-aquatic stoat-like animal of the genus *Putorius*; originally, the European species *P. lutreola*; but now more commonly applied to the American *P. vison*, also called *mink-otter.*

1624 CAPT. SMITH *Virginia* II. 27 Weesels, and Minkes we know they haue, because we haue seene many of their skinnes. 1771 J. R. FORSTER tr. *Kalm's Trav. N. Amer.* II. 61 The English and the Swedes gave the name of Mink to an animal of this country. 1792 PENNANT *Arctic Zool.* I. 100 Minx Otter. 1812 J. SMYTH *Pract. of Customs* (1821) 220 Its skin is blacker than that of an Otter ..; 'as black as a Mink' being a proverbial expression in America. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XV. 253/2 *Minx*, a name for the Vison-weasel. 1834 MCMURTRIE *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 62 *M[ustela] lutreola*, Pall. (The Mink or Norek.) It frequents the banks of rivers, &c., in the north and east of Europe... It is the Mink of the United States. 1883 *Fisheries Exhib.*

Catal. (ed. 4) 160 Specimens of Otters, Fishers, Minks, Musk-rats, Weasels, Seals.

3. = KINGFISH d.

1888 GOODE *Amer. Fishes* 122 The King-fish, *Menticirrus nebulosus*, also known as..the 'Sea Mink' in North Carolina.

4. *attrib.*, as *mink head, skin, tail, throat.*

1812 J. SMYTH *Pract. of Customs* (1821) 220 Mink skins. 1892 *Daily News* 15 Oct. 7/2 Mink tail is much used by those who cannot afford sable. 1902 *Ibid.* 18 Dec. 4/2 The mink throat has pretty white markings, whilst the mink head is plain brown.

Hence **Mi·nkery** *U.S.*, a 'kennel' or breeding place for minks.

1877 COUES *Fur Anim.* vi. 182 Mr. Resseque's minkery consists of twelve stalls.

Minks, obs. form of MINX.

Minn: see MIND *sb.*[2]

Minnaway: see MINAWAY (= minuet).

Minne, Minnekin: see MIN, MINIKIN.

Minnem, Minner: see MINIM, MINNOW.

‖ **Minnesinger** (mi·nɨsiŋəɹ). [Ger. (also *minnesänger*) f. *minne* love + *-singer* (also *sänger*) SINGER.] One of the German lyrical poets and singers of the 12th, 13th, and 14th centuries, so called because love was the chief theme of their songs. Hence **Mi·nnesinging** *vbl. sb.* (*attrib.*).

1825 E. TAYLOR (*title*) Lays of the Minnesingers, or German Troubadours. *Ibid.* 199 The great fostering place of the Minnesinging art. 1829 SCOTT *Anne of G.* iv, The foolery of minstrels and strolling minnesingers. 1871 LONGF. in *Life* (1891) III. 176 Mr. Kroeger's Specimens of the Minnesingers, which I want him to publish.

transf. 1845 LONGF. *Walter von der Vogelweid* xi, Round the Gothic spire, Screamed the feathered Minnesingers.

Minnie (mi·ni). *Sc.* and *north. dial.* Also 6 mynnye, -nie, 8–9 minny. [Of obscure origin; perh. a child's alteration of *mammy*.] A familiar word for mother.

1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* lxxv. 16 Sen that I borne wes of my mynnye, I nevir wowit weycht bot 3ow. 1600 W. WATSON *Decacordon* (1602) 144 A lacke what ailes my minnie at me heigh hoe. 1681 COLVIL *Whigs Supplic.* (1751) 158 My Minnie hath the lave on't. 1790 BURNS *Tam Glen* iv, My minnie does constantly deave me, And bids me beware o' young men. 1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* xl, Light loves I may get mony a ane, But minnie ne'er anither. 1858 KINGSLEY *Andromeda*, etc., *Oubit* 3 My minnie bad me bide at hame until I won my wings.

Minnie, -nikin, var. ff. MINNOW, MINIKIN.

† **Mi·nning**, *vbl. sb.*[1] *Obs.* [f. MIN *v.* + -ING [1].]

1. Remembrance, memory; memorial.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3344 Moysen dede ful ðe gemor, In a gold pot, for muning ðor. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 3196 þi dede in minnyng sal last ai. *Ibid.* 25584 To haf mining o þi dede þat þou boght sua dere. 13.. *St. Erkenwolde* 269 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 272 More he menskes men for mynnynge of riȝtes þen for al þe meritorie medes. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* xlv. 31 Sain benet cumandis .. þat ta þat faile in þe kirke at te minning of þe salmes..sal [etc.].

b. A commemoration of a departed soul; also, a peal of bells rung on such an occasion: see MIND *sb.* 5 b.

c 1420 *Anturs of Arth.* 236 (Douce MS.) Here hertly my honde, þes hestes to holde, Withe a myllione of masses to make þe mynnyng. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xxxi. 158 Youre goodys ye shall forsake..And nothing With you take Bot sich a wyndyng clothe; youre Wife sorow shall slake, Youre cbylder also both, Vnnes youre mynnyng make. 1524 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) V. 188, I will that .. the said Sir William shall every yere cause a mynnyng to be rongyn.

2. Mention.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 5169 Quar ar yee mas minning now O ioseph. *Ibid.* 8518 Childer had he wit wijfes sere O quilk i mak no mining here.

3. *pl.* Premonitory symptoms (of a disease): = MINDING *vbl. sb.* 2, MINGING *vbl. sb.* 1.

1724 BAILEY (ed. 2), *Minnings of a Disease*, the previous or foregoing Symptoms of it.

4. *attrib.* or *Comb.*, as **minning-date, minning-day** = MIND-DAY.

a 1330 *Syr Degarre* 2 Hys wyvys mynnyng day. 1426 *Will of Hyton* (Somerset Ho.), Memoriale vocat. myneng day. 1543 *Lanc. Wills* (1857) I. 67 And yt every of thafforesayd xvij yeares that vjs viijd be dysposed upon an obyte or mynnynge day. 1556 OLDE *Antichrist* 157 b, A certain nombre of masses, certayn mynnyng dates, certain meritorious praiers. 1661 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* (ed. 2), *Minnyng days.* 1777 BRAND *Pop. Antiq.* (1849) II. 314.

† **Mi·nning**, *vbl. sb.*[2] *rare*—[1]. [f. **min* vb. (f. MIN *a.*) + -ING [1].] Lessening, diminution.

c 1357 *Lay Folks Catech.* (T.) 125 Withouten ony merryng of hir modirhede, Withouten ouy myuuyug of hir maidenhede.

Minnion, Minnite, obs. ff. MINION, MINUTE.

Minnom, obs. form of MINIM.

Minnow (mi·nou). Forms: [4 *Sc.* menoun,] 5 menawe, 5–8 menow, (5 *pl.* menwus), 6 menewe, menowe, 6–8 minew, 6–8, 9 *dial.* minnie, -ny, 7 menew, mynnowe, minoe, -ow, 7–9 mennow, 9 *dial.* or *slang* minner, 6– minnow. [Prob. repr. OE. **mynwe* wk. fem. = OHG. *munewa, munua* (? for **muniwa*) glossing L. *capedo* i. e. *capito*, a fish with a large head. The recorded OE. *myne* str. masc. (pl. *mynas*) glosses L. *capito* and *mena*; it is not certain what fish was meant; the L. *capito* is also rendered *ælepúta* EEL-POUT. The forms, and perh. the application, of the word have been influenced by association with F. *menu* (*poisson*) small (fish). Cf. MENISE.

The Sc. form *menoun* in Barbour may perhaps represent an AF. formation on the Eng. word. Cf. mod.Sc. *menon*, MENNOM.]

1. A small cyprinoid freshwater fish, *Leuciscus phoxinus* or *Phoxinus lævis*, common in the streams, lakes, and ponds of Europe. Often loosely applied to any small fish; in Eng. dialects chiefly to the stickleback (*Gastrosteus*). In the U.S. it is applied (sometimes with prefixed defining word) to many different fishes of small size, chiefly cyprinoids; and in Australasia to fishes of the genus *Galaxias*.

In early quots. the application of the name is uncertain.

[1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* II. 577 Trowtis, elys, and als menonys.] 14.. *Nom.* in Wr.-Wülcker 704/44 *Hic solimicus*, a menawe. *c* 1420 *Liber Cocorum* (1862) 54 Trouȝte, sperlynges and menwus. 1496 *Bk. St. Albans, Fishing* (1883) 30 The menow whan he shynith in the water, thenne is he hyttyr. 1558 *Act* 1 *Eliz.* c. 17 § 4 Places where Smeltes, Loches, Mynneis, .. or Eeles, hathe been used to bee taken. 1611 COTGR., *Freguerenl*, the little fish called, a Mennow. 1635–56 COWLEY *Davideis* I. 1024 The mute Fish witness no less his Praise. .. From Minoes to those living Islands, Whales. 1668 CHARLETON *Onomasticon* 160 *Phoxinus Lævis, seu varius*..the Minow, or Minoe. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Menow*, a little Fresh-water Fish, otherwise call'd a Cackrel. 1787 BEST *Angling* (ed. 2) 60 The minnow, though one of the smallest fishes, is as excellent a one to eat as any of the most famed. 1808 WOLCOT (P. Pindar) *One more Peep at R. A.* Wks. 1816 IV. 405 To move a mennow, who would wish—In paltry brooks a paltry fish—While Nature offers him to roll a whale! 1820 in *Smithsonian Collect.* (1877) XIII. IX. i. 32, 51st species, Red Minny, Rutilus ? Ruber. 1877 JORDAN *Ibid.* 32 *note*, I add here a fine small fish, ..it is said to live in the small streams which fall into the Elkhorn and Kentucky. It is a slender fish, only 2 inches long... It is commonly called Red-minny. *Ibid.* 30 *note*, Length [of Warty Chubby] from 3 to 4 inches, often called Minny or Red-Fin. 1879 JEFFERIES *Wild Life in S. Co.* 356 The minnie, as the stickleback is locally called. 1880 GÜNTHER *Fishes* 596 Other similar genera [*sc.* of carps] from the fresh waters of North America, and generally called 'Minnows', are *Pimephales* [etc.]. *Ibid.* 599 The 'Minnow' (*Leuciscus phoxinus*), abundant everywhere in Europe, and growing to a length of seven inches. 1898 MORRIS *Austral Eng.* s.v., *Manga*..a New Zealand fish... It is often called the *Whitebait* and *Minnow*.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*, as a type of smallness. *A Triton of* or *among the minnows*: one who appears great by contrast with the insignificance of all those around him.

1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* I. i. 251 That low-spirited Swaine, that base Minow of thy Myrth. 1607 — *Cor.* III. i. 89 Heare you this Triton of the Minnowes? 1796 LAMB *Lct. to Coleridge* 27 May (end), My civic and poetic compliments to Southey if at Bristol. Why, he is a very Leviathan of Bards!—the small minnow, I! 1906 A. NOYES *Drake* II. in *Blackw. Mag.* Apr. 470 Those five Small ships mere minnows clinging to the flanks Of that Leviathan.

2. *Angling.* **a.** A minnow attached to a hook in such a manner as to serve as a bait for other fish. **b.** An artificial fish made in the form and colour of a minnow, and used as a bait.

1615 MARKHAM *Country Contentm.* I. xiv. (1668) 72 His best bait is a little small Roch, Dace, or Menew. 1622 PEACHAM *Compl. Gentl.* xxi. (1634) 252 For your live baits, they are wormes of all kinds, .. Gudgens, or Loches, Mynnowes, &c. 1651 T. BARKER *Art of Angling* (1653) 4 The angling with a menow .. for a Trout is a pleasant Sport. 1655 WALTON *Angler* I. v. (1661) 96, I have .. an artificial Minnow..the mould or body of the minnow was cloth, and wrought upon or over it thus with a needle, the back [etc.]. 1767 JOHNSON in *Ray's Corr.* (1848) 128 They will not only take a worm, or minnow, or other small fish, but swallow the bait with the hook down into the stomach. 1883 *Fisheries Exhib. Catal.* 212 Flexible Minnows..Caledonian Minnows ..Phantom Minnows..Protean Minnows. 1894 *Daily News* 22 Aug. 5/1 The fact that he [a salmon] bites at a fly or angel minnow is .. ascribed to anger.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *minnow-can, crate*; **minnow-fisher,** (*a*) an angler who fishes with a minnow as bait; (*b*) one who fishes for minnows; **minnow-fishing,** fishing with a minnow for bait; **minnow-rod,** a rod used for spinning with a minnow; **minnow-tackle,** fishing tackle used for spinning a minnow; **minnow-tansy,** a dish of fried minnows seasoned with tansy; **minnow-trace,** a trace intended to carry a minnow.

1893 *Outing* (U.S.) XXII. 86/2 The inside of her *minnow-can was lifted with care over the side. 1883 *Fisheries Exhib. Catal.* 214 Folding *Minnow Crate. 1863 ATKINSON *Stanton Grange* (1864) 152 The wonderful skill of a *minnow-fisher. 1895 *Bailey's Mag.* May 358/1 There is no accusation of easy times that can be justly applied to the minnow-fisher. 1655 WALTON *Angler* I. xviii. (1661) 234 The nimble turning of that [*i.e.* a sticklebag], or the Minnow, is the perfection of *Minnow-fishing. 1839 T. C. HOFLAND *Brit. Angler's Man.* iv. (1841) 70 The first [manner of baiting with a minnow] .. is particularly calculated for a clear water, as your tackle is finer than in any other mode of minnow-fishing. *Ibid.*, The *minnow-rod should be of bamboo cane. *Ibid.* 72 Various kinds of *minnow-tackle may be purchased. 1655 WALTON *Angler* I. xviii. (1661) 231 In the spring they make of them excellent *Minnow-Tansies. 1839 T. C. HOFLAND *Brit. Angler's Man.* iv. (1841) 71 You must now prepare a *minnow-trace of three yards of gut.

b. quasi-*adj.* Very small, tiny.

1824 DIBDIN *Libr. Comp.* 623 The tribe of little minnow pocket-editions.

Hence **Mi·nnowy** *a.*, abounding in minnows.

1826 CAMPBELL *Field Flowers* 23 What pictures of pebbled and minnowy brooks.

Minnuet, Minnum, obs. ff. MINUET, MINIM.

Minny, dial. variant of MINNIE, MINNOW.

Mino, Minoe, obs. ff. MINA [2], MINNOW.

Minom, obs. form of MINIM.

Minor (məi·nəɹ), *a.* and *sb.* Forms: 3–4 menor, 4 mynor, 4–5 menour, 5 menoure, -owre, -eour, minore, 6– minor. [a. L. *minor*, nom. sing. masc. and fem. (neut. *minus* MINUS, declension-stem *minōr-*) smaller, lesser, junior, f. Indogermanic root **min-* small: cf. L. *minuère*, Gr. μινύθειν, OE. *minsian* to diminish, OTeut. **minniz* less, **minnizon-* lesser: see MIN *a.*

OFr. had *menour* (whence most of the ME. forms) :-L. *minōrem* accus., beside *meindre* (mod.F. *moindre*) :-L. *minor*. In early mod.Fr. the Latin word was adopted in special uses as *mineur*. Cf. Sp., Pg. *menor*, It. *minore*.]

A. *adj.*

I. 1. *Friar Minor*, † *Minor Friar*: a Franciscan.

Rendering of med.L. *Fratres Minores*, lit. 'lesser brethren', the name chosen by St. Francis for the order founded by him, as expressing the humility which he desired its members to cultivate. Cf. B. 1.

The plural is now *friars minor*; formerly *friar minors, friars minors*, were common.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 10241 Þe ordre bigan of frere menors þulke sulue 3er [*i.e.* 1210] ywis. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xxxi. 139 Twa frere mencours of Lombardy. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 333/1 Menour frere, or frere menowre, (*P.* menowre friyr), *minor*. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 140 Though the frere minor gyue great example of holynes, .. yet [etc.]. 1635 PAGITT *Christianogr.* I. iii. (1636) 93 The Friers Minors onely, are esteemed to be 60 thousand. 1670 G. H. *Hist. Cardinals* III. I. 238 They elected Pietro Filardo, a Minor Fryer. 1727–51 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Friar*, Franciscan, or grey, or minor, or begging, friars. 1862 *Chambers's Encycl.* IV. 518/1 The Franciscans were properly denominated 'Friars Minor' (*Fratres Minores*).

II. = LESSER in various specific applications. (Not followed by *than*.)

2. Used as the distinctive epithet of the lesser (in various senses) of two things, species, etc., that have a common designation; also applied to those members of a class that collectively form a subdivision as being smaller than the rest; opposed to *major*. Chiefly in certain special collocations, many of which originated in med. or mod.Latin; in most of these *lesser* may be substituted. *Minor canon, excommunication, orders, prophets* (see those sbs.). † *Minor Fellow* (Cambridge): a junior fellow. *Minor planet*: one of the asteroids or small planets between Mars and Jupiter.

1654 TRAPP (*title*) A commentary .. upon the XII Minor Prophets. 1670 WALTON *Lives* IV. 21 He was made Minor Fellow in the year 1609 .. Major Fellow of the Colledge, March 15, 1615. 1679–88 *Secr. Serv. Money Chas. & Jas.* (Camden) 92 John Tinker, one of the minor canons of the collegiate church of St. Peter's, Westmr. 1683 J. POYNTZ *Tobago* 29 The Brazil Tree...Brazilleto, is a Minor or Junior Brazil. 1861 G. F. CHAMBERS *Astron.* I. ix. 51 A numerous group of small bodies revolving round the Sun which are known as the Minor Planets. 1863 *Handbk. Chess & Draughts* 19 The Knight and Bishop, in contradistinction to the Rook and Queen, are termed minor pieces. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 765 The first fits occur during retarded dentition..as very slight 'minor' attacks.

b. In less definite sense: Comparatively small or unimportant; not to be reckoned among the greater or principal individuals of the kind. (Not now used with reference to physical or spatial magnitude, exc. as this involves importance.) Often in *minor poet*.

A favourite use with Sir T. Browne, and common in subsequent writers.

1623 B. JONSON *Time Vind.* (1640) 95 The unletter'd Clarke! major and minor Poet! 1643 SIR T. BROWNE *Relig. Med.* II. § 1 Neither in the name of *Multitude* do I onely include the base and minor sort of people. 1646 — *Pseud. Ep.* V. xiii. 254 Petty errors and minor lapses. *a* 1682 — *Tracts* (1684) 36 The providence of Nature hath provided this shelter for minor fishes. 1693 *Humours Town* 36 Gaining the Author .. Reputation .. with the Minor Criticks. *Ibid.* 106 Minor Authors, Beaux, and the rest of the illiterate Blockheads. *a* 1734 NORTH *Exam.* III. vii. § 65 (1740) 551 The Troubles that fell upon the Minor Abhorrers. 1771 *Junius Lett.* xlv. (1788) 257 The minor critic, who hunts for blemishes. 1780 BURKE *Sp. Econ. Reform* Wks. III. 262 These minor principalities. 1844 STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 596 Three principal cross-rails .. besides a minor-rail. 1860 *Cornh. Mag.* Dec. 745 A minor theatre. *Ibid.* 750 The minor parts will be mistakenly rendered or slurred. *Ibid.*, Your minor gentlemen may walk about in palatial drawing-rooms with hats upon their heads [etc.]. 1879 MCCARTHY *Own Times* xxix. II. 387 The air was filled with the voices of minor singers. 1897 *Spectator* 27 Nov. 771 Herrick, Crashaw, Christopher Smart, and, in our own time, Rossetti, would be ranked as minor poets because of a certain aloofness from the great human concerns. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 751 In all minor neuralgias.

† **c.** *St. James (the) minor*: = St. James the Less (see LESS *a.* 3). *Obs.*

? 14.. *Stasyons of Jerus.* 515 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 362 This was James þe mynoure. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 205 St. James the Minor, first Patriarch of Jerusalem. 1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v., Thus we say, St. James minor; Asia minor.

d. *Ent.* In collectors' names of certain moths.

1775 M. HARRIS *Eng. Lepidoptera* 9 Beauty, minor. 1869

E. NEWMAN *Brit. Moths* 398 The Minor Shoulder-knot (*Epunda viminalis*).

e. Surgery. *Minor operations*, those operations which do not involve danger to life (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1890); hence, *minor operation* or *operating instrument*, an instrument for the performance of such operations. *Minor surgery*, the smaller operations required in the treatment of slight wounds and injuries (*Ibid.*).

1862 *Catal. Exhib.* II. XVII. 125/2 Minor Operating Instruments, a complete set. 1895 *Arnold's Catal. Surg. Instr.* 45 Minor operation and hernia instruments.

f. Football. *Minor point*: A 'try' (in the Rugby game). Also, see quot. 1899.

1896 *Field* 1 Feb. 172/2 Ashford improving on the minor point by kicking a splendid goal. 1899 MACNAGHTEN in *Football* (Badm. Libr.) 39 In the Eton field game there are thus two possible points to be scored—first the major point, or 'goal'...and the minor point, or 'rouge', three of which are equivalent to a goal.

3. *Math.* †**a.** (See quot.) *Obs.*

1571 DIGGES *Pantom.* IV. X iv b, The diameter of the comprehending sphere being a line rationall, the Icosaedrons side is a line irrationall, called of Euclide Minor. *Ibid.* Y j, The comprehending spheres diameter being rational, his conteyning circles semidiameter is an irrational of that kinde which Euclide calleth Minor.

b. *Minor axis* (of an ellipse): the axis perpendicular to the major or transverse axis, and passing through the centre.

1862 *Catal. Internat. Exhib.* II. xi. 15 The difference between major and minor axis being ·012 of an inch. 1885 LEUOESDORF *Cremona's Proj. Geom.* 275 The polar reciprocal of an ellipse (hyperbola) with respect to a circle having its centre at a focus and its radius equal to half the minor (conjugate) axis is the circle described on the major (transverse) axis as diameter.

c. *Minor determinant*: a determinant whose matrix is formed from that of another determinant by erasing one or more rows and columns.

1850 SYLVESTER in *Philos. Mag.* Nov. XXXVII. 365 Now conceive any one line and any one column to be struck out, we get..a square, one term less in breadth and depth than the original square; and by varying in every possible manner the selection of the line and column excluded, we obtain, supposing the original square to consist of n lines and n columns, n^2 such minor squares, each of which will represent what I term a First Minor Determinant relative to the principal or complete determinant. Now suppose two lines and two columns struck out from the original square... These constitute what I term a system of Second Minor Determinants; and.. we can form a system of rth minor determinants by the exclusion of r lines and r columns.

4. Logic. *Minor term*: the subject of the conclusion of a categorical syllogism. *Minor premiss, proposition*: that premiss of a syllogism which contains the minor term.

1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 152 For the same purpose the minor proposition must bee denyed. 1650 BAXTER *Saints' R.* II. vi. § 1 (1651) 250 The Major Proposition will not sure be denied...All the work therefore will lie in confirming the Minor. 1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v. *Syllogism*, They [*i. e.* the two propositions of a syllogism] are both called..*premises*..and..both are called *antecedents*, only the first the *major*, and the latter the *minor*. 1827 WHATELY *Logic* iii. (ed. 2) 96 The proper order is to place the Major premiss first, and the Minor second; but this does not constitute the Major and Minor premises; for that premiss (wherever placed) is the Major which contains the Major term, and the Minor, the Minor. 1843 MILL *Logic* II. ii. § 1 The premiss..which contains the middle term and the minor term is called the minor premiss of the syllogism.

5. That constitutes the minority. Also rarely in predicative use: In a minority.

1642 CHAS. I *Answ. to Printed Bk.* 13 That the Minor part of the Lords might joyn with the Major part of the House of Commons. 1659 BAXTER *Key Cath.* XX. 99 If a minor party..may step into the Tribunal, and pass sentence against the Catholick Church [etc.]. 1774 T. HUTCHINSON *Diary* 3 Oct., A person had the major vote for Alderman... Another person..had the minor vote in the election. 1796 JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1859) IV. 150 There may be an equal division where I had supposed the republican vote would have been considerably minor. *Ibid.* 152 In every other, the minor will be preferred by me to the major vote.

6. *Mus.* **a.** Applied to intervals smaller by a chromatic semitone than those called *major*; as *minor third, sixth, seventh* (and sometimes *minor fourth* and *fifth*, more usually called *diminished* or *imperfect*). Hence also applied to the note distant by a minor interval from a given note. Also, in acoustical theory, applied to the smaller of two intervals differing by a minute quantity, as *minor tone* (vibration ratio $\frac{10}{9}$, being less by a comma than the *major tone*, $\frac{9}{8}$); so, occasionally, *minor semitone* (usually called *chromatic semitone*).

b. Applied to a common chord or triad containing a minor third between the root and the second note; hence to a cadence ending on such a chord.

c. Denoting those keys, or that mode, in which the scale has a minor third (also, usually, a minor sixth, and often a minor seventh). (In naming a key, *minor* follows the letter, as *A minor*.)

1694 W. HOLDER *Harmony* (1731) 49 If A to B [lengths of strings] be as 6 to 5, they sound a Trihemitone, or Third Minor. *Ibid.* 50, $\frac{4}{5}$ sound a Third Major,..$\frac{5}{8}$ a Sixth Minor. *Ibid.* 114 There are two sorts of Tones; viz. Major and Minor. .. Tone Minor (10 to 9) .. is the difference between Third Minor and Fourth. *Ibid.* 121 From F to ♯F, is a Minor Hemitone, 25 to 24. *Ibid.* 129, 7th Minor..9 to 5. 1742 NORTH *Life Ld. Kpr. Guilford* 298 He [*sc.* Holder] makes great ado about dividing Tones Major, Tones Minor, Dieses and Commas, with the Quantities of them. 1777 SIR W. JONES *Ess. Imit. Arts* Poems, etc. 200 The minor mode of D is tender. 1776 BURNEY *Hist. Mus.* I. Diss. i. 19 All the ancient modes were in what we should call minor keys. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XII. 511 *note*, Thus far we have only treated of fifths, fourths, thirds major and minor, in ascending. *Ibid.* 512/2 The first are called *perfect chords major*, the second *perfect chords minor*. 1811 BUSBY *Dict. Mus.* s.v. *Key*, The natural keys of C major and A minor. 1855 BROWNING *Lovers' Quarrel* xviii, We shall have the word In a minor third There is none but the cuckoo knows. 1878 W. H. STONE *Sci. Basis Music* v. § 83, $\frac{25}{24}$ = *Minor Semitone*. 1889 E. PROUT *Harmony* (ed. 10) vii. § 171 This form is known as the *Harmonic* Minor Scale, the other two being called *Melodic* Minor Scales.

d. Minor chords and keys, as compared with major, have usually a mournful or pathetic effect; hence various figurative allusions.

1869 T. H. HIGGINSON *Army Life* 222 This minor-keyed pathos used to seem to me almost too sad to dwell upon. 1874 BURNAND *My Time* xvi. 142 His conversation was pitched in a minor key. 1900 *Daily News* 17 Oct. 4/7 —'s address..was pitched in a painfully minor mode.

7. Following the sb. qualified. **a.** In certain combinations correlative with similar combinations of MAJOR, e. g. *quint, tierce minor, bob-minor*: see QUINT *sb.*[2], TIERCE, BOB *sb.*[3] **b.** In boys' schools, appended (as a Latin adj.) to a surname to distinguish the younger (in age or standing) of two namesakes. (Abbreviated *mi.*)

1791 in *Eton School Lists* 1791–1850 (1863) 2 Mr. Douglas *ma.* Mr. Douglas *mi.* 1852 ROWCROFT *Conf. Etonian* I. 71 A member of the fifth form, Green minor by name. 1899 E. PHILLPOTTS *Human Boy* 108, I bet she will, when Corkey minor turns up.

III. 8. Under age; below the age of majority. Now *rare*.

1579–80 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* III. 272 We, being yit minor, within the aige of fourtene yeiris..annull all the saidis infeftmentis. 1597 SKENE *De Verb. Sign.* s.v. *Homagium*, [Homage] sulde be maid bi the vassall being *minor*, or *maior*, to his ouer-lorde. 1622 BACON *Hen. VII* 145 At which time neuerthelesse the King was Minor. 1658 SIR T. BROWNE *Hydriot.* ii. 9 Many..were persons of minor age, or women. 1754–62 HUME *Hist. Eng.* I. xiv. 351 A wife ..had made her minor son an instrument in this unnatural treatment of his father. 1818 HALLAM *Mid. Ages* (1872) II. 273 The public security..was thought incompatible with a minor king. 1844 H. H. WILSON *Brit. India* II. x. II. 431 A regard for the interests of the minor Raja.

B. *sb.* [The adj. used *elliptically*.]

1. A Franciscan friar. Cf. A. 1. Also Comb. *Minor-Observantine* = OBSERVANTINE.

13.. *Poem Times Edw. II* 163 in *Fol. Songs* (Camden) 331 Menour and Jacobin, And freres of the Carme, and of Seint Austin. *a* 1325 *Trental St. Gregory* 11 in *Anglia* XIII. 303 To mynor ne to frere Austyn To caryne [*read* carme] ne to Jacobyn. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 330 He sent for Jon Comyn, þe lord of Badenauh; To Dounfres suld he come, vnto þe Minours kirke. 1447 BOKENHAM *Seyntys* (Roxb.) 301 He..to the menours ordre went. *c* 1550 BALE *K. Johan* (Camden) 18 Jacobytes, Mynors, Whyght Carmes, and Augustynis. 1700 TYRRELL *Hist. Eng.* II. 882 The Preaching Friars and Minors exhorted him. 1761 *Ann. Reg.* 146 In the neighbourhood of Bagni..three convents of the brothers of Minor-observantins of the order of St. Francis.

2. *Logic.* The minor term or the minor premiss or proposition of a syllogism.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 382 Gabriel schal blow his horne or þai han preuyd þe mynor. 1540 COVERDALE *Conf. Standish* g viij, Of an euell Maior and Minor foloweth a weake conclusion. 1660 BOND *Scut. Reg.* 246 The Major no man can deny, the Minor is inviolable, and the Conclusion perfect and sound. 1711 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 175 The minor, or the assumption, is uncontroulable. 1840 MACAULAY *Clive* Ess. (ed. Montague) II. 463 Here the Commons stopped. They had voted the major and minor of Burgoyne's syllogism; but they shrank from drawing the logical conclusion.

3. A person under (legal) age; = INFANT 2.

1612 DAVIES *Why Ireland*, etc. 88 King Richard the second ..for the first tenne yeares of his raigne was a Minor. 1771 SMOLLETT *Humph. Cl.* 5 June, My uncle then gave him to understand that I was still a minor. 1848 KINGSLEY *Saint's Trag.* III. iii. 143 The minor's guardian guards the minor's lands. 1892 GILLESPIE *Bar's Priv. Internat. Law* (ed. 2) 312 A Dutch minor, who is by the law of Belgium major, cannot dispose of his real property in Belgium without [etc.]. *transf.* and *fig.* *c* 1680 BEVERIDGE *Serm.* (1729) I. 35 Our christian being thus confirmed he is now looked upon in the eye of the church as no longer a minor.

4. *Mus.* Short for *minor key, mode*, etc.: see A. 6.

1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XII. 547 *note*, Such a piece is.. upon A, with mi, la, and its minor. 1841 JEBB *Lect. Cathedral Serv.* ii. 15 A judicious use of the swell and a change from major to minor in the course of the Psalm. 1844 MRS. BROWNING *Drama of Exile* Poems 1850 I. 83 Floated on a minor fine Into the full chant divine.

b. In figurative or allusive use: see A. 6 d.

1844 MRS. BROWNING *Perplexed Music* Poems 1850 I. 329 The strain unfolds In sad, perplexed minors. 1873 BROWNING *Red Cott. Nt.-cap* 268 Over this sample would Corelli croon, Grieving, by minors, like the cushat-dove.

5. *Math.* †**a.** *Arith.* = SUBTRAHEND. *Obs.*

1612 COLSON *Gen. Treas., Art Arithm.* B bb 2 b, Of Substraction...The first number is to be called the *Maior*, grosse sum, sum total, or superior number...The second is named the *Minor*...The third is called the Remainer.

b. *Minor of a determinant* = *minor determinant* (see A. 3 c).

1850 SYLVESTER in *Philos. Mag.* XXXVII. 366 The whole of a system of rth minors being zero. *Ibid.*, We shall have only to deal with a system of *first* minors.

6. A name for moths of the genus *Miana*.

1843 HUMPHREYS & WESTWOOD *Brit. Moths* I. 179 *Miana literosa* (the rosy minor). *Miana strigilis* (the marbled minor). 1862 F. O. MORRIS *Brit. Moths* II. 115–117.

7. *Football.* A minor point.

1890 *Stratford on Avon Herald* 24 Oct. 2/1 No other points being scored, the 'good old second' were left victorious by 1 try and 2 minors to 1 minor. 1896 *Field* 1 Feb. 171/3 The bid for goal led to a minor being conceded by the visitors.

8. In boys' schools: One's younger brother or 'minor' namesake.

1863 [HEMYNG] *Eton School Days* vii. 82 Let my minor pass, you fellows!..Here, Chudleigh, just make room there.

9. Short for 'minor theatre', 'minor work'.

1837 T. HOOK *Jack Brag* xvii, She is engaged at one of the Minors, and calls herself, in the bills, Roseville. *a* 1849 H. COLERIDGE *Ess.* (1851) II. 153 Why is this play set down among Shakspeare's minors?

Minor, obs. or erron. f. MINA[2], MINER, MINOT.

Minorage (mə·inŏrĕdʒ). [f. MINOR + -AGE.] The condition of being under age; minority.

1888 E. SALT *Hist. Standon* 84 During the minorage of the heir.

Minorale, -all, obs. forms of MINERAL.

†**Minorand.** *Arith. Obs.* [ad. med.L. *minōrandus* (sc. *numerus*), gerundive of *minōrāre*: see next.] = MINUEND.

1709–29 V. MANDEY *Syst. Math., Arith.* 13 The Remainer added to the Subducend, if the Sum makes the Minorand, 'tis right.

†**Mi·norate,** *v. Obs.* [f. med.L. *minōrāt-*, ppl. stem of *minōrāre* to diminish, f. L. *minōr-em* less: see MINOR.] *trans.* To diminish, depreciate.

1534 *Act 26 Hen. VIII*, c. 6 § 11 This present acte..shall not extende..to..or minorate any liberties..or auctoritie of any lorde mareher. 1623 [see MINIMATE *v.*]. 1628 A. LEIGHTON in *Camden Misc.* VII. p. vi, Magnanimious Henry whom we do not name to minorate the parts of our present Soveraigne. 1682 SIR T. BROWNE *Chr. Mor.* III. § 10 Forget not how assuefaction unto anything minorates the passion from it. 1727 BAILEY vol. II, *Minorated*, diminished, or made less.

†**Minora·tion.** *Obs.* [agent-n. f. med.L. *minōrāre*: see prec. and -ATION.]

1. A lessening, diminution.

1607 WALSALL *Life Christ* C 4, This willing minoration and exinanition of himselfe. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* II. v. 86 The Loadstone, whose effluencies are both continuall, and communicable without a minoration of gravity. 1649 JER. TAYLOR *Gt. Exemp.* I. Ad Sect. v. 58 The excuse and minoration of our actuall impieties. 1696 PHILLIPS, *Minoration*, a diminishing, or making less. 1856 in MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*

2. Mild purgation by laxatives.

1684 tr. *Bonet's Merc. Compit.* VI. 229 Some minoration of the crude matter must be procured first by Clysters.

†**Mi·norative,** *a.* and *sb. Obs.* [f. MINORATE *v.* + -IVE. Cf. F. *minoratif* (Cotgr.).] **a.** *adj.* That diminishes or lessens. Of medicines: Gently laxative. **b.** *sb.* A gently laxative medicine.

1543 TRAHERON *Vigo's Chirurg.* IX. Add. 225 Clysters sometymes do supplye the rowme of minoratyve medicines. 1633 HART *Diet of Diseased* III. xiv. 284 When .. wee feare lest nature faint before perfect concoction, we may sometimes use a gentle minorative. 1747 tr. *Astruc's Fevers* 112 Nothing but minorative apozems should be ordered. *Ibid.* 232 Others give minoratives more frequently.

Minorca (minɒ·ɹkă). Also 9 **Menorca.** [Sp. *Menorca.*] The name of the second in size of the Balearic islands. Used *attrib.*, as *Minorca-fowl* (also *Minorca*), a much esteemed black variety of the domestic fowl introduced from Spain; *Minorca holly* (see quot.). Hence **Mino·rcan** and the equivalent †**Minorquin,** †**Menorquine** [Sp. *Menorquín*]. **a.** *adj.* of or belonging to the island of Minorca; **b.** *sb.* an inhabitant of Minorca; also, the language of the inhabitants of Minorca.

1760 SMOLLETT *Contin. Hist. Eng., Geo. II*, ann. 1756 I. 327 Five and twenty Minorquin bakers were hired. 1785 *Gentl. Mag.* LV. i. 66 The Minorquins, when they see an Englishman, follow him. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XV. 97/2 In character and manners, the Menorquines resemble the natives of Mallorca. 1848 E. S. DIXON *Orn. & Dom. Poultry* 251 In North Devon they call the Spanish Fowls 'Minorcas'. 1853 *Naturalist* III. 225 *Ilex Balearica*, the Minorca Holly; a very distinct variety of the Common Holly, being readily distinguished by its yellow green leaves. 1882–3 *Schaff's Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* III. 2065 During the British sway, a number of Minorcans and Greeks were introduced by Mr. Turnbull [into Florida]. 1897 BAGHOT DE LA BERE *New Poultry Guide* II. 38 Blue Andalusians, black Minorcas, and white Leghorns, all universally admitted to be prolific layers.

Minoress[1] (mə·inŏrĕs). *Obs.* exc. *Hist.* Forms: 4 menouresse, 5 meneresse, 7 minoress. [ME. *menouresse*, a. OF. *menouresse*, f. *menour* MINOR *sb.* 1: see -ESS. (In med.L. *minōrissa.*)] A nun of the second order of St. Francis, known as Poor Clares, whose house outside Aldgate gave its name to the *Minories*, a street still existing in the City of London.

Susters Meneresses (quot. 1451) is after OF. *sereurs meneresses.*

1395 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 7 The Religiouse Wommen the Menouresses dwellyngge withoute algate of london. 1451 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 224/1 The Abbesse and Covent of the Susters Meneresses withoute Algate. 1631 WEEVER *Anc. Funeral Mon.* 755 These Nunnes were of the order of S.

Clare, and called Minoresses. 1897 *Cath. Dict.* (ed. 5) 726/2 The first monastery of Franciscan nuns or Minoresses formed in England (1293) was outside Aldgate.

Minoress[2] (mə·inŏrĕs). *rare*—°. [f. MINOR + -ESS.] A female minor. 1882a in OGILVIE.

Minorist (mə·inŏrist). *rare*—[1]. [f. MINOR + -IST.] = MINORITE *sb.* 1.

1836 *Tracts for Times* No. 75. 9 The Fratres Minores (Minorists or Franciscans) adopted the new usage.

Minorite (mə·inŏrəit), *sb.* and *a.* [f. MINOR + -ITE.] **A.** *sb.*

1. A friar minor or Franciscan.

1577–87 HOLINSHED *Chron.* II. 41/2 Malachias, the minorit or greie frier. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 427 Iohn à Monte Coruino, a Minorite. 1760 JORTIN *Erasm.* II. 118 Then follows a short letter to some Minorites, who defamed Erasmus. 1883 JESSOP in *19th Cent.* July 99 The Minorites were the Low Churchmen of the 13th century.

2. † **a.** A person of minor rank (*obs.*). **b.** *allusive nonce-use.* One busied about minor matters.

1644 MILTON *Areop.* (Arb.) 41 Our inquisiturient Bishops, and the attendant minorites their Chaplains. *a* 1670 HACKET *Abp. Williams* II. (1693) 102 The Respondent takes no notice that a Bishop wrote the Letter: For why not rather some Minorite among the Clergy? 1807 SOUTHEY *Espriella's Lett.* (1814) I. 233 The ordinary pursuits of mankind are not as innocent as that of these experimental Minorites or Minims.

B. *adj.* Of the order of Friars Minor.

1563–87 FOXE *A. & M.* (1596) 236/2 The order of the minors or minorit friers descended from one Francis..of.. Assisium. 1598 HAKLUYT *Voy.* I. 53 A Frier Minorite, called Simon de Sanct. Quintin. *a* 1604 HANMER *Chron. Irel.* (1633) 73 There was another Livinus a French man, a Fryer minorite. 1766 ENTICK *London* IV. 310 On the scite .. there anciently stood the abbey of Minorite nuns. 1892 K. GOULD *Conversat. Döllinger* x. 245 S. Bonaventure, a member of the Minorite order.

Minority (mino·riti). [ad. F. *minorité* or med.L. *minōritās*, f. L. *minōr-em* MINOR: see -ITY. Cf. Sp. *minoridad*, Pg. *minoridade*, It. *minorità*.]

† **1.** The condition or fact of being smaller, inferior, or subordinate. *Obs.*

1533 MORE *Answ. to Poysoned Bk.* Wks. 1051/2 The minoritie, and the obedyence yᵗ the scripture speketh of in Christ, is all ment of his manhod. 1592 KYD *Sol. & Pers.* IV. ii. 62 What, art thou that petty pigmie that chalenged me at Rhodes, whom I refused to combat for his minoritie? 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* III. vi. 117 There may, I confesse, from this narrow time of gestation ensue a minority, or smallnesse in the exclusion. 1727–51 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Character*, ∠ Is the sign of minority.

2. The state of being minor or under age; the period during which a person remains under age; nonage; † *in*, † *within minority*, under age.

1547 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 78 Dispensand with thair minorite and less aige,..without payment of ony teind penny. 1579–80 NORTH *Plutarch, Comp. Theseus & Rom.* (1595) 45 Theseus..stole awaye Helen in hir minoritie, being nothing neere to consent to marrye. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* III. 217 The Pupill..is held under daies or in minority till he be twenty one yeres old. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* I. 7, I..being young, and within minority. 1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* V. xviii. 432 The minority of Princes ought not to lessen their Subjects reverence unto them. 1751 H. WALPOLE *Lett.* (1846) II. 404 It is become the peculiarity of the House of Orange to have minorities. 1856 EMERSON *Eng. Traits, Wealth* Wks. (Bohn) II. 76 A youth in England, emerging from his minority. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* vi. § 1. 265 The long minority of Henry the Sixth, who was a boy of nine months old at his father's death.

† **b.** The early part of life, youth. *Obs.*

1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* IX. 415 Such a man can neither seduce his minority with ill examples, nor marre his waxen age with a false impression. 1728 R. MORRIS *Ess. Anc. Archit.* p. xix, A Principle imbibed in Minority.

c. *transf.* and *fig.* Now *rare.*

1611 DONNE *Anat. World, 1st Annivers.* (1625) 12 When Stag, and Rauen, and the long liu'd tree..dy'de in minoritee. 1631 WEEVER *Anc. Funeral Mon.* 160 An old booke in broken English, which crept into the world in the minoritie of Printing. 1632 tr. *Bruel's Praxis Med.* 59 This disease..doth sticke close to the patient, vnlesse it bee taken away by medicines in its minority. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* I. vii. 25 Yet are our authorities but temporary and not to be imbraced beyond the minority of our intellectuals. 1653 MILTON *Hirelings* Wks. 1851 V. 373 For the Magistrate..to make the Church his meer Ward, as always in Minority,.. is neither just nor pious. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* VI. 616 In this her dark minority, how toils..the human soul!

3. The smaller number or part; a number which is less than half the whole number; *spec.* the smaller party voting together against a majority in a deliberative assembly or electoral body.

1736 AINSWORTH *Lat. Dict., Minority* (lesser number). 1755 in JOHNSON. 1789 BURKE *Corr.* (1844) III. 95 We are a minority; but then we are a very large minority. 1790 — *Fr. Rev.* (ed. 2) 186 In a democracy, the majority of the citizens is capable of exercising the most cruel oppressions upon the minority. 1809–10 COLERIDGE *Friend* (1865) 137 The tone of men, who are conscious that they are in a minority. 1828 MACAULAY *Ess., Hallam* ad fin., Conspiracies and insurrections in which small minorities are engaged. 1886–94 H. SPENCER *Autobiogr.* II. liii. 298 It is my habit to say what I think, though I may so show myself one of a very small minority, or even a minority of one. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 1004 The insufficiency of the mitral valve, which occurs in a minority of cases of exophthalmic goitre. 1903 R. D. SHAW *Pauline Ep.* II. i. 86 Men of pure Gallic blood must in Paul's time have been greatly in the minority.

4. In voting, the number of votes cast for or by the party opposed to the majority.

1774 BURKE *Sp. Amer. Tax.* Wks. II. 414 The minority did not reach to more than 39 or 40. 1788 JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1859) II. 533 The minorities in most of the accepting States have been very acceptable.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as **minority debt**, a debt incurred by a person while under age; **minority platform** *U.S.*, the 'platform' put forward by the minority of a party; **minority report**, a separate report framed by those members of a committee or other body who are unable to agree with the majority; **minority teller**, one who counts or records votes for a minority; † **minority waiter** (meaning obscure; by some explained as 'a waiter out of work', by others as 'an extraordinary tide-waiter', i.e. one not regularly employed).

1897 *Daily News* 13 May 8/5 The half-crown cigars were also *minority debts? 1905 *Daily Chron.* 24 June 6/6 He has raised £45,000..out of which he paid his minority debts. 1901 *N. Amer. Rev.* Feb. 271 The captors were able to defeat the *minority platform. 1902 *Daily Chron.* 27 Feb. 5/1 He had to occupy the unusual position of being the *minority-teller at the table. 1775 SHERIDAN *Rivals* II. i, I told Thomas that your Honour had already inlisted five dishanded chairmen, seven *minority waiters, and thirteen hilliard markers.

† **Mi·norize,** *v. Obs. rare*—[1]. [f. MINOR *a.* + -IZE. Cf. MINORATE *v.*] *trans.* To depreciate.

1615 SIR E. HOBY *Curry-combe* i. 34 Hee that will take vpon him to Minorize the learning of Authors.

† **Minorque.** *Obs. rare*—[1]. [Fr.: see MINORCA.] A kind of cloth.

1792 A. YOUNG *Trav. France* II. xix. (1794) II. 539 They make..camblets, calimancoes, minorques, coarse cloths.

Minorship (mə·inŏrʃip). [f. MINOR + -SHIP.] The state of being a minor (Ogilvie 1882).

‖ **Minot** (*mino*). [F., f. *mine* a measure of 6 bushels.] An obsolete French measure of capacity, varying according to locality and the nature of the commodity to be measured: the standard value was 3 (French) bushels = about 39.36 litre.

1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* IV. XXXIII. 155 b, Those which were found aswel in grayn, as fruits of yerely reuenues the quantity of 500. minots. 1668 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 259/4 His Majesty..intends..to abate 4 Crowns upon each Minot [*printed* minor], or measure of four French bushels of Salt. 1727 BRAOLEY *Fam. Dict.* s. v. *Bread*, They take a Minot of this Flower..leaven and boult it, and cover it well with the same Flower or Meal. 1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v. *Measure*, The minot consists of three bushels; the mine of two minots. 1820 RANKEN *Hist. France* VIII. VIII. vi. 393 The minot contained three bushels.

Minotary, obs. form of MINATORY.

Minotaur (mi·nŏtɔ̤r). *Gr. Myth.* [ad. Gr. Μινώταυρ-os (L. *Minōtaur-us*, OF. *Minotaur*, F. *Minotaure*), f. Μίνως Minos + ταῦρος bull.] A fabulous monster, the son of Pasiphaë, wife of Minos king of Crete, and a bull, represented as having the body of a man and the head of a bull. He was confined in the Cretan labyrinth and fed with human flesh. He was slain by Theseus, who thus freed Athens from her annual tribute of seven youths and seven maidens to be devoured by the monster. Hence used *allusively*.

c 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 2104 (*Ariadne*) The mynatour [*v. rr.* Mynotawr(e, -taure, Mynataur]. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 304 Minotaure. *c* 1470 HENRYSON *Mor. Fab.* v. (*Parl. Beasts*) xiv, The minotaur, ane monster meruelous. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Fenȝeit Freir* 66 The Menatair [*v.r.* Mynataur] marvelus. 1591 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. VI*, v. iii. 189 There Minotaurs and vgly Treasons lurke. 1592 DANIEL *Compl. Rosamond* lxix, Heere I inclos'd from all the world a sunder, The Minotaure of shame kept for disgrace. 1876 GEO. ELIOT *Dan. Der.* III. xxii, But don't give yourself for a meal to a minotaur like Bult. 1900 *United Service Mag.* Jan. 427 All those who were the hope and future strength of the race were devoured by the Imperial Minotaur [*sc.* Napoleon] in pursuit of his dream of universal domination.

b. A representation of this, esp. *Her.*

c 1386 CHAUCER *Knt.'s T.* 122 And by his Baner born is his penoun Of gold ful riche, in which ther was yhete The Mynotaur which þat he slough in Crete. 1572 BOSSEWELL *Armorie* II. 49 R. beareth azure, a Minotaure d' Argente. 1776 BURNEY *Hist. Mus.* (1789) I. II. iii. 337 In a medal inscribed Caleno the Minotaur is seen.

Minouet, obs. form of MINUET.

Minour, obs. form of MINER.

† **Mino·very.** *Law. Obs.* [app. a corrupt form of MANŒUVRE. The source from which Cowell obtained the word is unknown.] (See quot.)

1607 COWELL *Interpr., Minovery*..signifieth some trespasse or offence committed by a man's handie work in the Forest, as an engyn to catch Deere.

[Hence in Dicts.; those of recent date substitute the form *manovery*.]

Minow, obs. form of MINNOW.

Minowaye, variant of MINAWAY (= minuet).

† **Minozin.** *Obs.*

1680 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1567/4 A sad Minozin colour cloth Coat.

Minrall, Minre, obs. ff. MINERAL, MINE *pron.*

Minse, -sed, -sen, -ser, obs. ff. MINCE, etc.

Minsh, -ery, obs. forms of MINCH, -ERY.

† **Minsical,** *a. Obs. rare*—[1]. [? f. MINCE *v.* + -ICAL.] ? Mincing, dainty.

a 1586 SIDNEY *Wanstead Play* in *Arcadia*, etc. (1605) 571 A woman, of a minsicall countenance, but..not three quarters so beautious as your selfe.

† **Mi·nsing.** *Obs.* [f. **minse* vb. (cogn. w. MIN *v.*) + -ING [1].] Remembrance.

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* 326 Of hym ys mynsyng wiþ-outen ende, ffor he made a cite of ioye After his name, & calde hit Troye. — *Chron.* (1810) 201 Þi misdede he in Þi mynsyng, Euer more to drede, eft to do suilke þing.

Minsitive: see MINCEATIVE.

Minster[1] (mi·nstəɹ). Forms: 1, 4–6 mynster, 3–6 mynstre, 2 minister, 3 munster, -tre, 4 mynyster, -tre, menestre, mynstire, 4–5 mynstere, mynistre, 5 mynester, mynstir, ministre, minstre, 1, 6- minster. [OE. *mynster*:—prehistoric **munistrjo*, a. popular L. **monisterium* = Eccl. L. *monastērium* MONASTERY. Cf. OHG. *munistri* (MHG., mod.G. *münster*), MDu. *monster* (early mod.Du. *munster*), ON. *mustari*.]

† **1.** A monastery; a Christian religious house.

a 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* I. XXXIII. (Schipper), Wæs se æresta abbud þæs ylcan mynstres [L. *eiusdem monasterii*] Petrus haten. *c* 1205 LAY. 29357 Gurmund ſalde þa munstres and an-heng alle þa munkes. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) I. 261 Faste hy þe mynystre [L. *cenobium*] of Seint Michel is marbil i-founde. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 6695 A mynstere, Duellyng for monkes and him in fere. *c* 1475 *Partenay* 2596 Faire maillers, that ministre roiall. 1513 BRADSHAW *St. Werburge* II. 91 Erle Leofrice repared..The mynstre of Werburge, gyuyng therto liberte.

2. The church of a monastery; a church which had its origin in a monastic establishment; also applied gen. to any church of considerable size or importance, esp. a collegiate or cathedral church.

c 960 *Laws K. Edgar* I. i, Man agife ælce teoðunge to þam ealdan mynstre [L. *ad matrem ecclesiam*] þe seo hyrnes tohyrð. 1056–66 *Inscription* (at Kirkdale Ch. Yorksh.), Orm Gamal syna bohte sēs Gregorivs minster ðonne hit wes æl tobrocan & tofalan. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 3230 Þe heye munstre of winchestre. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 1063 Þe al-myȝty was her mynyster mete, Þe lombe þe saker-fyse þer to reget. 1389 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 30 Seynt Willyams toumbe in ye mynstre of ye trinyte. *c* 1450 *Merlin* vi. 98 Than thei..yeden a-gein in-to the mynistre to heir oute the masse. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* XIII. ix. 624, I shal assay to bere hit [the shield], and soo bare hit oute of the mynstre. *c* 1599 *Acc. Bk. W. Wray* in *Antiquary* XXXII. 278 The colligiat churche or minster..in Ripo'. *a* 1645 HABINGTON *Surv. Worcs.* in *Worcs. Hist. Soc. Proc.* II. 191 The cloyster of the Mynster of Worcester. 1675 OGILBY *Brit.* (1698) 20 The Cathedral or Minster [at Lincoln] is a stately structure. 1771 SMOLLETT *Humph. Cl.* 4 July, As for the minster [at York], I know not how to distinguish it, except by its great size. *a* 1878 SIR G. G. SCOTT *Lect. Archit.* (1879) I. 200 Yorkshire is especially the land of minsters and abbey-churches. 1898 LEACH in *Beverley Ch. Act Bk.* (Surtees) Introd. 34 The word minster itself is peculiarly one used not of monasteries but of secular churches—York, Beverley, Ripon, Southwell, Lincoln, Lichfield, Wimborne, these are the churches to which the title of minster has clung,..and they were one and all churches of secular canons.

† **b.** *transf.* A temple. *Obs.*

c 1200 ORMIN 7580 Þe33 comenn inntill ȝerrsalæm & inntill Godess minnstre. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 2174 When he was full þare & fedd he flittis with his ost, To Tergarontes he teȝe þare tiȝt was a mynstre. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) xvi. 174 Before the Mynstre of this Ydole is a Vyvere. 1562 PHAER *Æneid* VII. Z iv b, Three hundred mynsters chief along the towne wyde open stands. 1581 NUCE *Seneca's Octavia* II. ii. 174 b, Whom as a God in minsters we adorne.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *minster-aisle* (also *fig.*), *-church, -door, -fund, -gate, -garth, pile, -quire, -yard*; † **minster book,** a book used in church.

c 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 4263 Þe *mynster yles were made as warde. 1863 HAWTHORNE *Our Old Home, Lichfield* I. 211 Overarched by a minster-aisle of venerable trees. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 109 Alse þe holi *minster-boc seið. 1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* iii, I believe she thinks the whole world is one great *Minster-church. 13.. *St. Erkenwolde* 128 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 269 *Mynster-dores were makyd opone, quene matens were songene. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* C. 268 As mote in at a munster dor, so mukel wern his chawles. 14.. *Sir Beues* (M.) 4275 The kyngis doughter was..to the mynester durre I-led, Vnto sir Myles was she wed. 1829 G. POULSON *Beverlac* 681 Trustees of the *minster fund. *c* 1400 *St. Alexius* (Cotton) 200 Withowtyn att the *mynster yate. 1393 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) I. 185 My graven in the *mynster Garth. 1866 NEALE *Sequences & Hymns* 131 Lincoln's *minster pile. 1634–5 BRERETON *Trav.* (Chetham Soc.) 72 Erected in the *minster-quire. 1842 W. WHITE *Directory Lincs.* 124 *Minster yard.

† **Mi·nster**[2]. *Obs.* [From the name of *Münster* a German city, capital of Westphalia.] A kind of linen cloth originally imported from Münster.

1612 *Sc. Bk. Customs* in *Halyburton's Ledger* (1867) 321 Minsters the rowle contening xv hundreth elnis, iiiᶜxx li. 1698–9 HOUGHTON *Collect. Husb. & Trade* No. 343 (1727) II. 382 Of minsters from Germany 74246 ells.

Minster, obs. form of MINISTER *v.*

Minstracy, -trall, -tralsie, -sy, obs. ff. MINSTREL, -TRELSY.

† **Mi·nstraly.** *Sc. Obs.* Forms: 4 **menstrely,** 4, 6 **-traly,** 6 **menstrallie, -tralie, -ye.** [f. MINSTREL + -Y.] = MINSTRELSY.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* XXXIII. (*George*) 191 Til haf had menstrely & in all degre haf mad mery. *Ibid.* 662 Þane wes mad gret ioy in hy with syndry kynde of menstraly. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* lxxviii. 13 For mirth, for menstrallie and play. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* vi. 65 Appollo..vitht his sueit menstralye. 1567 *Gude & Godlie Ball.* (S.T.S.) 37 Quhen that he..hard the menstrallie [*v.r.* menstraly] anone, The dansing, and the greit blythnes [etc.].

Minstre, obs. form of MINISTRY.

Minstrel (mi·nstrĕl), *sb.* Forms: *α.* 3 menestral, (*pl.* menestraus); *β.* 4 mynystrel, ministrele, minestrale, 4–5 mynystral, 5 mynistralle, 6 mynystrell, mynnystrelle, (*7 arch.* ministrel); *γ.* 4 menstrelle, 4–5 menstrale, -alle, 4–6, 7 *Sc.* menstral, 5 *Sc.* menstraille, 5–6 menstrell, 6 menstrall; *δ.* 4 mynstrsell, -tral(e, (munstral), 4–5 minstral(e, mynstralle, 4–6 mynstrel(le, minstralle, 5 minstrall, 5–6 minstrelle, 6 minstril, mynstrell, 6–7 minstrell, 7 minstrill, 6– minstrel. [a. OF. *menestral, -terel, ministral, -terel* (F. *ménestrel*) = Pr. *menestral* officer, person employed, attendant, musician:—late L. *ministeriālem* one having an official duty, f. *ministerium*: see MINISTRY.

OF. had a synon. *menestrier* (mod.F. *ménétrier* village musician), f. *menestrel* with alteration of suffix. The It. *ministrello*, Sp. *ministril*, Pg. *ministrel*, are formed after Fr.]

†**1.** *gen.* A servant having a special function. *Obs. rare*—¹.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 84 An oðer half, nimeð nu 3eme of hwuche two mesteres þeos two menestraus [*sc.* the flatterer and the backbiter] serneð hore louerde, þe deofle of helle.

2. In early use (i.e. down to the end of the 16th c.), a general designation for any one whose profession was to entertain his patrons with singing, music, and story-telling, or with buffoonery or juggling. In modern romantic and historical use commonly with narrowed and elevated application: A mediæval singer or musician, esp. one who sang or recited, to the accompaniment of his own playing on a stringed instrument, heroic or lyric poetry composed by himself or others.

The use of the word in romantic poetry and fiction has so coloured its meaning that the application to a mere jester, mountebank, or conjuror, originally common, would now seem inappropriate.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 5509 Menestrel he was god ynou & harpare in eche poynte. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. Prol. 33 And summe Murþþes to maken as Munstrals cunne. ?*a* 1366 CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 764 Ther mightest thou see these flouțours, Minstrales, and eek Iogelours. *c* 1386 — *Sir Thopas* 134 Do come he seyde my Mynstrales And geestours for to tellen tales Anon in myn Armynge. 14.. *Nom.* in Wr.-Wülcker 693 *Hic prestigiator*, mynstralle. 1423 in T. Sharp *Diss. Pageants Coventry* (1825) 207 Thei have retained Matthew Ellerton..& John Trumpor Mynstrells as for the Cite of Coventry. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* ccclvi. 245 He saw mynstrallis & iogullurs. *Ibid.*, He said, hym had Ievur clethe Criste þer-with, or pure men, þan for to giff þaim to mynstrallis, for, he said, it was no noder to giff to mynstrals bod for to offyr to fendis. 1508 in Lysons *Envir. Lond.* (1792) I. 226 To the menstorell upon May-day, o o 4. 1535 COVERDALE *Matt.* ix. 23 When Iesus came into the rulers house, and sawe the minstrels [so 1611] and the people raginge. 1539 CROMWELL in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) II. 236 Item youe shall allowe to Mr. Brereton and Mr. Gryffith their chaplaynes and minstralles. 1553 EDEN *Treat. Newe Ind.* (Arb.) 25 Al the musicions & minstrels..playe on theyr instrumentes. 1559 ABP. HETHE in Strype *Ann. Ref.* (1824) I. App. vi. 403 Kinge Davyd..placed himselfe amongest the mynystrells. 1597 *Maldon, Essex* Liber C. 146 b, The said John Cooke..shall .. the said John Hill..instructe..in the..arte misterie and facultie of a minstrell. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Minstrel*, a Player on the Violin; a Fidler, or Piper. 1768 BEATTIE (*title*) The Minstrel. 1805 SCOTT (*title*) The Lay of the Last Minstrel. 1846 WRIGHT *Ess. Mid. Ages* I. ii. 68 The [Anglo-Norman] minstrel shows himself everywhere a bitter satirist upon ecclesiastics. 1850 O. WINSLOW *Inner Life* vi. 181 The banquet is ready and the minstrels are tuning their harps.

¶ **b.** Used derisively with pun on *minister*.

1589 NASHE *Almond for Parrat* 8 b, I forgette to tel you what a stirre he keepes against dumbe ministers, and neuer writes nor talkes of them, but hee calleth them minstrels.

3. *transf.* Used *poet.* or *rhetorically* for a musician, singer, or poet.

1718 PRIOR *Solomon* II. 71 Music's force can..make..the lynx forget His wrath to man, and lick the minstrel's feet. 1819 WORDSW. *To Dr. Wordsw.* 1 The Minstrels played their Christmas tune To-night beneath my cottage-eaves. 1831 — *Yarrow Revisited* I. 8, I stood, looked, listened, and with Thee, Great Minstrel of the Border! 1839 — *Th. on Banks Nith* 56 Sweet Mercy! to the gates of Heaven This Minstrel lead, his sins forgiven. *a* 1881 ROSSETTI *House of Life* ix, Behold this minstrel is unknown; Bid him depart, for I am minstrel here.

4. Chiefly in *plural* and with prefixed defining word, as *Christy, negro, nigger minstrels*: The designation assumed by certain bands of public entertainers in the U.S. and subsequently also in England, who, with blacked faces and wearing grotesque costumes, performed interludes representing negro life in the southern states, with songs and music ostensibly of negro origin.

1864, 1871 [see NEGRO 3]. 1873 [see CHRISTY]. 1904 *Daily Chron.* 29 Mar. 3/6 April 9 has been fixed for the last performance of the Mohawk Moore and Burgess Minstrels at St. James's Hall.

5. *attrib.*

1715-20 POPE *Iliad* XXIV. 81 This Minstrel God,.. Stood proud to Hymn, and tune his youthful Lyre. 1767 PERCY *Ess. Anc. Minstrels* in *Reliq.* (1794) I. p. liv, The old Minstrel-ballads are in the northern dialect. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* VI. xiv, Free from thy minstrel-spirit glanced, Fling me the picture of the fight. 1813 — *Trierm.* I. xix, The attributes of those high days Now only live in minstrel-lays.

Hence **Mi·nstrel** *v. trans.*, to sing of, celebrate in song. **Mi·nstreless**, a female minstrel. **Mi·nstrelling** *vbl. sb.*, the performance of music. †**Mi·nstrelship**, (*a*) minstrelsy, the performance of music; (*b*) (with possessive pronoun) the personality of a minstrel.

1471 in T. Sharp *Diss. Pageants Coventry* (1825) 35 It' paid to the waytes for mynstrelship..vj*s*. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S. T. S.) I. 381 With singing and danceing, minstrelling and playing. 1647 *Haddington Presbyt. Rec.* in *Baron Crt. of Stitchill* (1905) Introd. 35 Profane minstrellings in time of dinner or supper tends to great debauchery. 1817 *Blackw. Mag.* I. 169 No monument tells, 'mid the wilderness green, Where the minstreless lies of the Border the last. 1821 T. L. PEACOCK *Maid Marian* xvi. 218 I'll knock your musical noddles together... That will be a new tune for your minstrelships. *Ibid.* 219 Touch thou shalt not: my minstrelship defies thee. 1873 LELAND *Egypt. Sketch Bk.* 127 Such poets as Bayard Taylor, who once minstrelled an Arab's horse.

Minstrelsy (mi·nstrĕlsi). Forms: *α.* 4 menestrelsy, -tralcie, menistralsi; *β.* 4 menstralcye, 5 menstralcy, -sie, -sy; 4 menstracie, menstracy, 5 menstrasy (e; *γ.* 4 mynystralsye; *δ.* 4 (mistralsi, munstralsye), minstralcie, -cye, mynstralcie, 4–5 minstralcy, mynstralcye, -sy, 4, 8 minstralsy, 5 mynstralsi, -sie, mynstrelsee, -cye, mynstrylsy, 5–6 mynstralcy, -sye, mynstrelsy, 6 minstrelcy, 6–7 minstralsie, 7 minstrelsie; 4 minstracie, mynstrasy, -trecye, -trisye, 5 (munstrassye), mynstracy; 7– minstrelsy. [ad. OF. *menestralsie, -trancie*, f. *menestrel* a minstrel: see MINSTREL.]

1. The art, occupation, or practice of a minstrel; the practice of playing and singing; in mod. use only *poet.* and *arch.* † *To make minstrelsy*, to produce music.

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 4716 He hadde no grace to sey with-alle His graces ryghte denountely For þe noyse of þe mynstralsy. 13.. *Seuyn Sag.* (W.) 3363 Than was thare made grete menestrelsy. *a* 1350 *St. Thomas* 38 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 20 Þare was .. grete mirth of sere menistralsi [*v.r.* mistralsi]. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 1155 Alle maner menstracie þere was mad. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. III. 11 Þer was Murþe and Munstralsye Meede with to plese. 1393 *Ibid.* C. XVI. 196 What manere mynstralcie .. Hast þow vsed? *c* 1440 *Bone Flor.* 168 Thorow the towne the knyghtes sange, .. Makeyng swete mynstralcy. 1535 COVERDALE *Ecclus.* xl. 20 Wyne and mynstralsye reioyse the hert. 1602 *2nd Pt. Return fr. Parnas.* I. ii. (Arb.) 11 He did chaunt his rurall minstralsie. 1697 COLLIER *Ess. Mor. Subj.* II. (1709) 24 To have our Passions lie at the mercy of a little Minstrelsy. 1768 BEATTIE *Minstr.* I. xvi, Save one short pipe of rudest minstrelsy. 1862 GOULBURN *Pers. Relig.* 104 The minstrelsy of psalms and hymns, and spiritual songs. 1867 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1877) I. v. 274 Verses which breathe the true fire of the warlike minstrelsy common to Greek and Teuton.

†**b.** Harmony. *Obs.*

1605 CAMDEN *Rem., Rhymes* 18 Which delighted in nothing more then in this Minstrelsie of meeters.

2. A body of minstrels; an assemblage or gathering of minstrels.

c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 5011 So many maner minstracie at þat mariage were. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Sqr.'s T.* 260 To-forn hym gooth the loude Mynstralcye. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* lxiv. 276 (Harl. MS.), Oþer worthi lady 3ede to þe same chirch, with gret mynstracy afore hire. 1480 CAXTON *Chron. Eng.* ccxli. 267 Euery man in good aray and euery crafte with his mynstralsye. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VI. 168 Ministring Spirits, trained up in Feast and Song; Such haste thou arm'd, the Minstrelsie of Heav'n. 1740 SOMERVILLE *Hobbinol* III. 231 Before him march in Files The rural Minstralsy. 1800-24 CAMPBELL *On Camp Hill near Hastings* iii, At the Conqueror's side There his minstrelsy sat harp in hand. 1855 PRESCOTT *Philip II*, I. iv. I. 49 The minstrelsy played before them till they reached the royal residence.

†**3.** *collect.* A number or collection of musical instruments. Also, a kind of musical instrument.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Manciple's T.* 9 Pleyen he koude on euery Mynstralcie. 1447 BOKENHAM *Seyntys* (Roxb.) 186 The voys of orgons and of dyvers menstralcy. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. ccxcix. 443 The spanyerdes .. departed, makyng great noyse of trumpettes and other mynstrelsies.

4. Minstrel poetry; *occas.* a body of minstrel poetry.

1802 SCOTT (*title*) Minstrelsy of the Scottish Border. 1830 H. N. COLERIDGE *Grk. Poets* (1834) 35 The Iliad and the Odyssey..are compilations..arranged by successive editors, but still compilations of minstrelsies, the works of various poets in the heroic age. 1845 CRAIK *Hist. Lit. Eng.* V. 150 That remarkable body of national song known as the Jacobite minstrelsy.

Minstryng, obs. form of MINISTERING *sb.*

Mint (mint), *sb.*[1] Forms: 1 mynyt, -it, -et, munet, 1–2, 4–5 menet, 5 myntte, 5–7 mynt, 6 minte, 6– mint. [OE. *mynet* neut., repr. (with change of gender) WGer. **munita* fem., a. L. *monēta*: see MONEY. Cf. OFris. *menote, munte* fem., OS. *munita* fem. (MDu. *munte*, Du. *munt* fem.), OHG. *munizza* fem., *muniz* masc. and neut. (MHG. *münze*, mod.G. *münze* fem.). From LG. the word passed into the Scandinavian langs.: ON., Sw., Da. *mynt*.]

1. A piece of money, a coin; money. *Obs.*

From 16th c. only *slang*: possibly reintroduced in this use from LG.

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) N 144 *Nomisma*, mynit. *c* 975 *Rushw. Gosp.* Matt. xxii. 19 Eawað me mynet]*c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* mynyt, *c* 1160 *Hatton* menet; Vulg. *numisma*] þæs gæfles. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 192 3enim pipores swilce an mynet 3eweze, diles sædes swilce .iiii. mynet 3ewezen. 1340 *Ayenb.* 241 Vor pouerte is þet menet huermide me bayþ þe riche of heuene. *c* 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* III. 1069 These [*sc.* pigs] if me spende, or mynt for hem reseyue. 1567 HARMAN *Caveat* (1869) 83 Mynt, golde. 1621 B. JONSON *Metam. Gypsies* in *Horace*, etc. (1640) 54 Strike faire at some Jewell That mint [1641 *fol.*, mine] may accrue well. 1666 HEAD *Eng. Rogue* I. iv. 33. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew.* 1848 MRS. GASKELL *M. Barton* xxiii, You'll want money... You must take some of the mint I've got laid by in the old tea-pot.

2. A place where money is coined; usually, a place where lawful money is coined under the authority and direction of the state. *Master of the mint* (perh. orig. in sense 1): the chief officer and custodian of the mint.

(Since 1869 the offices of Master and Worker of the Mint have been nominally held by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, who has direct control of the establishment.)

1423 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 256/2 The maister of the mynte aforeseid [*previously called* maistre of the koyne]. *c* 1475 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 286 For and ther were a myntte ordeyned ny therby. *a* 1552 LELAND *Itin.* (1769) IV. 125 There was .. a Mint of Coynage in Coventrye. 1553 in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* (1721) III. App. v. 8 Her Majestie hath ordered and established to be made within her mintes these seueral coynes. 1603 JAS. I in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. I. III. 67 The Warden of our Mynt and Woorkmaster of our Moneys there. 1670 LADY MARY BERTIE in *12th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 21 At the Tower .. I saw the lyons and Mint. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Master of the Mint*, an Officer now call'd *The Warden of the Mint.* 1787 *Phil. Trans.* LXXVII. 204 *note*, The experiments..were made.. at his Majesty's Mint in the Tower. 1836 in *Rep. Committee Roy. Mint* (1837) App. 28 The Cash Account of the Master of the Mint. 1853 HUMPHREYS *Coin-coll. Man.* I. vi. 66 The Carthaginians .. had a national mint established in the Acropolis of Carthage.

b. A set of machines for coining.

1592 R. D. *Hypnerotomachia* 7 This Image was..mooved about with such a noyse..as if the mynte of the Queene of England had been going there! 1642 CHAS. I *Sp.* Wks. 1662 I. 412, I have sent hither for a Mint. 1832 BABBAGE *Econ. Manuf.* xi. (ed. 3) 94 The mint which was sent a few years since to Calcutta was capable of coining 200,000 pieces a day.

3. *transf.* and *fig.* A place in which the fabrication (of anything) is carried on; a source of invention or fabrication.

1555 EDEN *Decades* 331 b, The..matrices of moste estemed ryches, and the myntes of al treasures are the mountaynes. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* I. i. 166 A man..That hath a mint of phrases in his braine. 1610 BP. CARLETON *Jurisd.* 141 If that decree were forged,..with many moe: Let the Romane forgery be acknowledged, and the Masters of that mint knowne. 1709 SACHEVERELL *Serm.* 15 Aug. 16 The Pulpit, and the Press, those Mints of Atheism. 1715 BENTLEY *Serm.* x. (1809) 348 Rome .. should possess the sole mint of all spiritual licences and pardons. *a* 1792 WOLCOT (P. Pindar) *Ode to Pretty Milliner* Wks. 1794 III. 327 A kiss!—a thousand kisses let me add—Ten thousand from thy unexhausted mint. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* lxxix, But thou and I are one in kind, As moulded like in Nature's mint. 1874 L. STEPHEN *Hours in Library* (1892) I. v. 192 All these [tales] bear the unmistakable stamp of Hawthorne's mint. 1905 R. F. HORTON *Child & Relig.* vii. 276 The Bible ought to be taught to every English child, as .. the Mint of our noblest speech.

†**4.** Coinage. *Obs.*

1483 in *Lett. & Papers Rich. III & Hen. VII* (Rolls) I. 45 A lettre undre the kinges prive seall concernyng the mynte of Irlande. 1622 BACON *Hen. VII* 235 For Minte, and Warres, and Marshall Discipline, (things of Absolute Power) he would neuerthelesse bring to Parliament.

b. In phrase *to pass the Mint* (with allusion to the assaying department of the Mint).

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* To Rdr. A 4 b, So when any considerable Supplement of New English Words have legally pass'd the Mint and Test of our Vertuosi, the same liberty [of reprinting with additions] may be allowed this Work.

5. †**a.** A quantity (of money) coined. *Obs.*

1579 FENTON *Guicciard.* I. (1599) 16 They were plentifully furnished..with so rich a mynt of money [orig. *tanta copia di danari*], that it sufficed against all wants.

transf. 1598 J. DICKENSON *Greene in Conc.* (1878) 100 He vanished, leauing mee extreamely discontented; for I had ready a mint of questions.

b. Hence, a vast sum (of money); rarely *transf.* a vast amount (of something costly).

1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* IX. vi. § 19. 172 A mass, a mint, a mine of mony could easily be advanced to defray the expences thereof. 1729 BRADLEY *Riches of Hop-garden* 2 Expect Mints of Money to tumble into their Laps for a little Secret. 1833 MARRYAT *P. Simple* i, He must have lost a mint of money. 1869 BLACKMORE *Lorna D.* xxi, He was so tasselled, and so ruffled with a mint of bravery. 1874 SPURGEON *Treas. Dav.* Ps. xciv. 16 Our John Knox would be worth a mint at this hour, but where is he?

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as **mint-bill**, a bill or promissory note given by the officers of the mint to the importer of bullion deposited for coining; **mint duties**, certain taxes formerly appropriated to the maintenance of the Royal Mint; **mint hog** *slang*, an Irish shilling; †**mint-house**, a building in which money is coined; †**mintmaker**, 'a moneyer'; †**mint man**, one engaged or skilled in coining; also *transf.*; **mint phrase**, a phrase coined for a purpose; **mint price**, the standard price of bullion as recognized at the mint; **mint-stamp** *Numism.* = MINT-MARK (also *fig.*); **mint-state** *Numism.*, the condition in which a coin

comes from the mint (also *transf.*, of a postage-stamp); **mint-token**, a token of a nominal value issued by legal authority from a mint; **mint value** = *mint price*. Also MINT-MARK, MINT-MASTER.

1707 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4330/5 The New Edict in France for making their *Mint-Bills current throughout the Kingdom. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XV. 253/1 It [coin] is delivered to the owner weight for weight, as expressed in the mint bill which had been given. 1782 G. & F. GARBETT in *Rep. Committee Roy. Mint* (1837) App. 221 Certain duties upon brandy and strong waters under the title of *Mint duties. 1806 CARR *Stranger in Irel.* iii. 65 The genuine Irish shillings, called by the low Irish *Mint hogs. 1605 STOW *Ann., Jas. I*, 1414 The next day he saw .. the *mint-houses. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* II. 248 The Hungarian gold and silver employed mint-houses, not only in Hungary, but in Germany, and the continent of Europe. *c* 1483 CAXTON *Dialogues* 2 Of *myntemakers [F. *monnoyers*] and pybakers. 1605 TIMME *Quersit.* I. xvi. 82 The which is wel known to..euery goldsmith and *mintman. 1624 BACON *War w. Spain* (1629) 2 He that thinketh Spaine to be some great Ouermatch for this Estate..is no good Mint-man; But takes greatnesse of Kingdomes according to their Bulke and Currency. 1752 CARTE *Hist. Eng.* III. 384 They proposed to coin their plate to pay them: but the mintmen stole off with their stamps and irons. 1626 B. JONSON *Staple of N.* IV. iv. 74, I wyll tyde This affayre for you; giue it freight and passage, And such *mynt-phrase, as 'tis the worst of canting, By how much it affects the sense it has not. 1758 J. HARRIS *Money & Coins* II. ii. 56 The market price of bullion might be frequently above the *mint price. 1892 H. R. GRENFELL in *Pall Mall G.* 24 Dec. 2/3 Law has instituted the so-called mint price for gold. 1817 D'ISRAELI *Cur. Lit.* 1st Ser. III. 183 That all men .. should take the *mint-stamp of their thoughts from the Council of Trent. 1837 in *Rep. Committee Roy. Mint* Index 22 The Mint stamp is for the security of the refiner. 1902 *Daily Chron.* 16 Jan. 7/7 The Niger Coast 5*s.* [*sc.* postage stamp] in violet on 2*d.*, and the 10*s.* in vermilion on 5*d.*, both unused and in *mint state. 1716 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5439/3 A small Copper Coin, under the Name of *Mint-Tokens, shall be current throughout his Dominions for half a Rixdollar.

Mint (mint), *sb.*[2] Forms: 1–6 **minte**, 1, 4–6 **mynte**, 3–7 **mente**, 5–6 **mynt**, 6 **mynthe**, 6– **mint**. [OE. *minte* wk. fem. (? Mercian *mint* str. fem.) = OHG. *minza* (MHG., mod.G. *minze*):—WG. **minta*, a. L. *menta*, *mentha*, Gr. *μίνθη* (also *μίνθος*). A synonym of unexplained form is WGer. **muntja*, represented by M.Du. *munte* (Du. *munt* fem.), OHG. *munza* (MHG., mod.G. *münze*). The obsolete Eng. form *mente* may be influenced by F. *mente* (now written *menthe*), whence also the MDu. variant *mente*.]

1. Any one of the aromatic labiate plants of the genus *Mentha*, esp. *M. viridis*, Garden Mint or SPEARMINT, well known in cookery. Until the 18th c. frequently with *a* and in *pl.*

c 975 *Rushw. Gosp.* Matt. xxiii. 23 Forþon ge þe tæcþiaþ mintæ [*c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* mintan] & dile & cymen. *c* 1260 *Gloss. Names Plants* in *Rel. Ant.* I. 37 *Menta*, mente, minten. ?*a* 1366 CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 731 A litel path .. Of mentes ful and fenel grene. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. cvi. (Tollem. MS.) Mynte of gardynes is an herbe þat multiplyeþ it selfe. *c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 60 Mintis stampid wiþ salt. *c* 1450 *ME. Med. Bk.* (Heinrich) 69 Take smalache, & myntes, & rewe, and betonye. 1530 PALSGR. 660/2 Plucke these roses whyle I plucke these myntes. 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus*, *Menta*, *mentæ*, ..Mintes. 1593 B. BARNES *Parthenophil* Ode xi. in Arb. *Garner* V. 456 Fragrant violets, and sweet mynthe, Matched with purple hyacinth. 1618 LATHAM *and Bk. Falconry* (1633) 143 Mintes is hot and dry in the third degree. 1733 TULL *Horse-Hoeing Husb.* I. 11, I plac'd a Mint, with half its Roots in the Glass. *Ibid.*, The Mints stood just upon the ends of the Trough. 1876 HARLEY *Mat. Med.* (ed. 6) 471 Mint has long been used in Medicine.

b. With defining word, as **bergamot mint**, *M. citrata*; **brandy mint**, PEPPERMINT, *M. piperita*; **brook, fish, horse, water, wild mint**, *M. sylvestris* and other wild species; **brown, mackerel mint**, old names for *M. viridis*; **corn mint**, *M. arvensis*; **crisp(ed, cross, curled mint**, *M. crispa*.

1578 LYTE *Dodoens* II. lxxiv. 243 The garden Myntes are of four sortes, that is to say, Curlde Mynte, Crispe Mynte, Spere Mynte, and Harte Mynte. The wilde Mynte is of two sortes, that is, the Horse Mynte, and the Water Mynte. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. ccxv. 553 The first Mint is called ..browne Mint, or red Mint. The second..crosse Mint, or curled Mint. The third .. Speare Mint, common Garden Mint, our Ladies Mint, Browne Mint and Macrell Mint. The fourth .. Hart Woort or Hart Mint. *Ibid.* ccxvii. 555 Water Mint, Fish Mint, Brooke Mint, and Horse Mint. 1744 J. WILSON *Synops. Brit. Pl.* 87 Pepper-mint. They call this Brandy-mint in Westmoreland. 1796 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) III. 525 *Corn Mint.* Watery places and moist corn fields. 1831 J. DAVIES *Manual Mal. Med.* 179 The most used of them are, the Crisped Mint, *Mentha crispa*, Lin.; the Green Mint, *M. Viridis*, ..the Elegant Mint, *M. gentilis*, Lin.

2. Applied with defining word to plants of allied genera, e. g. *Calamintha* and in *U. S. Pycnanthemum* and *Monarda*. See also CATMINT.

1548 TURNER *Names of Herbes* 22 *Calamintha*..called in english cornemint and calamynt. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. ccxviii. 556 Calamint, or mountaine Mint. 1846–50 A. WOOD *Class-bk. Bot.* 417 *Monarda didyma*, Mountain Mint. *M. punctata*, Horsemint. *Ibid.* 419 *Pycnanthemum incanum*, Mountain Mint. 1886 BRITTEN & HOLLAND *Plant-n.* s. v., *Calamintha officinalis* is in *Yks.* Cap Mint or Cat Mint; ..*Teucrium Scorodonia* is Rock Mint in *Som.* and Wild Mint in *Suss.*; *Ajuga reptans* is Wild Mint in *Berks.*

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*: **mint-cake** *dial.*, (*a*) a cake made of flour and dripping or lard, flavoured with sugar and chopped fresh mint, and rolled out very thin (E. D. D.); (*b*) a sweetmeat flavoured with peppermint (*Ibid.*); **mint julep** (see JULEP 2); **mint-rock**, a sweetmeat (see ROCK *sb.*) flavoured with peppermint; **mint-stick**, a stick of mint-rock or similar sweetmeat; **mint tea** = *mint-water*; **mint tree**, an Australian labiate tree, *Prostanthera lasiantha* (*Treas. Bot.* 1866); **mint-water**, a cordial distilled from mint. Also MINT-SAUCE.

1825 MRS. CAMERON *Seeds of Greediness* 2 (in *Houlston Tracts* I. No. 22) Apples, *mint cakes, and other things.. very tempting to children. 1817 PAULDING *Lett. fr. South* (1835) I. 21 The best compounder of *mint-juleps of any man in Virginia. 1845 ELIZA ACTON *Mod. Cookery* 540 Mint Julep. 1862 *New York Tribune* 13 June (Cent.), The soldiers hunger for dates, figs, *mint-stick [etc.]. 1872 SCHELE DE VERE *Americanisms* 395 Sage-tea and *Mint-tea were..familiar to all nurses. 1666 *Phil. Trans.* I & II. No. 12, 212 *Mint-water. 1843 R. J. GRAVES *Syst. Clin. Med.* xii. 131 A draught composed of two drachms of mint water [etc.].

† **Mint**, *sb.*[3] *Obs.* [Of obscure origin; possibly contraction of MINUTE *sb.* (cf. MINT-WHILE).]

1. A small insect, mite, weevil.

14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 623 *Bibiones, uermes, Anglice* myntys. *c* 1475 *Pict. Voc.* ibid. 767/8 *Nomina vermium.. Hec mica*, a mynte. 1789 W. MARSHALL *Glouc.* I. 330 *Mints*, mites. 1842 in AKERMAN *Wilts Gloss.*

2. A denomination of weight, $\frac{1}{16}$ of a grain; = MITE.

a 1600 *MS. Rawlinson D.* 23 Pref. 1 b, The weyghtes called myntes which is the smallest weyhte here sette downe, saving the weyghtes called droytes, Theise weyghtes called myntes hathe no abbrevyacion sette here downe.

Mint (mint), *sb.*[4] *Sc.* and *north. dial.* Also 4 **munt**, 4–6 **mynt**. [f. MINT *v.*[1]]

1. Purpose, intention.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 463 Bot he was merred of hys mint, Fulson he fand vnsterne stint. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 1160 Bot of þat munt I was bi-talt.

2. An attempt, effort; an attempt to strike; a blow aimed; a threatening gesture or movement.

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 12367 He [Arthur] sey wel how he [Dynabrok] made his mynt, & wiþ his mace he teysed his dynt. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 2345 Fyrst I mansed þe muryly, with a mynt one, & roue þe wyth no rof. *Ibid.* 2350 Þat oþer munt for þe morne, mon, I þe profered, þou kyssedes my clere wyf. *c* 1400 *Ywaine & Gaw.* 2613 A ful fel mynt to him made. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* V. viii. 11 Now bendis he wp his burdoun with a mynt, On syde he bradis for till eschew the dint. 1573 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xxxix. 361 He..Brocht thame to miserie maid ane mynt to wrang vs. *a* 1584 MONTGOMERIE *Cherrie & Slae* 1158 '3it', quod Experience, 'at thee Mak mony mints I may'. 1589 J. MELVILL *Autobiogr.* (Wodrow Soc.) 273 His brother..making a mint, maid the lown to flie. *a* 1699 J. FRASER *Mem.* vi. § 2 (1738) 139 Nor made I ever any extraordinary Mint to seek God, but [etc.]. 1728 RAMSAY *To Starrat* 39 The lawly mints of my poor moorland muse.

Mint (mint), *v.*[1] Now *dial.* or *arch.* Forms: 1 **myntan**, 2 **mintan**, 2–3 **munten**, 3–6 **mynt**, 3–7 **minte**, 4, 6 **mente**, 5 **munt**, 6 **ment**, **mynte**, 3– **mint**. [OE. *myntan*, perh. from **mynettan*, f. *myne* thought, intention: see MIN *sb.*]

† **1.** *intr.* and *trans.* To think. *Obs.*

c 1000 *Judith* 153 (Gr.) Mynton ealle, þæt se beorna hreþo & seo beorhte mægð in ðam wlitegan træfe wæron ætsomne. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 28979 For euer ai prai wit-vten stint, He þat graithli to god has mint. *a* 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* x. 37 Of munnyng ne munt thou namore. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 7225 Þey seide til oþer, 'what haue ȝe mynt?'

2. With *inf.* (rarely with *clause*). To purpose, intend; also, to make an effort, attempt, endeavour; to venture.

Beowulf 712 Mynte se manscaða manna cynnes sumne besyrwan in sele þam hean. 1154 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 616 Ða mynte Laurentius þe ða wæs ercebiscop on Cænt. þæt he wolde suþ ofer se. 1154 *Ibid.* an. 1137 And gif he leng moste liuen, alse he mint to don of þe horderwycan. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 10759 Hir to haf had he noght mint, If he moght anigat it stint. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 261 Sondri times as sche minte To speke, upon the point sche stinte. 1530 PALSGR. 421/2, I am aboute to do a thynge, or I ment or purpose to do a thynge, *je tache*. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* IX. 193 The Erle of Surrie.. minted nocht to cum an inche ner vs. 1633 RUTHERFORD *Lett.* xxix. (1862) I. 105 Jesus is looking up that water and minting to dwell amongst them. 1713 *Humble Pleadings for Good Old-way* 137 We the people that adhere to him have minted to plead with this church. 1725 RAMSAY *Gentle Sheph.* I. i, To speak but till her I dare hardly mint. 1871 W. ALEXANDER *Johnny Gibb* xii. (1873) 76 He's ready to confess Christ afore men aifter a fashion that I hae never mintit to dee yet.

† **b.** With ellipsis of verb of motion. *Obs.*

Beowulf 762 Mynte se mæra, þær he meahte..þanon fleon. *a* 1325 *Prov. Hendyng* xxx, Mon þat munteþ ouer flod, whiles þat þe wynd ys wod abyde fayre ant stille. 1660 D. DICKSON *Serm.* Sel. Writ. (1845) I. 135 We are like Peter who minted to his Master on the water.

c. *absol.*

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* XII. xiv. 49 Ne went it [the stone] all the space, as he dyd mynt, Nor, as he etlyt, performyst nocht the dynt.

3. *trans.* To intend; to attempt; to aim (a blow).

c 888 K. ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxxv. § 3 Ac wit sculon swaþeah secan þæt þæt wit ær mynton. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 11 And þat wreche man [leueð] þat swilche þing him mai letten of þat þe god him haueð munt. *a* 1300 *Vox & Wolf* 244 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* I. 66 Wat hauest thou i-munt, weder wolt thou? *a* 1330 *Otuel* 182 For ȝef ani of ȝou so hardi be, þat any strok munteþ to me. *c* 1400 *Ywaine & Gaw.* 3437 What so my sister ever bas mynt, Al hir part now tel i tynt. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* xxv, I will cleave to the brisket the first man that mints another stroke. *a* 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia*, *Mink*, *Mint*, to attempt, to aim at.

† **b.** To direct, address (speech). *Obs.*

c 1491 *Chast. Goddes Chyld.* xviii. 49 As he minteth us his speche wythouten ony taryeng of worde.

4. *intr.* To aim a blow; to take aim in shooting; to make a threatening movement. Const. *at, to.*

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 2262 With alle þe bur in his body he ber hit [his axe] on lofte, Munt as maȝtyly, as marre hym he wolde. *Ibid.* 2274 Nawþer fyked I, ne flaȝe, freke, quen þou myntest. *c* 1400 *Ywaine & Gaw.* 2448 Unto Sir Vwayn he mynt, And on the shelde he hit ful fast. 1423 JAS. I *Kingis Q.* cv, For oft, There as I mynt full sore, I smyte bot soft. *c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* VIII. xvi. 2606 Thai myst bot seldyn quhare thai wald mynt. 1530 PALSGR. 635/1, I dyd ment at a fatte bucke but I dyd hyt a pricket. *a* 1600 MONTGOMERIE *Misc. Poems* ix. 16 Vhair thou mints thou missis not the mark. —*Sonn.* liv. 9 Bot hola, Muse! thou mints at such a mark, Vhais merit far excedes thy slender skill. 1600 *Gowrie's Conspir.* D 3, Minting to his Highnes heart with the dagger.

† **b.** To make a movement to seize something. Const. *to. Obs.*

1613 in R. M. Fergusson *Hume* (1899) 199 Dispersoning of him and minting to ane quhinger to have struckin him thairwith. *a* 1828 *Earl Lithgow* xxxi. in Child *Ballads* II. 469/1 It's thrice she minted to the brand.

c. To point.

a 1400–50 *Alexander* 1089 Seraphis aperis, .. Toward a mi3ti montayne him myntis with his fynger.

5. To make an attempt; to aim *at*, aspire *to*.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 28314 Quen i til ony gode dede mynt Ful eth it was do me to stint. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 338/2 Myntyn, or amyn towarde, for to assayen. 1721 RAMSAY *Keitha* 81 The lasses wha did at her graces mint, Hae by her death their bonniest pattern tint. 1820 SCOTT *Monast.* xvii, They that mint at a gown of gold, will always get a sleeve of it.

† **6.** *trans.* To mention, speak of. *Obs.*

c 1375 *Cursor M.* 14021 (Fairf.) Simonde..wondred & saide in his þo3t bot wiþ his mouþ he mynt [*earlier texts* said] hit no3t. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 431 This Medea the maiden, þat I mynt first.

Hence **Mi'nting** *vbl. sb.*

1508 DUNBAR *Flyting w. Kennedie* 4 Bot had thay maid of mannace ony mynting In speciall, sic stryfe sould ryse but stynting. *a* 1653 BINNING *Serm.* (1743) 605 God in Christ accepts of endeavours and minting. 1703 THORESBY *Let. to Ray* 8. v. *Munt*, I know your Meaning by your munting.

Mint (mint), *v.*[2] Forms: see the sb. [f. MINT *sb.*[1]

OE. had *mynetian* = OHG. *munizôn* (mod. G. *münzen*), Du. *munten*.]

1. *trans.* To make (coin) by stamping metal.

1546 LANGLEY *Pol. Verg. De Invent.* II. xiii. 57 b, Phedon began syluer coyne in tbe yle Egina. It was mynted in Rome. 1691 LOCKE *Lower. Interest* 148 Had all the Money in King Charles the II. and King James the II. time been Minted according to this new proposal, this raised Money would have been gone as well as the other. 1862 MERIVALE *Rom. Emp.* lvii. (1865) VII. 149 Gold and silver money, minted for the occasion. 1881 *Metal World* No. 3. 37 No more half-crowns or fourpenny bits will be minted.

b. *transf.* ? *nonce-uses.* To make (paper money, a seal).

1736 BERKELEY *Querist* II. 125 Whether it was not madness in France to mint bills and actions, merely to humour the people. 1871 MISS YONGE *Cameos* (1877) II. xxi. 324 The Great Seal was cancelled in order that another for both England and France might be minted.

c. *To mint gold, money* (mod. colloq.): to gain or 'make' money with facility. Cf. COIN *v.*[1] 1 c.

1842 MRS. STONE *W. Langshawe* II. vii. 78 If he can but weather the corner, he'll mint gold.

d. *fig.* To produce (something regarded as comparable to coin); to 'coin' or invent (a word or phrase); in contemptuous use, to invent, fabricate (something counterfeit). Cf. NEW-MINT *v.*

1593 [see NEW-MINT *v.*] *a* 1643 CARTWRIGHT *Siege* V. iv, Nature's sincerer kingdome, where she mints And shapes refin'd delights. 1648 GATAKER *Myst. Cloudes* 2 They might, by some colourable glosses, and nice distinctions newly minted, make them seem [etc.]. 1652 R. BOREMAN *Countr. Catech.* x. 25 Broaching new opinions..such as shall be minted in the braines of their Tutors. 1659 *Gentl. Calling* iv. (1660) 38 That it may every Year appear in some new piece of Dress, have some Oaths fresh minted to set it off. *a* 1680 CHARNOCK *Attrib. God* (1834) II. 565 Such was [his] usurpation,..as if he had power to mint gods. 1698 C. BOYLE *Bentley's Epist. Phal.* (ed. 2) 73 One Happy Phrase, newly minted by the Dr. *a* 1711 KEN *Edmund* Poet. Wks. 1721 II. 226 Curs'd Heresies and Schisms they all disclaim, Minted in Hell, and kindled by its Flame. *a* 1800 S. PEGGE *Anecd. Eng. Lang.* (1803) 35 Queen Elizabeth was very successful in minting the Latin word *Fœminilis*. 1895 SIR H. MAXWELL in *Forum* (N. Y.) Oct. 159 The name bas not yet been minted which shall serve to distinguish the Unionist party of the twentieth century.

2. To convert (bullion) into coin or money. ? *Obs.*

1569 SIR T. GRESHAM in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. II. 318 Seing this monney..doth appertain to merchauntes, I would wishe the Quenes Majestie to put it to use..as to mynt hit into her own coyne. 1668 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 287/3 The Barres of Silver which arrived lately, are to be suddenly minted. 1670 PETTUS *Fodinæ Reg.* 42 Metall being thus Coyned or Minted, it is called Coyn.

† **b.** *transf.* To fashion or convert *into. Obs.*

a 1680 CHARNOCK *Attrib. God* (1682) 30 The Mouth takes in the meat,..the liver refines it and mints it into blood.

c. *fig.* To impress (something) with a stamp or

character. Also with *out*, *upon*. Also, to stamp (an impress) *upon*.

1664 H. More *Myst. Iniq., Apol.* 544 Though it were in our power to mint Truth as we please..yet we should find that it would not serve all Emergencies. 1641 Milton *Reform.* II. 45 But hy what example can they shew that the form of Church Discipline must be minted, and modell'd out to secular pretences? 1760–72 H. Brooke *Fool of Qual.* (1809) II. 75, I would..he had now been present..to have his soul melted and minted as mine has been. *Ibid.* 107, I was melted down and minted anew, as it were.

Mintage (mi·ntẽdʒ). [f. Mint *v.*[1] or *sb.*[1] + -age.]

1. The action or process (*occas.* the privilege) of coining or minting money; coinage.

c 1570 *MS. Rawlinson D.* 23 lf. 13 A treatyse concerninge the myntage of the monyes. 1611 Speed *Hist. Gt. Brit.* VII. xxxviii. § 14. 342 He did [enrich] certaine Cities with the Mintage of his money, whereof in London were eight houses, ..at Lewis two [etc.]. 1779 *Gentl. Mag.* XLIX. 410 A curious account by the President of the Roman mintage under Honorius and Arcadius. 1820 D. Turner *Tour Normandy* II. 261 From time immemorial, the chapter has enjoyed the right of mintage. 1824 Byron *Juan* xv. vii, Bright as a new Napoleon from its mintage. 1853 Humphreys *Coin-Coll. Man.* I. xxiv. 344 Coins of Roman mintage.

2. *transf.* and *fig.* The fabrication or production of something compared to coin; the 'coining' or deliberate formation of a new word, etc.

a 1631 Donne *Valed. Weeping* 4 Let me powre forth My teares before thy face,..For thy face coines them, and thy stampe they beare, And by this Mintage they are something worth. 1657 W. Morice *Coena quasi* Κοινή Diat. vi. 315 They had the monopoly and mintage of godliness. 1662 Sir A. Mervyn *Sp. Irish Aff.* 2 It is now in its Mintage, and our care must be, that the Miter be not stampt instead of the Crown. 1745 Warton *Pleas. Melancholy* 88 Which Reason's mintage fair Unmoulds, and stamps the monster on the man. 1839 De Quincey *Recoll. Lakes* Wks. 1862 II. 116 A new word of German mintage. 1883 Maine *Early Law & Cust.* 15 Few literary theories of modern mintage have more to recommend them.

3. *concr.* The product of a (particular) mint; a coin, or the coins collectively, minted by a specified person or in a specified place or country. Also *transf.* and *fig.* (cf. 2).

1638 T. Carew in *Cary's Malvezzi* To Translator 10 Or what the Crusca yet For currant Tuscan mintage will admit. 1651 Clevelano *Poems* 3 Thus did Natures mintage vary, Coyning thee a Philip and Mary. 1839 J. Sterling *Poems* 167 Stamped in clay, a heavenly mintage, All from dust receive their birth. 1851 Sir F. Palgrave *Norm. & Eng.* I. 42 The Romans..purposely sowed and buried their mintage. 1871 Farrar *Witn. Hist.* iv. 147 Christianity..stamped them.. and made them current amid the coins of a debased mintage. 1887 *Athenæum* 5 Nov. 598/1 A timely withdrawal of the worn coins may lead to the substitution of a better class of mintages. 1888 *Ch. Times* 341/3 Parodies of his most studied turns of phrase, witty travesties of his mintages.

4. The charge for or cost of coining; the duty paid for minting or coining.

1645 *Virginia Stat.* (1823) I. 308 To allow for the mintage 12*d.* per pound soe there will remaine £9500 sterl. The mintage allowed and deducted. 1825 *Blackw. Mag.* XVIII. 240 Mintage, altrarage, and small dues, are almost unknown. 1869 [see Coinage 1]. 1875 Jevons *Money* xiv. 168 Some small savings would accrue from the less amount of mintage required.

5. The stamp or impression placed on a coin. In quots. *fig.*

1634 Milton *Comus* 529 And the inglorious likenes of a beast Fixes instead, unmoulding reasons mintage Character'd in the face. *a* 1664 Kath. Philips *Friendship* Poems (1667) 78 Those kind Impressions which Fate can't controul, Are Heaven's mintage on a worthy Soul. 1822 Byron *Werner* III. i, Methinks it wears upon its face my guilt For motto, not the mintage of the state. 1882 *Times* 6 Feb., Who thus became stamped with the common mintage of their colleagues' manners.

6. *attrib.*, as *mintage place, system.*

c 1630 Risdon *Surv. Devon* § 276 (1810) 287 Con...implieth the mintage place. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 6 Apr. 7/2 The early efforts of the Edwards to set the coin of the Realm on a proper mintage system.

Mi·nt-drop. [f. Mint *sb.*[2] + Drop *sb.*]

1. 'A sugar-plum flavoured with peppermint' (*Cent. Dict.* 1890).

2. *U. S. slang.* With pun on Mint *sb.*[1]: A coin.

1872 Schele de Vere *Americanisms* 291 When the Hon. T. H. Benton..put his whole strength forward..to introduce a gold currency, he accidentally called the latter mint-drops, with a slight attempt at a pun...For many years gold coins were largely known as Benton's mint-drops.

Minted (mi·ntẽd), *ppl. a.*[1] [f. Mint *v.*[2] + -ed[1].] Coined, made into coin or money; in the form of coin. Also *transf.* and *fig.*

1598, etc. [see New-minted *ppl. a.*]. 1640 *Two Lanc. Lovers* 60 (Halliw.) Pretending an indisposition of health, or some other minted excuse. *a* 1678 Marvell *Dial. Soul & Pleas.* 58 Wheresoe're thy foot shall go The minted gold shall lie. 1820 C. R. Maturin *Melmoth* (1892) III. xxx. 202 The sterling gold of a heart-minted look. 1852 James *Pequinillo* II. 55 A hundred good and well-minted sequins. 1874 Holland *Mistr. Manse* xxi, The minted silver that his largess scattered wide.

Minted (mi·ntẽd), *ppl. a.*[2] [f. Mint *sb.*[2] + -ed[2].] Flavoured with mint.

1881 C. E. Turner in *Macm. Mag.* XLIV. 311 A silver jug with a kind of sparkling minted *kvass*, the pleasant odour of which filled the whole room.

Minter (mi·ntəɹ). Forms: 1 mynetere, mynytere, (*Northumb.* mynittre), 2 menetere, minitere, 3–4 munetere, 4–5 mynter, 6- minter. [OE. *mynetere* = OS. **munitari* (MDu., Du. *munter*), OHG. *munizzâri*, a. L. *monētārius*, f. *monēta*: see Money. The modern word may partly descend from OE., and partly be an independent formation on Mint *v.*[2] + -er[1].]

†**1.** Used to render L. *nummularius* ('money-changer'). *Obs.*

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xxi. 12, xxv. 27, etc. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* ibid. *c* 1300 *Life Jesu* 853 (Horstm.) And Muneteres also þat oncoupe Men mi3ten moneie finde.

2. One who coins or stamps money; a moneyer.

c 1000 Ælfric *Hom.* (Th.) II. 554 Godes feoh..bið befæst myneterum to sleanne. *a* 1131 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1125 Man scolde beniman ealle þa minitere þe wæron on Engle lande heora liman. 1423 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 256/2 *margin*, Mynters and Goldsmithes. 1549 Latimer *Ploughers* (Arb.) 27 Since priests haue bene minters, money hath bene wourse then it was before. 1605–6 *Act* 3 *Jas. I*, c. 27 § 9 Other Officers Minters and Workemen..in any the Kinges Majesties Mintes. 1780 Noble *Mint & Coins Durham* 3 They ..employed the same Minters as Edward the Confessor. 1828–40 Tytler *Hist. Scot.* (1864) I. 278 Foreigners appear to have been the great coiners or minters of those times.

transf. a 1631 Donne *Serm.* (1640) vii. 62 God stamped his Image upon us, and so God is..our Minter, our Statuary.

3. *fig.* An inventor; a deliberate fabricator; = Coiner *sb.* 3.

1654 Gayton *Pleas. Notes* IV. xi. 242 O generation of fictitious Mynters! who knows not that Apollo is a Deity Errant. 1702 C. Mather *Magn. Chr.* VII. II A most prodigious Minter of Exorbitant Novelties. 1818 in Todd.

†**4.** [A distinct word, f. Mint *sb.*[1] + -er[1].] A resident in the precincts of the ancient Mint in Southwark, once a reputed sanctuary for debtors. *Obs.*

a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Rum-dukes*, the boldest Fellows amongst the Alsatians, Minters, Savoyards, &c. 1706 Luttrell *Brief Ret.* (1857) VI. 20 The riotous proceedings of the minters in Southwark. 1723 *Weekly Jrnl.* 20 July, The Southwark Mint..got to be such a pest, that special statutes..were passed ordering the abolition...The exodus of the..train of 'Minters'..included some thousands.

Minting (mi·ntiŋ), *vbl. sb.*[1] [f. Mint *v.*[2] + -ing[1].] The action of Mint *v.*[2], *lit.* and *fig.*

1549 Latimer *Ploughers* (Arb.) 27 If the Apostles mighte not leaue the office of preaching to be deacons, shall one leaue it for myntyng? 1579 Fenton *Guicciard.* (1618) 17 For money, his Mines and mintings furnished aboue all wants that could happen. 1665 Pepys *Diary* 11 Dec., He [*sc.* the king] was forced to borrow thereupon till the tools could be made for the new minting in the present form. 1715 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5339/1 The Minting of the..Copper-Pieces..is..suspended. 1841 D'Israeli *Amen. Lit.* (1867) 131 The minting of new words. 1894 *Athenæum* 1 Sept. 294/2 An enormous collection of old coins, the residue of a century's minting.

b. *attrib.*, as *minting apparatus, house, -mill.*

1772 *Hist. Rochester* 10 He established three minting houses. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech., Minting-mill*, a coining-machine. 1903 *Daily Chron.* 29 Sept. 4/6 A complete minting apparatus was discovered.

Minting, *vbl. sb.*[2]: see Mint *v.*[1]

Mintjac, variant of Muntjac.

Mi·nt-mark. [Mint *sb.*[1]] A mark placed upon a coin to indicate the mint at which it was struck.

1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XII. 167/2. 1826 Hawkins *Anglo-Gallic Coins Brit. Mus.* 87 *note*, The mint mark is a cross patonce. 1853 Humphreys *Coin-coll. Man.* I. vi. 49 There is on this coin a small figure of Æsculapius, a sort of mint mark.

fig. a 1849 H. Coleridge *Ess.* (1851) I. 226 What can the loyal poet do, but..impress it with the mint-mark of his own devoted fancy? 1887 Lowell *Democr.*, etc. 108 That spontaneousness which is the mint-mark of all sterling speech.

Mi·nt-master. [f. Mint *sb.*[1]: cf. Du. *muntmeester*, G. *münzmeister*.]

1. An officer of the mint whose duty it is to superintend the coinage of money.

1528 in *Lett. & Pap. Hen. VIII*, IV. II. 1723 Th'artycles that we ben sworn to conserunyng the mynt maysters. 1622 Malynes *Anc. Law-Merch.* 279 The principall Officer is the Warden of the Mint; next is the Mint-master. 1762–71 H. Walpole *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1786) I. 15 *note*, Of William is a curious seal, as Mint-master. 1845 Selby in *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* II. No. 13. 160 *note*, In Æthelred's mint were upwards of forty mintmasters. 1879 H. Phillips *Notes Coins* 14 The daughter of the mint-master stood in one scale while her weight in Massachusetts shillings was poured into the other for her dowry.

2. *fig.* A 'coiner' of new ideas, words, etc. Common in 17th c.; now *rare* or *Obs.*

1599 *Broughton's Let.* ix. 30 The graund Mintmaster of learning in our age. *Ibid.* 47 You will be counted..the mintmaster of fancies. 1641 Milton *Animadv.* Wks. 1851 III. 204 The odde coinage of your phrase, which no mintmaister of language would allow for sterling. 1690 Locke *Hum. Und.* III. x. § 2 The great Mint-Masters of these kind of Terms, I mean the School-men and Metaphysicians.

Mi·nt-sau·ce. [f. Mint *sb.*[2] + Sauce *sb.*]

1. A sauce made of finely chopped mint mixed with vinegar and sweetened with sugar; it is usually eaten with roast lamb.

1747 Mrs. Glasse *Cookery* 4 It will eat like Lamb with Mint Sauce. 1769 Earl Carlisle in Jesse *G. Selwyn & Contemp.* (1843) II. 363 Sir P. Lambe .. said he would give Lady Henrietta mint sauce. 1826 Mrs. Doos *Cook & Housw. Man.* 169 Mint Sauce for Hot or Cold Roast Lamb.

2. With punning allusion to Mint *sb.*[2]: Money.

1828 Egan *Finish Tom & Jerry* (1871) 53, I..only hope that he gets lots of mint-sauce. 1838 Dickens *Nick. Nick.* xxxiv, It is to melt some scraps of dirty paper into bright shining, chinking, tinkling, demd mint sauce.

†**Mint-while.** *Obs. rare.* [App. for *minute-while*: see Minute *sb.* 1. Cf. Mint *sb.*[3]] The duration of a minute.

1393 Langl. *P. Pl.* C. xiii. 217 An vnredy reue þi residue shal spene, That menye mothþe was [maister] ynne in a mynte-while. *Ibid.* xx. 194 As we may seo a wynter, Isykles in enesynges, thorgh hete of þe sonne Melteþ in a mynt-while [1377 *B-text* mynut while] to myst and to water.

Minty (mi·nti), *a.* [f. Mint *sb.*[2] + -y[1].]

a. Abounding in mint. **b.** Resembling the flavour of mint.

1878 B. Taylor *Deukalion* III. i. 98 Where the minty meadow breath makes cool Thine ardent brow. 1904 *Daily News* 27 Dec. 10 Among the flavours avoided like the plague by every self-respecting blender [of tea] are those described in the trade as 'herby', 'stemmy', 'mousy', 'minty' [etc.].

Minua, variant of Minaway.

†**Minuate,** *v. Obs. rare.* [irreg. f. L. *minu-ĕre* to lessen + -ate[3].] *trans.* To make less, diminish.

1657 Tomlinson *Renou's Disp.* 235 Its faculty is to minuate the spleen.

†**Minuca.** *Obs. rare.* In 6 mynuca. [app. med.L.; cf. med.L. *nucha* in the same sense (? a. Arab. *nuxx* marrow, or *nuχ!* spinal marrow).] The spinal cord.

1548–77 Vicary *Anat.* ii. (1888) 19 The Sinew..[hns] his beginning from the braine, or from Mynuca, which is the marowe of the backe.

Minuend (mi·niuˌend). *Arith.* [ad. L. *minuend-us* (sc. *numerus*), gerundive pple. of *minuĕre* to diminish.] The number from which another number is to be subtracted.

1706 W. Jones *Syn. Palmar. Matheseos* 12 The greatest of the given Numbers is called the Minuend. 1892 Barn. Smith & Hudson *Arith. for Schools* 11 The smaller number is called the subtrahend. The greater is called the minuend.

‖ **Minue·ndo,** *adv. Mus. Obs.* [It., gerund of *minuire* to diminish.] = Diminuendo.

attrib. 1834 *Georgian Era* IV. 452/1 A certain singer's minuendo notes.

Minuet (miniue·t). Also 7 minnuet, minuett, 7–8 minouet, menuet, 8 minuit; and see Minaway. Also (sense 2) in It. form minuetto. [ad. F. *menuet*, subst. use of *menuet* adj., small, fine, delicate, dim. of *menu* small: see Menu, Minute *a.* The form of the Eng. word was perh. influenced by the It. *minuetto*, which is adapted from Fr., as are Sp., Pg. *minuete*, Sp. *minue.*

The pronunciation (mi·niuĕt or mi·niuet), given in all Dictionaries, is now seldom heard.

1. A slow, stately dance, in triple measure, for two dancers; derived from France in the latter part of the seventeenth century, and fashionable throughout the eighteenth.

1673 Dryden *Marr. à la Mode* II. i, And what new *Minonets* have you brought over with you! their *Minonets* are to a miracle. 1676 Etheredge *Man of Mode* IV. i, I am fit for Nothing but low dancing now, a Corant, a Borée, Or a Minnuét. 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Mennet*, or *Minuet*, a sort of French Dance, or the Tune belonging to it. 1762 Goldsm. *Nash* 34 Each ball was to open with a minuet, danced by two persons of the highest distinction present. 1778 Mrs. E. Montagu in Doran *Lady Last Cent.* ix. (1873) 231 To excel in dancing a minouet. 1810 Sir A. Boswell *Edinb.* Poet. Wks. (1871) 52 To walk a minuet with becoming grace. 1864 Tennyson *Aylmer's F.* 207 A stiff brocade in which..she, Once with this kinsman,..Stept thro' the stately minuet of those days.

2. The music used to accompany this dance. Hence, a piece of music in the same rhythm and style, consisting of two sections (the second of which is often called a *trio*); frequently forming one of the movements of the Suite, and, later, of compositions in Sonata-form.

1686 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2119/4 There are designed to be published several Overtures or Sonatta's, containing Variety of Humors, as Grave Aires, Minuetts, Borees, &c. 1717 Gay *Epist. Pulteney* 144 He..Hums a soft minuet. 1762 Jefferson *Writ.* (1892) I. 341 They carried away..half a dozen new minnets I had just got. 1762–71 H. Walpole *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1786) IV. 75 As a dancing-master would, if he expected Orpheus should return to play a minuet to them. 1888 *Academy* 21 Jan. 51/2 The wonderful largo was at times rough, and the minuetto taken at too rapid a rate.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *minuet dance, -dancer, dancing, form, -step, -time, -tune.*

1831 Carlyle *Misc.* (1857) II. 268 The graceful *minuet dance of Fancy. 1712 Steele *Spect.* No. 308 ₱ 6 John Trot ..has the Assurance to set up for a *Minuit-Dancer. 1840 Dickens *Barn. Rudge* iv, Sim..sprang from his seat, and in two extraordinary steps, something between skating and *minuet dancing, bounded to a washing place. 1875 Ouseley *Mus. Form* vii. 43 The original *minuet form always consisted of a piece in triple time and of moderate speed. 1711 Steele *Spect.* No. 148 ₱ 1 The Gentleman who.. practised *minuet-steps to his own Humming. 1728 Fielding *Love in Sev. Masques* II. i, The airy Sir Plume, who always walks in the minuet-step. 1851 Thackeray *Eng. Hum.* iv. (1858) 188 A *minuet-tune played on a bird-organ.

Hence **Minuet** *v.*, to dance a minuet; **Minueting** *vbl. sb.* Also **Minne·tic, Minuetish** *adjs.*

1742 Richardson *Pamela* IV. 114 A Glut of minuitish Airs. *a* 1847 Eliza Cook *Dancing Song* v, See the sweet rose Bend to the blue-bell, in light minueting! 1856 Bagehot *Lit. Stud.* (1879) II. 34 You should do everything, said

Lord Chesterfield, in minuet time. It was in that time that Gibbon wrote his history... You perceive the minuetic action accompanying the words. 1890 *Temple Bar* Feb. 297 Twenty years ago people minuet-ed.

† **Minu·ity.** *Obs. rare.* [ad. OF. *minuité*, irreg. f. L. *minūtus* MINUTE *a.*] A trifle.

1612 SHELTON *Quix.* I. III. vi. (1620) 174. I would not haue my soule suffer in the other world for such a minuity as is thy wages.

† **Mi·nulize,** *v. Obs. rare*—[1]. [Perh. an imperfect recollection of Gr. *μινυρίζειν*.] *trans.* To warble lightly or softly.

1600 TOURNEUR *Transf. Metam.* xxviii, The Thrush, the Lark, and nights-ioy nightingale, There minulize their pleasing laies anew.

Minum, variant of MENNOM *dial.*, minnow.

Minum(e, obs. forms of MINIM.

Minument, obs. form of MUNIMENT.

Minus (mə·nŭs). Also 5 mynus. [a. L. *minus* neut. of *minor* less: see MINOR *a.*

The quasi-prepositional use (sense 1), from which all the other Eng. uses have been developed, did not exist in Latin of any period. It probably originated in the commercial language of the Middle Ages. In Germany, and perhaps in other countries, the Latin words *plus* and *minus* were used by merchants to mark an excess or deficiency in weight or measure, the amount of which was appended in figures. The earliest known examples of the modern sense of *minus* are German, of about the same date as our oldest quotation. In Widmann's book on commercial arithmetic (1489) the signs (—) and (+) occur for the first time in print, and are directed to be read as *minus* and *mer*. In the *Bamberger Rechenbuch* (1483) the tare to be deducted from the weight of a package is called *das Minus*. In a somewhat different sense, *plus* and *minus* had been employed in 1202 by Leonardo of Pisa for the excess and deficiency in the results of the two suppositions in the Rule of Double Position; and an Italian writer of the 14th c. used *meno* to indicate the subtraction of a number to which it was prefixed. For the passages referred to, see Cantor, *Vorlesungen über Geschichte der Mathematik* II. (ed. 2, 1899).

The origin of the symbol (—), read as *minus*, is disputed; some have conjectured that it arose as a merchants' mark, while others believe it to descend from the *obelus* (see OBELISK 2) used by ancient critics to indicate that a passage should be removed from the text. It has certainly no historical connexion with the mark ℏ (explained as the letter ψ inverted) used by Diophantus for the same purpose. In Denmark the sign (÷) is used for *minus*.]

1. quasi-*prep.* Placed between two expressions of number or quantity to indicate that the second of them must be subtracted from the first. In mathematical use only as the oral rendering of the symbol (—). Hence, in non-technical use: With the deduction of, exclusive of (some specified portion or constituent element of the whole). Cf. LESS *a.* 4, and the equivalent F. *moins*, G. *weniger*.

1481–90 *Howard Housek. Bks.* (ROXB.) 417, v. yerdys, mynus the nayle, welwet blake. 1727–52 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v. *Character*, Thus 14–2, is read, 14 *minus*, or abating, 2. 1808 J. W. CROKER *Sk. St. Irel.* (ed. 2) 42 Competitors offer the whole value of the produce minus that daily potatoe. 1811 EAST *K. B. Rep.* XIII. 214 There was not 100*l.* due.. but only that sum minus the rebate of interest for the times which the bills had then to run. 1830 M. DONOVAN *Dom. Econ.* I. 123 It might be supposed..that acetic acid is alcohol *minus* carbon. 1849–52 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* IV. 962/2 An imperfect cranium, composed principally of the cranial, *minus* the facial, bones. 1859 MILL *Liberty* ii, If all mankind minus one, were of one opinion. 1874 J. CAIRD *University Addr.* (1898) 16 The least and lowest fact of outward observation is not a bare fact, an independent entity, fact *minus* mind.

b. *predicatively* in colloquial use: Deprived of, 'short of', without (something). Also rarely *minus of*. Hence *occas.* as *adj.*, standing in the position of a loser, worse off than before; also, unprovided, destitute of something implied.

1813 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 44 He was considerably *minus* at the last Newmarket meeting. 1823 BYRON *Juan* VI. xxi, Which leaves you minus of the cash. 1836 *Lett. fr. Madras* (1843) 33 Twelve boatmen..with very small matters of clothes on, but their black skins prevent them from looking so very uncomfortable as Europeans would in the same *minus* state. 1840 J. B. FRASER *Trav. Koordistan*, etc. II. xv. 310 We reached our munzil of Toorkomanchai about six in the evening, *minus* one horse. 1861 CALVERLEY *Lines* 14*th Feb.* (II.) 10 Yea! by St. Valentinus, Emma shall not be minus What all young ladies..Expect to-day. 1903 *Review of Rev.* Apr. 385/2 The Englishman got back to civilization minus his left arm.

2. Used as the oral equivalent of the symbol (—) in its algebraical interpretation, as forming with the expression to which it is prefixed the representation of a negative quantity, e. g. in '— 3', '— *x*', which are read as *minus* 3, *minus x*.

1579 DIGGES *Stratiot.* II. iv. 38 The same or like Signes multiplied produce + *Plus*. Contrarie or diuerse Signes produce alway — *Minus*.

b. Hence *attrib.* or as *adj.* in *minus quantity*, a quantity which has the sign (—), a negative quantity; popularly often misused for 'something non-existent'.

1863 W. PHILLIPS *Speeches* xvii. 392 Such states are a *minus* quantity.

c. *adj.* Of the nature of a 'minus quantity' or deficit; also *colloq.* lacking, non-existent.

1800 *Proc. Parlt.* in *Asiat. Ann. Reg.* 49/2 There were six millions *minus*. 1852 C. A. BRISTED *Five Yrs. Eng. Univ.* 53 His mathematics are decidedly *minus*, but the use of them is past long ago. 1867 CARLYLE *Remin.* (1881) II. 144 The villain of a partner eloped, and left him possessor of a *minus* 12,000*l.* 1897 *Encycl. Sport* I. 62 *Penalise.* Strictly speaking, a penalty is a minus handicap, *i.e.* the man who is giving the other competitors starts, is placed behind the line from which the distance to be run is reckoned.

d. *adv.* and *adj.* Negatively (electrified).

1747 FRANKLIN *Lett.* Wks. 1887 II. 71 *B* is electrized *plus*; *A*, *minus*. And we daily in our experiments electrize bodies *plus* or *minus*, as we think proper. 1789 NICHOLSON in *Phil. Trans.* LXXIX. 270 It affords the means of producing either the plus or minus states in one and the same conductor. 1849 NOAD *Electricity* (ed. 3) 5 A body having more than its natural quantity [of electric fluid] is electrified *positively* or *plus*, and one which has less is electrified *negatively* or *minus*. 1854 J. SCOFFERN in *Orr's Circ. Sci., Chem.* 225 Its counterpart of — or minus electricity.

fig. 1817 COLERIDGE *Statesm. Man.* 54 Apparent contraries, which are yet but the two poles, or *Plus* and *Minus* states, of the same influence.

3. *sb.* in various applications: a. The mathematical symbol (—); also *minus sign*. b. An operation of subtraction, a quantity subtracted or taken away; a loss, deficiency. c. A negative quantity.

1654 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 385 For the *Algebra* (as I may tearm it) of *Nature of Reprehension*, giveth the *Plus* to the *Reprover*, and the *Minus* to the *Reproved*. 1668 BRANCKER *Introd. Algebra* 4 The Sign for *Subtraction* is — *i.e. Minus*, or the Negative Sign. 1685 WALLIS *Algebra* xvi. 69 The Signs + and — (or *Plus* and *Minus*) the former of which is a Note of Position, Affirmation or Addition; the other of Defect, Negation, or Subduction. 1708 PRIOR *Turtle & Sparrow* 329 Now weigh the pleasure with the pain, The plus and minus, loss and gain. 1836 E. HOWARD *R. Reefer* xxvi, A slatefull of plusses, minusses, *x*, *y*, *z*'s. 1876 GEO. ELIOT *Dan. Der.* VI. xlviii, That new gambling, in which the losing was not simply a *minus* but a terrible *plus* that had never entered into her reckoning.

Hence **Mi·nus** *v.* (*nonce-wd.*) *trans.*, to subject to a loss or privation.

1801 COLERIDGE *Let. to Southey* 13 Apr. in *Life of S.* (1850) II. 146 Alas! you will have found the dear old place sadly minused by the removal of Davy.

Minuscular (minʌ·skiŭlăi), *a. Palæogr.* [f. L. *minuscul-us*: see MINUSCULE and -AR.] Of the nature of a minuscule; composed of minuscules.

1756 SWINTON in *Phil. Trans.* L. 177 After the introduction of the Omega of the minuscular form..upon the Parthian coins. 1882–3 *Schaff's Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* s. v. *Alpha*, The ω is of that uncial form which resembles the minuscular.

Minusculated (minʌ·skiŭleitĕd), *a. nonce-wd.* [f. MINUSCULE + -ATE[3] + -ED[1].] Written as a 'minuscule' or small letter.

1843 HUMPHREYS *Brit. Moths* II. 125 Somewhat resembling the Greek minusculated letter A.

Minuscule (minʌ·skiul), *a.* and *sb.* [a. F. *minuscule*, ad. L. *minuscula* (sc. *littera*), fem. of *minusculus* rather less, dim. of *minor* (neut. *minus*): see MINOR *a.* and MINUS *a.*] **A.** *adj.*

1. † **a.** *Printing.* Of a letter: Small, not capital, 'lower-case'. *Obs.* b. *Palæogr.* Of a letter: Small (see B. b). Also, written in minuscules.

1727–41 [see MAJUSCULE *a.*]. 1850 A. WAY in *Archæol. Jrnl.* VII. 356 A little mark at the close of the first line, resembling a minuscule C is somewhat indistinct. 1883 I. TAYLOR *Alphabet* I. 71 The letters of the beautiful minuscule manuscripts of the 10th and 11th centuries. These minuscule letters are cursive forms of the earlier uncials. 1900 *Expositor* Mar. 175 Annotations are found in the minuscule codices.

2. *gen.* Extremely small.

1893 *Nation* (N. Y.) 20 July 51/1 The theories that are put forth by minuscule scholars as personal contributions to the advance of science. 1898 *Edin. Rev.* Apr. 420 Only think of the minuscule touches of advance that Ictinus added to his predecessors' designs. 1904 *Nutt's Catal.* Sept. p. ix, Sir Gawain at the Grail Castle. Three Versions, translated..by Jessie L. Weston. Minuscule 4to.

B. *sb.* † **a.** *Printing.* A small or 'lower-case' letter as opposed to a capital. *Obs.* b. *Palæogr.* A small letter, as opposed to a capital or uncial; the small cursive script which was developed from the uncial during the 7th–9th centuries; also, a manuscript in this writing.

1705 H. WANLEY in *Phil. Trans.* XXV. 1996 Some MSS. written with Minuscules. [1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl., Minusculæ*, in printing, denotes the small, or running letters.] 1782 BURNEY *Hist. Mus.* II. 32 A notation for three octaves, the gravest of which he expressed by capitals, the mean by minuscules, and the highest by double letters. 1851 SIR F. PALGRAVE *Norm. & Eng.* I. 228 The initial difference of a minuscule or a capital. *a* 1876 EADIE *Comm. Thess.* (1877) 23 A few minuscules read *αὐτοὺς ἡμᾶς*. 1883 I. TAYLOR *Alphabet* II. 160 The minuscule arose in the 7th century as a cursive monastic script.

Minussh, obs. form of MINISH.

† **Mi·nutable,** *a. Obs. rare.* [f. MINUTE *v.* + -ABLE.] Suitable for making a minute of.

1778 [W. MARSHALL] *Minutes Agric. Digest* 2 He threw every thing he thought minutable, into a series of Minutes.

[Minutal: see *List of Spurious Words.*]

† **Mi·nutary,** *a. Obs.* [f. MINUTE *a.* and *sb.* + -ARY.]

1. ? Pertaining to minute quantities.

1610 HEALEY *St. Aug. Citie of God* XV. xxvii. *Vives' Comm.* 569 One cubit is generally taken for sixe of our common cubits, or for three hundred minutary cubits [orig. *Apud geometras..vel in sex cubitos vnus deputatur, si generaliter, vel trecentos, si minutatim dicatur*].

2. Consisting of minutes (of time).

1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* III. Ded., No mortal man can assign the minutary juncture of Time, when preparing grace..ended, and saving grace..did first begin. *a* 1661 — *Worthies, Berks* (1662) I. 95 This their Clock gathering up the least Crume of Time, presenting the Minutary fractions thereof.

† **Minuta·tion.** *Obs.* [f. MINUTE *v.* + -ATION.] The action of making minutes (of observations, etc.). (Frequent in Bentham.)

1802–12 BENTHAM *Ration. Judic. Evid.* (1827) II. 127 By this division, writing, minutation and recordation..is necessitated.

Minute (mi·nit), *sb.*[1] Forms: 4 mynut, 4–6 mynute, 4–7 minut, 5 mynwt, mynnate, 6 mynite, -ewte, -iute, *Sc.* minuth, munet, -it, 6–8 mynuit, 7 min-, mynutte, minit, minnite, 4– minute. [In senses 1–3 and 6 a. F. *minute* fem. (whence G. *minute*, Du. *minuut*), ad. L. *minūta*, subst. use of the fem. of *minūtus* MINUTE *a.* In senses 4 and 5 ad. L. *minūtum* (the neuter of the same adj.) used subst. in various applications in late Latin. Sp., Pg. and It. have *minuto* masc. (ad. L. *minutum*) in senses 1–3, but *minuta* (after Fr.) in sense 6.

Senses 1–2 (whence sense 3 is derived) represent the med.L. *minuta*, more fully *pars minuta prima*, denoting the $\frac{1}{60}$ of a unit in the system of sexagesimal fractions (med.L. *minutiæ physicæ*), which, originally derived from Babylon, was used, like the modern decimals in scientific calculations as more easy to handle than 'vulgar fractions' (*minutiæ* simply). The lower denominations of the system were (*partes minutæ*) *secundæ* (our 'seconds'), *tertiæ*, *quartæ*, etc., the understood denominators being the successive powers of 60. The system (ὁ τῆς ἑξηκοντάδος τρόπος) was recognized by Ptolemy (*c* 150 A. D.), who applied it to the degree (*μοῖρα*) of the circle, to the sixty sections into which he divided the radius, and to the day; the application of the system to the division of the hour is much later, perhaps not earlier than the 13th c. Ptolemy has no terms corresponding to the med.L. *minutæ, secundæ*, etc., but merely uses *μέρος* 'part' or *ἑξηκοστόν* 'sixtieth'. The word *minuta* is referred to as a term of the 'mathematici' (app. meaning 'minute' of the circle) by St. Augustine *De diversis Quæstt. octoginta tribus* XIV, who also mentions *minutæ minutarum*, 'minutes of minutes' (see 2), *i. e.* seconds.

Sense 6 is from F. *minute*, though Littré has no example before 16th c., and the one quot. for med.L. *minuta* in this use is of date *c* 1500. The primary notion seems to be that of a rough copy in *small* writing (L. *scriptura minuta*) as distinguished from the 'engrossed' document.]

I. A sixtieth (or other definite part) of a unit.

1. The sixtieth part of an hour (divided into sixty seconds). In earlier use frequently † *minute of an hour*; † *minute while*. Also, one of the lines upon a dial which mark the minute spaces.

The *minutum* of early mediæval writers, which was one-tenth of an hour, has no historical connexion with this. For the system of time-reckoning to which it belongs, see ATOM 7.

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XI. 372 He myȝte amende in a Minute while al þat mys standeth. *Ibid.* XVII. 228 Ysekeles in eueses þorw hete of þe sonne, Melteth in a mynut while to myst & to watre. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 9 For the lachesse Of half a Minut of an houre [= L. *unius momenti tardacione*]..He loste all that he hadde do. *a* 1485 *Promp. Parv.* 338/2 (MSS. K., S.) Minute of an howur, *minuta*. 1552 LYNDESAY *Monarche* 6014 The small Minuth of one hour To thame salbe so gret dolour, Thay sall thynk thay haif done remane Ane thousand yeir in to that pane. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* v. ii. 797 Now at the latest minute of the houre, Grant vs your loues. 1591 — 1 *Hen. VI*, I. iv. 54 Wherefore a guard of chosen Shot I had, That walkt about me euery Minute while. 1603 OWEN *Pembrokeshire* i. (1892) 1 Our longest sommers daies must be of XVII houres and fortie three mynuttes longe. 1684 R. WALLER *Nat. Exper.* 9 From 35, to 50 Drops [*sc.* of moist particles] have fallen in a Minute of an Hour. 1702 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3844/1 The Great Guns were fired at a Minute's distance. 1817 T. L. PEACOCK *Nightm. Abbey* XV, The hour-hand passed the VII.—the minute-hand moved on;—it was within three minutes of the appointed time. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVII. 107/1 There are other repeaters which also strike the minutes.

b. Vaguely used for: A short space of time; also, a point of time, an instant, moment.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 77 Every houre apointeth so, That no mynut therof was lore. 1412–20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* (E.E.T.S.) 2817 þe cok..of þe tyme a mynute wil not passe To warnen hem þat weren in þe place, Of þe tydes and sesoun of þe nyȝt. *c* 1485 *Digby Myst.* IV. 518, I myght not leve, nor endure On mynnate, bot I am sure The third day ryse shall hee. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* II. ii. 112 Content with Hermia? No, I do repent The tedious minutes I with her haue spent. *c* 1600 — *Sonn.* xiv, Nor can I fortune to breefe mynuits tell; Pointing to each his thunder raine and winde. 1697 DAMPIER *Voy.* I. 80, I could not expect to find them at a minutes call. 1736 AINSWORTH *Lat. Dict.*, A minute [moment or instant], *momentum, punctum temporis*. 1800 LAMB *Let. to Manning* 5 Oct., I have barely time to finish, as I expect her and Robin every minute. 1871 R. ELLIS tr. *Catullus* lxvii. 38 You, from your owner's gate never a minute away? 1898 FLOR. MONTGOMERY *Tony* 13 The train will be starting in a minute.

c. A particular instant of time; also occas. the appointed or fitting moment. *The minute* (*that*) ..: as soon as.

1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* V. v. 1 The Windsor-bell hath stroke twelue: the Minute drawes-on. *a* 1640 CAREW *To A. L.* 70 O love me, then, and now begin it, Let us not lose this present minute. *a* 1721 KEILL *Maupertius' Diss.* (1734) 15 The Minute we recur to an Almighty Agent,..it should be said that such Laws imply a Contradiction. *a* 1745 SWIFT *Direct. Serv., Gen.* Wks. 1751 XIV. 11 He had but

just that Minute stept out. 1799 LAMB *Let. to Southey* 20 Mar., My plan is but this minute come into my head. 1859 GEO. ELIOT *A. Bede* i, I can't abide to see men throw away their tools i' that way the minute the clock begins to strike.

2. *Geom.* (*Astr.*, *Geog.*, etc.) The sixtieth part of a degree. †*Minute of a minute*: the sixtieth of a minute, a second.

The sign for minutes is ′, thus 5° 8′=five degrees eight minutes.

c 1391 CHAUCER *Astrol.* I. § 8 A degree of a signe contieneth 60 minutes. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* vi. 50 The circle artic is xxiij degreis xxx munitis fra the pole artic. 1603 OWEN *Pembrokeshire* (1892) 1 Longitude 17 degrees, and 20 minuttes west. *Ibid.*, 52 degrees which is 40 mynuttes higher then that of the Cittie of London. 1652 GAULE *Magastrom.* 68 Those numbers and minutes, yea numbers of numbers and minutes of minutes (which Astrologicall Mathematicians pretend to work by). 1755 B. MARTIN *Mag. Arts & Sci.* I. x. 58 Each Degree is supposed to consist of 60 Minutes, thus marked (′). 1861 BACHE *Discuss. Magn. & Meteorol. Observ.* II. 9 The scale divisions have been converted into minutes of arc.

3. a. *Arch.* The sixtieth or occas. some other part of the MODULE. ? *Obs.*

1696 in PHILLIPS. 1727–52 CHAMBERS *Cycl.*, *Minute*, in architecture, usually denotes the sixtieth, sometimes only the thirtieth part, or division of a module. [In recent Dicts.]

b. *Art.* A unit of a scale of head measurement by which the proportions of the face may be regulated or defined; the forty-eighth part of the height of the human head. [So F. *minute.*]

1875 SIR T. SEATON *Fret Cutting* 132 Draw a line corresponding to the line within the oval, and divide this also into four equal parts. One of these parts must be subdivided into twelve parts, these are called minutes. *Ibid.* 133 The length of a head—from forehead to back—in a full-grown person, is three parts eight minutes for a man, and three parts eleven minutes for a woman.

II. Something small.

†**4.** A coin of trifling value; a 'mite'. *Obs.*

1382 WYCLIF *Mark* xii. 42 Tweye mynutis [Vulg. *duo minuta*, Gr. λεπτὰ δύο], that is, a ferthing. 1543 BECON *Nosegay* Ded. B j b, Vet let vs with the poore widowe of the Gospell at the leest gyue two minutes. 1589 J. RIDER *Bibl. Schol.*, A Minute or Q, which is halfe a farthing, *minutum*.

†**5.** Something minute or small. **a.** *pl.* Little fishes, 'small fry' (cf. MENISE). **b.** A small particular, a detail; a minutia. **c.** Something of small size or slight importance. *Obs.*

1598 FLORIO, *Pesciolini*, all manner of minutes, frye, or small fishes. 1616 B. JONSON *Staple of N.* I. v. 138 Let me heare from thee euery minute of Newes. *a* 1628 F. GREVIL *Sidney* (1652) 90 That Heroicall design..how exactly soever projected, and digested in every minute. — *Alaham* II. Chorus ii. (1633) 39 When I propound in grosse, you minutes play. 1647 JER. TAYLOR *Lib. Proph.* xvi. 213 And such are all the sects and all the pretences of Christians, but pieces and minutes of Christianity. 1654 — *Real Pres.* 238 They have made it to be unintelligible, inexplicable, indefensible, in all their minuits and particularities. *a* 1660 HAMMOND *Serm.* (Prov. i. 22) (1664) 46 The last minute of my last particular. *a* 1670 [see MIGNIARDIZE].

III. 6. A rough draft (of something to be further elaborated); a note or memorandum for the direction of an agent or servant, or for preserving the memory of current transactions or events; a brief summary of events or transactions, esp. (usually *pl.*) the record of the proceedings at a meeting of an assembly, corporate body, society, company, committee, or the like. †*In minute*: in the form of a minute or minutes.

1502 in *Lett. & Papers Rich. III & Hen. VII* (Rolls) I. 147 He received a mynite of instructions. 1522 CLERK in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. III. I. 314 The Pope..caused it [the mynute] to be staied, and an other minute to be made which was not sped hifor his death. 1531 CROMWELL in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) I. 340, I haue sent herein Inclosed the Mynewte with your Instruccions. 1640–1 *Kirkcudbr. War-Comm. Min. Bk.* (1855) 37 Ordaines James, the next Committie day, to produce the said minute of contract. 1682 EVELYN in *Pepys' Diary*, etc. (1879) VI. 140 These were only minutes relating to ampler pieces. 1697 in W. S. Perry *Hist. Coll. Amer. Col. Ch.* I. 52, I began to take their sense in minute as right as I could. *c* 1710 CELIA FIENNES *Diary* (1888) 276 To him are added in the House of Commons also scribes or secretaryes which record and take minutes also. 1713 POPE *Guard.* No. 92 P 8 It is my business whenever we meet to take minutes of the transactions. 1728 MORGAN *Algiers* II. v. 316, I some where said my memory was treacherous; nor do I ever keep minutes. 1741 MIDDLETON *Cicero* I. vi. 511 It was his custom to keep the minutes or rough draught of all his pleadings. 1771 P. PARSONS *Newmarket* II. 187 My paper of heads or minutes perished in a different manner. 1776 in *Archæol.* (1789) IX. 365 That such curious communications..be extracted from the Minutes of the Society, and formed into an Historical Memoir. 1817 SCOTT *Surg. Dau.* i, Lawford drew up a proper minute of this transaction, by which he himself and Grey were named trustees for the child. 1851 DICKENS *Bill-sticking* in *Housek. Words* II. 605 These are the minutes of my conversation with His Majesty, as I noted them down shortly afterwards. 1860 MOTLEY *Netherl.* vii. (1868) I. 409 The minute of a letter to Elizabeth..was submitted to the ambassador. 1876 GRANT *Burgh Sch. Scotl.* Pref. 8 The minutes of his town council. 1890 GROSS *Gild Merch.* I. 149 The minutes of both Companies were kept in the same book.

b. An official memorandum authorizing or recommending the pursuance of a certain course. *Treasury minute*: a minute or memorandum issued by the treasury.

1564 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 301 In terms of minute 27th November. 1783 BURKE *On Fox's East Ind. Bill* Wks. IV. 75 In his minute of consultation, Mr. Hastings describes forcibly the consequences which arise [etc.]. 1798 WELLINGTON in Gurw. *Desp.* (1837) I. 9 A very able minute in the Secret department. 1817 TIERNEY in *Parl. Deb.* 768 That committee, by a Treasury minute of the 5th of April, 1816, was required to examine and report what offices had been created since the year 1793. 1845 MCCULLOCH *Taxation* II. v. (1852) 230 This fraudulent practice has been indirectly legitimated by a Treasury Minute of the 4th of August, 1840. 1863 H. COX *Instit.* I. v. 29 The Bank of England .. was directed to suspend cash payments by a Minute of Council. 1880 GEN. ADYE in *19th Cent.* No. 38. 694 Lord Napier..in a masterly minute pointed out the various evils of the whole system.

†**c.** An agreement, precise understanding. *Obs.*

1720 *Wodrow Corr.* (1843) II. 519 At Edinburgh I have come to a minute with the printer.

d. *Sc. Law.* A memorandum of intention presented to the court by a party to a suit.

1848 SHAND *Pract. Crt. Sess.* I. 343 *note*, A minute of abandonment of the cause, in such form as the following, is put into process. 1904 *Dundee Advertiser* 19 Nov. 7 Yesterday a minute was lodged in the Bill Chamber of the Court of Session stating that no answers are to be lodged to the note by the Free Church [etc.].

IV. 7. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as **minute bell**, the tolling of a bell at intervals of a minute; **minute-book**, †(*a*) a 'book of short hints' (J.); (*b*) a book containing systematic records of the transactions of a society, court, or the like; **minute clock**, a stop clock used in making tests of gas (Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1884); **minute-flourish**, a fanfare of trumpets sounded minute by minute; **minute-glass**, a sand-glass that runs for a minute; **minute-gun**, the firing of a gun at intervals of a minute (also *attrib.*); **minute-hand**, the long hand of a time-piece which indicates the minutes; †**minute-jack** (? cf. JACK *sb.* 6), one who changes his mind every moment, a fickle or changeable person; **minute jumper**, an electric clock in which the hands move only at the end of each minute, the minute-hand moving over a whole minute at each step (*Cent. Dict.* 1890); †**minute-line** *Naut.*, a log-line; **minute-lust**, momentary desire; **minute mile** (see quot. 1867); †**minute-motion**, the mechanism of the seconds hand of a watch; **minute-repeater**, a watch which 'repeats' the minutes; **minute space**, the duration of a minute; **minute stroke**, the measured 'minutely' stroke of an oar; **minute tide**, (*a*) = *minute while* (see sense 1); (*b*) (see quot. 1865); †**minute-watch**, a watch that distinguishes minutes of time or on the dial of which minutes are marked (also †*minute pendulum watch*); **minute-wheel**, the wheel that moves the minute-hand of a clock or watch; hence **minute-wheel nut, pinion** (see quot. 1884); †**minute while** (see sense 1); **minute-writing**, the art or practice of recording minutes or administrative memoranda. Also MINUTE-MAN.

1827 KEBLE *Chr. Y.*, *1st Sunday Advent* xii, Faith's ear, with awful still delight, Counts them like *minute bells at night. 1736 AINSWORTH *Lat. Dict.*, A *minute book, *liber vel libellus memorialis*. 1772 *Ann. Reg.* 66* The minute-book of recognizances belonging to the Lord Mayor's court. 1838 *Act 1 & 2 Vict.* c. 118 § 22 The Minute Book of the Court of Session and Teind Court. 1904 *Athenæum* 24 Dec. 881/2 A 'History of the Society of Apothecaries',..compiled from the Minute-Books of the Society. 1802 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Gaston de Blondev.* Posth. Wks. 1826 I. 87 The trumpets, that charged so loud and shrill their *minet-flourishes. 1626 CAPT. SMITH *Accid. Yng. Seamen* 29 Turne vp the *minute glasse, obserue the night. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* 480 Minute and Half-minute glasses. 1747 *Gentl. Mag.* XVII. 246/1 *Minute guns were fired by the whole squadron. 1884 *Times* (Weekly ed.) 11 Apr. 2/3 The boom of the minute guns on the hill beyond could be heard above the funeral music of the bands. 1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* I. ii, He was amazed at..the Motion of the *Minute-Hand, which he could easily discern. 1892 E. REEVES *Homeward Bound* 184 Clock faces marking six, twelve, and twenty-four hours, mostly without minute hands. 1607 SHAKS. *Timon* III. vi. 107 Cap and knee-Slaues, vapours, and *Minute Iackes. 1644 *Minut-line [see *log-line* in LOG *sb.*[1] 9]. 1696 PHILLIPS, *Log-line* or **Minute-line*. 1635 QUARLES *Embl.* II. xi. 106 The fleshly wanton, to obtaine His *minit-lust, will count it gaine To lose his freedome. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, **Minute mile*, the sixtieth part of a degree of longitude or latitude. 1684 T. BURNET *Th. Earth* II. iv. 210 In a Watch,..you may have a fancy to have an Alarum added, or a *Minute-motion. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVII. 107/1 These by way of distinction are called *minute-repeaters. 1621 WITHER *Motto* A 8, I haue not of my selfe, the powre, or grace, To be, or not to be; one *minute-space. 1833 MARRYAT *P. Simple* XXX, The crew dropped their oars into the water without a splash, and pulled the *minute stroke. 54.. RYMAN *Poems* in *Archiv Stud. neu. Spr.* LXXXIX. 255 This lyfe vnto celestiall Is but a *mynute tyde. 1865 MACGREGOR *Rob Roy in Baltic* (1867) 163 This is called the 'minute tide', in which a swelling of the water once every minute fills up and empties again a quiet pool a little withdrawn from the river's course. 1660 BOYLE *New Exp. Phys. Mech.* xi. 79 A *Minute-Watch we kept by us on this occasion. 1705 *Daily Courant* 5 Sept., Dropt in St. James's Park, September the 3rd, 1705, a Gold Minuit Pendulum Watch, &c. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) V. 74/2 The minute and hour hands turn on the end of the arbor of the minute-wheel. 1884 F. J. BRITTEN *Watch & Clockm.* 177 [The] *Minute Wheel Pinion, or 'Nut'..[is] the pinion in the motion work of watches that drives the hour wheel. 1895 *Daily News* 10 Sept. 5/4 An Under-Secretary, trained in a bureaucracy where *minute-writing has been brought to the highest pitch of perfection.

†**Minute**, *sb.*[2] *Law. Obs.* [ad. Law Latin *minūta*, vbl. noun f. *minuĕre* to diminish.] = MINISHING.

1495 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 501/1 Of the Ferme of all Asartis, Wastes, Purpresture and minutez, of the parcelles of the Forest.

Minute (mi·nĭ·t, məinĭ·t), *a.* Also 5–6 **mynute**. [ad. L. *minūt-us* (whence F. *menu* small), pa. pple. of *minuĕre* to make small, diminish.]

†**1.** Chopped small. *Obs. rare.*

c 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* IV. 492 Hem summe in cedur scobe, & summe in stre Mynute, and summe in smal chaf, wel witholde.

†**2.** Of imposts, etc.: Lesser; esp. in *minute tithes* = 'small tithes'. *Obs.*

[1464 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 569/1 Sume ferme hy the name of the Manent' firme com' post terras dat'..and sume under the name of minute firme to you.] 1542–3 *Act* 34 & 35 *Hen. VIII*, c. 16 § 1 The fermes of diuers purprestures, assertes, sergeantes, & minute rentes. 1546 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 222 The preste..hathe the mynute tythes of the village of Bysshopton. 1647 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* IV. § 38 The Dependence of the Church,..(except their minute Tythes) was entirely upon this Law. 1696 PHILLIPS, *Minute Tithes*, small Tithes, such as usually belong to the Vicar; as Wooll, Lambs, Piggs, Butter, Cheese, Eggs, Honey, &c.

3. Very small in size, extent, amount, or degree.

In the 17th and 18th centuries the comparative *minuter* frequently acquires the sense 'smaller or more insignificant than another', without the implication of extreme smallness.

a 1626 BACON *New Atl.* 40 Wee haue also Glasses and Meanes, to see Small and Minute Bodies, perfectly and distinctly. 1665 *Phil. Trans.* I. 31 An Instrument to shew all the Minute Variations in the pressure of the Air. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 39 Those [chapels] of a minuter dimension were open. 1699 POMFRET *Cruelty & Lust* 79 Suppose the Accusation justly brought, And clearly prov'd to the minutest fault. 1713 DERHAM *Phys.-Theol.* IV. ii. 106 One single Minutest Thread or Fibre. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* VI. 690 With this minute distinction,..Nature revolves, but man advances. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* I. v. 43 The neighbouring coast, and the minuter isles adjacent. *Ibid.* II. x. 237 Vast quantities of..callicoes and chints,..together with other minuter articles, as goldsmiths work, etc. 1816 BENTHAM *Chrestom.* 24 The distance in question is so minute as to be incapable of measurement. 1832 BABBAGE *Econ. Manuf.* (ed. 3) 83 The minuter cavities can only be filled under an exhausted receiver. 1867 H. MACMILLAN *Bible Teach.* vi. (1870) 118 The seed vessels in this plant are exceedingly minute. 1871 TYNDALL *Fragm. Sci.* (1879) I. i. 23 What is true of the earth..is also true of her minutest atom. 1880 GEIKIE *Phys. Geog.* ii. 57 It is possible to measure very minute changes of temperature.

4. Of very little consequence or importance; trifling, petty.

Minute philosopher is an echo of Cicero's *quidam minuti philosophi* (De Senect. xxiii, also De Div. I. xxx), where the adj. appears to have this sense, though in Eng. use it is sometimes apprehended as if belonging to sense 5.

c 1650 DENHAM *Old Age* IV. 249 Some minute Philosophers pretend, That with our dayes our pains and pleasures end. 1668 WILKINS *Real Char.* To Rdr., If any shall suggest that some of the Enquiries here insisted upon..do seem too minute and trivial, for any prudent Man to bestow his serious thoughts and time about. Such Persons may know [etc.]. 1732 BERKELEY *Alciphr.* I. § 10 These minute philosophers..are a sort of pirates who plunder all that come in their way. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* III. ix. 396 The Mandarine..returned all that had been stolen..even to the minutest trifle. 1772 BURKE *Corr.* (1844) I. 377 Your grace dissipates your mind into too great a variety of minute pursuits. 1872 MINTO *Eng. Prose Lit.* II. iii. 279 As Lord Chancellor,..he proved unequal to the minuter duties of the office.

5. Of investigations, regulations, records, etc. (and hence of persons): Characterized by attention to very small matters or details; very precise or particular; very accurate.

168. AUBREY *Lives*, *Hobbes* To Rdr. (1813) I. 594 For that I am so minute, I declare I never intended it [etc.]. 1716 ADDISON *Freeholder* No. 42 P 14 We cannot be too minute and circumstantial in accounts of this nature. 1752 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 86 P 5 He knew with how minute Attention the ancient Criticks considered the Disposition of Syllables. 1788 REID *Aristotle's Log.* IV. ii. 71 He is more full, more minute and particular than any of them. 1799 WELLINGTON in Gurw. *Desp.* (1837) I. 25 His minute private diary. 1807 T. THOMSON *Chem.* (ed. 3) II. 383 A very minute and accurate series of experiments. 1833 HT. MARTINEAU *Brooke Farm* I. 10 A reporter as faithful as he was minute. 1864 PUSEY *Lect. Daniel* (1876) 376 A minute, natural, accurate, history. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) V. 96 Minute regulations are apt to be transgressed.

Minute (mi·nĭt), *v.* [f. MINUTE *sb.*[1]]

1. *trans.* To ascertain or determine to the minute the time, duration, or rate of; to 'time' accurately. Also †*To minute out*: to assign (time) precisely.

1605 CAMDEN *Rem.* 92 About the yeare of our Lord 1000 (that we may not minute out the time). *a* 1661 FULLER *Worthies*, *Suffolk* III. (1662) 62 All Accidents are minuted and momented by Divine Providence. 1762 *Phil. Trans.* LII. 582 The above observations were minuted from a stop-watch of Mr. Ellicott's. 1773 G. WHITE *Selborne* 8 July (1789) 153, I have minuted these birds with my watch for an hour together,..they return..about once in five minutes. 1775 *Ibid.* 1 Nov. 198 A good rush,..being minuted, burnt only three minutes short of an hour. 1784 BLAGDEN in *Phil. Trans.* LXXIV. 217 Scarcely any one had sufficient presence of mind to minute the time by his watch. 1813 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Patron.* (1832) I. iii. 42 [They] went to see High Blood rubbed down..exercised and minuted. 1822 BEDDOES *Brides' Trag.* II. iii, Do not minute The movements

of the soul. 1825 *Sporting Mag.* XV. 340, I did not minute this run, but..it must have been a trimming one. 1862 SMILES *Engineers* III. 277 Captain Scoresby,..minuted the speed of the train. 1888 *Temple Bar* Jan. 29 The Bishop .. sat by with his watch on the table, for he had to minute each interview.

2. To draft (a document, a scheme); to record in a minute or memorandum; to enter in the minutes or records of a society, company, or the like; to make a minute of the contents of (a document). *To minute down*, to make a note of.

a 1648 LD. HERBERT *Hen. VIII* (1683) 48 All which minuted by Louis de Longueville..was at last thus fully concluded. *Ibid.* 84 The design for the Interview with Francis continued; which being minuted by our Ambassador, .. was continued by his successor. 1662 EVELYN *Chalcogr.* 94 It might not seem requisite to minute the works which he has published. 1711 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4842/3 All such disabled Seamen and Marines as are minuted to be taken into the said Hospital. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 439 ₱ 3 The Cardinal is represented as minuting down every thing that is told him. 1778 [W. MARSHALL] *Minutes Agric., Observ.* 153 *note*, I minuted it as an extra observation. 1789 FRANKLIN *Ess.* Wks. 1840 II. 151 Nothing was concluded [*sc.* at the next meeting] so as to be minuted. 1836 H. ROGERS *J. Howe* v. (1863) 141 His thoughts on this occasion he minuted down. 1876 BANCROFT *Hist. U. S.* IV. xxvi. 19 The Empress of Russia with her own hand minuted an edict for universal tolerance. 1888 BRYCE *Amer. Commw.* II. II. xlviii. 228 A Town-clerk, who keeps the records, and minutes the proceedings of the meeting. 1897 P. WARUNG *Tales Old Regime* 139 Yes, your Excellency. Shall I minute that observation? 1898 G. W. E. RUSSELL *Coll. & Recoll.* xxxiv. 465 The paper.. is minuted by each, and .. gradually passes up .. to the Under-Secretary of State.

absol. 1892 LD. LYTTON *King Poppy* I. 351 Whereon His Majesty thus minuted.

3. *To minute over*: to reckon up, enumerate point by point.

a 1770 CATH. TALBOT *Lett.* (1808) 60 The most agreeable thought (as I experienced last night when we were minuting over all these things) will be, that it cannot be long [etc.].

4. *intr.* With *by*: To pass minute by minute.

a 1806 H. K. WHITE *To Thought* v, And count the tedious hours, as slow they minute by.

Hence **Mi·nuting** *vbl. sb.*, the recording of minutes; **Mi·nuting** *ppl. a.*, that minutes.

1737 J. CHAMBERLAYNE *St. Gt. Brit.* II. III. (ed. 33) 121 Minuting-clerk to Master General. 1882 *London Police Court Rep.*, Those having the minuteing and the carrying out of the details and business of the Court.

Minuted (mi·nitėd), *a.* [f. MINUTE *v.* + -ED[1].]

1. Recorded or set forth in a minute or note.

1716 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* II. To Rdr. 38, I hope those minuted Layes of Seraphick Contemplations,..will engage the studious Youth of both Sexes, to be favourable to this undertaking. 1802–12 BENTHAM *Ration. Judic. Evid.* (1827) I. 279 Publication by authority, whether of the minuted *viva-voce* testimony, or of the ready-written depositions.

2. Timed or numbered by minutes.

1829 SOUTHEY *Sir T. More* II. 352 He is like the mail coach traveller,..and must therefore take at his minuted meals whatever food is readiest. 1859 MRS. GASKELL *Round the Sofa* II. 70 Some sore internal bruise sapping away his minuted life.

† Mi·nuteless, *a. Obs.* [f. MINUTE *sb.*[1] + -LESS.] Not to be measured by minutes.

1652 GAULE *Magastrom.* 68 The starres, whose numbers are numberless and motions minuteless.

Minutely (mi·nitli), *a.* [f. MINUTE *sb.* + -LY[1].] Happening every minute.

1605 SHAKS. *Macb.* v. ii. 18 Now do's he feele His secret Murthers sticking on his hands, Now minutely Reuolts vpbraid his Faith-breach. 1658 *Whole Duty Man* xvii. § 7 All that we possess is in minutely danger of losing. 1720 *Humourist* 93, I have staid four Hours in Minutely Expectation. 1802 COLERIDGE *Lett.* (1895) 390 Our minutely conduct towards each other. 1865 *Even. Exchange* 10 Feb. 1/1 The hourly and minutely fluctuations of the..Markets.

Minutely (miniū·tli), *adv.*[1] [f. MINUTE *a.* + -LY[2].]

1. †**a.** Into small pieces (*obs.*). **b.** On a minute scale; with minute subdivision.

1599 A. M. tr. *Gabelhouer's Bk. Physicke* 89/2 Contunde all that is to be contundede, & cut the rest minutly, then mixe it to a paeste with good wine. 1613 R. CAWDREY *Table Alph., Minutely*, smally. 1869 PHILLIPS *Vesuv.* x. 279 Realgar occurs minutely but well crystallized. *Comb.* 1836 E. HOWARD *R. Reefer* li, The..minutely-sanded beach.

2. In a minute manner, kind, or degree; with great or absolute precision or preciseness; with exactness.

1732 BERKELEY *Alciphr.* I. § 10 Considering things minutely, and not swallowing them in the gross. 1736 BUTLER *Anal.* I. v. Wks. 1874 I. 105 Observations of this kind cannot be supposed to hold minutely, and in every case. 1821 J. W. CROKER *Diary* 24 Aug., The King went minutely through the museum, and other parts [etc.]. 1863 H. COX *Instit.* III. vii. 680 He most minutely and learnedly investigated the ancient course of the Exchequer. 1895 LD. ESHER in *Law Times Rep.* LXXIII. 650/1 It is not necessary to disclose minutely and in detail every material fact. 1903 *T. P.'s Weekly* 18 Sept. 495/1 Mr. John Hollingshead has minutely described a little dinner with Dickens.

†**b.** Intimately. *Obs.*

1823 J. BADCOCK *Dom. Amusem.* 106 The ingredients are more minutely disseminated than can be performed by hand.

Minutely (mi·nitli), *adv.*[2] [f. MINUTE *sb.*[1] + -LY[2].] Every minute, minute by minute.

1599 NASHE *Lenten Stuffe* 22 [The red herring]..is the onely vnexhaustible mine that hath rais'd and begot all this, and minutely to riper maturity fosters and cherisheth it. 1637 SANDERSON *Serm.* (1681) II. 89 We,..by most unworthy provocations daily and minutely tempt His patience. 1654 HAMMOND *Fundamentals* viii. 66 As if it were minutely proclaimed in thunder from heaven. 1708 J. PHILIPS *Cyder* II. 263 Their frying Blood compells to irrigate Their dry furr'd Tongues, else minutely to Death Obnoxious, dismal Death, th' Effect of Drought. 1803 COLERIDGE *Lett.* (1895) 439 The sharpshooters were behind exercising minutely. 1807 tr. *Three Germans* II. 52 A friend, whom I now minutely expect at the castle gates. 1845 WILBERFORCE in A. R. Ashwell *Life* (1880) I. 269 Two daughters..played daily, hourly, minutely..by a very clever, reaching mother, for coronets and a settlement.

Mi·nute-man. *Hist.* [f. MINUTE *sb.* + MAN.] One of a class of militiamen, during the American revolutionary period, who held themselves in readiness for instant military service.

1774 in *N. Eng. Hist. & Gen. Reg.* (1875) XXIX. 107 Minute or Picquet men in the Town of Brookfield. 1775–83 THACHER *Mil. Jrnl.* (1823) 17 Active men in every town have formed military companies under the name of minute men. 1903 F. NORRIS *The Pit* 43 Ample fireplaces, where once the minute-men had swung their kettles.

transf. 1863 J. WEISS *Life Th. Parker* I. 11 The same old cause, whose minute-men are again first in the field [1861].

Minuteness (miniū·tnės). [f. MINUTE *a.* + -NESS.] The quality of being minute.

1. Extreme smallness; an instance of this.

1666 BOYLE *Orig. Forms & Qual.* Exp. ix. 396 Whose Corpuscles, by reason of their Minuteness, swimme easily for a while in the Water. 1754 RICHARDSON *Grandison* (1811) II. v. 84 The discretion of a person is often most seen in minutenesses. 1751 EARL ORRERY *Remarks Swift* (1752) 86 A convex mirrour, by which every object is reduced to a despicable minuteness. 1770 C. JENNER *Placid Man* I. i. iv. 35 All the minutenesses which distinguish the domestic manners of one nation from another. 1830 HERSCHEL *Stud. Nat. Phil.* 250 Particles of inconceivable minuteness. 1872 RUSKIN *Eagle's N.* § 122 The noble human sight, careless of prey, disdainful of minuteness, and reluctant to anger.

2. Attention to minute details; precision as to details; critical exactness.

1640 SIR K. DIGBY in *Lismore Papers* Ser. II. (1888) IV. 137, I am afraid..that minutenesse would rather appeare tedious then punctuall to you. 1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* IV. ix, The Justness of their Similies, and the Minuteness, as well as Exactness of their Descriptions, are indeed inimitable. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) I. 193 Such .. may consult Hawksbee, Morgan, Jurin, or Watson, who have examined the subject with great minuteness. 1853 LYTTON *My Novel* III. xvi, He had studied it with the minuteness with which a scholar studies a dead language. 1858 BUCKLE *Civiliz.* (1869) II. vii. 364 The chemist by his minuteness, and the geologist by his grandeur, touch the two extremes of the material universe. 1884 LADY VERNEY in *Contemp. Rev.* Oct. 545 Every gown..is chronicled with affectionate minuteness.

†**b.** Excess of detail, 'niggling'. *Obs.*

1748 *Anson's Voy.* III. x. 412 There is a stiffness and minuteness in most of the Chinese productions.

Minuter (mi·nitəɹ). [f. MINUTE *v.* + -ER[1].]

†**1.** One who writes minutes, a note-taker. *Obs.*

1825 *Celebrated Trials*, etc. IV. 172 Thomas Gurney, the minuter, was called, who deposed from his minutes.

2. *Sc. Law.* One who moves the court by minute.

1904 *Dundee Advertiser* 19 Nov. 7 They do not admit that the judgments of the Court in the cases of Bannatyne and others v. Lord Overtoun and others, and Young v. Macalister,..settle or determine the rights of the minuters in the present suspension.

‖ **Minutia** (miniū·ʃiă). Pl. **minutiæ** (-iī). Also 8 *pl.* **minutias**; *erron.* 8–9 *pl.* **minutia**, *sing.* **minutiæ.** [a. L. *minūtia* smallness, pl. *minūtiæ* trifles, f. *minūtus* MINUTE *a.*] A precise detail; a small or trivial matter or object. Usually *pl.*

In Chesterfield's *Letters* the French *minutie* frequently occurs as synonymous with minutia.

1751 EARL ORRERY *Remarks Swift* (1752) 52, I should hope that all the *minutiæ* of his idle hours might be entirely excluded. 1759 JOHNSON *Idler* No. 47 ₱ 12 He .. often declares himself weary of attending to the *minutiæ* of a shop. 1768 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* III. xxvii. 446 No exceptions to formal *minutiæ* in the pleadings will be here allowed. 1782 ELIZ. BLOWER *Geo. Bateman* I. 106 On the observance of some little minutias, no small share of the beauty..depended. 1796 BURNEY *Mem. Metastasio* II. 270 Descending to the minutia of all the events and occasions which may be imagined. 1797 MRS. A. M. BENNETT *Beggar Girl* (1813) II. 217 Strict attention to every minutiæ of her domestic arrangement. 1804 EUGENIA DE ACTON *Tale without Title* II. 208 She..determined..to unfold every minutiae of her former circumstances. 1804 tr. *Piguenard's Zoflora* I. 4 Those minutia concerning him, which may even have the appearance of puerility. 1849 MISS PARDOE *Francis I*, XIV. 343 They were arranged with a punctilious minutia. 1882 SERJT. BALLANTINE *Exper.* II. 191 The minutiæ were very exact and carefully executed.

†**Minu·tial,** *a. Obs.* [f. MINUTIA + -AL.] Of the nature of minutiæ; pertaining to details.

1612 T. TAYLOR *Comm. Titus* ii. 14 In smaller, and minutiall matters to carrie an vnbounded..zeale, were to call for a sword to kill a flie. 1778 [W. MARSHALL] *Minutes Agric., Digest* 16 The minutial management of Farms. 1796 — *W. England* II. 170 In minutial practices..the Vale [of Exeter] pursues the Devonshire method.

†**Minu·tion.** *Obs.* [ad. L. *minūtiōn-em*, n. of action f. *minuĕre* to lessen.] A diminishing or making less; a lowering; *spec.* a lowering of the system by blood-letting.

1386 *Almanac* (1812) 52 Mynucyons to be made by blode lattyng or ventosyng es ful profytabul. 1607 J. CARPENTER *Plaine Mans Plough* 124 The Phisitians..prescribe..sometimes unctions, sometimes minutions. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr., Minution*, a diminishing or making less.

Minutiose (miniū·ʃiōus), *a.* [ad. L. *minūtiōs-us*, f. *minūtiæ*: see MINUTIA. Cf. F. *minutieux.*] Dealing with minutiæ.

1868 F. HALL *Benares* 15. 1892 — in *Nation* (N.Y.) 1 Dec. 412/1 He has achieved, among minutiose philologists, an eminence which..is likely to be recognized as all his own.

Minutious (miniū·ʃiəs), *a.* [ad. F. *minutieux*, f. *minutie* MINUTIA: cf. prec.] Attentive to minutiæ; characterized by minute attention to detail.

1819 *Metropolis* III. 252 Minutious and troublesome attentions. 1891 *Fortn. Rev.* May 802 His leisure was too limited to allow him to be pedantic or minutious. 1899 *Month* Apr. 433 [He] sent them [the proofs] back covered with minutious criticism.

†**Minuti·ssim,** *a. Obs. rare*—[1]. [ad. L. *minūtissim-us*, superl. of *minūtus* small: see MINUTE *a.*] Extremely minute.

1768–74 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) I. 475 The whole human body, together with all its..minutissim glands.

†**Minu·tulous,** *a. Obs.* [f. L. *minūtul-us* (dim. of *minūtus* MINUTE *a.*) + -OUS.] Very small.

1651 BIGGS *New Disp.* ₱ 248 Minutulous drops of pus.

Minuwae: see MINAWAY (= minuet).

Minx (miŋks). Also 6 **mynxe, minxe, mincks,** 6–7 **minkes,** 7–8 **minks.** [Of obscure origin; possibly a corruption of *minikin*, with the added *s* not uncommon *dial.* in playful terms of endearment, e. g. *ducks, darlings, pets*: cf. *Minckins* in quot. 1605 s. v. MINIKIN 1. Sense 2 agrees closely with the sense of LG. *minske* = G. *mensch* neut.]

†**1.** A pet dog. Also as proper name. *Obs.*

1542 UDALL tr. *Erasm. Apoph.* 127 b, There been litle mynxes, or puppees that ladies keepe in their chaumbers for especiall iewelles to playe withall. *Ibid.*, When I am houngry I am a litle mynxe full of playe, and when my bealy is full, a mastife. [1605 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iii. IV. *Captains* 386 Milk-white Minks and Lun (Gray-bitches both, the best that ever run).]

2. A pert girl, hussy. Now often merely playful.

1592 *Nobody & Someb.* E 2 b, Thus, you minx, Ile teach you ply your worke. 1594 LYLY *Moth. Bomb.* I. iii. 17 Your minxe had no better grandfather than a Tailer. *c* 1600 DAY *Begg. Bednall Gr.* II. i. (1881) 31 Come, Minx, what Iewell did you give this Rogue. 1636 HEYWOOD *Love's Mistr.* v. i. Wks. 1874 V. 155 That Minks [Psyche] is come from hell, And heere she harbours. 1695 CONGREVE *Love for L.* II. i, How, hussy! was there ever such a provoking minx! 1706–7 FARQUHAR *Beaux' Strat.* I. i, You deserve to have none, you young Minx. 1742 FIELDING *J. Andrews* IV. xiii, 'She! a little ugly minx', cries Slipslop, 'leave her to me'. 1812 CRABBE *Tales* xiii. 136 She thinks To make her fortune, an ambitious minx! 1838 DICKENS *Nich. Nick.* ix, 'I scorn your words, Minx', said Miss Squeers. 1861 HUGHES *Tom Brown at Oxf.* xxix, She is a dressed-up little minx, who runs after all the young men of the parish. 1882 *Mrs. Raven's Tempt.* III. 181 We shall be sorry if this young minx brings more trouble on the Agates.

†**b.** A lewd or wanton woman. *Obs.*

1598 FLORIO, *Magalda*,..a trull or minxe. 1602 *North's Plutarch, Seneca* (1612) 1214 Nero..tooke from him this minxe that knew the trickes of the occupation. 1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* IV. i. 159 This is some Minxes token. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* III. iii. 1. ii. (1651) 600 If thou be absent long, thy wife then thinks, Thou'rt drunk, at ease, or with some pretty minks. 1678 DRYDEN *Limberham* I. i, They are a Couple of alluring wanton Minxes. 1728 GAY *Polly* I. (1777) 24 And so, sir, I leave you and your minx together.

†**c.** *Mistress minx. Obs.*

c 1590 MARLOWE *Faustus* vi. 162 What are you, Mistress Minx, the seventh and last? 1592 NASHE *P. Penilesse* (ed. 2) 10 b, Mistris Minx, a Marchants wife, that wil eate no Cherries forsooth, but when they are at twenty shillings a pound. 1671 KIRKMAN & HEAD *Eng. Rogue* IV. (1874) 139 How now, Mrs. Minks. 1735 MISS COLLIER *Art Torment.* 50 Let me tell you, Mistress Minx, 'twould much better become my station, than yours.

Hence (*nonce-wds.*) †**Minx** *v. intr.* (with *it*), to play the minx; **Minxishness, Minxship,** the condition or quality of a minx.

1609 BP. W. BARLOW *Answ. Nameless Cath.* 303 The Apologue describes Venus trans-formed waiting maide, who beeing trick't vp like a Gentle-woman, mink'st it a while til she spied a Mouse, but then made it knowne shee was a Cat. 1632 MASSINGER *City Madam* II. ii, On these terms Wil your minxship be a Lady. 1885 L. WINGFIELD *Barbara Philpot* I. x. 271 Was not the sex built up of foibles and minxishness?

Minx, obs. form of MINK.

Miny (mə·ni), *a. rare.* [f. MINE *sb.* + -Y[1].]

1. Pertaining to a mine; mineral.

1611 FLORIO, *Mineroso*, minerous, miny. 1662 J. CHANDLER *Van Helmont's Oriat.* 322 The minie and saltish minerals of the microcosme [Lat. *microcosmi fodinas minerales atque salinas*].

2. Of the nature of a mine; subterraneous.

1730–46 THOMSON *Autumn* 800 Unveil The miny caverns ..Of Abyssinia's cloud-compelling cliffs.

3. 'Abounding in mines' (Webster 1828–32).

Minyon, Minys, obs. f. MINION, MINISH.

Minzingly, obs. form of MINCINGLY *adv.*

Miocene (mə·iŏsēn), *a. Geol.* Also **meiocene.** [irreg. f. Gr. *μείων* less + *καινός* new, recent.]

1. The epithet applied to the middle division of the Tertiary strata (as containing remains of fewer now existing species than the PLIOCENE), and to the geological period which it represents.

1833 LYELL *Princ. Geol.* III. 54 The next antecedent tertiary epoch we shall name Miocene. 1877 *Nature* 7 June 101/2 The European miocene flora. 1880 DAWKINS *Early Man* i. 10 The Meiocene group.

2. quasi-*sb.*

1882 GEIKIE *Text Bk. Geol.* VI. iv. iii. § 1. 862 The flora indicates a decidedly tropical climate in the earlier part of the Miocene. 1885 *Athenæum* 24 Oct. 541/1 The..Eppelsheim deposits in Germany are still left in the miocene.

Hence **Mioce·nic** *a.*

1863 LYELL *Antiq. Man* xv. 314 Between the close of the miocenic and the commencement of the glacial epoch. 1889 *Lancet* 6 July 45/1 A gigantic animal of the middle of the miocenic period of the Wyoming.

Miol, variant of MEAL *sb.*[4]

Mioling, obs. form of MIAULING.

Miolithic (mə1,ǒli·þik), *a. Archæol.* Also **meiolithic.** [irreg. f. Gr. *μείων* less + *λίθος* stone + -IC.] = MESOLITHIC *a.* 2.

1877 *Academy* 3 Nov. 434/3 Prof. Mantovani introduces the term Miolithic to denote a period intermediate between the palæolithic and neolithic ages. 1896 A. J. EVANS in *Rep. Brit. Assoc.* 908 A late quaternary deposit, for which Professor Issel has proposed the name of 'Meiolithic'.

Mioner, obs. form of MINER.

Mionite, -phylly: see MEIONITE, -PHYLLY.

Miops, obs. form of MYOPE.

Miosis, Miostemonous, Miotaxy: see MEI-.

Mioul, Miour(e, **Miowe,** var. MIAUL *v.*, MYER, MIAOW.

‖ **Mi·parti** (*mi*parti), *a. Her.* Also 8 **-party.** [Fr., pa. pple. of *mi*partir to divide in half, f. *mi-* (:—L. *medium* middle) + *partir* to divide.] (See quots.)

1725 COATS *Dict. Her., Mi-party*, is a Word used by French Heralds, denoting that the Escutcheon is half Way down parted per Pale, and there cross'd by some other Partition. 1896 WOODWARD *Heraldry* I. 478 *Mi-parti*—said of dimidiated arms, and of an ordinary parti per pale.

Miquelet (mi·kĕlĕt). Also 9 **miquelete, miquelite, miguelet**(e. [a. F. *miquelet*, ad. Sp. *miquelete, miguelete*, f. Cat. *Miquel*, Sp. *Miguel*, Michael. (For the supposed origin of the name see quot. 1845.)] **a.** In the 17th c., a member of a body of Catalonian banditti who infested the Pyrenees. **b.** Before and during the Peninsular war, a Spanish guerrilla soldier; also, a member of a corps of French irregulars raised by Napoleon in 1808 for service against the Spaniards. **c.** In modern Spain, the designation of the soldiers of certain local regiments of infantry, chiefly employed on escort duties.

1670 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 476/4 The Miquelets or Mountaineers were again got together in a little Village,..neer the Pyrenean hills. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Miquelets*, Mountaneers (in Spain) or Spanish Rapparies. 1721 *Lett. Mist's Jrnl.* (1722) II. 176 No more, you Holiday Fools, throw away your Six-pences,..to see a Spanish Miquelet swallow a Toad. 1779 *Gentl. Mag.* XLIX. 501 The miquelets or mountaineers who so cruelly harrassed the French armies. 1827 SOUTHEY *Penins. War* II. 358, 10,000 Miquelets and Somatenes..had been sent..to take advantage of any insurrection that might be attempted in Barcelona. 1829 SIR W. NAPIER *Penins. War* v. iv. 57 Francisco Milans and Milans de Bosch, with their Migueletes, keep the mountains to the northward of Barcelona. 1843 BORROW *Bible in Spain* xxiv, One of those singular half soldiers half guerillas, called Miguelets. 1845 FORD *Handbk. Spain* I. i. 41 A regular body of men was organized for that purpose [as a government escort] all over Spain, and were called 'Miquelites', from, it is said, one Miquel de Prats, an armed satellite of..Cæsar Borgia. 1879 STEVENSON *Trav. Cevennes* (1886) 186 Militiaman and Miquelet and dragoon.. they had all been sabreing and shooting.

Mir, obs. form of MYRRH.

Mirabelle (mirăbe·l). Also 8 **mirabel.** [a. F. *mirabelle.*] A variety of plum.

1706 LONDON & WISE *Retir'd Gard'ner* I. 41 The Mirabel is a small Plum. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVIII. 287 Varieties of plums..Mirabelle. 1860 *All Year Round* No. 56. 130 There are varieties of the Mirabelle plum..which annually bloom profusely in England. 1890 *Syd. Soc. Lex., Mirabelle*, the fruit of *Prunus armenoides. Mirabelle of Corsica*, the fruit of *Physalis alkekengi.*

† Mirabilia·rian, *a. Obs.* [f. L. *mīrābiliārius* (see next) + -AN.] = MIRABILIARY *a.*

1624 BP. MOUNTAGU *Immed. Addr.* 218 In opinion of Tertullian, it is no safe proceeding by this [*sic*] Mirabiliarian courses, to iustifie Inuocation of Saints or Angels.

† Mirabi·liary, *sb.* and *a. Obs.* [ad. late L. *mīrābiliārius* miracle-monger, applied by Augustine to the Donatists.] **A.** *sb.* One who deals in the marvellous; a collector of marvels.

1600 O. E. *Repl. Libel* II. iii. 50 The Mirabiliaries were likewise condemned, for that by myracles, and prophecies, they sought to confirme their religion. 1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* II. i. § 4 The vse of this worke..is nothing lesse then to giue contentment to the appetite of Curious and vaine wittes, as the manner of Mirabilaries [*sic*] is to doe.

B. *adj.* Characteristic of 'miracle-mongers'.

1624 GEE *Hold Fast* 44, I haue formerly related some iugling mirabiliarie tricks acted of late in this City.

† Mira·bilis. *Obs.* Short for AQUA MIRABILIS.

1673 DRYDEN *Marr. à la Mode* III. i. 35 She..opens her dear bottle of Mirabilis. 1687 SEDLEY *Bellamira* III. i, Have you any mirabilis?

† Mira·bilist. *Obs.* [f. L. *mīrābilis* wonderful + -IST.] One who works wonders.

1599 HAASNET *Agst. Darell* 220 Vnto which kinde of people, and seducing Mirabilistes, Master Darrell in his practises with Somers, may well bee resembled. 1601 DEACON & WALKER *Answ. to Darell* 47 The most admirable mirabilist, among all the mirabilistes vnder the heauens.

Mirabilite (miræ·bilәit). *Min.* [a. G. *mirabilit* (Haidinger 1845) f. mod.L. (*sal*) *mīrābil-is* 'wonderful salt', the name given by Glauber to sulphate of soda ('Glauber's salt'): see -ITE.] Native sulphate of soda.

1854 DANA *Syst. Min.* (ed. 4).

† Mirabi·lity. *Obs.* [ad. L. *mīrābilitās*, n. of quality f. *mīrābilis*: see next and -ITY.] ? Admirable quality.

a 1692 FLAVEL *Navig. Spirit.* (1770) 232 An art of exquisite excellency, ingenuity, rarity, and mirability.

† Mi·rable, *a.* and *sb. Obs.* [ad. L. *mīrābilis*, f. *mīrārī* to wonder: see -ABLE.]

A. *adj.* Wonderful, marvellous.

c 1450 *Mirour Saluacioun* 899 Now fylowes it for til here hire mirable Conceyving. *c* 1450 *Cov. Myst.* (Shaks. Soc.) 389 A! myrable God, meche is thy myth. 1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* IV. v. 142. 1606 HOLLAND *Sueton.* 271 With mirable sentences and Apophthegmes.

B. *sb.* Something wonderful; a wonder.

1646 GAULE *Cases Consc.* 33 The Arted Witch, or one onely speculative upon the abstruse Mirables of Nature. 1653 H. WHISTLER *Upshot Inf. Baptism* 45 Ye grave Fathers & Bretheren, who find among the Mirables of Oxford Library that Coat [etc.].

Mirabola(m, **-lan**(e, obs. ff. MYROBALAN.

† Mirabu·ndous, *a. Obs.* [f. L. *mīrābundus* (f. *mīrārī* to wonder) + -OUS.] Wonderful.

1694 MOTTEUX *Rabelais* (1737) V. 229 Our Auricles, percuss'd by Fame sonorous, Your mirabundous Acts have brought before us.

† Mi·rach. *Obs.* Forms: 5–6 **mirac,** 6 **myrac,** myracke, 6–7 **mirach**(e, 7 **myrach**(e. [med.L., a. Arab. مراق *marāqq* pl., 'the thin or tender parts of the belly' (Lane), f. root *raqqa* to be thin or weak.] A name for the abdomen.

c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 169 Alle þese þingis þanne ben comprehendid in a skyn þat is fleischi & of lacertis maad, & is clepid mirac, & is clepid þe vttere wombe. 1528 PAYNEL *Salerne's Regim.* C iij b, These ventosities gether to gyther betwene the places of the bealye called mirac. 1541 R. COPLAND *Guydon's Quest. Chirurg.* H ij, Of howe many and what & howe many partes is the myrac composed. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* I. iii. II. ii. (1651) 200 If from the myrache, a swelling and wind in the Hypocondries. 1693 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2).

† Mira·chial, *a. Obs.* In 7 **myrachiall.** [f. med.L. *mirachia* hypochondria (f. *mirach*: see prec.) + -AL.] Hypochondriacal.

1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* I. ii. IV. iv, Of Hypocondriacall or flatuous melancholy, which the Arabians call Myrachiall.

Miracle (mi·răk'l), *sb.* Forms: 4 **maracle, -kle, meracull, -kill, mercle, miracil, -cyl, -kel, myrakil**(l, **-kyl,** 4–5 **meracle, myrrakull,** 4–6 **myracle,** 5 **mirakelle, -ylle,** 5–6 **mirackle, miracule,** 6 **mirakill, mirakle, myrackle,** 2– **miracle.** [a. OF. *miracle*, ad. L. *mīrāculum* object of wonder (in Eccl. L. miracle), f. *mīrārī* to wonder, f. *mīr-us* wonderful. Cf. Pr. *miracle*, Sp. *milagro*, Pg. *milagre*, It. *miracolo.*]

1. A marvellous event occurring within human experience, which cannot have been brought about by human power or by the operation of any natural agency, and must therefore be ascribed to the special intervention of the Deity or of some supernatural being; chiefly, an act (e.g. of healing) exhibiting control over the laws of nature, and serving as evidence that the agent is either divine or is specially favoured by God. Phrases, *to do,* † *make, work,* † *show a miracle.*

The L. *miraculum* in this sense, though common in patristic and later theology, is foreign to the Vulgate, in which the Gr. words rendered 'miracle' in the English Bible—*σημεῖον* 'sign', *τερας* 'wonder', *δύναμις* 'power' or 'mighty work', are translated respectively by *signum, prodigium,* and *virtus.*

a 1154 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1137 (Laud MS.), He maket þur ure Drihtin wunderlice & manifealdlice miracles. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1426 Pæt wes miracle muchel. *c* 1250 *Kent. Serm.* in *O. E. Misc.* 30 þis was þe commencement of þo miracles of ure louerde þet he made flesliche in erþe. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 177 Iesu..did þe meracles sua rijf þat þe Inus him hild in strijf. *Ibid.* 9512 Quat man es moght se sa bright, þat suilk a man cuth think in thoght þat mustre þat mercle moght? *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 23 God did faire miracle for Elfride þat houre. *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* xvii. 16 He shewyd many myrakils. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XV. 438 Þorw myracles..al þat marche he torned To cryst and to crystendome. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 288 Þou seist þat myraclis & lyues of holy men approuen þis dowynge of þe chirche. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) xii. 139 This was the firste Myracle..that Machomete dide in his 3outhe. *c* 1440 *Sir Gowther* 743 (Breul) He .. gyffus to þo mad hor wytte, And mony odur meracullus yytte. *c* 1511 *1st Eng. Bk. Amer.* (Arb.) Introd. 35/1 Saint Thomas doeth more myracles, than ony seynt in heuen. 1591 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. VI*, v. iv. 41 Chosen from aboue..To worke exceeding myracles on earth. 1608 BP. HALL *Epist.* I. vi. 73 Miracles must be iudged by the doctrine which they confirme; not the doctrine by the miracles. 1611 BIBLE *John* iv. 54 This is againe the second miracle that Iesus did. 1699 BURNET 39 *Art.* iv. 62 A Miracle is a Work that exceeds all the known Powers of Nature. 1756–7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) I. 466 A St. Ignatius performing a miracle, by Rubens, on another altar. 1865 MOZLEY *Mirac.* i. 5 Miracles or visible suspensions of the order of nature for a providential purpose, are not in contradiction to reason. 1872 TENNYSON *Gareth & Lynette* 1292 Wonders ye have done; Miracles ye cannot.

b. In generalized sense.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 158 Al were he, þuruh miracle, of barain iboren (etc.). 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 106 That therof mai be non obstacle, Bot if it stonde upon miracle. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 13 Lyke to the watyr of Archidoclyne, Wiche be meracle were turned into wyne. 1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* v. i. 264 Then you fled into this Abbey heere, From whence I thinke you are come by Miracle. 1671 MILTON *P. R.* I. 337 Who brought me hither Will bring me hence.. By Miracle he may, reply'd the Swain. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* IV. 131 Am I fond of life, Who scarce can think it possible, I live? Alive by miracle! 1855 MILMAN *Lat. Chr.* IX. ix. IV. 256 By what was believed to be miracle, which might be holy art. 1869 LIDDON *Serm. Spec. Occas.* viii. (1897) 164 When we take up the Book of Jonah, that which strikes us first of all.. is the degree in which miracle pervades the whole narrative.

2. *transf.* in various uses, *esp.* as applied hyperbolically to an achievement seemingly beyond human power, or an occurrence so marvellous as to appear supernatural.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Knt.'s T.* 1817 A myracle ther bifel anon. 1586 *Let. to Earle Leycester*, etc. 12 The bottomlesse graces and immeasurable benefits bestowed upon me by the Almightie..I must..admire..accounting them as well miracles as benefites. 1633 T. STAFFORD *Pac. Hib.* I. xiv. 84 Captain Flower at Lysmore, wrought miracles against the Rebels in those parts. 1638 JUNIUS *Paint. Ancients* 95 Now these miracles of Nature may seem to fall out by meere chance. 1692 DRYDEN *Cleomenes* II. ii. 17 O Miracle! He blushes! 1738 WESLEY *Ps.* CXXXIX. v, Lord to thy Works of Nature join Thy Miracles of Grace! 1824 R. STUART *Hist. Steam Engine* 35 It would, indeed, have been a miracle had a copy, of any equally unimportant book, been found at such a distance of time in that unenviable situation. 1850 SCORESBY *Cheever's Whalem. Adv.* xi. (1859) 145 She was within a miracle of being upset. 1860 PUSEY *Min. Proph.* 257 The moral miracles were, in these hundreds of thousands, God's over-powering grace. 1903 *Daily Mail* 11 Sept. 3/1 There are two theories to account for the radium 'miracle'.

b. Phrase, *To a miracle*: so well or successfully as to seem miraculous; marvellously well.

1643 TRAPP *Comm. Gen.* XXXI. 27 Hypocrites are likened to bull-rushes, which are green and smoothe; and he is curious to a miracle, that can find a knot in them. 1672 DRYDEN *Assignation* I. i, Gad, sir, everything becomes you to a miracle. 1758 J. S. *Le Dran's Observ. Surg.* (1771) 335 Things went on to a Miracle. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* xvi, Nelly..was soon busily engaged in her task, and accomplishing it to a miracle. 1882 STEVENSON *New Arab. Nts.* (1884) 94, I understand my part to a miracle.

c. *concr.* A wonderful object, a marvel; a person or thing of more than natural excellence; a surpassing example *of* some quality.

c 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) vii. 24 3it es þe heued of þat beste with þe hornes halden and keped at Alisaunder for a miracle. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* IV. (1586) 167 The bird appeereth as it were a myracle of nature. 1595 DANIEL *Civ. Wars* V. xiv. (1609) 117 That magnanimous King, Mirror of vertue, miracle of worth. 1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV*, II. iii. 33 O Miracle of Men! 1602 CAREW *Eng. Tongue* in *Camden's Rem.* (1614) 44 Take the miracle of our age Sir Philip Sidney. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* III. 64 The Bridge at London is worthily to be numbred among the miracles of the world. 1709 J. LAWSON *New Voy. Carolina* 145 The Humming-Bird is the Miracle of all our wing'd Animals. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 543 ₱ 3 Sir Isaac Newton, who stands up as the miracle of the present age. 1797 COLERIDGE *Kubla Khan* 38 It was a miracle of rare device. 1845 CRAIK *Sk. Hist. Lit. Eng.* V. 174 To Garrick, a miracle of an actor,..we owe [etc.].

† 3. A miraculous story; a legend. *Obs.*

c 1386 CHAUCER *Sir Thopas* Prol. 1 Whan seyd was al this miracle, euery man As sobre was that wonder was to se.

4. One of a class of dramatic representations of the Middle Ages based on the life of Our Lord and the legends of the Saints. Now usually called *miracle play* (see 5).

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 4659 þat make swyche pleyys to any man As myracles and bourdys. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Wife's Prol.* 558 To pleyes of myracles and to mariages. *c* 1394 *P. Pl. Crede* 107 At marketts & myracles we medleþ vs nevere. 1798 in *Archæologia* (1800) XIII. 237 But those theatrical pieces called 'Miracles' were their delight beyond all others. 1852 HALLAM *Lit. Eur. & Char., E. Europ. Drama* 4 Geoffrey, afterwards abbot of St. Alban's, while teaching a school at Dunstable, caused one of the shows, vulgarly called miracles, on the story of St. Catherine to be represented in that town.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.* (chiefly objective), as *miracle-abode, -author,* † *miracles-doing, miracle-making, -monger* (hence *-mongering*), *-worker, -working.* Also *miracle-breeding, -proof* adjs.; † **miracle man,** one who performs miracles; † **miracle minter,** one who 'coins' fictitious miracles; **miracle play** = MIRACLE 4; † **miracle player,** one who takes part in a miracle play; † **miracle shop,** contemptuously for a shrine at which miracles are reputed to be wrought.

1807 WOLCOT (P. Pindar) in *Monthly Mag.* Feb. 1 Methinks I see them (*sc.* Chaucer's pilgrims] on the road To Becket's *miracle-abode. 1749 LAVINGTON *Enthus. Meth. & Papists* (1820) 237 One of their famous *miracle-authors declares, that one brother was so elevated..that he boasted of having visions of angels attending him. 1814 MRS. J. WEST *Alicia de Lacy* III. 174 By pacing at midnight the flinty aisle of some *miracle-breeding chapel. *c* 1440 *Alpha-*

bet of Tales 305 þe tone of þaim fell vnto þe syn of lichorie, & her-for God deprivid hym of *meracles-doyng. *c* 1449 Pecock *Repr.* II. viii. 188 Bi the seid euydencis of myraculis doing. 1677 Gilpin *Demonol.* (1867) 181 When his [Satan's] agents can go no further in the trade of *miracle-making, he [etc.]. 1572 Forrest *Theophilus* 1235 in *Anglia* VII, Bruited abroade this great *myracle Man. 1603 Harsnet *Pop. Impost.* 103, I should haue acquainted you how the *Miracle-minter in his miracle booke doth solemnly tell vs, that [etc.]. 1584 R. Scot *Discov. Witcher.* VIII. i. (1886) 125 Why doo not these (meaning *miraclemongers) appoint some Siloah to swim in? 1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* (1614) 93 We leaue to you the stile of Mirabiliary Miraclemongers. 1856 R. A. Vaughan *Mystics* (1860) I. 36 All the pretences, both of heathen and of Christian miracle-mongers. 1881 A. B. Bruce *Chief End Rev.* iv. 182 Legendary tales due to the .. *miracle-mongering spirit of the .. reporters. 1852 Hook *Ch. Dict.* (1871) 517 *Miracle-plays were a kind of church performance in the middle ages representing the miracles wrought by the holy confessors, and the sufferings by which the perseverance of the martyrs was manifested. 1875 Ward *Eng. Dram. Lit.* (1899) I. 41 Miracle-plays, on the other hand, are more especially concerned with incidents derived from legends of the Saints of the Church. *a* 1400 *Serm. agst. Miracle-plays* in *Rel. Ant.* II. 46 Therfore to pristis it is uttirly forbedyn not onely to been *myracle pleyere but also to heren or to seen myraclis pleyinge. 1721 Shaftesb. *Charac.* (1737) II. 328 The safest station in Christianity is his who can be mov'd by nothing of this kind, and is thus *miracle-proof. 1629 Donne *Serm.* xxiv. (1640) 239 In the Romane church (where miracles for every naturall disease may be had at some Shrine or *miracle-shop, better cheap, then a Medicine ..). 1561 T. Norton *Calvin's Inst.* C.'s Pref. A iv b, The Lorde hath made vs ware agaynste suche *miracle workers. 1857 Stanley *Mem. Canterb.* ii. (ed. 3) 103 His [Becket's] fame as the great miracle-worker of the time, was increasing every month. 1605 Bacon *Adv. Learn.* II. xi. § 3 They haue exalted the power of the imagination to be much one with the power of *Miracle-working faith. 1867 Macfarren *Harmony* iv. (1876) 152 This miracle-working harmony.

Miracle (mi·räk'l), *v. nonce-wd.* [f. Miracle *sb.*] **a.** *refl.* ? To be revealed by miracle. **b.** *intr.* To work miracles.

1611 Shaks. *Cymb.* IV. ii. 29 Ime not their Father, yet who this should bee Doth myracle it selfe, lou'd before mee. *a* 1656 Hales *Tracts* (1677) 169 Their undaunted fortitude, their power of miracling.

Miracle, corrupt form of Merel, a game.

† Mi·raclely, *adv. Obs.* In 4 meraclelyche. [f. Miracle *sb.* + -ly 2.] By a miracle.

c 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 1432 Þey cryede god mercy alle þat nyȝt—And meraclelyche god toke hede þerto.

† Mi·racler. *Obs.* [f. Miracle *v.* + -er 1.] One who works miracles.

1676 *Doctrine of Devils* Ep. to Rdr. A ij, Who the greater Miracler, Christ or Belial?

† Mi·raclist. *Obs.* [f. Miracle *sb.* + -ist.] One who records miracles.

1603 Harsnet *Pop. Impost.* 113 Heare the Miraclist report it, who himselfe was an Actor. *Ibid.* 125 The first honour the Miraclist doth bestow vppon it [the cross] is this: that it serued to discouer Sara to haue a deuil [etc.].

† Mira·cular, *a. Obs.* [f. L. *mīrāculum* Miracle *sb.* + -ar.] Of or pertaining to miracle.

1728 North *Mem. Music* (1846) 15, I waive the cure of Saul's frenzy by Musick as miracular. 1812 Coleridge in *Lit. Rem.* (1836) I. 371 A scripture miracle, therefore, must be so defined, as to express, not only its miracular essence, but likewise the condition of its appearing miraculous.

† Mira·culate, *v. Obs.* [f. L. *mīrāculum* Miracle *sb.* + -ate 3.] *trans.* To produce by means of a miracle.

1633 T. Adams *Exp. 2 Peter* i. 2 The vessels whereinto Christ miraculated wine, were filled up to the brim.

† Miraculi·fic, *a. Obs.* [f. L. *mīrāculum* Miracle *sb.* + -ific.] Performing miracles.

1772 Nugent tr. *Hist. Fr. Gerund* I. 478 Saint Francis Xavier, the divine Heliotrope, or sacred Sun-flower, as he followed, in the course of his miraculific life..that planet [etc.].

† Mira·culist. *Obs.* [f. L. *mīrāculum* Miracle *sb.* + -ist.] **a.** One who works miracles; in quot. quasi-*adj.* **b.** A believer in miracles.

1666 H. Stubbe (*title*) The miraculist Conformist; or, an Account of several miraculous Cures performed by the Stroking of the Hands of Valentine Greatarik. 1804 Southey in *Ann. Rev.* II. 200 It will be equally intelligible to the reasoner and the miraculist. 1825 Hone *Every-day Bk.* I. 1394 Their biographers were miraculists.

Miraculize (miræ·kiŭləiz), *v.* [f. L. *mīrāculum* + -ize.]

1. *trans.* To make miraculous; to consider as miraculous.

1711 Shaftesb. *Charac.* (1737) II. II. v. 335 You are searching Heaven and Earth for Prodigys, and studying how to miraculize every thing. 1891 Max Müller *Anthrop. Relig.* Pref. (1892) 16 A real historical fact..which from very early days was miraculised and misinterpreted.

2. ? To work upon by miracle. *nonce-use.*

1751 Lavington *Enthus. Meth. & Papists* III. (1754) 164 Whatever Miracles Mr. Wesley may bring to account; I judge, that I ought to be impartial, .. though, in Consequence, I should be miraculized into Dread and Shame.

† Miraculo·sity. *Obs.* [as if f. L. *mīrāculōs-us* (see next) + -ity.] The quality of being miraculous.

1608 T. James *Apol. Wyclif* 33 He preached against the pretiosity, speciosity, and miraculositie, and sundry other sophistications about images. 1653 Gataker *Vind. Annot. Jer.* 185 They do rather directly infringe and remoove the miraculosity of them.

Miraculous (miræ·kiŭləs), *a.* Also 6 marycoulousse, miraculus, 6–7 myraculous(e. [ad. F. *miraculeux*, ad. med.L. *mīrāculōs-us*, f. *mīrāculum* Miracle *sb.*: see -ous.]

1. Of the nature of a miracle; produced or effected by miracle; beyond the agency of natural laws; supernatural.

1502 *Ord. Crysten Men* (W. de W. 1506) v. ii. 366 These operacyons dyuynes and maryculousses. 1605 Shaks. *Mach.* IV. iii. 147 A most myraculous worke in this good King. 1651 Hobbes *Leviath.* III. xxxvi. 231 The miraculous power of foretelling what God would bring to passe. 1671 Milton *Samson* 587 Why else this strength Miraculous yet remaining in those locks? 1704 Nelson *Fest. & Fasts* xxiii. (1739) 287 The miraculous Gifts which the Apostles received. 1856 Max Müller *Chips* (1880) II. xvi. 3 Men who had no sense for the miraculous and supernatural. 1884 F. Temple *Relat. Relig. & Sci.* v. (1885) 156 They profess to have miraculous power.

† b. Concerned with miracles. *Obs.*

c 1540 tr. *Pol. Verg. Eng. Hist.* (Camden) I. 176 Ihon, archebusshop of Yorcke,..went into Beverlaye,..where at this daye he is remembered with miraculus memorie. 1585 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* III. xix. 106 Of whom they do say .. miraculous fable. 1845 *Encycl. Metrop.* II. 868/1 The testimony by which the miracles of our Lord are accredited is .. distinguished, by its strength, from that which supports any other miraculous accounts.

2. *transf.* and *hyperbolically.* (Cf. Miracle *sb.* 2.) Resembling a miracle; so extraordinary as to appear supernatural; marvellous; astonishing.

In some of the earlier instances the sense may be directly based on the primary sense of L. *miraculum*, 'object of astonishment'.

1573 (*title*) A letter sent by a Gentleman of England to his frende contayning a confutation of a French mans errors in the report of the myraculous starre now shyninge. 1601 Holland *Pliny* II. 585 The miraculous workes that Q. Marcius Rex performed. 1601 R. Johnson *Kingd. & Commw.* (1603) 127 Neither is it miraculous amongst them to see a manne live above an hundred and thirty or forty yeares. 1602 Shaks. *Ham.* II. ii. 623 For Murther, though it haue no tongue, will speake With most myraculous Organ. 1698 Fryer *Acc. E. India & P.* 75 [A mountain] on whose Summit was a miraculous Piece hewed out of solid Stone. 1710 T. Fuller *Pharm. Extemp.* 150 'Twas communicated to me..as a miraculous Experiment, against bleeding at the Nose. 1742 Young *Nt. Th.* I. 395 Of man's miraculous mistakes, this bears The palm, 'That all men are about to live': For ever on the brink of being born.

3. Of things (formerly also of persons): Having the power to work miracles; wonder-working.

1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* VI. 334 In takne of his rare and excellent halynes,..he was miraculous, canonizet and reknet with the haly number. 1610 Shaks. *Temp.* II. i. 86 His word is more then the miraculous Harpe. 1618 Rowlands *Sacred Mem.* 29 He miraculous did heale them all. 1703 Maundrell *Journ. Jerus.* (1732) 132 A certain Sacrilegious Rogue took an opportunity to steal away this Miraculous Picture. 1781 Gibbon *Decl. & F.* xxxi. III. 247 The miraculous tomb of St. Fælix. 1850 Mrs. Jameson *Leg. Monast. Ord.* (1863) 79 The flask is always supposed to contain the miraculous oil which flowed under her shrine. 1872 Morley *Voltaire* (1886) 6 Some miraculous soil, from which prodigies and portents spring.

b. In names of plants: **miraculous berry,** in Western tropical Africa, applied by the English residents to the fruit of *Sideroxylon dulcificum*, from its extraordinary power of rendering sour substances intensely sweet (*Treas. Bot.* 1866); **miraculous fruit,** the fruit of *Thaumatococcus* or *Phrynium Danielli*, native of the Soudan (Moloney *Forestry W. Afr.* 1887, p. 428).

† 4. As *adv.*

1766 *Gentl. Mag.* July 331/1 The scenes,..Shifting backwards and forwards,..And painted miraculous fine.

Miraculously (miræ·kiŭləsli), *adv.* [f. prec. + -ly 2.] In a miraculous manner; by or as by miracle; in a miraculous degree.

1494 Fabyan *Chron.* VI. cxcvi. 201 And whyle they were there in great argument for this matyer..a rode there beynge..spake myraculously and said, that Dunstans waye was good and trewe. 1554 *Act 1 & 2 Phil. & Mary* c. 10 § 4 He hathe hitherto miraculouslye preserved the Quenes Matie from many greate and imminent perills and dangers. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 40 Lochbroune in commendatione has the first place, copious in herring miraculouslie. 1656 Wood *Life* (O. H. S.) I. 203 *note*, An elegie on the miraculously learned bishop of Armagh [Usher]. 1774 Pennant *Tour Scotl. in* 1772, 236 Preserved miraculously for two hundred years. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 6 Apr. 5/2 Savages .. prove almost miraculously quick in hearing and seeing.

Miraculousness (miræ·kiŭləsnės). [f. Miraculous *a.* + -ness.] The condition, quality, or state of being miraculous.

1587 Golding *De Mornay* xxvi. (1592) 420, I will not alledge any miraculousnes. 1676 Towerson *Decal.* 297 They could ..outshine the laity..by the miraculousness of their works. 1754 Sherlock *Disc.* (1759) I. i. 67 The Miraculousness of an Escape adds to the Pleasure and Joy of it. 1873 M. Arnold *Lit. & Dogma* (1876) 151 The more the miraculousness of the story deepens,..the more does the very air and aspect of things seem to tell us we are in wonderland.

‖ Mirador (mi·radǭ·r). Also **miradore.** [Sp., f. *mirar* to look.] **a.** A watch-tower. **b.** A turret or belvedere on the top of a Spanish house.

1670 Dryden *Conq. Granada* I. i, Your vallant Son, who had before Gain'd Fame, rode round to ev'ry Mirador. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) IV. 9/2 Few are without a mirador or turret for the purpose of commanding a view of the sea. 1832 W. Irving *Alhambra* I. 112 The delightful belvidere, originally a mirador of the Moorish Sultanas. 1888 *Pall Mall G.* 4 Sept. 14/1 The curious miradores, or turrets on the tops of the houses.

Mirage (mi·rä·ʒ). [a. F. *mirage*, f. (*se*) *mirer* to look at oneself in a mirror, to be reflected.] Originally, and still most commonly, that species of optical illusion, common in hot countries, and especially in sandy deserts, which consists in the appearance of a sheet of water at some distance from the spectator, where no water actually exists; now frequently extended to include other forms of optical illusions similarly produced by atmospheric conditions, e.g. the appearance in the sky of a reflected image of a distant object.

[1803 W. H. Wollaston in *Phil. Trans.* XCIII. 1 The phenomenon known to the French by the name of *mirage*, which their army had daily opportunities of seeing, in their march through the deserts of Egypt.] 1837 Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* (1872) II. I. iv. 29 Mirage, or shadow of still waters painted on the parched ground. 1861 *Court Life at Naples* II. 106 The thirsty traveller in the desert pants to attain the cooling stream in the far distance. Alas! 'tis but a mirage! 1865 Livingstone *Zambesi* xiii. 270 The mirage lifted them at times half-way to the clouds. 1885 Jennings & Lowe in *Expositor* Aug. 130 Isaiah (xxxv. 7) certainly mentions the 'mirage'.

b. *fig.*

1812 Southey *Ess.* iv. 81 Against this Goliath of the philosophistical Canaanites [Godwin], Mr. Malthus stept forth, at a time when the *mirage* in which Goliath had made his appearance was pretty well dispersed, and had left him in his natural dimensions. 1825 Coleridge *Aids Refl.* (1848) I. 130 If the self-examinant will .. exchange the safe circle of religion and practical reason for the shifting sand-wastes and *mirages* of speculative theology. 1876 Lowell *Among my Bks.* Ser. II. 141 They lie beyond the horizon of the every-day world and become visible only when the mirage of fantasy lifts them up.

Hence **Mira·ge** *v.*, to affect with mirage; **Mira·geous** *a.*, of or pertaining to a mirage; **Mira·geously** *adv.*, as a mirage; **Mira·gy** *a.*, of, pertaining to, or of the nature of a mirage.

1890 Gunter *Miss Nobody* iii, Atmosphere so clear that thirty miles would look as ten, did not a blazing sun make a heat mist that seems to mirage everything. 1895 W. Wright *Palmyra & Zenobia* xxiii. 259 Magnified by the miragy atmosphere. 1905 *Blackw. Mag.* July 81/2 By the side of a deep mirageous lagoon there sprang up a deep mirageous homestead. *Ibid.*, I pictured her mirageously there on the deep verandah, looking out, waiting for me.

‖ Miramolin (miræ·mŏlīn). *Hist.* Also maramoline. [Sp., corruption of Arab. *amīru'l mūminīn* 'Commander of the Faithful'.] The European designation in the Middle Ages of the Emperor of Morocco.

1779 *Hist. Mod. Europe* I. 392 He invited the miramolin of Africa into Spain. 1840 Browning *Sordello* Wks. 1896 I. 126/2 Saracenic wine The Kaiser quaffs with the Maramoline.

† Mira·ndous, *a.* [f. L. *mīrand-us* (gerundive pple. of *mīrārī* to wonder at) + -ous.] Wonderful.

1652 Gaule *Magastrom.* 47 Because of some mirandous or stupendious things, either effected or foretold, &c.

Mirbane (mə·ɹbēin). [Of obscure origin: F. *mirbane* is in Littré 1885.] *Essence of mirbane, oil of mirbane,* nitrobenzol used in perfumery.

1857 Miller *Elem. Chem., Org.* ix. (1862) 656 It [Nitrobenzol] has a very sweet taste, and an odour resembling that of bitter almonds, which has led to its use in perfumery under the name of Essence of Mirbane.

Mirc, Mircken, Mirckenes, obs. ff. Mirk *a.*, Mirken, Mirkness.

Mird, *v. Sc.*

1. *intr.* To meddle. Also, to sport amorously.

1614 Bp. P. Forbes *To a Recusant* 27 (Jam.) Except that there perhaps he thought some occasion might be catched to calumniat, or that there was ministred to him some matter of mirding. 1768 Ross *Helenore* (1789) 91 'Tis nae to mird with unco fouk ye see, Nor is the blear drawn easy o'er her ee. *c* 1768 — in Whitelaw *Bk. Sc. Song* (1875) 360/1 He there wi' Meg was mirdin' seen. 1806 R. Jamieson *Pop. Ball.* II. 335 Wi' lasses I ne'er mean to mird or to mell.

2. *trans.* To attempt, to venture.

? *c* 1740 J. Skinner *Christmas Ba'ing* vii. *Misc. Coll. Poetry* (1809) 125 He squeel' to her like a young gyte, But wad na mird to gang Back a' that day. 1863 Janet Hamilton *Poems & Ess.* 300 But the nameless, though giftit, are caul' i' the yird, Ere a sang or a word i' their praise she wull mird!

Mird, variant of Merd *Obs.*, excrement.

1669 Cokaine *Ovid* 63 Oyntments Made of the spawn of Snakes, Spittle of Jews, And Mird of Infants.

Mire (məiəɹ), *sb.*1 Forms: 4–8 myre, 4–6 myr, 4–5 myere, 4 meore, mir, mure, muyre, 5–7 myer, 5–6 moyre, 6 mier, 4– mire. [ME. *mire*, a. ON. *mýr-r* fem. (mod.Icel. *mýri*, Sw. *myr*, Da. *myre, myr*):—OTeut. **miuzjâ*:—**meuzjâ* f. **meus-* (cf. OE. *mós* moss, OHG. *mios*, MHG. *mies*), ablaut-var. of **mus-*: see Moss.]

1. A piece of wet, swampy ground; a boggy place in which one may be engulfed or stick fast. Also in generalized sense, swampy ground, bog.

13.. *Exec. Simon Fraser* in *Pol. Songs* (Camden) 216 Now Kyng Hobbe in the mures ȝongeth. 13.. *Sir Beues* (A.) 2023 And in a mure don him cast. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 379 It stondeth in water mareys and meores. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl.* C. IV. 384 Bote stande as a stake þat

stykeþ in a muyre. 14.. *Sir Beues* (MS. S.) 638 So he smote on her sweres þat her hedes fel on þe myres. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 2986 Sum ware dreuyn doun in dikis sum in depe myrys [*MS. Dubl.* mires]. *c* 1440 *Sir Gowther* 417 (Breul) He toke his speyre .. And spard nodur myre ne more; Forthe at þo yatus on hors he went. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 222 When he had dispeched theim out of the moyre. 1616 SURFL. & MARKH. *Country Farme* 539 Where the ground .. yeeldeth forth such a continuall moisture, that the smallest trampling or treading therupon bringeth it to a verie myre. 1789 BLAKE *Songs Innoc., Little Boy Lost* 7 The mire was deep. 1887 RIDER HAGGARD *She* xxviii, For three whole days through stench and mire..did our bearers struggle along.

transf. 1819 SHELLEY *Mask of Anarchy* x, Over English land he passed, Trampling to a mire of blood The adoring multitude.

b. *fig.* esp. in phrases, e. g.: *To bring, drag, lay, leave, stick in the mire*; *to find oneself in the mire.*

c 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 286 Synne .. bryngiþ his doere into þe same myre þat he eschewiþ. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 508 He sette nat his benefice to hyre, And leet his sheepe encombred in the Myre. — *Manciple's T.* 186 A thousand folk hath rakel Ire ffully fordoon and broght hem in the Mire. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 93 And of his Slouthe he dremeth ofte How that he sticketh in the Myr. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xxxvii. 256, I schall þe prove be right resoune, þou motes his men in to þe myre. 1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* lxviii. 1 The waters are come in euen vnto my soule. I sticke fast in the depe myre. 1559 *Mirr. Mag., Mortimer* xv, The subtyll queen [i.e. Fortune] behynde me set a trap, wherby to dashe and laye all in the myre. 1607 SHAKS. *Timon* I. ii. 60 Honest water, which nere left man i' th' mire. 1622 BACON in Spedding *Life* (1874) VII. 385 That thrice noble prince..will help to pull me..out of the mire of an abject and sordid condition. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* VI. 216 For sordid lucre plunge we in the mire? 1859 KINGSLEY *Misc.* (1860) I. 338 Drowning in the horrible mire of doubt. 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 9 Sept. 1/2 Sir Edmund Hornby..when he leaves the general for the particular finds himself in the mire.

2. Wet or soft mud, slush, dirt. Often in allusions to 2 Pet. ii. 22.

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 70 William was oglyft, his helm was fulle of myre. 1471 RIPLEY *Comp. Alch.* IV. v. in Ashm. (1652) 145 Clay and Myer. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 206 Whiche threwe stones and clottes of myre at hym. 1535 COVERDALE 2 *Pet.* ii. 22 The sowe that was waszhed [is turned agayne] vnto hir walowynge in the myre. [So 1611.] 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IV. 1010 What follie then To boast what Arms can doe, since thine no more Then Heav'n permits, nor mine, though doubld now To trample thee as mire. 1755 YOUNG *Centaur* ii. Wks. 1757 IV. 157 He is an immortal being, that would lose none of its most darling delights, if he were a brute in the mire. 1755 JOHNSON, *Mire*, mud; dirt at the bottom of water. 1837 LYTTON *E. Maltrav.* II The roads were heavy with mire. 1871 R. ELLIS tr. *Catullus* xvii. 9 Headlong into the mire below topsy-turvy to drown him.

b. *fig.* or in figurative context.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1113 Þaȝ þou be man fenny, & al to-marred in myre whyl þou on molde lyuyes. 1765–78 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 279 Thus the mire of sordid appetite must be the soil wherein to plant them all. 1882 MRS. LYNN LINTON in *Life* xvii. (1901) 238 Turn where you will you see pain and sacrifice—the root of the lily in the mire.

c. *nonce-uses.* A mass of dirt.

1871 BROWNING *Pr. Hohenst.* 1338 Until a stumble, and the man's one mire! 1877 TENNYSON *Harold* IV. iii, What late guest,..caked and plaster'd with a hundred mires, Hath stumbled on our cups?

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *mire-fir, -hole; mire-deep* adj.

1834 H. MILLER *Scenes & Leg.* xii. (1857) 187 Helen hastily lighted a bundle of mire-fir. 1835 HALIBURTON *Clockm.* Ser. I. (1837) 73 Over ditches, creeks, mire holes, and flag ponds. 1859 DICKENS *T. Two Cities* III. i, The mire-deep roads.

4. Special comb.: **mire-bumper** *Sc.*, the bittern (Jamieson 1808–25); **mire-crow**, the laughing gull, *Larus ridibundus*; **mire-duck** *Sc.*, the wild duck, *Anas boscas* (Swainson *Prov. Names Birds* 1885); also *U.S.* the common duck (*Cent. Dict.*); **mire-pipes** *dial.*, stockings without feet. Also MIRE-SNIPE.

1678 RAY *Willughby's Ornith.* 347 The Pewet or Black-cap, called in some places the Sea-Crow and Mire-Crow. 1807 J. HALL *Trav. Scotl.* II. 608 Mire-pipes or stockings without feet.

† Mire, *sb.*[2] *Obs.* Cf. PISMIRE. [ME. *mire* (?:—OE. **mire* wk. fem., found only in Benson's *Anglo-Saxon Dict.*, but possibly genuine) corresponding to MDu. *miere* (Du. *mier*), MLG., mod.LG. *mire* (whence rare mod.HG. *miere*).

If the word is the formal equivalent of Sw. *myra* (OSw. also *myr*), Da. *myre*, the OTeut. type may have been either **meuzjôn-* (=Welsh *myrvion*, ants) or *miurjôn*, related by ablaut to ON. *maurr* (Norw. *maur*, OSw. *mȯr*) whence the synonymous northern ME. MAUR. Another hypothesis is that the Eng. and LG. forms represent an OTeut. **mirôn-*, unconnected with the Scandinavian words and not otherwise found exc. perh. in the doubtful Crim-Goth. *miera*; some scholars would refer this to the root **mig-* (see MIG), so that the etymological notion would be the same as that in the synonymous LG. *mig-ente* (Woeste), *mig-æmeken* (Schambach); if so the compound PISMIRE expresses the idea twice over. Outside Teut. several langs. have names for the ant of similar sound to the Teut. words here mentioned, though the difficulties in the way of admitting etymological connexion have not yet been removed: cf. Zend *maoiri*, Gr. *μύρμηξ* (and L. *formīca* from **mormīca*), OSl. *mravija* (Russ. МУРАВЕЙ), OIrish *moirb*, Welsh *mȳr*.]

An ant. (Cf. MAUR, PISMIRE.)

c 1220 *Bestiary* 234 Đe mire is maȝti. *Ibid.* 273 Đe mire muneð us mete to tilen.

‖ Mire (mīr), *sb.*[3] [F. *mirer*, vbl. sb. f. *mirer* to look at, to sight a gun.]

1. Gunnery. *Quoin of mire* [= F. *coin de mire*]: see quot.

1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) VIII. 233/2 The quoin of mire, which are pieces of wood with a notch on the side to put the fingers on, to draw them back or push them forward when the gunner points his piece.

2. *Astr.* (See quot.)

1885 E. S. HOLDEN in *Sidereal Messenger* (Minn.) III. 301 A mire or meridian mark, eighty feet distant.

† Mire, *a. Obs.* [f. MIRE *sb.*[1]] Miry.

c 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* I. 791 Yit if thy garth be mire, a diche may stonde. 1441 in *Plumpton Corr.* (Camden) p. lx, The said misdoers followed, and drove them into a mire more. 1557 TUSSER 100 *Points Husb.* xxxviii, When pasture is gone, and the fildes mier and weate. *c* 1656 MILTON *Sonn. to Lawrence*, Now that the Fields are dank, and ways are mire.

Mire (məiəɹ), *v.*[1] Forms: 5–7 **myre**, 6–7 **myer**, 6 **myar, myir**, 4– **mire**. [f. MIRE *sb.*[1]]

I. *trans.* **1.** To plunge or set fast in the mire. (Chiefly in *passive.*) Also *refl.*

1559 *Mirr. Mag., Hen. VI*, xxxiv, Who moyled to remove the rocke out of the mud, Shall myer him selfe. 1574 HELLOWES *Gueuara's Fam. Ep.* (1577) 354 There be so many quagmires, wherein to be myred. 1576 NEWTON *Lemnie's Complex.* (1633) 179 As among Fishes, Eeles, and other slippery Fishes that lye still myering themselves in mudde. *a* 1656 USSHER *Ann.* VI. (1658) 706 The Souldiers of Cæsar and Antonius were mired in the fens of Philippi. 1752 CARTE *Hist. Eng.* III. 207 Some of them were mired in it [*sc.* a slough]. 1832 LYELL *Princ. Geol.* II. 276 Where terrestrial quadrupeds were mired.

b. *fig.* To involve in difficulties. Formerly often, † to discomfit or confound, *esp.* in a dispute.

c 1400 *Beryn* 3388 And nowe we be I-myryd, he letith vs sit aloon. 1560 ROLLAND *Crt. Venus* II. 936 With the missiue that sa oft did him myir. *c* 1570 *Durham Depos.* (Surtees) 264 He..was so myerd and blinded, by reason of the said stroks. 1577-87 STANYHURST *Chron. Irel.* 86/1 in *Holinshed*, This is a doubtie kind of accusation..wherein they are stabled and mired at my first deniall. 1688 PRIDEAUX *Valid. Orders Ch. Eng.* 74 You having been mir'd amongst abundance of Absurdities..already. 1728 EARBERY tr. *Burnet's St. Dead* I. 39 But further we shall be mired in the Difficulties of their Hypothesis. 1778 *Conciliation* 7 Mir'd and flound'ring in th' unbottom'd Pit. 1847 EMERSON *Poems* (1857) 185 Or mired by climate's gross extremes. 1852 J. BRUCE *Biog. Samson* iii. (1854) 70 It [marriage] threatened to mire him for ever in domestic wrangling and broils. 1896 FR. H. BURNETT *Lady of Qual.* xvi, A devil grins at me and plucks me back, and taunts and mires me.

c. Of bogs, mud, etc.: To hold fast, entangle.

1889 T. N. PAGE *In Ole Virginia* (1893) 175 The marsh on either side would have mired a cat. 1892 A. E. LEE *Hist. Columbus* (Ohio) I. 273 The bog..began to dry up, but not sufficiently to prevent it from hopelessly miring the village cows.

2. To bespatter or soil with mire or filth; to defile. *lit.* and *fig.*

1508 KENNEDIE *Flyting w. Dunbar* 472 And myrit thaym wyth thy mvk to the myd mast. 1530 PALSGR. 636/1, I myar, I beraye with myar. *Je crotte.* 1566 DRANT *Horace, Sat.* I. i. A ij b, Janyvere That myrethe all the costs wyth slete. 1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* IV. i. 135 Smeer'd thus and mir'd with infamie. 1622 MABBE tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* I. 228 Being myred in the Winter with durt. 1751 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 116 ₱ 2, I..did not come home..mired and tanned. 1851 BORROW *Lavengro* lxix, I wonder how my horse's knees are; not much hurt, I think—only mired. 1852 M. ARNOLD *Tristram & Iseult* III. 171 Her palfrey's flanks were mired and bathed in sweat. 1868 TENNYSON *Lucretius* 159 Strangers at my hearth Not welcome, harpies miring every dish.

II. *intr.* **3.** To sink in the mire, be bogged. † Also with *down.*

1607 SHAKS. *Timon* IV. iii. 147 Paint till a horse may myre upon your face. 1762 MILLS *Syst. Pract. Husb.* I. 152 It ploughed very tough, and the cattle mired in some places. 1778 [W. MARSHALL] *Minutes Agric.* 25 Oct. an. 1775 No horse could have dragged his legs after him—he must have mired-down. 1865 VISCT. MILTON & CHEADLE *N. West Passage by Land* 283 We had been delayed and harassed every day by the horses miring.

† Mire, *v.*[2] *Obs.* Also 7 **myre.** [a. F. *mirer* = It. *mirare*, Sp., Pg. *mirar*:—popular L. *mīrāre* to look at, from class. L. *mīrārī* (pre-class. *mīrāre*) to wonder: see MIRACLE *sb.*] *trans.* To look at in a mirror.

c 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* I. cv. (1869) 56 A mirrour..in whiche al the world may mire him wel and considere him. 1640 tr. *Verdere's Rom. Rom.* III. 106 She by the light of two Tapers..myred her self in his eyes.

† Mire, *v.*[3] *Obs.* [a. L. *mīrārī*: see MIRACLE. The dial. *mire* 'to wonder' is perh. apbetic for *admire.*] *intr.* To wonder.

1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* IV. (Arb.) 104 Heere but alas he myred what course may be warelye taken.

Mire, obs. dat. sing. fem. of MINE *pron.*

Mire, obs. form of MAR *v.*; variant of MERE.

Mired (məiəɹd), *ppl. a.* [f. MIRE *v.*[1] + -ED[1].]

1. Stuck fast in the mire, bogged.

1621 BURTON *Anal. Mel.* II. iii. vi. (1624) 285 As a myred horse that struggles at first with all his might and maine to get out. 1857 KINGSLEY *Two Y. Ago* II. 91 Cowards, old Odin held..sank..like mired cattle, to all eternity in the unfathomable peat-slime.

b. *transf.* and *fig.* Involved in difficulty, perplexed.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* IX. iii. 106 Rutylianys wolx affrayit wyth myndis myrit.

2. Bespattered with mire; soiled or discoloured with mud or mire.

1586 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* I. iv. (1612) 13 The..Sunne..did shine vpon the oosie plashes myerd.

Mire-drum (məiəɹdrʊm). *dial.* Forms: 4–8 **myre-dromble**, 4 **mir-drommel**, 5 **myre-dromylle**, 6 **myr-drumnyl**, 7 **mire-drumbel**, 7– **mire-drum.** [ME. *myre dromble*, formed by substitution of MIRE *sb.*[1] for the first portion of some variant of the name for the bittern, which appears in OE. as *rárædumbla, rárædumla.*

The original form and etymology of the word are obscure, but the OE. form (with which cf. *rárian* to ROAR) seems to be more primitive than those in continental Teut., which have evidently been influenced by popular etymology. OHG. had *horotumil* (as if 'mire-tumbler', f. *horo* mire + stem of *tumôn, tûmalôn* to tumble) and *horo tâbil* (as if 'mire-diver'). The MHG. *rôrtumel*, mod. G. *rohrdommel*, MDu. *roesdommer, rosdomp*, mod. Du. *roerdomp*, have the first element assimilated to the word for reed. MHG. and early mod.G. have several forms with inserted *r* in the second element, as *roredrumbel, -drummel, -trummel, rardrûmmel*, etc. (see Diefenbach *Gloss.* s.v. *Onocrotalus*); the alteration may be of onomatopœic origin, and perh. arose independently in Ger. and Eng.]

The bittern.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XII. xxviii. (Tollem. MS.), The mirdrommel is calde onacrotalus. *Ibid.* xxxvi, A myre dromble, þat is a brid of þe marreyes. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 50 A Buttir, *vbi* myre dromylle. 1500 *Ortus Voc.* in *Cath. Angl.* 50 *note*, Myrdrumnyl or a buture. 1668 CHARLETON *Onomasticon* 103 The white, and spoon-bill'd Heron, or Shoveler, or Mire-drumbel. 1678 RAY *Willughby's Ornith.* 282 The Bittour or Bittern or Mire-drum. 1794 W. HUTCHINSON *Hist. Cumbld.* I. 18/2 The bittern...In the spring it makes a loud bellowing kind of noise. From which it is called in Cumberland Mire-Drum. 1866 *Inverness Courier* 4 Jan., We refer to the bittern of British Zoology, provincially, the bog-bumper and miredrum.

Mire sauce, variant of MERESAUCE *Obs.*

Mire-snipe. *Sc.* [f. MIRE *sb.*[1] + SNIPE: cf. ON. *mýri-snípa* (Edda Gl.).] The common snipe, *Scolopax gallinago.*

Also in phr. *to catch a mire-snipe*, to fall in the mire; hence *fig.* an aceident, mishap (Jam.).

c 1450 HOLLAND *Howlat* 213 The Martoune, the Murcoke, the Myresnype. 1847 *Zoologist* V. 1908 The snipe..known by the name of the mire-snipe.

Miret. *dial.* (Cornwall). The common tern.

1838 J. COUCH *Cornish Fauna* I. 27 Common Tern.. Miret; a name which from this Species is extended indiscriminately to the whole genus.

Mirhe, obs. form of MYRRH.

† Miri. *Obs. rare.* [a. OF. *mirie, mire*:—L. *medicum.*] A physician.

c 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (Prose) 22 For þi sal sbo do als te wyse miri [L. *medicus*] dos, þat wyl hele þe seke. *Ibid.* 23 Þan sal þabbes do als te sleȝe miri [L. *medicus*].

Miri, obs. form of MERRY *a.* and *adv.*

Miriad, obs. form of MYRIAD.

† Miri·dical, *a. Obs.*—° In 7 *erron.* **miradical.** [f. late L. *mīridic-us* (Qaicherat), f. *mīr-us* wonderful + *dic-* wk. stem of *dīcĕre* to say: see -AL.] Speaking wonderful things. Hence **† Miri·dically** *adv.*

1652 GAULE *Magastrom.* 215 Those things that are miridically done by the Devill and magicians. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr., Miradical* [sic], that speaks strange things.

Mirie, obs. form of MERRY.

Mirific (məiri·fik), *a. rare.* Forms: 5 **myrifyke, myryfyke**, 8 **mirifick**, 7– **mirific.** [a. F. *mirifique*, ad. L. *mīrificus*, f. *mīrus* wonderful + *-ficus* (see -FIC). Cf. It., Pg. *mirifico*, Sp. *mirífico.*] Doing wonders; exciting wonder or astonishment; marvellous. Now chiefly *jocular.*

1490 CAXTON *Eneydos* vi. 24 Hiely decored by merueyllous artes and myryfyke. *a* 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. iv. 45 In..very few years you should be sure to see the sancts.. more numerous, wonder-working, and mirifick. 1727 BAILEY vol. II, *Mirifick.* 1832 *Examiner* 291/2 They have accomplished something mirific. 1848 THACKERAY *Bk. Snobs* xxxi, That man educates a mirific family. 1853 *Blackw. Mag.* LXXIII. 635 The mirific diminishment of the contents of the brandy-bottle.

† Miri·fical, *a. Obs.* Also 7 **mirificall.** [Formed as prec. + -AL[1].] = prec.

1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 1196 That yeeld sweet odors most mirificall. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr., Mirificall..* marvellous. 1829 T. L. PEACOCK *Misfort. Elphin* 173 Merry England..was..a phrase which must be a mirifical puzzle to any one.

† Miri·ficence. *Obs.*—° [ad. late L. *mīrificentia*, f. *mīrificus* (cf. MAGNIFICENCE).] The attribute of doing wonders.

1727 BAILEY vol. II, *Mirificence*, doing wonders.

† Miri·ficent, *a. Obs. rare.* [f. L. *mīrificent-*, altered stem (cf. MAGNIFICENT) of *mīrific-us* MIRIFIC.] Doing wonders; wonder-working.

1664 H. MORE *Myst. Iniq.* xviii. 66 The more general Notion of Enchantment, Agrippa defines..to be nothing but The conveiance of a certain mirificent power into the thing enchanted by virtue of the words and breath of the Enchanter.

† Miri·ficously, *adv. Obs.* [f. L. *mīrific-us* MIRIFIC *a.* + -OUS + -LY[2].] Wonderfully.

1657 TOMLINSON *Renou's Disp.* 602 It mirificously conduces to the freeing the liver.

Mirily, Mirines, obs. ff. MERRILY, MERRINESS.

Miriness (məiə·rinés). Also 6 myrinesse, 7 mieriness. [f. MIRY *a.* + -NESS.] Miry condition or quality.

a 1608 Sir F. Vere *Comm.* (1657) 21 A dike or causey,.. most used in winter by reason of the lownesse and myrinesse of the country. 1649 Blithe *Eng. Improv. Impr.* (1653) 12 Another cause of Barrenness is Bogginess or Mieriness. 1755 Johnson, *Miriness*, dirtiness, fullness of mire.

Mirinesse, obs. form of Merriness.

Miring (məiə·riŋ), *vbl. sb.* Also 6 mireing. [f. Mire *v.* + -ing 1.]

1. The state of becoming entangled in a mire.

1556 *Act* 8 *Eliz.* c. 8 § 1 Wᵗhout daonger and peryll of the mireyng drowning and perishing of the same [horses]. 1657 R. Ligon *Barbadoes* (1673) 29 Because their Cattle shall not be in danger of miring or drowning. 1888 *Century Mag.* Mar. 657/2 As long as everything is frozen solid there is..no danger from miring.

2. The action of covering with mire; a bespattering.

1641 'Smectymnuus' *Answ.* (1653) Post. 89 The tearing of Hoods and Cowles, the miring of Copes,..in the scuffle.

Mirinkaleon: see Myrmeleon.

†**Mi·rish,** *a. Obs.* Also 8 myrish. [f. Mire *sb.*1 + -ish.] Of the nature of mire; miry; foul.

1630 J. Taylor (Water P.) *To Honour of O'Toole* Wks. II. 17/2 Thou Hast made them skip o'r bogs and quagmires mirish. 1719 D'Urfey *Pills* (1872) IV. 326 In that same myrish, bloody Fen.

Mirites, obs. variant of Mibrite.

Mirk, Mirky, etc., var. forms of Murk, etc.

Mirled (məːld), *ppl. a. Sc.* [var. of Marled *ppl. a.*2] Speckled, spotted.

1885 *Times* 4 June 10/6 Exhibition of Collies...A curiously marked blue mirled and white specimen.

Mirligoes (mə·rligoz), *sb. pl. Sc.* Also merligoes, merrily-goes, miriegoes, mirlygoes. [Cf. Sc. dial. *mirl* to turn round, to be giddy.] Dizziness, vertigo; *esp.* in the phrase *in the mirligoes*: in a state of dizziness.

1773 Fergusson *Ghaists* 46 Or else some kittle cantrip thrown, I ween, Has bound in mirlygoes my ain twa ein. 1816 Scott *Old Mort.* xxviii, My head's sae dizzy with the mirligoes. 1893 J. A. Barry *S. Brown's Bunyip*, etc. 99 They havena muckle likin' for sic a med'cin'. It gives them the mirligoes.

‖ **Mirliton.** *Mus.* ? *Obs.* Also *erron.* mirloton. [F. *mirliton* reed pipe; of onomatopœic origin (Littré).] A toy pipe.

1819 Moore *Mem.* (1853) III. 9 The crowd of dancers, mountebanks, mirloton players [etc.]. 1895 in *Funk's Stand. Dict.*

Mirly, variant of Marly *a.*2 *Sc.*

†**Mirmillon.** *Obs. rare*—0. [ad. L. *mirmillōnem.*] A kind of gladiator.

1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Mirmillon.*

Mirmydan, -den, -don, obs. ff. Myrmidon.

Miro (mī·rɒ). *New Zealand.* [Maori.] The black pine of Otago, *Podocarpus ferruginea.* Also *miro-tree.*

1835 W. Yate *Acc. N. Zealand* (ed. 2) 45 Miro..grows to the height of from forty to sixty feet, with a diameter of not more than thirty inches. 1875 Laslett *Timber* 308 The miro-tree is found in slightly elevated situations in many of the forests in New Zealand.

Mirobalan(e, -bolan, obs. ff. Myrobalan.

Miroir, obs. form of Mirror *sb.*

Mirondones, obs. pl. of Myrmidon.

‖ **Miroton** (mirotoñ). *Cookery.* [Fr.] (See quots.)

1725 Bradley *Fam. Dict., Miroton*, a culinary Term, being a Kind of Farce, and usually serv'd up for a Side-dish, and may be made several Ways. 1877 *Cassell's Dict. Cookery* 1177 *Miroton*, small thin slices of meat about as large as a crown piece made into ragoûts of various kinds, and dished up in a circular form.

Mirour, obs. form of Mirror *sb.*

†**Mirourer.** *Obs.* Also mirorer. [f. *mirour* Mirror *sb.* + -er 2.] A maker of or dealer in mirrors.

1309 in *Cal. Let. Bk. D. Lond.* (1902) 38 [25 Nov. 1309 Roger de Elvedene] mirourer [admitted]. 1320 *Rolls of Parlt.* I. 382/2 Ad Petitionem Johannis le Mirorer.

Mirr, mirra, obs. ff. Myrrh. **Mirre,** obs. f. Merry. **Mirrer,** obs. f. Mirror. **Mirrette,** obs. f. Merit. **Mirrh(e,** obs. ff. Myrrh.

Mirrines(se, obs. forms of Merriness.

Mirriounis, obs. Sc. pl. form of Morion.

Mirrold, obs. form of Mirror *sb.*

Mirror (mi·rəɹ), *sb.* Forms: 4–8 mirrour(e, 4–7 mirour, 4–6 myrour(e, myrrour(e, 4–5 meror, merour(e, 4 merrour(e, merrur, mirrur, mirur, 5 mero, merowe, merowr, merrowre, merur(e, murrour, myrowre, myrrore, myrrow, 6–8 miroir, 6 miror, mirrhour, mirrold, *Sc.* murrur, 7–8 mirroir, myrhorr, 6– mirror. [ME. *mirour*, a. OF. *mirour, mireor, mireoir*, earlier (11th c., Rashi) *miradoir* (mod.F. *miroir*) :—popular L. **mīrātōrium*, f. **mīrāre* to look at (class. L. *mīrārī* to wonder, admire, whence Miracle): see -ory. Pr. had *mirador-s*, and It. *miratore, miradore*, in the same sense (both rare); Sp., Pg. *mirador* has the meaning of watch-tower. The Eng. spelling *mir(r)oir*, almost confined to the 17th c., is due to the influence of mod.Fr.]

I. Literally (or with obvious metaphor).

1. A polished surface which reflects images of objects, formerly made of metal, now ordinarily of glass coated with amalgam; a looking-glass. Also *rarely*, the coated glass of which mirrors are made.

c 1225 *Dict. J. de Garlande* in Wright *Voc.* 123 Willelmus, vicinus noster, habet .. speculu (myrrys [? *read* myrurys]). *c* 1315 Shoreham 7 *Sacraments* 727 To-slyfte A[l þy] myrour þou myȝt fol wel, Bote nauȝt þe ymage schifte. 1413 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton 1483) IV. xxvi. 71 In a ful lytel myrroure thou myght see as grete an ymage as in another that is double more. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 236 To loke in Merowe, *speculari*. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* I. iv. 10 And in her hand she held a mirrhour bright. 1601 Holland *Pliny* II. 478 No plates might he driuen by the hammer, nor mirroirs made, but of the best and purest silner. 1634 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* 59 Stones .. so well polisht, that they equall for brightnesse a steele mirrour. 1766 Fordyce *Serm. Yng. Wom.* (1767) II. viii. 43 Next morning the mirror is consulted again. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* xxiii, Mirrors were dim as with the breath of years. 1898 G. B. Shaw *Plays* II. *Candida* 81 A varnished wooden mantelpiece, with neatly moulded shelves, tiny bits of mirror let into the panels.

b. *fig.*

c 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* I. 365 Thus gan he make a myrrour of his mynde. 1593 B. Barnes *Parthenophil* Madr. xi. 4 in Arb. *Garner* V. 370 Thine Eyes, mine heaven!.. made mine eyes dim mirrolds of unrest. 1602 Shaks. *Ham.* III. ii. 24 Playing .. whose end .. is, to hold as 'twer the Mirrour up to Nature. *a* 1633 G. Herbert *Jacula Prud.* 296 The best mirrour is an old friend. 1677 Gale *Crt. Gentiles* II. iv. 94 The Divine Law is called perfect, as it is an absolute perfect Miroir or Glasse. 1784 Cowper *Task* II. 291 The fleeting images that fill The mirror of the mind. 1881 Gardiner & Mullinger *Stud. Eng. Hist.* I. ix. 174 Such books serve to hold up the mirror to the time.

c. *transf.* Applied to water (chiefly *poet.*).

1595 Spenser *Epithal.* 63 And in his waters, which your mirror make, Behold your faces. 1637 Heywood *Dialogues* Wks. 1874 VI. 258 Their chrystall waves are Myrrhors. 1667 Milton *P. L.* IV. 263 A Lake, That to the fringed Bank .. Her chrystall mirror holds. 1713 Addison *Cato* I. vi, So the pure limpid stream .. Works itself clear, and as it runs, refines; Till, by degrees, the floating mirror shines. 1866 G. Macdonald *Ann. Q. Neighb.* xiii, The stars above shining as clear below in the mirror of the all but motionless water.

2. *spec.* a. A glass or crystal used in magic art.

13.. *Seuyn Sag.* (W.) 2009 Virgil made another ymage, That held a mirour in his hond, And oversegth all that lond. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Sqr.'s T.* 226 Alocen and Vitulon And Aristotle that writen in hir lynes Of queynte Mirours and of prospectines. 1481 Caxton *Reynard* xxxii. (Arb.) 84 Now ye shal here of the mirrour. The glas that stode theron was of such vertu, that [etc.]. 1533 Gau *Richt Vay* 12 Alsua thay that wsis corsis, christal, murrur, bukis, vordis and..coniuracione to find hwid hurdis in the ȝeird [etc.]. 1859 Geo. Eliot *A. Bede* i, With a single drop of ink for a mirror, the Egyptian sorcerer undertakes to reveal .. far-reaching visions of the past.

† b. A small glass formerly worn in the hat by men and at the girdle by women. *Obs.*

1599 B. Jonson *Cynthia's Rev.* II. i, Call for your casting-bottle, and place your mirrour in your hat.

3. *Optics.* A polished surface, either *plane, convex*, or *concave*, that reflects rays of light; a speculum. *Burning mirror*: a concave mirror which, by concentrating the reflected rays of the sun at a focus, causes them to set fire to objects.

1762 H. Walpole *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1765) I. vi. 125 Among the stores of old pictures at Somerset-house, was one ..representing the head of Edward VI. to be discerned only by the reflection of a cylindric mirrour. 1768–74 Tucker *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 675 A convex mirror strengthens the colours and takes off the coarseness of objects by contracting them. 1822 Imison *Sci. & Art* I. 262 Plane mirrors are those whose surfaces are perfect planes, and whose section is a straight line. Such are vulgarly called looking-glasses. 1839 G. Bird *Nat. Philos.* 301 The point..being consequently equal to half the radius of the concavity of the mirror.

II. Figurative uses.

4. That which gives a faithful reflection or true description of anything. Cf. Looking-glass 1 b.

Formerly common in titles of books, after med.L. *speculum.*

c 1385 Chaucer *L. G. W.* Prol. 307 What [seith] vincent in his estoryal myrour. *c* 1440 *Eng. Cong. Irel.* 117 That same boke..was...as merrowre of al his dedys. 1563 Sackville *Induct. Mirr. Mag.* vii, A Mirour well it might bee calde. 1647 Clarendon *Hist. Reb.* I. § 94 It seemed the more reasonable to enlarge upon the nature and character and fortune of the duke; as being the best mirroir to discern .. the spirit of that age. 1751 Johnson *Rambler* No. 156 ₱ 10 The stage, which pretends only to be the mirrour of life. 1874 Sayce *Compar. Philol.* v. 176 Language is the mirror of society, and accordingly will reflect every social change.

b. Used of a person. *poet.*

1563 Sackville *Induct. Mirr. Mag.* xvii, Those Whom Fortune in this maze of miserie Of wretched chaunce most wofull myrrours chose. 1594 Shaks. *Rich. III*, II. ii. 51 But now two Mirrors of his Princely semblance, Are crack'd in pieces by malignant death. *c* 1637 Waller *On Ben Jonson* 1 Mirrour of Poets, Mirrour of our Age.

5. That which exhibits something to be imitated; a pattern; an exemplar. Now *rare.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 23867 Cristen folk.., In eldrin men ur mirur se Quat for to folu, quat for to fle. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Frankl. T.* 726 O Teuta queene thy wyfly chastitee To alle wyues may a Mirour bee. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xxi. 93 For men schall me þer myrroure make. 1568 Grafton *Chron.* II. 81 Wherefore this Princes actes may be a myrour unto all Princes. 1683 *Brit. Spec.* 18 Thou art a Mirror to all Christian Kingdoms. 1765 Cowper *Lett.* 24 June, A servant..who is the very mirror of fidelity and affection for his master. 1801 Strutt *Sports & Past.* Introd. 7 Sir Tristram, a fictitious character held forth as the mirror of chivalry.

† b. Hence of persons: A model of excellence; a paragon. *Obs.*

c 1369 Chaucer *Dethe Blaunche* 974 She wolde haue be at the beste A cbefe myrrour of al the feste. 1599 Shaks. *Hen. V*, II. Prol. 6 They sell the Pasture now, to buy the Horse; Following the Mirror of all Christian Kings. 1615 Brathwait *Strappado* (1878) 71 Whilest thy renowme great mirrour of the North, Showne in our time, wants one to set it foorth. 1785 Burke *Sp. Nabob of Arcot's Debts* Wks. 1842 I. 343 Our mirror of ministers of finance did not think this enough for the services of such a friend as Benfield.

† c. That which reflects something to be avoided; a warning. *Obs. rare.*

1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xvi. 156 þow shalt be myrour to manye men to deceyue. 1475 *Bk. Noblesse* (Roxb.) 39 But alway [they] brake the saide trewes..as it shewethe openly, and may be a mirroure for ever to alle cristen princes to mystrust any trewes taking by youre saide adversarie or his allies and subjectis. 1633 T. Stafford *Pac. Hib.* II. iii. 145 He might for ever bee poynted at as an exemplary mirror for all insolent Traytors.

III. 6. Applied to various objects resembling a mirror in shape or in lustre.

a. *Arch.* A small oval ornament.

1847–54 Webster, *Mirror*, in architecture, a small oval ornament cut into deep moldings, and separated by wreaths of flowers. 1901 Sturgis *Dict. Archit. & Build., Mirror*, a panel surrounded by a moulded or otherwise ornamented frame and suggesting the idea of a mirror. Practically the same as a Cartouche, Rondel or Medallion, but the mirror in this sense is usually a detached panel.

b. *Ornith.* A bright patch of colour on the wings of ducks and other birds; = Speculum.

1903 *Blackw. Mag.* Mar. 359/2 The black tips of the long wings waving in the wind, showing the large white 'mirrors' on the first three feathers distinctly.

c. Short for *mirror cloth* (see 7 b).

1899 *Daily News* 14 Jan. 2/4 So glossy is the cloth..that it is now called 'mirror', in allusion to the sheen of its highly-polished surface.

IV. 7. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

a. simple attrib., objective, etc., as *mirror-bearer, -silverer, -silvering.*

Also in names of scientific instruments in which the index is a beam of light reflected from a mirror, as in *mirror barometer, galvanometer, thermometer.*

1885 Pater *Marius* I. vi, Placed in their rear were the *mirror-bearers of the goddess. 1898 Lodge in *Daily News* 7 Jan. 2/4 Such an instrument was the beautiful '*mirror-galvanometer' of Lord Kelvin. 1829 Sir R. Christison *Treat. Poisons* xiii. (1832) 375 A somewhat later account of the disease by Dr. Bateman, as he observed it in *mirror-silverers. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 931 In *mirror-silvering it [mercury] was also employed.

b. similative, as *mirror-faculty, -floor, surface*; *mirror-bright, -like* adjs. Also in the designations of textile fabrics with lustrous surface, as *mirror moiré, velvet*; and of colours, as *mirror-black, -grey, -pink* adjs.

1890 *Century Dict.*, **Mirror-black*, an epithet applied to any ceramic ware having a lustrous black glaze. 1900 *Daily News* 7 Aug. 3/5 There is an amount of steel and brass work to be kept *mirror-bright. 1711 Shaftesb. *Charac.* (1737) I. 199 Besides the difficulty of the manner it-self, and that *mirrour-faculty,.. it proves also..a kind of mirror .. to the age. *a* 1849 J. C. Mangan *Poems* (1859) 73 On the *mirror-floor of Ocean's wave. 1887 *Daily News* 19 May 5/6 A *mirror-grey satin dress. 1772 Mason *Eng. Garden* I. 23 Whose mighty mind .. *mirror-like Receiv'd, and to mankind with ray reflex The sov'reign Planter's primal work display'd. 1832 Miss Mitford *Village* Ser. v. 151 Two narrow shady lanes cross each other, leaving just room enough .. for a clear mirror-like pond. 1894 *Westm. Gaz.* 20 Sept. 3/3 Another splendid gown .. was of '*mirror moiré'. 1874 Farrar *Christ* (1894) 161 The *mirror surface of their lake. 1893 *Daily News* 27 Nov. 6/1 Vivid tones of pink and red are seen in *mirror velvets.

c. Special comb.: **mirror carp,** the looking-glass carp, *Cyprinus carpio*; **mirror-fashion** *adv.*, in the manner of mirror-writing; **mirror glass,** glass used in a mirror; also, a mirror (in quot. *fig.*); **mirror-plate,** a plate of glass suitable for a mirror; **mirror ray,** the spotted ray, *Raia maculata*; † **mirror-stone** = Muscovite; **mirror-writer,** one who practises *mirror-writing*; **mirror-writing,** writing which appears as though viewed in a mirror, reversed writing (a characteristic of aphasia).

1880–4 F. Day *Brit. Fishes* II. 159 The mirror-carp, or carp king, *Cyprinus rex cyprinorum, C. specularis, C. macrolepidotus.* 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 25 A young lady..who wrote more fluently '*mirror' fashion with the left hand. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 339/1 *Myrowre glasse, *speculum.* *a* 1560 Becon *Jewel of Joy* Wks. II. 42 b, O what a myrrour glasse and spectacle is here offered vnto vs. 1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 572 The casting of *mirror-plates was commenced in France about the year 1688. 1863 Couch *Brit. Fishes* I. 104 Those staring marks, from which this fish has sometimes been called the *Mirror Ray. 1668 Charleton *Onomasticon* 255 *Selenitis*,..*Lapis Specularis*..*Mirrour-stone, or Muscovy Glass. 1881 Ireland in *Brain* Oct. 367 The ..change in the brain-tissue from which the image is formed in the mind of the *mirror-writer. *Ibid.* 361 Buchwald and Erlenmeyer have directed attention to what they call Spiegelschrift or *mirror-writing.

Mirror (mi·rəɹ), *v.* [f. Mirror *sb.*] *trans.* To reflect in the manner of a mirror.

1820 KEATS *Lamia* II. 47 He..bending to her open eyes, Where he was mirror'd small in paradise. 1823 F. CLISSOLD *Ascent Mt. Blanc* 23 The glassy pinnacles of the surrounding Alps mirrored the varying lights of the hemisphere. 1896 A. E. HOUSMAN *Shropshire Lad* XV, Look not in my eyes, for fear They mirror true the sight I see.

b. *fig.* To reflect, or represent something (to the mind). Also to *mirror back*.

1827 DISRAELI *Viv. Grey* V. i, Those glorious hours, when the unruffled river of his Life mirrored the cloudless heaven of his Hope. 1883 S. C. HALL *Retrospect* II. 41 The brightness of the outer world is mirrored in imperishable verse. 1890 TOUT *Hist. Eng. fr.* 1689, 110 Literature and language faithfully mirrored back the age.

c. *refl.* To see oneself reflected in a mirror.

1891 C. E. NORTON *Dante's Purgat.* ix. 57 White marble so polished and smooth that I mirrored myself in it.

Hence **Mi·rroring** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1852 M. ARNOLD *Empedocles* 18 Hither and thither spins The wind-borne mirroring Soul. 1873 — *Lit. & Dogma* (1876) 173 A perfectly faithful mirroring of the thought of Jesus.

Mirrored[1] (mi·rəɹd), *a.* [f. MIRROR *sb.* + -ED[2].] Fitted with a mirror or mirrors.

1820 KEATS *Lamia* 579 Still mimick'd as they rose Along the mirror'd walls by twin-clouds odorous. 1890 *Daily News* 8 Jan. 2/4 The action of the magnet .. was visibly represented by means of the mirrored galvanometer.

Mirrored[2] (mi·rəɹd), *ppl. a.* [f. MIRROR *v.* + -ED[1].] Reflected, as by a mirror; also *fig.*

a 1861 WOOLNER *Beautiful Lady* (1863) 122 Those mirrored marvels of the lake. 1905 *Q. Rev.* July 100 The mirrored image of life.

Mirrorize (mi·rəreiz), *v.* [f. MIRROR *sb.* + -IZE.] *trans.* To show up as in a mirror.

1598 TOFTE *Alba* (1880) 54 A Monster then I may her mirorise, Since she delights in such strange Tragedies. 1873 S. WILBERFORCE in Ashwell *Life* (1879) I. viii. 337 All that sea of glass which lay spread before the Throne, mirrorizing, measured, compassed, completed.

†**Mi·rrorly,** *a. Obs.* Also 5 **meroly.** [f. MIRROR *sb.* + -LY[1].] Resembling a mirror.

1434 MISYN *Mending Life* 128 Myendly sight truly is takyn up heuenly to behald he schadoly syght 3it & meroly.

Mirrory (mi·rəri), *a.* [f. MIRROR *sb.* + -Y.] Having the nature of a mirror; mirror-like.

1885 R. F. BURTON *Arab. Nts.* (abr. ed.) I. 140 The seas sank to mirrory stillness.

Mirt, Mirtel: see MYRT, MYRTLE.

Mirth (məɹþ), *sb.* Forms: 1 myriʒþ, miriʒþ, myr(ʒ)þ,mir(ʒ)þ,myrhþ,mirhþ,merʒþ,2 murþh, merhþ(e, 3 mirþh, muri(h)þe, mur(e)hþe, mur(e)ʒþe, muru(h)þe, mureþe, murcþ, 3–5 murþ(e, 3–6 mirthe, 4 muirth, 4–6 merth(e, myrthe, 4–7 myrth, 3– mirth. [OE. *myr(i)gþ* str. fem. (cf. MDu. *merchte*):—OTeut. **murgiþō*, n. of quality f. **murgjo-* MERRY *a.*]

†**1.** Pleasurable feeling, enjoyment, gratification; joy, happiness. Often used of religious joy. *Obs.*

c 888 K. ÆLFRED *Boeth.* vii. § 1 Be þæm þu meaht ongietan ðæt þu þær nane myrhðe on næfdest. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gen.* iii. 24 He adræfed wæs of neorxena wonges myrðe. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 13 Murðhe sculen wunian on londe. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 132 Treowe ancren..resteð ham inne swuche þouhte, & habbeð muruhðe of heorte, ase þeo þet singeð. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1422 þer ha heuen up hare honden to heouene; &..ferden, wið murðe, icrunet, to Criste. *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* Prol., & oft sith in til soun & myrth of heuen. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XVIII. 127 'Haue no merueille' quod Mercy, 'myrthe it hytokneth'. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 107 Of whom I scholde merthe take. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xlvii. 114 Nowe maiden meke and modir myne, Itt was full mekill myrþe to þe, þat I schulde ligge in wombe of þine. 1508 DUNBAR *Twa Mariit Wemen* 42 Bewrie, .. 3e weddit wemen 3ing, Quhat mirth 3e fand in maryage, sen 3e war menis wyffis. 1659 H. PLUMPTRE in *12th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 6 Wishing that all your yeares yet to come may passe over with mirth and jollityes. 1696 TATE & BRADY *Ps.* ii. 11 Rejoyce with awful Mirth.

b. *pl.* Delights, joys.

a 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1712 Monie ma murhðen þeo alle men mahten wið hare muð munnen. *Ibid.* 2217 þæt wes on an Wodnesdei þæt ha þus wende, martir, to þe murhðes þæt neauer ne wonieð. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 1004 Paradis is a priue stedd þar mani mirthes er e-medd. *c* 1420 *Anturs of Arth.* xiv, Whene þou sittis in thi sette, Withe all mirthes at thi mete, Some dayntes þou dele. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xxiv. 144 To make þere myrthis more.

†**c.** Put for: A cause of joy. *Obs.*

a 1000 *Runic Poem* 75 (Gr.) Dæg byþ..myrgþ and tohiht eadgum and earmum. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 2382 Þe is mi lauerd & mi luue, mi lif & mi leofmon, mi wunne .. mi murhðe & mi mede. *c* 1425 *Cursor M.* 10887 (Trin.) For þi of þe beþ born a hurþ Synful men to ioye & murþ.

2. Rejoicing, esp. manifested rejoicing; merry-making; jollity, gaiety. Phrase, †*to make mirth(s,* to rejoice.

c 1205 LAY. 1794 Muchel wes þa murðe þe þat folc makode. 13.. *K. Alis.* 1575 Murthe is gret in halle. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XVI. 237 Thou hass mair causs myrthis till ma, For thou the ded eschapit swa. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 45 Maii, Whan every brid hath chose his make And thenkth his merthes forto make. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* VI. 619 To meit thai went, with myrthis and plesance. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* I. ii. 37 And so in alle haste they were maryed in a mornynge with grete myrthe and ioye. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. xii. 40 Their exceeding merth may not be told. 1605 SHAKS. *Macb.* III. iv. 11 Be large in mirth, anon wee'l drinke a Measure The Table round. 1822 SCOTT *Pirate* xxii, Life without mirth is a lamp without oil. 1837 W. IRVING *Capt. Bonneville* I. 238 The genial festival of Christmas, which .. lights up the fireside of home with mirth and jollity.

†**3.** Something which affords pleasure or amusement; a diversion, sport, entertainment. *Obs.*

c 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 767 Of a myrthe I am right now bythoght To doon yow ese and it shal coste noght. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 241 And thus the dai, schortly to telle, With manye merthes thei despente. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* XII. vi. 601 And euery day ones for ony myrthes that alle the ladyes myȝt make hym he wold ones euery day loke toward the realme of Logrys. 1472–5 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 156/1 Lordes,..Vqmen, and other Comyners, have used the occupation of shotyng for their myrthes and sportes with Bowes of Ewe. 1534 MORE *Conf. agst. Trib.* II. Wks. 1171/1 You require my minde in the matter, whether menne in tribulacion may not lawfully .. coumfort themselfe, with some honest mirth. 1577 NORTHBROOKE *Dicing* (1843) 100 Such vaine, ydle, and filthy pastimes and myrthes should surcease. 1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* I. iv. 18 To giue a Kingdome for a Mirth, to sit And keepe the turne of Tipling with a Slaue.

†**b.** Musical entertainment, melody. *Obs.*

c 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 1254 Ich man was lef to liþe, His mirþes were so swete. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. VIII. 67 Vnder a lynde vppon a launde lened I a stounde, To lythe þe layes þe louely foules made. Murthe of her mouthes made me þere to slepe. 1485 CAXTON *Paris & V.* 4 [They] wyth one accorde dysposed them self for to gyue somme melodyous myrthe to the noble mayde. *c* 1532 DU WES in Palsgr. 942 To make myrth as byrdes, *degoiger.* 1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* Dec. 40 Somedele yblent to song and musickes mirth.

4. Gaiety of mind, as manifested in jest and laughter; merriment, hilarity; in early use, †jocularity, fun, ridicule (*obs.*). †Also, a jest.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 253 Thei hire sihe of glad semblant, Al full of merthes and of bordes. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 28 b, Which Luther got afterwardes, and translated it into Duche, not without much myrthe and pastime [L. *non sine scommatis multoque sale*]. 1591 HARINGTON *Orl. Fur.* Pref. ? vj, Then, for Comedies. How full of harmeles myrth is our Cambridge Pedantius? 1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* II. i. 343, I was borne to speake all mirth, and no matter. 1655 STANLEY *Hist. Philos.* III. (1701) 88/1 Aristophanes taking this Theme interweaves it with much abusive Mirth. *a* 1674 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* XIII. § 30 He was of an excellent humour, .. and under a grave countenance, covered the most of mirth. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 381 ₱ 1, I have always preferred Chearfulness to Mirth. The latter I consider as an Act, the former as an Habit of the Mind. Mirth is short and transient, Chearfulness fixed and permanent. *a* 1716 SOUTH *Serm.* (1744) VII. vii. 151 For if these [great crimes and great miseries] be made the matter of our mirth, what can be the argument of our sorrow? 1760–74 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 129 Joy, when occasioned by the contrast of very dissimilar objects, along which it proceeds by continual leaps and bounds from one to the other, becomes mirth. 1774 GOLDSM. *Retal.* 24 Who mix'd reason with pleasure and wisdom with mirth. 1841 W. SPALDING *Italy & It. Isl.* II. 216 A reckless mixture of seriousness with mirth. 1832 HT. MARTINEAU *Demerara* iii. 33 Cassius grinned with some feeling deeper than mirth.

b. personified.

? *a* 1366 CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 817 Ful fair was Mirthe, ful long and high; A fairer man I never sigh. 1632 MILTON *L'Allegro* 152 These delights, if thou canst give, Mirth with thee, I mean to live. 1770 GOLDSM. *Des. Vill.* 222 Where grey-beard mirth, and smiling toil retir'd. 1816 BYRON *Monody on Sheridan's Death* 110 Mirth, That humbler Harmonist of care on Earth.

†**c.** Put for: The object of one's mirth.

1601 SHAKS. *Jul. C.* IV. iii. 114 Hath Cassius liu'd To be but Mirth and Laughter to his Brutus, When greefe and blood ill temper'd, vexeth him? 1611 — *Wint. T.* I. ii. 166 He's all my Exercise, my Mirth, my Matter. 1708 OZELL tr. *Boileau's Lutrin* III. 52 The Flout of Boys, and Mirth of every Feast.

5. *Comb.* objective and obj. genitive, as *mirth-maker, -marrer,* †*-monger*; *mirth-inspiring, -loving, -making, -marring, -moving, -provoking* adjs.; †**mirth-day,** a holiday, festival; †**mirth-song,** a song of (religious) joy.

1778 [W. MARSHALL] *Minutes Agric., Digest* 118 Let the Amusements of those *Mirth-Days be athletic and exhilarating. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* IV. 302 Bright Helen mix'd a *mirth-inspiring bowl. 1853 HICKIE tr. *Aristoph.* (1872) II. 543 The unrestrained, *mirth-loving act of worship. 1636 MASSINGER *Gt. Dk. Florence* V. ii, Such chopping *mirth-makers as shall preserve Perpetuall cause of sport. 1638 BRATHWAIT *Barnabees Jrnl.* I. (1818) 37 They eat, drink, laugh, are still *mirth-making. 1652 J. WRIGHT tr. *Camus' Nat. Paradox* IV. 129 Who playing the *Mirth-marrer at this Triumph, put Water into this fuming Wine. 1771 FOOTE *Maid of B.* I. Wks. 1799 II. 209 That ..water-drinking, *mirth-marring, amorous old hunks. 1641 J. TRAPPE *Theol. Theol.* IV. 191 Then woe to our *mirth-mongers that laugh now. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* II. i. 71 A *mirth-mouing iest. 1859 LANG *Wand. India* 287 Each in his own peculiar way, could relate a story,.. in such a manner as to make it wonderfully *mirth-provoking. 1561 DAUS tr. *Bullinger on Apoc.* (1573) 81 The *myrth-songes, or Carols of Gods excellent creatures.

†**Mirth,** *v. Obs.* Forms: 3 mirþen, 4–5 myrth(e, 4 merþe, murthe, 4–7 mirth(e. [f. MIRTH *sb.*]

1. *intr.* To be glad, rejoice.

a 1300 *E. E. Psalter* xxxi. 14 Faines in Laverd and glades in quert And mirþes [L. *gloriamini*] alle rightwise of hert.

2. *trans.* To gladden, delight; to provide sport or entertainment for.

a 1300–1400 *Cursor M.* 7254 (Gött.) Bi a piler þan was he [Samson] sett, To mirth þe gomys at þair mett. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 861 He myrþez vus alle at vch a mes. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XVII. 240 þe weyke and fyre wil make a warme flaumbe For to myrthe men with þat in merke sitten. 1387–8 T. USK *Test. Love* I. i. (Skeat) I. 11 Blisse of my joye, that ofte me murthed, is turned in-to galle. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 7910 To se the maner of þo men, & mirth hym a stound. 1435 MISYN *Fire of Love* 10 With byrnynge lufe playnly our myndes myrthand. *a* 1600 *Flodden F.* ii. (1664) 20 Then Minstrels mirthed all the land.

Mirper, obs. form of MURDER *v.*

Mirthful (mə·ɹþfŭl), *a.* [f. MIRTH *sb.* + -FUL.]

1. Of persons, their dispositions, moods, etc.: Full of mirth; joyous, gladsome, hilarious.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 10611 Þar bileft þat mirthful mai, Drightin hir ledd in al hir wai. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilȝear* 357 Befoir that mirthfull man menstrallis playis. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* x. 36 Be myrthfull now, at all 3our mycht, For passit is 3our dully nycht. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 14 Brasse buttons, pieces of Pewter, spur-rowels, or what else the mirthfull Saylers exchange. 1726 POPE *Odyss.* XX. 415 A mirthful frenzy seized the fated croud. *a* 1745 BROOME tr. *Anacreon's Odes* liv. 8 Hence, hoary Age!—I now am young, And dance the mirthful Youths among. 1821 CLARE *Vill. Minstr.* I. 45 Each mirthful lout The ale-house seeks.

b. Of places, seasons, etc.: Characterized by mirth or rejoicing. Of sounds or utterances: Expressive of mirth, joyous, merry.

c 1450 HOLLAND *Howlat* 998 In mirthfull moneth of May. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xlviii. 163 Thane all the birdis song with voce on hicht, Quhois mirthfull soun was mervelus to heir. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 198 This Ceremony..to Libidinists may seeme mirthfull and charitable. 1807 CRABBE *Par. Reg.* III. 847 But most his Reverence loved a mirthful jest. 1834 LYTTON *Pompeii* III. ii, There is nothing very mirthful in your strain. 1846 KEBLE *Lyra Innoc.* (1873) 131 Mirthful bower or hall.

2. Of things: Affording mirth, amusing.

1593 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI,* V. vii. 43 And now what rests, but that we spend the time With stately Triumphes, mirthfull Comicke shewes.

Mirthfully (mə·ɹþfŭli), *adv.* [f. MIRTHFUL + -LY[2].] In a mirthful manner, joyously; in an amusing manner; humorously.

c 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 216 The meriest war menskit on mete, at the maill, With menstralis myrthfully makand thame glee. 1665 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (1677) 182 As was mirthfully experimented upon one of Alexander's Pages. 1856 HAWTHORNE *Eng. Note-Bks.* (1879) II. 229 Always saying something mirthfully. 1862 LYTTON *Str. Story* I. 104 She would enter mirthfully into the mirth of young companions round her. 1885 *Spectator* 25 July 976/1 He mirthfully describes the shooting in cold blood of 2,000 rebels .. as an *envoi à l'ambulence.*

Mirthfulness (mə·ɹþfŭlnės). [f. MIRTHFUL + -NESS.] The quality or state of being mirthful; joyfulness; jocosity, facetiousness.

1867 A. DUNCAN *Mem. D. Duncan* 2 Cheerfully doing what he could to contribute to their gratification and innocent mirthfulness. 1906 *Hibbert Jrnl.* Apr. 572 She impresses all who approach her by her constant mirthfulness.

†**Mi·rthing,** *vbl. sb. Obs.* [f. MIRTH *v.* + -ING[1].] The action of the vb. MIRTH; rejoicing.

a 1300 *E. E. Psalter* lxxxviii. 16 [15] Milthe and sothnes sal forgan þi face: seli folke þate mirthinge [L. *jubilationem*] kan.

Mirthless (mə·ɹþlės), *a.* [f. MIRTH *sb.* + -LESS.] Wanting in mirth, joyless; sad, dismal.

c 1381 CHAUCER *Parl. Foules* 592 Daunsith he murye that is myrtheles. 1509 BARCLAY *Shyp of Folys* (1570) 172 O mirthless muse of eloquence barayne. 1567 GOLDING *Ovid's Met.* IX. (1593) 226 My colour pale, my bodie leane, my heavie mirthlesse cheere. 1627 DRAYTON *Sheph. Sirena* 26 Whilst his gamesome cut-tayld Curre With his mirthlesse Master playes. *a* 1800 J. WARTON *Fashion* 63 As mirthless infants, idling out the day, With wooden swords, or toothless puppies play. 1847 C. BRONTË *Jane Eyre* xi, It was a curious laugh; distinct, formal, mirthless. 1899 *Blackw. Mag.* July 48/1 A circle of mirthless young men.

Hence **Mi·rthlessly** *adv.* Also **Mi·rthlessness.**

1890 CLARK RUSSELL *Ocean Trag.* II. xxiv. 252 He laughed harshly and mirthlessly. 1727 BAILEY vol. II, *Mirthlessness,* sadness, melancholiness.

Mirthsome (mə·ɹþsəm), *a.* [f. MIRTH *sb.* + -SOME.] Characterized by mirth; mirthful, joyous.

1823 *Mirror* I. 326/1 Mirthsome birds With wild song fill the air. 1841 *Fraser's Mag.* XXIII. 459 This was a blythesome bridal, yet less mirthsome than mony I mind of.

Hence **Mi·rthsomeness.** Now *rare.*

1648 W. BROWNE *Polexander* III. IV. 122 Coming up to him with the mirthsomeness of a man that brings good newes. You have no more enemies, said he. *Ibid.* V. 135 Two [statues] represented the Pleasures as well by their youth, their mirthsomeness,..as [etc.].

Mirtill, mirtle, obs. forms of MYRTLE.

†**Mi·rtus.** *Obs.* Also 6 **myrthus.** [a. L. *myrtus*: see MYRTLE.] Myrtle.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. ci. (1495) 667 Some Mirtus is whyte and some is blacke. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* V. ii. 63 And sayand this, he gan his templis tway Covir with myrthus, that is his moderis tre.

Miry (məi·ri), *a.* Forms: 4–6 myry(e, 6–7 mierie, miery, myery, myrie, 6 myerry, 7 merie, mirie, 8–9 mirey, 5– miry. [f. MIRE *sb.*[1] + -Y[1].]

1. Of the nature of mire or marshy ground, swampy.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVIII. lxxxvii. (1495) 836 The Sowe is frende to fenne and to myry places. 1494 FABYAN *Chron.* VII. 433 The feelde where the hooste laye, was so wete and myry, that men and bestys were to greuoslye noyed. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* V. x. 23 Onely these marishes and myrie bogs, In which the fearfull ewftes do build their bowres. 1622 S. WARD *Woe to Drunkards* (1627) 38 Though the pit bee deepe, merie and narrow. 1763 MILLS *Pract. Husb.* IV. 332 The ground .. had better be dry, than mirey wet. 1833 HOOD *Epping Hunt* lxxvii, Some fell in miry bogs.

fig. 1602 F. HERING *Anat.* 5 Ouer head and eares in the myrie puddle of grosse Ignorance.

2. Abounding in mire, muddy.

c 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 335 þe strete þat he rade in was passand myrye. 1574 tr. *Marloral's Apocalips* 40 As the cleere and vnmuddie water that glydeth with a quiet streame, differeth from troubled and myrie froth. 1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 135 Women footing it in the mierie streets. 1714 GAY *Trivia* I. 239 Deep thro' a miry Lane she pick'd her Way, Above her Ankle rose the chalky Clay. 1833 HT. MARTINEAU *Berkeley the Banker* I. i, When the days get damp and dark, and the roads miry. *fig.* *a* 1652 J. SMITH *Sel. Disc.* i. 14 Several steps and ascents out of this miry cave of mortality. 1768–74 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 356 Nor that the miry road of labour, trouble, suffering, and imperfection, should be made the necessary passage thereto.

3. Covered or bespattered with mud or mire.

1496 *Bk. St. Albans, Fishing* 3 [The hunter] his clothes torne wete shode all myry. 1530 PALSGR. 318/2 Myerry or dirty, berayed with dyrte, *boueux*. 1714 GAY *Trivia* I. 25 When late their miry sides stage-coaches show. 1864 R. A. ARNOLD *Cotton Fam.* 54 Hodge comes in all miry from his work.

4. *fig.* Dirty, defiled; despicable.

1532 MORE *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 614/1 Tindall .. layeth hys myrye handes vpon the knowen catholike churche of Christ. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* I. ii. 10 Beyond that myrie heap of earthie waters. 1877 E. JOHNSON *Antiq. Mat.* 69 A name under which men drove a miry business. †*Comb.* 1589 NASHE *Almond for Parrat* 5 Thinke you this myrie mouthed mate, a partaker of heauenly inspiration, that thus aboundes in his vncharitable railings.

5. 'Dirty' in colour. *rare.*

1850 *Zoologist* VIII. 2644 Those [*sc.* eggs] of the plover were somewhat discoloured, and were beginning to get what may be called miry.

Miry, obs. form of MERRY *a.*

‖ **Miryachit** (mi'rya·tʃit). Also *erron.* myri-. *Path.* [Russian мирячить (inf.) to be epileptic (Pavlovsky).] A peculiar nervous disease observed in Siberia and in some non-European countries, the chief characteristic of which consists in mimicry by the patient of everything said or done by another.

1890 in *Century Dict.* 1897 *Trans. Amer. Pediatric Soc.* IX. 168 b, The group of nervous disorders which include the 'jumpers' described by Beard, the latah of the Malays, the myriachit of Siberia. 1902 QUAIN *Dict. Med.* 440 The subjects of Myriachit react only to impulses entering through the efferent optic and auditory channels.

‖ **Mirza** (mĭ·rzā), *sb.* Also 7 mirzey, mursi, 7–8 murza, 8–9 meerza, 8 myrza. [Pers. مرزا *mirzā*, مير *mīrā*, short for ميرزاد *mīrzād*, f. *mīr* (a. Arab. *amīr*: see AMEER, EMIR) a prince + *zād* born.] In Persia: a. A royal prince; as a title, it is placed after the name. b. The common title of honour prefixed to the name of an official or a man of learning.

1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 422 These Nagayans have their divers hords subject to their severall Dukes whom they call Murzes. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 70 The Persian Prince, hunted him backe againe, not daring to abide a Combat with that happy Mirza. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 381 When the other Party .. creeps with a dejected countenance to the feet of the Cadi, calling him Mirza. 1770 *Ann. Reg.* 25 Several of their mirzas or chiefs .. entered into a negociation .. with the Russians. 1788 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* lxv. VI. 351 The same success attended the other mirzas and emirs in their excursions. 1885 GOLOSMIO in *Encycl. Brit.* XVIII. 628/1 [Persia.] The somewhat common prefix 'mirza' is usually taken by the high functionaries of state.

†**Mis,** *a. Obs.* Also mys(se. [Partly the prefix MIS-[1] (4) used as a distinct part of speech (cf. next); partly a reduced form of AMISS.

Some of the attributive collocations illustrated below are not essentially different from compounds of the prefix with a sb. They are placed here because they are app. intended as two words and do not appear at any period as established compounds.]

Bad; wrong; wicked. In predicative use: Amiss.

c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 716 Þurth a mys metyng þat swiche a maide wold Leye hire loue so lowe. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* IV. 1348 That men the quene Eleyne shal restore, And Grekes us restore that is mis. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 274 So that whil I live I myhte amende that is mys. *a* 1425 *Cursor M.* 16496 (Trin.) My tresoun is so mys. *c* 1430 *Hymns Virgin* (1867) 110 Ne plese hire not with no mis plawe. *c* 1447 in F. M. Nichols *Lawford Hall* (1891) App. 23 The said enformacion of the said hille ys mysse. *c* 1450 BURGH *Secrees* 1922 In Oold mys humours. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* XVII. ii. 692 For yf I be a mys creature or an vntrue knyghte. 1556 *Chron. Gr. Friars* (Camden) 51 To for-geve hym hys mysse insample.

†**Mis,** *adv. Obs.* Also miss(e, mys(se. [Partly MIS-[1] treated as a separate word (as in *to gon mis* for *to misgon*); partly a reduced form of AMISS. Cf. MLG. *mis, miss(e,* Du. *mis.*] Wrongly; badly; mistakenly; amiss.

To do mis(s: see MISS *sb.*[1]

[*c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* John iii. 20 Hælc monn forðon seðe yfle *vel* mis doeð..*omnis enim qui male agit.*] *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 210 Summe inglurs beoð þet..makien cheres, & wrenchen mis hore muð. *a* 1240 *Lofsong* in *O. E. Hom.* I. 205 Ich habbe .. iseuen mis and inumen mis and mis etholden. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 14207 Iesus said, 'miss yee vnderstand'. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 634 Whan þou wost þat þou seyst mys. *c* 1350 *All Saints* 186 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 144 Þe tyme .. þat has bene spended mys. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 141 Al þe making of man so mysse had ȝhe schaped. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* IV. pr. v. (1868) 131 Þan I merueile me..whi þat þe þinges ben so mys entrechaunged. 1415 HOCCLEVE *To Oldcastle* 83 Thow lookist mis, thy sighte is nothyng cleer. *c* 1430 *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 193 Þou hast goon mys! come hoom ageyne! *c* 1450 LOVELICH *Merlin* 270 (Kölbing) Forsothe ȝe seyn mys bothe two.

Mis, obs. form of MISS *sb.*[1] and *v.*[1]

Mis, Mis, obs. abbreviations of *mistris,* MISTRESS.

Mis- (mis), *prefix*[1] (also I (*rare*), 2–7 miss-, 3–6 misse-, mysse-, 3–7 mys-, 4–5 mes-), represents OE. *mis-* = OFris., OS. *mis-* (MDu. *mis(se)-, mes(se)-,* Du. *mis-*), OHG. *missa-, missi-, misse-, mes-* (MHG. *mis(se)-,* G. *miss-*), ON. *mis-,* Goth. *missa-* (in *missadêþs* MISDEED, *missaleiks* different, various, see MISLICH, and *missaqiss* 'speaking diversely', disagreement, tr. Gr. σχίσμα): —OTeut. **misso-* (whence **missjan* MISS *v.*), repr. a pre-Teut. formation with ppl. suffix *-to* on a root ending with a dental. The adj. **misso-* seems to have had two senses: (1) divergent, astray, (2) mutual, alternate (cf. Goth. *missō* mutually). The first of these supports the identification of the root with the Teut. **mīþ-* to avoid, conceal (see MITHE *v.*); the two senses may be accounted for by the supposition that the primitive notion expressed by the root was that of difference or change. Phonologically, the Teut. root might represent a pre-Teut. form either with *t* or *th.* On the former view, some scholars regard it as cogn. w. L. *mittĕre* to send, let go; but the sense seems too remote. On the other assumption, it would be cognate with Skr. *mith* 'to meet as friend or antagonist, alternate, engage in altercation' (M. Williams), *mithu* 'alternately, falsely, wrongly', *mithas* 'mutually, reciprocally, alternately', *mithya* 'invertedly, contrarily, incorrectly, wrongly'; cf. OSl. *mitĕ, mitusĭ* alternately. The root **meith-* in these words is by some regarded as an extension of **mei-* to change: see MEAN *a.*[1]

In OE. and ME. MSS. the compounds of *mis-* (as of other prefixes) are written sometimes as two words, sometimes continuously, the hyphen being never used. From the 16th c. onwards the compounds are regularly printed as one word, with or without the hyphen, which becomes, however, less and less frequent, and is now employed chiefly in new or rarely-used formations, and in words like *mis-say* or *mis-cite,* where its omission would tend to disguise the identity of the compound or suggest a wrong pronunciation. (In Sir T. More's Works 1557, the spelling of the compounds as two distinct words was retained, e. g. *misse remember, mysse rule.*) The spellings *mispel, mispend,* etc. for *mis-spell, mis-spend,* etc. were once common and are found as late as the end of the 18th century.

The predominant meaning of the prefix in English, as in the other Teutonic languages, is that of 'amiss', 'wrong(ly)', 'bad(ly)', 'improper(ly)', 'perverse(ly)', 'mistaken(ly)', and this is the only one now recognized in the formation of new compounds. But even in OE. there are instances of its use as a mere negative prefix and also as a pejorative intensive with words of sinister meaning (see 7 and 8 below).

In early ME. a great extension of the use of the prefix took place, *mis-* being freely combined with words of indigenous and of foreign origin alike. Many of the new compounds appear to have been suggested by French formations with *mes-* (see MIS-[2]); thus we have *misbelieve* after OF. *mescreire* (mod. *mécroire*), *misfortune* and *mishap* after OF. *meschеance* (see MISCHANCE); a word like *misjudge* has prob. a double origin, being partly of native formation, and partly an adaptation of OF. *mesjuger.* The most prolific period for the formation of *mis-* compounds was the 17th c., to which a considerable number of those illustrated in this article belong; Bacon, Donne, and Bp. Hall are noteworthy as employing them largely. They still continue to be formed with considerable freedom, but in certain cases *ill-* and *mal-* are now preferred where writers of earlier periods would have preferred *mis-.*

In the ME. period *mis-* became to some extent a separable prefix; thus we have *inumen mis* and *misnumen, don mis* and *misdon, seyn mis* and *misseyn,* side by side. (See further under MIS *a.* and *adv.*) Even as late as the 16th c., the prefix was sometimes co-ordinated with an adj. or adv., as in the example *very erroniouse and misopinions* (see MISOPINION). A related phenomenon, of which an instance is found as late as the 17th c., consists in the dropping of the prefix before the second of two compounds coupled together, e. g. *ich abbe misseien mid egen, mid mine eren iherd* (Lamb. Hom. p. 189), *mystyuyng and teehynge* (Wyclif), *mis gyed and led, yee mis happe and cheeue* (Hoccleve), *for thou hast mis-said or done* (J. Davies *Ecl.* 1614).

In OE. *mis-* was prefixed to verbs, active and passive participles, nouns of action and condition, and adjectives. In ME. its composition with agent-nouns and adverbs followed as a matter of course, and the principle of prefixing it to any word of the above classes, existing either actually or potentially, became soon established. Hence, in a group of formally related words such as *misrepresent* vb., *misrepresentation, misrepresentative* adj. and sb., *misrepresentatively* adv., *misrepresenter, misrepresenting* vbl. sb. and ppl. a., it is possible (unless there is historical evidence to the contrary) that each member may have been formed independently of any of the others.

All those compounds of *mis-* with respect to which there is evidence of a continuous history during any period, or which belong to a group, are treated in their alphabetical places. Those illustrated in the present article are for the most part nonce-words of obvious meaning.

1. Prefixed to verbs, with the meaning 'amiss', 'badly', 'wrongly', 'perversely', 'mistakenly'.

In OE. about 40 of such compounds are recorded, of which less than half are represented in ME. or mod.E. (see MISBEDE, MISDO, MISFARE, MISFERE, MISLEAD, MISLIKE, etc.).

As now apprehended, the prefix normally implies not censure of the act itself, but only of its manner. With this restriction, nonce-words may be formed very freely. In the 17th c. the use was much wider, and many of the formations of that period would now be inadmissible.

1603 FLORIO *Montaigne* II. xii. 284 *Missacknowledging [F. *mescognoissant*] both himselfe and his labours. 1657 J. WATTS *Vind. Ch. Eng.* 53, I am mistaken, and have *misadded. 1709 STRYPE *Ann. Ref.* v. 89 The Bp. of Carlile on the Papists side, and Sandys on that of the Protestants are misadded to the aforesaid Disputants. 1641 BP. HALL *Answ. Vind. Smectymnuus* § 2. 19 These are all .. which have so *mis-altered the Leiturgie, that it can no more be known to be itself then [etc.]. 1873 F. HALL *Mod. Eng.* App. 344 *note,* He *misanalysed *is being built* into *is being + built.* 1611 COTGR., *Mesarriver,* to *misarrive, to happen, or come vnfortunately vnto. 1636 SANDERSON *Serm.* (1681) II. 64 To mis-judge and *mis-asperse those that are set over them. 1614 J. DAVIES *Ecl.* in Browne *Sheph. Pipe* G 3, Hast thou any sheep-cure *mis-assaid? *a* 1849 J. C. MANGAN *Poems* (1859) 375 Thus all too mournfully *mis-atoning For that black ruin his word had made. 1900 *Blackw. Mag.* Apr. 492/2 [Disraeli] to whom completely opposite prochivities have been *misattributed. 1646 PRYNNE *Susp. Susp.* Ep. Ded., Having neither any private interest nor design to *mishyas my judgment. 1638 MAYNE *Lucian* (1664) 354 As if we *misbusied our selves in a vain, womanish exercise. *a* 1631 *Miscanonize [see MISCHRISTEN]. 1624 DONNE *Devot.* (ed. 2) 127 They had mis-placed, *mis-centred their hopes. 1798 W. ETON *Survey Turkish Empire* Pref. xii, They are generally .. related .. with circumstances which so totally *mischaracterise the action, that [etc.]. 1611 FLORIO, *Misuenire* .. to mischance or *miscom. 1624 BP. HALL *True Peace Maker* in *Var. Treat.* (1627) 540 If either the superiors *miscommand, or the inferiors disobey. 1615 SYLVESTER *Job Triumph.* I. 518 Remit, O Lord, what I have ill omitted: Remove (alas!) what I have *mis-committed. 1605 TIMME *Quersit.* II. vii. 138 Thou shalt not *miscompare that .. to dead coales. 1615 SYLVESTER *Job Triumph.* IV. 256 Therefore doth Job open his mouth in vain: And voyd of knowledge, yet, yet, *mis-complain. 1898 T. HARDY *Wessex Poems* 12 Grieved that lives so matched should *miscompose. 1579 LODGE *Def. Plays* 8 Your day owl hath *misconned his parte. 1847 BUSHNELL *Chr. Nurture* viii. (1861) 214 We are to see that we do not *miscondition the state of childhood. 1583 GOLDING *Calvin on Deut.* xxxi. 184 Wee doe *misconsider our owne frailetie when we desire that God shoulde worke miracles dayly. *a* 1656 BP. HALL *Let. Parænetical* Rem. Wks. (1660) 400 An old Church,..*mis-daubed with some untempered..morter. 1877 M. ARNOLD *Sonnet, Divinity* Poems I. 261 God's wisdom and God's goodness!—Ay, but fools *Mis-define these till God knows them no more. 1613 BP. HALL *Holy Panegyrick* Wks. (1625) 474 One God, one King, was the acclamation of those ancient Christians; and yet it was *mis-desired of the Israelites. 1610 DONNE *Pseudo-martyr* 14 That the Romane Religion doth..*mis-encourage and excite men to this vicious affectation of danger. 1649 J. H. *Motion to Parl.* 42 It is easie for men of acute wits to mis-judge and *mis-expect Nature. *a* 1618 J. DAVIES (Heref.) *Rights of Living & Dead* Wks. (Grosart) II. 64 To say thou wast the Forme (that is the soule) Of all this All; I should thee *misenroule In Booke of Life. 1645 RUTHERFORD *Tryal & Tri. Faith* (1845) 43 The saints can *mis-father their love, and love where God loveth not. 1881 F. T. PALGRAVE *Vis. Eng.* 206 The vapour and echo within he *mis-held for divine. 1687 BOYLE *Martyrd. Theodora* vi. (1703) 86 Whatever wilfulness may be *mis-imputed to us. 1610 DONNE *Pseudo-martyr* 97 To *mis-incite men to an imagined martyrdome. *Ibid.* 118 The Romane Church, which *mis-inflames the minde to false Martyrdome. 1901 *Daily Express* 18 Mar. 8/4 Having to deal with a dropping ball which he could not properly judge, [he] *miskicked. *a* 1625 FLETCHER *Four Plays, Honour* i. (1647) 29/1 If either of ye *miskil one another, what will become of poor Florence? 1835 WILLIS *Pencillings* II. liv. 122 If he was not a rogue, nature had *mislabelled him. 1746 in E. D. Dunbar *Social Life* (1865) 358 A part of the lands..suffered damage by being *mis-laboured, and other parts by not being at all laboured. 1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* Contents, Two or three things of another sort,..*mismingled. 1876 MRS. WHITNEY *Sights & Ins.* x. 109 You have mingled, and perhaps not mismingled the stories. 1864 *Spectator* 17 Dec. 1444/2 The facts (at least so far as they are *misnarrated by either or both Evangelists). 1650 B. *Discolliminium* 11 It is a dangerous thing to *mis-obey Magistrates. 1852 HAWTHORNE *Grandfather's Chair* (1879) II. iii. 85 Virgil whose verses..have been..*misparsed ..by so many..idle school-boys. 1658–9 in *Burton's Diary* (1828) III. 331, I understand that you and your clerk are reflected upon, as for *mispenning your order. 1879 MEREDITH *Egoist* xxxi, Might he not have caused himself to be *misperused in later life? 1749 H. WALPOLE *Let.* 23 Mar., Pigwiggin's Princess has *mis-piged. 1709 SACHEVERELL *Serm.* 5 Nov. 12 Whosoever Presumes to..*Mispresent any Point in the Articles. 1885 [W. H. WHITE] *Mark Ruther-*

ford's Deliverance i, The same arguments, diluted, muddled, and mis-presented. **1885** *American* IX. 229 In some directions we are *misproducing. **1624** Donne *Devot.* (ed. 2) 81 Keepe me back, O Lord, fro them who *misprofesse artes of healing the Soule. **1610** — *Pseudo-martyr* 96 The Romane Doctrine..doth *mis-prouoke her disciples to a vicious affection of imaginarie Martyrdome. **1496** *Dives & Pauper* (W. de W.) IX. ii. 349/1 Yf thou occupye ony thynge *mys purchaced. **1659** in *Burton's Diary* (1828) IV. 425 The question was *misput. It ought not to have been put with a negative in it. **1870** Lowell *Study Wind.* 295 [Religious poetry] a painful something misnamed by the noun and *misqualified by the adjective. **1817** J. Gilchrist *Intell. Patrimony* 78, I could not, indeed so strangely *misreason as to suppose that [etc.]. **1653** Waterhouse *Apol. Learning* 249 There is nothing that more dishonoureth Governours than to *misreceive moderate addresses. **1602** J. Davies *Mirum in Modum* D 2 b, Th' outward Sences Which oft misse apprehend, and *misse referre. **1662a** Tuke *Adv. & Hours* IV, The censorious world, who, like false glasses..*Misreflect the object. **1644** Milton *Bucer on Div.* Wks. 1851 IV. 294 If Ezra and Nehemiah did not *misreform. **1658** A. Fox *Würtz' Surg.* Ep. Ded. 9 If he find any thing..*mis-reprinted. **1879** Swinburne in *Gentl. Mag.* Aug. 176 A comedy miserably misreprinted in Dodsley's Old Plays. **1642** Sir E. Dering *Sp. on Relig.* 35 This.. being *mis-resented abroad. **1442** T. Beckington *Corr.* (Rolls) II. 191 Howe true men..might be in subtil wise *misrewarded. **1633** Bp. Hall *Hard Texts, N. T.* 392 The doctrines of that wicked Impostor..put an ill savour..upon all that were *mis-seasoned with them. **1598** Florio, *Misnéndere*, ..to *mis-sell. **1674** N. Fairfax *Bulk & Selv.* Contents, Sense mistakes and *misshews, and thereby reason often misled. **1896** *Dublin Rev.* Apr. 274 St. Thomas's mare was *mis-shod at the village forge. **1598** Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. Ded., Wks. (Grosart) I. 94 It will not seem then that we have *mis-sung. **1614** J. Davies *Ecl.* in Browne *Sheph. Pipe* G 3 b, Albe that I ne wot I han mis-song. **1654** J. P. *Tyrants & Prot. Set forth* 33 The Mariners eye is upon the star, when his hand is on the stern;..if he *misteers, the whole is in danger. **1626** in *Archæol. Cant.* (1902) XXV. 18 We present Robert Broome for shutting or *mis-stopping our usual way on going perambulation of our parish. *a* **1640** Jackson *Creed* XI. ii, So far hath the misapprehended doctrine of predestination..*missuaded some as they [etc.]. **1647** Ward *Simp. Cobler* 28 If they [*sc.* tailors] might bee..discharged of the tyring slavery of *mis-tyring women. **1596** Spenser *F. Q.* V. xi. 54 She..with corruptfull brybes is to untruth *mis-trayned. *a* **1626** Bacon *Charge Sess. Verge* (1662) 19 That which is miswrought will *miswear.

b. In the 14–16th c. a few verbs like Misdeem, Misthink, in which the prefix had originally its normal function, developed new senses in which it had the force of 'unfavourably'. Then also arose a few new formations, such as Misbode, Misdoubt, Misdread, in which *mis-* was prefixed to a verb expressing suspicion or fear, in order to render more fully the notion of uneasy feeling contained in the vb. These new senses and combinations, however, now survive only as *arch.* or *dial.*

2. Prefixed to pples. and ppl. adjs. with the same meaning as in 1. Such compounds may be formed without reference to the corresp. infinitives, which in many cases are not extant.

So OE. *misboren, misbrogden, mishwierfed, misscrýdd*, and *mishæbbende, miswealxende*, the corresp. infinitives *misberan*, etc. being unrecorded.

A few of the formations illustrated below are quasi-parasynthetic, as *misminded, misnatured, misprincipled.*

1654 Bp. Hall *Let. Apol.* 6 To compose our *mis-alienated hearts to perfect love and concord. **1641** Smectymnuus *Vind. Answ.* § 2 This *misaltered Liturgie. **1643** Milton *Divorce* 47 They shall recover the *misattended words of Christ to the sincerity of their true sense from manifold contradictions. **1563–87** Foxe *A. & M.* (1596) 61/1 It may be easilie espied, this epistle to be feigned and *misauthorised. **1889** Skeat *Barbour's Bruce* Pref. p. lxvii, The Bodleian copy is quite perfect; it is only *misbound. **1864** Carlyle in *Lett. Jane W. Carlyle* (1883) III. 198 The house was new, ..small, *misbuilt every inch of it. **1611** Florio, *Misueníto*, *miscome, decaied. **1893** A. Forbes in *Daily News* 1 May 3/1 The poor *mis-commanded, .. over-marched, outnumbered fighting men. **1643** Herle *Answ. Ferne* 38 A *misconceealed statute. **1713** *Hist. Grand Reb.* II. 302 Honours..*misconfered become the Nations curse. **1831** Carlyle *Schiller* in *Misc. Ess.* (1840) III. 12 Among the crowd of uncultivated and *misciultivated writers. **1854–66** Patmore *Angel in Ho.* II. II. 251 *Misdespairing word and act May now perturb the happiest pact. **1633** Bp. Hall *Hard Texts, N. T.* 293 Uncertaine and *Mis-devised traditions of men. **1649** G. Daniel *Trinarch., Hen. IV*, c, Cannot find Contempt enough for *misenforced Lawes. **1780** M. Noble *Mint & Coins of Durham* 65 The supposed letter B will be found to be *mis-engraved C. **1891** Swinburne *Stud. Pr. & Poetry* (1894) 22 The most execrably *misedited book that ever (I should hope) disgraced the press. *c* **1600** *B. Mus. Add. MS.* 10303 *title*, The death of Blaunche the Dutchesse..no doubte *myse entituled for this shoulde be Chaucers dreame. **1633** Bp. Hall *Hard Texts, O. T.* Amos. iii. 14 Those *mis-erected altars. **1844** Kinglake *Eothen* xvi. 232 If you look at pictures, you see Virgins with *mis-foreshortened arms. **1614** Bp. Hall *Contempl., O. T.* v. iv, It is both unmannerly and irreligious to be *misgestured in our prayers. **1622** *Ibid.* xvii. iv, Those *mis-hallowed hills. **1882** Swinburne *Tristram of Lyonesse* 19/2 His mishallowed and anointed steel. *c* **1600** Sir J. Horsey *Trav.* (Hakl. Soc.) 243 His highnes maibe *misincenced. **1615** Chapman *Odyss.* XIV. 258 Some God *mis-inspired. **1728** Savage *Bastard* 47 Thus Unprophetic, lately misinspir'd, I sung. **1641** Bp. Hall *Mischief of Faction* Reni. Wks. (1660) 70 The *mis-kindled heat of some vehement spirits. **1581** Mulcaster *Positions* XXXVI. (1887) 138 To haue wittes misplaced, and their degrees *mislotted by the iniquitie of Fortune. **1850** E. Warburton *Reginald Hastings* II. 65 The misshapen and *misminded dwarf. **1881** Swinburne *Mary Stuart* I. ii. 42 To join my name with my *misnatured son's. **1627** W. Sclater *Exp. 2 Thess.* (1629) 159 The tidings of the *misnoised inhibition of preaching. **1839** De Quincey *Recoll. Lakes* Wks. 1862 II. 183 All over his *misorganized country. **1903** A. Lang in *Longman's Mag.* Feb. 382 [The book] is so much *mispaged as to be totally useless. **1748** Richardson *Clarissa* (1811) VIII. 158 Winking and pinking, *mispatched, yawning, stretching. **1624** Quarles *Job Militant* xi. 1 2 b, My dayes are gone, my thoughts are *mis-possest. [Cf. *Job* xvii. 11 and marg.] *a* **1684** Leighton *Serm.* Wks. 1830 III. 209 The..persecutors of our holy religion ..are very wrongfully *misprejudiced against it. **1659** H. L'Estrange *Alliance Div. Off.* 31 The violent passions of other men *mis-principled. **1646** Bp. Hall *Free Prisoner* v. 120 Here we were out of danger of this *mis-raised fury. **1653** H. More *Conject. Cabbal.* (1713) 148 The *misreflected Echo of the sound. **1900** *Westm. Gaz.* 13 Feb. 9/1 It is the old story of *mis-reposed trust by easy-going directors in the executive of the business. **1610** Bp. Hall *Apol. Brownists* § 12 If the sway of your *misresolued conscience be..vnresistable. **1802–12** Bentham *Ration. Judic. Evid.* (1827) V. 87 Punishment that has been called *mis-seated punishment: punishment *in alienam personam*. **1592** Shaks. *Rom. & Jul.* V. iii. 205 This Dagger..is *misheathed in my Daughters bosome. **1681** Baxter *Answ. Dodwell* I. 1 Some tender place that is so impatient of a *mis-supposed touch. **1850** Carlyle *Latter-d. Pamph.* i. 56, I will lead you to the Irish Bogs, .. to *mistilled Connaught. **1640** Bp. Hall *Humble Remonstr.* 11 That any ingenuous Christian should bee so farre *mis-transported as to condemne a good prayer. **1626** — *Contempl., O. T.* XX. 97 To set on foot the iust title of Joash, and to put him into the *misvsurped throne of his father Ahaziah.

3. Prefixed to vbl. sbs. with the same meaning as in 4. (Such compounds may be formed without reference to a verb.)

1661 J. Stephens *Procurations* 147 Except the mistakes in printing..others of mispointing and *misaccenting with some other literal escapes. **1670** Blount *Law Dict.* Pref., Cowel also, especially in the Folio Edition, (besides the *misalphabeting) is extreamly misprinted. **1625** Bp. Mountagu *App. Cæsar* 3 They seldome or never talke of any *misbeing, misordering, misdemeaning. *a* **1641** — *Acts & Mon.* (1642) 394 For mis-leading and *mis-bringing up of youth and children. **1629** Sir R. Boyle in *Lismore Papers* (1886) II. 324 The pretended *miscocqueting.. of the yron sent by me. **1586** Hooker *Answ. Travers* § 24 Whatsoeuer was..by *miscollecting gathered out of darke places. **1611** Florio, *Misueniménto*..a mischancing or *miscomming. **1645** Milton *Tetrach.* Wks. 1851 IV. 171 Granting no divorce, but to the want, or *miscommunicating of that. **1865** *Mis-craving [see Mis-wish *sb.*]. **1866** G. Stephens *Runic Mon.* I. p. xvii, All the talk about '*miscuttings'. **1598** Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. i. II. (1641) 93/2 The *mis-eating of a certain fruit. **1621–31** Laud *Serm.* (1847) 175 The sin..is committed by man's *mis-endeavouring, or want of endeavouring. **1645** Bp. Hall *Rem. Discontent* 146 The sting of the guilty *mis-enjoying of them will be sure to stick by us. **1496** *Dives & Pauper* (W. de W.) V. ix. 206/2 They drawe folke to synne by *mys entysyng. **1665** *Phil. Trans.* I. 229 The *Misgraving the Bended end of the Springing Wire. *a* **1586** Sidney *Arcadia* II. (1629) 185 When they knew their *mismeeting and saw each other..striuing who should run fastest to the goale of death. **1804** Eugenia de Acton *Tale without Title* III. 59 Will not our readers lament this mis-meeting. **1851** Carlyle *Sterling* II. V. 200 There are several things misseen, untrue, which is the worst species of *mispainting. **1611** Cotgr., *Mespartement*, a *misparting; an vnhonest, vnfit, or vnseemelie diuision. *a* **1626** Bacon *Controv. Ch. Eng.* in *Resuscitatio* (1657) 178 All which Errours, and *Misproceedings, they do fortifie..by an addicted Respect, to their own Opinions. **1865** J. Grote *Explor. Philos.* I. 249 It depends solely upon the realizing, in my view quite *misrealizing, of logical terms. **1651** Hobbes *Leviath.* I. V. 21 By *mis-reasoning, or by trusting them that reason wrong. **1862** F. Hall *Hindu Philos. Syst.* 190 In this misreasoning. **1552–3** *Act 7 Edw. VI*, c. 1 § 7 Fines..upon any Shirief.. for not returning or *misreturning of any Write. **1652** H. L'Estrange *Amer. no Jewes* 73 Some infirmities, which by Venery, and *misriding and *miswalking they have contracted. **1901** W. E. Lingelbach in *Trans. Roy. Hist. Soc.* (1902) XVI. 59 In case a report or presentment of *mis-shipping was brought to the notice of the authorities. **1882** *Atlantic Monthly* L. 695 A slight *misspacing, very common in newspaper print. **1680** Waller *Div. Medit.* XV. 110 The slipping, or breaking of a string or the *mistopping [=mis-stopping] of a fret. **1496** *Dives & Pauper* (W. de W.) VI. xiv. 256/1 That a man kepe well his handes & his bodye from *mystouchynge. **1872** Bushnell *Serm. Living Subj.* 34 Our pitiful *mistraining is assuredly to be corrected.

4. Prefixed to nouns of action, condition, and quality, with the meaning 'bad', 'wrong', 'erroneous', 'perverse', 'misdirected'.

Of such compounds 13 are recorded in OE., of which Misdeed, Mislore, Misrede, and Miswork are the only representatives in subsequent periods.

1894 Goldwin Smith in *19th Cent.* Feb. 226 The misprints and *misaccentuations..contributed to its failure. *a* **1661** Fuller *Worthies* (1840) I. 306 Let them sink into obscurity, that hope to swim in credit by such *mis-achievements. *a* **1849** E. A. Poe *Sphinx* Wks. 1865 II. 436 To under-rate or to over-value the importance of an object, through mere *misadmeasurement of its propinquity. **1650** R. Hollingworth *Exerc. Usurped Powers* 58 The magistrates *misadministration. **1845** Coleridge *Aids Refl.* (1848) I. 286 The *misallotment of worldly goods and fortunes. **1642** C. Vernon *Consid. Exch.* 28 The said undue discharges and *misallowances. **1509** Barclay *Shyp of Folys* 21 If all the Foly of our Hole Royalme were named Of *mys apparayle. **1862** Carlyle *Fredk. Gt.* XIII. ii. (1873) V. 26 *Misappointment of your Captains is a fatal business. **1834** De Quincey *Autob. Sk.* Wks. 1854 II. 20 His extravagant *mis-appraisement of Knolles. **1623** Bp. Hall *Great Impostor* Wks. (1625) 503 Being ouercome with the false delectablenesse of sinne, it yeelds to a *misse-assent. **1646** R. Baillie *Anabaptism* (1647) Pref. b, The ground of this *mis-assertion I take to be a twofold misapprehension. **1888** *Charity Organis. Rev.* Oct. 436 To prevent a mis-association of the sexes. **1873** M. Arnold *Lit. & Dogma* (1876) 399 The *mis-attribution to the Bible..of a science..which is not there. **1706** Baynard *Cold Baths* (1709) II. 341 Infants.. may be writh'd..by the least *mis-bandage into any inform Figure. **1596** Spenser *F. Q.* IV. iii. 11 The meede of thy *mischalenge and abet. **1845** Stoddart *Gram.* in *Encycl. Metrop.* I. 131/1 A *miscoinage of Ben Jonson's coarse and pedantic wit. **1826** Bentham in *Westm. Rev.* VI. 499 Not only mis-selection..but *miscollocation likewise. *a* **1628** F. Grevil *Mustapha* III. i. Wks. (Grosart) III. 357 In Tyrants state neuer was man undone By *miscomplaints. **1618** Bp. Hall *Righteous Mammon* Wks. (1625) 699 The euill dispositions that doe commonly attend wealth, are Pride and *Misconfidence. **1822–34** *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) IV. 160 Labour impeded by *mis-configuration of the fetus. **1819** W. S. Rose *Lett.* II. 21 Misconstructions and *misconjugations. **1648** Bp. Hall *Select Th.* § 6 The *miscredulity of those who will rather trust to the Church than to the Scripture. **1854** [S. R. Bosanquet] *The First Seal* 71 This wilderness of *misculture and unprofitableness. **1822–34** *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) III. 243 Those cases in which the [spinal] *miscurvature is very considerable. **1905** *Daily Chron.* 9 Jan. 4/5 The offence is known in railway parlance as '*misdeclaration of freight'. **1822–34** *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) I. 29 Genus I :—Odontia. *Misdentition. **1617** Bp. Hall *Quo Vadis?* Ep. Ded., Returning as emptie of grace ..as full of words, vanitie, *mis-dispositions. **1624** — *True Peace-Maker* Wks. (1625) 542 To falsifie the writings of.. Authors, by secret expurgations, by wilfull *mis-editions. **1659** Heylin *Examen Hist.* II. 66 The *mis-effects of that war. **1829** Bentham *Justice & Cod. Petit.* 58 Neither the inefficiency, nor the whole of the *misefficiency, can be brought into view. **1822a** Good *Study Med.* IV. 131 Seminal *Misemission. **1603** Florio *Montaigne* II. xxxiv. (1632) 415 Victories, which one onely disaster, or *mis-encounter, might make him lose. **1822** Good *Study Med.* I. 94 Psellismus Blæsitas. *Misenunciation. **1592** *Arden of Feversham* G 4 And aske of God,..Vengeance on Arden, or some *misevent, To shewe the world, what wrong the carle hath done. **1583** Golding *Calvin on Dent.* xci. 564 To bee caryed away by their *misexample. **1685** Baxter *Paraphr. N. T.* Matt. xxiv. 3 Though Christ do not presently blame their *mis-expectations. **1657** J. Sergeant *Schism Dispach't* 200 These two *mis-explications of Dr. H.'s duly consider'd. **1614** Sylvester *Parl. Vertues Royall* 195 Wks. (1621) 853 When by *mis-heed, or by mishap, hee coms .. into the Sacred Rooms. **1898** *Westm. Gaz.* 1 Jan. 5/1 Caught at mid-off by Hirst, off a *mis-hit. **1652** Bp. Hall *Invis. World* I. § 9 Here then was this *mis-humility, that they thought it too much boldness to come immediately to God. **1665** Wither *Lord's Prayer* 121 This *misimputation to God, is continued, though he hath said, (yea sworn) the contrary. **1894** *Eclectic Mag.* Jan. LIX. 20 The hugest and ugliest shed constructible by human *misingenuity. **1680** Baxter *Answ. Stillingfl.* XXIV. 37 All will not prevent the *mis-intimations even of such worthy Men as you. **1822a** Good *Study Med.* IV. 37 Galactia. *Mislactation. **1571** Golding *Calvin on Ps.* lii. 4 He bursteth not out into *mislanguage too wreake himself. **1822a** Good *Study Med.* IV. 37 Paramenia. *Mismenstruation. *Ibid.* 438 Paruria. *Mismicturition. *a* **1631** Donne *Obseq. Ld. Harrington* 132 As small pocket-clocks, whose every wheele Doth each *mismotion and distemper feele. **1904** *Daily Chron.* 8 Jan. 4/6 Drowned through *Misnavigation on the Congo. **1835–6** *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 60/1 Certain morbid conditions of the system, in which there is any process of *mis-nutrition. **1643** Milton *Divorce* II. ix. Wks. 1851 IV. 83 That our obedience be not *mis-obedience. **1822–34** *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) IV. 97 A misformation or *misorganisation of the parts. *Ibid.* 242 Parostia. *Mis-ossification. **1901** *Sotheby's Catal.* May 53 We think that the..*mispagination was an error on the part of the printers. **1633** Bp. Hall *Hard Texts, N. T.* 8 The inward *mis-passion of the heart. **1722** Wollaston *Relig. Nat.* iii. 42 Wrong notions, and *misperceptions of things. **1893** *Daily News* 24 Feb. 3/1 Lord R. Churchill said he must blame his aural misperception. **1865** J. Grote *Explor. Philos.* I. Introd. 13 This error I have called ultra-phenomenalism or *mis-phenomenalism. **1896** L. Abbott *Christ. & Soc. Probl.* xi. 305 The very phrase 'administration of justice' is a *mis-phrase. **1812** Southey *Ess.* (1832) I. 154 If some strange *mispolicy does not avert this..natural course of things. [Several other instances in Southey.] **1822–34** *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) IV. 156 Those apprehensions which are often entertained by a pregnant woman respecting the *misposition of the child. **1653** Baxter *Christian Concord* 110 No mans *mis-practice is any reasonable cause of excepting against our Agreement. **1621** Bp. Mountagu *Diatribæ* 5 Having once by a *mis-preconceit fashioned their thoughts thereunto. **1905** *Daily News* 26 Jan. 12 The *misproposals of the present Government. **1659** H. L'Estrange *Alliance Div. Off.* 31 Through whose *misprovidence these errours have come to pass. **1865** J. Grote *Explor. Philos.* I. Introd. 9 A very mistaken view, which I have called generally the wrong psychology or *mis-psychology. **1496** *Dives & Pauper* (W. de W.) IX. vi. 355/2 Them that have mysgoten them by *myspurchace, or by withholdynge of dette. **1851** Carlyle *Sterling* I. viii, Sordid misbeliefs, *mispursuits and *misresults. *a* **1483** *Liber Niger* in *Househ. Ord.* (1790) 59 To counsayle upon whome to cast the losses of suche *mysse pourveyaunce. **1867** Carlyle *Remin.* (1881) II. 128 'Sense of the ridiculous'..is withal very indispensable to a man; Hebrews have it not..hence various *misqualities of theirs. **1864** *Daily Tel.* 13 June, The *misreception of evidence. *c* **1843** Carlyle *Hist. Sk.* (1898) 104 Struggling all thy years against poverty and *misrecognition. **1886** Gurney, etc. *Phantasms of Living* II. 390 The mis-recognition would then be very similar. **1894** J. L. Robertson *Scott's Poet. Wks.* Pref., The discovery of several *misreferences. **1831** *Fraser's Mag.* III. 203 This is a favourite *mis-rhyme. *a* **1670** Hacket *Abp. Williams* I. (1693) 72 That *mis-sentence, which pronounced by a plain and understanding Man, would appear most Gross and Palpable. *c* **1810** Coleridge in *Lit. Rem.* (1838) III. 296 They rejected the fact for the sake of the *mis-solution. *a* **1656** Bp. Hall *Let. Pænetical* Rem. Wks. (1660) 399 Meer tricks of *mis-suggestion. **1818** Scott *Rob Roy* II, An erasure in the ledger, or a *mis-summation in a fitted account. **1780** Bentham *Princ. Legisl.* Wks. 1843 I. 75 Where..there is no *missupposal in the case. **1876** Tennyson *Q. Mary* IV. ii, The huge corruptions of the Church, Monsters of *mistradition. *a* **1862**

O'Curry *Manners Anc. Irish* (1873) III. 384 This, unless figurative, is clearly a mistake or a *mistranscript. 1868 H. H. Gibbs *Chev. Assigne* Pref. p. i, There are several *mis-transcriptions. 1849 *Fraser's Mag.* XXXIX. 598 Trouble and joy in strange *misunion blent. 1882 Abp. Benson *Let. in Life* (1901) 219 Wherever my *miswisdom .. draws my eyes down from the Pattern showed us in the Mount.

5. Prefixed to agent-nouns.

1625 Bp. Mountagu *App. Cæsar* 232 Wicked *mis-agents in respect of living. *a* 1618 Sylvester *St. Lewis* 670 Wks. (Grosart) II. 236 Who..could better brook A *miss-Fault-finder, than a Fawner's looke. 1547 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 75 Thai salbe reput and halding as *misfavouraris of this realme. 1574 tr. *Marloral's Apocalips* 39 *marg.*, Hypocrites and *misprofessors of religion. 1638 Mede *Disc. Texts* xlvi. Wks. II. (1672) 258 All prophaners and *misreceivers of those Sacred pledges. 1891 *Sat. Rev.* 30 May 667/1 The incorrigible *misrhymer who jingles 'hurden' and 'pardon'.

6. Prefixed to adjs. with the sense of 'wrongly', 'erroneously', 'perversely'.

1620 Bp. Hall *Hon. Marr. Clergy* III. iii, Whether the catholike Bishop that wrote this, or the *mis-catholike masse-priest that reproues it, he more worthy of Bedleem. 1641 — *Answ. Vind. Smectymnuus* § 2. 22 My eyes are so Lyncean, as to see you proudly *mis-confident. 1893 Stevenson *Catriona* x. (1903) 110 It is most *misconvenient at least. 1837 Syd. Smith *Let. Archd. Singleton* iii. Wks. (1850) 641/2 In defeating this *mis-ecclesiastic law. 1614 Sylvester *Little Bartas* 822 Without *mis-fond affection.

7. Expressing negation (of something good or desirable); equivalent to Dis-, In-, or Un-.

In OE., *misgleman*, *mishleran*, *missþéwan*, *mistrīewan*, *misweorþian* are instances in which this meaning is more or less clearly developed.

1649 Earl Monm. tr. *Senault's Use Passions* (1671) 82 Men..seem to have a design to hasten their *misadvantages. 1859 Tennyson *Holy Grail* 175 And once by *misadvertence Merlin sat In his own chair. 1816 Coleridge *Lett.* (1895) 658 If pain and sorrow and self-*miscomplacence had not forced my mind in on itself. 1855 A. H. Stephens in Johnston & Browne *Life* (1878) 288 That..the Supreme Court would hold it to be *misconstitutional. 1893 Stevenson *Catriona* 108 It is most *misconvenient at least. 1704 F. Fuller *Med. Gymn.* (1718) 76 The Pus, the Slough, and all the *Mispurities of the Sore. 1382 Wyclif *Ecclus.* xxv. 29 The wrathe of a womman and the *mysreuerence [1388 vnreuerence, Vulg. *irreverentia*]. 1850 *Tait's Mag.* XVII. 2/1 A rental of ten pounds yearly would be, for many families, a deed of *misthrift.

8. Prefixed to words denoting something wrong or bad, serving as an intensive.

In OE. we have *missecgnce* by the side of *ge-secgnce* = withered.

1570 in J. P. Collier *Old Ballads* (Percy Soc. 1840) 79 What *mis-deformed wights Of women borne there hee. 1656 Earl Monm. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* I. lxxxvii. 171 The..reproaches..which Poets..make..against such *misdemeriting men [orig. *huomini di tanto demerito*]. *Ibid.* II. xcv. 388 His Majesty thought he had no waies *mis-demerited [orig. *demeritato*] by that his forgetfulness. *Ibid.* I. ii. 4 The *misdemerits [orig. *il demerito*] of this fellow. 1533 Bellenden *Livy* III. xxiii. (S.T.S.) II. 40 We..covatis nocht bot 3ow to be penitent of 3oure *mysfalt. *c* 1470 Harding *Chron.* CLXXVI. iii, That ruled had in mykell *mysryote. ?*a* 1500 *Felon Sewe of Rokeby* in R. Bell *Anc. Poems*, etc. (1857) 134 Ye wolde hav ren awaye, When moste *misstirre had bin. 1592 Wyrley *Armorie* 152 *Capitall de Buz*, Bicause from England he was late *mistraid [= mis-strayed].

9. The existence of pairs of words like *misbelieve* and *disbelieve*, *mislike* and *dislike* gave rise to confusion between the prefixes and to the (often unmeaning) substitution of *mis-* for *dis-* (and even *des-*), as in †*misguise*, †*mismay*. To the same confusion are due the dial. *misdain*, *misdainful* (after *disdain*), *miscry* for *descry*, and *mislest*, corruption of *molest*; also the obs. *mislaundre* for *dislaundre* Disclander.

Mis- (mis), *prefix*[2] (Forms: 3–5 **mes-**, 4 **mess(e)-**, 4–5 **myss(e)-**, 3– **mis-**) in compounds adopted from French represents OF. *mes-* (mod.F. *més-*, *mes-*, *mé-*) = Pr. *mes-*, *mens-*, Sp., Pg. *menos-*, OIt. *menes-*, *minis-*, It. *mis-* (also med.L. *mis-*):—Com. Rom. *minus-*, a use of L. *minus* adv. 'less, not', as a prefix with the signification 'bad(ly)', 'wrong(ly)', 'amiss', and with negative force, in comb. with verbs, adjectives, and nouns.

The list of words derived immediately from OFr. compounds of *mes-* is not large, the most important being Misadventure, Mischance, Mischief, Miscontent, Miscreant, Misease, Misnomer, Misprize; but the number due directly or indirectly to the influence of such compounds is prob. much larger (cf. Mis-[1]). In English the prefix became ultimately identical in form (as it was in meaning) with Mis-[1].

Mischief, *mischievous*, and *miscreant* are the only compounds of Mis-[2] having the stress on the prefix. This is due to the fact that they early ceased to be felt as compounds, and while they followed the rule of stress-change in French-derived words, *mischance* and the rest fell under the influence of the native compounds of Mis-[1], and so have their stress on the root.

† Misacce·pt, *v. Obs. rare.* [Mis-[1] 1.] *trans.* To take (a word) in a wrong sense. Hence **† Misacce·pter.**

1697 J. Sergeant *Solid Philos.* 88 My Intention..is..to settle the True and Genuine Sense of such Words, to be applied afterwards to the Mis-accepters of them, as occasion requires. *Ibid.* 288 Those Words, which have been Abus'd or Mis-accepted by Trivial Philosophers.

Misacceptation. *rare*—[0]. [Mis-[1] 4.] The taking of a word in a wrong sense.

1721 Bailey, *Misacceptation*, a wrong Understanding or Apprehension of any thing. 1755 in Johnson.

† Misacce·ption. *Obs.* [Mis-[1] 4: see Acception 4.] = prec.

1628–9 Bp. Hall *Serm. to Lords* 18 Feb. Wks. 1808 V. 385 The Apostle..contemning all impotent mis-acceptions, calls them what he finds them, A froward generation. 1697 J. Sergeant *Solid Philos.* 109 What Prodigious Inconveniences do arise from the Mis-acceptions of one of those many Different Senses such Words may bear. 1727 in Bailey vol. II.

† Misa·ccident. *Obs.* [f. Mis-[1] 4 + Accident *sb.*, after *mischance*.] = Mischance, Mishap.

1623 in H. Foley *Rec. Eng. Prov. S. J.* I. 95 His majestie was verie sorrie for the mis-accident that happened at the French Ambassador's. 1633 Bp. Hall *Occas. Medit.* vi. 16 Here is a great world in a little roome, by the skill of the workeman, but in lesse roome, by mis-accident. 1648 — *Breathings Devout Soul* (1851) 187 Secular mis-accidents.

† Misaccou·nt, *v. Obs.* [Mis-[1] 1.] *trans.* To misreckon, misjudge.

c 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* v. 1185 He thoughte he misacounted hadde his day. 1603 Florio *Montaigne* III. xiii. 639 How often..hee hath beene deceived, and mis-accompted his owne judgement. 1655 J. Sedgwick in *E. Calamy's Serm.* 17 Oct. 1654. 28 Misaccounting his years summe.

† Misa·ct, *v. Obs.* [Mis-[1] 1.] *trans.* and *intr.* To act badly. Also † **Misa·cting** *vbl. sb.*

1609 J. Rawlinson *Fishermen* 35 Se if the Minister did misact but an earthly Prince only, his fault were more tolerable. 1614 T. Adams *Physicke fr. Heaven* Wks. (1633) 300 The Player, that misacts an inferiour and vnnoted part, carryes it away without censure. 1651 W. Lyford *Serm.* (1654) 4 In case of misactings. 1665 Wither *Lord's Prayer* 159 Truely repenting his other misactings.

† Misa·ction. *Obs.* [Mis-[1] 4.] A wrong action; misdoing.

1693 W. Freke *Sel. Ess.* xxxi. 182 The only occasion of his [*viz.* God's] Contempt of us, is our Misaction, and our Aberration from his Law.

† Misa·ctor. *Obs.* [Mis-[1] 5.] A misdoer.

1659 C. Noble *Mod. Ans. to Immod. Queries* 14 Here's a down right quarrel to the .. management of State Affairs; the mis-actors herein he names to be some Lawyers.

Misada·pt, *v.* [Mis-[1] 1.] To adapt wrongly.

1862 Mrs. N. Crosland *Mrs. Blake* II. 307 By a gradual misapplication of ideas, some persons have grown to 'misadapt' the thought.

Misadapta·tion. [Mis-[1] 4.] Defective adaptation, want of adaptation.

1878 Morley *Diderot* I. iv. 94 The marvels of misadaptation in the Universe. 1888 H. S. Holland *Christ or Eccl.* 5 Every day has some fresh discovery to make to us of.. misadaptation, disorder, confusion.

Misaddre·ss, *v.* [Mis-[1] 1.] *trans.* To address wrongly or impertinently. Also **Misaddre·ssed** *ppl. a.* and **Misaddre·ssing** *vbl. sb.*

1648 Boyle *Seraphic Love* (1660) 49 A fervent Love seems little less than Devotion misaddrest. 1858 Carlyle *Fredk. Gt.* II. vii. v. 225 This one [letter]..by mere misaddressing,..fell into the hands of vigilant Rittmeister Katte. 1885 McConkey *Hero of Cowpens* xxiv. 228 These .. cautions seem singularly misaddressed, to the man who had never been known to be surprised from Quebec to Cowpens. 1892 Stevenson *Vailima Lett.* (1895) 163 Receiving misaddressed letters.

Misadju·sted, *ppl. a.* Badly adjusted.

1860 I. Taylor *Ess.* 276 They are in a misadjusted condition.

Misadju·stment. [Mis-[1] 4.]

1. Want of adjustment.

1827 I. Taylor *Transm. Anc. Bks.* (1859) 410 The wrong chronological conceptions which have arisen from the misadjustment of them as to their order of time. 1888 Martineau *Study Relig.* II. iv. iii. 384 Apparent misadjustments of this world's goods.

2. *U.S.* Lack of agreement or harmony.

1878 Garfield in *N. Amer. Rev.* CXXVI. 450 The misadjustment between the Secretary of War and the army.

Misadventure (misæ̆dve·ntiūr, -tʃəi), *sb.* Forms: 3–6 (9 *arch.*) **misaventure**, (3–6 **-eur**, 4 **-ur**, 4–6 **-our**, 6 **-aventre**), 5– **-adventure**. See also Misaunter. [a. OF. *mesaventure* (12th c.), f. *mesavenir* to turn out badly, after *aventure* Adventure *sb.*: see Mis-[2].

The spelling with *-ad-* appears first in the 15th c., but does not become regular till the end of the 16th c., when the stress also finally settled in its present position.]

1. Ill-luck, bad fortune. Nearly always in particularized use: A piece of bad fortune; a mishap or misfortune.

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 364/11 Muche reuþe was into al þat lond of þis misauenture. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 9218, & preye Iesu our Saueour To schulde vs fro mysauentour. *c* 1407 Lydg. *Reson & Sens.* 4238 The sorrowes and mysaventures..That loves folkys ha suffred there. *c* 1425 *Eng. Conq. Irel.* 68 Good aduentures comen oft slowly & aloon, bot mesaduentures ne cometh neuermore aloon. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* xx. 44 Hald God thy friend,..He will the confort in all misaventeur. *c* 1510 Barclay *Mirror Gd. Manners* (1570) D v, Joy sauced is with payne,..Mixt with misaduenture be chaunces prosperous. 1592 Shaks. *Rom. & Jul.* v. i. 29 Your lookes are pale and wild, and do import Some misaduenture. 1614 Raleigh *Hist. World* II. (1634) 407 All under the Sunne are subject to worldly miseries and misadventures. 1792 Burke *Pres. St. Aff.* Wks. VII. 103 The grand, solid body ..proceeded leisurely .. to support the expedite body in case of misadventure. 1822 Shelley tr. *Calderon's Magico Prodigioso* II. 102 Among my misadventures This shipwreck is the least. *a* 1850 Rossetti *Dante & Circle* I. (1874) 151 Through this my strong and new misaventure, All now is lost to me. 1878 Bosw. Smith *Carthage* 323 Not a misadventure or a hitch occurred. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 3 June 5/1 There was a mistake, or a misunderstanding, or a misadventure of some sort.

2. Phrases. **a.** † *At, by misadventure* (see also 3): by an unlucky accident. † **b.** *To bid* (a thing) *misadventure*; to curse. *To do* (a person) *misadventure*: to bring disaster or ruin upon. † **c.** In imprecatory expressions.

a. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 166 His nese & his ine he carfe at misauentoure. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* III. vii. 107 And soo he smote of her hede by mysauenture. *Ibid.* VII. vi. 221 Alle that euer thou dost is but by mysauenture and not by prowesse of thy handes. 1820 Shelley tr. *Dante's Convito* 55 If by misadventure chance should bring Thee to base company. 1873 Browning *Red Cott. Nt.-cap* II. 669 Made aware By misadventure that his bounty .. comforted a visitant.

b. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 4384 (Kölbing) Boþe o lif & eke tresour þai dede þe paiens misauentour. *Ibid.* 8361 He..bad þe time mesauenture, þat he cunteked wiþ king Arthour.

c. *a* 1300 *K. Horn* 344 (Camb. MS.) Went [=go] vt of my bur, Wiþ muchel mesauenteur. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Friar's T.* 36 'Pees, with mischance and with misaventure', Thus seyde our host, 'and lat him telle his tale'. *c* 1450 *Merlin* 68 And she seide 'Mysauenture haue that it kepeth eny counseile'.

3. *Law.* Homicide committed accidentally by a person in doing a lawful act, without any intention of hurt; now chiefly in phr. *homicide* or *death by misadventure*.

[*c* 1290 Britton (1865) I. ii. § 2 Cum nule felounie ou mesauenture soit avenue.] 1509–10 *Act 1 Hen. VIII*, c. 7 Yf eny persone hathe happened to be slayne by myssaventure and not by no mannys Hande. 1581 W. Stafford *Exam. Compl.* iii. (1876) 85 A man that had trespassed the lawe of misaduenture. 1596 Bacon *Max. & Use Com. Law* I. (1630) 30 If diuers bee in danger of drowning by the casting away of some boate .. and one of them get to some plancke .. and another to saue his life thrust him from it, whereby hee is drowned, this is neither *se defendendo* nor by misaduenture, but iustifiable. 1614 — *Charge touching Duels* 20 For the case of misaduenture it selfe, there were Cities of refuge. 1769 Blackstone *Comm.* IV. iv. xiv. 182 Homicide *per infortunium*, or misadventure. *Ibid.*, Where a parent is moderately correcting his child, a master his servant or scholar, or an officer punishing a criminal, and happens to occasion his death, it is only misadventure. 1800 *Addison's Rep.* 8 Homicide by misadventure is an unlawful killing by accident. 1903 *Blackw. Mag.* Dec. 772/1 Death by misadventure in the ordinary execution of her duty.

† **Misadve·nture,** *v. Obs.*—[0] [nonce-formation on It. (see quot.).]

1611 Florio, *Misauenturire*, to misaduenture.

† **Misadve·ntured,** *a. Obs.*—[1] [f. Misadventure *sb.* Cf. OF. *mésaventuré*.] Unfortunate.

1592 Shaks. *Rom. & Jul.* Prol. 7 (Qo.) Whose misaduentur'd pittious ouerthrowes, Doth with their death burie their Parents strife.

Misadventurous (misæ̆dve·ntiūrəs), *a.* Also 5 **mysauentrous**. [In the early quot. a. OF. *mesaventureux*; in the mod. instances f. Misadventure + -ous.] Unfortunate, unlucky.

c 1400 tr. *Secreta Secret., Gov. Lordsh.* 114 Kepe þe fro vche mysauentrous man, þat ys lesnyd of any membre. *a* 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. xxii. 180 He was .. so unfortunately misadventrous in the Lot of his own Destiny, that [etc.]. 1742 C. Jarvis *Don Quixote* (1749) II. II. i. 104 The obstinacy, with which he was bent upon the search of his misadventurous adventures. 1817 Coleridge *Biog. Lit.* xx. (Bohn) 201 A few misadventurous attempts to translate the arts and sciences into verse. 1842 H. Taylor *Edwin the Fair* IV. i. 180 Our misadventurous Synod.

Hence **Misadve·nturously** *adv.*, by misadventure.

1632 Strafford in Browning *Life* (1891) 300, I am hartely sorrye for him and for myself too, that..should thus misaduenturously light vpon a man, that [etc.].

Misadvi·ce. [Mis-[1] 4.] Wrong advice.

1632 Sherwood, Misaduise, *mesadvis.* *a* 1684 Leighton *18 Serm.* vii. (1745) 113 When they are abused by Misadvice and corrupt Counsel. 1775 Lord Chatham *Sp.* in *Modern Orator* (1847) 71 To rescue him from the misadvice of his present Ministers.

Misadvi·se, *v.* [Mis-[1] 1.]

† **1.** *refl.* To take a wrong counsel; to act unadvisedly. *Obs.*

[1370–80: see Misaduised.] *c* 1386 Chaucer *Wife's Prol.* 230, I sey nat this by wyves that ben wyse, But-if it be whan they hem misavyse. 1602 Warner *Alb. Eng.* XI. lxvii. (1606) 285 In making Loue vnmeant thou didst thy selfe hut misaduise.

2. *trans.* To advise wrongly.

a 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. IV*, 8 b, Ruled and misavised by the evell..councell of perverse..persons. 1659 in Rushw. *Hist. Coll.* I. 607 They accused John de Gaunt ..and Lord Latimer, and Lord Nevil, for misadvising the King. 1679 Beoloe *Narr. Popish Plot* Ep., To have Some of their Chief Friends thereabouts, that may misadvise Great Persons. 1727 in Bailey vol. II. 1827 Pollok *Course Time* IX. (1860) 266 Nor failed to misadvise his future hope And faith, by false unkerneled promises. 1849 Grote *Hist. Greece* II. lvi. (1862) V. 91 He..had fatally misadvised his countrymen into making important cessions.

Hence † **Misadvising** (? *ppl. a. absol.*, ill-advised persons; or = Mis *a.* + Advising *vbl. sb.*).

a 1461 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 253 Many a wondurfulle dysgyzyng, By unprudent and myssavyzyng.

† Mis-advi·sed, *ppl. a. Obs.* [f. prec. + -ED[1] or f. MIS-[1] 2 + ADVISED.] Wrongly advised; ill-advised; injudicious.

1370–80 *Xl Pains of Hell* 237 in *O. E. Misc.* 229 He haþ hen muche mys-Auyset, Godus Comaundemens he haþ dispyset. 1400 in *Roy. & Hist. Lett. Hen. IV* (Rolls) I. 37 We was nevere so mys avised to worch agayn the Kyng no his lawes. *c* 1460 *Play Sacram.* 639 Voydeth from my syght & yt wyghtly ffor ye be mysse a vysed. 1469 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 306 Affray made of purpose or by mysse-advised men. *a* 1529 SKELTON *Ware the Hauke* 22 To make complaynte Of such mysaduysed Parsons and dysgysed. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* III. ii. 9 Ye misavised beene t'uphrayd A gentle knight with so unknightly blame. 1643 PRYNNE *Sov. Power Parl.* II. (ed. 2) 76 It would rest in the meere power..of a wilfull or misadvised King..to deprive the Kingdome of the..use..of Parliaments. 1780 BENTHAM *Princ. Morals* (1789) ix. § 6 In such case the act may be said to be mis-advised.

Hence **† Misadvi·sedly** *adv.*, ill-advisedly, imprudently; **† Misadvi·sedness,** the quality or condition of being misadvised.

a 1548 HALL *Chron., Edw. IV* (1550) 30 Lest it shoulde be laied to her charge, that she had doen any thyng misaduisedly. 1548 UDALL *Erasm. Par. Luke* ix. 85 If the teacher dooe not presumpteouslye vsurp to hymself the gifte of learnyng ..ne vndiscretely or mysaduisedly shewe foorth the same as though it wer of his owne. 1780 BENTHAM *Princ. Morals* (1789) ix. § 16 In the case of *mis*-advisedness with respect to any circumstance. *Ibid.* § 17 Un-advisedness coupled with heedlessness, and mis-advisedness coupled with rashness correspond to the *culpa sine dolo.*

† Misadvi·sement. *Obs.* = MISADVICE.

1594 LODGE *Wounds Civ. War.* v. I 4 b, These are verie indiscreet counsailes neighbor Poppey, and I will follow your misaduisement.

† Misaffe·ct, *v. Obs.* [MIS-[1] 1, 7.]

1. *trans.* To affect injuriously.

1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* I. i. III. i, Fracastorius..calls those melancholy, whom abundance of..black choler hath so misaffected, that they become mad thence. 1650 CHARLETON *Paradoxes* 60 When the Palate is misaffected with paine.

2. To dislike.

1586 BACON *Let. to Ld. Treas.* Wks. 1830 XII. 473 They [*sc.* objections] were delivered by men that did misaffect me. 1641 MILTON *Animadv.* Postscr. 74 That peace which you have hitherto so perversely misaffected.

† Misaffe·cted, *ppl. a. Obs.* [Partly f. prec. + -ED[1], partly f. MIS-[1] 2 + AFFECTED. Cf. OF. *mesafaitié* evil-disposed.]

1. Affected by illness or disease; diseased.

1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* I. iii. II. iv. (1651) 204 Such are for the most part misaffected and prone to this disease. 1694 *Phil. Trans.* XVIII. 17 The Liver..which by some is adjudged to be particularly..misaffected in this Distemper.

2. Ill-disposed, disaffected.

1633 BP. HALL *Occas. Medit.* (1634) xxi. 126 By how much more excellent any object is, by so much more is our weake sense mis-affected in the first apprehending of it. 1645 *Some Observations* 3 An ill Rhetorician to a misaffected and ignorant People may make this seem very odious.

Misaffe·ction. Now *rare* or *Obs.* [MIS-[1] 4.]

1. Perverted affection; disaffection.

1621 BP. MOUNTAGU *Diatribæ* 425 Your ill disposition, and mis-affection vnto him. 1635 J. HAYWARD tr. *Biondi's Banish'd Virg.* 28 The misaffections and disaffections of his sonnes. 1635 BP. HALL *Char. Man* 41 How earthly and grosse with misaffections.

2. Physical disorder; disease.

1673 O. WALKER *Educ.* 71 Divers misaffections in the eyes, by Spectacles. 1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) III. 398 Flatulency or some other misaffection of the stomach. *Ibid.* 401, IV. 44, 295, 524. 1847 BUSHNELL *Chr. Nurture* II. i. (1861) 238 The seminal damages and misaffections derived from sinning ancestors.

† Misaffe·ctionate, *a. Obs.*—[1] [MIS-[1] 6.] Evil-disposed.

1533 MORE *Let. to T. Cromwell* Wks. 1428/2 Which condicion hath neuer growne..of any obstinate minde or misse affectionate appetite.

Misaffi·rm, *v. rare.* [MIS-[1] 1.] *trans.* To affirm wrongly or falsely.

a 1614 DONNE *Biathanatos* (1644) 27 They mis-affirme that this act alwaies proceeds from desperation. 1649 MILTON *Eikon.* Pref., By onely remembring them the truth of what they themselves know to be heer missaffirmd.

Misagre·, *v.* [MIS-[1] 7.]

1. *intr.* To disagree. Now *dial.*

1530 PALSGR. 636/2, I never wyst them misagre afore in my lyfe. *a* 1542 WYATT *Defence* 264 If they misagree in words, and not in substance, let us hear the words they vary in. 1847 HALLIWELL, *Misagree*, to disagree. 1875 PARISH *Sussex Gloss.* s.v., I doant see how anyone can be off from misagreeing with these here people next door.

2. To be inconsistent or out of harmony.

1571 GOLDING *Calvin on Ps.* x. 10 It wil not misagree that the sayd talantes and teethe should by a similitude be called strong souldyers.

Misai, obs. form of MISSAY.

Misai·m, *v. rare.* [MIS-[1] 1.] To aim amiss.

1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. viii. 8 Missing the marke of his misaymed sight. 1692 DRYDEN *Cleomenes* II. ii. 21 My languishing Regards Are like mis-aiming Arrows, lost in Air. 1813 SCOTT *Rokeby* IV. xxii, Some tale..of shaft mis-aimed.

† Misallega·tion. *Obs.* [MIS-[1] 4.] A false allegation; a misleading citation (of an authority).

1633 (*title*) A Discharge of Five Imputations or Misallegations. 1647 JER. TAYLOR *Lib. Proph.* viii. 155, I must consider..the mis-allegations of Scripture, their inconsequent deductions [etc.].

† Misalle·ge, *v. Obs.* [MIS-[1] 1.] *trans.* To cite falsely as supporting one's contention.

1566 STAPLETON *Ret. Untruths to Jewell* Ep.**, What kinde is there of Authors, that you haue not Corrupted, Misalleaged, False Translated, and Abused? 1625 BP. MOUNTAGU *App. Cæsar* 299 If I have misalledged, falsified, or else misapplyed my Authors and Authority. 1642 J. BALL *Answ. to Can* I. 10, I wonder if men doe not tremble thus to..misalledge the holy scripture. *a* 1670 HACKET *Cent. Serm.* (1675) 323 The Devil did Misalledge the Psalm of David, because he gave it a sense repugnant to the text of Moses.

So **Misalle·ged** *ppl. a.*, **Misalle·ging** *vbl. sb.*

15.. in Strype *Ann. Ref.* (1709) I. App. xi. 36 Excusinge the mysalledginge of Words. 1620 BP. HALL *Hon. Marr. Clergy* I. ix. 53 Those two mis-alledged Authors, to whom hee ascribes vs. 1629 H. BURTON *Truth's Triumph* 343 A mis-alledged place, or a mis-conceiued allegation. *a* 1684 LEIGHTON *Expos. Creed* Wks. (1859) 442/2 There shall be no misalleging or misproving, or misjudging there.

Misalli·ance. [f. MIS-[1] 4 + ALLIANCE, after F. *mésalliance.*] An improper alliance, association, or union; *esp.* in reference to marriage = MÉSALLIANCE.

1738 WARBURTON *Div. Legat.* III. iii. I. 330 The only Greek Masters he [*sc.* Plato] followed, were Pythagoras and Socrates... This was a monstrous Misalliance. 1755 CHESTERF. in *World* No. 114 IV. 84 Brutes..never degenerate, except in cases of mis-alliances with their inferiors. 1762 BP. HURD *Lett. Chivalry* viii. 71 Their purpose was to ally..the Gothic, and the classic unity; the effect of which misalliance was to..expose the nakedness of the Gothic. 1768 *Woman of Honor* II. 159 No remains of her former notions of mis-alliance, interfere to lessen her present vexation. 1839–40 W. IRVING *Chron. Wolfert's Roost* (1855) 189 They would have considered their mares disgraced, and their whole stud dishonoured by such a misalliance. 1840 THACKERAY *Paris Sk.-bk.* (1872) 34 A grocer's daughter would think she made a misalliance by marrying a painter. 1876 MEREDITH *Beauch. Career* III. viii. 138 He had no wish to meet his uncle, whose behaviour in contracting a misalliance..appeared to him to call for the reverse of compliments.

Misally (misăləi·), *v. rare.* [MIS-[1] 1. Cf. F. *mésallier.*] *trans.* To ally or join inappropriately.

1697 VANBRUGH *Æsop* I. II *Hort.* Sir, I keep my Chamber, and converse with my self; 'tis better being alone, than to mis-ally ones Conversation. 1796 BURKE *Let. to Noble Lord* Wks. VIII. 52 They are a misallied and disparaged branch of the house of Nimrod. 1860 READE *Cloister & H.* xxxvii, These beauties being misallied to homely features, had turned her head.

† Misa·nswer, *sb. Obs.* [MIS-[1] 4.]

1. A wrong answer.

1496 *Dives & Pauper* (W. de W.) v. xix. 222/2 Yf a clerke erre in answeryng and by his mys answere folowed manslaughter.

2. Failure to correspond to requirements.

1614 BP. HALL *Contempt., O. T.* vi. 156 Hee that after the misse-answere of the one talent, would not trust the euill seruant with a second.

† Misa·nswer, *v. Obs.* [MIS-[1] I.] *trans.* To give a wrong or perverse answer to (a person).

c 1400 *Rule St. Benet* 24 Yef ani man askis hir ohte þat es a-gain resun, sho sal noht..mis-ancewer þam. *a* 1450 *Knt. de La Tour* xviii. 26 Alle women that ben gretherted and misansueringe her husbondes. 1535 *Horæ in usum Sarum* 155 I haue synned..whan I haue mysanswered myn euen chrysten reioysynge.

Misanthrope (mi·săn|prōup). Forms: *α.* 6–7 misantropos, 7 misanthropos, *pl.* -thropi. *β.* 7 misanthrop, 8 -thrope. [ad. Gr. *μῑσάνθρωπος* (adj.), f. *μῑσ(ο)-* (*μισεῖν* to hate) + *ἄνθρωπος* man. Cf. F. *misanthrope* (Rabelais).

The stressing of the Greek form in the 17th c. was *misa'nthropos.*]

A hater of mankind; a man-hater; one who distrusts men and avoids their society.

α. 1563 A. NEVILLE in *Googe's Eglogs* (Arb.) 23 Defye them all. *μισάνθρωποι* and squynteyd Monsters ryght They are. 1579–80 NORTH *Plutarch* (1595) 171 Timon, surnamed *Misanthropus* [ed. 1676 *Misantropos*]. 1607 SHAKS. *Timon* IV. iii. 53. 1612 BACON *Ess., Goodness* (Arb.) 205 *Misanthropi*, that make it their Practise, to bring Men, to the bough. 1612 T. JAMES *Jesuits Downefall* 5 Nether Zoilus, Aristarchus, Timon, or other Misanthropos. 1678 SHADWELL *Timon* v. 74 Hee'll ne'r return; he truly is *Misanthropos.*

β. 1683 D. A. *Art Converse* 55 A misanthrop in such a measure that can praise nothing that is praise worthy. *a* 1745 SWIFT *On Death Dr. S.* Wks. 1751 VII. 254 Alas, poor Dean! his only Scope Was to be held a Misanthrope. 1794 SULLIVAN *View Nat.* I. 10 It is said, that the most religious men are in general the most inflexible misanthropes. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* ii. I. 169 Ill as he [*viz.* Charles II] thought of his species, he never became a misanthrope.

b. Used as *adj.* = next.

1757 MRS. GRIFFITH *Lett. Henry & Frances* (1767) II. 129 My philosophy is neither of the cynic or misanthrope kind. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) III. 79 The finer..natures..may become misanthrope and philanthrope by turns.

Misanthropic (misănprŏ·pik), *a.* [f. prec. + -IC. Cf. F. *misanthropique.*] Pertaining to, resembling, or characteristic of, a misanthrope; characterized by misanthropy; man-hating.

1762 *Biogr. Dict.* XI. 65 [Swift's epitaph] shews a most unhappy misanthropic state of mind. 1812 BYRON *Ch. Har.* I. lxxxiv, He..view'd them not with misanthropic hate. 1824 SCOTT *St. Ronan's* v, A misanthropic recluse. 1881 *Med. Temp. Jrnl.* XLVII. 163 Insomnia does not so much produce special local affections as a miserable misanthropic state.

Misanthro·pical, *a.* [Formed as prec.: see -ICAL.] = prec.

1621 T. GRANGER *Expos. Eccl.* iv. 9 An illustration of the vanities of Misanthropicall couetousnesse. 1751 SMOLLETT *Per. Pic.* (1779) II. lxxi. 259 His disposition was altogether misanthropical. 1841 MACAULAY *Ess., Hastings* (1850) 604 He had thrown down his pen in misanthropical despair. 1864 C. KNIGHT *Pass. Working Life* II. 51 No desertion of old friends rendered me misanthropical.

b. *absol.* (See Do *v.* 11 j.)

1836–7 DICKENS *Sk. Boz., Characters* i, Old fellows..who .. do the misanthropical in chambers, taking great delight in thinking themselves unhappy.

Hence **Misanthro·pically** *adv.*

1834 H. MILLER *Scenes & Leg.* xvi. (1857) 243 Misanthropically accumulating into one gloomy heap all that is terrible in the judgments of God. 1864 [F. W. ROBINSON] *Mattie* II. 283 He thought, a little misanthropically, it did not matter.

Misanthropist (misæ·nþrŏpist). [f. Gr. *μῑσάνθρωπ-ος* MISANTHROPE + -IST.] = MISANTHROPE.

Todd, s.v. *Misanthrope*, says 'It is now usual to say *misanthropist*'. But this form is now very rare.

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr., Misanthropist*, he that hates the company of men. 1791 CUMBERLAND *Observer* No. 138 V. 130 Passages..where he [*sc.* Menander] speaks in the character of a misanthropist. 1876 L. STEPHEN *Eng. Th. 18th C.* II. xii. iv. 372 The sturdy moralist had a hearty dislike for the misanthropist.

Hence **Misa·nthropism** = MISANTHROPY.

1832 *Fraser's Mag.* V. 535 Parading an ultra-misanthropism, and complaining of a morbid and melancholy mind.

Misanthropize (misæ·nþrŏpəiz), *v.* [f. Gr. *μῑσάνθρωπ-ος* MISANTHROPE + -IZE.]

1. *intr.* To be a misanthrope; to hate mankind.

1846 *Blackw. Mag.* LIX. 169/1 Misanthropizing under the pangs of grief or unrequited love. 1849 KINGSLEY *Misc.* (1859) II. 264 What a place for some 'gloom-pampered man' to sit and misanthropize. 1891 F. M. WILSON *Primer on Browning* 190 Abandoning the world to misanthropise in a distant solitude.

2. *trans.* (in quot. *absol.*) To cause to be misanthropic.

1838 F. W. ROBERTSON *Let.* in Brooke *Life & Lett.* 20 All that has grieved and disappointed and misanthropised will be fully explained.

Misanthropy (misæ·nþrŏpi). [ad. Gr. *μῑσανθρωπία*, f. *μῑσάνθρωπος* MISANTHROPE. Cf. F. *misanthropie* (16th c.).] Hatred of mankind; the character, nature, or condition of a misanthrope.

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr., Misanthropie*, an hating of men. 1725 SWIFT *Let. to Pope* 29 Sept., Upon this great foundation of Misanthropy, (tho' not in Timon's manner) the whole building of my Travels is erected. 1780 HARRIS *Philol. Enq.* Wks. (1841) 538 Bad opinions of mankind naturally lead us to misanthropy. 1828 MACAULAY *Ess., Hallam* (1850) 75 Misanthropy is not the temper, which qualifies a man to act in great affairs, or to judge of them. 1866 W. R. ALGER *Solit. Nat. & Man* III. 123 Misanthropy..will be found almost always to be the revenge we take on mankind for fancied wrongs it has inflicted on us.

Misantour, obs. form of MISAUNTER.

Misantropos: see MISANTHROPE.

† Misapai·d, *ppl. a.* (pseudo-*arch.*) *Obs.* [MIS-[1] 2.] ? Discontented. (Cf. MISPAY.)

1614 J. DAVIES *Ecl.* in Browne *Sheph. Pipe* G 3 b, Thou.. Who whilom no encheson could fore-haile; And caitiue-courage nere made misapaid.

Misappea·r, *v. rare*—[1]. [MIS-[1] 1.] *intr.* To appear erroneously.

a 1614 DONNE *Biathanatos* (1648) 155 If any small place of Scripture, mis-appeare to them to bee of use for justifying any opinion of theirs.

Misappea·rance. *rare.* [MIS-[1] 4, 7.]

1. Failure to appear, non-appearance.

a 1683 SCROGGS *Courts-leet* (1714) 116 If Judgment be given against the Tenant or Defendant as upon a Misappearance, because the principal Party does not appear.

2. Appearance in a perverted form.

1844 EMERSON *Ess.* Ser. II. i. 23 Certain priests..appeared to the children..like dead horses; and many the like misappearances.

Misappella·tion. [MIS-[1] 4.] The action of calling by a wrong name.

1816 BENTHAM *Chrestomathia* Wks. 1843 VIII. 77 Of the act of misappellation thus committed, now then observe the consequence. 1885 *Law Times* LXXIX. 438/1 Partly in consequence of its misappellation..the Bill escaped much observation.

† Misappli·ably, *adv. Obs.* [f. MISAPPLY + -ABLY.] So that one's remarks can be misapplied.

a 1631 DONNE *Lett.* (1651) 28 In which I know I speak not dangerously nor misappliably to you.

Misapplica·tion. [MIS-[1] 4.] The action of misapplying; often used of misappropriation of funds († occas. *absol.* in that sense).

1607 BEAUM. & FL. *Woman-Hater* I. iii, Hee brings me informations,..which with his malitious misapplication, hee hopes will seeme dangerous. 1681 FLAVEL *Meth. Grace* I. 11 He may seem to..tast some sweetness in the delicious promises..of the Gospel by a misapplication of them to himself. 1704 LD. TWEEDDALE in *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4037/3 The Misapplications of..Funds. 1722 DE FOE *Col. Jack* (1840) 111 Having been charged with some misapplications, [he] was obliged to take shelter in England. 1864 PUSEY *Daniel* (1876) 113 The misapplication of the ancient Symbol. 1885 *Law Times* LXXIX. 7/1 The plaintiff specified one misapplication of a sum of £25. 1902 GREENOUGH & KITTREDGE *Words & Their Ways* 217 Language develops by the felicitous misapplication of words.

Misapply (misăpləi·), *v.* [MIS-[1] 1.] *trans.* To apply to a wrong person or object; to make a wrong application of.

1571 GOLDING *Calvin on Ps.* lxix. 29 Such a one [*sc.* manner of speech] as is not misapplyed too our small capacitie. 1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* II. iii. 21 Vertue it selfe turnes vice being misapplied. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* I. i. 1 Idolaters, who, from misapplying that undeniable Truth of God's

being in every thing, made every thing to be their God. 1698 COLLIER *Immor. Stage* iv. 145 Thus the Marks of Honour, and Infamy are misapplyed. 1711 G. HICKES *Two Treat.* (1847) II. 377 The presbyterians have abused and misapplied this doctrine. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* II. 274 She ..notes each moment misapply'd. 1782 MISS BURNEY *Cecilia* IV. vi, His phrases are almost always ridiculous or misapplied. 1784 COWPER *Task* III. 402 Misapplying his unskilful strength. 1825 COBBETT *Rur. Rides* 123 These enclosures and buildings are a waste; they are means misapplied. 1863 H. FAWCETT *Pol. Econ.* III. xiv. (1876) 476 Capital may be misapplied and wasted.

absol. 1732 POPE *Prol. Sat.* 301 Who reads, but with a lust to misapply.

Hence **Misappli·ed** *ppl. a.*, **Misapply·ing** *vbl. sb.* Also **Misappli·er**, one who misapplies.

[1450 Misapplying: see MISOISPENSE.] 1587 GOLDING *De Mornay* cxxxiiii. (1592) 547 His misapplying..of hys skil. 1629 H. BURTON *Truths Triumph* 59 Their mis-applyed philosophicall diuinity. 1699 COLLIER *Def. Short View* 84 Unfair Citing and Misapplying. 1736 CARTE *Ormonde* II. 369 The Misappliers of his revenue. 1903 *Blackw. Mag.* Oct. 535/1 He thumps it with the same misapplied vigour.

Misappre·ciate, *v.* [MIS-[1] 1.] *trans.* To fail to appreciate rightly; to make a wrong estimate of.

1828 DE QUINCEY *Wks.* (1859) XI. 54 The real value of his speech was never at any time misappreciated by the judicious. 1865 D. MASSON *Rec. Brit. Philos.* 271 Unappreciated or misappreciated because of their higher nature.

Mi·sappreciа·tion. [MIS-[1] 4.] Erroneous estimation or valuation.

1854 FABER *Growth in Holiness* (1872) xi. 178 Want of sympathy with contemplation leads to a misappreciation of austerity. 1868 NETTLESHIP *Ess. Browning* i. 19 The lovers fail by reason of their mistresses' misappreciation.

Misappre·ciative, *a.* [MIS-[1] 6.] Not properly appreciative.

1866 LOWELL *Carlyle* Prose Wks. (1890) II. 111 A man may look..on an heroic master, with the eyes of a valet, as misappreciative certainly, though not so ignoble.

Mi·sapprehe·nd, *v.* [MIS-[1] 1.] *trans.* To apprehend wrongly; not to understand rightly; to attach a wrong meaning to. † Also, with acc. and inf., to suppose erroneously (that..).

a 1653 BINNING *Serm.* (1845) 567 All our Mischief proceeds from this, that we Misapprehend and Mistake that which we would gladly have. *a* 1661 FULLER *Worthies, Wiltsh.* (1662) III. 155 Country-People who live far off in our Land misapprehend them (distanced more then 12 miles) to be near together. 1726 ATTERBURY *Serm.* I. ix. 322 Here is a Law, attended with none of these Inconveniences; the grossest Minds can scarce misapprehend it. 1856 SIR B. BRODIE *Psychol. Inq.* I. ii. 61 Let me not be misapprehended as giving our knowledge for more than it is actually worth. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) III. 218, I do not think that I misapprehend your meaning.

absol. 1658 T. WALL *Character Enemies Ch.* 42 To misapprehend, denotes a man. Tis head-strong persistance that degrades him into a Beast.

Hence **Misapprehe·nded** *ppl. a.*, **Misapprehe·nding** *vbl. sb.* Also **Misapprehe·ndingly** *adv.*, through misapprehension.

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* I. iv. (1686) 10 Fallacious foundations, and misapprehended mediums. 1665 GLANVILL *Scepsis Sci.* xiii. 72 Mis-apprehended, or ill-compounded phantasmes. 1702 SIR G. KNELLER in *Pepys' Diary* VI. 237, I ask your pardon for Misapprehending. 1862 F. HALL *Hindu Philos. Syst.* 16 Unless a man identifies himself, misapprehendingly, with his body. 1886 *New York Sch. Jrnl.* XXXI. 259 The most misapprehended word in all modern educational literature is the word, 'method'.

Misapprehe·nsible, *a. rare*[−1]. [MIS-[1] 6.] Capable of being misapprehended.

1829 BENTHAM *Justice & Cod. Petit.* p. xiii, A determinate and never misapprehensible..standard of reference.

Mi·sapprehe·nsion. [MIS-[1] 4.] The action of misapprehending or condition of being misapprehended; the misunderstanding of the meaning of anything.

1629 H. BURTON *Truth's Triumph* 312 His eyes are not dazeled..by a mis-apprehension and mis-application of the true light. 1665 BOYLE *Occas. Refl.* v. vi. (1848) 317 [He] commanded the Fidlers to be thrust out of his Seraglio, upon a mis-apprehension that they were playing, when they were but tuning. 1737 BERKELEY *App. to Querist* § 165 Wks. 1871 III. 537 Whether such difference in opinion be not an effect of misapprehension. 1860 TYNDALL *Glaciers* II. xiv. 304 An opinion, founded on a grave misapprehension. 1885 *Law Rep.* 29 Chanc. Div. 545 The Vice-Chancellor there was under a misapprehension.

Mi·sapprehe·nsive, *a.* [MIS-[1] 6.] Apt to misapprehend. Hence **Misapprehe·nsively** *adv.*, through misapprehension; **Misapprehe·nsiveness,** the quality of being misapprehensive.

1646 H. LAWRENCE *Comm. & War w. Angels* 120 Because men are either insincere and unfaithfull, or misapprehensive and darke. 1862 F. HALL *Hindu Philos. Syst.* 142 The good and evil works of the misapprehensive man serve to fetter him. *Ibid.* 246 The soul..when it is misapprehensively viewed as a reflexion. 1869 BROWNING *Ring & Bk.* IX. 1526 Gently, O mother, judge men—whose mistake Is in the mere misapprehensiveness! 1880 J. W. SHEARE *Conjuror's Dau.* 130 Henry had been always dull and misapprehensive.

Misappro·priate, *a. rare.* [MIS-[1] 7.] Inappropriate. Hence **Misappro·priately** *adv.*

c 1831 SIR H. HALFORD in W. Munk *Life* (1895) 83 The disease, misappropriately called cholera morbus. 1897 SMEATON *Smollett* x. 135 Her misappropriate use of the language of that circle is most felicitously rendered.

Misappro·priate, *v.* [MIS-[1] 1.] *trans.* To appropriate to wrong uses; chiefly, to apply dishonestly to one's own use (money belonging to another).

1857 TOULMIN SMITH *Parish* 145 A part of what had been wrongfully misappropriated being restored. 1887 *Times* 10 Oct. 3/3 The prisoner..had been in the habit of misappropriating fees which he received.

Mi·sappropria·tion. [MIS-[1] 4.] Appropriation to wrong uses.

1794 BURKE *Sp. agst. W. Hastings* Wks. 1827 VIII. 367 Another class of women, who suffered by the violent misappropriation of the revenues of the Nabob. 1847-54 in WEBSTER. 1860 WORCESTER cites *Ch. Ob.*

Misard, obs. form of MISER *sb.*

Misaritie, variant of MISERITY.

Misarra·nged, *pa. pple.* and *ppl. a.* [MIS-[1] 2.] Wrongly arranged.

1848 DE QUINCEY *Goldsmith* Wks. 1857 VI. 232 To unsettle false verdicts, to recombine misarranged circumstances, and to explain anew misinterpreted facts. 1873 SKEAT *P. Pl.* III. 143 *note*, 77, 78. Misarranged in all the copies.

Misarra·ngement. [MIS-[1] 4.] Bad or wrong arrangement.

1784 COWPER *Task* V. 111 Here glitt'ring turrets rise, upbearing high (Fantastic misarrangement) on the roof Large growth [etc.]. 1832 SOUTHEY *Hist. Peninsular War* III. 37 By a misarrangement arising from mere inattention, they had been served..with meat on a meagre day. 1897 SKEAT *Chaucerian & other Pieces* p. li. That the Trinity MS. agrees with the Harleian as to misarrangement of the subject-matter.

Misarray (misărē·). [MIS-[1] 4.] = DISARRAY.

1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* V. xxvii, Then uproar wild and misarray Marr'd the fair form of festal day.

Misassi·gn, *v. rare.* [MIS-[1] 1.] *trans.* To assign erroneously.

1660 BOYLE *New Exp. Phys. Mech.* ii. 38 We have not mis-assign'd the cause of this Phænomenon. 1879 A. B. GROSART in *T. Howell's Poems* p. x *note*, Wood misassigns Abp. Parker's verse-Psalter to him.

Misaunter (misǭ·ntəɹ). *Obs.* exc. *north. dial.* Also 3-4 -aunture, -auntre, -antour, 4 -awentoure, 5 -anter, -awnter. [Contracted form of *misaventure* (see MISADVENTURE). Cf. MISHANTER.] = MISADVENTURE.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 4187 Alas alas þou wrecche mon, woch mesaunture Aþ þe ybroȝt in to þis stede. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 6180 (Kölbing) Þe painem starf wiþ misantour. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* I. 766 If I wiste what she were For whom that thee al this misaunter ayleth. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xix. (*Christoforc*) 4 þat þaim ne may ony mysawentoure fal þat day. 1405 *Lay Folks Mass-Bk.* 65 That god sane thaim fra al missaunters. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv* 339/1 Mysawnter, or myscheve..*infortunium*. 1876 *Whitby Gloss., Misaunter*, a misadventure. 'Ful o' mishaps an misaunters'.

Misaventeur, -our, -ur(e: obs. ff. MISADVENTURE.

† **Misaver·r,** *v. Obs.* [MIS-[1] 1.] *intr.* To speak erroneously.

1615 SYLVESTER *Joh Triumph.* IV. 215 And let the prudent mark..That void of knowledge, Job hath misaverr'd.

Misawa·rd, *v. rare.* [MIS-[1] 1.] *trans.* To award wrongly. So **Misawa·rding** *vbl. sb.*

a 1625 SIR H. FINCH *Law* (1636) 226 Misawarding of Processe. 1887 A. M. BROWN *Anim. Alkaloids* 6 Here an honour seems to have been somewhat misawarded.

Misbapti·ze, *v.* [MIS-[1] 1.]

1. *trans.* To misname, miscall.

1610 MARKHAM *Masterp.* I. xv. 43 The vnskilfull Farrier ..doth euer mis-baptise the name of the horses infirmity. 1625 F. MARKHAM *Bk. Honour* II. ix. § 9 To haue kept all the Rules of proportion..would..haue..misbaptized my Title by turning an Epistle into a tedious discourse.

2. To baptize wrongly.

1819 KEATS *K. Stephen* I. ii. 33 A fierce demon, 'nointed safe from wounds, And misbaptized with a Christian name.

† **Misbea·r,** *v. Obs.* [f. MIS-[1] 1 + BEAR *v.*[1]]

1. *refl.* To misbehave or misconduct oneself.

c 1300 *Beket* 1248 Ic ne miȝte do hit for nothing þeȝ he him hadde misbore. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Melib.* P 911 Ye have mysbore yow, and trespassed unto me. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) xii. 135 ȝif ony of here Wyfes mysberen hem aȝenst hire Husbonde. 1496 *Dives & Pauper* (W. de W.) IV. xxiv. 191/1 Yf they mysbere them, ther patrons may deprynе them of ther benefyce. 1501 *Ord. Crysten Men* (W. de W. 1506) IV. xxi, Yf he..mysbere hym unto the sacramentes.

2. See MISBORN.

Hence † **Misbea·ring** *ppl. a.*, ill-behaved.

a 1400 in *Hampole's Wks.* (1896) I. 159 þat noon schulde be proude ne mysberynge aȝens obere.

† **Misbea·ring,** *vbl. sb.* [MIS-[1] 3.] a. ? Wrongful bearing. b. Misconduct.

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 336 Dan Waryn he les tounes þat he beld With wrong be mad a res & misberyng of scheld [Langtoft *Ke citez et viles perdist par l'escu*]. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* V. xv. 564 Al this..foule and mys bering and vniust chalenging and blamyng.

Misbecome (misbĭkv·m), *v.* [MIS-[1] 1.] *trans.* To fail to become; to suit ill; to be unsuitable or unbecoming to.

1530 PALSGR. 637/1 It mysbecometh, as a garment mysbecometh one, or any other comunycacion, or other behavour. 1597 SHAKS. *2 Hen. IV*, V. ii. 100 Speake..What I haue done, that misbecame my place. 1624 WOTTON *Archit.* in *Reliq.* (1672) 35 A Frank light can mis-become no Ædifice whatever. 1638 BP. WILKINS *New World* V. (1707) 39 An Opinion altogether misbecoming a Philosopher. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* XV. vi, Nothing could misbecome me more, than to presume to give any hint to one of your great understanding. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* XIV. III. 464 He declined no drudgery..provided only that it were such drudgery as did not misbecome an honest man. 1889 SWINBURNE *B. Jonson* 108 Such sweeping denunciation of all contemporary poetry as would not have misbecome the utterance of incarnate envy.

Misbeco·ming, *ppl. a.* [f. prec. + -ING[2], or f. MIS-[1] 2 + BECOMING *ppl. a.*] Not becoming, unbecoming, unsuitable, unfitting.

1611 COTGR., *Messeant*, ill-fitting, ill-suiting, misbecoming. 1634 MILTON *Comus* 372 As that the single want of light and noise..Could stir the constant mood of her calm thoughts, And put them into mis-becoming plight. 1651 T. STANLEY *Poems* 62 Cast off for shame ungentle maid That misbecoming joy thou wearst. 1707 NORRIS *Treat. Humility* V. 213 Pride is never so odious and misbecoming as now. 1743 FIELDING *J. Wild* III. xiv, It is..very far from being an improper or misbecoming habitation. 1820 SCOTT *Abbot* xi, When a paroxysm of laughter has seized him at a misbecoming time and place.

Misbeco·mingly, *adv.* [-LY[2].] Unbecomingly, unfittingly.

1612 *Two Noble K.* V. iii. (1634) 81 Those darker humours that Sticke misbecomingly on others, on them Live in faire dwelling. 1635 J. HAYWARD tr. *Biondi's Banish'd Virg.* 180 He did it so misbecomingly..as made him loathsome to such as saw him act it. 1707 NORRIS *Treat. Humility* vii. 298 It makes it [*sc.* pride] sit..still the more misbecomingly upon us.

Misbeco·mingness. [-NESS.] The quality or condition of being misbecoming; also, in particularized use, an unbecoming characteristic.

1644 DIGBY *Nat. Bodies* XXVIII. § 8 One great misbecomingnesse he was apt to fall into, whiles he spoke: which was an vncertainty in the tone of his voyce. 1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* Ep. Ded., 'Tis a misbecomingness to have a doing Philosophy set forth by a talking Philosopher. *a* 1704 LOCKE *Notes Ephes.* V. 3 Wks. 1714 III. 376 What indecency or misbecomingness is it among Christians to name covetousness?

† **Misbe·de,** *v. Obs.* Forms: 1 misbéodan, 3-4 mis-, mysbeode, 4 -bide, 4-5 -bede; *pa. t.* 1 misbéad, 4 -bed(e; *pa. pple.* 1 misboden, 4 mysbode(n. [OE. *misbēodan* (= MDu. *misbieden*, MLG. *misse-*, *misbeden*, MHG. *missebieten*, ON. *mishióða*), f. *mis-* MIS-[1] 1 + *bēodan* (see BID *v.*[1] A).] *trans.* To ill-use, ill-treat; to injure, abuse. (In OE. with obj. in *dative.*) Also *intr.* const. *till.*

a 975 *Canons Edgar* V. in Thorpe *Laws* II. 244 Gif him æniȝ man healice misboden hæbbe. *a* 1023 WULFSTAN *Hom.* xxii. (1883) 112 Þy ne misbeode cristenra manna æniȝ oðrum ealles to swyðe. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1083 He misbead his munecan on fela þingan. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1541 Me hire mny so ofte mysbeode þat heo do wile hire owe neode. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 104 Whan Lowys herd þat sawe, þat Roberd was so dede, Ageyn right & lawe, tille Henry he misbede. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* VII. 45 And mis-beode [B. VI. 46 mysbede] þou not þi bondemen. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Knt.'s T.* 51 Or who hath yow misboden, or offended? 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) III. 225 The peple of Rome made stryf as þough þey were mysbode of the senatoures. ?*a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 3083 That no lele ligemane..Sulde..biernez myse-hide, that to þe burghe longede. 1496 *Dives & Pauper* (W. de W.) VII. XXVII. 318/2 Yf thou lene to my poore people, thou shalt not therfore mysbede hym. 1846 BROCKETT *Gloss. N. C. Words, Mis-boden*, injured. [Quotes Chaucer.]

† **Misbefa·ll,** *v. Obs.* [MIS-[1] 1.]

1. *impers.* With dat. of the person affected: To happen unfortunately, turn out badly.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 200 Þe ueorðe [unðeauwe] is Gledschipe of his vuel: lauhwen oðer gabben, ȝif him mis-biueolle [*MS. T.* mis-times, *C.* mistimeð]. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 57 For elles, bot a man do so, Him may fulofte mysbefalle. *c* 1425 *Eng. Conq. Irel.* 124/15 Thegh hym yn thyke [= thylke] vynge mys byfelle. *c* 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* I. lxix. (1869) 40, I wole telle yow how it bifel of hem, and how it misbefel hem.

2. Of events: To happen unfortunately. Also in ppl. adj. **Misbefallen.**

1591 *Troub. Raigne K. John* (1611) 48 Deep sorrow throbbeth mis-befaln euents. 1645 WITHER *Vox Pacif.* 117 Scarce a man Among a thousand, searcheth out those things Which mis-befall. 1648 W. BROWNE *Polexander* III. IV. 128 Something..is misbefalne Zelmatida.

3. Of persons: To come to harm.

c 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* IV. lvi. (1869) 203 Wherefore so lightliche fallen þei nouht, ne so soone misbefallen.

Misbege·t, *v. rare.* [MIS-[1] 1.] *trans.* To beget unlawfully.

c 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 1113 (Kölbing) Þou art a cursed þing, Misbiȝeten oȝaines þe lawe. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 80 His fader, which him misbegat, He slouh. 1607 SHAKS. *Timon* III. V. 29 Which [quarrelling] indeede Is Valour mis-begot, and came into the world, When Sects, and Factions were newly borne. 1860 READE *Cloister & H.* II. 363 Buss the old folk and thank them for misbegetting of thee.

† **Misbege·t,** *ppl. a.* and *sb.* Also 3 -biȝite, 4 -bigete, -biȝete, -beyete, 5 begeten. [f. MIS-[1] 2 + *beȝet(en*, ME. pa. pple. of BEGET *v.*] = MISBEGOTTEN.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 987 Leste it heode out of kunde þor3 child mis bi ȝite [*later MSS.* mys bi gete, mis biȝete]. 13.. *Sevyn Sag.* 1052 (W.) And of the child..He segh hit was a mis-beyete. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 1021 (Kölbing) Þou misbiȝeten þing, þou hast ylowe a gret lesing. *a* 1400 *Octouian* 259 Thy mysbegeten chylderen two.

Misbegi·n, *v. rare.* [MIS-[1] 1.] *trans.* To begin amiss or badly. So **Misbegu·n** *ppl. a.*

1583 GOLDING *Calvin on Deut.* lxxv. 461 By applying their minds to al wicked shifts for ye maintenance of ye thing y^t^ they had misbegun. 1587 — *De Mornay* xxiii. (1592)

353 A Song mistuned, or a Gambauld misbegun. 1864 *Louie's last term* (N.Y.) 9 Another mis-begun day.

Misbego·tten, *ppl. a.* and *sb.* Also misbegot. [MIS-[1] 2.] **A.** *adj.*

1. Unlawfully begotten; illegitimate; bastard.

1554 T. MARTIN *Marr. Priests* B iv, Those haue we seen to be the most gredy getters for their misbegotten heires. 1595 SHAKS. *John* v. iv. 4 That misbegotten dinell Falconbridge. 1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 1133 Where no other younthes do exercise but misbegotten bastards. 1700 DRYDEN *Fables, Cinyras & Myrrha* 354 (1721) 136 Mean time the mis-begotten infant grows. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* I. iii, It goes against me to touch these misbegotten wretches, whom I don't look upon as my fellow creatures. 1789 BURNS *Fragm. inscr. to C. J. Fox* 15 A sorry, poor, misbegot son of the Muses. 1875-86 [see B].

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II*, I. i. 33 In the deuotion of a subiects loue,..And free from other misbegotten hate. 1760 LLOYD *Poems* (1762) 97 When Falshood stole them to disguise Her misbegotten brood of lies. 1820 HAZLITT *Lect. Dram. Lit.* 15 Germany first broke the spell of misbegotten fear. 1858 BUSHNELL *Nat. & Supernat.* xiii. (1864) 421 Our misbegotten opinions.

2. Used as a term of opprobrium.

1571 GOLDING *Calvin on Ps.* xxiv. 5 That misbegotten generation, whiche was proude of the only visour of their ceremonies. 1641 MILTON *Ch. Govt.* iii. Wks. 1851 III. 110 Some misbegotten thing, that..vaunts and glories in her stolne plumes. 1815 BYRON *To Moore* 12 June, Murray..has been cruelly cudgelled of misbegotten knaves. 1838 SOUTHEY *Doctor* CXXXVII. (1848) 346, I should never like to trust my precious limbs upon the back of such a misbegotten beast. 1839 BAILEY *Festus* (1848) 18/1 This dim, dwarfed, misbegotten sphere. 1886 STEVENSON *Dr. Jekyll* 100 There was something abnormal and misbegotten in the very essence of the creature.

B. *sb.* A bastard; also, as a term of abuse (cf. A. 2). Now only *dial.*, in form *misbegot*.

1546 BALE *Eng. Votaries* I. (1560) 21 b, Saint Cuthbert y[e] great God of the North..was a misbegotten also. *c* 1550 T. INGELEND *Disob. Child* E iv, What wordes haue we here, thou misbegotten? 1875-86 *W. Somerset Gloss.*, *Misbegot*, adj. and sb. Base born; a bastard. 1877 *Holderness Gloss.*, *Misbegot*, a bastard.

Misbehadden, Sc. form of MISBEHOLDEN.

Misbeha·ve, *v.* [MIS-[1] 1.]

1. *refl.* and (later) *intr.* To behave wrongly; to conduct oneself improperly.

1475 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 134/1 They never offended nor mysbehaved theym in the mater of the compleynts..specified. 1530 PALSGR. 636/2 You were to blame to mysbehave you to hym so sore as you dyd. 1648 *Art. Peace* xxix. in Milton *Wks.* 1851 IV. 538 Such other Person or Persons.. to be named and appointed in the place or places, of him or them, who shall so die or misbehave themselves. 1759 FRANKLIN *Ess.* Wks. 1840 III. 462 The said mayor, by becoming a promoter and ringleader of such an insult, had exceedingly misbehaved himself. 1764 BURN *Poor Laws* 289 The punishment of a servant misbehaving, is to be either by commitment to the house of correction, or [etc.]. 1860 EMERSON *Cond. Life* vi. (1861) 131 If we misbehave we suspect others. 1871 BROWNING *Hervé Riel* vii, Not a ship that misbehaves. 1884 *Law Times Rep.* XLIX. 775/2 The court can order costs to be paid by a trustee who has misbehaved.

†2. *trans.* To conduct or manage improperly.

1540 HYRDE tr. *Vives' Instr. Chr. Wom.* (1592) O 4 The naughtinesse of misbehaving her body.

So **Misbeha·ving** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1451 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 216/1 Noyse and claymour of the seid mysbehavyng renneth openly. 1496-7 *Act* 12 *Hen. VII*, c. 2 Perjurie and other divers offenses and mysbehavynges. 1529 *Act* 21 *Hen. VIII*, c. 20 Bill or informacyon..agaynst any person for any mysbehavynge afore rehersed. *c* 1610 in Gutch *Coll. Cur.* II. 12 That all common women, and misbehaving people..withdraw themselves out of this Fair. 1891 *Spectator* 7 Mar. 331/2 For the purpose of inflicting a sort of penance on a misbehaving clergyman's soul.

†**Misbeha·ved,** *ppl. a.* [MIS-[1] 2.] Ill-behaved.

1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* III. iii. 143 Like a misbehaved and sullen wench.

Misbeha·viour. [MIS-[1] 4.] Bad behaviour, improper conduct; †an instance of this.

1486 *Act* 3 *Hen. VII*, c. 1 Bill or Information..against any Person for any Misbehaviour afore rehearsed. 1512 *Act* 4 *Hen. VIII*, c. 19 § 11 What so euer persone or persones do..commytt eny mysbehavoure in eny maner wyse touchyng the premisses. 1516 in *Eng. Gilds* 329 To..ponysch all such mysbyhauyors and fauttes as haue be, or be nowe, or schalbe. 1674 BREVINT *Saul at Endor* 207 An Officer..who was cashiered for some Mis-behavior. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 503 P 1 The misbehaviour of people at church. 1765 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* I. xvi. 442 The law does not hold the tie of nature to be dissolved by any misbehaviour of the parent. 1855 THACKERAY *Newcomes* lxxvii. II. 347 The just feelings of displeasure with which I could not but view his early disobedience and misbehaviour.

Misbeho·lden, *ppl. a.* Also *dial.* -behodden, *Sc.* -behad(d)en. [f. MIS-[1] 2 + *beholden*, pa. pple. of BEHOLD *v.* The orig. meaning seems to have been 'improperly guarded, unguarded'; cf. OE. *behealden* cautious.] Unbecoming, indiscreet; disobliging: usually qualifying *word*.

1600 T. HEYWOOD *2nd Pt. Edw. IV*, I. ii. (1613) M i b, We shew thee not one discontented looke, Nor render him one misbeholden word. 1828 *Craven Gloss.* (ed. 2) II. 294 Bud thou minds I nivver gav him another misbehodden word. 1837 HOGG *Siege Roxb.* iv. *Tales & Sk.* VI. 105 The first side that lifts a sword, or says a misbehadden word. 1869 *Lonsdale Gloss.*, *Misbehodden*, disobliging, offensive. 'I nivver gav her a misbehodden word'.

†**Misbelea·d,** *v. Obs.* In 4 *pa. pple.* misbilad. [MIS-[1] 1.] *trans.* To lead astray.

c 1320 *Cast. Love* 428 Ac as a Mon mis-I-rad On vche half he is mis-bilad.

Misbelief (misbĭlī·f). [MIS-[1] 4, 7.]

1. Erroneous or unorthodox religious belief; wrong faith; heresy.

a 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 2393 Leste ȝe eft wepen echeliche in helle..as ȝe schullen alle, buten ȝef ȝe forleten..ower misbileaue. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Conse.* 5521 Þe haithen men of mysbylyefe. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl. B.* XV. 402 Mekometh in mysbileue men and wommen brouȝte. 1481 CAXTON *Godfrey* c. 152 Grete hate..hath ben bytwene the Turkes of thoryent and the Turkes of Egypt..By cause they discorde in theyr creaunce and mysbyleue. 1529 MORE *Dyaloge* I. Wks. 144/2 If the woorship of ymages wer ydolatrie than y[e] churche beleuing it to be lawful..were in a misbeliefe & in a deadly error. 1639 LAUD *Wks.* (1849) II. 6 Perfidious misbelief could not be welcome, or, rather, indeed, perfidious misbelievers or schismatics could not be welcome. 1670 MILTON *Hist. Eng.* Wks. 1738 II. 61 Paulinus omitting no opportunity to win the King from misbelief. 1829 SOUTHEY *Sir T. More* II. 93 In producing superstition and misbelief on one hand, and unbelief on the other. 1865 PUSEY *Truth Eng. Ch.* 13 The authors..did not speak out..the unbelief or misbelief which they suggested. 1879 A. W. HADDAN *Apost. Succ. Ch. Eng.* p. vii, [A doctrine] which the tendency of modern belief or misbelief leads men to scorn as childish.

2. *gen.* Erroneous belief; false opinion or notion.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Can. Yeom. T.* 660 Ye shul han no mysbileeue Ne wrong conceite of me in youre Absence. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 397 Þis and oþere suche lewed tales Englisshe men holdeþ by a mysbyleve [L. *incredulitate*] þat haþ ful longe i-dured. 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 18623 And thynges that thow doste observe, Alle is but ffoly and mysbyleve. 1496 *Dives & Pauper* (W. de W.) I. xlv 87/1 They haue no suche fantasye ne myshyleue in dremes. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* X. xi. 56 Gif thou wenis that all the victory..May be reducit and alterat clar agane, A mysbeleve thou fosteris all in vane. 1651 BAXTER *Inf. Bapt.* 18 If they prevail to perswade the people of the necessity of practice, in so doing they put on them both the misbelief and the mispractice. 1905 *Athenæum* 8 July 39/2 The misbeliefs of bygone times.

†3. Want of belief; disbelief; incredulity.

138. WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 108 God hardede Pharaois herte for þe mysbyleve þat he hadde to God. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 215/1 O how thy moste beaute hast thou lost for thyn incredulyte and mysbyleue. 1587 GOLDING *De Mornay* vi.(1592) 84 Simple distrusts or misbeleefes of the things which they vnderstand not. 1591 *Troub. Raigne K. John* (1611) 38 The traitors breath, Whose periurie..Beleaguers all the skie with mis-beleefe. *a* 1649 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Poems* Wks. (1711) 51/1 Misbelief Of these sad news. 1653 H. MORE *Antid. Ath.* III. xvi. (1712) 142 A contemptuous misbelief of such like Narrations concerning Spirits, and an endeavour of making them all ridiculous and incredible.

¶4. An alleged term for a 'company' of painters.

1486 *Bk. St. Albans* f vij, A misbeleue of paynteris.

Hence †**Misbelie·fful** *a.*, unbelieving; †**Misbelie·fness,** unbelief.

c 1320 *Cast. Love* 1428 [Saint] Thomas misbileuenesse. *c* 1420 *Wyclif's Bible* Ecclus. i. 36 Mysbileueful [1382 mys leeful, 1388 vnbileueful] to the dred of the Lord [Vulg. *incredibilis timori Domini*].

Misbelie·ve, *v.* [MIS-[1] 1, 7. Cf. OF. *mescrere*, mod. *mécroire*.]

1. *intr.* To believe amiss; to hold an erroneous belief. Also with *clause*.

1382 WYCLIF *Deut.* i. 26 Mysbileuynge [1388 vnbileueful, Vulg. *increduli*] to the word of the Lord oure God. *a* 1425 *Cursor M.* 18698 (Trin.) Thomas..Stonde studfaste now herfore And mis bilene [*other MSS.* mistr(o)u] þou no more. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 190 Who so euer confesse..all y[e] articles of our fayth, sane onely one, & in that one do mysbyleue, he is an heretyke. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* IV. xii. 26 She..comming to her sonne, gan first to scold And chyde at him that made her misbelieve. 1644 MILTON *Bucer on Div.* Wks. 1851 IV. 335 The holy Spirit does not make the mis-beleeving of him who departs, but the departing of him who mis-beleevs, to be the just cause of freedom to the brother or sister. 1647 TRAPP *Comm. John* XX. 8 As Mary Magdalene had told them, so they mis-believed, that it [the Lord's body] was taken away to some other place.

2. *trans.* Not to believe; to distrust (a person); to disbelieve (a thing). *Obs.*

c 1450 LOVELICH *Merlin* 1505 And Neuere j schal the Misbeleve For non Man that owht can on þe preve. 1653 H. MORE *Antid. Ath.* I. ix. (1712) 26 If bare possibility may at all intangle our assent..we cannot fully misbelieve the absurdest Fable. 1699 BURNET 39 *Art.* XV. 139 We find the same Zachary guilty of misbelieving the Message of the Angel to him. 1728 BAILEY, *To Misbelieve*, to distrust.

†**Misbelie·ved,** *a. Obs.* [f. MISBELIEF + -ED[2]; or perh. f. MIS-[1] 2 + BELIEVED *ppl. a.* (cf. *smooth-spoken*).]

1. Holding a wrong belief or false religion; heretical; infidel, heathen.

a 1225 *St. Marher.* 1 Þe ȝet weren monie ma þen nu beon misbileuede men. 13.. *Guy Warw.* (A.) 3397 Sarrazins þat misbileued be. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) II. 309 Hit was þe manere of mysbeleued men [L. *ethnicorum*] forto kepe a dede body nyne dayes wiþ oute oignement. 1398 — *Barth. De P. R.* XIII. ix. (Bodley MS.), Þis ryuer [Jordan] ..departeþ þe contrey of riȝt beleued men fro þe contrey of mysbileued men. 1494 FABYAN *Chron.* I. ii. 9 Diana a Goddesse of mysbyleued people.

absol. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 1900 (Kölbing) Þus ended sir Fortiger, þat misbileued. 1340 *Ayenb.* 252 Þe bougres and þe misbylefde.

2. Unbelieving, incredulous.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* III. 838 O thou wikkid serpent Jelosye! Thow mysbylevid, envyous folye.

Misbelie·ver. [MIS-[1] 5.] One who holds a false or unorthodox belief; a heretic or infidel.

1470-85 MALORY *Arthur* XIII. xiv. 631 The other wey betokeneth the way of synners and of mysbyleuers. 1509 BARCLAY *Shyp of Folys* (1570) 198 Of these misbeleuers more to write or tell..It were but foly. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* I. iii. 112 You call me misbeleeuer..And spet vpon my Iewish gaberdine. 1651 C. CARTWRIGHT *Cert. Relig.* I. 114 Though Protestants have done little..to convert meer Infidels, yet in the other kinde, viz. in converting mis-believers they have done much. 1728 MORGAN *Algiers* I. vi. 180 In the very first Encounter..with the Misbelievers, Sheikh Abdallah..was hurried into the other World. 1830 WORDSW. *Armenian Lady's Love* XX, Innocent, and meek, and good, Though with misbelievers bred. 1867 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1877) I. vi. 465 Roger..sought..to wage warfare against the misbeliever. 1868 J. H. BLUNT *Ref. Ch. Eng.* I. 525 The correction of misbelievers was originally part of the ordinary jurisdiction of every bishop.

Misbelie·ving, *vbl. sb.* [MIS-[1] 3.] Misbelief.

1340 *Ayenb.* 134 And þerof byeþ y-come alle þe maneres of eresye and of misbeleuinge. 1644 [see MISBELIEVE 1]. 1737 J. WILLISON *Aff. Man's Companion* VII. iv. (1744) 140 What is it but a Misbelieving of God?

Misbelie·ving, *ppl. a.* [MIS-[1] 2.] Holding a false belief; heretical, unorthodox.

c 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 5982 (Kölbing) Þe misbileueand paiem starf. 1340 *Ayenb.* 69 Þe bougres and þe mysbyleuinde. 1470-85 MALORY *Arthur* V. x. 178, I aduyse..to make vs redy to mete with these sarasyns and mysbyleuyng men. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* IV. XXXVI. 160 b, The righteous iudgements of God towards the misbeleeuing. 1642 ROGERS *Naaman* 577 A misbelieving Turke or Iew. 1691 DRYDEN *K. Arthur* I. Wks. 1701 II. 491 Lift high thy thund'ring arm, let every blow Dash out a mis-believing Briton's Brains. 1816 SOUTHEY *Poet's Pilgr.* I. 3 When Martel..from the yoke Of misbelieving Mecca saved the West. 1873 B. GREGORY *Holy Cath. Ch.* xv. 161 Each denominational church has the right..of excommunicating..misbelieving members.

transf. 1847 DE QUINCEY *Sp. Mil. Nun* Postscr., Wks. 1854 III. 96 Confessions that..were absolutely mobbed and hustled by a gang of misbelieving (*i. e.* miscreant) critics.

Hence **Misbelie·vingly** *adv.*, incredulously.

1882 MISS BRADDON *Mt. Royal* I. iii. 92 He would have shrugged his shoulders misbelievingly.

†**Misbelo·ve,** *v. Obs. rare.* [MIS-[1] 1, 7.]

1. *trans.* To love amiss.

1614 SYLVESTER *Parl. Vertues Royall* 371 Wks. (Grosart) II. 127 Th' one loves not, th' other mis-beloves What best to fear, and least presume behooves.

2. Not to love; to hate.

1545 RAYNOLD *Byrth Mankynde* Prol. C vi, By this reason phisitians and chyrurgians wyves shold greatly be abhorryd and mysbeloued of theyr husbandes.

Misbesee·m, *v.* [MIS-[1] 1.] = MISBECOME. (In 17th c. freq. in the pres. pple. with an obj.)

1598 BP. HALL *Sat.* Postscr., One thinkes it misbeseeming the Author because a Poem, another vnlawfull in it selfe because a Satyre. 1627 HAKEWILL *Apol.* (1630) 104 Neither can this action misbeseeme the worthinesse of so glorious a peece. 1773 STEEVENS *Shaks. Wks., Ham.* III. ii. *note*, Nor..would it much misbeseem us to remember..that we likewise are men. 1884 J. PAYNE 1001 *Nights* IX. 336 Examples of Mohammedan fervour..that would not have misbeseemed the strictest epochs of religious enthusiasm.

Misbesee·ming, *ppl. a.* = MISBECOMING.

c 1610 BEAUM. & FL. *Philaster* IV. (1622) 48 Goe sell those misbeseeming cloathes thou wearest. *a* 1677 BARROW *Serm.* (1810) II. 144 To condescend to such a misbeseeming employment..as the washing of his disciple's feet.

Misbestow·, *v.* [MIS-[1] 1.] *trans.* To bestow wrongly or improperly.

1532 MORE *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 355/2 To bestowe his witte..about some better busines then Tindall missbestoweth it now. 1583 GOLDING *Calvin on Deut.* XXXV. 206 If yee complayne of that time as though it were misbestowed. 1641 MILTON *Animadv.* iv. 65 The misbestowed wealth which they were cheated of. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1811) IV. vii. 40 All his compliments are misbestowed. 1815 SOUTHEY *Roderick* XXIV. 247 Oh, for a month Of that waste life which millions misbestow. 1841 FR. A. KEMBLE *Rec. Later Life* (1882) II. 148 This is the way that fool Fortune misbestows her favours.

So **Misbestow·al,** wrong bestowal.

a 1866 J. GROTE *Moral Ideas* (1876) 133 The misbestowal of love..does of course no much harm.

†**Misbethi·nk,** *v. Obs.* [MIS-[1] 1.] *refl.* and *pass.* To think amiss: **a.** to be mistaken; **b.** to have wrong thoughts.

c 1275 in *O. E. Misc.* 45 Peter þo onswerede..Neuer er ich hyne ne yseyh þu ert mys-by-þouht. 13.. *Sir Beues* (A.) 55 Þe leuedi hire mis-be-þouȝte And meche aȝen þe riȝt ȝhe wrouȝte. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 5825 He þe gat.., Thar-for ert þow mys-byþoȝte, To procury hym to slee.

†**Misbeti·de,** *v. Obs.* [MIS-[1] 1.] *impers.* and *intr.* = MISBEFALL 1, 2.

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 11833 Y trowe þei schul ȝit mis-bytide ffor þer couetise & þer pryde. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 6734 Alas, that euere him mys-be-tid! *c* 1430 *Syr Gener.* (Roxb.) 5480 If his help be my guyde, Neuer shal I misbetid.

Misbeyete: see MISBEGET *ppl. a.*

†**Misbihe·de,** *v. Obs.* [MIS-[1] 1.] *pass.* To be misguided.

13.. *Childh. Jesus* 438 Þo speken þis maistres gret: Josep, þou art mis bi hed.

Misbi·rth. *rare.* [MIS-[1] 4. Cf. OE. *misbyrd*.] = ABORTION.

1648-60 HEXHAM, *Een Misbaert*,..A Misbirth,..or an Abortive. 1833 CARLYLE *Misc. Ess., Cagliostro* (1888) V. 83 The everlasting Pit had opened itself and from its still blacker bosom had issued..all manner of shapeless misbirths. 1887 W. STOKES tr. *Tripartite Life Patrick* (Rolls) 207 No children save mis-births used to be born to Carthenn.

†**Misbo·de,** *sb. Obs.* [Representing OE. **misbod,* corresp. to *misbódan* MISBEDE: cf. BODE *sb.*2] Wrong, offence.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 79 He..þe ne þoleð and forbereð noht a misbode. *c* 1205 LAY. 11095 Al Rome he fordude þurh his muchele misbode. 1613 R. CAWDREY *Table Alph., Misbode,* wrong. [Hence in later Dicts.]

Misbo·de, *v. rare*−1. [MIS-1 1.] *trans.* To forebode (something evil).

1626 in *Cosin's Corr.* (Surtees) I. 89 My only desire to be with you .. is to knowe what you must not or dare not write, for I misbode some great matter.

So **Misbo·ding** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

a 1659 BP. BROWNRIG *Serm.* (1674) I. ii. 33 [He] forbids four sorts of Characters to be set upon a Signet, as misboding Characters. 1739 LILLO *Arden of Feversham* v, Her misboding sorrow for his absence Has almost made her frantic. 1819 LINGARD *Hist. Eng.* II. xii. 69 With a misboding heart he obeyed the summons. 1825 *Ibid.* VI. iv. 239 The misbodings of fanaticism.

Misboden, pa. pple. of MISBEDE.

Misborn (misbō·ɪn), *ppl. a.* ? *Obs.* [MIS-1 2.] 1. Prematurely born; abortive. Hence, deformed or mis-shapen from birth.

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 228 Gif cild misboren sy. *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* 34 3if hit is misborn..& wont eni of his limen. 1382 WYCLIF 1 *Cor.* xv. 8 At the laste of alle, he was seyn and to me, as to a mysborn child [Vulg. *tamquam abortivo*]. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 192 A povere child .. in the name Of tbilke which is so misbore We toke. 1496 *Dives & Pauper* (W. de W.) VI. iii. 234/1 They that be mysborn moost comonly they haue an harde ende. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 172/35 Mysborne, *obortiuus* [sic]. 1600 SURFLET *Countrie Farme* VII. xi. 817 It must either be transplanted, or else it woulde proone out of course like a misborne thing. 1605 CAMDEN *Rem., Languages* 19 That which the Latines call *Abortus,*..they [the Anglo-Saxons] called Miss-borne.

2. Born of unlawful union; hence, base-born.

1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. vi. 42 Ah! misborn Elfe, In evill houre thy foes thee hither sent. 1624 BP. MOUNTAGU *Gagg* 204 Thou Lyer, and misborne Elfe of the Father of lies. *a* 1641 — *Acts & Mon.* (1642) 535 The mis-begotten, and mis-born changeling of an heretic all father. 1718 MOTTEUX *Quix.* (1733) I. 108 He wou'd not be allow'd to be a lawful Knight; but a Mis-born Intruder.

†**Misbrey·de.** *Obs.* Also **-brayde.** [f. MIS-1 4 + *breyde,* BRAID *sb.* Cf. OE. *misbróden* 'distortum', pa. pple. of **misbregdan* (see BRAID *v.*1), also ON. *misbrigði* trespass.] Offence, misdeed.

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 3492 3yf a man haue mysdo or seyde, And men hym blame for þat mysbreyde. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 1037 Maugree haue þou..for þy foul mysbrayde.

Misca·lculate, *v.* [MIS-1 1.] *trans.* To calculate, compute, or reckon wrongly.

1705 ARBUTHNOT *Coins,* etc. (1727) 112 There may be in such a multitude of passages, several misquoted, misinterpreted, and miscalculated. 1788 BURNS *Let.* 17 Dec., You miscalculate matters widely, when you forbid my waiting on you, lest it should hurt my worldly concerns. 1836 THIRLWALL *Greece* II. xii. 155 They probably miscalculated the effects of the public success. 1878 BOSW. SMITH *Carthage* 194 Or was it that Hannibal miscalculated the distance..of the route which he chose?

b. *absol.* or *intr.*

1697 COLLIER *Ess. Mor. Subj.* II. (1709) 39 To look for so obliging a World as this comes to, is to miscalculate extremely. 1840 MACAULAY *Ess., Clive* (1854) 531/2 The conspirators found that they had miscalculated. 1895 *Atlantic Monthly* LXXVI. 68 They had evidently miscalculated about my departure.

Hence **Misca·lculating** *ppl. a.*

1851 I. TAYLOR *Wesley & Methodism* 205 An ill-judging weakness, a miscalculating caution.

Mi·scalcula·tion. [MIS-1 4.] Wrong or faulty calculation or reckoning.

1720 *Biblioth. Bibl.* I. 73 Their want of Intercalations, and their miscalculations of Eclipses. 1858 J. MARTINEAU *Stud. Christ.* 320 The miscalculation of one age is checked by that of a succeeding; opposite errors cancel each other. 1903 MORLEY *Life Gladstone* III. VIII. ix. 146 Events show this to have been the capital miscalculation.

Misca·lculator. [MIS-1 5.] One who makes miscalculations.

1873 HAMERTON *Intell. Life* IV. ii. 153 Let us not think too contemptuously of the miscalculators of time.

Miscall (misɪkɔ̄·l), *v.* Also 8 **miscal.** [MIS-1 1.] 1. *trans.* To call by a wrong name; to give a wrong name to; to misname. Often with *compl.*

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XIX. CXXVIII. (1495) 936 A vessell wyth fowre fete is myscallyd Trisilis. 1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II,* I. iii. 263 *Gau.* Call it a trauell that thou tak'st for pleasure. *Bul.* My heart will sigh, when I miscall it so, Which findes it an inforced Pilgrimage. 1650 J. HALL *Paradoxes* 49 Suppose you miscall happinesse content. 1697 T. BROWN *Dispensary* II. Wks. 1709 III. II. 80 Lest I should mis-call you, and not give you your right Title. 1742 RICHARDSON *Pamela* III. 185 That violent Passion which we mad young Fellows are apt to miscal Love. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* I. 216 The Partridge of New England is the Pheasant of Pennsylvania, but is mis-called in both places. 1812 H. & J. SMITH *Rej. Addr., Theatre* 14 No room for standing, miscall'd standing room. 1822 T. L. PEACOCK *Maid Marian* xii. 165 No one shall miscall a forester. He who calls Robin Robert of Huntingdon..or..Marian Matilda Fitzwater [etc.]. *a* 1853 ROBERTSON *Lect. & Addr.* ii. (1858) 59 One of those miserable publications miscalled religious. 1886 GURNEY, etc. *Phantasms of Living* II. 2 His ..explanation..depended on his miscalling his experience, and referring it to the class of dreams.

b. To misread, mispronounce. *dial.*

1853 CADENHEAD *Bon Accord* 205 (E.D.D.) Woe to the loun that a word wad misca'. 1866 GREGOR *Banffsh. Gloss., Misca'* ..(2) To read imperfectly. 1881 MISS YONGE *Lads & Lasses Langley* iv. 146 He no sooner opened his mouth to read than half-a-dozen hands were held out, in token that he had miscalled a word.

2. To call by a bad name; to call (a person) names; to revile, abuse, malign. Now *dial.*

c 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* v. xv. 563 Thei not oonli scornen it [*sc.* the sacrament of the altar], but thei haaten it, mys callen it bi foule names. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* IV. viii. 24 Whom she [*sc.* Slander] with leasings lewdly did miscall And wickedly backbite. 1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 124 They deserved to be..punished, for so miscalling and reviling him. 1643 SIR T. BROWNE *Relig. Med.* (1656) II. § 4 By opprobrious Epithets we miscall each other. 1725 RAMSAY *Gentle Sheph.* I. i, She..Misca'd me first, then bade me hound my dog. 1789 BURNS *Capt. Grose's Peregr.* x, Whae'er o' thee shall ill suppose, They sair misca' thee. 1866 READE *G. Gaunt* (ed. 2) II. xvi. 313, I can't bear any man on earth to miscall her but myself. 1872 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* 6/2 Here's Kathleen and Susy been miscallin' me dreadful.

Hence **Misca·lling** *vbl. sb.* Also **Misca·ller.**

1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* IV. iv. § 9 Miscalling of any of those Ideas..hinders not, but that we may have certain.. Knowledge of their several Agreements and Disagreements. 1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* xii, A' the slights and taunts that hurt ane's spirit mair nor downright misca'ing. 1866 GREGOR *Banffsh. Gloss., Misca'er,* one who reads imperfectly; as, 'He's an unco' misca'er fin he reads'. 1884 A. A. PUTNAM 10 *Yrs. Police Judge* xvii. 171 The miscalled threw a clothes-pin and hit the miscaller somewhere.

Misca·lled, *ppl. a.* [MIS-1 2.] Wrongly named.

1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) III. 169 In those cases of miscalled cataracts. 1838 DICKENS *Nich. Nick.* vi, Let miscalled philosophers tell us what they will. 1904 *Q. Rev.* Oct. 467 The hyraces—the miscalled coneys of Scripture.

Miscanter (miskɑ·ntəɪ). *north. dial.* [var. of MISAUNTER, of obscure origin; cf. MISHANTER.] Misadventure, mishap.

1781 HUTTON *Tour to Caves* Gloss. (E.D.S.), *Miscanter,* a misadventure. 1808 J. STAGG *Apparition* vii. (1808) 75 Oft by miscanter this way led, The nighted traveller's seen, A frightful ghaist. 1869 *Lonsdale Gloss., Miscanter,* misadventure. 1878 *Cumbld. Gloss., Miscanter,* ..a defeat, mishap.

†**Misca·pe,** *v. Obs.* [app. f. MIS-1 1 + SCAPE *v.*] 1. *intr.* To have a mishap, come to grief.

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. x. 283 (MS. Rawl.) Archa dei meskapud and ely brak his nekke. 1477 NORTON *Ord. Alch.* iv. in Ashm. (1652) 49 Use one manner of Vessell in Matter and in Shape, Beware of Commixtion that nothing miscape [*several Ashm. MSS. have* mishappe].

2. *trans.* To escape (a person) sinfully.

a 1535 FISHER *Spirit. Consol.* Wks. (1876) 359 Many deeds, words, and thoughtes, miscaped me in my lyfe.

Miscarriage (misɪkæ·rédʒ). [MIS-1 4.]

†1. Misconduct, misbehaviour. *Obs.*

1618 SIR H. MOUNTAGU in *Buccleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 253, I have received..the note that imports the miscarriage of the new Justice of Peace. It was very insolent, if the information be true. 1645 in *Essex* (Mass.) *Antiquarian* (1904) VIII. 6 Wife of Mr. Samuel Hall fined for miscarriage in words against the constable of Salsbery. 1682 WOOD *Life* 17 June (O.H.S.) III. 22 The chancellor's letters for regulating the rudeness and miscarriag of the Masters in Convocation.

†b. An instance of this; an error of conduct; a misdemeanour, misdeed. *Obs.*

1635 BP. HALL *Char. Man* 34 Miscariages of children, miscasualties, unquietnesse [etc.]. 1647 TRAPP *Comm. Jas.* ii. 7 A sad thing that a Heathen should see such hellish miscarriages among Christs followers. 1649 ROBERTS *Clavis Bibl.* 337 His [*sc.* Job's]..irreverent miscarriages against God under his afflictions. 1710 NORRIS *Chr. Prud.* vi. 288 As to the personal Miscarriages of the Minister, our prudent Christian will not for these disesteem his Office. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* VIII. xi, The miscarriages of my former life. 1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1792) III. 232 Many miscarriages and woful defaults are recorded of Saul, as a man, yet, as a king, he was held perfect in the eyes of the people. 1829 SCOTT *Rob Roy* Introd. (1865) 495/1 [They] conducted themselves with such loyalty..to his Majesty, as might justly wipe off all memory of former miscarriages.

2. (A person's) mismanagement or maladministration (of a business); ill-success, failure (of an enterprise, etc.). Now *rare.*

1651–2 SIR E. NICHOLAS in *N. Papers* (Camden) I. 286 The miscarriage of the business in the Downs was not inferior to any treason that I have heard of. 1674 *Baker's Chron.* (an. 1625) 453/2 He excused himself, laying a great part of the miscarriage on the stubbornness of the Earl of Essex. 1706 DE FOE *Jure Divino* p. v, Some People, who are too apt to make Misconstruction, watch for my Miscarriage. *a* 1715 BURNET *Own Time* (1724) I. 251 He did not wonder at the miscarriage of the late King's counsels. 1800 *Chron.* in *Asiat. Ann. Reg.* III. 113/2 The sagacious and intrepid commander, to whom success and miscarriage..are now alike indifferent. 1807 VANCOUVER *Agric. Devon* (1813) 431 The miscarriage of one crop only..would..involve him in ruin.

b. An instance of this; a failure; a blunder, mistake. Now *rare* exc. as in e.

1614 R. BAILLIE *Satan* 3 When a hard piece of worke is put in the hand of an Apprentice for the first assay of his skill, the beholders are justly afraid for a miscarriage in his young and inexperienced hand. 1650 [see CARRIAGE 10]. 1667–8 MARVELL *Corr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 234 That the division of the Fleet was a miscarriage. 1714 GARTH *Dispens.* V. (ed. 7) 61 Your Cures..aloud you tell, But wisely your Miscarriages conceal. 1824 TRAVERS *Dis. Eye* (ed. 3) 338, I have now adverted to the principal miscarriages of the operation. 1834 MACAULAY *Ess., Pitt* (1850) 300/2 An inquiry into the circumstance which had produced the miscarriage of the preceding year.

†c. Mishap, disaster. *Obs.*

1725 DE FOE *Voy. round World* (1840) 46 If I should meet with any..miscarriage in the voyage. 1776 JOHNSON *Let. Mrs. Thrale* 1 Apr., His wife died at last, and before she was buried he was seized by a fever, and is now going to the grave. Such miscarriages..fill histories and tragedies.

†d. An unfortunate lapse (*into*). *Obs.*

1754 H. WALPOLE *Lett.* (1846) III. 76 The chimney-pieces, except one little miscarriage into total Ionic..are all of a good King James the First Gothic.

e. *Miscarriage of justice*: a failure of a court to attain the ends of justice.

1875 *Act* 38–9 *Vict.* c. 77 Order xxxix, Unless in the opinion of the Court..some substantial wrong or miscarriage has been..occasioned in the trial of the action. 1878 PEEK in *Contemp. Rev.* XXXII. 105 In cases where the defendant is poor or ill-defended, there is often positive miscarriage of justice. 1882 SERJT. BALLANTINE *Exper.* vi. 160 In both.., through no fault of the judge, there was a miscarriage of justice. 1891 *Daily News* 5 Feb. 7/1 It was submitted.. to their lordships that there had been a miscarriage, and that the order of reference should be revoked.

3. Untimely delivery (of a woman): usually taken as synonymous with *abortion* = expulsion of the fœtus before the twenty-eighth week of pregnancy.

Some pathologists have sought to establish a distinction between *abortion* and *miscarriage* (see quot. 1822), but this is not generally recognized.

1662 GRAUNT *Bills Mort.* v. 38 Miscarriages and Abortions. 1710–11 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 15 Feb., I dined at Sir John Germain's, and found lady Betty but just recovered of a miscarriage. 1754–64 SMELLIE *Midwif.* II. 67 She had eight children, besides two miscarriages. 1822 GOOD *Study Med.* IV. 176 If the exclusion [of the fœtus] take place within six weeks after conception, it is usually called Miscarriage; if between six weeks and six months, Abortion; if during any part of the last three months before the completion of the natural term, Premature Labour.

fig. 1688 CROWNE *Darius* II. Dram. Wks. (1874) III. 398 They who poorly fell Were embrios, and miscarriages of war.

4. The failure (of a letter, etc.) to reach its destination.

1650 LD. BEAUCHAMP in *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) I. 179, I have been very unfortunate in the miscarryage of your former addresses. 1670 BLOUNT *Law Dict.* s.v. *Duplicat,* A second Letter written and sent to the same party and purpose, as a former, for fear of a miscarriage of the first,..is called a *Duplicat.* 1877 RAYMOND *Statist. Mines & Mining* 172 The miscarriage of a paper by Mr. Alexander Trippel prevents me from presenting..some further notes. 1893 W. M. THOMAS *Lett. Lady M. W. Montagu* II. Contents p. vi, Miscarriage of letters.

5. Failure to carry or convey properly.

1862 'SHIRLEY' (J. Skelton) *Nugæ Crit.* iv. 195 Public carriers must carry the public safely, or take the consequences; and neither a voluntary, nor an extorted consent, will relieve them from the legal results of mis-carriage.

†**Misca·rriageable,** *a. Obs. rare*−1. [f. prec. + -ABLE.] Liable to be led astray.

a 1656 BP. HALL *Rem. Wks.* (1660) 418 Why should we be more mis-carriageable by such possibilities..than others?

†**Misca·rried,** *ppl. a. Obs.* [f. MISCARRY *v.* + -ED 1.] Gone astray.

1656 SIR R. BROWNE in *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) III. 285 The subject of that my miscarried letter..was that [etc.].

†**Misca·rrier.** *Obs. rare*−1. [f. next + -ER 1.] A seducer, beguiler. (See MISCARRY *v.* 7.)

1596 NORDEN *Progr. Pietie* (1847) 172 Turning our hearts from our Maker, we become one in consent with our miscarrier.

Miscarry (misɪkæ·ri), *v.* [MIS-1 1. Cf. OF. *meskarier* to go from the right path.]

†1. *intr.* To come to harm, misfortune, or destruction; to perish; (of a person) to meet with one's death; (of an inanimate object, e.g. a ship) to be lost or destroyed. *Obs.*

a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* XXXVI. 23 Bot weriand til him sal myskary [Vulg. *maledicentes autem ei disperibunt*]. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 515 He .. dwelte at hoom, and kepte wel his folde, So that the wolf ne made it nat miscarie. 1444 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 114/1 So that there myght neither Clusters of Grapes, ne hole Grapes..entre .. into the Vessels..yat myght cause yat Wyne after that to reboille or myscare. 1447 BOKENHAM *Seyntys* (Roxb.) 142 And that noon bous where were hyr passyonarye Wyth feer ner lyhtnyng shuld never myskarye. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 12 b, Not one of them all miscaryed, but were all safe and sounde. *c* 1550 R. BIESTON *Bayte Fortune* B iv, But yet he must regarde, for drede his welth miscary. 1586 J. HOOKER *Hist. Irel.* in *Holinshed* II. 92/1 In this conflict, Patrike Fitzsimons, with diuerse other good housholders, miscaried. 1601 R. JOHNSON *Kingd. & Commw.* (1603) 63 The great ships bringing corne from Siria and Egipt ..doe seldome miscarrie. *a* 1604 HANMER *Chron. Irel.* (1809) 371 [He] shortly after miscarried at Athlone, by the fall of a Turret. 1668 SIR W. TEMPLE *Let. to King* Wks. 1731 II. 58 If we had miscarried, your Majesty had lost an honest diligent Captain and sixteen poor Seamen. 1737 [S. BERINGTON] *G. di Lucca's Mem.* (1738) 126 He left the Government .. of all to his eldest Son in case he should miscarry. 1749 R. JAMES *Diss. Fevers* (ed. 2) 3 Many Patients miscarry even under this Treatment, perhaps more than recover.

†b. *pass.* in the same sense. *Obs.*

1387–8 T. USK *Test. Love* II. iv. (Skeat) I. 106, I had routhe to sene thee miscaried. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* XII. iv. 599, I am sore ashamed that I haue ben thus myscaryed, for I am hannysshed oute of the Countrey of Logrys for euer. 1565 *Act* 8 *Eliz.* c. 13 § 1 Divers Shyppes..have by the lacke of suche Markes of late yeres ben myscaried peryshed and lost in the Sea. 1605 SHAKS. *Lear* V. i. 5 Our Sisters man is certainely miscarried. 1654–66 EARL ORRERY *Parthen.* (1676) 581 Learning that his first Ambassadors..were miscarried, he employed others.

†2. *intr.* and *refl.* To go wrong or astray; to behave amiss, do wrong; to misbehave. *Obs.*

c 1325 *Metr. Hom.* 112 Lat thou noht this child miscarye.

138, Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* III. 38 Þous þat it myskarie whanne it comeþ to age, þe childheed þei moun save. 155. Lyndesay *Interl. Auld Man & Wife* 57 Maister, quhairto sowld I my self miskary, Quhair I, as preistis, may swyve and nevir mary? 1632 Lithgow *Trav.* VIII. 348 [They] may not marry, and yet may mis-carry themselues in all abhominations. 1649 Roberts *Clavis Bibl.* 368 Solomon more miscarrying in that [*sc.* prosperity] then Job in this [*sc.* adversity]. 1732 Berkeley *Alciphr.* II. § 20 Wks. 1871 II. 92 Crates..having had a son miscarry at London, by the conversation of a minute philosopher.

3. *intr.* Of a person: To fail in one's purpose or object; to be unsuccessful.

1612 T. Taylor *Comm. Titus* ii. 12 Many men are crossed and miscarrie in their outward estate, because they are vngodly persons. 1642 Fuller *Holy & Prof. St.* IV. iii. 252 Here Wolsey miscarried in the Masterpiece of his policy. 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 35 ¶ 1 Among all kinds of Writing, there is none in which Authors are more apt to miscarry than in Works of Humour. 1815 W. H. Ireland *Scribbleomania* 261 Good luck; without which..it is odds but he miscarries in his suit. 1841-4 Emerson *Ess., Self-Reliance* Wks. (Bohn) I. 32 If our young men miscarry in their first enterprises, they lose all heart. 1875 Maine *Hist. Inst.* ix. 256 If you sue for a bull, you will miscarry if you describe him as a bull.

b. const. *of.*

1781 Cowper *Conv.* 372 We dare not risk them [*sc.* our talents] into public view, Lest they miscarry of what seems their due. 1832 A.W. Fonblanque *Eng. under* 7 *Administr.* (1837) II. 259 He has..pitiably miscarried of his object.

4. Of a business, design, etc.: To go wrong; to come to nought; to be a failure; to prove unsuccessful or abortive. † Also *pass.*

1607 Shaks. *Cor.* I. i. 270 What miscarries Shall be the Generals fault. 1639 Fuller *Holy War* II. xlv. (1840) 112 When a great action miscarrieth, the blame must be laid on some. 1654 Marq. Ormonde in *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) II. 142 It is ordinary when a busines is miscaryed to blame the ways taken to effect it. 1726 Swift *Gulliver* IV. vii, If they find their Project hath miscarried, they return Home. 1827 Hallam *Const. Hist.* iv. (1876) I. 212 A similar proposition in the session of 1601 seems to have miscarried in the Commons. 1893 J. Strong *New Era* 252 Motive miscarries if method is wrong.

† b. Of plants, seeds, etc.: To be abortive or unproductive; to fail. Also *transf. Obs.*

1588 Shaks. *L. L. L.* IV. i. 114 My Lady goes to kill hornes, but if thou marrie, Hang me by the necke, if hornes that yeare miscarrie. *a* 1682 Sir T. Browne *Tracts* (1683) 77 [A plant] not subject to miscarry in Flowers and Blossomes. 1707 Mortimer *Husb.* (1721) II. 124 The worst Enemies to this Plant are a sort of Flea that fastens upon its Shoots, and makes it miscarry. 1740 Tull *Horse-Hoeing Husb.* 254 In other Parts of the same Fields, where a much less Number of Seeds had miscarried, the Crop was less.

5. To be delivered prematurely *of* a child; to have a miscarriage. († In first quot. *passive.*)

1527 Andrew *Brunswyke's Distyll. Waters* C iij b, Women whiche he myscaryd of the mydwyfe in the byrthe of her chylde. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 113 b, She had dyverse tymes mis-caried of chylde. 1662 Graunt *Bills Mort.* v. 37 The Question is, Whether Teeming-women died, or fled, or miscarried? *a* 1715 Burnet *Own Time* (1766) I. 244 She had once miscarried of a child. 1786 J. Hunter *Treat. Ven. Dis.* (1810) VI. II. i. 433 The mother..miscarried of her third child at the end of five months. 1822-34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) IV. 171 The case of a lady..who had miscarried of a fetus under three months old.

fig. 1712 Pope *Let. to J. C.* 5 Dec., Wks. (1737) 89 You have prov'd your self more tender of another's embryo's, than the fondest mothers are of their own, for you have preserv'd every thing that I miscarry'd of. 1805 Moore *To Lady H*— viii, And some lay-in of full-grown wit, While others of a pun miscarried.

† b. Said of the child. *Obs.*

1597 Shaks. 2 *Hen. IV*, v. iv. 10 If the Child I now go with, do miscarrie, *Ibid.* 15 But I would the Fruite of her Wombe might miscarry.

6. *intr.* Of a letter, etc.: To fail to reach its proper destination; to get into wrong hands.

1613 Shaks. *Hen. VIII*, III. ii. 30 The Cardinals Letters to the Pope miscarried, And came to th'eye o' th' King. 1710 Swift *Jrnl. to Stella* 26 Sept., My penny-post letter, I suppose, miscarried: I will write another. *a* 1839 Praed *Poems* (1864) II. 10 Has the last pipe of hock miscarried? 1842 Borrow *Bible in Spain* XXXV, I supposed..that my letter had miscarried. 1866 Crump *Banking* v. 101 If a bill miscarry—unless payable to 'bearer'—the unlawful possessor can neither acquire nor convey any title thereto.

b. *pass.* in the same sense. ? *Obs.*

1665 J. Strype in *Lett. Lit. Men* (Camden) 183, I..think my Tuesday letter was miscarried, because no Answer to it. 1786 Jefferson *Writ.* (1859) II. 16 If my letter of advice is miscarried.

† **7.** *trans.* To cause (a person) to go wrong; to lead astray; to mislead, delude, seduce. *Obs.*

c 1450 *Cast. Persev.* 2348 in *Macro Plays* (1904) 147 Whoso wyl schryuyn hym of bis synnys all, he puttyth þis brethel to mykyl myschefe, Mankynde he þat myskaryed. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* II. xi. 107 Than wod for wo, so was I quyte miscareit, That noder god nor man I left wnwareit [*Quem non incusavi amens hominumque deorumque?*] 1562 A. Scott *Poems* (S.T.S.) i. 75 It maid na mis quhat madinnis þai miscareit. 1580 A. Fleming in Baret *Alv.* A aaa j, Manie words of like spelling, and..different in signification, may miscarrie young beginners. 1596 Spenser *State Irel.* Wks. (Globe) 623/1 The judges, whoe are men and may be miscarryed by affections, and many other meanes. 1611 Speed *Hist. Gt. Brit.* IX. vii. 476/1 Impotent passions carrying him, and miscarrying him. 1633 Bp. Hall *Hard Texts O.T.* 121 He was not miscarried into any..enormous crime. 1650 Trapp *Comm. Num.* XX. 11 The best may be mis-carried by their passions. ? *a* 1700 *Bonny Lixie Baillie* xi. in Child *Ballads* IV. 267 O bonny Duncan Grahame, Why should ye me miscarry?

† **8.** In physical sense: To carry to destruction.

1632 Lithgow *Trav.* VI. 262 If any of them had missed [his footing], his sliding downe had miscarried them both ouer the Rocke.

Hence **Misca·rrying** *ppl. a.*

1611 Bible *Hosea* IX. 14 Giue them a miscarying wombe, and drie breasts. 1637 Rutherford *Lett.* (1664) XC. 184 Such are the rovings of our miscarrying hearts. *Ibid.* CXXXV. 263 What is the dry and miscarrying hope of all them who are not in Christ, but confusion and wind?

Misca·rrying, *vbl. sb.* [-ING 1.] The action of the vb. Miscarry; miscarriage.

1568 *Jacob & Esau* V. ix, O Lorde saue thou my sonne from miscarying. 1658-9 in *Thurloe St. Papers* VII. 627 *note*, The miscarryinge of a packitt. 1736 Butler *Anal.* I. iv, These things..imply temptation, and danger of miscarrying,..with respect to our worldly..happiness. 1822-34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) IV. 132 Women who are in the habit of miscarrying.

† **Misca·se.** *Obs.* [f. Mis- 1 4 + Case *sb.*1 (sense 1).] Misfortune, mishap.

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 10047 Þe meste miscas com to him sulf attelaste Vor he vel of is palefrey & brec is fot bi cas. *a* 1400 *Isumbras* 784 And coverde he hase alle bis myscas, He lyffes nowe fulle richely. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 416 Yf hit so happened..that the forsaid houses..were I-brent thurgh ony mysse-case.

† **Misca·st,** *sb. Obs.* [Mis- 1 4.] Miscalculation.

1599 Sandys *Europæ Spec.* (1632) 210 That their private ambitions, feares and miscasts did drive them to make so abiect..a choyce.

Misca·st, *v. Obs.* exc. *dial.* [Mis- 1 1.]

1. *trans.* To cast with evil intent.

1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 283 If it so befelle That I..sihe On me that sche miscaste bire yhe, Or that sche liste noght to loke.

2. To miscalculate, misreckon. Also *absol.*

1598 Sylvester *Du Bartas* I. i. 416 You have mis-cast in your Arithmetick. 1614 Raleigh *Hist. World* V. ii. § 8. 604 The number is somewhat misse-cast by Polybius ..he reckons nine hundred horse too many. 1633 Earl Manch. *Al Mondo* (1636) 107 In reckoning of time most men miscast it. 1677 *Conn. Col. Rec.* (1852) II. 308 This Court findeing that the List of Stoneington was in the last year miscast three hundred and twenty one pownd. 1876 Robinson *Whitby Gloss., Miskest*, to err in casting up accounts. 'All miskessen together'.

3. To mislay.

1600 Holland *Livy* 1234 How all these complete bookes of T. Livius should miscarrie, it is not certenly knowne. Some hope there is, that they are but mis-cast and laid out of the way.

Misca·sting, *vbl. sb.* [Mis- 1 3.]

1. Miscalculation; in mod. use, technically, wrong addition (of accounts).

1542-3 *Act* 34 & 35 *Hen. VIII*, c. 21 For misrecytall or nonrecytall of Leases..or for lacke of the certentie myscasting rating or setting foorthe of the yerelie values..of the Premisses. 1621 Molle *Camerar. Liv. Libr.* III. i. 149 When there is a miscasting in the beginning of an account. 1692 Washington tr. *Milton's Def. People Eng.* M.'s Wks. 1738 I. 516 Ballance your Accounts, and you will find that by miscasting, you have lost your Principal. 1797 Tomlins *Jacob's Law Dict.*, Miscasting or Miscomputing. 1887 *Daily News* 4 Mar. 7/3 A miscasting of the books in one instance was over 3,000*l.*

2. Bad casting (of metal)

1901 *N. & Q.* Ser. IX. VIII. 430/2 The difficulty arises from the bell-founder's miscasting.

Misca·sualty. *Obs.* or *dial.* [Mis- 1 4.] Mischance, mishap.

1588 J. Harvey *Disc. Probl.* 18 They..imputed the mishap, or miscasualtie unto the multitude of their owne transgressions. 1604 Edmonds *Observ. Cæsar's Comm.* 95 Men haue two wayes to come by wisdome, either by their owne harmes, or by other mens miscasualties. *a* 1639 Wotton in *Reliq.* (1685) 683 A Souldier, filling his Flask out of a Barrel of Powder, set by Miscasualty both on fire. *a* 1825 Forby *Voc. E. Anglia* (1830), *Miscasualty*, an unlucky accident.

Miscegenation (mi:sɨdʒɨnēi·ʃən). [irreg. f. L. *miscē-re* to mix + *gen-us* race + -ation.] Mixture of races; *esp.* the sexual union of whites with negroes.

1864 (*title*) Miscegenation: The Theory of the Blending of the Races, applied to the American White Man and Negro. Reprinted from the New York Edition. 1878 Stanley *Dark Cont.* I. 44 By this process of miscegenation, the Arabs are already rapidly losing their rich colour. 1889 *Boston* (Mass.) *Jrnl.* 27 Feb. 4/4 Miscegenation in Kentucky..The penalty for miscegenation is three years' imprisonment. 1902 *Pilot* 27 Dec. 540/2 The danger of 'miscegenation'..ought to warn us against introducing Oriental settlers into South Africa. *fig.* 1865 E. Burritt *Walk to Land's End* 64 It is an ..effort to engraft Christian ideas upon the heathen stock of Grecian mythology...In beautiful..contrast with this ostentatious group of Christian and pagan miscegenation is [etc.]. 1884 J. Hawthorne *N. Hawthorne & Wife* II. 178 The lower regions of palaces come to strange uses in Rome; a cobbler or a tinker perhaps exercises his craft under the archway; a work-shop may be established in one of the apartments; and similar miscegenations.

So (mostly nonce-wds.) **Mi·scegenate** *sb.* [see -ate 2 3], the issue of a union between people of different races; **Mi·scegenate** *v.*, to produce miscegenation; **Mi·scegenated** *ppl. a.*, produced by miscegenation; **Miscege·nesis** (in quot. misci-) = Miscegenation; **Miscegene·tic** *a.*, pertaining to or involving miscegenation; **Mi·scegenationist, Mi·scegenator, Misce·genist,** one who favours miscegenation; also, one who contracts a union with one of another race. Also **Mi·scegen** [back-formation] = *miscegenate.*

1864 [Croly, etc.] *Miscegenation* 7 To *miscegenate*; i.e. to mingle persons of different races. *Ibid.* ii. 19 The Grigquas, or Griqua Hottentots, are a miscegenated race. *Ibid.* v. 28 A miscegenetic community. *Ibid.* vii. 34 The purest miscegen will be brown, with reddish cheeks. 1865 *Reader* 20 May 561/2 (art. Emancipation), There are philogynists as fanatical as any 'miscegenists'. 1872 Schele de Vere *Americanisms* 289 A Miscegenationist, named Williams, was tarred and feathered, and dumped into the river at Grenada, Mississippi. 1880 Winchell *Preadamites* vi. 81 The policy of North American miscigenesis, which has been recommended..as an..expedient for obviating race-collisions. 1881 Sala *Amer. Revis.* 316 Two such 'Miscegenators' have been hanged by the mob in Virginia. 1898 C. F. Adams *Imperialism* 10 It has saved the Anglo-Saxon stock from being a nation of half-breeds—miscegenates.

Miscelane, -lin, -ling, obs. forms of Maslin 2.

Miscelden, -din, obs. forms of Mistletoe.

† **Miscellana·rian.** *Obs.* [f. Miscellany + -arian.] A writer of miscellanies.

1711 Shaftesb. *Charac.* (1737) III. Misc. I. i. 8, I..like my Fellow-Miscellanarians, shall take occasion to vary often from my proposed Subject. *Ibid.* 113.

† **Miscellane,** *a.* and *sb. Obs.* Also 7 -el(l)an, -elane, -illane. [ad. L. *miscellāneus* (see Miscellaneous); cf. *momentane.*]

A. *adj.* Mixed; miscellaneous; combining various elements. (Cf. Maslin 2 *attrib.*)

1603 Holland *Plutarch's Mor.* 131 Choler is a miscellane seed (as it were) and a dregge, made of all the passions of the mind. 1608 J. King *Serm.* 5 Nov. 32 A linsey wolsey, miscellan, medlyreligion. 1612 Brerewood *Lang. & Relig.* v. 39 Paulus Diaconus his miscellane history [*sc. Historia miscella*]. 1642 J. Eaton *Honey-c. Free Justif.* 139 These miscillane Christians never knew what an horrible thing the least motion of sin is in the sight of God. [Cf. B. quot. 1642.] 1658 W. Burton *Itin. Antonin.* 62 One [colony]..drawn out from among the gowned Citizens, as well as the miscellane sort of people.

B. *sb.* A mixture, medley, miscellany. (Cf. Maslin 2.)

1600 Bp. W. Barlow *Serm.* (1601) D 5 b, The miscellan of all nations. 1626 Bacon *Sylva* § 670 It is thought to be of vse, to make some Miscellane in Corne. 1642 J. Eaton *Honey-c. Free Justif.* 137 [They] preach neither true law nor true Gospel, but a miscillane and marring of both. 1664 J. Wilson *A. Commenius* v. iv, Some have call'd life a Stage-play..; Others agen, a miscelane of years, Or Chequer-work of hopes, and fears.

‖ **Miscellanea** (misĕlē·nɪ,ă). [neut. pl. of L. *miscellāneus* (see Miscellaneous): in Latin used for 'hash of broken meat' and 'a writing on miscellaneous subjects'. Used also in Fr.] A collection of miscellaneous literary compositions; a literary medley or miscellany. Also, a miscellaneous collection of notes, or the like.

1571 Alley (*title*) The poore mans Librarie... Here are adioyned..certaine..annotations which may properly be called Miscellanea. 1653 Flecknoe (*title*) Miscellania, Or, Poems of all sorts, with divers other Pieces. 1690 Temple *Ess., Learning* Wks. 1731 I. 291 Upon the Miscellanea's first Printing in Paris, Monsieur Boileau made this short Satyr. 1710 Swift *Jrnl. to Stella* vi, [He] has written some mighty pretty things; that in your 6th *Miscellanea*, about the Sprig of an Orange, is his. 1784 *New Spect.* No. 6. 3, I..begin my miscellanea with a Private Anecdote. 1836 H. N. Coleridge *Lit. Rem. S. T. Coleridge* I. L'Envoy p. xiii, I should misinform you grossly if I left you to infer that his collections were a heap of incoherent *miscellanea.* 1897 J. W. Clark *Barnwell* Introd. 11 Miscellanea likely to be useful for reference.

† **Miscella·neal,** *a.* (*sb.*) *Obs.* [f. L. *miscellāneus* (see next) + -al.] Miscellaneous. Also *sb. pl.* = Miscellanea. So † **Miscella·nean** *a.*

1632 Guillim *Heraldry* I. vi. 38, I tooke occasion to peruse certaine Miscellanean notes of Seales. *a* 1633 W. Ames *Fresh Suit agst. Cerem.* II. 209 Concerning certayn miscelaneall notions and testimonies against..Ceremonies. 1654 Vilvain *Epit. Ess.* v, Miscellaneal Essais. The fifth ..Century of Miscellaneals. 1703 T. S. *Art's Impr.* p. xxvii, Miscelaneal Experiments and Observations.

Miscellaneous (misĕlē·nɪ,əs), *a.* [f. L. *miscellāne-us*, f. *miscellus* mixed (f. *miscēre* to mix): see -eous.]

1. With a sing. sb.: Consisting of members or elements of different kinds; of mixed composition or character. With a pl. sb.: Of various kinds.

1637 Saltonstall *Euseb. Const.* 53 The people being thus a long time divided betweene divers opinions, it produced a miscellanious confusion in Religion. 1671 Milton *P. R.* III. 50 A miscellaneous rabble, who extol Things vulgar. 1711 Shaftesb. *Charac.* (1737) III. Misc. I. i. 1 That Charitable and Courteous Author, who..introduc'd the ingenious way of Miscellaneous Writing. 1766 Goldsm. *Vic. W.* i, My second boy..received a sort of miscellaneous education at home. 1790 Burke *Fr. Rev.* Wks. 1808 V. 47 Dr. Richard Price..preached..a very extraordinary miscellaneous sermon. 1821 W. Irving *Life & Lett.* (1864) II. 49, I have been leading a 'miscellaneous' kind of life at Paris, if I may use a literary phrase. 1862 Stanley *Jew. Ch.* (1877) I. xvii. 322 In this miscellaneous assemblage were to be seen worshippers of the most various characters. 1899 Æ. J. G. Mackay *Lindesay's Chron. Scot.* (S. T. S.) I. p. lxxxvii, One of the miscellaneous volumes of the Wodrow Manuscripts.

† b. Mingled. *Obs.*

1698 W. Chilcot *Evil Th.* iv. (1851) 44 The miscellaneous horror and exultation of that dreadful day.

2. Of persons: Having various qualities or aspects; treating of various subjects; many-sided. † Also, general (as opposed to *technical*).

1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* I. viii. § 9. 32 [Athenæus] being miscellaneous in many things, he is to be received

with suspicion; for such as amasse all relations, must erre in some. 1711 SHAFTESB. *Charac.* (1737) III. Misc. I. i. 8 Nor ought the Title of a Miscellaneous Writer to be deny'd me, on the account that I have grounded my Miscellanys upon a certain Set of Treatises already publish'd. 1773 BURNEY *Mus. Germany*, etc. (1775) II. 305 As technical terms will be unavoidable in this description, I advise my miscellaneous readers to pass it over. 1831 WORDSW. *Prose Wks.* (1876) III. 313 A great theatrical writer, .. and miscellaneous to that degree, that there was something for all classes of readers. 1839 LONGF. *Hyperion* I. vi. Prose Wks. 1886 II. 45 The Baron of Hohenfels was rather a miscellaneous youth, rather a universal genius.

Hence **Miscellaneity** (misĕlănī·ĭti), miscellaneousness.

1905 *Daily Chron.* 13 Nov. 4/5 The miscellaneity of the Hellenic 'masses' thus enjoying the hospitality of the King.

Miscella·neously, *adv.* [-LY 2.] With variety or diversity; in various ways, on miscellaneous subjects, etc.

1751 EARL ORRERY *Remarks Swift* (1752) 41 He has written miscellaneously. 1850 *Tait's Mag.* XVII. 740/1 They are more miscellaneously clever, and can make themselves more 'generally useful'. 1905 *Q. Rev.* Jan. 42 He collected miscellaneously, and in all probability .. indiscriminately.

Miscella·neousness. [-NESS.] Miscellaneous quality, character, or condition.

1727 BAILEY vol. II, *Miscellaneousness*, mixture or mixedness together without Order. 1755 JOHNSON, *Miscellaneousness*, composition of various kinds. 1871 GEO. ELIOT *Middlemarch* xxii, The..miscellaneousness of Rome, which made the mind flexible with constant comparison. 1887 LOWELL *Old Eng. Dram.* (1892) 59 The gratuitous miscellaneousness of plot..in some of the plays of John Webster.

Miscellanist (misĕ·lănist). [f. MISCELLANY + -IST.] A writer of miscellanies.

1810 BYRON in *Mem. F. Hodgson* (1878) I. 168 My third [letter] will be conveyed by Cam, the miscellanist. 1862 F. HALL *Hindu Philos. Syst.* 35 A late miscellanist, more celebrated for versatility and self-confidence than for exactness. 1889 SAINTSBURY *Ess. Eng. Lit.* (1891) 219 We may ..consider him [Leigh Hunt] first as a poet, secondly as a critic, and thirdly as..a miscellanist.

Miscellany (misĕ·lăni, misĕ·lăni), *sb.* Also 7 misscl(l)-, miscel-, 8 miscll-. [app. ad. F. *miscellanées* fem. pl. (ad. L. *miscellānea* neut. pl.: see MISCELLANEA), only in sense 2.]

1. A mixture, medley.

1617 BACON in *Resuscitatio* (1657) 81 A Miscellany and Confusion of Causes of all Natures. 1620 *Hic Mulier* C 3 b, This Misselanie or mixture of deformities. 1668 DRYDEN *Dram. Poesy* Ess. (ed. Ker) I. 84 As for Falstaff, he is not properly one humour, but a miscellany of humours or images, drawn from so many several men. 1703 MAUNDRELL *Journ. Jerus.* (1721) 40 A confus'd miscellany of Trees. *Ibid.* 18 A Miscellany of Christians and Turks together. 1833 LYTTON *Eng. & Engl.* (ed. 2) II. 287 Turn your eyes now to the ultra Radicals, what a motley, confused, jarring, miscellany of irreconcilable theorists! 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* v. 190 Not like the piebald miscellany, man, Bursts of great heart and slips in sensual mire. 1886 STEVENSON *Treas. Isl.* iv, Under that, the miscellany began—a quadrant, a tin canikin, an old Spanish watch and some other trinkets of little value.

†**b.** *Miscellany madam*: 'a female trader in miscellaneous articles; a dealer in trinkets and ornaments of various kinds' (Nares). *Obs.*

1599 B. JONSON *Cynthia's Rev.* IV. i, I would bee .. one of your miscelany madams. *Ibid.*, As a miscellany madame [I would] inuent new tyres, and goe visite courtiers.

2. *pl.* Separate treatises or studies on a subject collected into one volume; literary compositions of various kinds brought together to form a book. (Common in titles of books.)

1615 P. WENTWORTH (*title*) The Miscellanie, or, a Registrie, and Methodicall Directorie of Orizons. *a* 1626 BACON *Let. to Bp. Ely* Wks. 1830 XII. 91 This bath put me into these miscellanies, which I purpose to suppress, if God give me leave to write a just and perfect volume of philosophy. 1629 J. LIGHTFOOT (*title*) Ervhhin or Miscellanies Christian and Judaicall. 1678 NORRIS *Misc.* (1699) Pref. 1 To you I humbly present this Collection of Miscellanies, for the entertainment of your liesure hours. 1711 [see MISCELLANEOUS 2]. 1733 SWIFT *On Poetry* 318 And when they join their pericranies, Out skips a book of Miscellanies.

3. A book, volume, or literary production containing miscellaneous pieces on various subjects.

1638 HERBERT *Trav.* 11. 262 The Alcoran is a miscellany of other prodigious things. 1671 SALMON *Syn. Med.* To Rdr. *3 Wonder not, Courteous Reader, at the Appearance of this early, or rather untimely fruit; a Miscelany only intended for our own private use. 1704 *Faction Display'd* xiii, Those only purchase everliving Fame, That in my Misellany plant their Name. 1707 (*title*) The Monthly Miscellany: or, Memoirs for the Curious. 1791 BOSWELL *Johnson* (1831) I. 205 He..wrote 'The Life of Cheynel', in the miscellany called 'The Student'. 1801 *Med. Jrnl.* V. 107 What appears to me an error in your truly valuable Miscellany. 1872 R. MORRIS (*title*) An Old English Miscellany. 1873 H. ROGERS *Orig. Bible* iv. (1874) 163 The Bible, in fact, is a 'Miscellany'—a very various one.

4. *pl.* Persons of various classes. *rare.*

1840 CARLYLE *Let.* Aug. in R. Blunt *Carlyles' Chelsea Home* (1895) 16 Blackguards, improper females, and miscellanies sauntered.

†**Miscellany,** *a. Obs.* [ad. L. *miscellāne·us*: the form perh. suggested by prec. sb. (But cf. *momentary*).] = MISCELLANE, MISCELLANEOUS.

1629 *Bacon's War w. Spain* 70 A Veterane Army, compounded of Miscellany Forces of all Nations. 1629 (*title*) Certaine Miscellany Works of The Right Honovrable, Francis Lo. Verulam. 1651 CLEVELAND *Poems* 26 The Misselany Satyr, and the Fawn. 1659 PEARSON *Creed* (1839) 29 By their miscellany deities at Rome,..they showed no nation was without its God. 1684 (*title*) Miscellany Poems Containing a New Translation of Virgills Eclogues, Ovid's Love Elegies [etc.]. 1738 SWIFT *Pol. Conversat.* Introd. 66, I have read..all the miscellany Poems that have been published for twenty Years past. 1756 AMORY *Buncle* (1825) I. 1 Miscellany thoughts upon several subjects.

†**Miscelliney.** *Obs. rare*⁻¹. [Alteration of *miscellen*, MASLIN 2, after *miscellany*.] = MASLIN 2.

1745 tr. *Columella* II. xi, It is proper to sow miscelleny, or barley fodder [orig. *farraginem*] in a place that is plowed and sown every year.

Miscelline, reading in mod. edd. of Jonson's *Volpone* for *misc'line* (see MASLIN 2 c).

Miscelling, obs. form of MASLIN 2.

Miscelto, -tow, obs. forms of MISTLETOE.

†**Misce·nsure,** *sb.* [MIS-¹ 4.] Wrongful or undeserved censure.

1613 *Voy. Guiana* in *Harl. Misc.* (Malh.) III. 171 All men's actions are subject to miscensure. 1645 WITHER *Vox Pacif.* 117 A selfe-respect May cause mis-censures to be cast upon The Publike Justice. *a* 1684 LEIGHTON *Comm. 1 Pet.* ii. 6 (1693) 292 They cast him [*sc.* Christ] away by their miscensures and reproaches put upon him.

†**Misce·nsure,** *v. Obs.* [MIS-¹ 1.] *trans.* To censure wrongfully or undeservedly.

1611 CORYAT *Crudities* 364, I hope the candid reader will not miscensure me for inserting this into my obseruations. 1645 WITHER *Vox Pacif.* 33 Ten hundred thousand tongues Shall censure them, who now mis-censure thee. 1665 — *Lord's Prayer* 35 Nor will [I] miscensure their charitable hope, who [etc.].

Hence †**Misce·nsuring** *vbl. sb.*

1657 SANDERSON *Serm.* Pref. (1674) E 2 b, To prevent (if I could) the mis-censuring of these Sermons.

†**Misce·rtify,** *v. Obs.* [MIS-¹ 1.] *trans.* To certify inaccurately. So †**Miscerti·ficate,** inaccurate certification.

1540 *Act* 32 *Hen. VIII*, c. 22 Many prebendes .. bene double certified .. and some by wrong names or otherwise miscertifyed. *Ibid.* c. 45 By reason .. of miscertificat of the said possessions.

Mischance (mistʃɑ·ns), *sb.* Forms: see CHANCE *sb.*; also 5 miscaunce, -chanche, meshaunce. [a. OF. *mesch(e)ance, -aunce*, also *meschanche, mescance*:—L. type **minuscadentiam*: see MIS-² and CHANCE *sb.*]

1. Ill-luck, ill-success. In early use often with stronger sense, disaster, calamity.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 2902 Ouer homber he fley anon to wite him fram meschance. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. IX. 51 God saue þe from mischaunce, And 3iue þe grace uppon grounde. *c* 1475 *Partenay* 5642 Anon it happned to hym gret miscaunce. 1591 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. VI*, I. i. 89 Lords view these Letters, full of bad mischance. 1622 BACON *Hen. VII* 181 They..let downe with Cords..seuerall Messengers (that if one came to mischance, another might passe on). 1822 HAZLITT *Table-t.* Ser. II. iv. (1869) 83 We are the sport of imbecility and mischance. 1833 TENNYSON *Lady of Shalott* IV. ii, Beholding all his own mischance, Mute, with glassy countenance. 1855 MOTLEY *Dutch Rep.* II. iii. (1866) 191 If mischance should follow the neglect of this warning. *personified.* *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Knt.'s T.* 1151 Amiddes of the temple sat meschaunce, With disconfort and sory contenaunce. 1742 GRAY *Spring* 38 Brush'd by the hand of rough Mischance.

2. In particularized use: A piece of bad luck, a mishap, an unlucky accident; †*spec.* an accidental injury or mutilation. In early use also, †a state of unhappiness, an evil fate.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 1182 In takinning als o þi penance þe sal be send a lang meschance. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. XX. 229 Mynne 3e nat, riche men to which a meschaunce þat dives deyed? *a* 1450 MYRC 1899 Fowrty dayes for þat myschawnce þow schalt he in penaunce. 1577 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* ser. II. III. 56 Upon Monday here fell a mischaunce betwene two of my Lo. Chamberleyns men, and the on of them was killed in Powles churche yarde. 1587 GOLDING *De Mornay* i. (1617) 7 When a man loseth an eye, an arme, or a legge, we do commonly say, it is a mischance. 1685 WOOD *Life* 23 July (O. H. S.) III. 155 He had got a mischance by gunpowder. 1758 JOHNSON *Idler* No. 55 ¶ 7, I had secured it [*sc.* a book] against mischances by lodging two transcripts in different places. 1838 DICKENS *Nich. Nick.* xxiv, First the right sandal came down, and then the left, and these mischances being repaired [etc.]. 1863 HAWTHORNE *Our Old Home* (1879) 145 The vicissitudes and mischances of sublunary affairs.

3. Phrases. †**a.** *To fare, go to mischance*; *to cast, chase, drive, put to mischance. To give* (a person) *mischance*: to bring bad luck to, to overwhelm with disaster. *To bid* (a person) *mischance*: to wish him bad luck.

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 7282 þey cald hym traitour wyþ manace, & to meschaunce þey scholde hym chace. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* II. 222 Lat us daunce, And cast your widwes habit to mischaunce. *Ibid.* v. 359 Thy swevenes .. Dryf out, and lat hem faren to mischaunce. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XIII. 325 And blame men bihynde her bakke and bydden hem meschaunce. *c* 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 333 Enuye I preie to god 3eue hire myschaunce. *c* 1430 *Syr Gener.* (Roxb.) 142 What with swerd and with launce Many oon he gafe myschaunce. *c* 1460 G. ASHBY *Dicta Philos.* 47 Otherwise your werkys gone to mischanche. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* VI. 282 How he had put his pepill to myschance.

†**b.** In exclamations and imprecations, esp. in *with mischance!* = deuce take it! Also *How mischance..?* How the devil..? *Obs.*

13.. *Guy Warw.* 2533, & 3if ich Gij mete may, Wiþ mischaunce y schal him gret. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* IV. 1,162 Or how mischaunce sholde I dwelle there? *c* 1386 — *Manciple's Prol.* 11 Is that a cook of Londoun, with meschaunce? *c* 1386 — *Man of Law's T.* 816 The lordes styward—god yeve him meschaunce! *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 7581 What? welcome with mischaunce now! 1402 *Jack Upland* in *Chaucerian Pieces* (Skeat) 203 Than so shulde they be better than Christ himselfe, with miscnaunce! *c* 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 34 She..hir husband disceyvethe, allas! meschaunce! 1526 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 502 God gyue you a very myschaunce!

c. *By mischance*: by an unlucky accident.

AF. *par meschcaunce* (Britton) = 'by misadventure'.

1535 *Act* 27 *Hen. VIII*, c. 6 If it shall happen any of the said mares by mischaunce or casualte for to die. 1625 MILTON *Death Infant* 44 Wert thou some Starr which from the ruin'd roofe Of shak't Olympus by mischance didst fall? 1662 GRAUNT *Bills Mort.* viii. 48 Slain in Wars, killed by mischance, drowned at Sea. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xliv, When they met by mischance, he made sarcastic bows or remarks to the child. 1859 TENNYSON *Marr. Geraint* 112 And these awoke him, and by great mischance He heard but fragments of her later words.

d. Proverbs.

14.. *Hermes Bird* lxii. in Ashm. *Theat. Chem.* (1652) 225 A Chyldys Byrde, and a Chorlys Wyfe, Hath ofte sythys sorow and mischaunce. 1611 COTGR. s.v. *Malheur*, Mischances neuer come single.

Mischa·nce, *v. Obs.* or *arch.* [MIS-¹ 1.]

1. *intr.* To happen unfortunately. Also with dat. of person.

1552 HULOET, Mischauncen, *male euenire.* *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S. T. S.) I. 40 Beliueing no falshoode to mischance him efterwart in respect of his hartlie messaige that come to him fre the maistratis. 1591 SPENSER *M. Hubberd* 64 And still I hoped to be up advaunced, .. but still it hath mischaunced. 1809 E. S. BARRETT *Setting Sun* I. 68 It so mischanc'd, A horde barbarian, ..Landing, spread death wherever they advanc'd.

2. *pass.* To be unfortunate; to have bad luck.

a 1542 WYATT in *Tottel's Misc.* (Arb.) 36 Stephan said true, that my natiuitie Mischanced was with the ruler of May. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (1728) 11 He burnt the more for anger within himself, that he was so mischanced in this behalf. *c* 1586 C'TESS PEMBROKE *Ps.* LXXXIX. viii, All that him hate, be me shall be mischaunced.

3. *intr.* To have the ill-luck *to do* so-and-so.

1600 FAIRFAX *Tasso* XIX. xcviii, On an ambush I mischanst to light Of cruell men.

Hence **Mischa·ncing** *vbl. sb. rare*⁻⁰.

1611 FLORIO, *Misuenimento*,..a mischancing.

Mischa·nced, *a.* [f. MISCHANCE *sb.* + -ED.]

†**1.** Unlucky, unfortunate, ill-fated. *Obs.*

c 1470 HENRY *Wallace* VIII. 320 Curssand fortoun off his myschansit [*ed.* 1570 mischancefull] cace. 1552 HULOET, Mischaunced, *infortunatus.*

2. Gone wrong.

1875 O SCHMIDT *Doctr. Descent* xi. 255 From these [the Annulosa] diverged on one side the Testacea, who might perhaps be called mischanced vertebrata, and on the other the true vertebrate animals.

Mischa·nceful, *a.* Now *arch.* or *poet.* [f. MISCHANCE *sb.* + -FUL.] Unlucky, unfortunate.

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 3924 3yf þou were euer payde of myschauncefull þyng þat befyl to any man. 1570 [see MISCHANCED, quot. *c* 1470]. 1594 H. HELMES *Gesta Grayorum* (1688) 22 This mischanceful Accident..was a great Discouragement. 1872 BLACKIE *Lays Highl.* 202 Where wert thou when Sire Adam first Drew his mischanceful breath? 1875 BROWNING *Aristoph. Apol.* Wks. 1896 I. 734 Woe—woe! What man was born mischanceful thus!

Mischancie: see MESCHANCIE.

Mischancy (mistʃɑ·nsi), *a.* Chiefly *Sc.* [f. MISCHANCE *sb.* + -Y.] Unlucky.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* IX. vii. 137 His freind and fallow deyr That sa myschancy was. 1819 *Blackw. Mag.* V. 637 Country Laird, attracted from afar, With some mischancy Writer to engage. 1858 TROLLOPE *Three Clerks* xlvi. (1867) 538 Circumstances were mischancy with Mr. Nogo. 1860 READE *Cloister & H.* xix, If ever I was so mischancy as to last so long as Ghysbrecht did.

†**Mischa·nge.** *Obs.* [MIS-¹ 4.] Change for the worse.

1561 HOLLYBUSH *Hom. Apoth.* 20 b, The harte also shrinketh] together by reason of excessiue feare, heuinesse & mischange. [*marg.* Soudain alteracion.] 1595 T. MAYNARDE *Drake's Voy.* (Hakl. Soc.) 6 They gave us instructions for directinge our course, if, by foule weather or mischange, any should be severed.

†**Mischa·nging,** *vbl. sb.* [MIS-¹ 3.] Wrongful interchange or substitution.

1382 WYCLIF *Wisd.* xiv. 26 The mischaunging [1388 chaungyng] of birthe [Vulg. *nativitatis immutatio*].

Mischanter: see MISHANTER.

Mischa·rge, *sb.* [MIS-¹ 4.] 'A mistake in charging, as an account; an erroneous entry in an account' (1828–32 Webster).

Mischa·rge, *v.* ?Now *rare.* [MIS-¹ 1.] *trans.* To charge wrongly or falsely.

1571 GOLDING *Calvin on Ps.* xvii. 3 He was mischarged with wrongfull hatred. 1583 — *Calvin on Deut.* xl. 240 If wee doe but misconster some one worde that is well spoken beholde wee mischarge the partie. 1639 in *T. Leckford's Note-Bk.* (1885) 164 The said W.., H.. did .. overreckon misreckon .. & mischarge upon this Complt divers particulare things hereinafter expressed. *a* 1676 HALE *Sheriff's Acc.* x. (1683) 106 The most of the rest of the complaints were touching particulars mischarged, or not charged. 1833 J. C. HARE in *Philol. Mus.* II. 222 [This] has led us to mischarge the Greek verb with a double anomaly.

†**Mischa·rging,** *vbl. sb. Obs.* [MIS-¹ 3.] Misaiming (of a weapon).

a 1548 HALL *Chron., Edw. IV*, 247 b, He was with mis-charging of a speare..pytyfullye slayne.

Mischeantly, variant of MESCHANTLY *Obs.*

1600 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* VI. 97 Maist crewellie, barbarouslie and mischeantlie.

† **Mischeer**, *v. Obs.* [MIS-1 7.] *trans.* To dishearten.

c 1411 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 2380 The kyng hab schame, and eke it hem mys-cherith.

Mischief (mi·stʃif), *sb.* Also 4–5 **mes-**, 4–6 **mys-, mis-**; 4 **-chif, -cheyf, -chive, chyve**, 4–5 **-cheef, -cheff(e, -chyef**, 4–6 **-chef(e, -cheve**, *Sc.* **-cheif(f)**, 5 **-cheeffe**, *Sc.* **-cheyff**, 6 **-cheefe, -chyfe**, *Sc.* **-cheif(f)e, -sheif**, 6–7 **-chiefe**, 7 **-chieve**; also 4 **mechef, myshef**, 6 **mishief, mychief**; *pl.* 4 **-cheves, -cevis**, 4–5 **-chevys**, 6 **-chives**, 6–7 **-chieves**, 5– **-chiefs**. [a. OF. *meschief, meschef, mechef* (mod. *méchef*), vbl. sb. f. *meschever* (see MISCHIEVE): cf. Pr. *mescap*, OCat. *menyscab*, OSp. *mescabo*, OPg. *mazcabo* (Sp., Pg. *menoscabo* loss, deterioration).]

†1. Evil plight or condition; misfortune; trouble, distress; in ME. often, need, want, poverty. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 20050 Womman sal peris o na barn, Ne nan wit mischiue be forfarn. *c* 1325 *Song Deo Gratias* 49 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 125, I schal seie Deo gracias In myschef and in bonchef bobe. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 5131 Be merciabul to alle men þat in mechef arn. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 493 He ne lafte nat, for reyn ne thonder, In sikness ne in meschief, to visyte The ferrest in his parisshe. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) xxviii. 287 That no man 3eve him..nouther of Mete ne Drynk: and so schalle he dye in myschef. 1433 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 424/2 They bee nowe in grete myschief and necessite. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. xii. 12 The kyng and the yong Spencer, seyng theym selfe thus beseged in thir myschiefe, and knewe no Comfort that myght come to them. 1590 C'TESS PEMBROKE *Antonie* 1997 O breast where death (Oh mischief) [orig. (*hà méchef*)] comes to choake vp vitall brenth. *a* 1605 MONTGOMERIE *Misc. Poems* iii. 54 Hir mirrines with missheif ay is mixt. 1628 EARLE *Microcosm., Childe* (Arb.) 21 Hee arriues not at the mischiefe of being wise. 1679 PENN *Addr. Prot.* 1. (1692) 55 Alas! we are not the same; that's our Mis-chief.

† b. With *a* and *pl.* A misfortune, calamity.

a 1350 *St. Andrew* 56 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 4 For pete þat he had in mynde Of þe grete mescheuys of mankynde. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 204 þenk ..how God hab savyd þe fro deeþ and oþer miscevis. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 399 Lo, maister, slike a myschefe! 1481 CAXTON *Godfrey* VI. 25 Alle the meseases & the myschiefs that the peple of our lord endured that tyme. 1633 FORD *'Tis Pity* II. v, But Heaven is angry, and be thou resolv'd Thou art a man remark'd to taste a mischief.

† c. Phr. *At mischief, at great* (etc.) *mischief* [=OF. *a meschief, a grant meschief*]: in (great) misfortune, in evil plight; in distress; *esp.* in fight, at a disadvantage. *Obs.*

c 1330 R. BAUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 9855 Netheles þey were at meschef, ffor to ascape þem were ful lef. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XI. 604 The erll and his thus fechtand war At gret mycheiff. 1430–40 LYDG. *Bochas* VIII. i. (1558) 3 b, Thou died in preson at mischefe like a wretch. 1441–2 *Chron. London* (1827) 130 [He] hadde hym at myschief redy to a popped hym in the face with his dagger. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* IX. xxxii. 389 Allas said syr Tristram vpon my heede there is somme good Knyghte at meschyef. 1558 G. CAVENDISH *Poems* (1825) II. 75 By cruel fortune at myschefe she ended. 1567 *Gude & Godlie Ball.* (S.T.S.) 206 Of lait I saw thir lymmaris stand Lyke mad men at mischeif. 1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* Sep. 10 Or bene they chaffred? or at mischiefe dead? [*gloss*, an vnusuall speache, but much vsurped of Lidgate, and sometime of Chaucer].

2. Harm or evil considered as the work of an agent or due to a particular cause.

1480 *Robt. Devyll* (1797) 31 Greate myscheyf haue I do, and muche yll As to robbe and slea. 1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* lv. 3 They are mynded to do me some myschefe, so maliciously are they set agaynst me. 1545 BRINKLOW *Lament.* 26 b, Ye haue..done most myschefe in shuttynge vp of Godes worde from the people. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* II. i. 237 If thou follow me, doe not beleeue But I shall doe thee mischiefe in the wood. 1613 — *Hen. VIII*, II. i. 22. 1647 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* VI. § 102 They..who had contrived the mischieve. 1727 DE FOE *Syst. Magic* I. iii. (1840) 72 The devil is seldom out of call when he is wanted for any mischief. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* xxxvii, It was hardly possible two such damned rascals should colleague together without mischief to honest people. 1857 RUSKIN *Pol. Econ. Art* ii. (1868) 136 It is quite wonderful how much mischief may be done even by small capacity.

b. An injury wrought by a person or other agent; an evil arising out of or existing in certain conditions. Now only in *collect. pl.* with the sense 'evil consequences', and in phr. *to do oneself a mischief.*

c 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 2331 *Philomela*, This false thef Hath don this lady yit a more myschef. 1530 TINDALE *Pract. Prel.* Cvij, If any resisted them what so euer mischeuen they went about. 1580 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 338 Of two mischiefes the least is to be chosen. 1598 YONG *Diana* 47 A mischeefe neuer comes alone. 1611 BIBLE *Ps.* lii. 2 Thy tongue deuiseth mischiefes. 1693 *Mem. Cnt. Teckely* I. 50 The Turks..would not fail to work them 1000 mischiefs by means of the new Garrison of Newhaussel. 1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* II. i, I..made three huzzas, to shew that I had got no mischief by my fall. 1774 BURKE *Sp. Amer. Tax.* Wks. 1842 I. 165 Infinite mischiefs would be the consequence of such a power. *a* 1861 BUCKLE *Civilix.* (1869) III. ii. 47 General mischiefs depend upon general causes. 1871 SMILES *Charac.* ii. (1876) 58 The social mischiefs resulting from a neglect of the purifying influence of women.

c. *To make mischief*: to create discord or dissension, esp. by talebearing. Cf. MISCHIEF-MAKER.

1884 *Cassell's Fam. Mag.* May 374 She was always making mischief between them [*sc.* two lovers].

3. *Law.* A condition in which a person suffers a wrong or is under some disability, csp. one which it is the object of a statute to remove or for which equity affords a remedy. Phr. † *to be at a mischief.*

1596 BACON *Max. Com. Law* III. (1630) 26 Pleadings must be certain, because the aduerse party may know wherto to answer, or else he were at a mischief, which mischiefe is remedied by a demurrer. *Ibid.* IX. 48 Hee tooke his graunt subiect to that mischiefe at first. 1642 COKE *On Litt.* II. 124 The mischiefe before this Act was, That in a Writ of Dower, *Unde nihil habet*, there were dayes of common retourn.. which was mischievous to the woman, in respect of the long delay. 1768 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* III. ii. 19 Every scheme.. hath been hitherto found to be..productive of more mischiefs than it would remedy. 1792 N. CHIPMAN *Rep.* (1871) 80, C. having notice, was not within the mischief and therefore not within the equity of the remedy. 1818 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) IV. 524 If the adhering to such determinations is likely to be attended with inconvenience, it is a matter fit to be remedied by the legislature; which is able to prevent the mischief in future. 1828–32 WEBSTER s. v., A new law is made to remedy the mischief.

† b. Distinguished from *inconvenience*; see quots. and INCONVENIENCE 3 c.

[1509: see INCONVENIENCE *sb.* 3.] 1532 *Dial. on Laws Eng.* II. xlvi. 94 b, The law wyll rather suffre that myscheyf then the said inconuenience. 1596 SPENSER *State Irel.* Wks. (Globe) 618/1 True Justice punnisheth nothing but the evill act or wicked woord; yet by the lawes of all kingdomes it is a capitall crime to devise or purpose the death of the King...And therfore the lawe in that case punnisheth the thought; for better is a mischeif, then an inconvenience. 1622 [see INCONVENIENCE *sb.* 3 c]. 1670 RAY *Prov.* 121 Better a mischief, then an inconvenience. That is, better a present mischief that is soon over, then a constant grief and disturbance. *a* 1709 [see INCONVENIENCE 3 c].

4. † a. A disease or ailment. *Obs.* b. In medical parlance used simply to indicate a morbid condition without further definition.

1552 HULOET, Myschiefe beynge close or secrete, *vleus.* 1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* I. iii. 13 To apply a morall medicine, to a mortifying mischiefe. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. xvii. xxiv. 539 The running mange or tettar, is a mischeefe peculiar unto the Fig tree. 1755 POTT *Chirurg. Observ.* 135 A hernia where the abdominal tendon has no share in the mischief. 1843 R. J. GRAVES *Syst. Clin. Med.* ix. 98 Traces of inflammatory mischief. 1860 WINSLOW *Obsc. Dis. Brain* 12 The mischief established within the cranium, disorganizing the delicate tissue of the brain. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 130 When the mischief is confined to the lung.

5. Hurtful character or influence; mischievousness. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* II. v. § 2. 84 The conceit [that glass is poison] is surely grounded upon the visible mischiefe of glasse grossely or coursely powdered; for that indeed is mortally noxious. 1803 R. HALL *Sentiments Pres. Crisis* 45 The innocence of the intention abates nothing of the mischief of the precedent. 1822 GOOD *Study Med.* IV. 78 This is a disorder of far greater mischief and violence than the preceding.

b. The phrase *the mischief* (*of*..) *is* (*that*) is used idiomatically to single out the most unfortunate aspect or vexatious circumstance of an affair.

1660 F. BROOKE tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 374 The mischief is, if we carry them out of their own air they die immediately. 1677 W. HUGHES *Man of Sin* III. i. 5 Their dear Francis.. admired for a glorious Saint, was in his life time commonly taken for a silly Fool, by their own Confession. And the mischief is, for no small reason neither. 1708 SWIFT *Let. conc. Sacr. Test* Wks. 1751 IV. 170 But the mischief was, these Allies would never be brought to allow that the common Enemy was quite subdued. 1751 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 155 ₱ 7 The mischief of flattery is..that it suppresses the influence of honest ambition. 1882 OGILVIE s.v., I have money enough, but the mischief is I have left my purse at home. 1896 A. E. HOUSMAN *Shropsh. Lad* lxii, And faith, 'tis pleasant till 'tis past: The mischief is that 'twill not last.

† 6. Evil-doing, wickedness. *Obs.*

1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* IX. xix. 367 By thy meschyef and thy vengeaunce thou hast destroyed the mooste noble Knyght. 1535 COVERDALE *Gen.* vi. 5 Y^e earth was corrupte in ye sight of God and full of myschefe. 1593 Q. ELIZ. *Boeth.* I. pr. v. (1899) 15 Of mischefz or fraudes of thy slanderers [orig. *sceleribus fraudibusque delatorum*]. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 161 With a plumpe he fercelie fallis in al kynde of mischeife [orig. *in omnia flagitiorum & turpitudinum genera*]. 1611 BIBLE *Acts* xiii. 10 O full of all subtilty and all mischiefe.

7. A cause or source of harm or evil: often applied to a person whose conduct or influence is harmful; a worker of mischief; also, in milder sense, one who causes petty annoyance or acts in a vexations or annoying manner.

1586 A. DAY *Eng. Secretary* I. (1625) 42 He was called.. the Plague of the Common-Weal, the mischiefe of men. 1599 B. JONSON *Ev. Man out of Hum.* v. v, O, my good Mischiefe! art thou come? 1643 TRAPP *Comm. Gen.* xvi. 12 Mahomet, the mischiefe of mankinde. 1660 F. BROOKE tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 174 One of the jarrs of water broke, which was a great mischiefe to them, and a very important losse. 1671 MILTON *Samson* 1039 The contrary she proves, a thorn Intestin, far within defensive arms A cleaving mischief. *a* 1704 T. BROWN *Sat. agst. Woman* Wks. 1730 I. 55 The sex are all Pandoras, mischiefs all. 1708 MRS. CENTLIVRE *Busy Body* IV. iv, B'ye, b'ye, dearee! Ah mischief! how you look now! B'ye, b'ye. 1780 COWPER *Progr. Err.* 302 The sacred implement I now employ Might prove a mischief, or at best a toy. 1816 BYRON *Ch. Har.* III. xlix, Many a tower for some fair mischief won. 1825–80 JAMIESON, *Mischief*, a vexatious or ill-deedie person; as, 'Ye're a perfect mischief'. 1890 *Spectator* 5 July Unionists such as Mr. Caine..are positive mischiefs to the party. 1891 J. EVELYN *Baffled Vengeance* 191 A curly-headed mischief known by the name of Jimmy.

8. Vexatious or annoying action or conduct; chiefly, conduct causing petty injury or trouble to others by way of sport, without any ill-will. Also, a tendency to or disposition for such conduct.

1784 COWPER *Tiroc.* 207 Childish in mischief only and in noise. 1820 W. IRVING *Sketch Bk., Leg. Sleepy Hollow* (1821) II. 303 He was always ready for either a fight or a frolic; had more mischief than ill-will in his composition. 1834 MARRYAT *P. Simple* II. viii. 118 The midshipmen are ..full of fun and frolic. I'll bet a wager there'll be a bobbery in the pig-sty before long, for they are ripe for mischief.

9. Phrases, chiefly expletive and imprecatory.

† a. *With a mischief*: (*a*) used as an expletive, esp. parenthetically in questions, as *What with a mischief..?* (also *What a mischief..?*); (*b*) = with a vengeance. *Obs.*

1538 ELYOT *Dict.* Add., *Abi in malam rem*, go hens with a mischefe. 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus* s.v., *Malus, Quid tua (malum) id refert?* what, with a mischiefe, haste thou to doe with it? 1572 T. SMITH in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. III. IV. 8 What a mischeefe meanethe hee to write unto mee of new Starres and Astronomers, and telleth me nothioge of my comeing home? 1611 COTGR. s. v. *Chemise*, Hee raised them with a mischiefe, roused them with a vengeance. *a* 1625 FLETCHER *Nice Valour* II. i. (1647) 152 Hold still the chaire, with a grand mischiefe to you. 1630 J. TAYLOR (Water-P.) *Wks.* II. 96/2 The matronly medicines..of this..woman, will in a little time make her encrease with a vengeance, and multiply with a mischiefe. 1640 NABBES *Bride* III. ii, Y'are welcome with a mischiefe to the occasion that brought you hither. 1722 SWIFT in J. Duncombe *Lett.* (1773) II. 5, I wonder how a mischief you came to miss us. 1822 SCOTT *Nigel* xxvii, Bide doun, with a mischief to ye.

b. In imprecatory sentences, e. g. *A mischief on..! A mischief take..!*

1519 *Interl. Four Elem.* 535 A myschyfe on it! *c* 1550 BALE *K. Johan* (Camden) 95 It is Sedicyon, God gyve hym a very myschiefe. *a* 1553 UDALL *Royster D.* IV. iii. (Arb.) 62 A mischiefe take his tokens. 1609 B. JONSON *Sil. Wom.* II. iv. (1616) 545 Did I not tell you? mischiefe! 1668 DRYDEN *Even. Love* IV. Wks. 1701 I. 317 And a mischief of all foolish disguisements, for my part.

c. Hence (like *the plague*, etc.) *the mischief* is used *colloq.* and *dial.* as a euphemistic substitute for 'the devil', chiefly in the phr. *to play the mischief* (*with*), and in questions *What* (*how*, etc.) *the mischief..?* (cf. a). Also *to go to the mischief.*

1583 HOLLYBAND *Campo di Fior* 283 What the mischiefe is this that thou hast for thy sadelle? 1614 B. JONSON *Barth. Fair* I. i, What the mischief do you come with her; or she with you? *a* 1616 BEAUM. & FL. *Wit without M.* v. I 2 Ith name of mischiefe what did you meane? 1807–8 W. IRVING *Salmag.* (1824) 125 This unlucky characteristic played the mischief with him in one of his love affairs. 1818 MISS FERRIER *Marriage* xv, Boys may go to the mischief, and be good for something. 1865 TROLLOPE *Belton Est.* xxxi. 375 Why the mischief should he not set about the work at once? 1867 — *Chron. Barset* II. xii, That butcher in Silverbridge was playing the mischief with him. 1892 KIPLING *Barrack-r. Ballads* 24 You 'eathen, where the mischief 'ave you been?

† d. *Words of mischief*: abusive language, abuse. *rare*—¹. (Cf. MISCHIEVE *v.* 4.)

1555 W. WATREMAN *Fardle Facions* I. vi. 86 They curse him, and reuyle him with all woordes of mischiefe.

10. *Comb.* (chiefly objective), as *mischief-doer, -founder, -master, -monger, -sufferer, -taker*; *mischief-boding, -doing, -hatching, -loving, -tainted, -working* adjs.

1814 SCOTT *Ld. of Isles* III. xxv. A *mischief-boding ray. 1822 COBBETT *Weekly Reg.* 4 May 304 Representing me as a *mischief-doer to the country. 1800 COLERIDGE *Piccolom.* IV. i, Thus compel Into my service that old *mischief-founder. 1835 J. P. KENNEDY *Horse-Shoe Robinson* xxxiv. 295 Some *mischief-hatching fiend. 1810 *Splendid Follies* II. 51 The *mischief-loving imp. 1587 GOLDING *Ovid's Met.* XIII. 158 Would God this *mischeef mayster had in verrye deede beene mad. 1620 SHELTON *Quix.* II. iv. 23 That Cheater, that arrant *Mischiefe-monger. 1888 *England* 18 Aug. 11/1 The Grand Old Mischief Monger at the head. 1552 HULOET, *Myschiefe sufferer, or taker, *sceleratus.* 1598 F. ROUS *Thule* B, That rout of *mischief-tainted theeues. 1902 *Forin. Rev.* Jan. 41 A child in the *mischief-working hands of his own childishness.

Mischief (mi·stʃif), *v. arch.* Forms: see prec. sb. [f. MISCHIEF *sb.* Cf. the earlier MISCHIEVE.]

1. *trans.* To inflict injury upon; = MISCHIEVE *v.* 3.

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 241/1 To Mischefe, *erumpnare.* 1533 MORE *Debell. Salem* Wks. 971/1 He wil of lykelihode hate & mischief any man by whome he taketh any harme. 1605 ARMIN *Foole upon F.* (1880) 25 He, that mischiefes many, sometimes wrongs himselfe. 1611 SPEED *Hist. Gt. Brit.* IX. xx. (1623) 967 Britaine haning so many Sea-townes and Outlets to mischiefe the English trafficke. 1682 BUNYAN *Holy War* 195 Whomever I mischief, whomever I wrong, to me it is musick, when to others mourning. 1855 SINGLETON *Virgil's Ecl.* iii. I. 15 If you had not somehow mischiefed him, You would have died.

2. To do physical harm to; = MISCHIEVE 3 b.

c 1470 HENRY *Wallace* VIII. 248 The flearis than with erll Patrik releíd To fecht agayn, quhar mony war myscheifd. 1483 in *Surtees Misc.* (1890) 29 The crosse in the merkyth place is lyke..to myschef sume man. 1573 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 62 The rack is commended for saning of doong, so set as the old cannot mischiefe the yoong. 1607 MARKHAM *Caval.* v. (1617) 57, I haue seene them run away, ouer-throwe ..the Coach, and mischiefe the Coach-man. 1667 *Decay Chr. Piety* (1668) 74 'Tis a certain Indication of madness to tear and mischief those things that would be useful to us. 1702 C. MATHER *Magn. Chr.* VI. v. (1852) 393 Having set his dog to mischief his neighbor's cattel. 1858 TRENCH *Parables* xx. (1877) 356 The barren tree mischiefed the land, 'troubled' it, as Bishop Andrewes renders the word.

refl. *a* 1470 GREGORY in *Hist. Coll. Cit. Lond.* (Camden) 213 There myght noo man come unto them ovyr the pavysse for the naylys that stode up-ryghte, but yf he wolde myschyffe hym sylfe. 1547 BOORDE *Brev. Health* clxxi. 61 At length they do fal mad, or do mischefe them selfe. 1624–5 in *Notes & Gleanings* (Exeter 1889) II. 187 To..cut theire owne throats or otherwise murder of mischeife themselves. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. 191 When the two Ladders were taken down, no Man living could come down to me without mischiefing himself.

absol. 1658 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* II. v. 100 A Bullet of Wax will mischief without melting. 1672 R. WILD *Poet. Licent.* 33 Their Breath will mischief far beyond a Gun.

3. *intr.* To suffer injury; = MISCHIEVE 1.

a 1510 DOUGLAS *K. Hart* II. 71 Len me thy cloke, to gys me for ane quhyle; Want I that weid in fayth I will mischeif. 1598 F. ROUS *Thule* B, Which done she weepes vpon her pitchie dore, That she should in ere she had mischief 'd more.

Mischiefful (mi·stʃifˌfŭl), *a.* Now *dial.* [f. MISCHIEF *sb.* + -FUL.] Full of mischief.

†**1.** Unfortunate, disastrous. *Obs.*

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 4622 Also y telle by iustyng, þer-of cumþ myschefful þyng. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* III. 410 Thar selff was caus of this myschefull chance. *Ibid.* IV. 748.

2. Of persons: Full of or prone to do mischief; mischievous. Now *dial.*

1541 PAYNELL *Catiline* xlii. 69 The common weale, through the cursed counsell of mischiefull cytesyns is brought into so great daunger. 1834 LANDOR *Exam. Shaks.* Wks. 1853 II. 284/2 This is the mischief-fullest of all the devil's imps. 1896 *Warw. Word-bk., Mischiefful*, mischievous.

3. Involving mischief. *rare*—[1].

1772 FOOTE *Nabob* III. Wks. 1799 II. 318 For mischiefful matters there wasn't a more ingenious..lad in the school.

Mi·schief-ma·ker. One who makes mischief (see MISCHIEF 2 c); one who foments discord, esp. by talebearing.

1710 M. HENRY *Disp. Reviewed* Wks. 1853 II. 466/2 None but a tale-bearer, that great mischief-maker, will reveal such secrets. 1785 HUTTON *Bran New Wark* (E.D.S.) 188/121 At present there er in ivvery neak ta manny mischief-makers. 1848 LD. BROUGHAM *Of Revolutions* Wks. 1857 VIII. 332 The trade of the agitator, the professional mischief-maker. 1862 MRS. CARLYLE *Lett.* III. 138 Elizabeth, who is weak enough to believe what mischief-makers tell her.

So **Mi·schief-ma·king** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1715 ROWE *Lady Jane Gray* v. Wks. 1728 III. 74 I'll.. know What 'tis the Mischief-making Priest intends. 1818 BYRON *Juan* I. xxv, A little curly-headed,..And mischief-making monkey. 1825 SCOTT in Lockhart *Life* (1839) VIII. 118 Byron loved mischief making. 1896 W. BLACK *Briseis* xx, A piece of mischief-making between two school-girls—about a music-master.

†**Mischie·vable,** *a. Obs.* [f. MISCHIEVE *v.* + -ABLE (in an active sense).] Mischievous, harmful.

1680 FILMER *Patriarcha* iii. § 7 If a King did strictly swear to observe all the Laws, he could not without Perjury give his Consent to the Repealing..of any Statute..which would be very mischievable to the State.

†**Mischie·vance.** *Obs.* [? f. MISCHIEVE *v.* + -ANCE.] Harm, injury, damage.

1600 HOLLAND *Livy* II. xv. 549 Unlesse they would be executors of their owne wrongs, and seeke their owne mischievance. 1628 [SIR F. HUBERT] *Life & Death Edw. II* cclvii, Nor [let] common curses, caus'd by public greeuance, Draw iudgment down on you for their mischieuance.

Mischieve (mis,tʃī·v), *v.* Now *dial.* or *arch.* Also (4–5 **mes-**, 4–6 **mys-**), 4–5 **-chieve, -chyeve,** 4–6 **-cheve,** 5 **-cheeve, -chewe,** 5–6 *Sc.* **mischeif, -cheive,** 7 **mischive.** [a. OF. *meschever* to be unfortunate, come to grief, f. *mes-* MIS-[2] + *chever* CHEVE: cf. Sp. *menoscabar* to impair.

That the Scottish forms in *f* belong to this word rather than to MISCHIEF *v.* is attested by the rimes and the modern pronunciation.]

†**1.** *intr.* To suffer harm or injury; to meet with misfortune; to come to grief, 'miscarry'. *Obs.*

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 171 He said, 'þei salle mischeue', whan he þat tiþing herd. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XII. 119 And his sones al-so for þat synne myscheued. *c* 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* I. 614 And up thai wol atte eve Into a tree lest thai by nyght myscheve. 14.. in *Q. Eliz. Acad.* 85 Whene pryde is moste in prys..þenne schall englonde myscbewe. *a* 1450 HOCCLEVE *Learn to die* 544 in *Min. Poems* 198 He mischeeueth where as he wende han recouered be. 1450–1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* 34 Yt hathe not bene sene, that euer eny place myscheued where goddes seruyce was deuoutly kepte. 1604 EDMONDS *Observ. Cæsar's Comm.* 78 To make supplications for all soules, and specially for such as had mischieued in France in the time of that warre.

2. *trans.* To afflict or overwhelm with misfortune; to bring to destruction or ruin.

1388 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) I. 272 The chyrche is grevyd,.. And so sume be myschevyd. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 3 Why hase þou loste and myschevid so many sawlis as þou hase done? 1451 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 224/2 Thaugh he [*sc.* John Cade] be dede and myscheved. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* II. x. 112 And tho beheld I all the citie mischevit. 1526 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 2360 So I am lapped in aduersyte, That dyspayre well nyghe had myscheued me! 1621 BP. MOUNTAGU *Diatribæ* 212 You may haply fall foule, where you may be mischieued for euer. 1883 R. W. DIXON *Mano* I. xi. 34 They who thy fair head mischieved Of such a deed the cost shall well aby.

3. To inflict injury or loss upon; to do harm to; to injure, damage.

1475 *Bk. Noblesse* (1860) 41 Many folde tymes we have ben deceived and myschevid thoroughe suche dissimuled trewes. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xxii. 5 Excess of thocht dois me mischeif. *a* 1600 MONTGOMERIE *Misc. Poems* v. 7 Melancholie mischeivis my mind, That I can not rejose.

1645 BP. HALL *Treat. Content.* 71 The Male-content, whether hee bee angry or sad, mischieves himself both wayes. 1687 R. L'ESTRANGE *Brief Hist. Times* I. 7 Whatsoever Mischiev'd the One, must needs do the Other a Service. 1707 *Reflex. upon Ridicule* 177 Desire of mischieving those who are happier than they.

b. To do physical or bodily harm to; to wound, hurt.

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 7429 A sad man full sone, þe sun of Theseus, Segh Achilles myscheuyt. 1465 *Paston Lett.* II. 205 Ther fylle uppon me befor Sevayne dore xij. of hes men ..and ther they wold have myscheved me. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* X. xiii. 20 A gret speyr, quharwith he feyll myschevit. 1530 PALSGR. 637/1 Beware of yonder horse, for he wyll myscheve as many as come within his reache. 1649 MILTON *Eikon.* x. 412 The onely Armes that mischiev'd us in all those Battels and Incounters. 1682 FLAVEL *Fear* 74 Francis Spira..would have mischieved himself had not his friends prevented him. 1725 SLOANE *Jamaica* II. 6 Some they.. mischiev'd to Death with certain Pricks of small Sticks sharply pointed. 1825–80 JAMIESON, To *mischieve*, to hurt. 1836 J. STRUTHERS *Dychmont* in *Poet. Wks.* (1850) II. 67 With dye vats chok'd, with engines deav'd And countless nuisances mischieved.

†**4.** To abuse, slander. (Cf. MISCHIEF *sb.* 9 d.)

1656 MANASSEH BEN ISRAEL *Vind. Jud.* 15 Men mischieving the Iewes to excuse their own wickednesse. 1674 SCRIVENER *Course Div.* II. v. 388 Sometimes you shall hear from them somewhat religiously (as it were) spoken, when they intend thereby to mischive and abuse it [sc. Religion]. 1785 W. FORBES *Dominie* 14 Some strain'd their lungs, And very loud me mischiev'd With their ill tongues.

†**Mischie·ved,** *ppl. a. Obs.* [f. MISCHIEVE *v.* + -ED[1]. Cf. OF. *meschevé* unfortunate.] Ruined.

1580 TUSSER *Husb.* x. (1878) 23 Happie is he..that can take heede by the fall of a mischieued man.

Mischie·ving, *vbl. sb.* Now *dial.* or *arch.* [f. MISCHIEVE *v.* + -ING[1].] †**a.** Mishap, misfortune, disaster. *Obs.* **b.** Injury, hurt, damage.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 7706 Peruore þerinne wel [*read* uel] mony mis cheuing. 1432 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 405/2 For reboylyng or wexyng long or unresonable excesse of suche lyes, or sum other untrowed meschevyng..thei wex all noght or litell of value. *c* 1447 in *Jarrow & Wearmouth* (Surtees) 241 Y^e^ said kepper and his felowe durste nott abide w^t^ in ye said place for drede of mychevyng. 1737 WHISTON *Josephus, Hist.* II. xviii. § 4 He abused both to the mischieving of his countrymen.

†**Mischie·ving,** *ppl. a. Obs.* [f. MISCHIEVE *v.* + -ING[1].] Hurtful, injurious.

1621 LADY M. WROTH *Urania* 313 He might chuse the most mischeuing, and most speeding hurt for him.

Mischievous (mi·stʃivəs), *a.* Forms: *a.* 4 **mischuos, myschefous,** 4–5 **meschevous,** 4–6 **mis-, myschevous,** 5 **meschievous, -chyevous, myschevos, -us, -es, myschyvys, myshevouse,** 6 **mischevos, mischefous, mischevus, mischiefous, mischivous, mischeevous,** *Sc.* **mischeivous, mischeifais,** 7 **mischeifous,** 6– **mischievous.** *β.* 6–8 **mischevious,** 7– *dial.* **mischievious.** [a. AF. *meschevous* (*c* 1400), f. OF. *meschev-er* MISCHIEVE *v.* or *meschef* MISCHIEF *sb.*: see -OUS.

The stressing on the second syllable was common in literature till about 1700; it is now dialectal and vulgar.]

†**1.** Unfortunate, calamitous, disastrous. Chiefly of events; also occas. of persons, miserable, needy, poverty-stricken. *Obs.*

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 158 Whan kyng R. herd of þat mischuos tide [orig. *la meschaunce*], & how his schippis misferd. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 389 Þis almes-ʒevynge haþ made alle owre rewme..full pore and nedy and myscheuous. *c* 1412 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 4713 Þogh þat a man disceuere & pleyne To many a lord his mescheuous myserie. *c* 1450 *Merlin* 5 Synne draweth bothe man and woman to myshevouse ende. 1556 LAUDER *Tractate* 453 Quho list to pryde pretend, May be assurde of ane mischeuous end. 1563–83 FOXE *A. & M.* II. 810/2 Who sayde..that before this day seuenth night Hunne should haue a mischieuous death.

absol. *a* 1380 *St. Augustine* 870 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1878) 76 Þe vessel..of holichirche..He wolde breke and melte hit smal, þe mescheuous to parte wiþ al.

2. Of persons and animals, or their dispositions: Producing or designing mischief or harm; inflicting damage or injury; having a harmful influence or intent.

Now *rare*, owing to the predominance of sense 4.

1473 WARKW. *Chron.* (Camden) 11 The Lorde Say.. and other myscheves peple that were aboute the Kynge. 1535 COVERDALE *Susanna* 28 Y^e^ two elders came also, full of mischeuous ymaginacions agaynst Susanna, to bringe her vnto death. 1563 WINJET *Cert. Tractates* Wks. (S.T.S.) II. 33 Quhen that mischeuous Nestorius..began to ryve the flok of Christe. 1595 SPENSER *Epithal.* 342 Ne let mischivous witches with theyr charmes..Fray us. 1601 SHAKS. *Jul. C.* II. i. 33 Thinke him as a Serpents egge, Which hatch'd, would as his kinde grow mischeuous, And kill him in the shell. 1677 in *12th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 37 Some mischievous persons to dishonour my Lord Chancellour..stole the Mace and the two purses. 1724 RICHARDSON *De Foe's Tour Gt. Brit.* (1769) IV. 35 A People uncivilized, warlike, and very mischievous, commonly called Highland-men; who, being the true Race of antient Scots, speak Irish. 1860 WHARTON *Lex Lex.* (ed. 2) s. v. *Animals*, Domestic animals, or animals not naturally mischievous, such as dogs or oxen.

3. Of things, events, actions: Fraught with or entailing mischief or harm; having harmful effects or results.

a. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 390 Þis mischeuous peruertynge of cristis ordenance. *c* 1471 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 277 Thayre myschevus dedis avaylid ham noughte. 1553 EDEN *Treat. Newe Ind.* (Arb.) 31 They committed innumerable wronges and mischieuous actes. 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* II. (Arb.) 51 Through wals downe razed wee draw thee mischeuus engyn. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* c 3 b, The mischievous Storm continuing. 1736 BUTLER *Anal.* I. iii. Wks. 1874 I. 53 Vicious actions are, to a great degree, actually punished as mischievous to society. 1792 BURKE *Corr.* (1844) III. 398 The opinions, principles, and practices, which I thought so very mischievous. 1870 LOWELL *Among my Bks.* Ser. I. (1873) 195 A mischievous fallacy. 1888 BRYCE *Amer. Commw.* I. xxvi. 403 To resist a momentary impulse of their constituents which they think mischievous.

β. 1571–2 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* Ser. I. II. 121 Thair mischevious querrell. 1648 J. BEAUMONT *Psyche* X. cclxvii, Th' alarmed Gadarens .. loading him with chains and fetters, hop'd They now had his mischievious torrent stop'd. 1675 TRAHERNE *Chr. Ethics* 323 Love without discretion is a mischievious thing. 1747 in *Col. Rec. Pennsylv.* V. 111 The many mischevious consequences that arose [etc.].

4. Of persons, their conduct, etc.: Disposed to or characterized by acts of playful malice or petty annoyance.

1676 WYCHERLEY *Pl. Dealer* v. i, Don't we esteem the Monky a Wit amongst Beasts, only because he's mischievous? 1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* II. i, And well remembering how mischievous all Children among us naturally are to Sparrows, Rabbits [etc.]. 1856 MISS YONGE *Daisy Chain* II. ix. 432 She .. was only waked by Meta, standing over her with a sponge, looking very mischievous. 1865 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* XIX. viii. (1872) VIII. 260 M. de Voltaire had.. a big Ape, of excessively mischievous turn; who used to throw stones at the passers-by.

5. *Comb.*, as *mischievous-eyed, -minded* adjs.; †**mischievous-stomached** *a.*, ill-tempered.

1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* (1586) 125 b, Moyles that..are..rugged of their body, and mischeuous stomaked [orig. *animo indomito*]. 1641 *True Rel. Dev. Des. Pap. Oxf.* A 3 Mischievous minded wretches. 1887 P. MCNEILL *Blatewarie* xv. 116 'Hey, chappie', cried out a mischievous-eyed wench, quite unable to restrain her mirth.

Mischievously (mi·stʃivəsli), *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY[2].] In a mischievous manner.

†**1.** Unfortunately, disastrously, miserably. *Obs.*

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 14107 Mescheuously þen fel such cas þat sire Wawayn slayn þer was. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 387 Þer schuld no man haue be mischeuously nedy. 1430–40 LYDG. *Bochas* IV. xxiii. *heading*, Duke Brennus delighting to rob and steale, mischeuously ended. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S. T. S.) 182 Except ze mend,..ze sall end all mischeuouslie. 1660 R. COKE *Power & Subj.* 166 The same judgment is to be given upon him, who mischievously ended his life with pain.

†**2.** Wickedly. (Cf. MISCHIEF *sb.* 6.) *Obs.*

1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* X. vii. 424 His squyers they said hit was foul done, and meschyeuously.

3. In such a manner as to produce injury or damage; with injurious effect, result, or intention.

1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* lxxiv. 17 Sic deidlie dwawmes so mischeifaislie..hes my hairt ouirpast. 1512 *Act* 4 *Hen. VIII*, c. 20 *Preamble*, The said..myschevously disposed persons. 1583 STUBBES *Anat. Abus.* II. (1882) 6 To dispense with them that shall thus mischieuouslye behaue themselues. *a* 1614 DONNE *Biathanatos* (1644) 74 Not likely to write any thing in jest mischieuously interpretable. 1647 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* IV. § 154 The King was very mischievously advised. 1775 ADAIR *Amer. Ind.* 339 By mischievously endeavouring to foment a civil war. 1839 THIRLWALL *Greece* xi. II. 76 Though it was often mischievously abused, it may be questioned whether it was not a salutary precaution. 1885 *Truth* 28 May 839/2 Lord Beaconsfield never exercised his patronage so mischievously as when he raised Dr. Ryle to the Bench.

4. With playful maliciousness.

1730 W. HARTE *Ess. Sat.* 8 The Verse..nicely pointed in th' Horatian way Wounds keen, like Syrens mischievously gay. 1786 tr. *Beckford's Vathek* (1883) 89, I had rather his teeth should mischievously press my finger than the richest ring of the imperial treasure. 1803 LAMB *Let. to Coleridge* 13 Apr., I mischievously wished that by some inauspicious jolt the whole contents might be shaken.

Mischievousness (mi·stʃivəsnės). [-NESS.] The quality or condition of being mischievous; injuriousness, harmfulness, perniciousness.

1567 *Lucres & Eurialus* G ij b (Roxb.) 150 Myscheuousnes be not too be encreased but too be lessed. 1647 TRAPP *Comm. Rev.* xii. 3 A Dragon the devil is called..for his mischievousnesse. *a* 1715 BURNET *Own Time* III. (1724) I. 525 Many were sensible of the mischievousness of such a precedent. 1790 MARSHALL *Rur. Econ. Midl.* 56 A striking instance of the..mischievousness of mice. 1829 BENTHAM *Justice & Cod. Petit., Abr. Petit. Justice* 3 The system.. would remain as it does in all its mischievousness. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 1 Dec. 5/4 The tendency to scandal-mongering..only equalled..in mischievousness by the spirit of rationalism.

Mischoi·ce. [MIS-[1] 4.] Wrong or improper choice.

a 1684 LEIGHTON *Comm.* 1 *Pet.* i. 13 (1693) 132 The great error of Mans mind..is the diverting of the soul from God, ..and this mischoyce is the very root of all our miseries. 1882 *Advance* (Chicago) 1 June, A mis-choice at such a time would be a misfortune. 1891 *Daily News* 2 Nov. 4/8 The mis-choice or misuse of a pronoun. 1896 J. WATSON *Mind of Master* v. 99 Sin is not merely a mistake or a misfit; it is a deliberate mischoice.

Mischoo·se, *v.* [MIS-[1] 1.] *trans.* and *intr.* To choose wrongly; to make a wrong choice (of).

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 190 In ðe moste and in ðe leste he [*sc.* Adam] forles His louerd-hed quuanne he mis-ches. *a* 1407 SCOGAN *Moral Ballad* 187, I wolde be sory, if that ye mischese. 1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* v. lxv. § 5 Unlesse they [*sc.* ceremonies] be either greatly mischosen .. or els [etc.]. 1601 STOW *Ann.* 1286 (an. 1596) But that we mischose the

daie attempting so great a worke vpon his daie of rest. 1665 Boyle *Occas. Reft.* I. vii. (1848) 89 If th' end be not mischosen, the means are to be estimated by their tendency thereunto. 1847 Emerson *Repr. Men, Shakspere* (1850) 149 The madness with which the passing age mischooses the object on which all candles shine.

So **Mischoo·sing** *vbl. sb.*, **Mischo·sen** *ppl. a.*

c 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (Verse) 2247 þai sal cum To reknyng on þe day of dome For þer myschesing þam omang. 1597 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* v. lxii. § 20 This and the like mischosen resemblances. 1643 Milton *Divorce* Wks. 1851 IV. 52 To..shut up..the one with a mischosen mate, the other in a mistaken calling. *Ibid.* 87 Whom .. onely marriage ruins, which doubtlesse is not the fault of that ordinance, for God gave it as a blessing, nor alwayes, of mans mischoosing. 1895 *Century Mag.* Aug. 577/1 [A cat] whose mis-chosen tail was already a source of questioning self-contemplation.

† **Mischri·sten,** *v. Obs.* [Mis-[1] 1.] = Mis-baptize 1.

a 1631 Donne *Serm.* (1649) II. xxiv. 201 They did not onely mis-canonize men, made Devills Saints, but they mis-christened men, put names to persons..that never were.

Mischuos, obs. form of Mischievous.

Miscibility (misibi·lĭti). [f. Miscible: see -ity.] The quality or condition of being miscible; capability of being mixed (*with* something else).

1754 *Phil. Trans.* XLVIII. 683 The miscibility of platina with metallic bodies. 1786 *Ibid.* LXXVI. 118 Miscibility with water. 1896 *Blackw. Mag.* May 685 The miscibility of racial traits. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 248 The solubility, miscibility with fluids, and cohesiveness of the dust.

Miscible (mi·sib'l), *a.* (*sb.*) [ad. L. type **miscibilis*, f. *miscēre* to mix: see -ible. Cf. F. *miscible.*] Capable of being mixed (*with* something).

1570 Dee *Math. Pref.* *iij, When you haue two thinges Miscible, whose degrees are truely knowen. 1660 Stanley *Hist. Philos.* IX. (1687) 567/1 The Soul of the World God inkindled in the midst..; which (Soul) being not easily miscible, was not without difficulty contemperated. 1750 G. Hughes *Barbados* 106 Tho' oils in general..are not miscible with water. 1790 Burke *Fr. Rev.* 163 All these had kept the landed and monied interests more separated in France, less miscible. 1807 T. Thomson *Chem.* (ed. 3) II. 380 Alcohol has a strong affinity for water, and is miscible with it in every proportion. 1885 Goodale *Physiol. Bot.* (1892) 221 Two liquids which are not miscible—for instance, oil and water.

† b. *sb.* A substance that will mix with another.

1660 Ingelo *Bentiv. & Ur.* II. (1682) 126 Produc'd by the Commixture of such antecedent Miscibles. 1678 R. Russell tr. *Geber* II. I. II. iii. 43 In Animals..there is not a perficient Proportion, nor miscibles of Proportion, nor Qualities of Miscibles.

Hence **Mi·scibleness** *rare*—[0], miscibility.

1736 Bailey (fol.), *Miscibleness.*

Mis-cipher (mis,səi·fəɹ), *v. rare.* [Mis-[1] 1.] *trans.* To express wrongly in cipher; † to affix a wrong numeral figure to.

1644 Marq. Ormonde *Let.* in Carte *Coll.* (1735) 290 The person's name, from whom it was sent..[was] certainly mis-cyphered. 1657 J. Sergeant *Schism Dispach't* 172 He proceeds, upon this mistake of his own and the Printer's mis-ciphering it, to call my sixth the seventh. 1893 S. R. Gardiner in *Hamilton Papers* (Camden) 22 Aversion [*note*: *Sic.* ? mis-ciphered for 'diversion'].

Mis-citation (mis,səitē·ʃən). [Mis-[1] 4.] Incorrect citation.

1634 Bp. Hall *Residue Contempl.* 190 What a mis-citation is this? 'Moses commanded'. The law was Gods, not Moseses. 1896 Saintsbury *Hist. 19th Cent. Lit.* v. 250 He made his own case worse by mis-citation.

Mis-cite (mis,səi·t), *v.* [Mis-[1] 1.] *trans.* To cite or quote incorrectly. Also **Misci·ting** *vbl. sb.*

1591 Sylvester *Du Bartas* I. iii. 939 So Antichrists.. Miss-cite the Scriptures. *a* 1609 Donne *Lett., To Sir H. Goodyere* (1651) 161 For this particular Author, I looked for more prudence..in him, in avoiding all miscitings, or mis-interpretings. 1620 Bp. Hall *Hon. Marr. Clergy* I. i, If Satan haue mis-cited the psalme 'Hee shall giue His angels charge ouer thee', for temptation. 1700 Collier *2nd Def. Short View* 20 Is the Testimony miscited? 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 20 May 3/2 Nor do I blame [him]..for mis-citing the Act of Parliament which he venerates.

† **Miscla·d,** *pa. pple. Obs.* [Mis-[1] 2.] Wearing wrong clothes.

1494 Fabyan *Chron.* III. liv. 35 [He] chaunged his..Armure and dydde vpon hym the Armoure of a Brytayne, and by that meane as a Bryton mysclad [etc.].

Misclai·m, *sb.* [Mis-[1] 4.] A wrong or mistaken claim.

a 1626 Bacon (J.), Error, misclaim, and forgetfulness, become suitors for some remission of extreme rigour.

Misclai·ming, *vbl. sb.* [Mis-[1] 3.] Wrongful claiming.

1583 Golding *Calvin on Deut.* cxiii. 694 Notwithstanding his misclaiming of the priuiledge.

Miscla·ss, *v.* [Mis-[1] 1.] *trans.* To put in the wrong class.

1782 Ayscough *Catal. MSS. Brit. Mus.* II. 907 Manuscripts which had been misclassed, or overlooked.

Mi·sclassifica·tion. [Mis-[1] 4.] Erroneous classification.

1827 Hare *Guesses* Ser. I. (1873) 80 The misclassifications ..produced by a general term. 1901 W. Callaway in *Publ. Mod. Lang. Assoc. Amer.* XVI. 155 In such a mass of details occasional..misclassifications are inevitable.

Miscle, variant of Missel, mistletoe.

† **Miscle·ping,** *vbl. sb. Obs.* [Mis-[1] 3.] Misnaming.

1387-8 T. Usk *Test. Love* I. x. (Skeat) I. 46 Thus is night turned in-to day, and day in-to night,..not in dede, but in misclepinge of foliche people.

Misc'line, obs. form of Maslin [2].

Misco·gnizant, -isant, *a. Law.* Also 7 -conusant. [a. AF. **mesconisant, -usant* = OF. *mescognoissant, -conissant*, f. *mes-* Mis-[2] + *cognoissant*, pres. pple. of *cognoistre* (mod. F. *connaître*) to know.] Ignorant *of.*

1540 *Act* 32 *Hen. VIII*, c. 9 § 5 That no maner of personne ..shuld be ignorante or miscognisaunt of the..penalities therin specified. 1586 *Act* 28 *Eliz.* c. 1 in Bolton *Stat. Irel.* (1621) 386 To the intent no person or persons shall be ignorant or misconisant of the penalties herein contayned. 1628 Coke *On Litt.* 99 The King shall not be intended to be miscognisant of the Law.

† **Miscognize,** *v. Obs. rare*—[1]. [ad. OF. *mescognoiss-*, stem of *mescognoistre* (mod. F. *méconnaître*): for the form cf. Cognize and Recognize.] *trans.* To fail to appreciate or acknowledge.

1603 Holland *Plutarch's Mor.* 1092 The good never intervert, nor miscognize the favour and benefit which they have received.

Miscolle, obs. variant of Miskal.

† **Miscolle·ction.** *Obs.* [Mis-[1] 4.] A wrong inference.

1610 Bp. Hall *Apol. Brownists* § 6 Wks. (1625) 555 In his words and yours I finde both a miscollection, and a wrong charge. 1615 Sylvester *Job Triumph.* xx. 413 Wks. (Grosart) II. 159, I conceive your mis-conceits, from hence; Your mis-collections, and your wrested Sense.

Miscolora·tion. [Mis-[1] 4.] Discoloration.

1822-34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) IV. 540 Miscolourations of the same character as moles, freckles, and sunburn.

Misco·lour, *v.* [Mis-[1] 1.] *trans.* To give a wrong 'colour' to (facts, etc.); to misrepresent.

1809 Syd. Smith *Serm.* I. 31 The imagination always miscolours the facts in these cases. 1844 *Q. Rev.* LXXIV. 91 Many of the leading politicians..perverted by the bitterness of party miscoloured and distorted to the public..the motives [etc.]. 1879 Howells *L. Aroostook* 139 You have no right to miscolor my words.

Misco·loured, *a.* [Mis-[1] 6.] Improperly coloured.

1658 Hexham, *Misverwet*, Ill-dyed, or Mis-coloured. *a* 1684 Leighton *Comm.* 1 *Pet.* iii. 21 Wks. (1859) 223/2 Looking through the miscoloured glass of their own malice. 1822-34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) IV. 531 Miscoloured hair.

Misco·louring, *vbl. sb.* [Mis-[1] 3.] Attributing a false colour.

1669 Pepys *Let.* 21 Nov., The miscolouring, misfiguring, diminishing, or undue magnifying, of an object.

† **Misco·mfort,** *sb. Obs.* [Mis-[1] 7.] Distress, desolation, trouble; = Discomfort *sb.* 2.

c 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 2992 He ne wyste what lond ne port He was aryued, for mys-comfort. *a* 1340 Hampole *Psalter* lxxii. 19 How ar þai made in miscomforth [*in desolacionem*]. 1387-8 T. Usk *Test. Love* I. iv. (Skeat) I. 4 Than thought me that Love gan a litel to hevye for miscomfort of my chere. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 241/1 A Miscomforthe, *mesticia.* 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 42 b, To theyr great confusyon & miscomfort.

† **Misco·mfort,** *v. Obs.* [Mis-[1] 7.] *trans.* To trouble, distress, disturb.

1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 8508 To chastyse hym.. þat he myscumfort eft noun oþer. *a* 1340 Hampole *Psalter* lxxii. 19 How ar þai miscomforthed. *Ibid.* cxix. 4 Arnys sharpe of þe myghty with kolis myscomfortand [*cum carbonibus desolatoribus*]. 1470-85 Malory *Arthur* X. xxix. 460 Fyghte frely..& myscomforte yow noughte for ony knyȝt. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 241/1 To Miscomforthe, *desolari.*

Mi·scomprehe·nd, *v.* [Mis-[1] 1.] *trans.* To comprehend wrongly, misunderstand.

1813 T. Busby *Lucretius* I. II. *Comm.* vi, The preceptor of Nero seems to have miscomprehended the poet. 1899 Baring-Gould *Bk. of West* I. 16, I am quite certain to be miscomprehended by them.

Mi·scomprehe·nsion. [Mis-[1] 4.] Misunderstanding.

1856 J. W. Kaye *Life Sir J. Malcolm* I. xv. 499 In either case, of disobedience or miscomprehension, he had proved himself..unworthy of the confidence. 1891 Kipling *Life's Handicap* p. ix, [They] stare at each other hopelessly across great gulfs of miscomprehension.

Mi·scomputa·tion. [Mis-[1] 4.] Miscalculation, misreckoning.

1647 Clarendon *Hist. Reb.* II. § 71 A very gross miscomputation. *a* 1674 *Ibid.* VIII. § 2. 1728 Morgan *Algiers* I. IV. 116 Many Writers .. make great Miscomputations in their References of the Hejira to our Aera.

† **Miscompute,** *sb. Obs.*—[1] [Mis-[1] 4.] = prec.

1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* VII. XVIII. 380 As he maketh the account, and Budeus *de Asse* correcting the miscompute of Valla, delivereth it.

Miscompu·te, *v.* [Mis-[1] 1.] *intr.* To miscalculate, misreckon.

1672 Wallis in Rigaud *Corr. Sci. Men* (1841) II. 532 Excuse me if I have in haste miscomputed. 1726 T. Madox *Firma Burgi* Pref. b j, I intended it should make onely a Pamflet..But I miscomputed.

Misconcei·t, *sb.* Now *arch.* [Mis-[1] 4.] = Misconception. (Common in the 17th c.)

1576 in *Grindal's Wks.* (Parker Soc.) 408 To remove the scrupulousness and misconceits of some few. 1596 Spenser *F. Q.* IV. vi. 2 Full of melancholie and sad misfare Through misconceipt. *a* 1600 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* VI. (1648) 119 A misconceit whereby they imagine every act which they doe knowing that they doe amisse..to bee mere sinne against the Holy Ghost. 1635 Sibbes *Confer. Christ & Mary* (1656) 4 She had a misconceipt of Christ, as if he had been the gardiner. *a* 1716 South *Serm.* (1744) VII. ii. 40 That general misconceit of the Jews, about the kingdom of the Messiah. 1855 Singleton *Virgil* II. 172 Whether is it by misconceit of course, Or driv'n by storms..Ye've come within the margents of our flood. 1870 Swinburne *Ess. & Stud.* (1875) 105 Taintless of jealousy or misconceit.

Misconcei·t, *v. arch.* [Mis-[1] 1.] *trans.* To have a wrong conception or false idea of; to think erroneously (that..).

1595 Mundav *John a Kent* (Shaks. Soc.) 20 You wrong them, madame, if you misconceite That you or they shall be unnobly usde. 1599 Nashe *Lenten Stuffe* 73 If you would not misconceit that I studiously intended your defamation. 1606 J. Ford *Honor Triumphant* (Shaks. Soc.) 5 Else had I misconceited mine owne hopes, and beene gravelled in mine owne conceipts. 1677 Gilpin *Demonol.* (1867) 176 If this humour..misconceit inspiration or prophecy. 1871 R. Ellis tr. *Catullus* xvi. 4 You that..Misconceit me, sophisticate me wanton.

† **Misconcei·ted,** *a. Obs.* [Mis-[1] 6.] **a.** Wrongly supposed. **b.** Having a wrong idea *of.*

1600 Breton *Melan. Humours* (Grosart) 10/2 Feede not thy self with misconceipted goode. 1633 Bp. Hall *Hard Texts, N. T.* 118 Those wch are fondly and proudly misconceited of their..wisdom.

Misconcei·ve, *v.* [Mis-[1] 1.]

1. *intr.* To have a false conception or entertain wrong notions (*of*). Also with clause, † to suspect (= Misdeem *v.* 6 b).

c 1386 Chaucer *Merch. T.* 1166 He that misconceyveth, he misdemeth. *c* 1585 *Faire Em* III. 1236 You know it's for your cause It pleaseth thus the King to misconceive of me. 1611 Bible 2 *Macc.* iii. 32 The high Priest suspecting lest the king should misconceiue [Coverdale suspecte] that some treachery had beene done to Heliodorus by the Iewes. 1862 F. Hall *Refut. Hindu Philos. Syst.* 90 Even if I granted, that some men thus misconceive, still such a mistake would not be one of perception, but one of inference.

2. *trans.* To form an erroneous conception of; to misapprehend (a word, an action, etc.); to mistake the meaning of (a person).

1597 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* V. i. § 1 To yeeld them .. reasonable causes of those things, which, for want of due consideration heretofore, they misconceiued. 1605 Timme *Quersit.* Pref. iii, A bad heart misconceiueth good actions. 1642 Milton *Apol. Smect.* Wks. 1851 III. 254 As for others who ..have yet decreed to mis-interpret the intents of my reply, I suppose they would have found as many causes to have misconceav'd the reasons of my silence. 1794 Burke *Sp. agst. W. Hastings* Wks. 1827 VIII. 250 If I have understood the matter wrong, or misconceived your design. 1828 Scott *F. M. Perth* vi, I cannot suffer my feelings .. to remain unexplained, without the possibility of my being greatly misconceived. 1841 J. F. Cooper *Deerslayer* I. i. 10 The Mengwe fill the woods with their lies, and misconceive words and treaties. 1867 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* (1877) I. iv. 229 The translator seems to misconceive his meaning.

Misconcei·ved, *ppl. a.* [Mis-[1] 2.]

1. Wrongly or erroneously conceived.

1595 Spenser *Epithal.* 337 Ne let false whispers..Breake gentle sleepe with misconceiued dout. 1629 H. Burton *Truth's Triumph* 343 A mis-alledged place, or a mis-conceiued allegation. 1640 Bp. Hall *Episc.* I. i. 3 Being wedded to the love of this misconceived pomp. 1800 *Proc. E. Ind. Ho.* in *Asiat. Ann. Reg.* II. 133/1 He believed..when he first read that paper, that it was a hasty and misconceived production. 1884 Sir E. E. Kay in *Law Times Rep.* (N. S.) I. 323/1 All I can say is, that this motion seems to be misconceived, and that it must be refused with costs.

† **2.** Having a misconception or wrong idea.

1591 Shaks. 1 *Hen. VI*, V. iv. 49 No misconceyued, lone of Airc bath beene A Virgin from her tender infancie. *a* 1612 Harington *Epigr.* (1633) I. 56 Take heed henceforth you be not misconceived.

Misconcei·ver. [Mis-[1] 5.] One who forms misconceptions.

a 1625 Fletcher *Nice Valour* II. i, What a mis-conceiver 'tis. 1684 Baxter *Answ. Theol. Dial.* 21 An erring Conscience is no Lawmaker, but a misconceiver. 1827 Hare *Guesses* (1859) 109 Armed at all points against carpers and misconceivers. 1891 E. Abbott *Philomythus* Introd. 45 A misconceiver of it [*sc.* truth].

Misconcei·ving, *vbl. sb.* [Mis-[1] 3.] Misconception.

a 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* III. (1629) 232 And to be fallen from all happinesse, not by any misconceiuing, but by his owne fault. 1616 Bacon *Exceptions to Coke's Rep.* Wks. 1827 VII. 372 Any mistaking either in the declaring thereof unto him, or in his misconceiving of the same. 1685 Baxter *Paraphr. N. T.* John iv. 25 Even the Samaritans expected the Messiah: But with misconceivings of him.

Misconcei·ving, *ppl. a.* [Mis-[1] 2.] That misconceives; having false notions. In first quot., *causally*, productive of misconception.

1590 Spenser *F. Q.* III. x. 47 And misty dampe of misconceyving night. 1598 Yong *Diana* IV. 114, I was then so trustles and misconceiuing of my selfe, that [etc.]. 1628 Strafford in Browning *Life* (1891) 295 They were the wise intelligent men, and we..the ignorant, the misconceiving.

† **Misconcept.** *Obs.* [Mis-[1] 4.] Misconception.

1616 W. Haig in Russell *Haigs* (1881) vii. 157 To have been..freed..of all misconcept they may have bred in your Majesty of me.

Misconce·ption. [Mis-[1] 4.] The action or an act of misconceiving; a notion resulting from misconceiving.

1665 Glanvill *Scepsis Sci.* x. 53 It cannot be that our knowledge should be other, then an heap of Misconception and Error. 1672 Harvey *Anat. Consumptions* (ed. 2) ii. 4 The great errors and dangers, that may result out of a misconception of the names of things. 1809-10 Coleridge *Friend* (1865) 97 There is another use of the word reason... and more exposed to misconception. 1873 Symonds *Grk.*

Poets xii. 417 To suppose that the Greeks were not a highly moralized race is perhaps the strangest misconception to which religious prejudice has ever given rise.

† Misconclu·de, *v. Obs.*$^{-1}$ [MIS-^{1} 1.] *intr.* To draw wrong conclusions.

1636 T. GOODWIN *Child of Light* 34 Concerning which, men are more apt..to make..false Syllogismes, and to misconclude, then about any other spirituall truth.

† Misconclu·der. *Obs.*$^{-1}$ [MIS-^{1} 5.] One who draws wrong conclusions.

1684 BAXTER *Par. Congreg.* 8, I am specially obliged to answer such misconcluders, lest they make my writings a means of deceit against my sence.

Misconclu·sion. [MIS-^{1} 4.] A wrong or false conclusion.

a 1631 DONNE *Lett. to Pers. Hon.* (1651) 164 We must take heed of making misconclusions upon the want of it [*sc.* unity in religion]. 1634 BP. HALL *Fash. of World* 379 Away, then, with all the false-positions, and misconclusions, all the fantasticall, or wicked thoughts of the world.

Misco·nduct, *sb.* [MIS-^{1} 4.]

1. Bad management; mismanagement. Often quasi-*spec.*, malfeasance or culpable neglect of an official in regard to his office.

1710 PALMER *Proverbs* 2 Princes have lost their crowns by the mis-conduct of the first year of their reigns. 1736 LEOIARD *Life Marlborough* II. 357 This new Commander, by some unaccountable Misconduct,..suffer'd himself to be surprized. 1788 BURKE *Sp. agst. W. Hastings* Wks. 1827 VIII. 314 Whenever in any matter of money there is concealment, you must presume misconduct. 1863 H. Cox *Instit.* III. ii. 599 Censure..of ministers of the Crown for misconduct of diplomatic affairs.

2. Improper conduct; wrong behaviour. Now often, in judicial trials, *spec.* in the sense of 'adultery'.

a 1729 ROGERS 19 *Serm.* (1735) xii. 236 It..highly concerned them to reflect, how great Obligations..the Memory of their past Misconduct..laid on them ..to walk with Care and Circumspection. 1748 THOMSON *Cast. Indol.* II. lxxii, Let wisdom be by past misconduct learned. 1869 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1875) III. xii. 111 Stirred up by the misconduct of their eldest son. 1879 BLAKISTON *Teacher* 6 When a teacher feels his temper ruffled by a child's misconduct.

† **b.** *pl.* Instances of misconduct. *Obs.*

1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 256 ¶ 4 Such as are guilty .. of the same Slips or Misconducts in their own Behaviour. 1771 GOLDSM. *Hist. Eng.* I. 106 His misconducts were incurable. 1857 GEN. P. THOMPSON *Audi Alt.* I. iii. 8 All malpractices and misconducts shall be smothered by the exercise of brute force at our expense.

Miscondu·ct, *v.* [MIS-^{1} 1.]

1. *trans.* To mismanage.

1755 JOHNSON, *To misconduct*, to manage amiss; to carry on wrong. 1794 BURKE *Sp. agst. W. Hastings* Wks. 1827 VIII. 125 The administration misconducted the people oppressed. 1885 *Law Times* LXXVIII. 167/1 The second [sale], though not misconducted, had not realised the value of the property.

2. *refl.* To misbehave oneself.

1883 SIR EDWARD FRY in *Law Rep.* (11 Q. B. Div.) 596 A barrister may be .. reprimanded by the judge if he misconducts himself in court.

Misconje·cture, *sb. rare.* [MIS-^{1} 4.] Erroneous conjecture.

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* V. xxi. 272 We hope they wil plaindily receave our attempts, or candidely correct our misconjectures. 1822 GALT *Sir A. Wylie* I. xxxii. 317 There may be some misunderstanding or misconjecture.

Misconje·cture, *v. rare*$^{-1}$. [MIS-^{1} 1.] *intr.* To make wrong conjectures.

a 1626 BACON *Ch. Eng. Controv.* in *Resuscitatio* (1657) 166 Many Pressing, and Fawning Persons do misconjecture, of the Humours, of Men in Authority.

Misconju·nction. [MIS-^{1} 4.] A wrong conjunction.

1867 BUSHNELL *Mor. Uses Dark Th.* 128 There is no misconjunction so absurd as that of safety and wrong. 1898 *Atlantic Monthly* Apr. 461/1 The road..was..a diabolical misconjunction of slipperiness and supreme adhesiveness.

Misco·nsecrate, *v. rare*$^{-0}$. [MIS-^{1} 1.] *trans.* To consecrate improperly. 1872 in LATHAM.

Misco·nsecrated, *ppl. a.* [MIS-^{1} 2.] **a.** Consecrated to a wrong purpose. **b.** Improperly consecrated.

1634 BP. HALL *Def. Cruelties* 428 Our prayers were the gale..that tore these mis-consecrated flags, and sayles. 1880 BURTON *Reign Q. Anne* I. i. 42 He evaded the Communion, and so escaped desecration through the misconsecrated elements.

Misconsecra·tion. [MIS-^{1} 4.] Improper or invalid consecration.

1664 H. MORE *Myst. Iniq.* 132 This succession may be interrupted by the misordination or misconsecration of a priest or bishop.

Misco·nstruable, *a.* [f. MISCONSTRUE *v.* + -ABLE.] Capable of misconstruction.

a 1734 NORTH *Exam.* I. ii. § 160 If he had been taken up as a presupposed Prostitute out of the Goal..it had been misconstruable.

Misconstru·ct, *v.* [MIS-^{1} 1.]

† **1.** Chiefly *Sc.* = MISCONSTRUE. *Obs.*

1637 GILLESPIE *Eng. Pop. Cerem.* II. i. 7 Except as it is misreported .. and misconstructed..by the false Calumnies of our Adversaries. 1666 ABP. SHARP *Let. to Dk. Rothes* in Kirkton *Ch. Hist.* (1817) 213 *note*, To have their carriage, inclinations, and actions .. misconstructed. 1678 SIR G. MACKENZIE *Crim. Laws Scot.* I. i. § 4. 12 The doing what may tend to misconstruct, or raise jealousies. 1685 EARL OF ARGYLE *Last Sp.* in Wodrow *Hist. Ch. Scot.* (1722) II. 545, I pray you do not misconstruct my Behaviour this Day. 1795 MCKNIGHT *Apost. Epist.* (1820) I. 183 Dost thou form a wrong opinion of the goodness of God? Dost thou misconstruct it?

2. To construct badly. *rare*$^{-1}$.

1823 DE QUINCEY *Lett. to Yng. Man* Wks. 1860 XIV. 39 He fails to construct some leading idea, or he even misconstructs it.

Misconstru·ction. [MIS-^{1} 4.]

1. The action of misconstruing; the putting of a wrong construction on words or actions.

1513 MORE in Grafton *Chron.* (1568) II. 760 Sometime a thing right well entended, oure misconstruction turneth it to worsse. 1605 SHAKS. *Lear* II. ii. 124. 1662 *Bk. Com. Prayer* Pref., Words and phrases .. liable to misconstruction. 1677 HORNECK *Gt. Law Consid.* ii. (1704) 58 Misconstructions of the ways of God. 1790 PALEY *Horæ Paul.* 210 To rectify the misconstruction that had been put upon his words. 1846 *Mirror of Literature* Sept. 119 Being well aware that misconstructions are apt to be placed on the projector of any new scheme. 1885 *Law Times Rep.* LII. (N. S.) 675/1 The language..is open to misconstruction.

2. Faulty or bad construction. *rare.*

1819 W. S. ROSE *Lett.* II. 21 Misconstructions and misconjugations allowed in the Tuscan and rejected in the Italian. 1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) III. 56 Some misconstruction or misaffection of the cerebral organs. *Ibid.* 408.

Misconstru·ctive, *a.* [f. MISCONSTRUCT + -IVE, after prec.] Characterized by misconstruction.

1649 BP. HALL *Cases Consc.* III. vii. 299 A conceit sensibly weak, and mis-constructive.

Misco·nstrue, *v.* Also (*β*) 6–7 misconster, (-tre, -ture). [MIS-^{1} 1. For stress cf. CONSTRUE.]

1. *trans.* To put a wrong construction upon (words or actions); to mistake the meaning of (a person); to take in a wrong sense.

α. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* I. 346 Ful ofte thy lady wole it misconstrue, And deme it barm in her opinioun. 1513 MORE in Grafton *Chron.* (1568) II. 791 But these words king Edward made to be misconstrued, and enterpreted, that Burdet ment the Crowne of the realme. 1587 GOLDING *De Mornay* xi. (1592) 158 Thou misconstrewest al the good which the bountifull prouidence of God doth vnto thee. 1601 SHAKS. *Jul. C.* v. iii. 84 Alas, thou hast misconstrued euery thing. 1611 BIBLE *Transl. Pref.* ¶ 1 It is sure to bee misconstrued, and in danger to be condemned. *a* 1656 BP. HALL *Rem. Wks.* (1660) 241, I beseech you..misconstrue me not. 1675 OTWAY *Alcibiades* IV. iii, Alas, dear Friend, misconstrue not my Zeal. 1791 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Rom. Forest* viii, I know that young ladies are apt to misconstrue the unmeaning gallantry of fashionable manners. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* V. I. 583 Words, it was said, may easily be misunderstood by an honest man. They may easily be misconstrued by a knave. 1861 DICKENS *Let.* 8 July (1880) II. 144, I fear you may sometimes have misconstrued my silence.

β. 1533 MORE *Apol.* 85 They..of theyr owne fauour to them selfe, mysse constre [Wks. (1557) 869/2 mysse construe] the good mannys mynde. 1579 GOSSON *Sch. Abuse* To Rdr., His schollers were woont, how plaine soeuer he spake, to misconster him. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* II. ii. 197 Least through thy wilde behauiour I he misconsterd in the place I goe to. 1640 GLAPTHORNE *Ladies' Priviledge* I. Wks. 1874 II. 100 Von misconster The intention of my lookes, I am not angry Though much distemper'd. 1678 COLEMAN in *Trial of C.* 59 So as to make them mis-conster all our endeavours. 1869 *Lonsdale Gloss.*, *Misconster*, corr[uption] of misconstrue.

absol. 1609 F. GREVIL *Mustapha* IV. ii. F 2, Enuy tooke hold of worth, doubt did misconster. 1612 BP. HALL *Contempl., O. T.* IV. *Birth of Moses* Wks. (1625) 868 Then, he aggrauates, and misconstrues.

† **b.** *intr. To misconstrue of* (in the same sense). 1581 RICH *Farew.* (1846) 145, I confesse I have trespassed in misconsteryng of your lines. 1588 GREENE *Pandosto* (1607) 4 He then began to..misconsture of their too prinate familiarity.

2. *trans.* To infer wrongly. *rare*$^{-1}$.

1813 SCOTT *Rokeby* IV. xxi, A kindly smile..So kind, that, from its harmless glee, The wretch misconstrued villany

So **Misco·nstruing** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1513 MORE in Grafton *Chron.* (1568) II. 791 By the misconstruing of the lawes of the realme for the princes pleasure. 1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turks* (1621) 1290 A perverse interpretation or misconstruing of words. 1636 COWLEY *Sylva* Wks. (Grosart) I. 25/2 Lest the misconst'ring world should chance to say [etc.].

Misco·nstrued, *ppl. a.* [MIS-^{1} 2.] Construed amiss.

1682 DRYDEN & LEE *Dk. Guise* IV. i, To know The true intent of my mis-constru'd Faith. 1718 PRIOR *Solomon* III. 203 The long depending cause, And doubtful issue of mis-construed laws. 1762 WESLEY *Jrnl.* 5 Feb. (1827) III. 77 A misconstrued text in the Revelation. 1866 J. MARTINEAU *Ess.* I. 127 A labyrinth of misconstrued relations.

Misco·nstruer. Also 6 misconsterer. [MIS-^{1} 5.] One who misconstrues.

1592 CHETTLE *Kind-harts Dr.* (1841) 8 If enuious misconsterers arme themselues against my simple meaning. 1649 BP. HALL *Cases Consc.* III. x. 352 The scripture hath.. set down the severall six dayes, wherein each part of it was distinctly formed: which those misconstruers are fain to understand of the distinct notifications given to the Angels concerning this almighty work.

† Misco·nstruous, *a. Obs.* [f. MISCONSTRUE *v.* + -OUS.] Apt to misconstrue.

1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* I. 4 Misconstruous lack-iudgment.

Misconte·nt, *sb. rare.* [MIS-^{1} 4.] Discontent.

1683 *Sir J. Melville's Mem.* 155 There was at this Time a universal Miscontent [*Bannatyne Club ed.* miscontentement] in the Country. 1827 H. E. LLOYD *Timkowski's Trav.* II. 310 Divorce is frequent among them; the least miscontent on either side is sufficient to procure it.

Misconte·nt, *a. arch.* and *dial.* Also 5–6 myss-, 6 miss-, mes-. [f. MIS-^{1} 6, 7 + CONTENT *a.* Cf. *discontent* (from 1494) and F. *mécontent* (from 1642).] Not content; discontented, dissatisfied; ill-pleased. Const. *with*, *of*.

c 1489 *Corr. Plumpton* (Camden) 170 In any thing which ye are myscontent with. 1519 HORMAN *Vulg.* § 13. 73, I am sore miscontent with thy outragious laughynge afore the peple. 1571 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xxviii. 101 Of this lyfe the Lord was miscontent. 1591 SPARRY tr. *Cattan's Geomancie* Ep. to Rdr. A 4 None..after the vnderstanding and reading therof will be miscontent to confesse that [etc.]. 1637–50 ROW *Hist. Kirk* (Wodrow Soc.) 314 The King was miscontent that no more mischief was done. *a* 1670 SPALDING *Troub. Chas. I* (1829) 7 [He] got not good payment of his fee .. whereat he was miscontent. 1870 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* I. (1896) 212 Nor be ye with him miscontent For that with little ornament Of gold and folk to you he came.

† Misconte·nt, *v. Obs.* [f. MIS-^{1} 1, 7 + CONTENT *v.*, after OF. *mescontenter* (14th c.).] *trans.* To dissatisfy, displease; *refl.* to become discontented.

1498–9 *Plumpton Corr.* (Camden) 133, I am right sory.. that he shold myscontent your mastership & give you cause of accion. 1530 PALSGR. 637/1, I have served hym this seven yere, and I never myscontented hym. 1567 J. SANFORD *Epictetus* A 8 b, Thou shalte be troubled .. & shalte miscontente thy selfe with God and men. 1611 FLORIO, *Miscontentáre*, to miscontent.

† Misconte·ntation. *Obs.* [MIS-^{1} 4, 7. Cf. *discontentation.*] Dissatisfaction.

1523 WOLSEY in Fiddes *Wolsey* Collections (1724) 140 His graces..miscontentation. 1591 SPARRY tr. *Cattan's Geomancie* 127 The man shall not be put from the Court, but hee shall continue there to his great miscontentation.

† Misconte·nted, *a. Obs.* [MIS-^{1} 6, 7. Cf. *discontented.*] Discontented, dissatisfied, displeased.

1534 LD. BERNERS *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) D vij, It was no reson, that suche as came to his seruyce shoulde retourne myscontented. 1575–85 ABP. SANDYS *Serm.* xviii. § 7. 312 So it fareth with miscontented mindes. Their own desires plague them. *a* 1670 SPALDING *Troub. Chas. I* (Spalding Club) I. 78 Ane Meingzie of miscontentit puritanes. 1826 GALT *Last of Lairds* vii, Had she gotten a gentleman of family, I would not have been overly miscontented.

So **† Misconte·ntedly** *adv.*, discontentedly.

1561 T. NORTON *Calvin's Inst.* III. 296 Neither ought we to take it miscontentedly that the outward man be destroyed so that the inwarde man be renued.

† Misconte·nting, *vbl. sb. Obs.* [MIS-^{1} 3, 7.] Discontent, displeasure.

1495 *Act* 11 *Hen. VII*, c. 10 *Preamble*, The murmore grugge and myscontenting of such youre seid subgettes. 1658 HEXHAM, A misliking, or a miscontenting.

Misconte·ntment. *Obs.* exc. *arch.* [f. MIS-^{1} 4, 7 + CONTENTMENT. Cf. OF. *mescontentement* (from 16th c.) and Eng. *discontentment.*] Discontent, dissatisfaction; grievance.

1579 FENTON *Guicciard.* V. (1599) 210 The French king with melancholy moodes and miscontentments tooke occasion to dismisse from his Court the Spanish Embassadors. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* I. xv. (1590) 67 Hauing through some aduenture, or inwarde miscontentment withdrawne bim selfe from any bodies knowledge, where he is. *a* 1670 SPALDING *Troub. Chas. I* (Spalding Club) I. 220 It pleisit his Majestie to send thir miscontentmentis in paper..to Edinbrugh. 1860 MOTLEY *Netherl.* xviii. (1868) II. 379 Alexander..his eyes declaring miscontentment—asked [etc.].

† Misconti·nuance. *Law. Obs.* [AF.; see MIS-^{2}.] Continuance by unlawful process.

In some Law Dicts. confused with DISCONTINUANCE.

1540 *Act* 32 *Hen. VIII*, c. 30 Any myscontynuance or discontinuance or mysconveing of process. 1607 COWELL *Interpr., Miscontinuance*, Kitchin, fol. 231 [*error for* 331]. See *Discontinuance* [*ed.* 1672 *adds* Is the same with Discontinuance]. 1628 COKE *On Litt.* 325 There is..a Discontinuance of Processe consisting in not doing, where the Processe is not continued...There is another erronious proceeding and that consistetb in misdoing, as when one Processe is awarded in stead of another, or when a day is giuen which is not legall, this is called a miscontinuance and if the Tenant or Defendant make default it is error, but if he appeare, then the miscontinuance is saued, otherwise it is of a Discontinuance. 1771 JENKINS *Rep.* II. v. 57 A miscontinuance is where the continuance is made by undue process; a discontinuance is where no continuance is made at all.

Misconusant, variant of MISCOGNIZANT.

† Misconve·rt, *v. Obs.* [MIS-^{1} 1.] *trans.* To convert to wrong uses.

1601 *Act* 43 *Eliz.* c. 4 § 1 Misconvertinge or misgovernemente, of any Landes Tenementes Rentes. 1603 *B. N. C. Munim.* W. 20 (Rodborough), [Tenements] have for a long time been so misused and misconverted.

Misconvey·, *v.* Now *rare.* [MIS-^{1} 1.] *refl.* To convey a wrong impression of one's meaning.

1839 S. WILBERFORCE *Let.* in E. S. Purcell *Life Card. Manning* (1895) I. xiii. 275, I hope he has misconveyed himself to H. E. Manning. 1864 *Saunders' News Letter* 17 Dec., Lest I should have misconveyed myself to the jury.

† Misconvey·ing, *vbl. sb. Obs.* [MIS-^{1} 3.] Mismanagement.

1540 *Act* 32 *Hen. VIII*, c. 30 The pursueing myscontynuying [*v.r.* mysconveying] or discontynuyng.

Miscoo·k, *v.* Chiefly *Sc.* [MIS-^{1} 1.] *trans.* To cook badly; to spoil in cooking. Also *fig.* to mismanage.

1508 DUNBAR *Tua Mariit Wemen* 455 Bot folk a cury may miscuke, that knawledge wantis. 1570 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xvi. 8 This commoun weill he hes miscuikit. 1638 BAILLIE *Lett.* (Bannatyne Cl.) I. 70 These who, by their.. imprudencies, had miscooked all the matter. 1825 JAMIESON, To *Miscook* to mismanage any business; as 'Ye've miscookit a' your kail'. 1864 MRS. CARLYLE *Lett.* III. 206 Food miscooked. 1868 F. E. PAGET *Lucretia* 234 In just retribution for his miscooking his master's chops.

Miscoo·kery. [Mis-[1] 4.] Bad cooking.
1655 Moufet & Bennet *Health's Improv.* xiii. 112 The Tongues of Beasts are..never faulty of themselves, but marred oftentimes by miscookery.

Misco·py, *sb.* [Mis-[1] 4.] An error in copying.
1881 R. G. White *Two Hamlets* in *Atlantic Monthly* Oct. 477/2 It [sc. *sallied*] might be..a misprint or a miscopy of *sullied*. 1899 Æ. J. G. Mackay *Lindesay's Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. p. clv, 'Fiftie' is a miscopy for 'fifteen'.

Misco·py, *v.* [Mis-[1] 1.] *trans.* To copy incorrectly.
1825 Coleridge *Lit. Rem.* (1836) II. 324 These may have been..ignorantly miscopied. 1877 Ruskin *Fors Clav.* lxxxi. 250 However..miscopied, the message..remains clear. 1903 *Strand Mag.* Nov. 504/1 Did this little imp miscopy your letters?

† **Misco·rd,** *v. Obs.* [a. OF. *mescorder*: see Mis-[2] and Cord *v.*[2]] *intr.* Not to correspond.
1387–8 T. Usk *Test. Love* II. xiv. (Skeat) I. 27 In his first beginninge he was a man right expert in resons and swete in his wordes; and the werkes miscorden.

Miscorre·ct, *v.* [Mis-[1] 1.] *trans.* To correct wrongly.
1697 Dryden *Virg.* Life, He passed the first Seven Years of his Life at Mantua, not Seventeen, as Scaliger miscorrects his Author. 1789 T. Twining *Aristotle's Treat. Poetry* Note 232 ΑΔΥΝΑΜΙΝ: which it was obvious enough for the transcriber to miscorrect into ἀδυναμιΑν.

Miscorre·ction. [Mis-[1] 4.] An erroneous correction.
1685 H. More *Paralip. Prophet.* vii. 42 Ptolemy not concerned in those Miscorrections, they not happening in the years the Eclipses are set down in.

Miscou·nsel, *sb.* [Mis-[1] 4.] Wrong advice.
1496 *Dives & Pauper* (W. de W.) v. x. 208/2 Through his mysse counseyll..he slough all mankynde both goostly and bodely. 1678 Marvell *Growth Popery* Wks. 1875 IV. 384 Before we give [our money] we would be secure it should be applied to this purpose, and not by miscounsels be diverted to others.

Miscou·nsel, *v.* [Mis-[1] 1. Cf. OF. *mesconseillier*.] *trans.* To counsel or advise wrongly.
1389 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 87 If any broyer or syster .. mysconsel or lye his broyer. 1413 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton 1483) II. liii. 55 Yf the fende haue mysconceyled them, they hadden also counceyll in that other side. 1530 Palsgr. 637/1 You wene you take the ryght waye, but you are myscounsayled. 1591 Spenser *M. Hubberd* 128 Things miscounselled must needs miswend. 1616 Donne *Serm.* (1660–1) III. 333 Can I think him fit to give me counsel, that miscounsels himself in the highest business, Religion? 1643 Prynne *Sov. Power Parlt.* I. (ed. 2) 11 These two great Favorites the Spensers who misconsselled and seduced him. 1841–3 Anthon *Class. Dict.* 576 Having been bribed to miscounsel the people. 1877 Ruskin *Fors Clav.* lxxvi. 116 The share that other people have had in counselling or mis-counselling me.

So **Miscou·nselled** *ppl. a.*, **Miscou·nselling** *vbl. sb.*
c 1460 Fortescue *Abs. & Lim. Mon.* xiv. (1885) 144 The myscounsellynge off bym in many oþer cases. 1643 Prynne *Sov. Power Parlt.* IV. 19 Not daring to trust this prodigall mis-counselled King with moneys. 1823 Galt *R. Gilhaize* II. x. 106 The provocation given to the people of Scotland by the King's miscounselled majesty.

Miscou·nt, *sb.* [Mis-[1] 4. Cf. OF. *mescont, mesconte.*] A wrongcount, reckoning, or calculation.
1586 J. Hooker *Descr. Irel.* in *Holinshed* II. 49/1 Aswell in the miscount of yeares as other vnlikelihoods found therein. 1637 Rutherford *Lett.* (1664) lix. 132 O that he would take his own blood for counts & miscounts, that I might be a free man, & none had any claim to me, but onely, onely Jesus. 1897 *Daily News* 13 May 5/3 The Speaker has, owing to a miscount, been compelled to give a casting vote. 1903 *Fluff-Hunters* 137 She knew how many beans make five, and never made a miscount.

Miscou·nt, *v.* [Mis-[1] 1. But cf. OF. *mesconter*, mod.F. (*se*) *mécompter.*]
1. *trans.* To miscalculate, misreckon.
a 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VIII*, 124 In their computacion they had mistaken and miscounted in their nomber an hundreth yeres. 1611 Cotgr., *Mesconté*, misreckoned, miscompted. 1646 Rutherford *Lett.* 9 Jan. (1664) 537 Christ cannot miscount one of the poorest of his lambs. 1793 *Tour thro' Theat. War* 47 A man less wretched might easily miscount time, and so did he. 1816 Scott *Antig.* xli, After twice miscounting the sum, he threw the whole to his daughter.
2. *intr.* († also *refl.*, after Fr.) To make a wrong calculation.
1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 147 And if so be that he misconteth, To make in his answere a faile. 1530 Palsgr. 637/1 Tell it agayne, you have myscounted your selfe, I warrant you. 1603 Holland *Plutarch's Mor.* 1045 These philosophers doe miscount greatly, and stray farre from reason and proportion.., if so be that Geometricall demonstrations do availe ought. 1659 Bp. Patrick *Div. Arith.* (1660) 6 Thus do all men generally miscount in the dayes of their health. 1687 A. Lovell tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. v. 131 The trouble in going up [the steps], makes one often miscount. 1840 Whewell *Philos. Induct. Sci.* I. 133 In such a case we may forget in the intervals of the strokes, and miscount.
3. † **a.** To estimate wrongly. *Obs.* **b.** To regard erroneously (*as*).
a 1684 Leighton *Comm.* 1 *Pet.* ii. 17 (1693) 393 Men miscount themselves at home, they reckoning that they ought to be regarded. 1847 Tennyson *Princess* IV. 315 While my honest heat Were all miscounted as malignant haste.

Miscou·nting, *vbl. sb.* [Mis-[1] 3.] Misreckoning.
?*a* 1366 Chaucer *Rom. Rose* 196 To taken other folkes thing, Through robberie or myscounting [*MS.* myscoueiting; Fr. *cest cele qui fait .. bescochier et mesconter*]. 1655 Fuller *Ch. Hist.* VI. 274 The miscounting of Dialects for Tongues causlessly multiplieth the number of those Languages. 1861 Riley *Liber Albus* II. 115 *note*, The word 'miskenning' meaning miscounting or mispleading.

† **Misco·vetise.** *Obs.* [Mis-[1] 4.] Evil desire.
1496 *Dives & Pauper* (W. de W.) VII. iv. 280/2 Men sholde take no thynge for ony mys couetyse ayenst the lordes wyll.

† **Miscra·ft.** *Obs.* [Mis-[1] 4.] Malpractice.
1496 *Dives & Pauper* (W. de W.) v. xviii. 221/1 Vf the woman..do ony mys crafte to let hyrself or ony other from berynge of childern.

Miscreance[1] (mi·skri,ăns). Now *arch.* Also 4–5 mes-, 5 mys-: see Creance. [a. OF. *mescreance* (mod.F. *mécréance*) = Pr. *mescrezenza*, It. *miscredenza*: see Mis-[2] and Creance.] False belief or faith; misbelief.
1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 175 Se nou the foule mescreance Of Greks in thilke time tho, Whan Venus tok hire name so. 1415 Hoccleve *Min. Poems* 16/252 For thow sholdist reconsyle Thee to him, & leue thy mescreaunce. 1484 Caxton *Kyall Book* C viii, They falle ofte..in heresyes and in myscreaunce. 1540 *Act* 32 *Hen. VIII*, c. 26 Allured to..misbelene miscreaunce and contempt of God. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* II. viii. 51 Paynim..if thou wilt renounce thy miscreaunce,..Life will I graunt thee. 1863 Yule tr. *Jordanus' Mirab. Descr.* (Hakl. Soc.) xiv. 56 Their preachers [*sc.* Mohammedans] run about..in order to turn all to their own miscreance. 1864 Kingsley *Rom. & Teut.* xi. 311 The Crescent was master of the Cross; and beyond the Pyrenees all was slavery and 'miscreance'. 1876 Ruskin *Fors Clav.* lxxii. 384 By the faith that is in it, what..good it can..do, by the miscreance in it, what mischief it can do.

† **Miscreance**[2]. *Obs.* *rare.* [irreg. f. Mis-[2] + L. *crē-* (*crēscĕre*) to grow + -ance. Cf. OF. *mescreu* misgrown.] = Misgrowth.
1658 A. Fox tr. *Würtz' Surg.* III. Introd. 218 Earth is the mother of all fruits, yet hath it many miscreance [orig. *viel Missgewaechse*]. 1658 — tr. *Würtz' Childr. Bk.* 359 Unless there be some miscreance, or other unshapedness about them.

Miscreancy (mi·skri,ănsi). [f. Miscreant + -ancy, after *miscreance.*]
1. Misbelief; = Miscreance[1] 1. Now *arch.*
1611 Cotgr., *Mescreance*, miscreancie, misbeleefe. 1630 in Rushw. *Hist. Coll.* (1659) I. App. 33 Treasons .. against the Celestial Majesty, as Schism, Heresie, Miscreancy. 1726 Ayliffe *Parergon* 208 The more usual Causes of this Deprivation are such as these..Schism, Heresy, Miscreancy, Atheism. 1840 De Quincey *Essenes* in *Blackw. Mag.* XLVII. 469/2 Does the audacity of man present us with such another instance of perfidious *miscreancy*? God the Jehovah anxious for the honour of Jupiter and Mercury!
2. Villainy, depravity. Also semi-*concr.*
1804 J. Larwood *No Gun Boats* 30 In the envious miscreancy of the men .. *la Sexe* does not participate. 1851 W. Anderson *Expos. Popery* (1878) 75 The attempt of a perjured miscreancy to deliver England up to the domination of the obscene Italian Impostor. 1875 Calder *Nat. Tribes Tasmania* 68 The savages..had long been the objects of the miscreancy of the sealers, and hated the white race accordingly.

Miscreant (mi·skri,ănt), *a.* and *sb.* Also 4–6 **-creaunt**, 6 **-croyaunte.** [a. OF. *mescreant*:—popular L. **minuscrēdentem*: see Mis-[2] and Creant *a.*[1]] **A.** *adj.*
1. Misbelieving, heretical; 'unbelieving', 'infidel'. Now *arch.*, with some notion of sense 2.
c 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 5227 (Kölbing) Grete hepes him lay about Of mani paiem miscreaunt. 1419 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. I. 87 Sir John Oldcastell, that was myscreant and unboxome to the lawe of God. 1532 More *Confut. Barnes* VIII. Wks. 774/1 Al miscreant Painyms, al false Jewes, al false heretikes. 1562 Legh *Armory* 26 b, If he [a Christian) .. kill an heathen gentleman..he shall beare the armes .. without any difference, sauing only ye word of ye same miscreant gentleman. 1633 T. Adams *Exp. 2 Peter* iii. 4 All their [*sc.* Atheists'] virulent and miscreant positions shall perish with them in unquenchable flames. 1715 Rowe *Lady Jane Gray* v. Wks. 1728 III. 69 To break thro' all Engagements made with Hereticks, And keep no Faith with such a Miscreant Crew. 1823 Scott *Quentin D.* xvii, Such a miscreant dog as this Boar of Ardennes, who is worse than a whole desert of Saracen heathens. 1844 Macaulay *Misc. Writ.* (1889) 310 No outrage committed by the Catholic warrior on the miscreant enemy could deserve punishment. 1865 Kingsley *Herew.* vi, The gates of the pit were too narrow for their miscreant souls.
2. Depraved, villainous, base.
1593 G. Harvey *Pierce's Super.* 176 The Ring leader of the corruptest bawdes, and miscreantest rakehells in Italy. 1725 Pope *Odyss.* XVII. 667 All the miscreant race of human kind. 1818 Cobbett *Pol. Reg.* XXXIII. 381 The miscreant ministers and judges and spies who had been the abettors of that tyrant House. *c* 1820 S. Rogers *Italy* (1839) 245 A miscreant crew, That now no longer serve me. 1850 S. Dobell *Roman* I. Poet. Wks. (1875) 18 That.. sneaks downcast With craven tail and miscreant trepidation To kennel and to collar.

B. *sb.*
1. A misbeliever, heretic; an 'unbeliever', 'infidel'. Now *arch.*
138. Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* III. 303 A litel covent of Sathanas synagoge, þat ben moche worse þan heþene myscreauntis. *c* 1400 *Three Kings Cologne* 2 Þese þree kynges, þat of myscreauntes were þe first byleuyng men. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* XXI. xiii. 860 These foure knyghtes dyd many batayles vpon the myscreantes or turkes. 1550 J. Coke *Eng. & Fr. Heralds* § 55 (1877) 73 Alvred kynge of Englande..fought agaynst the Danes and other myscreantes .LVI. battayles. 1554 T. Martin *Marr. of Priests* Bb iijb, If the vnbeleuer or miscroyaunte dooe departe, let him departe. 1597 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* v. lxiii. § 1 We are not therefore ashamed of the Gospell of our Lord Iesus Christ because miscreants in skorne haue vpbraided vs. 1632 Lithgow *Trav.* x. 477 A blasphemous miscreant, against their Pope, their Lady, and their Church. 1668 M. Casaubon *Credulity* (1670) 81 Enough to make any miscreant, (professing outwardly Christianity) to blush. 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* (Globe) 584 With a Caravan of Miscreants, as he call'd them, that is to say, Christians. 1788 Gibbon *Decl. & F.* lviii. VI. 42 [Soliman's] generosity to the miscreants was interpreted as treason to the Christian cause. 1840 De Quincey *Essenes* in *Blackw. Mag.* XLVII. 469/1 Now he [*sc.* Josephus] will reveal himself (in the literal sense of the word) as a *miscreant.* 1873 Dixon *Two Queens* IV. xix. v. 27 A miscreant who had raised his impious bands against the Vicar of Christ.
transf. 1660 F. Brooke tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 17, I know many miscreants, that doubt whether the world hath such a beast [*sc.* a unicorn]. *a* 1681 Wharton *Wks.* (1683) 45 There .. ever have been some Hereticks and Miscreants, who rail ..against Astrology.
2. A vile wretch; a villain, rascal.
1590 Spenser *F. Q.* II. vi. 39 'Vile Miscreaunt', (said he) 'whither dost thou flye The shame and death, which will thee soone invade?' 1593 Shaks. *Rich. II*, I. i. 39 Thou art a Traitor, and a Miscreant. 1657 Evelyn *Diary* 25 Dec., As we went up to receive the Sacrament the miscreants held their muskets against us. 1710 Steele *Tatler* No. 101 P 1 These Miscreants are a Set of Wretches we Authors call Pirates. 1780 Bentham *Princ. Legisl.* xiii. § 1 The miscreant who would commit murder that he might succeed to an inheritance. 1835 Lytton *Rienzi* I. iii, He belongs to a horrible gang of miscreants, sworn against all order and peace. 1870 E. Peacock *Ralf Skirl.* III. 251 The miscreant, fully armed, set out on his errand of blood.
Hence † **Miscrea·ntic** *a.*, villainous.
1793 J. Williams *Life Ld. Barrymore* 87 The miscreantic, pallid, hell-born, pestilential group. 1793. [J. Williams] *Crying Epistle* 59 *note*, Mr. Pitt has apparently as little respect for individual worth..as the most vile and miscreantic of his predecessors.

Mi·screantly, *adv. rare*[−1]. [f. Miscreant + -ly[2].] Wretchedly.
a 1734 North *Life Sir Dudley North* (1744) 123 The common Sort, who are miscreantly poor, and the most faithless Wretches upon Earth.

Miscrea·te, *v. rare.* [Mis-[1] 1.] *trans.* To create amiss. Also **Miscreating** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*
1603 Harsnet *Pop. Impost.* 83 What a wonderfull Saintmaker is Tyburne by this, that in a quarter of an houre shall miscreate a Saint [etc.]. 1670 Ld. Brooke *Monarchy* lxxi. Wks. (Grosart) I. 30 Yet both the head and members finite are And must still by their miscreating marre. 1841–4 Emerson *Ess.* Ser. I. iv. (1876) 110 We miscreate our own evils. 1880 Meredith *Tragic Com.* (1881) 47 The thick-featured sodden satyr of her miscreating fancy.

Mi·screate, *pa. pple.* and *ppl. a.* [Mis-[1] 2.] = next. Also *absol.*
1590 Spenser *F. Q.* II. x. 38 He .. Ymner slew of Logris miscreate. 1599 Shaks. *Hen. V*, I. ii. 16 That you should .. nicely charge your vnderstanding Soule, With opening Titles miscreate. 1607 R. Wilkinson *Merchant Royall* 15 To see a woman created in Gods image so miscreate..and deformed, with her..foolish fashions. 1868 Browning *Ring & Bk.* VI. 1478 Creation purged o' the miscreate, man redeemed. 1871 Swinburne *Songs bef. Sunrise* Prel. 53 Fancies and passions miscreate By man in things dispassionate.

Miscrea·ted, *ppl. a.* [Mis-[1] 2.] Created or formed improperly or unnaturally; mis-shapen, misformed. Also used as an abusive epithet.
In the first quot. a mistranslation.
1585 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* IV. xxxvi. 160 b, These wretched Græcians are left vnder the miserable seruitude of these miscreated Mahometists [orig. *des mescreans Mahometistes*]. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* II. vii. 42 For nothing might abash the villein bold, Ne mortall steele emperce his miscreated mould. 1596 Nashe *Saffron Walden* G 2 b, An Oration, including the miscreated words and sentences in the Doctors Booke. 1667 Milton *P. L.* II. 683 What art thou,..That dar'st..advance Thy miscreated Front athwart my way? 1712 Henley *Spect.* No. 396 P 2 That Mongrel miscreated (to speak in Miltonic) kind of Wit, vulgarly termed the Pun. 1778 Wesley *Wks.* (1872) XIV. 278 A miscreated phantom, called 'The Spiritual Magazine'. 1826 J. Wilson *Noct. Ambr.* Wks. 1855 I. 167 Every scraper on catgut as intent on the miscreated noise, as if [etc.]. 1831 Trelawny *Adv. Younger Son* ii. 26 Ill-finished, dwarfish, or miscreated abortions. 1868 Swinburne *Blake* 42 This monstrous nomenclature, this jargon of miscreated things in chaos.

Miscrea·tion. [Mis-[1] 4.] **a.** The action of creating badly or improperly. **b.** *concr.* A miscreated thing; something ill-formed or mis-shapen.
1852 Gilfillan *Martyrs Sc. Covenant* vii. 132 One of the vast creatures of the bygone chaos—the magnificent miscreations of Geology, interesting..as a fossil remain. 1871 C. Kingsley in *Devon. Assoc. Trans.* IV. 378 Great dirty warrens of houses,..peopled with savages and imps of our own miscreation. 1880 Swinburne *Stud. in Song* 202 Formless form, incarnate miscreation.

Miscrea·tive, *a.* [Mis-[1] 6.] Creating or forming amiss.
1819 Shelley *Prometh. Unb.* I. 448 The all-miscreative brain of Jove. 1890 Swinburne *Autumn Vision* vi, Darkening with its miscreative spell Light.

Miscrea·tor. [Mis-[1] 5.] One who miscreates.
1818 Byron *Ch. Har.* IV. cxxv, Circumstance, that unspiritual god And miscreator.

† **Miscre·dence.** *Obs. rare*[−1]. [Alteration of Miscreance after *credence.*] Misbelief.
1603 Holland *Plutarch's Mor.* 1346 The Governour of Cilicia is..doubtfull..whether there be gods or no? upon infirmity, as I take it, of miscredance and unbeliefe.

† **Miscre·dent.** *Obs.* [Alteration of Miscreant after L. *crēdent-em* (see Credent). Cf. It. *miscredente.*] = Miscreant *sb.*
1480 *Robt. Deuyll* (1827) 49 The myscredaunte Sarasyns. 1577 Stanyhurst *Descr. Irel.* in *Holinshed* (1808) VI. 36 A dungeon appointed for offendors and miscredents. 1847 Halliwell, *Miscredent*, a miscreant. *Devon.*

Miscre·dit, *sb.* [Mis-[1] 7.] Disbelief.
1565 W. Allen in Fulke *Def. Purg.* xi. 101 b, There dare no man..affirme that the doctrine of Purgatory is hourtfull to vertuous life, the only miscreditt whereof, hath vtterly banished al good Christian condicions.

Miscre·dit, *v.* [Mis-[1] 7.] *trans.* To disbelieve.
1554 J. Philpot *Exam. & Writings* (Parker Soc.) 351, I can not otherwise do in believing them, but miscredit thee. 1565 Stapleton tr. *Bæda's Hist. Ch. Eng.* Pref. 4 To miscredit the perfect behauiour of our primitiue church, and the miracles wrought therein. 1652 Benlowes *Theoph.* Pref., If thou wilt not prejudice thine own Charity by miscrediting me.

Miscre·dited, *ppl. a.* [Mis-[1] 2.] Disbelieved.
1837 Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* I. vii. vii. 372 The miscredited Twelve hasten back to the Château for an 'answer in writing'.

Miscree·d. *poet.* [Mis-[1] 4.] A mistaken creed.
a 1821 Keats *Sonnet on Fame* ii. Wks. (1884) 413 Why then should man..Spoil his salvation for a fierce miscreed?
1822 Shelley *Hellas* Prol. 106 Tyranny which arms Adverse miscreeds..To stamp..Upon the name of Freedom.

† **Miscroo·ked,** *a. Obs. rare*[−1]. [Mis-[1] 6.] Bent awry, deformed.
1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* vi. x. (Tollemache MS.), She strecchep oute his lymis..to kepe..þe childe þat he be not defacit with miscrokid lymes.

Miscro·p, *v. rare.* [Mis-[1] 1.] *trans.* To sow (a field) with a crop out of rotation. Also *absol.*
1844 H. Stephens *Bk. Farm* III. 1222 A field may be miscropped in order to bring it the more quickly into the legitimate rotation of the farm. *Ibid.* 1317 A better notion of farming than to miscrop prevails.

Miscry·, *v. dial.* ? *Obs.* Also miscree. [app. alteration of Descry *v.*[1], by substitution of the prefix Mis-[1] 9.] *trans.* To descry, discover, detect.
1645 N. Drake *Diary Siege Pontefract* (Surtees) 76 One of them was taken, being miscryed by the boy which went out the night before. 1674 Ray *N. C. Words* 33 *Miscreed*: descryed, This I suppose is also only a rustick word, and nothing else but the word *descried* corrupted. 1703 Thoresby *Let. to Ray* Gloss., *Miscryed*, discovered. 1847 Halliwell, *Miscreed*, discovered, detected, decried, depreciated. *North.*

Mis-cue·, *sb.* Also miss cue. [f. Mis-[1] 4 (or perh. orig. stem of Miss *v.*[1]) + Cue *sb.*[3]] A failure to strike the ball properly with the cue.
1873 Bennett & 'Cavendish' *Billiards* 9 So long as the point of the cue was flat and unyielding, if the ball was not struck precisely in the centre, the consequence was a miss cue. *Ibid.* 33 A miss-cue. 1906 *Westm. Gaz.* 22 May 9/3 When Roberts wanted only two to complete his 'points' for the afternoon he made a mis-cue.
So **Mis-cue·** *v.*, to make a miscue.
1894 *Sheffield Daily Tel.* 29 Mar. 8/5 Dawson had a promising opening of potting the red, but mis-cued.

† **Mi·sculate,** *ppl. a. Obs. rare*[−1]. [ad. late L. *misculāt-us*, pa. ppl. of *misculāre* (whence OF. *mesler*, etc.: see Meddle *v.*).] Mingled.
1632 Lithgow *Trav.* viii. 364 In this misculat iourneying of paine & pleasure.

† **Misdai·n,** *v. Obs.* [See Mis-[1] 9. But cf. Misdeem.] *trans.* To be mistrustful of. So **Misdai·nful** *a. dial.*, suspicious.
1558 Goodman *How to Obey* 201 Papistes..Of whom to be misdained or slandered, is in the eyes of the godly, no small commendation. 1879 [see Misdeemful].

Misda·te, *sb.* [Mis-[1] 4.] A wrong date. Hence **Misda·teful** *a.*, abounding in wrong dates.
1858 Carlyle *Fredk. Gt.* x. v. II. 642 They abound in small errors, in misdates, mistakes. 1862 *Ibid.* xiii. ix. III. 536 Poor Bielfeld being in this Chapter very fantastic, misdateful to a mad extent.

Misda·te, *v.* [Mis-[1] 1.] *trans.* To assign or affix a wrong date to; to date wrong. Also *absol.* Also **Misda·ted** *ppl. a.*
1586 Stanyhurst *Cont. Chron. Irel.* Ep. in Holinshed II, If he misdate, he is named a falsifier. *a* 1626 Bacon *Charge agst. Earl of Somerset* in *Baconiana* (1679) 31 That you did deface, .. and misdate all Writings that might give light to the Impoisonment. 1671 *Rhode Island Col. Rec.* (1857) II. 422 Why and how the letter was soe long a cominge..wee cannot but wonder; save as wee may suppose it was misdated. 1728 Morgan *Algiers* II. iv. 289 This Author seems to have misdated those occurrences. 1742 Young *Nt. Th.* v. 777 In hoary youth Methusalems may die; O how misdated on their flatt'ring tombs! 1815 *Paris Chit-chat* (1816) III. 144 His card of invitation was accidentally misdated, and he did not arrive till the day after the feast. 1858 Carlyle *Fredk. Gt.* v. vi. I. 606 Trusting to memory alone, she misdates, mistakes, misplaces. 1892 *Times* 23 Jan. 13/6 Mis-dated newspapers. *Ibid.*, The practice of mis-dating newspapers and other periodical publications.

Misdea·l, *sb. Cards.* [f. next.] An error in dealing.
1850 *Bohn's Handbk. Games* 255 The turn up being anterior to the mis-deal. 1862 'Cavendish' *Whist* (1879) 8 A misdeal loses the deal. 1886 *Euchre: how to play it* 108.

Misdea·l, *v.* [f. Mis-[1] 1 + Deal *v.*; in first sense after Du. *misdeelen.*]
† **1.** *intr.* To distribute unfairly. *Obs.*
1481 Caxton *Reynard* (Arb.) 7 Knowe not ye how ye mysdeled on the plays whiche he threwe down fro the carre?
2. To deal or act improperly.
1561, etc. [see Misdealing.]
3. *Cards.* To make a mistake in dealing: usually *intr.*, but occas. *trans.*
[1746 Hoyle *Whist* (ed. 6) 10 If the Dealer should happen to miss Deal.] 1850 *Bohn's Handbk. Games* 254 On misdealing the entire hand. 1861 Dickens *Gt. Expect.* viii, She won the game, and I dealt. I misdealt. 1892 *Spectator* 10 Jan., She can never be persuaded that she has misdealt until the cards have been carefully counted..three times.
fig. (cf. 2). 1868 Browning *Ring & Bk.* iv. 435 Fie on you, all the Honours in your fist, Countship, Householdship,—how have you misdealt!

Misdea·ling, *vbl. sb.* [Mis-[1] 3.] Wrong or improper dealing; † wrong-doing, evil conduct.
1561 Daus tr. *Bullinger on Apoc.* (1573) 14 b, Let us take heede that we put not Gods so great benefites from vs through our owne misdealynges. 1571 Golding *Calvin on Ps.* xxxiv. 15 To abstein from al misdealing and to enure themselves to weldoing. 1587 — *De Mornay* xx. (1592) 319 They .. which refreyne from misdealing for feare of mans Lawe. 1863 H. Cox *Instit.* I. x. 229 Misdealings with the public revenue. 1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 4 Feb. 3/2 Captain N..,as an old cavalry officer, could not stomach the scandalous misdealing with horses that had taken place.

Misdeci·de, *v.* [Mis-[1] 1.] *intr.* To make a wrong decision.
1802–12 Bentham *Ration. Judic. Evid.* (1827) I. 270 It is..possible for the judge..to misdecide, without any regard to the evidence. 1830 *Examiner* 659/2 Nor can they misdecide from incompetency or any other cause of misdecision, without incurring shame.

Misdeci·sion. [Mis-[1] 4.] Wrong decision or judgement.
1802–12 Bentham *Ration. Judic. Evid.* (1827) I. 28 The danger of..misdecision on the part of the judge. *Ibid.* II. 137, IV. 48. 1849 Grote *Greece* II. xlvi. V. 528 The dikast trial at Athens..had in it only the same ingredients of error and misdecision as the English jury.

Misdeed (misdī·d). [OE. *misdéd* = OS. *misdâd*, OFris. *misdede*, MLG. *misdât* (MDu. *misdaet*, Du. *misdaad*), OHG. *missi-*, *missetât*, *misso-*, *missidât* (MHG. *missetât*, G. *missetat*), Goth. *missadêþs*: see Mis-[1] 4 and Deed *sb.*] An evil deed; a wrong action; an offence; a crime. † In ME. also in collective sense = misdoings.
c 879 Ælfred *Gregory's Past. C.* liii. 413 Mine misdæda hioð simle beforan me. *a* 1200 *Moral Ode* 130 A hwilke time se eure Mon of þinchþ his mis-dede [*MS. Trin.* misdade]. *c* 1200 Ormin 10618 þat missdede þat wass don þurrh Adam & þurrh Eve. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 32/86 Lo here godes lomb, þat bi-nimeth þe worldes mis-dede. 1340 *Ayenb.* 114 Voryef ous oure misdedis ase we uoryeueþ to ham. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Pars. T.* ▸ 206 He was woundid for oure mysdede, and defouled by oure felonyes. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* xvi. xiv. 683 Ve lefte me..and suffred me in peryille of deth ..And for that mysdede now I ensure you but deth, for wel haue ye deserued it. 1535 Coverdale *Ps.* l. 9 Turne thy face fro my synnes, and put out all my myszdedes. 1663 Butler *Hud.* I. iii. 349 Like caitiff vile, that for misdeed Rides with his face to rump of steed. 1726 Pope *Odyss.* xxii. 290 That impious race to all their past misdeeds Would add our blood. 1841 Elphinstone *Hist. India* II. 53 These misdeeds were not entirely unmixed with good actions.

† **Misdee·dy,** *a. Obs.* [f. prec. + -y. Cf. MDu. *misdadich*, Du. *misdadig*, MDa. *misdædig.*] Doing wrong.
13.. *Cursor M.* 18279 (Gött.) For mani wick and misdedi [*a* 1425 *Trin.* mis dedy] Has þu nu here tint forþi.

† **Misdee·m,** *sb. Obs.* [prob. f. next, but cf. Deem *sb.*] Misjudgement.
1593 Lyly in *Phœnix Nest* Wks. (1902) III. 477 Such life leads Loue entangled with misdeemes. 1602 Warner *Alb. Eng.* xii. lxxv. 313 What should we say his loy, that his Mis-deemes did sort to this?

Misdee·m, *v.* Now chiefly *arch.* and *poet.* (See also Misdain.) [Mis-[1] 1. Cf. ON. *misdæma.*]
† **1.** *trans.* To form an unfavourable judgement of, think evil of. *Obs.*
c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xi. (*Symon & Judas*) 370 Ws afferis til helpe saklas men, bot to mysdeme na man kene. [Leg. Aur. *Nocentes perdere non decet.*] 1509 Barclay *Shyp of Folys* (1570) 63 When he by gelousy His wife suspecteth.. Or her misdeemeth, and kepeth in straitly. *a* 1529 Skelton *Bouge of Court* 137 The seconde was Suspecte, which that dayly Mysdempte eche man. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* I. vii. 49 Till all unweeting an Enchaunter .. made him to misdeeme My loyalty. *Ibid.* III. x. 29 As much disdeigning to be so misdempt, Or a war-monger to be basely nempt. 1628 Gaule *Pract. Theories* (1629) 96 His Iealousie hasts not to reuenge, while he cannot but misdeeme her. 1767 Lewis *Statius* II. 370 He..saw his Friends misdeem'd in Crouds resort, To bask beneath the Sunshine of the Court.
† **2.** *intr.* To form an unfavourable judgement, think ill (*of*). *Obs.*
1388 Wyclif *Num.* xiv. 11 How long schal this puple bacbite me [*gloss*, ether mysdeme of me]? 1496 *Dives & Pauper* (W. de W.) I. xlv. 86/2 To mysdeme of his euen crysten. 1548 Udall, etc. *Erasm. Par. Matt.* i. 29 True bonesty is neyther redy to misdeme, nor hasty to reuenge. 1671 Milton *P. R.* I. 424 What but thy malice mov'd thee to misdeem Of righteous Job.
3. To have a wrong opinion of, be mistaken in one's view of.
c 1384 Chaucer *H. Fame* 92 That take hit [*sc.* my tale] wel, and scorne hit noght, Ne hit misdemen in her thoght. 1570 *Henry's Wallace* II. 352 Be war that 3e do nocht misdeme my taille. 1593 G. Fletcher *Licia* To Rdr., Men unfitte to knowe what love meanes; deluded fondlie with their owne conceit, misdeeming so divine a fancie. 1616 Breton *Invect. agst. Treason* (Grosart) 5/2 Where Wisdomes care can neuer truthe misdeeme. 1677 Gilpin *Demonol.* (1867) 257 Though such men are under God's favour, yet they misdeem it, and think God is angry with them. 1784 Cowper *Task* iv. 685 Hence too the field of glory, as the world misdeems it. 1848 Lytton *Harold* II. ii, Nor misdeem me, that I, humble, unmitred priest, should be thus bold. 1875 Lowell *Under Old Elm* viii, If ever with distempered voice or pen We have misdeemed thee, here we take it back.
b. *trans.* To suppose (a person or thing) erroneously to be (something else); to mistake (a thing) *for* another.
1667 Dryden *Secr. Love* v. Wks. 1701 I. 185 My grace to Philocles mis-deem'd my Love! ?1802 Wordsw. *Sonn.*, '*Desponding Father*', Misdeem it not a cankerous change. 1829 Southey *All for Love* vi. xxiv, Thy thoughts possest With one too painful theme, Their own imaginations For reality misdeem. 1872 A. de Vere *Leg. St. Patrick, St. P. at Cashel* 65 Demons misdeemed for gods.
c. with adj. or phr. as compl.
1835 Trench *Sonnet* '*Look, dearest, what a glory*', If, having shared the light, we should misdeem That light our own. 1852 Robertson *Serm.* Ser. IV. xxxviii. (1863) 291 As if some poor miserable minister or teacher, rejoicing over his success, were to misdeem the work his own. 1885–94 R. Bridges *Eros & Psyche* Mar. I. ii, The wealth which men misdeem of much avail.
4. To form a wrong judgement (*of*); to hold a mistaken opinion.
a 1300 *Cursor M.* 27742 Wreth .. Flites, scendes and misdenisse [*c* 1375 *Fairf.* fliting shindis & misdemis; *a* 1400 *Cott. Galba* It makes fliteing and misdemes] Man aun wiit it fra him cleuisse [*other texts* flemis]. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Merch. T.* 1166 He that misconceyveth, he misdemeth. *a* 1618 Sylvester *Wks.* (Grosart) II. 335/1 Then doome not rashly, lest you may misdeem. 1629 H. Burton *Truth's Triumph* 225 Misdeeming and doubting of the remission of sinnes. 1667 Milton *P. L.* ix. 301 Misdeem not then, If such affront I labour to avert From thee alone, which [etc.]. 1779 Mason *Eng. Garden* III. 536 Whom elder Thales, and the Bard of Thebes Held first of things terrestrial; nor misdeem'd. 1791 Cowper *Iliad* I. 528, I.. much misdeem Of my endeavour, or my prayer shall speed. 1814 Cary *Dante, Hell* xxxii. 118 Farther on, If I misdeem not, Soldanieri bides. *Ibid.*, *Paradise* xxvi. 73 At his sudden waking, he misdeems Of all around him. 1839 Wordsw. *Mem. Tour Scotl.* 1803 iii, Leaving each unquiet theme Where gentlest judgments may misdeem. 1884 Bible (R. V.) *Deut.* xxxii. 27 Lest their adversaries should misdeem.
b. To suppose mistakenly.
1596 Spenser *State Irel.* Wks. (Globe) 609/1, I will rather thinke the cause of this evill .. to proceede rather of the unsoundness of the Counsells .. which [etc.] .. then of any such .. appointment of God, as you misdeeme. 1600 Hakluyt *Voy.* (1810) III. 186 Least any man should misdeeme that God doth resist all attempts intended that way. 1817 Shelley *Rev. Islam* xii. x, He misdeems That he is wise, whose wounds do only bleed Inly for self. 1839–52 Bailey *Festus* 223 He by..instigating all the soul's vain aims, Misdeems to cause thee lose God.
† **5.** *trans.* To have a suspicion or inkling of; to suspect the existence or occurrence of (some evil).
1494 Fabyan *Chron.* v. cxvii. 92 The Kynge not mysdemynge eny thyng of this Conspyred treason. *a* 1553 Udall *Royster D.* iv. iii. (Arb.) 62 Surely, this fellowe misdeemeth some yll in me. *a* 1607 T. Brightman *Brightm. Rediv.* iii. (1647) 78 While wee were in Ignorance, we lay secure in our sin,..never mis-deeming our estate. 1607 Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 177 The Fox..misdeemeth no harm, and entreth into the hive which is wrought close into the mouth of his den.
† **b.** *To misdeem* (a person) *for* —: to suspect him to be —. *Obs.*
c 1500 *Melusine* 265/15 [He] was so Lyke a Sarasyn that no man mysdymed hym for other than a Sarasyn.
† **6.** *intr.* To suspect something evil. *Obs.*
c 1439 *Syr Gener.* (Roxb.) 222 Jewel thoght of treason and tray..Thoo he mysdemed in this case, Whan she cam not of so long while He supposed ther yede som gyle. 1556 J. Heywood *Spider & F.* iii. 25 Hath fortune wrought my foes at this time hither, And not so much as warnde me to misdeeme. 1561 Sackville *Gorboduc* I. i. 39 (Manly), If thinges do so succede As now my ielous mind misdemeth sore. 1596 Lodge *Marg. Amer.* 55 The emperour conceiving new suspitions upon this second assault, began to misdeeme.
† **b.** const. *clause.* To suspect (that..). *Obs.*
a 1530 Heywood *Play of Love* (Brandl) 516 Anone she mysdemed That I was not merely disposed, And so myght she thynke, for I disclosed No worde nor loke, but such as shewed as sadly as [etc.]. 1581 Savile *Tacitus, Hist.* I. xxviii. (1591) 17 [He] gaue most men to misdeeme by his dealing, that he was somewhat of counsel with the case [orig. *præbuit plerisque suspicionem conscientiæ*]. 1600 Fairfax *Tasso* x. xxxviii, Nor say I this for that I ougbt misdeeme That Egypts promis'd succours faile vs might.

Misdee·mer. [Mis-[1] 5.] One who misjudges.
1616 *Manifest. Abp. Spalato's Motives* App. iii. 6 This some misdeemers impute to their penury.

Misdee·mful, *a. dial.* (See also Misdainful.) [f. Misdeem *v.* + -ful.] Having a false judgement *of*; suspicious *of.*
c 1750 Shenstone *Wks.* (1777) I. 304 He loo, misdeemful of his wholesome law, Ev'n he, expiring, gave his treasur'd gold To fatten monks on Salem's distant soil! 1879 Miss Jackson *Shropsh. Word-bk.*, *Misdeemful*, suspicious. *Misdeenful*, *misdainful*, same as above—corrupted forms.

Misdee·ming, *vbl. sb.* [Mis-[1] 3.] Misjudging; false judgement; † suspicion.
?1468 *Paston Lett.* II. 313 But for gelosye and mysdemyng of peple that hafe me yn greete awayt. 1491 Caxton *Vitas Patr.* (W. de W. 1495) I. xxxvii. 50 b, To the ende that they ..sholde haue noo suspecyon ne misdemyng. 1571 Golding *Calvin on Ps.* iv. 2 His innocencie was overwhelmed..with the misdeemings of the common people. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* I. iv. 2 After that he had faire Una lorne, Through light misdeeming of her loialtie. 1612 J. Mason *Anat. Sorc.* 33 To take away all occasion of misdeeming.

Misdee·ming, *ppl. a.* [Mis-[1] 2.] Misjudging; mistaken (of persons, their opinions, etc.); *dial.* suspicious. *Obs.*
?1468 *Paston Lett.* II. 313 The world ys to mysdemyng and redy to make dyvysyon and debate. 1584 Babington *Confer. Frailty & Faith* (1596) 45 A suspicious misdeeming mind of euery bodie. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* I. ii. 3 Covered with darkenes and misdeeming night. 1648 J. Beaumont *Psyche* v. lxiii. (Grosart) I. 83 O no, misdeeming Sovereign; I am sent

The soft Ambassador of Peace to you. 1760-72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) IV. 98 Pardon the misdeeming transports of your lover. 1819 SHELLEY *Cenci* v. i. 87 The misdeeming crowd Which judges by what seems. 1848 A. B. EVANS *Leicestersh. Words, Misdeeming*, suspicious. 'She's sadly misdeeming'.

† **Misdeli·ght,** *sb. Obs.* [MIS-[1] 4.] Delight in something wrong.

?13.. *All Saints* 510 in *Archiv Stud. neu. Spr.* LXXIX. 440 If any wyked sprete had broust hym in myssedelyte.

† **Misdeli·ght,** *v. Obs.* [MIS-[1] 1.] *pass.* To be wrongly delighted.

1640 BP. HALL *Chr. Moder.* t. x. 92 This hony-bagge hath ever a sting attending it; so as we are commonly plagued..in that wherein we were mis-delighted.

Misdeli·ver, *v.* [MIS-[1] 1.] *trans.* a. To deliver to the wrong person or at the wrong place. b. To hand down improperly.

1858 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* VI. ii. II. 17 Message mis-delivered by my Official Gentleman. 1885 *Law Times Rep.* LII. 324/2 The goods were misdelivered by the defendants to another firm. 1893 WESTCOTT *Chr. Aspects of Life* (1897) 408 The testimony of the Church is misdelivered if [etc.].

Misdeli·very. [MIS-[1] 4.] Wrong delivery.

1859 SALA *Tw. round Clock* 34 The misdelivery of a letter. 1867 BRANDE & COX *Dict. Sci.*, etc. III. 89/2 (*Printing*) In case of any misdelivery a sheet is spoiled. 1885 *Law Times* LXXVIII. 386/1 The misdelivery by the company amounted to conversion.

† **Misdemea·n,** *sb. Obs.* [MIS-[1] 4.] Misbehaviour, misdemeanour.

1602 W. BAS *Sword & Buckler* xxiii, To thinke it any misdemeasne in vs, If we .. doe fall againe Into our ancient Sword and Buckler vaine. 1742 in B. Peirce *Hist. Harvard Univ.* (1833) App. 86 Sundry crimes and misdemeans whereof he was convicted. 1773 J. Ross *Fratricide* I. 308 (MS.), A Criminal arraign'd For..some heinous misdemean.

Misdemea·n, *v.*[1] [f. MIS-[1] 1 + DEMEAN *v.*[1]] 1. *refl.* To misbehave, misconduct oneself.

[1558 in Strype *Ann. Ref.* (1709) I. i. 42 One of the Canons of Litchfield has also preached lewdly, and misdemeaned himself (those are the words in the Minutes of the Council-Book).] 1577-87 HOLINSHED *Chron.* (an. 1381) III. 434/2 Neither did the townesmen of S. Albons..thus outragiouslie misdemeane themselues. 1613 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII*, v. iii. 14 You that best should teach vs, Haue misdemean'd your selfe. *a* 1618 RALEIGH *Prerog. Parl.* (1628) 18 Iustices..that had vsed extortion, or bribery, or had otherwise misdemeaned themselues. 1689 *Col. Rec. Pennsylv.* I. 256 They did not judge the Keeper to have highly misdemeaned himself in his office of Keeper of the board Seale. 1736 CARTE *Ormonde* I. 260 Sir Luke Fitzgerald misdemeaned himself before the board by uncivil words. 1857 *Hurlstone & Norman's Rep.* (1858) II. 221 The said William Baker did..unlawfully misdemean and misconduct himself in his said service by neglecting..his said master's service.

b. *intr.* in the same sense.

1765 C. SMART tr. *Phædrus* IV. ix, When our neighbours mis-demean, Our censures are exceeding keen.

† 2. *trans.* To misuse, abuse. *Obs.*

a 1625 SIR H. FINCH *Law* (1636) 47 Hee that misdemeaneth authority that law giueth him..shall be a wrong doer *ab initio*.

Misdemea·n, *v.*[2] *rare*—[1]. [f. MIS-[1] 8 + DEMEAN *v.*[2]] = DEMEAN *v.*[2]

1843 LYTTON *Last Bar.* IV. ix, My Lord Scales, lift the curtain; nay, sir, it misdemeans you not.

Misdemeanant (misdĭmī·nănt). [f. MISDEMEAN *v.*[1] + -ANT, or f. MISDEMEANOUR by substitution of suffix.] A person convicted of a misdemeanour.

1819 J. J. GURNEY *Notes on Visit to Prisons* 78 The only division of these females being that of misdemeanants from felons. Amongst the men, the classification is much more complete; for, the misdemeanants are divided into three classes, and the felons into four. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXV. 150/1 Misdemeanants of the first division. 1865 *Act* 28-9 *Vict.* c. 126 § 67 In every Prison to which this Act applies Prisoners convicted of Misdemeanor, and not sentenced to Hard Labour, shall be divided into at least Two Divisions, One of which shall be called the First Division; .. and a Misdemeanant of the First Division shall not be deemed to be a Criminal Prisoner within the Meaning of this Act. 1896 *Times* 30 July 5/6 Dr. Jameson and his fellow-prisoners ..were placed in the apartments reserved for first-class misdemeanants.

b. *transf.* A person guilty of misconduct.

1886 A. M. ELLIOTT in *Amer. Jrnl. of Philol.* VII. 246 They were no set of political convicts or social misdemeanants. 1892 W. BEATTY-KINGSTON *Intemperance* 34 To be compelled to slake their thirst with water would be no great hardship to these confirmed misdemeanants.

† **Misdemea·ned,** *ppl. a. Obs.* [MIS-[1] 2.] Ill-conducted.

1586 HOOKER *Descr. Irel.* in Holinshed II, Bewailing with great remorse of conscience his former misdemened life.

† **Misdemea·ning,** *vbl. sb. Obs.* [MIS-[1] 3.] Misconduct, misdemeanour.

1487 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 389/1 For othre misdemenyng of the said John Morys ayenst your Highnesse. 1492 *Plumpton Corr.* (Camden) 265 Consideringe the said Dame Joyce was innocent, & nothinge knowinge of his misdemeaninge. 1562-3 *Act* 5 *Eliz.* c. 9 § 7 Heinous Perjuries and other Offences and Misdemeaninges. 1625 [see *misbeing*, MIS-[1] 3]. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Misdemeanour*, a misdemeaning, or behaving one's self ill.

Misdemea·nist. [f. next: see -IST.] Misdemeanant.

1862 LEVER *Barrington* xviii, Never did a misdemeanist take his 'six weeks' with a more complete consciousness of penalty than did Polly sit down to that piano.

Misdemea·nour, -or, *sb.*[1] Forms: see DEMEANOUR. [MIS-[1] 4.]

1. Evil behaviour, misconduct. Now *rare.*

1494 FABYAN *Chron.* II. clvii. 146 For the whiche mysse demeanure of this woman, that she had innaturally slayne hir lorde and husbonde [etc.]. 1561 *Child-Marriages* (1897) 78 Whan he perceyvid this Respondent to be with child, he perceyvid her noughtie lief and misdeamenour. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 629 This great riote and vnlawfull misdemeanour. 1579 *Termes of Law* 63 His .. misdemeaner shall cause the officer .. to loose his office. *a* 1639 W. WHATELEY *Prototypes* II. xxvi. (1640) 68 You .. that are so wickedly gevin over to idlenesse, and drunkennesse..be ashamed of such more than beast-like misdemeanour. 1723 SHEFFIELD (Dk. Buckhm.) *Wks.* (1753) II. 104 A thousand slanders .. will never here be able to give a suspicion of misdemeanor. 1775 JOHNSON *Tax. no Tyr.* 60 The whole town of Boston is distressed for the misdemeanour of a few.

b. An instance of this; a misdeed, offence.

1494 FABYAN *Chron.* VI. ccvi. 218 Some mysdemeanures and rules that were occupyed and exercysed in his absence. 1592 NASHE *Four Lett. Confut.* 52 God forbid that our forheades should for euer bee blotted with our forefathers misdemeanors. 1601 R. JOHNSON *Kingd. & Commw.* (1603) 78 These misdemenors against all sence and reason. 1659 PEARSON *Creed* (1839) 490 By great and scandalous offences, by incorrigible misdemeanours, we may incur the censure of the Church of God. 1709 SWIFT *Adv. Relig.* Wks. 1751 IV. 129 If any apparent Transgression .. would be imputed to him for a misdemeanor, by which he must certainly forfeit his..Station. *a* 1716 SOUTH *Serm.* (1744) IX. xii. 359 God takes a particular notice of our personal misdemeanors.

2. *Law.* One of a class of indictable offences which are regarded as less heinous than those called felonies. *High misdemeanour*: see quot. 1706.

1487 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 402/1 An Acte giving the Court of Star Chamber authority to punish divers misdemeanors. 1503-4 *Act* 19 *Hen. VII*, c. 14 § 8 Such reteynours and offences and other Mysdemeanours as shalbe doon .. contrary to the forme of this acte. 1614 BACON *Charge touching Duels* 22 Practice to impoison, though it tooke no effect, way-laying to murder,..haue been adiudged haynous misdemeanors punishable in this Court. 1660 *Trial Regic.* 113 He charged the Prisoner at the Bar with Treason and high misdemeanors. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *High Misdemeanour*, a Crime of a hainous Nature, next to High Treason. 1769 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* IV. i. 5 This general definition comprehends both crimes and misdemesnors; which, properly speaking, are mere synonymous terms. *Ibid.* vi. 80 Words spoken amount only to a high misdemesnor, and no treason. 1807 JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1830) IV. 103 The trial of Dayton for misdemeanor may as well go on at Richmond. 1807 SIR S. ROMILLY in Hansard *Parl. Deb.* Ser. I. IX. 327 He conceived that if ministers should give such a pledge.., it would be a high crime and misdemeanour. 1821 HOLFORD *Th. on Crim. Prisons* 36 Any person convicted of any misdemeanor, except libel.

3. Short for: A person imprisoned for misdemeanour; = MISDEMEANANT. (Cf. next word.)

App. in regular prison use till *c* 1820, when *misdemeanant* took its place.

1812 'A Prisoner' in *Examiner* 7 Sept. 574/2 The acts of Parliament required him to keep the felons and misdemeanours separate. 1815 *Rep. Comm. K. B.* (etc.) *Prisons* (Parl. Papers) 229 Four felons, nine misdemeanors, and one fine. *Ibid.* 230 The female misdemeanors I generally class with the female debtors. 1818 *Min. Evid. Comm. Prisons Metrop.* VIII. 109 For debtors, male and female, and vagrants and misdemeanors.

attrib. 1814 *Min. Evid. St. Gaols London* (Parl. Papers) App. i. 33 There are three [prisoners] for misdemeanors in the other misdemeanor ward.

† 4. Mismanagement. *Obs. rare*—[1].

Cf. DEMEANOUR 4. But the use in the quot. was probably suggested by MANURE.

1644 BP. HALL *Serm.* Wks. 1808 V. 236 Never was there any sterility, whereof there may not be a cause given; either .. some naturall fault in the soil, or misdemeanure of the owners.

† **Misdemea·nour,** *sb.*[2] *Obs.* [f. MISDEMEAN *v.* + *-our*, -OR[2].] A person guilty of a misdemeanour.

1533 *Chron. Calais* (Camden) 154 If they fynde any mysdemeanours, suspect persons or straungers stirring in the strets. 1533-4 *Act* 25 *Hen. VIII*, c. 3 § 1 The same mysdemeanours, Felons, Robbers and burglaries [*sic*] have .. the pryvylege..of theire clergie.

† **Misdemea·nour,** *v. Obs. rare*—[1]. [f. MISDEMEANOUR *sb.*[1]] = MISDEMEAN *v.*[1]

1620 J. WILKINSON *Coroners & Sheriffes* 52 If any one shal refuse to enter bond or misdemeanor himselfe.

† **Misdepa·rt,** *v. Obs. rare*—[1]. [MIS-[1] 1.] *trans.* To distribute unfairly.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Man of Law's Prol.* 9 Thou blamest Crist, and seyst ful bitterly, He misdeparteth richesse temporal.

Misderiva·tion. [MIS-[1] 4.] A wrong derivation.

1905 *Athenæum* 464/3 This misderivation is no doubt responsible for the change of spelling of 'flet' to 'fleet'.

Misderi·ve, *v.* [MIS-[1] 1.]

† 1. *trans.* To divert into a wrong channel. *Obs.*

1649 BP. HALL *Cases Consc.* III. vii. 298 Mis-deriving the well meant devotions of..pious soules into a wrong channell.

2. To assign a wrong derivation to.

1817 COLERIDGE *'Blessed are ye'* 16 To exaggerate and misderive the distress of the labouring classes in order to make them turbulent. 1822-34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) I. 103 Alimon, alimonia, alimentum .. have been commonly mis-derived by the lexicographers from *alo*, 'to nourish'.

Misdescri·be, *v.* [MIS-[1] 1.] *trans.* To describe inaccurately.

1827 BENTHAM *Ration. Judic. Evid.* Wks. V. 599 When any other circumstance is misdescribed in the pleadings. 1884 *Fortn. Rev.* Dec. 847 The events .. have been systematically misdescribed by..the Liberal press.

Hence **Misdescri·bed** *ppl. a.*, **Misdescri·ber.**

1889 GASQUET *Hen. VIII & Eng. Monast.* II. 495 Those kindly misdescribers, Sir Walter Scott and the author of the 'Ingoldsby Legends'. 1891 ATKINSON *Moorland Par.* 153 Tbese misnamed, or rather misdescribed pits.

Misdescri·ption. [MIS-[1] 4.] Incorrect description.

1848 ARNOULD *Marine Insur.* 172 If the party insuring purposely misdescribed the vessel..the policy might be held void for such misdescription. 1885 *Law Times* LXXIX. 47/1 'Accountant' was held to be a misdescription of an accountant's clerk. 1886 DICEY *Eng. Case agst. Home Rule* (ed. 2) 225 The very heading of the Bill is a misdescription.

Misdescri·ptive, *a.* [MIS-[1] 6.] Giving an inaccurate description (*of*).

1903 *Law Q. Rev.* Jan. 9 His title is therefore misdescriptive of his book.

Misdese·rt. *Obs.* or *arch.* [MIS-[1] 4.] The condition of being undeserving; ill-desert.

1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* VI. i. 12 My haplesse case Is not occasiond through my misdesert But through misfortune. 1656 EARL MONM. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* 306 Those miserable creatures, who for their secret misdeserts, are .. condemned to tug at an Oar. 1865 PUSEY *Truth Eng. Ch.* 192 Many of us, for our misdeserts, may be unfit for the immediate presence of God.

† **Misdese·rve,** *v. Obs.* [MIS-[1] 1.] a. *intr.* To deserve ill. b. *trans.* To fail to deserve.

1657 J. SERGEANT *Schism Dispach't* 77 If any be found misdeserving in the same manner. 1672 *Essex Papers* (1890) I. 47 In assuring my selfe anew of yr friendship which I have never misdeserved.

† **Misdese·rving,** *vbl. sb. Obs.* [MIS-[1] 3.] Misdesert.

1540 PALSGR. *Acolastus* I ij b, Throughe thy mysdeseruing. 1611 SPEED *Hist. Gt. Brit.* VII. XXX. 317 Not stained with any aspersion of mis-deseruing. *a* 1649 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Hist. Jas. II*, Wks. (1711) 30 His past demerits and misdeservings.

Misdevo·ted, *pa. pple.* [MIS-[1] 2.] Improperly devoted; devoted to a wrong object.

1612-15 BP. HALL *Contempl., O. T.* XVIII. *Asa* Wks. (1625) 1328 There were some misdeuoted to the worship of the true God. 1856 KINGSLEY *Misc.* (1859) I. 333 Twenty pages of comment on it would not bave been misdevoted.

Misdevo·tion. [MIS-[1] 4.] Wrong or misdirected devotion.

1612 DONNE *Progr. Soul, 2nd Anniv.* 511 Here..where mis-devotion frames A thousand Prayers to Saints. 1614 BP. HALL *No Peace with Rome* § 20 The priuate misdeuotion of some superstitious old wife! 1649 MILTON *Eikon.* Wks. 1738 I. 429 The vanity, superstition, and misdevotion of which place [*sc.* a private chapel], was a scandal.

† **Misdevou·t,** *a. Obs.* [MIS-[1] 6.] Wrongly devout.

1610 DONNE *Pseudo-martyr* 359 Some kings in a misdeuout zeale..neglected the office of gouernement to which God had called them. 1651 BP. HALL *Soliloquies* xxiii. 287, I have grieved to see poor misdevout souls under the Papacy, measuring their orisons, not by weight but by number.

† **Misdi·et,** *sb. Obs.* [MIS-[1] 4.] Wrong diet, improper feeding.

1528 PAYNELL *Salerne's Regim.* Pref. A j b, By our mysse dyete, and to moche surfettynge. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. iv. 23 A dry dropsie..Which by misdiet daily greater grew. 1620 SANDERSON *Serm.* I. 145 A man may have..little distempers in his body, through mis-dyet or otherwise. 1665 J. FRASER *Polichron.* (S.H.S.) 287 A place unfit for him, considering the aire and misdyet he was ingaged to grapple with.

Misdi·et, *v.* ? *Obs.* [MIS-[1] 1.] *trans.* To diet improperly. Hence **Misdi·eter.**

1496 *Dives & Pauper* (W. de W.) I. xxx. 68/2 Yf a man mysdyete hym & ete & drynke out of mesure. 1607 WALKINGTON *Opt. Glass* 4 Those who distemper and misdiet themselves with untimely..surfeting. *Ibid.* 16 If consorting with misdieters, he bath himself in the muddy streames of their luxury. 1617 HIERON *Wks.* II. 253 To giue his patient a charge..to take heed how hee mis-diet himselfe.

Misdi·eting, *vbl. sb.* ? *Obs.* [MIS-[1] 3.] Improper feeding.

1486 *Bk. St. Albans* c viij b, The leest mysdyetyng and mysentendyng sleth h[ir]. 1496 *Dives & Pauper* (W. de W.) I. xxi. 56/2 By mysdyetynge of the moder whyle she is with childe. *a* 1656 BP. HALL *Balm of Gilead* vi. § 6 Wks. 1808 VIII. 158 This great body, by mis-dieting and wilful disorder, contracted these spirituall diseases.

† **Misdi·ght,** *pa. pple. Obs.* [MIS-[1] 2.] Ill-clothed; badly furnished or prepared; ill-treated, brought to misfortune.

a 1400 *Songs of London Prentices* (Percy Soc.) 3 But if migbt Goe before right, And will Before skill, Then is one Mill misdight. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* V. vii. 37 Her heart gan grudge for very deepe despight Of so unmanly maske in misery misdight. 1597 BP. HALL *Sat.* III. vii. 66 Despised Nature suit them once aright, Their bodie to their coate; both now mis-dight. 1607 R. C[AREW] tr. *Estienne's World of Wonders* 245 Their wine..Wherewith they bene each one so oft misdight [orig. *le vin, dont chacun d'eux s'enyure*].

Misdire·ct, *v.* [MIS-[1] 1.] *trans.* To direct wrongly; to give a wrong direction to.

1603 FLORIO *Montaigne* II. xvii. (1632) 367 Fearing lest the contention of his will should make him to misse-direct his hand. 1768 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* III. xxiv. 390 In the hurry of a trial the ablest judge may mistake the law, and misdirect the jury. 1868 MISS YONGE *Cameos* I. iii. 21 He himself remained to misdirect the pursuers. 1885 *Law Rep.* (14 Q. B. Div.) 694 The Court in banc will..grant a new trial on the ground that the jury were misdirected. 1897 P. WARUNG *Tales Old Regime* 129 Through the going out of the light, the blow was misdirected.

Misdire·cted, *ppl. a.* [MIS-[1] 2.] Wrongly directed or applied; misguided; sent to a wrong address.

1790 T. BURGESS *Div. Chr.* 17 The vanity of misdirected reason. 1828-43 TYTLER *Hist. Scot.* (1864) III. 96 In a spirit of erroneous and misdirected zeal. 1850 MARS-

den *Early Purit.* (1853) 381 The divinity of the times..was at once artificial, and to a great degree misdirected. 1886 Kipling *Departm. Ditties*, etc. (1888) 48 It was a misdirected wire, Her husband was at Shaitanpore.

Misdire·ction. [Mis-[1] 4.]

1. Wrong or improper direction or guidance; the action of misdirecting or the condition of being misdirected; direction to a wrong address.

1768 Blackstone *Comm.* III. xxiii. 373 A new trial..is now very commonly had for the misdirection of the judge at *nisi prius*. 1830 Gen. P. Thompson *Exerc.* (1842) I. 228 The great object of fear to the middle classes, is the apprehended violence and misdirection of those with whom they think they would have to join. 1857 Whewell *Hist. Induct. Sci.* (ed. 3) I. 216 The mis-direction of their efforts. 1860 Mrs. Carlyle *Lett.* III. 48 The two notes..were received together (on account of misdirection). 1875 *Act* 38 & 39 *Vict.* c. 77 Order xxxix, A new trial shall not be granted on the ground of misdirection .. unless .. some substantial wrong or miscarriage has been thereby occasioned in the trial of the action.

2. A wrong direction, line, or course.

1861 Craik *Hist. Eng. Lit.* II. 517 Whatever of misdirection any of them may have given for a time to the form of our poetry. 1887 H. S. Holland *Christ or Eccles.* (1888) 8 We..wonder whether the entire movement of human life has not..taken some terrible misdirection.

† Misdispe·nd, *v.* [Mis-[1] 1.] *trans.* To spend improperly.

c 1380 *Lay Folks Catech.* (L.) 793 Who euer mys-dispendys myȝtys of sowle or body or ony oper goodis agaynst godys law. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 52 That I scholde schrive As touchende of my wittes fyve, And schape that thei were amended Of that I hadde hem misdispended. *c* 1412 Hoccleve *De Reg. Princ.* 1303 Some riche is large, and his goode mysdespendetbe In mayntenaunce of synne.

† Misdispe·nse. *Obs. rare*[−1]. [Mis-[1] 4.] Wrong expenditure.

1450 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 180/2 The mysdispence and appliyng of the same.

† Misdisti·nguish, *v. Obs.* [Mis-[1] 1.] *intr.* To distinguish wrongly, make wrong distinctions.

1594 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* III. iii. § 1 So that if wee imagine a difference where there is none, because wee distinguish where we should not, it may not bee denyed that we misdistinguish. *Ibid.* III. ii. § 2 Herein for two things wee are reprooued; the first is misdistinguishing. 1654–66 Earl Orrery *Parthen.* (1676) 353 You may acknowledge the Error of such a misdistinguishing.

Misdivi·de, *v.* [Mis-[1] 1.] *trans.* To divide wrongly. 1882 in Ogilvie.

Misdivi·sion. [Mis-[1] 4.] An incorrect division.

1890 *Cent. Dict.* s. v., *Newt, newte*, an erroneous form due to misdivision of *an ewte*. 1905 Jespersen *Growth Eng. Lang.* 73 The result being the same misdivision of the word.

Misdo (misdū'), *v.* Forms: see Do *v.*[1] [OE. *misdón* = OFris. *misdua*, MDu., Du. *misdoen*, OHG. *missa-, missituon, -duan* (MHG. *missetuon*, G. *misstun*): see Mis-[1] 1 and Do *v.*[1]]

1. *intr.* To do evil or wrong; to do harm or injury *to, unto, against*. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* John iii. 20 Hælc monn..seðe yfle *vel* mis doeð. *a* 1023 Wulfstan *Hom.* I. (1883) 270 Ac to fela is þæra, þe ær þisan misdydan. 1154 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1135 Durste nan man misdon wið oðer on his time. *c* 1200 Ormin 3974, & ȝiff þatt iss þatt he missdoþ Onn anig kinne wise, Itt reoweþþ himm. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3555 He hauen sineged and misdon. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 7914 Ga to dauid king, and sai He has misdon again mi lai. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxxvi. (*Baptista*) 436 [He] with-stud in na degre agane þame þat in ony thing til hyme mysded. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* xvi. xvi. 686 Fair swete Ihesu that I haue mysdoo haue mercy vpon my sowle. *c* 1500 *Melusine* 261 There nys none that may say that euer we mysdyde..ayenst our souerayne lord. 1561 Norton & Sackv. *Gorboduc* I. i, I knowe nothynge at all, Wher in I haue misdone vnto his Grace. 1618 Wither *Motto, Nec Careo* Juvenilia (1633) 531 To see my Friend misdoe, I want not eyes, Nor Love to cover his infirmities. 1671 Milton *P. R.* I. 225 The erring Soul Not wilfully mis-doing, but unware Misled. 1676 Dryden *State Innoc.* v. i, I have misdone; and I endure the Smart. 1875–86 *W. Somerset Gloss., Misdo*, to transgress; to do amiss.

2. *trans.* With pronominal or vague object: To do amiss. ? *Obs.*

a 1060 *Laws of Æthelred* (Liebermann) 258 ȝif hit ȝeweorpeð þæt man unwilles .. æniȝ þing misdeð. *a* 1200 *Moral Ode* 100 Al þet we misduden her ho hit wulleð kuðe þere. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 491 Ere Ion..bisouȝte is grace of þat he adde misdo. *c* 1320 R. Brunne *Medit.* 462 What haþ he mysdo to dey þus? 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 122 Godd it thee foryive If thou have eny thing misdo Touchende of this. *c* 1440 Hylton *Scala Perf.* (W. de W. 1494) II. xl, They haue kyssed and made frendes: and all is forgyuen that was mysse done. 1528 More *Dyalogue* III. Wks. 225/1 The thinges that they mysdo. 1592 Kyd *Sp. Trag.* II. v. 28 O poore Horatio, what hadst thou misdonne. 1671 Milton *Samson* 911 To shew what recompense Toward thee I intend for what I haue misdone. 1837 Carlyle in *Lett. Jane W. Carlyle* (1883) I. 70, I know not whether this book is worth anything, nor what the world will do with it, or misdo.

b. To do (work), perform (a duty) improperly.

1840 Carlyle *Heroes* iv. 274 The work committed to him will be misdone. 1858 — *Fredk. Gt.* x. v. II. 642 He could have done us this little service..and he..has been tempted into misdoing it! 1893 *Advance* (Chicago) 23 Mar., To misapprehend and mis-do the duty now fronting us.

† 3. To do evil or wrong to (a person); to harm, injure, wrong. *Obs.*

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 124 ȝif ei mon oðer ei wummon mis-seið oðer mis-deð ou. *c* 1275 Lay. 22456 And ich þe wolle loke to þat no king ne sal þe mis-do [*c* 1205 woh don]. *c* 1357 *Lay Folks Catech.* (T.) 370 To be tholemode when men misdos us. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xv. 252 Misdoth he no man ne with his mouth greueth. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* v. xii. 181 Madame ther shal none of my subgettys mysdoo you ne your maydens. 1530 Palsgr. 637/1, I nouther mysded hym nor myssayd him. 1597 Lyly *Wom. in Moon* III. i. 24, Pardon me, That I misdid thee in my witles rage.

† b. To injure (an inanimate object). *Obs.*

1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) I. 111 Mysbyleued men mysdede neuere þat chirche. *c* 1400 *Chron. Eng.* lxxii. in *Archiv Stud. neu. Spr.* LII. 12 The walles were so stronge that noo man myght hem mysdoo.

† 4. To destroy, put ont of existence. *refl.* To do away with oneself. *Obs.*

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2642 Hamonel [? Hamones] likenes was dor-on; ðis crune is broken, ðis is misdon. 1592 Kyd *Sp. Trag.* IV. v. 6 Faire Isabella by her selfe misdone. 1599 *Warn. Faire Wom.* II. 669 Is not The better part of me by me misdone? My husband, is he not slaine? 1600 Heywood *2nd Pt. Edw. IV*, Wks. 1874 I. 142 Drownd in a butte of Malmsey! that is strange, Doubtless he neuer would misdoe himself? 1613 J. Davies (Heref.) *Muses Teares* D 2 b, Seuere Torquatus, did his Sonne mis-do For charging, 'gainst his Chardge, his brauing Fo. 1619 in Heath *Grocers' Comp.* (1829) App. 348 A burial-place for children dying without baptism, and for such as had misdone themselves.

Misdoer (misdū·əɹ). Now *rare*. [Mis-[1] 5.] A wrong-doer, evil-doer, offender, malefactor.

c 1320 R. Brunne *Medit.* 503 Nat onely a mysdoer now he ys holde, But as a lewed fole he ys eke tolde. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) I. 115 Whan þeues and mysdoeres were þere hyheded, þe hedes were i-left þere. 1433 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 422/1 Pilours Robbours or eny other open mysdoers. 1495 *Act* 11 *Hen. VII*, c. 2 If eny persone or persones geve eny other mete or drinke to the seid mysdoers being in stokkes..or the same prisoners favour in their mysdoyng. 1535 Coverdale *Luke* xxiii. 39 And one of the myszdoers that hanged there blasphemed him. 1596 Spenser *State Irel.* (Globe) 610/1 Feare of law, which restrayneth offences, and inflicteth sharpe punishment to misdoeres. *a* 1670 Spalding *Troub. Chas. I* (Spalding Club) I. 50 To summond thir misdoeris at the marcat crossis of Aberdein..to compeir befoir the secreit counsall. 1802–12 Bentham *Ration. Judic. Evid.* (1827) IV. 590 Without having succeeded so far as to have produced in the breast of the misdoer any permanent..repentance. 1818 Scott *Hrt. Midl.* xvi, He may be called the father of a' the misdoers in Scotland. 1903 *Expositor* Nov. 339 The laws of physical nature..are not gentle in their treatment of misdoers, nor..of those involved in the misdoing of others.

Misdo·ing, *vbl. sb.* [Mis-[1] 3.] Wrong-doing, evil-doing; also *Law*, the improper performance of an act.

1340 *Ayenb.* 157 Ich me ssel ase moche ase ich may wyþoute misdoinge a-yens ham paye and condecendre. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Melib.* P 741 He that supporteth him and preyseth him in his misdoinge. 1495 [see prec.]. *c* 1540 Coverdale *Goostly Psalmes* Wks. 1846 II. 579 And after thy great benignite Forgyve thou all my mysdoynge. 1628 [see Miscontinuance]. 1632 J. Hayward tr. *Biondi's Eromena* 8 My conscience doth not accuse me of misdoing. 1675 W. Sheppard *Actions*, etc. xii. 357 Of an Action upon the Case for Doing, not Doing, or Mis-doing. 1880 'Ouida' *Moths* I. 102 The glance and the blush were not for the shame of her own misdoing. 1903 [see prec.].

b. An instance of wrong-doing, a misdeed. Chiefly in *pl.*

1543 *Necessary Doctrine* I ij, He shall..haue pardon..of all his missedoinges. 1547–8 *Ordre of Communion* 13 Wee do earnestly repent .. for these our misdoynges. 1692 R. L'Estrange *Fables* ccclxxxviii. 361 That All-seeing Eye .. that Observes all our Mis-doings. 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* xlvii, Harbouring of priests, obstinate recusancy, and Popish misdoings. 1898 L. Stephen *Stud. Biogr.* I. v. 168 We may forgive a misdoing which caused no permanent misery.

Misdo·ing, *ppl. a.* [Mis-[1] 2.] Doing wrong.

1554 *Interlude of Youth* (1557) C iv b, Whan ye se mysdoing men Good counsell geue them.

† Misdoo·m, *sb. Obs.* [Mis-[1] 4.] Misjudgement.

1606 *Sir G. Goosecappe* I. iv. in Bullen *O. Pl.* III. 23 Such misconstructions, and resolud misdoomes Of my poore work.

† Misdoo·m, *v. Obs.* [Mis-[1] 1.] To misjudge.

1615 Sylvester *Job Triumph.* II. xix. 287 Know, there shall Judgment com, To doom them right, who Others (rash) misdoom.

Misdou·bt, *sb.* Now *arch.* and *dial.* [Mis-[1] 4.] Apprehension of evil; hence *gen.* mistrust, suspicion.

1592 Kyd *Sp. Trag.* II. iv. 20 He conquer my misdoubt, And in thy loue and councell drowne my feare. 1593 Shaks. *2 Hen. VI*, III. i. 332 Steele thy fearfull thoughts And change misdoubt to resolution. 1621 G. Sandys *Ovid's Met.* x. (1626) 209 And thee Adonis, her misdoubts disswade From such encounters. 1680 Crowne *Misery Civ. War* v. 70 The bird that sees the bush where once it self Was lim'd, .. Cannot but hover round it with misdoubt. 1823 Galt *Entail* II. xxx, I hae a misdoot that a's no right and sound wi' her mair than wi' bim. 1893 Sir E. Arnold in *Westm. Gaz.* 11 Oct. 7/2 It seems time for enlightened minds to lay aside misdoubt regarding the continuity of individual life. 1899 C. H. Herford in *Shaks. Wks.* (Eversley ed.) IV. 404 The tragic compunctions and misdoubts of Faustus.

Misdou·bt, *v.* Now chiefly *dial.* or *arch.* [f. Mis-[1] 1 + Doubt *v.* Cf. obs. F. *mesdoubter* refl. to suspect (1518 in Godefroy).]

1. *trans.* To have doubts as to the existence, truth, or reality of (a thing).

c 1549 tr. *Pol. Verg. Eng. Hist.* (Camden No. 36) 156 The citizens..in nothing misdoubtinge their power [orig. *satis suis freti nihil ibus*]. 1570 J. Dee *Math. Pref.* 6 That .. I did misdoute your zelous mynde to vertues schole. 1621–31 Laud *Serm.* (1847) 191, I will never misdoubt the piety of this nation in the performing this duty. 1684 R. Waller *Nat. Exper.* 61 Misdoubting the sufficiency of the Ligature to sustain the air. 1862 Trollope *Orley F.* xxvii, She did not say that she misdoubted the wisdom of her son's counsels. 1875–86 *W. Somerset Gloss., Misdoubt*, to misbelieve; to doubt. 1887 P. M'Neill *Blawearie* 129 This was the voice of Teenie Bell: there was no misdoubting it.

absol. 1601 Shaks. *All's Well* I. iii. 130 Manie likelihoods inform'd mee of this before, which hung so tottring in the ballance, that I could neither beleeue nor misdoubt.

b. With clause: To doubt (*but*) *that* . . ; to have doubts as to *how* . . .

1640 G. Sandys *Christ's Passion* IV. 42/26 Who beares not his own burden, that none may Misdoubt, the Innocent became their prey. 1709 Strype *Ann. Ref.* iii. 74 We need not..misdoubt but that it is his, under whose name it goes. 1865 De Morgan in Graves *Life Sir W. R. Hamilton* (1889) III. 622 Misdoubting that the subscription plan had the sanction of the relatives. 1891 Atkinson *Moorland Par.* 14 [He] gravely shook his head, and misdoubted how it would work.

2. To have doubts about the character, honesty, etc. of (a person); to be mistrustful or suspicious of.

c 1585 *Faire Em* II. 573 Iealousy..Hath so bewitched my lovely Manviles senses That he misdoubts his Em, that loves his soul. 1598 Shaks. *Merry W.* II. i. 192, I doe not misdoubt my wife: but I would bee loath to turne them together. 1619 Gataker *Spirituall Watch* (1637) 109 Peter then..misdoubted not himselfe, nor his own inability, but he would and should doe as then he said. 1818 Scott *Rob Roy* xxii, I dinna misdoubt ye. 1882 Miss C. F. Woolson *Anne* 371 We put him in charge of a woman, who said she'd take care of him, but I misdoubt her. 1902 A. Lang in *Blackw. Mag.* Apr. 481/1 His witnesses were misdoubted.

3. To have misgivings, suspicion, or forebodings in regard to.

1563–87 Foxe *A. & M.* (1596) 248/1 They began to misdout their speeding. 1588 Shaks. *L. L. L.* IV. iii. 194, I beseech your Grace let this Letter be read, Our person mis-doubts it: it was treason he said. 1593 — *3 Hen. VI*, v. vi. 14 The Bird that hath bin limed in a bush, With trembling wings misdoubteth euery bush. 1663 H. Cogan tr. *Pinto's Trav.* lxxv. 307 Presently misdoubting the businesse, she went..to impart the sad news unto her Mother. 1857 Dickens *Lett.* (1880) II. 9, I much misdoubt an amateur artist's success in this vast place. 1870 Morris *Earthly Par.* II. iii. 496 Much they misdoubted what these came to do.

† b. To hesitate or scruple (*to do* something). *Obs.*

1581 J. Bell *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* II. 176 The holy Ghost misdoubteth not to speake in the Scriptures, after this usuall phrase of speech [orig. *sacræ literæ non dubitant voces huiusmodi usurpare*].

4. To fear or suspect the existence or occurrence of (something regarded as evil).

c 1540 tr. *Pol. Verg. Eng. Hist.* (Camden No. 36) 159 The kinge, misdoubtinge some treason [orig. *fraudem suspicatus*]. *a* 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* III. (1629) 250 Hee misdoubted each mans treason, and coniectured euery possibility of misfortune. 1597 Beard *Theatre God's Judgem.* (1612) 170 The Turks secure and misdoubting nothing. 1603 Drayton *Bar. Wars* I. xlix, Warn'd by Danger to misdoubt the worst. 1633 G. Herbert *Temple, Ch. Porch* xxviii, Yet in thy thriving still misdoubt some evil. 1653 Gataker *Vind. Annot. Jer.* 6 Because he misdoubted discovery as wel by the one as by the other. *a* 1721 Sheffield (Dk. Buckhm.) *Wks.* (1753) I. 64 My fearful conscious eyes Look often back, misdoubting a surprize.

absol. 1700 Dryden *Wife of Bath's T.* 116 Misdoubting much, and fearful of the event. 1850 Mrs. Browning *Poems Island* xxx. Poems II. 189 And who would murmur and misdoubt, When God's great sunrise finds him out?

† b. *transf.* To fear for, have fears about. *Obs.*

1630 R. N. tr. *Camden's Hist. Eliz.* I. 14 This also troubled the French King, who could not but misdoubt France [orig. *Galliæ non poterat non timere*], if by this new marriage England should fall againe to the Spaniard, his Enemy.

5. With clause (occas. with simple obj.): To fear or suspect (that something is or will be the case).

1596 Spenser *F. Q.* VI. iii. 47 Misdoubting least he should misguyde His former malice to some new assay. 1605 in *Buccleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) 81 They misdoubt they shall not be able to raise many voluntaries. *a* 1648 Ld. Herbert *Hen. VIII* (1683) 406 Neither did the King misdoubt that the putting of Arms into so many of his Subjects hands would redound to his prejudice. 1813 Byron *Br. Abydos* I. v, Much I misdoubt this wayward boy Will one day work me more annoy. 1818 Scott *Hrt. Midl.* xxxviii, And that leddy was the Queen hersell?..I misdoubted it when I saw that your honour didna put on your hat. 1865 Dickens *Mut. Fr.* III. xv, Mr. Boffin stared here, and stared there, as misdoubting that he must be in some sort of fit. 1885 *Harper's Mag.* May 830/2, I misdoubt the ladies won't like it.

b. With acc. and inf.: To suspect (a person or thing) of being (so-and-so). ? *Obs.*

1599 Sandys *Europæ Spec.* (1632) 172 [He] is strongly misdoubted to practise with the Emperour for the joyning the Catholike and Lutheran forces in one. 1625 Bp. Mountagu *App. Cæsar* 275 You misdoubt the Testimony Io bee forged, because it was forgotten to name the place.

c. *refl.* and *intr.* To suspect; to have suspicions *of*; to be suspicious *of*. *Obs.* or *arch.*

1637 Heywood *Dial.* viii. 109 Dost thou misdoubt thee Of nothing lost? hast all thy tooles about thee? 1814 Cary *Dante, Paradise* xxiv. 86, I pot a whit misdoubt of its assay. 1843 James *Forest Days* I. ii. 12 Get thee gone, slut!.. what dost thou know of friars' cells? Too much, I misdoubt me. 1846 Trench *Mirac.* xviii. (1862) 300 The neighbours may have misdoubted of the work, as having been done on the Sabbath.

Hence **Misdou·bted** *ppl. a.*

1687 H. More *App. Antid.* (1712) 181 Suspected Innocency and misdoubted Truth.

† Misdou·btful, *a. Obs.*[−1] [Mis-[1] 6.] Suspicious. So **Misdou·btfully** *adv.*, suspiciously.

1575 R. B. *Appius & Virg.* civ, When men wyll seeme

misdoubtfully, Without an why, to call and crie. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* v. vi. 3 She gan to cast in her misdoubtfull mynde A thousand feares.

Misdou·bting, *vbl. sb.* [MIS-[1] 3.] = MISDOUBT *sb.*

1571 GOLDING *Calvin on Ps.* lxviii. 18 Our nature is forward to misdoubting. 1606 G. W[OODCOCKE] *Hist. Iustine* I. 5 This man..casting about..to found out the depth of this their misdoubting. 1823 J. F. COOPER *Pioneers* xi, The misdoubtings of our arrogant nature. 1877 LADY WOOD *Sheen's Foreman* I. 264 She..had a little misdoubting of the success of an evening's entertainment.

Misdou·bting, *ppl. a.* [MIS-[1] 2.] Distrustful, suspicious.

1652 *Eliza's Babes* 75, I must now ask thee pardon for those misdoubting thoughts. 1814 BYRON *Corsair* III. viii, Misdoubting Corsair! 1868 HOLME LEE *B. Godfrey* xvi, Misdoubting vagabond that you are.

Misdrau·ght. *rare.* [MIS-[1] 4.]

†1. Misbehaviour. (Cf. DRAUGHT *sb.* 20 b.) *Obs.*

c 1440 CAPGRAVE *Life St. Kath.* I. 821 Whanne she covde aspye ony mysdraught [*MS. Rawl.* mysdrawte] Of man or of woman, that thei were nyce.

2. A draught (of air) in a wrong direction.

1838 *Civil Engin. & Arch. Jrnl.* I. 212/2 The mortar..falls out in powder, and leaves gaping chinks for misdraught between the bricks.

Misdraw·, *v.* [MIS-[1] 1.]

†1. *trans.* To draw amiss. *Obs.*

Cf. OF. *mestraire le merel* (*la merele*), jouer mauvais jeu, éprouver un revers; *un trait de merele*, un coup de la fortune (Godefroy).

1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 18 So that under the clerkes lawe Men sen the Merel al mysdrawe.

†2. To entice, allure, mislead. *Obs.*

1382 WYCLIF *Deut.* xvii. 17 He shal not haue many wyues, that mysdrawen [Vulg. *alliciant*] the soule of hym. 1599 SANDYS *Europæ Spec.* (1632) 122 So they be in the latine, and not purposely written..to misdraw the multitude.

†3. *intr.* To go astray. (Cf. DRAW *v.* 68.)

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 304/168 Þe lubere lucifer, þo he was is [*sc.* St. Michael's] felawe.., for-to he gan misdrawe.

Hence †**Misdraw·ing** *ppl.a.* (in quot. *absol.*).

c 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* III. pr. xii. (1868) 104 3if þere were a 3ok of mysdrawynges in diuerse parties [orig. *detractantium jugum*].

Misdraw·ing, *vbl. sb.* [MIS-[1] 3.] A faulty drawing or delineation.

1872 PROCTOR *Ess. Astron.* iv. 59 A small misdrawing in an orthographic presentation of a planet. 1905 C. F. KEARY in *Author* 1 Feb. 144 Leslie's misdrawings of mob-capped maidens.

†**Misdrea·d,** *sb.* [MIS-[1] 4.] Dread of evil.

1608 SHAKS. *Per.* I. ii. 12 (Qq. 1) The passions of the mind, That haue their first conception by misdread.

†**Misdrea·d,** *v. Obs.* [MIS-[1] 1.]

1. *refl.* and *intr.* To have fear, be in dread.

c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 1567 Misdrede 3ow neuer; I wil fulfille alle forwardes feiþli in dede! 1597-8 BP. HALL *Sat., Defiance to Envie* 25 Needs me then hope, or doth me need misdread?

2. *trans.* To dread (some evil).

1606 G. W[OODCOCKE] *Hist. Iustine* XXXI. 104 To auoyd a mischiefe which he misdreaded. *Ibid.* XXXV. 113 Alexander ..misdreding no hostility prepared against him at all.

Misdri·ve, *v.* [MIS-[1] 1.]

†1. *trans.* ? To commit (a wrong). *Obs.*

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 116 If trespas be misdryuen, & do þin owen socoure, & I wille make amendes.

2. To drive in a wrong direction.

a 1631 DONNE *Serm.* lxxxiv. Wks. 1839 IV. 58 They are miscarried, misdriven,.. with the spirit of giddiness. 1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* 74 A curious frame..so featly set together..that should but any one pin of it be mis-driven .. you hazard the cracking .. of the whole. 1885 SIR H. TAYLOR *Autobiogr.* I. 298 The Government..was so much misled, or rather misdriven, as to supersede him in office.

Mise (mīz, məiz), *sb.*[1] Also 5-6 **myse**, 5,8 **myze**, 6 **misse**, 7 **mize**. [a. AF., OF. *mise* action of placing or setting, expenses, account, wager, arbitration (whence med.L. *misa*, *misia*), fem. abstract noun f. *mettre* (pa. pple. *mis*) to place.]

†1. *pl.* Expenses or costs. *Obs.*

c 1450 *Gedstow Reg.* 88 The mysis and expensis I-had by the defaute of the said John and Robert. 1469 *Anc. Cal. Rec. Dublin* (1889) I. 333 And allso rollys to be made of the misis and costes. 1492 in Rymer *Fœdera* (1711) XII. 490 The Mises and Expenses the which he hath doon for th'entertaining of the Men of Werr.

2. A grant, payment, or tribute made to secure a liberty or immunity, as (*a*) by the inhabitants of Wales to a new Lord Marcher, king, or prince on his first entrance into their country, (*b*) by the inhabitants of the County Palatine of Chester on a change of earl.

?*a* 1500 *Chester Pl.* (E. E. T. S.) 439 Ofte I sett vppon falce Assyze rayvinge poore with layinge myze. 1535 *Act 27 Hen. VIII*, c. 26 § 23 That all..lay and temporall.. personnes nowe beyng Lordes Marches [*v. r.* Marchers].. shall..haue all suche myses and profittes of thir tenaunttes as they have had or used to have at the first entre into their Landes. 1548 *Act 2 & 3 Edw. VI*, c. 36 § 52. *c* 1567 in *Cardiff Rec.* (1901) III. 279 As concernyng myses the which the said Erle [of Pembroke] and lorde [Herbert of Cardiff] do clayme to have of their tenaunttes at their fyrst entry. 1648 *British Bell-man* 7 Impositions, by way of Excise, Loane, Myzes, Weekly and Monethly Assesments. 1656 *King's Vale-Royal Eng.* 15 We perceive, that the Inhabitants of the said County of Chester, have paid, and must pay rightfully, at the change of every Owner of the said Earldom, 3000. Marks, called a Mize. And the inhabitants of the County of Flint, being parcel of the said County Palatine, must likewise pay 2000. Marks, which is also called a Mize. 1665 P. HENRY *Diaries & Lett.* (1882) 172 At Malpas at a parish-meeting..three mizes sess'd for ye ensuing year. 1709 STRYPE *Ann. Ref.* Introd. § 2. 13 Nor did she [Q. Eliz.] forget her Myzes; that is, what was due to her from the People of Wales, by antient Custom due to the Princes of Wales,..at their first Entrance upon the supreme Government.

3. A settlement by agreement.

In *Eng. Hist.* applied to the two settlements made in January and May, 1264, between Henry III and his rebellious barons, called the *Mise of Amiens* and *Mise of Lewes* respectively.

[*a* 1293 T. DE WYKES *Chron.* an. 1264 in *Hist. Angl. Script.* (1687) II. 63 Statutum quoddam quod Misam Lewensem inusitato nomine nuncupabat.] 1700 TYRRELL *Hist. Eng.* II. 1027 Until such time as the Peace between the said Lord the King, and the Barons at Lewes, according to a certain *Mise* or Agreement, should be fully concluded. *Ibid. marg.*, The *Mise* at Lewes. 1875 STUBBS *Const. Hist.* xiv. § 177 (1896) II. 92 The Mise of Amiens..received the papal confirmation on the 16th of March.

4. *Law.* The issue in a writ of right.

1544 tr. *Nat. Brevium* 2 Ioynynge the myses vpon the mere. 1544 tr. *Littleton's Tenures* 101 He..may well have a writ of right agaynst him y^t^ recovered, for thys that the mise shallbe joyned onely upon the clere right. 1726 W. NELSON *Lex Maneriorum* (1733) 47 [The Court of the Manor] 'tis a Court which may try the Mise joined upon a Writ of Right. 1773 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* III. xx. 305 In a writ of right, the mise or issue is, that the tenant has more right to hold than the demandant has to demand. 1853 JUDGE LEE in *Grattan's Rep. Virginia* (1855) X. 355 Upon the mise joined on the mere right, every affirmative matter going to the right and title of the demandant..is necessarily put in issue.

†b. *At one's own mise*: by one's own pleading. [Cf. AF. *par sa mise et par soen assent* (Britton II. xviii).]

1453 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 270/2 In cas that they..appere nat, that than they that appered nat, by auctorite aforseid be atteynt and convict..as veryly and in the same forme and effect, as they were atteynt and convict at theire own myse.

5. *Comb.*, as *mise-gatherer*; **mise-book**, a book containing the ratings for the gathering of the mise in the various towns and villages of the County Palatine; **mise-layer**, an assessor of taxes; **mise-money** = 2 (above).

1673 *Mize-book [see MISE *v.*]. 1725 J. JOLLEY (*title*) The Head Constable's Assistant; or, a Mize-Book for the County Palatine of Cheshire. 1886 *Cheshire Gloss.* (citing *Cheshire Sheaf* II. 361), There was, and perhaps still is, at Chester a mise-book, in which every town and village in the county is rated for this tax. 1597 *Crt. Leet Rec. Manch.* (1885) II. 130 Reynolde Parkynson and Anthonie Shepparde to the office of *mysegatherers for this year to come. 1604 *Salford Portmote Rec.* (1902) 41 Henrye Kelley and ffrancis Hutchenson were appointed misegatherers. *Ibid.* 114 There shalbee a Laye layd by the *Myselayers for provysion of Bucketts and Hookes. 1615 in *Crt. Leet Rec. Manch.* (1885) II. 308 That A reasonable ley shalbe assessed and taxed by the myselayers..whereby sixe ladders [etc.]..maye be presentlye provided for the Comon good of all the inhabitants. 1617 in *N. & Q.* Ser. VII. (1891) XI. 66 *Mize Money. 1679 BLOUNT *Anc. Tenures* 162 The tenants shall pay him a certain sum of money called Mise-money, in consideration whereof, they claim to be acquit of all fines and amerciaments, which are recorded at that time and in Court Rolls and not levyed. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Mise-Money*, Money given by way of Composition or Agreement, to purchase any Liberty.

†**Mise,** *sb.*[2] *Obs.* [Of obscure origin. Cf. MISER *sb.*[2]] app. = PANADA.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 339/2 Myse, or mysys, *mice, in plur.* 1611 COTGR., *Eau panée*, a Panado, a Mise.

†**Mise,** *v.*[1] [app. back-formation f. MISER *sb.*[1]] *intr.* To be miserly. Hence **Mising** *ppl. a.*

1579 E. HAKE *Newes owt of Powles Churchyarde* D j b, They scratch, they scrape, they mise, they muse. 1595 LODGE *Fig for Momus* Sat. iv. 21 A miserable mysing wretch, That liues by others losse, and subtle fetch.

Mise (mīz, məiz), *v.*[2] [f. MISE *sb.*[1]] *trans.* To rate for the mise.

1673 SIR P. LEYCESTER *Hist. Antiq. Cheshire* IV. 309 The Township of Limme..is in our Common Mire-book Mized at 01*l.* 16*s.* 00*d.* *Ibid.* 351 Runcorn Superior and Inferior.. are Mized together in our Common Mize-book, and are very hard Mized. 1886 *Cheshire Gloss.*, *Mise*, to value for rating purposes.

Mise, obs. pl. of MOUSE; var. MESE *sb.*[2] and *v.*

Misease (misī·z), *sb. arch.* Forms: see MIS-[2] and EASE *sb.*; also 3 **meoseise**, 4 **myseis**, **myssis**, **mishese**, **meseysey** (?), 5 **myssaes**. [a. OF. *mesaise* (from 13th c.), f. *mes-* MIS-[2] + *aise* EASE.]

1. Distress, affliction; trouble, misery; extreme suffering or discomfort. Also *pl. Obs.* exc. *arch.*

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 114 Al þet flesch þuncheð sur oðer bitter, þet is, pine & weane, & teone, & alle meseise. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 2460 Þe vnkynde þou wilt vp reyse, Þe kynde þou puttest to meseysey. *c* 1375 *Cursor M.* 3596 (Fairf.), Squa has now elde þis ysaac led þat he in mys-ese [*Cott.* langur] lijs in bed. 1382 WYCLIF *Gen.* iii. 16, I shal multiply thi myseses and thi conceyuyngis. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Pars. T.* P 102, I go with-oute returning..to the lond of misese and of derknesse, where-as is the shadwe of deeth. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* XX. 213 Mysese [*Towneley* sorow] had neuere man more. *c* 1450 *Merlin* 64 And so endured the kynge in grete mysese for love of Ygerne. 1470-85 MALORY *Arthur* IX. xix. 367 Alle the mysease that sir tristram hath was for a letter that he fond. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 148/3 Wherfore are ye in so grete mesease for brede? Yf ye haue none thys day ye shal haue to morn. 1490 — *Godfrey* vi. 25 Alle the meseases & the myschiefs that the peple of our lord endured that tyme. *c* 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* XIII. 521 His dart, Meriones Pursude, and Adamas so striu'd, with it, and his misease, As doth a Bullocke puffe and storme. 1848 LYTTON *Harold* II. v. ii. 25 'Gurth, has my father ailed? There is that in his face which I like not'. 'He hath not complained of misease', said Gurth, startled. 1900 F. S. ELLIS *Rom. Rose* I. 7/178 Covetise eggs men on, fur their misease, To gather, but to scatter not.

†2. Lack of the necessaries of life or of the means of living; poverty, need, want. *Obs.*

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 43 *Diuicias et paupertates ne dederis michi sed tantum victui necessaria*, louerd ne gif þu me noþer ne woreld winne ne meseise ac mi bare bileue. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 4770 þat he..ar grant þam son menskli to dei, Ar þat misese [*Gött.* hunger] lang for to drei. *a* 1325 *Prose Psalter* xliii. 26 Þou for-3etest our mesais [*inopiæ nostræ*] and our tribulacioun. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. I. 24 Þat on Clothing is from Chele ow to saue: And þat oþer Mete at Meel for meseise of þiseluen. 1389 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 31 Quat broyer or syster..falle in mischefe er mys-ese..he schal han Almesse. 1490 CAXTON *Godfrey* ci. 153 Seyng that our men suffred so moche famyne and mesease.

3. Uneasiness, disquiet.

1905 R. H. SHERARD *O. Wilde* vi. 75, I noticed with some misease that..he seemed to have the middle class contempt for the title of knighthood.

†**Misea·se,** *a. Obs.* [app. an adj. use of MISEASE *sb.* modelled on F. *aise* adj. (? for **aaise* = *à aise* at ease); cf. the forms *eese*, *eise*, s.v. EASY *a.*] Distressed, miserable; in want.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 46 Hwo se is ful meseise, of alle beo heo cwite. *Ibid.* 162 Uorto urouren ancre þet is meseise [*v. r.* in meseise]. *c* 1290 *St. Julian* 106 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 259 Þis holie Man..mani Miseise Man in is bous wel louelíche vnder-fonge. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. VII. 26 And amende mesondieux þere-myde and myseyse folke helpe. *c* 1440 [see MISEASED]. *c* 1450 *Merlin* 94 He..yaf his godes..to mysese peple of his reame.

absol. ?*a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 667 To mendynantez and mysese in myschefe fallene.

†**Misea·se,** *v. Obs.*—[o] [a. obs. F. *mesaiser*, OF. *mesaisier*, f. *mesaise* MISEASE *sb.*] *trans.* To trouble, inconvenience.

1530 PALSGR. 637/1 If you take this waye, it wyll mysease you.

†**Misea·sed,** *a.* Also 5 **missaysid.** [f. MISEASE *sb.* + -ED[2].] a. In want. b. Troubled, distressed.

c 1440 *Eng. Cong. Irel.* (Rawl. MS.) 115 The mayny, that was myssaysid [*Dubl. MS.* myssayse] and hungry, founde ther mette and drynke y-now. 1553 GRIMALDE *Cicero's Offices* (1558) To Rdr., To make sound the sicke mind (in case it be miseased and hath a wil to be relieued).

†**Misea·sely,** *adv. Obs.* In 3 **miseislich.** [app. f. MISEASE + -LY[2].] ? Miserably.

a 1300 *Eurth* ix. in *E. E. P.* (1862) 151 Whan erþ haþ erþ wiþ streinþ þus geten, alast he haþ is leinþ miseislich i-meten.

†**Misea·seness.** *Obs. rare*—[1]. [f. MISEASE *sb.* + -NESS.] Trouble, affliction.

14.. *Wyclif's Bible* Job v. 21 (MS. Bodl. 277), Þ^u^ schalt not drede myseesnesse [Vulg. *calamitatem*] whanne it comiþ.

†**Misea·sety.** *Obs.* In 4 **myseiste**, **-este**, **-eisetee.** [f. MISEASE + *-te(e*, -TY.] = MISEASE.

1382 WYCLIF *Mark* iv. 19 Myseiste [*v.r.* myseeses, Vulg. *ærumnæ*] of the world. *Ibid.* xii. 44 But this of hir myseste [Vulg. *penuria*] sente alle thingis that she hadde.

†**Misea·sy,** *a. Obs.* [a. OF. *mesaisé*, *-aisié* (also *-aisi*), f. *mes-* MIS-[2] + *aisé* EASY *a.*] Miserable, wretched.

c 1290 *St. Julian* 120 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 259 A Miseisiore man þane he þoujte, no man ne miȝte iseo. 1387-8 T. USK *Test. Love* I. iii. (Skeat) I. 150 Unneth may I figge for pure misesy sorowe.

Mise·ducate, *v.* [MIS-[1] 1.] *trans.* To educate wrongly. Also **Mise·ducated** *ppl. a.* [MIS-[1] 2], wrongly educated.

1827 POLLOK *Course T.* IX. 167 The miseducated fancies.. Of superstitious men. 1856 G. WILSON *Gateways Knowl.* 86 The tongue is deliberately mis-educated. 1858 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* VII. viii. II. 277 His fault was the general one, of having miseducated the Prince. 1897 *Lady's Realm* June 216/1 Servants are not only more educated; they are miseducated.

Miseduca·tion. [MIS-[1] 4.] Wrong or faulty education.

1624 BP. HALL *Epist.* VI. vi. 394 Our Land hath no blemish comparable to the mis-education of our Gentry. 1831 CARLYLE *Sart. Res.* II. iii, As for our Miseducation, make not bad worse. 1840 KINGSLEY *Misc.* (1859) I. 237 Spiritual faculties, which it is as wicked to stunt..by miseducation as it is to maim our own limbs.

†**Mise·gging,** *vbl. sb. Obs.* [f. MIS-[1] 3 + EGGING *vbl. sb.*[1]] Unlawful instigation.

1496 *Dives & Pauper* (W. de W.) VII. viii. 286/2 Yf a man ..by mys eggynge take awaye an other mannes seruaunt he doth theft.

Misegun, vulgar corruption of MAZAGAN.

1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* xiv, 'Am trenching up the sparry-grass, and am gaun to saw sum Misegun beans'.

Misel, var. MIZZLE. **Miselden,** obs. f. MISTLETOE. **Miself,** obs. f. MYSELF. **Miselle,** obs. f. MIZZLE. **Miselled,** obs. f. MEASLED *ppl. a.* **Miselto(e,** obs. ff. MISTLETOE. **Miselve(n,** obs. ff. MYSELF.

Misemploy·, *v.* [MIS-[1] 1.] *trans.* To employ amiss; to use for a wrong or improper purpose; to put to wrong uses.

1609 W. M. *Man in the Moone* (1849) 16 Much riches were you bequeathed, the more is the pittie you have so little grace to misemploy them. 1654 H. L'ESTRANGE *Chas. I* (1655) 5 Considering how those moneys were mis-imployed, indeed rather thrown away. 1681 DRYDEN *Abs. & Achit.* 613 'Tis sin to misemploy an hour. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 535 P 1 That vain and foolish Hope, which is misemployed

on Temporal Objects. 1852 GROTE *Greece* II. lxxviii. IX. 335 The force of Athens, misemployed and broken into fragments, is found .. unable to repel a new aggressor. 1860 MILL *Repr. Govt.* (1865) 66/1 Nor that the depositaries of power will not, but that they cannot, misemploy it.

Misemploy·ed, *ppl. a.* [MIS-[1] 2.] Wrongly or improperly employed. Also *absol.*

1646 FULLER *Wounded Consc.* (1841) 324 In case his leg be set, he..flies out, unjointing it again by his misemployed mettle. 1647 WARD *Simp. Cobler* 28 What a multitude of mis-employ'd hands, might be better improv'd in some more manly Manufactures. 1905 *Daily News* 30 Aug. 5 Workers and loafers, unemployed, misemployed, and unemployable.

Misemploy·ing, *vbl. sb.* [MIS-[1] 3.] Misemployment.

1686 HORNECK *Crucif. Jesus* xx. 574 These general gifts, upon his abuse and misemploying of them, are gradually removed. *a* 1711 KEN *Preparatives* Poet. Wks. 1721 IV. 6 The pass'd can be no more, Whose misemploying I deplore.

Misemploy·ment. [MIS-[1] 4.] Wrong employment or use; improper application.

1597–8 *Act* 39 *Eliz.* c. 6 § 1 The..misimplomentes Falsitytes defrauding of the Trustes. *a* 1661 FULLER *Worthies, Rutlandshire* (1662) II. 348 The pious and liberal gift is much abused by the avarice and mis-employment of the Governors thereof. *a* 1676 HALE *Prim. Orig. Man.* I. i. (1677) 4 An improvident expence, and misemployment of their time and faculties. 1705 STANHOPE *Paraphr.* II. 267 By our Negligence and Mis-employment they prove at last to have been bestowed in vain. 1846 GROTE *Greece* I. xvi. I. 497 A misemployment of abstract words. 1877 M. ARNOLD *Last Ess. on Church* 155 The risks which beset practice from the misemployment of such criticism.

Misen, obs. form of MIZZEN.

† Mise·nglish, *v. Obs.* [MIS-[1] 1.] *trans.* To mistranslate into English. Also, to make an English word of illegitimately. Also *absol.* So **Mise·nglishing** *vbl. sb.*

1567–9 JEWEL *Def. Apol.* (1611) 257 Not nipping the Scriptures, nor misse-englishing them. 1641 SMECTYMNUUS *Vind. Answ.* Pref., Hee tells us .. of misenglishing Tertullian. *Ibid.* § 6 With what face can the Remonstrant charge us with infidelity in quotation and mis-englishing? 1737 BYRON *Rem.* (Chetham Soc.) II. i. 137, I thought.. that the word *inanimating* was mis-englished.

Misenite (mi·zénəit). *Min.* [f. *Miseno*, the name of a promontory near Naples, where the mineral is found.] Hydrous sulphate of potassium found in white silky fibres.

1854 DANA *Syst. Min.* (ed. 4) II. 377.

† Mise·nter, *v. Obs.* [MIS-[1] 1.] *trans.* To enter erroneously.

1675 *Coun. Col. Rec.* (1852) II. 360 This was ordered Septr. 3, 75,—and was miss-entered here.

† Mise·ntering, *vbl. sb. Obs.* [MIS-[1] 3.] Erroneous entering, misentry.

1580–1 *Act* 23 *Eliz.* c. 3 § 2 No Fyne..shalbee reversed..by any Writte of Errour, for false..Lattin..misentring of any Warraunte of Attorney [etc.]. 1607 NORDEN *Surv. Dial.* I. 34 The misconceiuing misentring by the Surveyor, may be erroneous.

† Misentrea·t, -intrea·t, *v. Obs.* [MIS-[1] 1.] *trans.* To treat badly; to ill-treat, ill-use.

1450 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 189/2 Arestyng and misentretyng, ayenst the lawes of God and libertees of the Church, the Dean. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 399/3 A clerke..sayd it was not honest .. to mysentrete the holy body by vyolente bondes. 1519 HORMAN *Vulg.* 4 Pristhod is holy, and ought nat to be misintrealted. 1583 GOLDING *Calvin on Dent.* lxxiii. 448 S. Paule warneth maisters yᵗ they should not mis-intreat their seruaunts.

† Misentrea·ting, *vbl. sb. Obs.* [MIS-[1] 3.] Ill-treatment.

1531 *Elyot's Instr.* in *Governor* (1883) 72 Complaining to the Pope of the misintreating of us. 1581 LAMBARDE *Eiren.* II. iii. (1588) 135 Violent handlings and misentreatings of the person.

Mise·ntry. [MIS-[1] 4.] An erroneous entry.

1602 FULBECKE *1st Pt. Parall.* 70 Because he did make a misentrie once into a rolle in a Court where hee was Steward. 1697 *View Penal Laws* 18 No Common Brewer shall be prosecuted for any Misentry—if [etc.]. 1768 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* III. 407 And if any mis-entry was made, it was rectified by the minutes.

† Misepi·scopist. *Obs. rare*—[1]. [f. Gr. μῐσο(ο)- MISO- + ἐπίσκοπος BISHOP + -IST.] A hater of episcopacy.

1659 GAUDEN *Tears Ch.* IV. xxiv. 640 Those Misepiscopists .. who most envied..that honour to..other Bishops.

Miser (məi·zəɹ), *a.* and *sb.*[1] Also 6 **myser, myzer,** 7 **mizer.** β. 6–7 **misard,** 9 *dial.* **miserd, misert,** etc. [a. L. *miser* wretched, unfortunate.

The β forms are due to association with the suffix -ARD. Sp. and It. *mísero* have, like the Eng. word, the two meanings of (1) wretched, (2) avaricious.]

† **A.** *adj.*

1. Miserable, wretched. *Obs.*

1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 108 b *marg.*, Manne of all creatures moste miser. 1558 PHAER *Æneid* II. E iv b, Again to wepons fourth I flewe, and death moste myser call [*L. mortemque miserrimus opto*]. 1567 TURBERV. *Epit.* etc. 8 Thus must I Miser liue till shee..Doe pittie mee. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* II. (1622) 174 Shee assured her selfe I was such a one as would make euen his miser-minde contented with that he had done. 1612 *Pasquil's Night-cap* (1877) 58 And looking forth did see that miser wight, which (like a drowned mouse) stood dropping there.

2. [attrib. use of B. 2.] Miserly. *arch.* or *dial.*

1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. i. III. 781 Treasures, scrap't by th'Vsury and Care Of miser-Parents [orig. *des ayeuls usuriers*]. 1612 W. PARKES *Curtaine-Dr.* (1876) 30 A miser father finds a thriftlesse sonne. 1789 SAVAGE *Wanderer* III. 155 The miser-spirit eyes the spendthrift heir. 1789 BURNS *To Mary in Heaven* IV, Still o'er these scenes my mem'ry wakes, And fondly broods with miser care! 1810 J. MONTGOMERY *W. Indies*, etc. (ed. 3) 18 Dark through his thoughts the miser purpose roll'd To turn its hidden treasures into gold. 1855 SINGLETON *Virgil* III. 63 Ah! fly fell regions, fly a miser shore [orig. *fuge litus avarum*].

β. 1825–80 JAMIESON, *Misert*, extremely parsimonious.

Comb. 1602 BRETON *Mother's Blessing* (Grosart) 10/2 Where thou shalt see the mizer-minded-dogge, Frie in the furnace of his molten gold.

B. *sb.*

† 1. A miserable or wretched person; a wretch. *Obs.* (*arch.* in Scott.)

1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 108 b. So did the philosophier call hym a miser, that had no qualitee aboue the commen rate of manne. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII.* 242 b, He paciently suffered the stroke of the axe, by a ragged and Boocherly miser, whiche very ungoodly performed the Office. 1584 R. SCOT *Discov. Witches*, viii. ii. 128 If these cold prophets .. tell thee prosperitie and deceive thee, thou art made a miser through vaine expectation. 1591 SHAKS. *1 Hen. VI*, v. iv. 7 Decrepit Miser, base ignoble Wretch. 1608 TOPSELL *Serpents* 59 Being destitute of .. comfort, like a silly Miser .. hee trudged home to his owne lodging. 1820 SCOTT *Monast.* xxiv, And who .. is the old miser who stands beside him? 1831 — *F. M. Perth* xv, See thou keep thy scoffs, to pass upon misers in the hospital.

2. One who hoards wealth and lives miserably in order to increase his hoard. Also, in wider use, an avaricious, grasping person, a niggard.

a. c 1560 *Misogonus* II. ii. 91 Brandi, The misers wealth doth hurt his health. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, II. iv. 47 Defence ..Which of a weake and niggardly projection, Doth like a Miser spoyle his Coat, with scanting A little Cloth. 1634 MILTON *Comus* 399 The vnsun'd heaps Of Misers treasure. 1691 NORRIS *Pract. Disc.* 265 To see an old shaking Miser among his Bags, like a Scare-Crow in a Field of Corn. 1764 GOLDSM. *Trav.* 51 As some lone miser, visiting his store, Bends at his treasure, counts, recounts it o'er. 1818 BYRON *Juan* I. cxxiv, Sweet to the miser are his glittering hopes. 1842 NEWMAN *Par. Serm.* V. iii. 50 A miser praising almsgiving..is unreal.

β. 1588 GREENE *Perimedes* F, This Melissa flourishing thus in happy fame, the old misard her Father..sought out ..a yoong Gentleman. 1623 COCKERAM I, *Cimbicke*. A misard, or niggard. 1879 MISS JACKSON *Shropsh. Word-bk., Miserd*, a miser, an avaricious man. 1886 *Cheshire Gloss.*

b. † *Miser's gallon*: 'a very small measure' (Nares). *Miser's sauce*: see quot. 1877.

1630 J. TAYLOR (Water-P.) *Armado* Wks. I. 82 The *Drunken Sisse*..Her Ordnance are Gallons, Pottles, Quarts, Pints, and the mizers Gallon. 1877 *Cassell's Dict. Cookery, Miser's Sauce.*—Mince some young onions, a little parsley, ..and grate a dessert-spoonful of horse-radish. Mix these ingredients with an equal quantity of oil and vinegar.

† c. A niggard in the use *of*. *Obs.*

1630 J. TAYLOR (Water-P.) *Wks.* I. 130 Wine and Ale was so scarce, and the people there such Mizers of it, that [etc.].

† **Mi·ser,** *sb.*[2] *Obs.* Also 6 **mizer.** [Origin uncertain; perh. a use of F. *misère*, which according to Cotgrave had the sense of a drink made from the washings of bee-hives.] A kind of sop made with the crumb of bread, etc.

1594 NASHE *Unfort. Trav.* K, They may crumble it [*sc.* bread] into water well inough, and make mizers with it. 1670–74 HAN. WOOLLEY *Queen-like Closet* (1684) 160 To make Misers for Children to eat in afternoons in Summer. Take half a pint of good small Beer, two spoonfuls of Sack, the Crum of half a penny Manchet [etc.].

Miser (məi·zəɹ), *sb.*[3] Also **mizer.** [Origin uncertain.] A boring instrument used in sinking wells, consisting of an iron cylinder having an opening in the side with a cutting lip, which is attached to the lower end of a boring-rod.

1842 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* V. 168/2 The 'miser' can bring up a cubic yard of earth each time it is raised. 1843 *Min. Proc. Inst. Civil Eng.* (1844) II. 59 The advantages of a large diameter were manifest to all practical men, particularly when the auger or 'miser' was used. 1875 E. SPON *Sinking & Boring Wells* 56 The valve in the old form of mizer is subject to various accidents which interfere with the action of the tool. *Ibid.* 57 The conical bottom of the mizer has a triangular-shaped opening.

Miser (məi·zəɹ), *v.*[1] *rare.* [f. MISER *sb.*[1]] *trans.* To hoard *up* in a miserly fashion.

1888 G. MACDONALD *Elect Lady* xvi. 144 Before people had money, they must have misered other things! Some girls miser their clothes, and never go decent. 1902 *Cassell's Suppl., Miser*, to keep or hoard like a miser; to save (with *up*).

Miser (məi·zəɹ), *v.*[2] [Related to MISER *sb.*[3]] *trans.* To bring *up* (earth) by means of a miser. Also *absol.* Hence **Mi·sering** *vbl. sb.*, boring with a miser.

1842 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* V. 420/1 The misering was continued until the depth of 189 ft. 10 in. was attained. 1843 HOLTZAPFFEL *Turning* II. 552 *note*, In boring large holes, the earth is generally excavated by the process of 'misering up'. 1855 OGILVIE Suppl., *Miser*, an iron cylinder .. in which the earthy matters are collected, or misered-up, in the process of sinking.

Miserabilism (mi·zĕrăbiliz'm). [ad. mod.L. *miserabilism-us*, f. L. *miserābil-is* MISERABLE: see -ISM.] A form of pessimism (see quot.). So **Mi·serabilist,** an advocate of miserabilism; **Miserabili·stic** *a.*, practising or advocating miserabilism.

1882 J. W. BARLOW *Ultim. Pessimism* 8 The third .. of these unscientific species combines the characteristic evils of both wrathful and quietistic pessimism. It has been aptly termed Miserabilism (*Miserabilismus*). The miserabilistic pessimist spends his life in sulky grumbling at his lot, without making the slightest effort to improve it. He is not active, nor has the grace to be resigned. 1902 *Q. Rev.* Oct. 632 Leopardi's pessimism is of the 'miserabilist' kind.

Miserability (mi·zĕrăbi·liti), *rare*—[1]. [f. MISERABLE: see -ITY.] Miserableness.

1838 HAWTHORNE *Amer. Note-bks.* (1883) 180 The utter and ludicrous miserability thereof made us laugh.

Miserable (mi·zĕrăb'l), *a.* and *sb.* [a. F. *misérable* from 14th c., ad. L. *miserābil-is* pitiable, f. *miserāri* to be pitiful, f. *miser* wretched.]

A. *adj.*

1. Of persons: a. Existing in a state of misery; wretchedly unhappy in condition. Now *rare.*

1526 TINDALE *1 Cor.* xv. 19 Then are we off all men the miserablest. 1536 *Primer of Salisbery Use* (1538) I am a wretched: and a miserable synner. 1548–9 *Mar. Bk. Com. Prayer, Litany*, Haue mercy vpon vs miserable synners. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 253 a, He .. beseecheth him for Christes sake .. not to worke any extremitie against hym, beyng a myserable Prince [*miserum tamen principem*]. 1588 SHAKS. *Tit. A.* III. ii. 28 To bid Æneas tell the tale twice ore How Troy was burnt, and he made miserable. 1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* v. xiii. 361 It was a thing very common .. that the Theeues .. answered in these false Sanctuaries deceiving this miserable people. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* XI. 540 O miserable Mankind, to what fall Degraded, to what wretched state reserv'd! 1710 BERKELEY *Theo. Theol.* II. 383 How miserable will those be without Christ, Satan always domineering over them.

absol. 1484 CAXTON *Fables of Æsop* II. v. (1889) 101 Every one ought to go wel to the miserable and helpe to the myserable. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 324 ¶ In the Regard for the Miserable, Eutrate took particular Care, that the common Forms of Distress .. should never obtain Favour by his Means.

b. Mentally full of misery; wretchedly unhappy in feeling. Now often in somewhat trivial sense: Wretchedly uneasy or uncomfortable.

1551 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* II. i. 15 My youthfull trauaile, therein made me happy, Or else I often had been often miserable. 1696 SWIFT *Lett.* 1768 IV. i. He is the miserablest creature in the world: eternally in his melancholy note, whatever I can do. 1766 GOLDSM. *Vic. W.* xvii. Go and be miserable, for we shall never enjoy one hour more. 1802 MRS. L. PIOZZI *Myst. Udolpho* IV. 152 Mr. Clifford seemed very miserable by the loss of his box. 1847 C. BRONTË *J. Eyre* ii, I cry because I am miserable. 1859 TENNYSON *Enid* 7 The pang That makes a man, in the sweet face of her Whom he loves most, lonely and miserable. 1866 [see 3]. *absol.* 1890 *Spectator* 15 Mar., Not by substituting a religious principle to the desires of the miserable.

2. Needy, poverty-stricken; wretchedly poor. *Obs.* exc. as merged in 1 a.

1585 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* Ser. I. III. 247 Yᵉ ill beggaris and miserable personis. 1590 SWINBURNE *Testaments* 30 They be poore and needie, such as the law tearmeth miserable persons. 1697 DAMPIER *Voy.* (1699) 464 The Inhabitants of this Country [New Holland] are the miserablest People in the World. The Hottentots of Monomatapa, though a nasty People, yet for Wealth are Gentlemen to these. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Miserable*, wretched, unfortunate, distressed, poor. 1842 BORROW *Bible in Spain* xxxiv, San Vincente, a large dilapidated town, chiefly inhabited by miserable fishermen.

3. Of conditions, events, etc.: Full of or fraught with misery; causing wretchedness.

1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* lxi. 50 My lyf hes bene so miserable. 1535 COVERDALE 2 *Kings* xiv. 26 The Lorde considered the myserable affliccion of Israel. 1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III*, I. iv. 2 O, I haue past a miserable night, So full of fearefull Dreames, of vgly sights. 1666 DRYDEN *Ann. Mirab.* Pref., Ess. (ed. Ker) I. 11 The destruction being .. so vast and miserable, as nothing can parallel in story. 1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* II. viii, What could I expect but a miserable death of cold and hunger? 1813 SHELLEY *Q. Mab* v. 248 Disease, disgust, and lassitude, pervade Their valueless and miserable lives. 1866 MRS. CHARLES *Winifred Bertram* I. 13 Auntie says it is not of the least use to make one's self miserable about miserable things that never happened at all.

b. In weakened sense: Causing extreme discomfort.

1850 *Beck's Florist* 233 It was a miserable morning..when we started for Slough in our open conveyance. 1856 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* (1858) I. v. 403 The journey in the wild weather was extremely miserable.

4. Of things: Exciting, or such as to excite, pity; pitiable, deplorable. Now *rare* exc. with mixture of sense 5.

1552 ABP. HAMILTON *Catech.* Pref. (1884) 5 Bot and the samyn office be done negligently, thair is na thing afore God mair miserabil, mair bevy and mair damnabil. 1665 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (1677) 307 Superstition I detest; but that it should become a derision, is miserable and to be pitied. 1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* II. vii, To show the miserable effects of a confined education. 1870 MAX MÜLLER *Sci. Relig.* (1873) 272 His success was after all a miserable failure.

5. Pitiably unworthy, inadequate, or meagre; contemptible, despicable; paltry, 'sorry', 'poor'.

1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* lxiii. 37 Ane vthir sort, more miserabill, Thocht thai be nocht sa profitable. 1534 WHITINTON *Tullyes Offices* I. (1540) 58 Ambycion and contencion for honour is a vyce vtterly very miserable. 1535 COVERDALE *Job* xvi. 2 Miserable geuers of comforte are ye. 1597 *Pilgrim. Parnass.* II. (1886) 8 [He] often scratcheth his witts' head for the bringinge of one miserable period into the worlde. 1620 T. GRANGER *Div. Logike* 350 The Proposition is miserable. For a false adiunct is put a true adiunct, happie. 1723 CHAMBERS tr. *Le Clerc's Treat. Archit.* I. 137 Their Bases and Corniches will be confounded together, which must needs have a miserable Effect. 1743 WESLEY in *Wks.* 1872 I. 412 One of the most miserable sermons I ever heard. 1794 BURKE *Sp. agst. W. Hastings* Wks. 1827 VIII. 301 This miserable balance of 60,000*l.* 1818 in *Harper's Mag.* (1854)

June 126/1 The corn is miserable..; we have to pound it. 1841 L. HUNT *Seer* (1864) II. 34 It would be the miserablest and most despicable of all mistakes. 1873 HALE *In His Name* vi. 60 He had lost certainly half an hour in that miserable altercation.

b. *colloq.* Applied to very weak tea. Also *absol.*

1842 LOVER *Handy Andy* xv. 130 The large bowl of *miserable* Mrs. O'Grady had prepared. 1900 E. GLYN *Visits Eliz.* 205 There was only a *miserable* tea left.

6. Miserly, mean, stingy. Now *dial.*

1484 CAXTON *Fables of Æsop* IV. iv. (1889) 106 The myserable auarycions, the more goodes that they haue the more they desire to haue. 1522 [implied in MISERABLENESS 2]. 1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* v. lxv. § 20 The liberall harted man is by the opinion of the prodigall miserable, and by the iudgement of the miserable lauish. 1611 COTGR. s. v. *Fourmage*, Cheese is good when a miserable hand giues it. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* II. i. IV. ii. (1651) 228 That he be not too niggardly miserable of his purse. 1646 QUARLES *Judgem. & Mercy* Wks. (Grosart) I. 78/1 If I am covetous it is interpreted providence; if miserable, it is counted temperance. 1816–60 WHATELY *Comm.-pl. Bk.* (1864) 235 In Norfolk and Suffolk, among the common people, the word *miserable* is the only one in use to signify what we call penurious. 1853 *N. & Q.* Ser. I. VII. 544. 1859 MRS. GASKELL *Round the Sofa* II. 101 A certain kind of sober pleasure in amassing money, which occasionally made them miserable (as they call miserly people up in the north).

† 7. Having pity, compassionate. *Obs.*

1584 *Three Ladies Lond.* F j b, Therefore pray ye Sir, be miserable to me, and let me go. 1600 HEYWOOD *1st Pt. Edw. IV*, IV. iv. I j b, My sonnes..itha Gaile,..and outstep [=outcept] the King be miserable, hees like to totter. 1630 J. TAYLOR (Water-P.) *Wks.* II. 80/1 Although my crime is vnmeasurable, yet I hope your Lordship will not forget to become miserable.

8. *Comb.*, as *miserable-looking* adj.

1839 DARWIN *Jrnl. Voy. Beagle* 3 A hospital, containing about a dozen miserable-looking inmates.

B. *sb.* A miserable person; one who is in misery, extreme unhappiness, or great want.

[In mod. use chiefly after F. *misérable*.]

1534 LD. BERNERS *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1559) H h vj b, These miserables after that they be appointed and set in their offices, where of they be nothynge woorthy [etc.]. 1640 tr. *Verdere's Rom. of Rom.* III. 131 Parmolina (so is this miserable called that speaks to you) loves you with passion. 1679 EVERARD *Disc.* 23 We need not admire at the Tribulation which these poor miserables do suffer. 1768 STERNE *Sent. Journ., Dwarf*, So many miserables, by force of accidents driven out of their own proper class. 1815 SOUTHEY *Roderick* XXV, Saying thus, he seized the miserable. 1833 GEN. P. THOMPSON *Exerc.* (1842) II. 480 The same kind of effect, that a clean shirt and a razor have upon the miserable who was in want of them. 1896 'IAN MACLAREN' *Kate Carnegie* 287 It ill became such miserables [*sc.* students in grimy towns] to be insolent.

Mi·serableness. [-NESS.]

1. The quality or condition of being miserable; wretchedness, miserable unhappiness.

1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* I. xiii. (1614) 74 He found a miserable death, where others with miserablenesse seeke a blessed life. 1701 COLLIER *M. Anton.* (1726) 178 Does any natural defect force you upon grumbling, miserableness, or laying your faults upon your constitution. 1830 COLERIDGE *Lett.* (1895) 751 During my long chain of bodily miserablenesses. 1890 *Spectator* 5 July, 'My God! what a genius I had when I wrote that book', said Swift, half-mad and wholly miserable... Wordsworth, without any miserableness or despair, was..of the same opinion.

† 2. Miserliness, niggardliness, stinginess. *Obs.*

1522 SKELTON *Why nat to Court* 1029 Suche gredynesse, Suche nedynesse, Myserablenesse, With wretchydnesse. 1641 QUARLES *Enchyr.* II. xvii, It is lesse reproach, by miserablenesse, to preserve the popular love, than by liberality to deserve the private thanks. 1681-6 J. SCOTT *Chr. Life* II. iv. § 3 Wks. 1718 I. 289 His Prosperity either shrivels him into Miserableness, or melts him into Luxury. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Miserableness*, Covetousness, Niggardliness, Stinginess.

3. Wretched or mean character or condition.

1633 BP. MORTON *Disch.* 5 *Imputations* 199 To the end that you may see the miserablenesse of your Cause, which must be supported by such Frauds..as his have beene.

Miserably (mi·zĕrăbli), *adv.* [f. MISERABLE + -LY 2.]

1. In a miserable manner; in such a manner or to such an extent as to excite pity; in misery; in extreme unhappiness or discomfort.

1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 5 He herde that his moder scholde die miserably. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 244 And þan come tythandis at þe pope was myserablie dead. *a* 1500 *Bernard. de cura rei fam.* (E.E.T.S.) 1 As he his howsalde sulde contene, And his famele miserabilly sustene. 1535 COVERDALE *Micah* ii. 10 Because off their Idolatry they are corrupte, and shall myserably perish. 1657 WOOD *Life* (O.H.S.) I. 216 The effigies..miserably defaced when Oxon was besieged. 1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* III. iv. In the mean Time, the whole Country lies miserably waste. 1753 *Scots Mag.* Feb. 100/1 Five were miserably scorched. 1782 COWPER *Lett.* 18 Nov., We promise, however, that none shall touch it but such as are miserably poor. 1822 SHELLEY tr. *Calderon's Mag. Prodig.* II. 44 The melancholy form Of a great ship..Drives miserably! 1881 RUSSELL *Haigs* vii. 154 This unnatural strife .. which had ended in her husband being thus miserably incarcerated.

b. Pitiably, deplorably, despicably.

1597 *Pilgrim. Parnass.* II. (1886) 6. I want a worde miserablely! I must looke for another worde in my dictionarie. 1741 MIDDLETON *Cicero* II. x. 414 Bassus was miserably unwilling to deliver up his Legion.

2. So as to cause misery or distress; calamitously, disastrously. ? *Obs.*

1538 STARKEY *England* 22 Some put in pryson and myserably handlyd. 1584 POWEL *Lloyd's Cambria* 100 [They] set the cathedrall on fire, and..spoiled and burnt the towne miserablie. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* II. 300 The Jnglis men of weir..afflicted vs sair, and misaribilie. 1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turks* (1621) 59 [They] miserably and without resistance wasted the countrey about Emissa. 1728 MORGAN *Algiers* II. ii. 227 He continued his Excursions, miserably ravaging all the Italian Coasts.

b. So as to make one feel wretched.

1806 J. BERESFORD *Miseries Hum. Life* VI. XXXVIII, On the road—one of the wheels of your carriage beginning to creak miserably.

† 3. In a miserly fashion, covetously. *Obs.*—°

1611 COTGR., *Sordidement*,..basely, miserably, for (deere) lucres sake. 1736 AINSWORTH, Miserably (covetously), *Avarè, illiberaliter*.

4. Meanly, wretchedly, badly.

a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* II. xix. § 4 (1590) 187 b, The same loue makes me ashamed to bring you to a place, where you shalbe so..miserably entertained. 1840 MACAULAY *Ess., Ld. Clive* (1843) III. 113 The younger clerks were so miserably paid.

5. Used as a pejorative intensive (cf. *wretchedly*).

1715 POPE *Iliad* I. 180 Sanson's map .. is miserably defective both in Omissions and false Placings. 1810 J. FOSTER in *Life & Corr.* (1846) I. lxxviii. 415 The miserably deficient improvement of a life of which the best part is now gone. 1871 CARLYLE in Mrs. Carlyle *Lett.* I. 392 She had a miserably bad sore throat.

Miseraic, -aike, etc., obs. ff. MESARAIC.

† **Misera·tion.** *Obs.* [ad. L. *miserātiōn-em*, n. of action f. *miserārī* to have compassion, f. *miser* WRETCHED.] Pity, compassion, mercy.

1382 WYCLIF 2 *Esdras* IX. 31 God of myseracioums [Vulg. *Deus miserationum*]. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) I. 5 Diuine miseracion [orig. *divina miseratio*] hath prouided vse of letters in to the remedy of the imperfeccion of man. 1522 SKELTON *Why nat to Court* 1041 God of his miseracyon Send better reformacyon! 1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* I. ii. (S. T. S.) I. 17 Hir sonnys war commandit but ony miseraciouu to be cassin in tyber. 1609 BIBLE (Douay) *Zech.* vii. 9 *comm.*, Doe ye mercie, and miserations [Vulg. *miserationes facite*]. 1638 JUNIUS *Paint. Ancients* 72 The sight of so many afflicted ones provoking teares by a mutuall miseration.

† **Miseratour.** *Obs. rare*—1. [a. L. *miserātor*, agent-n. f. *miserārī* to pity.] One who pities.

1609 BIBLE (Douay) *Isa.* liv. 10 *comm.*, Our Lord thy miseratour [Vulg. *miserator tuus*].

Miserdom (mə·izədəm). [f. MISER *sb.*1 + -DOM.] The habits and practices of a miser.

1887 *Pall Mall G.* 11 Feb. 2/1 A Tory Government yielding to senseless and uncalled-for pressure for miserdom is a sight for men and gods. 1887 *Advance* (Chicago) 13 Oct. 641 In all the annals of miserdom or rapacity.

Misere, obs. form of MISERY.

‖ **Misère** (mizĕ·ı, Fr. *mizɛ̄r*). *Cards.* [Fr. = poverty, MISERY.] In boston and solo whist, a declaration by which the caller undertakes not to take a trick.

1830 'EIDRAH TAEBOR' *Hoyle* 32 [Boaston.] If he is to play Misere, the elder hand leads, and in this case there are no trumps. *Ibid.* 34 In playing any of the four modifications of 'Misere'. 1888 A. S. WILKS & C. F. PARDON *How to Play Solo Whist* 2 The monotony of the very bad hands which in Whist were dealt out to him..he is now enabled to vary by calling 'misère'. *Ibid.* 6 The misère caller should ..claim the full penalty for every such offence. *Ibid.* 9.

‖ **Misereatur** (mizerī·ē·tŭı). *Eccl.* [3 pers. sing. pres. subj. of L. *miserērī* to have pity or mercy.] = May (God) have mercy: being the first word of the Absolution used in the Western Church.

c 1450 *Bk. Curtasye* 154 in *Babees Bk.*, To schryue þe in general þou schalle lere Þy Confiteor and miserentur in fere. *a* 1470 GREGORY in *Hist. Coll. Cit. Lond.* (Camd.) 167 He..layde hym downe prostrate, sayng there hys *Confyteor*, and alle the prelatys sayde *Misereator*. 1845 J. JONES *Man. Plain-chant* 25 The *Confiteor*, *Misereatur*, and *Indulgentiam*, are recited, not sung.

‖ **Miserere** (mizĕrī·rı). Also 6 **messerery, 7 misereri.** [imper. sing. of L. *miserērī* (see prec.).]

1. The fifty-first Psalm (fiftieth in the Vulgate), beginning *Miserere mei Deus* ('Have mercy upon me, O God'), being one of the Penitential Psalms.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 44, & mid te miserere, goð biuoren ower weouede & endeð ðer þe graces. 1539 PERY in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. III. 153 Sayeinge the sawme of 'Messerery' ower us. 1583 FOXE *A. & M.* 1493/2 And so was brought..by the Sheriffes toward Smithfield, saying the Psalme *Miserere* by the way. *a* 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. xxiii, If ever ..I may lay hold upon thee..thou shalt have the *Miserere* even to the *Vitulos* [cf. Vulgate Ps. l. fin.]. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr. Miserere*, .. is commonly that Psalm, which the Judge gives to such guilty persons as have the benefit of Clergy allowed by the Law. 1829 W. IRVING *Diary* 16 Apr. in *Life & Lett.* (1862) II. 310 Miserere in the cathedral in the evening. 1845 E. HOLMES *Mozart* 65 Arriving at Rome in the Holy Week, they hurried to the Sistine Chapel, to hear the *Miserere* at matins.

b. With reference to the time it takes to recite the *Miserere*. (Cf. F. *demeurer un bon miséréré*.)

[*c* 1450 *ME. Med. Bk.* (Heinrich) 111 Seþe hem by þe space of þis psalme seyenge: miserere mei deus.] 1558 WARDE tr. *Alexis' Secr.* (1568) 26 Let all boyle together for the space of one Miserere. 1665 *Phil. Trans.* I. 97, I have heard one say, that had seen it, that it did not set Wood on Fire but after the time of saying a *Miserere*.

c. A musical setting of this psalm.

1776 BURNEY *Hist. Mus.* (1789) IV. 569 Metastasio, to whom I transmitted a copy of this *Miserere*. 1779 H. WALPOLE *Let. to C'tess Ossory* 15 Nov., I was last night at Lady Lucan's to hear the Misses Bingham sing Jomelli's 'Miserere'. 1845 E. HOLMES *Mozart* 67 The 'Miserere' of Allegri.

¶ d. = KYRIE 1 b.

?*c* 1620 R. PATRICK in S. Arnold *Cathedral Mus.* (1790) (*title*) The Te Deum, Benedictus, Miserere, Nicene Creed [etc.].

2. *transf.* A cry of 'Have mercy!'; a prayer or ejaculation in which mercy is asked for.

a 1616 BEAUM. & FL. *Woman's Prize* III. i, No more ay-mees, and miseries [*read* misereres] Tranio Come near my brain. 1657 J. D[AVIES] tr. *Lett. Voiture* xi. I. 19, I repeated to her in your behalf, a whole *Miserere*. *a* 1700 KEN *Hymnotheo* Poet. Wks. 1721 III. 75 The Mourners, who the Penitent espy'd, A universal *miserere* cry'd. 1804 *Edin. Rev.* V. 152 A main fault that pervades the whole is the monotonous cry of *miserere* for the poor Irish. 1845 LONGF. *Arsenal at Springfield* ii, What loud lament and dismal Miserere Will mingle with their awful symphonies [*sc.* of firearms]. 1882 J. H. BLUNT *Ref. Ch. Eng.* II. 350 The sweet Alleluias and the plaintive Misereres of the English Prayer Book.

† 3. In full *Miserere mei* (mī·ərei), lit. 'have mercy on me': a name for the 'iliac passion', a form of colic attended with stercoraceous vomiting. *Obs.*

1611 COTGR., *Reply*..the voiding of the excrements at the mouth; a disease called, *Miserere mei*. 1648 JENKYN *Blind Guide* iv. 116 You were under a quotidean fury, or sick of the miserere mei. 1722 QUINCY *Lex. Physico-Med.* (ed. 2), *Miserere mei*, this is apply'd to some Cholicks, where the Pains are so exquisite, as to draw Compassion from a Bystander. 1766 AMORY *Mem.* II. 50 In the excruciating torments of that most dreadful distemper a *miserere*. 1783 POTT *Chirurg. Wks.* II. 148 If it proves fatal by mortification, it is taken for a *passio-iliaca*, or *miserere*.

4. = MISERICORD 2 c. (An incorrect use.)

1798–1801 J. MILNER *Hist. Winchester* II. 36 The stalls with their misereres, canopies, pinnacles, &c. *Ibid. note*, That small shelving stool, which the seats of the stalls formed when turned up in their proper position, is called a *Miserere*. 1863 I. WILLIAMS *Baptistery* II. xxiii. (1874) 80 The Misereres here have place, As hiding from the day of Grace The quaint device, and snakes that twine,..Which speak the serpent's brood below. 1869 TOZER *Highl. Turkey* I. 80 The stalls..are provided with misereres, which..are seldom used, as the monks generally stand during the whole service.

attrib. 1872 *N. & Q.* Ser. IV. IX. 405/1 Miserere carvings. *Ibid.* 472/2 Miserere stalls.

Mi·serhood. *rare.* [-HOOD.] Miserliness.

1867 BUSHNELL *Mor. Uses Dark Th.* 221 Hate, jealousy, petulance, miserhood, envy,—every sort of obliquity has its own disfigurement. *Ibid.* 253.

Misericord (mize·rikɔ̄d), *sb.* Also 4–5 **mysere-**, 4–6 **mi-, myseri-, mysery-**. [a. OF. *miséricorde*, ad. L. *misericordia*, f. *misericors* (see next).]

† 1. Compassion, pity, mercy. Also as *int. Obs.*

a 1315 SHOREHAM I. 1183 To oure lorde Mercy he cryþ, and biddeþ hym Mercy and misericorde. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Pars. T.* ¶ 731 Thanne is misericorde..a vertu, by which the corage of man is stired by the misese of him that is misesed. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* xi. 284 Gode lord..by thy pite & mysericorde graunt to Rowlande his prayer. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* viii. 72 Quhy vil ze nocht haue misericord & pytie of zour natiue cuntre? 1651 tr. *De-las-Coveras' Don Fenise* 144 [He] abandoned himselfe to divine mercie, and to the misericord of the waves. 1657–83 EVELYN *Hist. Relig.* (1850) II. 217 The Divine misericord did not utterly abandon our lapsed parents in this condition. 1705 VANBRUGH *Confederacy* I. iii, Misericorde! what do I see!

2. *Hist.* and *Antiq.* Senses derived from monastic uses of L. *misericordia*. a. An indulgence or relaxation of the rule.

1820 SCOTT *Monast.* xix, Indulgence shall be given to those of our attendants who shall, from very weariness, be unable to attend the duty at prime, and this by way of misericord or *indulgentia*.

b. An apartment in a monastery in which certain relaxations of the rule were permitted, *esp.* one in which those monks ate to whom special allowances were made in food and drink.

c 1529 in *Archæologia* (1827) XLVII. 51 That noo suche householdes be then kepte..butt oonly oon place which shalbe called the mysericorde where shalbe oon sadde lady of the eldest sorte ouersear and maistres to all the residue that thidre shall resorte. *c* 1535 *Surv. Yorksh. Monast.* in *Yorksh. Archæol. Jrnl.* (1886) IX. 212 A nother chambre by the same called Mysericorde. 1545 in *London & M'sex Archæol. Trans.* IV. 357 *note*, That Mr. Dean and his successors shal have the Misericorde, the greate Kitchen [etc.]. 1883 *Athenæum* 24 Feb. 255/2 [Mr. Turle's house] was one of the largest of the houses .. next after that of the abbot... It stood between the dorter and the misericorde. 1898 J. T. FOWLER *Durham Cath.* 59 The misericorde or 'loft'.

c. A shelving-projection on the under side of a hinged seat in a choir stall, so arranged that, when turned up, it gave support to one standing in the stall. Also *attrib.*

c 1515 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) I. 484 Iron worke and other small necessaries..as copper to hang the misericordes with [etc.]. 1874 MICKLETHWAITE *Mod. Par. Churches* 2 The chancel seats hung on hinges and provided with misericords. 1893 *Reliquary* VII. 129 Of the ancient misericords [in Limerick Cathedral] nineteen are perfect. 1904 *Athenæum* 20 Aug. 250/3 There are four misericord stalls at Wysall.

3. A dagger with which the *coup de grâce* was given. [So med.L. *misericordia*, F. *miséricorde*.]

14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 653/20 *Hic pugis* [read *pugio*], myserecord. *Ibid.* 654/16 *Hec cica*, misericord. 1484 CAXTON *Chivalry* 63 Mysericorde or knyf with a crosse is gyuen to a knyght to thende that yf his other armures faylle hym that he haue recours to the myserycorde or daggar. 1859 *Archæol. Jrnl.* XVI. 356 A *misericorde*, or dagger of mercy, dug up in a field near Deddington. 1869 BOUTELL *Arms & Armour* iii. 49 It was adjusted at the waist, as was the mediæval *misericorde*, on the right side.

† **Misericord,** *a. Sc. Obs.* [a. OF. *misericord*, L. *misericord-em* (*-cors*), f. *miseri-*, stem of *miserērī* to pity + *cord-*, *cor* heart.] Compassionate, pitiful, merciful.

1456 Sir G. Haye *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 269 Jugis suld he ay misericordes, and full of clemence and pitee. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 168 How suld we thank that Lord, That was sa misericord. 1583 *Leg. Bp. St. Androis* 448 Ye man be gude, my Lord, And to yor man misericord.

† **Misericordially,** *adv. Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. [f. L. *misericordia* mercy + -AL + -LY.^{2} Cf. OF. *misericordialment*.] Mercifully.

1659 Brome *Queen & Conc.* iv. iii. 81 If misericordially This gracious Fæminine preserve your lives Ex ore lupi.

† **Misericordious,** *a. Obs.* [a. OF. *misericordieux* (from 12th c.), or ad. med.L. *misericordiōs-us*, f. *misericordia* (see Misericord *sb.*).] Compassionate, merciful.

1483 Caxton *Cato* e iiij b, Vf he neuer pardonned .. he shold not seme to be mysery cordyous ne mercyful. *a* 1500 *Melusine* 313 There nys so gree a synnar in the world but that is more piteable & mysericordyous whan the synnar repenteth hym..of his..synne. 1528 *Sheph. Kal.* xiv. L j b, By youre mysery cordyous pyteye. 1634 W. Tirwhyt tr. *Balzac's Lett.* 91 The misericordious Justice of God. 1648 W. Browne *Polexander* III. iii. 79 That misericordious Goodnesse from whom I have so often petition'd you.

† **Misericordy.** *Obs.* [ad. L. *misericordi-a*: see Misericord *sb.*] Mercy.

14..*Chaucer's Boeth.* III. met. xii. (Caxton), The Lord and Iugge of sowles was meoued to myserycordyes. 1491 Caxton *Vitas Patr.* (W. de W. 1495) II. 243 b/2 To haue mercy of me poore synnar & Indygne of thy grete myserycordye.

† **Misericors,** *a. Sc. Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. [a. OF. or L. *misericors*; cf. Misericord *a.*] Compassionate.

1535 Stewart *Cron. Scot.* II. 566 Gratius God quhilk is misericors (*rime* perforce].

Miserism (məi·zərizˈm). *rare*$^{-1}$. [f. Miser + -ism.] Miserliness.

1798 Anna Seward *Lett.* (1811) V. 155 Mr Newton has put an immense sponge upon Dr Falconer's reproach to his miserism.

† **Miserity.** *Sc. Obs.* Also misaritie. [app. f. L. *miser* + -ity after *prosperity*.] Misery.

1530 Lyndesay *Test. Papyngo* 404 Quhat mortall cheangis, quhat miseritie! (*rime* calamitie]. 1533 Gau *Richt Vay* (1888) 51 Ye miserite of this vane vardil. 1552a Lyndesay *Monarche* 165 Sum tyme in vaine prosperitie, Sum tyme in gret Misaritie.

† **Miserlike,** *adv. Obs.* Of obscure origin and meaning.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2658 Dor-fore seide ðe ebru witterlike, Dat he spac siðen miserlike. [Petrus Comestor: *Unde et Hebræi impeditioris linguæ eum fuisse autumant.*]

Miserliness (məi·zəzlinés). [f. next + -ness.] The quality or condition of being miserly; niggardliness, closefistedness.

1645 Ussher *Body Div.* 304 Frugality without liberality (degenerateth] into sordid miserlinesse. 1860 Geo. Eliot *Mill on Fl.* I. 227 In old-fashioned times, an 'independence' was bardly ever made without a little miserliness. 1865 Lewes in *Fortn. Rev.* II. 692 Economy is rejection of whatever is superfluous; it is not Miserliness.

Miserly (məi·zəli), *a.* [f. Miser *sb.* + -ly 1.] Pertaining to or characteristic of a miser; niggardly, stingy.

1593 Nashe *Christ's T.* 29 b, If there were any that had dudgen-olde coughing miserly Fathers they could not endure. 1860 Winslow *Obsc. Dis. Brain* vi. 169 If benevolent, he [*sc.* the insane person] becomes parsimonious and miserly. 1870 Dickens *E. Drood* vii, He was a miserly wretch who grudged us food to eat, and clothes to wear. 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) III. 104 The youth who has had a mean and miserly bringing up.

transf. 1869 Lowell *Under the Willows* vii, To spend in all things else, But of old friends to be most miserly.

† **Miserous,** *a. Obs.* [a. OF. *misereux*, f. *misère*: see Misery.] Miserable.

c 1475 in Miss Wood *Lett. Roy. Ladies* (1846) I. 108 She hath been long in the miserous prison of Ludgate. 1530 Palsgr. 319/1 Myserable wretched or myserouse. 1560 Phaer *Æneid* viii. (1562) Bb iij b, O plague most miserous.

Misery (miˈzĕri). Also 4–6 **misere, mysere,** 4–7 **miserie,** (5 **mesury**), 5–6 **mysery**(e, 6 **misserie.** [a. OF. *miserie* (12th c.), ad. L. *miseria*, f. *miser* (see Miser).

The 15th c. form *mise're* seems to be a later re-adoption from OF. *misere* (mod.F. *misère*).]

1. A condition of external unhappiness, discomfort, or distress; wretchedness of outward circumstances; distress caused by privation or poverty.

c 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* iv. 272 Wrecche of wrecches, out of honour falle In-to miserie. *c* 1425 *Eng. Cong. Irel.* 43 Shew hym the mesury that thay Sufferid for his Sake. *c* 1450 Lovelich *Grail* xliii. 450 And so longe abod he here In povert and In gret Misere. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* II. viii. 84 In grete powerte mysere & wretchidnes. 1535 Coverdale 2 *Esdras* ii. 17 Ye se the myserye y^t we are in, how Ierusalem lyeth wayst. 1610 Shaks. *Temp.* II. ii. 41 Misery acquaints a man with strange bedfellowes. 1667 Milton *P. L.* x. 810 But say That Death be not one stroak,.. but endless miserie. 1705 Addison *Italy* 5 The extream Misery and Poverty that are in most of the Italian Governments. 1829 Lytton *Devereux* I. i, Early marriages were misery; imprudent marriages idiotism. 1836 Macgillivray tr. *Humboldt's Trav.* xix. 273 The converts live in great poverty, and their misery is augmented by prodigious swarms of mosquitoes. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* iv. I. 433 The sight of his misery affected his wife so much that she fainted. 1886 Ruskin *Præterita* I. 432 The misery of unaided poverty.

personified. 1750 Gray *Elegy* Epit., He gave to Mis'ry all he had, a tear. 1799 Cowper *Castaway* 59 But misery still delights to trace Its semblance in another's case.

2. With † *a* and *pl.* A miserable condition or circumstance; a cause or source of wretchedness.

1509 Fisher *Funeral Serm. C'tess Richmond* Wks. (1876) 306 After that he [*sc.* Lazarus] was restored to the myseryes of this lyfe agayne, he neuer laugh. 1548–9 (Mar.) *Bk. Com. Prayer, Offices* 24 b, The miseries of this wretched world. 1572 Huloet s. v., It is a great mysery to be very beautifull. 1615 Stow *Ann.* Pref. ¶ 5 What a hellish misery it is to have vnreconciliable warres in one small kingdome. 1660 F. Brooke tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* III. xvi. 398 The misery is, divers of them have fallen to frequent their Superstitions and Idolatries. 1697 Dryden *Æneid* x. 1076 The Gods from Heav'n survey the fatal Strife, And mourn the Miseries of Human Life. 1788 Cowper *Negro's Compl.* 43 By the miseries that we tasted, Crossing in your barks the main. 1842 Borrow *Bible in Spain* vii, He was going to expose himself to inconceivable miseries and hardships. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* v. I. 628 All the miseries of fallen greatness and of blighted fame.

b. *concr.* A miserable person or place.

1790 Mme. D'Arblay *Diary* (1842) V. 181, I am sure she would gladly have confined us both in the Bastile, had England such a misery. 1888 *Lady* 25 Oct. VIII. 374/2 'Small street Arabs', she answered. 'The little miseries out of the gutters'.

3. The condition of one in great sorrow or distress of mind; miserable or wretched state of mind; a condition characterized by a feeling of extreme unhappiness.

1535 Coverdale *Job* iii. 20 Wherfore is the light geuen, to him that is in mysery? and life vnto them that haue heuy hertes? 1599 *Return fr. Parnass.* I. i. 472 Thanks, gentle nimphes, for this sweete harmonie! Soe musick yealdes some ease to miserie. 1667 Milton *P. L.* II. 563 Of good and evil much they argu'd then, Of happiness and final misery. 1729 Butler *Serm.* Wks. 1874 II. 35 It is acknowledged that rage, envy, resentment, are in themselves mere misery. 1833 Tennyson *Two Voices* 2 Thou art so full of misery, Were it not better not to be? 1852 Mrs. Stowe *Uncle Tom's C.* xxxiv. 311 It seemed as if I had misery enough in my one heart to sink the city.

† **4.** Miserliness, niggardliness. *Obs.*

1531 Elyot *Gov.* III. xxii. (1880) II. 345 This was but miserye and wretched nygardeshippe in a man of suche honour. 1579–80 North *Plutarch, Galba* (1595) 1107 His meane and simple ordinary of dyet..was imputed misery and niggardlines in him. 1600 Holland *Livy* III. 131 The Senate right sparingly (such was their miserie), decreed..one daies thanksgiving .. and no more. 1624 Wotton *Elem. Archit.* 66 A little misery in the Premises, may easily breed some absurdity of greater charge in the Conclusion.

† **5.** A mean or despicable condition. *Obs.*

1607 Dekker *Knt.'s Conjur.* (1842) 76 Into so lowe a miserie (if not contempt,) is the sacred art of poesie falne (etc.].

6. *dial.* Bodily pain; *U.S. dial.* (with *a*) a pain.

1825 Forby *Voc. E. Anglia, Misery*, acute pain in any part of the body. '*Misery* in the head', means a violent head-ache. 1867 Latham *Black & White* 38 Massa, I have such a misery in my back. 1895 *Century Mag.* Aug. 543/1 [His] most memorable remark was that he had 'a misery in his stomach'.

7. *Cards.* = Misère. Common *colloq.*

8. *Comb.*, as *misery-making, -stricken, -thirsting* adjs.

1813 Shelley *Q. Mab* VI. 126 Thou framedst A tale .. to glut Thy misery-thirsting soul. 1865 Dickens *Mut. Fr.* II. xiv, Perverted uses of the misery-making money. 1896 *Daily Tel.* 10 Mar. 6/7 The misery-stricken people of Italy.

Misese, obs. form of Misease.

Misesteem, *sb.* [Mis-^{1} 4. Cf. F. *mésestime.*] Want of esteem or respect; disrespect.

1850 Ogilvie, *Misesteem*, disregard; slight. 1881 F. T. Palgrave *Vis. Eng.* 111 They of the great race Look equably..on foe And fame and misesteem of man below. 1898 Bodley *France* II. III. v. 258 The office of minister must remain in misesteem.

Misesteem, *v.* [Mis-^{1} 1. Cf. F. *mésestimer.*] *trans.* To have a wrong estimation of. Also **Misesteeming** *vbl. sb.*

1611 Speed *Hist. Gt. Brit.* VIII. iii. § 8. 402 Albeit some Heralds make Harold by birth but a Gentleman of one, and the first descent,..yet..it may seeme he is mis-esteemed, seeing his Father was Goodwin a Duke by degree. 1647 H. More *Song of Soul* II. i. 1. i, I must him tell, that he doth misesteem Their strange estate. 1685 Bunyan *Pharisee & Publican* 51 What kind of righteousness of thine is this, that standeth .. in a mis-esteeming of Gods Commands? 1848 Lytton *Harold* VI. vi, I pray you not so to misesteem us. 1850 Grote *Greece* II. lxvii. VIII. 477 The practical teachers of Athens and of Greece, misconceived as well as misesteemed. 1900 Henley *Verses War, Envoy*, That race is damned which misesteems its fate.

Misestimate, *sb.* [Mis-^{1} 4.] Wrong estimate or valuation.

1852 H. Rogers *Ess.* (1874) I. vii. 363 The presumption of this..intellect, its total misestimate of the exigencies of the great problems with which it had to deal.

Misestimate, *v.* [Mis-^{1} 1.] *trans.* To estimate erroneously, have a false estimate of.

1841 Carlyle *Heroes* ii. 75, I believe we mis-estimate Mahomet's faults even as faults. 1849 J. Cumming *Christ Receiving Sinners* vi. 124 If you see a person mis-estimating every thing around him, thinking..that rags are royal purple.

Misestimation. [Mis-^{1} 4.] False or incorrect estimation.

1809 Svo. Smith in Lady Holland *Mem.* (1855) II. 64 The delay occasioned by the mis-estimation of my own powers.

Misexecute, *v.* [Mis-^{1} 1.] *trans.* To execute, carry out, or perform improperly.

1647 Clarendon *Hist. Reb.* III. § 234 A person so obnoxious to them, in the mis-executing his..office of Chief Justice in Eyre. 1894 *Voice* (N. Y.) 1 Feb., All the laws, good and bad, are so misexecuted by Tammany as [etc.].

Misexecution. [Mis-^{1} 4.] Improper execution.

1535 *Act* 27 *Hen. VIII*, c. 24 § 9 Fynes..for none execucion or mysexecucion..of suche writtes. 1809 W. Blake *Descr. Catal.* 34 All is misconceived, and its mis-execution is equal to its misconception.

Misexpending, *vbl. sb.* [Mis-^{1} 3.] = next.

1646 Quarles *Judgem. & Mercy* Wks. (Grosart) I. 82/1 The misexpending of my pretious time.

Misexpenditure. *rare*$^{-1}$. [Mis-^{1} 4.] Wrong expenditure.

1795 Hamilton *Wks.* (1886) VII. 89 A misexpenditure of so much money.

† **Misexpense.** *Obs.* [Mis-^{1} 4.] = prec.

1598 Sylvester *Du Bartas* I. II. (1641) 9/1 Lesse should I wail their misse-expence of leasure, If [etc.]. 1627 *Beggers Ape* C 2 b, O wretched end of idle vanity, Of misexpence and Prodigality. 1646 Quarles *Sheph. Oracles* viii. ad fin., This fruitlesse hower's misexpence. 1665 Boyle *Occas. Refl.* v. i. (1848) 297, I will not be forward to condemn him of a mis-expence.

Misexplain, *v.* [Mis-^{1} 1.] *trans.* To explain incorrectly.

1674 Boyle *Excell. Theol.* II. iv. 172 Divers phænomena of nature, that had been left unexplained, or were left misexplained by the Schools. 1864 Grosart *Lambs all Safe* 53 Misexplaining the incident as meaning only childlike-dispositioned adults, robs it of all its meaning. 1869 Farrar *Fam. Speech* iii. (1870) 129 *note*, A second-hand reflection of Greek thoughts, often both mistranslated and misexplained.

Misexposition. [Mis-^{1} 4.] Incorrect exposition.

1524-5 *Archæol. Jrnl.* (1874) XXXI. 64 By inadvertence and misexposition of the saide Acte. 1645 Milton *Tetrach.* Wks. 1851 IV. 247 Let them .. give God his thanks, who hath..scowr'd off an inveterat misexposition from the Gospel. 1673 Baxter *Let.* in *Acc. Sherlocke* ii. 168 You misexpound Rom. 7. and uphraid others with the consequents of your misexposition.

Misexpound, *v.* [Mis-^{1} 1.] *trans.* To expound wrongly.

1673 [see prec.].

Misexpress, *v.* [Mis-^{1} 1.] *refl.* To express oneself faultily.

c 1718 *Life R. Frampton* (1876) 122 If in such a royal auditory he had misexprest himself. 1847 Fr. A. Kemble *Rec. Later Life* III. 305 You have misunderstood me, or I misexpressed myself.

Misexpression. [Mis-^{1} 4.] Incorrect expression.

1651 Baxter *Inf. Bapt.* 324 The two former I hope are but mis-expressions of a tolerable sence. *a* 1832 Bentham *Deontol.* (1834) II. 221 Impute his neglect..to misconception, or misexpression, or forgetfulness.

Misexpressive, *a.* [Mis-^{1} 6.] Expressing a wrong meaning. Hence **Misexpressiveness.**

1816 Bentham *Chrestom.* 109 Instead of being negatively and simply unexpressive, it is positively misexpressive. *Ibid.* Wks. 1843 VIII. 40 The inexpressiveness, or rather the misexpressiveness, of the language. 1832 Austin *Jurispr.* (1879) II. 542 The terms promulged and unpromulged..are not less misexpressive than written and unwritten.

† **Misfait.** *Obs.* In 4 mysfait, 5 mesfeat. [a. OF. *mesfait*, mod.F. *méfait* (= Pr. *mesfait*, It. *misfatto*), f. *mesfaire, méfaire* to misdo.] Misdeed.

1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xi. 366, I haue wonder of þe..Why þow ne suwest man and his make þat no mysfait hem folwe? 1481 Caxton *Godfrey* viii. 29 All their mesfeates and trespeaces were redressyd.

Misfaith. [Mis-^{1} 4.] Disbelief; mistrust.

1382 Wyclif *Ecclus.* ii. 18 Who dreden the Lord, shul not ben of mysfeith [1388 unbileueful] to the wrd of hym. 1859 Tennyson *Vivien* 382 A woman and not trusted, doubtless I Might feel some sudden turn of anger born Of your misfaith.

† **Misfall,** *sb.* [Mis-^{1} 4.] Mishap, misfortune.

1340 *Ayenb.* 84 Kueade mysfalles and zorȝes. *Ibid.* 86, 182. *c* 1489 Caxton *Blanchardyn* xii. 44 Ye wyll scandalyze & vttre your mysfal that is now happed to you of one man.

† **Misfall,** *v. Obs.* [Mis-^{1} 1. Cf. MLG., MDu., Du. *misvallen*, MHG. *missevallen*, Ger. *missfallen.*]

1. *intr.* To suffer misfortune, come to grief.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 7820 His hend he wrang..þat godds folk suld sua mis-fall. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 2005 Humbert gan þer mys-falle..ffor he dreynte þerin. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* XII. 365 And thai may happin to mysfall.

2. *impers.* or said of the event: To happen unfortunately, fall out amiss. *It misfell me*: misfortune befell me.

1340 *Ayenb.* 193 Hit is wel riȝt þet hit misualle to him.. þet deþ harm uader oþer moder. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Knt.'s T.* 1530 Al-though thee ones on a tyme misfille Whan Vulcanus had caught thee in his las. 1481 Caxton *Reynard* (Arb.) 55 Whiche mysfylle her enyl, ffor the false felle foxe awbyted wel his tyme [etc.]. 1509 Barclay *Shyp of Folys* (1570) 70 Thou art blinde and mad to set thy brayne All thing to venge by wrath that doth misfall. 1530 Palsgr. 637/2 Sythe you wyll nat be ruled, if it mysfall with you, you can blame no body but yourselfe. 1596 Spenser *F. Q.* v. v. 10 Thereat she gan..to upbrayd that chaunce which him misfell. 1615 Sylvester *Job Triumph.* 157 Yet did not Job, for all that him mis-fell, Murmur at God.

†**Misfa·me,** *sb. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [Mis-¹ 4.] Evil fame or report.

1480 Caxton *Trevisa's Higden* III. xxiii. 112 b, He had grete Joye of euyll loos and mysfame.

Misfa·me, *v. rare*⁻¹. [Mis-¹ 1.] *trans.* To spread a false report concerning.

a 1850 Rossetti *Dante & Circ.* 1. (1874) 42 This false and evil rumour which seemed to misfame me of vice.

†**Misfa·re,** *sb. Obs.* [f. Mis-¹ 4 + Fare *sb.*¹] Going wrong or astray; mishap, misfortune.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 315 His sun..þat wat All þinges þat haldes stat, And halds þam up fro misfare þat þai ne worth to noght. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) II. 213 Sterynge and meuynge in lymes wiþ onte eny mysfare [orig. *motus membrorum sine errore*]. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* x. 1060 Mekill dolour it did him in his mynd, Off thair mysfayr. 1496 *Dives & Pauper* (W. de W.) x. ii. 372/2 They were more enclyned to lecherye for welfare than to robberye for mysfare. 1596 Spenser *F. Q.* VI. iii. 24 Crying aloud to shew her sad misfaie Unto the knights.

†**Misfa·re,** *v. Obs.* Forms: see Fare *v.*¹ [OE. *misfaran* = OFris. *misfara*, MHG. *missevarn*, ON. *misfara*: see Mis-¹ 1 and Fare *v.*¹]

1. *intr.* To fare ill, come to grief, be unfortunate.

c 1000 Ælfric *Hom.* (Th.) I. 100 Sume..cweðað ðæt hi þurh bletsunge misfarað, and ðurh wyrigunge geðeoð. *a* 1023 Wulfstan *Hom.* xviii. (1883) 104 Eala, gefyrn is, þæt ðurh deofol fela þinga misfor. *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* 34 For nis ha neauer wiðute care leste hit ne mis-feare. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 1359 þi fader and al his folk so misfaren hadde, þat alle here liues in a stounde hadde be lore. *c* 1420 *Sir Amadace* (Camden) xxi, A dede cors opon a bere lay A woman alle mysfare. 1496 *Dives & Pauper* (W. de W.) VII. xxviii. 319/1 In what londe usurye is used openly that londe shall mysfare. 1621 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 232 Do ȝe the contrair, ȝour housis will misfair. 1633 Heywood *Eng. Trav.* v, If shee misfare I am a man more wretched in her losse, Then had I forfeited life and estate.

b. Of an enterprise: To miscarry, fail.

c 1375 Barbour *Bruce* (Edinb. MS.) x. 529 For it wes hys ententioun To put hym till all awentur Or that a sege on hym mysfur. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* IX. Prol. 66 Now war me laith my lang laubour mysfur.

2. To go wrong; to transgress.

c 897 K. Ælfred *Gregory's Past. C.* i. 29 Forðon oft for ðæs fareowes unwisdome misfarað [orig. *offenduntˀ*] ða hieremenn. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1911 If he sa3 hise breðere mis-faren, His fader he it gan vn-hillen. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 866, I sagh wel þat i misfard. 1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 115 Er thou so with thiself misfare. 1487 *How Good Wife Taught Dau.* 282 And kep thame fra neyd and mystair, That pouerte gar thame nocht mysfair.

3. *trans.* (*Sc.*) a. To do amiss. b. To cause to go wrong.

1461 *Liber Pluscardensis* XII. viii, He that all as made As langand gouernance of his Godhade Nathing mysfaris, bot all dois for the best. *a* 1578 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (1728) 172 He shall .. misfair the Government and Guidment of his Country.

†**Misfa·ring,** *vbl sb. Obs.* [Mis-¹ 3.] Wrong-doing; transgression.

1595 Spenser *Col. Clout* 758 For all the rest do most-what fare amis, And yet their owne misfaring will not see. For either they be puffed up with pride [etc.].

†**Misfa·ring,** *ppl. a. Obs.* [Mis-¹ 2.] a. Transgressing, misbehaving.

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 305/180 He [*sc.* Lucifer] may corsi euere-more his mis-farinde pruyte. *a* 1300 *Leg. Rood* (Ashm. MS.) 50 Eraclius þe emperour..Of þis mysuarynge pruie [*Vernon MS.* mis farinde pruyde] hurde telle ilome. 13.. *K. Alis.* 6470 Alle they [*sc.* the devil's sons] beon mysfarynge. 1413 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton) IV. xxxviii. (1859) 65 So that the kynge put awey that foule, mysfarynge old one.

b. In evil plight.

c 1450 *Guy Warw.* (Camb.) 1118 He sawe a knyghte rydynge; Hys ryght arme was mysfarynge.

†**Misfa·shion,** *v. Obs.* [Mis-¹ 1.] *trans.* To put out of shape; to make of a wrong shape.

1570 Levins *Manip.* 164/43 To Misfashion, *deformare.* 1594 Blundevil *Exerc.* VIII. (1636) 757 He saith that they must needs mis-fashion the Regions, and make the..longitudes, and latitudes, to be untrue. 1608 J. Dave *Humour out of Breath* III. v, What toyle I had to fashion them to loue, And bow 'tis doubled to misfashion them. 1647 Ward *Simp. Cobler* 35 What is amisse in the mould, will misfashiun the prosult.

Misfa·shioned, *ppl. a.* [Mis-¹ 2.] Badly formed; deformed, mis-shapen.

1500-20 Dunbar *Poems* XXVIII. 25 Thocht God mak ane misfassonit man, ȝe can him all schaip new agane. 1548 Geste *Pr. Masse* F iv, What a misfashioned argumentation is this. 1594 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* Pref. iii. § 9 Through their misfashioned preconceit. 1633 Bp. Hall *Hard Texts O. T.* 610 Such a scrip—as no wise shepheard would beare, as being mis-fashioned.

Misfa·shioning, *vbl. sb.* [Mis-¹ 3.] Disfigurement; deformity.

1469 *Paston Lett.* II. 343 Let hym bryng the hat upon hys hid for mysfacyonyng of it. 1581 Mulcaster *Positions* XXX. (1887) 110 Sicknesse assaileth vs three ways:..by misfasbioning, when either the whole bodie, or some parte therof, wanteth his due forme [etc.].

†**Misfa·te.** *Obs.* [Mis-¹ 4.] Evil fate.

1614 Sylvester *Parl. Vertues Royall* I. *Panaretus* 1495 Were 't throw their own mis-fate, in having none, Or having Vertues, not to have them known. 1652 Benlowes *Theoph.* II. xxxiii, Misdeeds their own misfate engage.

†**Misfa·vour.** *Obs.* [Mis-¹ 7.] Disfavour.

a 1660 *Contemp. Hist. Irel.* 1641-52 (1880) III. 1. 142 The clergie..deliuered their opinions in his misfauour.

Misfeasance (misfī·zăns). *Law.* Also 7 -feisance, 7-8 -fesance, 8 -feeans, 9 -feazance. [a. OF. *mesfaisance*, f. *mesfaisant*, pres. pple. of *mesfaire*, *méfaire* to misdo: see Mis-² and Feasance.] A transgression, trespass; *spec.* the wrongful exercise of lawful authority or improper performance of a lawful act.

1596 Bacon *Max. & Uses Com. Law* I. (1636) 32 He is subject to an action upon the case for his misfeisance. 1675 W. Sheppard (*title*) Actions upon the Case for Deeds, viz. Contracts, Assumpsits [etc.]..and for other Male-Feasance and Mis-feasance. 1689 *Trial Pritchard v. Papillon* 9 That were a Misfesance, or a Male-execution of their Office. 1768 Blackstone *Comm.* III. 208 Any misfeasance, or act of one man whereby another is injuriously treated or damnified, is a transgression, or trespass in it's largest sense. 1781 W. Jones *Law Bailments* 54 A distinction seems very early to have been made in our law between the *non*feasance, and the *mis*feasance of a *conductor operis*. 1863 Kinglake *Crimea* II. 13 The custom of awarding wild, violent praise to the common performance of duty, and even now and then to actual misfeasance. 1875 Digby *Real Prop.* (1876) vi. 303 *note*, All cases of damage caused by misfeazance (commission of wrongful acts).

transf. 1840 *New Monthly Mag.* LIX. 242 The long-acre copse..which had so often sheltered the misfeasance both of my gun and lips. 1882 Hughes *Mem. D. Macmillan* 6 He had..discovered some small misfeasance in the shop and had accused his apprentice of it.

†**Misfea·se,** *v. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [Back-formation f. prec.] *trans.* To do evil to.

1571 in *Archæologia* XLV. 62 Whose son or servant shall be found to missfease John a wood, sexton, in word or deed.

Misfeasor (misfī·zəɹ). *Law.* Also 7 -fesor, 9 -feazor. [a. OF. *mesfesour*, *-feisour*, agent-n. f. *mesfaire*, f. *mes-* Mis-² + *faire* to do.] One who commits a misfeasance.

1631 *Star Chamb. Cases* (Camden) 62 They take upon them to punish these misfesors. 1884 *Law Rep.* 26 Chanc. Div. 146 The punishment which is reserved for wilful misfeasors.

Misfea·ture, *sb.* [Mis-¹ 4.] A distorted feature; a bad feature or trait.

a 1821 Keats *Sonn., Human Seasons*, He [*sc.* man] has his Winter too of pale misfeature. 1871 Carlyle in *Mrs. Carlyle's Lett.* I. 42 Some misfeature of pronunciation, which I have now forgotten. 1890 R. Bridges *Shorter Poems* I. 5 All summer's dry misfeatures.

Misfea·tured, *ppl. a.* [Mis-¹ 2.] Having bad features.

1868 Browning *Ring & Bk.* I. 593 A dark misfeatured messenger.

Misfea·turing, *ppl. a.* [Mis-¹ 2.] Distorting the features.

1885 Tennyson *Wreck* IX, The strange misfeaturing mask that I saw.

†**Misfee·l,** *v. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [Mis-¹ 1.] *intr.* To have sinful feelings.

c 1200 in *O. E. Hom.* I. 305 Ich habbe..Misifelet.

†**Misfee·ling,** *ppl. a. Obs. rare.* [Mis-¹ 2.] Used in the earlier version of Wyclif's Bible to render L. *insensatus* 'senseless'.

1382 Wyclif *Ecclus.* xvi. 20 In all these thingus mys felende, or vnwittie, is the herte. *Ibid.* xxii. 14 With a mys felende go thou not awey [1388 an vnwijs man].

†**Misfei·gn,** *v. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [Mis-¹ 1.] *intr.* To feign with a wrong intention.

1590 Spenser *F. Q.* I. iii. 40 By him, who has the guerdon of his guile, For so misfeigning her true knight to bee.

†**Misfe·re,** *v. Obs.* Forms: see Fere *v.*¹ [OE. *misféran*: see Mis-¹ 1 and Fere *v.*¹]

1. *intr.* To do wrong, transgress; to misbehave (const. *mid*, *with* = towards).

c 1000 Ælfric *De Vet. Test.* (Gr.) 7 Saul..þæt folc bewerode wið þa hæðenan leoda heardlice mid wæmnum, þeah þe he misferde on manegum oðrum þingum. *a* 1300 *Vox & Wolf* 212 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* 65 Men seide, that thou on thine liue Misferdest mid mine wiue. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 147 þe outrage of richie men, þat misferde with pore men [orig. *diuitum insolentiam qua pauperes indigne tractabantur*]. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 241 But only that thou hast misferd Thenkende.

2. *intr.* and *pass.* To fare ill; to come to grief; to be unfortunate or unsuccessful.

c 1205 Lay. 26229 ȝif Arður mis-ferde þene he come to fihte. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 7965 Alle þat þey made a day vpright, ffallen was doun vpon þat nyght;..þat saw þe kyng hit misferde so. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxi. (*Clement*) 197, & his fadir fore doule & wa he trewyt in þe se mysferde. *a* 1425 *Cursor M.* 18311 (Trin.) þere I was wiþ my foos mysferde [*Cott.* was vm-sett].

3. ? *trans.* ? To overthrow.

c 1330 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 224 Whan Sir Edward herd, þat þei had Lyncoln taken, & þe Juerie misferd, þer tresorie ouerschaken [*cf. supra* þei robbed þam & slouh].

Misfie·ld, *v.* [Mis-¹ 1.] *trans.* To field (a ball) badly. Hence **Misfie·lded** *ppl. a.*

1890 *Daily News* 18 Sept. 3/6 Key misfielded the ball. 1894 *Punch* 22 Dec. 298/3 The course of a 'misfielded' ball between leaving bowler's hand and returning thereto.

Misfi·gure, *sb. rare.* [Mis-¹ 4.] Disfigurement, deformity.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xl. (*Ninian*) 682 Othir be þe to hafe remede of þis mysfigur, or be dede. 1857 Heavysege *Saul* II. ii. iv. 149 As a thing which long pressed out of form, Does, after being restored to its true shape..start back All foul and crumpled to its old mis-figure.

Misfi·gure, *v.* Now *dial.* [Mis-¹ 1; after *disfigure* (cf. Mis-¹ 9).] *trans.* To disfigure; to distort the form of; to disguise.

1648 J. Goodwin *Right & Might* Pref. 1 That men..should be able to misfigure the liberall and ingenuous face of your actions into an absolute deformity. *a* 1677 Manton *Serm. John* xvii. 3 Wks. 1872 X. 149 Some great..governor of the order of the world, whom they migbtily transformed and misfigured in their thoughts. 1870 E. Peacock *Ralf Skirl.* III. 99 He may misfigure hissen next time as he likes, I shall knaw him.

Misfi·gured, *ppl. a.* Now *dial.* [Mis-¹ 2.] Disfigured.

1624 Gataker *Transubst.* 134 You may not marvaile why his answer is so diffused, deformed and mis-figured. 1886 *S. W. Linc. Gloss.* s. v. *Misfigure*, She's misfigured worse than ever I seed her. 1895 *E. Angl. Gloss., Misfigured.*

Misfi·guring, *vbl. sb.* [Mis-¹ 3.] Disfiguring; misrepresenting of figure.

1685 H. More *Illustration*, etc. 34 Even to the misfiguring his own visage by the distemper of his passion. 1699 Pepys *Let. to Ld. Reay* 21 Nov., The miscolouring, misfiguring, diminishing, or undue magnifying, of an object.

Misfire (misfaiə·ɹ), *sb.* [f. next. Cf. Miss-fire.] A failure to discharge or explode.

1859 *Musketry Instr.* 18 The instructor will naturally attribute 'mis-fires' to a dirty rifle. 1881 Greener *Gun* 28 A misfire of the charge in the mortar. 1888 *Times* (weekly ed.) 21 Dec. 12/3 Did you leave him after three or four misfires?

attrib. 1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 26 Feb. 9/3 A misfire ball cartridge, or one that had been used but had not exploded.

Misfire (misfaiə·ɹ), *v.* [Mis-¹ 1. Cf. phr. *to miss fire*, s.v. Miss *v.*¹] *intr.* Of a gun or its charge: To fail to be discharged or exploded.

1752 in *Scots Mag.* (1753) Aug. 401/2 The little gun was in use to snap or misfire. [1881 Greener *Gun* 43 The weapons were..tiresome to charge and discharge, and continually miss-firing.] 1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 16 Apr. 8/1 Both guns in the fore-barbette had misfired.

Misfit (misfi·t), *sb.* [f. Mis-¹ 4 + Fit *sb.*³] A garment or other article which does not fit the person for whom it is intended.

1823 J. Bee *Dict. Turf*, etc., *Misfits*—clothes which do not suit the wearer's shape. Hence, "'tis a misfit', when a story, or some endeavour fails of its effect, then 'it won't fit'. 1851-61 Mayhew *Lond. Labour* III. 232/2 There are a number of [artificial] eyes come over from France, but these are generally what we call misfits. 1865 Knight *Passages Work. Life* III. x. 213 [The] shoemaker..would occasionally have a misfit or two on his hands.

transf. and *fig.* 1823 [see above]. 1862 Miss Bradon *Lady Audley* II. ii. 19 Her mouth..was an obvious misfit for the set of teeth it contained. 1865 *Cornh. Mag.* June 645 There are some unfortunate people in this world, whose names are—how can I express it?—whose names are, Misfits. 1903 C. E. Osborne *Father Dolling* vi, Amid the streets of Landport Father Dolling was no deplorable misfit.

Misfi·t, *v.* [Partly f. Mis-¹ 1 + Fit *v.*, partly f. prec. sb.] *trans.* and *intr.* To fail to fit, fit badly.

1885 W. Allingham in *Athenæum* 3 Oct. 435/1 No luck misfits thee, Ivy, great or mean, Mirthful or solemn. 1887 *Twin Soul* II. iii. 32 Every truth..is a link in one eternal and infinite chain, and cannut possibly misfit with or contradict any other. 1894 *Outing* (U. S.) XXIV. 244/2 His garments all misfitted him so astonishingly.

So **Misfi·tting** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1851 I. Taylor *Wesley & Methodism* 233 The *misfitting* of the twelve volumes [of Wesley's Writings] to the times current. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 464 Mis-fitting boots.

†**Misfo·ng,** *v. Obs.* [f. Mis-¹ 1 + *fong*, Fang *v.*] Cf. OE. *misfón* to make a mistake.] *trans.* To take wrongly.

c 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1374 (Cott. MS.), Þah heo [*sc.* mine song] beo god me hine mai misfonge An drahe hine to sothede.

†**Misfoo·ting,** *vbl. sb. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [Mis-¹ 3.] Going astray.

1446 Lydg. *Nightingale Poems* 23/209 Myn handes were nayled fast vn-to the tre, And for mysfotyng, where men wente wrong, My feete thurgh-perced.

†**Misforgi·ve,** *v. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [Mis-¹ 1.] *trans.* = Misgive 1. (Cf. Forgive *v.* 7.)

c 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* IV. 1426 But yet to lete hir go His herte misforyaf him ever-mo.

Misfo·rm, *v.* [Mis-¹ 1.] *trans.* To form or shape amiss; to mis-shape.

1413 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton 1483) IV. xxx. 78 Ther wylle be fourged a fowle deformed hede and nedes must be mysformed all the body after. 1580 Blundevil *Horses Diseases* iii. 2 Those [diseases] that doe come..by errour of nature, in misforming the yoong. 1609 Bible (Douay) *Jer.* xviii. *comm.*, A potter can make a new vessel of the same clay being misformed in casting. 1670 Ld. Brooke *Monarchy* ccccxxi. Wks. (Grosart) I. 151 He shall find all wisdoms that suppress, Still by misforming, make their own forms fess.

Misforma·tion. [Mis-¹ 4.] Malformation. (Frequent in Good.)

1822-34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) I. 439 Where these defects depend on organic misformation, they will mostly be found without a remedy. 1842 J. H. Newman *Par. Serm.* VI. xxiv. 390 Cases of..what may be called misformation of the reason.

Misfo·rmed, *ppl. a.* [Mis-¹ 2.] Badly formed or shaped; mis-shapen.

1590 Spenser *F. Q.* I. ii. 43 How long time..Are you in this misformed hous to dwell? 1610 G. Fletcher *Christ's Tri.* 60 Such horrid gorgons, and misformed formes Of damned fiends. 1864 [Croly, etc.] *Miscegenation* xvi. 65 The dirty, ignorant, and misformed Irish girl from the emigrant ships. 1883 J. W. Sherer *At Home & in India* 176 He..of the misformed arm.

Misfo·rtunate, *a.* Now chiefly *Sc.* and *U.S.* [Mis-¹ 6.] Unfortunate.

1530 Palsgr. 319/1 Mysfortunate. 1553 T. Wilson *Rhet.* 45 But what seeke I for misfortunate men,..seyng it is an harder matter .. to finde out happie men? 1573 L. Lloyd *Pilgr. Princes* (1607) 3 Thus was the misfortunate end of so fortu-

nate a beginning. 1664 H. More *Myst. Iniq.* xix. 73 Harbours of retirement..to the Nobler sort of Persons who are..misfortunate in their affairs. 1733 P. Lindsay *Interest Scot.* 11 The misfortunate Trader that fails. 1782 Eliz. Blower *Geo. Bateman* III. 21 But her's misfortunate in all her undertakings. 1818 Scott *Hrt. Midl.* xlvi, 'Married, Effie!' exclaimed Jeanie—'Misfortunate creature! and to that awfu'—'. 1834 Sir H. Taylor *Artevelde* II. iv. iv. 165 In that misfortunate wasting of his strength. 1855 Haliburton *Nat. & Hum. Nat.* I. 186 These arguments..do harm if the misfortunate critter is rubbed agin the grain. 1860 Reade *Cloister & H.* lv, Maligning the misfortunate.

Hence **Misfo·rtunately** *adv. Sc.*, unfortunately.

1727 J. Keith *Mem.* (Spalding Cl.) 71 We expected immediately to have open'd the trenches, but very misfortunately we had no cannon. 1881 Blackie *Lay Serm.* viii. 246 One of those men of small notions,..who, when perched misfortunately on high places [etc.].

Misfortune (misfō·rtʃən), *sb.* [f. Mis-[1] 4 + Fortune *sb.*]

1. Bad or adverse fortune; ill-luck.

1502 Arnolde *Chron.* 60 b/2, For his mysse fortune they wepe and waile. 1535 Coverdale *Ps.* lxxii. 5 They come in no misfortune like other folke: 1579 *Termes of Law* 62 When any man by mysfortune is slaine by an horse or by a cart. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* III. iii. 5 When so her father deare Should of his dearest daughters hard misfortune heare. 1647 Clarendon *Hist. Reb.* I. § 20 The common misfortune of Princes, that in so substantial a part of their Happyness ..as depended upon their Marriage, Themselves had never any part. 1742 *Act* 15 *Geo. II*, c. 30 Persons who have the Misfortune to become Lunaticks. 1874 Mozley *Univ. Serm.* ix. 195 Misfortune, adversity, soften the human heart.

personified. 1596 Shaks. *Merch. V.* II. iv. 36 And neuer dare misfortune crosse her foote, Vnlesse she doe it vnder this excuse. 1650 Waller *Poems* (1664) 180 Here weeps Misfortune, and there triumphs Crime. 1742 Gray *Eton* 57 Black Misfortune's baleful train! 1838 Lytton *Leila* I. ii, Misfortune set upon my brow her dark and fated stamp.

b. An instance of this.

1494 Fabyan *Chron.* VII. ccxxviii. 257 After which season.. fell to the Frenshe Kynge many and dyuerse mysfortunys. 1553 Eden *Treat. Newe Ind.* (Arb.) 39 A misfortune which chaunced in the goulfe of the sea Atlantic. *a* 1680 Butler *Rem.* (1759) II. 12 Nor shall our past Misfortunes more Be charg'd upon the ancient Score. 1767 Gray in *Corr. w. Nicholls* (1843) 69, I have many *désagrémens* that surround me; they have not dignity enough to be called misfortunes, but they feel heavy on my mind. 1781 Gibbon *Decl. & F.* xxx. III. 177 He might perhaps be affected by the personal misfortunes of his generous kinsmen. 1860 Warter *Sea-board* II. 181 To be deprived of Burial..has ever been looked upon as amongst the greatest of misfortunes.

c. Proverbial phrases.

1622 Mabbe tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* I. iii. 29 *marg.*, Misfortunes seldome come alone. 1647 Clarendon *Hist. Reb.* I. § 71 Let the fault or misfortune be what and whence it will. 1717 G. Redpath in Burns *Mem. Wodrow* (1838) I. p. vii, Which is not our crime but our misfortune. 1717 Addison tr. *Ovid's Met.* III. *Cadmus* ad fin., You'll find it his misfortune, not his fault. 1840 Dickens *Barn. Rudge* xxxii, Misfortunes, saith the adage, never come singly. 1862 Sir B. Brodie *Psychol. Inq.* II. iii. 83 The overabundance of leisure..is often a misfortune rather than a fault.

2. *dial.* and *colloq. To have* or *meet with a misfortune*: to have an illegitimate child. Hence used simply for: An illegitimate child, bastard.

1801 *Har'st Rig* liii, She wi' a Misfortune met, And had a bairn. 1835 Mrs. Carlyle *Lett.* I. 42 It would be difficult for me to say that an Annandale woman's virtue is the worse for a misfortune. 1836 Marryat *Midsh. Easy* iii, 'If you please, ma'am, I had a misfortune, ma'am', replied the girl, casting down her eyes. 1866 Carlyle *Remin.* (1881) II. 156 A special 'misfortune' (so they delicately name it), being of Esther's own producing. 'Misfortune' in the shape ultimately of a solid tall ditcher. *a* 1881 — in *New Lett. Jane W. Carlyle* (1903) I. 59 ['Wee Jen'] Ann Cook's 'misfortune'.

† **Misfo·rtune,** *v. Obs.* Also 5 mes-. [Mis-[1] 1.] a. *impers.* or said of an event: To happen unfortunately. b. *intr.* Of a person: To happen by mischance *to do* something. c. To be unfortunate, come to grief.

1466 *Mann. & Househ. Exp.* (Roxb.) 173 It mesfortened me..to hurte my lege. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* IX. ii. 340 And soo it mysfortuned hym, another stronge knyght met with hym. 1533 More *Apol.* 94 b, Whych thynge to se so mysfortune betwene any two crysten folke, is a thynge myche to be lamented. 1533 — *Answ. Poysoned Bk.* Wks. 1102/1 As for this argument of mine..I missefortuned to make so feble, yᵗ he taketh euen a pleasure to play with it. 1599 *Vestry Bks.* (Surtees) 276 Whatsoever shall happen to faille or misforten about the clock. 1615 E. Howes in Stow *Ann.* Pref. ¶ 7 The Queene after mariage was conceiued with childe, but it misfortuned.

Misfo·rtuned, *a.* Now *rare.* [f. Misfortune *sb.* + -ed [2].] Affected by misfortune, unfortunate.

1582 Stanyhurst *Æneis*, etc. (Arb.) 109 Also se that thither you bring thee martial armoure That the peasaunt left beere, with al his misfortuned ensigns. *a* 1578 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S. T. S.) I. 8 This potent prince.. vas murdreist be ane misforttunit gown. 1645 Milton *Tetrach.* 44 While charity hath the judging of so many private greevances in a misfortun'd Wedlock. 1876 Blackie *Lang. & Lit. Hight. Scot.* i. 5 The Highlanders..were not exactly in the position of that misfortuned people [*sc.* the Poles]. 1881 — *Lay Serm.* i. 70 Coming into misfortuned collision with the great forces of the universe.

Misfo·rtuner. *rare*⁻¹. [f. Misfortune *sb.* + -er [1].] One who meets with a misfortune.

a 1774 Goldsm. *Intended Epil.* '*Stoops to Conq.*', Doctors, who cough and answer every misfortuner 'I wish I'd been called in a little sooner'.

† **Misfou·nding,** *vbl. sb. Obs.* [f. Mis-[1] 3 + *founding*, f. Found *v.*] ? Mistaken endeavour.

c 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xxviii. 242 In all youre skylles more and les for mysfowndyng fayll ye. *Ibid.* 275 He shewid hym not to you, for mysfoundyng ye rafe.

Misfra·med, *ppl.a.* [Mis-[1] 2.] Badly framed, formed, or fashioned; ill-formed, ill-constructed.

c 1510 Barclay *Mirr. Gd. Manners* (1570) A ij, A man with hoare heres uncomely doth incline To misframed fables. 1539 Abp. Parker *Corr.* (1853) 11 Not with ambiguous sophistication to fortify their misframed judgments. *a* 1578 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S. T. S.) I. 143 Ane peace of ane misframit gune that brak in the schutting.

Misfra·ming, *vbl. sb. rare*⁻¹. [Mis-[1] 3.] Mis-shaping.

1533 More *Apol.* xiii. Wks. 874/1 In the misse framing of hys matter more towarde denision then vnitye.

† **Misga·ng.** *Obs.* Also -gong. [Partly a. ON. *misganga* straying, misconduct, partly f. Mis-[1] 4 + Gang *sb.*[1]] Going astray, misbehaviour.

13.. *Cursor M.* 17235 (Gött.) Of þi misgang þu wend again. *a* 1325 *Maudelein* 21 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1878) 163 For hir sinne & hir misgong.

† **Misge·t,** *pa. pple. Obs.* [f. Mis-[1] 2 + *get*, pa. pple. of Get *v.*] Misbegotten.

1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 283 For of the false Moabites Forth with the strengthe of Amonites, Of that thei weren ferst misgete, The poeple of god was ofte upsete.

Misgilt: see Misguilt.

Misgive (misgi·v), *v.* [Mis-[1] 1, 7.]

1. *trans.* Of one's 'heart', mind, etc.: To suggest (to one) doubt or apprehension; to cause to be apprehensive (*that*); to incline to suspicion or foreboding. (See Give *v.* 22; the personal obj. was orig. a dative.)

1513 More in Grafton *Chron.* (1568) II. 777 Were it, that before such great thinges mennes harts..misgeneth them. *c* 1592 Marlowe *Jew of Malta* II. ii, My heart misgives me that..He's with your mother. 1593 Shaks. 3 *Hen. VI*, IV. vi. 94 So doth my heart mis-giue me, in these Conflicts, What may befall him. 1667 Milton *P. L.* IX. 846 Yet oft his heart, divine of something ill, Misgave him. 1712–13 Swift *Jrnl. to Stella* 14 Feb., I was afraid to knock at the door; my mind misgave me. 1727 Gay *Begg. Op.* I. vi, I am as fond of this child as though my mind misgave me he were my own. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* v. I. 559 The minds of the questioners misgave them that the guide was not the rude clown that he seemed. 1865 Kingsley *Herew.* xii, Torfrida's heart misgave her.

b. *absol.* or *intr.* Said orig. of the mind, etc., and hence (now *rarely*) of the person (also *refl.*) = To have misgivings.

1604 Shaks. *Oth.* III. iv. 89 Fetch me the Handkerchiefe, My minde mis-gines. 1612 Bp. Hall *Contempt., O. T.* IV. Wks. (1625) 872 Those seruices, which we are forward to, aloofe off, wee shrinke at, neere hand, and fearfully misse-giue. *a* 1641 Bp. Mountagu *Acts & Mon.* (1642) 300 He began somewhat to misgive himselfe, and to feare detection. 1726 Pope *Odyss.* XXII. 175 Learn, if by female fraud this deed were done, Or (as my thought misgives) by Dolius' son. 1838 Lytton *Leila* I. vi, The Zeguis might misgive, did they see me leave the palace with you. 1872 C. J. Vaughan *Earnest Words* (1878) 154 When we..misgive ourselves as to the possibility of spiritual endurance. 1887 Hall Caine *Deemster* xxxix, When this man came my mind misgave.

† c. *trans.* To suggest fear of. *Obs.*

1587 Goloing *De Mornay* xvii. 308 Repentance presupposeth a fault, and conscience misgiueth the insewing of punishment for the same [orig. *s'en propose la peine*].

2. *intr.* To fail; to go wrong, miscarry. Of a gun: To fail to go off; to miss fire. Chiefly *Sc.*

1579 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* Ser. I. III. 227 The said George Hume presentand ane pistolet to him, quhilk had slane him gif scho had not misgevin. 1629 *Ibid.* Ser. II. III. 13 Thair purpose misgave thame. 1654 Earl Monm. tr. *Bentivoglio's Wars Flanders* 250 If the design of assaulting England misgive. 1703 Brand *New Descr. Orkney, Zetland*, etc. 112 Upon which the 1st. and 2d. Brewings misgave likewise, but the 3d. was good. 1752 in *Scots Mag.* (1753) Aug. 401/1 It [*sc.* a gun] misgave with him thrice at a black cock. 1799 J. Robertson *Agric. Perth* 248 Oats for the first year frequently misgive. 1833 Chalmers *Const. of Man* vi. (1834) I. 228 The abortive enterprises of.. Utopianism..have all of them misgiven. 1880 Mrs. C. H. Macgill *Mem. H. Macgill* 61 Fall back in thought on the question who He is, and your hope will not misgive.

3. *trans.* To bestow amiss; to cite wrongly.

1611 Cotgr., *Mesdonner*, to misgiue, or bestow amisse. 1639–40 Laud *Hist. Chanc. Oxf.* in *Rem.* (1700) II. 192, I knew nothing of any of their Liberty misgiven or misused, till about a Fortnight since. *a* 1713 Ellwood *Autobiog.* (1714) 318 Quotations..misgiven, misapplied, or perverted.

Misgi·ven, *ppl. a.* [Mis-[1] 2.] Wrongly given.

1887 Ruskin *Præterita* II. 254, I remember.. his swift correction of my misgiven Wordsworth's line.

Misgi·ver. *rare.* [f. Misgive *v.* + -er [1].] One who misgives.

1625 K. Long tr. *Barclay's Argenis* II. iv. 76 Great are the gods portents, but greater farre Our inward feares; all men misgivers are. 1894 *Westm. Gaz.* 8 Feb. 3/2 The misgivers really hold the situation in their own hands.

Misgi·ving, *vbl. sb.* [f. Misgive *v.* + -ing [1].] The action of the vb. Misgive; a feeling of mistrust, apprehension, or loss of confidence.

1601 Shaks. *Jul. C.* III. i. 145 And my misgiuing still Falles shrewdly to the purpose. 1612 Bp. Hall *Contempl., O. T.* IV. *Plagues of Egypt*, His very misgiuing hardens him the more. 1705 Stanhope *Paraphr.* I. 75 [To] look stedfastly up to this Tribunal, without any manner of Misgiving or Concern. 1781 Cowper *Conversat.* 770 Conscious of her crimes, she feels instead A cold misgiving, and a killing dread. 1803–6 Wordsw. *Ode Intim. Immort.* 148 Blank misgivings of a Creature Moving about in worlds not realised. 1840 Dickens *Old C. Shop* i, I had a strong misgiving that his nightly absence was for no good purpose. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* ii. I. 185 The bulk of the Scottish nation,..with many misgivings of conscience, attended the ministrations of the Episcopal clergy. 1883 H. Drummond *Nat. Law in Spir. W.* vii. (1884) 230 The misgiving which will creep.. over the brightest faith.

Misgi·ving, *ppl. a.* [-ing [2].] That misgives; having misgivings.

1598 R. Tofte in *Shaks. Cent. Praise* 25 My misgiving minde presaging to me ill. 1646 P. Bulkeley *Gosp. Covt.* II. 172 With a..misgiving heart, fearing lest our own mouth should judge us. 1711 M. Henry *Forgiv. Sin* Wks. 1857 II. 522 Sinners carry about with them a misgiving conscience. 1814 Wordsw. *White Doe* VI. 82 He heard, and with misgiving mind. 1845–6 Trench *Huls. Lect.* Ser. I. vii. 198 This is the true answer to every misgiving question of a like kind.

Hence **Misgi·vingly** *adv.*, with misgiving.

1834 De Quincey *Autob. Sk.* Wks. 1854 II. 63 Misgivingly I went forwards, feeling..that..I was continually nearing a danger. 1850 L. Hunt *Autobiog.* II. xi. 77 A reform in Parliament,..which the younger ones..advocated but fitfully and misgivingly.

† **Misglo·ze,** *v. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. Mis-[1] 1 + Gloze *v.*[1]] *trans.* To misinterpret.

1387–8 T. Usk *Test. Love* II. i. (Skeat) I. 59, I have ordeyned hem, whiche that auctorite, misglosed by mannes reson, to graunt shal hen enduced.

Misgo (misgō·u), *v.* Now *dial.* Pa. t. and pa. pple. as in Go *v.* Cf. Miswend. [Mis-[1] 1.]

1. *intr.* To go from the right path; to go astray; to go the wrong way. Often in *fig.* context.

1340 *Ayenb.* 94 Fol he is þet can þane riȝte way and be his wytinde mysgeþ. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Reeve's T.* 298 'Allas!' quod she, 'I hadde almost misgoon; I hadde almost gon to the clerkes bed'. 1387–8 T. Usk *Test. Love* II. x. (Skeat) I. 143 And there thou hast miswent, eschewe the path from hens-forward, I rede. *c* 1430 Lydg. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 241 Duryng my lyf with many gret trespace, By many wrong path wher I have mys-went. 1509 Barclay *Shyp of Folys* 271 b, But in my iournay if that I haue mysgo By bytynge wordes or scarsnes of scyence. 1600 Fairfax *Tasso* XIV. xviii, All thy souldiours wandred and misgone. 1875–86 *W. Somerset Gloss.* s. v. *Miswent.*

b. Of a thing: To go astray.

1864 Mrs. Carlyle *Lett.* III. 242 Send me a single line.. by return of post, that I may be sure the thing has not misgone.

2. *intr.* and *pass.* To go astray, go wrong in conduct or action; to err, make a mistake.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 16148 O galilee þan es he born, þe folk he dos mis-ga [*Fairf.* & bringis our folk in wa]. *a* 1350 *St. Nicholas* 307 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 15 þe iew sayd þan: 'þou has mis-gone, For to me payd þou neuer none'. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (Prose) 5 þe abot sal be blamid if þe cnuent mis-ga. *c* 1450 *Bk. Curtasye* 363 in *Babees Bk.*, 3if any mann hase in court mys-gayne. *?a* 1500 *Plowman's Tale* 756 Such mister men hen all misgo. [Echoed by Spenser *Sheph. Cal.*, July 201.] 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* ix. 70 Plane I rewoik in thir quhair I miswent. 1605 Marston *Dut. Courtezan* II. D, Lord, how was I misgone, how easie ti's to erre. 1875–86 *W. Somerset Gloss., Miswent, p.t.* and *p.p.*, went astray; gone astray. In these tenses common, but obs. in the *pr.t.*

3. Of a business, etc.: To go wrong, miscarry.

1766 Nicol *Poems* 21 (E.D.D.) But if a' mercy things misgae. 1843 Carlyle *Past & Pr.* (1858) 125 The business had all misgone in the interim! 1866 — *Remin.* I. 169 Some whole fleet of cargoes had by sudden change of price during the voyage ruinously misgone. 1866 Gregor *Banffsh. Gloss., Misgae*, to miscarry; as, 'A doot the thing 'ill mis-gae'.

† 4. Of a firearm: To miss fire. *Sc. Obs.* [The usual word is *misgive*, Misgive.]

1586–7 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* Ser. I. IV. 139 The said Archibald.. schote ane pistolett at him..; and seeing the same misgaa, he..presentit ane uthir pistollet at him.

Misgo·ing, *vbl. sb.* Now *rare.* [Mis-[1] 3.] Going astray; trespass, transgression.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 17235 (Cott.) O þi misgaing þou weind again [cf. Misgang, quot. 13..]. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) I. 31 þe staat of mysgoynge [orig. *status deviationis*]. 1398 — *Barth. De P. R.* XIV. li. (Tollemache MS.) Londe of misgoynge and of errynge [orig. *terra deuii et erroris*]. 1855 Thackeray *Newcomes* xlv, Let those pity her who can feel their own weakness and misgoing.

Misgo·tten, *pa. pple.* and *ppl. a.* Also 5 mysgettyne. [Mis-[1] 2.]

1. Wrongly acquired or obtained; ill-gotten.

c 1412 Hoccleve *De Reg. Prine.* 664 As yt mysgoten was, mys was despendid. *a* 1425 *Cast. Perseu.* 2628 in *Macro Plays* 155 Mys-gotyn good þee schal schende. 1550 Crowley *Epigr.* 703 The goodis mysgoten, that men do ther at wynne. 1596 Spenser *F. Q.* VI. i. 18 Leave..that misgotten weft To him that hath it better justifyde. 1649 Bp. Hall *Cases Consc.* IV. ix. (1654) 369 Secretly mis-gotten dispensations.

2. = Misbegotten.

c 1425 *Seven Sag.* (P.) 1075 He saw wyl with hys eye..That the childe was mys-gettyne. 1652 Benlowes *Theoph.* II. xxxi. 27 Misgotten Brat! 1904 *Blackw. Mag.* July 89/1 Cornwallis sahib..had beaten Tippu, and those misgotten Mysore *log* [= men].

Misgo·vern, *v.* [Mis-[1] 1. (F. *mesgouverner* is cited only from Palsgrave 637/2.)]

† 1. *trans.* In obs. uses corresponding to those of Govern *v.*; to mismanage, misdirect, misconduct.

c 1440 *Jacob's Well* 148 He techyth his dyscyples, to mysgouerne here tungys. 1493 *Festivall* (W. de W. 1515) 75 Then Iohan blamed hym and sayd yᵗ be had mysgouerned the chylde. 1513 More in Grafton *Chron.* (1568) II. 807 Brydeling and punishing of such as there had misgouerned themselues. *a* 1577 Gascoigne *Wks.* (1587) To Rdr. ¶ ¶ ¶ jb, If any (misgouerning their owne wittes) doe fortune to vse

that for a Spurre, which I had heere appoynted for a Brydle. 1621 T. Williamson tr. *Goulart's Wise Vieillard* 76 They ..feele..grieuous woundes in their bodies, either for that their children misgouerne themselues, or their wiues behaue themselues vsurpingly.

†b. *intr.* for *refl.* *Obs.*

?*a* 1500 in Grose, etc. *Antiq. Rep.* (1809) IV. 407 A Shawme ..yf it be blowne withe to a veheme[n]t wynde, It makithe it to mysgouerne oute of his kynde.

2. *trans.* To direct and control the affairs of (a state, etc.) wrongly or badly; to mismanage the government of.

1587 *Mirr. Mag., Iago* vi. (1610) 73 Misgouern'd both my Kingdome and my life, I gaue my selfe to ease. 1665 Boyle *Occas. Refl.* iv. xi. (1848) 231 Our wonder, that the Rulers of States .. should oftentimes mis-govern them. 1710 M. Henry *Life Lieut. Illidge* Wks. 1853 II. 578/1 Our own wills have undone us; they have misgoverned us. 1889 *Sat. Rev.* 30 Mar. 371/2 All Oriental nations under Oriental rule are misgoverned.

†**Misgovernail.** *Obs.* [Mis-[1] 4.] a. Bad steering. b. Mismanagement, misrule, misgovernment; disorder.

1439 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 29/2 By .. misgovernaile of suche Maistres and Mariners with suche Shippes. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* xxv. 93 (Harl. MS.) That wacchemen shulde..visite eche house, þat þere was no misgouernayle þere in. *c* 1470 Harding *Chron.* cxlix. ii, Whom his father exiled for misgouernaile.

Misgo·vernance. *Obs.* exc. *arch.* Also 5–6 *Sc.* -goverance. [Mis-[1] 4.]

†1. Misconduct, misbehaviour; evil living or conduct. *Obs.*

c 1386 Chaucer *Monk's T.* 22 Had never worldly man so heigh degree As Adam, til he for misgovernaunce Was drive out of his hye prosperitee. 1456 Sir G. Haye *Law Armis* (S.T.S.) 150 Be caus of the misgoverance of sik ane ungracious creature, all a hale company may tak..scathe and schame. *c* 1470 Harding *Chron.* cv. xiv, He had .. repentaunce For his trespas and misgouernaunce. 1495 *Act* 11 *Hen. VII*, c. 11 *Preamble*, Yong people..be growen to ydelnes vices and other divers mysgovernaunces. 1512 *Act.* 4 *Hen. VIII*, c. 20 *Preamble*, The same mysgoverned persons shall lyf in robbyng and mysgovernaunce duryng ther lyves. 1627 P. Fletcher *Locusts* iv. xxi, Those who disgrac't by some misgovernance (Their owne, or others) swell with griefe or spight.

†2. Mismanagement, misdirection, misuse. *Obs.*

1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 150 For if ther fell him eny schame, It was thurgh his misgovernance. 1413 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton 1483) I. i. 2 By theyr owne mysgouernaunce they forlettyth the ryght way of vertu. ?*a* 1500 in Grose, etc. *Antiq. Rep.* (1809) IV. 407 The sounde borde crasede forsith the instrumente, Throw mysgovernaunce to make notis whiche was not his intente. 1579 Spenser *Sheph. Cal.* May 90 All will be soone wasted with misgouernance. 1621 Bp. Hall *Heaven upon Earth* § 7 These vnruly affections are not more necessary in their best vse, then pernicions in their mis-gouernance. 1678 Sir G. Mackenzie *Crim. Laws Scot.* I. ix. (1699) 40 He who burns a House..by misgovernance and not of set purpose.

3. Bad government of a country or state.

1447 Bokenham *Seyntys* (Roxb.) 28 To what myschaunce The cyte he brouth, thorgh mysgouernaunce. *c* 1460 Fortescue *Abs. & Lim. Mon.* xiv. (1885) 144 Murmnr ageynes the kynges person, ffor þe mysgouernance off his reaume. *a* 1578 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 171 They tuik god to witnes that they sould be guiltles of the misgoverance of the realme. 1641 Baker *Chron.* (1660) 160 That the Realm of England should be destroyed through the misgovernance of King Richard. 1878 Stubbs *Const. Hist.* III. xviii. 243 He is liable to be defamed for misgovernance.

†4. Lack of restraint. *Obs.*

1463 in Heath *Grocers' Comp.* (1869) 61 Vf anye debatis arose betwixt anye two members, for misgovernaunce of wordes. *c* 1470 *Hors, Shepe & G.* (Roxb.) 27 Beware of surfete and misgouernance.

Misgo·verned, *ppl. a.* [Mis-[1] 2.]

†1. Characterized by misconduct; ill-conducted; immoral. *Obs.*

c 1440 *Jacob's Well* 270 No3t only to gode & sobre souereynes but also to mysgouernyd. *c* 1460 G. Ashby *Dicta Philos.* 438 Misgoverned men and vicious. 1509 Barclay *Shyp of Folys* 12 b, His mysgouerned maners. ?*a* 1550 in *Dunbar's Poems* (1893) 309 Misgovernit 3owth makis gowsty age. 1611 Speed *Hist. Gt. Brit.* ix. xvii. (1623) 884 Many misgouerned and loose persons.

†2. Unrnly, unrestrained; misdirected. *Obs.*

1593 Shaks. *Rich. II*, v. ii. 4 Where rude mis-gouern'd hands..Threw dnst and rubbish on King Rickards head. 1627 Drayton *Agincourt* 65 The beauteous Margarite, whose misgouern'd spleene So many sorrowes brought vpon her life. *a* 1639 Donne *Ess.* (1651) 69 How strong and misgovern'd faith against common sense hath he.

3. Badly ruled or managed; mismanaged.

1834 *Tait's Mag.* I. 732 The poor misgoverned child. 1875 Stedman *Vict. Poets* ii. (1887) 54 The punishment of a misgoverned career is tbat it hinders even the man of genius from being justified during his lifetime.

Misgo·verning, *vbl. sb.* [f. Misgovern *v.* + -ing[1] or Mis-[1] 3 + Governing *vbl. sb.*] The action of the vb. Misgovern. †a. Misconduct. *Obs.* b. Misgovernment.

1487 *How Good Wife Taught Dau.* 256 For falt of aw and of teching Bryngis thame oft to mysgouernyng. 1593 Shaks. *Lucr.* 654 Blacke lust, dishonor, shame, mis-gouerning. 1609 Daniel *Civ. Wars* I. xxxiii, Besides, the times, with all iniustice fraught, Concurr'd, with such confus'd misgouerning. 1711 in 10*th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 112 The people..dethroned their King under pretence of misgovernment. 1845 Carlyle *Past & Pr.* I. v, A Governing Class.. which..could not..be kept from misgoverning, corn-lawing, and playing the very deuce with us.

Misgo·vernment. [Mis-[1] 4.]

†1. Evil conduct; unruly or disorderly behaviour; misconduct. *Obs.*

In the first quot. strictly two words.

c 1384 Chaucer *H. Fame* 1975 Of good, or mysgouernement. 1573 L. Lloyd *Marrow of Hist.* (1653) 140 Tarquinius Superbus..for his misgovernment and lust in the City against the chast matrons..was..banished Rome. 1581 Pettie tr. *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* III. (1586) 127 b, Through idlenesse, or gluttonie, or some such misgouernment. 1599 Shaks. *Much Ado* iv. i. 100 Thus pretty Lady I am sorry for thy much misgouernment. 1602 Warner *Alb. Eng.* (1612) Epit. 384 Through his owne obstinate headinesse and misgouernment. 1665 Glanvill *Def. Van. Dogm.* To Tho. Albius, The unreasonable heats, frequent partialities [etc.]. .. The resentment I have of which misgovernments [etc.].

†2. Error or irregularity in the management, conduct, or use of anything; mismanagement. *Obs.*

1601 *Act* 43 *Eliz.* c. 4 § 1 Misconvertinge or misgovernemente, of any Landes Tenementes Rentes. 1650 Jer. Taylor *Holy Living* i. § 1 (1686) 9 If such mis-government and unskilfulness make them fall into vitious and baser company. 1777 Howard *St. Prisons* (1780) 181 No .. servant of any judge to take a fee on occasion of a petition or complaint, founded upon the foregoing orders, or any misgovernment.

3. Bad government of a country or state; maladministration of public affairs. Hence, disorder, anarchy (cf. *misrule*).

1592 *Nobody & Someb.* (1878) 293 King Archigallo that now raignes In tiranny and strange misgovernment. *c* 1620 Coke in *Bacon's Wks.* (1827) VII. 376 Tending to .. the raising of faction or other misgovernment. 1783 Burke *Sp. Fox's E. India Bill* Wks. 1792 II. 386 Whether, with this map of misgovernment before me, I can suppose myself bound..to continue..the management of these countries in those hands? 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* iv. I. 522 The misgovernment of James .. completely turned the tide of public feeling. 1889 *Sat. Rev.* 30 Mar. 371/2 The chronic misgovernment..which usually accompanies Turkish rule.

Misgo·vernor. [Mis-[1] 5.] One who misgoverns.

1509 Barclay *Shyp of Folys* 257 b, O Lothsome lust: o mad mysgouernour Of all mankynde. *a* 1649 Drumm. of Hawth. *Hist. Jas. III*, Wks. (1711) 49 The nobility of Scotland should be ready .. to seise upon the king's favourites, and misgovernours of the state. 1829 Gen. P. Thompson *Exerc.* (1842) I. 179 A nation bound by the act of past misgovernors. 1862 Carlyle *Fredk. Gt.* xii. viii. (1873) IV. 187 Traitors, misgovernors worthy of death. 1884 *Sat. Rev.* 12 July 40/1 The misgovernors of Egypt.

†**Misgra·ffed,** *pa. pple. Obs.* [Mis-[1] 2.] Grafted amiss; *fig.* badly matched.

1590 Shaks. *Mids. N.* I. i. 137 The course of true loue neuer did run smooth, But either it was different in blood ..Or else misgraffed, in respect of yeares.

Misgra·ft, *v. rare*—°. [Inferred from *misgrafted.*] To graft wrongly. 1846 in Worcester.

Misgra·fted, *ppl. a.* [Mis-[1] 2.] Grafted wrongly or unsuitably.

1738 Warburton *Div. Legat.* I. Ded. p. vi, The Barren Leaves of misgrafted Free-thinking.

†**Misgree·,** *v. Obs.*—° [Mis-[1] 7.] To disagree.

1530 Palsgr. 518/1, I discorde, I mysgre, *je descorde.* 1570 Levins *Manip.* 46/41 To Misgrée, *dissentire.*

†**Misgrie·ved,** *pa. pple. Obs.* [Mis-[1] 8.] Grieved or offended.

1543 Grafton *Contn. Harding* 578 He desired hym not to bee misgreued that he did thus leaue hym. 1579 Tomson *Calvin's Serm. Tim.* 236/1 That they may not thinke much or be misgreeued. 1641 J. Trappe *Theol. Theol.* 179 They are such, as are misgrieved at the matter of the word.

Misgrou·nd, *v.* [Mis-[1] 1.] *trans.* To ground falsely.

1827 Hallam *Const. Hist.* I. vii. 418 *note*, That he had misgrounded his opinion on a certain precedent, which [etc.].

Misgrou·nded, *ppl. a.* [Mis-[1] 2.] Falsely grounded; ill-founded.

1598 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. Ded. to Earl of Salisbury 12 Cause-less Envie, and mis-grounded Hate. 1630 Paynne *Anti-Armin.* 253 O vnhappy flocke that must be led by such a young misgrounded Shepheard. 1633 Bp. Hall *Hard Texts, N. T.* 33 Your frequent and misgrounded putting away of your wives. *a* 1684 Leighton *Comm.* 1 *Pet.* i. 14 It is a foolish misgrounded fear. 1700 Astry tr. *Saavedra-Faxardo* II. 295 Sometimes, upon a mis-grounded Apprehension, Money is expended to no purpose.

Misgrow', *v. rare*—°. [Mis-[1] 1.] *intr.* To grow amiss. 1647 Hexham, *Miswassen*, to Misgrowe.

Misgrow·n, *pa. pple.* and *ppl. a.* [Mis-[1] 2.] Grown out of shape; mis-shapen.

c 1611 Chapman *Iliad* xx. 36 Lame Mulciber, his walkers quite misgrowne. 1848 tr. *Richter's Levana* iii. § 16. 25 An interlaced, misgrown, banyan forest. 1866 Gregoa *Banffsh. Gloss., Misgrown*, stunted.

Misgrow·th. [Mis-[1] 4.] A distorted or abortive growth.

1647 Hexham, *Een Miswas in kruyden, boomen, &c.*, a Misgrowth in hearbes, trees, &c. 1819 Coleridge in *Lit. Rem.* (1836) II. 204 A misgrowth or *lusus* of the capricious .. genius of Shakspeare. 1848 Clough *Amours de Voy.* III. 170 Our strivings, mistakings, misgrowths, and perversions. 1883 A. W. Ward *Eng. Poets* II. 443 A disgraceful illustration of too common a misgrowth of patriotism.

†**Misgue·ss,** *v. Obs.* [Mis-[1] 1.] *intr.* To guess wrongly.

1533 More *Debell. Salem* Wks. 976/2 He mysse gesseth amonge and weneth it were one, where in dede it was another. 1665 Hooke *Microgr.* 74 Not withstanding this mis-ghessing.

Misgu·ggle, *v. Sc.* Also -goggle, -grugle. [f. Mis-[1] 8 + *guggle, gruggle* to handle roughly or clumsily (see *Eng. Dial. Dict.*).] *trans.* To handle roughly, maul; to mar, spoil, bungle.

1742 R. Forbes *Jrnl.* in *Ajax's Sp.*, etc. (1755) 33 She bad me had aff my hands, for I misgrugled a' her apron. 1814 Scott *Wav.* xviii, Donald had been misguggled by ane of these doctors about Paris. 1818 — *Hrt. Midl.* viii, Overturning and mishguggling the government and discipline of the kirk. 1825–80 Jamieson, *To misgoggle*, to spoil,..as, 'He's fairly misgogglit that job'.

Misgui·dance. [Mis-[1] 4.] Guidance in a wrong direction; misdirection.

1640 Bp. Hall *Episc.* Ep. Ded. 4 The misguidance of many well meaning soules..which are impetuously carried away in the throng. 1711 Shaftesb. *Charac.* (1727) I. 113 By a small mis-guidance of the Affection, a Lover of Mankind becomes a Ravager. 1840 Carlyle *Heroes* v. (1841) 258 He wanders .. in a world of which he is as the spiritual light, either the guidance or the misguidance. 1844 Kinglake *Eothen* xiii. (1878) 171 The Nazarene, whose misguidance had been the cause of our difficulties. 1859 I. Taylor *Transmission Anc. Bks.* xxii. 410 Under the misguidance of these chronological errors.

†**Misgui·de,** *sb. Obs.* [f. Mis-[1] 4 + Guide *sb.* III.] Misguidance; irregular behaviour.

1596 Spenser *Hymn Heav. Love* 144 Nor spirit, nor Angell..Could make amends to God for mans misguyde. 1602 Warner *Alb. Eng.* ix. xliv. 210 Proserpin her offence (Growen through Mis-Guides, Venial perhaps) we censure in suspence. ?16.. *Beggar-Laddie* xv. in Child *Ballads* V. 119 And for a' the lassie 's ill misguide, She's now the young knight's lady.

Misgui·de, *v.* [Mis-[1] 1.]

†1. *refl.* To go astray, go wrong; to conduct oneself badly or manage one's affairs improperly.

1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 373 He may sone himself misguide, That seth noght the peril tofore. 1483 Caxton *G. de la Tour* k vij b, How the badde..wymmen..were punysshed, as they mysgyded them. 1535 Stewart *Cron. Scot.* I. 423 Quhen that thai se..thair king Misgyde him self in ony kynd of thing. 1651 Culpepper *Astrol. Judgem. Dis.* (1658) 43 The disease came by the mans own misguiding himself.

2. *trans.* To mismanage, misgovern, misrule. Hence (mod. *Sc.*), to treat badly or improperly; to abuse, injure, spoil.

1494 Fabyan *Chron.* vii. 502 The realme before tyme had been mysseguydyd by offycers. 1572 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xxxiii. 163 The Parische Kirkis..thay sa misgyde That nane for wynd and rane thairin may byde. 1671 Milton *Samson* 912 To shew what recompence Towards thee I intend for what I have misdone, Misguided. 1681 Colvil *Whigs Supplic.* (1751) 94 When they misguided church and state. 1787 [J. Beattie] *Scoticisms* 55 The boy misguides his cloaths.—Abuses, or sullies. 1893 Stevenson *Catriona* xv, There were whiles when his dander rase to see the Lord's sants misguided.

3. To guide in a wrong direction, misdirect, mislead.

1509 Barclay *Shyp of Folys* (1570) ¶ ¶ iij, Blinde foolishenes Misgideth the mindes of people hye and lowe. 1594 Nashe *Unfort. Trav.* 49 When Phaeton his chariot did misguide. 1596 Spenser *F. Q.* vi. iii. 47 Misdoubting least he should misguyde His former malice to some new assay. 1667 *Decay Chr. Piety* xvi. § 3 Those leaders..who misguide their tractable admiring followers. 1680 Cotton *Compl. Gamester* 8 But his drunkenness misguided his hand, so that he ran him only through the arm. 1709 Pope *Ess. Crit.* 202 To blind Man's erring judgment, and misguide the mind. 1759 Goldsm. *Polite Learning* vi, The truth is, vanity is more apt to misguide men than false reasoning. 1880 McCarthy *Own Times* IV. 338 The curious ignorance of the condition of American .. feeling which misguided England's policy.

absol. 1696 Locke *Let.* 21 Nov. in F. Bourne *Life* II. xv. 453 Outward hearing may misguide but internal knowledge cannot err. 1837 Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* I. i. ii, The nobles.. have nearly ceased either to guide or misguide.

Misgui·ded, *ppl. a.* Also 5 -kidyd. [Mis-[1] 2.]

†1. Ill-conducted, ill-behaved, immoral. *Obs.*

c 1490 *Plumpton Corr.* (Camden) 77 If I knew that she wnld be a myskidyd woman, I shold never speake word.. for hir. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* lx. 20 Druncartis, dysouris, dy[v]lowris, drewellis, Misgydit memberis of the dewellis. 1523 in *Acc. Fam. of Innes* (1864) 97 Alexander has bene ane misgidit man prodigus and has waistit..his..gudis.

2. †a. Mismanaged, misruled. *Obs.* b. Badly trained or reared.

1562 Winjet *Cert. Tractates* Wks. (S.T.S.) I. 4 Manassing..destruction of zour..misreulit, and misgydit gouernment. 1842 J. Aiton *Domest. Econ.* (1857) 300 Misguided apple and pear-trees may be recovered in a very few years.

3. Guided in a wrong direction; misdirected or misled in action or thought; hence, having a wrong purpose or intention; erring in thought or action.

1659 Philipott *Vill. Cant.* A j, That fiction of Brute..obtruded upon us by seduced and misguided Histories. 1660 Milton *Free Commonw.* 18 To give a stay..to this general defection of the misguided and abus'd multitude. 1660 *Trial Regic.* 101 Others might do it by a misguided Conscience. *a* 1776 Hume *Ess.* (1777) I. ix. 68 An ambitious, or rather a misguided [*earlier edd.* ignorant], prince arose, who [etc.]. 1825 Lamb *Elia* Ser. II. *Barbara S—*, Some comic actor,..in the misguided humour of his part, threw over the dish such a quantity of salt [etc.]. 1828 Scott *F. M. Perth* xxxii, Far different had been the fate of the misguided Heir of Scotland, from that which was publicly given out. 1903 R. D. Shaw *Pauline Ep.* 137 Unworthy and misguided party cries had arisen among them.

Hence **Misgui·dedly** *adv.*, **Misgui·dedness.**

1809 Knox in Jebb & K. *Corr.* (1834) I. 555 Ignorance, misguidedness, and .. infelicity of circumstances. 1868 Browning *Ring & Bk.* IX. 932 A poor hard-pressed .. thing Has rushed so far, misguidedly perhaps. 1874 Morley *Compromise* 96 Perversely and misguidedly self-asserting.

Misgui·der. [Mis-[1] 5.] One who misguides. *a* 1572 Knox *Hist. Ref.* Wks. 1846 I. 206 Maister James,

principall mysgydar now of Scotland. 1648 SALTMARSH *Some Drops* 50 That a new-star is to prepare for a misguider, and your story of Barchochebas upon it, it hath more lightsomnesse than light in it. 1741 RICHARDSON *Pamela* IV. 234 Pride, Vanity, Thoughtlessness, were my Misguiders. 1796 ELIZA HAMILTON *Lett. Hindoo Rajah* (1811) I. 138 The misguider of the mind of Zaarmilla has.. mixed some truth with the abundance of his falsehoods. 1824 SCOTT *Redgauntlet* let. xi, My gudesire was nae manager—not that he was a very great misguider.

Misgui·ding, *vbl. sb.* [MIS-[1] 3.] †a. Evil conduct; misbehaviour; disorder. b. Misrule; mismanagement; ill-treatment. *Sc.* c. Misdirection.

?*c* 1470 G. ASHBY *Active Policy* 431 Mysreule & extorcion Mysguiding, Robbery & necligence. 1480 CAXTON *Chron. Eng.* ccxlviii. u 7 h, Thurgh mysguydyng of the barge it ouerthrewe on the pyles. 1520 *Caxton's Chron.* III. 25/2 He slewe .l. thousande of ye olde sage faders of greate vertue bycause they tolde hym his mysgydynge. 1530 PALSGR. 470/2 Reformacions of mysgydyng [F. *reformacions des abus*] be very necessary in a comen welth. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* II. 214 King Occa..Throw misgyding wes slane into the feild. 1588 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* Ser. I. IV. 266 For ailegeit misgyding of sum of the saidis collegeis. 1786 BURNS *On Sc. Bard* viii, He ne'er was gien to great misguidin, Yet coin his pouches wad na bide in. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 7 Oct. 3/2 The..perversion of our taste and misguiding of our æsthetic instincts.

Misgui·ding, *ppl. a.* [MIS-[1] 2.] That misguides, misdirecting.

1753 H. JONES *Earl of Essex* (1756) 43 The narrow censures of misguiding crowds. 1811 SHELLEY in Hogg *Life* (1858) I. 406 A man under a misguiding preconception. 1891 *Daily News* 15 Oct. 4/6 The..misguiding criticisms of Tory newspapers.

Hence **Misgui·dingly** *adv.*, 'in a way to mislead' (1847–54 Webster).

†**Misgui·lt,** *sb. Obs.* In 4–5 **-gilt, -gylt(e, -gelt.** [f. MIS-[1] 8 + GUILT *sb.*] Offence, misdeed, crime.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 14732 Þe moneurs for þair misgilt, þair hordes [Jesus] ouerkest, þair penis spilt. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 3996 Let me make a-mendis for al my mis-gelt. *Ibid.* 4397, etc. ?1370 *Robt. Cicyle* (Hall.) 61 Thynke how thou was owte pylte Of thy lande, for thy mys-gylte. 14.. *Leges Burgorum* li, Gif þat a burges be attachyt..for det or for ony misgilt. *c* 1430 *Hymns Virgin* (1867) 123 Thys mys-gylt þou for-yeue me!

†**Misgui·lt,** *v. Obs.* In 4 *pa. pple.* **misgilt, -gelt.** [f. MIS-[1] 8 + GUILT *v.*] To do wrong: used *intr.* or with pronominal obj.

13.. *Sir Beues* (A.) 1581 What haue ich so meche misgilt? *a* 1325 *Maudelein* 24 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1878) 163 Euer he schoneþ þat haþ misgilt.

†**Misgui·se,** *sb. Obs.* [MIS-[1] 9.] Disguise. So † **Misgui·sed** *ppl. a.*, † **Misguising** *vbl. sb.*

1581 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xliv. 332 Þour filthie, fals misgysing, Of haly Kirk þour temerar dispysing. 1603 HARSNET *Pop. Impost.* xxii. 149 These misguised bewitched creatures. 1646 W. DELL *Rights Reform.* Ep. Ded. A 2 b, The power of God..shall as soon be made void, as the true Doctrine of the Gospel, though called Errour, Heresie, and Schisme, and have all the misguises of Hell put upon it.

†**Misgye',** *v. Obs.* [f. MIS-[1] 1 + *gye*, GUY *v.*[1]] *trans.* To misguide; *refl.* to misbehave.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Monk's T.* 543 Tho wiste he [*sc.* Nero] wel he hadde him-self misgyed. 1406 HOCCLEVE *La Male Regle* 228 Sotil deceyuours, By whom the peple is mis gyed & led. *c* 1500 *Lancelot* 1663 If thei tak not full contrisioune, And pwnys them that hath ther low mysgyit.

†**Mish.** *Cant. Obs.* [Shortening of COMMISSION *sb.*[2]] A shirt.

1671–80 HEAD *Eng. Rogue* I. iv. 44. *a* 1673 in *Head's Canting Acad.* 19 What though I no Togeman wear, Nor Commission, Mish, or slate.

Mish, obs. form of MISS *v.*[1]

Mishaif, Sc. form of MISHAVE.

†**Misha·le,** *a. Obs.* [MIS-[1] 7. (Etymological perversion of *misa·le* MESEL.)] Unhealthy, sick.

c 1325 *Metr. Hom.* 132 Forthi thou, and the sones ilk ane, Sal be mishale als was Naamane [*cf. infra* unhale].

Mishandle (mishæ·nd'l), *v.* [MIS-[1] 1. Cf. G. *misshandeln*, Du. *mishandelen.*] *trans.* To handle or treat badly or improperly; to handle roughly or rudely; to maltreat, ill-treat.

[1390: cf. MISHANDLING *vbl. sb.*] 1530 PALSGR. 637/2 It is nat well done to myshandell hym thus as you do. *Ibid.* 689/1, I restore a mater, or processe that was mysse handled. 1533 MORE *Apol.* xxxv. Wks. 899/2 To be so wrongefullye myssehandeled and punyshed, for onelye speakynge agaynste mysseorder and abusions. 1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 257 b, There be some that are so beastly brutish that will mishandle the wordes and deedes of others, be they never so well spoken. 1616 BACON *Tract Commendams* Wks. 1827 VII. 319 The proceedings wherein had either been mis-reported or mis-handled. 1823 SCOTT *Quentin D.* xxi, It is a shame to see how they have mishandled the old man. 1828 SOUTHEY *Lett.* (1856) IV. 93 He mishandled good subjects with great success. 1904 WEYMAN *Abb. Vlaye* vii, Solomon is old, and they may mishandle him.

Misha·ndled, *ppl. a.* [MIS-[1] 2.] Ill-managed; maltreated, ill-treated.

c 1610 SIR J. MELVIL *Mem.* (Bannatyne Cl.) 370 Charging us to tak cair of his mishandled estait. 1896 A. WHYTE *Bible Char.* 178 Poor mishandled Esau could not say that.

Misha·ndling, *vbl. sb.* [MIS-[1] 3.] Rough handling; improper treatment; maltreatment.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 189 The wardes of the cherche keie Thurgh mishandlinge ben myswreynt. 1533 MORE *Apol.* xxxv. Wks. 900/2 The proues of al such myssehandlyng may..be brought foorth. 1658 A. FOX *Würtz' Surg.* II. vii. 68 Not regarding the mis-handling, it happeneth in some fals..that the skin goeth off from the bone. 1886 STEVENSON *Kidnapped* xiii. 119 He had looked on, day by day, at the mishandling of poor Ransome. 1904 *Longman's Mag.* Jan. 254 Even my mishandling cannot rob the earth of its quickening power.

Mishant, variant of MESCHANT.

Mishanter (miʃɑ·ntəɹ), **mischanter** (misʧɑ·ntəɹ). *Sc.* and *north. dial.* Also MISCANTER. [Var. of MISAUNTER, prob. influenced by *mishant*, *mischant* (see MESCHANT). The form *mischanter* is app. due to assimilation to the synonymous *mischance.*] Misadventure, mishap.

1755 R. FORBES *Ajax's Sp.* 31 They had some allagust that some mishanter had befa'n us. 1784 BURNS *Welcome Illeg. Child*, Mischanter fa' me, If ought of thee, or of thy mammy, Shall ever daunton me, or awe me. 1824 SCOTT *Redgauntlet* let. xii, Mischanter on the auld beard o' ye! 1866 GREGOR *Banffsh. Gloss.*, *Mischanter*, a hurt; a bruise. 1871 W. ALEXANDER *Johnny Gibb* (1873) 256 For there's sae mony mishanters 't we hear o' happenin' wi' the like o' 'im.

Mishap (mishæ·p), *sb.* Forms: see HAP *sb.*[1]; also 5 **myschap,** 6 **mishhapp.** [f. MIS-[1] 4 + HAP *sb.*[1], prob. after OF. *mescheance* MISCHANCE.]

1. Evil hap; bad luck; misfortune. Now *rare.*

c 1386 CHAUCER *Monk's T.* 255 What man that hath freendes thurgh fortune, Mishap wol make hem enemys. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* VII. vii. 221 Thorou myshappe I sawe hym slee two knyghtes at the passage of the water. *c* 1530 *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1866) 32 Wyse laboure & myshappe seldom mete to-gyder. 1591 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. VI*, I. i. 23 Shall we curse the Planets of Mishap? 1633 G. HERBERT *Temple* 132 *Artillerie* i, From small fires comes oft not small mishap. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* x. 239 It cannot be But that success attends him; if mishap, Ere this he had return'd. 1684 *Contempl. St. Man* I. ii. (1699) 21 The greatest felicity of the World, was tyed to the greatest Mishap. 1807–8 W. IRVING *Salmag.* xvii. (1860) 381 It is either my good fortune or mishap, to be keenly susceptible to the influence of the atmosphere. 1826–34 WORDSW. *To May* 66 And what if thou, sweet May, hast known Mishap by worm and blight.

2. In particularized use: An unlucky accident.

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 175 Many grete mishappes, many hard trauaile. *c* 1450 *Merlin* 5 A worthy man tu whom weren falle many myshappes with-in shorte time. *c* 1586 C'TESS PEMBROKE *Ps.* CXXI. v, From ev'ry mishapp.. Safe thou shalt by Jehovas hand be guarded. 1588 SHAKS. *Tit. A.* I. i 152 Secure from worldly chaunces and mishaps. 1667 DRYDEN *Ind. Emp.* v. ii, I might have liv'd my own Mishaps to mourn. 1781 COWPER *Conversat.* 321 Alas for unforeseen mishaps! 1836 W. IRVING *Astoria* I. 17 The pleasures, dangers, adventures, and mishaps, which they had shared together in their wild wood life. 1896 *Law Times* C. 438/2 The musical portion of the service had to be curtailed..in consequence of a mishap to the organ.

Proverb. 1509 BARCLAY *Shyp of Folys* (1874) II. 251 One myshap fortuneth neuer alone.

b. A fall from chastity. *rare.* (Cf. MISFORTUNE *sb.* 2.) Cf. dial. *mishap-child*, a bastard.

1857 P. CUNNINGHAM *Walpole's Lett.* I. 95 *note*, Lady Betty was the friend and correspondent of Swift. In early life she made a mishap.

†**Misha·p,** *v. Obs.* [MIS-[1] 1.]

1. *intr.* Of a person: To meet with mishap or misfortune; to come to grief. Also, to have the misfortune *to do* something.

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 4967 For þou myshappedest y þe first ende, Now schaltow spede er þat þou wende. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. x. 283 *Archa dei* myshapped and ely brake his nekke. 1402 HOCCLEVE *Let. of Cupid* 217 For many a man by woman hath mishapped. *c* 1450 *Merlin* 24 Yef Vortiger hadde be ther, they hadde not so myshapped. 1533 MORE *Apol.* 192 b, Mo men then so many, haue misse happed to be..mysse punyshed.

2. Of an event or *impers.*: To happen unfortunately. Often with dative pron.

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 13280 Grace til hym wold non bytide, But euere mys happed [*a* 1400 *Petyt MS.* mishapned] on his syde. 14.. *Arth. & Merl.* 795 (Douce MS.) For hit was myshapped so, In his herte hym was ful wo. *c* 1450 *Merlin* 471 Gawein was euer pensif for his vncle,..that hym sholde eny thinge myshappe. 1533 MORE *Apol.* 95 A thynge..myche more to be lamented, when yt myshappeth to fall betwene a man & his wyfe. 1592 LD. VAUX in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. III. IV. 109 This mishappethe me by Andrewe Mallories lewdest misleading my sonne. 1633 B. JONSON *Tale Tub* III. i, Some things mishap'd, that he is come without her. 1647 HEXHAM, *Misschieden*, to Mishap, or to Fall out Ill.

b. Of a weapon: To fall unluckily.

1480 CAXTON *Chron. Eng.* i. a 4, As this Brute shold shete vn to an hert his arwe myshapped .. and so there Brute quelled his fadre.

So †**Misha·pping** *vbl. sb.*, mishap.

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 68 Alle his mishappyng felle, he com in to Pountif [*Descendist en P. à sa confusioun*].

Misha·ply, *adv.* [MIS-[1] 6.] By mischance.

1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* VII. vi. 220 By myshap thou camyst behynde hym and myshappely thou slewe hym.

†**Misha·ppen,** *v. Obs.* [MIS-[1] 1.]

1. = MISHAP *v.* 1.

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 289 Boste & deignouse pride & ille avisement Mishapnes oftentide. ?*a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 3454 Mane, amende thy mode, or thow myshappene. 1530 PALSGR. 637/2 It is no wonder thoughe he myshappen, for he is ever quarellynge.

2. = MISHAP *v.* 2.

a 1400 [see MISHAP *v.* 2, quot. *c* 1330]. *c* 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* IV. xxiii. (1869) 188 Whan any wole flee in to þe skyes, and afterward hapneth him to falle, oþer mishapneth. 1530 PALSGR. 637/2 He that trusteth ever to happe it myshappeneth hym somtyme. 1550 COVERDALE *Spir. Perle* v. (1588) 41 No evil mishappened vnto him therof. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. iii. 20 Affraid, least to themselves the like mishapen might. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 59 If ought should mishappen. 1611 COTGR., *Mesadvenir à*, to mishappen, to succeed ill vnto.

So †**Misha·ppening** *vbl. sb.*, mishap.

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 290 On þo þat God lufes lest mishappenyng salle falle.

†**Misha·ppy,** *a. Obs.* [MIS-[1] 7.] Unhappy.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Melib.* P 602 Sorweful and mishappy is the condicioun of a povre begger. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 339/2 Myshappy, or vnhappy, *infortunatus.*

So †**Misha·ppiness,** unhappiness, unluckiness.

a 1541 WYATT in *Tottel's Misc.* (Arb.) 47 What wit haue wordes so prest, and forceable, That may conteyn my great mishappinesse? 1639 BAILLIE *Lett.* (Bannatyne Cl.) I. 143 The mishappines of the affair, which could not be..so compassed as to give content to all.

†**Misha·rrit,** *pa. pple. Sc. Obs.* [? f. MIS-[1] + HARRE + *-it* = -ED.] ? Unhinged.

1501 DOUGLAS *Pal. Hon.* I. xix, I agane..Crap in the muskane aikin stok misharrit.

†**Misha·ve,** *v. Obs.* Also 6 *Sc.* mishaif, mischawe. [f. MIS-[1] 1 + HAVE *v.* 12. Cf. HAVING *vbl. sb.* 3. (In OE. *mishæbbende* = ill, unwell.)] *refl.* To misbehave oneself.

1528 *Sc. Acts Jas. V* (1814) II. 323/2 Gefe ony tyme had bene p^t^ we had mishad ws. *c* 1560 A. SCOTT *Poems* (S.T.S.) iii. 49 Bot 3it 3e may mishaif 3ow in sum caice, And 3e defend not damissellis defame. 1562 *Aberdeen Reg.* (1844) I. 346 For the iniuring of diuerse nychtbouris .. and for mischawing of himself in sic sindry wayis. 1744 MRS. DELANY *Life & Corr.* (1861) II. 287 Barrow has mishaved himself so much that he must go.

Misheant, variant of MESCHANT.

Mishear (mishī·əɹ), *v.* Also 3 **misiheren** (see Y-HERE). [In OE. *mishieran*: see MIS-[1] 1 and HEAR *v.*[1]] *trans.* †a. In OE., to disobey. b. To hear amiss, incorrectly, or imperfectly. Also *absol.* or *intr.*

c 961 ÆTHELWOLD *Rule St. Benet* v. (Schröer 1885) 62 Se þe eow gehyrð, he gehyrð me, and se þe eow mishyrð, he mishyrð me. *a* 1023 WULFSTAN *Hom.* xviii. (1883) 104 And þæt mancynn to swyðe gode mishyrde. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 296 On elpi word þet tu mis-iherest. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 241/2 To Mishere, *obaudire.* 1552 HULOET, Misheare, *obaudio.* [Cf. COOPER *Thesaurus* (1565), *Obaudio*, to heare hardely or vnwillingly.] 1595 SHAKS. *John* III. i. 4 Thou hast mispoke, misheard, lie well aduis'd, tell ore thy tale againe. 1815 J. C. HOBHOUSE *Substance Lett.* (1816) II. 70/11 My informant misheard or mistook a metaphor for a fact. 1877 TENNYSON *Harold* v. i, Your second-sighted man .. Misheard their snores for groans. 1884 *Harper's Mag.* Dec. 142 Perhaps he had misheard the unknown voice.

So **Mishea·rer.**

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 241/2 A Misherer, *obauditor.*

Mishea·ring, *vbl. sb.* [MIS-[1] 3.] †a. Sinful hearing or listening. *Obs.* b. Hearing incorrectly or imperfectly.

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 241/2 A Misherynge, *obauditus, obaudicio.* 1493 *Dives & Pauper* II. xix. ivj, Goddes name is taken in veyne by mysheryng For if thou haue liking to here grete othes [etc.]. 1832–4 DE QUINCEY *Cæsars* Wks. 1859 X. 32 The universal mishearing in the outermost ring of the audience. 1860 PUSEY *Min. Proph.* p. vii, The question how the translators came so to render it, by what misreading or mishearing, or [etc.]. 1881 *Blackw. Mag.* Apr., [Errors] such as arise from mishearing.

†**Mishea·rken,** *v. Obs.* [MIS-[1] 1.] *intr.* a. To listen sinfully. b. To mishear.

c 1200 in *O. E. Hom.* I. 305 Ich habbe..Mishercnet. *c* 1580 JEFFERIE *Bugbears* IV. v. 3 in *Archiv Stud. neu. Spr.* (1897) XCIX. 40 Art sure he did tel thee, or didest thou misseharken?

Mishent, obs. variant of MESCHANT.

[**Misher(s)ing:** see *List of Spurious Words.*]

Mishlaw, variant of MUSHLA.

Mish-mash (mi·ʃmæʃ), *sb.* Also 5 **mysse-masche,** 7 **mish-mass.** [A reduplication of MASH *sb.*[1] Cf. G. *mischmasch*, Da. (? from LG.) *miskmask.*] A confused mixture; a medley, hodge-podge, jumble.

c 1450 *Mankind* 49 in *Macro Plays* 3 But, ser, I prey yow þis questyon to claryfye: Dryff-draff, mysse-masche. 1585 HIGINS *Junius' Nomenclator* 362 A confused or disordered heape of all things together: a mishmash. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* XXVI. xl. 615 A very mish mash [orig. *conluvio*] and sinke of vile and wretched persons. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (1638) 27 A mish-mash of Arabick and Portuguise. 1676 *Doctrine of Devils* 146 That Gallimawphey Mish-mass, of most Monstruous .. Conceits and Practises. 1806 W. TAYLOR in Robberds *Mem.* (1843) II. 257 The Mishmash of Manuscript, printed extract [etc.]. 1860 PUSEY *Min. Proph.*, *Haggai* i. 2 The Samaritans..(amid their mishmash of worship, worshipping, as our Lord tells them, they know not what). 1876 GEO. ELIOT *Dan. Der.* xxii, A ridiculous mish-mash of superannuated customs and false ambition.

attrib. 1652 *News fr. Low-Countr.* 1 When, first, the first confused Masse Did, from its mish mash medly, passe.

Hence **Mi·shmash** *v.*, to make a 'mish-mash' or confused mass of; to throw into confusion.

1694 MOTTEUX *Rabelais* IV. lx. (1737) 247 Theo is sacrific'd to him Haberdines, Poor-Jack, minglemangled, mishmash'd. 1791 LEARMONT *Poems* 199 Steghin gluttons..Mish-mashin' creatures for their greed or gust. 1866 GREGOR *Banffsh. Gloss.*, *Meesh-mash*, to mingle; to throw into a confused mass.

‖**Mishnah, mishna** (mi·ʃnă). Also 7–8 **misna, mischna,** (*pl.* **mischnaios**). [post-Biblical Heb. משנה *mishnāʰ*, pl. *mishnōth* and *mishnāyōth* (1) repetition, (2) instruction, f. שנה *shānāʰ* to repeat, in post-Biblical Heb. to teach or learn

(oral tradition).] The collection of binding precepts or *halakhoth* (see HALACHAH) which forms the basis of the Talmud and embodies the contents of the oral law. Also, a paragraph of the mishnah.

1610 T. FITZHERBERT *Policy & Relig.* II. xiv. 191 The first collection was made by Iudas, the sonne of Simon, .. and this was called *Misna*. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 169 The *Mischnaios*, and *Gemara* made vp the whole Talmud. *Ibid.* 170 Their *Mischna* or Talmud text. 1723 MATHER *Vindic. Bible* 300 The Jews affirm that the most remarkable copies of the Mischna, written in the second age after Christ, were marked with points. 1768–74 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 673 Drawn from the Fathers, the Councils, or the Mishna. 1867 *Chamb. Encycl.* IX. 281/1, 524 chapters (Perakim), which contain the single Mishnas. 1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 503/2 A mishnah, if genuine, never begins with a passage of the Pentateuch.

Hence **Mishnic, -ical** (miʃnik, -ikăl), also **Mishnaic** (miʃnē·ik), † **Mi·sniac, -acal** *adjs.*, pertaining or relating to, characteristic of, the mishnah.

1718 PRIDEAUX *Old & New Test.* II. II. 67 The Tanaim or the Mishnical doctors. 1723 MATHER *Vindic. Bible* 301 Ephodeus assures us that all the ancient Misniack books were pointed. *Ibid.* 362 After these let the Misnical Doctors be considered. 1867 *Chamb. Encycl.* IX. 281/1 The individual enactments of the Mishnic doctors. 1898 *Expositor* July 77 Very late Biblical or even Mishnic Hebrew. 1878 *Encycl. Brit.* VIII. 561/1 The Mishnaic usage.

† **Misho·nour,** *sb. Obs.* [MIS-[1] 7.] Dishonour.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 23644 Þe wicked .. of alle þai sal haf mishonur.

So † **Mishonour** *v.*, to dishonour.

1570–6 LAMBARDE *Peramb. Kent* (1826) 174 God was blasphemed, the holy Virgine his mother mishonoured.

† **Misho·pe,** *sb. Obs.* [MIS-[1] 7. Cf. MDu. *mishope*, MSw. *mishop*.] Despair.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 27050 For sli mis-hope þat þai lij in, ne dar þai nakin god bigin. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (Prose) 9 Þat ye ne falle in na mis-hope, bot in godis trouȝ to liue. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 5889 Mys hope of þair synn. 1506 *Kalender of Sheph.* I j b (1892) III. 93 Myshope.

† **Misho·pe,** *v. Obs.* [MIS-[1] 7. Cf. MDu. *mishopen*, MHG. *missehoffen*, MSw. *mishoppa*.]

1. *trans.* To fail to hope in.

a 1240 *Lofsong* in *Cott. Hom.* 213 Ich ne mishopie þe nout.

2. *intr.* To despair.

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 8439 Þat a man myshope noght Þogh he haue grete temptyng of þoght. *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* xliii. 20 Myshopand of thi goednes. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Serm.* Sel. Wks. I. 346 How myȝte þis Ladi myshope þat ne she shulde come to hevene?

Misick, obs. form of MIZZICK *dial.*

Mis-iheren: see MISHEAR *v.*

Misimagina·tion. [MIS-[1] 4.] Wrong imagination.

1618 BP. HALL *Righteous Mammon* Wks. (1625) 700 Who can without indignation look vpon the prodigies which this mis-imagination produces in that other sex?

Misima·gine, *v.* [MIS-[1] 1.] *trans.* To imagine erroneously. So **Misima·gined** *ppl. a.*

1625 DONNE *Serm.* 24 Feb. (1626) 44 God hath no where told thee, that hee hath done any such thing as an ouertender Conscience may mis-imagine. *a* 1684 LEIGHTON *Comm. 1 Pet.* Wks. (1868) 231 Had he come down, as some have misimagined it, only to set us this perfect way of obedience.

Misimpre·ssion. [MIS-[1] 4.] A wrong impression.

1670 BAXTER *Cure Ch. Div.* 351 Even he that overcometh in the main yet seldome so far conquereth as to receive no misimpression upon his mind. 1869 SIR J. T. COLERIDGE *Mem. J. Keble* xiii. 301, I can scarcely avoid saying a few words to prevent a misimpression as to himself. 1884 SIR J. A. PICTON in *N. & Q.* 5 Apr. 271/2 [She] is under a misimpression as to any connexion between these two words.

Misimprision. Error for MISPRISION.

1611 SPEED *Hist. Gt. Brit.* IX. xxi. 781/1 Whose fault as shee thought..was rather through misimprision then will.

Misimpro·ve, *v.* Now *rare.* [MIS-[1] 7.]

1. *trans.* To employ wrongly (cf. IMPROVE *v.* 2); to fail to use to good purpose; to abuse, use ill. *Obs.* or *U.S.*

1658 H. MOSELEY *Healing Leaf* 15 What should become of him that had ten Talents, if he had misimproved them? 1680 MATHER *Irenicum* 19 That good principle of..moderation towards Brethren of differing Judgments, hath been.. perversely misimproved. 1737 J. WILLISON *Affl. Man's Companion* VII. i. (1744) 128 The most Part of Men..misimprove their Health. 1798 *Missionary Mag.* No. 22. 133 We warned the people against misimproving so high a privilege. 1826 LONGF. in *Life* (1891) I. vii. 87 You either overrated my abilities and advantages..or I have sadly misimproved them both.

2. To improve injudiciously; to 'make worse for mending'. Also *absol.*

1847 MILLER *First Impr. Eng.* xvi. (1857) 266 Nowhere.. had the hand of improvement misimproved so sadly. 1853 G. JOHNSTON *Nat. Hist. E. Bord.* I. 115 This, our only station for the plant,..has been..tampered with and misimproved of late.

Misimpro·ved, *ppl. a. Obs.* or *U.S.* Also 8 **-improven.** [MIS-[1] 2.] Wrongly employed; not used to good purpose; abused.

1661 HICKEBINGILL *Jamaica* 95 Nor did this licentiousnesse long want the misimproved subtlety of a Gentleman. 1717 WODROW *Corr.* (1843) II. 286 Our sins and misimproven privileges. 1820 W. JAY *Prayers* 208 Our misimproved time and talents.

† **Misimpro·vement.** *Obs.* [MIS-[1] 4.] Failure to employ properly, abuse, misuse.

1644 [H. PARKER] *Jus Populi* 41 If the commonwealth hath an interest in slaves, how can such mis-improvement thereof be answered to God? *a* 1748 WATTS *Improv. Mind* II. iv, We are justly chargeable with criminal sloth, and misimprovement of the talents. 1774 ABIGAIL ADAMS in *Fam. Lett.* (1876) 48 The misimprovement of our great advantages. 1806 A. STEWART in *Mem.* (1822) 232 Our sin in the misimprovement of former privileges.

Misimpro·ver. *Obs.* or *U.S.* [MIS-[1] 5.] One who misimproves.

1712 BLACKWELL in H. G. Graham *Social Life Scot.* x. (1899) II. 133 [Every enjoyment that came from Providence] could but feed to the slaughter of the misimprover. 1746 D. BRAINERD *Diary* 11 Oct. (1902) I. 314 My mind was perplexed with fears that I was a misimprover of time.

Misinclina·tion. [MIS-[1] 4.] A wrong inclination.

1652a SCLATER *Civ. Magistracy* (1653) 16 If any are found of the same misse-inclinations now. 1673 O. WALKER *Educ.* 21 It is much easier to bend a natural mis-inclination to its neighbour virtue—than to its opposite.

Misincli·ne, *v.* [MIS-[1] 1.] To incline in a wrong direction.

1652 BP. HALL *Invis. World* III. § 11 See him, by misinclining his own will, apostatizing from his Infinite Creator.

Misincli·ned, *ppl. a.* [MIS-[1] 2, 7.] **a.** Wrongly inclined. **b.** Disinclined.

a 1716 SOUTH *Serm.* (1744) X. i. 8 Our affections [are] mis-inclined. 1837 S. R. MAITLAND *Voluntary Syst.* (ed. 2) 12 If you've any thing..that you could let me have reasonable, I should not be misinclined to deal with you.

Misinfe·r, *v.* [MIS-[1] 1.] *trans.* To infer wrongly; also, † to draw a wrong inference from.

1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* v. lii. § 4 Nestorius..did..mis-inferre that in Christ those natures can by no coniunction make one person. 1640 SIR E. DERING *Carmelite* (1641) B ij, You corrupt one Text and mis-inferre two other. *a* 1663 SANDERSON *Serm., Ad Clerum* (1681) 67 Such conclusions as are mis-inferred hence. 1700 COLLIER *2nd Def. Short View* 101 Because Modesty is the Character of Women, [I] misinfer, that no Woman must be shewn without it.

Misi·nference. [MIS-[1] 4.] Wrong inference.

1627 W. SCLATER *Exp. 2 Thess.* (1629) A iv b, Plausibly perhaps by mis-inference. 1647 TRAPP *Comm. 2 Pet.* iii. 16 When we put words into the mouths of these oracles by mis-inferences or mis-applications.

Misinfe·rring, *vbl. sb.* [MIS-[1] 3.] = prec.

1627 BP. HALL *Epist.* IV. iv. 343 Is it the voice of treason, or religion? And, if traiterous, whether flatly, or by misinferring?

Misinfo·rm, *v.* [MIS-[1] 1.] *trans.* To inform amiss; to give wrong or misleading information to.

In the first quot. prob. two words (see MIS *adv.*).

1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 178 It nedeth of no bikbitinge That thou thi ladi mis enforme. 1530 PALSGR. 605/1, I..bring one from the trewe opinion by misenformyng. *a* 1608 DEE *Relat. Spir.* I. (1659) 67 You may also mark how the Devil at this time did misinforn E. K. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* II. xxx. 175 To let the people be..mis-informed of the grounds .. of those his essentiall Rights. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IX. 355 Least .. She dictate false, and missinforme the Will To do what God expressly hath forbid. 1701 NORRIS *Ideal World* I. iv. 188 Our senses..do not..deceive or misinform us as to the meer existence of things. 1807 G. CHALMERS *Caledonia* I. III. ix. 457 Pontoppidan misinformed, and deluded, his prince, upon a thousand points of history.

absol. 1611 BIBLE 2 *Mac.* iii. 11 That some of it belonged to Hircanus,..and not as that wicked Simon had misinformed. 1625 BP. MOUNTAGU *App. Cæsar* 256 You misinforme against him for concluding with the Papists. 1678 MARVELL *Growth Popery* 43 However the King's Counsel may misinform.

Misinfo·rmant. [MIS-[1] 5.] One who gives wrong information.

1860 in WORCESTER, citing Wilberforce. 1882 *Standard* 11 Nov. 5/7, I am at a loss to know what your mis-informant can mean by the expression.

Misinforma·tion. [MIS-[1] 4.]

1. The action of misinforming or condition of being misinformed.

1587 FLEMING *Contn. Holinshed* III. 1009/1 A..riuer, which the Britons called Isk; Ptolomeus by misinformation nameth it *Isaca*. 1654 in *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) II. 60, I must now contradict..what by Lt Gen. Middleton's very unkind and unfriendly misinformation I mistold you in my last. 1668 CLARENDON *Vindic.* Tracts (1727) 37 Either by misinformation or negligence of the clerk..the county of Warwick was inserted. 1756 JOHNSON *K. of Prussia* Wks. 1796 XII. 239 He declares himself..against the use of torture, and by some misinformation charges the English that they still retain it. 1800 *Asiat. Ann. Reg.* 312/2 By the misinformation of our guides, we were led to Amergurh. 1861 J. S. MILL *Utilitarianism* v. 85 Courts of law allow voluntary engagements to be set aside..sometimes on the ground of mere mistake, or misinformation.

2. Erroneous or incorrect information.

a 1661 HOLYDAY *Juvenal* (1673) 262 According to the common misinformation, which the Romans had concerning the Jews. 1743 T. BIRCH *Life Boyle* B.'s Wks. 1772 I. p. cvi, Not only our weather-glasses, but likewise our senses, may give us misinformation about cold. 1846 J. W. CROKER in *C. Papers* 22 Aug. (1884), Lord George is again under some misinformation. 1901 KIPLING *Kim* vii. 163 He was, by virtue of his office, a bureau of misinformation.

† **b.** With *a* and *pl. Obs.*

1627 LORNE in Willcock *Gt. Marquess* (1902) App. iii. 355 Whom they have incensed againes me by their misinformations. *c* 1640 J. SMYTH *Lives Berkeleys* (1883–5) II. 407 A misinformation of those that waited in his sicknes. 1788 JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1859) II. 63 It says that Congress removed to Hartford, but this is a misinformation.

Misinfo·rmed, *ppl. a.* [MIS-[1] 2.] Incorrectly informed; having an incorrect or imperfect knowledge of or acquaintance with the facts.

c 1447 in F. M. Nichols *Lawford Hall* (1891) App. 23 The said pe de gre aboue is mysse enfourmed bothe of weddyng of Agnes Forde and [etc.]. 1635 QUARLES *Embl.* II. vi. (1718) 85 She abuses Her mis-inform'd beholder's eye. 1735 BERKELEY *Free-think. in Math.* § 6 Wks. 1871 III. 304, I own myself misinformed, and shall gladly be found in a mistake. 1815 A. BURN in *Mem.* III. (1816) 121 A weak and misinformed conscience. 1895 *Times* 9 Jan. 4/4 A few of the less important ones [*viz.* statements] were found to be misinformed or misleading.

Misinfo·rmer. [MIS-[1] 5.] = MISINFORMANT.

1635 in *Lismore Papers* Ser. II. (1889) III. 222 Those malicious misinformers whose..lyes turned my sinces into.. a confused load of greife. 1637–50 ROW *Hist. Kirk* (Wodrow Soc.) 525 That all incendiaries, and misinformers of the subjects anent his Majestie..be punished. 1894 *Columbus* (Ohio) *Disp.* 17 Jan., Your informer, or rather misinformer.

Misinstru·ct, *v.* [MIS-[1] 1.] *trans.* To instruct amiss.

1547–64 BALDWIN *Mor. Philos.* (Palfr.) 147 When they haue beene .. misinstructed .. by a fawning and fleering flatterer. 1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* v. xlix. § 3 Let vs not thinke that our Sauiour did misinstruct his disciples. 1843 *Blackw. Mag.* LIV. 31 He..subsides into the mere singing-master, to misinstruct the rising generation.

Misinstru·ction. [MIS-[1] 4.] Erroneous instruction.

1642 MILTON *Apol. Smect.* Wks. 1851 III. 299 Correcting by the clearnesse of their owne judgement the errors of their mis-instruction. 1664 H. MORE *Antid. Idolatry* x. 116 By reason of the blinde Mis-instructions of their Church. 1839 *Spirit Metrop. Conserv. Press* (1840) II. 157 The official project..for the mis-instruction of our poorer countrymen. 1854 H. ROGERS *Ess.* (1874) II. i. 59 Bent and perverted by ..early misinstruction. 1898 *Daily News* 26 May 4/7 The Eton Greek Grammar..was one of the worst ever compiled for the delusion and misinstruction of youth.

Misinte·lligence, [f. MIS-[1] 4 + INTELLIGENCE, prob. after F. *mésintelligence*.]

1. Misunderstanding between two parties; disagreement, discord. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1639 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Sp. for Edin.* Wks. (1711) 216 Whatever those mis-intelligences have been, which might have estranged .. us from your majesty. 1654–66 EARL ORRERY *Parthen.* (1676) 645 Her heart and face were in perfect mis-intelligence. 1765 MACLEANE tr. *Mosheim's Eccl. Hist.* XVII. ii. I. i. § 21 (1768) IV. 323 There had subsisted ..an, almost, uninterrupted misintelligence between the French monarchs and the Roman pontiffs.

2. Misunderstanding of the meaning of something; wrong impression as to facts.

1779 H. WALPOLE *Let. to Rev. W. Cole* 28 Jan., I showed one or two of them [*sc.* some tales] to a person .. who may have mentioned them, and occasioned Mr. Lort's misintelligence. [1818 TODD, *Misintelligence*,..2. Misinformation; false accounts.] 1822 SHELLEY *Sel. Lett.* (1882) 192 Their stupid misintelligence of the deep wisdom and harmony of the author.

3. Lack of intelligence or sagacity. *rare.*

1848 *Tait's Mag.* XV. 703 [tr. Fr.] There reigns in our stables a rudeness, a misintelligence, which does not allow our undertaking the necessary operations for taming these animals. 1876 LOWELL *Lett.* (1894) II. 196 No doubt the government is bound to protect the misintelligence of the blacks, but surely not at the expense of the intelligence of the men of our own blood.

Misinte·lligible, *a. rare*−[1]. [MIS-[1] 6.] Capable of being wrongly understood.

1847–8 DE QUINCEY *Protestantism* Wks. 1858 VIII. 89 It is not even intelligible, and, what is worse still, sure to be mis-intelligible.

† **Misinte·nd,** *v. Obs.* [MIS-[1] 1.] *trans.* To intend, purpose, or direct wrongfully.

1592 KYD *Sol. & Pers.* I. iv. 127 Cut short what malice Fortune misintends. 1598 DICKENSON *Greene in Conc.* (1878) 111 Such recreations not misintended, hinder melancholy.

† **Misinte·nded,** *ppl. a. Obs.* [MIS-[1] 2.] Maliciously nimed.

1594 SPENSER *Amoretti* xvi, The Damzell broke his misintended dart.

† **Misinte·nding,** *vbl. sb. Obs.* In 5 **mysentendyng.** [app. f. MIS-[1] 3 + INTEND *v.* + -ING[1], but the meaning 'tend, care for' is not recorded for INTEND or F. *entendre*.] ? Want of care, inattention.

1486 *Bk. St. Albans* c viij b, The leest mysdyetyng and mysentendyng sleth [hir].

Misinte·ntion. *rare*−[1]. [MIS-[1] 4.] Wrong intention.

1626 BP. HALL *Contempl., O. T.* XX. 74 The act is no other then what the infinite iustice of God would iustly worke by their mis-intentions.

Misinte·rpret, *v.* [MIS-[1] 1. Cf. F. *mésinterpréter*.] *trans.* To interpret erroneously or in an incorrect sense; to give a wrong interpretation to. occas. *absol.* Also **Misinte·rpreting** *vbl. sb.*

1589 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* Ser. I. IV. 427 The motioun of my voyage .. wilbe diverslie skansit upoun, the misinterpreting quhairof may tend..to my grite dishonnour. 1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II*, III. i. 18 Neere to the King in blood, and neere in loue, Till you did make him mis-interprete me. 1645 MILTON *Tetrach.* 83 That all misinterpreting, and occasion of fraud, or death may be remov'd. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* II. xxvii. 153 False Teachers, that .. mis-interpret the Law of Nature. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 80 ¶ 1 All their Words and Actions were misinterpreted by each other. 1821–2 SHELLEY *Chas. I*, III. 54 Mark too, my lord, that this expression strikes His Majesty, if I misinterpret not. 1880 MCCARTHY *Own Times* xxxii. III. 63 They entirely misinterpreted the significance of the stories.

Misinte·rpretable, *a.* [MIS-[1] 6.] Capable of misinterpretation; liable to be misinterpreted.

1604 *Supplic. Masse Priests* § 14 The letter of Scripture (mis-interpretable by every contentious spirite). 1684 E. S. *Answ. H. More's Expos. Apoc.* 169 How mis-interpretable the Bible is .. is too notoriously known. 1828 CARLYLE

Misc. Ess., Werner (1840) I. 110 The two most showy, heterogeneous, and misinterpretable writers of his day.

Misinterpretation. [Mis-1 4. Cf. F. *mésinterprétation.*] Erroneous interpretation.

1576 *Lichfield Gild Ord.* (E.E.T.S.) 32 By the abvsynge, mysinterpretacion or mystakinge of these ordynaunces. 1624 Donne *Serm.* (1640) ii. 17 S. Matthew .. sayes in a word, which can admit of no mis-interpretation That that was fulfilled which Esay had said. 1684 T. Burnet *Th. Earth* III. 13 We are oblig'd to free it from those false glosses or mis-interpretations, that..make it wholly ineffectual. 1711 Steele *Spect.* No. 4 P 2 One would think a silent Man.. should be very little liable to misinterpretations. 1874 Carpenter *Ment. Phys.* I. iv. (1879) 168 A far more frequent cause of false perceptions, however, lies in the misinterpretation of real Sense-impressions. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 211 The histological misinterpretations it contains are so numerous [etc.].

Misinterpreter. [Mis-1 5.] One who misinterprets.

1599 Nashe *Lenten Stuffe* Wks. (Grosart) V. 293 The lawyers and selfe-conceited misinterpreters. 1643 Milton *Divorce* Introd., Wks. 1851 IV. 12 He is no better then a Pharise..whom as a misinterpreter of Christ I openly protest against. 1661 Boyle *Style of Script.* 227 His solid defence of divers of its truths against its misinterpreters. 1825 Coleridge *Aids Refl.* (1848) I. 246 To present each article in its true Scriptural purity, by exposure of the caricatures of misinterpreters.

Misjoin, *v.* [Mis-1 1.] *trans.* To join or connect wrongly, inappropriately, or unsuitably; *spec.* in *Law* (cf. Misjoinder).

1540 *Act* 32 *Hen. VIII*, c. 30 Yᵉ issues haue ben misioyned. *Ibid.*, Mysjoyning of thissue. 1667 Milton *P. L.* v. 111 Oft in her absence mimic Fansie wakes To imitate her [*sc.* Nature]; but misjoyning shapes, Wilde work produces oft. 1687 Dryden *Hind & P.* II. 140 Luther, more mistaking what he read, Misjoins the sacred Body with the Bread. 1790 *Sempronia* III. 61 It misjoins nor thoughts, nor words, nor deeds. 1857 [see next].

Misjoinder. *Law.* [Mis-1 4.] Improper joinder of parties in an action or of causes of action in a suit.

1852 *Act* 15 & 16 *Vict.* c. 76 § 35 In case it shall appear at the Trial of any Action that there has been a Misjoinder of Plaintiffs. 1857 Kerr *Blackstone's Comm.* III. xx. 324 In actions of tort the plaintiff may always remedy a misjoinder of defendants, by entering a *nolle prosequi*, as to the defendant misjoined. 1883 [see Joinder b].

Misjudge, *v.* [Mis-1 1.] *trans.* To judge wrongly; to judge ill of; to bave false opinions of.

1533 More *Debell. Salem* x. Wks. 952/2 And therefore no more mysse iudge any manne. 1633 Earl Manch. *Al Mondo* (1636) 171 If you know the goodnesse of a mans life, mis-judge him not by any strangenesse of his death. *c* 1779 Johnson *L. P., Waller* (1868) 109 That Clarendon might misjudge the motive of his retirement is the more probable. 1891 E. Peacock *N. Brendon* II. 3 How you misjudge us women!

b. *absol.* or *intr.* To err in judging; to form wrong opinions *of.*

1562 *Act* 5 *Eliz.* c. 5 § 23 And because no maner of person shall misjudge of thintent of this Estatute. 1678 Dryden *All for Love* II. Wks. 1701 II. 70 You misjudge: You see through Love, and that deludes your sight. 1725 Pope *Odyss.* IV. 38 Too long, mis-judging, have I thought thee wise. 1868 Browning *Ring & Bk.* X. 1467 Have we misjudged here, over-armed our knight?

So **Misju·dged** *ppl. a.*, **Misjudging** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.* (hence **Misju·dgingly** *adv.*).

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 64 Suspicyon or misiudgynge of that thynge that is vncertayne. 1598 Marston *Sco. Villanie* II. vi. 199 Hence thou misiudging Censor. 1643 Milton *Divorce* (1645) A 2 b, Let me arreed him, not to be the foreman of any mis-judg'd opinion, unlesse his resolutions be firmly seated. 1677 Gilpin *Demonol.* III. ii. 10 All kind of distresses are obnoxious to the worst of misjudgings from malevolent minds. 1788 Charlotte Smith *Emmeline* (1816) IV. 314 Did he not wish to see his misjudging father? 1836–7 Dickens *Sk. Boz, Scenes* xi, His graceful demeanour, stiff, as some misjudging persons have..considered it. 1838 Lytton *Leila* III. i, 'I did not read that face misjudgingly,' thought the queen. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* II. I. 153 The misjudging friends of liberty.

Misju·dgement, -ju·dgment. [Mis-1 4.] Wrong, mistaken, or perverted judgement.

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 93 Misiudgement is wban of a lyght suspycyon .. we iudge our neyghbour to speke, thynke, or do yᵗ thynge that is mortall synne. 1633 Bp. Hall *Hard Texts, N. T.* 157 To runne so far into the mis-judgement of their mindes. 1796 Pegge *Anonym.* (1809) 368 They cannot carry off a misjudgment, or a rash saying, with the..indifference of a younger person. 1873 Spencer *Stud. Sociol.* ix. (1877) 207 The bias thus causing misjudgments in cases where it is checked by direct perception, causes greater misjudgments where direct perception cannot check it.

Misju·dger. [Mis-1 5.] One who misjudges.

1877 F. J. Furnivall *Leopold Shaks.* Introd. p. lxxxv, For all misjudgment and crime comes death to the misjudger.

‖ **Miskal** (mi·skăl). Forms: 6 met-, mitical, -gal, 7 medical, mesticall, meticalle, mettegal, miticale, miscolle, 8 muscal, 9 mes-, met-, mitch-, mith-, miskal, -kel, -call, mitkul. [Arab. مثقال *miṯqāl* (locally *misqāl, mitqāl*), f. ثقل *ṯaqala* to weigh. The 17th cent. forms in Eng. come mostly through Sp. *mitical*, Pg. *matical, metical.*]

1. An Arabian measure of weight, equivalent to 24 carats or about 1½ dirhems; the corresponding English weight is given variously for different countries at from 71 to 74 grains Troy.

1555 Eden *Decades* (1885) 263, xi. Fanans and a quarter, is one Mitigal: And .vi. Mitigales and a halfe, make one vnce. 1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* VI. vii. (1614) 687 Euery Mittigall being a Duckat of Gold, and a third part. 1687 A. Lovell tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 67 The Medical is a Drachm and a half. 1698 Fryer *Acc. E. India & P.* 406 Their lowest Weight is a Miscolle;..whereof 6 make an Ounce. 1753 Hanway *Trav.* (1762) I. v. lxiv. 293 The muscal through all Persia is the same..6 dunk 1 muscal 6 muscals 1 dram. 1836 Lane *Mod. Egypt* II. 372 The cheera't (or carat),..as above mentioned, is the 24th part of a mitcka'l. 1884 J. Payne 1001 *Nights* IX. 83 Make it not large, a mitheal in weight and no more. 1886 Yule & Burnell *Hobson-Jobson* Suppl., *Miscall*, .. an Arabian weight, originally that of the Roman aureus and the gold dīnār; about 73 grs. 1902 *Encycl. Brit.* XXXI. 627/1 The unit of weight [in Persia] is the miskāl (71 grains), subdivided into 24 nakhods (2·96 grains).

2. In Morocco, a money of account.

1695 Motteux tr. *St.-Olon's Morocco* 145 The Meticalle or Ducat for the generality is nothing real, but such a manner of counting as by Francs or Livres in France. 1845 G. C. Renouard in *Encycl. Metrop.* XXII. 285/1 (art. *Morocco*), 1 Mithkāl, or ducat, (an imaginary coin)=10 waklyahs=3*s.* 4*d.* *Ibid. marg.*, Miskel.

† **Miskeep,** *v. Obs.* [Mis-1 1.] *trans.* To keep, guard, or observe badly or wrongly.

13.. *Evang. Nicod.* 915 in *Archiv Stud. neu. Spr.* LIII. 408 We sall noght trow..þe knyghtes þat him myskeped has Sen he in graue was layd. *c* 1412 Hoccleve *De Reg. Princ.* 1301 If it be wrong dispendid or mys-kept. 1530 Palsgr. 638/1 The beste thyng in the worlde, if it be myskept, wyll marre in processe of tyme. *a* 1618 Sylvester *Du Bartas, Mem. Mort.* II. lxxv. (1621) 1053 Misers mis-keep, and Prodigals mis-spend them. [*a* 1649 Drumm. of Hawth. *Cypress Grove* Wks. (1711) 120 Prodigals mispend them, wretches miskeep them.]

† **Miskeeping,** *vbl. sb. Obs.* [Mis-1 3.] Improper or faulty keeping, observance, etc.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxxvi. (*Baptista*) 817 Gif þe dekine eschapit thru miskepyng ore subtilite. 1387–8 T. Usk *Test. Love* III. v. (Skeat) I. 42 To lese his love by miskeping, thorowe his owne doing. 1457–8 *Anc. Cal. Rec. Dublin* (1889) I. 298 Becawys of har myskepyng of har sayd swyne. 1496 *Dives & Pauper* (W. de W.) I. xxi. 56/2 Cause of bodely sekenesse is..by myskepynge of the childe in the youthe. 1540 *Act* 32 *Hen. VIII*, c. 48 Al..wastes imbesellinges miskeapinges..of the sayd artilleries.

† **Misken,** *sb. Obs.* Also -kin. [? Dim. of MDu. *meese*, Du *mees* titmouse.] A titmouse.

1585 Higins *Junius' Nomenclator* 60/1 *Parus*..a titmouse, misken. 1616 Surfl. & Markh. *Country Farm* 729 The Miskin is more subiect vnto the gowt than any bird that is.

Misken (miske·n), *v. Sc.* and *north. dial.* [f. Mis-1 1, 7 + Ken *v.*1, prob. after ON. *miskenna* not to recognize (a person).]

1. *trans.* Not to know; to be ignorant of.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* vii. (*Jacobus Minor*) 210 Lord, remyt þis gilt þam to, for þai myskene quhat þai do. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* I. viii. 126 Quha knawis nocht the lynaige of Enee? Or quha miskennis Troye, that ryall cietie? 1552 Abp. Hamilton *Catech.* (1884) 48 Miskenning the rychteousnes of God. *a* 1553 Wedderburne *Ball. Prayis Wemen* 3 (Bann. MS. 694), The veritie and trewth thay do misken, Thruch thair obdurat obstinatioun. 1829 Brockett *N. C. Gloss.*, *Misken*, to be ignorant of.

2. To have wrong ideas about; to misunderstand.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* iii. (*Andrew*) 355 Þu miskennis, and saweris nocht þe thinge he god will haf in thocht. 1535 Stewart *Cron. Scot.* II. 250 The warld, thame self, and God for to misken. 1660 Dickson *Writings* (1845) I. 25 The impenitent .. miskens both God and himself. 1737 J. Willison *Affl. Man's Companion* VII. vii. (1744) 203 How ready am I to misken and mistake him, when he changeth his Dispensations toward me! 1899 *Cumbld. Gloss.*, *Misken*, to form a mistaken idea with regard to a person.

absol. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* vii. (*Jacobus Minor*) 174 For nerhand all þe puple now myskennand trowis in Ihesu. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* x. 459 Throuch thi falsheid thin awn wyt has myskend.

b. *refl.* To have false ideas about oneself, one's position, etc.

1456 Sir G. Haye *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 6 He miskend himself and forȝett quha had gevin him that grete beautee. 1573 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xlii. 424 That na wayis thay thair selfis misken. 1791 Learmont *Poems* 266 Ye sair misken yoursel' Or thans ye wadnae tell me sic a tale. 1825–80 Jamieson s. v., *To misken one's self*, to assume airs which do not belong to one, to forget one's proper station.

3. Not to know; to fail to recognize, mistake the identity of.

1549 *Compl. Scot.* vii. 70 Thai vald haue clair myskend it, be rasone that it vas sa mekil altrit. 1646 Rutherford *Lett.* (1664) II. xlviii. 536 Ye shall misken him, & he shall appear a new Christ. 1652 Loveday tr. *Calprenède's Cleopatra* I. 45 He misken'd her not in the lustre of those glorious ornaments in which she then shin'd. 1722 Ramsay *Three Bonnets* II. 14 Wks. 1877 II. 384 Gin that I had nae maist miskend ye. 1824 Scott *St. Ronan's* xvi, No man fell so regularly into the painful dilemma of mistaking, or, in Scottish phrase, *miskenning*, the person he spoke to.

4. To refuse to recognize or notice; to affect ignorance of; to overlook, disregard, disown.

1508 Dunbar *Tua Maritt Wemen* 380 Quhen he..payntit me as pako, proudest of fedderis, I him miskennyt, he Crist; & cukkald him maid. 1533 [see Miskenning *ppl. a.*]. 1552 Lyndesay *Monarche* 190 Thare Predecessouris, Peter and Paull, That day wyll thame mysken, at all. 1588 A. King tr. *Canisius' Catech.* 231 b, Nother misken we the iustice of God or denyes it. 1637 Rutherford *Lett.* (1862) I. lxxxix. 231 My Lord miskent all and did bear with my foolish jealousies. 1724 in Calderwood *Dying Test.* (1806) 226 Misken these new ones, hold you by the old. 1737–50 Ramsay *Sc. Prov.* xxviii. 8 Poor fowk's friends soon misken them. 1819 Scott *Leg. Montrose* xiii, Were I you, Ranald, I would be for miskenning Sir Duncan.

with clause. 1686 G. Stuart *Joco-ser. Disc.* 14 I ken this County weel eneugh, Miskenn I tell'd ye.

Misken, variant of Miskin, dunghill.

† **Miskenning,** *vbl. sb. Old Law.* [f. Mis-1 3 + OE. **cęnning*, vbl. sb. f. *cęnnan* to make known, declare: see Ken *sb.*1] A mistake or variation in pleading before a court. Also, a fine exacted for this.

Found in several alleged charters of Eadweard, but these are either forged or modernized in the 12th c.

11.. *Charter of Eadweard* in Earle *Charters* 340 And ice an heom eft alswa ðat hi habben ðarto sace and socne, toll and team, infangeneðef and flemenesfermð, griðbriche and hamsocne, forestal and miskenninge. 1114–18 *Leges Henrici* xxii. in Liebermann *Gesetze* I. 561 Sepe etiam ex inscicia placitancium cause transeunt in ius aliorum: exaggeracione rerum .. transeunt etiam in misloctione — miskenninge. ?1131 *Charter Hen. I*, ibid. I. 525 Et amplius non sit miskenninga in hustenge neque in folkesmote neque in alis placitis infra ciuitatem. 1136 *Charter of Stephen* in Stubbs *Sel. Charters* (1895) 121 Omnes exactiones et injustitias et mescheninga, sive per vicecomites vel per alios quosiibet male inductas, funditus exstirpo. *c* 1250 *Gloss. Law Terms* in *Rel. Ant.* I. 33 Miskenninge, *Mespris par ei, u de fet.* 1267 in *Lib. de Antiq. Leg.* (1846) 104 Quod non occasionentur propter miskenninga in suis loquelis, videlicet, si bene non omnino narraverint. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) II. 95 Miskenynge, chaunginge of speche in court. 1607 Cowell *Interpr.* 1658 Phillips, *Miskenning* [1706 or *Miskonning*].

Miskenning, *ppl. a. Sc.* [Mis-1 2.] Misunderstanding, ignorant; neglectful, forgetful.

1533 Bellenden *Livy* V. xx. (S. T. S.) II. 216 To þame þat ar nocht myskennand na gude dedis suld be remembrit in reproche. 1552 Abp. Hamilton *Catech.* (1884) 25 Wilful ignorant and miskennand men.

Miskin1 (mi·skin). Also misken. Variant (mainly s. w. midland dial.) of Mixen.

1601 [Br. W. Barlow] *Defence* 8 A very heape and misken of shamelesse vntruethes. *a* 1603 *Order-bk. Worcester* in Nichols *Progr. Q. Eliz.* I. 533 Every person having any donghills or myskyns. 1625 Fletcher & Shirley *Nt. Walker* III. 216 Would you mellow my young pretty Mistress In such a misken? 1656 W. D. tr. *Comenius' Gate Lat. Unl.* 139 Our home-bred ones turn over miskens, and refuse things flung out. 1789 W. Marshall *Glouc.* I. 330 *Miskin*, the common term for a dunghill; or a heap of compost. 1896 *Warw. Gloss.*, *Miskin*, a compost pit.

attrib. 1665 S. Harward *Treat. Propag. Plants* in Markham *Way to Get Wealth* III. iv. 103 Good rank mould, tempered with short muck and misken water.

† **Miskin**2. *Obs. rare*—1. [? Dim. of MDu. *muse*, a. OF. *muse* (mod. F. *musette, cornemuse*) bagpipe.] (See quots.)

1593 Drayton *Ecl.* ii. 5 Now would I tune my Miskins on this Greene [*marg.* A little Bagpipe]. 1678 Phillips, *Miskin*, (old word) a little Bagpipe.

Miskin, variant of Misken *sb.*

† **Miskin-fro.** *Obs.*—0 [f. MDu. *mesken, meiskijn* (= mod.Du. *meisje*) dim. of *meid* young woman + Frow *sb.*] A maidservant.

1632 Cotgr., *Meschine*, a wench, maid seruant, miskin fro.

† **Miski·ssing,** *vbl.sb. Obs. rare*—1. [Mis-1 3.] Improper kissing.

1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 219 Let no myskissynge have prise of ȝoure bobe lyvynge [orig. *Convictus vestros non vincant oscula conchæ*].

Misknow', *v.* [Mis-1 1 and 7. In early use largely Sc.; cf. Misken.]

† 1. *intr.* ? To have an evil conscience. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 17314 Me think ȝe haf to me misknawen of þat prophetz þat ȝe gart hang.

† 2. *trans.* Not to know or be aware of; to be ignorant of. Also with clause as obj. *Obs.*

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* iii. (*Andrew*) 902 þe bischope þan, as Innocent, þat misknew al hyr entent. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* VI. xi. 57 Misknawing quhat this ment. 1552 Abp. Hamilton (*title*), The Catechisme;..ane..Instructioun..in materis of our Catholik Faith..wbilk na gud Christin man ..suld misknaw. 1560 Rollano *Crt. Venus* I. 62 That I was thair..thay did misknaw. 1581 in *Cath. Tractates* (S.T.S.) 121 Gif ye haue red the antiquitie, ye can not misknau this.

† b. in pa. pple. *misknown* = unknown (*to*).

1558 Kennedy *Compend. Tract.* in *Wodrow Soc. Misc.* (1844) 159 Because it wes evir misknawin to the Kirk of God. 1562–3 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 230 Quhilk article..suld not haif bene misknawin to the said Thomas. 1632 Lithgow *Trav.* VII. 328 Our way we Know, and yet vnknowne to other, And whiles misknowne to vs.

3. To know badly; to have a wrong idea of; to misapprehend, misunderstand. Also *absol.*

1535 Stewart *Cron. Scot.* II. 5 Than tha misknaw God and Fortoun so far, Na wounder is suppois tha get the war. 1645 Bp. Hall *Rem. Discontents* 108 If therefore we misknow, the fault is in the mean, through which we doe imperfectly discover them. *a* 1663 C. Harvey *Sch. of Heart* XXII. iii, Some things thou knowest not, mis-knowest others. 1831 Carlyle *Sart. Res.* I. iii, Great men are too often unknown, or what is worse, misknown. 1865 Ruskin *Sesame* 162 What she half-knows, or mis-knows. 1879 J. C. Morison *Gibbon* 26 It would be greatly to misknow Gibbon to suppose that his studies were restricted to the learned languages.

b. *refl.* = Misken 2 b. Chiefly *Sc.* ? *Obs.*

1530 Palsgr. 638/1 Whan a man mysknoweth hym selfe it is a daungerouse thyng for hym. 1565 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 370 The greit honour we did unto thame .. maid thame to misknaw thame selffis. 1617 Jas. I *Let.* in *Bacon's Wks.* (1830) XII. 329 You were afraid that the height of his fortune might make him misknow himself.

4. Not to recognize (a person); = Misken *v.* 3.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxv. (*Julian*) 317 & twa lyand [be] has persawyt, þat he mysknew, fore þai ware byd. *c* 1480 Henryson *Mor. Fab.* 48 Knew thou not well I was both Lord and King Of beastes all? Yes (quod the Mouse) I

knaw, But I misknew because yee lay so law. *c* 1500 *Melusine* 102 Seeyng that he myssknewe the place for cause of the new toune & toure. 1570 *Satir. Poems Reform.* x. 19 Na word he said, quhairthrow I did miskna*w* him, Because in sic ane stait I neuer saw him. 1840 Carlyle *Heroes* iv. (1858) 275 Why should we misknow one another, fight not against the enemy, but against ourselves, from mere difference of uniform?

5. To refuse to recognize or notice; = Misken *v.* 4.

1483 Caxton *Cato* i vj, To thende that thou be not reputed for unkynde proude or misknowyng the..seruyse which they haue done to the. 1533 Bellenden *Livy* v. xx. (S. T. S.) II. 215 As I ignorant or mysknawing sic thingis as semys to my estate [orig. *meæ condicionis obliuum*]. 1572 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xxxiii. 255 Thay ar sa riche, that thay do vs misknaw. 1575 Fenton *Gold. Epist.* (1582) 75 In their prosperitie they misknow vs. 1632 Lithgow *Trav.* v. 212 He priuately wronged me, which I misknew, as vnwilling.. to be too forward to seeke a redresse. 1633 Br. Hall *Occas. Medit.* (1851) 111 We misknow our parents; not acknowledging any friend, but the tailor that brings us a fine coat. *absol.* 1558 Kennedy *Compend. Tract.* in *Wodrow Soc. Misc.* (1844) 126 He that misknawis shallbe misknawin.

So **Misknowing** *ppl. a.*, Ignorant.

c 1374 Chaucer *Boeth.* II. pr. viii. (1868) 61 Fortune ..euere myssknowynge of hir self [L. *sui semper ignaram*].

† **Misknow·ing,** *vbl. sb. Obs.* [Mis-[1] 3, 7.]

1. Ignorance.

c 1374 Chaucer *Boeth.* III. met. xi. (1868) 101 Alle the dyrknesse of his myssknowynge. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxiii. (*tri Sleperis*) 43 As he trewyt be myssknawine, þat let hyme wyt na suthfast thing. 1530 Palsgr. 245/2 Myssknowyng, *desconoissance*.

2. Wrong or spurious knowledge.

1623 Br. Hall *Great Impostor* Wks. (1625) 503 The vnderstanding of man is euery way deceitfull in ouerknowing, misknowing, dissembling.

3. Used for: Miskenning.

1384 in Arnolde *Chron.* (1502) C j b/2 That in the cite in noo place be mis knowing.

Misknow·ledge, *sb.* [Mis-[1] 4, 7.]

† 1. Failure to recognize or acknowledge. *Obs.*

a 1533 Ld. Berners *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) Mmviij b, The mysknowlage that thou make t to me. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* iii. 27 To puneis vs for the myskanalage of his magestie.

2. Spurious knowledge; misunderstanding.

1579 Fenton *Guicciard.* (1618) 219 Their men at armes, by negligence and misknowledge had charged their owne footmen. 1653 A. Wilson *Jas. I*, 18 Lest men might presume further upon the misknowledg of my meaning to trouble this Parliament. 1679 G. R. tr. *Beaistuau's Theat. World* ii. 338 If there be so much misery..it was joined to man since his mis-knowledge of God. 1866 Carlyle *Reminis.* (1881) I. 77 The dismal perception that this sham of knowledge had been flat misknowledge. 1891 *Athenæum* 26 Dec. 862/3 Mr. Wagner's misknowledge extends to other than philological matters.

† **Misknow·ledge,** *v. Sc. Obs.* [Mis-[1] 7.] *trans.* To refuse to acknowledge.

1600 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* (1884) VI. 85 [Ogilvy had] steirit [up the complainer's tenants .. to] misknawlege him [and to withhold from him his maills and duties]

Misky (mi·ski), *a.* Now *dial.* (see *Eng. Dial. Dict.*) Misty.

1680 Kirkman *Eng. Rogue* IV. viii. 108 Having a brave opportunity to drink..I swallowed so much..that my eyes were miskie.

Mislai·d, *ppl. a.* See Mislay *v.* 2.

1781 Cowper *Let. to J. Newton* Wks. 1817 XV. 109 In the mislaid letters I took notice of certain disagreeable doubts you had expressed.

Mislaird, variant of Misleared.

Mislane, obs. form of Maslin [2].

† **Mislaundre.** *Obs.* [Alteration of *dislaundre*, Disclander: see Mis-[1] 9.] Scandal, disgrace.

1531 in *Archæologia* (1882) XLVII. 60 Redresse of the said myslaundre.

Mislay (mislē·), *v.* [Mis-[1] 1. Cf. Du. *misleggen*, ON. *misleggja*.]

1. *trans.* To lay, place, or set wrongly; to misplace; to err in placing (a thing). Now *rare*.

1402 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 97 For Alrede his clerke wrote his reson, that thou mysse layst, and dokkist it as the likist. 1591 Sylvester *Du Bartas* 1. i. 417 You have mis-cast in your Arithmetick, Mis-laid your Counters. 1601 Br. W. Barlow *Serm. Paules Cresse* 35 Fire..if mislayed or abused, burneth the house. *a* 1631 Donne 6 *Serm.* (1634) ii. 34, I have not mislayed my foundation; my foundation is Christ. *a* 1656 Vines *Lord's Supp.* (1677) 286 Upon this ground wrongly mislaid and mistaken. *a* 1704 Locke *Cond. Und.* Introd. § 4 Wks. 1714 III. 394, I am apt to think the Fault is generally mislaid upon Nature.

† b. *fig.*

1671 Crowne *Juliana* III. 35 Oh heavens! her grief mislayes her noble reason.

2. To lay (a thing) by accident in a place where it cannot readily be found.

1614 Wotton in *Reliq.* (1672) 436, I have (I know not how) mislayed the Character which I left you, therefore I pray send me..a Copy. 1726–31 Waldron *Descr. Isle of Man* (1865) 28 If anything happens to be mislaid, and found again, in some place where it was not expected. 1765 Foote *Commissary* I. (1782) 11 Be sure you don't mislay the pearl necklace. 1825 Scott *Jrnl.* 5 Dec., I cannot conceive what possesses me..to mislay papers. 1852 Mrs. Carlyle *Lett.* II. 202, I am certain it is not mislaid..I have searched too thoroughly.

† 3. To allege incorrectly. (Cf. Lay *v.*[1] 26 c.) *Obs.*

1596 Bacon *Max. Com. Law* (1630) 21 The yeare must be alledged in fact, for it may be mislaid by the plaintiffe, and therefore the defendants..must alledge it precisely.

Hence **Mislay·ing** *vbl. sb.* Also **Mislay·er.**

1612 Bacon *Ess., Judicat.* (Arb.) 450 The mislaier of a Meerestone is too blame. 1649 Br. Hall *Cases Conse.* I. ix. 82 The casualty of their mis-laying doth not alter their propriety; they are still his that lost them. 1898 Br. Moule *Colossian Stud.* viii. 166 This little document has lately after a long mislaying, been in my use again.

Misle: see Mistle, Mizzle.

Mislead (mislē·d), *v.* Pa. t. and pa. pple. **misled.** [OE. *mislǽdan* = MLG., MDu., Du. *misleiden*, OHG. *misseleiten* (G. *missleiten*), Sw. *missleda*, Da. *mislede*; see Mis-[1] 1 + Lead *v.*[1]]

1. *trans.* To lead astray in action or conduct; to lead into error; to cause to err.

c 1015 Ælfric *Past. Ep.* xlvi. in Thorpe *Lawes* (1840) II. 384 Gif he..leornian nele, ac mislæt his hyrmen. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 28264 Mi spussed wyfe i haue misledd bath in burdyng and in bedde. 1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 142 He dothe many thyngis..wherof Some byth damagid, Some byth myslade. 1594 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* II. 255 When the affection of the heart..is misled and deceiued by humane reason. 1603 Florio *Montaigne* I. xix. Let not pleasure so much mislead or transport us, that we..forget, how many waies, our ioyes, ..be subject vnto death. 1671 Milton *P. R.* I. 226 The erring Soul Not wilfully mis-doing, but unware Misled. 1736 Butler *Anal.* I. iv. Wks. 1874 I. 78 Men are misled by external circumstances of temptation. 1781 Cowper *Retirem.* 126 The roving eye misleads the careless heart. 1814 Scott *Ld. of Isles* III. v, Though by ambition far misled, Thou art a noble knight. 1856 Sir B. Brodie *Psychol. Inq.* I. iii. 98 Juries have..been misled by the refinements of medical witnesses.

absol. 1625 Bacon *Ess., Friendship* (Arb.) 179 Scattered Counsels..will rather distract, and Misleade, then Settle, and Direct. 1671 Milton *P. R.* IV. 309 What can they teach, and not mislead? 1861 H. Law *Beacons of Bible, Lamech* 10 Patience, the gentle guide to penitence, misleads to hard indifference.

b. *refl.* To misbehave, misconduct oneself.

c 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* IV. 48 The folk of Troye hemselven so misledden, That with the worse at night homward they fledden. 1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 236 How thei for love hemself misledde.

† c. ? To adduce wrongly. *Obs.*

1654 Gataker *Disc. Apol.* 80 Manie Papists have misled Scripture in their..labouring to prov the single life of the Priests to be of Divine Command.

† 2. To mismanage. *Obs.*

1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 141 And his astat..In such manere forto lede, That he his houshold ne misledе. 1494 Fabyan *Chron.* VII. 502 To..make serche of certayne thynges than myslad and euyll gyded within the realme.

3. In physical sense (or *fig.*): To lead or guide in the wrong direction.

1575 Fenton *Gold. Epist.* (1582) 16 Others supposing themselues to be misse-led and gone astray, are notwithstanding in the high way to their felicitie. 1590 Shaks. *Mids. N.* II. i. 39 Are you not hee, That..misleade night-wanderers? 1635–56 Cowley *Davideis* I. Wks. 1710 I. 309 An Angel whose..Might Put by the Weapon, and mis-led it right. 1667 Milton *P. L.* IX. 640 A Flame Which..Misleads th' amaz'd Night-wanderer from his way. 1837 Lytton *E. Maltrav.* 5 The lights have rather misled me.

Hence **Mislea·dable** *a.*, capable of being misled.

1836 *Fox Q. Rev.* XVII. 122 This last most misleadable, if not most leadable, age.

Mislea·der. [Mis-[1] 5.] One who or something which misleads or causes people to err; also, † one who misrules or misgoverns (quot. 1390).

1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 261 Thou Bonefas, thou proude clerk, Misledere of the Papacie. 1579 Tomson *Calvin's Serm. Tim.* 774/2 A great number..which..were misleaders, & loued to disguise matters. 1596 Shaks. 1 *Hen. IV*, II. iv. 508 That villanous abhominable mis-leader of Youth, Falstaffe. 1611 Speed *Hist. Gt. Brit.* IX. xi. (1623) 679 To deliuer the Realme from the misleaders of the King. 1703 Rowe *Ulysses* v. Wks. 1747 I. 410 Thou rash Misleader of this giddy Crowd. 1753 Richardson *Grandison* III. i. 3 Delicacy, too, is often a misleader. 1853 Mill *Diss. & Disc.* (1859) II. 546 That Cleon, and men of his stamp..were by no means the worst misleaders of the Athenian people. 1868 J. Doran *Saints & Sinners* II. 83 He denounced both song and music as misleaders.

Mislea·ding, *vbl. sb.* [Mis-[1] 3.] The action of the verb Mislead; † misconduct.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 27926 Fole behalding, misleding o late. 1480 Caxton *Descr. Brit.* 22 Scottes and pictes by misleding of Maximus the tyraunt pursiewed Britayne. 1597 *Pilgr. Parnass.* v. (1886) 23 Nere let the pilgrims to this laurell mounte Fainte, or retire..Through the misleading of some amorous boye. 1645 Milton *Colast.* Wks. 1851 IV. 348 Which may in time bring in round fees to the Licencer, and wretched mis-leading to the People. 1768–74 Tucker *Lt. Nat.* II. 408 To other persons perhaps they might prove misleadings, stumbling-blocks. 1884 *Law Rep.* 27 Chanc. Div. 630 There has not been any misleading.

Mislea·ding, *ppl. a.* [Mis-[1] 2.] That leads astray or causes to err.

1638 Junius *Paint. Ancients* 10 Such a mis-leading labyrinth of confused..precepts. 1649 Milton *Eikon.* B 2, [A blindness] more gross or more misleading. 1834 De Quincey *Autob. Sk.* Wks. 1854 II. 137 Natives as well as strangers..have fallen victims..to the misleading and confounding effects of deep mists. 1864 Pusey *Lect. Daniel* (1876) 487 It would then have been simply misleading, to have used these words at all. 1878 Jevons *Primer Pol. Econ.* 47, I have heard it said that land is capital, intelligence is capital, and so forth. These are all misleading expressions.

Hence **Mislea·dingly** *adv.*, **Mislea·dingness.**

1862 T. A. Trollope *Lent. Journey* I. 2 The period of the, somewhat misleadingly so called, *renaissance*. 1881 *Contemp. Rev.* May 808 The misleadingness of the utterances of disease and grief.

Mislea·r, *v. Obs.* exc. *dial.* [OE. *misléran*: see Mis-[1] 1 and Lere *v.*] *trans.* To mislead, misguide; to lead astray.

c 1000 Ælfric *Saints' Lives* v. 119 Þa ongunnon heora magas mycclum be-hreowsian þæt hi ætre þa martyras misleran woldon. *c* 1275 Lay. 4311 Ac Brenne hafde luþer men þat hine mislerede. *c* 1305 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 57 Er he ischryue were þe deuel was wel þurne about him to mislere. 1878 *Cumbld. Gloss., Mis-leer't*, led astray.

So † **Mislea·ring** *vbl. sb.*, bad training.

13.. *Seuyn Sag.* (W.) 1391 For mi sones mislering, Ye schulle habbe evil ending!

Misleared (mislē·rd), *a. Sc.* and *north. dial.* Also **-leert, -laird.** [f. Mis-[1] 2 + *leared*, Lered *ppl. a.*] Unmannerly, ill-bred; not knowing what is due to oneself or one's position in society.

1692 *Sc. Presbyt. Eloq.* (1738) 140 I'll not be greedy, nor misleard. 1786 *Har'st Rig* lviii. (1794) 21 The Embrugh wives them a' exceed For sad misleard ill words indeed! 1808 Stagg *Bridewain* vi. Poems 4 Some gat sae misleard wi' drink. 1820 Scott *Monast.* iv, What made you, ye misleard loons..come yon gate into the ha', roaring like bulls-egs, to frighten the leddy? 1832 Henderson *Prov.* 30 The deil's greedy, but you're mislear'd. 1897 Crockett *Lad's Love* x. 102, 'I could get on a heap faster!' cried the misleared lassie, her impudence rising instantly.

Mislea·rn, *v.* [Mis-[1] 1.] *trans.* To learn badly or incorrectly.

1678 *Yng. Man's Call.* 149 Things once mislearned are exceeding hardly unlearnt. 1872 Ruskin *Fors Clav.* xix. 16, I learned nothing from it, and the public mislearned much. 1900 *Pilot* 23 June, Those who had mislearned the lesson which they had sought to teach them.

† **Mislea·rned,** *ppl. a. Obs.* [Mis-[1] 2.] a. Ill-taught, badly trained; *Sc.* = Misleared. b. Perversely learned.

1632 Rutherford *Lett.* (1664) II. xii. 449 Like a tarrowing & mislearned childe. 1637 *Ibid.* I. ci. 201, I would be rich, but dare not be mislearned and seek more in that kinde. 1642 T. Lechford *Plain Dealing* (1867) 85 Master Robert Parker..who..wrote that mislearned Book *De Politeâ Ecclesiastica*. 1649 Br. Hall *Cases Conse.* Addit. i. (1654) 384 A mis-learned Advocate.

† **Mislea·rning,** *vbl. sb. Obs.* [Mis-[1] 7.] Want of learning.

1382 Wyclif *Eccles.* iv. 30 And of lesing of thi mysleryng [Vulg. *de mendacio imeruditionis*] be thou confoundid.

Misle·d, *ppl. a.* [pa. pple. of Mislead *v.*] Led astray; misguided; † ill-conducted.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 27735 Lates misledd, lightness o rage. 1594 Kyd *Cornelia* III. 39 Esops mysled Country swaine, That fownd a Serpent pyning in the snow. 1614 Rich *Honestie of this Age* (1844) 27 Her former misled life. 1634 Milton *Comus* 200 To give due light To the misled and lonely Trauailer. 1721 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 114 To take pitty..on his mislead people. 1846 E. Irving *Babylon* II. 384 Poor misled men, who are themselves ignorant of the spirit that driveth them.

Misleden, obs. form of Maslin [2], Mistletoe.

† **Misle·ful,** *a. Obs. rare*[−1]. [f. Misleve *sb.* + -ful.] Unbelieving.

1382 Wyclif *Eccles.* i. 36 He thou not rebel, and mys leeful [Vulg. *incredulus*] to the dred of the Lord.

Misleen, -len, obs. forms of Mistletoe.

Mislen: see Maslin [2].

Mislest (misle·st), *v.* [Alteration of Molest by substitution of Mis-[1] 9 for the first syllable.] *trans.* To molest, injure.

c 1573 *Durham Depos.* (Surtees) 259 Whether the said Rosse, Mathew Ogle, or Toppinge dyd then draw any wepon or mislest them sells. 1847 Halliwell, *Mislest*, to molest. *Var. dial.* [See *Eng. Dial. Dict.*] 1863 in Robson *Bards of Tyne* 81 Ther' sha'nit yen biv tongue or pen, Mislist wor toon or trade.

Misletoa, -to(e: see Mistletoe.

† **Misle·ve,** *sb. Obs.* [f. Mis-[1] 4 + Leve *sb.*] Misbelief.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 73 Þe mannes shrifte þe þurh his misleue herberȝeð þe fule gost on his heorte. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1230 Hade þe fader..neuer trespast to him in teche of mysseleue.

† **Misle·ve,** *v. Obs.* [f. Mis-[1] 1, 7 + Leve *v.*] To believe wrongly; to misbelieve; to disbelieve.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 137 His fader..hadde dumb ben sibe he þe engel mislefde. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 68 Þe treowe is misleued. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3906 Dat folc misleuede þor-on. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 1336 A temple..þat whilom þe folk mys-lyuande Worschiped þer-inne Mammetry. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxxix. (*Cosme & Damyane*) 367 Myslewand ȝet þat it wes he. 14.. in *Tundale's Vis.* (1843) 82 Nay, sayde the sole, thou mys levest, I am not ho that thou wenest.

So † **Misle·ving** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 20904 Þis ilk simon he yede to rome at turn misleuand lede. *Ibid.* 27431 He will..his misleuyng noght for-sak. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 1348 To bolden hem yn mys-leuynge. *a* 1450 *Cov. Myst.* (Shaks. Soc.) 43 Ow, what menyht this myslevyng man?

Misley, Misleyne, obs. ff. Mizzly, Maslin [2].

† **Mi·slich,** *a. Obs.* [OE. *mislic, misse-, mist-, mystlic* = OS. *mislic*, OFris., MLG., LG. *mislik*, MDu. *mis(se)-, mes(se)lijc* (Du. *misselijk*), OHG. *missa-, missi-, mis(se)lîh* (MHG. *mis(se)lich*, G. *misslich*), ? Icel. *mislikr* (MSw. *mislika*, Da. *mislig*), Goth. *missaleiks*: see Mis-[1] and -ly [1].]

1. Diverse, unlike, various.

c 888 K. Ælfred *Boeth.* xxxiii. § 5 (Sedgefield) 82 Þu fyldest ðas eorðan mid mistlicum cynrenum netena, & hi siððan aseowe mistlicum sæde treowa & wyrta. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 43 Þæt hie heora synna cunnon on rihtlice geandettan; forþon þe hie beoþ toþon mislice. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* an. 979 (MS. C) Þy ilcan ȝeare was ȝesewen blodig wolcen..& þæt..on mistlice beamas wæs ȝehiwod. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 4

þe inre [rule] is euere iliche : þe uttre is misliche. *a* 1240 *Wohunge* in *Cott. Hom.* l. 221 Selcuðes þat misliche and monifald hauen bifallen.

2. Wandering. (Cf. next 2.)

a 1100 in Napier *O. E. Glosses* 92/3695 Errabundis .i. *uagabundis*, mistlicum.

† **Mi·sliche,** *adv. Obs.* Forms : 1 mis(t)lice, 2–4 **misliche,** 4 **misselliche,** -ly. [OE. *mis(t)lice*, adv. corresp. to prec. : see -LY2. Cf. MDu. *misse-, messelike*, OHG. *misselîcho*, MHG. *mis(se)liche.*]

1. In various ways; diversely, variously.

c 888 K. ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxxvi. § 4 (Sedgefield) 106 Ealle men ge goode ge yfele wilniað to cumanne to goode, þeah hi his mislice wilnien. *a* 1100 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1036 (MS. D) & his ȝeferan he to-draf; & sume mislice ofsloh. *a* 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 231 Ac þis ȝesceod he hadde isett bi-tweone frend and fend þat þan hi come mistlice to berie [etc.]. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 6 Vor þi mot þeos riwle chaungen hire misliche efter euch ones manere. 1340–70 *Alisaunder* 1160 Of menne þat myslych wer murdred therin.

2. In various directions; astray.

a 1100 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1052 (MS. D) Her Eadwine eorl & Morkere eorl hlupon ut & mislice ferdon on wuda. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 119 He scal misliche faran on monie gedwilþan. *c* 1205 LAY. 6270 Fulle seouen ȝere heo misliche foren (*c* 1275 hii misferde þere]. *c* 1320 *Cast. Love* 947 (Halliwell), I be the myslyche i-gon and unȝemed [*Vernon MS.* mis-lyken & al for-ȝemed, Fr. *esgarez*].

3. Wrongly.

a 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1773 Þeos riche men..þat leteþ þane gode man þat of so fele þinge can & yeueþ rente wel Mislyche. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 209 But missely marked he is way. *Ibid.* 711 Crist it for-bede þat ich more of þat matere so misseliche þenke !

Mislieken : see MISLIPPEN.

† **Mislie·,** *v. Obs.* [MIS-1 1.] *intr.* To lie in a wrong position.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Miller's T.* 461 And eft he routeth, for his heed mislay.

† **Mislife.** *Obs.* [MIS-1 4.] Wrong living.

1606 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* xv. *c.* 393 Can Iustice sleepe where such Mis-life is found?

† **Mis-li·ght,** *v. Obs.* [MIS-1 1.] *trans.* To lead astray by its light.

1648 HERRICK *Hesper., The Night-piece, to Julia.* No Will-o'-th'-Wispe mis-light thee ; Nor Snake..bite thee.

Misli·ke, *sb.* [f. MISLIKE *v.*]

† **1.** = MISLIKING *vbl. sb.* 1. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 9907 Þis castel es o luue and grace [9881]..Wit mislik sal he neuer be ledd, þe man þat þider-werd es fledd.

2. Want of affection; dislike (*of*), distaste (*for*, objection (*to*). † *To grow in mislike of* : to become unpopular with. Now *rare.*

a 1569 KINGESMYLL *Confl. w. Satan* (1578) 54 As a man that swalloweth a most pleasant drinke without any mislike of taste. 1587 FLEMING *Contn. Holinshed* III. 1275/2 He grew in mislike of the nobilitie in continuall prouoking them to anger. 1593 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI*, IV. i. 24. 1605 MARSTON *Dutch Courtezan* II. i. B 3 b, O let not my secure simplicity, breed your mislike. 1645 USSHER *Body Div.* (1647) 284 When the party withdraweth itselfe, in mislike, or loathsomness. 1845-6 TRENCH *Huls. Lect.* Ser. I. vii. 112 Julian's mislike of the rising faith. 1885-94 R. BRIDGES *Eros & Psyche* Feb. xxi, The goddess, whose mislike had birth From too great honour paid the bride on earth.

b. With *a* and *pl.*

1557 NORTH *Gueuara's Diall Pr.* (1619) Prol. i. P 2 What envie doth hee expose himselfe to, and multitude of mislikes, that hath the charge of governing others? 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 84 Upon a mislike that they tooke to him..they deprive him of his Empire. 1620 E. BLOUNT *Horæ Subs.* 222 Dispraising will nourish a mislike of such things, as deserue commendations.

† **3.** Disaffection, disagreement, dissension. *Obs.*

a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* II. xxvi. (1590) 218 The mislike growne among themselues did wel allay the heat against her. 1590 *Acts Privy Council* (1897) XIX. 300 [This] may breed a general murmure and mislyke amongst the rest. 1654 EARL MONM. tr. *Bentivoglio's Warrs Flanders* 75 Greater mislikes arising among the citizens, they came to blows.

† **4.** Wasting or consumption in animals or plants; sickliness, disease. *Obs.*

1552 HULOET, s. v. *Mislykinge, Tabidus*, he that is in a mislyke. 1613 MARKHAM *Eng. Husbandman* I. II. iii. (1635) 122 [If] you finde a certain mislike or consumption in the plant. 1614 — *Cheap Husb.* 92 Of Leanenesse, Mislike, Scurfe, and Manginesse in Swine. 1622 R. HAWKINS *Voy. S. Sea* (1847) 49, I never have weene any man to whom they have bred mis-like, or done hurt with eating much of them.

† **Misli·ke,** *a. Obs. rare.* [MIS-1 7.] Unlike.

1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 122/40 Mislike, *dissimilis.* 1597 A. M. tr. *Guilleneau's Fr. Chirurg.* 22/2 Small sprouts, not mislike vnto the feet of the fishe Purpura.

Misli·ke, *v.* Now chiefly *literary* or *dial.* [OE. *mislícian* = OHG., MHG. *misselîchên*, ON. *mislíka* : see MIS-1 1 and LIKE *v.*1]

1. *trans.* To be displeasing to; to displease, offend. Orig. const. dative († occas. in ME. with *to*).

c 897 K. ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* xxi. 158 Donne eow misliciað ða medtrymenna þe ge on ðrum monnum gesiað. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Exod.* xxi. 8 Gif heo misliciað þam hlaforde, forlæte hiz. *c* 1200 ORMIN 12287, & tiss maȝȝ þe full innwarrdlij Misslikenn. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1728 Do sæȝ laban þat Iacob bi-gat Michil, and him mislikede þat. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 173, I trowe þe Sarazins our comyng mislikes. 138. WYCLIF *Serm.* Sel. Wks. II. 395 If it myslike to þis pope. 1413 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton 1483) III. viii. 55 To be wroken vppon tho that aught haue myslyked them. 1573 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 63 The daie of S. Stephen old fathers did vse : if that doe mislike thee some other daie chuse. 1585-7 T. ROGERS 39 *Art.* vi. (1625) 32 Against them which..deface and put out such texts as mislike them. 1870 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* III. iv. 275 Because the Gods are wise, and thriftless deed Mislikes them. 1874 PERRY *Leul. Serm.* 56 If thou thinkest that thou..mayest take what thou likest, and leave what mislikes thee.

absol. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 344 For harpe & pipe & foweles song Mislikeþ if hit is to long. 1603 DRAYTON *Heroic. Ep.* iv. (1619) 34 That pleaseth well, and This as much mislikes.

† **b.** To be out of harmony with. *Obs.*

Perhaps a distinct word f. LIKE *a.* or LIKE *n.*2

c 1470 HENRY *Wallace* XI. 1261 Bot a fyr brand in his forheid he bayr, And than him thocht it myslikyt all the laue [*ed.* 1570 And yat him thocht myslykit all the lail].

† **2.** *intr.* To be displeased; in Mfc. also, to be troubled or uneasy (cf. MISLIKING *vbl. sb.* 1). *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 2513 Abram was þan ful mislikand Quen he herd þan o þis tybland. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 2417 Now gynnes Leyr to myslyke. *c* 1400 *Vwaine & Gaw.* 534 And knyghts and swiers war ful fayne, Myȝt liked none bot syr Vwayne. *c* 1585 *Faire Em* III. 859 The repair of those gentlemen to your house hath given me great occasion to mislike. 1592 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* xiii. 183 First they mislike, yeat at the length for hear were mislead. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* I. II. III. III. (1651) 147 When the intrails were opened, and a noysome sauour offended her nose, she much misliked. 1642 MILTON *Apol. Smect.* 14 They made sport, and I laught, they misprounc'd and I mislik't.

† **b.** To be displeased *with* or *at* ; to disapprove *of. Obs.*

c 1555 HARPSFIELD *Divorce Hen. VIII* (Camden) 38 Who ..would most highly mislike of this diuorce. 1577 HOLINSH. *Ann. Eccl. Hist.* (1663) 234 It was not because we misliked with that form of faith. 1578 ROWLAND in T. Howell *Gorgious Gallery* A ij b, [He] scoffe at this, and did mislike at that. *a* 1591 H. SMITH *Serm.* (1637) 410 Least Agrippa should grow back and mislike with his boldness and say so.

† **c.** with clause or inf. *Obs.*

1539 CROMWELL in Merriman *Life & Lett.* 1902 II. 178 I mislike that thambassadour sayeth he shal not retourne. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* II. (1629) 175 Misliking much such violence should bee offred .. to men of our ranke. 1618 DALTON *Countr. Just.* lxix. (1690) 168 If the party shall mislike to be..bound to the peace. *a* 1656 HALES *Gold. Rem.* (1688) 397 They misliked that any such Form should be forced upon them.

3. trans. To be displeased or offended at; to disapprove of; to dislike.

1513 MORE in Grafton *Chron.* (1568) II. 778 That he much misliked these two seuerall coumsayles. 1547 *Ordre of Communion* 2 Wee would not haue our subiectes, so muche to mislike our iudgment. 1593 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. VI*, I. i. 140 'Tis not my speeches that you do mislike : But 'tis my presence that doth trouble ye. 1611 BIBLE *Transl. Pref.* B 11 If we..doe endeuour to make that better which they left so good ; no man, we are sure, hath cause to mislike vs. *a* 1634 CHAPMAN *Alphonsus* Plays 1873 III. 219 If she mislike the kiss I'll take it off agen with such an other. 1722 DE FOE *Relig. Courtsh.* I. i. (1840) 9 She cannot mislike him. 1815 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Love & Law* II. ii, That daughter will .. choose the very man her father mislikes. 1878 GLADSTONE *Gleanings* (1879) I. 208 They mistrust and mislike the centralisation of power.

transf. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* II. (1586) 95 It misliketh not a moist grauell ground.

† **4.** To take sinful pleasure in (something). *rare*—1.

c 1200 in *O. E. Hom.* I. 305 Ich habbe..Misliket swote smelles.

† **5.** *intr.* To grow sickly or unhealthy ; to waste away. (Cf. LIKE *v.*1 4.) *Obs.*

c 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* IV. 515 Yf that the fruyte myslike and from hem falle. 1552 HULOET, Mislyken in the bodye .. *tabe laborare.* 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. xx. xi, If a man perceive that the fish..do mislike and grow sickly. 1606 — *Sueton.* 211 The tree..did mislike and die.

Hence **Misliked** *ppl. a.*, offended.

1641 SMECTYMNUUS *Answ.* I. (1653) 3 Misliked Persons? and why not offending persons? 1680 BAXTER *Cath. Commun.* (1684) 23 When I excluded his misliked sense.

Misli·keness. *rare.* [MIS-1 4.]

† **1.** A distorted shape. *Obs.*

c 1440 *Eng. Cong. Irel.* 131/25 (Rawl. MS.) That thynge that was in myse-lyckenys [*Dubl. MS.* that was forshape].

2. Bad portraiture.

1822 SOUTHEY *Ep. A. Cunningham* Poet. Wks. 1838 III. 308 This countenance, such as it is, So oft by rascally mislikeness wrong'd.

Misli·ker. [f. MISLIKE *v.* + -ER1.] One who mislikes, dislikes, or hates.

1565 COOPER *Thesaurus* s.v. *Auertere, Auersus a vero..* a misliker of the truth. 1618 in Farr *S. P. Jas. I* (1848) 292 Those That were mislikers of this woman's deed. 1866 W. R. ALGER *Solit. Nat. & Man* IV. 269 His mislikers considered him as 'a growling old bear'.

Misli·king, *vbl. sb.* [MIS-1 3.]

† **1.** The opposite of pleasure; discomfort, uneasiness; unhappiness, trouble. *Obs.*

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 180 Vttre wondunge is hwanȝ cumeð likunge oðer mislikunge, wituten oðer wiðinnen. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 2319 Þat na mare grevance salle þou fele, Ne na mare payne have, ne myslykyng. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* III. 516 Gretyng Cummys to men for mysliking. 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 877 Na mysliking haue in hart, nor haue ye na dout. 1496 *Dives & Pauper* (W. de W.) I. xliii. 84/2 Somtyme dremes come..of mislykynge that man hath whan he is wakyng. *a* 1568 ASCHAM *Scholem.* I. (Arb.) 47 What soeuer I [sc. Lady Jane Grey] do els, but learning, is ful of grief, trouble, feare, and whole misliking vnto me. *a* 1600 T. TYMME *Silver Watch-bell* I. (1630) 10 The Peacock ..with great misliking, vaileth his top-gallant, & seemeth to sorrow.

† **2.** Displeasure; indignation. *Obs.*

a 1300 *E. E. Psalter* lxxvii. 49 He sent in þam wreth of his mislikynge [L. *indignationem*]. 1587 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* Ser. I. IV. 209 To his Hienes mislykeing and miscontentment. 1592 STOW *Chron.* 787 Going forth with the Bishop, til they came to Windsore, he entred the Castle, to the great misliking of the Bishoppe.

3. Dislike (*of*); aversion.

a 1568 ASCHAM *Scholem.* II. (Arb.) 147 This mislikyng of Rymyng, beginneth not now of any newfangle singularitie. 1637 GILLESPIE *Eng. Pop. Ceremon.* I. ix. 33 Their wish importeth a..misliking of all Festivall dayes besides the Lords day. 1638 *Sidney's Arcadia* II. 197 Particular mens likings and mislikings [*edd.* 1590, 1629 dislikings]. 1709 STRYPE *Ann. Ref.* I. xl. 409 Yet her Majesty inwardly to the Secretary, and other her Counsellors, shewed much Misliking. 1886 HOWELLS *Venetian Life* xi. 146 His own little learning has made him mistrust his natural likings and mislikings. 1891 *Tablet* 7 Feb. 210 The prevalent misliking of dogmatic and traditional conclusions.

† **4.** Mutual dissatisfaction, dissension. *Obs.*

1564 in Eliz. *Eng. Lett.* Ser. I. II. 137 Whether you understande there be anye suche mislikinge betweene them or not. 1589 *Cogan's Admon.* 105 By defaming and slandering may be brought the parties in hatred and misliking.

† **5.** MISLIKE *v.* 4. *Obs.*

1552 HULOET, Mislykynge in the body, *tabes.* 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 330 That manner of Blasting or mistaking called *Sideratio.* *Ibid.* II. 317 In case of misliking when the habit of the body receiveth no benefit by frost. 1616 SURFL. & MARKH. *Country Farme* II. 590 They [sc. citron trees] fall into mislikings and diseases.

Misli·king, *ppl. a.* [MIS-1 2.] In senses of the verb. † **a.** Unpleasant. † **b.** Dissatisfied. † **c.** Sickly.

1477 NORTON *Ord. Alch.* v. in *Ashm.* (1652) 70 Odorous mislyking, as Alces and Sulphure. 1586 EARL LEICESTER *Corr.* (Camden) 355 That such a man should carry a mislyking mind. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 324 The Cucumis, mislyking, and mistaking her growing vnseasonable.

Hence **Misli·kingly** *adv.*, with dislike.

1882 J. HAMMOND *Trott. Fool* I. xviii, Having yet secretly determined to share his head misli[k]ingly.

Mislin : see MARLIN2, MISLEDOE.

Misling, *obs.* form of MIZZLING.

Misli·ppen, *v. Sc.* and *north. dial.* Also mislicken : see LICKEN, [MIS-1 1.]

1. *trans.* To deceive; to disappoint.

1552 *Burgh Rec. Edin.* (1871) 175 Gyf it sulde happin that sairis cessandis, to misslippin or defraudin ony party in ocupying [etc.]. 1581 2 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* Ser. I. III. 4, His majestie is heare to be myslippened of wyfis in their default. 1623 G. MARKHAM *Farwell. Dial.* 7 If weed's not come just when we did, We'd been mislicken's out of our dinners Pegg. 1775 *Watson Hist. Halifax* 4 Mislippen'd, disappointed. 1807 TO LAMORNA *Poems* 1846, 70 I suffer think his e'en hae him mislippened. 1888 *Sheffield Gloss.*

2. To neglect, overlook.

1581 2 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* Ser. I. III. 491 It cannot be differit nor myslippenit. 17 *The Chaunt o' The yearning o' my hains Dinna mislippen.* O remember me ! 1866 *Gordon Banffsh. Gloss., Mislippent*, neglected. 1894 CROCKETT *Raiders* III. In a great police the making of the earth, small points are apt to be mislippened sometimes.

3. To suspect.

1816 SCOTT *Bl. Dwarf* IV. I thought it best to slip out quietly .. in case she should mislippen something of what we're gaun to do. 1871 W. ALEXANDER *Johnny Gibb* 94, Aw sanna begin to mislippen ye noo at the tail o' the day.

† **Misli·terate,** *a. Obs.* [MIS-1 7.] Unlearned.

1532 *Guystarde & Sygysmonde* Lenvoy D ij, Yf ought be amys..In addycyon of verse mysliterate.

† **Misli·ve,** *v. Obs.* [MIS-1 1. Cf. OHG. *misselebên.*] *intr.* To live a bad life.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* (Th.) II. 324 Nu hiȝ manoum ȝeamra þæt hi mislybban wordon. *a* 1250 *St. Matthew* 452 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 137 He techeð .. þe men þat misliuard ware To mend þam self. 1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* May 27 If he mislive in lewdnes and lust.

Mislive, variant of MISLEVE.

† **Misli·ved,** *a. Obs.* [f. MIS-1 6 + LIVE *sb.* + -ED2. Cf. LIVED *a.*] Of evil life.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* IV. 330 O olde unholsum and mislyved man. 1566 DRANT *Horace, Sat.* I. iv. E vij b, If any person were mislyude in theftes, or leachers lore.

Misli·ver. *rare* or *Obs.* [MIS-1 5.] A person of evil life ; an evil liver.

1436 *Rolls of Parl.* IV. 511/1 Alle maner of myslyvers and avowterers. 1528 TINDALE *Obed. Chr. Man* 153 Yf he were hyr to be an whore and a mysse lyver. 1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* 90 b, The dissolutest misliuer that liues. 1604 G. BABINGTON *Comf. Notes Levit.* xiii. § 5 All .. presumptuous misliuers, being most vnpleasie before God. 1873 B. GREGORY *Holy Catholic Ch.* 279 So many .. misbelievers and mislivers are members of the Church.

Misli·ving, *vbl. sb.* [MIS-1 3.] Evil living.

c 1325 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 219 Ful freoliche riht wol vs affray. And blame vs for vr mislyuyng. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 3773 Parchaunce bytor pair endyng, Þai er amended of þair mysly vyng. *c* 1450 *Merlin* 2 Yef they will repent and forsake their mysly vinge. *c* 1480 HENRYSON *Mor. Fab. Prol.* i, To represse the haill misleving Of man. 1528 PAYNELL *Salerne's Regim.* Pref. A ij b, By our mysluyngne and fylthy synne. 1548 BP. WATSON *Sev. Sacram.* xvii. 108 The repentaunce that a mysluyngne manne or woman taketh for theyr mysluyngne. 1566 *Edin. Rev.* July 108 He suffered for his sins with his eyes fixed on fresh misliving.

† **Misli·ving,** *ppl. a. Obs.* [MIS-1 2.] Of evil life.

1519 HORMAN *Vulg.* 78 b, A mysly vyngne woman. 1550 CROWLEY *Last Trumpet* 731 For where mislyuyng curates be, The people are not good certayne. 1558 [see prec.]. 1624 BP. HALL *Serm. in Rem. Wks.* (1660) 16 The mis-living Christian .. crucifies Christ again.

Mislocate, *v. rare*—1. [MIS-1 1.] *trans.* To misplace.

1816–30 BENTHAM *Offic. Apt. Maximized, Extract Const. Code* (1830) 13 By *artificially mislocated*, understand conferred on an individual, other than him by whom the service was rendered.

Misloca·tion. [MIS-[1] 4.] Misplacing.

a 1651 FULLER *Worthies* (1840) I. 203, I am confident herein is no mislocation. 1677 CARY *Chronol.* II. I. § 1. xx. 153 The Number .. was originally the Transcriber's slip of the Pen; so likewise the mislocation of Aphobis. *a* 1832 BENTHAM *Deontol.* (1834) I. 254 Dirt..is a sort of mislocation of matter in small particles. 1836–9 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* II. 318/1 Mislocation of the germ during its growth.

Mislo·dge, *v.* [MIS-[1] 1.] *trans.* To lodge or place in a wrong place; † to mislay.

1676 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1071/4 Lost or mislodged by a Messengers mistake .. 6 or 7 bundles of Parchment Court Rolls. 1824 BYRON *Def. Transf.* I. i. 146 'Tis an aspiring one [*sc.* a soul], whate'er the tenement In which it is mislodged. 1827 HOOD *Hero & Leander* xxxvi, Mislodging music in her pitiless breast.

† **Misloo·k,** *sb.* [MIS-[1] 4.] Sinful looking.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 53 Ovide telleth in his bok Ensample touchende of mislok.

† **Misloo·k,** *v. Obs.* [MIS-[1] 1.]

1. *intr.* To sin in looking.

c 1200 *O. E. Hom.* I. 305 Ich habbe .. Misloket. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 56 That thei wolde Misloke, wher that thei ne scholde. *Ibid.* 57 Of mislokynge how it hath ferd,..now hast thou herd.

2. To look unfavourably *on*.

c 1412 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 703 And now I am myslokyd on & loured.

3. *dial.* (See quots.)

1875–86 *W. Somerset Word-bk, Mislook*, to mislay; to miss; to lose temporarily. 1876 *Mid-Yorksh. Gloss., Mislook*, to overlook, neglectively.

† **Mislo·re.** *Obs.* [MIS-[1] 4.] Evil teaching or counsel.

a 1050 *Liber Scintill.* vii. (1889) 33 Flæsclicra mislara [L. *carnalium sugge(s)tiones*]. *a* 1100 in Napier *O. E. Glosses* 228/323 *Inlecebras*, misl[ara]. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 29 Elch pine [of helle] is fremed on þre fold wise. On is þe defles tuihting and mislore.

† **Mislo·se,** *v. Obs.* [f. MIS-[1] 1 + *lose*, LOOSE *v.*] Used to render L. *dissolvere*.

1382 WYCLIF *Josh.* xiv. 8 My bretheren,..discoumfortiden [*v.r.* myslosedyn, Vulg. *dissolverunt*] the herte of the puple.

† **Mislo·sed,** *ppl. a. Obs.* In 5 mysloset. [f. MIS-[1] 1 + LOSE *v.*[2] Cf. OF. *meslos* blame.] Dispraised, blamed.

c 1440 *Gesta Rom.* xxxvii. 360 (Addit. MS.), Grete men are but glosede, and smale men borne downe and myslovede [*read* mislosede (*for rime*)]. *c* 1450 *Bk. Curtasye* 208 in *Babees Bk.*, In swete wordis þe nedder was closet, Disseyuaunt euer and mysloset.

† **Mislo·ve,** *v. Obs.* [f. MIS-[1] 1 + LOVE *v.*[1]] *intr.* To love in a wrong way.

c 1450 in *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 134 þat I myslufede, I aske mercy.

† **Mislo·ving,** *vbl. sb. Obs.* [f. MIS-[1] 3 + LOVING *vbl. sb.*[2]] Dispraise, depreciation.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 27683 Missau, and groching alsua Bakbite, mislouing [*Cott. Galba* sklander and hachiteing].

Mislu·ck, *sb.* Chiefly *Sc.* [MIS-[1] 4.] Misfortune.

1623 WODROEPHE *Marrow Fr. Tongue* 301 It was his Mislucke to marry that wicked Wife. 1647 HEXHAM, *Een misluck*, a Mishap, or a Misluck. 1711 *Countrey-Man's Let. to Curat* 84 But the Misluck is, he did not believe himself. 1725 RAMSAY *Gentle Sheph.* I. i. (1877) II. 47 Wha can help misluck?

So **Mislu·ck** *v. intr.*, to meet with misfortune.

1647 HEXHAM, *Mislucken*, to Misluck, to Mishap. 1808 JAMIESON, To *Misluck*, to miscarry, not to prosper. 1855 CARLYLE *Misc. Ess., Prinzenraub* (1857) IV. 343 They are to ride by two different roads towards Bohemia, that if one misluck, there may still be another to make terms.

Misly, obs. form of MIZZLY.

Misma·de, *pa. pple.* and *ppl. a.* [MIS-[1] 2.] Badly or wrongly made; † deformed, mis-shapen.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* ix. (*Bertholomeus*) 217 þe face .. wes awful & mysmade. 1393 in *Collect. Topogr.* (1836) III. 257 A feynyd chartre in oure alle forsaid confeffes name mysmaad. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 154/3 A man whiche was greuously mysmade. 1508 DUNBAR *Flyting w. Kennedie* 53 Mismaid monstour. 1640 BP. HALL *Episc.* II. xv. 172 His mis-made Presbyters. 1856 MRS. BROWNING *Aur. Leigh* III. 524 Subjoined to limping possibilities Of mismade human nature. 1881 FAIRBAIRN *Stud. Life Christ* vii. 115 The simple Galileans were not mismade, only unmade, men.

Misma·ke, *v.* Now *Sc.* [MIS-[1] 1.] a. *trans.* To make badly. † b. To unmake, depose. *Obs.* c. *refl.* To disturb oneself, put oneself out.

c 1400 *Chron. Eng.* lxxxv. in *Archiv Stud. neu. Spr.* LII. 24 Be stille, good wyff, quoth they, there of mysmake you noght. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xxviii. 10 That God mismakkis ȝe do amend. 1575 *Burgh Rec. Edin.* 9 July (1882) 41 That we haid spokine off his Graice that we haid maid his Graice and we waild mismak him. 1613 W. COWPER *Holy Alphabet* 186 Wee haue mismade our selues, .. and are not now like vnto that which God created vs. 1825 JAMIESON, To *Mismack, Mismake.* 1. To shape or form improperly; applied to clothes. 2. To trouble, to disturb; as 'Dinna mismake yourself for me'. 1887 *Jamieson's Diet.* Suppl. s.v., He could threep a lee in your face, an' no mismak him.

† **Misma·king,** *vbl. sb. Obs.* [MIS-[1] 3.] Bad composition.

1532 *Guystarde & Sygysmonde* Lenvoy D ij, And where nede is to adde or elles detray Pardon of mysmakinge gladly thou hym pray.

† **Misma·nage,** *sb. Obs. rare*—[1]. [MIS-[1] 4.] Bad management; improper administration.

a 1716 BEVERLEY *Virginia* (1722) I. § 20 That this Disappointment..proceeded from a Mismanage of Government.

Misma·nage, *v.* [MIS-[1] 1.] *trans.* and *intr.* To manage badly or wrongly. Also **Misma·naged** *ppl. a.*, **Misma·naging** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* IV. xvii. § 4 The Business of Assemblies would be in danger to be mismanag'd. 1698 COLLIER *Immor. Stage* (1699) 138 The Clergy mismanage sometimes, and they must be told of their faults. 1699 — *Def. Short View* 68 As for his Mismanaging, he must account to his Master. 1817 JAS. MILL *Brit. India* II. IV. ix. 294 The good of the community .. so formidably threatened in their mismanaging hands. 1838 LYTTON *Alice* 89 A mismanaged estate. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 21 Feb. 5/3 In some respects our foreign policy has been mismanaged.

Hence **Misma·nageable** *a.*

1883 RUSKIN *Fors Clav.* XC. 162 A kind of girl .. who is more or less spoilable and mis-manageable.

Misma·nagement. [MIS-[1] 4.] Bad or improper management or administration.

1668 PEPYS *Diary* 13 Nov., The reason he had to suspect his mismanagement of his money in Ireland. 1690 LOCKE *Govt.* II. xix. § 225 Such Revolutions happen not upon every little Mismanagement in publick Affairs. 1711 POPE *Temp. Fame* 456 Old mismanagements, taxations new. 1845 E. HOLMES *Mozart* 82 The mismanagement 'of the blessed theatrical people, who, .. delay every thing to the last'. 1878 LECKY *Eng. in 18th C.* I. iii. 423 In the English service mismanagement and languor were general.

Misma·nager. [MIS-[1] 5.] A bad manager.

1683 in W. Maitland *Hist. Edin.* (1753) I. vi. 104 Mismanadgers and Imbezlers of the Common Good. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 258 ₱ 3, I would fain ask any of the present Mismanagers, Why should not Rope-dancers [etc.]..appear again on our Stage? 1780 BURKE *Econ. Reform* Wks. III. 247 A long and unbroken pedigree of mismanagers. 1862 *Public Opin.* 26 July 'Contents', The Mismanagement and Mismanagers in the War Department. 1877 RUSKIN *Fors Clav.* VII. 229 He would find .. that the mismanagement could be 'arrested', instead of the mismanager.

Misma·nnered, *a. north.* [MIS-[1] 6.] Ill-mannered, unmannerly.

1637 RUTHERFORD *Lett.* (1862) I. cvi. 268 Some pining and mismannered hunger. 1790 MRS. WHEELER *Westmld. Dial.* (1821) 57 Sic like mismannerd deins [= doings]. 1847 HALLIWELL, *Mismannered*, unbecoming. *Cumb.*

So † **Misma·nners,** bad manners.

1697 VANBRUGH *Relapse* IV. i. (1708) 41, I hope your Honour will excuse my Mismanners to whisper before you. 1820 HOGG *Winter Even. T.* II. ix. 42, I do .. beseetsh yer pardoune for myne grit follye and mismainners.

Misma·rk, *v.* [MIS-[1] 1. Cf. ON. *mismarka* to mark (a sheep) wrongly.]

† 1. *refl.* To make a wrong guess. (Cf. MARK *v.* II.)

c 1440 *York Myst.* xxix. 123 *Petrus*,..Of his company never are I was kende. þou haste þe mismarkid.

2. *trans.* To mark, note, or designate wrongly. Also in pa. pple., having wrong markings.

a 1535 MORE *Answ. Poysoned Bk.* v. ii. Wks. 1135/1 In a side [=page] after misse marked with the noumber of 249, which should haue been marked .. 259. 1699 COLLIER *Def. Short View* 90 His Objections at Big-Allyances, is somewhat unfairly transcrib'd, and the Page mismark'd. 1700 — *2nd Def. Short View* 101 Why is Nature thus disguis'd, and Quality mismark'd? 1904 *Daily Chron.* 30 Aug. 8/1 It does not matter if the birds are a trifle mismarked.

Misma·rriage. [MIS-[1] 4.] An unsuitable marriage. So **Misma·rry** *v.* (*lit.* and *fig.*).

1817 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Ormond* IV. (1833) 42 He was never the same man, especially since his last mis-marriage. 1892 *Sat. Rev.* 2 July 29/2 The absurd words he mismarried. 1893 SWINBURNE *Stud. Prose & Poetry* (1894) 121 The woes ..of any couple accidentally or otherwise mismarried.

Mismase, obs. form of MIZMAZE.

Misma·tch, *sb.* [MIS-[1] 4.] A bad match.

1606 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iv. II. Argt. 6 Mis-Matches taxt. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* IV. 65 See you not .. the mismatch that there is in our minds? 1881 MRS. A. R. ELLIS *Sylvestra* II. 168 That mismatch began the mending of Philip. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Mar. 538/1 The saucer a mismatch.

Misma·tch, *v.* [MIS-[1] 1.] *trans.* To match ill, badly, or unsuitably, esp. in marriage; *pass.* to be ill-matched or ill-mated. Also **Misma·tched** *ppl. a.*, **Misma·tching** *vbl. sb.*

1599 B. JONSON *Cynthia's Rev.* V. x, *Cup.* I am studying how to match them. *Mer.* How to mis-match them were harder. 1633 T. ADAMS *Exp. 2 Peter* ii. 4 (1865) 288 How preposterous and mismatched is an erected countenance and a grovelling spirit! 1638 in *Buccleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 282 Here and there a mismatched suit, but none complete. 1643 MILTON *Divorce* 18 One example of mis-matching with an Infidell. 1678 DRYDEN *All for Love* IV, Sure that Face Was meant for Honesty, but Heav'n mis-match'd it. 1726 LEONI *Alberti's Archit.* II. 8/1 If the Members be..not mismatcht nor unsightly. 1848 J. H. NEWMAN *Loss & Gain* 73, I have heard persons mentioned, but, if I tried, I think I should, in some cases mismatch names and opinions. 1853 FELTON *Fam. Lett.* xliii. (1865) 317 A mismatched pair of Eleusinian steeds. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 1426 The belts are of different lengths, so as to mismatch the sections as they are revolved.

Hence **Misma·tchment** = MISMATCH *sb.*

1858 MRS. GORE *Heckington* III. xiii. 283 The mismatchments created by those hypocrisies of modern life which [etc.].

Misma·ted, *pa. pple.* and *ppl. a.* [MIS-[1] 2.] Ill-mated, ill-matched, unsuitably allied.

1825 J. NEAL *Bro. Jonathan* III. 382 The windows carefully mismated, no two of a size. 1858 J. G. HOLLAND *Titcomb's Lett.* V. 132 A mismated match is much worse than unmated life. 1859 TENNYSON *Enid* 1275 Not all mismated with a yawning clown. 1883 *Century Mag.* XXVI. 245/1 Several pairs of mismated oars.

Mismay', *v. Sc.* and *north. dial.* [Alteration of DISMAY or ESMAY by substitution of the prefix MIS-[1] 9. For the sense cf. MISMAKE *v.* c.] *trans.* To trouble, disturb, 'upset'; chiefly *refl.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 15265 Mismai yow noght, mi breþer dere, Quat-sum yee her or se. 1438 *Bk. Alex. Grt.* (Bannatyne Cl.) 21 We na wayis sould vs mismay. 1501 DOUGLAS *Pal. Hon.* I. lxii, Than as I mocht with curage all mismaid, .. Sair abaisit, belive I thus out braid. 1825–80 JAMIESON, To *Mismae*, to disturb; as 'She never mismaed her mind'.

Mismaze, variant of MIZMAZE.

† **Mismea·n,** *v. Obs.* [MIS-[1] 1.] *trans.* a. To mean or intend wrongly. b. To misinterpret.

1605 VERSTEGAN *Dec. Intell.* 230 Our northerne name of Peg, misment for Margaret. 1647 WARD *Simp. Cobler* 61 Mismeane me not.

† **Mismea·ning,** *vbl. sb. Obs.* [MIS-[1] 3.] Wrong intention.

a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* IV. (1622) 417 He saw the misfortune not the mismeaning of his worke, was like to bring that creature to end.

† **Mismea·ning,** *ppl. a. Obs.* [MIS-[1] 2.] Wrong-thinking.

1387–8 T. USK *Test. Love* II. ix. (Skeat) I. 88 Heretykes and misse-mening people.

Mismea·sure, *v.* [MIS-[1] 1.] *trans.* To measure or estimate incorrectly.

1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* V. 974 With aim mis-measur'd, and impetuous speed. *Ibid.* IX. 1330 Time, eternity! ('Tis these, mis-measur'd, ruin all mankind). 1851 E. FITZGERALD *Euphranor* 72 The moralist who worked alone and..in his closet was most apt to mismeasure Humanity. *a* 1859 DE QUINCEY *Brevia* IV. in *Posth. Wks.* (1891) I. 261 What motive should that furnish him for mismeasuring Nineveh?

So **Mismea·surement,** wrong measurement.

1859 MILL *Diss. & Disc.* I. 392 *note*, The habitual mismeasurement of the..value of things. 1900 MORLEY *Cromwell* III. i. 204 Mismeasurement of forces.

Misme·tre, *v.* [MIS-[1] 1.] *trans.* To spoil the metre of. Hence **Misme·tring** *vbl. sb.*

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* V. 1796 So preye I god that noon miswryte thee, Ne thee mismetre for defaute of tongue. 1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* (Percy Soc.) 220 Go, little boke! I praye God the save From misse metryng by wrong impression. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* XIII. concl. 217 Take gud tent .. ȝhe nowder maggill nor mismetir my ryme. 1829 SOUTHEY *Sir T. More* II. 228 *note*, Whether these verses are her own composition, or whether she only remembered, and elongated, and mis-metered them 1891 LOUNSBURY *Stud. Chaucer* III. vii. 207 No one capable of reading can manage to mismetre them.

† **Mismi·nded,** *ppl. a. Obs. rare*—[1]. [MIS-[1] 2.] Perverted in mind.

1509 BARCLAY *Shyp of Folys* (1570) 25 Mad and misminded, priuate of wisedome.

Mismo·ve. *U.S.* [MIS-[1] 4.] A faulty move or step in action.

1877 T. B. ALDRICH *Queen of Sheba* viii. (1885) 158 He had been guilty of a mismove in attempting to take her at a disadvantage. 1901 *N. Amer. Rev.* Feb. 166 It is a distress to look on and note the mismoves, they are so strange and so awkward.

† **Mismo·ved,** *a. Obs.* [MIS-[1] 6.] Moved unrhythmically.

?*a* 1500 in Grose, etc. *Antiq. Rep.* (1809) IV. 407 How may a mysmovede tymere judge a trew instrument?

† **Misna·me,** *sb.* [MIS-[1] 4.] An abusive name.

1481 in *Deeds. Gilds* (1870) 315 Callenge hym knaffe, or horson, or deffe, or any yoder mysname.

Misna·me, *v.* [MIS-[1] 1.]

1. *trans.* To call by a wrong name; to name wrongly; = MISCALL 1. Often with compl.

1537 tr. *Latimer's Serm. bef. Convocation* C vij, They be misnamed children of lyghte for as moche as they so hate lyghte. 1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turks* (1638) 244 Oftentimes mis-naming vnto them the places they passed by. *a* 1641 BP. MOUNTAGU *Acts & Mon.* (1642) 145 Though he misname the man, and nicknames him Darius Medus. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 84 ₱ 4 By the Force of a Tyrant Custom, which is mis-named a Point of Honour, the Duellist kills his Friend. 1774 BEATTIE *Minstr.* II. xxxvii. In that Elysian age (misnamed of gold). 1882 FARRAR *Early Chr* I. 497 If James and Joses and Simon were habitually called brothers when they were only cousins, it can only be said that they were needlessly and systematically misnamed.

† 2. To call by an abusive name; = MISCALL 2.

c 1500 *Coventry Corpus Chr. Plays* 6/160 *Josoff*...Thogh thatt I dyd the mys-name, Marce, Mare! *a* 1529 SKELTON *Replyc.* Wks. I. 211 Bycause ye her mysnamed, And wolde haue her defamed. *c* 1550 BALE *K. Johan* (Camden) 85 If thu with an hatefull harte Misnamest a kyng. 1632 SHERWOOD, To misname, *improperer*.

So **Misna·med** *ppl. a.*, wrongly named.

1839 HALLAM *Hist. Lit.* II. v. § 58 A tone of sadness reigns through this misnamed Paradise of Daintiness. 1904 *Contemp. Rev.* Aug. 164 The now misnamed Pacific Ocean.

Misna·ming, *vbl. sb.* [MIS-[1] 3.]

1. The giving of a wrong name to a person or a thing; in *Law* = MISNOMER.

1539 *Act* 31 *Hen. VIII*, c. 13 § 16 Misrecitall, misnaming or non-recitall. 1599 THYNNE *Animadv.* (1875) 61 Althoughe there be no mysnamynge of the signe [Taurus]. 1653 KITCHIN *Jurisd. Courts Leet* (ed. 2) 398 Defendant pleads misnaming of himself. 1689 *Grant* in Brand *Newcastle* (1789) II. 671 The .. misnameing or not nameing of any demise or grant.

† 2. Calling by abusive names. *Obs.*

1641 MILTON *Ch. Govt.* I. vi. 32 And whom ye could not move by sophisticall arguing, them you thinke to confute by scandalous misnaming.

Misne, obs. form of MIZEN.

† Misni·m, *v. Obs.* [f. MIS-[1] 1 + NIM *v.* Cf. OHG. *missenemen* to err.] **a.** *trans.* To mistake. **b.** *intr.* To make a mistake; to err, do wrong.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 46 3if ȝe .. gluffeð of wordes, oðer misnimeð uers, nimeð ower uenie dun et ter eorðe. .oðer ualleð adun al uor muchel misnimunge. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 455 ȝef þu ne misnome onont ure maumez. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3091 Quad pharaon, 'ic haue mis-numen'. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 211 He proued .. þat þe kyng misnam, & did grete trespas. 1340 *Ayenb.* 83 Ine oþre quereles huanne me mysnymþ.

Hence † **Misni·ming** *vbl. sb.*: **a.** error; **b.** mis-appropriation.

a 1225 [see above]. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 10465 ȝuf eni clerc vorȝeue out þe king of suich mis niminge. 1340 *Ayenb.* 160 þo þet .. ine alle þinges habbeþ discrecion and mesure wyþ-oute misnimynge.

Misnome (misnōu·m), *v.* Only in pa. pple. [Back-formation f. MISNOMER.] *trans.* To misname.

1804 EUGENIA DE ACTON *Tale without Title* II. 101 The effect of a principle superior to either pride or misnomed delicacy. 1822 T. G. WAINEWRIGHT *Ess. & Crit.* (1880) 294 *note*, The misnomed Grecian Shepherdess. 1852 LYTTON in *Blackw. Mag.* LXXI. 86/1 This *My Novel*..was misnomed and insulted as 'a Continuation of *The Caxtons*'.

Misnomer (misnōu·mər), *sb.* Also 5 -noumer, 7–8 -nosmer. [a. AF., OF. *mesnom(m)er* inf. used subst., f. *mes-* MIS-[2] + *nommer* to name:—L. *nōmināre* (see NOMINATE *v.*).]

1. *Law.* A mistake in naming a person or place.

1455 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 334/1 To allege or plede .. misnoumer. 1532 *Dial. on Laws Eng.* II. xlviii. 122 He..pledeth misnomer [*ed.* 1638 misnosmer]. *a* 1625 SIR H. FINCH *Law* (1636) 385 The defendant may plead misnomer of himself, or no such towne. 1769 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* IV. 328 A plea in abatement is principally for a misnomer, a wrong name, or a false addition to the prisoner. 1846 *Act* 9 & 10 *Vict.* c. 95 § 59 No misnomer or inaccurate description of any person or place in any such plaint or summons shall vitiate the same. 1882 *Act* 45 & 46 *Vict.* c. 50 § 241 No misnomer or inaccurate description of any person, body corporate, or place..shall hinder the full operation of this Act.

2. *gen.* The use of a wrong name; misapplication of a term.

1635 JACKSON *Creed* VIII. xxvii. 304 The second [difficulty] pitcheth upon a misnomer of the Prophet, as whether that Prophecie .. was uttered or written by Zacharish, or .. Jeremiah. 1681 HICKERINGILL *Sin Mancatching* Wks. 1716 I. 174 The Spirit of God..miscalls none, and never is guilty of any misnomer. 1796 MME. D'ARBLAY *Lett.* 16 Dec., You would not accuse yourself of a misnomer in calling him cherub. 1874 L. STEPHEN *Hours in Library* (1892) II. vi. 206 A kind of misnomer which classifies all Scott's books as novels. 1882 PEBODY *Eng. Journalism* xxi. 159 The City which, by a misnomer, is called the Metropolis.

3. A wrong name or designation.

1657 W. MORICE *Coena quasi* Κοινη Def. vi. 309 The Notion of Presbytery (which sure is a misnomer). 1728 MORGAN *Algiers* II. v. 307 To pass by abundance of Misnomers he will needs call the Person I name Drub-Devil, Devil-Driver. 1818 BYRON *Juan* I. cc, My name of Epic's no misnomer. 1891 DRIVER *Introd. Lit. O. T.* (1892) 471 *note*, The term 'Chaldee' for the Aramaic of either the Bible or the Targums is a misnomer.

Misno·mer, *v.* [f. prec.] *trans.* To misname. Chiefly in pa. pple. and ppl. a. = Called by a name which is a misnomer, misnamed.

1740 RICHARDSON *Pamela* (1824) I. lxi. 404 The misnomered free-gifts which we read of in some kingdoms on extraordinary occasions. 1795 WOLCOT (P. Pindar) *Wks.* (1812) III. 435 Whose life (misnomer'd life) is death, rank death. 1848 *Fraser's Mag.* XXXVIII. 134 Louis, misnomered *le Grand*. 1854 LADY LYTTON *Behind the Scenes* I. II. ii. 186 He was beginning sorely to repent the precipitate step which he misnomered hospitality. 1884 EDERSHEIM *Life of Jesus* (ed. 2) II. 562 The wretched witticisms of what is misnomered common sense.

† Misno·te, *v. Obs.* [f. MIS-[1] 1 + NOTE *v.*] *trans.* To abuse.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 130 Saul, *abutens, siue abusio.* Vor Saul, on Ebreuwisch, is mis-notinge an Englisch ant te valse ancre mis-noteð ancre nome.

Misnu·mber, *v.* [MIS-[1] 1.] *trans.* To nnmber incorrectly.

1614 RALEIGH *Hist. World* V. i. § 8 Which might well make it suspected, that the Armies by Sea, before spoken of, were misse-numbred. 1774 GOSTLING *Walk Canterb.* (1777) 140 The misnumbering the prebendal houses. 1906 *Bookman* Mar. (Educ. Suppl.) 25 The last twelve pieces are misnumbered, 103–114 instead of 147–158.

Misnu·rture, *v.* [MIS-[1] 1.] To train up badly.

1625 BP. HALL *Contempl., O. T.* XIX. *Elisha cursing children*, He would punish the parents mis-nurturing their children .. with the death of those children.

† Misnu·rtured, *ppl. a. Sc. Obs.* [MIS-[1] 2.] Badly brought up; ill-bred; unmannerly. Hence **Misnu·rturedness.**

a 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) II. 84 It was ane misnurtartnes [*v. r.* misnortourit] deid and he was bot ane knaif that did it. *Ibid.* 120 The scoittismen growis nevir misnorturit nor dissobedient to thair governouris. 1616 ROLLOCK *Lect.* XXXV. 343 This homelines will not be with misnourturnesse [*sic*: ? *misprint*], and with an opinion of paritie. 1637 RUTHERFORD *Lett.* (1664) I. XXVII. 62 That which idle on-waiting cannot doe, misnurtured crying and knocking will doe.

Miso- (məiso, miso), before a vowel usually **mis-**, repr. Gr. *μῖσο-* (*μισ-*), combining form of the root of *μῖσεῖν* to hate, *μῖσος* hatred. The compounds formed in Greek with this prefix are of the same kind as those with the similar *φιλο-*, PHILO-, but, both in Greek and in English, they are much less numerous than in the case of the latter prefix. The most important adoptions and coinages will be found as main words, viz. MISANTHROPY, MISOGAMY, MISOGYNY, MISOLOGY, MISONEISM, and the related words; others, chiefly nonce-words, follow here. **Misoba·silist** [Gr. *μῖσοβασιλεύς*], a hater of kings. **Misoca·pnic** *a.* [In Bp. Montagu's Lat. edition (1619) of James I's works *A Counterblaste to Tobacco* appears as *Misocapnus*: Gr. *καπνός* smoke], hating tobacco smoke; so **Misoca·pnist**, a hater of tobacco smoke. **Misoca·tholic** *a.*, hating what is (Roman) Catholic. **Mi·soclere** *a.* [eccl. Gr. *κλῆρος* clergy], clergy-hating. **Miso·cyny** [Gr. *κυν-*, *κύων* dog], hatred of dogs. **Misoga·llic** *a.*, characterized by hatred of the French. **Misogra·mmatist** [Gr. *γράμματα* 'letters', pl. of *γράμμα* letter], a hater of letters or learning. **Mi·so-Helle·ne** [cf. Gr. *μῖσέλλην*], a hater of the Greeks. **Mi·somath**, a hater of mathematics. **Misomona·rchical** *a.*, detesting monarchy. **Misomu·sist** [Gr. *μοῦσα* learning], a hater of learning. **Misopæ·dist** [cf. Gr. *μῖσοπαιδ-*, *μῖσόπαις*], a child-hater. **Miso-pa·rson**, a hater of parsons. **Misopa·terist**, a hater of the Fathers of the Christian Church. **Misopogoni·stically** *adv.* [Gr. *μισοπώγων* name of a satire by the emperor Julian: *πώγων* beard], with a hatred of beards. **Misopole·mical** *a.* [cf. Gr. *μισοπόλεμος*], war-hating. **Miso·scopist** [Gr. *σκοπεῖν* to look at], a hater of sights. **Miso·sophist** [cf. Gr. *μῖσόσοφος*], a hater of wisdom; so **Miso·sophy**, hatred of wisdom. **Misothe·ism** [cf. Gr. *μῖσόθεος*], hatred of God or gods; so **Misothe·ist, Misothei·stic** *a.* **Misotramo·ntanism**, hatred of what is 'tramontane'. **Misoty·ranny** [cf. Gr. *μῖσοτύραννος*], hatred of tyranny. **Mi·soxene** [Gr. *μῖσόξενος*], a hater of strangers; so **Miso·xeny** [Gr. *μῖσοξενία*], hatred of strangers. † **Misoxy·genous** *a.*, having no chemical affinity for oxygen.

1638 in *Bk. Sc. Pasquils* (1868) 43 Frome .. All monster *Misobasilists .. Almighty God deliver us. 1855 KINGSLEY *Westw. Ho!* vii, That *Misocapnic Solomon James I. 1839 'JOSEPH FUME' *Paper on Tobacco* 70 Offending the nostrils of all *misocapnists with the fumes of his mundungus. 1857 ELLIS & BLACKBURN *Rep. Cases Q. B.* VII. 190 He would not have approved of the *misocatholic opinions. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* IV. 182 King Henry the sixth, acted herein by some *misoclere-Courtiers sent this Arch-Bishop for a New years-gift, a shred-pie. 1889 *Sat. Rev.* 26 Oct. 450/1 They .. seldom express their '*misocyny'.. articulately. 1897 *Edin. Rev.* July 31 The *misogallic language and policy of Signor Crispi. *a* 1661 FULLER *Worthies, Suffolk* (1662) III. 68 Wat Tyler..being a *Misogrammatist (if a good Greek word may be given to so Barbarous a Rebel). 1868 VISCT. STRANGFORD *Selection* (1869) I. 345 A dastardly anti-Christian *miso-Hellene. 1872 DE MORGAN *Budget* 418 The great *misomath of our own day. 1644 MAXWELL *Prerog. Chr. Kings* 158 Our *Miso-monarchicall Statists and Sectaries. 1642 SIR E. DERING *Sp. on Relig.* 116 Our better cause hath gained by this light: which doth convince our *Miso-musists. 1895 *Pop. Sci. Monthly* Sept. 655 Children, says the *misopaedist, are not only unfeeling. 1795 G. WAKEFIELD *Reply 2nd Pt. Paine* 54 For me, who am engaged in this controversy with our *miso-parson. 1840 G. S. FABER *Prim. Doctr. Regen.* p. xvii, Lest it should be eagerly caught up, by some strenuous *Misopaterist, as stultifying the legitimate Principle of an Appeal to Antiquity 1842 MRS. BROWNING *Grk. Chr. Poets* Poems 1890 V. 135 He and Basil..talked low and *misopogonistically of their fellow-student Julian's bearded boding smiles. 1849 EASTWICK *Dry Leaves* 167 The *misopolemical Cobden. 1873 LOWELL *Lett.* (1894) II. 111 He has become a thorough *misoscopist or hater of sights. 1890 *Eng. Illustr. Mag.* Nov. 130, I am a *mysosophist! All wisdom is vanity, and I hate it! 1820–30 COLERIDGE in *Lit. Rem.* (1838) III. 33 Schools of psilology..and *misosophy are here out of the question. 1846 DE QUINCEY *Christianity* Wks. 1859 XII. 251 Hypocrisy, the cringing of sycophants, and the credulities of fear, united to conceal this *misotheism. 1881 H. HARTSHORNE *Glance 20th Cent.* 56 They unite ourselves..as *misotheists, against all that is called God. *Ibid.*, The new *Misotheistic Association. 1846 DE QUINCEY *Mackintosh* Wks. 1862 XII. 78 Machiavelli's fierce *misotramontanism. 1874 MAHAFFY *Soc. Life Greece* v. 148 The .. known *miso-tyranny of the family. 1883 *Q. Rev.* Jan. 197 His fellow *misoxene of a nearer East. 1611 SPEED *Hist. Gt. Brit.* IX. ix. (1623) 614 Our *Misoxenie (or hatred to strangers) was no new qualitie. 1674 JOSSELYN *Two Voy.* 125 Both Men and Women are guilty of Misoxenie. 1799 SIR H. DAVY in Beddoes *Contrib. Phys. & Med. Knowl.* 223 The terms philoxygenous and *misoxygenous must be changed.

Misobse·rvance. *rare.* [MIS-[1] 4.] Failure to observe rules or conditions properly. Also † **Misobse·rvancy.**

1496 *Dives & Pauper* (W. de W.) I. xl. 80/1 Yf they use in theyr dooynge ony mysobseruaunce. 1637 EARL MONM. tr. *Malvezzi's Romulus & Tarquin* 49 Misobservancie differs from contempt. 1817 JAS. MILL *Brit. India* I. III. v. 643 That as soon as any misobservance was laid hold of by the judge, the whole of the preceding operations..should be set aside.

So **Misobse·rve** *v.*, **Misobse·rver.**

1649 MILTON *Eikon.* IX. 87 The .. Covnanteers (For so I call them as misobservers of the Cov'nant). 1693 LOCKE *Educ.* § 81 If I misobserve not, they [*sc.* children] love to be treated as rational Creatures, sooner than is imagin'd.

Miso·ccupy. [MIS-[1] 1.] *trans.* To occupy amiss. Also **Miso·ccupied** *ppl. a.*

1534 MORE *Treat. Passion* Wks. 1330/2 He may..misse occupy his eares and heape vp in his hart a donghyl of theyr dyuelyshe vanities. *a* 1832 BENTHAM *Deontol.* (1834) II. ii. 113 Unoccupied or misoccupied time.

Misogamy (məis-, misǫ·gămi). [ad. mod.L. *misogamia*, a. Gr. *μισογαμία*, f. *μῖσόγαμος* hating marriage (Stephanus), f. *μῖσο-* MISO- + *γάμος* marriage. Cf. F. *misogamie*.] Hatred of marriage.

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Misogamie* (*misogamia*), hating of marriage. 18.. LAMB *Let. to Coleridge* (L.), It is misogyny rather than misogamy that he affects. 1857 *Chamb. Jrnl.* VIII. 397 Not through any foolish independence of mankind, or adventurous misogamy.

So **Miso·gamist**, a hater of marriage; **Misogamic** (məiso-, misogæ·mik) *a.*, marriage-hating.

1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Misogamist*, a Marriage-hater. 1780 M. MADAN *Thelyphthora* II. 89 *note*, Notwithstanding all the bitterness of that gloomy misogamist Jerome. 1877 MRS. FORRESTER *Mignon* I. 34 A cynical old misogamist. 1889 *Pall Mall G.* 7 Jan. 3/2 Any doubt he may have ever cherished in his misogamic breast concerning woman's creative capacity.

Misogyne (məi·so-, mi·sǫdʒin). *rare*—[1]. [ad. Gr. *μῖσογυνης* (see MISOGYNIST). Cf. F. *misogyne*.] A woman-hater.

1817 COLERIDGE *Biog. Lit.* (Bohn) 112 The Misogyne, Boccaccio.

So **Misogy·nic, Misogynous** (məis-, misǫ·dʒinəs) *adjs.*, woman-hating.

1825 *New Monthly Mag.* XV. 247 A cynic misogynic heretic old bachelor. 1859 MEREDITH *R. Feverel* XXV, His misogynic soul. 1884 *Trans. Cumbld. & Westmld. Lit. Assoc.* X. 41 A woman has been, by misogynous old bachelors, said to be at the bottom of all mischief.

Misogynist (məis-, misǫ·dʒinist). Also 7 -genyst. [f. Gr. *μῖσογύνης* (f. *μῖσο-* MISO + *γύνη* woman) + -IST.] A woman-hater.

1620 *Swetnam Arraigned* I. ii. A 4 [Mysogenos loq.] Swetnams name, Will be more terrible in womens eares, Then euer yet Misogenysts hath beene. 1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* I. xii. § 3 Junius, at the first little better then a Misogynist, was afterwards so altered from himself, that he successively married foure wives. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1811) I. 308 That surly old misogynist, as he was deemed, Sir Oliver. 1858 THACKERAY *Virgin.* XXXIV. (1878) 274 'Confound all women, I say', muttered the young misogynist. 1900 W. L. COURTNEY *Idea of Tragedy* 104 Many critics have called him [*sc.* Euripides] misogynist, and certainly he says very hard things of the female sex.

Hence **Miso·gynism** = MISOGYNY; **Misogyni·stic, -gyni·stical** *adjs.* = MISOGYNIC.

1821 *New Monthly Mag.* I. 88 The sentiment has been re-echoed by every misogynistic satirist. 1830 H. N. COLERIDGE *Grk. Poets* (1834) 274 Euripides did not indulge his supposed misogynism beyond the taste of his audience. 1850 J. BROWN *Horæ Subs., Locke & Sydenham* (1858) 10 This misogynistical rosicrucian was brought over to Oxford by Boyle. 1876 H. KINGSLEY *Grange Garden* I. 30 Ben Jonson in his hideous misogynism. 1891 *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 196/2 The misogynistic lament that 'Adam ever lost a rib'.

Misogyny (məis-, misǫ·dʒini). [ad. mod.L. *misogynia*, a. Gr. *μῖσογυνία*, f. *μῖσογύνης* (see MISOGYNIST). Cf. F. *misogynie*.] Hatred of women.

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Misogynie* (*misoginia*), the hate or contempt of women. 1658 PHILLIPS, *Misoginy*. 18.. [see MISOGAMY]. 1882 H. C. MERIVALE *Faucit of B.* I. i. 7 He ..walked the banks apart, a thing of misogyny, in a suit of flannel.

Misology (məis-, misǫ·lŏdʒi). [ad. Gr. *μῖσολογία* (corresp. to *μισόλογος* hating reason): see MISO- and -LOGY.] Hatred of reason or discussion; also, hatred of learning or knowledge.

1833 COLERIDGE *Table-t.* 16 Feb, Misology, or hatred and depreciation of knowledge. 1847 LEWES *Hist. Philos.* (1853) 327 Bruno's scorn sprang from no misology. 1865 GROTE *Plato* II. xxiii. 155 Tinged with misology, or the hatred of free argumentative discussion.

So **Miso·logist, Misologue** (məi·so-, mi·sǫlǫg), a hater of reason or discussion.

1866 M. P. W. BOLTON *Inquis. Philos.* 89 'Let us not', replies Socrates, 'become misologues, as some persons become misanthropes'. 1871 JOWETT *Plato* I. 438 As there are misanthropists or haters of men, there are also misologists or haters of ideas. 1873 MORLEY *Struggle Nat. Educ.* 66 What statesmanship is that which .. invests its priests with a new function, and entrusts afresh a holy army of misologists with the control of national instruction?

Misomere, obs. form of MIDSUMMER.

† **Mison.** *Obs.* = MISY 1.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XIX. iii. II. 7 Of the excrescence name Misy [*marg.* or, Mison]. *Ibid.*, Misy [*marg.* or, Mison rather, according to Turneb.]. 1611 FLORIO, *Misi*, a kinde of excressence of the earth called Misons passing sweet in smell and taste.

Mison, obs. form of MIZEN.

Misoneism (məiso-, misonī·iz'm). [ad. It. *misoneismo* (Lombroso *L'uomo delinquente* (1889) I. 21), f. Gr. *μῖσο-* MISO- + *νέ-os* NEW: see -ISM.] Hatred of novelty. Hence **Misonei·st**, a hater of novelty; **Misonei·stic** *a.*, characterized by misoneism.

1886 *Pop. Sci. Monthly* Oct. 782 The fear of the unknown has been named misoneism. .. It is best exemplified in children and savages. 1891 H. ZIMMERN in *Blackw. Mag.* Feb. 206/2 'What else is it but this that we call misoneistic', continues Lombroso, 'that prevents the

speedy acceptance of scientific improvements'? 1891 *Review of Rev.* Jan. 83/2 The most thoroughgoing misoneist.

†Misopi·nion. *Obs.* [MIS-[1] 4.] An erroneous opinion.

1545 RAYNOLD *Byrth Mankynde* 2 Certayne thynges .. of the whiche bothe men .. and women..haue conceauyd very erronious and misopinions. 1624 BP. HALL *True Peacemaker* (1645) 102 Every fault is a crime; every mis-opinion an heresie. 1640 — *Episc.* I. xii. 54 Were there not foule mis-opinions in the Churches of Corinth, Galatia, Thessalonica, Colosse? 1680 WALLER *Div. Medit.* 35 Nothing but ignorance is the mother of this misopinion.

Misordai·ned, *pa. pple.* [MIS-[1] 2.] †a. Not guided or directed. *Obs.* b. Irregularly ordained. So †**Misordai·ning** *vbl. sb.*, misdirection.

c 1400 Mysordeyninge [see MISORDINANCE]. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Armes* (S. T. S.) 291 But hete, but wilfulnes of a disordinate lust, .. but favour mysordanyt. 1640 BP. HALL *Episc.* II. xv. 172 A Nullity pronounced of those his misordained.

Miso·rder, *sb.* Now *rare.* [MIS-[1] 4.]

1. = DISORDER (in various senses); absence or breach of order; confusion; disorderly conduct, misbehaviour.

c 1400 *Ser J. Mandevelle & Gt. Souden* (MS. Bodl. e. Museo 160, fol. 111 b), They by & selle by craft & gyn, Theyr mysorder cawses alle myscheve. 1494 FABYAN *Chron.* II. xlvi. 29 After hym reygned .xx. Kynges successyuely .. of the whiche .. is no mencyon made eyther for their rudenesse..or discordaunt meanes, or maners..the whiche mysordre Clerkes disdayned to wryte or put in memory. *c* 1515 BP. WEST in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. III. I. 182, I have begonne my Visitacyon in my Cathedrall Churche of Ely, wher I have ffounde suche Mysorder .. that [etc.]. 1586 COGAN *Haven Health* ccxiv. (1636) 228 It is better to preserve health by sobriety and temperance, than by surfet and misorder, to make the body weake and sickly. 1646 R. BAILLIE *Anabaptism* (1647) Pref. A, When an Army is once .. put in such misorder as it begins to run. 1654 Z. COKE *Logick* 50 The misorder (ἀταξία) in this motion is not from the soul. 1849 H. MILLER *Footpr. Creat.* ix. (1874) 160 The limbs seem to exhibit merely the amount of natural misarrangement and misorder.

b. An instance of disorder; an ill-ordered procedure or state of things.

1538 STARKEY *England* I. iii. 20 Except we..serch out al commyn fautys and general mysordurys. 1623 CAMOEN *Rem.* (1636) 263 His Uncles .. with other of that faction, who sought to reforme the misorders of .. his Counsellours. *a* 1656 HALES *Gold. Rem.* (1688) 96, I will speak of the redress of some misorders very frequent in our Age. 1709 STRYPE *Ann. Ref.* xlv. 462 Because he found still the Continuance of that his misorder. 1885 EDGAR *Old Ch. Life Scot.* v. 234 To report to the Session what scandals and misorders existed within the bounds of his charge.

†2. Bad or wrong order. In first two quots. with reference to the 'ordering' of clergy. *Obs.*

1561 *Burnynge of Paules Church*, etc. (1563) O ij b, The order by whiche oure Byshops and Priestes are made nowe, is more agreeing to the .. tradition of Thapostles than that misorder wherby the Popish prelates order their clergy. 1563–83 FOXE *A. & M.* 1693/2 *Boner.* Well Syr, what say you to the Sacrament of Orders? *Smith.* Ye may call it the Sacrament of misorders. 1641 R. B. K. *Parallel of Liturgy with Mass-bk.* 87 We follow punctually the misorders .. we cast the Epistles ever before and the Gospels behind.

†Miso·rder, *v. Obs.* [MIS-[1] 1.]

1. *trans.* To put into disorder or confusion; to confuse, distnrb.

1494 FABYAN *Chron.* VI. ccix. 223 The doughter of Canutus ..by whome many thynges were mysse orderyd, and specyally by ye subtylytie of this Erle Goodwyn. 1530 PALSGR. 638/1 Who hath mysordred these thynges sythe I wente. I dyd put every thyng in his ryght place. 1555 in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1599) 262 That which shall be misordered by negligence. 1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV*, IV. ii. 33 The Time (mis-order'd) doth .. Crowd vs, and crush vs, to this monstrous Forme.

2. To ill-treat, ill-use.

1550 COVERDALE *Spir. Perle* xxviii. 265 When he was mocked..scourged..and most cruelly misordered and dealt with all. 1575 *Gamm. Gurton* v. ii. (Manly), Master Doctor vpon you here complaineth That you and your maides shuld him much misorder.

3. *refl.* To misbehave, misconduct oneself; to be disorderly or ill-behaved.

1505 *Rep. Var. Coll.* (Hist. MSS. Comm. 1901) I. 5 If there be any of the bretherne .. that messay or do in myssorderynge hyme selfie one anenst another. 1572 *Act* 14 *Eliz.* c. 5 § 2 Every person or persons..taken vagrant wandring and misordering themselves. 1588 *Nottingham Rec.* IV. 220 For misorderinge hym selfe in the sarmon time. 1740 *Act* 13 *Geo. II*, c. 24 The County..where such Person shall be so found begging, or otherwise misordering him or herself.

†Miso·rdered, *ppl. a. Obs.* [MIS-[1] 2.]

1. Of disorderly behaviour; ill-conducted.

1529 MORE *Dyaloge* IV. Wks. 274/1 Where were become al good ordre among men, if euery misordred wretche myght alledge that nis mischieuous dede was his destenу? *a* 1568 ASCHAM *Scholem.* I. (Arb.) 33 Fewe of them cum to any great aige, by reason of their misordered life when they were yong. 1605 *Play of Stucley* in Simpson *Sch. Shaks.* (1878) 168 Thou lewd misordered villain.

2. Disordered, confused, deranged; irregular.

1538 in *Lett. Suppr. Monast.* (Camden) 184 A better deade for the comen wealth and dew reformacion of the whole mysordered dyocesse can not be purposed. 1559 *Primer* in *Priv. Prayers* (1851) 101 No agreement of opinions, but, as it were, in a misordered quire, every man singeth a contrary note. 1631 GOUGE *God's Arrows* I. § 43 Anger is misordered, when it is unadvisedly, or immeasurably moved. 1645 RUTHERFORD *Tryal & Tri. Faith* (1845) 31 Christ must oil the wheels of mis-ordered will. 1794 MATHIAS *Purs. Lit.* (1798) 397 This mis-order'd world, these lawless times.

†Miso·rdering, *vbl. sb. Obs.* [MIS-[1] 3.] a. Mismanagement; misrule. b. Disturbance. c. Miscondnct.

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 61 In ony other euyl kepyng of thy syght, or misorderyng of ony other of all thy senses. 1535 *Act* 27 *Hen. VIII*, c. 18 Misorderynge of the saide riuer by casting in of dunge. 1625 BP. MOUNTAGU *App. Cæsar* 3 Any misbeing, misordering, misdemeaning in any point. 1643 PRYNNE *Sov. Power Parl.* I. (ed. 2) 8 Who for misordering of his people was deposed by them.

†Miso·rderly, *a. Obs.* [MIS-[1] 6, 7.] Unruly, disorderly; irregular, confused.

a 1568 ASCHAM *Scholem.* I. (Arb.) 28 Lest his ouermoch hearinge of you driue him to seeke some misorderlie shifte. *Ibid.* 91 This kinde of misorderlie meter. *a* 1656 HALES *Gold. Rem.* I. (1673) 164 Unruly and misorderly affections. 1661 *Plymouth Col. Rec.* (1855) III. 213 Misorderly carriages tending to disturbance in the towne of Eastham.

†Miso·rderly, *adv. Obs.* [MIS-[1] 6, 7.] In a disorderly manner.

a 1557 *Diurn. Occurr.* (Bannatyne Cl.) 36 The Scottis without any skaith fled mis-ordourlie. 1558 KENNEDY *Compend. Tract.* in *Wodrow Soc. Misc.* (1844) 142 Takand the place of authoritie mysordourlie on thame selfis. 1592 STOW *Ann.* 1146 Being taken begging, vagrant, and wandring misorderly [cf. MISORDER *v.* 3, quot. 1572].

†Miso·rdinance. *Obs.* [MIS-[1] 4.] a. Lack of order or regularity. b. Misconduct.

c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 84 Mys-ordynaunce [*v.r.* mysordeyninge] of dietynge. 1509 BARCLAY *Shyp of Folys* 252 b, Who can rehers eche sort of folysshenes That vs mysgydeth through our mysordynaunce?

Misordina·tion. [MIS-[1] 4.] Improper ordination. 1664 [see MISCONSECRATION.]

†Miso·rned, *ppl. a. Obs.* [f. MIS-[1] 2 + **orned* after F. *orné* adorned. (Cf. ORNE *a.*[2])] Unadorned.

15.. R. COPLAND *Helyas* Prol. in Thoms *E. Eng. Prose Rom.* (1828) III. 2 To take no regard to the languag misorned and rude.

†Misow·ning, *vbl. sb. Obs.* [MIS-[1] 7.] Disowning.

1661 J. DAVIES *Civil Warres* 311 Manifesting an utter dislike and misowning of theirs and the kings proceedings.

†Mispai·r. *Obs.* In 5 **myspayre.** [? Alteration of DESPAIR: see MIS-[1] 9.] ? Despair.

14.. *Sir Beues* 4264 (MS. Cant. in Hall.) The kyng Edgare Dryveth the to grete myspayre [*MS. A.* 10 meche te bismare].

†Mispa·rlance. *Obs. rare*—[1]. [ad. OF. *mesparlance*: see MIS-[2] and PARLANCE.] Evil speaking.

c 1570 *Pride & Lowl.* (1841) 49 And praied witnesse of his fowle misparlaunce.

Mispay·, *v.* [a. OF. *mespai-er*: see MIS-[2] and PAY *v.*[1]]

†1. *trans.* To displease, dissatisfy; to anger, irritate. *Obs.*

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 198 Hwose .. is wel ipaied ȝif heo is ipreised, & mis-ipaied ȝif heo nis itold swuch ase heo wolde. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 7811 So þe barons þem nought mispaye, Ne þe comun folk affraye. *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* cxxxviii. 23 If thou see any thynge in my way that is mispayand til the. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* v. 64 To do is us full lothe, þat shuld oure god myspaye. 1493 *Dives & Pauper* II. xix. i vj, If thou .. art nat myspayed whan thou heryst them [*sc.* oaths], thou takest goddes name in veyne.

2. To pay by mistake.

1698 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3369/4 Whoever has Mispaid such a Bill, let him enquire of John Brassey.

Mispeak, Mispeche, obs. ff. MIS-SPEAK, MIS-SPEECH.

Misperfo·rm, *v.* [MIS-[1] 1.] *trans.* To perform improperly.

a 1656 VINES *Lord's Supp.* (1677) 172 The positive worship of God in sacraments is not easily either misperformed or neglected. 1663 H. COGAN tr. *Pinto's Trav.* xxiv. 87, I do not think any of your company can accuse me for misperforming my duty. 1817 JAS. MILL *Brit. India* III. ii. 74 The duties of the office .. were .. such as could not be neglected, or misperformed. 1873 BRYCE *Holy Rom. Emp.* x, To degrade him if he rejected or misperformed it [*sc.* his task].

Misperfo·rmance. [MIS-[1] 4.] Improper performance.

1684 BAXTER *Twelve Argls.* § 4. 10 Must we renounce the Communion with them all, or reserve exception against their faults and misperformances? 1885 H. W. BEECHER in *Amer. Rev.* Jan. 192 It is an argument against the misperformance of duty, and not against the imperative duty.

†Mispe·rson, *v. Sc. Obs.* [Alteration of DISPERSON, by substitution of prefix: see MIS-[1] 9.] *trans.* To treat (a person) with indignity.

1523–4 *Extracts Aberd. Reg.* (1844) I. 445 For the mispersoning of .. the merchandis .. in calling of thame 'Coffeis'. 1530 *Ibid.* 134 Alex. Rutherfurd, bailzie, complenzeit in iugment that he was disobeyit, strublit, and mispersonit in the executioun of his office. 1613 *Extracts Rec. Lanark* (1893) 120 Quhille hie .. acknahaulege his offens in mispersoning the said Robert Lokhart [*cf. supra* impersonit].

Mispersua·de, *v.* Now *rare* or *Obs.* [MIS-[1] 1.] *trans.* To persuade wrongly or into error.

1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* v. lxii. § 9 The teachers error is the peoples tryall, harder and heauier by so much to beare, as he is in worth and regard greater that misperswadeth them. 1635 JACKSON *Creed* VIII. ix. 86 Job's wife did seeke to mispersuade him. 1710 NORRIS *Chr. Prud.* vii. 328 Tho' he is mispersuaded in so thinking.

Mispersua·sibleness. *nonce-wd.* Incapability of being persuaded.

a 1684 LEIGHTON *Comm. 1 Pet.* i. 14 Sons of mispersuasibleness [*rendering of* υἱοὺς τῆς ἀπειθείας, *Eph.* v. 6].

Mispersua·sion. Now *rare* or *Obs.* [MIS-[1] 4.] Persuasion of what is erroneous; wrong conviction or conception.

1594 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* Pref. viii. § 13 Touching the sequele of your present mispersuasions. 1597 *Ibid.* v. lxviii. § 11 Suppose that some haue by mispersuasion liued in Schisme. 1667 *Decay Chr. Piety* viii. ¶ 7 Some mispersuasions concerning the divine attributes, which do .. tend .. to the corrupting mens manners. 1707 in Hearne *Collect.* (O. H. S.) II. 50 To confirme people in their several mispersuasions. 1829 SOUTHEY *Sir T. More* II. 207 Persons.. under a fatal but invincible mispersuasion. 1834 *Oxf. Univ. Mag.* I. 47 Till the mispersuasion is eradicated from the mind of the public.

Mispickel (mi·spikĕl). *Min.* Also 7 **-pickle,** 8 **-pikel.** [a. G. *mispickel*, formerly also *mispütl*, *mispilt*, of obscure origin.] Native arseno-sulphide of iron; arsenical pyrites; arsenopyrite. Also *attrib.*

1683 PETTUS *Fleta Minor* II. 7 All Silver Oars..free from Flint, Blent, Cobolt, Mispickle, Glimmer, Wolferan. *Ibid.*, The Blent, Cobolt, or mispickle Oars. 1789 in *Med. Comm.* II. 350 Specimens of aerated barytes that contain ramifications of mispikel. 1801 CHENEVIX in *Phil. Trans.* XCI. 215 To ascertain the quantity of metallic arsenic in mispickel. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 681 Mispickel is a tin-white mineral, which emits a garlic smell at the blowpipe.

Hence **†Mispickly** *a.*, resembling mispickel.

1683 PETTUS *Fleta Minor* I. 230 What is splendy, mispickly, glimery or spady.

Mispla·ce, *v.* [MIS-[1] 1.]

1. *trans.* To put in a wrong place or in wrong hands.

1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III*, III. ii. 44 Ile baue this Crown of mine cut fro my shoulders, Before ile see the Crowne so foule mis-plac'd. *c* 1600 — *Sonn.* lxvi, And gilded honor shamefully misplast. 1603 FLORIO *Montaigne* II. xxxi, If he have not washt a glasse well or misplaced a stoole. 1662 STILLINGFL. *Orig. Sacræ* III. i. § 9 Many times arguments may be good in their order, but they are mis-placed. 1727 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* s. v. *Florist*, Handling a Flower..is.. apt to misplace the Leaves. 1781 COWPER *Table-T.* 39 The globe and sceptre in such hands misplaced. 1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) I. 60 [The teeth] may be misplaced by incurvation, or projection, or obliquity. 1867 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1877) I. vi. 489 Secondary authorities have altogether misplaced the date.

b. To assign a wrong position to.

1551 RECORDE *Cast. Knowl.* (1556) 157 To prooue that it [the earth] standeth in the myddle of the worlde,..I wyll declare certayne inuincible reasons for confutation of them that mysseplace it. 1779 FORREST *Voy. N. Guinea* 6 That ..the Spaniards, in their posterior charts, misplaced Solomon's islands.

†c. *absol.* To misplace one's words. *Obs.*

1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* II. i. 90 *Elb.* Proue it before these varlets here thou honorable man, proue it. *Esc.* Doe you heare how he misplaces?

2. To set (one's affections) on a wrong object; to place (one's confidence) amiss; †to spend (time) unprofitably. Usually in pa. pple. (cf. next).

1638 WILKINS *New World* II. (1684) 176 In the study of which, so many do misplace their younger Years. 1665 DRYDEN *Ind. Emp.* v. i, Your guilty kindness why do you mis-place? 1666 M. M. *Solomon's Prescr.* 82 Hast thou misplac't thy heart on a treacherous Friend? 1710 PALMER *Proverbs* 174 A man of honour isn't therefore to be fool'd, because he has mis-plac'd his address. 1784 COWPER *Tiroc.* 50 Power misemployed, munificence misplaced. 1838 JAMES *Robber* I. vii. 159 With that bright confidence which you shall never find misplaced, you have yielded your heart [etc.].

Mispla·ced, *ppl. a.* [MIS-[1] 2.] Put in a wrong place; devoted to a wrong object; hence, out-of-place, unseasonable, ill-timed.

1595 SHAKS. *John* III. iv. 133 The mis-plac'd Iohn. 1685 BUNYAN *Pharisee & Publican* 51 This misplacing of Gods Laws, cannot .. but produce mis-shaped, and misplaced Obedience. 1759 GOLDSM. *Bee* No. 3 ¶ 3 Misplaced liberality. 1793 A. YOUNG *Example of France* 58 Two words on this purity will not be entirely misplaced. 1797 BURKE *Regic. Peace* III. ad init., The loose, misplaced stones..of this rough, ill kept..French causeway. 1814 LAMA *Let. to Coleridge* 13 Aug., One's romantic credulity is for ever misleading one into misplaced acts of foolery. 1891 HARDY *Tess* xxxiii, The incident of the misplaced letter.

Mispla·cement. [MIS-[1] 4.] The action of misplacing or the condition of being misplaced; wrong position.

1655 H. MORE *Antid. Ath.* App. *Wks.* (1662) 159 The story of the misplacement of certain Mountains on the Earth. 1676 — *Remarks* 93 The measure of misplacement of the parts of the matter of the Universe. 1876 BRISTOWE *Th. & Pract. Med.* (1878) 867 Misplacements of the kidneys. 1881 WESTCOTT & HORT *Grk. N. T.* II. 301 The confusion arising out of the misplacement of the incident. 1906 J. H. MOULTON *Gram. N. T. Grk.* I. 84 A very curious misplacement of the article occurs in the ὁ ὄχλος πολὺς of Jn. 12[9].

Mispla·cing, *vbl. sb.* [MIS-[1] 3.] = prec.

1622 BACON *Holy War* Wks. 1827 VII. 131 An omission which is more than a misplacing. 1706 A. BEDFORD *Temple Mus.* ix. 192 The Misplacing of the Accent. 1891 *Athenæum* 31 Oct. 584/1 The erroneous dates have led to much misplacing of the letters.

Mispla·nt, *v.* [MIS-[1] 1.] *trans.* To plant amiss; *spec.* in *Fencing* (see quot. 1767).

1692 DRYDEN *Cleomenes* II. i, Thou art .. Misplanted in a base degenerate Soil. 1767 FERGUSSON *Dict. Terms Small Sword* 13 To *Misplant*, not to direct any thrust properly.

Misplay·. [MIS-[1] 4.] Wrong play.

1889 *Columbus* (Ohio) *Disp.* 1 Aug., A misplay of any kind would allow the score to be tied. 1894 *Outing* (U. S.) XXIV. 300/2 He was playing a steady, careful game,..apparently waiting for Hovey's misplays.

Misplea·d, *v. rare.* [MIS-[1] 1. AF. had *mespleder.*] *trans.* To plead wrongly or falsely.

1676 Bunyan *Strait Gate* § 44 Wks. (1692) 636/1 You that can tell how to misplead Scripture to maintain your Pride. 1681 Hickeringill *Sin Man-catching* Postscr., Wks. 1716 I. 206 They suffer no Man's Cause to perish..by a word mis-placed, mis-recited or mis-pleaded.

Mispleading, *vbl. sb.* [Mis-[1] 3 : cf. prec.] Wrong pleading; a mistake in pleading.

1532 *Dial. on Laws Eng.* II. xlviii. 121 The Judges shall so instructe hym..that he shall renne into no ieopardy by his mispleadyng. 1540 *Act* 32 *Hen. VIII*, c. 30 Any myspleading lacke of colour .. or ieofaile. 16.. T. Adams *Forrest of Thornes* Wks. (1629) 1059 And when the vpshot comes, perhaps the mispleading of a word shall forfeit all. 1775 De Lolme *Eng. Const.* I. x. (1784) 96 A mispleading, or the like transgression.

† **Mispleasance.** *Obs.* [Mis-[1] 7.] Grief, sorrow.

1387-8 T. Usk *Test. Love* I. iii. (Skeat) I. 22 There shal no misplesaunce be caused through trespace on my syde.

† **Misplease,** *v. Obs.* [Mis-[1] 7. Cf. OF. *mesplaire*.]

1. *trans.* To displease.

c 1430 *Hymns Virgin* (1867) 90 Schulde neuere þan þis erþe for þis erþe mysplese heuene king. *c* 1450 Lovelich *Merlin* 272 God..Js misplesid..whanne ony Synnere doth him hate. 1614 J. Davies *Ecl.* in Browne *Sheph. Pipe* G 6 Sith the rude world doon vs misplease That well deseruen.

2. *intr.* To be displeased *with*.

c 1450 Lovelich *Grail* xxvi. 87 Flegentyne..hire preide þat sche sholde not with hire mysplese. *Ibid.* xxxvi. 556 Wherfore his wyf gan there to mysplese.

† **Mispoint,** *v.*[1] *Obs.* [See Dispoint *v.*[1] and Mis-[1] 9.] *trans.* To balk.

1480 Caxton *Chron. Eng.* ccxlix, Whan they apperceyued this, that they were myspoynted they saylled strayt to Depe.

Mispoint, *v.*[2] Now *rare* or *Obs.* [Mis-[1] 1.] *trans.* † a. To point with the wrong finger. *Obs.* b. To punctuate wrongly; to mispunctuate. Also **Mispointed** *ppl. a.*, **Mispointing** *vbl. sb.*

1542 Udall *Erasm. Apoph.* 87 b, The errour of myspoyntyng with the fynger. 1567-9 Jewel *Def. Apol.* (1611) 103 You haue purposely corrupted, and mispointed the whole place. 1582 Stanyhurst *Æneis*, etc. (Arb.) 157 The mispoyncting of periods. 1635 Jackson *Creed* VIII. xxxiii. 376 Those sophistical Novelists who thus mispoint the words of his promise...Verily I say unto thee this day, thou shalt be with me in Paradise. 1649 Bp. Hall *Cases Consc.* III. vii. 299 Ambroses mis-pointed reading. 1744 C. Willats *Assize Serm. at York* 26 This greatly mistaken passage..could not possibly have been mistaken .. if it had not been first mis-pointed. 1870 Lowell *Study Wind.* 307 Misprints and mis-pointings.

† **Misport,** *v. Obs.* [Mis-[1] 1.] *trans.* To import unlawfully.

c 1630 Donne *Serm.* (1649) II. xxxiv. 305 When forain merchandize is mis-ported, the Prince may permit, or inhibit his Subjects to buy it, or not to buy it.

Misprai·se, *v.* Now *rare*. [Mis-[1] 1, 7.]

1. *trans.* To dispraise, blame.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 25842 Mai naman mis-prais þe thing þe quilk es broght to god ending. 1340 *Ayenb.* 136 He prayzeþ more þe oþre þe more he him-zelue mispraiseþ. 1481 Caxton *Reynard* (Arb.) 7 Your Chyldren many yeris herafter shal be myspreysed and blamed therfore. 1850 Blackie *Æschylus* I. 196 Thus speaking, ye mispraise the holy rites Of matrimonial Hera and of Jove.

2. To praise amiss. Also *absol.*

a 1631 Donne *Serm.* (1640) ix. 89 They, whom I have so mispraised, are the worse in the sight of God, for my overpraising. 1888 F. T. Palgrave in *19th Cent.* Sept. 341 The natural frailty to mispraise and overpraise.

3. ? Error for: Misprize *v.*[1]

1550 *Sheph. Kal.* vii. D vij, When any maketh a vow and mispraiseth to doo it.

† **Mispride.** *Obs. rare*—[0]. [f. Mis-[1] 4 + Pride *sb.*, after Misproud.] Improper pride.

1530 Palsgr. 245/2 Mystakyng of a man selfe or myspride, *oultrecvidance*. *Ibid.* 613/2, I loke ashosshe, or aswasshe, as one dothe upon a thing by disdayne, or mispride.

Mispri·nt, *sb.* [f. next.] A mistake in printing; an error of the press.

1818 in Todd. *a* 1834 [see Mis-script]. 1884 *Q. Rev.* Jan. 215 The bibliographical information .. abounds in errors .. many of them no doubt mere misprints.

Mispri·nt, *v.* [Mis-[1] 1.] *trans.* To print incorrectly; to make a mistake in printing.

1494 Fabyan *Chron.* VI. cxciv. 198 If Dame Nature had any thynge forgoten or mysprynted in her. 1532 More *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 772/1 Leste there myght haue bene some ouersight..by misse writing or mysse pryntynge those fygures of algorisme. 1598 T. Speght *Chaucer's Wks.* B bbb vj, This place is misprinted, as well in misnaming of the signe, as the misreckoning the degrees of the sun. 1629 H. Burton *Truth's Triumph* 97 Vega's copie hath sanctification haply mis-printed. 1729 Fenton *Wks. E. Waller, Observ.* (1729) p. xix, *Shillingsworth, Walter, Cid*, have been constantly mis-printed for *Chillingworth, Waller*, and *Sid.* 1817 Coleridge *Lett.* (1895) 673, I would that the misprinting had been the worst of the..ill-usage.

Misprisal (mispræi·zăl). *rare.* Also 7 **-prizal.** [f. Misprize *v.*[1] + -al 5.] Contempt, disdain, scorn.

1620 [J. Pyper] tr. *Hist. Astrea* VII. 230 The heauens.. will accuse me of misprisall [orig. Fr. *mécognoissance*], if I liue not for you. 1652 Kirkman *Clerio & Lozia* 129 If the sots raile against the misprizal that I make of it. 1897 Marie Corelli in *Lady's Realm* Mar. 527/2 A marriage-vow sworn in falsification and misprisal of Love.

† **Mispri·sement.** *Obs.* [a. OF. *mesprisement*, f. *mespriser* Misprize *v.*[1]] Disdain.

1484 Caxton *Curiall* 3 Therrour of mesprysement whyche thou hast goten.

Misprision[1] (mispri·ʒən). Also 5-6 mes-, mys(se-. [a. AF. *mesprisioun* (whence Law-Latin *misprisio*) = OF. *mesprison, -prision* mistake, error, wrong action or speech:—popular L. **minuspræhensiōnem*, n. of action f. **minusprædĕre* (OF. *mesprendre* to mistake, act wrongly, mod.F. *méprendre*): see Mis-[2] and Prehend *v.*]

1. *Law.* A wrong action or omission; *spec.* a misdemeanour or failure of duty on the part of a public official.

1425 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 306/2 Suche misprisions and defautes of ye said Sherefs. 1491 *Act* 7 *Hen. VII*, c. 22 § 1 Mesprision by hym commytted and doon ayenst the Kynges moost royal persone. 1622 Callis *Stat. Sewers* (1647) 120 To pronounce a Traytors judgement upon a Fellon, or a Fellons judgement upon a Traytor, is grand misprision. 1648 Coke *On Litt.* III. lxv. 139 If any man in Westminster Hall [etc.]..shall draw a weapon upon a Judge, or Justice, though he strike not; this is a great misprision. 1875 Stubbs *Const. Hist.* xvi. II. 476 All defaults and misprisions whereby the king was injured or the law broken.

b. *Misprision of treason, of felony*: originally, an offence or misdemeanour akin to treason or felony, but involving a lesser degree of guilt, and not liable to the capital penalty. As various statutes enacted that concealment of a person's knowledge of treasonable actions or designs should be regarded as *misprision of treason*, this term came to be used as the ordinary designation for such concealment.

Hence it was often supposed that the word *misprision* itself expressed the sense of 'failure to denounce' a crime. This imagined sense Sir E. Coke (followed by Blackstone) attempted to account for etymologically, assuming that the word was derived from the OF. *mespris* (mod.F. *mépris*: cf. Misprize *sb.*[1] and *v.*[1]) neglect, contempt.

1533-4 *Act* 25 *Hen. VIII*, c. 22 § 9 Yf any person..being commaunded..to take the seid othe..obstynatly refuse that to doo..that every suche refusall shalbe..adjudged mesprysion of high treason. 1551-2 *Act* 5 & 6 *Edw. VI*, c. 11 Provided also..that concealment or kepinge secrete of any Highe Treason be deemed and taken only mysprision of Treason. 1572 *Act* 14 *Eliz.* c. 3 That yf any person or persons hereafter..counterfayte any suche kind of Coygne ..as is not the proper Coigne of this Realme...That then everye suche Offence shalbee deemed and adjudged mysprision of Highe Treason. 1579 *Expos. Termes of Law* s.v., Misprision of felonie or trespasse. 1769 Blackstone *Comm.* IV. 119 Misprisions..are..generally understood to be all such high offences as are under the degree of capital, but nearly bordering thereon: and it is said, that a misprision is contained in every treason and felony whatsoever; and that, if the king so please, the offender may be proceeded against for the misprision only. 1855 Kingsley *Westw. Ho!* II. vi. 176 Amyas was guilty of something very like misprision of treason in not handing him over to the nearest justice.

¶ c. *transf.* in popular use.

a 1662 Heylin *Laud* (1668) 54 It was almost made an Heresie..for any one to be seen in his company, and a misprision of Heresie to give him a civil Salutation as he walked the Streets. 1769 *Junius Lett.* ii. 12 A sort of misprision of treason against society. 1855 Motley *Dutch Rep.* II. i. (1866) 134 The edict..provided against all misprision of heresy by making those who failed to betray the suspected liable to the same punishment as if suspected or convicted themselves. 1862 T. A. Trollope *Marietta* I. ix. 153 Guilty of mis-prision of flirting.

† 2. Wrongful capture. *Obs.*

1442 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 60/1 How .. awners of divers Shippes, that have, be commaundement of the Kynges Counseill, sent their Shippes to the See, and they nought sette in their Shippes Maisters ne Maryners, for their mesprision on the See were putte in grete trouble.

3. The mistaking one thing, word, etc., for another; a misunderstanding; a mistake. *arch.*

1588 Shaks. *L. L. L.* IV. iii. 98 A Feuer in your bloud! why then incision Would let her out in Sawcers, sweet misprision. 1590 — *Mids. N.* III. ii. 90. 1594 Plat *Jewell-ho.* III. 17 By the misprision of the Brewer of English hoppes for Flemisb hoppes. 1624 Sanderson *Serm.* I. 170 An earthly judge is subject to misprision, mis-information, partiality, corruption. 1630 Capt. Smith *Trav. & Adv.* Ep. Ded., To prevent therefore all future misprisons, I have compiled this true discourse. 1644 Bulwer *Chiron.* 121 To use the Middle-Finger instead of the Index .. is much to be condemned. .. Paschalius alluding to the same misprision of the Hand [etc.]. 1655 tr. *Sorel's Com. Hist. Francion* XII. 30 He intended to have foysted into his Chamber the Coffer .. but by misprision he hid it in the Chamber of Raymond. 1774 J. Bryant *Mythol.* II. 410 The fable of the Horse certainly arose from a misprision of terms. 1817 Lady Granville *Lett.* (1894) I. 114 Lady Jersey goes on calling Lord Morley Boringdon, and..he endures this misprision. 1846 J. C. Hare *Mission of Comforter* (1850) 193 The misprision of this passage has aided in fostering the delusive notion.

b. *Misprision of the clerk*: a clerical error.

[In Britton (I. 317, 318) AF. *mesprisionn* is used with reference to misnomer: *mesprisioun de nouns, de vile.*]

1543 tr. *Act* 14 *Edw. III*, c. 6 That by the misprision of the clerkes of euery place, no proces shalbe adnulled or discontinued, by mistakinge in writynge one syllable or one letter to moche or to lytle. 1543 tr. *Act* 8 *Hen. VI*, c. 15. 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Misprision of Clerks*, a Neglect or Default of Clerks in Writing, Engrossing or keeping Records.

† c. A malformation: app. regarded as a mistake on the part of Nature. *Obs.*

1650 Bulwer *Anthropomet.* 16 To preserve what is according to Nature, and in case of misprision to reduce unto the Naturall state. *Ibid.* 212 These misprisions of Nature in this Organical part.

¶ d. Unjust suspicion.

1657 Trapp *Comm. Esther* v. 2 Neither did he command her to the block, as Henry the eighth did his Anne Bullen, upon a meer misprision of disloyalty. 1705 in W. S. Perry *Hist. Coll. Amer. Col. Ch.* I. 156 Any temporary Misprisons we may for a short time (till the reason of the thing be duly considered) lye under at home.

Misprision[2] (mispri·ʒən). *arch.* [f. Misprize *v.*[1] after prec.] a. Contempt, scorn. b. Failure to appreciate or recognize as valuable.

1586 A. Day *Eng. Secretary* II. (1595) 119 [Such men] do of seruants become sawcie :..of aduisers, arrogant : & consequently, running into euery misprision of others. 1601 Shaks. *All's Well* II. iii. 159 That dost in vile misprision shackle vp My loue, and her desert. 1692 Dryden *St. Euremont's Ess.* 19 The Legions particularly had in great misprision the Adversaries Horse. 1815 Scott *Guy M.* iii, Those..persons who..have their hearts barred against conviction by prejudice and misprision. 1871 R. Ellis tr. *Catullus* lxiv. 301 Peleus sister alike and brother in high misprision Held. 1895 Zangwill *Master* I. viii. 96 It seemed an insult to Ruth Hailey, and a misprision of her kindly wishes.

Mispri·ze, *sb.*[1] *rare.* Also 6 mes-, 6, 9 -prise. [f. Misprize *v.*[1]: cf. OF. *mespris*, mod.F. *mépris*.] = prec.

1590 Spenser *F. Q.* II. vii. 29 Mammon was much displeased, yet no'te he chuse But beare the rigour of his bold mesprise. *a* 1843 G. Field in C. R. Leslie *Mem. Constable* (1843) xi. 116 Our most eminent landscape painters..have been subjected .. to frequent misprise and neglect. 1898 T. Hardy *Wessex Poems* 154 When I found you, helpless lying, And you waived my deep misprise.

† **Mispri·ze,** *sb.*[2] *Obs. rare*—[1]. [Belongs to Misprize *v.*[2] Cf. OF. *mesprise*, mod.F. *méprise*.] Mistake.

1590 Spenser *F. Q.* II. xii. 19 A goodly Ship .. Which through great disaventure, or mesprize, Her selfe had ronne into that hazardize.

Misprize (mispræi·z, *v.*[1] Also 5-6 mespryse, 5-9 -prise. [a. OF. *mespriser, -priser* (mod.F. *mépriser*) = Sp. *menospreciar*, Pg. *menosprezar*:—L. **minuspretiāre*: see Mis-[2] and Prize *v.* Cf. Meprize *v.*] *trans.* a. To despise, contemn, scorn. b. To fail to appreciate the good qualities of.

1481 Caxton *Godfrey* liii. (1893) 94 A mescreaunt named arrius which mesprised certeyn poyntes of the fayth. 1530 Palsgr. 635/1 He that mespriseth his betters it shalbe longe or he thrive. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* iii. 28 He that misprisis the correctione of his preceptor. 1599 Shaks. *Much Ado* III. i. 52 Disdaine and Scorne ride sparkling in her eyes, Mis-prizing what they looke on. 1637 Heywood *Royal King* II. iv, It sorrows me that you misprise my love. 1660 tr. *Amyraldus' Treat. conc. Relig.* II. iii. 205 By misprising and debasing his own worth. 1805 Scott *Last Minstr.* V. xxx, Less lik'd he still that scornful jeer Mispris'd the land he lov'd so dear. 1894 Blackmore *Perlycross* 23 Her fine qualities..were misprised and under-valued.

† **Mispri·ze,** *v.*[2] *Obs.* Also 5 mes-, myspryse, 6-7 misprise. [f. OF. *mespris*, pa. pple. of *mesprendre* to commit a crime (mod.F. *méprendre*). Cf. *comprise, reprise*.]

1. *intr.* To commit an offence, do wrong.

1485 Caxton *Paris & V.* (1868) 48, I..knowe in my self that I haue mesprysed [orig. *fay grandement mespris*] and faylled toward you. *c* 1489 — *Sonnes of Aymon* ii. 59 Ye mysprysed sore whan my brother..ye made thus shamfully deye. *a* 1500 *Melusine* 79 Yf in eny poynt forsayd [I] haue myssaid or mesprysed.

2. *trans.* To mistake, misunderstand. Also with clause and *absol.*

1598 B. Jonson *Case Altered* IV. i, Monsieur Gaspar.. misprise me not. 1624 Middleton *Game at Chess* V. iii, How you misprize! this is not meant to you-ward. 1657 W. Morice *Coena quasi Κοινή* Def. xv. 206 There are some that misprise their faults to be their perfections.

Mispri·zed, *ppl. a.*[1] [f. Misprize *v.*[1] + -ed [1].] a. Despised, scorned. b. Not appreciated.

1648 J. Beaumont *Psyche* XVII. cxli, The best amends I can, I vow to make To my misprised slander'd Piety. 1822 Hazlitt *Table-t.* Ser. II. xi. (1869) 228 Such misprized obligations. 1880 McCarthy *Own Times* lxvii. IV. 529 The misprized Tiberius. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 396 The pangs of misprised love.

† **Mispri·zed,** *ppl. a.*[2] *Obs.* [f. Misprize *v.*[2] + -ed [1].] Mistaken.

1590 Shaks. *Mids. N.* III. ii. 74 You spend your passion on a mispris'd mood.

Mispri·zer. *rare.* [f. Misprize *v.*[1] + -er [1]. Cf. OF. *mespriseur*.] A despiser.

1586 A. Day *Eng. Secretary* II. (1625) 31 Some other misprizers of my courtesies. 1884 *19th Cent.* July 132 The mispriser of the spirit and the worshipper of the body.

Mispri·zing, *vbl. sb.* [f. Misprize *v.*[1] + -ing [1].] = Misprision [2].

1485 Caxton *Chas. Gt.* 132 The mysprysyng that guy had doon in hys presence. 1539 Cromwell in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) II. 205 For mesprising and avoyding of his abuses. 1601 Shaks. *All's Well* III. ii. 33 By the misprising of a Maide too vertuous For the contempt of Empire. 1648 W. Browne *Polexander* III. v. 145 Our misprising of men might make you doe the same to us. 1875 D. Greenwell *Liber Human.* 106 What can be a more ignoble misprizing of man's true dignity, than to intimate..that man has no natural thirst after righteousness?

Mispronou·nce, *v.* [Mis-[1] 1.] *trans.* To pronounce incorrectly.

1593 Norden *Spec. Brit., M'sex* I. 21 Sometime we finde names in England giuen of the French, and mispronounced as .. Beaulye for Beaulieu. 1642 Milton *Apol. Smect.* Wks. 1851 III. 268 They mispronounc't and I mislik't. 1775 Sheridan *Rivals* I. ii, Mrs. Malaprop..shall treat me

..with her select words so ingeniously misapplied, without being mispronounced. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* III. xiv. 119 To correct Mr. Wegg when he grossly mispronounced a word. 1905 *Athenæum* 8 Apr. 430/3 Daily do we suffer from the conversation of persons .. who misapply terms, mispronounce words.

Mispronuncia·tion. [MIS-[1] 4.] Bad pronunciation.

1530 PALSGR. 12 Lest the lerner shulde accustome any mispronunciation. 1832 tr. *Sismondi's Ital. Rep.* iv. 103 They were made to repeat—*ceci* and *ciceri*, and were, on their mispronunciation, immediately put to death. 1859 R. F. BURTON *Centr. Afr.* in *Jrnl. Geog. Soc.* XXIX. 234 The words Tanganyenka and Tanganyenko used by Dr. Livingstone..are palpable mispronunciations.

Mispropo·rtion, *sb.* [MIS-[1] 4, 7.] Lack of proportion.

1825 COLERIDGE *Aids Refl.* (1848) I. 213 The temporary deformity and misproportions of immaturity. 1847 H. BUSHNELL *Chr. Nurture* (1861) viii. 219 A certain misproportion is induced which distempers all our efforts.

Mispropo·rtion, *v.* [MIS-[1] 1.] *trans.* 'To join without due proportion' (Johnson).

† **Mispropo·rtionateness.** *Obs.* [MIS-[1] 4. 7.] = DISPROPORTIONATENESS.

1587 GOLDING *De Mornay* xiv. (1592) 223 Mans Soule .. is troubled by the distemperature or misproportionateness of the body.

Mispropo·rtioned, *ppl. a.* [MIS-[1] 2.] Badly or wrongly proportioned.

1552 HULOET, Misproporcioned, *ineffigiatus*. 1587 GOLDING *De Mornay* xiv. (1592) 222 A mishapen and misproportioned head. 1657 EARL MONM. tr. *Paruta's Pol. Disc.* 73 This monstrous body of the Roman Empire being composed of almost incompatible, ill-govern'd, and misproportioned parts. 1710 M. HENRY *Christ. No Sect* Wks. 1857 II. 458/1 When..the exercises of devotion are either..misplaced or misproportioned. 1879 DOWDEN *Southey* iii. 76 The rage of Popery working in his misproportioned features.

Misproud (mispraʊ'd), *a. Obs.* exc. *arch.* [MIS-[1] 6.] Wrongly or wickedly proud; arrogant.

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 3047 3yf þou for strenkþe be mysproute, And bast bostful wrdys and loude. *a* 1400 HYLTON *Scala Perf.* (W. de W. 1494) II. xiv, And yf ony man wolde lette his mysproude wyll he wexith felle & wrothe. 1545 RAYNOLD *Byrth Mankynde* Prol. B vij, Vtterly abhorryng ..all fardyng, paynting, and counterfeit cast colours: which of some dampnable and mysproude people be dayly vsed. 1593 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI*, II. vi. 7 Impairing Henry, strength-'ning misproud Yorke. 1605 CHAPMAN, etc. *Eastw. Hoe* III. ii, Ah thou misproude Prentise, dar'st thou presume to marry a Ladies sister? 1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* v. xxvi, Thy mis-proud ambitious clan. 1864 MISS YONGE *Bk. Golden Deeds* 169 A bold but misproud and violent prince.

† **Mispro·ving,** *vbl. sb. Obs.* [f. MIS-[1] 7 + PROVE *v.* = thrive.] Falling off, failure. So **Mispro·ving** *ppl. a.*, failing, unsuccessful.

1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 101 b, To laye vnto y^e^ Goddes y^e^ faulte of quaillyng and mysprouyng. 1798 *Trans. Soc. Arts* XVI. 204 By too thin planting I am subject to more misproving crops. *Ibid.* 209 If I try any fresh experiment, I never condemn it for misproving one year.

Mispu·nctuate, *v.* [MIS-[1] 1.] *trans.* and *intr.* To punctuate incorrectly.

a 1849 POE *Marginalia* v, The writer who neglects punctuation, or mis-punctuates, is liable to be misunderstood. 1897 *Daily News* 3 Sept. 6/2 A mispunctuated sentence.

So **Mispunctua·tion,** wrong punctuation.

1807 SOUTHEY *Espriella's Lett.* (1814) III. 65 Omissions which alter the meaning, or mispunctuations which destroy it. 1879 W. S. SIMPSON in *Mem.* (1899) 87, I have corrected one or two mispunctuations.

† **Misque·me,** *v. Obs.* [MIS-[1] 7.] *trans.* To displease, offend.

? *c* 1395 *Plowman's Tale* 647 But if any man these misqueme, He shal be baited as a bere. 1658 PHILLIPS *Misqueam*, (old word) to displease.

Misquota·tion. [MIS-[1] 4.] a. Inaccuracy in quoting. b. An incorrect quotation.

1773 JOHNSON *Note on Shaks. Ant. & Cl.* I. v, The misquotation of *stall-worn* for *stall-worth*. 1833 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Tales* ix, He could never sit by and hear a misquotation from the 'Swan of Avon' without setting the unfortunate delinquent right. 1867 LEWES *Hist. Philos.* (ed. 3) I. 90 He is guilty of a very gross misquotation of Aristotle.

Misquo·te, *v.* [MIS-[1] 1.] *trans.* To quote incorrectly.

1596 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. IV*, v. ii. 13 Looke how we can, or sad or merrily, Interpretation will misquote our lookes. 1699 COLLIER *Def. Short View* 36 Because I Misquoted *Wasting Air*, for *Wafting Air*. 1771 *Junius Lett.* lxi. 316 You answer..by misquoting his words, and mistating his propositions. 1835 LYTTON *Rienzi* I. i, They..misquote Latin over their cups. 1891 *Law Times* XCII. 18/1 Mr. Besant..accused Mr. Willis of intentionally misquoting him. *absol.* 1809 BYRON *Bards & Rev.* 66 With just enough of learning to misquote.

So **Misquo·ter; Misquo·ting** *vbl. sb.*

1673 [R. LEIGH] *Transp. Reh.* 147 His disingennity is visible in his..misquoting of Thorndikes passage of Schism. 1830 *Blackw. Mag.* XXVIII. 894 We are sad misquoters.

Misra·te, *v.* Now *rare.* [MIS-[1] 1.] *trans.* To estimate wrongly. Also **Misra·ting** *vbl. sb.*

1624 HEYWOOD *Captives* I. i. in Bullen *O. Pl.* IV. 112, I have bethought mee better nowe to keepe This business secrett..And not to make it publicke and this honest Purpose of myne by that meanes misreated. *a* 1626 BACON *Ordin. Admin. Chanc.* (1642) 2 Any pretended misrating or misvaluing. *a* 1677 BARROW *Serm.* Wks. 1686 III. xxix. 317 Either assuming false, or misrating true advantages. 1691 NORRIS *Pract. Disc.* 65 By this means we shall misrate both Persons and Things. 1804 EUGENIA DE ACTON *Tale without Title* III. 139 A boy, who..greatly misrates her endowments.

Misrea·d, *v.* [MIS-[1] 1.] *trans.* To read or interpret wrongly.

1809 J. BARLOW *Columb.* x. 368 War sure hath ceased; or have my erring eyes Misread the glorious visions of the skies? 1851 ROBERTSON *Serm.* Ser. I. xvii. (1866) 297 Let not the rich misread the signs of the times. 1879 FROUDE *Cæsar* xiii. 189 He misread the disposition of the great body of citizens.

So **Misrea·der; Misrea·ding** *vbl. sb.*

1847–8 DE QUINCEY *Protestantism* Wks. 1858 VIII. 150 The New Testament had said nothing directly upon the question of slavery; nay, by the misreader it was rather supposed indirectly to countenance that institution. 1849 H. MILLER *Footpr. Creat.* xv. (1874) 300 The hypothesis involves a misreading of the geologic records. 1866 KINGSLEY *Herew.* I. iii. 105 *note*, 'Ulcus Ferreus', says Richard of Ely; surely a misreading for uncus. 1885 *Law Rep.* 29 Chanc. Div. 210 A misreading of the clause.

Misreci·tal. [MIS-[1] 4.] An incorrect recital or account.

1539 *Act* 31 *Hen. VIII* c. 13 § 16 For mysrecitall or non recitall of leases. 1634 *Jrnls. Irish Ho. Lords* (1779) I. 20 The Lords of the Committee perused the Journal-Book .. and amended what Mistakes and Misrecitals they found. 1818 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) V. 23 Though founded upon a misrecital. 1850 *New Eng. Hist. & Gen. Reg.* IV. 309 It is drawn up with technical accuracy...A misrecital would have then been fatal to the suit. 1863 KINGLAKE *Crimea* I. xvii. 350 The Turkish Government soon detected in it not only a misrecital of history, but [etc.].

Misreci·te, *v.* [MIS-[1] 1.] *trans.* To recite incorrectly; to give a wrong account or rendering of. Also *absol.*

1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. vi. (1641) 49/2 If the Grecians doe not mis-recite. 1596 BACON *Max. Com. Law* xxv. (1630) 97 The reference of the Pattent, the date whereof was mis-recited. 1628 COKE *On Litt.* 46 b, If a man .. misrecite a lease in point materiall which is in esse. *a* 1715 BURNET *Own Time* IV. (1724) I. 639 They [*sc.* words] were often ill heard and ill understood, and were apt to be misrecited by a very small variation. 1827 HALLAM *Const. Hist.* xii. (1876) II. 419 The committee reported on the 29th of March, after misreciting the order of reference to them in a very remarkable manner.

So **Misreci·ting** *vbl. sb.* = MISRECITAL.

1572 *Act* 14 *Eliz.* c. 14 Any suche Mysnamynge, Mysrecyting or not true namynge or recytinge. 1688 PRIDEAUX *Valid. Orders Ch. Eng.* 70 That misreciting which you charge me with.

Misre·ckon, *v.* [MIS-[1] 1.]

1. *trans.* To reckon, compute, or calculate (an amount) incorrectly; also, to make a wrong calculation in respect of (a certain number).

1524–5 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* (1904) 330 For xxix *li* of wax whiche was MisRekonyd in the byll of her Acount. *a* 1553 UDALL *Royster D.* I. iv. (Arb.) 28, I am not so olde, thou misreckonest my yeares. 1614 RALEIGH *Hist. World* II. (1634) 421 It is a familiar error in Josephus to misreckon times. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* V. viii. 27 The mistake of a quarter of an Inch..may make you misreckon a Gallon in the Content. 1717 BERKELEY *Frnl. Tour Italy* Wks. 1871 IV. 567 Avellino reckons (I doubt misreckons) 30,000. *fig.* 1628 BP. HALL *Serm. Lds. Parlt.* 5 Apr. 22 Bee sure, if we be forgetfull, God will not mis-reckon his owne mercies. *a* 1716 SOUTH *Serm.* (1727) VI. 397 His Heart misreckons him; and therefore when he comes to rectify his Account by the Measure God takes of Things [etc.].

2. *pass., refl.*, and *intr.* To make a wrong calculation; to be out in one's reckoning. (Cf. F. *se mécompter.*)

a. *pass.* 1530 PALSGR. 638/1, I had rather paye to moche than to be mysrekened. 1586 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. I. III. 8 Wherein no doubt he was misreckened.

b. *refl.* 1603 FLORIO *Montaigne* I. xxx. (1632) 103 He that hath once misreckoned himselfe is never seene againe. 1667 FLAVEL *Saint Indeed* (1754) 68 Thou misreckonest thyself, when thou think'st My provision is almost spent.

c. *intr.* *a* 1608 DEE *Relat. Spir.* I. (1659) 90 Where have I misreckoned, I pray you? 1614 B. JONSON *Barth. Fair* II. ii, Drinke with all companies, though you be sure to be drunke: you'll mis-reckon the better, and be lesse asham'd on't. 1708 SWIFT *Sent. Ch. Eng. Man* Wks. 1755 II. I. 69 [He] must allow himself out, though..he may not see in which article he has misreckoned. 1831 CARLYLE *Sart. Res.* I. xi, Wherefrom, if I misreckon not, your perspicacity will draw fullest insight.

† 3. *trans.* To present an incorrect (esp. an exorbitant) account to (a person). *Obs.*

1640 BROME *Sparagus Gard.* III. ii. E 4 b, *Ex. Gen.* Who would be troubled with such pinching guests? *Gar.* I, tis good to misreckon such to be rid of 'hem. 1654 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 335 For Arithmetick; who can misreckon a woman (they can men) in payments?

Misre·ckoning, *vbl. sb.* [MIS-[1] 3.] Incorrect reckoning or casting of accounts; miscalculation.

1540 PALSGR. *Acolastus* b iv, To helpe to vndo hym with mysse reckenynge and false dyce. 1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 161 Misreckning is no payment. 1647 TRAPP *Comm.* 2 *Tim.* ii. 18 As inconsiderate Mariners, by misreckoning of a point, they have missed the haven. 1792 *Phil. Trans.* LXXXII. 103 By these precautions, almost all possibility of a misreckoning was prevented. 1845 LD. CAMPBELL *Chancellors* Ixxxix. (1857) IV. 203 Seeing Lord Norris had not observed it, he went on with his misreckoning often.

Misrecolle·ct, *v.* [MIS-[1] 1.] *trans.* and *intr.* To recollect wrongly or imperfectly. (A favourite word of Bentham's.)

1787 BENTHAM *Def. Usury* vi. 49 If I do not misrecollect, I remember instances. *a* 1832 — *Mem. & Corr.* Wks. 1843 X. 60 He received, if I misrecollect not, the sum of £1000.

So **Misrecolle·ction.**

1802–12 BENTHAM *Ration. Judic. Evid.* (1827) IV. 261 To enable him..to reflect upon it, without danger of misrecollection. 1818 *Champion* 20 Dec. in *Athenæum* (1891) 26 Dec. 865/3 Oblivion, or misrecollection of the past.

† **Misre·de,** *v. Obs.* Also 4 *pa. pple.* **misirad, mysrad.** [OE. *misrædan* = MDu., Du. *misraden*, OHG. *misseråten* (G. *missraten*); cf. ON. *misrâðit* (neut. pa. pple.): see MIS-[1] 1, and REDE *v.*, READ *v.*] *trans.* To misadvise. Also *absol.*

c 960 ÆTHELWOLD *Rule St. Benet* lxiv. (Schröer 1885) 117 xif ʒeferræden þæne ræd on ʒemænum ʒeþeahte misredað [*v. r.* missrædað]. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 215 Þenne cumeð þe werse to sume mannes heorte..and þus him misredeð. *a* 1300 *K. Horn* 308 Sore ihc me ofdrede. He wolde horn misrede. 1320 *Cast. Love* 427 Ac as a Mon mis-I-rad [*ed. Hall.* mysrad] On vche half he is mis-bi-lad. 1340 *Ayenb.* 184 Þe ilke þet yleſþ liȝtliche uint ofte þet me him..misret.

† **Misrega·rd,** *sb. Obs.* [MIS-[1] 4.] Lack of regard, respect, or care; neglect; contempt.

1542 RECORDE *Gr. Artes* (1640) To Rdr., Contempt or misregard of learning. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* IV. viii. 29 When as these rimes be red With misregard. 1637 GILLESPIE *Eng. Pop. Cerem.* III. iv. 50 There was also a great contempt and misregard shewed to the King. 1655 tr. *Sorel's Com. Hist. Francion* XII. 31 He found a small Seal..by mis-regard huddled in amongst the rest.

† **Misrega·rd,** *v.* Chiefly *Sc. Obs.* [MIS-[1] 1.] *trans.* To have no regard for; to despise, disregard.

1582 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* (1880) III. 470 Thay wald gif his Majestie occasioun..to think his letter..misregardit. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* X. 453 The Kings safe Conduct he mis-regarded, giuing it neyther Respect nor trust. 1697 in A. Fergusson *Laird of Lag* (1886) 247 They having misregarded all former admonitions of the Synod.

Hence † **Misrega·rder,** one who disregards.

1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* V. 228 Beeing vntamed Sauages, and mis-regarders of ciuility.

† **Misrehea·rsal.** *Obs.* [MIS-[1] 4.] Misrecital, misquotation.

1472–3 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 49/1 Any mysrehersell of the premisses in any wise notwithstondyng. 1523 MORE in Wordsw. *Eccl. Biogr.* (1853) II. 60 If it misbappen me..for lacke for good utterance, and misrehearsal to pervert..their prudent instructions. 1631 C. MORE *Life Sir T. More* (1828) 332 They laid to his charge..the..misrehearsal of Tindall's arguments.

† **Misrehea·rse,** *v. Obs.* [MIS-[1] 1.] *trans.* To misrecite, misquote. Also *absol.*

1533 MORE *Debell. Salem* Pref., Wks. 931/1 The man hath ..misse rehearsed them to make the reader wene..I had written wronge. *Ibid.* xvii. Wks. 1009/1 He woulde make you wene here; that I bothe misserehearse and misseconstrue.

† **Misrejoi·n,** *v. Law. Obs.* [f. MIS-[1] 1 + REJOIN *v.*[1]] *intr.* To reply wrongly to a pleading.

a 1625 SIR H. FINCH *Law* (1636) 398 No repleader shall be notwithstanding that the Tenant baue..misreioyned.

† **Misre·ke,** *v. Obs.* [f. MIS-[1] 1 + REKE *v.*[1]] *intr.* To go astray.

a 1250 *Owl & Night.* 490 Vor sumerestyde is al wlonk & doþ mysreken monnes þonk. *Ibid.* 675 & sone may a word mysreke þar muþ schal ayeyn horte speke.

Misrela·te, *v.* [MIS-[1] 1.] *trans.* To relate or recount incorrectly. Also *absol.* So **Misrela·ting** *vbl. sb.*, **Misrela·tion,** incorrect relation or account; also **Misrela·ted** *ppl. a.*, wrongly related or connected.

1621 BP. MOUNTAGU *Diatribæ* 489 It could not be, you should so often mistake, or mis-relate, if you had trusted your owne eyes. 1625 — *App. Cæsar* 118 Historicall mistakings, misrelatings. *a* 1656 HALES *Gold. Rem.* II. (1673) 4 That if any thing were either omitted or misrelated, it might be rectified. *a* 1663 BRAMHALL *Def. True Liberty* Ep. Ded., To press home those things in writing..(a course much to be preferred before verbal conferences, as being..less subject to mistakes and misrelations). 1674 HICKMAN *Quinquart. Hist.* (ed. 2) 226 Some things done in England, and misrelated by the Doctor, must be rectified. 1892 *Pall Mall G.* 26 July 3/1 Here are two flagrantly misrelated participles.

† **Misreli·gion.** *Obs.* [MIS-[1] 4.] False religion. So † **Misreli·gions** *a.*

1623 BP. HALL *Best Bargaine* Wks. (1625) 518 The eternall state of their soules bath not seemed too deare to cast away vpon an ill bargaine of mis-religion. 1625 — *Contempl., O. T.* XVIII. *Seduced Prophet* Ibid. 1320 No pestilence should bee more shunned then the conuersation of the mis-religious. 1648 *British Bell-man* 1 Perjury and Lyes in their Mouths, Falshoods, Treasons, Misreligions in their hearts.

Misreme·mber, *v.* [MIS-[1] 1.]

1. *trans.* To remember wrongly, imperfectly, or incorrectly; to have an imperfect recollection of. Now chiefly *dial.*, to forget, 'disremember'.

1533 MORE *Answ. Poysoned Bk.* Wks. 1139/1 Not the pacifier but my selfe was ouersene in that place wyth a litle hast, in misse remembring one worde of his. 1641 LD. FINCH in Rushw. *Hist. Coll.* (1692) I. 226 He who twice upon Oath with time of recollection, could not remember any thing of such a Business, might well a third time misremember somewhat. 1769 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* IV. vi. 80 [Words] may be ..mistaken, perverted, or mis-remembered by the hearers. 1802–12 BENTHAM *Ration. Judic. Evid.* (1827) I. 170 The oftener a man has had to give an account of a fact the less likely he is to have forgotten it or in any point misremembered it. 1851 CARLYLE *Sterling* I. i. 8 A tumult having risen around his name..so that he could not be forgotten, and could only be misremembered. 1856 LEVER *Martins* xv, He forgets many a thing, but no man living can say that he ever misremembered a duel. 1890 W. A. WALLACE *Only a Sister?* xxix. 325 A doctor—..I misremember his name.

2. *absol.* or *intr.*

a 1631 DONNE *Lett. to Pers. Honour* (1651) 191 He is practising for the Mask, of which, if I mis-remember not, I writ as much as you desire to know in a letter. 1713 DERHAM *Phys. Theol.* 64 *note*, A Cave, which (if I misremember not) was lined with those Stalactical-Stones. 1815 W. TAYLOR

in Robberds *Mem.* (1843) II. 454, I did not like to write to you without the book at my elbow, least I should misremember. 1841 Lever *C. O'Malley* xcix, 'What do they call the convent?' 'It is a hard word, I misremember'.

So **Misreme·mbrance** *rare.*

1542 Recorde *Gr. Artes* (1575) 338 You would not haue me trust to memorie till I were better experte, leaste oftentimes I happen by misse remembraunce to bee abused. 1831 Mackintosh *Hist. Eng.* II. 200 Every misremembrance into which hurry or faintness plunged her.

† **Misre·mpe,** *v. Obs.* [? f. Mis-[1] 1 + Kemp *v.*] *intr.* ? To go astray.

a 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1787 Telle ic con word after worde & if þe þinkþ þat ic misrempe þu stond ayeyn and do me crempe.

Misre·nder, *v.* [Mis-[1] 1.] *trans.* To render or interpret incorrectly. So **Misre·ndering** *vbl. sb.*

1661 Boyle *Style of Script.* 64 The misrendring of the Original Particles. 1674 Scheffer *Lapland* ii. 59, I suppose they are both mistaken, and misrender'd them leaden darts. 1693 *Answ. Treat. Just Measures* 39 Those who so mistook and misrendred the design of the Brethren. 1871 Lightfoot *Revision New Test.* iv. 178 'Your devotions' is not a misrendering but an archaism, signifying 'the objects of your worship'. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Feb. 468/1 He would not admit that Shakespeare would allow Burbage to misrender Hamlet.

Misrepea·t, *v.* [Mis-[1] 1.] *trans.* To repeat incorrectly.

1615 Bacon *Charge agst. Mr. I. S.* in *Resuscitatio* (1657) 61 Because I will not mistake, or mis-repeat, you shall hear the Seditious Libell, in the proper termes .. thereof. 1645 Prynne *Fresh Discov.* 36 He misrepeats, and misapplies some Passages of mine. *a* 1715 Burnet *Own Time* II. (1724) I. 296 Words, they said, might be misunderstood, misrepeated and denied.

Misrepo·rt, *sb.* [Mis-[1] 4.]

† **1.** 'Evil report'; unfavourable repute. *Obs.*

1412-20 Lydg. *Chron. Troy* II. xix, Without spot of trespasse or of blame Of mysreporte in hyndrynge of our name. 1553 T. Wilson *Rhet.* 59 b, Any misreport or evil behavior of our party here tofore. 1589 Cooper *Admon.* 12 They .. shall often light into .. misliking of many, and thereby get misreport. 1697 Stillingfl. *Disc. Trinity* 42 The mis-report of him came from his zeal against Sabellianism.

2. A false or erroneous report, as of the actions or character of a person.

1530 Palsgr. 585/1, I hynder ones promocion by my mysse reporte. 1535 Coverdale *Num.* xiv. 37 Because they brought vp a myszreporte of the lande that it was euell. *a* 1649 Drumm. of Hawth. *Hist. Jas. II* Wks. (1711) 26 The king at first was loth to lend an ear to misreports and calumnies of a man lately so well deserving. 1736 Carte *Ormonde* I. 312 The apprehension he lay under of those misreports. 1865 Carlyle *Fredk. Gt.* xviii. vi. VII. 193 An Aide-de-Camp made a small misnomer, misreport of one word, which was terribly important. 1901 A. Lang *Magic & Relig.* 44 If they are all misreports .. what is the value of anthropological evidence?

b. without article, in generalized use.

1535 Starkey *Lett.* p. xvii, Yf I had found truth in dede thes thyngys wych by myspreport ther wyth you were commynly sayd. 1581 Lambarde *Eiren.* II. vii. (1602) 253 The one chargeth the other with words of misreport. 1660 Ingelo *Bentiv. & Ur.* I. (1682) 65 You may have receiv'd misreport concerning him. 1748 Richardson *Clarissa* (1811) VIII. 55 That I should .. be the occasion .. of widening differences by light misreport.

Misrepo·rt, *v.* [Mis-[1] 1.]

1. *trans.* To report (a matter) erroneously; to give a false or imperfect account of (an event, statement, opinion, or the like).

c 1430 Lydg. *Compl. Bl. Knt.* 605, I am worthy for to bere the blame If any thing here misreported be. 1592 Greene *Conny Catch.* III. 25 This tale, because it was somewhat misreported before, .. is set downe now in true forme. *a* 1641 Bp. Mountagu *Acts & Mon.* (1642) 230 He mis-reporteth Herods off-spring and descent. 1722 De Foe *Plague* Wks. (Bohn) V. 30 There has been heretofore much abuse in misreporting the disease. 1830 De Quincey *Bentley* Wks. 1857 VII. 60 His behaviour .. scandalously misreported by Bennet. 1874 Motley *John of Barneveld* I. iv. 203 Villeroy had .. been making mischief .. by reporting and misreporting private conversations.

† **b.** const. acc. with inf. or pres. pple. *Obs.*

1574 tr. *Marlorat's Apocalips* 39 [They] boast themselues to be professors of the true faythe, and misreport thee to folow a false doctrine. 1579 Fulke *Heskins' Parl.* 4 You misreport S. Peter being a Lord of the higher house.

2. To give a false report or account of the statements or opinions of (a person).

1531 Latimer *Let. to Baynton* in Foxe *A. & M.* (1583) 1747/1 Christ himselfe was misreported, & falsely accused. 1675 Baxter *Cath. Theol.* II. i. 11 You wholly mistake and misreport us. 1699 Collier *Def. Short View* 127 He calls me an unfair Adversary, as if I had misreported him. 1862 Rawlinson *Anc. Mon. Chald.* I. viii. 215 The probability would seem to be, that Berosus has been misreported.

† **3.** To speak ill of; to slander. *Obs.*

1534 More *Comf. agst. Trib.* II. Wks. 1209/2 Leste he should geue other folke occasion to .. misreporte hym for an hypocryte. 1603 Shaks. *Meas. for M.* v. i. 148 A man that neuer yet Did (as he vouches) mis-report your Grace. 1625 in Ferguson & Nanson *Munic. Rec. Carlisle* (1887) 280 James Blaklocke .. did misreport and slaunder the wife of Alexander Addle .. in calling her shepe stealer.

† **4.** *intr.* To give a false report (*of*). *Obs.*

1572 Huloet, To misreporte of an other. 1579 W. Wilkinson *Confut. Fam. Love* 10 If to slaunder and misreport be a worke of righteousnesse. 1601 J. Wheeler *Treat. Comm.* 62 The doings, which .. they .. doe .. misreport of.

So **Misrepo·rted** *ppl. a.*, **Misrepo·rting** *vbl. sb.*

1513 Bradshaw *St. Werburge* II. 2014 Go forth litell boke, Iesu be thy spede And saue the alway from mysreportyng.

1607 Markham *Caval.* I. (1617) 20 It shall appeare great honor to our nation, and much shame to them who haue wrongd it with former misreportings. 1690 Locke *Hum. Und.* I. xxi. § 62 The wrong Judgment that misleads us, .. lies in misreporting upon the various Comparisons of these. 1846 Grote *Greece* I. xvi. I. 543 A misreported exaggerated and ornamented recital.

Misrepo·rter. [Mis-[1] 5.] One who misreports.

1553 Grimalde *Cicero's Offices* II. (1558) 87 Dishonest misreporters [orig. *maledicos*]. 1584 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* Ser. I. III. 648 To stope the mouthis of misreportaris. 1624 Gataker *Transubst.* 114 As this mis-reporter and mis-expounder of him affirmeth. 1748 Richardson *Clarissa* (1811) VII. 264 Let misreporters say what they will.

Misrepresе·nt, *v.* [Mis-[1] 1.]

1. *trans.* To represent improperly or imperfectly; to give a false representation or account of.

1647 Clarendon *Hist. Reb.* II. § 49 Those .. who had done them ill offices, and misrepresented their carriage to the King. 1677 Gilpin *Demonol.* II. ix. 390 Satan doth endeavour to misrepresent God to troubled Souls. 1726 Swift *Gulliver* III. viii, They had so horribly misrepresented the Meaning of those Authors to Posterity. 1846 Wright *Ess. Mid. Ages* II. xiii. 87 Popular tradition generally misrepresents the actions, but not the character of its hero. 1879 Froude *Cæsar* xxi. 352 He had been himself misrepresented to his countrymen.

absol. 1671 Milton *Samson* 124 This, this is he .. Or do my eyes misrepresent? 1822 Cobbett *Weekly Reg.* 9 Feb. 362 If I had misrepresented, why not prove it?

2. To fail to represent correctly or adequately as agent or official representative.

1860 Mill *Repr. Govt.* (1865) 55 The constituencies to which most of the highly educated .. persons .. belong .. are .. either unrepresented or misrepresented.

So **Misrepresе·nted** *ppl. a.*, **Misre·presenting** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1688 *Pulpit-Sayings* 14 Such, who pretend to be clear from the Imputation of Misrepresenting. 1699 Collier *Def. Short View* 90 He understands the Art of Misrepresenting. 1817 Dr. T. Chalmers in *Mem.* (1850) II. 140, I had previously read the misrepresented passage to Mr. Chalmers. 1887 *Pall Mall G.* 28 Nov. 12/1 It [a company] can recover the purchase money from the misrepresenting vendors.

Mi·srepresenta·tion. [Mis-[1] 4.]

1. Wrong or incorrect representation of facts, statements, the character of a person, etc.; the action of misrepresenting.

1647 in Rushw. *Hist. Coll.* IV. (1701) I. 554 Those who have .. improved all opportunities .. by false Suggestions, Misrepresentations, and otherwise, for the destruction of this Army. 1661 Boyle *Style of Script.* (1675) 5 The misrepresentation made by these men of the Bible. 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 50 ? 5 Our Guides deceived us with Misrepresentations and Fictions. 1814 Wellington in Gurw. *Desp.* (1838) XII. 9 Misrepresentation of facts is the common practise of the writers for newspapers. 1858 Ld. St. Leonards *Handy-Bk. Prop. Law* v. 26 A purchaser .. who makes an actual misrepresentation, which tends to mislead the seller. 1875 Helps *Soc. Press.* xxv. 403, I never met with a man who bore misrepresentation with thorough calmness.

2. 'Incorrect or unfaithful representation in the capacity of agent or official representative' (*Cent. Dict.* 1890).

Mi·srepresе·ntative, *sb.* [Mis-[1] 5.] One who fails to represent others; a bad representative.

1862 *New York Tribune* 26 Jan. (Cassell), A better reply from that misrepresentative of Indiana. 1887 *Pall Mall G.* 18 Apr. 9/1 Until the chairman appealed for order his .. opponents would not hear one of their misrepresentatives.

Mi·srepresе·ntative, *a.* [Mis-[1] 6.] Not properly representative (*of*).

1736 Swift *Let. to Sheridan* Wks. 1751 XIII. 147 The .. slavish Practices of those mis-representative Brutes. 1892 *Daily Tel.* 18 Aug., The question before the country would be whether the representative or the misrepresentative branch of the Legislature should prevail. 1902 B. Kidd *West. Civilization* 99 Interpretations .. utterly misrepresentative of the real meaning of the phenomenon.

Mi·srepresе·nter. [Mis-[1] 5.] One who misrepresents.

1688 *Pulpit-Sayings* 15 They must not take it amiss, if as they were misrepresenters then, they are esteem'd Misrepresenters still. 1748 Richardson *Clarissa* (1811) IV. 332 Ill will and passion were dreadful misrepresenters. 1760-72 H. Brooke *Fool of Qual.* (1809) II. 9 Lawyers .. are .. the pleaders and impleaders, representers and misrepresenters .. of our laws. 1813 Scott 3 Sept. in *Fam. Lett.* (1894) I. ix. 306 All I have to fear .. is that some busy misrepresenter may whisper in the Regent's ear.

Misrepu·te, *v.* ? *Obs.* [Mis-[1] 1.] *trans.* To estimate erroneously. Also **Misrepu·ted** *ppl. a.*, wrongly reputed or estimated.

1628 Gaule *Pract. Theories* (1629) 232 Wis-dome chose there to bee misreputed, rather then Curiositie should be satisfied. 1643 Milton *Divorce* 47 They shall vindicate the misreputed honour of God and his great Lawgiver. 1659 H. L'Estrange *Alliance Div. Off.* 101 Those Liturgies extant under the names of misreputed Authors.

Misrese·mblance. *rare.* [Mis-[1] 4.] † **a.** Want of resemblance or agreement. *Obs.* **b.** Bad likeness or portrait.

a 1618 Raleigh in Gutch *Coll. Cur.* I. 75, I shall pick out some short mis-resemblances, or disagreements, between the common law, and the civil law. 1822 Southey *Ep. A. Cunningham* Poet. Wks. 1838 III. 313 Return we now .. To a lighter strain; and from the gallery Of the Dutch Poet's mis-resemblances Pass into mine.

Misru·le, *sb.* [Mis-[1] 4.]

† **1.** Disorderly conduct or living; misconduct; ill-conducted or irregular life; excess. *Obs.*

In quot. 1406 app. intended to be taken as two words (see Mis *a.*) rendering OF. *male regle.*

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 7952 Thow might meruell the mykell of my misrewle, But þat wottes .. Þat þere longes no loue .. To hym þat dressis for my dethe. 1406 Hoccleve *La Male Regle* 90 My freendes seiden vn-to me ful ofte, My mis reule me cause wolde a fit. 1484 Caxton *Fables of Æsop* III. xi, The cryme and mysrewle of his sone. 1494 [see Misdemeanour [1] 1 b]. 1570 Levins *Manip.* 95/43 Misrewle, *excessus, luxus.* 1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* (1614) 749, I haue seen houses as full of such prostitutes, as the schooles in France are full of children. They there vse much misrule, riot and wantonnes.

2. Bad rule or government (of a state, etc.); misgovernment; the action of misruling or condition of being misruled; hence (often), a state of disorder, anarchy, or rebellion.

1399 Langl. *Rich. Redeles* IV. 3 Where was euere ony cristen kynge .. þat helde swiche an household .. As Richard in þis rewme þoru myserule of oþer? 1450 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 206/1 The Abbot and Covent .. is in gret disolacion .. by the mysreule and dilapidacion of divers Abbottes. 1541 A. Kerr in *Hamilton Papers* I. 142 This mysrewill and breik upoun the Bordouris. 1657-8 in *Burton's Diary* (1828) II. 365 Misrule is better than no rule; and an ill government .. is better than none. 1667 Milton *P. L.* VII. 271 And the loud misrule Of Chaos farr remov'd. 1725 Pope *Odyss.* I. 139 The heav'n-born maid Enormous riot and misrule survey'd. 1777 Robertson *Hist. Amer.* VI. (1851) I. 650 The authority of government had been almost forgotten during the long prevalence of anarchy and mis-rule. 1828 Scott *F. M. Perth* xix, As the town is in misrule, we two, Harry, will carry her home. 1841 Gen. Abbott in C. R. Low *Jrnl.* II. (1879) 195 There is such misrule here, that the country never can be quiet; people are sent out for the express purpose of getting up rows.

3. *Lord* (also *Abbot, Master*) *of Misrule*: one chosen to preside over the Christmas games and revels in a great man's house. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.*

See Brand *Popular Antiquities* (1813) I. 387 seqq.; R. T. Hampson *Medii Ævi Kalendarium* (1841) I. 116, 117.

1491 in *Excerpta Historica* (1831) 88 To Ringley, lorde of mysrewle, upon a prest, £5. 1492 *Ibid.* 92 To Ringley, abbot of mysreule, £5. 1571 [see Lord *sb.* 14 a]. 1577-87 Holinshed *Chron.* III. 1067/2 On mondaie the fourth of Januarie, the said lord of merie disports came by water to London, .. where he was receiued by Wause lord of misrule to John Mainard one of the shiriffes of London. 1633 R. Evelyn in *Archæol.* (1817) XVIII. 333, I giue free leave to Owen Flood my Trumpeter, gent. to be Lo[d] of Misrule of all good Orders during the twelve dayes. 1654 H. L'Estrange *Chas. I*, 72 That Christmas the Temple Sparks had enstalled a Lieutenant, a thing we country folk call a Lord of Misrule. 1664 H. More *Myst. Iniq.* 323 Their Master of Misrule at Christmas. [1820 Scott *Abbot* xiv, A hall, a hall! for the venerable Father Howleglas, the learned Monk of Misrule, and the Right Reverend Abbot of Unreason!]

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1591 Lyly *Endym.* V. ii, Loue is a Lorde of misrule, and keepeth Christmas in my corps. 1623 Webster *Duchess Malfi* III. ii, *Ant.* I must lie here. *Duch.* Must! you are a lord of mis-rule. *Ant.* Indeed, my rule is only in the night. 1660 South *Serm.* (1727) IV. i. 63 Their great Master of Misrule Oliver [Cromwell]. 1822 W. Irving *Braceb. Hall* xxvi. 227 Slingsby .. who is not merely lord of misrule in his school, but master of the revels to the village. 1850 Hawthorne *Scarlet Let.* viii. (1852) 99 There used to be a swarm of these small apparitions, in holiday time; and we called them children of the Lord of Misrule. 1898 K. Grahame *Golden Age* 15, I [*sc.* the wind] am the strong capricious one, the lord of misrule.

† **c.** *Show of misrule* (? nonce-use): festivities such as those presided over by a Lord of Misrule.

1555 W. Watreman *Fardle Facions* II. viii. 182 Thei [*sc.* Brachmanes] couette no sightes, nor shewes of misrule: no disguisinges nor entreludes.

Misru·le, *v.* [Mis-[1] 1.]

† **1.** *trans.* To manage or control badly. Also *refl.*

13.. in *Hampole's Wks.* (1896) I. 172 Þe foule fende þat mone gostle men begils þorou preway pontz of pryde þat misrewle þere witte. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. IX. 59 Moche wo worth þat man þat mys-reuleth his Inwitte. 1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 170 Wher such thing falleth overal That eny king himself misreule. *c* 1460 G. Ashby *Dicta Philos.* 19 Suche folk as misreule theire spendyng. 1530 Palsgr. 638/1 If you mysrule your selfe, you maye .. catche some disease.

2. To rule or govern (a country, etc.) badly.

1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 346 If he misreule that kingdom. 1462-3 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 268 Engeland .. Whiche hathe be mysrewled 3erys sertayne. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S. T. S.) 197 Preistis .. Misreule the realm and court no moir. 1810 G. Chalmers *Caledonia* II. II. v. 200 The Duke of Albany misruled his kingdom. 1883 *Pall Mall G.* 12 Sept. 10/1 He pleaded guilty to being a disturber so long as Ireland was misruled by England.

Hence **Misru·ling** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

c 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 214 For here synne & mysreulynge of hem self. 1839 Ld. Brougham *For. Relat. Gt. Brit.* Wks. 1857 VIII. 126 Like the knell of death to the hopes of the misruling few.

Misru·led, *ppl. a.* [Mis-[1] 2.]

1. Disorderly; lawless; unruly. *Obs.* or *arch.*

a 1400 Hylton *Scala Perf.* (W. de W. 1494) I. xlii, A fals mysruled loue of man to hymselfe. *c* 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 101 þat it [*sc.* a vow] be made wiþ deliberacoun, þat þe purpos or entent be not misrewlid. 1495 *Act* 11 *Hen. VII*, c. 2 § 3 Vagaboundes and other mysruled persones. 1532 More *Confut. Barnes* VIII. Wks. 777/2 Agaynst murderers & theues and against al other viciouse & mysseruled persons. 1563 in Robertson *Hist. Scot.* (1759) II. App. 15 Except we put better order unto our misruled papists. 1829 Scott *Antiq.* xxvii, I may weel tak the tale hame to mysell, that hae led a misruled and roving life.

2. Badly ruled or governed.

1829 F. Glasse *Belgic Past.* iii. 52 Misruled nations in

vain wars engage. 1873 *Brit. Q. Rev.* LVII. 500 The state of Ireland..was that of a misruled dependency.

Misru·ler. *rare.* [MIS-[1] 5.] †a. A disorderly person. *Obs.* b. A bad ruler.

1479 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 416, I shall reprove & chastice the mysrewlers & mysdoers in the forsaid toune. 1897 *Edin. Rev.* July 1 Their tyrants and misrulers.

†**Misru·ly,** *a. Obs.* [MIS-[1] 6.] Disorderly; unruly.

c 1412 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 4376, I me repent of my misrewly [*v.r.* mysreulede] lyfe. 1442 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 55/2 Misgoverned Maisters.., and other misruly poeple. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 100/21 Misruly, *enormis.* 1581 in *Cath. Tractates* (S. T. S.) 90 And knok the crouins of thame quha ar misreulie. 1598 BP. HALL *Sat.* VI. i. 89 And crub the rauge of his mis ruly tongue.

Miss (mis), *sb.*[1] Forms: 3-6 mis, mysse, 3-7 misse, 4-5 mys, (5 myss, 6 myshe), 6- miss. [Partly f. MISS *v.*[1]; but other formations (likewise from the OTeut. **misso-*) seem to have coalesced with this. In the sense of 'loss' (branch I) the word may partly represent OE. **miss* neut., 'absence, loss' (Swcet *Anglo-Saxon Dict.*), or be ad. ON. *missi-r* masc. or *missa* fem., 'loss'. In some of the earlier examples of branch II (fault, mistake) the word appears to have been evolved (like MIS *adv.*) from the resolution of compounds of MIS- *prefix*[1]; of similar origin are MHG., MLG., MDu. *misse* mistake, ill-success, Du. *mis* error. In the sense of 'missing a mark', etc. (branch III) it has not been found earlier than the 16th c., and may be purely a late formation on the verb; cf., however, early mod.Du. *misse* 'vanus ictus, jactus' (Kilian), which was developed from the adverbial use in *misse slaan*, to miss one's stroke. Cf. also ON. *á mis* adv., so as to miss or fail to meet, whence the ME. *on mis* (see 4 below), later AMISS *adv.*, is prob. adopted.]

I. Loss, lack. (Cf. MISS *v.*[1] IV.)

1. The fact or condition of missing, having lost, or being without (a thing or person); loss, lack, privation. Const. *of* or *genitive.* (Cf. MISS *v.*[1] 14.)

c 1470 HARDING *Chron.* CCXXX. iv, The kyng murthered.. The duke was wod, and frantike for his misse. 1494 FABYAN *Chron.* VII. CCXXIX. 260 And whan he lefte his crowne, than fell honour downe, for mysse of such a kynge. 1513 MORE in Grafton *Chron.* (1568) II. 783 When the wondring of the people cast a comely red in her chekes, of the which she before had most misse. 1586 MARLOWE *2nd Pt. Tamburl.* IV. ii, As when an herd of lusty Cymbrian hulls Run mourning round about the females misse. 1592 NASHE *P. Penilesse* 9 b, If more regard were not had of him shortly, the whole Realme should haue a misse of him. 1614 RALEIGH *Hist. World* II. v. v. § 4. 570 At Carthage, the misse of so great a person was diuersly construed. 1628-77 FELTHAM *Resolves* II. xxii. 40 An estate squander'd in a wanton waste, shews better in the miss, then while we had the use on't. 1886 SPURGEON *Treas. Dav.* Ps. cxliv. 15 Temporal blessings are not trifles, for the miss of them would be a dire calamity.

†b. Observable lack. (Cf. MISS *v.*[1] 15.) *Obs.*

1689 S. SEWALL *Diary* 27 May, The main streets thwacked with people, and yet little miss of people in Fen-Church and Lumbard Streets. 1722 DE FOE *Plague* (1754) 248 There was no miss of the usual Throng of People in the Streets.

2. Disadvantage or regret occasioned by loss, absence, or privation *of* a person or thing. (Cf. MISS *v.*[1] 16.) Chiefly in phrases, *To have* or *find* (*a*) (*great, heavy, little*) *miss of; to feel the miss of; there is no* (*great*) *miss of.* Now *dial.* or *vulgar.*

a 1200 *Moral Ode* 234 þenne hi cumeð eft to þe chele, of hete hi habbeð misse. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 262 Þer mys nee mornyng com neuer here. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 6707 Of soche a mon were a mysse þurgh the mekyll world. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. CCXIX. 279 These two kynges..bewayled the lorde James of Bourbon, sayeng, that it was great damage of hym, and a great mysse of hym out of theyr company. 1540 *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, III. 205 Their shalbe greate myshe of ther absentie, considering ther towardnes and goode experience. 1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* III. XXV. (Arb.) 282 Heywood being loth to call for drink so oft as he was dry..sayd I finde great misse of your graces standing cups. ? 1608 BACON *Let. to Sir T. Bodley* Wks. 1830 XII. 91 In respect of my going down to my house in the country I shall have miss of my papers. 1657 W. RAND tr. *Gassendi's Life Peiresc.* 66 Leaving behind him a great misse of himself, at Padua especially. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1811) VIII. 114 We know the miss of you, and even hunger and thirst, as I may say, to see you. 1751 ELIZA HEYWOOD *Betsy Thoughtless* II. 267 Agreeable as her conversation was, Mr. Trueworth found no miss of her, as the lovely Harriot was left behind. 1797 MRS. A. M. BENNETT *Beggar Girl* I. 95 The poor servants will all have a miss of such a master as your honour. 1807 ANNA SEWARD *Lett.* (1811) VI. 364 With such excellent qualities of head and heart [etc.]..I think his professional talents will have no great miss of what are called the classics. 1860 GEO. ELIOT *Mill on Fl.* III. viii, I was determined my son should have a good eddication: I'd none myself and I've felt the miss of it. 1901 'RITA' *Jilt's Jrnl.* I. xx, I'm thinking 'tis now you'll feel the miss o' your mother, my dear.

†b. *transf.* A person missed. *nonce-use.*

a 1631 DONNE *Eleg.* XVI. Poems (1654) 95, I found my misse, struck hands, and praid him tell..where he did dwell.

II. Wrong, mistake. (Cf. MISS *v.*[1] V.)

†3. Wrong, wrong-doing; offence, injury; a wrong, misdeed. *With miss*: wrongly, amiss. *Obs.*

Not always distinguishable with certainty from MIS *adv.*

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 86 3if a mon..seiþ & deð so much mis þet hit þeo so open sunne [etc.]. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 24339 To me his moder did þai þat mis. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 4784 Þou bedes me mys & outrage! 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 3289 Als Innocentes þat never dyd mys. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 2391 Þou art confessed so clene, be-knowen of þy mysses. *c* 1430 *Hymns Virgin* (1867) 98 Repentynge þee of al þi mys. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* II. 352 Be war that yhe with myss deyme nocht my taille. *a* 1500 *Bernard. de cura rei fam.* (1870) 7/162 Ane aulde woman þat is Licherus and wyl not lef hir mys. 1546 *Supplic. Poore Commons* (1871) 79 Defer not (moost deare Soueraine) the reformation of this mysse. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* III. ix. 2 What wonder then if one, of women all, did mis? 1592 SHAKS. *Ven. & Ad.* 53 He saith, she is immodest, blames her misse. *c* 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* V. 197 Some other way I might repair this shameful miss. 1616 J. LANE *Contn. Sqr.'s T.* XI. 60 But if hee will for neithers [sake] quitt the misse.

†b. in alliterative association with *mend*, etc.

c 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 2760 Mendi þou most þat mis [*viz.* the slaying of Morauut]. *a* 1400 *Relig. Pieces fr. Thornton MS.* 91 Þou broghte thaym to blysse Thorowe mendynge of mysse. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* IV. 64 Off this gret myss I sall amendis hawe. 1470-85 MALORY *Arthur* II. ii. 78, I shalle amende all mysse that I haue done ageynst yow. 1581 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xliv. 114 And tyme requyris amendement of missis. *c* 1620 A. HUME *Brit. Tongue* (1865) 2 To mend the misses that ignorant custom hath bred. 1637-50 ROW *Hist. Kirk* (Wodrow Soc.) 164 To amend his awin misses, and to reforme abuses in his Court.

†4. Phr. *on mis* (cf. ON. *á mis*) = AMISS, q. v.

c 1230 *Hali Meid.* 17 Þet is..þe stunde & te time þe mahten bringe þe on mis forte donne. *a* 1350 *St. Anastasia* 202 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 27 Onmis þo wurdes þou vnderstode. *c* 1420 [see AMISS *adv.* 5].

†5. *Without(n) miss*: without mistake or uncertainty; undoubtedly, certainly; = *without fail* in its older application. [Cf. MDu. *sonder misse.*]

a 1250 *Five Joys of the Virgin* in *Rel. Ant.* I. 49 There is ioie ant eke blisse, That ever last, wid-oute misse. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 24758 Quat time and term þat þis bitidd..I sal yow mon wid-vten mis. *c* 1450 LOVELICH *Merlin* 208 And whaane the devel vndirstod al this, thanne was he joyful, with-owten mis. *Ibid.* 308, 1366, 1388, 1454.

†6. Error, mistake. *Obs.*

a 1568 ASCHAM *Scholem.* II. (Arb.) 90 Without any great misse in the hardest pointes of Gramaier.

III. Failure to hit or attain. (Cf. MISS *v.*[1] I.)

7. Failure to hit something aimed at.

Proverb: *A miss is as good as a mile* (formerly †*An inch in a miss is as good as an ell*, etc.): a failure is a failure however near one may have been to success.

1555 W. WATREMAN *Fardle Facions* I. vi. 89 He throweth his stone, fetching his ronne, and maketh lightly a narowe mysse, thoughe it be a good waye of. 1614 CAMDEN *Rem., Prov.* 303 An ynche in a misse is as good as an ell. 1721 KELLY *Sc. Prov.* 35 An Inch of a miss is as good as a span [*misprinted* spaw]. 1825 SCOTT *Jrnl.* 3 Dec. (1890) I. 32 He was very near being a poet—but a miss is as good as a mile, and he always fell short of the mark. 1860 ADLER *Prov. Poet.* xi. 237 Walter..evades the blow but the miss stretches his antagonist flat upon the ground. 1878 BROWNING *La Saisiaz* 163 What seemed hits and what seemed misses in a certain fence-play. 1887 RIDER HAGGARD *Jess* V, He has just killed half a dozen..partridges without a miss.

b. *Billiards.* A failure to hit the object ball, on account of which the opponent scores: in certain circumstances considered the correct play. Phr. *to give a miss* = to avoid hitting the object ball, esp. with the intention of putting one's ball in a safe position. The opponent is said *to score a miss.*

1844 MARDON *Billiards* 29 In playing off, it is customary to give a miss in the baulk. *Ibid.* 115 Should the striker, when in hand, play at a ball in baulk, his adversary has the option of scoring a miss. 1867 W. DUFTON *Pract. Billiards* iii. 42 The miss may be made with the butt or the point of the cue. 1873 BENNETT & 'CAVENDISH' *Billiards* 345 In most cases a miss would be the game here.

8. Failure to obtain or achieve something. Now *rare.*

1609 SIR E. HOBY *Let. to Mr. T. H.* 15 Your debts were ..very clamorous: the misse of your preferment was grieuous. 1615 W. LAWSON *Country Housew. Gard.* (1626) 18 After first or second graffing in the same Stocke, being mist (for who hits all) the third misse puts your Stocke in deadly danger. 1661 R. L'ESTRANGE *Interest Mistaken* Pref. p. iv, Aërius turn'd Heretique upon the misse of a Bishoprick. 1680 BAXTER *Answ. Stillingfl.* XXVIII. 41 It is not..the miss of a Complement or Ceremony, that makes a Man a Rebel. 1753-4 RICHARDSON *Grandison* (1811) II. ii. 12 If they have had no lovers, or..have not found a husband, they have had rather a miss than a loss, as men go. 1834 GLADSTONE in Morley *Life* (1903) I. 112, I ought to be thankful for my miss [*sc.* failure to catch the Speaker's eye].

9. *Printing.* The omitting to lay on a sheet in feeding a printing-machine.

1888 JACOBI *Printers' Vocab.*

Miss (mis), *sb.*[2] [Shortening of MISTRESS.

Probably this oral shortening may have been suggested by the written abbreviations 'Mis.' and 'Mis' (the latter representing the spelling *mistris*) which were common in the 16-17th c. In the following quots. it is not quite certain that 'Mis' is not a mere graphic abbreviation.

1606 *Chloe, Chance, & Change* G 4 My Mistrisse..did thus salute me. Seruante good morrow, what abroade so earlie? ..mistris quoth I, shall the seruant bee in bed after his Mis? *Ibid.* H 2, If your mistris haue a fine wit, and your wife, hut a plaine vnderstanding..if your mis. be kind and your wife dogged: wil you loue your mis. better then your wife?]

1. A kept mistress; a concubine. Less commonly, a common prostitute, whore. *Obs.* exc. *dial.*

1645 EVELYN *Diary* June, The com'on misses [at Venice] ..go abroad bare-fac'd. 1652 *Ibid.* 9 Jan., She being taken to be the Earle of Oxford's Misse (as at this time they began to call lewd women). 1675 (*title*) The Character of a Town-Misse. 1678 BUTLER *Hud.* III. i. 864 All women would be of one piece, The virtuous matron, and the misse. 1765 BICKERSTAFFE *Maid of Mill* II. x. 42 If ooe is a Miss, be a Miss to a gentleman I say. 1803 MARY CHARLTON *Wife & Mistress* IV. 214, I would rather chuse to see this child..the wife of an honest man, than the Miss of a Nobleman. 1809 J. ADAMS *Wks.* (1854) IX. 303 A Miss of the street. 1826 J. WILSON *Noct. Ambr.* Wks. 1855 I. 10 Can you believe what the newspapers said that the parents connived at her being Colonel Barclay's miss? 1889 in *N. W. Linc. Gloss.*

transf. 1700 DRYDEN *Fables, Cock & Fox* 56 This gentle cock..Six misses bad, beside his lawful wife.

fig. 1678 BUTLER *Hud.* III. i. 969 (1694) 51 Our Money's now become the Miss Of all your Lives and Services.

2. Prefixed as a title to the name of an unmarried woman or girl (not entitled to the prefix 'lady' or some higher designation of rank).

In modern use, when *Miss* is prefixed to the surname alone, e. g. *Miss Smith*, it normally indicates the eldest (unmarried) daughter of the family; in referring to the others the Christian name is employed, e. g. *Miss Ethel* (*Smith*). (But for reasons of convenience the Christian names are often inserted or omitted without regard to this rule.) When the title is applied to several persons of the same name at once, usage sanctions two forms, viz. *the Misses Smith* and *the Miss Smiths*, the former being regarded as grammatically the more proper.

1666-7 PEPYS *Diary* 7 Mar., Little Miss Davis did dance a jigg after the end of the play. 1670 FLECKNOE *Epigr.* 43 To Mis Davies, On her excellent dancing. Dear Mis, Who woud not think [etc.]. 1697 VANBRUGH *Relapse* IV. i, Enter Miss Hoyden, and Nurse. *c* 1700 FARQUHAR *Love & a Bottle* Epil., Oh Collier! Collier! thou'st frighted away Miss Cross. 1729 SWIFT *Direct. Serv.* xvi, Miss Betty won't take to her Book. 1772 in J. L. Chester *Westm. Abbey Reg.* (1876) 416 Miss Catharine Ayrton; aged three months. 1826 DISRAELI *Viv. Grey* II. IV. i. 171 Does my Lord Manfred keep his mansion there, next to the Misses Otranto? 1870 GEO. ELIOT in Cross *Life* III. 112 The Miss Gaskells were staying with them. 1880 *Theatre* Feb. 118 As Adriano Miss Josephine Yorke looked and sang admirably.

b. *Miss Nancy* (dial. and colloq.): an effeminate man. Hence *Miss-Nancyism*, effeminacy.

1824 CARR *Craven Gloss.* s.v. *Nancy*, A Miss-nancy, is an effeminate man. 1886 *Harper's Weekly* 20 Mar. (Cent.), Ineffable silliness, sneering at the demand for honesty in politics as Miss Nancyism. *c* 1898 MRS. LYNN LINTON in *Speaker* (1901) 20 July 453/1, I think a dash of femininity in a man is good; but I hate a 'Miss Nancy'.

c. A lady entitled to be addressed as 'Miss ——'.

1840 HOOD *Kilmansegg, Marriage* xxiii, The Bride, who came from her Coach a Miss, As a Countess walk'd to her carriage.

3. With ellipsis of the proper name. Not now in educated use. a. Without article, substituted for the name of a young unmarried lady, often equivalent to 'the daughter of the house', 'the young lady of the family.'

1695 CONGREVE *Love for L.* II. x, Oh, madam, you are too severe upon miss. 1712 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 30 Dec., I saw the Bishop of Clogher's family to-day; Miss is mighty ill of a cold. 1747 GARRICK (*title*) Miss in her Teens. 1758 JOHNSON *Idler* No. 33 ¶ 24 Both the old lady and miss are fond of.. collared eel. 1820 BYRON *Blues* I. 78 Is it miss or the cash of mamma you pursue? 1888 J. PAYN *Prince of Blood* XXVIII. (1892) 229 'I hope miss is not much worse', he said.

b. *vocatively.*

1667 DRYDEN *Maiden Qu.* III, Adieu, Dear Miss! If ever I am false to thee again. 1670 [see 2]. 1740 tr. *De Monhy's Fort. Country Maid* (1741) I. 60 And, Miss, since that is your Name, you shall go Home to your Parents. 1766 GOLDSM. *Vic. W.* XXXI, 'My sweetest Miss', cried my wife, 'he has told you nothing but falsehoods.' 1816 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* (1818) I. 101 'Dear Miss', said a lively old Lady to a friend of mine. *a* 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia* s.v., Nor must one say, 'Pray, Miss, do you go to the ball this evening?' 1850 MISS YONGE *Henrietta's Wish* iv. 49, 'I beg your pardon, Miss,' said she [*sc.* a maidservant]. 1901 'RITA' *Jilt's Jrnl.* I. ii, He..said, 'A pleasure, miss, I assure you'. ..'Miss', I repeated...'Fancy calling me—"miss". But then he isn't a gentleman.'

c. In angry or contemptuous use.

1906 WEYMAN *Chippinge* xxii, [A mother says] 'You hate me!' 'Oh no, no!' the girl cried in distress. 'You do, miss!'

4. A young unmarried woman; a girl, esp. a schoolgirl, or one who has lately left school; in modern use, often connoting the squeamishness or sentimentality characteristic of girls of such an age.

In literary English use now only playful or contemptuous; in trade use (distinguished from *ladies* and *children*, with reference to sizes or styles of articles of clothing), *misses* denotes girls of from about 10 to 17 years of age. The American dicts. describe the word as being in colloquial and trade use.

1667 DRYDEN *Maiden Qu.* II. i, Oh, my Miss in a Masque! have you found your Tongue? *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Miss,..*a little Girl. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Miss*, a Title given to a young Gentlewoman. 1715 GAY *Ep. Burlington* 75 Three boarding-schools well stock'd with misses. 1750 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 85 ¶ 12 A knot of misses busy at their needles. 1796 LAMB *Let. to Coleridge* 28 Oct., To fall out like boarding-school misses. 1802 MRS. E. PARSONS *Myst. Visit* II. 172 Very unlike a novel-reading Miss. 1842 TENNYSON *Amphion* 81 The wither'd Misses! how they prose O'er books of travell'd seamen. 1858 MRS. GORE *Heckington* III. x. 213 Leave them [*sc.* whimsies] to such Misses as the Horsfords. 1880 *Nation* (N. Y.) 12 Aug. *advt.*, The Maples.—A Family School for Young Ladies and Misses. 1885 *Spectator* 30 May 706/1 Happiest when under the tyranny of some small miss of two or three.

5. = MRS. *dial.* and *U.S.*

1836 HALIBURTON *Clockm.* (1862) 451 If Miss Corncob, your wife, ain't here. 1875 in PARISH *Sussex Gloss.*

Miss (mis), *sb.*[3] *Cards.* [Possibly a use of Miss *sb.*[1] or of Miss *sb.*[2]] At loo, an extra hand for which any of the players may discard his own.

1767 Lady M. Coke *Jrnl.* 10 June (1889) II. 22 There was to be two tables at Lu...The partys were scanty; both tables play'd with 'Miss'. 1861 H. Kingsley *Ravenshoe* (1862) III. 240 General Mainwaring had been looed in miss four times running. 1883 H. Jones in *Encycl. Brit.* XV. 1/1 Each player in rotation..looks at his cards, and declares whether he will play, resign, or take miss.

Miss (mis), *v.*[1] Forms: 1 missan, 3–7 misse, 4–6 mys(se, mis, myse, 5–6 myss, 6 mish, 6– miss; *pa. t.* 1–4 miste, (3 misste), 4–9 mist, 5–6 myst, 4– missed (also 5 -id, -yd, -ud, etc.); *pa. pple.* 3 ymyst, 3–4 imist, 4– (as in pa. t.). [OE. *missan* = OFris. *missa*, MLG., MDu., Du. *missen*, OHG. *missan* (MHG., G. *missen*), ON. *missa* (Sw. *mista*, Da. *miste*, from the pa. t. and pa. pple.) :—OTeut. **missjan*, f. participial stem **misso-*: see Mis-[1].]

I. *trans.* To fail to hit, meet, or light upon.

1. To fail to hit (something aimed at). Said either of the person aiming or of the missile. In OE. with obj. in genitive (cf. *miss of*, 23).

To miss the cushion: see Cushion *sb.* 10 a.

Beowulf 2439 He miste mercelses and his mæȝ ofscet. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* x. 366 The Bruce him myssyt as Wallace passyt by. *a* 1547 Surrey in *Tottel's Misc.* (Arb.) 13 The palme play, where..With dazed eies oft we..Haue mist the ball. 1603 Florio *Montaigne* I. xxxiii, That ancient fellow, who, hurling a stone at a dog, missed him, and there withall hit..his step-dame. 1646 Evelyn *Diary* (Chandos ed.) 193 They were most accurate at the long-bow and musket, rarely missing the smallest mark. 1664 Ingelo *Bentiv. & Ur.* VI. 182 The next Course was perform'd much after the same manner, only Proselenes miss'd the Ring. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. iii. 148 The Purser..fired a pistol at Cozens, which however mist him. 1813 Scott *Rokeby* IV. xxvi, The gun he levell'd—mark like this Was Bertram never known to miss. 1864 Tennyson *En. Ard.* 753 The babe..rear'd his creasy arms, Caught at and ever miss'd it. 1867 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* (1877) I. v. 387 He..missed the traitor, and slew another soldier who was near him.

b. in fig. application, esp. *to miss one's aim, one's* (or *the*) *mark* (see Mark *sb.*[1] 7 e).

1530 Palsgr. 638/1 If I mysse nat my marke, he is a busy felowe. 1591 Shaks. 1 *Hen. VI*, I. iv. 4, I..oft haue shot at them, How e're vnfortunate, I miss'd my ayme. 1604—*Ham.* IV. i. 43 (Qo. 2). 1602 *2nd Pt. Return fr. Parnass.* IV. iii. 1926 For that I misse this gaudy painted state, Whereat my fortunes fairely aim'd of late. 1655 Fuller *Ch. Hist.* IX. 176 The Ministers or Brethren now missing their mark, abated much of their former activity. 1735 Pope *Ep. Lady* 128 The Pleasure miss'd her, and the Scandal hit. *a* 1800 Cowper *Ep. to Prot. Lady* 38 But ills of every shape and every name, Transformed to blessings, miss their cruel aim. 1855 Browning *Grammarian's Funeral*, This high man, aiming at a million Misses an unit. 1874 Green *Short Hist.* IX. § 1 Cromwell..in his later years felt bitterly that Puritanism had missed its aim.

c. Occasionally, of a missile, a blow, etc.: To chance not to hit (some object or part, not necessarily aimed at); to pass by without touching.

1749 Bracken *Farriery Impr.* (ed. 6) I. 300 Gun shot Wounds are seldom or never deadly (provided they miss the very Vitals). 1859 Tennyson *Vivien* 781 One flash, that, missing all things else, may make My scheming brain a cinder.

d. *absol.* (Phr. *Hit or miss*: see Hit *v.* 22.)

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3872 Ones he smot ðor on ðe ston, And miste, and saȝ ðe water gon. 1535 Coverdale *Judg.* XX. 16 With the slynge coulde they touch an heer, and not mysse. 1592 Shaks. *Rom. & Jul.* I. i. 214 Well in that hit you misse, sbeel not be hit With Cupids arrow. 1687 A. Lovell tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. xlix. 68 In cutting off Heads, they are very dextrous, and never miss. 1742 Fielding *J. Andrews* I. xvi, I never saw a surer shoot at a partridge. Every man misses now and then. 1859 Tennyson *Vivien* 349 The sick weak beast seeking to help herself By striking at her better, miss'd. 1866 Reade *G. Gaunt* I. vi. 154 The longer and more steadily the duellist fixes his eye on bis adversary, the less likely he is to miss.

2. Not to hit upon (the right path). Usually *to miss one's way*. (Also fig.)

a 1547 [see Missing *vbl. sb.* 2]. 1582 N. Lichefield tr. *Castanheda's Cong. E. Ind.* 13 b, The said Nicholas missed y[e] channell, and ranne on ground. 1613 Shaks. *Hen. VIII*, III. ii. 439 Say Wolsey..Found thee a way..to rise in: A sure, and safe one, though thy Master mist it. 1667 Milton *P. L.* III. 735 Thy way thou canst not miss. 1742 Fielding *J. Andrews* II. ii, He could not apprehend any mischief had happened, neither could he suspect that he missed his way. 1800 A. Carlyle *Autobiog.* 28 Their eldest son.., having missed the road.., fell into a peat pot. 1822 Shelley tr. *Calderon's Mag. Prodig.* I. 76 Take which [path] you will, you cannot miss your road.

3. To fail to obtain footing on (a step, plank, etc.). Also *to miss one's footing*, (Sc.) *to miss a foot*.

? *a* 1550 *Freiris Berwik* 558 in *Dunbar's Poems* (1893) 303 Freir Johine attour the stair is gane In sic wyiss, that mist he hes the trap, And in ane myr he fell. 1641 J. Jackson *True Evang. T.* II. 146 Till wee misse the bridge and fall into the ditch. 1670 [see Footing *vbl. sb.* 4]. 1785 Burns *Halloween* xxvi, She..mist a fit, an' in the pool..she plumpit. 1816 Scott *Old Mort.* x, If be..dinna..miss ony o' the kittle steps at the Pass o' Walkwary. 1847 Tennyson *Princess* IV. 159 Blind with rage she miss'd the plank, and roll'd In the river.

4. To fail to meet (a person with whom a meeting or interview was possible or intended). Also occas. *intr.* for *reciprocal*.

1589 Nashe *Returne of Pasquill* Wks. (Grosart) I. 91, I ranne presently to the water side to discouer your comming in; I wonder how I missed you? 1598 Shaks. *Merry W.* III. v. 56, I will visit her, tell her so:..I will not misse her. 1663 Pepys *Diary* 27 July, Walked over the Parke to St. James's, but missed Mr. Coventry. 1721–2 Pope *Let. to Atterbury* 14 Mar., I was disappointed..in missing you at the Deanery, where I lay solitary two nights. 1880 Meredith *Tragic Com.* 40 Then we missed: now we meet.

b. Of a letter: To fail to reach (a person).

1855 R. M. Milnes in *Life* (1891) I. xi. 527 Lady Ellesmere's letter missed me altogether, although directed as I desired.

5. Phrases. a. **To miss fire.** Of firearms: To fail to go off. Hence *fig.* to be unsuccessful, to fail in his or its object.

1727 Gay *Begg. Op.* I. xiii. (1729) 16 May my pistols miss fire. *a* 1734 North *Exam.* I. ii. § 160, I conclude only that Wilkinson was a Trapan, and after missing Fire [etc.]. 1837 Dickens *Pickw.* vii, Never knew one of them miss fire before. 1838 D. Jerrold *Men of Char.* II. 166 That's how a man's brightest ideas sometimes miss fire. 1859 Reade *Love me little* i, She missed fire—Uncle Fountain, like most Englishmen, could take in a pun by the ear, but wit only by the eye.

b. **To miss stays** (*Naut.*). To fail in the attempt to go about from one tack to another.

1691 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2687/3 It was by reason he mist stays. 1758 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* I. 83/1 The Invincible, one of his fleet,..missed her stays, and run upon a flat. 1821 Scott *Pirate* xxxiv, His mates..have been here waiting for him till they have missed stays. 1893 F. M. Crawford *Children of King* I. 11 She was near missing stays.

fig. 1883 Stevenson *Treas. Isl.* xxvi, I reckon I've missed stays!..I'm for my long home, and no mistake.

II. *trans.* To fail to attain.

6. To fail to get, obtain, receive, or acquire; to come short of, go without (what it is possible or desirable to have).

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3336 A met ðor was, it het Gomor, Ile man is he head, and nummor, Him gaderen or ðe sunnesine, Elles he sulden missen hine. 1340 Hampole *Pr. Consc.* 5266 And for þe godhede es ful of blisse, þarfor þe sight of it þai sal misse. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 189 Man may mysse þe myrþe, þat much is to prayse. *a* 1450 Lovelich *Merlin* 782 Whanne the devel aspide..that his pray he scholde thus mis. 1582 Stanyhurst *Æneis* I. (Arb.) 18 Through this wyde roaming thee Troians Italy mishing Ful many yeers wandred. 1596 Shaks. *Merch. V.* II. i. 37 And so may I..Misse that which one vnworthier may attaine. 1606 Bacon in *Four C. Eng. Lett.* (1880) 41 Since the time I missed the solicitor's place. 1634 Milton *Comus* 925 May thy brimmed waves for this Their full tribute never miss. 1779 Johnson *L. P., Denham* (1868) 33 At the Restoration he obtained that which many missed, the reward of his loyalty. 1850 Miss Yonge *Henrietta's Wish* iii. 29 She could not bear that her husband should miss his yearly holiday. 1872 Tennyson *Gareth & Lynette* 1065 So will my knight-knave Miss the full flower of this accomplishment. 1879 Froude *Cæsar* xi. 130 Catiline had missed the consulship, and was a ruined man.

b. To fail to capture (a person, †a fortress).

1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S.T.S.) II. 468 Becaus tha knew him not tha mist him, and sa he chaiped. 1634 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* (1638) 94 Curroon..attempting vainely Hasser, but missing it redelivers Rantos also into his enemies hands. 1889 'R. Bolderwood' *Robbery under Arms* xliii, What a muff Sir Ferdinand must be, he's missed me twice already.

c. Not to have the satisfaction of hearing, seeing, or witnessing (something).

1841 H. Ainsworth *Guy Fawkes* III. i, It has been a painful spectacle.., and yet we would not have missed it. 1852 Rogers *Ecl. Faith* (1853) 181 Painful as were the revelations which ensued, I would not have missed them on any account. 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 142, I would not have missed the speech of Protagoras for a great deal.

7. a. With inf. or gerund: To fail (to do something). Now *arch.* or *dial.*

c 1381 Chaucer *Parl. Foules* 75 Thou shalt nat misse To comen swiftly to that place dere. 1477 Norton *Ord. Alch.* v. in Ashm. (1652) 77 Which would not misse.. to make *lac virginis*. *c* 1540 J. Heywood *Four P. P.* 368 (Manly), I thought ye wolde nat haue myst To make men lyue as longe as ye lyste. 1568 *Jacob & Esau* Prol., To send him a son by Sara he did not misse. 1664 Chas. II. in Cartwright *Madame* (1894) 159 Pardon me for haveing mist writing to you so many posts. 1667 Milton *P. L.* VI. 499 Th' invention all admir'd, and each, how hee To be th' inventer miss'd. 1733 Tull *Horse-Hoeing Husb.* xiv. 196 In a dry Summer both sorts of Clover are apt to miss growing. 1816 Scott *Old Mort.* xxxiv, The whigs never miss to find it [*sc.* good ale] out. 1820 Keats *Isabella* xxvi, I was in pain Lest I should miss to bid thee a good morrow. 1869 Browning *Ring & Bk., Pope* 1658 So, never I miss footing in the maze.

b. To fail to achieve (an object). Cf. 1 b.

1644 Milton *Areop.* (Arb.) 54 To make it plain that this order will misse the end it seeks. 1738 Wesley *Hymns*, '*But that Thou art my Wisdom, Lord*', My Soul would be extremely stirr'd At missing my Design. 1779 Johnson *L. P., Cowley* (1868) 6 He that misses his end will never be as much pleased as he that attains it.

†c. *To miss* (one's) *measure*: to fail to measure correctly. *Obs.*

1631 Weever *Anc. Funeral Mon.* 271 The Carpenters (missing their measure) bad made it so much too short.

d. To fail to accomplish (a stroke).

1858 'Crawley' *Billiards* (ed. 2) 29, I attempted a difficult canon off the white—and missed it. 1888 J. Payn *Myst. Mirbridge* xxii, A man..must be an angel indeed who misses his stroke at billiards without a murmur.

8. To escape, avoid. Now only *dial.*, exc. with adv. *just, narrowly*, etc. Also, †to get clear of, elude (pursuit).

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 166 [The ball]..mysseth the hande & falleth to the grounde. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 126 Throw his bitter deide I mis Of heil the dyntis dour. 1638 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* (ed. 2) 23 A shark (a man eating fish, and who seldome misse the hook, out of too much greedinesse). 1640 Glapthorne *Wit in a Constable* IV. Wks. 1874 I. 223 The house anon I will enforme you, and what way to take To misse pursuit. 1788 P. Henry in *Amer. Oratory* (1868) 19 (Stand. Dict.), Happy will you be, if you miss the fate of those nations, who..have groaned under intolerable despotism. 1791 W. Jessop *Rep. Navig. Thames* 14 A cut of 400 Yards will miss a very crooked and Obstructed Part. 1890 'R. Bolderwood' *Col. Reformer* (1891) 278, I turned..across country for Delhi, and after missing a few shots, rode one hundred and thirty miles before I stopped.

with gerund. 1600 Hakluyt *Voy.* III. 257 [This] made mee and my company as narrowly to escape staruing..as euer men did that missed the same. 1687 [see Narrowly 4 b]. 1756 Tolderv *Hist. 2 Orphans* IV. 94 A hollier, who narrowly missed taking off the toes of Humphry with his carriage. 1814 Scott *Wav.* lxi, She..once very narrowly missed introducing Waverley to a recruiting-sergeant of his own regiment.

9. To fail to take advantage of; to let slip (an opportunity, etc.).

a 1628 Preston *New Covt.* (1629) 587 *marg.*, Because men misse the time they fall into misery. 1672 Marvell *Reh. Transp.* I. 198 How frequent opportunities have I mist. 1772 Priestley *Inst. Relig.* (1782) I. 338 Would the orator Tertullus have missed so fine a topic of declamation, had there been the least colour of truth in this story? 1827 Scott *Highl. Widow* V. He thus missed an opportunity..of doing much good. 1841 James *Corse de Leon* II. xi. 245 If we miss the precise moment..we have lost the great talisman for ever. 1902 T. M. Lindsay *Church & Min. in Early Cent.* V. 173 It was better to be imposed upon sometimes than to miss the chance of entertaining a brother Christian.

b. To fail to catch (a train, etc.); not to be in time for. (Cf. *miss of*, 23 n.)

1823 Dk. Sussex in S. Parr *Wks.* (1828) VII. 5, I fear to miss the Post. 1842 Tennyson *Walking to Mail* 102 But put your best foot forward, or I fear That we shall miss the mail. 1856 [see Lie *v.*[1] 27 a]. 1886 *Manch. Exam.* 12 Jan. 4/7 Mr. Parnell himself was absent in consequence of missing his train at Crewe on the previous night.

10. To fail to see or perceive (something that is within view); to fail to 'catch' or hear (some part of what one is listening to); to fail to apprehend or perceive intellectually.

a 1588 *Tarlton's Jests* (1844) p. xx, You may see his goodly counterfeit Hung up on everie wall. You never can misse the likennesse, For everie bodie knowes..His fathers lovelie visnomie. 1596 Shaks. *Tam. Shr.* V. ii. 18 You are verie sencible, and yet you misse my sence. 1605 — *Mach.* II. ii. 13, I lay'd their Daggers ready, He could not misse 'em. 1610 — *Temp.* II. i. 54. 1666 Pepys *Diary* 28 Dec., I sat so high and far off that I missed most of the words. 1690 Locke *Govt.* II. vi. § 61 Wks. 1727 II. 175 The most blinded Contenders for Monarchy, by Right of Fatherhood, cannot miss this Difference. 1779 Johnson *L. P., Savage* (1868) 320 Mr. Savage..thought his drift could only be missed by negligence or stupidity. 1781 Cowper *Retirem.* 458 What obvious truths the wisest heads may miss. 1816 Scott *Old Mort.* xli, Ye canna miss Widow Maclure's public, for deil another house or hauld is on the road for ten lang Scots miles. 1855 Geo. Eliot *Ess., Evang. Teaching* (1884) 164 He is meeting a hypothesis which no one holds, and totally missing the real question. 1893 Liddon *Life Pusey* I. viii. 165 Allusive writing is open to two objections: Its point is missed by the majority of readers [etc.].

III. *trans.* To omit.

11. To omit, leave out (usually, a part of what one is reading, reciting, or writing). Also with *out*.

1530 Palsgr. 681/1 He hath a syngular memorie, he recyted al our hole comunycacion and myssed nat a worde. 1563–83 Foxe *A. & M.* II. 2047/2 Then the said Lane being somewhat abashed, said his beliefe to these words, which he missed vnawares: Borne of the virgin Mary. 1641 Smectymnuus *Vind. Answ.* § 2 The Heathens had a Monitor that led them along in their prayers..that they might misse nor mistake no words. 1816 Scott *Old Mort.* xii, He has gone to church service with me fifty times, and I never heard him miss one of the responses in my life. 1818 Byron *Juan* I. xi, If any actor miss'd his part She could have served him for the prompter's copy. 1870 Toulmin Smith *Eng. Gilds* 432 *note*, The transcriber by a slip of the pen has missed out words or parts of words.

†b. To leave undone through inadvertence. *Obs.*

1568 Grafton *Chron.* II. 747 All thinges were prepared, and no thing was missed.

12. To omit the performance of (a customary or expected action); to fail or neglect to keep (an appointment); to be exceptionally absent from (church, school, etc.); to omit to attend or be present at (some particular spectacle, ceremony, festivity, etc., out of a series or succession).

1598 Shaks. *Merry W.* II. ii. 102 One..that will not misse you morning nor euening prayer. 1602 *Ibid.* III. i. 92 (Qo. 1), For missing your meetings and appointments. 1658 *Whole Duty Man* V. § 34 He can never find in his heart so much as to miss a meal. *c* 1694 Prior *Lady's Looking Glass* 11 She would never miss one day A walk so fine. 1711 Steele *Spect.* No. 51 ¶6 Others never miss the first Day of a Play. 1742 Fielding *J. Andrews* II. iv, She..rarely missed a ball, or any other public assembly. 1819 B'ness Bunsen in Hare *Life* I. v. 139 Mr. Thirlwall has never missed any Tuesday evening since, except the moccoli night. 1834 Hood *Tylney Hall* I. xii. 122, I remember the time when Dr. Cobb never missed a meet of the hunt. 1886 Ruskin *Præterita* I. 368, I never missed chapel.

†13. To pass by, overlook. *Obs.*

1666 Bunyan *Grace Abound.* § 208 How many Scriptures are there against me? There are but three or four: and cannot God miss them, and save me for all them?

IV. *trans.* To be without; lack; want.

†14. To be without, not to have, lack; to cease to have, lose. Also with *away*. (Cf. sense 6.) *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 20792 He wil noght tak þe cark on him Quar þat it be sua soght or nai, þou hir bodi be mist o wai. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 8000 Þe dampned bodyse salle fredom mys. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XII. 101 As a man may nouȝt se þat misseth his eyghen. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 5646 To paradys the soner go He shal, .. Where that he shal no good misse. *a* 1450 *Cov. Myst.* (Shaks. Soc.) 50 ȝoure fadyrly love lete me nevyr mysse. 1583 *Leg. Bp. St. Androis* 80 Gif he had not fled for feir, Gude Matchewell had mist his meir. 1628–77 FELTHAM *Resolves* I. XXXIV. 59 He hath good Materials for a foundation: but misseth wherewith to rear the walls.

absol. 1573 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 35 To borow to daie and to-morrow to mis, for lender and borower, noiance it is. *a* 1631 DONNE *Lett. to Pers. Honour* (1651) 113 You have a fortune that can endure, and a nature that can almost be content to misse.

†**b.** *To be missed*: to be missing or absent; not to be found. *Obs.*

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* III. 537 If that he were missed, night or day, Ther-whyle he was aboute this servysse. 1535 COVERDALE 2 *Kings* X. 19, I haue a greate sacrifyce to do vnto Baal Who so euer is myssed, shal not lyue. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* II. 6 Of the Scotis onlie war misset twa knichtis, and of the commoun peple four thousand.

†**c.** Contextually, to do without. *Obs.*

1533 HEYWOOD *Pard. & Friar* Bj, This is the pardon, which ye cannot mysse. 1580 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 264 Bringing vnto man both honnye and wax, ..both so necessary that we cannot misse them. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* I. ii. 311 We cannot misse him: he do's make our fire [etc.]. 1637 RUTHERFORD *Lett.* (1664) cl. 301 Learn daily both to possess and miss Christ in his secret bridegroom-smiles.

15. To discover the absence of; to perceive that (a person or thing) is not in the expected or accustomed place. Also (*north.*) † with *away*.

c 1200 ORMIN 8919 Till þatt itt comm till efenn, & ta þeȝȝ misstenn þeȝȝre child. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 78 Þe neorðe time was þoa heo hefde imist hire sune, & eft hine ivond. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 17288+120 And when þai missed his body fast away þai fledd. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XIX. 504 On the morn,.. The Ingliss host myssit away The Scottis men. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 5641 Þe childe waked and his belt myst. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 827 They myssed hym and knewe not in what part of the worlde to make inquirie or serche for hym. 1592 GREENE *Conny Catch.* II. 21 The farmer .. thrust his hand into his pocket and mist his purse. 1693 DRYDEN & EARL MULGRAVE *Ess. Satire* 47 Like her, who miss'd her Name in a Lampoon, And grieved to find her self decay'd so soon. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 280 ¶ 4 This Man, whom I have missed for some Years in my Walks. 1750 GRAY *Elegy* 109 One morn I missed him on the custom'd hill. 1770 SIR J. BANKS *Jrnl.* xvi. (1896) 376, I took decoction of bark plentifully, and in three or four days missed it [*sc.* an ague]. 1782 COWPER *Gilpin* 231 The postboy's horse right glad to miss The lumbering of the wheels. 1814 SCOTT *Wav.* lxiii, It was sae dark that his folk never missed him till it was ower late. 1846 BROWNING *Soul's Trag.* I. 198 Well, he paid my fines Nor missed a cloak from wardrobe.

16. To perceive with regret the absence or loss of; to feel the want of.

1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* XVIII. V. 731 Madame said sir Bors now mys ye sir launcelot. *c* 1586 C'TESS PEMBROKE *Ps.* L. iii, Not want of sacrifice doth mee offend, Nor doe I misse thy alters daily flame. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* X. 104, I miss thee here, Not pleas'd, thus entertaind with solitude. 1779 JOHNSON *L. P., Milton* (1868) 44 Milton was too busy to much miss his wife. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* V. I. 524 Every month his native land remembers and misses him less. 1870 DICKENS *E. Drood* iii, I feel as if it would miss me, when I am gone so far away.

V. Intransitive uses.

†**17.** To go wrong, make a mistake, err. In OE. *impersonal*, const. dative of person. *Obs.*

In some of the latest examples the word should perhaps be referred to sense 1 d.

a 975 *Canons K. Edgar* XXXII. in Thorpe *Laws* (1840) II. 250 Ac beo se canon him æt-foran eaȝum; beseo to, ȝif he wille, þy læs þe him misse. *c* 1275 *Passion our Lord* 102 in *O. E. Misc.* 40 Þo seyde vre louerd crist .. Nymeþ gode yeme þat ye nouht ne mysse. Hwam ich biteche þat bred..He me schal bitraye. *c* 1325 *Spec. Gy Warw.* 120 And, what it is, i wole þe wisse, Vnderstond, þat þu ne misse. 1489 CAXTON *Faytes of A.* IV. i. 230, I telle the that thou myssest in thy sayeng in this byhalfe. 1562 LEGH *Armory* 51 There you misse. For if you marke it, this is not like yᵗ, yᵗ went before. *a* 1568 ASCHAM *Scholem.* I. (Arb.) 26 If a childe misse, either in forgetting a worde, or in chaunging a good with a worse. 1633 G. HERBERT *Temple, H. Script.*, Starres are poore books, and oftentimes do misse. *a* 1700 DRYDEN *Fables, Cock & Fox* 452 For art may err, but nature cannot miss. *a* 1754 FIELDING *Oh Conversat.* Wks. 1784 IX. 366 If..men .. often err in their conceptions of what would produce their own happiness, no wonder they should miss in the application of what will contribute to that of others.

†**18.** To be lacking or wanting. Const. dat. (of person) or *to*. *Obs.* (Cf. MISSING *ppl. a.*)

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* III. 445 Nil I nought swere..that he..wolde of that him missed han ben sesed. 1535 COVERDALE *Josh.* XXI. 45 And their myssed [1611 failed] nothinge of all the good that the Lorde had promysed..it came euery whyt. *a* 1536 *Interl. Beauty & Good Prop. Women* ad fin., For grace doth neuer mys To them that vse good prayers dayly. 1589 LYLY *Pappe w. Hatchet* D d, There shall not misse a name of any, that had a Godfather. 1611 BIBLE 1 *Sam.* XXV. 7 Neither was there ought missing vnto them, all the while they were in Carmel. 1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* XIII, 'The heir of Thomas Randolph might have a better claim to be answered.' 'And, by my honour, it shall not miss for want of my asking the grace.'

†**19.** To fail to happen, come, etc. *Obs.*

1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 325 Who loveth wel, it mai noght misse..Bot if that thei som weie finde. 1603 FLORIO *Montaigne* I. xl, Death hath come, or it will not misse.

†**20.** To come to an end, give out, fail. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 9964 Þis castel es o beld and blis, þar mirth es neuer mar to mis. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* III. 1624 That, there-as thou now brought art in-to blisse, That thou thy-self ne cause it nought to misse. *c* 1381 — *Parl. Foules* 40 Til the day gan misse. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* I. 66 Thou has..giffen vs Ioy that neuer shall mys. *a* 1529 SKELTON '*Now synge we*' 71 And thou shalt have blys That neuer shall mys.

21. To be unsuccessful: said of a person's designs or the person himself. Now *arch.* or *Obs.*

1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* Prol. 14 What here shall miss, our toil shall strive to mend. 1662 PEPYS *Diary* 3 Nov., Though we have missed twice, yet they bring such an account of the probability of the truth of the thing,..that we shall set upon it once more. 1687 DRYDEN *Hind & P.* I. 149 The bank above must fail before the venture miss. 1747 in *Col. Rec. Pennsylv.* V. 137 If they miss in their Schemes. 1813 SCOTT *Rokeby* III. XXVI, If thy scheme miss.

22. Of crops, etc.: To be abortive or unproductive. *dial.*

1615 W. LAWSON *Country Housew. Gard.* (1626) 18 Put in euery such roomth three or foure Kirnels of Apples or Peares .. and that day Moneth following, as many moe (lest some of the former misse). 1826 in *N. W. Linc. Gloss.* (1889) s. v., The turnips have all missed. 1852 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* XIII. II. 274 The seed has been known to miss occasionally.

23. Miss of —. Chiefly *Obs.* or *arch.*

a. To fail to obtain, receive, acquire, attain to, or secure; = 6. († occas. *miss on.*)

a 1250 *Owl & Night.* 581 Þu hauest ymyst of fayrhede & lutel is þi godhede. *c* 1357 *Lay Folks Catech.* (T.) 379 And man withonten merci of merci sal misse. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Shipman's T.* 352 And if that I were riche .. Of twenty thousand sheeld shold ye nat misse. 1526 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 397 And of my seruyce you shall not mysse. 1599 *Return fr. Parnass.* II. i. 638, I had like have missed of this preferment for wante of one to be bounde for my truthe! *a* 1625 BEAUM. & FL. *Wit at Sev. Weap.* I. i. For feare some poor Earle steale her, 't has bin threatned To redeem morgag'd land, but he shall misse on't. 1633 T. STAFFORD *Pac. Hib.* I. XIX. 111 Ill pleased for that they missed of the booty expected. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 485 ¶ 3 He is that Sort of Person which the Mob call a handsome jolly Man; which Appearance can't miss of Captives in this part of the Town. 1742 MRS. MONTAGU *Lett.* (1809) II. 144 An animal that has missed of instinct, and not lit upon reason. 1835 MACAULAY *Ess., Mackintosh* (1852) 325/2 A project which..had very narrowly missed of success. 1841 F. E. PAGET *Tales of Village* (1852) 505 Placed in a state in which .. he cannot miss of everlasting happiness. 1868 SWINBURNE *Blake* 89 Compelled..to an eternity of fruitless repentance for having wilfully missed of pleasure .. in this world.

†**b.** To make a mistake with regard to. *Obs.*

c 1386 CHAUCER *Friar's T.* 118 Er we departe, I shal thee so wel wisse, That of myn hous ne shaltow never misse. *c* 1400 *Solomon* 30 in *Adam Davy* 97 And to knowe god & yuel þat I þerof ne mysse.

c. To fail to seize or capture; = 6 b.

a 1631 DONNE *Elegy on Mris. Bulstred* Poems (1633) 70 But thou hast both of Captaine mist and fort. 1678 *Donna Olimpia* 32 Which indeed, as to his possessions, she effected, though she missed of his life. 1737 WHISTON *Josephus, Hist.* IV. ii. § 5 Titus .. had captives enough .. to satisfy his anger, when it missed of John. 1833 WHITTIER *Pr. Wks.* (1889) I. 262 They had missed of the old chief, but had captured his son.

†**d.** To be without, lack; to cease to have, lose; = 14. *Obs.*

a 1300 *K. Horn* (Ritson) 126 Hue wenden mid y wisse, Of huere lyve to misse. *c* 1325 *Spec. Gy Warw.* 418 'Þeih sholen se god' aperteliche, In his godhede and in his blisse, Off which þei sholen neuere misse. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* xxii. 486 Wyte it that ye have myssed of peas, For Charlemagne wylle noo thynge of it.

e. To fail to accomplish (a design) or realize (a hope); to fail in (an attempt or enterprise).

a 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 651 Þet þeo þe beoð icumene .. me to underneomene, moten missen þrof. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 349 And I [have] bot on desire, of which I misse. *c* 1420 LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 108 Oft of myn entent hath be made me mys. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* xiv. 321 He never myssed of no thyng that he toke in hand. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* II. iv. 34 He hadde missed of his enterprise. 1649 MILTON *Eikon.* 2 Rather.. then that the People should not still miss of their hopes, to be releiv'd by Parlaments. 1662 PEPYS *Diary* 1 Nov., I myself did truly expect to speed; but we missed of all. 1667 *Decay Chr. Piety* ii. ¶ 1 Who can suspect that a cause so rigbtly dispos'd, should miss of its effect? 1703 BURKITT *On N. T.* Matt. xxvii. 27–31 The Jews missing of their Expectation of a Temporal King in Christ. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* II. (Globe) 503 If he miss'd of his Business outward bound, he was to go up to China.

f. Not to find (a person or thing) where one expects or desires to; to discover the absence of (a thing). Also, to fail to meet with (a person).

1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 57 b, When they missed of their company, they wer in such a rage [etc.]. 1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turks* (1621) 634 Grittus .. missing of the Moldauian, fell vpon Francis Schenden. 1610 HEYWOOD *Gold. Age* IV. i. 54 We have mist of Saturne lately fled. 1628 GAULE *Pract. Theories* (1629) 367 They worthily misse of Christ, that seeke him where he is not. 1721 CIBBER *Lady's Last Stake* V. Dram. Wks. 1757 II. 226 They are certainly gone out that way, and Sir Friendly must miss of 'em. 1769 BURKE *Corr.* (1844) I. 172, I was unluckily in London and so missed of him. 1889 *N. W. Linc. Gloss.*, I miss'd on him yisterdaay, though I look'd high an' low fer him.

g. *To miss of one's aim*: = 1 b.

1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* III. ii. VI. V, Penelope had a company of suiters, yet all missed of their aym. 1655 LOVEDAY tr. *Calprenède's Cleopatra* III. 222 Oroondates enrag'd to have miss'd of his aime, drew his sword and threw himself after Artabon. 1771 FOOTE *Maid of Bath* III. Wks. 1799 II. 234 Projects, the most prudentially pointed, may miss of their aim. 1876 LOWELL *Ode for 4th July* II. iii, Time has a quiver full of purposes Which miss not of their aim.

h. To fail to perceive or understand; = 10.

1678 R. BARCLAY *Apol. Quakers* X. § 19. 310 He cannot be certain, but may still miss of the sense of it. 1704 NORRIS *Ideal World* II. i. 38 The reason is so very obvious that we cannot well miss of it. 1708 ATTERBURY *Serm.* (1726) II. vi. 190 These..Perfections of the Deity, are..most easy to be understood by us; upon the least Reflection and Enquiry we cannot miss of them.

i. With gerund: To fail (to do something); = 7 a.

1658 *Whole Duty Man* I. § 30 No man can miss of enjoying them [*sc.* God's mercies], but by his own default. 1663 PEPYS *Diary* 20 Sept., He hath not missed one night .. of supping with my Lady Castlemaine. 1756 WASHINGTON *Lett.* Writ. 1889 I. 268 Since the first murders were committed by the Indians, I have never missed of receiving intelligence of their motions. 1840 T. ROBBINS *Diary* 12 Aug. (1887) II. 579 Missed of seeing my brother at Enfield. 1868 SWINBURNE *Blake* 6 With what excellent care and taste this has been done, no one can miss of seeing.

†**j.** To fail to accomplish (a stroke). *Obs.*

c 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 2389 Eft vrgan smot wiþ main And of þat stroke he miste.

k. To fail to be present at or to witness; = 6 c.

1612 BEAUM. & FL. *Cupid's Rev.* I. ad init., I had mist of this, if you had not call'd me.

l. To escape, avoid; = 8.

1628–9 DIGBY *Voy. Medit.* (Camd.) 85 [He] told me the Dunkerkers ranged much .. about our channell, and that in all probabilities I could not misse of a hott encounter with them.

m. To fail to take advantage of; = 9.

a 1628 PRESTON *New Covt.* (1629) 587 Because they do not effect the thing they go about, when they misse of their time. 1785 M. CUTLER in *Life*, etc. (1888) II. 223 Missing of the opportunity by which I expected to have sent this letter last week.

n. To fail to catch (a boat, etc.); = 9 b.

1777 FRANKLIN *Lett.* Wks. 1889 VI. 56 Should you miss of one at Boulogne, proceed to Calais.

24. Miss on —. To fail to hit upon.

1823 LAMA *Elia* Ser. II. *Amicus redivivus*, Trite as the counsel was, and impossible, as one should think, to be missed on.

Miss (mis), *v.*² [f. MISS *sb.*²] *trans.* To address as 'miss'.

1824 MISS FERRIER *Inher.* XLV, Did you hear how he Miss'd me to-day?—me a married woman! 1863 MRS. CAREY BROCK *Margaret's Secret* VIII. 115, 'I am not accustomed to hear myself called Miss Ellis,'..'Well, you'll be *missed* here by every one'.

Miss, obs. form of MASS *sb.*¹

Missafic, erroneous form of MISSIFIC.

Missage, Missai, obs. ff. MESSAGE, MISSAY.

†**Missa·ke**, *v. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [a. MDu. *missaecken* (mod.Du. *miszaken*): cf. FORSAKE *v.*] *trans.* To deny, renounce.

1481 CAXTON *Reynard* (Arb.) 116 Yf he were otherwyse .. I wold euer myssake hym.

Missal (mi·săl), *sb.*¹ Forms: 4 **messel**, 5 **myssal(l)e**, 5–6 **messall, missale**, 5–7 **missall**, (7 *erron.* **massal**), 6– **missal**. [ad. eccl. L. *missāle*, neut. sing. of *missālis* (see next). Some of the early forms represent OF. *messel* (mod.F. *missel*).]

1. The book containing the service of the Mass for the whole year; a mass-book.

c 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 3574 (Kölbing) Her after sone Merlin swore..Tofore þe king on o messel. 1432 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) II. 21, I wyte unto my chauntry in yᵉ chapell of Sancte Anne .. my best Missall. 1480 CAXTON *Chron. Eng.* CCXXX. 245 Charlys leyde his right hond on the paten with goddes body and his lift hond on the missale. 1506 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) IV. 247 To yᵉ Chapell in Holbek my Messall, my Portus in prynte. *c* 1553 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 728 For Carryage of yᵉ new grailes and missales. 1611 BIBLE *Transl. Pref.* ¶ 13 Pope Nicolas the third .. brought into vse the Missals of the Friers Minorites. 1657–61 HEYLIN *Hist. Ref.* I. ii. § 5. 40 Many of the inferior Clergy had not much more learning than what was taught them in the Massals and other Rituals. 1726 AYLIFFE *Parergon* 356 In the Roman Church there were always Forms of Prayer, as may be seen in their Missals, Breviaries, Rituals..&c. 1845 T. H. HORNE in *Encycl. Metrop.* XXI. 494/1 The Council held at Toledo, in 633..adopted the Missal and Breviary of Isidore, Bishop of Seville. 1895 G. H. PALMER in *Elem. Plainsong* 59 To S. Gregory alone belongs the credit of having compiled .. the Sacramentary and Antiphoner, i.e. what we should now call the Missal and Gradual.

¶ **b.** Used vaguely for: A Roman Catholic book of prayers, esp. when illuminated; an illuminated book of hours, or the like.

1651 BAXTER *Inf. Bapt.* 304 The reading of one of their Missals, or books of Devotion. 1838 C. B. ELLIOTT *Trav.* II. 368 The greater part of the night, as well as of the day, is passed with rosaries, crucifixes, and missals. 1845 LONGF. *Norman Baron* III, A monk .. Who .. repeated Many a prayer and pater-noster From the missal on his knee. 1858 O. W. HOLMES *Aut. Breakf.-t.* III, He is as tender and reverential to all that bears the mark of genius..as a nun over her Missal. 1886 J. R. REES *Divers. Bookworm* (1887) 163 The pages of the missal are..illuminated with elegant borders of fruit, flowers, and birds.

2. *attrib.* and *Comb.* (usually with reference to the illumination of service-books or manuscripts), as *missal-album, hand, letter, -like* adj., *-marge, -page, -painter, -painting* vbl. sb. and ppl. a.; **missal caps** (*Printing*): see quot.

1890 W. White *Catal. Ruskin Mus. Library* 6 *Missal Album of Lady Diana de Croy. 1875 J. Southward *Dict. Typogr.*, *Missal caps*, a style of fancy letter, used sometimes as initials to Old English or Black letter. 1831 Lamb *Let. to Dyer* 22 Feb., You never wrote what I call a schoolmaster's hand, like Mrs. Clarke; .. nor a *missal hand, like Porson. 1888 *Athenæum* 20 Oct. 514/1 The colours used for the *missal letters, and in the final touches of the rubricator. 1872 Black *Adv. Phaeton* vii. 94 Decorating our bedrooms with *missal-like texts. 1855 Browning *Men & Women* II. 237 He..Fills his lady's *Missal-marge with flowerets. 1858 Ruskin *Arrows of Chace* (1880) I. 129 The officers..of the British Museum refuse to expose their best drawings or *missal-pages to light. *a* 1843 Southey *Comm.-pl. Bk.* (1849) IV. 258 In these countries the poets resemble *missal-painters;—their colours often rich, their pencilling delicate. 1883 Ruskin *Art of Eng.* 9 The speciality of colour-method..founded on *missal painting. 1895 *Army & Navy Co-op. Soc.* Price List 668 Colours for illuminating and missal painting. 1903 *Edin. Rev.* Apr. 450 The patient labour of *Missal-painting monks.

Missal (mi·săl), *a.* (*sb.*²) [ad. eccl. L. *missāl-is*, f. *missa* Mass *sb.*¹] Of or pertaining to the Mass; mass-. † Also *sb.*, a mass-priest.

a 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VIII*, 74 The Closet hanged with clothe of gold all other iewelles Missall. *Ibid.* 82 b, The alter apparelled with all Juelles myssall of great riches. 1549 Latimer *3rd Serm. bef. Edw. VI* (Arb.) 86 It had bene good for our missal priestes to haue dwelled in that contrye. 1553 Becon *Reliques of Rome* (1563) 130ᵛ Pope Honorius the third commaunded yᵗ the Missall bread shoulde be..lifted vp aboue the Priestes heade at the sacryng tyme. 1614 Bp. Hall *No Peace with Rome* § 19 Wks. (1625) 658 The Priestly Office of Christ is not a little impeached by the dayly Oblation of the Missall Sacrifice. 1637 Gillespie *Eng. Pop. Cerem.* Ep. A 3 b, Her sweet Voice is..muttering some missall and magicall Liturgies. 1660 R. Coke *Power & Subj.* 162 All his Missal vestiments. 1793 Hely tr. *O'Flaherty's Ogygia* I. 41 They distinguished Thanes into missals, and seculars; the Missal-Thanes were Presbyters.

Missal, obs. variant of Missile.

Mi·ssal-book. [f. Missal *a.*] = Mass-book.

c 1645 Howell *Lett.* (1650) 178 They present unto him the Cross, and the Missall book to swear upon. 1873 Hale *In His Name* viii. 71 The beautiful missal book, from which the Senior Canon was about to read. 1894 *Dublin Rev.* Oct. 246 Three early missal-books of the Roman Church, or, as they are called sacramentaries.

Missale, variant of Mesel.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxxvi. (*Baptista*) 366 Missale are clene mad alsa.

† **Missa·llan,** *a.* and *sb. Obs. rare.* [f. eccl. L. *missāl-is* Missal *a.* + -ian.] a. *adj.* = Missal *a.* So **Mi·ssaline** *a.* b. *sb.* A mass-priest. So **Mi·ssalist.**

1624 Darcie *Birth of Heresies* xii. 50 The vestments of these Missalian Sacrificers. *Ibid.* 51 A Pectorall..which the Missalists terme a Chasuble. *Ibid.* 52 The Stole put ouer the Amict, at the Missalians necke. *Ibid.* 53 The Missalian Priest. *Ibid.* xxi. 84 Was there euer..a more detestable Heresie then this Missaline transubstantiation?

Missall (*Sc.*), **Missar:** see Muzzle, Misser.

† **Mi·ssary.** *Obs.* [ad. eccl. L. *missāri-us*, f. *missa* Mass *sb.*¹: see -ary.] A Romanist or Romish priest.

1550 Veron *Godly Sayings* (1846) 34 The very missaries ..do call it..the sacrifice of..praise. 1657 J. Sergeant *Schism Dispach't* 56 Such as are neither easily deceivable by our Missaries, nor possibly undeceivable by Dr. H.

† **Missa·tical,** *a. Obs.* [f. eccl. L. *missātic-us*, f. *missa* Mass *sb.*¹: see -atic.] Pertaining to the Mass.

a 1670 Hacket *Abp. Williams* I. (1692) 101 Since he profess'd open adherence to the Romish Church and did not renounce the Missatical corruption of their priesthood. *a* 1683 J. Owen *Nat. & Causes Apostasy* Wks. 1852 VII. 99 Missatical sacrifices for the living and the dead.

† **Mis-sa·vour,** *v. Obs.* [Mis-¹ 1.] *intr.* a. To have defective sense of taste. b. *fig.* To have wrong notions *of.*

1402 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 53 With wrong wrytyng he wrou3te mykil care, and..foul fel fro the chirche, missaveryngе of the sacrament. 1540 Palsgr. *Acolastus* H iv b, To vs also the palate myssesauoreth or mysse tasteth neuer a whytte.

† **Missaw·.** *Obs.* Forms: 3–4, 7 missawe, 4 mys(s)awe, mis(s)au(e, mys-, missagh. [f. Mis-¹ 4 + Saw *sb.*, saying.]

1. Evil speaking, calumny, slander, abuse.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 124 Azein mis-sawe oðer misdede, lo, heranont, remedie & salue. *a* 1300 [see Misloving *vbl. sb.*]. *a* 1340 Hampole *Psalter* xix. 3 All..wrangis and myssaghis ..that thou suffird for vs. *c* 1375 *Cursor M.* 5877 (Fairf.) Quat wene þai wiþ missawe fra my werk ham to drawe.

¶ 2. ? Wrong expression, perverted language.

1614 J. Davies *Ecl.* in Browne *Sheph. Pipe* G 4 So my sp'rits been steept In dulnesse, through these duller times missawes Of sik-like musicke (riming rudely cleept).

† **Missay·,** *sb. Obs.* Also 4 misai, 5 myssae. [f. next.] = prec.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 21474 Al has þis curt herd þi misai. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xxiii. 568 If thou be crist..Com downe emangys vs all, And thole not thies myssaes [*rime* says].

Mis-say (mis,sē·), *v. arch.* Pa. t. and pa. pple. **mis-said** (mis,sed). Forms: see Mis-¹ 1 and Say *v.*: also 4 misain, misale; *pa. t.* misede. [ME. *misseggen*, *missei(n)*, etc. Cf. MDu. *missеggen*, LG. *misзeggen*, MHG. *mis(se)sagen.*]

1. *trans.* To speak evil of or against (a person); to abuse, slander, revile, vilify. Now *arch.* and *poet.*

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 186 Biddeð 3eorne uor þeo ou eni vuel doð oðer missiggeð. *c* 1290 *Beket* 2036 in *S. Eng. Leg.*, Hold þinne mouthþ..Þov misseist mi louerd þe king. 13.. *Sir Beues* (A.) 1168 Þow haddest vnri3t, So te misain a noble knit! *c* 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 353 Crist was so patient, ..þat whan he was mys-said he cursid not a3en. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* v. i. 161 The kynge commaunded that none of them vpon payne of dethe to myssaye them ne doo them ony harme. 1541 Copland *Guydon's Quest. Chirurg.* E ij b, Myssaye nat the auncyentes, nor dysprayse nat Hyppocrates. 1568 *Jacob & Esau* IV. xi, Cursed be the man that shall thee curse or missay. 1631 Heywood *1st Pt. Fair Maid of West* III. 33 Is she such a Saint, None can missay her? 1872 Tennyson *Gareth & Lynette* 923 Far liefer had I fight a score of times Than hear thee so missay me and revile. 1888 Morris *Dream John Ball* xii. 125 These men shall the blind and the fearful mock and missay.

† b. To say (something) with evil, abusive, or slanderous intent. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 14779 Mikel of him can þai missai. 1340 *Ayenb.* 189 By þe kueade huiche he ssel miszigge. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* VII. xi. 229 The myssayenge that ye mys-sayed me. 1530 Palsgr. 638/1, I never myssayd hym worde. 1593 Drayton *Ecl.* ii. 95 And sore repents what he before misse-said. 1614 Sylvester *Parl. Vertues Royall* Wks. (Grosart) II. 134/2 And can suffer nought 'Gainst them to be mis-done, mis-said, mis-thought.

† 2. *intr.* To speak evil; to speak abusively, slanderously, arrogantly, or the like. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 13905 Þou missais, deuel es in þe. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Manciple's T.* 249 He that hath misseyd..He may by no wey clepe his word agayn. 1481 Caxton *Myrr.* I. v. 28 To whom it pleseth that they messaye. 1596 Spenser *F. Q.* IV. vi. 27 Her tongue..brought forth speeches myld when she would have missayd.

† b. To speak evil *of. Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 19420 Tua wittnes fals þai þam puruaid, To tell he had o godd missaid. *c* 1385 Chaucer *L. G. W.* 233 And of mynne olde servauntis thow misseyst. 1477 *Paston Lett.* III. 185 Sum evyll tong..myss sayeth of me. 1579 Spenser *Sheph. Cal.* Sept. 106 Their ill haviour garres men missay, Both of their doctrine, and of theyr faye.

3. *trans.* With pronominal or cognate obj.: To say amiss, wrongly, or incorrectly. Now *rare.*

a 1400 *Cursor M.* 25102 (Cott. Galba) And of oure praier crist es payd Sum tyme all if it be missayd. 1629 H. Burton *Truth's Triumph* 254 Let men beleeue that .. which the diuine Scriptures doe say, and not which mens tongues doe mis-say. 1641 Milton *Animadv.* § 2 Wks. 1851 III. 203 Lest any thing in generall might be missaid in their publick Prayers through ignorance. 1665 Wither *Lord's Prayer* Preamble, Beseeching him to pardon what is misdone or missaid, by others, or misunderstood by me.

b. *intr.* To say what is not right or correct; to say something wrong or amiss.

1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 19 And natheles I can noght seie, In aunter if that I misseye. *c* 1489 Caxton *Sonnes of Aymon* vii. 174 Ye have myssayed, For I never sawe Reynawde nor I wote not what he is. 1579 Spenser *Sheph. Cal.* Sept. 2 Or Diggon her is, or I missaye. 1611 A. Gill in Speed *Theat. Gt. Brit.* Pref., Great love and little skill may cause mee to missay. 1816 Byron *Siege of Cor.* Introd., Some of mosque, and some of church, And some, or I missay, of neither. 1879 Browning *Ivan Ivanovitch* 417 The Sacred Pictures—where skulks Innocence enshrined, Or I missay!

† **Mis-say·er.** *Obs.* [Mis-¹ 5.] An evil speaker, slanderer.

1340 *Ayenb.* 61 Blondere and misziggere byeþ of one scole. *Ibid.* 136, 177, 256. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 2231 If that any missayere Dispyse wimmen. 1481 Caxton *Myrr.* I. v. 28 Mys-sayers felons & enuyous men that wil lerne no good.

† **Mis-say·ing,** *vbl. sb. Obs.* [Mis-¹ 3.]

1. The action of the verb Missay; evil speaking; slander, abuse.

13.. in *Archiv Stud. neu. Spr.* LXXXI. 316/42 Blesset beo 3e..To whom þe world makeþ missiggynge. 1340 *Ayenb.* 66 Þe mysziginges þet is huanne þe on peyneþ þannoþren and ziggeþ þe greate felonyes. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 83 Myssaying; þat is, whan þou spekyst euyll of an oþer mannys goodnesse. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 80 b, And asked of hym mercy and forgyuenes of his missayenge. 1581 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* Ser. I. III. 433 For missaying, detracting and sclandering of the baillies.

2. Mis-statement.

1650 Milton *Eikon.* Pref. (ed. 2) A 4 To..refute the missayings of his book.

Misschelmasse, obs. form of Michaelmas.

Mis-scri·pt. [Mis-¹ 4.] A miswriting.

a 1834 Coleridge *Notes & Lect.* (1849) I. 143 In treating this 'path' as a mere misprint or mis-script for 'put'. 1873 F. Hall *Mod. Eng.* 175 *note*, These mis-scripts [*analyze*, *paralyze*] look as if descendants of ἀναλύζω and παραλύζω, which are nothing.

Misse, nonce-var. of Milce, used for rime.

a 1300 in *Rel. Ant.* I. 275 That he .. bring us of this woning For his muchele misse [*rime* blisce].

Missed (mist), *ppl. a.* [f. Miss *v.*¹ + -ed¹.] In senses of the vb. Also *dial.* of a heifer: Barren.

1615 Wither *Sheph. Hunting* Ecl. iii, Thy mist pleasure. 1657 in *Burton's Diary* (1828) 195 It was a little missed sense, that might be mended. 1763 'Theoph. Insulanus' *Second Sight* 189 His account of a missed hatchet found by a dream. 1780 A. Young *Tour Irel.* I. 259 Those who buy the mist heifers are farmers in Monaghan. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 6 Sept. 2/3 This missed train. 1905 *Daily Chron.* 24 Aug. 4/6 The undergraduate never heard more of the missed chapels.

† b. *Missed way:* having missed the way; erring, straying. *Obs.*

1599 Porter *Angry Wom. Abington* (1841) 116 To light my mist way feete to my right way.

Mis-see·, *v.* [Mis-¹ 1.] *trans.* To see imperfectly; to take a wrong view of. Also *absol.*

1591 Florio *2nd Frutes* 81 *N.* Well maie I want in habilitie, but neuer in affection. *S.* To much affection makes you mis-see both. 1840 Carlyle *Heroes* v. (1841) 311 The man who cannot think and see; but only..missee the nature of the thing he works with? 1841 — *Misc. Ess., Bailhe* (1857) IV. 236 Herein he fundamentally mistook; mis-saw;—and so miswent. 1902 *Words of Eye-witness* 324 Its modest hues and stature being ridiculously mis-seen as 'purple-patched' and 'tall'.

Missee, obs. form of Missy.

Mis-see·k, *v.* [Mis-¹ 1.] *trans.* and *intr.* To seek wrongly. So **Mis-see·king** *vbl. sb.*, **Missou·ght** *ppl. a.*

1387–8 T. Usk *Test. Love* II. xi. (Skeat) I. 48 Errour in mankynde departeth thilke goodes by mis-seching, whiche he shulde have hole. *a* 1542 Wyatt in *Tottel's Misc.* (Arb.) 87 The thing, that most is your desire, You do misseeke, with more trauell and care. 1563 *Mirr. Mag., Rivers* xxii, What myschiefes follow missought maryages. *a* 1628 F. Grevil *Celica* lxvi, The heart of man mis-seeking for the best.

Mis-see·m, *v.* Now *rare.* [Mis-¹ 1.] *trans.* To misbecome.

c 1400 tr. *Secreta Secret., Gov. Lordsh.* 62 Ne wost þou noght þat yt myssemys þi dignite..whanne þou sweryst? 1513 Douglas *Æneis* IV. vi. 108 Nor it sall neuir me irk, na 3it misseme, The worthy Dido to hald in fresche memory. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* III. iii. 53 Ne certes, daughter, that same warlike wize, I weene, would you misseeme. 1603 Florio *Montaigne* II. iv, He hath at least lent him nothing that doth belye him, or misseeme him. *a* 1641 Bp. Mountagu *Acts & Mon.* (1642) 57 Divines ought not hold any opinion (it misseemeth their profession so to hold) which hath no footing in Scripture. 1819 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 523 A spirit that would not have misseemed the most illustrious of her ancestry. 1836 Carlyle in *Academy* 17 Sept. (1898) 272/1 His head is getting a shade of grey..which does not misseem him, but looks very well.

† **Mis-see·ming,** *vbl. sb. Obs.* [Mis-¹ 3.] ? False show.

1590 Spenser *F. Q.* I. vii. 50 With her witchcraft and misseeming sweete.

Mis-see·ming, *ppl. a.* [Mis-¹ 2.] Misbecoming, unseemly.

a 1340 Hampole *Psalter* lxxii. 15 Lo this misemand thing folous. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* I. Prol. 409 He..haldis misemyng, Ay word by word to reduce ony thing. *Ibid.* XII. i. 63 Of blinde and frendschip na thyng myssemand [orig. *nec genus indecores*]. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* I. ix. 23 For never knight I saw in such misseeming plight. 1603 Florio *Montaigne* I. xxxvi, A thing which would no whit be misseeming or undecent.

Misseif, obs. form of Missive.

Missel (mi·sĕl). Forms: 1, 5 mistel, (1, 3 -il), 6 mistle, miscel, 6–7 missel l, 7 mis'c le, missle. [OE. *mistel*, (1) basil, (2) mistletoe, distinguished in the *Leechdoms* as *eorþmistel* and *dcmistel* respectively: corresp. to OHG. *mistil* (MHG., G. *mistel*) mistletoe, early mod.Du. *mistel* 'viscum' (Kilian), 'glew' (Hexham), ON. only in comb. *mistilteinn* Mistletoe (the Sw. and Da. *mistel* are prob. from LG.): of unascertained origin.]

† 1. Mistletoe. *Obs.*

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) V 185 *Viscus*, mistel. *c* 825 *Epinal Gloss.* 1083 *Viscus*, mistil. *c* 1450 *Alphita* (Anecd. Oxon.) 192/1 [*Viscus*] ge. wy de chene, a. mistel. 1562 Turner *Herbal* II. 164 b, Of the Missel or Misselto tre. 1566 Withals *Dict.* 22 b, Mistle, whiche groweth vpon aple trees and crabbe trees in a great numbre of white or yelow beries. 1573 Tusser *Husb.* (1878) 33 Giue sheepe to their fees the mistle of trees. 1610 Barrough *Meth. Physick* I. xxiv. (1639) 41 Miscle of the Oke. 1670 Swan *Spec. M.* 246 Missel or Misselto, groweth .. upon trees.

† b. *attrib.*, as *missel-berry, -birdlime, -child.*

1562 Turner *Herbal* II. 165 The thurse..shiteth out the *miscel berries. 1658 Sir T. Browne *Gard. Cyrus* iii. 123 The Quincunciall Specks on the top of the Miscle-berry. 1562 Turner *Herbal* II. 164 b, The best *missel byrde lyme is freshe resemblinge a leke in Color within. 1579 Langham *Gard. Health* (1633) 40 Missel birdlime, hath power to soften and ripen apostumes with rosin and wax. 1608 Sir H. Platt *Gard. Eden* (1653) 86 There you shall finde an Oake with Mistletoe therein, at the root whereof there is a *missell-child, whereof many strange things are conceived.

† 2. Basil, *Calamintha Clinopodium. Obs.*

c 1000 *Sax. Lechd.* I. 232 3enim þas wyrte þe man ocimum & oðrum naman mistel nemneþ. *Ibid.* II. 86 Eorð mistel. 12.. *MS. Bodl.* 130 lf. 54 b, Mistil. *Ocimum.*

3. Short for Missel-bird, Missel-thrush.

1845 *New Statist. Acc. Scotl.* XIV. (Ross & Cromarty) 189 The missel, blackbird, .. and throstle are common. 1882 *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* IX. No. 3. 554 The Missels were fewer than usual.

Missel, variant of Mesel *a.*

?14.. *Iter Camerar.* xx. in *Balfour's Practicks* (1754) 582 Quhen thay opin fish, thay luke not gif thay be missel fish, or not [cf. Mesel *a.* b, quot. *a* 1400].

Missel, obs. Sc. form of Mizzle.

Misselane: see Messellawny.

Misselany, obs. form of Miscellany.

Mi·ssel-bird. Now *dial.* Also 7 missle-, 8 mizzel-. [f. Missel. Cf. G. *mistelfink*, Du. *mistelvink.*] = Missel-thrush.

1626 Bacon *Sylva* § 556 An Idle Tradition, that there is a Bird, called a Missel-Bird, that feedeth upon a seed which many times shee cannot digest [etc.]. 1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* II. vi. 98 One kind of thrush called ἰξοβάρος, the missell thrush or feeder upon misseltoe. 1676 Willughby *Ornith.* II. xvii. 137 *Turdus viscivorus major.* The Missel-Bird or Shrite. 1731 Albin *Nat. Hist. Birds* 31 The Mizzel-Bird, *Turdus Viscivorus.* 1768 Pennant *Brit. Zool.* I. 226. 1773 G. White *Selborne*, *To Pennant* 9 Nov., The people of Hampshire and Sussex call the Missel-bird the storm-cock. 1879 Miss Jackson *Shropsh. Word-bk.*

Misselden, -din(e, obs. forms of MISTLETOE.

Misselin, -ling, -llane, obs. forms of MASLIN[2].

Misselling, Misselmas, obs. ff. MIZZLING, MICHAELMAS.

Mi·ssel-thrush. [f. MISSEL. Cf. G. *misteldrossel.*] A species of thrush, *Turdus viscivorus*, which feeds on the berries of the mistletoe.

1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) V. 320 The missel-thrush is distinguished from all of the kind by its superior size. 1774 G. WHITE *Selborne, To Barrington* Sept., Several magpies came determined to storm the nest of a missel-thrush. 1859 DARWIN *Orig. Spec.* iii. 59 The recent increase of the missel thrush in parts of Scotland has caused the decrease of the song thrush. 1870 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* III. IV. 124 The sharp crying of the missel-thrush.

Misselto(e, obs. forms of MISTLETOE.

† **Mis-se·mblance.** *Obs.* [MIS-[1] 4.] False semblance.

a 1641 SIR H. SPELMAN *Fends* xx. Posth. Wks. (1698) 34 From such missemblances rise many errors.

Missen, obs. form of MIZEN.

Mis-se·nd, *v.* [MIS-[1] 1.] *trans.* To send wrong; to send to a wrong place or person. Chiefly in pa. pple. and ppl. a. **Mis-se·nt.**

14.. *Sir Bones* 1447[2] (MS. S.) He toke no leue, he is myssende. 1737 J. CHAMBERLAYNE *St. Gt. Brit.* (ed. 33) II. *Gen. List* 78 [Generall Letter-Office in Lombard-street].. Mr. Robert Parsons and Mr. John Barber, to overlook the Franks and mis-sent Letters. 1834 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Helen* II. 199 She pointed to the word 'mis-sent', written on the corner of the cover. 1839 MURCHISON *Silur. Syst.* I. xxix. 382 *note*, This sketch was missent. 1847–54 WEBSTER, *Missend*, to send amiss or incorrectly. 1841 EMERSON *Misc.* (1855) 249 It appears that there was some mistake in my creation; and that I have been missent to this earth.

† **Mis-se·nse,** *sb. Obs.* [MIS-[1] 4.] Wrong sense or meaning.

a 1618 SYLVESTER *Honor's Farwel* Wks. (1621) 1159 Without Offence, without Mis-sense, or Blame.

† **Mis-se·nse,** *v. Obs.* [MIS-[1] 1.] *trans.* To attach a wrong sense or meaning to.

1560 JEWELL *Serm. at Paul's Cross* A iij, The false Prophets..caused the people..to missence the sacraments. 1627–47 FELTHAM *Resolves* I. lxxi. 215 Philoxenus..hearing some masons, mis-sensing his lines..falls to breaking their bricks amaine; they aske the cause, hee replyes, they spoyle his work, and he theirs.

† **Mi·sser, -ar.** *Obs.* [ad. ccel. L. *missārius* MISSARY.] A mass-priest.

a 1560 BECON *Jewel of Joy* Wks. II. 26 b, Verely these myssars are altogyther amyse. 1604 [see MISSIFICAL].

Misserie, obs. form of MISERY.

Mis-se·rve, *v.* Now *rare.* [In early use a. OF. *messervir* (see MIS-[2]); later f. MIS-[1] 1 + SERVE *v.*]

1. *trans.* To serve badly or unfaithfully; to do a disservice to.

1340 *Ayenb.* 20 Þench hou uele zibe þou hest misserued oure lhord Jesu crist. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 224 Of that the king his god misserveth, The poeple takth that he descerveth Hier in this world. 1475 *Paston Lett.* III. 130 If it be so that ye be mysse servyd ther. *c* 1500 *Geste Robyn Hode* CXC, I was mysserued of my dynere. 1584 *Extracts Aberdeen Reg.* (1848) II. 54 Quhilk [regrating of victual] is..the caus that the pure communis of this burght ar misservit. *a* 1626 BACON *Charge Sess. Verge* (1662) 19 Whereby a man may have that he thinketh he hath, and not be abused or misserved in that he buyes. 1727 ARBUTHNOT *Coins*, etc. xix. 200 Great Men who mis-served their Country, were often fined very highly.

† 2. To deprive of the services *of*. *Obs.*

1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 147 Sen he.. mycht..have had otheris at will and wale, of quhilkis he has gert the King be misservit.

† 3. *intr.* To miss fire. *Obs.*

1661 *Justiciary Rec.* (S.H.S.) 10 George presented a Pistoll to them which misserved. 1685 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2045/1 He presented his Pistol to the Country-man, but it mis-served.

† **Mis-se·rvice.** *Obs.* [MIS-[1] 4, 7.] A bad service; disservice.

1587 GOLDING *De Mornay* xxiv. 409 That seruice should rather bee a misseruice than a Seruice, if it were not according to his will. *a* 1660 *Contemp. Hist. Irel.* 1641–52 (1880) II. I. 119 By those reciprocall misunderstandings a gape was open for the misservice of both kinge and kingdome.

Misserye, Missese, obs. ff. MISERY, MISEASE.

Mis-set (mis,se·t), *v.* [MIS-[1] 1. Cf. MDu. *missetten, missitten*, OHG. *missisezzen.*]

1. *trans.* To set in a wrong place, misplace.

c 1369 CHAUCER *Dethe Blaunche* 1210 Many a worde I ouer skipte In my tale for pure Fere Lest my wordys mys-sette were. *a* 1626 BACON *Charge Sess. Verge* (1662) 7 If..that Boundary of Suits be taken away or mis-set, where shall be the end?

2. To put out of humour, 'upset'. *Sc.*

1501 DOUGLAS *Pal. Hon.* II. xxii, In recompence for his missettand saw, He sall 3our hest in euerie part proclame. 1567 *Satir. Poems Reform.* IV. 12 In tyme be war fra ainis the work misset bir. 1790 J. FISHER *Poems* 143 (E. D. D.), I..did's she bade, wha durst mis-set her? 1816 SCOTT *Bl. Dwarf* iii, I did not say frighted, now—I only said mis-set wi' the thing. 1818 — *Hrt. Midl.* xviii, Our minnie's sair mis-set.

Misset, Misseuse, Missey: see MESSET, MISUSE, MISSAY *v.*, MISSY.

Miss-fi·re. [f. phr. *to miss fire*: see MISS *v.*[1] 5 a. Cf. MISFIRE *sb.*] A failure to discharge or explode.

1811 *Sporting Mag.* XXXVIII. 250 It was done without a miss or a miss fire. 1881 *Times* 15 Jan. 5/6 The five-barrelled Gardner fired 339, with one miss-fire in the minute, worked single handed.

† **Missha·meful,** *a. Obs.* [MIS-[1] 8.] Shameful. Perhaps the word originally written by Capgrave was intended as a form of *mischiefful.*

c 1440 CAPGRAVE *Life St. Kath.* v. 649 Þou myssha[m]ful [*v. rr.* myschamful, shameful, vnshamfulle] dogge ful of boost.

Miss-shape (misʃē·p), *sb.* Now *rare.* [MIS-[1] 4.] A bad or deformed shape or figure; deformity. Also *concr.* a mis-shapen body or person.

c 1465 *Eng. Chron.* (Camden 1856) 7 The whiche Edmund hadde a crokid bak and wasa mysshape. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 223 Silenus..whom for his monstreous myshape,.. Jupiter, Apollo [etc.],..used for their foole. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 530 The diuels of Crowland with their long tailed buttocks, and ugly mishapes. 1654 WHITELOCKE *Mem.* (1732) 596/1 Hardly to be called Men or Women, by reason of their mishapes. 1875 G. MACDONALD *Malcolm* I. xxii. 281 Disorder and misshape must appear to it the law of the universe.

Mis-shape (misʃē·p), *v.* [MIS-[1] 1.] *trans.* To shape ill; to give a bad form to; to deform. *lit.* and *fig.*

1450–1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* 98 Oure..soulle..ys made to hys lykenesse but yt was defoyled and darkyd and myssshape hy synne. 1530 PALSGR. 637/2, I myshappe, or bring out of facyon. 1583 GOLDING *Calvin on Dent.* cix. 669 Such as mishape thinges by their inchauntments. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. v. 27 Whom..she does transforme..And horribly misshapes with ugly sightes. 1673 HOWE *Self Dedication* 292 They do strangely mis-shape religion who frame to themselves a religion made up of..doubts and fears. 1703 J. SAVAGE *Lett. Antients* viii. 49 Mishape me, if you please, into any Monstrous Form. 1798 COLERIDGE *Picture* Poems (1864) 157 A thousand circlets spread And each misshape the other. 1858 GREENER *Gunnery* 436 If the distance the drops fall be not sufficiently great, and they reach the water in a semi-fluid state, the resistance of the water misshapes them.

Misshape, variant of MISHAP *v.*

Mis-shaped (misʃē·pt), *ppl. a.* [MIS-[1] 2.] = next.

1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* XXXVII. (Percy Soc.) 192 His great body, Which was mishaped ful right wonderly. 1593 SHAKS. *3 Hen. VI*, III. ii. 170 My mis-shap'd Trunke, that beares this Head. 1601 WEEVER *Mirr. Mart.* 203 Bleare-eyde, mishapt, vntoward, impious. 1709 POPE *Ess. Crit.* 171 Some figures monstrous and mis-shap'd appear, Consider'd singly, or beheld too near. 1876 T. HARDY *Ethelberta* (1890) 380 Did you ever see anything so ugly as that hand—a mis-shaped monster, isn't he?

Hence † **Missha·pedness,** deformity.

1610 HEALEY *St. Aug. Citie of God* 900 A statuary..can mold or cast it [*i. e.* a statue] new..without all the former miss-shapednesse.

† **Mis-sha·pement.** [MIS-[1] 4.] Deformity.

1653 H. MORE *Antid. Ath.* III. xi. Wks. (1712) 122 What is that outward mis-shapement of Body, to the inward deformity of their Souls?

† **Mis-sha·pen,** *v. Obs. rare.* [? f. MIS-SHAPEN *pa. pple.*] = MIS-SHAPE *v.*

c 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 361, I am aferd þat I sall oght be mysshapend [*cf. ante* sho was shapen to be a biche whelpe]. 1555 EDEN *Decades* To Rdr. (Arb.) 53 People mysshapened with phantastical opinions. 1788 *Trifler* No. xvi. 217, I conceived that the purest favour of Providence might be so perverted and mishapened, that [etc.].

Mis-shapen (misʃē·pn), *ppl. a.* Forms: 4–6 **mys-, mischapen,** (5 **-on, -yn,** 6 **-shapin**), 6–7 **mishapen,** 4– **misshapen,** (7– **mis-shapen**). Also 4–5 **myschape, mysshap(e.** [f. MIS-[1] 2 + *shapen*, pa. pple. of SHAPE *v.*]

1. Having a bad or ugly shape; ill-shaped; deformed; monstrous.

c 1375 *Cursor M.* 8076 (Fairf.) Sagh men neuer of na cures sa misshapen creatures. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 5482 Mysshapon bestes. *Ibid.* 7758 There met hym þis Mawhown, þat was so mysshap. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 339/2 Myschape thynge yn kynde, *monstruosus.* 1530 PALSGR. 637/1 He is the moste myschapen slovyn that ever you sawe. 1581 PETTIE tr. *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* III. (1586) 123 b, It sildome falleth out, that a good minde is lodged in a mishapen bodie. 1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III*, I. ii. 251 On me, that halts, and am mishapen thus? 1687 DRYDEN *Hind & P.* III. 1054 A misshapen ugly race; The curse of God was seen on every face. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 50 ¶ 3 An huge mis-shapen Rock that grew upon the Top of the Hill. 1833 HT. MARTINEAU *Charmed Sea* iv. 48 Jagged, misshapen pieces of silver. 1856 EMERSON *Eng. Traits, Character*, The misshapen hairy Scandinavian troll.

2. *transf.* and *fig.* Badly formed, shaped, or framed; distorted; † morally monstrous or ugly.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1355 In notyng of nwe metes & of nice gettes, Al was þe mynde of þat man, on misschapen þinges. 1509 BARCLAY *Shyp of Folys* (1570) 8 If I should write all the euils manifolde, That proceedeth of this counterfaite abusion, And misshapen fashions I neuer should haue done. 1579 G. HARVEY *Letter-bk.* (Camden) 59 A misshapin illfavorid freshe copy of my precious poems. 1603 FLORIO *Montaigne* I. xxiv, Crooked and mis-shapen minds. *a* 1631 DONNE *Poems* (1650) 93 Mishapen Cavils, palpable untroths. 1633 G. HERBERT *Temple, Ch. Militant* 46 Such power hath mightie Baptisme to produce For things misshapen, things of highest use. 1670 in *12th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 15 Their ordnary designes [in tapestry] for the most part being deformed and mishapen. 1809 W. IRVING *Hist. New York* IV. iii. (1820) 238 Some dozen.. mis-shapen, nine-cornered Dutch oaths and epithets that crowded all at once into his gullet.

† 3. 'Without form' (*Gen.* i. 2). *Obs.*

1639 HORN & RON. *Gate Lang. Unl.* ii. § 20 A kind of darke and mis-shapen thicke fogge.

4. 'In Shakespeare, perhaps, it once signifies ill directed; as, *to shape a course*' (J.).

1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* III. iii. 131 Thy wit, that Ornament, to shape and Loue, Mishapen in the conduct of them both.

Hence **Mis-sha·penly** *adv.*, **Mis-sha·penness** (†**mishapennesse**), deformity.

1587 GOLDING *De Mornay* ix. (1592) 123 Euen mishapnesse it self is a kind of shape. 1611 COTGR., *Monstruosement*, monstrously; mishapenly. 1621 BP. MOUNTAGU *Diatribæ* 94 To let you see the misshapennesse of your Argument. 1883 B. HARTE *Carquinez Woods* I. 3 At times this life seemed to take visible form, but as vaguely, as misshapenly as the phantom of a nightmare. 1903 G. MATHESON *Repr. Men of Bible* Ser. II. 271 It was as if a deformed creature..for the first time beheld his misshapenness.

Misshood (mi·shud). [f. MISS *sb.*[3] + -HOOD.] The condition of a young unmarried woman.

1861 THACKERAY *Philip* xvii, When she used to read the Wild Irish Girl or the Scottish Chiefs in the days of her misshood. 1886 *Blackw. Mag.* CXXXIX. 493 Pretty daughters..emerging from bread-and-butter-misshood.

Missible (mi·sib'l), *a. rare.* [f. L. *miss-*, ppl. stem of *mittĕre* to send + -IBLE. (*Missibilia* occurs for *missilia* in Sidonius.) Cf. OF. (*lettres*) *missibles.*] Capable of being sent.

1789 G. KEATE *Pelew Isl.* 315 Their spears..not being in general missible beyond fifty or sixty feet. 1809 LAMB *Let. to Coleridge* 30 Oct., This Custom-and-Duty Age would have made the Preacher on the Mount take out a licence and St. Paul's Epistles would not have been missible without a stamp.

† **Missi·fic, -fical,** *adjs. Obs.* Also 7 *erron.* **-afique.** [f. eccl. L. *missific-us*: see -IC, -ICAL.] Celebrating Mass.

1604 *Answ. Supplic. Masse-priests* viii, These Missificall Misseres. 1607 R. C[AREW] tr. *Estienne's World of Wonders* 343 Without interrupting his missificall deuotion. 1624 DARCIE *Birth of Heresies* xxii. 105 Abolishing your Pompilian and Missafique Idolatries.

† **Missi·ficate,** *v. Obs.* [f. ppl. stem of eccl. L. *missificāre*, f. *missa* MASS *sb.*[1]: see -FICATE.] *intr.* To perform Mass. So † **Missifica·tion.**

1641 MILTON *Ch. Govt.* v. Wks. 1851 III. 115 What can be gather'd hence but that the Prelat would still sacrifice? ..he would missificate. 1641 R. BAILLIE *Parallel Liturgy w. Mass Bk.* 2 None but Schismaticks will denie their harmonie with the ancients in this Missification. 1694 MOTTEUX *Rabelais* IV. lxvii. (1737) 277 Fourteen missificating Arch-lubbers.

Missikin (mi·sikin). *jocular.* Also **missakin** (?), **missykin.** [f. MISSY + -KIN.] A little 'miss' or young lady.

1815 *Zeluca* III. v. 149 Zeluca flew to the bell, with an exclamation, that but for her she should have forgot the Missakin in toto. 1839 *Tait's Mag.* VI. 35 Little mannikin lords and missykin ladies. 1863 HOLME LEE *A. Warleigh* III. 271 'It will be your turn some day, missikin'..'No, it will never be my turn, for I purpose to lead a single life'.

Missil, perverted form of MESLE *Obs.*

1610 GUILLIM *Heraldry* § 5. ii. 241 Those Armes..doe admit .. intermixture, of one colour with another, for which cause they are of Leigh termed Missils. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*

Missile (mi·səil, mi·sil), *a.* and *sb.* Also 7 **-il(l, -al.** [ad. L. *missilis* (neut. sing. *missile* as sb., missile weapon), f. *miss-*, ppl. stem of *mittĕre* to send: see -ILE. In OFr., Godefroy cites *missiles dardz*, and Cotgr. has *feu missile*, 'a squib, or other fire-worke throwne'.]

A. *adj.* Capable of being thrown; adapted to be discharged from the hand or from a machine or engine: chiefly in *missile weapon.*

1611 SPEED *Hist. Gt. Brit.* IX. xvi. (1623) 840 Women and children assaill the English from their windowes with all sorts of missill things. 1627 MAY *Lucan* III. 505 The Greeks missill weapons. *a* 1711 KEN *Edmund* Poet. Wks. 1721 II. 313 The Pagans all the Traitors drave before, To shield them from the Anglians missile store. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* IX. 183 We bend the bow, or wing the missile dart. 1817 KEATINGE *Trav.* II. 2 Every missile article being immediately laid hands on by them and showered on us. 1872 E. W. ROBERTSON *Hist. Ess.* Introd. 13, The horseman .. used his spears,..as missile weapons.

b. Applied to weapons that discharge arrows, bullets, or the like. *rare.*

1819 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* XXX, Their long-bows, slings, and other missile weapons. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xiii. III. 371 To alter his missile weapon [*sc.* a gun] into a weapon with which he could encounter an enemy hand to hand.

c. *transf.* and *fig.*

1756 BURKE *Subl. & B.* Wks. 1808 I. 224 The porcupine with his missile quills. 1791 COWPER *Iliad* XI. 325 With missile force of massy stones. 1813 JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1830) IV. 227 Since the invention of gunpowder has armed the weak as well as the strong with missile death. 1864 SWINBURNE *Atalanta* 60 But Meleager smote, and with no missile wound, the monstrous boar.

d. *Zool.* Applied to the filaments which *Actinia bellis* sends out on provocation.

1855 GOSSE *Mar. Zool.* I. 29 *Actinia* .. destitute .. of missile filaments. 1856 TUGWELL *Man. Sea-Anemones* 90.

B. *sb.*

1. A missile object or weapon, as a stone discharged from a sling, an arrow, a bullet.

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Missil* (*missile*), a dart, stone, arrow, or other thing thrown or shot. 1828–41 TYTLER *Hist. Scot.* (1864) I. 79 The missiles which they [*sc.* engines of war] threw consisted of leaden balls. 1829 SCOTT *Demonol.* x. 377 Surprisingly quick at throwing stones, turf and other missiles. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* Prol. 45 Some were

whelm'd with missiles of the wall. 1897 FRAZER *Pausanias* I. 534 Despite the cross-fire of missiles and the bitter cold. *fig.* 1833 I. TAYLOR *Fanat.* ii. 28 The word [fanaticism] is the favourite missile of that opprobrious contempt [etc.]. 1866 G. MACDONALD *Ann. Q. Neighb.* ix. (1878) 167 All my missiles of argument were lost.

2. *pl.* = L. *missilia, res missiles*, largesse (consisting of sweets, perfumes, etc.) thrown by the Roman emperors to the people.

1606 HOLLAND *Sueton.* 183 Scattered also abroad there were for the people Missils, during the whole time of those Plaies. 1647 A. ROSS *Mystag. Poet.* vi. (1675) 126 The Romans were very lavish in their missals or larges at this solemnity.

Missilry, variant of MESELRY.

Missiness (mi·sinės). [f. MISSY *a.* + -NESS.] = MISSISHNESS.

1857 J. MILLER *Alcohol* (1858) 97 The designation of water-drinker can carry no imputation of missiness or mediocrity.

Missing (mi·sin), *vbl. sb.* [f. MISS *v.*[1] + -ING [1].]

†**1.** Absence, privation, lack. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 14228 We sal find missing witerli Of vr god freind o bethani. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. xi. 201 God wol nat lete hym sterue In myschef for lacke of mete ne for myssynge of clopes. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* i. 48 Of myrthe neuermore to haue myssyng. *c* 1530 LD. BERNERS *Arth. Lyt. Bryt.* (1814) 499 Theyr hoost is .. in great trouble for the myssynge of theyr emperoure. 1611 SPEED *Hist Gt. Brit.* IX. iv. 48 Vpon which his suddaine flight and missing, the Empresse Maud .. was suspected to be guiltie of his death. 1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* v. v. 275 My Lord, .. Vpon my Ladies missing, came to me With his Sword drawne. 1634 BP. HALL *Contempl. N. T., Resurrection* 282 Shee freely confesseth the cause of her griefe to he the missing of her Saviour.

2. Failure to hit, obtain, attain to, or take advantage of.

a 1547 SURREY *Æneid* II. (1557) D 2 Whether by fate, or missing of the way. 1603 FLORIO *Montaigne* I. liv, Without ever missing he would every time make it goe through a needles-eye. *a* 1628 PRESTON *New Covt.* (1629) 586 The missing of time bringeth misery. 1660 PEPYS *Diary* 28 Mar., This day we had news of the election at Huntingdon for Bernard and Pedley at which my Lord was much troubled for his friends' missing of it. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 15 ¶ 7 The missing of an Opera the first Night. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* III. i. 301 The currents were 'driving us to the northward .. and we thereby risqued the missing of the Ladrones. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* XIII. ii, These kind of hair-breadth missings of happiness. 1858 O. W. HOLMES *Aut. Breakf.-t.* ix, That trick of throwing a stone at a tree and attaching some mighty issue to hitting or missing.

†**b.** *Missing-wood* (Bowls): see quot. *Obs.*

1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* s. v. *Bowling*, Bowl-room, or missing-wood, is when a bowl has free passage, without striking on any other.

†**3.** Fault, error. *Obs.*

a 1568 ASCHAM *Scholem.* II. (Arb.) 88 Shew his faultes iently, .. of such missings, ientlie admonished of, proceedeth glad and good heed taking. 1664 PEPYS *Diary* 10 Aug., To see him .. read it all over, without any missing, when .. I could not .. read one .. letter of it.

Mi·ssing, *ppl. a.* [f. MISS *v.*[1] + -ING [2].]

1. Not present; not found; absent; gone.

a 1530 HEYWOOD *Play of Love* (Brandl) 24 Whiche one ones founde I fynde of all the rest Not one myssyng. *c* 1566 *Merie Tales of Skelton* in Wks (1843) I. p. lxviii, Skelton was verye angrie that his cup was mysynge. 1607 SHAKS. *Temp.* v. i. 255 There are yet missing of your Companie Some few odde Lads. 1611 BIBLE 1 *Kings* xx. 39 Keep this man: if by any meanes he be missing, then shall thy life be for his life. 1671 MILTON *P. R.* II. 15 Moses was in the Mount, and missing long. 1716 SWIFT *Phyllis* 26 Wks. 1751 VII. 168 Next Morn betimes the Bride was missing. 1833 HT. MARTINEAU *Manch. Strike* I. 8 Missing from home. *a* 1845 HOOD *Waterloo Ballad* 40 Before I'm set in the Gazette As wounded, dead, and missing. 1848 ARNOULD *Marine Insur.* (1866) I. II. ii. 524 The ship is what is called a missing ship, i. e. has been so long on the voyage that the owner has reason to suspect that she has met with some casualty. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. xxvii. 212 In a moment the missing man was drawn from between its jaws [*sc.* of the fissure]. 1900 *Daily News* 26 May 4/2 War Office Statement .. The term 'missing' means that a soldier's fate has not been definitely ascertained.

2. That fails to hit.

a 1586 SIDNEY *Astr. & Stella* xxiii, The curious wits, .. With idle paines, and missing ayme, do guesse. 1603 FLORIO *Montaigne* I. xxxix, A never-missing runner at the Ring.

3. Of a crop: That has failed. ? *Obs.*

1777 *A. Hunter's Georgical Ess.* 408 Finding some beds I had sown very early with onions to be a missing crop.

4. Special collocations: **missing link,** (*a*) something lacking to complete a series; (*b*) *Zool.* a hypothetical type assumed to have existed between two related types; *esp.* a hypothetical animal assumed to be a connecting link between man and the anthropoid apes; also applied trivially to an animal (or person) supposed to resemble the latter; **missing word,** a term which arose in 1892 in connexion with 'competitions' instituted by certain periodicals, the object being for the competitors to guess the appropriate word to fill a gap left in a given sentence.

1851 LYELL *Elem. Geol.* xvii. 220 A break in the chain implying no doubt many *missing links in the series of geological monuments which we may some day be able to supply. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) IV. 154 The metaphysical imagination was incapable of supplying the missing link between words and things. 1879 *Gentl. Mag.* CCXLV. 298 The early critics of the hypotheses of evolution were not slow to fix upon 'missing links' and their nature. 1883 T. TYLER in *Time* VIII. 476 The exhibition at the Westminster Aquarium of .. 'The Missing Link', or, according to another description, 'The Human Monkey'. 1892 *Times* 14 Dec. 9/4 The decision of Sir John Bridge, to the effect that the '*missing word' competitions .. are contrary to the law by which lotteries are forbidden. *Ibid.* 17 Dec. 7/6 'Missing Word' Lotteries. 1892 *Spectator* 17 Dec. 882/1 The fortunate guessers of the 'missing word'. 1898 GISSING *Town Traveller* xxv, The missing word this week, discovered by an East-end licensed victualler, was *pick-me-up*.

Hence † **Mi·ssingly** *adv.*, with a sense of loss.

1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* IV. iv. 35, I haue (missingly) noted, he is of late much retyred from Court.

Mission (mi·ʃən), *sb.* [ad. L. *missiōn-em*, n. of action f. *mittĕre* (*miss-*) to send. Cf. F. *mission*, in OF. = expenses (Cotgr.), from 16th c. in sense 3, from 17th c. in sense 4; Sp. *mision*, formerly *mission* (= 'dismissal' in Orozco 1611 s.v. *Missa*); It. *missione*.]

†**1.** The action or an act of sending. *Obs.*

1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* III. iii. 189 Whose glorious deedes .. Made emulous missions 'mongst the gods themselues, And draue great Mars to faction. 1611 FLORIO, *Missione*, a mission, a sending. 1647 *Missive of Consolation* Pref. A 2, This Mission of my thoughts into my country. 1658 OSBORN *Adv. Son* Wks. (1673) 225 Nor can this Mission to the Tower be looked upon for less than the best Fortune so high a Malefactor could be capable of. 1662 PETTY *Taxes* 13 The numerous missions of Cattle and Sheep out of Ireland. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 87 The Extent of the Presidency is larger in its Missions than Residency.

†**b.** Among the Jesuits, the sending of members of the order to seminaries abroad or on missionary work; also, a body of men thus sent, or the errand on which they are sent. *Obs.*

1598 in Foley *Rec. Eng. Prov. Soc. Jesus* (1878) III. 723 Ye continuallie confluence of the rares and bestes [*sic*] wittes of our nation to the Seminaires, and ther constance in following their missions. *Ibid.* 724 Thes evident testimones of missions and remissions .. sent continuallie to Fr. P. by expresse messingers. 1606 *Ibid.* 268 Beinge sent in mission to the Colledge of Siville. 1644 *Ibid.* 66.

2. A sending or being sent to perform some function or service; *Theol.* the sending of the Second or Third Person of the Trinity by the First, or of the Third Person by the Second, for the production of a temporal effect.

1609 BIBLE (Douay) *Joel* ii. comm., The mission of the Holie Ghost performed on Whitsunday. 1676 HALE *Contempl.* I. 310 The miraculous Mission of his Holy Spirit visibly and audibly. 1745 tr. *Coetlogon's Univ. Hist. Arts & Sci.* II. 1180 The Mission whereby Christ came into the World in the human Flesh. 1752 J. GILL *Trinity* vii. 138 The greatness of God's love in the gift and mission of his Son. 1846 J. C. HARE (*title*) The Mission of the Comforter. 1897 *Catholic Dict.* (ed. 5) 904/1 It cannot .. be said that all three Persons are sent, because mission consists in the procession of one Person from another.

3. *Eccl.* The action of sending men forth with authority to preach the faith and administer the sacraments; also, the authority given by God or the Church to preach.

1641 J. JACKSON *True Evang. T.* III. 186 Christ .. in the Mission first of his Twelve, and after of his Seventy. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr., Mission* (says a Roman Catholick Author) is a giving of Orders, Jurisdiction and power to preach that Doctrine, which is taught by the Catholick Church, and to administer the Sacraments. 1672–5 COMBER *Comp. Temple* (1702) 291 These words, Receive the Holy Ghost .. are properly used by us on the ordinary Mission of Pastors. *a* 1699 STILLINGFL. 50 *Serm.* (1707) xlviii. 729 That Christ and his Apostles did work .. Miracles .. and this for a Confirmation of their Divine Mission. 1727–52 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v., Jesus Christ gave his disciples their mission in these words, *Go, and teach all nations*, &c. The Romanists reproach the Protestants, that their ministers have no mission. 1884 *Catholic Dict.* 584/2 Mission is inseparably connected with jurisdiction. 1894 J. T. FOWLER *Adamnan* Introd. 28 To obtain consecration and mission from Pope Caelestine I.

4. A body of persons sent to a foreign country, esp. for the purpose of conducting negotiations, establishing political or commercial relations, watching over certain interests, etc.

1626 BACON *New Atl.* (1627) 19 That in either of these Shipps, ther should be a Mission of three of the Fellowes, or Brethren of Salomon's House; whose Errand was onely to giue vs Knowledge of the Affaires .. of those Countries, to which they were designed. 1662 PETTY *Taxes* 27 The envy which precedent missions of English [in Ireland] have against the subsequent. 1791 WASHINGTON in *Amer. State Papers* (1833) I. 127 An additional motive for this confidential mission arose in the same quarter. 1813 *Edin. Rev.* XXI. 155 The French mission was still suffered to remain in Stockholm, until the *Moniteur* mentioned the behaviour of Gustavus disrespectfully. 1816 J. PICKERING *Vocab., Mission.* .. It was first employed as a diplomatic term, I believe, by American writers. 1845 T. H. HORNE in *Encycl. Metrop.* XVIII. 26/1 (1) Diplomatic Missions .. the object of which is, affairs of State or Politics ..; (2) Missions of Ceremony or Etiquette, the object of which is, notifications or compliments of congratulation or condolence ..; (3) Fixed Missions, in which the Diplomatic Agent .. is charged with watching over the various objects above mentioned.

b. *U.S.* A permanent diplomatic establishment, embassy, or legation.

1805 *Amer. State Papers* (1832) II. 669 As nothing was said in my communication respecting the ordinary mission, it remains of course in force. 1890 *Century Dict.* s. v., The members of the British mission at Washington.

5. a. A body of persons sent out by a religious community into foreign lands for the conversion of the heathen. Also (esp. *pl.*) the organized effort involved in the preparation and equipment of such bodies; called distinctively *foreign missions* (cf. b).

1622 BACON *Holy War* Misc. Wks. (1629) 96 The Church .. maketh her Missions, into the Extreme Parts, of the Nations, and Isles. 1648 GAGE *West Ind.* 3 Missions .. of Volunteirs, Fryers mendicants, Priests or Monkes, or else of forced Jesuites. 1660 F. BROOKE tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 42 S. Francis Xaverius .. was called the Apostle of the Indies, his order continues their mission thither stil. 1660 DRYDEN *Astræa Redux* 193 Like zealous Missions, they did care pretend Of souls in show, but made the gold their end. 1768 MACLAINE tr. *Mosheim's Eccl. Hist.* Cent. XVII. i. § 18 The African missions were allotted to this austere Order by the court of Rome. 1830 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 7) II. 632/2 A mission consists in general of one or two friars or priests, who settle among the savages [etc.]. 1864 *Chamb. Encycl.* VI. 488/2 The mission in the south of India soon received the support of the English Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 515/2 In 1882 the amount raised by British contributions alone to foreign missions amounted to upwards of £1,900,000.

b. With qualifying word: An organization for the evangelization, spiritual instruction, or moral betterment of various classes of people; e. g. *home, city, police-court mission.* (Cf. MISSIONARY B. 1.)

1839 *Penny Cycl.* XV. 271/2 Within the last four years, 'City Missions' have been formed in London and several of the large towns. 1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* I. 318 That the object of the London City Mission is most noble .. admits of no dispute. 1861 E. L. CUTTS (*title*) Home Missions and Church Extension.

c. *Congregation of the Priests of the Mission*: a congregation founded by St. Vincent de Paul in 1624, mainly for the evangelization of the poor; also known as Lazarites.

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* s.v. *Missionaries*, .. Also, a particular institute in France, called the Fathers of the Mission; who go by pairs, .. preach and catechize, and perform other pastoral Offices. 1727–52 CHAMBERS *Cycl., Mission* is also the name of a congregation of priests and laymen, instituted by Vincent De Paul, and confirmed in 1626 by pope Urban VIII. under the title of Priests of the congregation of the mission. 1845 *Encycl. Metrop.* XIII. 488/1 The Priests of the Mission .. acted as home-missionaries.

6. A permanent establishment of missionaries in a country; a particular field of missionary activity; a missionary post or station.

1769 *Chron. in Ann. Reg.* 189 An officer that has lived seven years in the missions of Paraguay. 1825 SOUTHEY *Tale Paraguay* III. xiv, They .. To the nearest mission sped and ask'd the Jesuit's aid. 1836 MACGILLIVRAY tr. *Humboldt's Trav.* viii. 100 Nocturnal birds the fat of which is employed in the Missions for dressing food. 1843 MARRYAT *M. Violet* xix, The mission of Conception .. is a very large stone building. 1880 C. R. MARKHAM *Peruv. Bark* 65 Dr. Weddell descended the river Tipuani to Guanay, a mission of Lecos Indians.

b. *transf.* An organization, usually including a church with quasi-parochial institutions, established in a particular district for the spiritual betterment or conversion of the people; *spec. R.C. Ch.* (see quot. 1884).

c 1800 C. BUTLER *Acc. A. Butler* in *Lives of Saints* (1847) I. 8 The vicar-apostolic of the middle district .. appointed him to a mission in Staffordshire. 1845 *Catholic Direct.* 27 Hackney. .. This interesting Mission was established in July, 1843. 1884 *Catholic Dict.* 585/2 In countries where the majority of the population is non-Catholic .. the priests having charge of souls are not inducted into parishes, but stationed on missions. 1903 C. E. OSBORNE *Father Dolling* v, It was resolved that Magdalen College should adopt S. Martin's Maidman Street, as its mission.

7. A special series or course of religious services, sermons, instructions, etc. organized in connexion with a particular church or parish for the purpose of stimulating the piety of believers and converting the unbelieving.

1772 NUGENT *Hist. Fr. Gerund* I. 287 *note*, In the time of Lent many preachers go about from town to town, inveighing vehemently against sin, and strenuously exhorting to repentance, which is called going upon a Mission. 1826 H. D. BEST *Four Yrs. France* xiv. 301 In the second year of my sojourn, a mission was preached at Avignon. 1862 [see MISSIONER]. 1906 *Ch. Times* 26 Oct. 513 The first service of the Ruridecanal Hampstead Mission.

8. The commission, business, or function with which a messenger, envoy, or agent is charged; now *esp.* the errand on which a political mission is sent.

1671 MILTON *P. R.* II. 114 How to accomplish best His end of being on Earth, and mission high. 1704 NELSON *Fest. & Fasts* xi. (1705) 135 None of the rest of the Apostles stand in competition with St. Paul for this Mission [*sc.* of converting Britain]. 1820 SCOTT *Abbot* ii, 'No', answered the old woman, sternly; 'to part is enough. I go forth on my own mission'. 1836 THIRLWALL *Greece* III. 365 Phæax possessed talents well suited for negotiation, .. but .. he met with such opposition as to deter him from proceeding further on the business of his mission. 1859 TENNYSON *Enid* 1376 Another hurrying past, a man-at-arms, Rode on a mission to the bandit Earl. 1863 LD. RUSSELL in R. F. Burton *Mission to Gelele* (1864) p. x, You were informed .. that you had been selected by Her Majesty's Government to proceed on a Mission to the King of Dahomey, to confirm the friendly sentiments expressed by Commodore Wilmot to the King. 1873 HALE *In His Name* vi. 108 It seemed to him .. that there was not one .. who seemed to take the least interest in his mission.

9. That which a person is designed or destined to do; a duty or function imposed on or assumed by a person; (a person's) vocation or work in life.

Also *transf.* attributed to things. Sometimes *trivial* or *contemptuous.*

a 1805 Worgsw. *Prelude* I. Introd. 5 Whate'er its mission, the soft breeze can come To none more grateful than to me. 1819 Byron *Juan* II. clxxxii, Who..Thought daily service was her only mission. 1839 Carlyle *Chartism* iii. (1858) 14 Work is the mission of man in this Earth. 1843 Prescott *Mexico* IV. iii. (1864) 225 They..held it to be their 'mission' (to borrow the cant phrase of our own day) to conquer and to convert. 1848 Ld. Brougham *Of Revolutions* Wks. 1857 VIII. 322 She [*sc.* France]..has a *mission*, what we would term a vocation, to hasten and help the Discontented. 1865 Lowell *Thoreau* Prose Wks. (1890) I. 362 Everybody had a mission (with a capital M) to attend to everybody-else's business. 1881 W. S. Gilbert *Patience* II, I am a man with a mission.

10. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *mission-agent*, *-boat*, *-chapel*, *-church*, *-college*, *-field*, *-hall*, *-house*, *-journey*, *lecture-room*, *-preacher*, *-preaching*, *-premises*, *-room*, *-school*, *-seminary*, *-service*, *-ship*, *-society*, *-teacher*, *-tower*, *-vessel*, *-work*.

1888 E. J. Mather *Nor'ard of Dogger* 98 The work accomplished by the *mission-agents. 1903 *Month* Aug. 150 Two small *mission boats were built. 1883 Besant *Childr. Gibeon* II. x, He had..a *mission chapel to serve in some slum or other. 1792 in *Missionary Mag.* (1797) II. 217 He preaches twice every Lord's Day, in the *Mission church, in Calcutta. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XV. 274/2 The Society for the Propagation of the Gospel founded a *mission college at Calcutta in 1820. 1856 *Mission Field* Jan. 5 The '*Mission Field' of the Society may be said to extend over an area of 7,000,000 square miles. 1859 L. N. R. *Missing Link* i. 10 Many churches..maintain..their own missionaries, and have their own Home *Mission halls. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XV. 274½ Funds for the erection of churches and *mission-houses. 1902 T. M. Linosay *Church & Min. in Early Cent.* iv. 163 The *Mission journey of Paul and Barnabas. 1851 R. Nesbit in *Mem.* xii. (1858) 305 After receiving 'licence', he preached in the *Mission Lecture Room. 1898 *Dublin Rev.* Apr. 315 A very holy Franciscan *mission-preacher. 1884 *Catholic Dict.* (1897) 634/2 In substance, *mission-preaching has been employed in every age of the Church. 1848 Thomson *Hist. Sk. Secession Ch.* 153 More recently *mission-premises were erected. 1888 *Q. Rev.* CLXVI. 57 The multiplication of *mission-rooms in squalid districts. 1879–80 Webster Suppl., **Mission-school*, a school for children who do not regularly attend a church, or who are poor and neglected. (*U.S.*) 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XV. 273/2 So successfully has the work of education been conducted in the *mission seminary. 1839 *Ibid.* 272/1 A South-Sea *mission-ship. 1856 Miss Yonge *Daisy Chain* II. xvii. 529 They..hoped shortly to be called for by the mission-ship to return. 1809 C. Simeon in W. Carus *Life* (1847) 272 The religious dissipation of *Mission Societies. 1897 Mary Kingsley *W. Africa* 557 Two *mission-teachers. 1868 B. Harte *Angelus* Poems (1886) 7 The dome-shaped *Mission towers. 1888 E. J. Mather *Nor'ard of Dogger* 95 The fleets where *mission-vessels are stationed. 1861 (*title*) A Few Words to Bible *Mission-women. 1888 H. C. Lea *Hist. Inquis.* II. 34 Their arduous and dangerous *mission-work.

Mission (mi·ʃən), *v.* [f. prec. sb.]

1. *trans.* To send on a mission; to give (a person) a mission to perform. Chiefly in *passive.*

1692 Beverley *Disc. Dr. Crisp* 19 Whom the Spirit of God .. hath so Missiond, Commissiond, and Enabled. 1737 *Dream* ii, To native Heav'n they're fled, and there have Place, Till mission'd to attend her Rising Race. 1785 *Gentl. Mag.* IV. i. 66 The English..thinking that being missioned to the States of Barbary I might command some attention from the Algerines. 1818 Keats *Endym.* I. 701 A disguis'd demon, missioned to knit My soul with under darkness. 1864 Carlyle *Fredk. Gt.* XI. ix. IV. 106 We shall see him expressly missioned hither. 1887 *Temple Bar* Sept. 32 Parties, each led by its own captain, and missioned to its separate duty, began to go forth.

b. *nonce-use.* To send.

1824 Hood *Two Swans* xxi, And through the shadows duo Ile missions like replies.

2. To conduct a religious mission among (a people) or in (a district).

1772a Nugent *Hist. Fr. Gerund* I. 287, I have heard the Theatines say [so]..when they come to mission our souls for us. 1894 *Westm. Gaz.* 25 Apr. 7/1 The young lady missionaries who have been sent out to Algeria to mission the natives. 1894 *Mexborough & Swinton Times* 30 Nov. 5/2 The brass band missioned the streets morning and afternoon.

3. *intr.* To conduct a mission.

1898 *Athenæum* 5 Nov. 648/2 It was used by St. Augustine when he was missioning in those parts.

†**Missionaire.** *Obs. rare*⁻¹. [a. F. *missionnaire.*] = Missionary. 1687 [see Missioner b].

Mi·ssionarize, *v.* Also **-aryize.** [f. Missionary + -ize.] = Missionize.

1829 T. Arnold in Stanley *Life* let. xi, No missionaryizing is half so beneficial, as to try to pour sound and healthy blood into a young civilized society. 1830 *Fraser's Mag.* I. 717 The regulation of the Church—the conversion of the Jews—the missionarizing Kamschatka and Galway.

Missionary (mi·ʃənări), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. mod. L. *missiōnāri-us* (17th c.), f. *missiōn-* Mission + *-āri-us* -ary. Cf. F. *missionnaire* sb. (G. Sagard *Hist. du Canada* 1636, p. 1008).] **A.** *adj.*

1. Relating to or connected with religious missions; sent on or engaged in a mission; proper to or characteristic of one sent on a mission; occupied in or characterized by mission-work.

In some collocations it is felt to be the sb. used attrib.

Missionary rector (R. C. Ch.): see quot. 1884. *Missionary box*: a box for the reception of contributions in money towards the funds of a missionary society.

1644 in Foley *Rec. Eng. Prov. Soc. Jesus* (1878) III. 89 They seemed..firmly united in the several graces of priestly and apostolical missionary vocation. 1690 Temple *Misc.* II. 20 These [records] are agreed, by the Missionary Jesuits, to extend so far above Four Thousand Years. 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* II. (Globe) 523 The Missionary Priests usually went thither [*sc.* to Macao], in Order to their going forward to China. 1813–15 (*title*) Proceedings of the Church Missionary Society for Africa and the East. 1832 Downes *Lett.* I. 47 Near the gate is a large missionary cross. 1842 Borrow *Bible in Spain* xlvi, One of those little accidents which chequer missionary life in Spain. 1872 Froude in *Brit. Q. Rev.* (1873) LVII. 509 That section of the Protestants who alone possessed missionary power. 1875 Max Müller *Chips* IV. 265 The three missionary religions, Buddhism, Mohammedanism, and Christianity. 1884 *Catholic Dict.* s.v. *Rector*, In England there is a certain number of missions in each diocese, important either on account of their having been long established or because of the size of the congregation, the priests in charge of which are styled 'Missionary-Rectors'. 1886 *Free Ch. Monthly* Dec. 365/1 Every class..to have its missionary box. 1894 Illingworth *Personality* 10 The missionary desire to commend their creed..will..increase the need of theological definition.

transf. 1865 Grote *Plato* I. vii. 290 The..operations announced..by Socrates..as his missionary life-purpose.

2. That is sent out or forth. Now *Obs.* or *poet.*

1691 Norris *Pract. Disc.* 330 The Missionary Angels, that have the..Office of Guardians here upon Earth. 1699 Pomfret *Love Triumphant* Poems (1724) 28 Cupid..Who Troops of missionary Loves commands. 1850 S. Dobell *Roman* vi. Poet. Wks. (1875) 95 The night..calling By missionary winds and twilight birds.

B. *sb.*

1. A person who goes on a religious mission; *esp.* one sent to propagate the faith among the heathen.

Home missionary: a person (usually a layman) employed by some religious organization to labour in the evangelization or spiritual instruction of the poor. *City missionary*: one so employed amongst the poor of a city; chiefly, an agent of the London City Mission or of one of the similarly named organizations in other towns; so *town missionary*. *Police-court missionary*: a person employed to attend a police-court and to work for the spiritual or moral benefit of those brought before it, and to inquire into cases of distress that are disclosed by the proceedings.

1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Missionaries*, persons sent; commonly spoken of Priests sent to unbeleeving Countries to convert the people to Christian Faith. 1691 tr. *Emilianne's Frauds Rom. Monks* (ed. 3) 296 Should the Jesuits of Italy ..send thither their Missionaries. 1726 Cavallier *Mem.* I. 4 The King sent through all his Kingdom Missionaries to instruct the Protestants..in the Roman Religion. 1791 Wesley *Wks.* (1872) VIII. 316 Why are we not all devoted to God; breathing the whole spirit of Missionaries? 1851 Mayhew *Lond. Labour* I. 70 A poor..urchin, who was spoken of by one of the City Missionaries as being a well-disposed youth. 1874 Green *Short Hist.* i. § 3. 23 The missionaries of the new faith appeared fearlessly among the Mercians. 1891 M. Williams *Later Leaves* 390 The great assistance magistrates receive from the thirteen missionaries attached to the different Courts. *Ibid.* 397 My Court missionary saw the two off by train.

b. *transf.*

1672 Marvell *Reh. Transp.* I. 92 That Politick Engine who..was employed by some of Oxford as a Missionary amongst the Nonconformists of the adjacent Counties. 1747 Chesterf. *Lett.* (1792) I. cxix. 323, I would not, at twenty years, be a preaching missionary of abstemiousness and sobriety. *c* 1789 Gibbon *Mem.* Misc. Wks. 1814 I. 270 The fanatic missionaries of sedition have scattered the seeds of discontent in our cities. 1890 R. Buchanan *Coming Terror* (1891) 83 My father was one of Robert Owen's missionaries.

†**c.** A 'Priest of the Mission', a Lazarite. *Obs.*

1656 [see Mission *sb.* 5 c].

2. An agent or emissary; esp. one sent on a political mission. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1693 *Apol. Clergy Scot.* 101 The Agents of the party would employ their little Missionaries to gather Stories from all corners of the Country. 1777 Burke *Let. to Sheriffs of Bristol* Wks. III. 200 That this ill-natured doctrine should be preached by the missionaries of a Court I do not wonder. 1821 Jefferson *Autob.* Wks. 1892 I. 148 The diplomatic missionaries of Europe at Paris. 1821 Scott *Pirate* iv, Mr. Triptolemus Yellowley, who was the chosen missionary of the Chamberlain of Orkney and Zetland.

†**3.** A missionary body or establishment. *Obs.*

1719 De Foe *Crusoe* II. (Globe) 529 Christianity .. was once planted here by a Dutch Missionary of Protestants. 1761 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 172 There were then..612 jesuits colleges, 340 residuaries, 59 noviciates, 200 missionaries, and 24 professors houses of that society.

Mi·ssionaryship. [-ship.] The position or status of a missionary.

1840 *Fraser's Mag.* XXII. 363 To back Wightwick in his propagandist missionaryship for the conversion of the public to architectural study. 1898 G. A. Smith *H. Drummond* vi. (1899) 135 Drummond resigned the missionaryship.

Missionate (mi·ʃənēt), *v. U.S.* [f. Mission + -ate.] *intr.* = Missionize *v.* a.

1816 J. Pickering *Vocab.*, To *Missionate*, to perform the services of a missionary. 'A low ecclesiastical word (says a learned clerical correspondent) used in conversation' in America. 1847–54 Webster, *Missionate*, to act as a missionary. (Not well authorized.)

Missioned (mi·ʃənd), *ppl. a.* Chiefly *poet.* [f. Mission *sb.* or *v.* + -ed.]

1. Having a mission; sent on a mission or errand.

1795 Southey *Joan of Arc* III. 101 The mission'd maid reply'd, 'Go thou Dunois, Announce my mission to the royal ear'. 1804 Grahame *Sabbath* 431 The mission'd men, who have renounced Their homes, their country..Bearing glad tidings to the farthest isles. 1819 Keats *Eve of St. Agnes* xxii, When Madeline, St. Agnes' charmed maid, Rose, like a missioned spirit, unaware. 1822 *Blackw. Mag.* XII. 38 The missioned Angel of Destruction.

2. That belongs to a person's mission to perform.

1798 in *Spirit Publ. Jrnls.* (1799) II. 77 Ere his mission'd toil is done.

†**Missionee·r,** *sb. Obs.* [f. Mission *sb.* + -eer.] One who gives a commission.

a 1660 *Contemp. Hist. Irel.* 1641–52 (1880) III. II. 140 That ..such commissioners..had free libertie to..treate..according instructions of theire missioneeres.

†**Missionee·r,** *v. Obs.* [f. Mission *sb.* + -eer. Cf. *electioneer* vb.] *intr.* To conduct a mission. Also **Missionee·ring** *vbl. sb.* (also *attrib.*).

1715 M. Davies *Athen. Brit.* I. 276 A Secular Priest..now Missioneering in Yorkshire. 1716 *Ibid.* III. *Diss. Drama* 12 That insolent Popish Missioneering Calumny. *Ibid.* 26 Their common Fool's Errand of Missioneering.

Missioner (mi·ʃənəɹ). [f. Mission + -er¹.] One sent on a mission, a missionary; *esp.* (in early use) a Jesuit missionary. In mod. use chiefly, one who conducts or is in charge of a parochial mission (in some dioceses, a permanent clerical officer).

1654 W. Mountague *Devout Ess.* II. v. § 3. 94 The missioners of France..seek to establish this practice in all places where they teach, that persons of all conditions, make some short address to God, at the striking of every clock. ? 1687 Dryden *Let. to Sir G. Etherege* 13 Like mighty missioner you come *Ad Partes Infidelium*. 1716 M. Davies *Athen. Brit.* II. 120 Other four were sent as itinerant Preachers and Missioners into all the Counties of England. 1771 Goldsm. *Hist. Eng.* I. 51 The pope enjoined his missioner to remove the pagan idols. 1849 Rock *Ch. of Fathers* I. iii. 274 The British style of..illumination..was carried by British missioners far to the north. 1862 Furniss *Confession* § xv. 16 One night during the Mission he went into the church. He stood near the platform where the missioner was preaching. 1894 Baring-Gould *Deserts S. France* II. 76 St. Fronto,..probably a missioner of the third century. 1896 *19th Cent.* Aug. 213 Our [the Jesuits'] position as theologians, missioners, preachers.

†**b.** *fig.* (cf. Missionary B. 1 b, 2.) *Obs.*

1687 Dryden *Hind & P.* II. 565 Poems (1743) I. 285 Those are the Manufactures we export; And these the Missioners [*1st ed.* Missionaires] our zeal has made. 1751 Eliza Heywood *Betsy Thoughtless* II. 215 As every little circumstance ..seems a missioner from fate. 1793 Burke *On policy of Allies* Wks. VII. 146 You will have a missioner of peace and order in every parish.

Missionize (mi·ʃənəiz), *v.* [f. Mission *sb.* + -ize.] **a.** *intr.* To conduct or promote a mission; to do missionary work. **b.** *trans.* To do missionary work amongst (people).

1826 *Blackw. Mag.* XIX. 464 Why do they not buy all the land in a single island, and missionize and philanthropize at their own expense. 1879 Mrs. Hutchinson *In Tents in Transvaal* xiv. 125 One must hope..that the Kafirs..will cheerfully suffer themselves to be missionized, shot, and bayonetted into tail-coats. 1888 Mrs. J. K. Spender *Kept Secret* III. ii. 29 You have been spending the long years in missionizing cannibals.

Hence **Mi·ssionizing** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*; **Mi·ssionizer,** one who does missionary work.

1864 [see Dissenterish]. 1888 *Voice* (N. Y.) 9 Feb. 4 Missionizing agencies. 1893 *19th Cent.* July 167 The missionising..function of the Church. 1901 *Publ. Circular* 25 May 583/2 Social missionizers.

Missis, missus (mi·sis, -iz, mi·sŏs). *dial.* and *vulgar.* [Corruption of Mistress. The oral equivalent of the abbreviation Mrs. (q.v.), which is always written exc. in the vulgar uses explained below.]

1. Wife. (*The missis* is used by a man in speaking of his own or of another man's wife.)

1839 Clark *J. Noakes* lxviii (E.D.S.), Missus! I thinks as how, taa-day, Yow've put the meller's eye out! 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* xxv, So be altered these words, bowing to the superior knowledge of his little Missis. 1860 Geo. Eliot *Mill on Fl.* I. viii, And what with the Missis being laid up so, things have gone awk'arder nor usual. 1892 Kipling *Barrack-r. Ballads* 11 Then 'ere's to you Fuzzy-Wuzzy, an' the missis and the kid.

2. Used by servants (usually without article) in speaking of their mistresses.

1837 Dickens *Pickw.* xxxvi, 'Gentlemen', said the man in blue.., 'I'll give you the ladies; come'. 'Hear, hear!' said Sam. 'The younq missises'...'Missises, Sir'..'We don't recognize such distinctions here'. 1850 Miss Yonge *Henrietta's Wish* iv. 49 Yes, Miss Henrietta, I was coming down from Missus's room, when Mr. Godfrey stopped me. 1857 Trollope *Barchester T.* II. ix. 165 'Mr. Slope called with it himself, your reverence', said the girl; 'and was very anxious that missus should have it to-day'.

Hence **Mi·ssis** *v. trans.*, to address as 'Mrs.'

1838 Dickens *Nich. Nick.* xlii, 'Don't *Missis* me, ma'am' ..returned Miss Squeers.

Missish (mi·siʃ), *a.* [f. Miss *sb.*² + -ish.] Like or characteristic of a miss, young lady, or schoolgirl; hence, affected, prim, squeamish, or sentimental.

1795 Mme. D'Arblay *Diary* (1846) VI. 47, I remember how many people did not like that [*sc.* the name] of Evelina, and called it 'affected' and 'missish', till they read the book. 1853 Mrs. Gore *Dean's Dau.* II. 86 Some foolish, missish scruple or other. 1865 Miss Braddon *Eleanor's Victory* i, Another girl would have given herself all manner of missish airs. 1897 *Truth* 6 May 1123 The missish street dress, fashionable when the Queen came to the Throne, would never do for girls who play lawn tennis.

Hence **Mi·ssishness.**

1839 T. Hook *Births, Deaths & Marriages* I. ii. 41 My own missishness..in liking to have lovers in order to tease them. 1890 *Spectator* 13 Dec., There is far more 'grit' and far less missishness in this story than are generally to be found in books written for girls.

Mississippi (misisi·pi). Also 8 **missisipee, -ippi,** 9 **-ipie.** [A fanciful application of the name of the North American river.] A game

similar to bagatelle, in which balls are driven against cushions at the side of the table so as to go through arches (of which there are 15) at the end of the table, the number of the arch counting to the player whose ball goes through it.

1728 in *Dig. Proc. Crt.-leet Savoy* (1789) 15 Playing a game commonly called Missiipee. 1777 HOWARD *State of Prisons* 159 They also play in the yard at skittles, missisippi, fives, tennis, &c. 1835 J. WILSON *Biog. of Blind* 185, I remember his occasionally playing at billiards, missisipie, shuffle-board and skittles. 1850 *Bohn's Handbk. Games* 612. *attrib.* 1757 *Act* 30 *Geo. II*, c. 24 § 14 Any Gaming with Cards, Dice,..Mississippi or Billard Tables. 1801 STRUTT *Sports & Past.* IV. i. § 18 Arches similar to those upon the missisipi-table.

† **Missi·t,** *v. Obs.* [MIS-[1] 1. Cf. F. *messeoir.*] *intr.* To be unbecoming *to*; to misbecome (with dative). Also, to be inconvenient or disturbing *to*.

?*a* 1366 CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 1194 And certes, it [a brooch] missat hir nought. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xii. (*Mathias*) 44 & to be faddir þat hyme gat his byrth ful gretumly missate. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 302 For it mai be that thi desir,..Per cas to hire honour missit. 1412–20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* v. (1513) 2 D iij b/1 And though so be that any worde mysse syt, Amende it with chere debonayre. *c* 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* I. lxxxviii. (1869) 50 And suppose þat, to þi seemynge, j hadde maad thing missittynge.

Missive (mi·siv), *a.* and *sb.* Also 5 myssif, -yfe, 5–6 -yve, 6 missiwe, -yve, -eif. [ad. F. *missive* fem. (also sb. in Cotgr.), or med.L. *missīv-us* (Diefenbach), f. *miss-*, ppl. stem of *mittĕre* to send: see -IVE.

The corresponding words in med.Latin and the Romanic languages are used chiefly in phrases analogous to 'letter missive': med.L. *litteræ missivæ*, F. *lettre(s) missive(s)*, It. *littera missiva*, Sp. *letra, carta misiva*, Pg. *cartas missivas*, also *arma missiva* (cf. A. 2). Cf. MDu. *missiff-brief*. OF. has also *lettres missibles*.]

A. *adj.*

1. Letter missive, missive letter. Usually pl. *letters missive* or † *missives*.

† **a.** *gen.* A letter or epistle sent from one person to another. *Obs.*

1519 HORMAN *Vulg.* viii. 80 b, Fyne and thynne papyr, seruynge for myssyue letters. 1530 PALSGR. 35 The letters missyves of suche as be secreatores in the sayd countreis. *c* 1532 DU WES *Introd. Fr.* Ibid. 898 The second boke shall be of lettres missyves in prose and in ryme. 1637 RUTHERFORD *Lett.* (1664) I. cxiii. 219, I know missive letters goe between the Devil & young blood. 1658 PHILLIPS, A *letter Missive*, a letter which is sent from one friend to another. 1710 J. CHAMBERLAYNE *St. Gt. Brit.* I. III. x. (ed. 23) 281 Though the Number of Letters missive in England were not at all considerable in our Ancestors Days, yet it is now so prodigiuusly great (since the meanest People have generally learnt to write) that [etc.].

b. A letter or letters sent by a superior authority, esp. the sovereign, to a particular person or body of persons, conveying a command, recommendation, or permission. Now chiefly, in the Church of England, a letter from the sovereign to a dean and chapter nominating the person whom they are to elect bishop. (See CONGÉ D'ÉLIRE.)

1466 *Anc. Cal. Rec. Dublin* (1889) I. 323 The saide Maister John..for the Maire, Baylyffes and cominaltie..to make all myssyvve lettres in lattyne to Irishe enemyes..and others.. that undrestandith not Englys. 1477 *MS. Rawl. B.* 332 lf. 42 *marg.*, A commission maad in a lettre myssif forto visite the priory of Hertford by my lord Abbot in proper persone. 1477 EDW. IV in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. I. I. 17 Whereas we have other tymes addressed our Lettres missiues vnto Robert Conestable for restitucion of the goods of Thomas Yare. 1487 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 66 A letter missiue Vnder the Kynges signett. 1533–4 *Act* 25 *Hen. VIII*, c. 20 § 3 A lycence vnder the greate seale..with a lettre myssyve, conteynyng the name of tbe persone which they shall electe and chose; By vertue of which licence the seid Deane and Chapitour..shall..electe..the seid person named in the seid letters myssyves. 1555 EDEN *Decades* Contents (Arb.) 45 The letters missiue which kynge Edwarde the .vi. sent. 1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 13 Alexander the Great had by his letters missive given commandement that the Greekes should provide Robes of purple against his returne. 1637–50 ROW *Hist. Kirk* (Bannatyne Cl.) 63 His Maiestie sent aught missive letters, dated..To..(such a man) Minister of (such a place). 1679 BURNET *Hist. Ref.* I. III. 236 The King granted a *Congé d'élire* to the Prior and Convent, with a Missive Letter, declaring the name of the person whom they should choose. 1768 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* III. 445 If a peer is a defendant, the lord chancellor sends a letter missive to him to request his appearance. 1841 HALLAM *Mid. Ages* (ed. 8) I. iv. 397 John I had long before admitted, that what was done by cortes and general assemblies could not be undone by letters missive. 1863 COX *Institt.* I. vi. 32 The Convention Parliament of 1688, elected by virtue of letters-missive written by the Prince of Orange. 1868 FREEMAN *Norm. Cong.* (1877) II. viii. 189 A good precedent for the *congé d'élire* and letter missive.

c. *Sc.* = B. 2.

1568 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* Ser. I. I. 641 All missive lettres, contractis or obligationis for mariage [etc.]. 1693 STAIR *Inst. Law Scot.* I. x. § 9 Though the buyer by a Missive Letter, wrote, that he thought he would not be able to furnish the Money. *Ibid.* IV. xlii. § 25 Missive-Letters are Probative, except where they relate to more solemn Writs, such as Bonds, Bills, or Accompts. 1773 ERSKINE *Inst. Law Scot.* III. ii. § 24 Missive letters *in re mercatoria* are valid, though they be not holograph.

d. *U.S.* Among Congregationalists, an official letter inviting churches to send delegates to a council.

1798 M. CUTLER in *Life, Jrnls. & Corr.* (1888) II. 4 We jointly addressed letters missive to eleven churches, all of whom complied, and the council was formed at my house. 1880 H. M. DEXTER *Congregationalism* x. 527 In what manner Councils are regularly called. This has been uniformly done by a form of written request, which has received the technical name of a Letter-Missive.

† **2.** Sc. *Missive bill, writing* = letter missive.

1564 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 283 Heirupoun wer lettres direct and als missyve writtingis to this same effect sent to [etc.]. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) II. 112 This was done all for sending of ane missiwe bill in Ingland. 1579–80 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* Ser. I. III. 256 Missive bill of Houstoun and New Work.

† **3.** Of a weapon or engine of war: = MISSILE *a.*

1548 PATTEN *Exped. Scot.* 1 ij b, Most of our artillerie & missiue engins. 1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turks* (1621) 879 Not with their missive weapons onely..but with their drawne swords. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneid* XII. 848 The feather'd Arrows fly, And clouds of missive Arms invade the sky. 1704 SWIFT *Batt. Bks.* Misc. (1711) 226 Ink is the great missive Weapon in all Battels of the Learned. 1780 in Grose, etc. *Antiq. Rep.* III. 68 Nor among the defensive machines is the missive wheel to be despised..The missive chariot may also be effectually used. *a* 1809 J. PALMER *Like Master* (1811) I. x. 141 He hurl'd the missive weapon which transpierced the heart of his adverse chief.

transf. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VI. 519 Thir Engins and thir Balls Of missive ruin. 1695 BLACKMORE *Pr. Arth.* V. 254 Each on his Foe missive Destruction pours. *a* 1761 CAWTHORN *Poems* (1771) 19 Where dreadful flew the missive deaths around.

† **4.** That is sent; sent on an errand; also, sent as a message. *Obs.*

1610 WILLET *Hexapla, Daniel* 376 Christ is none of the missiue or ministring Angels. 1627–77 FELTHAM *Resolves* I. xlvii. 75 Scaliger defines Death to be the Cessation of the Souls functions: as if it were rather a restraint, than a missive ill. 1830 W. PHILLIPS *Mt. Sinai* I. 444 The missive words then told he.

B. *sb.*

1. A written message; a letter. Sometimes *spec.* = 'missive letter' (A. 1). Now usually, either denoting an official letter, or used as a somewhat high-flown equivalent of 'letter'.

In early use largely *Sc.*

1501 DOUGLAS *Pal. Hon.* II. v, How Acontius till Cydippe anone Wrait his complaint,..With vther lustie missiues mony one. 1560 ROLLAND *Crt. Venus* II. 635 His small missiue belyue he gaif him fro, Vnto thir thre. 1577–87 HOLINSHED *Chron.* III. 1237/1 A missiue persuasorie sent to the Scots for the marriage of their yoong queene Marie to our yoong king Edward the sixt. 1603 FLORIO *Montaigne* I. xxxix, To spend their time in wittily devising and closely hudling up of a quaint missive or witty epistle. 1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* I. 33 The last act of his short raigne left to memorie was a missiue to his adopted sonne. *c* 1610 SIR J. MELVILLE *Mem.* (1827) 283 To the quhilk convention his Maieste directed missyues to some of the nobilite. 1647 (*title*) A Missive of Consolation: sent from Flanders, to the Catholikes of England. 1791 GIBBON *Misc. Wks.* (1814) I. 342 Had I delayed..another post, your missive of the 13th.. would have arrived in time. 1838 PRESCOTT *Ferd. & Is.* (1846) I. ix. 395 The marquis..had despatched missives, requesting the support of the principal lords..of Andalusia. 1879 FARRAR *St. Paul* (1883) 247 The circular missive from James and the Church at Jerusalem. 1885 DOBSON *At Sign of Lyre* 188 Mysterious missives, sealed with red.

2. *Scots Law.* A document in the form of a letter interchanged by the parties to a contract. Also *missive of lease* (or *tack*), *m. of sale*.

1561 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 181 The charter party, and the missive, billis, and cocquet of the said schip. 1572 *Ibid.* II. 139 The writting of missives and other writtis. 1773 ERSKINE *Inst. Law Scot.* III. ii. § 2 Where an agreement concerning heritage is executed in the form of mutual missives. 1816 SCOTT *Bl. Dwarf.* x, There really should be some black and white on this transaction. Sae just make me a minute, or missive,..and I'se write it fair ower, and subscribe it before famous witnesses. 1822 R. AINSLIE *Land of Burns* 94 As gif the Almighty was bun by missives o' tack, to gi'e them seed time an' harvest. 1832 *Act* 2 & 3 *Will. IV*, c. 65 § 9 Provided each Tenant..shall..have held such..Tenements under a Lease or Leases, Missive of Lease, or other written title. 1838 W. BELL *Dict. Law Scot.* s.v., It would appear that missives of lease, like missives of sale, require to be stamped to found an action.

† **3.** A messenger. *Obs. rare.*

1605 SHAKS. *Macb.* I. v. 7 Whiles I stood rapt in the wonder of it, came Missiues from the King, who all-hail'd me Thane of Cawdor. 1606 — *Ant. & Cl.* II. ii. 74. 1649 G. DANIEL *Trinarch., Hen. IV*, ccclxxvi, Where trusted Ianizaries stand about The Tyrant, Missives to his Crueltye.

† **4.** Something hurled or thrown; *esp.* a missile weapon. *Obs.*

1644 DIGBY *Nat. Bodies* xii. 100 The stringes [of a racket] ..do cause the missiues [*sc.* tennis balls] to speede so fast towardes their appoynted homes. 1770 SIR J. BANKS *Jrnl.* (1896) 244 Defensive weapons they have none, and no missives except stones and darts. 1809 W. IRVING *Knickerb.* VI. viii. (1849) 366 The heavens were darkened with a tempest of missives.

¶ **5.** = MISSILE *sb.* 2.

1649 JER. TAYLOR *Gt. Exemp.* I. Ad. § 7. 110 How great things God hath done for us, whether in publick Donatives, or private Missives.

† **Mi·ssively,** *adv. Obs.* [f. MISSIVE *a.* + -LY [2].] By letter.

1641 KEVLWAY in Rigaud *Corr. Sci. Men* (1841) I. 63 At least missively if not personally.

Missle, Missletoe, obs. ff. MISSEL, MISTLETOE.

Miss-maze, variant of MIZMAZE.

Missment (mi·smĕnt). *dial.* [f. MISS *v.*[1] + -MENT.] **a.** Mistake, error. **b.** Loss.

1868 TREGELLAS *Tales* 33 But howsomever, we maade a missment. 1866 W. THORNBURY *Greatheart* III. xviii. 248 There's something wrong in the level, surely, some missment (mistake), I tell 'ee. 1890 'Q.' *Three Ships* viii, We've found 'ee a great missment.

Missomer, Misson(ne: see MIDSUMMER, MIZEN.

Mis-so·rt, *v.* [MIS-[1] 1.] *trans.* To sort badly; to allot to a wrong place or in a wrong way. So **Mis-so·rted** *ppl. a.*

1581 MULCASTER *Positions* v. (1887) 25 If they be..missorted in place. *a* 1626 BP. ANDREWES 96 *Serm.* XV. (1661) 503 Not to be mis-sorted into a place no ways meet. 1821 COLERIDGE *Lett., Conversat.* etc. (1836) II. 71 The present unsorted or *mis*-sorted ministry. 1873 M. COLLINS *Squire Silchester* II. XV. 179 These missorted twins.

Hence **Mis-so·rt** *sb.*, an instance of mis-sorting; a thing mis-sorted.

1898 *Daily News* 20 Dec. 3/3 To be able to sort the whole 500..with not more than 30 'blinds'—mis-sorts, that is.

Mis-sou·nd, *v.* [MIS-[1] 1.]

1. *intr.* To sound amiss.

?*a* 1500 in Grose, etc. *Antiq. Rep.* (1809) IV. 405 A songe myssowndithe yf the prickynge be not right. *Ibid.* 404 For perversite of thy prickinge and myssoundynge of thy songe.

2. *trans.* and *intr.* To mispronounce.

a 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII*, 127 They called them Crakers, whych by missounding, was commonly called Krekers. 1599 NASHE *Lenten Stuffe* 41 By corruption of speech, they false dialect and misse-sound it. 1880 FREEMAN *Lett.* 18 May in Stephens *Life & Lett.* (1895) II. 204 *W* is sure to be missounded.

Missour, obs. Sc. form of MEASURE.

† **Missow·ne,** *v. Obs.* [f. MIS-[1] 7 + *sowne*, SOUND *v.*] *intr.* To be discordant; not to agree.

1382 WYCLIF *Josh.* Prol., And forsothe it may not be sooth that discordith [*v. r.* myssouneth, Vulg. *dissonat*]. *c* 1465 *Eng. Chron.* (Camden 1856) 57 Articlez longyng..to the said craft of nigromancie, or mis sownyng to the Cristen feith.

Missoy, variant of MASSOY.

Mis-spea·k, *v.* Also 4–7 misp-. [MIS-[1] 1.]

† **1.** *intr.* To speak wrongly or improperly; to speak evil. *Obs.*

c 1200 in *O. E. Hom.* I. 305 Ich habbe..Misispeken. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* I. 934, I me repente If I mis spak. *c* 1386 — *Miller's Prol.* 31 If that I misspeke or seye, Wyte it the ale of Southwerk. 1595 SHAKS. *John* III. i. 4 It is not so, thou hast mispoke, misheard. 1613 tr. *Mexia's Treas. Anc. & Mod. Times* 764/1, I doe not inferre that it is lawfull for weomen to depraue or mispeake by any means.

† **b.** To speak disrespectfully or disparagingly *of.*

c 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 228 Enemys of oure feiþ þat bakbiten or myspeken of vs. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 227 If that I myhte ofherkne..That eny man of hire mispeke. 1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iv. IV. (1641) 232 Who mis-speaks of thee, hee spets at Heav'n, And his owne spettle in his face is driven.

† **2.** *trans.* To speak evil of; to calumniate. *Obs.*

1582 N. T. (Rhem.) *Acts* xxiii. 5 The prince of thy people thou shalt not misspeake. 1584 PEELE *Arraignm. Paris* III. i, Mis-speak not all for his amiss.

3. *trans.* To speak, utter, or pronounce incorrectly or improperly. *rare.*

[1390: see MIS-SPEECH.] 1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* (1613) 132 We care not how we mispeake it so wee haue it to speake. *a* 1631 DONNE *Let. to M. M. H.* Poems (1654) 177 As a mother which delights to heare Her early childe mis-speake halfe uttered words. 1879 BUTCHER & LANG *Odyss.* XIV. 238 Thou hast not misspoken aught, nor uttered a word unprofitably.

So **Mis-spea·king** *vbl. sb.*

1530 PALSGR. 172 *Blaspheme*, mispekyng of God. 1650 EARL MONM. tr. *Senault's Man bec. Guilty* 199 As they have the art of speaking, they have also the cunning of misspeaking.

Mis-spee·ch. [MIS-[1] 4.] † **a.** Evil speaking. *Obs.* **b.** Incorrect speaking.

c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 1523 þan meliors mekly hire maydenes dede calle, & many of hire meyne for drede of misse-speche. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 178 And otherwise of no mispeche, Mi conscience forto seche, I can noght of Envie finde That I mispoke have oght behinde Wherof love owghte be mispaid. *a* 1461 *Songs & Carols* 15*th C.* (Warton Club) 1 Rewle thi tunge in swych a gys, That non mysspeche come the froo. 1496 *Dives & Pauper* (W. de W.) II. i. 109/2 Goddes name is taken in vayne..by myslyuynge, by myspeche, & by mysherynge. 1895 *Atlantic Monthly* Mar. 432 Another form of misspeech, to which most of us are..subject,—the exchange of syllables.

† **Mis-spee·d,** *v. Obs.* [MIS-[1] 7.] *intr.* To be unsuccessful or unlucky.

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 6912 Now haue þey for-sake vs alle & sum,..þat often mys-spedde in þer passage. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) I. 243 Dayes þat þe Romaynes misspedde were i-hote nefasti, as it were nouȝt leeful. 1496 *Dives & Pauper* (W. de W.) VII. xiii. 297/2 He that wyll not paye his tythes shall myspede. 1501 *Plumpton Corr.* (Camden) 161, I send about it unto the Shereffe as sone as Hare Harlad com from you, for sume remedy ther, if he myspede.

Mis-spe·ll, *v.* [MIS-[1] 1.] *trans.* To spell incorrectly. So **Mis-spelt** *ppl. a.*

1655 FULLER *Hist. Cambr.* (1840) 160 No wonder, if they did mis-spell him whom they did mis-call, loading him with opprobrious language. 1775 SHERIDAN *Rivals* I. ii, That she might not mis-spell, and mis-pronounce words. 1838 HAWTHORNE *Twice-told T., Chippings with a Chisel*, Some [of the monuments] were inscribed with misspelt prose or rhyme. 1846 LANDOR *Exam. Shaks.* Wks. II. 296, I wrote not down the words, fearing to mis-spell them.

Hence **Mis-spe·ll** *sb.*, mis-spelling. *rare.*

1891 *N. & Q.* Ser. VII. XII. 351/2 He has discovered a misspell in Evelyn. 1895 *Dublin Rev.* July 37 Mis-spells occurring in proper names.

Mis-spe·lling, *vbl. sb.* [MIS-[1] 3.] A bad spelling; false orthography.

1695–6 *Act 7 & 8 Will. III*, c. 3 § 9 That nue Indictment ..shall bee quashed..for miswriting mispelling false..Latine. 1731 *Gentl. Mag.* I. 213 Mis-spelling or Mistake of Clerkship. 1865 KINGSLEY *Herew.* Prelude 21 The misspellings of English names in his work are more gross than even those in Domesday. 1898 GISSING *Town Traveller* XXV, Mis-spelling, he knew, would invalidate his chance.

Mis-spe·nd, *v.* Also 4–8 misp-, (4–6 mysp-). [MIS-[1] 1.] *trans.* To spend amiss or wastefully; to make a bad, useless, or wasteful expenditure of.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* XXXIV. (*Pelagia*) 44 Scho þat welth & þat beute myspendit in sic degre, þat [etc.]. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XV. 74 How þat folke in folyes myspenden her fyue wittes. 1460 *Pol. Rel. & L. Pocms* (1903) 206, I haue mysspendyd my yonge age In synne, and wantonnehed also. 1494 FABYAN *Chron.* VI. CLXX. 164 Gouernours therof mysspent the patrymony therof in excesse. 1530 PALSGR. 638/1 Myspende nat your monay, you may happe to have nede of it. 1597 *Pilgrim. Parnass.* V. (1886) 19, I have beene guiltie of mispending some time in philosophie. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneid* Ded., Some similitude, which diverts ..your attention from the main Subject, and mispends it on some trivial Image. *a* 1721 PRIOR *On a Pretty Madwoman* i, Our grief's misplac'd, our tears mis-spent. 1812 BYRON *Ch. Har.* I. XXVII, His early youth, misspent in maddest whim. 1858 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* (1858) II. VI. 15 [They] vowed to accept no benefice, lest they should misspend the property of the poor.

Mis-spe·nder. [MIS-[1] 5.] One who mis-spends.

1607 HIERON *Wks.* I. 463 Mispenders of the sabbath. 1648 MILTON *Observ. Art. Peace* Wks. 1851 IV. 577 The most prodigal mis-spenders of time. 1766 JOHNSON *Prayers & Medit.* (1817) 67, I again appear in thy presence the wretched mispender of another year.

Mis-spe·nding, *vbl. sb.* [MIS-[1] 3.] Bad or useless expenditure.

138. WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 370 þis mon schal nedis be dampned for mysspendynge of Gods tresoure. 1541 BARNES *Wks.* (1573) 364 Mispending of goodes. 1659 *Gentl. Calling* 422 Not only with the mis-spending their own estates, but other mens.

Mis-spe·nditure. *rare*[−1]. [f. MIS-SPEND, after *expenditure*.] Wasteful expenditure.

a 1843 SOUTHEY *Sydney* in *Fraser's Mag.* (1868) LXXVIII. 104 Compelled to lose time the value of which he understood, and the mispenditure of which he lamented.

† **Mis-spe·ne**, *v. Obs.* Also 4 -speyne. [f. MIS-[1] 1 + SPENE *v.*] *trans.* To misspend, misemploy.

c 1275 LAY. 13483 3ef ich his god mis-spene [*earlier text* for-leose]. *c* 1320 *Cast. Love* (Halliw.) 1150 And for oure syght myspende allso, His eynen were blynwherved boo. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. XI. 174 And muche wo worth hym þat Inwitt mys-speyneþ [*v.rr.* mysspeneþ, mys-spendeþ].

† **Mis-spe·nse, -e·nce.** *Obs.* Also misp-. [f. MIS-[1] 4.] Improper or wasteful expenditure.

1591 *Garrard's Art Warre* 61 Mispence of munition. 1597 BEARD *Theatre God's Judgem.* (1612) 427 The losse of time and mispence of goods. 1627 BP. HALL *Epist.* II. X. 309 If your negligence, your riotous mis-spence, had empaired your estate. *a* 1677 BARROW *Serm.* Wks. 1687 I. 395 A wilful mispense of our time. *a* 1788 in Croft *Let. to Pitt on Johnson's Dict.* (1788) 40 The misspence of every minute is a new record against us in heaven.

Mis-spent (stress variable), *ppl. a.* [MIS-[1] 2.] Badly or wastefully spent; ill-spent, wasted.

1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* lxvi. 3 The mispent tyme, the service vaine. 1781 COWPER *Hope* 715 The shameful close of all his misspent years. 1871 R. ELLIS tr. *Catullus* lxxv. 2 So in her own misspent worship uneasily lost.

† **Mis-sta·rt**, *v. Obs.* In 3 -sturte, -storte. [MIS-[1] 1.] *intr.* To start forth amiss.

a 1250 *Owl & Night.* 677 & sone may a word mys sturte [*Cott. MS.* misstorte] Þar muþ shal speke ayeyn horte.

Mis-sta·te, *v.* [MIS-[1] 1.] *trans.* To state erroneously; to make wrong statements about.

1650 R. HOLLINGWORTH *Exerc. Usurped Powers* 39 You dare to mis-represent and mistate the minde of God. 1657 SANDERSON *Serm.* Pref. § 12 (1674) C 3 They mis-state the Question, when they talk of pressing Ceremonies. 1791 COWPER *Yardley Oak* 48 Unrecorded facts Recovering, and misstated setting right. 1818 COBBETT *Pol. Reg.* XXXIII. 271 When a writer mis-states facts, be sure that he drives at no very laudable conclusion. 1865 BRIGHT *Sp., Canada* 13 Mar. (1876) 66, I am not mis-stating the case.

absol. 1864–8 BROWNING *J. Lee's Wife* IV. iii, Now do I mis-state, mistake?

So **Mis-sta·ted** *ppl. a.*, **Mis-sta·ting** *vbl. sb.*; **Mis-sta·ter**, one who mis-states.

1643 PRYNNE *Sov. Power Parlt.* III. 61 Through the misstating of the points in question. 1665 GLANVILL *Scepsis Sci.* XIX. 120 The mis-stated words are the original mistake. 1859 *Chamb. Jrnl.* XI. 404 That gross misstater of fact.

Mis-sta·tement. [MIS-[1] 4.] A wrong or erroneous statement.

1790 BURGESS *Div. Christ* Notes 39 There is in this passage a mistatement of important circumstances. 1818 COBBETT *Pol. Reg.* XXXIII. 271 A very flagrant mis-statement in point of fact. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) III. 265 Storytellers make the gravest misstatements about men when they say that many wicked men are happy.

Misstay·, *v.* [app. f. phr. *to miss stays.*] *intr.* Of a ship: To miss stays.

1885 *Standard* 5 May 6/8 C. H. Cumhell .. misstayed in Cornlough Bay; took the ground. 1906 *Westm. Gaz.* 5 Dec. 9/2 The ship, when tacking, mis-stayed.

Mis-ste·p, *sb.* [MIS-[1] 4.] A wrong step.

1855 PRESCOTT *Philip II*, IV. VI. I. 460 As he was descending a flight of stairs he made a misstep and fell. 1888 B. A. WATSON *Sportsman's Paradise* 193 So that..the game may not be frightened by a mis-step. 1894 *Outing* (U. S.) XXIV. 363/2 One mis-step might have resulted in a clear fall of three thousand feet.

b. = FAUX PAS.

1854 MARION HARLAND *Alone* XXI, Watchfully, prayerfully, Ida strove to keep her feet in the path, and by no misstep or fall, to cast obloquy upon the name she loved. 1892 *Harper's Mag.* June 152/2 Whatever we think of the first misstep of Tess in the immaturity of her girlhood.

† **Mis-ste·p**, *v. Obs.* [MIS-[1] 1.] *intr.* To take a wrong step; to go astray.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 143 Sche schal noght with hir litel too Misteppe, bot be se it al. 1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. i. I. (1641) 83 If man from duty never had mis-stept.

Mis-sty·le, *v. rare.* [MIS-[1] 1.] *trans.* To style or term incorrectly.

a 1604 HANMER *Chron. Irel.* (1633) 103 He .. came to the Church called..the Church of great Paternus, mis-stiled with the governement therof. 1613 J. DAVIES *Muses Teares* B 4 Greatnes (as we mis-stile it). 1832 AUSTIN *Jurispr.* (1879) II. lv. 911 The privilege mis-styled personal.

† **Mis-succe·ding**, *vbl. sb. Obs.* [MIS-[1] 3.] Ill-success. So † **Mis-succe·ss.**

a 1656 BP. HALL *Serm.* Wks. (1662) 197 As some shifting alchymist that casts all the fault of his mis-success upon his glasse or his furnace. *a* 1661 FULLER *Worthies, Lincolnshire* (1662) II. 154 Miscarriages in his Government (many by mismanaging, more by the missucceeding of matters).

† **Mis-sue'**, *v. Law. Obs.* [MIS-[1] 1.] *trans.* To sue (livery) wrongly.

[1227 in *Cal. Charter Rolls* I. (1903) 63 With soc and sac.. mundbriche, miskenning, missueing and forfeg.] 1548 STAUNFORD *Kinges Prerog.* (1567) 79 b, Yf the heire sue his generall lyuerie beefore an offyce thereof founde omittinge them in the liuerye, the lyuery is missued. *Ibid.* 84 Whether in this case ye missuing of ye same shal be a cause of reseiser or not.

Mis-suit, *v.* [MIS-[1] 1.] *trans.* To suit ill.

a 1618 SYLVESTER *St. Lewis* 588 Wks. (Grosart) II. 235 That Robe of Power, which those doth much mis-suit, Who have not on rare Vertue's richest Suit. 1860 MRS. BROWNING *Napoleon III in Italy* XVIII, He will not swagger nor boast Of his country's meeds, in a tone Missuiting a great man most If such should speak of his own. 1864 BROWNING *Sludge the Medium*, Each..Is blind to what missuits him.

† **Mi·ssure.** *Obs. rare*[−1]. [ad. L. type **missūra*, f. *miss-* ppl. stem of *mittĕre* to send: see -URE.] A commission.

1615 T. ADAMS *Lycanthropy* 5 The missure, 'I send you': the mixture, 'as lambes among wolves'.

† **Mis-swa·re.** *Obs. rare*[−1]. [f. MIS-[1] 4 + *-sware*, repr. OE. *-swaru, -swara* action of swearing, as in *āþswara.*] False swearing.

a 1240 *Lofsong* in *O. E. Hom.* I. 205 Wrēððe and onde, lesunge, missware vuele i-holden treouðe.

† **Mis-sway·**, *v. Obs.* [MIS-[1] 1.] *trans.* To sway in a wrong direction.

a 1640 JACKSON *Creed* XI. XXV. § 11 Other secular vanities, which usually missway us Christians to folly.

† **Mis-sway·ing**, *vbl. sb. Obs.* [MIS-[1] 3.] Misgovernment.

1603 J. DAVIES (Heref.) *Microcosm.* 149 The first Edward, that did first refine This Common-weale, and made the same ascend When through mis-swaying it seem'd to decline.

† **Mis-swea·ring**, *vbl. sb. Obs.* [MIS-[1] 3.] False swearing.

1493 *Dives & Pauper* (Pynson) II. XIX. I VJ, If thou haue liking to here grete othes..or any mysswerynge

Miss-woman, -word: see MISWOMAN, MISWORD.

Mis-swo·rn, *ppl. a.* [MIS-[1] 2.] a. Forsworn. b. Whose name has been taken in vain.

1506 *Kalender Sheph.* E 6 (1892) III. 62 Myssworone By wordes [etc.]. ? *a* 1800 *Broomfield Hill* V. in Child *Ballads* I. 395 But if I stay from Broomfield Hills, I'll be a maid missworn. 1871 R. ELLIS tr. *Catullus* lxxvi. 4 A God's missworn sanctity, deadly to men.

Missy (mi·si), *sb.* Also 7 missee, 8–9 missey, 9 missie. [f. MISS *sb.*[2] + -Y dim. suffix.] An affectionate or playful appellation for a young girl: used chiefly by servants and the like. occas. *contemptuous.*

1676 in *12th Rep. Hist. MSS, Comm.* App. V. 29 A coach fitt for pretty Missee is not to be found ready made. 1780 MME. D'ARBLAY *Let.* 24 Aug. in *Diary* (1891) I. 311, I beg my best compliments to him,—and to my master and missey. 1818 *Blackw. Mag.* III. 403 An English missy, slim and pale. 1852 MRS. STOWE *Uncle Tom's C.* XIV. 124 'What's little missy's name?' said Tom at last. 1876 BLACKMORE *Cripps* liii, The pious papa and the milk-and-water missy rush into each other's arms.

Comb. 1831 *Society* I. 138 The missy-like astonishment you are pleased to assume.

Hence **Mi·ssyish** *a.* = MISSISH.

1887 MISS BETHAM-EDWARDS *Next of Kin Wanted* II. XVIII. 245 Why do you put on this missyish air of innocence?

Missy (mi·si), *a.* [f. MISS *sb.*[2] + -Y.] Pertaining to, resembling, or characteristic of a miss or young lady; = MISSISH.

1809–12 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Vivian* VIII, Her ladyship .. values herself too highly, to make such a missy match. 1831 *Society* I. 88 The mean and missy feeling of seizing the first opportunity to speak to you of a man. 1859 BOYD *Recreat. Country Parson* II. 43, I have heard..the same person called a gentlemanlike man and a missy piece of affectation. 1881 *Literary World* 14 Jan. 26/1 With nothing to recommend him physically but a missy prettiness.

Missy, obs. variant of MISY.

Mist (mist), *sb.*[1] Forms: 1– **mist**; also 3 **mijst**, 3–6 **myste**, 4–7 **myst, miste**, (5 **meyst**). [OE. *mist* str. masc. = MLG. (LG.), MDu. (Du.) *mist*, Icel. *mistur* (genit. *misturs*) neut. (Norw., Sw. *mist*):—OTeut. **mihstoz-*, f. *mĭg-*:—pre-Teut. **migh-, meigh-*, as in Gr. ὀμίχλη, OSl. *mĭgla*, Skr. *mih* and *mēgha* cloud, mist. Perhaps further related to the root of OE. *mīgan*, MIG, and *meox* MIX *sb.*[1]]

1. A cloud formed by an aggregation of minute drops of water and resting on or near the ground. In generalized sense, vapour of water precipitated in very fine droplets, smaller and more densely aggregated than those of rain. Sometimes distinguished from *fog*, either as being less opaque or as consisting of drops large enough to have a perceptible downward motion.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gen.* XV. 17 Þa þa sunne eode to setle, þa sloh þær micel mist. *c* 1050 *Suppl. Ælfric's Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 175/23 *Nebula*, mist, *uel* ȝenip. *a* 1200 *Moral Ode* 16 Ne michte ich seon bi-fore me for smike ne for miste. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 239/688 A wel deork mijst þare com al-so þat swiþe longue i-laste. *Ibid.* 317/603 ȝwane þe sonne hath þudere i-drawe þene mist for hete. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 1445 Now gadirs mystes and cloudes in þe ayre. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* XL. (*Ninian*) 895 Bot myste ves in sic degre þat nan mocht a stane caste se. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XI. XII. (1495) 397 Myste is frende to theues and to euyl doers for he hydyth theyr spyers and waytynges. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 7105 Þan fell sodaynly slike a myst, þat whidir to wende þai ne wist. 1530 PALSGR. 740/2 Whan the moysture of the dewe stryketh upwarde agayne, it maketh a myste. 1602 MARSTON *Ant. & Mel.* II. Wks. 1856 I. 26 The flagging'st bulrush that ere droopt With each slight mist of raine. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* XII. 629 As Ev'ning Mist Ris'n from a River o're the marish glides. 1798 COLERIDGE *Anc. Mar.* I. XIX, In mist or cloud on mast or shroud It perch'd for vespers nine. 1831 SCOTT *Cast. Dang.* III, The mist had settled upon the hills, and unrolled itself upon brook, glade, and tarn. 1878 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* 40 The atmospheric moisture passes through the condition of visible cloud or mist. *Ibid.* 44 The position of a river is often marked by mist.

fig. 1615 HIERON *Wks.* I. 438 Neither is enery myst of sorrow dissolued into teares. 1842 TENNYSON *Love & Duty* 43 Rain out the heavy mist of tears.

b. Used in proverbial phr.

c 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 7364 (Kölbing) Ich hope .. We schul hem driue, so sonne doþ mist! *c* 1420 LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 1988 Derke as a myste, or a seynyd fable. 1535 COVERDALE *Isa.* XLIV. 21 As for thyne offences, I dryue them awaye like the cloudes, and thy synnes as the myst.

c. *Scotch* († *Scottish*, † *Scots*) *mist*: a thick, very wetting mist characteristic of the Scottish hills; hence *jocularly*, a steady soaking rain.

1589 [? LYLY] *Pappe w. Hatchet* Ded., Wks. 1902 III. 394 We care not for a Scottish mist, though it wet vs to the skin. 1599 *Broughton's Lett.* VIII. 27 It is no marueile you so affect the Scottish mist; for where the head doth σκοτοδινιᾶν, the tongue must needes σκοτολογεῖν. 1623 MINSHEU, *Mollinas*, soft showers, Scottish mists. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Scotch-mist*, a sober, soaking Rain. 1770 WESLEY *Jrnl.* 16 Apr. (1827) III. 384 We..got into a Scotch mist. 1872 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* 38/1 With a light drizzle or Scotch mist falling thickly.

d. *transf.* A cloud (of small particles) resembling a mist; a haze or haziness, as that produced by distance; hence *fig.* of time, etc.

1785 COWPER *Task* I. 360 The rustling straw sends up a frequent mist Of atoms. 1794 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Myst. Udolpho* I, The plains of Guienne and Languedoc were lost in the mist of distance. 1810 SHELLEY *St. Irvyne's Tower* V. 4 Why may not human minds unveil The dim mists of futurity? 1812 BYRON *Ch. Har.* II. II, And o'er each mouldering tower, Dim with the mist of years, Grey flits the shade of power. 1869 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1875) III. XI. 5 Times..half shrouded in the mist of legend.

2. Dimness of eyesight; a hazy or filmy appearance before the eyes caused by disorders of the body or by the shedding of tears.

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 26 Læcedomas wiþ eaȝna miste. *c* 1220 *Bestiary* 102 in *O. E. Misc.* 4 Of hise eȝen wereð ðe mist. 1655 CULPEPPER, etc. *Riverius* XIV. IV. 385 They have the Head-ach, mists before their Eyes, and giddiness. 1693 SOUTH *Serm.* (1698) III. II. 99 Where there is a Giddiness in the Head, there will always be a mist before the Eyes. 1859 TENNYSON *Enid* 1617 She did not weep But o'er her meek eyes came a happy mist. 1880 'OUIDA' *Moths* I. 33 She felt a mist before her eyes, a tightness at her throat. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 66 Such patients usually complain of a mist before their eyes.

b. Hence used in phrases with reference to the obscuring of the vision (physical or mental), esp. *to cast* or *throw a mist before* (a person's) *eyes*; also simply, † *to cast a mist* or *mists*: to produce mystification.

1565 COOPER *Thesaurus, Offundere caliginem oculis*, to cast a miste before ones eyes. 1579 GOSSON *Sch. Abuse* (Arb.) 20 The Iuggler casteth a myst to worke the closer. 1607 DEKKER *Wh. of Babylon* H 4 They say you can throw mists before our eyes, To make vs thinke you faire. 1641 [see PETTIFOG *sb.*[2]]. *a* 1674 CLARENDON *Surv. Leviath.* (1676) 26 And by a mist of words..he dazles Mens eies. 1750 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 81 P 5 Over this law, indeed, some sons of sophistry have been subtle enough to throw mists, which have darkened their own eyes. 1824 LAMB *Elia* Ser. II. *Capt. Jackson*, He was a juggler, who threw mists before your eyes.

3. Applied to immaterial things conceived as enveloping a man's mind and obscuring his mental vision or outlook, or as veiling the real character or blurring the outlines of a thing.

c 888 K. ÆLFRED *Boeth.* V. § 3 fin., Þa mistas ðe þæt mod ȝedrefað. *a* 1000 *Boeth. Metr.* XXIII, ȝif he..of him selfum

ðone sweartan mist, modes þiostro, mæg aweorpan. *c* 1384 CHAUCER *H. Fame* I. 352 Enery thinge ys wyste, Though hit be kenered with the myste. 1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* x. (Percy Soc.) 36 The fatall problemes of olde antiquyte, Cloked wyth myst and wyth cloudes derke. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 67 b, All cloudes & mystes vtterly purged and expulsed out of our soules. 1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 416 All mystes and fogges of ignorance. 1728 VENEER *Sincere Penitent* Pref. 7 Those mists and false notions which our infirmities, education or conversation may have thrown in our way. 1779–81 JOHNSON *L. P., Cowley* (first par.), All is shown confused and enlarged through the mist of panegyric. 1810 *Sporting Mag.* XXXVI. 153 There is a kind of mist or dubiosity playing about it. 1842 TENNYSON *Will Waterproof's Monol.* 39 And softly, thro' a vinous mist, My college friendships glimmer. 1849 ROBERTSON *Serm.* Ser. I. x. (1866) 170 It was faith straining through the mist. 1852 M. ARNOLD *Empedocles* II. 67 The mists Of despondency and gloom.

b. *Mists of death, deathly mists.*

1729 SAVAGE *Wanderer* III. 280 Sad o'er the sight swim shadowy mists of death. 1866 B. TAYLOR *Poems, Autumnal Vespers*, Death's mist shall strike along her veins. 1878 BROWNING *La Saisiaz* 484 As soul is quenchless by the deathly mists.

†**4.** A state of obscurity or uncertainty; an 'atmosphere' of doubt. *Obs.*

1532 MORE *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 401/2 They wil clerely dissipate & discusse the myst that he fain would walke in. 1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* II. ii. 218 Ile say as they say, and persever so: And in this mist at all aduentures go. 1650 B. *Discolliminium* 54 The Grand Cause of this Realme .. is yet in the myst to many .. judicious men. 1678 *Hatton Corr.* (Camden) 161 My Lord wee are in a mighty mist wht our buisnesse is heere. *a* 1715 BURNET *Own Time* III. (1724) I. 510 In this mist matters must be left till the great revelation of all secrets.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *mist-cloud, -drop, -wreath*; *mist-blotted, -blurred, -clad, -covered, -enshrouded, -exhaling, -hung, -impelling, -laden, -shrouded, -wet, -wreathen* adjs.; **mist-bow**, a white arch, resembling a rainbow, sometimes seen in misty weather; **mist-flower**, a plant of the tropical American genus *Conoclinium*; †**mist-hackle**, a 'cloak' or covering of mist; **mist-tree**, a name for *Rhus Cotinus*, the smoke-tree (*Cent. Dict.*).

1864 TENNYSON *En. Ard.* 681 A great *mist-blotted light Flared on him. 1880 *Academy* 11 Dec. 415 The whole view is *mist-blurred and indistinct. 1897 *Daily News* 11 Dec. 8/3 Clouds on which brilliant *mist-bows were thrown by the morning sunlight. 1796 H. HUNTER tr. *St. Pierre's Stud. Nat.* (1799) II. 363 These *mist-clad hills are islands emerging above the Horizon. 1884 JEFFERIES *Life of Fields* 133 The inclined plane of *mist-clouds again reflects a grey light. 1809 SHELLEY *Dial.* 20 Tell me .. What awaits on Futurity's *mist-covered shore. *a* 1847 ELIZA COOK *Winter is here* iii, The mist-covered pane. 1860 PUSEY *Min. Proph.* 375 Countless multitudes of *mist-drops. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* xxxiii, Towards the *mist-enshrouded city. 1782 J. SCOTT *Amœbean Ecl.* ii. Poet. Wks. 114 Dull are slow Ousa's *mist-exhaling plains. 1860 A. GRAY *Man. Bot.* 188 *Conoclinium*, *Mist-flower. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 2081 Vch hille hade a hatte, a *myst-hakel huge. 1601 WEEVER *Mirr. Mart.* (Roxb.) 210 A *mist-hung Star-exhaled Meteor. 1777 MASON *Eng. Garden* II. 396 The sable ensign of the night Unfurl'd by *mist-impelling Eurus. 1899 F. T. BULLEN *Way Navy* 85 The secret of Ireland's greenness is the *mist-laden Gulf Stream. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* (1891) 246 The *mist-shrouded pinnacle of .. success. 1776 MICKLE tr. *Camoens' Lusiad* VII. 298 Distant navies rear the *mist-wet sail. 1811 SCOTT *Don Roderick* II. lxiii, All the phantasms of my brain, Melted away like *mist-wreaths in the sun. 1864 TENNYSON *En. Ard.* 633 The *mist-wreathen isle.

†**Mist,** *sb.*[2] *Obs.* [? A use of prec. sb. influenced by *mystic, mystery*: cf. MISTY *a.*[2]] Things spiritual or mystical. *In mist*: mystically.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 462 Ryȝt so is vch a krysten sawle, A longande lym to þe mayster of myste. *c* 1430 *Hymns Virgin* (1867) 41 Þese prophetis speken so in myst, What þei mente we neuere knewe. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* v. 435 So down they sat, And to thir viands fell, nor seemingly The Angel, nor in mist, the common gloss Of Theologians, but with keen dispatch Of real hunger.

†**Mist,** *sb.*[3] *Obs.* App. shortened form of MISTER *sb.*[1] = need.

c 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xi. 41 Þat þai schuld lede me fra citee to citee, if miste ware. ? 1469 *Paston Lett.* II. 334, I have grete myst of it.

Mist (mist), *v.*[1] [OE. *mistian*, f. *mist* MIST *sb.*[1]]

1. *intr.* To be or become misty; to gather or appear in the form of a mist; (of the eyes, outlines, etc.) to become dim, obscure, or blurred.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gram.* xxxvi. (Z.) 216 *Caligo* me mistiað mine eagan. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 340/2 Mystyn, or grow roky as wedur, and mysty. 1655 VAUGHAN *Silex Scint.* I. 70, I have deserved a thick, Egyptian damp, Dark as my deeds Should mist within me. 1818 KEATS *Endym.* III. 44 When thy gold breath is misting in the west. 1821 CLARE *Vill. Minstr.* I. 132 Full sweet it was to look, How clouds misted o'er the hill. 1829 FROUDE in *Rem.* (1838) I. 241 It began to rain and blow, and, what was worse, to mist. 1891 *Columbus* (Ohio) *Disp.* 23 Dec., Your eyes cannot but mist as you look and listen.

2. *trans.* To cover or obscure with or as with mist; to envelop in mist; to bedim (the eyes) with tears.

1430–40 LYDG. *Bochas* II. ii. (1554) 44 Flattery..Whiche .. Misteth the iyen of euery gouernour That they cannot know their owne erroure. 1598 E. GUILPIN *Skial.* (1878) 21 He sits Misted with darknes like a smoaky roome. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* XXIX. xxvii. 730 They were misted againe, and lost the sight of land. 1605 SHAKS. *Lear* V. iii. 262 If that her breath will mist or staine the stone, Why then she liues. 1628 GAULE *Pract. Theories* (1629) 373 Perhaps, her lauish weeping .. misted her eyes. 1631 HEYWOOD *2nd Pt. Fair Maid of West* III. F 4 Let's mist our selves In a thick cloud of smoak. 1685 SIR G. MACKENZIE *Religious Stoic* v. 43 That Glass is now so misted and soiled. 1820 KEATS *Lamia* II. 274 No soft bloom Misted the cheek. 1858 MRS. OLIPHANT *Laird of Norlaw* III. 220 Stars do not mist themselves with tender dew about the perversities of human kind as these eyes do.

b. with immaterial obj.

1598 MARSTON *Sco. Villanie* II. v. 198 With Caduceus nimble Hermes fights, And mists my wit. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* I. ii. 14 We haue this testimonie of Moses of the Creation of the World, whose sense, if I haue missed or misted in these many words, I craue pardon. 1637 RUTHERFORD *Lett.* (1862) I. cxviii. 294 If I were not misted, and confounded, and astonished how to be thankful. 1654 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 495 This double Errour mists mens Judgments concerning them.

†**Mist,** *v.*[2] *Obs.* In 3 miste, myste. [? f. *mist* pa. pple. of MISS *v.*[1] Cf. Sw. *mista*, Da. *miste*.] *intr.* and *trans.* = MISS *v.*[1]

a 1250 *Owl & Night.* 764 Oft spet wel a lute lyste þar muche strengþe solde myste. *Ibid.* 825 If þe uox miste of al þis dwele At þan ende ho creophþ to hole. *Ibid.* 1640 Nule ic wiþ þe playdi na more Vor her þu myst þi ryhte lore.

Mist, obs. pa. t. and pa. pple. of MISS *v.*[1]; scribal variant of ME. *migt* (see MAY *v.*[1]).

†**Mista'd,** *pa. pple. Obs.* [app. f. MIS-[1] 2 + *stad*, pa. pple. of STEAD *v.*] In sorry plight.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 28158 Quen i sagh oþer men mistad, Of his fare wald i be gladd.

Mistakable (mistē·kăb'l), *a.* [f. MISTAKE *v.* + -ABLE.] Capable of being mistaken, misapprehended, or misunderstood.

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* VI. i. 279 If wee consider how differently they are set forth in minor and lesse mistakeable numbers. *c* 1653 HAMMOND *Paraphr. N. T.* Postscr. § 32 Places of Scripture..mistakable by the Enthusiast. 1822 *Examiner* 341/1 The darkest and most mistakable parts of this drama. 1864 BOWEN *Logic* xii. (1870) 388 The internal peculiarities of the malady, of which the outward symptoms are only the faint and easily mistakable indications.

Hence **Mista·kableness**; **Mista·kably** *adv.*

1665 J. SERGEANT *Sure Footing* 221 Supposing the notoriety of it secur'd the thing from mistakableness. 1844 BROWNING *Let. to Dowson* 10 Mar. in *Athenæum* 18 July (1891) 108/1 The good fortune which appears slowly but not mistakably setting in upon me.

Mistake (mistē·k), *sb.* [f. next. Cf. Sw. *misstag*.]

1. *properly*, A misconception or misapprehension of the meaning of something; *hence*, an error or fault in thought or action.

1638 JUNIUS *Paint. Ancients* 337 We doe excuse small mistakes in them. *a* 1656 USSHER *Lett.* (1686) 505 'Upon the old Sabbath-day, or upon the Sunday'; by a strange kind of mistake, turning the Copulative into a Disjunctive. 1717 LADY M. W. MONTAGU *Let. to Lady Rich* 17 June, Your whole letter is full of mistakes from one end to the other. 1752 HUME *Ess. & Treat.* (1777) II. 5 It is easy for a profound philosopher to commit a mistake in his subtile reasonings. 1818 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) V. 166 Mistakes in the description of the premises. 1856 SIR B. BRODIE *Psychol. Inq.* II. iv. 134 There are not a few who make the great mistake of expecting too much of life. 1856 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* (1858) I. iii. 285 It will be thought .. on wider grounds, that the measure was a mistake. 1874 MICKLETHWAITE *Mod. Par. Churches* 29 It is a great mistake to think that a building looks better for being empty.

†**b.** *A mistake of*: a misconception as to.

1649 in *Def. Rights & Priv. Univ. Oxford* (1690) 19 Mistakes of the manner and rules of proceeding. 1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* III. x. § 16 Whatever Inconvenience follows from this Mistake of Words. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 502 ₱ 1 It cannot be called a Mistake of what is pleasant. 1771 JENKINS *Cent. Rep.* (ed. 3) II. v. 57 For when the defendant appears, a mistake of the process to bring him to appear shall do no harm.

c. In generalized use.

1671 TILLOTSON *Serm.* Pref. b 5 b, Infallibility is an absolute security of the understanding from all possibility of mistake in what it believes. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* IX. 32 But if, beneath the favour of mistake, Thy smile's sincere. 1813 SHELLEY *Q. Mab* VI. 30 Crime and misery are in yonder earth, Falsehood, mistake, and lust.

2. Phrases. †**a.** *In, upon*, or *under a mistake*: under a misapprehension. *Obs.*

1683 *New Hampsh. Prov. Papers* (1867) I. 460 It may be I may be upon a mistake, but, according to what I know and belive, I am falsely indited. 1683 H. PRIDEAUX in *Lett. Lit. Men* (Camden) 185 That you may be under noe mistake as to him. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* VIII. 884 For what is vice? self-love in a mistake. 1777 *Bentley's Phal.* 328 *note*, Gronovius was under a mistake, in supposing the Romans had no such sum as a Talent in their accounts. 1822 SHELLEY tr. *Calderon's Mag. Prodig.* I. 32 You lie—under a mistake. 1839 *Standard* 12 Apr., Some timid conservatives..labour in the same mistake.

b. *By* (rarely *from*, †*in a*) *mistake*: erroneously, mistakenly.

1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* II. viii, It [*sc.* a tooth] was drawn by an unskilful Surgeon, in a Mistake. 1769 *Junius Lett.* xiii. (1771) I. 65 It is not that you do wrong by design, but that you should never do right by mistake. 1822 COBBETT *Weekly Reg.* 9 Mar. 579 In the year 1814; and not 1815, as I, from mistake, stated at Chichester. 1864 J. H. NEWMAN *Apol.* 23 A story of a sane person being by mistake shut up in the wards of a Lunatic Asylum.

c. *And no mistake*: without any doubt, undoubtedly, for certain; used *colloq.* to emphasize a preceding statement. Also used attrib., (*and-*) *no-mistake* = undoubted, unquestionable.

Often stressed (anomalously) on the syllable *no*.

1818 LADY MORGAN *Autobiog.* (1859) 15 He is the real thing and no mistake. 1837 THACKERAY *Ravenswing* i, A tip-top swell, I can assure you, a regular bang-up chap, and no mistake. 1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* I. i, Yes, it's a magnificent Roman camp, and no mistake, with gates, and ditch, and mounds. 1884 *Harper's Mag.* Feb. 412/1 Mary Ann was mad, an' no mistake.

attrib. 1838 THACKERAY *Fashnable Fax* Wks. 1900 XIII. 251 A reglar slap-up, no mistake, out-an'-out account of the manners and usitches of genteel society. 1848 — *Bk. Snobs* xxiii, The real old original and-no-mistake nobility. 1858 O. W. HOLMES *Aut. Breakf.-t.* xii, He is the real, genuine, no-mistake Osiris.

Mistake (mistē·k), *v.* Forms: see TAKE *v.* [a. ON. *mistaka* to take by mistake, refl. to miscarry (Sw. *misstaga* refl. to be mistaken), f. *mis-* = MIS-[1] + *taka* to TAKE. For the uses cf. also OF. *mesprendre* (mod.F. *méprendre*).]

†**1.** *trans.* To take wrongfully, wrongly, or in error. *Obs.*

c 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 345 Þis office is dispised & cristes owne office is misse-taken. 1382 — *Deut.* v. 11 Thow shalt not mystaak the name of the Lord thi God idillich. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 321 He haþ nouȝt mystake as his owne þat he haþ i-fonge for a tyme. 14.. *Lat. Eng. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 604/39 *Presumptuo*, to mystake. 1550 CROWLEY *Way to Wealth* 579 To make restitucion of that ye haue misse taken. 1614 B. JONSON *Barth. Fair* II. ii, To be euer husie, and mis-take away the bottles and cannes..before they be halfe drunke off. *a* 1631 DONNE *Sat.* v. Poems (1633) 348 To see a Pursivant come in, and call All his cloathes, Copes;..and all His Plate, Challices; and mistake them away.

†**2.** *intr.* To transgress, offend, do wrong. *Obs.*

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 138 If þe Scottis kyng mistake in any braide Of treson in any þyng, ageyn Henry forsaid. ? *a* 1366 CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 1540 Ladyes, I preye ensample taketh, Ye that ayeins your love mistaketh. *c* 1400 *St. Alexius* (Laud 622) 94 Ageins no Man she mystook,.. Noiþer in word ne dede. *c* 1500 *Melusine* 29, I haue mystaken ouermoche anenst your noble personne. 1822 SCOTT *Nigel* iv, I think the knave mistook more out of conceit than of purpose.

†**b.** *refl.* (and *pass.*) in the same sense. *Obs.*

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 5145 Þaw y mystok me greuously, I prey þe of me haue þou mercy. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Melib.* ₱ 852 We han so greetly mistaken us, and han offended .. agayn your heigh lordshipe, that [etc.]. *a* 1400 *Pety Job* 116 in 26 *Pol. Poems* 124, I pray to the, Warne me when I am mystan. *a* 1425 *Cursor M.* 18788 (Trin.) His kyn wol he not forsake But we vs fouly mystake.

3. To err in the choice of, as *to mistake the* or *one's way* (*road*): to take the wrong path. Similarly *to mistake one's mark*. *Obs.* or *arch.*

1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 35 That he mistake noght his gate. 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII*, 26 By negligence of the carters y^t mystooke ye way. 1603 FLORIO *Montaigne* II. xii. (Frowde) 314 It is very hard to find one in perfect plight, and that doth not alwaies mistake his marke and shute wide. 1666 DRYDEN *Ann. Mirab.* cciii, [They] swallow in the fry, Which through their gaping jaws mistake the way. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* VI. 393 When blind ambition quite mistakes her road. 1791 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Rom. Forest* I, La Motte began to have apprehensions that his servant had mistaken the way.

4. *trans.* To misunderstand the meaning of (a person); to attach a wrong meaning to the sayings or doings of (a person).

1402 *Pol. Poems* (1859) II. 97 And so thou misse takist Jerom, and lyest on Bernarde. *a* 1568 ASCHAM *Scholem.* II. (Arb.) 124 Erasmus..is mistaken of many, to the great hurt of studie, for his authoritie sake. 1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* II. v. 49 Why, thou whorson Asse, thou mistak'st me. 1637–50 ROW *Hist. Kirk* (Wodrow Soc.) 312 [He] was mistaken, and his answer thrown to another sense. 1699 BENTLEY *Phal.* 460 There's no room for any suspicion, that he mistook his Author. 1709 POPE *Ess. Crit.* 557 Yet shun their fault, who, scandalously nice, Will needs mistake an author into vice. 1714 R. FIDDES *Pract. Disc.* II. 207 The old serpent..was..out of his calculation, and mistook his man. 1821 SHELLEY *Hellas* 792 Mistake me not! All is contained in each. 1837 BROWNING *Strafford* I. ii, I was away, Mistook, maligned: how was the king to know? 1891 *Pall Mall G.* 30 Oct. 5/3 On the point of resignation he has mistaken me.

†**b.** To have a wrong view of the character of (a person). Also with compl. *Obs.*

1589 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* VI. xxix. 129 Let them take me wilfull, or mistake me wanton. 1622 FLETCHER *Beggar's Bush* IV. i, *Ger.* Good fortune Master. *Flo.* Thou mistak'st me Clause, I am not worth thy blessing. *c* 1680 BEVERIDGE *Serm.* (1729) I. 535 No, mistake not your selves; so long as you are so unjust to others [etc.],..ye have no ground to hope that God will be so merciful to you.

5. To have a misconception with regard to (an opinion, statement, action, purpose, etc.); to misapprehend the meaning or intention of; to take in a wrong sense, attach an erroneous meaning to.

1496 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 511/1 As though every of the said Shires and other wordes theryn mistaken, had be well taken. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 172 a, This Oration..was set forth in prynte, and John Calvine made a comentary to it, leste any man should mistake it. 1597 SHAKS. *2 Hen. IV*, IV. ii. 56 My Fathers purposes haue beene mistooke. 1610 — *Temp.* II. i. 56 He doth but mistake the truth totally. 1677 DRYDEN *Apol. Heroic Poetry* Ess. (ed. Ker) I. 179 They wholly mistake the nature of criticism who think its business is principally to find fault. 1729 BUTLER *Serm.* Wks. 1874 II. Pref. 7 An argument may not readily be apprehended, which is different from its being mistaken. 1769 *Junius Lett.* xxii. 103 It sometimes may happen, that the judge may mistake the law. 1856 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* (1858) I. ii. 144 He over-rated the strength of his English connexion, and mistook the English character. 1880 DIXON *Windsor* IV. i. 2 He mistook the times in which he lived.

6. To make a mistake; to be in error; to err in opinion or judgement; to be under a misapprehension; to take a wrong view.

a. *intr.* Now somewhat *arch.*

1581 PETTIE tr. *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* II. (1586) 77, I think you mistake. 1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* V. iv. 94 Oh, cry you mercy sir, I haue mistooke. 1631 GOUGE *God's Arrowes* I. § 42. 67 God can not mistake: the evill at which he is at any time angry is indeed evill. 1699 BENTLEY *Phal.* 326 That He was not the first, that made this (false) Discovery, but mistook after great Names, Goltzius, and Fazellus. 1732 POPE *Ep. Cobham* 210 Yet, in this search, the wisest may mistake, If second qualities for first they take. 1802 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Moral T.* (1816) I. x. 85 If I don't mistake. 1819 SHELLEY *Cenci* IV. iv. 56 How; dead! he only sleeps; you mistake, brother. 1861 *Jrnl. Asiatic Soc.* XXX. 198 Professor Lassen mistakes as to the locality of this place. 1891 *Speaker* 2 May 532/2 If we mistake not, he has put the believers in the guilt of Richard III in a dilemma.

b. *pass.* (*to be mistaken*, †*mistook*), and †*refl.* Const. *in* (rarely †*of*).

1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, II. iv. 30 You are too much mistaken in this King. 1607 DEKKER *Knt.'s Conjur.* (1842) 69 The destinies (who fought on their side) mistooke themselues, and in steede of striking the colours out of his hand, smote him. 1644 GABRIEL PLATTERS in *Hartlib's Legacy* (1655) 253 If I be not hugely mistaken, it is the self-same with.. Saint-Foin. 1658 COKAINE *Obstinate Lady* V. iv. Poems (1874) 96 But I am much mistook; you are not she Whom here I was to meet. 1671 MILTON *Samson* 907, I was a fool, too rash, and quite mistaken In what I thought would have succeeded best. 1784 COWPER *Task* III. 154 That He who made it [*sc.* the earth], and revealed its date To Moses, was mistaken in its age. 1824 HOGG *Conf. Sinner* 188, I can never be mistaken of a character in whom I am interested. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* iv, You're mistaken I dare say. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 431 Plato, if I am not mistaken, was ill.

†7. *trans.* With direct obj. (or acc. and inf.) and compl.: To suppose erroneously to be or to do ... Also *passive. Obs.*

1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* IV. viii. 55 For me he did mistake that Squire to bee. *a* 1637 B. JONSON *Eng. Gram* Pref. (1640), The opinion of rudenesse and barbarisme, wherewith it [*sc.* our language] is mistaken to be diseas d. *a* 1661 FULLER *Worthies, Warwickshire* (1662) 124 Vincent of Coventrie was..bred a Franciscan (though Learned Leland mistakes him a Carmelite). 1721 BRADLEY *Philos. Acc. Wks. Nat.* 144 Some mistake the Aureliae of certain kinds of Butterflies to be the Aurelhae of Ichneumon Flies. 1736 BUTLER *Anal.* II. iii. 170 Lest I should be mistaken to vilify Reason.

8. *To mistake* (a person or thing) *for* (some other person or thing): to suppose erroneously the former to be the latter; to substitute in thought or perception the latter for the former.

1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* II. i. 82 You haue mistooke (my Lady) Polixenes for Leontes. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 181, I touched the poore mans box with my fingers..mistaking it for the Font of holy water. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* II. xxv. 131 They mistake the Precepts of Counsellours, for the Precepts of them that Command. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 120 ₱ 15 She [*sc.* a hen] mistakes a Piece of Chalk for an Egg, and sits upon it in the same manner. 1791 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Rom. Forest* ix, The effusions of gratitude she mistook for those of tenderness. 1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* xxii, Poor gossip Oliver often mistook friends for enemies. 1871 MORLEY *Voltaire* (1886) 5 Those..who have the temperament which mistakes strong expression for strong judgment.

9. To err as to the identity or nature of; to take to be somebody or something else; now usually in phr. *there's no mistaking* = it is impossible not to recognize.

1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* III. viii. 5 In hand she boldly tooke To make..Another Florimell, in shape and looke So lively and so like, that many it mistooke. 1633 MILTON *Arcades* 4 What sudden blaze of maiesty Is that which we from hence descry Too divine to be mistook. 1732 POPE *Ess. Man* II. 216 If white and black blend..is there no black or white? .. Tis to mistake them, costs the time and pain. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* ii, There was no mistaking the fact. 1874 SYMONDS *Sk. Italy & Greece* (1898) I. xv. 320 Another [astrologer] described him so accurately that there was no mistaking the man.

b. To estimate wrongly.

1785 BURNS *Jolly Beggars* 3rd Recit., I fear I my talent misteuk.

†10. To commit an error in regard to (a date, a number, etc.); to perform (an action) at a wrong time. *Obs.*

1704 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4035/3 In the Circuit Gazette, the Day of the Month for the Assizes..is mistaken. 1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* III. ii, He..brought my Clothes very ill made, and quite out of Shape, by happening to mistake a Figure in the Calculation. 1734 SEYMOUR *Compl. Gamester* 79 He that mistakes his Stroke, loses 1, to that Side he is of.

†11. To bring by mistake *into. Obs.*

1663–9 DRYDEN *Wild Gallant* I. ii, Sure this fellow..was sent by Fortune to mistake me into so much money. 1667 — *Ind. Emp.* Prol., Wks. 1725 I. 326 Grant us such Judges ..As still mistake themselves into a Jest.

†12. To take amiss, object to. *Obs.*

1715 DE FOE *Voy. round World* (1840) 245 Since I would be a maker of presents, she should do herself the honour to take it with her own hands and he would be very far from mistaking them, or taking it ill from his wife.

Mista·keful, *a.* [f. MISTAKE *sb.* + -FUL.] Full of mistakes.

1880 FURNIVALL in *Trans. New Shaks. Soc.* (1880–2) 199 The scrappy and mistakeful state of the text.

Mistaken (mistē·k'n), *ppl.a.* Also 8 *Sc.* -tane. [pa. pple. of MISTAKE *v.*]

†1. a. Wrongly supposed to be so. b. Wrongly taken for something else. c. Taken in a wrong sense; misunderstood, misconceived. *Obs.*

1597 BRETON *Marie's Exercise* (Grosart) 5/2 Martha.. complained to Thee of her sister's mistaken and mistermed idlenes. 1660 DRYDEN *Astræa Redux* 149 The watchful travellour That by the moon's mistaken light did rise. 1744 [see MISPOINT *v.*2].

d. *Mistaken identity*: a phrase used to describe an error made with regard to a person's identity.

1865 *Remarkable Convictions* 26 (heading), Mistaken Identity.

2. Of persons: Labouring under a misapprehension; taking a wrong view.

1601 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* II. ii. 36 And she (mistaken) seemes to dote on me. 1660 T. BLOUNT *Boscobel* 55 An imputation (laid on them by some mistaken Zelots) of disloyalty. 1712–14 POPE *Rape Lock* IV. 151 Yet am not I the first mistaken maid, By love of Courts to num'rous ills betray'd. 1715 DE FOE *Fam. Instruct.* I. iv. (1841) I. 73 You'll find yourself mistaken in my mother. 1770 *Junius Lett.* xxxvi. 177, I think him honest, though mistaken. 1878 JEVONS *Primer Pol. Econ.* 11 A hundred years after the publication of his great book, there ought not to be so many mistaken people vainly acting in opposition to his lessons.

3. *transf.* of their opinions, actions, etc.: Wrongly conceived, entertained, or carried out; erroneous.

1676 HALE *Contempl.* I. 21 The mistaken estimate of the generality of men. 1692 R. L'ESTRANGE *Fables* xxxviii. 38 The Licentiating of any thing that is Course and Vulgar, out of a foolish Facility or a Mistaken Pity. 1700 COLLIER *2nd Def. Short View* 123 Of these Lines he gives a foul and mistaken Translation. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* V. 301 Friends counsel quick dismission of our grief: Mistaken kindness! our hearts heal too soon. 1868 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1877) II. vii. 158 We can only suppose that a mistaken feeling of loyalty hindered him. 1897 GLADSTONE *E. Crisis* 2 The unwise and mistaken views of some Powers have brought dishonour upon the whole.

Mistakenly (mistē·k'nli), *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY 2.] In a mistaken manner; by mistake; under a misapprehension; erroneously.

1654–66 EARL ORRERY *Parthen.* (1676) 805 A Vow..manifested to be mistakenly grounded. 1660 *Trial Regic.* 71 He was unhappily ingaged in that bloody business, I hope mistakenly. 1715 LEONI *Palladio's Archit.* (1742) II. 71 A Portico (mistakenly called Piazza in England). 1759 GOLDSM. *Bee* No. 3 ₱ 40 Animated with a strong passion for the great virtues, as they are mistakenly called, and utterly forgetful of the ordinary ones. 1850 ROBERTSON *Lect.* (1858) 69 It matters little whether it was rightly or mistakenly denied. 1881 SAINTSBURY *Dryden* 115 This was Amphitryon, which some critics have treated most mistakenly as a mere translation of Molière.

Mistakenness (mistē·k'nnės). [-NESS.] The condition or quality of being mistaken.

1865 J. GROTE *Explor. Philos.* I. 66 There is no reason why people should not find out the mistakenness of them.. by making the attempts, and seeing the absurdity which results. 1894 *Athenæum* 20 Jan. 80/2 A little prose tale.. which in simplicity and mistakenness is like the production of a clever child.

Mistaker (mistē·kəɹ). [f. MISTAKE *v.* + -ER 1.] One who mistakes or misunderstands. In early use, sometimes, one who wilfully takes things in a wrong sense.

1551–2 *Act* 5 & 6 *Edw. VI*, c. 1 § 4 Their hathe arrisen.. diverse doubtes..rather by the curiositie of the Mynistre and mystakers, then of anye other worthie cause. 1628 BP. HALL *Old Relig* 191 The well meaning ignorance of mis-takers. 1684 tr. *Bonet's Merc. Compit.* XIX. 794 The unhappiness of the Mistakers ought to have derogated nothing from the excellency of the Medicin. 1827 in Hone *Every-day Bk.* II. 1032 Would it be impossible to make a..mistake with regard to the mistaker? 1869 BROWNING *Ring & Bk.* XI. 2045 So, let death alone! So ends mistake. So end mistakers!

Mistaking (mistē·kiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. MISTAKE *v.* + -ING 1.] The action of MISTAKE *v.*; †wrong-doing; misunderstanding, misconception; the act of making a mistake. From *c* 1580 to *c* 1650 frequent in the sense of: Mistake, error.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 27258 Enentes knightes [sal he frain] o mistakyng, And namli wrangwis warraing. *c* 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* I. lxxvi. (1869) 44 To you dame Sapience sendeth me..to shewe you youre mistakinges. 1529 MORE *Dyaloge* I. Wks. 167/1 That we shall auoide..all such mysse takyng, as might brynge vs into any damnable errour. 1530 PALSGR. 245/2 Mystakyng of a man selfe or myspride. 1573 BARET *Alv.* M 367 The likenesse causeth mistaking. *Errorem creat similitudo.* 1579 FULKE *Heskins' Parl.* 203 As his manifold mistakins do declare. 1613 SIR H. NEVILL in *Bucclench MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 131, I would wish you not to neglect him, out of any mistaking of his worth. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 946 This Pretended Learned Man told me; It was a Mistaking in Me. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* IV. xliv. 336 The same mistaking of the present Church for the Kingdom of God. *a* 1654 SELDEN *Table-T.* (Arb.) 112 The way to find out the Truth is by others mistakings. 1677 R. CARY *Palæol. Chron.* II. I. xxi. 161 To prevent Confusion, as well as Mistakings, it was not permitted [etc.]. 1824 BYRON *Juan* XVI. cxviii, He first inclined to think he had been mistaken; And then to be ashamed of such mistaking. 1890 *Spectator* 7 June, Those whose eyes are opened in a new world to their fearful mistaking. 1891 KIPLING *Light that Failed* IV. 66 There was no mistaking.

Mistaking (mistē·kiŋ), *ppl. a.* [-ING 2.]

1. Misunderstanding, misconceiving; erring.

1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* IV. v. 45 Pardon old father my mistaking eies. 1688 PRIOR *Ode Exodus* vii, Still enquiring, still mistaking Man. 1692 DRYDEN *Cleomenes* V. ii. 59 And with a good mistaking Piety. First blessing him, then Heaven! 1711 SWIFT *Examiner* No. 24 ₱ 2 And first I declare (because we live in a mistaking world) that [etc.].

1715 POPE *Odyss.* VII. 394 Man's of a jealous and mistaking kind. *a* 1806 HORSLEY *Serm.* (1812) II. 252 They expected not like the mistaking Jews a Saviour of the Jewish nation only.

†2. Of opinions, statements: Mistaken, erroneous. *Obs.*

1651 BAXTER *Saints' R.* III. ii. (ed. 2) 193 Do not say then, I cannot beleeve that my sin is pardoned..and therefore I am no true Beleever: This is a most mistaking conclusion. 1660 BOYLE *Seraph. Love* To Rdr. 3 Its mistaking Passages and unwary Expressions. 1680 BAXTER *Answ. Stillingfl.* lxiv. 87 How faulty and hurtful this mistaking passionate Separation is.

Mistakingly (mistē·kiŋli), *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY 2.] Erroneously; incorrectly; mistakenly.

1652–69 HEYLIN *Cosmogr.* III. 25 Sola..mistakingly called Heliopolis, by Qu. Curtius. 1654 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 424 The mistakingly frighted, and running Army. 1678 *Loud. Gaz.* No. 1273/4 With the Crest an Eagles head and a fire-brand in the beak, but mistakingly engraved like a flaming torch. 1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* II. 338 If the chaser should mistakingly stand on. 1807 SOUTHEY *Espriella's Lett.* (1814) III. 284 The Heaven therefore which men mistakingly desire. 1883 *Nature* XXVII. 254/2 Parents mistakingly think the measles and whooping cough necessary accompaniments of childhood.

Mistal (mi·st'l). *dial.* Also 7–9 **mistall**, 8 **mystall**, 9 **mistle**, **missel**, etc. [Of doubtful origin; perh. f. MIX *sb.*1, dung + STALL *sb.*

Connexion with Norw. *mjøstøl* resting-place near a farm, or *mjølkestøl* station in the out fields for milking purposes, is improbable.]

A stable or shed for cattle.

1673 *Depos. Cast. York* (Surtees) 29 He .. saith that .. he sawe the said Mary Sikes riding upon the backe of one of his cowes. And he endeavouring to strike att her stumbled and soe the said Mary flewe out of his mistall window. 1703 THORESBY *Let. to Ray* Gloss. (E. D. S.), *Mystall*, mewstall for cattle, oxen, and cows. 1808 *Complete Grazier* (ed. 3) 68 Ox-stalls, or Feeding Houses .. are usually denominated [in Lincolnshire] mistles. 1847 HALLIWELL, *Missel*, a cow house. *Yorksh.* 1865 W. S. BANKS *Wakefield Words, Mistle*, a cowhouse. 1884 *Leeds Merc.* 3 June 2 Good Mistal, for 8 beasts, with Hay Chamber. 1885 *Law Times* LXXVIII. 187/2 Whilst the cattle were in the mistal they were supplied with water from the well in the plaintiff's land.

†**Mista·ste,** *v. Obs.* [Formed after DISTASTE; cf. MIS-1 9.] a. *intr.* To be out of taste. b. *trans.* To spoil the taste of. c. To have no taste for.

1540 [see MIS-SAVOUR]. 1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 90 Tast not to muche, lest taste mistast thy chaps. 1613 WITHER *Abuses Stript* To Rdr., Some, no doubt, will mistaste my plainnes, in that I have so bluntly spoken [etc.].

Mistate, obs. variant of MIS-STATE.

Mistaught (mistǭ·t), *ppl. a.* [MIS-1 2.] Wrongly taught; badly brought up.

1552 HULOET, Mistaught or rude, *triuialis.* 1554 *Interlude of Youth* B iv, Who learned the thou mistaught man To speake so to a gentylman? 1692 R. L'ESTRANGE *Fables* xxxviii. 38 The Disorders, of either a Mis-taught, or a Neglected Youth. 1851 D. JERROLD *St. Giles* xxii. 223 Again, did strange thoughts tingle in that mistaught little brain.

†**Miste,** *v. Obs.* [f. med.L. *mistum, mixtum* (OF. *miste, mixte*): see MIXTUM. Cf. med.L. *mixtāre* = 'mixtum sumere'.] *intr.* To take the light meal known as *mixtum.*

c 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (Prose) xxxv. 26 Þa þat serue o þe kichin sal miste [orig. *accipiant..singulos biberes et panem*] bi-fore þe mikil mete bred, butter, þat tay may serue wid-vten grüching. *Ibid.* xxxviii. 27 Sho þat sal rede sal miste [orig. *accipiat mixtum*] ay litil, be-fore sho rede.

Miste, scribal var. *mihte*: see MAY *v.*1 4 a.

c 1205 LAY. 18690 Ne miste [*c* 1275 mihte] he of þan eorle naþing iwinnen.

Mistea·ch, *sb.* [app. alteration of MISTETCH after next.] Bad habit.

1842 G. S. FABER *Prov. Lett.* (1844) II. 100 What gave these members of our Church such an unlucky misteach, that [etc.].

Misteach (mistē·tʃ), *v.* [OE. *mistǽcan*: see MIS-1 1 and TEACH *v.*] *trans.* To teach or instruct badly or wrongly. Also, † to misdirect.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* (Th.) II. 50 gif ða lareowas .. mistæcað, oððe misbysniað, hi forþæraþ hi sylfe. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 475 Al-so he mistaȝte, also he schet. 1529 MORE *Dyalogc* IV. xi. Wks. 263/2 If thei should..blame the church for misteching the people. 1549 COVERDALE, etc. *Erasm. Par. Rom.* Argt., The Romaines..beyng fyrst misse taught & by false preachers deceiued. 1656 HOBBES *Six Lessons* Wks. 1845 VII. 316 When I think how dejected you will be..for misteaching the young men of the University. 1702 C. MATHER *Magn. Chr.* VII. 15 Their Teachers .. had mistaught and mis-led the People. 1868 GLADSTONE *Juv. Mundi* x. (1870) 402 He is indeed mistaught with reference to the use of the strong hand.

absol. *a* 1661 FULLER *Worthies* (1840) III. 463 They did not only not teach in the Church, but mistaught by their lascivious .. behaviour. 1837 HT. MARTINEAU *Soc. Amer.* III. 295 Has not God his own ways..of teaching when man misteaches?

b. To teach (a subject) badly.

1831 CARLYLE *Misc. Ess.* (1840) III. 240 The New School, with all that it taught, untaught, and mistaught.

Hence **Mistea·ching** *vbl. sb.*

1549 COVERDALE etc. *Erasm. Par. Gal.* I Simplenes it was, that they were through misteachyng begiled. 1587 GOLDING *De Mornay* xvi. 306 The misteaching or mis-example of the Parents. 1828 [see MISTETCH *sb.*].

Misted (mi·stėd), *a.* [f. MIST *sb.* or *v.* + -ED.] Obscured by or hidden in mist; *fig.* dulled, blurred.

1627–77 FELTHAM *Resolves* I. viii, When the brain is misted, with arising Fumes. 1637 RUTHERFORD *Lett.* (1664) xxxii. 74 Misted faith, & my fever conceive amiss of him. 1820

Clare *Poems Rur. Life* (ed. 3) 58 Through the rimy misted pane. 1887 *Harper's Mag.* June 108 He walked the streets under the thinly misted moon.

Misteir, obs. form of Mister *sb.*[1]

Mistell (mistel), *v.* Also 7–8 -tel. [Mis-[1] 1.]

†**1.** *trans.* To number or reckon incorrectly; to miscount. Also *absol. Obs.*

1426 Lydg. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 17618 Thys hand ek falsly beyth and sylleth; And in reknynge, thys hand mystelleth. 1530 Palsgr. 638/2 You have mystolde, for there was no lesse in the purce. 1608 Sylvester *Tri. Faith* I. xxxv. (1621) 540 That Bizantian Prince, that did mis-tell A four-fould Essence in the onely One. 1622 Breton *Strange News* (Grosart) 5 Their prayers are all by the dozen, when if they miss-tell one, they thinke all the rest lost. 1647 Hexham, *Mistellen*, to Mistell, or to Miscount.

2. a. To relate incorrectly. † b. To misinform.

1565 Jewel *Repl. Harding* (1611) 181 M. Harding mis-telleth his authours tale, and auoucheth that he neuer meant. 1674 N. Fairfax *Bulk & Selv.* 141 One who could never mistake himself, nor mistel us. 1755 Johnson, *To Mistel*, to tell unfaithfully or inaccurately.

Misteltewe, -tow, obs. forms of Mistletoe.

Mistely, obs. form of Mistily.

†**Miste·mper,** *sb. Obs.* [f. Mis-[1] 4 + Temper *sb.*] Disorder.

1549 Cheke *Hurt Sedit.* (1641) 31 To .. find by your mistemper to be themselves better ordered. *c* 1550 Lloyn *Treas. Health* T viij b, If he haue the lepre mystempre and paynes throughe al the bodye.

So †**Miste·mperance,** disordered or improperly 'tempered' condition.

1541 R. Copland *Galyen's Terap.* 2 A iv, The mystemperaunce of ye flesshe vlcerate. 1561 Hollybush *Hom. Apoth.* 26 The iaundis caused by mistemperaunce of heate.

†**Miste·mper,** *v. Obs.* [f. Mis-[1] 1 + Temper *v.*] *trans.* To disturb or disorder.

a 1547 in *Lanehan's Let.* (1871) Pref. 130 Haue youe bene mystemperyd With ale att any tyme? 1561 Hollybush *Hom. Apoth.* 21 b, Lyke to lyke mistempereth the body. 1592 Warner *Alb. Eng.* VII. xxxiv. (1612) 166 When .. Nor Husbands weale nor Childrens woe mistempered my head. 1642 Sir E. Dering *Sp. on Relig.* 120 It will not now suit this Bil, as it is now mistemper'd to that purpose.

Hence † **Miste·mpering** *vbl. sb.*, disorder.

1561 Hollybush *Hom. Apoth.* 17 b, Manye wayes getteth a man the cough: somtyme of the brestes mistemperinge.

†**Miste·mperateness.** *Obs. rare*[−1]. [Mis-[1] 4.] = Mistemperance.

1561 Hollybush *Hom. Apoth.* 26 The iaundis..is caused ..ether by mistemperatnesse of heate, or by stoppynge in the lyuer.

Miste·mpered, *ppl. a. Obs.* or *arch.* [f. Mis-[1] 2 + Tempered.]

1. Badly or unsuitably mixed.

1506 *Kalendar Sheph.* L 3 (1892) III. 107 Whan they [*sc.* the humours] be vnegall & mysse tempred that one domyne ouer an other. 1594 Nashe *Terrors of Night* Wks. (Grosart) III. 269 Our brains are like the firmament .. and exhale .. the like grose mistempred vapors and meteors. 1633 Bp. Hall *Hard Texts, O.T.* 498 Those substitutions ..shall be of a mis-tempered mixture, some of them strong..others weake.

2. Disordered, deranged.

1541 R. Copland *Galyen's Terap.* 2 A iv, The mystempered flessbe ought to be denysed in two dyfferences. The fyrste is whan the subiect flesshe is out of nature in an onely qualyte. 1587 Holinshed *Hist. Scot.* 114/1 He .. vsed to sit at supper .. till he were so mistempered, that being laid to sleepe, he would streight vomit out such heauie gorges, as [etc.]. 1595 Shaks. *John* v. i. 12 This inundation of mistempred humor. 1872 Blackie *Lays Highl.* 33 Gentleness, and tenderness, and truth And Gospel charms to tame mistempered souls.

3. Of weapons: Tempered for an evil purpose.

1592 Shaks. *Rom. & Jul.* I. i. 94 From those bloody hands Throw your mistemper'd Weapons to the ground.

†**Mi·sten,** *v. Obs. rare*[−1]. [f. Mist *sb.*[1] + -en [5] 2.] *trans.* To dim the senses or perception of.

1599 Sandys *Europæ Spec.* (1632) 82 Whom neither the fumes of fierie passions doe misten, nor [etc.].

†**Miste·nd,** *v. Obs.* In 4 *pa. pple.* mysetente. [f. Mis-[1] 1 + Tend *v.*[2]] *trans.* Not to give proper attention to.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 257 Ȝe haf your tale myse-tente, To say your perle is al awaye, þat is in cofer.

†**Mi·steous,** *a. Obs. rare*[−1]. [f. Mist *sb.* + -eous.] 'Misty', obscure.

1549 *Compl. Scot.* x. 85 On this misteous propheseis, thai haue intendit veyris contrar scotland, in hope to conques it.

Mister (mi·stəɹ), *sb.*[1] *Obs.* exc. *arch.* and *dial.* Forms: 3–4 meister, 3–5 mester, (4 me(i)stere, mæster, meyster, mystare, -eir), 4–5 misteir, -ere, mestyer(e, 4–6 mistir, mystir, 4–7 mestier, 4–8 myster, (5 mestyer, -ire, -ur, -our, maister, mystur, -yr, -ire, -air, mystre, mistre, -tyr, 6 mistar, 7 mistier), 4– mister. [a. OF. *mestier, mester*, mod.F. *métier*, (1) service, office, occupation, (2) instrument or made-up article of certain kinds, (3) need, necessity (etc.) = Pr. *mester, meistier*, Sp., Pg. *mester*, It. *mestiere*:—popular L. **misterium* for *ministerium*: see Ministry and cf. Métier. (In 13–14th c. stressed *mister*.)]

I. Occupation, service, etc.

†**1.** Handicraft, trade; profession, craft. *Man of mister*: a craftsman (cf. 5). *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 11840 He .. dos him leches for to seke, And þai com bath fra ferr and ner, þat sliest war o þat mister. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 94 He asked for his archere, Walter Tirelle was haten, maister of þat mister. *Ibid.* 169 Respons þei gaf him þere, þei were men of mistere. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Prol.* 613 In youthe he lerned hadde a good mister; He was a wel good wrighte, a carpenter. 1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 142 Of hem that ben Artificiers, Whiche usen craftes and mestiers. *c* 1477 Caxton *Jason* 21 For to mayntene the noble mestier of armes. 1538 Starkey *England* II. i. 159 Euery man scholer apply hym selfe to hys mystere and craft. 1613 Daniel *Coll. Hist. Eng.* I. 11 As one who well knew his mistier.

†**2.** Office, duty, business, function. Chiefly qualified by possessive pron. *Obs.*

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 72 Holde euerich his owene mester, & nout ne reame oðres. *Ibid.* 414 Marthe mester is uorto ueden & schruden poure men, ase huselefdi. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 2154 Sem had fiue suns sere, Of an to spek es our mistere. *c* 1320 *Cast. Love* 478 Rihtes mester hit is and wes In vche dom Pees to maken. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Knt.'s T.* 482, I noot which hath the wofullere mester. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 6976, I am somtyme messager; That falleth not to my mister. *c* 1450 *Bk. Curtasye* 352 in *Babees Bk.*, Now speke we wylle of officiers Of court, and als of hor mestiers.

†**3.** Employment, occupation; practice. *To do, use* (such) *misters*: to be so employed. *Obs.*

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 84 Þus ha beoð bisie i þisse fule mester. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 536 And ðe fifte hundred ȝer, wapmen higunnen quad mester, bi-twen hem-seluen hun-wreste plaȝe. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 29319 Þe tent [case of cursing] es of þis okerers þat openli dose sli misters. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 11576 We haue now al þis fyue ȝer Lyued in lechours mester. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* XII. 414 Thai maid knychtis, as it efferis To men that oysis thai mysteris.

†**4.** Skill or cunning in a profession; art. *Obs.*

a 1400 *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* 600/547 Mester wol not fayle þi lyf, Hit nul þe neuere forsake. *c* 1450 *Merlin* 156 And he lepte vp lightly as he that hadde grete mystere. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilȝear* 442, I haue na myster to matche with maisterfull men.

5. *Comb.* †**mister man, misters** (genitive) **man**: a craftsman, artificer; a man having a certain occupation. Also †**mister folk.** Phrases like *all mister men, what mister man, such a mister man* came to be analysed as 'men of all misters', 'a man of what mister', 'of such a mister'; and these were subsequently interpreted as = 'men of all classes', 'a man of what (such a) class, or kind', 'what kind of a man', etc. The idiom occurs as an archaism in Spenser and later writers, from whom it was adopted (but with misapprehension of its meaning) by Pope and Scott; it survives dialectally in Yorkshire (see E. D. D.).

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 27261 All mister men wirkand wit handes. *c* 1325 *Prov. Hendyng* 270 in *Rel. Ant.* I. 115 Of alle mester men mest me hongeth theves. 1340 *Ayenb.* 39 Ine zuyche reuen, pronost, bedeles, obre mesteres men huiche þet hy byeþ. 13.. *St. Erkenwolde* 60 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 267 Mony a mesters mon of maners dynerse. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Knt.'s T.* 852 But telleth me what mister men ye been. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 6332 Now am I maister, now scolere; Now monk, now chanoun, now baily; What-ever mister man am I. *c* 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* I. cxx. (1869) 63 So þat ayens suich a mister man it is good to haue suich a gorgeer. *c* 1440 Love *Bonavent. Mirr.* xlvi. (Gibbs MS.), Othere mester men þat broghten with hem dyuerse instrumentys. *c* 1450 Lovelich *Merlin* 13 What mester man Js he, this, that doth vs here al this distres? *c* 1530 *Crt. of Love* 227 Seeing full sundry peple in the place, And mister folk. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* I. ix. 23 To weet what mister wight was so dismayd. 1593 Drayton *Sheph. Garl.* vii. 47 These mister artes been better fitting thee. *c* 1620 Fletcher & Mass. *Lit. Fr. Lawyer* II. iii, What mister thing is this? Let me survey it. 1626 Quarles *Feast for Worms* Medit. ii, What mister word is that? 1728 Pope *Dunc.* III. 187 Right well mine eyes arede the myster wight. 1814 Scott *Wav.* ix, Sometimes this mister wight held his hands clasped over his head.

II. †**6.** Instrument, tool. *Obs.*

c 1450 Holland *Howlat* xvi, He couth wryte wounder fair, With bis neb for mistar.

III. Need, necessity.

†**7.** Need arising from the circumstances or facts of the case. *Mister is, (it) is mister*: it is necessary.

In the predicative use, the word becomes quasi-adj.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 24810 O siluer and gold giftes to bede, Mar þan mister es to rede. *Ibid.* 28377, I ha ben mare Grenand and greueand þan mister ware. *c* 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 1388 In his schip was boun Al þat mister ware. 1340 Hampole *Pr. Consc.* 7373 Helle..es..swa wyde and large, þat it moght kepe Alle þe creatures..Of alle þe world if myster ware. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 1919 Mete & al maner þing þat hem mister neded. *c* 1400 *Song Roland* 321 And we may son help yf me þink myster. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 11815 Þat mys to amend, is maistur ye go To the corse of þat kyng in his cleane towmbe. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* viii. 52 Me liste do no daies dede, Bot yf gret mystir me garte. *c* 1450 *Erle Tolous* 434 Hyt was no mystur them to bydd. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* I. xv. 57, I wylle encountre with kynge bors and ye wil rescowe me whan myster is. 1543 *Aberdeen Reg.* (1844) I. 191 That the portis be mendytt and lokit and reformit as mister is. 1556 Lauder *Tractate* 490 Be wer.. And mend, gene ony myster be. 1600 in Pitcairn *Crim. Trials* (Bannatyne Cl.) II. 286 Hald me excused for my vnsemly Letter, qhilk is nocht sa veil vrettin as mister ver.

†**8.** A condition in which help is needed, or there is a lack of some necessary thing; a state of difficulty or distress; *esp.* a state of destitution, lack of means. Phr. *in* or *at* (*one's*) *mister*. Rarely *pl.* = necessitous circumstances. In later use *Sc.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 803 Þai cled þam þan in þat mister Wit leues brad bath o figer. *Ibid.* 10134 For-þi rede i þaim þat yee here þat mai yow help at [*other texts* in] your mistere. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* I. (*Katerine*) 248 Gret mystere gert me assemble ȝou & call. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 1774 For mestire & miserie vnneth may þou forthe þine awen caitefe cors to clethe & to fede. 1487 *How Good Wife Taught Dau.* 288 Sic mysteris haldis madyunis in, That thai ar pynit with pouerte. 1549–50 *Extracts Burgh Recs. Stirling* (1887) 58 Neid and mister compellit hir to sell the saidis warklumes to sustene hir. 1570 Buchanan *Admon.* (S.T.S.) 25 Saying yat yai had enterit yame in dangeare and not supportit in mister. 1641 Ferguson *Prov.* (1785) 24 Mister makes man of craft. 1768 Ross *Helenore* I. 27 To come alang sweer was she to intreat, An' yet I kend her mister to be great.

† b. *To have mister*: to be in straits or in necessity; to be in want of something. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 19044 At þair gain come mete þai gaue, Ilkan þat þai sagh mister haue. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* XVII. 743 Till releif thame that had mister. 1432 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) II. 22 A rough felt..to be in kepyng of Agnes Weston..to lay on yr pore folke yt hafe mystre in yr winter. *c* 1489 Caxton *Sonnes of Aymon* ix. 249 Socoure vs for the love of Ihesus, for we haue well mystre. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 97 Bot he will gif and len his gude at large, Till thame that myster hes.

†**9.** Need or want of something specified. Const. *of, to.* Chiefly in *to have mister. Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 3247 Wit tresur grette and riche ring, Suilk als maiden had of mister. *Ibid.* 4718 Was neuer mare mister o bred. *Ibid.* 28375, I..lette o þam þe lighter þat þai suld haue to me mister. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 3428 (Kölbing), Ȝou worþ to hem wel gret mister. *c* 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) xxiv. 113 God hase na mister of mete ne drink. *c* 1475 *Partenay* 6253 Tho which had grett necessite, Both mister and ned vnto som goodnesse. *c* 1489 Caxton *Sonnes of Aymon* vii. 180 Yf they have mystre of vs, Lete vs goo helpe & socoure theym. 1533 Bellenden *Livy* v. v. (S.T.S.) II. 160 Þe ciete had grete myster of money, havand sa mony armyis to gif wagis to. 1603 *Philotus* xv, He is richt gude, Ane man of wealth and nobill blude, Bot hes mair mister of ane Hude. 1692 *Sc. Presbyt. Eloq.* (1738) 140 England, that stands muckle in mister of a Reformation.

† b. with ellipsis of prep. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 20793 Disput, he sais, es na mister Bituix te wis in swilk a wer. *a* 1400 *Relig. Pieces fr. Thornton MS.* 24 Thurghe þese gyftes oure Lord Ihesu lerres man all þat he hase myster till þe lyfe þat es callid actyfe.

† c. with inf. *To have mister*: to need, require (to do something). *Obs.*

c 1325 *Metr. Hom.* 3 Laued men hanis mar mister, Godes word for to her, Than klerkes. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 67, I haf ȝerned & ȝat ȝokkez of oxen, & for my hyȝez hem hoȝt, to bowe haf I mester. *c* 1435 *Torr. Portugal* 583 To the mownteyne he toke the wey, To rest hyme alle that day, He had mystyrr to be kyllyd [= cooled]. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* v. 36 Ve haue mistir to be vigilant ande reddy, sen the terme of cristis cumming is schort.

†**10.** a. *pl.* Necessary articles, fittings, etc.; necessaries. *Obs.*

1413 *Pilgr. Sowle* IV. xxxvii. 134 b, Alle tho mystres, whiche that apperteynen to the body without, as clothyng howsynge and defense ageyne dyuerse perylles. 1513 in *Acc. Ld. Treas. Scot.* (1902) IV. 481 Item for ȝe Swetyn burdis to the said Lorence for misteris in the schippis. 1609 Skene *Reg. Maj.* 29 (Stat. Rob. I) Reseruand to the tutours their reasonable misterres and necessare expenses.

b. Something needed or necessary. *rare.*

1829 Scott *Hrt. Midl.* xliv, Warld's gear was henceforward the least of her care, nor was it likely to be muckle her mister.

11. A matter or respect in which some necessity or want is felt; a case of need. *Sc.* in phr. with the vb. *to beet*: see Beet *v.* 3.

1508 Dunbar *Tua mariit wemen* 128 He..may nought beit worth a bene in bed of my mystirs. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* I. viii. 105 To hew, and tak Tymmer to beit ayris and wther mysteris. *Ibid.* VI. i. 15. 1721 Ramsay *Scribblers Lashed* 78 To please the sighing sisters, Who often beet them in their misters. 1823 Hogg in *Blackw. Mag.* Mar. 314 If twa or three hunder pounds can beet a mister for you in a strait, ye sanna want it.

Mister (mi·stəɹ), *sb.*[2] Also 6 myster. [See Master *sb.*[1] 21, note.]

1. Used as a title of courtesy prefixed to the surname or Christian name of a man (not entitled to be addressed as 'Sir' or 'Lord'), and to designations of office or occupation.

The word in mod. use may be best described as the oral equivalent of the written prefix Mr. (q.v. in its alphabetical place). In writing, the unabbreviated form is now used only with more or less of jocular intention; in a passage like quot. 1854 in d, most persons would now write 'Mr.' (with inverted commas).

1551 *Acts Privy Council Eng.* (N.S.) III. 397 To suffer the ij Mysters Bassetes to have accesse and speake .. with theyre brother. 1706 in *Mem. Ripon* (Surtees) II. 302 My best bat which is at Mister Rigedale's in Ripon. 1786 Mrs. A. M. Bennett *Juvenile Indiscr.* II. 42 'Squire Franklin meant to do great things for Mister Dellmore. 1840 Hood *Up Rhine* xvii, Mister Broker, is that 'ere your carpet-bag? 1853 R. S. Surtees *Sponge's Sp. Tour* xliv, Spraggon took advantage of a dead silence to call up the table to *Mister* Sponge to take wine,..and by-and-by Mister Sponge 'Mistered' Mr. Spraggon to return the compliment.

b. *transf.* and *jocular.*

1760–72 H. Brooke *Fool of Qual.* (1809) I. p. vii, O Jupiter, some water, a little water! dear mister Jupiter, water, water, water! *a* 1806 H. K. White *Descr. Summer's Eve*, The snare for Mister Fox is set.

c. The word 'mister' (Mr.) as a prefix or title.

1758 Goldsm. *Mem. Protestant* (1895) II. 244 They never spoke to us without putting Mister to our Names. 1837 Lytton *E. Maltrav.* 43 Stop, mon cher, don't call me Mister; we are to be friends. 1860 Emerson *Cond. Life, Culture* Wks. (Bohn) II. 373 Mr. Pitt..thought the title of *Mister* good against any king in Europe. 1888 Burgon

Lives 12 *Gd. Men* I. 440 'Well, Mr. Burgon?'..'Mister at the end of 20 years!..I wish you wouldn't call me Mister'.

d. One who is entitled to be addressed or spoken of only as *Mr.* ——.

1764 FOOTE *Mayor of G.* I. i, Has his majesty dubb'd me a Knight for you to make me a Mister? 1859 MACAULAY *Biog., Pitt* (1860) 182 Plain Mister himself he [Pitt] had made more lords than any three ministers that had preceded him. 1864 BURTON *Scot Abr.* I. ii. 98 Whether the Persian Mirza expresses a Prince or a mere Mister.

2. As a form of address not followed by the name; = SIR (or less respectful than that title). Now only *vulgar*.

1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) I. 31, I must..tell you, Mister, that matters are much changed. 1782 MISS BURNEY *Cecilia* IX. iii. (1882) II. 322 Mrs. Belfield,..running into the passage,..angrily called out [to the chairmen], 'What do you do here, Misters?' 1834 HAWTHORNE *Twice-told T., Mr. Higginbotham's Catastrophe*, 'Good morning, mister', said Dominicus. 1862 LOWELL *Biglow P.* Ser. II. *The Courtin'*, Says he, 'I'd better call agin'; Says she, 'Think likely, Mister'. 1901 *Punch* 22 Jan. 65 Please Mister, when are we going to get through?

†3. A (horse's) rider. (= MASTER *sb.* 4.) *Obs.*

c 1620 in J. P. Hore *Hist. Newmarket* (1885) I. 360 The horse and mister yairof that first comes over the scoir at the said Walnuik of Paislaye.

†Mister (mi·stəɹ), *v.*[1] Chiefly *Sc. Obs.* Forms: as in MISTER *sb.*[1] Also *pa. t.* **mustrid**, 6 **mestoret, mistorit, mystart, mistert.** [f. MISTER *sb.*[1]]

1. *impers.* To be necessary or needful. Const. inf. or clause, or absol.

1424 *Sc. Acts Jas. I* (1814) II. 7 Ande gif it misteris þat secular power be callyt þerto in suppowale and helping of halykirk. ?*c* 1500 *King & Barker* 99 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* (1864) I. 9 The hors prekyd, as he was wode, Het mestoret to spor hem not. *c* 1500 *Melusine* 222 Yf it mystier, we shal guyde & lede you..thrughe all the passages. 1583 *Leg. Bp. St. Androis* 884 Ten pund Stirveling I have heir, And mair, when misteris, you command. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* III. vii. 51 As for my name, it mistreth not to tell.

b. *What misters* (a person to do something): what need is there for him to, why need he? Also *What misters* (a thing)? What need is there for it?

c 1440 *York Myst.* vii. 54 What mystris þe, in gode or ille, of me to melle þe? 1490 CAXTON *Eneydos* xvi. 62 What mystreth hym to edyfie cartage? 1581 in *Cath. Tractates* (S. T. S.) 77 Quhat misterit men in this eage seik out ane neu interpretation? 1590 R. BRUCE *Serm.* (1843) 17 Quhat misterd us to have a sign? 1603 *Philotus* CXXVI, Gude-man, quhat misteris all this mowis? 1715 A. PENNECUICK *Poems* 17 What misters me for to express, My present Poverty.

2. Of things: To be necessary, needful, or requisite. Const. dat. of person.

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XVII. 215 And alkynd othir apparaill That mycht availl, or 3eit mysteir Till hald castell. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 4281 Vs mistris neuire na medcyne for malidy on erthe. 1412 *Catterick Ch. Contract* (Raine 1834) 8 All the stuffe of the stane that misters more for the makyng of the Kirke of Katrik. *c* 1450 *Merlin* 22 Blase sought all that hym mystered to write with. *a* 1530 HEYWOOD *Weather* (Brandl) 314 At all tymys when suche thynges shall myster.

3. *trans.* To have need of, require.

1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 268 Gif me think I mister ma, I sall have leve to produce ma. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* XII. 231 We myster no sponys here, at oure mangyng. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* III. 212 Harnes and hors, quhilk thai mysteryt in wer. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* XII. ii. 117 Now is the tyme that I maste mister the. 1533 GAU *Richt Vay* (1888) 62 Thay quhilk ar hail thay mister notht ane lech. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 125 For surelie, we mister na Magistrat. 1722 RAMSAY *Three Bonnets* IV. 146 Counting what things he now did mister.

absol. 1438 *Bk. Alexander Gt.* (Bannatyne Cl.) 2 And gif thay mister, to mak rescours. 1572 *Act* 31 Mar. in *Peebles Burgh Rec.* (1872) 337 Quhair superabundance of stanis is to help vtheris thairwith that mistaris.

4. *intr.* To find it necessary *to do* something. Also with ellipsis of inf.

c 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 6, I sall so ordand at þou sall nott myster to be a thief no mor. 1540 J. HEYWOOD *Four P. P.* 175 (Manly) That way, perchaunce, ye shall nat myster To go to heuen without a glyster! *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S. T. S.) I. 20 Na man misterit to tak feir of the Erle of Douglas. 1585 MONTGOMERIE *Cherrie & Slae* 805 First quhen he mistert not, he micht, He neids, and may not now.

5. To have need (*of*). Also pass. *to be mistered of*: to have lost, feel the loss of.

c 1470 HENRY *Wallace* I. 361 Bot blynd he was..Throuch hurt of waynys, and mystyrit of blud. 1484 CAXTON *Fables of Æsop* III. xvii, Gyue thou not that thynge of whiche thow hast nede of to the ende that afterward thow myster not of hit. *c* 1500 *Melusine* 219 He..proffred to them his seruyse, yf they myster of it. 1552 ABP. HAMILTON *Catech.* 59 To be distrubit to thaim self sa far as thai myster to thair honest sustentatioun. *a* 1572 KNOX *Hist. Ref.* III. Wks. (Wodrow Soc.) II. 81 It mycht chance that the Kyng mycht mister of his greit gunis and artailyerie in France.

6. To be of advantage or service.

c 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* IV. 129 Lady moder, gramercy of so fayre a yefte as here is, For it mystreth me well. *Ibid.* VI. 141.

Mi·ster, *v.*[2] [f. MISTER *sb.*[2]] *trans.* To address or speak of by the title of 'Mr.'

1742 FIELDING *J. Andrews* IV. ii, 'Pray, don't mister such fellows to me', cries the Lady. 1817 HAZLITT *Pol. Ess.* (1819) 213 He would not have been content..with Mistering his opponent, and Esquiring himself. 1830 MISS MITFORD *Village* Ser. V. (1863) 338 Mr. Warde—pshaw! he is too eminent a man to be mistered! John Warde, the celebrated fox-hunter. 1838 DICKENS *O. Twist* XIII, 'None of your mistering', replied the ruffian; 'you always mean mischief when you come that'. 1892 T. HARDY *Tess* XXVII, Darling Tessy!..Don't, for Heaven's sake, Mister me any more.

†Mi·sterful, *a. Sc. Obs.* [f. MISTER *sb.*[1] + -FUL.]

1. Needy, necessitous.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* XLIV. (*Lucy*) 128 To helpe pure men & fede, & visit mysterful in ned. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* I. XVI. 136 Vnkend and misterful in desertis of Libie I wandir. 1517 *Burgh Recs. Edinb.* (1869) I. 170 The reparatioun, beyldyng and vphaldyng of the licht of any misterfull alter. 1584 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* Ser. I. III. 695 For..sustentatioun of the puir people infectit and misterfull. 1670 RAY *Prov.* 287 Misterfull folk mon not be mensfull.

2. Needful, necessary.

a 1450 *Ratis Raving* I. 977 Thane Is it misterfull to the Till have thai placis veil in thocht.

Misteri, obs. form of MYSTERY.

Miste·rm, *v.* [MIS-[1] 1.] *trans.* To term incorrectly; to apply a wrong term or name to.

1579 E. K. *Gloss. Spenser's Sheph. Cal.* Apr. 144 Flowre delice, that which they vse to misterme, Flowre de luce. 1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* III. iii. 21. 1599 THYNNE *Animadv.* (1875) 28 The woorke, before this last editione of Chaucer termed 'the Dreame of Chaucer', is mystermed. 1623 MIDDLETON & ROWLEY *Sp. Gipsy* V. i, I am none of ought Your rage misterms me. 1822 *Liberal* I. 342 The factitious modes of society, which form what is mis-termed 'its well being'. 1891 L. MERRICK *Violet Moses* III. XXIII. 189 There are unions mistermed 'guilty'.

Hence **Miste·rmed** *ppl. a.*, **Miste·rming** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1589 NASHE *Anat. Absurd.* C j b, [His] bald affected eloquence,..better beseeming..a misterming Clowne in a Comedy, then a chosen man in the Ministerie. 1593 NORDEN *Spec. Brit., M'sex* I. 8 Holding the smallest errour (yea the misterming of the place) verie criminous. 1597 [see MISTAKEN *ppl. a.* 1]. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Misnomer*, ..a misterming or miscalling.

†Mi·sterous, *a. Obs.* In 5 mysterus. [f. MISTER *sb.*[1] + -OUS.] Needy.

14.. *Langland's P. Pl.* C. III. 78 (*MS. F, northern*) Þese mysterus men þat after mede wayten.

Mistership, corruption of MISTRESS-SHIP.

1588 SHAKS. *Tit. A.* IV. iv. 40 How now good fellow, would'st thou speake with vs? *Clow.* Yea forsooth, and your Mistership be Emperiall.

Mistetch (miste·tʃ), *sb. north. dial.* Also **-tech.** [f. MIS-[1] 4 + FETCH *sb.*] A bad habit.

c 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 1226 We..þat for our slepyng and mysteches, With goddis seruande we lete to wake. 1828 *Craven Gloss., Mistetch*, a bad instruction, a misteaching. 'Toud mear hes gitten a sad mistetch'. 1847 HALLIWELL, *Mistech*, a bad habit. *North.*

Mistetch (miste·tʃ), *v. north. dial.* [app. an alteration of MISTEACH after prec. sb.] *trans.* To teach bad habits to; to train badly.

1529 MORE *Dyalogue* III. xiii. Wks. 229/2 Because he that had mistetched his wife and his children, were vnmete for a great cure. 1683 G. MERITON *Yorksh. Dial.* 2 Thou macks sike Anters, Thou'l mistetch my Cow. 1828 *Craven Gloss., Mistetch*, to teach bad tricks or habits, to give bad instructions. 1876 *Mid-Yorksh. Gloss., Mistetch*, mistrain, or misteach.

Mistetched (miste·tʃt), *ppl. a. north. dial.* [f. prec. sb. or vb.] Badly trained; of bad habits: commonly applied to a vicious horse.

1691 RAY *N. C. Words* (ed. 2) 49 *Mistetcht*; that hath got an ill habit, Property or Custom. A Misteeht Horse. 1787 MARSHALL *Rur. Econ. E. Yorksh.* (E.D.S.) 33 *Misteached* (pron. *mistech't*), *pp.* spoiled by improper treatment; vicious, as a horse. 1829 BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Mistetched*, spoiled—said of a horse that has learnt vicious tricks. 1893 *Northumbld. Gloss., Mistached, mistetched*...'A dangerous horse is termed mistached'. 1900 *Darlington Horse Shoers' Assoc. Price List*, Cramped or Mis-stetched Horses.

Mistful (mi·stfŭl), *a.* [f. MIST *sb.*[1] + -FUL.] Full of mist; obscured with or as if with mist.

1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, IV. vi. 34, I must perforce compound With mistfull [*printed* mixtfull] eyes. 1817 W. A. SCOTT in W. H. Rankine *Hero of Dark Cont.* (1896) 25 We've seen the mistful mountains on the lone Glenshee. 1893 *Westm. Gaz.* 31 Jan. 9/2 Morns rise mistful.

†Mistha·nk, *v. Obs.* [MIS-[1] 7.] *trans.* To show resentment at.

1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. v. (1621) 100 The Dolphin, beating 'gainst the bank 'Gan mine oblivion moodily misthank [orig. *pour taxer mon oubly*].

†Misthew·. *Obs.* [MIS-[1] 4.] A bad habit.

c 1325 *Prov. Hendyng* 18 (Camb. MS.), Ne be þi childe neuir so dere And he wil misþewis [*other version* vnþewes] lere, Bete him oþir wile.

Misthi·nk, *v.* [f. MIS-[1] 1 + THINK *v.*[1]]

†1. *intr.* To have sinful thoughts. *Obs.*

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 62 Ich habbe ivestned, seiδ Job, foreward mid min eien, þet icb ne misδenche. 1615 SYLVESTER *Job Triumph.* XXXI. 458, I made a Covenant with my constant eyes, From gazing out on blazing vanities:..Why should I once mis-think upon a Maid?

2. To have mistaken thoughts; to think mistakenly (that..). Also **Misthi·nking** *vbl. sb.*

a 1530 *Crt. of Love* 483 Women..lightly set their plesire in a place; Whan they misthink, they lightly let it passe. 1599 B. JONSON *Cynthia's Rev.* IV. iii, There is the note; and all the parts if I mis-thinke not. 1609 F. GREVIL *Mustapha* II. ii, For ignorance begetteth cruelty, Misthinking each man, euery thing can be. *a* 1631 DONNE *Elegy on Mrs. Boulstred* Poems (1654) 256 There would have been Some that would sinne, mis-thinking she did sinne. 1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* 5 If I do not much mis-think. *a* 1871 DE MORGAN *Budget* (1872) 336 One..who takes misthinking from points of view which none but a student of history can occupy.

3. *trans.* To think ill of; to have a bad or unfavourable opinion of. Also *intr.* const. *of*, in the same sense.

1593 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI*, II. v. 108 How will the Country..Mis-thinke the King, and not be satisfied? 1606 — *Ant. & Cl.* V. ii. 176. *a* 1634 CHAPMAN *Alphonsus* II. (1654) 14, I hope your grace will not mis-think of me, Who for your good..Bethought this means to set the world at Peace. 1843 LYTTON *Last Bar.* II. ii, When I am gone, my liege..will not misthink me, will not listen to my foes.

4. With cognate obj.: To think bad thoughts.

a 1618 SYLVESTER *Panaretus* 1196 Wks. (Grosart) II. 134 Their People..can suffer nought 'Gainst them to be misdone, mis-said, mis-thought. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IX. 289 Thoughts, which how found they harbour in thy brest, Adam, missthought of her to thee so dear?

Misthou·ght. [MIS-[1] 4.] Erroneous thought or notion; mistaken opinion.

1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* IV. viii. 58 Error and misthought Of our like persons, eath to be disguiz'd. *c* 1843 CARLYLE *Hist. Sk.* (1898) 342 He had no soul..or his thought would not have been such a misthought.

Misthrive (misþrəi·v), *v.* [MIS-[1] 7.] *intr.* To be unsuccessful; not to thrive. Hence **Misthri·ven** *ppl. a.*, unsuccessful, unprosperous; **Misthri·ving** *vbl. sb.*, failure.

1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 187 And thocht thay fuffe at it, and blaw..The mair thay blaw..The mair it dois misthryue. 1599 JAS. I Βασιλ. δωρον (1682) 51 This oversight hath beene the greatest cause of my mis-thriving in money matters. 1609 A. CRAIG *Poet. Recr.* (1873) 5 Amongst so many children some must mis-thrive and proue naght. 1776 C. KEITH *Farmer's Ha'* vi, And ay till this mis thriven age, The gudeman bere sat like a sage. 1844 *N. Brit. Rev.* II. 34 A starving, misthriven, and wretched population.

Misthrow·, *v. rare.* [MIS-[1] 1.]

†1. *trans.* To cast (glances) with a wrong intent.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 60 Hast thou thin yhen ogbt misthrowe?

2. To throw (a ball) badly.

1896 *Westm. Gaz.* 14 July 4/2 To fumble the ball or misthrow it.

†Misþu·nche, *v. Obs.* [f. MIS-[1] 1 + *þünche*, OE. *þyncan* THINK *v.*[2]] *intr.* To seem wrong.

a 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 982 Þet tu of þet þing þet te misþuncheδ, underfest þe an half & dustest adun þe oδere.

Mistic, -ical, obs. forms of MYSTIC, -ICAL.

Mistice, obs. variant of MESTIZO.

1704 *Collect. Voy.* (Churchill) III. 709/2, 150 *Mistices* and Negroes. *Ibid.* 732/2.

‖ **Mistico** (mi·stiko). [Sp. = Cat. *mestech*, taken to be a. Arab. *misṭeḥ* (lit. flat surface) broad basket, large frying-pan, etc., f. *saṭaḥa* to flatten. In F. *mistic, mistique*: see also MYSTIC(K.] A coasting vessel having two sails, used in the Mediterranean.

1801 *Naval Chron.* VI. 416 The Spanish mistico Jean Baptiste. 1841 J. ALLEN *Engl. Wooden Walls* xvi. in *United Service Jrnl.* Mar. 332 A well-directed fire was opened upon the misticoes from the frigate. 1886 *List of Ships Reported* Dec., Abbrev., *Mis.* Mistico.

†Misti·de, *sb. Obs.* [f. next.] A mishap.

c 1400 *Cursor M.* 23599 (Edin.) Na mistid [*other texts* mischiue, mistime] mai þaim bitid, For þai er traist on ilka side.

†Misti·de, *v. Obs.* [OE. *mistlidan*: see MIS-[1] 1 and TIDE *v.*]

1. *intr.* To happen amiss or unfortunately. In OE. *impers.* to be a failure.

1027–34 *Laws of Cnut* (Liebermann) 348, & gif hit tihtle sis, & æt lade mistide, deme se bisceop. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1501 Þu myht wene þat þe mystide hwanne þu lyst bi hire side. 1421–2 HOCCLEVE *Dial.* 644 Certes, for the deffaute of good forsighte, Mis-tyden thynges þat wel tyde mighte.

2. To have misfortune.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Melib.* P 730 He that hath over-bard an herte, atte laste he shal mishappe and mistyde.

Mistier, obs. variant of MISTER.

Mistigris (mi·stigris). [ad. F. *mistigri* knave of spades, esp. when accompanied by two cards of the same colour at 'bouillotte' and 'brelan'.] The name of the blank card in a variety of draw poker; hence, the game in which it is used.

1882 *Poker* 76 Mistigris. This is a variety of the game of Draw Poker, sometimes called Fifty-Three Deck Poker. Mistigris is a name given to the blank card accompanying every pack. 1895 *Poker Manual* 17 The Joker is sometimes called Mistigris.

†Mi·stihede. *Obs.* [f. MISTY *a.*[1] and *a.*[2] + *-hede*, -HEAD.] a. Mistiness, obscurity. b. Mystical significance.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Compl. Mars* 224 What meneth this? what is this mistihede? *a* 1400 HYLTON *Scala Perf.* (W. de W. 1494) II. xliii, By mystyhed it is illumyned for to see þe werkes of Jhesu in holy chirche. *c* 1413 LYDG. *Goodly Ballad* 33 Misty cloudes, that wolde overlede Trewe humble hertes with bir mistihede.

Mistik, Mistilto, obs. ff. MYSTIC, MISTLETOE.

Mistily (mi·stili), *adv.* Also 4 **mystiliche, mistili**, 4–5 **mistely**, etc. [f. MISTY *a.*[1] + -LY 2.] In a misty manner; in early quots. *fig.*

With the first quot. cf. MISTY *a.*[2]

1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 4364 In þe appocalipse apparty Es sayd þus ful mistyly [etc.]. 138– WYCLIF *Serm.* Sel. Wks. I. 149 þat þes þingis be seide bifore to hem in proverbis and mystily. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Can. Yeom. T.* 841 Philosophres speken so mistily In this craft, that men can nat come therby. *c* 1450 *Merlin* 54 Than began Merlin to speke so mystily wher-of the boke of prophesyes is made. 1494 FABYAN *Chron.* VII. CCXLV. (1533) 173/1 Yt ys..so darkely

or mystly wryten, that the reader therof shall hardely come tu yᵉ knowlege of the trouthe. *a* 1633 AUSTIN *Medit.* (1635) 90 These Men having gazed long at the Starre above doe as Mistyly behold the Wise-men below. 1813 *Examiner* 31 May 348/1 The mistily seen objects behind. 1864 LOWELL *Fireside Trav.* 278 It began to rain, first mistily, and then in thick, hard drops. 1874 LISLE CARR *Jud. Gwynne* I. iv. 122 A semi-unconscious and mistily vague hope. 1897 *Cent. Mag.* Feb. 556/1 The distant palms rose mistily into the genial air.

† **Misti·me,** *sb. Obs.* [f. next.] Mishap.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 27768 In mining of his mistime He wites wend [*read* werd] and waris his time. 13.. *Ibid.* 20050 (Gött.) Womman sal noght peris of barn, Ne nane wid mistime [*Cott.* mischiue] be forfarn.

Mistime (mistəi·m), *v.* [OE. *mistlmian*: see MIS-[1] 1 and TIME *v.*]

†**1.** *intr.* a. Of the event: To happen amiss. Const. dat. b. Of the person: To come to grief, suffer misfortune. *Obs.*

c 1000 tr. *Basil's Admon.* v. (1849) 44 ȝif him hwæt mistimaþ besarȝa his unrotnysse. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 200 Lauhwen oðer gabben, ȝif him mis-biueolle [*MS. T.* mis-times]. 1401 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 58 Litil wondir thowȝ lordis myssetyme, that han suche confusours. *c* 1420 in *Lay Folks Mass Bk.* 84/38 Lat neuer my saul on domesday mystime.

2. Not to time properly: a. to do or perform at a wrong time; to say or do (something) out of season; b. to miscalculate or mis-state the time of. Also *absol.*

1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 49, I prai the let me noght mistime Mi schrifte. *Ibid.* III. 281 So hath such love his lust mistimed. ?*a* 1500 in Grose, etc. *Antiq. Rep.* (1809) IV. 405 The sownde of a trew songe makithe trew concorde, But subtill prickynge mystymthe and causith grete discorde. *a* 1661 FULLER *Worthies, Monmouthshire* (1662) 53 If he is guilty in Mis-timing of actions, he is not the onely Historian without company in that particular. 1664 H. MORE *Myst. Iniq.* II. II. iii, As Grotius has mis-timed these Visions, so his Interpretations are accordingly absurd. 1673 SHAFTESB. *Parl. Sp.* in *Coll. Poems* 239 He desires you not to mistime it: but that it may have only the second place. 1706 *Reflex. upon Ridicule* 307 Actions mistim'd lose their value. 1752 CHESTERF. *Lett.* III. cclxxv. 259 [He] mis-times, misplaces, runs precipitately..at the mark. 1858 DOBAN *Court Fools* 143 Rowley's chronicle drama abounds in anachronisms. The probable facts..are only mistimed. 1896 *Daily News* 14 July 4/6 [He] mis-timed a ball..and was out leg before wicket.

Mistimed (mistəi·md), *ppl. a.* [MIS-[1] 2.]

†**1.** Unfortunate. *Obs.*

c 1470 HENRY *Wallace* VIII. 1212 The ost..prayit God.. Him to conwoy fra all mystymyt cace.

2. Ill-timed, unseasonable, out of place.

1687 R. L'ESTRANGE *Answ. to Dissenter* 40 That's a little Uncharitable, and Miss-timed. *c* 1710 KILLINGBECK *Serm.* (1717) 63 A hasty and unguarded Expression, an incautious and mistimed Reproof. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* VIII. 792 There is a time, when toil must be preferr'd, Or joy, by mis-tim'd fondness, is undone. 1820 SCOTT *Abbot* iii, We do not recover composure by the mere feeling that agitation is mistimed. 1887 *Spectator* 2 July 882/1 Proposals for reunion amongst Liberals would be absolutely mistimed.

3. Disturbed in one's habits, esp. with respect to eating and sleeping. *dial.*

1841 R. W. HAMILTON *Nugæ Lit.* 356 'He has not slept for the last three nights. No wonder he is ill; he is quite mistimed'. His regular hours are interrupted. 1868 ATKINSON *Cleveland Gloss., Mistimed,* subjected to irregularity as regards seasons of refreshment, especially sleep.

† **Misti·mely,** *a.* (or *adv.*) *Obs.* [MIS-[1] 6.] Unseasonable (or unseasonably).

c 1680 BEVERIDGE *Serm.* (1729) II. 536 So careful should we be..of speaking any thing mis-timely.

Misti·ming, *vbl. sb.* [MIS-[1] 3.] The action of the verb MISTIME.

1. a. Doing a thing at a wrong time. b. Miscalculation of the time of an event, etc.

1581 MULCASTER *Positions* xvi. (1887) 73 The rule of health condemnes not dannsing, but the mistyming of it. 1649 JER. TAYLOR *Gt. Exemp.* III. Disc. xiv. 11 He endures affronts, mistimings, tedious waytings. 1664 H. MORE *Myst. Iniq.* 448 The same falling out here that has in his other mistimings of Prophecy. 1693 J. EDWARDS *Author. O. & N. Test.* 152 There was no great mis-timing of the story. 1765 ELLWOOD *Autobiog.* (ed. 3) 301 If..there was any mistiming in the Case it must lie on the Part of those Plotters for timing the breaking forth of their Plot. 1873 MAXWELL *Electr. & Magn.* II. § 751 The error arising from a mistiming of the current.

2. *dial.* Disturbance of regular habits.

1844 W. CROSS *Disruption* xxxii. (E.D.D.), This illness maun have maid him less fit to thole ony mistiming either of meat or sleep.

Mistiness (mi·stinės). [f. MISTY *a.*[1] + -NESS.] A condition of being misty; dimness, obscurity; also *concr.* or semi-*concr.* = vapour, haze, mist. Said of the atmosphere and of the eyes or sight.

1382 WYCLIF *Deut.* iv. 11 There weren in it [Sinai] derknessis, and clowde, and mystynes [Vulg. *caligo*]. 1561 T. NORTON *Calvin's Inst.* I. 89 A heavisome mistinesse is cast before our eyes. 1583 GOLDING *Calvin on Deut.* xxii. 130 God..did set a Clonde darkenesse and mistinesse before him. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 91 The Mistinesse scattereth and breaketh up suddenly. 1656 JEANES *Mixt. Schol. Div.* 38 The cloudinesse, and mistinesse of the aire. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1811) I. 355 Mistinesses, which give to my delnged eye the appearance of all the colours in the rainbow. 1838 JAMES *Robber* iii, The mistiness of the mid-day sunshine. 1863 Miss BRADDON *Eleanor's Victory* i, The red August sunset was melting into grey mistiness. 1878 T. BRYANT *Pract. Surg.* I. 306 The..extent of the mistiness or obscurity is governed by the..extent of the impaired portion of retina.

b. of language and thought.

[1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* (1592) 24 The holy Prophets of God..did not call the worde of God darkeness, obscurenesse, or mistinesse.] 1816 J. GILCHRIST *Philos. Etym.* 40 If he makes use of a little metaphysical mistiness. 1836 E. HOWARD *R. Reefer* xx, I cannot even shelter myself under the mistiness of the peremptory *we.* 1898 *Pall Mall Mag.* Feb. 250 In the mistiness of waking thought.

Misting (mi·stiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. MIST *sb.*[1] or *v.*[1] + -ING[1].] Mist.

1686 GOAD *Celest. Bodies* I. xiii. 70 Great fog m. misting and misling 7 p. 1713 DERHAM *Phys.-Theol.* I. iii. 20 If the Vapours..soon meet the Cold, they are then Condensed into Misting. 1905 *Westm. Gaz.* 8 July 2/2 Arriving in an Irish 'misting', drenched to the skin.

Misting (mi·stiŋ), *ppl. a.* [-ING[2].] Misty.

1772 *Gentl. Mag.* 394 Oct. 22, misting morning, cloudy afternoon.

† **Mi·stion.** *Obs.* [ad. L. *mistion-em*, f. *mist-*, ppl. stem of *miscēre* to mix. (Cf. MIXTION.)] Mixtion, mixture.

1612 WOODALL *Surg. Mate* Wks. (1653) 272 Mistion is such a composition of bodies, as inceration, incorporation, colliquation, and contusion do declare. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* III. x. 128 In animals..many actions are mixt, and depend upon their living forme, as well as that of mistion. 1680 BOYLE *Scept. Chem.* II. 146 To evince that Nature makes other Mistions than such as I have allowed.

Mistir, obs. variant of MISTER *sb.*[1]

† **Misti·the,** *v. Obs.* Also *pa. pple.* 3 mis-iteoðeget, 4 mys-i-teyped. [MIS-[1] 1.] a. *intr.* To be dishonest in paying tithes. b. *trans.* To pay tithes wrongly upon.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 208 Mis-iteoðeget [*v.r.* tiheðe mis, teoðen mis], etholden cwide, oðer fundles, oðer lone. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 309 Alle þo þat mystiþen ony goodis ben cruely cursed. *a* 1450 MYRC 950 Hast þou wyth-holden any teyþynge, Or mys-I-teyped?

Mistitle (mistəi·t'l), *v.* [MIS-[1] 1.] *trans.* To give a wrong title or name to. Also Misti·tled *ppl. a.*

1618 WITHER *Motto, Nec carco* Juvenilia (1633) 533 A hashfulnesse, which some mis-tittle, feare. 1670 MILTON *Hist. Eng.* IV. Wks. 1851 III. 141 Keaulin whom he mistitles King of East-Saxons. 1740 NORTH (*title*) Examen of an Historical Libel, mistitled A Compleat History of England. 1812 COMBE *Syntax, Picturesque* XXI, Who then will venture to declare That man's mistitled sorrow's heir? 1816 'QUIZ' *Grand Master* VII. 187 That all he got, mistitled pay, Kept him in constant poverty.

Mistle, obs. form of MISSEL, MIZZLE.

Mistless (mi·stlės), *a.* [f. MIST *sb.*[1] + -LESS.] Free from mist.

1853 C. BRONTE *Villette* I. xiv. 270 How soft are the nights of the continent!.. No sea-fog..: mistless as noon, and fresh as morning. 1884 *Edin. Rev.* 479 An unclouded and mistless sky.

Mistletoe (mi·z'ltōu, mi·s'ltōu). Forms: *α.* 1 mistiltán, 5 mistilto, 6 myscelto, -towe, miscelto, mysteltow, misteltow, -tewe, -dew, misletoa, muscelto, 6–7 miselto, 6–8 misselto, 7 misceltow, messelto, 7–9 misseltoe, mis(s)letoe, 8–9 miseltoe, mistleto, 9 -tow, 7– mistletoe. *β.* 6 mysceltyne, misceldin, misselden, 6–7 mis(c)elden, 7 misseldin(e, mistleden, meseldine, 8 misleden. *γ.* 6 mislen, 7 misleen, 9 *dial.* mislin. [OE. *mistiltán* (= ON. *mistilteinn*, Sw., Da. *mistleten*), f. *mistil, -cl* (see MISSEL) + *tán* twig.

The normal development (with obscuration of the final syllable) of OE. *mistiltán* is represented by the *β*-forms, of which the disyllabic *γ*-forms appear to be merely contractions. The *α*-forms, to which the current form belongs, descend from another type having secondary stress on the final syllable, which app. underwent the same development as the uncompounded word *tán* (str. masc.), from which *tá* (wk. fem.) was evolved in late WS.]

1. A parasitic plant of Europe, *Viscum album* (N.O. *Loranthaceæ*), growing on various trees (in Britain, frequently on the apple-tree, rarely on the oak) and bearing a glutinous fruit, from which a birdlime is prepared.

This plant was held in veneration by the Druids, esp. when found growing on the oak. It is still used in England in Christmas decorations, a bunch of it being commonly hung from the ceiling of a room or hall: see also quot. 1820.

α. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 136/11 *Uiscerago*, mistiltan. 1548 TURNER *Names Herbes* (E.D.S.) 89 Muscelto. *c* 1550 LLOYD *Treas. Health* C vij b, Mysceltowe layd to the hend draweth out the corrupt humores. 1558 PHAER *Æneid* VI. P 4 b *marg.*, Mysteltew callyd of some misteldew growyng on trees in winter with a yelowe shiny bery. 1588 SHAKS. *Tit. A.* II. iii. 95 The Trees..Ore-come with Mosse, and baleful Misselto. 1599 A. M. tr. *Gabelhouer's Bk. Physicke* 24/1 Take Misletoa of Hasellnuttree .. Misletoa of Oackes, of Pearetree. 1663 BOYLE *Usef. Exp. Nat. Philos.* II. v. vii. 185 A young Lady..was cured onely by the powder of true misseltoe of the oake. 1716 GAY *Trivia* II. 41 Now with bright Holly all your Temples strow, With Laurel green, and sacred Misletoe. 1768 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* II. 371 It is thought the misletoe would be lost out of nature, if it were not continually propagated from tree to tree by the thrush. 1820 W. IRVING *Sketch Bk., Christmas Eve* (1821) III. 32 *note*, The mistletoe is still hung up in farm-houses and kitchens at Christmas; and the young men have the privilege of kissing the girls under it, plucking each time a berry from the bush. When the berries are all plucked the privilege ceases. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 1221/1 The mistleto of the oak had such repute for 'helping' in the diseases incidental to infirmity and old age, that it was called *Lignum Sanctæ Crucis*, Wood of the Holy Cross. 1885 *Encycl. Brit.* XVIII. 265/2 The mistletoe grows on a large number of different trees, such as the apple, lime, elm, maple, willow, thorn, poplar, and even on conifers.

β. 1538 TURNER *Libellus, Viscum*, angli nocant Mysceltyne, aut Myscelto. 1548 — *Names Herbes* (E. D. S.) 80 Viscum is called..in english Miscelto or Misceldin. 1590 GREENE *Never too late* (1600) 89 None comes neere the fume of the Misselden but he waxeth blinde. 1611 COTGR., *Visc*, Missell, Misseltoe, Misseldine. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Messelto, Meseldine*, or *Mistelden* [ed. 1661 *Misseldien*]. [And in later Dicts.]

γ. 1562 BULLEIN *Bulw. Def., Bk. Simples* (1579) 50 b *marg.*, Misteltow or Mislen. *Ibid.* 50 b, This mislen groweth .. vpon the tree through the dounge of byrdes. 1680 T. LAWSON *Mite into Treas.* 50 The Druides had Oak-Trees in great estimation; they worshipped the Misleen that grows thereon. *a* 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia* (1830), *Mislin-bush.*

b. Applied to other species of *Viscum* and other genera of N.O. *Loranthaceæ.*

American or False Mistletoe, *Phoradendron* (*Viscum*) *flavescens.* West Indian Mistletoe, *Loranthus, Phoradendron*, and *Arceuthobium* (Treas. Bot.).

1597 GERARDE *Herbal* III. xxxv. 1168, 2 *Viscum Indicum L'Obelij*, Indian Misseltoe. 3 *Viscum Peruuianum L'Obelij*, Misseltoe of Peru. 1845–50 MRS. LINCOLN *Lect. Bot.* 186 *Viscum verticillatum* (mistletoe). 1847–60 DARLINGTON *Amer. Weeds & Pl.* 287 *Phoradendron*, .. *P. flavescens* .. Mistletoe. False Mistletoe. 1860 GRAY *Man. Bot.* 383 *P. flavescens*..(American Mistletoe).

† **2.** Basil; = MISSEL 2. *Obs.*

a 1400 *Stockholm Med. MS.* 211 Mistilto, *osinum.*

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *mistletoe berry, birdlime, bough, plant, seed, tree*; mistletoe thrush, the missel-thrush, *Turdus viscivorus.*

1626 BACON *Sylva* § 556 It may be, that Bird feedeth upon the *Misseltoe-Berries and so is often found there. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* III. xxxv. 1170 It can no where be read that *Chamæleon niger* doth beare *Misseltoe birdlime. *a* 1839 T. H. BAYLY (*title of poem*), The *Mistletoe Bough. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* s.v., The branches of trees full of Misletoe plants. *Ibid.*, The radicle of a *Misletoe seed. 1719 SIR J. COLBATCH *Diss. conc. Mistletoe* 7 A Bird generally known by the Name of the *Misletoe Thrush; which Name, I suppose, it derives from its feeding upon Misletoe-Berries. 1828 J. FLEMING *Hist. Brit. Anim.* 64 Throstle Cock, Shrite, ..Misselto Thrush. 1562 TURNER *Herbal* II. 164 b, Of the Missel or *Misselto tre.

Mi·st-like, *a.* and *adv.* [f. MIST *sb.*[1] + -LIKE.] Like a mist.

1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* III. iii. 73 Vnlesse the breath of Hartsicke groanes Mist-like infold me from the search of eyes. 1813 T. BUSBY *Lucretius* I. III. 642 The Soul's seeds .. like spreading mist, Mist-like exude, and there no more exist. 1839 LONGF. *Belcaguered City* iv, The mist-like banners clasped the air, As clouds with clouds embrace. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* VII. 334 All the past Melts mist-like into this bright hour. 1873 'SUSAN COOLIDGE' *What Katy Did at Sch.* iii. 49 A tender mist-like colour.

Mistling, obs. form of MIZZLING.

Mistoinit, obs. Sc. form of MISTUNED *ppl. a.*

Mistone (mistōu·n), *rare*[−1]. [MIS-[1] 4.] Discord.

1813 HOGG *Queen's Wake* 250 The harp-strings jarred in wild mistone.

† **Misto·ned,** *ppl. a. Obs.* [MIS-[1] 2.] Discordant, out of tune.

?*a* 1500 in Grose, etc. *Antiq. Rep.* (1809) IV. 406 In the dyvers proporciones of the mystonyde sownde. 1562 WINJET *Cert. Tractates* Wks. (S. T. S.) I. 20 That ane mistoneit string confoundis all zour harmonie. 1570 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xvii. 66 Mistonit stringis.

Mistral (mi·străl, mistrā·l). Also 7 mestrall, 8–9 maestral, maestrale. [a. F. *mistral*, a. Pr. *mistral*:—L. *magistrāl-is* MAGISTRAL. The literal meaning is 'master-wind'; cf. Sp. *maestral* or *viento maestro* (Minsheu).] A violent cold north-west wind experienced in the Mediterranean provinces of France and neighbouring districts.

1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* III. v. 134 Southeast is by them called *Xirocque* .. and his opposite, which is Norwest, *Mestrall.* 1766 SMOLLETT *Trav. France & Italy* xii, The wind that blew, is called Maestral, in the Provincial dialect, and indeed is the severest that ever I felt. 1804 C. B. BROWN tr. *Volney's View Soil U. S.* 179 The mistral of Provence. 1813 J. FORSYTH *Rem. Excurs. Italy* 29 The nights are damp, close, suffocating, when not ventilated by the maëstrale. 1891 A. LANG *Angling Sketches* 176 He reached Mentone, and there the mistral ended him.

† **Mistra·m,** *v. Sc. Obs.* [Origin obscure.] *trans.* ? To derange, disorder.

1606 BIRNIE *Kirk-Buriall* xvii. (1833) E 3 b, By kirk-huriall kirk bounds are so mistrammed, and in many places either so eatten up with intaking Iles .. that [etc.]. 1614 FORBES *On Revelation* xii. § 8. 103 [Satan] being..shut out of God his house, he furiously mistrammeth his owne.

Mistransla·te, *v.* [MIS-[1] 1.] *trans.* To translate incorrectly.

1532 MORE *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 428/1 The tother word, which he hath also mistranslated of like malice *ecclesia.* 1645 GATAKER *God's Eye on Israel* 3 Which place .. is .. commonly mistranslated and mistaken by the most. 1718 WATERLAND *Vind. Christ's Div.* xxvii. (1720) 437 The learned Doctor by wrong Pointing and Mistranslating perverts a Passage of Justin Martyr. 1822 SOUTHEY *Sel. Lett.* III. 333, I do not mistranslate *bean ideal* when I write of the fair ideal of a work of art. 1855 PUSEY *Doctr. Real Presence* 67 note E, 'Behold the blood of the covenant', has been mistranslated, 'This blood is the covenant'.

Mistransla·tion. [MIS-[1] 4.] Erroneous or incorrect translation.

1694 C. LESLIE *Short Method w. Deists* iii. § 1 Wks. 1721 I. 16 Mis-translations and errors either in Copy or in Press. 1731 *Act* 4 *Geo. II*, c. 26 § 2 That Mistranslation, Variation in Form by reason of Translation, Mispelling or Mistake in

Clerkship..shall be no Error. 1864 PUSEY *Lect. Daniel* 509 The statement, that the Zend books contained the doctrine of the Resurrection, was first rested on mistranslation.

Mistrau, -traw, variant forms of MISTROW.

†**Mistrea·d**, *sb. Obs.* [MIS-[1] 4.] A wrong step; a *faux pas*.

1597 MIDDLETON *Wisd. Solomon* xix. 17 Eyes thought for to misleade, and were mislead: Feete went to make mistreads, and did mis-treade.

†**Mistrea·d**, *v. Obs.* [MIS-[1] 1.]

1. *trans.* To tread (one's shoes) awry.

c 1305 *Sat. Monks Kildare* in *E. E. P.* (1862) 154 Ofte mistredib 3e 3ur schone, 3ur fete beþ ful tendre.

2. *intr.* To make a *faux pas*.

1597 [see MISTREAD *sb.*].

†**Mistrea·ding**, *vbl. sb. Obs.* [MIS-[1] 3.] A mis-step; a misdeed.

1596 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. IV*, III. ii. 11 For..the Rod of heauen To punish my Mistreadings. 1647 HEXHAM, *Een Mis-terde*, ..a Mistreading. 1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) I. 92 Their secret lapses and mistreadings.

Mistreat (mistrī·t), *v.* [MIS-[1] 1.] *trans.* To treat badly or wrongly; to ill-treat. Also Mistrea·ted *ppl. a.*, ill-treated; **Mis-trea·ting** *vbl. sb.*, ill-treatment, abuse.

1453 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 270 2 To th' endaungeryng, trouble and mistretyng of all Ladies. *c* 1465 *Eng. Chron.* (Camden 1856) 22 That thay sholde not mystrete the said Oweyne, lest he made the Walshmen arise. 1496 *Dives & Pauper* (W. de W.) VIII. xiii. 330/2 Robberye is called al maner mystreatynge of an other mannes good ayenst his wyll. 1799 SOUTHEY *Nondescripts* iv, *The Pig*, A poor, mistreated, democratic beast. 1862 LYTTON *Str. Story* I. xii. 77, I had seen many more patients die from being mistreated for consumption than from consumption itself. 1868 J. H. NEWMAN *Verses Var. Occas.* 11 Where iron rule, stern precedent, Mistreat the graceful day. 1886 A. WEIR *Hist. Basis Mod. Europe* (1889) 42 She .. ran counter to what Russians regarded as their traditional, though long mistreated *régime*.

Mistreatment (mistrī·tmĕnt). [MIS-[1] 4.] Bad treatment; ill-treatment.

1716 B. CHURCH *Hist. Philip's War* (1865) I. 140 The Government promising him satisfaction and redress for some mistreatment that he had met with. 1828 CARLYLE *Misc. Ess., Heyne* (1888) I. 59 Threats and mistreatment of all sorts. 18.. DE QUINCEY *Language* Wks. 1858 IX. 94 Darkness gathers upon many a theme, sometimes from previous mistreatment. 1891 CARD. MANNING in *Dublin Rev.* July 161 A century of narrow and commercial mistreatment.

Mistress (mi·strĕs), *sb.* Forms: 4 maist-, mastiresse, 4–6 maystres(se, 4–7 maistres(se, mastres, 5 mastras, maistress, -tricce, mayst-, maisteres, -erace, mestresse, 5–7 mastress(e, mistresse, 5–8 mistres, -is, 6 masteres, maisters, -triss, -teras, misterz, maistrice, -isse, mestres, maestriss, mystres, 6–7 mistriss(e, (7 misterss), 7– mistress. [a. OF. *maistresse*, mod.F. *maîtresse* (cf. It. *maestressa* and med.L. *magistrissa*), f. *maistre*, *maître* MASTER *sb.*[1] + *-esse* -ESS. For shortened and corrupted forms see MISS *sb.*[2] and MISSIS.]

I. A woman who rules, or has control.

1. A woman who employs others in her service; a woman who has the care of or authority over servants or attendants.

1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 3786 For she that ys a maysteresse Muste haue a seruant hyr to-beye. 1451 *Paston Lett.* I. 222, I send yow the *cerciorari* for my maistresse your modir. *c* 1532 DU WES *Introd. Fr.* in Palsgr. 1036 My lady Mary of Englande, my lady and mastresse. 1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* cxxii. 2 As the eyes of a mayden [loke] vnto the handes of hir mastresse. 1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* II. iv. 106 Too low a Mistres for so high a seruant. *c* 1514 SIR W. MURE *Dido & Æneas* III. 391 Her Dams attending see their mistris fall On piercing sword. 1715 POPE *Iliad* III. 526 The maids officious round their mistress wait. 1866 READE *G. Gaunt* II. iv. 76 That sort of..cold pity women are apt to show to women, and especially when one of them is Mistress and the other is Servant. 1866 W. COLLINS *Armadale* II. 322 When the maid-servant had opened the door..'Is your mistress at home?' he asked. 'Yes, sir.' 1903 J. M. SLOAN *Carlyle Country* xxi. 192 Jane Welsh was among the best of mistresses to her servants.

Proverbial phrases. 1573 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 107 Such maister such man, and such mistris such maid. 1611 BIBLE *Isa.* xxiv. 2. 1612 PEACHAM *Gentl. Exerc.* To Rdr., He should neuer leaue the Mistresse to court the maid.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1545 ASCHAM *Toxoph.* I. (Arb.) 44, I euer thought shooting shoulde be a wayter vpon lerning not a mastres ouer learning. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, I. i. 52 The Art and Practique part of Life, Must be the Mistresse to this Theorique. 1658 DRYDEN *Death Cromwell* viii, Fortune, that easy mistress of the young, But to her ancient servants coy and hard. 1846 *Pref. Ess.* in *Charnock's Wks.* p. xii, Charnock's imagination was..the handmaid not the mistress of his reason.

2. The female head of a household or family, and, by extension, of an establishment of any kind.

?*c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (Prose) 10 Ilkain sal take discipline at obir, als hir mastiresse þo3 scho ware. 1413 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton) IV. xxxviii. (1859) 64 She bare hyr seluen boldely, right as she were maystresse, and hadde alle the gouernement of the kyng, and his houshold. 1513 BRADSHAW *St. Werburge* I. 2317 Of whiche sayd places [*sc.* monasteries] she had the gouernaunce, As worthy maystres. 1611 BIBLE 1 *Kings* xvii. 17 The sonne of the woman, the mistresse of the house, fell sicke. 1641 J. JACKSON *True Evang. T.* III. 225 The Mistris is a good Huswife, but of shrewish condition. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 202 ₱ 12 That the Masters and Mistresses of such Houses live in continual Suspicion of their ingenuous and true Servants. 1773 MRS. CHAPONE *Improv. Mind* (1774) II. 72 The mistress of a family must be ever watchful. 1814 SCOTT *Wav.* liii, The future mistress of my family, and the mother of my children. 1861 FLOR. NIGHTINGALE *Nursing* 24 The mistress of any building, large or small, does not think it necessary to visit every hole and corner of it every day. 1864 TENNYSON *En. Ard.* 26 Enoch was host one day, Philip the next, While Annie still was mistress.

b. *Sc.* and *dial.* (with *the*): The wife of a principal tenant, a minister, etc. (the application varying in different localities).

1683 *Reg. Par. Forres* 10 Feb. (MS.), John the son of Thomas Urquhart of Burgorge and Flowrence Dunbar the Mistress [born]. 1786 BOSWELL *Jrnl.* 6 Sept. *note*, The tacksmen, or principal tenants, are named by their farms, as Kingsburgh, Corrichatachin; and their wives are called the mistress of Kingsburgh, the mistress of Corrichatachin. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* xxvi, Several of the neighbouring mistresses (a phrase of a signification how different from what it bears in more fashionable life!) had assembled at Charlieshope to witness the event of this memorable evening. 1822 GALT *Steam-Boat* xii. 296 Although Mr Keckle had been buried but the week before, the mistress, as a' minister's wives of the right gospel and evangelical kind should be, was in a wholesome state of composity.

†3. A woman who has charge of a child or young person; a governess. *Obs.*

c 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 102 To hir maistresse sche gan say þat hye was boun to go To þe knist þer he lay. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Doctor's T.* 106 This mayde, .. So kepte hir-self, hir neded no maistresse. *c* 1386 — *Sqr.'s T.* 369 Thise olde wommen that been gladly wyse, As is hir maistresse, ..seyde, 'madame' [etc.]. *c* 1400 *Ywaine & Gaw.* 936 Shu was al hir maystres, Her keper, and hir cownsayler.

4. A woman who has the power to control or dispose *of* something. † *To be mistress*: to have the upper hand. Now *rare*.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Serm.* Sel. Wks. I. 380 Oure Ladi .. is special maistiresse to distroie þes heretikes. 1577 *F. de L'isle's Legendarie* K iij, The Cardinal knew that so long as the Queene mother was Mistresse, the accomptes should neuer be taken. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* III. (1590) 254 While you say I am mistresse of your life, I am not mistresse of mine owne. 1592 Q. ELIZ. in *Archæologia* XIX. 11 That any lewd..subject of myne, should make his Soveraen be supposed of less gouvernement than mistres of her word. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. lxx. 111 The World is turned topsie-turvie in this Island; for the Women are the Mistresses there. 1746 HERVEY *Medit.* (1818) 251 The little creature..shewed herself mistress of every grace which constitutes or embellishes harmony. 1794 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Myst. Udolpho* xxxix, You are your own mistress. 1807 CRABBE *Par. Reg.* II. 31 And now at sixty, that pert dame to see, Of all thy savings mistress, and of thee.

b. *transf.* of things more or less personified.

c 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 60 Entendement double is a maystresse, Triew people to sette at distaunce. 1509 BARCLAY *Shyp of Folys* (1570) 185 This pride is lady and maistres Quer womankinde. 1587 GOLDING *De Mornay* (1592) Pref. 4 Christ wrought by a powre, that is mistresse of Nature. 1603 FLORIO *Montaigne* II. xi, I know his reason .. so absolute mistress over him, that she can never give him away in any vicious desire. 1614 JACKSON *Creed* III. 239 An infallible authoritie which may sit as Iudge and mistresse of all controuersies of faith. 1711–12 ATTERBURY *Serm.* (1734) II. vii. 200 The Mind of Man is .. so little Mistress of strict Attention, so unable to fix itself steddily even on God. 1727 ARBUTHNOT *Coins*, etc. 243 What a miserable Spectacle was this for a Nation that had been Mistress at Sea so long? 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* VIII. 533 Pleasure's the mistress of ethereal pow'rs. 1785 COWPER *Task* IV. 703 Ere yet her ear was mistress of their powers. 1842 TENNYSON *Gardener's Dau.* 57 Such a lord is Love, And Beauty such a mistress of the world. 1884 *Sat. Rev.* 7 June 731/1 England is still mistress of the situation on the Nile.

†5. The female governor of a territory, state, or people. *Obs.*

c 1366 CHAUCER *A. B. C.* 109 From his ancille he made þe maistresse Of heuene & eerþe. 1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. ii. II. 673 That prudent Pallas, Albion's Misteris, That Great Eliza. 1686 WALLER *Poems* 244 Ages to come..Will think you Mistriss of the Indies were. 1785 COWPER *Task* V. 129 Imperial mistress of the fur-clad Russ!

b. Said of a country or state, etc. that has supremacy or suzerainty over others.

(Ancient Rome is freq. called the 'mistress of the world'.)

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* I. 550 Arthur .. Maid Bretane maistres & lady Off twelf kinrykis that he wan. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 21 The kirk of Rome suld be cullit lady and maistress of all cristyn kirkis. 1570–6 LAMBARDE *Peramb. Kent* (1826) 17 The Westsaxon kingdome, which in the ende became ladie and maistres of all the rest of the kingdomes. 1611 B. JONSON *Catiline* I. i. Chorus, Rome now is mistress of the whole World, sea and land, to either pole. 1785 COWPER *Task* IV. 169 A Roman meal, Such as the mistress of the world once found Delicious. 1835 THIRLWALL *Greece* I. 435 Eretria..was mistress of several islands. 1859 JEPHSON *Brittany* xvi. 255 England, mistress of Normandy and Anjou. 1893 EARL DUNMORE *Pamirs* II. 315 Russia, being then determined to make herself mistress of Central Asia.

†c. The chief, the first. *Obs.*

1491 CAXTON *Vitas Patr.* (W. de W. 1495) I. xxxvi. 32 b/2, The fayr vertue of charytee, whyche is the maystresse of all vertues. 1613 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII*, III. i. 152 The Lilly That once was Mistris of the Field.

†6. A woman, a goddess, or something personified as a woman (e.g. a virtue, a passion), having dominion over a person or regarded as a protecting or guiding influence. *Obs.*

c 1369 CHAUCER *Bk. Duchesse* 797 For that tyme yowthe my maistresse Gouerned me in ydelnesse. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xviii. (*Egipciane*) 745 Sa þat þu myn mastres be, & ledar in wa of sawete. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 353 For Nature is under the Mone Maistresse of every lives kinde. *c* 1420 LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 243 Wyll ye agre that Phebe your mastresse May haue the guydyng of your varyaunce? 1470–85 MALORY *Arth.* x. lxxi. 538 Wel I wote that loue is a grete maystresse. 1594 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* II. 61 They..do as if they meant to despite God and Nature, whome they will not followe as mistresse. 1605 SHAKS. *Lear* II. i. 42 Mumbling of wicked charmes, coniuring the Moone To stand auspicious Mistris. 1633 MILTON *Arcades* 36 The great Mistres of yon princely shrine. 1677 YARRANTON *Eng. Improv.* 6 To beat the Dutch with fighting, so as to force them from their beloved Mistriss and delight, (which is Trade and Riches thereby).

†7. A woman, or something personified as a woman, regarded as the authoress, creatress, or patroness of an art, religion, a state of life, etc.

a 1400–50 *Alexander* 4530 Minerua was a maistres of many kingis werkis. 1490 CAXTON *Eneydos* xiii. 46 Juno, the goddesse of wedlocke whiche is lady mastresse, and wardeyne, of the connexes or bondes aminicules. *a* 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* lxxxvii. 13 Dochtir to Pallas.., Mastres of nurtur and of nobilnes. 1577 NORTHBROOKE *Dicing* (1843) 59 Idlenesse (sayeth Chrysostome) is the mystres and beginning of all vice and wickednesse. 1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* III. iii. 127 Vntill that Experience (the mistris of these secrets) had taught them. 1708 MRS. CENTLIVRE *Busy Body* I. i, Want, the mistress of invention.

†b. = PATRONESS 1. *Obs.*

[1460: see MISTRESS-SHIP 2.] 1710 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 10 Sept., I..saw my mistress, Ophy Butler's wife, who is grown a little charmless. *Ibid.* 1 Oct., To desire him to engage Lady Hyde as my mistress to engage Lord Hyde in favour of Mr. Pratt.

8. A female possessor or owner. Chiefly *to be mistress of*: to be possessed of; to have in her possession or at her disposal; also, to be perfectly acquainted with (a subject). ? *Obs.* (Cf. 4.)

1551 T. WILSON *Logike* Ep. A iij, I haue first laboured to bring so noble a maistresse both of reason and judgement acquainted with so noble a countrey. 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* I. ii. 4, I show more mirth then I am mistresse of. 1603 FLORIO *Montaigne* I. xl, [The soule] who is the only and soveraigne mistris of our condition. 1665 BOYLE *Occas. Refl.* v. ix. (1848) 329 The Collection .. is .. such, as if the Mistress of it were less handsome than she is, might give her as well Cause to be jealous of these fine things. 1703 ROWE *Fair Penit.* II. i, If I was ever Mistress of such Happiness. 1756 WASHINGTON *Lett.* Writ. 1889 I. 256 You may expect..that, without a considerable reinforcement, Frederick county will not be mistress of fifteen families. 1766 *Gentl. Mag.* Dec. 587 A strong bodied mare, mistress of 16 stone. 1782 COWPER *Parrot* IV. 13 'Sweet Poll!' his doting mistress cries. 1811 MISS AUSTEN *Sense & Sens.* xl, Elinor, not hearing much of what was said and more anxious to be alone than to be mistress of the subject.

9. A woman who has mastered any art, craft, or branch of study.

1484 CAXTON *Fables of Auian* v. (1889) 221, I am a muystresse in medecyn. 1535 COVERDALE *Nah.* iii. 4 The fayre and beutifull harlot: which is a mastresse of wychcraft. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. vii. 1 Great maistresse of her art was that false Dame. 1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* IV. iv. 593, I cannot say 'tis pitty She lacks Instructions, for she seemes a Mistresse To most that teach. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 92 ₱ 5, I would advise all young Wives to make themselves Mistresses of Wingate's Arithmetick. 1718 ROWE tr. *Lucan* VI. 912 Hail! mighty Mistress of Hæmonian arts. 1802 ANNA SEWARD *Lett.* (1811) VI. 48 Who is such a mistress, where I am so shallow a student. 1807 CRABBE *Par. Reg.* I. 184 The Sybil of the Row..Mistress of worthless arts. [1888 BRYCE *Amer. Commw.* VI. cii. III. 445 *note*, Degree titles.., Mistress of Polite Literature, Mistress of Music.]

10. A woman who has command over a man's heart; a woman who is loved and courted by a man; a sweetheart, lady-love. (Now avoided in ordinary use exc. in unequivocal contexts.)

1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* xviii. (Percy Soc.) 83 You are my lady, you are my masteres, Whome I shall serve with all my gentylnes. 1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* IV. iv. 182, I giue thee this For thy sweet Mistris sake, because thou lou'st her. 1647 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* I. § 20 How Gallant ..a thing it would be for his Highness..to fetch home his Mistres. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Past.* III. 103 To the dear Mistress of my Love-sick Mind, Her Swain a pretty Present has design'd. 1750 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 28 ₱ 3 How few faults a man, in the first raptures of love, can discover in the person or conduct of his mistress. 1822 LAMB *Elia*, Ser. I. *Modern Gallantry*, It was during their short courtship,..that he had been one day treating his mistress with a profusion of civil speeches. 1868 [see MISAPPRECIATION]. 1891 HARDY *Tess* xxxiii, A last jaunt in her company while they were yet mere lover and mistress.

b. Applied to animals.

1692 R. L'ESTRANGE *Fables* cxxiii, The Other Cock had a Good Riddance of his Rival..and had All his Mistresses to Himself again. 1720 GAY *Rur. Sports* 82 The dewlap'd bull..His well-arm'd front against his rival aims, And by the dint of war his mistress claims. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVIII. 477/1 In France they allow twenty mistresses to each cock.

11. A woman who illicitly occupies the place of wife.

1430–40 LYDG. *Bochas* I. viii. (1494) c j, [Scylla loq.] Called in my cuntre a fals traitouresse..Of newe defamed and namyd a maistresse. 1601 R. JOHNSON *Kingd. & Commw.* (1603) 320 Every man hath his Mistresse with instruments of musicke, and such like pleasures [etc.]. *a* 1631 DONNE *Serm.* lxiv. 642 Those women, whom the Kings were to take for their Wives, and not for Mistresses, (which is but a later name for Concubines). 1694 EVELYN *Diary* 22 Apr., The quarrel arose from his taking away his owne sister from lodging in a house where this Laws had a mistress. 1727 POPE & GAY *What passed in London* Swift's Wks. 1751 VI. 271 They took to Wife their several kept Mistresses. 1819 BYRON *Maseppa* iv, But soon his wrath being o'er, he took Another mistress, or new book. 1859 MACAULAY *Biog., Pitt* (1860) 193 His Protestant mistresses gave less scandal than his Popish wife. 1865 TROLLOPE *Belton Est.* xviii. 212 For three years I was a man's mistress, and not his wife.

II. 12. A female teacher, instructress; now only, one who is engaged in a school, or one who teaches some special subject, as music, drawing, etc. Cf. 3, and MASTER *sb.* 2.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Compl. Mars* 33 She hath take him in subieccioun, And as a maistresse taught him his lessoun. *c* 1374 — *Troylus* II. 98 'Is it of love? O, som good ye me lere!' 'Uncle', quod she, 'your maistresse is not here!' 1534 LD. BERNERS *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) F v, He prouyded women and maystresses for to teache theim. 1663 J. HEATH *Flagellum* (ed. 2) 4 From this A. B. C. Discipline and the Slighted Governance of a Mistris, his Father removed him to the Tuition of Dr. Beard. 1697 in *Col. Rec. Pennsylv.* I. 532 Such and so many masters, ushers, mistrisses. *a* 1745 POPE *Mem. P. P.* Swift's Wks. 1751 V. 229 Even when I was at School, my Mistress did ever extol me above the rest of the Youth. 1826 MRS. DODS *Cook & Housewife's Man.* 88 The Masters and Mistresses of Boarding Schools. *Mod.* She is a mistress at the High School.

III. Used as a title or prefix.

13. Used vocatively as a term of respect or politeness; = MADAM, MA'AM. *Obs.* exc. *arch.*

c 1430 *Syr Gener.* (Roxb.) 269 'Maistres', he seid, 'god you spede!' ?1468 *Paston Lett.* II. 313 And ye know welle, maistras, better ys afrende unknow then knowen. 1513 BRADSHAW *St. Werburge* I. 133 Blessed vyrgyn Werburge my holy patronesse, Helpe me to endyte I praye the, swete maystresse. 1534 MORE *Comf. agst. Trib.* II. Wks. 1170/2 Forsoth maisters quod he, youre husband loueth well to talke. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* v. ii. 847 Studies my Ladie? Mistresse, looke on me. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IX. 532 Wonder not, sovran Mistress, if perhaps Thou canst, who art sole Wonder, much less arm Thy looks..with disdain. 1824 HOGG *Conf. Sinner* 91 'Pray, mistress, what is your name?' 'My name is Arabella Calvert', said the other: 'Miss, mistress, or widow, as you chuse, for I have been all the three'. 1905 R. GARNETT *Will. Shaks.* 76 Mistress, if pardon for thy spouse entreating, Thine errand know for vain.

†**b.** In angry use (cf. MISS *sb.*2 4 b). *Obs.*

1883 M. R. LAHEE *Acquitted though Guilty* vi, [Father to daughter] But let me tell thee one thing, mistress: if ever I catch thee wi' him I'll mischieve th' pair on yo'.

14. As a title of courtesy. Prefixed, **a.** to the surname (in early use also to the Christian name) of a married woman. Now abbreviated MRS. (q.v.), formerly M^ls, Mis, M^rs. Now *dial.*

1471 *Paston Lett.* III. 18 If it come to Mestresse Elysabeth Hyggens, at the Blak Swan. *Ibid.*, Mestresse Elysabeth hathe a son, and was delyveryd within ii. dayes affter Seynt Bertelmew. 1552 LATIMER *Serm.* (1584) 288 Hee styred vp mistris Pilate, which tooke a nap in the morning [etc.]. 1563–83 FOXE *A. & M.* II. 2073/2 One maistresse Anne Lacie widowe in Notinghamshiere. 1628 *Obituary R. Smith* (Camden Soc.) 4 M^ls Lucas, wife to Anthony Lucas..died. *a* 1631 DONNE *Lett. to Persons Hon.* (1651) 75, I hear from England of many censures of my book, of Mrs Drury. 1631 T. POWELL *Tom of All Trades* 141 To abate the fury of Mistrisse Overcount mine hostesse. 1782 COWPER *Gilpin* 65 Now Mistress Gilpin (careful soul!) Had two stone bottles found. 1825 HOOD *Addr. to Mrs. Fry* xiii, I like your chocolate, good Mistress Fry! 1872 SCHELE DE VERE *Americanisms* 507 *Mistress* is in the South very frequently yet heard pronounced fully, without the usual contraction into 'Missess'.

b. to the Christian name or surname of an unmarried woman or girl; = MISS *sb.*2 *Obs.* or *dial.*

?1461 *Paston Lett.* II. 78 To my right worchepfull Mastres Paston. *c* 1535 ELIZ. SHELLEY in Miss Wood *Lett. Roy. & Illustr. Ladies* (1846) II. 213 Your letter,..by the which I do perceive your pleasure is to know how mistress Bridget your daughter doth. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* I. i. 197 O heauen! this is Mistresse Anne Page. 1707 STEELE *Corr.*, Dear Mistress Scurlock. 1710 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 25 Nov., So, here is mistress Stella again with her two eggs, &c. 1818 TODD, s.v. *Miss, Mistress* was then the style of grown up unmarried ladies, though the mother was living; and, for a considerable part of the [18th] century, maintained its ground against the infantine term of *miss.*

†**c.** to a title, as *mistress mayoress. Obs.*

1541 *Cal. Anc. Rec. Dublin* (1889) I. 410 Such obprobrious words as one Walter Coke shold haw spokyn by Maisteras Mayras.

d. *transf.* and *jocular.*

1577–87 HOLINSHED *Chron.* III. 862/2 Some profit the husbandmen in some parts of the realme got by the mooving of this matter, where inclosures were alreadie laid open, yer mistresse monie could preuent them. 1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* III. v. 152 (Qo. 2), Mistresse minion you? Thanke me no thankings, nor proud me no prouds. 1596 — *Tam. Shr.* v. ii. 42, I, Mistris Bride, hath that awakened you? 1610 — *Temp.* IV. i. 235 Mistris line, is not this my ierkin?

15. In the title of certain Court offices. (Cf. MASTER *sb.* III.) *Mistress of the Robes*: in the English Royal Honsehold, a lady of high rank, charged with the care of the Queen's wardrobe. † *Great mistress*: used to represent the title of the lady entrusted with the government of the household of a foreign princess.

1710 J. CHAMBERLAYNE *St. Gt. Brit.* 542 Mistress of the Robes, Sarah Dutchess of Marlborough. 1768 *Hist. Eur.* in *Ann. Reg.* 116 The great duchess [of Tuscany], attended by her great mistress, and the ladies of honour. 1905 *Whitaker's Alm.* 85 Household of H. M. Queen Alexandra. Mistress of the Robes, The Duchess of Buccleuch.

IV. Technical senses.

16. In the game of Bowls, the jack; = MASTER *sb.*1 9. Often *fig.*

a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* III. xiv. (1590) 303 Zelmane (vsing her own bias to bowle neer the mistresse of her owne thoughtes). 1598 FLORIO, *Lecco*, is properly the maister or mistres at bowels or quoits. 1600 *Weakest goeth to the Wall* G 3, Though I come late, I hope to lie as neare the Mistresse as any of ye all. 1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* III. ii. 52 So, so, rub on, and kisse the mistresse. 1630 [see JACK *sb.*1 18]. 1680 COTTON *Compl. Gamester* iii. 36 The World .. where most are .. wrong byassed, and some few justle in to the Mistress, Fortune!

†**17.** *Bot.* = PLUMULE 1. *Obs.*

a 1732 LISLE *Husb.* (1752) 281 The little mistress or plume (from whence the flower arises).

18. A lantern used in coal-mines.

1851 GREENWELL *Coal-trade Terms, Northumb. & Durh.* 36 *Mistress*, an oblong box, wanting the front side, carried upright; the use of which is to carry a lighted candle in a current of air. 1860 *Eng. & For. Min. Gloss.* (Newcastle Terms).

V. 19. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *mistress-market, -server*; *mistress-like* adv.; †mistress-bowl = sense 16 (cf. *master bowl*).

1598 FLORIO, *Matto*, ..the *mistres bowle to caste at. 1654 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 486 Let who will commend their *Mistresse-like-chosen Arts. 1802 MRS. GUTHRIE *Tour* xlviii. 152, I am sure that a *mistress-market must be a curious subject to the polished nations of Europe. 1609 DEKKER *Gull's Horn-bk.* iii. 16 But [be] thou a Reueller and a *Mistris-seruer all the yeare.

b. quasi-*adj.* = 'Chief', 'leading': with fem. personification, or (formerly) with a sb. grammatically fem. in L. or Fr. (Cf. MASTER *sb.*1 24 a.)

1581 SIDNEY *Apol.* (Arb.) 30 So yet are they all directed to the highest end of the mistres Knowledge..*Architectonike.* 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, II. iv. 133 Hee'le make your Paris Louer shake for it, Were it the Mistresse Court of mightie Europe. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XVI. xliii. I. 493 Ioyners doe chuse the mistresse threadie graine [Fr. transl. *maistresse veine*] that is most streight. 1603 FLORIO *Montaigne* I. XXVII, After this general communitie, the mistris and worthiest part of it [etc.]. 1611 COTGR. s.v. *Maistresse, La maistresse Eglise*, a Cathedrall Church, the mistresse Church, or chiefe Church in a Towne. 1613 JACKSON *Creed* I. 110 Rome..the Mistresse-citie of the world. 1641 MILTON *Prel. Episc.* Wks. 1738 I. 30 Being born free, and in the Mistress Island of all the British. 1641 W. STOKES *Vaulting Master* D, The ninth Passe, called The Mistresse Command. 1667 BOYLE *Orig. Formes & Qual.* (ed. 2) 291 Subjected to the predominant Mistresse Forme. 1899 MACKAIL *W. Morris* II. 198 Through the mistress-art to all the other subordinate arts.

Mistress (mi·strĕs), *v.* [f. prec.] **a.** *trans.* To provide with a mistress. †**b.** To make a mistress or paramour of. **c.** To call or address as 'mistress'. **d.** *To mistress it*: to play the mistress, to have the upper hand. **e.** To become mistress of (an art). **f.** To dominate as a mistress.

1579 J. STUBBES *Gaping Gulf* D 3 b, Both she and we poore soules, are to be mastered, and, which is worse, mistrised to. 1603 SIR C. HEYDON *Jud. Astrol.* xii. 318 Neither could Venus in coniunction with Mars cause any to mistresse another mans wife. 1802 H. MARTIN *Helen of Glenross* III. 74 Not but I am surprised too to be 'mistressed', and to hear them talking of my child. 1819 'ROBERT RABELAIS' *Abeillard & Heloisa* II Care not a farthing, but resolv'd To mistress it with men they lov'd. 1856 READE *Never too Late* II. xxii. 218 This one is a first-rate gilder, she mistressed it entirely in three days. 1904 M. HEWLETT *Queen's Quair* I. viii. 117 You are too masterful, my girl..I do not choose to be mistressed by a maid of honour.

Mi·stressdom. *rare*—1. [See -DOM.] Female despotism.

1844 *Fraser's Mag.* XXX. 449/2 We object..to the sole sway and mistressdom of the one histrionic queen.

Mi·stresshood. [See -HOOD.] The condition or status of a mistress (of a household).

1879 *Gentl. Mag.* Jan. 3 Her first act of mistresshood was to give her husband a power of attorney to deal with all as he would. 1883 MRS. LYNN LINTON *Ione* III. xxx. 137 The house was a standing disgrace to her mistresshood.

Mistressing (mi·strĕsiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. MISTRESS *sb.* + -ING 1.] Paying court to, or dallying with, a mistress.

a 1631 DONNE *To Mr. Tilman* Poems (1654) 350 As if their day were onely to be spent In dressing, Mistressing, and complement. 1633 G. HERBERT *Temple, Ch. Porch* xiv, Flie idlenesse, which yet thou canst not flie By dressing, mistressing, and complement. 1683 TRYON *Way to Health* 461 No Mistrissing, nor Revelling. 1783 WESLEY *Wks.* (1872) XI. 525 Drinking, and dressing, and mistressing.

Mistressless (mi·strĕslĕs), *a.* [-LESS.] Having no mistress or female head.

1873 MISS BROUGHTON *Nancy* III. viii. 126, I have again taken advantage of the mistressless condition of the establishment. 1886 MRS. MOBERLY *Lady Valeria* II. iv. 92 Altcar Court lost much of its forlorn mistressless air.

Mistressly (mi·strĕsli), *a.* [-LY 1.]

1. Belonging to the mistress of a household. *rare.*

1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1811) I. 298 Will he take from me the mistressly management, which I had not faultily discharged?

2. [after MASTERLY 2.] Like one who is a 'mistress' in her art.

1786 MACKENZIE *Lounger* No. 76 P 9, I have seen some of them go through their evolutions in a very masterly and mistressly manner. 1794 WALPOLE *Let. to the Miss Berrys* 27 Sept., I did see the new bust of Mrs. Siddons, and a very mistressly performance it is indeed. 1804 SOUTHEY *Sel. Lett.* (1856) I. 272 You who manage a pencil in so masterly, or mistressly a way. 1898 C. G. ROBERTSON *Voces Academicæ* 253, I thought Gerty would have burst out crying, but she controlled herself in a mistressly way.

Mi·stress-piece. Now *rare.* [f. MISTRESS after *masterpiece.* Cf. F. *maîtresse pièce* the principal piece of a work.] A feminine masterpiece.

a 1648 LD. HERBERT *Hen. VIII* (1649) 175 Mistresse Elizabeth Blunt ..was thought, for her rare Ornaments of nature, and education, to be the beauty and Mistresse-peece of her time. *a* 1661 FULLER *Worthies, Herefordshire* (1662) II. 41 Rosamund..being the Mistress-piece of beauty in that Age. 1902 *Daily Chron.* 24 Mar. 5/1 Those who hold his [Sir Walter Besant's] 'Dorothy Forster' to be his mistresspiece.

Mi·stress-ship. [f. MISTRESS *sb.* + -SHIP.]

1. The condition or status of mistress or head of a household, etc.; authority of one in the position of a mistress.

1581 MULCASTER *Positions* XXXVIII. (1887) 176 From the lowest in menaltie, to the highest in mistriship. *a* 1656 BP. HALL *Rem. Wks.* (1660) 407 If any of them still usurpe a Mistress-ship over them. 1705 BP. BULL *Corrupt. Ch. Rome* Wks. 1827 II. 290 They never acknowledged her mistresship over them. 1858 MISS MULOCK *Woman's Th. about Women* 55 Having all the cares, and only half the joys of maternity or mistress-ship. 1892 *Catholic News* 23 July, There is some talk of her Majesty putting the Mistress-ship of the robes into commission. 1898 FITCHETT *Fights for the Flag* 3 The struggle between the two maritime republics for the mistress-ship of the seas.

†**2.** The status of a woman to whom the title of mistress was used: always in *your mistress-ship. Obs.*

1460 *Paston Lett.* I. 533 Beseching yow of your good maisteresship to be myn good maisteres to help wit your gracious woord. *Ibid.* III. 253 Plesith it your mastresship to witte. *a* 1553 UDALL *Royster D.* II. iv. (Arb.) 38 By your mistreshyps licence. 1611 MIDDLETON & DEKKER *Roaring Girl* II. i, I humbly thank your good mistresship. 1632 MASSINGER *City Madam* IV. iv, He made a knight, And your sweet mistress-ship ladyfied.

3. The post of mistress in a school.

1891 *Brit. & For. School Soc. Rep.* 17 There has been a change of teachers, Miss Brown having resigned the mistress-ship on her marriage. 1900 *Standard* 27 Oct., Girls' School.—Head Mistress-ship.

4. Pre-eminent skill in an art, etc. ? *Obs.*

1819 *Blackw. Mag.* V. 125 His wife has a complete mistress-ship in the art. 1837 *Tait's Mag.* IV. 589 She .. imparts to her..sketches a certain style and mistress-ship which no traveller of the other sex..could have attained.

Mistrest, variant of MISTRIST.

Mistrial (mistrəi·ăl). [MIS-1 4.] A trial vitiated by some error (e.g. a disqualification in a judge or juror). Also, *U.S.*, an inconclusive trial, as where the jury cannot agree.

1628 COKE *On Litt.* 125 If there be a mistryall, (that is) if the Jury commeth out of a wrong place, or returned by a wrong Officer and giue a verdict. 1651 BROWNLOW *Rep.* 7 The words were spoken at C. in the County aforesaid .. and so a Mistryall. 1810 EAST *K. B. Rep.* XII. 229 Littledale .. moved to .. have a new trial on the ground of a mistrial. 1884 *Law Rep.* 9 Prob. Div. 185 They insisted that there had been a mistrial on the ground of improper rejection of evidence. 1889 *Boston* (Mass.) *Jrnl.* 3 May 1/5 Another Mistrial. A Seven Days' Trial of a Case Results in a Disagreement of the Jury.

†**Mistri·st,** *sb. Obs.* Also 5 mystrest. [MIS- 4.] = MISTRUST *sb.*

1382 WYCLIF *Prol. Bible* iii. 4 God..punisshide hem..for grucchyng and mystriste to Goddis word. *c* 1440 *Generydes* 1673 In hym he hadde no maner of mystrest. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 241/2 A Mistriste, *desperacio, diffidencia.* 15.. *Guistard & Sismond* II. (1597) C 3 b, And when they wer in comin, they put no mistrist.

†**Mistri·st,** *v. Obs.* or *dial.* Also 4–5 -triste, 4–6 -traist, 5 mystrast, 5–6 -trest, 9 -thrist. [MIS-1 7.] = MISTRUST *v.*

a. *trans.* *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Pard. Prol.* 41 And never shal he more his wyf mistriste. *c* 1440 *Generydes* 1399 It grevith me full soore, That ye shuld me mystrest by eny waye. *c* 1460 SIR R. ROS *La Belle Dame* 746 Sum man say how he mystristed is on sum partyse. 1552 ABP. HAMILTON *Catech.* (1884) 41 And quhy suld we nocht put all our traist..in the mercy of God?..Suerly we suld nocht mistrest him.

b. *intr.* 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 149 Sche wissheth forto ben unbore, Er that hire fader so mistriste To tellen hire of that he wiste. *c* 1400 *Song Roland* 186 'Sistir son', said the king, 'sore I mystrist'. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* IX. 1623 Ner the castell he drew thaim prewaly In till a schaw; Sotheroun mystraistyt nocht. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* 160 At thy deith thow did mistraist, And sa fell in dispair. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* II. 356 Quhom the deith of Makintosche causet gretlie to defecte,..mistraisting of his actioune. 1877 *Holderness Gloss., Misthrist*, to mistrust or doubt.

Mistrouth(e: see MISTRUTH.

†**Mistrow·,** *sb. Obs.* Also 4 -tru(n, -trou(n, -trouȝ. [f. next. For the form *mistrun* cf. the verb.] Mistrust, suspicion.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 8433 And þat þou be noght in mistru, þar-til mak i þe here a wou. *Ibid.* 9261 He sal find, with-vten mistruns, Sexti hale generacions. *Ibid.* 15354 Ilkan Of oþer had mistrun [*rime* resun]. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 3314 Swiche mistrowe had meliors for þei so moche him preised. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (Prose) 19 Yef it sua bi-tide, þat any falle in mis-trouȝ; þan sal scho pray gerne to god.

†**Mistrow·,** *v. north. Obs.* Also 4 -tru(n, -tro(u)n, -trou(e, -trau, -traw(e, -treu. [ad. ON. *mistrúa*, f. *mis-* MIS-1 + *trúa* (see TROW *v.*).

The form *mistrun* in *Cursor Mundi* was app. orig. used for the purposes of rime (perhaps under the influence of ON. *mistrúnaðr* disbelief), but the *n* seems to have been afterwards taken as part of the stem: cf. prec. sb.]

1. *trans.* To disbelieve (a person); to have no faith or confidence in.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 68 For þi þe treowe is misleued [*MS. T.* mistrowet), & þe sakelease ofte bilowen, uor wone of witnesse. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 3651 þat he þe mai þe less mistru [*Gött.* mistrau, *Fairf.* mistraw] þou sal sai þou ert esau. 13.. *Ibid.* 17958 (Gött.) His auen sun sal he send dune In erde, þat mani sal mistron. *c* 1450 *Merlin* 21 'Yef this be so', quod the Iuge, 'neuer shall I mystrowe the'. 1480 CAXTON *Ovid's Met.* XV. vi, The fader..belived the lesyng, which was full of iniquyte, & mistrowed hys son.

2. To suspect (a person) *of* (a misdeed).

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* x. 327 Thai mystrowit hym of tratory.

3. To disbelieve (a thing). Also with clause.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 22795 Bot mistrou [*Edinb.* mistrun] þat, es na nede. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xl. (*Ninian*) 1303 Mystrowand þat I mocht helpe þe ocht.

4. *intr.* To be unbelieving, not to believe (*in*); to be doubtful (*of*).

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 13595 Þe maisters Iuus þan higan To mistru o þis sinful seli man [*Fairf.* mistrowne queþer þis sely man, queþer he fore blinde had he bene]. *Ibid.* 17402 Vee ar þe folk þat ai mistruus. *Ibid.* 22868 Vte of all skil it es,..For to mistru in godds might. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Serm. Sel. Wks.* I. 368 Þe vigile of Baptist tellip how Gabriel bihiʒte him, and þis storie tellip how Zacarie mistrowide.

Hence † **Mistrow·ing** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.* Also † **Mistrow·able**, † **Mistrow·ful** *adjs.*, unbelieving; † **Mistrow·er**, an unbeliever.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 16643 Yee foles mistruand folk. *Ibid.* 18673 To frest if þai in trouth war tru, þair mistruing [*Gött.* mistrouning, *Fairf.* mistrowning] for to misprais. *Ibid.* 21203 Lucas..þe mistruand he tok to teche. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* x. 329 For that ilk mystrowing, Thai..put in presoun. 1382 WYCLIF *Isa.* lxv. 2, I spredde out myn hondis al dai to a puple mystrouful [1388 vnbileueful, Vulg. *incredulum*]. — *Bar.* i. 19 We weren mystrowable [1388 vnbileueful, Vulg. *incredibiles*] to the Lord oure God. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 56 For espialle and mistrowinges They dede thanne suche thinges. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S. T. S.) 89 May men move were agaynis the Sarrazenis or othir mistrowaris. *Ibid.* 103 The Sarazenis or othir mistrowand folk.

† **Mistru·m**, *a. Obs.* [f. MIS-[1] 7 + OE. *trum* strong, after UNTRUM *a.*] Weak.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 262 ȝif heo þenche3 wel heron, of mistrum, oðer leane mel [*MS. T.* of mistune meal, *MS. C.* of mistrume mel] of unsauure metes, of poure pitaunce?

Mistrust (mistrʌ·st), *sb.* [MIS-[1] 7. Cf. the later *distrust* sb.] Lack of trust or confidence; suspicion, distrust. Const. *of*, *in*, † *to*. † Also, doubt as to the truth or probability (*of* something).

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* II. 780 For ever som mistrust, or nyce stryf, Ther is in love, som cloud is over the sonne. 1440 *Generydes* 5760 'To you', quod she, 'now haue I noo mystrost'. 1488 CAXTON *Chast. Goddes Chyldern* 35 No man shall haue mystrust of foryeuenesse of whatsomeuer synne man hathe done. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* lxxxi. 247, I had no mystruste in him. 1601 SHAKS. *Jul. C.* v. iii. 66 Mistrust of good successe hath done this deed. 1677 MARVELL *Corr.* Wks. 1872–5 II. 552, I have sent for you hither to prevent mistakes and mistrusts. *a* 1699 STILLINGFL. *Serm.* xlii. Wks. 1710 V. 640 The mistrust Men have of themselves would make their Fears over-balance their Hopes. 1805 WOROSW. *Prelude* x. 161 Man is only weak through his mistrust And want of hope. 1854 MILMAN *Lat. Chr.* VIII. ii. III. 29 These decrees were sent to the Pope, with a significant menace, which implied great mistrust in his firmness.

Mistrust (mistrʌ·st), *v.* Also 4–6 -trost e. [f. MIS-[1] 7 + TRUST *v.*, prob. after OF. *mesfier* (mod. F. *méfier*): see MIS-[2].]

1. *trans.* Not to trust, to have no confidence in (a person); to suspect the actions, intentions, motives (etc.) of.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* IV. 1606, I see wel now that ye mistrusten me; For by your wordes it is wel y-sene. *c* 1440 *Generydes* 5695 Me to mystroste trewly she is vnkynd,.. Vntrew to him she shall me neuer fynde. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Edw. V*, 21 b, For whom mistrusted he that mistrusted his awne brother? 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* v. v. 141, I will neuer mistrust my wife againe, till thou art able to woo her in good English. 1725 DE FOE *Voy. round World* (1840) 207 Had it been a Spanish ship, they would not have mistrusted him. 1861 THACKERAY *Four Georges* iii. (1862) 151 She kept her household lonely and in gloom, mistrusting almost all people who came about her children. 1885 G. ALLEN *Darwin* vii. 113 The practical English nation mistrusts philosophers.

b. *refl.* To be doubtful as to one's own powers or capabilities.

1552 LATIMER *Serm.* (1584) 299 Mistrusting himselfe and hys owne doynges, and trusting in the merites of Christ. 1577–87 HOLINSHED *Chron.* III. 1212/1 They mistrusted themselues, .. their minds being suddenlie altered, they returned. 1875 MANNING *Mission H. Ghost* viii. 217 Our need to watch over ourselves and to mistrust ourselves, and to trust in God alone.

2. To entertain suspicions with regard to, have doubts about (a thing); to doubt the truth, validity, or genuineness of.

c 1375 *xi. Pains of Hell* 232 in *O. E. Misc.* 218 To god hit is most hye trespace To mys-trost his mercy and grace. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 167 b, Mystrust not the goodnes of god. 1529 MORE *Dyaloge* I. Wks. 123/2 The messenger thynketh that he may well mistrust & deny the myracles. 1602 MARSTON *Ant. & Mel.* v. sign. I, When I see one..wallowe in a greate sloppe, I mistrust the proportion of his thigh. 1615 BACON *Sp. Undertakers* Wks. 1826 VI. 20 As gamesters use to call for new cards, when they mistrust a pack. 1742 *Lond. & Country Brew.* I. (ed. 4) 15 Such Waters ought to be mistrusted more than any, where they are not pure, clear, and soft. 1759 GOLDSM. *Bee* No. 4 ₱ 10 For my part I am ever ready to mistrust a promising title. 1848 LYTTON *Harold* v. v. 178 Mistrust the wisdom that sees only the things of the day-light. 1871 MISS YONGE *Cameos* Ser. II. xiv. 152 Juan mistrusted this advice.

3. To suspect the existence of or anticipate the occurrence of (something evil). ? *Obs.*

1535 COVERDALE *Judges* viii. 11 The hoost was carelesse, and mystrusted nothinge. 1590 NASHE *Pasquil's Apol.* I. B j b, No such largesse could be looked for at the hands of her Ma[iestie] .. no fingring of Spanish coyne mought be mistrusted. 1598 BARRET *Theor. Warres* I. i. 2 To shake off securitie, to mistrust the worst. 1603 FLORIO *Montaigne* I. vi, They were all asleepe mistrusting no harme. 1674 PRIDEAUX *Lett.* (Camden) 18 It is feared .. that he will speedyly he mad, if he is not soe already, which his actions doe make every on mistrust. 1728 MORGAN *Algiers* II. iii. 238 The poor Prince,..mistrusting no Treachery was easily surprised.

b. with obj. a clause: To suspect *that* something has happened or will happen. ? Now *dial.* † Also *pass.* (corresponding to acc. and inf. in the active): To be suspected (of doing something).

a 1450 *Knt. de La Tour* 35 The brother tolde her husbonde, the whiche alle his lyff after mistrusted that his wiff had done amys. 1554–5 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 386 Not mystrustynge that that shulde haue hyndered theyr bargenynge. 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus, Suspectus in aliqua virgine*, Mistrusted to be ouer familiar with a mayden. 1621 LADY M. WROTH *Urania* 475 Shee mistrusted I loued a brother of hers. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* I. xi. 46 Wisely mistrusting that reasonable spirits would never firmely be lost in the adorement of things inanimate,..he [Satan] begat an opinion that they .. were living creatures. 1777 *Boston Gaz.* 10 Nov. 3/3 He said he was taking his Way to Boston, but is mistrusted to he going to Long or Rhode Island. 1904 T. ROOSEVELT in J. A. Riis *Life* viii. 187, I mistrust that it scared the Spaniard almost as much as our charge did.

absol. 1615 E. S. *Britain's Buss* E 4 Except the Dutch should proove more froward and fond then I can yet mistrust.

† **c.** To have an inkling of (*what* is the matter).

1707 *Curios. in Husb. & Gard.* 204 Mistrusting what it ail'd, I took the Pot out of the Water.

4. *intr.* To be distrustful, suspicious, or without confidence. Also, † not to trust *in*, to be doubtful *of*.

1388 WYCLIF *Ps.* Prol. 737 To mystrosten of forʒiuenesse, and of the merci of God. 1382 — *Bar.* I. 17 Wee han not leened, mystrostende in to hym. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 194/32 To Mistruste, *diffidere*. 1711 PRIOR *Henry & Emma* 352 Near thee, mistrust not, constant I'll abide. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* II. 116 At once the gen'rous train complies, Nor fraud mistrusts in virtue's fair disguise. 1896 *Godey's Mag.* Apr. 391/2 Until I noticed .. your confusion over your name, I never mistrusted.

Hence **Mistru·sted** *ppl. a.*, in quot. † suspected.

1588 GREENE *Pandosto* (1843) 10 Hoping now he should be fully revenged of such mistrusted injuries.

Mistru·ster. [MIS-[1] 5.] One who mistrusts.

c 1425 *Found. St. Bartholomew's* (E.E.T.S.) 38 Ther was oone amonge the wepers and waylers & mystrustres, ripyr & sadder of age. *a* 1560 BARNES *Wks.* (1573) 354/2 You Infidelles and mistrusters of God. 1643 MILTON *Divorce* Wks. 1738 I. 112 These cautious mistrusters might consider, that what they thus object lights not upon this Book. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* xvi, But now you're a universal mistruster. 1861 CRAIK *Hist. Eng. Lit.* I. 391 The enemies and mistrusters of all innovation.

Mistru·stful, *a.* [f. MISTRUST *sb.* + -FUL.] Full of or marked by mistrust; wanting in confidence; distrustful, suspicious. Const. *of*.

1529 MORE *Dyaloge* IV. i. Wks. 247/2 To shewe our selfe so mistrustful & wauering, that for to serche whether our faith were false or true, we should geue hearing..to a fond frere. 1593 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI*, IV. ii. 8, I hold it cowardize, To rest mistrustfull, where a Noble Heart Hath pawn'd an open Hand, in signe of Loue. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* II. 126. 1680 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1548/3 We begin here to be somewhat mistrustful of the Merchandises that are brought from Germany. 1712 ARBUTHNOT *John Bull* III. ii, Why so mistrustful! Hast thou ever found us false to thee? 1847 C. BRONTE *J. Eyre* (1857) 86 She presented it across the counter, accompanying the act by another inquisitive and mistrustful glance. 1886 NIXON *Euclid Revised* Pref., So far, teachers are either unaware, or mistrustful, of such strength.

† **b.** *transf.* Causing mistrust or suspicion. *Obs.*

1592 SHAKS. *Ven. & Ad.* 826 Or stonish'd as night-wanderers often are, Their light blown out in some mistrustful wood.

Hence **Mistru·stfully** *adv.*, with mistrust or suspicion, distrustfully; **Mistru·stfulness**, the condition or quality of being mistrustful; want of confidence, suspiciousness.

1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 294 The mystrustfulnesse of the Byzancians he laied on the necke of..ye capitain. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* II. (1590) 181 b, A mistrustfulnes of my selfe, as one strayed from his best strength. 1602 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* VI. xxxiii, Mistrustfully he trusteth, and he dreadingly did dare. 1672 EACHARD *Hobbs's State Nat.* (1705) 5, I am confident there must be some occasion or other of this so very great jealousie and mistrustfulness of yours. 1873 BROWNING *Red Cott. Nt.-cap* 330 Those five Cold fingers, tendered so mistrustfully. 1879 MEREDITH *Egoist* xxvii. (1889) 258 She controlled her alert mistrustfulness.

Mistru·sting, *vbl. sb.* [-ING [1].] The action of the vb. MISTRUST.

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 64 That couent can neuer be in peace..where the heed is suspicyous and full of mystrustynge. 1544 *Exhort. in Priv. Prayers* (1851) 568 Without wavering or doubtful mistrusting..in his almighty power. 1647 HEXHAM, A mistrousing, *een mistrouwinge*.

Mistru·sting, *ppl. a.* [-ING [2].] That mistrusts, mistrustful. Hence **Mistru·stingly** *adv.*

1552 HULOET, Mistrustynge, *diffidens*. *Ibid.*, Mistrustinglye, *diffidenter, dubitanter*. 1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 93 My wauering and mistrusting mynde. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* VI. (1638) 488 The humble teares of a still-mistrusting lover. 1822–56 DE QUINCEY *Confess.* i, Gradually, tentatively, mistrustingly, as one goes down a shelving beach into a deepening sea. 1845 *Whitehall* lxix. 479 They parted coldly and mistrustingly.

Mistru·stless, *a.* [-LESS.] Free from mistrust or suspicion; unsuspecting. Const. *of*.

1586 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* I. iv. (1612) 14 He hunts abroad, mistrustles of such wrong. 1596 R. L[INCHE] *Diella* (1877) 60 So Syrens sing vntill they haue their will, Some poore mistrustlesse Passenger to kill. 1632 QUARLES *Div. Fancies* II. xlix, Mistrustles Isaac seeing the wood, the fire, The sacrificing Knife, begins t'enquire. 1770 GOLDSM. *Des. Vill.* 27 The swain, mistrustless of his smutted face. 1839 *Blackw. Mag.* XLV. 355 A bland expression of mistrustless affection.

† **Mistru·sty,** *a. Obs.* [MIS-[1] 6.] Mistrustful, suspicious.

c 1440 *Partonope* (1862) 156 Ye shull me neuer fynde That euer mystrusty shall I to you be.

† **Mistru·th.** *Obs. north.* Also 4 -trouth(e, -trowþ, -trauþe, -treutht. [MIS-[1] 7.] a. Disbelief, unbelief. b. Unfaithfulness.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 18676 Bot þair mistrouth, þe soth to sai, Es strenghing of vr trouth to dai. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 996 For two fautes þat þe fol was founde in mistrauþe. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* v. (*Johannes*) 364 To þat entent, þat þu of þi mystreutht haf scham now. *c* 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 97 Þei are brout in to mis trowþ, & hopiþ to haue helpe wiþ out God.

Mistry (mistrəi·), *v.* [MIS-[1] 1.] *trans.* To try wrongly.

1651 BROWNLOW *Rep.* 7 *marg.*, Judgement arrested being mis-tried. *Ibid.* 17 It was moved in Arrest of Judgement, that it was mis-tried, because [etc.]. 1906 *Daily News* 5 Mar. 7/6 Murray..was..mistried by Sir Forrest Fulton, and condemned to nine months' hard labour for perjury.

Mistry, obs. form of MYSTERY.

Mistryall, obs. form of MISTRIAL.

Mistryst (mistrəi·st), *v. Sc.* and *north. dial.* [MIS-[1] 1, 7.]

1. *trans.* To fail to keep an engagement with. Also *absol.* or *intr.* const. *with*.

1816 SCOTT *Bl. Dwarf* iv, Ye'll be gaun yonder, Mr. Patrick; feind o' me will mistryst you for a' my mither says. 1893 STEVENSON *Catriona* xiii, 'Braw trysts that you'll can keep', said Alan. 'Ye'll just mistryst ainee and for a' with the gentry in the bents'. 1894 CROCKETT *Raiders* 393 An ill speldron o'a loon that had mistrysted wi' twa lasses already.

2. *pass.* To be perplexed, confused, frightened (app. orig. = to have an unpleasant meeting with something).

1816 SCOTT *Bl. Dwarf* iii, It's a braw thing for a man to be out a' day, and frighted—na, I winna say that neither—but mistrysted wi' bogles in the hame-coming. 1818 — *Rob Roy* xiv, They are sair mistrysted yonder in their Parliament-House, about this rubbery o' Mr. Morris. 1855 ROBINSON *Whitby Gloss., Mistrysted*, frightened, put out of track. 'I hae been sair mistrysted', sorely perplexed.

Mistu·ne, *v.* [MIS-[1] 1.] *trans.* To tune wrongly; to put out of tune, make discordant; to perform (music) out of tune. Hence **Mistu·ned** *ppl. a.*, out of tune; † of persons, having no ear for music.

1504 CORNISHE in *Skelton's Wks.* (1568) 2 v b, If he [*sc.* the harper] play wrong, good tunes he doth lette Or hy mystunyng the very trew armonye. *Ibid.* 2 vj, Any Instrument mystunyd shall hurt a trew song. 1535 LYNDESAY *Satyre* 75 Till all our rymis be rung, And our mistoinit sangis be sung. 1587 [see MIS-BEGIN]. 1636 B. JONSON *Eng. Gram.* vii, Where for want of one [*sc.* an accent], the word is in danger to be mis-tuned. *a* 1684 LEIGHTON *Comm.* 1 *Pet.* iv. 8 Wks. 1830 II. 333 When thou prayest alone, while thy heart is imbittered..it is as a mistuned instrument. *c* 1750 ARMSTRONG *Misc.* (1770) II. 197 Some of the best mimicks are mistuned, and have not the least ear to harmony. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* s.v. *Diatonic*, Ptolemy's tetrachords are so mis-tuned, that Salinas has charged him with having no ear. 1755 SMOLLETT *Quix.* (1803) I. 220 A hoarse, mistuned voice. 1815 SCOTT *Ld. of Isles* v. xxviii, Hymn mistuned and mutter'd prayer. 1883 *Knowledge* 25 May 315/1 With the pianoforte tuned (or, one might say, mistuned) to equal temperament.

transf. and *fig.* 1744 ARMSTRONG *Art Preserv. Health* IV. 134 The Body, by long ails mistun'd. 1836 LANDOR *Imag. Conv., Pericles & Aspasia* Wks. 1846 II. 429 Idly do our sages cry out against the poets for mistuning the heart. 1858 BUSHNELL *Nat. & Supernat.* ii. (1864) 46 A scheme unstrung and mistuned.

Mistur, obs. form of MISTER *sb.*[1]

† **Mi·sture**[1]. *Obs. rare.* [? f. MISS *v.*[1] on the analogy of *mixture*; but prob. suggested by MISTER *sb.*[1] 8.] A loss, privation; = MISS *sb.*[1] 1, 2.

1563–83 FOXE *A. & M.* 1964/2 How sore they tooke hys death to hart, and also, how hardly they could away with the misture [orig. *desiderium*] of such a man. 1592 NASHE *P. Penilesse* 20 b, It is a great misture, that we haue not men swine as well as beasts.

† **Mi·sture**[2]. *Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *mistūra*: see MIXTURE.] Mixture.

a 1626 BACON *Disc. Union Eng. & Scot.* in *Resuscitatio* (1657) 201 Such Imperfect Mistures, continue no longer, then they are forced.

Misturn (mistɚ·n), *v.* Forms: see TURN *v.* [MIS-[1] 1. Partly after OF. *mestourner*.]

1. *trans.* To turn in a wrong direction; to pervert, invert; to reverse the order of; to turn to a wrong use.

c 1325 in *Rel. Ant.* I. 263 Armes other legges mis-turnd wose syth [*sc.* in dreams], Langour ant mournyng that bith. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 1617 Þat es to say þam sall be wa þat here mysturnes þair lyfe swa. 1382 WYCLIF *Gal.* i. 7 Ther ben summe that disturblen ʒou, and wolen mysturne the euangelie of Crist. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 56 Diverse men..Thurgh sihte of hem mistorned were, Stondende as Stones hiere and there. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 142 Þou mysturnyst þe tyme þat god ordeynyd, for þou makyst day of nyʒt, & nyʒt of day. *a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* 71 The unlefulle synne of lecherye .. mistornithe the ordre of nature. 1532 MORE *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 359/1 Tindal.. manifestlye misturneth the mynde and sentence of our sauiour. 1561 T. NORTON *Calvin's Inst.* III. 239 Wherupon followeth, that yᵉ doctrine of iustification is mistourned, yea

ouerturned from the very foundation. 1581 J. Bell *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 398 The state of the Question is mistourned by the Romanistes. *a* 1625 Sir H. Finch *Law* (1636) 187 To reduce a water-course that is misturned.

2. *intr.* To turn in a wrong direction; to go wrong.

1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 36 And whan this litel world misterneth, The grete world al overterneth. *Ibid.* III. 236 If the Monthe of Juil schal frese And that Decembre schal ben hot, The yeer mistorneth. 1413 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton) I. xxiv. (1859) 29 Bokes of moralyte techen what wey a trewe pylgrym owed for to take and not for to mystorne to one syde, ne to other.

So **Mistu·rning** *vbl. sb.*

c 1400 *Rom. Rose* 5545 And Fortune, mishapping, Whan upon men she is falling, Thurgh misturning of hir chaunce.

Mistu·tored, *ppl. a.* [Mis-1 2.] Badly instructed or brought up.

a 1757 T. Edwards *Canons Crit., Sonn.* xxviii. *To G. Onslow*, Gay, mistutored youths, who ne'er the charm Of Virtue hear. 1876 Blackie *Songs of Relig.*, etc. 141 Before the power of misvouched creeds and a mistutored church.

Misty (mi·sti), *a.*[1] Also 1 mistiȝ, 4 myisti, misti, 4–5 mysti, 4–6 mysty, (6 -tie), 6–7 mistie, 4– misty. [OE. *mistiġ*, f. *mist* (see Mist *sb.*[1]) + *-iġ*, -y. Cf. MLG., MDu. *mistich.*]

1. Covered with, clouded or obscured by, mist; accompanied or characterized by mist; consisting of mist.

Beowulf 162 Atol æxlæca ehtende wæs,..seomade and syrede, sinnihte heold mistiȝe moras. *a* 1327 in *Rel. Ant.* I. 265 Eyr mysty whose syth [in a dream], Desturbaunce that bith. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* III. 1060 For I have seyn, of a ful misty morwe Folwen ful ofte a mery someres day. *c* 1430 Lydg. *Compl. Bl. Knt.* 24 Whan that the misty vapour was agoon And clere and faire was the morowning. *c* 1460 Russell *Bk. Nurture* 911 in *Babees Bk.*, Whepur hit be feyre or foule, or mysty alle withe reyn. 1592 Shaks. *Rom. & Jul.* III. v. 10 And Iocond day Stands tipto on the mistie Mountaines tops. 1603 Knolles *Hist. Turks* (1638) 157 The night being dark and misty, and the moon giving little light. 1682 Wood *Life* (O.H.S.) III. 29 Misty and rimy morning. 1718 Lady M. W. Montagu *Lett.* II. lii. 73 The misty rains..penetrated even the thickfur I was wrapped in. 1817 Wolfe *Burial Sir J. Moore* ii, By the struggling moon-beam's misty light. 1858 Masson *Milton* I. 720 The mistier north is forgotten, and he longs to make Florence his home. 1877 Tennyson *Harold* III. ii, Two young lovers in winter weather, None to guide them, Walk'd at night on the misty heather.

b. Clouded with fine particles resembling mist.

1833 Tennyson *Miller's Dau.* 104 The very air about the door Made misty with the floating meal. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 4 May 5/3 The air is in fact quite misty with the fine impalpable dust.

c. Blurred or blinded as with a 'mist' of tears.

1859 Tennyson *Enid* 1620 Not so misty were her meek blue eyes As not to see before them on the path. 1897 *Romance of Lady Barton* II. 745, I never took my misty eyes off Trieste and our home.

d. Having the appearance of being shrouded in mist; indistinct in form or outline.

1797 Mrs. Radcliffe *Italian* xii, The long-drawn prospect faded into misty light. 1818 Shelley *Rosal. & Helen* 1198 A troop Of misty shapes did seem to sit Beside me. 1833 N. Arnott *Physics* (ed. 5) II. 207 The light from adjoining points will mix at the edges, and will render the images misty and indistinct. 1898 *St. James's Gaz.* 12 Jan. 12/1 Striped across..in a misty admixture of colouring.

2. *fig.* (often with literal phraseology retained).

a. 'Dark'; obscure; unintelligible.

1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. x. 181 Ac theologie hath tened me ten score tymes, The more I muse þere-Inne þe mistier it semeth. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Serm.* Sel. Wks. I. 156 Þes wordis ben mysty and derke to þe puple. 1471 Ripley *Comp. Alch.* xii. v. in Ashm. (1652) 185 Thys mysty talkyng. 1494 Fabyan *Chron.* 2 Ryght mysty storyes, doughtfull and vnclere. *c* 1530 *Interl. Beauty & Gd. Prop. Women* B iij b, The wordes whych thou spekyst in my presence Be so mysty, I perseyue not thy sentence. 1581 Sidney *Apol. Poetrie* (Arb.) 32 The Philosopher..is so hard of vtterance, and so mistie to bee conceiued, that [etc.]. 1603 Florio *Montaigne* II. xii. (Frowde) 236 Wherefore hath Heraclitus beene surnamed σκοτεινὸς, 'a darke mysty clowded fellow'? 1624 Gataker *Transubst.* 201 What not mysticall, but mistie riddles are these? 1755 Johnson, *Misty...2.* Obscure; dark; not plain.

b. Resembling mist; obscuring, causing ignorance. *Obs.*

1509 Hawes *Past. Pleas.* (Percy Soc.) 2 To drawe a curtayne I dare not to presume, Nor hyde my matter with a misty smoke. 1577–87 Holinshed *Chron.* I. 150/1 Liuing in a time of palpable blindnesse and mistie superstition. *a* 1631 Donne *Elegy on Mrs. Boulstred* Poems (1654) 260 Blinde were those eys, saw not how bright did shine Through fleshes misty vaile those beams divine.

c. Not illuminated with the 'light' of reason, faith, truth, etc.

1616 Hayward *Sanct. Troub. Soul* I. § 3. 59 Mollifie my stony heart, illuminate my misty minde. 1633 P. Fletcher *Purple Isl.* III. iv, Shed in my mistie breast thy sparkling light. 1669 Penn *No Cross* xx. § 14 (1682) 511 Though times began to look somewhat mistier, and the purity and spirituality of Religion to be much declined. 1748 Johnson *Van. Hum. Wishes* 144 Should Reason guide thee with her brightest ray, And pour on misty Doubt resistless day. 1811 W. R. Spencer *Poems* 185 No beam of real fire My misty nature ever knows.

d. Of thought, speech: Having no definite 'outline' or character; vague, indistinct. Said also of writers with reference to style or exposition.

1816 J. W. Croker in *C. Papers* 28 Nov. (1884), That misty pomp of language which you..think laudable. 1855 Geo. Eliot *Ess., Evang. Teaching* (1884) 157 Their sense of truthfulness is misty and confused. 1865 Tylor *Early Hist. Man.* iv. 58 A misty recollection hovering about it in our minds. 1890 Gross *Gild Merch.* I. 94 The jurists had not yet shrouded the notion in misty complexity.

e. Of persons: Clouded in intellect.

1822 *Blackw. Mag.* XII. 101 And over a skin of Italy's wine To get a little misty. 1848 H. Rogers *Ess.* (1874) I. vi. 316 A little too misty readily to follow the argument, they got drowsy.

3. *Comb.*: parasynthetic, as *misty-brained*; adverbial, as *misty-bright, -dark, -magnific, -soft* adjs.

1611 Speed *Hist. Gt. Brit.* IX. i. 1 Through the misty-darke times of which Stories..I am lastly approached to these times of more light. 1649 Heylin *Hist. Indep.* II. 80 *marg.*, For this you must take the faith of the mysty-brayned Pen-man, who had this .. by Revelation. *c* 1810 Coleridge in *Lit. Rem.* (1838) III. 210 Paragraphs so vague and misty-magnific as this is. 1860 Ruskin *Mod. Paint.* V. VII. iv. § 6. 140 The rain-clouds in the dawn..not shining, but misty-soft. 1871 M. Collins *Mrq. & Merch.* I. vii. 215 The air was misty-bright. 1886 *Pall Mall G.* 5 Oct. 11/2 A misty-visioned political sect.

Hence **Mi·styish** *a.*, somewhat misty.

1686 Goad *Celest. Bodies* II. iv. 202 Mistyish Heaven.

†**Mi·sty,** *a.*[2] *Obs.* [app. the prec. adj. used by form-association for L. *mysticus.*] Pertaining to, involving, or characteristic of spiritual mysteries; mystical, spiritual.

c 1380 Wyclif *Serm.* Sel. Wks. II. 286 And so þre mysty wittis ben tokened in þe same story. *c* 1420 Lydg. *Commend. Our Lady* 134 Thou misty arke, probatik piscyne. *c* 1449 Pecock *Repr.* II. x. 203 O Sion, mysti douȝter. 1450–1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* 330 The mysty or spyrytuall body of cryste. 1570 Levins *Manip.* 111/42 Mystie, mist, *nebulosus.* Mysty, mistery, *mysticus.*

Mi·sunderstа·nd, *sb. rare*—[1]. [f. next.] Misunderstanding.

1864 Meredith *Sandra Belloni* xxvi, No misunderstands, mind! Wilfrid's done with.

Mi·sunderstа·nd, *v.* [Mis-1 1.]

1. *trans.* Not to understand rightly; to misconceive, miscomprehend. **a.** To take (words, statements, etc.) in a wrong sense.

c 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 37 Sume mis-understondet hier ðis hali writt. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Serm.* Sel. Wks. II. 123 Þei mysundirstonden þer lawe. 1529 More *Dyalogue* I. xxi. Wks. 147/2 That some of them which do rede it diligently.. may yet for al that, mistake & misvnderstand it. 1614 Raleigh *Hist. World* I. iii. § 9 He failed in distinguishing these two Regions, both called Eden: and .. misvnderstood two of the foure Riuers (to wit) Pison and Gehon. 1629 H. Burton *Truth's Triumph* 310 It is plaine hee mis-vnderstandeth..the place. 1778 Miss Burney *Evelina* xxi, His booby of a servant had misunderstood his orders. 1791 Mrs. Radcliffe *Rom. Forest* i, His sense of compassion was too sincere to be misunderstood. 1864 Bryce *Holy Rom. Emp.* xxi. (1875) 381 To praise or to decry the Empire as a despotic power is to misunderstand it altogether. 1873 Ruskin *Pol. Econ. Art* Addenda 223 He must say all he has to say..in the plainest possible words, or his reader will certainly misunderstand them.

b. To misinterpret the words or actions of (a person).

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 19152 Iesu þat yee did on rode, þat alwais yee mis-vnderstode. 1530 Palsgr. 639/1 He that mysvnderstandeth a man must nedes make a folysshe answere. 1680 W. Allen *Addr. Nonconf.* 69 When Nicodemus grosly mis-understood our Saviour, and demanded how can these things be? 1791 Cumberland *Observer* No. 140 V. 151, I conceive I have been misunderstood as having carried my attack against the moral doctrines of Socrates. 1837 Lytton *E. Maltrav.* 13 My poor girl, we misunderstand each other. 1841 Emerson *Ess., Self-reliance* Ser. I. 58 To be great is to be misunderstood. 1847–9 Helps *Friends in C.* (1851) I. 30 The question is, will people misunderstand you—not, is the language logically impregnable?

2. *intr.* Also with clause.

13.. *Cursor M.* 14207 (Gott.) Iesus said, 'ȝe mis-vnderstand' [*Cott.* miss yee vnderstand]. *Ibid.* 15922 'Yoene ..es ane of his þat wid vs es in band'. 'Ebberthwert nai', said he, 'ȝe misunderstand' [*Cott.* yee mis nu vnderstand]. 1822 Cobbett *Weekly Reg.* 2 Feb. 295 The effects of the system were so manifest, that nobody could misunderstand whence they sprung. 1906 Kipling *Puzzler* in *Tribune* 15 Jan. 4/3 Giuseppe placed the monkey atop of the organ, where the beast, misunderstanding, stood on his head.

Hence **Misunderstа·ndable** *a.*, capable of being misunderstood.

1843 *P. Parley's Ann.* IV. 266 The old mamma grunted and looked very misunderstandable through her grey eyes.

Mi·sunderstа·nder. [Mis-1 5.] One who misunderstands.

1529 More *Suppl. Soulys* Wks. 324/2 Many textes whiche as farre semed vnto the missvnderstanders to speake against purgatory, as [etc.]. 1697 J. Sergeant *Solid Philos.* A 3 The true Sense of Aristotle's Doctrine,..being taken..from some Modern Misunderstanders, was lost. 1891 *Pall Mall G.* 26 Oct. 3/2 'Tim' is a really striking book. It is somewhat on the lines of 'Misunderstood', the chief misunderstander being the hero's own father.

Mi·sunderstа·nding, *vbl. sb.* [Mis-1 3.]

1. Failure to understand; mistake of the meaning; misconception, misinterpretation.

c 1449 Pecock *Repr.* I. xii. 60 The mis vndirstonding of the firste text. 1579 W. Wilkinson *Confut. Fam. Love* B i, All controuersies growne among men about their misunderstanding of the Scriptures. 1644 Milton *Bucer on Div.* xxviii. 11 Through misunderstanding of the law. 1685 South *Serm.* (1697) I. viii. 347 The misunderstanding of a word. *a* 1839 Praed *Poems* (1864) II. 184 Misrepresentations of reasons, And misunderstandings of notes.

2. The condition in which parties fail to come to an 'understanding'; an interruption of harmonious relations; dissension, disagreement.

1642 Chas. I in Rushw. *Hist. Coll.* (1721) III. II. 5 The malignant Party, which have..begot this Misunderstanding between us and our good Subjects. 1691–2 Luttrell *Brief Rel.* (1857) II. 339 The accommodation which seem'd to be in view between the pope and the French, upon some misunderstanding, quite disappears. 1712 Steele *Spect.* No. 263 ¶ 3 The many Misunderstandings which are created by the Malice and Insinuation of the meanest Servants between People thus related. 1849 Cobden *Sp.* 17 America has three times, within the last few years, had a misunderstanding with two of the greatest Powers of the world. 1859 Geo. Eliot *A. Bede* xxxiii, Some little pique or misunderstanding between them. 1867 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* (1877) I. ii. 38 Occasional misunderstandings seem not to have seriously interrupted their friendship.

Mi·sunderstа·nding, *ppl. a.* [Mis-1 2.] That misunderstands. Also *absol.*

1610 Healey *St. Aug. Citie of God* 333 The mis-understanding reader..might imagine that the Pagans worshipped gods in the Temples. 1675 Baxter *Cath. Theol.* II. v. 107 These are but the bold effusions of a misunderstanding contentious temerarious passion. 1881 *Athenæum* 23 July 103/3 Whatever is most vicious in a style which grows out of a misunderstanding worship of Keats. 1900 W. M. Sinclair *Unto You Young Men* iii. 72 Doubts and difficulties may make sad..the fainthearted, the misunderstanding.

Hence **Misunderstа·ndingly** *adv.*, by a miscomprehension.

1725 Bradley *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Wold*, Wold, .. as Stow in the Wolds, and Cotswold..is sometimes misunderstandingly confounded with *Weald.*

Mi·sunderstoo·d, *ppl. a.* [Mis-1 2.] Improperly understood; taken in a wrong sense. Also *absol.*

1594 Carew *Huarte's Exam. Wits* (1616) 172 Three misvnderstood lawes, which they haue learned at all aduentures. 1711 Atterbury *Serm.* (1734) I. xi. 291 A misunderstood Place of Scripture may overthrow One of the Prime Articles of Faith. 1790 Burke *Fr. Rev.* 219 The most dangerous shock that the state ever received through a misunderstood arrangement of religion. 1887 Stedman *Vict. Poets* xi. 389 America, with her strange..misunderstood yearning for a rightful share of the culture..of the older world. 1892 Zangwill *Bow Mystery* 51 The incurable interest of humanity in the Unknown and the Misunderstood.

Hence **Mi·sunderstoo·dness.**

1826 Bentham in *Westm. Rev.* VI. 484 From non-understoodness or misunderstoodness comes oppositeness to expectation.

Misure, obs. form of Measure.

1416 in Madox *Formulare Angl.* (1702) 16 The boundes i founde and misured of the..grounde of John Bernardes.

Misusage (misyū·zĕdʒ). Now *rare.* [Mis-1 4. Cf. OF. *mesusage.*]

†**1.** Misconduct; corrupt practice, abuse. *Obs.*

1532 [see Misuse *v.* 3]. 1579 *Roy. Proclam.* 15 Dec., The great misusage in the execution of sundrie her Highnes graunts made to diuers persons. 1579 Spenser *Sheph. Cal.* July 184 Palinode .. Vode late on Pilgrimage To Rome, .. and then He saw thilke misusage.

2. Ill-usage; maltreatment; †*pl.* instances of this.

1554–5 Eden *Decades* (Arb.) 386 The fame of theyr mysusage so preuented them that the people of that place also offended therby, wold bring in no wares. 1583 Golding *Calvin on Deut.* cli. 934 Vnder this saying our Lorde hath comprehended all the misusages that wee can offer to our neighbour. 1601 Holland *Pliny* (1634) I. 30 These misusages which she [*sc.* the earth] abideth aboue, and in her outward skin, may seeme in some sort tolerable. 1670 G. H. *Hist. Cardinals* II. II. 158 The rest of the Cardinals looking upon the misusage of his person, as a reflection upon the Order. 1709 Strype *Ann. Ref.* Introd. § 1. 3 By occasion of the Hardships and Misusages she underwent before. 1837 Lockhart *Scott* (1839) VI. 394 He had no longer any thoughts for the petty misusage of mankind. 1858 Carlyle *Fredk. Gt.* VI. III. II. 269 Foul misusage, not to be borne by human nature. 1886 A. Weir *Hist. Basis Mod. Europe* (1889) 308 The Serbs..were determined only to defend themselves from misusage.

3. Bad or wrong use, misuse.

1567 in Strype *Ann. Ref.* I. (1709) 508 This Misusage of the Privilege that belonged to him, as her Ambassador. *a* 1638 Mede *Wks.* I. (1672) 14 If the Name of God be prophaned by the disesteem and misusage of the things it is called upon. *a* 1849 Poe *Whipple*, etc. Wks. 1864 III. 387 The misusage of 'like' in place of 'as'.

†**Misu·sance.** *Obs.* [Mis-1 4. Cf. OF. *mesusance.*] Misrule, mismanagement.

c 1470 Harding *Chron.* CCXXXIII. iv, Made good rule and noble ordynaunce, Auoyding all misrule and misusaunce. *a* 1670 Hacket *Abp. Williams* I. (1692) 202 [They] presaged that after he had chafed at their mis-usance, they might promise to themselves a good cast of his office.

Misuse (misyū·s), *sb.* [Mis-1 4. Cf. OF. *mesus* abuse, excess, misdeed.]

1. Wrong or improper use; misapplication.

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* III. i. (1495) 48 Isidorr sayth by a mysuse Homo a man hath the name of humo the erthe. 1450–1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* 88 To be ware leaste by mysvse of oure free wylle we falle in blyndnesse and hardnes of harte. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 241/2 A Misvse; *Abusus, Abusio.* 1690 Locke *Hum. Und.* III. x. § 15 How much Names taken for Things are apt to mislead the Vnderstanding,..and that, perhaps, in words little suspected for any such Misuse. 1707 Atterbury *Serm.* (1726) II. iv. 112 Lest he should punish our Misuse of his Mercies, by stopping the Course of them. 1748 Hartley *Observ. Man* II. iv. § 3. 391 A great Misuse of Time to dwell upon such Speculations. 1866 J. Martineau *Ess.* I. 14 Artful misuse of the confidence of others. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 28 Mar. 5/4 The gross misuse of his public position for private profit.

†**2.** Ill-usage. *Obs.*

1596 Shaks. 1 *Hen. IV*, I. i. 43 Vpon whose dead corpses there was such misuse, Such beastly, shamelesse transformation, By those Welshwomen done, as [etc.].

†3. Evil custom or conduct. *Obs.*

1509 Barclay *Shyp of Folys* (1570) 233 Let these fooles auoyde this mad misuse, and folowe the right way of vertuous grauitie. 1554 in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* (1721) III. xviii. 47 Thus plainly ye se one mischievous misuse in this mass. 1604 Shaks. *Oth.* IV. ii. 109 How haue I bin behau'd, that he might sticke The small'st opinion on my least misvse?

Misuse (misyūˑz), *v.* [Mis-[1] 1. Cf. OF. *mesuser* to make a bad use (of), commit an error or misdeed.]

1. *trans.* To use or employ wrongly or improperly; to apply to a wrong purpose.

c 1374 Chaucer *Boeth.* IV. pr. vii. (1868) 145 Þe comune worde of men mysusiþ..þis manere speche of fortune. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* III. 252 And so many men mysosiþ [? *read* mysvsiþ] her power. *c* 1460 G. Ashby *Dicta Philos.* 378 That mysguideth his liuelode..And al his reuenues mysvseth! 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* d ij, Som folke mysuse this terme draw. 1596 Shaks. 2 *Hen. IV*, IV. ii. 13, I haue misvs'd the Kings Presse damnably. 1620 *Hist. Fr. Rush* in Thoms *E. Eng. Prose Rom.* (1858) I. 289 He had so vildly misused the order of his religion. 1754 T. Gardner *Hist. Dunwich* 111 At the house is a stone coffin misused as a trough. 1765 Blackstone *Comm.* I. 244 A king cannot misuse his power, without the advice of evil counsellors. 1842 Tennyson *Godiva* 72 The Powers, who wait On noble deeds, cancell'd a sense misused. 1859 Geo. Eliot *A. Bede* v, It turns a man's stomach t' hear the Scripture misused i' that way. 1880 'Ouida' *Moths* II. 117 It will not be men's fault if she misuse her liberty.

2. To subject to ill-treatment; to maltreat, ill-use.

1540 in R. G. Marsden *Sel. Pleas Crt. Adm.* I. (1894) 99 With moche other wrongs and injuries that I and other hath been mysused in tymes past. 1553 *Act* 1 *Mary* Sess. II. c. 3 § 1 Yf any person..shall..molest..disquiet or misuse, any Preachour. 1625 Purchas *Pilgrims* II. 1173, I was taken by the Turks and misused and almost slain. 1632 *Star Chamb. Cases* (Camden) 128 Whereupon Walton beat the prisoner, haleing and dragginge him towardes the common goale, and otherwise misused him. 1781 Cowper *Hope* 128 Men deal with life as children with their play, Who first misuse, then cast their toys away. 1840 Dickens *Barn. Rudge* lvi, They haven't been misusing you with sticks, or pokers,..have they, Johnny? 1884 Tennyson *Becket* I. iv, Who misuses a dog would misuse a child—they cannot speak for themselves.

†b. To violate, ravish, or debauch. *Obs.*

1382 Wyclif *Judg.* xix. 25 The which whanne al nyȝt thei hadden mysusid, thei laften hir eerly. 1538 Bale *God's Promises* v, Of late dayes thu hast mysused Bersabe, The wyfe of Urye. *c* 1540 W. Sampson in *Old Ways* (1892) 106 Bicause I have myseused here, I intende to make [her] a goode woman.

†3. *refl.* To misconduct oneself. *Obs.*

1532 in W. H. Turner *Select. Rec. Oxford* (1880) 109 For the Mysvsage of Seriaunts. .. Yf any of the serjaunts .. doth mysusse themselfe, or geve not attendans to the Mayre, Aldermen, and Bayllyffs. 1583 *Leg. Bp. St. Androis* 953 in *Satir. Poems Reform.* xlv, I schame to tell Sa oft as I misvsit my sell, In guyding of the giftis of grace. 1581 Lambarde *Eiren.* II. vii. (1588) 202 If any such person ..shall be taken begging, or wandring, or misusing himselfe [cf. Misorder *v.*, quot. 1572].

†4. *trans.* To speak evil of; to abuse with words; to revile, deride. *Obs.*

1586 J. Hooker *Hist. Irel.* 128/1 in *Holinshed* II, None taunting, checking, or misusing an other in anie vnseemelie wordes or deeds. 1596 Shaks. *Tam. Shr.* I. i. 160. 1621 Burton *Anat. Mel.* II. iii. vii. (1651) 356 Socrates was brought upon the stage by Aristophanes, and misused to his face. 1633 T. Stafford *Pac. Hib.* xiii. (1821) 143 Doe you not heare him misuse mee in words?

†5. 'To speak falsely of, to misrepresent'. *rare*—[1].

c 1600 Shaks. *Sonn.* clii, All my vows are oaths but to misuse thee.

†6. To deceive, delude. (Cf. Abuse *v.* 4.) *Obs.*

1382 Wyclif *Ecclus.* xxv. 36 Fro thi flesh kut hir awei lest euermore sche mysvse thee. 1599 Shaks. *Much Ado* II. ii. 28 Proofe enough, to misuse the Prince, to vexe Claudio, ..and kill Leonato. 1601 Sir W. Cornwallis *Ess.* xxxii, Wee are misvsed by these spirites both night and day.

Misused (misyūˑzd), *ppl. a.* [f. prec. + -ed[1].] Improperly used or employed; ill-treated.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxxv. (*Thadee*) 17 Mysoysit beute dois il ofte. *c* 1620 A. Hume *Brit. Tongue* (1865) 15 T, the last of these misused souldioures, keepes alwayes it's aun nature, excep it be befoer tio. 1634 Milton *Comus* 47 The sweet poyson of mis-used Wine. 1823 Scott *Peveril* xxxix, Submitting to all his injustice with the endurance of a faithful and misused spaniel. 1837 J. H. Newman *Par. Serm.* I. ix. 139 The poor mis-used soul is left exhausted. 1853 J. Nichol in Knight *Mem.* (1896) 106 That misused sense of the word gallantry.

Misuseful (misyūˑsfůl), *a. rare.* [f. Misuse + -ful, after *useful*.] Characterized by misuse.

1890 A. Lang *Old Friends* xvi. 135 The wanton misuse, or rather the misuseful wantonness, of the Indian herb [*sc.* tobacco].

†**Misu·sement.** *Obs.* [f. Misuse *v.* + -ment.] Ill-usage; seduction.

1561 Brende *Q. Curtius* IV. 56 b, And Darius coulde not be otherwyse persvvaded but that she was slayne, because she woulde not consente to her mysusement.

Misuser[1] (misyūˑzəɹ). [Mis-[1] 5.] One who misuses.

1548 Uoall, etc. *Erasm. Par. Matt.* xv. 84 Not the faulte of the meates, but of the misuser. 1598 R. Bernard tr. *Terence* (1607) 204 To him that knowes how to use them, they are good, but to the misuser of them they are ill. *c* 1643 *Maximes Unfolded* 24 The misuser of his trust may forfeit that to others.

Misuser[2] (misyūˑzəɹ). *Law.* [a. OF. *mesuser*, inf. used as sb.: see -er[4].] Unlawful use of a liberty or benefit such as may lead to its forfeiture.

a 1625 Sir H. Finch *Law* (1636) 165 A franchise is.. forfeited by misusing of it. As..keeping Faire vpon two dayes when hee hath but one granted: for that is a misuser. 1664 R. Atkyns *Orig. & Growth Printing* 19 All lesser Governments under a Monarchy may by misuser be wholly taken away, or else abated. 1766 Blackstone *Comm.* II. 153 An office .. may be forfeited by mis-user or non-user. 1883 *Law Times* 27 Oct. 428/1 Something which had arisen in consequence of some neglect or some misuser.

Misusing (misyūˑziŋ), *vbl. sb.* [Mis-[1] 3.] The action of the verb Misuse.

1. Wrong use or employment; misuse.

c 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 56 Euere þe betre þat a þing is, þe worse & þe more abhominable is þe mysusynge þer-of. *c* 1393 Chaucer *Scogan* 95 Through misusing of right. 1488–9 *Act* 4 *Hen. VII*, c. 6 Through the negligence of..kepers.. and by mysusyng of their Offices, the dere..is destroied. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 238 All vnlawfull vsurpyng or misvsynge of the temporall goodes of ony persone. 1689 Popple tr. *Locke's 1st Let. Toleration* L.'s Wks. 1727 II. 313 Whether the Magistrate's Opinion can change..the Power he has, or excuse him to his Judge for misusing of it. 1814 Mrs. J. West *Alicia de Lacy* II. 197 To render a strict account of our intrusted ten talents, for the mis-usings of reputation, of knowledge, of time. 1874 W. Bright *Hymns* 22 Look not on our misusings of Thy grace.

†2. Misconduct. *Obs.*

1395 *Remonstrance* (1851) 153 How abhominable is the mysusinge of prelatis that holden benefisid men in seculer officis. 1532 More *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 346/2 He semed verye penitent of hys mysseusing of hymself, in falling to Tyndalles heresies agayne. 1540 Sir W. Eure in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. III. III. 280 For the reformacion of the mysusing of the Spiritualtie in Scotlande.

†3. Maltreatment. *Obs.*

1590 Sir J. Smyth *Disc. Weapons* Ded. 5 b, [They] haue liued..more vpon the spoile, and misusing of the common people. 1647 Hexham, *Een mishandelinge*, a Mis-using.

Misva·lue, *v.* [Mis-[1] 1.] *trans.* To value falsely or wrongly; to misesteem.

a 1626 [see Misrate]. 1614 J. Davies *Ecl.* in Browne *Sheph. Pipe* G 3 b, I dread my warke Woll be misualued both of old and yong. 1875 Tennyson *Q. Mary* III. ii, I fear the Emperor much misvalued me. 1900 *Athenæum* 21 Apr. 490/2 After having been ignored or misvalued during his life.

So **Misvalua·tion.**

1903 *Daily Chron.* 26 May 3/2 This same misvaluation is perhaps responsible for the statement that [etc.].

Misve·nture, *sb.* Now *arch.* [Mis-[1] 4.] An unfortunate venture; a mischance, misadventure.

1563 Hyll *Art Garden.* (1574) A iv b, Whosoeuer thou be, That by misuenture or by will, shall chaunce this booke to see. 1755 Smollett *Quix.* III. v. I. 108 All the misventures, which have this day happened to us, are designed as a punishment for the sins committed by your worship. 1831 *Fraser's Mag.* III. 131 From among so many shipwrecks and misventures one goodly vessel comes to land. 1858 Carlyle *Fredk. Gt.* VI. i. II. 136 Pranks enough, and misventures,—half-drowning 'in the mill-race at Annamoe in Ireland', for one.

¶ In allusion to Cervantes' use of *desventura* (see Disventure): Foolish 'adventure'.

1839 J. M. Wilson *Tales Borders* V. 96/2 Like all good knights of misventure, I fainted and fell down upon the floor. 1881 Duffield tr. *Don Quixote* I. v. 61 My honoured uncle would read those impious books of misventures.

†**Misve·nture,** *v. Obs. rare*—[1]. [Mis-[1] 1.] *trans.* To risk in bad investments.

1677 Yarranton *Eng. Improv.* 20 Moneys misventur'd by trusting and bad Securities.

Misve·nturous, *a. rare*—[1]. [Mis-[1] 7.] Not venturous; timid.

1882 Carlyle in *Century Mag.* XXIV. 20 Misventurous Irishwomen, giving up their plan of emigration to Australia.

Misvou·ched, *pa. pple.* and *ppl. a.* [Mis-[1] 2.]

1. Alleged wrongly.

a 1626 Bacon *True Greatness Brit.* Wks. 1859 VII. 56 That very..saying of Mutianus, which was the original of this opinion [that money is the sinews of war] is misvouched, for his speech was, *Pecuniæ sunt nervi belli civilis.*

2. Not well vouched for. 1876 [see Mistutored].

†**Miswa·ndered,** *ppl. a. Obs.* [Mis-[1] 2.] In which one has gone astray.

1590 Spenser *F. Q.* III. vii. 18 His late miswandred wayes now to remeasure right. 1620 Quarles *Feast of Worms* ix, They..relented, And (changing their mis-wandred wayes) repented.

†**Miswa·ndering,** *ppl. a. Obs.* [Mis-[1] 2.] Going astray.

c 1374 Chaucer *Boeth.* II. pr. viii. (1868) 61 Amyable fortune..draweth mys wandrynge men [orig. *devios*] fro the souereyne good. *Ibid.* III. pr. ii. 65 Þe myswandryng errour myslediþ hem in to false goodes. 1631 Quarles *Hist. Samson* vii, Can thy miswandring eyes choose none, but her, That is the child of an Idolater? 1645 — *Solomons Recant.* Solil. v, Wavering footsteps, and miswandring eyes.

†**Miswa·ste,** *v. Obs.* [Mis-[1] 8.] *trans.* To lavish foolishly.

c 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* III. 400 Þo seed of Gods word is better þen þo seed of mon; þerfore hit is worse to mysspende þat þen to myswaste monnys seed. *a* 1618 Sylvester *Spectacles* viii. Wks. (Grosart) II. 298 Their Health, Wealth, Wit, mis-wasted Are but as blossoms blasted.

†**Misway'.** *Obs.* [Mis-[1] 4.] A wrong path.

c 1374 Chaucer *Boeth.* III. met. xi. (1868) 100 Who so that ..coueyteth nat to ben deseyuyd by no mys-weyes [orig. *nullis deviis*]. *Ibid.* V. pr. i. 149 It is to douten þat þou ne be maked weery by mysweys.

b. quasi-*adv.* in *to go misway*, to go astray.

c 1400 *Rom. Rose* 4766 Love makith alle to goon miswey.

Miswe·d, *v.* [Mis-[1] 1.] *trans.* To marry unsuitably. Also **Miswe·dded** *ppl. a.*, of a marriage: Wrongly or unsnitably contracted.

1645 Milton *Tetrach.* Wks. 1851 IV. 167 Every ungodly and miswedded mariage. 1828–32 Webster, *Miswed*, to wed improperly.

†**Miswee·n,** *v. Obs.* [Mis-[1] 1.]

1. *intr.* To have a wrong opinion. Also with *clause.*

1590 Spenser *F. Q.* II. i. Prol. iii, Why then should witlesse man so much misweene, That nothing is but that which he hath seene? 1594 — *Astr.* xvii, Full happie man (misweening much) was hee. *a* 1640 Jackson *Creed* XII. iv. Wks. XII. 27 The Jews..misweening that the whole family ..of God ..should be comprised within the .. family of Abraham.

2. *trans.* To think wrongly of, misjudge.

1614 J. Davies *Ecl.* in Browne *Sheph. Pipe* G 4 For thy tho Songsters are misween'd of all. 1749 Melmoth *Fitzosborne's Lett.* II. lxxii. 105 Ne thou, O man! who deal'st the tort, misween The equal gods.

†**Miswee·ning,** *vbl. sb. Obs.* [Mis-[1] 3.] Misthinking; misjudgement; mistrust.

1488 Caxton *Chast. Goddes Chyldern* 92 A man shall put suche myswenyng away from hym. 1571 Golding *Calvin on Ps.* lix. 20 They bee made drunken as wel with their owne misweening as with the flattery of the common sorte. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* I. iv. 1 Least..rash misweening doe thy hart remove.

†**Miswei·gh,** *v. Obs. rare*—[1]. In 5 mysweye. [Mis-[1] 1.] *trans.* To weigh amiss.

c 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 9/157 The balance of vertues I haue mysweyed, With sleyng of tonge, or with wilfulnesse [etc.].

†**Miswe·nd,** *v. Obs.* [Mis-[1] 1. (For certain uses of *miswent* see Misgo *v.*)]

1. *trans.* To turn in a wrong direction; to misapply; to lead astray; to pervert.

1340 *Ayenb.* 22 Ac uor hire euele tongen hi miswendeþ moche uolk to done wel. *Ibid.* 62 Huanne he miswent and went to þe worse half al þet he yherþoþer yziȝþ. 1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 80 Nectanabus his craft miswente. *a* 1450 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 243 Ther the Bibelle is al myswent To jangle of Job or Jeremye. *c* 1460 G. Ashby *Dicta Philos.* 469 That the myddyl of your liffe be not spent In ydelnesse, ne in vnthrifte myswent.

2. *pass.* and *intr.* To go astray (*lit.* and *fig.*); to come to grief. Pa. pple. *miswent* = (1) gone astray; (2) out of gear; dilapidated; ruined.

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 7217 Vr louerd..prest aþ imad uor to smite men þat beþ mis wend. 1340 *Ayenb.* 27 Þe herte of þe enuious is enuenymed and suo miswent. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 21 And eche in his compleignte telleth How that the world is al miswent. *Ibid.* 331 And that makth al mi world miswende. 1413 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton 1483) III. iii. 51 Good hede he took..that cord or chaine were nought myswent other wise than it shold. 1581 Rich *Farew.* (1846) 38, I now forsake the former tyme I spent, And sorry am, for that I was miswent. *a* 1586 Sidney *Sonn.* in *Arcadia* (1622) 494 What? is thy Bagpipe broke, or are thy lambes miswent? 1591 [see Miscounsel *v.*]. 1596 Spenser *F. Q.* IV. v. 30 Who likewise sought her lover long miswent. 1600 Fairfax *Tasso* II. x. 21 In this maze still wandred and miswent. 1723 *Portland Papers* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) VI. 77 He that would see a church miswent, Let him go to Cuckeston in Kent.

†**Miswi·ll.** *Obs.* [Mis-[1] 4.] Wrong desire.

1496 *Dives & Pauper* (W. de W.) vii. Introd. 27/1 Her wycked conetyse and myswyll of richesse.

†**Miswi·n,** *v. Obs.* [Mis-[1] 1.] *trans.* To obtain wrongfully.

1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xiii. 42 Of þat men mys-wonne þei made hem wel at ese. *c* 1613 in *Overbury's Wks.* (1856) 10 As if the day Were come, wherein another Phaeton Stolne into Phœbus waine, had all misse-won A cleane contrary way.

Mis-wi·sh, *sb.* [Mis-[1] 4.] Wrong desire.

1865 J. Grote *Moral Ideas* ii. (1876) 31 Mis-craving is physical disease, mis-wish is mental.

Mis-wi·sh, *v.* [Mis-[1] 1.] *trans.* To have wrong wishes with regard to.

1831 Carlyle *Misc. Ess., Early German Lit.* (1840) III. 173 He men miswishes and misjudges, Inferiors scorns, superiors grudges.

So †**Miswi·shing** *vbl. sb.*, wrong desire.

1571 Golding *Calvin on Ps.* xxxv. 25 This miswishing hath bin expounded.

†**Miswi·te,** *v. Obs.* [Mis-[1] 1 or 7.] To neglect.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 202 To..miswiten ei þing þet heo haueð to witene.

†**Miswi·ve,** *v. Obs.* [Mis-[1] 1.] *trans.* To marry unlawfully.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 540 Two hundred 3er after ðo wunes, Mis-wiuen hem gunnen seðes sunes.

†**Miswoman.** *Obs.* [app. f. Mis *a.* + Woman.] A 'bad woman'; a strumpet.

1528 Tindale *Parab. Wicked Mammon* 17 Mysse women tyre them selues with golde and sylke to please theyr louers. 1530 Palsgr. 831 As a mysse woman is at ones commaundement. *c* 1530 *Remedy of Love* Chaucer's Wks. (1561) 322 b, Flie the miswoman, lest she thee disceiue, Thus saith Salomon. 15.. *Guistard & Sismond* II. (1597) C 6, Sooner.. Then ye wold euer haue thought to be a mis-woman.

†**Miswo·nting,** *vbl. sb. Obs.* [Mis-[1] 3.] Disnse.

1627 Bp. Hall *Div. Medit.* vii, These feeble beginnings.. are soone extinguished by intermission, and by mis-wonting, perish.

Misword (miswə̄ɹd), *sb.* Now *dial.* Also 9 **miss word.** [Mis-[1] 4. (Cf. Mis *a.*)] A harsh, angry, or cross word.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 190 A mis-word þet 3e þolieð. 1598 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. iii. IV. 1015 Where..the Tyrant's sword Is not made drunk with blood for a Mis-word. 1603 Holland *Plutarch's Mor.* 111 What mis-word can they have to say unto you? 1603 Breton *Packet Mad Lett.* (1633) 38, I haue receiued your snappish Letter whereby I see you are more angry, then I thought you would haue beene for a

misword or two. 1801 W. Huntington *Bank of Faith* 88 Not one creditor ever gave me a miss word in this world. 1824 Mrs. Cameron *Pink Tippet* II. 33 If a miss word was said by chance, she would never let it drop. 1872 Mrs. H. Wood *Within the Maze* i, Not a mis-word would ever have arisen between them.

Mis-wo'rd, *v.* [Mis-1 1.] *trans.* To word (a message) incorrectly. Also **Mis-wo'rded** *ppl. a.*

1883 *Advance* (Chicago) 16 Aug., A number of mis-worded telegrams. 1895 *Funk's Stand. Dict.*, *Mis-word*, to word wrongly or inaccurately; as the telegram was misworded.

Mis-wo'rding, *vbl. sb.* [Mis-1 3.] Wrong wording or expression.

a 1680 Butler *Rem.* (1759) I. 425 [They] spoil all they do by wilful Miswording of their Acts. 1804 Earl Malmesbury *Diaries & Corr.* III. 327 A Miswording in the original Message.

† **Miswo'rk**, *v. Obs.* Chiefly in *pa. pple.* mis-wrought. [Mis-1 1.]

1. *trans.* (with indefinite obj.) To do amiss.

a 1300 *Assump. Virg.* (Camb. MS.) 187 Ȝef ihc habbe eny þing mis wroȝt, Tellez hit me. 1340 Hampole *Pr. Consc.* 1993 Turne agayne þan may he noght For to amend þat he has myswroght. *c* 1407 Lyog. *Reas. & Sens.* 2930 Yif any thing I ha myswrought. *a* 1529 Skelton *Replyc.* Wks. I. 214 Howe ye haue small contrycion Of that ye haue myswrought. 1554 *Interlude of Youth* C iij, And amende that thou hast myswrought.

2. *intr.* To act amiss; to commit an offence.

c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 5148 þat sche wold miswerche wrongli any time. 1413 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton 1483) I. xv. 12, I am that same that hyely haue myswrought. *c* 1450 *Cov. Myst.* 121 Aȝens God thou hast myswrought.

3. *trans.* To manufacture badly.

a 1626 Bacon *Charge Sess. Verge* (1662) 19 That which is miswrought will miswear.

Miswo'rship, *sb.* [Mis-1 4.] Wrong or false worship.

1626 Bp. Hall *Contempl., O. T.* xx. 118 He was not more the father of a later Iereboam, then (in respect of mis-worship) he was the son of the first Iereboam, who made Israel to sin. 1840 Carlyle *Heroes* i. (1841) 5 Such hideous inextricable jungle of misworships, misbeliefs.

Miswo'rship, *v.* [Mis-1 1.] *trans.* To worship amiss. Also **Miswo'rshipping** *vbl. sb.*; **Miswo'rshipper.**

1640 Bp. Hall *Serm.* Wks. 1837 V. 420 In them God is made our idol, and we the misworshippers of him. 1647 Ward *Simp. Cobler* 35, I fear many holy men have not so deeply humbled themselves for their former misworshippings of God as [etc.]. *a* 1656 Bp. Hall *Soul's Farew.* § 3 There have not wanted nations..which have misworshipped it [heaven] for their God.

† **Miswre'nch**, *v. Obs.* Only in pa. pple. 4 mys-wreynt. [Mis-1 1.] *trans.* To twist out of shape.

1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 189 The wardes of the cherche keie Thurgh mishandlinge ben myswreynt.

† **Miswre'st**, *v. Obs.* [Mis-1 1.] *trans.* To pervert; *esp.* to pervert the meaning of (a passage).

a 1400 *Pety Job* 369 in 26 *Pol. Poems* 133 All thys world now ys myswrest, To carpe thys, lorde, ayenst the. 1532 More *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 501/2 The heretikes wrested & misse construed the scripture (as we see that these heretikes much more mysse wrest it nowe). 1583 Golding *Calvin on Dent.* lxx. 31 b, Ye see how this Text hath bin miswrested.

Miswrite (misrəi't), *v.* [Mis-1 1.] *trans.* To write incorrectly; to make a mistake in writing (a word, etc.). Also **Miswri'tten** *ppl. a.*

c 1000 Ælfric *Gram.* l. (Z.) 294 ȝif hit byð miswriten oððe miscweden of þam rihtan cræfte. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* v. 1795 So preye I god that noon miswryte thee, Ne thee mismetre. 1533 More *Apol.* vii. Wks. 858/2 These wordes seme to be miswritten, either in the principall booke, or in the copy. 1614 Raleigh *Hist. World* II. xxii. § 6 Whether it were so that Iosephus did omit, or else that he did mis-write, some number of the yeares. 1677 Wallis in Rigaud *Corr. Sci. Men* (1841) II. 608 At your note K, I desire you to consider if there be not somewhat miswritten. 18.. Kingsley *Sir W. Raleigh* in *Misc.* (1859) I. 33 That the passage .. is either misquoted, or miswritten by Raleigh himself, I cannot doubt. 1876 Emerson *Ess.* Ser. II. i. 15 And substitute something of our own, and thus miswrite the poem. 1884 A. R. Pennington *Wiclif* ii. 22 *note*, The mis-written word *apocrisus*, instead of *apocryphus*. 1899 Plummer *Sax. Chron.* II. p. xxxii, 1130 (miswritten 1080, MLXXX having been substituted for MCXXX).

Miswriting (misrəi'tiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [Mis-1 3.] An error in writing.

1430–1 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 378/1 Ony errour in myswrityng. 1632–3 Laud *Hist. Chanc. Oxf.* Rem. 1700 II. 58 That Slip was but in the mis-writing of one word. 1677 W. Mountagu in *Buccleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 325 There are some little miswriting[s] in the patent. 1752 J. Louthian *Form of Process* 167 Nor shall any such miswriting, &c. after Conviction, be Cause to stay or arrest Judgment. 1828 Thirlwall & Hare tr. *Niebuhr's Hist. Rome* (1855) I. 264 The greatest difficulties in them [*sc.* the Fasti of Diodorus] arise from mis-writing. 1869 E. A. Freeman *O. E. Hist.* vii. 92 *note*, The text of the Chronicle has *three* years, but it seems clear that this must be a mis-writing for *thirteen*.

Miswrought: see Miswork *v.*

† **Miswu'ne.** *Obs.* [Mis-1 4.] Evil habit.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 13 For te quenchen .. his lust þe miswune haueð on broht.

† **Mi'sy.** *Obs.* Also 7 mysy, missy. [a. L. *misy* (Pliny), a. Gr. *μίσυ*. Cf. F. *misy*, It. *misi*.]

1. A kind of mushroom or truffle.

1601 Holland *Pliny* XIX. iii. II. 7 Within the province of Cyrenaica in Affricke, there is found the like excrescence, called Misy, passing sweet and pleasant.

2. A kind of copper ore, usually identified as yellow copperas or copiapite.

There is no evidence that the word was ever used in Eng. except with reference to the mineral described by Pliny.

1601 Holland *Pliny* XXXIV. xii. II. 510 Some .. have written, that Mysy is engendred by the means of a fire made with pine wood, in the hollow veines..of brasse ore... But the truth is, of the foresaid stone or ore [*sc.* chalcitis] it is engendred naturally. 1616 Bullokar *Eng. Expos.*, *Misy*, a kind of yellow copperas, shining like gold, brought out of Egypt and the Ile of Cyprus. 1661 Lovell *Hist. Anim. & Min.*, *Isagoge*, Some [minerals] have only little sparks, as misy. 1683 Pettus *Fleta Min.* II. 90 *Missy* .. which G. Agricola from Pliny, calls *Atramentum sutorium*, or shoe-makers Black; but Pliny makes it a kind of Vitriol. 1722 Quincy *Lex. Physico-Med.* (ed. 2). *a* 1775 Sir J. Hill *Materia Med.* 141.

Misy, obs. form of Mizzy.

† **Misyea'rning**, *vbl. sb.* In 4 -ȝarninge. [Mis-1 3.] Wrong desire.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* iii. (*Andrew*) 451 þat .. he, throw þe croice of þe blissit tre, suld exclude of misȝarninge þe tre.

† **Misye'me**, *v. Obs.* [Mis-1 1.] *trans.* To neglect.

1028–*c* 1060 *Law Northumb. Priests* xxxiv. (Liebermann) 382 ȝif preost sceare misȝime beardes oððe feaxes, ȝebete þæt. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 344 Þe þinges in þisse riwle þet beoð misȝemed. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 322 For hit was for-garte, at paradys greue Oure ȝore fader hit con mysseȝeme.

† **Misye'nge**, *v. Obs.* [f. Mis-1 1 + **ȝengen*, Geng *v.*] *intr.* To go astray, miss.

a 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1229 (Cott.) Ȝef me ikepþ mid iwarnesse An fleo schal toward misȝenge [*Jesus MS.* misyenge].

Misyoke (misyōu'k), *v.* [Mis-1 1.] *trans.* To yoke or join (in marriage) unsuitably. Also *intr.*, to be so yoked.

1645 Milton *Divorce* I. viii. 18 Therefore saith the Apostle 2 *Cor.* 6, 'Mis-yoke not together with infidels', which is interpreted of marriage. *Ibid.* II. xix. 70 Hinder'd in wedlock by mis-yoking with a diversity of nature as well as of religion. 1645 — *Tetrach.* Wks. 1851 IV. 150 Where the yoke is mis-yok't, heretick with faithfull. 1872 Tennyson *Last Tourn.* 566 Misyoked with such a want of man.

Miszea'lous, *a.* [Mis-1 6.] Wrongly zealous.

1617 Bp. Hall *Quo Vadis?* § 16 Their mis-zealous passions hide themselues in a pleasing sweetnesse. 1641 — *Answ. Vind. Smectymn.* 66 Let those mis-zealous men .. see how they will answer it. 1641 Milton *Animadv.* Wks. 1851 III. 196 The practises, and combinations of Libelling Separatists, and the miszealous advocates thereof.

Miszen, obs. form of Mizen.

Mit (mit). *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Forms: 1 mitte, 5 mytte, 9 mit. [OE. *mitte* wk. fem.:—OTeut. type **mitjôn-*, f. root **met* to measure: see Mete *v.* Cf. OHG. *mezzo* masc., '[h]eminus', MHG. *metze*, G. *metze* masc., fem., a measure for corn, salt, etc.]

† **1.** A measure of capacity, in OE. app. = two ambers; mentioned as used for corn, meal, honey, ale, wine; in 15th c. used for salt. *Obs.*

804–29 *Charters*, etc. (Thorpe) 460, xxx. ombra godes Uuelesces aloð þet limpnað to xv. mittum. *c* 1050 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 359/8 *Bata*, mittan. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 664 In the wyche xiiij. myttes of Salte [L. *xiiii. mittas salis*].

2. *dial.* 'A shallow tub, or other like vessel, used for household purposes' (Miss Jackson *Shropsh. Word-bk.*, Suppl. 1879), as *butter-mit*, *kneading-mit*. Cf. Moat *sb.*2

1847 Halliwell, *Butter-mit*, a small tub in which newly-made butter is washed. *West.*

Mit, obs. form of Might *sb.*; var. Mitt, a mitten.

‖ **Mita** (mī'tä). [Sp.] In the Spanish-American colonies: A certain portion of the Indian population chosen by lot for a specified period of forced labour in the public service.

1726 J. Stevens tr. *Herrera's Hist. America* V. 56 The Mitayos Tindarunas are Tributary Indians, the Curacas, or native Lords have set apart to hire them out to work in the Mines, build Houses, and the like... These they furnish to serve in their Mitas, or Turns, for the Space of two Months, or longer. 1777 Robertson *Hist. Amer.* VIII. (1851) II. 102 In Peru, each *mita*, or division, destined for the mines, remains there six months. 1812 *Ann. Reg., Gen. Hist.* 161 The inhumanity..of that regulation in the American colonies [of Spain] called the Mitas. 1880 C. R. Markham *Peruv. Bark* 147 *Mitas* of Indians, for the purpose of collecting coca-leaves, were forbidden in 1569.

Mitch, var. Mich *sb.* and Miche *v.*, obs. f. Much.

Mitch-board (mi'tʃbo·ɹd). *Naut.* [? f. *mitch* = Miche *sb.*2 + Board *sb.*] A support for a boom, yard, etc., when not in use.

1883 E. W. H. Holdsworth *Sea Fisheries* 58 The mast of these Yarmouth luggers..is supported about the middle by a broad upright piece of wood called a 'mitch-board'. 1887 Hall Caine *Deemster* (1888) 65 Davy jumped on deck, took a lantern, and fixed it to the top of the mitch-board. 1894 R. Leighton *Wreck Golden Fleece* 18 The crutch of the mitch-board.

Mitche, obs. form of Miche *v.*

Mitchel (mi'tʃĕl). ? *Obs.* [Possibly from the surname *Mitchel*; it can hardly represent the obsolete southern *mitchel* = Mickle *a.*] (See quots.)

1669 in *Dict. Archit.* (Arch. Publ. Soc.) s. v., For paviog the upper pawne with Mitchells per foote 8*d*. 1703 T. N. *City & C. Purchaser* 202 *Mitchels*, Purbeck-stones for Paving, pick'd all of a Size, from 15 inches square to 2 Foot. 1737 Salmon *Country Build. Estim.* (ed. 2) 3 Purbeck Paving at promiscuous Sizes .. is about 7*d*. or 8*d*. per Foot; also Mitchels are valued at about 1*s*. 10*d*. per Foot. 1842 Gwilt *Archit., Mitchel*, a name given by workmen to Purbeck stones of twenty-four by fifteen inches when squared for building. [Perh. an error: cf. quot. 1703.]

‖ **Mitchella** (mitʃe·lă). *Bot.* [Mod.Lat.; named by Linnæus in 1753 after the botanist John *Mitchell* (died 1768).] A genus of trailing evergreen herbs of the N.O. *Rubiaceæ*; a plant of this genus, e. g. *M. repens*, the partridge-berry.

1824 Loudon *Encycl. Gard.* Gen. Index (ed. 2) 1206/2 Mitchelia [*read* Mitchella] .. a diminutive creeper which grows in peat soil. 1862 Darwin in *Life & Lett.* III. 301 The Mitchella very good, but pollen apparently equal-sized. 1870 Mrs. Whitney *We Girls* ii, Leslie was quick to spy the bit of creeping mitchella.

Mitcher, variant of Micher *sb.*

Mite1 (məit). Also 4–6 myte, (5 moighte, myght). [OE. *mīte* wk. fem. = MDu., MLG. *mīte* (Du. *mijt* fem.), OHG. *mīza* fem., gnat:—OTeut. **mītôn-*. Cf. F. *mite*, of Teut. origin.

Franck suggests derivation from the Indogermanic root **mei-* expressing smallness. Some refer the word to an ablaut-variant of the Teut. root **mait-* (Goth. *maitan*, OHG. *meizen*) to cut.]

1. In early use, applied vaguely to any minute insect or arachnid; sometimes *spec.* a small parasitic insect infesting hawks. Now usually restricted to certain genera of the order *Acarida* of arachnids, and chiefly applied to the cheese-mite, *Tyroglyphus* (formerly *Acarus*) *domesticus*.

c 1000 Ælfric *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 122/6 *Ta[r]mus*, maþa, mite. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Wife's Prol.* 560, I .. wered vpon my gaye scarlet gytes. Thise wormes ne thise Motthes ne thise mytes Vpon my peril frete hem neuer a deel. 1472–3 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 59/1 Such [wools] as shall happen to rote or perych hy long standyng, bityng of moighte. *c* 1475 *Pict. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 767/26 *Hoc gamation*, a myght. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* C v, An hawke that hath mites. 1530 Palsgr. 245/2 Myte in chese, *myte*. 1601 Shaks. *All's Well* I. i. 154 Virginitie breedes mites, much like a Cheese. 1611 Cotgr., *Calendre*, the corne-deuouring Mite, or Weeuill. 1633 Latham *Falconry* Words Art Expl., Mites, are a kinde of vermine smaller then Lice, and most about the heads and nares of Hawks. 1658 Rowland *Moufet's Theat. Ins.* 1094 In English, Mites, in cheese, leaves, dry wood, and wax. 1732 Pope *Ess. Man* I. 196 Say what the use, were finer optics giv'n, T' inspect a mite, not comprehend the heav'n? 1753 Chambers *Cycl. Supp.* s. v., The Mites among figs resemble beetles. 1870 Nicholson *Man. Zool.* xxxvii. (1875) 269 Several Mites (*Thalassarachna*, *Pontarachna*, &c.) have been found to inhabit salt water. 1881 E. A. Ormerod *Injur. Insects* 62 Other kinds of mites which may very likely be found on currant bushes. 1896 tr. *Boas' Zool.* 285 Peculiar microscopic Mites..(*Demodex folliculorum*) occur in the follicles of the human nose.

b. With defining word prefixed (see quots.).

1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) I. 48/2 The siro, or cheese-mite, is a very minute species. *Ibid.* 49/1 The baccarum, or scarlet tree-mite, is a small species [of *Acarus*]. 1833 *Penny Cycl.* I. 69/2 Water-Mites (*Hydrachnellæ*). 1833 Itch-mite [see Itch *sb.* 3]. 1835 Kirby *Hab. & Inst. Anim.* xix. II. 305 A species of bat-mite [*Pteroptes*]. 1870 Nicholson *Man. Zool.* xxxvii. (1875) 269 The Wood-mites (*Oribatidæ*)..are to be found amongst moss and herbage, or creeping upon trees or stones. 1874 *Hardwicke's Sci.-Gossip* 234 *Tetranychus Lapidum* (Stone Mite). 1874, 1877 Harvest-mite [see Harvest *sb.* 7]. 1896 tr. *Boas' Zool.* 284 The Beetle-mites (genus *Gamasus*) frequently occur on Beetles, Bumble-bees, etc. .. An allied, but thin-skinned form, the common Bird-mite (*Dermanyssus avium*) occurs on Birds (Fowls, Canaries), and sucks their blood. 1898 E. A. Ormerod *Handbk. Insects* 61 *Phytoptus ribis*, or the Currant Bud Mite.

2. *slang.* A cheesemonger.

[1765 Foote *Commissary* III. i, Miss Cicely Mite, the only daughter of old Mite the cheesemonger.] 1785 Grose *Dict. Vulg. Tongue*, *Mite*, a nick name for a cheesemonger, from the small insect of that name found in cheese.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

1624 Gataker *Transubst.* 191 Corruption, putrefaction, mite-breeding [etc.]. 1774 Golosm. *Nat. Hist.* (1824) I. 405 These [cheeses] are never found to breed mites ..., probably because the mite-fly is not to be found in Lapland. 1878 Emerson *Sovereignty of Ethics*, The same original power which..works in a lobster or a mite-worm. 1881 E. A. Ormerod *Injur. Insects* 180 The Mite-infested bud.

Mite2 (məit). Also 4 myt, 4–5 myght, 4–6 myte, 5 myth, 6 myit. [a. (? through OF. *mite*, 14th c.) MDu. *mīte* fem. (early mod.Du. *mijte*, now *mijt*) = MLG. *mîte*, *meite*, *meute* (whence early mod.G. *meite*, something very small):—OTeut. **mītôn-*; prob. identical with Mite *sb.*1]

1. Originally, a Flemish copper coin of very small value; according to some early Flemish writers, worth ¼ of a Flemish penny, though other, chiefly smaller, values are also mentioned. In Eng. use mainly as a proverbial expression for an extremely small unit of money value. In books of commercial arithmetic in 16–17th c. it commonly appears as the lowest denomination of English money of account, usually $\frac{1}{24}d$, but sometimes $\frac{1}{84}d$, and sometimes $\frac{1}{12}d$; it is, however, unlikely that the word was ever in Eng. mercantile use. From the 14th c. *mite* has been the usual rendering (though the Wycliffe versions have 'mynutis') of L. *minūtum* (Vulg.), Gr. λεπτόν in Mark xii. 43, where two 'mites' are stated to make a 'farthing' (Gr. κοδράντης, L. *quadrans*); hence the word is now popularly taken as equivalent to 'half-farthing'.

1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. XIII. 196 Haued nou3t..þe pore widwe [more] for a peire of mytes, þan alle þo that offreden in-to *gazafilacium*? *c* 1483 Caxton *Dialogues* 51 A peny, a halfpeny, A ferdyng, a myte. 1535 Coverdale *Mark* xii. 43 And there came a poore wyddowe, and put in two mytes,

which make a farthinge. 1577 D. Gray *Storeh. Brev. Arithm.* 5 Firste giue heede howe many Mites make one Farthyng, and that beeyng 6. you shall for euery 6 Mytes cary one Farthyng to the place of farthynges. 1600 Hvll *Arithm.* III. i. Pp vij, Four Mites is the aliquot part of a peny, viz. ⅓, for 6. times 4 is 24. and so many mites marchants assigne to 1. peny. 1674 Jeake *Arith.* (1696) 77 That is 16 Mites in one Farthing. 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Mite*, an ancient small Coin, about a third part of our Farthing. 1778 *Eng. Gazetteer* (ed. 2) s.v. *Littleborough, Notts.*, Many little coins like flatted peas, called mites, are also found here. 1807 Southey *Espriella's Lett.* I. 243 It will soon entirely disappear, just as the mite or half farthing has disappeared before it. 1863 Trevelyan *Compet. Wallah* (1866) 95 We were ferried across [the Ganges] for the moderate remuneration of three mites a head.

† b. In proverbial phrases, as *not worth a mite, not to care a mite*, etc. (*To pay*) *to the mite*: = 'to the uttermost farthing', without deduction.

c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 4543 William..Greiþed him..so þat non miȝt a-mend a mite worþ, i wene. *Ibid.* 5348 Al þe men vpon mold it amende ne miȝt..half a mite. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Compl. Mars* 126 He ne roghte not a myte for to dye. *c* 1374 — *Troylus* III. 783 [832] Yf to lese his loye he set a myte, Than seemeth it þat loye is worth but lyte. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* III. 198 And fra the hart he discumfyt The body is nocht worth a myt. *c* 1425 *Cast. Persev.* 247 in *Macro Plays* 84 Þou synne my sowle sese, I ȝeue not a myth. *c* 1485 *Digby Myst.* (1882) I. 142 And though thei sharme and crye, I care not a myght. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* III. Prol. 19 In cais thai bark, I compt it neuir a myte. 1567 *Gude & Godlie Ball.* (S.T.S.) 176 Bot quhen he had payit all to ane myit, He mon be absoluit than. 1592 Greene *Groatsw. Wit* Wks. (Grosart) XII. 137 Greene will send you now his groat worth of wit, that neuer showed a mites-worth in his life.

c. With allusion to Mark xii. 43, (*one's*) *mite* is often used for: The small sum which is all that one can afford to give to some charitable or public object; hence *fig.* applied to an immaterial contribution (insignificant in amount, but the best one can do) to some object or cause.

1650 Baxter *Saints' R.* IV. xiv. 801 Will my mite requite thee for thy golden Mines? 1687 Dryden *Hind & P.* III. 113 Are you defrauded, when he feeds the poor? Our mite decreases nothing of your store. 1709 Swift *Tritical Ess.* Wks. 1755 II. i. 140, I hope I may be allowed among so many far more learned men to offer my mite. 1747 Berkeley *Tar-water in Plague* Wks. 1871 III. 479 It may not be amiss to contribute my mite of advice. 1784 Franklin *Autobiog.* Wks. 1840 I. 103 My mite for such purpose was never refused. 1818 Scott *Hrt. Midl.* ix, Reuben Butler went to offer his mite of consolation to his old friend and benefactor. 1827 Roberts *Voy. Centr. Amer.* 255, I have been desirous .. to add my mite to the great mass of information. 1873 Morley *Rousseau* I. ix. 328 He subscribed his mite for the erection of a statue to him.

† 2. A small weight; *spec.* the twentieth part of a grain troy. (See note s.v. Droit 2.) *Obs.*

1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 275 Lovers..thogh thei love a lyte, That scarsly woulde it weie a myte. 15.. *MS. Harl.* 660 lf. 81 b, Euery subtylle grayne [doth] contayne 20 mytes. 1601, *a* 1606, 1649 [see Droit 2]. 1725 [see Blank *sb.* 10]. 1727 Arbuthnot *Tables Anc. Coins* 109 The Sevil piece of Eight ..contains 13 Pennyweight 21 Grains and 15 Mites (of which there are 20 in the Grain) of Sterling Silver. 1727–38 Chambers *Cycl.* (ed. 3) s.v.

3. A minute particle or portion; a tiny fragment. Now only *colloq.* or *vulgar*.

1608 Shaks. *Per.* II. Prol. 8 Loosing a Mite, a Mountaine gaine. 1614 Sir A. Gorges tr. *Lucan* IV. 148 Although we few are but a mite Mongst thousands that for him do fight. 1633 Ford *Love's Sacr.* IV. ii, I haue a sword..To..cut your throats, and mince Your flesh to mites. 1670 Eachard *Cont. Clergy* 56 We be but mites of entity, and crumbs of something. 1691 Ray *Creation* II. 130 The Ants..drop upon them a small Mite of their stinging Liquor. 1820 Byron *Mar. Fal.* III. i, All the pregnant hearts of our bold blood, Moulder'd into a mite of ashes. 1828 Hawthorne *Fanshawe* vii, A man must keep his mite of honesty.

† b. *Arith.* A fraction (see quot.) *Obs. rare*⁻¹.

1709–29 V. Mandev *Syst. Math., Arith.* 21 A Fraction or Broken Number, is that which we assign for a part or parts of any whole thing. It is also wont to be called a Mite or Fraction, because these things are broke into small parts.

4. *fig.* A 'jot', 'whit'. Now only *colloq.*

1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xx. 178 Surgerye ne Fisyke May nouȝte a myte auaille to medle aȝein elde. *c* 1420 Lydg. *Assembly of Gods* 1814 Be hyt ryght or wrong, he changeth nat a myte. 1571 Golding *Calvin on Ps.* ii. 6 He is further of from earthly men, than that the whole multitude of them can one myte deface the glory of him alone. 1573 *New Custome* III. i. D iij b, God waieth not, who is a sprite, Of any vesture, or outward appearance a mite. 1632 Tatham *Love Crowns the End* i. (1640) K 1 b, Since then my love is not one mite rewarded. 1886 C. D. Warner *Their Pilgrimage* xi. (1888) 256 The White Sulphur waters..had not done her a mite of good. 1897 *Graphic* (Christm. No.) 9, I wonder whether you will help me a mite to-day. 1906 Winston Churchill *Coniston* 191 He's a hard one to fool, too. Never suspected a mite did he?

5. A very small object; often, a very small living creature, as a tiny child. (Cf. Miting.)

In some instances this use might perh. be more properly referred to Mite.[1]

1594 Lyly *Mother Bombie* II. ii, Well, without Halfepenie all my witte is not woorth a dodkin: that mite is miching in this groue, for as long as his name is Halfepenie, he will bee banquetting for the other Halfepenie. 1821 Clare *Vill. Minstr.* I. 7 And tales of fairy-land he loved to hear, Those mites of human forms,..That through a lock-hole even creep with ease. 1852 Dickens *Bleak Ho.* xv, A mite of a boy, some five or six years old. 1883 *Gd. Words* 639 When I was quite a little mite. 1893 *Atlantic Monthly* Feb. 283/1 What an intense spark of vitality must it be that warms such a mite [viz. a bird] in such an immensity of cold.

‖ **Mitella** (mitĕ·lă). [L. *mitella*, orig. 'headband', dim. of *mitra*: see Mitre.]

1. *Surg.* A sling for the arm.

1688 R. Holme *Armoury* III. 434/2 The Mitella is a .. Scarf to..carry the Arme in, that is hurt or wounded. 1753 Chambers *Cycl. Supp.* 1855 Dunglison *Med. Lex.*

2. *Bot.* A genus of herbaceous plants of the N.O. *Saxifragaceæ*, native to North America.

For the meaning of the name, cf. quot. and the English synonyms *bishop's cap* and *mitre-wort*.

1731 Miller *Gard. Dict., Mitella* (so call'd, of *Mitella*, Lat. a little Mitre, because the Seed-vessel of this Plant resembles a Bishop's Mitre). Bastard American Sanicle... American Mitella.

Miter, obs. form of Metre; var. Mitre.

† **Mite·scent**, *a. Obs. rare*⁻⁰. [ad. L. *mītescent-em*, pr. pple. of *mītesc-ĕre*, f. *mītis* mild: see Mitigate.] Growing mild. 1727 in Bailey vol. II.

Miteyn, obs. f. Mitten. **Mith**: see May *v.*

Mith, variant of Mid *prep.* and *adv. Obs.*

‖ **Mithan** (mi·þăn). Also mytton, mythun, methin. [Assamese *methòn*.] The Gayal.

1845 E. J. T. Dalton in *Jrnl. Asiat. Soc. Bengal* XIV. 265 The Mytton is the only species of horned cattle possessed by the Meris. 1885 Balfour *Cycl. India* (ed. 3) II. 936 *Methin*, the wild cow of the hills near Cachar. 1885 Hunter *Imper. Gaz. Ind.* I. 349 The mithan or gayal (*Gavæus frontalis*). 1890 *Pall Mall G.* 18 Aug. 7/3 To propitiate these ghosts an animal must be slaughtered—whether it be the prolific pariah dog or the valuable mythun.

† **Mithe,** *v. Obs.* Forms: 1 mīðan, 3–4 myth(e, 3–4 mith(e. [A Com. W.Ger. str. vb.: OE. *mīðan* (pa. t. *māð*, pl. *mēoðon*, *miðon*, pa. pple. *miðen*) corresponds to OFris. (*far*)*mītha* to avoid, OS. *mīthan* (MDu. *mīden*, Du. *mijden*), OHG. *miden* to hide oneself, conceal, avoid (MHG. *miden*, mod. G. *meiden* to shun, forbear).

For the affinities of the Teut. root **mīþ-*, see Mis-[1].]

1. *trans.* To conceal, dissemble (feelings, etc.).

In OE. (as in OS.) occas. with obj. in genitive.

c 888 K. Ælfred *Boeth.* xxvi. § 1 Ne me næfre næs ealles swa ic wolde, þeah ic his miðe. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 29069 Quen yee fast, þen sal yee scau gladnes wit yur sembland blith, and sua yur fasting sal yee myth. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 948 His sorwe he couþe ful wel miþe. *a* 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* iv. 24 My murthe is al with mourny̆ng meind, ne may ich mythen hit namore.

2. *absol.* and *intr.* To remain concealed, to escape notice (in OE. also *trans.* to escape the notice of); to hide one's thoughts or feelings.

a 900 *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 222/18 *Dilitiscendo*, miþende. *a* 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* v. xii. (1890) 424 Monig ðing ȝe es[e]slice ȝe willsumlice geseh, þe oðre meoðon [L. *multa quæ alios laterent*]. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 298/8 Þonne biþ sona sweotol æteowod on him þ ær deaȝol mað. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3807 Ðoȝ ðis folc miðe a stund for-dred. 1320–30 *Horn Ch.* 825 Sche might no lenger mithe; To him spac that maiden fre, And seyd, Horn, y love the.

Mither: see Mitre, Moither *v.*, Mother.

Mithology, etc., obs. forms of Mythology, etc.

Mithra: see Mithras.

Mi·thracize, *v.* Incorrect form of Mithraicize *v.* Hence **Mi·thracizing** *ppl.a.*

1876 A. Wilder in *F. P. Knight's Symbolic Lang.* p. xix, The Albigenses, it is supposed, were Manicheans or Mithracising Christians.

Mithradatic, etc.: var. ff. Mithridatic, etc.

‖ **Mithræum** (miþrī·ŭm). *Antiq.* Pl. **Mithræa.** [Mod.L. f. L. *Mithrā-s*: see Mithras.] A sanctuary of Mithras; a chapel (often underground) for the celebration of the Mithraic mysteries.

1878 Coote in *Archæologia* (1882) XLVII. 206 A similarly acuminated stone was found in the Mithraeum at S. Clemente in Rome. 1900 *Pilot* 24 Mar. 94/2 The lion-headed human figure..that so often occurs in the Mithræa.

Mithraic (miþrē·ik), *a.* [f. Mithra + -ic. Cf. late L. *Mithriacus* Mithriac.] Of, pertaining to, or connected with Mithras or his worship.

1678 Cudworth *Intell. Syst.* I. iv. § 16. 286 Zoroaster and the ancient Magi, who were best initiated in the Mithraick Mysteries. 1818 Millingen in *Archæologia* (1821) XIX. 71 The crow, the scorpion, and the serpent, are animals commonly seen on Mithraic monuments. 1877 Parker *Catacombs of Rome* Plate xv, Catacomb of Mithraic Worshippers.

Hence **Mithra·icism** = Mithraism; **Mithra·icist** = Mithraist; **Mithra·icize** *v.* = Mithraize.

1864 C. W. King *Gnostics* 49 Such a connexion was actually declared by the partisans of Mithraicism. *Ibid.* 62 The author of the Apocalypse probably had the Mithraicists in view in penning this allegory. *Ibid.* 248 (Index) Mithraicising Christians. 1878 Coote in *Archæologia* (1882) XLVII. 206 A stone commemorating this birth of Mithras was an object of adoration amongst the Mithraicists. 1888 *Pop. Sci. Monthly* Feb. 560 Mithraicism, with explanations of its alliance with Occidental Christianity. 1898 *Contemp. Rev.* Jan. 96 The Lord's Supper was modified to meet the Christians who had been converted from Mithraicism.

Mithraism (mi·þrē,iz'm). [f. Mithra + -ism.] The religion of the worshippers of Mithras.

1822 Hodgson in *Archæol. Æliana* I. 307 The success of Mithraism in Gaul and Britain, must not, therefore, be attributed to novelty. 1887 J. A. Farrer in *Gentl. Mag.* Nov. 442 In its general tenets..Mithraism was the same as Zoroastrianism, out of which it sprang.

Mithraist (mi·þrē,ist). [f. Mithra + -ist.] A worshipper of or believer in Mithras.

1888 *Pop. Sci. Monthly* June 283 Whether the Christians borrowed from the Mithraists or the Mithraists from the Christians. 1900 *Pilot* 24 Mar. 94/2 The Mithraists identified him [Ormuzd] with the Roman Jupiter.

† **Mithrai·tic,** *a. Obs.* [f. Mithra + -itic.] = Mithraic *a.*

1827 G. Higgins *Celtic Druids* 152 A Mithraitic cave, which was found near Newcastle.

Mithraize (mi·þrēˌəiz), *v.* [f. Mithra + -ize.] *intr.* To hold or affect the doctrines of Mithraism.

1890 in *Century Dict.*; and in later Dicts.

Mithras (mi·þræs), **Mithra** (mi·þră). *Mythol.* Forms: 6 Mitra, 6–7 Mythra, 7 Mithres, 6– Mithra, 7– Mithras. [L. *Mithrās, Mithrēs* = Gr. *Μίθρᾶς*, a. OPers. *Mithra*, corresponding etymologically to Skr. *Mitra*, one of the gods of the Vedic pantheon.] One of the chief gods of the ancient Persians, in later times often identified with the sun. His worship was introduced amongst the Romans under the empire, and spread over most of northern and western Europe. Also applied by More to the Supreme Being of 'Utopia'.

1551 Robinson tr. *More's Utopia* II. (1895) 267 There is one chiefe and pryncipall God..whome they all commonly in theire countrey language call Mythra. 1585 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* IV. ii. 115 [They] worshipped the Sunne, which they called Mitra. 1603 Holland *Plutarch's Mor.* 1306 This Zoroastres..named the good god Oromazes, and the other Arimanius..he gave out..also that there is one in the middes betweene them, named Mithres: (and heereupon it is, that the Persians call an intercessor or mediator Mithres). *a* 1650 Crashaw *Wks.* (1904) 365 Before the Infant Shrine Of my weake feet the Persian Magi lay And left their Mithra for my star. 1822 Hodgson in *Archæol. Æliana* I. 284 Montfaucon thinks these two attendants are also Mithrases.

attrib. 1864 C. W. King *Gnostics* 47 The Mithras-worship at first indeed makes its appearance as a distinct creed. 1903 J. Moffat in *Expositor* Dec. 469 The Mithra-cult.

Mithratic (miþræ·tik), *a.* [f. Mithra + -atic.] Of, pertaining to, or concerned with the worship of Mithras.

1816 Faber *Orig. Pagan Idol.* III. 178 Porphyry..tells us, that the Mithratic grotto was a symbol of the World, and that it was dedicated to Mithras in the capacity of the great demiurgic father. 1822 Porter *Trav. Georgia*, etc. I. 673 The true faith, from a dateless epoch in Persian annals until the conquest of the Arabs, was the Mithratic mystery.

Mithriac (mi·þriæk), *a.* and *sb. rare.* [a. L. *Mithriacus*, f. Mithras.] a. *adj.* = Mithraic. b. *sb. pl.* A festival of Mithras.

1818 R. P. Knight *Symbol. Lang.* § 168. 135 Another mode of mystic purification by baptism was the Taurobolium ..of the Mithriac rites. [*Index has* Mithraic rites.] 1864 Pusey *Lect. Daniel* viii. 537 The Satrap sent the King yearly 20,000 colts for the Mithriacs.

Mithridate (mi·þrideˌt). Also 6 mith-, methridat, mithrydate, mitridat, 6–7 metridat(e, methridate, 7 mythridate, methredate, mithrydat, mitridate, medridate. [a. med.L. *mithridātum*, altered from late L. *mithridātīum*, orig. neut. of *Mithridātĭus, -ēus* adj., pertaining to Mithridates (see below, sense 1 *note*), f. L. *Mithri-, Mithradātēs*, Gr. *Μιθρι-, Μιθραδάτης*. Cf. OF. *metridat* (mod.F. *mithridate*), Sp., It. *mitridato*, Pg. *mithridato*.]

1. *Old Pharmacy.* A composition of many ingredients in the form of an electuary, regarded as a universal antidote or preservative against poison and infectious disease. Hence, any medicine to which similar powers were ascribed.

So called from Mithridates VI, king of Pontus (died *c* 63 B.C.), who was said to have rendered himself proof against poisons by the constant use of antidotes.

1528 Paynel *Salerne's Regim.* (1541) 33 b, Auicen saythe; There be certeyne medicins..which wyl not suffre poyson to approche nere the harte, as triacle and Metridate. 1533 Elyot *Cast. Helthe* (1541) A ij, Mithridates invented the famous medicine ageynst poyson, callid Mithridate. 1593 S. Kellwaye *Defens. agst. Plague* 32 Take a great Onyon, make a hole in the myddle of him, then fill the place with Mitridat or Triacle, and some leaues of Rue, then [etc.]. 1605 Timme *Quersit.* III. 177 Take of..the treacles of mythridate, and the confection of hiacinth, of each 2 ounces. 1616 Surfl. & Markh. *Country Farm* 387 Some make a soueraigne mithridate against the plague..with two old walnuts, three figges [etc.]. 1686 D'Urfey *Commonw. Wom.* v. ii. 47 Fools may talk of Mythridate, Cordials, Elixers. 1758 R. Brown *Compl. Farmer* (1759) 96 Anoint it with some honey or mithridate. 1802 Gifford tr. *Juvenal* vi. 959 Yet, if the husband, prescient of his fate, Have fortified his breast with mithridate. 1825 Scott *Betrothed* xvii, Their rash recipes, their mithridate,..their amulets, and their charms.

attrib. 1694 Salmon *Bate's Dispens.* (1713) 591/2 The Mithridate Julep against Fits of the Mother.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1592 Lyly *Midas* IV. iv. 47 That which maketh me most both to sorrow and wonder, is that musick (a methridat for melancholy) should make him mad. 1597 Tofte *Laura* III. xii, Cordiall of hart, right Methridate of loue. 16aa in *Naworth Househ. Bks.* (Surtees) 458 Y• l're..was medridate to his hart. 1632 Massinger *Maid of Hon.* IV. iv, In this breach of faith My loyalty findes reward! what poysons him Proves Mithridate to me! 1812 Southey *Ess.* (1832) I. 120 Those .. whom a sound understanding, and a mind well stored, have fortified, as with mithridate, against such poison. 1834 — *Doctor* lxxvi. (1848) 162 A drop of the true elixir, no mithridate so effectual against the infection of vice.

2. In full *mithridate mustard*, a name for the plants *Lepidium campestre* and *Thlaspi arvense*. Also *Bastard mithridate mustard*: candytuft.

1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. xix. (1633) 261 Mithridate Mustard..the roote is long and slender. 1731 MILLER *Gard. Dict., Thlaspi,..* Mithridate Mustard. *Ibid., Thlaspidium,* ..Bastard Mithridate Mustard. 1760 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* App. 319 Mithridate Mustard, Bastard, *Iberis.* 1780 J. T. DILLON *Trav. Spain* (1781) 392 A high mountain covered with mithridate. 1855 Miss PRATT *Flower. Pl.* I. 87 *Thlaspi arvense* (Mithridate Mustard, or Penny-cress).

Mithridatic (miþridæ·tik), *a.* Also 9 **mithradatic.** [ad. L. *mithridātic-us*, a. Gr. Μιθριδᾰτικός, f. Μιθριδάτης : see MITHRIDATE and -IC. Cf. F. *mithridatique*, Sp. *mitridático*, It. *mithridatico*.]

1. Of or pertaining to Mithridates VI, king of Pontus. *Mithridatic wars*, the wars waged by Rome against this king.

1649 OGILBY tr. *Virg. Georg.* II. (1684) 79 *note*, This Tree was first shewn by Pompey to Rome in his Mithridatick Triumph. 1678 J. D. (*title*) The History of Appian.. In Two Parts. The First consisting of the Punick, Syrian, Parthian, Mithridatick, .. and Hannibalick, Wars. 1898 W. M. RAMSAY in *Expositor* Aug. 132 The Romans aided them to gain their freedom in the Mithradatic wars.

2. Of, pertaining to, or of the nature of mithridate. *rare*—⁰. 1847 in WEBSTER.

3. a. Resembling Mithridates or his alleged immunity from poisons (see MITHRIDATE 1 *note*). **b.** Pertaining to or of the nature of mithridatism.

1868 HELPS *Realmah* vi. (1869) 122 Poison has no more effect on my Mithridatic constitution than ginger-beer. 1889 E. R. LANKESTER in *Nature* 13 June 149/2 The mithradatic theory of inoculations.

‖ **Mithrida·ticon.** *Obs.* In 6 **metridaticon.** [med.L., a. Gr. μιθριδᾰτικόν, neut. of Μιθριδᾰτικός, MITHRIDATIC.] = MITHRIDATE 1.

1540 J. HEYWOOD *Four P. P.* 619 Mercury sublyme. and metridaticon.

Mithridatism (miˈþridēitiz'm). [f. L. *Mithridāt-ēs* (see MITHRIDATE) + -ISM.] The condition of immunity to a poison induced by administering to an organism gradually increased doses of it.

1851 MORELL tr. *Fourier's Pass. Human Soul* I. 191 The state of Mithridatism, or unitary accord of our bodies with the neuter poisons, will depend on [etc.]. 1889 E. R. LANKESTER *Adv. Sci.* (1890) 113 We may speak of this training in tolerance of poison as 'mithridatism'.

‖ **Mithridatium.** *Obs.* Also **mithridation.** [L. *mithridātium*: see MITHRIDATE.] = MITHRIDATE.

1693 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Mithridatium*, compounded by King Mithridates. 1764 GRAINGER *Sugar Cane* II. 130 *note*, This medicine is called *Mithridatium*, in honour of Mithridates.

Mithridatize (miþri·dătəiz), *v.* Also **mithradatize.** [f. L. *Mithridāt-ēs* (see MITHRIDATE) + -IZE.] *trans.* To render immune or proof against a poison by the administration of gradually increasing doses of it. Also *transf.*

1866 LOWELL *Lett.* I. 406 Our constitutions adapt themselves to the slow poison of the world till we become mithridatized at last. 1889 E. R. LANKESTER *Adv. Sci.* (1890) 114 Poisonous snakes are..mithridatised in regard to their own poison. *Ibid.*, Thus the animal is mithridatised. 1889 — in *Nature* 13 June 149 The utility of the related terms 'mithradatize' and 'mithradatic' is obvious.

‖ **Mithrida·tum.** *Obs.* Also 7 **meth-, myth-.** [med.L.: see MITHRIDATE.] = MITHRIDATE.

1603 DEKKER *Wonderfull Yeare* D 2, For poor Methridatum and Dragon-water..were boxt in euery corner, and yet were both drunke euery houre at other mens cost. 1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* II. x. § 8 For except it be Treacle and Mythridatum,..they tye themselues to no receiptes seuerely and religiously. 1634 R. H. *Salernes Regim.* 51 Under the name of Tryacle the noble medicine Mithridatum may be comprehended, which two be like in operation.

† **Mitifica·tion.** *Obs. rare.* [n. of action f. L. *mītificāre*: see MITIFY *v.*] Mitigation.

1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 161 The juyce of Barly to be given to them for their mitification. 1657 TOMLINSON *Renou's Disp.* 63 Such distempers as require mitification.

† **Mi·tify,** *v. Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *mītificāre*, f. L. *mītis* mild : see -FY.] *trans.* To soften, mitigate.

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr., Mitifie*, to pacifie, or make quiet. 1744 MITCHELL in *Phil. Trans.* XLIII. 145 The virulent Acrimony of the cutaneous Contagion being inviscated, and consequently mitified, by the Semen which received it.

Mitigable (mi·tigăb'l), *a.* [ad. L. **mītigābilis* (implied in *mītigābiliter* adv.) f. *mītigāre* to MITIGATE.] Capable of being mitigated.

a 1677 BARROW *Wks.* (1686) II. xv. 213 The rigour of that ceremonious law was mitigable. 1822-34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) I. 50 The pain will be..far less mitigable. 1887 GURNEY *Tertium Quid* I. 182 Supposing the pain of the rack to be mitigable.

Mitigal: see MISKAL.

Mitigant (mi·tigănt), *a.* and *sb. rare.* [ad. L. *mītigant-em*, pr. pple. of *mītigāre* to MITIGATE: see -ANT[1].] **A.** *adj.* Mitigating, lenitive.

1541 R. COPLAND *Galyen's Terap.* 2 C ij, A playster made of mytygant thynges. 1727 in BAILEY vol. II. 1755 in JOHNSON. 1800 *Med. Jrnl.* IV. 558 The oxygen is the tempering, mitigant..principle of life.

B. *sb.* Something that mitigates; a lenitive.

1865 *Pall Mall G.* No. 182. 1/1 A simple disease which yields to mitigants.

† **Mi·tigate,** *pa. pple.* and *ppl. a. Obs.* Forms: see MITIGATE *v.*; also 6 *Sc.* **mitigait.** [ad. L. *mītigātus*, pa. pple. of *mītigāre* : see next.] Mitigated, alleviated.

1432-50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) II. 387 Hit was answerede to theyme by Apollo Delphicus that pestilence to be mitigate [L. *sedari*] if [etc.]. *Ibid.* VII. 35 But their myndes not mitigate perwith [L. *Sed adhuc non sedatis animis*]. 1531 ELYOT *Gov.* II. vi, The wise prince with that playne confession was mitigate. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) L vj, His chastysement was mitigate, and more easye. 1560 A. L. tr. *Calvin's Foure Serm. Song Ezech.* iv, That the pain should be mitigate. 1560 ROLLAND *Crt. Venus* Prol. 113 Sumpart ar dry and sum are mitigait. 1592 in Neal *Hist. Purit.* (1732) I. 551 That some more mitigate and peaceable course might be taken therein.

Mitigate (mi·tigeˈt), *v.* Also 5 **myttygate,** 6 **mytygate, metigat(e, mit(t)igat, mittegate,** 6–7 **mytigate, mittigate,** 7 **medigate**; also *pa. t.* 6 *Sc.* **metigat.** [f. L. *mītigāt-*, ppl. stem of *mītigāre*, f. *mīti-s* mild, gentle. Cf. F. *mitiger* (OF. also *mitiguer*), Sp. *mitigar*. It. *mitigare*.]

1. *trans.* To render (a person, his mind, disposition, or mood) milder, more gentle, or less hostile; to appease, mollify. Now *rare.*

1432-50, 1531 [see MITIGATE *pa. pple.*]. 1513 MORE *Rich. III*, Wks. 57/1 Where the king toke displeasure, she would mitigate & appease his mind. 1584 COGAN *Haven Health* ii. (1636) 21 The Chesse..was invented .. to mitigate the minds or hearts of Tyrants. 1642 *Declar. Lords & Com. London* 8 Such Commissioners were mittigated, in respect of some clauses perilous to the Commissioners, and approved of for the time to come. 1761 HUME *Hist. Eng.* I. viii. 178 The Cardinal of Pavia..tooke care..to mitigate the pope by the accounts which he sent of that princes conduct. 1855 PUSEY *Doctr. Real Presence* Note S. § 75. 694 S. Leo the Great.. mitigated Genseric, when Rome was taken. 1859 J. BROWN *Rab & F.* (1862) 18 The severe little man was mitigated, and condescended to say 'Rab, ma man, puir Rabbie'.

2. To render (anger, hatred, etc.) less fierce or violent; to appease.

1494 FABYAN *Chron.* VII. CCXXXV. 271 The preestys..to the entent to myttygate..the crueltye of the sayd tyrauntes, dyd open them the ornamentys of the sayde churche. 1513 BRADSHAW *St. Werburge* II. 1554 O glorious virgin..Metigate the malice..of Richard our lorde. 1558 BP. WATSON *Sev. Sacram.* xviii. 116 To mitigate Goddes displeasure. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 302 Thir goode wordis..metigat and assuadgit the Duike of Albanieis anger. 1579-80 NORTH *Plutarch, Sylla* (1595) 503 To mitigate somewhat the peoples ill will towards him. 1656 in *Verney Mem.* (1894) III. 317 [Luce begs Sir Ralph to do his best] to medigate my lady's anger against her daur. 1777 ROBERTSON *Hist. Amer.* v. (1778) II. 90 Montezuma addressed them with every argument that could mitigate their rage. 1855 PRESCOTT *Philip II*, I. III. vi. 379 The..envoys interposed to mitigate the king's anger. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) IV. 17 His [Socrates'] hostility towards the sophists ..was not mitigated in later life.

† **b.** To relax the violence of (one's actions, etc.).

c 1470 HENRYSON *Mor. Fab.* VII. (*Lion & Mouse*) xl, To remit sum tyme ane grit offence, And mitigate with mercy crueltie. 1509 BARCLAY *Shyp of Folys* (1570) 39 Mitigate by measure your proude hastie language. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* Prol. 13 Dame fortoune vil mittigat hyr auen crualte.

3. To alleviate (physical or mental pain); to lessen the violence of (a disease); to lighten the burden of (an evil of any kind).

1432-50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) V. 389 A man nesynge, peple beynge by use to say 'Criste helpe the', and make a crosse on their mowthe to mitigate that passion. 1502 ATKYNSON tr. *De Imitatione* III. liii. 241 Comforte me, good lorde, in my exyle mytygate my sorowe. 1541 R. COPLAND *Guydon's Quest. Chirurg.* O j b, Anoynte it [*sc.* the place] with oyle of Roses..to mytygate the smert. 1553 T. WILSON *Rhet.* 5 It is wisedome..wareiy to mitigate, by protestacion, the evill that is in theim. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. x. 26 And dieted with fasting every day, The swelling of his woundes to mitigate. 1591 SPARRY tr. *Cattan's Geomancie* B ij, The Iasper stone .. hath vertue to mittigate Kernels of the flesh. 1655 CULPEPPER, etc. *Riverius* VI. i. 132 At first the pain wil seem to encrease; but afterward, it wil be mitigated, and cease. 1715 ADDISON *Freeholder* No. 12 P 2 Government.. mitigates the inequality of power among particular persons. 1759 ROBERTSON *Hist. Scotl.* I. Wks. 1813 I. 29 Princes of greater abilities were content to mitigate evils which they could not cure. 1804 ABERNETHY *Surg. Obs.* 92 Nothing mitigated her sufferings so much as lint dipt in a solution of opium. 1824 J. H. NEWMAN *Hist. Sk.* (1873) II. II. iii. 256 He ..gave himself up to the composition of those works which ..mitigated his political sorrows. 1895 R. L. DOUGLAS in *Bookman* Oct. 23/1 The king..does his best..to mitigate the disastrous effects of the blunders of his middle life.

† **b.** *pass.* To be relieved *of* a burden. *Obs. rare.*

1644 HASTINGS INGRAM *Let. to Ld. Denbigh* 19 Aug., Yᵉ countrie exspectetb by yoʳ justice to be mittigated of yoʳ to heavie pressures.

4. To abate the rigour or severity of (a law); to render less stringent or oppressive. ? *Obs.*

1532 MORE *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 641/1 Yet are the lawes of the church mitigated. 1563 *Homilies* II. *Fasting* II. 98 b, It may lawfully..alter, change, or mitigate those Ecclesiasticall decrees & orders. 1683 *Brit. Spec.* 61 Where he sees the Laws rigorous or doubtful he may mitigate and interpret them.

† **b.** To lessen the stringency of (an obligation).

1651 C. CARTWRIGHT *Cert. Relig.* I. 2 Your Majesty knows ..my obligation to him, which difference in opinion shall never mitigate in point of affection.

5. To reduce the severity of (a punishment). Also, † to lower, moderate (a price).

a 1533 [see MITIGATE *pa. pple.*]. 1539 *Act* 31 *Hen. VIII*, c. 8 To diminish or mitigate the penalties. 1542-3 *Act* 34 & 35 *Hen. VIII*, c. 7 Suche Lordes .. shall .. haue the same auctoritie to mittigate, and enhaunce the price of wynes.. as..occasion shall require. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* IV. i. 203, I haue spoke thus much To mittigate the iustice of thy plea. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* I. iv. I. (1651) 454 Those hard censures..are to be mitigated. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* x. 76 That I may mitigate thir doom. 1850 DICKENS *Bill-Sticking in Househ. Words* II. 604 They were..fined five pounds.. but..the magistrate..mitigated the fine to fifteen shillings. 1869 TOZER *Highl. Turkey* II. 284 As she could not reverse the curse..she did what she could to mitigate it by substituting for death a sleep of a hundred years' duration.

b. To render (a condition, custom) more humane.

1835 J. B. ROBERTSON in *Von Schlegel's Philos. Hist.* (1846) 39 Christianity first mitigated, and then abolished slavery. 1869 LECKY *Europ. Mor.* (1877) I. ii. 252 Marcus Aurelius ..mitigated the gladiatorial shows.

6. To moderate, reduce to a more bearable degree (heat, cold, light); to temper the severity of (a climate).

1611 TOURNEUR *Ath. Trag.* II. iii, That but mitigates The heat. 1611 BIBLE *Wisd.* xvi. 18 Sometime the flame was mitigated, that it might not burne vp the beasts that were sent against the vngodly. 1742 COLLINS *Oriental Ecl.* II. 24 Or moss-crown'd fountains mitigate the day. 1837 LYELL *Princ. Geol.* I. I. viii. 226 The winter and summer temperatures being sometimes mitigated, and at others exaggerated, in the same latitude. 1840 MACAULAY *Ess., Clive* (1899) 504 Many devices which now mitigate the heat of the climate, preserve health, and prolong life, were unknown. 1846 DE QUINCEY *Antigone* Wks. 1860 XIV. 221 There were no stage lights; but .. the general light of day was specially mitigated for that particular part of the theatre. 1860 MAURY *Phys. Geog. Sea* (Low) viii. § 398 This current is felt as far as the Equator, mitigating the rainless climate of Peru as it goes, and making it delightful.

7. To lessen the gravity of (an offence); to palliate.

1719 YOUNG *Revenge* III. i, Then you must pardon me, If I presume to mitigate the crime. 1862 BURTON *Bk. Hunter* (1863) 301 It may perhaps do something to mitigate Surtees's offence in the eye of the world.

8. With a quality as obj.: To moderate (the severity, rigour, heinousness, etc., *of* something).

In recent times there has been a tendency to prefer this periphrastic use to the uses in which the vb. takes a thing or condition as its object.

1571 GOLDING *Calvin on Ps.* lxviii. 34 The harshnesse of the metaphor was to bee mitigated. 1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* v. xxii. § 30 We could greatly wish that the rigor of this their opinion were alayed and mitigated. 1660 WOOD *Life* (O.H.S.) I. 359 The strictness of the Lord's day was mitigated. 1702 J. PURCELL *Cholick* (1714) 165 To Mitigate the Violence of the Pain. 1718 *Free-thinker* No. 10. 69 No Consideration upon Earth can mitigate the Heinousness of the Crime. 1849 JAMES *Woodman* ix, One who..strove to mitigate the bloody rigour of a civil war. 1879 FROUDE *Cæsar* ix. 96 Cæsar interceded to mitigate the severity of the punishment.

† **9.** In physical senses: To render mild; to free from acridity; to make (land) fruitful. *Obs.*

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 379 This tree..hath in it a certaine fat liquor..and entreth into compositions of sweet ointments, for to..mitigate the other oile. 1654 R. CODRINGTON tr. *Justine* XLIII. 507 To exercise and mitigate the fields with ploughs.

10. *intr.* To become mitigated; to grow milder or less severe. *rare.*

1633 T. JAMES *Voy.* 68 The cold did very little mitigate. 1738 H. BROOKE *Jerus. Deliv.* I. 43 But as his Years encrease, his Fires asswage Allay with Time, and mitigate with Age. 1880 MCCARTHY *Own Times* IV. lvii. 235 The bitterness of popular feeling had very much mitigated.

Mitigated (mi·tigeˈtėd), *ppl. a.* [f. MITIGATE *v.* + -ED[1].] In senses of the verb.

1671 WOODHEAD *St. Teresa* II. xxxii. 199 The Fathers of the Mitigated Rule. *Ibid.* xxxv. 232 The Mitigated Fathers Carmelites had bin attempting the same. 1771 SMOLLETT *Humph. Cl.* 10 May, Saying, in a mitigated tone—'Surely I am much obliged—'. 1791 BURKE *App. Whigs* Wks. 1842 I. 517 Who, though they perfectly abhor a despotick government, certainly approached more nearly to the love of mitigated monarchy, than [etc.]. 1810 *Sporting Mag.* XXXV. 36 Fined in the mitigated penalty of ten pounds. 1869 G. LAWSON *Dis. Eye* (1874) 12 The solid mitigated nitrate of silver. 1884 HUNTER & WHYTE *My Ducats & My Dau.* iii, She was dressed in mitigated mourning.

Hence **Mi·tigatedly** *adv.*, in a mitigated degree.

1884 H. JAMES *Little Tour in France* xviii, This young man..was mitigatedly monastic. He had a big brown frock and cowl, but he had also a shirt and a pair of shoes.

Mitigating (mi·tigeˈtiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. MITIGATE *v.* + -ING[1].] The action of the verb MITIGATE.

a 1683 SIDNEY *Disc. Govt.* III. xv. (1704) 287 The power of mitigating is inseperable from that of instituting.

Mitigating (mi·tigeˈtiŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. MITIGATE *v.* + -ING[2].] Alleviating, extenuating, palliating.

1612 WEBSTER *White Devil* F 2, Beare me hence. Vnto this house of what's your mittigating Title? *Mon.* Of conuertites. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* Wks. 1775 III. 205 I..have more than once applied to the judge on the behalf of such [highwaymen] as have had any mitigating circumstances in their case. 1841 MACAULAY *Ess., Hastings* (1850) 636 He could see no mitigating circumstances, no redeeming merit. 1903 R. D. SHAW *Pauline Epist.* 323 The Mosaic legislation [dealing with slavery] was essentially mitigating and restricting.

Mitigation (mitigēi·ʃən). [ad. L. *mītigātiōn-em*, n. of action f. *mītigāre* to MITIGATE. Cf. F. *mitigation* from 14th c.)] The action of mitigating; the fact or condition of being mitigated.

1. Abatement or relaxation of the severity or rigour of a law, penalty, or the like; alleviation of anything painful, oppressive, or calamitous; extenuation or palliation of an offence. *In mitigation*: by way of palliation (*of* an offence); in order to obtain a favourable modification (*of* judgement, a penalty, damages).

[1347-8 *Rolls of Parlt.* II. 215/1 Si mitigation ne lui soit faite de sa dite ferme.] 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* V. 252 Bote

for þi muchel Merci mitigacion I be-seche; Dampne me not on domes day for I dude so ille. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 206 Sobre and appeese suche folk as falle in furye, To trist and bevy do mytigacioun. 1494 FABYAN *Chron.* VII. 651 For the mytigacion of his peynfull sykenesse. 1533 MORE *Apol.* xlviii. Wks. 924/1 Therfore nede we no such chaunge of the lawes for that purpose. But on ye tother side, what harme would come of hys mytygacions,..the whole summe and sequele of hys deuises doe more than manifestly shew. 1533 ELYOT *Cast. Helthe* (1539) 36 b, It somewhat profyteth in mitigation of excessiue heate. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, I. i. 70 How now for mittigation of this Bill, Vrg'd by the Commons? 1601 — *Twel. N.* II. iii. 98 Ye squeak out your Coziers Catches without any mitigation or remorce of voice. 1622 BACON *Hen. VII* 209 Their manner was..to suffer them to languish long in Prison, and .. to extort from them great Fines and Ransomes, which they termed Compositions and Mitigations. 1664 H. MORE *Myst. Iniq.* xiii. 44 As for the mitigation of the fault of either side from any exteriour circumstances, I briefly adde, That [etc.]. 1749 E. MOORE *Trial Selem* 318 These crimes successive on your trial Have met with proofs beyond denial, To which yourself with shame conceded, And but in mitigation pleaded. 1766 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* II. 508 Though, as against the rightful executor or administrator, he cannot plead such payment, yet it shall be allowed him in mitigation of damages. 1801 *Med. Jrnl.* V. 221 She perspired..very freely, but without affording any mitigation of her pain. 1817 COBBETT *Taking Leave Countrymen* 13 The Wolves..flew upon the fleecy fools and devoured them and their lambs without mercy and without mitigation. 1832 HT. MARTINEAU *Homes Abroad* i. 6 A mitigation of punishment. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 339 The shorter address in mitigation of the penalty. 1885 J. PAYN *Talk of Town* I. 45 William Henry murmured something in mitigation about its being an acrostic. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 24 July 5/1 All that could be done for him was to attempt some mitigation of his pain.

b. quasi-*concr.* A circumstance that mitigates.

1729 BUTLER *Serm.* Wks. 1874 II. 70 Mitigations and reliefs are provided .. for most of the afflictions in human life. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* VI. 4 This seeming mitigation but inflames; This fancy'd med'cine heightens the disease. 1864 PUSEY *Lect. Daniel* (1876) 240 Which God gave them as a mitigation of their ills.

†**2.** Softening (of words or statements); a qualification, limitation. *Obs.*

1588 FRAUNCE *Lawiers Log.* Ded. ¶¶ j b, The addition, detraction, or mitigation of woordes. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* III. xlii. 306 Hee bringeth one Text, .. Iohn 16. 13..where (saith he) by *all truth*, is meant, at least, all truth necessary to salvation But with this mitigation, he attributeth no more Infallibility to the Pope, than to any man that professeth Christianity, and is not to be damned. 1709 STRYPE *Ann. Ref.* I. xliv. 445 A third letter was written to the Chancellor, with more mitigation.

†**3.** Propitiation (of a person); taming (of an animal). *Obs.*

1382 WYCLIF *Eccl.* xvii. 28 How gret the merci of God, and the mytigaciouu .. of hym to men conuertende to hym [L. *et propitiatio illius convertentibus ad se*]. 1737 WHISTON *Josephus, Antiq.* XVII. v. § 5 The most envenomed serpents..admit of some mitigation, and will not bite their benefactors.

†**4.** ? A soothing remedy. *Obs.*

c 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 15 And ageyns hertis ffor mutigacions, Damysyns wiche withe her taste delyte, Fulle grete plente both of blak and white.

Mitigative (mi·tigeːtiv), *a.* and *sb.* Now *rare* or *Obs.* [ad. L. *mītigātīvus*, f. *mītigāre*: see MITIGATE *v.* and -IVE. Cf. F. *mitigatif.*]

A. *adj.* Tending to mitigate or alleviate; lenitive; also const. *of.*

c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 235 þou schalt ȝeue him medicyns..þat ben mitigatif for to take awey þe akynge. 1541 R. COPLAND *Guydon's Formul.* X j b, The fyfth fourme is vnguentum dulce mollyfycatyfe, resolutyfe, and mytygatyfe of the paynes of ye synewes. 1566 WARDE tr. *Alexis' Secr.* III. I. 49 b, A playster mitigatiue, and very gentle for Cankers. 1611 COTGR., *Mitigatif*, mitigatiue, lenitiue, appeasiue.

B. *sb.* Something that serves to mitigate or alleviate; a soothing remedy.

c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 217 Leie þerto mitigatiuis for to do awei þe akynge. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 196 Ayer of nature .. [is] a gret mytigatiff. *c* 1530 *Remedy of Love* Prol. 20 Whiche may the feruence of loue aslake To the louer, as a mitigatiue.

Mitigator (mi·tigeːtəɹ). Also 7–8 **-er.** [agent-n. f. L. *mitigāre*: see MITIGATE *v.*] One who or something which mitigates or alleviates; †a soothing remedy.

1605 TIMME *Quersit.* I. xiii. 53 A certain red ocre ..which is..a great mitigator of all griefes and paines. 1656 RIDGLEY *Pract. Physick* 257 Mitigaters are useful, either temperate or cold. 1711 SHAFTESB. *Charac.* (1737) III. 23 The highest glory which cou'd be attain'd by mortal man, was to be mitigator or moderator of that universal tyranny already establish'd. 1869 BUSHNELL *Wom. Suffrage* vii. 139 They are no more mitigators now, but instigators rather.

Mitigatory (mi·tigeːtəri), *a.* and *sb.* Also 7 **mitt-.** [ad. L. *mītigātōri-us*, f. *mītigāre*: see MITIGATE *v.* and -ORY[2].] **A.** *adj.* Tending or serving to mitigate; lenitive, alleviating; palliative.

c 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* XI. 758 Then twixt his hands he brusde A sharpe and mitigatorie roote: which when he had infusde Into the greene well-cleansed wound, the paines he felt before Were well and instantly allaide. 1813 CROKER *Parl. Deb.* 18 Feb. in *Examiner* 22 Feb. 118/2 That .. Admiral had since received no mitigatory or restrained orders. 1868 J. H. BLUNT *Ref. Ch. Eng.* I. 32 Whatever mitigatory explanations might be offered by the learned.

B. *sb.* Something which serves to mitigate; a lenitive or soothing remedy; a plea in extenuation.

1656 W. D. tr. *Comenius' Gate Lat. Unl.* § 806 Hee mitigateth pains, with certain mittigatories, or anodynes. *a* 1734 NORTH *Exam.* II. v. § 2 (1740) 316 He talks of hard Usages, and straining Points of Law..and such Mitigatories.

†**Mi·ting.** *Obs.* Forms: 5 **mytyng, myghtyng**, 5–7 **mytting**, 6 **myteu, myting, myteyng.** [f. MITE[2] + -ING[3].] A diminutive creature. Often used as a term of endearment or of contempt.

c 1440 *York Myst.* xviii. 113 With þat mytyng yf þat we be mette Þer is no salue þat hym may saue. *Ibid.* xxxi. 305 Þou mummeland myghtyng. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xii. 477 Hayll, praty mytyng! 1508 KENNEDIE *Flyting w. Dunbar* 494 A myteu [*v. r.* myting], full of flyting. *a* 1529 SKELTON *E. Rummyng* 224 He calleth me his whytyng, His mullyng and his myting. — *Agst. Garnesche* iii. 115 For alle ys nat worthe a myteyng, A mekerell nor a wyteyng. *a* 1585 MONTGOMERIE *Flyting w. Polwart* 9 Foule mismade mytting.

Mitis[1] (mi·tis). Also mittis. [a. G. *mitis* (*grün*); from the name of the manufacturer, Ignaz *Mitis* of Kirchberg (1771–1842).] *Mitis green*: Scheele's or Emerald green (see EMERALD 5 d).

1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 619 Mittis green is an arseniate of copper. 1853 WATTS tr. *Gmelin's Handbk. Chem.* VIII. 329 Cupric Aceto-arsenite. Schweinfurt Green, Vienna Green. Imperial Green, Mitis Green. 1892 CHURCH *Chemistry Paints & Painting* s. v. *Scheele's Green*, Mittis Green.

Mitis[2] (mī·tis). *Metallurgy.* [Named by the inventor of the process, P. Östberg of Stockholm; app. from L. *mītis* mild, taken in the sense of MILD *a.* 8 b.] *Mitis casting*: a method of increasing the fluidity of molten iron (so as to render it possible to prevent the occlusion of air in the casting) by adding a minute quantity of aluminium to the charge in the crucible; also, a casting produced by this process. So *mitis-metal, process*, etc.

1885 T. NORDENFELDT in *Ironmonger* 9 May Suppl., On 'Mitis' Castings. 1886 *Chamb. Jrnl.* 14 Aug. 527/2 The 'Mitis process'. *Ibid.* 528/1 In the United States and Sweden, Mitis Metal has already established itself as an article of commerce. 1888 *Pall Mall G.* 6 Sept. 12/1 The 1-20th part of 1 per cent. of aluminium, when added to molten wrought iron will reduce the fusing-point of the whole mass some 500 degrees, and will render it extremely fluid, and thus enable wrought iron (or what are commercially known as 'Mitis'-castings of the most intricate character) to be produced. 1894 *Jrnl. Iron & Steel Inst.* XLIV. 476 Mitis Castings.—Stambke..describes the method in use at the Mitis foundry at Chemnitz.

Mitkul, variant of MISKAL.

Mitom, mitome (mə·itɒm, -ōum). *Biol.* Also in mod. Latin form. [ad. mod.L. *mitōma* (mitōu·mă), f. Gr. *μίτος* thread: see next and cf. *carcinoma, sarcoma*, etc.] Flemming's name for the mass of fibrils of protoplasm in the body of a cell.

1888 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* p. xxi, Protoplasm..as a rule .. is more or less vesicular, consisting of a denser substance (mitome) enclosing droplets of a more fluid character (enchylema, paramitome). 1898 KLEIN & EDKINS *Elem. Histol.* 11 The divided nuclear mitoma. 1900 JACKSON *Gloss. Bot. Terms, Mitom.*

‖ **Mitosis** (mitōu·sis). Pl. **-oses** (-ōu·sīz). *Biol.* [mod.L., f. Gr. *μίτος* a thread of a warp: see -OSIS.] a. The splitting up into threads of a minute granular nucleus embedded in living protoplasm. Cf. KARYOMITOSIS. b. The figure presented by the nucleus at any stage in this process.

1888 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* p. xxii, The nuclear membrane is dissolved in mitosis and reconstituted round the new nuclei. 1891 *Lancet* 6 June 1269/1 The 'mitoses' are not of uniform size,..but present the greatest variety in this respect in one and the same tumour. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 65 Many of the corneal corpuscles.. can..be seen undergoing mitosis.

Hence **Mitosic** (mitōu·sik) *a.* = MITOTIC.

1890 in *Century Dict.*; and in later Dicts.

Mitotic (mitɒ·tik), *a.* [f. MITOSIS: see -OTIC.] Pertaining to, connected with, characterized by, or exhibiting mitosis.

1888 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* p. xxii, The division of the protoplasm [of a cell] .. may be indirect or mitotic. 1904 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 10 Sept. 584 The work of Flemming and his pupils in 1884 placed beyond doubt the mitotic reproduction of lymphocytes in these situations.

Hence **Mito·tically** *adv.*, by mitosis.

1890 in *Century Dict.*; and in later Dicts.

‖ **Mitra** (mə·itră). Also 7 **mi-, mythra.** [L., a. Gr. *μίτρα*: see MITRE *sb.*]

1. *Antig.* A head-dress = MITRE *sb.*[1] 1 a.

1638 Sir T. HERBERT *Trav.* (ed. 2) 146 Above each doore is ingraven the Idea of a Majestique Monarch; his roabe is long, a Tiara or Mithra on his head. 1850 LEITCH tr. *C. O. Müller's Anc. Art* § 383 (ed. 2) 488 A magnificent luxuriance of curling hair restrained by the mitra.

2. *Bot.* †**a.** (see quot. 1775). **b.** (see quot. 1852).

1775 ASH, *Mitra*, the name of a plant, the mitreola. 1852 HENSLOW *Dict. Bot. Terms, Mitra*, used synonymously with galea, for 'Helmet'. Also, the thick, rounded, and folded pileus of some fungi.

3. *Surg.* 'A fillet or bandage applied on the head' (Mayne *Expos. Lex.* 1856).

‖ **Mitraillade** (mi·trayad). [Fr., f. *mitraille-r*: see MITRAILLE *v.* and -ADE.] A wholesale execution or massacre by volleys of mitraille.

1833 ALISON *Hist. Europe* (1849–50) III. xiii. § 115. 123 The inhuman mitraillades of Lyons.

‖ **Mitraille** (mi·tray, mitrāi·l), *sb.* Also anglicized mitrail. [F. *mitraille*, OF. *mi(s)traille* small money, pieces of metal; an altered form of OF. *mitaille*, f. *mite*: see MITE[2].] Small missiles, as fragments of iron, heads of nails, etc. shot in masses from a cannon; now *spec.* small shot or projectiles fired from a mitrailleuse.

[1802 C. JAMES *Milit. Dict.*, *Mitraille, Fr.* small pieces of old iron, such as heads of nails, &c., with which pieces of ordnance are frequently loaded.] 1868 KINGLAKE *Crimea* (1877) IV. vi. 140 His .. purpose of meeting the assaulting column .. with a pelting blast of mitrail. 1876 VOYLE & STEVENSON *Milit. Dict.* (ed. 3) s. v. *Mitrailleur*, A machine gun intended to throw *mitraille*, that is, groups of small projectiles, independently, to distances of 1000 yards.

Hence **Mitrai·lle**, *v. rare* [cf. F. *mitrailler*], *trans.* to assail with mitraille.

1844 TH. PARKER in J. Weiss *Life & Corr.* I. 225 The wretched Terrorists of the Revolution guillotined .. and mitrailled, I know not how many.

‖ **Mitrailleur** (mitrayŏr). [Fr., agent-n. f. *mitrailler* to fire mitraille (see MITRAILLE *v.*). In Littré only in sense 2.]

1. = MITRAILLEUSE 1. Also, see quot. 1876 **2.**

1869 FOSBERY in *Jrnl. R. United Serv. Instit.* XIII. 540 Mitrailleur, the term I have adopted in the title of this paper, perhaps best of all expresses what is intended, namely, a weapon producing a hail storm of comparatively small projectiles. 1876 VOYLE & STEVENSON *Milit. Dict.* (ed. 3) s. v. *Mitrailleur*, The *Nobel* mitrailleur is the one used in the Russian army. It is a ten-barrelled gun on the Gatling system. *Ibid.*, Mr. Hale .. has invented a mitrailleur which fires five rockets at a time. 1883 *Pall Mall G.* 15 Sept. 1/2 The French mitrailleuse was only an adaptation of the Montigny mitrailleur.

2. One who works a mitrailleuse. *rare*—°.

1890 in *Century Dict.*

‖ **Mitrailleuse** (mitrayōz). [Fr., fem. agent-n. formed as prec.] A breech-loading machine-gun with a number of barrels fitted together, so arranged that it can discharge small missiles simultaneously in large quantities with great rapidity, or singly in rapid succession.

It was introduced into the French army about 1868 and first brought into service in the Franco-German war of 1870–1. There are many varieties of this gun, with qualifying names prefixed.

1870 *Times* 23 July 10/3 The Emperor .. is reported to have constantly had the mitrailleuses brought to St. Cloud to be tested under his own eyes.. The mitrailleuse is, perhaps, relied upon to do for France in the present war what in the last the needle-gun did for Prussia. 1872 RUSKIN *Eagle's N.* § 34 Our mechanical contrivance will only make the age of the mitrailleuse more abhorred than that of the guillotine. 1902 R. W. CHAMBERS *Maids of Paradise* i. 14 A battery of Montigny mitrailleuses passed.

Mitral (mə·itrăl), *a.* and *sb.* Also 8 **mytrale.** [a. F. *mitral*, ad. mod.L. *mitrālis*, f. L. *mitra*: see MITRE *sb.* and -AL.] **A.** *adj.*

1. Of, pertaining to, or resembling a mitre.

1610 GUILLIM *Heraldry* III. i. 190 The Field is Iupiter, a Crowne Mitrall Imperiall Sol, garnished and enriched with sundry precious Gems, Proper. *Ibid.*, *margin*, A Crowne Imperiall Mitrall. 1624 DARCIE *Birth of Heresies* xii. 54 Which Mytrall Ornament is only preserued for eminent and higher Priests. 1658 Sir T. BROWNE *Gard. Cyrus* ii. in *Hydriot.* etc. 41 The mitrall Crown, which common picture seems to set too upright and forward upon the head of Aaron.

2. *Anat.* **Mitral valve**: The left auriculo-ventricular valve of the heart, so called from its shape (see quot. 1872); formerly it was considered as two valves. Also called *bicuspid valve.*

[1693 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Mitrales Valvulæ*, see *Episcopales.*] 1705 W. COWPER in *Phil. Trans.* XXV. 1974 The Mitral and Semilunary Valves of the Left Ventricle of the Heart. 1860 O. W. HOLMES *Prof. Breakf.-t.* xi. 227 Heart hits as hard as a fist,—bellows-sound over mitral valves. 1872 MIVART *Elem. Anat.* 408 The left auriculo-ventricular opening is guarded by two flaps, forming what is called the mitral valve, from a fancied resemblance to a bishop's mitre.

b. *Anat.* and *Path.* Of or pertaining to the mitral valve.

1853 MARKHAM *Skoda's Auscult.* 207 Constriction of the mitral orifice. 1857 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex.* s.v. *Regurgitation, Mitral regurgitation* .. means the reflux of blood through the left auriculo-ventricular opening, during the contraction of the left ventricle. 1879 *St. George's Hosp. Rep.* IX. 406 With mitral and tricuspid insufficiency. 1891 *Syd. Soc. Lex., Mitral area*, the area in which the sounds produced at the mitral valve are best heard.

B. *sb.* = *Mitral valve.*

[1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Mitrales*, are two Valves at the Orifice of *Vena pulmonaris*, in the Left Ventricle of the Heart.] 1835 J. HOPE in *Cycl. Pract. Med.* IV. 424/1 Extreme contraction of the mitral..can be detected by the characters of the pulse, and the assemblage of other signs. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 450 A .. contracted mitral. 1899 *Ibid.* VI. 25 The degree of stenosis of the mitral is generally more severe than that of the tricuspid.

Mitrate (mə·itreit), *a. Bot.* and *Zool.* [ad. L. *mitrāt-us* wearing a turban, f. *mitra*: see MITRE *sb.* and -ATE.] Having the shape of a mitre or bonnet.

1848 E. FORBES *Naked-eyed Medusæ* 22 The umbrella is sub-cylindrical and mitrate. 1887 W. PHILLIPS *Brit. Discomycetes* 1 Receptacle..mitrate.

Mitre (mə·itəɹ), *sb.*[1] Forms: 4–5 **mytir**, 4–7 **mytre, -er**, 5 **mytyre, mytor**, 6 **mytyr, myttor, mytter, mither, meeter**, 6– **miter**, 4– **mitre.** [ad. F. *mitre* (= Pr., Sp. *mitra*, It. *mitra, mitria*, ON. *mitr, miltra*), ad. L. *mitra*, a. Gr. *μίτρα* (Ionic *μίτρη*) belt, girdle, head-band, turban.]

1. a. *Antiq.* As rendering of Gr. *μίτρα*, L. *mitra*: A headband or fillet worn by ancient Greek women; also, a kind of head-dress common among Asiatics, the wearing of which by men was regarded by the Romans as a mark of effeminacy.

1382 WYCLIF *Isa.* iii. 19 In that dai the Lord shal don awei the..armcercles, and mytris, and combys, and ribanes. — *Judith* xvi. 10 She bond togidere hir crisp heris with a mitre. *c* 1450 *Mirour Saluacioun* 3204 Judith hire clothis didde on most ffestyvale faire and swete With mytre hire heved arraied. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. ii. 13 And like a Persian mitre on her hed Shee wore. *c* 1614 MURE *Dido & Æneas* II. 417 His curled head with Phrygian mytre [*Æn.* IV. 216 *Mæonia mitra*] guised. 1647 A. Ross *Mystag. Poet.* ii. (1675) 40 Bacchus used to wear a Mitre, which is the proper attire of women. 1699 GARTH *Dispens.* VI. 72 These, Miters emulate, Those, Turbans are. 1866 BRANDE & COX *Dict. Sci.*, etc., s. v., Servius makes it a matter of reproach to the Phrygians that they were dressed like women, inasmuch as they wore mitres.

¶ Used by Chapman and Pope for the Homeric *μίτρη*, which means a belt or girdle.

c 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* v. 719 Oresbius, that did wear The gaudy mitre. 1716 POPE *ibid.* 870 Oresbius, in his painted mitre gay. [Gr. *ὅθι ζωννύσκετο μίτρην.*]

†**b.** Applied by travellers in the 16–17th c. to the turban or the long conical cap worn by certain Asiatic peoples; also, rarely, applied to other kinds of head attire worn in remote countries. *Obs.*

1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* IV. xiv. 128 They weare .. on their head a long myter. 1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* v. xxix. 420 The maides were clothed in new garments, wearing..vpon their heads myters made of rods covered with this mays. 1638 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (ed. 2) 227 About their heads they wreath great rowles of Callico, of silke and gold,..they call them shashes, in past times (especially those worne by Kings) Cydarims or Tyaraes, with us call'd Mithers.

2. A sacerdotal head-dress.

a. *Hebrew Antiq.* Used (after L. *mitra*, Vulg., and *μίτρα*, LXX.) for the ceremonial turban of the high priest (Heb. מצנפת *miçnepheth*, צניף *çānīph*); also (in Wyclif and the Douay Bible, though not in the other versions) for the head-dress of the ordinary priests (Heb. מגבעה *migbāʿāh*; Coverdale and the Bible of 1611 'bonnet', 1884 Revised 'headtire').

For the 'mitre' of the English Bible of 1611 the Vulgate has *cidaris* or *tiara* (*mitra* only in Exod. xxxix); its *mitra* is the 'bonnet' of the English Bible. Wyclif's rendering of *cidaris* by 'mytre' is noteworthy, as probably indicating that the word was already current in English (in sense 1 b).

1382 WYCLIF *Lev.* xvi. 4 He [*sc.* Aaron] shal be gyrd with a lynnen gyrdil, and a lynnen mytre he shal putte to the heed. — *Zech.* iii. 5 Putte 3e a cleane cappe or mytre [1535 COVERDALE a fayre myter, 1611 a faire miter, 1884 (*Revised*) a fair mitre (*margin*, or turban)] vpon his heued. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. CXXIX. (1495) 687 The myter of the cheyf preest was shape to the liknesse of the herbe weybrede. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 1589. 1614 RALEIGH *Hist. World* IV. ii. § 6. 470 Iaddus the high Priest..with his miter. 1878 B. TAYLOR *Deukalion* IV. ii. 145, I took away The High Priest's mitre, long since threadbare grown.

b. *Eccl.* A head-dress forming part of the insignia of a bishop in the Western Church, and worn also by certain abbots and other ecclesiastics as a mark of exceptional dignity. In its modern form, it is a tall cap, deeply cleft at the top, the outline of the front and back having the shape of a pointed arch; the material has usually been white linen or satin, embroidered and often jewelled; but mitres of gold or silver have also been used.

The application of *mitra* in med.L. to the episcopal head-dress was doubtless suggested by its occurrence in the description of the attire of the Jewish high-priest. (See a.)

In the Anglican church after the Reformation, the mitre, though theoretically part of the episcopal insignia, was seldom actually worn except at coronations down to that of George III. In recent times some bishops have revived its use on special ceremonial occasions.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* II. 398 Bishopis..shulden knowe bobe Goddis lawes; and þis token þei beren on hem, whanne þei hilen hem wiþ her mytir. *c* 1393 CHAUCER *Gentilesse* 7 Al were he mytre [*Caxton* mytor] croune or dyademe. 1431 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* 27 Also a myter of cloth of gold set with stones. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* lxiii. 219 He [*sc.* the abbot] called all his conent, and chargyd them .. to reuest them selues with crosse and myter & copes, to receyue Huon. 1556 *Chron. Gr. Friars* (Camden) 33 Dyvers byshoppes and abbottes in their mytteres. *Ibid.* 50 The byshoppe in his myttor. 1661 EVELYN *Diary* 20 Dec., There was a silver mitre with episcopal robes, born by the Herauld before the herse [of the Bishop of Hereford]. 1687 DRYDEN *Hind & P.* I. 395 Our Panther, .. The crosier wielded and the mitre wore. 1852 HOOK *Ch. Dict.* (1871) 508 The episcopal coronet-Mitres, though worn in some of the Lutheran churches (as in Sweden), have fallen into utter desuetude in England, even at Coronations.

transf. *c* 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* v. 48 Upon their heads they carry a Miter of paper. 1649 JER. TAYLOR *Gt. Exemp.* III. Ad Sect. xv. 161 The Crown of Thorns was his Miter. 1868 MARRIOTT *Vest. Chr.* p. xl, In Egyptian monuments we find the symbols of priesthood .. such as .. a high cap or mitre, indicative of authority.

c. Used as the symbol of the episcopal office or dignity.

1387–8 T. USK *Test. Love* II. ii. (Skeat) I. 36, I [*sc.* Love] bar both crosse and mytre, to yeve it where I wolde. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 258 The Mitre with the Diademe He hath thurgh Supplantacion. 1589 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* V. xxiii. 103 What cite I forraine matters, when our native Stories yeeld Of Myters medling with our Sword an ouerplenteous feeld? 1641 HEYWOOD *Reader here you'l plainly see*, etc. 2 As Wolstan, Becket, Wolsey,..And their successors,..Would make the Miter levell with the Crowne! *a* 1660 *Contemp. Hist. Irel.* (Irish Archæol. & Celtic Soc. 1879) I. 1. 101 To indeere himself unto the Councell, that they may speake a good worde for him to enjoy a meeter. 1708 HEARNE *Collect.* 10 Jan. (O. H. S.) II. 88 Learning being..reckon'd a very ordinary Qualification for ye Mitre. 1738 POPE *Epil. Sat.* ii. 240 Stars..(Such as on Hough's unsally'd Mitre shine, Or beam, good Digby, from a heart like thine). 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* iv. I. 491 Baxter..refused the mitre of Hereford. 1903 *Edin. Rev.* Apr. 526 James II..could not get a mitre for Petre.

d. *Her.* The representation of a (bishop's) mitre. (In British heraldry borne, instead of helmet and crest, over the arms of episcopal sees; in the arms of a few sees it occurs also as a charge.)

1610 GUILLIM *Heraldry* IV. ii. 193 He beareth Sable, a Miter with two Labels Argent. 1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v., In Germany, several great families bear the mitre for their crest; to shew that they are advocates, or feudataries of antient abbies, or officers of bishops, &c. 1784 COWPER *Tiroc.* 369 In fancy sees him..ride In coach with purple lined, and mitres on its side. 1823 CRABB *Technol. Dict.* s.v., Those [*sc.* the arms of the sees] of Norwich and Chester have three mitres. 1885 *Fairholt's Costume* II. Gloss. 286 The row of strawberry leaves around the modern archbishop's mitre is an invention of modern engravers. 1894 WOODWARD *Eccles. Her.* 101 The mitre of the Bishops of Durham is represented as rising out of a ducal coronet.

e. *slang.* A hat.

1896 FARMER & HENLEY *Slang, Mitre* (University), a hat.

3. Used as the name of various taverns and hotels, etc., as the *Mitre Tavern*, a famous place of resort in Shakspere's time. Also *attrib.*

1608 MIDDLETON *Mad World* V. H, This will be a True feast, a right Miter supper. 1611 BARRY *Ram-Alley* II. D 3, Meete me straite At the Myter doore in Fleet-street. 1633 ROWLEY *Match at Midn.* II. E 3, Come, weele..to the Miter in Bredstreete, weele make a mad night on't. 1661–6 WOOD *City of Oxford* (O.H.S.) III. 152 This High-German..fell sick at his arrival, in the Miter inne.

4. †**a.** The 'head' or 'cap' of an alembic. *Obs.*

1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. iii. 139 Like as in a Limbeck, th' heat of Fire Raiseth a Vapour, which still mounting higher To the Still's top; when th' odoriferous sweat Above that Miter can no further get, It softly thickning, falleth drop by drop.

b. A cowl for a chimney (*Cent. Dict.* 1890).

5. *Hist.* A base coin current in Ireland during the last half of the 13th c. (see quot.).

1749 J. SIMON *Irish Coins* 15 note, Other foreign coins called Mitres, Lionines, .. Eagles, &c. from the stamp or figures impressed on them, were..uttered here for pennies, though not worth half a penny.

6. *Conch.* A mitre-shell.

1840 SWAINSON *Malacology* 98 The *Mitrinæ*, or mitres, where the spire is always acute [etc.]. 1861 CARPENTER in *Rep. Smithsonian Inst. for* 1860, 180 Family Fasciolariadæ (Tulip-shells and Mitres).

7. *attrib.* and *Comb.*: *mitre-bearer, -gold, -superstition*; *mitre-crowned, -missing, -shaped* adjs.; *mitre-wise* adv.; **mitre-flower**, 'a plant of the genus *Cyclamen*' (*Cent. Dict.* 1890); **mitre-mushroom**, an edible mushroom (*Helvella crispa*), so called from the shape of the pileus; **mitre-shell**, any one of numerous species of marine univalve shells of the genus *Mitra* (the shape in some species resembles that of a mitre); **mitre-snake**, 'a slender colubrine serpent (genus *Contia*), especially *C. episcopa*, of the Mexican borderland' (Funk's *Stand. Dict.* 1895).

1835 WILLIS *Pencillings* I. xviii. 127 The long train of proctors,..*mitre-bearers, and incense-bearers. 1885 W. J. FITZPATRICK *Life T. N. Burke* I. 17 Dr. Butler..*mitre-crowned, singing the High Mass at St. Finbar's. 1820 MILMAN *Fall Jerus.* (1821) 114 The breastplate gems, and the pure *mitre-gold, Shine lamplike. 1840 L. HUNT *Dram. Wks. Wycherley, Congreve*, etc., *Biog. Congreve* p. xxxiii, Bravo, Doctor Young! With leave of thy very gloomy, *mitre-missing, and most erroneous 'Night Thoughts' [etc.]. 1854 LINDLEY *Sch. Bot.* ix. 156 c, *Helvella crispa* (the *Mitre Mushroom). 1766 *Gentl. Mag.* Apr. 169/1 The *mitre shap'd aloe. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* App., **Mitre-shell*, the English name of the smooth and slender buccinum, with a split rostrum. *a* 1628 F. GREVIL *Sidney* ii. (1652) 30 To binde this *Miter-superstition with the reall cords of truth. 1662 GREENHALGH in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. III. IV. 280 A very light cap with its corners standing streight and upwards, *mitre wise. 1844 THACKERAY *May Gambols* Wks. 1900 XIII. 442 The dinner-table set out, the napkins folded mitrewise.

Mitre (mə·itə), *sb.*[2] Also **miter**. [Of somewhat uncertain origin: perh., as is usually assumed, a transferred use of prec., but the development of sense is not easy to explain.

Possibly there may be a reference to the early form of the episcopal mitre, which had a vertical hand bisecting a rectilinear angle at the top.]

1. In Joinery and other mechanical arts: A joint (also *mitre-joint*) in which the line or plane of junction makes an angle of 45° with the side of each of the two pieces joined, so that the adjacent sides meet in a right angle; the shaped end or edge of a piece of material intended to form such a joint with another; an angle or slope of 45°. Now sometimes applied to any joint in which the angle made by the sides of the joined pieces is bisected by the line of junction.

Keyed mitre: a mitre-joint strengthened by the insertion of keys (KEY *sb.* 9). *Lapped mitre*: a combination of the lap and mitre joints.

1678 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* IV. 60 By Miters are meant the joining of two pieces of wood, so as the Joynt makes half a Square. 1710 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* II, *Mitre*, in Architecture, is the Workmen's Term for an Angle that is just 45 degrees, or half a right one; and if it be a quarter of a Right Angle, they call it a *Half Mitre*. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 589 A lapped mitre. 1850 *Parker's Gloss. Archit., Mitre*, the line formed by the meeting of mouldings or other surfaces, which intersect or intercept each other at an angle. 1876 *Encycl. Brit.* IV. 489/1 A keyed mitre. 1880 *Coach Builders' Art Jrnl.* I. 71, I drive all home, and cut the mitres and joints on the body single-handed, thus making a better job by single saw cut than can be obtained by solid mitre made at bench. 1882 J. LUKIN *Picture Frame Making* 2 These [mouldings] need only be sawn to a mitre or angle of 45 deg. 1901 *S. Black's Illustr. Carp. & Build., Home Handicrafts* 28 The amateur measures off four pieces for the sides of his quadrangle [*sc.* the frame], allowing for the mitre. 1902 A. MORRISON *Hole in Wall* 337 Now a lock of that sort joins in an angle or mitre at the middle, where the two sides meet like a valve, pointing to resist the tide.

2. Short for *mitre-square*.

1678 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* V. 85 As the Square is made to strike an Angle of 90 Degrees, and the Miter an Angle of 45 degrees, so the Bevil [etc.]. 1842 GWILT *Archit.* Gloss. s.v. *Bevel*, The make and use of it [*sc.* the bevel] are much the same as those of the common square and mitre, except that those are fixed, the first at an angle of ninety degrees and the second at forty-five. 1877 *Amateur Handicraft* 77 The carpenter's Try-square, T-Square and Mitre. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl. 1890 in *Century Dict.*

3. Short for *mitre-wheel*.

1844 STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 291 When it happens that ..the wheels y', fig. 322, are..mitres. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* fig. 3182 d, Miters.

4. = GUSSET 2. (Cf. MITRE *v.*[2] 3.)

1882 CAULFEILD & SAWARD *Dict. Needlework* 305 In dividing the stitches to form the Gusset or Mitre, place double the number [etc.]. 1892 *Daily News* 10 Mar. 2/4 There are no buttons at the back [of the overcoat], but a finish is lent by mitres being worked in.

5. *Comb.*, **mitre-arch**, the curve formed by the mitre or junction of two curved surfaces, as in groining, etc.; **mitre-bevel** = *mitre-square*; **mitre-block, board**, (*a*) a joiner's mitre box; (*b*) = *mitre shooting-board*; **mitre box**, a joiner's templet with kerfs or guides for the saw in cutting material for mitre-joints; also, a similar tool for mitring printers' rules; **mitre-bracket**, each of the angle-brackets in the bracketing of a moulded cornice; **mitre-cap**, a cap of a newel terminating a handrail to which it is mitred; **mitre-clamp**, a clamp with mitred ends; hence *mitre-clamped*; **mitre-cramp**, a cramp to secure a glued mitre-joint while it is drying; **mitre-cut**, 'a groove cut in the surface of plate-glass for ornamentation' (*Cent. Dict.* 1890) having a bottom angle of nearly 90°; **mitre-dovetail, dovetailing**, a combination of the mitre and dovetail joints; also *attrib.*; (**eross**) **mitre drain** (see quot. 1838); **mitre-gauge** (see quot. 1875); **mitre-iron, -jack** (see quots.); **mitre-joint** (see sense 1); so **mitre-jointed** *a.*, furnished with a mitre-joint; **mitre-line**, any line which bisects a mitre-joint; **mitre-machine** = *mitring-machine*; **mitre-plane**[1] [PLANE *sb.*[2]], a plane having the iron set obliquely across the face of the stock; **mitre-plane**[2] [PLANE *sb.*[3]], the plane in which the mitre-joint lies; **mitre post**, each of the chamfered outer posts of a pair of lock-gates which, when closed, present an angular face to the stream; **mitre rule**, a plasterers' tool (see quot.); **mitre-seating** *a.*, (of a valve) that has an annular seating turned to an angle of 45°; **mitre shooting-board**, a shooting-board used in chamfering the edges of wood; **mitre sill**, the sill of a lock-gate which presents an angular face to the stream when closed; **mitre square**, a 'square' with the blade set immovably at an angle of 45° for striking lines on something to be mitred, also sometimes applied to the bevel; **mitre-valve**, a puppet valve having its face and seat inclined 45° to its axis; **mitre-wheel**, each of a pair of bevelled cog-wheels, the axes of which are at right angles, and which have their teeth set at an angle of 45°.

1725 W. HALFPENNY *Sound Building* 16 To find the Angle, or *Mitre Arch of a..Groin. 1825. *Dict. Archit.* (Arch. Publ. Soc.) s. v. *Bevel*, [An instrument] which answers for a square, a common bevel, and a *mitre-bevel of forty-five degrees. 1846 HOLTZAPFFEL *Turning* II. 503 *Mitre block. 1871 AVELING *Carpentry & Join.* 61 A saddle or block, known as a Mitre-block or box. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl., **Mitre Board.* 1888 *Lockwood's Dict. Mech. Engin., Mitre Board.* 1678 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* V. 88 Another way..of Drawing, or striking out of Squares, Miters, and several Bevils .. is with a Tool called a *Miter Box. 1875–84 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, Miter-box. 1725 W. HALFPENNY *Sound Building* 14 To find the..*Mitre-Bracket of a Cove. 1820 P. NICHOLSON *Staircases & Handrails* 7 *Mitre-cap..is a block of wood, turned to some agreeable figure..used in dog-legged stairs to terminate the handrail. 1825. *Dict. Archit.* (Arch. Publ. Soc.) s.v. *Clamp*, *Mitre clamp. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 602 Boards keyed and clamped, mortise-clamped, and *mitre-clamped. 1847 SMEATON *Builder's Man.* 90 The last method to be

mentioned..may be termed *mitre-dovetail grooving. 1873 Tarn *Tredgold's Carpentry* 240 *Mitre-dovetailing. 1838 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* I. 97/2 Other drains are made under the roadway which, from their form, are termed *cross *mitre drains*. Their plan is in shape like the letter V... The construction of mitre drains is [etc.]. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.*, **Miter-gage*, a gage to determine the angle of a miter-joint in picture-frames, moldings, etc. 1894 Hasluck *Woodworker's Handy-bk.* xiii. 121 The use of an adjustable mitre gauge. 1843 Holtzapffel *Turning* I. 197 [A faggot of iron] made of a round bar in the center, and a group of bars of angular section, called *mitre iron, around the same. 1884 Knight *Dict. Mech.* Suppl., **Miter Jack*, a templet used in making and fitting all kinds of small miters on moldings. 1688 R. Holme *Armoury* III. 367/2 [A plane] for the fitting and framing of *Miter and Bevil Joynts. 1791 Smeaton *Edystone L.* p. 196 The mitre joint of two contiguous bars. *Ibid.* § 276, I chose them to be *mitre-jointed at the angles. 1678 Moxon *Mech. Exerc.* v. 85 A *Miter line. 1890 W. J. Gordon *Foundry* 155 The cutting of the louvres, which a boy does on a *mitre machine. 1688 R. Holme *Armoury* III. 367/2 The *Miter Plain. 1894 C. P. B. Shelley *Workshop Appl.* 44 Mitre-planes..are intended for planing across the grain. 1823 P. Nicholson *Pract. Build.* 173 The upper mouldings are mitred together, so that the *mitre-plane may be perpendicular to the horizon. 1838 *F. W. Simms' Publ. Wks. Gt. Brit.* ii. 6 The gates are made water tight at the *mitre posts, by being rubbed dry the one upon the other. 1845 *Encycl. Metrop.* XXV. 177/1 The *mitre or joint rule is eighteen inches long by three inches wide, and about an inch thick, bevelled off to a thin edge about an inch wide. 1888 Hasluck *Model Engin. Handybk.* 111 The *mitre-seating cone-valves.. are often considered easier to make than the ball valves. 1903 *Cassell's Cycl. Mechanics* VI. 167/2 A *mitre shooting board. 1841 Brees *Gloss. Civ. Engin.* s. v. *Lock*, The bottom framings, against which the gates are shut, are called *mitre sills. 1678 Moxon *Mech. Exerc.* v. 84 The *Miter square..is used for striking a Miter line, as the Square is to strike a square line. 1850 *Archæol. Jrnl.* VII. 403 What is technically called a mitre square. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.*, **Miter-valve*. 1833 Loudon *Encycl. Archit.* Gloss., **Mitre wheel*. 1844 Stephens *Bk. Farm.* II. 295 Each of the screws is mounted with a small mitre-wheel.

Mitre (mai·təɹ), *v.*[1] [f. Mitre *sb.*[1]; cf. early mod.F. *mitrer*, *mitrer*, Sp., Pg. *mitrar*, It. *mitrare*, *mitriare* (Baretti), Olt. *metrare*, med.L. *mitrāre*.] *trans.* To confer or bestow a mitre upon, to raise to a rank to which the dignity of wearing a mitre belongs. Chiefly in pa. pple. *mitred*, invested *with* something by way of mitre.

c 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* III. 25 Bischopis mytrid wiþ two hornys figuren þat þei schulden þoru good ensaumple putte þe folk fro vicis to virtues. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 341/1 Mytryn, *mitro*. 1801 Coleridge in C. K. Paul *W. Godwin* (1874) II. 74 It was once clothed and mitred with flame. 1804 J. Grahame *Sabbath* 332 Mitred with a wreath Of nightshade. 1891 C. E. Norton *Dante's Purgat.* xxvii. 176 Wherefore thee over thyself I crown and mitre.

Mitre (mai·təɹ), *v.*[2] Also miter. [f. Mitre *sb.*[2]] **1.** *trans.* To join with a mitre-joint; to make a mitre-joint in; to cut or shape (the end of a piece of material) to a mitre. Also with *away*, *up*. *To mitre the square*: to bisect the angle of a joint.

1731 [implied in Mitring *vbl. sb.*]. 1753 Hogarth *Anal. Beauty* xii. 172 The profile out-line of some corner of it [*sc.* the moulding] where it is 'mitered', as the joiners term it. 1833 Loudon *Encycl. Archit.* § 1122 The slates to be all close-mitred, when two planes meet against a diagonal line, they are said to be mitred. 1842 Gwilt *Archit.* § 2285 (1859) 607 Steps and risers mitred to cut string, and dovetailed to balusters. *c* 1850 *Rudim. Navig.* (Weale) 116 They are..mitred into the gunwale. 1875 *Carpentry & Join.* 65 Such work as mitring up a box. 1881 Young *Ev. Man his own Mech.* § 452 The edges are bevelled or mitred away.

b. *intr.* To form a mitre, meet in a mitre-joint.

1820 P. Nicholson *Staircases & Handrails* 28 The part that mitres upon the riser below. 1875 *Encycl. Brit.* II. 467/2 A moulding returned upon itself at right angles is said to mitre. In joinery the ends of any two pieces of wood of corresponding form cut off at 45° necessarily abut upon one another so as to form a right angle, and are said to mitre.

2. a. *Bookbinding.* **b.** *Printing.* See quots.

1875 [cf. Mitred *ppl.a.*[2]]. 1880 Zaehnsdorf *Bookbinding* xxii. 119 As a general rule morocco is always mitred. *Ibid.* 121 Carefully mitreing the corners where any lines are used. 1888 Jacobi *Printers' Vocab. Mitre*, to chamfer..the ends of rules in order that they may join closely in forming a border.

3. *Needlework.* To make an angle in (a straight strip or band, etc.) by cutting out a three-cornered piece and uniting the resulting edges.

1880 *Plain Hints Needlework* 27 To make corners of a hem ..they should be 'mitred'.

Mitre, obs. form of Metre *v.*

Mitred (mai·təɹd), *ppl. a.*[1] [f. Mitre *sb.*[1] and *v.*[1] + -ed. Cf. med.L. *mitrātus*.]

1. Entitled or privileged to wear a mitre. *Mitred abbot* (= med.L. *abbas mitratus*): an abbot invested by the pope with the privilege of wearing a mitre; hence *mitred abbey* (med.L. *beneficium mitratum*), an abbey ruled by a mitred abbot.

In England before the Reformation the mitred abbots were members of the House of Lords.

c 1380 [see Mitre *v.*[1]]. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl.* C. v. 193 More þan al by marchaunz oþer by mytrede bisshopes, Oþer lumbardes of lukes þat lyuen by lone as Iewes. 1550 Bale *Eng. Votaries* II. E iij, Whiche of them should be highest in that mitred kingdome of idlenesse. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 368 The bishops.. and.. a few other mitred men. 1658 Bramhall *Consecr. Bps.* vi. 139 One Bishop and two Mitred Abbats. *a* 1661 Fuller *Worthies, Yorks.* (1662) II. 190 Selby, where after he [Henry] founded a Mitred-Abby. 1759 Dilworth *Pope* 67 The bishop.. related that conference to a friend of his, a dignified but not a mitred clergyman. 1830 *Westm. Rev.* XII. 473 The methodist parson and the mitred bishop. 1878 Stubbs *Const. Hist.* III. xx. 445 The mitred and parliamentary abbeys were not identical.

2. Wearing or adorned with a mitre.

c 1420 Lydg. *Story of Thebes* 4186 As a bisshop, mytred, in his stalle. 1480 Caxton *Chron. Eng.* ccxliv. 300 Bisshops reuessed and mytered with senscers to welcome the kyng. 1562 in *Rep. on Foedera* E. II. 48 The impure assemblie of those shaven fathers, those myteryd and redd-hattyd fellowes [at Trent]. 1637 Milton *Lycidas* 112 He shook his Miter'd locks, and stern bespake. 1687 Dryden *Hind & P.* I. 202 Your fangs you fastened on the mitred crowa. 1790 Burke *Fr. Rev.* 153 We will have her [*sc.* religion] to exalt her mitred front in courts and parliaments. 1805 Southey *Madoc in W.* xv, The mitred Baldwin, in his hand Holding a taper, at the altar stood. 1850 Tymms *Bury Wills* (Camden) 229 A leaden token..bears on the obverse a mitred head. 1863 J. R. Walbran *Mem. Fountains Abbey* (Surtees) 147 The abbot robed and mitred..standing under a trifoliated canopy.

b. Bearing a representation of a mitre. *rare.*

1768–74 Tucker *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 464, I see the mitred coach come rolling along. 1772–9 W. Mason *Eng. Garden* IV. 106 The fane conventual there is dimly seen, The mitred window, and the cloister pale.

3. Formed like a mitre; having a mitre-shaped apex; *Nat. Hist.* in specific names (= mod.L. *mitrātus*).

a 1547 Surrey *Æneid* IV. 277 With mitred hats, with oynted bush and beard. 1860 *Chamb. Encycl.* s. v. *Basilisk*, The Mitred or Hooded Basilisk (*Basiliscus mitratus*), a native of the tropical parts of America. 1887 Hay *Brit. Fungi* 140 *Helvella lacunosa*, the Mitred Helvel. 1897 H. O. Forbes *Hand-bk. Primates* II. 137 The mitred langur, *Semnopithecus mitratus*.

Mitred (mai·təɹd), *ppl. a.*[2] [f. Mitre *v.*[2] + -ed.] In the senses of the verb.

1775 Ash, *Mitred*, cut off at an angle of forty-five degrees. 1832 *Skyring's Builders' Prices* 18 Mitred and glued borders. 1842 Gwilt *Archit.* § 2285 (1859) 607 If grooved for balusters, circular..mitred and turned caps, such to be mentioned. 1847 Smeaton *Builder's Man.* 90 Fig. 26 represents a still neater dovetail; and, as the edges are mitred together, is termed a mitred dovetail. 1860 Burn *Gloss. Techn. Terms Building* 7 *Mitred Borders*, narrow widths of boarding placed round the front hearths to fireplaces. 1871 *Ringwalt's Amer. Encycl. Printing*, Mitred Rules. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech., Mitered (Bookbinding)*. Said of a fillet ornamentation when the lines unite exactly at their junction without overrunning. 1880 Zaehnsdorf *Bookbinding* xxii. 119 This [finishing with a full gilt back] is done in two ways, a 'run up' back and a 'mitred' back. 1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 16 May 3/2 Perpendicular mitred lines of insertion on the skirt.

Mitre-wort (mai·təɹwɒɹt). [f. Mitre *sb.*[1] + Wort.] A book-name for the genus Mitella. *False mitre-wort*: a plant of the genus *Tiarella*.

1845–50 Mrs. Lincoln *Lect. Bot.* App. 176/2 *Tiarella cordifolia*, (mitre-wort). 1856 Gray *Man. Bot.* (1860) 145 *Mitella*, Mitre-wort. *Tiarella*, False Mitre-wort.

Mitridat(e, obs. forms of Mithridate.

Mitriform (mə·itrifɔ̄ɹm), *a.* [ad. mod.L. *mitriformis*, f. *mitra* Mitre *sb.*[1]: see -form.] **a.** *Bot.* Resembling or shaped like a mitre; conical, hollow, and open at the base, the base being sometimes irregularly indented; applied to the calyptra of mosses and to certain fruits. **b.** *Conch.* Shaped like a mitre-shell.

1830 Lindley *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 322 The mitriform calyptra. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVI. 446/2 [Of shells] Mitriform; spire produced, conic. 1881 R. B. Watson in *Jrnl. Linn. Soc.* XV. 404 Shell,—high, mitriform, biconical.

Mitring (mai·triŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. Mitre *v.*[2] + -ing[1].] The action of Mitre *v.*[2] in its various senses; also *concr.* the shaped end of a piece prepared to be mitred with another.

1731 W. Halfpenny *Perspective* 31 The Mitering of the under side of every Square..must be drawn from the Point of Sight. 1778 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 2) I. 618 The thickness of the bracket, with its mitring to the riser. 1852 Seidel *Organ* 158 Sometimes pipes require even a repeated mitering. This mitering greatly influences the..tone of a pipe.

b. *attrib.*, as *mitring tool*; also *mitring block, board, box, saw*, etc. = mitre block, board, etc.; **mitring-machine** (see quots.).

1845 *Encycl. Metrop.* XXV. 177/1 Tools used by the plasterer...There are also various mitring tools of iron or steel. 1871 *Ringwalt's Amer. Encycl. Printing, Mitring Box*, a box used to facilitate the operation of cutting material that is to be mitred. *Ibid., Mitring Machines*, various machines made for the purpose of mitring rules neatly and accurately 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech., Mitering-machine* (*Joinery*), a machine for mitering or slanting the ends of pieces which are to be united by a miter-joint. 1875 *Carpentry & Join.* 39 *The Mitreing Box*.. is used to cut pieces of moulding at the right angle for picture and other frames.

† **Mitrous,** *a. nonce-wd.* [f. Mitre *sb.* + -ous.] Relating to a mitre or bishopric.

1791 Hudnesford *Salmag., Monody Death of Dick* 137 When soft reclines in velvet pomp supreme Divinity, entranc'd in mitrous dream.

Mitry (mə·itri), *a. Her.* [f. Mitre *sb.* + -y[1].] Charged with a number of mitres.

1847 *Gloss. Her., Mitry.* The word occurs in blazoning a hordure charged with eight mitres. 1889 Elvin *Dict. Her.*

Mitt (mit). Also mit. Chiefly in *pl.* [Shortened from Mitten *sb.*]

1. = Mitten *sb.* 2.

1765 *Univ. Mag.* XXXVII. 324/2 Silk mitts, and silk gloves. 1795 Wolcot (P. Pindar) *Lousiad* v. Wks. 1812 I. 304 Transform an old silk stocking into mits. 1811 *Ora & Julie* I. 42 Dudley laughed, and took hold of her cherry fingers, that peeped out of her mits. 1828 Scott *Aunt Marg. Mirr.* Introd., The black silk gloves, or mitts. 1851 *Catal. Gt. Exhib.* II. 575 Lace mitts. *a* 1876 Ht. Martineau *Autobiog.* I. 57 The long mits she wore.

transf. 1886 *Pop. Sci. Monthly* Nov. 208 The hands and forearms of the women are tattooed with mitts, as in the Marshall Islands. 1903 *Daily Record & Mail* 30 Dec. 7 A novel device..for persons who do not know how to swim. It consists of a mitt or gauntlet. ..When fitted to the hand it forms webs between the fingers and the thumb. *Ibid.*, An elastic band which fastens the mitt to the wrist.

2. = Mitten 1. † Also *slang*, a glove.

1812 J. H. Vaux *Flash Dict., Mitts*, gloves. 1812 J. Smyth *Pract. of Customs* (1821) 214 Waste Silk..may..be spun to make stockings, mits, &c. but they will be coarse and ordinary. 1856 Kane *Arct. Explor.* II. i. 24 Mitts of seal-skin well wadded with sledge-straw. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk., Mitts*, a protection for the hands, covering the thumb in one space and the fingers in another, so that men wearing them can still handle ropes.

3. *U.S. slang.* **a.** A hand. **b.** *A big mitt*: a mode of swindling at cards (see quot. 1905); hence a municipal scheme undertaken with a view to the private advantage of its promoters.

1901 H. McHugh *John Henry* 10 I'm sitting on the sofa with one mitt lying carelessly on the family album and the other bunched around a $1.70 cane. 1903 *Daily Chron.* 27 May 7/2 A 'big mit,'..is a big boodle game, a graft. 1905 *Blackw. Mag.* Jan. 137/1 At the 'big mitt' game alone, an ingenious method of swindling by means of a stacked hand at stud poker, a vast profit was made.

Mittain(e, mittan, obs. forms of Mitten.

† **Mittane.** *Sc. Obs. rare.* Also **myttane, myttaine.** [Of obscure origin: cf. Mittell.] A bird of prey, a kind of hawk.

1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* xxii. 12 Forsett is ay the falconis kynd, Bot euir the mittane [*v.r.* myttell] is hard in mynd. *Ibid.* xxxiii. 73 The myttane and Sanct Martynis fowle.

Mitted (mi·tėd), *ppl. a.* [f. Mitt + -ed[2].] Wearing mitts or mittens.

1893 *Atlantic Monthly* Feb. 155/1 Reaching in deftly with mitted arms.

† **Mittell.** *Sc. Obs. rare.* Forms: 5 **myttal, mytall,** 6 **myttell.** [Of obscure origin: cf. Mittane.] 'A bird of prey of the hawk kind' (Jam.).

1457 *Sc. Acts Jas. II*, c. 32 (1814) II. 51 Vper foulys of reif as ernys bussardes gleddes and myttalles [*v.r.* (1566) mittalis]. 1500–20 [see Mittane].

Mitten (mi·tən). Forms: 4–5 **meteyn(e, metayn, myteyn(e, mytan, -en,** 5 **meting,** 5–6 **myttan, -en,** 5, 7–8 **mittain,** 6 **mytayne, myttayn, mytton,** 6–8 **mitton,** 6, 8–9 **mittan,** 7 **mittaine,** 7– **mittin, -ing,** 6– **mitten.** [a. F. *mitaine* (from 12th c.), of obscure origin; cf. F. *miton* gauntlet (16th c.), mitten (1738 in Littré), also Fr. dial. *mite* mitten, and med.L. (13th c.) *mitana, mitanna* mitten, *mita* ? mitten.]

1. A covering for the hand, differing from a glove in having no divisions for the fingers, but provided with a separate receptacle for the thumb; worn either for warmth, or (e.g. by hedgers and other workmen) to protect the hand from injury or pain in handling something. Also (now *dial.*: see *Eng. Dial. Dict.*) applied to a thick winter glove.

c 1386 Chaucer *Pard. Prol.* 45 He þat his hand wol putte in this Mitayn He shal haue multiplyng of his grayn. *c* 1394 *P. Pl. Crede* 428 Twey myteynes, as miete, maad all of cloutes; Þe fyngers weren for-werd, and ful of fen honged. *c* 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* I. 1167 And botis, cokirs, myttens [L. *manicas de pellibus*] mot we were. 1488 in Tytler *Hist. Scot.* (1864) II. 393 A pare of metingis for hunting. 1515 Barclay *Egloges* iv. (1570) C iij/1 His furred mittens were of a curres skin. 1563 *Homilies* II. *Excess of Apparel* 114 b, He that ruffleth in his..corked slippers, trimme buskins, and warme nittons, is more redy to chyll for colde, then the poore labouryng man. *a* 1623 Fletcher *Love's Cure* II. i, Let not thy mittens abate the talons of thy authority, but gripe theft and whoredom wheresoever thou meet'st 'em. 1634 Peacham *Gentl. Exerc.* II. vii. 126 December must be expressed with a horrid and fearefull aspect,.. at his backe a bundle of Holly,.. holding in furd Mittens the signe of Capricornus. 1662 *Plymouth Col. Rec.* (1855) IV. 12 There was found his capp, with his staffe and one mitting. 1667 Pepys *Diary* 21 Jan., 'The Swede's Resident.. came to us out of bed in his furred mittens and furred cap. 1729 T. Consett *Pres. St. Ch. Russ.* 157 *note*, The vulgar people .. with their .. gloves on, which are almost as large and strong as a hedger's mittins. 1742 Middleton in *Phil. Trans.* XLII. 161 A large Pair of Beaver Mittings .. which reach up as high as our Elbows. 1818 Scott *Hrt. Midl.* xxi, Hastily and confusedly searching for his worsted mittans and staff. 1840 R. H. Dana *Bef. Mast* iii, [The crew] can get their wet mittens and stockings dried. 1884 Baby's mitten [see Combination 10].

fig. phrase. 1662 J. Owen *Animadv. Fiat Lux* 311 Such stupid blockheads, as to be imposed on with Sophistry, that they may feel through a pair of Mittens.

b. Phrases. *To cast one's mitten*: to offer a challenge (cf. Gauntlet[1] 1 c). *To claw up* or *lay up* (a person's) *mittens* (Sc.): to give the finishing stroke to, to kill (cf. Claw *v.* 8). *To handle without mittens*: to treat unmercifully.

1589 Nashe *Martins Months Minde* G 4, I cast him here my Mitten vpon the quarrell. 1678 Ray *Prov.* (ed. 2) 76 To handle without mittins. 1699 R. L'Estrange *Erasm. Colloq.* (1711) 178 He handled the Reverend Fathers without Mittens. 1742 Forbes *Jrnl. fr. Lond.* in *Ajax*, etc.

(1755) 30 They may come to lay up my mittens, an' ding me yavil, an' as styth as gin I had been elf-shot.

c. *Her.*

1688 R. Holme *Armoury* III. xviii. (Roxb.) 110/1 He beareth Gules, a left hand Male Mitton..proper.

d. *slang. pl.* (*a*) The hands. (*b*) Boxing-gloves.

1812 J. H. Vaux *Flash Dict., Mittens*, the hands. 1859 *Hotten's Slang Dict., Mittens*, fists. 1883 J. Greenwood *Odd People* 56 That's their mittens they've got tied up in that hankercher. They're fighting coves.

2. A sort of glove of lace or knitted work covering the forearm, wrist, and part of the hand, but not extending over the fingers; much worn by women at the beginning of the nineteenth century, and lately revived. Now more commonly Mitt.

1755 Johnson, *Mittens*, gloves that cover the arm without covering the fingers. 1762 *Ann. Reg.* 162 Their chief business was making silk nets, purses, and mittins. 1795 Wolcot (P. Pindar) *Pindariana* Wks. 1812 IV. 187 On weekdays were black worsted mittens worn; Black silk on Sundays did her arms adorn. 1824 Miss Mitford *Village* Ser. I. 223 The sleeves came down just below the elbow, and were finished by a narrow white ruffle meeting her neat mittens. 1838 Dickens *Nich. Nick.* iii, 'Hem!' said Miss La Creevy, coughing delicately behind her black silk mitten.

b. *transf.* See quot.

[1899 Cf. *mitten-wise*, 3 below.] 1900 *Daily Mail* 5 Feb. 7/1 The sleeve in its full dress adaptation is called the mitten because it falls from the shoulder, though it is attached to the bodice underneath the arm, and covers the hand right down to the knuckles.

3. Phrase (*slang* or *colloq.*). *To get the mitten*: of a lover, to be dismissed or rejected; hence, in wider application, to be dismissed from any office or position. Similarly, *to give* (a person) *the mitten*.

1838 J. C. Neal *Charcoal Sk.* (Bartlett), Young gentlemen that have got the mitten..always sigh. 1848 Lowell *Fable for Critics* 936 Here comes Dana,..Who'll be going to write what'll never be written Till the Muse, ere he thinks of it, gives him the mitten. 1851 [B. H. Hall] *College Words* 209 *Mitten.* At the Collegiate Institute of Indiana, a student who is expelled is said *to get the mitten.* 1867 O. W. Holmes *Guard. Angel* xxxiii, Some said that Susan had given her young man the mitten, meaning thereby that she had signified that his services as a suitor were dispensed with. 1884 *Punch* 1 Mar. 108/2 Lifeboat hands who are found shrinking, Or with fear of danger smitten, Get, not medals, but the mitten.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, *mitten-gauntlet*, *-sleeve*, *-wise* (adv.); **mitten-beaver**, the skin of a beaver used for making mittens [cf. F. *mitaine* inferior beaver-skins]; **mitten-mill**, a fight with boxing-gloves.

1744 A. Dobbs *Countries Adjacent to Hudson's Bay* 26 The eight is the *Mittain Beaver, cut out for that Purpose to make Mittains, to preserve them from the Cold. 1898 *Archæol. Æliana* XIX. III. 246 The hands are covered with plate *mitten-gauntlets having gads and cuffs. 1859 Matsell *Vocab.* s.v. (Farmer), *Mitten-mill. 1813 J. N. Brewer *Beauties Eng. & Wales* XII. II. ii. 146 A woman..with..*mitten sleeves, a belt and cordon. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 22 Dec. 3/1 When a lace sleeve, instead of having actual mittens, is brought *mitten-wise over the hand.

Hence **Mi·tten** *v.*, *U. S.*, *trans.*, to 'give the mitten' to.

1873 Carleton *Farm Ball.* 10 Once, when I was young as you, and not so smart, perhaps, For me she mittened a lawyer, and several other chaps.

Mittened (mi·tənd), *a.* [f. Mitten *sb.* + -ed 2.] Furnished with, or wearing, mittens.

1834 Ht. Martineau *Farrers* ii. 20 Jane settled herself, aproned, shawled, and mittened, at her desk. 1876 *Whitby Gloss.* s.v., 'A mitten'd cat catches no mice'. 1895 Kipling *2nd Jungle-Bk.* 162 The girl..laid her mittened hand..to the ice floor of the hut.

† **Mittent,** *a. Path. Obs.* [a. L. *mittent-em*, pr. pple. of *mittĕre* to send.] Said of the organ or part supposed to send peccant 'humours' to another.

1661 Lovell *Hist. Anim. & Min.* 367 It's cured, by..evacuating corrupted humours and helping mittent parts. 1676 Wiseman *Chirurg. Treat.* II. v. 179 Vicious Humours peccant in quantity or quality are either thrust forth by the Part mittent,..or attracted by the Part recipient. 1684 tr. *Bonet's Merc. Compit.* XVIII. 631 We must consider whether the part mittent [L. *pars mittens*] of the Humour to the Stomach be less noble than the part suscipient.

Mittilate, Sc. form of Mutilate.

‖ **Mittimus** (mi·timŭs), *sb.* [L. *mittimus* 'we send', the first word of the writ in Latin.]

1. *Law.* A warrant under the hand and seal of a justice of the peace or other proper officer, directed to the keeper of a prison, ordering him to receive into custody and hold in safe-keeping, until delivered in due course of law, the person sent and specified in the warrant.

a 1591 Greene *2nd Pt. Conny-Catching* Wks. (Grosart) X. 132 The knight..bad him [*sc.* his clerk] make a mittimus to send the Tinker to prison. 1625 Massinger *New Way* v. i, Take a Mittimus, And carry him to Bedlam. 1681 W. Robertson *Phraseol. Gen.* (1693) 486 Send him away with a Mittimus to the house of Correction. 1728 Vanbr. & Cib. *Prov. Husb.* v. 98 No words, Sir; a Wife, or a Mittimus. 1764 Foote *Mayor of G.* I. (1783) 15 Some warrants and mittimuses ready fill'd up. 1768–74 Tucker *Lt. Nat.* (1834) I. 642, I never sign a mittimus to the house of correction, but had much rather it were done by somebody else. 1837 Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* II. VI. i, Clapped in prison by mittimus and indictment of Feuillant Justices. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* iii. I. 320 The heir of an estate often..scarce attained learning enough to sign his name to a Mittimus.

† b. (See quot. 1641.) *Obs.*

1464 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 516/1 Doo to be made, oure Writt' of a Mittimus unto the Tresourer and Barons of oure Exchequier. 1641 *Termes de la Ley* 204 Mittimus is a Writ by which Records are transferred from one Court to another. 1704 J. Harris *Lex. Techn.* I. 1727–41 Chambers *Cycl., Mittimus*, in law, a writ, by which records are ordered to be transferred from one court to another; sometimes immediately, as out of the King's Bench into the Exchequer; and sometimes by a certiorari into the Chancery, and from thence by a mittimus into another court.

c. *transf.* and *fig.*

1638 Nabbes *Cov. Gard.* v. vi. 71 *Warr.*..I sweare I understand it no more then Ignoramus himselfe. *Ralph.* Make his Mittimus and send him to schoole. 1642 Bp. Hall *Free Prisoner* vii. in *Three Tractates* (1646) 123 Never was there a more close prisoner then my soul is for the time to my body;..which since it's first Mittimus, never stir'd out from this strait room. 1681 Flavel *Meth. Grace* xxxii. 540 His mittimus is already made for hell. *a* 1708 Beveridge *Priv. Th.* I. (1816) 164 How runs the mittimus, whereby he is pleased to send me to the dungeon of afflictions.

2. *colloq.* A dismissal from office or situation; a notice to quit (*dial.*). *To get one's mittimus*: to be dismissed; also, to get one's 'quietus'.

1596 Nashe *Saffron Walden* X j b, Out of two Noblemens houses he had his Mittimus of ye may be gone. 1668 R. L'Estrange *Vis. Quev.* (1708) 88 He had his Mittimus, and took the Left-hand way at parting. 1850 Carlyle *Latter-d. Pamph., Jesuitism* 15 Ignatius's black militia ..have got their mittimus to Chaos again. 1857 Kingsley *Two Y. Ago* I. i. 24 He got his mittimus by one of Schamyl's bullets.

3. A joenlar designation for a magistrate.

1630 Randolph *Conceited Peddler* Wks. (1875) 38, I am no Justice of Peace, for I swear, by the honesty of a Mittimus, the venerable Bench ne'er kissed my worshipful buttocks. 1775 Sheridan *St. Patr. Day* II. ii, Nay, 'tis but what old Mittimus commanded.

Hence **Mi·ttimus** *v. trans.*, to commit to jail by a warrant.

1764 Foote *Mayor of G.* I. (1783) 9 Had I been here, I would have mittimus'd the rascal at once. 1836 T. Hook *G. Gurney* III. 83, I had mittimused half a dozen paupers for begging about the streets.

Mittin(g, obs. forms of Mitten.

Mittle (mi·t'l), *v. Sc.* [? a. F. *mutiler* to Mutilate; cf. *mittilate.*] *trans.* To hurt or mutilate. Hence **Mi·ttled** *ppl. a.*

1820 A. Sutherland *St. Kathleen* III. 213 The stirk that ye lat get itsel' mittled the ither day. *a* 1869 C. Spence *From Braes of Carse* (1898) 71 Collie left me in the bog, A mittled, mertered, drooket laddie. 1900 Barrie *Tommy & Grizel* xxvi. Say a word against him and I'll mittle you.

Mitton, obs. form of Mitten.

Mitty (mi·ti). *dial.* The stormy petrel.

1831 *Montagu's Ornith. Dict.* (ed. 2). 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVIII. 44/1.

‖ **Mitu** (mi·tiu). [Tupi.] = Curassow. Also ‖ **Mitupora·nga** [Tupi *poranga* beautiful].

The two names are applied by Marggraf to two different genera or species, but the identification is doubtful.

[*a* 1644 Marggraf *Hist. Rer. Nat. Brasil.* v. (1648) 194 *Mitu* vel *Mutu* Brasiliensibus dicta avis ex Phasianorum est genere, major gallo gallinaceo. *Ibid.* 195 Reperitur & alia ejusdem species, quam *Mituporanga* vocant Brasilienses, solo rostro & pennis capitis differens [etc.].] 1753 Chambers *Cycl. Supp., Mitu*, or *Mitu-Porangn*; .. a Brasilian bird of the pheasant-kind, according to Marggrave,.. but supposed by Mr. Ray, rather to approach to the nature of the peacock or turkey-cock. 1828–32 Webster, *Mitu*, a fowl of the turkey kind, found in Brazil. 1890 in *Century Dict.*; and in later Dicts.

Mity (məi·ti), *a.* [f. Mite *sb.*1 + -y 1.] Full of mites, abounding in mites: said esp. of cheese.

1681 Colvil *Whigs Supplic.* (1751) 85 Some sold the soldiers mity meal. 1827 *Blackw. Mag.* XXII. 383 The part [of the cheese] is particularly mouldy and mity. 1904 *Longm. Mag.* May 27 Too much salt-junk and mity biscuit ain't good for you.

fig. 1778 in *Loyal Verses* (1860) 35 Do'st think it is an honest job This Mity bunch of Kings to rob?

‖ **Mitys** (məi·tis). [Gr. *μίτυς*, the wax used by bees to cover the crevices of their hives.] (See quots.)

1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Mitys*, the gummy Wax with which a Bee-hive is first lin'd. 1816 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* xxvii. (1818) II. 485 [The bees] replacing the demolished cells ..with mitys, which firmly fixes the comb to its support.

† **Mix,** *sb.*1 *Obs.* Forms: 1 **miox, meox, (meohs, meohx), 1–4 mix, myx, 2 mex.** [OE. *meox* neut. (? or masc.) = Fris. *miux, miuhs*:—OTeut. type **mihso-*, a parallel formation with **mihstu-z* (Goth. *maihstu-s*, OHG., G. *mist* masc., dung), f. wk. grade of Teut. root **mĭgh-*: see Mig.]

1. Dung; filth. Also *fig.*

c 888 K. Ælfred *Boeth.* xxxvi. § 1 Se wisdom & eac oðre cræftas..licgað forsewene swa swa miox under feltune. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Luke xiii. 8 Oð ic hine bedelfe & ic hine bewurpe mid meoxe. *c* 1000 Ælfric in Morris *OE. Hom.* I. 301 Seðe ahefð of meohse þone mann þe he wile. [*Qui suscitat de puluere egenum & de stercore erigit pauperem.*] *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 113 God ahef of mexe þene mon þe he wule. *a* 1250 *Prov. Ælfred* 385 in *O. E. Misc.* 126 And vyches cunnes madmes to mixe schulen i-Multen. *c* 1315 Shoreham iv. 239 For nys non of þe syxe [sins] þat hy ne comeþ of þane [*sc.* pride], For myx of alle myxe In heuene by by-gan.

2. *transf.* A vile wretch.

c 1275 *Orison* 53 in *O. E. Misc.* 140 Ne myhte þe mixes þo wurse þe don Bute a-mong þeoues on rode an-hon. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 125 þe quene his moder on a time as a mix þou3t, how faire & how fetis it was & freliche schapen. ? *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 989. I am comyne fra the conquerour, ..Messenger to þis myx, for mendemente of þe pople.

3. As *adj.*: Filthy, foul.

a 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 204 Þet euch waried weoued of þe mix maumez ron of þet balefule blod al biblodeget. *Ibid.* 2100, & tine mix maumez alle beon amanset.

Mix (miks), *sb.*2 [f. Mix *v.*] The act or result of mixing; a mixture. Chiefly *colloq.*: A muddle, 'mess'; also, a state of being 'mixed' or confused.

c 1586 C'tess Pembroke *Ps.* cxlvii. iii, O make harmonious mix of voice and string. 1882 Howells *Likely Story* iii. (1897) 56 She'll show the note to Miss Greenway, and you'll be ruined. Oh, poor Mr. Welling! Oh, what a fatal, fatal—mix! 1893 A. Fuller *Lit. Courtship* xv. 156, I thought of her clear eye and her healthy way of looking and talking, and I was more in a mix than ever. 1901 *Harper's Mag.* Apr. 761/1 'It has all been a mix and a muddle', she answered. 1905 *Speaker* 3 June 231/1 They made an indescribable mix and blend of colour.

b. *Printing.* (See quot.)

1897 *Daily News* 29 Nov. 6/3 A somewhat different class of Printers' errors are those that arise from what are technically known as 'mixes'—that is the accidental running together of sentences, which have no connexion.

c. **Mix-up,** the state of being 'mixed up' (see Mix *v.* 6).

1898 *Daily News* 12 Aug. 6/3 One or two boats had run into the raft, and there was a considerable mix up there. *Ibid.* 24 Nov. 7/3 Glove Contest in America. Midway the round was a rattling mix up. 1902 *Daily Chron.* 14 Oct. 3/2 The general mix-up of things in these..latter days.

Mix (miks), *v.* Pa. t. and pa. pple. mixed (mikst). [Back-formation from the ppl. adj. *mixt* (see Mixed *ppl. a.*), a. F. *mixte*, ad. L. *mixtus*, pa. pple. of *miscēre* to mix. Cf. Mixt *v.*

Our earliest example of the vb., in any form other than the pa. pple., is of the date 1538, and it was extremely rare until Shakspere's time. Of the pa. pple. itself, the earliest examples are *c* 1480 and 1526, the latter year being the date of our first quot. for Mixt *v.* The OE. *miscian* (the alleged by-form **mixtian* is spurious) which has generally been assumed to be the source of the present verb, app. did not survive into ME. Only two examples are cited by Toller, and in these the sense seems to be 'to apportion suitably'.

The L. *miscēre* :—**mik-sk-* is f. the Indogermanic root **mik-* (: *meik, moik-*), represented by Skr. *miçra* (:—**mikro-*) mixed, and by many vbs. with the sense 'to mix' in the various langs.: Skr. *miksh*, ? Gr. *μίσγειν* (Gr *μιγνύναι* is from the cognate root *mig-*), Welsh *mysgu*, O Irish *mesc*, Lith. *maiszýti*, OSl. *mĕsiti* (Russ. мѣшать). Whether the OE. *miscian*, OHG. *misgen*, *miskan* (MHG., MLG., mod.G. *mischen*) is cognate with the Latin or an early W Ger. adoption from it, seems doubtful; the absence of the word from Goth., Scandinavian, OS., and Frisian, is an argument in favour of the latter view.]

1. *trans.* To put together (two or more substances, or groups or classes of things) so that the particles or members of each are more or less evenly diffused among those of the rest; to unite (one or more substances, groups, etc.) in this manner *with* another or others; to mingle, blend.

Not now employed with reference to the more intimate union of substances to form a chemical compound; in this application *combine* is the usual vb.

c 1480 *Songs & Carols* (Percy Soc.) 6 Butt now prosyrs [? *read* profyrs] glorius be myxyd with gall, Wyche bytter ys and tedius over all. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 3 More pleasaunt to beholde than is the colour of sylver myxte with golde. 1535 Coverdale 2 *Esdras* xiii. 11 And they were all myxte together; the blast of fyre, the wynde of the flammes, and ye greate storme. 1538 Elyot *Dict., Misceo*,..to myxe [*so* 1545; 1548 *reads* myxt, 1552 myxte] or meddyll together. 1555–8 Phaer *Æneid* II. E iij b, & mixt w^t dust & smoke [Virg. II. 609 *mixtoque undantem puluere fumum*] thick streames of reekings rise. 1560 Bible (Genev.) *Heb.* iv. 2 The worde that they heard, profitted not them, because it was not mixed [Gr. *συγκεκραμένος*] with faith in those that heard it. 1566 Drant *Horace, Sat.* II. iv. G viij, Aufidius, myxt heddy wyne, and honey all in one. 1572 Mascall *Plant. & Graff.* 86 Clense the ground of weedes, and mixe it well with good molde and fat earth. 1638 Junius *Paint. Ancients* 272 He who vainly mixing many faire colours representeth nothing else in his worke but a painted tempest. 1667 Milton *P. L.* XII. 181–2 Thunder mixt with Haile, Haile mixt with fire must rend th' Egyptian Skie. 1670 Lady Mary Bertie in *12th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 21 Some ware all small ribban, others brode ribbans, others broad and small mixed. 1716 Lady M. W. Montagu *Let. to C'tess Mar* 14 Sept., Their own hair..they mix with a great deal of false. 1800 tr. *Lagrange's Chem.* I. 129 If you mix nitrous vapour with oxygen gas, there will be no absorption. 1811 A. T. Thomson *Lond. Disp.* I. (1818) p. lxxi, Oxygen gas and sulphurous acid gas probably combine when simply mixed together. 1819 Byron *Juan* II. lxxv, The lots were made, and mark'd, and mix'd, and handed In silent horror.

b. With immaterial obj.: To combine, associate, or blend (different principles, methods, qualities, or one principle, etc., *with* something else).

1597 Shaks. *2 Hen. IV*, v. ii. 46 Brothers, you mix your Sadnesse with some Feare. 1662 Stillingfl. *Orig. Sacr.* II. vi. § 11 Now there had been no reason at all for this, if he had mixed promises together with his threatnings. 1707 Flover *Physic. Pulse-Watch* 277 In this case we must mix both the hot and the cold Method. 1729 Butler *Serm.* Wks. 1874 II. 7 The two principles are frequently mixed together, and run up into each other. 1815 Elphinstone *Acc. Caubul* (1842) I. 333 They also mix trade and agency with their regular banking business. 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) V. 124 In the election of the Council, the legislator attempts to mix aristocracy and democracy.

† c. To put in or introduce as an ingredient, to intersperse. Const. *to. Obs.*

1607 Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 187 The milk also of a Goat mixed to a Womans milk is best for the nourishment

of man, because it is not too fat. *a* 1715 BURNET *Own Time* (1724) I. 18 They were very factious and insolent; and both in their sermons and prayers were always mixing severe reflections on their enemies. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* VIII. 495 Knows he, that mankind praise against their will, And mix as much detraction as they can?

d. To prepare (a compound) by putting various ingredients together.

1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* III. iii. 44 Had'st thou no poyson mixt? 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 685 From the Founts where living Sulphurs boil, They mix a Med'cine to foment their limbs. 1818 KITCHINER *Cook's Oracle* (ed. 2) 577 Puddings are best when mixed over night. 1842 C. WHITEHEAD *R. Savage* (1845) II. iii. 203 I'll write the letter while the punch is mixing. 1887 P. MCNEILL *Blawearie* 100 He had mixed and otherwise prepared as much of his layering compound as he thought he might use.

e. *hyperbolically*. To confound, confuse together.

1667 MILTON *P. L.* VII. 215 They view'd the vast immeasurable Abyss.., Up from the bottom turn'd by furious windes And surging waves, as Mountains to assault Heav'ns highth, and with the Center mix the Pole.

f. In various occasional uses: To unite (persons' eyes) in interchange of glances; to join (hands). Also † *to mix one's thigh* (= 4 b).

1592 SHAKS. *Ven. & Ad.* 489 Were neuer foure such lamps together mixt, Had not his clouded with his browes repine. 1606 MARSTON *Fawn* IV. i, The Romans..thought that a woman might mix her thigh with a stranger wantonly, and yet still love her husband matrimonially. 1713 ADDISON *Cato* III. ii. 36 Never to mix my plighted Hands with thine. 1868 TENNYSON *Lucretius* 56 And hands they mixt, and yell'd and round me drove In narrowing circles.

2. *intr.* = to be mixed. Also, to admit of being mixed; to unite with, to go (well or badly) along with.

1632 MARMION *Holland's Leaguer* III. iii, O divine counsel! that so rare a beauty Should mix with wisdom. 1647 COWLEY *Mistr., Platonick Love* i, When Souls mix 'tis an Happiness; But not compleat 'till Bodies too combine. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* XI. 529 But is there yet no other way,.. how we may come To Death, and mix with our connatural dust? *a* 1745 SWIFT *Abstr. Hist. Eng.* Wks. 1824 X. 303 The Danes..in process of time..mixed with the English. 1760–2 GOLDSM. *Cit. W.* xciv, Her dear idea mixes with every scene of pleasure. 1774 — *Nat. Hist.* I. xix. *init.*, All the bodies of the earth are continually sending up a part of their substance by evaporation, to mix in this great alembic [the atmosphere], and to float awhile in common. *Ibid.* (1776) II. 136 At last, when the approaches of sleep are near, every object of the imagination begins to mix with that next it. 1796 C. MARSHALL *Garden.* xix. (1813) 379 The pyramidal sort [of the Star of Bethlehem] is a proper flower to pot, mixing with others very ornamentally. 1797 LAMB *Let. to Coleridge* 10 Jan., I do long to see our names together; not for vanity's sake..altogether..; and yet there is a little vanity mixes in it. 1815 ELPHINSTONE *Acc. Caubul* (1842) II. 111 The Afghaun Humsauyehs mix well with the Dooraunees. 1845 *Encycl. Metrop.* XXV. 169/1 Some builders prefer receiving the grey-stone lime ground dry, as it mixes more readily when made up into mortar. 1889 SKRINE *Mem. E. Thring* 164 He floated in their element, not soluble. It is often the way with heroes: they will not mix.

b. Of the eyes: To interchange glances. *poet.*

1879 E. ARNOLD *Lt. Asia* 29 Their eyes mixed, and from the look sprang love.

3. *trans.* To unite (persons) in dealings or acquaintance; to associate; † to join in sexual intercourse. Chiefly *refl.* and *pass.* Now *rare.*

1535 COVERDALE *Ezra* IX. (*Contents*), Eszdras is sory that the people haue myxte them selues with the Heythenish wemen. 1599 B. JONSON *Cynthia's Rev.* IV. v, Wee must mixe this gentleman with you in acquaintance. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* I. 579 Th' Heroic Race..That fought at Theb's and Ilium, on each side Mixt with auxiliar Gods. *Ibid.* XI. 686 Those ill-mated Marriages..Where good with bad were matcht, ..and by imprudence mixt, Produce prodigious Births of bodie or mind. 1791–1823 D'ISRAELI *Cur. Lit.* (1866) 285/1 Ever since we have mixed ourselves with the Low Countries.

4. *intr.* To associate, have intercourse *with* (occas. *among*); to occupy oneself *with*, take part *in*. Also † *to mix in with.*

1667 MILTON *P. L.* VI. 21 Gladly then he mixt Among those friendly Powers who him receav'd With joy. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneid* VII. 538 She flies the town, and, mixing with a throng Of madding matrons, bears the bride along. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 69 ¶ 1, I am infinitely delighted in mixing with these several Ministers of Commerce. 1725 *Wodrow Corr.* (1843) III. 232, I hope still to be guarded by better principles. Indeed, it's hard mixing in with self-willed and peremptory people. 1771 *Junius Lett.* liv. (1788) 293 He never mixed with the world. 1816 SCOTT *Old Mort.* x, Have you, who used to mix so little in these unhappy feuds, become so suddenly and deeply implicated. 1846 *Mirror of Lit.* Sept. 109 Here he mixed among the primitive and rude inhabitants of the district. 1868 E. EDWARDS *Ralegh* I. xxiii. 521 He had mixed largely with his countrymen, in every rank of life. 1872 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* 153/2 Mr. Polybank has only mixed in the best society.

b. To have sexual intercourse *with.*

1615 CHAPMAN *Odyss.* I. 123 She mixt [Gr. μιγεῖσα] with Neptune in his hollow caues. 1630 MAY *Contn. Lucan* I. 265 There goates..Doe mix with woman kinde. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) III. 363 Warreners assert, that the polecat will mix with the ferret. 1889 R. B. ANDERSON tr. *Rydberg's Teut. Mythol.* 151 They mixed with the wood sprites, and thus became the progenitors of the Huns.

c. To join battle, engage in conflict. *poet.*

1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* IV. 359 Wasps infest the Camp with loud Alarms, And mix in Battel with unequal Arms. *a* 1700 — *Ovid's Metam.* XII. Fables 448 Where Greeks and Trojans mix'd in mortal Fight.

5. To cross in breeding. *trans.* and *intr.*

1737 BRACKEN *Farriery Impr.* (1757) II. 55 When a good English Mare is mixed with a Barb, she produces a better Foal. 1892 A. A. CROZIER *Pop. Errors about Plants* App. 157 (Funk) Plants mix or cross in the blossom only.

6. **Mix up.** a. *trans.* To mix intimately, to work into a mixture *with* something else.

1753 J. BARTLET *Gentl. Farriery* VI. (1754) 68 Then give him two drams of calomel, mixed up with an ounce of diapente, for two nights. 1845 *Encycl. Metrop.* XXV. 168/2 Mortar...Its composition varies..according to the various ingredients which may be mixed up with it.

b. In immaterial applications. Now only with unfavourable implication: To mix or associate irrelevantly, unsuitably, or confusingly; to confuse. Also *slang* (see quot. 1823).

a 1806 HORSLEY *Serm.* IV. (1816) I. 75 Who is he that shall determine in what proportions the attributes of justice and mercy, forbearance and severity, ought to be mixed up in the character of the Supreme Governor of the universe? 1818 BYRON *Juan* I. XX, But then she had a devil of a spirit, And sometimes mix'd up fancies with realities. 1823 'J. BEE' *Dict. Turf, To Mix it up*, to agree secretly how the parties shall make up a tale, or colour a transaction in order to cheat or deceive another party, as in case of a justice-hearing, of a law-suit, or a *cross* in a boxing-match for money. 1846 HARE *Mission Comf.* (1850) 403 One virtue was mixt up with a thousand crimes. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) III. 188 His manner of mixing up real and imaginary persons.

c. With implication of something discreditable or unpleasant: To associate *with* (inferior or discreditable company); to connect *with* or involve *in* (a compromising affair, shady dealings, etc.). Chiefly *refl.* and *pass.*

1847 MARRYAT *Childr. N. Forest* XXV, It is not fit that the heiress of Arnwood should mix herself up with foresters' daughters. 1882 E. DICEY *Victor Emanuel* V. 53 An Italian exile, who in his hot youth had been mixed up, very much against the grain, in an abortive plot for the assassination of the late King.

d. *intr.* (*Pugilism.*) Of two combatants: To interchange blows wildly and rapidly.

1898 *Daily News* 24 Nov. 7/3 The men were in the centre of the ring mixing up in the liveliest manner.

Mixable (mi·ksăb'l), *a. rare*—°. [f. MIX *v.* + -ABLE. Cf. MISCIBLE, MIXIBLE, MIXTIBLE.] That can be mixed. Hence **Mi·xableness.**

[1827 *Blackw. Mag.* XXI. 761 It consists of jarring, unmixable atoms.] 1854 WEBSTER, *Mixable.* [And in later Dicts.] 1881 WHITNEY *Mixt. Lang.* 7 Any view..concerning the mixableness or unmixableness of language.

† **Mi·xar.** *Alch. Obs.*

a 1500 *Liber Patris Sap.* in Ashm. (1652) 199 Sche ys a very frendly mixar, The progeneration of a greate Elixar. *Ibid.* 201 The which ys called the greate Elixer, And ys verily made with a stronge mixar.

† **Mixed,** *a. Obs.* [f. MIX *sb.*[1] + ED[2].] Foul, polluted.

c 1300 *Havelok* 2533 Þat fule traytour, that mixed cherl.

Mixed, † **mixt** (mikst), *ppl. a.* [Originally *mixt*, a. F. *mixte* (in the AF. law phrase *accioun mixte* in Britton *c* 1290: see sense 1 below), ad. L. *mixtus*: see MIX *v.* The word having the appearance of an Eng. pple in *-t*, which would regularly have an alternative form in *-ed* (cf. *blest, blessed, vext, vexed*), the form *mixed* (*myxyd*) came very early into use, and ultimately gave rise to the formation of the vbs. MIX and MIXT.

The spelling *mixt* in the 17th c. is prob. in most instances merely phonetic, but may sometimes indicate that the writer apprehended the word as an adoption of L. *mixtus* rather than as the pple. of an Eng. vb. In recent use this spelling sometimes occurs (*Hist.*) in the legal sense 1, but otherwise it is confined to writers who advocate spelling reform.]

1. *Law.* Formerly applied to an action which partook at once of the nature of a real and of a personal action: see PERSONAL 6 a.

With the abolition of real actions (see PERSONAL *a.* 6), mixed actions necessarily came to an end.

1448 [see PERSONAL *a.* 6]. 1535 *Act 27 Hen. VIII*, c. 26 § 4 Al actions personals..and al actions mixte .. shall be sued by originall writte. *c* 1610 BACON *Case Post-nati Scotl.* (1641) 12 But for free-hold, or lease, or actions reall, or mixt: he is not inabled, except [etc.]. 1768 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* III. 228 This action of waste is a mixed action; partly real, so far as it recovers land, and partly personal, so far as it recovers damages. 1818 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) V. 532 In pleas real or mixt. 1888 T. C. WILLIAMS in *Law Q. Rev.* IV. 398 Mixed actions partook of the nature both of real and personal actions.

2. Mingled or blended together; formed by the mingling of different substances, individuals, etc.

1557–8 PHAER *Æneid* VI. Q iv b, Thou hedlong threwst thyself on myxyd heapes of enmyes slain. 1611 BIBLE *Prov.* XXIII. 30 They that tarry long at the wine, they that goe to seeke mixt wine. 1663 GERBIER *Counsel* g iv, A Building, either made of stone, brick, or mixt. 1696 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3160/4 Stolen..6 Pieces Northern brown mixt Clothes. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* V. 260 With mixt manure she surfeits the rank soil. 1747 WESLEY *Prim. Physic* (1755) p. XV, Abstain from all Mixt, all High-season'd Food. 1861 [F. W. ROBINSON] *No Church* II. 238 A plate of mixed biscuits. 1869 BOUTELL *Arms & Arm.* VIII. (1874) 124 Armies..composed of mixed bands of mercenary soldiers.

b. Compounded *of* (different ingredients).

1622 BACON *Holy War* Ep. Ded., Therefore I haue chosen an Argument, mixt of Religious and Ciuill Considerations; And likewise mixt between Contemplatiue and Actiue. 1639 GENTILIS *Servita's Inquis.* (1676) 840 This is the beginning in Venice of the Office of the Inquisition mixed of Secular and Ecclesiastical Persons. *a* 1716 SOUTH *Serm.* (1823) II. 14 With an odd kind of passion, mixed of pleasure and envy too. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* VIII. 819 Nature..drinks to man, in her nectareous cup, Mixt up of delicates for ev'ry sense. 1883 R. W. DIXON *Mano* I. XI. 33 This story mixed of spiteful falsity My wicked daughter gave.

3. Consisting of different or unlike elements or parts; combining diverse natures or qualities; not of one kind, not pure or simple.

1530 PALSGR. 920 Myxed lyght is devyded in four partes. 1586 W. WEBBE *Eng. Poetrie* (Arb.) 69 A foote of two sillables, is eyther simple or mixt, that is, of like time or of diuers. 1590 SWINBURNE *Testaments* 123 Mixt conditions are those which are partlie arbitrarie and partlie casuall. 1645 RUTHERFORD *Tryal & Tri. Faith* (1845) 51 David was punished according to the rule of that mixed and fatherly justice, which keeps a due proportion between the sin and the punishment. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 62 ¶ 6 Mixt Wit therefore is a Composition of Punn and true Wit. 1742 CIBBER *Let. to Pope* 34 What a merry mixt Mortal has Nature made you? 1790 *Monthly Rev.* III. 485 The mixed atomists, who ascribe the power of thinking to some inherent power in matter. 1844 H. H. WILSON *Brit. India* II. 164 A person of mixed European and Indian descent. 1849 HARE *Par. Serm.* II. 469 Man is a mixt being, made up of a spiritual soul and of a fleshly body. 1903 A. CARA in *Expositor* 6 June 418 With these mixed motives Pilate wrote the title.

4. Made up of good and bad elements; having both good and bad qualities.

1745 WESLEY *Answ. Ch.* 11, I have described them, as of a Mixt Character, with much Evil among them, but more Good. 1760–2 GOLDSM. *Cit. W.* lxviii, This gentleman, who is of a mixed reputation. 1762 *Ann. Reg.* II. 50 The life, character, transactions, and writings of that mixed man [Voltaire]. 1776 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xii. I. 343 Every circumstance that relates to this prince appears of a mixed and doubtful nature. 1888 MOZLEY *Remin.* I. xx, As regards the older boys it is a monastery, and the results are about as mixed as in the monastery of old times.

5. Of a company of persons: Comprising individuals of different birth, rank, or character; not restricted to one class or set. Hence, in bad sense: Not 'select', containing persons who are of doubtful character or status.

1611 BIBLE *Exod.* xii. 38 And a mixed multitude went vp also with them. 1657 J. WATTS *Vind. Ch. Eng.* 199 You cannot away with mixt communions. 1705 STANHOPE *Paraphr.* II. 249 This Parable was spoken before a mixt and numerous Auditory. 1720 SWIFT *Fates Clergym.* Wks. 1751 V. 35 A free Manner of speaking in mixt Company. 1748 CHESTERF. *Let. to Son* 19 Oct., Avoid, in mixed companies, argumentative polemical conversations. 1817 BYRON *Beppo* lviii, The company is 'mix'd' (the phrase I quote is As much as saying, they're below your notice). 1902 T. M. LINOSAY *Ch. & Ministry in Early Cent.* ii. 49 The population of Corinth was as mixed as that of Alexandria.

6. Of a government or polity: Combining features of two or more of the recognized types (monarchy, democracy, etc.); not pure or absolute in type.

1538 STARKEY *England* II. ii. 181 For thys cause the most wyse men..affyrme a myxte state to be of al other the best and most conuenyent to conserue the bole out of tyranny. 1650 HOBBES *De Corp. Pol.* 72 This Policy they call Mixt Monarchy, or Mixt Aristocracy, or mixt Democracy, according as any of these three sorts do most visibly predominate. 1752 HUME *Ess. & Treat.* (1777) I. 12 Unbounded liberty of the press..is one of the evils attending..mixt forms of Government. 1844 LD. BROUGHAM *Brit. Const.* i. (1862) 12 The ancient republic of Sparta was a Mixed Aristocracy. *Ibid.* iii. 29 The British Constitution, the most perfect example of Mixed Government.

7. Of sciences: Involving or dealing with matter; not 'pure' or simply theoretical. Now *rare* or *Obs.* exc. in *mixed mathematics*: see MATHEMATICS.

1641 [see MATHEMATICS]. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Mixt Mathematicks*, are those Arts and Sciences which treat of the Properties of Quantity, apply'd to material Beings, or sensible Objects; as Astronomy, Geography, Navigation, Dialling, Surveying, Gauging, &c. *a* 1834 COLERIDGE *Method* iii, We call those [sciences] *mixed* in which certain ideas of the mind are applied to the general properties of bodies. 1835 URE *Philos. Manuf.* 2 The finest model of an automatic manufacture of mixed chemistry is the five-coloured calico machine.

8. *Path.* Said of cases which present symptoms of two kinds of disease at once.

Mixed fever: see quot. 1856. *Mixed nævus*, 'one in which the true skin and the subcutaneous connective tissue are both involved' (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*).

1767 GOOCH *Treat. Wounds* I. 275 The assemblage of symptoms will generally be of a mixt nature. 1856 MAYNE *Expos. Lex., Mixed Fever*,..a fever having a mixture of the symptoms of an inflammatory and a typhus fever, being a combination of *Synocha* and *Typhus*. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 445 Where the case is marked by a moderate amount of œdema, and a moderate amount of paralysis, it is sometimes called mixed beriberi.

9. Comprising both sexes; involving the presence or co-operation of both sexes. *Mixed school*, one in which girls and boys are taught together.

1644 MILTON *Areop.* (Arb.) 51 Who shall regulat all the mixt conversation of our youth, male and female together, as is the fashion of this Country? 1667 — *P. L.* IV. 768 Nor in Court Amours, Mixt Dance, or wanton Mask, or Midnight Bal. 1826 D. RAMSAY (*title*) Delineation of a mixed school in regard to its influence in promoting a Christian education. 1863 JOYCE *Sch. Management* 47 A mixed school, in which the girls do not learn needlework, is, so far as the time-table is concerned, the same as a boys' school. 1880 GROVE *Dict. Mus.* II. 339 *Mixed Voices*, the English term for a combination of female and male voices. 1889 BROWNLEE *Lawn-Tennis* 167 Ladies never play carelessly in Mixed Doubles. 1899 *Daily News* 2 Aug. 6/6 He was, he said, a convert to the mixed system in education.

10. *colloq.* Mentally confused, 'muddled'; *esp.* 'muzzy' with drink.

1872 *Leeds Mercury* 29 Aug. (Farmer), 'No, Sir, he was

not drunk, and he wornt sober'. 'You say he wasn't drunk?' 'No, Sir, he was mixed'. 1880 *Punch* 4 Sept. 106 Tomkins's First Session...Rather 'mixed' after twenty-one hours' continuous sitting, he says [etc.]. 1882 H. C. MERIVALE *Faucit of B.* II. i. xxiv. 106, I am myself a man of peace, who only carried a gun four times, and grew rather 'mixed' over it.

II. Special collocations: †**mixed angle**, one formed by the intersection of a straight line and a curve; **mixed arch**, an arch of three or four centres; †**mixed body**, a compound body (cf. MIXT *sb.*); **mixed cadence** *Mus.* (see quot.); **mixed chalice**, the sacramental wine with water added to it; **mixed contract** *Civil Law* (see quot.); **mixed decrement** *Cryst.* (see quot.); **mixed earth** (see quot.); †**mixed figure** *Geom.*, one composed of straight lines and curves; †**mixed fraction** = *mixed number* (*b*); **mixed marriage**, a marriage between persons of different religions; **mixed metal**, an alloy; also *fig.* (in quot. *attrib.*); **mixed metaphor**, the combination of two or more inconsistent metaphors in one figure; **mixed mode** *Philos.* (see MODE *sb.* 6); †**mixed money**, money coined of mixed metal; †**mixed motion**, the descending curve of the trajectory of a projectile; **mixed nerve**, a nerve which contains afferent and efferent fibres; **mixed number**, † (*a*) a whole number expressed by two or more Arabic figures (*obs.*); (*b*) a number which consists of an integer and a fraction; **mixed person** *Law* (see quot.: after mod.L. *persona mixta*); **mixed pickles**, vegetables of several kinds pickled together; †**mixed plat** *Geom.*, a surface partly plane and partly curved; **mixed proportion** *Math.* = *mixed ratio*; †**mixed range** = *mixed motion*; **mixed ratio**, †**reason** *Math.* (see quot.); **mixed school** (see 9); **mixed tithes** (L. *decimæ mixtæ*), tithes partly of the nature of 'personal' and partly of that of 'prædial' tithes, e.g. those of cheese, milk, young animals; **mixed tone**, name of one of the Gregorian tones (= *peregrine tone*); **mixed train**, a railway train made up of both passenger-carriages and goods-waggons; formerly also, a train carrying different classes of passengers.

1594 BLUNDEVIL *Exerc.* IV. i. (1636) 272 Of plaine Angles, ..some are said to be *mixt, because the one line is crooked and the other right. 1702 RALPHSON *Math. Dict.*, Angle mixed or mixtilinear. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* I. 131 *Mixed arches are of 3 centres. 1817 RICKMAN *Archit.* 41 Mixed arches are of three centres, which look nearly like elliptical arches; or of four centres, commonly called the Tudor arch. 1656 STANLEY *Hist. Philos.* VI. (*Aristotle*) (1687) 378/2 *Mixt bodies are twofold, imperfect and perfect. 1876 STAINER & BARRETT *Dict. Mus. Terms*, **Mixed Cadence*, an old name for a cadence, consisting of a subdominant followed by a dominant and tonic chord; so called because the characteristic chords of the plagal and authentic cadences succeed each other. 1877 J. D. CHAMBERS *Div. Worship* 244 The course of the Church of England in respect of the *Mixed Chalice. 1860 WHARTON *Law Lex.* (ed. 2), **Mixed contract*, one in which one of the parties confers a benefit on the other, and requires of the latter something of less value than what he has given; as a legacy charged with something of less value than the legacy itself. 1823 H. J. BROOKE *Introd. Crystallogr.* 21 A *mixed decrement is one in which unequal numbers of molecules are omitted in height and in breadth, neither of the numbers being a multiple of the other, such as three in height and two in breadth, or four in height and three in breadth. 1796 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) I. 370 Earths, resulting from the union of earths, or sands, are called *mixed, because the ingredients .. may in great measure be mechanically separated. *Ibid.* 371 The only mixed earths, to which peculiar names have been assigned, are loam and mould. 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, **Figures Mixt*, are such as are bounded partly by right Lines, and partly by crooked ones, as a Semicircle. 1706 W. JONES *Syn. Palmar. Matheseos* 91 To Reduce an Improper Fraction into an Integer, or *Mixt Fraction. 1851 HT. MARTINEAU *Hist. Peace* V. xi. (1877) III. 434 The Catholic clergy were beginning to object to the *mixed marriages which they had hitherto sanctioned. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 154 A statua of a woman, made of *mixt metal (richer then brasse, vulgarly called *di Bronzo*). 1756–7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) I. 283 A blue kind of mixed metal, not unlike varnished steel. 1800 LAMB *Let. to Coleridge* (end of year), It seems the Doctor is invariably against the use of broken or *mixed metaphor. 1602 in J. Simon *Irish Coins* (1749) 104 Three score pounds in *mixt monies of the new standerd of this realme. 1603 *Ibid.* 109 To reduce the base mixt monyes of three ounces fyne to their value in silver. 1615 SIR J. DAVIES *Cases* 18 La Roigne Elizabeth, pur payer les gages del Army..que fuit mainteine..a suppresser le rebellion de Tyrone, causast vn graund quantity de Mixt Moneyes..destre coine in le Tower de London. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* V. xii. 68 (*plate*), The *mixt or Crooked Motion. 1878 FOSTER *Phys.* III. i. 390 All the spinal nerves are *mixed nerves, composed of afferent and efferent, of motor and sensory fibres. 1542 RECORDE *Gr. Artes* (1575) 53 That number is called *myxt, that containeth articles, or at the least one article, and a digitte. *Ibid.* 324 Mixt numbers (that is whole numbers with fractions). 1690 LEYBOURN *Curs. Math.* 3 If many Digits alone, or many Digits and Cyphers stand together .. promiscuously placed one among another, such Numbers are called Mixt or Compound Numbers. *c* 1865 in *Circ. Sci.* I. 443/2, 2½; 3⅜, &c., are *mixed numbers*. 1660 R. COKE *Power & Subj.* 209 The King is a *mixt person, because he hath Ecclesiastical and Temporal jurisdiction. 1857 J. H. WALSH *Dom. Econ.* 407 For *Mixed Pickles, prepare [etc.]. 1551 RECORDE *Pathw. Knowl.* I. Defin., And if it be partlie plaine, and partlie crooked, then is it called a *Myxte platte. 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Mixt Reason*, or **Proportion*. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* V. xii. 75 Every Shot made upon the Level hath the *mixt or Crooked-Range thereof. 1727–52 CHAMBERS *Cycl.*, **Mixed ratio*, or *proportion*. 1695 ALINGHAM *Geom. Epit.* 19 **Mixt Reason*, is the comparing the sum of the Antecedent and Consequent, to the difference of the Antecedent and Consequent. 1531 *Dial. Laws Eng.* II. l. 113 A *mixte tythe is properly of calues, lambes, pygges, and suche other that come parte of the grounde that thei be fedde of, & parte of the kepynge industrye, and ouersyght of the owners. *a* 1634 COKE *Inst.* II. (1642) 490 Now of tithes there be three kindes, prediall, personall, and mixt. 1672 *Cowell's Interpr.*, *Mixt Tythes*, Decimæ mixtæ. Are those of Cheese, Milk, &c. and of the young of Beasts. 1844 [W. B. HEATHCOTE] *Canticles* ii, A ninth [tone] is generally added .. called '*Mixed'. 1838 *Civil Engin. & Arch. Jrnl.* I. 115/1 The *mixed train which leaves Birmingham at half-past four. 1839 *Bradshaw's Railway Time Tables* 25 Oct., The Mixed Trains consist of First Class Carriages carrying six inside, and of 2d class carriages open at the side. 1850 LARDNER *Railway Econ.* 481 Mixed trains, by which goods and passengers are indifferently carried. 1866 W. COLLINS *Armadale* I. 268 In the crowd and confusion caused by the starting of a large mixed train.

Mixedly (mi·kstli), *adv.* Now *rare*. [-LY 2.]

1. In a mixed manner; after the manner of a mixture or combination; †conjointly.

1570 BILLINGSLEY *Euclid* XII. ii. 361 Note the manner of the drift in this demonstration and construction, mixtly. 1656 S. H. *Golden Law* 56 The Israelites liv'd together in Goshen, .. and not mixtly or scatteringly amongst the Egyptians. 1839 *Fraser's Mag.* XIX. 127 He lived..with the revolution, revolutionally;..with the directory, directorially; with the consulate, mixedly. 1860 I. TAYLOR *Ultimate Civiliz.* 111 In such instances the Governing Power pleases itself in thinking of men—mixedly, and alternately—as brutes and as babies.

†**b.** Promiscuously; without discrimination.

1597 BEARD *Theatre God's Judgem.* (1612) 333 He spared neither nohle or ignoble, but mixtly sent them to their graues, without respect of cause or justice.

2. With intermixture of other qualities, elements, etc.; not purely, simply, or absolutely.

1579 G. HARVEY *Letter-bk.* (Camden) 66 Anye notable thinge..that..is not ether merely or mixtely outlandish. 1594 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* I. x. § 10 The one sort [of laws] wee may for distinctions sake call mixedly, and the other meerely Humane. 1653 *Apol. J. Goodwin* 4 Things of a Religious nature are absolutely such, or mixtly.

3. *Math.* In mixed proportion (see MIXED 11).

1695 ALINGHAM *Geom. Epit.* 19 If $A:B::C:D$ then mixtly as $A+B:A-B::C+D:C-D$. 1709 J. WARD *Introd. Math.* II. vii. (1734) 191 If Four Quantities are Proportionals they will also be Proportional in Alternation, Inversion, Composition, Division, Conversion, and Mixtly.

Mixedness (mi·kstnės). [f. MIXED + -NESS.] The quality of being mixed.

1668 WILKINS *Real Char.* II. i. § 3. 28. 1727 BAILEY vol. II, *Miscellaneousness*, mixture or mixedness together without Order. 1881 J. HAWTHORNE *Fort. Fool* I. XXXV, The reservations produce..that mixedness in human characters which must more or less vitiate any..generalisation. 1893 *Spectator* 15 Apr. 490/1 The mixedness of American dinner-parties.

Mixel(l, obs. forms of MIXHILL *dial.*

Mixen (mi·ksən). Now *dial.* or *arch.* Also 1 micxsen, meoxin, -en, 1, 4–5 myxen, 3–5 mixne, 4 myxne, 5 myxon, 6 myxson, mickeson, mickson, 4–5, 7, 9 mexen, 7–9 *dial.* mixon, 9 *dial.* maxon, -en. [OE. *mixen* str. fem.:—prehistoric **mihsinnja*, f. **mihso-*: see MIX *sb.*[1] and -EN[3]. A similar formation on the parallel stem **mihstu-* (Goth. *maihstus*, OHG. *mist* dung) is OHG. *mistunnea* dunghill.]

1. A place where dung and refuse is laid; a dung-hill or laystall; also, a heap of dung, earth, compost, etc. used for manure; †dung and refuse from sheds and cow-stalls, etc. (*obs.*).

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Luke xiii. 8 Ic delfo ymb hia & ic sendo micxseno. *a* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Sigewulfi Interrog.* xlix. (1888) 16 On þære ayðemestan fleringe wæs heora gangpyt & heora myxen. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Pars. T.* P 837 Though that hooly writ speke of horrible synne, certes hooly writ may nat been defouled, namoore than the sonne that shyneth on the Mixne [*v.rr.* myxen, myxene, mexen]. 1480 *Robt. Devyll* 38 Into a foule donge myxen he her caryed. 1581 in *5th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* I. App. 570/2 Let all the myxsons and annoyances be caryed away byffore the spryng do cum. 1596 HARINGTON *Metam. Ajax* 42 By turning a streame of water on the mickesons, he [Hercules] scowred away that in a weeke, that an hundred could scant haue done in a yeare. 1611 COTGR., *Fumier*, a mexen, dung-hill, heape of dung. 1622 MABBE tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* II. 53 The..rottennest mixen that was in all the street. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* II. 173/1 A muck-hill is the place where the Dung is laid till it be carried into the field to manure the ground: some call it a Mixon. 1794 J. CLARK *Agric. Heref.* 23 The makings of mixens, however, is not properly attended to in general. 1865 GOSSE *Land & Sea* 12 Great mixens outside the doors, strewn with the shells of enormous limpets. 1881 BLACKMORE *Christowell* xvi, He was turning up a mixen in a meadow near the lane. *a* 1887 JEFFERIES *Field & Hedgerow* (1889) 169 He had dug up a gallon of snakes' eggs in the 'maxen'.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1609 BP. W. BARLOW *Answ. Nameless Cath.* 337 The Epistler would needes..haue this mixen stirred. 1684 BP. W. LLOYD *Hist. Acc. Ch. Govt.* Pref. (b), The *Gesta Pontificum*, that Mixen of ill-contrived Forgeries, which perhaps was made before Bede's time. 1880 T. HARDY *Trumpet-Major* XXXVI. III. 151 We will let it be buried in eternal mixens of forgetfulness.

c. Proverbs. † *A cock on his own mixen*: cf. DUNGHILL *sb.* 1 b. *Better wed over the mixen than over the moor*: 'better marry a neighbour than a stranger from distant parts' (E. D. D.).

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 140 Ase me seiþ, 'þet coc is kene on his owune mixenne'. *a* 1661 FULLER *Worthies, Cheshire* (1662) I. 174 Better wed over the Mixon then over the Moor. 1710 *Brit. Apollo* No. 12. 3/2. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* XXXI, 'Better wed over the mixen as over the moor', as they say in Yorkshire. 1874 T. HARDY *Madding Crowd* XXII. I. 250.

2. A term of abuse or reproach to a woman or child: see quot. 1887. *dial.*

1764 FOOTE *Mayor of G.* I. Wks. 1799 I. 173 Who told you as much, Mrs. Mixen? 1887 T. DARLINGTON *Folk-Sp. S. Cheshire, Mexen, Mixen*,..a term of reproach to a female. 'Yo little mixen'. It seems to have originated as a comic substitute for *vixen*.

3. *attrib.*, as *mixen-cart, -heap, -hole*; **mixen-varlet** (quasi-*arch.*), a term of abuse for a man.

1610 *Mirr. Mag., King Madan* xi, I thinke the clowne that driues the mixen-cart Hath better hap than Princes such as I. 1886 *Cheshire Gloss., Mixen-hole*, a midden hole. 1895 CROCKETT *Men of Moss-Hags* i. 13 Faugh, keep wide from me, mixen-varlet! 1903 F. HALL in *Eng. Dial. Dict., Mixen-heap*, a dunghill.

Mixer (mi·ksəɹ). [f. MIX *v.* + -ER[1].]

1. One who mixes (in various senses of the vb.); *spec.* in various manufactures, the workman who performs the operation of 'mixing'.

1611 COTGR., *Meslangeur*, a mingler, mixer, bleander. 1828 SCOTT *Tales of Grandf.* Ser. II. xlvii. (1841) 207/2 The wretched mixer of the poison was tried and executed. 1854 LONGF. *Catawba Wine* ix, To the sewers and sinks With all such drinks, And after them tumble the mixer. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 16 Sept. 7/1 Professional mixers [of cotton] had been less successful in their operations. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 928 The 'mixers' and 'dippers' are particularly liable to suffer from phossy jaw [in match factories].

2. A machine or mechanical contrivance for mixing. Also with defining word.

1876 *Catal. Sci. App. S. Kens. Mus.* (1877) 248 Mixoscope (colour-mixer). 1883 *Fisheries Exhib. Catal.* p. lxxxiii, Patent mixer for mixing hard water supply and lime water. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 443 The smaller end of the stirrer may be used to remove the drop of diluted blood from the mixer to the cell. 1901 *Westm. Gaz.* 1 July 7/3 The fall of a workman into a sugar mixer.

So **Mi·xeress**, a female mixer.

1830 W. TAYLOR *Hist. Surv. Germ. Poetry* II. 480 A poison-mixeress Ought not to sully England's royal throne.

Mixey-maxy, variant of MIXTY-MAXTY.

†**Mi·x-grass.** *Obs. rare.* [? f. MIX *v.*] (See first quot.) Also *attrib.*

1778 [W. MARSHALL] *Minutes Agric., Digest* 73 By Mix-grass is here meant a compound of White-Clover, Rye-Grass, and Trefoil. *Ibid., Observ.* 32 It was..stacked with the mix-grass hay of Norwood. *Ibid.* 80 No Manure has this year been laid on Mixgrass-Leys.

Mix-Hellene (mikshelī·n). [ad. Gr. *μιξέλλην*, f. *μιξ(ο)-* MIXO- + *Ἕλλην* HELLENE.] A person of mixed Greek and barbarian blood.

1856 GROTE *Greece* II. xcviii. XII. 645 Taking into pay a semi-Hellenic population in their neighbourhood (Mix-Hellenes, like the Liby-Phenicians in Africa). 1875 LOWELL *Spenser* Pr. Wks. 1890 IV. 286 The descendants of the earlier English settlers had degenerated as much as the Mix-Hellenes who disgusted the Latin poet.

Mixhill (mi·ksˌhil). *dial.* Forms: 6 mixel(l, 9 maxul, 8– maxhill, mixhill. [f. MIX *sb.*[1] + HILL *sb.*] A dunghill, mixen.

1552 HULOET, Mixell and dunghyll. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 56/29 A Mixel, *stercorarium*. 1763 *Museum Rust.* I. lxii. 261 They generally make a maxhill on some corner of the land. 1846 HANNAM in *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* VII. II. 589 Part of the ground..was manured from a mix-hill. 1887 *Kentish Gloss., Maxul*, a dungheap.

Mixible (mi·ksib'l), *a.* ? *Obs. rare.* [f. MIX *v.* + -IBLE. Cf. MIXABLE, MISCIBLE, MIXTIBLE.] Capable of being mixed.

1607 J. DAVIES *Summa Totalis* C j b, Mixion vnites Things mixible by change; Or intermingling of their Substances: Things mixible, are they, which, though they range, Are yet contain'd in eithers Essences. 1800 *Med. Jrnl.* IV. 25 It being known that the sulphuric and septic acids are mixible with each other.

Mixie-maxie, variant of MIXTY-MAXTY.

Mixing (mi·ksiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [-ING[1].] The action of the verb MIX. Also with *up* (see MIX *v.* 6).

1599 B. JONSON *Cynthia's Rev.* II. i, I cannot abide any thing that sauours the poore ouer-worne cut..I must haue variety, I: this mixing in fashion I hate it worse, then to burne juniper in my chamber. 1611 COTGR., *Mistionnement*, a mixing, mingling [etc.]. 1683 TRYON *Way to Health* xix. 615 These ought to be the Chief Ends and Considerations of every man in Marriage, and not the mixing of Mannours, and joyning together of Farmes. 1813 VANCOUVER *Agric. Devon* 213 The quantity of lime expended in these mixings being voluntary. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech., Mixing*, (*Cloth.*) uniting wool of different colors for *mixed cloth*, called *medleys*. 1890 *Spectator* 6 Dec., The mixing-up of a local control with the working of the Purchase Act. 1893 *Athenæum* 25 Nov. 731/2 This mixing..takes place in the arrangement of the stories. 1897 *Encycl. Sport* I. 62 *Mixing*, a deliberate attempt to put in a few running strides when in a walking race.

b. *concr.* in *pl.* (*U.S. slang.*) Mixed drinks.

1861 LOWELL *Biglow P.* Ser. II. i, Le' 's liquor; Gin'ral, you can chalk our friend for all the mixins.

c. *attrib.*, as *mixing bowl, machine, sieve*, etc.

1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech., Mixing-machine*, Poole's machine for mixing chemicals, fertilizers, etc. *Ibid., Mixing-*

sieve, one by which ingredients are intimately combined by sifting together. 1881 *Encycl. Brit.* XII. 841/2 The rubber..is mechanically incorporated with about one-tenth of its weight of that substance [*sc.* sulphur] by means of the mixing rollers. 1887 Morris *Odyss.* IX. 9 The wine-swain from the mixing-bowl filleth up And beareth forth, and poureth the wine in every cup. 1897 F. M. Crawford *Corlione* XXV, Don Atanasio [the apothecary] laid down the broad mixing-knife he was using. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 433 The mixing pipette is provided with a rubber nozzle.

Mi·xing, *ppl. a.* [-ING 2.] That mixes.

1730-46 Thomson *Autumn* 1362 The mind,..where the mixing passions endless shift.

Mixion, obs. form of Mixtion.

Mixite (mi·ksəit). *Min.* [Named in 1879 by A. Schrauf, after A. *Mixa*: see -ITE.] 'Hydrous arsenate of copper and bismuth, found in fibrous, green incrustations' (Chester *Dict. Min.* 1896).

1882 *3rd App. to Dana's Min.* 82 Mixite...Occurs with bismuth, ochre, bismutite, and torbernite in the Geistergang at Joachimsthal. Named in honor of Bergrath A. Mixa.

† **Mi·xitive**, *a. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. Mix *v.* ? after *fugitive*, etc.] Tending to mix.

1614 W. B. *Philosopher's Banquet* (ed. 2) 26 This mixitiue application of viands.

Mixne, obs. form of Mixen.

‖ **Mixo-** (mi·kso), repr. Gr. *μιξο-*, f. root of *μιγνύναι* to mix, occurring in many Gr. compounds with the sense 'mixed'; used in a few mod. scientific words founded on Greek analogies, as **Mixogamous** (miksǫ·gămǝs) *a.* [Gr. *γάμ-ος* marriage + -ous.], *Ichth.* (see quot. 1880); **Mixo·gamy** *Ichth.*, the condition of being mixogamous; **Mixopyous** (miksǫ·piǝs) *a. Med.* [Gr. *μιξό-πυος*, f. *πῦον* pus], 'mingled, or mixed with pus; formerly applied to the urine' (Mayne *Expos. Lex.* 1856); **Mi·xoscope** [see -SCOPE], the name given to an apparatus for mixing colours; **Mixotro·phic** *a.* [see Trophic *a.*], 'half-saprophytic' (B. D. Jackson *Gloss. Bot. Terms* 1900). See also Mixobarbaric, Mixolydian, and cf. Mix-Hellene.

1876 Mixoscope [see Mixer 2]. 1880 Günther *Fishes* xiii. 177 The majority of Teleostei are mixogamous—that is, the males and females congregate on the spawning-beds, and..several males attend to the same female, frequently changing from one female to another. 1881 *Athenæum* 15 Jan. 97 Chapter xiii [of Günther's Study of Fishes deals] with..mixogamy, polygamy..as occurring amongst fishes.

‖ **Mixo-barbaric** (mi·ksobărbæ·rik), *a.* [f. Gr. *μιξο-βάρβαρος* half-barbarian half Greek: see Mixo- and Barbaric *a.*] Characteristic of a people partly barbarous and partly Hellenic.

1876 C. T. Newton *Ess. Art & Archæol.* xi. (1880) 413 All the barbaric and mixo-barbaric coinages imitated from Greek prototypes.

Mixolydian (miksoli·diăn), *a. Mus.* [f. Gr. *μιξο-λύδιος* half-Lydian: see Mixo- and Lydian.] The designation of (*a*) the highest in pitch of the modes in ancient Greek music; (*b*) the fourth of the 'authentic' ecclesiastical modes, having G for its 'final' and D for its dominant.

1589 Puttenham *Eng. Poesie* II. x. (Arb.) 98 The Eolien, Mi[x]olidien and Ionien. 1603 Holland *Plutarch* Explan. Words, *Mixolidian tune*, that is to say, lamentable and pitifull: meet for Tragoedies. 1760 Stiles in *Phil. Trans.* LI. 709 In the Mixolydian species, the diazeuctic tone was the first interval, reckoning from acute to grave. 1776 Burney *Hist. Mus.* I. 390 Mixolydian mode. 1842 W. F. Donkin in *Smith's Dict. Gr. & Rom. Ant.* s.v. *Music* (*Greek*), The seven species of the Octachord..were anciently ..denoted by the names Mixolydian, Lydian [etc.], .. the Mixolydian being the highest, and the Hypodorian the lowest. 1867 Macfarren *Harmony* i. 14 The fourth mode Ambrose selected is the Hyper-Lydian, sometimes called Myxo-Lydian. 1893 H. E. Wooldridge *Chappell's O. Eng. Pop. Mus.* I. p. xi, Ecclesiastical Scale of G. 7th or Mixolydian Mode.

Mixon, dial. form of Mixen.

† **Mi·xschipe.** *Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. Mix *sb.*¹ + *-schipe* -ship.] Wickedness.

a 1225 *Juliana* 46 (Royal MS.), Ant mi lauerdes wil ich wurche, þat is meister ouer mixschipe [*Bodl. MS.* meister of alle mixschipes] ouer al þer imeí.

† **Mixt,** *sb. Obs.* Also 7 **mixte.** [ad. L. *mixtum* neut. of *mixtus*: see Mixed *ppl. a.* Cf. F. *mixte* sb.]

1. A substance consisting of different elements mixed together; esp. in *Old Chem.*, a compound.

1644 Digby *Nat. Bodies* xxv. § 3. 229 The causes of the figures of diuers mixtes, and particularly of some pretious stones. 1665-6 *Phil. Trans.* I. 326 He discourses of Bread, Wine, Oyle, and the other Mixtes that are made of Plantes. 1680 Boyle *Scept. Chem.* III. 172 There may be two sorts of Mixts, whereof the one may not have any of all the same Elements as the other consists of. 1704 J. Harris *Lex. Techn.* I, *Mixt*, i. e. a *Mixt Body*: By which, in Chymistry and Natural Philosophy, is understood a Body not mixt or compounded by Art, but by Nature; such as Minerals, Vegetables, and Animals. 1727-41 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v., *Perfect Mixts* are the class of vital or animated bodies... *Imperfect Mixts* are inanimate bodies. 1757 *Phil. Trans.* L. 163 Where the quantity of the mixt to be assayed was very small. 1805 W. Saunders *Min. Waters* 462 The blood is not merely a peculiar chemical mixt, but a living part of the animal economy.

2. In immaterial applications: A product of mixture, a compound.

1589 Puttenham *Eng. Poesie* II. ix. (Arb.) 97 Now also haue ye in euery song or ditty concorde by compasse and concorde entertangled and a mixt of both. 1647 Gentilis tr. *Malvezzi's Chief Events*, etc. 162 From that conflict it comes forth a mixt, which is not feare, but consideration.

† **Mixt,** *a. Obs.* exc. *Hist.*: see Mixed *a.*

† **Mixt,** *v. Obs.* Also 6 **myxte, mixte.** [Inferred from the pa. pple. *mixt* (see Mixed *ppl. a.*).

In the early 16th c., although *mixt* was freely used as a pple., there seems to have been much doubt whether the inferred Eng. vb. should have the form *mixt* or *mix*. Elyot's *Lat. Dict.* (1538), s.v. *Misceo*, has *myxe*, but the edition of 1548 alters this to *myxt*.]

= Mix *v.*

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 39 b, By mixtynge water with floure, & werkynge it into paste. 1531 Elyot *Gov.* I. xiii, Mixting serious mater with thynges that were pleasaunt. 1545 Raynolo *Byrth Mankynde* 123 In the whiche also myxte barly meale. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VI* 129 Aduertisyng bym..not to..mixte his safetie and surenesse with the unstablenesse and unsuretie of his newe alye. 1563 Winjet *Cert. Tractates* Wks. 1890 II. 60 Bot..gif we sal begin to mixt noueltie with antiquitie. 1609 Bible (Douay) *Jer.* Argt., In the next eleuen chapters he mixteth consolations and threats.

Hence † **Mi·xting** *vbl. sb.*

1535 Coverdale 2 *Macc.* xiv. 3 Alcimus (which had..wilfully defyled himselfe, in the tyme of the myxtinge) [1611 their mingling (with the Gentiles)]. 1570 Dee *Math.* Pref. *ij, And so is this Arithmetike greately enlarged, by diuerse exhibityng and vse of Compositions and mixtynges.

Mixt, var. *mixed*, pa. t. and pa. pple of Mix *v.*

Mixter-maxter, etc., var. ff. Mixty-maxty.

† **Mi·xtible.** *Obs. rare.* [ad. mod.L. type **mixtibile*, f. L. *mixt-*, ppl. stem of *miscēre* to Mix: see -ible.] = Mixtil.

1750 tr. *Leonardus' Mirr. Stones* 57 The Magnet has Hardness, an iron Colour, and the like, proceeds from the Virtue of Mixtibles or the Elements.

Mixtiform (mi·kstifōm), *a. rare.* [f. L. *mixt-us*, pa. pple. of *miscēre* to Mix + -form.] Of a mixed shape, form, or character.

1837 Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* I. VII. ix, The General..glances, only with the eye, at that so mixtiform National Assembly. 1837 — in Froude *Life in Lond.* (1884) I. 108 My hearers were mixtiform dandiacal of both sexes.

† **Mixtil.** *Obs. rare.* [ad. L. type **mixtile*, neut. of **mixtilis* f. *mixt-*, ppl. stem of *miscēre* to Mix: see -ile.] A mixed body, a compound.

1654 Vilvain *Epit. Ess.* I. xxvi, From which..all mixtils doe surmount. 1654 — *Theol. Treat.* i. 27 Mixtils are compact of Elements into which they resolv.

Mixtilinear (mikstili·nĭăi), *a.* [f. as prec. + -ar.] Formed or bounded partly by straight, and partly by curved lines.

1702 [see *mixed angle*, Mixed *ppl. a.* 11]. 1734 Berkeley *Analyst* § 34 The right Line C *c* being produced to K, there are formed three small Triangles, the Rectilinear C E *c*, the Mixtilinear C E *c*, and the Rectilinear Triangle C E T. 1803 Woodhouse in *Phil. Trans.* XCII. 121 The lines and mixtilinear triangle therein exhibited cannot be called natural signs. 1868 Bledsoe *Philos. Math.* 61 The little mixtilinear figures at the ends of the triangles.

So **Mixtili·neal** *a. rare*⁻¹.

1833 *Fraser's Mag.* VIII. 491 Whether in rectilineal, curvilineal, mixtelineal [*sic*], or other figures.

Mixti·lion, anglicized form (in translations of documents) of med.L. *mixtiliōn-em* Maslin 2.

c 1640 J. Smyth *Lives Berkeleys* (1883) I. 155 Had also Drage, pilcorne, mixtilion [etc.]. 1892 Kirk in *Abingdon Acc.* (Camden) p. xxi, Small quantities of corn, mixtillion, and malt were received from the mill under the Court.

† **Mi·xtion,** *sb. Obs.* Forms: *α.* 5 **myxtion, -yon, -ioun,** 6- **mixtion**; *β.* 5 **myxyon, myxcion,** 6 **myxion,** 6-7 **mixion.** See also Mistion. [a. F. *mixtion* (from 14th c.; also *mistion*), ad. L. *mixtiōn-em* (also *mistiōn-em*), n. of action f. *miscēre* (pa. pple. stem *mixt-*, *mist-*); see Mix *v.*]

1. *gen.* The action, or process of mixing, or the condition or fact of being mixed. = Mixture 1.

α. 1483 Caxton *Gold. Leg.* 133/1 The waxe whyche is made of the bee purely wythout companye and myxtioun of one bee with another signefyeth the body of our lord Jhesu cryst. 1530 Palsgr. 246/1 Mixtion of thynges, *mixtion, confusion*. 1563 W. Fulke *Meteors* (1640) 63 Upon the mixtion of these colours..all things have their colour. 1594 R. Ashley tr. *Loys le Roy* 66 Being all vnited by the mixtion of bloud. 1604 Cawdrey *Table Alph., Mixtion* [1613 *mixion*] mingling, or tempering together. 1615 Crooke *Body of Man* 279 An Embleme of the holy mixtion of seedes in Matrimony. 1644 Digby *Nat. Bodies* xvi. § 7. 143 The qualities which we find in bodies do result out of the composition, and mixtion of the Elements. 1705 C. Pursball *Mech. Macrocosm* 132 Those that consider that the Mixtion of different Particles, is the Cause of the Generation.

β. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* I. (1495) 6 From this holy trynyte all confusion and all myxcion of persones is voyded for the fader is a nother, the sone is a nother, the holy ghost is a nother. 1483 Caxton *Gold. Leg.* 437 b/1, He prayeth..that by the vertue of the same myxyon the people may be unyed to god by veray loue & dyleccion. 1662 R. Mathew *Unl. Alch.* § 10. 5 By reason of the mixion of forcible Vegetatives.

2. *concr.* A product of mixing, *esp.* a medicine or drug composed of various ingredients.

a. c 1477 Caxton *Jason* 81 This myxtion shall haue suche vertue that yf thy body be anoynted therwyth the fyre ne the venym of the dragon .. may not noye the. 1480 — *Ovid's Met.* XIV. vii, And other [flowers] she toke .. & made dyverse myxtyons. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* ix. 80 Thai mixtions he [Mithridates] eit euyrie daye vithout ane fastan stomak. 1558 Waroe tr. *Alexis' Secr.* (1568) 34 Annoint a piece of parchement with this mixtion. 1607 R. C[arew] tr. *Estienne's World of Wonders* 246 These their mixtions they call counterpoison. *a* 1648 Digby *Closet Open.* (1677) 171 Put this mixtion into a deep wooden dish. 1697 *Phil. Trans.* XIX. 657 There may be copious Supplies of Matter for such Mixtions. 1757 tr. *Henckel's Pyritol.* 122 These are ..in their mixtion found of a like proportion of metal and sulphur.

β. 1502 *Ord. Crysten Men* IV. xxi. (W. de W. 1506) 232 To make these mixions where with women paynte theyr visages. 1576 Baker *Jewell of Health* 104 b, Take the myxion, which put into a goates skynne.

b. = Mixt *sb.* 1. *Obs.*

1481 Caxton *Myrr.* II. xxi. 111 Of thyse two myxtyons [sande and the glayre of the see] is made good glasse and clere. 1555 Eden *Decades* 333 b, Yet are there not many that do care to knowe of what substaunce or natural mixtion it [*sc.* gold] consisteth. 1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* II. i. 55 Yet are they not to be closed up in the generall name of concretions, or lightly passed over as onely Elementary and Subterraneous mixtions. *a* 1677 Hale *Prim. Orig. Man.* IV. ii. 299 The *materia proxima* or *secunda* of all other Corporeal Beings being the simple Elements, and the next Matter of all Mixtions or Composition.

3. = Mixture 5.

1557 N. T. (Genev.) *Heb.* iv. 2 It..proffited not them that they hearde the worde, because they yᵗ heard it, had not the mixtion of faith. *a* 1577 Sir T. Smith *Commw. Eng.* I. vi. (1609) 5 Ye shall finde one vtterly perfect without mixtion of the other. *a* 1619 Fotherby *Atheom.* II. x. § 3 (1622) 304 God is a pure substance, without any mixtion. 1656 Stanley *Hist. Philos.* V. (1687) 185/2 But the Gods being void of corporeal mixtion understand purely and sincerely.

† **Mi·xtion,** *v. Obs. rare.* [ad. F. *mixtionner*, f. *mixtion*: see prec.] *trans.* To mix, make into a mixture.

c 1500 *Melusine* 142 Vesselles full of flaxe grecyd with oyle and mixtyouned with brymstone and sulfer.

Mi·xtish, *a. nonce-wd.* [f. *mixt*, Mixed *ppl. a.* + -ish 1.] Of the nature of a mixture.

a 1844 L. Hunt *Blue-stocking Revels* II. 164 So Irish, so modish, so mixtish, so wild.

Mixtly, variant of Mixedly *adv.*

‖ **Mi·xtum.** *Obs. rare.* [med.L. *mixtum*, neut. of *mixtus* Mixed *ppl. a.* Cf. Miste *v.*]

1. In monastic rule: A slight refection.

c 1490 Caxton *Rule St. Benet* XXXVIII. 131 The reder may afore his lecture take a lytyll refeccyon that is called mixtum yf nede be for by-cause of his redyng atte mete. [1823 Crabbe *Technol. Dict., Mixtum* (*Archæol.*), a breakfast, or a certain quantity of bread and wine.]

2. = Mixt *sb.* 1.

1656 [? J. Sergeant] tr. *T. White's Peripat. Inst.* 207 A Mixtum, therefore is a body of certain parts, of divers degrees of rarity and density [etc.]. *Ibid.* 215 The nature of Mixtum's, which consist in the Number and Proportion of rare and dense bodies, follows [etc.].

Mixture (mi·kstiŭ, -tʃəi). Also 6 **myxture,** mixtur. [ad. L. *mixtūra* (also *mistūra*), f. *mixt-* (*mist-*), ppl. stem of *miscēre*: see Mix *v.* Cf. OF. *mesture, misture*, F. *mixture*, It., Pg. *mistura*, Sp. *mistura, mixtura*, G. *mixtur.*]

1. The action, process, or fact of mixing (in the intransitive senses of the vb.) or becoming mixed; also, an instance of this.

1530 Palsgr. 420/1, I allaye, as mettals be alayde or as sylver or golde is with their myxture, *je attrempe*. 1587 Golding *De Mornay* (1592) 144 Or yᵉ mixtur of the elements. 1594 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* I. iii. § 2 If the Moone should wander from her beaten way, the times and seasons of the yeare blend themselues by disordered and confused mixture. 1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* (1614) 62 That mixtures in garments, seedes, and the like, were forbidden by the Law of Moses. *Ibid.* 76 This river .. passeth through the Lake Thonitis without mixture of waters by reason of this swiftnesse. 1727-41 Chambers *Cycl., Mixture*, in matters of drapery, denotes the union, or blending of several wools of different colours, not yet spun. 1732 Arbuthnot *Aliments* (1735) 22 When those Liquors are expell'd out of the Body, which by their mixture convert the Aliment into an Animal Liquid. 1842 A. Combe *Physiol. Digestion* (ed. 4) 228 Mixtures of different kinds of food are strongly condemned by almost all writers on dietetics, as injurious to digestion. 1860 Tyndall *Glac.* II. v. 250 From the intimate mixture of air and water we obtain foam. 1872 Bagehot *Physics & Pol.* ii. 69 Early in history the continual mixtures by conquest were just so many experiments in mixing races as are going on in South America now. 1876 Voyle & Stevenson *Milit. Dict.* s. v. *Mixing the Ingredients*, Five minutes is sufficient for a thorough mixture.

b. In the transitive sense: The action of mixing (different things). ? *Obs.*

1663 Gerbier *Counsel* 11 A good Surveyour sheweth his Art..in the fit mixture of Materials, Morter [etc.].

c. Mixed state or condition; coexistence of different ingredients or of different groups or classes of things mutually diffused through each other.

1597 Hooker *Ecl. Pol.* v. xlvii. § 4 O happie mixture, wherein things contrary do so qualifie and correct the one the daunger of the others excesse. 1615 Crooke *Body of Man* Pref. 1 A Discourse of the constitution of mans body, as he enioyeth a perfect or apportionated health by a due Mixture of the principles whereof he consisteth; of the Temperament of each part arising from that mixture. 1713-13 Swift *Jrnl. to Stella* 23 Jan., There was a mixture of company.

† **d.** Mixed nature, complexity. *Obs.*

1614 Raleigh *Hist. World* Pref. 1 How unfit, and unworthy a choice I made of my self, to undertake a work of this mixture, mine own reason..hath sufficiently resolved me.

† **e.** Sexual intercourse. Cf. Mix *v.* 4 b. *Obs.*

[Cf. 1483 Mixtion 1 b.] 1604 Dekker *1st Pt. Hon. Wh.*

vi. Wks. 1873 II. 38 *Bellafronte* [a Courtesan]..For whose true love I would..Hate the worlds mixtures, and the smiles of gold. 1615 CHAPMAN *Odyss.* VIII. 382 The Sunne their mixture saw; and came, and told. 1632 MILTON *Penseroso* 26 Thee [*sc.* Melancholy] bright-hair'd Vesta long of yore, To solitary Saturn bore; His daughter she (in Saturns raign, Such mixture was not held a stain). 1659 HAMMOND *On Ps.* xix. 9 The dread of offending God keeps the man from all impure mixtures. 1697 POTTER *Antiq. Greece* I. ii. (1715) 8 Promiscuous Mixtures had been allowed of amongst them. 1703-12 POPE *Thebais* I. 96, I..With monstrous mixture stain'd my mother's bed.

f. The mixing or blending of different races in common offspring.

1842 PRICHARD *Nat. Hist. Man* 20 The tribe of people, termed .. Cafusos .. are known to have sprung originally from a mixture of native Americans with the Negroes imported from Africa. 1845 YOUATT *Dog* iv. (1858) 155 The shock-dog is traced by Buffon..to a mixture of the small Danish dog and the pug.

†**g.** The fact of 'mixing' socially with others, association. *Obs.*

1764 J. SMITH in F. Chase *Hist. Dartmouth Coll.* (1891) I. 26 He intended..to send his son to obtain his education in mixture with these Indians.

2. *concr.* A product of mixing; a complex unity or aggregate (material or immaterial) composed of various ingredients or constituent parts mixed together. **a.** With the components specified (const. *of*) or implied by the context.

1460-70 *Bk. Quintessence* I. 9 Putte all þat mixture into a strong watir maad of vitriol and of sal petre, and þe siluyr wole be dissolued. 1582 N. T. (Rhem.) *John* xix. 39 Bringing a mixture of myrrhe and aloes. 1612 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* II. 304 That braue youth, the splendor of whose eye A wondrous mixture shew'd of grace and maiestie. 1676 GLANVILL *Ess.* Pref. a iij b, The [seventh] Essay is a mixture of an Idæa, and a disguised History. 1702 ADDISON *Dial. Medals* I. Wks. 1766 III. 9 The agreeable Mixture of shades and fountains, in which the whole country naturally abounds. 1732 LEDIARD *Sethos* II. VIII. 227 His conduct.. was .. a fatal mixture of weakness and temerity. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 314 A simple mixture of sand and clay. 1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* xix, His mixture of surprise, joy, and anxiety, did not deprive him of the presence of mind which the occasion demanded. 1884 W. H. GREENWOOD *Steel & Iron* ix. 186 It is always considered better to use a mixture of several brands of iron in a charge for any casting..since such mixtures are most frequently found to be stronger than the average of the several brands taken separately. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 826 The vessels may be all veins,..capillaries,..or very commonly a mixture of both. 1902 T. M. LINDSAY *Ch. & Ministry in Early Cent.* vi. 258 The sorry mixture of Paganism and Christianity which [etc.].

†**b.** = MIXT *sb.* 1. *Obs.*

1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* To Rdr., In the two following books, is treated of that which concernes the Elements and naturall mixtures, as Mettalls, Plants, Beasts, and what else is remarkable at the Indies. *Ibid.* IV. xiii. 248 We .. will passe to the two other mixtures, the which are plants and beasts. 1634 MILTON *Comus* 244 Can any mortal mixture of Earths mould Breath such Divine inchanting ravishment?

3. *spec.* in various concrete applications.

a. A preparation for medicinal or other purposes, consisting of two or more ingredients mixed together. In *Pharmacy*, now applied to potions or liquid medicines, in contradistinction to pills and other solid forms in which drugs may be administered.

1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* IV. iii. 21 What if this mixture do not worke at all? 1604 — *Oth.* I. iii. 104 With some Mixtures, powrefull o're the blood,..He wrought vp on her. 1695 Freezing mixture [see FREEZING *vbl. sb.* 2]. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Mixture*. .. In a Physical Sense, several Ingredients or Drugs mixt in a Medicine. 1806 *Med. Jrnl.* XV. 513 A pint of this mixture [*sc.* of wine and water] was presented to him. 1831 J. DAVIES *Manual Mat. Med.* 295 Antispasmodic mixtures. 1904 *Longm. Mag.* Feb. 304, I took a sip of the horrid mixture.

b. A cloth of variegated or mottled fabric, usually of 'quiet' colouring. *Heather, Oxford mixture*: see these words.

1722 DE FOE *Col. Jack* (1840) 310 Five yards of crimsom [cloth]..., and the rest of fine mixtures. 1727-41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v., The mixture, or mixed stuff, is that whose woof and warp are of wools of different colours dyed and mixed before they were spun. 1799 *Hull Advertiser* 12 Jan. 2/3 Woollen drapery, jeans, quiltings,..plains, mixtures. 1882 CAULFEILD & SAWARD *Dict. Needlework, Mixtures*, a term applied to any cloths of variegated colouring, such as Knickerbockers and Tweeds. 1885 Heather-mixture [see HEATHER 3].

attrib. 1784 *Europ. Mag.* Nov. 339/2 But amongst the other class of gentlemen are worn dark green, drab, or mixture cloths. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xx, An elderly..man, in a black coat, dark mixture trousers, and small black gaiters. 1897 *Daily News* 8 Apr. 8/5 The shot mixture canvases. 1902 *Daily Chron.* 7 Jan. 6/3 The jacket..of a drab-mixture serge.

c. A tea, tobacco, snuff, etc. of various sorts or qualities mixed together; usually with qualifying word to indicate the variety.

1840 HILL *Pinch—of Snuff* 32 Prince's Mixture..is nothing more than plain brown Rappee scented with otto of roses. 1872 'M. LEGRAND' *Canibr. Freshm.* 286 I'm going in to get a canister of smoking mixture to take down with me. 1895 *Price List*, The Foochow Mixture, specially prepared and packed from the Finest Foochow Teas.

4. In mod. physical science used with restricted meaning: The mechanical mixing of two substances as distinguished from (*chemical*) *combination*; also *concr.* the product of such a mixing, in contradistinction to a *compound*. More explicitly *mechanical* or *simple mixture*, originally used in antithesis with † *chemical mixture*.

1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XII. 184/1 Chemical mixture is attended with many phenomena which are never observed in simple mixtures. 1865 BRANDE & COX *Dict. Sci.*, etc., s. v. *Chemistry*, Artificial mixtures of oxygen and nitrogen. 1887 REMSEN *Elem. Chem.* i. (1897) 9 Mechanical Mixtures and Chemical Compounds.—In a mixture the substances are unchanged...In a chemical compound the substances which are in combination are completely changed. They are so intimately combined that they cannot be recognised by any ordinary means.

b. A fluid containing some foreign substance in suspension: opposed to *solution*.

1765 HAMILTON in *Phil. Trans.* LV. 150, I think .. we may consider the transparency of a heterogeneous fluid ..as the criterion of a true solution, and where that is wanting, it is only a mixture. 1875 H. C. WOOD *Therap.* (1879) 18 Mixtures are preparations in which one or more medicinal substances are held in suspension in water. Of such nature are emulsions, in which some oily material is suspended by a gummy or an albuminous body.

5. The action or an act of adding as an ingredient; the presence of a heterogeneous element in the composition of something; quasi-*concr.* an amount or proportion of something heterogeneous that has been added to or mixed with a thing; admixture. *Without mixture*: unmixed, pure.

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 40 b, Whether..these bothe sayd thynges be togyder in your soule without ony myxture of ye contrary. 1529 MORE *Dyaloge* I. Wks. 161/1 For when the gospell speketh of wyne onely tourned into his precious blode, what man woulde aduenture to make any mixture of water. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 59 b, Suche ministers as should preache Gods worde sincerely, without any mixture of mens traditions. 1611 BIBLE *Rev.* xiv. 10 The same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is powred out without mixture into the cup of his indignation. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 96 The Earth ..hath a kinde of bloodie mixture, somewhat like red waxe, the depth of three or foure cubites. 1625 BACON *Ess., Truth* (Arb.) 499 A mixture of a Lie doth euer adde Pleasure. 1641 BAKER *Chron.* (1653) 16 His [*sc.* K. Edgar's] Pious Acts were, that he built and prepared seven and forty Monasteries. .. But now his mixture of Vice marred all. 1658 SIR T. BROWNE *Hydriot.* i. 2 Except the salt Ocean were handsomly contempered by a Mixture of the fresh Element. 1670 TEMPLE *Let. to Dk. Tuscany* Wks. 1731 II. 221 Such is the Composition of human Things, that nothing is pure or without Mixture. *a* 1704 B. KEACH *Key to open Script. Metaph.* (1779) 137 Adulterating the Word of God by the Mixture of their own Fancies. 1720 HEARNE *Collect.* (O.H.S.) VII. 186 His Conversation, which was generally facetious, not without a Mixture of Satyr. 1725 WATTS *Logic* I. vi. § 1 In order therefore to a clear and distinct Knowledge of things, we must uncloath them of all these Relations and Mixtures, that we may contemplate them naked, and in their own Natures. 1765 A. DICKSON *Treat. Agric.* I. xix. (ed. 2) 143 The soil in which there is a great mixture of moss. 1826 LAMB *Elia* Ser. II. *Pop. Fallacies* xiii, The good things of life are not to be had singly, but come to us with a mixture; like a schoolboy's holiday, with a task affixed to the tail of it. 1845 YOUATT *Dog* vii. (1858) 211 His bark ..had a slight mixture of the howl, and there was a husky choking noise in the throat.

6. *Mus.* In full *mixture-stop*: A compound stop or furniture stop: see COMPOUND *a.* 2 f. and FURNITURE 8.

1776 HAWKINS *Hist. Mus.* IV. I. x. 147 The compound stops are the..Mixture,..and sundry others. 1811 BUSBY *Dict. Mus.* s. v. *Stop*, Mixture, or Furniture Stop. 1876 STAINER & BARRETT *Dict. Mus. Terms, Mixture*, an organ stop, consisting of several ranks of pipes to each note. 1876 Mixture-stop [see FURNITURE 8].

7. *Printing.* 'Type setting that calls for the use of three or more distinct faces or faces and bodies of type' (*Cent. Dict.* 1890).

1888 JACOBI *Printers' Vocab., Mixture*, an extra charge involved on composition if three or more types are used in a work.

Hence † **Mi·xture** *v. Obs. rare*−1, *refl.* to mix or mingle oneself *with*, to associate *with*.

1582 N. LICHEFIELD tr. *Castanheda's Cong. E. Ind.* I. xvi. 40 They will mixture themselues with you and yours [Pg. orig. *estar coeles de mestura*].

† **Mi·xturous,** *a. Obs. rare*−1. [f. MIXTURE *sb.* + -OUS.] Of the nature of a mixture.

1657-83 EVELYN *Hist. Relig.* (1850) I. 173 Nor is this co-existence with any mixturous confusion.

Mixty-maxty, mixy-maxy (mi·kstimæ·ksti, mi·ksi,mæ·ksi), *a.* and *sb. Sc.* and *dial.* Forms: α. 8-9 **mixtie-maxtie, 9 mixter-maxter, 9- mixty-maxty**; β. **mixie-maxie, mixey-maxey, mixy-maxy.** [A varied reduplication of *mixt* MIXED *ppl. a.* Cf. MISH-MASH.]

A. *adj.* Incongruously or promiscuously mingled; jumbled together; mixed; confused.

1786 BURNS *Earnest Cry* xxi, Yon mixtie-maxtie, queer hotch-potch, The Coalition. 1861 QUINN *Heather Lintie* (1863) 238 Degenerate things, however coud Yer mixtie-maxtie puddle Vie wi' the pure Milesian bluid O' winsome Sally Noddle. 1885 G. FRASER *Poems* 133 His points got mixy-maxy, and defied ye tae recall The guid advice he gied ye, for 'twas a' reel-rawl. 1894 *Superfluous Woman* (ed. 4) I. 75 It makes a body feel mixtie-maxtie to come upon her sudden-like amidst the pots and pans.

B. *sb.* Anything promiscuously mixed; a mixed or confused mass, a heterogeneous mixture.

1824 MACTAGGART *Gallovid. Encycl.* (1876) 189 Wi' supper in his kyte weel fed, Composed o' unco mixie maxies. 1829 BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Mixty-maxty, Mixy-maxy*, any thing confusedly mixed, an irregular medley—*a mish-mash*, or hotch-potch. 1871 ALEXANDER *Johnny Gibb* ix. 68 A mixter maxter o' figures wi' the letters o' the A B C. 1895 ROY *Horseman's Word* xxxix. 429 The warld was a gey queer mixty-maxty.

Mizen, mizzen (mi·z'n). *Naut.* Forms: 5 meseyn, 5-7 meson, 6 mizine, myszen, mesen, myssyne, myssen, missonne, mysson, *Sc.* mozan, 6-7 misen, 6-8 missen, misne, 7 myson, meisseine, mison, miszen, mizon, mizan(e, 7- mizen, mizzen. [a. F. *misaine* (in mod.Fr. foresail, foremast; c 1381 *migenne* in Hatz.-Darm.), believed to be ad. It. *mezzana* mizen-sail; the It. word is fem. of *mezzano* middle. Cf. Sp. *mesana*, Pg. *mezena* foresail, Du. *bezaan* (earlier *bezane*), G. *besan* (*-mast, -segel*) mizen.

The agreement of the use in Eng. and It. suggests that the divergent use in mod.Fr. is not original; the statement that It. *mezzana* originally meant 'mainsail' seems to be merely a conjecture based on the etymological meaning of the word, the precise implication of which is uncertain: some have suggested that it may be 'middle-sized'.

The 16th c. MUSALL (*Sc.*) and *myssyll* (see quot. *c* 1515 s.v. MAIN-MIZEN) appear to be synonymous, but their relation to this word is obscure.]

1. (Also **mizen-sail.**) A fore-and-aft sail set on the after side of the mizen-mast. Often used as synonymous with SPANKER, but more correctly applied to the 'mizen trysail', set instead of the spanker in stormy weather. † Formerly also applied to a sail of similar shape serving as the principal sail in certain small craft.

1465 *Mann. & Househ. Exp.* (Roxb.) 200 Item, for a yerde for a meseyn, xvj.*d.* 1485 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 37 Blokkes for the meson with iij sheves of brasse. *Ibid.* 41 Meson sailes..ij. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* vi. 41 Heise the myssen, and change it ouer to leuart. 1591 PERCYVAL *Bibl. Hisp., Dict., Messana vela*, the mizine saile. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 1 Yet are not wee content with a single maine saile.. vnlesse..we haue fore-sailes and sprit-sailes in the Prow, misnes also hoised vp..in the Poupe;..and all to set vs more forward vpon our death, and to hasten our end. 1609 *John Dory* vii. in Child *Ballads* V. 132/2 They hoist their sailes, both top and top, The meisseine and all was tride-a. 1622 R. HAWKINS *Voy. S. Sea* lix. 138 To fight with sprit-saile and myson, and top-sayles loose. 1665 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (1677) 389 This tempest..forced us..to lie by the Lee without more sail than the mizzen. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* I. ii. 16 Loose the Misne in the Brailes. 1670 COVEL *Diary* (Hakl. Soc.) 130 A small vessel with a meson and stay sail. 1694 NARBOROUGH, etc. in *Acc. Sev. Late Voy* II. 2 We ..drove with our Missen-sail towards South-east. 1715 J. EDENS in *Phil. Trans.* XXIX. 318 Their Sails [*sc.* of a Caravel] are all Mizen Sails, that is, Triangular. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* I. vii. 73 We were obliged..to continue under a reefed mizen till eleven at night. 1886 R. C. LESLIE *Sea-painter's Log* vi. 130 The Dean is correct in his description of what was known in those days as bagpiping the mizen, by hauling the mizen-sheet to windward.

b. In figurative context.

1579 PUTTENHAM *Partheniades* in Nichols *Progr. Q. Eliz.* III. 477 Thou strike mizzen, and anker in his porte. *a* 1619 FLETCHER *Wit without M.* I. ii, My sister is a goodly portly Lady,..she spreads satten, as the Kings ships doe canvas, every where she may spare me her misen, and her bonnets strike her maine petticoate, and yet outsaile me. 1702 VANBRUGH *False Friend* III. ii, There may be foul weather there too. I reckon at present he may be lying by under a mizen at the street door.

2. = MIZEN-MAST. Now *rare*.

1583 HAYES *Narr. Gilbert's Voy.* in *Hakluyt* (1811) III. 190 The Golden Hind succeeded in the place of Vizadmirall, and removed her flagge from the mizon unto the foretop. 1622 MABBE tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* II. 357 Steamers that belonged to the Main-Mast, the Misne, and other fitting places for them. 1626 CAPT. SMITH *Accid. Yng. Seamen* 13 In great ships they haue two misens, the latter is called the *boneauentuer* misen. 1634-5 BRERETON *Trav.* (Chetham Soc.) 169 This carries four masts..4. the mizen, which is placed in the stern almost over the helm. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* s. v. *Admiral*, The white St. George's cross at the main, fore, or mizen.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.* in the sense 'pertaining to, connected with, or near the mizenmast or mizen-sail', as *mizen-boom, -brail, -cap, -halyard, -lift, -light, -parrel, -peak, -pole, -rigging, -royal, -sheet, -shroud, -skysail, -stay, -staysail, -tack, -truck*, † *-tye*. Also **mizen-sail** (see 1), MIZEN-MAST, MIZEN TOP, etc.

1485 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 36 Meson shrowdes. *Ibid.* 49 Meson lyftes...Meson halyers...Meson perell. ..Meson shetes...Meson tyes. 1626 CAPT. SMITH *Acc. Yng. Seamen* 14 The mison stay. 1667 DRYDEN & DAVENANT *Tempest* I. i, Get the Misen-tack aboard. Haul aft Misen-sheet! 1692 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) II. 456 Hanging white flags..on the mizen peak. 1768 J. BYRON *Narr. Patagonia* (ed. 2) 206 Which he desired might be hung up in the mizen-shrouds. 1835 SIR J. ROSS *Narr. 2nd Voy.* xlvi. 594 Carrying away the mizen-boom. 1841 R. H. DANA *Seaman's Man.* I. i. 4 Mizen royal yard 16 ft. Mizen skysail yard 10 ft...Mizen pole 9 ft. 1905 *Daily Graphic* 17 Jan. 4/4 Watching the mizzen truck swing among the stars.

Mi·zen-mast. *Naut.* The aftermost mast of a three-masted ship.

1486 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 14 A Mayne Meson mast for the said Ship. 1505 in *Ld. Treas. Acc. Scotl.* (1901) III. 86 Item,..for ane mozan mast and ane pege mast. 1556 BURROUGH in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1599) I. 275 The Pinnesse bare her Myssen mast ouer boord with flagge and all. 1748

Anson's Voy. II. iv. 161 To make a mizen-mast for the *Wager*. 1895 R. LEIGHTON *Under Foeman's Flag* xxi, Her mizen-mast had been shot away in the battle.

Mi·zen-to·p. *Naut.* The 'top' of a mizen-mast; a platform just above the head of the lower mizen-mast.

1667 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 178/4 She wears upon her Main-top an English Ancient..and a French upon his Mizen-top. 1806 *Med. Jrnl.* XV. 73 Lord Nelson was mortally wounded ..by a musquet-ball,..fired from the mizen-top of La Redoubtable. 1833 MARRYAT *P. Simple* xiv, I was put into the mizen-top.

b. *attrib.*, as *mizen-top-boy, -man, -shrouds.*

1626 CAPT. SMITH *Accid. Yng. Seamen* 14 The mison top shroudes and their ratlings. 1833 MARRYAT *P. Simple* xiii, Having recourse to one of his remedies to cure a mizen-top-boy of smoking. *a* 1860 H. STUART *Seaman's Catech.* 79 The duties of mizentop-men aloft are much the same as the other topmen...The youngest and slightest hands in the ship are usually selected for mizen-top-men.

Mi·zen-topga·llant. *Naut.* Used *attrib.* in **mizen-topgallant-mast**, the mast above the mizen-topmast; similarly in *mizen-topgallant-brace, -mast-head, -sail, -yard*, etc.

1864 *Chamb. Encycl.* s.v., Above it [*sc.* the mizen-mast], are the mizen-topmast, the mizen-top-gallant-mast, and the mizen-royal. 1875 BEDFORD *Sailor's Pocket Bk.* vii. (ed. 2) 260 When she is immediately to hoist her ensign at the mizen top-gallant mast-head.

Mi·zen-to·pmast. *Naut.* The mast next above the lower mizen-mast. Also *attrib.*

1626 CAPT. SMITH *Accid. Yng. Seamen* 13 The misen top mast. 1692 *Capt. Smith's Seaman's Gram.* I. xiv. 63 Mizan Topmast Shrowds. .. Mizan Topmast Stay. .. Mizan Topmast Crowfoot. 1755 *Gentl. Mag.* XXV. 184 With the blue flag at the mizentopmast head of the *Monarch*. 1841 R. H. DANA *Seaman's Man.* I. iii. 16 The main topsail braces .. are seized to the mizen topmast-head. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* s.v. *Stay*, *The mizen-topmast stay* is that which comes to the hounds of the main-mast.

Mi·zen-to·psail. *Naut.* The sail above the mizen-sail, the sail set on the mizen-topmast. Also *attrib.*

1626 CAPT. SMITH *Accid. Yng. Seamen* 13 The misen top sayle yeard. 1692 *Capt. Smith's Seaman's Gram.* I. xiv. 63 Mizan Topsail Lifts. Mizan Topsail Sheets. 1772–84 COOK *Voy.* (1790) I. 151 It was so tempestuous as to split the main topsail and the fore mizen-top sails. 1841 R. H. DANA *Seaman's Man.* I. iii. 16 The mizen topsail braces reeve up through the leading blocks..on the main rigging. *Ibid.*, The lower block of the mizen topsail halyard is usually in the mizen tops.

Mizen-yard. *Naut.* The yard on which the mizen-sail is extended.

1485 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 49 Meson yerdes..ij. 1564 in R. G. Marsden *Sel. Pl. Crt. Admir.* (Selden) II. 129 Item a bade smalle hote of two toune and a myssyne yerde vj^{s} viij^{d}. 1627 CAPT. SMITH *Seaman's Gram.* iii. 17 You must allow the Misen Yard and Spretsaile Vard ½ inch of thicknesse to a yard in length. 1786 CUMBERLAND *Observer* No. 23 I. 224, I would hang him at the mizen yard.

Mizer: see MISER *sb.*[1] and [2].

Mizerion, obs. form of MEZEREON.

Mizmaze (mi·zmēz). Also 6 **myse mase**, 6–7 **mis-mase**, 7 **misse-**, 7, 9 **mis-**, 9 *dial.* **mizz-, mizzy-maze.** [Varied reduplication of MAZE *sb.*]

†1. A labyrinth or maze. Chiefly *fig.* *Obs.*

1547 SALESBURY *Welsh Dict., Frustial*, a myse mase. 1587 HARMAR tr. *Beza's Serm.* 69 Salomon..hath walked vs through the whole labyrinth & mizmaze of this life. 1612 J. DAVIES *Muse's Sacrif.* (Grosart) 10/1 Errors missemaze, where lost is Veritie, Or blinded so, that still wrong course it takes. *a* 1624 BP. M. SMITH *Serm.* (1632) 234 In this distraction, and mismaze, I think the middle-way to be the best way. *a* 1734 NORTH *Life Dudley North* (1744) 41 The Gentlemen of the House were in a Miz-maze, and knew not how to take one Step towards extricating themselves. 1794 *Percy's Relig.* (ed. 4) II. Gloss. s.v. *Maze*, On the top of Catharine-hill, Winchester (the usual play-place of the school), was a very perplexed and winding path, running in a very small space over a great deal of ground, called a *Miz-Maze*.

2. Mystification, bewildering delusion; a state of confusion or perplexity. Chiefly *dial.*

1604 BABINGTON *Comf. Notes Exod.* viii. 18 The Lord will cut off that difference and mismaze,..and giue his truth victory ouer all Enchanters. 1871 PULMAN *Rustic Sk.* (ed. 3) 116, I da veel all ev a mizz-maze. 1875 *Q. Rev.* Oct. 392 The physico-theological mizmaze which..clouded the perception of those who were following immediately in the wake of Newton. 1880 MRS. PARR *Adam & Eve* xxvii. 371, I want to be a bit quiet—my head seems all of a mizmaze like. 1880 *W. Cornwall Gloss.* s.v. *Mizmaze*, 'I'm all o' a mizzy-maze'. 1880 *E. Cornwall Gloss.*, *Mismaze*, bewilderment.

†3. Dazzling radiance. *Obs.*

a 1814 *Gonzanga* II. i. in *New Brit. Theatre* III. 110, I have now a scheme in my head, which..will envelope you all in a mizmaze of glory.

†**Mizmore.** *Obs.* = MASSYMORE.

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Mizmor* (Span. *mazmorra*), a Dungeon. 1658 in PHILLIPS.

‖ **Mizqui·tl,** native Mexican form of MESQUITE. (In F. Hernandez *Nova Plant. Hist.* 1651.)

1753 in CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XI. 672/2 The *mizquitl*, or mezquite, is a species of true acacia.

Mizurko, obs. form of MAZURKA.

Mizzle (miz'l), *sb.* Forms: 5 **mysell**, 7 **misle**, 9 **mizzle.** [f. MIZZLE *v.*[1] Cf. MDa. *mysel* dew.] Slight or drizzling rain, drizzle.

1490 CAXTON *Eneydos* xv. 55 And tormented [them] Rygth asperly with Rayne mysell, and grete heyle stones amonge. 1686 GOAD *Celest. Bodies* I. xii. 49 Snow and Misle. *Ibid.* II. xii. 322 A misle of Vapour or Fume may be extenuated into some hundreds [of miles] at least. 1806–7 J. BERESFORD *Miseries Hum. Life* (1826) VI. iii, A mist which successively becomes a mizzle a drizzle a shower a rain a torrent. 1860 *All Year Round* No. 72. 512 The sorts of rain are natural (as cat-and dog-rains, showers and mizzle) and unnatural. 1886 *S. W. Linc. Gloss.* s.v., There was a bit of a mizzle.

Mizzle (miz'l), *v.*[1] *dial.* Forms: 5– **misel**(le, **my(s)sylle**, 6 **mizsel**, **l**, **mysle**, **myssel**, **mesel**, **misell**, 6–8 **misle**, 7 **mizell**, 7–9 **mizle**, **mistle**, 8 **meazle**, 9 **measle**, **mezel**, 6– **mizzle.** [Recorded only from the end of the 15th c.; cogn. w. the synonymous Du. dial. *miezelen*, WFlem. *mizzelen*, *mijzelen*, LG. *miseln*, *museln*; a frequentative formation with the suffix -LE 3; the base is found also in Du. dial. *miesregen* drizzle, *miezig*, *miezerig*, LG. *misig*, drizzly.]

1. *intr.* (*impers.*) To rain in very fine drops, drizzle. Also *to mizzle of rain.*

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 241/2 To Miselle (*A.* Mysylle), *pluuitare*, *pluuitinare*. 1530 PALSGR. 130 *Il brvyne*, it misleth. 1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* Nov. 208 Up, Colin, up! Now gynnes to mizzle, hye we homeward fast. 1606 HOLLAND *Sueton.* 79 If it chanced to mizzle of raine, hee tooke that for a luckie signe. 1662 MABBE tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* II. 48 The raine..came not drizling or mizling downe vpon me; but [etc.]. 1711–12 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 24 Mar., It has rained or mizzled all day. 1721 BAILEY, To *Misle*, (*q. d.* to mistle, *i. e.* to rain in a Mist, of *Mieselen*, Du.) to rain small. 1852 MISS MITFORD *Recoll.* I. 81 On the morning in question, it did not absolutely rain, it only mizzled.

†2. *trans.* Of a cloud (also *impers.*): To send down in a drizzling shower. *Obs.*

1584 LYLY *Sappho* IV. iii. 59 It seemed to mysell gold, with faire drops. 1592 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* VIII. xxxix. (1612) 192 Some Cloudes but misell Rayne.

Mizzle (mi·z'l), *v.*[2] *slang.* Also in 'Shelta' form **misli.** [Of obscure origin: the Shelta *misli* 'to go' has been assigned as the source, but this may be from Eng.] *intr.* To disappear suddenly; to run or slink away, decamp, vanish, take oneself off; also *imperative* = be off! Also *dial.* 'to succumb, to yield, to give up' (*Eng. Dial. Dict.*).

1781 G. PARKER *View Society* II. 231 He preferred mizzling off to France. 1823 W. T. MONCRIEFF *Tom & Jerry* I. iv. (1828) 20 Now then Dicky, mizzle!—be scarce!—broom! 1853 R. S. SURTEES *Sponge's Sp. Tour* i, It was a murky October day that..Mr. Sponge..was seen mizzling along Oxford Street. 1863 C. ST. JOHN *Nat. Hist. Moray* 78 When it saw us the trout immediately turned itself round, and mizzled back into the pool it had come from. 1891 CAREW *No.* 747, XXXVII. 434 Misli in an 'our and a 'arf. 1904 A. LANG in *Morn. Post* 6 Feb., He mizzled into the general company, and I hope he enjoyed his luncheon.

Mizzle (mi·z'l), *v.*[3] *Obs.* exc. *dial. rare.* Forms: 6 **mizzel**, **misle**, 7 **mizel**, 9– **mizzle.** [A frequentative formation, perh. suggested by MIZMAZE.] *trans.* To confuse, muddle; †to make tipsy; also, to mystify (a person); to give (one) wrong information.

1583 STUBBES *Anat. Abus.* I. (1879) 87 Their heades preteley mizzeled with wine. 1599 PORTER *Angry Wom. Abingt.* (Percy Soc.) 48 What though he be mump, misled, blind..? tis no consequent to me. 1601 BP. W. BARLOW *Defence* 81 They were by their owne ignorance mizeled, or by their blind guides miss-led. 1876 BOUND *Provinc. Heref.* (E.D.D.).

Mizzle (mi·z'l), *v.*[4] *Sc.* Also 9 **mizle**, **misle.** [Var. of MEASLE *v.*; early mod.Flemish (Kilian) has *maschelen* 'reddish spots contracted in winter when the legs are put too near the fire'.] *trans.* To make spotty. Hence **Mi·zzled** *ppl. a.*, said *esp.* of the legs when discoloured by sitting too near the fire; also **Mi·zzly** *a.* in the same sense.

1801 W. BEATTIE *Fruits Time Parings*, *Yule Feast*, May the French for their ambition Get mizzled shins. 1805 A. SCOTT *Poems* 146 (Jam.) Oft have I blawn the danders quick Their mizlie shins amang. 1808 in JAMIESON. 1832 A. HENDERSON *Prov.* 47 Bare shouthers mak mizzled shins.

Mizzle, Sc. form of MUZZLE *v.*

Mizzler (mi·zlə1). *slang.* [f. MIZZLE *v.*[2] + -ER[1].] (See quot. 1890.)

1834 H. AINSWORTH *Rookwood* III. v, Though a needy mizzler mysel, I likes to see a cove vot's vel dressed. 1890 BARRÈRE & LELAND *Slang Dict.* (1897) s.v., *Mizzler* or *rum mizzler* (popular), one clever at effecting an escape, or getting out of a difficulty.

Mizzling (mi·zliŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. MIZZLE *v.*[1] + -ING[1].] The action of MIZZLE *v.*[1]; the falling of very fine rain; †fine rain or drizzle. Also *fig.*

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 241/2 A Miselynge (*A.* Myssyllynge), *nimbus*. 1523 SKELTON *Garl. Laurel* 698 Of Pliades he prechid with ther drowsy chere, Immoysturid with mislyng and ay droppyng dry. 1530 TINDALE *Deut.* xxxii. 2 My speach flowe as doeth the dewe, as the mesellynge vpon the herbes. 1572 MASCALL *Plant. & Graff.* (1592) 7 They..doe put their fruite gathered, into the middest of their Garden, in the raine & mislings, vppon the bare earth. 1656 STANLEY *Hist. Philos.* VI. (1687) 378/2 They [*sc.* clouds] are condensed ..into drops of water, which if they come down very small, are called misling; if greater, rain. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* II. 73 In the Evening we had a shower of rain..which was the first, save onely a little mizling, that we had seen fall since our departure from Aleppo. 1725 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.*, *Mizzling*; the falling of very small Rain, after a Fog in Winter or at some other Times. 1843 THOREAU *Let.* 8 June in *Atlantic Monthly* (1892) May 588, I must wait for a shower of shillings, or at least a slight dew or mizzling of sixpences, before I explore New York very far.

Mizzling (mi·zliŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. MIZZLE *v.*[1] + -ING[2].] That mizzles: a. of rain or the like.

1535 COVERDALE *Isa.* xviii. 4 There fel a myslinge shower, like a dew. 1655 R. DAVENPORT *K. John & Matilda* v. i. 14 b, These [eyes] sheed..misling showers. 1733 ARBUTHNOT *Ess. Effects Air* iv. 87 The Air..feels more moist when the Water is..in meazling and soaking Rains, than in great Showers. 1827 *Sporting Mag.* XX. 397 Tuesday morning came in with a nasty mistling rain. 1866 MRS. H. WOOD *St. Martin's Eve* xxviii, A slow, mizzling rain was falling.

b. of a day, weather, etc.

1641 BEST *Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 44 If the morninge bee wette and mislinge. 1697 *Phil. Trans.* XIX. 745 Wet and Mistling Weather. 1714 GAY *Sheph. Week* Tues. 55 In misling days ..With nappy beer I to the barn repair'd. *a* 1845 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. III. *My Letters*, Another mizzling, drizzling, day!

†c. *fig.*

1608 CHAPMAN *Byron* Plays (Pearson) II. 269 The misling breath of policie.

Mizzlings, obs. form of MEASLINGS.

Mizzly (mi·zli), *a.* [f. MIZZLE *v.*[1] + -Y[1].] Of the nature of, or characterized by 'mizzling'.

1566 J. PARTRIDGE *Plasidas* C iiij b, The deadly shaft through misley cloudes aloft in Skies doe flie. 1666–7 PEPYS *Diary* 24 Jan., It proved dark, and a misly night. 1821 COLERIDGE in *Blackw. Mag.* X. 253 This .. muzzy, mizly morning. 1853 G. J. CAYLEY *Las Alforjas* I. 187 It came on mizzly, and we put on our cloaks. 1866 BLACKMORE *Cradock Nowell* xxii, A mizzly drizzly rain set in.

Mizz-maze, dial. variant of MIZMAZE.

Mizzy (mi·zi). *dial.* Forms: 4 **misy**, 7– **mizzy.** [ME. *misy*, perh. related to OE. *mēos* moss, bog.] A quagmire.

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 749 Þe gome vpon Gryngolet glydez hem vnder, þurȝ mony misy and myre. 1674 RAY *N. C. Words* 33 *Mizzy*, a Quagmire. 1755 in JOHNSON. 1819 J. BUTTERWORTH (Paul Bobbin) *Sequel Lanc. Dial.* 39 (E.D.D.) They draggunt meh .. thro' mizzies. 1882 *Lanc. Gloss.*, *Mizzy*, a soft, boggy place.

‖ **Mna.** [Gr. μνᾶ: see MINA[1].] = MINA[1].

1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 373 A halfe a Mna [*misprr.* Mua; corrected in Errata] of silver. 1737 WHISTON *Josephus, Of Jewish Weights & Meas.* p. cl, Maneh, or Mna—100 Shekels in weight—21,000 grains Troy. Maneh, Mna, or Mina, as a coin = 60 shekels = 7. 10. 0. 1845 *Encycl. Metrop.* I. 444/2 The Greeks had a second pound of 16 physical ounces, called the *mna*, or *mina*.

†**Mnam.** *Obs. rare.* Also NAM. [a. L. *mnam* (Luke xix. 24), accusative of *mnā* MNA.] = MNA.

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. vi. 244 [He] ȝaf þat Mnam to hyun þat ten Mnames hadde.

†**Mnemoneu·tic,** *a. Obs. rare*—[1]. [ad. Gr. *μνημονευτικ-ός* of or for reminding, f. *μνημονεύ-ειν* to remind, f. *μνήμων* (see next).] = MNEMONIC.

1652 URQUHART *Jewel* Wks. (1834) 212 This Mnemoneutick hexameter, *quis, quid, ubi, quibus auxilliis, cur, quomodo, quando.*

Mnemonic (nimo·nik), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. Gr. *μνημονικ-ός*, f. *μνήμον-*, *μνήμων* mindful, f. *μνᾶ-*, *μνᾶσθαι* to remember. Cf. F. *mnémonique*, Sp. *mnemónico*, Pg., It. *mnemonico*, G. *mnemonisch*.]

A. *adj.*

1. Intended to aid the memory; pertaining to mnemonics.

1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.*, *Mnemonic Tables*, among the artifices to assist the memory, this is one of great use. 1866 FELTON *Anc. & Mod. Gr.* I. i. iii. 40 Many of the North American tribes had invented..a set of mnemonic signs, by which the words of popular songs, once learned, could be recalled to the memory. 1870 JEVONS *Elem. Logic* xvi. 141 In the next lesson certain ancient mnemonic lines will be furnished.

2. Of or pertaining to memory.

1825 *Gentl. Mag.* XCV. I. 234 The mnemonic power of the late Professor Porson. 1905 SHERARD *Oscar Wilde* 246 We took immense pleasure in this mnemonic tourney.

B. *sb.* a. A mnemonic device. b. = MNEMONICS.

1858 J. MARTINEAU *Stud. Chr.* 156 Serving the purpose of a theological Mnemonic to those who want a religion ready more than deep. 1836–7 SIR W. HAMILTON *Metaph.* VII. (1859) I. 122 Mnemonic, or the science of the laws of Memory. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 449 The different sounds are best remembered by the mnemonic given by Pitman.

Mnemonical (nimo·nikăl), *a.* [f. Gr. *μνημονικ-ός* (see MNEMONIC) + -AL.] = MNEMONIC *a.* 1.

1661 HARTLIB in *Worthington's Diary* (1855) II. 1. 45 It is the best mnemonical expedient to the acquest of languages. 1701 R. FLEMING *Rise & Fall Rome Papal* (1849) 137 To remember the three heads themselves, with relation to the morning, the day, and the evening, as they are comprehended in these three mnemonical words, propose, reflect, and examine. 1839 HALLAM *Hist. Lit.* II. II. iii. § 14 In these mnemonical treatises he [Bruno] introduced much of his own theoretical philosophy. 1847 EMERSON *Repr. Men, Uses Gt. Men* Wks. (Bohn) I. 287 The history of the universe is symptomatic, and life is mnemonical.

Hence **Mnemo·nicalist** = MNEMONIST; **Mnemo·nically** *adv.*, in a mnemonical manner.

1867 *Q. Rev.* Oct. 427 Each one of these mysterious letters was taken, mnemonically, as the initial of some technical word that indicated one of these four methods. 1887 J. GILLOW *Bibl. Dict. Eng. Cath.* III. 310 Hill, William, mnemonicalist.

Mnemonician (nīmoni·ʃăn). [f. MNEMONIC + -IAN.] = MNEMONIST.

1830 MAUNDER *Treas. Knowl.* I, *Mnemonician*, one skilled in mnemonics.

‖ **Mnemonicon** (nɪmɒ·nikɒn). [Gr. *μνημονικόν*, neut. sing. of *μνημονικός*: see MNEMONIC.] A device to aid the memory.

1858 *Appleton's Cycl.* III. 410 Bode's law is not a law, properly speaking, but simply a mnemonicon for remembering the distances of the planets from the sun.

Mnemonics (nɪmɒ·niks), *sb. pl.* [f. Gr. *μνημονικά*, neut. pl. of *μνημονικός*: see MNEMONIC and -IC 2 (*-ics*). Cf. F. *mnémonique*, Sp. *mnemónica*, Pg., It. *mnemonica*.] The art of refreshing, improving, or developing the memory, *esp.* by artificial aids; a system of precepts and rules intended to aid or improve the memory.

[1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Mnemonica*.] 1721 BAILEY, *Mnemonicks*, Precepts or Rules and common Places to help the Memory. 1755 in JOHNSON. 1824 *Register of Arts & Sci.* I. 46 (*heading of paragraph*) Mnemonicks. 1837 *Pop. Encycl.* V. 6/1 The ancients were well acquainted with mnemonics. 1843 CARLYLE *Past & Pr.* II. xvii, With all conceivable appliances and mnemonics. 1866 BRANDE & COX *Dict. Sci.*, etc., s.v., The common process of tying a knot in a handkerchief, &c., will exemplify the simplest species of mnemonics.

Mnemonist (nɪ·mŏnist). [f. MNEMON-IC + -IST.] One versed in the science of mnemonics; one who teaches how to train and improve the memory, or practises the art of memory.

1863 COOPER in *N. & Q.* 3rd Ser. III. 383 His [*sc.* Fuller's] contemporaries gave him credit for being an accomplished mnemonist. 1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 533/1 Modifications of the systems of Feinaigle and Aimé Paris were advocated by subsequent mnemonists.

Mnemonize (nɪ·mŏnəiz), *v.* [f. MNEMON(IC) + -IZE.] *trans.* To express by a mnemonic formula. Hence **Mnemoniza·tion.**

1845 *N. Amer. Rev.* July 260 This work..contains a series of numbers arranged with the various corresponding words to facilitate the rapid mnemonization of facts. *Ibid.* 263 Twelve fortunate individuals being thus mnemonized into immortality. 1850 P. MILES *Mnemotechny* I. 17 On finding an Event with its Date, that we wish to Mnemonize, or retain in the mind by Mnemotechny, we [etc.].

Mnemotechnic (nɪmɒtɛ·knik), *a.* and *sb. pl.* [f. MNEMOTECHNY + -IC. Cf. F. *mnémotechnique*.]

A. *adj.* = MNEMONIC *a.*

1839 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* II. 437/2 The mnenotechnic [*sic*] rules appended to it. 1844 FAUVEL GOURAUD (*title*) Phreno-mnemotechnic dictionary. 1873 HAMERTON *Intell. Life* III. x. (1875) 128 The mnemotechnic art..may be of some practical use in ordinary life.

B. *sb. pl.* = MNEMONICS. [See -IC 2 (*-ics*).]

1845 FAUVEL GOURAUD in *N. Amer. Rev.* July 262 A gigantic impulse given to mnemotechnics. 1868 D. G. BRINTON *Myths New World* i. (1876) 15 On what principle of mnemotechnics the ideas were connected with the knots and colors we are very much in the dark.

Mnemotechny (nɪ·mɒtekni). [f. Gr. *μνήμη* memory + *-τεχνία*, *τέχνη* art. Cf. F. *mnémotechnie*.] = MNEMONICS.

1845 FAUVEL GOURAUD (*title*) Phreno-mnemotechny, or the art of memory. 1846 WORCESTER, *Mnemotechny*.., the art of memory, or an artificial method of improving the memory. 1850 P. MILES (*title*) Mnemotechny, or Art of Memory, theoretical and practical.

Mo (mōu), *adv.*, quasi-*sb.* and *a.* *Obs.* exc. *Sc.* and *north.* Forms: 1 **má**, *Anglian* **mǽ** (*adv.*); **má** (*adj.*); 2–6 **ma**, 3–6 **maa**, **moo**, (3 **moa**), 4–6 **may**, (6 **maye**, **me**, **mooe**, *Sc.* **mea**, 7 *north.* **meay**), 3–9 **mo**, 5–9 **moe**, 6–9 *Sc.* and *north.* **mae**. [Com. Teut.: OE. *má* corresponds to OFris. *mâ*, *mê* (beside *mâr*, *mêr* adv., influenced by the adj. *mâra*, *mêra* MORE), MDu. *mee* (the MDu., mod.Du. *meer*, OS. *mêr* adv., is influenced by the adj.), OHG., MHG. *mêr* (mod.G. *mehr*; the MHG. *mê*, early mod.G. *meh*, is a shortened form), ON. *meir(r* (Sw., Da. *mer*), Goth. *mais*:—OTeut. **maiz.* The OE. variant *mǽ* has not been accounted for; but cf. OE. *mǽst* MOST *adv.*

According to Brugmann, OTeut. **maiz* is unconnected with L. *mājor*, *magis*, but is the formal equivalent of Oscan *mais*, and represents an Indogermanic type **məis*, formed with comparative suffix *-is* (: **-yes* :*-yōs*) on the root **mə-* (: **mē-*: *mō-*); an ablaut-variant is found in OIrish *māo* more :—**mōyōs.*]

† **A.** *adv.* *Obs.*

1. In or to a greater degree, extent, or quantity. *Mo and mo*: increasingly.

c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* li. 5 Đu lufedes hete ofer freamsumnisse, unrehtwisnisse mae ðon spreocan rehtwisnisse. *c* 888 K. ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxxii. § 3 Hit þær ne weaxð þe ma ðe ȝimmas weaxað on winȝeardum. *a* 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* IV. xxix. (1890) 370 Dæt he..to ðæm upplican lustum ma & ma onbærned wære. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 9 Na ma ne mei me her god don for þere saule þe on þis liue god bi-ȝinnen nalde. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 5532 (Cott.) Þis folk multiplid ai maa [*a* 1425 *Trin.* moo & moo].

2. Longer, further, again, besides. Chiefly qualified by *any*, *no*, *none*; *ever*, *never* = at (any or no) future time. See also EVERMO, NATHEMO, NEVERMO.

c 897 K. ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* lii. 405 Wenestu recce he hire æfre ma? 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 247 Þæt wæter oflan and ma of heora muþe hit ne eode. *c* 1200 ORMIN 4206 Þatt næfre ma ne shall he ben O nane wise filedd. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Wife's Prol.* 691 It is an impossible That any clerk wol speke good of wyues,.. Ne noon oother womman neuer the mo. — *Wife's T.* 8 But now kan no man se none Elues mo. *c* 1440 *Generydes* 2722 Nor let no mo suche thoughtez yow assayle. 1584 PEELE *Arraignm. Paris* v. i, Without mislike or quarrell any moe, Pallas shall rest content. 1591 GREENE *Maiden's Dr.* xv, No foreign wit could Hatton's overgo: Yet to a friend wise, simple, and no mo. *a* 1619 FLETCHER, etc. *Q. Corinth* III. ii. Song, Grief is but a wound to woe; Gent'lest fair, mourne, mourne no moe. 1812 BYRON *Ch. Har.* I. xciii, Ve..Shall find some tidings in a future page, If he that rhymeth now may scribble moe.

B. quasi-*sb.* [These uses originated from the adv., but from the point of view of the later language those that survived may be regarded as elliptical uses of the adj.]

† **1.** With partitive genitive sing.: Something in addition; an additional quantity or amount. *Obs.*

a 1000 *Andreas* 1443 (Gr.) No þe laðes ma þurh daroða ȝedrep ȝedon motan, þa þe heardra mæst hearma ȝefremedan. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 564 (Jesus MS.) Hwat dostu godes among monne? Na mo þene doþ a wrecche wrenne.

† **2.** A greater number; more individuals of the kind specified or implied. Const. *than*. *Obs.*

In OE., a verb to which *má* is the subject is put in the singular. Subsequently, *mo* in this sense was treated as an adj. with ellipsis of a plural sb, and therefore takes a plural vb.

a. In early use, with partitive genitive plural; later, const. *of*.

a 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* II. ii. (1890) 102 Mid þy eower ma is. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 61, & weana ma þonne ænniges mannes ȝemet sy þæt hie ariman mæȝe. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 27 Ma monna ic scolde biȝeten swa. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 576 Of maistres hadde he mo than thries ten. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* II. 192 Off ws thai haiff wndoyne may than ynew. 1546 LANGLEY *Pol. Verg. De Invent.* VII. vi. 144 b, Of these valiant beggers there be in euery place mo then a great meny. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* iv. 29 Ther is maye of the sect of sardanapalus amang vs, nor ther is of scipions. 1630 tr. *Camden's Hist. Eliz.* I. 19 The Papists murmured, 'That moe of the Protestants were chosen of set purpose'.

† **b.** Without partitive genitive or its equivalent. Often = more persons. † *Mo twice*: twice as many. *Obs.*

a 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* I. xi. [xiv.] (1890) 48 Þæt heora monige heora feondum on hand eodan; & ȝyt ma wæs þe þæt don ne wolde. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 141 And muchele mo fared on þisse sæ; þat is on þisse worelde, fuliende þe leome of penitence..þane don þe leome of maiðhod. *c* 1205 LAY. 12036 Heo..isezen scipen an & an while ma [*c* 1275 mo] while nan. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 42 Her siggeð fifti auez, oþer an hundred, oðer mo oðer les. *Ibid.* 74 Mo sleað word þene sweord. *a* 1300 *K. Horn* 864 Her buþ paens arined, Wel mo þane fine. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* X. 113 And I haiff seyn may twys in to Scotland, With ȝon ilk king. 1563 WINȜET *Four Scoir Thre Quest.* Wks. (S. T. S.) I. 129 In mony places thryse in ye oulk, and in fer may nocht anis in the moneth. 1594 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* I. x. § 2 Unto life many implements are necessary; moe, if we seek..such a life as [etc.].

† **c.** *The mo*: the majority, the greater part. *Obs.*

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 58, & for he had þe treuth, on his side were þe mo. 1399 LANGL. *Rich. Redeles* IV. 86 Some helde with the mo how it euere wente. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* V. vii. 522 The mo of the peple. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 173 b, Crisostom answereth. Before the mo he hath spoken euyll of the. 1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* I. xv. (Arb.) 48 Some men among the moe became mighty and famous in the world.

† **d.** Phrases. *And mo, or mo*: and, or a larger number than that specified. (Frequently used to express an indefinite excess over a number stated approximately.) Similarly, *One or mo*. *Obs.*

a 1000 *Elene* 634 (Gr.) Is nu worn sceacen .cc. [*sc.* wintra] oððe mа ȝeteled rime. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 135 His michelnesse was unhiled on ten fold wise and mo. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 313/490 For þe man þat miȝte go euereche daye fourty mile, and ȝeot sumdel mo. *c* 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 613 He..redily ȝaf him..Ten schilinges and ma. *c* 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 970 His scheild he chopit hym fra In tuenty pecis and ma. 1473 *Exch. Rolls Scott.* VIII. 153 *note*, To mak and depute subtennandis undir him in the said landis ane or maa as he thinkis maste expedient. 1599 *Act Sed.* 3 Nov. (1790) 30 That the secretarie..mak and constitut particular deputts, ane or mae. 1617–18 W. LAWSON *Orch. & Gard.* Pref. (1623) A iij b, A.. way of planting, which I haue found good by 48. yeeres (and moe) experience.

† **e.** In phrases of which the proverb *the mo the merrier* is the type. *Obs.*

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XIV. 273 The mа thai be, The mair honour allout haue we. 1529 S. FISH *Supplic. Beggers* (1871) 13 To make many hospitals for..poore people? Nay truely. The moo the worse. 1571 DIGGES *Pantom.* I. vii. C iv b, So haue ye the sides of your scale eche to be deuided in 12. 60. 100. 1000. poynts.. the mo the more commodious. *a* 1575 GASCOIGNE *Posies, Flowers* 30 And mo the merrier is a Prouerbe eke. 1684 G. MERITON *Yorksh. Dial.* 64 Meay the merryer, but fewer better Fair.

† **f.** *Mo and mo*: used to express a progressive increase in numbers. *Obs.*

c 1205 LAY. 18276 Auer þer comen ma & ma and ferden touward Octa. 1530 PALSGR. 707/1 Sythe we used to scourge beggars out of towne, we have ever sythe had mo and mo.

3. Other individuals of the kind specified; other persons or things in addition to those mentioned. Const. *than*, *save*, *but*. See also NO MO.

In the combinations *many mo*, *a hundred mo*, etc., *mo* admits of being taken as adv.: see A 1. So also in the modern *no mo*, which must not be confounded with the OE. *ná má*, where *ná* = 'not', and *má* might be referred to sense B 2. (The first quot. may belong to A. 2.)

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gram.* xiv. (Z.) 262 Donatus telð ȝyt ma to ðisum: *ni*, *nisi*, sed. *Ibid.* 89 [see NO MO]. *c* 1200 ORMIN 15496 Þuss wrohhte þær þe Laferrd Crist..biss firssте takenn, & affterr þatt he wrohhte ma. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 328 Þis beoð nu nie reisuns, & monie moa þer beoð. *c* 1275 *Passion our Lord* 686 in *O. E. Misc.* 56 Nerun and Dacyen and mo þet beoþ vor-lorene. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 870, & wyth hym maydennez an hundreþe þowsande & fowre & forty þowsande mo. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 3023 He was not sole, for ther was mo. 1413 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton 1483) IV. vii. 61 This fayre grene appel tree..said..I ne bere neuer no mo but this one appel. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* iii. 152 Take..of ich kynd beestis two, Mayll & femayll, but no mo. 1540 J. HEYWOOD *Four P. P.* A j b, Yet haue I been at Rome also And gone the stacions all arowe, Saynt Peters shryne and many mo. 1594 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* II. vii. § 2 The Chronicles of England mention no moe than only six kings bearing the name of Edward. 1597 *Ibid.* V. lxxviii. § 12 The ancientest of the Fathers mention those three degrees of Ecclesiastical order specified and no moe. 1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* II. xv. § 3 And besides which axioms, there are divers moe. 1641 C. BURGES *Serm.* 5 Nov. 3 In all which places, and many moe, the Originall word is [etc.]. 1725 RAMSAY *Gentle Sheph.* IV. i, But first I'll Roger raise, and twa three mae, To catch her fast. 1785 BURNS *Death & Dr. Hornbook* xxii, Forbye some new, uncommon weapons..Sal-alkali o' Midge-tail clippings, And mony mae. 1844 W. JAMIE *Muse of Mearns* 71 (E. D. D.) Several mae that I did ken.

b. const. *of*.

1562 TURNER *Baths* 13 Other writers give a geat deale mo of properties unto this bath. 1583 *Leg. Bp. St. Androis* 614 Of honest men he had na mea. 1724 in Calderwood *Dying Testimonies* (1806) 232 Would you open moe of their eyes. 1856 G. HENDERSON *Pop. Rhymes etc. Berw.* 14 Need I mention ony mae..O' the honest men o' the day.

† **c.** Phrases: *Withouten mo, but ma* (Sc.) = only, alone. *Obs.*

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 311/418 Þat euerech of heom [*sc.* firmament] i-wis, One steorre hath with-oute mo þat planete i-cleoped is. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 13489 Fiue laues and fisches tua, Bot quat don þai, wit-vten maa? 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* II. 9 For he wald in his chambre be..in priuate, With him a clerk, for-owtyn ma. *c* 1440 *Generydes* 2682 It is your loue, quod she, withoute moo. 1560 ROLLAND *Crt. Venus* Prol. 88 On ane of thame alluterlie, but ma. *a* 1600 MONTGOMERIE *Misc. Poems* vii. 46 O worthie wicht both wyse and womanlie! O myn but mo!

C. *adj.* = MORE *a.*

[In OE. the construction of *má* with a partitive genitive (see B 1, 2) was sometimes inconvenient, because the sb. which was felt to be virtually the subject or object of the verb, or the regimen of the prep., did not show the nature of this relation by its inflexion. Hence the genitive was occas. replaced by the case in which the sb. would have stood if *má* had been absent, or (to express the same thing in another way) the sb. was placed in apposition with *má*. In this way *má* became practically an indeclinable adj.]

1. (With a sb. in *sing.*) **a.** As the comparative of MUCH: More or greater in amount or quantity. **b.** Additional, further.

This use has always been rare, and perhaps the later examples may be due to mere inadvertence.

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 231 Ac ma wen is þæt þu onsende þinne engel, se hit mæȝ hraðlicor ȝeferan. *Ibid.* 247 Ara nu .. and ma wæter of þinum muþe þu ne send. *c* 1275 *Passion our Lord* 317 in *O. E. Misc.* 46 Hwat abyde ye nuþe to habben mo wytnesse. 14.. *Lett. Marg. Anjou & Bp. Beckington* (Camden) 69 For their moe surete, ye do the said B. and his servants to be bounden to us. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* III. 347 With small power rydand furth the way, This Striuiling,..With far ma power hes him vmbeset. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* v. i. 234 With..noyses Of roring,.. gingling chaines, And mo diuersitie of sounds. 1650 SLINGSBY *Diary* (1836) 342 Never thirstinge ambissciously after more honor nor covetously of moe estate. 1893 *Northumbld. Gloss.* s.v. *Mae*, The mae pairt on them wis gan back agyen.

2. As the comparative of MANY: More in number (as distinguished from *more*, greater in amount or quantity). Const. *than*, *nor*; also negatively with *but*. Frequently qualified by *many*, also by *far*, *well*. Rarely put after the *sb.*

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 27 And forgiue us ure gultes þe we hauen don .. and ofte .. and muchele mo siðe þanne we seȝen muȝen. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 21883 Bot ai þe ma takens we se, Ai þe warr warnist ar we. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* VII. lxvi. (1495) 282 The female serpentes haue moo teeth than males. 1481 CAXTON *Reynard* (Arb.) 7 Ye haue byten and nypte myn vncle..many mo tymes than I can telle. 1530 RASTELL *Bk. Purgat.* I. xiii, There be no mo Goddys but one. *a* 1641 BP. MOUNTAGU *Acts & Mon.* (1642) 28 Bookes of moe sorts then one. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* VIII. ii. § 16 According to the rules of proportion, who could expect otherwise, but, the moe men, the moe Martyrs? 1737 RAMSAY *Sc. Prov.* (1750) 5 A fair maiden tocherless will get mae wooers than husbands. 1868 J. SALMON *Gowodean* III. ii, Ane maun keep mony mae cracks to their sel',..than abroad they tell.

† **b.** Phrases. *Mo..than one or two, two or three, mo..than enough. Obs.*

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 730 He sleped in his yrnes Mo nyȝtez þen in-noghe in naked rokkez. *c* 1500 *Lancelot* 1197 The lady said, 'Per dee, He vsyt haith mo horses than one or two'. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* lxxi. 4 ȝeiris and dayis mo than two or thre.

† **c.** predicatively. *Obs.*

a 1300 *E. E. Psalter* xv. 2 Tille haleghs þat in land are ma, He selkouthed alle mi willes in þa. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XI. 636 His fayis ar ma Than he. *a* 1400 *Sir Perc.* 926 He was ferde lesse my sonnes sold hym slo, Whenne thay ware eldare and moo. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* I. 163 Erthly bestys..bryng ye furth and wax ye mo. *c* 1460 FORTESCUE *Abs. & Lim. Mon.* V. (1885) 119 How be it thai [*sc.* harms] hith mony mo than we haue shewid yet. 1567 *Cal. Laing Charters* (1899) 208 Becawse thai war fer may nor he was, he mycht nocht stope thaim. 1611 BIBLE *Ps.* lxiv. 4 They that hate mee without a cause are moe then the haires of mine head. 1624 BP. MOUNTAGU *Gagg* 32 Ecclesiasticall constitutions are moe, more certaine; of the same authority with the Churches written Lawes. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* II. ii. § 6 Seeing you are moe in Number.

3. Additional to the number specified; further, other.

Forming an adjunct to a sb. pl., often qualified by an indefinite adj. as *many*, *any*, etc., or by a definite numeral adj. as *one*, *two*, etc.

c 1000 Ælfric *Gram.* viii. (Z.) 32 Þus byð eac on ma stowum. *c* 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 335 Þe fairest hauke he gan ta Þat tristrem wan Þat day; Wiþ him he left ma Pans for to play. 1382 Wyclif *Ruth* i. 11 Y haue no mo sonys in my wombe. *c* 1449 Pecock *Repr.* II. xi. 215 Thou3 ther wer x. thousind mo bokis writun in Londoun..of the same Seintis lijf. *c* 1483 Caxton *Dialogues* 30/24 Make the ynche to seethe, And put therin mo galles And more substance. 1564 Bulleyn *Dial. agst. Pest.* 4 b, [A beggar from Redesdale (Northumberland) says:] Besides vs pakers, many me men haue gud lucke. *c* 1600 Montgomerie *Cherrie & Slae* 847 Thair be mae sences than the sicht. 1613 Shaks. *Hen. VIII*, III. ii. 5 You shall sustaine moe new disgraces, With these you beare alreadie. *a* 1649 Drumm. of Hawth. *Poems* Wks. (1711) 2 Day shall hut serve moe sorrows to display. 1721 Ramsay *Prospect of Plenty* 206 For rowth shall cherish love, and love shall bring Mae men t' improve the soil. 1813 E. Picken *Misc. Poems* I. 151 Gie's nae mae sic wither-shins.

†**b.** put after a sb. pl.; also with a sb. sing. preceded by *many a*, and negatively. † *Times mo*, at other times. *Obs.*

c 1200 Ormin 8157, & 3et he haffde suness ma Acc himm he 3aff Þatt crune. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 3210 Sex scor and seuen yeir liued sarra And deid wit-outen childer ma. *a* 1300 *Fatl & Passion* 11 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 13 And in to helle sone he liȝte an wiþ him mani an mo. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 26 After nyen & twenty 3ere þe dede him hiþen nam, & sex monethes mo. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Clerk's T.* 393 Ther fil, as it bifalleth tymes mo [etc.]. 1423 Jas. I *Kingis Q.* xlii, I..sawe hir walk..With no wight mo, bot onely wommen tueyne. *c* 1440 *Generydes* 1964 After hym ther came ij kynggez moo. 15.. *Adam Bel* 538 in Ritson *Anc. Pop. P.* 25 Syr, they be slayne,..And many an officer mo. 1579 Spenser *Sheph. Cal.* June 57, I sawe Calliope wyth Muses moe .. Theyr yvory Luyts .. forgoe. *a* 1584 Montgomerie *Cherrie & Slae* 20, I saw the cunning and the cat,..With mony beistis mo.

†**c.** with a sb. pl. qualified by *other* or with *other* used absolutely. *Obs.*

c 1290 *Beket* 571 in *S. Eng. Leg.*, Seint Thomas grauntede bluþeliche þeos [*sc.* laws] and oþure mo. *Ibid.* 2079 Ofte ich habbe þe guod i-do and manie othure mo. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 14449 Lazar þat ded was..he raisid, and oþer maa. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 181 Tuo Cardinals he hath assissed With othre lordes many mo. *c* 1400 *Apol. Lollt.* 79 And þis inconuenient mai not be voydid wt mani moo oþer. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* I. viii. 45 Kyng Lot and mo other called hym a wytche. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* III. iv. 6 The cruell Celeno, With all the vtheris Harpyis mony mo. 1545 Ascham *Toxoph.* I. (Arb.) 27 And infinite other mo lettes. 1622 Witner *Chr. Carol* 87 Some others play at Rowland-hoe And twenty other Gameboys moe. 1652 C. B. Stapylton *Herodian* XVII. 144 These Countries got he left unto his heires, With other moe.

¶ **4.** *Mo and less*: misused for *more and less* in reference to condition or rank. *Obs. rare*$^{-1}$.

1426 Audelay *Poems* 80 Fore thi-self furst thou pray .. And fore men and women mo and lees.

‖ **Moa** (mōu·ă). [Maori.] A bird of the genus Dinornis, formerly inhabiting New Zealand.

[1820 *Gram. & Voc. New Zealand Lang.* 181 *Móe O'*, a bird so called.] 1842 Bp. Williams in *Trans. Zool. Soc.* (1844) III. 237 The Natives told me of some extraordinary monster which they said was in existence,..to which they gave the name of 'Moa'. 1862 Dana *Man. Geol.* 578 The Moa (*Dinornis giganteus*) of New Zealand exceeded the ostrich in size. 1880 *Daily Tel.* 20 Sept., The other Barons are doomed, and will ere long be an extinct species, like the moa.

Moab (mōu·æb). *University slang.* ? *Obs.* [See quot.; at Winchester College *Moab* is the name for the lavatories.] A kind of hat: see quot. 1865.

1865 *Slang Dict.*, *Moab*, a name applied to the turban-shaped hat fashionable among ladies, and ladylike swells of the other sex, in 1858–9. From the Scripture phrase 'Moab is my washpot' (Ps. lx. 8), which article the hat in question is supposed to resemble.—*University*. 1884 *Graphic* 20 Sept. 307/2 His stiff brown 'Moab' of the newest fashion.

Moabite (mōu·ăbəit), *sb.* and *a.* [ad. L. *Mōabīta* (Gr. Μωαβίτης, repr. Heb. מוֹאָבִי *mōābī*), f. *Moab*: see -ITE.] **A.** *sb.*

1. One of the people of Moab, which bordered on the territory of the trans-Jordanic Israelites. In 16–17th c. occas. applied opprobriously to Roman Catholics.

1382 Wyclif *Deut.* xxiii. 3 Amonytis and Moabites [so all later versions]..shulen not goon into the chirche of the Lord. 1567 *Gude & Godlie Ball.* (S.T.S.) 104 Ze Moabitis, with hornis twa ful hie, Outwart, lyke scheip, ze beir the beistis mark. *a* 1623 W. Pemble *Justif.* III. iii. (1629) 111 That doctrine is part of the dregs of corrupted nature, maintained by Popish Moabites. 1903 G. Matheson *Repr. Men Bible* II. 66 The Moabite worshipped the physically beautiful.

2. *slang.* (See quots.)

a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew*, *Moabites*, Serjeants, Bailiffs and their Crew. 1725 in *New Cant. Dict.* 1823 'Jon Bee' *Dict. Turf* 210 *Moabites*, bailiffs and their followers.

B. *adj.* Pertaining to Moab or the Moabites.

The Moabite stone, a monument erected by Mesha king of Moab *c* 850 B.C., which furnishes the earliest known inscription in the Phoenician alphabet.

1870 C. D. Ginsburg (*title*) The Moabite Stone; a facsimile of the original inscription. 1883 *Athenæum* 1 Sept. 275/3 It is not to be supposed that because Berlin was taken in by the Moabite pottery, Dr. Lepsius would wish Bloomsbury to be deceived into buying a forged Deuteronomy.

Hence **Mo·abitess**, a woman of the Moabites; **Moabitio** (mōu·ăbi·tik), **Mo·abitish** (-əitiʃ) *adjs.*, of or pertaining to or resembling the Moabites.

1530 Coverdale *Ruth* ii. 6 The damsell the Moabitisse. 1611 Bible *ibid.*, The Moabitish damosell. 1882–3 Schaff *Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* II. 1540 The Moabitic worship.

Moag, variant of Mogue *v. dial.*

†**Moaks.** *Obs.* Pl. **moakses.** [repr. OE. *máx*, *másc-*, recorded only in Comb.: see Mash *sb.*1] A mash in brewing.

1703 Sir J. More *Eng. Interest* iv. 62 Two Moakses will ..take out the strength of your Malt. *Ibid.* 68 Lade or Pump out your Second Liquor..on your Moaks. 1728 Bailey, *Moaks*, a mashing in brewing Drink.

†**Moal.** *Obs.* Also 3 mal. [a. ON. *mál* = OE. *mǽl*: see Mail *sb.*2] Language, speech.

c 1200 Ormin 4270 Forr Jesuss o Grickisshe mal Onn Ennglissh iss Hælennde. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 81 Ðes frenkis men o france moal, it nemnen 'un iur natural'.

Moal(e, obs. forms of Mole.

Moa·ler. Some kind of railway lamp.

1843 Meeson & Welsby *Exchequer Cases* (1845) XII. 33 Scott *v.* The Eastern Counties Railway Company...On the 18th May, 1841, the defendants .. agreed to purchase .. one triangular lamp,..twelve moaler lamps, four square lamps, two new side lamps [etc.]. *Ibid.* 35 The moaler, the square, and the new side lamps were delivered..and paid for.

Moam(e, obs. forms of Mome.

Moan (mōun), *sb.* Forms: 3 man, 3–4 mon, mane, 3–7 mone, 4–6 moon(e, 5–7 moane, (5 moyn), 5– moan; *Sc.* 4–6 mayn(e, 5–9 mane, 8 main, 9 maen. [app. repr. an unrecorded OE. **mán*:—prehistoric OE. **main-*, whence **mainjan*, OE. *mænan* Mean *v.*2

The sb. cannot well be identified with OE. *mán* wickedness (though the cognate ON. *mein* has the sense of 'hurt'); perhaps its phonetic coincidence with this may be the cause of its being unrecorded in OE. The word has app. no cognates in Teut. or elsewhere, as there seems to be no sufficient ground for etymologically identifying its derivative OE. *mænan* to complain (Mean *v.*2) with *mænan* to intend, mean, speak of (Mean *v.*1).]

1. Complaint, lamentation; an instance of this, a complaint, lament. Chiefly in phr. *To make* (*one's*) *moan*: const. *of* and with *obj. clause*. Now always apprehended as a transferred use of sense 2.

For † *to mean one's moan*, see Mean *v.*2 1 b.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 418 Þis is lodlich þing hwon me makeð mone in tune of ancre eihte. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 96/140 And huy afenge þe deth for godes loue: with-oute anie mone. *c* 1290 *Beket* 1264 *ibid.*, To þe we comieth to make ore mone: of strong lif þat we ledez. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 16865 Noiþer þai gaf man, ne tok emsample gode þar-bi. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxvi. (*Nycholas*) 1137 Pane in his hart he mad mayne & sichit sare. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xii. xxvii. (1495) 430 The kite seketh his meete wepynge wyth voys of pleynynge and of moon. 1413 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton 1483) I. xv. 9, I not to whome to make my mone to. *c* 1450 Holland *Howlat* 41, I herd ane petuoss appele, with ane pur mane, Solpit in sorowe. *a* 1553 Udall *Royster D.* I. ii. (Arb.) 15 Of loue I make my mone. 1572 in Digges *Compl. Ambass.* (1655) 343 There is very great moan made for the loss of Monsieur D'Candales. 1591 Shaks. *Two Gent.* II. iii. 33 Marke the moane she makes. 1720 De Foe *Capt. Singleton* i. (1840) 18 A carpenter..made such pitiful moan to be taken in. 1832 Tennyson *Miller's Dau.* vi, And oft I heard the tender dove In firry woodlands making moan. 1832 — *Mariana in South* i, But 'Ave Mary', made she moan. *Ibid.* vii, 'The day to night', she made her moan. 1853 Lynch *Self-Improv.* vi. 135 The moan of the idle about circumstance. 1876 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* V. xxiii. 159 In Henry's days the people made their moan that they were ground down.

Comb. 1598 Florio, *Querela*, a complaint, a moane-making.

†**b.** A state of grief or lamentation. *Obs.*

1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* lxxiv. 31 Behald my mayne, and mwrning merwalous. 1560 Ingeleno *Disob. Child* G iij, Thou maiest learne what griefe, sorowe and mone, Socrates had with Xantippa his wyfe. 1591 Shaks. 1 *Hen. VI*, II. iii. 44 Thy mirth shall turne to moane. 1600 Dekker *Gentle Craft* Wks. 1873 I. 49 T'would kill my soule to leave thee drownd in mone. 1631 Milton *Epitaph M'ness Winchester* 55 Here be tears of perfect moan Weept for thee in Helicon.

2. In mod. use, with onomatopœic suggestion: A prolonged low inarticulate murmur indicative of physical or mental suffering.

Differing from *groan* in that it suggests a sound less harsh and deep, and produced rather by continuous pain than by a particular access or paroxysm.

1673 Milton *Sonn., Massacre in Piedmont*, Avenge O Lord thy slaughter'd Saints... Their moans The Vales redoubl'd to the Hills. 1708 Pope *Ode St. Cecilia* 60 Sullen moans, Hollow groans, And cries of tortured ghosts! 1789 Blake *Songs Innoc., Cradle Song*, Sweet moans, dove-like sighs. 1808 J. Mayne *Siller Gun* IV. viii, John answer'd only wi' his tears, Or made a maen! [1836, III. vii, mane.] 1864 Tennyson *Boädicea* 25 Phantom sound of blows descending, moan of an enemy massacred.

b. *transf.* of the low, plaintive sound produced by the wind, water, etc.

1813 Scott *Trierm.* III. Introd. iii, See how the little runnels leap, In threads of silver, down the steep, To swell the brooklet's moan! 1832 Tennyson *Pal. Art* 280 [He] hears the low Moan of an unknown sea. 1860 Tyndall *Glac.* I. xxvii. 211 The moan of the adjacent pines chimed in noble harmony.

Moan (mōun), *v.* Forms: (? 5), 6–7 mone, (? 5 moone), 6–7 moane, 6– moan, 9 *Sc.* mane, maen. [f. the sb., a new formation taking the place of the older Mean *v.*2

It is doubtful whether the vb. *moan* occurs before the 16th c. *Mone* is often a misprint or editorial misreading for *moue* = move; in other instances the rimes show that the word is Mone *v.* (= *mun*). The two 15th c. instances here given may be genuine, but possibly the true readings are *mene*, *mournyd*.]

1. *trans.* To complain of, lament (something); to lament for (a dead person); to bemoan, bewail. Const. with simple object and object clause.

[1471: see Moaned *ppl.a.*] *a* 1548 Hall *Chron.*, *Hen. VIII* 68 b, Their fall was litle moned emong wise men. 1605 Stow *Ann.* 780 This man was greatly moaned of the people. *a* 1677 Barrow *Serm.* Wks. 1716 II. 38 Doth not every man moan the scantness of his lot? 1749 Smollett *Regicide* III. ii, The sick Wretch who moan'd the tedious Night. 1816 Scott *Antiq.* xl, Na, na, I maun never maen doing and suffering for the Countess Joscelin. 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* xiv, She..bitterly moaned the fickleness of her Matilda.

†**b.** *refl.* To lament or bewail one's lot, to 'make one's moan'; = Mean *v.*2 2 d. Const. *to*. *Obs.*

c 1425 *Castle Persev.* 1632 in *Macro Plays* 125 Mankynde! take kepe of chastyte, & mone [*printed* moue; *but cf. quots. under* Mean *v.*2] þee to maydyn Marye. 1548 Cranmer *Catech.* 148 b, God hath commaunded us to..mone ourselues to him in all our troubles and aduersities. 1642 Rogers *Naaman* 48 You should rouze up yourselves and moan yourselves to the Lord.

†**2.** To condole with (a person); to pity. *Obs.*

1593 *Tell-Troth's N. Y. Gift* (1876) 24 He looked to have his wife rebuked and himselfe moned. 1596 Danett tr. *Comines* (1614) 332 If this misery had fallen but vpon them only that made this composition, they had not been greatly to be moned. 1669 Dryden *Wild Gallant* III. i, *Non.* What! Does he take no pity on me? *Const.* Prithee moane him Isabelle.

3. *intr.* To make complaint or lamentation. Const. *of*, *for*. Now only *arch.* or *poet.*, coloured by association with sense 4.

1593 Q. Eliz. *Boethius* I. pr. v. 15 Of our complaynt [thou] haste moned [L. *doluisti*], & bewaylde the wrack of estymations Loste. 1593 Shaks. *Lucr.* 977 Let there bechance him pitifull mischances, To make him mone. 1650 *Sc. Metr. Psalms* cii. 6, I like an owl in desert am, that nightly there doth moan. 1725 Pope *Odyss.* XI. 100 Still as I spoke the phantom seem'd to moan, Tear followed tear, and groan succeeded groan. 1833 Tennyson *May Queen* Conclus. xiv, And what is life, that we should moan? 1855 Baimley *Ess.*, *Angel in Ho.* 206 We listen to the fierce Achilles moaning for his lost mistress.

†**b.** *trans.* (*causatively*) To cause to lament, to grieve (a person). *Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. (Perh. *moans* is a misreading for *moves*.)

a 1625 Fletcher, etc. *Fair Maid Inn.* v. i, And yet my wife (which infinitly moanes me) Intends [etc.].

4. *intr.* To make a low mournful sound indicative of physical or mental suffering. Cf. Moan *sb.* 2.

1724 [see Moaning *vbl. sb.*]. 1798 Wordsw. *We are seven* xiii, In bed she moaning lay. 1819 Shelley *Cenci* III. ii. 79 The house-dog moans, and the beams crack. 1828 D'Israeli *Chas. I*, II. x. 245 The King..throwing himself on the bed ..passionately moaned, shedding abundant tears. 1871 R. Ellis tr. *Catullus* lxiv. 119 Mother, who o'er that child moan'd desperate, all heartbroken.

b. *transf.* of inanimate things.

1805 Scott *Last Minstr.* I. xii, She sits..And listens to a heavy sound That moans the mossy turrets round. 1851 Kingsley *Song, Three Fishers*, For men must work .. Though the harbour bar be moaning. 1902 A. B. Davidson *Called of God* x. 267 You hear..the forests moan.

5. *trans.* To utter moaningly. Also with *forth*.

1819 Keats *St. Agnes* xxxiv, Fair Madeline began to weep And moan forth witless words. 1822 Shelley *Dirge*, Rough wind, that moanest loud Grief too sad for song. 1859 Tennyson *Guinevere* 130 And in herself she moan'd 'Too late, too late!' 1878 Browning *La Saisiaz* 75 Melodious moaned the other 'Dying day with dolphin-hues.'

Hence † **Moaned** *ppl. a.*, lamented.

1471 Sir J. Paston in *P. Lett.* III. 4 Ther was kyllyd uppon the ffelde..Sir Omffrey Bowghsher off owr contre, whyche is a sore moonyd man her.

Moanful (mōu·nfŭl), *a.* [f. Moan *sb.* + -ful.]

1. Full of moaning or lamentation; expressing lamentation or grief. Said of a person, his actions, etc., hence of a melody, song, etc., plaintive, moumful, sad. Now somewhat *rare*.

a 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* I. (1598) 83 Now ceasse we to wearie the hearers With monefull melodies, for enough our griefes be reuealed. *Ibid.* IV. (1629) 414 But in such monefull march, they went towards the other Shepheards. 1586 Warner *Alb. Eng.* I. iv, He saw a monefull sort of people. *a* 1677 Barrow *Wks.* (1686) II. 483 Do not (saith S. James) grudge (or make moanfull complaint) against one another. [Cf. quot. *a* 1677 under Moanfully *adv.*] 1714 Gay *Sheph. Week, Past.* iii. 26 Sparabella..Did this sad Plaint in moanful Notes devise. 1837 Carlyle *Misc. Ess., Diam. Neckl.* (1840) V. 104 He..sobbing out the moanfulest broken howl, sank down in swoon. 1855 *Fraser's Mag.* LI. 95, I sang upon the linden like a moanful nightingale.

†**2.** Fraught with or causing lamentation. *Obs.*

1573 Twyne *Æneid* XII. Nn iij, And houses to deface, and monefull mariages to make. *a* 1660 Hammond *Wks.* (1684) IV. 580 Look upon all the sad moneful objects in the world. 1662 Hickeringill *Apol. Distressed Innoc.* Wks. 1716 I. 314 'Tis a sad Conscience that can joy at the thoughts of this days moanful Remembrance.

Hence **Moa·nfully** *adv.*

1621 Lady M. Wroth *Urania* 189 Monefully she would sit, dayes without words. *a* 1677 Barrow *Wks.* (1687) I. 286 Do not (saith S. James) moanfully complain one against another. [Cf. *James* v. 9 Μὴ στενάζετε κατ' ἀλλήλων.]

Moanifica·tion. *nonce-wd.* [see -fication.] The action of 'making moan'.

1827 B. Hall *Diary* in Lockhart *Scott* xxv. (1881) 891 When he saw that we had no intention of making any attempt at sympathy or moanification.

Moaning (mōᵾ·nin), *vbl. sb.* [-ING I.] The action of the verb MOAN, in various senses.

a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* I. xi. (1590) 44 Palladius..besought her for her promise sake, to put silence so longe vnto her moning. 1648 OWEN *Righteous Zeal Encouraged* Wks. 1851 VIII. 143 Hence his complaints, hence his moanings. 1724 RAMSAY *Vision* vi, Thy graneing, and maneing, Have laitlie reich'd myne eir. 1744 ARMSTRONG *Preserv. Health* IV. 151 Nor to the rivulet's lonely moanings tune Your sad complaint. 1855 BAIN *Senses & Int.* II. ii. § 9 (1864) 216 The moaning of the wind is due to the waxing and waning of the intensity of the sound. 1889 TENNYSON *Crossing the Bar*, And may there be no moaning of the bar, When I put out to sea. 1904 *Expositor* Mar. 198 The self-commiserating moanings of the modern lyrics of pessimism.

Moaning (mōᵾ·nin), *ppl. a.* [f. MOAN *v.* + -ING 2.] That moans.

a 1800 J. WARTON *Ode on Shooting*, Linnet, or warbling thrush, or moaning dove. 1829 F. GLASSE *Belgic Past., True Lover* 141 A sighing, moaning, am'rous youth. 1830 TENNYSON *Poems* 97 On the black and moaning sea. 1859 KINGSLEY *Misc.* (1860) II. 281 The soft melancholy alto of the moaning woods.

Hence **Moa·ningly** *adv.*

1837 VERLANDER *Vestal*, etc. 80 Hark! the sad voic'd bell ..now rolling Moaningly and low. 1844 DICKENS *Mart. Chuz.* xv, High over her they [*sc.* waves] break,..and giving place to others, moaningly depart. 1857 *Fraser's Mag.* LVI. 489 The rain welters moaningly.

Moanless (mōᵾ·nlĕs), *a.* [f. MOAN *sb.* + -LESS.] Without a moan.

1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* VI. xxi, Thus, motionless, and moanless, drew His parting breath, stout Roderick Dhu!

Moansome (mōᵾ·nsŏm), *a. nonce-wd.* [f. MOAN *v.* + -SOME.] = MOANFUL.

1883 JEAN INGELOW in *Longm. Mag.* Sept. 533 While lovesome and moansome thereon spake and falter'd the dove to the dove.

† **Moa·nworthy**, *a. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [MOAN *sb.*] Worthy of lament.

1540 PALSGR. *Acolastus* D iij, This was his moneworthy communication .i. this was his pituous tale worthye to be bewayled or lamented.

Moap, obs. form of MOPE *v.*

‖ **Moar** (mōər). Also **moor**. [Manx = Irish and Gaelic *maor*: see MAYOR 3.] (See quots.)

1656 J. CHALONER *Descr. Isle of Man* 17 Of which [courts], the Moors which are the Lords Bayliffs of the Land, give Summons. 1702 W. SACHEVERELL *Acc. Isle of Man* 2 The Towns [are govern'd] by the 4 Constables; and the Civil Constitution, by two Deemsters, 6 Coroners, 17 Moars, or Bayliffs, with several other inferiour Officers. 1811 J. JOHNSON *Jurispr. Isle of Man* 82 There is also in each parish in the island, an ancient officer called a Moar, who collects the rents and fines due to the lord [etc.].

Moar(e, obs. forms of MOOR, MORE.

Moarish(e, obs. forms of MOORISH.

Moary, obs. form of MOORY *a.*

† **Moashy.** *Obs. rare*⁻¹. Some kind of fur.

1619 MIDDLETON *Tri. Love & Antiq.* D, Lamb, Wolf, Fox, Leopard, Minck, Stote, Miniuer, Racoone, Moashye, Wolnerin, Caliber.

Moat (mōᵾt), *sb.*¹ Forms: 4–8 mote, 4–6 (9 *dial.*) mot, 5–6 moote, 6 moate, 7 moat. [ME. *mote*, *mot*, app. identical with MOTE *sb.*¹ mound, embankment, a. OF. *mote*, *motte*.

The development of the sense 'ditch' from that of 'embankment' (for which cf. DIKE *sb.*, DAM *sb.*¹) may have taken place in Norman-French: Moisy (*Dict. Patois Normand*) says that *motte* is still used in Normandy for 'moat', and quotes from an early document (? of 16th c.) a passage containing *mote* in this sense.]

1. *Fortif.* A deep and wide ditch surrounding a town, castle, or other building, usually filled with water as a protection against assault. Also *transf.* and *fig.*

1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. VI. 76 Þe Mot is of Merci þe maner al abouten. 1377 *Ibid.* B. XIX. 362 Conscience comaunded þo al crystene to delue, And make a muche mote. 1469 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 46 Alle the curtelage..wyth inne the moote. 1542 BOORDE *Dyetary* iv. (1870) 239 Yf there be a moote made aboute it [*sc.* a mansion], there should be some freesshe sprynge come to it. 1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II*, II. i. 48 The siluer sea, Which serues it in the office of a wall, Or as a Moate defensiue to a house. 1647 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* VI. § 276 The Close in Leitchfield..; a place naturally strong, and defended with a moat. 1694 G. SAVILE *New Model at Sea* 4 It may be said now to England,..What shall we do to be saved in this World? There is no other answer, but this, Look to your Mote. 17.. S. JENYNS *Mod. Fine Lady* in Dodsley *Poems* (1763) III. 174 Until at length appears the ruin'd hall Within the grass-green moat, and ivy'd wall. 1808 LD. ERSKINE in Hansard *Parl. Debates* X. 929 Surrounded by that impregnable moat with which the Divine Providence has fortified this island, we can say [etc.]. 1820 W. IRVING *Sketch Bk., Royal Poet* I. 194 The garden.. occupies what was once the moat of the keep. 1871 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1876) IV. xviii. 153 A sort of ravine..forms a natural moat round the greater part of the city.

2. A pond, lake; esp. a fish-pond. *Obs.* exc. *dial.*

1463 *Mann. & Househ. Exp.* (Roxb.) 563 My master put into his longe mote be the hye wey att Overbury halle, in roches, ix^{xx}. [1472 in Blount *Law Dict.* (1691) s.v. *Mote*, Rogerus tradidit prefato Thomæ tria stagna & unam Motam Piscariam existentem infra manerium Domini de Yeffyn.] 1539 *Act* 31 *Hen. VIII*, c. 2 *title*, Fishing in any seuerall ponde stewe or mot with an intent to steale fishe out of the same is felony. 1598 YONG *Diana* 71 They came to a large greene meadow, wherein was a very faire great moate of cleere water. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) VI. 38 The water-hen..keeps near ponds, motes, and pools of water near gentlemen's houses. 1903 *Dial. Dict., Mot*, a 'moat'; a small pond. *Chs. Nhp. War. Ess.*

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *moat-side*; **moat-garden**, one situated in a disused moat; † **moat-hen**, the moor-hen, *Gallinula chloropus* (cf. 1774 in 2); **moat-house**, a moated house.

1899 CROCKETT *Black Douglas* (ed. 2) 94 Sholto stood..on the topmost step of the ascent from the *moat-bridge. 1826 HOR. SMITH *Tor Hill* (1838) II. 82 The *moat-garden. 1544 TURNER *Avium Præcip.* 16, Trynga, Anglicè a nuater hen, or a *mot hen. 1899 TREVELYAN *Eng. Age Wycliffe* 318 He was welcomed at nightfall to the kitchen fire of the *moat-house. 1697 VANBRUGH *Relapse* IV. v, Will they open the Gate, or do they desire I should grow at their *Moat-side like a Willow?

† **Moat,** *sb.*² *Obs.* Also 7 mot, moate, 8 mote. [Cf. MIT 2.] A cheese-vat.

1602 PLAT *Delightes for Ladies* III. xxii, You may deuise moates or cases [for cheese] either rounde or square of fine wicker. 1617, 1629 Cheese mot, moate [see CHEESE *sb.*¹ 7]. 1736 BAILEY *Househ. Dict.* 171 Fill a narrow high cheese mote or vat, continually filling as the curd sinks, till the mote or vat is full.

Moat (mōᵾt), *v.* [f. MOAT *sb.*¹] *trans.* To surround with or as with a moat, ditch, or trench. (Said of a personal agent, also of a river, fosse, etc. which serves as a moat.) Also with *about*, *in*, *round*.

c 1420 *Anturs of Arth.* 671 (Thornton MS.), I gyffe to the ..Twa baronryse in Burgoyne, with burghes so balde, That are moted abowte [*Douce MS.* batailed abou3te]. 1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* XXXIV. (Percy Soc.) 175 A manour place, Moted about. 1606 HOLLAND *Sueton.* 17 The Cirque was enlarged on both sides and moted round about [L. *& in gyrum Evripo additō*]. 1680 MORDEN *Geog. Rect., Hungary* (1685) 96 Komora is..moated by the Danow. 1700 DRYDEN *Ceyx & Alcyone* 372 An Arm of Lethe with a gentle flow..The Palace moats. 1768 MORANT *Essex* II. 599/1 It is now but a farm-house moated in. 1779 FORREST *Voy. N. Guinea* 183 A broad and straight street...It is so well raised, as never to be overflowed; and is moated on both sides. 1848 J. A. CARLYLE tr. *Dante's Inferno* (1849) 88 The deep fosses, which moat that joyless city. 1855 MOTLEY *Dutch Rep.* VI. xi. (1866) 804 Through the breach was seen a massive terreplein, well moated.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1617 BP. HALL *Quo vadis* (1624) § 1 In moting our Iland with the Ocean he [God] meant to shut vs vp from other Regions. 1625 B. JONSON *Staple of N.* IV. i, He [a master-cook]..Makes Citadels.., Some he dri-dishes, some motes round with broths. 1641 J. TRAPPE *Theol. Theot.* iv. 181 Warding off (as well as they can) Gods blow, motting themselves up against his fire. 1652 BENLOWES *Theoph.* III. lxvi, When purple robes hide scarlet sin Ingrain'd from that life-blood, which moated their Souls in. 1740 H. WALPOLE *Lett.* (1857) I. 63 The torrent broke down the quays...We were moated into our house all day. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* V. 481 Moated round, with fathomless destruction. 1830 *Examiner* 785/1 A prodigious effusion of cant..streamed forth, to moat in as it were, the new Government. 1852 M. ARNOLD *Empedocles on Etna* II, The sea of cloud That heaves its white and billowy vapours up To moat this isle of ashes from the world.

Hence **Moa·ted** *ppl. a.*

1592 SYLVESTER *Tri. Faith* IV. xiv, Elias' Faith..Fir'd without fire his moated Sacrifice. 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* III. i. 277 There at the moated-Grange recides this dejected Mariana. 1676 DRYDEN *Aurengz.* Ep. Ded. 1 When he sees he can hardly approach Greatness, but as a Moated Castle. 1845 CARLYLE *Cromwell* I. Introd. iii. 38 A moated mansion, with ditch and painted paling round it. 1903 AUSTIN *Flodden Field* II. 72, I would not be an hour with him alone, For all my vaunted moated maidenhood.

Moat(e, obs. forms of MOTE.

Moater, variant of MOTER.

Moath, obs. form of MOTH *sb.*¹

Moating (mōᵾ·tiŋ). The puddling beaten in behind the stonework of a mining shaft built up through a bed of quicksand.

1830 *Brewster's Edin. Encycl.* XIV. 338/2 The ashler and moating are progressively carried up...The water..is kept back by the clay moating. 1839 in URE *Dict. Arts* 970.

Moatley, obs. form of MOTLEY.

Mob (mŏb), *sb.*¹ Also 7–8 mobb. [Abbreviation of MOBILE *sb.*² Cf. the following:

1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 135 ¶ 10 It is perhaps this Humour of speaking no more than we needs must which has so miserably curtailed some of our Words,..as in *mob. rep. pos. incog.* and the like. *a* 1734 NORTH *Exam.* III. vii. (1740) 574, I may note the Rabble first changed their Title, and were called *the Mob* in the Assemblies of this [the King's Head] Club. It was their Beast of Burthen, and called first, *mobile vulgus*, but fell naturally into the Contraction of one Syllable. 1738 SWIFT *Pol. Conversat.* Introd., Wks. VI. 234 Abbreviations exquisitely refined; As Pozz for Positively, Mobb for Mobile.]

1. The disorderly and riotous part of the population, the roughs, the rabble; an assemblage of the rabble; a tumultuous crowd bent on, or liable to be incited to, acts of lawlessness and outrage.

1688 *Verney Mem.* (1899) IV. 447 [13 Dec.] The Mobb carried away the very boards and rafters. [Cf. 1688 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) I. 486 (12 Dec.) This night the mobile were up again (etc.).] 1692 *Jacobite Conventicle* 19 But Commonwealths why should we rob, Of th' Glory of a Ruling Mob. 1695 C. HATTON in *H. Corr.* (Camden) II. 216 For thes 2 nights a great mob have been up in Holborn and Drury Lane. 1774 GOUV. MORRIS in Sparks *Life & Writ.* (1832) I. 25 We shall be under the domination of a riotous mob. 1790 BURKE *Fr. Rev.* (ed. 2) 125 Lord George Gordon..having.. raised a mob (excuse the term, it is still in use here) which pulled down all our prisons. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* v. I. 559 The army had become a mob. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* x. (1878) 729 When mobs were roaring themselves hoarse for 'Wilkes and liberty'.

† **b.** One of the mob. *Obs.*

1706 FARQUHAR *Recruiting Officer* II. (1707) 18 Enter Kite, with a Mob in each Hand drunk.

2. The common mass of people; the lower orders; the uncultured or illiterate as a class; the populace, the masses.

This is noted by Swift among the vulgarisms for which he censures Burnet's History.

1691 T. H[ALE] *Acc. New Invent.* p. xxiv, An idle Notion ..that intoxicated the beliefs of the Mob. 1695 DRYDEN tr. *Dufresnoy's Art Paint.* Pref. 26 A very Monster in a Bartholomew-Fair for the Mob to gape at for their two-pence. *a* 1715 BURNET *Own Time* (1900) II. III. v. 70 At least he [the Prince of Orange] thought religion was only for the mob. 1738 SWIFT *Pol. Conversat.* I. 91 She sat among the Mob in the Gallery. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* I. ix, Refusing to gratify the good-natured disposition of the mob. [*Note*] Whenever this word occurs in our writings, it intends persons without virtue, or sense, in all stations. 1752 — *Covent Gard. Jrnl.* 13 June, Three estates, namely kings, lords, and commons, all entirely passing by in silence that very large and powerful body which form the fourth estate in this community, and have been long dignified and distinguished by the name of 'the mob'. 1779-81 JOHNSON *L. P., Pope* Wks. IV. 42, I, says Pope, have the town, that is, the mob, on my side. 1795 SOUTHEY *Lett. fr. Spain* (1799) 50 The opinion of this forgiving power vested in the church, will, among the mob of mankind, destroy the motives to virtue. 1831 LD. BROUGHAM *Sp.* 7 Oct. (1838) II. 599, I do not mean the populace—the mob: I never have bowed to them. *Ibid.* 600 But if there is the mob, there is the people also. I speak now of the middle classes. 1868 DUFF *Pol. Surv.* 143 The mob of the great cities..is hostile to us.

† **3.** Without *the*: Disorderly or lower-class people forming a crowd. *Obs.*

1693 *Humours Town* 128 A number of undistinguishable moh. 1716 ADDISON *Freeholder* No. 44 ¶ 3 A cluster of moh, who were making themselves merry with their betters. 1721 DE FOE *Mem. Cavalier* (1840) 15, I saw the street .. full of mob. 1751 CHESTERF. *Lett.* 18 Mar. (1774) II. 118 Every numerous assembly is *mob*, let the individuals who compose it be what they will. 1789 A. YOUNG *Trav. France* (1890) 210 Great riots at Belfort:—last night a body of mob and peasants demanded of the magistrates the arms in the magazine.

4. A promiscuous assemblage of people; a multitude or aggregation of persons regarded as not individually important. In Australian use, without disparaging implication, a crowd.

1688 CAPT. SOUTHOUSE *Taking K. James*, etc. (B. M. Add. MS. 32091–96, lf. 3), These Gent. mob [*app. meaning* the king and his friends] were much perplex'd to get a coach. 1700 DRYDEN *Cock & Fox* 328 Fancy..Compounds a Medley of disjointed Things, A Mob of Coblers and a Court of Kings. *a* 1704 T. BROWN *Praise Wealth* Wks. 1730 I. 87 The applauses the mob of quality gave to the Don's oration. 1737 POPE *Hor. Epist.* II. i. 108 But for the Wits of either Charles's days, The Mob of Gentlemen who wrote with Ease; Sprat, Carew, Sedley, and a hundred more. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* VIII. 1088 Earth's genuine sons, the sceptre'd, and the slave, A mingl'd mob! a wand'ring herd! 1784 COWPER *Tiroc.* 206 Train him in public with a mob of boys. 1813 SHELLEY *Q. Mab* V. 58 Gold: Before whose image bow..The mob of peasants, nobles, priests, and kings. 1830 in J. West *Hist. Tasmania* (1852) II. 42 A mob of natives appeared at Captain Smith's hut. 1875 HELPS *Ess., Party-Spirit* 100 Those who think whatever the little moh in which they live pleases to think. 1877 *Ht. Martineau's Autobiog.* III. 177 Young men who deprecated the tyranny of a moneyed mob. 1884 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Melb. Mem.* ix, He..was one of the 'Dunmore mob', and aided generally in the symposia which were there enjoyed. 1888 — *Robbery under Arms* xix, At the side of the crowd was a small mob of blacks. 1890 *Melbourne Argus* 16 Aug. 13/2 It doesn't seem possible to get a mob of steady men for work of that sort now.

b. *transf.* and *fig.* A heterogeneous collection or crowd (of things). *Obs.* exc. *Austral.*

1728 POPE *Dunc.* I. 65 She sees a Mob of Metaphors advance. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* IX. 1437 'Twill not make one amid a mob of thoughts. 1844 *Port Philip Patriot* 22 July 2/6 They buttoned up in front; the only suit in the mob which did so. 1892 G. PARKER *Round Compass in Austral.* V. 72 My wife..insisted on my carrying this book to you.. and if it was in your mob of books, to give this copy to somebody that would appreciate it.

c. orig. *Austral.* A flock or drove of animals. (The form *mop* in quot. 1836 is perh. a mistake.)

1836 in *Three Yrs. Exper. of Settler in N. S. W.* 44 (Morris) While I watched the mop [of cattle] I had collected. 1846 G. H. HAYDON 5 *Yrs. in Austral. Felix* iii. 59 The 'old men' kangaroos are always the largest and strongest in the flock, or in colonial language, 'mob'. 1875 *Melbourne Spectator* 22 May 34/2 A mob of sheep has been sold at Belfast at 12*s.* 10*d.* per head. 1906 J. OXENHAM *John of Gerisau* ix, At last..we sighted him [a white colt], galloping quietly along in the centre of the very last mob of all.

d. *Shetland dial.* A 'school' of whales.

1898 *Shetland News* 30 July (E.D.D.), It is believed this shoal [of whales] consisted of two mobs.

5. *slang.* A company or gang of thieves or pickpockets working in collusion. Also, a member of such a company. *Swell mob*, a class of pickpockets who dress stylishly to carry on their occupation.

1843 *Punch* IV. 129/1 The swell mob—they are there. 1846 LANDOR *Imag. Conv., Southey & L.* Wks. 1853 II. 156/1 Making room for the swell-mob of authors to pass by. 1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* (1864) I. 234/1 Some classes of patterers..work in 'schools' or 'mobs' of two, three, or four. 1859 *Slang Dict., School*, or *mob*, two or more 'patterers' working together in the streets. 1884 *Standard* 6 June 6/3 There were about twenty mobs (pickpockets) that never got a rap.

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.*: **a.** simple attrib. (senses

1 and 2), as *mob-assembly, -associator, -cause, -fancy, favour, gentry, -government, -idol, -leader, -meeting, -orator, petition, rule, -tyranny, -violence, -way*; *mob-like* adj. b. objective, as *mob-adoring, -fearing* adjs.; c. instrumental, as *mob-election; mob-created, -guided, led* adjs.

1828 E. Irving *Last Days* 304 The *mob-adoring press. *a* 1734 North *Exam.* I. ii. (1740) 66 This *Mob-assembly was drawn together for the Purpose of Terror. 1750 Carte *Hist. Eng.* II. 135 These *mob-associators broke open houses by night. 1721 Amherst *Terræ Fil.* No. 43 (1754) 226, I do not intend to enumerate all the strong holds of this prevailing *mob-cause [*sc.* High-Church]. 1807–8 W. Irving *Salmag.* (1824) 280 Your true *mob-created great man. 1823 Moore *Fables* 9 Where Kings have been by *mob-elections Rais'd to the throne. 1841 C. Mackay *Mem. Pop. Delus.* I. 329 It tickled the *mob-fancy mightily. 1835 Lytton *Rienzi* x. iii, Too vulgar a desire of *mob favour. 1859 Helps *Friends in C.* Ser. II. (ed. 2) II. 97 If they are *mob-guided, *mob-fearing people. 1722 De Foe *Moll Flanders* (1840) 200 The assurance gave the *mob gentry a check. 1770 Burke *Pres. Discont.* Sel. Wks. I. 23 Whilst they are terrifying the great and opulent with the horrors of *mob government. *a* 1849 H. Coleridge *Ess.* (1851) II. 169 Nelson was a *mob-idol indeed. 1834 *New Monthly Mag.* XLI. 59 In their ambition to be *mob-leaders, they were, in fact, *mob-led. 1796 W. Cooke *Conversation* III. 34 That *mob-like education of the streets. 1714 Mandeville *Fab. Bees* (1733) II. 41 In all *mob-meetings,..the entertainment in general is abominable. 1839 Whittier *Pr. Wks.* (1889) II. 333 The *mob-orator of Clare and Kerry. 1724 De Foe *Mem. Cavalier* (1840) 312 The *mob petition from Bucks was presented to the king. 1869 McLaren *Serm.* Ser. II. vii. 123 The willing spirit sets us free,..free from the *mob rule of Passions and Appetites. *c* 1800 R. Cumberland *John De Lancaster* (1809) II. 280 A propensity in the town's-folk to..administer tumultuous justice in their own *mob-way.

7. Special comb.: **mob courtship**, courtship among the lower classes; **mob defence**, defence by the populace as opposed to military defence; †**mob-driver**, one who incites a mob; **mob feast** *nonce-wd.*, a banquet open to every one; **mob law**, 'law' imposed and enforced by a mob; **mob-master**, one who controls a mob; **mob opinion**, the opinion of the illiterate or uncultured; **mob reader**, a reader belonging to the mob; †**mob story**, a story circulating among the mob.

1883 Ruskin *Fors Clav.* xc. 167 There are no words strong enough to express the general danger and degradation of the manners of *mob-courtship, as distinct from these. 1845 W. H. Maxwell *Hints Soldier on Service* I. 239 No city ..afforded the same advantages, for what might be termed a *mob-defence. *a* 1734 North *Exam.* I. iii. (1740) 126 Colonel Mildmay, an old Rumper, and late *Mob-driver in Essex. *Ibid.* II. v. 343 A Sideling-Writer..shall cry, O! the Papists are set up; just as his Mob-Drivers did to their Rabble. 1830 Moore *Mem.* (1854) VI. 150 This is the third dinner..one of the others being a *mob feast, at six shillings a-head. 1823 Bentham *Not Paul* 347 As has been seen in the case of Saint Stephen,..a sort of *mob-law might..be stated as forming part and parcel of the law of Moses. *a* 1734 North *Exam.* III. vii. (1740) 571 *Mob-Masters..that upon the Watch-word, are to bring forward some hare-brained Rout, which they call the People. 1769 Warburton in *Pope's Ep. Cobham* 135 *note*, This, though a mere *mob-opinion, is the opinion in fashion, and cherished by the Mob of all denominations. 1697 Dryden *Æneid* Ded. (e) 3 b, Such things as are our Upper-Gallery Audience in a Play-House... These are *Mobb-Readers. 1716 Addison *Freeholder* No. 9 P 12 Do you..believe the *mob-story, that King George designs to make a bridge of boats from Hannover to Wapping?

Mob (mɒb), *sb.*[2] *Obs.* exc. *Hist.* [Cf. Mab *sb.*, Mob *v.*[1], and Mob-cap.]

†**1.** *Cant.* A strumpet. *Obs.*

1665 R. Head *English Rogue* I. lvii (end), We kist and parted; I sigh'd, she did sob; she for her lusty Lad, I for my Mob. 1673 — *Canting Acad.* 13 *Mob*, a Wench or Whore. *Ibid.* 192 When a Mob he has bit, his Cole he will tell. 1697 N. Lee *Princess of Cleve* Prol., The little Mob, the City Wastcoateer.

†**2.** A négligé attire, a dishabille; also *attrib. mob-dress. Obs.*

1665 R. Head *English Rogue* I. x, Their Mobs Scarfs, and Hoods all rent. 1709 *Brit. Apollo* II. No. 71. 3/2 It shines..As Beauty does, tho' in a Mob-Dress. 1710 Swift *Jrnl. to Stella* 13 Dec., The ladies were all in mobs (how do you call it?) undrest. 1712 Steele *Spect.* No. 302 P 11 Wrapping Gowns and dirty Linnen, with all that huddled Oeconomy of Dress which passes under the general Name of a Mob.

3. = Mob-cap.

1748 Richardson *Clarissa* (1811) III. iii. 29 Her head-dress was a Brussels-lace mob, peculiarly adapted to the charming air and turn of her features. 1790 Malone *Shaks. Wks., Ham.* II. ii. 525 *note*, The ordinary morning head-dress of ladies continued to be distinguished by the name of a *mab*, to almost the end of the reign of George the second. 1793 Steevens *Ibid.*, In the counties of Essex and Middlesex, this morning cap has always been called a *mob*, and not a *mab*. My spelling of the word therefore agrees with its most familiar pronunciation. 1805 *Sporting Mag.* XXVI. 221 Some ladies talking of the revived fashionable headdress—mobs. 1830 Mas. Bray *Fitz of F.* xxi, A neat little old woman, wearing a close mob and pinners.

Mob (mɒb), *sb.*[3] (See quot.)

1852 Seidel *Organ* 150 The mob is a sort of brush, consisting of threads of wool or silk, which are glued on to a thin handle of wood or wire.

†**Mob**, *v.*[1] *Obs.* [Cf. Mab *v.*, Mob *sb.*[2], Mobble *v.*]

1. *trans.* To muffle the head of (a person); to dress untidily. Also *to mob up.*

1664 H. More *Exp.* 7 *Epist.* Pref. b 2, Men .. having ..Chins as smooth as Womens, and their Faces mob'd in Hoods. 1681 — *Expos. Dan.* I. Notes 22 Monks and Friers mob'd in their Cools and long Coats. 1720 Gay *Eclogues, Tea-table*, Yet in the gall'ry mob'd, she sits secure. *a* 1745 Swift *Story Injured Lady* (1746) 3, I go always mobbed, and in an Undress. 1762 Goldsm. *Cit. W.* xc. Wks. (Globe) 232 [He] shall sit..mobbed up in double night-caps.

2. *To mob (it), to go a-mobbing*: to go in disguise, or attired so as to escape recognition, to the unfashionable part of a theatre, etc. Hence (? associated with Mob *sb.*[1]), to frequent low company.

[1720: see 1.] 1727 De Foe *Hist. Appar.* iv. 43, I don't wonder such as these go a-mobbing among those meanest of mad Things call'd Free-Masons; rough Cheats, and confess'd Delusions are the fittest things to amuse them. 1772 *Town & Country Mag.* 85/2 At the play one night with the Freemans, mobbing it in the gallery. 1782 Miss Burney *Cecilia* IV. vii, Warrant I'll mob with the best of them! 1825–9 Mrs. Sherwood *Lady of Manor* I. ix. 389, I don't want you to make your appearance, I want to go incognito, to mob it, you know, to go in masquerade, and sit in the gallery. 1837 *New Monthly Mag.* LI. 36 He cannot mob it to see a play in the pit.

Mob (mɒb), *v.*[2] [f. Mob *sb.*[1]]

1. *trans.* To attack in a mob or disorderly crowd; to crowd round and molest or annoy; to press unduly upon; to throng; also in *pass.* to be attacked or surrounded by such a mob.

1709 Luttrell *Brief Rel.* (1857) VI. 494 Last week a corn factor..had like to have been mobb'd. 1717 De Foe *Mem. Ch. Scotl.* II. 27 They mobbed the Presbytery, beat and very ill treated..the Moderator. 1719 *Rhode Island Col. Rec.* (1859) IV. 259 'Tis very wonderful to me..that none of His Majesty's officers of the custom, have been mobbed, and torn in pieces by the rabble. 1810 *Sporting Mag.* XXXVI. 262 The crowd were very abusive, following us, and mobbing us. 1828 Macaulay in *Edin. Rev.* May, Whenever any tolerable book of the same description makes its appearance, the circulating libraries are mobbed. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 4 Oct. 4/7 The Alcade of the town having made himself obnoxious to the people, they mobbed the Court-house. 1894 Baring-Gould *Deserts S. France* II. 63 The populace..mobbed and derided him in the streets.

b. To force (a person) *into* (an action, etc.), drive him *from* (a place) by mobbing him.

1724 De Foe *Mem. Cavalier* (1840) 159 The king was obliged to leave them.., for fear of being mobbed into something..unworthy of himself. 1840 Hood *Up Rhine* 7 Between one and another, I was fairly mobbed into it. 1861 W. Phillips *Disunion* 6 Throughout half the great cities of the North, every one who touches on it [the slavery question] is mobbed into silence!

2. *intr.* To form a mob, to congregate in a mob or disorderly crowd; also *to mob it.*

1711 E. Ward *Vulgus Brit.* VIII. 96 For those that Mob, like noisy Knaves, Aganist the Law, with Clubs and Staves. 1728 Woolston *Disc. Miracles* iv. 61 If they did mob it to their own disappointment, about the Door of the House. 1753 Foote *Eng. in Paris* I. Wks. 1799 I. 37 They ha'nt spirit enough to mob here. 1826 Hood *Fairy Tale* v, With dusty hides, all mobbing on together. 1840 — *Miss Kilmansegg, Fancy Ball* ix, As many more Mob round the door To see them going to see it. 1845 W. H. Maxwell *Hints Soldier on Service* I. 74 Perceiving their unsteadiness when mobbed together in the repulse.

3. *nonce-use.* To mix *up* with a mob.

1847 Tennyson *Princess* VI. 289 That Which .. drags me down From my fixt height to mob me up with all The soft and milky rabble of womankind.

4. *trans.* To abuse, scold, rail at. *dial.* Also *absol.*

1803 [see Mobbing *vbl. sb.*[2] 3]. *a* 1825 in Forby *Voc. E. Anglia.* 1903 *Longm. Mag.* July 253 'Let her mob, she'll sune get tired.'

†**Mobard.** *Obs. rare.* A 'clown', 'boor'. (A term of contempt.)

c 1440 *York Myst.* xxviii. 137 Nay such mobardis schall neuere man vs make. *Ibid.* xliv. 74 Harke, maistir..Howe þat þes mobbardis maddis nowe, þer maistir þat oure men haue slayne.

†**Mobarship**, variant of Amobreship *Obs.*

1467–8 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 580/2 A Graunte to hym..undre the Seall of oure Erledome of Marche, of th' office of Mobarship of oure Lordship of Dynby.

Mobbed (mɒbd), *ppl. a.* [f. Mob *sb.*[2] and *v.*[1] + -ed.] Furnished with or wearing a mob; hooded. Also *Comb.* **mobbed-head**, a harlot (cf. Mob *sb.*[2] 1).

1681 H. More *Exp. Dan.* i. 22 They [*sc.* Monks and Friars] pretending to nothing but holiness .. whether in these mob'd habits, or got into a more brisk dress. 1707 Mrs. Centlivre *Platonick Lady* Epil., Young Templars..March hither [*sc.* to the theatre], where Mobb'd-heads too often ply. 1708 — *Busie Body* Epil. 33 Like that dark mob'd-up Fry..Who to remove Love's Pains bestow a worse.

Mobber (mɒ'bəɹ). [f. Mob *v.*[2] + -er[1].]

1. One who mobs, in the senses of the verb.

1744 Whitefield *Brief Acc. Late Trial* Wks. 1771 IV. 105 His Majesty had no where put the reins of Government into the hands of mobbers. 1745 Byrom *Jrnl. & Lit. Rem.* (Chetham Soc.) II. II. 398 He orders no two persons be seen walking together .. on pain of being deemed mobbers and rioters. 1885 *Harper's Mag.* Mar. 599 That sparrow .. disappeared in a panic, and the whole party of mobbers with him.

2. *U.S.* (See quot.)

1892 E. L. Wakeman in *Columbus* (Ohio) *Dispatch* 6 Oct., Those who remove the fish to the stallmens' wagons, or the costers' carts, who are called 'mobbers'.

Mobbie, mobee (mɒ'bi, mōu'bi). Also 7–8 **mobby**, 7 **mobbi**, (**mabby**). [a. Carib *mabi* batata, drink made from batatas.]

1. In the West Indies: a. A spirituous liquor made from the batata or sweet potato.

1638 T. Verney in *V. Papers* (1853) 194 This as we call mobby is only potatoes boyled, and then pressed as hard as they can till all the juce is gon out of the root into fayre water, and after three houres this is good drink. 1750 G. Hughes *Barbados* 34 *note*, Mobby is a Drink made with pounded Potatoes, and Water fermented with Sugar or Molasses. 1826 H. N. Coleridge *West Indies* (1832) 40 Their suppers being a few potatoes for meat, and water or mobbie to drink.

b. (See quot. 1859.)

1833 Mrs. Carmichael *Dom. Mann. W. Ind.* II. xiv. 68 Ginger beer, mobee, and orgeat are always plentiful [in the market]. 1859 Bartlett *Dict. Amer., Mobee*, a fermented liquor made by the negroes in the West Indies, prepared with sugar, ginger, and snake-root.

2. In America: The expressed jnice of apples and peaches, used in the distillation of apple and peach brandy; also the brandy itself. *Mobby punch* (see quot. 1705).

1705 R. Beverley *Virginia* IV. II. xv. § 74 (1722) 254 Mobby Punch, made either of Rum from the Caribbee Islands, or Brandy distill'd from their Apples and Peaches. 1860 Worcester, *Mobby*, the liquid or juice first expressed from apples and peaches, and afterwards distilled to make apple or peach brandy.

†**Mo'bbify**, *v. Obs.* [f. Mob *sb.*[1] + -(i)fy.] *trans.* To drive *out* by mob-violence.

a 1734 North *Exam.* II. v. (1740) 345 This same High and Low shall..serue for Noise, and mobbify out, at Elections, conformable Loyal Gentlemen.

†**Mobbing**, *vbl. sb.*[1] *Obs.* [f. Mob *v.*[1] + -ing[1].] The action of Mob *v.*[1]; in quot. *attrib.*

1825–9 Mrs. Sherwood *Lady of Manor* I. ix. 390 The mobbing-party for the theatre was determined upon and carried into effect.

Mobbing (mɒ'biŋ), *vbl. sb.*[2] [f. Mob *v.*[2] + -ing[1].] The action of the verb Mob.

1. Gathering in crowds; the action of a mob in assailing a person.

a 1734 North *Exam.* III. vii. (1740) 579 The Spirit of the Faction was not broken till .. the Rye Conspiracy was discovered; and then Mobbings were laid aside all at once. 1741 H. Walpole *Lett.* 12 Nov., It is Admiral Vernon's birthday .. and the night will be full of mobbing, bonfires, and lights. 1816 *Remarks Eng. Mann.* 32, I never heard any one..say that the mobbing of a London rout was any thing but insipid. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 18 Mar. 4/7 Two of the prisoners..pleaded guilty to charges of mobbing and rioting.

attrib. 1781 S. Peters *Hist. Connecticut* 411 David Wooster, the rebel General, Benedict Arnold's old acquaintance and mobbing confederate.

2. *Hunting.*

1781 P. Beckford *Hunting* (1802) 213 When hounds are at cold hunting with a bad scent, it may then be a proper time to send a whipper-in forward: if he can see the fox, a little mobbing, at such a time as this may reasonably be allowed.

3. ? Abusive treatment, scolding (see Mob *v.*[2] 4).

1803 *Censor* 1 Mar. 35 If he has not enough to give something to the waiter and the ostler, he must .. undergo a good (or rather a bad) mobbing from these gentry.

Mobbing (mɒ'biŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. Mob *v.*[2] + -ing[2].] That gathers in a mob.

1842 F. Barham *Socrates* 48 Till the mobbing populace shall catch a sparkle of their radiance.

Mobbish (mɒ'biʃ), *a.* Also 8 **mobish**. [f. Mob *sb.*[1] + -ish.] Resembling or characteristic of a mob; †given to mobbing (*obs.*), disorderly, tumultuous. Also, †characteristic of, or appealing to 'the mob' or lower classes; vulgar, clap-trap.

1695 *Whether Parlt. be dissolved by Death of Princess of Orange* 4 They turn more Mobbish than a Dover Court. 1699 Collier *2nd Def. Immor. Stage* 398 The Surveyor gives the Text a mobbish Turn, and foists in some of his own ill Language. 1711 Hickes *Two Treat. Chr. Priesth.* (1847) I. 168 His mobbish fallacious way of arguing. 1732 Earl of Oxford in *Portland Papers* VI. (Hist. MSS. Comm.) 156, I never was in so mobbish a place, we could scarce walk the streets for the numbers of people that flocked about us. 1793 A. Young *Example of France* (ed. 3) 58 As if it was possible, after rousing, by inflammatory publications, the mobbish spirit, that you could draw the line of moderation. 1814 Scott *Wav.* xxxv, The group..were in ordinary Lowland dresses .. which, contrasted with the arms they bore, gave them an irregular and mobbish appearance. 1831 *Blackw. Mag.* XXIX. 512 The mobbish love of destruction. 1864 Carlyle *Fredk. Gt.* XVI. VII. IV. 355 Be judicial, arithmetical, in passing sentence on it [*sc.* Voltaire's fraud]; not shrieky, mobbish, and flying off into the Infinite!

Hence **Mo'bbishly** *adv.*

1716 M. Davies *Athen. Brit.* II. 250 The tumultuous Citizens of Thessalonica .. having mobbishly murder'd one of the Emperor's Lieutenants. 1767 Chauncy *Disc.* 24 July 26 Some mobishly disposed persons.

Mobbism (mɒ'biz'm). [f. Mob *sb.*[1] + -ism.] Mobbish behaviour.

1830 *Blackw. Mag.* XXVIII. 620 Nothing better than what we must call..mere mobbism.

Mobble, Mobby: see Mobble *v.*, Mobbie.

Mob-cap. [? f. Mob *sb.*[2] The relation to Du. *mopmuts* (*muts* = cap) is not clear.] An indoor cap worn by women in the 18th and early 19th c. (see quots.). Cf. Mob *sb.*[2] 3.

1812 H. & J. SMITH *Rej. Addr.* v, Lady Macbeth is to have .. a cotton gown, and a mob cap. 1819 COLERIDGE in *Lit. Rem.* (1836) II. 225 A mob-cap is still a word in common use for a morning cap which conceals the whole head of hair, and passes under the chin. 1846 FAIRHOLT *Costume* 396 Mob-caps, that covered the hair, were worn [*c* 1780] with a full caul and deep border, secured by a broad ribband. 1849 DICKENS *Dav. Copp.* xiii, A mob-cap; I mean a cap, much more common then than now, with side-pieces fastening under the chin. 1884 EDNA LYALL *We Two* ix, [Her] smooth grey hair was almost hidden by a huge mob-cap.

Hence **Mob-capped** *a.*, that wears a mob-cap; **Mob-cappish** *a.*, *nonce-wd.*

1828 MOORE *Mem.* (1854) V. 251 Her beauty was gone; her dress was even prematurely old and mob-cappish. 1905 *Author* 1 Feb. 144 Misdrawings of mob-capped maidens.

Mo·bilar, *a. nonce-wd.* [f. MOBILE *sb.*2 + -AR.] Pertaining to the mob. So † **Mobila·rity.**

1757 MRS. GRIFFITH *Lett. Henry & Frances* (1766) IV. 47 The mobilar Spirit infused into the People of Ireland, in 1753, has been the Root of all the Tumults and Risings in this Kingdom, ever since. *Ibid.*, It would be an useful Work for some ingenious Writer to lay open to the Public, the Difference between Popularity and Mobilarity. *Ibid.* 226.

Mobile (mōu·bil), *sb.*1 Also 6–7 mobil. [a. F. *mobile* (in *premier mobile*, etc.), a. L. *mōbile* neut. of *mōbilis*: see MOBILE *a.*

The later examples with the spelling *mobile* were perh. intended by the writers for the Latin *mōbile* (in Eng. pronunciation mōu·bil). A pronunciation *mobˈl* is indicated by the rime in quot. 1645 under 1.)

† **1.** *First, grand, great, principal mobile*, anglicized forms of PRIMUM MOBILE (*lit.* and *fig.*). *Obs.*

1549 *Compl. Scot.* vi. 48 Al thir nyne speris or hauynis ar inclosit vitht in the tent spere, quhilk is callit the fyrst mobil. *c* 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* v. (1650) 150 Thou First Mobile, Which makst all wheel In circle round. 1652 URQUHART *Jewel* Wks. (1834) 249 There be some that have been pretty well principled, .. yet seeing the great mobil of the rest, by circumvolving them into a contrary motion, hath retarded their action [etc.]. 1704 *Collect. Voy.* (Churchill) III. 32/2 This Wind proceeds from the Course of the first *Mobile*. *a* 1797 MARY W. GODWIN *Posth. Wks.* IV. lxvii. 3 A world in which self-interest..is the principal mobile. *Ibid., Let. Pres. Char. Fr. Nation* 45, I begin to fear that vice, or, if you will, evil, is the grand mobile of action.

2. *Metaphysics.* A body in motion or capable of movement. Now *rare.*

a 1676 HALE *Prim. Orig. Man.* iv. ii. 292 Motion, whose Measure Time was, had a beginning, before which it was not; because no *Mobile* was more ancient than the beginning of Time. 1685 BOYLE *Enq. Notion Nat.* 355 The [Immaterial] Agent having no impenetrable Part, wherewith to impell the Corporeal *Mobile*. 1875 LEWES *Probl. Life & Mind* Ser. I. II. iv. iii. § 45. 279 There can be no direction, distance, dimension, unless a mobile moves in that direction, and a sensation appreciates it.

Mobile (mōu·bil), *sb.*2 *arch.* Also 7 mobele, 7–8 mobilee. [Shortened form of L. *mōbile vulgus* the movable or excitable crowd.] The common people; the populace, rabble, MOB.

[1600 W. WATSON *Decacordon* (1602) 67 There followeth.. another deuice plotted of purpose to make it seeme meet to the ignorant multitude .. (for note this, that popularitie is the rouer they ayme at in all their proceedings, the *mobile vulgus* being euer wauering and readiest to run vpon euery change).] 1676 SHADWELL *Libertine* v. 81 *D. Lop.* D'hear that noise? the remaining Rogues have rais'd the Mobile, and are coming upon us. .. Enter two Shepherds, with a great Rabble. 1679 in *Verney Fam. Memoirs* Nov. (1899) IV. vii. 259 Y^e^ mobele was very rud to ye Dutch Imbasidor & his wife. 1683 HICKERINGILL *Hist. Whiggism* Wks. 1716 I. II. 166 Dr. Lamb..(an Intimate and Friend to the Duke of Buckingham) was pull'd in pieces by the Mobile and Rabble. 1686 SIR J. LAUDER (Fountainhall) *Hist. Notices Sc. Affairs* (Bannatyne Cl.) 705 The Privy Councell..repreived them..for they thought not fit to irritat the mobilee too much. 1688 W. LONGUEVILLE in *Hatton Corr.* (Camden) II. 99 The mobile has been very turbulent hereabouts. 1701 DE FOE *True-born Eng.* Misc. (1703) 34 He grants a Jubilee, And hires Huzza's from his own Mobilee. 1830 N. S. WHEATON *Jrnl.* 271 The *mobile* were fast gathering.

Mobile (mōu·bil), *a.* Forms: 5 mobyle, 6–7 mobil, 7– mobile. [a. F. *mobile*, ad. L. *mōbilis*, f. *mō-*, *movēre* to MOVE. Cf. MOBLE *a.* and *sb.*]

1. Capable of movement; movable; not fixed or stationary. † **a.** In various applications. Of the sight: Wandering, not steady. Of a star: Not fixed. Also in *mobile spirits*, the 'spirits' by which the motor impulses were supposed to be transmitted to the muscles. *Obs.*

1490 CAXTON *Eneydos* xix. 71 Dydo .. or euer that she coude saye ony thyng, as rauysshed helde her sighte all mobyle, wythout to areste it vpon one thynge of a long while. 1522 SKELTON *Why not to Court?* 522 Any star Fyxt or els mobil. 1649 BULWER *Pathomyot.* I. v. 23 The Motive Faculty by a wonderfull providence of Nature moves the mobile Spirits, and these moved, flie forth .. to their destinated Organs. 1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl., Mobile*, moveable; any thing susceptible of motion, or that is disposed to be moved either by itself, or by some other prior mobile, or mover. [Not in JOHNSON 1755.]

b. Of a limb, an organ of the body: Movable, not fixed, 'free'.

1828 STARK *Elem. Nat. Hist.* I. 133 The Nine-banded Armadillo .. body with seven, eight, or nine mobile bands. 1831 R. KNOX *Cloquet's Anat.* 579 The lower [region of the nose], which is less firm, but mobile, allows the apertures of the nostrils to be contracted, widened, or even closed. 1874 WOOD *Nat. Hist.* 285 The hind toe of each foot is very mobile. 1881 J. HAWTHORNE *Fort. Fool* I. iii, A hawk circling high in air, with steady wings and mobile, downlooking head.

c. Of a liquid, etc.: That has its particles capable of free movement.

1851 NICHOL *Archit. Heav.* 101 Streams of matter internally mobile. 1860 MAURY *Phys. Geog. Sea* (LOW) i. § 27 Like all fluids they are mobile. 1878 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* 56 The mobile liquid passes into a compact rigid solid. 1880 BASTIAN *Brain* 9 The coming into contact of a fragment of organic matter with projected portions of the substance of an Amœba is followed by the closure of this mobile substance round it.

d. Of a cell, molecule, etc.: Capable of separate movement, 'free'; not adnate or fixed.

1871 T. H. GREEN *Introd. Pathol.* (1873) 102 It is the mobile cells which are principally concerned. These cells are the most active. 1877 E. R. CONDER *Bas. Faith* ii. 89 Yet no less a task is laid upon the mobile molecules, momentarily renewed, momentarily perishing, of the brain.

e. *Mobile spasm*, 'Gower's term for the slow and irregular movements that occur in the extremities after hemiplegia' (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1891).

1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 338. *Ibid.* 735 The peculiar mobile spasm known as athetosis.

2. Characterized by facility of movement. **a.** Of features: That easily change in expression.

1851 MRS. BROWNING *Casa Guidi Wind.* I. 798 And brows that with a mobile life contrive A deeper shadow. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* vi. § 4. 309 The thin mobile lips..picture the inner soul of the man. 1878 BESANT & RICE *Celia's Arb.* xxxii, As much astonishment as discipline would allow, expressed upon a not remarkably mobile set of features. *a* 1880 C. T. NEWTON *Art & Archæol.* iii. 79 In the Ephesian heads, the eye appears rather as if seen through a slit in the skin than as if set within the guard of highly sensitive and mobile lids.

b. Of a person, his mind, etc.: That turns or is turned easily from one thing to another; wanting in stability of purpose; also, in favourable sense, versatile.

1855 LEWES *Goethe* (1864) 127 Nor will this surprise those who have considered the mobile nature of our poet. 1860 HAWTHORNE *Marble Faun* (1879) I. ix. 89 This idea filled her mobile imagination with agreeable fantasies. 1866 *Cornh. Mag.* Oct. 465 [*Art.* Naval Men] The very nature of his work..makes an off-hand, free-spoken, decisive, and yet mobile man of him. 1867 MILL *Subj. Women* (1869) 117 Women's minds are by nature more mobile than those of men, less capable of persisting long in the same continuous effort. 1874 L. STEPHEN *Hours in Library* (1892) I. v. 187 His imagination is more intense and less mobile.

c. *rarely* of a visible object: Constantly in motion.

1882 STEVENSON *New Arab. Nts.* (1884) 145 In the mobile light of the lantern.

3. *Mil.* Of troops, etc.: That may be easily and rapidly moved from place to place.

1879 A. G. F. GRIFFITHS *Eng. Army* iv. 107–8 Wheeled vehicles are not sufficiently mobile to conform to the rapid movement of active troops. 1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 16 Aug. 5/1 A mobile army of upwards of 25,000 men.

Mobiliary (mobi·liări), *a.* [ad. F. *mobiliaire*, f. L. *mōbili-s* movable: see -ARY.]

1. In the Channel Islands: Relating to movable property. Also as the distinctive epithet of a court that deals with 'mobiliary' questions.

1682 WARBURTON *Guernsey* (1822) 83 On the second Monday of the term, the mobillary [*sic*; *also in other passages*] courts are held for the upper parishes. 1694 FALLE *Jersey* iv. 112 This Court..is intended for the decision of Matters of less moment, as Arrears of Rents.., Arrests, Distrainings, and such like Mobiliary things. 1841 DUNCAN *Guernsey* 485 In the mobiliary court, all common debts may be sued for by way of summons.

2. Of or pertaining to household furniture.

1855 tr. *Labarte's Arts Mid. Ages* i. 10 Specimens of mobiliary sculpture.

3. *Mil.* Pertaining to mobilization.

1888 *Daily News* 16 Apr. 6/3 We [the Russians] do not command the mobiliary facilities of the smaller Powers. 1896 *Westm. Gaz.* 5 Dec. 7/1 The frontier forces..have also been placed upon a mobiliary footing.

† **Mobilifica·tion.** *Obs. rare*−1. [f. MOBILE *a.*: see -FICATION.] = MOBILIZATION.

1794 EARL MALMESBURY *Diaries & Corr.* III. 113, I trusted no time would be lost for putting his army into a state of mobilification.

Mobility1 (mobi·lĭti). [a. F. *mobilité*, ad. L. *mōbilitās*, f. *mōbilis*: see MOBILE and -ITY.]

1. Ability to move or to be moved; capacity of change of place; movableness. (Sometimes enumerated among the properties of matter.) Also, facility of movement.

1490 CAXTON *Eneydos* xv. 57 Wherby arose one euylle goddesse callyd fame or renommee, whiche .. by mobylite vygorouse encreaseth her forse in rennynge. *c* 1500 MORE *Wks.* ¶ iiij, I am Eternitee. .. Thou mortall Tyme .. Art nothyng els but the mobilite, Of sonne and mone chaungyng in euery degre. *a* 1639 WOTTON *Surv. Educ.* in *Reliq.* (1651) 318 A rod or barre of iron .. by the help of a corke.. being ballanced in water, or in any other liquid substance where it may have a free mobility, will bewray a kind of unquietude. 1669 BOYLE *Absolute Rest in Bodies* § 2 The Epicureans..ascribing to every particular Atom an innate, and unlooseable mobility, or rather, an actual motion. 1688 NORRIS *Theory Love* I. ii. 18 The two eminent Propertys of matter, viz. that of receiving various Figures, and that of Motion or Mobility. 1727 ARBUTHNOT *Tables Anc. Coins*, etc. 244 The Romans had the advantage..by the Bulk of their Ships, and the Fleet of Antiochus in the Swiftness and Mobility of theirs. 1792 *Phil. Trans.* LXXXII. 221 The thermometers I employed had not a sufficient mobility for very nice experiments. 1794 G. ADAMS *Nat. & Exp. Philos.* IV. xlix. 347 Of all that are known in the universe, the mobility of the matter of light is the greatest. 1837 BREWSTER *Magnet.* 322 The mobility of the needle is diminished. 1841 — *Martyrs Sci.* 97 Paul Anthony Foscarinus..wrote a pamphlet in which he illustrates and defends the mobility of the earth.

b. Of the limbs or organs of the body: Freedom of movement; absence of fixity or rigidity; *occas.* liability to be abnormally displaced.

1528 PAYNELL *Salerne's Regim.* (1541) 115 The .ii. cause [of over-much bleeding] is mobilitie of the arterie, ..for woundes with out rest can nat heale. 1688 BOYLE *Final Causes Nat. Things* ii. 55 Nature not having given that mobility to the eyes of flies. 1831 R. KNOX *Cloquet's Anat.* 165 All that the former [*sc.* the tarsus] has gained with respect to size and solidity, it appears to have lost with reference to mobility. 1872 T. G. THOMAS *Dis. Women* (ed. 3) 59 In estimating the effects of direct pressure upon the position of the uterus, its extreme mobility must be constantly borne in mind. 1876 BERNSTEIN *Five Senses* 24 All organs adapted for touching are endowed with the greatest mobility. 1881 MIVART *Cat* 54 The mobility of the spinal column in different regions.

c. Of persons: Ability to move about. ? *Obs.*

1777 JOHNSON *Let. to Mrs. Thrale* 29 Sept., Mrs. ..grows old, and has lost much of her undulation and mobility. 1779 *Ibid.* 16 Oct., But I am told how well I look; and I really think I get more mobility.

d. *Physics.* Of a fluid: Freedom of movement of its particles.

1817 FARADAY *Exp. Res.* ii. 6 The actual relative mobilities of the gases are inversely as their specific gravity. 1830 HERSCHEL *Stud. Nat. Phil.* 232 The perfect mobility of their [*sc.* liquids] parts among one another. 1871 TYNDALL *Fragm. Sci.* (1879) I. x. 311 The mobility of hydrogen .. being far greater than that of air.

e. *transf.* and *fig.* of immaterial things.

1866 ROGERS *Agric. & Prices* I. iv. 108 Labour, on which so many circumstances are now conferring mobility and expansion. 1889 *Spectator* 12 Oct., It is within the province of the State to promote the mobility of labour and capital.

2. Ability to change easily or quickly; liability to fluctuation; changeableness, instability; fickleness.

1567 FENTON *Trag. Disc.* i. 19 b, [There is not] any so greate a paterne or example of ber [*sc.* fortune's] mobitie [1579 mobility], as they that fynde often chaunge of estate. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr., Mobility*, moveableness, changeableness, inconstancy. *a* 1676 HALE *Prim. Orig. Man.* iv. vii. 356 We cannot choose but daily observe in our selves a strange mobility and instability in our Imaginative and Intellective Faculty. 1829 I. TAYLOR *Enthus.* iv. (1867) 75 In the conformation of the heretic by temperament, there is more of intellectual mobility than of strength. 1873 HAMERTON *Intell. Life* IX. iv. (1875) 315 The mobility of fashionable taste. 1884 tr. *Lotze's Metaph.* 8, I do not ignore the many valuable results that are due to this mobility of imagination.

b. Of a person: The condition of being easily moved; excitability.

1824 BYRON *Juan* XVI. xcvii, So well she acted all and every part By turns—with that vivacious versatility, Which many people take for want of heart. They err—'tis merely what is call'd mobility. [*Note*, In French 'mobilité'. I am not sure that mobility is English.] 1837 C. LOFFT *Self-formation* II. 225, I had not the excitable spirit, the mobility, to use their own term, of our French neighbours. 1870 HUXLEY *Lay Serm.* ii. 27 Women are, by nature, more excitable than men—prone to be swept by tides of emotion, .. and female education does its best to weaken every physical counterpoise to this nervous mobility.

c. Of the features: Facility of change of expression.

1845 E. HOLMES *Mozart* 298 Mozart's physiognomy was remarkable for its extreme mobility. The expression changed every moment. 1872 J. H. GLADSTONE *Faraday* ii. 89 That wonderful mobility of countenance. 1884 *Graphic* 4 Oct. 357 A mouth with a sympathetic mobility about it.

3. *Mil.* Of a field force and its equipment: The quality of being able to move rapidly from one position to another.

1866 E. B. HAMLEY *Operat. War* VI. i. 316 Mobility and the mutual support of all arms,..were now on the side of the French. 1871 C. H. OWEN *Mod. Artillery* III. iii. 329 Other means have been taken to give field batteries the greater mobility now required on some occasions. 1894 LD. WOLSELEY *Life Marlborough* I. 89 A new and well-ordered mobility and a facility of manœuvre was taught.

Mobility2 (mobi·lĭti). [f. MOBILE *sb.*2, MOB *sb.*1, after *nobility*.] The mob; the lower classes.

1690 DRYDEN *Don Sebast.* IV. iii, She singled you out with her Eye, as commander in Chief of the Mobility. 1695 HICKERINGILL *Lay-Clergy* Wks. 1716 I. 321 No wonder then that the mobility did run a madding, when Oppressions will make the Nobility and Wise Men mad. 1774 FOOTE *Cozeners* I. (1778) 24, I don't mean for the mobility only; ..the best people of fashion ar'n't ashamed to follow my Doctor. 1823 BYRON *Juan* XI. xix. *note*, The select mobility and their patrons. 1843 *Blackw. Mag.* LIII. 79 They are as easily to be distinguished..from the children of the mobility, as is a well-blooded Arabian from a Suffolk punch.

Mobilizable (mōu·bilə·izăb'l), *a.* [f. MOBILIZE *v.* + -ABLE. Cf. F. *mobilisable*.] Capable of being mobilized.

1884 *Contemp. Rev.* XLV. 885 A mobilizable army. 1892 *Harper's Mag.* June 54/2 The mobilizable commands, posts, companies, and establishments of the armed force.

Mobilization (mōu·bilə·izē·ʃən). [a. F. *mobilisation*, f. *mobiliser* to MOBILIZE: see -ATION.]

1. The action or process of mobilizing or rendering 'movable'; bringing into circulation; also in *Law*, the conversion of real into personal property.

1799 *Hist. Europe* in *Ann. Reg.* 89/1 [France] A mobilization of the national debt; by which the real stock was reduced to one-third, payable in money, and the other two in bonds to be taken in payment for national lands. 1879 BARING-GOULD *Germany* II. 249 Roman law..brought in the novel ideas of capital and the mobilisation of real property.

2. *Mil.* and *Naval.* The action or process of mobilizing (an army, a fleet, etc.).

1866 *Ch. Times* 14 Apr., Austria..demanding that the mobilization of the Prussian army be at once discontinued. 1883 *Manch. Exam.* 26 Nov. 4/3 The news respecting the Russian mobilization of troops is exaggerated.

attrib. 1885 *Pall Mall G.* 14 Feb. 7/1 A Mobilization Committee has been sitting at the War Office arranging for the despatch of troops to Suakin.

Mobilize (mō·nbilaiz), *v.* [ad. F. *mobiliser*, f. *mobile*: see MOBILE *a.*]

1. *trans.* To render movable or capable of movement; to bring into circulation.

1838 *Globe* 15 Jan. 2/2 They have 'the masses', they say. We believe they have, so far as those inorganic masses as yet have been—to borrow a French term—*mobilised*. 1864 *Realm* 27 Apr. 3 Mobilise the riches of Austria (and Free Trade is in fact only movement—circulation—life) and [etc.]. 1868 *Pall Mall G.* 24 Sept. 4 Either the Governor-General must give up his tours, or must take his Council with him. The real question at issue seems therefore to be not as to the healthiness of Calcutta, but whether the Supreme Council should be mobilized. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 259 Oil once deposited may be again mobilised and transferred to other capillaries.

2. *Mil.* To prepare (an army) for active service.

1853 C. L. BRACE *Home Life Germany* 256 When ever the army is to be prepared for war or mobilised, the Reserve step into their respective regiments again.

absol. 1873 BORBSTÆOT & DWYER *Franco-Ger. War* viii. 170 It only requires a simple telegraphic order to mobilise .. to set in perfectly harmonious movement the colossal machinery spread over the whole country.

b. *intr.* (for *passive*). To undergo mobilization.

1878 LD. WOLSELEY in *19th Cent.* Mar. 437 To fill its.. stores, so that..its little army may be in a condition to mobilise. 1899 *Daily News* 18 Dec. 5/2 The Seventh Division is to mobilise at Aldershot.

Hence **Mo·bilized** *ppl. a.*, **Mo·bilizing** *vbl. sb.*

1851 GALLENGA *Italy* 463 The mobilized national guard was to leave Milan for the camp. 1882 H. SPENCER *Stud. Sociol.* § 515 In rude societies..the army is the mobilized community, and the community is the army at rest. 1899 F. T. BULLEN *Way Navy* 83 The signal was made, 'Mobilised cruisers proceed independently to Portland'.

Mobish, obs. form of MOBBISH.

† Mo·ble, *a.* and *sb. Obs.* Forms: 4–6 moble, (4 mobill, *Sc.* mwbill), 4–5 meoble, moeble, meble, (4 meeble, *Sc.* mebile, 5 *Sc.* mobylle, mubulle, meuble), 5–6 mobil. [a. OF. *moeble, moble* (mod.F. *meuble*) = Pr. *moble*, Sp. *mueble*, Pg. *movel*, It. *mobile*:—popular L. **mŏbil-em* for class. L. *mōbil-em*: see MOBILE.]

A. *adj.* Movable. Chiefly of possessions, e. g. in *goods mobles, moble goods*, personal property.

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 300 Whan þe kyng asked half of alle þer moble þing. *c* 1340 HAMPOLE *Prose Tr.* 11 Thou sall noghte couayte þe hous or oþer thynge mohill or in-mobill of þi neghtbour. *c* 1391 CHAUCER *Astrol.* I. § 21 Alle the signes, be they moist or drie, or moeble or fix. 1429 *Wills & Inv. N. C.* (Surtees) I. 80 And alle remenant and residewe of my goods moblez and vnmoblez. 1480 CAXTON *Chron. Eng.* CCXXV. 230 For whiche nedes to be sped the kyng axed the fifthe part of all the meoble goodes of englond.

B. *sb. pl.* Movable goods; 'personal' property. *rare* in *sing.*

13.. *Coer de L.* 6460 Home he wente..With that tresore and the moble. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 145 Richard.. His mobles on silner reised þorgh Inglond alle his gode. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* v. 275 A man..That wes..rich of mwbill [MS. E moble] and catell. *c* 1420 *Auturs of Arth.* 199 (Donce MS.) If auþer matens or mas miȝte mende þi mys, Or eny meble [*v. r.* mobylles] one molde. *a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* (1868) 119 They wolde haue lefte her no thinge nor londes, heritage, nor meuble. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 154 Gudis wonnyn apon inymyes..that is to say meubleis. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VIII. vi. 15 Nor ȝit had [thai] craft to conques nor wyn geyr, Nor kep thair moblis quhen it gadderit was.

Moble, mobble (mɒ·b'l), *v. Obs.* exc. *dial.* Also moble. [frequent. f. MOB *v.*[1] Cf. MABBLE *v.*] *trans.* To muffle (one's) head or face. Chiefly with *up*. Hence **† Mobled** *ppl. a.*

1603 SHAKS. *Ham.* (Qos.) II. ii. 524 *Play.* But who, O who had seene the mobled [*1st Fol.* inobled] Queene? *Cor.* Mobled Queene is good, faith very good. 1655 SHIRLEY *Gentl. Venice* V. iii, The moon does mobble up her self sometime in't. Where she will shew a quarter face, and was The first that wore a black bag. 1668 OGILBY *Æsop* II. xi. 26 Mobbled nine dayes in my Considering-cap. 1673 MARVELL *Reh. Transp.* II. 278 The old Jades..are mobled up like so many Judges. 1879 in Miss Jackson *Shropsh. Word-bk.* s. v. *Moble*, 'Er mobles 'erself up in that owd 'ood an' shawl, an' sits by the fire, tell 'er's as nesh as nesh. *Ibid.*, Yo' mun moble yourself well up, its a despert, raw, cond night.

¶ In mod. writers echoing Shakspere's use.

1860 S. DOBELL in *Macm. Mag.* Aug. 325 But heard, far off, the mohled woe Of some new plaintiff for the light. 1877 EARL OF SOUTHESK *Meda Maiden*, etc. 120 There rested a woman,—close mantled in brown, Mobled and muffled from sandal to crown.

Mobocracy (mɒbɒ·krăsi). [f. MOB *sb.*[1], after *democracy, ochlocracy*: see -CRACY.]

1. The rule of the mob, government by a mob.

1754 A. MURPHY *Gray's-Inn Jrnl.* No. 95 Another Mode of civil Policy, which cannot be called by a better name than a Mobocracy. 1789 MME. D'ARBLAY *Diary* 19 Nov., Mr. Wilkes..quarrelled with a gentleman for saying the French government was become a democracy, and asserted it was rather a mobocracy. 1839 *Times* 18 July, Henceforth, ..mobocracy will be 'at a heavier discount' than ever. 1878 BAYNE *Purit. Rev.* x. 431 [They] seem to have been infected..with the cretinous hallucinations of mobocracy.

2. The 'mob' or lowest class as a ruling body; a ruling or politically supreme mob.

1754 A. MURPHY *Gray's-Inn Jrnl.* No. 95 The Mobocracy have further the legislative and executive Part of their Laws in their own Hands. 1819 *Metropolis* II. 73 Without the nobles, the mobocracy would have it all their own way. 1856 *Chamb. Jrnl.* VI. 225 The shopocracy in the pit, and the mobocracy in the gallery. 1885 *Century Mag.* XXXI. 54 The American demagogue is the courtier of American mobocracy.

Mobocrat (mɒ·bo$_{i}$kræt). [formed as prec. after *democrat*, etc.: see -CRAT.] One who advocates mobocracy; a leader of the mob, a demagogue.

1798 in *Spirit Public Jrnls.* (1799) II. 123 Republican Gazette for 1892. Written and prophesied by an eminent Mobocrat. 1845 T. W. COIT *Puritanism* 233 The demagogue, the mobocrat, the sans-culottes. 1879 BAYNE *Less. fr. my Masters* I. 75 The idiotic notion, possibly entertained by a brainless mobocrat here and there, that [etc.].

Mobocratic (mɒbo$_{i}$kræ·tik), *a.* Also 8 mobcratic. [f. prec. + -IC.] Pertaining to or of the nature of a mobocracy; that advocates mobocracy.

1775 J. TUCKER *Let. to Burke* (ed. 2) 14 Tarring and Feathering would be the mildest Punishment, which such a Rebel against this (Mob-cratic) Constitution could expect. 1836 MRS. STOWE in *Life* iv. (1889) 85 All the newspapers.. were either silent or openly 'mobocratic'. 1889 J. M. ROBERTSON *Ess. Crit. Method* 23 His dislike of mobocratic and democratic principles.

Mobocratical (mɒbo$_{i}$kræ·tikăl), *a.* [formed as prec. + -IC-AL.] Of or pertaining to mobocracy.

1754 A. MURPHY *Gray's-Inn Jrnl.* No. 95 Mr. Wilks.. was not in his Heart of Mobocratical Principles. *Ibid.*, One disaffected Person cannot withstand the Mobocratical Power. 1804 FESSENDEN *Democr.* (1806) I. 98 Many plausible excuses For mobocratical abuses.

Mobolatry (mɒbɒ·lătri). [f. MOB *sb.*[1] + *-olatry*, after *idolatry*.] Worship of the mob.

1864 *Daily Tel.* 8 Apr., It is no sacrifice of revenue at the shrine of mob-olatry, as the abandonment of half the malt tax was so clearly proved to be. 1882 *Dublin Morn. Mail* 15 Dec. 3 Mr. Gladstone has himself always discriminated between popularity and mob-olatry.

Mo·bship. *nonce-wd.* [f. MOB *sb.*[1] + *-ship*, after *lordship, kingship*.] a. *jocularly.* The personality of a member of a mob. b. Mob-government.

1830 *Fraser's Mag.* I. 457 The two gentlemen..smile condescendingly on the mobility, cut a curvet in the air to shew their mobships that they are clever lively divinities, and finally [etc.]. 1893 HUXLEY *Evolution & Ethics* 51 The Ionian politics had passed through the whole gamut of social and political changes—from patriarchal..kingship to rowdy..mobship.

Mobsman (mɒ·bzmăn). [f. *mob's*, genitive of MOB *sb.*[1]]

1. One of a mob or crowd.

1868 *Express* 20 May, To..find himself in a well-dressed, querulous, selfish mob,..to see small detachments of his fellow mobsmen conveyed by policemen through phaetons and barouches [etc.]. 1881 W. H. MALLOCK in *Contemp. Rev.* 938 Of all these thousands of men [composing a mob] each man has his own separate temperament... The passions that direct him as a mobsman may be quite dormant in private life. 1901 R. M. STILLARD *B. Sullivan* II. 10 Forrest had none of his mobsmen in the theatre that evening to repeat the disturbance.

2. (In full *swell mobsman.*) A member of the swell mob (see MOB *sb.*[1] 4).

1851–61 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* II. 369 Swell-mobsmen, and thieves, and housebreakers. 1862 *Ibid.* IV. 25 'Mobsmen', or those who plunder by manual dexterity. 1856 *Q. Rev.* June 183 The swell mobsmen proper generally work together at races in gangs of from three to seven. *Ibid.*, A school of mobsmen. 1904 *Daily News* 9 Nov. 2 He belonged to a gang of swell mobsmen who frequented the West-end.

Mobylle, *Sc.* variant of MOBLE *Obs.*

Mocadan, variant of MOKADDAM.

Mocado, variant of MOCKADO.

Mocador: see MUCKENDER.

† Mocawk, variant of MACAQUE.

1757 J. H. GROSE *E. Indies* 41 The natives call it a Mocawk, and when taken young it soon grows very tame.

Mocayare, obs. form of MOHAIR.

Moccasin (mɒ·kăsin). Forms: 7, 9 mockasin, 8 molkasin, morgisson, mogasheen, -i(n)son, -erson, -oson, -ason, moggi(n)son, mokasin, -awson, mackassin, maccase(e)ne, mockassin, -aseen, -ason, -eson, magassin, 8–9 mocas(s)in, 9 mowkisin, mocki(n)son, moccaso(o)n, -usin, -assin, mognesan, mogissin, mocsen, mocasson, moccassin, 8– moccasin. [a. Powhatan *mo·ckasin*, Odjibwa *ma·kisin*; other Indian dialects have the stress on the middle syllable, as in Narragansett *moku·ssin*, Micmac *mku·sun*.]

1. A kind of foot-gear made of deerskin or other soft leather, worn by the Indians of North America, and by the trappers and backwoodsmen who have adopted Indian customs. Also *attrib.*, as *moccasin track, awl.*

1612 CAPT. SMITH *Map Virginia* (Arb.) 44 *Mockasins.* Shooes. 1704 *New Hampsh. Prov. Papers* (1869) III. 290 *note*, Every Householder..shall provide..one good pair of snow shoes and mogasheens. 1725 S. WILLARD in *Early Rec. Lancaster, Mass.* (1884) 238 We found a mogerson tracke, and spent some time scouting after said Tracke. 1760 *Char.* in *Ann. Reg.* III. 23/2 His dress was a deer-skin jacket,..with morgissons, or deer-skin pumps, or sandals, which were laced. 1788 M. CUTLER in *Life*, etc. (1888) I. 423 We saw frequently moccasin tracks, which appeared to have been just made. 1799 J. SMITH *Acc. Remark. Occurr.* (1870) 115 All the surgical instruments I had, was a knife, a mockason awle, and a pair of bullit moulds. 1826 J. F. COOPER *Mohicans* (1829) II. iv. 59 The impression of a moccasin in the rich and moist alluvion. 1840 R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast* xxvi. 85 Indian curiosities .. such as .. feathers of birds, fur mocassins [etc.]. 1877 BLACK *Green Past.* xlv, His mocassins of buffalo-hide were very elaborately embroidered.

2. Moccasin flower, plant, U.S. name for the orchidaceous genus *Cypripedium* (Lady's Slipper); **yellow moccasin,** *C. pubescens.*

1700 PLUKENET *Opera Bot.* (1769) III. 101 *Helleborine Virginiana.*.. The Molkasin Flower. 1748 *Phil. Trans.* XLV. 159 They call it the Mocasin Flower, which also signifies in their Language a Shoe or Slipper. 1882 *Garden* 3 June 384/1 The Mocasson Flower (*Cypripedium spectabile*) ..here apparently finds a congenial home. 1890 *Syd. Soc. Lex., Moccasin plant*, same as *M. flower. Moccasin root*, the *Cypripedium pubescens.* 1902 CORNISH *Naturalist Thames* 181 Big white mocassin flowers,..and bog arum.

3. [Possibly a distinct word; in any case the reason for the name is obscure.] In full **Moccasin snake:** a venomous crotaline snake, *Ancistrodon* (or *Cenchris* or *Toxicophis* or *Trigonocephalus*) *piscivorus*, about two feet in length, usually of a somewhat aquatic habit, native of the Southern United States; also *Water Moccasin* (*-snake*). *Highland* or *Upland moccasin*, the Cottonmouth, *Ancistrodon atrofuscus*, a similar or identical snake inhabiting the dry land and mountainous regions. Sometimes erroneously applied to the Copper-head snake, *Ancistrodon contortrix*, and to snakes of the colubrine genus *Nerodia.*

1791 W. BARTRAM *Carolina* 272 The moccasin snake is a large and horrid serpent. *Ibid.* 273 There is another snake in Carolina and Florida called the moccasin. 1842 HOLBROOK *N. Amer. Herpetol.* III. 33 *Trigonocephalus piscivorus*...Water Mocassin *Vulgo. Ibid.* 45 The *Trigonocephalus atro-fuscus*..is..called in Tennessee Highland Mocassin. 1849 J. E. GRAY *Catal. Specim. Snakes Brit. Mus.* 16 The Black-brown Mocassin, *Cenchris atrofuscus.* 1853 BAIRD & GIRARD *Catal. N. Amer. Reptiles* I. 19 *Toxicophis piscivorus*... Water Mocassin. *Ibid.* 165 Highland Mocassin (*Toxicophis atrofuscus*). *Ibid.* 166 Upland Mocassin (*Toxicophis atrofuscus*). *Ibid.*, Mocassin (*Nerodia sipedon* and *N. fasciata*). 187. *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* IV. 319 The Copper-head Snake *Trigonocephalus* (*Ancistrodon*) *contortrix*, often wrongly called the Mocassin Snake..preys upon frogs and birds. 1885 *Riverside Nat. Hist.* (1888) III. 394 The so-called highland-mocassin, *Ancistrodon atrofuscus*, has not been collected since the time of its original description. It and *A. piscivorus* are undoubtedly the same species.

Moccasined (mɒ·kăsind), *a.* [f. prec. + -ED[1].]

1. Furnished or provided with moccasins.

1851 MAYNE REID *Scalp Hunt.* I, This region is only trodden by the mocassined foot of the hunter. 18.. WHITTIER *Yankee Gypsies* Pr. Wks. 1889 I. 326 Quick tripping of fair moccasined feet on glittering ice pavements. 1903 *Blackw. Mag.* Apr. 497/2 Her moccasined feet, tucked into wide wooden stirrups.

2. *U.S. slang.* (See quot.)

1859 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer., Moccasoned*, intoxicated. South Carolina. 1872 SCHELE DE VERE *Americanisms* 35 In the South a man made drunk by bad liquor is said to have been 'bitten by the [moccasin] snake', or simply to be mocassined.

† Moccenigo. *Obs.* In 7 muccinigo, mutsenigo. [a. It. *moccenigo, mocenigo* (Florio 1611); from the name of Tommaso Mocenigo, doge of Venice 1413–23.] A small coin formerly current in Venice, worth about ninepence.

?1553 J. LOCKE in *Hakluyt's Voy.* (1599) II. I. 108 They haue euery pay, which is 45 dayes, 15 Mozenigos, which is 15 shillings sterling. 1605 B. JONSON *Volpone* II. i, You shall not giue mee sixe Crownes,..nor two nor one; nor halfe a Duckat; no, nor a Muccinigo. 1617 MORYSIN *Itin.* I. 291 The Spanish piastro of siver is given for sixe lires,..the mutsenigo for a lire. 1655 SHIRLEY *Gentl. Venice* I. i. 5 *Mal.*..In the mean time lend me the trifling Duccats...*Cor.* Not a Muccinigo To save thee from the Gallies.

Mocco, obs. form of MOCHA[2].

Moch (mɒx), *sb. Sc.* [app. repr. OE. *mohðe* MOTH; cf. the 15th c. Eng. forms *mowhe, mowghe* (Promp. Parv.).] A moth.

c 1650 P. GORDON *Short Abridgem. Brit. Distemper* (1844) 113 This earle George his first wife..forbids her husband to leave such a consuming moch in his house, as was the sacraledgeous medling with the abisie of Deir. 1871 W. ALEXANDER *Johnny Gibb* xxi. 156 Half ate'n wi' the mochs.

† Moch, *a. Sc. Obs.* Also 6 moich. [Of obscure origin: cf. MOCH *v.* and MOCHY *a.*, also MUGGY *a.* and dial. *moke* sb. (Lincs.) a mist, fog, *moke* adj., hazy, dark (E.D.D.).] Moist, damp.

1501 DOUGLAS *Pal. Hon.* I. 26 Auld rottin runtis quhairin na sap was leifit, Moch, all waist, widderit with granis montit. 1513 — *Æneis* XII. Prol. 46 Mysty vapour vpspringand, ..In smoky soppis of donk dewis wak, Moich hailsum stovis ourheildand the slak.

†**Moch,** *v. Sc. Obs.* Also 7 moach. [? f. Moch *a.* But cf. G. *muchen* to turn rancid or mouldy.] *intr.* To decay, rot.

1624 *Extracts Aberd. Reg.* (1848) II. 394 Not onlie sall the most pairt of thame [*sc.* the books] moch and conswme, bot [etc.]. *a* 1670 Spalding *Troub. Chas. I* (Bannatyne Club) I. 49 The cornes..begane to moche and rott.

Moch, obs. form of Much *a.*

Mocha[1] (mōu·kă). Forms: 7 mocus, 8 moco(e, mocoa, mocho(e, mochoa, 8– Mocha. [In early examples *mocus, moco, mocho*; of obscure origin, but regarded (perh. correctly) by Johnson (and apparently by Woodward in 1728) as identical with the place-name Mocha[2] (in 18th c. often spelt *Mocho*); hence now commonly written with capital M. Cf. G. *mokkastein*, F. *pierre de Mocka* (1765 in *Encyclopédie* X. 590), Sp. *piedra de moca*, Pg. *pedra de moca*, perh. after the Eng. name.]

1. (Also *Mocha stone, pebble.*) A variety of chalcedony resembling or identical with moss-agate, having dendritic markings due to the presence of oxides of manganese, iron, etc.

1679 *Will Dan. Bennett* (Somerset Ho.), My Mocus stone Ring. 1704 in Ashton *Soc. Life Q. Anne* (1882) I. 180 A gold Moco Stone chain set in Gold. *Ibid.* 181 One Moco Stone Bracelet. 1728 Woodward *Fossils* 22 The Mocho-Stone. *Note, Achates Mochoensis*...These are nearly related to the Agat-Kind,..with Delineations representing Mosses, Shrubs and Branches. 1728 — *Catal. Foreign Fossils* 16 A Mochoa-Stone, with Delineations of Shrubs. 1753 Mrs. Delany in *Life & Corr.* (1861) III. 249 Some new acquisitions of shells, agates, mocoes, and a thousand fine things. 1769 *Public Advertiser* 29 May 3/4 Beautiful oriental Mocoas, Antiques. Seed Pearl. *Ibid.* 12 June 3/2 A Mourning Ring, Hair, Mocoa, set round with Amethyst. 1771 *Phil. Trans.* LXIII. 17 The Earl of Wandesford had one of them sawn into a slab, and it is as beautiful as a Moco. 1789 E. Darwin *Bot. Gard.* II. 157 Pictured mochoes tesselate the ground. 1827 H. E. Lloyd tr. *Timkowski's Trav.* I. 185 An eminence which was covered with cornelians, calcedony, mocha stones, and jasper of different colours. 1843 Berkeley in *Ann. Nat. Hist.* XI. 415 On Substances inclosed in Mochastones. [*Footnote,* This word is evidently used with considerable latitude, and by no means confined to the bodies so named in this country.] By Karl Mueller. 1864 Blackmore *Clara Vaughan* xl, Any Mocha stone, fortification agate, or Scotch pebble.

2. One of several brown geometrid moths lined and variegated with grey, esp. of the genus *Ephyra*; in full often *mocha moth*, †*stone.*

1775 M. Harris *Eng. Lepidoptera* 45 Mocha stone. Pale mocha stone. 1869 E. Newman *Brit. Moths* 73 The False Mocha (*Ephyra porata*)...I do not know the caterpillars of the Mocha moths from each other. *Ibid.* 74 The Mocha (*Ephyra omicronaria*). *Ibid.,* The Dingy Mocha (*Ephyra orbicularia*). *Ibid.,* The Birch Mocha (*Ephyra pendularia*).

3. *dial.* 'A term applied to a cat of a black colour intermixed with brown.' (Halliwell 1847.)

Mocha[2] (mōu·kă). Also 8 Mocco, 9 Moka. [The name of an Arabian port at the entrance of the Red Sea.]

1. In full, *Mocha coffee*: a fine quality of coffee; *originally,* that produced in the Yemen province of Arabia in which the town of Mocha is situated. [So F. *Moka,* Sp. *café de Moca,* Pg. *cafe de Moka.*]

1773 Sir J. Pringle *Let.* in *Encycl. Brit.* (1797) V. 124/1 The coffee ought to be of the best Mocco. 1819 S. Rogers *Hum. Life* Poems (1839) 14 Then fragrant clouds of Mocha and Souchong Blend as they rise. 1871 M. Collins *Mrq. & Merch.* II. x. 292 The..lady would..sip a cup of strong Mocha. 1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 540/2 The..name of Mochá coffee is derived from the shipment of coffee there.

2. a. *Mocha aloes*: an inferior kind of hepatic aloes, of dark colour and nauseous smell, brought to Aden from the interior. **b.** *Mocha senna*: 'Indian' senna, the product of *Cassia lanceolata, angustifolia,* or *elongata.*

1881 *Syd. Soc. Lex., Aloes, Moka.* 1882 Bentley *Man. Bot.* (ed. 4) 524 The Common East Indian, Arabian, Mocha, or Bombay Senna is derived from *Cassia angustifolia.*

Mochado, variant of Mockado.

Mochato, obs. corrupt form of Mustachio.

†**Moche.** *Surg. Obs.* [a. F. *moche* skein, OF. *moiche* (mod.F. *mèche*) seton.] A seton.

1541 R. Copland *Guydon's Quest. Chirurg.* Liv b, And all other woundes without tentes and moches ought to be vnderstande to be consolydate.

Moche, obs. form of Much *sb., a.* and *adv.*

Mochel(l, -il(l, obs. forms of Mickle.

Mochenese, obs. form of Muchness.

†**Mo·chlic,** *a.* and *sb. Obs.* [a. F. *mochlique,* ad. Gr. μοχλικός pertaining to the use of levers (in reducing dislocation), f. μοχλός lever.] **a.** *adj. Surg.* Of or relating to the reduction of a dislocated bone (Mayne *Expos. Lex.* 1856). **b.** *sb. Med.* A drastic purge. So **Mo·chlical** *a.,* (of a medicine) drastic.

1657 Tomlinson *Renou's Disp.* 390* Elaterium is numerated among mochlical Medicaments. [1753 Chambers *Cycl. Supp., Mochlica,* a term by which some authors call the violent or drastic purges.]

Mocho, -oa, -oe, obs. forms of Mocha[1].

‖ **Mochras** (mō·tʃrɒs). Also 9 moocherus, mucherus, muchi-ras, mochurrus. [Hindī *mōčras*:—Skr. *močarasa.*] (See quots.)

1856 A. Faulkner *Dict. Commerc. Terms, Moocherus,* a gum resin yielded by the *Bombax Heptaphyllum.* 1882 J. Smith *Dict. Plants Econ., Mucherus,* a gummy substance obtained from the bark of *Bombax malabaricum.* 1885 E. Balfour *Cycl. India* (ed. 3), Muchi-ras. Hind. Gum from several plants,—Salmalia Malabarica and Moringa pterygosperma, also a gall from the Areca catechu. 1885 *Cassell's Encycl. Dict., Mochras.*

Mochy (mɒ·χi), *a. Sc.* [f. Moch *a.* + -y. Cf. Moky, Muggy.] Damp, misty.

1786 *Har'st Rig* lxxxi, Mair scouthry like it still does look, At length comes on in mochy rook. [For later quots. see E.D.D.]

Mochyll, variant of Mickle.

Mocio(u)n, -cioner, obs. ff. Motion, -er.

Mock (mɒk), *sb.*[1] Now *rare* or *arch.* Forms: 5–6 mokk(e, 5–7 mocke, 6 mok, 7 moke, 6– mock. [f. Mock *v.*]

1. A derisive or contemptuous action or speech; an act of mocking or derision.

c 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 360 þe gude man bade styll & had a mokk [L. *maritus delusus remansit*]. 1491 Caxton *Vitas Patr.* (W. de W. 1495) II. 195 b/2 This olde philosopher..casted at hym many proude mockes & shamefull wordes. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* xlix. 45 Wyvis thuss makis mokkis Spynnand on rokkis. 1509 Hawes *Past. Pleas.* xxxv. (Percy Soc.) 182 He..called me boye, and gave me many a mocke. 1535 Joye *Apol. Tindale* (Arb.) 14 This saith Tindale yronously in a mok as though it were false. *a* 1541 Wyatt in *Tottel's Misc.* (Arb.) 36 Such mockes of dreames do turne to deadly payne. 1587 Goloing *De Mornay* xv. (1617) 251 Ye may well thinke they gaue a dry mocke to all the arguments of Aristotle. 1615 Swetnam *Arraignm. Wom.* (1880) p. xxi, Thou canst not goe in the street with her without mocks, nor amongst thy neighbours without frumps. 1679 Earl Mulgrave *Ess. on Satire* 194 For after all his vulgar marriage mocks, With beauty dazzled, Numps was in the stocks. 1888 Child *Ballads* III. 178/1 Robin Hood..changes clothes with the palmer (who at first thinks the proposal a mock).

b. † *To make mock(s* or *a mock at*: to deride (*obs.*). *To make a mock of*: to bring into contempt.

a 1460 *Gregory's Chron.* in *Hist. Coll. Citizen Lond.* (Camden) 178 For men provesyde be-fore þat the vyntage of Gascon and Gyan shulde come ovyr Scheters Hylle, and men made but a mocke ther of. 1508 Dunbar *Tua Mariit Wemen* 279 Makand mokis at that mad fader. 1535 Coverdale *Ps.* xiii. 9 Ye haue made a mocke at the councell of the poore. — *Heb.* vi. 6 Yf they fall awaye (and concernynge them selues crucifye the sonne of God afreszhe, and make a mocke off him) that they shulde [etc.]. 1611 Bible *Prov.* xiv. 9 Fools make a mock at sin. 1693 *Mem. Cut. Teckely* II. 125 Tekeley made a mock at this forced offer. 1714 Gay *Sheph. Week, Tues.* 19 Colin makes mock at all her piteous Smart. 1837 Hawthorne *Twice-told T.* (1851) II. xviii. 265 My own shadow makes a mock of my fooleries! 1891 Hall Caine *Scapegoat* v, An evil spirit would make a mock at him. 1894 Crockett *Raiders* 21, I could never forgive her for making a mock of me.

c. Derision, mockery.

1568 Grafton *Chron.* II. 726 All their trauaile, paine, and expences, were to their shame loste and employed, and nothyng gayned, but a continuall mocke, and dayly derision of the French King. 1692 Washington tr. *Milton's Def. Pop.* vii. M.'s Wks. 1851 VIII. 171 Are they called so in vain, and in mock only? 1881 Palgrave *Visions Eng.* 247 [They] watched the Ganges-brimming jars In fiendish mock borne past their dungeon bars.

†**d.** An imposture. *Obs.*

1523 Ld. Berners *Froiss.* I. clxxvi. 213 He sent me with ye letter, the goodlyest chessemen than euer I sawe: He found out that mocke, bycause he knewe well that the capitayne loued well the game of the chesse.

†**e.** In phr. *mocks and mows*: see Mow *sb.*

2. A thing to be derided or jeered at; something deserving of scorn.

1489 Caxton *Faytes of A.* IV. i. 230 Other suche thinges of the whiche shulde not be reputed nor taken in Iugement but for a trifle or a mocke. 1583 *Leg. Bp. St. Androis* 127 They hald it still vp for a mocke, How Maister Patrik fedd his flock. 1627 May *Lucan* x. 31 If ere the world her freedome had attaind, He for a mocke had been reserv'd. 1655 Fuller *Ch. Hist.* III. iv. § 20 They were a fright to few, a mock to many, and an hurt to none. 1814 Byron *Ode to Napoleon* xvi, Foredoom'd by God—by man accurst, And that last act, though not thy worst, The very Fiend's arch mock. 1890 Mrs. A. E. Barr *Friend Olivia* i. 5 A Puritan gentleman is her mock, and nothing else.

3. The action of 'mocking' or imitating; *concr.* something that mocks or deceptively resembles; an imitation, a counterfeit.

1646 Crashaw *Musicks Duell* 108 Now reach a straine my Lute Above her mocke, or bee for ever mute. 1659 *Burton's Diary* (1828) IV. 277 It is but a mock, an image of a House of Lords. 1807 J. Barlow *Columb.* IV. 23 While pious Valverde mock of priesthood stands, Guilt in his heart, the gospel in his hands. 1844 Mrs. Browning *Lost Bower* xxxii, Or, in mock of art's deceiving, was the sudden mildness worn?

4. *attrib. use*: †**mock-sign,** a derisive gesture; **mock-word,** a term of derision. (Perh. rather f. the stem of Mock *v.*)

1659 Howell *Vocab.* i, To make mock-signs with the fingers. *Far la castagna à la fica cioè* [etc.]. 1845 R. W. Hamilton *Pop. Educ.* iv. (ed. 2) 61 Religion is a mock-word on their lips.

Mock (mɒk), *sb.*[2] *dial.* [Possibly repr. an OE. **moc,* related to ON. *mjúk-r* soft (see Meek *a.*), *myki* Muck.] (See quots. 1796, 1882.)

1777 *Horæ Subsecivæ* 275 (E.D.D.). 1796 W. Marshall *W. Eng.* I. 232 The washings of the 'mock', or pomage. *Ibid.* 328 *Mock,* pomage, or ground fruit. 1882 Friend *Devon. Plant names* (E.D.S.) 38 *Mock,* apples made into cheese or pommage, ready for the cider-press.

Mock (mɒk), *sb.*[3] *dial.*

1. A root or stump; a log.

1844 Barnes *Poems Rural Life* 328 *Mock,* a root or stump of a cut-off bush, or large stick. 1855 *Morton's Cycl. Agric.* II. 724/2 *Mock* (Dorset), the root of a tree. 1874 Mrs. Whitcombe *Bygone Days Devon & Cornw.* 194 The Christmas Log..is usually called 'the mock'.

2. A tuft of coarse grass or rush left by cattle in pasture land.

1844 Barnes *Poems Rural Life* 328 *Mock,*..a tuft of sedge. 1886 Elworthy *W. Somerset Word-bk.* 482 The cattle usually leave tufts or patches of the ranker herbage: these are always called *mocks.*

Mock (mɒk), *sb.*[4] *Anglo-Irish.* [Of obscure origin.] A piece of land held in 'conacre'. Also *Comb.* **mockground** = Conacre.

1824 *Evid. bef. Commons Comm.* 20 May 131 What do you mean by mockground?..Do you not refer to muckground? It may be; they call it cornacre. 1862 H. Coulter *West of Irel.* 71 Conacre or Mockground as they term it in Clare. ..I have heard of an instance of a Mock being charged for at the rate of £10 an acre.

Mock (mɒk), *a.* (Not in predicative use.) [Partly from the attributive use of Mock *sb.*[1]; partly from the use of the stem of Mock *v.* in combination with an object. The hyphen is still often used in the collocations of the adj. with sbs.; when these are used attributively the hyphen is almost always inserted.]

1. Prefixed to a sb. to form a designation for a person or thing that 'mocks', parodies, imitates, or deceptively resembles that which the sb. properly denotes; = sham, counterfeit, imitation, pretended.

a. of persons.

1548 Latimer *Ploughers* (Arb.) 26, I feare me some be rather mocke gospellers then faythful ploughmen. 1591 Spenser *M. Hubberd* 1091 They this mock-King did espy. 1652 Evelyn *Diary* 6 Mar., Then marched the mourners, General Cromwell.., his mock-parliament-men, officers, and 40 poore men in gounes. 1660 Fuller *Mixt Contempl.* (1841) 256 Many mock-ministers having banished out of divine service the use of the Lord's prayer, creed, and ten commandments. 1668 Dryden (*title*) An Evening's Love, or the Mock-Astrologer. 1687 A. Lovell tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* III. 10 The Tomb of the Mock-Saint which is in the middle of the Chappel. *a* 1711 Ken *Hymnotheo* Wks. 1721 III. 217 The Envoy Thanks to the Mock-Angel paid. 1724 Swift *Drapier's Lett.* Wks. 1755 V. II. 30 This little arbitrary mock-monarch. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* vi. II. 84 A barrister .. appeared for the mock plaintiff, and made some feeble objections to the defendant's plea. 1901 A. Lang *Magic & Relig.* 134 The mock-king who was annually killed at the Babylonian festival of the Sacæa.

b. of things, actions, events, etc.

c 1561 [see Mock holiday]. 1581 Savile *Tacitus, Hist.* IV. xv. (1591) 179 Those mocke-expeditions of Caius the Emperour. 1623 Cockeram, To Rdr., The mocke-words which are ridiculously vsed in our language. 1643 *Conv-catching Bride, title-p.,* This..Mock-Marriage was kept privately in London. 1646 J. Benbrigge *God's Fury* 54 Alas, your mock-prayers, mock-fasts, your mock-duties, make his fury come into face. 1647 R. Stapylton *Juvenal* 213 His wooden mock-knife. 1655 Fuller *Ch. Hist.* II. ii. § 43 Those Idols .. were so far from defending themselves, that their mock-Mouths could not afford one word, to bemoan their finall Destruction. *a* 1656 Bp. Hall *Rem. Wks.* (1660) 167 The Popish mock-fasts which allow the greatest dainties in the strictest abstinence. 1682 Dryden & Lee *Dk. of Guise* I. i, I'll swear him Guilty. I swallow Oaths as easie as Snap-dragon, Mock-Fire that never burns. 1689 *Acc. Reasons Chas. II War States-Gen.* 6 After a Mock-Imprisonment of nine or ten days he was let out again. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Mock-song,* that Ridicules another Song, in the same Terms and to the same Tune. *A Mock-Romance,* that ridicules other Romances, as *Don Quixot.* A Mock-Play, that exposes other playes, as the *Rehearsal.* *a* 1711 Ken *Hymns Evang.* Wks. 1721 I. 88 Mock-Thunder-bolt in his Right Hand he graspt. 1770 *Junius Lett.* xxxviii. (1820) 188 The lofty terms .. resembled the pomp of a mock tragedy. 1838 Thirlwall *Greece* IV. xxviii. 49 The mock assembly was dismissed. 1839 Fr. A. Kemble *Resid. in Georgia* (1863) 21 The turkey-buzzards..soar over the river like so many mock eagles. 1844 Thirlwall *Greece* VIII. 361 A mock trial in which their enemies were judges. 1855 Tennyson *Maud* III. vi. 33 It is time, O passionate heart and morbid eye, That old hysterical mock-disease should die. 1894 Hall Caine *Manxman* v. ii, He..lifted his eyebrows and his hands in mock protest.

c. of qualities, sentiments, etc.

1648 Sanderson *Serm.* II. 248 There are .. many mock-graces .. that .. are not the things they seem to be. 1684 Winstanley *Eng. Worthies* 346 One that was a Thrasonical Puff, and Emblem of mock-valour. 1712 Addison *Spect.* No. 309 ¶ 1 That superior Greatness and Mock-Majesty, which is ascribed to the Prince of the fallen Angels. 1784 W. Coxe *Trav. Poland,* etc. I. 150 This spirit of mock-reverence. 1806 T. Campbell in Smiles *Mem. J. Murray* (1891) I. xiv. 326, I am not assuming any mock modesty. 1835 Lytton *Rienzi* x. ii, The young man..had much of the .. mock patriotism of the Romans. 1877 Black *Green Past.* xxiv, He gave that advice with mock humility.

2. Special collocations (usually hyphened): **mock auction,** a 'Dutch auction' (see Auction *sb.* 2); also, a fraudulent auction of worthless articles, in which a brisk pretence of bidding is kept up by confederates in order to elicit genuine bids; **mock-colour,** a fugitive as opposed to a permanent colour or dye (cf. *False colour*: False *a.* 16 b); **mock-gold,** a yellow alloy composed of copper, zinc, platinum and other materials in various proportions (*Cent. Dict.* 1890); **mock-knee,** a callosity on the inner side of a horse's leg below the

knee (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1891); **mock-lead** = BLENDE, hence **mock-leady** *a.*, containing blende; †**mock-man**, (*a*) one unworthy to be called a man; also *attrib.*; (*b*) a chimpanzee; **mock-moon** = PARASELENE; **mock-ore** = *mock-lead* (see also quot. 1681); **mock-plum** = *bladder plum* (BLADDER 10); **mock-rainbow**, a secondary rainbow (see RAINBOW 1); **mock-sun** = PARHELION; also *fig.*; †**mock-velvet**, perh. = MOCKADO. Also in names of culinary preparations, as **mock-brawn**, the flesh of a pig's head and ox feet cut in pieces, and dressed to resemble brawn; **mock-duck, -goose**, a piece of pork from which the 'crackling' has been removed, baked with a stuffing of sage and onions (*colloq.*); **mock venison**, leg of mutton long hung, cooked after the manner of venison. Also MOCK TURTLE.

c 1766 *Cheats of London Exposed* 32, I term them *Mock-Auctions, because they are deceits throughout. 1884 DICKENS *Dict. Lond.* 28/1 The '*Mock Auction*' is a swindle. 1891 M. WILLIAMS *Later Leaves* 82 A mock auction case. 1769 MRS. RAFFALD *Eng. Housekpr.* (1805) 302 To make *Mock Brawn. 1845 ELIZA ACTON *Mod. Cookery*, Index, Mock brawn. 1791 HAMILTON *Berthollet's Dyeing* I. I. II. iv. 207 If it loses its body or ground of colour it is a *mock colour. 1877 *Cassell's Dict. Cookery* 262 *Mock Goose is a name given in some parts to a leg of pork roasted without the skin, and stuffed just under the knuckle with sage-and-onion stuffing. *a* 1728 WOODWARD *Nat. Hist. Fossils* (1729) I. I. 182 A black glossy Matter like Talc .. common in Cornwall; and call'd there *Mock-Lead. 1829 *Glover's Hist. Derby* I. 84 Mock lead is the native sulphuret of zinc. 1757 tr. *Henckel's Pyritol.* 6 These fissures .. be often *mock-leady. 1624 FLETCHER *Wife for Month* I. i, I would first take to me, for my lust, a Moore, One of your Gally-slaves, that cold and hunger, Decrepid misery, had made a *mock-man, Then be your Queene. 1636 MASSINGER *Bashf. Lover* v. i, What a Mock-man property, in thy intent, Wouldst thou have made me? 1738 [see CHIMPANZEE]. 1654 VILVAIN *Epit. Ess.* v. l, Three *mock-Moons at once reflex'd hav hin. 1889 *Pall Mall G.* 27 Oct. 7/1 Occasionally for a few minutes one or other of the mock-moons was very bright. 1681 GREW *Musæum* III. § ii. iii. 338 Mundick Ore, and Black Daze, mixed with a Vein of White and Green Spar...These Ores, by some are called *Mock-Ores. 1786 WHITEHURST *Orig. St. Earth* (ed. 2) 230 This mineral has been usually known by the names of black-jack, and mock-ore. 1829 *Glover's Hist. Derby* I. 84 Mock ore, or sulphuret of zinc. 1890 B. D. JACKSON *Gloss. Bot. Terms*, **Mock-pinnæ*. 1725 POPE *Wks. Shaks.* I. Pref. 2 Each picture like a *mock-rainbow is but the reflexion of a reflexion. 1665–6 *Mock-sun [see PARHELION]. 1671 MARTEN *Voy. into Spitzbergen* in *Acc. Sev. Late Voy.* II. (1694) 50 A Parelion or Mock-sun. 1878 BROWNING *Poets Croisic* xxxix, Let France adore No longer an illusive mock sun. 1886 *Pall Mall G.* 2 Apr. 7/2 Four mock suns were seen in the neighbourhood of Greenwich. *a* 1613 OVERBURY *New Charac., Fellow of House* (1615) L 3, His meanes will not suffer him to come too nigh [the fashion]: they afford him *Mock-veluet or Satinisco. 1845 ELIZA ACTON *Mod. Cookery* 225 *Mock Venison. Hang a plump and finely-grained leg of mutton in a cool place [etc.].

b. In popular or book names of plants, as **mock acacia**, *Robinia Pseud-Acacia* (see ACACIA I 2); **mock-apple**, Canadian name for *Echinocystis lobata* (*Treas. Bot.* Suppl. 1874); **mock bishop('s)-weed**, American name for the genus *Discopleura*; **mock-chervil**, (*a*) Cow parsley, *Anthriscus sylvestris*; (*b*) Shepherd's needle, *Scandix Pecten*; **mock gillyflower** (see GILLYFLOWER 3); **mock liquorice**, Goat's rue, *Galega officinalis*; †**mock-mustard**, [tr. mod.L. *sinapistrum*], ? *Salvadora indica*; **mock myrtle**, ? bog-myrtle, *Myrica Gale*; **mock-olive**, an Australian jasmine, *Notelæa longifolia* (Maiden *Native Pl. Australia* 1889); **mock-orange**, (*a*) the common syringa, *Philadelphus coronarius*; (*b*) the Carolina cherry-laurel, *Prunus caroliniana*; (*c*) the Australian native laurel, *Pittosporum undulatum* (ibid.); **mock pennyroyal**, the genus *Hedeoma*; **mock plane(-tree)**, the sycamore, *Acer Pseudo-Platanus*; **mock privet**, the genus *Phillyrea*; **mock saffron**, *Carthamus tinctorius*; **mock willow**, *Spiræa salicifolia*.

1754 *Catal. Seeds* in *Fam. Rose Kilravock* (Spald. Club) 428 *Mock acacia. 1860 GRAY *Man. Bot.* 156 *Discopleura. *Mock Bishop-weed. 1548 TURNER *Names Herbes* (E.D.S.) 54 Myrrhis is called in Cambrygeshyre casshes, in other places *mockecheruel. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. cccc. 884 *Pecten Veneris* .. Shepheards Needle, wilde Cheruill, Mock-Cheruill. 1548 TURNER *Names Herbes* (E.D.S.) 86 Regalicum is also named Ruta caraaria, Galega, & Gaiarda...It maye be called in englishe *mocke Licores. 1698 J. PETIVER in *Phil. Trans.* XX. 316 Five leaved *Mock-Mustard. 1837 ELLISON *Kirkstead* 26 Thickets .. Of sweet *Mock-myrtle and of purple Ling. 1731 MILLER *Gard. Dict., Syringa* .. The *Mock-Orange; *vulgo*. 1812 BRACKENRIDGE *Views Louisiana* (1814) 59 There is particularly one very beautiful, *bois jaune*, or yellow wood: by some called the mock orange. 1903 QUILLER-COUCH *Adv. H. Revel* 139 A bush of mock-orange at the end of the verandah. 1860 GRAY *Man. Bot.* 308 *Hedeoma*. *Mock Pennyroyal. 1797–1804 MARTYN *Miller's Gard. Dict.* (1807) s. v. *Acer*, With us it [the Great Maple] is vulgarly called the Sycomore-tree and by some *Mock-plane. 1887 BENTLEY *Man. Bot.* (ed. 5) 521 The latter [*Acer Pseudo-platanus*] is generally known under the names of the Sycamore, Greater Maple, and Mock-plane. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* III. liv. 1209 Of *mocke Priuet. 1 *Phillyrea angustifolia*. 1731 MILLER *Gard. Dict., Philyrea*, Mock-Privet. 1548 TURNER *Names Herbes* (E.D.S.) 29 Cnecus or cnicus is called..in englishe Bastarde saffron or *mocke-saffron. 1633 JOHNSON *Gerarde's Herbal* App. 1601 This Willow leaued Shrub .. I have named in English *Mocke willow.

c. in names of birds, as **mock-nightingale**, (*a*) the BLACKCAP, *Sylvia atricapilla*; (*b*) the Garden warbler, *Sylvia salicaria*; (*c*) the Whitethroat, *Sylvia rufa* (or *Motacilla sylvia*); (*d*) the Sedge warbler, *Acrocephalus schænobænus*; **mock regent-bird**, an Australian Honey-eater, *Meliphaga phrygia*; **mock-thrush** *U.S.* = MOCKING THRUSH.

1768 PENNANT *Zool.* II. 262 It [the blackcap]..is called in Norfolk the *mock-nightingale. 1831 *Montagu's Ornith. Dict.* (ed. 2) 42 It does not appear to me that the provincial names of Mock-nightingale, Nettle-creeper, Nettle-monger, are ever applied to the Blackcap, but to the White-throat and the Fauvette. 1878 NEWTON in *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 541/1 The name..Mock-Nightingale is in England occasionally given to some of the Warblers, especially the Blackcap ..and the Sedge-bird. 1848 GOULD *Birds Austral.* IV. 48 Warty-faced Honey-eater...*Mock Regent-Bird, [of the] Colonists of New South Wales. 1890 *Century Dict.*, **Mock-thrush*.

3. *Comb.* a. with adjs. and advs. with the sense 'in a counterfeit manner', 'simulatedly'. Chiefly implying humorous or ludicrous simulation, as in MOCK-HEROIC.

a 1711 KEN *Edmund* Poet. Wks. 1721 II. 178 Seven mock-bright Angels on the Deck appear'd. 1836–48 B. D. WALSH *Aristoph.* 44 *note*, A mock-serious tone. 1858 GEN. P. THOMPSON *Audi Alt.* I. xliv. 173 The men, pompous, mouthing, and mock-dignified. 1864 G. MEREDITH *Emilia* xxxvi, 'It is done, sometimes', she said, mock-sadly. 1871 — *H. Richmond* xlvii, I told her mock-loftily that I did not believe in serious illnesses coming to godlike youth. 1880 SWINBURNE *Stud. Shaks.* (ed. 2) 198 A pseudocritical and mock-historic society. 1893 *Outing* (U. S.) May 120/1 'Thank you..Mr. Smith!' she said, with a mock-offended air. 1900 G. SWIFT *Somerley* 117 Prudishly mock-modest.

b. with a verb, with the humorous sense 'pretendingly'; also with a ppl. adj., as †**mock-made** *a.*, made as a counterfeit.

a 1619 FLETCHER *Bonduca* IV. ii, I defie thee, thou mock-made man of mat! *a* 1661 FULLER *Worthies, Somerset* (1662) III. 31 Other mens mock-commending verses thereon [*sc.* Coryat's Crudities]. 1889 J. CORBETT *Monk* xi. 158 He [*i.e.* Monk's butler] was a wag whom Charles the First had mock-knighted one evening at supper with his table-knife.

Mock (mɒk), *v.* Forms: 5 **mokken, moke, mocque**, 5–6 **mokkyn, mok**, 5–7 **mocke**, 6– **mock**. [ME. *mokken, mocque*, ad. OF. *mocquer* (F. *moquer*) to deride, jeer, a northern dialect form corresp. to the synonymous Pr. *mochar*, It. *moccare*.

According to some scholars, the word represents a popular L. **muccāre* to wipe the nose (whence F. *moucher*, It. *moccare*), f. **mucc-us* (class. L. *mūcus*: see MUCUS). With the OF. (whence the Eng.) transitive use, cf. L. *ēmungĕre* to wipe the nose, to cheat. The reflexive use (the only one in mod.Fr.) *se moquer de quelqu'un*, may originally have denoted the derisive gesture imitative of the movement of wiping the nose. In mod. Provençal, according to Mistral, *mouca* means 'to wipe the nose', 'to strike on the nose', while *se mouca* = F. *se moquer*, and *moucado* means 'a blow on the nose', 'a humiliation'.

Another hypothesis, less plausible semasiologically, would connect the word with Ger.dial. *mucken* to growl, grumble, OHG. *irmuccazan* 'mutire' (mod.G. *mucksen* to grumble).]

1. *trans.* To hold up to ridicule; to deride; to assail with scornful words or gestures.

a 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* 64 Thei were mocked and scorned of alle folke for her leudnesse. *c* 1450 *Mankind* 371 in *Macro Plays* 14 Haue ȝe non other man to moke, but euer me? 1484 CAXTON *Fables of Poge* vii, Alle the sallary or payment of them that mokken other is for to be mocqued at the last. 1530 PALSGR. 639/2 He mocketh hym at every worde and yet the foole perceyveth it nat. *Ibid.* 663/1, I potte, I mocke one with makyng a potte in the syde of my mouth. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* III. ii. 34 Loe, how he mockes me, wilt thou let him my Lord? 1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* III. ii. 156 Mock not a Cobler for his black thumbes. 1781 W. CAMERON in *Sc. Paraphr.* XVII. vi, Mock not my name with honours vain, but keep my holy laws. 1812 J. WILSON *Isle of Palms* II. 273 Art thou a fiend..Come here to mock..My dying agony. 1869 M. ARNOLD *Urania* vii, With smiles, till then, Coldly she mocks the sons of men.

b. With *adv.* or *phrase* as complement: To bring to a certain condition by mockery. Now *rare*. Also, †*to mock out*: (*a*) to evade (an argument, etc.) by mockery or trifling; (*b*) to gain by mocking or buffoonery.

1533 [TINDALE] *Supper of the Lord* E vj, And as for M. More, whom the verite most offendeth, & doth but mocke it out when he can not sole it. 1591 SPENSER *M. Hubberd* 509 For there [at court] thou needs must learne to laugh, to lie,..to be a beetle-stock Of thy great Masters will, to scorne, or mock. So maist thou chaunce mock out a Benefice. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, I. ii. 285 Many a thousand widows Shall this his Mocke, mocke out of their deer husbands; Mocke mothers from their sonnes, mocke Castles downe. 1625 JACKSON *Creed* V. xxiv. § 4 He would .. be mocked out of his skin by Courtiers. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* IX. vii. § 18 It was no solœcisme to the gravity of Eliah to mock Baals priests out of their superstition. *a* 1863 WOOLNER *My Beautiful Lady* 60 Some gigantic bell, Whose thunder laughing through my brain Mocked me back to flesh again.

c. To defy; to set at nought.

1558 KNOX *First Blast* (Arb.) 38, I thinke likewise this reason shuld be mocked. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* II. i. 30, I would ore-stare the sternest eies that looke..Yea, mocke the Lion when he rores for pray To win the Ladie. 1606 — *Ant. & Cl.* III. xiii. 185 Fill our Bowles once more: Let's mocke the midnight Bell. 1877 C. GEIKIE *Christ* lxi. (1879) 746 The hierarchy .. know how to honor the appearance of justice while mocking the reality.

d. *fig.* of impersonal things.

1667 MILTON *P. L.* IV. 628 Our walks at noon, with branches overgrown, That mock our scant manuring. 1741–2 GRAY *Agrippina* 156 These hated walls that seem to mock my shame. 1764 GOLDSM. *Trav.* 248 Though my harsh touch, falt'ring still, But mock'd all tune, And marr'd the dancer's skill. 1788 T. WARTON *On H. M. Birth-day* 51 And many a fane he rear'd, that still sublime In massy pomp has mock'd the stealth of time. 1807 WORDSW. *White Doe* VII. 28 A perishing That mocks the gladness of the Spring. 1821 SHELLEY *Adonais* 17 Melodies, With which, like flowers that mock the corse beneath, He had adorned and hid the coming bulk of Death. 1847 A. R. C. DALLAS *Look to Jerus.* (ed. 4) 84 Australasia and Polynesia have arisen to mock our arithmetic. 1879 'E. GARRETT' *House by Works* I. 13 Their artless sport did not seem to mock her, as did the sunshine and the breeze.

2. *intr.* To use or give utterance to ridicule; to act or speak in derision; to jeer, scoff; to flout. Const. *at*, †*with*.

c 1450 *Mankind* 358 in *Macro Plays* 14 We xall bargen with yow, & noþer moke nor scorne. 1502 *Ord. Crysten Men* (W. de W. 1506) II. viii. 107 Also those the whyche mocketh with these auncyentes. 1561 T. NORTON *Calvin's Inst.* III. 202 This forsooth is not to mocke with the Scriptures. 1581 MULCASTER *Positions* xli. (1887) 239 Some..do vse to abase them, and to mocke at mathematicall heades. 1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* I. vii. 21 Lactantius Firmian, and S. Augustine mocke at such as hold there be any Antipodes. 1611 BIBLE *Prov.* i. 26, I also will laugh at your calamitie, I will mocke when your feare commeth. 1784 COWPER *Task* v. 122 Thus Nature works as if to mock at Art. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* III. v. Fleet limbs that mocked at time. 1822 SHELLEY *Chas. I*, ii. 386 If fear were made for kings, the Fool mocks wisely. 1884 TENNYSON *Becket* IV. ii, Will he not mock at me?

†b. To jest, trifle; to make sport. *Obs.*

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 341/2 Mokkyn, or iapyn, or tryfelyn, *ludifico*. *c* 1460 *Wisdom* 826 in *Macro Plays* 62 *Mynde*... On a soper I wyll .. Set a noble with goode chere redyly to spende. *Wndyrstondynge*. And I tweyn be þis feer, To moque at a goode dyner. 1537 SIR J. DUDLEY in Froude *Hist. Eng.* III. 253 He..mocked not with me, for he brake down a part of the decks of my ship. 1611 BIBLE *Gen.* xix. 14 Lot .. said,..the Lord wil destroy this citie: but hee seemed as one that mocked, vnto his sonnes in law.

3. *trans.* To deceive or impose upon; to delude, befool; to tantalize, disappoint.

c 1470 HENRY *Wallace* VIII. 1412 In spech off luff suttell ye Sotheroun ar; Ye can ws mok, suppos ye se no mar. 1538 CROMWELL in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) II. 141 He dothe but to dyvise to mocke al the world by practises with faire wordes for his owne purpose. 1561 T. NORTON *Calvin's Inst.* III. 246 Let us not wilfully mocke our selues to our own destruction. 1597 SHAKS. *2 Hen. IV*, V. ii. 126 My Father is gone wilde into his Graue,..And with his Spirits, sadly I surviue, To mocke the expectation of the World; To frustrate Prophesies. 1611 BIBLE *Judg.* XVI. 10 Behold, thou hast mocked me, and told mee lies. 1648 BP. HALL *Breathings Devout Soul* (1851) 201 What would it avail me, O Lord, to mock the eyes of all the world with a semblance of holiness? 1667 MILTON *P. L.* X. 773 Why am I mockt with death, and length'nd out To deathless pain? 1812 H. & J. SMITH *Rej. Addr.* iii. (1873) 17 What stately vision mocks my waking sense? 1819 SHELLEY *Fragm. Tale Untold* 4 Empty cups ..Which mock the lips with air, when they are thirsting. 1847 EMERSON *Repr. Men, Napoleon* Wks. (Bohn) I. 381 As long as our civilization is essentially one of property, .. it will be mocked by delusions. 1852 M. ARNOLD *Empedocles on Etna* I. 15 Mind is a light which the Gods mock us with, To lead those false who trust it.

†b. To disappoint *of* something promised. *Obs.*

1541 in I. S. Leadam *Sel. Cas. Crt. Requests* (Selden) 61 Your sayd servant and subiet was .. dissapoynted and mocked of suche bandoges as he shold have had.

4. To ridicule by imitation of speech or action. (The current colloquial use, and presumably as old as the 16th c., but not evidenced in literature.) Hence, to imitate or resemble closely; to mimic, counterfeit. (Cf. MOCKING-BIRD.)

1595 SHAKS. *John* V. ii. 173 Another [*sc.* drum] shall .. rattle the Welkins eare, And mocke the deepe mouth'd Thunder. 1611 — *Wint. T.* V. iii. 19–20 Prepare To see the Life as lively mock'd, as euer Still Sleepe mock'd Death. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew*, *To Mock*, or mimick another. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* III. 335 For what live ever here?..to hid each wretched day The former mock? 1817 SHELLEY *Rev. Islam* VI. xlv. 7 He [a horse] would spread His nostrils to the blast, and joyously Mock the fierce peal with neighings. 1822 — *Chas. I*, ii. 98 He mocks and mimics all he sees and hears. 1827–44 WILLIS *Lazarus & Mary* 16 Like life well mock'd in marble. 1843 RUSKIN *Mod. Paint.* II. IV. iv. 311 Not one of Stansfield's lines is like another. Every one of Salvator's mocks all the rest. 1867 G. G. MCCRAE *Balladeadro* 30 (Morris) There the proud lyre-bird spreads his tail, And mocks the notes of hill and dale.

†b. To simulate, make a false pretence of. *Obs.*

1593 SHAKS. *3 Hen. VI*, III. iii. 255, I long till Edward fall by Warres mischance, For mocking Marriage with a Dame of France. 1606 — *Ant. & Cl.* V. i. 2 Go to him Dollabella, bid him yeeld, Being so frustrate, tell him, He mockes the pawses that he makes.

†5. In the 17th c. the verb-stem was prefixed to a few sbs., forming compound sbs. with the sense 'one who or something which mocks...': **mock-beggar**, (*a*) applied to a house that has an appearance of wealth, but is either deserted or else inhabited by miserly or poor persons; also as quasi-proper name, *Mock-Beggar('s Hall*, etc.; (*b*) used by Florio (? erroneously) for BULL-BEGGAR; **mock-clown** *nonce-wd.*, a trick that deludes rustics; **mock-guest**, one who disappoints his guests of

the liberal entertainment which he has led them to expect; in quot. *fig.* Also MOCK-GOD.

1611 FLORIO, *Beffana*, a bug-beare, a scarcrow, a *mock-begger, a toy to mocke an ape. 1615 *Cupids Whirligig* C 4, Whats this, A shirt that ye weare, Else 'tis a mock-beggar with stripes. 1616 *Rich Cabinet* 52 A Gentleman without meanes, is like a faire house without furniture, or any inhabitant,..whose rearing was chargeable to the owner, and painfull to the builder, and all ill-bestowed, to make a mock-begger, that hath no good morrowe for his next neighbour. 1622 J. TAYLOR (Water-P.) *Water-Cormorant* C 2 b, The poore receiue their answer from the Dawes, Who in their caaing language call it plaine Mockbegger Manour, for they came in vaine. *a* 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia, Mock-Beggar-Hall.* 1835 HORSFIELD *Sussex* I. 136 Some old buildings in a place called the Mock-beggars. 1840 *Gentl. Mag.* Oct. 338 Both places .. bear the name of Mock-Beggar's Hall. The one is an insulated rock near Bakewell .. presenting from the road the semblance of a house. .. The other is a Tudor .. mansion in the parish of Claydon ..which .. remained so long unoccupied as to be the cause of numerous disappointments to those travellers who had never been taken in before. 1598 FLORIO, *Ingannauillano*, the name of a leape or sault so called in Italian, as we should say *mock-clowne. 1642 FULLER *Holy St.* I. i. 3 Some women which hang out signes .. will not lodge strangers; yet these *mock-guests are guilty in tempting others to tempt them.

Mockable (mɒ·kăb'l), *a.* [f. MOCK *v.* + -ABLE. Cf. F. *moquable.*] Deserving of or exposed to derision.

1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* III. ii. 49 Those that are good maners at the Court, are as ridiculous in the Countrey, as the behauiour of the Countrie is most mockeable at the Court. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* (1872) III. I. vii. 41 This huge Mooncalf of Sansculottism,..is not mockable only, and soft like another calf. 1892 PEYTON *Mem. Jesus* iii. 63 The Primates .. mock us unconsciously. We encounter the mockable element in man, just at the junction where flesh is passing into mind, animality into mentality.

Mockadam, variant of MOKADDAM.

† Mockado (mɒkā·do). *Obs.* Forms: 6 **mockeado, mochadoo, mockadoo, -adowe, makadowe, moccadowe,** 6–7 **mocado, mockadoe,** 6–8 **moccado,** 7 **moccadoe, -dow, mocadoe, mochado, muckado,** 8 **mockade**(e, 6– **mockado.** [app. a corruption of It. *mocajardo* (see MOHAIR) or some variant.

Cotgrave (1611) gives 'mockado' as the rendering of F. *moucade* (not found elsewhere) and *mocayart*, and he renders *moncaiart* by 'silk moccadoe'; a Fr. form *mouquayat* occurs in 1580 as the name of a material for curtains. Florio (1611) has It. *moccaiaro*, and *moccaiorro*, 'mokado stuffe'.]

1. A kind of cloth much used for clothing in the 16th and 17th centuries. Also *attrib.*, as *mockado cassock, doublet*, etc.; *mockado ends, fringe* (mentioned as a commodity sold by weight). *Tuft mockado*, a peculiar kind of mockado decorated with small tufts of wool.

It was made in Flanders and (first by Flemish refugees) at Norwich; it is usually mentioned as an inferior material (of wool) in contrast with silk and velvet, but a 'silk mockado' is also spoken of. Quot. 1638 exceptionally refers to *mockado* as a costly fabric; but the word by that time may have ceased to be generally understood.

1543 *Richmond Wills* (Surtees) 51 One night gowne of mockeado with one paire of hoase of the same. 1571–2 A. WHITFELD in *Durham Depos.* (Surtees) 246 Mochadoo for the cote, coller, and hands, with sylk boottons. 1579 DEE *Diary* (Camden) 6 Some kinde of tuft mockado, with crosses blew and red. 1587 HARRISON *England* II. v. (1877) I. 132 Mockadoes tufted and plaine. *Ibid.* III. i. (1878) II. 6 Now by meanes of strangers succoured here from domesticall persecution, the same [*sc.* wool] hath beene imploied vnto sundrie other vses, as mockados, baies, vellures [etc.]. 1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* III. xxiv. (Arb.) 290 Who would not thinke it a ridiculous thing to see a Lady in her milke-house with a veluet gowne, and at a bridall in her cassock of mockado. 1590 *Acc. Bk. W. Wray* in *Antiquary* XXXII. 374, 1½ black moccado fringe, iii s. viij d. 1594 LODGE & GREENE *Looking-glass* (1598) C 3 b, When I .. saw .. what a faire mockado Cape it had. 1596 LODGE *Wits Miserie* 14 The farmer that was contented in times past with his Russet Frocke & Mockado sleeues, now sels a Cow against Easter to buy him silken geere for his credit. 1605 *Lond. Prodigal* III. i, Why she went in a fringed gown, a single ruff, and a white cap; and my father in a mocado coat. 1617 in Heath *Grocers' Comp.* (1869) 427 Crimson mochados to make sleeves for the poore men. 1620 in *Nawarth Househ. Bks.* (Surtees) 123 A pound of black moccadow ends, ij*s.* viij*d.* 1638 FORD *Lady's Trial* ii. i, Imagine first our rich mockado doublet. 1660 *Act* 12 *Chas. II*, c. 4 Rates Inward, Mocado ends the dozen pound, iiij *li.*

b. *fig.* as the type of an inferior material. Also *attrib.* or *adj.*: Trumpery, inferior.

(In quot. 1741 used, probably by etymological misapprehension, in the sense of 'mockery'. Cf. -ADO 2.)

1577 FULKE *Confut. Purg.* 287 Mockadoe miracles, narrations, and relations. 1589 R. HARVEY *Pl. Perc.* 8, I will nicke-name no bodie: I am none of these tuft mockadoo mak-a-dooes. 1619 J. TAYLOR (Water-P.) *Kicksey Winsey* B 8 b, I muse of what stuff these men framed be, Most of them seeme Muckado vnto me. 1621 — *Motto* D, I want that high esteemed excellence Of fustian, or mockado Eloquence. 1741 RICHARDSON *Pamela* II. 37 What Mockado is this to such a poor Soul as I?

2. (See quot.)

1738 in *6th Rep. Dep. Kpr.* App. II. 120 A new Invention of making Carpetting called French Carpets or Moccadoes.

† Mo·ckage. *Obs.* [f. MOCK *sb.* + -AGE.] Very common in the 16th and 17th centuries.

1. The action or an act of mocking; mockery, ridicule, derision; a derisive utterance or action.

1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* IX. i. 338 In mockage ye shalle be called la cote male tayle. 1494 FABYAN *Chron.* VII. 608 The Frenshe Gaguyne bryngeth in a matier of game, as he rehersith, to the mockage of Englissbmen. 1535 COVERDALE *Isa.* xiv. 4 Then shalt thou vse this mockage vpon yᵉ kinge of Babilon. 1548 GEST *Pr. Masse* D ij, What an vnsufferable mockedge is this aswel of god as of our soueraygne lord yᵉ king. 1561 T. NORTON *Calvin's Inst.* IV. xx. (1634) 743 Christians ought truly to bee a kinde of men..open to the malice, deceits, and mockages, of naughty men. 1577 HANMER *Anc. Eccl. Hist.* (1663) 38 In a mockage they tried the sharpnesse of their swords upon the dead bodies. 1607 R. C[AREW] tr. *Estienne's World of Wonders* 347 Turned into a matter of merriment and mockage of poore Saint Peter. *a* 1677 MANTON *Serm. Ps.* cxix. 52 (1681) 347 Their Derision and Mockage of Godliness ceaseth.

b. The fact or condition of being mocked.

1534 LD. BERNERS *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) G ij, The woorkes of the peple ar holden in mockage with wyse men. 1580 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 344 Which then brought youth into a fooles Paradise, and hatb now cast age into an open mockage. *a* 1656 HALES *Gold. Rem.* III. (1673) 36 It is but an errour to think that God is a party capable of mockage and illusion; no art, no fineness can circumvent or abuse him.

2. An object of mockery.

1535 COVERDALE *Jer.* XXV. 9, I will make of them a wildernesse a mockage and a continuall deserte. 1628 WITHER *Brit. Rememb.* Concl. 53 Nay, Law is made a mockage, and a scorne. 1657 REEVE *God's Plea* 23 Man ..was the spoil of time, the mockage of fortune, and image of consistency. *a* 1677 MANTON *Serm. Ps.* cxix. 83 (1681) 553 Though scorned and made a mockage [1725 mock] by those that .. lived in pomp and splendor, yet his zeal was not abated.

3. Mimicry, close imitation; *concr.* something that mocks or resembles, a counterfeit.

1615 J. STEPHENS *Ess. & Char., A Ranke Observer* (1857) 160 Whilst he meanes to purge himself by observing other humours, he practises them by a shadow of mockage. 1686 GOAD *Celest. Bodies* III. i. 397, I can believe..that there are such Mockages of Humane Nature by Sea, as an Ape is on the Mountain.

Mockaire, obs. form of MOHAIR.

Mo·ckaniste. *nonce-wd.* [f. MOCK *v.* after the words in the context.] A mocker.

a 1550 *Image Ipocr.* III. in *Skelton's Wks.* (1843) II. 435/2 He is no Acquiniste, Nor non Occanist, But a mockaniste.

Mockaseen, -a(s)sin, -ason, obs. ff. MOCCASIN.

Mock-beggar: see MOCK *v.* 5.

Mo·ck-bird. [f. MOCK *sb.*¹ + BIRD *sb.*] The American MOCKING-BIRD, *Mimus polyglottus.*

1649 *Perf. Descr. Virginia* (1837) 15 One Bird we call the Mock-bird; for he will imitate all other Birds Notes. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 51 ¶ 4 The Indian Fowl, called the Mock-Bird, who has no Note of his own. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1824) II. 337 The American Mock-bird. *Ibid.* 338 The mock-bird is ever surest to please when it is most itself. 1809 CAMPBELL *Gertr. Wyom.* I. iii, From merry mock-bird's song. *a* 1854 CAROLINE A. SOUTHEY *Poet. Wks.* (1867) 13 The pretty mockbird with his borrowed notes Tells thee sweet truth.

b. Applied to the Sedge-warbler and the Blackcap (cf. MOCKING-BIRD 2).

1831 *G. Montagu's Ornith. Dict.* 326 *Mock Bird*, a name applied to the Sedge Bird. 1894 NEWTON *Dict. Birds* 582.

c. *fig.*

1800 SOUTHEY *Let. to Coleridge* 8 Jan., Moses will be a very mock-bird as to languages. 1823 BYRON *Island* II. xiii, Sweep these mere mock-birds of the despot's song From the tall bough where they have perch'd so long.

Mock-clown: see MOCK *v.* 5.

Mocke, Mockeado, var. ff. MUCK, MOCKADO.

Mocked (mɒkt), *a.* [f. MOCK *v.* + -ED¹.] Imitated (in quot. *absol.*).

186. DARWIN *Orig. Spec.* xiii. (1866) 507 When the mockers and the mocked are caught and compared they are found to be totally different in essential structure.

Mockedar, obs. form of MUCKENDER.

Mocker (mɒ·kəɹ). Forms: 5 **moker**(e, 6 *Sc.* **mokkar, mockar,** 6– **mocker.** [f. MOCK *v.* + -ER¹. Cf. F. *moqueur.*]

1. One who mocks, derides, or scoffs.

1477 EARL RIVERS (Caxton) *Dictes* 14 b, Ware that ye be no mokers for that engendreth hattered. *c* 1500 *Young Childr. Bk.* 59 in *Babees Bk.*, Be no glosere nor no mokere. 1570 BUCHANAN *Ane Admonitioun* Wks. (1892) 24 Mokkaris of all religioun and vertew. 1634 CANNE *Necess. Separ.* (1849) 221 How can he prove that these were outwardly wicked and irreligious, known to be idolaters, drunkards, sorcerers, mockers,..&c. 1683 BURNET tr. *More's Utopia* 39 If the many Mockers of Elisha,..felt the Effect of his Zeal, What will become of one Mocker of so many Friars? 1688 SOUTH *Serm.* (1697) II. viii. 347 An Ordinance, in which God is so seldom mocked, but it is to the Mocker's confusion. 1750 BYROM *Rem. Middleton's Exam.* 525 What these Mockers call'd a drunken Fit, Was God's Performance of what Joel writ. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* ii. I. 163 The peculiarities of the Puritan..had been..favourite subjects with mockers. 1903 *Speaker* 10 Oct. 29/1 The enthusiast was a happy man, the mocker was a miserable man.

b. One who deceives or illudes.

1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* II. vi. 13 If thou diest Before I come, thou art a mocker of my labour.

2. One who imitates in speech or gesture.

3. A mocking-bird.

1773 BARRINGTON in *Phil. Trans.* LXIII. 286 From the attention which the mocker pays to any other sort of..noises. 1859 BAIRD *Catal. N. Amer. Birds* 253 a, Var. *Mimus caudatus* Baird Long-Tailed Mocker. 1860 — *Birds N. Amer.* 353 *Harporhynchus rufus*..Thrasher; Sandy Mocker.

4. *Nat. Hist.* A mimetic animal.

186. DARWIN *Orig. Spec.* xiii. (1866) 507 The mockers are almost invariably rare insects.

Mockere, obs. form of MUCKER.

Mo·cker-nut. *U.S.* The fruit of the North American White-heart Hickory, *Carya tomentosa.* Also, the tree itself.

1846–50 A. WOOD *Class-bk. Bot.* 491 Mocker-nut Hickory. 1859 J. G. COOPER in *Ann. Rep. Smithson. Inst.* 255 *Carya tomentosa* Nutt., Mocker-nut. 1860 GRAY *Man. Bot. North. U. S.* 402 Mocker-nut. White-heart Hickory.

Mockery (mɒ·kəri). Forms: 5 **moquerye, mokkery,** 5–6 **mockerye, mocquery,** 6 **mockeri,** *Sc.* **mokrie, mockrie,** 6–7 **mockerie,** 6– **mockery.** [a. F. *moquerie* (13th c.), f. *moquer* to MOCK.]

1. Derision, ridicule; a derisive utterance or action.

1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 13020 They be no thyng off myn allye; I haue off hem but moquerye. 1481 CAXTON *Reynard* (Arb.) 11 Reynart .. shal thynke how he may begyle deceyue and brynge yow to some mockerye. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* liv. 182 Yᵉ paynym dyd gyue it to Huon in a mockery. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII* 101 b, All our saiynges were by the Frenche kyng turned into mocquery. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 193 b, This was the third mockeri of fortune that chaunced in Fraunce. 1563 WINJET *Wks.* (S. T. S.) II. 81 Studiing to thraw be his mokrie and bairding the mekle vertew and honor of his father to be a vyce [etc.]. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. vii. 43 The forlorne Maiden, whom your eies haue seene The laughing stocke of fortunes mockeries, Am th' onely daughter of a King and Queene. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* II. ii. 123 Wherefore was I to this keene mockery borne? *a* 1656 BP. HALL *Rem. Wks.* (1660) 270 Should a man be bidden to .. walk steddily on his head, this would justly sound as a mockery. *a* 1719 ADDISON *Chr. Relig.* vii. Wks. 1766 III. 317 The insults and mockeries of a crouded Amphitheatre. 1838 THIRLWALL *Greece* III. xx. 163 The heralds of Darius had been put to death with cruel mockery. 1860 MRS. CARLYLE *Lett.* III. 61 'Mrs. Prudence', as Mr. Barnes calls me in mockery. 1869 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1875) III. xii. 238 Laying himself open to the jeers and mockeries of his rebellious subjects. 1884 GLADSTONE in *West. Daily Press* 2 July 3/4 He was sorry that gentlemen with no knowledge of the subject should receive this remark with mockery.

b. A subject or occasion of derision; a person, thing, or action that deserves or occasions ridicule.

1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 38 Which thinges are doubtles to all that wise be, a very mockerye. 1590 SIR J. SMYTH *Disc. Weapons* 13, I conclude, that such fortifications in England are verie skornes and mockeries. 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* III. ii. 4 What will he be said, what mockery will it be? To want the Bride-groome when the Priest attends To speake the ceremoniall rites of marriage? 1820 HAZLITT *Lect. Dram. Lit.* 314 When the name of Jeremy Taylor is no longer remembered with reverence, genius will have become a mockery, and virtue an empty shade. 1849 JAMES *Woodman* vii, As if he made a mockery of the very acquirements he boasted of. 1870 BRYANT *Iliad* I. x. 311 Let no one yield to sleep, Lest we become the mockery of the foe.

2. Mimicry, imitation; a counterfeit representation; an unreal appearance. Now only in indignant use, a contemptible and impudent simulation.

1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, IV. Chor. 53 Vet sit and see, Minding true things, by what their Mock'ries bee. 1605 — *Macb.* III. iv. 107 Hence horrible shadow, Vnreal mock'ry hence. 1717 POPE *Elegy Unfort. Lady* 57 And bear about the mockery of woe To midnight dances, and the public show. 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* XXVII. (1856) 225 It was a mockery of warmth, however, scarcely worthy the unpretending sincerity of the great planet. 1872 YEATS *Growth Comm.* 189 The unhappy monarch then went through the mockery of a trial for concealing his treasures.

3. Ludicrously futile action; something insultingly unfitting.

1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* I. i. 146 It is as the Ayre, invulnerable, And our vaine blowes, malicious Mockery. 1634 W. TIRWHYTT tr. *Balzac's Lett.* (vol. I.) 398 It were a mockery to make choyce of sicke folkes, and..to put sovereign power into their hands, to the end onely to have them leave it to others. 1798 *Monthly Mag.* VI. 397 Although suffered to perish almost for the common necessaries, his body was ostentatiously carried to the grave in a hearse, accompanied by the mockery of a mourning-coach. 1852 ROBERTSON *Serm.* Ser. III. xvii. 215 It is mockery, brethren, for a man to speak lightly of that which he cannot know. 1863 GEO. ELIOT *Romola* XXXVI, In her bitterness she felt that all rejoicing was mockery.

4. *attrib.*

1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II*, IV. i. 260 Oh, that I were a Mockerie, King [*read* Mockerie-king] of Snow, Standing before the Sunne of Bullingbrooke, To melt my selfe away in Water-drops. 1634 FORD *Perkin Warbeck* I. i, Still to be frighted with false apparitions Of pageant Majestie, and new-coynd greatnesse, As if wee were a mockery King in state. 1834 *Tait's Mag.* 131/1 Legitimacy is a mockery word in such a case. 1898 WATTS-DUNTON *Aylwin* xi, A monstrous mountainous representation of an awful mockery-goddess.

Mockeson, obs. form of MOCCASIN.

Mo·cket. Now *dial.* [Shortened from *mocketer*, MUCKENDER. Cf. Anglo-Irish *muckie, mocky*, in the same sense (H. C. Hart).] A bib or handkerchief; also, ? a kerchief.

1537 *Irish Act Hen. VIII*, c. 15 Or use or weare any shirt, smock..mocket, or linnen cappe, coloured or dyed with Saffron. 1611 COTGR., *Baverette*, a bib, mocket, or mocketer to put before the bosome of a (slauering) child. *Ibid.*, s. v. *Embaveté.* 1880 *W. Cornw. Gloss., Mocket*, a bib attached to an apron to keep the front of the dress clean.

† Mo·cket-hea·d. *Obs.* [Origin obscure.] See quot., and cf. ANCONY.

1686 PLOT *Staffordsh.* iv. 163 They work it [*sc.* the iron] into a bloom, which is a square barr in the middle, and two square knobs at the ends, one much less then the other, the smaller being called the Ancony end, and the greater the Mocket head.

Mocketto, quasi-It. form of MOQUETTE.

† **Mo·ckful**, *a. Obs.* [f. MOCK *sb.* + -FUL.] Full of mockery.

1805 *Public Characters* 256 The merry maid in mockful play. 1820 C. R. MATURIN *Melmoth* (1892) III. xxxi. 253 Those whose mockful persecution, or whose vacant pity, might be equally torturing to her feelings.

Hence **Mo·ckfully** *adv.*, in a 'mockful' manner.

1834 *Fraser's Mag.* X. 426 He was impetuous, daring, and mockfully defiant.

† **Mo·ck-God.** *Obs.* [f. MOCK *v.* + GOD *sb.*] One who mocks, derides, or defies God. Also *attrib.* and forming adjs. as *mock-God-like*. (Very common in the 17th c.)

1601 DENT *Pathw. Heaven* 128 Now the earth is full of ranke Atheists and mocke-Gods: which scoffe at the Gospell. 1612 W. SCLATER *Ministers Portion* 49 A pretty mocke-God answere it will bee,..to tell him [*sc.* God]: for matter of tithing, thou hadst a custome to the contrary. 1618 S. WARD *Iethro's Iustice* (1627) 42 What shall I say to such mocke-god-like Esaus? 1677 W. HUGHES *Man of Sin* I. x. 45 This Impudent Mock-God dares to make Laws to bind the Conscience immediately, where God Almighty hath left it free.

Mock-guest: see MOCK *v.* 5.

Mo·ck-hero·ic, *a.* and *sb.* [f. MOCK *a.*]

A. *adj.* Imitating in a derisive or burlesque manner the heroic character or style; burlesquing heroic action.

1711-12 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 273 ¶ 8 We find in Mock-Heroic Poems, particularly in the *Dispensary*, and the *Lutrin*, several Allegorical Persons. 1765 COLMAN tr. *Terence, Eunuch* I. iii. 123 *note*, The poet in a kind of mock heroick manner invokes the muse to teach him to draw the character of his heroine. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XV. 296/1 Tassoni's mock-heroic poem, 'La Secchia Rapita'. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* Concl. 11 The men required that I should give throughout The sort of mock-heroic gigantesque. 1876 BLACK *Madcap V.* v, 'I am not to go down to the foot of the lane?' said she, with mock-heroic sadness. 1889 SWINBURNE *Stud. B. Jonson* 73 The passage is a really superb example of tragicomic or mock-heroic blank verse.

absol. 1756-82 J. WARTON *Ess. Pope* (ed. 4) I. iv. 255 Cervantes; who is the father and unrivalled model of the true mock-heroic.

B. *sb.* A burlesque imitation of the heroic style or manner.

1728 *Gulliver Decypher'd* 7 Peter abused the Wittlings of the Town for not having Sense enough to taste his Mock-Heroicks. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* Concl. 64 In mock heroics stranger than our own. 1864 W. SMITH *T. B. Shaw's Hist. Eng. Lit.* xv. (1865) 294 The famous mock-heroic of Boileau. 1879 FROUDE *Cæsar* viii. 83 He [Cæsar] had no sentimental passion about him; no Byronic mock heroics.

So **Mock-hero·ical** *a.* = MOCK-HEROIC *a.* Also **Mock-hero·ically** *adv.*, in a mock-heroic manner.

1850 L. HUNT *Autobiog.* xxiii. (1860) 370 An article which I wrote, with the mock-heroical title of The Graces and Anxieties of Pig Driving. 1905 *Daily Chron.* 27 Dec. 4/7 The 'Argonaut' mock-heroically challenges anyone to point to a single case of a college man having bitten off another player's nose or ear.

† **Mock-holiday.** *Obs.* [MOCK *a.*] Only in phrase: *To play mock-holiday*, to act deceitfully. Const. *with*.

15.. *Catal. Anc. Deeds* (1906) V. 498 As it seme he plaieth mock halliday with me. *c* 1561 VERON *Freewill* 50 b, God dothe playe mocke holy daye wyth us, if he promysethe thynges, that it lyeth not in us to obtayne. 1604 *Meeting of Gallants* 21 The stirrup plaide mock-holy-day with him, and made a foole of his foote. *a* 1607 BRIGHTMAN *Revelation* (1615) 230 The Iesuites doe not interprete the Scriptures, but play mocke haliday with them.

Mocking (mǫ·kiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. MOCK *v.* + -ING 1.] The action of the verb MOCK; the utterance of derision or scorn; imitation, mimicry. Now only *gerundial*. Also occas. † an object of derision.

c 1440 *Boctus* (*Laud MS.* 559 lf. 5 b), This came to Boctus the kyng All in scorne and in mokkyng. 1539 TONSTALL *Serm. Palm Sund.* (1823) 12 He was obediente to suffre the mockynge of the people of Jewes. 1607 SHAKS. *Timon* I. i. 35 It is a pretty mocking of the life. 1611 BIBLE *Ezek.* xxii. 4 Therfore haue I made thee..a mocking to all countries. 1656 EARL MONM. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* I. i. (1674) 1 These false Cheaters..mind only mocking and cosenage.

† b. **Mocking-stock**, a laughing-stock. *Obs.* Very common in 16-17th c.

1526 TINDALE 2 *Pet.* ii. 13 Off you they make a mockyng-stoke. 1534 MORE *Comf. agst. Trib.* II. Wks. 1192/2 The Philisties..vsing Sampson for their mocking stocke in scorne of God. 1639 S. DU VERGER tr. *Camus' Admir. Events* 208 The wisest persons made but a mocking-stocke of his vanity. 1791 WALKER, *Mocking-stock*, a butt for merriment. 1833 HT. MARTINEAU *Charmed Sea* viii. 122 How should you bear to be made..a mocking-stock while you were full of gloomy wrath?

Mocking (mǫ·kiŋ), *ppl. a.* [-ING 2.] That mocks, ridicules, deludes, or mimics.

1530 PALSGR. 720/1, I skorne one with mockynge wordes, *je raffarde*. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* II. i. 52 Some merry mocking Lord belike, ist so? 1592 DAVIES *Immort. Soul* Introd. xx, The great mocking Master mock'd not then, When he said, Truth was bury'd here below. 1634 CANNE *Necess. Separ.* (1849) 286 A mocking contradiction of Mr. Johnson. 1720 J. HUGHES *Siege Damascus* II. ii, I am dar'd to it, with mocking scorn. 1786 DARWIN *Orig. Spec.* xiii. (1866) 507 But if we proceed from a district where one Leptalis imitates an Ithomia, another mocking and mocked species belonging to the same genera, equally close in their resemblance, will be found. 1871 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1876) IV. xviii. 187 The savages, as the mocking tongues of the Normans called them.

Mo·cking-bird. [f. MOCKING *ppl. a.* Cf. MOCK-BIRD.]

1. An American passerine song-bird of the genus *Mimus*, esp. *Mimus polyglottus*, characterized by its habit of mimicking the notes of other birds.

1676 T. GLOVER in *Phil. Trans.* XI. 631 There are also divers kinds of small Birds, whereof the Mocking-bird, the Red-bird, and Humming-bird, are the most remarkable. 1688 J. CLAYTON *Let. to Roy. Soc.* 12 May (1844) 30 Their mocking Birds may be compared to our singing Thrushes. *Ibid.* 32 The red Mocking is of a duskish red, or rather brown; it sings very well, but has not so soft a Note as the grey mocking Bird. 1741 E. LUCAS *Trnls. & Lett.* (1850) 11, I promised to tell you when the mocking bird began to sing. 1802 BINGLEY *Anim. Biog.* (1813) II. 155 The Mocking Bird seems to have a singular pleasure in leading other birds astray. 1855 W. S. DALLAS in *Syst. Nat. Hist.* II. 296 The hunters in the Southern States know that the moon is rising when they hear the Mocking Bird begin to sing.

2. Applied to other birds having a similar aptitude for mimicry: a. the Sedge-warbler, *Acrocephalus schœnobænus*; b. = BUTCHER-BIRD; c. the Blackcap, *Sylvia atricapilla*; d. = MOCKING-WREN; e. the Lyre-bird, *Menura superba*; f. = PARSON-BIRD 1; g. the Bhim-raj, *Edolius paradiseus* (Balfour *Cycl. Ind.* 1857, p. 133); h. *French mocking-bird* (U. S.), the Thrasher (*Harporhynchus*).

a 1799 J. COOK *Voy. Pacific* (1784) I. 151 [In New Zealand] A small greenish bird...One would imagine he was surrounded by a hundred different sorts of birds, when the little warbler is near. From this circumstance we named it the mocking bird. 1835 W. VATE *Acc. N. Zealand* ii. (ed. 2) 52 *Tui*. This remarkable bird, from the versatility of its talents for imitation, has by some been called 'the Mocking Bird'. 1846 G. H. HAYDON *Five Yrs. in Austral. Felix* vi. 131 Numerous pheasants (*menura superba*). These birds are the mocking birds of Australia. 1860 BAIRD *Birds N. Amer.* 353 *Harporhynchus rufus*..French Mocking Bird. 1883 NEWTON in *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 541/1 The name Mocking-Bird,..is in England occasionally given to some of the Warblers, especially the Blackcap (*Sylvia atricapilla*) and the Sedge-bird (*Acrocephalus schœnobænus*). 1894 — *Dict. Birds* 582 In North America two Wrens, *Thryothorus ludovicianus* and *T. bewicki*, seem to be widely known as 'Mocking-birds'.

Mockingly (mǫ·kiŋli), *adv.* [f. MOCKING *ppl. a.* + -LY 2.] In a mocking manner.

1545 ELYOT *Dict., Nasute*, wyttyly, mockyngly. 1602 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* IX. xlvi. (1612) 215 And, he saying, Let vs meete, 'Let's meete', quoth Eeho mockingly. 1863 GEO. ELIOT *Romola* xxx, Whispers which died out mockingly as he strained his ear after them.

Mocking-stock: see MOCKING *vbl. sb.*

Mocking thrush. [Cf. *mock-thrush*, MOCK *a.* 2 c.] The Thrasher, *Harporhynchus fuscus* or *rufus*.

1839 AUDUBON *Ornith. Biog.* V. 336 Townsend's Mocking Thrush. 1847 EMERSON *Poems, Musketaquid* Wks. (Bohn) I. 485 A mocking thrush, A wild rose, a rock-loving columbine, Salve my worst wounds. 1876 GENTRY *Life-Hist. Birds E. Pennsylv.* I. 26 The Mocking Thrushes as a group are chiefly southern.

Mocking wren. An American wren of the genus *Thryothorus*, esp. *T. ludovicianus*.

1874 BAIRD, etc. *N. Amer. Land Birds* I. 142 The great Carolina or Mocking Wren, is found in all the Southeastern and Southern States from Florida to Maryland. 1876 GENTRY *Life-Hist. Birds E. Pennsylv.* I. 74 *Thryothorus ludovicianus*,..is commonly surnamed the Mocking Wren from its remarkable powers of mimicry.

† **Mo·ckish**, *a. Obs.* [f. MOCK *v.* + -ISH.] Mocking, derisive; also, mock, sham.

1494 FABYAN *Chron.* VII. 398 In derysyon of the Kynge, they made this mokkysshe ryme folowyng. 1513 MORE *Rich. III*, Wks. 67/1 After this mockishe eleccion, than was he Crowned [etc.]. 1631 WEEVER *Anc. Funeral Mon.* 457 This mockish rime doggerell.

b. Of animals: Skittish.

a 1529 SKELTON *Col. Cloute* 181 Let se who that dare Sho the mockyshe mare.

Hence † **Mo·ckishly** *adv.*, in a 'mockish' manner.

1530 PALSGR. 839/2 Mockysshly, *par mocquerie*. 1532 MORE *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 392/1 Els could he neuer finde in his heart to speke so mockyshlye of such a matter.

† **Mock-shade, mog-shade.** *dial. Obs. rare*—°. [Original form and etymology uncertain; the first element may be MOCK *a.* or possibly MOCK *sb.*2, tree-stump; if the correct form be *mog-*, it may be connected with MUGGY.] (See quots.) Also **mock-shadow**, twilight (Halliwell 1847).

1669 WORLIDGE *Syst. Agric.* (1681) 329 *Mogshade*, the shadows of Trees, or such like. 1681 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* (ed. 5), *Day-lights-gate*, i. e. the going down of day-light; otherwise called the *Mock-shade*.

Mock-sign: see MOCK *sb.*1 4.

Mock turtle. [MOCK *a.*]

1. A dish consisting of calf's head dressed with sauces and condiments so as to resemble turtle.

1763 MRS. GLASSE *Cookery* (1767) 340 To dress a mock turtle. Take a calf's head [etc.]. 1783 J. FARLEY *Lond. Art of Cookery* (1789) I. iii. 32. 1826 MRS. DODS *Cook & Housew. Man.* 225 Mock Turtle, or Calf's Head.

2. (In full, *Mock turtle soup.*) A soup made (usually of calf's head) in imitation of turtle soup.

1783 J. FARLEY *Lond. Art of Cookery* (1789) I. xiii. 158 Mock-Turtle Soup. 1789 MRS. PIOZZI *Journ. France* II. 196 The cold mock turtle soups..which London pastry-cooks keep in their shops. 1826 MRS. DODS *Cook & Housew. Man.* 83 Mock Turtle Soup. Procure the head of a middle-sized, well-fed cow calf [etc.]. 1833 MARRYAT *P. Simple* xxvii, As the midshipmen prophesied, there was plenty of pork—mock-turtle soup, made out of a pig's head [etc.]. 1855 DELAMER *Kitch. Gard.* (1861) 122 Cooks say that it [*i. e.* Sweet basil]..is a grand secret in the composition of good mock-turtle soup.

fig. 1890 W. CORY *Lett. & Jrnls.* (1897) 553 Anglo-Catholics started vestments, and a whole lot of 'mock turtle'.

Mock-word: see MOCK *sb.*1 4.

Moc-main (mǫ·kmē·in). *Surg.* [a. Chinese *muh-mien* 'cotton-tree, *Bombax Ceiba*' (Williams *Syllabic Dict. Chinese Lang.*).

Loureiro *Flora Cochin-chinensis* (1793) gives *mo-mien-hoa* as the Chinese name for *Bombax pentandra*.]

A white shining fibre of great lightness and elasticity, the produce of the seed-pod of the silk cotton-tree, *Bombax heptaphyllum*, native of Cochin China and Cambodia.

Moc-main truss, a specially designed truss padded with this elastic fibre.

1856 in MAYNE *Expos. Lex.* 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 748/1 *Moc-main*, a Chinese name for *Bombax Ceiba*. 1866 *Chambers's Encycl.* s. v. *Silk-cotton*. 1881 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Bombax heptaphyllum*,..a tree which affords the substance called moc-main.

‖ **Moco** (mō·ko). [Tupi *mocó*.] A kind of cavy, esp. the Rock cavy, *Cavia* (or *Kerodon*) *rupestris*, a South American rodent rather larger than the Guinea-pig.

1834 *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* I. 139 The Mocos have rather simpler grinders than the Cobayes. 1869 R. F. BURTON *Highl. Brazil* II. 313 The brown Moco peeped out of its home. 1898 *Nat. Science* June 376 The moco is..sometimes called the rock-cavy.

Moco, obs. form of MOCHA 1.

† **Mocoa.** *Obs.* [Of obscure origin; perh. a use of MOCHA 1.] Some kind of 'clouded cane'.

1762 FOOTE *Orators* I. (1780) 13 To drop a hint that I may occasionally use him as a walking stick; a kind of an elegantly clouded Mocoa, or an airy Anamaboo: yet, that it is by no means my intention to depend upon him as a support.

Mocoa, mocoe, obs. forms of MOCHA 1.

Mocock, mococo, obs. forms of MACACO 2.

1797 S. JAMES *Narr. Voy.* 141 The tail of the mocock, is the most beautiful that can be imagined.

‖ **Moco-moco** (mō·komō·ko). Also 8 **mucco-mucco**, 9 **moccomocco, mocamoca, moka-moka.** [Carib: '*moucou-moucou*, espèce de pied-de-veau' (*Dictionarium Galibi*, 1763).] A variety of arum, *Arum arborescens*, growing in Guiana, etc.

1769 E. BANCROFT *Guiana* 104 The Muccomucco always grows in water...It usually grows eight or ten feet in height and is jointed every few inches. 1825 WATERTON *Wand. S. Amer.* (1882) 25 The mocamoca trees on the banks of the Demerara. 1855 H. G. DALTON *Hist. Brit. Guiana* II. 201 Mocco-mocco, *Arum arborescens*. 1901 A. H. KEANE *Central Amer.* II. 441 The large leaved Mocomoco. 1903 DES VŒUX *Col. Service* I. 26 Moka-moka a tall arum with bare stalks.

Mooner, obs. variant of MOTIONER.

Mocque, Mocquery, obs. ff. MOCK, MOCKERY.

Mocuddum, obs. form of MOKADDAM.

Mocus, Mocyon, obs. ff. MOCHA 1, MOTION.

‖ **Mod** (mōd). [Gael. *mòd* an assembly, court, a. ON. *mót*: see MOOT *sb.*] The yearly meeting of the Highland Association, for literary and musical competitions.

1893 *Daily News* 21 July 5/3 The Highland Association' are going to hold their second 'Mod'..at Oban. 1901 *Scotsman* 20 Sept. 4/2 The annual Gaelic Mod was held yesterday in Glasgow.

Mod, obs. form of MOOD.

Mod., abbreviation for MODERN, MODERATO.

Modal (mō·dăl), *a.* and *sb.* Also (sense 4) 6 **moodal.** [ad. med.L. *modālis*, f. L. *mod-us*: see MODE and -AL. Cf. F. *modal*.] A. *adj.*

1. Pertaining to mode or form as contrasted with substance.

1625 LAUD *Serm.* (*Ps.* cxxii. 3-5) 18 There must be..a paring off of foolish and vnlearned Questions, yea, and of many Modal too. 1678 GALE *Crt. Gentiles* III. 6 Moral Bonitie and Vitiositie are differences of human acts merely accidental or modal. 1782 PRIESTLEY *Corrupt. Chr.* I. i. 148 Dr. Wallis thought the distinction..was only modal. 1852 ROBERTSON *Serm.* Ser. IV. xi. (1876) 104 A heresy, known in old times by the name of Sabellianism or modal Trinity. 1876 E. MELLOR *Priesth.* iv. 172 To discount from the teaching of Christ the words 'eat' and 'drink', as modal terms enjoining modal operations..is to relinquish the literal interpretation.

2. *Law.* Of a legacy, contract, etc.: Containing provisions defining the manner in which it is to take effect.

1590 SWINBURNE *Testaments* 135 Excepte the condition be not conditionall but modall, for (*conditio*) and (*modus*) doo greatlie differ. *Ibid.* 290 When the legacy is not conditional, but modall. 1726 AYLIFFE *Parergon* 336 Some think it to be a modal Legacy;..and consequently a Legacy of this kind ought to be paid before the Mode is fulfilled. 1860 WHARTON *Law Lex.* (ed. 2), *Modal legacy*, a bequest with a direction as to the mode in which it is to be applied to the legatee's benefit.

3. *Mus.* Pertaining to mode.

1597 MORLEY *Introd. Mus.* Annot., To this daie could I neuer see..a Long set for 3 brieues, with that signe, except it had either a figure of three, or then [*read* three] modal restes sette before it. 1777 SIR W. JONES *Ess. Imit. Arts* Poems, etc. 198 Each of them has a peculiar character, arising from the position of the modal note. 1880 W. S. ROCKSTRO in

Grove *Dict. Mus.* II. 340 The Modal Sign is usually placed after the Clef, like the Time Signature in modern music. **1903** *Westm. Gaz.* 27 Nov. 10/2 A great many genuine old ballads, some so old as to be modal in form—that is, pre-existent to the time of the major and minor scale.

4. *Logic.* Of a proposition: Involving the affirmation of possibility, impossibility, necessity, or contingency. By some writers used in a wider sense, so as to be applicable to any proposition in which the predicate is affirmed or denied of the subject with any kind of qualification, or which contains an adverb or adverbial phrase. Of a syllogism: Containing a modal proposition as a premiss.

1569 J. SANFORD tr. *Agrippa's Van. Artes* 22 b, And of these doo onely approue eight Moodes and laugh at Moodal propositions. **1697** tr. *Burgersdicius his Logic* I. xxviii. 113 These Enunciations..are Modal; because they not only denounce the Predicate to agree or disagree with the Subject, but also declare the Manner how they both agree and disagree. **1774** REID *Aristotle's Logic* iv. § 6. (1788) 95 In a modal proposition the affirmation or negation is modified. **1827** WHATELY *Logic* ii. iii. (ed. 2) 106 A Modal Proposition may be stated as a pure one, by attaching the Mode to one of the Terms. **1870** JEVONS *Elem. Logic* vii. 69 It has long been usual to distinguish propositions as they are pure or modal.

5. *Gram.* **a.** Of or pertaining to the mood of a verb. **b.** Of a particle: Denoting manner or modality.

1798 TOOKE *Purley* II. (1805) 467 Our language has made but small progress compared either with the Greek or with the Latin..even in this Modal and Temporal abbreviation. **1845** JELF *Grk. Gram.* I. § 184 The Modal vowel, which signifies the modal relations of the verb, and varies accordingly. **1880** *Expositor* XII. 289 Those conjunctive and modal particles in which the Greek language is so incomparably rich.

B. *sb. Logic.* A modal proposition (see A. 4).

1725 WATTS *Logic* II. ii. § 4 There is no great need of making modals a distinct sort [*sc.* of proposition]. **1827** WHATELY *Logic* ii. iii. (ed. 2) 108 When a hypothetical Conclusion is inferred from a hypothetical Premiss,..then the hypothesis (as in Modals) must be considered as part of one of the Terms. **1878** S. H. HODGSON *Philos. Refl.* I. 368 It has the advantage of exhibiting the derivation of the Modals, as they are called, from the reflective mode of consciousness [etc.].

Modalism (mō·dăliz'm). [f. MODAL + -ISM.] The Sabellian doctrine that the distinction in the Trinity is 'modal' only, i.e. that the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit are merely three different modes of manifestation of the Divine nature.

1859 SCHAFF *Hist. Chr. Ch.* (an. 1–311) 292 Sabellian modalism. **1905** W. SANDAY *Crit. 4th Gospel* viii. 244 The language of Ignatius tends to Modalism.

Modalist (mō·dălist). [f. MODAL + -IST.] **a.** *sb.* One who holds or professes Modalism. **b.** quasi-*adj.* = MODALISTIC.

1832 I. TAYLOR *Saturday Even.* xxviii. 469 The error of the Modalists and Sabellians. **1897** *Expositor* Dec. 408 Passages..could be understood in a distinctly modalist sense.

Hence **Modali·stic** *a.*, of or pertaining to the tenets of a Modalist.

1878 J. COOK *Boston Lect. Orthodoxy* ii. 40 The definition given here is not modalistic. **1882–3** *Schaff's Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* II. 1549 The old and generally accepted division into dynamic and modalistic Monarchianism.

Modality (modæ·lĭti). [ad. med.L. *modālitās*, f. *modālis*: see MODAL and -ITY. Cf. F. *modalité*.]

1. The quality or fact of being modal. Also, a modal quality or circumstance; the modal attributes of something; †a question or point relating to mode, manner, or method, and not to substance. Now *rare*.

a **1617** BAYNE *On Eph.* (1658) 144 Liberty in this sense,.. contingency, necessity, these are modalities agreeing to effects, as effects are in order to their second causes. **1647** M. HUDSON *Div. Right Govt.* II. iii. 87 Even the temporal part of that promise..was performed exactly in the reality, though not in the Modality thereof. **1656** *Burton's Diary* (1828) I. 44 Shall punctilios and modalities and forms, bind and tie up a Parliament? **1704** NORRIS *Ideal World* II. x. 401 We cannot conceive the modality of any substance as a Being distinct from that substance...We cannot conceive a circle as a being distinct from extension whose modality it is. **1825** *New Monthly Mag.* XIV. 474 The resemblance takes its colour from the modalities of thought and feeling of the artist by whom it is sketched.

2. *Logic.* **a.** In the scholastic logic, the fact of being a modal proposition or syllogism. Also, the particular qualification by the presence of which a proposition is rendered modal.

1628 T. SPENCER *Logick* To Rdr., The modalitie of propositions doth explicate the subject or predicate of the proposition wherein it is. **1725** WATTS *Logic* II. ii. § 4 But whether the modality be natural, moral, &c. yet in all these propositions it is the mode is the proper predicate. **1843** MILL *Logic* I. iv. § 2 Those distinctions among propositions which are said to have reference to their modality. **1870** JEVONS *Elem. Logic* vii. 70 All these assertions are made with a different degree of certainty or modality.

b. In Kantian and subsequent use, that feature of a judgement which is defined by the class in which it is placed when judgements are classified into problematic, assertory, and apodictic.

This is a development of the older sense 2 a; the distinctive features of 'problematical' and 'apodictic' judgements being 'modalities' in the earlier sense, the term was extended to apply also to that of 'assertory' judgements. In Kant's classification 'the Categories of modality' are those of possibility and impossibility, existence and non-existence, necessity and contingency; the term is coordinate with Quantity, Quality, and Relation.

1836 *Penny Cycl.* VI. 368/1 These Categories consist of four primordial classes: 1. quantity, 2. quality, 3. relation, 4. modality; each class containing three Categories. **1884** tr. *Lotze's Logic* 53 What modality have such sentences as these, '*S* will be *P*', '*S* ought to be *P*', '*S* may be *P*', '*S* has been *P*'? No one of them affirms reality, but the unreal which is past in the last is something quite different from that which is permitted, enjoined, or future in the others...If all these shades of meaning had been taken into account, the forms of modality might have been correspondingly increased in number.

3. *Civil Law.* 'The quality of being limited as to time or place of performance, or, more loosely, of being suspended by a condition: said of a promise' (*Cent. Dict.* 1890).

Modalize (mō·dălaiz), *v. rare*—[1]. [f. MODAL *a.* + -IZE.] *trans.* To render modal.

1857 A. B. WILSON in *Oxford Ess.* 115 All dogmatic statements must be held to be modalized by greater or less probability.

Modally (mō·dăli), *adv.* [f. MODAL + -LY [2].] In a modal respect; with reference to mode or manner.

1647 M. HUDSON *Div. Right Govt.* II. ix. 130 Gods honour and the Kings are not really but onely modally and circumstantially different. **1704** NORRIS *Ideal World* II. i. 21 Things that are modally distinct, or distinct by a modal abstraction, that is, whose distinction is owing [etc.]. **1867** FROUDE *Short Stud., Spinoza* (ed. 2) 232 Therefore because things modally distinguished do not quâ substance differ from one another there cannot be more than one substance of the same attribute.

Modd(e, obs. forms of MOOD, MUD.

Moddel, -der, obs. forms of MODEL, MAUTHER.

Moddley-coddle, variant of MOLLY CODDLE.

Mode (mōud), *sb.* Also 4 **moede**; and see MOOD *sb.*[2] [In branch I, a. L. *modus* measure, size, limit of quantity, manner, method, musical 'mode' (in late Latin also 'mood' in grammar and logic), f. W.Indogermanic**mod-* (:**med-*: see METE *v.*). In branch II, a. F. *mode* fem., ad. L. *modus* (with change of gender due to the final *e*); the Fr. word had in the 16th c. developed the sense of 'fashion', and this was adopted into Eng. in the 17th c.

The F. *mode* (15th c. in Hatz.-Darm.) remained fem. in all uses until the 17th c., when the masc. gender was adopted for the uses, chiefly technical, that belonged to L. *modus*. For the sense 'fashion' the fem. gender was retained. Sp., Pg., and It. have *modo* (from Latin) manner, etc., *moda* (from Fr.) fashion; the Fr. word in the latter sense has been adopted as G. *mode*, Da. *mode*, Sw. *mod*.]

I. In senses derived directly from the Latin.

1. *Mus.* **a.** A kind or form of scale; a particular scheme or system of sounds. (*a*) In ancient Greek music: Each of the scales or sets of sounds, according to one or other of which a piece of music in the diatonic style was composed; denoted by special names (Dorian, Phrygian, Lydian, etc.) and each having a special character attributed to it. Sometimes also applied to the scales used in other (e. g. Oriental) systems of music.

c **1374** CHAUCER *Boeth.* II. pr. i. 20 (Camb. MS.), Musyce A damysel of oure hows þat syngeth now lyhtere moedes or probasyons now heuyere [orig. *nunc leviores, nunc graviores modos*]. **1674** PLAYFORD *Skill Mus.* I. xi. 57 That which the Grecians called Mode or Mood, the Latins termed Tone or Tune. *a* **1727** NEWTON *Chronol. Amended* I. (1728) 59 He [Terpander] was the first who distinguished the modes of Lyric music by several names. **1841** ELPHINSTONE *Hist. Ind.* III. vii. I. 297 The Hindú music appears.. to be systematic and refined. They have eighty-four modes, of which thirty-six are in general use, and each of which, it appears, has a peculiar expression. **1867** MACFARREN *Harmony* I. 8 In the diatonic genus, the Greeks had several modes.

(*b*) In mediæval church music: Each of the scales (*ecclesiastical* or *Gregorian modes*) in which PLAINSONG was composed (derived from and named after, but not always corresponding to, the ancient Greek ones); beginning on different notes of the natural scale, and thus having the intervals (tones and semitones) differently arranged. AUTHENTIC *modes*, PLAGAL *modes*: see these words.

1721 A. MALCOLM *Treat. Mus.* IX. 563 Authentick and.. plagal Modes. **1782** BURNEY *Hist. Mus.* II. 14 The Eight Tones or Ecclesiastical Modes. **1839** *Penny Cycl.* XV. 296/1 In what is called the Gregorian Chant there are eight modes, or tones...The Authentic modes are the Dorian, Phrygian, Lydian, and Mixo-Lydian of the antients. **1881** MACFARREN *Counterp.* iii. 6 A mode in the mediæval church was a distribution of .. notes..which varied in the order of the tones and semitones according to what note was chosen for the key-note.

(*c*) In modern music: Each of the two species or classes (*major* and *minor*) of keys, having the intervals differently arranged: corresponding respectively to the Ionian and Æolian ecclesiastical modes. Formerly sometimes = KEY *sb.*[1] 7 b.

1721 A. MALCOLM *Treat. Mus.* IX. 274, I would propose the Word *Mode*, to express the melodious Constitution of the Octave..; and because there are Two Species, let us call that with a 3*d* g the *greater Mode*, and that with a 3*d* l the *lesser Mode*. *Ibid.* 277 The 3*d* and 5*th* of any Mode or Key deserve the Name of *essential Notes*. **1777** SIR W. JONES *Ess. Imit. Arts* Poems, etc. 198 Now a series of sounds relating to one leading note is called a mode, or a tone, and, as there are twelve semitones in the scale, each of which may be made in its turn the leader of a mode, it follows that there are twelve modes. **1797** *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) IX. 285/1 Major or minor intervals, as they prevail, characterize the major or minor mode. **1880** C. H. H. PARRY in Grove *Dict. Mus.* II. 460 The Dominant major ninth is only used in the major mode, the minor ninth in both.

b. The proportion of a long to a large and to a breve; = MOOD *sb.*[2] 3. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.*

1667 SIMPSON *Compend. Pract. Mus.* 14 In former times they had four Moods or Modes of measuring Notes. **1782** BURNEY *Hist. Mus.* II. 421 The Circle with a point of perfection in the center, thus ⊙, was the Sign for the *great Mode perfect*, in which all long notes were equal in duration to *three* of the next shorter in degree. **1880** W. S. ROCKSTRO in Grove *Dict. Mus.* II. 340 In the Great Mode Perfect, the Large is equal to three Longs. In the Great Mode Imperfect, it is equal to two only. In the Lesser Mode Perfect, the Long is equal to three Breves. In the Lesser Mode Imperfect it is equal to two.

†**2.** *Gram.* = MOOD *sb.*[2] 2. *Obs.*

1520 WHITINTON *Vulg.* (1527) 3 Somtyme of the infinytyve mode folowynge. **1581** FULKE in *Confer.* II. (1584) M iij, The wordes..are both the imperatiue mode in the Greeke text. **1751** HARRIS *Hermes* Wks. (1841) 159 Thus have we established a variety of modes: the indicative or declarative,..the potential [etc.]. **1843** *Penny Cycl.* XXVI. 252/2 The term Verb comprehends those words in a language which are used to indicate the relations of mode or mood.

3. *Logic.* [= med.L. *modus*, a rendering of Gr. τρόπος, introduced by the early commentators on Aristotle.] **a.** = MOOD *sb.*[2] 1.

1532 MORE *Confut. Tindale* III. 290 And thys syllogysme yf Tyndale wolde fayne wyt in what fygure it is made: he shall fynde it in y[e] fyrst fygure, & the thyrd mode. **1699** T. BAKER *Refl. Learning* v. 54 To reduce our.. loose reasonings to certain Rules, and make them conclude in Mode and Figure. **1774** REID *Aristotle's Logic* iii. § 2 Wks. II. 694/2 The Mode of a syllogism is determined by the Quality and Quantity of the propositions of which it consists. **1843** MILL *Logic* II. ii. § 1 Each figure is subdivided into modes, according to what are called the quantity and quality of the propositions.

b. The character of a modal proposition as either necessary, contingent, possible, or impossible; each of the four kinds into which modal propositions are divided as having one or another of these qualities.

1852 MANSEL *Aldrich's Logic* (ed. 2) 45.

4. A way or manner in which something is done or takes place; a method of procedure in any activity, business, etc.

a **1667** JER. TAYLOR *Gold. Grove, Guide Penit.* (1836) 156 The duty itself being once resolved upon, the mode of doing it may easily be found. **1798** WELLINGTON in Gurw. *Desp.* (1837) I. 5 A regular mode of bringing to an amicable adjustment .. any questions which might hereafter arise. **1794** PALEY *Evid.* (1825) II. 239 A good man will prefer that mode, by which he can produce the greatest effect. **1818** CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) III. 310 The mode in which a seisin of a rent may be acquired, has been already stated. **1825** WATERTON *Wand. S. Amer.* I. i. 88 The only mode then that remains is to proceed by water. **1884** F. TEMPLE *Relat. Relig. & Sci.* vi. (1885) 183 The writer made use of a mode of teaching used commonly enough in the Bible. **1900** L. H. BAILEY *Bot.* 152 When the compartments split in the middle between the partitions, the mode is loculicidal dehiscence.

†**b.** Used for 'mode of expression'. *Obs.*

1779–81 JOHNSON *L. P., Dryden* Wks. II. 385 He who writes much will not easily escape a manner, such a recurrence of particular modes as may be easily noted.

5. A particular form, manner, or variety (of some quality, process, or condition). Now *rare* exc. in uses (e. g. in *mode of life*) in which it approaches sense 4.

1661 GLANVILL *Van. Dogm.* iii. 23 If they finde a determinate intellection of any Modes of Being, which were never in the least hinted by their externall or internall senses. **1732** POPE *Ess. Man* I. 211 What modes of sight betwixt each wide extreme, The mole's dim curtain, and the lynx's beam. *Ibid.* II. 83 Modes of Self-love the Passions we may call. **1758** JOHNSON *Idler* No. 1 ¶ 2 Every mode of life has its conveniences. **1781** GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xvii. II. 22 *note*, The mode of superstition which prevailed in their own times. **1791** BOSWELL *Johnson* Mar. an. 1781, Condescending to trifle in the same mode of conceit. *a* **1858** DE QUINCEY *Lang.* Wks. IX. 89 The French language possesses the very highest degree of merit, though not in the very highest mode of merit. **1863** TYNDALL (*title*) Heat considered as a Mode of Motion. **1888** MISS BRADDON *Fatal Three* I. i, She considered her mode of life intensely domestic.

6. *Philos.* **a.** A manner or state of being of a thing; a thing considered as possessing certain attributes that do not belong to its essence, and may be changed without destroying its identity. **b.** An attribute or quality of a substance; 'an accidental determination' (J.). **c.** In Locke's use: A 'complex idea' which denotes neither a substance nor a relation. *Mixed mode*: a 'mode' formed by the combination of different simple ideas; opposed to *simple mode*, a mode formed by the repetition of the same simple idea. *Obs.*

1677 GALE *Crt. Gentiles* II. iv. Proem 5 Finite Ens or Being may be distributed into substance or Mode...Mode is not a complete ens or being, neither is it a mere nonentitie or nothing. **1678** *Ibid.* III. 6 Moralitie is a mode not physically or intrinsecally inherent in human acts. **1681**

Glanvill *Sadducismus* 143 That a Spirit is not an Accident or Mode of Substance, all in a manner profess. 1690 Locke *Hum. Und.* II. xii. § 4 Modes, I call such complex Ideas, which, however compounded, contain not in them the supposition of subsisting by themselves, but are consider'd as Dependances on, or Affections of Substances; such are the Ideas signify'd by the Words Triangle, Gratitude, Murder. 1704 Clarke *Being & Attributes of God* Wks. 1738 II. 527 To suppose that there is no Being, no Substance in the Universe, to which these Attributes or Modes of Existence are necessarily inherent, is a Contradiction in the very Terms. For Modes and Attributes exist only by the Existence of the Substance to which they belong. 1725 Watts *Logic* I. ii. § 3 The next sort of objects which are represented in our ideas, are called modes, or manners of being. 1727–52 Chambers *Cycl.* s. v. *Spinozism* (end), Since the mode is not really distinct from the substance modified. 1781 Cowper *Anti-Thelyph.* 42 That substances and modes of every kind Are mere impressions on the passive mind.

II. A direct adoption of mod.F. *mode* in the sense of fashion, prevailing fashion or custom.

7. A prevailing fashion or conventional custom, practice or style; *esp.* one characteristic of a particular place or period.

c 1645 Howell *Lett.* v. xxxviii. (1655) I. 233 He is also good at Larding of meat after the mode of France. 1645 Evelyn *Diary* 8 Feb., Some of our company were flouted at for wearing red cloakes, as the mode then was. 1665 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* (1677) 45 The Bannyan and other Indian Females after the Oriental Mode are seldom visible. 1667 Milton *P. L.* I. 474 Gods Altar to disparage and displace For one of Syrian mode. 1716 Lady M. W. Montagu *Let. to C'tess of Mar* 21 Nov., They are..dressed after the French and English modes. 1745 *De Foe's Eng. Tradesman* (1841) I. x. 75 It is the mode to live high, to spend more than we get. 1837 Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* (1872) III. II. i. 59 There are modes wherever there are men. 1841 Catlin *N. Amer. Ind.* (1844) II. lviii. 249 These people..have much in their modes as well as in their manners to enlist the attention. 1884 W. C. Smith *Kildrostan* 69 We are grown To be a sort of dandies in religion, Affecting the last mode.

b. ? Something fashionable.

1841 Lady Blessington *Idler in France* I. v. 66 Oh, the misery of trying on a new *mode* for the first time, and before a stranger!

8. Conventional usage in dress, manners, habit of life, etc., *esp.* as observed amongst persons 'of fashion'.

1692 R. L'Estrange *Fables* i. 2 We are to prefer..the Blessings of Providence before..the splendid Curiosities of Mode and Imagination. 1711 Steele *Spect.* No. 6 ¶ 4 Is there anything so just, as that Mode and Gallantry should be built upon exerting ourselves in what is proper and agreeable to the Institutions of Justice and Piety among us? 1789 Jefferson *Writ.* (1859) II. 554 These sentiments became a matter of mode. 1827 Carlyle *Misc.* (1857) I. 19 Over which the vicissitudes of mode have no sway. 1894 A. C. Hillier in *2nd Bk. Rhymers' Club* 80 We know that way they have of old, For it is mode in Opera-land.

†b. (*Man, people*) *of mode* = *man* etc. *of fashion* (see Fashion *sb.* 12 b). *Obs.*

1676 Etheredge (*title*) The Man of Mode, or Sir Fopling Flutter. 1693 *Humours Town* 28 The man of Mode here in Town. 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 119 ¶ 3 If after this we look on the People of Mode in the Country, we find in them the Manners of the last Age. 1711 Steele *ibid.* No. 182 ¶ 3, I..had the Satisfaction to see my Man of Mode put into the Round-House. 1749 Bolingbroke *Patriot King* 181 The choice spirits of these days, the men of mode in politics.

†c. One who or that which sets or displays the fashion. *Obs.*

1712 Steele *Spect.* No. 478 ¶ 9 Every one who is considerable enough to be a Mode. 1818 Lady Morgan *Autobiog.* (1859) 48, I shall send two dressed dolls for the two babies, as modes.

9. *The mode*: the fashion or custom in dress, manners, speech, and the like adopted in society for the time being. *arch.*

1649 Dk. Newcastle *Country Capt.* I. 11 Wee are governd by the mode, as waters by the moone. 1672 Dryden *Assignation* Prol., But, gentlemen, you overdo the mode. 1697 — *Virgil, Life* *4 b, The Devotion..was their Interest, and, which sometimes avails more, it was the Mode. 1706 Addison *Rosamond* III. iv, It suits a person in my station T' observe the mode, and be in fashion. 1728 Young *Love Fame* v, The mode she fixes by the gown she wears. 1849 Saxe *Poems, Times* 303 Slaves to the Mode, who pinch the aching waist And mend God's image to the Gallic taste. 1898 Henley *Lond. Types, Barmaid,* Cheaply the mode she shadows.

†**10.** In phrases: *In, out of* (*the*) *mode*, in, out of fashion or customary use, esp. in 'polite' society; *all, much the mode*, said of the object of a general but usually temporary popularity. *Obs.*

1664 Evelyn *Kal. Hort.* 25 This Tree is now all the mode for the Avenues to their Countrey palaces in France. 1669 Worlidge *Syst. Agric.* (1681) 175 The white Shock-Rabbit of Turkie is..now become the most in Mode. 1672 J. Cresset in *N. Eng. Hist. & Gen. Reg.* (1868) XXII. 83 When they have come to Town, they must presently be in the mode, get fine clothes. 1673 *Remarques Humours Town* 3 These things are set formalities, and out of Mode. *a* 1680 Butler *Rem.* (1759) I. 101 Nothing can be bad or good, But as 'tis in or out of Mode. 1738 Swift *Pol. Conversat.* 117 Why Tom, you are high in the Mode. 1760 Franklin *Lett.* Wks. 1840 VI. 230 If I would finish my letter in the mode, I should yet add something that means nothing. 1766 *Ann. Reg., Charac.* 5/2 Monsieur de Belleisle was then much the mode, being spoken of both at court and at Paris. 1773 Goldsm. *Stoops to Conq.* II. i, What do you take to be the most fashionable age about town? Some time ago, forty was all the mode. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* iii. I. 408 In a few months experimental science became all the mode.

†**11.** = Alamode 4. Also *attrib.*

1751 *MacSparran Diary* (1899) 407 A la mode (or mode) was a thin, glossy silk, used for hoods, scarfs, &c. 1766 W. Gordon *Gen. Counting-ho.* 429, 33½ yards figured mode. 1777 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 213/1 A black silk mode cloak and other apparel. 1795 *Edin. Advert.* 6 Jan. 15/1 A Variety of Articles in the Haberdashery line..consisting of Modes, ..Vellum Modes,..Sattins, &c. 1796 *Hist. Ned Evans* I. 156, I will lay my mode cloak to a brass pin. 1819 J. H. Vaux *Mem.* I. 119, I began my depredations by taking a piece of elegant black mode. 1826 Miss Mitford *Village* Ser. II. 55 Her close black bonnet of that silk which once .. was fashionable, since it is still called mode. 1864 *Cornh. Mag.* Aug. 136 She had on a black mode cloak that had been her mother's. 1900 *Academy* 21 July 41/1 Her train of soft mode silk, she held up at the back as she walked.

b. ? An article made of this material.

1847 C. Bronte *J. Eyre* xviii, Brocaded and hooped petticoats, satin sacques, black modes, lace lappets, &c.

12. *pl. Lace-making*: (See second quot.).

1882 Cole in *Encycl. Brit.* XIV. 185/2 The use of meshed grounds extended [1650–1720], and grounds composed entirely of varieties of modes were made. 1882 Caulfeild & Saward *Dict. Needlework, Modes,* a term used in Lace making to denote the open work Fillings between the thick parts of the design.

†**13.** (See quot.) *Obs.*

1688 R. Holme *Armoury* II. 117/1 Modes, or self coloured flowers.

14. *attrib.*, as mode-book, a fashion-book.

1861 Mrs. H. Wood *East Lynne* vii, Her head-dress..was like nothing in the mode-book or out of it.

†**Mode,** *v. Obs. rare.* [f. Mode *sb.*]

1. *trans.* or quasi-*trans.* a. To put (a person) *into* fashionable clothing. b. *To mode it*, to follow the fashion.

1656 Blount *Glossogr.* To Rdr. A ij b, In London many of the Tradesmen have new Dialects...The Taylor is ready to mode you into a Rochet, Mandillion [etc.]. *a* 1661 Fuller *Worthies, Sussex* (1662) III. 102 He was accounted..somewhat Clownish,..partly, because he could not mode it with the Italians. *Ibid., Warwick* III. 119 He could not Mode it, or comport, either with French ficleness, or Italian pride.

2. *intr.* To be or become 'the mode'.

1663 *Cup of Coffee* 5 Pure English Apes! ye may, for aught I know, Would it but mode, learn to eat spiders too.

Modee, obs. form of Moody.

Modefy(e, -fyshe, obs. ff. Modify, Mudfish.

Model (mǫ́dĕl), *sb.* Forms: 6 modill, moddell, 6–7 moddel, 6–8 modell, modle, 7 modull, modil, 7–8 modelle, 6– model. [a. OF. *modelle* (mod.F. *modèle*), ad. It. *modello*, dim. of *modo*, ad. L. *modus*: see Mode *sb.* From It. or Fr. the word has passed into other langs.: Ger. and Sw. *modell*, Du. and Da. *model*. Cf. Module *sb.*]

I. Representation of structure.

†**1.** An architect's set of designs (plans, elevations, sections, etc.) for a projected building; hence, a similar set of drawings made to scale and representing the proportions and arrangement of an existing building. Also occas. a delineation of a ground-plan (*e. g.* of a town, a garden, etc.). *Obs.*

1575 Gascoigne *Posies, Herbes* 173 And I shall well my sillie selfe content, To come alone vnto my louely Lorde, And vnto him..To tel some..reasonable worde, Of Hollandes state, the which I will present, In Cartes, in Mappes, and eke in Models made. 1579–80 North *Plutarch, Pompeius* (1595) 695 Pompey liked exceedingly well the Theater..and drew a modell or platforme of it to make a statelyer then that in Rome. 1581 Sidney *Apol. Poetrie* (Arb.) 33 The same man, as soone as hee might see those beasts well painted, or the house wel in moddel, should straightwaies grow without need of any description, to a iudicial comprehending of them. *c* 1582 T. Digges in *Archæologia* XI. 228 The proportion of the fludgates and capestaindes..shall in modell bee allsoe sett downe. 1597 Shaks. 2 *Hen. IV*, I. iii. 142 When we meane to build, We first survey the Plot, then draw the Modell. 1601 Sir W. Cornwallis *Ess.* II. xl. (1631) 166 Cottages may be built without modelles, not pallaces. 1617–18 W. Lawson *New Orch. & Gard.* (1623) Pref., The Stationer hath..bestowed much cost and care in hauing the Knots and Models by the best Artizan cut in great varietie. 1625 Bacon *Ess., Gardens* (end), So I haue made a Platforme of a Princely Garden, Partly by Precept, Partly by Drawing, not a Modell, but some generall Lines of it. 1639 [see Platform 2]. 1714 Swift *Pres. St. Affairs* Wks. 1755 II. I. 205 When a building is to be erected, the model may be the contrivance only of one head.

fig. 1599 Shaks. *Much Ado* I. iii. 48 Will it serue for any Modell to build mischiefe on? 1611 Tourneur *Ath. Trag.* II. ii, My plot still rises According to the Modell of mine owne desires.

b. *transf.* A summary, epitome, or abstract; the 'argument' of a literary work. *Obs.*

a 1626 Bacon *Let. to T. Matthew* in Spedding *Life & Lett.* (1870) IV. 133 Of this, when you were here, I shewed you some model. *a* 1627 Middleton *Wom. Beware Wom.* v. i. 107 The actors that this model here discovers Are only four. *a* 1649 Winthrop *New. Eng.* (1826) II. 231 That treatise about arbitrary government, which he first tendered to the deputies in a model, and finding it approved by some, and silence in others, he drew it up more at large. 1760–72 H. Brooke *Fool of Qual.* (1809) III. 45, I have now..given you the..unformed rudiments of our Britannic constitution. And here I deliver to you my little model of the finished construction thereof.

†c. A description of structure. *Obs.*

1578 T. Digges in L. Digges *Progn. Everlasting* To Rdr. M, I founde a description or Modill of the world and situation of Spheres Cœlestial and Elementare according to the doctrine of Ptolome. *Ibid.*, But in this our age one rare witte..hath by long studie,..deliuered a new Theoricke, or model of the world, shewing that the earth resteth not in the Center of the whole world, but only in the Center of thys our mortal world.

2. A representation in three dimensions of some projected or existing structure, or of some material object artificial or natural, showing the proportions and arrangement of its component parts. *Working model*, one so constructed as to imitate the movements of the machine which it represents.

1615 G. Sandys *Trav.* 221 Menelaus with fiftie ships, sent him only one, with the models of the other in clay, to colour his perjury. 1662 Pepys *Diary* 30 July, Cooper..begun his lecture upon the body of a ship, which my having of a modell in the office is of great use to me, and very pleasant and useful it is. 1665 Moxon tr. *Vignola* (1702) 76 If they were all cut out, and placed one above another..you would ..have the Model of a true pair of Stairs. 1676 T. Miller *Compl. Modellist* 1 When you go to raise the Model of any Ship or Vessel, you must in the first place know the Length of her Keel [etc.]. 1697 Bp. Patrick *Comm. Exod.* xxv. 9. 483 The Hebrew word *Tabnit* .. signifies a Structure, or Building; which cannot be better expressed than by the word Model, which he now saw of the House he was to erect. 1727 De Foe *Syst. Magic* I. i (1840) 30 Prometheus, who..is feigned by the poets to have first formed Man; that is to say, formed the Model of a Man by the help of water and earth, and then stole fire from the sun to animate the Model. 1766 tr. *Hasselquist's Voy. Levant* 149 They..force them to buy..models of the grave of Christ. 1824 R. Stuart *Hist. Steam Engine* 96 The university's collection of mechanical and philosophical models. 1832 G. Downes *Lett. Cont. Countries* I. 192 A model of William Tell stands opposite another of his son. They are formed of wood. 1847 Tennyson *Princess* Prol. 73 A dozen angry models jetted steam. 1850 Mrs. Jameson *Leg. Monast. Ord.* (1863) 149 At his feet is a small model of a hill. 1875 *Encycl. Brit.* III. 833/2 Mr. Brunel had completed a working model of certain machines for constructing ..blocks.

b. *fig.* Something that accurately resembles something else; a person or thing that is the likeness or 'image' of another; *esp.* in *little model*, a thing that represents on a small scale the structure or qualities of something greater. *Obs.* exc. *colloq.* or *dial.* in *the* (*very*) *model of.*

1593 Shaks. *Rich. II*, I. ii. 28 Thou dost consent In some large measure to thy Fathers death, In that thou seest thy wretched brother dye, Who was the modell of thy Fathers life. 1602 — *Ham.* v. ii. 50, I had my fathers Signet in my Purse, Which was the Modell of that Danish Seale. 1603 Drayton *Bar. Wars* IV. xxxiv, Seeing Lundy that so faire doth stand,..This little modell of his banish'd Land. 1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* (1614) 21 Delighted (as the Father in his Childe) in this new modell of himselfe. 1663 Bp. Patrick *Parab. Pilgr.* xv. (1687) 131 These quiet places are the resemblances of the serene regions above, and little models of Heaven. 1824 Hogg *Conf. Sinner* 138 The likeness to my late hapless young master is so striking, that I can hardly believe it to be a chance model. 1899 Crockett *Little Anna Mark* lii. (1900) 438 He minds me of Sir James —the very model of Sir James.

c. An archetypal image or pattern.

1742 Young *Nt. Th.* IX. 1337 When shall I..Gaze on creation's model in thy breast Unveil'd, nor wonder at the transcript more? 1785 Reid *Intell. Powers* 421 Every work of art has its model framed in the imagination.

†**3.** A mould; something that envelops closely.

1593 Shaks. *Rich. II*, III. ii. 153 Nothing can we call our own but Death, And that small Modell of the barren Earth, which serues as Paste and Couer to our Bones. 1599 — *Hen. V*, II. Prol. 16 O England: Modell to thy inward Greatnesse, Like little Body with a mightie Heart.

†**4.** A small portrait. Hence confused with Medal. *Obs.*

1622 Malynes *Anc. Law-Merch.* 356 Modells or Medalia to be worne by the said hundreth persons of the societie, and the Masters of counting houses. 1626 Boyle in *Lismore Papers* (1886) II. 190, I receaved..a chayn, and the kings picture or modull of gowld fastened to the chayn of gold. 1658 Walton *Life Donne* (ed. 2) 91 That model of Gold of the Synod of Dort, with which the States presented him at his last being at the Hague.

5. An object or figure made in clay, wax, or the like, and intended to be reproduced in a more durable material. †Also, *rarely*, a sketch or study made for a painting.

1686 Aglionby *Painting Illustr.* Explan. Terms, Model. Is any Object that a Painter works by, either after Nature, or otherwise; but most commonly it signifies that which Sculptors, Painters, and Architects make to Govern themselves by in their Design. 1695 Dryden *Dufresnoy's Art Painting* Pref. 44 To make a Sketch, or a more perfect Model of a Picture, is in the language of Poets, to draw up the Scenary of a Play. 1845 *Encycl. Metrop.* VIII. 456/1 He [*i. e.* the mould maker] then pours the semi-fluid around and over the [clay] model until the upper part has the designed thickness. 1856 *Eng. Cycl., Biogr.* II. 929 (*Flaxman*), The contents of his studio included nearly all his working models, casts of all his chief works, &c.

6. *Plastering.* A tool for moulding a cornice, having a pattern in profile which is impressed upon the plaster by working the tool backwards and forwards. Cf. Mould.

1825 J. Nicholson *Operat. Mechanic* 606 Plastering. The tools of the plasterer consist of..rules called straight-edges; and wood models. *Ibid.*, The models or moulds are for running plain mouldings, cornices, &c. 1842 Gwilt *Archit.* § 2233.

II. Type of design.

7. Design, structural type; style of structure or form; pattern, build, make. a. of material structures.

1597 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* v. xiv. § 1 A fault no lesse grieuous,..then if some King should build his mansion

house by the modell of Salomons palace. 1660 F. Brooke tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 46 This Town is..built very stately at the Italian model. 1698 Fryer *Acc. E. India & P.* 107 These Vessels that are for this Voyage are huge unshapen things, and bear both the Name and Model of their old Junks. 1778 *Eng. Gazetteer* (ed. 2), Putney..has a church after the same model with that of Fulham. 1829 I. Taylor *Enthus.* iii. (1867) 55 Each of his works is perfect, both in model and in movement.

b. of immaterial things, systems, institutions, etc. In the 17th and 18th c. often in *new model*, denoting a remodelling of some institution, etc.

1593 G. Harvey *Pierces Super.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 43 Such a new-devised modell, as neuer Sun saw before...Old Archilochus and Theon were but botchers in their rayling faculty. 1647 Clarendon *Hist. Reb.* II. § 10 It was now easy .. to suggest..that here was an entire new Model of Government in Church and State. 1678 Cudworth *Intell. Syst.* I. i. § 45. 53 That new Modle of Ethicks, which hath been obtruded upon the world..is no Ethicks at all. 1725 De Foe *Compl. Eng. Gent.* (1890) 22 Exactly after the modelle of the Common-wealth of Rome. 1747 W. Horsley *Fool* (1748) II. 331 This new Modelle of Things has quite corrupted the very Soul of Naval Affairs. 1759 Robertson *Hist. Scot.* VIII. Wks. 1851 II. 239 Such acts as..paved the way for a full and legal establishment of the presbyterian model. 1764 Foote *Mayor of G.* II. Wks. 1799 I. 176 He will put us into the model of the thing at once. 1874 Green *Short. Hist.* viii. § 5. 508 The new faith..borrowed from Calvin its model of Church government. 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) III. 51 Limited in size, after the traditional model of a Greek state.

c. *The (New) Model* (Hist.): the plan for the reorganization of the Parliamentary army, passed by the House of Commons in 1644–5.

1645 Cromwell *Let. to Fairfax* 4 June in Carlyle *Lett. & Sp.*, That you would be pleased to make Captain Rawlins .. a Captain of Horse. He has been so before; was nominated to the Model. 1645 Whitelocke *Mem.* 10 Jan., The commons..debated about the new model of the army. *Ibid.* 5 Feb., Debate about the ordinance for the new model. *Ibid.* 2 Apr., The new model was by them [*sc.* the king's party] in scorn called the new noddle.

†**8.** Scale of construction; allotted measure; the measure of a person's ability or capacity. *Obs.* (Cf. Module *sb.* I, I b.)

1605 Bacon *Adv. Learn.* I. vii. § 19 An Errour ordinarie with Counsellors of Princes, that they counsell their Maisters according to the modell of their owne mind and fortune. 1620 R. Carpenter *Conscionable Christian* (1623) 39 Hauing ..spoken..(according to the modell of time allotted for me to speake, and you to heare) of the reall religious practice [etc.]. 1624 F. White *Repl. Fisher* 301 We are farre from appointing ignorant persons to be Iudges of that which exceedeth their modill and skill. 1625 Bacon *Unity in Relig.* (Arb.) 427 Of this I may giue onely this Aduice, according to my small Modell. 1651 Hobbes *Leviath.* II. xxiv. 130 Thus much (considering the modell of the whole worke) is sufficient. 1662 Hibbert *Body Div.* I. 206 Shall any reduce and shrink up the thoughts and wayes of God to their narrow and straitned model? 1675 Baxter *Cath. Theol.* II. i. 278, I tell you the Ignorant and Carnal sort of Priests and Fryers did each man talk according to his Model, and so do all Sects.

†**b.** Compass, extent of space. *Obs.*

? *a* 1600 in *Lyly's Wks.* (1902) III. 493 The thundringe God whose all-embracinge powre Circles ye modell of this spatious rounde.

9. Of a violin, viol, etc.: Curvature of surface.

1836 Dubourg *Violin* ix. (1878) 266 The instruments by the three Amati are rather higher, or less flat, in the model, than those of Straduarius. 1848 J. Bishop *Otto's Violin* i. (1875) 4 The even side [of the wood for the violin's back or belly] is then smoothed and the model traced on it.

III. An object of imitation.

10. A person, or a work, that is proposed or adopted for imitation; an exemplar.

1639 N. N. tr. *Du Bosq's Compl. Woman* I. E iv b, The desire we have to become like to some goodly model. 1693–4 Gibson in *Lett. Lit. Men* (Camden) 217, I had a letter last night from Dr. Parsons, with a fresh request to send him down a [*sc.* history of a] Countie finished, from whence he might take a model to adjust his own materials. 1714 Gay *Let. to Lady* 31, I then resolved some model to pursue, Perused French critics, and began anew. 1734 tr. *Rollin's Anc. Hist.* (1827) VIII. xix. v. 156 Which young officers should propose to themselves as a model. 1837 Lytton *E. Maltrav.* III. ii, Models may form our taste as critics, but do not excite us to be authors. 1838 Emerson *Addr., Cambridge, Mass.* Wks. (Bohn) II. 202 Imitation cannot go above its model. 1839 Thirlwall *Greece* VI. 213 The system..served..as a model for the policy of Rome under the emperors. 1871 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* (1876) IV. xix. 419 [The Church] of Rouen, we are told being his special and immediate model.

11. A person, or, less frequently, a thing, that serves as the artist's pattern for a work of painting or sculpture, or for some portion of such a work; *spec.* a person whose profession it is to pose for artists and art-students.

1691 *Emilianne's Frauds Rom. Monks* (ed. 3) 391 [She] commonly serv'd for a Model to the Limners of the Academy. 1727–41 Chambers *Cycl.* s. v., In the academies, they give the term model to a naked man, disposed in several postures. 1860 Hawthorne *Marb. Faun* ii, One of those living models..whom artists convert into saints or assassins, according as their pictorial purposes demand. 1891 Kipling *Light that Failed* vii. (1900) 159 But remember, old man, she isn't a woman; she's my model; and be careful.

b. *transf.* A woman who is employed in a draper's or milliner's shop to exhibit to customers the effect of articles of costume by attiring herself in them.

1904 *Books of to-day* May 3 One of the models of the establishment came gracefully towards me.

12. A person or thing eminently worthy of imitation; a perfect exemplar *of* some excellence.

1788 Anna Seward *Lett.* (1811) II. 104 A man [*sc.* Johnson] who, hating dissenters of all denominations, held up the writings of Clarke and the life of Watts as models of perfection. 1794 Paley *Evid.* II. ii. (1817) 60 The Lord's Prayer is a model of calm devotion. 1805 N. Nicholls *Remin.* in *Corr. w. Gray* (1843) 43 Mr. Gray thought the narrative of Thucydides the model of history. 1868 Swinburne *Blake* 16 Their vivid and vigorous style is often a model in its kind. 1871 E. F. Burr *Ad Fidem* xi. 211 Models of pure and noble conduct.

13. *colloq.* in *pl.* = 'model dwellings' (see 14).

1887 *Pall Mall G.* 5 Oct. 4/2 The parish has gone down.. and the building of the 'models' has not made it better. 1896 *Daily Chron.* 25 Aug. 5/6 The ordinary streets and the smaller models, which make up the bulk of the Ghetto, as we find it in Whitechapel [etc.]. 1900 *Daily News* 25 Oct. 3/4 The overcrowding per acre caused by 'models' was just as unhealthy as overcrowding per room.

IV. 14. †**a.** = Module I. *Obs.*

1598 Haydocke tr. *Lomatius* I. 89 But because Vitruvius measureth this order by models,..I purpose likewise to keepe the same course, making the diameter of this columne at the base, to consist of two models, whose height with the base and Capitell shal be fourteene models. 1665 Moxon tr. *Vignola* (1702) To Rdr., Our Author to avoid that..certain uncertainty hath reduc'd all his measure, to a convenient and universal measure, which is called by the Name of a Model [It. *modulo*]: The invention whereof hath made the whole Art of Architecture very easie. 1706 in Phillips (ed. Kersey).

b. = Modillion. *Obs.*

1663 Gerbier *Counsel* 39 The Models in the Cornishes may be just over the middle of the Column.

V. 15. *attrib.* and *Comb.* **a.** appositive, passing into *adj.*: Serving or intended to serve as a model; suited to be a model, exemplary, ideally perfect, 'pattern'.

Model lodging-house: originally, one of a number of lodging-houses, established *c* 1840–5 by various philanthropists and placed under regulations intended to secure the comfort and the orderly conduct of the inmates; the designation was afterwards applied by the proprietors of large lodging-houses to their own establishments, often of a very low class. *Model dwellings*: in London and elsewhere, certain large buildings divided into flats for working-class tenants, intended to supply better arrangements for sanitation and comfort than are obtainable at equally low rent in the same neighbourhoods.

1844 Marg. Fuller *Wom. 19th C.* (1862) 31 Lectures on some model-woman of bride-like beauty and gentleness. 1847 *Illustr. Lond. News* 23 Jan. 61 Model Lodging House in St. Giles's. 1856 Emerson *Eng. Traits, Ability* Wks. (Bohn) II. 35 Sir Kenelm Digby..was a model Englishman. 1857 Kingsley *Two Years Ago* Introd. (1881) I. 22 There's my lord's..model cottages, with more comforts in them, saving the size, than my father's house had. 1860 *All Year Round* No. 57. 161 A mill-owner, whose mill, I was assured, was a model one. 1885 *Public Opinion* 9 Jan. 32/1 A model Bishop of London is..more easily imagined than discovered. 1891 *Tablet* 2 May 694 How did so model a youth get on at the University? 1891 M. Williams *Later Leaves* 369 In the case of many cleared areas,..model dwellings have been erected for the accommodation of the persons displaced.

b. simple attrib., chiefly with reference to the life-models employed by artists, as in *model-day, -stand, -throne*. Also objective, as *model maker*.

1873 W. Morris in Mackail *Life* (1899) I. 301, I keep it up, dreading the model day like I used to dread Sunday. 1881 *Instr. Census Clerks* (1885) 55 Figure, Image-Maker... Model Maker. 1899 Morrow *Bohem. Paris* 43 They placed the helpless M. Haidor on the model-stand. 1898 Watts-Dunton *Aylwin* VIII. ii, A..burly woman,..standing on the model-throne between two lay figures.

c. Special comb.: **model-drawing**, in art-teaching, that branch or stage of study which consists in drawing in perspective from solid figures; **model-room**, a room for the storage or exhibition of models of machinery and the like.

1829 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) III. 103 A Model Room for the Jacksonian Professor. 1843 J. B. Williams (*title*) A manual for teaching model-drawing from solid forms.

Model (mɒ·dĕl), *v.* [f. prec. sb. Cf. F. *modeler*, Sp., Pg. *modelar*, It. *modellare*.]

†**1.** *trans.* To present as in a model or outline; to portray or describe in detail. Also with *forth, out*. *Obs.*

1604 Drayton *Moses in Map of Miracles* II. 57 Afflicted London, .. When thy affliction seru'd me for a booke, Whereby to modell Egipts miserie. *a* 1649 Drumm. of Hawth. *Poems* (1656) 185 Cease dreames,..To modell forth the passions of to morrow. *a* 1652 J. Smith *Sel. Disc.* VII. iii. (1821) 327 Our Saviour, when he models out religion to them, points them out to something fuller of inward life and spirit.

†**b.** To frame a model or theory of the structure of. *Obs.*

1667 Milton *P. L.* VIII. 79 When they come to model Heav'n And calculate the Starrs.

2. To produce or fashion in clay, wax, or the like (a figure or imitation of anything).

1665 *Phil. Trans.* I. 99 Having an extraordinary address in modelling the Figures. 1762–71 H. Walpole *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1786) IV. 205 Michael..began by modelling small figures in clay, to show his skill. 1771 Bp. Horne *Disc. Creat. Man* Wks. 1818 II. 9 He moulded or modelled him [*sc.* man] as a potter doth. 1847 Emerson *Poems, To Rhea* Wks. (Bohn) I. 403, I make this maiden an ensample To Nature,..Whereby to model newer races, Statelier forms, and fairer faces.

absol. 1858 O. W. Holmes *Aut. Breakf.-t.* ii. (1859) 24, I rough out my thoughts in talk as an artist models in clay. *fig.* 1641 Milton *Reform.* ii. 45 But by what example can they shew that the form of Church Discipline must be minted and modell'd out to secular pretences?

3. To give shape to; to frame, fashion (usually, an immaterial object, or a document, argument, etc.). † *To model out*: to produce (an expression of countenance) by studied effort.

1625 Purchas *Pilgrims* II. x. xiv. 1848 The Mother .. played a womans part, shed teares,..modeld out a deiected Countenance, and..made an impression in them of her innocencie. 1768 Sterne *Sent. Journ.* (1778) I. 53, I forthwith began to model a different conversation for the lady, thinking .. that I had been mistaken in her character. 1818 Cruise *Digest* (ed. 2) IV. 382 Articles were only minutes.. and ought to be so modelled..as to make them effectual. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 16 June 5/3 Budgets .. modelled too much on..free-trade principles.

†**b.** To plan out, put into preliminary shape. *Obs.*

1683 Dryden *Life Plutarch* 71 Having model'd but not finish'd them [*sc.* the 'Lives'] at Rome he afterwards resum'd the work in his own country.

c. To mould or assimilate in form *to*.

1683 *Brit. Spec.* 39 The Words which they received..seem much to be modelled to that Dialect. 1903 *Contemp. Rev.* Mar. 357 The sea-shell models to its form the wandering fish that dwells therein by choice.

†**d.** *To model into*, to bring into (a particular shape). *Obs.*

a 1704 T. Brown *Sat. Antients* Wks. 1730 I. 16 Some modell'd them [*i.e.* Satires] into a purposed form to act at the end of their Comedies. *a* 1817 T. Dwight *Trav. New Eng.*, etc. (1821) II. 149 It is impossible for a brook of this size to be modelled into more diversified, or more delightful, forms.

e. To form (something) after a particular model. Usually const. *after, on, upon*.

1730 *Hist. Litteraria* I. 437 He was ordered either to suppress them, or to model them according to the Plan that was prescribed to him. 1841 D'Israeli *Amen. Lit.* (1867) 130 The earliest writers of France had modelled their taste by the Greek. 1841 Elphinstone *Hist. Ind.* XII. iii. II. 655 He modelled his court on that of Nádir Sháh. 1882 Hinsdale *Garfield & Educ.* II. 302 Each new college is modelled after the older ones. 1898 Bodley *France* II. III. iv. 181 Parliamentary institutions primarily modelled on the English pattern.

†**4.** To organize (a body of men, a community, a government, etc.). *Obs.*

1654 Fuller *Two Serm.* 12 Were they all connected into one Body,..summed up and modelled in one Corporation. *a* 1661 — *Worthies, Wales* (1662) IV. 8 Wales .. was not modelled into Shires..till the raign of K. Henry the eighth. 1674 Baker *Chron., Chas. II* (an. 1659) 660 They propose first, to have the Army setled and modelled in a way of Unity before they determined upon the Government. 1678 Sir G. Mackenzie *Crim. Laws Scot.* II. xvi. § 2 (1699) 215 They having been modelled in an Army, and taken in the Field fighting..they behoved to be judged by the Military Law. 1693 *Humours Town* 41 There's not a Trader .. but has his share in Modelling the Government. *a* 1715 Burnet *Own Time* (1724) I. 421 The design was to keep up and model the army now raised. 1724 R. Fiddes *Morality* Pref. 63 God, who founded human society, may model it as he pleases. 1770 Langhorne *Plutarch* (1879) I. 101/2 Solon.. being asked, What city was best modeled? he answered, That, where those who are not injured are no less ready to prosecute .. offenders than those who are. 1842 J. Aiton *Domest. Econ.* (1857) 323 The whole power of instituting and modelling parishes was at one time entirely ecclesiastical.

† **b.** To classify, arrange in a system. *Obs.*

1727 Threlkeld *Stirpes Hibernicæ* Pref., He [Boerhaave] has concisely modelled plants according to method.

†**5.** To train or mould (a person) to a particular mode of life or living; also, to make a tool of. *Obs.*

1665 Boyle *Occas. Refl.* v. v. (1848) 316 Those whom their nearness to Him, or their Employments, make the conspicuous and exemplary Persons, being thus model'd, their Relations and Dependants will quickly be so too. 1666 in 10*th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 24 By their too powerfull perswasions to modell him to their designes. 1673 O. Walker *Educ.* I. ii. 24 One..who may continually attend the Child, .. model his manners, and preserve him from danger. 1701 Farquhar *Sir H. Wildair* II. i, 'Tis an insupportable toil, though, for women of quality to model their husbands to good breeding. 1734 tr. *Rollin's Anc. Hist.* (1827) IX. 203 He modelled him, and instructed him fully in all that it was necessary to do or say.

†**6.** To plan, machinate. *Obs. rare*—1.

1725 Pope *Odyss.* X. 339 Each friend you seek in yon enclosure lies,..Think'st thou by wit to model their escape?

7. *intr.* Of the portions of a drawing in progress: To assume the appearance of natural relief.

18.. F. Fowler *Charcoal Drawing* 44 (Cent.), The face now begins to model and look round.

Modeless (mō·ud'lĕs), *a.* Also 6 moodelesse. [f. Mode *sb.* + -less.]

†**1.** Unmeasured. *Obs.* (Frequent in Greene.)

1580–3 Greene *Mamillia* I. Wks. (Grosart) II. 17 Nor to shewe himselfe such a moodelesse Aminius, to say all were Criples, because he found one halting. 1587 — *Carde of Fancie* ibid. IV. 11 Vsing suche mercilesse crueltie to his forraine enimies, & such modelesse [1593, A 4, moodlesse] rigour to his natiue citizens.

2. In mystical use: Having no 'mode' or specific determination.

1856 R. A. Vaughan *Mystics* (1860) I. VI. viii. 325 *note*, The sons are utterly dead to self, in bare modeless love. 1865 T. F. Knox tr. *Life H. Suso* 31 The modeless abyss of the divine essence.

Hence **Mo·delessness.**

1856 R. A. Vaughan *Mystics* (1860) II. X. i. 150 The contrast lies, with her, not between Finite and Infinite..be-

tween mode and modelessness,..but simply between God and Self.

‖ **Modeliar** (mŏde·lyär). *Ceylon.* [Tamil *mudaliyār*, 'an honorific plural from *mudali* a chief' (Yule).] A head-man, chief; a chief military officer. *Grand modeliar*, a commander in chief.

1662 J. Davies tr. *Mandelslo's Trav.* 112 The Portnguez.. made no difficulty to confer upon him the office of Grand Modeliar of Candy... Grand Modeliar, that is, Constable of the Kingdome of Candy. 1840 J. Forbes II *Yrs. in Ceylon* 116 On our arrival at Avisavellé, the Modeliar informed us that [etc.]. 1845 *Encycl. Metrop.* XVI. 451/1 The chief military officer in each Désáveny was the Modelyár. *Ibid.* 452/1 The frequent collision of the civil and military authorities, the Korales and Modelyárs.

Modelist (mŏ'dĕlist). In quots. **modellist.** [f. Model *sb.* + -ist.] A maker of models.

1676 T. Miller (*title*) The Compleat Modellist: shewing The true and exact way of Raising the Model of any Ship or Vessel, small or great, either in Proportion, or out of Proportion. 1825 Hogg *Q. Hynde* I. 28 Come, modellist, thy toil renew—Such scene shall never meet thy view!

†**Mo·delize**, *v. Obs.* [f. Model *sb.* + -ize. Cf. Modulize.]

1. *trans.* To frame or construct according to a model; to give a particular shape to; to model, frame; to organize. Also *refl.*

1605 Shelton in Verstegan *Dec. Intell.* To Author, Thy curious nation..all that was rare or strange In forrain lands, at home did modellize. 1639 G. Daniel *Ecclus.* xxiii. 86 He who ere Time was, yet Knew all things, and now Modellized fitt, Sees with a carefull Eye. 1650 *Merchant Adv. of Newcastle* (Surtees) 162 To modilise an acte for restrayninge of the bretheren from taking apprentices. 1659 Gauden *Tears Ch.* IV. v. 426 Which..some silly Saints and devout bunglers will undertake to manage and modelize beyond their line and measure. 1660 F. Brooke tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 387 Some amongst them .. civilized the rest, and modelized the government. 1716 M. Davies *Athen. Brit.* III. *Diss. Physick* 30 The learned Protestant Antiquarian Bochard, and the erudite Popish Bishop Dan. Huetius,..agree entirely, that Apollo was modeliz'd by the Ethnicks upon the Platform of Phut. 1771 Luckombe *Hist. Print.* 400 The Germans have a ragged r,..which, in modelizing their letters to the present shape, they have castrated. 1810 *Splendid Follies* II. 196 Her impatient husband was reproving her stupidity..; for Milford would fain have modelized her.

2. To symbolize.

1625 C. Brooke *On Sir Arthur Chichester* Poems (1872) 237 Her outward accions modelized her minde.

Hence **Mo·delized** *ppl. a.*, modelled, shaped; **Mo·delizing** *ppl. a.*, formative.

1599 B. Jonson *Ev. Man out of Hum.* III. i, For the more modelizing or enamelling, or rather diamondizing of your subiect. 1688 R. Holme *Armory* IV. xii. (Roxb.) 475/2 Their gods, made of little Modellized stones or mettle. 1716 M. Davies *Athen. Brit.* II. 18 He had a Modellizing,..or an Approving Hand in all his Royal Letters, Commissions [etc.]. 1810 *Splendid Follies* III. 87 The enlightened Christian, who, but for the modelizing hand of science, which fashioned him in his cradle, had been thy [the negro's] equal.

Modelled (mŏ'dĕld), *ppl. a.* [f. Model *v.* + -ed 1.]

1. Shaped or organized after a particular or desirable model: frequently with qualifying adverb.

1621 G. Sandys *Ovid's Met.* I. (1632) 9 O would I could my Father's cunning vse! And soules into well-modul'd Clay infuse! 1670 Penn *Case Liberty Consc.* 30 We are not such model'd Christians, as they coercively would have us. 1679 in Wodrow *Hist. Suff. Ch. Scot.* (1722) II. 60 The Lord Macdonald, a professed Papist, with a modelled Army ..hath remained in Armes. 1700 S. L. tr. *Fryke's Voy. E. Ind.* 177 Their vigilant, and wisely Model'd Government. 1704 J. Blair in W. S. Perry *Hist. Coll. Amer. Col. Ch.* I. 108 He..would keep a Standing modell'd militia in constant pay. 1863 'Ouida' *Held in Bondage* (1870) 3 Broad chest, and splendidly modelled arm. 1887 Ruskin *Præterita* II. 60 A beautifully modelled forehead. 1895 Mrs. B. M. Croker *Village Tales* (1896) 21 Her two modelled arms, jingling with copper bangles.

2. Executed in relief.

1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1458/1 A modeled map of a country 200 miles square.

Modeller (mŏ'dĕlər). [f. Model *v.* + -er 1.] One who models (in any sense of the vb.) or makes models, esp. one who forms models in clay, plaster, wax, or the like. Also *fig.*

1603 Florio *Montaigne* I. xxv. (1632) 79 Philosophy (as a former of judgements, and modeler of customes) shall be his principall lesson. 1692 Wood *Ath. Oxon.* II. 101 He.. became..a great proposal maker, and modeller of state, and publisher of several seditious Pamphlets. 1712 Addison *Spect.* No. 414 ₱ 5 Our great Modellers of Gardens have their Magazines of Plants to dispose of. 1791 Smeaton *Edystone L.* § 69 A competent draughtsman and an excellent modeller. 1825 J. Nicholson *Operat. Mechanic* 465 The modeller and the mould-maker, whose occupations are very distinct branches of the art. The modeller has great scope for the exertion of natural and acquired ability, taste, and ingenuity. 1837 *Rep. Roy. Mint* App. 6 The office of a modeller should be established, and I should humbly submit that he might be chosen from among the most celebrated of our Royal Academicians. 1846 *Penny Cycl.* Suppl. II. 313/1 The..formative skill of the modeller [in clay].

Modelling (mŏ'dĕlin), *vbl. sb.* [f. Model *v.* + -ing 1.]

†1. The action of drawing or projecting plans. *Obs. rare*—1. (The word may possibly be the ppl. adj. used *absol.* = 'modellers'.)

1581 Mulcaster *Positions* v. (1887) 35 Whose vse [*sc.* of Drawing] all modelling, all mathematikes, all manuaries do finde and confesse to be so notorious and so needefull.

2. *fig.* The action of bringing (anything) to a desired or desirable form or condition.

a 1653 Binning *Serm.* (1845) 486 That constant..rule, which the Lord gives concerning the modelling and carriage of the armies of His people in all their wars. 1671 Milton *Samson, Of Tragedy*, In the modelling..of this Poem..the Antients and Italians are .. follow'd, as of much more authority. 1676 Towerson *Decalogue* 431 He who invests another person .. should have the modelling of his own grant. 1722 Wodrow *Hist. Suff. Ch. Scott.* II. 277 The Council's Letter .. contains some other Things anent the Modelling of the Justices of the Peace. 1749 Mrs. Delany in *Life & Corr.* (1861) II. 513 She is a fine lively girl, but wants a good deal of modelling.

3. The action or art of making models; the art of constructing representations of things in clay, wax, plaster, or the like; *spec.* the art of making a model in clay or wax to be copied in more permanent materials by the sculptor or founder.

1799 G. Smith *Laboratory* II. 84 They are very expert in carving and modeling. 1856 *Eng. Cycl., Biogr.* II. 163 Chantrey .. therefore turned his attention to modelling in clay. 1860 *Our Eng. Home* 167 These beautiful modellings and arboresque chasings. 1872 J. Yeats *Techn. Hist. Comm.* 351 Associated with and dependent upon casting is another new handicraft, called modelling. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1458/1 The largest attempt at geographical modeling was by Mr. Wyld.

b. *transf.*

1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIII. 90/2 A new school of taxidermists, with new methods, whose aim is to combine a knowledge of anatomy and modelling with taxidermic technique, are now coming to the front, and the next generation will discard all processes of 'stuffing' in favour of modelling.

4. *Art.* The representation of solid form in sculpture; *transf.* the representation of material relief and solidity in painting.

1874 Symonds *Sk. Italy & Greece* (1898) I. viii. 134 An ideal Roman head, with the powerful square modelling. 1884 H. Wallis in *Athenæum* 8 Nov. 599/2 The drapery also has all his careful elaboration and accurate modelling. 1889 *Academy* 25 May 365/1 The modelling in the numerous portraits .. is painstaking rather than really firm or expressive of the structure beneath.

5. *attrib.*, as *modelling-clay*, *-wax*; **modelling-board**, a board used in loam-moulding to give shape to the mould (Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1875); **modelling loft** = *mould-loft* (Ogilvie 1882); **modelling-plane**, a short plane used in planing rounded surfaces (Knight); **modelling-stick, -tool**, tools used by modellers in clay or wax.

1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XXI. 571/1 Over this iron skeleton well-tempered *modelling-clay is laid and is modelled into shape. 1807 Anna M. Porter *Hungar. Bro.* iv. (1832) 40 She plied the *modelling-sticks, or the chisel, with equal vileness. 1846 *Penny Cycl.* Suppl. II. 313/1 *Modelling tools, are made of wood and wire. 1845 *Encycl. Metrop.* VIII. 790/1 To make the best *modelling-wax, take two cakes of virgin wax [etc.]. 1866 Brande & Cox *Dict. Sci.*, etc. II. 551/1 Modelling wax consists of hees-wax melted with a small quantity of Venice turpentine, with which a little flake white in powder, or other powdered colour is mixed. 1891 Kipling *Light that Failed* x. (1900) 201 A piece of red modelling-wax.

Modellion, variant form of Modillion.

Modellist, obs. variant of Modelist.

Mo·del-wood. The hard pale-coloured wood of the Indian rubiaceous tree *Adina* (or *Nauclea*) *cordifolia*.

1857 E. Balfour *Cycl. India*, Model or Putcha Ootoo Wood. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 748/1 Model-wood. *Nauclea cordifolia*.

Modena (mŏ·dī'nă). [Name of an Italian city.] A deep purple colour. Also *attrib.*

1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) I. 394 The modena hue is produced by the carbon with which the blood is loaded. *Ibid.* 400 [A cause which] converts it from a deep purple or modena, into a rich scarlet. *Ibid.* II. 114 The fauces present a Modena-red colour. 1888 W. Williams *Princ. Vet. Med.* (ed. 5) 219 The conjunctiva varies in shade from a bright scarlet to a modena red.

†**Modenature.** *Arch. Obs. rare*—1. [a. F. *modénature*, ad. It. *modanatura*, f. *modano* moulding.] The mouldings decorating a cornice.

1664 Evelyn tr. *Freart's Archit.* II. i. 90 Its proportion ..requires an enrichment of handsome Modenatures.

†**Mo·der,** *v. Obs.* Also 5 **modre**, 5–6 **modere**. [ad. OF. *moderer* (F. *modérer*), ad. L. *moderārī*: see Moderate *v.*] = Moderate *v.* in various senses: To restrain, hold in check; to temper, mitigate; to regulate, settle; to modify. (Frequent in 15th c.) Hence **Mo·dering** *vbl. sb.*, a diminishing, attenuation.

1414 in *Proc. Privy Council* (1834) II. 141 Eny..offre that were moderyngge of youre hoole title or of eny of youre claymes heyonde the see. *c* 1430 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 417/1 Moderyng aleway the nombre of the Persones and Estates of the Parlement,..and of other Officers, as the necessite and service of the Kyng..requireth. *c* 1450 tr. *De Imitatione* III. xii, That þe desires of þe herte must be examyned & moderid. 1481 Botoner *Tulle Old Age* (Caxton) d 3 b, Vf every man will tempre & modre his strength .. he sbal have grete desyre and plesire in his strength. 1495 *Act* 11 *Hen. VII*, c. 2 § 1 In modring of the seid estatute..it be ordeyned. 1533 More *Apol.* xxii. Wks. 882/2 If this pacifier would moder and measure his sufficiencie by the wordes of S. Paule [etc.]. 1533 J. Heywood *Play Weather* (1903) 688 As we se the wynde in hys estate, We moder our saylys after the same rate. 1534 Whitinton *Tullyes Offices* III. (1540) 135 One referreth al to the opinyons of Socrates schole, the other modereth all after custome of men and lawe ciuyle.

Moder, obs. form of Mauther, Mother.

†**Mo·derable,** *a. Obs.*—0 [ad. L. *moderābil-is*, f. *moderārī* to moderate: see Moderate *v.* and -able.] Moderate; temperate.

1623 Cockeram, *Moderable*, temperate, measurable.

†**Mo·deracy.** *Obs.* [f. Moderate *a.*: see -acy.] Moderation.

1601 in *Archpriest Controv.* (Camden) I. 193 They did it wth muche more moderacie and shewe of peace .. than these did.

†**Mo·derance.** *Obs.* [ad. med.L. *moderantia* (Du Cange), f. L. *moderant-em*: see next and -ance.] Moderation.

1481 Botoner *Tulle Old Age* (Caxton) b 5 b, Fabius..had in himsilf a good dispocicion of a moderaunce medlyd with curtesye. 1534 Whitinton *Tullyes Offices* I. (1540) 21 Endued with this slendrer vertues, as moderaunce, temperaunce and .. justyce. *a* 1578 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 111 He wald wse sic moderance heirin and deill witht thame as gentill as he could.

Moderant (mŏ'dĕrănt). [ad. L. *moderant-em*, pr. pple. of *moderārī* to Moderate: see -ant. Cf. F. *modérant*.] Something that moderates.

1897 *Daily News* 9 Feb. 7/4 He added a moderant in the form of castor-oil.

Moderantism (mŏ'dĕrăntiz'm). *Obs.* exc. *Hist.* [F. *modérantisme*, f. *modérant*, pr. pple. of *modérer* to moderate: see Moder *v.* and -ism.] In France, during the Revolution, and later, the doctrines and spirit of the Moderate party in politics.

1793 Burke *Policy of Allies* Wks. VII. 134 They [*sc.* the Jacobin Clubs] too have been lately subjected to an expurgatory scrutiny, to drive out from them every thing savouring of what they call the crime of moderantism. 1795 Hel. M. Williams *Lett. France* I. 139 (Jod.) The revolutionary tribunal..was denounced for its moderantism.

So **Mo·derantist,** one professing moderantism.

1877 Morley *Crit. Misc.* Ser. II. 95 Other prominent members of the party whom they loved to stigmatise by the deadly names of Indulgent and Moderantist.

Moderate (mŏ'dĕrĕt), *a.* and *sb.* Also 5 *Sc.* modreth, 5–7 moderat. [ad. L. *moderāt-us*, pa. pple. of *moderārī*: see Moderate *v.* Cf. F. *modéré*.]

A. *adj.*

1. Of persons, their attributes, actions, etc.: Observing, exhibiting, or acting with moderation; avoiding extremes; characterized by temperance of conduct or expression.

Moderate drinker: one who does not drink to excess, but is not a teetotaller. So *moderate drinking*.

c 1412 Hoccleve *De Reg. Princ.* 2436 Moderat speche engendrith reste, and makith. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 309 A man lyke to a god, happy in batelle and moderate in peace. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 175 They must bring with them a mynd neyther ambitious nor covetous, but godly and moderat. 1596 Shaks. *Merch. V.* III. ii. 112 O loue be moderate, allay thy extasie. 1611 Bible *Ecclus.* xxxi. 20 Sound sleepe commeth of moderate eating. 1634 *Documents agst. Prynne* (Camden) 53 Methinkes it should make you more moderate, just, and compassionate towardes others. 1680 Titus *Sp. Ho. of Comm.* 26 Oct. in *Collect. Poems* 186 The moderatest and meekest Man that ever was, ..Slew the Egyptian. 1788 Gibbon *Decl. & F.* V. xlix. 97 In the reformation of religion, his first steps were moderate and cautious. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* vi. II. 64 Rochester's moderate counsels. 1887 *Poor Nellie* (1888) 76 You are such a very moderate man, Octavius, that you might just as well take the pledge as not.

2. a. Of opinions and their supporters: Not extreme; not strongly partisan. b. Hence (now usually with initial capital) used as the designation of various political and ecclesiastical parties and their views: see B. below.

a. 1644 Heylin *Brief Relat. Laud* 4 Some of the more moderate (or rather the lesse violent) Lords..gave out that they intended onely to remove him from his Majesties eare. 1654 Gataker *Disc. Apol.* 26, I maintained a good correspondence .. with the moderater sort on either side. 1705 (*title*) The New Association of those called Moderate-Church-Men. By a True-Church-Man. *a* 1715 Burnet *Own Time* IV. (1753) III. 137 He slackened all the laws made against the moderate Presbyterians. 1770 *Junius Lett.* xxxviii. (1788) 203 They have lost or renounced the moderate principles of their government. 1889 *Spectator* 28 Dec., The temptation to a Prime Minister is to appoint only 'moderate' men.

b. 1753 Witherspoon *Eccl. Characteristics* Wks. 1804 II. 299 The moderate party commonly set up on a pretence of being more learned than their adversaries. 1842 *Mem. J. Halley* 37 There are two contending principles within the Church of Scotland, the supporters of which are called respectively Evangelical and Moderate. 1848 Struthers *Rise Relief Ch.* 193 The Moderate clergy .. were very unpopular. 1875 M'Crie *Story Scott. Ch.* 505 In 1763, Dr. Robertson became the avowed leader of the Moderate party.

3. Of medium or middling quantity, quality, size, or extent; fairly large or good; 'tolerable'. Now often (esp. in phr. *very moderate*) in depreciative sense: Mediocre, scanty.

c 1420 Lydg. *Assembly of Gods* 885 The remenaunt Of pety capteyns that with Vertu were, Moderat Dyete, & Wysdom auenaunt [etc.]. *c* 1430 — *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 69 Moderat foode [1487 in *Camb. MS.* modreth fude] gevith to man his helthe. *a* 1547 Surrey *Ecclesiastes* v. 30 The cheif blisse that in earth to liuing man is lent, Is moderat welth. 1607 Shaks. *Timon* III. iv. 117 There's not so much left to furnish out a moderate Table. 1711 Shaftesb. *Charac., Misc.* v. ii. (1737) III. 283 A good Bargain it were, cou'd we get rid of every moderate Performance in this kind [*sc.*

Poetry or Essay]. 1711 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 10 Nov., Have you got the whalebone petticoats among you yet? I hate them; a woman here may hide a moderate gallant under them. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* III. vi. 350 It is a rock of a small circumference, but of a moderate height. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* II. 73 (*Russia*), They put a very moderate faggot into them [*sc.* stoves]. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 69 Where great quantities of water are discharged from moderate heads, the actual head of water, and the virtual head,..will nearly agree. 1828 PUSEY *Hist. Enq.* I. 38 The rest are very moderate productions. 1889 *Sat. Rev.* 16 Mar. 326/1 He [*sc.* the horse Monarque] looks long in the back and has very moderate loins. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV. 162 The skin assumes a moderate icteroid hue.

b. Of physical processes, conditions, or agencies: Not intense, violent, or rigorous. Of the voice: Neither excessively loud nor excessively low.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XI. ii. (1495) 384 Winde that is moderate and not contraryouse to Shypmen. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. xii. 51 The milde ayre with season moderate Gently attempred. 1598 *Epulario* Ljb, Make a moderate fire as to a Tarte. 1704 J. CUNINGHAM in *Phil. Trans.* XXV. 1649 Grey cloudy Weather, with moderate Gales from NW to W. 1769 MRS. RAFFALD *Eng. Housekpr.* (1778) 299 Bake them in a moderate oven. 1802 *Med. Jrnl.* VIII. 314 A second case..terminated..in a moderate sweat. 1863 JOYCE *Sch. Management* 75 The monitors must be trained to speak, when teaching, in a moderate voice.

4. *Comb.*, as *moderate-minded, -priced, -sized* adjs.

1819 BYRON *Juan* I. cxviii, I'm a *moderate-minded bard. 1905 *Westm. Gaz.* 22 Sept. 2/3 Extensive and *moderate-priced hotels. 1765 *Museum Rust.* III. 157, I pass a *moderate-sized roller over the field.

B. *sb.* One who holds moderate opinions in politics, religion, or any subject of controversy. Hence (now usually with initial capital), a member of any of the various parties of which 'Moderate' has been the official or customary designation; e. g. in the French Revolution (transl. of F. *modéré*) applied to the Girondins, later to the Dantonists and others.

1794 BURKE *Corr.* (1844) IV. 213, I take it for granted he will come to the moderates, and by thus reuniting the party, put himself [etc.]. 1803 JEFFERSON *Writ.* (ed. Ford) VIII. 222 A schism was taking place in Pennsylvania between the moderates and the high-flyers. 1831 A. W. FONBLANQUE *Eng. Under* 7 *Administr.* (1837) II. 81 The vast majority of society, Whig, Tory, and Moderates, acknowledge the necessity of Parliamentary Reform. 1833 ALISON *Hist. Europe* x. II. 62 *note*, Those who .. frequent the society of ..Feuillants, Moderates, or Aristocrats. 1877 MORLEY *Crit. Misc.* Ser. II. 98 The execution of the Anarchists only preceded by a week the arrest of the Moderates. 1882–3 *Schaff's Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* I. 659 The Moderates hastened to elect him [*sc.* Cæcilianus, bishop of Carthage].

b. In the Church of Scotland during the greater part of the 18th and the former half of the 19th century: A member of that party which (in opposition to the 'Evangelical' party) held lax views on doctrine and discipline, and opposed the abolition of lay patronage.

About 1843 the abbrevinted forms *Mods* and *Nons* were familiarly used for 'Moderates' and 'Non-intrusionists'.

1842 *Mem. J. Halley* 40 One of the facts illustrative of the principles and practice of the Moderates which made a deep impression on Halley's mind. 1848 STRUTHERS *Rise Relief Ch.* 191 The Moderates, about the year 1735, allowed them [*sc.* the popular party] to have their own way. 1854 H. MILLER *Sch. & Schm.* xxii. (1860) 239 The younger men were staunch Liberals, but great Moderates, the elder, sound Evangelicals, but decidedly Conservative in their leanings.

c. In recent municipal politics (opposed to *Progressive*): A member of the party hostile to undertakings involving large expenditure of public money.

1894 *Times* 19 Dec. 6/1 A Progressive headed the poll, followed by six Moderates, at the election of guardians.

Moderate (mɒ·dĕrēit), *v.* Also 6–7 moderat; *pa. pple.* 5–6 moderate, 6 *Sc.* moderat. [f. L. **moderāt-*, ppl. stem of *moderārī* (pre-classical and late L. *moderāre*), f. **moder-*:—**modes-* (whence *modestus* MODEST), a noun-stem parallel with *modo-*, *modus* measure, MODE *sb.* Cf. L. *operārī* to work, f. *oper-*, *opus* work.]

1. *trans.* To abate the excessiveness of; to render less violent, intense, rigorous, or burdensome; † to reduce the amount of (a fine, charge, financial burden).

1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) V. 31 This Marcus Antonius.. moderate grevous lawes and constitutions with other of gretter moderacion. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Blanchardyn* xx. 64 The maystres..dyd perceyue..that her Indygnacion..was moderat in her herte. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 51 These outrageous mocyons be moderate & rectified by the cardinall vertue temperaunce. 1541 *Act* 33 *Hen. VIII*, c. 22 The saide maister..shall haue..auctoritie to moderate such recognisances as be..forfaited. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. ii. 38 With equall measure she did moderate The strong extremities of their outrage. 1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* II. xiii. 111 The coolenesse of the night then is not sufficient to moderate and to correct the violent heate of the Sunne. 1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* IV. iv. 5 The griefe is fine, full perfect that I taste..How can I moderate it? 1632 POAY in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. III. 272 His Grace by his dyet hath so moderated his gout, as it is [etc.]. 1656 *Providence* (*R. I.*) *Rec.* (1893) II. 92 Ordered that ye Attournies fee is moderated from 6s 8d to 3s 4d. 1732 LEDIARD *Sethos* II. IX. 308, I..advise you to moderate your demands. 1731 ARBUTHNOT *Aliments* (1735) 146 By its astringent Quality it [*sc.* Tea] moderates the relaxing Quality of warm Water. 1765 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* I. viii. 319 All the hopes we can entertain of ever discharging or moderating our incumbrances. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 29 June 5/1 Mr. Balfour must moderate at once any hope he derives from the supposition. 1903 G. MATHESON *Repr. Men Bible* Ser. II. 36 Lot should have remembered this, and should have moderated his desires.

b. *intr.* for *refl.* To become less violent, severe, or rigorous.

1678 BUTLER *Hud.* III. ii. 463 Yet when his profit moderated, The fury of his heart abated. 1819 BARON DE BONSTETTEN in *Lady Morgan's Autobiog.* (1859) 310 As the heavens have moderated, I propose..to pay you a visit. 1897 J. CHALMERS in *Life* xi. (1902) 443 Fortunately the weather moderated.

† **c.** *trans.* To simplify. *Obs.*

1557 N. T. (Genev.) To Rdr. **iij, I haue so moderat them (the arguments of Scriptures) with playnenes and breuitie, that the verie ignorant may easely vnderstande them.

† **2.** *trans.* To exercise a controlling influence over; to regulate, restrain, control, rule. *Obs.*

1534 MORE *Treat. Passion* Wks. 1311/1 This coulde none do but he, that..was able..to moderate and measure theyr pacys hym selfe, in suche wyse as them selfe wyste not why. 1538 STARKEY *England* I. iv. 104 By hys royal powar..he may moderat al thyng accordyng to hys plesure and wyl. 1555 EDEN *Decades* 304 A collar or rayne wherwith he moderateth the course of the hartes. 1612 BRINSLEY *Lud. Lit.* XX. (1627) 238 The Interlineall translation may be a worthy helpe for a man..who can so moderate his eye, as to keepe it fixed upon either Greek or Latine alone. 1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* 274 The woman was ordayned..to gouerne and moderate the house at home. 1641 *Mass. Body of Liberties* 95 in *Col. Laws Mass.* (1889) 59 Provided that tbe whole action be guided and moderated by the Elders of the Church where the Assemblie is helde. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* VII. 533 But these..When reason moderates the rein aright, Shall re-ascend. 1781 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xvii. (1788) II. 33 Whatever could interest the public prosperity, was moderated by the authority of the Prætorian præfects. 1808 BARCLAY *Muscular Motions* 324 On what grounds are we to imagine that these two muscles shall..moderate one another with accuracy and precision?

refl. 1638 BAKER tr. *Balzac's Lett.* (vol. II.) 209 Yet moderate your selfe a little at first, and be reserved in a strange country. 1673 SIR L. JENKINS *Let. to Earl of Arlington* in W. Wynne *Life* (1724) I. 128 The two Bishops have moderated themselves as much as can be desired.

† **b.** To adjust, arrange, adapt; to modify; to proportion the quantity of. *Obs.*

1477 EARL RIVERS (Caxton) *Dictes* 18 He moderated so his mete and his drinke that he was at noo tyme fatter nor leener than other. 1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 44 And he that hath but a fewe shepe moderate this medicyne accordynge. *c* 1570 *Schort Sommie 1st Bk. Discipline* § 6 The ministeris stipend sould be moderated that neither [etc.]. 1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 243 Not only his orders and decrees are broken and moderated by the Councell, but also sometimes rejected and contemned.

3. In academic and Eccl. use: To preside over (a deliberative body) or at (a debate, etc.).

To moderate a call (Sc.) = 'to moderate in a call' (see 3 b).

1577 HANMER *Anc. Eccl. Hist.* 84 There moderated there at that time the schoole of the faithfull, a famous learned man called Pantanus. 1593 BILSON *Govt. Chr. Ch.* xiv. 291 The Churches of Christ before that time were guided by certaine chiefe Pastours, that moderated as well the Presbyters as the rest of the flocke. 1630 W. SCOT *Apol. Narr.* (1846) 17 The General assemblies were not moderated by Superintendents. 1638 *Act Gen. Assemb. Ch. Scotl.* 17 Dec. (1682) 51 No Minister, moderating his Session, shall usurpe a negative voice over the members of his Session. 1708 S. SEWALL *Diary* 4 Feb., He expounded the first of Matthew yesterday; Moderated the Bachelours Dispute to day. 1748 *Whitehall Even. Post* No. 363 A Call was moderated for the Rev. John Edmonston, Minister at Cadross. 1809 KENDALL *Trav.* I. vii. 68 The governor or some one chosen to moderate the court. 1816 SCOTT *Old Mort.* xxxi, Others were moderating a harmonious call, as they somewhat improperly termed it, to new officers. 1848 G. STRUTHERS *Hist. Relief Ch.* ii. 201 A call was moderated...The people had set their affections upon Mr. William Adam...For him they moderated a kind of irregular call among themselves.

b. *intr.* To act as moderator; to preside. Now chiefly *Sc.*, to act as president of a Presbyterian church court or of a synodical or congregational meeting.

In the Scottish Presbyterian churches, the 'call' or formal invitation to a minister-elect is signed by the members of the congregation at a meeting attended by the presbytery, and presided over by its moderator. On such an occasion the presbytery (or its moderator) is said *to moderate in a call.*

1581 *Confer.* III. (1584) Ojb, Any learned man present might moderate. 1614 B. JONSON *Bart. Fair* I. iii, A question of Predestination..put to 'hem by the Matron, your Spouse; who moderates with a cup of wine, euer and anone, and a Sentence out of Knoxe between. 1635 PAGITT *Christianogr.* 21 Stachis was the first Bishop of Bizantium..who hath had a continued Succession to the Patriarch now moderating. 1647 N. BACON *Disc. Govt. Eng.* I. xiii. (1739) 23 In the National and Provincial [Synods], sometimes Kings moderated alone, sometimes the Archbishop alone. 1707 E. CHAMBERLAYNE *Pres. St. Eng.* III. xii. (ed. 22) 468 The Regius Professors of Divinity, Law, and Physick, are obliged to moderate at every Doctors and Batchellors Act, in their several Faculties. 1795 T. HUTCHINSON *Hist. Mass.* (ed. 3) I. 161 *note*, Mr. Mather..moderated at the masters disputations, and conferred the degrees at the commencement in 1681. 1803 *Gradus ad Cantabr.* 89 To *Moderate*, to perform the office of Moderator in the schools. 1869 A. MACDONALD *Story Disputed Settlement* (1877) 69 (E.D.D.), I must go over and see him one of these days, before his call is moderated in. 1898 N. R. JOHNSTON *Looking Back fr. Sunset Land* 150 He had moderated in a unanimous call for me in Topsham congregation.

† **4.** *trans.* To decide (a question) as an arbitrator; to settle by bringing about a compromise.

1602 CAREW *Cornwall* I. 26 b, It passeth mine abilitie to moderate the question. 1603 SIR C. HEYDON *Jud. Astrol.* xii. 276, I will require no other arbitrators, to moderate the controuersie betwene vs. 1726 LEONI *Alberti's Archit.* I. 23 b, Cato moderates the matter thus. 1744 WARBURTON *Remarks* I. Wks. 1811 XI. 327 But St. Paul himself bas long ago moderated this question for us, and declared for the negative.

† **b.** *absol.* or *intr.* To act as mediator or arbitrator. Also, to take a mediating view. *Obs.*

1597–8 BACON *Ess., Discourse* (Arb.) 14 The honourablest part of talke is to giue the occasion, and againe to moderate and passe to somewhat else. 1612 BRINSLEY *Lud. Lit.* xiii. (1627) 184 When one taketh the affirmative part, another the Negative, and it may be a third moderateth or determineth betwene both. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 160 Elgazzuli.. moderated twixt the Cadies and his owne Reformatists. 1708 SWIFT *Sentim. Ch. of Eng. Man* I. Wks. 1751 IV. 65 Endeavouring to moderate between the rival Powers. 1713 ADDISON *Guard.* No. 122 ₱ 6 There were however a few select judges who moderated between both these extremes. 1756 *Connoisseur* No. 130 ₱ 1, I shall not pretend to moderate in family disputes of so important a nature.

Moderated (mɒ·dĕrēitĕd), *ppl. a.* [-ED 1.]

† **1.** Reasonably restricted and limited. *Obs.*

1643 PRYNNE *Sov. Power Parl.* App. 14 Theopompus left it [*sc.* the kingly power] more moderated to his successours. 1665 MANLEY *Grotius' Low C. Wars* 496 They say, the Netherlanders were never enslaved, but had alwayes a moderated Empire bounded by Laws. 1690 LOCKE *Govt.* II. xiv. (Rtldg.) 159 Moderated monarchies and well-framed governments. 1790 BURKE *Fr. Rev.* Wks. 1808 V. 333 If the present project of a republick should fail, all securities to a moderated freedom fail along with it.

† **b.** *Well moderated*: well-conducted. *Obs.*

1660 WATERHOUSE *Arms & Arm.* 178 Abounding in rich, stout, grave, and well moderated Citizens.

2. Rendered moderate; reduced to a moderate amount or degree; duly regulated.

1814 D'ISRAELI *Quarrels Auth.* (1867) 261 [He] grudgingly bestows a moderated praise on this exquisite satire. 1857 BP. WILBERFORCE in *Life* (1881) II. x. 345 Lord Aberdeen thinks that anything but a carefully moderated course..will come in too strong contrast with your past silence. 1878 DOWDEN *Stud. in Lit.* 45 Those who possess a moderated but steadfast confidence in the beneficent tendencies of the laws of the world.

Moderately (mɒ·dĕrĕtli), *adv.* [f. MODERATE *a.* + -LY 2.] In a moderate manner, degree, extent, or amount; in or with moderation.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XIX. xliii. (1495) 886 Swetnesse layed to the tonge openyth moderatly and hetyth moderatly and moysteth moderatly. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Blanchardyn* I. 13 Blanchardyn..right moderatly and manerly mayntened hym self. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 226 b, He wyll so moderately use thys victory, that no man shall nede to feare hys vyolence. 1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* II. vi. 14 Therefore Loue moderately, long Loue doth so, Too swift arriues as tardie as too slow. 1631 R. BOLTON *Comf. Affl. Conse.* ii. (1635) 155 If Hee be but moderately, and not every day drunk. 1731 ARBUTHNOT *Aliments* (1735) 146 Tea is an Infusion of a Plant acescent, and moderately astringent in warm Water. *a* 1763 SHENSTONE *Ess.* Wks. 1777 II. 7, I think, moderately speaking, the vulgar are generally in the wrong. 1831 J. FOSTER in *Life & Corr.* (1846) II. 193 Never more than very moderately good. 1880 *Responsib. Opium Trade* 22 The Chinaman who smokes moderately.

b. *Comb.*, as *moderately-gifted, lighted* adjs.

Combinations of the adv. with adjs. in -ED 2 are often incorrectly substituted for parasynthetic derivatives containing *moderate* adj., e.g. *moderately-sized* for *moderate-sized.*

1807–8 SYD. SMITH *Plymley's Lett.* Wks. 1859 II. 167/2 A set of worthy and moderately-gifted men. 1860–61 FLOR. NIGHTINGALE *Nursing* (ed. 2) 9 A moderately-sized bedroom. 1872 HUXLEY *Physiol.* ix. 220 A moderately-lighted surface.

Moderateness (mɒ·dĕrĕtnĕs). [f. MODERATE *a.* + -NESS.] The state or condition of being moderate.

1571 GOLDING *Calvin on Ps.* xlvi. 11 When men ronne a head without advisement, there is no roome for moderatenesse. 1658 A. FOX tr. *Wurtz' Surg.* II. iii. 52 A true moderateness in eating and drinking. 1781 JUSTAMOND *Priv. Life Lewis XV*, II. 144, I am surprized at the moderateness of the sum. 1872 BAGEHOT *Physics & Pol.* (1876) 203 A vigorous moderateness in mind and body. 1894 W. WALKER *Hist. Congregat. Ch. U.S.* 361 A moderateness of cost which should put it within the reach of the most needy.

Moderater, -erateur: see MODERATOR.

Moderating (mɒ·dĕrēitiŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. MODERATE *v.* + -ING 2.] That moderates.

1673 R. LEIGH *Transp. Reh.* 22 Alack, Alack, said I, that was upon the moderating part. 1714 SWIFT *Pres. St. Affairs* Wks. 1755 II. I. 207 Acting for the future upon a moderating scheme in order to reconcile both parties. 1887 *Athenæum* 26 Nov. 705/3 His moderating influence was especially valuable.

Moderation (mɒdĕrēi·ʃən). [a. F. *modération* (14th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), ad. L. *moderātiōn-em*, f. *moderārī* to MODERATE: see -ATION.]

1. The action or an act of moderating.

† **a.** Limitation, restriction; a fixed limit; a restricting provision or clause. *Obs.*

1437 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 508/1 For ye reste of the saide Wolles and Wollefell, over the moderation aforesaid. 1461 *ibid.* V. 467/1 The Kyng..assenteth to this Petition, and hit acceptetb, with certeyn moderacions, provisions and exceptions. *a* 1646 J. GREGORY *Posthuma* (1650) 12 This Moderation of the words, though it hath not so much evidence as would bee required, yet it hath a notable pretens. 1700 C. DAVENANT *Disc. Grants*, etc. § III. 192 The Moderations or Savings put in writing as afore are in Number Forty Two.

†b. Control, rule, governance. Also, a system or method of government. *Obs.*

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 89 Whan holy persones ..seeth them selfe to profyte greatly and encrease in prosperite in maner by a moderacyon of the heuenly dispensacyons. 1531 Elyot *Gov.* I. i, A body lyuyng, compacte or made of sondry astates and degrees of men, whiche is .. gouerned by the rule and moderation of reason. 1568 Grafton *Chron.* II. 706 For surely he [*sc.* Humfrey Duke of Gloucester]..beyng a lyue, and hauing the moderation and gouernaunce of the common welth, king Henry had neuer wanered in so many hasardes. 1593 Bilson *Govt. Chr. Ch.* ix. 111 It cannot be doubted, but the moderation of the keies, and imposition of hands were at first setled in the Apostles and exercised by them. 1612 T. Taylor *Comm. Titus* i. 7 He hath lost all the bridle and moderation of himself. 1633 Bp. Hall *Hard Texts, N. T.* 130 My righteous judgements in the moderation of the world and ordering all the affaires of my Church. 1726 Leoni *Alberti's Archit.* I. 77 Those who are entrusted with the supream authority and moderation in publick Affairs.

†c. Settlement by arbitration or compromise; an arrangement, a compromise. *Obs.*

1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 47 b, Wherin not withstandyng to use this moderation, that suche as be in possession already, be permitted to enjoye the rente. 1568 Grafton *Chron.* II. 731 If it might please the king of Englande to appoint certayne of the yomen .. to appoint not onely who should enter, but also the number of them, he thought that this moderation should be both suretie and pleasure to both the parties.

d. Abatement of severity or rigour; restriction within moderate limits. Now *rare*. Also, †reduction (of expenditure), abatement or lowering (of pecuniary charges).

1598 Grenewey *Tacitus' Ann.* III. v. (1622) 71 They debated the matter concerning the moderation of the law *Papia poppæa*. 1601 F. Godwin *Bps. of Eng.* 515 [He] went about by course of law to stay him and force him to a moderation of expence. 1621 Elsing *Debates Ho. Lords* (Camden) 110 Moved, whether a generall jubelee shalbe for the debtes, or whether a moderacion? 1629 Massinger *Picture* IV. i, In extreames Of this condition, can it be in man To vse a moderation? 1692 Dryden *St. Euremont's Ess.* 202, I find but two things that may render it [*sc.* Life] happy: The Moderation of a Man's Desires, and the good use of his Fortune. 1709 Strype *Ann. Ref.* I. xlvii. 475 It would be with some Moderation only for Strangers. *a* 1716 South *Serm.* (1727) VI. i. 31 What is all Virtue but a Moderation of Excesses?

2. The quality of being moderate, in various senses; now only with reference to conduct, opinions, demands, desires, or their indulgence; avoidance of extremes; self-control, temperance; occasionally, †avoidance of severity or rigour, lenity, clemency.

1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) V. 31 This Marcus Antonius .. moderate grevous lawes and constitutions with other of gretter moderacion. 1509 Hawes *Past. Pleas.* xii. (Percy Soc.) 49 But moderacyon in theyr myndes is had, So that outrage may them not overtake. 1561 T. Norton *Calvin's Inst.* I. 63 A pacience and quiet moderation of hart. *a* 1628 Preston *Breastpl. Love* (1631) 212 The moderation that keepeth from actions wherein is excesse, is good. 1702 Steele *Funeral* v. (1734) 79 Oh! grant me, Heav'n, grant me Moderation! 1725 De Foe *Voy. round World* (1840) 209 He admired much the moderation I had used. 1782 V. Knox *Ess.* (1819) I. ii. 12 Moderation is the law of enjoyment. 1796 Lamb *Let. to Coleridge* 5 July, Can you write with sufficient moderation, as 'tis called, when one suppresses the one half of what one feels or could say on a subject? 1827 Disraeli *Viv. Grey* VI. i, There is moderation even in excess. 1855 Brewster *Newton* II. xxiv. 346 Constantius .. in place of persecuting the Athanasians, treated them with the greatest moderation. 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) V. 68 He is sensible that moderation is better than total abstinence.

b. Phr. *In moderation*: in a moderate manner or proportion.

1867 *Chambers' Encycl.* IX. 350/2 The habitual use of alcoholic drinks in moderation. 1903 *Pilot* 17 Oct. 375/1 How about that cruel bearing rein? In strict moderation it may do no harm .. but then in moderation it does not produce the effect aimed at by those who use it.

c. *Sc.* Applied to the views and policy of the 'Moderate' party in the Church of Scotland (see Moderate B. b). Hence occas. *the Moderation* = 'the party of moderation', the 'Moderates'.

[1735 Erskine *Serm.* Wks. 1871 II. 357 There is a generation of Gallios and Laodiceans who under the name of moderation, falsely so called, will look upon you as madmen.] 1753 Witherspoon (*title*) Ecclesiastical Characteristics..being an humble Attempt to open the Mystery of Moderation. 1801 T. Brown in D. Welsh *Life* v. (1825) 165 The governing churchmen have persuaded the Dundases that it is absolutely necessary to secure the interest of moderation. 1831 J. M. Campbell in *Mem.* (1877) I. 78 The Moderation was not half so excited against me as the Evangelicals. .. The 'Moderation' in my presbytery are not better than the rest.

3. *Sc.* The action of 'moderating in a call' (see Moderate *v.* 3 b); a meeting of a congregation together with the presbytery, for the purpose of signing a 'call' to a minister-elect. See also quot. 1808.

1782 *Acts Gen. Assemb. Ch. Scotl.* (1843) 811 The resolution of Assembly respecting the moderation of calls. 1808 Jamieson s.v. *Moderation*, When a minister is appointed to preside in this business [*sc.* of electing a pastor], it is said that the Presbytery *grant a moderation* to the people. 1867 A. Duncan in D. Duncan *Discourses* Memoir 5 The moderation was delayed till the month of June, when he received a unanimous call. 1875 Jas. Grant *One of the '600'* v. I. 72 The provost and minister gabbled about presbyteries and synods, the moderation of calls, elders, deacons [etc.]. 1904 R. Small *Hist. U. P. Congregat.* I. 125 A moderation was applied for, £100 of stipend being promised.

4. *pl.* In the University of Oxford, the 'First Public Examination' for the degree of B.A., conducted by the Moderators (see Moderator 5 b). Colloquially shortened to Mods.

1858 J. C. Thomson *Almæ Matres* 224 The next compulsory examination is called 'moderations'. 1883 *A. Barratt's Phys. Metempiric* Pref. 13 When he was reading for double Honours in Moderations.

5. *Comb.*, as (sense 2) *moderation-monger*; (sense 3 Sc.) *moderation day*.

a 1716 South *Serm.* (1727) VI. 80 No Moderation-monger under Heaven shall ever persuade me that St. Paul would have took such a Course with such Persons. 1904 R. Small *Hist. U. P. Congregat.* I. 353 His rejection on the moderation day was the last straw that broke the camel's back.

Moderationist (mɒdĕrē·ʃənist). [f. prec. + -ist.] An advocate of moderation; *spec.*, one who supports the views of the 'moderate drinker' as opposed to the total abstainer.

1846 G. McCulloch *Sobriety contrasted w. Intemp.* 131 From the last resting place of every Moderationist arises a Voice..'Beware of Moderation'. 1883 *League Jrnl.* 20 Oct. 657/3 This is the new line of defence behind which some moderationists [*sc.* on the drink question] are disposed to shelter themselves.

Moderatism (mɒ·dĕrĕtiz'm). [f. Moderate *a.* and *sb.* + -ism.] The doctrines or policy of any of the parties known as 'Moderate'; addiction to moderate views or courses of action.

1795 *Hist.* in *Ann. Reg.* 83 It was common .. with the more violent Jacobins..to make charges against those who were less so, or insinuate suspicions of Moderatism! 1835 Pusey in *Newman's Lett.* (1891) II. 134 But I fear those persons have too far committed themselves, and are too ingrained with moderatism. 1842 *Mem. J. Halley* 38 The principles of Moderatism in the Scottish Church. 1894 *Westm. Gaz.* 2 Apr. 2/2 Moderatism, then, has made no way in Rotherhithe; but a certain number of Progressives who voted in 1892 did not take the trouble to go to the poll.

Moderatist (mɒ·dĕrĕtist). [f. Moderate *a.* + -ist.] One who professes or is characterized by moderatism or moderation.

1716 M. Davies *Athen. Brit.* II. 337 That solid Moderatist Mr. Talents. 1817 Bentham *Parl. Reform* Introd. 331 The Honourable Gentleman in question, who of all moderatists..seems to be least remote from Radicalism.

‖ **Moderato** (mɒdĕrā·tō), *adv. Mus.* [It.: cf. Moderate.] Moderately; at a moderate pace or tempo. Abbreviated *Mod.*

1724 *Explic. For. Words in Mus. Bks., Moderato*, is with Moderation. 1762 Sterne *Tr. Shandy* VI. xi. 1811 Busby *Dict. Mus.* (ed. 3), *Moderato*, a word used adjectively to signify a time of a moderate degree of quickness.

Moderator (mɒ·dĕrĕitəɹ). Also 4, 6 moderatoure, 6 moderater, 6–7 moderatour. [a. F. *modérateur* 15th c. in Hatz.-Darm. (cf. OF. *moderere*), a. L. *moderātor*, agent-n. f. *moderārī*: see Moderate *v.*]

†1. A ruler, governor, director. Also *fig. Obs.*

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* VIII. xvi. (1495) 322 The sonne is moderatoure of the fyrmament. 1563–83 Foxe *A. & M.* I. 578/1 You..take vppon you so cockishly..to be a controller and maister moderatour of other mens matters. 1579 Fenton *Guicciard.* I. (1618) 27 There were ioyned with him (as moderators of his youth) Iohn Iacques Triuulce, .. and the Count Petillane .. both Captaines of great experience. 1641 Prynne *Antip.* Epist. 17 The great Moderator of the Universe, who hath..wrought wondrous things..for the honour and safety of his Majesty, and his Realmes. 1640 Bp. Hall *Chr. Moder.* I. vii. 66 Custome of the place, care of health, regard to our ability, are fit moderators of every mans palate. 1658 J. Harrington *Prerog. Pop. Govt.* II. xi. (1700) 334 The Romans having conquer'd Antiochus, became Moderators of Asia. 1680 H. More *Apocal. Apoc.* 102 The works of Righteousness [were numbered] by dayes, of which the Sun is moderator. 1682 Grew *Anat. Plants* I. ii. 16 The Cortical [Body] is the Moderator of that [*sc.* Motion] in the Lignous. 1705 S. Sewall *Lett.-Bk.* 11 Sept., Storms and Tempests which Christ makes great use of in Governing the World; and in this He is only Moderator. 1808 Barclay *Muscular Motions* 370 The same muscles .. when acting in any capacity as motors, have..at all times the same moderators and the same directors. 1867 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* (1877) I. iv. 209 Competent to act in his name as moderator of the Western realm.

†2. *nonce-use.* One who keeps a middle course.

1565 T. Stapleton *Fortr. Faith* 158* These meane moderatours, and half halters.

3. One who acts as an arbitrator between disputants; an arbiter, umpire, judge. Also, a mediator.

c 1560 tr. *Calvin's Comm. Prayer Bk.* in *Phenix* (1708) II. 213 If so be any Contention rise, then such as are appointed Moderators either satisfy the Party, or else..exhort him to keep silence. 1578 Siuney *May Lady* in Nichols *Progr. Q. Eliz.* II. 99 Between whom the schoolemaster Rombus came in as a moderator. 1646 Crashaw *Musicks Duell* 52 The high-percht treble chirps at this, and chides, Vntill his finger (Moderatour) hides And closes the sweet quarrell. 1657 Trapp *Comm. Job* xxxii. 279 He..takes the boldnesse to interpose as an Arbiter, or Moderator, blaming both sides [etc.]. 1712 Addison *Spect.* No. 309 ₱ 8 He acts as a kind of Moderator between the two opposite Parties. 1826 Disraeli *Viv. Grey* II. xiv, He was earnestly requested by the contending theorists to assume the office of moderator. 1847 Grote *Greece* II. xxvii. (1862) III. 37 They were directed..to invite from Mantinea a moderator. 1863 H. Cox *Instit.* II. iii. 633 The Sovereign is a moderator between the several political parties in the State. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 12 Sept. 5/1 In Syria he was the moderator between two sets of fanatics.

4. A person chosen to preside over a meeting or assembly and conduct its business; a presiding officer or president, esp. *U.S.*, one elected to preside over a 'town meeting'.

1573 Cartwright *Reply to Answ. Whitgift* 29 What is it then that is sayde in Exodus that Moises .. sate as it were moderatoure in that election? 1580 Lyly *Euphues* (Arb.) 421 The Ladie Flauia, .. as moderater commaunded them both to silence, willing Euphues as vmper in these matters, briefly to speake his minde. 1641 in *Col. Laws Mass.* (1889) 49 So shal the presedent or moderator have [a casting voice] in all Civill Courts or Assemblies. 1649 in *Rec. Muddy River & Brookline, Mass.* (1875) 36 *note*, It is ordered yt there be a Moderator chosen annually to regulate publicke towne meetings. 1766 M. Cutler in *Life*, etc. (1888) I. 13 There should be a President appointed, to act as Moderator, to propose all matters to the Club. 1799 S. Freeman *Town Off.* 194 Having first chosen a Moderator to manage and regulate the business of the meeting. 1850 Marsden *Early Purit.* (1853) 107 A presiding moderator always concluded the exercise, which lasted from nine to eleven o'clock. 1882 *Mass. Public Stat.* 232 At every town meeting..a moderator shall be first chosen.

5. In academic use: a. A public officer formerly appointed to preside over the disputations or exercises prescribed in the University schools for candidates for degrees. Now (*a*) at Cambridge, one of two officers, appointed annually, who preside over and are responsible for the proper conduct of the examination for the Mathematical Tripos; (*b*) at Oxford, an examiner for Moderations.

1573 G. Harvey *Letter-bk.* (Camden) 51 As he was abroad in the schooles, so wuld neds seme a moderator at home too in the haul. 1615 Crooke *Body of Man* 132 That occulate Anatomist Petrus Pauius of Leydon..my first Maister & Moderator in Anatomie. 1674 Hickman *Hist. Quinquart.* Epist. (ed. 2) a iij b, The main work of the Moderator is, to keep the Disputants to form. 1766 Clap *Ann. Yale* 27 The Rev. Mr. Woodbridge acted as Moderator; and he and Mr. Buckingham and other Ministers present signed Certificates, that they judged them to be worthy of the Degree of Bachelor of Arts. 1797 *Cambr. Univ. Cal.* 142 Moderators are appointed and paid by the proctors. 1850 *Abstracts New Exam. Stat. Oxf.* (1851) 1 The 'First Examination' under Moderators will take place for the first time in Easter Term 1852. 1906 *Oxford Univ. Cal.* 176 Honour lists issued by Moderators from 1891.

b. At Dublin, a candidate for the degree of Bachelor of Arts who passes out first (Senior) or second (Junior) in honours.

1838 *Dublin Univ. Cal.* 15 Of the successful candidates in each department [*sc.* Physics and mathematics, Classics, Ethics and logics] there are two grades, called Senior and Junior Moderators. 1845 W. B. S. Taylor *Hist. Univ. Dubl.* 155 [List of] Works examined in for moderators in mathematics and physics. 1882 *Society* 16 Dec. 18/2 Mr. Maunsell graduated..as a Moderator and Silver Medallist.

6. In the Presbyterian churches: A minister elected to preside over any one of the ecclesiastical bodies, *e.g.* the congregation, the presbytery, the synod, the general assembly.

1563 *Min. Gen. Assembly* in Peterkin *Bk. Univ. Kirk Scotl.* (1839) 17 It was proponed be the haill Assemblie that ane Moderator should be appointed for avoiding confusion in reasoning. 1582 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* III. 476 Maister Nicholl Dalgleische, as moderatour of the haill synodal assemblie,..Patrik Gillespie, moderatour of the haill presbiterie of Striveling. 1641 'Smectymnuus' *Answ.* xiv. (1653) 61 The Moderator in Geneva is not of a Superior order to his Brethren. 1692 Luttrell *Brief Rel.* (1857) II. 362 The moderator [of the generall assembly of the kirk] adjourned them till August 12 months. 1727 Swift *Further Acc. E. Curll* Wks. 1755 III. i. 161 Some deceased moderator of the general assembly in Scotland. 1846 McCulloch *Acc. Brit. Empire* IV. viii. (1854) II. 287 The Assembly chooses a moderator for every meeting, who, in recent times, has been always a clergyman.

7. One who or that which mitigates or makes moderate.

1621 Burton *Anat. Mel.* III. iv. II. ii. (1624) 535 Hope, that sweet moderator of passions as Simonides calls it. 1696 Tryon *Misc.* I. 6 This Essential Powder or pure Life, is the Moderator or Friendly Quality in all Minerals. 1817 J. Scott *Paris Revisit.* (ed. 4) 323 It was known to be..her [Russia's] policy, to recommend herself to France as the magnanimous moderator of the severity of her Allies.

b. *Hist.* A member of a band of persons opposed to the violent methods of the 'Regulators' who professed to supply the want of the regular administration of justice in the Carolinas *c* 1767–71.

1767 Ld. Montagu in A. Gregg *Hist. Old Cheraws* (1867) 182 A new set of people, who call themselves Moderators, have appeared against the Regulators. 1847 *Desperadoes of South-West* in *Harbinger* 7 Aug. 136/1 The regulators .. soon find that their foes organize also; arm themselves, and prepare for systematic resistance, under the denomination of 'moderators'.

c. (Occas. in Fr. form *modérateur.*) Short for *moderator-lamp* (see 8 b). Also, the mechanical contrivance by which the supply of oil to the wick of such a lamp is regulated.

1851 *Pract. Mechanics' Jrnl.* Mar. 273 It is however in the mode adopted for the adjustment of the oil supply to the burner that the improvement for which the inventor claims the name 'Moderator' consists. 1859 W. G. Wills *Life's Foreshad.* II. xii. 161 He put out the modérateur. 1864 *Chamb. Encycl.* VI. 23/2 The greatest improvement ever effected in oil-lamps was in the so-called French moderator. 1875 *Ure's Dict. Arts*, etc. (ed. 7) III. 35 As the pressure

employed is so great, the oil would, but for the 'moderator', flow over with too much rapidity. This moderator, or regulator, is a tapering rod of iron-wire.

8. *attrib.* a. *Anat.* and *Phys.* in names of certain structures exercising a regulating action, as *moderator-band, -centre, -ligament, -nerve, -ring* (see *Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1891).

1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 849 The apparent provision against this distension [of the heart] in ungulates by the *moderator band, demonstrated by the late Professor Rolleston. 1782 A. Monro *Compar. Anat.* (ed. 3) 76 Each lateral or *moderator ligament of the head. 1753 Chambers *Cycl. Supp.* s.v., *Moderator-ring*..that ring which the muscles of the eye make round the optic nerve.

b. *Moderator-* (occas. *modérateur*) *lamp*, a lamp in which, by a mechanical contrivance, the passage of the oil from the reservoir to the burner is regulated or moderated to a uniform flow.

1851 *Pract. Mechanics' Jrnl.* Mar. 273 Hadrot's Moderator Lamp. 1857 *Union* 23 Jan. 63 (Advt.), Moderateur lamps ..just received from Paris. 1904 *Blackw. Mag.* Apr. 469/1 New lampshades .. decorated the globes of the moderator-lamps.

Moderatorship (mɒ·dĕrē·təɹʃip). [See -SHIP.] The function, office, or position of a moderator.

1641 'Smectymnuus' *Vind. Answ.* xiv. 182 From whose Moderators our Bishops differ onely in perpetuitie of Moderatorship. 1656 Heylin *Extraneus Vapulans* 153 Passed from one to another in their severall turns like the Moderatorship in the generall Assembly of the Kirk of Scotland. 1754 Richardson *Grandison* (1781) I. xiii. 76 Mr. Reeves..said he would, by way of moderatorship in the present debate, read them a passage. 1838 *Dubl. Univ. Cal.* 15 Those candidates for degrees who have obtained honors in the preceding part of the College Course, are entitled to offer themselves as candidates for Moderatorships. 1901 *Daily Chron.* 25 Dec. 6/4 Moderatorship of the Free Church of Scotland... A letter was read from the Rev. Dr. Marcus Dods, declining to be nominated to the Moderatorship of the next Assembly.

† **Moderatress.** *Obs.* [f. Moderator + -ess.] A female moderator. (Only in 17th c.)

1602 Dolman *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* (1618) III. 664 The maker of the matter and moderatresse of all nature. *a* 1661 Fuller *Worthies, Yorksh.* (1662) III. 191 Hilda..being a kind of Moderatresse in a Saxon Synod. 1686 Goad *Celest. Bodies* I. xii. 47 Those who allow the Lunar Influence to be Moderatress of the Tides.

† **Modera·trix.** *Obs.* Also 6 moderatriee. [a. L. *moderātrix*, F. *modératrice*: see Moderator.] A female moderator.

1531 Elyot *Gov.* II. ix, Temperance..is the moderatrice as well of all motions of the minde, called affectes, as of all actis procedyng of man. 1577 Timme *Calvin on 1 Cor.* 64 b (*margin*), Loue the moderatrix of contention. *a* 1614 Cope in Gutch *Coll. Cur.* I. 120 He loved equity, as the true umpress between them both, as moderatrix of extremes. 1651 C. Cartwright *Cert. Relig.* I. 63 Your Church hath ..practised it a long time, for a woman to be head or supreme moderatrix in the Church. 1673 *Ess. Educ. Gentlewom.* 13 She is ordinarily a Moderatrix in the Academy at the Disputation amongst learned Wits. 1741 Middleton *Cicero* II. x. 386 He had given up all his resentments to the Republic; made her the Moderatrix of all his acts. 1753 Richardson *Grandison* (1781) VI. iv. 356 The debate was closed, and referred to Mrs. Shirley, as Moderatrix.

† **Mo·deration.** *Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. Moderate *v.*: see -ure.] Moderation, temperance.

1574 Newton *Health Mag.* 77 Aristotle..referreth all the cause of prosperous health unto temperate moderature of meate and drinke, and [etc.].

Modere, obs. form of Moder, Mother.

Modereid, (*? erron.*) variant of Midred *Obs.*

Moderhed(e, -les(se, -ly, obs. ff. Mother-head, -less, -ly.

Modern (mɒ·dəɹn), *a.* and *sb.* Also 6–7 moderne. [ad. late L. *modern-us* (6th c.), f. *modo* just now (on the analogy of *hodiernus* that is of to-day, f. *hodiē* to-day). Cf. F. *moderne*, Sp., Pg., It. *moderno*, G. *modern.*]

A. *adj.*

†1. Being at this time; now existing. *Obs. rare.*

1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* lxxxv. 5 Hodiern, modern, sempitern, Angelicall regyne! 1555 *Extracts Aberdeen Reg.* (1844) I. 285 The next parliament, to be haldin..in name of our maist gracious quene moderne. 1597 *Burgh Rec. Glasgow* (1876) I. 185 Hew, erle of Eglingtoune moderne. 1700 *Pennsylv. Archives* I. 127 Being obliged to it by thy former as well as modern kindness. 1752 *Charter Soc. Antig. Lond.* 7 Wee have nominated..Martin Folkes, Esquire, to be the first and modern President of the said Society.

2. Of or pertaining to the present and recent times, as distinguished from the remote past; pertaining to or originating in the current age or period.

In Historical use commonly applied (in contradistinction to *ancient* and *mediæval*) to the time subsequent to the Middle Ages, and the events, personages, writers, etc. of that time. So *Modern History*: see History 3 b.

1585 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* I. xv. 16 b, The writings of the auncient and moderne Geographers and Historiographers. 1621 Bacon *Let. to T. Matthew* in Spedding *Lett.* VII. 429 For these modern languages will at one time or other play the bank-rowtes with books. 1656 Earl Monm. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* II. xxviii. (1674) 177 The women of this Modern Age had ..need of amendment. 1676 Ray *Corr.* (1848) 122 Much also he hath.., taken out of some modern writer it hath not been my hap to see. 1687 A. Lovell tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 275 There is another Aqueduct somewhat older, yet still modern. 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey) Pref., Our English Tongue .. may be said to equal, if not surpass all other Modern Languages. 1713 Pope *Guard.* No. 4 ¶ 2 The authoress of a famous modern romance. 1757 J. H. Grose *Voy. E. Indies* 74 These last are of moderner date. 1757 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) III. 400 Their country appears to have been situated..at a great distance from the modern Padua. 1774 Mitford *Ess. Harmony Lang.* 260 The most admired modern masters. 1810 E. D. Clarke *Trav. Russia* xxv. (1839) 120/1 Perhaps we are not authorised in considering the modern Greeks as legitimate descendants of the Getæ. 1864 Kirk *Chas. Bold* II. iv. i. 170 The close of the 15th century is universally recognized as..the starting-point ..of Modern, in distinction from Mediæval, history.

b. *Geol.* and *Zool.* Belonging to a comparatively recent period in the life-history of the world.

1823 Buckland *Reliq. Diluv.* 21 The modern hyæna is an inhabitant exclusively of hot climates. 1830 Lyell *Princ. Geol.* I. 114 If such species be termed modern, in comparison to races which preceded them, their remains, nevertheless, enter into submarine deposits many hundred miles in length. 1873 Dawson *Earth & Man* x. 248 The Modern Damans or Conies.

c. Prefixed to the name of a language to form a designation for that form of the language that is now in use, in contrast to any earlier form. In recent philology used technically to denote the last of the three periods into which it is customary to divide the history of living languages; distinguished from *Old* and *Middle*. *Modern English*: see English *sb.* I b.

d. *Modern languages*: as the designation of a department of study, ordinarily taken to include only the better-known living literary languages of Europe (sometimes merely French and German). Also *attrib.* in *modern language master, school, tripos.*

1838 *Dubl. Univ. Cal.* 55 Medals for Modern Languages. 1862 *Rep. Publ. Schools Comm.* (1864) IV. 281 There would be this danger;..that idle and incapable boys would wish to enter this modern school to get off Latin composition and Greek. 1881 F. E. Hulme *Town, Coll., & Neighb. Marlborough* 91 In the modern school the subjects of instruction are mathematics [etc.]. 1887 *Pall Mall G.* 7 Nov. 2/2 'Modern sides' are either effective (as they all ought to be) or non-effective. If the former, there are scholarships in 'modern subjects' for them to win. 1905 *Macm. Mag.* Nov. 78 [At Harrow] the Modern Side is not self-contained in the sense of having a separate staff. It has been thought that any attempt to group Modern Side boys together and apart under separate masters and tutors would be unwise.

f. *absol.* That which is modern. † *Upon the modern*: ? peculiar to modern times.

1760–72 H. Brooke *Fool of Qual.* (1809) I. 165, I apprehend that this character is pretty much upon the modern. In all ancient or dead languages we have no term any way adequate, whereby we may express it. 1905 *Daily Chron.* 21 Jan. 4/6 He rejoices in that inability to depict the modern which is the most convincing sign of the contemporary.

3. Characteristic of the present and recent times; new-fashioned; not antiquated or obsolete.

1590 Sir J. Smyth *Disc. Weapons* 8 b, Without composing them of diuers sorts of weapons, according to the moderne vse. 1598 Barret *Theor. Warres* Gloss. 251 Moderne warre, is the new order of warre vsed in our age. 1605 B. Jonson *Volpone* III. iv, He has so moderne, and facile a veine, Fitting the time, and catching the court-eare. 1676 Etheredge *Man of Mode* I. i, *Bell.* He thinks himself the Pattern of modern Gallantry. *Dor.* He is indeed the Pattern of modern Foppery. 1701 De Foe *True-born Eng.* 24 But England, Modern to the last degree Borrows or makes her own Nobility. 1872 Howells *Wedd. Journ.* (1892) 79 They conjectured..flavours of Tennyson and Browning in his verse, with a moderner tint from Morris. 1885 *Academy* 24 Jan. 53/1 Perhaps Gray is at his modernest in the 'Ode on Vicissitude',..if not most modern of all in that final quatrain of the Elegy which Gray's feeling for unity expunged. 1885 J. Payn *Talk of Town* I. 130 A writing on the wall, which, albeit it was not in modern characters, needed..no interpreter. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 26 Jan. 3/2 Against such foes, men with the modernest artillery and highest explosives are utterly powerless.

b. in disparaging use.

1753 Richardson *Grandison* (1811) V. xiii. 83 You..are not a modern woman; have neither wings to your shoulders, nor gad-fly in your cap: you love home.

c. *Her.* in *France modern*: see quot. 1893.

1889 P. O. Hutchinson in *Notes & Gleanings* (Exeter) II. 50/2 The French arms are represented as 'France Modern'. 1893 Cussans *Her.* (ed. 4) 223 Henry the Fourth:..three Fleurs-de-lys were substituted for a field *semé*, for the Arms of France. This alteration..constituted what is commonly known as France modern.

†4. Every-day, ordinary, commonplace. (Frequent in Shaks.) *Obs.*

1591 Lodge *Catharos* H 3, It..maketh him blinde and inconsiderate in matters aswell moderne, as necessarie to his saluation. 1595 Shaks. *John* III. iv. 42 Then..would I.. rowze from sleepe that fell Anatomy..Which scornes a moderne Inuocation! 1600 — *A. Y. L.* II. vii. 156 The Justice, With eyes seuere and beard of formall cut, Full of wise sawes and moderne instances. 1610 B. Jonson *Alch.* IV. i, Why, this is yet A kind of moderne happinesse, to haue Dol Common for a great lady.

5. *Comb.* with adjs. and pa. pples., as *modern-bred, -built, -looking, -made, -practised, -sounding.* Also *modern-dress* (attrib.).

1808 Han. More *Cælebs* I. i. 9 The mind of a true *modern-bred lady. 1905 *Daily Chron.* 28 Dec. 4/4 Most of these furnaces are *modern built. 1885 J. K. Jerome *On the Stage* 64 For ordinary *modern-dress parts, we had to use our own things entirely. 1849 J. Forbes *Physician's Holiday* vi. (1850) 58 The church is..more *modern-looking than the rest of the town. 1899 *Daily News* 27 Mar. 2/7 The allegation was that the punches had been forged and used upon *modern-made silver plate to represent antique goods. 1754 A. Murphy *Gray's-Inn Jrnl.* No. 86 Many of his Turns did not allude to *modern-practised Life. 1903 *Daily Chron.* 10 June 7/1 A piece with the more *modern-sounding title of 'The Court of Comfort'.

B. *sb.* (Chiefly in *plural.*)

1. One who lives in or belongs to the present time; one who belongs to a modern as contrasted with an ancient period or epoch.

1585 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* I. ii. 2 b, The Iles Baleares, so aunciently called: but by the modernes Maiorque and Minorque. 1609 B. Jonson *Silent Wom.* IV. ii, He must have Seneca read to him, and Plutarch, and the ancients; the moderns are not for this disease. 1717 Prior *Alma* I. 520 Some in ancient books delight; Others prefer what moderns write. 1784 *Europ. Mag.* May 366/2 No modern has been heard to play an adagio with greater taste and feeling. 1812 T. Taylor *Diss. Philos. Aristotle* (title-p.), The insufficiency also of the Philosophy that has been substituted by the Moderns for that of Aristotle is demonstrated. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVII. 2/1 (*Organ*), In point of touch, and mechanism generally, the moderns are far superior to their predecessors. 1888 W. Cory *Lett. & Jrnls.* (1897) 539 The old moderns, say Chaucer, Spenser and Le Sage.

† b. *transf.* applied to a thing. *Obs.*

1735 J. Price *Stone-Br. Thames* 14 Description of many fine Bridges..in Italy wherein the finest among the Moderns is the Farnesian.

2. One whose tastes or opinions are modern; a member of the modern school of thought in relation to any subject.

1897 *Mag. of Art* 283 It will be deemed old-fashioned by the latest of moderns. 1905 J. Orr *Probl. O. T.* xii. 453 *note*, Most of the moderns deny the supernatural character of prophecy.

† **Mode·rnal,** *a. Obs.* [f. late L. *modern-us* (see prec.) + -al.] Of or belonging to the present day.

1542 Boorde *Dyetary* A iij, Y^e^ which [flowery language] in all wrytynges is vsed these modernall dayes.

† **Mo·derner.** *Obs. rare.* [f. Modern *a.* + -er 1.] = Modern *sb.*

1592 Nashe *P. Penilesse* 21 Report (which our moderners clepe flundring Fame) puts mee in memorye of a notable iest I heard long agoe.

† **Modernicide.** *nonce-wd.* [f. Modern *sb.* + -cide 1.] One who kills 'moderns'.

a 1774 Goldsm. *Ess., Visit to Elysium* Misc. Wks. 1837 I. 213, I should certainly have fallen beneath the hands of this company of men, who gloried in the title of Modernicides.

Modernism (mɒ·dəɹnizʼm). [f. Modern *a.* + -ism.]

1. A usage, mode of expression, or peculiarity of style or workmanship, characteristic of modern times.

1737 Swift *Let. to Pope* 23 July in P.'s Wks. 1757 IX. 218 b, The corruption of English by those Scribblers, who send us over their trash in Prose and Verse, with abominable curtailings and quaint modernisms. 1853 *Blackw. Mag.* LXXIV. 314 Shakespeare's archaism is exchanged for this modernism. *a* 1864 Hawthorne *Amer. Note-bks.* (1879) II. 77 Such modernisms as astral lamps. 1871 Earle *Philol. Eng. Tongue* § 481 The last of these [*viz.* 'its'] is a comparative modernism in the language. 1897 D. C. Tovey *Rev. & Ess.* viii. 143 The published specimen contained.. some imperfections and modernisms.

2. Modern character or quality of thought, expression, style of workmanship, etc.; sympathy with or affinity to what is modern.

1830 H. N. Coleridge *Grk. Poets* (1834) 274 The women of the Odyssey discover occasionally a modernism and a want of heroic simplicity. 1844 Lingard *Anglo-Sax. Ch.* (1858) I. ii. 65 *note*, The modernism of its language. 1861 F. Metcalfe *Oxonian in Iceland* iv. (1867) 57 And somehow this very modernism begets a desire for reverting now and then to old things, old people [etc.]. 1887 *Westm. Rev.* June 348 The Roman Church and the American Republic... The one typifying mediævalism, the other illustrating with tolerable fidelity the spirit of modernism.

Modernist (mɒ·dəɹnist). [f. Modern *a.* + -ist 1. Cf. mod.L. *modernista* (Luther), F. *moderniste.*]

†1. A modern. *Obs.*

1588 J. Harvey *Disc. Probl.* 106 Likewise..of sundry other neotericall mathematicians and modernists. 1592 G. Harvey *Pierce's Super.* 182 The witt of this, & that odd Modernist, is their owne.

2. A supporter or follower of modern ways or methods; in the 18th c., a maintainer of the superiority of modern over ancient literature.

1704 Swift *T. Tub* ix. Wks. 1751 I. 138 That his [Mr. Wotton's] Brain hath undergone an unlucky shake; which even his Brother Modernists themselves, like Ungrates, do whisper so loud, that it reaches up to the very Garret I am now writing in. 1864 *Daily Tel.* 8 June, Those Guelphs and Ghibellines of art, the modernists and the mediævalists. 1874 Ruskin *Val D'Arno* (1886) 9 Behold, the Christians despising the Dunce Greeks, as the Infidel modernists despise the Dunce Christians.

b. *attrib.* (quasi-*adj.*)

1848 Kingslev *Yeast* v, That vile modernist naturalism is creeping back even into our painted glass.

3. In education, one who advocates the teaching of modern subjects (including modern languages) rather than that of the ancient classics.

1856 J. Grote in *Camb. Ess.* 99 Let us survey the state of the attack upon it [*sc.* classical study] first by Patriots, and then by Modernists. 1905 *Jrnl. Educ.* Apr. 266/1 The presumption that the pure classicist would be degraded or contaminated by admixture with the modernist unregenerated by Greek.

Modernity (mŏdĕ·ɹnĭti). [ad. med.L. *modernitāt-em*, noun of quality f. *modern-us*: see Modern and -ity. Cf. F. *modernité* (Littré).]

1. The quality or condition of being modern; modernness of character.

1627 Hakewill *Apol.* v. (1635) 192 Yea but I vilifie the present times, you say, whiles I expect a more flourishing State to succeed; bee it so, yet this is not to vilifie modernity, as you pretend. 1782 H. Walpole *Let. to Cole* 22 Feb. (1858) VIII. 161 Now that the poems [*sc.* Chatterton's] have been so much examined, nobody (that has an ear) can get over the modernity of the modulations. 1796 Pegge *Anonym.* (1809) 429 Macrobius is no good author to follow in point of Latinity, partly on account of his modernity, and partly of his foreign extraction. 1888 *Athenæum* 31 Mar. 401/3 Those unlucky stumblings into modernity which some archnizing translators do not avoid. 1904 May Sinclair *Div. Fire* 415 My dear fellow, modernity simply means democracy. And when once democracy has been forced on us there's no good protesting any longer.

2. Something that is modern.

1753 H. Walpole *Let. to Bentley* Sept. (1857) II. 355 But here is a modernity, which beats all antiquities for curiosity. 1884 *Harper's Mag.* Dec. 80/1 After he had..arranged himself in these modernities.

Modernization (mŏ·dəɹnəizē·ʃən). [f. Modernize *v.* + -ation.] The action or an act of modernizing; the state of being modernized. Also, a modernized version.

1770 Gough in *Lett. to Granger* 263 The Marquis of Winchester's noble house at Englefield has suffered by some late modernizations. 1818 Hallam *Mid. Ages* (1872) I. 150 We cannot always judge hy the modernisation of a proper name. 1830 W. Taylor *Hist. Surv. Germ. Poetry* III. 317 The *Birds* is an abridgement, or modernization, of the comedy of *Aristophanes* so entitled. 1895 C. R. B. Barrett *Surrey* iv. 101 The town of Bletchingley..is, despite some modernization, an old-world spot.

Modernize (mŏ·dəɹnəiz), *v.* [ad. F. *moderniser*, f. *moderne*: see Modern *a.* and -ize.]

1. *trans.* To make or render modern; to give a modern character or appearance to; esp. (*a*) to rewrite (an old text) in modern spelling or language; to change (obsolete words, language, spelling) for modern equivalents; (*b*) to remodel and refashion an ancient building.

1748 [implied in Modernized *ppl. a.*]. 1752 Fielding *Covent Gard. Jrnl.* 11 July, I have taken the liberty to modernize the language. 1802 *Brookes' Gazetteer* (ed. 12) s.v. *Russia*, The young generation are modernizing these antic [=antique) vestments. 1818 *Brathwait's Barnabees Jrnl.* Introd. 9 The text was modernized throughout. 1880 Dixon *Windsor* III. xii. 116 No one ever dreamt of modernising Surrey's lines. 1901 *Daily Express* 28 Feb. 5/3 The King has decided to have Windsor Castle thoroughly modernised.

b. To bring about modern conditions in.

1860 Thackeray *Round. Papers, De Juventute*, Gunpowder and printing tended to modernise the world.

2. *intr.* To adopt modern customs, habits, ways, or the like. *rare.*

1753 Richardson *Grandison* (1811) II. ii. 10 He scruples not to modernize a little; but then you see, that it is in compliance with the fashion, and to avoid singularity. 1802 Mrs. J. West *Infidel Father* I. 27 Muggleton had modernized so far as to have a chitterlin tacked into his holland shirt. *a* 1853 W. Jay *Autobiog.* xviii. (1855) 172 Several new schools also, or to modernize—'colleges', for the sons of the prophets, have been established.

Hence **Mo·dernized** *ppl. a.*; **Mo·dernizing** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1748 H. Walpole *Let. to Montagu* 25 July (1857) II. 119 The rest of the house is all modernised. 1824 J. Winterbottom *Observ. Two Fr. Words* 29 A very good modernized edition of the Essays. 1869 Farrar *Fam. Speech* ii. (1873) 77 The Lettish, spoken in Courland and Livonia, is only a modernised form of Lithuanian. 1885 *Athenæum* 25 Apr. 533/2 Capt. Burton is justly severe on the unwarrantable modernizing of Camoëns. 1904 *Blackw. Mag.* Feb. 309/1 The modernising spirit has taken hold of the Statistical Department. 1905 *Athenæum* 19 Aug. 249/3 The Gatehouse which gave entrance to the now modernized Council House.

Modernizer (mŏ·dəɹnəizəɹ). [f. Modernize *v.* + -er 1.] One who modernizes.

1739 G. Whitefield in *Life*, etc. (1756) 225 The Generality of our Modernizers of Christianity. 1805 Southey in *Ann. Rev.* III. 563 Not only the style, but the morals of the original,..are vitiated by the French modernizers. 1886 Posnett *Compar. Lit.* 47 We expect the old harmony between earlier sounds and ideas to be kept up by the moderniser.

b. One who desires to modernize education by the elimination of 'classics'.

1889 A. Sidgwick in *Jrnl. Educ.* Feb. 116 Before it was the modernisers, asking, in view of needful modern subjects, Is there time for classics?

Modernly (mŏ·dəɹnli), *adv.* [f. Modern *a.* + -ly 2.]

1. In modern times. Now *rare.*

1605 Verstegan *Dec. Intell.* ii. (1628) 54 The honour as well antiently as modernely of that great and noble nation. 1632 Lithgow *Trav.* iii. 87 Mount Ida, of old was called Phelorita,..but modernely Madura. 1756 Toldervy *Hist. a Orphaus* II. 69 With deliberations, shorter than those modernly used by the States General, a treaty of peace was agreed upon. 1856 *Ulster Jrnl. Archæol.* IV. 244 Bonaght ..was specially due on land modernly held by sorren tenure.

2. In a modern manner; after the fashion of modern times.

1743 *Lond. Mag.* 35 To be modernly polite, introduces Extravagance. 1868 *Morn. Star* 29 June, The Latin original reads to-day most modernly. 1887 *Harper's Mag.* July 315 Most modernly American as it is, it has a flavor one tastes in travels of old times.

3. *Comb.*, as *modernly-armed, written* adjs.

1894 *Westm. Gaz.* 15 Oct. 5/1 The well-drilled and modernly-armed force which China can put in the field. 1905 *Daily Chron.* 28 Dec. 8/3 A modernly-written play.

Modernness (mŏ·dəɹnˌnės). [f. Modern *a.* + -ness.] The quality or state of being modern; conformity to modern conditions or ideas.

1731 Bailey vol. II, *Modernness*, newness, the being of late days. 1825 W. Cobbett *Rur. Rides* (1885) II. 19 The Bridewell, which from the modernness of its structure, appears to be [etc.]. 1835 *Fraser's Mag.* XII. 650 Though he should..outlive his modernness as much as George Coleman the Younger has outlived his youth. 1874 Mahaffy *Soc. Life Greece* ix. 278 The fact remains a very curious monument of the modernness of Attic life. 1905 *Athenæum* 16 Sept. 362/3 The 'modernness' of thought shown in Jevons's mode of handling his subject.

Moderschypp, -ship, obs. var. Mothership.

Moderwort, obs. form of Motherwort.

Modest (mŏ·dèst), *a.* [ad. F. *modeste*, ad. L. *modest-us* keeping due measure, moderate, modest, f. **modes-* a synonymous variant of *modo-*, *modus* measure: see Mode *sb.* Cf. Sp., Pg., It. *modesto.*]

†1. Well-conducted, orderly; not harsh or domineering. *Obs.*

1574 Hellowes *Gueuara's Fam. Ep.* (1577) 158 Your Lordship ought to .. commaund your ministers of iustice.. that they be milde, modest, and manerly: for sometimes the sorrowful Sutor doth more feele a rough word they speake, then the iustice they dilate. 1611 Bible 2 *Macc.* iv. 37 The sober and modest behauiour [τὴν σωφροσύνην καὶ παλλὴν εὐταξίαν] of him that was dead. 1652 Sir E. Nicholas in *N. Papers* (Camden) I. 320 He seems to be indeed a very modest and discreet person.

2. Having a moderate or humble estimate of one's own abilities or merits; disinclined to bring oneself into notice; becomingly diffident or unassuming; unobtrusive, retiring, bashful; not bold or forward. Hence of actions and attributes: Proceeding from or indicating these qualities.

1565 Cooper *Thesaurus* s.v. *Modestus, Adolescentia modestissima*, very modest & sober youth. *Ibid.*, *Modestus vultu*, of modest and sobre countenance. 1605 Shaks. *Lear* II. iv. 25 Resolue me with all modest haste, which way Thou might'st deserue, or they impose this vsage? 1653 Walton *Angler* ii. 51 You are so modest, that me thinks I may promise to grant it before it is asked. *a* 1680 Butler *Rem.* (1759) II. 213 Nothing renders Men modest, but a just Knowledge how to compare themselves with others. 1710 Palmer *Proverbs* 187 Tho' the modestest are not always sure to be paid first, yet an impertinent dun is very odious. 1712 Budgell *Spect.* No. 373 ᴘ 12 When they are thus mixed and blended together, they compose what we endeavour to express when we say *a modest Assurance*; by which we understand the just Mean between Bashfulness and Impudence. 1748 Chesterf. *Let. to Son* 22 Feb., The more you know, the modester you should be. 1781 Cowper *Truth* 68 He, Christian-like, retreats with modest mien. 1781 Gibbon *Decl. & F.* xxxi. III. 223 In a modest and suppliant tone. 1816 Scott *Antiq.* vi, A light and modest tap was heard at the parlour door. 1859 Tennyson *Idylls* Ded. 17 We see him as he moved, How modest, kindly, all-accomplish'd, wise. 1899 'Mark Twain' *Man that Corrupted Hadleyburg*, etc. (1900) 105 A little book, merely a little book—could words be modester? 1901 J. Watson *Life of Master* xxii. 202 Nathanael was a quiet, modest, diffident, questioning person.

b. *fig.* Of things, sometimes with semi-personification: Apparently retiring from observation, not obtrusively conspicuous.

1786 Burns *To Mountain Daisy*, Wee, modest, crimson-tipped flow'r, Thou's met me in an evil hour. 1830 J. G. Strutt *Sylva Brit.* 73 Their delicate green changing to modest brown. *a* 1832 Bryant *Yellow Violet* 3 The yellow violet's modest bell Peeps from the last year's leaves below.

3. Of women, their attributes and behaviour: Governed by the proprieties of the sex; decorous in manner and conduct; not forward, impudent, or lewd; 'shamefast'. Hence (in later use also of men), scrupulously chaste in feeling, language, and conduct; shrinking from coarse or impure suggestion.

a 1591 H. Smith *Prepar. Mariage* 32 He sayd not that she was the wisest, .. nor the modestest wife in the world, but the fittest wife for him in the world. *a* 1586 Montgomerie *Misc. Poems* li. 9 The myildest may; the mekest, and modest. 1596 Spenser *F. Q.* iv. ii. 35 She modest was in all her deedes and words, And wondrous chast of life. 1607 Beaum. & Fl. *Woman-Hater* v. v, Thou woman which wert borne to teach men vertue, Faire, sweet, and modest maid forgiue my thoughts. 1667 Milton *P. L.* iv. 310 And by her yeilded, by him best receivd, Yeilded with coy submission, modest pride, And sweet reluctant amorous delay. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* iv. 288 Their modest Appetites, Averse from Venus, fly the Nuptial Rites. 1711 Steele *Spect.* No. 154 ᴘ 1, I am apt to believe (begging your Pardon) that you are still what I my self was once, a queer modest Fellow. *Ibid.* ᴘ 2, I found a sober modest Man was always looked upon by both Sexes as a precise unfashioned Fellow of no Life or Spirit. 1742 Richardson *Pamela* IV. 120 Every one that can give himself the Liberty to say Things that shock a modester Person,..mistakes Courage for Wit. 1764 Goldsm. *Trav.* 408 The modest matron, and the blushing maid. 1781 Cowper *Expost.* 48 Her women .. Forgot the blush that virgin fears impart To modest cheeks, and borrow'd one from art. 1818 Scott *Hrt. Midl.* xxxv, A young woman..whose countenance might be termed very modest and pleasing in expression.

b. Of female attire: Decent, not meretricious.

1611 Bible 1 *Tim.* ii. 9 That women adorne themselues in modest apparell [Gr. ἐν καταστολῇ κοσμίῳ].

†c. Inoffensive to decency. *Obs.*

1638 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* (ed. 2) 301 Their waist is circled with a peece of Callico, which makes them modest.

†d. *Modest part*: that part of the body which modesty requires to be covered. *Obs.*

1634 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* 15 As a cover to their modest parts, they gird themselves with a piece of raw leather, and fasten a square piece..to it. 1693 Dryden *Persius* iv. (1697) 460 The depilation of thy modest part.

4. Of or with reference to demands, statements, estimates: Not excessive; free from exaggeration, moderate; not unduly exacting or importunate.

1601 R. Johnson *Kingd. & Commw.* (1603) 153 Some more modest in writing affirme, that the Moscouite could leuie 150 thousand horse. *c* 1616 Fletcher *Thierry & Theod.* II. i, I haue in the relation of my wrongs Bene modest. 1623 T. Scot *Highw. God* 35 There is nothing practised in our Church, but that which finds allowance and approbation from the modestest and learnedest of their side. 1652 Boyle *Wks.* (1772) I. p. l, In less than a year, of which not the least part was usurped by frequent sicknesses and journies, by furnaces, and by (which is none of the modestest thieves of time) the conversation of young ladies. 1708 Addison *Pres. St. War* 5 During the last four Years, by a modest Computation there have been brought into Brest above six Millions Sterling in Bullion. 1781 Cowper *Conversat.* 889 Held within modest bounds, the tide of speech Pursues the course that truth and nature teach. 1792 Burke *Corr.* (1844) III. 370 This is not the less modest and peaceable for being clear, open, and manly.

5. Of things: Unpretentious in appearance, style, magnitude, or amount.

1770 Goldsm. *Des. Vill.* 140 There.. The village preacher's modest mansion rose. 1823 Rutter *Fonthill* 7 Surprised by the modest pretensions of the entrance. 1840 [see Quencher b]. 1842 Mrs. Gore *Fascin.* 18 Dominique boasted a modest annuity of about fifty pistoles. 1856 Thackeray *Christmas Bks.* (1872) 66 They set up a carriage —the modestest little vehicle conceivable. 1870 Dickens *E. Drood* viii, And then I step into my modest share in the concern. 1886 *Pall Mall G.* 31 July 3/1 For the modest sum of 6*d.* 1887 Ruskin *Præterita* II. 147 Modest gardens, and farm-dwelling houses.

6. *Comb.*, as *modest-like, -looked, -looking, -seeming* adjs.

1621 Lady M. Wroth *Urania* 517 Her *modest-like bashfulnes. 1654 Gayton *Pleas. Notes* III. i. 68 Never trust a *modest-lookt Stallion. 1818 Scott *Hrt. Midl.* v, A *modest-looking, fair-haired girl. 1864 A. McKay *Hist. Kilmarnock* 191 A plain, modest-looking structure. 1728-46 Thomson *Spring* 989 The enticing smile, the *modest-seeming eye.

Modestines, erron. variant of Modestness.

†**Mode·stious.** *Obs. rare*−1. [f. Modesty + -ous.] Modest, chaste in habits.

1547 Boorde *Introd. Knowl.* ix. E iij b, The women be modestiouse & in the townes & church they couer them self.

†**Mo·destless,** *a. Obs. rare*−1. [f. Modest *a.* + -less.] Destitute of modesty.

1591 Sylvester *Du Bartas* I. i. 410 Alas! how faithlesse and how modest-lesse Are you.

Modestly (mŏ·dèstli), *adv.* [f. Modest *a.* + -ly 2.] In a modest manner.

†1. Without exaggeration, excess, or importunity; with due measure, moderately; with reserve.

1561 Daus tr. *Bullinger on Apoc.* (1573) 36 After he [the Lord] speaketh modestly, least by exasperating ouer much the sinne and errour in the faythfull, he should trouble their myndes and discourage them vtterly. 1579 Gosson *Sch. Abuse* Ded. (Arb.) 17 Euery man fedde modestly on that whiche stoode before him. 1581 Pettie tr. *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* II. (1586) 99 A prince .. must use his authoritie modestlie. 1606 Shaks. *Tr. & Cr.* iv. v. 222 Modestly I thinke, The fall of euery Phrygian stone will cost A drop of Grecian blood. 1674 Temple *Let. Ld. Chamberlain* Wks. 1720 II. 317 He believes the Point of Predestination the firmest that ever any body did, and laughs at any of them, that speak modestly of it. 1712 Steele *Spect.* No. 280 ᴘ 3 Shewing how forcible it was to speak Modestly of your own Wants. 1735 Swift *Let. to Dk. Dorset* 30 Dec., I desired you would bestow a preferment of one hundred and fifty pounds a year to a certain clergyman. Your answer was, that I asked modestly.

2. Without self-conceit or presumption; not arrogantly or obtrusively.

1568 Grafton *Chron.* II. 738 He modestly annswered, most noble and redoubted Lorde, this [etc.]. 1599 Shaks. *Much Ado* II. iii. 216, I could wish he would modestly examine himselfe, to see how much he is vnworthy to haue so good a Lady. 1638 Mayne *Lucian* (1664) 335 Yet these speak much modestlyer then the Thebans, who derive themselves from a serpents tooth sown. 1690 Dryden *Don Sebast.* Pref. (1692) 23, I think I may modestly conclude, that whatever errors there may be,.. they are not those which have been objected to it. 1781 Cowper *Conversat.* 485 Know then, and modestly let fall your eyes,.. That air of insolence affronts your God. 1837 Marryat *Perc. Keene* x, He hoped I was a good boy, which being compelled to be my own trumpeter, I very modestly declared I was. 1853 J. H. Newman *Hist. Sk.* (1873) II. II. ii. 92 Togrul kissed the ground, and waited modestly, till he was led to the throne.

3. With womanly modesty; decently.

1585 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* II. xxv. 66 The women being..richly apparrelled, yet doe weare the same

modestly. 1593 SHAKS. *1 Hen. VI*, v. iii. 179 *Mar.* Such commendations as becomes a Maide, A Virgin, and his Seruant, say to him. *Suf.* Words sweetly plac'd and modest[l]ie directed. 1847 C. BRONTE *J. Eyre* vii, The hair to be arranged closely, modestly, plainly.

4. *Comb.* (cf. MODERATELY b).

1870 RUSKIN *Lect. Art* ii. (1875) 41 No modestly-tempered ..thinker would now take upon himself to decide.

Modestness (mɒ·dèstnès). Now *rare*. Also 6 modestines. [f. MODEST *a.* + -NESS.] Modesty.

1546 LANGLEY *Pol. Verg. De Invent.* II. ii. 36 b, A Kynge ..which attained to that dignitie by no ambicion or favour but by a singular wyt & sober modestines. 1548 R. HUTTEN *Sum of Diuinitie* B iij b, Thys precept conteineth excellent vertues, yᵗ is to saye diligence in obeyng, doinge our vocacion, modestnes, pitie toward our parentes yᵉ common welth & such like vertues. 1638 H. RIDER *Horace's Epodes* xi, Then my modestness shall give o'er to strive.

Modesty (mɒ·dèsti). Also 6–7 modestie. [a. F. *modestie* or ad. L. *modestia*, f. *modestus* MODEST *a.*]

†1. Moderation; freedom from excess or exaggeration; self-control; clemency, mildness of rule.

1531 ELYOT *Gov.* I. xxv, Modestie; whiche worde nat beinge knowen in the englisshe tongue, ne of al them which under stode latin, except they had radde good autours, they improperly named this vertue discretion. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* I. xviii. 21 He gouerned with all modestie to the great contentment of the inhabitauntes. 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shrew* Induct. i. 94, I am doubtfull of your modesties, Least .. Von break into some merry passion. 1601 — *Jul. C.* III. i. 213 The Enemies of Cæsar, shall say this: Then, in a Friend, it is cold Modestie. 1639 FULLER *Holy War* III. vii. (1647) 120 Richard refused .. to strip poore mariners out of those rags of their estates wᶜʰ the mercie and modestie of the waves and winds had left them. 1756 BURKE *Vind. Nat. Soc.* Wks. 1842 I. 20 Thus are we running in a circle, without modesty, and without end, and making one errour and extravagance an excuse for the other. 1781 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xxxi. III. 192 The modesty of Alaric was interpreted .. as a sure evidence of his weakness and fear.

ironical. 1839 SOUTHEY *Lett.* 18 Feb., I am likely to recover something from Baldwin and Cradock. The trustees of their affairs had the modesty to expect that I should receive a dividend of one shilling in the pound [etc.].

2. The quality of being modest, or having a moderate opinion of oneself; reserve springing from an unexaggerated estimate of one's qualities; freedom from presumption, ostentation, arrogance, or impudence. †*On a modesty*: from a feeling of modesty.

1553 T. WILSON *Rhet.* 19 b, Modestie is an honest shamefastnesse. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 172 Augustus Cæsar .. expressely forbad that the Poeme of Virgil should be burned, notwithstanding that he by his last wil and testament on a modesty [orig. *contra testamenti eius verecundiam*], gaue order to the contrary. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* II. ii. 289 There is a kinde [of] confession in your lookes; which your modesties haue not craft enough to color. 1681 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) I. 62 They would trust to his own modesty. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 231 ᴾ 4 An Excess of Modesty obstructs the Tongue. 1712 STEELE *ibid.* No. 350 ᴾ 2 Modesty is the certain Indication of a great Spirit. 1779–81 JOHNSON *L. P., Addison* Wks. III. 46 By the influence of Mr. Montague, concurring, .. with his natural modesty, he was diverted from .. entering into holy orders. 1802 *Med. Jrnl.* VIII. 366 A desire which perhaps proceeds from too much modesty, and a mistaken deference for others. 1827 HARE *Guesses* (1859) 6 True modesty does not consist in an ignorance of our merits, but in a due estimate of them.

†b. Humility (towards God). *Obs. rare.*

1557 N. T. (Geneva) *Acts* xx. 19 Seruyng the Lord with all modestie [Gr. *μετὰ πάσης ταπεινοφροσύνης*].

†c. Deferential feeling. *Obs.*

1598 B. JONSON *Ev. Man in Hum.* I. i, There is a way of winning more by loue And vrging of the modestie, then feare. 1663 J. SPENCER *Prodigies* (1665) 77 Arguments from Humane Authority generally shew better in Rhetorick then Logick, and press the modesties of men more then their judgments.

†d. Shame, confusion. *Obs.*

1594 LYLY *Moth. Bomb.* III. i, I can neither without danger smother the fire, nor without modestie disclose my furie.

3. Womanly propriety of behaviour; scrupulous chastity of thought, speech, and conduct (in men or women); reserve or sense of shame proceeding from instinctive aversion to impure or coarse suggestions.

1565 COOPER *Thesaurus* s. v., *Modestia,..Virginalis modestia*, Maydenly modestie & shamefastnes. 1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* I. ii. 55 Maides, in modesty, say no, to that, Which they would haue the profferer construe, I. 1610 — *Temp.* III. i. 53 By my modestie (The iewell in my dower) I would not wish Any Companion in the world but you. 1632 MASSINGER & FIELD *Fatal Dowry* I. i, To gaine their fauors, Our chastest dames put off their modesties. 1671 CLARENDON *Dial.* Tracts (1727) 288 You talk of modesty: there hath been no man seen to blush in the court since the king's return. 1691 HARTCLIFFE *Virtues* 201 In the case therefore of Conversation in general, and especially of that, which is mixt, Male and Female together, we must put on such a Modesty, as may guard our Virtue. 1699 ADDISON in *Lett. Lit. Men* (Camden) 294 A place .. where Modesty is so very scarce that I think I have not seen a Blush since my first landing at Calais. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 6 ᴾ 3 When Modesty ceases to be the chief Ornament of one Sex, and Integrity of the other, Society is upon a wrong Basis. *Ibid.* No. 154 ᴾ 2 My character for Modesty was so notorious .. that I resolved to shew my new Face in new Quarters. 1727–46 THOMSON *Summer* 1334 Check'd, at last, By love's respectful modesty. 1869 LECKY *Europ. Mor.* (1877) II. 319 The sister of St. Gregory of Nyssa was afflicted with cancer in her breast, but could not bear that a surgeon should see it, and was rewarded for her modesty by a miraculous cure. 1895 *Outing* (U. S.) XXVI. 8/2 They have no conception of the western idea of modesty, and go freely about in their 'nude simplicity'.

b. A kind of veil for the concealment of the bosom (see quots.). In full *modesty-bit, -piece.*

1713 ADDISON *Guard.* No. 118 ᴾ 3 A narrow Lace ..which runs along the upper part of the Stays before .. and being as it were a part of the Tucker, .. is therefore .. called the Modesty-Piece. 1731 *Gentl. Mag.* I. 289 Sometimes the Stomacher rises almost to the chin, and a modesty-bit serves the purpose of a ruff; at other times but half way, and the modesty is but a transparent shade to the beauties beneath. 1789 *Loiterer* No. 32. 11 Their handkerchief opened on either side, and left between it a space of at least eight inches, which was occupied, not covered, by a bit of narrow lace, a part of the Ladies dress which I have since heard called a Modesty piece. *c* 1800 *Songs Costume* (Percy Soc.) 207 A modesty they all must have, If ne'er a smock they wear, O. *transf.* 1783 *Ann. Reg.* II. 14 The females [of Sumatra], before they are of an age to be clothed have what may not be inaptly termed a modesty-piece, being a plate of silver in the shape of a heart hung before.

4. Unpretentious character (of things). *rare.*

1906 *Blackw. Mag.* Apr. 494/1 The straitness of their surroundings, the modesty of their homes may better be imagined than described.

Hence †**Mo·desty** *v.* (*nonce-wd.*), to throw *away* by prudery.

1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* IV. 42 Twice already have you, my dear, if not oftener, modesty'd away such opportunities as you ought not to have slipt. *Ibid.* 55 You .. have accused me of having modesty'd away, as you phrase it, several opportunities of being—Being what, my dear?

Modi, obs. form of MOODY.

Modia·tion. *Hist.* [ad. late L. *modiātiōn-em* a measuring by the MODIUS.] A toll or tax on wine.

1661 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* (ed. 2), *Modiation*, a measuring by the Bushel; Also a measuring of liquid things. 1738 TOVEY *Anglia Jud.* 63 That they shou'd be free throughout England and Normandy, of all Custom, Tolls, and Modiations of Wine.

Modicity (mɒdi·sĭti). *rare.* [a. F. *modicité*, ad. med.L. *modicitāt-em*, f. L. *modicus* moderate: see next.] Moderateness.

1611 COTGR., *Modicité*, modicitie, moderatenesse, meannesse, littlenesse. 1623 tr. *Favine's Theat. Hon.* III. iv. 362 And those Iewels or Gifts .. were not set down in the Inuentarie, after the Husbands decease, according to the modicitie of the price, or small value of the things then giuen. 1881 H. JAMES *Portr. Lady* II. iv. 53 Mrs. Touchett .. found compensation for the darkness of her frontage in the modicity of her rent.

Modicum (mɒ·dikŏm). Also 7 mod(d)icom(e. [a. L., neut. sing. of *modicus* moderate, f. *mod-us* measure: see MODE *sb.*]

1. A small quantity or portion; a moderate or limited amount. (Often qualified by *little* or *small.*)

a. of food and the like.

In quot. 1609 app. a slang term for 'something eaten in order to provoke thirst'.

c 1470 HENRYSON *Mor. Fab.* II. (*Town & C. Mouse*) xi, Ane modicum is mair for till allow, Sua that gude will be carner at the dais, Than thrawin vult and mony spycit mais. 1580 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 252 Age seeketh rather a Modicum for sustenaunce, then feastes for surfets. 1605 ARMIN *Foole upon F.* (1880) 24 There was no boote to bid runne for drams to driue downe this vndisguested moddicome. 1609 DEKKER *Gvls Horne-bke.* Procem. 4 Lay open all thy secrets, & yᵉ mystical Hieroglyphick of Rashers ath coales, Modicums & Shooing hornes. *a* 1670 HACKET *Abp. Williams* I. (1693) 74 Eat it up all, or not a whit, for a Modicum will Gripe the Belly. 1725 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* s. v. *Treacle*, Drink a small Modicum of good Wine upon it. 1859 TROLLOPE *West Indies* iii. (1860) 42 With the cup of coffee comes a small modicum of dry toast. 1875 H. C. WOOD *Therap.* (1879) 306 It is probable that but a modicum of the poison was absorbed.

b. of money or other property.

1604 DEKKER *Honest Wh.* Wks. 1873 II. 8 There's a little modicum more, porter, for making thee stay. 1628 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* II. iii. v. (ed. 3) 316 As Alcumists spend that small modicum [ed. 2, 1624 that little] they haue to get gold. 1647 LILLY *Chr. Astrol.* clxxxv. 784 It may also import some parcell of Land or acquisition of some modicum by the decease of a Kinsman. *a* 1734 NORTH *Exam.* I. iii. § 123 (1740) 203 Upon Search of his Pockets, there was found his ordinary Modicum of Guineas. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* v. viii, St. Paul hath taught me to be content with the little I have. Had the modicum been less, I should have known my duty. 1875 MᶜLAREN *Serm.* Ser. II. i. 14 A true, lofty life may be lived with a very small modicum.

c. *gen.*

1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* II. i. 74 What *modicums* of wit he vtters. 1606 HIERON *Wks.* I. 59 So you must euen giue all, euen for one little modicum of hearty obedience to the truth. 1620 VENNER *Via Recta* vii. 115 They are also cooling, notwithstanding the modicum of beate in them. 1675 EVELYN *Terra* (1676) 30 Such [Earth] as having a modicum of Loam naturally rising with it, to entertain the moisture, does neither defile the Fingers, nor cleave much to the Spade. 1781 COWPER *Conversat.* 2 Though nature weigh our talents, and dispense To ev'ry man his modicum of sense. 1858 BRIGHT *Sp. Reform* 27 Oct. (1868) II. 22 And no law can pass, not the smallest modicum of freedom or of justice come to you, until [etc.]. 1874 W. E. HALL *Rights & Duties Neutrals* II. ii. 64 To possess any force at all, it must possess a modicum of armament. 1878 STUBBS *Const. Hist.* III. xix. 371 The monastic and other schools placed some modicum of learning within reach of all.

†2. Jocularly applied to a person of small stature. Also, more or less disparagingly, to a woman (cf. *piece, bit*). *Obs.*

1611 MIDDLETON & DEKKER *Roaring Girl* I. (*init.*), I haue culled out for him..a daintier bit or modicome then any lay vpon his trencher at dinner. 1623 MASSINGER *Dk. Milan* II. i, *Marc.* Where are you? You Modicum, you Dwarfe? *Mari.* Here, Giantesse, here. 1632 SHIRLEY *Love in Maze* v. iv, Heaven bless your worship, and the sweet-faced modicum in your company.

Modifiability (mɒ·difəi¸ăbi·lĭti). [f. next: see -ITY.] Capability of being modified.

1840 J. H. GREEN *Vital Dynamics* 57 The principle of organic modifiability and unity of composition. 1856 LYELL in *Darwin's Life & Lett.* (1887) II. 83, I foresee that many will go over to the indefinite modifiability doctrine. 1862 H. SPENCER *First Princ.* II. xiii. § 104 (1875) 302 The structural modifiability of a child is greater than that of an adult man.

Modifiable (mɒ·difəi¸ăb'l), *a.* [f. MODIFY *v.* + -ABLE.] That can be modified.

1611 COTGR., *Modifiable*, modifiable, qualifiable. *a* 1704 LOCKE *Exam. Malebranche* § 10 Wks. 1714 III. 432 It appears to me more difficult to conceive a distinct visible Image in the uniform unvariable Essence of God, than in variously modifiable Matter. 1840 J. H. GREEN *Vital Dynamics* 76 Man has the most modifiable organs of motion. 1889 *Scottish Leader* 16 Feb. 5/3 The whole case may have been modifiable by the decisions of the Commission now sitting.

Hence **Mo·difiableness.**

1873 MORLEY *Rousseau* I. 145 This belief .. of the easy modifiableness of a society in the hands of an energetic lawgiver. 1888 *Pop. Sci. Monthly* May 117 Buffon, who contended for the modifiableness of species.

Modifiabi·lity. *rare.* [Formed as next + -ITY.] Modifiability.

1827 COLERIDGE *Table-t.* 12 Mar., Internal or mental energy and external or corporeal modificability are in inverse proportions. 1883 ROMANES *Ment. Evol. Anim.* xviii. 281 An argument against the modificability of instinct by natural selection.

Modificable, *a. rare*⁻°. [ad. L. type **modificābil-is*, f. *modificāre* to MODIFY: see -ABLE.] Modifiable.

1721 in BAILEY. 1755 JOHNSON, *Modificalle*, diversifiable by various modes.

Modificand (mɒ·difikænd). *rare*⁻¹. [ad. L. *modificand-us*, gerundive of *modificāre* to MODIFY.] Something that is to be modified.

a 1832 BENTHAM *Language* Wks. 1843 VIII. 317/2 In this way, modificative clauses in any number may be made to precede, and by that means exclusively attach upon one and the same modificand.

†**Modificate,** *v. Obs.* [f. L. *modificāt-*, ppl. stem of *modificāre* to MODIFY.] *trans.* To modify; to limit, restrict; to distinguish with a specific mode of being or specific characteristics; to differentiate into various 'modes' or forms of existence.

1625 N. CARPENTER *Geog. Del.* I. iii. (1635) 48 A Philosopher ought to distinguish betwixt that which gines them a power to moue, and that which limits and modificates the action. 1660 R. SHERINGHAM *King's Suprem. Asserted* viii. (1682) 73 Although they do not diminish Majesty,..yet they do diversly qualifie and modificate it.

Hence †**Modificated** *ppl. a.*

1646 H. LAWRENCE *Comm. Angells* 29 To see God .. evidently, clearely, .. without a straitened and modificated vision. 1659 PEARSON *Creed* vi. (1662) 312 *And he shall reign for ever and ever*, not only to the modificated eternity of his Mediatorship, .. but also to the complete eternity of the duration of his humanity. 1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* I. v. § 35. 870 The modificated Lives of animals and men, as such, according to them [are] accidental things.

Modification (mɒdifikē·ʃən). [a. F. *modification* (14th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), or ad. L. *modificātiōn-em*, n. of action f. *modificāre*, *-ārī* to MODIFY.]

1. The action of limiting, qualifying, or 'toning down' (a statement, etc.); a limitation, restriction, or qualification. (Tends to merge in sense 3.)

1603 FLORIO *Montaigne* III. iii. (1632) 459 So that it is naturally a paine unto mee, to communicate my selfe by halves, and with modification. 1626 DONNE *Serm.* lxviii. (1640) 691 He that beleeves not every Article of the Christian faith,..*Damnabitur* (no modification, no mollification, no going lesse), He shal be damned. 1657 HAWKE *Killing is M.* 49 Mariana .. approves the killing of Princes by poison .. yet always with this modification, that it is better to poison a Tyrant in his chair, or in his habit, .. then to poison his drink. 1660 R. COKE *Power & Subj.* 221 The Commissions and Bulls of the Popes Legate are .. to be .. published with such cautions and modifications as that Court shall judge expedient for the good of the Kingdom. 1769 *Junius Lett.* xxi, This proposition they have uniformly maintained, without any condition or modification whatsoever. 1881 LOCKYER in *Nature* No. 616. 367 We find that the general statement requires a very considerable amount of modification.

†b. ? Appeasing, mollifying. *Obs.*

1656 FINETT *For. Ambass.* 48 The French Ambassador [having taken offence]..was entertained by one or two Lords of the Bed-Chamber .. with as satisfactory reasons as they could frame for diversion, but with little effect, though Sir Thomas Edmons .. were (together with the Master of the Ceremonies) sent to him immediatly after to the same purpose of modification.

†2. *Philos.* **a.** The bringing of a thing into a particular mode of existence; determination of a substance into a particular mode or modes of being; differentiation into a variety of forms or 'modes'. *Obs.* (merged in 3).

1502 *Ord. Crysten Men* (W. de W. 1506) IV. xvii. 217 After the cyrcumstaunces and modyfycacyon of mortall synne. 1678 GALE *Crt. Gentiles* IV. III. vi. 191 If men contend about the terme *specification* .. I can .. substitute in the

room thereof a terme equivalent thereto in point of efficace, namely, *modification*, which is used by our acute Dr. Sam. Ward. **1692** BENTLEY *Boyle Lect.* ii. 14 If these powers of Cogitation, and Volition, and Sensation, are neither inherent in Matter as such, nor acquirable to Matter by any motion and modification of it. **1701** GREW *Cosm. Sacra* II. ii. § 26. 40 The Use hereof [*sc.* of Sense], being only to minister to the Modification of Life in the Vital Principle, wherein the Essence of Sense doth consist. **1836–7** SIR W. HAMILTON *Metaph.* viii. (1859) I. 150 The word *modification* is properly the bringing a thing into a certain mode of existence, but it is very commonly employed for the mode of existence itself.

†**b.** The form of existence which belongs to a particular object considered as a determination of some wider entity or substance; one of the particular or concrete forms into which a substance or entity is differentiated; a 'mode' or variety of being (cf. MODE *sb.* 6). *Obs.*

The philosophical conception having lost currency, the expression is obsolete both in philosophical and in general use, or is merged in sense 4.

1664 H. MORE *Myst. Iniq., Apol.* 498 There is no Specifical change in the most contrary modifications of Matter imaginable, but onely Accidental. **1665** GLANVILL *Def. Van. Dogm.* 21 There is no way then of defending the assertion of the souls being matter, or any modification of it. **1690** LOCKE *Hum. Und.* II. xiii. § 4 Each different distance is a different modification of space. **1768–74** TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) I. 17 Disposition, configuration, and motion, are not substances, but accidents in ancient dialect, or modifications according to modern philosophers. **1779–81** JOHNSON *L. P., Pope* Wks. IV. 72 His *Characters of Men*, written with close attention to the operations of the mind and modifications of life. **1836–7** [see 2]. **1841** D'ISRAELI *Amen. Lit.* (1867) 128 New modifications of thought create new modes of expression.

3. The action of making changes in an object without altering its essential nature or character; the state of being thus changed; partial alteration.

1774 BURKE *Amer. Tax.* Wks. II. 402 Sir, a partial repeal, or, as the *bon ton* of the court then was, a *modification*, would have satisfied a timid, unsystematic, procrastinating Ministry. **1835** SOUTHEY *Doctor* ciii. III. 305 It is a curious instance of the modification which words undergo in different countries. **1853** J. H. NEWMAN *Hist. Sk.* (1873) II. II. i. 71 Here again was a very powerful instrument in modification of their national character. **1859** DARWIN *Orig. Spec.* i. (1873) 5 Our oldest domesticated animals are still capable of rapid improvement or modification. **1860** TYNDALL *Glac.* I. i. 7 It required but a slight modification of our plans.

4. The result of such alteration; a modified form, a variety. (Cf. sense 2 b.)

1669 HOLDER *Elem. Speech* 6 The chief..of all signes is.. Humane voice, and the several modifications thereof by the Organs of Speech, viz. the Letters of the Alphabet. **1704** NEWTON *Opticks* (1721) 103 And therefore these Colours are to be derived from some other Cause than the new Modifications of Light by Refractions and Shadows. **1821** CRAIG *Lect. Drawing* iii. 142 Together with blue, red, yellow, and their modifications and combinations. **1823** J. BADCOCK *Dom. Amusem.* 24 The acid of wood in its original state, or the acetate of lime, which is its next modification. **1823** H. J. BROOKE *Introd. Crystallogr.* 96 The secondary forms of crystals have been explained to consist of modifications of the primary, occasioned by decrements on some of their edges or angles. **1857** MILLER *Elem. Chem., Org.* (1862) iv. § 1. 265 Stearin may exist in three modifications, each of which has a different fusing point. **1867** H. MACMILLAN *Bible Teach.* vii. (1870) 130 All the parts of a plant, from the seed to the blossom, are mere modifications of a leaf.

5. a. *Scots Law.* The action of assessing or awarding a legal payment; *esp.* the determination of the amount of a parish minister's stipend. (Cf. MODIFY *v.* 5.)

1569 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 665 That he sall satisfie, content and pay all personis skaythit or hurt in thair gudis be him..at the jugement, sicht, discretioun, and modificatioun of Johnne Erskin of Dun. **1578** *Ibid.* III. 30 The ordinar assignationis of the stependis of the ministre contenit in the yeirlie buke of the modificatioun. **1595** *Extracts Aberdeen Reg.* (1848) II. 109 For payment of his vnlaw according to the modificatioun of the consall. **1838** W. BELL *Dict. Law Scot.* s. v. *Locality*, The decree of the Teind Court, modifying a stipend to a minister from the teinds of the parish, is called a decree of modification.

b. *Law.* A limitation or conditioning of the holding of property.

1818 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) IV. 13 An agreement to make some future disposition or modification of real property.

6. *Gram.* **a.** Qualification or limitation of the sense of one word, phrase, etc. by another; an instance or result of this.

1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v. *Modificative*, Nouns, and verbs..are susceptible of divers circumstances or modifications. **1845** *Encycl. Metrop.* I. 70/2 In all these instances, it is obvious, that the attribute expressed by the adjective undergoes some modification from the adverb.

b. Alteration of a vowel by 'umlaut'; an instance or result of this.

1845 J. M. KEMBLE in *Proc. Philol. Soc.* II. 136 This operation, for which we have no name, is known in Germany by that of Umlaut ..: we must content ourselves with the very insufficient rendering 'modification'. *Ibid.*, These modifications remain, even though the vowel that caused them should have perished by lapse of time. *Ibid.* 141 The long *u*, and its modification *ý*. **1889** *Pall Mall G.* 22 Jan. 1/3 Why.. cannot the 'reader' of the *Revue* look after the correct spelling of the German text? The signs of the modification are wanting in almost every case.

7. *Mus.* ? = *meantone temperament* (see MEAN TONE).

1811 BUSBY *Dict. Mus.* (ed. 3), *Modification*, a term applied to that temperament of the sounds of instruments whose tones are fixed, which gives a greater degree of perfection to one key than another, and produces between them a characteristic difference, as in organs, harpsichords, and pianofortes.

Modificative (mɒ·difikətiv), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. med.L. *modificātīv-us*, f. ppl. stem of L. *modificāre* to MODIFY: see -ATIVE. Cf. F. *modificatif, -ive* (18th c.).] **a.** *adj.* That has the property of modifying. **b.** *sb.* Something that modifies; a modifying word or clause.

a **1661** FULLER *Worthies, Gen.* (1662) I. 59 The Spirit of Truth it self, where Numbers and Measures are concerned, useth the aforesaid Modificatives ['almost', 'very nigh']. **1685** H. MORE *Paralip. Prophet.* 487 And though it be true that the Settlement of the Reformation is a further Perfection added thereto, yet that is but a modificative Addition to it, but that which is the main, the form and substance of the Reformation was before. **1727–41** CHAMBERS *Cycl., Modificative*, something that *modifies*, or gives a thing a certain manner of being. *Ibid.*, This last kind of words, which serve to *modify* nouns and verbs, since they have no general name in the common grammars, he [Buffier] chuses to call *modificatives*. *a* **1832** BENTHAM *Language* Wks. 1843 VIII. 317/2 In this case put the modificative clause before the clause intended to be modified.

Modificator (mɒ·difikeɪtəɹ). *rare.* [a. L. *modificātor*, agent-n. f. *modificāre* to MODIFY.] = MODIFIER. Also (repr. Sp. *modificador*) a member of a political party in Spain *c* 1823 which advocated the modification as opposed to the abolition of the constitution.

1824 *Westm. Rev.* Apr. 325 The drift of this gross policy was too obvious; yet with it he aimed to satisfy the modificators. **1889** *Science* 8 Nov. 318/1 Sulphuretted hydrogen, a modificator of the skin and of mucous membranes.

Modificatory (mɒ·difikeɪtŏri), *a.* [f. prec. + -ORY 2.] Modifying; tending to modify.

1824 *Westm. Rev.* Apr. 318 The modificatory party in Spain believed that the epoch of triumph was now at hand. **1861** MAX MÜLLER *Sci. Lang.* Ser. I. viii. 297 In Turkish.. all modificatory syllables are placed at the end of the root. **1864** *Ibid.* Ser. II. vii. (1868) 326 Here 'j' and 'dh' are clearly modificatory letters.

Modified (mɒ·difəid), *ppl. a.* [f. MODIFY *v.* + -ED 1.] In senses of the verb: Limited, altered, qualified, etc. *Modified logic*: see quot 1837–8.

1456 SIR G. HAVE *Law Arms* (S. T. S.) 126 Yassalfis ar behaldyn to thair baroun in speciale jurisdiccioun modifyit, and to the king in generale. **1668** *Min. Baron Crt. Stitchill* (1905) 53 Three punds sevin shillings for the modified pryce thereof. **1690** LOCKE *Hum. Und.* II. xviii. § 7 The names, which in several arts have been .. applied to several complex ideas of modified actions. **1837** DISRAELI *Venetia* II. ii, An uncertain light, or rather modified darkness, that seemed the sky. **1837–8** SIR W. HAMILTON *Logic* iv. (1860) I. 60 What I have called Modified Logic is identical with what Kant and other philosophers have denominated Applied Logic (*Angewandte Logik, Logica applicata*). **1845** *Proc. Philol. Soc.* II. 166 The modified word is not, as with us, the predicate or qualifying noun, but the subject or leading one. **1845** MCCULLOCH *Taxation* I. i. (1852) 61 Proprietors of estates subject to a variable land-tax have, in fact, only a modified right of property in them. **1868** OUSELEY *Harmony* xv. 175 We may also take the third below, .. and thus get a new bass, or as it is called, a *modified* bass. **1866** HUXLEY *Physiol.* xii. (1869) 314 The crystalline lens is composed of fibres which are the modified cells of the epidermis.

Modifier (mɒ·difəiəɹ). [f. MODIFY *v.* + -ER 1.] One who or a thing which modifies (see the vb.).

1583 *Acts Gen. Assemb. Ch. Scotl.* (Maitland Cl.) II. 636 A request sall be made to the modifiers for that effect. **1587** *Ibid.* 726 The brethren agreeth, that certane of their number be adjoyned with the Lords Modifyers, to perfyte the assignations of this present year. **1682** H. MORE *Annot. Glanvill's Lux O.* 198 That universal Spirit of Nature is most certainly the Mover of the Matter of the World, and the Modifier thereof. **1757** HUME *Nat. Hist. Relig.* vi. in *Four Diss.* 47 That a limited deity .. should in the end be represented as sovereign maker and modifier of the universe. **1860** MAURY *Phys. Geog.* (Low) xxi. 474 A powerful modifier of climate is the latent heat of vapour in the air. **1865** TYLOR *Early Hist. Man.* ii. 26 A third construction [*sc.* of sentences] is common ..; the modifier after the modified. **1868** G. MACDONALD *R. Falconer* I. 243 We shall have .. more modifiers and completers, and fewer inventors. **1890** *Anthony's Photogr. Bull.* III. 372 Colored media recommended as screens or modifiers of the light.

Modify (mɒ·difəi), *v.* Also 4–7 modefie, -fy(e. [a. F. *modifier* (14th c.), ad. L. *modificāre*, *-āri* to limit, moderate, f. *mod-us* MODE: see -FY.]

†**1.** *trans.* To limit, restrain, keep within bounds and measure. *Obs.*

1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 157 A king after the reule is holde To modifie and to adresce Hise yiftes upon such largesce That he mesure noght excede. *Ibid.* 233 The reule of Policie, Wherof a king schal modefie The fleisschly lustes of nature. *c* **1440** *Promp. Parv.* 341/1 Modyfyyn, or settyn yn mene cowrse of resone.

†**b.** To appease, assuage. *Obs.*

1430–40 LYDG. *Bochas* IX. xxxi[i]. (1494) G iij b, Tyrauntys hertis thys vertue doth appese, Modefyeth their cruell fell wodenesse. **1433** — *St. Edmund* II. 857 Thus kan the lord .. The rage of beestis appese and modifie. **1546** LANGLEY *Pol. Verg. De Invent.* I. xi. 21 b, [Orpheus] by the swetenes of his armony delited and modefied the grosse hartis and rude myndes of men.

†**c.** *refl.* To control one's feelings. *Obs.*

1530 PALSGR. 639/2, I modyfye, I temperate, *je me modifie*. ..What thoughe he speke a hastye worde you muste modyfye your selfe.

2. To alter in the direction of moderation or lenity; to make less severe, rigorous, or decided; to qualify, tone down, moderate. (Tends to merge in the wider sense 4.)

c **1386** CHAUCER *Knt.'s T.* 1684 Wherfore to shapen þat they shal nat dye He wolde his firste purpos modifye. **1426** LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 24376, I..prayed hym..that he wold ..modefyen his vengeaunce, and to with-drawe his Iugement. *c* **1480** HENRYSON *Test. Cress.* 299 The pane of Cresseid for to modify. **1509** HAWES *Past. Pleas.* xxxiv. (Percy Soc.) 174 Your hasty dome loke that ye modefy. **1610** DONNE *Pseudo-martyr* 184 For so Mariana modefies his Doctrine, that the Prince should not execute any Clergy man, though hee deserue it. **1756** BURKE *Subl. & B.* IV. xxv, The great has terrour for its basis; which, when it is modified, causes that emotion in the mind, which I have called astonishment. **1813** WELLINGTON in Gurw. *Desp.* (1837) X. 382 Upon the whole I conceive that it would be best for the court to modify their sentence. **1819** BYRON *Juan* II. lxiii, They did their best to modify their case. **1859** LANG *Wand. India* 402 There is generally a light breeze to modify the heat. **1869** TOZER *Highl. Turkey* II. 264 In fairy tales .. inconsistencies are .. modified and softened down. **1873** MISS BRADDON *Milly Darrell* xii, I suppose that medicine was intended to modify those attacks of sickness from which she has suffered so much.

3. a. *Philos.* To determine (a substance or other entity) into a particular 'mode' or modes; to give (an object) its particular modality or form of being.

a **1643** S. WARD in Gale *Crt. Gentiles* IV. III. vi. 191 That the previous Concurse of God, as the first cause, doth according to its mode modifie and determine al the actions of second causes. **1678** GALE *Crt. Gentiles* IV. III. vi. 190 He doth by a particular efficacious concurse so modifie and determine the entitative act, as that the natural specification and individuation thereof may be ascribed to him as the God of Nature. **1706** PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Modify*,.. In Philosophy, to give the Modality or manner of Existence. **1727–41** CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v. *Spinozism*, Whence it follows, that the substance modified by the square figure cannot be the same substance with that modified by the round figure.

†**b.** *gen.* To differentiate into a variety of forms; to distinguish or diversify by investing with specific characteristics. *Obs.* (merged in 4).

1669 HOLDER *Elem. Speech* 32 They ['letters'] modify and discriminate the Voice without appearing to discontinue it. **1690** LOCKE *Hum. Und.* II. xviii. § 3 Sounds .. are modified by diversity of notes of different length put together, which make that complex idea called a tune. *Ibid.* § 6 Some others of the simple ideas..have been thus modified to a great variety of complex ideas. **1698** FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 278 More than twice Seven Plates are differently Modified to invite the Palate to Luxury. **1704** NEWTON *Opticks* (1721) 101 And therefore the differences of these Colours from one another do not arise from the different Confines of Shadow, whereby Light is variously modified, as has hitherto been the Opinion of Philosophers. **1777** SIR W. JONES *Ess. Imit. Arts* Poems, etc. 207 As the passions are differently modified in different men.

4. To make partial changes in; to change (an object) in respect of some of its qualities; to alter or vary without radical transformation.

1780 BURKE *Corr.* (1844) II. 387, I confess I see no cause to change, or to modify, my opinion on that subject. **1791** FEARNE *Cont. Remainders* (ed. 4) I. 108 Words of limitation operate by reference to or connection with other words, and extend or modify the estate given by those other words. **1798** MALTHUS *Popul.* III. vii. (1806) II. 211 Others employ themselves in modifying the raw materials of nature into the forms best suited to the gratification of man. **1834** *Tait's Mag.* I. 184/1 Measures of improvement so often mutilated, or, as the word is, 'modified' [by the House of Lords]. **1849** MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* iii. I. 321 There are, however, some important parts of his character still to be noted, which will greatly modify this estimate. **1863** H. COX *Instit.* I. iv. 18 The Crown must either assent to or reject bills in Parliament, but cannot modify them. **1878** HUXLEY *Physiogr.* xvii. 273 The agents which are now at work in modifying the crust of the earth.

b. To alter so as to adapt (*to*). *rare.*

1800 *Med. Jrnl.* III. 514 Every medical man..will know how to modify its dose and formula to the existing circumstances of his patient.

5. *Scots Law.* To assess, decree (a payment of money, a fine, costs); to award (a payment) *to* a person; *esp.* to determine the amount of a parish minister's stipend. † Also *absol.*

1457 *Sc. Acts Jas. II* (1814) II. 51/1 Vnder sik payne and vnlawe as þe barone or lorde sall modify. **1524** *Extracts Aberdeen Reg.* (1844) I. 108 To pass and modefy the provest and Johne Colisonis expensis. **1539** *Ibid.* 160 The provest and bailzeis..modefiit ane mendis for the said myspersonyng, as efter followis. **1569** *Acts Gen. Assemb. Ch. Scotl.* (Maitland Cl.) I. 164 Every Superintendent .. shall modifie the stipends, augment or diminish the same, as occasione shall serve. **1583** *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* III. 598 [The Lords of Council therefore] modifiis to hir the sowme of twentie schillingis to be paid to hir. **1632** LITHGOW *Trav.* VIII. 351, I receiued in compensation of my abuses..fifty Florentine Crownes of gold, being modified by the Duke him selfe. **1752** J. LOUTHIAN *Form of Process* (ed. 2) 118 May it therefore please your Lordship..to modify the Sum for which your Petitioners are to find Bail. **1754** ERSKINE *Princ. Sc. Law* (1809) 53 A commission of Parliament was appointed..for..modifying stipends to ministers out of the teinds. **1833** *Act* 3 & 4 *Will. IV* c. 46 § 117 Such penalty .. may be recovered by summary complaint to the sheriff..with such expences therefor as shall be modified by him. **1838** W. BELL *Dict. Law Scot.* s. v. *Modification*, The stipend..must be modified in grain or victual, and paid in money.

6. *Gram.* **a.** To limit or qualify the sense of (a word, phrase, or sentence).

1727–41 [see MODIFICATIVE *sb.*]. **1797** *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) VIII. 72/1 The usual effect of adjectives..is to modify or

particularise a general term. 1845 *Encycl. Metrop.* I. 70/1 The adverb .. is used to modify an adjective, or a verb, or another adverb.

b. To change (a vowel) by 'umlaut'.

1845 J. M. KEMBLE in *Proc. Philol. Soc.* II. 138 The short *u* continues to represent the Gothic *u*..where it has not been dulled into *o*, or modified by a following *i* or *ê* into *y*.

7. *Cryst.* (See quot.)

1823 H. J. BROOKE *Introd. Crystallogr.* 24 The new planes produced by decrements are denominated *secondary* planes, and the primary form, when altered in shape by the interference of secondary planes, is said to be *modified* on the edges or angles on which the secondary planes have been produced. *Ibid.* 96 Crystals rarely present themselves under their respective primary forms; they are usually modified by new planes, producing secondary crystals.

Modifying (mɒ·difəi,iŋ), *vbl. sb.* [-ING 1.] The action of the verb MODIFY.

1643 in *Dundee Charters* (1880) 86 The said Provest..shall compeir..and thair Judiciallie consent to the modefying of the forsaid sowmes as ane constant yeirly stipend to thair persone. 1692 R. L'ESTRANGE *Fables* CCXV. 188 All this Descanting, and Modifying upon the Matter. *a* 1853 W. JAY *Autobiog.* xvii. (1855) 163 General principles of church-government, which will admit..of considerable modifyings in their application.

Mo·difying, *ppl. a.* [-ING 2.] That modifies.

1793 BEDDOES *Math. Evid.* 145 Indeed, except as to the sound of a language, it is indifferent whether these modifying words are prefixed or suffixed. 1823 H. J. BROOKE *Introd. Crystallogr.* 113 When the modifying planes first touch each other on the edges of the tetrahedron, a regular octahedron is produced. 1843 BORROW *Bible in Spain* liii, There is many a cave of nature's forming..which nevertheless exhibits indications that man has turned it to some account, and that it has been subjected more or less to his modifying power. 1845 J. M. KEMBLE in *Proc. Philol. Soc.* II. 136 Where the modifying vowel has only been introduced in the process of conjugation. 1883 H. DRUMMOND *Nat. Law in Spir. W.* viii. (1884) 259 Changes of food..exert a powerful modifying influence upon living organisms.

Modilich(e, -like, obs. forms of MOODILY.

Modillion (mɒdi·lyən). *Arch.* Forms: 6–8 **modiglion,** 6–8 **modilion,** 8–9 **modillon,** 7– **modillion.** [ad. It. *modiglione*; cf. F. *modillon* (in 16th c. also *modiglion*).

The ultimate etymology is not clear; the resemblance of sense would suggest connexion with L. *mutulus* MUTULE.]

A projecting bracket placed in series under the corona of the cornice in the Corinthian, Composite and Roman Ionic orders. Also applied to similar ornaments in modern building. †In 17th c. sometimes = MUTULE.

1563 SHUTE *Archit.* D iv b, Mutili, whiche is also named Modiglions. 1598 R. HAYDOCKE tr. *Lomazzo* I. xxvi. 95 Being dinided into 6 parts, one giues *denticuli*; an other *cymatium* which supporteth the modilions. 1664 EVELYN tr. *Freart's Archit.* 136 Modilions, being certain supports in the form of Corbells. 1665 MOXON tr. *Vignola* (1702) 36 The Modillion..or Underprop to bear up the Cornice. 1732 BERKELEY *Alciphr.* III. § 9 The Entablature and all its Parts and Ornaments .. Triglyphs, Metopes, Modiglions, and the rest. 1838 BRITTON *Dict. Archit., Modillion,* .. Less ornamented, they are sometimes used in the Ionic entablature. 1839 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* II. 82/1 On the ends of the joists, an iron capping, forming a modillion. 1845 PETRIE *Round Towers Irel.* II. iii. 233 The mouldings which cap the Corinthian modillions in the palace of Dioclesian at Spalatro. 1855 REINNEL *Masons, etc. Assist.* 62 Manner of fixing Modillions, &c. on Soffits.

attrib. 1737 SALMON *Country Build. Estim.* (ed. 2) 29 Modillion Cornishes, Cove-Eaves, and Dentil Cornishes, are generally measured and valued by the Foot superficial. 1817 RICKMAN *Styles Archit. Eng.* (1848) 30 This modillion cornice is, in fact..rather Italian than Roman.

Modinesse, obs. form of MOODINESS.

‖ **Modiola** (mɒdəi·ɒlă). *Nat. Hist.* [mod.L., alteration of L. *modiolus* MODIOLUS.]

1. *Zool.* A genus of mussels (Lamarck); a mussel of this genus. Cf. MODIOLUS 2.

1826 CROUCH *Introd. Lamarck's Conchol.* 18. 1839 SOWERBY *Conch. Man.* 1841 H. MILLER *O. R. Sandst.* xiv. (1842) 294 We may find the ancient modiola of the Lias in habitats analogous to those of its modern representative the muscle. 1876 *Beneden's Anim. Parasites* 16 We have opened hundreds of these modiolæ, and we have never met with any without their crabs.

2. *Bot.* A genus of *Malvaceæ* (Mönch 1794).

Named from the whorled position of the carpels, resembling the nave of a wheel.

1846 LINDLEY *Veg. Kingd.* 370. *a* 1865 PAXTON *Bot. Dict.* (1868), *Modiola,* from Modiolus, the nave of a wheel, whorled position of carpels...Nat. or. Malvaceæ.

Modiolar (mɒdəi·ɒlăr), *a. Anat.* [ad. mod.L. *modiolār-is,* f. MODIOLUS.] Belonging to the modiolus of the ear.

1856 in MAYNE *Expos. Lex.* 1868 OWEN *Vertebr. Anim.* III. 220 The inner or modiolar wall of the turns.

Modi·oliform, *a. Bot. rare*−°. [ad. mod.L. *modioliform-is,* f. L. *modiol-us*: see MODIOLUS and -FORM.] (See quot. 1866.)

[1839 LINDLEY *Introd. Bot.* III. i. (ed. 3) 454 Nave-shaped (*modioliformis*)]. 1856 in MAYNE *Expos. Lex.* 1866 *Treas. Bot., Modioliform,* shaped like the nave of a wheel, round, depressed, with a very narrow orifice; as the ripe fruit of *Gaultheria,* or the carpels in *Modiola.*

‖ **Modiolus** (mɒdəi·ɒlŭs). [L. *modiolus* bucket on water-wheel, nave of wheel, trepan, etc., dim. of *modius* MODIUS.]

1. *Surg.* The crown of a trepan. *rare*−°.

1693 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Modiolus, Trepanum,* or *Anabaptiston,* an Instrument which they use in ..Contusions, Cuts, and Fractures of Bone. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Modiolus*..Also a Trepan. 1891 *Syd. Soc. Lex., Modiolus*..Also, the crown of a trephine.

2. *Zool.* Earlier name for the genus of mussels *Modiola* (see MODIOLA 1); = *Mytilus modiolus* Linn.

[1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XII. 610/1, Art. *Mytilus,* The modiolus, or great mussel.]

3. *Anat.* The conical axis around which the cochlea of the ear winds.

1823 in CRABB *Technol. Dict.* 1840 E. WILSON *Anat. Vade M.* (1842) 469 The central axis or modiolus is large near its base, where it corresponds with the first turn of the cochlea.

Modir, obs. form of MOTHER.

Modish (mōu·diʃ), *a.* [f. MODE *sb.* + -ISH.]

1. According to the mode or prevailing fashion. (Very common in 17–18 c.; now somewhat *arch.*)

a. Of persons: Observant of or following the mode (usually with suggestion of disparagement).

1660 INGELO *Bentiv. & Ur.* II. (1682) 155 Such Manners as were scorned by the Modish World. 1664 PEPYS *Diary* 26 Aug., Mr. Pen, Sir William's son, is come back from France, and come to visit my wife. A most modish person grown, she says, a fine gentleman. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 399 P 1 The modish Hypocrite endeavours to appear more vicious than he really is, the other kind of Hypocrite more virtuous. 1725 WODROW *Corr.* (1843) III. 188 All our modish writers. 1803 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Belinda* (1832) II. xxviii. 269 A very pretty, modish, affected young lady. 1885 AGNES M. CLERKE *Pop. Hist. Astron.* 14 The most brilliant and modish society in England was at that time to be met at Bath

absol. 1675 E. PHILLIPS *Theat. Poet.* Pref. **3 For Cloths I leave them to the discretion of the Modish. 1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 16 Jan. 3/1 One still sees the modish clutching their skirts when they walk abroad.

b. Of things: Conforming to the mode; in accordance with the prevailing fashion; also, followed or sought after by people of fashion, fashionable.

1663 PEPYS *Diary* 21 Oct., A good velvet cloak..and other things modish. 1672 WYCHERLEY *Love in Wood* IV. ii, Besides, they say he has the modish distemper. *a* 1706 EVELYN *Sylva* (1776) 319 The Swedish Juniper, now so frequent in our modish gardens. 1743 *Lond. & Country Brew.* II. (ed. 2) 112, I believe the greatest Evil is on the Side of this destructive modish extraordinary Incorporation of the Yeast with the Beer. 1745 *De Foe's Eng. Tradesman* (1841) II. xliv. 156 Houses built thirty or forty years ago, are now old-fashioned, and must be pulled down, to build more modish apartments. 1810 S. GREEN *Reformist* I. 220 Her modish effrontery was evidently constrained by habitual puritanism. 1852 MRS. SMYTHIES *Bride Elect* xxi, Her mother's elegant and modish little abode. 1894 *Daily News* 9 Feb. 3/1 Till then [*i.e.* Easter], no one is supposed to wish for modish raiment.

¶ 2. *nonce-use.* Pertaining to 'mode' in the metaphysical sense.

1697 J. SERGEANT *Solid Philos.* 102 Whence the Notions signify'd by such Words are..Modish (as we may term it) or expressing some Manner [How] the Thing is.

Modishly (mōu·diʃli), *adv.* Somewhat *arch.* [-LY 2.] In a modish manner; fashionably.

1665 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (1677) 144 His sleeve is either carelesly or modishly thrown over his arm. 1710 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4642/3 A Brick Building new and modishly built. 1776 FOOTE *Bankrupt* Prol., Wks. 1799 II. 97 Unless, indeed, I modishly apply, For leave to sell my works by lottery. 1821 J. BUNTING in Treffry *Mem. J. Benson* (1840) 344 His ministry was scriptural; not metaphysically subtile, nor modishly sentimental. 1882 B. HARTE *Flip* iii, The slight ..figure of a young woman modishly attired.

Modishness (mōu·diʃnės). [f. MODISH + -NESS.] The state or quality of being modish; conformity to the fashion; affectation of the fashion.

1676 GLANVILL *Seasonable Reflect.* 30 [They] do not Scoff at Religion out of enmity or malice, but out of modishness and compliance. 1712 M. HENRY *Life P. Henry* Wks. 1857 II. 744/2 We must..not affect singularity, nor affect modishness. 1894 A. BIRRELL *Ess.* ix. 101 Wit of that genuine kind which is free from modishness.

Modist (mōu·dist). *rare.* [f. MODE *sb.* + -IST.] A follower of the fashion.

1837 *Q. Rev.* LIX. 414 The announcement of a new poem by Byron never excited a greater sensation amongst the men of letters—than the description of a new dress worn by a certain beautiful English duchess, periodically excites amongst the modists—of the continent. 1846 WORCESTER (citing *Q. Rev.*). Hence in later Dicts.

‖ **Modiste** (mɒdist). [Fr., f. *mode* fashion: see MODE *sb.*] One who makes, invents, or deals in articles of fashion; esp. a maker of ladies robes, millinery, etc.; a milliner, dress-maker.

1852 SMEDLEY *L. Arundel* XXXVI, Fashioned..by an ingenious Parisian modiste. 1880 DISRAELI *Endym.* XVI, The days of the great modistes, when an English lady might absolutely be dressed in London. 1903 *Speaker* 7 Feb. 465/2 The modiste and the governess had fallen foul of each other.

‖ **Modius** (mōu·diŭs). *Antiq.* Pl. **modii** (mōu·diəi). [L. *modius,* whence F. *muid.*]

1. A Roman corn-measure, equal to about a peck. Also, in the Middle Ages, a measure of capacity, dry and liquid (= F. *muid*) of varying size, commonly rendered by 'bushel'.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XIX. CXXVIII. (1495) 932 The mesure *Modius* hathe that name for it is perfyte of his manere. 1609 HOLLAND *Amm. Marcell.* XXV. XII. 278 So grievous and extreame was the famine..that if in any place there was but one Modius or pecke of meale found..it was exchanged for ten pieces of gold. 1693 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2). 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey). 1802 RANKEN *Hist. France* II. v. i. 312 A modius, probably a bushel of corn, sold at Mayence for ten shekels of silver.

2. A tall cylindrical head-dress with which certain deities are represented in ancient art.

1800 J. DALLAWAY *Anecd. Arts Eng.* 245 Both [Jupiter and Pluto] have frequently the cap called 'modius', from its resemblance to a bushel. 1850 LEITCH tr. *C. O. Müller's Anc. Art* § 357 (ed. 2) 437 In terracottas from Magna Græcia..Demeter has the modius on her head.

Modiwarp, -wart, obs. forms of MOULDIWARP.

Modle, obs. f. MODEL. **Modo:** see MODU.

Modre, obs. form of MOTHER *sb.*

Mods (mɒdz), colloquial abbreviation of *Moderations*: see MODERATION 4.

1858 J. C. THOMSON *Almæ Matres* 226 Between the 'littlego' and 'mods' he learns nothing new. 1893 BEATRICE WHITBY *In Suntime of Youth* I. ii. 26 Neither the attainment of the Balliol scholarship, nor a 'first in Mods', elicited a word of congratulation.

†**Mo·du, Mo·do.** *Obs.* The name of a devil (see quots.).

1603 HARSNET *Pop. Impost.* x. 48 Modu, Ma: Maynies deuill, was a graund Commaunder, Muster-maister ouer the Captaines of the seauen deadly sinnes..: so saith Sara Williams. *Ibid.* xxii. 148 Maho, and Modu (the two Generals of the infernal furies). 1605 Modo [see MAHU].

†**Modula·minous,** *a. Obs. rare*−1. [ad. L. type **modulāminōsus,* f. L. *modulāmen* melody, f. *modulārī* to MODULATE: see -OUS.] Melodious.

1637 SYDENHAM *Serm.* 25 By a kinde of modulaminous and delightfull ayre.

Modulant (mɒ·diŭlănt). *rare*−1. [ad. L. *modulant-em,* pres. pple. of *modulārī* to MODULATE.] A modulating agent.

1869 E. WADHAM *Eng. Versification* xvi. 119 In modern English verse alliteration only plays the subordinate part of a modulant, not to be unduly decried where not overdone.

Modular (mɒ·diŭlăr), *a.* [ad. mod.L. *modulār-is* (or F. *modulaire*), f. L. *modul-us*: see MODULUS and -AR 1.]

1. *Arch.* Of or pertaining to a module or modulus (see MODULE 4).

1842 GWILT *Archit.* Gloss., *Modular Proportion,* that which is regulated by a module.

2. *Math.* Of or pertaining to a modulus.

1798 HUTTON *Course Math.* (1828) II. 415 If W were the greatest load which a modular wall, or column, could carry. 1815 — *Philos. & Math. Dict.* (new ed.) II. 60 *Modular Ratio,* a term invented by Mr. Cotes, to denote the ratio or number whose logarithm is what he calls the modulus [tr. *ratio modularis,* R. Cotes *Harmonia Mensurarum* (1722) p. 5]. 1843 MACCULLAGH in *Proc. R. Irish Acad.* II. 453–4 It may happen that only one of them [*sc.* the curves] can be used in the generation of the surface by the *modular method,* as the method of which we are treating may be called, from its employment of the modulus. A focal curve which can be so used shall be distinguished as a *modular focal.* 1845 DE MORGAN in *Encycl. Metrop.* II. 385/1 Taking, therefore, $\bar{\phi}$ a solution of the modular equation, which makes the above-mentioned equations consistent. 1862 SALMON *Anal. Geom. Three Dimens.* 109 Professor MacCullagh calls the ratio of the focal distance to that from the directrix, the modulus of the surface, and the foci having imaginary planes of contact he calls modular foci. *a* 1883 H. J. S. SMITH *Collect. Math. Papers* (1894) II. 560 The Modular Curves of an Uneven Order. 1894 FORSYTH *Theory of Functions* 633 The general definition of a modular function is that it is a uniform function such that an algebraical equation subsists between $\psi\left(\frac{\alpha\omega+\beta}{\gamma\omega+\delta}\right)$ and $\psi(\omega)$, where $\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \delta$, are integers subject to the relation $\alpha\delta-\beta\gamma=1$.

Mo·dulate, *pa. pple. rare*−1. [ad. L. *modulāt-us,* pa. pple. of *modulārī* to MODULATE.] Modulated.

1814 CARY *Dante, Par.* XX. 23 As sound Of cittern, at the fret-board, or of pipe, Is, at the wind-hole, modulate and tun'd.

Modulate (mɒ·diŭlēit), *v.* [f. L. *modulāt-,* ppl. stem of *modulārī* to measure, adjust to rhythm, make melody, etc., f. *modulus*: see MODULUS. Cf. F. *moduler.*]

1. *trans.* To set or regulate in a certain measure and proportion; to adjust, temper, vary conformably *to*; to soften, temper, tone down. (This general sense tends to be coloured by those that follow.)

1623 COCKERAM II, Done by measure, *modulated.* 1783 BURKE *Sp. E. India Bill* Wks. IV. 43, I shall certainly endeavour to modulate myself to this temper. 1797 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Italian* ii, She determined to modulate that nature to her own views. 1832 TENNYSON *Eleänore* iv, Motions flow To one another, even as tho' They were modulated so To an unheard melody. 1858 BUSHNELL *Serm. New Life* xii. (1869) 168 He learns how to modulate and operate his will. 1904 *Blackw. Mag.* Mar. 345/2 His glance ..travelled from the walls lined with well-bound books to the lamps modulated to the proper light.

2. *spec.* To attune (the voice, sounds, etc.) to a certain pitch or key; to vary or inflect in tone, adapt to a new tune; to give tune or melody to. Const. *to,* †*unto.*

1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* 911 The second vse [of the tongue] is to breake the ayer that is driuen out of the Lungs and to Modulate the voyce. 1701 GREW *Cosm. Sacra* I. v. § 21. 28 The Nose, Lips, Teeth, Palate, Jaw, Tongue,.. All serving to make, or to modulate the Sound. 1725 BROOME *Notes on Pope's Odyss.* IV. I. 261 Is it credible that any person could modulate her voice so artfully as to resemble so many voices? 1746 H. WALPOLE *Let. to Mann* 28 Mar., Gluck .. is to play on a set of drinking-glasses, which he modulates with water. 1762 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* V. iii, He listened to the voice of nature, and modulated his own unto it. 1788 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* lii. V. 443 The songs of triumph

were modulated to psalms and litanies. 1872 SPURGEON *Treas. David* Ps. lxvi. 2 The noise is to be modulated with tune and time.

fig. 1805 SURR *Winter in Lond.* (1806) III. 184 To modulate by counsels resulting from experience, the sweetest chords of the human heart; which thus regulated constitute the harmony of life. 1830 DE QUINCEY *Bentley* Wks. 1863 VI. 174 Bentley's English style was less meritorious... He took no pains with it...He would not stop to modulate a tuneless sentence. 1845 CRAIK *Sk. Lit. & Learn.* III. 100 A soul of nobleness .. modulates every cadence [of Spenser's poetry].

b. *intr.* of a song: To be sung in varying cadence or harmony (*with*).

1815 SHELLEY *Alastor* 46, I wait thy breath, Great Parent, that my strain May modulate with murmurs of the air, .. And voice of living beings.

3. a. *trans.* To sing, intone (a song). b. *intr.* To play, make melody (*on* an instrument). *rare.*

c 1557 ABP. PARKER *Ps.* xcii. 1 To thy good name, O God so hye, Due laudes to modulate. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 174 Who hearing one sweetly modulating on an Ismean Pipe, swore he would rather hear the neighing of an Horse. 1889 *Harper's Mag.* Oct. 680 We are conscious of a murmuring humble voice: it is a beggar, who is modulating a prayer for alms.

4. *Mus.* †a. *trans.* To pass to (a particular note) in the course of a composition. *Obs.*

1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XII. 512/1 After having sung the tone *ut*, we naturally modulate the third *mi*, and the fifth *sol*, instead of the double octave of *mi*, and the octave of *sol*.

†b. *intr.* To pass, in accordance with the laws of melody, *from* one note *to* another; to compose music correctly. *Obs.*

1782 BURNEY *Hist. Mus.* II. 19 *note*, The Greeks more frequently modulated from the key note to its fifth below, than to the fifth above. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XII. 192/1 To modulate properly in the same tone, it is necessary, 1. To run through all the sounds of it in an agreeable air [etc.].

c. To pass from one key *to* or *into* another; to change the key. (Also said of the key.) †*To modulate upon* (a particular note): to introduce (it) as a transition to another key.

1721 A. MALCOLM *Treat. Mus.* xiii. 441 To modulate into and make Cadences upon several other Keys. *Ibid.* 446 It now remains to shew, how to modulate from one Key to another, so that the Transitions may be easy and natural. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XII. 193/1 Issuing from the major mode of *ut*, to modulate upon its mediant. 1889 PROUT *Harmony* x. (ed. 3) 104 A minor key most often modulates to one of the related major keys. 1890 A. B. BACH *Art Ballad* 128 Loewe here modulates..from G minor into E flat minor.

transf. 1885 S. COX *Expos.* xi. 131 In the middle of verse 5, the invocation of a divine advent modulates into a sorrowful and pathetic confession of sin.

Hence **Mo·dulated**, **Mo·dulating** *ppl. adjs.*

1735 SOMERVILLE *Chase* III. 73 When The Master's Hand, in modulated Air, Bids the loud Organ breathe. 1751 W. THOMPSON *Sickness* v. 230 May the nightly Pow'r, Which whispers on my Slumbers, cease to breathe Her modulating Impulse through my Soul. *a* 1806 H. K. WHITE *Rem.* (1837) 359 The pleasure we derive from tragedy is a pleasing sorrow, a modulated pain. 1874 SYMONDS *Sk. Italy & Greece* (1898) I. ix. 173 Clear waves bathed in modulated azure. 1880 *Expositor* XII. 291 A number of phrases follow each other asyndetically, without conjunctive or modulating particles.

Modulation (mɒdiŭlē·ʃən). [a. F. *modulation* (14th c. in Hatz.-Darm.) or ad. L. *modulātiōn-em*, n. of action f. *modulārī* to MODULATE.]

1. The action of forming, regulating, or varying according to due measure and proportion; †measured or rhythmical movement; variation (of light, line, form, etc.) with regard to artistic effect; a softening, tempering, or toning down.

1531 ELYOT *Gov.* I. xx, More ouer the emperours that were moste noble, delited in daunsyng, perceyuing therin to be a perfecte measure, whiche maye be called modulation. 1674 *Govt. Tongue* i. 3 To this purpose the infinite wisdom of God ordained Speech, which as it is a sound resulting from the modulation of the Air, has most affinity to the spirit. 1695 WOODWARD *Nat. Hist. Earth* IV. (1723) 195 The Matter of two or more Kinds being mix'd together, and, by the different Proportion and Modulation of that Matter, variously .. diversify'd. 1753 HOGARTH *Anal. Beauty* xii. 95 Different kinds of softnings and modulations of the rays of light. 1883 C. C. PERKINS *Ital. Sculpture* II. ii. 124 That delicate modulation of surface treatment which gives high value to the best Florentine metal work. 1888 *Scribner's Mag.* III. 424 It is not the firmness of a line in drawing or sculpture that makes it forbidding; it is the stiffness or poor quality of its modulation.

2. The action of inflecting the voice or an instrument musically; variation of tone or pitch; regulated variety of inflexion in the voice; a particular inflexion or intonation.

1543 TRAHERON *Vigo's Chirurg.* II. iii. xv. 60 That it [*sc.* the uvula] myght gyve modulation or tunynge to the voice. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* VII. xiv. 368 Although the weazon, throtle and tongue be the instruments of voice, and by their agitations doe chiefly concurre unto these delightfull modulations. 1701 GREW *Cosm. Sacra* I. v. § 10. 25 The Rings of the Wind-pipe, are fitted for the Modulation of the Voice. 1756-7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) IV. 14 Among the singers in Italy .. Farinelli indisputably makes the greatest figure for the fineness and modulation of his voice. 1797 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Italian* i, All the sensibility of character that the modulation of her tones indicated. 1824 L. MURRAY *Eng. Gram.* (ed. 5) I. 361 By modulation is meant that pleasing variety of voice, which is perceived in uttering a sentence, and which, in its nature, is perfectly distinct from emphasis, and the tones of emotion and passion. 1859 GEO. ELIOT *A. Bede* i With the same gentle modulation of voice as when he spoke to Seth. 1866 HUXLEY *Physiol.* viii. (1869) 205 The modulation of the voice into speech is effected by [etc.].

3. The action of singing or making music; an air or melody; *pl.* musical notes or sounds. Now *rare.*

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XIX. CXXXI. (1495) 941 Symphonia is temperate modulacion accordynge in sownes highe and lowe. *c* 1425 *St. Mary of Oignies* II. xi. in *Anglia* VIII. 178/14 Oure lorde..fillid hir herte wiþ myrþe, and hir lippys wiþ modulacyone. 1616 BULLOKAR *Eng. Expos.*, *Modulation*, a pleasant tuning or sweete singing. 1624 DONNE *Serm.* ii. (1640) 12, I will sing of thy mercy and judgement, sayes David; when we fixe our selves upon the meditation and modulation of the mercy of God, even his judgements cannot put us out of tune. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Modulation*, ..a pleasant tuning, a singing or playing by number or measure. 1728-46 THOMSON *Spring* 608 Innumerous songsters, in the freshening shade Of new-sprung leaves, their modulations mix Mellifluous. 1816 T. L. PEACOCK *Headlong Hall* xi, To ring to the profaner but more lively modulation of *Voulez vous danser, Mademoiselle!*

4. *Mus.* a. *Hist.* In the ecclesiastical modes: Each of certain notes in each mode, on which a phrase of melody must begin and end (see quot.).

1880 *Grove's Dict. Mus.* II. 351/2 The intermediate phrases can only begin, or end, on one of another set of notes, called its Modulations. Of these Modulations, four —the Final, Dominant, Mediant, and Participant—are of more importance than the rest, and are therefore called Regular. But as the constant reiteration of these four notes would prove intolerably monotonous, in a Melody consisting of very numerous phrases, other notes, called Conceded Modulations, are added to them.

†b. Composition or performance of music, management of melody and harmony, in a particular 'mode' or key. Also, a chord or succession of notes, an air or melody (cf. 3). *Obs.*

1721 A. MALCOLM *Treat. Mus.* xiii. 441 Under the Term of Modulation may be comprehended the regular Progression of the several Parts thro' the Sounds that are in the Harmony of any particular Key as well as the proceeding naturally and regularly with the Harmony from one Key to another. 1782 BURNEY *Hist. Mus.* II. 412 As to the Modulation, it is so monotonous, that little more than two chords are used throughout the Canon ['Sumer is i-cumen in']. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XII. 191/2 Modulation .. frequently means no more than an air, or a number of musical sounds properly connected and arranged. *Ibid.* 511/2 The modulation formed by *ut* with the octave of *sol* and the double octave of *mi*, sung one after the other. *Ibid.* 512/2 This modulation or chord *ut*, *mi*♭, *sol*, *ut*.

c. In modern use: The action or process of passing from one key to another in the course of a piece; the result of this, as an element in the harmony of the piece; a change of key.

1696 PHILLIPS, *Modulation*, a carrying on a Song in the same Key, sometimes passing out of it, then getting into it again, without offending the Ears. 1721 A. MALCOLM *Treat. Mus.* xiii. 450 Having thus explained the Nature of Modulation from one Key to another. 1782 BURNEY *Hist. Mus.* II. 163 *note*, The modulation from D major to C is rarely found in modern music. *Ibid.* 164 The following specimens of Chromatic Modulation, ascending and descending. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XV. 296/2 Modulation may be divided into Simple, Chromatic (or extraneous), and Enharmonic. 1889 PROUT *Harmony* (ed. 10) xiv. § 371 By .. enharmonically changing one or more of its notes it [the chord of the Diminished Seventh] can be used for modulation between any two keys.

5. *transf.* Melodious composition in prose or verse; harmonious treatment of language.

1759 JOHNSON *Idler* No. 63 ¶ 7 Then begin the arts of rhetoric and poetry, the regulation of figures, the selection of words, the modulation of periods. 1779-81 — *L. P., Waller* Wks. II. 269 The Poets of Elizabeth had attained an art of modulation, which was afterwards .. forgotten. 1841 D'ISRAELI *Amen. Lit.* (1867) 476 A master in the art of versification was struck by our poet's modulation.

6. *Arch.* The proportioning or regulating of the parts of an order by the module (see MODULE 4).

1665 J. WEBB *Stone-Heng* (1725) 62 Ornaments made from the Rule of the Dorick Modulation. 1842 GWILT *Archit.* Gloss., *Modulation*, the proportion of the different parts of an order.

Modulative (mɒ·diŭlĕ·tĭv), *a. rare.* [ad. L. type **modulātīv-us*: see -IVE.] Serving to modulate (the voice or intonation).

1888 SWEET *Hist. Eng. Sounds* 71 Our punctuation-marks seem to have been originally modulative.

Modulator (mɒ·diŭlē·tər). [a. L. *modulātor*, agent-n. f. *modulārī* to MODULATE.]

1. One who, or a thing which, modulates.

c 1500 *Proverbis* in *Antiq. Rep.* (1809) IV. 408 A perfyte modulatour makithe his songe trew. 1654 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 477 Poetry .. is a most musicall Modulator of all Intelligibles by her inventive Variations. 1713 DERHAM *Phys.-Theol.* v. v. (1727) 295 The Tongue .. the artful Modulator of our Voice. 1834 DE QUINCEY *Autobiogr. Sk.* vi. Wks. 1862 XIV. 171 Thus, in a musical metaphor, the great man is the sole modulator and determiner of the key in which the conversation proceeds. 1896 MRS. CAFFYN *Quaker Grandmother* 145 The haze was a modulator of all things —a balancer.

2. A chart used in the 'tonic sol-fa' system, showing the relations of tones and scales.

1862 *Catal. Internat. Exhib.* II. xxiv. 35 The Modulator, or pointing board for teaching tunes.

Modulatory (mɒ·diŭlē·təri), *a.* [ad. L. type **modulātōri-us*, f. *modulārī* to MODULATE: see -ORY.] Pertaining to or serving for modulation.

1880 PARRY in Grove *Dict. Mus.* II. 348/2 [Bach's] more wonderful modulatory devices must have fallen upon utterly deaf ears.

Module (mɒ·diŭl), *sb.* [a. F. *module* (1547 in Godefr. *Compl.*), or directly ad. L. *modul-us* small measure, limit or standard of measure, machine for measuring water, module in architecture, also rhythmic measure, dim. of *modus* measure: see MODE *sb.* (Cf. MOULD *sb.*[2], a. OF. *molde*, *modle*:—L. *modulum.*) The earliest uses in Eng. seem to be based directly on Latin senses not found in Fr., and also to show confusion of the word with MODEL. The architectural sense appears to have been introduced from Fr. in the 17th c.]

†1. Allotted measure, compass, or scale; one's allotted power or capabilities. Cf. MODEL *sb.* 8. *Obs.*

1586 A. DAY *Eng. Secretary* II. (1625) 122 To repose a foundation consonant to the module or compasse of this my present intendment. 1587 FLEMING *Contn. Holinshed* III. 1369/2 His counterfet so naturallie conveied into coloures, with his white beard, the hollownesses of his cheekes, .. and all within a module the circumference whereof exceedeth not six inches. 1607 WALKINGTON *Opt. Glass.* Ep. Ded. 3 Vet for that module of these habiliments in me I have ever bent my judgement so far as in it lay to limit [etc.]. 1628 COKE *On Litt.* Pref., The module of a preface cannot express the observations that are made in the work. 1640 G. WATTS tr. *Bacon's Adv. Learn.* IX. i. 471 That the mind for its Module [orig. *pro modulo*] be dilated to the amplitude of the Mysteries. 1663 CHARLETON *Chor. Gigant.* 41 Whose picture, though in too small a module, is taken also by our Author. 1681 WITTIE *Surv. Heavens* 70, I have reasoned with modesty according to my module.

2. †a. The plan or design in little of some large work. Cf. MODEL *sb.* 1. *Obs.*

1589 *Acts Privy Council* (1898) XVII. 455 Send unto us a plat forme or module of the situation of the said mylne upon the river. 1611 R. BADLEY *To Author* in Coryat *Crudities* k, Vet in thy booke the module is descried Of many a Citie, and Castle fortified. 1622 HAKEWILL *David's Vow* vi. 222 Man .. himselfe, a little map or module as it were of the great world. 1636 EARL CORK *Diary* in *Lismore Papers* Ser. I. (1886) IV. 210, I sent [them] .. to tak a module of the L. presidents howse .. to make the lyke by ffor my son. 1695 WOODWARD *Nat. Hist. Earth* II. 107 That's the Business of the Larger Work, of which this is only the Module or Platform.

†b. A plastic or graphic representation (usually on a small scale) of some material object. Cf. MODEL *sb.* 2.

1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. vi. 1015 You that have seen within this ample Table, Among so many Modules admirable [orig. *parmy tant de pourtraits*], Th' admired beauties of the King of Creatures. 1609 HEYWOOD *Brit. Troy* XII. lxxxvii, The Pummel..rarely wrought With artful Modules. *a* 1661 FELTHAM *Resolves*, etc. *Let.* x. 74 By this weeks Carrier you shall receive the Module of the World in a box.

†c. *poet.* A mere image or counterfeit. *Obs.*

1595 SHAKS. *John* v. vii. 58 And then all this thou seest, is but a clod, And module of confounded royalty. 1601 — *All's Well* IV. iii. 114 Come, bring forth this counterfet module. 1608 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iv. III. *Schisme* 492 This Childe (no Man, but Man's pale Module now).

†d. *poet.* A model for imitation; a type or pattern of excellence, a perfect exemplar (*of*); = MODEL *sb.* 10. *Obs.*

1609 DANIEL *Civ. Wars* IV. lxxxii, That vertuous Prince ..borne to bee The module of a glorious Monarch. 1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. Ded., From Thee (rare Module of Heroik minds). *Ibid.* II. i. I. *Eden* 94 Ve Pagan Poets..; from henceforth still be dum Your fabled prayses of Elysium; Which by this goodly Module you have wrought.

†e. A regularly formulated plan or scheme (of government, etc.); = MODEL *sb.* 7 b. *Obs.*

1650 NEEDHAM *Case of Commw.* II. 50 Notwithstanding all the Reasons to the Contrary the Scotish Module was still pressed.

3. A standard or unit for measuring.

a 1628 F. GREVIL *Cælica* vi, Measure of all ioyes stay to phansie traces Module of pleasure. 1685 BERNARD *Let. to Author* in Pococke *Comm. Hosea* (a), Many of the ancients serv'd themselves with ordinary grains of corne (which module hath also entred our English Laws) for the Measures both of length and capacity. 1712 *H. More's Antid. Ath.* I. v. Schol. 145 They are not made .. by measure or module, which should limit, and, as it were, design and determine them. 1845 R. W. HAMILTON *Pop. Educ.* vi. (ed. 2) 128 A precise proposition is already adjusted, a module of the truth. 1863 HERSCHEL *Fam. Lect. Sci.* (1868) 450 The only new measure I would legalize would be a 'module' (or some other name at present unoccupied) of 50 geometrical inches.

4. *Arch.* In the classic orders, the unit of length by which the proportions of the parts are expressed; usually the semidiameter of the column at the base of the shaft.

[1563: see MODULUS 1.] 1664 EVELYN tr. *Freart's Archit.* I. xxvii. 66 The Chapter contains two Modules and a third. 1760 RAPER in *Phil. Trans.* LI. 814 The shafts of the columns are so nearly 16 modules, that they seem to have been designed for that proportion. 1823 P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Build.* 480 The height given to the column is fourteen modules, or seven diameters.

b. *Numism.* The diameter of a coin or medal.

1887 *Athenæum* 24 Sept. 411/3 There are thirty plates, many of them containing coins of the smallest module.

5. *Math.* = MODULUS 2.

a 1883 H. J. S. SMITH *Collect. Math. Papers* (1894) II. 545 The squared modules resulting from the $\sigma'(n)$ primitive and primary transformations of n.

6. An apparatus for measuring or regulating a supply or flow of water. [= It. *modulo.*]

1875 L. D'A. JACKSON *Hydraulic Man.* (ed. 3) 136 Hydraulic engineers not having yet arrived at a perfect module

for measuring the amount of water drawn off in an open channel for irrigation. *Ibid.* 147 This module discharges one cubic metre..per hour.

¶ **7.** ? The capital of a pillar (cf. MUTULE). *Obs.*

1585 J. HIGGINS tr. *Junius' Nomenclator* 204/1 *Epistylium*, Vitru[vius], capitulum, modulus. .. The head or chapter of the piller: the module. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 411 What a sort of modules or Chapters of pillars [orig. *quot epistylia*] .. haue beene digged up.

† **Mo·dule,** *v. Obs.* [In sense 1, a. F. *module-r*, ad. L. *modulāre* to MODULATE. In sense 2, alteration of MODEL *v.* after MODULE *sb.*]

1. *trans.* To sing, perform (music).

1610 G. FLETCHER *Christ's Vict.* II. xviii, Soon the old Palmer his devotions sung, Like pleasing anthems moduled in time. 1612 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* xiii. 70 That Charmer of the Night..That moduleth her tunes so admirably rare.

2. To MODEL, mould, form.

1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. i. II. *Imposture* Argt., Justice and Mercy modul'd in their kinde. 1621 G. SANDYS *Ovid's Met.* I. (1632) 9 O would I could my Father's cunning vse! And soules into well-modul'd Clay infuse! 1695 WOODWARD *Nat. Hist. Earth* II. (1723) 95 Men..which were to inhabit this Earth, thus moduled anew.

† **Mo·dulet.** *Obs. rare.* [f. MODULE *sb.* + -ET.] A little model.

1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. vii. 747 But, soft my Muse: what? wilt thou re-repeat The Little-World's admired modulet? 1610 W. FOLKINGHAM *Art of Survey* I. iii. 6 The Crassitude of the Soale is diuersified in seuerall Plots, and particular Modulets. *Ibid.* II. iv. 52 Proportion consists in the generall Modell and particular Modulets of the Plot.

† **Mo·dulize,** *v. Obs.* [f. MODULE *sb.* + -IZE. Cf. OF. *moduliser* to make melody, and MODELIZE.] *trans.* To model, form a model of; to organize.

1605 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iii. III. *Law* 1115 While with the Duke [Moses], th' Eternall did devise, And to his inward sight did modulize His Tabernacle's admirable Form. 1679 EVERARD *Prot. Princes Europe* 40 They who have the .. dexterity to modulize or conquer Sovereign Estates know better than any other by what Maxims their Successours may be enabled to maintain themselves therein.

Modull, obs. form of MODEL.

‖ **Modulus** (mǫ·diŭlŏs). Pl. **moduli** (mǫ·diŭlăi), **moduluses.** [L.: see MODULE.]

† **1.** *Arch.* = MODULE *sb.* 4. *Obs.*

1563 SHUTE *Archit.* C j, A Modulus, or half the thicknes of the pillor.

2. *Math.* **a.** A number by which Napierian logarithms must be multiplied in order to obtain the corresponding logarithms in another system (usually that with base 10).

[1722 R. COTES *Harm. Mensur.* 4 Pro diversa magnitudine quantitatis assumptae M, quae adeo vocetur Systematis *Modulus*.] 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* s.v. *Logarithm*, The line *oe* is what Mr. Cotes calls the *modulus* of the system. 1798 HUTTON *Course Math.* (1828) II. 306 Multiply the result by the modulus of the system of logarithms. 1897 *Chambers' Math. Tables* (ed. Pryde) 454 Modulus of common logarithms = M = 0·43429448819.

b. A constant multiplier, coefficient, or parameter involved in a given function of a variable.

For the specific applications see Greenhill *Elliptic Functions* (1892) 4, 53, and Forsyth *Theory of Functions* (1893) 377.

1843 MACCULLAGH in *Proc. R. Irish Acad.* II. 448 The given plane may be called a *directive plane*, and the constant ratio may be termed the *modulus*. 1865 BRANDE & COX *Dict. Sci.*, etc. I. 768 Any trigonometrical function of ϕ is termed an *elliptic function*, having the *argument* u and *modulus* k. 1873 MAXWELL *Electr. & Magn.* (1881) I. 217 We may call k and k′ the two complementary moduli of the confocal system. *a* 1883 H. J. S. SMITH *Collect. Math. Papers* (1894) II. 570 Geometrical Construction of the Transformed Modulus by means of the Modular Curve.

c. A measure of a quantity which depends upon two or more other quantities. In recent use chiefly, the absolute value of a complex quantity.

1845 DE MORGAN *Calculus of Functions* in *Encycl. Metrop.* II. 375/1 By the *modulus* of $a(x,y)$ we meao the function $a(x,x)$ considered as of a single subject. The moduli of the sum, difference, product, &c. of two functions are the sum, difference, &c. of the moduli. 1846 CAYLEY *Coll. Math. Papers* I. 238 The square of the secant of the semi-angle of resultant rotation will be the modulus of the rotation. 1891 HOBSON *Trigonom.* 255 The modulus of the sum of a number of complex quantities is less than, or equal to, the sum of their moduli.

d. *Theory of Numbers.* A number in respect of which other numbers are congruent.

1892 G. B. MATHEWS *Theory Numbers* 7.

3. *Physics* and *Mech.* A constant indicating the relation between the amount of a physical effect and that of the force producing it.

Modulus of elasticity: originally applied by Young to the quantity by means of which the amount of longitudinal extension or contraction of a bar of a given material, and the amount of the tension or pressure causing it, may be stated in terms of each other. Now used in a wider sense (see quot. 1877).

1807 T. YOUNG *Lect. Philos.* xiii. I. 137 According to this analogy, we may express the elasticity of any substance by the weight of a certain column of the same substance, which may be denominated the modulus of its elasticity. *Ibid.* II. 66 It may be shown that every small change of form is propagated along an extended chord with a velocity equal to that of a heavy body falling through a height equal to half the length of a portion of the chord, of which the weight is equivalent to a force producing the tension, and which may be called the modulus of the tension. 1824 TREDGOLD *Strength Cast Iron* 251 The measure of the power of a body to resist impulsion, that is, the modulus of resilience. 1843 MOSELEY *Mech. Princ. Engin.* 162 The modulus of a machine..is the relation between the work constantly done upon it by the moving power, and that constantly yielded at the working points [etc.]. 1846 MALLET in *Trans. R. Irish Acad.* (1848) XXI. 93 If we take the modulus of elasticity for the following rocks from the preceding table, and, comparing these with the modulus of cast iron, suppose the time of wave transit in each to be proportionate roughly to the square roots of their respective moduli, we get the following table of results. 1877 SIR W. THOMSON in *Encycl. Brit.* VII. 804 *Moduluses of Elasticity.* A modulus of elasticity is the number obtained by dividing the number expressing a stress by the number expressing the strain which it produces. ..An isotropic solid has two principal moduluses—a *modulus of compression* and a *rigidity*.

4. A unit of payment (see quot.).

1882 *Cambr. Stat., Trin. Coll.* (1883) 590 The Council shall fix for the year the amount being not more than.. 250*l.* to be called a *modulus*. And there shall be paid to each Fellow..his proper dividend fixed as hereinafter mentioned by reference to the amount of the *modulus*. There shall be paid to the Master seven *moduli*, and to each of the Chaplains and to the Librarian one half of a *modulus*.

5. *gen.* A norm or standard. Cf. MODULE 3. *rare.*

1864 *Reader* 30 Apr. 544/3 He sometimes deviates from the strict modulus of the sonnet.

Modur(e, obs. forms of MOTHER.

‖ **Modus** (mōu·dŭs). Pl. (*rare*) **modi** (mōu·dəi); (in sense 4) **moduses.** [L. *modus*: see MODE *sb.*]

† **1.** *Old Law.* The qualification of the terms of a conveyance or other instrument; the consideration of a conveyance.

1590 SWINBURNE *Testaments* 137 *Modus* is a moderation, whereby a charge or burthen is imposed, in respecte of a commoditie...The meane or moderation is knowen by this worde (*that*) as I make A. B. my executor or giue him a hundred pound, that he maie erect a monument. 1850 BURRILL *Law Dict., Modus*, ..in old conveyancing. A consideration; the consideration of a conveyance, technically expressed by the word *nt.*

2. *gen.* The way in which anything is done; mode or manner of operation.

Sometimes short for *m. operandi* or *m. agendi* (see 5).

1648 EVELYN *Corr.* (1852) III. 23 Touching the reports of this day..as that Rochester was entered by stratagem, or Canterbury (for none of the relators agree either in the place or modus). *a* 1686 T. WATSON *Body Div.* (1692) 239 What shall be the modus or manner of Trial? 1780 in I. Allen *Hist. Vermont* (1798) 144 That either party should establish the modus, or rules to be pursued in determining disputes. 1846 in *Proc. Amer. Phil. Soc.* IV. 259 The modus in which the electric charge passes along the wires. 1898 A. LANG *Making Relig.* viii. 143 Because..psychologists are unable to explain, or give the *modus* of a set of phenomena.

† **3.** *Philos.* = MODE *sb.* 6. *Obs.* In full *modus essendi* or *existendi.*

1675 HOWE *Living Temple* II. i. Wks. 1724 I. 126 [Criticism of Spinoza.] And if the Essence of Substance contains the inexisting Modi, the Essence of the Modi doth equally contain their inexistence in Substance. *a* 1679 T. GOODWIN *Christ Mediator* II. v. (1692) 48 One and the same thing is differenced from it self by a different *modus*, or manner of existing. *a* 1679 — *Man's Restaur. Grace* iii. 9 The distinction of their personality (if abstractly considered from the essence) being but *modus essendi.*

4. A money payment in lieu of tithe. In full *modus decimandi.*

1618 SELDEN *Hist. Tithes* x. 288 Where any..Prescription or Custome hath setled a *Modus Decimandi* or certain quantitie payable, though never so little, for the Tithe. 1669 WORLIDGE *Syst. Agric.* (1681) 111 It is to be wish'd that there were some more certain Modus in lieu of that troublesome way of Tything. 1687 *Assur. Abb. Lands* 31 Also Modus of Tithes was another Infringement of the Canons. 1747 *Gentl. Mag.* 57/1 The ancient *Modusses* and compositions for tythes. 1763 BURN *Eccl. Law* II. 388 Of modus's, or exemptions from payment of titbes in kind. 1766 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* II. iii. 29–30. 1843 *Mceson & Welsby's Excheq. Rep.* (1844) XI. 676 The plaintiff was.. employed in maintaining and upholding the said moduses. 1866 GEO. ELIOT *F. Holt* vi. I. 137 The spiritual person who still took his tithe-pig or his *modus.*

5. In mod.L. phrases: **a. modus agendi,** the mode in which a thing acts or operates.

1849 NOAD *Electricity* (ed. 3) 29 Scientific men are not agreed as to the *modus agendi* of the amalgam applied to the rubber.

b. modus operandi, mode of operating: (*a*) the way in which a thing, cause, etc., operates; (*b*) in more recent use, the way in which a person goes to work.

1654 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 222 Because their Causes, or their *modus operandi* (which is but the Application of the Cause to the Effect) doth not fall under Demonstration. 1835 *Edin. Rev.* LXI. 85 We are still ignorant of the nature..of this force, and of its *modus operandi*. 1843 MILL *Logic* III. x. § 3 I. 529 We must make entire abstraction of all knowledge of the simpler tendencies, the *modi operandi* of mercury in detail. 1874 W. ARCHER in *Q. Jrnl. Microsc. Sci.* XIV. 130 The following will show the *modus operandi*. 1894 K. GRAHAME *Pagan P.* 86 It would hardly be in the public interest to disclose his *modus operandi.*

c. modus vivendi, 'a mode of living'; a working arrangement between contending parties, pending the settlement of matters in debate.

1879 *N. & Q.* Ser. v. XII. 109 'Modus Vivendi'—This formula is in daily use to express a practical compromise. 1882 *Standard* 27 Dec. 4/7 The Russian Government and the Pope have arranged a *modus vivendi*. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 9 Dec. 5/5 He hoped to establish a *modus vivendi* pending the conclusion of a Treaty.

† **Mo·dwall.** *Obs.* Also 7–8 mud-, 8 mid-. A variant or corruption, in old Dictionaries, for WOODWALL or WITWALL.

1572 HULOET, Modwall a byrde which destroyeth bees, *apiastra*. 1657 C. BECK *Univ. Char.* I ij, A mudwall or wood pecker bird. 1658 ROWLAND tr. *Mouffet's Theat. Ins.* 901 The nests of Swallowes, Modwals [orig. *apiastrorum*], Owls, or Wood-peckers. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Midwall*...*Modwall*. 1736 AINSWORTH *Lat. Dict.* I, Modwall (bird), *picus*...Mud wall (bird), *apiaster*. *Ibid.* II, *Apiastra*, ..midwal.

† **Mo·dy,** *a. Obs.* [f. MODE *sb.* + -Y.] Fashionable, modish.

1701 F. MANNING *Poems* 67, I am o'erjoyed, says one, that we shall see Of Mody Fans so great variety. 1741 RICHARDSON *Pamela* I. xxxii. 125, I said, O dear Mr. Longman, you make me too rich, and too mody. 1771 T. HULL *Sir W. Harrington* (1797) III. 42 These [dresses] were entirely new for the wedding..mine the mody coloured crimson, edged with ermine.

Mody, obs. form of MOODY.

Modyngstrete, var. or corrupt f. MIDDENSTEAD. *c* 1475 *Pict. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 798/4 *Hoc sennum* [= *cœnum*], a modyngstrete.

Modyr(e, obs. forms of MOTHER *sb.*

Moe, var. MO more; obs. f. MOW *sb.* and *v.*

Moeble, obs. f. MOBILE *a.* and *sb.*[1]; var. MOBLE.

Moed(e, Moeder, obs. ff. MOOD, MOTHER.

Moedor(e, Moehair, see MOIDORE, MOHAIR.

Moelline (mōu·lin). [f. F. *moelle* marrow + -IN[1].] A kind of unguent for the hair.

1851 *Official Catal. Gt. Exhib.* II. 790 'Moelline', a peculiar oleaginous compound. 1860 in WORCESTER. 1864–1897 in WEBSTER.

‖ **Moellon** (mwalǫ̃). *Arch.* [Fr., altered form (? assimilated to *moelle* marrow) of OF. *moilon, meulon, moiron*, of obscure origin.] Rubble used in masonry; = RAG *sb.*[2]

[1836: as Fr. in PARKER *Gloss. Archit.* (1850) s.v. *Ragstone*. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Moellon* (French), rough stones fit for building.] 1875 in KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*

Moerdre, Moerdrer, Moerdrice, obs. ff. MURDER, -ER, -ESS.

Moes, obs. form of MOSS.

Mœso-Goth (mī·sǫgǫþ). Also Mæso-. [ad. late L. *Mœsogothī* pl., f. L. *Mœsī* the people of the country (from them called *Mœsia*), corresponding to the modern Bulgaria and Servia + *Gothī*: see GOTH.] A member of the Gothic tribe that inhabited Mœsia in the 4th and 5th c. after Christ.

1818 T. H. HORNE *Introd. Study Script.* I. 302 Ulphilas, a celebrated bishop of the Mæso-Goths. 1864 *Chamb. Encycl., Mæso-Goths*, the name given to the Goths who in the 3d c. settled in Lower Mœsia at the mouth of the Danube.

Mœso-Gothic (mīsogǫ·þik), *a.* and *sb.* Also Mæso-. [ad. late L. *Mœsogothic·us*, f. *Mœsogothī*: see prec. and -IC.] **a.** *adj.* Of or pertaining to the Mœso-Goths or their language. **b.** *sb.* The language of the Mœso-Goths.

Formerly applied to the language of the extant Gothic version of portions of the Scriptures, which is doubtless the work of the Mœso-Gothic bishop Wulfila (Ulphilas). But as the language does not differ materially from that of other remains of Gothic, and there is no evidence that such differences as exist belonged to the dialect of Wulfila himself, philologists now usually speak of 'Gothic' simply.

[1689 HICKES (*title*) Institutiones Grammaticæ Anglo-Saxonicæ et Mœso-Gothicæ.] 1818 T. H. HORNE *Introd. Study Script.* I. 304 The Mæso-Gothic translation of the thirteen Epistles of Saint Paul made by Ulphilas. *Ibid.*, A complete set of Mæso-Gothic types has been cast. 1831 CARLYLE *Sart. Res.* III. vii, Had there been no Mœso-gothic Ulfila, there had been no English Shakespeare, or a different one. 1845 STODDART *Grammar* in *Encycl. Metrop.* I. 138/1 In Mæso-Gothic the verb *beon* or *bion* is not found. *a* 1886 J. KER *Lect. Hist. Preaching* vi. (1888) 93 The New Testament and the Septuagint..found their way into Western tongues, through the Vulgate and the Moesogothic.

Moët (mǫ·ĭt). [From the name of the firm, *Moët et Chandon* of Rheims, which sells it.] The name of a class of champagne.

1841 THACKERAY *St. Philip's Day at Paris* Wks. 1900 XIII. 554 A bottle of soda-water, which all the pit takes to be real moët. 1883 MISS BRADDON *Golden Calf* III. iv. 91, I can have a bottle of Moët there.

Moether, obs. form of MOTHER.

Moevable, etc.: see MOVABLE, etc.

Mofe, obs. form of MOVE *v.*

‖ **Mofette** (mǫfe·t). Also moffette. [F., ad. It. (Naples) *mofetta* = Sp. *mofeta*.] **a.** An exhalation of mephitic gas escaping from a fissure. **b.** An opening or fissure in the earth from which such exhalations escape.

1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) III. 433 The first, formerly denominated phlogistic air, and sometimes mofette, is thrown forth largely during the decomposition of animal matter. 1823 CRABB *Technol. Dict., Mofette (Chem.)* another name for Nitrogen. 1849 OTTÉ tr. *Humboldt's Cosmos* I. 209 Various substances have been ejected during the earthquake, as hot water,..*Mofettes*[*gloss.* exhalations of carbonic acid gas]..; mud, black smoke [etc.]. 1887 *Our Earth & its Story* I. 225 The amount of carbonic acid which is discharged by these moffettes must be enormous.

Moff[1], moph (mǫf). [See quot. 1885.] An instrument consisting of a pair of compasses, one leg of which is fashioned like the leg of a pair of callipers.

1885 *Let.* 28 Nov. (MS.), It is a cross, in fact, between compass and calliper; and its character of cross breed got it originally the name of hermaphrodite, which was corrupted into mophrodite, which has been shortened into 'moff'

1902 MARSHALL *Metal Tools* 12 A useful form of calipers for marking off..is known by various names, such as 'odd-leg calipers', 'scribing calipers', 'hermaphrodite calipers', 'mophs', or 'jennies'.

‖ **Moff**[2] (mɒf). See quot.

1851 *Official Catal. Gt. Exhib.* III. 1373 Caucasian silk stuff (called *moff*). 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade.*

Moffe, obs. form of MOVE *v.*

Moffel(l, moffle, obs. forms of MUFFLE *v.*

Moffette, variant of MOFETTE.

‖ **Mofussil** (mɒfʊ·sil). *Anglo-Ind.* Also 8 Mofussel, 8–9 -ul, 9 Mofusil. [Hindustani *mufaṣṣil*, ad. Arab. مفصّل *mufaṣṣal*, pa. pple. of *faṣṣala* to divide, separate.]

1. In India, the country as distinguished from the 'Presidency'; the rural localities of a district as distinguished from the chief station.

1781 *Hicky's Bengal Gaz.* 31 Mar. (Yule), A gentleman lately arrived from the Mo[f]ussel. *Ibid.* 30 June (*Ibid.*), A gentleman in the Mofussil, Mr. P., fell out of his chaise and broke his leg. 1878 (*title*) Life in the Mofussil; or the Civilian in Lower Bengal. 1885 YULE & BURNELL *Gloss. Anglo-Ind.* s.v., Thus if, in Calcutta, one talks of the Mofussil, he means anywhere in Bengal out of Calcutta; if one at Benares talks of going into the Mofussil he means going anywhere in the Benares division or district (as the case might be) out of the city of Benares. And so over India.

2. *attrib.* Of, pertaining to, belonging to, or living in the Mofussil; rural, provincial.

c 1836 MACAULAY in Trevelyan *Life* (1876) I. 395 The Mofussil newspapers..have spoken favourably of this measure. 1860 *Rural Life in Bengal* 105 Characteristic of Mofussul life. 1878 *Life in Mofussil* I. 58 The natural dulness of a wet Sunday in a Mofussil bungalow. 1906 *Advice Note, Office of Superintendent of Govt. Printing, India* Voucher No. 5656 When cheques on mofussil banks are sent, they must include the amount of discount.

Hence **Mofu·ssilite**, one residing in the Mofussil; **Mofu·ssilize** *v. intr.*, to live away from a town or residency (*nonce-wd.*).

1845 (*title of newspaper*) The Mofussilite. 1863 SALA *Qualk the Circumnavigator* 64 Bankrupt scholars, whose parents had been mofussilising in an inordinate degree. 1888 *Bookseller's Catal.* (*Bombay*) To Purchasers, Mofussilites should always send the price and postage of the books beforehand.

Mog (mɒg), *v. dial.* and *U.S.* Also 7–8 mogg, 9 mug, maug.

†**1.** *intr. Cards.* To exchange cards in the obsolete game of 'costly colours'. *Obs.*

1674 COTTON *Compl. Gamester* (1680) 89 You must deal off three a piece, and turn up the next Card following; then the Eldest is to take his choice whether he will Mogg (this is change a Card or no). 1734 SEYMOUR *Compl. Gamester* (ed. 5) 11. 32.

2. To move on, depart, decamp. Chiefly with *off* or *on*.

1764 T. BRVDGES *Homer Travest.* (1797) II. 128 Get on board thy rotten ship; The rest, I hope, will scorn to mog off And dim my daylights if I jog off. 1862 C. C. ROBINSON *Dial. Leeds* 363 'Mug on!' 'Wean't mug a bit'. 1880 *Antrim & Down Gloss., Maug*, to walk away. 'Maug off with you'.

3. To walk *along* slowly but steadily; to jog *on*, move gently (E.D.D.).

1857 J. T. STATON *Bobby & Shuttle* 5 (E.D.D.) Aw mogged up eawt oth loom-shop into th' heawse. 1873 W. CARLETON *Farm Ball., Out o' the Fire* 52 He..mogged along to the door-way, with never a word of row. 1894 REMINGTON in *Harper's Mag.* Feb. 359 As our horses were thirsty and footsore, we 'mogged along'.

4. *trans.* (See quots.)

1879 Miss JACKSON *Shropshire Word-bk., Mog*, to move from one place to another...'Tell John to mog the cows i' the mornin'. 1887 *S. Cheshire Gloss., Mog*, ..(2) to make to go, remove. Speaking of some one who had honestly restored to her some belongings, a woman said, 'Many a one 'ud ha' mogged 'em off'.

Mog, *v.*[2], dial. variant of MUG *v.*

Mogador (mɒgădɔ̄r). Also -ore. The name of a seaport in Morocco; used *attrib.* to designate certain of its products or exports; as *Mogador colocynth, gum*; also *absol.* (see quot. 1866).

1861–87 BENTLEY *Man. Bot.* II. iii. (ed. 5) 538 Morocco, Mogadore, or Brown Barbary Gum [is derived] from *Acacia arabica*. *Ibid.* 567 Mogador or Unpeeled Colocynth..is obtained from Mogador. 1866 R. S. CHARNOCK *Verba Nom., Mogadore*, a bees'-wax from Mogador.

Mogasheen, -ason, -erson, obs. ff. MOCCASIN.

Mogera, obs. form of MOGRA.

Moget, var. MUGGET *Obs.* exc. *dial.*

Moggan (mɒ·găn). *Sc.* and *dial.* Also 9 moggen, -in, mogan, muggin, moogan. [Of obscure origin; the Gael. *mogan* is believed by Celtic philologists to be adopted from Sc. Cf. *mokins* dial. (Hants) 'gaiters made of coarse sacking' (E.D.D.); also (though the sense is more remote), *moggins* (Cheshire) shoes with wooden soles, clogs.]

1. A long footless stocking; a stocking used as a purse; also 'long sleeves for a woman's arms, wrought like stockings' (Jam.).

1742 R. FORBES *Jrnl.* in *Ajax' Sp.* (1755) 31 I'm seer some o' them wat the sma' end o' their moggan. 1789 ROSS *Helenore*, etc. 134 Had I won the length but of ae pair of sleeves,..And on my twa gardies like moggans wad draw? 1832–53 D. S. BUCHAN in *Whistle-binkie* Ser. III. 72 He..prepared for to dee: And left..his lang neckit moggin to me. 1897 *Blackw. Mag.* Nov. 613/1 They came into the place in their mogans at night, quiet as ghosts.

†**2.** *pl.* The legs. *Obs.*

1780 W. FORBES *Dominie Deposed* 9 Wae to the night I first began To mix my moggans wi' thee, man.

Moggi(n)son, obs. forms of MOCCASIN.

Moggy (mɒ·gi). [Possibly a variant of MAGGIE.]

1. *dial.* (West Midland: see E.D.D.) A pet-name for a calf or cow.

c 1825 *Houlston Tracts* II. xlviii. 4 Skelton's kine..lowed so, 'twas pitiful to hear them. For all they were dumb creatures, I knew their meaning, as well as if they had said, 'Give us a mouthful of dry food...' 'No', says I, 'poor moggies, I cannot do that...'.

2. *dial.* and *slang.* An untidily dressed woman.

1886 *S. W. Linc. Gloss., Moggy*, a slattern, dressed out untidily: 'She did look a moggy'. 1896 FARMER & HENLEY *Slang, Moggy* (old) a badly-dressed woman; a guy.

Moghal, variant of MOGUL.

Moghe, obs. form of MOTH, MOW *sb.*

Moghet, var. MUGGET *Obs.* exc. *dial.*

Moghol, Moghra: see MOGUL, MOGRA.

Moghrabbin, variant of MAUGRABIN.

1906 *Athenæum* 8 Dec. 735/2.

Moght, obs. form of MOTH.

Moght(e, Mo3(e, obs. ff. *might* pa. pple. of MAY *v.*[1]

Moghul, variant form of MOGUL.

‖ **Mogi-** (mɒdʒi, mɒgi). Combining form of Gr. *μόγι-s* with toil and pain, f. *μόγος* toil, used in a few mod.L. pathological terms, as **Mogigra·phia** [Gr. *-γραφία*, -GRAPHY; cf. F. *mogigraphie*], difficult or cramped writing, writer's cramp; also in anglicized form **Mogi·graphy**; hence **Mogigra·phic** *a.* **Mogila·lia** [f. Gr. *μογιλάλ-os* that speaks with difficulty], stammering; **Mogi·lalism** = prec. (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1891). **Mogipho·nia** [Gr. *φωνή* sound], 'a difficulty in producing loud vocal sounds with the larynx, ordinary speech remaining unaffected' (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*).

1856 MAYNE *Expos. Lex., Mogigraphia*, term for difficult or cramped writing: mogigraphy. *Ibid., Mogigraphicus*,.. mogigraphic. 1878 tr. *von Ziemssen's Cycl. Med.* XIV. 873 He distinguishes two varieties of defective speech, paraphonia and mogilalia. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV. 850 The cases described by B. Fränkel under the name mogiphonia.

Mogi(n)son, -issin, -nesan, obs. ff. MOCCASIN.

Mognion, obs. variant of MONION.

‖ **Mogo** (mō·gō). [Native Australian.] The stone hatchet used by the aborigines of New South Wales.

1823 CRABB *Technol. Dict., Mogo*, an Indian tomahawk. 1838 T. L. MITCHELL *Three Exped.* I. 204, I heard..the mogo of a native at work on some tree close by. 1868 W. CARLETON *Australian Nts.* 20 One mute memorial, by his bier His mogo, boomerang, and spear. 1876 *Forest & Stream* 13 July 375/2 With the head of the mogo [they] will crack the bones of animals for marrow.

Mogol(l, Mogor, obs. forms of MOGUL.

Mogoson, obs. form of MOCCASIN.

‖ **Mogra** (mō·gră). Forms: 7 mogera, 8–9 mogree, 9 mohra, moogree, morgree, moghra, mogra. [Hindī *mōgrā*.] The Arabian jasmine, *Jasminum Sambac*. Also *attrib.*

1662 J. DAVIES tr. *Mandelslo's Trav.* 86 There is almost no Flower but is sought after more for its colour then scent: for though those they call Mogera and Scampi have a good smell, yet [etc.]. 1757 J. H. GROSE *Voy. E. Indies* 229 A necklace..composed of flowers strung together, they call mogrees, something resembling Spanish double jessamy. 1813 J. FORBES *Oriental Mem.* III. 268 A sofa..adorned with wreathes of mogrees. 1834 MEGWIN *Angler in Wales* II. 317 The mogra-wreaths about his neck entwined, Those flowers the emblems of as pure a mind. 1879 E. ARNOLD *Lt. Asia* IV. 107 The Suddha Devas..Plucked the red mohra-flowers. 1891 *Syd. Soc. Lex., Moogree flowers.* 1893 *Pall Mall G.* 23 Dec. 2/1 They are morgree flowers. The nautch girls wear them in their hair. 1902 MISS W. DOUGHTY *Afoot through Kashmir Valleys* xi. 143 From off the island bowers Come scents of moghra trees in bloom.

Mograbi(a)n, Mogrebbin: see MAUGRABIN.

1837 *Pop. Encycl.* V. 10/2 *Mogrebbins*; Arabs of the western part of Egypt.

Mogrebee, variant of MAUGRABEE.

Moguey: see MOKI [2].

Mogul (mōgʊ·l), *sb.* and *a.* Forms: α. 6–7 Magoll, 7 Mogol(l, -ull, 8–9 Moghul, -hol, 9 Mog-, Mughal, 7- Mogul; β. 6–7 (9 from Pg.) Mogor, 7 Maghoore, Magor(e. [a. Pers. and Arab. مغل *muγal, muγul*, a mispronunciation of the native name MONGOL. The β-forms represent the Sp. and Pg. corruption *Mogor*.]

A. *sb.*

1. A Mongol or Mongolian; *spec.* in *Hist.* (*a*) A follower of Baber (a descendant of Tamerlane) who founded the Mongol empire in Hindustan in 1526; (*b*) a follower of Jenghis Khan in the 13th c.

α. 1625 PURCHAS *Pilgrims* I. 267 The Gouernour of Surat and the Gouernours brother of Cambaya, sent a Mogoll vnto me with a present of refreshing. 1662 J. DAVIES tr. *Mandelslo's Trav.* 82 The Mogul's.., who eame out of great Tartary, are good Natur'd, mild, discreet, civil [etc.]. 1841 ELPHINSTONE *Hist. Ind.* I. App. II. 433 There were Scythian irruptions into India before those of the Moguls under Chengiz Khán. 1843 W. MILES tr. *Hist. Hydur Naik* 317 The besieged Naik..had killed a great many of the Moghuls. 1874 L. J. TROTTER *Hist. Ind.* III. vii. 160 Driven out of the province he had hoped to reconquer for the Moghals, Abhi Singh..retired into his own country. 1886 YULE & BURNELL *Gloss. Anglo-Ind.* s.v., Among the Mahommedans of S. India the *Moguls* or *Mughals* constitute a strongly marked caste.

β. 1601 R. JOHNSON *Kingd. & Commw.* (1603) 179 In Cambaia it selfe, where the Mogors are of such fearefull puissance, liue the Resbuti.

†**b.** *Mogul's breeches*: ? a sort of long drawers or pyjamas. *Obs.*

a 1625 FLETCHER, etc. *Fair Maid Inn* IV. ii, Oh let him have his shirt on, and his Mogols breeches, here are women ith' house.

2. *The Great* or *Grand Mogul*, also shortened to *the Mogul*: the common designation among Europeans of the emperor of Delhi, whose empire at one time included most of Hindustan; the last nominal emperor was dethroned in 1857.

α. 1588 HICKOCK tr. *Frederick's Voy.* 6 Twelue yeares agoe the great Magoll a More king of Agray and Delay..became the gouernour of all..Cambaia. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 542 The Mogol or Mogor. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 29 These Moguls or Emperours of East India. 1710 ADDISON *Whig Exam.* No. 5 P 4 Turks and Indians, who have no laws above the Will of a Grand Signior or a Mogul. *c* 1796 T. TWINING *Trav. Amer.* (1894) 92 When I was at Dehli the Great Moghol..allowed me..to have his name and the date of my reception at his Court engraved on some personal ornament. 1840 DICKENS *Barn. Rudge* iii, But then he awoke out of a dream about picking a lock in the stomach of the Great Mogul. 1876 BANCROFT *Hist. U. S.* III. i. 11 The empire of the Great Mogul.

β. 1588 PARKE tr. *Mendoza's Hist. China* 407 The grand Tartar, or Mogor. *c* 1591 FITCH in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1599) II. i. 254 The people..call him The great Mogor. 1615 *Stow's Ann.* 945 The great Maghoore whome some corruptly call Mogall. *c* 1645 HOWELL *Lett., The Vote* (1650) II. 128 That she may prize his royall favour more Than all the wares fetch'd from the Great Mogor! 1880 R. F. BURTON tr. *Camoens' Lusiad* x. II. 384 The Grand Mogor.

b. *transf.* A great personage; an autocratic ruler.

1678 DRYDEN *Kind Keeper* IV. i, Mr. Limberham is the Mogol of the next Mansion.

3. The name of a kind of plum.

1718 MRS. EALES *Receipts* 29 The great white Mogul makes a fine black Plum. 1731 MILLER *Gard. Dict.* s.v. *Prunus*, White Imperial, Bonum Magnum; white Holland or Mogul Plum. 1845 Miss ACTON *Mod. Cookery* 483 Preserve of the Magnum Bonum, or Mogul plum.

4. In full *mogul engine, locomotive*: A locomotive of a peculiar type built for hauling heavy trains.

1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl. s.v., The *Mogul* is generally accepted as a type of engine especially adapted to the economical working of heavy-freight traffic. *Ibid.* fig. 1756 Mogul Locomotive. 1885 *Iron* 25 Sept. 281/3 The 'Mogul' engine.

5. *pl.* Playing cards of the best quality (see quots.).

1842 *Bradshaw's Jrnl.* 16 Apr. 371/2 The best cards are called Moguls. 1866 *Stationer & Fancy Trades Reg.* 1 Sept. 939 The different qualities of cards are distinguished as Moguls, Harry's, Highlanders, and Merry Andrews. 1867 *Philol. Soc. Trans.* 71 *Moguls*, so called from the device on the wrappers used for this particular sort of cards; the device being a fancy sketch or picture of the Great Mogul.

B. *adj.* Of, pertaining or relating to, the Moguls, or the Mongol empire in India.

1617 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (ed. 3) 609 Wee might seeme to haue spoken sufficiently of the Cambayans alreadie, in our former Mogoll-Relations. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* II. (Globe) 568 We thought our selves a Match for the whole ten thousand Mogul Tartars. 1722 tr. *Petis de la Croix's Hist. Genghiz Khan* I. i. 7 Every Mogul Family..were accustom'd the first Day of the Year to celebrate a Feast. 1788 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* lxv. VI. 332 Memorials in the Mogul or Persian language. *Ibid.* 337 In the Mogul empire of the north. 1858 J. B. NORTON *Topics* 38 The old Mogul dynasty. 1903 *Blackw. Mag.* Mar. 317/2 It was here that the later Moghul emperors held their daily court.

Hence †**Mogulish** *a.* = MOGUL *a.*

1719 J. T. PHILIPPS tr. *Thirty-four Confer.* 331 His two Sons..undertook to defeat all the Mogulish Army.

Moguntine (mɒgʊ·ntin), *a.* [f. L. *Moguntia*, ancient name of Mainz.] Of or pertaining to the city of Mainz in Germany (see quots.).

1641 (*title*) Looke about You.—The Plot of Contzen, the Moguntine Jesuite, to cheate a Church of the Religion established therein. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr., Moguntine*, belonging to Moguntia or Mentz a City in Germany, where Printing was first invented by John Gutenburg an. 1440. 1775 ASH, *Moguntine*,..belonging to the art of printing. [In recent Dicts.]

‖ **Moha** (mō·hă). Also mohar. [Of obscure origin; in Fr. *moha de Hongrie*.] A variety of Italian millet.

1855 OGILVIE Suppl., *Moha*. 1864 *Chamb. Encycl.* VI. 461/1 German Millet, or Mohar (*Setaria Germanica*). 1866 *Treas. Bot.*, Moha, *Setaria italica*.

Mohair (mōʊ·hēɔi). Forms: 6 mocayare, moochary, mockaire, 7 mohaire, moher, moehair, mowhayre, 7–8 moyhair, mowhair, 7- mohair. [Ultimately a. Arabic مخيّر *muχayyar* cloth of goats' hair (lit. 'select, choice', pa. pple. of *χayyara* to choose). The history of the forms is obscure, the word having come into Eng. by more than one channel. The present form is prob. due to association with *hair*.

The It. *moccaiaro* (*moccaiorro, moccaiardo*) and F. *mocayart, moncayart*, which come nearest of the European forms to the Arabic original, were early applied to textile fabrics of different material (see MOCKADO). In the 17th c. the

Eng. word was adopted in Fr. as *mouaire*, now spelt *moire* (see MOIRE); the Sp. *moarre*, *mucr*, It. *moarro*, G. *mohr*, seem to be adoptions from Fr.

1. Properly, a kind of fine camlet made from the hair of the Angora goat, sometimes watered. Also, yarn made from this hair. In modern use often applied to a fabric in imitation of the true mohair, in the 18th c. wholly of silk, but now usually of a mixture of wool and cotton. *Mohair glacé*: see quot. 1884.

1570 G. CAMPION in *Hakluyt's Voy.* (1599) II. I. 127 There is also cotten wooll,..chamlets, mocayares. 1584 W. BARRET *ibid.* 273 Cloth of Wooll, Karsies, Mockaires, Chamlets, and all sortes of Silke. 1588 T. HICKOCK tr. *C. Frederick's Voy.* 6 b, Gerdles of wooll and bumbast black and red like to Moocharies. 1619 PURCHAS *Microcosmus* xxvii. 269 The new devised names of Stuffes and Colours, .. Veletato, Philizello,..Mohaire. 1640 in Noorthouck *London* (1773) 840/2 Yarn, grogram or moyhair, the cwt. qt. five score 1*s.* 6*d.* 1641 Silke-mohers [see DURETTO]. 1668 T. ROKEBY *Let.* 28 Sept. in *Mem.* (Surtees) 16 A mohaire with a small weale [for a gown]. 1702–3 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) II. 211 Crimson Morella mohair for the Curtains. 1727 W. MATHER *Yng. Man's Comp.* 409 They import..Camblets, Grograms, Grogram Yarn, Mohairs of Angor. 1735 POPE *Ep. Lady* 170 She..Observes how much a Chintz exceeds Mohair. 1742–3 MRS. DELANY in *Life & Corr.* (1861) II. 204 Let my room be hung with mohair instead of paper. 1831 A. S. MACKENZIE *Year in Spain* II. 214 A petticoat of mohair. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl., *Mohair Glacé*, a goat's-hair and cotton French dress goods. 1884 *West. Daily Press* 13 June 7/6 Mohair is a more ordinary material, serving for early morning outdoor wear.

2. A garment made of such material.

1673 LD. FOUNTAINHALL in M. P. Brown *Suppl. Decis.* (1826) III. 3, I have observed the most part of people to have ventured upon moyhairs. 1751 CHESTERF. *Lett.* (1792) III. 166, I could find no mohairs in London, that exactly answered that description. 1861 *Eng. Wom. Dom. Mag.* III. 69/1 A grey mohair is very pretty made with two fluted flounces at the bottom of the skirt.

3. The hair of the Angora goat.

1753 HANWAY *Trav.* I. v. lxx. 317 *note*, Mohair from turkey..is from 2*s.* 6*d.* to 12*s.* the pound. 1878 *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 544/2 The first importation of mohair from the Cape [of Good Hope], made in 1862, amounted to 1036 lb. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 261/2 The woolly hair called mohair, which forms the fleece of the Angora goat.

4. *slang.* A soldier's nickname for a civilian.

1785 GROSE *Dict. Vulgar T., Mohair*, a man in the civil line, a townsman, or tradesman, a military term, from the mohair buttons worn by persons of those descriptions or any others not in the army; the buttons of military men being always of metal. [1822 SCOTT *Nigel* xii, 'I need not speak of it, my lord,' said the man of war; 'the world knows it—all, perhaps, but the men of mohair—the poor sneaking citizens of London.']

5. *attrib.* or *adj.* Composed or consisting of mohair.

1640 GLAPTHORNE *Hollander* III. Wks. 1874 I. 113 Moehair peticoates. 1642 *Rates Merchandize* 59 Camel or Mo-hair yarne. 1674 WOOD *Life* (O.H.S.) II. 300 License was given to gent. commoners and commoners to weare silk and mohaire round caps. *a* 1756 MRS. HAYWOOD *New Present* (1771) 259 Mohair-stuffs may be managed in the same way. 1778 *Eng. Gazetteer* (ed. 2) s. v. *Macclesfield*, Its chief manufacture is mohair buttons. 1861 W. FAIRBAIRN *Addr. to Bril. Assoc.* p. lxi, Fancy or mixed goods from alpaca and mohair wool.

b. *spec. Comb.*: **mohair braid**, 'worsted braid used for binding garments' (*Cent. Dict.* 1890); **mohair goat**, the Angora goat; **mohair lustre** (see quot.); **mohair-shell** (see quot.).

1882 CAULFEILD & SAWARD *Dict. Needlework* 350 *Mohair or Russian Braids. 1880 *Daily News* 17 Sept. 6/2 The Angora or *mohair goat. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl., **Mohair Luster*, a black dress goods, resembling alpaca, consisting of mohair woven with cotton warp. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.*, *Moire*,..the *mohair shell,..a peculiar species of voluta, which seems of a closely and finely reticulated texture, and resembles on the surface a piece of mohair.

Mohammed (mohæ·mĕd). Also 7 **Mahumed**, 8 **Muhammed**, 9 **Mahom(m)ed**, **Muhammad**. The name (repr. Arabic *Muḥammad*) of the founder of the Moslem religion. (See the older European form MAHOMET.)

The older forms with final *d*, which follow the early European tradition, are placed under MAHOMET; those which show recourse to the Arabic form are for convenience collected here, as explaining the diversities of form in the following adj.

1615 BESTWELL (*title*) Mohammedis impostura; that is, a discovery of the forgeries, falshoods, and impieties of Mohammed. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 36 They [*sc.* the Bannian Priests] hate Mahumed, and acknowledge one God and creatour of all things. 1706 PHILLIPS, *Mahomet* or *Muhammed*, an Arabian Impostor. 1777 J. RICHARDSON *Dict. Persian, Arab.*, etc., Dissert. p. xiii/2 The era of Mohammed. 1814 SOUTHEY *Roderick* XX. 19 The subjected West Should bow in reverence at Mahommed's name. 1891 D. A. CAMERON *Arabic-Eng. Voc.* Introd. (1892) 14 The Moslems reckon from A.D. 622, the date of the Flight ..of Mahomed from Mecca to Medina. 1896 T. P. HUGHES in *Sun* (N. Y.) May, The only correct way of spelling the word under consideration is 'Muhammad'...In writing for the press I very often use the incorrect spelling [Mohammed].

Mohammedan (mohæ·mĕdăn), *a.* and *sb.* Also 7 **Mahumedan**, 9 **Mahomedan**, **Mahommedan**, **Mohummadan**, **Mohammadan**, **Muhammadan**, **Moohummudan**. [f. MOHAMMED + -AN. Now generally substituted for the older MAHOMETAN. Cf. G. *Mohamedaner*.

The prevailing spelling is *Mohammedan*, but Orientalists sometimes use other forms, based on various modes of transliterating the name *Muḥammad*.]

A. *adj.* Of or pertaining to Mohammed, or to the religion or doctrine of Mohammed.

1681 *Moores Baffled* 23 The Mahumedan Law. 1776 MICKLE tr. *Camoens' Lusiad* VII. 313 *note*, They have long submitted to the oppressions of a few Arabs, their Mohammedan masters. 1832 W. IRVING *Alhambra* I. 145 Mohammedan worship. 1844 H. H. WILSON *Brit. India* I. I. i. 11 The Mohammedan kings of Delhi. 1878 A. BURNELL in *Academy* 28 Dec. 604/1 On medicine eleven Hindu books and one Muhammadan were published last year. 1880 A. RUMSEY (*title*) Moohummudan Law of Inheritance.

B. *sb.* A follower of Mohammed; a believer in the doctrine of Mohammed.

1777 J. RICHARDSON *Dict. Persian, Arab.*, etc., Dissert. p. xli/1 Many of the Mohammedans having a custom of carrying about them verses or chapters of the Alcoran, by way of preservatives or charms. 1841 LANE *Arab. Nts.* I. 62 A person..does not..become free, unless he flies from a foreign infidel master to a Muslim country, and there becomes a Mohammadan. 1878 A. BURNELL in *Academy* 28 Dec. 604/1 The sacred books of the Hindus and Muhammadans. 1888 S. S. ALLNUTT in *Cambr. Rev.* p. lxii, The orthodox Muhammedan in India would disdain [etc.].

Mohammedanism (mohæ·mĕdăniz'm). Also 9 **Muhammedanism**, **Mahommedanism**. [f. prec. + -ISM.] The Mohammedan religion.

1815 *Tweddell's Rem.* 329 *note*, Mohammedanism purified from the corruption and degeneracy into which it is pretended, that the genuine faith has lapsed. 1817 C. MILLS (*title*) History of Muhammedanism. 1860 MAX MÜLLER *Chips* (1880) I. xv. 372 Mohammedanism..is a Semitic religion.

Mohammedanize (mohæ·mĕdănəiz), *v.* [f. MOHAMMEDAN + -IZE.] *trans.* To convert to Mohammedanism; to make conformable to the principles and rites of the Mohammedans.

1828–32 in WEBSTER. 1903 *United Free Ch. Mission. Rec.* Apr. 160/1 Aboriginals who were Mohammedanized during the Mohammedan dynasty.

Hence **Moha·mmedaniza·tion**, **Moha·mmedanizing** *vbl. sb.*, converting to Mohammedanism.

1875 WHITNEY *Life Lang.* xii. 231 After the Mohammedanizing of Persia.

† **Moha·mmedism.** *Obs.* In 7 Mahumedism(e. [f. MOHAMMED + -ISM. Cf. MAHOMETISM.] = MOHAMMEDANISM.

1614 SELDEN *Titles Hon.* 105 An African expressly affirms that in Mahumedisme were anciently lxxii. Sects, and now but two. 1788 GLADWIN *Hist. Hindostan* I. 49 Mohammedism first appeared in Cashmeer about the commencement of the eighth century of the Hegira. 1850 F. W. NEWMAN *Phases* 161 Mohammedism..conquers those Pagan creeds which are morally inferior to it.

Mohammedize (mohæ·mĕdəiz), *v.* [f. MOHAMMED + -IZE.] = MOHAMMEDANIZE. Hence **Moha·mmediza·tion.**

1847 in WEBSTER; and in later Dicts. 1906 *Fortn. Rev.* Feb. 366 The Mohammedisation of the Middle East.

† **Moha·mmedry.** *Obs. rare.* [f. MOHAMMED + -RY. Cf. MAHOMETRY.] = MOHAMMEDANISM.

1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 378 The Persians are a kinde of..Puritans in their impure Muhammedrie.

Mohaque, Mohar: see MOHAWK, MOHA.

‖ **Moharra** (mohæ·rä). Also **mojarra**. [American Sp. *mojarra*.] **a.** Any fish of the family *Gerridæ*, common on the coasts of the Southern United States. **b.** A Californian surf-fish, *Hypsurus caryi*. **c.** The cow-pilot, *Pomacentrus saxatilis*.

1845 STORER *Synopsis Fishes N. Amer.* in *Mem. Amer. Acad.* II. 336 Gerres Brasilianus, Cuv...Called, at Porto Rico, 'Moharra'. 1882 JORDAN & GILBERT *Synopsis Fishes N. Amer.* 611 *Pomacentrus saxatilis*..Cow-pilot; Mojarra. 1884 JORDAN in Goode, etc. *Nat. Hist. Aquat. Anim.* 276 The names 'Minny', 'Sparada', and 'Moharra', are also applied to the smaller species [of 'perches'] northward. *Ibid.* 278 *Hypsurus Caryi*..is known as 'Moharra' to the Portuguese at Monterey; elsewhere it is a 'Perch'. *Ibid.* 279 The Moharra Family—*Gerridæ*.

‖ **Moharram** (mohə·rŭm). Also 7 **muharam**, 8 **muharrem**, 8–9 **mohurrum**, 9 **moharran**, **muharram**. [Arab. *muḥarram* (lit. 'sacred').] **a.** The first month of the Mohammedan year, containing thirty days. **b.** An annual celebration in this month; originally a period of mourning observed by the Shiites in memory of the 'martyrdom' of Hasan and Husain; in India the ceremonies are now rather of a festal than a mournful character, and are shared in not only by Mohammedans generally, but even by many Hindus.

[1615 BEDWELL *Arab. Trudg.* N 1 b, *Moharram*, *Muharam*,..the name of the first moneth of the Arabian Kalendar, containing 30 daies.] 1861 J. T. WHEELER *Madras in Olden Time* II. 347 The time came round for the Mussulman feast called 'Hossein Jossen'..better known as the Mohurrum. 1882 FLOYER *Unexpl. Baluchistan* 80 The preparations for the Moharram were extensive.

Mohaut, variant of MAHOE 1.

1845 LINDLEY *Veg. Kingd.* (1846) 369 The plant [*sc.* Hibiscus] is called Mohoe or Mohaut.

Mohaut, variant of MAHOUT, elephant-driver.

Mohawk (mō·uhŏk). Also 7–8 **Mohock**, **Mohauk**; and in various forms purporting to represent the native pronunciation, as 7 **Mowha(w)ke**, **Mohaque**, **Mauquawog**, **Maquaw**, **Moqua**, 7–8 **Maqua**. [North American Indian. The spelling MOHOCK, q. v., is now appropriated to a transferred use that survives only *Hist.*]

1. One of a tribe of North American Indians, formerly supposed to be cannibals.

The Mohawks originally inhabited the neighbourhood of the Mohawk River, in what is now the State of New York. They were the most powerful of the Six Nations or Iroquois.

1638 P. VINCENT *True Relat.* in *Mass. Hist. Coll.* Ser. III. (1837) VI. 40 He went with forty men to the Mohocks, which are cruel, bloody cannibals. 1651 *Plymouth Col. Rec.* (1855) II. 169 A request was made the last winter by a messenger from the French at Canada to assist them against the Mowhakes. 1676 I. MATHER *K. Philip's War* (1862) 168 The Indian affirmed, that those Indians who are known by the name of *Mauquawogs* (or *Mohawks*, i.e. Man eaters) had lately fallen upon Philip. 1693 (*title*) A Narrative of an Attempt made by the French of Canada upon the Mohaque's Country. 1709 S. SEWALL *Diary* 9 Aug., Col. Hobbey's Regiment musters, and the Govr. orders the Maquas to be there and see them. 1778 WOLCOT (P. Pindar) *Poetic Epist. Reviewers* Wks. 1816 I. 3 With hatchets, scalping knives in shape of pens, To bid, like Mohocks, hapless authors die. 1819 REES *Cycl.* XXIII, *Mohawks*, an Indian Nation, acknowledged by the other tribes of the Six Nations to be the true old heads of the confederacy. 1845 *Encycl. Metrop.* XXI. 114/2 The appearance of a single Mohawk on the hills was sufficient to throw into alarm the Indian villages in New England.

b. *Mohawks' corn*: a variety of maize.

1678 WINTHORP in *Phil. Trans.* XII. 1065 In the pure Northerly parts, they have a peculiar kind called Mohauks Corn, which though planted in June, will be ripe in season.

2. The language of the Mohawks.

1754 EDWARDS *Freed. Will* IV. xiii. (1831) 404 The question is not whether what is said be.. Latin, French, English or Mohawk. 1787 *Mohawk Prayer Bk.* (title-p.), A new edition, to which is added the Gospel according to St. Mark, translated into Mohawk by Captn. Joseph Brant, an Indian of the Mohawk Nation. 1873 R. BROWN *Races Mankind* I. 243 Mr. Jones expresses his belief that in Canada there are only two distinct Indian languages—the Ojebway and the Mohawk.

¶ 3. Used by mistake for AMUCK 1. *Obs.*

1772–84 *Cook's Voy.* (1790) I. 288 Most of our readers must have heard of the Mohawks, and these [the Indians of Batavia] are the people who are so denominated, from a corruption of the word amock. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XII. 439/1 If the officer takes one of these *amocks* or *mohawks* .. alive, he has a considerable reward.

4. *Skating.* (See quot. 1892.)

1880 VANDERVELL & WITHAM *Figure-Skating* (ed. 3) 80 This change..was last year introduced into the Club figures on ice, and christened by the name of 'Mohawk'. 1892 MONIER-WILLIAMS, etc. *Figure-Skating* 60 A Mohawk is simply a step or stroke from any edge in one direction to the same edge on the other foot in an opposite direction... To make an Inside forward Mohawk, the skater must [etc.].

5. *attrib.* and *adj.*, as in *Mohawk language*, *nation*, etc. **Mohawk tassel** (see quot. 1891).

1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* s. v. *Mohawks corn*, This Mokauk kind [of maiz] need not bee sown before June. 1763 WHITAKER *Serm.* 30 June (1767) 44 This Joseph is a Chief of the Mohawk Nation. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) I. 562/1 He .. spoke well the Mohock language. 1878 (*title*) Mohawk minstrels' annual of dramas, dialogues, and drolleries. 1891 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Mohawk-tassel*, the *Eupatorium purpureum*.

Mohawk, Mohdi: see MOHOCK, MAHDI.

Mohe, obs. f. MAY *v.*[1]; var. MOWE *Obs.*

Moher, obs. form of MOHAIR; variant of MOHUR.

Mohican, Mohegan (mohī·kăn, -găn), *a.* and *sb.* Also 8 **Mohigon**, **Mohickon**, 9 **Mohiccon**, **Mohigan**, **Moheecan**; also in renderings of the native form, 8 **Muhhekaneew**, 9 **Mahicanni**, **Mo-hee-con-neugh**. [From the native name.]

A. *adj.* Of or pertaining to the Mohicans.

1766 C. BEATTY *Two Months' Tour* (1768) 109 Thirty or forty of the Mohigon Indians. 1778 T. HUTCHINS *Topogr. Descr. Virginia* etc. 66 Mohickons. 1788 J. EDWARDS (*title*) Observations on the Language of the Muhhekaneew Indians. *Ibid.* 6 The analogy between the Mohegan, the Shawanee, and the Chippewan languages. 1881 *Encycl. Brit.* XII. 831/1 The Pequod and Mohegan tribes were amongst the largest and most powerful. 1884 G. SMITH *Short Hist. Chr. Missions* II. xii. 136 In 1661–63 the Moheecan Bible, the first Bible printed in America, was printed by him [*sc.* John Eliot].

B. *sb.*

1. One of a warlike tribe of North American Indians of the Algonquin stock, formerly occupying the western part of Connecticut and Massachusetts. (See also quot. 1819.) Also, the language of this tribe.

1788 J. EDWARDS *Observ. Lang. Muhhekaneew Indians* 5 They are by the Anglo-Americans called Mohegans. *Ibid.* 11 The Mohegans have no adjectives in all their language. 1819 REES *Cycl.* XXIII, *Mohiccons*, a tribe of Indians whose habitations lie on a branch of the Susquehannah... Also an Indian tribe in the N.W. territory, which inhabits near Sandusky. 1826 J. F. COOPER (*title*) The Last of the Mohicans. 1836 *Pop. Encycl.* IV. 73/2 *note*, The word *kthuwhunin*, in Mohegan. 1873 R. BROWN *Races Mankind* I. 225 The Mo-hee-con-neughs (or Mohicans) are now almost extinct.

† 2. (See quot.) *Obs.*

1848 *Tait's Mag.* May 309 A Mohican, in Cadonian phraseology, is a tremendously heavy man, who rides five or six miles [in an omnibus] for sixpence.

‖ **Moho**[1] (mō·uhō). [Maori.] An extinct rallinc bird, *Notornis Mantelli*, of New Zealand.

1848 R. TAYLOR in *Proc. Zool. Soc.* (1850) XVIII. 211 *Moho*;

Rail, colour black, said to be a wingless bird as large as a fowl ..; it is nearly exterminated by the cat. 1850 MANTELL in *Proc. Zool. Soc.* XVIII. 211 According to the native traditions, a large Rail was contemporary with the Moa...It was known to the North Islanders by the name of 'Moho'. 1865 GOULD *Handbk. Birds Austral.* II. 576 *Notornis Mantelli* Owen. Moho.

‖ **Moho** [2] (mōu·hō). [Hawaiian.] A genus of meliphagine birds peculiar to the Sandwich Islands, named in 1831 by Lesson; a bird of this genus.

[1782 W. ELLIS *Voy. Capts. Cook & Clerke* 1776-80 II. 156 A black and yellow bird called mohò.] 1890 in *Century Dict.* 1904 *Blackw. Mag.* Feb. 245 This moho feeds much also on the nectar of flowers.

Moho, variant of MAHOE [1].

Mohock (mōu·hŏk). *Hist.* Also 8 **mohack,** 9 **mohawk.** [Transferred use of *mohock* MOHAWK; now differentiated in spelling.]

1. One of a class of aristocratic ruffians who infested the streets of London at night in the early years of the 18th century.

1711-12 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 8 Mar., Did I tell you of a race of rakes, called the Mohocks, that play the devil about this town every night, slit people's noses, and beat them, etc. 1711-12 HEARNE *Collect.* 30 Mar. (O. H. S.) III. 326 A certain barbarous Sect of Persons arose lately in London who distinguish themselves by the Name of Mohocks. 1717 PRIOR *Alma* III. 231 But give him Port, and potent Sack; From Milk-sop He starts up Mohack. 1758 CHESTERF. *Let.* 23 May *Misc. Wks.* (1777) II. 499 The other [lie] that Prince Eugene intended to murder lord Oxford, by employing a set of people called Mohocks, which society, by the way, never existed. 1789 M. MADAN tr. *Persius* (1795) III *note,* Nero .. was a kind of Mohock in his diversions. 1829 LYTTON *Devereux* II. xi, A large band of those young men, who, under the name of Mohawks scoured the town nightly. 1894 J. KNIGHT *Garrick* vii. 111 Garrick [had] an experience of stage mohocks.

† **2.** (Meaning unknown.)

1772 GRAVES *Spir. Quix.* x. xxiv, Bob Tench..had always a little phial of Fryar's Balsam in his pocket, some..court-plaister, as well as his cork-screw and mohock.

3. *attrib.* and *adj.*

1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 324 ₱ 1 A Set of Men .. who have lately erected themselves into a Nocturnal Fraternity, under the Title of the *Mohock Club.* 1882 *Punch* 18 Feb. 83/2 The Mohock Revival.

Hence **Mo·hock** *v. trans.*, to assail or maltreat in the manner of Mohocks; **Mo·hockism,** the practices or the spirit of the Mohocks.

1718 *Entertainer* No. 12. 76 We love Mischief for Mischief's sake, and can .. break windows, .. knock down Old Women, .. and Mohock the Tories. 1882 *Punch* 18 Feb. 83/2 That ancient form of ruffianism known as Mohockism appears to have broken out with more than ancient severity in various parts of London. 1883 L. S. WINGFIELD *A. Rowe* I. ii. 40 He exceeded in luxury and Mohockism that pair of immortal rowdies.

Mohock, obs. form of MOHAWK.

Mohoe, variant of MAHOE [1].

Mohogena, -g(g)on(e)y, obs. ff. MAHOGANY.

Mohol(l, obs. variant forms of MAHAL.

Mohor, Mohout, var. ff. MHORR, MAHOUT.

Mohr, variant of MHORR.

1831 TRELAWNY *Adv. Younger Son* III. 39 Presently a mohr of the elk-kind burst cover.

Mohr, Mohra, var. forms of MOHUR, MOGRA.

Mohsine (mōu·sain). *Min.* [Named after Friedrich *Mohs* a German mineralogist (1773-1839): see -INE [4].] = LÖLLINGITE.

1843 E. J. CHAPMAN *Pract. Min.* 138 Mohsine. .. This substance having no general name, I have bestowed upon it that of the able and celebrated Mineralogist by whom it was first distinguished.

Mohsite (mōu·sait). *Min.* [Formed as prec. + -ITE.] = ILMENITE.

1827 A. LEVY in *Phil. Mag.* Ser. II. I. 221 Some crystals belonging .. to a new species, which .. I propose to call Mohsite, in honour of Professor Mohs. 1837 DANA *Min.* 385 Mohsite..is supposed to have come from Dauphiny.

Moht, obs. form of *might,* pa. pple. of MAY *v.* [1]

Mohummadan, variant of MOHAMMEDAN.

‖ **Mohur** (mōu·həɹ). Forms: 7 **moor,** 8 **muhr, mohr,** 9 **moher, more, muhar,** 8- **mohur.** [Pers. مهر *muhr,* primarily seal, seal ring, cogn. w. Skr. *mudrā* seal.] A gold coin, originally Persian, but used in India from the 16th c. onward. Now, 'the official name of the chief gold coin of British India' (Yule), weighing 180 grains troy, and containing 165 grains of pure gold; its value is 15 rupees. Now usually *gold mohur.*

1696 OVINGTON *Voy. Suratt* 219 The Gold Moor, or Gold Roupie, is valued generally at 14 of Silver; and the Silver Roupie at Two Shillings Three Pence. 1753 HANWAY *Trav.* (1762) I. v. lxiv. 293 Muhr ashressie, or treble ducat of 6 mildenaer Value 6 [English crowns]. 1763 SCRAFTON *Indostan* (1770) 218 The Colonel .. sent .. a present of five hundred gold mohurs [*foot-note,* about £1000 sterling]. 1776 *Trial Jos. Fowke,* etc. *Depos.* 17/1, 15000 rupees in mohurs. 1796 JANE AUSTEN *Sense & Sens.* (1879) 42 Nabobs, gold mohrs, and palanquins. 1801 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) Suppl. II. 265/1 *Moher,* in Bengal, a gold coin, worth about 33 shillings. 1827 D. JOHNSON *Ind. Field Sports* 175 A Gold Mohur (value two pounds). 1831 TRELAWNY *Adv. Younger Son* lxvii, I contrived to realize a few bags of gold mores, and rupees. 1849 E. B. EASTWICK *Dry Leaves* 201 An offering of one hundred gold muhars (one hundred and fifty pounds).

attrib. 1859 LANG *Wand. India* 9 The good players are playing high. Gold mohur points.

Mohurrum, variant of MOHARRAM.

Mohw, obs. variant of MAUGH (a male relative).

Mohwa, variant of MAHWA.

Moich, see MOCH *a.* Sc.

Moicher, obs. variant of MICHER.

1562 COOPER *Answ. Def. Truth* 122 They be self will moichers, they be not diligent scholers, that leauyng their maisters teachyng will folow their owne interpretacions.

Moide, obs. form of MUID.

Moider (moi·dəɹ), *v. dial.* Also 7- moyder, moidher, 8 moyther, 9 moither, moidur, -ar, mither, mythe r, meyther, meither. [Of obscure origin; possibly related to MUDDLE *v.*]

1. *trans.* 'To confuse, perplex, bewilder; to worry, bother, fatigue' (E. D. D.). Chiefly *pass.* and *refl.* Also in *passive,* to be overcome or stupefied with heat.

1674 RAY *N. C. Words* 33 Welly *Moyder'd*: almost Distracted. *Cheshire.* 1705 [T. WALKER] *Wit of a Woman* III. 29, I've been strangely moyder'd e're sin 'bout this same News oth' French King. I conno believe 'tis true. 1787 GROSE *Provinc. Gloss., Moider,* to puzzle, perplex. N. *Ibid., Moytherd,* confounded, tired out. Glouc. 1794 J. WILLIAMS *Crying Epistle,* etc. 20 Sure Common Sense is moider'd. 1824 MACTAGGART *Gallovid. Encycl.* 349 One whose intellects are rendered useless, by being in the habit of taking spirituous liquors to excess, is said to be *moidert.* 1848 MRS. GASKELL *Mary Barton* vi. I. 90 Don't mither your mammy for bread, here's a chap as has got some for you. 1860 GEO. ELIOT *Mill on Fl.* III. viii, Scolding her for 'moithering' herself and going about all day without changing her cap. 1863 MRS. GASKELL *Sylvia's L.* II. ix. 156 She's fairly moithered wi' heat an' noise. 1880 MISS BROUGHTON *Sec. Th.* II. v, Moidering his brain with temperance meetings, .. temperance papers, and such trash. 1900 M. O'NEILL *Songs Glens Antrim* 4 This livin' nir is moithered wi' the bummin' o' the bees.

b. (See quots.)

1847 HALLIWELL, *Mither,* to muffle up; to smother; to encumber. *Northampt.* 1888 *Sheffield Gloss.* s.v., A Derbyshire woman said that a child was 'mythered up in clothing' when it was too much wrapped up.

2. *intr.* 'To talk incoherently or foolishly; to be delirious, to wander or ramble in one's mind'; also, 'to wander *about* aimlessly or confusedly' (E. D. D.).

1839 *Hereford. Gloss., Moither,* .. to be weak in mind. 1879 MISS JACKSON *Shropshire Word-bk., Moither, mither,* .. to talk incoherently—to ramble, as in feverish sleep, or delirium. Com. 'I thought the poor child wuz gwein to 'ave a faiver, fur 'er burnt like a coal, an' moithered all night'.

3. *intr.* 'To labour very hard' (Halliwell). Also quasi-*trans.* with *away.*

1828 [CARR] *Craven Gloss.* I. 328 *Moider,* ..to labour hard, to toil. 1846 BROCKETT *N. C. Words.* 18.. *Cornh. Mag.* (Ogilvie 1882), She lived only to scrape and hoard, moidering away her loveless life in the futile energies and sordid aims of a miser's wretched pleasure.

Hence **Moi·dered** *ppl. a.*, confused, stupefied; **Moi·dering** *ppl. a.*, stupefying, bewildering.

1674 Moidered [cf. MOIDER *v.*]. 1796 MARY LAMB *Let. to Coleridge* 17 Oct. in *Final Mem. C. Lamb* ii. 205 Polly, what are those poor crazy moythered brains of yours thinking of nlways? 1839 *Hereford. Gloss., Moithering* or *Moithered,* confused, silly; also lightheaded or delirious. 1859 R. F. BURTON *Centr. Afr.* in *Jrnl. Geog. Soc.* XXIX. 163 After midday it would be difficult..to find a chief without the thick voice,..and the moidered manners, which prove that he is either drinking or drunk. 1896 J. K. SNOWDEN *Web of old Weaver* vii. (1897) 78 It was out of these moidering talks with my mother that I gathered nerve enough [etc.]. *a* 1894 J. SHAW in R. Wallace *Country Schoolm.* (1899) 350 *Moidart,* stupid.

Moidore (mol·dōəɹ). Also 8 moyodore, moedor(e, moydor(e, moider, moidor. [Corruptly a. Pg. *moeda d'ouro* lit. 'gold coin' (*moeda* MONEY, *ouro*:—L. *aurum* gold).] A gold coin of Portugal, current in England in the first half of the 18th century (see quot. 1717). In later use, the word survived as a name for the sum of 27*s.*, which was approximately the value of the coin.

[1702 in W. A. Shaw *Sel. Tracts Eng. Monet. Hist.* (1896) 166 In Portugal the Moeda is recconed at ten Crusados or 28*s.* 7*d.*] 1711-12 NEWTON *Ibid.* 178 The Moydores of Portugal, one with another, as they are brought hither by the Merchant..in England are worth 27*s.* 8*d.* Half-penny. 1717 — in Ld. Aldenham *Colloq. on Currency* (1900) 442 Some years ago the Portugal moedors were received in the west of England at 28*s.* apiece; upon notice from the mint that they were worth only about 27*s.* 7*d.*, the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury ordered their receivers of taxes to take them at no more than 27*s.* 6*d.* 1727-41 CHAMBERS *Cycl., Moidore, Moedore,* or *Moeda,* a gold coin, struck, and current in Portugal. 1732 MRS. DELANY in *Life & Corr.* (1861) I. 325 The gentlemen subscribed two moiders a piece, and have two tickets each night to dispose of to ladies. 1749 FRANKLIN *Let.* Wks. 1887 II. 153, I send you also a moidore enclosed, which please to accept towards chaise hire. 1775 *Mass. Spy* (U.S.) 17 Mar. 4/3 Lost, a Sum of Money, all in Gold, viz. 3 Moidores, 1 Four Pistol piece, and 1 Half Guinea. 1860 TROLLOPE *Framley P.* viii, To pay back the dowager's hard moidores. 1874 L. STEPHEN *Hours in Library* I. 30 Tangible subjects which he can weigh and measure and reduce to moidores and pistoles.

Moien, obs. form of MOYEN.

Moienaunt, variant of MOYENANT *Obs.*

Moienne: see MOYEN (kind of cannon).

Moiet, dial. variant of MOTE *sb.* [1]

Moiety (moi·ĕti). Forms: 4-5 **moite,** 5 **moitee,** 5-6 **moyte**(e, 5-7 **moytie,** 6 **moyity,** 6-7 **moitie, moyetie, moietie,** 6-8 **moity,** 7 **moyitie, moyety, mojety,** 6- **moiety.** [ME. *moite, moitie,* a. OF. *moité, moitié,* earlier *meité, meitiet* (mod.F. *moitié*) = Pr. *meitat-z, mitat-z* (Gascon *maytat*), Sp. *mitad,* Pg. *mitade,* It. *metà* (and in learned form *medietà*):—L. *medietātem* middle point, in late L. half, f. *medius* middle: see MEDIUM. Cf. MEDIETY.]

1. A half, one of two equal parts: **a.** in legal or quasi-legal use.

1444 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 104/2 Ye to have the oone moite yerof, and he that espieth..hit forfaitable, to have the oyer moite. 1545 *Test. Ebor.* VI. 224 The moitie or half pairte of the mannor. 1592 KYD *Sp. Trag.* II. iii. 16 She is daughter and halfe heire Vnto our brother heere, Don Ciprian, And shall enioy the moitie of his land. 1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 497 Mandron..offered him the one moitie of his country and city. *a* 1674 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* XI. § 176 To submit others to pay..a full moiety of all they were worth. *a* 1715 BURNET *Own Time* II. (1724) I. 214 All..were required to bring in one moiety of their fines: But the other moiety was forgiven those who took the Declaration. 1838 W. BELL *Dict. Law Scot.* s.v., A sum payable in moieties is payable in two equal shares, though sometimes, erroneously, the term is applied to a sum payable in two or three different parts or instalments.

b. *gen.*

c 1475 *Partenay* 5936 Thys monstre with teeth the swerd ther taking, In moitees to Forthwith it breking. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. xii. 31 They..were depriv'd Of their proud beautie, and th'one moyity Transformd to fish for their bold surquedry. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 164 A man at three yeares of age, is come to one moitie of his growth and height. 1641 MILTON *Reform.* II. Wks. 1851 III. 57, I know they will not turn the beame or equall Judgement the moity of a scruple. 1672 MARVELL *Reh. Transp.* I. 119 Let half of them be School-Divines and the other moity Systematical. 1776 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* x. *ad fin.*, We might suspect, that war, pestilence, and famine, had consumed, in a few years, the moiety of the human species. 1799 WASHINGTON *Lett.* Writ. 1893 XIV. 196 On this Estate I have more working negros by a full moiety, than can be employed to any advantage in the farming system. 1835-6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 172/2 An earthworm cut in two..will continue to live, and each moiety will become..a perfect animal. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 850 Hereditary taint may be traced in a very large proportion of alcoholic cases—it is said in nearly a moiety.

2. *loosely.* One of two (occasionally more) parts (not necessarily equal) into which something is divided; † one's share or portion.

1596 SHAKS. *1 Hen. VII,* III. i. 96 Me thinks my Moity, North from Burton here, In quantitie equals not one of yours. 1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* v. lxxvii. § 2 Saint Paul him selfe dividing the body of the Church of Christ into two moieties nameth the one part ἰδιώτας. *c* 1600 SHAKS. *Sonn.* xlvi, By their verdict is determined The cleere eyes moyitie and the deare hearts part. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* II. iv. § 5 Crowned Monarch of the Southern and greater Moiety of this Island. *a* 1674 CLARENDON *Surv. Leviath.* (1676) 261 The greater moiety of the world being..mere Henthen men and Pagans. 1838 [see 1]. 1854 HUXLEY *Lay Serm.* v. (1870) 98 Physiological Science .. Its subject-matter is a large moiety of the universe.

† **b.** *contextually.* A small part; a lesser share, portion, or quantity. *Obs.*

1593 SHAKS. *Lucr.* Ded., The loue I dedicate to your Lordship is without end: wherof this Pamphlet without beginning is but a superfluous Moity. 1605 *1st Pt. Ieronimo* III. i, Methinks no moyetie, not one little thought Of them .. But should raise spleens big as a cannon bullet Within your bosomes. 1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* II. iii. 8 Say that she were gone,..a moity of my rest Might come to me againe. 1650 H. MORE *Observ.* in *Enthus. Tri.*, etc. (1656) 144 All that will be left of this learned discourse of yours, will prove such a small moitie of that knowledge your presumptuous mind conceited to be in her self, that [etc.]. 1650 FULLER *Pisgah* I. xii. 39 Who knows not, but that the word Moity .. importeth the just midst, and true half of a thing, though *small moity* in ordinary discourse is taken for any Canton, or small portion.

3. *jocularly.* One's 'better half', i.e. a wife (rarely, a husband). (So F. *moitié.*) ? *Obs.*

1737 [S. BERINGTON] *G. de Lucca's Mem.* (1738) 212 It was to deprive the Husband of the voluntary Love of his Moiety. 1770 *Lady's Mag.* I. 228/2 Among the grievances against which Mr. Bustle exclaims abroad, is the excessive neatness of his notable moiety. 1829 LAMB in *Gem* 25 The Lady with a skeleton moiety in the old print.

4. *Anthropology.* Each of the two primary classes into which an Australian tribe is divided.

1888 HOWITT in *Jrnl. Anthrop. Inst.* XVIII. 39 There are in such cases totems which each apply to one moiety of the tribe. 1899 B. SPENCER & GILLEN *Native Tribes Centr. Austral.* ii. 70 The four [sub-classes] are Panunga and Bulthara, Purula and Kumara; the first two forming one moiety of the tribe, and the latter two forming another.

Moif(f, obs. Sc. forms of MOVE.

Moighte, obs. form of MITE [1] (an insect).

Moignon, variant of MONION *Obs.*

Moil (moil), *sb.* [1] *arch.* and *dial.* Also 7 **moyle,** 7, 9 **moile,** 9 **mooil, mwoil, mwile.** [f. MOIL *v.*]

1. Toil, labour, drudgery; freq. in *toil and moil.*

1612 AINSWORTH *Annot. Ps.* vii. 15 Molestation [*note*] or moyle, miserie. 1642 ROGERS *Naaman* 318 When Masters care not what excesse of toile and moile servants undergoe. 1659 HAMMOND *On Ps.* xc. 10 Their life for that space was ..hard travail or moyle. 1785 BURNS *Cotter's Saturday Nt.* ii, This night his weekly moil is at an end. 1856 BRIMLEY *Ess., Angel in Ho.* 219 Enduring moil and toil in the trenches before Troy. 1881 DUFFIELD *Don Quix.* II. xliii. 284 It is for love of me that he comes on foot and with all that moil.

2. Turmoil, confusion, tangle; hence *fig.* 'trouble, vexation, concern. Also in *pl.*' (E. D. D.).

1855 Bailey *Mystic* 47 So fierce a storm, That with the madding moil the waves themselves Inflamed. *a* 1864 Hawthorne *Amer. Note-bks.* (1868) II. 111 When I flounder into the midst of bushes, which .. intertwine themselves about my legs, and brush my face [etc.]... It is laughable, after I have got out of the moil, to think how miserably it affected me for the moment. 1885 Stevenson *Child's Gard., Keepsake Mill* iii, Deaf are his ears with the moil of the mill.

3. 'Mud, mire; sticky, wet dirt' (E. D. D.); a spot, taint; damage caused by touch.

[1818 Todd (citing *Upton*), *Moil*, a spot.] 1842 Akerman *Wiltsh. Gloss.* 36 'To get into the mwoile', to get into the mud. 1856 Mrs. Browning *Aur. Leigh* iv. 552 A finished generation, dead of plague, Swept outward from their graves into the sun, The moil of death upon them. 1888 *Berksh. Gloss., Mwile*, mire. 'A's a-gettin' vurder in the mwile', i. e. he's going from bad to worse.

† **Moil,** *sb.*[2] *Obs.* Forms: 7–8 moyle, 8 moyl, moile, 8–9 moil. [? var. of Mule in the sense of hybrid; see quot. 1823. Cf. Genet-moil.

1823 J. Badcock *Dom. Amusem.* 47 The farina of the pippin was introduced to the flower of the Siberian crab, whereby a mule was produced.]

A variety of apple; also cider produced from this.

1657 Austen *Fruit Trees* i. Ep. Ded. a iij, Cider that is made of the best Fruits, as Pearemaines, Pippins, Moyles, .. is much stronger and better than that which is made of ordinary fruits. 1708 J. Philips *Cyder* i. 27 Pregnant with the Dregs Of Moyle, or Mum, or Treacle's viscous Juice. *Ibid.* 29 The Moile Of sweetest hony'd taste. 1813 Sir H. Davy *Agric. Chem.* (1814) 254 The golden pippin, the red streak, and the moil, so excellent in the beginning of the last century, are now in the extremest stage of their decay.

Moil (moil), *a.* and *sb.*[3] *dial.* (Anglo-Irish and Welsh border.) Also **moyle, muil, mweeal, miel.** (See E. D. D.) [a. Ir. *maol*, and the equivalent Welsh *moel*, lit. 'bald'.] **a.** *adj.* Of cattle: Hornless. **b.** *sb.* A hornless cow.

1847 *Gloss. Heraldry, Moile*, a provincial word signifying an ox without horns. 1855 *Morton's Cycl. Agric.* II. 724 *Muil* (Irish), cow without horns. 1887 Havergal *Hereford. Gloss., Moyle*, a hornless cow or bullock.

Moil (moil), *v.* Forms: 5–7 moile, 6–7 moyle, 7–9 moyl, (9 *dial.* myle, mile, mwoil, mwile), 7– moil. [a. OF. *moillier* (:—popular L. **molliāre*, f. L. *mollis* soft) to wet, moisten, also *intr.* to paddle in mud (mod.F. *mouiller* to wet).]

1. *trans.* To wet, moisten; to soil, bedaub, make dirty, chiefly in *passive. Obs.* exc. *dial.* and *arch.*

c 1400 *Beryn* 138 A monk that toke the spryngill, .. And did right as the manner is, moillid al hir patis. 1575 Turberv. *Venerie* 33 If they go to kenell wette and moyled with dyrt. 1653–4 Whitelocke *Jrnl. Swed. Emb.* (1772) I. 447 Though the streets were very dirty, and their robes very long, .. yett they did not hold them up, butt were pitifully moyled. 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *To Moil*, .. to dawb with Dirt. 1735 Somerville *Chase* i. 262 Moil'd in the clogging Clay, panting they lag Behind inglorious. 1841 C. H. Hartshorne *Salopia Antiqua* 508 Moiled from yed to fut. *a* 1861 Mrs. Browning *Mother & Poet* vii, Letters moiled With my kisses.

† **b.** *fig.* To defile. *Obs. rare.*

1596 Spenser *Hymn. Heav. Love* 220 Rouze thyself .. out of thy soyle, In which thou wallowest .. And doest thy mynd in durty pleasures moyle. 1647 Trapp *Comm. Rev.* xiv. 4 Which have not moiled themselves with fornication corporall or spirituall. 1650 — *Comm. Lev.* xviii. 20 As David, how did hee moil himself with Bathsheba.

† **2.** *intr.* To make oneself wet and muddy; to wallow in mire. *Obs.*

a 1566 R. Edwards *Damon & Pith.* (1571) f iii, All day I moyle in dourte. 1575 Gascoigne *Flowers, Fruite of Foes* Poems 1869 I. 94 A serpent .. Which (almost dead for colde) lay moyling in the myre. 1577 B. Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* II. (1586) 51 b, The Frogge continually doth crie while in the stincking Lakes he still doth moile. 1599 *Sir Clyomon* Prol. A 2, Filthy Swine which in the mire doth moile.

3. To toil, work hard, drudge. Sometimes with some trace of the etymological sense 2: To work in wet and mire. Often coupled with verbs of similar meaning, esp. in to *toil and moil.* Very common *dial.*: see E. D. D.

1548–9 Latimer *Serm. Ploughers* (Arb.) 26 They [*sc.* unpreaching prelates] are so troubeled wyth Lordelye lyuynge, .. mounchyng in their maungers, and moylynge in their gaye manoures and mansions, and so troubeled with loyterynge in theyr Lordeshyppes. 1559 *Mirr. Mag., Falt K. Tresilian* viii, And moyleth for no more then for his needfull hyre. 1580 H. Gifford *Gilloflowers* Poems (Grosart) 55 To toyle and moyle for worldly drosse. 1593 Nashe *Christ's T.* 44 b, Heere we labour, drudge and moyle. 1625 Bacon *Ess., Plantations*, But moile not too much under Ground: For the Hope of Mines is very Uncertaine. 1629 H. Burton *Truth's Triumph* 250 Vega hath spent .. 20 chapters .. wherin he moyles in sweate and dust. *c* 1680 Beveridge *Serm.* (1729) I. 387 He moils and toils .. to come at them [*sc.* riches]. 1687 Mrs. Behn *Lucky Chance* II. i, I must moil on in the damn'd dirty road, And sure such pay will make the journey easie. 1714 Gay *Sheph. Week* II. 50 With thee 'twas Marian's dear Delight, To moil all day, and merry make at Night. 1830 Galt *Lawrie T.* II. xi, Who toil and moil in stores and factories. 1849 Longf. *Kavanagh* i. 8 They saw him daily moiling and delving in the common path like a beetle. 1858 Sears *Athan.* II. v. 205 The commentators are signally at fault in moiling at this passage. 1880 Browning *Dram. Idylls* Ser. II. Dr.—— 34 A lawyer wins repute—Having to toil and moil.

† **4.** *trans.* To weary, fatigue, harass, torment, worry. Chiefly *passive. Obs.*

1582 Stanyhurst *Æneis* I. (Arb.) 27 Iuno fel harted, Thee seas, thee regions, thee skies so spightfulye moyling [orig. I. 280 *quae mare nunc terrasque metu caelumque fatigat*]. 1600 Holland *Livy* XL. xxii. 1074 Much moiled they were all, and sore toiled in this untoward way. 1604 T. Wright *Passions* I. ix. 33 Who is moyled with heavinesse .. and perceiveth not his heart to bee coarcted? 1640 tr. *Verdere's Rom. Rom.* III. 205 This while Alcidamant and Griolanis .. were no lesse moiled, for the great Knight of the Sun .. so stoutly withstood them. 1653 H. Cogan tr. *Pinto's Trav.* iv. 8 We had been .. miserably moiled, and our hurts, that were great, but ill looked unto. 1823 *Spirit Publ. Jrnls.* (1825) 408 He seemed sadly moiled with his matrimonial miseries.

b. *refl.*

a 1560 Becon *Sick Mans Salve* Pref., We moile and tormoile oure selues in studying and deuising howe we maye come by the giftes of glassy fortune. 1581 Mulcaster *Positions* iv. (1887) 15 They [*sc.* the ancient writers] moile themselues sore, with the maners and conditions of the nurse. 1600 Hakluyt *Voy.* (1810) III. 401 To moyle themselves thus with abiect and base worke. *c* 1611 Chapman *Iliad* xxiii. 637 No more tug one another thus, nor moyle your selues [τρίβεσθε κακοῖσι]. 1673 Marvell *Reh. Transp.* II. 115, I only threw it out like empty Cask to amuze him .. ; he runs away with it as a very serious business and so moyles himself with tumbling and tossing it, that he is in danger of melting his Sperma Ceti. 1869 Tennyson *North. Farmer, New Style* xiii, But 'e tued an' moil'd 'issen deäd.

c. *intr.* for *refl.* To distress oneself. *Obs.* exc. *dial.*, to worry, be fidgety or restless.

1567 Golding *Ovid's Met.* IX. 502 They moyled why others myght not geve like gift as wele as shee [orig. *Et, cur non aliis eadem dare dona liceret, Murmur erat*]. 1889 *N. W. Linc. Gloss., Moil*, .. (2) To be fidgetty or restless. 'Theäre's noä gettin' noä rest wi' him at neets; he's tewin' an' moilin' aboot for iver'.

5. *trans.* To root *up*; to burrow in (the ground) like a pig, badger, etc.; 'to draw potatoes with the hand from under the growing plant' (E. D. D.). *Obs.* exc. *dial.*

1581 J. Bell *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 101 b, Like a wilde Boare, to moyle up by the rootes, the florishyng and most plentyfull Vyneарde. *Ibid.* 325 b, It is apparaunt enough what thinges are moyled uppe by the Rootes, but what is planted in that place, he confesseth he cannot as yet discerne.

† **b.** *intr.* To burrow. *Obs.*

15.. Edgeworth *Serm.* i. 6 b, Couetous men be .. euer-like wantes or Moles moiling in the grounde. [1625: cf. 3.] 1658 A. Fox *Würtz' Surg.* I. vi. 23 Why do they then molest the Patient with seeking, pressing, .. and moiling in the Wound.

† **6.** *trans.* ? To maul, mangle. *Obs.*

1698 Fryer *Acc. E. India & P.* 118 Trampling a Man to Death, or Moiling him to Pieces with their Foreheads.

Moil: see Moiles, Moyle, Mule[1] and [2].

[**Moile,** 'a dish made of Marrow and grated bread', in Speght's glossary to *Chaucer's Works* 1598 (copied in Blount *Glossogr.* 1656 and in later Dicts.) is due to misunderstanding of *franch moile* (see Franchemyle) in Lydgate's *Thebes* ibid. 370 b/1.]

Moile: see Mule *sb.*[1] and *sb.*[2]

Moiled (moild), *a. dial.* [f. Moil *a.* or *sb.*[3] + -ed[2].] Of cattle: Hornless.

1839 *Hereford. Gloss.* s.v., 'A moiled sheep' is a sheep without horns. 1855 *Morton's Cycl. Agric.* II. 724 *Moiled* (Heref., Irish), without horns. 1879 Miss Jackson *Shropsh. Word-bk.* s.v. *Moilted*, My pretty mwoilled 'eifer.

Moiled (moild), *ppl. a.* [f. Moil *v.* + -ed[1].] **1.** Hard worked; exhausted; oppressed with labour and toil.

1617–18 W. Lawson *Orch. & Gard.* (1623) 48 The Horse and moiled Oxe wrought to an vntimely death. 1793 *Gentl. Mag.* Dec. 1084 *Moiled*, troubled, fatigued. Sedgemoor. 1820 Clare *Poems Rural Life* (ed. 2) 136 The rough rude ploughman, .. While moil'd and sweating, by some pasture's side, Will often [etc.].

2. Made dirty or foul; soiled. *dial.*

1632 Sherwood, Moiled in the mire, *Enfangé. Ibid.*, Moyled, *Souillé.* 1839 *Hereford. Gloss., Moiled*, dirty with wet mud. 1882 *W. Worcs. Gloss.*

Moiler (moi·lər). *rare.* [f. Moil *v.* + -er[1].] One who moils or labours; a toiler.

1563–87 Foxe *A. & M.* (1596) 184/1 As for your Cardinals, we shut them out both of churches and cities, for that we see them not preachers but prollers; .. not pillers and upholders of the church, but .. moilers of monie and gold. 1568 Grafton *Chron.* (1809) I. 3 This Cain was a great toyler and moyler in the earth. 1880 Mrs. Riddell *Myst. Palace Gard.* xxiii, Excepting a few millions of toilers and moilers.

Moilere, obs. form of Mulier.

Moiles (moilz). *Glass-blowing.* Also (in Dicts.) **moil.** [Cf. F. *meule* 'se dit, dans les verreries, des morceaux de verre qui s'attachent anx cannes', Littré).] (See quot.)

1875 Knight *Dict. Mech., Moiles*, the metallic oxide adhering to the glass which is knocked from the end of the blow-pipe.

Moiley (moi·li). *Sc.* and *Anglo-Irish.* Also **moylie, moilya.** [f. Moil *a.*] A hornless cow or bullock; also *transf.* applied to a person; also *attrib.* or *adj.*

1824 Mactaggart *Gallovid. Encycl., Moylie*, a mild, good-natured person: an *auld moylie*, a tame person, even to sillyness; a *moylie*, is also a bullock wanting horns. 1880 *Antrim & Down Gloss., Moily, Moilya*, a hornless cow. *Moily*, hornless.

Moiling (moi·liŋ), *vbl. sb.* [-ing[1].] The action of the verb Moil in various senses.

c 1560 [Richardes] *Misogonus* II. ii. 80 (Brandl) Or to what end shoulde we here spende Our dayes in vrksome moylinge? 1575 *Gamm. Gurton* IV. iii. (Manly), Why, makes the knaue any moyling? 1581 J. Bell *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 326 These men have .. undertaken much fruitlesse labour in that lamentable moilyng of thinges which they have subverted. 1604 T. Wright *Passions* VI. 327 What brought first hunger and thirst, .. toyling and moyling into this world? 1691 Wood *Ath. Oxon.* II. 205 After a great deal of moyling, turmoyling, perfidiousness, and I know not what, he laid down his head and died. 1885–6 Spurgeon *Treas. Dav.* Ps. cxxvii. 2 Blesses them more in their resting than others in their moiling and toiling.

Moiling (moi·liŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. Moil *v.* + -ing[2].] That moils; labouring, toiling; fatiguing, toilsome.

1603 Knolles *Hist. Turks* (1621) 1198 Such moiling labor. 1608 *Merry Devil of Edmonton* (1617) F 2, We haue had the moylingst night of it that euer we had in our lines. 1692 R. L'Estrange *Fables* ccev. 266 Oh the Endless Misery of the Life I Lead! crys the Moiling Husbandman, to spend all my Days in Ploughing [etc.]. *a* 1711 Ken *Edmund* Poet. Wks. 1721. II. 81 That moyling Swain who ploughs the fertile clod, Looks rarely to his Benefactor God. 1840 Dickens *Barn. Rudge* lxxi, I am an abject slave, and a toiling, moiling .. potter's weesel. 1879 Miss Jackson *Shropsh. Word-bk., Milling*, dirty and laborious—'A milin' job'. 1897 *Daily News* 14 July 7/3 A good sprinkling of real moiling workers in their best.

Hence **Moi·lingly** *adv.*, in a moiling manner.

1621 T. Williamson tr. *Goulart's Wise Vieillard* 7 He runnes and moylingly trots vp and downe.

Moill i)er(e, -ie, -ye, moilre, obs. ff. Mullier.

Moilsome (moi·lsŭm), *a.* [f. Moil *v.* + -some.] Involving toil = Laborious 2.

1877 Blackmore *Erema* i, A dark, narrow gorge departed from the moilsome mountain track.

Moine, obs. form of Mine *sb.*

1561 T. Hoby tr. *Castiglione's Courtyer* I. Bij b, Some in rydinge, some in playnge at fence, euerye man accordinge to the moine of his mettall [It. (1547) 6 b, *ciascuno secondo la minera del suo metallo*].

‖ **Moineau** (moi·no, ‖ mwano). *Fortif.* Also 8 **moyeneau.** [Fr.; regarded by Littré and Hatz.-Darm. as a use of *moineau* sparrow.] (See quot.)

1704 J. Harris *Lex. Techn.* I, *Moyeneau* .. is a small flat Bastion, commonly placed in the middle of an over-long Curtain, by which the Bastions at the Extremities are not well defended from the Small-shot, by reason of their Distance; so that this Work is proper for placing in it a Body of Musqueteers to fire upon the Enemy from all sides. *Ibid., Moineau* [with similar explanation]. 1802 in C. James *Milit. Dict.* And in mod. Dicts.

† **Moi·nes.** *Obs. rare.* Also **moynes.** [ad. OF. (early 14th c.) *moinesse, moynesse, moignesse*, f. *moine*: see Monk and -ess.] A nun.

1513 Braoshaw *St. Werburge* I. 413 The other hyght saynt Erkengode a moynes serene. *Ibid.* 3519 Blessed pure virgin moines and abbasse, O venerable werburge.

Moines, obs. form of *means*: see Mean *sb.*

1449 *Verulam MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm., 1906) 3 *note.*

Moiniall, variant of Monial *sb. Obs.*

Moir, obs. form of More *a.* and *adv.*

‖ **Moire** (mwār, mwɑ̄r, mōəɹ). Also 7 **moyre.** [F. *moire*, according to Fr. lexicographers an adoption of some form of Eng. Mohair.

The OF. *moire*, the name of some textile fabric mentioned by Chrestien of Troyes (12th c.), is believed to be unconnected with the modern word.]

Originally a kind of watered mohair; afterwards, any textile fabric (but usually silk) to which a watered appearance is given in the process of calendering; a watered or clouded silk.

Moire antique, explained by Fr. lexicographers to mean a watered silk of large pattern, is in Eng. use practically synonymous with *moire*, which is apprehended as a shortened form.

1660 Pepys *Diary* 21 Nov., We bought some greene watered moyre, for a morning wastecoate. 1664 *Ibid.* 8 May, A new black cloth suit and cloak lined with silk moyre. 1751 Chesterf. *Let. to Son* 22 Apr. (1774) II. 136 Talk *pompons, moires*, &c., with Madame de Lilot. 1855 Mrs. Carlyle *Lett.* II. 268 [*Dressmaker tog.*] I don't think I ever saw so trashy a moire. 1858 Homans *Cycl. Comm.* s.v. *Moire Antique*, If good silk be wrapped tightly and carelessly round a roller, it may become moire much against the inclination of the possessor. 1860 Trollope *Framley P.* (1861) III. xvii. 316, I suppose Jane can put her hand at once on the moire antique when we reach Dover?' 1866 Miss Braddon *Lady's Mile* 191 The heap of silk and moire. 1869 'Mark Twain' *Innoc. Abr.* xxiii. (1872) 166 Velvets and moire antiques.

‖ **Moiré** (mwaɹe, mōə·ɹē), *a.* and *sb.* [Fr., pa. pple. of *moirer*, to give the appearance of moire to, f. *moire* Moire.]

A. *adj.* Of silk: Watered. Of metals: Having a 'watered' or clouded appearance.

1823 J. Badcock *Dom. Amusem.* 140 Moiré Watering, by other Methods. 1856 Mrs. Browning *Aur. Leigh* IV. 565 Those passed the salts, with confidence of eyes And simultaneous shiver of moiré silk. 1868 Jovnson *Metals* iv. 104 Giving the plates [of galvanised iron] the well-known moiré appearance. 1893 G. Egerton *Keynotes* (1894) 33 The lap of her moiré gown.

B. *sb.*

1. A variegated or clouded appearance resembling that of watered silk; *esp.* as imparted to metals for the purpose of ornament.

1818 *Jrnl. Sci. & Arts* V. 368 On the Moiré Metallique, or Fer blanc moiré. *Ibid.*, The moiré has of late been much improved by employing the blow pipe. .. When the moiré has been formed, the plate is to be varnished and polished, the varnish being tinted with any glazing colour, and thus the red, blue, green, yellow, and pearl coloured moirés are

manufactured. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* s.v., *Moirée métallique*, called in this country crystallized tin-plate, is a variegated primrose appearance, produced upon the surface of tin-plate, by applying to it in a heated state some dilute nitro-muriatic acid for a few seconds, then washing it with water, drying, and coating it with lacquer. 1888 TEALL *Brit. Petrogr.* 440 *Moiré*, the name given to the wavy appearance, comparable to that of watered silk, presented by thin plates of mica under crossed nicols.

¶ **2.** Erroneously used for MOIRE.

1851 *Official Catal. Gt. Exhib.* II. 504 'Moiré antique', for garments, various colours. 1851 *Repts. Juries Gt. Exhib.* (1852) 368 Gros-de-Naples, glacé, and checked moiré, and satin. 1862 *London Soc.* II. 40 Costly Moirés. 1862 *Catal. Internat. Exhib.* II. xx. 24 Moiré antiques. 1883 Miss BRADDON *Gold. Calf* I. ii. 43 Miss Pew..went rustling up and down the terrace..in her armour of apple-green moiré. 1885 MABEL COLLINS *Prettiest Woman* xxxi, He wore a coat of white moiré antique, embroidered with gold.

Moiré, moire, *v.* [f. MOIRÉ *sb.* and MOIRE. Cf. F. *moirer.*] *trans.* To give a moiré or watered appearance to. Also **Moi'ring** *vbl. sb.*

1823 *New Monthly Mag.* IX. 551/2 The means which I had employed for moiring tin-plates. 1884 W. H. WAHL *Galvanopl. Manip.* 521 (Cent.) The solution [salt, or sal ammoniac] may be applied to the surfaces to be moiréed with the aid of a sponge.

Moiraen, obs. form of MOREEN.

Moirette (mware't). [f. MOIRE + -ETTE.] A textile fabric made to imitate moire.

1895 *Price List*, Moirette for lining. 1900 *Daily News* 1 Sept. 6/7 A nut-brown cloth dress..has a petticoat of nut-brown moirette to match it.

Moirneing, obs. form of MORNING.

Moirologist (moirɒ'lŏdgist). *rare*—1. [f. late Gr. μοιρολόγος (corruptly written μυρολόγος, mod. Gr. μυριολόγος, whence MYRIOLOGUE), f. Gr. μοῖρα fate, death + -λόγος speaker, discourser: see -LOGIST.] A hired mourner in modern Greece.

1886 *Q. Rev.* July 215 There may be found traces, too, of Lethe..in the death ballads sung by the hired mourners... The moirologists will sing of the loneliness of the living, of the horrors of death [etc.].

† **Mois.** *Obs.* Also **moys**(e. [a. F. *mois* month.] Only in *Mois of Easter* or *Pasch* (= OF. *mois de Pasques*, med.L. *mensis Paschæ*): **a.** the month or the fortnight ending on Low Sunday; hence Low Sunday itself; **b.** the Easter dues, payable on or before Low Sunday.

1426 *Coventry Leet Bk.* (E.E.T.S.) 104 Ric. Joy reseyved the moyse of Ester of Ric. Crosseby,...C marc'. 1442 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 60/1 At the moys of Estre next comyng. 1449 *Ibid.* 169/1 Afore the Kyng in his Benche, atte the Moys of Pasche, that shall be in the yere of our Lorde MCCCCXLVI. 1491 *Ibid.* VI. 443/2 To be certified on this side the Mois of Ester then next folowing.

Moise (moiz), *v. dial.* Also 8 **moys**. *intr.* To thrive; to increase, improve, mend.

1787 W. MARSHALL *Norfolk* (1795) II. 384 To *Moys*, to thrive; spoken of crops and stock: also in a general sense, as 'he muddles on but does not moys'. 1791 *Gentl. Mag.* LXI. II. 1022 It is a common saying among the common people of this place [Norwich] when a person does not seem to recruit after a fit of illness, or when he does not thrive in the world, that such an one does not *moise*. *a* 1815 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia*, *Moise v.* to mend, improve, increase, &c. 1860 E. GILLETT *Song Sol. in Norf. Dial.* vi. 11 To see wuther the wine-trees moised, and the pomegranates blowed.

† **Moison.** *Obs. rare.* Forms: 4–5 **moysoun, muso(u)n, muyson,** 4–6 **moyson.** [a. OF. *moison, muison,* AF. *mewson* (1406 in Riley *Mem. Lond.* 563), early mod.F. *moison, moyson* (Cotgr.) :—L. *mēnsiōn-em* act of measuring, f. *mēns-, mētīrī* to measure.] **a.** A 'measure' in music. **b.** Size, dimension.

c 1325 [see G-SOL-RE-UT]. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. XI. 128 And alle Musons [*v.rr.* musonys, musouns, muysones] In Musyk I made hire to knowe. ?*a* 1366 CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 1677 And some ther been of other moysoun, That drowe nigh to hir sesoun, And spedde hem faste for to sprede. 1545 RAYNOLD *Byrth Mankynde* I. XV. (1552) 49 Vaynes.. the which in moyson & notable biggenesse moch surmount the quantite of ye abone named descendinge brest vaynes.

Moisron, obs. form of MUSHROOM.

Moist (moist), *a.* aud *sb.* Also 4–5 **moisto,** 4–6 **moyste,** 4–7 **moyst,** 5 **moste,** 6 **mowest.** [a. OF. *moiste* (mod.F. *moite*).

The ulterior etymology is disputed. By most scholars OF. *moiste* is believed to represent late L. *muccidus*, an altered form of L. *mūcidus* mouldy, related to *mūcēre* to be mouldy, *mūcor* mouldiness, *mūcus* MUCUS. Cf. F. *moisir* to grow mouldy :–popular Latin **mūctre*, class. L. *mūcēre*; also Rumonsch *musch* wet, Friuli *moscid* doughy, It. *moscio* limp. Some, however, following Diez, consider it to represent L. *musteus* like new wine, also fresh, new (said, e. g. of cheese, pepper, etc.), f. *mustum* new wine, MUST. It is possible that the two Latin words have coalesced in Fr.]

A. *adj.*

1. Slightly imbued with wetness; containing liquid in a state of suspension or absorption; not dry; damp, humid.

Now differing from *damp* in having no tendency to imply either an undesirable or a merely temporary or casual condition. In early use the word had a wider application.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* v. xix. (1495) 123 Kynde makyth the mouth moyste wythin to tempre and chaunge the eselyar the dryenes of the mete. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) ix. 100 3iff the Erthe were made moyst and weet with that Watre, it wolde nevere bere Fruyt. *Ibid.* xiv. 160 3if Venym or Poysoun be broughte in presence of. the Dyamand, anon it begynnethe to wexe moyst and for to swete. *c* 1420 LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 258 With her moyst clothes with teares all be spreynt. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 244/1 To make moste, *liquidare, & cetera, vbi* to wete. 1529 WOLSEY in *Four C. Eng. Lett.* (1880) 10 This mowest & corupt ayer. 1555 EDEN *Decades* 137 The confynes of the chiefe citie are moister then is necessary. 1611 BIBLE *Song* 3 *Child.* 26 As it had bene a moist whistling wind. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* XI. 741 The Hills to their supplie Vapour, and Exhalation dusk and moist, Sent up amain. 1726 LEONI *Alberti's Archit.* I. 30/1 The moistest part of the Quarry. 1727–46 THOMSON *Summer* 1587 Like the red-rose bud moist with morning-dew. 1789 W. BUCHAN *Dom. Med.* (1790) 207 The skin grows moister, and the sweat..begins to have a peculiar fœtid smell. 1796 C. MARSHALL *Garden.* xviii. (1813) 311 Let spring sown seeds be watered occasionally, according to the weather, to keep them moist. 1797 COLERIDGE *Christabel* I. 218 The lady wiped her moist cold brow. 1815 ELPHINSTONE *Acc. Caubul* (1842) II. 91 The Gurmseer itself is moist, and sometimes even marshy. 1862 H. SPENCER *First Princ.* II. x. § 84 (1875) 258 Moist winds..lose so much heat when they reach the cold mountain peaks, that condensation rapidly takes place. 1866 TATE *Brit. Mollusks* iv. 159 The variety inhabits moist places. 1884 F. M. CRAWFORD *Rom. Singer* I. 22 You are oppressed with a moist heat.

b. Of the eyes: Wet with tears, ready to shed tears. In 16–17th c. also, Watery, 'rheumy' (as one of the signs of old age).

c 1386 CHAUCER *Melib.* P 26 Whan that thy frend is deed quod he lat nat thyne eyen to moyste been of teeris. 1597 SHAKS. *2 Hen. IV*, I. ii. 203 Haue you not a moist eye? a dry hand?..a white beard?..and wil you cal your selfe yong? 1609 B. JONSON *Sil. Wom.* I. i, Weake hammes, moist eyes, and shrunke members. 1807 WORDSW. *White Doe* II. 68 On the banner..He glanced a look of holy pride, And his moist eyes were glorified. 1817 SHELLEY *Rev. Islam* V. iv, Thoughts which make the moist eyes overbrim. 1859 TENNYSON *Enid* 1199 The tender sound .. Made his eye moist. 1897 'H. S. MERRIMAN' *In Kedar's Tents* vi, A round-faced, chubby little man, with a tender mouth and moist dark eyes looking kindly out upon the world.

c. Of a season, climate, etc.: Wet; rainy; having some rain; having a considerable rainfall.

1481 CAXTON *Myrr.* III. viii. 147 One somer is softe and moyste, And another is dryve and wyndy. 1545 RAYNOLD *Byrth Mankynde* 89 The hote & moyste whether. 1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* II. ii. 84 The night being colder then the day, is likewise more moist. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* I. 146 Ye Swains, invoke the Pow'rs who rule the Sky, For a moist Summer, and a Winter dry. 1815 ELPHINSTONE *Acc. Caubul* (1842) I. 175 Some places are refreshed in summer by breezes from moister countries. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* I. vii, The weather is moist, and raw. 1878 JEVONS *Prim. Pol. Econ.* iii. 30 In England we have good soil and a moist climate fitted for growing grass.

† **d.** In mediæval physiology, said of elements, humours, planets, etc. (= HUMID b); opposed to DRY. (See COLD *a.* 6.) *Obs.*

c 1381 CHAUCER *Parl. Foules* 380 Nature..That hot, cold, heuy, lyght, moyst, & dreye Hath knyt with euene noumberis of a-cord In esy voys gan for to speke & seye [etc.]. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 120 [Cancer] of himself is moiste and cold. *c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 12 Oon of þe men is of an hoot complexioun & a moist, þat oþer of a cold complexioun & a drie. 1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* XVI. (Percy Soc.) 73 Youth is .. Hote, and moyste, and full of lustines. *c* 1550 LLOYD *Treas. Health* A j, It shal do good to moyst persons and women. 1604 SHAKS. *Ham.* I. i. 118 (and Qo.), And the moist starre, Vpon whose influence Neptunes Empier stands, Was sicke almost to doomesday with eclipse. 1707 FLOYER *Physic. Pulse-Watch* 71 In Children and Women the cooler and moister Diet is most agreeable to preserve their natural Pulses. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) VI. 183 They [*sc.* fish] are cold and moist, and must needs, say they, produce juices of the same kind.

† **2.** Of plants, fruits, etc.: 'Juicy, succulent' (J.); not withered or dry; fresh as opposed to dried. *Obs.*

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XVI. 68 Matrymonye I may nyme a moiste fruit with-alle. 1382 WYCLIF *Job* viii. 16 Moiste semeth the resshe befor the Sunne come. 1567 MAPLET *Gr. Forest* 41 b, It is then best of all rinen, clouen and cut in sunder when it is moyst and greene. 1607 SHAKS. *Timon* IV. iii. 223 Will these moyst Trees..page thy heeles And skip when thou point'st out? 1611 BIBLE *Num.* vi. 3 Nor [shall he] eate moist grapes, or dried. 1611 COTGR., *Succulent*, succulent, sappie, moist, full of iuice.

† **b.** Of liquor: New, not stale. *Obs.*

c 1386 CHAUCER *Sir Thopas* 53 Notemuge to putte in Ale, Wheither it be moyste or stale. — *Pard. Prol.* 29 A draughte of moyste and corny Ale.

† **c.** New, not worn, 'green'. *Obs.*

c 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 457 Hir hosen weren of fyn scarlet reed fful streite yteyd and shoes ful moyste and newe.

† **3.** Yielding moisture or water; bringing or that brings rain or moisture; containing water (or other liquid). *Obs.*

1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 264 Thilke blod which scholde have ese To regne among the moiste veines. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* III. i. 57 The moist daughters of huge Atlas strove Into the Ocean deepe to drive their weary drove. 1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* II. i. 167 Ere twice in murke and occidentall dampe Moist Hesperus hath quench'd her sleepy Lampe. 1602 *2nd Pt. Return fr. Parnass.* I. ii. 167 Plaine Meteors, bred of the exhalation of Tobacco, and the vapors of a moyst pot, that soare vp into the open ayre. 1704 POPE *Windsor For.* 119 Moist Arcturus clouds the sky.

† **4.** Liquid; watery. *Obs.*

c 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* V. met. v. 132 (Camb. MS.) Oother beestis by the wandrynge lyhtnesse of hir wyngis betyn the wyndes and ouerswymmyn the spaces of the longe eyr by moyst fleeynge [orig. *liquido volatu*]. 1388 WYCLIF *Jer.* xliv. 25 Offre to it moist sacrifices [1382 *Ibid.* sacryfises of licoures]. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 94 The moiste dropes of the reyn Descenden into Middilerthe. 1530 PALSGR. 744/2, I swalowe downe any medycyne or lycour that is moyste, *je assorbys*. 1597 SHAKS. *2 Hen. IV*, IV. v. 140 (1600 Qo.) But for my teares, The moist impediments vnto my speech, I had forestald this deere and deep rebuke. *c* 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* I. 308 The moist waies of the sea they saild [Gr. ἐπέπλεον ὑγρὰ κέλευθα].

5. Associated or connected with liquid. *spec.* **a.** *poet.* Tearful; accompanied with tears. **b.** Said of a process or apparatus in which liquid is used. † *Moist measure*: liquid measure. **c.** Of diseases, etc.: Marked by a discharge of matter, phlegm, etc.

1562 TURNER *Baths* 13 A ciath .. holdeth after moyste measure an vnce and an halfe. 1605 *1st Pt. Ieronimo* I. ii. 61 Tis as common To weepe at parting as to be a woman ..play not this moyst prize. 1637 MILTON *Lycidas* 159 Where ere thy bones are hurld, Whether beyond the stormy Hebrides, .. Or whether thou to our moist vows deny'd, Sleep'st by the fable of Bellerus old. 1796 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) II. 395 No effectual method of analyzing this ore [Tui stone], in the moist way has as yet been discovered. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 812 The assay of ores, comprehending the mechanical part: that is, by washing; the chemical part, or assays by the dry way; and the assays by the moist way. 1876 BAISTOWE *Th. & Pract. Med.* (1878) 86 When.. the gangrene is what is usually called 'moist'. 1891 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Moist tetter. Ibid.*, *Moist wart*, the *Condyloma acuminatum*. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 511 It [*sc.* eczema of the fingers] may be dry or moist. *Ibid.* 524 The healing of a chronic moist eczema may be indefinitely delayed by washing.

d. *Med.* Of sounds heard in auscultation: Suggesting the presence of liquid.

1843 R. J. GRAVES *Syst. Clin. Med.* XX. 230 The only stethoscopic phenomena observed were extensive minute and moist bronchial râles. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 10 Two great classes of the dry and of the moist sounds.

† **6.** Addicted to drink. (Cf. DRY *a.* 3.) *Obs. rare*—1.

1619 R. HARRIS *Drunkard's Cup* 8 By the testimony of the loosest and moystest naturalists, the very Poets.

7. Special collocations: **moist chamber,** a 'chamber' in which microscopic objects may be kept moist; **moist colour,** a water-colour pigment in the form of a soft paste; **moist gum** = DEXTRIN (*Cent. Dict.* 1890); **moist stove,** a hot-house heated with a moist heat; **moist sugar,** unrefined or partially refined sugar; also *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *moist sugar-coloured* adj.; *moist sugar bowl, spoon*, etc.

1869 DALLINGER & DRYSDALE in *Monthly Microsc. Jrnl.* (1874) XI. 97 Recklinghausen's '*moist chamber' only enables us to arrest for a short time the dissipation of the fluid under examination. 1876 RUTHERFORD *Outl. Histol.* (ed. 2) 150 Schultze's modification of Recklinghausen's moist chamber. 1885 *Encycl. Brit.* XIX. 86/1 For water colours the pigments are prepared..as '*moist colours' contained in small porcelain dishes. 1824 LOUDON *Encycl. Gard.* (ed. 2) § 6177 The bark or *moist stove..having a pit for bark or other fermenting matter instead of a stage. 1845 *Florist's Jrnl.* 124, I then place them..in a moist stove or forcing house. [1657 R. LIGON *Barbadoes* (1673) 85 The Sugars they made, were but bare Muscavadoes,..so *moist, and full of molasses, and so ill cur'd.] 1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* xliv. IV. 202 Of a granular appearance, much resembling fine moist sugar. 1835 *Court Mag.* VI. 169/1 The two Misses Larkin .. wore their own sevenpenny-moist-sugar coloured hair. 1847 A. & H. MAYHEW *Greatest Plague of Life* iii. 30 She could not for the life of her lay her hands upon the lump-sugar, and we were obliged to put up with moist. 1886 W. H. ST. JOHN HOPE in *Archæologia* L. 150 This mazer was formerly used in the family as a moist-sugar bowl.

8. *Comb.*, chiefly parasynthetic, as *moist-brained, -eyed, -natured* adjs.; also *moist-striking* adj.

1606 *Sir G. Goosecappe* I. i. in Bullen *O. Pl.* III. 9, I .. know him to be a dull *moist-braind Asse. 1847 WEBSTER (citing Coleridge), **Moist-eyed.* 1669 WORLIDGE *Syst. Agric.* (1681) 71 A very excellent Soil for a cold *moist-natured Land. 1816 L. HUNT *Rimini* iv. 177 Then issue forth in this *moist-striking air.

† **B.** *absol.* and *sb.* That which is moist; moisture. Also, moist quality, moistness.

?*a* 1366 CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 1564 Abouten it is gras springing, For moiste so thikke and wel lyking, That it ne may in winter dye. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 97 The fyr..is withoute moist al drye. *c* 1470 HENRYSON *Mor. Fab.* I. (*Cock & Jasp*) xi, Riches..Quhilk maith, nor moist, nor vther rust can screit. 1562 TURNER *Baths* 3 b, It is good for the crampe and for all colde diseases and moyste of the synewes. 1592 DAVIES *Immort. Soul* XXXI. v, She lodgeth Heat, and Cold, and Moist, and Dry, And Life, and Death, and Peace, and War together. 1606 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iv. III. *Schisme* 419 Myrtles and Bays for want of moist grew wan. 1615 CHAPMAN *Odyss.* VIII. 67 The deepe moist then They further reacht. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* III. 652 Who .. Bear his swift errands over moist and dry, O're Sea and Land. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* IX. 99 The moist of human frame the sun exhales; Winds scatter, thro' the mighty void, the dry.

Moist, *v.* Forms: 4–6 **moyste, moiste,** 6–7 **moyst** (pa.pple. **moist**), 6– **moist.** [f. MOIST *a.*]

1. *trans.* To render moist, impart moisture to; to moisten, wet. *Obs.* exc. *dial.* (see E. D. D.).

1382 WYCLIF *Job* xxi. 24 And the bones of hym ben moistid with marȝ [Vulg. *irrigantur*]. — *Luke* vii. 38 Sche..bigan to moiste his feet with teeris. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* VI. xxii. (Tollem. MS.), Constantyn sayeþ þat drynke is nedful for many maner cause: ffor hit moysteþ þe drie body. *Ibid.* XIV. xlvi. (1495) 483 Valeyes ben moysted with stremes that come out of mountaynes. 1447 BOKENHAM *Seyntys* (Roxb.) 248 Blak brede..In hote watyr moystyd .. she eet. *c* 1530 T. PAIDIOXE in Collier *Hist. Dram. Poetry* (1831) II. 384 Beholde myne eyes whose teres do moyst my paled face. 1533 ELYOT *Cast. Helthe* (1541) 32 b, Wyne heateth and moysteth the bodye. 1570–6 LAMBARDE *Peramb. Kent* (1826) 174 Moisting womens breastes that before were drie and wanted milke. 1590 C'TESS PEMBROKE *Antonie* 600 His sworde Alreadie moisted is in his warme blonde. 1655 in

Hartlib *Ref. Commw. Bees* 18 Rye .. need not .. be dryed, but beaten and moisted with its own liquor. 1821 CLARE *Vill. Minstr.* II. 145 As evening moists the daisy by thy side.

b. To slake or quench (one's) thirst. *To moist one's lip*: to drink very little; also (slang) *to moist one's clay*. (Cf. MOISTEN *v.* 1 b.) Now *dial.*

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XVIII. 366 May no drynke me moiste ne my thruste slake, Tyl [etc.]. 1530 PALSGR. 639/2, I dyd nat drinke to day, I dyd but moyste my lyppes with a quarter of wine. *a* 1562 G. CAVENDISH *Wolsey* (1893) 241 Thus passed he forthe his dynner in great lamentacion and hevynes, whiche was more fed and moystyd with sorowe & teares, than with owther pleasant mets or dylicate drynks. 1579–80 NORTH *Plutarch, Lycurgus* (1595) 45 So they al dranke hartely except himself, who .. did no more but a litle moyste his mouth without, and so refreshed himself. 1602 *2nd Pt. Return fr. Parnass.* I. ii. 339 Meete me an houre hence, at the signe of the Pegasus in Cheapside, and Ile moyst thy temples with a cuppe of Claret. 1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* V. ii. 285 Now no more The iuyce of Egypts Grape shall moyst this lip. 1834 A. SMART *Rambling Rhymes* 120 When he used to moist his clay An' lay his corn in.

† **c.** *fig.* Chiefly, To soften (the heart, etc.). *Obs.*

13.. *Propr. Sanct.* (Vernon MS.) in *Archiv Stud. neu. Spr.* LXXXI. 317/57 Þe wȝuche techers dude Moyste wel þe hertes of trewe men eueridel. 1435 MISYN *Fire of Love* II. v. 80 Froo qwhens he byrnys with lufe swetist & with a draght of heuenly passage he is moystid & vmbesett & truly is transformyd with heit of happis to-cum. 1557 *Sarum Primer* 1 Good Lorde Jesu Christe, .. moiste my minde with thy most precious bloude. 1578 G. WHETSTONE *2nd Pt. Promos & Cassandra* V. ii, Stormes of teares did showre As myght, with rueth, haue moyst a stony hart. 1598 ROWLANDS *Betraying of Christ* 27 And let my teares be flouds to moist my heart.

† **2.** *absol.*

a 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. V* 37 b, Sprinkle a vessell of water and it moisteth not, but cast it out wholy together and it bothe washeth and norisheth. 1562 BULLEYN *Bulwark, Bk. Simples* 5 Waxe is good for plasters .. it moisteth and is used for outwarde Medicines. 1581 MULCASTER *Positions* xx. (1887) 87 Walking in the dew moystes and harmes. 1624 DONNE *Devotions*, etc. (ed. 2) 162 As thy water moysts, so it cooles too.

Hence † **Moi·sted** *ppl. a.*; † **Moi·sting** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1382 WYCLIF *Deut.* xi. 10 Moystynge watrys [Vulg. *aquæ irriguæ*]. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XIII. v. (Bodl. MS.), After thee moistinge of þe londe þe h[epes of] grauel toschedeþ. 1541 R. COPLAND *Galyen's Terap.* 2 A iv, Sease ye bathynge & moystynge. 1549–62 STERNHOLD & H. *Ps.* cxvi. 8 Thou hast deliuered .. my moisted eien from mourneful teares. *a* 1562 G. CAVENDISH *Wolsey* in Wordsw. *Eccl. Biog.* (1818) I. 456 After he had .. dried his moisted cheekes, he spake to them in this sorte. 1586 BRIGHT *Melanch.* xl. 268 All which purgers are tn be .. mingled with some moysting decoction. 1612 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* ii. 40 Upon whose moisted skirt, with sea-weed fring'd about, The bastard Corall breeds.

Moist, obs. Sc. f. MOST; MUST *sb.* (musk) and *v.*

Moisten (moi·s'n), *v.* Also 6–7 moysten. [f. MOIST *a.* + -EN[5].]

1. *trans.* To make or render moist, damp, or wet; to wet superficially or moderately. Also *absol.*

1580 [implied in MOISTENED, MOISTENING *ppl. adjs.*]. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* III. vi. 34 Ne doe they need with water of the ford .. to moysten their roots dry. 1610 MARKHAM *Masterp.* II. clxxiii. 483 It looseth and scattereth humors, warmeth and moisteneth. 1611 BIBLE *Job* xxi. 24 His breasts are full of milke, and his bones are moistened with marrow. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 230 A Pipe a little moistned on the inside .. maketh a more solemne Sound, than if the Pipe were dry. *a* 1680 CHARNOCK *Chief of Sinners Obj. Mercy* Wks. (1847) 16 Water cannot but moisten, fire cannot but burn. 1727 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Apricock*, Moisten them [*sc.* the apricocks] with a Spoonful of Water or Vinegar. 1758 JOHNSON *Idler* No. 17 P 1 By fatal confidence in these fallacious promises [of fine weather] .. many curls have been moistened to flaccidity. 1799 G. SMITH *Laboratory* I. 21 Mealed powder moistened with brandy. 1850 O. WINSLOW *Inner Life* iii. 88 No tears of repentance have ever moistened the eyes.

b. In expressions relating to the satisfaction of thirst. *To moisten the lips, throat*, etc. to refresh oneself with liquor. *To moisten one's clay*: see CLAY *sb.* 4 b. (Cf. MOIST *v.* 1 b.)

In quot. 1821 *moisten the lips* is used = 'make the mouth water'.

1603 DEKKER *Batchelor's Bang.* iii. B 4 b, And halfe a dosen times [they have] moystned their lips with the sweet ioyce of the purpled grape. 1741 tr. *D'Argens' Chinese Lett.* xl. 313 This same Priest .. takes care to moisten his Prayers by drinking every now and then a large Glass of Wine. 1819 SHELLEY *Cyclops* 583 *Ulysses.* If you drink much after a mighty feast, Moistening your thirsty maw, you will sleep well. 1821 LAMB *Elia* Ser. I. *Grace before Meat*, The savoury soup and messes steaming up the nostrils, and moistening the lips of the guests with desire. 1826 SCOTT *Woodst.* v, You have been moistening your own throat to some purpose. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* xlviii, Mr. Swiveller .. chanced at the moment .. to be moistening his clay, as the phrase goes, rather copiously. 1842 A. COMBE *Physiol. Digestion* (ed. 4) 37 The generous self-denial of him who passed the cup to his wounded neighbour, without stopping even to moisten his own lips.

† **c.** *fig.* = MOIST *v.* 1 c. *Obs. rare.*

1582 [implied in MOISTENED *ppl. a.* 2]. ?*a* 1661 FULLER (Webster 1864), It moistened not his executioner's heart with any pity.

2. *intr.* To become moist.

1859 TENNYSON *Enid* 520 Nor let her .. blue eye Moisten, till she had lighted on his wound. 1880 G. MEREDITH *Tragic Com.* (1881) 71 The burning eyes of her Indian Bacchus fixed on her till their brightness moistened and flashed.

Moistened (moi·s'nd), *ppl. a.* Also 6 moistned. [f. MOISTEN *v.* + -ED[1].]

1. Rendered moist.

Moistened chicken (nonce-phrase), a literal rendering of F. *poule mouillée*, applied to a person excessively afraid of incurring any discomfort.

1580 SIDNEY *Ps.* vi. v, My moistned bed proofes of my sorrow showeth: My bed .. With my teares floweth. 1591 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. VI*, I. i. 49 When at their Mothers moistned eyes, Babes shall suck, Our Ile be made a Nourish of salt Teares. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 652 The Southern Air And dropping Heav'ns the moisten'd Earth repair. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* XIII. i, All those strong energies of a good mind, which fill the moistened eyes with tears. 1825 *Greenhouse Comp.* I. 247 Any dirt or dust [should be] carefully wiped off with a moistened sponge. 1859 THACKERAY *Virgin.* II. xvii. 139 The story about the French is, that their governor, the Duke of Aiguillon, was rather what you call a *moistened chicken*. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* II. xxiii. 351 When two pieces of ice, with moistened surfaces, were placed in contact, they became cemented together. 1902 *Daily Chron.* 8 Jan. 5/1 A moistened finger .. may be recommended in an emergency.

† **2.** Softened, made tender. (Cf. MOISTEN *v.* 1 c.)

1582 T. WATSON *Centurie of Loue* xxi. Poems (Arb.) 57 Theire beames drawe forth by great attractiue power My moistned hart.

Moistener (moi·s'nəɹ). Also 7 moystner, moistner. [f. MOISTEN *v.* + -ER[1].] One who or something which moistens.

1611 COTGR., *Trempeur*, a dipper; wetter, moistener; soaker, steeper; seasoner, temperer. 1632 tr. *Bruel's Praxis Med.* 103 His diet must be liquid broths, and moystners of the body. 1755 JOHNSON, *Moistener*, the person or thing that moistens. 1867 *Contemp. Rev.* V. 34 The ocean, that great moistener and softening equalizer of the atmosphere.

Moistening (moi·s'nin), *vbl. sb.* [-ING[1].] The action of the verb MOISTEN; also *concr.*

1611 BIBLE *Prov.* iii. 8 It shalbe health to thy nauill, and marrow [*marg.* Hebr. watring, or moystning] to thy bones. 1611 COTGR., *Mouillement*, a wetting, or moistening. 1627 HAKEWILL *Apol.* I. v. § 3. 52 It pleased God to open the windowes of Heauen for the moistning and nourishing of their seedes. 1854 RONALDS & RICHARDSON *Chem. Technol.* (ed. 2) I. 321 A moderate moistening of small coal has .. the advantage of preventing its falling through the grate-bars and creating dust.

Moi·stening, *ppl. a.* [-ING[2].] That moistens; rendering or becoming moist.

1580 SIDNEY *Ps.* XXII. ix, My moistning strength is like a pottsheard dried. 1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 10 b/1 With moysteninge medicamentes must it be cured and helped. 1683 SALMON *Doron Med.* I. 51 Moistning medicines. 1700 DRYDEN *Sigism. & Guiscardo* 504 When the World began, One common Mass compos'd the Mould of Man; One Paste of Flesh on all Degrees bestow'd, And kneaded up alike with moistning Blood. 1880 MISS BRADDON *Just as I am* iv, 'God bless you, Sir Everard', said Vargas, with moistening eyes.

Moister, obs. form of MOISTURE *sb.* and *v.*

Moistful (moi·stfŭl), *a. rare.* [f. MOIST *a.* + -FUL 1.] Full of moisture; moist.

1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. iv. 94 Moistfull matter. 1612 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* xviii. 28 Her moystfull Temples bound, with wreaths of quiuering Reeds. 1855 SINGLETON tr. *Virgil* I. 347 The next Aurora .. Was scanning earth, and moistful shade from heaven Had chased away. 1892 *Punch* 17 Sept. 132/2 When it has to play quick It is moistful and thick, For the trombone is fond of beer.

Moistify (moi·stifəi), *v.* [f. MOIST *a.* + -FY.] *trans.* To moisten; used humorously of 'topers'.

1786 BURNS *Earn. Cry* Postscr. vii, Tho' whyles ye moistify your leather. 1840 MRS. F. TROLLOPE *Widow Married* xxix, The ladies taught her how to arrange a 'spit-curl', so as to defy the moistifying effects of the climate. 1882 J. WALKER *Jaunt to Auld Reekie* 87 [They] moistified their drouthy clay Wi rousin brandy-whitters O' punch.

Moistish (moi·stiʃ), *a.* [f. MOIST *a.* + -ISH.] Somewhat moist or damp. Hence **Moi·stishness.**

1576 NEWTON *Lemnie's Complex.* II. iii. 109 b, This humour .. is a certayne vliginous moystishnes .. which ought .. to be sent out and purged. 1610 W. FOLKINGHAM *Art of Survey* I. xi. 36 A .. moistish earth. 1776–96 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) III. 684 Moistish mountainous situations.

Moistless (moi·stlĕs), *a.* [f. MOIST *sb.* + -LESS.] Devoid of or free from moisture; dry.

1592 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* VIII. XXXIX. 174 Some Cloudes giue Snow, that lights and lyes a moysture moystles. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 183 A rinde moystlesse hard and scaly. 1827 CAPT. G. BEAUCLERK *Journ. to Marocco* xii. 141 The moistless tongue rattled as it essayed to speak. 1884 J. PURVES in *Gd. Words* Nov. 768 The subterranean galleries .. leave the seed dry and moistless.

† **Moi·stly,** *adv. Obs.* [f. MOIST *a.* + -LY 2.] In a moist manner (in quot., drunkenly).

1602 *2nd Pt. Return fr. Parnass.* IV. iii. 1921 Swaggering full moistly on a tauernes bench.

Moistness (moi·stnĕs). [f. MOIST *a.* + -NESS.] The quality or state of being moist; in early use also † *concr.*, moisture.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* IV. iv. (1495) 85 Yf moystnes be shedde in to the vtter partes of a thynge, it fyllyth alle the voyde place therof. *c* 1400 tr. *Secreta Secret., Gov. Lordsh.* 80 Whos grape .. ys noght .. gedryd or .. þe moystnesse of his stok sty vp to þe crope and þe braunches. 1526 TINDALE *Luke* viii. 6 Some [of the seed] fell on ston and as sone as yt was spronge vp yt widdred awaye because yt lacked moystnes. 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus, Alopecurus*, .. an hearbe like a foxe's taile: full of moistnesse. 1591 FLORIO *2nd Fruites* 159 Looke that they [*sc.* the sheets] be drie, and without moistnesse. 1662 GERBIER *Princ.* 25 The moistnesse of this Clime. 1725 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Sweetmeats*, Which proceeds from the Moistness of the Fruit. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 722 Cotton wool is generally used .. to take the [gold] leaf up .. on account of its .. slight moistness. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 23 Feb. 5/4 A hybrid much better adapted to .. the moistness of our climate.

† **b.** *transf.* and *fig. Obs.*

c 1425 *St. Mary of Oignies* I. vi. in *Anglia* VIII. 139/19 Whanne she [was] comen to hirselfe ageyne as after a moystnesse of mynde, rekenyd & countid streitly atte euene alle hir deedys. 1551 BIBLE (Matthew) *Job* xv. *notes*, Out of whiche procedeth suche false doctryne as drieth vp the moistnes of the soule in trifling out ye truth. 1576 WOOLTON *Chr. Manual* B iv, He hath the name of a christian, because he is ingraffed in Christ, as the branche in the stocke, .. & so to receyue of his moystnesse and lyfe.

Moistre, obs. form of MOISTURE *v.*

Moisture (moi·stiŭr, moi·stʃəɹ), *sb.* Also 4–7 moysture, 5 mostour, 5–6 moystour, -er, 6 moistur, -er. [a. OF. *moistour* (mod.F. *moiteur*), f. *moiste* MOIST *a.*]

† **1.** Moistness; the quality or state of being moist or damp. *Obs.*

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* V. xxiv. (Bodl. MS.) lf. 13 b/1 Hoosenes of þe voice comeþ of the moisture of þe wosen and of þe lunges. 1477 NORTON *Ord. Alch.* v. in Ashm. (1652) 54 Moisture, and Drines, be qualityes Passive. 1575 LANEHAM *Let.* (1871) 20 The weather enclynde too sum moyster & wynde. 1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 42 b/2 Through the humiditye or moyster therof, it may soacke through the Escara. 1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* V. xviii. 379 At such time as the fountaines, springs, and rivers, did increase by the moistures of the weather. 1625 N. CARPENTER *Geog. Del.* II. ii. (1635) 22 In the Earth are ingendred the foure ferst qualities of Heate, Cold, Drouth, and Moisture. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) VII. 94 Seldom venturing out, except when the moisture of a summer's evening invites them abroad. 1777 WATSON *Philip II* (1839) 247 Alva had .. applied to Philip for liberty to leave the Low Countries, on account of the bad state of his health, occasioned by the moisture of the climate. 1794 S. WILLIAMS *Vermont* 61 Another remarkable effect is an alteration in the moisture or wetness of the earth.

2. Water or other liquid diffused in small quantity through air as vapour, or through a solid substance, or condensed upon a surface.

?*a* 1366 CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 1424 Through moisture of the welle swete Sprange up the sote grene gras. *c* 1386 — *Pars. T.* P 146 God shal destroie the fruyt of the erthe as fro hem; ne water ne shal yeve hem no moisture, ne the Eyr no refresshyng, ne fyr no light. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) vii. 23 Þai hafe na moisture bot þat þe forsaid ryuer ministers. 1412–20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* (E. E. T. S.) II. 990 It [ebony] wil .. nat corrupte with water nor moysture. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 244/1 A Mostour, *fluor, humor.* 1599 DAVIES *Immort. Soul* XXX. xviii. (1714) 94 The Moisture, which the thirsty Earth Sucks from the Sea. 1611 BIBLE *Luke* viii. 6 Some fell vpon a rocke, and assoone as it was sprung vp, it withered away, because it lacked moisture. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* I. 387 For Moisture then abounds, and Pearly Rains Descend in silence to refresh the Plains. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. 123 The Earth having had no Rain after the Seed was sown, it had no Moisture to assist its Growth. 1783 BURKE *Sp. Fox's E. India Bill* Wks. IV. 78 In that country the moisture .. is given but at a certain season. 1803 *Med. Jrnl.* IX. 231 Oxydated muriatic gas mixed with different other gasses .. is easily changed into acid by the moisture of the flesh. 1843 BORROW *Bible in Spain* XXX, No moisture was wrung from his tanned countenance. 1878 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* 64 Snow is not the only solid form in which atmospheric moisture is precipitated. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 6 Apr. 5/2 The breeze is more balmy, with a touch of moisture in the air.

b. with reference to tears.

1597 SHAKS. *Lover's Compl.* 323 That infected moysture of his eye. 1838 DICKENS *Nich. Nick.* vii, Nicholas Nickleby's eyes were dimmed with a moisture that might have been taken for tears. 1897 'H. S. MERRIMAN' *In Kedar's Tents* vi, With, as it were, a small solution of sympathy, indicated by a moisture of the eye, for the family .. in their bereavement.

† **c.** The liquid part or constituent of a body. In Mediæval philosophy, the humours or humid property, naturally inherent in all plants and animals. Also *radical moisture*: see RADICAL *a.* 1. *Obs.*

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* VII. XXXI. (1495) 245 A Feuer Etyk .. wastith the substancyall moisture of the body. *c* 1450 LYDG. *Secrees* 1259 Yif purgacyons Be necessarye .. Solve flewm brennyng or moysture To kepe a mene. 1471 Radical moisture [see RADICAL *a.* 1]. 1521 FISHER *Serm. agst. Luther* ii. Wks. (1876) 323 The trees whan they be wydred .. and all the moystour shronke into the rote & no lust of grenenes nor of lyfe appereth outwardly. 1547 BOORDE *Brev. Health* cclxxxiv. 94 This matter [*sc.* spittle] doth come of the humiditie or moisters of bloude. 1593 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI*, II. i. 79, I cannot weepe: for all my bodies moysture Scarce serues to quench my Furnace-burning hart. 1732 ARBUTHNOT *Rules of Diet* in *Aliments*, etc. I. 406 When the worms are large they will consume the moisture.

d. *transf.* and *fig.*

1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 2618 The soule .. may profyt neuer a dele To bere frut .. Of vertu, .. ffor that yt lakketh moysture Off grace. 1622 MALYNES *Anc. Law-Merch.* 64 Gaine was the radicall moisture of commerce. 1871 MORLEY *Crit. Misc.* Ser. I. *Carlyle* (1878) 173 A cloud of sedulous ephemera still suck a little spiritual moisture.

† **e.** A noxious exhalation or humidity. *Obs.*

1542 BOORDE *Dyetary* iv. (1870) 239 To drye up the contagyous moysters of the walles. 1542–5 BRINKLOW *Lament.* (1874) 81 Oh Lorde God, .. when they be in troble or plaged rightfullye of the, eyther be drought, moysture, or pestilence, or anye suche like.

† **3.** Liquid in general. *Obs.*

1530 PALSGR. 585/1, I hysse, .. as a hote thyng whan one putteth to any moysture. 1555 [see BULWARK *sb.* 1 b]. 1592 KYD *Sol. & Pers.* I. iii. 80 The earth is my Countrey, As ..

the marine moisture To the red guild fish. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Past.* III. 172 Now dam the Ditches, and the Floods restrain: Their Moisture has already drench'd the Plain. 1713 ADDISON *Cato* III. v, When you..offer'd the full helmet up to Cato, Did he not dash th' untasted moisture from him? 1741 J. MARTYN *Virg. Georg.* I. (1811) 80 Their wives..boil away the moisture of the sweet must over the fire.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *moisture supply*; *moisture-charged, -laden, -loving* adjs.

1827–35 WILLIS *May* 19 Dews for the moisture-loving flowers. 1878 K. JOHNSTON *Africa* ii. 26 There is naturally a marked difference in the moisture supply north and south of the Atlas. 1895 SWETTENHAM *Malay Sk.* 281 Plains and slopes of green on which the moisture-charged clouds unceasingly pour fatness. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 252 The moisture-laden monsoon.

† **Moi·sture**, *v. Obs.* Forms: 5–7 moysture, 6 moster, moystre, 6 moisture, 6–7 moister. [f. MOISTURE *sb.*]

1. *trans.* To moisten; to water, make wet or damp.

1471 RIPLEY *Comp. Alch.* III. viii. in Ashm. (1652) 141 Therwith dyd Hermes moysture hys Tre. 1545 RAYNOLD *Byrth Mankynde* I. xi. (1552) 24 b, Moystrynge al that parte, as it were wyth a dewe. ?1554 COVERDALE *Hope Faithf.* xxxi. (1574) 221 They water and moisture all things, and make them fruteful. 1584 LYLY *Sappho* III. iii. 18 Will you hane any of this Syrope, to moysture your mouth? 1610 MARKHAM *Masterp.* I. xxxi. 60 It proceedeth only from flegme, cold and grosse, which moysturing the braine too much, causeth heauinesse.

2. *intr.* a. *To moisture away*: to decay from damp. b. To shed moisture.

1519 in *Fabric Rolls York Minster* (Surtees) 268 Item the amendynge of the dalmatykes for ye Advent & Septuagesym myghte be done w^t a litile cost, whiche nowe mosters away & not occupied. Item the lettron wherupon the gospell is red is moistered away & faullyn downe. 1610 G. FLETCHER *Chr. Vict.* I. xl, Heau'n stole it selfe from earth by clouds that moisterd vnder.

Moi·stureless, *a.* Also *dial.* moisterless. [-LESS.] Lacking, or destitute of, moisture.

1828 J. RUDDIMAN *Tales & Sk.* 24: Some aged female, whose dry and moisterless eyes can best withstand the pungent fumes of the operation. 1847 in WEBSTER. 1872 JEFFERIES *Wild Life in S. C.* 20 The chalk is moistureless, and nothing can grow on it.

Moisty (moi·sti), *a.* [f. MOIST *a.* + -Y^1.]

† **1.** Of ale: New. (= MOIST *a.* 2 b.) *Obs.*

*c*1386 CHAUCER *Manciple's Prol.* 60 For were it wyn or oold or moysty Ale That he hath dronke he speketh in his nose.

2. Moist, damp, wet. Now *rare.*

1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 219 The bloode Is hotte and moysti. 1561 HOLLYBUSH *Hom. Apoth.* 27 b, The Lyuerworte that groweth in moystye marishes or standinge waters. 1590 C'TESS PEMBROKE *Antonie* 1317 Nor yet the cruell murth'ring blade Warm in the moistie bowells made Of people pell mell dieng. 1603 DRAYTON *Bar. Wars* II. xxxv, Amongst the Ayre-bred moystie Vapours throwne. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* IX. 404 The moysty and choaking heat. *c*1656 SIR J. LAUDER (Fountainhall) *Jrnls.* (S.H.S.) 76 Upright poddock stools..grow in humid, moisty places. 1889 F. R. STOCKTON *Ardis Claverden* (1890) 372 Tossed out upon the moisty air.

b. of a day, season, country, etc.

1545 ASCHAM *Toxoph.* II. (Arb.) 156 A litle winde in a moystie day, stoppeth a shafte more than a good whiskynge wynde in a clere daye. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* VI. ix. 13 The moystie night..Her deawy humour gan on th' earth to shed. 1856 LOWELL *Lett.* (1894) I. 301 A misty, moisty morning. 1861 MISS YONGE *Ing. Step-mother* II, It is not doing the place justice to study it on a misty, moisty morning. 1894 P. COLLIER in *Forum* (U. S.) Aug. 731 A misty, moisty island [*sc.* England].

† **3.** Given to drink. *Obs. rare*—^1.

1593 'P. FOULFACE' *Bacchus Bountie* C 2, Which beeing once tasted, dooth maruellously encrease a moystie appetite.

Moit, obs. Sc. form of MOAT *sb.*^1, MOTE.

Moite(e, obs. form of MOIETY.

Moither, Moithern, var. ff. MOIDER, MATHERN.

Moitie, -y, Moitive, obs. ff. MOIETY, MOTIVE.

Mojarra, variant of MOHARRA.

Mok, obs. form of MOCK, MUCK *sb.* and *v.*

Moka, variant of MOCHA 2.

‖ **Mokaddam** (mǫkʌ·dǫm). *India.* Also 7 mockadam, mocadan, 9 muccudum, mucuddum, mokaddam, mokhad(d)am, -em, mocuddim, -um, mukaddim, muquaddam. [Arab. *muqaddam*, pa. pple. of *qaddama* to place in front.] = HEADMAN 1.

1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 36 The better sort [of the Banian priests of Surat] are called Mockadams, or Masters. 1653 H. COGAN tr. *Pinto's Trav.* iv. 8 The Jaylor, which in their language is called Mocadan [etc.]. 1801 R. PATTON *Asiat. Mon.* 118 The subordinate collectors have been denominated choudries, and those who collected in villages, mocuddims. 1803 WELLINGTON *Let.* 16 Sept. in Gurw. *Desp.* (1844) I. 712 It has more than once happened that soubahdars and muccudums, and between 60 and 100 drivers, have deserted in one night. 1870 SIR G. CAMPBELL in *Syst. Land Tenure* (Cobden Club) 158 This headman was called the Mokaddum in the more northern and eastern provinces. 1891 *Blackw. Mag.* Mar. 371 The 'mnqaddam of Spins' in Anglo-Indian parlance only means the chief of Spinsters. 1901 *Ibid.* Oct. 551 The minor sheikhs..have certain limited powers in nominating the Mokaddems or lesser officials.

Mokado(u)r, variant forms of MUCKENDER.

Moka-moka, variant of MOKO-MOKO.

Moke^1 (mōuk). *dial.* Also 7 *pl.* mockes. [Assumed sing. of *mokes*:—OE. *máx* net: see MESH.] A mesh of a net. Also *pl.* wicker-work.

1604 *Hastings Corpor. Rec.* 4 Aug., in Cooper *Sussex Gloss.* (1853) 61 Any trawl-net, whereof the moak holdeth not five inches size throughout. 1669 WORLIDGE *Syst. Agric., Dict. Rust.*, The *Mocks* of a net, the mashes of a net. 1674 RAY *S. & E. C. Words* 72 The *Mokes* of a net. 1787 GROSE *Provinc. Gloss.*, *Moke*, the mesh of a net. Also wicker-work, perhaps from the resemblance to the meshes of a net. Norf.

Moke^2 (mōuk). *slang* and *dial.* [Of unknown origin. Cf. dial. *mokus* donkey (Hampshire, Devon). In the 16th c. proverbial phrase 'Mocke (or Mok) hath lost her shoe' (Skelton *Why Nat to Courte* 83, *Garlande of Laurell* 1396) it is possible that *Mocke* is a name for a donkey or a mare (cf. Skelton's use of MOCKISH *a.*), but connexion with the modern *moke* is unlikely. Senses 4 and 5 may be etymologically distinct.]

1. A donkey.

1848 [J. L. TUPPER] in *Art & Poetry* No. 3 (1850) 131 They might live like gods, have infinite *smokes*, Drink infinite rum, drive infinite *mokes*. 1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* II. 85/1, I had a good moke (donkey), and a tidyish box ov a cart. 1854 THACKERAY *Newcomes* XXX, Miss Chummey..inclines to the one [*sc.* of the costermongers] who rides from market on a moke rather than to the gentleman who sells his greens from a hand-basket. 1863 KINGSLEY *Water-Bab.* viii. 305 But he saw the end of such fellows, when he came to the island of the Golden Asses...For they were all turned into mokes with ears a yard long, for meddling with matters which they do not understand. 1871 J. R. GREEN *Lett.* (1901) 286 At last I have resumed my donkey...Never was such a moke. She rushes at the steepest hillside.

2. *transf.* 'A stupid fellow, a dolt' (*Cent. Dict.* 1890); = DONKEY 2.

3. *Australian slang.* A very inferior horse.

1891 *Argus* (Melbourne) 12 May 6/3, I have exchanged my hired moke for a fine black horse. 1898 in M. Davitt *Life & Progr. Australia* XXXV. 191 And a bosom friend's a 'cobber' And a horse a 'prad' or 'moke'.

4. *U.S.* A negro.

1871, 1879 in Schele de Vere *Americanisms.*

5. *Theatrical slang.* 'A variety performer who plays on several instruments' (*Cent. Dict.* 1890).

Moke^3. *dial.* Also moak. [Of obscure origin. Cf. *Sc.* MOCH *a.* and MUGGY *a.*; also Sw. dial. *moket* cloudy (Rietz).] A mist, fog.

1866 J. E. BROGDEN *Lincoln. Gloss., Moke*,..a mist, foggy thick weather. 1876 *Mid-Yorksh. Gloss., Moke*,..cloud and dampness together.

Hence **Mo·ky** *a. dial.* (See quots.)

1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Moky*, (old Word) cloudy; as *Moky Weather*. 1736 AINSWORTH *Lat. Dict.*, Moky weather, *tempestas caliginosa*. 1866 J. E. BROGDEN *Lincoln. Gloss., Moaky*, hazy, dull, dark, weather.

Moke, obs. form of MOCK, MUCK *sb.* and *v.*

Mokedore, variant of MUCKENDER.

Mokel, **Moker**, obs. ff. MICKLE, MOCKER.

† **Mokerard.** *Obs.* [See -ARD.] = MUCKERER, miser.

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 6230 Auaryce, ryche and harde, ys a þefe, a mokerad [*v. r.* mokerard].

Mokere, Mokerer, obs. ff. MUCKER, MUCKERER.

Mokhad(d)am, variant of MOKADDAM.

‖ **Moki**^1 (mōu·ki). [Maori.] The native name of two New Zealand fishes, the Blue Cod, *Percis colias*, and the Bastard Trumpeter, *Latris ciliaris*.

[1820 *Gram. & Voc. Lang. N. Zealand* (C. M. S.) 182 *Moki*, *s.* A fish so called.] 1857 HURSTHOUSE *N. Zealand* I. 122 Sea fish are more plentiful: the best are the Hapuka, ..the Moki, the Wharehou [etc.]. 1893 *Star* 25 May 2/8 The fish in question was New Zealand 'Moki', or blue cod, as it is called there, though it has less affinity with cod than with our own gray mullet.

‖ **Moki**^2 (mōu·ki). Also **mokihi, moguey.** [Maori.] A kind of Maori raft. (See quots.)

1840 J. S. POLACK *Manners & Cust. New Zealanders* I. 226 In the absence of canoes, a quantity of dried bulrushes are fastened together, on which the native is enabled to cross a stream..; these humble conveyances are called mokis. 1858 *Jrnl. Ho. Represent. N. Zealand* App. iii. 18 (Morris) We crossed the river on mokis. 1871 C. L. MONEY *Knocking About in N. Zealand* 52 (ibid.), Moguey, a Maori name for a raupo or flax-stick raft. 1889 V. PYKE *Wild Will Enderby* 115 From amongst the bushes he drew forth a 'mokihi', on which he crossed the river in safety.

attrib. 1858 *Jrnl. Ho. Represent. N. Zealand* App. iii. 18 (Morris), Moki navigation.

Mokkar, Mokkery, obs. ff. MOCKER, MOCKERY.

‖ **Moko**^1 (mōu·kō). [Maori.] The system of tattooing practised by the Maoris; also, any particular pattern of tattooing.

[1769 J. BANKS *Jrnl.* 22 Nov. (1896) 203 The people..were browner..and they had a much larger quantity of *amoca* or black stains upon their bodies and faces...In this particular, I mean the use of *amoca*, almost every tribe seems to have a different custom. 1823 CRUISE *Jrnl. Resid. N. Zealand* 310 The lines upon the faces and persons of the New Zealanders are universally designated amoco.] 1855 R. TAYLOR *Te Ika a Maui* 150 The grand ornament of all was the moko or tattoo. 1896 ROBLEY (*title*) Moko; or Maori Tattooing. 1896 — *Moko* 13 Fig. 8.—Moko signature on a deed. *Ibid.* 16 He drew for Dr. Traill the mokos of his brother and of his son.

Hence **Mo·ko** *v. trans.*, to tattoo in the Maori manner. Hence **Mo·koed** *ppl. a.*

1896 ROBLEY *Moko* 183 Mokoed heads in museums and collections. 1902 WEBSTER Suppl., *Moko, v. t.*

Moko^2 (mōu·kō). *slang.* (See quot.)

1860 *Hotten's Slang Dict.* (ed. 2), *Moko*, a name given by sportsmen to pheasants killed by mistake in partridge shooting during September, before the pheasant shooting comes in. They pull out their tails and roundly assert they are no pheasants at all, but mokos.

‖ **Moko-moko** (mōu·kǫmōu·kǫ). Also mako-mako, moka-moka. [Maori.]

1. A New Zealand species of lizard (*Lygosoma ornatum* or *L. moko*).

[1820 *Gram. & Voc. Lang. N. Zealand* (C. M. S.) 182 *Moko moko*, a small lizard.] 1902 in WEBSTER *Suppl.*

2. The Bell-bird, *Anthornis melanura*.

a 1888 A. W. BATHGATE in Sladen *Australian Ball.* 22 (*title*) To the Moko-Moko, or Bell-Bird. 1889 PARKER *Catal. N. Zealand Exhib.* 119 (Morris s. v. Bell-bird), Bell-bird,.. or Mako-mako (*Anthornis melanura*), is still common in many parts of the South Island. 1900 *Longm. Mag.* Jan. 231 The tuis and moka-mokas vie with each other to see who can sing the sweetest.

Mokum (mōu·kŭm). [a. Japanese *moku-me*] An alloy used in metal-work.

[1884 C. G. W. LOCK *Workshop Receipts* Ser. III. 38/2 Attention should be called to the so-called moku-me, a word which might be rendered by 'veins of the wood'.] 1889 BRANNT *Krupp & Wildberger's Metallic Alloys* 322 The so-called 'mokum', an alloy .. introduced from Japan... Chiefly used for decorations upon gold and silver articles.

Mol, variant form of MAIL *sb.*^2, MULL.

‖ **Mola** (mōu·lă). [L. *mola* (1) millstone; (2) salt cake; (3) a false conception (after Gr. *μύλη*). Senses 2 and 3 below are mod.Latin.]

1. A fleshy mass occurring in the womb; a false conception; = MOLE *sb.*^5 Also *transf.* and *fig.*

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 163 A false conception called Mola, *i.* a moone calfe. 1636 JAMES *Iter Lanc.* (Chetham Soc.) 9, I hope no sisters did of molaes dye. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* II. vi. 93 Many Mola's and false conceptions there are of Mandrakes. 1649 G. DANIEL *Trinarch., Hen. IV*, cccxlix, The Age (it seemes) after soe great a Birth In Treason, as his owne, broke in the Cell; Slipt her Rebellions, like rude Molaes forth. 1671 GREW *Anat. Plants* iv. App. § 1 These Thorns (have their origin), from the outer, and less fecund Part; and so produceth no Leaves, but is, as it were, the Mola of a Bud. 1753 N. TORRIANO *Midwifry* 39 Mola's and false Conceptions. 1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) IV. 196 The human mola sometimes attains considerable developement without either brain or spinal cord.

† **2.** A fish; = MOLE *sb.*^6 1, MOLEBUT.

The Latin word is in Carpentier's additions to Du Cange, with a quotation from an anonymous MS. of the 16th c.; the passage is in Rondelet *De Pisc. Mar.* (1554) 425: see MOLEBUT.

1678 PHILLIPS (ed. 4), *Mola*, a Fish found in the Adriatick Sea.

3. *Ent.* The grinding surface of the broad basal projection of the mandible of certain insects.

1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* III. 437 These mandibles.. are furnished with..miniature mill-stones to grind it [*i.e.* food]. The part here alluded to I call the *Mola*.

† **Molair.** *Obs. rare. Anat.* Used in pl. as rendering of L. *molaria* in the early editions of Vegetius IV. i; mod. editors read *malaria*, but the meaning is not clear. Topsell 1607, rendering the same passage, has 'grinding bones'; Markham 1610, copying Blundevil, has *molairs*, which in ed. 1675 becomes *molars*.

1580 BLUNDEVIL *Diet. Horses* viii. 4 b, Then there is a great bone in his [the horse's] breast where vnto are fastened .xxxvi. ribbes. And to the Columell behind be two bones, and from the molairs to the ioints other two.

† **Molan.** *Obs.* Also 4 molayne, 5 molane, mulan. [Of obscure origin: cf. MOLLET.] A bit for a horse.

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 169 His molaynes, & alle þe metail anamayld was þenne, þe steropes þat he stod on, stayned of þe same. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 242/2 A molan [*MS. M. erron.* mokan, *MS. A.* molane] of a hrydelle, *lorale, mordaculum, salmares*. *Ibid.* 246/1 A Mulan, *vbi* Molan (A.).

Molar (mōu·lăr), *a.*^1 and *sb.* Also 7 molare, and 7–8 *pl.* in L. form molares. [ad. L. *molār-is* belonging to a mill (*sb.* millstone, grinder tooth), f. *mola* a millstone: see -AR^1. Cf. F. *molaire* (16th c.); also AF. *dentz moellers* (Britton).]

A. *adj.*

1. Grinding, serving to grind. **a.** *spec.* Applied to the back-teeth or grinders of mammals, and the flat or rounded grinding teeth of certain fishes.

1626 BACON *Sylva* § 752 The Back-Teeth, which we call the Molar-Teeth, or Grinders. *a* 1661 FULLER *Worthies, Cheshire* (1662) I. 172 How necessary these [mill stones] are for mans sustenance, is proved by the painful experience of such aged persons, who wanting their Molare Teeth must make use of their Gums for Grinders. 1728 BAILEY, *Molar Teeth* (*i.e.* Grinders), the five outmost Teeth on either side of the Mouth. 1871 DARWIN *Desc. Man* I. i. 36 It appears as if the posterior molar or wisdom-teeth were tending to become rudimentary in the more civilised races of man. 1888 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* 12 The number of molar teeth is greater in the Hare and Rabbit than in any other Rodents.

fig. 1831 SYD. SMITH *Wks.* (1859) II. 219/2 The majority of the new members will be landed gentlemen: their genus is utterly distinct from the revolutionary tribe; they have Molar teeth; they are destitute of the carnivorous and incisive jaws of political adventurers.

b. *gen.*

1844 *Civil Engin. & Arch. Jrnl.* VII. 401/2 The peculiar mechanical power which streams employ in forming their channels by the operation of cataracts,..the molar or grinding process, most common in mountainous countries.

2. Of or pertaining to a molar-tooth. *Molar forceps* (see quot. 1884).

1831 R. KNOX *Cloquet's Anat.* 599 At the back part, between the masseter and buccinator muscles, are two small bodies formed of the assemblage of these follicles. They

are designated by the name of *Molar Glands*, because the orifice of their excretory duct is situated opposite the last molar tooth. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl. 613/2 *Molar Forceps*, heavy forceps for extracting the molars; or cowhorn forceps for eradicating roots when the crowns have decayed below the alveolar process. 1891 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Molar glands*.

3. *Ent.* Of or pertaining to a mola.

1879 WOOD-MASON in *Trans. Ent. Soc. Lond.* 152 In.. other 'Rove-beetles',..no molar process is developed. *Ibid.*, The molar branch of the jaws in *Blatta* and *Machilis*.

4. *Path.* Of the nature of a mola or false conception.

1822-34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) IV. 186 Simulating pregnancy, from molar concretions. 1891 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

B. *sb.*

1. A molar or grinding tooth; a grinder; spec., a *true molar*, a molar tooth in the adult which is not preceded by a deciduous or milk-molar. *False molar*, a pre-molar; a molar tooth which has replaced a deciduous or milk-tooth.

1541 [see DUAL *sb.* 2]. 1671 J. WEBSTER *Metallogr.* ix. 140 Two or three of the molares or grinding teeth of an old Cuw. 1767 *Phil. Trans.* LVII. 465 None of the molares, or grinding teeth of elephants, are discovered with these tusks. 1834 MCMURTRIE *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 50 The canini have two roots, which causes them to partake of the nature of false molars. 1855 W. S. DALLAS in *Syst. Nat. Hist.* II. 494 The true molars are furnished with sharply tubercular crowns. 1881 MIVART *Cat* 29 Behind the third premolar is an exceedingly small tooth, which is called a true molar.

2. *Ichthyology.* A tooth which has a rounded or convex or a flat surface.

1880 GÜNTHER *Fishes* 344 In all the species [*sc.* of *Myliobatidæ*] the dentition consists of perfectly flat molars, forming a kind of mosaic pavement. *Ibid.* 406 Jaws [*sc.* of *Sargina*] with a single series of incisors in front, and with several series of rounded molars on the side.

3. *Ent.* One of the thick internal processes with a grinding surface found on and near the base of the mandibles of many insects.

1892 J. B. SMITH in *Trans. Amer. Entom. Soc.* XIX. 84 Another of the basal pieces,..I propose to call the *molar*, or grinder...In the present species the molars are ridged and dissimilar.

Molar (mōu·lăr), *a.*[2] [f. L. *mōlēs* mass; see -AR[1]; cf. MOLE *sb.*[3]] Pertaining to mass; acting on or by means of large masses of matter. Often contrasted with *molecular*.

1862 H. SPENCER *First Princ.* II. v. § 55 (1875) 181 The molar motion which disappears when a bell is struck by its clapper, reappears in the bell's vibrations. 1871 TYNDALL *Fragm. Sci.* (1879) I. xii. 360 This cleavage is..molar, not molecular. 1903 F. W. H. MYERS *Human Personality* II. 509 This apparently molar world consists..of at least two interpenetrating environments, molecular and etherial.

Molariform (mōulæ·rifōɪm), *a. Bot.* and *Zool.* [ad. mod.L. *molāriform-is*, f. L. *molār-is*: see -FORM.] Having the form of a molar tooth.

1856 in MAYNE *Expos. Lex.* 1888 O. THOMAS *Cattal. Marsupialia Brit. Mus.* 4 The milk-premolar well developed and long-persistent, molariform. 1903 *Amer. Jrnl. Sci.* XV. 176 The premolars rarely become molariform.

Molary (mōu·lări), *a.* [ad. F. *molaire* MOLAR *a.*: see -ARY[2].] Adapted for grinding or pulverizing food; = MOLAR *a.*[1] 1.

1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* III. xxxiv. 435 He [Marcel de Serres] .. divides them [*sc.* the teeth of the Orthoptera] into *incisive* or cutting, *laniary* or canine, and *molary* or grinding teeth. 1835 KIRBY *Hab. & Inst. Anim.* II. xxi. 381 Their laniary, incisive, and molary teeth. 1884 *Sunday at Home* Jan. 28/2 It is this unequal wearing surface of the elephant's grinders which makes them truly 'molary' or 'mill-stony'.

† Mola·ss. *Sc. Obs.* Also **molash.** [Assumed sing. form from MOLASSES.] = MOLASSES 2.

1773 FERGUSSON in Herd *Songs* (1904) 48 The ignorant ass Who drinks all the evening at burning molass. *a* 1779 D. GRAHAM *Coalm. Crtship.* Writ. 1883 II. 51 Spout ye a mutchkin o' molash in her cheek, ye'll get her mind an' speed the better. 1813 G. BRUCE *Poems* 25 The only guid molass has dune, Some droutbie wives it's sent hame soon.

Hence **Mola·ssed** *ppl. a.*, drunk with 'molass'.

1789 W. BUCHAN *Dom. Med.* (1790) 98 *note*, The common people have got so universally into the habit of drinking this base spirit, that when a porter or labourer is seen reeling along the streets, they say, *he has got molassed*.

‖ **Molasse** (mŏlas). *Geol.* Also 8 **mollasse.** [F. *molasse*.] A soft coherent greenish sandstone of Miocene age, esp. that peculiar to the region between the Alps and the Jura.

1796 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) I. 99 *Mollasse*, a grey or yellowish grey stone, found in the neighbourhood of Lausanne, and various parts of France. 1827 R. JAMESON tr. *Cuvier's Theory Earth* 97 Certain lignites and molasses do in fact contain them [*i. e.* fossil remains of terrestrial mammifera]. 1886 J. GEIKIE *Outl. Geol.* 351 The lower portions of this Molasse pertain to the Oligocene.

Molasses (mŏlæ·sĕz). Forms: 6 **melasus, molassos**, 6–7 **malasso(e)s**, 7 **molosso(e)s, malossea, mallasaua, mellasses, mullasses**, 7–8 **molosses, -ua**, 8 **molossa's, mollossus**, 7–9 **melassea**, 7– **molassea.** [a. Pg. *melaço* = It. *melazzo* :—late L. *mellāceum* must, neut. of **mellāceus* of the nature of honey, f. *mell-*, *mel* honey. A fem. form (:—late L. **mellācea*) occurs in Sp. *melaza*, F. *mélasse* (whence It. *melassa*), which may be the source of some of the Eng. forms.

The word was adopted in the plural form, and this has remained constant in Eng. exc. in the application to an alcoholic spirit (see MOLASS); the word is however construed as a sing. In the Western U. S. (according to Bartlett *Dict. Americanisms* 275) it is treated as a plural.]

1. The uncrystallized syrup drained from raw sugar; also, the syrup obtained from sugar in the process of refining.

The word is now rare in British use, but in the U. S. is commonly used promiscuously with *treacle*. In technical language, *molasses* is applied to the drainings of raw sugar and *treacle* to the syrup from sugar in the process of refining.

1582 N. LICHEFIELD tr. *Castanheda's Conq. E. Ind.* I. xxiv. 61 b, There was nothing els but Cocos and Melasus, which is a certeine kinde of Sugar made of Palmes or Date trees. 1588 N. H. *Voy. Cavendish* in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1589) 810 One was laden with..molassos or sirrope of sugar, beanes [etc.]. 1599 HAKLUYT *Voy.* II. II. 8 We spent here very neere three moneths before we could get in our lading, which was Sugar, Dates, Almonds, and Malassos or sugar Syrrope. 1663 BOYLE *Usef. Exp. Nat. Philos.* II. iv. 105 Which, together with Rice and Molossos (or black course Suger) they put into a quantity of Water, and distil it in an Alimbick. 1694 WESTMACOT *Script. Herb.* (1695) 6 Good store of Molossus or common Treacle to sweeten it. 1731 P. SHAW *Three Ess. Artif. Philos.* 31 An Inquiry into a Method of converting Melasses or Treacle into tolerable Sugars. 1764 *Museum Rust.* II. iii. 17 Whatever saccharine particles touch the greatly-heated boiler are turned black, and form what is called molasses. 1864 GLADSTONE *Sp. on Budget* 7 Apr., There was also liquid sugar under the class of melasses or molasses.

† 2. *Sc.* A spirit distilled from this: see MOLASS.

1789 W. BUCHAN *Dom. Med.* (1790) 98 *note*, Above two thousand private stills [in Edinburgh] are constantly employed in preparing a poisonous liquor called Molasses.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as **molasses acid** = MELASSIC ACID; **molasses beer**, a fermented liquor flavoured with molasses (cf. *treacle beer*); **molasses bird** (see quot.); **molasses cistern**, a tank which receives the molasses; **molasses-gate** (see quot. 1875); **molassea spirit** = sense 2.

1838 T. THOMSON *Chem. Org. Bodies* 624 The nature of the *melasses acid is not better known than that of the herbaceous matter. 1742 *Lond. & Country Brew.* I. (ed. 4) 31 Of Brewing *Molosses Beer. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 91 Molasses beer. 1878 *Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus.* (1879) I. 190 [Birds of St. Vincent] *Certhiola saccharina*...Called the '*Molasses bird'. 1845 *Encycl. Metrop.* VIII. 503/2 The curing-house is a large airy building provided with a capacious *molasses cistern. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, **Molasses-gate*, a faucet with a sliding lip at the discharge end, to cut off the flow positively and prevent drip. 1884 PHIN *Dict. Apicult.* 44 Beekeepers have adopted the 'molasses-gate'. 1731 P. SHAW *Three Ess. Artif. Philos.* 123 History of *Melasses spirit. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* s.v. *Sugar spirit*, The manner of preparing it is the same with that used for malt and melasses spirits.

Hence **Mola·ssied, Mola·ssy** *adjs.*, charged with molasses.

1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 1209 The liquor..can dissolve none of the crystalline sugar, but only the coloured molassy matter. 1866 BLACKMORE *C. Nowell* vii, A glass of first-rate brown sherry—not the vile molassied stuff, thick as the sack of Falstaff, but the genuine thing.

Molat, variant of MOLET *Obs.*

Molata, -atto, obs. forms of MULATTO.

Molavee, -vie, obs. forms of MOOLVEE.

Molayne, obs. form of MOLAN, MULLEIN.

Molberi, -bery(e, obs. forms of MULBERRY.

Mold, obs. form of MOLE *sb.*[2] and *sb.*[3]

Mold, Mold-: see MOULD, MOULD-.

† Moldave. *Obs.* [f. *Moldavia*: see next.]

1. A long outer garment worn by ladies during the first half of the 19th cent.

1800 [MRS. ST. GEORGE] *Jrnl. Visit Germany* (1861) 95 She [the Queen of Prussia] wore..a moldave (simply a body, train, and short sleeves) of pale pink silk.

2. = MOLDAVIAN *sb.*

1851 BORROW *Lavengro* xlvii, 'He is a Moldave', said the Armenian.

Moldavian (mŏldē·ĭviăn), *a.* and *sb.* [f. *Moldavia*, formerly a province of northern Turkey, now part of the kingdom of Roumania: see -IAN.]

A. *adj.* Of or pertaining to Moldavia or its inhabitants. *Moldavian balm, mint*, the plant *Dracocephalum moldavicum*. *Moldavian cloak* = MOLDAVE 1.

1760 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* App. 319 Moldavian Baulm, *Dracocephalum*. 1821 SHELLEY *Hellas* 289 The false Moldavian serfs fled. 1890 *Century Dict.* s.v., *Moldavian cloak*. 1891 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Moldavian mint*, the *Dracocephalum moldavicum*.

B. *sb.* **a.** An inhabitant of Moldavia. **b.** The Moldavian language.

1603 [see MISS *v.* 23 f]. 1847 W. C. L. MARTIN *Ox* I. 8/1 The names of this animal in the present day are as follow:—*bison*,..in Polish *tur*,..in Moldavian *zimbr* [etc.]. 1851 BORROW *Lavengro* xlviii, The cuffs which I had seen him bestow upon the Moldavian. 1904 *Speaker* 24 Dec. 320/1 Translations from the Turkish, Arabic,..or Moldavian.

Molde, obs. var. MOLE *sb.*[2], MOULD.

Mole (mōul), *sb.*[1] Forms: 1 **maal, mál**, 5 **mool**, 6 **moole**, 6–7 **moll, moale**, 7 **molle, moal**, 9 *Sc. dial.* **maele, mail**, 4– **mole.** [OE. *mál* ?neut., corresp. to OHG. *meil* neut., *meila* str. and wk. fem. (MHG. *meil* neut., *meile* str. and wk. fem.), Goth. *mail* neut.]

† 1. A discoloured spot, esp. on cloth, linen, etc. *Iron-mole*: see the corrupted form IRON-MOULD. *Obs.*

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 125/19 *Stigmentum*, ful maal on rægel. *c* 1050 *Voc.* ibid. 446/10, 523/15 *Maculam*, mal. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XIII. 315 Þi best cote, haukyn, Hath many moles and spottes. 14.. in *Kel. Ant.* I. 108 To done away mool or spoot from clothe. *a* 1535 FISHER *Serm.* Wks. (1876) 402 Any moole in your kerchiues. 1579 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 39 One yron mole defaceth the whole peece of Lawne. 1588 L. M. tr. *Bk. Dyeing* 6 Weat it still againe, till ye see the moll go forth. 1807 HOGG *Mount. Bard* Poet. Wks. 1838 II. 202 That mantle bears the purple dye. And all the waters in Liddisdale,..Can ne'er wash out the wondrous maele! 1825-80 JAMIESON, *Mail*, a spot in cloth, especially what is caused by iron; often, *an irne mail*.

2. *spec.* A spot or blemish on the human skin; in mod. use, an abnormal pigmented prominence on the skin, sometimes accompanied by a close hairy growth.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* VII. XVI. (1495) 235 Whan a mole of the eye is fresshe and lytyl redde popy sede suffyceth to helpe it. 1571 HYLL *Physiognomie* (title-p.), A little Treatise of Moles, seen on any part eyther of man or woman. 1588 GREENE *Pandosto* (1843) 15 One moale staineth the whole face. 1598 BARCKLEY *Felic. Man* III. (1603) 203 His wife had a little blacke spot (a mole some call it) behind in her necke. 1601 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* V. i. 249 My father had a moale vpon his brow. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 76 Pimples, wems, and molls that be eye-sores. *Ibid.* 299 The haire growing in any molle or wert vpon the face. *a* 1618 RALEIGH *Mahomet* (1637) 74 An hairy moale as big as a pease. 1672 SIR T. BROWNE *Let. Friend* § 10 In consumptive Diseases some eye the complexion of Moals. 1693 [see NAEVUS]. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 130 ₱ 4 The several Moles and Marks by which the Mother used to describe the Child. 1835 J. GREEN *Dis. Skin* 335 A small mole upon the cheek is sometimes held rather as a heightener of female beauty than otherwise. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 819 It is very difficult to discriminate warts from moles. 1900 EL. GLYN *Visits Elizabeth* (1906) 32 We saw a..family of elderly girls..and they all had moustaches or moles on the cheek.

† b. An ulcerated sore on an animal. *Obs.*

1522 SKELTON *Why not to Court* 243 A mayny of marefoles, That occupy theyr holys, Full of pocky molys.

† c. *fig.* (*a*) A blemish, fault; (*b*) a distinguishing or identifying mark. *Obs.*

1644 BULWER *Chiron.* 103 Reckoned by Quintilian among the moales of Rhetoricke. 1651 N. BACON *Disc. Govt. Eng.* II. XXXVII. (1739) 167 A Mole in the fair Face of Church-government. 1660 SHARROCK *Vegetables* 9 There is a great controversie..whether this be a seed, or onely particular mole, and character of Plants of that nature. 1699 BENTLEY *Phal.* 393 A few particular marks and moles in the Letters. 1715 POPE *Iliad* I. Pref. E 4, There are two Peculiarities in Homer's Diction that are a sort of Marks or Moles, by which every common Eye distinguishes him at first sight. 1743 WHITEHEAD *On Ridicule* 217 The random pencil haply hit the mole; Ev'n from their prying foes such specks retreat.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *mole-like*, *-marked* adjs.

1876 *Trans. Clinical Soc.* IX. 45 On the arms and hands were several mole-like specks of discoloration. 1906 *Blackw. Mag.* May 637/1 Such masculine flotsam as our mole-marked friend.

Mole (mōul), *sb.*[2] Forms: *α.* 4 **molle**, 5 **mooll, mulle**, 6 **moal, mowl, mol**, 6–7 **moale, moole, moule, mowle**, 6–7 **moll**, 7 **moul**, 4– **mole**; *β.* 5–6 **molde**, 5–7 **mold, mould**, 6 **moold.** [ME. *mulle, molle*, corresponding to MDu. *mol, moll(e*, MLG., LG. *mol, mul* masc.; an early Frankish form (? 7th c.) appears in the Reichenau glosses in latinized form: 'talpas, *muli* qui terram fodiunt'.

Some scholars regard the word as a shortening of OTeut. **moldowerpon-, -worpon-* MOULDWARP; according to others it is an independent derivative from the root of MOULD *sb.*, MULL. The word resembles in form a WGer. word for 'lizard': OS., OHG. *mol*, MHG. *mel, molm, molch*, mod.G. *molch*; the two can hardly be identical, but they may be from the same root, or they may be hypocoristic shortenings of different compounds of **moldā* mould, earth.]

1. Any one of the small mammals of the family *Talpidæ*; esp. the common mole of the Old World, *Talpa europæa*, a small animal about six inches in length, having a velvety fur, usually blackish, exceedingly small but not blind eyes, and very short strong fossorial fore-limbs with which to burrow in the earth in search of earthworms and to excavate the galleried chambers in which it dwells.

α. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVIII. i. (1495) 739 The molle that bathe eyen closyd wythin a webbe. 14.. *Stockh. Med. MS.* I. 411 in *Anglia* XVIII. 305 Take & fle a mole owte of þe skynne. 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 18390 For low in ertbe, on euery syde, Lyche a molle, they abyde. 1481-90 *Howard Househ. Bks.* (Roxb.) 359 My Lady gaff Braby for takynge of mulles xij.d. 1486 [see LABOUR *sb.* 1 d]. 1530 PALSGR. 246/1 Mole a beest, *talpe*. 1573 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 86 Go strike off the nowles of deluing mowles. 1584 LYLY *Sappho* II. 131 Talke [not] with any neere the hill of a mowle. 1611 BIBLE *Lev.* xi. 30 These also shalbe vncleane vnto you,..the Lyzard, and the Snaile, and the Molle. 1714 GAY *Sheph. Week, Friday* 157 While Moles the crumbled Earth in Hillocks raise. 1819 WARDEN *United States* I. 194 The Red mole of Seba, *Talpa rubra Americana*. 1886 J. DALLAS in *Jrnl. Anthrop. Inst.* XV. 323 The distribution of the moles is also noteworthy. 1898 *Daily News* 21 Sept. 6/6 That leader, instead of burrowing underground like the mole, should appear on the surface.

β. c 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* IV. 130 The molde & other suche as diggeth lowe Anoy hem not, in hard lond yf they growe. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 160/21 A Mold, *talpa*. *Ibid.* 218/40

A Mould, *talpa*. 1576 *Nottingham Rec.* IV. 164 Payd to Bacon..for takyng of mouldes in the felde xiijs. 1592 LYLY *Entertainm.* Wks. 1902 I. 478 Me he terrified..saying that he would turne me..to a molde.

b. In allusion to the blindness attributed to the European mole in classic and later times.

1563 *Mirr. Mag., Rivers* lxiv, Blynde as molles. 1598 F. ROUS *Thule* L 4 b, Like blinde Moles into our bane we goe. 1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. i. II. *Imposture* 376 In heav'nly things ye are more blinde then Moals. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* I. 266 The blind laborious Mole In winding Mazes works her hidden Hole. 1713 BENTLEY *Rem. Disc. Freethink.* II. xlix. 269 In the whole Compass and last Tendency of Passages he is as blind as a mole.

2. *transf.* and *fig.* One who works in darkness.

1601 DENT *Pathw. Heaven* 76, I woonder .. that these Moules and Mucke-wormes of this earth, should so minde these shadowish things [*sc.* riches]. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* I. v. 161 Well said old Mole, can'st worke i'th' ground so fast? A worthy Pioner. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* IX. 949 The miser earths his treasure; and the thief, Watching the mole, half-beggars him ere morn. 1855 J. R. LEIFCHILD *Cornwall Mines* 151 The miners there must have been generations of human moles pursuing their slow but certain advances in mysterious candlelight.

b. One whose (physical or mental) vision is deemed defective.

1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* IV. i. 194 Pray you tread softly, that the blinde Mole may not heare a foot fall. 1677 W. HUGHES *Man of Sin* I. iii. 11 A very mole must see, and Papist can't gainsay the Truth propounded.

3. Applied, usually with defining prefix, to other animals, as **Cape mole**, (*a*) the mole-rat *Bathyergus maritimus* (*Cent. Dict.* 1890); (*b*) the golden mole; **duck-mole** (see DUCK *sb.*[1] 12 b); **gold-, golden mole**, the Cape chrysochlore, *Chrysochloris aureus*; **marsupial mole**, a small pouched burrowing animal, *Notoryctes typhlops*, native of Australia; **radiated** or **star-nosed mole**, *Condylura cristata*. See also SHREW-MOLE, WATER-MOLE.

1731 MEDLEY *Kolben's Cape G. Hope* II. 123 Moles..are pretty numerous at the Cape. 1781 PENNANT *Hist. Quad.* II. 487 Linnæus places this [Brown Mole] and our radiated Mole, in his class of Sorex or Shrew. 1855 W. S. DALLAS in *Syst. Nat. Hist.* II. 490 The peculiar metallic lustre of their coats, which has given rise to the name of Golden Mole (*Chrysochloris aurea*), applied to the best known species. 1859 WOOD *Illustr. Nat. Hist.* I. 429 Radiated Mole, or Star-nosed Mole.—*Astromycles cristatus*. 1898 *Guide Mammalia* 113 Marsupial Mole (*Notoryctes typhlops*). 1904 *Q. Rev.* Oct. 470 The golden moles, recognisable by the iridescent sheen of their fur.

†b. Short for *mole-cricket* (see 8 b). *Obs.*

1714 DERHAM *Phys.-Theol.* IV. xiii. (ed. 2) 234 *note*, Their two Fore-legs are formed somewhat like those of the ordinary Moles, or *Gryllotalpa*. 1761 *Ann. Reg.* 113 The gardeners round Lambeth are pestered with vermin called flying moles.

†4. *French mole*: app. a translation of F. *taupe*, 'a sort of tumour formed under the integuments of the head, which are raised like the earth mined by the mole' (Littré). *Obs.*

1607 C. TOURNEUR *Rev. Trag.* Wks. 1878 II. 10 He hold her by the fore-top fast enough, Or like the French moale heave up hair and all.

5. The borer of a MOLE-PLOUGH.

1805 R. W. DICKSON *Pract. Agric.* I. Plate xlvii, Fig. 1. is the beam, 2. the mole, to which segments for lengtbening it screw on at 3. 1834 *Brit. Husb.* I. 453 The mole, or borer, is a well-tempered cast-iron conical share, of about three inches diameter at the largest end.

6. *pl.* Moleskin trousers. Also *mole trousers*.

1890 *Times* 16 Sept. 10/4 The missing man..was wearing ..dark gray waistcoat, white mole trousers. 1900 H. LAWSON *Over Shiprails* 164 Tom stood up in his clean, white moles and white flannel shirt.

7. *attrib.* and *Comb.* a. Simple attrib., as *mole-earth, -heap, -hillock, -hole, -run, -track* (†*-tract*); also *mole-grains, -spade, -spear, -staff*, †*-tine, -trap*, implements used in the destruction of moles.

1904 *Westm. Gaz.* 26 Nov. 16/1 There are some interesting diagrams of *mole-earths. 1658 EVELYN *Fr. Gard.* (1675) 100 They are destroyed likewise with *mole-graines, which is a set of sharp iron-points, skrewed upon a staff. 1617 MINSHEU *Ductor*, Mole-hill, or *Mole-heape. 1879 G. MACDONALD *P. Faber* II. xii. 234 Some mere moleheap, of which her lovelily sensitive organization,..made a mountain. 1523 FITZHERB. *Surv.* xxvii. (1539) 50 The moss wyll rotte, and the *moll hyllockes wyll amende the ground wel. 1824 SCOTT *Redgauntlet* ch. viii, A stumble..over an obstacle so inconsiderable as a mole-hillock, cost the haughty rider his life. 1579 LANGHAM *Gard. Health* (1633) 350 Put Leekes into the *moldholes to make them come forth. 1613-16 W. BROWNE *Brit. Past.* II. v. 86 Or in the bancke the water hauing got Some Mole-hole, runs, where he expected not. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* I. 604 A small opening in the soil..in the form of a *mole-run. 1587 MASCALL *Govt. Cattle* (1596) 291 Then take your *mole-spade and cast her vp. 1589 GREENE *Menaphon* (Arb.) 33 Poore Menaphon neither asked his swaynes for his sheepe, nor tooke his mole-spade on his necke to see his pastures. 1573 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 38 Sharp *moul-spare with barbs, that the mowles do so rue. 1617-18 W. LAWSON *Orch. & Gard.* xiii. (1623) 47 You must watch her well with a Mole-speare. 1587 MASCALL *Govt. Cattle* (1596) 289 Be readie with your *mole-staffe to strike at the first..putting up the earth. 1676 T. GLOVER in *Phil. Trans.* XI. 633 They strike with an Instrument of Iron somewhat like *Mole-tines. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* (1721) I. 318 A deep Earthen Vessel set in the ground, with the brim even with the bottom of the *Mole-tracts. 1712 J. JAMES tr. *Le Blond's Gardening* 174 The surest way to catch them, is by..Boxes, or Cases, called Mole-Traps, made of Elder-Boughs slit in two.

b. Similative, as *mole-colour, -eye*; *mole-blind, -eyed, -grey, -like, -sighted* adjs.; *mole-blindedly, -like, -wise* adverbs.

a 1660 *Contemp. Hist. Irel.* (Ir. Archæol. Soc.) II. 98 How are the Irish soe *mould-blinde that they canot see those abuses. 1820 A. RODGER *Poems & Songs* (1838) 246 Scores o' mole-blind fools forby. 1882 CON. F. WOOLSON *Anne* 502 As the prosecution *mole-blindedly averred. 1906 *Westm. Gaz.* 13 Oct. 13/1 The neutral tones, *mole-colour and grey. 1629 N. CARPENTER *Achitophel* III. (1640) 149 The child of nature, whose *mole eyes..can hardly pierce so farre as its own spheare. 1610 HEALEY *St. Aug. Citie of God* 149 But farre mistaken was hee, and *mole-eid in this matter. 1897 E. K. CHAMBERS in *Bookman* Jan. 113/1 The German dissertation..has..the narrowness of mole-eyed outlook. 1906 *Daily Chron.* 15 Oct. 8/2 A simple skirt in *mole-grey velveteen. 1662 HERBERT *Body Div.* I. 262 They are sharp-sighted abroad .. but *mole-like blind at home. 1837-9 HALLAM *Hist. Lit.* (1847) III. v. § 23. 472 A purblind mole-like pedantry. 1891 *Daily News* 18 June 5/8 The blind mole-like marsupial recently discovered in South Australia. 1813 J. QUINCY in *Life* (1867) 285 It is now apparent to the most *mole-sighted. 1833 CARLYLE *Diderot* Misc. Ess. (1872) V. 30 He digs unweariedly, *molewise, in the Encyclopaedic field.

c. Objective, as *mole-seeker, -taker*.

c 1515 *Cocke Lorell's B.* 10 Harde ware-men, *mole sekers, and ratte takers. *Ibid.* 5 With Ielyan Ioly at sygne of the bokeler, And mores *moule taker. 1541 in *Vicary's Anat.* (1888) App. ii. 109 Item, for John Whatson, molletaker, ix s. iiij d.

8. Special combinations: **molo-cast**, a mole-hill; **mole-catcher**, (*a*) one whose business it is to catch moles; † (*b*) used as a vague term of abuse or contempt; so also **mole-catching** *a.*; **mole-diver**, the Little Grebe, *Tachybaptes fluviatilis*; **mole-drain** *v.*, to make drainage courses with the MOLE-PLOUGH; **mole-plant** = *mole-tree*; **mole-stone**, a stone of a particular character regarded as an amulet (cf. TOADSTONE); **mole-tree**, the caper-spurge, *Euphorbia Lathyris*; **molewort**, the genus *Arabis* or wall-cress. Also MOLE-HILL.

1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* (1721) I. 330 An Instrument much used in the West Country for the spreading of *Mole casts. 1880 *Daily Tel.* 9 Dec., A fresh mole-cast, apparently just thrown up. 1573 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 90 Get *mowle catcher cunninglie mowle for to kill. 1603 DEKKER *Wonderfull Year* D 2 That God would blesse the labors of those mole-catchers [sextons]. 1629 SHIRLEY *Wedding* III. G, Whorson mole-catcher. 1851 D. JERROLD *St. Giles* xiv. 138 A mole-catcher of tolerable parts. *a* 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. xlviii. 391 The *Mole-catching *Symmysts* have been .. incensed. 1887 A. C. SMITH *Birds Wilts.* 505 In Sussex it [*sc.* the Little Grebe] is called the '*Mole Diver'. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* I. 606 An acre of ground can be *mole-drained for 13s. 6d. 1842 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 7) VIII. 139/2 The drain thus made is like a large mole gallery, and hence it is called *mole-draining. 1700 E. LHWYD *Let.* 12 Mar. in Rowlands *Mona Antiqua* (1723) 338 Besides, the Snake-Stones .. the Highlanders have their Snail-Stones, Paddoc-Stones, *Mole-Stones.. and to all which they attribute their several Virtues. 1846-50 A. WOOD *Class-bk. Bot.* 487 *Euphorbia Lathyris*. *Mole-tree. Caper Spurge. 1770 J. HILL *Herb. Brit.* II. 269 Genus iv. Arabis. *Mole-wort.

b. In the names of animals, as **mole-cricket** [cf. Du. *molkrekel*], any one of the fossorial orthopterous insects of the genus *Gryllotalpa*, esp. *G. vulgaris*; **mole hog-louse**, a cheliferous crustacean, *Apseudes talpa*; **mole-rat**, (*a*) any one of the myomorphic rodents of the family *Spalacidæ*, esp. *Spalax typhlus*; (*b*) *dial.*, the common mole; **mole shrew**, (*a*) the American genus *Blarina* of *Soricidæ*; (*b*) the genus *Urotrichus* of *Myogalinæ*.

1714 DERHAM *Phys.-Theol.* IV. xiii. (ed. 3) 233 *note*, The *Mole-Cricket (*Gryllotalpa*). 1879 TODHUNTER *Alcestis* 18 In the glowing leas The shy mole-cricket shrilled. 1850 A. WHITE *List Crustacea Brit. Mus.* 67 *Apseudes talpa*, *Mole Hog-louse. 1781 PENNANT *Hist. Quad.* II. 469 Blind *Mole-Rat. 1836-9 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* II. 176/2 The mole-rat (*Aspalax vemni*). 1849 *Sk. Nat. Hist., Manmalia* IV. 89 The Mole-Rat .. *Spalax typhlus* [etc.]. 1855 W. S. DALLAS in *Syst. Nat. Hist.* II. 463 The *Georhychidæ*, or Mole-Rats, form another family nearly allied to the Muridæ. 1885 *Riverside Nat. Hist.* (1888) V. 101 The Mole-rats, or family *Spalacidæ*. *Ibid.* 102 There are some half-dozen species of the latter [*sc. Bathyergus*], all of South Africa, among them the Strand Mole-rat (*B. maritimus*). 1887 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* I. 376 The Hairy-tailed *Mole-shrew *Urotrichus talpoides*. 1885 *Riverside Nat. Hist.* (1888) V. 148 The typical species, called the Mole-shrew, *Blarina brevicauda*.

Hence **Mo·leism** *nonce-wd.*, mole-like character.

1787 ANNA SEWARD *Lett.* (1811) I. 378 Darwin is a mole to Milton, and that you will say is indeed a molism. 1796 *Ibid.* IV. 189 She, not aware of his moleism, relied upon it that all was well.

Mole (mōul), *sb.*[3] Also 6 **molle**, 7–8 (in sense 2) **mould, mold**; 7 in Latin form **moles**. In sense 1, ad. L. *mōlēs* fem., mass; cf. OF. *mole*. In senses 2 and 3, a. F. *môle* masc., ad. L. *mōlēs*. It. and Sp. have *mole* fem., (from the Latin) In the sense 'mass'; the sense 'pier, breakwater' (= 2 below) is expressed by Sp. *muelle*, Pg. *molhe*, It. *molo* (whence G. *molo*, beside *mole* from Fr.), the relation of which to L. *mōlēs* is uncertain.]

†1. A great mass, large piece; the collective mass of any object.

a 1552 LELAND *Itin.* (1769) VII. 52 Kent Ryver is of a good Depthe not wel to be occupied with Botes for rowllyng Stones and other Moles. 1555 EDEN *Decades* 27 When they sawe soo greate a mole to moue as it were by it selfe without ores. 1578 BANISTER *Hist. Man* I. 1 If he note .. how the whole mole, and pack of members are sustayned by them [*sc.* bones]. 1596 F. SABIE *Adam's Compl.*, etc. G 2, O mightie Founder of the earthly mole. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 153 The very mole and quantity of his [*i.e.* the elephant's] body is sufficient to arme him against the fear of death. 1611 CORVAT *Crudities* 486 That Superlative moles vnto which I now bend my Speech. 1637 HEYWOOD *Royal Ship* 27 How else could such a mighty Mole be rais'd? 1657 TOMLINSON *Renou's Disp.* 549 Whole roots..should be condited, for their mole binders not. 1677 HALE *Contempl.* II. 92 The Guilt grows to such a *moles*, that a Man is desperately given over to all kind of Villany. 1711 G. HICKES *Two Treat. Chr. Priesth.* (1847) II. 108 The victim to be slain was brought to the mole (or bulk) of the altar.

2. A massive structure, esp. of stone, serving as a pier or breakwater, or as a junction between two places separated from each other by water. Hence metonymically, the water-area contained within the mole; an artificial harbour, a port.

a 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII* 204 The Turkeiplier with .vi. English Knyghtes were appoynted to defende the Molle or Peere at the hauen mouthe. 1579 FENTON *Guicciard.* VI. (1599) 231 The other..retired to the mole of Naples. 1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 12 The sea-ruined wall of the Mould. *Ibid.* 255 The Mole, that from the South windes defendeth the hauen. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* X. 448 A French ship.. that was lying in the Mould. 1695 BLACKMORE *Pr. Arth.* IV. 483 As when a Mold repels th' Invading Seas. *a* 1674 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* XV. § 12 He anchored in their very mole. 1727 A. HAMILTON *New Acc. E. Ind.* I. vi. 53 It has..a pretty good Mould, or Bason, for the Easterly [monsoons]. 1773 BRYDONE *Sicily* vii. (1809) 69 A stream of lava running into the sea, formed a mole, which no expence could have furnished them. 1791 W. BARTRAM *Carolina* 253 A long point of flat rocks, which defended the mole from the surf. 1840 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* III. 265/2 The extremity of the mole, called the chop, in which the sea made a large breach. 1847 E. CRESY *Encycl. Civil Engineer.* I. 67 The Mole, which united Chalcis in the island of Eubœa with Aulis in Bœotia. 1862 MERIVALE *Rom. Emp.* (1865) VI. xlviii. 64 A complete mole or breakwater. 1872 YEATS *Growth Comm.* 42 Democrates..connected Pharos with the mainland by a jetty or mole. 1893 SLOANE-STANLEY *Remin. Midshipm. Life* xx. 264 We took up our position off the New Mole. *Ibid.* 267 Landing at the Old Mole..we emerged into Warport Street.

†3. *Antiq.* A Roman form of mausoleum. *Obs.*

1700 J. MONRO in *Misc. Cur.* (1708) III. 401 D. M. at the head of an Inscription, argues the Moles, the Sepulchre, the Monument, &c. was in the primary intention made for and dedicated to the Soul. 1715 POPE *Ep. Addison* 21 Huge Moles, whose shadow stretch'd from shore to shore, Their ruins perish'd, and their place no more! 1726 LEONI *Alberti's Archit.* II. 56/1 The Sepulchres of the Ancients are..in several other forms, as Moles and the like. 1818 BYRON *Ch. Har.* IV. clii, Turn to the Mole which Hadrian rear'd on high. 1842 GWILT *Archit.* 1005 The mole of Adrian.

†**Mole**, *sb.*[4] *Antiq. Obs.* [ad. L. *mola* (Gr. μύλη): see MOLA.] A cake made of grains of spelt coarsely ground and mixed with salt (*mola salsa*) which was customarily strewn on the victims at sacrifices.

a 1547 SURREY *Æneid* IV. 694 She with the mole all in her handes devout Stode neare the aulter. 1621 MOLLE *Camerar. Liv. Libr.* III. xviii. 206 This mole, lumpe, or seasoned dough. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Past.* VIII. 115 Crumble the sacred Mole of Salt and Corn.

Mole (mōul), *sb.*[5] *Path.* Also 7 **moale**. [a. F. *môle*, ad. L. *mola* (Gr. μύλη): see MOLA.] A false conception; = MOLA 1.

1611 COTGR. s. v. *Frere, Freres des Lombards*, Moles, or Mooncalues. 1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* 298 The Coagmentation therefore of the Mole is never made without copulation. *a* 1617 BAYNE *Lect.* (1634) 117 Living births are strangers here, moales and abortives are otherwise. 1770 HEWSON in *Phil. Trans.* LX. 382 Those large clots which..have often been called moles or false conceptions. *c* 1850 *Arab. Nts.* (Rtldg.) 721 They showed a piece of wood, which they falsely affirmed to be a mole, of which the sultana had been delivered. 1881 *Trans. Obstet. Soc. Lond.* XXII. 44 The patient..had not menstruated...A fortnight afterwards the mole..was expelled.

†**Mole**, *sb.*[8] *Obs.* [a. F. *mole*. See MOLA 2 and MOLEBUT.]

1. The sunfish, *Orthagoriscus mola*. (Cf. MOLEBUT.)

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 249 The Mole or Lepo called Phycis, doth alter her hue. 1661 LOVELL *Hist. Anim. & Min.* 233 Mole. *Mola*... The whole Fish is of a ferine savour, and very unpleasant.

2. *dial.* [Perh. a different word.] The rock goby, *Gobius niger*. 1880 in *Cornwall Gloss.*

†**Mole**, *v.*[1] *Obs.* Chiefly *dial.* 7–9 **male**, 9 **mail**. [f. MOLE *sb.*[1]] *trans.* To spot, stain, discolour.

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XIII. 275 He hadde a cote..Ac it was moled in many places with many sondri plottes. 1677 W. NICOLSON *Gloss. Brigantinum* in *Trans. Roy. Soc. Lit.* Ser. II. (1870) IX. 315 *Male*, to stain. 1691 RAY *Collect. Words* 145 To Mâle, *decolorare*. *c* 1700 KENNETT *MS. Lansd.* 1033 (Halliwell), To male, to discolour, to spot, *Northumb.* 1808–18 JAMIESON, To *Mail, Male*, to stain. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xvii, A bit rag we hae at hame that was mailed wi' the bluid of a bit skirling wean that was hurt some gate.

Mole (mōul), *v.*[2] [f. MOLE *sb.*[2]]

1. *trans.* To free from mole-hills (Webster 1832) or moles (*Cassell's Encycl. Dict.* 1885).

a 1800 PEGGE *Suppl. to Grose* (1814), *Moling*, clearing the ground from mole-hills. York. 1827 MACKENZIE *Hist.*

Newcastle II. 713 The two noltherds are..also tequired to scale, mole, and dress the Cow-hill, Moor, and Leazes.

2. To burrow or form holes in, as a mole (Ogilvie 1882). *To mole* (something) *out*, to grope darkly in order to find (something).

1855 Dickens *Dorrit* I. xxxv, He had felt his way inch by inch and 'Moled it out, sir' (that was Mr. Pancks's expression), grain by grain.

3. *intr.* To destroy moles (*Cent. Dict.* 1890).

Mo·lebut. *Obs. rare.* Forms: 6-7 molebout; in Dicts. 7 moleboute, -baut, -but(t, *erron.* -pout, 8 -bat. [a. F. *molebout.*

Said by Rondelet (*De Pisc. Mar.* 1554) to be a compound of the Provençal (Marseilles) name *mole* (which he says is from the L. *mola*, millstone, with allusion to the shape of the fish) and the Spanish synonym *bout.* Cf. Mola 2 and Mole *sb.*[6]; with the second element, which cannot be Sp. or even Cat., cf. OF. (12th c.) *tourbout* Turbot, and Butt *sb.*[1]

The sun-fish, *Orthagoriscus mola*; = Mole *sb.*[6] **1.**

1598 Florio, *Bota*, a fish that grunteth called a Molebout. 1601 Holland *Pliny* II. 429 The greatest of all other fishes is the Mole-bout. 1659 Torriano, *Bóta*, a .. Mole-pout. 1668 Charleton *Onomasticon* 129 *Mola*..the Molebut. 1672 Josselyn *New Eng. Rarities* 29 Porpuise or Porpiss, Molebut, Sea Hog, Sus Marinus, Tursion. 1678 Phillips (ed. 4), *Mole-butt.* See Porpus. 1736 Ainsworth *Lat. Dict.*, A molebat (fish) *Orthragoriscus.*

‖ **Mole·cula.** *Obs.* [mod.L.: see Molecule.] = Molecule.

1678 Cudworth *Intell. Syst.* I. i. § 16. 16 Asclepiades.. supposed all the Corporeal world to be made..of Dissimilar and inconcinn Moleculæ, i. e. Atoms of different Magnitude and Figures. 1796 Burke *Regic. Peace* i. Wks. VIII. 191 All these particular *moleculæ* united, form the great mass of what is truly the body politick. 1800 tr. *Lagrange's Chem.* I. 14 The moleculæ, which first unite themselves to a body, adhere with much greater force than the last.

b. In etymological sense: A small mass or aggregation.

1713 Cheselden *Anat.* III. x. (1726) 227 In such persons as have their blood too thin, the Globuli cohere and form Moleculæ or polypuses.

Molecular (mǫle·kiŭlăr), *a.* [f. mod.L. *mōlēcula* (see Molecule) + -ar[1]. Cf. F. *moléculaire.*]

1. Pertaining to, consisting of, or concerned with molecules; acting or inherent in the molecules of a substance. *Molecular heat, weight*: see the sbs.

1823 H. J. Brooke *Introd. Crystallogr.* 51 Parallelopipeds, whose least molecular attraction is in the direction of their diagonal planes. 1826 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* IV. xxxvii. 3 Comparative anatomists have considered the nervous system of animals as formed upon three primary types, which may be called the *molecular*, the *ganglionic*, and *cerebro-spinal.* 1841-4 Emerson *Ess., Experience* Wks. (Bohn) I. 181 The new molecular philosophy shows astronomical interspaces betwixt atom and atom. 1855 H. Spencer *Princ. Psychol.* (1872) I. I. iii. 51 Each portion, while passing on the wave of molecular motion, adds the molecular motion given out during its own transformation. 1859 Darwin *Orig. Spec.* iv. (1878) 100 The shape of a crystal is determined solely by the molecular forces. 1879 Thomson & Tait *Nat. Phil.* I. I. § 385 The ultimate, or molecular, constitution of the bodies. 1884 J. Tait *Mind in Matter* 100 Molecular movements are not identical with thought and feeling.

Mole·cularist. *rare.* [f. prec. + -ist.] One who investigates the properties of molecules.

1869 J. H. Stirling *As regards Protoplasm*, etc. 61 Neither molecularists nor Darwinians, then, are able to level out the difference between organic and inorganic.

Molecularity (mǫlekiŭlærĭti). [f. Molecular *a.* + -ity.] The quality or state of being molecular; also, molecular agencies generally.

1842 *Penny Cycl.* XXIV. 335/2 Theories of molecularity. 1871 H. Marshall *For very Life* I. I. xvii. 123 Human will has knit particles together as close and tight as molecularity could.

Molecularly (mǫle·kiŭlăli), *adv.* [f. Molecular *a.* + -ly[2].] In a molecular manner; as regards molecules.

1850 Grove *Corr. Phys. Forces* (ed. 2) 16 All matter..is ever in movement, not merely in masses,..but also molecularly, or throughout its most intimate structure. 1873 Roberts *Handbk. Med.* 132 The tongue becomes moist, and cleans from the edges, either in patches or molecularly.

Molecule (mǫ·lĭkiūl, mōu·lĭkiūl). [a. F. *molécule* (1678 in Hatz.-Darm.), ad. mod.L. *mōlēcula*, dim. of L. *mōlēs* mass.

The word seems to have arisen in the 17th c. in the discussions initiated by the physical speculations of Descartes.]

1. *Physics* and *Chem.* One of the extremely minute discrete particles of which material substances are conceived to consist. In early use the term was employed somewhat vaguely; in modern chemistry the molecules of any element or compound are assumed to be of uniform size and mass, representing the smallest portions into which the substance can be divided without losing its chemical identity. (Cf. the earlier Molecula.)

Organic molecules: Buffon's term for the indestructible and unchangeable minute particles, endowed with life, of which he supposed all animal and vegetable bodies to consist.

1794 G. Adams *Nat. & Exp. Philos.* I. iii. 79 Fermentation disengages a great quantity of air, that is disseminated among the fluid molecules. 1796 Kirwan *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) I. 20 The shape of the crystal will be determined by that of the first molecule formed. 1802 Paley *Nat. Theol.* xxiii. (ed. 2) 459 For instance, I could never see the difference between the antiquated system of atoms, and Buffon's organic molecules. 1804 *Phil. Trans.* XCIV. 286 The word molecule..is understood to represent the peculiar solids, of definite composition and invariable form, the accumulation of which forms the crystals of mineral substances. 1869 Roscoe *Elem. Chem.* (1871) 169 The smallest particle of an element in the free state is, however, not a single atom, but a group of atoms mechanically indivisible, or a molecule. 1882 Tyndall in *Longm. Mag.* I. 30 A group of atoms drawn and held together by what chemists term affinity, is called a molecule.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1838-9 Hallam *Hist. Lit.* II. II. i. 19 Language is always a mosaic work, made up of associated fragments, not of separate molecules. 1879 Geo. Eliot *Theo. Such* vii. 134 He was a political molecule of the most gentlemanlike appearance.

c. Occasionally used for: A chemical equivalent (usually, of a compound).

1878 A. Crum Brown in *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 621/1 When a chemist speaks of acting on a molecule of succinic acid with two molecules of pentachloride of phosphorus, he means that he mixes them in the proportion of 118 parts of the former to 2×177·5 of the latter. For the sake of precision we sometimes speak of a molecule of water (or other substance) in grammes, or even of a gramme-molecule, a grain-molecule, &c.

2. In popular or loose use: A small particle.

1799 Kirwan *Geol. Ess.* 478 The molecules of soil abraded and carried from some spots are often annually recruited by vegetation. 1835 Kirby *Hab. & Inst. Anim.* I. iv. 162 The first plants and the first animals are scarcely more than animated molecules. 1859 J. R. Greene *Man. Anim. Kingd., Protozoa* Introd. 12 Both alike [plants and animals] spring from germs, *i.e.* minute independent living molecules. 1878 Geo. Eliot *Coll. Breakf. P.* 33 Feeding on molecules of floral breath.

Mole-head. [f. Mole *sb.*[3] + Head *sb.* 18 b.] = Pier-head.

1585 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* I. vi. 4 b, All the people..runne to the mole head to see vs enter into the port. *Ibid.* vii. 6 b, We saw al along the mollehead the people with the souldiers. 1587 Fleming *Contn. Holinshed* III. 1536/2 The pierre was not finished by 350 foot so far as the foundation thereof (which he called the Molehead) was laid. *c* 1710 *Torrington Mem.* (1889) 141 To the southward of the mould head. 1802 *Eng. Encycl.* VIII. 431/1 Ports—formed by throwing a strong mound..across the harbour's mouth to some island or rock—called mole-heads. 1836 Marryat *Midsh. Easy* xxxiii, Was he to be thrown over the molehead to the fishes?

Mo·le-hill, molehill. [f. Mole *sb.*[2]]

1. A small mound, or occas. a ridge, of earth thrown up by moles in burrowing near the surface of the ground.

c 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* III. xxx. (1869) 152 At a molle hille i stumblede and fil doun. 1485 6 in *Durham Rolls* (Surtees) 98 Pro aspercione lez modhylles. 1492-3 *Ibid.* 652 Lez moldhillez. 1531 *MS. Acc. St. John's Hosp., Canterb.*, Paid for castyng a brode of moll hillys. 1610 G. Fletcher *Christ's Vict.* I. lv, Like a sort of busie ants, that crawle About some molehill. 1726 Swift *Gulliver* II. v, Walking to the top of a fresh Mole-hill, I fell to my Neck in the Hole. 1855 W. S. Dallas in *Syst. Nat. Hist.* II. 489 The little heaps well known as Mole-hills. 1878 *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 609/1 Passages..along which the animal hunts its prey, throwing out the soil in the form of mole-hills.

2. In allusions to the smallness of a mole-hill; chiefly antithetic with *mountain*. *To make a mountain (out) of a mole-hill*: to attribute great importance to something (esp. a difficulty or grievance) which is really insignificant.

1570 Foxe *A. & M.* (ed. 2) II. 1361/1 To much amplifying thinges y[t] be but small, makyng mountaines of Molehils. 1576 Fleming *Panopl. Epist.* 237 *margin*, To whome you are as much comparable as a mole hill to a mountaine. 1592 Lyly *Entert.* Wks. 1902 I. 489 Among my ioies, there is one griefe, that my daughter, the Mistris of a Moole hil, hath so much forgotten..duetie. 1594 *Battle of Alcazar* II. ii, King of a mole-hill had I rather be, Than the richest subiect of a monarchie. 1609 Shaks. *Cor.* v. iii. 30. 1631 *Celestina* 282 Thou promisest mountaines, but performest Molehils. *a* 1680 Charnock *Mercy for Chief Sinners* Wks. (1846) 58 Can mole-hills stand against him who has levelled mountains? 1778 T. Hutchinson *Diary* 5 May, I told him his nerves were affected: every mole-hill was a mountain. 1892 J. Tait *Mind in Matter* (ed. 2) 53 [This is] like making mountains out of molehills.

attrib. 1679 Dryden & Lee *Œdipus* IV. i, Each mole-hill thought swells to a huge Olympus. 1802-12 Bentham *Ration. Judic. Evid.* (1827) V. 738 Of the mountain of their nonsense the magnitude may be measured by the molehill dimensions of..their..sense.

3. A small eruption or excrescence. *nonce-use.*

1650 Bulwer *Anthropomet.* 157 Whose heaving phantsies fill their Faces full of such artificial Mole-hils.

Hence (*nonce-wds.*) **Mo·lehillish** *a.*, like a molehill; **Mo·le-hilly** *a.*, abounding in mole-hills.

1830 *Blackw. Mag.* XXVIII. 888 Obstacles..we smile at the idea of surmounting, so molehillish do they *kythe.* 1835 Clare *Rural Muse* 111 When I stroll o'er the mole-hilly green. 1891 'Annie Thomas' *That Affair* I. xii. 201 A rather mole-hilly piece of grass.

Moleine, obs. form of Mullein.

Moleism: see Mole *sb.*[2]

† Molen. *Obs.* ? Shortening of Miramolin.

1538 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 136, vj sylver sponys wyth the molens beddes.

Molen, obs. form of Mullein.

† Molenda·rious, *a. Obs. rare* −°. [f. med.L. *molendāri-us*, f. *molend-us*: see Molendinar.] Of or pertaining to a mill.

1656 in Blount *Glossogr.*: whence in later Dicts.

Molendinaceous (mǫlendinē·ʃəs), *a. Bot.* [f. med.L. *molendīn-um* mill (see next) + -aceous.] Of vegetable fruits or seeds: Resembling the sails of a windmill, i. e. having many 'wings'.

1840 Smart, *Molendinaceous*, shaped as the sail of a mill. 1856 in Mayne *Expos. Lex.* 1900 B. D. Jackson *Gloss. Bot. Terms* 160 *Molendinaceous*, furnished with large wing-like expansions. In mod. Dicts.

Molendinar, *a.* and *sb. nonce-wd.* (*humorously pedantic*). [ad. med.L. *molendīnār-ius* pertaining to a mill, f. *molendīnum* mill, f. *molend-us* (*frumentum molendum* corn to be ground) gerundive of *molĕre* to grind. (A brook at Glasgow is called the *Molendinar Burn*; the local pronunciation is mǫlĕndī·năr.)] **a.** *adj.* Of or concerning a mill or miller. **b.** *sb.* A molar tooth.

1820 Scott *Monast.* xxviii, O most Molendinar beauty. 1824 — *St. Ronan's* xiii, The extraction of a carious molendinar. 1827 — *Diary* 10 Feb. in Lockhart *Life*, The stories of the Miller of Thirlstane, and similar molendinar tragedies.

So **Mole·ndinary** *a.*, belonging to a mill; *sb.*, a mill.

1820 Scott *Monast.* xxix, The house of thy molendinary father. 1822 — *Pirate* xi, Can a man..look at that thing there, which they have the impudence to call a corn-mill, without trembling to think that corn should be intrusted to such a miserable molendinary?

Molendina·rious, *a. Obs.*−° [Formed as prec. + -ous.] Of or pertaining to a mill.

1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Molendinarious*, of or pertaining to a Mill. 1728 in Bailey.

Mole-plough. [f. Mole *sb.*[2] + Plough *sb.*] A plough in which a pointed iron shoe attached to a standard is drawn along beneath the surface, making a hollow channel resembling the track of a mole, which serves as a deep drain.

1798 J. Middleton *View Agric. Midd.* I. 289 A mole plough, invented by Mr. Adam Scott, for the purpose of making hollow-drains. 1879 Sir T. Wrightson in *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 219 First we have the mole-plough forcing its way through a tenacious clay, and leaving a hollow channel.

Moler (mōu·lə). [f. Mole *v.*[2] + -er[1].] A mole-catcher.

1893 Baring-Gould *Cheap Jack Z.* II. 39 Artisans out of humour because trade was slack, gangers,..millers, molers, gozzards. 1902 C. G. Harper *Cambr., Ely & King's Lynn Road* 206 The moles..caught by the molers.

Moleskin (mōu·lskin). [f. Mole *sb.*[2] + Skin.]

1. The skin of the mole used as a fur. Also other skins sheared so as to resemble this.

1668 R. L'Estrange *Vis. Quev.* (1708) 14 The Impositions now to be set on foot, are upon Bare-neck'd Ladies, Patches, Mole-skins, Spanish Paper, and all the Mundus Muliebris more than what is necessary and decent. 1903 *Edin. Even. News* 17 Apr. 6 There is just now an exceptional demand for moleskins,..due to a report that the King recently had a waistcoat made of moleskins. 1906 *Westm. Gaz.* 3 Nov. 13/1 The moleskin that is produced by shearing musquash.

2. A strong, soft, fine-piled cotton fustian the surface of which is 'shaved' before dyeing.

1803 *Ann. Reg.* 830 A patent, dated June 28th, to Joseph Everett, clothier, for an article..which he denominates Salisbury Angola Moleskin. 1831 *Lincoln Herald* 9 Sept. 3/6 The trowsers are of stout moleskin. 1873 Black *Adv. Phaeton* xviii, The loafer in moleskin stood at some little distance.

3. *pl.* Outer garments, esp. trousers, made of moleskin (in sense 2).

1836 J. Struthers *Poet. Wks.* (1850) II. 113 Our moleskins are every way as capable as their blouses. 1858 *Times* 20 Nov. 8/5 Our agricultural labourers who wear corduroys, or moleskins. 1893 Mrs. C. Praed *Outlaw & Lawmaker* I. 238 Bushmen in immaculate moleskins and flaring ties.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *moleskin breeches, clothes, coat, colour, trousers*; *moleskin-breeched, -coloured* adjs.; **moleskin shaver,** a workman who 'shaves' or crops the surface of moleskin.

1896 *Daily News* 25 July 8/1 Plodding old labourers, *moleskin-breeched. 1899 Quiller-Couch *Ship of Stars* xii, Taffy went forth to work in *moleskin breeches. 1854 H. Miller *Sch. & Schm.* viii. 146 A suit of strong *moleskin clothes. 1903 *Westm. Gaz.* 10 Sept. 4/2 There is *moleskin colour, a term born of the mania for *moleskin coats, which ..will result in *moleskin-coloured cloths of many kinds. 1881 *Instr. Census Clerks* 71 Fustian Manufacturer.. *Mole-skin Shaver. 1900 H. Lawson *On Track* 57 The scrub steamed—and stunk like a new pair of *moleskin trousers.

Mole·st, *sb. Obs.* exc. *arch.* [a. OF. *moleste*, ad. L. *molestia* trouble, f. *molest-us*: see next.] Trouble, hardship; molestation, injury.

13.. *K. Alis.* 5443 The kyng thereof badde molest. *Ibid.* 5811 Bot of bestes and wormes felle, And of the wederes stronge, and tempestes, That hem duden grete molestes. ? *a* 1412 Lydg. *Two Merch.* 577 What grevous molest and what heuynesse With many assaut in dreed doth vs todoute! *c* 1489 Caxton *Blanchardyn* xviii. 58 Neuertheles, they lefte not to lodge hem self there, what for daunger nor moleste that men coude do to them. 1590 Greene *Mourn. Garment* (1616) K 2, Thus clogg'd with loue, with passions and with griefe, I saw the country life had least molest. 1647 Lilly *Chr. Astrol.* clxxxv. 821 You have victory,..and acquire what you desired..even out of these molests. 1865 W. J. Linton *Claribel*, etc. 53 Alfred..Sat down to keep the feast of Epiphany Within his walls, secure from all molest.

† Mole·st, *a. Obs. rare.* [a. OF. *moleste*, ad. L. *molest-us*: see next.] Troublesome, vexatious.

1539 Taverner *Erasm. Prov.* (1552) 64 Many ther be which while they studie to do a man good do hym much harme, or otherwise be molest and grenouse unto him.

Molest (mǫle·st), *v.* [a. OF. *molester* (12–13th c. in Hatz.-Darm.) = Sp. *molestar*, It. *molestare*,

ad. L. *molestāre* to trouble, annoy, f. *molest-us* troublesome, burdensome, annoying, f. **moles-*, perh. cogn. w. *mōlēs* mass, burden.]

†**1.** *trans.* To cause trouble, grief, or vexation to; to vex, annoy, put to inconvenience. *Obs.*

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* IV. 852 (880) But how this cas doth Troilus moleste, That may non erthely mannes tonge seye. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 5274 If he do not his requeste, He shal as mochel him moleste As his felow. 1490 CAXTON *Eneydos* vi. 26 Elysse faynynge that she ne myghte no lenger duelle in the hous of Acerbe late her husbonde, by-cause that she was overmoche moleste and greved by [etc.]. 1541 *Act* 33 *Hen. VIII*, c. 35 For lacke of the saide water [they] shall be muche greened annoyed and molested. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* xv. 134 3our gudscheir molestit the pepil vitht intollerabil exactions. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 645 Neither will I molest you with the recitall of all the perticulers thereof. 1617–18 W. LAWSON *New Orch. & Gard.* (1623) 4 If ouerflowing molest you after one day, auoid it then by deepe trenching. *a* 1667 COWLEY *Ess. in Verse & Prose, Liberty* i, These are the small uneasie things Which about Greatness still are found, And rather it Molest than Wound. 1705 ADDISON *Italy* (1733) 51 The Colds of Winter, and the Heats of Summer, are equally incapable of molesting you. 1726 LEONI *Alberti's Archit.* I. 4/1 The Western..Reflections of the Sun..molest us most of all: because they double the Heat.

†**b.** Of disease: To afflict, affect. Also *fig. Obs.*

1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 268 If he be molested still, with that mischiefous maladie, yet [etc.]. 1600 J. PORY tr. *Leo's Africa* VIII. 299 With the French poxe I think that no other countrie vnder heauen is so molested. 1604 T. WRIGHT *Passions* I. iv. 17 If the passions of the Mynde bee not moderated according to reason..immediately the Soule is molested with some maladie. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* V. xiii. 253 Using continuall riding, they were generally molested with the Sciatica or hippegowte. 1696 *Phil. Trans.* XIX. 252 He has been..generally molested with a Diarrhœa for some years past.

2. To interfere or meddle with (a person) injuriously or with hostile intent. Now almost exclusively in negative contexts.

1494 FABYAN *Chron.* VII. 469 Certayne men of the duchie of Burgoyne .. gaue vnto hym, to the entent he shulde nat molest or hurte that countre, CC. M. floryns of golde. 1553 EDEN *Treat. Newe Ind.* (Arb.) 34 Their chiefe studie is in no case to moleste their neyghboures. 1598 BARCKLEY *Felic. Man* (1631) 458 Another companie of Mice joyned with these and molested them more then before. 1659 MILTON *Civ. Power* 34 No protestant .. ought, by the common doctrine of protestants, to be forc'd or molested for religion. 1660 R. COKE *Power & Subj.* 231 No person shall be molested for any offences abovesaid. 1695 KEN *Hymn, 'Glory to thee, my God'* v, Let..No powers of darkness me molest. 1769 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* IV. 115 By the statute 1 & 2 Ph. & Mar. c. 8. to molest the possessors of abbey lands granted by parliament to Henry the eighth, and Edward the sixth, is a *praemunire*. 1861 HURLSTONE & NORMAN *Exchcq. Rep.* VI. 450 He the plaintiff should not nor would molest or disturb the said Ann Thomas in her person or in her manner of living. 1864 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* XV. ii. (1872) V. 278 Prussians, under strict discipline, molest no private person. 1884 *Law Rep.*, 14 *Q. B. D.* 796 The Countess..'molested' the defendant contrary to the covenant contained in the separation deed. 1902 A. LANG *Hist. Scot.* II. vii. 156 It does not seem..to follow that she intended to persecute or molest Protestants.

†**b.** To tamper with (a thing). *Obs.*

1603 T. M. *True Narrat. Ent. Jas. I* E4 b, A great common (which as the people there-about complaine, sir I. Spenser of London hath very vncharitable molested). 1774 T. WEST *Antiq. Furness* (1805) 366 When it was first molested, some of the tomb stones were removed.

†**3.** *intr.* To cause annoyance or vexation. *Obs.*

1580 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 421 Your pardons obteyned, if I offend in sharpnesse, and your patience graunted, if molest in length, I thus beginne to conclude against you all [etc.].

†**Mole·stance.** *Obs.* [f. MOLEST *v.* + -ANCE.] Molestation.

1693 LYDE *True Acc. Retaking 'Friend's Adventure'* 14 Being uncapable of making any further resistance, he went out upon Deck staggering to and fro, without any further Molestance from the Boy.

†**Molestate,** *v. Obs.* [f. ppl. stem of L. *molestāre* MOLEST *v.*] *trans.* To harass, trouble.

1543 GRAFTON *Cont. Harding* 573 He desired the kyng yᵗ he would not molestate his realme herafter with suche cruel tormentyng and fieryng.

Molestation (mɒlɛstēi·ʃən, mōu:-). [a. OF. *molestation*, ad. L. *molestātiōn-em*, n. of action f. *molestāre* to trouble: see MOLEST *v.*]

1. The action of molesting, or the condition of being molested; annoyance, hostile or vexatious interference; † vexation, distress.

c 1400 *Beryn* 1599 Wee have no nede to dout werr, ne molestacioun. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* II. ii. 28 With this regrate our hartis sterit to petie, All molestatioun cessit and lattin be. 1578 T. N. tr. *Conq. W. India* 28 Neytber his person, nor none of his countrey should receyve anye molestation of him. 1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 2 There are some of the Plates (vnto my great molestatione and sorrowe) lost. 1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* II. i. 16, I neuer did like mollestation view On the enchafed Flood. 1611 FLORIO, *Asa*, ..Also molestation, lazines, or anxiety of mind. *a* 1661 FULLER *Worthies, Westminster* (1662) II. 239 Such his hazarding his person (really worth ten thousand of them) to the great molestation of his true friends. *a* 1691 BOYLE *Hist. Air* (1692) 180 Having in great veneration the bodies of their ancestors, being most extreamly against any molestation of the dead. 1708 MRS. CENTLIVRE *Busy Body* I. i, You are..to move your suit to Miranda..without let or molestation. *a* 1720 SEWEL *Hist. Quakers* (1722) Pref. b 2, The People called Quakers at length obtained Liberty to perform their publick Worship without Molestation. 1777 WATSON *Philip II* XXII. (1839) 483 He arrived in a few weeks without receiving any molestation by the way. 1878 BOSW. SMITH *Carthage* 97 He would be safe from Roman molestation.

b. *Scots Law.* The harassing of a person in his possession or occupation of lands. **c.** *Eng. Law.* (See quots. 1884.)

1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S. T. S.) 106 The pape .. may tak fra thame thair foresaid jurisdictioun .. gif thai mak ony molestaciouu to cristyn that is in thair jurisdictioun. 1497 *Extracts Aberdeen Reg.* (1844) I. 65 Or yit, that ye or thai mak ony arrestment, molestatioun, tribule, or injur to the saide Nicholl. 1547 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 72 He sall desist and cese fra all suyt, molestatioun, lett, and impediment making to the said Schir George Douglas. 1564 *Ibid.* 275 The partie makand the invasioun, persute, and molestatioun sall pay .. the soum of fyve thousand markis. 1597 SKENE *De Verb. Sign.* s. v. *Assisa*, In sundrie civil causes, sik as perambulattous, cogaitions, molestations,.. serving of brieves, and in all and sundrie criminal causes. 1627 *Burgh Rec. Glasgow* (1876) I. 359 Sik as beis imprissonet for capitall crymes, truble, molestatioun or ryett done within the said burghe. 1861 HURLSTONE & NORMAN *Exchcq. Rep.* VI. 453 The words 'molest or disturb', in that covenant, mean personal molestation or disturbance. 1884 *Law Rep.*, 12 *Q. B. D.* 543 It amounted to substantial molestation, using the word 'molestation' in the sense of injury knowingly and without lawful excuse inflicted upon another in his person, character, social position, or property. 1884 *Law Rep.*, 14 *Q. B. D.* 796 The molestation may be of different kinds: adultery and the birth of an illegitimate child as a consequence of that adultery are sufficient evidence of molestation. 1885 *Law Times Rep.* LIII. 306/1 The trustees covenanted to indemnify the husband from the debts of and molestation by the wife.

2. With *a* and in *pl.*: A trouble, annoyance, vexation; *concr.* a cause of annoyance. Now *rare.*

c 1400 *Beryn* 1101 For a molestacioune Ther was noon othir remedy, but a consolacioune. 1474 CAXTON *Chesse* III There cometh of glotonye riottes wronges and molestacions. 1555 EDEN *Decades* 359 Such greefes & molestations as they otherwyse receaue. 1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 62, I wil withdraw me selfe from al molestations and perplexities. 1604 T. WRIGHT *Passions* I. iv. 16 If the inferior appetite or passions obey and concurre with the will .. they take away the molestations and tediousnesse that occurre in the practise of good woorks. 1629 J. COLE *Of Death* 93 The molestations of trade, or worldly affaires. 1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* III. xxii. 213 All the molestations of Marriage are abundantly recompenced with other comforts. 1863 GEO. ELIOT *Romola* lxxi, The man who was as great a molestation to vicious citizens .. as to a corrupt clergy.

Mole·sted, *ppl. a.* [f. MOLEST *v.* + -ED 1.] In senses of the vb.; in quot., † harassed.

1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 2 Throughe the iniuryes of this most disturbede and molestede time, there are some of the Plates lost.

Molester (mɒlɛ·stəɹ). [f. MOLEST *v.* + -ER 1.] One who molests or disturbs.

1579 W. WILKINSON *Confut. Family of Love, Brief Descr.* A j, God make him to be a member, not a molester of the Church. *c* 1670 COTTON *Voy. Irel.* II. Poems (1689) 178 Till the Bells, that had been my morning molesters, Now wak'd me again, chiming all in to Vespers. 1725 KIRKPATRICK *Relig. Ord. Norwich* (1845) 10 To restrain all such molesters by ecclesiastical censure. 1895 *Pop. Sci. Monthly* July 118 It has no offensive odors to warn off molesters.

Molestful (mɒlɛ·stfŭl), *a.* Now *rare.* [f. MOLEST *sb.* or *v.* + -FUL.] Troublesome, annoying, painful.

1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 94 In tyme of weir quhen..to karie..kitchine veshels thay thot hauie and molestful. *Ibid.* VII. 13 Quha suspectet this kuir thairfor to be committit to him that he war nocht molestful to his 3oung sone Dauid. 1604 T. WRIGHT *Passions* I. ii. 9 Wee have a continuall and molestfull battell with Carnall vices. 1621 T. WILLIAMSON tr. *Goulart's Wise Vieillard* 57 Thou oughtest not..to hold it grieuous or molestfull to haue lost thy sight. 1675 WOODHEAD, etc. *Paraphr. St. Paul* 116 The wicked also shall have a resurrection .. to all manner of molestful passibility. 1891 C. E. NORTON *Dante's Hell* X. 47 That noble fatherland to which perchance I was too molestful.

Hence † **Mole·stfully** *adv.* (Minsheu *Sp. Dict.* II. 1599.)

†**Molestie.** *Obs. rare*—1. [a. OF. *molestie*, ad. L. *molestia*: see MOLESTIOUS.] Trouble.

1532 *Chaucer's Boeth.* III. pr. ix. (Skeat) l. 77 He ne geteth him nat suffisaunce that power forleteth, and that molestie [*Camb. & Addit. MSS.* moleste] prikketh..and that derkenesse hydeth.

Mole·sting, *vbl. sb.* [f. MOLEST *v.* + -ING 1.] The action of MOLEST *v.*; † annoyance, injury.

1523 CROMWELL in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) I. 33 The grete molestyng and trowbelyng of all the nacions abowte theym. 1561 DAUS tr. *Bullinger on Apoc.* (1573) 211 b, If Christ will come to iudgement, why doth he differre it so long, and to so great molestyng of his? 1577 HANMER *Anc. Eccl. Hist.* (1585) 394 Againe ne fell a molesting of yᵉ Nouations.

†**Mole·sting,** *ppl. a. Obs. rare.* [f. MOLEST *v.* + -ING 2.] Troublesome, interfering.

1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 10 b/2 The fracture of the bone, with the molestinge and troublesome accidentes therof. 1604 T. WRIGHT *Passions* I. iv. 16 If our heartes..reioyce in God, then paine is turned into pleasure, and a molesting service into a delightfull obsequie. 1822 GALT *Provost* xl, In nothing, however, did his molesting temper cause so much disturbance, as when [etc.].

†**Mole·stious,** *a. Obs.* [f. L. *molestia* (n. of quality f. *molestus* troublesome) + -OUS.] Troublesome.

1524 PACE in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* (1721) I. App. xi. 20 Tediousnes of heats, thirst and hunger with molestious passage of baggage. 1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 34 b/1 They weare too intollerable and molestiouse vnto the patient. 1611 SPEED *Hist. Gt. Brit.* VI. xxiii. § 14. 114 Here in Britaine, the most vnquiet and molestious Prouince of all. 1620 VENNER *Via Recta* ii. 32 If the time be very hot, and the thirst molestious, .. foure parts of water may be mingled with one of wine.

Hence † **Mole·stiousness,** troublesomeness.

a 1670 HACKET *Cent. Serm.* (1675) 895 They come upon us with some molestiousness and torment.

†**Mole·stous,** *a. Obs. rare.* [f. L. *molest-us* troublesome + -OUS.] = MOLESTIOUS.

1555 EDEN *Decades* 90 It is a warlyke nation and hath byn euer hetherto molestous to theyr borthorers. *Ibid.* 150 They seemed to bee molestous to thinhabitantes. 1657 W. MORICE *Coena quasi Κοινή* Pref. 18 Humors which..were neither discerned, nor were molestous.

†**Mole·stuous,** *a. Obs.* [erron. f. L. *molest-us* troublesome: after *tempestuous*, etc.] Troublesome; troublous.

a 1572 KNOX *Bk. Common Order* (1602) 129 Afflictions are molestuous [*ed.* 1575 molestsome], noysome and hard to be borne with. 1611 MUNDAY *Briefe Chron.* 239 Pompilius ..appointed his seate in another City..but finding it too mollestuous he transferred the State to another Citty. 1657 TRAPP *Comm. Job* iii. 17 Vexatious persons,..molestuous and mischievous.

Molet, obs. form of MOLLET *Obs.*, MULLET.

Moletta, Molette, obs. ff. MULATTO, MULLET.

Molewarp, obs. form of MOULDWARP.

Moley (mōu·li), *a. rare*—1. [f. MOLE *sb.*2 + -Y.] Of the nature of a mole.

1758 GOLOSM. *Hist. Our Own Lang.* ii. Wks. (Bohn) IV. 449, I am far from saying that Parker was a fine..writer of the English language, but he certainly did it infinite service in discouraging..the moley, creeping style, which, at that time, infected all the ranks both of the laity and clergy.

Moleyne, Molhah, obs. ff. MULLEIN, MULLAH.

Moliable, obs. variant of MOLLIABLE.

‖ **Molimen** (mɒləi·mɛn). Pl. **molimina** (mɒli·minə). *Phys.* and *Path.* [L. *mōlīmen* effort, f. *mōlīrī* to make an effort, undertake, attempt.] An effort by which the system endeavours to perform any natural function, esp. *menstrual molimen*, the straining to bring about the catamenia.

1865 T. H. TANNER *Pract. Med.* (ed. 5) 670 The effect of the menstrual molimen is felt by the whole system. 1878 A. HAMILTON *Nerv. Dis.* 220 She never had had her catamenia nor noticed any molimina. 1889 J. M. DUNCAN *Lect. Dis. Women* xvii. (ed. 4) 133 There may be a molimen, or no molimen. When there is said to be a molimen or attempt, the girl expects the flow.

†**Moli·minous,** *a. Obs.* [f. L. *mōlīmin-* MOLIMEN + -OUS.]

1. Characterized by great effort or endeavour; laborious.

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Molimínous*, that hath force, or useth endeavor to do any thing; difficult. 1686 H. MORE *Real Pres.* viii. 62 All which things to repeat here would be too molíminous and inconsistent with the Brevity I intend. 1722 WOLLASTON *Relig. Nat.* v. 93 If the genius of the language..were well understood, some labord and molíminous attempts to account for it [the flood] might have been prevented.

2. a. Massive, cumbrous. **b.** Weighty, momentous.

c 1643 *Observ. on his Majesty's late Answ. & Expresses* 11 Some way was invented to regulate the motions of the peoples molíminous body. 1660 H. MORE *Myst. Godl.* VII. i. 281 Some Prophecies are not conditional but absolute, as certainly all those are that are of so vast and Molíminous Concernment to the World as the appearing of the Messias is. 1684 — *Answ.*, etc. 176 In this place it was impertinent, and too molíminous, nor sutable to the accustomed brevity and succinctness of the Apocalyptick style.

Hence † **Moli·minously** *adv.*, laboriously.

1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* I. ii. § 19. 82 If this Deity must needs go about molíminously to make a world.., what Tools and Instruments could he have to work withall?

Molin, obs. form of MULLEIN.

Molinary (mōa·linări), *a. rare.* [f. late L. *molīnāri-us*, f. *molīna* mill: see -ARY 1.] Of or pertaining to the grinding of corn.

1774 PENNANT *Tour Scot. in* 1772, 280 All the molinary operations are done at home. 1876 RUSKIN *Fors Clav.* VI. 161 The 'Lead', a stream 'led' from the Tay into the town for molinary purposes.

Moline (mɒləi·n), *a.* and *sb. Her.* [Prob. repr. AF. **moliné*, f. *molin* (mod.F. *moulin*) mill: see MILL *sb.*1 and -EE.]

A. *adj.* Of or resembling the expanded and curved extremities of a mill-rind; esp. in *cross moline*, a cross each of the arms of which terminates in two expanded and curved branches resembling the extremities of a mill-rind.

1562 LEIGH *Armorie* 188 b, He beareth ermin a crosse moline Or. 1610 GUILLIM *Heraldry* II. vii. 70 The Field is Azure, a Crosse Moline Pierced Losenge-waies. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. xvi. (Roxb.) 90/1 A cleever with a moline cuting end. 1761 *Brit. Mag.* II. 532 Azure, a cross moline, argent. 1868 CUSSANS *Her.* (1893) 118 There are twelve families of Miller who bear Crosses-Moline..and none who bear Millstones or Mill-rinds.

ellipt. 1864 BOUTELL *Her., Hist. & Pop.* vi. 29 The Cross Patonce..expands more widely than the Moline.

B. *sb.* **1.** = *Cross moline.*

1777 PORNY *Elem. Heraldry*, Dict., *Moline*..is used in Heraldry to denote a Cross which turns round both ways at all the extremities. 1823 CRABB *Technol. Dict., Molines.*

2. = MILL-RIND (Ogilvie 1882).

Hence †**Molined** *a. rare* = MOLINE *a.*

1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. 342/1 Let it be called a Mill Rinde molined, because the ends turn like the Cross Moline.

†**Molinet.** *Obs.* Also 8 molionet. [ad. F. *moulinet*, dim. of *moulin* a mill: see -ET.] a. A little mill, a small grinding apparatus. b. A stick for whipping chocolate.

1648 GAGE *West Ind.* xvi. 106 The Chocolatte..is stirred in a cup by an instrument called a Molinet, or Molinillo. 1676 WORLIDGE *Cyder* (1691) 176 This kernel being ground fine by a molinet. 1690 [EVELYN] *Mundus Muliebris* 11 A Tea and Chocolate Pot, With Molionet and Caudle Cup. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew*, *Molinet*, a Chocolate Stick, or little Mill. 1728 BAILEY, *Molinet*, a small Muller to grind Colours.

Molinism[1] (mɒ·liniz'm). [f. the name of the Spanish Jesuit Luis *Molina* (1535–1600) + -ISM. Cf. F. *molinisme*.] The doctrine propounded in 1588 by Molina, that the efficacy of grace depends simply on the will which freely accepts it.

1669 GALE *True Idea Jansenisme* 107 The subversion of Molinisme.

Molinism[2] (mɒ·liniz'm). [f. the name of Miguel de *Molinos* (1627–96) a Spanish priest.] The doctrine of Molinos; quietism.

1720 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5863/1 [Auto da Fé] There were 43 Criminals brought out of the Prison of the Inquisition on this Occasion,..most of them accused of Molinism or Judaism. 1868 BROWNING *Ring & Bk.* VI. 152, I heard..what is priest's-duty—labour to pluck tares And weed the corn of Molinism.

Molinist[1] (mɒ·linist). [f. *Molina* + -IST.] One who holds the doctrine of Molinism; a follower of the Jesuit Molina. Also *attrib.*

1655 J. OWEN *Vind. Evang.* xxxi. 646 The Molinists and Jesuits on the one side, with the Jansenians, or Bayans on the other. 1859 *All Year Round* No. 30. 82 The Molinists, were..analogous to our High-Church party.

attrib. 1768 HUME *Ess. & Treat.* (1809) II. 481 The Molinist party had tried to discredit these miracles.

Hence †**Molini·stic** *a.*

1669 GALE *True Idea Jansenisme* 54 They publisht this *Cartel of Defiance* to the whole Molinistick Partie.

Molinist[2] (mɒ·linist). [Formed as MOLINISM[2] + -IST.] A follower of Molinos.

1868 BROWNING *Ring & Bk.* V. 1838.

†**Molinosist.** *Obs.*—° [a. F. *molinosiste*, f. the name *Molinos*: see prec.] = prec.

1727–52 CHAMBERS *Cycl.*, *Molinosists*..the same with what are otherwise called *Quietists*. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) s.v. **Molionet**, erron. form of MOLINET.

†**Moli·tion**[1]. *Obs.* [a. F. *molition* (Rabelais), ad. L. *mōlītiōn-em*, n. of action f. *mōlīrī* to make exertions, to build, construct.] a. An endeavour, effort. b. A contrivance, apparatus.

1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* iv b, This treasure house of Engines, Molitiones, and of other Chyrurgicall Instrumentes. 1642 M. NEWCOMEN *Craft Church's Adversaries* (1643) 24 You that have bin now these two yeares wrastling with them, you know what their Molitions have bin. 1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* I. ii. § 22. 86 Infinite Atoms..after many Convolutions and Evolutions, Molitions and Essays..chanced..to settle into this form and system of things.

†**Moli·tion**[2]. *Obs. rare*—°. [a. med.L. *molitiōn-em*, n. of action from L. *molĕre* to grind: see -ITION.] The action of grinding.

1731 BAILEY vol. II, *Molitions*, grindings.

†**Moliture.** *Obs. rare*—[1]. [ad. med.L. *molitūra*, f. L. *molĕre* to grind: see -TURE.] = MULTURE.

1656 BRAMHALL *Replic. Bp. Chalcedon* v. 204 This claim of universall power and authority doth bring more moliture to their mill.

Molkasin, obs. form of MOCCASIN.

Moll (mɒl), *sb.* Also 6–7 **Mall.** [A familiar diminutive of *Mary*. Cf. MOLLY.]

1. A female personal name. *Moll Cut-purse*, the nickname of a notorious female of the first half of the 17th c., introduced by Middleton and Dekker into their *Roaring Girl* and by Field into his *Amends for Ladies*. †*Moll Thomson's mark* (slang): see quot. 1785.

1567 WAGER *Marie Magdalene* 1194 (Carpenter) Conscience? how doth thy conscience, little Mall? 1611 MIDDLETON & DEKKER (*title*) The Roaring Girle. Or Moll Cut-Purse. As it hath lately beene Acted on the Fortune-stage by the Prince his Players. *Ibid.*, Dramatis Personæ... Mol the Roaring Girle. 1662 *Womans Champion* (title-p.) A true Relation of the mad Pranks..and most unheard of Stratagems of Mrs. Mary Frith, commonly called Mall Cutpurse 1663 BUTLER *Hud.* I. ii. 368 A bold Virago, stout and tall, As Joan of France, or English Mall. 1711 BUDGELL *Spect.* No. 67 P 9 At last an impudent young Dog bid the Fidlers play a Dance called Mol Patley. 1785 GROSE *Dict. Vulg. T.*, *Moll Thompson's Mark*, M. T. i.e. empty; take away this bottle, it has Moll Thompson's mark upon it.

b. *Moll Blood*, the gallows.

1818 SCOTT *Hrl. Midl.* xx, Three words of your mouth would give the girl the chance to nick Moll Blood.

c. In names of animals and plants, as **moll-blob** = MARSH-MARIGOLD; **moll-hern** (-heron, -yern), the heron, *Ardea cinerea*; **moll-washer**, the pied wagtail, *Motacilla lugubris*.

1847–78 HALLIWELL, *Moll-washer*, the water-wagtail. 1848 *Zoologist* VI. 2191 Herons are not only very commonly called 'cranes'..but also 'moll-herons', or rather 'moll-yerns'. 1854 MISS BAKER *Northampt. Gloss.*, *Moll-blobs*, or *Molly-blobs*. 1880 JEFFERIES *Gt. Estate* iv. 78 'A moll ern flod away.'

2. A prostitute. Also, the unmarried female companion of a professional thief or vagrant.

1604 MIDDLETON *Father Hubburd's T.* Wks. (Bullen) VIII. 78 None of these common Molls neither, but discontented and unfortunate gentlewomen. 1785 GROSE *Dict. Vulg. T.*, *Moll*, a whore. 1819 T. THOMPSON in *Collect. Songs Newcastle Dial.* 10 When the Malls began their reels. 1823 'J. BEE' *Dict. Turf*, *Molls* are the female companions of low thieves, at bed, board, and business. 1877 *Five Yrs. Penal Serv.* iii. 242 Once, when he was speaking of 'his old woman' for the time being, I asked if she was a 'crooked' one too. 'Oh, yes', he replied; 'I never had nothin' to do with any "moll" who couldn't cut her own grass.'

†**3.** ? A ramrod (sense uncertain; perh. a distinct word). *Obs.*

1596 *Acc. Winsford* in *Proc. Somerset Archæol. Soc.* 1900, 194 One muskett with his flaxe, twich boxe, moll, and rest.

Hence **Moll** *v.* (see quot.).

1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* I. 310/2 'There is a great many furnished cribs, let to needys (nightly lodgers) that are molled up' (that is to say, associated with women in the sleeping-rooms).

†**Moll,** *a. Obs. rare.* Forms: 5 mole, 6–7 molle, 7 moll. [a. OF. *mol* (mod.F. *mou*, *mol*, fem. *molle*):—L. *moll-em* soft.]

1. Soft.

1474 CAXTON *Chesse* III. v. G viij, Hit happeth ofte tymes that the nature of them that ben soft and mole taketh soner Impressyon than the nature of men that be rude & stronge.

2. *Mus.* In *B moll*, *b moll* = flat. (Also BEMOL.)

1597 MORLEY *Introd. Mus.* 5 *Phi.* What is *b molle*? *Ma.* It is a propertie of singing, wherein *fa* must alwaies be song in *b fa b mi*, and is when the *vt* is in *F fa vt*. *a* 1600 MONTGOMERIE *Misc. Poems* iii. 14 Sing sho tua notis, the one is out of tone, As Bacre lau and B moll far abone. 1667 C. SIMPSON *Compend. Pract. Mus.* 113 *B Molle* was when they sung *fa* in *B*.

Moll, obs. f. MOLE *sb.*[1] and *sb.*[2], MOULD, MULL.

Molla, variant of MULLAH.

Mollag (mɒ·läg). *Manx dial.* [Manx.] 'A dog's skin blown up as a bladder, and used to float the herring-nets' (Kelly *Manx Dict.* 1866). *As empty as a mollag*, quite empty; *as full as a mollag*, dead drunk.

1883 *Fisheries Exhib. Catal.* (ed. 4) 132 One Balk or long line for cod-fishing,..with 'mollag' or buoy. 1894 HALL CAINE *Manxman* 151 Your head's as empty as a mollag.

Mollah, variant of MULLAH.

Mo·llard. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.* Also 3 mollond, 4–6 moland. [f. *mōl*, southern ME. form of MAIL *sb.*[1] + LAND.] Land for which rent was paid in commutation of servile customs.

The explanation in quot. 1607 is erroneous; the term apparently continued to be traditionally applied to certain lands, but its import was matter of conjecture.

1290 *Reg. Bury St. Edmunds* in Vinogradoff *Villainage* (1892) 183 Omnes tenentes de mollond solebant esse custumarii. ?*a* 1300 *Reg. Eye Priory* ibid. 184 Si tota terra fuerit mollond primogenitus debet eam retinere. [1399 in *Essex Rev.* July (1904) 131 John Pyg was admitted to tenure of four acres of molond.] 1505 *Will of Gyrden* (Somerset Ho.), v. acres molland. 1507 *Ibid.*, Molland Werkland Freeland Worland. [1563 in *Essex Rev.* July (1904) 131 Richard and Clemence Everard .. held Sayer's molond, a quarter of molond belonging to it.] 1607 NORDEN *Surv. Dial.* IV. 183 *Molland* is up-land, or high ground, and the contrary is *Fenland*, low ground.

†**Mo·llart.** *Obs.* [F. (*poire de*) *mollart*, f. *mol*, *molle* soft + *-art*: see -ARD.] A kind of pear.

1600 SURFLET *Country Farm* III. xlix. 537 Delicate peares, such as are .., the roset, hasting, rimolt, mollart, greening [orig. *de renoult, de mollart, de verdelet*].

Mollasse, variant of MOLASSE.

Mollat, variant of MOLLET *Obs.*

Moll-bu·zzer. *Thieves' slang.* [f. MOLL *sb.* + BUZZER.] So **Moll-buzzing** *vbl. sb.* (see quots.).

1859 MATSELL *Voc.* (Farmer), s.v. *Moll*... Moll-buzzer, a thief that devotes himself to picking the pockets of women. 1904 *Speaker* 11 June 256/2 He made a lot of money by moll-buzzing' or picking women's pockets in the streets.

Moll-caudle, -coddle, var. ff. MOLLY-CODDLE.

†**Molle.** *Obs.* [a. Sp. *molle*, a. Quichua *mulli*; cf. F. *molle* 'an Indian tree' (Cotgr.).] The Peruvian mastic-tree, *Schinus molle*, native of tropical America.

1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* IV. xxx. 292 Molle is a tree of many vertues, which casteth foorth small boughes, whereof the Indians make wine. 1640 PARKINSON *Theat. Bot.* 1524 *Lentisci Pecuani* [? read *Peruani*] *similis Molle dicta*. The Indians Molle. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* App. s.v., Indian Mastic, the name by which the Molle, or Peruvian Lentisk is sometimes called.

Molle, Mollee, obs. ff. MOLE, MULL, MALLEE[1].

Mollefye, obs. form of MOLLIFY.

Mollemoke, obs. form of MALLEMUCK.

1835 SIR J. ROSS *Narr. 2nd Voy.* iii. 38 There were some shearwaters and mollemokes about the ship.

Mollen, obs. form of MULLEIN.

Mollescent (mɒle·sĕnt). *Med.* [ad. L. *mollĕscent-em*, pr. pple. of *mollĕscĕre*, f. *mollis* soft: see -ESCENT.] Tending to become soft. Hence **Molle·scence,** tendency towards softness; = MOLLITIES b.

1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) III. 26 The brain..has been found in a mollescent or pulpy state. *Ibid.* 240 There is always to the touch a mollescence in their structure. 1855 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex.* (ed. 12), *Mollescence*, Mollities.

Mollestuous, variant of MOLESTIOUS.

†**Mo·llet,** *sb. Sc. Obs.* Also 6 molet, mol(l)at. [a. OF. *molete* spur-rowel, also an ornamental stud imitating this: see MULLET. Cf. MOLAN.] (? Originally, a boss or stud on a bridle-bit. Hence:) A studded or toothed bit for a horse; also *mollet bit*. Also **mollet-bridle**, a bridle having a bit of this kind (rendering L. *frenum lupatum*).

1503 in *Ld. Treas. Acc. Scotl.* (1900) II. 206 Item, for ane molat bridill and ane tee, xij s. *Ibid.* 396 And for mollat bit, small bittis [etc.]. 1505 *Ibid.* (1901) III. 135 Item, for ane gret mollet bit to the King, xiij s. 1508 DUNBAR *Tua Mariit Wemen* 349 Thar myght na molet [*v.r.* mollat] mak me moy, na hald my mouth in. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VII. v. 196 Thair harnyssing of gold rycht deyrly dycht, Thai runge the goldin mollettis burneist brycht. 1536 BELLENDEN *Cron. Scot.* (1821) II. 269 Makbeth..said, 'This man wil not obey my chargis, quhill he be riddin with ane mollet bridil; nochtheles I sall gar him draw like ane avir in ane cart'.

†**Mo·llet,** *v. Obs.* ? *nonce-wd.* [f. prec.] *intr.* To ride.

1529 LYNDESAY *Complaynt* 333 Bot, geue thay can play at the cairtis, And mollet moylie on ane Mule, Thocht thay had neuer sene the scule, 3it..Wyll be maid sic ane spirituall man. [Cf. quot. 1508 under prec. sb.]

Mollet, obs. form of MULLET.

Molleton (mɒ·lĕtɒn). [f. F. *molleton* f. *mollet*, dim. of *mol* (*mou*), *molle* soft.] = SWANSKIN.

1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, *Molleton* (French) swanskin; a kind of blanket or flannel. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 744 Some close, soft material ('molleton' is suitable).

b. The rags of closely woven white flannels (*Eng. Dial. Dict.* 1903).

Mollewell, variant of MULVEL.

Molley, variant of MALLEE[1]; obs. f. MOLLY[1].

1852 *Life in Bombay* 23 There must be from one to six Molleys, or gardeners.

†**Mo·lliable,** *a. Obs.* [Badly f. L. *mollīre* to soften + -ABLE.] Capable of being softened.

1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* II. 85/2 Tar, a compounded Rosin, or Rosin made molliable. *Ibid.* 119/3 Gums..Liquid or more molliable, as Liquidambra [etc.]. 1766 *Compl. Farmer* s.v. *Stone*, a hard solid body, neither molliable, fusible by fire, nor soluble in water.

†**Mo·lliate,** *v. Obs. rare*—[1]. [Formed as prec. + -ATE[3].] *trans.* To make soft or easy.

1702 *Poet* (*Ovid*) *Bantered* (ed. 2) 23 Soon will she molliate your way, Charm'd with the Magick of a Fee.

†**Mo·llicine,** *a. Obs.*—° [ad. mod.L. *mollicīnus* (in *mollicinum emplastrum* soothing plaster, Phillips, ed. Kersey, 1706), inferred from late L. *mollicīna* a kind of soft garment.] Mollifying.

1856 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.* s.v. *Mollicinus*.

†**Mollicinous,** *a. Obs.* [f. prec. + -OUS.] Softening, mollifying (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1891).

Mollie: see MALLEE[1] and MOLLY.

Mollient (mɒ·li,ĕnt), *a.* and *sb.* [f. L. *mollient-em*, pr. pple. of *mollīre* to soften, f. *molli-s* soft: see -ENT.] a. *adj.* Softening. *rare*—°. †b. *sb. Med.* A softening application. *Obs.*

1612 *Enchiridion Med.* 92, I apply mollients and resolutiues. 1721 BAILEY, *Mollient*, softening, mollifying. 1736 AINSWORTH *Lat. Dict.*, Mollient, *molliens, deliniens*.

Hence **Mo·lliently** *adv.*, soothingly, assuagingly. 1847 in WEBSTER; and in later Dicts.

†**Mollifa·ction.** *Obs. rare*—[1]. [f. MOLLIFY *v.*: see -FACTION.] = MOLLIFICATION.

1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) III. 460 There is a considerable difference in explaining upon the same principle the mollifaction of the diseased area.

Mollifiable (mɒ·lifəi,ăb'l), *a.* [f. MOLLIFY *v.* + -ABLE.] Capable of being mollified.

1611 SPEED *Hist. Gt. Brit.* IX. vi. § 14. 488 The King.. perceiuing Beckets stiffenesse..to be no way mollifiable by whatsoeuer his old fauours [etc.]. 1755 in JOHNSON. In mod. Dicts.

Mollification (mɒlifikē·ʃən). [a. OF. *mollification* (F. *mollification*), ad. L. *mollificātiōn-em* f. *mollificāre*: see MOLLIFY *v.* and -ATION.] The action of the verb MOLLIFY; an appeasing, appeasement, pacification. Also, †something that softens (a substance) or mitigates the harshness of (an action or quality); †a softening expression, a qualifying clause.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Can. Yeom. Prol. & T.* 301 Yet forgat I to maken rehersaille Of watres corosif and of lymaille And of bodies mollificacion. 1541 R. COPLAND *Guydon's Form.* Sj b, The dylygent workman .. ought to wyt to whiche resolucyon is due, and to which mollyfycacyon. 1562 BULLEYN *Bulwark, Dial. Soarues & Chir.* 13 You muste use mollifications, and softenyng medicenes. 1590 BARROUGH *Meth. Physick* II. xi. (1596) 91 If it [*sc.* matter] creepe into the belly, you must minister most of all mollifications. *a* 1619 FOTHERBY *Atheom.* II. viii. § 5 (1622) 290 There is a mollification vsed, to reduce the .. Deification, witbin the compasse of this sense. 1626 DONNE *Serm.* lxviii. (1640) 691 *Damnabitur* (no modification, no mollification, no going lesse) He shall be damned. 1698 NORRIS *Pract. Disc.* (1707) IV. 226 A Truth, which may be represented nakedly as it is, or with some tenderness and mollification. 1716 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* II. 184 In return of all his reciprocal Molifications and Meliorations of some uncouth Points. 1881 *Daily News* 7 Feb., We close the book with some feeling of mollification toward its faults. 1886 G. ALLEN *Maimie's Sake* xvii, With some faint show of mollification in his softened tone.

†**Mollificative,** *a.* and *sb. Obs.* Also 5 molyficatyffe, mollificatif(e, 6 molificative. [a. F. *mollificatif, -ive,* ad. med.L. **mollificātīv-us,* f. *mollificāre* to MOLLIFY.] **a.** *adj.* That causes mollification or softening. **b.** *sb.* A medicine or application that softens.

c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 47 Þe chapitle of medicyns mollificatyues [*v.r.* molyficatyffes]. *Ibid.* 211 Þis is a mollificatif þat rasis made. 1590 BARROUGH *Meth. Physick* VII. iv. (1596) 388 If you will make a clyster mollificatiue lacking the things aforesayd, doe thus. *Ibid.*, Then make a clyster partly of mollificatiues & partly of expulsiues. 1612 WOODALL *Surg. Mate* Wks. (1653) 32 This unguent is..of temperament cold..mollificative, and attractive. 1656–74 in BLOUNT *Glossogr.* 1775 in ASH.

Mollified (mɒ·lifəid), *ppl. a.* [f. MOLLIFY *v.* + -ED [1].] In senses of the vb.: †Softened, rendered soft or supple (*obs.*); †rendered less severe; mitigated (*obs.*); appeased, conciliated.

1696 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Chirurg.* 37/1 The fleshe and all the other mollifyed parts of the ioyncte. 1682 DRYDEN *Relig. Laici* Pref., Wks. (Globe) 187 Those texts may receive a kinder and more mollified interpretation. 1764 HARMER *Observ.* XII. i. 35 [When] the sacred writer ..says Ægypt has no rain he must be understood in the same mollified sense that Maillet, or rather the Abbot Muscrier, puts upon Pliny. 1849 THACKERAY *Pendennis* I. xxix. 284 'Boys will be boys', the mollified uncle thought to himself. 1862 HOLLAND *Miss Gilbert* x, 'We are disappointed here again, Fanny', said the doctor with a mollified tone.

Hence **Mo·llifiedly** *adv.*

1626 W. FENNER *Hidden Manna* (1652) 72 The bloud of Christ is of a sufficient value to redeeme them all *à toto*: Secondly, mollifiedly, *à tanto.*

Mollifier (mɒ·lifəi,əɹ). [f. next + -ER [1]; cf. F. *mollifieur* (Cotgr.).] One who or something which mollifies.

1592 in *Misc. Hist. & Philol.* (1703) 169 The Lord Treasurer..ever secretly feigned himself to be a Moderator and Mollifier of the Catholicks Afflictions. 1610 MARKHAM *Masterp.* II. clxxiii. 485 Branckvrsin is a wonderfull great mollifier. 1710 T. FULLER *Pharm. Extemp.* 317 Vinegar.. is itself a prime Corrector and Mollifyer.

Mollify (mɒ·lifəi), *v.* Also 5–8 molify, 5–6 mol(l)yfy(e, -efy(e. [ad. F. *mollifier,* ad. L. *mollificāre,* f. *molli-s* soft + *-ficāre*: see -FY.]

1. *trans.* To render soft or supple; to make tender; to reduce the hardness of. Also *absol.* Now *rare.*

1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 8399 Han a leche..Thy synwes harde to mollefye With oynementys, to make hem plye. *Ibid.* 10982 Dyamaunt, I trowe, ys noon, Nor noon other maner ston So indurat, to mollefye, As he. 1490 CAXTON *Eneydos* xv. 59 The erth..was alle made fatte and molyfyed wyth the blode of the bestes that were there Immolated. 1555 EDEN *Decades* 220 These skynnes being made verye harde, they hunge them..in the sea..to mollifie them. 1610 MARKHAM *Masterp.* II. clxxiii. 493 Manna is of equall temper hote and dry; it openeth, it mollifieth, and incarnateth. 1638 WILKINS *New World* xiv. (1707) 119 Metals are not rarify'd by melting, but mollify'd. 1707 *Curios. in Husb. & Gard.* 300 One of the..Plants is that which so mollifies the Bones, that..we cannot stand upon our Legs. 1832 W. IRVING *Tales Alhambra, Moor's Legacy* (1875) 161 Pedrillo Pedrugo..put a basin of hot water under his chin, and began to mollify his beard with his fingers.

fig. 1624 DONNE *Devotions* 306 Thou rainest vpon vs and yet doest not alwayes mollifie all our hardnes.

†**b.** *To mollify the fist* (? nonce-use): a jocular substitution for 'to grease the palm'.

1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 98 Making the Merchant dance attendance till a right understanding be created betwixt the Shawhunder and them, which commonly follows when the Fist is mollified.

†**c.** *To mollify the belly*: to relax the bowels. *Obs.*

1533 ELYOT *Cast. Helthe* (1539) 21 Quynces..taken after meate..mollifieth the bealy. 1631 WITHOWES *Nat. Philos.* 45 It mollifieth the belly, and cureth hardnesse of the backe and belly.

†**d.** *intr.* To become soft or tender. *Obs.*

1528 PAYNEL *Salerne's Regim.* O ij b, Tyll tyme the meate of them mollifie, and waxe tender.

2. *trans.* To soften in temper or disposition; to allay the anger or indignation of; to render less obdurate; to calm, pacify, or appease. From the 15th to the 17th c. very common in the phrase †*to mollify* (*one's*) *heart. Obs.*

c 1412 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 2638 Lat vs mollifie Our hertes stoute to his genterie. 1560 DAUS tr. *Steidane's Comm.* 408 b, Ambassadours, whiche might mollifie their myndes and perswade them to peace. 1667 DRYDEN & DK. NEWCASTLE *Sir M. Mar-all* III. (middle), I must mollify him with money. *a* 1715 BURNET *Own Time* (1724) I. 213 Even the Presbyterians were much mollified..by his mild and heavenly course of life. 1754 HUME *Hist. Gt. Brit.* I. *Chas. I,* v. 271 To mollify, by these indulgences, the rage of his most furious persecutors. 1872 BLACK *Adv. Phaeton* XXVII, 'Oh, as you please', said the young man, a trifle mollified.

†**b.** *intr.* To become softened in temper or disposition; to grow more kindly or genial; to relax one's severity, to become less angry or obdurate, to relent. *Obs.*

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 246 Shall make the most harde herted persone that is, to mollify & melte. *c* 1533 TINDALE *Answ. More* Wks. (1573) 330/2 The hart here beginneth to mollifie and waxe soft. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* IV. (1598) 413 Philinax feeling his hart more & more mollifying vnto her, renewed [etc.]. 1694 DRYDEN *Love Triumphant* V. i, She has a delicious tongue of her own, and I begin to mollify. 1741 H. WALPOLE *Lett. to Mann* 23 Nov., He..owned his father had mollified, but hoped she would excuse him. 1823 *Examiner* 268/2 The father mollifies and is reconciled to the marriage.

†**3.** To enervate, enfeeble. *Obs.*

1490 CAXTON *Eneydos* xii. 42 This man onely hath molyfyed my wyttes, and perturbed the corage of myn opynyon firste. 1577 NORTHBROOKE *Dicing* (1843) 165 Whose mind is so well ordered..that these wanton dauncings..woulde not corrupt, ouercome, and vtterlye molifie?

†**4.** To abate the violence or intensity of (passions; also heat, cold, tempests, etc.); to relieve (care). *Obs.*

c 1495 *Epitaffe,* etc. in *Skelton's Wks.* (1843) II. 390 To mollyfy oure monys. 1542–5 BRINKLOW *Lament* 10 Their absence shulde not quenche nor mollifye your lone towardes your brethren. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* II. (1586) 85 The extreeme heate of the sunne, is somthing mollified with the cold blastes of the winde. 1612 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* xii. 186 Refresh you in my bathes, and mollifie your care With comfortable wines and meats. 1653 LD. VAUX tr. *Godeau's St. Paul* 238 His great courage could not be mollified. *a* 1833 R. WATSON in Spurgeon *Treas. Dav.* Ps. cxiii. 7 What sources of comfort does it [*sc.* Christianity] open to mollify the troubles of life!

5. To lessen the harshness or severity of (expressions, laws, etc.); abate the rigour of (demands); also, to represent in favourable terms, to euphemize. Now *rare.*

1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* (1812) I. cccxxiv. 741 The erle of Flaunders..molefyed the mater as moche as he might. 1549 COVERDALE, etc. *Erasm. Par. 2 Cor.* Argt., He mollifieth the sharpenes vsed in his former epistle. *a* 1674 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* VIII. § 203 They would, by yielding to some things when they refused others, sooner prevail with the Houses to mollify their demands. 1681 DRYDEN *Sp. Friar* V. ii. 75 Now mince the Sin, And mollifie Damnation with a Phrase. 1785 SARAH FIELDING *Ophelia* xiii, He had not mollified the term of Savage. 1798 JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1859) IV. 249 Our alien bill struggles hard for a passage. It has been considerably mollified. 1880 *Expositor* XI. 469 The Apostle..could easily and euphoniously have modified and mollified his expression.

†**6.** To impart a tender beauty to. *Obs.* or *nonce-use.*

c 1750 SHENSTONE *Ruin'd Abbey* 20 The vocal flute .. Crowns his delight and mollifies the scene.

Mollifying (mɒ·lifəi,iŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. prec. + -ING [1].] The action of the verb MOLLIFY.

c 1532 DU WES *Introd. Fr.* in *Palsgr.* 1040 Molifiyng of angre. *a* 1540 BARNES *Wks.* (1573) 274/1 Duns saith, that there is a mollifieng, that precedeth grace, which hee calleth attrition. 1643 STEER tr. *Exp. Chyrurg.* xiv. 55 They [*sc.* scars] require greater mollifying.

Mollifying (mɒ·lifəi,iŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ING [2].] That mollifies (in senses of the vb.).

1590 BARROUGH *Meth. Physick* III. xxxvii. (1596) 163 It profiteth greatly to discend into a bath made of mollifying herbs. 1611 BIBLE *Wisd.* xvi. 12 It was neither herbe, nor mollifying plaister that restored them to health. 1622 T. SCOTT *Belg. Pismire* 31 The Nobilitie liue idlely, acquainting themselues with all effeminate fashions, and mollifying pleasures. 1713 M. HENRY *Meekness & Quietness of Spirit* (1822) 163 Could any thought be more mollifying than that? *a* 1797 H. WALPOLE *Mem. Geo. II* (1847) II. ii. 41 The face of Lord Kildare, one of the mollifying demagogues, was blackened on sign-posts. 1906 *Outlook* 24 Mar. 403/2 We should not embrace the mollifying delusion of security in private or in national life.

Molligut (mɒ·ligʊt). *U.S. dial.* The angler, *Lophius piscatorius.*

1884 G. B. GOODE, etc. *Nat. Hist. Aquatic Anim.* 173 The Goose Fish or Monk Fish *Lophius piscatorius*...The names of the fish are many;..In Eastern Connecticut [it is called] 'Molligut'.

Mollimock, variant of MALLEMUCK.

1832 GOODRIDGE *Voy. South Seas* 20 Various birds..such as the Albatross, Nellys, Peeos, Mollimocks [etc.].

Mollin, obs. form of MULLEIN.

Molline (mɒ·lin). *Med.* Also -in. [A trade name; ? f. L. *moll-is* soft + -INE.] A yellowish-white saponaceous preparation used as a base for ointments in the treatment of skin diseases.

1889 *Lancet* 6 Apr. 698/1 A saponaceous preparation which is known under the name of 'molline'. 1891 *Syd. Soc. Lex., Mollin.*

Mollinet, obs. variant of MOLINET.

Mollipilose (mɒlipəi·lōus), *a.* [f. L. *mollis* soft: see PILOSE.] Having soft pilage or plumage (*Cent. Dict.* 1890). Hence **Mollipilo·sity** (*Ibid.*).

Mollipuff, variant of MULLIPUFF.

Mollisher (mɒ·liʃəɹ). *slang.* A woman.

1812 J. H. VAUX *Flash Dict., Mollisher,* a woman. 1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* I. 424 One old mollesher (woman).. brought out 8 lbs. of white rags.

Mollitie, variant of MOLLITY.

‖ **Mollities** (mɒli·ʃi,īz). Also 7 mollicies. [L. *mollitiēs,* f. *molli-s* soft.] †**a.** *fig.* Effeminacy (*obs.*). **b.** *Med.* Softening, softness. *Mollities cerebri,* softening of the brain (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1891); *mollities ossium,* softening of the bones.

1604 JAS. I *Counterbl.* (Arb.) 110 Mollicies and delicacie were the wracke and ouerthrow..of the Romane Empire. 1835–6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 437/1 The phenomena of mollities..and..other morbid actions. 1876 BRISTOWE *Th. & Pract. Med.* (1878) 923 Mollities ossium is characterised anatomically by progressive softening of the bones.

†**Molli·tion.** *Obs. rare* —[1]. [ad. L. **mollītiōn-em,* f. *mollīre* to soften: see -ION.] Softening.

1657 TOMLINSON *Renou's Disp.* 75 Mollition is the beginning of Liquation.

Mollitious (mɒli·ʃəs), *a. rare.* [f. L. *molliti-ēs* softness + -OUS.] Luxurious, sensuous.

1646 QUARLES *Barnabas & B.* (1651) 79 Can lusty diet, and mollicious rest bring forth no other fruits, but faint desires, rigid thoughts, and Phlegmatick conceits? 1840 BROWNING *Sordello* III. 129 Mollitious alcoves gilt Superb as Byzant-domes the devils built.

†**Mo·llitude.** *Obs.* [ad. L. *mollitūdo,* f. *molli-s* soft: see -TUDE.] Softness, effeminacy.

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr., Mollitude,* softness, niceness, tenderness, effeminateness, wantonness. 1767 A. CAMPBELL *Lexiph.* II A perennial mollitude of manners. In mod. Dicts.

†**Mo·llity.** *Obs.* In 7 mollitie. [ad. L. *mollitiē-s* softness: see MOLLITIES.] Gentleness.

1655 *Marrow of Complements* 2 If that tenderness and mollitie inherent and predominant in your soft sex sway its scepter in you.

Mollotto, obs. form of MULATTO.

Mollusc, mollusk (mɒ·lŏsk). *Nat. Hist.* Also 9 mollusque. [ad. F. *mollusque,* ad. mod. L. MOLLUSCA.] An animal belonging to the Mollusca.

1783 BARBUT *Genera Vermium* p. xvii, *Ascidia.* The Bladder-Shaped Mollusque. *Holothuria.* The Tentaculated Mollusque. *Medusa.* The Snake-lock Mollusque. 1808 HOME in *Phil. Trans.* XCVI. 286 All the mollusques which creep on their bellies. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XIV. 321/2 Terrestrial and fluviatile Mollusks. 1867 F. FRANCIS *Angling* vii. (1880) 259 These molluscs took well to the lake. 1898 R. MUNRO *Prehist. Scot.* 81 This mollusc is now extinct in the Clyde.

Mollusca (mɒlv·skă), *sb. pl. Zool.* [mod.L. *mollusca* (Jonston 1650), neut. pl. of L. *molluscus* (occurring in *mollusca nux,* a soft kind of nut), also ellipt. as sb., and *mollusc(u)m* neut., used subst. as the name of a kind of fungus.] **a.** Applied by Linnæus in 1758 to a heterogeneous group of invertebrates, forming the second order of his class Vermes, and comprising the Echinoderms, Hydroids, Annelids, and naked Mollusca. To these the shell-bearing Mollusca were added by later naturalists. **b.** In present use (mainly following the classification proposed by Cuvier in 1788–1800), a phylum or sub-kingdom of animals, comprising the four classes Gastropoda (limpets, snails, etc.), Scaphopoda (tooth-shells), Cephalopoda (cuttlefish, etc.), and Lamellibranchia (oyster, mussel, etc.); the classes Cirrhopoda, Tunicata, and Brachiopoda, included by Cuvier among the Mollusca, are now placed elsewhere, and the Polyzoa have since Cuvier's time been added to the phylum and again removed.

1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XII. 204/1 *Mollusca,* in the Linnæan system, is the denomination of the second genus of vermes or wurms. These are simple naked animals, not included in a shell, but furnished with limbs. 1806 TURTON tr. *Linn. Syst. Nat.* IV. 3 Class VI. Worms...They are divided into five Orders. I. Intestina...II. Mollusca. Are naked, furnished with tentacula or arms, for the most part inhabitants of the sea; and [etc.]. 1828 FLEMING *Brit. Anim.* 224 It is my intention to proceed to the consideration of the species [of Radiata]..immediately after the enumeration of the Mollusca. 1896 KIRKALDY & POLLARD tr. *Boas' Text-bk. Zool.* 289 *note,* In many Mollusca..certain parts of the epithelial covering of the pericardium are glandular.

Molluscan (mɒlv·skăn), *a.* and *sb. Zool.* [f. prec. + -AN.] **a.** *adj.* Of, pertaining to, or having the characters of the Mollusca. **b.** *sb.* One of the Mollusca; a mollusc.

1828–32 in WEBSTER. 1835 KIRBY *Hab. & Inst. Anim.* I. viii. 236 The Cirripedes..seem to have little to do with the bivalve Molluscans. *Ibid.* 255 The superiority of the Insect over the Molluscan tribes. 1883 *Gd. Words* Aug. 531/2 The molluscan population of our British shores.

Molluscigerous (mɒlŏsi·dʒĕrəs), *a.* Also molluskigerous. [f. MOLLUSC + -GEROUS.] Bearing or producing molluscs.

1877 HUXLEY *Anat. Inv. Anim.* viii. 513 In some few of the *Synaptæ*..elongated tubular molluskigerous sacs are found attached..to one of the intestinal vessels.

Molluscoid (mɒlv·skoid), *a.* and *sb.* [f. as prec. + -OID.] **A.** *adj.*

1. *Zool.* **a.** Belonging to or resembling the Mollusca; **b.** Of or belonging to the Molluscoidea.

1855 *Eng. Cycl., Nat. Hist.* III. 858 The Molluscoid subdivision of the neural forms. 1877 LE CONTE *Elem. Geol.* I. (1879) 296 Their affinities [*i.e.* those of the Polyzoa] are probably molluscoid.

2. *Path.* Of the nature of molluscum.

1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 926 Molluscoid acne.

B. *sb.*

1. One of the Molluscoidea.

1855 W. S. DALLAS in *Syst. Nat. Hist.* I. 416 The *Bryozoa* and the *Tunicata*..have been formed into a separate subdivision, the Molluscoids. 1879 VERRILL in *Bull. U. S. Nat. Mus.* No. 15. 147 Molluscoids.

2. = MOLLUSCUM 1 (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1891).

Molluscoidal (mɒlŏskoi·dăl), *a.* [f. MOLLUSCOID + -AL.] = MOLLUSCOID *a.*

1872 DARWIN *Orig. Spec.* xi. (ed. 6) 309 At an ancient epoch the highest and lowest molluscoidal animals [ed. 5 (1869) x. 412 molluscs]..swarmed in numbers.

So **Molluscoi·dan** *a.* (*Cent. Dict.* 1890).

Molluscoidea (mɒlŏskoi·dĭă). *Zool.* Also -oida. [mod.L. (Milne-Edwards 1844), f. MOLLUSC-A: see -OID.] A division of invertebrates

comprising the Polyzoa and the Brachiopoda, and formerly also the Tunicata.

1855 *Engl. Cycl., Nat. Hist.* III. 858 Milne-Edwards has proposed a division of the *Mollusca* into the *Molluscæ* proper, and the *Molluscoida* (*Molluscoides*), including under the latter class those Polype-like forms, the *Polyzoa* and the *Ascidioida*. 1869 Huxley *Introd. Classif. Anim.* iv. 82 The Ascidioida, Brachiopoda and Polyzoa .. may be conveniently denominated *Molluscoida*. 1875 Nicholson *Man. Zool.* (ed. 4) 330 Distribution of Molluscoida in Time.

Molluscoidean (mɒlŭskoi·dĭ,ăn), *a.* and *sb.* [f. Molluscoidea : see -an.] = Molluscoid *a.* and *sb.* (*Cent. Dict.* 1890).

Molluscous (mɒlʷskəs), *a.* [f. L. *mollusc-us* (see Mollusca, Molluscum) + -ous.]

1. Of or belonging to the Mollusca.

1813 Bakewell *Introd. Geol.* 179 Moluscous animals of a particular species. 1816 Bingley *Useful Knowl.* III. 13 Molluscous Worms are simple animals, without shell, and furnished with limbs, as the cuttle fish, medusæ, star-fish, and sea-urchins. 1840 *Chamb. Jrnl.* No. 438. 174/3 The snail belongs to the Molluscous division of the animal kingdom. 1886 *Gentl. Mag.* Apr. 407 Now that oysters are so dear..we should look around for some molluscous substitute.

2. *fig.* esp. in the sense of 'flabby', 'invertebrate'.

1873 W. S. Mayo *Never Again* xxix, Reclining in molluscous languor upon a mother-of-pearl reading-lounge, she seemed [etc.]. 1884 *Chr. World* 28 Aug. 648/4 The molluscous might of China. 1886 *Manch. Exam.* 9 Nov. 5/2 We may regard him as a fair type of Toryism in its present molluscous condition.

3. *Path.* Of, pertaining to, or of the nature of molluscum.

1885–8 Fagge & Pye-Smith *Princ. Med.* (ed. 2) I. 112 The peculiar discoid shape of molluscous growths. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 824 Molluscous tumours.

Hence **Mollu·scousness.**

1870 *Contemp. Rev.* XIV. 408 That 'moral molluscousness' which my Lord Elcho has had the good fortune to make into a proverb.

‖ **Molluscum** (mɒlʷskŭm). [mod.L., neut. of L. *molluscus* : see Mollusca.]

1. *Path.* The designation of a kind of soft tumours.

1818–20 E. Thompson *Cullen's Nosol. Method.* (ed. 3) 332 Molluscum; Small soft wen. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 874 The molluscum tumiours.

†2. *Zool.* = Mollusc. *Obs.*

1832 Johnston in *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* I. No. i. 9 The *Eolis rufibranchialis* [is] a molluscum new to naturalists.

Mollusk, -sque, variant forms of Mollusc.

Molly[1] (mɒ·li). Also 8 molley, 8– mollie. [f. Moll *sb.*[1] 1 + -y.]

1. (With capital M.) A familiar pet-form of the name *Mary*; often applied contemptuously to a 'lass', 'wench', and occas. to a prostitute. (Cf. Moll.)

1719 D'Urfey *Pills* I. 5 Town follies and Cullies, And Molleys and Dolleys, For ever adieu. 1819 Shelley *Peter Bell 3rd* VI. xxxii, 'Twould make George Colman melancholy To have heard him, like a male Molly, Chanting those stupid staves. 1890 *Gloucester Gloss.* 97 The men and girls [at a hiring-fair] are called 'Johnnies and Mollies'.

2. An effeminate man or boy; a milksop. *Miss Molly*, in the same sense (cf. *Miss Nancy*, Miss *sb.*[2] 3 b); hence *Miss Mollyism*. Cf. Molly-coddle.

1754 W. Whitehead *World* No. 58 P 1 If he goes to school, he will be perpetually teized by the nick-name of Miss Molly. 1785 Grose *Dict. Vulg. T., Molly*, a miss Molly, an effeminate fellow, a sodomite. 1816 'Quiz' *Grand Master* I. 19 In fact, a specimen of folly, A *semi-ver* [sic], a mere Miss Molly. 1834 J. Wilson in *Blackw. Mag.* XXXVI. 843 It would be sad..if John Bull were to be emasculated by Miss-Mollyism. 1879 L. B. Walford *Cousins* III. 172 Simon is not a molly, whatever he may be. 1884 *Illustr. Lond. News* 18 Oct. 363/3 When a man makes a 'molly' of himself by describing the work of the housemaid. 1901 'R. Connor' *Man fr. Glengarry* vii, The Langfords are regular Mollies.

3. A large basket used for packing fruit, etc.

1883 *Newspaper*, Pears, 2*s.* to 4*s.* per molley;..walnuts, 3*s.* 6*d.* to 4*s.* 6*d.* per molley. 1885 *Standard* 11 Sept., In numerable 'mollies' (big baskets) of plums. 1898 *Gard. Mag.* 3 Sept. 581/1 Dutch [pears], 2*s.* to 2*s.* 6*d.* per molly.

4. Special combinations: **Molly cotton-tail** *U.S.* = *cotton-tail*; **molly-head** *slang*, a 'soft-head', simpleton; **molly-mop**, an effeminate man; **Molly washdish**, the pied wagtail, *Motacilla lugubris*.

1859 Bartlett *Dict. Amer.*, **Molly Cotton-tail*, a rabbit. 1885 *Riverside Nat. Hist.* (1888) V. 78 Molly Cotton-tail. 1902 *Munsey's Mag.* XXVI. 492/1 Stephens is in it to pass the stuff to the *mollyheads that can't be got at without him. 1829 Marryat *F. Mildmay* xvi, I'll disrate you,.. you d—d *molly mop. 1885 Swainson *Prov. Names Birds* 44 Pied Wagtail (*Motacilla lugubris*)...*Molly washdish.

Hence † **Mo·llyish** *a.*

1801 Dibdin *Frisk, Jack at the Opera* iii, If it wasn't for the petticoat gear, With their squeaking, so mollyish, tender, and soft, One should scarcely know ma'am from mounseer.

Molly[2]**, mollie** (mɒ·li). *dial.* [Alleged to be an abbreviated form of Mallemuck.]

1. = Fulmar. Cf. Maw (*mall*).

1857 F. O. Morris *Hist. Eng. Birds* VI. 237 Fulmar.. Mallemoke. Molly. 1874 A. H. Markham *Whaling Cruise to Baffin's B.* 144 The voracity of the 'mollies' swarming round the ship is perfectly astonishing. 1882 *Nature* XXVI. 387 Other birds were..seen, including..the molly.

2. A meeting of ship-captains held on board one of several ice-bound ships in company.

1874 A. H. Markham *Whaling Cruise to Baffin's B.* 112 In the evening..I got some little insight into the mysteries of a 'mollie', though on a small scale. In whaling parlance, a 'mollie' means having a night of it. 1885 Schley & Soley *Rescue of Greely* 183 These interviews are called 'Mollies', and are announced by a bucket hoisted as a signal at the fore-royal masthead...Generally speaking, a 'Mollie' means making a night of it.

Molly-coddle (mɒ·likɒd'l) *sb.* Also 9 moll caudle, -coddle. [f. Molly[1] + Coddle *v.*[2]]

a. One who coddles himself or is coddled; one who takes excessive care of his health; an effeminate man. Also *attrib.* b. *dial.* = Mollycot.

1833 Sir C. Napier *Colonies* 209 A 'moll caudle' spirit that reigned supreme through all the acts of this government. 1849 Thackeray *Pendennis* I. xxxii. 310 You have been bred up as a molly-coddle, Pen, and spoilt by the women. 1851 — *Eng. Hum.* v. (1853) 257 He couldn't do otherwise than..hold him up to scorn as a moll-coddle and a milksop. 1894 Wilkins & Vivian *Green Bay Tree* I. 24 This desperately molly-coddle age. 1895 *Times* 12 Nov. 14/2 They .. come .. from well-meaning but molly-coddle friends. 1903 *Eng. Dial. Dict., Mollycoddle*, .. A man who does household work; one who interferes with women's business.

Molly-coddle (mɒ·likɒd'l), *v.* Also 9 moddle-coddle, moddley-coddley. [f. prec.] *trans.* To coddle or cocker up.

1870 Dickens *E. Drood* ii, Don't moddley-coddley, there's a good fellow. I like anything better than being moddley-coddleyed. 1880 Mrs. Forrester *Roy & V.* I. 264, I am not going to have the child molly-coddled in that way. 1883 Miss Braddon *Gold. Calf* III. vii. 227 Look here, mother dear: I'm as well as ever I was, and I'm not going to be mollicoddled any more. 1898 *Cath. News* 21 May 8/3 This is very much like appealing to a householder to molly coddle a burglar who had invaded his premises rather than bring in the police.

Hence **Mo·lly-coddling** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1881 'Rita' *My Lady Coquette* xv, Fresh air is a thousand times better for her than molly-coddling and medicines. 1885 *Times* 2 Jan. 10 A hypersensitive and mollycoddling regard for our finer feelings. 1893 *Westm. Gaz.* 6 Feb. 10/2 Moddle-coddling is the curse of missions.

Mollycot (mɒ·likɒt). *dial.* [f. Molly[1] + Cot *sb.*[5]] One who 'fusses' about domestic concerns; a man who performs a woman's domestic duties.

1837 Miss Mitford *Country Stories* (1850) 99 He's a worse mollycot than a woman. *c* 1861 J. T. Staton *Rays fro' Loominary* (1867) 63 If ever aw contentedly turn Mollycot, there'll ha to be some very different noshuns oth whole duty o man.

Mollyhawk (mɒ·lihɔ̄k). Corrupt form of *mollymawk*, Mallemuck.

1884 Spurgeon in *Sword & Trowel* Apr. 167 The Mollyhawks, and Cape-pigeons..followed faithfully in our wake. 1888 *Daily News* 10 Sept. 2/4 Molly-hawks.

Molly Maguire (mɒ·li,măgwəi·ə). [A female name (see Molly[1]; *Maguire* is a common Irish surname) assumed together with the female disguise: see quot.] A member of a secret society formed in Ireland in 1843 for the purpose of resisting the payment of rent.

1868 W. S. Trench *Realities Irish Life* vi. 82 These 'Molly Maguires' were generally stout active young men, dressed up in women's clothes...The 'Molly Maguires' became the terror of all our officials.

b. *transf.* A similar society formed in the mining districts of Pennsylvania for purposes of intimidation, but suppressed in 1876.

1869 Dixon *New Amer.* II. 299 The judge who tried this murderer was elected by the Molly Maguires; the jurors who assisted him were themselves Molly Maguires.

Mollymawk, variant of Mallemuck.

Mo·lman. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.* Pl. molmen. [late OE. **málman*, f. *mál* Mail *sb.*[1] + Man. Cf. Sc. *mail-man.*] A holder of Molland; one who held land for which he paid rent in commutation of servile customs.

1277 *Ely Survey* in Vinogradoff *Villainage* 442 De consuetudinariis qui vocantur Molmen. 1291 *Inquisition* 19 *Edw. I* (Rec. Office) *ibid.* 186 Liberi tenentes per cartam. Liberi tenentes qui vocantur fresokemen. Sokemanni qui vocantur molmen. Custumarii qui vocantur werkmen. 1892 Vinogradoff *Villainage in Engl.* 184 The word mal-men or mol-men is commonly used in the feudal period for villains who have been released from most of their services by the lord on condition of paying certain rents.

Moloch (mō·ulɒk). [a. L. *Moloch* (Vulg.), Gr. Μόλοχ, Μολόχ (LXX), repr. Heb. מֹלֶךְ *mō·lek*. It is believed that the true form of the name (or rather title) was מַלֶךְ *Me·lek* king (cf. the name of the Tyrian god Melcarth, 'king of the city'), but that the Jews after the Captivity pronounced it with the vowels of בֹּשֶׁת *bō·sheth* shame, in order to mark their horror of idolatry.

The Bible of 1611 has the name always as *Molech*, exc. in Amos v. 26, where it has 'your Moloch', though the Masoretic reading of the Heb. is *malk^ekem* 'your king'. The earlier Eng. versions spell the name *Moloch* after the Vulgate.]

1. The name of a Canaanite idol, to whom children were sacrificed as burnt-offerings (Lev. xviii. 21); represented by Milton as one of the devils. Hence (as appellative, but now always with capital M), applied to an object to which horrible sacrifices are made. Also *attrib.*

The Rabbinical story that children were burnt *alive* (being placed in the arms of the image, whence they fell into the flames) appears to be unfounded, but is popularly well-known, and has influenced the transferred use.

1667 Milton *P. L.* I. 392 Moloch, horrid King besmear'd with blood Of human sacrifice, and parents tears. 1794 Coleridge *Relig. Musings* 185 Thee to defend the Moloch Priest prefers The prayer of hate. 1799 *Sporting Mag.* XII. 332 The moloch to whom her honour and happiness had been sacrificed. 1817 Coleridge *Statesm. Man.* App. 10 The Molocks [*sic*] of human nature. 1838 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* I. 394/2 More lives have been sacrificed to the Moloch of high pressure steam, than [etc.]. 1882 Barlow *Ultim. Pessimism* 49 The trouble of rearing new victims for the Moloch of culture. 1868 W. Cory *Lett. & Jrnls.* (1897) 237 This holocaust, this human incense, this Moloch-squeezing of innocents [a hot Sunday in school chapel].

2. The thorn-lizard or thorn-devil, *Moloch horridus*, native of Australia, one of the most grotesque and hideous of existing reptiles. Also *attrib.*, as *moloch-lizard* (Ogilvie *Suppl.* 1855).

[The mod.L. *Moloch horridus* (Gray 1841) was suggested by Milton's expression: see quot. 1667, sense 1.]

1845 J. E. Gray *Catal. Specim. Lizards Brit. Mus.* 263 The Moloch, Moloch horridus, Gray. 1893 *Daily News* 22 Dec. 5/4 Australia produces many curiosities .. but few are greater oddities in..appearance than the Moloch lizard. *Ibid.*, The Moloch is decidedly the most remarkable of recent additions to the Reptile House.

3. A Brazilian monkey, *Callithrix moloch.*

1875 *Encycl. Brit.* II. 155 The Moloch Callithrix. 1893 *Roy. Nat. Hist.* I. 173 Another Brazilian species is the Moloch titi (*Callithrix moloch*).

Hence **Mo·lochship** *nonce-wd.*

1661 Cowley *Govt. Cromwell* Wks. (1688) 57 To set himself up as an Idol,..and make the very Streets of London like the Valley of Hinnom, by burning the bowels of men as a Sacrifice to his Moloch-ship.

‖ **Molochine** (mɒ·lŏkin), *a.* and *sb. Zool.* [f. mod.L. *Moloch* (generic name of the moloch lizard) + -ine[1].] a. *adj.* Pertaining to or connected with the reptilian sub-family *Molochinæ*, represented only by the Moloch (*Cent. Dict.* 1890). b. *sb.* A molochine lizard (*Ibid.*).

Molochite's, obs. forms of Malachite.

1585 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* IV. xi. 123 b, In this place are also found the Sardonique stones, Molochite, and those which are called Iris.

Molochize (mō·ulŏkəiz), *v.* [f. Moloch + -ize.] *trans.* in *nonce-uses.* a. To imbue with the cruelty characteristic of the worship of Moloch. b. To immolate, to sacrifice as to Moloch.

1825 Hone *Every-day Bk.* I. 295 Humanity was dead, for superstition Molochized the heart. 1877 Tennyson *Harold* I. i, I think that they would Molochize them [*sc.* their babies] too, To have the heavens clear.

Hence **Mo·lochizing** *ppl. a.*

1878 P. W. Wyatt *Hardrada* 44 The Molochizing fire that sears the germ Of kindness in man's soul.

Moloker (mɒ·lŏkəɹ). *slang.* Also **molocker.** A renovated silk hat. So **Mo·loker** *v.* (see quot.).

1863 Sala *Breakf. in Bed* v. 105 'Tis like an old hat that has been 'molokered', or ironed and greased into a simulacrum of its pristine freshness. 1893 *Westm. Gaz.* 18 July 3/3 A good Molocker (Molocker, it appears, is the trade term for renovated old *chapeaux*). *Ibid.*, We came across one shop where Molockers were sold.

Molossa's, obs. form of Molasses.

Moloss(e (mɒlɒ·s). *rare.* [ad. L. *molossus.*]

†1. = Molossus 1. *Obs.*

1731 Blackwall *Sacr. Classicks def. & illustr.* II. 100 The smaller Alcaic verse with a Molosse interpos'd.

2. = Molossus 2.

1842 De Quincey *Mod. Greece* Wks. 1863 XIII. 460 Out bounds .. a horrid infuriated ruffian of a dog—oftentimes a huge *moloss*, big as an English cow.

3. A mastiff-bat (see Molossine).

1845 *Encycl. Metrop.* XXII. 249 Molosses of the Old World...Collared Molosse..Plaited Molosse.

Molosses, obs. form of Molasses.

Molossian (mɒlɒ·siăn), *a.* and *sb. Hist.* [f. L. *Molossia* (= Gr. Μολοσσία) a country in Epirus, f. Gr. Μολοσσός Molossus : see -an, -ian.]

A. *adj.* Of or pertaining to Molossia; esp. *Molossian dog, hound*, a kind of mastiff.

1649 Ogilby *Virg. Georg.* (1684) III. 434 But feed Fleet Spartan Whelps, and thy Molossian Breed. 1837 *Penny Cycl.* IX. 481/1 Alexander was the first of the Molossian princes who bore the title of king of Epirus. 1879 Farrar *St. Paul* (1883) 460 The carcase of a Molossian hound.

B. *sb.* An inhabitant of Molossia.

a 1592 Greene *Mamillia* II. (1593) G 3 Sarcas the king of the Molossians. 1878 *Encycl. Brit.* VIII. 483/2 The Molossians [inhabited] the inland district of which the lake of Pambotis or Yannina may be regarded as the centre.

Molossic (mɒlɒ·sik), *a. Prosody.* [f. Moloss-us + -ic.] Of or pertaining to a molossus.

1890 in *Century Dict.*

Molossine (mɒlɒ·səin), *a.* and *sb. Zool.* [f. mod.L. *Molossinæ* a family of bats (f. *Moloss-us* : see Molossus 2) : see -ine.]

A. *adj.* Relating to the *Molossinæ.*

1891 Flower & Lydekker *Mammals* xiii. 669 The Molossine division is characterised by [etc.].

B. *sb.* One of the *Molossinæ* or mastiff-bats.

1840 *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 69 The Molossines...These have the muzzle simple [etc.].

Molossoid (mɒlɒ·soid), *a.* and *sb.* [Formed as prec. : see -oid.] = Molossine.

1864 H. Allen *Bats N. Amer.* (*Smithsonian Misc. Collect.* VII.) 6 The Molossoid group of the Noctilionidæ.

Molossus (mŏlǫ·sŭs). [a. L. *Molossus* = Gr. Μολοσσός Molossian, used subst. as below.]

1. *Prosody.* A metrical foot consisting of three long syllables.

1585 W. Webbe *Eng. Poetrie* (Arb.) 69 Molossus, that is [a foot] of three long, as – – – *forgiuenes.* 1879 J. W. White tr. *Schmidt's Rhythmic & Metric* 33 The Molossus, like the spondee, was used in solemn religious melodies.

2. A Molossian dog.

1882 'Ouida' *Maremma* I. 54 She was afraid of the white Molossus dog.

Molossus, -otto, obs. ff. Molasses, Mulatto.

Molour, -owre, obs. forms of Muller.

Molsh, obs. form of Mulch.

Mol stick, obs. form of Maulstick.

Molt: see Melt *v.*; obs. form of Moult.

† **Mo·ltable,** *a. Obs. rare* –°. [f. *molt,* obs. form of Melt *v.* + -able.] Capable of being melted, meltable.

1552 Huloet, Moltenable [1572 (ed. Higgins), Molteable], *fusilis.*

Molte, Molted: see Melt *v.*

Molten (mō·ltˈn), *ppl. a.* Forms: see Melt *v.* [strong pa. pple. of Melt *v.*]

1. Liquefied by heat; in a state of fusion.

Now said only of metals or other bodies that require great heat to melt them; not, e. g., of wax or ice. Cf. Melted.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xlviii. (*Juliana*) 39 þar men þane dang hir sare,..& moltyne led he gert 3et a-pone hir hed. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* xxvi. 62 Out of thair throttis thay schot on vdder Hett moltin gold. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 135 To some the boylynge oyle or molte leed hath ben no more payne, than the pleasaunt warme water. *Ibid.* 192 b, Goddes of metall molten. 1596 Shaks. 1 *Hen. IV,* v. iii. 34, I am as hot as molten Lead, and as heauy too. 1611 Barrey *Ram-Alley* iv. i, It lies, As heauy in my belly as moult lead. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* iii. 686 Scum that on the molten Silver swims. 1784 Cowper *Task* i. 170 The stream, That, as with molten glass, inlays the vale. 1884 C. G. W. Lock *Workshop Receipts* Ser. iii. 249/2 Malleable iron is iron which has been 'decarburized'..by the action of air upon it in a molten state.

b. *fig.*

1824 Landor *Imag. Conv., Demosth. & Eub.* Wks. 1853 I. 86/2 He leaves them in the quiet possession of all their moulten arguments. 1871 Swinburne *Songs bef. Sunrise, Tenebræ* 27 In the manifold sound remote, In the molten murmur of song. 1884 F. Harrison *Choice Bks.* (1886) 253 The molten passion of Burke. 1885 *Times* (weekly ed.) 15 May 5/3 The molten material of his mind too abundant for the capacity of the mould, overflowed it in gushes of fiery excess.

† c. *Molten grease* (see quot. 1754). *Obs.*

1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Molten Grease,* a Disease in Horses. 1754 Bartlet *Farriery* (ed. 2) 166 By molten-grease is meant a fat or oily discharge with the dung, and arises from a colliquation or melting down of the fat of the horse's body, by violent exercise in very hot weather.

2. a. Of metal or other substance: That has been melted (and again solidified). b. Of an image, etc.: Made or produced by melting and running into a mould; = Cast *ppl. a.* 8.

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 316/580 Þei he of molten bras were. 1428 *Surtees Misc.* (1888) 2 3ai fand certein smale peces moulten tyn menged with other metall. 1535 Coverdale *Exod.* xxxii. 4 They made a molten calf. 1641 Best *Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 29 Wee buy our molten tallowe..of the hucksters and tripe-wives. 1718 Prior *Solomon* ii. 327 His Mystic Form the Artizans of Greece In wounded Stone, or molten Gold, express.

† 3. Dissolved (in a liquid); also, *loosely,* reduced to a partially liquid condition, e. g. by putrefaction.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 22791 It semis al again kind þan man es molten flexs and banes, fra time þat þai be roten anes ha pith and lijf als þai had ar. *c* 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* ii. 284 And summe hem kepe Thre nyght in molten [L. *liquide*] donge.

Hence **Mo·ltenly** *adv.,* like what is molten.

1870 Lowell *Among my Bks.* Ser. i. iii. (1870) 149 A.. language..that is still hot from the hearts and brains of a people, not hardened yet, but moltenly ductile to new shapes of sharp and clear relief in the moulds of new thought.

Molter, obs. form of Moulder, Multure.

Moltid, obs. pa. t. and pa. pple. of Melt *v.*

Moltlong, variant of Maltlong, Matlong.

1649 *Eng. Farrier* B 2 b, Molt-long, is the pinching of a straight-hoofe.

† **Mo·lton.** *Obs.* [f. the name South *Molton,* a town in North Devon.

The word appears as in Ger. use (but with Fr. pronunciation, and said to be from Fr.) in Flügel's *Ger.-Eng. Dict.* 1893. (? Confused with Molleton.)]

A kind of coarse woollen cloth.

1545 *Rates Custom Ho.* d vij b, Tauestockes tawntons moltons. [1759 Brice *Grand Gazetteer* 1208 *South-Moulton*...As the chief Manufactures are Serges, Shalloons, and Felts, great Quantities of Wool are brought here to Market.] 1809 A. Henry *Trav.* 34 A molton, or blanket coat. *Ibid.* 139 The lock..I had carried under my molton coat.

Molton, obs. pa. pple. of Melt *v.*

Moltoun, obs. form of Mutton.

Moltring, obs. form of Mouldering *a.*

Moltyn(e, -tynnyd, obs. pa. pple. of Melt *v.*

Molucca (mŏlu·kă). Also 7 **Molluca, Molucco.** [Appears in Fr. (1522) as *Isles Moluques,* in It. (1598) as *Isole Moluche,* and in 17th c. Sp. and Pg. as *Maluco, islas Malucas* and *Molucas.* The name (*the Moluccas, the Molucca Islands*) of a group of islands (also called the Spice Islands) situated in the Eastern Archipelago; used *attrib.* in **Molucca balm,** a cultivated labiate plant, *Moluccella lævis,* native of the Eastern Mediterranean region; **Molucca bat,** the Harpy bat, *Harpyia cephalotes,* native of the islands of Celebes and Amboyna; **Molucca bean,** the fruit of a species of Bonduc, *Guilandina Bonducella*; **Molucca berry,** the fruit of a large tiliaceous tree, *Elæocarpus serratus,* native of India; **Molucca crab,** a name for species of the genus *Limulus*; the king-crab; **Molucca deer,** a species of deer, *Cervus moluccensis,* found in the Moluccas; **Molucca grains,** the seeds of the East Indian tree *Croton Tiglium,* from which croton oil is extracted; **Molucca nut,** the Bonduc nut (Mayne *Expos. Lex.* 1856).

1731 Miller *Gard. Dict.* s.v. *Molucca,* *Molucca Balm. 1789 W. Aiton *Hortus Kewensis* II. 310 *Moluccella lævis.* ..Smooth Molucca Balm... *Moluccella spinosa.*.. Prickly Molucca Balm. 1781 Pennant *Hist. Quad.* II. 558 *Molucca Bat. *a* 1688 J. Wallace *Descr. Orkney* (1693) 14 Upon the Rocks you will find..very oft these pretty Nutts [*marg.* *Molluca Beans], of which they use to make Snuff Boxes. 1700 J. Wallace Jr. *Acc. Orkney* ii. 36 After Storms of Westerly Wind, amongst the Sea-weed, they find commonly in places expos'd to the Western-Ocean these *Phaseoli,* that, I know not for what reason, go under the Name of Molucca Beans. [Cf. Sloane in *Phil. Trans.* (1696) XIX. 398, where the name *Phaseoli Molucani* is cited from Sibbald *Prodr. Hist. Nat. Scot.* p. 55 part 2.] 1753 Chambers *Cycl. Supp., Anacardium,* the Portuguese denominate it *Fava de Molaqua,* the Molucca bean, by which title it is also known in England. 1887 Bentley *Man. Bot.* (ed. 5) 484 *Elæocarpus* (*Ganitrus*) *serratus.*—The fruits are commonly known under the name of *Molucca Berries. 1681 Grew *Museum* I. § v. iv. 120 The *Molucca-Crab. *Cancer Molucensis.* 1902 Kropotkin *Mutual Aid* 11 The big Molucca crab (*Limulus*). 1893 Lydekker *Horns & Hoofs* 299 The *Molucca deer. 1837 *Penny Cycl.* VIII. 179/2 The seeds of the *Croton Tiglii* were formerly used as a drastic purgative medicine, under the name of grains of Tilly, or *Molucca grains. 1696 Sloane *Catal. Plant. Jamaica* 225 *Molucco Nuts of med. cur.

Molwarp, obs. form of Mouldwarp.

Moly (mō·u·li). [a. L. *mōly,* a. Gr. μῶλυ.]

1. *Mythology.* A fabulous herb having a white flower and a black root, endowed with magic properties, and said by Homer to have been given by Hermes to Odysseus as a charm against the sorceries of Circe.

The Homeric moly is by some modern writers identified with the mandrake, but Theophrastus and Dioscorides apply the name to some species of garlic (*Allium*).

1567 Golding *Ovid's Met.* Ep. Ded. a iv b, And what is else herbe Moly than the gift of stayednesse And temperance? 1579 Gosson *Sch. Abuse* (Arb.) 42 It shall preunayle as much against these abuses, as Homers Moly against Witchcraft. 1580 Lyly *Euphues* Wks. 1902 II. 19 But as ye hearb Moly hath a floure as white as snow, & a roote as blacke as incke: so age hath a white head, showing pietie, but a black hart swelling w^t mischiefe. 1634 Milton *Comus* 636 And yet more med'cinal is it then that Moly That Hermes once to wise Ulysses gave. 1725 Pope *Odyss.* x. 365 Black was the root, but milky white the flower, Moly the name, to mortals hard to find. 1884 A. Lang *Custom & Myth* 154 Homer's moly, whatever plant he meant by that name.

fig. 1593 Lodge *Phillis, Compl. Elstred* (1875) 68 He had Loues Moly growing on my pappes, To charme a hell of sorrow and mishappes.

2. Applied to various plants that have been supposed to be identical with the moly of Homer.

a. The liliaceous genus *Allium,* esp. the wild garlic, *Allium Moly.* Also with prefixed word, applied to various species of this genus, as *civet, Dioscorides', dwarf, Homer's, Indian, Montpellier, pine-apple, serpent's, yellow moly.*

1629 Parkinson *Paradisus* 141 Moly. Wilde Garlicke. 1660 Sharrock *Vegetables* 105 The late Pine-apple Moly, the Civet Moly of Monspelier..are well preserved many yeares. 1664 Evelyn *Kal. Hort., May* (1679) 17 Flowers in Prime, or yet Lasting...Bugloss, Homers Moly, and the white of Dioscorides [etc.]. *Ibid., Sept.* 25 Flowers in Prime, or yet lasting...Moly, Monspeliens [etc.]. 1682 Wheler *Journ. Greece* I. 7, I should have taken it for a Moly, but that it had no smell. 1688 R. Holme *Armoury* II. 55/2 Serpents Moly..the small green leaves twine and crawl, from whence it took its name. 1721 Mortimer *Husb.* (ed. 5) II. 231 Moly, or Wild Garlick, is of several Sorts or Kinds, as the Great Moly of Homer, the Indian Moly, the Moly of Hungary, Serpents Moly, the Yellow Moly, Spanish Purple Moly, Spanish Silver-capped Moly, Dioscorides's Moly, the Sweet Moly of Montpelier, &c. 1789 W. Aiton *Hortus Kewensis* I. 422 *Allium subhirsutum*...Hairy Garlick or Dioscorides's Moly. *Ibid.* 423 *Allium magicum*...Homer's Garlick, or Moly. *Ibid.* 428 *Allium Moly.* ..Yellow Garlick, or Moly. 1856 J. H. Newman *Callista* (1890) 126 The stately lily, the royal carnation, the golden moly. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 4 Oct. 2/1 Moly, however, can be identified. It is a common bulb of Southern Europe,.. covering the ground with sheets of brilliant yellow.

† b. App. identified with Thrift, *Armeria vulgaris. Obs. rare* –¹.

1578 Lyte *Dodoens* IV. l. 508 You may also reckon amongst the kindes of Moly, a sort of grasse growing alongst the sea coast..and..bearing flowers..tuft fashion, of a white purple, or skie colour.

Molybdate (mŏlĭ·bdēt). *Chem.* Also 8–9 **molybdat.** [mod., formed as Molybdic *a.*: see -ate¹. Cf. F. *molybdate.*] A salt of molybdic acid.

1794 G. Adams *Nat. & Exp. Philos.* I. App. 546 Molybdats, soluble in water.. but little known. 1796 Hatchett in *Phil. Trans.* LXXXVI. 288 The acidulous molybdate of pot-ash. *Ibid.* 292 Molybdate of lead. 1861 Bristow *Gloss. Min., Molybdate of Iron,* occurs in subfibrous or in tufted crystals of a deep yellow colour; also pulverulent. 1899 Cagney tr. *Jaksch's Clin. Diagn.* v. (ed. 4) 185 Molybdate of soda.

Molybdena (mŏlĭbdī·nă). ? *Obs.* Also 7–9 -dæna, and 9 in anglicized or Ger. form **molybden.** [a. L. *molybdæna,* a. Gr. μολύβδαινα, f. μόλυβδος lead. For the history of the application of the word, see Plumbago (note at end of article).] a. Applied vaguely to various ores or salts of lead. b. An older name for Molybdenite, by early mineralogists confused with graphite and with various ores of lead. c. From *c* 1790 to *c* 1820 sometimes used for Molybdenum.

1693 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Molybdæna,* native and factitious, the native is only a mixture of Lead and Silver Mine; the Factitious is a sort of Litharge. 1783 Withering tr. *Bergman's Outl. Min.* 65 The acid of molybdæna has never yet been obtained quite free from phlogiston. 1786 Beddoes tr. *Scheele's Chem. Ess.* 227 Experiments upon Molybdæna. 1778. 1796 Kirwan *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) II. 4 The Molybdenous acid has been extracted from Molybdena. *Ibid.* 215 The Molybden seems to me to be only in the state of a Calx. 1798 *Phil. Trans.* LXXXVIII. 123, I evaporated it to dryness, without perceiving any vestige of oxide of molybdæna. 1816 P. Cleaveland *Min.* 403 The Graphite and sulphuret of molybdena often strongly resemble each other.

d. *attrib.*: † **molybdena acid,** molybdic acid; **molybdena ochre** = Molybdite.

1783 Withering tr. *Bergman's Outl. Min.* 18 Molybdæna acid. 1854 Dana *Syst. Min.* (ed. 4) II. 144 Molybdena Ochre.

Hence † **Molybde·nic, † Moly·bdenous** *adjs.,* obtained from or pertaining to molybdena (cf. Molybdic). **Molybdeni·ferous** *a.,* containing molybdenum (*Cent. Dict.* 1890).

1790 Wedgwood in *Phil. Trans.* LXXX. 317 The molybdænic acid, discovered by Scheele. 1796 Molybdenous acid [see Molybdena]. 1796 Kirwan *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) II. 216 The molybdenic Calx is known to communicate a yellow colour to Lead. *Ibid.* 478 A pure Molybdenic acid. 1815 J. Smith *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 431 This is the molybdenous acid.

† **Moly·bdenated,** *a. Chem. Obs.* [f. Molybden-a + -ate² + -ed¹.] Combined with molybdenum.

1796 Kirwan *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) II. 212 Yellow Molybdenated Lead Ore. *Ibid.* 322 Molybdenated Barytes is soluble in cold water.

Molybdenite (mŏlĭ·bdĕnəit). [f. Molybden-a + -ite. Cf. F. *molybdénite.*] † a. *Chem.* An artificial sulphide of molybdenum (*obs.*). b. *Min.* Disulphide of molybdenum occurring in tabular bluish-grey crystals.

1796 Kirwan *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) II. 319 Molybdenite... By this name I distinguish the Regulus produced from Molybdena. 1837 Dana *Min.* 426 Molybdenite generally occurs imbedded in..granite..and other primitive rocks. 1901 *Scotsman* 4 Nov. 5/8 Molybdenite in Queensland.

Molybdenum (mŏlĭbdī·nŭm). *Chem.* [mod. L., alteration of Molybdena.] A metallic element (symbol Mo) occurring in combination, as in molybdenite, wulfenite, etc.

When separated it is a brittle, almost infusible silver-white metal, permanent at ordinary temperatures, but rapidly oxidized by heat. *Molybdenum oxide* = Molyboite (Cassell 1885). *Molybdenum sulphide* = Molybdenite (*Ibid.*).

1816 J. Smith *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 408 The ore containing molybdenum has almost the appearance of plumbago. 1873 Watts *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 11) 512 Molybdenum occurs in small quantity as sulphide.

Molybdic (mŏlĭ·bdik), *a.* [f. Molybd-ena + -ic. Cf. F. *molybdique.*] a. *Min.* Containing or derived from molybdenum. *Molybdic ochre* = Molybdite. *Molybdic silver* = Wehrlite. b. *Chem.* Applied to compounds containing molybdenum in its higher valency; esp. in *molybdic acid.*

1796 Hatchett in *Phil. Trans.* LXXXVI. 317 The yellow molybdic acid. 1807 T. Thomson *Chem.* (ed. 3) II. 247 The molybdic acid precipitates in the state of a fine white powder. 1823 W. Phillips *Introd. Min.* (ed. 3) 287 Molybdic Silver. 1854 Dana *Syst. Min.* (ed. 4) II. 527 (Index) Molybdic ochre. 1873 Watts *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 11) 514 Solutions of molybdic salts have a reddish-brown colour.

Molybdine (mŏlĭ·bdin). *Min.* Also -in. [f. Molybd-ena + -ine⁵.] = Molybdite.

1854 Dana *Syst. Min.* (ed. 4) II. 144 Molybdine...An earthy yellow powder...Occurs with molybdenite.

Molybdite (mŏlĭ·bdəlt). *Min.* [f. Molybd-ena + -ite. Cf. F. *molybdite.*] Trioxide of molybdenum occurring in yellow capillary crystals or incrustations. 1868 Dana *Syst. Min.* (ed. 5) 185.

Molybdo- (mŏlĭ·bdo), prefix.

1. *Path.* [repr. Gr. μόλυβδος lead]. Used in the names of certain diseases to indicate that they are caused by the presence of lead, as *molybdocolic, molybdo-dyspepsy, molybdo-paresis,* etc.

2. *Chem.* [Taken as combining form of Molyb-

DENUM.] Prefixed to names of salts, to indicate the presence of molybdenum.

1836-41 BRANDE *Chem.* (ed. 5) 905 Tersulphuret of molybdenum..combines with the sulphurets of the electropositive metals..and forms a class of sulphur-salts, which may be called molybdo-tersulphurets.

Molybdomancy (mŏlĭ·bdŏmænsi). *rare*−1. [f. MOLYBDO- + -MANCY.] (See quot.)

[1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.*, Molybdomantia, Μολυβδομαντεία (citing Potter *Archæol. Gr.* II. xviii).] 1895 ELWORTHY *Evil Eye* 445 Molybdomancy, [divination] by noting motions and figures in molten lead.

Molybdomenite (mŏlĭbdŏ·mĭnəit). *Min.* [f. Gr. μόλυβδος lead + μήνη moon: see -ITE.] Selenite of lead occurring in thin fragile white lamellæ (*Cassell's Encycl. Dict.* 1885).

Molybdous (mŏlĭ·bdəs), *a. Chem.* [f. MOLYBD-ENA + -OUS.] Applied to compounds into which molybdenum enters in its lower valency, as opp. to MOLYBDIC; esp. in *molybdous acid.*

1796 HATCHETT in *Phil. Trans.* LXXXVI. 336 The green oxyde, which..I am inclined to call molybdous acid. 1826 HENRY *Elem. Chem.* II. 59 When one part of powdered molybdenum, and two parts of molybdic acid, are triturated in boiling water;..we obtain a fine blue powder, which is molybdous acid. 1873 WATTS *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 11) 514 Molybdous salts in acids, are opaque and almost black.

Mom, Momble, obs. ff. MUM, MUMBLE.

[**Momblishness**: see *List of Spurious Words.*]

Mombu: see MAMBU.

Mombyll,-chaunce, obs. ff. MUMBLE, -CHANCE.

† **Mome**[1]. *Obs.* [Corresponds to MLG. *môme*, OHG. *muoma* (MHG. *muome*, mod.G. *muhme*), prob. a reduplication of the first syll. of OTeut. **môdar* MOTHER. A probably related formation is represented by ON. *móna* 'mammy', MDu. (rare) *mône* aunt (and perh. ME. MONE *sb.*[2], crone).] An aunt.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 342/1 Mome, or awnte [*Pynson* faders suster. Mome, or aunte, moders syster].

Mome[2] (mōum). *Obs.* exc. *arch.* [Of obscure origin: possibly related to MUM. Some have compared Fr. (Norman dial.) *môme* 'little child' (Moisy).] 'A dull blockish fellow' (Phillips, ed. Kersey 1706); a blockhead, dolt, fool.

1553 *Respublica* I. iv. 348 An honest mome; ah, ye dolt, ye lowte, ye Nodye. 1560 INGELEND *Disob. Child* G iij b, And me her husbande as a starke mome, With knockyng and mockynge she wyll handell. 1573 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 139 Ill husbandrie spendeth abrode like a mome. 1584 R. SCOT *Discov. Witchcr.* VII. xii. (1886) 118 Saule saw nothing, but stood without like a mome. 1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* III. i. 32 Mome, Malthorse, Capon, Coxcombe, Idiot, Patch. 1609 DEKKER *Gvlls Horne-bk.* 5 Grout-nowles and Moames will in swarmes fly buzzing about thee. 1656 S. H. *Gold. Law* 23 And yet like senseless Momes, sit still. 1719 D'URFEY *Pills* I. 147 Joan lisping her Liquor scatters, And Nelly hiccoupping calls her Mome. 1721 — *Two Queens Brentford* IV. i, At this the Knight look'd like a Mome. 1881 DUFFIELD *Don Quix.* I. p. cxix, But if thou cook a kind of fare That not for every mome is fit, Be sure that fools will nibble there.

transf. 1736 in Lediard *Life Marlborough* III. 438 But let their molten Mome of Triumph stand, And blush, tho' Brass, at Marlbro's mighty Hand.

Mome[3] (mōum). [Anglicized form of MOMUS.] † **a.** A carping critic (*obs.*). **b.** *nonce-use.* A buffoon, jester.

1563 *Mirr. Mag., Wilful Fall Blacksmith* xiv, I dare be bolde a while to play the mome, Out of my sacke some others faultes to lease, And let my owne behinde my backe to peyse. 1652 A. ROSS *Hist. World* Pref. 4 [It is] farre more easie to play the Mome then the Mime, to reprehend, then to imitate. 1652 — *View all Religions* (1655) To Rdr., These censorious Momes. 1676 MOXON *Print Lett.* 4 My Pains and Endeavours may lie under the Censure of Detracting Momes. 1902 *Q. Rev.* Oct. 465 Samuel Rogers.. could still describe the Italian mome as one 'Who speaks not, stirs not, but we laugh;..Arlecchino'.

Mome, variant of MALM *a. dial.*, soft.

Momele, -ell, -elyng, obs. ff. MUMBLE, -BLING.

Momene, variant of MALMENY *Obs.*

Moment (mōu·mĕnt), *sb.* Also 5 momentt, 6 momente; *Sc.* 6 mamunt, 9 mament. [ad. L. *mōmentum* movement, moving power (hence, importance, consequence), moment of time, particle, f. *mō-*, *movēre* to MOVE. Cf. F. *moment* (from 12th c.), Sp., Pg., It. *momento*, MHG. *momente* fem., moment of time, mod.G. *moment* masc. (from Fr.), moment of time, *moment* neut. (from Latin) momentum, decisive consideration, essential factor.]

1. A portion of time too brief for its duration to be taken into account; a point of time, an instant. Also, in the same sense, † *moment of an hour, of a minute* (prob. originally used with reference to sense 2).

1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 5650 A moment of tyme es nan othir thyng, Bot a short space als of a egbe twynklyng. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Knt.'s T.* 1726 In that selue moment Palamon Is vnder Venus. 1471 CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) I. 236 And than the same moment & tyme þ' she had so doo Alcumena..began [etc.]. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 242/2 A Momentt, *articulus, momentum, momentulum.* 1526 TINDALE 1 *Cor.* xv. 52 We shall all be chaunged and that in a moment and in the twinckelynge of an eye. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Edw. IV*, 201 In a moment of an houre, the Welshemen wer clene discomfited. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* III. ii. 33 When in that moment (so it came to passe) Tytania waked, and straightway lou'd an Asse. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* v. 300 In the verie selfe mamunt quhen thay war to Joyne battell, Bischope ffothadie..cumis betueine thame. 1627 FELTHAM *Resolves* II. [I.] xlix. (1628) 143 Wee are curdled to the fashion of a life, by time, and set successions; when all again is lost, and in the moment of a minute, gone. 1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* II. xv. (1695) 103 Such a small part in Duration, may be called a Moment, and is the time of one Idea in our Minds, in the train of their ordinary Succession there. 1748 CHESTERF. *Let. to Son* 16 Feb., The value of moments, when cast up, is immense, if well employed... Every moment may be put to some use. *a* 1774 GOLDSM. *Surv. Exp. Philos.* (1776) II. 295 As the sun is every moment altering its situation, so is the landskip every moment varying its shade. 1856 SIR B. BRODIE *Psychol. Inq.* I. iv. 125 The mind is often active even at the very moment of death. 1863 GEO. ELIOT *Romola* xxii, It seemed a long while to them—it was but a moment. 1871 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1876) IV. xvii. 78 Eadgar, the King of a moment. 1891 E. PEACOCK *N. Brendon* II. 10 At this moment a servant entered.

† *personified.* 1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* IV. xiii. 304 She remembreth how suddenly the Scene in the Masque was altered (almost before moment it self could take notice of it).

b. *The moment*: occas. in pregnant sense, the fitting moment, the momentary conjunction of circumstances that affords an opportunity.

1781 WASHINGTON in Bancroft *Hist. Const.* (1882) I. 21 The moment should be improved; if suffered to pass away it may never return. 1865 M. ARNOLD *Ess. Crit.* i. 5 The man is not enough without the moment.

c. Phrases. † *At a moment*: at a moment's notice. *For a moment*: (*a*) predicatively, destined to last but a moment; (*b*) *adv.*, during a moment. *For the moment*: so far as the immediate future is concerned; also, temporarily during the brief space referred to. *One moment*: elliptically for 'wait one moment', 'listen for one moment'. *On the spur of the moment*: see SPUR. *On, upon the moment* (now *rare*): immediately, instantly. *The moment*: elliptically for 'the moment when' or 'that', as soon as ever. *This moment*: used advb. for (*a*) without a moment's delay, immediately; (*b*) just now, hardly a moment ago. *To the moment*: with exact punctuality; also, for the exact time required.

1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* II. xviii. 51 b, The other..being kept & reserued as at a moment to succour & supply the instant necessities which might happen. 1607 SHAKS. *Timon* I. i. 79 All those which were his Fellowes but of late, Some better then his valew; on the moment Follow his strides. 1611 BIBLE *Prov.* xii. 19 The lip of trueth shall bee established for euer: but a lying tongue is but for a moment. *a* 1763 SHENSTONE *Ess.* Wks. 1765 II. 206 The best time to frame an answer to the letters of a friend, is the moment you receive them. 1800 LAMB *Let. to Manning* 13 Dec., I have received your letter this moment, not having been at the office. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* i, I rose to go:..'One moment, Sir,' he said. 1871 R. ELLIS tr. *Catullus* x. 3 She a lady, methought upon the moment, Of some quality. 1871 M. COLLINS *Mrq. & Merch.* III. i. 24 A cook who could roast a joint..to the moment. 1878 TENNYSON *Revenge* ii, You fly them for a moment to fight with them again. 1890 *Spectator* 18 Oct. 509/1 The political crisis in Portugal ended for the moment on Monday.

† **2.** As the name of a definite measure of time.

a. In mediæval reckoning, the tenth part of a 'point' (see POINT *sb.*[1] A. 10), the fortieth or the fiftieth part of an hour. **b.** With reference to Rabbinical modes of computation (repr. Heb. חֵלֶק *hē·leq*): see quot. 1625. **c.** In the 17–18th c. occas. used for SECOND. *Obs.*

a. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* IX. ix. (1495), And a day [contains] foure quadrantes. And a quadrant conteynyth syxe houres. And an houre foure poyntes. And a poynt .x. momentes. And a moment twelue vnces. And an vnce seuen and fourty attomos. *c* 1532 DU WES *Introd. Fr.* in *Palsgr.* 1078 Of atmos ben made the momentes, of momentes ben made the mynutes. 1621 BRATHWAIT *Nat. Embassie* 15 Who gouernes thee, point, moment, minute, houre.

b. 1625 T. GODWIN *Moses & Aaron* III. 155 Not before the ninth houre, and the 204. moment of an houre...Note in the last place, that 1080. moments make an houre.

c. 1642 H. MORE *Song of Soul* Notes 163/1, I understand, ..by a moment one second of a minute. 1767 LADY MARY COKE *Jrnl.* 23 Aug., The Clock has three hands, one for the hours, one for the minutes, and a third for the moments.

† **3.** A small particle. *To the moment*: to the smallest detail.

Moment of a balance: lit. from the Vulg. *momentum stateræ*, which is a mere Hebraism, and therefore has not, as is sometimes supposed, any share in the sense-development of the Latin word.

1382 WYCLIF *Isa.* xl. 15 Lo! Ientiles as a drope of a boket, and as a moment of a balaunce ben holden. 1594 BLUNDEVIL *Exerc.* III. i. xvii. (1636) 316 For to every severall place, yea to every little moment of the earth in an oblique Spheare, belongeth his proper Horizon. 1638 JUNIUS *Paint. Ancients* 77 Examining therein every little moment of Art with such infatigable..care that it is easie to be perceived they do not acknowledg any greater pleasure. 1642 H. MORE *Song of Soul* I. Ep. to Rdr. *note*, This opinion, though it have its moments of reason, yet [etc.]. 1691 NORRIS *Pract. Disc.* 23 One of the Scales may and will receive some moments of Advantage more than the other. 1754 RICHARDSON *Grandison* VI. xvi. 58 Be good, and write me every-thing how and about it; and write to the moment. You cannot be too minute.

† **b.** *Math.* An infinitesimal increment or decrement of a varying quantity. *Obs.*

[1704 NEWTON *De Quadratura Curvarum*, Momenta id est incrementa momentanea synchrona.] 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey) s.v., *Moments* are such indeterminate and uncertain Parts of Quantity, as are supposed to be in a perpetual Flux. 1743 EMERSON *Fluxions* 3 The Moments and Fluxions ought not to be confounded together, since the Moments..are as different from the Fluxions, as any Effect is different from its Cause.

4. Importance, 'weight'. Now only in the adjectival phrase *of* (*great, little, any*, etc.) *moment.*

1522 CLERK in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. III. I. 310 He said the kyngs Highnes lettres if they had comme in season shulde have been of no smale momente. 1591 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. VI*, I. ii. 5 What Townes of any moment, but we haue? 1617–18 W. LAWSON *New Orchard* i. (1623) 2 The Gardner had not need be an idle, or lazie Lubber, for so your Orchard being a matter of such moment, will not prosper. 1647 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* I. § 152 The Crown well knowing the moment of keeping Those the objects of reverence, and veneration with the People. 1709 *Tatler* No. 67 ¶ 11 A Matter of too great Moment for any one Person to determine. 1772 JOHNSON in *Boswell* (1811) II. 203 The great moment of his authority makes it necessary to examine his position. 1790 BURKE *Fr. Rev.* 90 Things which appear at first view of little moment. 1823 SCOTT *Peveril* xxiii, The affairs of moment which have called me hither. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* vi. § 3. 290 He [Caxton] printed all the English poetry of any moment which was then in existence.

† **5.** Cause or motive of action; determining influence; determining argument or consideration.

1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* I. ii. 147, I haue seene her dye twenty times vppon farre poorer moment. 1611 B. JONSON *Catiline* IV. v, Can these, or such, be any aydes to vs? Looke they, as they were built to shake the world, Or be a moment to our enterprise? 1627 MAY *Lucan* v. 389 Thinke ye that such as ye Can any moment to my fortunes be? 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* III. 117 The diuine Maiestie doth swey the moments of things, and sorteth them..to strange and vnlooked for effects. 1663 JER. TAYLOR *Funeral Serm. Bramhall* 36 He so press'd the former arguments .. and added so many moments and weights to his discourse, that [etc.]. 1691 NORRIS *Pract. Disc.* 59 This is a certain sign that we are not determined by the Moments of Truth...but by some other By-Consideration and partial Inducement.

† **6.** Motion, movement. *Obs.*

1641 MILTON *Ch. Govt.* i. Wks. 1851 III. 97 All the moments and turnings of humane occasions are mov'd to and fro as upon the axle of discipline.

7. A definite stage, period, or turning-point in a course of events.

This sense now tends to be apprehended as an application of sense 1, 'point of time'.

1666 SANCROFT *Lux Ignea* 6 A threefold Song [sc. Isa. xxiv-xxvii]..tun'd, and fitted to the three great Moments of the Event. The first, to the time of the Ruine itself...The second..fitted to a time of their Return...The third..belongs to the whole middle Interval. 1906 C. BIGG *Wayside Sk.* p. v, These Lectures..might have been called Essays on the Development of the Church. They refer to three great moments in that fateful process—the making of the mediæval system, the decay of the mediæval system, and the beginnings of modern Christianity.

8. *Mech.* † **a.** = MOMENTUM 4. *Obs.*

1706 W. JONES *Syn. Palmar. Matheseos* 282 Moment..is compounded of Velocity..and..Weight. 1727–52 CHAMBERS *Cycle., Moment, Momentum*, in mechanics, is the same with *impetus.*

b. Applied, with qualifying words, to certain functions serving as the measure of some mechanical effect the quantity of which depends on two different factors.

Thus the *moment of a force or a velocity* about a point is the product of the length of the directed line representing the force or the velocity, multiplied by the length of the perpendicular from the point. The *moment of a couple* is the product of either of the two equal forces into the length of the arm. The *moment of inertia* of a body about any axis is the sum of the products of the mass of each particle of the body into the square of its least distance from the axis. *Moment of momentum* of a rotating body is the product of momentum into the distance from the axis.

1830 KATER & LARDNER *Mech.* x. 135 The moment of a force is therefore found by multiplying the force by its leverage. *Ibid.* 137 The product of the numerical expressions for the mass of the body and the square of the radius of gyration..has been called the moment of inertia. 1858 RANKINE *Man. Appl. Mechanics* 22 The *moment* of a couple means the product of the magnitude of its force by the length of its arm. *Ibid.* 308 This is called the *bending moment* or *moment of flexure* of the beam at the vertical section in question.

9. One of the elements of a complex conceptual entity. (After Ger. use.) Cf. MOMENTUM 5.

1863 J. G. MURPHY *Comm. Gen.* XXV. 1–11 These are all moments, potent elements in the memory of man, foundation-stones of his history and philosophy. *a* 1864 FERRIER *Grk. Philos.* (1866) I. v. 125 Being and not-Being are the elements or moments of Becoming. 1869 *Jrnl. Specul. Philos.* III. 351 The moments of the Comprehension are Universality, Particularity, and Individuality. 1879 J. VEITCH tr. *Descartes' Method* (1880) Introd. 79 It is a complete mistake historically to assume that the moment of Cartesianism is consciousness. 1906 E. F. SCOTT *4th Gospel* iii. 96 The ethical moment is thus markedly absent.

10. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as † *moment-space*; *moment-lived, -living* adjs.; **moment-axis** *Physics*, a line indicating by its length and direction respectively the moment and the direction of a couple; † **moment-hand**, the seconds-hand of a time-piece.

1865 BRANDE & COX *Dict. Sci.*, etc. I. 575 Such a line is called the *moment-axis of the couple. 1809 T. DONALDSON *Poems* 67 On Seeing a Clock; the hour and *moment-hands of which were going in contrary directions. 1833 LAMB *To Moxon* 24 July, *Life*, etc. (1876) I. 143 She takes

it [*sc.* her watch] out every moment to look at the moment-hand. 1654 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 404 All mans Creations (his Actions) are vanity; (but what he doth for his Creatour) and his Creatures, (the Effects of those Actions) but Abortives, or *moment-lived. 1826 W. ELLIOT *Nun* 20 *Moment-living flowers that blow, Full of fragrance, soon to perish. 1508 DUNBAR *Goldyn Targe* 210 Than was I woundit to the deth wele nere, And yoldyn as a wofull prisonnere To lady Beautee, in a *moment space.

†**Moment,** *v. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. MOMENT *sb.*] *trans.* To determine to the moment the time or occurrence of; to time precisely.

a 1661 FULLER *Worthies, Suffolk* (1662) III. 62 All Accidents are minuted and momented by Divine Providence.

Momenta, pl. of MOMENTUM.

Momental (mōmĕ·ntăl), *a.* [a. F. *momental*, ad. late L. **mōmentāl-is* (implied in *mōmentāliter*, adv.) f. *mōmentum*: see MOMENT *sb.* and -AL.]

†1. Having only the duration of a moment; momentary. *Obs.*

1606 BRETON *Sidney's Ourania* D, Not one momentall minute doth she swerue. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* IV. 133 Mahomet the second..liuing in a discontented humour, to behold..this famous Citie, that so flourished in his eyes, by momentall circumstances, collected his cruel intentions, to the full height of ambition. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* V. v. 240 For holding no dependence on any preceding efficient but God, in the act of his production there may be conceived some connexion, and Adam to have been in a momentall Navell with his Maker.

†2. 'Important; valuable; of moment'. *Obs.*

1818 in TODD, but with quot. 1606 as in sense 1 above.

3. *Math.* Of or pertaining to momentum, esp. in *momental ellipse, ellipsoid.*

1877 B. WILLIAMSON *Integr. Calculus* (ed. 2) x. § 207 The boundary of an elliptical lamina may be regarded as the momental ellipse of the lamina.

†**Mome·ntally,** *adv. Obs.* [f. prec. + -LY².]

1. From moment to moment.

1512 tr. *Benvenuto's Passenger* I. i. 31 The bodies of liuing creatures remayning in a daily ebbing and flowing, so that momentally the corporall spirits are dissolued.

2. For a moment.

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* III. xxi. 160 Ayre but momentally remaining in our bodies, it hath no proportionable space for its conversion.

†**Momentane,** *a.* and *sb. Obs.* Also 6 -tain, -tayne, 6–7 -taine. [a. OF. *momentain*, ad. L. *mōmentāneus* momentary, f. *mōment-um*: see MOMENT *sb.* Cf. MOMENTANY *a.*]

A. *adj.* Lasting for a moment, momentary.

1510 *Hours Bl. Virg.* 102 This life that is momentaine. 1555 L. SAUNDERS in Coverdale *Lett. Mart.* (1564) 132 Our tribulation, which is momentane and light, prepareth an exceding & an eternal weight of glory vnto vs. 1619 DONNE *Serm.* (1661) III. 271 Present any of the prophecies of the Revelation concerning Antichrist and a Papist will understand it of a single, and momentane, and transitory man, that must last but three yeer and a half. 1630 BRATHWAIT *Eng. Gentlem.* (1641) 375 Promising them..for this momentaine sorrow, an incessant joy in Sion.

B. *sb. Math.* = MOMENT 3 b.

1708 *Misc. Curiosa* II. 129 The Momentane of any Power.

Hence †**Momentanely** *adv.* = MOMENTARILY 2.

a 1631 DONNE *Serm.* (1661) III. 405 For the mercies of God work momentanely in minuts.

†**Momenta·neal,** *a. Obs.* [f. L. *mōmentāne-us* (see MOMENTANE) + -AL.] Lasting but a moment. So †**Momenta·nean** *a.*

a 1598 ROLLOCK *Serm.* Wks. (Wodrow Soc.) II. 300 The momentanean lichtness of afflictioun wirkis into us ane everlasting wecht of glorie. *c* 1610 *Women Saints* 4 That which by nature..is..transitorie, and momentaneall. 1654 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 283 He scarce affordeth the uncheckt Current of the Affaires of the wicked, so much as to be a delay, but onely in the apprehension of us Momentanean Ephemeri, and span-long-lived Accountants.

†**Momenta·neous,** *a. Obs.* [f. L. *mōmentāne-us* (see MOMENTANE) + -OUS.]

Very common in the 17th c.

1. Lasting but a moment; momentary.

c 1610 *Women Saints* 78 Contemning vile pleasure and momentaneous delighte. *a* 1711 KEN *Preparatives* Poet. Wks. 1721 IV. 41 Or on this Momentaneous Stage, In a short Time to live an Age? 1801 FUSELI *Lect. Paint.* iii. (1848) 407 Form displayed in space, and momentaneous energy, are the element of painting.

2. Occurring in a moment, instantaneous.

1657 W. MORICE *Coena quasi Κοινή* xv. 231 Though the previous dispositions were precedent, yet the introduction of the form is momentaneous. 1670 W. CLARKE *Nat. Hist. Nitre* 88 In which momentaneous explosion of the whole quantity all the force consists. 1692 RAY *Disc.* III. vi. (1732) 391 Shall this Dissolution be gradual and successive or momentaneous and sudden? 1793 HOLCROFT tr. *Lavater's Physiog.* XXVII. 130 Creation of every kind is momentaneous.

3. Pertaining to an infinitesimal division of time. Cf. MOMENT 3 b.

1708 *Misc. Curiosa* II. 128, I make use here, of what the celebrated Mr. Newton has demonstrated..concerning the Momentaneous Increments or Decrements of Quantities that Increase or Decrease by a continual Flux.

Hence †**Momenta·neously** *adv.*, in a moment, also, every moment; **Momenta·neousness.**

1727 BAILEY vol. II, *Instantaneousness*, Momentaneousness, or happening in the Nick of Time. 1753 N. TORRIANO *Gangr. Sore Throat* 8 Bad Humours, which when once formed, increase momentaneously, and that too with great Velocity. 1782 ELIZ. BLOWER *George Bateman* I. 225 Hassell, staggered by this application to his hinder part,.. turned momentaneously round.

†**Momentaniness.** *Obs.* [f. next + -NESS.] Momentariness.

1634 BP. HALL *Char. Man* (1635) 35 How doth the momentaninesse of this misery adde to the misery. *a* 1653 GOUGE *Comm. Hebr.* x. 25 (1655) II. 484 As great a difference as is..betwixt momentaninesse and everlastingnesse.

†**Momentany,** *a. Obs.* [ad. F. *momentané*, ad. L. *mōmentāne-us*: see MOMENTANE.]

Very common in the 16th and 17th c.

Pertaining to the moment, momentary; transitory; evanescent.

1508 FISHER *7 Penit. Ps.* cii. Wks. (1876) 196 Euery thynge in this worlde is caduke, transytory & momentany. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* XLV. i. 1201 The momentanie joy of some vaine and uncertein occurrence. 1644 HEYLIN *Brief Relat. Laud* 26 His death was glorious, the paines whereof were short and momentany to himselfe, the benefit like to be perpetuall [etc.]. 1726 HUXHAM in *Phil. Trans.* XXXIV. 140 Vivid Coruscations..which..formed by their Collision momentany Arches of a Circle.

Momenta·rian. *nonce-wd.* [f. MOMENT *sb.* + -ARIAN.] One who believes in 'moments' (see MOMENT *sb.* 3 b).

1863 DE MORGAN in Graves *Life Sir W. R. Hamilton* (1889) III. 598 Cotes was an infinitesimalist; so was Newton, till he abjured in 1706. But he continued a momentarian—which I take to be a $(dx)^{\infty}$-man—all his life.

Momentarily (mōmĕ·ntărili), *adv.* [f. MOMENTARY *a.* + -LY².]

1. For a moment.

1654–66 EARL ORRERY *Parthen.* (1676) 519 The offended god, to make those Sentinels sleep eternally, that would not momentarily, sends down Mercury. 1799 in *Spirit Publ. Jrnls.* (ed. 2) I. 72 It may be momentarily palliated by a connection with a more wholesome family. 1878 F. A. WALKER *Money* xiii. 266 The price of gold..mounted..from 15·63 to 17·77, rising momentarily even to 20·17. 1891 T. HARDY *Tess* xxix, He released her momentarily-imprisoned waist, and withheld the kiss.

2. At every moment; moment by moment. *rare.*

1800 SOUTHEY *Let. to Coleridge* 1 May in *Life* (1850) II. 64, I am interrupted momentarily by visitors, like fleas, infesting a new-comer! 1895 J. G. MILLAIS *Breath fr. Veldt* (1899) 34 The light was also momentarily getting worse.

†3. At the moment, instantly. *Obs.*

1799 SICKELMORE *Agnes & Leonora* I. 8 This was momentarily agreed to. 1801 ELIZ. HELME *St. Marg. Cave* II. 60 The friar groaned, but almost momentarily recovered his emotion.

Momentariness (mōmĕ·ntărinĕs). [f. MOMENTARY + -NESS.] The quality or condition of being momentary or transitory. Also *fig.*

1827 HARE *Guesses* (1874) 510 One of those paradoxes..for which.. their momentariness and unpremeditatedness are mostly a sufficient excuse. 1872 MORLEY *Voltaire* V. (ed. 2) 266 The momentariness of guilt and eternity of remorse.

Momentary (mōmĕ·ntări), *a.* Also 6 -tarry, -arye, 6–7 -arie. [ad. L. *mōmentāri-us*, f. *mōment-um*: see MOMENT *sb.* and -ARY².]

1. Lasting but a moment; of but a moment's duration; transitory.

1526 TINDALE *2 Cor.* iv. 17 Tribulacion, which is momentarry and light. 1592 GREENE *Groat's W. Wit* (1617) 2 All mortall things are momentarie. 1641 MAISTERTON *Serm.* 17 A momentary dalliance. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 75 ₱ 8 His Griefs are Momentary, and his Joys Immortal. 1791 *Gentl. Mag.* 32/1 This error seems to have arisen from a momentary forgetfulness. 1856 KANE *Arct. Expl.* II. xxii. 220 We availed ourselves of a momentary lull to shoulder the sledge. 1903 W. H. GRAY *Our Divine Sheph.* 55 The liar may get some momentary benefit..from his falsehood.

2. Of living beings: Short-lived; ephemeral.

1587 GREENE *Penelopes Web* C 2 b, Men are..the true disciples of tyme, and therefore momentarie. 1640 QUARLES *Enchirid.* II. c, How full of death is the miserable life of momentary Man. 1692 DRYDEN *Cleomenes* IV. i. 47, I wou'd have swopp'd Youth for old Age, and all my Life behind, To have been then a momentary Man. *a* 1762 LLOYD *Genius, Envy & T.* 99 Born like a momentary fly, To flutter, buzz about, and die. 1873 M. ARNOLD *Lit. & Dogma* (1876) p. xxxi, Truth more complete than the parcel of truth any momentary individual can seize.

3. *nonce-use.* Ready at the moment.

1725 POPE *Odyss.* XIV. 552 Hardly waking yet, Sprung in his mind the momentary wit.

4. Recurring or operative at every moment. Now *rare.*

1745 T. WARTON *Pleas. Melancholy* 210 Attentive mark The due clock swinging slow.., Measuring time's flight with momentary sound. 1799 E. DU BOIS *Piece Family Biog.* II. 112 A dealer in the fine arts in momentary fear of a spunging-house. 1806–7 J. BERESFORD *Miseries Hum. Life* (1826) I. Introd., What..are the senses but five yawning inlets to hourly and momentary molestations? 1869 GOULBURN *Purs. Holiness* viii. 92 God is not only the ground, but the momentary support, of all existence.

†5. Instant, instantaneous. *Obs.*

1799 E. DU BOIS *Piece Family Biog.* I. 21 An affair that demands a momentary decision. 1847 DISRAELI *Tancred* II. xi, I settled..that you were not to go away if anything occurred which required my momentary attention.

†6. *Math.* Pertaining to an infinitesimal portion of time. *Obs.*

1812–16 PLAYFAIR *Nat. Phil.* (1819) I. 23 The change which any variable quantity undergoes in an infinitely small portion of time, is called the Momentary Increment of that quantity. 1833 HERSCHEL *Astron.* xi. 323 Between the momentary change of inclination, and the momentary recess of the node there exists an intimate relation.

7. quasi-*adv.*: = MOMENTARILY 3.

1725 POPE *Odyss.* VIII. 227 She spoke; and momentary mounts the sky: The friendly voice Ulysses hears with joy.

†**Mo·mentless,** *a. Obs. rare.* [f. MOMENT *sb.* + -LESS.] Having no foundation (see MOMENT *sb.* 5).

1633 AMES *Agst. Cerem.* II. 61 The Rejoynder forgetteth himself muche, when upon this uncertaine and momentlesse conjecture, he compareth the Replier to a hungrie creature.

Momently (mōu·mĕntli), *a. rare.* [f. MOMENT *sb.* + -LY¹.]

1. Occurring at every moment.

1641 J. JACKSON *True Evang. T.* II. 152 Moderne Christians, whose very lives are, in short, a dayly, horary, momently breaking of that great Euangelicall precept. 1867 MRS. WHITNEY *L. Goldthwaite* xii, He told them of God's momently thought and care.

2. Enduring for a moment.

1817 COLERIDGE *Satyrane's Lett.* i. in *Biog. Lit.*, etc. (1882) 245 A beautiful white cloud of foam at momently intervals coursed by the side of the vessel with a roar.

Momently (mōu·mĕntli), *adv.* [f. MOMENT *sb.* + -LY².]

1. From moment to moment; every moment.

1676 W. ROW *Contn. Blair's Autobiog.* ix. (1848) 144 Take up the sweet cross of Christ daily, hourly, yea momently. 1747 *Mem. Nutrebian Crt.* II. 79 Who was dearer to him than the vital blood that momently circulated in his heart. 1892 ZANGWILL *Childr. Ghetto* I. vii, Reb Shemuel's tone became momently more sing-song.

Comb. 1848 H. AINSWORTH *Lanc. Witches* I. ix, He .. whirled on with momently-increased velocity.

2. At any moment; on the instant.

1775 PRICE in *Phil. Trans.* LXVI. 113, I will next state the different values..of life-annuities, according as they are supposed to be payable yearly, half-yearly, quarterly, or momently. *a* 1822 SHELLEY *Pericles* Ess. & Lett. (1886) 139 In the act of watching an event momently to arrive.

3. *nonce-use.* Instantly.

1824 HOGG *Conf. Sinner* 357, I was momently surrounded by a number of hideous fiends.

4. For the moment; for a single moment.

1868 GEO. ELIOT *Sp. Gipsy* 265 Thoughts..look at me With awful faces, from the vanishing haze That momently had hidden them. 1892 *Spectator* 2 Apr. 451/1 The fall in the price of Silver, which this week momently touched 39*d.* an oz.,..is creating genuine alarm. 1895 CROCKETT *Sweeth. Trav.* 157 The rain comes in furious dashes, and a chill blue blink looks momently through between.

Momentous (mōume·ntəs), *a.* [f. MOMENT *sb.* + -OUS.]

†1. Having motive force. *Obs.*

1652 L. S. *People's Liberty* x. 18 In such particulars.., as are not momentous to the impairing of the publick welfare.

2. Of moment; of great weight, consequence, or importance; important, weighty.

1656 JEANES *Mixt. Schol. Div.* 15 There remaineth a second objection, which is the more momentous. *a* 1761 CAWTHORN *Poems* (1771) 202 Who..could decide whene'er they met Momentous truths without a bett. 1844 THIRLWALL *Greece* VIII. lx. 77 His death forms a momentous epoch in Grecian history. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* vi. § 6. 325 The ten years which follow the fall of Wolsey are among the most momentous in our history.

3. Of persons: Having influence or importance. Now *rare.*

1667 J. CORBET *Disc. Relig. Eng.* 2 The Roman-Catholicks in England,..being Rich and Powerful,..are very momentous, and seem to be capable of great Designs. 1824–9 LANDOR *Imag. Conv.* Wks. 1846 I. 464 Epaminondas was undoubtedly a momentous man, and formidable to Lacedæmon. 1898 G. B. SHAW *Plays* I. *Widower's Ho.* 13 Cokane, hardly less momentous than Sartorius himself, contemplates Trench with the severity of a judge.

†4. Pertaining to momentum. *Obs.*

1775 WHITEHURST in *Phil. Trans.* LXV. 278 It seems reasonable to infer, that the momentous force is much superior to the simple pressure of the column IK.

Hence **Mome·ntously** *adv.*

1748 J. LIND *Lett. Navy* ii. (1757) 73 A person may offend very notoriously and momentuously [*sic*]. 1880 KINGLAKE *Crimea* VI. ix. 250 Two or more courses of action momentously different.

Momentousness (mōume·ntəsnĕs). [-NESS.] The state or quality of being momentous.

1672 DODWELL in Baxter *Answ. Dodwell* (1681) 72 It may put them in mind of the greater momentousness of good Government and peace than many of their differences. 1752 CARTE *Hist. Eng.* III. 89 The momentousness of the affair. 1870 J. H. NEWMAN *Gram. Assent* II. x. 412 A conviction.. of the reality and momentousness of the unseen world. 1884 *Daily News* 11 Feb. 5/5 A matter of a momentousness so stupendous.

†**Mome·ntual,** *a. Obs.* [irreg. f. MOMENT *sb.*, after *actual*, etc.] Having 'moment' or significance.

1613 SHERLEY *Trav. Persia* 53 Hauing gathered his intentions by very momentuall circumstances, hee gaue the King, from time to time, notice of them.

Momentum (mōume·ntŏm). Pl. -ta. [a. L. *mōmentum*: see MOMENT *sb.*]

†1. = MOMENT 3 b. *Obs.*

1735 B. ROBINS *Disc. Newton's Meth. Fluxions* 75 Sir Isaac Newton's definition of momenta, That they are the momentaneous increments or decrements of varying quantities, may possibly be thought obscure.

†2. 'Impulsive weight' (J., s.v. *Moment*); force of movement. *Obs.*

1740 CHEYNE *Regimen* 109 The Particles of Mercury have the greatest Momentum and Force. 1754–64 SMELLIE *Midwif.* I. 107 In young people the Momentum of the circulating fluid is greater than the resisting force of the Solids. 1817 COLERIDGE *'Blessed are ye'* 84 The short interruptions may be well represented as a few steps backward, that it might leap forward with an additional momentum.

†3. *Mech.* = MOMENT *sb.* 8 b. *Obs.*

1839 *Penny Cycl.* XV. 311 *Momentum*, or *Moment, of Inertia*.

4. *Mech.* The 'quantity of motion' of a moving body; the product of the mass by the velocity of a body. *Angular momentum* (see quot. 1870).

1699 KEILL *Exam. Refl. Th. Earth* 10 According to the Laws of motion, the momentum or quantity of motion of both bodies taken together would remain the same. 1727-41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Moment*, In comparing the motions of bodies, the ratio of their momenta is always compounded of the quantity of matter, and the celerity of the moving body. 1870 EVERETT *Deschanel's Nat. Philos.* 75 The *angular momentum* of a rotating body is a name given to the product of the moment of inertia and the angular velocity. 1882 MINCHIN *Unipl. Kinemat.* 106 The momentum of a moving particle in any direction is defined to be the product of the number of units of mass in the particle and the number of units of velocity in its component of velocity in that direction.

b. Hence, in popular use, applied to the effect of inertia in the continuance of motion after the impulse has ceased; impetus gained by movement.

1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. xxvii. 216 His momentum rolled him over and over down the incline. 1874 H. R. REYNOLDS *John Bapt.* III. iii. 189 Every drop of the Nile or the Ganges has been..lifted by the sunbeam to the height, the fall from which give the momentum of its onward passage to the sea. *Comb.* 1880 C. & F. DARWIN *Movem. Pl.* 508 This momentum-like movement probably results from the accumulated effects of apogeotropism.

c. *fig.*

1782 V. KNOX *Ess.* I. lviii. 257 Such genius..makes itself felt by its own native force, and bears all before it by an irresistible momentum. 1790 BURKE *Fr. Rev.* Wks. V. 100 That momentum of ignorance,..presumption, and lust of plunder, which nothing has been able to resist. 1868 KINGLAKE *Crimea* (1877) III. i. § 44. 308 Ambition lends strength and momentum to the purposes of a general. 1902 A. B. DAVIDSON *Bibl. & Lit. Ess.* vii. 188 Faustus Socinus gave a new momentum to the exposition of the Epistle.

5. = MOMENT *sb.* 9.

1829 SIR W. HAMILTON *Discuss.* (1852) 31 You have all the *momenta* whose relation and notion constitute the reality of knowledge. 1874 MORRIS tr. *Ueberweg's Hist. Philos.* II. 232 The momenta of Quantity are: pure quantity, quantum, and degree. 1903 A. B. DAVIDSON *O. T. Prophecy* viii. 114 Revelation..was in all cases part of the life of the individual, a momentum in the spiritual relations of him and God.

Momerie, -ry, obs. forms of MUMMERY.

Momia, etc., obs. forms of MUMMY.

Momin, obs. variant of MAMMEE.

1656 J. DAVIES *Hist. Caribby Isles* 31. 1672 W. HUGHES *Amer. Physit.* 57 Of the Momin-Tree, or Toddie-Tree.

Momiology (mōumiɒ'lŏdʒi). [f. F. *momie* MUMMY: see -LOGY.] The science of mummies.

1894 *Athenæum* 3 Mar. 283/2 Even the history of the Egyptian dynasties is a department of momiology.

†**Mo'mish,** *a. Obs.* [f. MOME *sb.*[2] + -ISH.] Resembling a 'mome' or fool.

1546 PHAER *Bk. Childr.* (1553) A ij, Snuffing at all that offendeth the noses of their momishe affections. 1592 BABINGTON *Comf. Notes Gen.* xii. § 8 Cutting thereby and therein the combes of all such momish Monkes that [etc.].

†**Mo'mism.** *Obs. rare*—°. [f. MOM-US + -ISM.] Carping; fault-finding.

1611 COTGR., *Momerie*, momerie, momisme, carping, fault-finding. 1625 in MINSHEU *Ductor* (ed. 2) 471.

†**Mo'mist.** *Obs.* [f. MOM-US + -IST.] A fault-finder.

1597 MORLEY *Introd. Mus.* Ded., Insulting momistes who think nothing true but what they doo themselues. 1619 HUTTON *Follie's Anat.* Epil. D 2 b, What Momists censure, or the roring sect; Be what it will, tis but their dialect. 1626 L. OWEN *Spec. Jesuit.* Ded. (1629) A ij b, All malignant Zoilysts, and biting Momists.

†**Mo'mize,** *v. Obs.* [f. MOM-US + -IZE.] *intr.* To play the part of Momus; to cavil.

1654 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* Pref. a vj b, If Authors Carp (were not my Principle of Cbaracter otherwise) I could momize and cavil at Matter or Form..of their Labours.

Momlyng, obs. form of MUMBLING *sb.*

Momma: see MAMMA (etym. note).

1895 *Harper's Mag.* Nov. 841/2 Do you think you'd catch anybody reading a contract wrong to old Meakum? Oh, momma! Why, he's king round here.

‖**Momme** (mɒm). A Japanese measure of weight equal to 3·75 grammes.

1868 in Seyd *Bullion* 265 The quantity of silver being coined daily..was 50,000 momme. 1898 *Echo* 20 Jan. 1/6 Heyl gives the mommes as equal to 1·75 grammes, while the correct equivalent is 3.75 grammes.

Momme chance, obs. form of MUMCHANCE.

Mommer, Mommet, Mommie, -y: see MUMMER, MAUMET, MUMMY.

Mommy (mɒ'mi). *U.S. dial.* The long-tailed duck, *Harelda glacialis* (*Cent. Dict.* 1890).

Mommyng(e, obs. forms of MUMMING *sb.*

Momordicin (mɒmɒ̄'·ɹdisin). *Chem.* Also -ine. [f. mod.L. *Momordica* the balsam-apple (C. Durante *Herb. nov.*, 1585, ed. 1602 p. 59), now the name of a cucurbitaceous genus (Tournefort 1700) + -IN.] = ELATERIN.

1865 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* III. 1046. 1874 GARROD & BAXTER *Mat. Med.* (1880) 260 Elaterinm contains an active principle, elaterine or momordicine.

†**Momo'rsion.** *Obs. rare.* [Badly f. L. *momordī*, perfect of *mordēre* to bite, after MORSION.] = CORROSION 1 a.

1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 51/1 As we have sayed of the momorsions or Bittes. 1599 — tr. *Gabelhouer's Bk. Physicke* 20/1 They sensiblye perceave a momorsion, and corrosion in their Wombe.

Momot, variant of MOTMOT.

Mompyn, obs. variant of MUMPING *sb.*[1]

†**Mo'mpyns,** *sb. pl. Obs.* Also mone pynnes. [f. **mone*, MUN mouth + PIN.] The teeth.

c 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 30 Thy mone pynnes bene lyche old yvory. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xii. 210 Syrs, let vs cryb furst for oone thyng or oder, That thise wordis be purst, and let vs go foder Oure mompyns.

†**Mo'murdotes,** *sb. pl. Obs.* [f. ME. **momur* = MAMMER *v.* + DOTE *sb.* (cf. DORT *sb.* and *cankerdort* Chaucer *Troil. & Cr.* II. 1572).] Sulks.

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 9089 (*heading*), The Solempnite of The Obit of Ector, And How Achilles Fell in þe Momurdotes for Luff.

‖**Momus** (mōu'mŭs). *Myth.* Occas. *pl.* 7 Momi, Momusses, 8 Mcmus's. [L. *Mōmus*, Gr. Μῶμος, personification of *μῶμος* ridicule.] A Greek divinity, the god of ridicule, who for his censures upon the gods was banished from heaven; hence, a fault-finder, a captious critic. *A daughter, disciple, son of Momus*, a facetious or humorously disagreeable person; a wag, a buffoon.

Often in allusions to the story (Lucian *Herm.* xx, Babrius lix) that when Hephaistos (or Zens) had made a man, Momus blamed him for not having put a window in his breast.

1563 J. HALL in T. Gale *Enchirid.* A iiij, But maugre nowe the malice great of Momus and his sect. 1579 FULKE *Refut. Rastel* 710 The sentence is wel inough placed, if Momus could let any thing alone. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Apol. Poetrie* (Arb.) 72 If you..by a certaine rusticall disdaine, will become such a Mome, as to be a *Momus* of Poetry. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* Pref. to Rdr., Certes, such *Momi* as these ..thinke not so honourably of their native countrey and mother tongue as they ought. 1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* II. xxiii. 14 That window which Momus did require. 1624 SANDERSON *Serm.* (1674) I. 223 A fault more pardonable, if our censures stayed at the works of men, like our selves; and Momus-like, we did not quarrel the works of God also. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* a ij, The Rules..in the following Treatise, are most exact.., though much more abused by ignorant Momus and his Mates ..; I say, such Momusses will have their..Tails lash'd by the Devils. 1709 SWIFT *Trit. Ess.* Wks. 1751 IV. 180 Those carping Momus's, whom Authors worship as the Indians do the Devil, for fear. 1822 BYRON *Werner* III. i, Were Momus' lattice in your breasts, My soul might brook to open it more widely Than theirs. 1835 *Court Mag.* VI. 184/1 Th——e H—k, the momus of the social, the literary and the political world! 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* viii, 'I do not think..that Wickam is a person of very cheerful spirits, or what one would call a——' 'A daughter of Momus', Miss Tox softly suggested. 1860 RUSKIN *Mod. Paint.* V. ix. x. § 7. 306 'Momus', the Spirit of Blame.

Momy, momyan: see MUMMY.

‖**Mon** (mɒn). [Japanese.] A family crest or badge. (Frequently used in decorative design.)

1878 MRS. E. PALLISER tr. *Jacquemart's Hist. Furniture* 457 Of these princely [Japanese] families we shall give the 'mon' or arms most frequently occurring.

Mon: see MAN *sb.*[1], MAN *indef. pron. Obs.*, MOAN, MONE *sb.* and *v. Obs.*, MOON, MUN *v.*

Mona (mōu'nă). [a. Sp., Pg., It. *mona* monkey (whence the mod.L. specific name).] A small, long-tailed African monkey, *Cercopithecus mona*.

1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1824) II. 157 The fifth [of M. Buffon's species of African monkeys] is the Mona..: it is distinguished by its colour, which is variegated with black and red; and its tail is of an ash colour, with two white spots on each side at its insertion. 1874 WOOD *Nat. Hist.* I. 47 All the long-tailed African monkeys are termed Monas by the Moors. 1897 H. O. FORBES *Handbk. Primates* II. 66 The Mona Guenon. *Cercopithecus mona*.

Monacal: see MONACHAL.

Monacanthid (mɒnăkæ'nþid), *a. Zool.* [f. Gr. *μονάκανθος* (f. *μόνο-s* MONO- + *ἄκανθα* spine) + -ID.] Of a starfish: Having the ambulacral spines in a single row. 1890 *Century Dict.*

Monacetin (mɒnæ'sĭtin). *Chem.* Also monoacetin. [MONO- 2.] (See ACETIN.)

1856 *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 6) 607 With acetic acid..it [glycerin] forms three combinations,—monacetin, diacetin, and triacetin. 1869 ROSCOE *Chem.* (1874) 386 Mono-acetin.

†**Monach(e.** *Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *monach-us* MONK.] An affected substitute for 'monk'.

c 1540 tr. *Pol. Verg. Eng. Hist.* (Camden) 129 Augustine and Miletus, two monaches of sownde livinge. 1611 H. BROUGHTON *Require of Agreement* 62 Fuller of eyes then all the Bridge-maker monaches to this day.

Monachal, monacal (mɒ'năkăl), *a.* Forms: 7 monac(h)all, 7- monachal, 8- monacal. [ad. eccl.L. *monachāl-is*, f. *monach-us* MONK. Cf. F. *monacal* (16th c. Hatz.-Darm.).] Of, pertaining to, or characteristic of a monk or of monastic life; monastic; monkish.

1587 T. ROGERS 39 *Art.* (1625) 166 Papists, who..make the vowe and profession of the Monachall, or life of a Monck, as good a token of Christians, as Baptisme. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* II. 76 This monachall and licentious life. 1685 LOVELL *Gen. Hist. Relig.* 159 There are no Monachal Constitutions that so much oblige Monks to obey their Superiour, as [etc.]. 1726 AYLIFFE *Parergon* 368 If a child ..has taken on himself the Monachal or Monkish Tonsure. 1841 *Blackw. Mag.* XLIX. 374 Under every creed, monachal austerity and seclusion had been attempted. 1889 FARRAR *Lives Fathers* II. xvi. 237 Jerome seems to have had the monacal feelings which led him wholly to avoid the society of women.

Monachate (mɒ'năkĕt). *rare*—[1]. [ad. L. *monachāt-us*, f. *monachus*: see MONK and -ATE 1.] The period of life passed as a monk.

1819 DUGDALE *Monast. Angl.* II. 94/1 Abbat Turketul..died, in his sixty-eighth year, and the twenty-seventh of his monachate.

Monachism (mɒ'năkiz'm). [f. L. *monach-us* MONK + -ISM. Cf. F. *monachisme*.]

1. The mode or rule of life distinctive of monks and nuns; the monastic system or principle; monasticism.

1577 HOLINSHED *Descr. Brit.* vii. 11/2 Augustine..thinking this sufficient for..the stablishment of hys monachisme. 1615 W. HULL *Mirr. Maiestie* 44 Popish Monachisme desineth and confineth profession of religion, to bare contemplation and meditation. 1726 AYLIFFE *Parergon* 375 From the time of King Edgar, to the Reign of Henry VIII, Monachism had been growing here in England. 1862 *Macm. Mag.* Sept. 370 Monachism..separates the duty of charity from domestic duty, making the one the task of the nun alone, and the other of the wife and mother. 1876 J. H. NEWMAN *Hist. Sk.* II. i. v. 97 Monachism became.. nothing else than a peculiar department of the Christian ministry.

†**2.** A monkish characteristic. *Obs.*

1670 MILTON *Hist. Brit.* Wks. 1738 II. 70 Florence of Worcester, Huntingdon, Simeon of Durham,..with all their Monachisms.

Monachist (mɒ'năkist), *a.* [f. eccl.L. *monach-us* MONK + -IST.] Favouring monachism.

1860 RUSKIN *Mod. Paint.* V. ix. ix. § 11. 295, I do not find in Giorgione's work any of the early Venetian monachist element.

Monachiza'tion, *rare*—[1]. [f. next + -ATION.] The action or event of becoming a monk.

1813 J. FORSYTH *Rem. Excurs. Italy* 260 A sonnet ready for every occasion, such as births,..monachization, death.

Monachize (mɒ'năkəiz), *v.* [f. L. *monach-us* MONK + -IZE.] a. *intr.* To live the life of a monk; to become a monk. b. *trans.* To make (persons) monks.

1884 ORNSBY *Mem. Hope-Scott* I. 179 Individuals..were soon attempting to monachize, and to live as they thought that men in their places would have lived in the olden days. 1896 *Dublin Rev.* July 222 The large share taken by Teuton women in the works of conversion and monachising.

Monacholite, blundered form of MONOTHELITE.

Monacid (mɒnæ'sid), *a. Chem.* Also monoacid. [MONO- 2.] Having the power of saturating one molecule of a monobasic acid.

1862 HOFMANN in *Proc. Roy. Soc.* XII. 7 Water decomposes them with reproduction of the monacid compound. 1863 *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 9) 494 The mono-acid ethers. 1866 FRANKLAND in *Jrnl. Chem. Soc.* XIX. 385 The monacid alcohols.

Monack: see MOONACK.

Monacord(e, obs. forms of MONOCHORD.

Monact (mɒnæ'kt), *a.* and *sb.* [Shortened from MONACTINE.] a. *adj.* = next. b. *sb.* A sponge-spicule consisting of only one ray (*Cent. Dict.* 1890).

Monactinal (mɒnæ'ktinăl), *a.* [Formed as next + -AL.] Of a sponge-spicule: That has only one ray.

1887 S. O. RIDLEY in *Rep. Voy. Challenger* XX. Introd. 6 The chief spicules of the group are 'monactinal', that is to say, consisting of only a single ray.

Monactine (mɒnæ'ktin), *a.* [f. (mod.L. type **monactīn-us*) Gr. *μόνο-s* (see MONO-) + *ἀκτιν-*, *ἀκτίς* ray.] = MONACTINAL *a.*

1887 W. J. SOLLAS in *Encycl. Brit.* XXII. 416 (Fig. 12), Typical megascleres. *a*, rhabdus (monaxon diactine); *b*, stylus (monaxon monactine).

Monactinellid (mɒnæktine'lid), *sb.* and *a.* [ad. mod.L. *Monactinellidæ* sb. pl. (see below), formed as MONACTINE + *-ella* dim. suffix + *-idæ*: see -ID.] a. *sb.* A sponge of the sub-order or group *Monactinellidæ*, characterized by the presence of uni-axial spicules. b. *adj.* Of or pertaining to this sub-order or group. So **Monactine'llidan** *a.* = prec. adj.

1883 CARTER in *Ann. Nat. Hist.* Ser. v. XI. 32 The great number of existing Monactinellid sponges. 1884 *Riverside Nat. Hist.* (1888) I. 67 The Monactinellidan forms in the palæozoic rocks are uncertain. 1885 HINDE in *Phil. Trans.* CLXXVI. 434 Those monactinellids whose skeletons are exclusively composed of uniaxial spicules.

Monad (mɒ'năd). Also 7 monade. [a. L. *monad-, monas* unit, ad. Gr. *μονάς* unit, f. *μόνος* alone. Cf. F. *monade*, Sp., Pg. *monada*, It. *monade*.]

1. The number one, unity; an arithmetical unit. Now only *Hist.* with reference to the Pythagorean or other Greek philosophies, in which numbers were regarded as real entities, and as the primordial principles of existence.

1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 144 [tr. *Sibyl. Orac.* I. i.] Eight monads, decads eight, eight hecatons Declare his name [*sc.* ΙΗΣΟΥΣ=888]. 1649 G. DANIEL *Trinarch., Hen. V*, eclv, Numbers carrie Their Preiudice, but Monads never varie. 1660 STANLEY *Hist. Philos.* IX. (1687) 523/2 They make a difference betwixt the Monad and One, conceiving the Monad to be that which exists in Intellectuals; One in numbers. *Ibid.* 525/1 The Monad is a quantity, which in the decrease of multitude, receiveth mansion and station;

for below Quantity, Monad [*read* below Monad, Quantity] cannot retreat. 1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* I. iv. 372 The Cause of that Sympathy, Harmony, and Agreement, which is in things,..was by Pythagoras called Vnity or a Monade. 1706 J. MATTHEWS *Forgiveness* To Rdr., They fram'd up a whole decad of frivolous depositions, without one entire monad of truth. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 485 Instead of saying that oddness is the cause of odd numbers, you will say that the monad is the cause of them.

b. applied to the Deity.

1642 H. MORE *Song of Soul* II. iii. III. xii, One steddy Good, centre of essencies, Unmoved Monad, that Apollo hight. 1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* I. iv. 225 That which was called by them [*sc.* the Platonists and Pythagoreans] the τὸ ἓν or μονὰς, Unity itself or a Monad—that is, one most simple Deity. 1841 D'ISRAELI *Amen. Lit.* III. 233 He [Robert Fludd] reveals the nature of the Divine Being, as 'a pure monad, including in itself all numbers'. 1850 DAUBENY *Atom. Th.* xiv. (ed. 2) 451 The monad is used to signify the Deity, as being the first great Cause, one and the same, throughout all space, and in all time. 1870 J. H. NEWMAN *Gram. Assent* I. iv. 49 But of the Supreme Being it is safer to use the word 'monad' than unit.

2. An ultimate unit of being; an absolutely simple entity.

Chiefly used with reference to the philosophy of Leibniz (1646–1716), according to which the universe of existence consists of entities without parts, extension, or figure, and possessing, in infinitely various degrees, the power of perception. Those among these 'monads' which have the perceptive power in the higher degrees are souls; the rest are formed in the view of the percipient mind into aggregates, which constitute bodies. The term was adopted by Leibniz from Giordano Bruno (*d.* 1600), with whom the 'monad' has the twofold aspect of a material atom and an ultimate element of psychical existence.

1748 HARTLEY *Observ. Man* II. i. 27 No Sensation can be a Monad, inasmuch as the most simple are infinitely divisible in respect of Time. 1785 REID *Intell. Powers* III. iv. 345 A person is something indivisible, and is what Leibnitz calls a monad. 1856 SIR B. BRODIE *Psychol. Inq.* I. ii. 38 The conscious indivisible monad which I feel myself to be. 1874 MORRIS tr. *Ueberweg's Hist. Philos.* § 111 II. 27 Bruno opposes the doctrine of a dualism of matter and form...The elementary parts of all that exists are the minima or monads, ..they are at once psychical and material. The soul is a monad...God is the monad of monads. 1879 HUXLEY *Hume* iii. 81 The possibility that the mind is a Leibnitzian monad.

transf. 1862 *Q. Rev.* Apr. 402 The wealth, the might..of the British empire are due not to the mere aggregation and activity of monads or units of mankind [etc.].

3. *Biol.* A hypothetical simple organism, assumed in evolutionary speculations as the first term in the genealogy of living beings, or regarded as associated with a multitude of similar organisms to form an animal or vegetable body.

1835 KIRBY *Hab. & Inst. Anim.* I. Introd. 24 Thus [according to Lamarck], by consequence, in the lapse of ages a monad becomes a man!!! 1847 TULK tr. *Oken's Physiophilos.* 570 Decomposition is a separation into Monads, a retrogression into the primary mass of the animal kingdom. 1851 H. SPENCER *Soc. Stat.* xxx. 451 We are warranted in considering the body as a commonwealth of monads, each of which has independent powers of life, growth, and reproduction. 1880 BASTIAN *Brain* 10 The encysted mass of living matter may after a time divide into a swarm of smaller though most active monads.

4. *Zool.* A protozoon of the genus *Monas*, or, more widely, of the order *Monadidea* or the class *Flagellata*.

1836–9 R. OWEN *Entozoa* in *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* II. 133/2 Some species of the Trematode Entozoa are infested by parasitic *Polygastrica* which belong to the Monads. 1846 MANTELL *Th. Animalcules* 38 The monads we have just examined are single, free animalcules. 1847–9 R. JONES *Polygastria* in *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* IV. 7/1 The genus *Uvella*..somewhat resembles a transparent mulberry rolling itself about at will, whence the name 'grape monad', which these animalcules bear.

5. *Chem.* An element or radical which has the combining power of one atom of hydrogen.

1869 ROSCOE *Elem. Chem.* (1874) 172 The elements of the first group combine atom for atom with hydrogen, they are monovalent elements or monads. *Ibid.* 264 Thallium is a monad in the thallious compounds.

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.* **a.** *Biol.*, as *monad-deme* (see DEME[2] 2), *-form*; *monad-like* adj. **b.** *Chem.*, as *monad atom, element, radical.*

a. 1842 PRITCHARD *Hist. Infusoria* 89 Separate Monad-like bodies. 1846 DANA *Zooph.* i. (1848) 7 *note*, Monad-like in their motions. 1874 *Monthly Jrnl. Microsc. Soc.* XII. 261 The minute monad-forms found in macerations of fish.

b. 1869 ROSCOE *Elem. Chem.* (1874) 172 Each atom..requires two monad atoms for saturation. *Ibid.* 175 The monad elements unite amongst themselves to form only few and simple compounds. 1873 RALFE *Phys. Chem.* Introd. 26 From all dibasic acids a monad as well as a diad radical may be derived.

7. quasi-*adj.* = MONADIC. **a.** Of or pertaining to the monadic constitution of matter; **b.** *Chem.* That has the atomic constitution of a monad.

1846 DANA *Zooph.* vii. (1848) 107 These remarks are intended to support no monad or Lamarckian theory. 1866 ODLING *Anim. Chem.* 16 Monad, dyad, and triad combinations. 1878 LOCKYER *Spect. Anal.* (ed. 2) 124 Many monad metals give us their line spectra at a low degree of heat.

Monadary (mɒ·nădări). [ad. mod.L. *monadāri-um*, f. *monas*: see MONAD and -ARY[1] B. 2.] The outer covering or envelope of an assemblage of monads. So also **Mona·diary**, in the same sense.

1847–9 R. JONES *Polygastria* in *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* IV. 7/2 Several genera composed of numerous Monads, associated together and connected by a common envelope, which constitutes a kind of compound polypary or monadary, as it has been recently called. 1880 PASCOE *Zool. Classif.* (ed. 2) 283 *Monadiary.*

‖ **Monadelphia** (mɒnădĕ·lfiă). *Bot.* [mod.L. (Linnæus 1735), f. Gr. μόνος one + ἀδελφ-ός brother + -IA[1].] The sixteenth class in the Linnæan Sexual System, comprising plants with hermaphroditic flowers having the stamens united in one bundle.

1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.*, *Monadelphia*,..a class of plants whose stamina or male parts, by reason of their filaments running in among one another, are all formed into one body. 1785 MARTYN *Rousseau's Bot.* ix. (1794) 92 In the sixteenth class, called *monadelphia*, the filaments are united so as to form one regular membrane at bottom.

Hence **Mo·nadelph**, a plant of this class; **Monade·lphian** *a.* = next. (1828–32 Webster.)

Monadelphous (mɒnădĕ·lfəs), *a. Bot.* [Formed as prec. + -OUS.] **a.** Of stamens: Having the filaments united so as to form one bundle. **b.** Of plants: Having the stamens monadelphous; belonging to the *Monadelphia.*

1806 GALPINE *Brit. Bot.* § 321 Stam[ina] all connected, or monadelphous. 1830 LINDLEY *Nat. Syst. Bot.* Introd. 28 The stamens..are monadelphous in Malvaceæ and Meliaceæ. 1870 HOOKER *Stud. Flora* 397.

Monadiary, variant of MONADARY.

Monadic (mɒnæ·dik), *a.* [ad. Gr. μοναδικός composed of units, f. μοναδ-, μονάς MONAD.]

1. Composed of monads or units; pertaining to or of the nature of a monad; existing singly. Also quasi-*sb.*, that which is composed of units.

1788 T. TAYLOR *Proclus* I. Diss. 14 The monadic, or that which is composed from certain units, they justly considered as nothing more than the image of essential number. 1839 BAILEY *Festus* xxvii. (1852) 467 In this fatal life There is no real union. All things here Seem of monadic nature. 1858 J. HADLEY *Ess.* (1873) 342 So, too, we have the seven openings of the head, the three twin pairs of eyes, ears, and nostrils, with the monadic mouth to make the seventh. 1872 BROWNING *Fifine* xlviii, What does it give for germ, monadic mere intent Of mind in face? 1873 *Contemp. Rev.* XXII. 45 Personality, self-consciousness, and freedom of the will, is rather the power of breaking through the limits of relative monadic existence, of expanding into the infinite by consciousness and will. 1875 J. H. NEWMAN *Let. Dk. Norfolk* 27 We cannot take as much as we please, and no more, of an institution which has a monadic existence.

2. *Chem.* Of the nature of a monad; univalent.

1877 WATTS *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 12) I. 262 Potassium forms only one chloride, KCl, and is therefore univalent or monadic.

3. Relating to monadism.

1862 MAURICE *Mor. & Met. Philos.* IV. viii. § 72. 517 Leibnitz, whose monadic tendencies may have placed him.. at no very great distance from his opponent. 1874 MORRIS tr. *Ueberweg's Hist. Philos.* § 121 II. 145 Kant..brings the monadic nearer to the atomistic doctrine.

Monadical (mɒnæ·dikal), *a.* [f. prec. + -AL.] Of the nature of a monad; pertaining to a monad or monads.

1642 H. MORE *Song of Soul* II. i. III. xxiv, All here depend on the Orb Unitive, Which also hight Nature Monadicall. 1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* I. iv. 556 Henadical (or Monadical) Gods, and Intellectual Gods. 1875 MCCOSH *Scott. Philos.* xl. 282 The monadical theory of Leibnitz.

Hence **Mona·dically** *adv.*

1794 T. TAYLOR tr. *Plotinus* Introd. 39 It is said..that.. every number subsists monadically in unity.

Monadiform (mɒnæ·difɒm), *a. Biol.* [f. MONAD: see -FORM.] Having the form of a monad.

1862 G. KEARLEY *Links in Chain* i. 9 The *Gonium pectorale*, commonly called the High Priest's Breast-plate ..consists of a combination of sixteen monadiform bodies, disposed regularly in a four-cornered tablet. 1866 [see next]. 1877 HUXLEY *Anat. Inv. Anim.* ii. 96 In Bicosœca.. a fixed monadiform body is enclosed within a structureless and transparent calyx. 1885 E. R. LANKESTER in *Encycl. Brit.* XIX. 837/2 A very large number of Gymnomyxa produce spores which are termed 'monadiform', that is, have a single or sometimes two filaments of vibratile protoplasm extended from their otherwise structureless bodies.

Monadigerous (mɒnădi·dʒĕrəs), *a. Zool.* Bearing or composed of monads.

1866 JAMES-CLARK in *Mem. Boston Soc. Nat. Hist.* I. 325 The monadigerous layer lines the cavity of the body...This layer is composed of monadiform animalcules packed closely side by side in a vast colony.

Monadine (mɒ·nădin), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. mod. L. *monadinus* (Ehrenberg), f. *monad-* MONAD.] **a.** *adj.* Of or pertaining to the monads or *Flagellata.* **b.** *sb.* A protozoon belonging to this class.

1847–9 R. JONES *Polygastria* in *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* IV. 7/2 The..group of animalcules belonging to the Monadine type. *Ibid.* 9/2 A proboscidiform mouth similar to that possessed by the Monadines of Volvox. 1881 CARPENTER *Microsc. & Rev.* (ed. 6) § 418 Monadine forms.

So **Monadi·nic** *a.*, of or belonging to the monadine family.

1885 CUNNINGHAM in *Sci. Mem. Med. Officers India* I. 11 Crowded with infusorial, monadinic, and schizomycete forms. *Ibid.* 29 The development .. of some Monadinic organism.

Monadism (mɒ·nădiz'm). [f. MONAD + -ISM.] The theory of the monadic nature of matter or of substance generally; the philosophical doctrine of monads, esp. as formulated by Leibniz.

1875 J. CLERK MAXWELL in *Encycl. Brit.* III. 37/2 Of the different forms of the atomic theory, that of Boscovich may be taken as an example of the purest monadism. 1877 E. CAIRD *Philos. Kant* Introd. v. 81 We must free Monadism from the slough of ordinary Atomism, which, with Leibnitz, it never completely cast off. 1886 SYMONDS *Renaiss. It., Cath. React.* (1898) VII. ix. 78 [Bruno] supplied..Leibnitz with his theory of monadism.

Monadistic (mɒnădi·stik), *a. rare.* [f. MONAD + -ISTIC.] Pertaining to monadism.

1891 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1906 *Hibbert Jrnl.* Oct. 197 The theory of monadistic idealism.

Monadite (mɒ·nădəit). *rare*[−1]. [f. MONAD + -ITE.] One who believes in monadism.

1753 tr. *Genard's School of Man* 38, I close with the Monadites, and with them affirm that matter cannot absolutely think.

Monadity (mɒnæ·dĭti). *rare*[−1]. [f. MONAD + -ITY.] Monadic state or condition.

1844 MRS. BROWNING *Lett. to Horne* II. 31 All truth is assimilative, and perhaps even reducible to that monadity of which Parmenides discoursed.

Monadology (mɒnădɒ·lŏdʒi). [a. F. *monadologie* (Leibniz), f. *monade*: see MONAD and -LOGY.] The philosophical doctrine of monads.

1732 *Hist. Litteraria* IV. 193 The second Argument is borrow'd from Leibniz's Monadology. 1847 LEWES *Hist. Philos.* (1867) II. 271 When that reasoning conducts him to such hypotheses as the pre-established Harmony and the Monadology. 1867 *Contemp. Rev.* VI. 60 He is developing ..his monadology like a disciple of Leibnitz. 1902 *Encycl. Brit.* XXX. 651/1 His [*sc.* Leibniz's] monadology, or half-Pythagorean, half-Brunistic analysis of bodies into monads.

†**Mo·nady.** *Obs. rare.* [irreg. f. MONAD.] The number one.

1637 HEYWOOD *London's Mirr.* B 4 b, [The Pythagorean school reasoned that] all nations..can tell no farther than to the Denary, which is Ten, and then returne in their account unto the Monady, that is one. 1659 tr. *Fludd's Mos. Philos.* 132 God..is understood to be that absolute Monady or Unity, which onely was in it self.

Monal, variant of MONAUL.

Monalechite, blundered form of MONOTHELITE.

Monamide (mɒ·năməid). *Chem.* [f. MON(O)- + AMIDE.] An amide formed by the displacement of one of the three hydrogen atoms of ammonia. See AMIDE 2 *note.*

1861 *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 8) 734 Organic derivatives of ammonia—monamines, and monamides. 1869 ROSCOE *Elem. Chem.* (1871) 368 Lactic monamide is obtained by the action of ammonia on lactide.

Monamine (mɒ·năməin). *Chem.* [f. MON(O)- = AMINE.] An amine formed by the exchange of one of the three hydrogen atoms of ammonia for a basic radical. See AMINE *note.*

1859 HOFMANN in *Proc. Roy. Soc.* IX. 293 Contributions towards the History of the Monamines. 1878 KINGZETT *Anim. Chem.* 35 The amines..may be grouped into 3 classes, namely monamines, diamines, and triamines.

Monanapæ·stic, *a. Pros. rare*[−0]. In Dicts. -anapestic. [f. MON(O)- + ANAPÆSTIC.] Containing but one anapæst. 1890 *Century Dict.*

Monanday, Sc. variant of MONDAY.

‖ **Monandria** (mɒnæ·ndriă). *Bot.* [mod.L. (Linnæus 1735), f. Gr. μόνανδρος having one husband (f. μόνος MONO- + ἀνδρ- man, male).] The first class in the Linnæan Sexual System, comprising all plants having hermaphrodite flowers with but one stamen or male organ.

1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.*, *Monandria*,..a class of plants which have hermaphrodite flowers, with only one stamen in each. 1760 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* II. ii. (1765) 73. 1785 MARTYN *Rousseau's Bot.* ix. (1794) 87.

attrib. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVI. 80/2 A genus.. belonging to the monandria class of plants.

Hence **Mona·ndrer** (*rare*[−0]), a plant belonging to the class *Monandria*; **Mona·ndrian, Mona·ndrio** *adjs.* (*rare*[−0]) = MONANDROUS.

1828–32 WEBSTER, *Monander. Ibid.*, *Monandrian.* 1891 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Monandric.*

Monandrous (mɒnæ·ndrəs), *a.* [f. Gr. μόνανδρ-ος (see MONANDRIA) + -OUS.]

1. *Bot.* Belonging to the class Monandria; of a flower, having a single stamen.

1806 GALPINE *Brit. Bot.* § 15 F[lowers] monandrous. 1849 BALFOUR *Man. Bot.* § 394. 1881 *Jrnl. Linn. Soc.* XVIII. 365 Surrounded by 2 or more monandrous male flowers.

2. Having but one husband. *nonce-use.*

1866 SHUCKARD *Brit. Bees* 323 The queen is monandrous or single-spoused.

Monandry (mɒnæ·ndri). Also **mono-andry.** [ad. Gr. **μονανδρία*, f. *μόνανδρος*: see MONANDRIA and -Y.]

1. The custom of having only one husband at a time.

1855 MISS COBBE *Intuit. Mor.* 155 Monogamy and Monoandry are general rules conducive to the Happiness of mankind. 1880 WEBSTER *Suppl.*, *Monandry.* 1882 A. MACFARLANE *Consanguin.* 8 In countries where monandry is established. 1904 *Contemp. Rev.* Oct. 486 From promiscuity ..to..monogamy and monandry, every possible phase and form of the institution [of marriage] can be studied outside of the human species.

2. *Bot.* The condition of having but one perfect stamen. 1900 in B. D. JACKSON *Gloss. Bot. Terms* App.

Monanthous (mɒnæ·nθəs), *a. Bot.* [f. Gr. μόν-ος MON(O)- + ἄνθ-ος flower + -OUS.] Bearing a single flower (on each stalk).

1858 A. GRAY *Bot. Gloss.*, *Monanthous*, one-flowered.

Monapsal (mɒnæ·psăl), *a.* [f. Mon(o)- + Apse + -al.] Having a single apse.

1884 A. J. Butler *Coptic Ch.* I. i. 33 Mr. Freshfield's canon that a Greek triapsal church is later, and a monapsal church earlier, than the time of Justin II.

Monarch (mɒ·năɹk) *sb.*[1] Also 5 monarcha, 6–7 monark(e, 6 monarche. [ad. L. *monarcha*, ad. Gr. *μονάρχης* (more commonly *μόναρχος*), f. *μόν-ος* alone + *ἄρχ-ειν* to rule. Cf. F. *monarque* (14th c. Hatz.-Darm.), Sp., It. *monarca*, Pg. *monarcha*.]

1. In early use, a sole and absolute ruler of a state. In modern use, a sovereign bearing the title of king, queen, emperor, or empress, or the equivalent of one of these. (Ordinarily, a more or less rhetorical substitute for the specific designation of the person referred to.)

c 1450 Lydg. *Secrees* 299 Souereyn of Renoun, Which as monarcha of euery Regioun, Gaff me this Charge. 1538 Elyot *Dict.*, *Monarcha*, a prynce, whiche reuleth alone without piere or companyon, monarche. 1572 H. Mionelmore in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. III. 5 His deseign..is to make himselfe monarche of Christendome. 1587 Golding *De Mornay* viii. (1592) 96 From the great Monarkes we come to the Kings of seuerall Nations, and from them to vnderkings of Prouinces. 1596 Shaks. *Merch. V.* IV. i. 189 The quality of mercy..becomes The throned Monarch better then his Crowne. 1638 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* (ed. 2) 312 He is reputed as absolute a monark as any other in India. 1783 Watson *Philip III*, III. (1839) 183 The French and English monarchs, in whose name this proposal had been made. 1875 Maine *Hist. Inst.* xii. 350 According to.. Austin, the Sovereign, if a single person, is or should be called a Monarch.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1581 Sidney *Apol. Poetrie* (Arb.) 40 To be moued to doe that which we know, or to be mooued with desire to knowe, *Hoc opus: Hic labor est.* Nowe therein of all Sciences.. is our Poet the Monarch. 1606 Shaks. *Ant. & Cl.* II. vii. 120 Come thou Monarch of the Vine, Plumpie Bacchus, with pinke eyne. 1609 C. Butler *Fem. Mon.* i. A 2, And al this vnder the government of one Monarch, of whom aboue al tbings they [*sc.* the bees] haue a principal care. 1640 H. King *Serm.* 15 The Sunne..who is the Prince and Monarch of the Skie. 1698 Fryer *Acc. E. India & P.* 91 Unless the Seamen or Soldiers get Drunk,..then are they Monarchs, and it is Madness to oppose them. 1742 Young *Nt. Th.* IX. 1617 How far, how wide, The matchless monarch [*sc.* the sun], from his flaming throne..throws his beams about him. 1782 Cowper *Alex. Selkirk* 1, I am monarch of all I survey. 1807 P. Gass *Jrnl.* 105 Most of the corps crossed over to an island, to attack and rout its monarch, a large brown bear. 1817 Byron *Manfred* I. i, Mont Blanc is the monarch of mountains. 1872 Morley *Voltaire* (1886) 7 In the realm of mere letters, Voltaire is one of the little band of great monarchs.

2. *slang.* The coin called a sovereign.

1851 Mayhew *Lond. Labour* I. 52/1 Upper Benjamins, built on a downey plan, a monarch to half a finnuf..Pair of long sleeve Moleskin..half a monarch.

3. A very large red and black butterfly (*Danais Plexippus*).

1893 Morris *Brit. Butterfl.* 71 The Monarch..is one of the commonest species throughout a great part of North America.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*: a. simple attrib., as *monarch-like* adj. and adv., *monarch-wise*.

c 1586 C'tess Pembroke *Ps.* xciii. i, *Monarck-like Iehova raignes. 1662 Gerbier *Princ.* 12 The Monarchlike Staires of the Pallace of Darius. 1839 Bailey *Festus* xviii. (1852) 252 The lion, monarchlike, alone Hath sympathies with no race but his own. 1586 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* Iv. 561 If a citie be assembled in *Monarch-wise [orig. *si monarchiquement*], it is to bee defended against strangers.

b. appositive, as *monarch-bee, -dead, -god, -judge, -love, -martyr, -mind, -monster, -oak, -pope, -reason, -savage, -spirit, -swain, -victor.*

1766 *Compl. Farmer* s.v. *Queen-bee*, This was giving great talents to the *monarch-bee. 1864 Neale *Seaton. Poems* 131 The monarch, midst the *monarch-dead Reposes in his glory. 1870 Bryant *Iliad* I. I. 3 The *monarch-god, Apollo. 1837–9 Hallam *Hist. Lit.* II. iv. § 61 Reasons..in favour of a *monarch-judge. 1647 Cowley *Mistr., Heart-breaking* v, Thus have I chang'd with evil Fate My *Monarch-Love into a Tyrant-State. 1842 Sir A. de Vere *Song of Faith* 259 Mid wild revelry..Should thus the *Monarch-martyr's son appear. 1812 Crabbe *Tales* i. 67 And now, into the vale of years declined, He hides too little of the *monarch-mind. 1593 Nashe *Christ's T.* Wks. (Grosart) IV. 114 Vengeance on your soules..for thus mirrouring mee for the *Monarch-monster of Mothers. 1682 Dryden *Mac Fl.* 28 *Monarch oaks that shade the plain And, spread in solemn state, supinely reign. 1904 A. Lang *Hist. Scott.* III. II. 28 Charles I was acting on the example of four English *monarch-popes. 1700 Dryden *Cock & Fox* 326 Dreams are but interludes, which fancy makes; When *monarch reason sleeps, this mimic wakes. 1725 Pope *Odyss.* IV. 454 The *monarch-savage [*sc.* a lion] rends the trembling prey. 1800 Coleridge *Piccolom.* III. iii, This great *monarch-spirit, if he fall, Will drag a world into the ruin with him. 1727–46 Thomson *Summer* 494 Amid his subjects safe, Slumbers the *monarch swain. 1821 Mrs. Hemans *Dartmoor* Poems (1875) 145 The trophied car Wheeling the *monarch-victor fast and far.

c. objective, instrumental, etc., as *monarch-murderer*; *monarch-murdered* adj.

1611 Florio, *Monarcactda*, a Monarch-murtherer. 1795 Coleridge *To Author of Poems* 28 There for the monarch-murder'd Soldier's tomb You wove th'unfinish'd wreath of saddest hues.

Hence **Mo·narch** *v. intr.*, to act the monarch; also *to monarch it*.

a 1653 G. Daniel *Idyll., Illustr.* 4 The Tirrannous High-Preist Once but a Man, nnw Monarchs o're the Rest. 1737 *Common Sense* I. 11 While he monarchs it in his own closet, [he] becomes contemptible in the Eyes of the World. 1839 *Fraser's Mag.* XX. 126 So be it known, We monarch it by rule of two, and not of one.

†**Mo·narch,** *sb.*[2] *Obs.* [a. OF. *monarche, monarque* fem., semi-popular ad. late L. type *monarchia*.] = Monarchy.

1483 *Chron. Eng.* III. f vj b, The Monarch of Rome a bowt this time mightili encresed. 1572 J. Jones *Bathes of Bath* Ep. Ded. a iij, Bladud..a Brittayn the ix King of this Monarch after Brute. 1588 A. Marten *Exhort. Faithf. Subjects* D 2 b, The Roman Monarch..was one hundred times greater then ours. 1602 Warner *Alb. Eng.* x. lvii. 250 It..was Aduisde a Monarch absolute in France to bring to pas. Aristocratick gouernment, nor Democratick pleasd.

Monarch (mɒ·năɹk), *a. Bot.* [f. Gr. *μόν-ος* one, single + *ἀρχ-ή* beginning, origin: cf. Diarch.] Arising from only one point of origin, as the woody tissue of a root. *Monarch-bundle*, a xylem-bundle in which there is only one strand.

1884 Bower & Scott *De Bary's Phaner.* 350 In the heptarch or octarch examples of Lycopodium clavatum investigated, I almost always found one of the concave plates larger,..the other smaller..with a separate..vascular strand (in itself monarch), lying in front of its..outer surface. *Ibid.* 363 The monarch bundles of some species of Trichomanes.

Monarch, var. Moniker *slang*, name.

Monarchal (mɒnā·ɹkăl), *a.* Also 6–7 -all. [f. Monarch *sb.* + -al. Cf. OF. *monarchal*.]

1. Of, belonging to, or characteristic of a monarch; befitting a monarch.

1592 *Nobody & Someb.* F 3, My kinglie browes itch for a stately Crowne, This hand to beare a round Monarchall Globe. 1610 Guillim *Heraldry* VI. vii. 280 The Blazon of these his Maiesties most Roiall and Monarchal Ensignes. 1667 Milton *P. L.* II. 428 Satan, whom now transcendent glory rais'd Above his fellows, with Monarchal pride..thus spake. 1825 Lamb *Elia* Ser. II. *Convalescent*, To be sick is to enjoy monarchal prerogatives. 1826 G. S. Faber *Diffic. Romanism* (1853) 60 The Bishops of Rome have legitimately inherited the alleged monarchal prerogatives of Peter. 1845 *Blackw. Mag.* LVII. 783 The royal harangue..has..a certain monarchal tone. 1886 *Belgravia Mag.* LX. 43 A bastard, crowned, Aped manners of monarchal state.

fig. 1612 Drayton *Poly-olb.* iii. 371 By whose monarchal sway, She fortifies herself.

2. Having the status of a monarch; that exercises the functions of a monarch.

1586 Ferne *Blaz. Gentrie* II. 26 This is that fashioned Crowne which appertaineth to kinges onely monarchall. 1620 Dekker *Dreame* (1860) 41 Hee [Adam]..was sole monarchall lord O're the whole globe. 1656 Finett *For. Ambass.* 3 He..would never allow (he sayd) so much as a question or thought of competition betweene him a monarchall soveraigne and a meane Republique. 1678 Marvell *Growth Popery* 12 The king..was more Generous and Monarchal than to assign Cause..for his Actions. 1826 G. S. Faber *Diffic. Romanism* (1853) 217 Christ's Monarchal Vicar might send two of his dependant suffragans..upon an ecclesiastical errand.

3. Of a state, etc.: That is ruled by a monarch. Of government or institutions: Monarchical. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

a 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* V. (1613) 451 The Princes persons; being in all monarchall gouernements the very knot of the peoples welfare. 1635 J. Hayward tr. *Biondi's Banish'd Virg.* Pref. verse, The ware..by thee in-brought To this Monarchall Ile. 1640 H. King *Serm.* 41 Look..upon Kingdomes governed by formes Monarchall and Absolute as yours. 1836 Landor *Peric. & Asp.* clvii. Wks. 1853 II. 419/1 Nations monarchal and aristocratical. 1846 Hare *Mission Comf.* (1850) 15 [Such a change] would have overthrown the legitimate monarchal constitution of your being, to set up the ochlocracy within you in its stead.

Hence **Mona·rchally** *adv.*, as a monarch.

1838 G. S. Faber *Inquiry* 392 Antichrist..hath already appeared in his true character, seated monarchally in the seven-hilled city.

Monarchess (mɒ·năɹkĕs). Now *rare.* [f. Monarch *sb.* + -ess.] A female monarch.

1595 Markham *Sir R. Grinvile, To the fayrest* ix, Thou ..Onelie immatchlesse Monarchesse of harts. 1596 Fitz-Geffray *Sir F. Drake* (1881) 74 Death-scorning Gilbert.. To Englands Monarchesse did force to yeeld The savage land. 1616 Capt. Smith *Descr. New Eng.* 32 For example: Rome, What made her such a Monarchesse, but onely the adventures of her youth..in dangers abroade. 1642 Brome *Queens Exch.* v. i. Were I sole monarchess of this Island. 1843 J. Nicholson *Hist. & Tradit. T.* 92 Meg Merrilies or the monarchess of tinkers and gipsies.

Monarchial (mɒnā·ɹkiăl), *a.* [f. L. *monarchia* Monarchy + -al. Cf. OF. *monarchial*.]

1. Of, pertaining to, or of the nature of a monarchy; that is under the dominion of a monarch. Cf. Monarchal *a.* 3.

1600 W. Watson *Decacordon* (1602) 39 When these Realmes of England, Wales and Scotland, shal be all one Monarchiall Ile of Iesuits. 1642 Baidge *Wounded Consc. Cured* iii. 56 The nature of Monarchiall government, we shall come to consider..in that which followes. 1680 Aubrey in *Lett. Eminent Persons* (1813) III. 447 The Liberty of Mankind, wch he thought would be greater under a free state than under a monarchiall government. 1737 *Common Sense* I. 119 The ancient Form of government, which was Kingly or Monarchial. *a* 1806 C. J. Fox *Reign Jas. II* (1808) 232 To promise, therefore, the continuance of a monarchial establishment, and to designate the future monarch, seemed to be necessary. 1869 Rawlinson *Anc. Hist.* 339 The form of government was monarchial.

2. = Monarchal *a.* 1.

1788 Anna Seward *Lett.* (1811) II. 104 A man..who worshipped the monarchial claims and despised the parental ones. 1841 *Blackw. Mag.* XLIX. 368 The authoritative sentiment of duty is upheld..in all its absolute and monarchial rights. 1850 R. G. Cumming *Hunter's Life S. Afr.* (1902) 47/2 The dignified and truly monarchial appearance of the lion. 1870 Baldw. Brown *Eccl. Truth* 273 The growth of the monarchial power.

†3. = Monarchal *a.* 2. *Obs. rare.*

1600 W. Watson *Decacordon* (1602) 319 He shall haue the title in words of a king monarchiall. *Ibid.* 324 One Iesuite Pope and prince Monarchiall. 1661 Baxter *Mor. Prognost.* (1680) 65 A Visible Constitutive, or Governing-Head; whether Monarchial,..or Aristocratical or Democratical.

Monarchian (mɒnā·ɹkiăn), *sb.* and *a. Eccl. Hist.* [ad. late L. *monarchiānī* pl., f. *monarchia*: see Monarchy and -an.

The term *monarchiani* is merely a nickname applied by Tertullian (*Adv. Prax.* x) to certain opponents of the doctrine of the Trinity, in derision of their unintelligent use of the word *monarchia* ('Monarchiam, inquiunt, tenemus', *ibid.* ii). In early apologetics, *ἡ μοναρχία τοῦ Θεοῦ* ('the monarchy of God') was a current designation for Christian monotheism, and these heretics regarded themselves as the defenders of this cardinal doctrine against the Trinitarians.]

A. *sb.* One of those heretics in the 2nd and 3rd centuries who denied the doctrine of the Trinity.

Modern historians distinguish between 'Dynamistic' or 'Adoptionist' Monarchians, who regarded Christ as a man endowed with Divine power, and 'Modalistic' Monarchians, who maintained that He was an incarnation of God the Father.

1765 A. Maclaine tr. *Mosheim's Eccl. Hist.* II. v. § 20 (1833) 64/1 His [*sc.* Praxeas'] followers were called Monarchians, because of their denying a plurality of persons in the Deity. 1841 H. J. Rose tr. *Neander's Hist. Relig.* II. 283 The Monarchians who reduced the whole Trias (or Trinity) only to different conceptions and relations under which the One Divine Being is viewed. 1872 Morris tr. *Ueberweg's Hist. Philos.* § 82 I. 308 The Monarchian, Praxeas,..appears.. to have taught that the Father descended into the Virgin.

B. *adj.* Of or belonging to the Monarchians or to Monarchianism.

1847 J. Torrey tr. *Neander's Hist. Relig.* II. 333 The founder of this Monarchian party in Rome. *Ibid.*, There arose..another Monarchian sect in Rome. 1853 W. E. Tayler *Hippolytus* II. i. 75 The leaders of the Monarchian heretics. 1872 Morris tr. *Ueberweg's Hist. Philos.* § 94 I. 387 He [Abelard] gives to the doctrine of the Trinity a Monarchian interpretation. 1899 A. E. Garvie *Ritschlian Theol.* IV. vi. 122 In spite of the opposition of the monarchian schools, whether adoptionist or modalist.

Hence **Mona·rchianism,** the antitrinitarian doctrine of the Monarchians. **Mona·rchianist** = Monarchian *sb.* **Monarchiani·stic** *a.* = Monarchian *a.*

1841 H. J. Rose tr. *Neander's Hist. Relig.* II. 259 The others..were still more strongly opposed to this class of Monarchianism. 1858 J. Martineau *Stud. Chr.* 246 This shows the yet powerful influence of the Judaic Monarchianism. 1872 Morris tr. *Ueberweg's Hist. Philos.* § 82 I. 308 In the teachings of these Monarchianists the Logos-conception is not found. *Ibid.* § 94. 394 He [Abelard] often employs..the almost Monarchianistic comparisons of Augustine. 1888 Hatch *Infl. Greek Ideas* vii. (1890) 207 The two schools of Monarchianism, in one of which Christ was conceived as a mode of God, and in the other as His exalted creature.

Monarchic (mɒnā·ɹkik), *a.* Also 7 -ique, 7–8 -icke. [a. F. *monarchique*, ad. Gr. *μοναρχικ-ός*, f. *μόναρχ-ος*: see Monarch and -ic.]

1. Of a government: Having the characteristics of monarchy. Now *rare*; usually replaced by Monarchical.

1624 *Brief Inform. Affairs Palatinate* 24 The Empire is not an Estate Monarchique, where the Prince ruleth absolutely. 1647 Clarendon *Hist. Reb.* VI. § 120 That the Parliament only aimed at taking his majesty's regal rights from him, to the prejudice of monarchic government, without any thought of reforming religion. 1727 Warburton *Eng. Causes of Prodigies* 119 He [*sc.* Sallust] first wrote under the Consular, and the other [*sc.* Tacitus] under the Monarchic State. 1864 Carlyle *Fredk. Gt.* IV. 492 'What form of government do you reckon best?' inquired he.. 'The monarchic, if the king is just and enlightened'.

2. Of or belonging to a monarchy; pertaining to or favouring monarchy as a form of government.

1647 Clarendon *Hist. Reb.* III. § 80 In that [bill]..there were some clauses very derogatory to monarchic principles, as, giving the people authority to assemble together if the King failed to call them. *a* 1668 Davenant *Epithal.* Wks. (1673) 312 For Hymens common-weale cannot dispence In private with Monarchick excellence. 1756 Burke *Vind. Nat. Soc.* 67 The Monarchick, Aristocratical, and Popular Partizans have been jointly laying their Axes to the Root of all Government. 1851 Gallenga *Italy* 159 Mazzini.. blames the Milanese for throwing themselves into the arms of an Italian, however monarchic, confederate. 1867 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* (1877) I. iii. 74 The monarchic, the aristocratic, and the democratic branches of our constitution.

3. Of or pertaining to a monarch or monarchs. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1612 Selden *Drayton's Poly-olb.* Author of Illustr. to Rdr., The Author, in Passages of first Inhabitants, Name, State, and Monarchique succession in this Isle, followes [etc.]. 1676 Needham *Packet of Adv.* 15 The conteining of Monarchick Power in its just bounds. 17.. *Addit. Pope's Wks.* (1776) I. 107 In vain was ministerial breath, In vain monarchic folly. 1807 J. Barlow *Columb.* IV. 420 A new creation waits the western shore, And moral triumphs o'er monarchic power.

†4. = Monarchical 4. (In qnot. *transf.*) *Obs.*

1632 Lithgow *Trav.* V. 185 Cyprus, Candy, and Sicily, are the onely Monarchicke Queenes of the Mediterranean Seas. *Ibid.* 191 The Cedars of Libanon,..like Monarchick Lyons to wild beasts,..become the chiefe Champions of Forrests.

Monarchical (mɒnā·ɹkikăl), *a.* Also 6–7 -all. [f. Monarchic *a.* + -al.]

1. Of the nature of or having the characteristics of a monarchy; *esp.* of government, vested in a monarch.

1589 *Hay any Work* (1844) 48 Such is the civil governement ..Monarchicall in her Maiesties person. 1602 Fulbecke *Pandects* 32 Thus in the end they came to a Monarchicall estate. And these Nations..do create a Duke or Capitaine, who may gouerne the rest. *a* 1618 Raleigh *Prince* (1642) 13 That a Kingdome be not too Monarchicall. 1771 *Junius Lett.* lix. (1820) 305, I hope the English constitution will for ever preserve its original monarchical form. 1850 Prescott *Peru* II. ii. 19 With the Aztecs..it [the form of government] was monarchical and nearly absolute. 1869 Lecky *Europ. Mor.* II. iv. 286 The monarchical..institutions of feudalism. 1888 Schaff *Chr. Church* VI. i. x. 44 Every little principality in monarchical Germany..has its own church establishment.

transf. 1615 Crooke *Body of Man* 39 It is more honourable (say they [*sc.* the Peripatetics]) and monarchical, that there should be one principle [*e.g.* the Heart] then many.

2. Of or pertaining to monarchy; that advocates monarchy as a form of government.

1628 Wither *Brit. Rememb.* viii. 1530 Ev'n what the son of Hannah told the Jewes, Should be their scourge (because they..were so vaine To aske a King..) that curse they shall Affirm to be a Law Monarchicall. 1658 Sir T. Browne *Gard. Cyrus* iii. 143 More in the edificial Palaces of Bees and Monarchical spirits; who make their combs six-cornered, declining a circle. 1833 Alison *Hist. Europe* (1849) I. iv. § 38. 474 The remains of monarchical attachment yet lingered. 1865 Maffei *Brigand Life* I. 90 Men representing all varieties of opinion..appeared in Naples..Mazzinians, monarchical democrats, &c. 1869 Lecky *Europ. Mor.* II. iv. 287 When the course of events has been to glorify.. monarchical..spirit, a great..sovereign..will arise.

3. Of, pertaining to, or characteristic of a monarch; befitting a monarch; monarchal.

1576 Fleming *Panopl. Epist.* 198, I am content with my Monarchicall maiestie or title royall. 1622 Donne *Serm.* 2 *Cor.* iv. 6 Serm. 1660–1 III. 377 There is not so Regal, so Soveraign, so Monarchical a Prerogative, as to have [etc.]. 1647 Cowley *Mistress, Vain Love* 12 Your brave and haughty scorn of all Was stately, and Monarchical. 1649 Milton *Eikon.* xv. 144 That his Monarchical foot might have the setting it upon thir heads. 1772 Foote *Nabob* I. (1778) 7 A very monarchical address. 1865 Dickens *Mut. Fr.* I. viii, When..the bees worry themselves..about their sovereign and become perfectly distracted touching the slightest monarchical movement.

4. Having the power or functions of a monarch; having undivided rule; †autocratic.

a 1618 Raleigh *Prince* (1642) 6 So that a Monarch bee not to Monarchicall,..as the Russe Kings. 1641 J. Jackson *True Evang. T.* III. 173 The Messias where he is Monarchicall, and rules, is also Eirenarchicall, and atones. 1906 D. W. Forrest *Authority of Christ* vii. 409 In the churches of Egypt, as we have seen, there was no monarchical bishop.

Hence **Mona·rchically** *adv.*, in a monarchical form or manner.

1586 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* I. 587 Who can denie, that it is not a great deale better for great and mightie nations to be governed monarchically. 1651 Hobbes *Leviath.* II. xix. 98 Nor are those Provinces..Democratically, or Aristocratically governed, but Monarchically. 1656 J. Harrington *Oceana* (1700) 70 To plant it Nationally, it must be..either Monarchically in part,..or Monarchically in the whole. 1839 *Fraser's Mag.* XIX. 127 He lived.. with Kings, monarchically; with the people, democratically. 1882–3 *Schaff's Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* II. 987/1 The Roman church..organized monarchically, the whole power centring in the Pope.

Mona·rchico-aristocra·tic(al, *a.* That combines the monarchic and aristocratic principles.

1817 Bentham *Parl. Reform* Introd. 120 The monarchico-aristocratical theory. 1874 Blackie *Self-Cult.* 7, I once heard..that all the miseries of this country arise from its monarchico-aristocratic government.

Monarchism (mɒ·nărkiz'm). [a. F. *monarchisme*, f. *monarchie*: see Monarchy and -ism.]

1. The principles of monarchical government; attachment to monarchy or the monarchical principle.

1838 *Fraser's Mag.* XVII. 213 The object..is to combine republicanism with monarchism. 1848 *Tait's Mag.* XV. 340 A president of a civil tribunal, and a president of a tribunal of commerce, were suspended for no act save their former monarchism. 1898 *Atlantic Monthly* LXXXII. 564/1 His [Bismarck's] monarchism rested not only on his personal allegiance to the hereditary dynasty [etc.].

2. Belief in a sole ruler (among the gods).

1877 J. E. Carpenter *Tiele's Hist. Relig.* 215 All the gods [in the Homeric theology] are little else than representatives of Zeus, each in his own realm...Thus, monarchism has touched the borders of monotheism.

Monarchist (mɒ·nărkist). [f. Monarch-y + -ist. Cf. F. *monarchiste*.]

1. An advocate or supporter of monarchy. Also in *Fifth-monarchist* (see Fifth Monarchy).

1647 M. Hudson *Div. Right Govt.* II. ii. 83 This Relative blessing of Monarchie,..the *Relatum* or Monarch, and the *Correlatum* or Monarchists and subjects. 1660 in *Brit. Mag.* (1833) IV. 147 V^e^ widowes of those slaine &c., by 5th Monarckists. *a* 1677 Barrow *Pope's Suprem.* ii. (1687) 76 The..Supposition of the Church Monarchists..That Saint Peter's Primacy..was not personal but derivable to his Successours. *a* 1734 North *Lives* (1826) I. 118 For the principles of the former being demagogical, could not allow much favour to one who rose a Monarchist declared. 1823 Bentnam *Not Paul* 203 Monarchists and Aristocrats! mark well! 1872 *Echo* Oct. 5 The Monarchists pretend that 'the beginning of the end of the Republic' has commenced. 1882–3 *Schaff's Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* III. 2449 Constitutional monarchists and absolute monarchists.

2. One who believes in monarchy among the gods.

1678 Cudworth *Intell. Syst.* I. iv. § 23. 403 Plato acknowledged and worshiped many gods yet..he was no polyarchist, but a Monarchist, an assertor of One Supreme God. 1893 R. C. Jebb *Growth Class. Grk. Poetry* 200 Aeschylus..is no monotheist, yet he might be described as a monarchist in religion.

3. = Monarchian *sb. rare.*

1876 A. Plummer tr. *Döllinger's Hippolytus & C.* IV. i. 188 It is now no longer possible to define exactly what Sabellius himself or other later Monarchists contributed to the development of this view.

Monarchistic (mɒnărki·stik), *a.* [f. prec. + -ic.] Of or pertaining to monarchism; in quot. = Monarchian *a.*

1833 J. H. Newman *Arians* I. v. (1876) 120 To confess that God was, in such sense, one Person with Christ, as (on their Monarchistic principle) to be in no sense distinct from Him.

Monarchize (mɒ·nărkəiz), *v.* [f. Monarch *sb.* + -ize. Cf. F. *monarchiser*.]

1. *intr.* To perform the office of monarch; to rule as a monarch; to rule absolutely. Also *to monarchize it.*

1592 [see Monarchizing *ppl. a.* below]. 1593 Shaks. *Rich. II*, III. ii. 165 Allowing him a breath, a little Scene, To Monarchize, be fear'd, and kill with lookes. 1649 Howell *Pre-em. Parlt.* 11 That King hath an advantage hereby one way, to monarchize more absolutely, and never want money. 1656 S. H. *Gold. Law* 62 He was necessitated to Monarchize it, and self-ly manage all. 1822 Shelley *Tri. Life* 504 The delegated power, Arrayed in which those worms did monarchize, Who made this earth their charnel.

b. of personified agencies.

1592 Nashe *Four Lett. Confut.* K, Shee [*sc.* Art] a banisht Queene into this barraine soile, hauing monarchized it so long amongst the Greeks and Romanes. 1600 Dekker *Old Fortunatus* Wks. 1873 I. 105 Vice..in euery land doth monarchize. 1849 J. Wilson in *Blackw. Mag.* LXVI. 25 The enthusiast adores Greece—not knowing that Greece monarchises over him.

2. *trans.* †a. To make subservient to one monarch; to rule over as a monarch. *Obs.*

1606 Warner *Alb. Eng.* xv. xciii. 375 King Rodericke, surnamd the great, did monarchize at last Wales, that had neere as many Kings as Cantrefes in times past. 1612 Drayton *Poly-olb.* v. 68 By whom three sever'd Realms in one shall firmly stand, As Britain-founding Brute first Monarchiz'd the Land. 1621 Lady M. Wroth *Urania* 189 Raise vp your spirit, that which is worthy to Monarchise the world.

b. To make a monarchy of.

1660 Milton *Free Commw.* Wks. 1851 V. 453 So far shall we be from mending our condition by monarchizing our Government. 1794 J. Courtenay *Pres. St. Manners*, etc. *France & It.* 102 Let's boldly advance To hang the Convention, and Monarchise France. 1800 Jefferson *Writ.* (1896) VII. 451 Principles which go .. to sink the state governments, consolidate them into one, and to monarchize that.

Hence **Mo·narchizing** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.* Also **Mo·narchizer**, one who monarchizes.

1592 Nashe *P. Penilesse* (ed. 2) 34 b, Such a monarchizing spirite it was, that sayd vnto Christ, If thou wilt fall down [etc.]. 1593 — *Christ's T.* Wks. (Grosart) IV. 137 The spyrite of monarchizing in prynate men is the spyrite of Lucifer. 1608 Heywood *Rape Lucrece* I. ii, Let the pride Of these our irreligious monarkisers Be Crown'd in blood. *a* 1610 Parsons *Leicester's Ghost* (1641) 10 Or like as Cæsars Monarchising spright Pursued false Brutus at Phillippos field.

†Mona·rcho. *Obs.* Also **Monarcha, Monarko.** [repr. It. *monarca* Monarch.]

1. The title assumed by an insane Italian who fancied himself emperor of the world; hence *transf.* applied to one who is the object of general ridicule for his absurd pretensions.

1588 Shaks. *L. L. L.* IV. i. 101 This Armado is a Spaniard that keeps here in court A Phantasime, a Monarcho, and one that makes sport To the Prince and his Booke-mates. 1596 Nashe *Saffron Walden* M 2 b, But now he was an insulting Monarch aboue Monarcha the Italian, that ware crownes on his shooes. 1634 Meres *Wits Commw.* 390 They [*sc.* braggers] gape after..vaine prayse and glory. As..in our age Peter Shakerly of Pauls, Monarcho that lined about the Court.

2. Used derisively for Monarch.

1598 Marston *Sat.* IV. F 2, This thunderer..Is now the great Monarko of the earth, Whose awfull nod,..Shakes Europs ground-worke.

†Monarcho·machist. *Obs.* [f. mod.L. *monarchomach-us* (see below) + -ist.] One who fights against monarchy; an anti-monarchist.

[1600 (*title*) G. Barclaii..de Regno et regali Potestate adversus Buchananum, Brutum, Boucherium, & reliquos Monarchomachos.] 1639 J. Corbet *Ungird. Scot. Armour* 30 That assertion of the Monarchomachists is not alwaies true. *a* 1649 Drumm. of Hawth. *Sp.* Wks. (1711) 219 The history which I have written, of the lives of the five kings of Scotland, may, by some monarchomachists, be challenged as scandalous. 1816 *Edin. Rev.* Sept. 221 The monarchom[ach]ists of the sixteenth century.

Monarchy (mɒ·nărki). Forms: *α.* 4–7 monarchie, 5–6 -ye, 6–7 monarkie, -ky, 5– monarchy; *β.* 6–7 monarchia. [a. F. *monarchie* (13th c.), ad. L. *monarchia*, Gr. *μοναρχία* rule of one, f. *μόναρχ-ος* Monarch.]

†1. Undivided rule by a single person; sole rule or sovereignty; absolute power. *Obs.*

α. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 26 The Monarchie Of al the world in that partie To Babiloyne was soubgit. *Ibid.* I. 27, 67. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) III. 33 And then the monarchye off men of Assiria, whiche contynued from Belus other Ninus to the laste tymes of Sardanapallus..failede. 1561 Norton & Sackv. *Gorboduc* Dumb Show bef. 1st Act, Gorboduc deuidinge his Lande to his two Sonnes, which he before held in Monarchie. 1729 Butler *Serm.* Wks. 1874 II. 200 The monarchy of the universe is a dominion unlimited in extent, and everlasting in duration. 1845 Lingard *Anglo-Sax. Ch.* I. iii. 214 [St. Peter] whose happy lot it had been to receive ..the power of binding and the monarchy of loosing [orig. *potestatem ligandi et monarchiam solvendi*] both in heaven and on earth. 1876 Mozley *Univ. Serm.* i. 1 Gregory VII ..claimed the monarchy of the world.

β. 1535 Stewart *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) II. 425 Kenethus.. was the first..that had monarchia Of tna kinrikis. 1602 Warner *Alb. Eng.* x. lvii. (1612) 251 Discourst of his Experience thus, he then descends to it, Whereby of Monarchia might himselfe the French King fit.

¶ b. *loosely.* Exclusive dominion (of a body of persons). *Obs.*

1600 W. Watson *Decacordon* (1602) 324 The Iesuits aspire to the whole and absolute monarchie of the world.

2. A state having a form of government in which the supreme power is vested in a single person. Formerly, also, a nation or state having dominating power over all other states.

Absolute or *despotic m.*, a government by the absolute will of the monarch. *Constitutional m.* (see Constitutional *a.* 4 b). *Elective m.*, one in which the monarch is determined by election as opposed to heredity. *Hereditary m.*, one in which the sovereign power descends by hereditary right. *Limited m.* (see Limited 2).

c 1430 Lydg. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 128 The realmes and the monarchyes, Of erthely princes. 1494 Fabyan *Chron.* v. xci. 67 [Egbert] hadde subdued the more partie of the Kyngdomes of Saxons, and made of all but one Monarchy. 1552 Lyndesay *Monarche* 1979 As, quhen one Prouince.. Had hole power Imperiall,..Abufe all Kyngis and Nationis, One Monarchie that men doith call. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 392 b, That the same Monarchye, that hath ben now so many yeares in framinge, maye at the lengthe be established. 1599 Shaks. *Hen. V*, II. iv. 73 Good my Soueraigne..let them know Of what a Monarchie you are the Head. *a* 1618 Raleigh *Prince* (1642) 2 Monarchies.. are of 3 sorts touching the right or possession of them; *viz.* 1. Hereditary,..2. Elective,..3. Mixt..Monarchies are of 2 sorts touching their power or authority; *viz.* 1. Intier... 2. Limited. 1651 Hobbes *Leviath.* II. xxvi. 140 It is .. necessary to consider in this place..what is the will of the Soveraign, as well in Monarchies, as in other formes of government. 1776 Gibbon *Decl. & F.* vii. (1782) I. 204 Of the various forms of government,..an hereditary monarchy seems to present the fairest scope for ridicule. 1874 Bancroft *Footpr. Time* i. 47 The Chaldean Monarchy was the first in order of time.

3. In the abstract: Monarchical rule.

1638 *Hamilton Papers* (Camden) 40 It is chiflie monarchie which is intended by them to be destroyed. 1651 Hobbes *Leviath.* II. xix. 95 For they that are discontented under Monarchy, call it Tyranny. 1681 Dryden *Abs. & Achit.* II. 904 Who once at such a gentle reign repine, The fall of monarchy itself design. 1742 Hume *Ess.* I. vii. (1777) 33 Absolute monarchy, therefore, is the easiest death, the true Euthanasia of the British constitution. *a* 1862 Buckle *Civiliz.* (1873) III. iii. 156 The very institution of monarchy was repulsive to them.

†4. The territory of a monarch. *Obs. rare.*

c 1550 Bale *K. Johan* (Camden) 91 Than shall never Pope rule more in thys monarchie. 1699 Bentley *Phal.* 403 Crouds of those that would have come to Court from the furthest parts of the Monarchy.

5. *transf.* and *fig.* (From senses 1–3.)

1609 C. Butler (*title*) The Feminine Monarchie Or A Treatise concerning Bees. 1695 Congreve *Love for L.* Ded., Nobody can dispute Your Lordship's Monarchy in Poetry. 1713 Steele *Englishman* No. 7. 44 Liberty is checked by the Restraints of Truth, and the Monarchy of right Reason. 1791 Bentnam *Panopt.* II. 205 A prison, a sort of monarchy which has never yet been noted for plans of conquest. 1884 J. Parker *Apost. Life* III. 133 The only monarchy that is not tinsel is the monarchy of holiness.

‖ Monarda (mɒnā·ɪdă). Also 8 **monardus.** [mod. L., f. the name of N. *Monardes* (1493–1588), a botanist of Seville.] A genus of herbaceous, labiate, aromatic plants found chiefly in N. America, of which the species *M. punctata* yields a camphor and an essential oil, the *monarda-camphor, -oil* of commerce.

1712 tr. *Pomet's Hist. Drugs* I. 179 This was doubtless the gum Monardus us'd against the gout. 1865 Watts *Dict. Chem.* s. v., Oil of Monarda. The essential oil of an American Labiate plant, the *Monarda punctata*. It easily separates into a liquid oil and a camphor.

Monardin (mɒnā·ɪdin). *Chem.* [f. prec. + -in.] A crystalline solid, isomeric with thymol, which separates from monarda oil.

1890 Billings *Med. Dict.*, *Monardin*, a crystalline stearopten, isomeric with thymol, obtained from oil of horsemint.

Monarsenous (mɒnā·ɪsĕnəs), *a. Zool.* [f. Mon(o)- + Gr. *ἀρσεν-*, *ἄρσην* male + -ous.] Having only one male for several females.

In some recent Dicts.

Monarthritis (mɒnaɪþɹəi·tis). *Path.* [f. Mon(o)- + Arthritis.] 'Articular rheumatism of one joint only' (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1891).

1893 in Dunglison *Dict. Med.* (ed. 21).

Monarticular (mɒnaɪti·kiŭlăɪ), *a. Path.* Also mono-. [f. Mon(o)- + Articular.] Of a disease: Affecting a single joint (of the body).

1874 Van Buren *Dis. Genit. Organs* 82 This form is generally mono-articular. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 78 The partial or monarticular form of rheumatoid arthritis is Charcot's third division. 1898 *Ibid.* V. 862 Occasionally endocarditis may follow monarticular rheumatism.

‖ Monas (mɒ·nĕs). Pl. **monades** (mɒnā·dīz). [Gr. *μονάς*: see Monad.]

1. = MONAD in various senses.

1568 J. DEE in Ashm. (1652) 334 Our Monas trewe thus use by natures Law. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Monas* (Gr.), the number one, unity. 1768–74 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) I. 472 Though He be a monas and we are monades, yet [etc.]. 1865 GROTE *Plato* I. i. 11 The first principle or beginning of Number was the One or Monas. 1870 J. H. NEWMAN *Gram. Assent* I. v. 121 The One Personal God, who is not a logical or physical Unity, but a living Monas. 1872 MORRIS tr. *Ueberweg's Hist. Philos.* § 82 I. 309 So the divine Logos, after its hypostatization in Christ, returned again to the Father or Monas.

†2. *Arith.* (See quot.) *Obs. rare*⁻¹.

1674 JEAKE *Arith.* (1696) 5 Digits are sometimes called Monades. 1704 in J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I.

Monast, obs. form of MONISH *v.*

Monaster (mɒnæ·stəɹ). *Biol.* [f. MON(O)- + Gr. *ἀστήρ* star.] The single-star figure which occurs between the rosette and diaster stages in cell-division.

1889 BENHAM tr. *Waldeyer* in *Q. Jrnl. Microsc. Sci.* XXX. 177 The stage [of cell division] which is termed the 'mother star', 'aster', or 'monaster'. 1889 KLEIN *Elem. Histol.* 10.

Monasterial (mɒnăstĭə·riăl), *a.* Now *rare.* [f. L. *monastēri-um* (see MONASTERY) + -AL.] Belonging to or of the nature of a monastery.

c 1420 LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 913 Monasteriall monks. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* I. 19 Idle monasteriall Loyterers. *Ibid.* V. 219 False miracles, first invented partly by monasteriall pouerty. 1670 WALTON *Lives* II. 134 [He declared] himself for the Church of Rome;..betaking himself to a monasterial life. 1845 LINGARD *Anglo-Sax. Ch.* I. 250 Motives which led to the first monasterial establishments. 1846 CARD. WISEMAN *Fate of Sacrilege* Ess. 1853 I. 370 Sir Edward Dodsworth..possessed the monasterial property of Newland.

Hence **Monaste·rially** *adv.*, like a monk.

1653 URQUHART *Rabelais* I. Prol. 3 It is not the habit makes the Monk, many being Monasterially accoutred, who inwardly are nothing lesse then monachal.

Monasterian (mɒnăstĭə·riăn), *a.* and *sb. Eccl.* [f. med. L. *Monastēri-um* Münster (Westphalia) + -AN.] The designation of a fanatical sect of Anabaptists who, early in the 16th c., settled themselves at Münster under the style of 'the New Jerusalem'.

1641 T. HAYNE *Luther* 93 Luther wrote..a Preface to Vrbanus Rhegius book against the Monasterians [etc.]. 1650 TRAPP *Comm. Exod.* ii. 12 The like madness is reported of the Monasterian Anabaptists.

†**Monaste·rical**, *a. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. L. *monastēr-ium* (see MONASTERY) + -IC + -AL.] Of or pertaining to a monastery; monastic.

1651 *Fuller's Abel Rediv., Musculus* 250 The Prior.. demanded of him how he liked a Monasterical life.

Monastery (mɒ·năstəri). Forms: *α.* 5–7 **monasterie**, (5 **-eri**, 8 **-try**, 6 **monnestarie**), 5– **monastery**; *β.* 5–6 **monaster**, (6 **-tre**), 5 **monestre**, 6 **-tar**, 6–7 **-ter**. [ad. eccl. L. *monastēri-um*, a. late Gr. *μοναστήριον*, f. *μονάζειν* to live alone, f. *μόν-ος* alone. The *β*-forms are from OF. *monastere*. Cf. MINSTER.] A place of residence of a community of persons living secluded from the world under religious vows; a monastic establishment. Chiefly, and now almost exclusively, applied to a house for monks; but applicable also to the house of any religious order, male or female.

1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) II. 27 The monastery of Wynnehurne [1387 *Trevisa* mynistre, L. *monasterium*]. *Ibid.* 129 The monastery of Seynte Hilda [*Trevisa* abbay]. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* xliv. 364 (Add. MS.) Sir, why purpose ye to distroye þis monestre? 1451 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 221/1 Th' abbesse and covent of onre Monasterie of Saint Saviour. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 386/1 What monaster is yonder that I see? 1539 PERY in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. II. 141 He sainge what a goode Crysten is yowre Kinge of Ynglande to pwte downe the Monesterys. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* x. 310 A certane monestar not far fra the place quhair tha lay. *c* 1610 *Women Saints* 21 By her example, many monasteries of Virgins and monks were founded at Rome. *a* 1660 *Contemp. Hist. Irel.* (Ir. Archæol. Soc.) I. 255 Captain Con Oneylle did guarde the monester of the fryers preachers of S. Dominicks Order. 1759 B. MARTIN *Nat. Hist. Eng.* I. *Somerset* 73 Its Church..was at first a Monastry. 1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* xi, There arose that great tumult at the outward gate of the Monastery. 1841 ELPHINSTONE *Hist. Ind.* I. 201 They have nothing of the freedom of the Hindû monastic orders..and seem never allowed to leave the monastery. 1872 YEATS *Techn. Hist. Comm.* 143 Each monastery was a luminous point, whence the light of civilisation radiated into the darkness around.

b. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

1591 HORSEY *Trav.* (Hakl. Soc.) 264 A yonge bishop of Rostove..who had a sonn before he was exposed to that monnestarie liff. 1828 MOORE *Mem.* (1854) V. 254 A most monastery-like state of gloom and cheerlessness.

Monastic (mɒnæ·stik), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. med.L. *monastic-us*, a. late Gr. *μοναστικός* (lit. 'pertaining to solitary life'), f. *μονάζειν* to live alone: see MONASTERY. Cf. F. *monastique* (14th c.), Sp. *monástico*, Pg., It. *monastico*.] **A.** *adj.*

†1. See quot. (prob. a misapprehended use).

c 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* I. xviii. 107 In lengthe of tyme ful greet chaunge is alwey maad in..the circumstauncis of politik gouernauncis, þe, and of monastik gouernauncis (that is to seie, of gouernauncis bi whiche oon man gouerneth him silf aloon).

2. Pertaining to or characteristic of persons living in seclusion from the world under religious vows and subject to a fixed rule, as monks, nuns, friars, etc.; pertaining to monasteries.

1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* III. ii. 441 To forsweare the ful stream of ye world, and to liue in a nooke meerly Monastick. 1622 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* xxiv. 444 He [Saint Gregory] at Myniard led A strict monastic life, a Saint alive and dead. *a* 1631 DONNE *Elegy Mris. Boulstred* 69 He sinkes the deepe Where harmelesse fish monastique silence keepe. 1664 H. MORE *Myst. Iniq.* 447 Out of which luckless Representation..this Monastick Legend seems to be framed. 1769 ROBERTSON *Chas. V*, VI. Wks. 1851 IV. 147 The three vows of poverty, of chastity, and of monastic obedience, which are common to all the orders of regulars. *Ibid.* 148 The primary object of almost all the monastic orders is to separate men from the world. 1806 *Gazetteer Scotl.* (ed. 2) 250 Ruins of monastic buildings. 1861 M. PATTISON *Ess.* (1889) I. 47 The inmates..were submitted to an almost monastic discipline. 1872 YEATS *Growth Comm.* 333 Monastic lands..yielded a scanty produce.

3. *Bookbinding.* The distinctive epithet of a method of finishing by tooling without gold. More commonly called 'antique'.

1880 ZAEHNSDORF *Bookbinding* xxii. 111 Finishing is divided into two classes—blind or antique, or as it is sometimes called, monastic and gold-finished. 1885 W. J. E. CRANE *Bookbinding for Amateurs* xx. 162.

B. *sb.* A member of a monastic order; a monk.

1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* X. 474 Your order..by all the other Monasticks, is hated. 1721 R. KEITH tr. *T. à Kempis Vall. Lillies* Pref. 7 The pious Author having been a Monastick or Brother of the Order of St. Augustine. 1860 HOOK *Lives Abps.* I. v. 226 [They] are warned not to give to seculars or monastics an example of..wicked conversation.

transf. 1864 LOWELL *Fireside Trav.* 26 His pie-plants.., compulsory monastics, blanched under barrels, each in his little hermitage, a vegetable Certosa.

Hence † **Mona·sticly** *adv.*, in a monastic manner.

1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* IV. 227 Quhair, quhen thair lyfe he monastiklie had informed, a Magnifik Monasterie..he erected.

Monastical (mɒnæ·stikăl), *a.* Forms: 5 **monasticale**, **-alle**, 6–7 **-all**, 6 *Sc.* **monestycall**, 6– **monastical**. [f. med.L. *monastic-us* MONASTIC *a.* + -AL.] Pertaining to or characteristic of the monastic life; in early use = MONASTIC *a.* 1.

1401 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 65 The thridde degree..off sich as ben gaderid in coventis togidere;..the which for worldly combraunce kepen in cloistris,.. and this clepe we monasticale. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 327 The.. Essei, exercisede and usede allemoste in alle thynges a life monasticalle. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. IV* 11 These monasticall persones..toke on them to write..the noble actes..of kynges and princes. 1593 R. HARVEY *Philad.* 51 A monasticall liuer..hath no partes of time for such young childish studies. *c* 1610 *Women Saints* 79 Her monasterie was at Derham, which she herself built, and in it receiued her monasticall weede. *a* 1626 BACON *Ch. Controv.* Wks. 1879 I. 347 The idle and monastical continuance within the universities. 1641 MILTON *Animadv.* Wks. 1851 III. 232 Their liking of doltish and monasticall Schoolemen daily increast. 1686 AGLIONBY *Painting Illustr.* 131 One of the first Founders of the Monastical Orders. 1774 T. WEST *Antiq. Furness* 61 [transl. of papal document] We will, that monastical discipline be there observed at all times. 1859 C. BARKER *Assoc. Princ.* I. 9 The gradual departure from primitive monastical austerity.

Hence **Mona·stically** *adv.*, in a monastic manner.

1600 SURFLET *Countrie Farme* II. xlvi. 294 The Spaniards ..did erect and set vp a Conent of Friers Cordeliers, liuing monastically. *a* 1652 J. SMITH *Sel. Disc.* ix. 452 To confine the soul thus monastically to its own home. 1729 SWIFT *Let. to Bolingbroke* 31 Oct., Years..monastically passed in this Country of liberty and delight, and money, and good company! 1867 *Contemp. Rev.* IV. 377 A monastically organised community of ascetics.

Monasticism (mɒnæ·stisiz'm). [f. MONASTIC + -ISM.] The monastic system or mode of life.

1795 MILNER *Hist. Ch. Christ* IV. xix. (1812) II. 243 Monasticism continued to make a rapid progress through this whole century. 1845 H. ROGERS *Ess.* (1874) I. iii. 144 The church would soon have fallen back, like the purified forms of monasticism, into its ancient corruptions. 1868 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1877) II. x. 452 Monasticism, in one form or another, was dominant for some ages. 1883 *Contemp. Rev.* Dec. 806 No one can question the services rendered to civilization by western monasticism.

Monasticize (mɒnæ·stisəiz), *v.* [Formed as prec. + -IZE.] *trans.* To make monastic in character; to convert to monasticism. Hence **Mona·sticized** *ppl. a.*

1854 *Fraser's Mag.* L. 321 Subjects..belonging to the Romish, or, to speak more truly, to any monasticised church. 1854 MILMAN *Lat. Chr.* III. vi. (1864) II. 80 The institutions, which were hereafter to send forth S. Columban to convert and monasticise the German forests. 1893 *Edin. Rev.* July 256 A married clergy monasticised in vain by Dunstan.

Monatomic (mɒnătɒ·mik), *a. Chem.* Also **mono-**. [f. MON(O)- + ATOM + -IC.] Containing one atom; consisting of molecules each containing one atom. Also used for: Univalent.

1848 WATTS tr. *Gmelin's Handbk. Chem.* I. 53 Monatomic gases. 1866 ODLING *Anim. Chem.* 32 Monatomic alcohol. 1871 TYNDALL *Fragm. Sci.* (1879) I. iv. 105 Chlorine itself is molecular and not monatomic. 1874 J. P. COOKE *New Chem.* 278 Such hydrates are said to be mono-atomic. *Ibid.*, A hydrate is..monatomic, diatomic, triatomic, etc. according as it contains one, two, three, or more hydroxyl groups.

Monatomism (mɒnæ·tŏmiz'm). [Formed as prec. + -ISM.] The quality or condition of being monatomic.

1854 J. SCOFFERN in *Orr's Circ. Sci., Chem.* 46 The proof of monatomism would be capability of electric decomposition.

Monaul (mɒnɔ̄·l). Also **monal**, **minaul**, **-al**, **moonaul**, **menall**. ['Hind. *munāl* or *monāl* (it seems to be in no dictionary)' (Yule).] The Anglo-Indian name for the Impeyan pheasant (*Lophophorus Impeyanus*). (See also quot. 1864.)

1787 LATHAM *Synopsis Birds* Suppl. 209 Impeyan Pheasant...Sir Elijah [Impey] informs me, that these birds are known in India by the name of Monaul. 1858–9 RUSSELL *Diary India* (1860) II. 164 They had only killed a few splendid minaul (monal, menall—*les trois se disent*), and another kind of pheasant called coqplass. 1864 JERDON *Birds of India* III. (II. II.) 510 *Lophophorus Impeyanus* Latham...The Monaul Pheasant. *Ibid.* 516 *Ceriornis satyra*, Linnæus...'Monaul' popularly by Europeans at Darjeeling, or Argus Pheasant. 1895 KIPLING *2nd Jungle Bk.* 39 The villagers..saw the *minaul*, the Himalayan pheasant, blazing in her best colours.

‖ **Monaulos** (mɒnɔ̄·lɒs). [L., f. Gr. *μόναυλος* single flute, flute with a single pipe, f. *μόν-ος* single + *αὐλός* pipe.] An ancient Greek flute with one pipe.

1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XII. 487/2 The monaulos, or single flute. 1864 ENGEL *Mus. Anc. Nat.* 155.

Monaural (mɒnɔ̄·răl), *a.* [f. MON(O)- + AURAL.] Of or pertaining to the use of one ear only.

1888 *Pop. Sci. Monthly* XXXIII. 87 Direction cannot be appreciated by monaural observation.

Monax: see MOONACK.

Monaxial (mɒnæ·ksiăl), *a. Bot.* and *Zool.* [f. MON(O)- + L. *axi-s* + -AL, after AXIAL.] Having only one axis; developing along a single line.

1880 *Nature* XXI. 449 In many cases it [the central capsule] is monaxial, in others dipleuric. 1880 PASCOE *Zool. Classif.* (ed. 2) 283 *Monaxial*, when the axis is in one direction only. 1888 *Athenæum* 31 Mar. 406/2 Sponges with monaxial spicules. 1902 *Encycl. Brit.* XXV. 433/2 If this be the primary, or relatively primary axis [of flower] the plant is monaxial; the majority of plants are, however, pluriaxial.

Monaxile (mɒnæ·ksil), *a.* and *sb. Zool.* [f. MON(O)- + L. *axi-s* + -ILE.] a. *adj.* Of a sponge-spicule: Having only one axis. b. *sb.* A monaxile spicule.

1888 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* 810 Monaxile spicules. *Ibid.*, Spicules to a great extent tetraxile; large monaxiles common..spicules for the most part monaxiles.

Monaxon (mɒnæ·ksɒn), *a. Zool.* [f. Gr. *μόν-ος* (see MONO-) + *ὄξον-*, *ἄξων* axis. Cf. mod.L. *Monaxona* neut. pl., the name of an order of sponges.] Having only one axis. So **Monaxo·nic** *a.*

1885 E. R. LANKESTER in *Encycl. Brit.* XIX. 840/2 A spherical (homaxonic) or a cone-shaped (monaxonic) perforated shell. 1887 SOLLAS *Ibid.* XXII. 416/1 Monaxon Biradiate Type (rhabdus). *Ibid.* 416/2 Modifications of monaxon type.

Monaxonid (mɒnæ·ksŏnid), *a.* and *sb. Zool.* [ad. mod.L. *Monaxonida* neut. pl., formed as prec.: see -ID.] a. *adj.* Belonging to the sub-order *Monaxonida* of sponges. Of a sponge or sponge-spicule: Having only one axis. b. *sb.* A monaxonid sponge.

1887 S. O. RIDLEY in *Rep. Voy. Challenger* XX. Introd. 5 Monaxonid sponges. *Ibid.* 6 Both these forms of spicule are..'monaxonid'. 1887 SOLLAS in *Encycl. Brit.* XXII. 422/1 The scleres are moulded on a Monaxonid base. *Ibid.* 427/2 The *Choristida*..are commoner than the Monaxonids.

Monazite (mɒ·năzəit). *Min.* [Named by Breithaupt, 1829 (Ger. *monazit*), f. Gr. *μονάζειν*, to be solitary, on account of its rarity.] Phosphate of the cerium metals, found in small, reddish or brownish crystals (A. H. Chester).

1836 T. THOMSON *Min., Geol.*, etc. I. 672 Monazite...This name was given by Breithaupt to a mineral brought by Fielder from the Uralian mountains. 1865 WATTS *Dict. Chem., Monazite.* Edwardsite, Mengite, Eremite. A phosphate of cerium and lanthanum, also containing thorinum according to some authorities. 1903 *Edin. Rev.* Oct. 388 The North Carolinian monazite.

Monchaunce, variant of MUMCHANCE.

Monche, obs. form of MUNCH *v.*

Monchen, **-ioun**, **-on**, **-yn**, var. ff. MINCHEN.

Monck, **-ely**, **-ery**: see MONK, MONKLY, etc.

Moncorne, obs. form of MONGCORN.

Mond, obs. form of MOUND, world, orb.

Mondain, obs. form of MUNDANE.

Monday (mʌ·ndĕi, -di). Forms: 1–2 **Mónan dæg**, 2 **Monendæiz**, **Móndæg**, 3 **Monen dai**, **Munendai**, 3–4 **Monenday**, **Monedai**, (3 **-dæi**, 5 **-day**), 5–7 **Munday**, (6 **-day(e)**, 5 **Monnyn day**, **Monunday**, 8 **Mooneday**, 4– **Monday**; *Sc.* 5 **Monoundai**, **Monynday**, **Monnunda**, 6 **Mon(o)unday**, 6–9 **Mononday**, (7 **Moonday**), 8 **Mununday**, 9 **Munan-**, **Mona(n)-**, **Munonday**. [OE. *Mónandæg*, f. *mónan* genit. of *móna* MOON *sb.* + *dæg* DAY; a translation of late L. *Lūnæ diēs*, whence F. *lundi*, It. *lunedì*, etc. Equivalent forms in the other Teut. langs. are OFris. *mônendei*, *mônedei*, MLG. *mânendach*, *mândach*, MDu. *manendach*, *maendach* (Du. *maandag*), OHG. *mânetag* (MHG. *mântac*, *mæntac*, *môntac*, mod.G. *Montag*), ON. *mánadag-r* (Sw. *måndag*, Da. *mandag*).]

1. The second day of the week.

c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* John vii. 32 *rubric*, Þys sceal on monan dæg on þære fyftan wucan innan lenctene. *c* 1050 *Byrht.*

ferth's Handboc in *Anglia* (1885) VIII. 321 Pæs sunnandæges nama wæs of þære sunnan, & þæs monandæges of þæs monan. *c* 1060–1125 *Rect. Singul. Person.* § 3 in Liebermann *Gesetze* 445 Kotesetlan riht be ðam ðe on lande stent: on sumor he sceal ælce Mondæge ofer ȝeares fyrst his laforde wyrcan. 1129 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1129, þa began þæt mot on Moneadæiȝ & heold on an to ðe Fridæiȝ. *c* 1200 *Winteney Rule St. Benet* (1888) 49 Pæt is asunnandæȝe & on monan dæȝ. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 72 He fel out on ðe munendai. *c* 1290 *Beket* 900 in *S. Eng. Leg.*, And þe Monenday sore syk þe bischop thomas lay. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) II. 25 From Saturday at none for to Monday. 1422 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 173/2 The Monunday next before the fest of Seint Martyn. *a* 1557 *Diurn. Occur.* (Bannatyne Cl.) 24 The Inglismen come on Scottis ground, and lay still fra Monunday to Sattirday. 1562 Winȝet *Cert. Tractates* iii. Wks. (S.T.S.) I. 23 On Pasche Monunday last passit. 1592 Shaks. *Rom. & Jul.* III. iv. 17 *Cap.* But soft, What day is this? *Par.* Monday, my Lord. 1624 Lauo *Diary* 29 Mar., Wks. 1853 III. 151 Easter Monday. 1638 Brathwait *Barnabees Jrnl.* (1818) 15 Banbery ..Where I saw a Puritane-one Hanging of his cat on Monday, For killing of a mouse on Sonday. *c* 1713 H. Carey *Ballad, Sally in our alley* iv, And that's the day that comes betwixt A Saturday and Monday. *a* 1810 Tannahill *Poems* (1846) 145, I see I maun quat takin' Munonday's yill. 1896 A. E. Housman *Shropshire Lad* iii, Or come you home of Monday When Ludlow market hums.

2. With specific epithet. **Black Monday,** (*a*) a name for Easter Monday (the historical explanations in the quots. are untrustworthy; for the unlucky character ascribed to Mondays generally, and esp. to one or more Mondays in April, see *Leechdoms* III. 76 and 162, Brand's *Pop. Antiq.* ed. Ellis 1813 I. 466 ff., and quot. 1700; the common notion that rejoicing is naturally followed by calamity may have caused the day after Easter day to be regarded as even more perilous than other Mondays); (*b*) *school slang*, the first school-day after a vacation. † **Bloody Monday** *school slang*, the first day of vacation, a day of punishment for offenders. † **Fat Monday** [= F. *lundi gras*], the Monday before Shrove Tuesday. **Saint Monday,** used with reference to the practice among workmen of being idle on Monday, as a consequence of drunkenness on the Sunday; chiefly in phrase *to keep Saint Monday*. *Collop Monday*: see Collop[1] 1 c. *Handsel Monday*: see Handsel 5. Also Hock-Monday, Plough-Monday.

? 1359 (MS. ? 1389) *E. E. Gilds* (1870) 97 Vis gilde schal haue, by ȝere, foure mornspeches..ye secunde schal be on blake monunday. *c* 1435 *Chron. London* (Kingsford 1905) 13 In the same yere [1360] the xiiij day off April and the morwe after Ester Day, Kyng Edward with his Oost lay byfore the Citee off Parys; the which was a ffoule Derke day..so bytter colde, that syttyng on horse bak men dyed. Wherefore, vnto this day yt ys called blak Monday. 1449 Bower *Fordun's Scotichron.* XIV. xvii. 358–9 [Relates that the army of the Black Prince sustained terrible losses from a storm on Easter-Monday 1357.] Propter hoc hucusque in Anglia feria secunda Paschæ Blak-mononday vulgariter nuncupatur. 1491 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 176 Item, on Blak Monnunda, to the Freris of Edinburgh, ix s. 1596 Shaks. *Merch. V.* II. v. 25 It was not for nothing that my nose fell a bleeding on blacke monday last. 1601 *Nottingham Rec.* (1889) IV. 256 Itt ys ordered, that the Aldermen..shall wayte on Maister Maior on Blake Monday yearely. *a* 1604 Hanmer *Chron. Irel.* (1633) 186 Anno 1209, the occasion of blacke Munday, and the originall remembrance thereof rose at Dublin. [A massacre of the English settlers of Dublin by the Irish on Easter-Monday.] 1700 *Poor Robin* Feb., I find not by the Stars we shall have ever a Black-Monday this Month, which we are very glad of, because such days are very prejudicial to the Credit of Astrology. 1735 *Ibid.* Jan., But after Twelfth day Christmass is visibly eclips'd and beclouded; then comes Black monday for the School boys, and they as well as the rest must go to their daily Labour. 1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* VIII. xi, My mother.. made home so disagreeable to me, that what is called by school-boys Black Monday, was to me the whitest in the whole year. 1829 Brockett *N. C. Words* (ed. 2), *Black-Monday*, the first day of going to school after the vacation.

1682 R. Verney *Let. to Father* Winchester College 18 May, We shall breack up on the Whensday before holy Thursday: And Sr. I would desire you to let your horses be here on the Satterday following that I may be going on Bloddy Munday, upon which day all the Children..Goe home & after that day noebody stays but some of the Children which the Warden makes stay here for some notorious action they have committed. 1765 Garrick in *Univ. Mag.* XXXVII. 326/1, I, like a boy who long has truant play'd..On bloody Monday take my fearful stand And often eye the birchen-scepter'd hand.

1585 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* IV. xxxvi. 159 b, They doe obserue two Lents.. wherof the first beginneth on the fat munday, being ix. dayes before the lent of the Latins. 1753 *Scots Mag.* Apr. 208/1 (*title*) St. Monday; or, the tipling tradesmen. 1804 Mar. Edgeworth *Popular T., To-morrow* vii. (1856) 408 *note*, It is a custom in Ireland among shoemakers, if they intoxicate themselves on Sunday, to do no work on Monday; and this they call making a Saint Monday. 1857 Gen. P. Thompson *Audi Alt.* I. vii. 22 An assemblage of artisans keeping Saint Monday. 1890 E. Ropea *By Track & Trail* xvii. (1891) 255 Ah Sin loses no time in holiday..he has no St. Mondays.

3. *attrib.*

1596 Shaks. 1 *Hen. IV*, I. ii. 39 A purse of Gold most resolutely snatch'd on Monday night. 1602 — *Ham.* II. ii. 406 A Monday morning 'twas so indeed. 1676 Lady Chaworth in *12th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. V. 33, I shall send your Lordship the peck of chesnuts..by the Munday carrier. 1880 W. S. Gilbert *Patience* II, Who thinks suburban 'hops', More fun than 'Monday Pops'. 1884 J. Quincy *Figures of Past* 198 Here we were, Monday evening, actually dining in New York. 1892 Kipling *Barrack-r. Ballads, Snarleyow*, An' if one wheel was juicy, you may lay your Monday head 'Twas juicier for the niggers. 1897 Mary Kingsley *W. Africa* 142 This morning the French official seems sad and melancholy. I fancy he has got a Monday head (Kipling).

Mondayish (mʌ·ndeɪiʃ), *a.* [f. prec. + -ish.] Affected with the indisposition, often felt by clergymen on Monday, resulting from the work of Sunday. Hence **Mo·ndayishness.**

1804 W. Bull in *Mem.* (1864) 313, I quite forgot it was Monday, and I dare say I am Mondayish. 1850 Gilfillan in Watson *G.'s Lett. & Jrnls.* (1892) 145 Your letter bas cheered my 'Mondayishness'. 1884 *Congregationalist* Apr. 320 There is a disease, only known among ministers, of Mondayishness. 1884 *Guardian* 10 Sept. 1350/2 It might be read..even by the Mondayish clergyman.

Mondayn(e, obs. forms of Mundane *a.*

‖ **Monde** (mōnd). [Fr.: lit. 'world'. Cf. Beau monde.] The 'world' of fashionable or aristocratic persons; 'society'. Also, a person's particular 'world' or circle; the 'set' in which one moves.

1765 H. Walpole *Lett.* 26 Sept., When the *monde* returns to Paris, I shall probably be more dissipated. 1774 *Ibid.* 23 Apr., I..expect you will think no personages of less *monde* fit to invite to our *partie quarrée*. 1823 Byron *Juan* XIV. xix, 'Tis said..That no one has succeeded in describing The monde, exactly as they ought to paint. 1862 Thackeray *Philip* IV, Unless you are of the very great *monde*. *Ibid.*, You come home late, and you don't live in a proper *monde*, sir! 1872 E. Braddon *Life in India* V. 167 Bills have been left at the houses of the *monde*.

Monde, obs. pa. t. of Mun *v.*

Mondeyne, obs. form of Mundane.

Mondglorye, variant of Mandglorye *Obs.*

† **Mo·ndial,** *a. Obs.* In 5 -all. [a. OF. *mondial*, ad. late L. *mundiālis*, f. L. *mund-us* world: see Mundane *a.*] Worldly, mundane.

c 1475 *Partenay* 18 And wel at ease of goodes mondiall.

Mondic, obs. form of Mundic.

Mondongas, obs. form of Mundungus.

‖ **Mondongo** (mɒndɒ·ŋgo). [Sp. *mondongo*. Cf. Mundungus.] A dish composed of tripe.

1622 Mabbe tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* II. 274 On the Saturdayes, we alwaies made our meales of Mondongo's [*marg.* The tripes or intrals of any beast]. 1884 *Health Exhib. Catal.* 159/2 Mondongo (a soup-like dish; a favourite preparation in the country) [Venezuela].

Mondoyne, obs. form of Mundane.

† **Mone,** *sb.*[1] *Obs.* Forms: 1 ȝemána, 3 ymone, imone, man, 3–4 mone. [OE. *gemána* wk. masc. :—OTeut. type **gamainon-*, cogn. w. **gamainjo-* common: see Mean *a.*[1]]

1. Companionship; sexual intercourse. Cf. Mene.

a 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* II. viii. [ix.] (1890) 120 þa he ærest his ærendwrecan sende..& þisse fæmnan ȝemanan bæd. *c* 1205 Lay. 25916 Ne mihte þat maiden his mone i-þolien. *a* 1225 *St. Marher.* 13 Ant heom i folhi neodelukest þæt cunnið to beon cleane viðuten monnes man ant fleoð flesches fulðen. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 6359 So nis it noȝt quaþ þe king uor mi kinedom is ymone [*v.r.* in mone] Vor an felawe ich abbe þer to. *c* 1315 Shoreham I. 1690 And ȝif hys make mone crauep. *Ibid.* 1763 Bot ȝif þer nlescbes y-mone be Folȝynde. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 29 He was i-bore of þe mayde Marie hy vertu of God wiþ oute mannys mone [L. *non humano semine*].

2. A companion.

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 6436 Þo he was of al engelond king wiþoute mone. *a* 1300 *K. Horn* 560 (Camb. MS.) Aþulf was his mone.

† **Mone,** *sb.*[2] *Obs. rare*—[1]. [? a. ON. *móna* 'mammy'.] An old woman, a crone.

1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 97 He sende up for the lady sone, And forth sche cam, that olde Mone.

Mone (mōun), *sb.*[3] [ad. mod.L. *mona*, the specific name, or its source Pg. *mona*: see Mona. Cf. F. *mone* (Buffon).] = Mona.

1868 *Museum Nat. Hist.* I. 30 The mone..is usually brought to Europe from Senegal.

† **Mone,** *v. Obs.* Forms: 3 mune-n, 3–4 mun, 3 mon, 4 monne, 3–5 mone. [a. ON. *muna* to remember (a preterite-present, 1 and 3 sing. *man*, 1 pl. *munom*, pa. t. *munda*, *munda*), etymologically identical, and in most of its forms coincident, with *munu* to intend (see Mun *v.*).

The equivalent OE. *munan* to think, consider, is rare exc. in the compounds *gemunan* (see I-mune *v.*), *ofmunan* to recollect, *onmunan* to consider; it is unlikely that the ME. verb is of native origin, as the examples are all from dialects with Scandinavian admixture. For the root and the cognates in other Tent. and Indogermanic langs., see Mind *sb.*[1]

1. *trans.* To remember, bear in mind. Also *intr.* (const. *of*).

c 1220 *Bestiary* 370 in *OE. Misc.* 12 Đe hertes costes we oȝen to munen [*rime* sunen=*shun*]. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 558 Noe and hise ðre sunen, Sem, Cam, Iaphet, if we riȝt munen, And here foure wifes woren hem wið. *Ibid.* 2409 So ðinked euerilc wis man..ðe of adames gilte munedð. *a* 1300 *E. E. Psalter* lxv. 5 Comes and sees, goddes werkes mones. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 8384 Bot if þou þar-of wil mone, sir king Will i wat þat þou me hight. *Ibid.* 23927 Leuedi [Mary]..giue me grace..Mi sinnes to bete.. Þi suns ded to mon on ai. 1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 7673 Yn a prouerbe of olde Englys..þat ȝongbe wones, yn age mones. *c* 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 657 Child..How were þou fram rohand lorn? Monestow neuer in lede? *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 4811 [Androchens] preied hym 'þat he wolde mone þat he was his broþer sone'. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* XIX. 526 But othir dedis nane war donne That gretly is apone till monne.

b. *intr.* To make remembrance. Const. *on, for.*

a 1425 *Cursor M.* 8252 (Trin.) Of cercles þat he toke awey Offringe he made to mone on ay. *a* 1440 *Sir Eglam.* 1008 (Lincoln MS.) He gafe thame [lands] for to lyfe appone, For Cristabelle saule to mone.

2. To mention, tell of. Also *absol.* and *intr.* const. *of*.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 9233 Iechonias ȝe herd me mun [*other texts* mone], Salatiel he had to sun. *a* 1300 *Ibid.* 9519 Þis ilk king þat i of mon He had an anlepe son. *a* 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* xxxii. 92, Y wole mone my song on wham that hit ys on y-long. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 214 Bot Noe & his þre sones And þeir wyues—þe bible hit mones—Were none worthi in Godes sight. *Ibid.* 14823 Mayster Edmond seis, as me mones, þat þe Engle hadde nynetene sones. 13.. *Propr. Sanct.* (Vernon MS.) in *Archiv Stud. neu. Spr.* LXXXI. 106/99 Bariona, þat we of mone, hit is to mene 'a coluer sone'.

b. const. *dat.* of person.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 20325 [Mary *loq.*] I sal mon mi suet sun, He sal te [*sc.* John] do til him com. *Ibid.* 24758 Quat time..þat þis bitidd þat sco was geten..I sal yow mon widvten mis. 1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 11888 Now hane ȝe herde þe poyntes twelue...Prestes oghte hem alle to kunne Lewed men fo teche and monne. *c* 1325 *Body & Soul* in *Map's Poems* (Camden) 336 ȝwanne thonȝ me tauȝtist on untiȝth, an me gan ther offe mone. *a* 1400 *Relig. Pieces fr. Thornton MS.* ix. 239 'What may þis mene', quod these men, 'mone it vs mare'.

Mone, obs. f. Many, Moan, Money, Moon, Mun.

Monechen, -on(e, **-yn,** var. ff. Minchen *Obs.*

Monecian, obs. form of Monœcian.

Monéddo, variant of Manitou.

1845 Hirst *Com. Mammoth*, etc. 17 We deemed Monéddo's will Had given us to these sons of Flame.

Monek(e, obs. forms of Monk.

Monembryony (mɒne·mbri,ǒni). Also mono-. [f. Mon(o)- + Embryon + -y.] The condition of producing but one embryo. Hence **Monembryo·nic** *a.*, having a single embryo.

1849 Balfour *Man. Bot.* § 586 In general, one embryo is produced [in fertilization], constituting what is denominated monembryony. 1879 Stormonth *Man. Sci. Terms, Monembrionic.*

Monemerous: see Monohemerous.

† **Monen-.** *Obs. rare.* [ME. *Monen* in *Monenday*, Monday. Cf. OE. *Mónan æfen, niht*, Sunday night.] *Monen morrow*, Monday morning.

a 1300 *Vision of Paul* (MS. Laud 108) in *Archiv Stud. neu. Spr.* LII. 38 Fram saturday non to þe monen moruwe.

‖ **Mo·neo.** *Oxford Univ. Obs.* [L., = 'I warn'.] A formal reminder of a University function. So **Mo·neo** *v. trans.*, to serve with a 'moneo' or reminder.

1715 Hearne *Collect.* (O. H. S.) V. 83 This Morning preached Mr. Mear..at St. Marie's..It was about half an hour after ten er'e he came to Church...He excused himself by saying he was moneo'd for ye Afternoon. *Ibid.* 128 This Morning preached at X^t^ Church D^r^. Potter...M^r^. Taylor of X^t^ Ch. was put in the Note, there having been a Mistake in delivering the Moneo.

Moneour, obs. form of Moneyer.

Monepic (mɒne·pik), *a. rare.* Also **monoepic.** [f. Mon(o)- + Gr. ἔπ-os word + -ic.] Composed of a single word or of sentences consisting of a single word.

a 1832 Bentham *Lang.* Wks. 1843 VIII. 333/1 This proposition will consist of one word only, or of divers words,—will be either monoepic or polyepic. 1895 *Pop. Sci. Monthly* Feb. 440 A child's first imitative talk, which might be described as monepic or single-worded—as 'wow-wow', 'dow' (down)—is essentially vague. *Ibid.* Apr. 781 His speech is monepic.

Monepiscopacy(mɒnɪ·pi·skǒpăsi). [f. Mon(o)- + Episcopacy.] Government of the Church by bishops endowed with monarchical authority.

1889 Gore *Ministry Chr. Ch.* ii. 73 No one..can maintain that the existence of what may be called, for lack of a distinctive term, monepiscopacy is essential to the continuity of the Church. 1903 *Dublin Rev.* Jan. 84 St. Peter is commonly said by the Fathers to be the type of monepiscopacy.

So **Monepi·scopal** *a.*, pertaining to or of the nature of a monepiscopacy; ‖ **Monepi·scopus** (quasi-Latin), a monepiscopal bishop.

1891 G. G. Findlay tr. *Sabatier's Apostle Paul* App. 396 The mon-episcopal *régime* of Ignatius. *Ibid.* 399 The failure of Baur's attempt to identify the bishop of the Pastorals with the mon-episcopus (or monarchical bishop) of the second century.

Moner (mōu·nəɪ). *Biol.* Also monere. Anglicized form of *moneron*, sing. Monera.

1868 Huxley in *Q. Jrnl. Microsc. Sci.* VIII. 210, I propose to confer upon this new 'Moner' the generic name of *Bathybius*. 1869 tr. *Haeckel* ibid. IX. 219 Detaching themselves..from the periphery of the Moner-colony. *Ibid.*, This Moner-form would be intimately allied to Protogenes. 1873 Max Müller in *Fraser's Mag.* July 5 The physiologist ..sees in the lowest Moneres the living proof of an independent beginning of life. 1882 Coues *Biogen.* (1884) 33 The chain of life is unbroken from moner to man.

Moner, obs. form of Manner.

‖ **Monera** (mɒnī·ŏră), *sb. pl.* [mod.L., badly f. Gr. μονήρης single.] Haeckel's name for a group of Protozoa composed of organisms of the simplest form. Also sing. **Mone·ron,** one of the monera.

1869 tr. *Haeckel* in *Q. Jrnl. Microsc. Sci.* IX. 28, I have called those forms of life standing at the lowest grade of organization Monera. *Ibid.* 35 A Protozoan organism of

the Monera group. 1876 tr. *Haeckel's Hist. Creat.* I. 184 The first complete observations on the natural history of a Moneron..were made by me..in 1864. 1894 E. Clodd in *Academy* 7 July 14/1 The theory of the continuity of life from moneron to man.

Hence **Mone·ral**, **Mone·ric** *adjs.* = Moneran *a.* **Mone·ran** *a.*, of or belonging to the monera; *sb.* a moneron.

1877 Huxley *Anat. Inv. Anim.* ii. 95 An endoplastic repetition of the moneran Protomonas. 1881 Carpenter *Microsc. & Rev.* (ed. 6) § 394 Another very interesting 'moneric' type is the *Vampyrella*. 1891 *Q. Jrnl. Microsc. Sci.* XXXII. 611 Haeckel was mistaken in assuming their disappearance in a 'moneran stage'.

Monergism (mɒ·nəɹdʒiz'm). *Theol.* [ad. mod.L. (and Ger.) *monergismus*, f. Gr. *μόνος* (see Mono-) + *ἔργον* work: see -ism.] **a.** The doctrine of some Lutherans that regeneration is entirely the work of the Holy Spirit; opposed to Synergism. **b.** Applied by some mod. writers to the doctrine (closely akin to Monothelitism) that the two natures in Christ have only 'one operation' (*μία ἐνέργεια*). (In this sense some Ger. writers have, more correctly, *monenergismus*.) Hence **Mo·nergist** *sb.*, one who professes monergism; also *adj.* = next. **Monergi·stic** *a.*, of or pertaining to monergism.

1867–80 M'Clintock & Strong *Cycl. Bibl. Lit.* VII. 481 (Cassell *Suppl.*) It is held by monergists that the will of sinful man has not the least inclination towards holiness.. until it has been acted upon by divine grace. 1893 E. K. Mitchell tr. *Harnack's Outl. Hist. Dogma* 300 The Monergistic and Monotheletic Controversies. 1898 Speirs & Millar tr. *Harnack's Hist. Dogma* IV. 252 The Monergist and Monothelite Controversies.

‖ **Monerozoa** (mɒnĭɪɹozōu·ă), *sb. pl. Zool.* [mod.L., f. Gr. *μονήρης* single + *ζῷον* animal.] An alternative name for Monera.

1881 Carpenter *Microsc. & Rev.* (ed. 6) § 392 Monerozoa (as they have been designated by Prof. Haeckel, who first drew attention to them).

Hence **Monerozo·an** *a.*, of, belonging to, or characteristic of the monerozoa; *sb.* one of the monerozoa; **Monerozo·ic** *a.* = prec. adj.

1879 Carpenter in *Encycl. Brit.* IX. 375/1 Living organisms of the simplest possible 'monerozoic' type.

Mones, monesche, obs. forms of Monish *v.*

Monesia (mɒnī·ʃiă). [Origin unknown.] An astringent substance obtained from the bark of a Brazilian tree, *Chrysophyllum Buranhem* (*C. glycyphlœum*). Hence **Monesin** (mɒnī·sin) *Chem.*, an acrid principle obtained from monesia.

1843 *Pharm. Jrnl.* III. 292 Dr. G. Martin St. Ange.. says: 'A vegetable substance, called *monesia*, has lately been imported from South America, in the form of hard thick cakes...M. Bernard Derosne, the druggist, who introduced it, informs me that some travellers call the monesia bark, *goharem*; and others, *buranhem*'. 1858 Hogg *Veg. Kingd.* 500 An acid [*read* acrid] principle, analogous to saponin, called *monesin*.

Monest, obs. form of Monish *v.*

Monestar, -er, -re, obs. forms of Monastery.

Monestycall, obs. Sc. form of Monastical.

Monetain, obs. form of Mountain.

† **Moneta·rian**, *a. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. L. *monētāri-us* (see next) + -an.] Of or pertaining to money or coins; numismatic.

1716 M. Davies *Athen. Brit.* III. 80 The last of all the Medal-kind Authors and Monetarian Writings.

Monetary (mɒ·n-, mʊ·nĭtări), *a.* [ad. L. *monētāri-us* of or belonging to the mint, f. *monēta* mint: see Money.]

1. Of or pertaining to the coinage or currency.

Monetary unit, the standard unit of value of a country's coinage.

1802–12 Bentham *Ration. Judic. Evid.* (1827) I. 148 Monetary forgery—forgery in relation to the current coin. 1830 Gen. P. Thompson *Exerc.* (1842) I. 208 The principles of what he terms monetary value. 1832 tr. *Sismondi's Ital. Rep.* iv. 85 The whole monetary system of Europe was.. abandoned to the depredations of sovereigns, who continually varied the title and weight of coins. 1853 Humphreys *Coin Coll. Man.* vi. 56 The effigy of Pan was adopted as a monetary type by the Panticapeans. 1874 Green *Short Hist.* i. § 6. 53 Laws which regulated the monetary standard.

2. Pertaining to or concerned with money, pecuniary.

1860 Ruskin *Mod. Paint.* V. ix. xi. 330 Monetary asceticism, consisting in the refusal of pleasure and knowledge for the sake of money. 1865 Bright *Sp. Canada* 13 Mar. (1876) 67/1 Men who are deep in great monetary transactions. 1866 Crump *Banking* iii. 74 The person who introduces a customer to a bank is expected to have some knowledge..of his friend's monetary affairs. 1872 J. H. Gladstone *Faraday* ii. 76 But it was not in monetary gifts alone that his kindness to the distressed was shown.

Moneth(e, obs. forms of Month.

Monethyl (mɒne·þil). *Chem.* Also **mono-**. [f. Mon(o)- + Ethyl.] An organic compound in which one atom of hydrogen is replaced by one molecule of ethyl. Hence **Mone·thylic** *a.*

1868 *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 10) 615 Monethylic borate $C_2H_3BO_2$. 1869 Roscoe *Elem. Chem.* 339 Monœthyl [*sic*] phosphine. 1881 *Academy* 14 May 360/2 An ethylether malic acid isomeric with the monethyl malate of Desmondisir.

Mo·netism. *nonce-wd.* [f. L. *monēta* (see Money) + -ism.] The worship of money. So also **Mo·netist**, one who practises monetism.

1707 J. Steyens tr. *Quevedo's Com. Wks.* (1709) 488 For founding the new Sect of Monetism, changing the Name of Atheists into that of Money-mongers, or Monetists [translating Sp. *dinerismos* and *dineristas*].

Monetization (mɒ·n-, mʊ·nĭtəizē·ʃən). [f. next + -ation. Cf. mod.F. *monétisation*.] The action of monetizing.

1864 in Webster. 1890 G. B. Shaw *Fabian Ess. Socialism* 191 Monetization of silver, import duties.

Monetize (mɒ·n-, mʊ·nĭtəiz), *v.* [f. L. *monēt-a* Money + -ize. Cf. F. *monétiser*.] *trans.* To give a standard value to (a metal) in the coinage of a country; to put into circulation as money.

1880 in Webster, Suppl. 1903 *Speaker* 10 Oct. 52/1 He demonetised silver in Germany and monetised gold.

Moneto, obs. variant of Manitou.

1773 *Hist. Brit. Domin. N. Amer.* xiii. xi. 241 They assert, there are two monetoes or spirits; that the one sends all the good things they have, and the other all the bad.

Moneur, obs. form of Moneyer.

Money (mʊ·ni), *sb.* Pl. **moneys**. Forms: 3–6 **moneye**, 4–5 **monoie, -oye, moone**, 4–6 **monay**(e, **monei**(e, **mone**(e, **monye**, 4–8 **mony**, 5–7 **monny**, 6–7 **monie**, 4– **money**. [a. OF. *moneie, mon(n)oie* (mod.F. *monnaie*) = Pr., Sp. *moneda*, Pg. *moeda*, It. *moneta*:—L. *monēta* (? f. *monēre* to warn, remind): orig. the name of a goddess (in classical times regarded as identical with Juno), in whose temple at Rome money was coined, hence, a mint, money. Cf. Mint *sb.*¹]

For the plural the irregular spelling *monies* is still not uncommonly met with, esp. in sense 4.]

1. Current coin; metal stamped in pieces of portable form as a medium of exchange and measure of value. *Piece of money*: see Piece *sb.* 3 c.

c 1330 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1725) 238 Edward..wille wite certeyn, who schent has his mone. Of clippers, of roungers, of suilk takes he questis. 1340 *Ayenb.* 26 Of guod metal hy makeþ ualse moneye. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xv. 343 Þe merke of þat mone is good, ac þe metal is fieble. 1611 Bible 1 *Kings* xxi. 2, I will giue thee the worth of it in money. 1680 Moroen *Geog. Rect., Asiat. Tartaria* (1685) 396 The Mony of this kingdom is of a good Alloy. 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 3 ₱ 5 Behind the Throne was a prodigious Heap of Bags of Mony. 1859 Geo. Eliot *A. Bede* ix, It's no use filling your pocket full of money if you've got a hole in the corner. *fig.* 1651 Hobbes *Leviath.* I. iv. 15 Words are wise mens counters, they do but reckon by them: but they are the mony of fooles.

b. Applied occas. by extension to any objects, or any material, serving the same purposes as coin.

c 1400 Maundev. (1839) xxii. 239 He [the great Khan].. makethe no Money, but of Lether emprented, or of Papyre. 1553 Eden *Treat. Newe Ind.* (Arb.) 24 The monie which they vse, is made of a certayne paper..with ye kinges ymage printed theron. 1600 J. Pory tr. *Leo's Africa* Introd. 22 Salt is the principall thing which runneth currant for money throughout all the emperours dominions. 1807 Robinson *Archæol. Græca* II. xix. 177 In cases of emergency ..the Spartans were allowed the use of money made from the skins of beasts.

c. In mod. use commonly applied indifferently to coin and to such promissory documents representing coin (esp. government and bank notes) as are currently accepted as a medium of exchange. See Paper money.

1819 *Noble's Instr. Emigr. U. S.* 107 The best money to take to the United States, is either guineas or Spanish milled dollars;..Bank of England notes will not do. 1864 *Chamb. Encycl.* VI. 529/2 No one hesitates in counting a £5 Bank of England note as money. 1880 Bon. Price in *Fraser's Mag.* May 675 Only 3*l.* in each 100*l.* were cash—that is, coin and bank notes, true money. 1903 *Westm. Gaz.* 18 June 2/1 In international commerce the form of money most used is a bill of exchange, and a good bill is good money.

† **d.** *Black money* (= med.L. *moneta nigra*), copper coinage; ? also, debased silver coin. *White money*, standard silver coin. *Obs.*

[1335 *Act* 9 *Edw. III*, stat 2, c. 1 § 4 Que totes maneres de noire monoie, que courent ja communalment en notre roialme..soient tote oultrement ostez.] 1423 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 256/2 For as muche as gret scarcite of Whit money is wyth inne this land, because that silver is bought. 1469 *St. Acts Jas. III* (1597) § 40 That there be na Deniers of France,..nor nane vther counterfaictes of black money, be tane in payment in the Realme, bot our soveraine Lords awin black money. 1567 Harman *Caveat* 42 He plucked oute viii. shyllinges in whyte money. 1607 Middleton *Phœnix* I. vi, He had so much grace before he died to turn his white money into gold, a great ease to his executor. 1642 Fuller *Holy & Prof. St.* IV. v. 264 Receiving black money from cheatours, he payes them in good silver.

2. (With *pl.*) A particular coin or coinage. Also, a denomination of value representing a fraction or a multiple of the value of some coin; in full, *money of account* (see Account *sb.* 1).

1426 Lydg. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 17614 Thys hand in frenshe.. Vs callyd 'Poitevyneresse', For yt forgeth..A monye callyd Poytevyn. 1481 Caxton *Myrr.* III. xiv. 165 The monoyes were establissed first; for as moche as they had not of alle thinges necessarye to gydre. 1588 J. Read tr. *Arcæus' Compend. Meth.* 69, I made an orifice with the Trepan, to the greatnes of a siluer mony called a Roiall. 1617 Morvson *Itin.* I. 285 Now I will set downe the divers moneys of Germany with the severall values of them. *c* 1630 Mun *Eng. Treas.* (1664) 4 He ought to know the Measures, Weights, and Monies of all forraign Countries. *a* 1637 B. Jonson *Discov., Consuetudo* etc. (1640), Custome is the most certaine Mistresse of Language, as the publicke stampe makes the current money. 1648 C. Walker *Hist. Independ.* I. 169 Francis Allen a poor Goldsmith... In honour of whom Clipped moneys are now called (Allens). 1756 Nugent *Gr. Tour, Germany* II. 62 At Cologne, the most remarkable money is the rixdollar. 1837 *Penny Cycl.* VIII. 328/1 Constantine I. introduced the milliarensis, worth somewhere about a shilling of our money. 1839 *Ibid.* XV. 322/1 The denominations..of the different moneys current among the chief nations of antiquity. 1885 *Athenæum* 30 May 690/1 The reasons for these changes in coinage, the intentions of those who issued moneys.. are often almost unknown.

3. Coin considered in reference to its value or purchasing power; hence, property or possessions of any kind viewed as convertible into money or having value expressible in terms of money.

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 262/41 Non obur Moneye, heo seide, ich ne habbe bote mi-self her. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xiii. 394 To marchaunden with monoye [*v.r.* moneie] and maken her eschaunges. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Prol.* 705 Up-on a day he gat him more moneye Than that the person gat in monthes tweye. *c* 1430 Lydg. *London Lyckpeny* i, But for lack of mony I cold not spede. 1529 More *Suppl. Soulys* Wks. 325/2 Then were he very cruell in that he deliuereth them not without moneí. 1539 Bible 1 *Tim.* vi. 10 For couetousnes of money is the rote of all euyll. 1651 Hobbes *Leviath.* II. xxii. 122 Sometimes Iustice cannot be had without mony. 1718 Lady M. W. Montagu *Lett.* (1887) II. 237 'Tis his business to get money, and hers to spend it. 1753 Hanway *Trav.* II. I. iii. 15 They have introduced the custom of giving money to servants. 1776 Adam Smith *W. N.* IV. i. ₱ 1 Wealth and money..are, in common language, considered as in every respect synonymous. 1879 Froude *Cæsar* xviii. 301 He already owed half a million of money. 1890 *Murray's Mag.* June 764 He'll come into a lot of money some fine day.

b. with demonstrative or possessive adj., designating a sum applied to a particular purpose or in the possession of a particular person.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 16475 Here i yeld yow yur mone, ges me a-gain mi war. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1725) 308 Þat tyme no þing he wrouht, bot spendid his mone. 1463 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 27 This mony not to be delyuerid to noon of hem. 1590 Shaks. *Com. Err.* IV. i. 63 The monie that you owe me for the Chaine. *c* 1645 [see Fool *sb.*¹ 1 d]. 1684 Bunyan *Pilgr.* II. (1862) 351 Then said one of them, I will pay you when I take my Mony. 1818 Cruise *Digest* (ed. 2) I. 477 Notwithstanding the father paid the whole money. 1838 D. Jerrold *Men of Character* (1851) 320 The highway laconism of 'your money or your life!' 1891 Kipling *Light that Failed* iii, Come back when your money's spent.

c. considered as a commodity in the market (for loan, etc.).

a 1687 Petty *Pol. Arith.* vi. (1691) 100 It is certain that mony which payeth those Rents, and driveth on Trade, must have increased also. 1691 Sir D. North *Disc. Trade* Pref. B 2, Money is a Merchandize, whereof there may be a glut, as well as a scarcity. 1776 Adam Smith *W. N.* IV. i, It is not any scarcity of gold and silver, but the difficulty which such people find in borrowing, and which their creditors find in getting payment, that occasions the general complaint of the scarcity of money. 1797 Burke *Regic. Peace* iii. Sel. Wks. III. 208 The value of money must be judged, like every thing else, from it's rate at market. 1878 *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 721/1 In mercantile phraseology the value of money means the interest charged for the use of loanable capital. Thus, when the market rate of interest is high money is said to be dear, when it is low money is regarded as cheap.

¶ **d.** *A certain money* (see Certain *sb.* 5 b).

c 1380 *Antecrist* in Todd 3 *Treat. Wyclif* 149 To sett þereon her syngnet for a certeyne moneye. 1556 *Chron. Gr. Friars* (Camden) 70 [She] gave hare husbande a sartyne mony a yere dureynge hys lyffe.

4. *pl.* Properly = 'sums of money', but often indistinguishable from the sing. (sense 3). Now chiefly in legal and quasi-legal parlance, or as an archaism.

1382 Wyclif 2 *Macc.* iii. 6 And tolde to hym the tresorie in Jerusalem for to be ful with moneys [Vulg. *pecuniis*] vnnoumbreable. 1625 Bacon *Ess., Usury* (end), No Man will Lend his Moneyes farre off, nor put them into Vnknown Hands. 1632 Lithgow *Trav.* IV. 140 [He] furnished him with great moneys, and other necessaries. 1734 tr. *Rollin's Anc. Hist.* XIX. v. (1827) VIII. 163 To make him a present of the monies arising from that sale. 1822 Byron *Werner* II. ii, But to steal The moneys of a slumbering man! 1865 *Morn. Star* 3 Feb., A young woman, was charged..with stealing from the person of Robert Tharston,..7*s.* 6*d.*, his moneys. 1866 Crump *Banking* v. 118 An agreement to pay the bill when certain monies were realised. 1871 R. Ellis tr. *Catullus* xxix. 22 Is not all his act To swallow monies, empty purses heap on heap?

¶ From Shakspere onwards, the use of the pl. for the sing. has been commonly attributed to Jews, whose supposed pronunciation is sometimes ridiculed by the spelling 'monish'.

1596 Shaks. *Merch. V.* I. iii. 117 You come to me, and you say, Shylocke, we would haue moneyes. 1794 Cumberland *Jew* II. ii, *Sheva.* Why truly, monies is a goot thing. 1819 Scott *Ivanhoe* xi, 'O', said the Jew, 'you are come to pay moneys...And from whom dost thou bring it?'

5. With defining word, forming specific phrases, as † **chief money** = capital; **even money**, equal betting, also *attrib.*; † **present**, † **real money** = Ready money; † **single, small money**, small change; † **Spanish money** *slang* (see quot. 1700).

For *hard, soft money* see Haro *a.* 2, Soft *a.* Freq. with prefixed sb., denoting the reason or purpose for which money is expended, as *beer-money* (Beer *sb.*¹ 4), Blood-money, *card-money* (Card *sb.*² 14), *conscience-money* (Conscience 16 c) † Copy-money, *gate-money* (Gate *sb.*¹ 13), Hush-money, Pocket-money, Smart-money, etc.

a 1380 *St. Bernard* 738 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1878) 53 3if I take þe þe chef moneye [L. *capitale*] Wiþ to pleye.

1553 *Stanford Churchw. Acc.* in *Antiquary* XVII. 117 It. of ye parisheoners for crowche monay or paschull monay iiij*s*. vij*d*. 1590 Shaks. *Com. Err.* IV. i. 34, I am not furnish'd with the present monie. 1591 Greene *and Pt. Conny-c.* (1592) D 2, [There] came another and bought a knife and should haue single money again. 1611 Donne *Anat. World, 1st Anniv.* 234 And that rich Indie which doth gold interre, Is but as single money coyn'd from her. 1685 Petty *Last Will* p. v, Which..raised me an estate of about 13000*l*. in ready and real money. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Spanish-money*, fair Words and Compliments. 1722 De Foe *Plague* (1884) 106 Small Money to make up any odd Sum. 1903 *Daily News* 8 Aug. 4/5 If number five wins the bank collects all the even-money bets.

6. Phrases, etc.

a. Proverbs. *Money makes the mare* (or † *horse*) *to go*; *money is the sinews* (or † *nerves*) *of war* (cf. Cicero *Phil.* v. ii. 5 'nervos belli, pecuniam infinitam'); *time is money*; etc.

c 1450 *Cov. Myst.* (Shaks. Soc.) 268 In old termys I have herde seyde That mony makyth Schapman. 1573 J. Sandford *Hours Recreat.* (1576) 213 Money makes the horsse to goe. 1605 Bacon *Adv. Learn.* II. xxiii. § 38 But that opinion I may condemne with like reason as Macchiauell doth that other: that monies were the sinews of the warres. 1638 [see Nerve *sb.* 2]. 1660 T. M. *C. Walker's Hist. Independ.* IV. 65 The Army could not subsist without money (which is the Nerve of War). 1659, 1698 [see Mare[1] 1 b]. 1792 Wolcot (P. Pindar) *More Money, Odes to Mr. Pitt* iv, 'Tis money makes the old mare trot. 1861 Trafford *City & Suburb* xiv, Money makes money, it is said. 1886 Baring-Gould *Court Royal* xliii, Time was money to Mr. Cheek. He did not allow the grass to grow under his feet.

b. *For money*: in return or exchange for money. *For* or *at the money*: at the price paid. *For love or money*: see Love *sb.* 7 c. (*So and so*) *for my money*, a colloq. expression of approbation = '..is what I desire or like', '..is my choice', 'give me..' † *To take eggs for* (*one's*) *money*: see Egg *sb.* 4.

c 1330 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1725) 246 Þei wer out of þe tour delyuerd for mone. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 241 Whanne prelatis..lauouren hem in synne for moneye. 1513 Bradshaw *St. Werburge* I. 1677 There was habundaunce Of all-maner pleasures to be had for monye. 1599 Shaks. *Much Ado* II. iii. 63 Well, a horne for my money when all's done. 1616 W. Haughton (*title*) English-Men for my Money. 1667 Dryden & Dk. Newcastle *Sir M. Mar-All* v. i, They may talk what they will of Oxford for an university, but Cambridge for my money. 1700 [see Give *v.* 3 c]. *a* 1734 North *Life Dudley North* (1744) 181 It is certain the Pamphlet is..utterly sunk, and a Copy not to be had for Money. 1802–12 Bentham *Ration. Judic. Evid.* (1827) IV. 93 The higher you pay for your dispatch, the more delay you have for your money. 1842 S. Lover *Handy Andy* x, 'You're right', said Dick, 'Murphy is the very man for our money'. 1882 *Daily Tel.* 30 Jan., Khamseen, who cost 570 guineas at Mr. Vyner's sale, is reckoned a bargain..at the money.

c. *To make money*: to acquire or earn money; also, to get money by the sale *of*, make a profit *out of*. *To coin money*: to acquire wealth rapidly (see Coin *v.*[1] 1 c).

1457 *Paston Lett.* I. 416 He..resseyvyth but chaffr and waare for hys cornys and wollys, &c. and then most abyde along day to make money. 1472–1632 [see Make *v.* 29]. 1828 W. M'Dowall *Poems Galloway Dial.* 25 When Buonaparte in splendour shone, 'Twas then I made the money. 1901 *Spectator* 20 July 82/1 The War Office ought not to make money out of, any more than they should subsidise, the rifle clubs.

d. (*It is*) *everybody's* or *every man's money*: in early use, what everybody prefers to buy; also, what everybody can afford to buy; now (mainly in negative context) what everybody would find worth its price. (Also in analogous phrases: see quots. 1625, 1712, 1851.) *To be* (*good, bad*, etc.) *money*: to be a (good or bad) investment, to 'pay': *There is money in* (*something*): money can be made out of it.

1601 Holland *Pliny* I. 381 The ointment of Saffron confected at Soli in Cilicia, imported for a good while and caried the praise alone: but soone after that of Rhodes was every mans money. 1625 Bacon *Ess., Riches*, When a Mans Stocke is come to that, that he can expect the Prime of Markets, and ouercome those Bargaines, which for their greatnesse are few Mens Money. 1653 Gataker *Vind. Annot. Jer.* 29 The whole work..consists of two great volumes, and the price consequently correspondent, not every mans money, and in fewer hands therefore. 1712 Addison *Spect.* No. 482 ₱ 1 Such a Discourse is of general Use, and every married Man's Money. 1851 Mayhew *Lond. Lab.* I. 91/1, I sell dry fruit, sir, in February and March, because I must be doing something, and green fruit's not my money then. *Ibid.* 139/1 Mignonette's everybody's money. Dahlias didn't go off so well. *Ibid.* (1861) III. 103, I reckon Astley's is the worst money for any man. *Ibid.* 130 Richardson's used..to be more money, but now it's as bad as the rest of 'em. 1887 *Pall Mall G.* 1 Mar. 14/1 There is undoubtedly money in guns.

7. *attrib.* and *Comb.* a. simple attrib., as *money-affair, -bond, -chest,* † *-codger* (= miser), *-coffer, -controversy, -debt, -draught, -drawer, -fine, -god, -market,* † *-means,* † *-miser, -mulct, -payment, -price,* † *-sack, -safe, -standard, -token, -transaction, -valuation, -value, -wages.*

1702 Steele *Funeral* II. i, Your Lordship will send for Him, when you are at Leisure to look upon *Money-affairs. 1837 Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* I. III. viii, Rich if Court-titles and *Money-bonds can enrich him. 1836 Pusey in Liddon *Life* (1893) I. xvii. 393 To put a canker into the *money-chests of the Protestant landlords. 1818 *Blackw. Mag.* III. 402 Musty, frousy, stingy, *money-codger. 1525–6 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* 331 For..mendyng of the lock of the *money cofur within the plate chest. 1597 Beard *Theatre God's Judgem.* (1612) 490 If there were anie *money-controuersies to be decided. 1711 M. Henry *Forgiv. Sin* Wks. 1853 II. 319/2 Our Saviour in his parables alludes to *money-debts. 1890 Sir G. F. Duckett *Visit. Eng. Cluniac Found.* 31 He found the house with a money-debt of 935 marks. 1758 *M.P.'s Let. on Navy* 19 These assigned Tickets would be equal to *Money-draughts upon any responsible Banker. 1880 W. Newton *Serm. for Boys & Girls* (1881) 372 She had lost the key of her *money-drawer. 1875 Stubbs *Const. Hist.* I. iii. 47 Such are the proportions of the wer-gild and the *money-fines. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* II. vii. 39 'Suffise it then, thou *Money God,' (quoth hee) 'That all thine ydle offers I refuse'. 1600–12 Rowlands *Four Knaves* (Percy Soc.) 63 A knight..Intrentes his father..Some *mony-means to help him he would make. 1586 A. Day *Eng. Secretary* I. (1625) 45 A wretched ending of such *money-misers. 1650 Trapp *Comm. Exod.* xx. 17 Violence offered to a woman..if shee were not quick, it was onely a *monie-mulct. 1799 *Hull Advertiser* 15 June 1/2 The house is..subject to a *money payment in lieu of tithes. 1776 Adam Smith *W. N.* I. v. (1869) I. 49 Six shillings and eight pence..in the time of Edward I, I consider as the same *money-price with a pound sterling in the present time. 1861 Maine *Anc. Law* v. 157 The husband..pays a money-price to her relations for the tutelage which they surrender to him. 1603 Davies *Microcosm.* 153 The *Money-Sacke best kept the Land from sack. 1799 *Hull Advertiser* 6 Oct. 3/3 Charged..with having broken open..the *money-safe within the said dwelling-house. 1771 Raper in *Phil. Trans.* LXI. 468, I discovered the Eginean Talent to have been the *money-standard of Macedon. 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) III. 242 They will need a market-place, and a *money-token for purposes of exchange. 1858 Ld. St. Leonards *Handy-Bk. Prop. Law* xviii. 133 Looking at this as a simple *money transaction. 1848 Mill *Pol. Econ.*, Prel. Remarks, I. 5 He accepted these [goods] at a *money valuation. 1870 Emerson *Soc. & Solit., Eloquence* Wks. (Bohn) III. 32 In old countries, a high *money-value is set on the service of men who have achieved a personal distinction. 1817 Malthus *Popul.* (ed. 5) I. 31 An increased number of labourers receiving the same *money-wages will necessarily, by their competition, increase the money-price of corn.

b. objective and objective genitive, as *money-borrower, -catcher, -clipper, -coiner, -getter, -hoarder, -lover, -teller,* †*-thirster*; *money-breeding, -catching, -clipping, -getting, -grasping, -loving, -meditating, -saving* vbl. sbs. and adjs.; c. advb. and instrumental, as *money-bloated, -distressed, -mad, -mouthed,* † *spelled* (= spellbound) adjs.

a 1845 Syd. Smith *Ballot* Wks. 1859 II. 306/1 The *money-bloated blockhead. 1766 Goldsm. *Vic. W.* iii, Though he was a *money-borrower. 1796 Mrs. M. Robinson *Angelina* I. 71 The blustering,..*money-breeding savage, her father. 1702 C. Mather *Magn. Chr.* VII. 33 The Disciples of this *Money-catcher became so Exceeding Fierce. 1841 Emerson *Lect., Man the Reformer* Wks. (Bohn) II. 236 The most bronzed and sharpened money-catcher. 1737 (*title*) The Pleasant Art of *Money-Catching. 1759 B. Martin *Nat. Hist. Eng.* I. *Somerset* 68 A notorious shelter for Robbers and *Money-clippers. 1563–87 Foxe *A. & M.* (1596) 311/1 About which time also,..Iewes for *monie clipping were put to execution. 1715 Leoni *Palladio's Archit.* (1742) II. 78 The *Mensarii* had the inspection over *Money-Coiners, and Bankers. 1852 Thackeray *Esmond* I. xiv, Few fond women feel *money-distressed. 1813 L. Hunt in *Examiner* 26 Apr. 257/2 An assembly of jobbers and *money-getters. 1653 Walton *Angler* i. 5 *Money-getting men. 1836 J. H. Newman *Par. Serm.* (ed. 2) II. xxviii. 395 A life of money-getting is a life of care. 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 190 Socrates makes a playful allusion to his money-getting habits. 1789 Wolcot (P. Pindar) *Expost. Odes* iii, Perdition catch the *money-grasping wretch. 1643 Trapp *Comm. Gen.* xxiii. 16 It may well be said of *money-hoarders, they have no quick-silver, no currant money. 1795 Ld. Auckland *Corr.* (1862) III. 301 The *money-holders know..that the whole continental system is involved in calamity. 1832 Mrs. Grant *Mem.* (1844) III. 214 He is no *money-lover, and is kind-hearted. 1703 Rowe *Fair Penit.* I. i. 54 Sour, unrelenting, *Money-loving Villains. 1768 *Woman of Honor* III. 219 That *money-mad avarice. 1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* XI. ix, Not so travels the *money-meditating tradesman. 1604 Pricket *Honors Fame* (1881) 4 Some golden *mony mouthed eloquence, that vseth a detractors Oratory. 1826 E. Irving *Babylon* I. iv. 311 Legislation upon any principle but that of money-making, or *money-saving, hath gone to sleep. 1615 T. Adams *White Devil* 42 A mercenary tongue and a *money-spel'd conscience. 1594 R. Ashley tr. *Loys le Roy* 29 b, *Money-tellers, and changers. 1651 French *Distill.* Pref. *3 b, Did you never heare of a vapouring fellow..that ..was..caught aside by *money-thirsters?

8. Special combinations: † **money-bank** = Bank *sb.*[3] 2 or 7; so † **money-banker**; † **money-batterer**, a clipper or sweater of coin; † **money-bawd**, derisive name for a usurer; **money-bill**, a bill in Parliament for granting supplies; **money-broker**, a money-dealer; **money-clause**, a clause (in a Parliamentary bill) for granting supplies; **money-column**, (*a*) a portion of an account-book page or the like, marked off by vertically ruled lines for the reception of figures denoting sums of money; (*b*) the column of a newspaper devoted to the money-market; **money-cowrie**, = Cowrie 1 a; **money-dealer**, one who deals in money in the way of exchange, banking, lending, etc.; so **money-dealing** *vbl. sb.*; † **money-dropper**, a sharper who drops a piece of money and then pretends to have found it, in order to obtain the confidence of his intended dupe; **money-flower**, the plant Honesty, *Lunaria biennis*; † **money-gentleman**, a 'money-man' (see below) of good position; **money-jobber**, a dealer in money or coin; so **money-jobbing** *vbl. sb.*; **money-letter**, a letter containing money; † **money-man**, a financier; also (*nonce-use*) one who desires money; **money-market**, the sphere of operation of the dealers in loans, stocks and shares, etc.; † **money-master**, one who possesses large funds with which he does business, a capitalist; † **money-merchant**, a trader in money, money-dealer; **money-order**, an order for payment of a specified sum, issued at one post-office and payable at another (in British official use restricted to what is popularly called a *post-office order*, in which the name of the payee does not appear on the order, but is transmitted from the issuing to the paying office in a 'letter of advice'; thus distinguished from the *postal order*); **money-pot**, an earthenware money-box from which coins can be taken only by breaking the vessel; **money-quake**, a financial smash of seismic magnitude; † **money-scrivener**, one whose business it is to raise loans, put money out at interest, etc., on behalf of his clients (see Scrivener); **money-spider** = next (*a*); also, a spider of the genus *Saltieus*; **money-spinner**, (*a*) a small spider, *Aranea scenica*, supposed to bring good luck in money or other matters to the person over whom it crawls; (*b*) one who makes great profits by speculation or usury; so **money-spinning** *vbl. sb.*; **money-taker**, † (*a*) one who takes bribes; (*b*) one who is appointed to receive payments of money, *esp.* one who is set at the entrance of a place of entertainment to receive the money for admission.

a 1628 F. Grevil *Sidney* (1652) 230 That provident Lady ..made his credit swell through all the *money-banks of Europe. 1677 Yarranton *Eng. Improv.* 18 All persons that have designs to get considerable Sums of Moneys into their hands for intended designs, or hazardous adventures, apply themselves to the *Money-Bankers. *c* 1515 *Cocke Lorell's B.* (Percy Soc.) 11 Players, purse cutters, *money baterers, Golde washers. 1626 B. Jonson *Staple of N.* 2nd Intermeane, Old Conetousnesse,..the *Money-bawd, who is a flesh-bawd too, they say. *a* 1715 Burnet *Own Time* III. (1724) I. 439 The House of Commons gave a *money bill for this. 1827 Hallam *Const. Hist.* (1876) III. xiii. 27 The long agitated question of the right of the lords to make alterations in money-bills. 1616 B. Jonson in *Browne's Past.* II. To Author, Or, like our *Money-Brokers, take vp names On credit, and are cossen'd. 1833 J. Holland *Manuf. Metal* II. v. 113 Mr. Rothschild, the eminent capitalist and money-broker. 1844 Ld. Brougham *Brit. Const.* xvii. (1862) 266 The assent of the Lords to a *money-clause is just as necessary as to any other part of a Bill. 1727–51 Chambers *Cycl.* s. v. *Book-keeping*, They may keep the debt and credit both on one side, by double *money-columns. 1861 *Chamb. Encycl.* II. 227/2 The first money-column on each page is for the discount, and the second for the cash. 1906 *Daily Chron.* 23 May 6/4 A keen eye intent on the money-column [of a newspaper]. 1839 Sowerby *Conch. Man.* 65 *Money Cowry, *Cypræa Moneta*. 1787 Hawkins *Life Johnson* 423 A company of *money-dealers, who, in their time, held the balance of the Antwerp exchange. 1866 Crump *Banking* i. 1 Some authorities assert that the Lombard merchants commenced the business of *money-dealing. 1748 Smollett *Rod. Rand.* xv, A rascally *money-dropper, who made it his business to decoy strangers in that manner to one of his own haunts. 1578 *Mony floure, 1597 money flower [see *penny-flower*, Penny 12]. 1665 Pepys *Diary* 7 Apr., Unless the King can get some nobleman or rich *money-gentleman to lend him money. 1696 J. Cary *Ess. Coyn* 9 The People were again furnish'd by the *Money-Jobbers, with new Arguments against the Government. 1798 Bp. Watson *Address People Gt. Brit.* 5 Money-jobbers, who deal in large speculations on credit. 1790 Burke *Fr. Rev.* 277 By this means the spirit of *money-jobbing and speculation goes into the mass of land itself. 1886 W. J. Tucker *E. Europe* 85 As to those with the parcels, or *money-letters, ask them to wait. 1575–85 Abp. Sandys *Serm.* i. 5 As before he exhorted vs to come and buie freely, without monie; because God is no *monie man. 1662 Pepys *Diary* 18 Sept., To dinner to Sheriff Maynell's, the great money-man. 1861 Goschen *For. Exch.* 10 The power which foreign capitalists, holders of bills of exchange upon England, may exert over our *money-market. 1604 T. M. *Black Bk.* in *Middleton's Wks.* (Bullen) VIII. 28 An hoary *money-master..his only recreation was but to hop about the Burse. 1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 339 They are great Bankers and mony Masters. 1647 Trapp *Comm. Matt.* xxi. 12 Christ is every-day casting out of his Church all these *money-merchants. *a* 1656 Hales *Gold. Rem.* III. *Serm.*, etc. (1673) 26 Augustinus Chiessius, a Banker, a Money-merchant at Rome. 1802 in H. Joyce *Hist. Post Office* (1893) 438 At Sight pay..one Pound..and place the same to the Account of the *Money Order Office. 1893 *Ibid.* 420 The Money Order Office had been established in 1792. 1681 Grew *Musæum* IV. § iv. 381 A Roman *Money-Pot..fashion'd almost like a Pint Jug without a Neck. Closed at the top, and having a Notch on one side, as in a Christmas-Box. 1841 Hor. Smith *Moneyed Man* III. iii. 67 A **money-quake*, whose explosion should hurl all their fortunes into the air. 1852 Mundy *Our Antipodes* (1857) 20 At the time of the general money-quake he fell like the rest—failing for an immense sum. 1704 Luttrell *Brief Rel.* (1857) V. 414 Mr. Adams, an eminent *money scrivener of this citty,..is gone aside (as tis snid) for 50,000*l*. *a* 1784 Johnson in Boswell *Life* (1816) III. 20 Jack Ellis, a money scrivener behind the Royal Exchange. 1875 Melliss *St. Helena* 217 *Salticus nigrolimbatus*, Cambr.—The large black and white 'Fly-catcher' or '*Money-spider', as it is commonly called. 1879 *N. & Q.* Ser. v. XII. 229 The super-

stition in connexion with so-called 'money-spiders'. 1756 Mrs. F. Brooke *Old Maid* No. 36. 289 Last night you were more pleased than a wise woman ought to have been, at seeing a *money-spinner upon your handkerchief. 1862 Sala *Seven Sons* I. x. 253 The son of a city money-spinner of mushroom extraction. 1855 Chamier *My Travels* III. iv. 95 *Money-spinning defies even a sirocco or a pestilence. 1616 R. C. *Times' Whistle* iv. 1442 Sayth master *money-taker, greasd i' th' fist,' And if thou comst in danger, for a noble I'le stand thy friend'. 1825 Hone *Every-day Bk.* 5 Nov. I. 1185, I paid my penny to the money-taker.

Money (mʌ·ni), *v.* [In sense 1, ad. F. *monnayer*; in the other senses, f. Money *sb.*]

1. *trans.* To coin or mint (money). *rare.*

c 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* I. cxii. (1869) 59 And therfore on him was forged and moneyed thi ransoun; the wikkede smithes forgeden him on his bak and moneyden [orig. Fr. *monnoyerent*] him. 1691 Locke *Lower. Interest* Wks. 1727 II. 44 If your Exportation will not balance your Importation..away must your Silver go again, whether Monied or not Monied. 1865 Sala *Amer. in War* I. 136 The American ..double-eagle..is perhaps the most beautiful and splendid coin ever moneyed in any mint.

†2. To supply with money, bestow money upon. In bad sense, to bribe. *Obs.*

1528 Tindale *Obed. Chr. Man* Dij b, How many yeres they will prolonge the sentence with cavillacions & suttelte, if they be well monyed on both parties. 1530 — *Pract. Prel.* G j, Then come in the embassadours of Fraunce and monye a fewe prelates..to betraye both the kynge and the royalme to. 1611 Speed *Hist. Gt. Brit.* ix. xi. (1623) 674 Some perfidious English, whom King Robert had monyed. 1624 Heywood *Captives* I. i. in Bullen *O. Pl.* IV, Thou hast monied me in this, Nay landed me. *a* 1625 Fletcher & Mass. *Laws of Candy* I. i, He out of his own store Hath monied Cassilanes the General.

†b. To furnish money for (an undertaking).

a 1697 Aubrey *Lives, Ingelbert* (1898) II. 1 He was a poore-man, but Sir Hugh Middleton..moneyed the businesse.

3. To dispose of for money. *rare.*

c 1611 Chapman *Iliad* XI. 590 Our prey was rich and great; Twice fiue and twentie flockes of sheepe [etc.];..And these soone-monied wares We drane into Neileus towne. 1895 *Funk's Stand. Dict., Money v.*...2. (Rare.) To dispose of for money; as, to money a cargo.

4. *To money out*: to state in detail the prices of; to 'price out' or 'figure out' (a tender or estimate). *Sc.*

1833 Loudon *Encycl. Archit.* § 1059 (Scottish Specification) A detailed bill of every article contained in the estimate, together with the price at which each article was monied out, must accompany such tender. 1893 *Westm. Gaz.* 1 Nov. 7/3 The high prices at which they moneyed out their tenders.

Mo·neyage. *Hist.* [a. OF. *monneage* (mod. F. *monnayage*), mint, tax upon money, f. *monnayer* Money *v.* Cf. med.L. *monētāgium* and *monētāticum*.] 'A payment by the moneyers for the privilege of coining; otherwise explained as a payment by the subjects to prevent loss by the depreciation or change of coinage' (Stubbs *Sel. Charters* Gloss. s. v. *Monetagium*).

1747 Carte *Hist. Eng.* I. 482 Moneyage was a duty of twelve pence paid every third year in Normandie to the Duke for not altering the coin. 1762 Hume *Hist. Eng. to Hen. VII*, I. App. II. 414 Moneyage was also a general land-tax..levied by the two first Norman kings, and abolished by the charter of Henry I.

Mo·ney-bag.

1. A bag for holding money. Often used jocularly in pl. to denote 'wealth'.

1565 Cooper *Thesaurus* s.v. *Numarius, Theca numaria*, a money bagge. 1596 Shaks. *Merch. V.* II. v. 18, I did dreame of money bags to night. 1713 Addison *Guard.* No. 106 ₱ 4, I found my place taken up by an ill-bred, aukward puppy, with a money-bag under each arm. 1825 Lamb *Elia* II. *Stage Illusion*, The insecure tenure by which he [*sc.* the miser] holds his money bags and parchments? 1884 *St. James's Gaz.* 9 July 6/1 The elder had possession of the money-bags; and so Prince Victor was forced to eat the leek.

2. *transf.* (*pl.*) A person who is chiefly remarkable as a possessor or lover of money.

1818 Keats *Isabella* xviii, How could these money-bags see east and west? 1898 J. Arch *Story of Life* 378 Though squarsons and squires, landlords and money-bags leagued together against me, I was returned by a majority of 34.

Money-bound, *a. jocular.* [after *weather-bound.*] Detained by want of money.

1825 Moore *Mem. Sheridan* II. 488 His letters to the treasurer of the theatre on these occasions were generally headed with the words 'Money-bound'. 1863 Jeaffreson *Sir Everard's Dau.* 85 When you were often money-bound for a month at a time at a manor-house, because you hadn't the requisite amount of cash wherewith to tip the servants on leaving. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk., Money-bound*, a phrase expressive of such passengers as are detained on board till a remittance arrives for paying the passage made.

Mo·ney-box. A box in which money is kept; *esp.* a closed box into which savings or contributions are dropped through a slit.

1585 Higins tr. *Junius' Nomencl.* 249 *Capsella fictilis*.. a mony box made of potters clay, wherein boyes put their mony to keepe, such as they hang in shops, &c. towards Christmas. 1611 Cotgr., *Cachemaille*, a money box. 1755 Johnson, *Moneybox*, a till. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* xviii, The juggler's wife is active with the money-box in another quarter of the town. 1858 O. W. Holmes *Aut. Breakf.t.* vii. (1895) 169 The brains also are shaken up [by riding] like coppers in a money-box.

Mo·ney-changer. One whose business it is to change money at a fixed or authorized rate.

1382 Wyclif *John* ii. 14 And he fond in the temple men sellinge scheep, and oxen, and culueris, and chaungeris [*v.r.* money chaungeris] sittinge. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xxvi. 73 In oure temple..Where tabillis full of tresoure lay..Of oure cheffe mony-changers. 1526 Tindale *Matt.* xxi. 12 And overthrew the tables of the mony chaungers. 1727 Arbuthnot *Coins*, etc. 212 The Usurers or Money-changers being a sort of a scandalous employment at Rome. 1827 Macaulay *Ess., Machiavelli* ₱ 13 The tables of Italian money-changers were set in every city.

Moneyche, obs. form of Monish.

Moneyed (mʌ·nid), *a.* Forms: 5–7 monyed, 6 monide, 6–9 monied, 6– moneyed. [f. Money *sb.* + -ed².]

1. Having or possessing money, rich in money. *Moneyed man* often *spec.* = Capitalist.

1457 *Paston Lett.* I. 416 Of such chaffr takyng he shall nevere be monyed. 1573 L. Lloyd *Pilgr. Princes* 104 Hee should bee the most monyed Prince that euer shoulde raigne in India. *c* 1592 Marlowe *Jew of Malta* I. (1633) C, Thou art a Merchant and a monied man. 1597 Bacon *Ess., Colours* v. (Arb.) 143 When a great moneyed man hath deuided his chests and coines and bags. 1625 *Ibid., Usury* ₱ 4 To inuite Moneyed Men, to lend to the Merchants, for the Continuing and Quickning of Trade. 1647 Clarendon *Hist. Reb.* VI. § 288 The Marquis of Worcester was generally reputed the greatest monied man of the kingdom. 1712 Swift *Cond. Allies* Wks. 1751 VIII. 119 That Set of People, who are called the Monied Men; such as had raised vast Sums by trading with Stocks and Funds and lending Money upon great Interest. 1727 A. Hamilton *New Acc. E. Ind.* I. xii. 139 The Insolence of the Portugueze makes it unsafe for money'd strangers to dwell among them. 1803 Wordsw. *Poems Nat. Indep.* I. xx. *Sonnet*, These times strike monied worldlings with dismay. 1822 J. Flint *Lett. Amer.* 108 To appropriate to themselves the labour of less moneyed citizens. 1844 Stanley *Arnold* (1858) I. vi. 237 The landed aristocracy and moneyed aristocracy. 1868 Ruskin *Time & Tide* (1872) 154 The monied men and leaders of commerce. 1871 M. Collins *Mrg. & Merch.* III. ix. 226 So moneyed a man deserves better treatment.

†b. With qualifying adv.: (*well, plenteously*, etc.) supplied with money. *Obs.*

1471 Ripley *Comp. Alch.* v. xxxix. in Ashm. (1652) 157 For they can tech hys Monkys to leve in poverte, And to go clothyd and monyed relygyously. 1479 *Paston Lett.* III. 254, I was nott weell monyed, ffor I hadde nott paste x. marke. 1556 J. Heywood *Spider & F.* lxxiii. 3 Had he bene an ant plenteouslie monide. 1688 Fairfax in *Magd. Coll. & Jas. II* (O. H. S.) 245 Ye best monyed was best qualifyed.

2. Consisting of money, derived from money.

1790 Burke *Fr. Rev.* Sel. Wks. II. 129 The monied property was long looked on with rather an evil eye by the people. 1798 Malthus *Popul.* (1817) II. 398 The clear monied rent yielded to a certain number of proprietors [etc.]. 1812 Combe *Picturesque* xix, 'Tis a proud scene of monied strife Forms this magnificence of life. 1825 W. Irving in *Life & Lett.* (1864) II. 233 The moneyed influence of the man of wealth. 1835 *Penny Cycl.* III. 475/2 Trade revived, and the monied resources of the State were improved. 1856 Lever *Martins of Cro' M.* 346 For these, we want power from you and some present moneyed assistance.

3. *Moneyed interest*: interest or concern in money as a possession; a class or body of persons having such interest. (Cf. *landed interest.*)

1711 [see Landed *a.* 2]. 1757 J. H. Grose *Voy. E. Indies* 407 A class of men called the moneyed interest. 1776 Adam Smith *W. N.* II. iv. (1869) I. 355 As such capitals are commonly lent out and paid back in money, they constitute what is called the monied interest. 1790 Burke *Fr. Rev.* 164 The monied interest is in its nature more ready for any adventure; and its possessors more disposed to new enterprizes of any kind. 1793 A. Young *Example France* 81 The monied interest..have some advantages from the more portable nature of their wealth. 1865 J. Bright *Sp. Canada* 13 Mar. (1869) 67 We know what 'the City' means...It means that the people who deal in shares..'the moneyed interest' of the City, are alarmed.

4. *U.S.* Of a company or corporation: Having power to deal in money.

1872 Schele de Vere *Americanisms* 301 A Moneyed Institution, as chartered companies are generally called, like banks, insurance companies, and the like. 1889 *Century Dict.* s.v. *Corporation, Moneyed corporation*, a corporation having banking powers, or power to make loans on pledges or deposits, or authorized by law to make insurances.

Moneyer (mʌ·niəɹ). Forms: 4 moneur, 4–5 monyour, moneyere, 4–7 monyer, 5 moneyour, monyowre, moneour, moniour, 6–8 monier, 4– moneyer. [a. OF. *mon(n)ier, mon(n)oier* :—L. *monētārius* coiner, minter.]

1. †a. A money-changer. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 14727 Þair ox, þair eu, þair scepe þai sald, And moneurs [*Fairf.* moneyers] þair mone tald. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* II. 49 Jesus..turnede up so doun þe bordis of monyeris. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 6811 But see what gold han usurers, And silver eek in garners, Taylagiers, and these monyours.

b. A money-dealer, banker, capitalist. ? *Obs.*

1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Moneyers*...Also Bankers that make it their Trade, to deal in Monies upon Return. 1755 Johnson, *Moneyer* I. One that deals in money; a banker. 1855 Thackeray *Newcomes* lxiv, F. B., sir, has a station in the world; F. B. moves among moneyers and City nobs.

2. One who coins money; a coiner, minter. Now chiefly *Hist.*

Formerly used as an official designation at the Mint; the 'Company of Moneyers' was abolished in 1837.

1421–2 Hoccleve *Dialogue* 174 Ye cursed men, ye false moneyours. 1469 in *Archæologia* XV. 175 The seid moniours to coyne and to make it. *a* 1577 Sir T. Smith *Commw. Eng.* II. xxi. (1589) 91 To enquire of all heretiques..false moniers, extortioners [etc.]. 1631 Bedwell *Descr. Tottenham* E 3 b, A House..sometime in the tenure and occupation of Simon Bolton, moneyer. 1668 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 294/4 The Provost and Company of Moneyers. 1670 Blount *Fodinæ Reg.* 41 The Master-worker, who receiveth the Silver from the Warden,..and delivereth it to the Moniers. 1697 Evelyn *Numism.* i. 4 Coin'd by certain Florentine moneyers. 1815 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 84 The moneyers' hall and offices also escaped with little injury. 1874 Stubbs *Const. Hist.* I. x. 314 The general depreciation of the coinage, caused by the dishonesty of the moneyers.

†**Mo·neyfied,** *pa. pple. Obs. rare*⁻¹. In quot. monifide, -fi'd. [f. Money *sb.*: see -fy.] Endowed with money.

1641 *Witt's Recreat.* M 8, Nature did well in giving poore men wit, That fooles well monifide [1663 *Ibid.* I 5 b, monifi'd] may pay for it.

Mo·neyful, *a. rare*⁻¹. [-ful.] Abounding in money.

1604 Broughton *Corrupt. in Handl. Relig.* 52 The Iewes ..looke for a moneyfull King.

Mo·ney-grub. [See Grub *sb.* 2 c.] One who is sordidly intent on amassing money.

1768 *Woman of Honor* III. 235 Vanity is seen capable of erecting the very dirtiest money-grubs into Peers. 1816 T. L. Peacock *Gryll Gr.* (1861) 128 He has been chosen as the most conspicuous grub among the moneygrubs of his borough.

Mo·ney-grubber. [See Grubber 3.] = prec.

1851 D. Jerrold *St. Giles* xxxii. 333 And so, they've turned you over..to the old money-grubber. 1862 Thornbury *Turner* II. 258 Was this..the mere money-grubber and sordid Harpagon?

So **Mo·ney-grubbing** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* xx, The whole pack of money-grubbing vulgarians. 1870 Disraeli *Lothair* xxxii. They have become absorbed in money-grubbing and what they call industry.

Mo·ney-lender. One whose business is lending money at interest.

1778 Burke *Sp. Durat. Parl.* Wks. 1812 V. 378 In every district of the kingdom, there is some leading man,..some active attorney, some popular preacher, some moneylender, &c. &c. who is followed by the whole flock. 1835 Dickens *Sk. Boz, Pawnbroker's Shop*, The better sort of pawnbroker calls himself a silversmith,..while the more humble money-lender boldly advertises his calling, and invites observation. 1878 Stubbs *Const. Hist.* III. xviii. 91 The odium which has been heaped upon him as a money-lender.

So **Mo·ney-lending** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1765 Foote *Commissary* I. Wks. 1799 II. 7 That canting, couzening, money-lending, match-making, pawnbroking ——. 1818 T. L. Peacock *Nightmare Abbey* 118 A money-lending Jew. 1866 Crump *Banking* i. 8 Money-lending was carried on very extensively after the return from captivity.

Moneyless (mʌ·nilĕs), *a.* [-less.] Without money, having no money.

1362 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. viii. 130 Meteles and Moneyeles on Maluerne hulles. 1509 Barclay *Ship of Folys* (1570) 5 That poore men and monyles may her once see. 1641 Milton *Ch. Govt.* II. iii. Wks. 1851 III. 173 Where bribery and corruption solicits, paltring the free and monilesse power of discipline with a carnall satisfaction by the purse. 1712 *Spect.* No. 437 ₱ 1 She marries..a Moneyless Girl to a Man of Fortune. 1841 Emerson *Lect., Man the Reformer* Wks. (Bohn) II. 242 We are first thoughtless, and then find that we are moneyless. 1841 R. Oastler *Fleet Papers* I. xxxvii. 289 Her public coffers are moneyless.

Mo·ney-maker.

†1. One who coins money; a minter, moneyer.

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1590 Marchandes, Monymakers, Mongers of fyche. 1431 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) II. 16 Ego Johannes Esyngwald de Eboraco, monymakerr. 1523 Ld. Berners *Froiss.* I. cxxxvi. 163 Two hundred money makers, that forged there the Money for the french kyng.

†b. A maker of counterfeit coin. *Obs.*

c 1440 in Hearne *R. Glouc.* (1724) 587 Anothur [statute] he made a none ryghte That monye makers shuld lesse hure syghte. 14.. *Agst. Friars* in *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 250 Mony-makers I trow thei be, *regis proditores.*

2. One who gains and accumulates money; one who is skilled in, or intent on, getting money.

1864 G. Meredith *Sandra Belloni* i, The fact of his being a money-maker was redeemed in their sight by his devotion to music. 1899 R. Wallace *G. Buchanan* ii. 41 He was no money-maker.

b. A thing which yields pecuniary profit.

1901 *Munsey's Mag.* XXV. 748/2 Some wells have been great money-makers for their owners.

So **Mo·ney-making** *vbl. sb.*, acquisition of wealth; *ppl. a.*, occupied in, or intent on, acquiring wealth; also (of things), yielding money, lucrative.

1739 Cibber *Apol.* (1740) 58 These Shares of the Patentees were promiscuously sold out to Money-making Persons, call'd Adventurers. 1855 Milman *Lat. Chr.* XI. viii. V. 187 The Jews were the first; their strange obstinacy in money-making made them his perpetual victims. *a* 1862 Buckle *Civiliz.* (1869) III. iii. 171 A mercantile and money-making spirit. 1887 Jessopp *Arcady* ii. 63 Farming never has been a money-making pursuit.

Money matter. [See Matter *sb.*¹ 21.] An affair turning upon money. Chiefly *pl.*, the financial side of things.

1552 Latimer *Serm. 2nd Sund. Adv.* (1584) 252 b, It is not a triflyng matter, it is not a money matter. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 74 A mony matter can not breake their frendshyp. 1618 *Barnevelt's Apol.* C iv b, I settled the money-matters of the Prouinces. 1712 Arbuthnot *John Bull* IV. ii, What if You and I, Nic., should inquire how Money-matters stand between us? 1855 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xii. III. 203 He had been a principal agent of the Order of Jesuits in money matters. 1887 Ruskin *Præterita* II. 247 Anxiety about money matters.

Mo·ney-monger. A dealer in money, esp. in the way of lending it.

1571 GOLDING *Calvin on Ps.* xv. 5 For it is a very vnmeet thing, that..only the monymongers sitting stil shuld take tribute of euery mans labors. 1639 MASSINGER *Unnat. Combat* IV. ii, My pay..The citie cormorants, my monie-mongers, Have swallow'd downe already. 1755 J. SHEBBEARE *Lydia* (1769) II. 32 The 'Change-alley jobbers, who can no more suffer a story to lie still without improving, than these money-mongers can their cash without interest. 1844 KINGLAKE *Eothen* (1845) 102 Rothschild (the late money-monger). 1877 RUSKIN *Fors Clav.* lxxxii. 325 Given ..not by God..but only by the Jew money-monger in twenty per cent.

appos. *c* 1613 ROWLANDS *Paire of Spy-Knaves* 14 The sonnes of Mammon, mony-monger slaues.

Hence **Mo·ney-mongering** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.* Also †**Mo·ney-monging** (cf. *mass-monging*, etc.).

1594 R. WILSON *Cobler's Proph.* I. ii. 140 The money monging mate with all his knauerie. *c* 1600 *Timon* V. v. (Shaks. Soc.) 90 Away, thou mony-monging cormorant. 1816 KEATS *Sonn. to Haydon*, A money mong'ring, pitiable brood. 1848 KINGSLEY *Yeast* XV. (1881) 304 The last place in which he will look for the cause of his misery is in that very money-mongering to which he now clings as frantically as ever. 1874 FARRAR *Christ* xiii. (1881) 88 These money-mongering Jews.

Moneyocracy (mʌnɪ·krăsi). *jocular.* [See -CRACY.] The moneyed class as a ruling power.

1834 *Blackw. Mag.* XXXV. 339 Which has at last precipitated the nation, bound hand and foot into the bonds of the shopocracy and moneyocracy. 1859 SALA *Gas-light & D.* xxvi, The flower of the British aristocracy and moneyocracy.

Moneyour, obs. form of MONEYER.

Money's-worth. [WORTH *sb.*]

1. Something that is worth money, or is recognized as equivalent to money. Often in phr. *money or money's worth.* Cf. the older MONEY-WORTH.

a 1604 HANMER *Chron. Irel.* (1633) 160 Laden with gold, silver, money, and monies worth. 1674 ALLEN *Danger Enthu.* 90 To take mony, or moneys-worth, whereby to live. 1760 FOOTE *Minor* II. (1767) 40 Tho' money is not to be had, money's worth may, and that's the same thing. 1845 STEPHEN *Comm. Laws Eng.* (1874) II. 174 An obligation to pay money or money's worth on the breach of any covenant.

2. An equivalent for the sum of money paid or to be paid; full value. (Now chiefly with poss. pron.)

1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* II. i. 137 In surety of the which, One part of Aquitaine is bound to vs, Although not valued to the moneys worth. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 141, I give my pupils their money's-worth.

Mo·neywort. [Suggested by the old L. name *Nummularia.*] The plant *Lysimachia Nummularia* or Herb Twopence, which has roundish glossy leaves. Also, a book-name for *Anagallis tenella, Sibthorpia europæa* (Bastard or Cornish Money-wort), and other plants.

1578 LYTE *Dodoens* I. liii. 78 Monyworte hath small slender stalkes..vpon euery side whereof groweth small rounde leaues..almost like to a penny. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. clxxxix. 505. 1756 WATSON in *Phil. Trans.* XLIX. 815 The purple-flowered Moneywort. 1787 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (1796) II. 239 *Anagallis tenella*...Purple-flowered Money-wort. Bog Pimpernel. *Ibid.* III. 557 *Sibthorpia europæa*, Bastard Moneywort. 1848 C. A. JOHNS *Week at Lizard* 287 *Sibthorpia Europæa*, Cornish Money-wort,..clothes the sides of every..rill.

Mo·ney-worth, *sb.* [WORTH *sb.*]

1. = MONEY'S-WORTH 1. ? *Obs.*

c 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 67 Alle syche as taken money or money worþ for gostly offices. *c* 1394 *P. Pl. Crede* 715 þat þey may kachen Money oþer money-worthe and mede to fonge. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 275 Yf they be founde to haue ony money or money worth, contrary to theyr rule. 1545 BRINKLOW *Compl.* xxiv. (1874) 71 And if thei..gene no mony nor mony worth, thei shal be cownted hereteyckes. 1668 CLARENDON *Vindic.* Tracts (1727) 23, I do positively deny that ever I received..the least sum of mony or mony-worth for any lease made by his Majesty of his customs. 1800 *Chron.* in *Asiat. Ann. Reg.* 101/1 To dispose of his patronage for money, for money-worth, or for any thing convertible into money.

2. Worth in money, money-value.

1903 *Expositor* Apr. 271 The value of a gift is independent of its money-worth. 1904 *Quaritch's Catal.*, It is..equivalent in intrinsic value to an early Quarto, and ought to be equivalent in money-worth likewise.

†**Mo·ney-worth,** *a. Obs.* [WORTH *a.*] Worth money, valuable.

In examples like quot. 1611, the word may be the prec. sb. used predicatively.

1611 COTGR. s.v. *Argent, C'est argent qu'argent vaut*: Prov. Nothing but money is money-worth. 1645 USSHER *Body Div.* (1647) 294 Whether it be Cattell, money, or any thing that is money-worth. 1649 BP. HALL *Cases Conse.* (1650) 24 There is no great difference between this case, and that of loane..; save that there money is let, here commodities money-worth.

Monful, obs. form of MANFUL *a.*

Mong (mʌŋ), *sb.* Also 8–9 **mung,** 9 **mang.** [Aphetic form of YMONG *sb.* (OE. *gemang*).]

1. A mingling, mixture. *Obs.* exc. *dial.*

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 384 Þis mong woreð so þe eien of þe heorte þet heo ne mei iknowen God. *a* 1240 *Sawles Warde* in *Cott. Hom.* 251 For eiðer is unþolelich ant iþis ferliche mong þe leatere þurh þe earre deruеð þe mare. 1848 A. B. EVANS *Leicestersh. Words* s. v., 'All of a mang loike': i. e. all, as it were, mashed or jumbled together.

†b. Intercourse, commerce. *Obs.*

a 1240 *Ureisun* in *Cott. Hom.* 185 Ich nabbe no mong, ne felawscipe, ne priuete wiþ þe world. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 7384 Wyþ false Godes ȝe make monge.

2. Applied to mixtures of different kinds of meal (the precise application varying according to locality).

[1380 in *Essex Rev.* July (1904) 146, 3 acres of peasemong & 3 of benemong.] *c* 1475 *Pict. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 785/12 *Hec mixtilio*, mo[n]ge. 1787 GROSE *Provinc. Gloss., Mung*, food for chickens. *a* 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia, Mung*, a mixture of coarse meal with milk or pot-liquor for the food of dogs, pigs, or poultry. 1888 *Sheffield Gloss., Mung*, a mixed food for horses.

3. A crowd. *dial.*

1877 E. LEIGH *Cheshire Gloss., Mung*, a crowd, a rabble. 1883 C. F. SMITH *Southernisms* in *Trans. Amer. Philol. Soc.* 51 A student..(from West Tennessee) was heard to say recently: 'Well, if I fail on my examinatioo, I'll have the consolation that I am in the *mang*' [i. e. 'the crowd'].

†**Mong,** *v.*[1] *Obs.* Forms: 1 **mangian,** 3 **mang,** 7 **mung.** [OE. *mangian* = OS. *mangôn*, ON. *manga*:—OTent. **mangôjan*, f. L. *mango* dealer, trader. In quot. 1606 a back-formation from MONGER *sb.*[1] (which Holland spells *munger*).] a. *intr.* To traffic (*with*). b. *trans.* To barter.

c 897 K. ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* xliv. 333 Hwæt forstent ænigum menn ðæt, ðeah he mangige ðæt he ealne ðisne middangeard aȝe, ȝif he his saule forspildt? *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* (Th.) I. 412 Mid sceapum he mangað. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 146 Seint Gregorie awundreð him, & seið þet men beoð wode þet treoweð so vuele [*v. r.* mangen swa uuele]. *Ibid.* 407 Vndeore he makeð God..þet for eni worldliche luue his luue trukie [*v. r.* manges]. *a* 1300 *E. E. Psalter* ci. 27 And als hilinge wende saltou þa, And þai sal be turned [*v. r.* manged, Vulg. *mutabuntur*] swa. 1606 HOLLAND *Sueton.* 68 He was none of these that lie in the winde to inung and catch at Inheritances.

Mong, *v.*[2] *dial.* Also **mung.** [app. f. MONG *sb.*]

†1. *intr.* ? To mingle (*with*). *Obs.*

a 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* xvi. 52 With murthes monie mote heo monge, that brid so breme in boure.

2. *trans.* To mix; also, to knead.

1790 GROSE *Provinc. Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Mung*, to mix. Worcest. 1810 MARSHALL *Rev. Rep. Agric., West.* 334 *note*, The term in use, for this mixed mongrel crop,..is..mong corn; doubtless from the obsolete verb *mong* to mix. 1893 *Broad Norfolk* 17 To *mung* is used as meaning to knead dough.

Mong (mʌŋ), *prep.* Now always written 'mong (*Sc.* 'mang). Also 3–4 mang. [In ME. an aphetic form of *amang, among*, or *imong* (OE. *gemang*) YMONG *prep.*; since the 16th c. only poetical shortening of AMONG.] Among.

c 1200 ORMIN 239 Þatt icc ne beo mang wimmannkinn Till hæþinng butenn chilldre. *c* 1205 LAY. 10292, & mong [*c* 1275 a-mong] heom seoluen vnimete seorȝen. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 10274 þe tre þat bers na fruit to hand, Mang oþer tres aght not to stand. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* III. v. 94 How som ere thou speakst 'mong other things, I shall digest it? 1640 HABINGTON *Q. Arragon* II. i. C 2 b, Tis that will make thee held a potent Peere, Mong men oth' Pike, of buffe, and handeliere. 1678 BUTLER *Hud.* III. ii. 351 'Mong these there was a Politician, With more Heads than a Beast in Vision. 1786 BURNS *Vision* II. v, 'Mong swelling floods of reeking gore. 1796 MACNEILL *Waes o' War* II. 60 Thrice frae aff the ground he started,..Thrice..Sigh'd—and sank 'mang heaps o' slain. 1858 W. T. MATSON *Poems* 3 The breeze that 'mong the branches makes a stir Of leaves.

Mongcorn (mʌŋkɔ̄ːn). *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Forms: 3 **mancorn,** 5 **mongorne,** 5–6 **mong(e)corne,** 6 **mon-, muncorne,** 7 **mun(c)k-corn, mungcorne,** 7, 9 **muncorn,** 8 (in Dicts.) **mangcorn,** 8–9 **mungcorn,** (9 **monk-corn**). [f. MONG *sb.* + CORN *sb.*[1]] 'Mixed corn'; a mixture of two kinds of grain (usually wheat and rye) sown together; = MASLIN[2].

1263 *Muniment Magd. Coll. Oxf.* (1882) 144 Mancorn. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 334/2 Mestlyone, or monge corne.. (*S.* mongorne), *mixtilio.* 1552 HULOET, Beere corne, barley bygge, or moncorne. 1572 J. JONES *Bathes Buckstone* 9 b, Some [make bread] of Miscelling, or Muncorne, as in Worcester Shyre. 1620 MARKNAM *Farew. Husb.* 117 Masline, or as some call it Munck-corne or Blend-corne, being part Rye, and part Wheate mixed together. 1686 PLOT *Staffordsh.* 341 They sow it with Muncorn or Miscellane in the place of wheat. 1805 DUNCUMB *Agric. Heref.* 66 Rye, which with an equal proportion of wheat, constituted the bread-corn used in religious houses before their suppression, is now sown but sparingly, but grain thus mixed in flour during a time of scarcity, or dearness, still retains the name of monk-corn, from the circumstances above-mentioned. 1855 *Morton's Cycl. Agric.* II. 724 *Muncorn* (Herefords.), a mixture of different seeds sown to come up as one crop.

b. *attrib.*, as *mongcorn bread, heap*; also as adj. = mingled, mixed, in *mongcorn team.*

c 1394 *P. Pl. Crede* 786 And mene mong-corn bred to her mete fongen. 1598 BP. HALL *Sat.* V. ii. 116 A jolly rounding of a whole foote broad From of the mong-corne heape shall Trebius loade. 1655 MOUFET & BENNET *Health's Impr.* xxv. 239 Misslin or Munckcorn-bread, made of Rye and Wheate together. 1839 *Hereford. Gloss.* 128 A 'muncorn team' means a team of horses and oxen mixed. 1879 MISS JACKSON *Shropsh. Word-bk.* s.v., Muncorn bread's very ..good, but theer's nuthin' like a bit o' good w'eaten flour.

Monge presawnte, var. MAUNCH PRESENT *Obs.*

Monger[1] (mʌ·ŋgəɹ). Forms: 1 **man(c)gere,** 2 **mangare,** 3–5 **mongere,** 5 **mounger,** 6–7 **munger,** 3– **monger.** [OE. *mangere* (= OHG., ON. *mangari*), agent-n. of *mangian* MONG *v.*[1]]

1. A dealer, trader, trafficker. From the 16th c. onwards, chiefly, one who carries on a petty or disreputable 'traffic'; also, in recent use, in conscious analyses of words like *cheesemonger.*

a 975 *Canons K. Edgar* § 14 in Thorpe *Laws* II. 246 We læraþ þæt preosta ȝehwilc tiligе him rihtlice & ne beo æniȝ mangere mid unrihte. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xiii. 45 Eft is heofena rice ȝelic þam mangere þe sohte þ gode mere-grot. *c* 1150 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 539/31 *Mercator, uel negociator*, mangare. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1590 Marchandes, Mony-makers, Mongers of fyche. 1567–9 JEWEL *Def. Apol.* (1611) 615 Against these Mongers of Miracles, my God hath armed me. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 485 One rich munger or other, buying vp a commodity,..for to haue the Monopoly of it, raiseth the market. 1639 FORD *Lady's Trial* I. i, *Fvt.* I am ..no monopolist Of forged Corantos, monger of Gazets. *Pie.* Monger of courteзans, fine Futelli. 1654 GAYTON *Pleas. Notes* III. vii. 111 Their [the Barbers'] shops are..the Magazines of all Newes..All the Mongers of that kinde come thither for matter and Inspiration. 1812 *Religionism* 23 Cheese-mongers not more like, nor beans, each other; For every monger is a monger's brother. 1841 SYD. SMITH in Lady Holland *Mem.* (1855) II. 445 Mongers who have lived in the midst of cheese. 1874 RUSKIN *Fors Clav.* xxxviii. 33 He would be..more reverend to mortals..as a true monger of sweet fish. 1881 DUFFIELD *Don Quix.* I. Pref. 32 Official guardians of the faith and mongers of prayers.

†b. Used for: WHOREMONGER. *Obs.*

1706 BAYNARD in Sir J. Floyer *Hot & Cold Bath.* II. (1709) 282 Some strong young Mongers of good Constitutions, have brushed through such Misfortunes.

2. Used as a second element in compounds, as *cheesemonger, costermonger, fishmonger, fleshmonger, ironmonger.* In formations dating from the middle of the 16th c. onwards *-monger* nearly always implies one who carries on a contemptible or discreditable 'trade' or 'traffic' in what is denoted by the first element of the compound, as *ceremony-monger, fashion-monger, mass-monger, merit-monger, news-monger, pardon-monger, scandal-monger.* The more important compounds of this kind are given as Main words or under their first element; the following are examples of the occasional formations, the number of which is unlimited.

1297 *Coram Rege Roll* m. 22 *dorso* (1898) 143 Willelmum le Heymonger. *c* 1475 *Plumpton Corr.* (Camden) 30, I fand one which bath bene of old a supersedias mounger. 1550 BALE *Image Both Ch.* xviii. Bb vj, Foule priestes,.. and holy water mongers dayly peruerting the ignorant people. 1678 BUTLER *Hud.* III. ii. 999 The impatient States-Monger Could now contain himself no longer. 1748 CHESTERF. *Let. to Son* 6 Dec., The numerous..tribe of insect-mongers, shell-mongers, and pursuers and driers of butterflies. 1761 CHURCHILL *Rosciad* 509 The nice punctilio-mongers of this age. 1829 SOUTHEY *Sir T. More* I. v. 109 The humanity-mongers, who deny the necessity and lawfulness of inflicting capital punishment in any case. 1837 HAWTHORNE *Twice-told T.* (1851) I. xix. 276, I must be content to bear the stigma of a fiction monger. 1858 *Eclectic Rev.* Ser. VI. III. 411 The latter qualification..is notoriously complied with by most of our recent word-mongers. 1863 KINGSLEY *Lett.*, etc. (1877) II. 181 My only fear is that people will fancy me a verbal-inspiration-monger. 1900 *Academy* 28 July 73/2 Ah, Mr. Haggard, what an incorrigible hero-monger you are!

†**Mo·nger**[2]. *Obs.* [Origin obscure; perh. a use of prec.] A kind of fishing vessel.

1561 EDEN *Arte Nauig.* Pref. ¶ iv b, Fyshermen that go a trawlyng for fyshe in Catches or mongers. 1570 *Act* 13 *Eliz.* c. 11 § 3 The Catches, Mongers and Picardes pretendyng to buy fressh Herrynges.

Mongerell, obs. form of MONGREL.

Mongering (mʌ·ŋgəriŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. MONGER[1] + -ING[1]. Cf. *soldiering.*] Trading, trafficking. Chiefly used, like *monger*, as a second element in compounds, with a like implication.

1846 THORPE *Ælfric's Hom.* II. 95 Let none of them undertake any reevesbip or mongering. 1867 H. C. LEA *Sacerdotal Celibacy* XXV. (1884) 413 The salvation mongering of Tetzel. 1892 STEVENSON *Across the Plains* 314 All these..militant mongerings of moral half-truths.

So **Mo·ngering** *ppl. a.*, as in *borough-mongering.*

Mongery (mʌ·ŋgəri). [f. MONGER[1] + -Y.] = MONGERING *vbl. sb.*, only as second element in compounds, as *book-mongery*, IRON-MONGERY, etc.

1876 BLACKIE *Lang. & Lit. Highl. Scot.* ii. 68 These days of widespread prose and bookmongery.

Monghol, Mongholian, var. ff. MONGOL, -IAN.

†**Mongibel.** *Obs.* [ad. *Mongibello* (for *Monte Gibello*: from Arab. *jabal* mountain), the mod. Sicilian name.] Mount Ætna: in quots. *transf.*

1660 HOWELL *Parly of Beasts* 134 Within us we felt too often..such furnaces or Mongibells of fires. 1674 T. FLATMAN *On Death Dk. Albemarle* vi. 8 The City turn'd into one Mongibel.

†**Mo·nging,** *vbl. sb. Obs.* Also 1 **mang(g)ung,** 3 **manging(e.** [OE. *mangung*, f. *mangian* MONG *v.*[1]] Trading, trafficking. In mod. use only as a second element in compounds, as *mass-monging, scandal-monging.*

c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xxii. 5 Da forȝymdon hiȝ þæt & ferdun, sum to his tune, sum to hys manggunge. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* (Th.) I. 524 Se farð embe his mangunge. *a* 1300 *E. E. Psalter* xliii. 14 Þou salde þi folke with-out waringe, And noght was mikelhede in þair manginge. 1560 W. BALDWIN *Funeralles Edw. VI*, C ij (Roxb. Club), Repent you, marchantes, your straunge marchandises Of personages, prebends [etc.]..Your monging of vitayles, corne, butter, and cheese.

So †**Monging** *ppl. a.*, as in *fashion-monging, mass-monging, merit-monging.*

Mongke, obs. form of MONK.

† **Mo·ngle,** *v. Obs.* [? freq. of root *mong-, mang-* to mix (cf. MONG *sb.*). Cf. the much later MINGLE.] To mingle. Hence † **Mo·ngling** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 6 Þeos riwle..is euer on & schal beon, wiðute monglunge & wiðute chaunge. *Ibid.* 116, Ich am stille of þe more, nout one monglinde honden, auh puten honden utward. *Ibid.* 338 Þus euer sum vuel mongleð him mit mine gode. *Ibid.* 384 Þe heorte schir .. þet non ne mei habben mid monglunge of unðeauwes.

Mongoe, variant of MUNGO.

Mongoes, obs. form of MONGOOSE.

Mongol (mɒ·ŋgɒl), *sb.* and *a.* Also 8 **Mungul, -al,** 8–9 **Mongul,** 9 **-ghol, -gole.** [The native name, said to be f. *mong* 'brave'. Cf. MOGUL.]

A. *sb.* One of an Asiatic race now chiefly inhabiting Mongolia, a large territory situated between China proper and Siberia, but formerly extending into eastern Europe; also more widely, one of the Mongolian race, a Mongolian.

1738 tr. *Strahlenberg's Descr. Russ.*, etc. 138 Those few Mungals of King Ill-chan's Army, who [etc.]. 1788 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* lxv. VI. 358 Timour dispatched..a numerous army ..to subdue the Pagan Calmucks and Mungals. 1837 *Pop. Encycl.* V. 33/1 Having subjugated Russia, the Monguls entered Poland in 1240. 1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 744/1 Lamaism has always had a great attraction in the eyes of the Mongols.

B. *adj.* Pertaining to or characteristic of the Mongols, their country, or language; Mongolian.

1763 SCRAFTON *Indostan* (1770) 18 The Tartars, or the Mungul Tartars..are commonly called Moguls. 1799 *Monthly Rev.* XXX. 489 The Nogais still bear..in their countenance the marks of their Mongul descent. 1845 *Encycl. Metrop.* XXV. 867/1 The Monghol and Manchu languages. 1857 DUFFERIN *Lett. High Lat.* (ed. 3) 254 Oblique Mongol eyes. 1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 741/2 An expedition into Syria, by which the country was made tributary to the Great Mongol Empire. 1883 *Ibid.* 749/2 The Mongol tongue is a member of the great stock which recent scholars designate as Finno-Tataric or Ural-Altaic.

Mongolfier, variant of MONTGOLFIER.

Mongolian (mɒŋgō·liăn), *a.* and *sb.* Also 8 **Mungalian,** 9 **Mongholian.** [f. MONGOL + -IAN.]

A. *adj.*

1. Pertaining to the Mongols, their country, language, etc.; = MONGOL *a.*

1738 tr. *Strahlenberg's Descr. Russ.*, etc. (title-p.), A Vocabulary of the Kalmuck-Mungalian Tongue. *Ibid.* 139 After the Tartars had totally defeated the Mungalian Army. 1836 H. MURRAY, etc. *Hist. & Descr. Acc. China* I. ii. 39 The opinion which assigns to the Chinese a Tartar, or rather Mongolian lineage. 1862 *Chamb. Encycl.* IV. 692/1 The Mongolian goat. 1878 *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 750/1 The Mongolian characters .. are written perpendicularly from above downward. 1893 LYDEKKER *Horns & Hoofs* 182 The tsean or Mongolian gazelle.

2. *Anthropology.* Belonging to the yellow-skinned straight-haired type of mankind (according to Blumenbach's classification). Cf. MONGOLOID.

1828 STARK *Elem. Nat. Hist.* I. 38 The Mongolian variety inhabits eastern Asia, Finland, and Lapland in Europe, and includes the Esquimaux of North America. 1834 *Penny Cycl.* II. 473/1 The white (or Caucasian), the yellow (or Mongolian), and the black (or Ethiopian). 1903 *Blackw. Mag.* Mar. 372 Their features are decidedly Mongolian.

3. Applied to a type of idiots characterized by a physiognomy resembling that of the Mongolians.

1892 J. L. DOWN in Tuke *Dict. Psychol. Med.* II. 644 Ten per cent. of all cases of idiocy arrange themselves around a highly characteristic type which the writer has proposed to call the Mongolian variety. 1904 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 17 Sept. 679 The histological examination of two brains of Mongolian idiots.

B. *sb.* **a.** A native of Mongolia; a Mongol. **b.** One of the Mongolian race of mankind (see A. 2). **c.** The language of the Mongols.

1846 *J. Bell's Geog., Asiat. Russ.* iii. IV. 176 They speak a very rude dialect of Mongolian. 1854 R. G. LATHAM in *Orr's Circ. Sci., Org. Nat.* I. 316 The Mongolians are the most nomadic of populations. *Ibid.* 317 Zingis-Khan was a Mongolian and not a Turk. 1905 *Blackw. Mag.* Mar. 341/1 The white officers bade the chattering Mongolians cease their clavers.

Mongolic (mɒŋgɒ·lik), *a.* and *sb.* [f. MONGOL + -IC.] **a.** *adj.* Mongolian. **b.** *sb.* The Mongolian language.

1834 *Penny Cycl.* II. 473/2 The Bhots, or inhabitants of Bhotan and Tibet, are Mongolic. 1884 G. SMITH *Short Hist. Chr. Missions* xvii. (1904) 212 The Negritic or Black, the Mongolic or yellow, and the Caucasic or white. 1888 A. H. KEANE in *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 2/2 Many Turkic forms and words can be explained only by reference to Mongolic.

Mongoliform (mɒŋgō·lifɔ̄m), *a.* [f. MONGOL + -(I)FORM.] Having the form characteristic of the Mongolians.

1849–52 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* IV. 1355 The cranium is Mongoliform and brachycephalic.

Mongo·lioid, *a.* and *sb. rare*—°. = MONGOLOID.

1882 in OGILVIE. 1891 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

Mongolize (mɒ·ŋgɒlaiz), *v.* [f. MONGOL + -IZE.] *trans.* To render (a people) Mongolian in character, customs, etc.; to introduce a large Mongolian element into. Hence **Mongoliza·tion.**

1814 tr. *Klaproth's Trav.* 10 They perhaps belong to the most ancient branches of Mongolized Tartars. 1887 *Amer. Missionary* (N. Y.) Sept. 270 The Mongolization of America. 1906 *Daily News* 2 July 6/2 Australia was determined..not to Mongolise its dominions.

Mongolo- (mɒ·ŋgɒlo), used as combining form of MONGOL or MONGOLIAN, to denote 'partly Mongolian and partly . .'

1888 A. H. KEANE in *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 2/2 Mongolo-Turkic and Finno-Ugro-Samoyedo-Tungusic. 1903 *Contemp. Rev.* Aug. 190 The Mongolo-Manchurian question.

Mongoloid (mɒ·ŋgɒloid), *a.* and *sb.* [f. MONGOL + -OID. Cf. F. *mongoloïde.*] **A.** *adj.*

1. Belonging to that one of the five principal races of mankind (according to Huxley's division), which prevails over the vast region lying east of a line drawn from Lapland to Siam.

1868 HUXLEY in *Trans. Intern. Congr. Preh. Archæol.* (1869) 93 In the Mongoloid race the complexion ranges from brownish-yellow to olive.

2. = MONGOLIAN *a.* 3.

1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 236 Dr. A. E. Garrod mentions six cases of mongoloid idiots.

B. *sb.* One of the Mongoloid race.

1868 HUXLEY in *Trans. Intern. Congr. Preh. Archæol.* (1869) 95 The Xanthochroi inhabit a far smaller area of the earth's surface than the Mongoloids.

Mongoose, mungoose (mɒ·ŋgūs, mʊ·ŋgūs). Forms: 8 **mongoes, -goos, mungos,** 8–9 **mungoos, mongooz, -goz,** 9 **mongous, mungoose,** (*pl.* ? erron. **mungoes**), 7– **mongoose**; *β.* 8–9 **mangoust,** (**-oost**). [a. (? through Pg. *mangus*) Marathi *mangūs* (Telugu *mangisu*, Konkani *mungasa*, Canarese *mungisi*). The *β*-forms are from F. *mangouste.*]

1. An ichneumon, *Herpestes griseus*, common in India, and well known for its ability to kill venomous snakes unharmed. Also applied to other ichneumons (subfamily *Herpestinæ*); in the form *Mungos* the word has been used in zoological Latin as the name of a genus (now *Crossarchus*) of this subfamily.

1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 116 A Mongoose is a-kin to a Ferret. 1764 GRAINGER *Sugar Cane* II. 95 *note*, A species of East India animal, called a Mongoes, which bears a natural antipathy to rats. 1800 *Asiat. Ann. Reg., Misc. Tracts* 3/2 The *viverra ichneumon*, which, by the Europeans, is called mongoos. 1827 D. JOHNSON *Ind. Field Sports* 204 A cat withstood the poison better than any other animal, excepting the Mungoose (Ichneumon). 1859 BOWRING *Vis. Philippine Isl.* xvi. 274 Oxen, swine, buffaloes, deer, goats..flying squirrels, dogs, rats, mungoes and other quadrupeds, are found in various stages of domesticity and wildness. 1881 *Encycl. Brit.* XII. 629/1 The Indian ichneumon or mungoos..is considerably smaller than the Egyptian form. 1893–4 *Roy. Nat. Hist.* I. 474 The thick-tailed mungoose (*Cynictis penicillata*)..inhabits the Cape Colony, and is of medium size. 1894 KIPLING *Jungle Bk.* 124 It is the hardest thing in the world to frighten a mongoose.

β. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* II. 304 The Weasil kind.. comprehends .. the Ferrit, the Mangoust [etc.]. 1785 G. FORSTER tr. *Sparrman's Voy. Cape G. H.* (1786) II. 246 The *viverra ichneumon*, or the mangoust. 1840 tr. *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 93 The *Urva* of Mr. Hodgson appears also to be a Mangouste, with incomplete orbits.

2. A species of lemur or maki, *Lemur mongoz.*

[Possibly a distinct word; but no source has been found for it in Malagasy or any other language of the Indian Ocean, and it may be a transferred use of the name of the ichneumon.]

1758 EDWARDS *Glean. Nat. Hist.* I. 12 The Mongooz. [The Fr. version, in parallel columns, has *Le Mongous.*] These animals are brought from Madagascar, and many of the smaller islands between that and the East Indies; they seem to be one remove from the direct Monkey. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* IV. 240 A second of this kind [*sc.* the Maki], which is also a native of Madagascar, is the Mongooz. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) IX. 785/2 The mongooz, or woolly maucauco, inhabits Madagascar. 1828 STARK *Elem. Nat. Hist.* I. 60 *L. mongoz*...The Mongooz...The Mongous pass a considerable portion of the day in sleep. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XV. 331/2 Mongoose, or Mongooz, one of the names of a species of Macauco, *Lemur Mongoz*, Linn. 1868 *Museum Nat. Hist.* I. 43 The Mongous (*Lemur Mongoz*) ..is a little larger than the ring-tailed lemur.

Mongorne, obs. form of MONG-CORN.

Mongrel (mɒ·ngrĕl), *sb.* and *a.* Forms: 5 **mengrell,** 6 **mon-, mungerell,** 6–7 **mangrel(l, mo(u)ngrel, -ell,** 6–8 **mungrel, -il, mongrell, -il,** 7 **mungrill,** 7– **mongrel.** [app. f. root *meng-, mang-, mong-*, to mix (see MENG *v.*, MONG *sb.* and *v.*[2]) + -REL.] **A.** *sb.*

1. The offspring of two different breeds of dog. Chiefly, and now only, a dog of no definable breed, resulting from various crossings.

1486 *Bk. St. Albans* f iiij b, A Grehownd, a Bastard, a Mengrell, a Mastyfe. 1573 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 98 Of mastiues and mungrels. 1576 FLEMING tr. *Caius' Dogs* 43 Of mungrels or rascalls [L. *degeneres*] somwhat is to be spoken. And among these, yᵉ Wappe or Turnespet. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 154 Of the mixt kind of Dogs called in English Mangrels or Mongrels. Those we call Mangrels which though they be on both sides, propagated by Dogges, yet are they not of one kind. *a* 1613 OVERBURY *A Wife*, etc. (1638) 111 Like a true mongrell, he neither bites nor barks, but when your back is towards him. 1674 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 945/4 A great old Indian Spaniel, or Mongrel, as big as a Mastiff. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Past.* III. 25 His Mungril bark'd, I ran to his relief. 1704 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4079/4 A .. Greyhound, ..with..a brushy Stern like a Mongrel. 1766 GOLDSM. *Mad Dog* iv, Both mongrel, puppy, whelp, and hound, And curs of low degree. 1827 HOOD *Mids. Fairies* xx, A flock of panick'd sheep..Watching the warning mongrel here and there. 1862 CALVERLEY *Verses & Transl.* (ed. 2) 48 A long-backed fancy-mongrel. 1882 MISS BRADDON *Mt. Royal* III. vi. 106 'What kind of dogs did you see in your travels? .. 'Twn or three very fine breeds of mongrels'.

† **b.** Applied to persons as a term of contempt or abuse. (Cf. *cur.*) *Obs.*

a 1585 MONTGOMERIE *Flyting* 772 Gleyd gangrell, auld mangrell! to the hangrell, and sa pyne. 1601 B. JONSON *Poetaster* III. iv, You mungrels, you curres, you ban-dogs, wee are Captaine Tucca, that talke to you. 1620 MIDDLETON *Chaste Maid* II. ii, How did the mongrels heer my wife lies in? 1647 WHARTON *Bellum Ilybern.* Wks. (1683) 227 To the intent that this barking mungrel may not delude the ignorant with his pedling trash. 1764 FOOTE *Mayor of G.* I. Wks. 1799 I. 171 Is that your manners, you mongrel?

2. In wider use: An animal or plant resulting from the crossing of different breeds or kinds; restricted by some scientists to the result of the crossing of varieties (opp. to *hybrid*).

1677 CHARLETON *Exercit. de Differ. et Nom. Anim.* (ed. 2) 26 *Canis..Lyciscus*, a Mongrel, engendered of a Wolf and a Bitch. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Mongrel*, a Creature got by two kinds. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* I. 197 Mongrels, the offspring of the wolf and dog. 1828 WEBSTER, *Hybrid*, a mongrel or mule. 1859 DARWIN *Orig. Spec.* iv. 99 A large majority..of the seedlings thus raised will turn out mongrels. *Ibid.* viii. 273 The parents of mongrels are varieties, and mostly domestic varieties. 1879 tr. *De Quatrefages' Hum. Species* I. vii. 63 This crossing itself is differently named according to whether it takes place between different races or different species. In the first case it produces a mongrel, in the second a hybrid.

3. A person not of pure race; the offspring of parents of different nationalities, or † of high and low birth. Chiefly in disparaging use.

1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 15 By the waie of reuilyng or despite, laiyng to the charge of the same Antisthenes that he was a moungreell, and had to his father a citezen of Athenes, but to his mother a woman of a barbarous or saluage countree. 1577 HANMER *Anc. Eccl. Hist.* (1619) 356 Selenas, .. a mungrell, by father a Goth, by mother a Phrygian. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* IV. ii. 140 Being a mungrell, as it were, the one halfe a Noble, the other a Commoner. 1622 FLETCHER *Sea Voy.* IV. ii, *Cla.* Of what sort are they? *Jul.* They say they are Gentlemen. But they shew Mungrels. 1708 WILSON, etc. tr. *Petronius Arbiter* 62 He's of a right Breed both by Father and Mother, no Mungril. 1870 EDGAR *Runnymede* xxii, Men..of every race, mongrels almost to a man. 1898 F. T. BULLEN *Cruise of Cachalot* 115 Neither do the Arab mongrels..bear any too good a reputation.

fig. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* I. 2, I being..borne to the Muses, as to the World, a mungrell to both.

4. In transferred applications, more or less contemptuous.

† **a.** A person of mixed or undefined opinions, or who leans to both sides (in religion or politics). Also (*rare*), a person of undefined official position.

1554 T. SAMPSON in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* (1721) III. App. xviii. 53 A weak brother seeth you, as mungrels mingling yourselves with the Papists in their idolatry. 1561 DAUS tr. *Bullinger on Apoc.* (1573) 58 It were better thou were a Sinner or an Heathen, than an hypocrite and a mungrell. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* VIII. 361 Our seuerall Ambassadours.. at Constantinople, who rather stay there as Mungrels than absolute Ambassadours. *a* 1638 MEDE *Wks.* IV. (1672) 819 You desired but to know what I thought of *Genuflexio versus Altare*, and I think I have told you; and you see hereby what a mungrel I am. 1645 *King's Cabinet Opened* 48 The King..despiseth you by the name of Mungrells, as not altogether firme enough to his owne designe. *a* 1677 BARROW *Serm.* (1686) III. 89 If thou wilt be brave, be brave indeed; singly and thoroughly; be not a double-hearted mongrel. 1713 ADDISON *Cato* III. vi, Mongrils in faction, poor faint-hearted traitors!

b. A 'cross' (*between*).

1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 586 Whose Religion was a mungrell of the Greekish, Egyptian, and their own. 1645 MILTON *Colast.* Wks. 1851 IV. 377 Though his two faculties of Serving-man and Solliciter, should compound into one mongrel. 1863 COWDEN CLARKE *Shaks. Char.* xvi. 411 In character he is a sort of mongrel between the thoroughbred jester-clown and the cur errand-boy. 1864 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* XVII. v. (1872) VII. 56 Some cart, or dilapidated mongrel between cart and basket.

B. *adj.* (appositive and attributive uses of the sb.)

1. Of dogs: That is a mongrel or of mixed breed.

1576 FLEMING tr. *Caius' Dogs* 33 It remaineth that we deliuer vnto you the Dogges of a mungrell or currishe kind. 1679 BLOUNT *Anc. Tenures* 10 A Mungrel Hound, for the Chase of the wild Boar. 1688 J. CLAYTON in *Phil. Trans.* XVIII. 133 There followed them two or three Mungrel Curs. 1773–83 HOOLE *Orl. Fur.* XVII. 629 When th' exerting voice of village-swains A mungrel cur against the wolf constrains. 1890 C. L. MORGAN *Anim. Life & Intell.* (1891) 168 The bitch retains the influence of the mongrel puppies .. and therefore mongrelizes subsequent litters.

b. As an abusive epithet for a person.

1605 SHAKS. *Lear* II. ii. 24 A Knaue, a Rascall,..and the Sonne and Heire of a Mungrill Bitch. 1606 — *Tr. & Cr.* V. iv. 14 That mungrill curre Aiax. 1720 J. HUGHES *Siege Damascus* V. ii. (1777) 63 Perfidious mungrel slave!

2. In wider use, of animals and plants. (Cf. A. 2.)

1635 SWAN *Spec. M.* (1670) 355 The Tassel [or male] of the Saker is called a Hobbie, or Mongrel Hawk. *c* 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* III. 54 The Welsh nag..is right and of no mongrill race. 1768 BOSWELL *Corsica* i. (ed. 2) 40 Their sheep being of a mongrel race. 1770–4 A. HUNTER *Georg. Ess.* (1803) I. 489 Care should be taken that the cabbage tribe..should be cultivated at as great a distance from each other as possible, to prevent the ill consequences of a mongrel produce. 1871 DARWIN *Desc. Man* II. xv. 156 The result would..be the production..of a mongrel piebald lot [of pigeons].

3. Of persons: Of mixed race or nationality; having parents of different races. Chiefly in disparaging use.

1606 Holland *Sueton.* 30 Diuers mungrell Gaules no better than halfe Barbarians. 1670 Dryden *Conq. Granada* I. i, Their Mungril Race is mix'd with Christian Breed. 1728 Morgan *Algiers* I. i. 10 A mungrel breed of Tyrians and old Africans. 1805 Southey *Madoc in W.* xv, To learn that law from Norman or from Dane, Saxon, Jute, Angle, or whatever name Suit best your mongrel race! 1861 *Lond. Rev.* 16 Feb. 187 We Englishmen may be proud of the results to which a mongrel breed and a hybrid race have led us. 1871 Darwin *Desc. Man* I. vii. 225 An immense mongrel population of Negroes and Portuguese. 1879 Farrar *St. Paul* (1883) 354 Men..unsophisticated by the debilitating Hellenism of a mongrel population.

4. *transf.* Of persons, things, classes: Of mixed origin, nature, or character; not referable to any definite species or type; that is 'neither one thing nor the other'. Chiefly in contemptuous use.

1581 Sidney *Apol. Poetrie* (Arb.) 65 Neither the admiration and commiseration, nor the right sportfulnes, is by their mungrell Tragy-comedie obtained. 1600 Surflet *Country Farm* VI. xxii. 792 Such wines are called mungrell or bastard wines, which (betwixt the sweete and astringent ones) haue neither manifest sweetenes, nor manifest astriction. 1632 *High Commission Cases* (Camden) 319 What is betweene Adam and Christ, halfe a new creature and halfe an ould, a mongrell Christian. 1645 *King's Cabinet Opened* 47 He [the king] calls those, who have deserted their trust in Parliament,..by the name of a base, mutinous, and mungrell Parliament. *a* 1661 Fuller *Worthies, Wilts* (1662) III. 158 These Mungrell Pamphlets (part true, part false) doe most mischief. 1663 Butler *Hud.* I. iii. 1225 This zealot Is of a mungrel, divers kind, Cleric before, and Lay behind. 1691 Woon *Ath. Oxon.* I. 186 About that time King Hen. 8 [was] setting up a mongrel Religion in the Land. 1702 in Somers *Tracts* 4th Collect. (1751) III. 21 A Sort of mungril Church-goers, whose Conformity was not the Result of Principle, but of a luke-warm Compliance with the Humour of the Times. 1762–71 H. Walpole *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1786) IV. 84 His imitators, without his taste, compounded a mungrel species, that had no boldness, no lightness, and no system. *a* 1764 Lloyd *Law Student* Poet. Wks. 1774 I. 24 That mungrel, half-form'd thing, a Temple-Beau? 1826 Hood *Irish Schoolm.* viii, A mongrel tint, that is ne brown ne blue. 1833–5 J. H. Newman *Hist. Sk.* (1876) III. i. iii. 51 [He] had been brought up..a mongrel sort of religionist, part Jew, part Pagan. 1884 W. St. J. Brodrick in *Fortn. Rev.* June 755 A subservient peerage, elastic principles, and a mongrel policy.

b. Applied to a word formed of elements from different languages, or to a dialect made up of different languages.

1610 Holland *Camden's Brit.* I. 486 A mungrell name halfe Saxon and halfe Latin. 1652–62 Heylin *Cosmogr.* II. (1682) 180 A mungrel Language, composed of Italian, French, and some Spanish words. 1715 tr. *Pancirollus' Rerum Mem.* I. i. viii. 21 Aurichalcum..is a mungrel Word derived from both those languages [Greek and Latin]. 1867 Deutsch in *Q. Rev.* CXXIII. 450 The Aramaic..had become in the hands of the people a mongrel idiom. 1871 Farrar *Witn. Hist.* iii. 93 If they spoke their own language, it bewrayed them by its mongrel dialect.

Hence (*nonce-words*) **Mo·ngreldom, Mongre·lity,** the condition of being a mongrel; **Mo·ngrelish** *a.*, **Mo·ngrelly** *a.*, resembling a mongrel.

18.. Moore *On Hunt* in *Byron's Wks.* (1846) 526/1 They suffer small mongrelly curs in their kitchen. 1859 F. Francis *Newton Dogvane* (1888) 40 A mongrelish-looking, coarse-sterned pointer. 1859 Sala *Gas-light & D.* xxi, A brown dog of an uncertain shade of mongrelity. 1884 Blackmore *Tommy Upm.* II. ii. 17 What marvel, that we have sold our birth-right to an acephalous mollusk, when the simple use of the tongue has passed into such headless mongreldom? 1889 *Pall Mall G.* 9 Jan. 2/1 [The dog] began to develop undoubted signs of mongreldom.

† **Mo·ngrel,** *v. Obs. rare.* In 7 moun-, mun-. [f. prec.] *trans.* To make mongrel or hybrid.

1602 Marston *Ant. & Mel.* I. Induct., Millane being halfe Spanish, half high Dutch, and halfe Italians, the blood of the chifest houses is corrupt and mungrel'd. 1607 — *What you Will* I. i, Shall our blood be moungreld with the corruption of a stragling French?

Mongrelism (mɒ·ngrĕliz'm). [f. Mongrel *sb.* + -ism.] The condition or quality of being mongrel or hybrid.

1598 Florio, *Bastardume*, bastardise, mungrelism. 1831 *Examiner* 274/2 [He] has passed from rank Toryism to the mongrelism of 'moderate reformer'. 1849 D. T. Browne *Amer. Poultry Yd.* (1855) 66 There is no breed of fowls more disfigured by mongrelism than this. 1871 Galton in *Proc. Roy. Soc.* XIX. 396 The variations to which the breed is liable, and which might at first be thought due to mongrelism.

Mongrelize (mɒ·ngrĕlәiz), *v.* [f. Mongrel *sb.* + -ize.] *trans.* To make mongrel in race, composition, or character.

1629 Maxwell tr. *Herodian* (1635) 256 It was not fit that either of their Races should be Mungreliz'd in that manner. 1859 Darwin *Orig. Spec.* iv. 99 How..comes it that such a vast number of the seedlings are mongrelized? 1871 Galton in *Proc. Roy. Soc.* XIX. 396 The breed of rabbits which I endeavoured to mongrelize was the 'Silver-Grey'. 1890 [see Mongrel *a.* 1].

Hence **Mongreliza·tion.**

1889 H. Campbell *Caus. Dis.* x. 76 Hybridization or mongrelization of disease.

'Mongst (mɒ̃ŋst), *prep. poet.* Aphetic form of Amongst.

c 1590 Marlowe *Faustus* vii, Faustus is feasted mongst his noblemen. 1601 Shaks. *Phœnix & Turtle* 20 Mongst our mourners shalt thou go. 1632 Milton *L'Allegro* 4 'Mongst horrid shapes, and shreiks, and sights unholy. 1707 Watts *Hymns & Spir. Songs* I. xxxix. (1751) 28 And 'mongst a thousand tender Thoughts [can] Her Suckling have no Room? 1871 Palgrave *Lyr. Poems* 38 'Mongst all perfections the most perfect wife.

† **Mo·ngster.** *Obs.* [f. Mong-er: see -ster.] A female trader; only as the second element in comb., as *flour-mongster.*

1281 in *Cal. Pat. Rolls Edw. I* 462 Agathe le Flurmongester.

Monguba, variant of Munguba.

Mongul, obs. form of Mongol.

Monhad, -heade, obs. ff. Manhood, -head.

Monhydride (mɒnhәi·drәid). *Chem.* [f. Mon(o)- + Hydride.] A compound of one atom of hydrogen with an element or radical.

1866 Odling *Anim. Chem.* 1 Monhydrides, dihydrides, and trihydrides..and their derived chlorides.

Moni, obs. form of Many.

Mo·nial, *a.* and *sb.*1 *Obs.* Also 4 -yale, 4–6 -yal(l, 6 -iale, moiniall. [a. OF. *monial, moinal* (*moniale* sb. fem.), f. F. *moine* Monk; or ad. med.L. *monāl-is.*] **A.** *adj.* Monastic. *rare*—°.

1656 Blount *Glossogr., Monial* or *Monachal.*

B. *sb.* A nun.

1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. x. 319 þere shal come a kyng and confesse 30w religiouses,..And amende monyales monkes and chanouns. 1513 Bradshaw *St. Werburge* II. 319 Virgin and moiniall of mycle excellence. *c* 1550 Bale *K. Johan* (Camden) 18 Canons of S. Marke, Vestals and Monyals. 1587 Fleming *Contn. Holinshed* III. 1027/1 The first was a house for women called moniales or nuns.

Monial (mō·niăl), *sb.*2 *Arch.* Now *Antiq.* Forms: 4 moniel, monyele, moyniele, 4–6 moynel(l, 5 munell, 6 monyelle, -al, mun(y)iall, moinel, mynell, 9 monial. [a. OF. *moinel, moynel, monial* (also *meigneaul, mayneau, maineau,* mod.F. *meneau*), of unknown origin. Cf. Mullion, Munnion.]

1. A mullion.

1330 in J. T. Smith *Antiq. Westminster* (1807) 185 [For the purpose of strengthening and keeping in their places the] moynells [in the east gable]. 1379 *Mem. Ripon* (Surtees) III. 102 Et in j moniel lapid. figend. cum plumbo in prædictis aluris. *a* 1440 *Sir Degrev.* 1459 Square wyndowus of glas, The rechest that ever was Tho moynelus was off bras. 1426–7 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* 64 For iiij munell for wyndowes. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VIII* 73 The postes or monyelles of euery wyndow was gylte. 1569 in *Pension Bk. Gray's Inn* (1901) 464 Munialls in the said windowes. 1846 *Ecclesiologist* V. 164 The west window of the north aisle, of three lights with simply intersecting monials. 1856 J. Allen *Liskeard* viii. 119 Three small square-headed lights..the openings separated by monials. 1878 McVittie *Christ Church Cathedral* 28 *note*, In all these old walls were found..annulated monials and cusped tracery.

† **2.** One of the plates of gold on the back of a bishop's or abbot's glove. *Obs.*

c 1540 *Inv. Westm. Abbey* in *Trans. Lond. & Mdsx. Archæol. Soc.* IV. 317 The best payre of Pasturall Gloves, with parells of brodered work and small perells haveyng on them ij monyals of gold garnyshed with vj stones and xxiiij gret perles.

Moniast, obs. Sc. superl. of Many. **Monide,** obs. f. Moneyed. **Monie,** obs. f. Many, Money. **Monied,** var. Moneyed. **Moniefauld, Moniel,** obs. ff. Manifold, Monial. **Monier,** var. Moneyer. **Monies cunnes, kinnes, kunnes:** see Manykin. **Moniest,** obs. f. superl. of Many. **Monifald, -fold,** obs. ff. Manifold.

Monifide: see Moneyfied.

Monilated (mɒ·nilĕtĕd), *ppl. a. Anat.* [f. L. *monīle* necklace + -ate2 + -ed1.] Moniliform.

1877 Huxley *Anat. Inv. Anim.* vii. 416 An accessory gland composed of dichotomous monilated tubes. 1898 P. Manson *Trop. Diseases* xxvi. 393 The individual hairs become white, or downy, or splintered or monillated [*sic*].

Moniless(e, obs. forms of Moneyless.

Moniliform (mɒni·lifɔ̄ɹm), *a.* [a. F. *moniliforme,* or mod.L. *monīliformis,* f. *monīle* necklace: see -form.] Of the form of or resembling a necklace; necklace-shaped; having contractions at regular intervals; consisting of or characterized by a series of globular or oval protuberances suggesting a string of beads.

1802–3 tr. *Pallas' Trav.* (1812) II. 195 Moniliform iron-ore, and pudding-stone, are still more common in the schistous beds. 1819 Samouelle *Entomol. Compend.* 260 Antennæ as long or shorter than the body, with moniliform joints. 1826 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* III. 146 *note*, That [*sc.* the horn on the tail] of *Sphinx Iatrophæ*..is moniliform. 1874 Cooke *Fungi* 38 The spores are..generated in a moniliform manner, and afterwards separating at the joints. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 582 Portions of the veins on the back of the hand become quite moniliform, that is to say, there was an alternation of small dark swellings with narrow almost colourless intervals between them.

Hence **Moni·liformly** *adv.*, so as to resemble a necklace.

1848 E. Forbes *Naked-eyed Medusæ* 59 From the four bulbs spring as many pale yellow, moniliformly-granulated, slender, coiling tentacula. 1882 J. M. Crombie in *Encycl. Brit.* XIV. 553/2 In *Ephebacei* they [*sc.* the gonidial granules] are not moniliformly arranged.

Moniment, obs. form of Monument.

Monimolite (mɒni·mɒlәit). *Min.* [Named by L. J. Igelström, 1865 (*monimolit*), f. Gr. *μόνιμο-ς* stable, because it is decomposed with great difficulty: see -lite.] Antimonate of lead and iron, found in yellowish or brownish crystals.

1868 Dana *Syst. Min.* (ed. 5) 546.

† **Mo·nion.** *Mil. Obs.* Also 7 mougnon, 7–9 mognion, 8 moignon. [a. F. *moignon,* in 17th c. † *mougnon,* of obscure origin: cf. Sp. *muñon* muscle of the arm.] (See quots. 1658, 1706.)

1652 Loveday tr. *Calprenède's Cassandra* I. 47 His sleeve which issuing forth of a Mougnon of gold, in the forme of a Lions Jawes, cover'd his Arme to the elbow, was of the same. 1658 Phillips, *Mougnon,* (French) the brawny part of the arm, also the brassel, or that part of a Coat of Armour, that covereth the Arms. 1659 Howell *Lex., Partic. Vocab.* xliv, Monions for the shoulders, *gli spalacci, Les moignons, Espaldares.* 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Moignon,* the Stump of a Leg or Arm that is cut off; also Armour for the Arms. 1802 James *Milit. Dict., Mognions.*

Monion, Moniour, obs. ff. Munnion, Moneyer.

Moniplies, variant of Manyplies.

Monipolical: see Monopolical.

Monish (mɒ·niʃ), *v.* Forms: *a.* 4–5 **monast, -yst, moonest,** 4–6 **monest**(e; *β.* 4 **mones, moneyche,** 5 **-ys**(s)**ch**(e, **-esche, -yche,** 5–6 **monysh**(e, **-ysshe,** 6 **monis**(s)**h**(e, *Sc.* **monis, -ys,** 6– **monish.** *Pa. t.* and *pa. pple.* in *-st.* 4–5 **monyst,** 4–6 **monest,** 6 **-ist.** [a. OF. *monester*:—popular L. *monestāre,* an unexplained derivative of *monēre* to advise, warn. For the change of termination in English, see Admonish.]

1. *trans.* To Admonish (a person), in various senses. (Also *absol.*) *arch.*

a. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 27330 And for to monest [*Fairf.* monast] him ful gerne, if he can noght, for to lerne. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* III. 6 Here he monestiþ ech man to lyve wel. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 3579 For I you pray, and eek moneste, Nought to refusen our requeste. *c* 1449 Pecock *Repr.* IV. iv. 445 Poul bade him [*sc.* Titus]..forto correcte defautis as weel as forto moneste. 1494 Fabyan *Chron.* VI. clii. 140 Monesting hym..that he shuld exchew and forbere suche doynge.

β. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 26828 We moneyche [*Fairf.* monest] biscops preistes bath,..þat þai thol na sauls for to be lend vnto þe feinddes hand. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* XII. 383 Thai may weill monyss [*Camb. MS.* monast] as thai will. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* xlviii. 216 (Add. MS.), Whan Ioseph was monysshed and bidden by the aungell, that he shuld flee into Egipte. 1483 *Chron. Eng.* g vij, He monyschyd all cristen men that prestes shuld be worsshipped a bown all other men. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* x. viii. 5 The haly nymphe..Hyr brother Turnus did monys and exhort To succur Lawsus. *a* 1533 Frith *Answ. More* (1829) 175 And so are we monished by Isaiah, in the 8th chapter, that we believe no such fantasies. *a* 1568 Ascham *Scholem.* I. (Arb.) 31 Chide not hastelie:..but monish him gentelie. 1606 G. W[oodcocke] *Lives Emperors* in *Hist. Iustine* Hh iij, Men say that his parents were monished in a dreame to cal him Theodosius. 16.. Swinburne *Sponsals* (1686) 91 Yet is he rather to be monished than compelled to marry this Woman. 1839 Bailey *Festus* iv. (1848) 31 Were thou and I To monish them. 1856 Miss Winkworth tr. *Tauler's Life & Serm.* xxi. (1857) 360 Each doing as he is inwardly monished by the Holy Ghost. 1856 T. N. Harper *Peace thro. Truth* Ser. I. 15 The Apostle then, as Pacian monishes us, speaks of a visible unity.

¶ Pa. t. and pple. in *-st.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 29292 He þat aght..fra hali kirk has laght, and he þar-for es monest thrise [etc.]. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* XII. 379 Tharfor thai monyst thame to be Of gret vorschip. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 3127 (Ashm. MS.) Pus monest he þe messangers þaire maistir to say. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 6400 Of þis wyse monest was he. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* III. iii. 77 Lat ws obey Phebus..As we bene monest. 1536 Bellenden *Cron. Scot.* (1821) I. 231 Reule monist be this visioun, come with the said reliquies.

b. In ecclesiastical use. (Cf. Monition 3 b.)

c 1440 *Jacob's Well* 56 Alle þo þat..kepin or defendyn an opyn theef, after þe tyme þey be thryes monestyd of here ordinarye, in specyal or in general [etc.]. 1533 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* VI. 152 To monis the priores..for nonpayment of thair taxt of the Beltane terme. 1607 in W. H. Hale *Prec. in Causes of Office* (1841) 10 He is now monished to appeare in the Consistorie the first court day of Easter next. 1633 *Acts Durham High Commission Crt.* 36 Hath heard the late Lord Bishopp Neile..monish and require Vaux to give over the profession of casting of figures. 1847 Coote *Pract. Eccl. Courts* 257 [Form of Monition.] We do therefore hereby authorize..you..peremptorily to monish, or cause to be monished, the said Alexander McMath, that he shall [etc.]. 1872 O. Shipley *Gloss. Eccl. Terms* s. v. *Monition,* an order monishing the party complained against to obey. 1885 *Law Times* LXXIX. 438/1 Whether the clergyman .. had sufficiently monished him or any other erring parishioner.

† **2.** With thing as obj. (chiefly in translations): To exhort to; to give warning of; to call to mind.

1382 Wyclif *Luke* iii. 18 He monestinge manye othere thingis [Vulg. *Multa quidem et alia exhortans*]. 1382 — *John* iii. 10 If I schal come, I shal moneste [Vulg. *commonebo*] his werkes, whiche he doith. 1388 — *Eccles.* vii. 3 The ende of alle men is monestid [Vulg. *finis cunctorum admonetur hominum*]. *a* 1533 Frith *Disput. Purgat.* Pref. (1829) 83 Let them remember what Paul monisheth 1 Tim. 4. 1540 Palsgr. *Acolastus* D iij b, Surely he is a stoute and a hartye monysher, if he monysh any thynge well.

Hence **Mo·nishing** *vbl. sb.* Also **Mo·nisher,** one who admonishes.

1382 Wyclif *Isa.* xxx. 21 Thin eres shuln heren the wrd bihinde the bac of the monestere. 1388 — *Deut.* xxi. 20 He dispisith to here oure monestyngis. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* II. xxix. 370 And the voice of monysshyng is this. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 243/1 A Monyschere, *hortator, monitor.* 1513 Douglas *Æneis* IV. viii. 115 Eik bygane the feirfull sawis seir Off the devynis, with terrible monysingis. 1540 Monysher [see Mónish *v.* 2]. *a* 1600 *Ballad* in T. James *Corrupt. Scripture* (1611) III. 44 In his monestings he forsaketh despisings. 1624 Gee *Hold fast* 33, I should seeme rather to be an accuser..then a monisher in..dutie to my Countrey.

Mo·nishment. *arch.* Also 5 monestement. [f. MONISH *v.* + -MENT. In Caxton, a. OF. *monestement.*] Admonition, warning. Also, † a reminder.

1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 265/2 Gerard..refused alwey his monestementes and techynges. 1494 FABYAN *Chron.* VII. ccxliv. 286 Kynge John came not at ye day appoynted.. accordyng to ye monysshement to hym gyuen. 1563 FOXE *A. & M.* 853 b, Monkes, friers, and nonnes..forgat that their ceremonies wer monishmentes to put them in mynd of theyr profession. 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus, Commonitio..*a monishment: an aduertisement. 1896 SNOWDEN *Web of Weaver* xix. (1897) 212, I was fairly plagued with it till I had shaved my beard, to spite her monishments.

Monism (mǫ·niz'm). [ad. mod.L. *monism-us*, f. Gr. *μόνος* single : see -ISM.]

1. *Philos.* A metaphysical system based on the assumption of a single ultimate principle or kind of being instead of two or more : opposed to DUALISM and PLURALISM in various applications.

a. The doctrine that only one being exists.

1862 F. HALL *Hindu Philos. Syst.* 160 To the Vedántins the establishment of monism, or non-duality, is most essential. They wish to make out the soul to be Brahma, and the world to be false; whence it would follow, that Brahma solely is true, and that nought but him exists.

b. A general name for those theories which deny the duality (i. e. the existence as two ultimate kinds of substance) of matter and mind.

Thus materialism and idealism or spiritualism are both species of monism; the name, however, is often applied specifically to a third variety, viz. the doctrine that physical and psychical phenomena are alike manifestations of a reality which cannot be identified with either matter or mind.

1876 tr. *Haeckel's Hist. Creat.* I. ii. 35 The Monism here maintained by us is often considered identical with Materialism. 1887 *Encycl. Brit.* XXII. 564/1 Until dualism had been thought out, as in the Peripatetic school, it was impossible that monism (or at any rate materialistic monism) should be definitely and consciously maintained. 1898 ILLINGWORTH *Div. Immun.* iii. 71 Monism..started from the physical side, from analysis of the cerebral conditions of thought.

c. The doctrine that there is only one Supreme Being, as opposed to the belief in a Good and an Evil Principle as co-ordinate powers.

1872 MORRIS tr. *Ueberweg's Hist. Philos.* I. 334 Against the dualism of the Manichæans..Augustine defends the monism of the good principle.

2. (See quot. : perh. a misapprehension.)

1880 PASCOE *Zool. Classif.* (ed. 2) 283 *Monism*, the descent of all organic beings from one primitive stock.

Monist (mǫ·nist). [f. Gr. *μόνος* single + -IST.] One who holds a doctrine of monism (in any sense).

1836–7 Sir W. HAMILTON *Metaph.* xvi. (1859) I. 295 The Realists or Substantialists are again divided into Dualists, and into Unitarians or Monists, according as they [etc.]. 1862 F. HALL *Hindu Philos. Syst.* 267 Can monism be established by simply showing, that two things are different in kind? If so, the Naiyáyikas, no less than you, are monists.

Monist: see MONISH *v.*

Monistic (mǫni·stik), *a.* [f. MONIST + -IC.] Pertaining to, involving, or holding monism.

1862 F. HALL *Hindu Philos. Syst.* 251 The belief, that the internal organ, &c., the whole world, are false, is the very life of the monistic doctrine. 1866 J. MARTINEAU *Ess.* I. 158 Mind, to think out its problems..cannot be monistic. 1872 *Contemp. Rev.* XX. 393 Eleaticism was monistic, did not intend to recognise any distinction between matter and spirit. 1880 PASCOE *Zool. Classif.* (ed. 2) 283 *Monistic* theory holds that creation was the product of natural forces. 1886 MYERS in Gurney, etc. *Phantasms of Living* I. Introd. 50 A monistic scheme of the universe.

So **Moni·stical** *a.* (*Cent. Dict.* 1890); hence **Moni·stically** *adv.*, from a monistic point of view.

1880 *Athenæum* 25 Dec. 851/3 [Bahnsen's] philosophy ..defines the 'Ding an sich' of Schopenhauer, the Will, pluralistically, and not, as Hartmann does, monistically.

† **Mo·nit.** *Obs.* [ad. L. *monit-us.*] A reminder.

1692 THORESBY *Diary* (ed. Hunter) I. 227 Lord, sanctify all monits of mortality!

Monition (mǫni·ʃən), *sb.* [a. OF. *monition* (from 13th c.), or ad. L. *monitiōn-em*, n. of action f. *monit-*, *monēre* to admonish.]

1. † **a.** Instruction, direction (*obs.*). **b.** Warning; admonitory counsel. Also in particularized sense, an admonition, a warning.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* iii. (*Andreas*) 655 Andro mad þame monicione, þat þai suld nocht his passione let. *Ibid.* vi. (*Thomas*) 49 Þe kinge..gerte mak gret monicione, þat, al þat euire vare in þe tovne Suld..cume to þat feste. 1421–2 HOCCLEVE *Dialog* 234 To do this labour..at the excitynge and monicion of a devout man. 1471 CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) II. 527 But neuer for..the monyssions ne warnynges of cassandra the kyng wold not change his purpoos. 1494 FABYAN *Chron.* II. xlvii. 32 The kynge disdeynynge this demeanure of Andragius, after dyuers monycions to hym gyuen, gatheryd his knyghtes & made warre vpon Andragius. 1516 *Joseph Arim.* 34 By monycion of the Archaungell gabryell they made a Churche..of our Lady. 1529 MORE *Dyalogue* III. Wks. 245/2 With a good monicion & fatherly counsell to vse it reuerently. 1552 *Bk. Com. Prayer, Coll. 1st Sund. Lent*, O Lord..geue us grace to use such abstinence, that..we may euer obey thy godly monicions. 1636 JACKSON *Creed* VIII. xii. § 4 That peremptory monition to his Apostles. 'Pray that yee enter not into temptation'. 1682 Sir T. BROWNE *Chr. Mor.* II. § 11 The capital sufferings of others are rather our monitions than acquitments. 1692 R. L'ESTRANGE *Fables* CCXX. 193 Deaf..to the Councels and Monitions of the very Spirit of Reason it self. 1713 SWIFT *On Himself* Wks. 1755 IV. I. 11 Sage monitions from his friends His talents to employ for nobler ends. 1843 CARLYLE *Past & Pr.* III. xiii, To them the voice of Prophecy, of heavenly monition, is quite ended. 1879 GREEN *Read. Eng. Hist.* xxiii. 117 Turning the deafest of all deaf ears to the monitions which he received to stay.

2. A warning or intimation of the presence or imminence of something (now only, of some impending danger).

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVI. xlviii. (1495) 569 Blacke gete gyuyth monycyon of them that haue fendys wythin theym. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) II. 229 In that he ȝafe not to hym a monicion þer of. 1694 W. HOLDER *On Time* vi. 72 We have no visible Monition of the Returns of any other Periods, such as we have of the Day, by Successive Light and Darkness. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XV. 332/1 These Monitory Lizards..obtained credit for this monition solely from the accident of their haunts. 1906 *Daily News* 10 Apr. 6 The first monitions of the impending catastrophe occurred in 63 A.D., when..Campania was shaken by an earthquake.

3. An official or legal intimation or notice, esp. one calling on a person to do something specified.

c 1460 *Oseney Reg.* 92 After thre monicions or warnynges (by þ^e^ vicare of Cudelynton or his stedys beryng to þem to be paide) [etc.]. 1467 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 406 That they appere in the yeld halle..vpon monicion to them yeven by eny seriaunt, vppon the peyn of xij d. 1492 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 78 That than the seyd aldyrman..shall after resonable warnyng and ther monycion avoyde hym. 1512 *Act* 4 *Hen. VIII*, c. 4 *Preamble*, Of the which outlaries..the partie defendaunt..had never knowlege ne monycion. 1540–1 ELYOT *Image Gov.* (1549) 142 Onely hearyng that he was chosen Pretor, before that he had monicion thereof, he fled. 1615 *Act* 12 *Jas. I*, c. 8 in Bolton *Stat. Irel.* (1621) 434 That every person should have lawfull knowledge and monition of such actions as hereafter bee to be..sued against him. 1863 JOWETT in *Life & Lett.* (1897) I. x. 311, I hear that this monition is to be issued at the V.-C. Court next week.

b. A formal notice from a bishop or an ecclesiastical court admonishing the person complained of to refrain from a specified offence.

1509 BARCLAY *Shyp of Folys* (1570) 236 To thy monition my Bishop I assent. 1610 Bp. CARLETON *Jurisd.* 275 That all Translations of Prelates, all deprivations, renocations, monitions, Ecclesiasticall censures..shall be voide, vaine, and of none effect. 1696 PHILLIPS (ed. 5), *Monition*,..a warning given by Ecclesiastical Authority to a Clerk to reform his Manners, upon Intimation of his Scandalous Life. 1725 tr. *Dupin's Eccl. Hist. 17th C.* I. III. i. 77 What Monitions soever, Excommunications or Interdicts he [the Pope] may make. 1827 HALLAM *Const. Hist.* I. ii. 77 *note*, A severe monition from Archbishop Morton to the abbot of St. Alban's, imputing all kinds of scandalous vices to him and his monks. 1847 COOTE *Pract. Eccl. Courts* 255 [Form of] Monition to Refrain. 1906 [see MONITION *v.*].

c. In those courts which use the civil law process (as the court of admiralty), a process in the nature of a summons. (Bouvier *Law Dict.* 1856.)

1840 HAGGARD *Cases Admiralty* III. 300 The Court.. further decreed a monition against Matthew Russell. 1854 *Act* 17 & 18 *Vict.* c. 78 § 13 It shall be competent to him to proceed by way of Monition, citing the Owner or Owners of such Ship [etc.]..to appear and defend the Suit.

Moni·tion, *v. Eccl. Law.* [f. prec. sb.] *trans.* To warn by a monition.

1883 *Q. Rev.* CLVI. 530 The offending clergymen had been solemnly monitioned. 1906 Sir L. DIBDIN in *Guardian* 28 Feb. 347/2, I suspend Mr. F. from office and benefice for two years. I monition him not to offend again..Disobedience to the monition which I have decreed..can be..dealt with by the infliction of an even severer sentence.

Monition, obs. form of MUNITION.

† **Moni·tioner.** *Obs.* [f. MONITION *v.* + -ER 1.] One who or that which gives admonition or warning.

1556 OLDE *Antichrist* 199 b, As many as considre not so faithfull a monicionar. 1597 J. KING *On Jonas* (1618) 595 Wretched is the man, whom the Lord correcteth not; whose first messenger and monitioner is the first borne of death.

† **Mo·nitive,** *a.* and *sb. Obs. rare.* [f. L. *monit-*, ppl. stem of *monē-re* to admonish + -IVE.] **a.** *adj.* Warning, admonitory. **b.** *sb.* A warning or reminder.

a 1638 MEDE *Wks.* (1672) 326 Ignatius..urges the Vnity of the Altar for a monitive to the Congregation to agree together in one. *a* 1677 BARROW *Serm.* Wks. 1716 II. 140 Considering the usefulness of them..as they are exemplary and monitive.

Monitor (mǫ·nitǫr), *sb.* Also 7–8 -our. [a. L. *monitor*, agent-n. f. *monēre* to advise, warn, admonish: see -OR.]

1. One who admonishes or gives advice or warning to another as to his conduct. Now somewhat *arch.* † Also (*rare*), one who advises another to do some particular action, an instigator.

1596 BACON *Max. & Use Com. Law* I. xvi. (1636) 61 When a man is author and monitor to another to commit an unlawfull act. 1616 — *Adv. Villiers* in *Cabala* (1663) 42 In this [*sc.* religion] you need not be a Monitor to the King; the chiefest of his imperiall titles, is, to be The Defender of the Faith. 1630 BRATHWAIT *Eng. Gentlem.* (1641) 116 Though reason like a discreet Monitor advise them to Moderate their passions. 1630 Bp. HALL *Occas. Medit.* XC. (1633) 229 O God, thou art still equally mercifull..Let the sound of thy faithfull monitors smite my eares. 1692 DRYDEN *Cleomenes* I. i, *Panth.* You promis'd Patience, Sir. *Cleom.* Thou art a Scurvy Monitor, I am Patient. 1751 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 155 P 5 The officious monitor is persecuted with hatred..because he assumes that superiority which we are not willing to grant him. 1771 BURKE *Corr.* (1844) I. 278 Strict and faithful monitors, that keep watch on every action of my life. 1830 CUNNINGHAM *Brit. Paint.* II. 231 'George', said his monitor, 'you must have reasons for keeping such company.' 1855 THACKERAY *Newcomes* II. i. 7 'You boast of its being over. You see it is not over', says Clive's monitor and companion.

b. *transf.* of things more or less personified. (Often of conscience.)

1651 JER. TAYLOR *Serm. Gold. Grove, Summer* xiii. 162 A final judgement is no good monitor to him, to whom it is a severe executioner. 1759 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* II. xvii, Conscience, this once able monitor,—placed on high as a judge within us. 1824 HOGG *Conf. Sinner* 1 Of the matter furnished by the latter of these powerful monitors [*sc.* history and tradition], I have no reason to complain.

2. A senior pupil in a school, or (formerly in England and still in America) a student in a college, who has special duties assigned to him, esp. that of keeping order, and who may occasionally (as in some elementary schools) act as a teacher to a junior class.

1546 in Peacock *Stat. Cambr.* (1841) 123 Let them [*sc.* the deans] appoint six monitors, two for public worship and four for speaking Latin [i. e. to enforce the speaking of Latin]. 1607 *Stat.* in *Hist. Wakefield Gram. Sch.* (1892) 65 Theire severall absences, negligencies and misbehaviours..given up by the monitours in their bille. 1612 BRINSLEY *Lud. Lit.* 295 The Monitours of that weeke. *a* 1656 Bp. HALL *Rem. Wks.* (1660) 248 Even the most carelesse boyes will be affraid to offend in the face of the monitor. 1764 *Mem. G. Psalmanazar* 75 This mark of distinction [*sc.* a large riband] did moreover entitle me to be head monitor and marshal of that whole school. 1841 ELPHINSTONE *Hist. Ind.* I. 353 They are taught, with the aid of monitors, in the manner introduced from Madras into England. 1848 *Stat. & Laws Harvard* (1854) 11 Monitors are appointed, and their duties and compensation fixed, by the Faculty. 1875 A. R. HOPE *My Schoolboy Fr.* 76 We looked to see that none of the monitors were in sight. 1882 *New Educ. Code* (ed. J. Russell) 23 Temporary monitors employed in place of the teachers causing the vacancies are recognised as part of the school staff.

3. Something that reminds or gives warning.

1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* V. i. § 32 That picture was placed there by the Cardinals own appointment, to be to him a monitour of humility. 1675 TRAHERNE *Chr. Ethics* 202 All our enjoyments..are daily monitors of mercy to us, because they are purchased by the blood of Christ. 1693 LOCKE *Educ.* § 107 The Pains that come from the Necessities of Nature, are Monitors to us to beware of greater Mischiefs, which they are the Fore-runners of. 1760 GRAY *Corr. w. Nicholls* (1843) 205, I sympathise with your gout: it would be strange if I did not, with so many internal monitors as I carry about me, that hourly bid me expect it myself this autumn. 1791 W. BARTRAM *Carolina* 100 At the reanimating appearance of the rising sun, nature again revives; and I obey the chearful summons of the gentle monitors of the meads and groves. 1840 Bp. JOLLY *Observ. Sunday Serv.* 219 Such emblematical rites..cleared of superstition, are useful helps and monitors to our weak minds.

† **4.** = BACK-BOARD 4. *Obs.*

1784 COWPER *Task* II. 585 A Monitor is wood—plank shaven thin. We wear it at our backs. 1828 *Lights & Shades* I. 315 In one corner of the room may be seen Miss Jenny choaking in a monitor. 1831 BRITTON *Irishmen & Irishwom.* (ed. 3) 67 Every real young lady she averred ought to wear monitors and steel collars.

5. A lizard of the family *Monitoridæ* or *Varanidæ*, inhabiting Africa and Australia; so called from being supposed to give warning of the vicinity of crocodiles.

1826 PRICHARD *Research. Phys. Hist. Man* (ed. 2) I. 73 Africa possesses the Monitors. 1832 LYELL *Princ. Geol.* II. 103 The monitor of New Holland is specifically distinct from the Indian species; these latter again from the African. 1884 *American* VIII. 218 Large monitors and many smaller lizards abound. 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 19 Apr. 1/3 Among the latest arrivals at the Zoo is a Bengal monitor.

6. An ironclad having a very low free-board and one or more revolving turrets containing great guns, built on the model of the vessel invented by Captain Ericsson (see quot. 1862).

1862 ERICSSON *Let.* 20 Jan. in Church *Life* (1890) I. 255 The iron-clad intruder will thus prove a severe monitor to those leaders [*sc.* of the Southern Rebellion]..On these and many similar grounds I propose to name the new battery Monitor. 1864 *Ibid.* II. 49 The ability of a dozen monitors to take Charleston. 1862 [see IRONCLAD *sb.*]. 1887 *Westm. Rev.* June 368 It is stated that the United States possesses fourteen monitors twenty years old, and five in process of construction.

attrib. 1864 H. DRAPER in *Q. Jrnl. Sci.* I. 520 When a person enters a Monitor turret, he cannot fail to feel a sensation of absolute protection, surrounded as he is on all sides by 11 inches of iron.

b. An ironclad railway truck carrying a big gun.

1885 W. W. BURNS in *Century Mag.* July 460 General Lee's famous railroad monitor was approaching.

7. *U.S.* (In full *monitor roof* or *top.*) A raised part of a roof (e. g. in a railway-carriage or omnibus), with openings for light and ventilation. Hence *monitor-car.*

1871 SNOW *Pathfinder* 2 'The roofs [of certain railway passenger cars] are of the monitor pattern', meaning slightly elevated along the centre, to make the car airy. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech., Monitor-car.*

8. A jointed nozzle used in hydraulic mining, which may be turned in any direction.

1881 RAYMOND *Mining Gloss.* 1883 *Century Mag.* Jan. 324 Pipes from fifteen to thirty inches in diameter..may be seen winding through a hydraulic mine. These pipes terminate in monitors, each discharging a gleaming shaft of water so powerful as to toss about rocks, tons in weight. 1891 *Engineer* LXXII. 217 The monitor..has a ball joint that permits it to be slung in any direction. 1898 [see HYDRAULIC *a.* 1].

Mo·nitor, *v. nonce-word.* [f. prec. sb.] *trans.* To guide as a monitor.

1818 KEATS *Endym.* IV. 884 In that same void white Chastity shall sit, And monitor me nightly to lone slumber.

Monitorial (mɒnitōˑriăl), *a.* [f. L. *monitōri-us* (see MONITORY) + -AL, or ad. F. *monitorial*.]

1. = MONITORY *a.* 1, 1 b.

1725 tr. *Dupin's Eccl. Hist. 17th C.* I. II. i. 17 The Senate being inform'd that the Monitorial Bull was publish'd. *a* 1754 CARTE *Hist. Eng.* (1755) IV. 63 The Emperor .. issued on the 30th of that month monitorial letters requiring him to lay down his arms. 1816 F. H. NAYLOR *Hist. Germany* I. I. iv. 128 They resolved to preface hostilities with a monitorial address to the Palatine. 1858 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* VIII. v. II. 342 His Majesty even honours him by expecting he should quietly keep a monitorial eye upon the Crown-Prince.

2. Of, pertaining to, connected with, or performed by monitors in schools.

1845 R. W. HAMILTON *Pop. Educ.* iv. (ed. 2) 81 Bell and Lancaster introduced the reciprocal and monitorial system. 1864 *Edin. Rev.* July 185 The 'monitorial' system, or the system of governing the younger boys through the elder. 1888 W. HUNT in *Dict. Nat. Biog.* XVI. 57/1 He [Drury, headmaster of Harrow] disliked flogging, and the system of monitorial caning seems to have grown up in his time.

3. Belonging to the monitors (MONITOR *sb.* 5).

1878 *Ann. & Mag. Nat. Hist.* July 92 In one special dental modification they are Iguanian, in another Monitorial.

Hence **Monitoˑrially** *adv.*, in a monitorial manner (1847 Webster).

Moˑnitorship. [-SHIP.] The office or position of a monitor; also, the period during which any one holds the office of monitor.

1641 'SMECTYMNUUS' *Vind. Answ.* § 15. 187 Those..who ..might be fit Monitors..were designed to that office of Monitorship. 1847 *Tait's Mag.* XIV. 292 They not only pay the boys and girls for acquiring a knowledge of the business, but they also pay the person who, during their monitorship and apprenticeship, is to have the benefit of their assistance, for teaching them. 1851 R. NESBIT in Mitchell *Mem.* xii. (1858) 301 The Government Institution has such advantages over us..in monitorships and teacherships, &c. 1866 *Harvard Mem. Biog., C. B. Brown* I. 359 He met his expenses by keeping school during the winter and with the aid furnished by the college monitorship.

Monitory (mɒˑnitəri), *a.* and *sb.* Also 5 **manyterye.** [ad. L. *monitōri-us*, f. *monitor*: see MONITOR and -ORY. Cf. F. *monitoire*.]

A. *adj.*

1. Giving or conveying a warning; serving to admonish; admonitory.

c 1450 *Mankind* 872 in *Macro Plays* 33 Mankend, 3e were obliuyows of my doctrine manyterye. 1586 A. DAV *Eng. Secretary* I. (1625) 3 Sundry Epistles, the titles whereof are..Monitorie, Accusatorie..and such like. 1622 BACON *Hen. VII*, 75 The King also made a Statute in that Parliament, Monitory and Minatory, towards Iustices of Peace, that they should duly execute their office. *a* 1652 J. SMITH *Sel. Disc.* vi. 199 The general difference between prophetical dreams and those that are merely nouthetical or monitory. 1692 R. L'ESTRANGE *Fables* xxxi. 31 That which was Rudeness, and Ill Nature in the Aggressor, was only a Monitory Justice, and a Discreet Sharpness in the Other. 1783 BURKE *Sp. Fox's E. India Bill* Wks. 1842 I. 298 These were the sole object of the monitory resolution of this house. 1819 WORDSW. *Waggoner* II. 154 He heard the monitory growl [of a mastiff]. 1834 *Tracts for Times* No. 22. 10 'The Warning Clauses', or 'The Monitory Clauses' [of the *Quicunque vult*]. 1856 EMERSON *Eng. Traits, Truth* Wks. (Bohn) II. 52 The mottoes of their families are monitory proverbs. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 26 June 5/3 Lord Brabourne had to say a few monitory words to bring the preachers back to their forgotten text.

Const. *of.* *a* 1854 H. REED *Lect. Eng. Lit.* V. (1855) 157 William Caxton—whose life is to be thought of..as monitory of 'perpetual industry'.

b. *Monitory letter* = B. 2.

1696 PHILLIPS (ed. 5), *Monitory Letters*, Letters from an Ecclesiastical Judge, upon Information of Scandals and Abuses within Cognizance of his Court. 1699 C. MATHER in Quincy *Hist. Harvard Univ.* (1840) I. 487, I have already written a large monitory letter to those innovators. 1769 ROBERTSON *Chas. V*, x. III. 211 The Pope..immediately issued monitory letters. 1839 JAMES *Louis XIV*, II. 23 Judging that the monitory letters he received were rather from the hands of enemies than of friends, he displayed a calm countenance.

2. *Monitory lizard* = MONITOR *sb.* 5.

1810 *Naval Chron.* XXIII. 59 That extraordinary animal called the Monitory Lizard, from its faculty of warning persons of the approach of any venomous animal. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XV. 332/1 The warning of these Monitory Lizards was said to be a hissing or whistling.

B. *sb.*

†1. An admonition; something that serves as a warning. *Obs.*

c 1557 ABP. PARKER *Ps.* lxxviii. 118 Argt., This hye profound oration A monitorie is To God to turne. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* I. iv. 19, I see not why they should denie God that libertie to impose, or man that necessitie to need such monitories. *a* 1677 BARROW *Serm.* (1686) III. iii. 31 Monitories, encouragements and excitements to our duty.

2. A letter containing an admonition or warning, *esp.* one issued by a bishop or pope.

1624 BACON *Apothegm* 70 in *Resuscitatio* (1661) 303 There was a King of Hungary, took a Bishop in Battel,..Whereupon the Pope writ a Monitory to him; For that he had broken the priviledge of Holy Church. 1707 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4360/1 There are Three Monitories printed, and affix'd in the most frequented Places of that City. 1790 GIBBON *Misc. Wks.* (1814) III. 458 A monitory, or summons, to appear in fifteen days, was affixed on the church doors. 1816 F. H. NAYLOR *Hist. Germany* I. II. xi. 479 Ferdinand..in a thundering monitory, annulled their proceedings. 1872 MORLEY *Voltaire* 219 This testimony, given with a vagueness that ought to have proved it legally valueless, was the fruit of the episcopal monitory.

Monitress (mɒˑnitrĕs). [f. MONITOR *sb.* + -ESS.]

1. A female monitor or admonisher.

1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* IV. 54 His divine monitress, he called me! 1813 SCOTT *Rokeby* IV. xii, She..Assumes a monitress's pride, Her Redmond's dangerous sports to chide. 1859 THACKERAY *Virgin.* xvi, HARRY..corrected the faulty intonation, under his English monitresses. 1897 'OUIDA' *Massarenes* xv. 187 It must be very annoying to have a perpetual monitress in one's own daughter.

attrib. 1887 RUSKIN *Præterita* II. 422 Lady Trevelyan.. became at once a monitress-friend in whom I wholly trusted.

2. In a girls' school, a pupil having special duties assigned to her (cf. MONITOR *sb.* 2).

1844 *Yng. Communicant* (1848) 12 As head monitress I know them both very well. 1868 *Regul. & Ord. Army* § 465 The training of School Mistresses, pupil teachers and Monitresses. 1884 *Cassell's Fam. Mag.* Mar. 216/2 The monitress..moves towards the three culprits, and tells them, ..that talking is not allowed.

Monitrix (mɒˑnitriks). *rare*—[1]. [fem. in Latin form of MONITOR: see -TRIX.] = prec.

1727 SOMERVILLE *Hor. Epist.* I. x. 42 In vain from Nature's rules we blindly stray, And push th' uneasy monitrix away.

Moniwhat, variant of MANYWHAT *Obs.*

Monk (mʊŋk), *sb.* Forms: 1–3 **munuc,** (**munec-**), 2–3 **munec,** -**ek,** 3 **munuch,** 3–4 **monek**(**e,** 4 **monok, munc, mun**(**c**)**k,** 4–6 **monke, munke,** 5 **mongke,** 6 **moonke,** *Sc.* **mounche, moun**(**c**)**k**(**e, mwn**(**c**)**k**(**e,** 5–6 **monck,** 3– **monk.** [OE. *munuc* :—pre-historic **munikō-*, ad. popular L. **monicus* for *monachus*, a. late Gr. *μοναχός*, subst. use of Gr. *μοναχός* adj., single, solitary, f. *μόν-os* alone. Cf. OFris. *munek, -ik, monik* (MDu. *monic, monc, mun*(*i*)*c*, Du. *monnik, munnik*), MLG. *mon*(*n*)*ik, monk*, OHG. *munih* (MHG. *mun*(*i*)*ch, münc*(*h*)*ch*, G. *mönch*), ON. *múnkr* (Da., Sw., *munk*); also the Rom. forms, F. *moine*, Pr. *monge-s*, Sp. *monje*, Pg. *monge* (:—Rom. type **monio*), It. *monaco*.

In accordance with its etymology, *monachus* originally meant a religious hermit or solitary, but was from an early period applied to cœnobites, and this eventually became the ordinary use.]

1. A member of a community or brotherhood of men living apart from the world under the vows of poverty, chastity, and obedience, according to a rule (characteristic of the particular order), and devoted chiefly to the performance of religious duties and the contemplative life. The different orders of monks are distinguished by habits of various shapes and colours (cf. b).

In England, before the Reformation, the term was not applied to the members of the mendicant orders, who were always called *friars*. From the 16th c. to the 19th c., however, it was usual to speak of the friars as a class of monks. In recent times the distinction between the terms has been carefully observed by well-informed writers. In Fr. and Ger. the equivalent of *monk* is applied equally to 'monks' and 'friars'.

The word properly belongs to Christian use, but is sometimes applied to persons of other religions (e. g. Moslems, Buddhists).

a 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* v. xii. [xi.] (1890) 434 Wæs sum munuc & mæssepreost in nehnesse his cetan eardizende, þæs noma wæs Hamgels. *c* 961 ÆTHELWOLD *Rule St. Benet* i. (1885) 9 Feower synt muneca cyn..Dæt forme is mynstermonna..Oþer cyn is ancrena [etc.]. *c* 1132 *O. E. Chron.* an. 675 (Laud MS.) Hwilc abbot þe beþ bær coren of þe munecan. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 143 Þe treowe men, þe munckes, þe meidene, þe weddede wiues .. sculen beon icleoped on þe fader riht halue. *c* 1205 LAY. 12906 Þæt child munec wes inne Winchæstre. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 318 Munuch, preost, oðer clerk. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 11478 Sir alein was ek inome in monekene wede In þe priorie. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 22002 Quatkin man sum euer it es,..or clerc, or munk [*Gött.* monk], or canun. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. xx. 262 Monkes and monyals and alle men of Religioun. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) ii. 5 Ane abbay of munkes. 1518 WRIOTHESLEY *Chron.* (Camden) I. 12 All the orders of friers channons, moncks of Stratforde and Tower Hill. 1530 PALSGR. 246/1 Monk of the charterhouse, *chartrevx*. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 371 The common people named him Monke, because he was of thordre of Paule, the first Hermit. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 206 The Monkis of Melros maid gude kaill, On Frydayis quhen they fastit. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* x. 436 A Dominican mounck. 1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turks* (1638) 251 Bajazet.. there executed Torlac Keman another seditious Turkish Monk. 1649 EVELYN *Diary* 19 May, A Monk at his beades. 1788 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* lx. VI. 129 The priests and monks were the loudest and most active in the destruction of the schismatics. 1846 GREENER *Sci. Gunnery* 18 Many ascribe the discovery [of gunpowder] to Roger Bacon, the monk. 1849 KEMBLE *Saxons in Eng.* II. ix. II. 448 Although monks are not necessarily clergymen .. many of the body in this country took holy orders. 1889 *Ch. Times* 992/1 That the object of a monk was to make a good man of himself, the object of a friar was to do a good work among others.

b. Preceded by defining adj. having reference to the colour of the habit: **black monk,** a Benedictine; also, a Black or Augustinian Canon; **†gray monk, white monk,** a Cistercian monk.

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 20/42 A fair Abbeye he let þare a-rere .. Of blake Monekes. *c* 1290–*c* 1300 [see GREY *a.* 2]. *c* 1305 *Edmund Conf.* 184 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 76 Blake monekes he seȝ. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 6695 As these chanouns regulers, Or white monkes, or these blake. *c* 1450 HOLLAND *Howlat* 178 The Se Mawis war monkis, the blak and the quhyte. *c* 1500 *Lytell Geste Robin Hood* iv. 35 (Ritson) Than were they ware of two blacke monkes, Eche on a good palferay. *c* 1630 RISDON *Surv. Devon* § 204 (1810) 213 Which monastery he replenished with black monks, Augustines. 1700 TYRRELL *Hist. Eng.* II. 744 The White Monks..were forced to pay ..400*oool.* of Silver. 1766 ENTICK *London* IV. 237 This parliament was adjourned to Westminster, amongst the black monks.

c. Proverbs.

1340 *Ayenb.* 165 Vor þe clobinge ne makeþ na3t þane monek. 1546 HEYWOOD *Prov.* (1867) 62 Ye make hir a cook-queane, and consume her good. And she must syt like a beane in a moonkis hood. 1613 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII*, III. i. 23 But all Hoods, make not Monkes. 1678 RAY *Prov.* (ed. 2) 296 The Devill was sick, the Devill a monk would be, The Devill was well, the devill a monk was he.

†2. *pl.* The house of a particular order. (Cf. FRIAR 2 c, quot. 1375.) *Obs. rare.*

1556 *Chron. Gr. Friars* (Camden) 3 Whane he [*sc.* King John] had raynyd xvij. yeres he dyde, & is burryd there in the monkes before the hye auter.

3. As the name of certain animals whose form suggests the costume of a monk, esp. with reference to the cowl or hood; see also quots. and SEA-MONK. (Cf. G. *mönch.*)

1789 BROWNE *Jamaica* 430 *Buprestis* 1. *Fusca minima rugosa.* The Monk. This Insect is smaller than the Wevil. 1815 S. BROOKES *Conch.* 156 Monk, *Conus monachus.* 1831 *G. Montagu's Ornith. Dict.* 326 *Monck*, a name for the Bullfinch. 1840 tr. *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 99 [Seals] The Monk (*Pelagius*). 1848 J. GOULD *Birds Australia* IV. pl. 58 *Tropidorhynchus Corniculatus*..Its bare head and neck have also suggested the names of 'Friar Bird', 'Monk', 'Leather Head', etc. 1848 *Zoologist* VI. 1976 Angel Fish, *Squatina angelus.* This strange fish..is frequently called a 'monk'. 1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* (1861) II. 64 His pigeon-cote..is no longer stocked with carriers, dragoons, horsemen, jacobins, monks. 1863 *Cassell's Pop. Nat. Hist.* I. 116 The Monk, *Pithecia monachus* [a monkey].

4. As the name of various objects in certain arts and crafts (see quots.). Cf. F. *moine*, G. *mönch.*

1683 MOXON *Mech. Exerc., Printing* 385 When the Pressman has not Destributed his Balls, some splotches of Ink may lye on..them, which..be delivers upon the Form; so that the Sheet Printed on has a black blotch on it: Which Blotch is called a Monk. 1683 PETTUS *Fleta Min.* I. 15 When the Loam is prepared you must then have a Frame, in which you may beat the Proof-Test and Crucibles:..then ..grease also the upper part of the Frame which is called the Monk. 1763 W. LEWIS *Comm. Phil.-Techn.* 130 A round-faced pestle, called a Monk. 1834–47 J. S. MACAULAY *Field Fortif.* (1851) 207 The piece of agarick used to communicate the fire to the powder is called the monk. 1876 VOYLE & STEVENSON *Milit. Dict., Monk*, a piece of junk or touch-wood laid over the priming of a mine to give the miner time to retire.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *monk-artist, -bishop, -land*; *monk-like* adj. and adv., *monk-educated, -made, -ridden, -taught* adjs.

1855 MILMAN *Lat. Chr.* XIV. x. (1864) IX. 321 No doubt.. many *monk-artists fled from the sacrilegious East to practise their holy art in the safe and quiet West. 1861 tr. *Montalembert's Monks of West* II. 19 St. Martin, the great *monk-bishop whose ascetic and priestly virtues had edified Gaul. 1633 *Sc. Acts Chas. I* (1817) V. 26/1 Any church lands fryer lands *monk lands or comonn lands. 1611 FLORIO, *Monacale*, *Munke or Nun-like. 1818 COBBETT *Pol. Reg.* XXXIII. 691 But, monk-like, whenever it deviates from downright dullness, it is only to discover its malignity towards toleration and freedom. 1895 *Westm. Gaz.* 23 Oct. 7/3 With a monk-like girdle round his waist. 1865 KINGSLEY *Herew.* xx, The French look on us English *monk-made knights as spurious and adulterine. 1848 LYTTON *Harold* VI. v, He concealed his disdain of the monks and *monk-ridden. 1868 MILMAN *St. Paul's* 246 The shouts of a rabble of monks, of *monk-taught men, and boys *monk-educated.

b. Special comb.: **monk-bat,** the *Molossus nasutus* of Jamaica, etc.; **†monk-child,** a boy who is being brought up to be a monk; **monk-craft** (after *priestcraft*), monkish practice or policy based upon unworthy motives; **monk-flower,** a name for the supposed genus *Monachanthus*, to which the orchids of the genus *Catasetum* have been sometimes referred; **†monk-house,** a monastery; **Monk-Latin,** the corrupt Latin used by monks; **monk-monger,** a favourer of monks or monasticism; **monk parrot** (see quot.); **monk's cloth,** 'a kind of worsted' (Halliwell 1847); **†monk's cowl** = MONKSHOOD; **monk-seal,** a white-bellied seal inhabiting the Mediterranean and neighbouring ocean; **monk's gun, harquebus** *Antiq.* [= G. *mönchsbüchse*], a name given to the wheel-lock gun of the 16th c., from the fancy that it was invented by the monk Schwarz, the alleged inventor of gunpowder; **monk's-head,** †(*a*) ? = *monk-seat*; (*b*) = MONKSHOOD; (*c*) the plant *Leontodon Taraxacum*; **†monk's peason,** woodlice (cf. *monkey-pease*); **monk('s)-seam** *Naut.*, (*a*) a seam in which the selvages of sails are sewn flat one over the other; (*b*) 'the fash left at the junction of the moulds when a ball is cast' (Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.*); **†monk-swan** (see quot.).

1851 GOSSE *Nat. Sojourn Jamaica* 294 The habit so strongly reminded me of a herd of monks shutting themselves up in a convent, that I thought the species might well be designated as the *Monk Bat. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* (Th.) II. 174 Sum *munuc-cild drohtnode on his mynstre. *c* 1205 LAY. 13251 Nime þane munec child & makien Brutlondes king. 1691 *D'Emilianne's Frauds Rom. Monks* (ed. 3) 242 They were only the effects of Priest and *Monk-Craft to get Mony.

1848 Lytton *Harold* vi. iv, I shall need no mediator between nature and monk-craft. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 247/1 (MS. A) A *Munke howse, *cenobium* & cetera; vbi Abbey. 1694 Motteux *Rabelais* v. xxvii. (1737) 123 The Prior of the Monk-House. 1843 Carlyle *Past & Pr.* II. vi, Some of us can preach, in English-Saxon, in Norman-French, and even in *Monk-Latin. 1873 Leland *Egypt. Sketch Bk.* 3 A Monk-Latin chronicle. 1655 Fuller *Ch. Hist.* II. v. § 24 Oswald (a great *monk-monger..) held York and Worcester. 1865 Kingsley *Herew.* xxiii, Are you a monk-monger into the bargain? 1878 *Daily News* 16 Sept. 3/1 '*Monk' parrots are sickly parrots, which have caught cold on their passage to the wholesale dealers in Liverpool, London, &c. 1441–2 *Act* 20 *Hen. VI*, c. 10 Draps appellez *monkes clothes. 1548 Turner *Names Herbes* (E.D.S.) 9 It is called muench kappen in duche, and it maye be called in englishe *monkes coule or blewe wolfsbaine. 1841 *Penny Cycl.* XXI. 158/1 The skull of the *Monk Seal (*Phoca Monachus*). 1855 W. S. Dallas in *Syst. Nat. Hist.* II. 470 The Monk Seal (*Stenorynchus monachus*), which inhabits the Mediterranean. 1894 *Nature* 26 July 307 A Monk Seal (*Monachus albiventer*) from Madeira. 1881 Greener *Gun* 47 In the Dresden Museum there is an example of this [wheel-lock] system in the celebrated '*Monk's Gun'. 1870 Black tr. *Demmin's Weapons of War* 69 The flock of compilers still continue to call this little hand-cannon 'Moenchsbüchse', or *monk's arquebus. 1666 J. Davies *Hist. Caribby Isles* 101 There is another kind of Porposes which have the snout round and hollow, .. some call them *Monks-heads, and Sea-Monks. 1682 Wheler *Journ. Greece* I. 25 *Aconitum Lycoctinum* [sic]..which I took to be a kind of monks-head. 1760 J. Lee *Introd. Bot.* App. 319 Monk's-head, *Leontodon*. 1845 Burnett *Plantæ Util.* II. Pl. lx, From the receptacle looking bald, after the flower and seeds are gone, it [*sc.* Leontodon Taraxacum] is sometimes called Monkshead. 1558 Warde tr. *Alexis' Secr.* (1568) 24 The little beastes called *Monkes peason or sowes. 1626 Capt. Smith *Accid. Yng. Seamen* 17 A *munke seame, a round seame. 1750 Blanckley *Nav. Expositor, Monk Seam*—Sewing the Edges or Selvedges of Sails together, over one another on both Sides to make it the Stronger. 1668 Charleton *Onomasticon* 114 *Dodo Lusitanorum, Cygnus Cucullatus*,...the Dodo or *Monk-swan of S. Maurice's Iland.

† **Monk,** *v. Obs. rare.* [f. Monk *sb.*]

1. *trans.* a. To make a monk of. b. *nonce-use.* ? To cause to look like a monk.

a 1000 *Ecgberti Confess.* xxvii. in Thorpe *Laws* II. 152 He hine mot munecian. *c* 1205 Lay. 12904 Þa þis child wes iwaxen þæt hit cuðe riden, þa lette his fader hit munekien [*c* 1275 monaki]. 1738 Ld. S. Manners in *Fam. Rose Kilravock* (Spald. Club) 448, I don't care twopence what I wear, provided he [*sc.* Ramsay, the painter] does not monk me.

2. *To monk it*: to be a monk.

1756 Amory *Buncle* (1770) III. 63 It pleased me so much to see these monks march off with their smiling partners..It is really a fine thing to monk it on this plan.

Monk-corn, variant of Mongcorn.

Monkdom (mʊ·ŋkdəm). [f. Monk *sb.* + -dom.] The condition of a monk; monks collectively; the domain of monks.

1862 Hook *Lives Abps.* II. iv. 281 Throwing off the restraints of monkdom..he travelled as a visitor from one monastery to another. 1883 Froude *Luther* in *Contemp. Rev.* XLIV. 5 Hans..was bitterly disappointed, knowing, perhaps, more of monks and monkdom than his son. 1890 E. Johnson *Rise Christendom* 485 Monkdom passed under the..condemnation of the world some 400 years ago.

Monke, obs. form of Monkey.

Monkery (mʊ·ŋkəri). Chiefly *contemptuous.* Also 6–7 monk(e)rye, -erie, monckery, 7 munk(e)ry. [f. Monk *sb.* + -ery. Cf. MDu. *monikerie.*]

1. The state, condition, or profession of monks (or religious orders in general); monastic life, monasticism.

? 1536 Latimer in *Lett. Suppress. Monast.* (Camden) 149 For the upstandynge of his forsayd howsse, and contynuance of the same to many good purpasesse, natt in monkrye. 1581 J. Bell *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 349 But Monckery was then a sequestration & departyng from the world, not a profession in the world. 1601 F. Godwin *Bps. of Eng.* 17 For the space of 90 yeeres after, monkerie ceased throughout the realme. 1635 Pagitt *Christianogr.* 34 Oswald one of the greatest setters up of Monkery, begat Oswald the Monke. 1749 Wesley *Wks.* (1872) X. 8 You quote not one line from any Father in the third century, in favour of monkery. 1818 Hallam *Mid. Ages* (1872) III. 274 After the introduction of monkery, and its unsocial theory of duties. 1844 Stanley *Arnold* (1858) I. ii. 65 Monkery seems flourishing there in great force. 1874 H. R. Reynolds *John Bapt.* iii. § 2. 181 The..modern eulogists of monkery.

2. a. A body or community of monks; an establishment of monks; a monastery.

1549 Latimer *4th Serm. bef. Edw. VI* (Arb.) 118 If he dye in the state of dampnation, he shal rise in the same. Yea, thoughe he haue a whole Monkerye to synge for hym. 1581 *Sc. Acts Jas. VI* (1814) III. 276/1 The monkreis ar altogidder abolishit, and thair places and abbayis ar for þe maist pairt left waist. 1581 J. Bell *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 302 b, Whom the Pope deposed from his kingdome, and thrust into a monckery. 1600 Surflet *Country Farm* II. liv. 367 In many countries it [*Agnus Castus*] is seene planted almost in all the monkeries. 1716 M. Davies *Athen. Brit.* III. *Diss. Drama* 24 For refusing to submit to the Union of the Spanish and Italian Monkeries into one Congregation. 1740 H. Walpole *Ep. to T. Ashton* 22 To woods and caves she never bade retreat, Nor fix'd in cloister'd monkeries her seat. 1852 R. Knox *Gt. Artists & Gt. Anat.* 168 A long residence..in courts, monkeries, and barracks. 1866 *Lond. Rev.* 28 Apr. 470/2 Brother Ignatius has quite as much right to set up a monkery at Norwich as the Irvingites have to set up a temple in Gordon Square. 1898 W. White *Inls.* 244 To Shulbred farm, an old monkery.

b. Monks collectively; also, the monks (of a particular place).

1552 Lyndesay *Monarche* 4669 All Monkrye, ȝe may heir and se, Ar callit Denis, for dignite. 1552 Latimer *Serm. 5th Sund. Epiph.* (1584) 322 Do not as the fondness of the Monkery first did. 1837 Landor *Pentameron, 5th Day's Interview* Wks. 1853 II. 346/2 The clergy and monkery at Certaldo had never been cordial with Messer Giovanni. 1878 E. C. G. Murray *Russians of To-day* 141 It was the custom to recruit the ranks of monkery by..impressing some of the worst-behaved pupils in the four ecclesiastical academies of St. Petersburg, Moscow, Kiew and Kazan. 1880 Swinburne *Stud. Shaks.* iii. (ed. 2) 214 And of such here is enough to glut the gorge of all the monks in monkery.

3. *pl.* Monkish practices, appurtenances, or paraphernalia.

1624 Darcie *Birth of Heresies* xv. 62 The principall Monkeries are celebrated on the left side of the Altar. 1873 Mrs. H. King *Disciples, Ugo Bassi* v. (1877) 179 It likes me ill To see..thy bright face above the monkeries Of the black habit of the Barnabites. 1878 Morley *Diderot* I. iii. 59 The..confused theological wilderness of sin, asceticism, miracle, and the other monkeries.

4. Conduct or practice characteristic of monks (esp. those of the Middle Ages); a system of life or conduct marked by the alleged faults or abuses of monasticism.

1649 Bp. Hall *Cases Consc.* IV. i. (1654) 290 Although those Casuists doe sufficiently doat upon their Monkery. 1695 Kennett *Par. Antiq.* vii. 26 If we renounce all the monkery of this tale. 1846 Hare *Mission Comf.* (1850) 425 This righteousness lies not..in human service, monkery, pilgrimages [etc.]. 1854 Milman *Lat. Chr.* I. i. (1864) I. 57 A second marriage..was revoltiug to the incipient monkery of the Church. 1872 Creighton *Hist. Ess.* ii. (1902) 61 A reaction against..the monkery and higotry of the Middle Ages. 1884 Tennyson *Becket* IV. ii, I, that thro' the Pope divorced King Louis, Scorning his monkery.

5. *slang.* The practice of going on tramp; also, the country districts frequented by tramps.

a 1790 Potter *Dict. Cant* (1795), *Monkery*, the country. 1812 J. H. Vaux *Flash Dict., Monkery*, the country parts of England are called *The Monkery*. 1851 Mayhew *Lond. Labour* I. 244 He had followed the 'monkry' from a child. *Ibid.* 247 The writer of this account was himself two whole years on the 'monkry', before he saw a lodging-house for tramps. *Ibid.* 248 'Well', said he, 'I don't know what this 'ere monkry will come to, after a bit'.

Mo·nkess. *rare.* [f. Monk *sb.* + -ess.] A nun.

1729 T. Consett *State of Russia* 167 Monkesses to knitt, sow, or weave lace. 1861 tr. *Montalembert's Monks of West* I. 426 How little she desired to be a monkess [orig. F. *moinesse*, rendering Jerome's *monacha*].

Monkey (mʊ·ŋki), *sb.* Forms: 6 munckey, munkkey, munkye, monke, 6–7 munkey, 7 monkeye, -eie, 7–8 monkie, 6– monkey. *Pl.* 6–9 monkies, 7– monkeys. [Of uncertain origin. The MLG. version of *Reynard the Fox* (1498) has (only once, l. 6161) *Moneke* as the name of the son of Martin the Ape; and early in the 14th c. the same character is mentioned as *Monnekin* (v. r. *Monnequin*) by the Hainaulter Jean de Condé in *Li Dis d'Entendement* (Scheler) 853 (the passage is also printed by Chabaille as a 'branche' of the *Roman du Renart*). As the name does not occur in any other version of *Reynard*, the Eng. word can hardly be derived from the story. But it is not unlikely that the proper name may represent an otherwise unrecorded MLG. **moneke*, MDu. **monnekijn*, a colloquial word for monkey, and that this may have been brought to England by showmen from the continent. The MLG. and MDu. word would appear to be a dim. (with suffix *-ke*, *-kijn*: see -kin) of some form of the Rom. word which appears as early mod.F. *monne* (16–17th c.), It. *monna* (earlier *mona*), Sp., Pg. *mona*, mod.Pr. *mouno* female ape (a masc. *mono* occurs in Sp. and Pg.), whence the diminutive forms, early mod.F. *monine*, It. *monnino* and † *monicchio* (Florio). The origin of the Rom. word has not been discovered.]

I. The simian animal, and transferred uses.

1. In its widest application, an animal of any species of the group of mammals closely allied to and resembling man, and ranging from the anthropoid apes to the marmosets; any animal of the order *Primates* except man and the lemurs. In a more restricted sense, the term is taken to exclude the anthropoid apes, and the baboons; in popular use associated chiefly with the greenish long-tailed species having cheek-pouches, often kept as pets.

By some writers, the word *ape* is used to express the wider of the two senses above explained, and *monkey* is confined to its narrower application. Others employ *monkey* as the wider term, restricting *ape* to the tailless and especially the anthropoid 'monkeys'.

1530 Palsg. 246/1 Monkey a beest, *brouticque, marmot.* ? 1533 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. III. II. 242, ij Muske Catts, iij lytyll Munkkeys, a Marmazat [etc.]. 1570 B. Googe *Pop. Kingd.* II. 16 b, Besides at home they Parots keepe, and Apes and Munekeys store. *a* 1585 Montgomerie *Flyting* 483 Manie monkes and marmasits came with the mother. 1600 Shaks. *A. Y. L.* IV. i. 154 More giddy in my desires, then a monkey. 1622 Bacon *Hen. VII* 243 His Monkie.. tore his Principall Note-Booke all to pieces, when by chance it lay forth. 1664 Wood *Life* 21 Dec. (O.H.S.) II. 25 His person ridiculous, like a monkey rather than a Xtian. 1706–7 Farquhar *Beaux Strat.* II. ii, She reads Plays, keeps a Monkey, and is troubled with Vapours. 1727 *Philip Quarll* (1816) 26 The greener sort of monkies. 1796 Morse *Amer. Geog.* II. 562 They sit on their hams, with their legs and arms disposed in the manner of monkeys. 1810 Southey *Kehama* XIII. xii, The antic Monkies, whose wild gambols late,..Shook the whole wood. 1820 Shelley *Witch Atl.* lxxiv, The chatterings of the monkey. 1880 Haughton *Phys. Geog.* vi. 273 The American monkeys differ widely.. from all the apes and monkeys of the Old World.

b. With qualifying word: see quots.

Howling monkey: a monkey of the genus *Mycetes*. See also Capuchin, Moustache, Proboscis, Squirrel, Spider, Vervet *monkey*.

1607 [see Martin²]. 1802 Bingley *Anim. Biog.* (1813) I. 86 The howling monkey. 1863 Bates *Nat. Amazon* ix. (1864) 255 The nocturnal Owl-faced Monkey (*Nyctipithecus Trivirgatus*). *Ibid.* xii. 391 The Scarlet-faced Monkey. 1905 *Westm. Gaz.* 14 Sept. 4/1 *Cercopithecus albigularis*. Sykes's Monkey, as it is called after its discoverer, who brought the first specimen home more than seventy years ago, is a handsomely marked species.

c. *Monkey up* (or *on*) *a stick*: a toy consisting of the figure of a monkey attached to a stick so that it can be moved up and down it on a sliding ring.

1863 *Tyneside Songs* 18 In these days he was a regular brick, When he sold the munkeys up the stick. 1874 'Max Adeler' *Out of Hurly-burly* viii. 96 Willie had a purple monkey climbing on a yellow stick.

2. *transf.* a. One who resembles a monkey in appearance or behaviour; esp. a mimic, or one who performs comical antics.

1589 Nashe *Martins Months Minde* 34 See how like the old Ape this young Munkey pattereth. 1607 Topsell. *Four-f. Beasts* 7 The Englishmen call any man vsing such Histrionical actours [*sic*] 'a Munkey'. *a* 1716 South *Serm.* (1842) IV. 106 In a word, no man can be exact and perfect in this way of flattery, without being a monkey and a mimic. 1791–1823 D'Israeli *Cur. Lit.* (1866) 25/2 Imitation by which an inferior mind becomes the monkey of an original writer. 1809 Malkin *Gil Blas* IV. viii. ▸ 10 If she is stark mad for such a monkey as this. 1873 Symonds *Grk. Poets* viii. 256 Grote clearly thinks that Aristophanes was a meddling monkey.

b. Used as a term of playful contempt, chiefly of young people.

1604 Shaks. *Oth.* IV. i. 131 This is the Monkeys owne giuing out: She is perswaded I will marry her [etc.]. 1605 — *Mach.* IV. ii. 59 Now God helpe thee, poore Monkie: But how wilt thou do for a Father? 1616 B. Jonson *Devil an Ass* II. viii, I cannot get my wife To part with a ring, on any termes; and yet The sollen Monkey has two. 1710 Swift *Jrnl. to Stella* 2 Nov., Well, little monkeys mine, I must go write; and so good-night. 1715 De Foe *Fam. Instruct.* II. i. (1841) I. 170 Our master's son..is such a religious monkey. 1819 Byron *Juan* I. xxv, A little curly-headed, good-for-nothing, And mischief-making monkey from his birth. 1849 Thackeray *Pendennis* iii, The young monkey used to ride out .. in quest of Dulcinea. 1876 Ruskin *Let. to Yng. Girls* 8 Serve the poor, but, for your lives, you little monkeys, don't preach to them. 1895 'Edna Lyall' *How Children raised Wind* i, Go to sleep, you monkeys, and don't worry your brains at this time of night.

3. In Australia: = *monkey-bear* (see 17).

1847 Carpenter *Zool.* § 314 (1857) I. 352 The Phascolarctos or Koala..by the colonists..is usually termed the native Bear or Monkey.

4. a. *dial.* A young hare. b. *Australian.* A sheep.

1881 A. C. Grant *Bush Life Queensland* vii. (1882) 66 No one felt better pleased than he did to see the last lot of 'monkeys', as the shearers usually denominated sheep, leave the head-station. 1889 *Fishing Gaz.* 7 Sept. 147/3 A young hare (or monkey, as they are called here [*sc.* on the Wye] at this time of the year). 1893 F. Adams *Austral.* 137 Now and then..you lit upon a 'mob' of the wild, timid, yet inquisitive 'monkeys' (sheep).

II. Applied to various machines or implements.

† 5. A kind of gun or cannon. *Obs.*

1650 *Art. Rendition Edinb. Castle* 4, 28 Short Brasse Munkeys *alias* Dogs. 10 Iron Munkeys. 1663 *Flagellum, or O. Cromwell* (1672) 103 Twenty-eight Brass Drakes called Monkeys.

6. A machine consisting of a heavy hammer or ram working vertically in a groove and used in anchor-making and in driving bolts and piles. Also applied to the ram itself and to the hook by which it is raised.

1750 Blanckley *Nav. Expositor, Monkey*, a Block made of Iron with a Catch, made use of in Ginns for driving Piles. 1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* I. 80 The *Monkey* is a machine for setting the arms, &c. It consists of a weight of about 200 lb.,..and a long iron shank suspended by an iron chain to a crane. 1823 Crabb *Technol. Dict.*, Monkey (*Mil.*), a machine which is used for driving large piles of wood into the earth. 1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 44 The junction, or shutting on, as the workmen call it, of the several members of an anchor, is effected by an instrument called a monkey. 1847 *Illustr. Lond. News* 16 Oct. 252/3 A pointed iron rod..took 46 blows of a monkey. 1855 Ogilvie, The monkey of a pile-driving machine is the double hook which takes up the ram. 1874 Theable *Naval Archit.* 135 The holt is driven with an iron sliding ram, termed a 'monkey', an operation usually requiring four men. 1902 *Engineer* 19 Sept. 285 The snatch hook of the pile driver is the monkey whilst the falling weight is the ram.

b. *Mil.* The instrument which drives a rocket.

1885 in Cassell. 1896 in Farmer *Slang.*

c. Short for *monkey-block* (see 17).

1833 Marryat *P. Simple* vi, 'What blocks have we below?' ..I have a couple of *monkeys* down in the store-room.

7. Applied to various receptacles for liquor. (Cf. the phrase in 11 below.) a. A kind of wooden kid for grog. (Adm. Smyth.)

b. ? A hunting flask. *Obs.*

1852 R. S. Surtees *Sponge's Sp. Tour* (1893) 309 Having ..filled his 'monkey' full of sherry, our friend Jog slipped out the back way to loosen old Ponto.

c. A globular earthenware water-vessel with a straight upright neck. Cf. Monkey-pot 2.

1834 M. Scott *Cruise Midge* xvi. (1842) 301 That claret, Brail—and the monkey of cool water—thank you. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1166/2 The water-jars, or monkeys, used in tropical countries. These are merely unglazed earthenware jugs having a small neck and a spout. 1883 Olive Schreiner *African Farm* II. viii. In the front room a monkey and two tumblers stood on the centre table.

8. a. A bricklayer's hod. (1885 in *Cassell's Encycl. Dict.*) **b.** (See quot.)

1886 *Good Words* 530 [Lucifer-match making.] The splints ..are received in large cases and are transferred in batches of 20,000 or so on to trays, technically known as 'monkeys'.

9. *Mining.* (See quots.)

1883 Gresley *Gloss. Coal-mining* 170 *Monkey* (Lei.), an iron catch or scotch fixed in the floor of a way. 1888 W. E. Nicholson *Coal Trade Gloss.* (E.D.D.), *Monkey*, an arrangement placed between the rails at the head of an incline, which allows the wagons to pass over it in going up, but prevents them from running back.

10. A solution of zinc chloride, used as a flux in soldering. 1890 in *Century Dict.*

III. Colloquial and slang uses.

11. *To suck* (or *sup*) *the monkey*: (*a*) to drink from the bottle; hence, to tipple; (*b*) to drink out of a cocoa-nut emptied of milk and filled with spirit; (*c*) to drink spirits from a cask through a straw or tube inserted in a small hole.

1797 Mrs. A. M. Bennett *Beggar Girl* (1813) III. 253 Thee hast been sucking the monkey. *Ibid.* 270 A goodish wench in the main, if one keeps a sharp look-out after her, else she will sup the monkey. 1822 Scott *Pirate* xxxix, 'Why, he has sucked the monkey so long and so often', said the Boatswain, 'that the best of him is buffed'. 1833 Marryat *P. Simple* xxx, Do you know what 'sucking the monkey' means?..It is a term used among seamen, for drinking rum out of cocoa-nuts, the milk having been poured out. 1842 Barham *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. II. *Black Mousquetaire*, Besides, what the vulgar call 'sucking the monkey' Has much less effect on a man when he's funky. 1868 *Star* 27 Mar., Three men..were charged with an offence called 'sucking the monkey', but in legal phraseology feloniously stealing, taking, and carrying away brandy from a cask in the London Dock. 1894 *Westm. Gaz.* 10 Dec. 5/3 'Sucking the Monkey'..was the cause of the death of a dock labourer...He had driven in the bung of a cask of brandy, and having had a good draught of the liquor, became unconscious.

12. *Monkey's allowance* (see quots.).

1785 Grose *Dict. Vulg. Tongue* s.v., *Monkey's allowance*; more kicks than halfpence. 1833 Marryat *P. Simple* ii, You'll find monkey's allowance—more kicks than halfpence.

13. *My monkey's up*: I am angry or enraged. So *to get one's m. up, to put* (a person's) *m. up.*

1853 *Tyneside Songs* 25 For when maw mungky's up aw gan The yell hog or nyen. 1873 *Routledge's Eng. Gentl. Mag.* June 433/2 My ole massa's monkey up, and no mistake. 1889 'F. Anstey' *Pariah* II. iv, I always get my monkey up when I hear these swells laying down the law about indigo. 1880 'Ouida' *Moths* II. 91 I'm glad that girl put my monkey up about the coals.

14. *Betting slang.* £500; in America, $500.

The explanation in quot. 1832 is prob. erroneous; the German original has 'five pounds', but this sense is equally unauthenticated.

1832 tr. *Pueckler-Muskau's Tour of German Prince* III. xiv. 372, I won eight rubbers and two 'Monkeys'. What is a 'Monkey'? you ask...One for twenty-five pounds is called a Poney; and one for fifty, a 'Monkey'. 1861 Whyte Melville *Gd. for Nothing* xxviii. II. 31 A 'monkey' at least to the credit-side of your own book landed in about a minute and a half. 1881 *Standard* 23 Mar. 3/7 Dourance .. was decidedly favourite, and after 500 to 45 had been noted to her name, nearly a monkey went on at 10 to 1.

15. *To have a monkey on a house*, etc.: to have a mortgage on it.

Common in northern and midland dialects: see E.D.D. Presumably suggested by the initial *m* of *mortgage*.

1877 *N. & Q.* ser. v. VIII. 289 A Monkey on the House. 1886 *Graphic* 10 Apr. 399/2 To a lawyer..a mortgage is a 'monkey with a long tail'.

IV. 16. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *monkey appendage, -kind, -mimic, -tribe, -trick; monkey-faced, -led, -looking, -tailed* adjs.; *monkey-like* adj. and adv.; *monkey-fashion* adv.

1795 Southey *Lett. fr. Spain* (1799) 6 The little boys wear the *monkey appendage of a tail. *a* 1864 Hawthorne *Amer. Note-bks.* (1879) I. 39 With something of the *monkey aspect inseparable from a little Frenchman. 1895 Kipling *2nd Jungle Bk.* 218 When he tired of ground-going he threw up his hands *monkey-fashion to the creeper. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) II. 101 Man's head..is differently formed from that of all other animals, the *monkey-kind only excepted. *a* 1843 Southey *Comm.-pl. Bk*, III. 809 Mankind at the lowest point where monkey-kind is at its highest. 1775 Sheridan *Rivals* II. i, But country dances! ..to be *monkey-led for a night! 1611 Cotgr., *Pierre du Coignet*, a *Monkie-like Image of stone in our Ladies Church at Paris. 1856 Macaulay *Biog., Johnson* (1860) 99 The master was often provoked by the monkey-like impertinence of the pupil. 1884 *Pall Mall Budget* 22 Aug. 14/2 Brown urchins swarm up trees monkeylike. 1834 M. Scott *Cruise Midge* xviii. (1842) 341 The *Monkey-looking paws. 1728 Pope *Dunc.* II. 236 The *monkey-mimics rush discordant in. 1733 *Harmony in Uproar* in *Arbuthnot's Misc. Wks.* (1751) II. 25 The taunting Reproaches of this foul-mouth'd *monkey-tail'd Railer. 1728 Pope *Dunc.* II. 232 Three Cat-calls be the bribe Of him, whose chatt'ring shames the *monkey-tribe. 1809 Malkin *Gil Blas* v. i. P 90 Playing a hundred *monkey tricks. 1864 Burton *Scot Abr.* I. v. 315 Imitating by divers monkey-tricks, the holy ceremonies of the Mass.

17. Special comb.: **monkey-bear**, the koolah or native bear of Australia; **monkey-bird** (see quots.); **monkey-block**, 'a small single block strapped with a swivel; also, those nailed on the topsail-yards of some merchantmen, to lead the buntlines through' (Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.* 1867); **monkey-board**, a footboard at the back of a vehicle for a footman or conductor to stand on; **monkey-boat**, (*a*) and (*b*) see quots. 1858, 1867; (*c*) a long narrow canal boat; **monkey-drift**, 'small prospecting drift' (Raymond *Mining Gloss.* 1881); **monkey-engine**, a form of pile-driver having a monkey or ram moving in a wooden frame (Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1875); **monkey-gaff** ? *U.S.*, a small gaff on some large merchant-vessels, placed above the spanker-gaff; **monkey-hammer**, a jeweller's drop-press; **monkey-house**, a building in which monkeys are kept for show, as at zoological gardens; **monkey-jacket**, a short close-fitting jacket, such as is worn by sailors; † **monkey-pease**, woodlice (cf. *monk's-peason*); **monkey-press** = *monkey-hammer*; **monkey-pump**, 'straws or quills for sucking the liquid from a cask, through a gimlet-hole made for the purpose' (Smyth 1867); **monkey-rail**, a supplementary rail above the quarter rail; **monkey-rigged** *a.*, rigged with 'monkey-spars' (in quot. used for 'not full-rigged'); **monkey-rope**, (*a*) a creeper or liane in a forest used by monkeys in climbing; (*b*) a rope fastened to a sailor's waist-belt when he is working in a dangerous position; **monkey-shines** *pl., U.S. slang*, monkey-like tricks or antics; **monkey-spars**, 'reduced masts and yards for a vessel devoted to the instruction and exercise of boys' (Smyth); **monkey('s)-tail**, a short hand-spike; 'a lever for training a carronade' (Smyth); † **monkey-waist**, a waist resembling a monkey's; **monkey-wrench**, a wrench or spanner having a movable jaw.

1891 'Ada Cambridge' *Three Miss Kings* ii. 9 A little *monkey-bear came cautiously down from the only gum tree that grew on the premises. 1848 Schomburgk *Hist. Barbados* 681 *Vireo olivacea* Wilson. The *Monkey Bird. 1861 Du Chaillu *Egnat. Afr.* xvi. 306 This little monkey is also a great favourite with the monkey-birds (*Buceros albocrystatus*), which I often saw playing with it. 1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* I. 156 **Monkey-blocks*...This sort of blocks is sometimes used on the lower yards of small merchant ships, to lead (into the mast or down upon deck) the running rigging belonging to the sails. 1842 Mrs. F. Trollope *Vis. Italy* II. xxii. 366 The almost grotesque effect occasioned by..four laquais crowded on the *monkey-board. 1865 *Morn. Star* 11 Feb., The man..pursued the omnibus and again jumped on the step and endeavoured to get on the spare monkey-board. 1884 *Law Rep.* 12 Q. B. Div. 201 In consequence of a defect in the ironwork by which the 'monkey-board'..was supported, the plaintiff fell. 1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade*, **Monkey-boat*, a boat employed in the docks. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Monkey-boat*, a half-decked hoat above-bridge on the Thames. 1882 *Standard* 26 Sept. 6/4 They had to cross a 'monkey-boat' to get to the barge. 1885 *Harper's Mag.* May 859/1 [On Regent's Canal]. We are in the midst of a little fleet of monkey-boats, deep down in the water with bricks and sand. 1883 *Century Mag.* Oct. 946/2 An answering pennant flying from her *monkey-gaff. 1869 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* 308 An instrument something like what in engineering is called a *monkey-hammer, but is known in the goldsmith's trade as a 'drop-down' or monkey press. 1854 *Zoologist* XII. 4283 The *monkey-house has been subjected to a course of cleansing. 1840 R. H. Dana *Bef. Mast* xxiii, We always took our *monkey-jackets with us. 1894 C. N. Robinson *Brit. Fleet* 515 In 1889 a monkey jacket took the place of the blue tunic. 1682 Hartman *Preserver & Restorer of Health* 47 Take a hundred *Monkey-pease, or Hoglice, those that roul themselves round when they are touched. 1869 *Monkey-press [see *Monkey-hammer*]. 1840 R. H. Dana *Bef. Mast* xxxv, [We] painted..the *monkey-rail, black, white, and yellow. 1900 *Scribner's Mag.* Sept. 290/1 Hanging over the monkey-rail in order to see as well as feel the quick answer of the vessel to her helm. 1882 *Daily Tel.* 12 Sept. 2/1 Most of the steamers nowadays are *monkey-rigged. 1849 E. E. Napier *Excurs. S. Afr.* II. 369 Noble forest-trees, mostly connected together by various lianes and creepers—here called '*monkey ropes'. 1851 H. Melville *Whale* lxxii, The monkey-rope was fast at both ends. 1878 A. R. Grote in *Pop. Sci. Monthly* XIII. 435 You may have noticed barefooted boys cutting up '*monkey-shines' on trees with entire safety to themselves. 1894 F. R. Stockton *Pomona's Trav.* 76 Most of them played and cut up monkey-shines on the hay. 1833 Marryat *P. Simple* vi, Hand me that *monkey's tail. 1604 Rowlands *Looke to it* (1872) 28 You with the Hood, the Falling-band, the Ruffe, The *Moncky-wast, the breeching like a Beare. 1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade*, **Monkey-wrench*. 1894 *Outing* (U. S.) XXIV. 132/2, I luckily had a pair of gas pliers in my valise which I used as a monkey wrench.

b. In names of fruits and plants: **monkey apple, apple-tree** (see quots.); **monkey-cup**, the pitcher-plant, genus *Nepenthes*; **monkey-flower**, the genus *Mimulus*; **monkey grass**, the fibre of *Attalea funifera*; **monkey guava**, *Diospysos mespiliformis*; **monkey nut**, a name for the pea-nut, *Arachis hypogæa*; **monkey orchis**, *Orchis tephrosanthos*; **monkey-puzzle**, the puzzle-monkey, *Araucaria imbricata*; **monkey's dinner-bell**, the sandbox tree, *Hura crepitans*; **monkey-vine**, *Ipomea Nil*. Also Monkey-bread,-face,-pot.

1823 *Trans. Hort. Soc.* (1824) V. 446 [Sierra Leone] *Monkey Apple. *Anisophyllea laurina.* 1833 *Penny Cycl.* I. 187/1 The monkey apple (*Anisophyllea laurina*) the drupe of which is, in flavour and size, between a nectarine and a plum. 1857 Henfrey *Bot.* § 427 *Clusia flava* is called the Wild Mango, or Monkey-apple, in Jamaica. 1750 G. Hughes *Barbados* 129 The *Monkey Apple-tree...The Fruit hath its Name from its being eaten by Monkeys. 1848 Schomburgk *Hist. Barbados* 599 *Anona palustris* Linn. Monkey Apple Tree *Hughes*. 1845–50 Mrs. Lincoln *Lect. Bot.* 54 The pitcher-plant is a native of Ceylon, where it is called *monkey-cup. 1789 W. Aiton *Hortus Kewensis* II. 361 Mimulus...*Monkey-flower. 1796 C. Marshall *Garden.* xix. (1798) 344 Monkey flower, or American fox glove, blue. 1882 *Garden* 24 June 437/3 The..dull *cupreus* section of Monkey flowers. 1858 *Monkey grass [see Piassaba]. 1887 Moloney *Forestry W. Afr.* 522 *Monkey Guava. 1880 *Encycl. Brit.* XI. 221/2 Even in England large quantities of these '*monkey nuts' are consumed by the poorer children. 1892 Zangwill *Chitdr. Ghetto* I. iii, There was brisk traffic in toffy and gray peas and monkey-nuts. 1855 Miss Pratt *Flower Pl.* V. 209 *Monkey Orchis. 1866 *Reader* 9 June 566 Mr. Carruthers calls attention to the singular genus *Araucaria* (the '*monkey-puzzle' of ignorant gardeners). 1891 *Times* 7 Oct. 10/6 Cones of the monkey puzzle. 1849 Balfour *Man. Bot.* 495 The juice of *Hura crepitans*, Sandbox-tree, or *Monkey's dinner-bell, is also very acrid. 1750 G. Hughes *Barbados* 168 *Monkey-Vine. 1848 Schomburgk *Hist. Barbados* 612 *Ipomea Nil*, Pers. Monkey Vine *Hughes*. Blue Ipomea.

Mo·nkey, *v.* [f. Monkey *sb.*]

1. *trans.* **a.** To ape the manners of, mimic. **b.** To mock, make a jest of.

1859 Mrs. Browning *Villafranca* viii, All cursed the Doer for an evil Called here, enlarging on the Devil,—There, monkeying the Lord! 1875 Browning *Aristoph. Apol.* Wks. 1896 I. 674/1 Then marched the Three who..Monkeyed our Great and Dead to heart's content That morning in Athenai. 1892 Peyton *Mem. Jesus* iii. 63 If man allows vanity, lust, vulgarity in his nature, he delivers himself to be mocked and monkeyed.

2. *intr.* To play mischievous or foolish tricks.

1886 *Chicago Advance* 9 Sept. 565 There can be no 'monkeying' with the issue. 1887 F. Francis *Saddle & Mocassin* 143 It is just possible that I may have been monkeying with the cards a little. 1889 *Anthony's Photogr. Bull.* II. 188 His time is too fully occupied in 'monkeying' about his boat, sails and rigging. 1891 Kipling & Balestier *Naulahka* vi, I don't see how you fellows have the time to monkey around here.

Mo·nkey-bread. Also **monkey's bread.** The fruit of the baobab tree; the tree itself.

1789 W. Aiton *Hortus Kewensis* II. 439 *Adansonia digitata*... Ethiopian Sour Gourd, or Monkies-bread. 1849 Balfour *Man. Bot.* § 784 The Baobab tree of Senegal, or monkey-bread. 1897 Mary Kingsley *W. Africa* 149 Dr. Pélessier then insists on banging down monkey bread-fruit with a stick, to show me their inside.

Mo·nkeyed, *ppl. a.* [f. Monkey *sb.* + -ED 2.] Made like a monkey.

1790 J. Williams *Shrove Tuesday* in *A Cabinet*, etc. (1794) 29 Champanze bumanis'd, and monkey'd man.

Mo·nkey-face.

1. A face like a monkey's. Also *attrib.*

1598 Florio, *Mona*, an ape, a munkie, a pug, a kittin, a munkie face. 1660 F. Brooke tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 333 One..made us good laughing, with his mows and monkey faces. 1681 T. Flatman *Heraclitus Ridens* No. 33 (1713) I. 214 Harry will..have his little Monkey-face mounted to adorn the top of the Amsterdam-Coffee-house. 1765 Foote *Commissary* I. Wks. 1799 II. 17 Doctor Catgut, the meagre musician; that sick monkey-face maker of crotchets.

† **2.** The betel-nut. *Obs.*

1700 Plukenet *Opera Bot.* (1769) III. 145 Palma Arecifera fructu compresso [etc.]. Hujus fructus Nucis..ex Angola allatus est, & à nostratibus *Monkey-face*, ibi dictus.

So **Mo·nkey-faced** *a.*

1850 R. G. Cumming *Hunter's Life S. Afr.* (1902) 14/1 This is a common failing among this monkey-faced race.

Monkeyfy (mʊ·ŋkifəi), *v.* Also 8 **monkify.** [f. Monkey *sb.* + -FY.] *trans.* To make like a monkey; to make ridiculous-looking. Hence **Mo·nkeyfied, Mo·nkeyfying** *ppl. adjs.*

1761 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 126 A parcel of prentice boys monkified in the same manner [*i. e.* 'frenchified up in the new mode']. 1834 M. Scott *Cruise Midge* x. (1842) 174 The people have so monkeyfied him that he is scarcely presentable on the quarterdeck. 1836 E. Howard *R. Reefer* xix, His features were compressed into a small monkeyfied compass. 1862 D. Wilson *Preh. Man* vii. 121 The very monkeyfying process to which some of the illustrations of inferior human types have been subjected in this pictorial chorography.

Monkeyhood (mʊ·ŋkihud). [f. Monkey *sb.* + -HOOD.] The condition or state of being a monkey; also monkeys collectively.

1846 G. Moore *Power of Soul over Body* (1852) 9 The first man, was luckily evolved after passing through all the variety of monkeyhood, into a being fit to produce others like himself. 1873 L. Stephen *Ess. Freethinking* 266 The upright posture appeared at a certain period in the course of his development from monkeyhood.

Monkeyish (mʊ·ŋkiˌiʃ), *a.* [f. Monkey *sb.* + -ISH.] Like a monkey; resembling a monkey in imitativeness or mischievousness.

1621 Br. Montagu *Diatribæ* 11 Some Apish and Munkeyish as well as Lion-like diuels. 1830 Arnold in *Life & Corr.* (1844) II. App. C. 388 But monkeyish imitation will do no good. 1852 Dickens *Bleak Ho.* xx, He drinks, and smokes, in a monkeyish way. 1882 'F. Anstey' *Vice Versa* iv, Their [*sc.* boys'] monkeyish mischief.

Hence **Mo·nkeyishness.**

1824 *Blackw. Mag.* XV. 263 This is the great excellence of Talma in tragedy—that he has little or none of the monkeyishness of his country. 1890 Baring-Gould *In Troub. Land* iv, The Germans have a saying that the higher a monkey climbs the more he exposes his monkeyishness.

Monkeyism (mʊ·ŋkiˌiz'm). [f. Monkey *sb.* + -ISM.] Monkey-like nature or character; behaviour characteristic of a monkey.

1845 *Blackw. Mag.* LVII. 51 The chattering and capering monkeyism of the Parisian exquisite. 1867 Golow. Smith

Three Eng. Statesmen (1882) 207 The religious middle classes were soon repelled by the impieties of the [French] revolution..all men of sense by its monkeyism and its madness.

Mo·nkey-pot. Also **monkey's pot.**

1. The woody seed-vessel of the Brazilian tree *Lecythis ollaria*; the tree itself.

1849 Balfour *Man. Bot.* § 867 *Lecythis ollaria*, a large Brazilian tree, yields the woody capsules called Monkey-pots. 1855 Dalton *Hist. Brit. Guiana* II. 201 Monkey's pot, *Lecythis grandiflora*. 1861 Bentley *Man. Bot.* 310 Pyxis of the Monkey-pot..with transverse dehiscence. 1871 Kingsley *At Last* xi, If nature has played the poor monkeys a somewhat tantalizing trick about Brazil nuts, she has been more generous to them in the case of some other Lecythids, which go by the name of monkey-pots.

2. A vessel used in tropical countries for cooling drinking-water. Cf. Monkey *sb.* 7 c.

1897 Gunter *Susan Turnbull* xxi. 265 Let him [the butler] remember that the rain-water for our drinking is to be well chilled in monkey-pots.

†**Monkeyro·ny.** *Obs.* Alteration of Macaroni (in sense 2) by association with *monkey*.

1775 Sheridan *Rivals* III. iv, An' we've any luck we shall see the Devon monkeyrony in all the print-shops in Bath! 1786 Mrs. A. M. Bennett *Juvenile Indiscr.* III. 5 The sneaking crew of monkeyronies.

Monkeyry (mʊ·ŋkiri). *rare*—[1]. [f. Monkey *sb.* + -ry.] A place where monkeys abound.

1826 H. N. Coleridge *West Indies* (1832) 201 The froggeries of France, the crabberies of Antigua, or the monkeyries of Trinidad.

Mo·nk-fish. [f. Monk *sb.* Cf. Ger. *mönch*.]

1. The Angel-fish, *Squatina angelus*.

1610 Guillim *Heraldry* III. xxvi. (1611) 183 To these must be added Mantegres, Satyrs, Monk-fishes. 1672 Josselyn *New Eng. Rarities* 96 *Munk Fish*, a flat Fish like scate, having a hood like a Fryers Cowl. 1769 Hewson in *Phil. Trans.* LIX. 205, I next went to Brighthelmstone, where I found kingston, or monk-fish, a species of skate. 1836 Yarrell *Brit. Fishes* II. 407 The Angel-fish..is also called Monk-fish, because its rounded head looks as if enveloped in a monk's hood. 1883 *Fisheries Exhib. Catal.* (ed. 4) 108 Monk Fish or Angel Shark, caught at Lynn, Norfolk.

2. The Angler, *Lophius piscatorius*.

1666 Merrett *Pinax* 186 *Rana piscatrix*, the Monk, Toad, Nass, or Devil fish. 1880–4 Day *Fishes Gt. Brit.* I. 74. 1884 [see Molligut].

Monkhood (mʊ·ŋkhud). [f. Monk *sb.* + -hood.] The state, condition, or profession of a monk; the monastic life, monasticism. Also, monks collectively. So †**Monkhede** [-head].

a 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* v. xiii. [xii.] (1890) 434 Þæt he in ðæt ġemyndġade mynster mid his bene innġedon wæs & inn munuchade bescoren. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Hom.* (Th.) II. 126 Æġðer ġe preosthades ġe munuchades menn. 1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 201 Þat he forsake..God of heuene and hys bapteme And alle þe godenesse of hys munkhede. *c* 1449 Pecock *Repr.* IV. vii. 460 Dynys..makiþ mensioun that the grete dukis of the chirche..ordeyneden the religioun of monkehode to be had and vsid in the chirche. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 6410 He left all and to monkhede he pas. 1687 Atterbury *Answ. Consid. Spirit Luther* 25 He had left off his Monkhood too. 1740 Hor. Walpole *Ep. fr. Florence* 189 Nor the dark cloister's mystick rites display, Whence num'rous brawny Monkhoods waste away. 1839 Longf. *Hyperion* I. vii. (1853) 47, I think the name of Martin Luther, the monk of Wittemburg, alone sufficient to redeem all monkhood from the reproach of laziness. 1854 Milman *Lat. Chr.* IV. vii. (1864) II. 344 Image worship in the mass of the people, of the whole monkhood. 1888 H. C. Lea *Hist. Inquis.* I. 252 The council had forbidden the formation of new orders of monkhood.

Monkie, obs. form of Monkey.

†**Mo·nking,** *ppl. a. Obs.* [f. Monk *sb.* + -ing[2].] a. Living like monks. b. ? Harbouring monks.

1537 tr. *Latimer's Serm. bef. Convoc.* 8 Neither these be solitary, how religious, how mocking, how muncking, I would say; so euever they be. 1650 Fuller *Pisgah* II. xiii. 286 Behold here the large difference betwixt him [*sc.* John the Baptist] and monking Eremites. 1834 Coleridge *Table-t.* 31 May, The old cœnobitic establishments..were converted..into monasteries and other monking receptacles.

Monkish (mʊ·ŋkiʃ), *a.* [f. Monk *sb.* + -ish[1].]

1. Of or belonging to monks; monastic.

1546 Bale *Eng. Votaries* I. (1548) 42 b, Those .ii. hornes of that earthly Beast were here in Englande, the .ii. monkysh sectes that in those dayes fyrst entered. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 59 Men must be warned that they suffre not them selves to be bounden to Monkish vowes. 1587 *T. Norton's Calvin's Inst.* IV. xiii. 422 b, Only monkish life [is] termed perfection in the Papacie. 1617 Moryson *Itin.* III. 212 Monkish vowes being against the word of God. 1781 Cowper *Charity* 43 Where wast thou then, sweet Charity?..Wast thou in monkish cells and nunn'ries found? 1840 Dickens *Old C. Shop* i, Fantastic carvings brought from monkish cloisters. 1843 Borrow *Bible in Spain* iii, Most of these men spoke of priestcraft and the monkish system with the utmost abhorrence. 1869 McLaren *Serm.* Ser. II. vi. 104 Sometimes you will find in an old monkish library the fair vellum that [etc.].

b. That is a monk.

1697 T. Smith in *Lett. Lit. Men* (Camden) 243 The life of this Great Saint, written by an old Monkish author. 1859 C. Barker *Assoc. Princ.* iii. 72 A Latin history..written..by a monkish historian, known as Geoffrey of Monmouth. 1881 Warren *Celtic Liturgy* 56 A monkish pilgrim from the city of Constantinople.

c. Used, executed, or performed by monks.

1612 Selden *Illustr. Drayton's Poly-olb.* ix. 147 He..is affirmed the same with Ine K. of Westsex in our Monkish Chronicles. 1646 Evelyn *Mem.* (1819) I. 229 A MS. in ye old Monkish character. *a* 1761 Cawthorn *Antiquarians* 62 Wrapp'd in a leaf of monkish Latin. 1833 Chalmers in *Mem.* (1851) III. 410 Mr. Sparke..invited me to the palace to see an old monkish painting. 1838 *Murray's Hand-bk. N. Germ.* etc. 63 [Utrecht is] in monkish Latin Ultra Trajectum, whence comes its modern name.

d. Suited to an establishment of monks.

1791 W. Gilpin *Forest Scenery* II. 144 The situation of Beaulieu-abbey is..perhaps more monkish, than could easily have been found in the neighbourhood.

2. Resembling a monk or what pertains to a monk.

1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* (1592) 884 The greatest part of these monkish priests, doe nothing else but sing in the Church, and mumble masse. 1581 Hanmer *Answ. Jesuit's Challenge* To Rdr. 2 In weede monkish, frierish, priestly and Pharisaicall. 1602 Marston *Ant. & Mel.* I. Wks. 1856 I. 14 A thinne lippe, and a little monkish eye. 1645 Milton *Colast.* Wks. 1851 IV. 365 The exposition..is the receav'd Exposition by all lerned men, unless it bee a Monkish Papist heer and there. 1849 Dickens *Dav. Copp.* xxiii, 'What *is* a proctor, Steerforth?'..' Why, he is a sort of monkish attorney'. 1882–3 *Schaff's Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* II. 917 He lived like a monk..He was not monkish, though.

3. Characteristic of monks or the monastic system; chiefly in depreciatory sense, having the evil characteristics, features, or tendencies attributed to monasticism.

1570–6 Lambarde *Peramb. Kent* (1826) 231 By this and such other Monkish partes of theirs, you may see *Quid otium & cibus faciat alienus.* 1591 *Troub. Raigne K. John* (1611) To Gentlem. Rdrs. 70 Fond rashnesse murdreth first a Prince, And Monkish falsenesse poysneth last a King. 1625 N. Carpenter *Geog. Del.* II. vii. (1635) 126 In such a Monkish age,—the most petty Inuentions were admired for great matters. 1641 Milton *Animadv.* Wks. 1851 III. 190 Your Monkish prohibitions, and expurgatorious indexes. 1695 Kennett *Par. Antiq.* Pref. (end), There be some, who slight and despise this sort of Learning, and represent it to be a dry, barren, Monkish studie. 1790 Burke *Fr. Rev.* 149 This Gothic and monkish education. 1813 Shelley *Notes to Q. Mab* Poet. Wks. (1891) 44/1 Chastity is a monkish and evangelical superstition. 1863 Ruskin *Munera Pulv.* Wks. 1872 II. 4 The monkish doctrine of the opposition of body to soul. 1864 Burton *Scot. Abr.* II. i. 68 He..is a monkish, bookish person, who meddles with nothing but literature.

Hence **Mo·nkishness.**

1882 in Ogilvie. 1900 *Daily News* 27 July 4/6 The monkishness of Henry the Sixth's portrait.

Monkism (mʊ·ŋkiz'm). [f. Monk *sb.* + -ism.] The monkish system.

1716 M. Davies *Athen. Brit.* II. 272 Back again..into their unavoidable Mahometanism, and consequentially Monkism, and judaical Papism. 1807 G. Chalmers *Caledonia* I. II. vii. 318 The merit of Monkism now found its way into Western Europe. 1848 *Blackw. Mag.* Sept. 328 They have been sunk in the mire of their monkism.

Monkly (mʊ·ŋkli), *a. Now rare.* [f. Monk *sb.* + -ly[1].] Of or pertaining to a monk or monks; monastic.

a 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* v. xix. *title* (Schipper) 652 Dætte Cynred Mercna cyning & Offa Eastseaxna cyning on munuclicum hadum to Rome becom. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xviii. (*Egipciane*) 29 For sa ennornyt þat man was in monklyke vorke, vord, & dede,..þat [etc.]. 1532 More *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 397/2 As Otho did in Almain which raune onte of the charterhouse, & .. toke a wyfe for sobrenes and chastisyng of hys munkelye membres. 1548 G. Wishart tr. *Swiss Conf. Fayth* in *Wodrow Soc. Misc.* (1844) 22 We reject and refuse this monckely chastite. 1652 Earl Monm. tr. *Bentivoglio's Hist. Relat.* 73 But to return to the Monkly Order. 1893 *Month* Dec. 574 No longer monkly garbs, but dainty muslins or frilled confections, flit hither and thither.

Hence **Mo·nkliness.**

1887 I. Taylor in *Pall Mall G.* 8 Oct. 11/2 Islam..replaced monkliness by manliness.

Monkrie, -ry(e, obs. forms of Monkery.

Monkship (mʊ·ŋkʃip). [f. Monk *sb.* + -ship.] a. The monastic system; monks collectively. b. With *poss. pron.* The personality of a monk.

1620 Brent tr. *Sarpi's Counc. Trent* (1676) 634 All Catholick Writers do condemn Luther..of Heresy, for saying that Monkship is a humane invention. 1716 M. Davies *Athen. Brit.* II. 159 For 'tis truly said of Mathew Paris, that his Monkship is at every body that comes in his way. 1861 Beresf. Hope *Eng. Cathedr. 19th C.* v. 168 As society and monkship drew more apart from each other [etc.].

Monk's-hood, monkshood (mʊ·ŋkshud). [Named from resemblance of form.]

1. A plant of the genus *Aconitum*, esp. *Aconitum Napellus*.

[Cf. Du. *monnikshap* (early mod. Du. '*Munckskappekens*, aconitum, hecatheis, vulgo cappa vel cucullus monachi', Kilian), Ger. *mönchskappe*.]

1578 Lyte *Dodoens* III. lxxix. 427 Blew Woolfs bane, or Monkes Hoode,..is small..The flowers be as litle hoodes. 1597 Gerarde *Herbal* II. cccix. 823 This kind of Woolfs bane, called *Napellus verus*, in English, Helmet flower, or the great Munks hood. 1629 Parkinson *Parad.* 215 *Napellus verus flore cæruleo*, Blew Helmet flower or Monkes hood. 1634 T. Johnson tr. *Parey's Wks.* 805 The juice, fruit, and substance of *Napellus* [*marg.* or Monks-hood] taken inwardly, killeth a man the same day. 1845–50 Mrs. Lincoln *Lect. Bot.* 31 Such plants as have horned or hooded nectaries, as the Columbine and Monk's-hood, are mostly poisonous. 1872 Oliver *Elem. Bot.* II. 130 Monkshood is very poisonous, and the root has been mistaken for Horse-radish,..with fatal result.

2. Applied to species of the genus *Delphinium* (Larkspur); also, to *Dielytra Cucullaria* (Treas. Bot. 1866).

1597 Gerarde *Herbal* II. ccccxxvi. 924 In English Larkes spur..and Munkes hoode. 1629 Parkinson *Parad.* Table, Monkes hoode, or Larkes spurs. 1678 Phillips, *Monkes-hood*, a kind of flower called in Latin *Consolida Regalis*.

†3. *Anat.* The trapezius muscle. *Obs.*

1615 Crooke *Body of Man* 773 The second is called *Cucullaris* or the Monkes-hood..*Galen* calleth it *Trapezius* or the Table-muscle. 1683 Snape *Anat. Horse* IV. xxii. (1686) 193 The *Cucullaris* or Monk's Hood.

4. **Monkshood moth,** book-name for *Plusia moneta*, which lives on the plant monkshood.

1882 W. F. Kirby *Europ. Butterfl. & M.* (1903) Plate xli.

Monk's rhubarb. [trans. med.L. *Rheubarbarum* (or *Rha barbarum*) *Monachorum*; cf. F. *rhubarbe des moines.*] A name for species of dock, *esp. Rumex Patientia* and *R. alpinus*.

1578 Langham *Gard. Health* 197 Drinke one dramme of the roote of the garden Docke, or Monkes rubarb to purge withall. 1597 Gerarde *Herbal* II. lxxviii. 314 The Monkes Rubarbe is called..of some *Rhubarbarum Monachorum*, or Monkes Rubarbe: because as it should seeme some Monke or other haue used the roote heereof in steed of Rubarbe. 1707 *Curios. in Husb. & Gard.* 280 *Hippolapathum* or Monks-Rhubarb. 1731 Miller *Gard. Dict.* s. v. *Lapathum*, Round-leav'd Alpine Dock, by some call'd Monks Rhubarb. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 998/1 s. v. *Rumex*. 1895 J. Shaw in R. Wallace *Country Schoolm.* (1899) 22 Plants, such as Monks' rhubarb and masterwort, of no value now, but formerly used in poor people's broth.

¶ Erroneously applied to the garden rhubarb, *Rheum Rhaponticum*.

1737 Bracken *Farriery Impr.* xxv. (1749) 216 *Rhaponticum* or Monk's Rheubarb. 1832 *Veg. Subst. Food* 310 Monk Rhubarb..is..a native of Asia..; we find it mentioned by Tusser as early as 1573, as being then cultivated in England.

Monmouth (mʊ·n-, mɒ·nməþ). *Hist.* Also 7 **Munmoth.** The name of an English county town (formerly regarded as part of Wales), used *attrib.*

1. *Monmouth cap*: a flat round cap formerly worn by soldiers and sailors.

1599 Shaks. *Hen. V*, IV. vii. 104 The Welchmen..wearing Leekes in their Monmouth caps. 1605 Chapman, etc. *Eastw. Ho* IV. F 3, Hurle away a browne dozen of Monmouth capps or so, in sea-ceremony to your bone voyage. 1640 Howell *Dodona's Gr.* 13 Sometimes you shall not see in the whole atmosphere from morning to night as much cloud as would line a Monmoth Cappe. 1641 *Arminian Nunnery* 6 They came to Church in round Monmouth Capps. 1644 Symonds *Diary* (Camden) 14 Bewdley. The onely manufacture of this towne is making of capps called Monmouth capps. 16.. *Song of Caps* in J. P. Collier *Roxb. Ball.* (1847) 173 The souldiers that the Monmouth wear. 1713 *Loud. Gaz.* No. 5182/4 The Caps that the Dutch Seafaring Men do generally wear, formerly called Monmouth Caps.

2. *Monmouth cock*: a military 'cock' of the hat in vogue towards the end of the 17th century.

[Prob. named after James Duke of Monmouth, natural son of Charles II.]

1711 Addison *Spect.* No 129 ₱ 10 The smartest of the Country Squires appear still in the Monmouth-Cock. 1769 Granger *Biog. Hist. Eng.* II. 470 The Monmouth, or military cock of the hat, was much worn in this reign [*sc.* Charles II].

Monn, variant of Mun *v.*, must.

Monnestarie, obs. form of Monastery.

†**Monnet.** *Obs. rare.* (See quot.)

1653 R. Sanders *Physiognomie* 176 Little ears denote a good understanding, but they must not be of those ears which being little, are withall deformed, which happens to men as well as cattel, which for this reason they call Monnets; for such ears signifie nothing but mischief and malice.

Monnyplies, variant of Manyplies.

Mono- (mɒno, mɒnɒ·), before a vowel often **mon-**, repr. Gr. *μονο-*, combining form of *μόνος*, alone, only, sole, single, occurring in a number of words adopted from existing Greek compounds (as Monarch, Monody, Monogamy, Monogram, Monologue, Monopoly), and hence used to form words, mostly scientific and technical, independently of a Greek original. The second element of these words is normally of Greek origin, but in recent formations *mono-* is often combined (instead of Uni-) with a Latin element (as *monocellular*: see also 2 below), and occas. prefixed to an English word (as Monoline, Mono-rail). Many of these words have correlatives in *di-* (see Di- pref.[2]), *tri-*, *poly-*, etc. The more important will be found as Main words; others of less importance follow here.

1. General words: ‖ **Mon(o)anæsthe·sia** *Path.*, anæsthesia of a single part. **Monobla·stic** *a. Biol.* [Gr. *βλαστ-ός* sprout, bud], having a single germinal layer (*Cent. Dict.* 1890). ‖ **Monoble·psia, -ble·psis** *Path.* [Gr. *βλέψις* vision], a state of vision in which objects are distinct only when one eye is used (Mayne *Expos. Lex.* 1856). **Monobra·nchiate** *a.*, having only one set of branchiæ or gills (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1891). **Monoca·rdian** *a.* [Gr. *καρδία* heart], 'having a single heart, as fishes and reptiles' (Webster 1847). **Monoce·llular** *a. Biol.* = Unicellular; so **Monoce·llule,** a unicellular organism (*Cent. Dict.*). **Monoce·ntric** *a. Biol.*, having a single centre, as a cell; *Anat.* = Unipolar. **Monoce·rcous** *a. Zool.* [Gr. *κέρκ-ος* tail] = *monomastigate* (*Cent. Dict.*). ‖ **Monochore·a** *Path.*, 'chorea limited to one area, as an arm' (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*). **Monociliate, -ci·liated** *adjs. Zool.*, having a single cilium, uni-

ciliate. **Monocœ·lian** *a.* (and *sb.*) *Zool.* [Gr. κοιλία cavity], having the encephalocœle single; pertaining to the class *Monocœlia*, otherwise called *Leptocardii* (*Cent. Dict.*); so **Monocœ·lic** (*-celic*), 'having a single cavity' (Mayne). **Mono-coloured** *a. rare* −1, having only one colour. **Monoco·ndylar, -condy·lian, -condy·lic** *adjs. Zool.* [Gr. μονοκόνδυλ-ος single-knuckled, f. κόνδυλος knuckle], having one occipital condyle, as the skull of birds and reptiles; distinguished from DICONDYLIAN. **Monoco·rmic** *a. Bot.* [Gr. κορμ-ός tree-trunk], having a single main axis of growth. **Monocro·tic, Mono-crotous** *adjs. Phys.* [Gr. κρότ-ος beat], of a pulse, having a single beat, not DICROTIC. **Monode·rmic** *a.* [Gr. δέρμα skin], having, or consisting of, a single dermal layer. **Monodia·bolism** (*nonce-wd.*), belief in a single devil; cf. *polydiabolism* (POLY- 1). **Monodia·metral** *a. Math.*, term proposed for quartan curves with a single diameter. **Monodichlamy·deous** *a. Bot.* [cf. MONOCHLAMYDEOUS], 'having indifferently either a calyx only, or both calyx and corolla' (*Treas. Bot.* 1866). **Monodime·tric** *a. Cryst.* = DIMETRIC. **Monodi·stich** (*nonce-wd.*), a distich forming a complete poem. **Monody·namous** *a. Bot.* [Gr. δύναμις power; after DIDYNAMOUS], having one stamen much longer than the rest (Mayne). **Monœ·strous** *a. Zool.* [ŒSTRUM 2 b, ŒSTRUS 2 b] (see quot.). **Monofla·gellate** *a. Zool.* = *monomastigate*. **Monoga·nglial** *a. Path.* [see GANGLION 1], epithet of a bubo affecting only one gland. **Monoganglio·nic** *a.*, having a single ganglion (*Cent. Dict.*). **Monogoneu·tic** *a. Ent.* [Gr. γονεύ-ειν to beget], having only one brood a year (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*). **Monogonopo·ric, -gono·porous** *adjs. Zool.* [Gr. γόν-ος generation + πόρ-ος passage], having only one sexual aperture or generative pore, as certain dendrocœle worms (*Cent. Dict.*); **Mono·lobite**, a trilobite in which the division into three lobes is not distinctly marked (*Ibid.*). **Monolo·bular** *a. Path.*, having a single lobule or lobe. **Monolo·cular** *a. Bot.* and *Path.*, having a single cavity or cell, unilocular (Mayne). **Monoma·stigate** *a. Zool.* [Gr. μαστῑγ-, μάστιξ whip], of infusorians, having a single flagellum, uniflagellate (*Cent. Dict.*). **Monomeroso·matous** *a. Zool.* [Gr. μονομερ-ής consisting of one part (μέρ-ος part) + σωματ-, σῶμα body], having the body formed of one segment, as the order *Monomerosomata* of *Arachnida* in Leach's classification (Mayne). **Mononeu·ran** [Gr. νεῦρ-ον nerve], a member of Rudolphi's division *Mononeura* of animals with only a ganglionic nervous system (Brande 1842); so **Mononeu·rous** *a.*, belonging to this division (Mayne). **Monope·rsonal** *a.*, having but one person (Worcester 1860, citing Meadows). **Mo·nophane** *Min.* [Gr. μονοφαν-ής visible alone], obs. synonym of EPISTILBITE, prob. so named because it has one very distinct and brilliant cleavage (Chester). **Mono·phanous** *a.* [see prec.], 'similar in appearance' (Maunder 1830). **Mo·noplacid** *a. Zool.* [Gr. πλακ-οῦς flat cake], having but one madreporic plate, as a star-fish (*Cent. Dict.*). **Monopleu·rid** [PLEURA], one of the family *Monopleuridæ* of bivalves. **Monopleu·robranch** *a.*, belonging to the sub-order *Monopleurobranchiata* of gastropods, which have gills only on one side; *sb.*, a member of this sub-order (*Cent. Dict.*); so **Monopleurobra·nchian** (Brande 1842), **Monopleurobra·nchiate** (*Cent. Dict.*). **Monopneumo·nian** *a.* (and *sb.*) *Zool.* [Gr. πνεύμων lung], belonging to the *Monopneumona* or fishes with one lung; so **Monopneu·monous** *a.* (*Cent. Dict.*). **Monopro·style** *a.*, of a colonnade, consisting of a single row of columns placed in advance of the wall of a building. **Monoptery·gian** *a.* (and *sb.*) *Zool.* [Gr. πτερυγ-, πτέρυξ wing, fin], belonging to the order *Monopterygii* or fishes with one fin (*Cent. Dict.*); so **Monoptery·gious** *a.* (Mayne). **Monopy·lean** *a.* (and *sb.*) *Zool.* [Gr. πύλη gate], belonging to the group *Monopyleæ* of radiolarians, which have a single pseudopodal opening (*Cent. Dict.*). **Monoschemic** *a. Pros.* [Gr. μονόσχημ-ος of but one form, f. σχῆμα form], consisting of one form of foot throughout (*Ibid.*). **Monosoma·tic** *a. Cryst.* [Gr. σωματ-, σῶμα body] (see quot.). **Monoso·matous** *a. Zool.* [see prec.], having a single body or cell, as a rhizopod (*Cent. Dict.*). **Mo·nospasm**, spasm confined to one side. **Mo·nostach, Mono·stachous, Monosta·chyous** *adjs. Bot.* [mod.L. *monostachyus*, Gr. στάχυ-ς ear of corn], bearing a single spike. **Monosti·gmatous** *a. Bot.*, having but one stigma (Mayne). **Mo·nostylous** *a. Bot.*, having but one style (Mayne). **Monosymptoma·tic** *a. Med.*, having a single dominant symptom. **Monote·lephone**, a telephone adapted for transmitting sounds of definite pitch; hence **Monotelepho·nic** *a.* (*Cent. Dict.*). **Monothe·lious** *a. Zool.* [Gr. θῆλ-υς female], applied to species in which several males serve to fecundate a single female; polyandrous (*Ibid.*). **Monothe·tic** *a. Philos.* [Gr. θετικ-ός positing, pertaining to a thesis], 'positing or supposing a single essential element' (*Ibid.*). **Mono·tomous** *a. Min.* [Gr. τομ-ή cutting, section], having a cleavage distinct only in a single direction.

1893 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex.* (ed. 21) *Monanæsthesia. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 302 The co-existence of brachial monoplegia with brachial monoanæsthesia. 1859 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* V. [129/2] The simpler and *monocellular Algæ. 1880 W. S. KENT *Infusoria* I. 99 The monocellular unimpregnated ovum. 1878 tr. *Gegenbaur's Comp. Anat.* 597 If the rete remains broken up, then it is known as a diffuse, unipolar, or *monocentric rete mirabile. 1887 H. M. WARD in *Nature* 27 Jan. 301/2 A complexity is introduced as soon as the sap-vacuoles appear, in many cases making the cells not monocentric but polycentric. 1866 H. J. CLARK in *Amer. Jrnl. Sci.* XLII. 324 The *monociliate *Flagellata*. 1857 *Ann. Nat. Hist.* Ser. II. XIX. 260 A group of *monociliated Monads. 1880 W. S. KENT *Infusoria* I. 145 The normal, small, monociliated and unociliated sponge-cells. 1798 *Trans. Soc. Arts* XVI. 284 A *mono-coloured substance. 1890 *Century Dict.*, **Monocondylar*, **Monocondylian*. 1891 FLOWER & LYDEKKER *Mammals* iii. 83 The former [the Anomodontia] have become *monocondylic by [etc.]. 1899 *Nature* 9 Nov. 28/1 Following Vöchting, the author recognises two principal types—the *monocormic and polycormic respectively... The common spruce fir is an example of a monocormic conifer. 1891 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, **Monocrotic*, a term applied to the pulse in which the dicrotic wave is absent. 1877 ROBERTS *Handbk. Med.* (ed. 3) II. 22 Among the principal dangerous signs are a marked dicrotous or *mono-crotous pulse. 1891 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, **Monodermic*, having an envelope or skin consisting of one layer only. 1897 *Nature* 7 Oct. 555/2 The elements which constitute the monodermic outer wall of the cœlom. 1880 SPALDING *Elix. Demonology* 17 *Monodiabolism being as impossible as monotheism. 1872 *Brit. Assoc. Rep.* II. 23 On *Monodiametral Quartan Curves. By F. W. Newman. 1854 *Pereira's Polarized Light* (ed. 2) 196 The pyramidal, the tetragonal, or the *monodimetric system. 1825 CARLYLE *Schiller* III. (1845) 154 The plan was that it [the *Xenien*] should comprise an immense multitude of detached couplets, each conveying a complete thought... It was at first intended to provide about a thousand of these pointed *monodisticbs. 1900 HEAPE in *Q. Jrnl. Microsc. Sci.* Nov. 16 There are two forms of sexual season evident in female mammals; the *monœstrous, in which there is only a single œstrus at one or more particular times of the year (bitch), and the polyœstrous, in which there are two or more concurrent dicestrous cycles at a particular time of the year (mare). 1880 W. S. KENT *Infusoria* I. 310 A simple *monoflagellate organism. 1898 SEDGWICK *Student's Text-bk. Zool.* I. 30 Monoflagellate forms. 1861 BUMSTEAD *Ven. Dis.* (1879) 401 It is very rare for more than a single gland on one or both sides to suppurate specifically; and hence the virulent bubo is said to be '*monoganglial'. 1888 *Lancet* 26 May 1043 The cirrhosis is at first *monolobular. 1865 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* III. 1047 **Monophane*. 1903 GEIKIE *Text-bk. Geol.* VI. III. iii. (ed. 4) 1170 The families of *Monopleurids..and Hippuritids. 1843 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* VI. 330/2 The advanced or *monoprostyle colonnade in the centre is 200 feet in length. 1888 TEALL *Brit. Petrogr.* 440 **Monosomatic*, a term applied to crystals and their inclusions when both belong to the same mineral species. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 291 The *monospasms or protospasms of Jacksonian epilepsy. 1819 *Pantologia*, **Monostach caulis*, in botany, a stem bearing a single spike. 1850 OGILVIE, **Monostachous*. 1775 J. JENKINSON tr. *Linnæus' Brit. Plants* 254 **Monostachyous* [wrongly explained, 'consisting of but one range or order']. 1856 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Monostachyous*. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 119 Charcot thinks..that in children the usual stigmata [of hysteria] are often absent and the disease is '*monosymptomatic'. 1835 SHEPARD *Min.* I. p. xxxi, Pearl Kerate..1 Hexahedral ..2 Pyramidal..3 *Monotomous.

2. *Chem.* Used in the names of compounds to signify the presence of a single atom or combining equivalent of the element or radical indicated by the word to which *mono-* is prefixed.

PROTO- has also been used with the same meaning. The nomenclature is regularly continued in the series *di-, tri-, tetra-, penta-, hexa-* (see HEXA- and HEX-), *hepta-*.

The more important of these names are treated as main-words: see MONACETIN, MONAMIDE, MONETHYL, MONOCHLORIDE, MONOXIDE, etc.; also MONOBROMO-, MONONITRO-, etc. With a like sense are formed MONACID, MONATOMIC, MONOBASIC, MONOVALENT. A free use of the prefix is illustrated here in **mono-compound** (see quot.); **mono-substitution**, substitution affecting only one of the elements or radicals in a compound; **mono-substituted** *a.*, formed by mono-substitution.

1865 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* III. 1047 *Mono-compounds*. This term is applied to compounds containing 1 at. of the element specified. 1881 — in *Nature* 15 Dec. 148/1 The saturated hydro-carbons..are first described; next their mono-substitution derivatives. 1885 REMSEN *Org. Chem.* (1888) 131 The lactic acids..will be shown to be mono-substitution products of propionic acid. 1889 *Nature* 26 Sept. 539/2 On the constitution of monosubstituted derivatives of camphor, by M. P. Cazeneuve. 1892 MORLEY & MUIR *Watts's Dict. Chem., Mono-*. This prefix is very seldom used in this dictionary. Compounds whose names begin with mono- are described under the name to which mono- has been prefixed.

Mono-acetin, -acid: see MONACETIN, -ACID.

Monoanæsthesia: see MONO- 1.

Mono-articular: see MONARTICULAR.

Monoaxal (mɒnoʊˈæksăl), *a. Physics.* [f. MONO- + AX-IS + -AL.] (See quot.)

1890 *Century Dict.*, *Monoaxal*, pertaining to a single axis. *Monoaxal isotropy*, the case in which the homotatic coefficients are completely isotropic round one axis only.

Monobasic (mɒnoʊˈbēˑsik), *a. Chem.* [f. MONO- + BASE *sb.*1 + -IC.] Having one base, or one atom of a base. Of an acid: Containing one atom of replaceable hydrogen. Also = MONATOMIC.

1842 T. GRAHAM *Elem. Chem.* 167 Monobasic salts. 1849 D. CAMPBELL *Inorg. Chem.* 140 Solutions of bibasic or monobasic phosphate of soda. 1862 MILLER *Elem. Chem.* (ed. 2) III. 52 Monatomic or monobasic elements, one atom of which is in combination equivalent to..one atom of hydrogen. 1869 ROSCOE *Elem. Chem.* (1871) 349 Formic acid is monobasic.

Monoblastic, -blepsia, -blepsis, -branchiate: see MONO- 1.

Monobromated (mɒnoʊbrōʊˈmeltèd), *a. Chem.* [See MONO- 2 and BROMATE.] Said of organic compounds in which one atom of bromine has been substituted or added in each molecule.

1889 *Cent. Dict.* s.v. *Camphor*, Monobromated Camphor.

Monobromide (mɒnoʊbrōʊˈməid, -mid). *Chem.* [f. MONO- 2 + BROMIDE.] A compound of one atom of bromine with a monad element or radical.

1875 in *Family Herald* 4 Dec. 78/2 The monobromide of camphor produced the most extraordinary effect. 1881 *Syd. Soc. Lex.* s.v. *Camphor*.

Monobromi·nated, Monobro·mized, *adjs. Chem.* [MONO- 2.] = MONOBROMATED.

1862 OPPENHEIM in *Jrnl. Chem. Soc.* XV. 29 Monobrominated menthene. 1862 MILLER *Elem. Chem.* (ed. 2) III. 243 Monobrominated ethylene. 1878 KINGZETT *Anim. Chem.* 104 A monobrominated product. 1889 *Nature* 26 Sept. 539/2 On a new monobromized camphor.

Monobromo- (mɒnoʊbrōˈmo). *Chem.* Also (esp. before a vowel or *h*) **monobrom-**. [See MONO- 2 and BROMO-.] Combining form, expressing the presence in a compound of one atom of bromine, as *monobromacetic acid, monobromobenzene*.

1858 *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 7) 464 Monobromacetic acid. 1862 MILLER *Elem. Chem.* (ed. 2) III. 370 Monobromosuccinic Acid. 1869 ROSCOE *Elem. Chem.* (1871) 369 Monobromsuccinic acid. 1873 *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 11) 759 Monobromobenzene is a liquid boiling above 150°.

Monocalcic (mɒnoʊkaˈlsik), *a. Chem.* [MONO- 2.] Containing one atom or equivalent of calcium.

1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV. 299 Two molecules of dicalcic phosphate and one of monocalcic phosphate.

Monocarbon (mɒnoʊkāˈrbŏn), *a. Chem.* [MONO- 2.] Containing or derived from one atom of carbon.

1866 OOLING *Anim. Chem.* 49 The most stable monocarbon compound known to chemists, namely, carbonic anhydride. 1869 ROSCOE *Elem. Chem.* (1874) 317 Monocarbon or methyl series.

Monocarbonate (mɒnoʊkāˈrbŏnēt). *Chem.* [MONO- 2.] A neutral salt of carbonic acid (H_2CO_3) in which both atoms of hydrogen are replaced by a metal: see CARBONATE *sb.* 1.

1854 J. SCOFFERN in *Orr's Circ. Sci., Chem.* 457 It is a true neutral, or mono-carbonate. 1876 HARLEY *Mat. Med.* (ed. 6) 152 By continued boiling it is further reduced to mono-carbonate.

Monocardian: see MONO- 1.

Monocarp (mɒnoʊkāɹp). *Bot.* [a. F. *monocarpe* (De Candolle), f. Gr. μόνο-ς MONO- + καρπ-ός fruit; in mod.L. *monocarpus*.] A monocarpic plant.

1846 SMART, *Monocarp*, a plant that bears fruit but once.

Monocarpellary (mɒnoʊkāɹpĕlări), *a. Bot.* [MONO-.] Having or consisting of a single carpel.

1863 BENTHAM *Flora Austral.* I. Introd. 17 Where a more precise nomenclature is adopted, the flower is *monocarpellary* when the pistil consists of a single simple carpel. 1873 OLIVER *Less. Bot.* 30 Garden pea..pistil superior, apocarpous, monocarpellary. 1875 BENNETT & DYER *Sachs' Bot.* 492 A whorl of monocarpellary anthers.

Monoca·rpian, *a. Bot. rare* −°. Also **-ean**. [Formed as next (or f. mod.L. *monocarpe-us*) + -IAN. Cf. F. *monocarpien*.] = next.

1856 HENSLOW *Dict. Bot. Terms*, Monocarpean, Monocarpous, [L.] *Monocarpeus*. 1891 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, Monocarpian.

Monocarpic (mɒnoʊkāˈɹpik), *a. Bot.* [Formed as MONOCARPOUS + -IC.] Of a plant: Bearing fruit only once (and then dying).

1849 BALFOUR *Man. Bot.* § 634 Annuals and biennials, which flower the first or second year and die, as well as the Agave, and some Palms which flower only once in forty or fifty years, and perish, are monocarpic. 1857 HENFREY *Elem. Bot.* 548 Monocarpic perennials. 1875 BENNETT & DYER *Sachs' Bot.* 519.

Monocarpous (mɒnoʊkāˈɹpŏs), *a.* [f. mod.L. *monocarp-us*: see MONOCARP and -OUS.]

1. *Bot.* = MONOCARPELLARY.

1731 BAILEY vol. II, *Monocarpous*, a term apply'd to such plants as bear but one single fruit. 1856 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.* 1876 HARLEY *Mat. Med.* (ed. 6) 603 Fruit monocarpous. 1882 VINES *Sachs' Bot.* 560 When the gynæceum of a flower consists of a single ovary only one fruit is formed, and the flower is said to be monocarpous.

2. *Bot.* = MONOCARPIC.

1830 LINDLEY *Introd. Bot.* III. i. (1839) 475 *Monocarpous*;

bearing fruit but once, and dying after fructification, as Wheat. 1842 BRANDE *Dict. Sci.*, etc., *Monocarpons* [read *Monocarpous*]. . is a term invented by De Candolle to designate what gardeners call annual plants. 1875 BENNETT & DYER *Sachs' Bot.* 806 The plant itself is also completely exhausted, all its disposable formative substances are given up to the seed and the fruit, and it dies off (monocarpous plants).

3. *Path.* (See quot.)

1891 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Monocarpous*... In Medicine, formerly used to describe an eruption the spots of which were not close to each other but discrete.

Monocellular,-cellule,-centric: see MONO- 1.

Monocephalous (mɒnɒse·fălɔs), *a.* [f. mod.L. *monocephal-us*, Gr. μονοκέφαλ-ος one-headed (f. μόνο-ς MONO- + κεφαλ-ή head) + -OUS.] Having only one head.

1. *Bot.* a. A term applied to a fruit or ovary which has but one head or summit. b. Applied to a plant which has its flowers disposed in a single head or umbel.

1845-50 MAS. LINCOLN *Lect. Bot.* XV. 90 They [*sc.* the capsules] are monocephalous, as in the lily, or polycephalous, as in Nigella. 1856 HENSLOW *Dict. Bot. Terms*, *Monocephalous*, where flowers are disposed in single heads or umbels, &c. Also, where the ovary is surmounted by a solitary style or stigma.

2. Having the character of a monocephalus.

1885 in *Cassell's Encycl. Dict.*; and in mod. Dicts.

So **Monocephaly** (see quot.).

1891 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Monocephaly*, the condition of a *Monocephalus*.

Monocercous: see MONO- 1.

Monoceros (mɔ̆nɒ·sĕrɒs). Also 4-5 monoceron, 7 -cerot. [a. OF. *monoceros*, *monoceron*, a. L. *monoceros*, med.L. also *monoceron*, a. Gr. μονόκερως, -κερατ-, f. μόνο-ς MONO- + κέρας horn.]

†1. The UNICORN. *Obs.*

13.. *K. Alis.* 6539 A best ther is..That is y-cleped Monoceros. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVIII. xc. (1495) 839 Monoceron is a wyld beest moste shape like to the horse in bodi. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 206 The Licorne or Monoceros. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* II. ii. I. iv. (1624) 303 A Monocerots horne. 1656 TRAPP *Comm. James* iii. 7 Some creatures indeed may be taken, but not tamed, as the tiger, panther, monoceros. 1684 tr. *Bonet's Merc. Compit.* VI. 239 [He] cured several of the Plague, onely by applying a piece of the Monocerot's horn. 1749 POINTER *Oxon. Acad.* 160 [In the Musæum] Monoceros and Rhinoceros Horns.

†2. A fish having a 'horn', as the saw-fish, sword-fish, or narwhal. *Obs.*

1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. xii. 23 Bright Scolopendraes arm'd with silver scales; Mighty Monoceros with immeasured tayles. 1635 SWAN *Spec. M.* (1670) 329 The Monoceros or a fish with one horn may fitly be called the Sea-Unicorn. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Monoceros*...Also the Saw-fish. 1825 G. PAXTON *Illustr. Holy Script.* (ed. 2) I. 89 The Monoceros is a native of the Indian seas.

3. *Astron.* The zodiacal constellation of the Unicorn, lying between Canis Major and Canis Minor.

1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XII. 239/2. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XV. 340/1.

4. A genus of prosobranchiate gasteropods (Lamarck 1809), so called from the prominent spine on the outer lip; the unicorn-shell.

1828 J. FLEMING *Hist. Brit. Anim.* 342. 1851-6 WOODWARD *Mollusca* 113.

Monocerous (mɔ̆nɒ·sĕrɔs), *a.* [f. Gr. μονό-κερ-ως (cf. prec.) + -OUS.] Having a single horn or horn-like process. (In recent Dicts.)

‖ **Monochasium** (mɔ̆nɒkē·ziŭm). *Bot.* Pl. -ia. Also anglicized **mono·chasy.** [mod.L., f. μόνο-ς MONO- + χάσι-ς chasm, separation. Cf. DICHASIUM.] Eichler's name for that form of cymose inflorescence in which the main axis produces only a single branch; a uniparous cyme.

1890 in *Century Dict.* 1891 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1898 tr. *Strasburger's Text-bk. Bot.* (1903) 436 A monochasium is termed a *helicoid cyme* or *bostryx* when the lateral branches always arise on the same side of the pseudaxis. 1900 B. D. JACKSON *Gloss. Bot. Terms*, *Monochasy*, a uniparous cyme, either pure, or resulting from the reduction of cymes.

Hence **Monocha·sial** *a.*, of the nature of or pertaining to a monochasium.

1887 BENTLEY *Man. Bot.* (ed. 5) I. iv. § 1. 215 The same form of unilateral, monochasial, or uniparous cyme.

Monochlamydeous (mɒnɒklămi·dĭɔs), *a. Bot.* [f. mod.L. *Monochlamydeæ*, f. Gr. μόνο-ς MONO- + χλαμυδ-, χλαμύς cloak: see -EOUS.] Having only one floral envelope; having a single perianth; belonging to the division *Monochlamydeæ*.

1830 LINDLEY *Nat. Syst. Bot.* Introd. 24 If it [*sc.* the calyx] is unaccompanied by the corolla, plants are said to be Monochlamydeous. 1845 *Encycl. Metrop.* VII. 47/2 The Great Nightshade and many other monochlamydeous flowers. 1882 G. ALLEN *Colours of Flowers* vi. 111 There would be no reason why flowers with petals should not appear sporadically among monochlamydeous families.

Monochloride (mɒnɒklō·rəid, -rid). *Chem.* [MONO- 2.] A compound of one equivalent of chlorine with an element or radical.

1866 OOLING *Anim. Chem.* 1 Analogous mono-, di-, and trichlorides of metals. 1873 *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 11) 194 Iodine unites directly with chlorine, forming a monochloride and a trichloride.

Monochlorinated (mɒnɒklō·rinētĕd), *a. Chem.* [MONO- 2.] Having one equivalent of chlorine added or substituted in each molecule.

1852 WATTS tr. *Gmelin's Handbk. Chem.* VII. 289 Monochlorinated Methyl-Ether. 1873 *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 11) 555 A mono-chlorinated or monobrominated olefine. 1876 *Encycl. Brit.* V. 676/2 Monochlorinated ethylic ether.

Monochloro- (mɒnɒklō·rɒ). *Chem.* Also (esp. before vowel or *h*) **monochlor-.** [See MONO- 2 and CHLORO-.] Combining form, expressing the presence in a compound of one equivalent of chlorine, as *monochloracetic acid*, *monochlorhydrin*, etc.

1855 WATTS tr. *Gmelin's Handbk. Chem.* IX. 192 Monochloracetic Acid. $C^4H^3ClO^4$. *Ibid.* 498 Monochlorhydrine. 1858 *Ibid.* XII. 540 Monochloracetate of Ethyl. 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem.* III. 380 Monochlorhydrin. 1862 *Ibid.* (ed. 2) III. 373 Glycolic Acid..has also been procured by heating monochloracetate of potash for some time [etc.]. 1869 ROSCOE *Elem. Chem.* (1871) 367 Monochlor propionic acid. *Ibid.* 409 Monochlor-benzol. 1873 *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 11) 759 Monochlorobenzene.

Monochord (mɒ·nɒkɒ̆d). Forms: 5-6 monacord(e, monocorde, 5 *Sc.* mony-, monicord, 7- monochord. [a. F. *monocorde* (from 14th c.), ad. med.L. *monochordos*, *-on*, a. Gr. μονόχορδον, neut. of μονόχορδος adj., having a single string, f. μόνο-ς MONO- + χορδή string (see CHORD *sb.*). Cf. MANICHORD.]

1. A musical instrument composed of a soundboard with a single string; in the 11th c. used in singing-schools to teach the intervals of plain-song; in later use, an instrument for the mathematical determination of musical intervals.

1432-50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) III. 211 As hit may be schewed in the monocorde [orig. *in monochordo* (v.r. *monacordo*)], when the wire extendede on a holowe body is distreynede diametrally. 1609 DOULAND *Ornith. Microl.* 23 A Monochord..is a long square peece of wood hollow within, with a string drawne ouer it. 1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* II. vii. 72 His mother tongue was like the dull musick of a monochord, which by study he turns into the harmony of severall instruments. 1652 WHARTON tr. *Rothman's Art Divining* 157 That the Soule of the World..may..be as a Monochord sounding out by the threefold kinds of Creatures, Intellectuall, Celestiall, and Corruptible, at one Blast, one only Life. 1694 HOLDER *Harmony* (1731) 50 These Rations are more certainly found upon the Measures of a Monochord. 1782 BURNEY *Hist. Mus.* (1789) II. ii. 78 The method Guido pursued in teaching boys to sing was by making them practice with the monochord. 1880 GROVE *Dict. Mus.* II. 354 *Monochord*..an instrument consisting of a long box of thin wood with a bridge fixed at each end, over which is stretched a wire or catgut string. 1881 BROADHOUSE *Mus. Acoustics* 101 Thompson's monochord is a method of demonstrating the pitch by adding different weights to a stretched string.

2. A mediæval musical instrument with several strings and bridges for the production of a combination of sounds. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.*

c 1407 LYDG. *Reson & Sens.* 5583 And Instrumentys..Many moo than I kan telle:..Orgnys, cytolys, monacordys. *c* 1450 HOLLAND *Howlat* 758 The crovde, and the monycordis, the gittyrnis gay. 1497 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scotl.* I. 116 Item, to Johne Hert, for bering a pare of Monicordis of þe Kingis fra Abirdene. 1885 A. J. HIPKINS *Pianoforte* in *Encycl. Brit.* XIX. 65/2 We attribute the adaptation of the narrow regal keyboard to what was still called the monochord, but was now a complex of monochords over one resonance board, to the latter half of the 14th century.

3. A harmonious combination of sound; hence *fig.* harmony, agreement. Now *rare.*

c 1420 LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 7 Musyng..how that I myght make Reason & Sensualyte in oon to acorde; but I cowde nat bryng about that monacorde. *Ibid.* 2016. *c* 1500 in Grose *Antiq. Rep.* (1809) IV. 408 Purenes in the margent makithe a trew monacorde. 1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* XVI. (Percy Soc.) 62 The vii. sciences in one monacorde, Eche upon other do full well depende. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. IV* Introd., By the whiche you shal..bryng vs into an vnitie and monacorde. *Ibid., Hen. VII* 3 There lacked a wrest to the harpe to set all the strynges in a monacorde and tune. *a* 1550 *Image Ipocr.* III. 471 in *Skelton's Wks.* (1843) II. 439 For of that monocorde The scripture doth recorde. 1644 BULWER *Chirol.* 105 Their cunning mannaging of the Hand in time and tone, I have sometimes call'd the Horse-Rhetorique of Smithfield, which by calculation I have found to differ from the Fish Dialect of Billingsgate, in the monochord of motion. 1880 SWINBURNE *Stud. Shaks.* iii. (ed. 2) 210 We hear a sound of sacred and spiritual music as solemn as the central monochord of the inner main itself. 1880 — *Stud. Song* 91 The sense of thy golden Great harp's monochord Was the joy in the soul of the singers that hailed thee for master and lord.

Hence †**Monochordize** *v.* [tr. F. *monochordiser*], *intr.* to perform on the monochord; **Monochordist,** a writer who treats of the monochord. Also †**Monochordical** *a.*, pertaining to the science of the monochord. **Monochordous** *a.* (see quot. 1856).

1653 URQUHART *Rabelais* I. vii. (Rtldg.) 35 He..would nod his head, monochordizing with his fingers. 1687 SETTLE *Refl. Dryden* 95 To answer him in Trigonometrical, Metaphysical, and Monochordical Fustian is not to the purpose. 1834 *Westm. Rev.* XX. 81 The monochordists from Euclid downwards. 1856 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Monochordus*, having only one string: monochordous.

Monochorea: see MONO- 1.

Monochroic (mɒnɒkrō·ik), *a. rare.* [f. Gr. μονόχρο-ος of one colour (f. μόνο-ς MONO- + χρό-α colour) + -IC.] Having or showing only one colour.

1890 in *Century Dict.* 1899 CAGNEY tr. *Jaksch's Clin. Diagn.* I. 1 Arterial blood is monochroic.

Monochromatic (mɒnɒ̆krɒmæ·tik), *a.* [f. Gr. μόνο-ς MONO- + χρωματικός CHROMATIC (f. χρῶμα colour); Gr. has μονοχρώματος of one colour.]

1. Of or presenting one colour only; applied *spec.* to light of one wave-length.

Monochromatic lamp, a lamp which produces such a light.

1822 BREWSTER in *Trans. Roy. Soc. Edin.* IX. 437 The Monochromatic Lamp being thus completed, I lost no time in applying it to the illumination of Microscopic objects. 1827 *Q. Jrnl. Sci.* XXII. 374 Talbot on Monochromatic Light. 1854 DE QUINCEY *Autob. Sk.* I. § 2 Wks. 1854 II. 36 *note*, Porphyry is far from being so monochromatic as Gibbon's argument would presume. 1854 *Pereira's Polarized Light* (ed. 2) 27 The component prismatic colours are simple or homogeneous lights. Each of these may be termed a monochromatic light. 1874 T. HARDY *Far fr. Mad. Crowd* II. iii. 30 Under a monochromatic Lammas sky.

2. Executed in monochrome.

1823 J. BADCOCK *Dom. Amusem.* 52 Mr. Gilpin's mode of monochromatic painting and printing. 1828 *Edin. Rev.* Sept. 75 The Monochromatic works were highly esteemed. 1879 ROOD *Chromatics* xviii. 310 In monochromatic designs the small interval is very frequently employed.

b. *sb. pl.* = studies in monochrome.

1893 *Athenæum* 27 May 676/2 There are examples of all sorts of styles.. [including] the monochromatics and subtle tone-studies of Mr. Whistler.

Hence **Monochroma·tically** *adv.* Also **Monochro·matism,** the monochromatic condition; †**Monochro·matist,** a painter in monochrome.

1784 J. BARRY in *Lect. Paint.* I. (1848) 81 The old method of those they called monochromatists. *c* 1865 J. WYLDE in *Circ. Sci.* I. 54/1 A series of..phenomena connected with mono-chromatism. 1880 W. SEVERN in *Macm. Mag.* No. 245. 376 Nothing is more puzzling to beginners than to determine between two very opposite colours as to which is the darkest in tone, or, to use a long word monochromatically. 1890 *Anthony's Photogr. Bull.* III. 408 For development, a monochromatically lighted room is still a necessity.

Monochrome (mɒnɒkrō·um), *sb.* and *a.* Forms: 7-9 monochrom, 8 monocrome, 9- monochrome. [In sense 1, ad. med.L. *monochrōma*, *-chrōmat-*, evolved from Gr. μονοχρώματος adj.; in the other uses a. F. *monochrome* or ad. Gr. μονόχρωμος, *-ον*, of one colour, a by-form of μονοχρώματος (see MONOCHROMATIC).] **A.** *sb.*

1. A painting executed in different tints of one colour, with representation of light and shade.

1662 EVELYN *Chalcogr.* iv. 35 Those wretched gravings.. where the Devil is but one great blot.. and the rest of the Figures Monochroms as ridiculous. 1760 *Ann. Reg.* III. II. 164/1 Four monocromes which stand first in the catalogue of pictures [from Herculaneum]. 1801 FUSELI *Lect. Paint.* I. (1848) 350 Monochrom, or paintings of a single colour. 1848 *Ibid.* 351 *note*, There appears to be no example of the perfect monochrom (μονοχρωματον) on the ancient vases. 1849 RUSKIN *Sev. Lamps* IV. § 41. 132 The Elgin frieze is a monochrom in a state of transition to sculpture. 1861 THORNBURY *Turner* I. 105 His earliest works being mere monochromes in sepia. 1866 BRANDE & COX *Dict. Sci.* s.v., A drawing in chiaro-scuro is a monochrome, whether in black and white or in any colour and white...The skiagram or silhouette is not a monochrome, though executed in a single colour.

2. Representation in one colour; *esp.* in phr. (to paint, etc.) *in monochrome.* Hence occas., the state of being in one colour; a tract of one colour.

1851 *Illustr. Lond. News* 31 May 493/1 Messrs. Hullmandel, who produce effects in monochrome. 1858 BIRCH *Anc. Pottery* I. 259 A great improvement..was the use of incised lines cut through the colour to relieve the monochrome. 1861 J. BELL *Colour on Statues* in *Jrnl. Soc. Arts* IX. 424/1 The wonderful groups of the Medici monuments, have come down to us in their native monochrome, untouched by change of tint. 1874 FERGUSSON in *Contemp. Rev.* Oct. 759 No architect ever proposed to line the whole ..with one cold, monotonous monochrome of gray. 1876 T. HARDY *Ethelberta* II. 47 Here grassed hills rose like knuckles gloved in dark olive, and little plantations between them formed a still deeper and sadder monochrome. 1902 *Encycl. Brit.* XXXI. 685/1 If a coloured object were illuminated solely by a paraffin light, a print from the negative would give a fair representation of the object in monochrome.

B. *adj.* Having only one colour; executed in one colour.

1849 RUSKIN *Sev. Lamps* IV. § 41. 133, I have an intense love for these monochrom figures. 1850 LEITCH tr. *C. O. Müller's Anc. Art* § 74 Outline drawing and monochrome painting. 1861 THORNBURY *Turner* II. 89 Some almost monochrome but powerful water-colour Swiss scenes. 1902 *Encycl. Brit.* XXXI. 685/1 This light-filter..will render all coloured objects in correct monochrome luminosity.

Hence **Monochro·mic, Monochro·mical** *adjs.* = MONOCHROME *a.* **Mo·nochro·mist,** a painter in monochrome; also (quot. 1861 [1]), one who advocates the use of monochrome. **Monochro·mous** *a.* = MONOCHROME *a.* **Mo·nochro·my,** the art of painting in monochrome.

1839 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* II. 368/1 These kinds of sculpture..were held in greater estimation than *monochromic sculpture. 1854 *Blackw. Mag.* LXXVI. 556 These gentlemen..wear a monochromic or one-coloured suit. 1901 in *N. & Q.* 9th Ser. VIII. 503/2 These *bacini*..are sometimes monochromic..others show a number of fantastic designs. 1890 *Century Dict.*, **Monochromical.* 1662 EVELYN *Chalcogr.* v. 127 Heredices the Corinthian, and Thelophanes the Sicyonian, who were both of them but *Monochromists. 1861 J. BELL *Colour on Statues* in *Jrnl. Soc. Arts* IX. 424/1 Is the addition of coloring to statues to be looked upon as an

advance in art, or a retrogression? The polychromists will, of course, hold it to be the former, while the monochromist in sculpture will represent that [etc.]. 1861 THORNBURY *Turner* I. 99 Girtin was at first little more than a monochromist. *a* 1878 Sir G. SCOTT *Lect. Archit.* (1879) I. 180 The churches . . of one unvaried stone colour . . have been made over periodically to the tender mercies of the monochromist. 1856 MAYNE *Expos. Lex., Monochromus* . . *monochromous. 1880 SALA in *Daily Tel.* 26 Feb. 5/8 The general monochromous dinginess of the disestablished hotel. 1855 HYDE CLARKE *Dict., *Monochromy*, . . painting in one colour. 1879 ROOD *Chromatics* xviii. 310 We return now to a brief consideration of monochromy, or decoration in a single colour.

Monochronic (mɒnɒkrɒ·nik), *a. rare* −°. [Formed as next + -IC.] (See quots.; but the word cannot with etymological propriety be used in the sense assigned.)

1840 SMART, *Monochronic*, existing at one and the same geological period. 1882 OGILVIE, *Monochronic*, in *geol.* applied to organic remains which seem to have been deposited at the same period. [Similarly in later Dicts.]

Monochronous (mɒ̃nɒ·krŏnəs), *a. Pros.* [f. Gr. *μονόχρον-ος* (f. *μόνος* MONO- + *χρόνος* time) + -OUS.] Consisting of one 'time' or mora; monosemic. 1890 in *Century Dict.*

Monochroous (mɒ̃nɒ·krɒ|əs), *a.* [f. Gr. *μονόχρο-ος* (see MONOCHROIC) + -OUS.] = MONOCHROIC.

1856 MAYNE *Expos. Lex., Monochroüs*, . . monochroous. 1891 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

Monociliated: see MONO- 1.

Monocle (mɒ·nɒ̃k'l). [a. F. *monocle* (in OF. as adj. = one-eyed), ad. L. *monoculus*: see MONOCULOUS.]

1. A single eye-glass.

1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Monocle* (French), a reading-glass for one eye. 1886 W. J. TUCKER *E. Europe* 46 'He has . . a glass in his eye'. 'A binocle or a monocle?' 1889 D. C. MURRAY *Dang. Catspaw* xiv. (1890) 247 A great monocle which the old gentleman used for the critical examination of his work lay near at hand. 1894 *Idler* Sept. 175 The young man screwed a monocle into his right eye.

2. = MONOCULE (*Cent. Dict.* 1890).

Monocleid(e (mɒ·nɒ̃kləid). [f. Gr. *μόνο-ς* MONO- + *κλειδ-*, *κλείς* key.] A cabinet locked by a single key.

c 1840 (*title*) Description of the Monocleid Writing-cabinets . . invented by Thomas Sopwith. 1885 *Newcastle Chron.* 25 May, Superior Oak Monocleide.

Monoclinal (mɒnɒklə·năl), *a.* and *sb. Geol.* [f. Gr. *μόνο-ς* MONO- + *κλῖν-ειν* to bend + -AL. Cf. *anti-*, *iso-*, *synclinal*.] a. *adj.* Applied to strata that dip or slope in one and the same direction. b. *sb.* = MONOCLINE.

1858 H. D. ROGERS *Geol. Pennsylv.* I. 10 The ridges . . are of three orders . . In geological language they are of anticlinal, synclinal, and monoclinal structure. *Ibid.* 18 Monoclinal Valleys. 1876 PAGE *Adv. Text-bk. Geol.* iv. 83 The strata of a district, though lying at different angles, may all slope in the same way, and in such a case they are said to be monoclinal or dipping in one main direction. 1877 LE CONTE *Elem. Geol.* (1879) 178 Such a bend is called a monoclinal fold or axis. 1885 T. M. READE *Orig. Mount. Ranges* xx. 250 The Water-Pocket flexure, one of the grandest monoclinals of the west.

Hence **Monocli·nally** *adv.*

1858 H. D. ROGERS *Geol. Pennsylv.* I. 10 Dipping only in one direction, or monoclinally.

Monoclinate (mɒnɒklə·nĕt), *a. Cryst.* [Formed as MONOCLIN-AL + -ATE 2.] = MONOCLINIC.

1847 in WEBSTER; and in later Dicts.

Monocline (mɒ·nɒkləin). *Geol.* [Formed as MONOCLIN-AL; cf. *anti-*, *iso-*, *syncline*.] A monoclinal fold.

1879 GEIKIE in *Encycl. Brit.* X. 300/1 The strata are thus bent up and continue on the other side of the tilt at a higher level. Such bends are called *monoclines* or *monoclinal folds*, because they present only one fold, or one half of a fold, instead of the two which we see in an arch or trough. 1898 MILNE *Seismol.* iii. 33 The bases of monoclines are tracts where faults are frequent.

Monoclinian (mɒnɒkli·niăn), *a. Bot.* [Formed as MONOCLIN-OUS + -IAN.] = MONOCLINOUS.

1900 B. D. JACKSON *Gloss. Bot. Terms.*

Monoclinic (mɒnɒkli·nik), *a. Cryst.* [Formed as MONOCLIN-AL + -IC. Cf. F. *monoclinique*.] Having three unequal axes, two of which intersect each other at right angles and the third or principal axis intersects one at right angles and the other obliquely.

1869 PHILLIPS *Vesuv.* x. 275 The fifth, or oblique, or monoclinic system, has one of its axes perpendicular to the other two. 1869 ROSCOE *Elem. Chem.* xix. (1874) 215 Yielding the salt, $(NH_4)_2HPO_4$, which crystallizes in the monoclinic system. 1879 GEIKIE in *Encycl. Brit.* X. 227/2 The Monoclinic or Orthoclase felspars.

So **Monoclinohe·dral, Monoclinohe·dric, Monoclinome·tric** *adjs.* [see HEDRAL, CLINOHEDRIC s.v. CLINO- 2, METRIC *a.*1] (in the same sense).

1888 TEALL *Brit. Petrogr.* 440 *Monoclinohedral. 1854 *Pereira's Polarized Light* (ed. 2) 229 The *monoklinohedric system. 1862 J. B. JORDAN *Const. Models Crystallogr.* 20 Fifth System. The Monoclinohedric. 1858 THUDICHUM *Urine* 123 Creatinine crystallizes in the *monoclinometric system.

Monoclinous (mɒnɒklə·nəs), *a.* [f. F. *monocline* (1799), or mod.L. *monoclīnus*, f. Gr. *μόνο-ς* MONO- + *κλίνη* bed, couch: see -OUS.]

1. *Bot.* Having both stamens and pistils in the same flower, hermaphrodite.

1828 STARK *Elem. Nat. Hist.* II. 466 Those vegetables where the male and female organs occur on the same plant are called Monoclinous; and the others Diclinous. 1849 BALFOUR *Man. Bot.* § 648 The flower is hermaphrodite, or monoclinous. 1888 VINES in *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 131/2 Series 2. *Polypetalæ*: usually monoclinous.

2. *Geol.* = MONOCLINAL *a.*

1882 in OGILVIE; and in later Dicts.

Monocœlian, -cœlic, -coloured: see MONO 1.

Monoco·lous, *a. nonce-wd.* [f. Gr. *μονόκωλ-ος* (f. *μόνο-ς* MONO- + *κῶλον* limb) + -OUS.] (See quot.)

1798 FERRIAR *Illustr. Sterne, Varieties of Man* 200 The people were monocolous, that is, having only one leg, or sciapodous, having feet so large as to shelter the whole body, in a supine posture.

Mono-compound: see MONO- 2.

Monocondylar, etc.: see MONO- 1.

Monocorde, obs. form of MONOCHORD.

Monocormic: see MONO- 1.

Monocot, Monocotyl, shortened forms of MONOCOTYLEDON.

1877 LE CONTE *Elem. Geol.* I. (1879) 354 Types . . of the monocotyls on the one hand, and of the Dicotyls on the other. 1890 *Athenæum* 22 Nov. 702/1 Angiosperms are divided [by Dr. D. H. Campbell] into two 'sub-classes', thus placing the monocots and dicots on a lower level than the cycads.

Monoco·tyle, *a. Bot. rare* −°. [See prec. and cf. MONOCOTYLOUS 2.] = MONOCOTYLEDONOUS.

1828-32 in WEBSTER; and in some later Dicts.

Monocotyledon (mɒnɒkɒtilī·dŏn). *Bot.* [ad. mod.L. *monocotylēdōn*, f. Gr. *μόνο-ς* MONO- + *κοτυληδών* cup-shaped cavity: see COTYLEDON.

The term *Monocotyledones* was employed by Ray, but its practical introduction into botanical classification dates from Jussieu 1779.]

A flowering plant having one cotyledon or seed-leaf in the embryo. The Monocotyledons (in Bot. Lat. *Monocotyledones*), or Endogens, constitute one of the two great classes of flowering plants.

[1703 RAY *Methodus Plant.* 2 Monocotyledones, quæ nec folia seminalia bina efferunt, nec lobos binos condunt.] 1727 BAILEY (vol. II.), *Monocotyledon*, which springs from the Seed with a single Leaf at first, as Corn, Tulips, Onions, &c. 1800 tr. *Lagrange's Chem.* II. 261 It is chiefly from the seeds of the monocotyledons, . that the greater part of the feculæ are extracted. 1857 HENFREY *Elem. Bot.* § 750 The stems of Monocotyledons are very generally herbaceous.

Monocotyledonous (mɒnɒkɒtilī·dŏnəs), *a. Bot.* [f. prec. + -OUS.] Having a single cotyledon; belonging to the class of Monocotyledons.

1770 C. MILNE *Bot. Dict.* s.v. *Cotyledones*, some seeds, however, have only one seminal leaf; in which case, the plants, by botanists, are termed Monocotyledonous. 1785 MARTYN *Rousseau's Bot.* xiii. (1794) 131 *note*. 1845 DARWIN *Voy. Nat.* xi. (1873) 244 Stately trees . . loaded by parasitical monocotyledonous plants. 1851 RICHARDSON *Geol.* vii. (1855) 164 The monocotyledonous, or endogenous classes.

b. Of or belonging to a monocotyledon.

1849 BALFOUR *Man. Bot.* § 91 Endogenous or Monocotyledonous Stem. 1876 PAGE *Adv. Text-bk. Geol.* ix. 185 The parallel venation of a monocotyledonous leaf.

Monocotylous (mɒnɒkɒ·tiləs), *a.* [In sense 1 f. mod.L. *monocotyl-us*, f. Gr. *μόνο-ς* MONO- + *κοτύλ-η* cup, cavity: see -OUS. Cf. F. *monocotyle*.]

1. *Zool.* Having one vent or mouth (see quot.).

1856 MAYNE *Expos. Lex., Monocotylus*, applied by Blainville to a Family (*Monocotyla*) of the *Entozoa nyzocephala*, comprehending those of which the body has but one vent: monocotylous.

2. *Bot.* Used for MONOCOTYLEDONOUS.

1905 BALFOUR *Goebel's Organogr. Plants* II. 327 The seedlings . . have the ordinary leaf-form of monocotylous plants.

Monocracy (mɒ̃nɒ·krăsi). [ad. assumed Gr. type **μονοκρατία*: see next and -CRACY.] Government by a single person, autocracy.

1651 BIGGS *New Disp.* P 34 The Monocracy and single-sol'd intemperature of the Liver. 1754 A. MURPHY *Gray's Inn Jrnl.* No. 95 Monocracy, Aristocracy, and Democracy. 1839 SYD. SMITH *Ballot* (ed. 2) 29 A scene of wholesale bacchanalian fraud, . . which would disgust any man with a free government, and make him sigh for the monocracy of Constantinople. 1893 GOLDW. SMITH *United States* 160 Jefferson's jeremiads over the encroachments and corruptions of monocracy under the first two Presidents.

Monocrat (mɒ·nɒ̃krăt). [ad. Gr. *μονοκρατ-ής* ruling alone, f. *μόνο-ς* MONO- + *κρατ-εῖν* to rule; see -CRAT.] a. One who rules alone; an autocrat. (In Dicts.) b. A partisan of monocracy or monarchy; a political nickname given *circa* 1790 by Jefferson to members of the Federalist party, because they sided with England as against France.

1792 JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1859) III. 494 The doctrines of the Monocrats. 1793 *Ibid.* IV. 9 The war between France and England has brought forward the Republicans and Monocrats in every State. 1883 J. T. MORSE jr. *Jefferson* xv. (1885) 251 Here was an act, done by the great Republican doctrinaire-president, . . monarchical, beyond what any 'monocrat' had ever dared to dream of.

appos. 1791 JEFFERSON in W. Irving *Washington* (1863) V. 148 (Funk) Even the monocrat papers are obliged to publish the most furious philippics against England.

Hence **Monocra·tic** *a.*, relating to monocracy.

1890 LOWELL *Milton's Areop.* Latest Lit. Ess. (1891) 101 His experience of Cromwell apparently having made any monocratic devices distasteful to him.

Monocrotic, -crotous: see MONO- 1.

Monocular (mɒnɒ·kiŭlăr), *a.* Also (in sense 2) **mono-ocular.** [f. late L. *monocul-us* (see MONOCULUS) + -AR. Cf. F. *monoculaire*.]

1. Having only one eye, or the use of only one eye. Now *rare*.

1640 HOWELL *Dodona's Gr.* 86 Who going to cut downe an ancient white Hauthorne-Tree . . had some of the prickles flew into his eye, and made him Monocular. 1664 POWER *Exp. Philos.* I. 82, I could never find any Animal that was monocular. 1696 E. LHWYD in *Phil. Trans.* XXVII. 464 He had . . catch'd Monocular Trouts. 1767 BARRINGTON *ibid.* LVII. 207 Monocular fish, which are said by Giraldus Cambrensis to be found in the lakes of Snowden. 1886 R. F. BURTON *Arab. Nts.* (abr. ed.) I. 90 Had we escaped the mortification of those monocular Kalandars. 1887 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 7 May 995 A small monocular fœtus.

b. quasi-*sb.* A one-eyed person.

1886 R. F. BURTON *Arab. Nts.* (abr. ed.) I. 82 [Sbe] returned with three monoculars.

2. Of or pertaining to one eye only; adapted to one eye.

1858 *Edin. Rev.* CVIII. 439 Monocular vision, or vision with a single eye. 1874 VAN BUREN *Dis. Genit. Org.* 87 These varieties of ophthalmia . . are rarely mono-ocular. 1878 CARPENTER in *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 274/1 By the insertion of a suitably constructed binocular eye-piece into the body of any ordinary monocular microscope. 1891 *Syd. Soc. Lex., Monocular bandage*, a bandage applied to one eye only. 1902 *19th Cent.* Apr. 605 It is still more rare for it [*sc.* colour-blindness] to be monocular.

fig. 1890 J. MARTINEAU *Seat Author. Relig.* 163 Such a monocular phenomenon is the orthodoxy of the Church.

Hence **Monocula·rity,** monocular condition. **Mono·cularly** *adv.*, with the use of one eye only.

1857 *Nat. Mag.* II. 276 Thieving may not unnaturally be assigned to a mental strabismus or monocularity. 1881 CARPENTER *Microsc.* § 36 (ed. 6) 39 No one who has only thus worked monocularly can appreciate the guidance derivable from binocular vision.

† **Mono·culate,** *a. Obs. rare*−1. [f. late L. *monocul-us* (see MONOCULUS) + -ATE 2, after L. *oculātus* OCULATE *a.*] One-eyed.

1618 T. ADAMS *Spir. Eye-salve* Wks. (1629) 664 Philosophy (vnbaptized with grace) is said to be monoculate, to haue but one eye, and that is of naturall Reason.

Monocule (mɒ·nɒkiul). *rare.* [a. F. *monocule*, or ad. L. *monocul-us* MONOCULUS.] A creature with only one eye (e.g. the Cyclops). Also, a member of the Linnæan genus MONOCULUS.

1771 J. R. FORSTER *Catal. Anim. N. Amer.* 33 Monocule, King's Crab, Monoculus Polyphemus. 1829 *Blackw. Mag.* XXVI. 285 Little moving things, no bigger than mites, were hustling about, and now and then I could perceive one or two of these diminutive monocules venturing [etc.]. 1832 *Ibid.* XXXII. 667 The orifice in the forehead of the Monocule abhorr'd.

Monoculist (mɒ̃nɒ·kiŭlist). *rare.* [f. late L. *monocul-us* (see MONOCULUS) + -IST. Cf. F. *monoculiste*.] A monoculous person.

1622 MISSELDEN *Free Trade* 114 Some Monoculists, by the sharpnesse of the sence drawne to one Eie, see better with that, then both. 1659 'HODG TURBERVIL' *Walk knaves, walk* in Morgan *Phœnix Brit.* (1732) I. 262 Our Learned Monoculist and Noble Commander, Col. Hewson. 1866 *North Brit. Mail* 26 Sept., O'Baldwin had the valuable assistance of a . . not over-refined monoculist, and another equally objectionable member of pugilistic society.

Monoculite (mɒ̃nɒ·kiŭləit). *rare.* [Formed as prec. + -ITE 1.]

† 1. ? = MONOCULIST. *Obs.*

1718 *Entertainer* No. 14. 95 Are there no Deputies of oak or Monoculites?

2. 'A fossil animal that appears to have but one eye' (*Cent. Dict.* 1890).

Monoculous (mɒ̃nɒ·kiŭləs), *a.* [f. L. *monocul-us* (see next) + -OUS.] One-eyed.

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Monocular, Monosculous* [sic], that hath but one eye, one ey'd. *a* 1661 FULLER *Worthies, Carnarvonsh.* (1662) iv. 30 He telleth us also of Monoculous Fishes. 1661 GLANVILL *Van. Dogm.* 129 We judge truth to be circumscrib'd by the confines of our belief, . . and . . repute all the rest of the world Monoculous. 1785 *Gent. Mag.* LV. I. 267 *note*, But Polypheme surely was monoculous. 1861 F. HALL in *Jrnl. Asiatic Soc. Bengal* XXX. 206 *note*, Every one-eyed man, in these parts, [is now known] as Holkar, from the monoculous Marátha chieftain of that name. 1887 O. W. HOLMES in *Atlantic Monthly* LIX. 638 Dr. Knox was the monoculous Waterloo surgeon, with whom I remember breakfasting.

fig. 1845 NAPIER *Conq. Scinde* II. ii. 283 Outram's monoculous diplomacy.

‖ **Monoculus** (mɒ̃nɒ·kiŭlŭs). [late L., irreg. f. Gr. *μόν-os* MON(O)- + L. *oculus* eye.]

1. A one-eyed being.

c 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 389 When he had þurgh raklesnes loste ane of his een and was made monoculus. 1597 BACON *Coulers Gd. & Euill* Ess. (Arb.) 152 As to a monoculos [*sic*] it is more to loose one eye, then to a man that hath two eyes. 1638 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (ed. 2) 20 The Arimaspi (who from wincking when they shoot are said to be *Monoculi*). 1709 *Tatler* No. 36 P 5. *Ibid.* No. 56 P 1. [Used as a proper name.] 1722 QUINCY *Lex. Physico-Med.* (ed. 2), *Monoculus*, is used for a Person having but one Eye. 1819 *Pantologia, Monoculus*, . . *Monopia*. A very uncommon species of monstrosity, in which there is but one eye, and that mostly above the root of the nose.

2. A Linnæan genus of 'insects' or minute crustaceans; a member of this genus.

1752 J. HILL *Hist. Anim.* 22, 23. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* VII. 288 The Monoculus or Arborescent Water-Flea. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XII. 240/2 The quadricornis, or

four-horned monoculus, a very small species about half a line in length. 1848 E. Forbes *Naked-eyed Medusæ* 60 So wrote Otho Frederic Müller—filled, by his studies of minute life, with a deep spirit of reverence and admiration of his monoculi. 1880 Huxley *Crayfish* v. 279 The water-fleas or the monoculi of the ponds.

3. a. A bandage for one eye.

1849 in Craig. 1875 in Knight *Dict. Mech.*

b. A single eye-glass (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1891).

Monocycle (mɒ·nŏsəik'l). [f. Gr. *μόνο-ς* Mono- + *κύκλος* wheel, Cycle. Cf. Gr. *μονόκυκλος* with one circle.] A velocipede having only one wheel.

'In one form the rider is seated inside the wheel' (Webster *Suppl.* 1902).

1869 *The Velocipede* (N.Y.) Apr. 79 A New York mechanic has devised a monocycle or single machine. 1869 *Sci. Amer.* 22 May 330 The machine is evidently a monocycle. 1902 *Speaker* 15 Feb. 564/1 Monocycles progressing at eighty miles an hour.

Monocyclic (mɒnəsi·klik, -səi·klik), *a.* [Formed as prec. + -ic.] Having a single circle or cycle.

1. *Zool.* a. Of or pertaining to the *Monocyclica*, a subclass of crinoid Echinoderms having only a single circlet of basal plates. b. Of or pertaining to the *Monocyclia*, a division of Holothurians having the tentacles in a single circle or series.

1882 F. H. Carpenter in *Q. Jrnl. Microsc. Sci.* XXII. 377 The monocyclic *Comatulæ*. 1888 Rolleston & Jackson *Anim. Life* 545 When they [*sc.* underbasals] are present the base of the apical system is said to be dicyclic, when absent monocyclic. 1900 *Lankester's Treat. Zool.* III. 111 Monocyclic and dicyclic genera should not be placed in the same line of descent.

2. *Bot.* a. Having the members of a floral series disposed in a single whorl. b. Annual (B. D. Jackson *Gloss. Bot. Terms* 1900).

1891 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Monocyclic*, having the members of a series all in one whorl.

3. *Electr.* 'Designating a certain system or arrangement of armature windings and transmission lines for the utilization of currents in a combined lighting and power service' (Webster *Suppl.* 1902).

Monocyclous (mɒnəsi·kləs), *a. Conch. rare*—°. [f. mod.L. *monocycl-us* (formed as Monocycle) + -ous.] (See quot.)

1856 Mayne *Expos. Lex.*, *Monocyclus*, applied to the *Scalaria monocycla*, because its last turn is circumscribed at the base by a transversal filament: monocyclous.

Monocyst (mɒ·nŏsist). *Path.* [f. Mono- + Cyst.] A tumour consisting of a single cyst.

1869 T. G. Thomas *Dis. Women* (ed. 2) 553 The monocyst ..develops the power of cysto-genesis and becomes polycystic. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 1110 The hydatid bladder..consists of a single simple sac or mono-cyst.

Monocysted (mɒ·nŏsistĕd), *a.* [Formed as prec. + -ed².] = next.

1885 T. Gill in *Smithsonian Rep.* (1886) I. 765 The monocysted Gregorines [*read* Gregarines].

Monocystic (mɒnəsi·stik), *a.* [Formed as prec. + -ic.] Having or consisting of a single cyst.

1872 T. G. Thomas *Dis. Women* (ed. 3) 652 Unilocular or monocystic tumors rarely attain a great size as such. 1885 E. R. Lankester in *Encycl. Brit.* XIX. 853/2 The sporulation..of the various monocystic Gregarinides.

Hence **Monocy·stically** *adv.*

1872 Peaslee *Ovar. Tumors* 31 The distinction..of the monocystically inclined and the polycystic..cystoma.

Monocystid (mɒnəsi·stid). *Zool.* [ad. mod. L. *Monocystid-ea* (neut. pl.), f. Gr. *μόνο-ς* Mono- + *κύστ-ις* bladder, Cyst: see -id.] A member of the order *Monocystidea* of Gregarines, having the body simple, i.e. not segmented.

1882 E. R. Lankester in *Q. Jrnl. Microsc. Sci.* XXII. 58 The Monocystid *Adelia ovata*. 1888 Rolleston & Jackson *Anim. Life* 859 The Monocystids of the Earthworm.

So **Monocysti·dean** *a.* and *sb.* (in recent Dicts.).

Monocyttarian (mɒnəsitē·riăn), *a.* and *sb. Zool.* [f. mod.L. *Monocyttaria* neut. pl. (f. Gr. *μόνο-ς* Mono- + *κύτταρ-ος* cell) + -an.] a. *adj.* Belonging to the group *Monocyttaria* of Radiolarians, which have a single central capsule; unicapsular. b. *sb.* A member of this group.

1890 in *Century Dict.*

Monodactyl, -yle (mɒnodæ·ktil), *a. Zool.* [ad. Gr. *μονοδάκτυλ-ος* one-fingered, f. *μόνο-ς* Mono- + *δάκτυλ-ος* finger. Cf. F. *monodactyle*.] = Monodactylous.

1819 G. Samouelle *Entomol. Compend.* 177 Monodactyle claws. 1826 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* III. xxviii. 48 The foot or *Tarsus* [of the *Diptera*], is almost universally monodactyle. 1852 Dana *Crust.* II. 1036 A monodactyle hand. 1870 Flower *Osteol. Mamm.* xix. (1876) 319 The monodactyle foot of the Horse.

Monodacty·lic, *a. Pros. rare*—°. [f. Mono- + Dactylic.] Containing but one dactyl.

1890 in *Century Dict.*

Monodactylous (mɒnodæ·ktiləs), *a. Zool.* [f. Monodactyl + -ous.] Having only one finger, toe, or claw. In Crustacea = Subchelate.

1828–32 in Webster. 1841 *Penny Cycl.* 421/1 The last three pairs [of feet] are monodactylous. 1856–8 W. Clark *Van der Hoeven's Zool.* I. 671 Hippoidea.—First pair of feet monodactylous or subchelate. 1881 *Nature* 29 Sept. 527/2 A link..between our modern monodactylous horse and its three-toed ancestor.

Monoda·ctyly. [f. Monodactyl + -y.] The condition of being monodactyl.

1897 *Amer. Naturalist* Feb. 161 The monodactyly, observed in the pig by Aristotle.

Monodelph (mɒ·nŏdelf). *Zool.* [ad. F. *Monodelphe* (De Blainville), f. mod.L. *Monodelph-ia*, f. Gr. *μόνο-ς* Mono- + *δελφύς* womb.] A mammal belonging to the subclass *Monodelphia* of mammals, characterized by a single uterus and vagina, and comprising all mammals except the monotremes and marsupials.

1842 Brande *Dict. Sci.* etc., *Monodelphs*.., a name given by De Blainville to the first sub-class in his binary division of Mammalia. 1878 Bartley tr. *Topinard's Anthrop.* 22 The Monodelphs include (1) The *Cetacea* and *Amphibia*. (2) The Pachydermata [etc.].

So **Monode·lphian, a.** *adj.* of, belonging to, or characteristic of the *Monodelphia*; b. *sb.* a member of this subclass; **Monode·lphic, Monode·lphous** *adjs.*

1856 Mayne *Expos. Lex.*, *Monodelphus*,..monodelphous. 1869 Huxley *Introd. Classif. Anim.* 90 In this manner ..the Monodelphian fœtus is supplied with nourishment. *Ibid.* 98 The type of a distinct order of deciduate Monodelphous *Mammalia*. 1870 Flower *Osteol. Mamm.* I. (1876) 3 The remaining Monodelphian Mammals are:—1. Primates. 1881 Mivart *Cat* 469 The Cat, as a monodelphous mammal, of course shares the characters which distinguish that subclass from both the others. 1882 Ogilvie, *Monodelph, Monodelphian, sb.* a mammal belonging to the sub-class Monodelphia. *Ibid.*, *Monodelphic.*

Monodelph, etc., erron. ff. Monadelph, etc.

Monodermic: see Mono- 1.

‖ **Mono·dia.** *Mus.* [It. or L.: see Monody.] (See quot.)

1880 Rockstro in Grove *Dict. Mus.* II. 354/1 *Monodia.* A term applied, by modern critics, to music written in what is sometimes called the Homophonic Style: that is to say, music, in which the Melody is confined to a single part, instead of being equally distributed between all the Voices employed, as in the Polyphonic Schools.

Monodiabolism, -diametral: see Mono- 1.

Monodic (mɒnɒ·dik), *a.* [ad. Gr. *μονῳδικ-ός* f. *μονῳδ-ός*: see Monody and -ic.] Pertaining to or of the nature of monody. In *Music*, characterized by the predominance of one part or melody, to which the other parts merely furnish harmonies.

1818 Busby *Gram. Mus.* 99 *note*, The first of these styles of melody they term *monodic*, the second *polyodic*. 1879 Grove *Dict. Mus.* I. 746/1 Homophone..is sometimes applied to music written in what was formerly called the Monodic style. 1883 Rockstro *ibid.* III. 278/2 The Monodic School of Florence. 1896 J. A. F. Maitland in *Dict. Nat. Biog.* XLVII. 42/2 The new art of monodic writing, as opposed to the elaborate involutions of the madrigalian period. 1900 H. W. Smyth *Greek Melic Poets* p. xxi, Monodic melic, or that which is sung by a single voice, is represented in the earliest stage of Greek song by the nome.

So **Mono·dical** *a.*; **Mono·dically** *adv.*

1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Monodical.* 1890 *Century Dict.*, *Monodically.*

Monodichlamydeous, etc.: see Mono- 1.

Monodist (mɒ·nŏdist). [f. Monod(y + -ist.]

1. One who writes or sings a monody.

1751 Richardson *Corr.* (1804) III. 183 Think you, Madam, that a certain monodist did not imagine himself possessed by this purer flame. 1825 Hone *Every-day Bk.* 13 Aug. I. 1106 The monodist [*sc.* Huddesford, who wrote a 'Monody on the Death of Dick, an Academical Cat'] connects him with cats of great renown in the annals of witchcraft.

2. One who composes in the monodic style; opposed to *contrapuntist* (Cent. Dict. 1890).

Monodistich: see Mono- 1.

Mo·nodize, *v. nonce-wd.* [f. Monod(y + -ize.] *trans.* To make the subject of a monody.

1796 Coleridge *Let.* Aug. in *Biog. Lit.* (1847) II. 370, I was at Matlock, the place monodized by Bowles.

‖ **Monodon** (mɒ·nŏdɒn). *Zool.* [mod.L., f. Gr. *μονοδοντ-*, *μονόδους*, f. *μόν-ος* Mon(o)- + *ὀδοντ-*, *ὀδούς* tooth.] A genus of delphinoid cetaceans, containing only the narwhal (*M. monoceros*); also, a member of this genus.

1752 J. Hill *Hist. Anim.* 314 *Monodon*, the Unicorn-fish, or Nar-wal. 1753 Chambers *Cycl. Supp.* *c* 1865 Lethieby in *Wylde's Circ. Sci.* I. 103/2 Even the Monodons or narwhales may be made to yield train-oil.

Monodont (mɒ·nŏdɒnt), *a. rare*—°. [Formed as prec.] Having only one tooth. Also **Monodo·ntal** *a.*, of the nature of an 'only tooth'; also, pertaining to the genus *Monodon*.

1853 Kane *Grinnell Exp.* xxxvii. (1856) 340 The horn, that monodontal process which gives them their name of sea-unicorn. 1891 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Monodont.*

Monodrama (mɒnodrāmă, mɒnodrā·mă). Also 9 **monodram**(e. [f. Mono- + Drama.] A dramatic piece for a single performer.

1793 Southey *Let. to G. C. Bedford* 26 Oct. in *Life* (1849) I. 185 Monodramas, comodramas, tragodramas, all sorts of dramas. 1803 in *Spirit Publ. Jrnls.* (1804) VII. 170 He [an actor] is assisting to get up the Monodram, in which he takes a principal part. 1823 *Edin. Rev.* XXXVIII. 183 The first attempt at dramatic writing would naturally be in the form of a monodrame. 1829 *Examiner* 275/2 The puns and drollery of Mathews in his new mono-drama *At Home*. 1849 *Eclectic Rev.* XXVI. 211 The entire sum of his [Browning's] poetry may be said to be dramatic, though much of it..simple monodrama. 1904 *Athenæum* 18 June 776/1 Tennyson intended 'Maud' to be a pure monodrama, yet it was taken for a portrait of himself.

fig. 1824 *New Monthly Mag.* X. 41 Friendship is with them a *mono-drama*, in which they play the principal and sole part.

Hence **Mo·nodrama·tic** *a.*, pertaining to or characteristic of a monodrama; **Monodra·matist,** one who writes a monodrama.

1803 in *Spirit Publ. Jrnls.* (1805) VIII. 178 Hint to a Mono-dramatist, how to avoid damnation. 1825 *Blackw. Mag.* XVII. 731 These great performers..have retired into a dignified and limited range of mono-dramatic parts. 1897 Tennyson *Mem. Ld. Tennyson* I. 402 'Maud' and other monodramatic poems.

Monodromic (mɒnodrɒ·mik), *a. Math.* [f. Gr. *μόνο-ς* Mono- + *δρόμ-ος* course + -ic, after F. *monodrome* (Cauchy).] Of a function: Having a single value for one value of the variable.

1890 in *Century Dict.* 1893 Forsyth *Theory of Functions* 15 *note.*

Monody (mɒ·nŏdi). [ad. L. *monōdia*, *monōdium*, a. Gr. *μονῳδία* solo, lament, f. *μον-ῳδ-ός* singing alone, f. *μόν-ος* Mono- + *ᾠδ-* contracted form of *ἀοιδ-* ablaut-var. of *ἀείδ-ειν* to sing: cf. *ᾠδή* Ode. Cf. F. *monodie*, It. *monodia*.]

1. In Greek literature: a. A lyric ode sung by a single voice; an ode sung by one of the actors in a tragedy (as distinct from the chorus); hence, a mournful song or dirge.

[1589 Puttenham *Eng. Poesie* I. xxiv. (Arb.) 63 Such funerall songs were called *Epicedia* if they were song by many, and *Monodia* if they were vttered by one alone.] 1623 Cockeram, *Monodies*, mournefull songs. 1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Monodie*, a lamentable or funeral song, where one sings alone. 1751 Johnson *Rambler* No. 156 ¶ 7 Tragedy was a monody or solitary song in honour of Bacchus, improved afterwards into a dialogue. 1760 Fawkes tr. *Sappho* Introd., She wrote nine Books of Odes, besides Elegies, Epigrams, Iambics, Monodies and other Pieces. 1896 Haigh *Greek Drama* 363 The monodies form one of the most salient features in the tragedy of Euripides. 1900 H. W. Smyth *Greek Melic Poets* p. xxi, The chief representatives of the monody are the Aiolians and the Ionic Anakreon.

b. A funeral oration. [So in late Gr.]

1781 Gibbon *Decl. & F.* xviii. II. 110 *note*, The monody pronounced on the death of Constantine, might have been very instructive; but prudence and false taste engaged the orator to involve himself in vague declamation.

2. A poem in which a mourner bewails some one's death.

1637 Milton *Lycidas* Argt., In this Monody the Author bewails a learned Friend, unfortunately drown'd. 1691 Wood *Ath. Oxon.* I. 590 Soon after was a tomb erected.. whereon was insculp'd a Monodie made by Dr. Laur. Humphrey. 1790 Coleridge (*title*) Monody on the Death of Chatterton. 1809 Byron *Bards & Rev.* 747 Let monodies on Fox regale your crew. 1866 M. Arnold (*title*) Thyrsis. A Monody, to commemorate the author's friend, Arthur Hugh Clough.

3. *Mus.* The homophonic style of composition (see Monodia). Also, a composition in this style.

1887 *Daily News* 3 May 6/1 Songs for a single voice were not known in art music until Vincenzo Galilei..composed solos with instrumental accompaniments. On the invention of these 'monodies', as they were called, the three above-named [Italian] masters..founded their dramatic attempts. 1890 in *Century Dict.*

4. 'Monotonous sound; monotonousness of sound' (*Cent. Dict.*).

a 1849 Poe *Bells* iv, Hear the tolling of the bells—Iron bells! What a world of solemn thought their monody compels! 1885 Miss Murfree *Prophet Gt. Smoky Mts.* i. 30 The vague, sighing voice of the woods rose and fell with a melancholy monody.

Monodynamic (mɒnodəinæ·mik, -din-), *a. rare.* [f. Gr. *μόνο-ς* Mono- + *δύναμ-ις* power + -ic.]

1. Having only one power or talent. *nonce-use.*

1823 De Quincey *Herder* Wks. 1862 XII. 128 Monodynamic men, men of a single talent.

2. *Chem.* = Monovalent.

1872 Thudichum *Chem. Phys.* 23 Butyryl..is a monodynamic radical.

Monodynamism (mɒnodəi·nămiz'm). *rare.* [f. Gr. *μόνο-ς* Mono- + *δύναμ-ις* power, force + -ism.] The doctrine that all forms of activity in nature are only various manifestations of one force.

1867 Lewes *Hist. Philos.* (ed. 3) I. 3 Side by side with this tentative..monotheism there is a bold and unhesitating monodynamism, the efforts of all the early thinkers being to reduce all the powers of nature to one principle.

Monodynamous: see Mono- 1.

‖ **Monœcia** (mɒnī·ʃiă). *Bot.* [mod.L. (Linnæus 1735), f. Gr. *μόνο-ς* Mono- + *οἶκ-ος* house: cf. Dicecia.] The twenty-first class in the Sexual System of Linnæus, comprising plants which have the stamens and pistils, or male and female organs, in separate flowers, but on the same plant.

1753 Chambers *Cycl. Supp.*, *Monœcia*, in botany, a class of plants which have not the male and female parts,..in the same, but in different flowers; and those on the same root. 1785 Martyn *Rousseau's Bot.* ix. (1794) 95. 1862 Darwin in *Life & Lett.* (1887) III. 304 About one-third of the British genera of aquatic plants belong to the Linnean classes of Mono- and Dicecia.

Hence **Monœ·cian** *adj.* = Monœcious; *sb.* a monœcious plant or animal.

1828–32 Webster, *Monecian* [*a.* and *sb.*]; and in mod. Dicts.

Monœcious (mɒnī·ʃəs), *a.* Also **monecious.** [f. Monœci-a + -ous.]

1. *Bot.* a. Of phanerogams: Having unisexual male and female flowers on the same plant; be-

longing to the Linnæan class MONŒCIA. (Cf. MONOICOUS *a.*)

1761 STILES in *Phil. Trans.* IV. 259 Not only in the Diœcious plants, but in the Monœcious and Polygamious also. 1822 *Hortus Anglicus* II. 545 With flowers monœcious. 1877 DARWIN *Forms of Fl.* Introd. 9 We now come to our second Class, that of monœcious species, or those which have their sexes separated but borne on the same plant. 1900 B. D. JACKSON *Gloss. Bot. Terms, Monœcious homogamy*, fertilization from another inflorescence of the same plant (Delpino).

b. Of cryptogams: Having both male and female organs on the same individual.

1851 BENTLEY *Man. Bot.* 393 When conceptacles of both kinds [*sc.* with antheridia and sporangia] occur on the same plant, this is termed *monœcious*, if on different plants, they are *diœcious*. 1887 *Ibid.* (ed. 5) 396 Some species, as *Fucus platycarpus*, are monœcious, i. e. contain both antheridia and oogonia in the same conceptacle.

2. *Zool.* [Cf. MONOIC *a.*] Having the two sexes in one individual; hermaphrodite.

1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* IV. xlvii. 401 The first of these purposes was best promoted by creating things 'according to their kind', with sexes monœcious or diœcious. 1880 PASCOE *Zool. Classif.* (ed. 2) 283 *Monœcious.* When the male and female are associated in one organism. 1888 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* Introd. 25 The testis may co-exist with the ovary in the same animal, which is then said to be monoecious or hermaphrodite.

Hence **Monœ·ciously** *adv.*

1847 W. DARLINGTON *Amer. Weeds* Gloss. (1860) 424/2 *Monœciously* or *monoicously polygamous*; having perfect and imperfect flowers on the same plant. 1890 in *Century Dict.*; and in later Dicts.

Monœcism (mɒnī·siz'm). [ad. mod.L. *monœcismus*, f. Gr. **μόνοικ-ος* (see MONŒCIA) + -ISM.] The condition of being monœcious.

1875 BENNETT & DYER *Sachs' Bot.* III. vi. 807 If the plant which produces both kinds of sexual organs is large or at least strongly differentiated, distance in the relationship of the two kinds of reproductive cells is still attained by the male and female organs being produced on different branches; and this phenomenon, which is in general termed *Monœcism*, is also common in the vegetable kingdom.

Monoeidic (mɒnoiə·dik), *a. rare*—[1]. [f. Gr. *μονοειδ-ής* of one form or kind (f. *μόνο-ς* MONO- + *εἶδ-ος* form) + -IC.] Of one form or nature.

a 1822 SHELLEY *Ess. & Lett.* (1840) I. 145 A beauty wonderful in its nature... It is eternally uniform and consistent and monoeidic with itself. *Ibid.* 146 The divine, the original, the supreme, the monoeidic beautiful itself.

Monoembryony: see MONEMBRYONY.

Monoepic: see MONEPIC.

Monœstrous, Monoflagellate: see MONO- 1.

Monoethyl: see MONETHYL.

Monogam (mɒ·nŏgæm). *Bot.* [a. F. *monogame*, ad. mod.L. *monogamæ*, fem. pl. of *monogamus* MONOGAMOUS.] A plant of the order MONOGAMIA.

1828–32 WEBSTER, *Monogam*, in *botany*, a plant that has a simple flower, though the anthers are united. [citing] *Lee.* In mod. Dicts.

‖ **Monogamia** (mɒnogē·miă, -gæ·miă). *Bot.* [mod.L. (Linnæus) use of late L. *monogamia* 'single marriage', MONOGAMY.] The sixth order in the nineteenth class (*Syngenesia*) in the Linnæan Sexual System, comprising species which bear solitary flowers (not collected in a capitulum) in which the anthers are united. Not now recognized as an order in any system.

1760 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* II. iii. (1765) 81 *Monogamia.* 1807 J. E. SMITH *Phys. Bot.* 400 Linnæus has a 6th Order in this [*sc.* the 19th] Class, named Monogamia, consisting of simple flowers with united anthers; but this I have presumed to disuse, because [etc.].

Hence **Monoga·mian** *a.*[1], pertaining to this order.

1828–32 in WEBSTER.

Monogamian (mɒnogē·miăn), *a.*[2] *rare.* [f. MONOGAMY + -AN.] Of or pertaining to monogamy; monogamous.

1876 L. H. MORGAN in *N. Amer. Rev.* CXXIII. 62 It was founded upon marriage between single pairs, but it fell below the monogamian family of civilized society. 1881 — *Contrib. N. Amer. Ethnol.* IV. 5 As the syndyasmian family of the period began to assume monogamian characteristics.

b. *Zool.* 'Mating with but one of the opposite sex' (Funk's *Stand. Dict.*).

Monogamic (mɒnogæ·mik), *a.* [f. Gr. *μονό-γαμ-ος* (see MONOGAMOUS) + -IC. So F. *monogamique.*]

1. Of or pertaining to monogamy; (less correctly) practising monogamy, monogamous.

1840 *Fraser's Mag.* XXI. 391 All trace of the monogamic pillar of orthodoxy therefore disappears. 1860 J. M. LUDLOW in *Macm. Mag.* II. 46 If M. Michelet has satisfied himself by means of physiology that man is a monogamic animal, so much the better. 1876 in Ruskin *Fors Clav.* VI. 376 A Home should minister to all the needs of its members. This, ordinary monogamic homes cannot do. 1882–3 SCHAFF *Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* III. 2549/1 The institution of monogamic marriage in Genesis.

2. *Bot.* = MONOGAMOUS *a.* 3.

1856 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Monogamicus, Monogamus.* The latter of these two terms is applied by H. Cassini to the *calathidia* of the *Synantheræ* when they contain flowers which are of the same sex, as in the *Lactuca*: monogamic: monogamous. 1866 *Treas. Bot.*, *Monogamia* (adj. *Monogamic*), having flowers distinct from each other, and not collected in a capitulum.

Monoga·mious, *a. Bot.* [f. MONOGAMI-A + -OUS.] Belonging to the Linnæan order *Monogamia.*

1856 in MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*

Monogamist (mɒ·nŏgămist). [f. Gr. *μονό-γαμ-ος* (see MONOGAMOUS) + -IST.]

1. 'One who disallows second marriages' (J.); also, one who by custom or law is debarred from second marriage after the death of the first sponse; opposed to *digamist.*

1651 C. CARTWRIGHT *Cert. Relig.* I. 49 Hierom [was] a Monogamist. 1766 GOLDSM. *Vic. W.* ii, I maintained..that it was unlawful for a priest of the church of England, after the death of his first wife, to take a second; or, to express it in one word, I valued myself upon being a strict monogamist.

2. One who has but one living and undivorced spouse, as opposed to *bigamist* or *polygamist.*

1731 BAILEY (vol. II.), *Monogamist*, one who is of single marriage. 1861 *Sat. Rev.* 21 Dec. 637 Polygamy is forbidden by the Gospel, and..consequently, on becoming a Christian, a man must..become a monogamist. 1862 MAX MÜLLER *Chips* (1867) I. 168 The Parsis are monogamists.

3. quasi-*adj.* = MONOGAMISTIC.

1875 POSTE *Gaius* IV. (ed. 2) 545 A monogamist forum will not enforce polygamistic laws. 1906 *The Christian* 1 Nov. 9/2 Christianity, the only absolute monogamist religion.

Hence **Monogami·stic** *a.*, of or pertaining to monogamists (sense 2) or monogamy; favouring monogamy. 1890 in *Century Dict.*

† **Mono·gamize,** *v. Obs.* [Formed as prec. + -IZE.] *intr.* To hold the opinion of the 'monogamists' (see MONOGAMIST 1).

1605 T. BELL *Motives Rom. Faith* Ded., If Tertullian.. erred montanizing;..if Hyeronimus monogamizing.

Monogamous (mɒ·nŏgămŏs), *a.* [f. eccl.L. *monogam-us* (a. Gr. *μονόγαμος* marrying only once, f. *μόνο-ς* MONO- + *γάμος* marriage) + -OUS. Cf. F. *monogame.*]

1. Of persons: Practising monogamy. **a.** Having or permitted to have only one living and undivorced husband or wife at one time: opposed to *bigamous* or *polygamous.* **b.** Refraining or debarred from remarriage after the death of the first spouse: opposed to *digamous.*

1798 MALTHUS *Popul.* (1817) I. 216 The number of people increased in a fourfold ratio by polygamy, to what it is in those countries that are monogamous. 1828–32 WEBSTER, *Monogamous*, having one wife only and not permitted to marry a second. 1865 W. G. PALGRAVE *Arabia* I. 295 A faithful and (though wealthy) a monogamous husband.

2. *Zool.* Of animals, esp. applied to birds: Pairing with only one male or female, either for the breeding season, or for life.

1770 G. WHITE *Selborne, To Pennant* xxix, Among the monogamous birds several are to be found, after pairing-time, single, and of each sex. 1830 'B. MOUBRAY' *Dom. Poultry* (ed. 6) 141 The pigeon is monogamous, that is, the male attaches and confines himself to one female, and the attachment is reciprocal. 1835 KIRBY *Hab. & Inst. Anim.* xxi. II. 384 Both sexes [of these fishes], for they are monogamous, watch and defend them [*sc.* their eggs] till the young come forth. 1835–6 OWEN in *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 267/1 All the Birds of Prey..are monogamous. 1871 DARWIN *Desc. Man.* II. xx. 361 Several kinds, as some of the Indian and American monkeys, are strictly monogamous, and associate all the year round with their wives. 1880 GÜNTHER *Fishes* xii. 178 Some Teleostei..are monogamous.

3. *Bot.* Belonging to the Linnæan order *Monogamia.*

1821 tr. *Decandolle & Sprengel's Elem. Philos. Plants* II. ii. 94 The Linnæan Monogamous plants. 1856 [see MONOGAMIC *a.* 2]. 1891 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

4. Of or pertaining to monogamy.

1882 BABER in *Roy. Geog. Soc., Suppl. Papers* I. I. 97 A European..whose personal conviction..is strictly monogamous. 1878 LECKY *Eng. in 18th C.* (1883) I. 495 Perpetual monogamous attachments would always be the most common. 1884 *Century Mag.* XXVIII. 621 The monogamous family, formed by the union of one woman with one man. 1885 J. G. BERTRAM *British Alm. Comp.* 77 The grouse..[is] a bird of strictly monogamous habits. 1895 'G. PASTON' *Stud. Prejudices* vii, Monogamous marriage.

Hence **Mono·gamously** *adv.*

1875 *Echo* 3 July 1/3 There are in this country..500,000 women who cannot possibly be monogamously married.

Monogamy (mɒ·nŏgămi). Also 7 monogamie. [ad. F. *monogamie*, ad. eccl.L. *monogamia*, Gr. *μονογαμία*, f. *μονόγαμ-ος* (see MONOGAMOUS).]

1. The practice or principle of marrying only once, or of not remarrying after the death of the first spouse: opposed to *digamy.* Now *rare.*

1612 T. TAYLOR *Comm. Titus* i. 6 The marriage of the wiues sister is forbidden by proportion euen in monogamie. 1620 BP. HALL *Hon. Marr. Clergy* I. xix. 106 If hee had euer read the Booke following, of Monogamie, he might have found [etc.]. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Monogamie*, a marrying of one onely wife all the life time. 1727–51 [see 2]. 1856 MACAULAY *Biog., Goldsm.* (1860) 62 Moses and his spectacles, the Vicar and his monogamy..have caused..much harmless mirth.

2. The condition, rule, or custom of being married to only one person at a time (opposed to *polygamy* or *bigamy*); chiefly applied to the rule or custom (more explicitly called *monogyny*) by which a man can have only one wife, but also including *monandry*, the rule or custom by which a woman can have only one husband.

1708 *Brit. Apollo* No. 82. 1/1 Monogamy is Agreeable to the Primary Intention of a Marriage-state. 1727–51 CHAMBERS *Cycl.*, *Monogamy*, the state or condition of those who have only married once, or are restrained to a single wife. 1788 REID *Active Powers* III. iii. vi, Suppose again, that we reason for monogamy from the intention of nature. 1869 LECKY *Europ. Mor.* I. 107 In Rome..monogamy was firmly established. 1878 K. JOHNSTON *Africa* iii. 41 In Marocco Monogamy is the rule both amongst the Arabs and the Berbers. 1886 *Law Times* LXXX. 335/2 A country where monogamy is the only legal form of marriage.

3. *Zool.* The habit of living in pairs, or having only one mate.

1785 G. FORSTER tr. *Sparrman's Voy. Cape G. H.* II. 120 Thevenot is right when he asserts, that the ostrich lives in monogamy, or with one female. 1828 STARK *Elem. Nat. Hist.* I. 51 These apes..live in monogamy.

Monoganglial, -ganglionic: see MONO- 1.

Monogastric (mɒnogæ·strik), *a.* [ad. F. *monogastrique*: see MONO- and GASTRIC.]

1. *Anat.* (See quots.).

1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.*, *Monogastric*, in anatomy, a name given by Vieussens, and some French writers, to one of the muscles of the ear, called by Cowper, the *internus auris*, and more properly by Albinus, the *tensor tympani.* 1904 *Appleton's Med. Dict.*, *Monogastric*,..a. having a single belly (said of muscles).

2. Having only one stomach or digestive cavity.

1814 *Edin. Rev.* XXIII. 289 The one [i. e. Avarice] is a monogastric bloodsucker. 1849 HUXLEY in *Phil. Trans.* CXXXIX. 426 The stomach of a monogastric Diphyes. 1855 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex.* (ed. 12) s.v., Man is monogastric; ruminating animals, on the contrary, are polygastric. 1875 H. C. WOOD *Therap.* (1879) 547 Youatt states that..both with monogastric animals and ruminants, he has never known the drug to fail.

Monogen (mɒ·nŏdʒen). *Chem.* [See MONO- 2 and -GEN 1.] An element which combines in one proportion only.

1873 [see POLYGENIC *a.* 2].

Monogeneity (mɒnŏdʒĭnē·ĭti). *Math.* [Formed as next + -ITY.] The state or condition of being monogeneous.

1906 *Athenæum* 20 Jan. 83/3 The following papers were communicated [on Jan. 11]: 'On the Monogeneity of an Algebraic Function', by Dr. H. F. Baker, [etc.].

Monogeneous (mɒnŏdʒē·nĭăs), *a.* [f. mod.L. *monogene-us*, f. Gr. *μονογεν-ής* (f. *μόνο-ς* MONO- + *γέν-ος* kind, race) + -OUS. Cf. F. *monogéné.*]

1. Of one race or family. 1856 in MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*

2. *Biol.* Generated in the same form as that of the parents.

1890 *Century Dict.* s.v. 1891 *Ibid.* s.v. *Trematoda*, The monogeneous and digeneous suborders [of *Trematoda*].

3. *Math.* Having a single differential coefficient. Cf. MONOGENOUS *a.* 7.

1888 B. WILLIAMSON in *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 72/1 (*Variable*) The function is *monogeneous.*

Monogenesis (mɒnŏdʒe·nĭsis). [a. mod.L.: see MONO- and GENESIS. Cf. F. *monogenèse.*]

1. *Geol.* Oneness of origin.

1864 WEBSTER (cites *Dana*).

2. *Biol.* in various uses (see quots.).

1866 BRANDE & COX *Dict. Sci.*, etc., *Monogenesis.* Professor van Beneden understands this term as applied to the direct development, e. g. of an Entozoon from a parent resembling itself. Prof. A. Thomson uses it as applied to descent of an individual from one parent form, containing both the sperm cell and germ cell, or male and female parent principles. 1866 *Chamb. Encycl.* VIII. 195/2 The terms *Monogenesis* and *Homogenesis* have been..applied to the cases in which non-sexual reproduction takes place by fission or gemmation. 1882 OGILVIE, *Monogenesis*..(*c*) Defined by Haeckel to mean development of all the beings in the universe from a single cell. 1891 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Monogenesis*,.. the doctrine of the descent of the members of a species from an original single pair. *Ibid.*, *Monogenesis*,..the same as *Monogeny*

Hence **Monoge·nesist** = MONOGENIST.

1862 *Temple Bar* V. 215 The theory of gradual climatic changes must..be abandoned, and the monogenesists must ..fall back upon a new line of defences...This quarrel of the mono- and polygenesists..is a very pretty one.

Monogenesy (mɒnodʒe·nĭsi). [f. Gr. *μόνο-ς* single + *-γενεσία*, f. *γένεσις*: cf. MONOGENESIS.]

1. = MONOGENISM.

1885 in *Cassell's Encycl. Dict.*, and in later Dicts.

2. = MONOGONY. 1890 in *Century Dict.*

Monogenetic (mɒnŏdʒĭne·tik), *a.* [Formed as MONOGENESIS: see -GENETIC.]

1. *Geol.* Of or pertaining to monogenesis; 'resulting from one continued process of formation' (Webster *Suppl.* 1880).

1873 [see POLYGENETIC *a.* 2]. 1880 DANA *Man. Geol.* (ed. 3) 776 The Appalachians .. constitute one individual among mountains, because a result of one genetic process, or in a word, monogenetic.

2. *Biol.* Of or pertaining to monogenesis or monogenism.

1873 MAX MÜLLER in *Fraser's Mag.* July 2 There are, indeed, two schools of physiologists, the polygenetic and monogenetic, the former admitting from the beginning a variety of primitive cells, the latter postulating but one cell, as the source of all being. 1886 *Science* VII. 169/1 The monogenetic theory which believes in the original common origin of all mankind from one pair. 1896 F. B. JEVONS *Introd. Hist. Relig.* i. 7 Man's origin was monogenetic.

3. *Zool.* (See quot. 1903.)

1888 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* 649 In the mono-

genetic Trematoda it [the ovum] is always laid; in the digenetic it may, or may not commence its development in the oviduct. 1903 Minchin *Sporozoa* in E. R. Lankester *Treat. Zool.* I. 166 In *Monocystis* the whole life-history is a single cycle,..it is, in fact, monogenetic...But in many other Sporozoa..the life-cycle becomes digenetic, that is to say, it is differentiated into two distinct generations.

4. *Bot.* (See quot.)

1900 B. D. Jackson *Gloss. Bot. Terms, Monogenetic Reproduction*, asexual reproduction.

Monogenic (mɒnodʒe·nik), *a.* [f. Gr. *μόνο-ς* Mono- + *γέν-ος* kind, origin (cf. -gen) + -ic.]

1. *Geol.* (See quot.) So F. *monogénique*.

1856 Mayne *Expos. Lex., Monogenicus*, applied to a rock of which all the parts are of the same nature; thus the monogenic gompholite is a calcareous rock in a calcareous cement, more or less pure: monogenic.

2. *Chem.* Combining with an element in only one form; forming only one compound with a monovalent element.

1873 *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 11) 231 There are a few other monogenic elements.

3. Math. *Monogenic function*: a function which has a differential coefficient; i. e. one whose rate of variation in any direction is independent of that direction by being independent of the mode of change of the variable.

1893 Forsyth *Theory of Functions* 14 The idea of a monogenic function of a complex variable and the idea of dependence expressible by arithmetical operations are not coextensive. 1902 H. F. Baker in *Encycl. Brit.* XXVIII. 539/1 A monogenic analytical function; the word monogenic having reference to the fact that various series, in $x-c, x-c_1, x-c_{11}, \ldots$, which represent the function in different parts of the plane, have a single origin, namely, the series f(x), all the properties of the function being virtually continued in this one series.

4. *Biol.* a. 'Of or pertaining to monogenesis' (Webster 1897). b. (See quot.)

1894–1900 G. M. Gould *Dict. Med.* (ed. 5), *Monogenic*, in biology, producing but one sort of embryo, as distinguished from *diphygenic*.

5. 'Having a single origin;—applied to the human species' (Webster *Suppl.* 1902).

Monogenism (mɒnɒ·dʒĭniz'ın). [f. Mono- + -gen + -ism. So F. *monogénisme*.]

1. The doctrine of monogeny; the theory that the human races have all descended from a common ancestry, or from a single pair.

1865 Huxley in *Fortn. Rev.* I. 273 Five-sixths of the public are taught this Adamitic Monogenism, as if it were an established truth, and believe it. 1878 *N. Amer. Rev.* CXXVI. 471 But the church doctrine as to man's moral condition does not depend at all upon monogenism. 1880 A. H. Keane in *Nature* 30 Dec. 199/1 Unorthodox monogenism, that is monogenism not starting from a created pair,..seems [etc.].

2. 'Lamarck's term for the doctrine that all animal types actually living have derived their origin from the same anatomical element' (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1891).

Monogenist (mɒnɒ·dʒĭnist). [f. Mono- + -gen + -ist. So F. *monogéniste*.]

1. One who believes or maintains the theory of the origin of mankind from a single pair.

1857 Gliddon in Nott & G. *Indig. Races* 402 The Monogenists and the Polygenists: being an exposition of the doctrines of schools professing to sustain dogmatically the Unity or the Diversity of human races. 1865 Huxley in *Fortn. Rev.* I. 273 According to the Monogenists, all mankind have sprung from a single pair. 1875 Tylor in *Encycl. Brit.* II. 114/1 The monogenist has claimed all mankind to be descended from one original stock, and generally from a single pair.

attrib. 1865 Huxley in *Fortn. Rev.* I. 273 The Monogenist hypotheses. 1883 Tylor in *Nature* 3 May 8/2 Prichard, the leader of the monogenist school forty years ago. 1888 Cave *Inspir. O. Test.* ii. 103 A monogenist argument.

2. One who maintains the unity of origin of living beings.

1868 Owen *Anat.* III. 817 To meet the inevitable question of 'Whence the first organic matter?' the Monogenist is reduced to enumerate the existing elements into which the simplest living jelly..or sarcode..is resolvable.

Hence **Monogeni·stic** *a.*, pertaining to monogenists or monogenism.

1865 *Reader* 11 Feb. 162/3 A consideration of the monogenistic and polygenistic theories of the origin of man. 1865 Huxley in *Fortn. Rev.* I. 275 Combining all that is good in the Monogenistic and Polygenistic schools. 1890 — in *19th Cent.* July 754 Their judgment was often unconsciously warped by strong monogenistic proclivities.

Monogenous (mɒnɒ·dʒĭnəs), *a.* [f. Gr. *μόνο-ς* Mono- + *γέν-ος* kind, origin, *γεν-* to grow, produce (see -gen) + -ous.]

1. *Bot.* (See quot. 1856.)

1856 Mayne *Expos. Lex.*, *Monogenus, Bot.*, applied by Lessing to monocotyledonous plants, because they have but one surface of increase, which is central: monogenous. 1891 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1900 B. D. Jackson *Gloss. Bot. Terms, Monogenous = Endogenous.*

2. = Monogenequs *a.* 1.

1866 *Reader* 15 Sept. 796 One wild bird may have been the ancestor of all the fantails, another of all the carriers, and so on. Thus domestic pigeons may be said to be 'monogenous' as to their origin from one wild species, 'polygenous' as to the individual ancestor of each variety. 1891 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

3. *Chem.* = Monogenic 2.

1870 *Eng. Mech.* 11 Feb. 524/1 Chlorine forms only one compound with hydrogen...Chlorine may, for this reason, be called a monogenous element.

4. *Geol.* (See quot.) Cf. Monogenic 1.

1888 Teall *Brit. Petrogr.* 440 *Monogenous*, a word applied by some authors to clastic rocks the fragments of which are derived solely from one rock.

5. *Biol.* Used as a general designation for gemmation, or sporulation, as modes of asexual reproduction involving but one parent.

1884 Sedgwick tr. *Claus' Zool.* I. 96 Reproduction by fission, which, with that by budding and spore-formation, is included under the term monogenous asexual reproduction.

6. 'Of or pertaining to monogenism' (*Cent. Dict.*).

7. *Math.* 'Having a single differential coefficient considered as a rule of generation' (*Cent. Dict.*); = Monogenic 3.

Monogeny (mɒnɒ·dʒĭni). [f. Gr. *μόνο-ς* Mono- + -geny. Cf. F. *monogénie*.]

1. The (theoretical) origination of mankind from one common pair of ancestors; also *loosely*, the theory of such origination, monogenism.

1865 *Anthrop. Rev.* Oct. 362 This paper was entitled, 'On Monogeny and Polygeny'. 1893 S. Laing *Hum. Origins* 405 As the old orthodox argument for monogeny faded into oblivion, a new and more powerful one was furnished by the doctrine of Evolution, as expounded by Darwin.

2. Monogenesis; monogenous reproduction.

1856 Mayne *Expos. Lex. Monogenia, Physiol.*, applied by Burdach to the mode of generation which consists in the production, by an organised body, of a part which separates at some period and becomes by its growth a new individual, similar to that which has produced it: monogeny.

Monoglot (mɒ·nŏglɒt), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. Gr. *μονόγλωττ-ος*, f. *μόνο-ς* Mono- + *γλῶττα, γλῶσσα* tongue, language.]

A. *adj.*

1. Of a person: That speaks, writes, or understands only one language.

1830 Southey *Let.* 19 June in *Life* (1850) VI. 106 Lamentable experience makes me know how much is lost by a monoglot traveller. 1905 *Schoolmaster* 15 Apr. 774/1 'Monoglot' Welsh maidens are few in these days.

2. Written in only one language.

1890 in *Century Dict.* 1895 *Funk's Stand. Dict.* s.v., A monoglot dictionary.

B. *sb.* One who knows only one language.

1894 *Times* 11 Jan. 7/4 Whether monoglots only are reckoned, or [etc.]. 1895 *Westm. Gaz.* 8 May 2/3 Four or five of them [*sc.* the jurors]..are Welsh monoglots, and do not know a word of English. 1896 *Blackw. Mag.* 717 Sour and Saxon-hating monoglots.

Monogoneutic: see Mono- 1.

Monogonic (mɒnɒgɒ·nik), *a. Biol.* [f. Gr. *μόνο-ς* Mono- + *γονικός* parental, f. *γον-, γεν-* to bear, produce.] Of the nature of monogony; non-sexual. So **Mono·gonous** *a.*

1876 tr. *Haeckel's Hist. Creat.* I. 183 The phenomena of non-sexual or monogonic propagation. *Ibid.* Contents p. viii, Nonsexual or Monogonous Propagation.

Monogonoporic, -gonoporous: see Mono- 1.

Monogony (mɒnɒ·gŏni). *Biol.* [f. Gr. *μόνο-ς* Mono- + *-γονία* begetting. Cf. Monogonic.] Reproduction by fission or gemmation; non-sexual propagation.

1873 Max Müller in *Fraser's Mag.* July 4 Cells..capable of producing by the processes of monogony..and amphigony, the endless variety of living creatures. 1876 [see Amphigony]. 1900 B. D. Jackson *Gloss. Bot. Terms* Add.

Monogram (mɒ·nŏgræm). Also 7 monogramme. [Two formations. (1) In sense 1, ad. L. *monogrammus* adj., a. Gr. **μονόγραμμος*, f. *μόνο-ς* single, only + *γραμμ-ή* line. Cicero attributes to Epicurus the use of this word (app. with the virtual sense 'unsubstantial') as descriptive of the gods according to his conception of them, and Lucilius uses *monogrammus* for a thin and colourless person, a 'mere shadow'. Nonius (*c* 280) who has preserved the passage of Lucilius, explains the word as designating a picture drawn in line only, before the colour is applied. (2) In sense 2, ad. late L. *monogramma* neut. (5th c.), irregularly formed after late Gr. *μονόγραμμον*, neut. of *μονόγραμμος*, f. *μόνο-ς* single + *γράμμα* letter. Both the late L. and the late Gr. words were applied to the 'monogram' (in the modern sense) which represented the signature of the Byzantine emperors. In med.L. *monogramma* was common. Cf. F. *monogramme* masc. (1633 in Hatz.-Darm.).]

†1. A picture drawn in lines without shading or colour; a sketch. *Obs.*

1610 Healey *St. Aug. Citie of God* II. xxi. *Vives' Comm.* (1620) 84 Painters..first doe onely delineate and line forth the figure they will draw: which is called a Monogramme. *a* 1637 B. Jonson *Underwoods, Poet to Painter* 11 You were..To..draw My Superficies:..Which if in compasse or no Art it came To be described by a Monogram, With one great blot, yo' had formed me as I am. *a* 1660 Hammond *Serm.* ii. Wks. 1684 IV. 571 A kind of first draught, or ground colours only, and monogram of life. 1675 Cocker *Morals* 66 You here, our choicest Monograms may scan, Where man is fairly pictur'd forth to Man. 1801 Fuseli *Lect. Paint.* i. (1848) 350 The next step of the art was the monogram: outlines of figures without light or shade, but with some addition of the parts within the outline. 1843 [see Monochrome *sb.*].

2. A character composed of two or more letters interwoven together, the letters being usually the initials of a person's name; now often, such a character stamped or otherwise made on note-paper, seals, etc.

The Christian monogram or *monogram of Christ*, the combination (☧) of the first two letters of Χριστός (Christ).

1696 in Phillips (ed. 5). 1697 Evelyn *Numism.* v. 186 A monogram oftentimes served their turn. 1727–52 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v., The Roman labarum bore the monogram of Jesus Christ. 1761 *Phil. Trans.* LII. 31 The fourth letter is succeeded by a monogram, or complex character, formed of E and the aforesaid accented I. 1781 Gibbon *Decl. & F.* xx. (1787) II. 194 The mysterious monogram, at once expressive of the figure of the cross, and the initial letters of the name of Christ. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XV. 341/1 The monograms used by the German and Italian engravers. The French artists rarely used monograms. 1845 *Encycl. Metrop.* XXIII. 568/2 Most of the ancient Printers made use of monograms or ciphers, containing the initial letters of their names, or other devices curiously interwoven. 1847 Ld. Lindsay *Sk. Hist. Chr. Art* I. 102 A cross..supporting the monogram of Christ. 1865 Dickens *Mut. Fr.* I. x, Twemlow received a highly-perfumed cocked-hat and monogram from Mrs. Veneering. 1883 Anna K. Green *Hand & Ring* viii, I have read the Monogram upon your handkerchief. 1900 A. Lang *Hist. Scot.* I. ii. 24 On these stone pillars is found the Christian monogram, surrounded by a circle.

†3. (See quot.) *Obs. rare* —⁰.

1656 Blount *Glossogr., Monogram*,..a sentence in one line, or an Epigram in one verse. As *Pauper videri Cinna vult, & est pauper*, Mart. 1658–1706 Phillips, 1721 Bailey.

†4. (See quot.) *Obs. rare.*

1801 J. Hager *Babylon. Inscr.* 53 Some arbitrary sign, figure or character, destined to express complete words, and which I therefore call monograms. *Ibid.* 56 The characters on the Babylonian bricks being..monograms..designed to express either whole sentences or whole words.

5. *attrib.*

1871 'M. Legrand' *Cambr. Freshm.* 364 With gorgeous monogram buttons. 1884 Knight *Dict. Mech.*, Suppl., *Monogram Machine*, a foot press for stamping monograms, initials, sizes, etc., on paper or manufactured articles.

Hence **Mo·nogrammed** *a.*, bearing a monogram.

1868 E. Yates *Rock Ahead* I. vii, The much monogrammed note. 1884 *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 299/2 Its monogrammed coupés. 1890 'L. Falconer' *Mlle. Ixe* vi, The..monogramed envelopes.

†**Monogra·mmal**, *a. Obs. rare.* [f. L. *monogramm-us* (see prec.) + -al.] Drawn in line only, without colour.

a 1619 Fotherby *Atheom.* II. x. § 4 (1622) 306 And as I shewed before, of Punctum in Geometry; that it hath diuers lines, as monogrammall draughts of the image of God: so may the same be shewed in *Arithmeticall vnity. Ibid.* xiv. § 2. 355 A monogrammal description, and a kind of rude draught, as it were with a Cole.

Monogrammatic (mɒnŏgrămæ·tik), *a.* [f. late L. *monogrammat-, monogramma*, Monogram + -ic. So F. *monogrammatique*.] Of, pertaining to, or in the style of, a monogram.

1773 Swinton in *Phil. Trans.* LXIV. 322 It will follow, that the Romans borrowed the monogrammatic way of writing rather from the Etruscans than the Greeks. 1820 *Gentl. Mag.* XC. i. 431 As far as Roman Capitals can express this Inscription which is partly monogrammatic, it stands thus [etc.]. 1874 W. H. Withrow *Catacombs of Rome* (1877) 401 They frequently abound also in..monogrammatic abbreviations. 1905 *Athenæum* 11 Nov. 654/1 The monogrammatic cross belongs to the third century after Christ.

So **Monogramma·tical** *a.*, concerned with monograms.

1871 *Athenæum* 16 Sept. 374 Mr. Richard Redgrave joins his two 'R's' back to back, and triumphs as a monogrammatical artist.

Monogra·mmatize, *v.* [Formed as prec. + -ize.] *intr.* To use monogrammatic characters in writing.

1818 *Edin. Rev.* XXXI. 108 In their inscriptions..the Spanish Goths..were fond of using combined capitals—of monogrammatizing.

Monogrammic (mɒnogræ·mik), *a. rare.* [f. Monogram + -ic.]

†1. = Monogrammal. *Obs.*

1721 Bailey, *Monogrammick Picture*, a Picture only drawn in Lines without Colours.

2. Pertaining to or of the nature of a monogram.

1851 D. Wilson *Preh. Ann.* (1863) II. IV. iv. 286 A species of Monogrammic Runic writing.

†**Monogra·mmical**, *a. Obs.* [Formed as prec. + -ical.] = prec. 1.

1685–6 H. More in Norris *Theory Love* (1688) 219 No Attention is sufficient to make us rightly discern the beauty of Holiness, but onely a shadowy Notion or Meager Monogrammical Picture thereof.

†**Monogra·mmous**, *a. Obs. rare* —¹. [f. L. *monogramm-us* adj. (see Monogram) + -ous.] In outline; indistinct.

1678 Cudworth *Intell. Syst.* I. ii. § 2. 61 As for those Romantick Monogrammous Gods of Epicurus, had they been seriously believed by him, they could have been nothing else but a certain kind of Aerial and spectrous men.

Monograph (mɒ·nŏgrɑf), *sb.* [f. Mono- + -graph.

The earlier word with this meaning was Monography (=Fr. and Ger. *monographie*, still in use), which was discarded prob. because its formation suggested an abstract sense. (Cf. Eng. *photograph* and F. *photographie*.) Fr. has *monographe* sb., writer of a monograph, and adj. (of a book) treating of one subject.]

1. Originally, in Natural History, a separate

treatise on a single species, genus, or larger group of plants, animals, or minerals. (In this use often with const. *of* instead of the more usual *on*.) Hence, in later use, *gen.* a separate treatise on a single object or class of objects: in contradistinction to the general treatises in which this is dealt with as part of a wider subject.

1821 tr. *Decandolle & Sprengel's Elem. Philos. Plants* III. i. § 6. 163 By a Monograph we understand a complete account of any one family, tribe, or genus, nothing being neglected which is necessary for a perfect knowledge of it. 1827 *Q. Jrnl. Sci.* XXII. 39 By the frequent publication of monographs, .. the science of natural history cannot but be essentially promoted. 1828–32 WEBSTER s. v., A monograph of violets in botany; a monograph of an Egyptian mummy. 1839 G. BIRD *Nat. Philos.* 77 On the subjects treated of, in the preceding five chapters, the student may consult..the monographs in Sir David Brewster's Encyclopædia. 1847 HARDY in *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* II. No. 5. 234 A Monograph of the Scottish species. 1862 ANSTED *Channel Isl.* Pref. (ed. 2) 7 The Channel Islands..deserve and require a monograph. 1876 PAGE *Adv. Text-bk. Geol.* xiii. 237 Mr. Woodward's Monograph of Fossil Crustacea. 1880 *Athenæum* 12 June 762 Monographs on Poe, Hawthorne [etc.].

¶ **2.** Misused for MONOGRAM 2.

1849 ALB. SMITH *Pottleton Legacy* (1854) 24 A steel key.. with some initials worked in a monograph in the handle. 1876 FREEMAN *Hist. & Arch. Sk.* 49 On one of which [pillars] is a monograph out of which ingenious men have spelled the word 'Theodoricus'.

Monograph (mɒ̃·nŏgrɑf), *v.* [f. MONOGRAPH *sb.*] *trans.* To write or produce a monograph on; to treat or discuss in a monograph.

1876 T. GILL in *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 229/2 Dr. H. Wood has monographed our fresh-water algæ. 1881 DARWIN *Veg. Mould* i. 8 The British species of Lumbricus have never been carefully monographed. *a* 1887 HOOKER in *Darwin's Life & Lett.* I. 347 It was monographing the Barnacles that brought it about. 1890 Miss A. M. CLERKE *Syst. Stars* 277 This extraordinary object .. has been monographed, mapped, measured, figured and photographed.

Monographer (mɒ̃nɒ·grăfəɹ). [f. mod.L. *monograph-us* (see MONOGRAPH) + -ER[1].] One who writes or has written a monograph.

1770 G. WHITE *Selborne, To Barrington* 8 Oct., Every kingdom, every province, should have it's own monographer. 1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* xlviii. IV. 425 Apollodorus.. was the first monographer of insects. 1880 NEWTON in *Encycl. Brit.* XIII. 825/2 Few existing birds offer a better subject for a monographer [than the kakapo]. 1905 *Speaker* 11 Mar. 565/1 It is impossible to imagine two subjects more attractive to the intending monographer than Matthew Arnold and Sidney Smith.

Monographic (mɒnogræ·fik), *a.* and *sb.* [f. MONO- + -GRAPHIC; in senses 1 and 2 after MONOGRAM; in sense 4 after MONOGRAPHY; cf. F. *monographique.*] **A.** *adj.*

†**1.** = MONOGRAMMIC 1. *Obs.*

1731 BAILEY, *Monographick Picture*, a Picture only drawn in Lines without Colours. 1859 GULLICK & TIMBS *Paint.* 38 The monographic style [of painting in Greece] consisted also of lines, but the inner lines or markings were given as well as the exterior outline.

2. = MONOGRAMMIC 2.

1888 *Harper's Mag.* Apr. 746 A monographic combination of the letters A and P. 1890 in *Century Dict.*

3. Representing a sphere in a single diagram.

1855 *Rep. Brit. Assoc., Sections* 148 On Improved Monographic Projections of the World. By James Gall.

4. Pertaining to or of the nature of a monograph.

1825 GOOD *Study Med.* (ed. 2) II. 547 The monographic and clinical writers of our own country. 1869 W. S. DALLAS tr. *Müller's Facts for Darwin* x. 106 A Monographic Memoir. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 205 Material for ..monographic treatment.

†**B.** *sb. pl.* Writings treating a subject monographically. *Obs.*

1768 PENNANT *Zool.* (1776) I. 342 The curious monographics on the swallow tribe of that worthy correspondent.

Monogra·phical, *a. rare.* [Formed as prec. + -ICAL.] = MONOGRAPHIC *a.* 3.

1799 *Med. Jrnl.* I. 305 This valuable monographical book is divided into four distinct parts. 1828–32 in WEBSTER. 1904 *Edin. Rev.* July 152 The monographical method has been much discussed.

Monogra·phically, *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY[2].] In the manner or form of a monograph.

1838 V. THOMAS *Addr. B'ham Roy. Sch. Med. & Surg.* 29 Aug., To write monographically, is to write profoundly, it is to write professionally. 1874 COUES *Birds N. W.* Introd. 7 Three families..are treated monographically.

Monographist (mɒ̃nɒ·grăfist). [f. MONOGRAPH or MONOGRAPHY + -IST.] A monographer.

1822 GOOD *Study Med.* III. 198 The ophthalmic monographists, by making every variety of affection a distinct disease, have most unmercifully enlarged the list under this genus. 1847 WEBSTER, *Monographist*, one who writes a monograph [cites *Keith*].

Monography (mɒ̃nɒ·grăfi). [f. Gr. *μόνο-s* MONO- + *γράφ-ειν* to write: see -GRAPHY. In sense 1, it represents mod.L. *monographia* (18th c.), f. *monograph-us* (Linnæus), one who writes a treatise on a single genus or species. Cf. F. *monographie* (1807 in Littré).]

1. = MONOGRAPH 1. (*Obs.* in Natural History applications; but still occasionally applied to a treatise on some special subject in other departments of knowledge.)

1773 G. WHITE *Selborne, To Barrington* 20 Nov., My monography of this little domestic and familiar bird. 1777 *Ibid.* 20 May, A good monography of worms would afford much entertainment and information. 1785 Sir J. E. SMITH in *Mem.* (1832) I. 133 Schreber is writing a monography on the genus *Aster*. 1819 W. LAWRENCE *Lect. Physiol. Zool.* (1822) 22 The best monography we possess in the class Mammalia. 1838 J. G. DOWLING *Eccl. Hist.* iii. § 3. 208 Monographies (if I may be allowed to naturalize an useful word) or treatises on particular branches, have been still more abundant [in Germany] than works on the general history of the church. 1849 R. A. VAUGHAN in *Brit. Q. Rev.* May 307 Schleiermacher .. wrote also monographies on Anaximander .. and Socrates. 1866 MERIVALE *Sallust* Introd. (ed. 2) 15 The *Catilina* and *Jugurtha* are what are denominated in modern times Monographies; i. e. narratives of a detached series of connected events. 1876 FERGUSSON *Hist. Ind. & East. Archit.* III. i. 294 In order to write a complete monography of the Kashmiri style, we ought to be able to trace it very much further back than anything in the previous pages enables us to do.

†**2.** (See quot.) *Obs.*—°

1828–32 WEBSTER, *Monography*, a description drawn in lines without colors. Qu. should not this be *monogram*?

Monogyn (mɒ̃·nɒdʒin). *Bot.* [ad. mod.L. *monogyn-us*: see MONOGYNIA.] (See quot.)

1828–32 WEBSTER, *Monogyn*, in *botany*, a plant having only one style or stigma [cites *Smith*]. 1860 WORCESTER, *Monogyn* (cites *Lindley*).

‖ **Monogynia** (mɒnɒdʒi·niă). *Bot.* [mod.L. (Linnæus), f. *monogyn-us* monogynous (f. Gr. *μόνο-s* MONO- + *γυν-ή* woman, taken in the sense 'pistil'): see -IA.] The first order in each of the first thirteen classes of the Linnæan Sexual System, comprising plants having flowers with only one pistil or stigma. Also used *attrib.* or *adj.*

1760 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* II. iii. (1765) 78. 1785 MARTYN *Rousseau's Bot.* x. (1794) 99. 1845 *Encycl. Metrop.* XXV. 7/1.

Hence **Monogy·nian, Monogy·nic, Monogy·nious** *adjs.* = MONOGYNOUS *a.* 1.

a 1794 Sir W. JONES *Enchanted Fruit* Wks. 1799 VI. 182 Taught..To class by pistil and by stamen, Produce from nature's rich dominion Flow'rs Polyandrian Monogynian. 1891 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Monogynic*, same as *Monogynous*. 1856 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Monogynius*, having one pistil, or one style; ..monogynious.

Monogynist (mɒ̃nɒ·dʒinist). [f. MONOGYN-Y + -IST.] One who practises or is in favour of monogyny.

1895 in *Funk's Stand. Dict.* 1902 in *Cassell's Suppl.*

Monogynœcial (mɒ·nɒdʒəinī·ʃĭăl), *a. Bot.* [f. MONO- + GYNŒCI-UM + -AL.] Applied to a simple fruit formed by the gynœcium of a single flower.

1876 H. J. BALFOUR in *Encycl. Brit.* IV. 150/2 Simple fruits are hence sometimes denominated monogynœcial, as being formed by one gynœcium.

Monogynous (mɒ̃nɒ·dʒinəs), *a.* [f. mod.L. *monogyn-us* (see MONOGYNIA) + -OUS.]

1. *Bot.* Having only one pistil, style, or stigma; belonging to the order *Monogynia*.

1816 P. KEITH *Syst. Phys. Bot.* I. 117 Sometimes the pistil is single or solitary..the flower is [then] said to be monogynous. 1837 — *Bot. Lex.* s. v., Flowers having but a single style are said to be monogynous, as in Primula. 1861 BENTLEY *Man. Bot.* I. iv. § 4. 274.

2. Of or pertaining to monogyny; living in monogyny.

1890 in *Century Dict.* 1906 *19th Cent.* Feb. 223 The Report [on the decline of the birth-rate in N.S.W.]..stigmatises the married state of those who practise it [*sc.* limitation of offspring] as one of 'monogynous prostitution'.

3. *Zool.* 'Having only one female mate' (*Cent. Dict.*).

Monogyny (mɒ̃nɒ·dʒini). [f. MONO- + Gr. *γυνή* woman, wife.] The practice of mating with only one female, or of marrying only one wife. (Corresp. to MONANDRY.)

1876 H. SPENCER *Princ. Sociol.* (1877) I. 698 Monogyny does not fully express the union of one man with one woman.. since the feminine unity is alone indicated by it...Hence monogamy, expressing the singleness of the marriage, may be fitly retained.

Monohalogen (mɒnohæ·lŏdʒen), *a.* [f. MONO- + HALOGEN.] Containing one equivalent of a halogen.

1893 *Proc. Royal Soc.* LIV. 101 On the Ratio of the Specific Heats of the Paraffins and their Monohalogen Derivatives, by J. W. Capstick.

Monohemerous (mɒnohī·mĕrəs), *a. Med.* Also 9 monemerous. [f. mod.L. *monohēmer-a* neut. pl. (ad. Gr. *μονοήμερος*, var. of *μονήμερος* lasting one day only, f. *μόνο-s* MONO- + *ἡμέρ-α* day) + -OUS.] Lasting or existing only one day.

[1693 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Monohemera*, Diseases that are cured in one Day.] 1731 BAILEY, *Monohemerous Diseases*, such as last but one Day, or are cured in a Day. 1856 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Monemeros*, ..lasting or enduring one day.. : monemerous.

Monohydrate (mɒnohəi·drĕt). *Chem.* [See MONO- 2 and HYDRATE.] A hydrate containing one equivalent of water. So **Monohy·drated** *a.*, compounded with one equivalent of water.

1853 URE *Dict. Arts* I. 987 Monohydrated nitric acid. 1854 J. SCOFFERN in *Orr's Circ. Sci., Chem.* 315 Monohydrate of nitric acid. 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem.* (1862) III. 309 The normal or monohydrated monobasic organic acids. 1876 HARLEY *Mat. Med.* (ed. 6) 69 The acid thus obtained is the Monohydrate (HNO_3).

Monohydric (mɒnohəi·drik), *a. Chem.* [See MONO- 2 and HYDRIC.] Having one equivalent of hydrogen in combination. 1856 in MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*

Monohy·drogen. [MONO- 2.] Used *attrib.* to denote compounds with one equivalent of hydrogen.

1869 ROSCOE *Elem. Chem.* xv. (1871) 160 Monohydrogen phosphate.

Monoic (mɒ̃noi·k), *a. Zool. rare.* [ad. mod.L. *monoica* (neut. pl., De Blainville 1825), a. Gr. type **μόνοικος*: see MONŒCIA.] = MONŒCIOUS 2.

1856 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Monoïcus*, ..*Zool.* Applied by Blainville to a sub-Class (*Monoïca*, nom. pl. n.) of the *Paracephalophora*, comprehending those which have the sexes distinct, but in the same individual: monoic. 1882 *Entom. Mag.* Mar. 226 The..evolution of monoic insects.

Monoicous (mɒ̃noi·kəs), *a. Bot.* [f. mod.L. *monoic-us*, F. *monoïque*, irreg. ad. Gr. type **μόνοικος* (see MONŒCIA) + -OUS.] **a.** = MONŒCIOUS 1. Now *rare* or *Obs.* **b.** Applied by Darwin to those 'polygamous' plants which have the three sexual varieties together on the same individual: opposed to *trioicous*.

1822 GOOD *Study Med.* IV. 5 Monoicous plants. 1831 J. DAVIES *Manual Mat. Med.* 154 Flowers greenish, small, monoicous, disposed in spikes. 1863 BERKELEY *Brit. Mosses* 65 Cryphæa, Mohr. Monoicous. 1877 DARWIN *Forms of Fl.* Introd. 12 Of the other or monoicous sub-group of polygamous plants, or those which bear hermaphrodite, male and female flowers on the same individual, the Common Maple (*Acer campestre*) offers a good instance.

Hence **Monoi·cously** *adv.* 1847 [see MONŒCIOUSLY].

Monoid (mɒ̃noid), *a.* (and *sb.*) [ad. Gr. *μονο-ειδ-ής* of one form, uniform, f. *μόνο-s* MONO- + *εἶδ-os* form: see -OID.]

1. *Anc. Prosody.* Composed of feet of one kind.

1890 in *Century Dict.*

2. *Math.* Applied to a surface which possesses a conical point of the highest possible $(n-1)$th order. Also *absol.* or *sb.* = *monoid surface*.

1862 CAYLEY in *Proc. Brit. Assoc., Sections* 3 A cone.. and a monoid surface with the same vertex. 1866 BRANDE & COX *Dict. Sci.* s.v., The cones P and Q are called respectively the superior and inferior cones of the monoid.

Monoïdeism (mɒ̃nɒ,ŏidī·iz'm). [f. MONO- + IDE-A + -ISM.] Concentration of the mind, or fixation of the attention, upon one idea; *esp.* as a form of monomania or a hypnotic condition.

1860 FOWLER *Med. Voc.*, *Mono-ideism*, that artificially induced condition in which the acts of the mind, sensation, and motion, may be completely governed by means of suggestive ideas—the individual being conscious.—*Braid.* 1885 GURNEY & MYERS in *Proc. Soc. Psych. Research* III. 407 It is observed that the mental condition of hypnotised 'subjects' is often one of marked mono-ideism—of strong and one-sided attention. 1891 W. J. GREENSTREET tr. *Guyau's Educ. & Heredity* i. 14 This state has been called monoïdeism, and is found in somnambulists. 1891 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Monoïdeism*, Braid's term for the condition in which mental conditions in one person are governed by ideas suggested by another. 1892 SULLY in Tuke *Dict. Psych. Med.* I. 110/2 Narrowness of interest with its accompanying tendency to monoideism is one fertile source of danger in an age when subdivision and specialisation of work has been carried to an extreme point. 1907 *Athenæum* 2 Mar. 258/1 Monoïdeism in science is always a present peril.

Mono-i·odo-. *Chem.* [See MONO- 2 and IODO-.] Combining form, denoting the presence in a compound of one atom of iodine.

1873 *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 11) 802 Oxyphenols are formed from the corresponding monoiodophenols. 1891 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Monoiodopentane*, same as *Amyl iodide*.

Monok, obs. form of MONK.

Monoklinohedric, var. MONOCLINOHEDRIC.

Monolater (mɒ̃nɒ·lătəɹ). [f. MONOLATRY, after *idolater*.] A worshipper of one god. So **Mono·latrist.**

1900 *Dublin Rev.* July 210 He..declares them to have been 'monolatrists', *i. e.* to have believed in many gods, and worshipped but one, Jehovah. 1905 J. ORR *Problem O. T.* iv. 86 Israel emerges from the dim past as a loose aggregate of polytheists or at least monolaters.

Mono·latrous, *a.* [f. MONOLATRY, after *idolatrous*.] Of or pertaining to monolatry.

1892 MONTEFIORE *Hibbert Lect.* i. 18 A conscious infraction of a known monolatrous law. 1897 R. L. OTTLEY *Aspects O. T.* ii. 69 In its earlier stages the worship of the ordinary Hebrew was not monotheistic but monolatrous.

Monolatry (mɒ̃nɒ·lătri). [f. Gr. *μόνο-s* MONO- + *λατρεία* worship, -LATRY.] The worship of one god, where other gods may be supposed to exist.

1881 W. R. SMITH *Old Test. in Jew. Ch.* x. 273 The religion of the Old Testament is no mere natural variety of Semitic monolatry. 1886 HUXLEY in *19th Cent.* Apr. 495 A worship of one God—monolatry as Wellhausen calls it—which is very different from genuine monotheism. 1892 MONTEFIORE *Hibbert Lect.* i. 11 Monolatry is the worship of one god; monotheism, of the one and only God.

Monolein (mɒ̃nɒu·li,in). *Chem.* [MONO- 2.] An OLEIN containing one equivalent of oleic acid.

1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem.* (1862) III. 278 Monolein.. Diolein..Triolein. 1873 RALFE *Phys. Chem.* 49.

Monoline (mɒ̃nɒ·ləin). [f. MONO- + LINE *sb.*]

1. The inventor's name for one of the printing machines which cast a line at a time. Cf. LINOTYPE.

1902 *Encycl. Brit.* XXXIII. 522/2 The former class [of type-setting and type-casting machines] is exemplified by the Linotype, the Typograph, and the Monoline machines.

2. = MONO-RAIL.

1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 1 Feb. 10/2 A project for constructing a railway between Edinburgh and Glasgow on the monoline principle.

Monolith (mɒ·nŏlĭþ), *sb.* and *a.* Also monolithe. [a. F. *monolithe* adj. and sb., or ad. L. *monolith-us* adj., a. Gr. μονόλιθος made out of one stone, f. μόνο-ς MONO- + λίθος stone.]

A. *sb.* A single block of stone, *esp.* one of notable size, shaped into a pillar or monument.

[1827 G. HIGGINS *Celtic Druids* 214 The monolithoi or single stones.] 1848 *Chamb. Inform. People* I. 433/2 Twenty-four colossal monolithes, representing Indian gods, are placed in separate divisions. 1851 D. WILSON *Preh. Ann.* (1863) I. v. 166 The giant monoliths of Salisbury plain. 1862 R. H. PATTERSON *Ess. Hist. & Art* 411 Several remarkable monoliths, or temples carved out of single rocks. 1875 *Encycl. Brit.* II. 390/2 The obelisks of Egypt are generally huge monoliths of red granite or syenite.

B. *adj.* = MONOLITHIC 1.

1850 LEITCH tr. *C. O. Müller's Anc. Art* § 310 (ed. 2) 352 Monolith colossal statues. 1864 PUSEY *Lect. Daniel* i. (1876) 32 Monarchs who transported a monolith obelisk from Armenia. *a* 1878 SIR G. G. SCOTT *Lect. Archit.* (1879) II. 48 The side doorways were found to have monolith jambs.

Monolithal (mɒ·nŏlĭþăl), *a. rare.* [f. MONOLITH + -AL.] = MONOLITHIC *a.* 1.

1830 MAUNDER *Treas. Knowl.* I. 1847 SMEATON *Builder's Man.* 215 The principal Egyptian buildings were the pyramids, obelisks, labyrinths, monolithal chambers, sphinxes, and temples. 1859 W. H. GREGORY *Egypt* I. 190 The image of the god in his monolithal (made of a single stone) shrine.

Monolithic (mɒnŏlĭ·þĭk), *a.* [f. MONOLITH + -IC.]

1. Formed of a single block of stone; of the nature of a monolith.

1825 FOSBROOKE *Encycl. Antiq.* I. 12 These sanctuaries often consisted of a single excavated block. They are called Monolithic temples. 1849 FREEMAN *Archit.* 101 The Greek column, which, in idea at least, is so essentially monolithic. 1859 TENNENT *Ceylon* II. x. ii. 622 Rows of monolithic pillars, each twenty-six feet high. 1876 FERGUSSON *Hist. Ind. & East. Archit.* IV. ii. 338 There is no douht that their monolithic character is the principal source of the awe and wonder with which they have been regarded.

2. Composed or consisting of monoliths; relating to or characterized by monoliths.

1851 D. WILSON *Preh. Ann.* v. 100 The remarkable monolithic group called The Stones of Stennis. *Ibid.* 103 What may be styled the monolithic era of art.

3. (See quot. 1881.)

1881 YOUNG *Ev. Man his own Mech.* § 1232 It is intended to build the walls in 'monolithic' concrete, that is to say, a wall composed of concrete built up piece-meal which hardens into a solid unbroken mass. 1885 [see BETON]. 1898 *Engineering Mag.* XVI. 131/1 A Large Monolithic Concrete Building. *Ibid.*, A large Monolithic Factory Building.

Monolobite,-lobular,-locular: see MONO- 1.

Monolo·gian. *rare.* [Formed as next + -IAN.] = MONOLOGIST.

1625 MINSHEU *Ductor* (ed. 2) 474 A Monologian, or a Monologue, one that will haue all the talke to himselfe, or one that loues to heare himselfe talke. 1835 *Tait's Mag.* II. 18 Pierre [is] a monologian well worth the listening to.

Monologic (mɒnɒlɒ·dʒĭk), *a. rare.* [f. Gr. μονόλογ-ος (see MONOLOGUE) + -IC. Cf. F. *monologique.*] Pertaining to, or of the nature of, a monologue.

1852 BLACKIE *Stud. Lang.* 27 You will thus make for yourself a sort of speaking practice in the monologic form. 1866 BLACKMORE *Cradock Nowell* liii, A page and a half of mouologic dialogue. 1886 *Academy* 16 Oct. 253/3 A record of her [*sc.* Miss F. Marryat's] 'musical, dramatic, and monologic' triumphs.

Monological (mɒnɒlɒ·dʒĭkăl), *a.* [Formed as prec. + -ICAL.] = MONOLOGIC. Also of a person: Given to monologue or soliloquy.

1823 *New Monthly Mag.* IX. 394/2 [He] appeared not only in his monological entertainments, but also in the drama. 1829 CARLYLE *Misc., Ger. Playw.* (1840) II. 55 Plays, which..are essentially monological. 1834 BECKFORD *Italy* II. 228 In return for the honour of being admitted to this monological dialogue I kept nodding and bowing. 1842 J. STERLING *Ess.* (1848) I. 453 [Tennyson's] *St. Simeon Stylites*, a kind of monological personation of a.. mad ascetic. 1872 O. W. HOLMES *Poet Breakf.-t.* x. 281 King Thomas [*sc.* Carlyle], the last of the monological succession.

Monologist (mɒnɒ·lŏdʒĭst). [f. Gr. μονόλογ-ος (see MONOLOGUE) + -IST.] One who talks in monologue, one who soliloquizes; also, one who monopolizes the conversation. See also MONOLOGUIST.

1711 SHAFTESB. *Charac.* (1737) III. Misc. III. ii. 185 Thus our Monologist, or Self-discoursing Author, in his usual Strain. 1727 BAILEY (vol. II), *Monologist*, one that loves to have all the Talk to himself. 1848 GILFILLAN in *Tait's Mag.* XV. 279 A lecturer, in the common sense of the term, he is not; call him rather a public monologist, talking rather to himself than to his audience. 1882 *Athenæum* No. 2841. 435 When monologist meets monologist mutual admiration rarely results. 1885 E. C. STEDMAN in *Century Mag.* XXIX. 509 The Autocrat..is always acute,—the liveliest of monologists.

b. One who performs monologues.

1858 *Sat. Rev.* 7 Aug. 133 An indifferent troupe of actors can produce an excitement far beyond that which is caused by the pert song or flippant anecdote of the most accomplished monologist. 1892 *Speaker* 30 July 141/2 One prominent comedian and monologist of the Comédie Française.

Monologize (mɒnɒ·lŏdʒəiz), *v. intr.* [Formed as prec. + -IZE.] *intr.* To talk in monologue.

1826 DISRAELI *Viv. Grey* I. i, 'Now who could have told the child that?' monologised mamma, with all a mamma's admiration. 1890 SYMONDS *Mem. C. Gozzi* I. 128 Celio monologised against his mortal foe Morgana. 1899 *Speaker* 2 Dec. 237/2 The characters seem to monologise abstractedly.

Monologue (mɒ·nŏlɒg), *sb.* [a. F. *monologue*, 'one that loues to heare himselfe talke; or talkes very much about very little' (Cotgr.), ad. Gr. μονόλογος speaking alone, f. μόνο-ς MONO- + -λογος speaker, speaking. See -LOGUE.]

†1. One who does all the talking. *Obs.*—°

1625 [see MONOLOGIAN].

2. 'A scene in which a person of the drama speaks by himself' (J.); contrasted with *chorus* and *dialogue*. Also, in modern use, a dramatic composition for a single performer; a kind of dramatic entertainment performed throughout by one person.

1668 DRYDEN *Ess. Dram. Poesy* (Ker) I. 78, I can show.. in *Catiline* and *Sejanus* sometimes thirty or forty lines [of rhyme together], I mean besides the Chorus, or the monologues. 1696 PHILLIPS (ed. 5), *Monologue*, a Dramatick Scene, where only one Actor speaks. 1739 CIBBER *Apol.* (1756) II. 164 The monologues and pageants drawn from place to place on wheels answer exactly to the cart of Thespis. 1845 E. HOLMES *Mozart* 200 The opera began with a monologue. 1872 LIDDON *Elem. Relig.* iv. 132 The true sense of the monologue in Hamlet may be thus summed up. 1883 S. C. HALL *Retrospect* II. 254 It was in monologues that he [Mathews] surpassed all competitors.

transf. 1849 LYTTON *Caxtons* VI. i, Life is a drama, not a monologue.

b. In generalized sense: Literary composition of this nature.

1668 DRYDEN *Ess. Dram. Poesy* (Ker) I. 50 He also gives you an account of himself..in monologue; to which unnatural way of narration Terence is subject in all his plays.

c. A poem, or other non-dramatic composition, in the form of a soliloquy.

1866 *Athenæum* 3 Feb. 175/1 Mr. Robert Buchanan's new volume of poems, 'London Idyls', will consist principally of monologues.

3. A long speech or harangue delivered by one person who is in company or conversation with others; talk or discourse of the nature of a soliloquy.

1859 HELPS *Friends in C.* Ser. II. II. v. 115 Notice the self-contained talker, whose talk is a monologue. 1873 BLACK *Pr. Thule* iii, He was pleasing himself with a series of monologues, interrupted only by his cigar. 1905 A. C. BENSON *Upton Lett.* (1906) 310 He will plunge into a fiery monologue about his ambitions.

Mo·nologue, *v.* [f. prec.] *intr.* To MONOLOGIZE. Hence Mo·nologuing *vbl. sb.*

1834 *Tait's Mag.* I. 367/1 'What, the rectory of ——, if I'll change my coat?' monologues the vicar. 1863 *Not an Angel* I. 140 Miss Mary..monologued the while, after her manner. 1892 *Blackw. Mag.* Aug. 205 Holmes..goes on with his monologuing—if we may coin a word. 1894 G. MOORE *Esther Waters* 41 Feeling that he had secured an appreciative listener, he continued to monologue regarding the wealth and rank his family had formerly held.

Monologuist (mɒ·nŏlɒgĭst). Also -logueist. [f. MONOLOGUE + -IST.] One who talks or performs in monologue; one who delivers monologues.

1865 *Athenæum* 29 July 151/3 The newest of the monologuists is Mr. McCabe. 1866 *Ibid.* 3 Feb. 175/1 Such subjects as 'The Murder Idyl', in which the monologuist is a woman whose husband has been hanged. 1874 W. MATHEWS *Gt. Conversers*, etc. I. 30 The name..would imply that he [Ld. Macaulay] was a monologueist, not a converser. 1901 *Dict. Nat. Biog.* Suppl. I. 317/2 Browning was, as a writer, largely a psychological monologuist.

Monologuize (mɒ·nŏlɒgəiz), *v.* [Formed as prec. + -IZE.] = MONOLOGIZE.

1870 READE *Put yourself*, etc. II. xiii. 185 He kept the hall always going, but did not monologuize. 1885 G. MEREDITH *Diana* xvii, Finding Redworth beside him, he monologuized in his depths. 1886 BESANT *Childr. Gibeon* Prol. 1, Her lips had a habit of silently monologuising.

Monology (mɒnɒ·lŏdʒi). [ad. Gr. μονολογία (f. μονόλογος: see MONOLOGUE).] †a. A monologue. *Obs.* b. The habit of monologizing.

1608 CHAPMAN *Byron's Conspir.* E 3 b, Which the Welch Herrald of their praise, the Cucko Would scarce haue put, in his monology, In iest, and said with reuerence to his merits. 1616 BULLOKAR *Eng. Expos., Monologie*, a speaking still of one thing, a long tale of one matter. 1625 MINSHEU *Ductor* (ed. 2) 474 Monologie, a long tale of little matter, only speech without substance. *a* 1859 DE QUINCEY *Conwers.* Wks. 1860 XIV. 171 Coleridge persisted in monology through his whole life.

Monoma·chic, *a. rare*—1. [ad. Gr. μονομαχικός, f. μονομάχος: see MONOMACHY.] Of the nature of single combat.

a 1610 SIR J. SEMPLE in *Sempill Ballatis* (1872) 246 Thes monomachicke [*printed* -th-] Jarris betuix my selff and the.

Monomachist (mɒnɒ·măkĭst). *rare.* [f. Gr. μονομάχ-ος + -IST.] One who fights in single combat.

1846 DE QUINCEY *Notes Gilfillan's Lit. Portraits* Wks. 1859 XII. 281 With the air of some Titan slinger or Monomachist from Thebes and Troy.

Monomachy (mɒnɒ·măki). [a. F. *monomachie* or ad. L. *monomachia*, a. Gr. μονομαχία, f. μονομάχ-ος, that fights alone, f. μόνο-ς MONO- + μαχ-, μάχεσθαι to fight.] A single combat; a contest between two; a duel.

1582 A. FLEMING (*title*) A Monomachie of Motives in the mind of man. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* II. xix. *heading*, The monomachie betweene Anaxius and Pyrocles. 1618 T. ADAMS *Crucifix* Wks. (1629) 823 Christ after his monomachie or single combate with the Deuill in the Desart, had Angels to attend him. 1624 HEYWOOD *Gunaik.* II. 62 All the monsters and terrours of the earth in single monomachy to overcome. 1649 BP. HALL *Cases Consc.* II. ii. (1650) 83 A monomachie of twelve single combatants on either part. *a* 1770 SMART *Duellist* 38 The morning came—and man to man, The grand monomachy began. 1822 BYRON *Let. to Kinnaird* 6 Feb., The duello, or monomachie. 1885 R. F. BURTON in *Academy* 1 Aug. 69/1 The other [kind of combat] is the monomachy for especial purpose..to decide an important question without shedding the blood of the general.

b. In Latin form.

1624 HEYWOOD *Gunaik.* II. 110 He died in a single monomachia valiantlie by the hand of Achilles. 1845 FORD *Handbk. Spain* II. 604 This monomachia is evidently Oriental. 1903 A. LANG in *Blackw. Mag.* July 46/2 These were the first wounds he received either in battle, siege or the monomachia.

Mo·nomane. [a. F. *monomane*: see next and -MANE.] A monomaniac.

1846 WORCESTER cites *Month. Rev.*

Monomania (mɒnɒmē·niă). [a. mod.L., *monomania*, f. Gr. μόνο-ς MONO- + μανία MANIA; after F. *monomanie* (Esquirol).] A form of insanity in which the patient is irrational on one subject only.

1823 *Quart. Jrnl. For. & Brit. Med.* V. 311 [M. Esquirol's Account of Colony of Maniacs, at Gheel, near Brussels]. Monomania is sometimes successfully treated with neutral salts in aqua graminis. 1833 PRICHARD in *Cycl. Pract. Med.* II. 833 The term monomania, meaning madness affecting one train of thought..has generally been adopted of late times instead of melancholia. 1877 L. O. PIKE in *Encycl. Brit.* VI. 584/2 Kleptomania and homicidal monomania are asserted by medical theorists to be forms of mental aberration. 1883 T. S. CLOUSTON *Clin. Lect. Mental Dis.* 17 The fixed delusional states without excitement or depression come next, the Monomanias.

b. *transf.* in popular use: An exaggerated enthusiasm for or devotion to one subject: a craze (*for*).

1834 *Edin. Rev.* LIX. 43 The epidemic monomania which infected the world so largely during the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. 1849 DICKENS *Dav. Copp.* xvi, I call it quite my monomania, it is such a subject of mine. 1864 KINGSLEY *Rom. & Teut.* iii. (1875) 72 A virtuous youth whose monomania was shooting. 1866 MISS BRADDON *Lady's Mile* xxxiii, That sort of thing is a monomania with very rich people.

Monomaniac (mɒnomē·niăk), *sb.* (*a.*) [f. MONOMANIA: see -MANIAC.] One who suffers from monomania; one who has a monomania or craze.

1833 *Athenæum* 23 Nov. 792 In the year 1793, there was, at Besançon, an idiot—a mono-maniac—a fool. 1838 *Penny Cycl.* XII. 484/2 It is rarely that the mind of the monomaniac is otherwise perfectly sound; there is generally combined with the delusion a morbid state of the moral feelings. 1862 H. AIDÉ *Carr of Carrlyon* I. 167 The old gentleman is a monomaniac on the subject of society. 1889 JESSOPP *Coming of Friars* viii. 322 A small army of wandering monomaniacs..were roaming about London.

b. *adj.* = next.

1836 SIR J. PAGET *Let.* 29 Nov. in *Mem.* v. (1901) 93 He is certainly a sharp fellow, but I should think rather monomaniac on the reflections.

Monomaniacal (mɒ·nomănəi·ăkăl), *a.* [f. MONOMANIA, after *maniacal.*] Pertaining to, characterized by, or afflicted with monomania.

1833 *Blackw. Mag.* XXXIV. 452 He is transformed at the beck of our Monomaniacal Necromancer into a fish. 1845 R. W. HAMILTON *Pop. Educ.* x. (ed. 2) 327 These are the fanatics to whom this subject [*sc.* education] is a monomaniacal idea. 1857 DICKENS *Lett.* 13 July, He retired from the stage early in life (having a monomaniacal delusion that he was old). 1897 S. S. SPRIGGE *Life T. Wakley* xxv. 230 Wakley was not monomaniacal on medical reform.

Monoma·nious, *a. rare*—°. [f. MONOMANIA + -OUS.] Monomaniacal.

1872 LATHAM, *Monomanious*, monomaniacal. *Colloquially* it is, probably, the commoner word, though avoided by writers who study purity.

Monomastigate: see MONO- 1.

Monome (mɒ·nōm), *sb.* and *a.* ? *Obs.* [a. F. *monôme*, f. MONO- in imitation of *binôme*: see BINOMIAL.] = MONOMIAL.

a 1719 HARRIS (J.). 1829 SANG in *Philos. Mag.* VI. 262 The Primitives and Derivatives of the Product of two Monome Functions. 1845 LARDNER in *Encycl. Metrop.* I. 527/1 Monomes are said to be homogeneous when they are of the same degree.

Monomeniscous (mɒnomĭ·nĭskəs), *a.* [f. MONO- + MENISCUS + -OUS.] Applied to those eyes, in invertebrates, that have only one lens.

1883 LANKESTER & BOURNE in *Q. Jrnl. Microsc. Sci.* XXIII. 196 The closely-set groups of monomeniscous eyes of Myriapods. 1888 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* 525 With the exception of the lateral eyes of *Limulus*,.. Arachnidan eyes are always monomeniscous.

Monoment, obs. form of MONUMENT *sb.*

Monomerosomatous: see MONO- 1.

Monomerous (mɒnɒ·mĕrəs), *a.* [f. mod.L. *monomer-us* (ad. Gr. μονομερής, f. μόνο-ς MONO- + μέρ-ος part) + -OUS.] a. *Ent.* Consisting of only one member or joint. b. *Bot.* Applied to flowers having one member in each whorl.

1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* IV. 326 Monomerous (*Monomerus*). When the trunk has no suture or segment. *Ibid.* 378 *Tarsi* mostly trimerous, rarely dimerous or monomerous. 1880 GRAY *Struct. Bot.* VI. § 2. 176 Terms..compounded of the Greek numerals prefixed to the word meaning

parts or members, as *Monomerous*, for the case of a flower of one member of each.

Monometallic (mɒnɒmɪtæ·lik), *a.* [f. MONO- + METALLIC, after *bimetallic*.]

1. Pertaining to, involving, or using a standard of currency based upon one metal.

1877 [see BIMETALLIC]. 1878 *N. Amer. Rev.* CXXVII. 130 A mono-metallic basis of gold. 1879 *Sussex Daily News* 14 June 5/1 England is what is called monometallic, that is, she bases her currency on one metal, gold. 1890 *Times* 4 Jan. 9/2 If the world became monometallic on a silver basis.

2. *Chem.* (See quot.)

1905 G. M. GOULD *Dict. New Med. Terms, Monometallic*, 1. containing one atom of a metal in a molecule. 2. capable of replacing one atom of hydrogen in an acid. 3. consisting of one metal.

Monometallism (mɒnɒme·tălizm). [f. prec.: see -ISM.] The monometallic system or standard of currency.

1879 *Blackw. Mag.* Aug. 232 British statesmen of all parties..have united in extolling the advantages of 'monometallism' in the form of a single gold standard. 1881 *World* 11 May 6/1 The only alternatives were universal monometallism by the adoption of gold, or a convention among the nations binding each other to use silver and gold equally at certain fixed values.

Hence **Monome·tallist**, one who advocates or favours monometallism. Also *attrib.*

1876 *N. Amer. Rev.* CXXVI. 163 The mono-metalists denounce it for demonetizing the best of the two metals. 1885 *Atlantic Monthly* Apr. 448/2 Monometallists and bimetallists, business men and bankers, are assaulting the dangerous silver legislation. 1886 *Contemp. Rev.* May 622 The ever-growing scarcity of gold..was remarked..also by the monometallist Economist.

Monometer (mɒ̆nɒ·mɪtəɹ). *Pros.* [a. L. *monometer*, a. Gr. *μονόμετρος*, f. *μόνο-ς* MONO- + *μέτρ-ον* METRE.] A line consisting of one 'metre'.

1847 in WEBSTER. 1870 R. C. JEBB *Sophocles' Electra* (ed. 2) 141/1 Dochmiac monometer. 1900 H. W. SMYTH *Grk. Melic Poets* 248 The refrain is an iambic monometer, which was often used in exclamations.

Monomethyl (mɒnɒme·pil). *Chem.* [MONO- 2.] Used *attrib.* to denote organic compounds in which one equivalent of methyl takes the place of one of hydrogen. Also **Monome·thylated, -methy·lic** *adjs.* in same sense.

1869 ROSCOE *Elem. Chem.* (1871) 340 Mono-methyl phosphine. 1880 FRISWELL in *Jrnl. Soc. Arts* XXVIII. 444 Dimethylaniline..free from unaltered aniline, and containing only 3 per cent. of the monomethylated compound. 1902 WEBSTER Suppl., *Monomethylic*.

Monometric (mɒnɒme·trik), *a.* [f. Gr. *μόνο-ς* MONO- + *μέτρ-ον* measure (see METRE *sb.*[1]) + -IC.]

1. *Cryst.* = ISOMETRIC 3.

1837 DANA *Min.* 348 Primary form: monometric. 1868 *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 10) 288 The monometric, regular, or cubic system.—The crystals of this division have three equal axes, all placed at right angles to each other.

2. Written in one metre.

1892 *Century Mag.* June 185 Its serene verse, impressive even in the monometric dialogue.

Monometrical (mɒnɒme·trikăl), *a.* [f. MONOMETER + -ICAL.] Pertaining to or consisting of a monometer or monometers. 1882 in OGILVIE.

Monomial (mɒ̆nō·ʉmiăl), *sb.* and *a.* [irreg. f. MONO- after *binomial*. Cf. MONOME and MONONOMIAL.]

1. *Algebra.* a. *sb.* An expression consisting of one term only.

1706 PHILLIPS (ed. 6), *Monomial*, in *Algebra*, a Magnitude or Quantity of one Name, or of one single Term. 1854 J. R. YOUNG in *Orr's Circ. Sci., Math. Sci.* 209 The square of a monomial is itself a monomial. 1866 BRANDE & COX *Dict. Sci.* etc. s. v., Thus *a*, 2 *ab*, 3 *acx*[2] are monomials.

b. *adj.* Consisting of one term only.

1801 *Monthly Rev.* XXXV. 471 Formation of the powers of monomial quantities. 1854 J. R. YOUNG in *Orr's Circ. Sci., Math. Sci.* 234 When the surd..is monomial. 1902 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIX. 180/2 Sarrau's Monomial Formula is much employed, in giving the muzzle velocity.

2. Applied to a term consisting of one word only.

1884 *Jrnl. Nerv. Dis.* XI. 452 Professor Wilder urges the adoption of technical, brief, monomial terms. 1885 B. G. WILDER *Ibid.* XII. 272 Most of the names selected or introduced by me consist of a single word each; they are monomials, or better, mononyms.

Monono·mian, *a.* [f. MONO- after *antinomian*.] Recognizing or based upon one law.

c 1810 COLERIDGE *Lit. Rem.* (1838) III. 307 When Jeremy Taylor escapes from the Mononomian Romaism, which netted him in his too eager recoil from the Antinomian boar.

Monomorphic (mɒnɒmɔ̄·ɹfik), *a.* [Formed as next + -IC.] = next.

1880 WEBSTER Suppl. 1894–1900 G. M. GOULD *Dict. Med.* (ed. 5), *Monomorphic*, in biology: (*a*) applied to a collection of individuals, exhibiting similarity or identity of form; (*b*) applied to species in which the same forms recur one after another with comparatively insignificant individual character. 1895 *Cambr. Nat. Hist.* V. 498 This species [of Hymenoptera] is said to be monomorphic.

Monomorphous (mɒnɒmɔ̄·ɹfəs), *a.* [f. Gr. *μόνο-ς* MONO- + *μορφ-ή* form + -OUS.] Having only one form; exhibiting similarity of form throughout its various stages of development.

1839 WESTWOOD *Mod. Classif. Insects* I. 17 In the Monomorphous division..the pupa continues active. 1874 LUBBOCK *Wild Flowers* ii. 37 We find monomorphous and heteromorphous species in the same genus. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 472 The features of the eruption, whether monomorphous or polymorphous..are..all characteristic.

Hence **Monomo·rphism**, the condition of being monomorphous.

1863 WALSH in *Proc. Entom. Soc. Philad.* II. 223 Monomorphism is the rule; Dimorphism is the exception.

Monomyarian (mɒnɒmə̆i·ē·riăn), *a.* and *sb.* [f. mod.L. *Monomyari-a* n. pl. (f. Gr. *μόνο-ς* MONO- + *μῦ-ς* muscle) + -AN.] A. *adj.* = MONOMYARY *a.*

1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVII. 111/1 Oysters, or Ostraceans, a family of monomyiairian [*sic* !] conchifers. 1851 WOODWARD *Mollusca* 48 The monomyarian bivalves lie habitually on one side. 1862 BURTON *Bk. Hunter* (1863) 2 If you make an allusion to monomyarian malacology, it will not naturally be supposed to have reference to the cooking of oyster sauce.

B. *sb.* = MONOMYARY *sb.*

1837 *Penny Cycl.* VII. 433/2 The common oyster will serve as an example of the Monomyarians. 1881 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* V. 232 We may..notice in the valve of the Monomyarian a simple unbroken line.

So **Monomya·rious** *a.*

1852 FORBES in *Edin. New Philos. Jrnl.* LII. 72 Monomyarious Lamellibranchiata.

Monomyary (mɒnɒmə̆·ări), *a.* and *sb.* [See prec. and -ARY.]

A. *adj.* Belonging to the group *Monomyaria* of bivalves, having only one adductor muscle.

1835–6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 695/2 The family of monomyary Conchifers. 1872 NICHOLSON *Palæont.* 218 In the Monomyary Bivalves it is the posterior adductor which remains, and the anterior adductor is absent.

B. *sb.* A bivalve of the group *Monomyaria*.

1842 BRANDE *Dict. Sci.* etc., *Monomyaries*, all those bivalves or conchifers which have only one adductor muscle. 1851 WOODWARD *Mollusca* 26 The valves of the oyster (and other monomyaries) are connected by a single muscle.

Mononei·rist. [f. Gr. *μόν-ος* MON(O)- + *ὄνειρος* dream.] A person who has never dreamed but once.

1762–71 WALPOLE *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1786) V. 100 It seems he had never dreamed before, and Thoresby quotes Mr. Locke for another mononeirist.

Mononeuran, -neurous: see MONO- 1.

Monongahe·la. *U.S.* (See quot. 1859.)

1859 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer., Monongahela.* A river of Pennsylvania, so called, gave its name to the rye whiskey of which large quantities were produced in its neighbourhood, and indeed to American whiskey in general. 1863 DICEY *Federal St.* I. 157 Where the cigar-case was always ready, and the flask of monongahela was always full.

Mononitrate (mɒnɒnəi·trḗt). *Chem.* [MONO- 2.]

1856 G. GORE in *Orr's Circ. Sci., Pract. Chem.* 56 The mononitrate is formed by dissolving bismuth to saturation in warm dilute nitric acid.

Mononitro- (mɒnɒnəi·trɒ). *Chem.* [See MONO- 2 and NITRO-.] Used to denote organic compounds in which one equivalent of the radical NO_2 takes the place of one atom of hydrogen.

1869 ROSCOE *Elem. Chem.* (1871) 421 Mononitro-naphthalin. 1873 *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 11) 765 Mononitrotoluene. *Ibid.* 766 The mononitroxylenes are heavy oils. 1891 *Syd. Soc. Lex., Mononitrocellulose*, $C_6H_9(NO_2)O_5$, the chief result of the action of cold nitric acid of moderate strength on cotton.

Mononomial (mɒnɒnō·ʉmiăl), *a.* and *sb.* Intended as a more correct form of MONOMIAL.

1844 DE QUINCEY *Logic Pol. Ec.* Pref. 9 Consequently, whilst 'natural price' (the contradiction of 'market price') is always a mononomial, price, founded on the relation of Supply to Demand, must always be a binomial. 1873 F. HALL *Mod. Eng.* vi. 175 *note*, Then there is *dynameter*, with the *mononomial* of the mathematicians,..slavishly copied from the French, for *dynamometer* and *mononomial*.

Mononuclear (mɒnɒniū·klĭăɹ), *a.* (*sb.*) [f. MONO- + NUCLEUS + -AR.] Having one nucleus.

b. *sb.* A mononuclear cell.

1886 tr. *Hueppe's Bact. Investig.* 68 Large mononuclear cells. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 818 The large mononuclear leucocytes. 1904 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 10 Sept. 583 These cells are supposed to be transitional between the large mononuclear and the polymorphonuclear neutrophiles.

So **Mononu·cleated** *a.* = MONONUCLEAR.

1890 *Q. Jrnl. Microsc. Sci.* XXX. 490 Large mononucleated cells are seen lying scattered between the lymphocytes. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 117 Round mononucleated cells with fairly abundant protoplasm.

Mononym (mɒ·nɒ̆nim). [f. Gr. *μόνο-ς* MONO- + *ὄνυμα* name.] A term consisting of one word only.

1884 COUES in *Auk* Oct. 321. 1889 [see POLYONYM 3]. 1895 B. G. WILDER in *Buck's Handbk. Med. Sci.* IX. 100/1 It has now become a serious question which of these short mononyms shall be employed.

Hence **Mononymic** (mɒnɒni·mik) *a.*, consisting of a mononym or mononyms; **Mononymy** (mɒ̆nɒ·nimi), a mononymic system; **Mononymize** (mɒ̆nɒ·niməiz) *v.*, to convert into a mononym; whence **Mononymiza·tion.**

1872 J. W. DUNNING in *Entom. Monthly Mag.* VIII. 274 In a mononymic system, we should require as many separate names as there are objects to be named. 1885 B. G. WILDER in *Jrnl. Nerv. Dis.* XII. 272 This feature of mononymy particularly characterizes the terms which [etc.]. 1889 *Buck's Handbk. Med. Sci.* VIII. 525/1 *note*, A polyonymic adjective .. may be mononymized, by selecting a main adjective and combining it with a prefix. *Ibid.* 525/2 *note*, The desired mononymization is best attained by simply dropping the superfluous genitive [in *lorcular Herophili*].

Monoou·sian, -ious, *adjs. rare.* [f. eccl. Gr. *μονοούσι-ος* (f. *μόνο-ς* MONO- + *οὐσί-α* essence) + -AN, -OUS.] Of one substance.

1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* I. iv. § 36. 611 Athanasius.. disclaimeth a monoousian Trinity, as Epiphanius did before a tautoousian. *Ibid.* 620 According to Athanasius, the Three divine Hypostases, though not monoousious, but homoousious only, are really but one God.

Mono-oxy-: see MONOXY-.

Monopa·lmitin. *Chem.* [MONO- 2.] The lowest in the series of palmitates of glyceryl: see PALMITIN.

1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem.* III. 278 Monopalmitin..Dipalmitin..Tripalmitin. 1873 RALFE *Phys. Chem.* 48.

Monopathic (mɒnɒpæ·pik), *a.* [f. next + -IC.] Affecting one organ or function.

[1856 MAYNE *Expos. Lex., Monopathia*, term for a single suffering of disease. *Monopathicus*, of or belonging to *Monopathia*: monopathic.] 1890 *Century Dict.* 1891 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

Monopathy (mɒ̆nɒ·păpi). [ad. mod.L. *monopathia* or Gr. *μονοπάθεια* (in sense 2): see MONO- and -PATHY.]

†1. Solitary suffering. *Obs.*

1654 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 31 Every one calculateth his Nativity..by crying at his Birth, not comming only from the Bodies Monopathy, or sole suffering by change of its warme Quarters; but..from Sympathy with the divining Soule.

2. A disease or disorder affecting only one organ or function (Ogilvie 1882).

Monoped (mɒ·nɒ̆ped). Also -pede. [f. MONO- + L. *ped-*, *pēs* foot.] A creature having only one foot. Also *adj.*

1827 J. WILSON *Noct. Ambr.* Wks. 1855 I. 319 Any one single thing in this world.., rational or irrational, monoped, hiped, or quadruped. 18.. *Even. Star* 24 Dec., The apparent monoped. 1891 *Syd. Soc. Lex., Monopede*, a monstrosity in which the two lower limbs are fused into one.

Monopersonal: see MONO- 1.

Monopetalous (mɒnɒpe·tăləs), *a.* Also 7 -ose. [f. mod.L. *monopetal-us* + -OUS: see MONO- and PETAL.] Of a flower: Having the corolla in one piece or the petals united so as to form a tube. (Called also *gamopetalous* and *sympetalous*.)

1693 *Phil. Trans.* XVII. 762 The Flowers come out in Clusters, are monopetalose, with five *Laciniæ* or Incisures. 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Monopetalous Flowers*.. are..all of one piece. 1783 DAVIDSON in *Phil. Trans.* LXXIV. 455 The corolla is monopetalous. 1839 LINDLEY *Introd. Bot.* I. ii. 167. 1877–84 F. E. HULME *Wild Fl.* p. vi, Corolla rotate, monopetalous, five-cleft, tube very short.

Monophagize (mɒ̆nɒ·fădʒəiz), *v.* [f. Gr. *μονο-φάγ-ος* (see next) + -IZE.] *intr.* To eat alone.

1854 BADHAM *Halieut.* 518 Whereas the glutton might sometimes munch and monophagize in solitude.

Monophagous (mɒ̆nɒ·făgəs), *a.* [f. Gr. *μονο-φάγος* that eats alone: see MONO- and -PHAGOUS.] Eating only one kind of food.

1868 BREWER *Dict. Phrase & Fable, Monophagous*, the eater of one sort of food only. 1879 tr. *Semper's Anim. Life* 51 A very conspicuous contrast exists .. between Monophagous animals..and Polyphagous creatures. 1881 E. R. LANKESTER in *Nature* 3 Mar. 406/1 Monophagous and polyphagous animals are distinguished.

So †**Monopha·gian**, †**Mo·nophague** (see quot.).

1625 MINSHEU *Ductor* (ed. 2) 474 A Monophagian, or Monophague, one that eats his meat alone without companie, or eats only of one kinde of meat.

Monophagy (mɒ̆nɒ·fădʒi). [ad. Gr. *μονο-φαγία* eating alone: see MONO- and -PHAGY.]

1. Eating alone.

1658 PHILLIPS, *Monophagy*, an eating alone, or of one kind of meat. 1872 DASENT *Three to One* II. 250 Monophagy makes a man melancholy and unsocial.

2. The eating of only one kind of food.

1625 MINSHEU *Ductor* (ed. 2) 474 Monophagie, a meale made with one kinde of meat. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr., Monophagie*, a meal made of, or a living alwayes with, one kind of meat. 1879 tr. *Semper's Anim. Life* 56 Monophagy in animals is often connected with the occurrence of special organs.

Monophane, -phanous: see MONO- 1.

Monophase (mɒ·nɒfḗ·ɪz), *a. Electr.* [f. MONO- + PHASE 3.] Exhibiting a single phase: cf. *polyphase*. Also **Monopha·sic** *a.*

1900 *Nature* 26 July 290/2 So producing a monophasic variation of considerable E.M.F. 1902 L. BELL in *Encycl. Brit.* XXXI. 888/2 Monophase Induction Motors closely resemble the polyphase motors in construction, but have only a single-phase winding in the primary.

Monophone (mɒ·nɒfōun). *rare.* [f. Gr. *μόνο-ς* MONO- + *φωνή* sound.]

1. (See quot.)

1891 R. L. GARNER in *New Rev.* Nov. 429, I have found it necessary to coin a new word to describe the character of their [*sc.* monkeys'] speech, and as each idea seems to be couched in a single word of one syllable and nearly, indeed of one letter, I have called it a monophone.

2. = HOMOPHONE.

1891 *Teachers' Aid* 27 Jan. 311 A list of spelling, prefixes, affixes, and roots, with a few monophones, is all it contains.

Monophonic (mɒnɒfɒ·nik), *a. Mus.* [Formed as prec. + -IC.] = HOMOPHONIC 1, 2.

1885 *Cassell's Encycl. Dict.* 1895 *Funk's Stand. Dict.*

Monophonous (mɒ̆nɒ·fŏnəs), *a. rare.* [Formed as MONOPHONE + -OUS.]

1. Of a musical instrument: Producing only one note at a time.

1878 J. HULLAH in *Grove's Dict. Mus.* I. 47 An air is a composition for a single voice or any monophonous instrument.

2. = HOMOPHONOUS.

1869 J. L. NEVINS *China* xiv. 197 In our language, these monophonous words are so few that the other words in the sentence clearly fix the meaning.

Monophony (mǫ̃nǫ̃·fŏni). *Mus.* [Formed as MONOPHONE + -Y.] = MONODY. 1890 *Century Dict.*

Monophote (mǫ·nǫfōt), *a.* [f. Gr. *μόνο-ς* MONO- + *φωτ-*, *φῶς* light.]

1. Epithet of an electric arc-lamp regulator (see quot.). Also **Monophotal** *a.* (Funk's *Stand. Dict.* 1895).

1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl., *Monophote Regulator*, a voltaic-arc regulator adapted to but a single light on a circuit: as distinguished from *polyphote* regulator.

2. *Monophote lamp* = HOLOPHOTE.

1893 SLOANE *Electr. Dict.* 321 *Lamp, Holophote*... Synonym—Monophote Lamp.

Monophthalmic (mǫnǫfθæ·lmik), *a.* [f. Gr. *μονόφθαλμ-ος* (f. *μόνο-ς* MONO- + *ὀφθαλμός* eye) + -IC.] One-eyed.

1857 J. W. DONALDSON *Chr. Orthod.* 356 The belief in Cyclopian or monophthalmic deities. 1865 *Sat. Rev.* 16 Sept. 355/2 St. Jerome was equally explicit about the existence of the Phœnix and monophthalmic men.

Monophthong (mǫ·nǫfθǫŋ). [ad. Gr. *μονόφθογγ-ος* adj., f. *μόνο-ς* MONO- + *φθόγγος* sound.] A single vowel sound. Also *attrib.*

1620 T. GRANGER *Div. Logike* 303 Syllables of one letter, that is, euery vowell, Monophthongues. 1776 CAMPBELL *Philos. Rhet.* (1801) I. 219 An equal mixture of consonants with soft and monophthong vowels. 1783 J. BEATTIE *Diss.* 266 *Eau* in *beau* is as truly a monophthong as the interjection O. 1885 E. SIEVERS in *Encycl. Brit.* XVIII. 782/2 The sound of the so-called long *a* in *make, paper*, &c., although once a monophthong, is now pronounced as a diphthong. 1888 SWEET *Eng. Sounds* 22 The levelling of the two elements of a diphthong under a monophthong.

Hence **Monophthongal** (mǫnǫfθǫ·ŋgăl) *a.*, consisting of a monophthong; **Monophtho·nging** *vbl. sb.* = MONOPHTHONGIZATION.

1783 J. BEATTIE *Diss.* 266 Grammarians..speak of triphthongs, or three monophthongal sounds coalescing in one syllable. 1863 A. M. BELL *Princ. Speech* 123 The Scottish dialect, in which the monophthongal A is a very common vowel. 1894 G. DUNN in *Class. Rev.* Mar. 94 In general.. diphthongs have two monophthongal correlates. Thus: eu : ū : ŭ. 1894 F. J. CURTIS *Invest. Rimes Clariodus* 52 The monophthonging of *ai* was of too old a date to allow us to suppose that [etc.].

Monophthongize (mǫnǫfθǫ·ŋgəiz), *v.* [f. MONOPHTHONG + -IZE.] *trans.* To convert into a monophthong. Hence **Monophthongiza·tion.**

1880 SWEET in *Trans. Philol. Soc.* 158 That unaccented (æi) underwent a gradual approximation of its elements, ending in monophthongization and shortening. 1885 *Amer. Jrnl. Philol.* VI. 420 Cases claimed as examples of the monophthongization of *ει*. *Ibid.* 435 A monophthongized diphthong. 1904 *Expositor* Apr. 313 That Boeotian monophthongizing of the diphthongs.

Monophyletic (mǫnǫfəile·tik), *a.* [f. Gr. *μόνο-ς* MONO- + *φυλετικ-ός*, f. *φυλέτης* tribesman, f. *φυλή* tribe.] Pertaining to one family or race or to descent from a single prototypal form.

1874 *Q. Jrnl. Microsc. Sci.* XIV. 247 Monophyletic stem-structure of the Animal Kingdom. 1875 tr. *Schmidt's Desc. & Darw.* 325 The so-called monophyletic hypothesis, according to which the different families of organisms are derived from a single primordial form. 1879 tr. *Haeckel's Evol. Man* I. 247 My Gastraea Theory, on which I base the monophyletic genealogy of the animal kingdom.

Monophyllous (mǫnǫfi·ləs), *a.* [f. Gr. *μονό-φυλλ-ος* (f. *μόνο-ς* MONO- + *φύλλον* leaf) + -OUS.] Of a calyx: Consisting of one leaf.

1746 HILL in *Phil. Trans.* XLIV. 63 This Ring is truly a monophyllous undulated Calyx. 1830 LINDLEY *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 216 Calyx monophyllous, divided.

Monophyodont (mǫnǫfəi·ǫdǫnt), *a.* (*sb.*) *Zool.* [f. Gr. *μόνο-ς* MONO- + *φύ-ειν* to generate + *ὀδοντ-*, *ὀδούς* tooth.] **a.** *adj.* Having only one set of teeth. Said also of the teeth.

1849–52 OWEN in *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* IV. 901/2 The Monophyodont character of the Cetacea. 1875 BLAKE *Zool.* 47 The Cetacea are either toothless or monophyodont. 1890 FOTHERGILL *Zool. Types & Classif.* 179 Edentata. Teeth ..are monophyodont, rootless, and without enamel.

b. *sb.* A monophyodont animal.

1849–52 OWEN in *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* IV. 901/2 The 'Monophyodonts', or those that generate a single set of teeth. 1888 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* 363.

Monophysite (mǫ̃nǫ·fisəit), *sb.*(*a.*) *Eccl. Hist.* [ad. eccl.L. *Monophysīta*, a. eccl.Gr. *Μονοφυσῖτής*, f. *μόνο-ς* MONO- + *φύσ-ις* nature: see -ITE[1] 1 a.] A heretic who believes that there is only one nature in the person of Jesus Christ.

The bodies of Christians now professing this belief are the Coptic, Armenian, Abyssinian, and Jacobite churches.

1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 272 The Acephali and Monosyphites [*sic*]. 1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.*, *Monophysites*, a general name given to all those sectaries in the Levant, who only own one nature in Jesus Christ. The Monophysites, however, properly so called, are the followers of Severus, and Petrus Fullensis. 1788 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xlvii. IV. 591 Under the rod of persecution, the Nestorians and Monophysites degenerated into rebels and fugitives. 1861 J. G. SHEPPARD *Fall Rome* xi. 587 Pernicious heresies, like that of the Monophysites in Egypt. 1875 BOULTBEE *Theol. Ch. Eng.* 20 Nor can the human nature be converted into the divine, as the Entychians and other monophysites taught.

b. *attrib.* or *adj.* = next.

1788 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xlvii. IV. 563 The *monophysite* doctrine (one incarnate nature) was rigorously preached in the churches of Egypt and the monasteries of the East. *Ibid.* 608 Severus, the Monophysite patriarch of Antioch. 1861 J. G. SHEPPARD *Fall Rome* xi. 608 The Monophysite heretics..were cruelly persecuted by the orthodox Greeks. 1882 *Century Mag.* XXIII. 851 Those old fears about lapsing into the Monophysite heresy. 1905 *Expositor* Apr. 261 Christianity in its Nestorian or Monophysite form.

Monophysitic (mǫnǫfisi·tik), *a.* [f. prec. + -IC.] That is a Monophysite; pertaining to or characteristic of Monophysites or their heresy. So **Monophysi·tical** *a.* (Ogilvie *Suppl.* 1855).

1823 ROSCOE tr. *Sismondi's Lit. Eur.* (1846) I. ii. 51 The Nestorians..massacred seven or eight thousand of their orthodox or monophysitic adversaries. 1893 E. K. MITCHELL tr. *Harnack's Outl. Hist. Dogma* 299 Origen, who had many sympathizers among the monophysitic monks.

Monophysitism (mǫ̃nǫ·fisəitiz'm). [f. MONOPHYSITE + -ISM.] The belief of the Monophysites.

1837 *Pop. Encycl.* V. 37/1 In 483, the Acephali..had already seceded, and formed the real strength of Monophysitism. 1899 *Dublin Rev.* Jan. 83 The extension of the Coptic Rite in Egypt favoured the spread of monophysitism.

Monoplacid : see MONO- 1.

Monoplast (mǫ·nǫplæst). *Biol.* [f. MONO- + -PLAST.] An organism consisting of a single cell. Hence **Monopla·stic** *a.*

1877 E. R. LANKESTER in *Q. Jrnl. Microsc. Sci.* XVII. 403 The Monoplast = Ovum. *Ibid.* The monoplastic phase of individual development. 1879 STORMONTH *Man. Sci. Terms, Monoplast*, a naked non-vasicular body; an animal cell destitute of envelope. *Monoplastic*, having one primary form.

Monoplastid (mǫnǫplæ·stid). [f. MONO- + PLASTID.] = MONOPLAST. Also *attrib.*

1889 VINES in *Nature* 24 Oct. 621 Weissmann appears to have fully established, that the body of unicellular organisms (monoplastides)..is immortal at any rate potentially. 1894–1900 G. M. GOULD *Dict. Med.* (ed. 5), *Monoplastid.* 1895 MOORE in *Sci. Progress* June 323 There are many monoplastid forms with affinities among the polyplastids.

‖ **Monoplegia** (mǫnǫplī·dʒiă). *Path.* [mod.L., f. Gr. *μόνο-ς* MONO- + *-πληγία*, *πληγή* stroke.] Paralysis of one part or limb only. Hence **Monople·gic** *a.*, pertaining to or affected with monoplegia.

1890 *Century Dict.* 1893 W. R. GOWERS *Man. Dis. Nerv. Syst.* (ed. 2) II. 437 A monoplegia affecting the leg only. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 666 Paralyses of the limbs in epidemic cerebro-spinal meningitis..may be of very various type (hemiplegic, paraplegic, monoplegic).

Monopleurid, -pleurobranch, -pneumonian, etc.: see MONO- 1.

Monopode (mǫ·nǫpōd), *sb.* and *a.* [ad. L. *monopodius*, a. Gr. **μονοπόδιος* = *μονόπους* (-ποδ-), f. *μόνο-ς* MONO- + *πούς* foot. Cf. F. *monopode.*]

1. A creature having only one foot; *spec.* one of a race of men fabled to have only one foot, with which they shaded themselves from the heat of the sun (see Pliny *Nat. Hist.* VII. ii).

1816 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* xxii. (1818) II. 277 Some [larvæ], a kind of monopods, have only one of such [pediform] prominences. 1864 LOWELL *Fireside Trav., At Sea* 172 The monopodes, sheltering themselves from the sun beneath their single umbrella-like foot.

2. = MONOPODIUM. 1890 in *Century Dict.*

3. As *adj.* Having only one foot.

(Cf. L. *monopodium* one-footed table.)

1890 in *Century Dict.* 1896 *Archæol. (Inst.) Jrnl.* LIII. 42 Monopode tables for the reception of oblations.

Monopodial (mǫnǫpōu·diăl), *a.* [f. MONOPODIUM + -AL.] Pertaining to or of the nature of a monopodium; characterized by having a single and continuous axis from which lateral shoots are produced. Hence **Monopo·dially** *adv.*

1876 BALFOUR in *Encycl. Brit.* IV. 93/2 In monopodial branchings the primary axis may continue to develop more strongly than its lateral axes. *Ibid.* 125/1 In Myosotis (Forget-me-not) the axis is not a sympodium, but the branching takes place monopodially. 1880 GRAY *Struct. Bot.* iii. § 3. 55 *note*, A stem formed by the continued development of a terminal bud is monopodial or a monopodium.

‖ **Monopodium** (mǫnǫpōu·diŭm). *Bot.* [mod.L., f. Gr. *μόνο-ς* MONO- + *ποδ-*, *πούς* foot.] A single axis which extends at the apex producing in succession lateral structures beneath it.

1875 BENNETT & DYER tr. *Sachs' Bot.* 156. 1876 BALFOUR in *Encycl. Brit.* IV. 93/2.

Monopodous (mǫ̃nǫ·pŏdəs), *a. rare.* [f. Gr. *μόνο-ς* MONO- + *ποδ-*, *πούς* foot + -OUS.] One-footed. 1884 *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 307/1 Monopodous storks and impossible parrots.

Monopody (mǫ̃nǫ·pŏdi). *Pros.* [ad. mod.L. **monopodia*, a. Gr. *μονοποδία*, f. *μόνο-ς* MONO- + *ποδ-*, *πούς* foot.] A measure consisting of a single foot. 1844 [see DIPODY].

Hence **Monopodic** (mǫnǫpǫ·dik) *a.*, consisting of or constituting a monopody. 1890 in *Century Dict.*

† **Mo·nopole**[1]. *Obs.* Also 6 money polde, monopolle, monapole, 7 monopol. [a. OF. *monopole* or ad. late L. *monopōlium* MONOPOLY.]

1. = MONOPOLY.

a 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VI* 158 Diners other crymes were layde to his charge, as..gathering together and making a money polde of offices, fees, wardes, and fermes. 1596 BP. W. BARLOW *Three Serm.* ii. 49 The intollerable licenses of Monopoles and Solesales. 1596 HARINGTON *Metam. Ajax* 97 Now for my monapole, I would aske but this trifling sute. 1609 J. DAVIES *Humour's Heav. on Earth* (Grosart) 35 Some to gaine Some Monopole, which then could not be got.

2. An emporium. *lit.* and *fig.*

(Cf. Gr. *μονοπώλιον* trading mart enjoying a monopoly.)

1600 W. WATSON *Decacordon* (1602) 61 Merchants .. trafficke..from one Mart, hauen, promontorie, or Monopole to another. *Ibid.* 237 [Father Parsons is] a Monopole of all mischiefe. 1610 BOYS *Wks.* (1629) 454 The deuill..begat insolent pride, which is a monopol of mischiefe.

3. An unlawful convention; a conspiracy.

1549 *Compl. Scot.* xvi. 140 The ciuil lauis deffendis & forbiddis al monopoles and connentions of the comont pepil. 1587–8 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* IV. 253 It becomes alwayes his majestie..to repres and stay all monopolles and factiounes.

† **Mo·nopole**[2]. *Obs.*–° [ad. Gr. *μονοπώλης*, f. *μόνο-ς* MONO- + *πώλης* seller.] A monopolist.

1648–60 HEXHAM *Dutch Dict., Een Focker*, a Monopole, or an Engrosser of Wares and Commodities.

† **Monopoled**, *ppl. a. Obs.*–° (See quot.)

1611 [see MONOPOLIZE *v.* 1].

† **Mono·poler.** *Obs.* Also 6–7 -ier. [a. OF. *monopolier*: see MONOPOLE[1] and -IER.] A monopolist.

1589 G. FLETCHER in *Lett. Lit. Men* (Camden) 81 The said Companie..having reduced themselves to the nomber of xij, and so beeing now more notable Monopoliers than they weare beefore. 1601 J. WHEELER *Treat. Comm.* 102 The said companie by no sound reason..can be charged to bee anie such Monopoliers. 1611 COTGR., *Monopolier*, a monopoler, or monopolizer. 1640 [see POLLER 2]. 1641 *Frogs of Egypt* 5 By Thee our base Monopolers doe fall.

† **Monopo·lian.** *Obs.* [f. MONOPOLE[1] or MONOPOLY + -AN.] A monopolist.

1601 J. WHEELER *Treat. Comm.* 66 The said M. M. Aduenturers were now in his town of Embden no more to be accounted Monopolians, then they were here tofore in Antwerp. 1622 E. MISSELDEN *Free Trade* (ed. 2) 57 The setling of the price at the pleasure of the Monopolian to his priuate benefit, and the preiudice of the publique.

† **Monopo·lical,** *a. Obs.* (In quot. 7 moni-.) [f. MONOPOLE[1] + -ICAL.] Monopolistic.

1624 CAPT. SMITH *Virginia* 139 Whosoeuer..seeketh either by getting monipolicall patens, or by forging vniust tales to hinder our welfare.

† **Monopolish,** *a. Obs.* [f. MONOPOLE[1] or MONOPOLY + -ISH.] Monopolistic.

1580 in *Cal. St. Papers, Foreign* 366 There is no such 'monopolish' trade used at Emden. 1601 J. WHEELER *Treat. Comm.* 105 The aboue said slander of Monopolie, and monopolish trade vsed in Embden. 1613 — in *Bucclench MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 122 A monopolish passport granted to Verstegan.

Monopolism (mǫ̃nǫ·pŏliz'm). [f. MONOPOLY + -ISM.] The system of monopolies.

1881 *Nature* 27 Oct. 602/1 A land of strong tendencies toward monopolism and conservatism. 1888 BRYCE *Amer. Commw.* III. v. xciv. 318 The two great national parties.. denounce monopolism in the abstract.

Monopolist (mǫ̃nǫ·pŏlist). [f. MONOPOLE or MONOPOLY + -IST. Cf. It. *monopolista*, G. *monopolist.*]

1. One who monopolizes or possesses a monopoly; one who favours monopoly.

1601 J. WHEELER *Treat. Comm.* 72 By this means..the Hanses should..possesse the whole trade of the realme, as Monopolists of the whole kingdom. 1648 GAGE *West. Ind.* xii. 61 The Marquesse of Serralvo..was the best Monopolist of salt that ever those parts knew. 1671 W. PERWICH *Despatches* (R. Hist. Soc.) 148 The army has been sickly, & the monopolist that undertook the furnishing them with provision is much blamed. 1775 BURKE *Sp. Concil. Amer.* Wks. III. 63 To raise the value of the possessions in the hands of the great private monopolists. 1866 GEO. ELIOT *F. Holt* xxx, We know what monopolists are: men who want to keep a trade all to themselves, under the pretence that they'll furnish the public with a better article. 1885 *Law Times* LXXVIII. 222/1 An absolute right to refuse to supply a prime necessary of life is a dangerous weapon indeed with which to arm a monopolist.

2. *transf.* One who obtains, assumes, or occupies anything to the exclusion of others.

1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* II. 508 Joy is an import; joy is an exchange; Joy flies monopolists; It calls for two. 1781 COWPER *Conversat.* 627 When some green heads..Suppose themselves monopolists of sense. 1813 BYRON *Corsair* III. vi, The life thou leav'st below, denied above By kind monopolists of heavenly love. 1817 KEATS *Wks.* (1889) III. 5 He feels his being as deeply as Wordsworth, or any other of our intellectual monopolists. 1866 BRIGHT *Sp., Reform* 4 Dec. (1876) 392 The monopolists of political power.

3. *attrib.* passing into *adj.*

1844 COBDEN in *Pall Mall G.* (1891) 16 Oct. 3/1 Those monopolist humbugs, who are ready to hurrah for free trade in China, and vote against it in England. 1879 G. ALLEN *Col. Sense* i. 1 The pleasure of colour is one which raises itself above the common level of monopolist gratification, and attains to the higher plane of æsthetic delight. 1887 *Westm. Rev.* June 327 The immunities..conceded to the members of that monopolist corporation.

Monopolistic (mǫ̃nǫ̃·pŏli·stik), *a.* [f. prec. + -IC.] Relating to, or connected with, a monopoly or a system of monopolies.

1883 *N. York Chr. Union* Aug. 30 The monopolistic 'railroad trunk-line fare-agreement'. 1891 *Review of Rev.* 15 Aug. 171/1 Associated press franchises are a monopolistic possession that gives some newspapers an advantage over others. 1892 *Nation* (N. Y.) 25 Aug. 138/1 The spirit of trades unionism is essentially monopolistic and prescriptive.

†**Monopo·litan.** *Obs.* [Formed as MONOPOLITE + -AN.] A monopolist.

1602 MARTIN in D'Ewes *Jrnls. Parl. Eliz.* (1682) 646 The Monopolitans of Starch, Tinn, Fish,..Salt, and I know not what. 1607 COKE *Charge at Norwich Assizes* 41 Unto whom is rightly ioyned a Promooter, a Monopolitan, and an Alcumist. 1630 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Wks.* II. 342/1 Hee was no diuing Politician, Or proiect-seeking Monopolitan.

Hence †**Monopolita·nian,** in the same sense.

1630 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Navy of Landships* Wks. I. 78/1 It serues for the Dyet of Project-mongers, Monopolitanians and diligent Sute-joggers.

†**Mono·polite.** *Obs.* [f. MONOPOLE[1] or MONOPOLY + -ITE[1] 1.] A monopolist.

1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. iii. 522 You Marchant Mercers, and Monopolites. 1599 T. M[OUFET] *Silkwormes* 58 To keepe out fell and black Monopolites, The Myrmedonian crue [referring to ants]. 1616 R. CARPENTER *Christ's Larum bell* 58 Monopolites, ingrossers, regraters.

So **Monopolitical** *a.* (*nonce-wd.*), interested in monopolies.

1860 W. H. RUSSELL *Diary in India* I. 7 'The confounded public', as that large and respectable body is frequently styled in the privacies of official and monopolitical life.

Monopolization (mɒnɒ:pŏləizē·ʃən). [f. next + -ATION.] The action of the verb MONOPOLIZE; the process of monopolizing or the condition of being monopolized.

1727 A. HAMILTON *New Acc. E. Ind.* II. xlvi. 155, I advised him to take Protection from the Dutch, and allow them the Monopolization of the Trade of his Country. 1791 NEWTE *Tour Eng. & Scot.* 391 The immoderate extension of sheep walks, and that spirit of territorial monopolization which prevails..in..Scotland. 1878 *N. Amer. Rev.* CXXVI. 524 The swarm of Chinese..and their monopolization of many branches of industry. 1879 H. GEORGE *Progr. & Pov.* V. ii. (1881) 261 The monopolization of land that went on in England during the reign of Henry VIII.

Monopolize (mɒnɒ·pŏləiz), *v.* [f. MONOPOLE[1] or MONOPOLY + -IZE. Cf. F. *monopoliser.*]

1. *trans.* With reference to commerce: To get into one's hands the whole stock of (a particular commodity); to gain or hold exclusive possession of (a trade); to engross.

Now tending to be felt as merely a contextual application of sense 2; the use with a saleable commodity as obj. is consequently almost obsolete. In early use often, † *to monopolize into* (one's) *hands*; also † const. *from.*

1611 COTGR., *Monopolé*, Monopoled, or monopolized;.. ingrossed, as a commoditie, into one, or a few mens hands. 1615 in *Buccleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 169 The Hollanders would engross this..merchandise, and monopolise it from all mankind. 1626 BERNARD *Isle of Man* (1627) 173 Covetousnesse..hath monopolized commodities into his hands, inhanced the prices of things [etc.]. 1653 in Rymer *Fœdera* (1735) XX. 644 To endeavour thereby to Monopolize all Trade into your Hands, and to exclude all other Nations. *a* 1704 T. BROWN *Walk round Lond., Upon Compters* Wks. 1709 III. III. 54 Another [man]..marches from one side of the Ward to another, as if he was just going to the Exchange, to monopolize the Commodities of both the Indies. 1783 JUSTAMOND tr. *Raynal's Hist. Indies* I. 144 The Arabians..repaired in crowds to these celebrated islands, the productions of which they had already monopolized. 1817 JAS. MILL *Brit. India* II. IV. vii. 254 If the trade was ..monopolized and engrossed by a combination. 1854 BADHAM *Halieut.* 470 The Emperor of all the Russias used to monopolize the acipenser helops..to supply himself..with ..caviare. 1878 BOSW. SMITH *Carthage* 27 Those who monopolised the commerce of the countries where alone the citron tree grows. 1879 H. GEORGE *Progr. & Pov.* VI. ii. (1881) 295 Land..the source of all wealth and the field of all labor, is monopolized.

† b. *absol.* or *intr.* To have a monopoly. *Obs.*

1622 BACON *Hen. VII* 163 There passed a Law..for Monopolizing and exacting vpon the Trade. 1714 C. JOHNSON *Country Lasses* I. i, London,..Satan's chief residence: he picks up a vagabond soul or two now and then with us, but he monopolizes there.

2. *transf.* and *fig.* To obtain exclusive possession or control of; to get or keep entirely to oneself. † Const. *to* (oneself), *from* (another).

1628 PRYNNE *Brief Surv.* Epist., The enuious..cauils of some peevish Diuines, who would monopolize Diuinity to themselues alone. 1656 COWLEY *Anacr.* vii, Gold alone does Passion move, Gold monopolizes Love. 1659 T. PECKE *Parnassi Puerp.* 38 Nor shall mute Fish, the Sea Monopolize. 1668 R. STEELE *Husbandman's Calling* x. (1672) 250 When you suffer the world to monopolize your hearts from God, then the right use of the world is perverted. *a* 1714 M. HENRY *Layman's Reasons* Wks. 1853 II. 549/1, I cannot monopolize the Church; it is narrow enough, I dare not make it narrower. 1762 H. WALPOLE *Vertue's Aneed. Paint.* (1765) III. 44 *note*, Descamps says, that Lely growing jealous of Roestraten, proposed to him a partition of the art; portraits were to be monopolized by Lely. 1778 MISS BURNEY *Evelina* vi, She is a little angel! I cannot wonder that you sought to monopolize her. 1838 DICKENS *Nich. Nick.* xix, This fellow, Hawk, is monopolising your niece. 1861 F. METCALFE *Oxonian in Iceland* vii. (1867) 114 A title now monopolized in England by Knights and Baronets. 1886 *Sh. fr. Acad. Life* 62 Dr. Johnson was allowed to monopolise conversation as he did, because his sagacity was admitted to be enormous. 1889 A. R. WALLACE *Darwinism* 27 The progeny of any one species would, if allowed to increase unchecked, alone monopolise the land.

Hence **Mono·polized** *ppl. a.*

1788 JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1859) II. 540 We participate now of a monopolized, instead on an open market. 1845 *Encycl. Metrop.* VI. 172/1 Any..monopolized commodity. 1894 C. N. ROBINSON *Brit. Fleet* 18 The advantages of monopolized commerce.

Monopolizer (mɒnɒ·pŏləizəɹ). [f. MONOPOLIZE *v.* + -ER[1].] One who monopolizes.

1629 GAULE *Holy Madn.* 389 Now an Ingrosser..now an Haberdasher of small wares..nay worse than these..a Monopolizer. 1651 G. W. tr. *Cowel's Inst.* 283 Monopolizers, who were called Ingrossers, Fore-stallers, and Regrators, ..and many others who are punishable by Imprisonment and the Pillory. 1668 CHARLETON, etc. *Ephes. & Cinm. Matrons* II. Pref., I am no Monopolizer of such Commodities. 1734 FIELDING *Univ. Gallant* IV. Wks. 1882 X. 95, I wonder he escapes being destroyed by the men as a monopolizer [of the women]. 1760 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 96 Some Armenians .. bought up great quantities of grain. ..Several monopolizers have been put to death. 1769 MRS. F. BROOKE *Hist. Emily Montague* CXCV. (1784) IV. 47, I am a most intolerable monopolizer of the sex; in short, I have very little relish for any conversation but theirs. 1812 *Examiner* 25 May 327/1 The..avarice of an hard-hearted monopolizer. *a* 1862 BUCKLE *Civiliz.* (1869) III. ii. 88 The nobles..were, at that period, the monopolizers of political power. 1877 F. A. S. HEWITT in Raymond *Statist. Mines & Mining* 372 It is the fashion to denounce these corporations as monopolizers. 1879 H. GEORGE *Progr. & Pov.* v. ii. (1881) 259 The extent to which the monopolizers of land, can, in rent, levy tribute upon the earnings of labor.

Mono·polizing, *vbl. sb.* [f. MONOPOLIZE *v.* + -ING[1].] The action of the vb. MONOPOLIZE; monopolization.

a 1617 HIERON *Wks.* (1619) II. 487 An opinion will be had that that man seekes the raysing of his owne esteeme out of others blemishes, and the engrossing and monopolizing of all respect and reuerence to himselfe. 1622 MISSELDEN *Free Trade* (ed. 2) 54 Some thinke that the reducing of trade into Order and Gouernment, is a kind of Monopolizing and restraint of trade. 1712 M. HENRY *Life P. Henry* Wks. 1853 II. 714/1 This monopolizing of the great ordinance of baptism. 1747 MRS. DELANY in *Life & Corr.* (1861) II. 473 She has many friends that wish to have a share of her company, and as I am no friend to monopolizing, I can't and must not murmur at their enjoying a pleasure I am so sensible of. 1902 S. SMITH *Life Work* xvi. 149 All poverty and suffering arose from the monopolizing of land by private owners.

attrib. 1792 A. YOUNG *Trav. France* 73 These people have the true monopolizing ideas. 1818 HALLAM *Mid. Ages* ix. II. (1819) III. 380 The discontents..resulted from the monopolizing spirit of their corporations, who oppressed all artisans without the pale of their community. 1837 — *Hist. Lit.* I. i. iii. § 56 With that true love of letters which scorns the monopolising spirit of possession, Lorenzo permitted his manuscripts to be freely copied for the use of other parts of Europe.

Mono·polizing, *ppl. a.* [-ING[2].] That monopolizes; having a monopoly.

1797 BURKE *Let. Affairs Irel.* Wks. IX. 460 A small monopolizing junto. 1825 COBBETT *Rur. Rides* 407 This canting son of the monopolizing sect. 1854 H. MILLER *Sch. & Schm.* (1858) 75 A wall erected by some monopolizing proprietor of the neighbouring lands. 1869 LANDRETH *Life A. Thomson* i. 17 The stir has been diverted to the monopolising railway. 1891 *Athenæum* 24 Oct. 545/2 [Prof. Marshall pleads] for the collective good against the too pertinacious individualism of monopolizing capitalists.

†**Mono·polous,** *a. Obs. rare*[−1]. [f. MONOPOLE + -OUS.] Monopolistic.

a 1628 F. GREVIL *Sidney* XV. (1652) 203 She never was.. overloaden with any such excesses in her Person, or defects in her Government, as might constraine her to support, or be supported by a monopolous use of favourites.

Monopoly (mɒnɒ·pŏli). [ad. late L. *monopōli-um*, a. Gr. μονοπώλιον (also -πωλία), f. μόνο-s MONO- + πωλ-εῖν to sell. Cf. MONOPOLE *sb.*]

1. Exclusive possession of the trade in some article of merchandise; the condition of having no competitor in the sale of some commodity, or in the exercise of some trade or business.

1534 MORE *Treat. Passion* Wks. 1303/2 He knoweth.. that of all the dysciples, there woulde none bee so false a traytour..but him selfe alone. And therefore is thys ware Judas all in thyne owne hande. Thou haste a monopoly thereof. 1551 ROBINSON tr. *More's Utop.* I. (1895) 58 Suffer not thies ryche men to bye vp all, to ingrosse and forstalle, and with theyr monopolye to kepe the market alone as please them. 1625 BACON *Ess., Riches* (Arb.) 239 Monopolies, and Coemption of Wares for Resale,..are great Meanes to enrich: especially, if the Partie haue intelligence, what Things are like to come into Request, and so store Himselfe before hand. 1648–58 HEXHAM, *Fockerie*, a Monopolie, or an Engrossement of all sorts of Wares and Commodities. 1774 BURKE *Sp. Amer. Tax.* Sel. Wks. I. 102 You have, in this kingdom, an advantage in Lead, that amounts to a monopoly. *a* 1850 CALHOUN *Wks.* (1874) III. 112 This hostility terminated in breaking down the exclusive monopoly of the Bank of England, and narrowing greatly the specie basis of its circulation. 1861 M. PATTISON *Ess.* (1889) I. 41 In the reign of Edward III [German traders] had a practical monopoly of the carrying trade.

b. In generalized sense. (In 17th c. often, † the crime of 'engrossing'.)

1601 J. WHEELER *Treat. Comm.* 65 Setting also price before hand of that which they sell, and of that which they will buy, and so committing open Monopoly. 1606 HOLLAND *Sueton.* Annot. 24/2 Who knoweth not that Monopoly is, when one engrosseth some commoditie into his owne handes, that none may sell the same but himselfe or from him? 1622 MISSELDEN *Free Trade* 57 Monopoly is a kind of Commerce, in buying, selling, changing or bartering, vsurped by a few, and sometimes but by one person, and forestalled from all others, to the gaine of the Monopolist, and to the Detriment of other men. 1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl., Monopoly*,..an unlawful kind of traffic, when one or more persons make themselves sole masters of any commodity, trade, manufacture, or the like, with design to enhance its price; those who have occasion for it being obliged to purchase it at their hands, and on their own terms. 1793 BENTHAM *Emancipate your Colonies* Wks. 1843 IV. 412 Monopoly, that is, exclusion of customers, has certainly no tendency to produce increase of the number of traders.

2. An exclusive privilege (conferred by the sovereign or the state) of selling some commodity or trading with a particular place or country.

1596 DRAYTON *Legends* iii. 517 Then daily beg'd I great Monopolies. 1601 B. JONSON *Poetaster* v. iii, Thou [*sc.* an actor] shalt haue a monopoly of playing, confirm'd to thee and thy couey, vnder the Emperours broad scale, for this seruice. 1604 R. CAWDREY *Table Alph., Monopolie*, a licence that none shall buy or sell a thing, but one alone. *c* 1605 ROWLEY *Birth Merl.* v. ii, Take her hence..To be shown up and down at fairs and markets, Two pence apiece. To see so foul a monster Will be a fair monopoly and worth the begging. 1620 MIDDLETON *Chaste Maid* v. iii, I would not have my cruelty so talk'd on To any child of mine for a monopoly. 1640 HABINGTON *Queen of Arragon* IV. F 2 b, 'Cause one of Oberons Groomes had got from her The Monopoly of transporting gnats. 1641 *Remonstr. State Kingd.* 9 The Monopolies of Sope, Salt, Wine, Leather, Sea-Cole, and, in a manner, of all things of most common and necessary use. 1753 HANWAY *Trav.* (1762) I. v. lxxi. 320 Monopolies, or exclusive privileges, are generally ungrateful to the people of a free state. 1831 SIR J. SINCLAIR *Corr.* II. 249 The Public Revenue [of Russia]..is likely to increase, particularly the customs, and the farm, or monopoly of brandy. 1831 MACAULAY *Ess., Bacon* (1897) 361 Raleigh held a monopoly of cards, Essex a monopoly of sweet wines. 1845 STOCQUELER *Handbk. Brit. India* (1854) 269 The finest salt in India is manufactured on the coast of Cuttack, yielding the Government a revenue little short of eighteen lacs of rupees, when the East-India Company possessed a monopoly of the manufacture of that necessary of Hindoo life. 1872 YEATS *Growth Comm.* 214 They [the Dutch] secured a monopoly of trade with Japan which lasted throughout the modern period. 1875 *Encycl. Brit.* III. 650/2 The monopoly of the right to print the Bible in England is still possessed by the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge, and her Majesty's printer for England. 1878 LECKY *Eng. in 18th C.* I. i. 122 The Assiento treaty, by which England obtained the monopoly of the slave-trade to the Spanish Colonies.

3. *transf.* and *fig.* (often with conscious metaphor). Exclusive possession, control, or exercise of something.

1643 SIR T. BROWNE *Relig. Med.* II. § 3, I make not my head a grave, but a treasure of knowledge. I intend no Monopoly, but a Community in learning. 1653 MILTON *Hirelings* Pref., Till which greevances be remov'd and religion set free from the monopolie of hirelings. 1712 HENLEY *Spect.* No. 396 ₱ 2 The monopoly of Punns..has been an immemorial privilege of the Johnians. 1787 BENTHAM *Def. Usury* xii. 123 Wealth has indeed the monopoly of justice against poverty. 1823 SCOTT *Peveril* vii, Do you think you have a monopoly of rebellion, and that we have not a right to show a trick of disobedience in our turn? 1861 FREEMAN *Hist. Ess.* Ser. I. ix. (1871) 268 Neither side has a monopoly of right or..wrong. 1878 H. S. WILSON *Alp. Ascents* ii. 45 Peter has almost a monopoly now of the Matterhorn.

b. in generalized sense.

1804 J. GRAHAME *Sabbath* (1839) 8/1 Thy children, Scotia, in the desert land, Driven from their homes by fell Monopoly, Keep holy to the Lord the seventh day. 1813 J. THOMSON *Lect. Inflam.* Introd. 29 That spirit of domination, exclusion, and monopoly, by which most of her [*sc.* the church of Rome's] institutions at that period were actuated.

4. *To make a monopoly of*: a. *lit.* to obtain the exclusive sale of (a commodity); b. *fig.* to 'monopolize', keep to oneself (a possession).

1576 GASCOIGNE *Steele Gl.* 753 Master Merchant..Can finde the meane, to make Monopolyes Of euery ware, that is accompted strange. 1595 DANIEL *Civ. Wars* (1609) v. xcviii, He..makes a Monopoly of offices. 1629 H. BURTON *Truth's Triumph* 231 The iniquity of the Pontificians in making a monopoly of Gods grace. 1693 DRYDEN *Juvenal* Ded. (1726) p. v, Johnson [= Ben Jonson]..had been acquainted with the Rules, yet seemed to envy to Posterity that Knowledge, and like an Inventer of some useful Art, to make a Monopoly of his Learning. 1710 ADDISON *Whig Exam* No. 1 ₱ 1 The Kitcat have pretended to make a Monopoly of our sense. 1745 P. THOMAS *Jrnl. Anson's Voy.* 10 A certain Honourable Gentleman..is..Endeavouring to make a Monopoly of this Voyage, and to that end designs to publish by Authority. 1769 BURKE *Late St. Nat.* Wks. II. 87 Government in France has made a monopoly of that great article of salt.

5. A thing which is the subject of a monopoly (in senses 1–3).

1838–9 HALLAM *Hist. Lit.* IV. IV. vii. § 7 It is one of those happy ideas which have been privileged monopolies of the first inventor. 1845 MCCULLOCH *Taxation* II. v. (1852) 206 The culture of opium..is a government monopoly, being confined to the provinces of Bahar and Benares...Every one who chooses may raise opium within the prescribed limits. 1868 G. DUFF *Pol. Surv.* 186 The culture..of tobacco was made a Crown monopoly. 1878 *Print. Trades Jrnl.* XXIII. 22 Printing the Holy Scriptures is a monopoly. 1902 W. M. ALEXANDER *Demonic Possession in N. T.* II. 25 Such traits are not the monopoly of the Babylonian spirits.

6. A trading company that has a monopoly.

[*a* 1692 POLLEXFEN *Disc. Trade* (1697) 125 If Corporations in Trade with Joint-Stocks, should appear to be..to all intents and purposes Monopolies, mischievous to Trade.] 1871 *Q. Rev.* Oct. 461 Other enterprises with enormous capitals, e.g. banks,..are not monopolies. 1887 E. BELLAMY *Looking Backward* v. (1890) 41 Without being..checked by the clamour against it, the absorption of business by ever larger monopolies continued.

7. *attrib.*, as *monopoly licence, price.*

1625 BACON *Apophth.* xxix. Resusc. (1671) I. 227 The Lord Keeper, Sir Nicholas Bacon, was asked his Opinion by Queen Elizabeth, of one of these Monopoly licenses. 1776 ADAM SMITH *W. N.* I. xi. (1869) I. 153 The rent of land,.. considered as the price paid for the use of the land, is naturally a monopoly price. 1807 *Edin. Rev.* X. 347 They still fight for the impossibility of driving a distant traffic, without encouragement of monopoly-prices.

Monopoly·logist. [f. next + -IST.] One who performs a MONOPOLYLOGUE.

1830 *Examiner* 278/1 The Monopolologist [*sic*] startled his audience. 1832 *Ibid.* 294/2 Mathews made his first appearance as a Monopolylogist.

Monopolylogue (mɒnɒpɒ·lilɒg). [f. Gr. *μόνο-ς* MONO- + *πόλυ-ς* POLY- + *-λογος* -LOGUE.] An entertainment in which a single performer sustains many characters. Also *fig.*

1824 in *Spirit Publ. Jrnls.* (1825) 333 Like Mathews in a Monopolylogue. 1834 T. H. LISTER in *M. Napier's Corr.* (1879) 153 The Duke of Wellington lays aside his mysterious monopolylogue. 1838 *New Monthly Mag.* LII. 76 The third part was another Monopolylogue, called 'All well at Natchitoches'—all the characters by Mr. Mathews. *a* 1845 HOOD *To Lady on Dep. India* v, Go where with human notes the Parrot dealeth In mono-*polly*-logue. 1848 J. H. NEWMAN *Loss & Gain* x. 68 The conversation, or rather mono-polylogue, as some great performer calls it, ran in somewhat of the following strain. 1860 *Sat. Rev.* X. 273/1 Last week we gave a view of a distinguished religious actor in a monopolylogue and domestic performance—Spurgeon at Home.

Monopota·ssic, *a. Chem.* [See MONO- 2.] Containing one equivalent of potassium.

1873 *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 11) 325 Monopotassic sulphate, is commonly called bisulphate of potash.

Monopous (mɒnō·upɒs), *a. nonce-wd.* [f. Gr. *μονωπ-* (*μονώψ*) or *μόνωπ-ος* one-eyed (f. *μόν-ος* MONO- + *ὤψ* eye) + -OUS.] One-eyed.

1798 in *Spirit Publ. Jrnls.* (1799) II. 327 That a great many gentlemen..never had more than one eye..; that their progeny also were like themselves monopous.

Monoprionidian (mɒnɒprəi,ɒni·diăn), *a. Palæont.* [f. Gr. *μόνο-ς* MONO- + *πρίων* saw.] Having serrations on one side of the stem only: said of graptolites. Also **Monopri·onid** *a.*

1870 NICHOLSON *Man. Zool.* 95 Besides the simple forms of Graptolites with a row of cellules on one side (monoprionidian), there are others with a row of cellules on each side (diprionidian). 1888 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* 769 A typical or monoprionid Graptolite.

Monoprostyle: see MONO- 1.

Monopsychism (mɒnɒsəi·kiz'm). [f. Gr. *μόνο-ς* MONO- + *ψῡχ-ή* soul + -ISM.] The theory that all souls (or the souls of all mankind) are one; the unity of souls asserted by this theory.

1864 W. HEELEY in *Calcutta Rev.* XXXIX. 383 Some of his expressions point clearly to the middle-age notion of monopsychism—that all mankind had but one soul. *a* 1894 ROMANES *Th. on Relig.* (1895) 50 Wherein all causation is gathered up into the monopsychism of a single personality.

‖ **Monopsychosis** (mɒ·nɒsəikō·usis). [mod.L., see MONO- and PSYCHOSIS.] = MONOMANIA.

1883 T. S. CLOUSTON *Clin. Lect. Mental Dis.* 18 A true impression from a nerve of common sensibility may be misinterpreted, as when a man has cancer of his stomach that causes him real gnawing pain, and he says he has rats inside him that are eating his vitals. It might help you to understand this condition better if it were called Monopsychosis. 1902 *Baldwin's Dict. Philos. & Psychol.* s.v. *Mono-, Monomania* (..also termed, by Clouston, monopsychosis).

† **Monopter.** *Arch. Obs. rare*⁻°. Also 8 monoptere. [ad. F. *monoptère*, ad. med.L. *monopteros*: see MONOPTEROS.] = MONOPTEROS.

1696 PHILLIPS (ed. 5), *Monopter*, was a sort of a round Temple, whose Roof was supported by one Pillar only. 1727-41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.*, *Monoptere*,..a kind of temple among the antients, round, and without walls; having its dome supported by columns. 1775 in ASH.

Monopteral (mɒnɒ·ptĕrăl), *a.* and *sb.* [f. late L. *monopter-os* (Vitruvius, in sense 1 below), mod. L. *monopter-us* (in sense 2), a. Gr. **μονόπτερος*, lit. 'having one wing or fin', f. *μόνο-ς* MONO- + *πτερ-όν* wing, fin, row or circle of columns: see -AL.]

A. *adj.*

1. *Arch.* Of a temple: Consisting of a single circle of columns supporting a roof.

1823 P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Build.* Gloss. 588 *Monopteron*, or *Monopt[e]ral Temple*, an edifice consisting of a circular colonnade, supporting a dome, without any inclosing wall. 1841 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* IV. 118/2 The uppermost is a Corinthian rotunda, forming an open or monopteral temple (i. e. without any cella).

2. *Zool.* Having a single fin, wing, or alate part. [Cf. F. *monoptère* (1798 in Hatz.-Darm.).]

1887 SOLLAS in *Encycl. Brit.* XXII. 417/2 (Fig. 17) *K*, monopteral cymba.

B. *sb.* A monopteral temple; a monopteros.

1845 PARKER *Gloss. Archit.* (ed. 4) I. 243 *Monopteros, Monopteral*,..a circular temple consisting of a roof supported on columns, without any cell.

‖ **Monopteros** (mɒnɒ·ptĕrɒs). *Arch.* Also 8–9 monopteron. [subst. use of late L. *monopteros* adj.: see MONOPTERAL.] A monopteral temple.

1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Monopteron*, a sort of round Temple, whose Roof was only supported by Pillars; so call'd, from its having but one Wing or Isle. 1823 [see MONOPTERAL *a.* 1]. 1850 LEITCH tr. *C. O. Müller's Anc. Art* § 190*(ed. 2) 171 Temple .. of Mars Ultor on the capitol, a small monopteros, which we still see on coins. 1883 tr. *Reber's Hist. Anc. Art* 476 *Monopteros*, a circular structure of outstanding columns, commonly without a cella enclosed by walls.

Monopterous (mɒnɒ·ptĕrɒs), *a. Bot.* [f. mod.L. *monopter-us* (see MONOPTERAL) + -OUS.] Of certain seeds: Having but one wing.

1856 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Monopterus*, having but one wing, as the *carcerula* of the *Fraxinus*: monopterous. 1866 in *Treas. Bot.*

Monopterygian, -ious: see MONO- 1.

† **Monoptic,** *a. Obs.*⁻° [f. Gr. *μόν-ος* MONO- + *ὀπτικ-ός* of or pertaining to sight (see OPTIC).] One-eyed. Also *absol.*

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Monoptick*, that seeth onely with one eye. 1730 BAILEY (fol.), *Monoptick*.

Monoptical (mɒnɒ·ptikăl), *a. humorously pedantic.* [Formed as prec. + -AL.] One-eyed.

1821 *Blackw. Mag.* IX. 61 Monoptical Squire Polyphemus. *c* 1842 M. J. HIGGINS *Ess.* (1875) 74 He was a rugged veteran, white-haired, bloated, lame, and monoptical.

Monoptote (mɒ·nɒptōut). Also 7–8 -tot. [ad. late L. *monoptōt-us*, a. late Gr. *μονόπτωτ-ος*, f. Gr. *μόνο-ς* MONO- + *πτωτός* falling, cogn. w. *πτῶσις* case, f. *πί-πτ-ειν* to fall. So F. *monoptote.*] A noun occurring in a single oblique case (as L. *astu*).

1612 BRINSLEY *Pos. Parts* (1669) 101 *Q.* Which call you Monoptots? *A.* Such words as are found in one oblique case. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Monoptote*, a word having but one Case. 1751 WESLEY *Wks.* (1872) XIV. 40 Monoptots, which have but one Case; as, *astu.* 1854 ANDREWS & STODDARD *Lat. Gram.* § 94. 36 Monoptote.

Hence **Monopto·tic** *a.*, having only one case.

1872 LATHAM s.v. *Monoptote*, A word that appears in one form only is, on the first view, equally aptotic and monoptotic —both or either.

Monopylean: see MONO- 1.

Monopyrenous (mɒnɒpəirī·nəs), *a. Bot.* [f. Gr. *μόνο-ς* MONO- + *πῡρήν* fruit-stone + -OUS. Cf. F. *monopyrène.*] Having but one stone or kernel: said of fruits.

1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Monopyrenous Fruit*, such Fruit of a Plant, as contains in it only one Kernel, or Seed. 1866 *Treas. Bot.*, *Monopyrenous*, containing one stone.

Mono-rail (mɒ·nərēil). [f. MONO- + RAIL *sb.*²] A designation (chiefly *attrib.*) of a railway with carriages running on a single rail. So **Mono-railway.**

1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 9 Apr. 4/2 Patent electric express railway..built on the mono-rail system. 1901 *Daily News* 14 Mar. 3/2 The Proposed Monorail between Liverpool and Manchester. 1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 16 May 5/3 A scheme.. for the construction of a mono-railway.

Monorchid (mɒnō·ɹkid), *a.* and *sb.* [f. mod.L. *monorchis, monorchid-*: see MONORCHIS. Cf. F. *monorchide.*] **a.** *adj.* Having only one testicle; characterized by or exhibiting monorchism. **b.** *sb.* A monorchid person; = MONORCHIS.

1822-34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) IV. 6 There is a set of barbarians at the back of the Cape of Good Hope, who appear to be very generally monorchid, or possessed of only a single testis. 1874 VAN BUREN *Dis. Genit Org.* 390 A Monorchid has only one testicle in the scrotum. 1885 *Lancet* 18 July 141/2 The question as to the possible..inconvenience to which monorchids are liable falls under two heads.

Monorchidism (mɒnō·ɹkidiz'm). [f. prec. + -ISM.] = MONORCHISM.

1860 *New Syd. Soc. Year-bk. Med.* 304 Researches in Monorchidism and Cryptorchidism in Man. 1874 VAN BUREN *Dis. Genit. Org.* 392 Occasionally monorchidism is acquired.

‖ **Monorchis** (mɒnō·ɹkis). Pl. **monorchides** (-ō·ɹkidēz). [mod.L. *monorchis*, pl. (incorrectly) *-ides*, a. Gr. *μόνορχις* adj., f. *μόν-ος* MONO- + *ὄρχις* testicle.] A person or animal with only one testicle.

1722 QUINCY *Lex. Physico-Med.* (ed. 2), *Monorchis.* 1843 CURLING *Dis. Testis* 52 Many instances of monorchides, or persons having only a single testis, are also mentioned by the old authors. 1865 A. S. TAYLOR *Princ. & Pract. Med. Jurispr.* 866 Monorchides..have been known to be prolific.

Monorchism (mɒnō·ɹkiz'm). [Formed as MONORCHIS + -ISM.] The condition of having only one testicle. 1876 in DUNGLISON *Med. Lex.*

Monorganic (mɒnɒrgæ·nik), *a.* [f. MON(O)- + ORGAN + -IC.]

1. *Med.* Of a disease: Affecting a single organ. 1880 in WEBSTER *Suppl.*

2. Having only one organ.

1887 *Science* 3 June 534 In the natural world some beings are monorganic, others are polyorganic.

Monorhine (mɒ·nərəin), *a.* and *sb. Zool.* Also monorrhine. [f. mod.L. *Monorhīna*, f. Gr. *μόνο-ς* MONO- + *ῥῑν-, ῥίς* nose.] **A.** *adj.* Having a single nasal passage only; *spec.* applied to the *Monorhina*, a group of skulled vertebrates, having only one nasal passage, and comprising the lampreys and hags. Also **Monorhinal** (mɒ·nərəinăl), **Monorhinous** (mɒ·nərəinəs), *adjs.* in the same sense.

1890 *Century Dict.*, *Monorhinal. Ibid.*, *Monorhine.* 1897 E. R. LANKESTER in *Nat. Science* July 47 To assume..that these fishes were monorrhine, is surely illegitimate and arbitrary. 1900 *Nature* 20 Sept. 504/2 There is no evidence whatever that any of the creatures classed together as Ostracodermi were monorhinal like the Lampreys. 1902 *Webster's Dict., Suppl., Monorhinous.*

B. *sb.* A monorhinal vertebrate.

1890 in *Century Dict.*; and in later Dicts.

† **Monorhythm.** *Obs.*⁻° [f. Gr. *μόνο-ς* MONO- + *ῥυθμ-ός* RHYTHM.] = MONORIME.

Etymologically the word should mean 'having one rhythm'; but prob. it was intended as a more correct form to be substituted for the hybrid *monorhyme* (*-rime*), the word *rhyme* being regarded as a derivative of *ῥυθμός.*

1775 ASH, *Monorhythme*, a poetical composition in which all the verses end with the same rhyme.

Monorhy·thmic, *a. rare. Pros.* [Formed as prec. + -IC.] = MONORIME *a.* (Cf. prec.)

1833 LONGF. *Anc. Span. Ball.* Prose Wks. 1886 I. 162 They [old Spanish ballads] are all monorhythmic, with full consonant rhymes. 1833 — *Drift-Wood* ibid. 296 In these old romances..the verse is monorhythmic.

Monorime, -rhyme (mɒ·nərəim), *sb.* and *a.* [a. F. *monorime* (1690 in Hatz.-Darm.), f. Gr. *μόνο-ς* MONO- + *rime* RIME, RHYME.] **A.** *sb.* **a.** A poetical composition or passage in which all the lines have the same rime. **b.** *pl.* Lines forming a 'tirade' with one rime.

1731 BAILEY (vol. II.), *Monorhyme*, a poetical composition, all the verses whereof end with the same rhyme. 1868 T. WRIGHT *Pref. to Langtoft's Chron.* (Rolls) II. p. xi, In this manuscript each new set of monorimes is headed by a title in Latin. 1886 POSNETT *Compar. Lit.* 46 *note*, The rudeness of this versification, says M. Géruzez..is marked by monorimes, of indeterminate length.

B. *adj.* Having a single rime. So also **Mo·no-rimed** *ppl. a.* [see -ED²].

1833 LONGF. *Drift-Wood* Prose Wks. 1886 I. 299 The old romances were sung; and..hence there was a good reason for dividing them into monorhyme stanzas. 1898 SAINTSBURY *Short Hist. Eng. Lit.* (1905) 737 These rolling quatrains, rhymed as a rule *a a b a*,..but sometimes monorhymed throughout. 1902 H. LYNCH *G. Paris' Med. Fr. Lit.* 90 A little poem..in monorhymed quatrains.

Monoschemic: see MONO- 1.

Monose·lenide. *Chem.* [MONO- 2.] A selenide containing one equivalent of selenium.

1873 *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 11) 228 The mono, tri, and pentaselenides.

Monoseme (mɒ·nosīm), *a. Pros.* [ad. Gr. *μονόσημ-ος*: see next.] = next.

1902 in *Webster's Dict., Suppl.*

Monosemic (mɒnosī·mik), *a. Pros.* [f. Gr. *μονόσημ-ος* cited in sense 'having only one signification' (f. *μονό-ς* MONO- + *σῆμα* sign, mark) + -IC.] Consisting of or equal to a single mora. (Cf. *disemic, trisemic.*) 1890 in *Century Dict.*

Monosepalous (mɒnosē·păləs), *a. Bot.* [f. MONO- + mod.L. *sepal-um* SEPAL + -OUS. In F. *monosépale.*] Properly, Having one lateral sepal only; but commonly misused for *gamosepalous.*

1830 LINDLEY *Nat. Syst. Bot.* Introd. 24 In Scleranthæ the calyx is always monosepalous. 1837 P. KEITH *Bot. Lex.* s.v., If the calyx of any flower consists merely of a single piece, or sepal, or of several sepals united, it is said to be monosepalous, as in Primula. 1861 BENTLEY *Man. Bot.* 225 When a monosepalous calyx is entire, the number of sepals can then only be ascertained by the venation.

Monosi·licate. *Chem.* [MONO- 2.] A silicate containing one equivalent of silicic anhydride.

1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem.* (1862) III. 198 Monosilicate of ethyl.

Monosiphonous (mɒnosəi·fŏnəs), *a. Bot.* [f. Gr. *μόνο-ς* MONO- + *σίφων* tube, pipe (SIPHON) + -OUS.] Having a single siphon; applied to certain Algæ (*Florideæ*) in which a transverse section of the frond shows only a single large, elongated central cell or siphon not surrounded by smaller similar cells. So **Monosiphonic** (-səifɒ·nik) *a.*

1853 HARVEY *Nereis Boreali-Amer.* II. 8, IX. Wrangeliaceæ. Frond filiform, monosiphonous. 1857 BERKELEY *Cryptog. Bot.* § 133 Of those green Algae which are masked by calcareous matter, there are two series distinguished by their monosiphonous or polysiphonous stems. 1888 VINES in *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 126/2 The filaments [of the *Phæosporeæ*] may consist of single rows of cells (*monosiphonous*), as in most *Ectocarpeæ*, or of several rows of cells (*polysiphonous*), as in the *Mesoglœaceæ.* 1900 B. D. JACKSON *Gloss. Bot. Terms, Monosiphonic.*

‖ **Monosis** (mɒnō·usis). *Bot.* [mod.L., a. Gr. *μόνωσις* solitariness, singleness, f. *μονοῦν* to make single or solitary, f. *μόνο-ς* single.] The isolation of an organ from the rest. (Cf. MONOSY.)

1873 COOKE *Man. Bot. Terms* (ed. 2) 73. 1874 R. BROWN *Man. Bot.* 609.

Monosodic (mɒnosō·udik), *a. Chem.* [MONO- 2.] Containing one equivalent of sodium.

1873 *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 11) 333 Monosodic Carbonate. *Ibid.* 340 Monosodic orthophosphate.

So **Mo·no-so·dium,** used *attrib.*

1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem.* (1862) III. 250 Mono-sodium glycol.

Monosomatic, -ous, -spasm: see MONO- 1.

Monosperm (mɒ·nospɔ̄m). *Bot. rare*⁻°. [f. Gr. *μόνο-ς* MONO- + *σπέρμ-α* seed, SPERM. Cf. F. *monosperme* (adj.).] A plant having but one seed.

1879 in STORMONTH *Man. Sci. Terms*; and in later Dicts.

Monospermal (mɒnospɔ̄·rmăl), *a. Bot. rare.* [Formed as prec. + -AL.] Having only one seed; monospermous. Also **Monospe·rmatous** *a.* [Cf. F. *monospermatique.*]

1856 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Monospermal, Monospermatous*, having only one seed; one-seeded; both of these terms are used, but the second is the more correct one. 1876 J. H. BALFOUR in *Encycl. Brit.* IV. 151/2 The drupe is a..monospermal and unilocular indehiscent fruit.

Monospe·rmic, *a.* [Formed as prec. + -IC.]

1. *Bot.* = MONOSPERMOUS.

[1856 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Monospermicus*, the same as *Monospermus.*] 1891 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Monospermic*, the same as *Monospermatous.*

2. *Phys.* Pertaining to, or affected with, monospermy.

1902 *Webster's Dict., Suppl.* s.v., Monospermic eggs.

Monospermous (mɒnɒspɜ·ɪməs), *a. Bot.* [Formed as prec. + -OUS.] Having only one seed.

1727 BAILEY (vol. II), *Monospermos* [1737 *Ibid., Monospérmous*], which bears a single Seed to each Flower, as in Valerian, the Marvel of Peru, &c. 1760 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* I. xv. (1765) 39. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XI. 388/2 There are eight barren stamina, and two monospermous berries [in *Menispermum*]. 1830 LINDLEY *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 8 Bocconia has..a monospermous capsule. 1861 BENTLEY *Man. Bot.* 336 The pericarp is monospermous.

Monospermy (mɒ·nɒspɜmi). *Phys.* [After POLYSPERMY (Gr. πολυσπερμία), f. Gr. μόνο-ς MONO- + σπέρμα seed. Cf. F. *monospermie.*] Impregnation of an ovum by a single spermatozoon; opposed to *polyspermy.* 1902 in *Webster's Dict., Suppl.*

Monospherical (mɒnɒsfe·rikăl), *a. rare*−⁰. [f. Gr. μόνο-ς MONO- + σφαῖρ-α sphere + -ICAL.] Consisting of or having a single sphere.

1775 in ASH. 1836 in SMART; and in recent Dicts.

Monospondylic (mɒ·nɒspɒndi·lik), *a.* [f. Gr. μόνο-ς MONO- + σπόνδυλ-ος (Attic σφόνδυλος) vertebra + -IC: see SPONDYLIC.] Having a single centrum, as a vertebra; without intercentra, as a vertebral column.

1884 RYDER in *Rep. U.S. Fish. Comm.* 983 The caudal part of the axial column may be perfectly monospondylic.

‖ **Monosporangium** (mɒ·nɒ¡sporæ·ndʒiŭm). *Bot.* [mod.L., f. MONO- + SPORANGIUM.] A sporangium containing or bearing monospores.

1892 *Jrnl. Quekett Microsc. Club* July 25 The monosporangia are terminal, on one- or two-celled branches. 1900 B. D. JACKSON *Gloss. Bot. Terms, Monosporangium*, used by Sauvageau for the organ which produces monospores.

Monospore (mɒ·nɒspōə). *Bot.* [f. MONO- + SPORE.] An undivided spore, as in some of the lower Algæ.

1892 *Jrnl. Quekett Microsc. Club* July 24 Their neutral organs are undivided, *i.e.* they are monospores. 1900 B. D. JACKSON *Gloss. Bot. Terms, Monospore*, a special spore in *Ectocarpus*, by Sauvageau considered to be a *Gemma.*

Monospored (mɒ·nɒspōəd), *a. Bot.* [f. MONO- + SPORE + ED².] Cf. F. *monosporé.*] = MONOSPOROUS.

1882 J. M. CROMBIE in *Encycl. Brit.* XIV. 555/1 Monospored species.

Monosporiferous (mɒ·nɒspori·fĕrəs), *a. Bot.* [f. MONOSPORE + -(I)FEROUS.] Bearing monospores.

1892 *Jrnl. Quekett Microsc. Club* July 24 There was ample material for learning the true characters of the epiphyte in all stages of the neutral or monosporiferous state.

Monosporogony (mɒ·nɒsporɒ·gŏni). [f. Gr. μόνο-ς MONO- + σπόρο-ς sowing, seed + -γονία begetting.] (See quot.)

1891 *Syd. Soc. Lex., Monosporogony*, the form of asexual reproduction in which a single cell detaches itself from the adjoining cells of an organism, increases by division, and forms a multicellular organism.

Monosporous (mɒnɒspō·rəs, mɒ̃nɒ·spŏrəs), *a. Bot.* [f. Gr. μόνο-ς MONO- + σπόρ-ος SPORE + -OUS.] Having but a single spore.

1856 MAYNE *Expos. Lex., Monosporus*, applied to any concepticle of a cryptogamious plant which contains but a single sporule: monosporous. 1874 COOKE *Fungi* 26 M. Séveillé was of opinion that the basidia of the Tremelli were monosporous. *Ibid.* 145 Each of them [*sc.* these tubes] very soon emits four monosporous spicules.

Monostach, etc.: see MONO- 1.

Monostearin (mɒnɒstī·ărin). *Chem.* [MONO- 2.] That species of stearine formed from glycerin by the replacement by stearyl of one only of the three OH groups.

1854 *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 5) 599 Three compounds of stearic acid with glycerin have been thus produced, which M. Berthelot distinguishes as monostearin, bistearin, and tetrastearin. 1879 C. R. A. WRIGHT in *Encycl. Brit.* X. 697/2 The process of saponification may be viewed as the gradual progressive transformation of tristearin..into distearin, monostearin, and glycerin.

Monostele (mɒ·nɒstīl). *Bot.* [f. Gr. μόνο-ς MONO- + στήλη block of stone, slab: see STELE.] A single axial cylinder of tissue in certain plants. So **Monoste·lic** *a.* Also **Monoste·ly** (see quot.) and **Monoste·lous** *a.*

1900 B. D. JACKSON *Gloss. Bot. Terms, Monostelic*, having a single axial cylinder of tissue, in which the vascular tissue is developed. *Ibid., Monostely*, the state of having a single stele; adj. *monostelous.* 1902 *Encycl. Brit.* XXV. 412/2 *margin*, Arrangement in strands; the cylinder or monostele.

Monostich (mɒ·nɒstik), *sb. Pros.* Forms: 7–8 **monostick,** 7– **monostich.** Also 6, 8 in Gr. form **monostichon.** [ad. late L. *monostich-um, monostich-ium* (Ausonius), a. Gr. μονόστιχον, neut. of μονόστιχος adj. consisting of one verse, f. μόνο-ς MONO- + στίχος row, line, or verse. Cf. F. *monostique* adj. (*a* 1382 in Du Cange) and sb.] A poem or epigram consisting of but one metrical line.

1577 KENOALL *Flowers of Epigr.* 104 b, This Monostichon here followyng, was written vpon the gate of the Monestarie of the Benedictines. 1607 J. CARPENTER *Plaine Mans Plough* 38 [The seven works of mercy] aptly comprehended in this Monostich. *Visito, poto, cibo, redimo, tego, colligo, condo.* 1693 J. H. tr. *Juvenal* x. Ep. Ded. 3, I know not whether you have ever met with the following Monostick. 1708 *Brit. Apollo* No. 47. 1/1 That Celebrated Monostick, The Bashful Water saw her God, and Blush't. 1721 BAILEY, *Monostichon*, an Epigram consisting of one single Verse. 1871 BROWNING *Balaust.* 169 Who could speak A chorus to the end, or prologize,..Or thrust and parry in bright monostich. 1891 DAIVER *Introd. Lit. O. T.* (1892) 342 Single lines or monostichs: these are found but rarely.

Monostich (mɒnɒstik), *a.* Also 7 **monostick,** 9 (sense 2) **monostic.** [a. Gr. μονόστιχος (see prec.); in sense 2 a. F. *monostique* (Haüy).]

1. *Pros.* Consisting of a single line of verse.

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr., Monostick*, (*monostichon*) that which consists of one onely verse. 1895 W. R. W. STEPHENS *Life & Lett. Freeman* I. 37 It contains monostich passages.

†**2.** *Min.* = MONOSTICHOUS 1. *Obs.*

1805–17 R. JAMESON *Char. Min.* (ed. 3) 211 Monostic topaz..is a slightly oblique eight sided prism, in which two and two lateral planes meet under very obtuse angles.

Monostichous (mɒ̃nɒ·stikəs), *a.* [f. Gr. μόνο-ς MONO- + στίχ-ος row, line + -OUS.]

1. *Min.* (See quot.) Cf. MONOSTICH *a.* 2.

1856 MAYNE *Expos. Lex., Monostichous*, applied by Haüy to a variety of the prism, the base of which is surrounded with facets which have different inclinations, as the *Tenites monosticha*: monostichous.

2. *Bot.* Arranged in a single vertical row, rank, or series, on one side of an axis, as the flowers in certain grasses. (Opposed to *distichous.*)

1866 *Treas. Bot., Monostichous*, arranged in one row. 1900 B. D. JACKSON *Gloss. Bot. Terms.*

3. *Zool.* Consisting of a single layer or row.

1883 LANKESTER & BOURNE in *Q. Jrnl. Microsc. Sci.* XXIII. 193 These may be called respectively Monostichous and Diplostichous eyes. 1888 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* 492 (*Arthropoda*) The hypodermic cells beneath the thickened cuticle constitute the *ommateum*, and remain either in a single or form a double layer; hence mono- or diplo-stichous. The monostichous ommateum is said to be apostatic when cup-shaped. *Ibid.* 525 All the eyes of *Limulus* are monostichous. 1902 E. R. LANKESTER in *Encycl. Brit.* XXV. 697/2 The monomeniscous eye is rarely provided with a single layer of cells beneath its lens; when it is so, it is called monostichous.

Monostigmatous: see MONO- 1.

Monostomatous (mɒnɒstɒ·mătəs), *a. Zool.* [f. Gr. μόνο-ς MONO- + στοματ-, στόμα mouth + -OUS: cf. next.] Having only one mouth or sucker; *spec.* of or pertaining to the *Monostomata*, the higher of the two main divisions of the *Metazoa*, including all metazoans (with a single oral aperture) except the sponges or *Polystomata.* Opposed to *polystomatous.* In recent Dicts.

Monostome (mɒ·nɒstoum), *a.* and *sb.* [a. F. *monostome* (Littré), ad. Gr. μονόστομ-ος with one mouth, f. μόνο-ς MONO- + στόμα mouth.] **a.** *adj.* Having only one mouth or sucker. **b.** *sb.* An animal having only one mouth or sucker, as a metazoan, or a parasitic trematode worm of the genus *Monostomum* or family *Monostomidæ.* So **Mono·stomous** *a.* [f. Gr. μονόστομ-ος + -OUS], having only one mouth; monostomatous.

1848 E. FORBES *Naked-eyed Medusæ* 80 Brandt..divided the *Discophoræ* into Monostomous and Polystomous. 1849 HUXLEY in *Phil. Trans.* CXXXIX. 426 The stomachal membrane of the Monostome Medusæ. 1856 MAYNE *Expos. Lex., Monostomus*, having but one mouth, or opening: monostomous. 1860 COBBOLD in *Jrnl. Linn. Soc.* (1861) V. 38 The absence, however, of a ventral sucker..points to a closer alliance with the Monostomes.

Monostrophe (mɒ·nɒstrɒuf). *Pros.* [ad. Gr. μονόστροφ-ος adj., f. μόνο-ς MONO- + στροφ-ή recurring metrical scheme, STROPHE.] A poem in which one strophic arrangement is repeated throughout.

1890 in *Century Dict.*

Monostrophic (mɒnɒstrɒ·fik), *a.* (and *sb.*) *Pros.* [ad. Gr. μονοστροφικ-ός, f. μονόστροφ-ος: see MONOSTROPHE and -IC.] **A.** *adj.* Consisting of repetitions of one and the same strophic arrangement.

1671 MILTON *Samson* Pref., The measure of Verse us'd in the Chorus is of all sorts, call'd by the Greeks Monostrophic, or rather Apolelymenon, without regard had to Strophe, Antistrophe or Epod. 1788 [CUMBERLAND] *Observer* No. 111. IV. 158 By making his Chorus monostrophic, he has robbed it of that lyric beauty, which [etc.]. 1847 GROTE *Greece* II. xxix. (1862) IV. 119 Until this time [600 B.C.] the song had been monostrophic, consisting of nothing more than one uniform stanza, repeated from the beginning to the end of the composition. 1849 J. W. DONALDSON *Theat. Grks.* I. ii. (ed. 6) 27 The Dithyramb of Lasus eventually became monostrophic.

B. *sb. pl.* Monostrophic verses.

1784 G. I. HUNTINGFORD (*title*) An Apology for the Monostrophics which were published in 1782. With a second collection of Monostrophics. 1785 COWPER *Let. to Unwin* 22 Oct., Wks. 1836 V. 169 Huntingford's Monostrophics.

Monostyle (mɒ·nɒstəil), *a.*[1] *Arch.* [f. MONO- + STYLE[1].] Built in one style throughout.

1850 PARKER *Gloss. Archit.* (ed. 5) I. 308.

Mo·nostyle, *a.*[2] *Arch.* [f. Gr. μόνο-ς MONO- + στῦλ-ος pillar: see STYLE[2].] Having or consisting of a single shaft, pillar, or column. So **Monosty·lar** *a.*

1844 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* VII. 10/1 We question whether any more monostylar monuments, supporting nothing, will be erected for some time. 1850 PARKER *Gloss. Archit.* (ed. 5) I. 308 *Monostyle.*

Monostylous: see MONO- 1.

Mono-substitution: see MONO- 2.

Monosulphide (mɒnɒsʊ·lfəid). *Chem.* [MONO- 2.] A sulphide containing one equivalent of sulphur. Also †**Monosu·lphuret,** in the same sense. Also **Monosu·lphite,** a sulphite containing one equivalent of sulphurous acid.

1854 J. SCOFFERN in *Orr's Circ. Sci., Chem.* 408 Two compounds of sulphurous acid with soda are known—the monosulphite and the bisulphite. *Ibid.* 411 The monosulphuret or monosulphide of potassium.

‖ **Monosy** (mɒ·nɒsi). *Bot.* [a. F. *monosie* (Morren), f. Gr. μόνωσις: see MONOSIS.] (See quots.)

1869 M. T. MASTERS *Veget. Terat.* 58 The late Professor Morren proposed the general term Monosy for all these cases of abnormal isolation. 1900 B. D. JACKSON *Gloss. Bot. Terms, Monosy*, Morren's term for the abnormal isolation of parts due to (*a*) *Adesmy* or (*b*) *Dialysis.*

†**Monosyllabe.** *Obs.* [a. F. *monosyllabe* or ad. late L. MONOSYLLABON.] = MONOSYLLABLE *sb.*

1585 JAS. I *Ess. Poesie* (Arb.) 59 Gif 3our Sectioun be nocht..a monosyllabe.

Monosyllabic (mɒ·nɒsilæ·bik), *a.* [ad. med.L. *monosyllabic-us* (R. Bacon 1271), f. late L. *monosyllab-us* = Gr. μονοσύλλαβος: see MONOSYLLABON. Cf. F. *monosyllabique* (1752 in Hatz.-Darm.).]

1. Of a word: Consisting of one syllable.

1828–32 WEBSTER, *Monosyllabic*, 1. Consisting of one syllable; as, a monosyllabic word. 1845 STODDART *Gram.* in *Encycl. Metrop.* I. 151/1 A short monosyllabic preposition. 1906 *Athenæum* 12 May 575/1 Monosyllabic roots.

2. Consisting of monosyllables or of a monosyllable. (Cf. MONOSYLLABLE *sb.* c.)

1828–32 WEBSTER, *Monosyllabic*,..2. Consisting of words of one syllable; as, a monosyllabic verse. 1838 DICKENS *Nich. Nick.* xvi, The same gentleman..again made a monosyllabic demonstration, by growling out 'Resign!' 1866 GEO. ELIOT *F. Holt* Introd., Tbrowing out a monosyllabic hint to his cattle. 1872 ATKINSON tr. *Ganot's Nat. Philos.* § 161 A person speaking with a loud voice in front of a reflecting surface at the distance of 112·5 feet can only distinguish the last reflected syllable: such an echo is said to be monosyllabic. 1877 DOWDEN *Shaks. Prim.* iv. 41 The appearance in Shakespere's verse of weak monosyllabic endings. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 367 The speech is often monosyllabic, a whispered monotone.

b. *Philol.* Used as the distinctive epithet of those languages (e. g. Chinese) which have a vocabulary wholly composed of monosyllables.

1824 *Crit. Res. in Philol. & Geol.* 172 The Chinese, and other monosyllabic tongues. 1875 WHITNEY *Life Lang.* xii. 239 If we met with monosyllabic tongues in different parts of the earth, we should have no right to infer their connection.

3. Of a person: Uttering only monosyllables.

1870 DISRAELI *Lothair* viii, Lothair was somewhat monosyllabic and absent. 1892 MRS. H. WARD *D. Grieve* I. viii, Mr. Ancrum .. had been cheered a little during his last days at Clough End by the appearance of David, very red and monosyllabic, on his doorstep.

†**Monosylla·bical,** *a. Obs. rare.* [Formed as prec. + -AL.] = MONOSYLLABIC.

1686 *Phil. Trans.* XVI. 63 A Monosyllabical Name. 1755 JOHNSON, *Monosyllabical*, consisting of words of one syllable. 1776 — in Boswell *Life* 22 Mar., He is quite unsocial; his conversation is quite monosyllabical.

Monosyllabically (mɒ·nɒsilæ·bikăli), *adv.* [f. MONOSYLLABICAL + -LY².] In a monosyllable or monosyllables.

1816 COLERIDGE *Lett.* (1895) 664 Which I know to be (monosyllabically speaking) a lie. 1821 LAMB *Elia* Ser. 1. *My First Play, Vice versâ*..in his own peculiar pronunciation monosyllabically elaborated, or Anglicised, into something like *verse verse.* 1882 SALA *Amer. Revis.* ix. (1885) 118 He became responsive, but only monosyllabically so. 1904 *Daily Chron.* 1 June 6/7 Hone wrote of 'cabs' monosyllabically in 1827.

Monosyllabism (mɒnɒsi·lăbiz'm). [Formed as MONOSYLLABIC + -ISM. Cf. F. *monosyllabisme.*] Addiction to the use of monosyllables; the quality of being monosyllabic.

1804 MITFORD *Inquiry* 414 In the spirited and easy flow of that line thus, its monosyllabism is apt to escape the ear's notice. 1824 *New Monthly Mag.* XII. 198 The rounded and sonorous Italian enunciation does not admit of being despatched in the snip-snap articulation compatible with the monosyllabism of our own language. 1885 *Encycl. Brit.* XVIII. 774/2 Which..brought back so considerable a part of the vocabulary to monosyllabism.

b. *spec.* in *Philology.* (See MONOSYLLABIC 2 b.)

1846 WORCESTER (cites *Ec. Rev.*). 1860 FARRAR *Orig. Lang.* 183 It should be observed that triliteralism is not necessarily incompatible with monosyllabism. 1896 A. H. KEANE *Ethnol.* 208 Monosyllabism is thus shown to be, not the first but the last stage in the evolution of human speech.

Monosyllabize (mɒnɒsi·lăbəiz), *v.* [Formed as prec. + -IZE.] *trans.* To render monosyllabic. Hence **Monosy·llabizing** *vbl. sb.*

1857 *Zoologist* Ser. 1. XV. 5692 The English love for monosyllabizing. 1904 *Speaker* 4 June 229/1 This monosyllabising of the language.

Monosyllable (mɒnɒsi·läb'l), *sb.* and *a.* Also 6 **monosillable,** 6–7 **monasyllable, -sillable,** 7 **monesyllable, -sillible.** [ad. late L. *monosyllabus* (see MONOSYLLABON) after SYLLABLE.]

A. *sb.* A word of one syllable.

1533 MORE *Debell. Salem* Wks. 956/1 He forgeatteth thys lyttle shorte woorde, thys monasyllable, Such, which he rehearsed first. 1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* II. v[i]. (Arb.)

90 For this purpose serue the monosillables of our English Saxons excellently well. 1607 Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* (1653) 324 The French men call it 'furchette'; which word our farriers..do make it a monosyllable, and pronounce it the 'frush'. 1620 Donne *Serm.* lxxiv. (1640) 753 This one little particle, this monasyllable, So. 1638 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* (ed. 2) 339 Their language is most part of monosyllables. 1647 Ward *Simp. Cobler* (1843) 86 Some are raking in old musty Charnel books, for old mouldy monesyllables. 1680 Morden *Geog. Rect., China* (1685) 418 They have above 60,000 Letters but not above 300 Words, which are, for the most part, all Monasillables. 1692 Dryden *Cleomenes* II. i. 14 By Heav'n, I'll change it [my name] into Jove or Mars! Or any other civil Monosyllable, That will not tire my Hand. 1711 J. Greenwood *Eng. Gram.* 181 Almost all the Original Words of our Language are Monosyllables. 1751 Johnson *Rambler* No. 88 ₱ 4 It is pronounced by Dryden, that a line of monosyllables is almost always harsh. 1906 J. Oman *Probl. Faith & Freedom* iii. 101 To perpetrate ten monosyllables in succession was a high offence.

b. Phrase, *In monosyllables*, † *in monosyllable*.

1570-6 Lambarde *Peramb. Kent* (1826) 233 Erasmus compareth the English toong to a Dog's barking that soundeth nothing els but Baw waw waw in Monosillable. 1888 C. Morris *Aryan Race* viii. 190 Philologists are generally satisfied that man first spoke in monosyllables, each of which conveyed some generalized information.

c. Often used to indicate some emphatic word (esp. *yes* or *no*), which is sometimes intentionally left unnamed. *To speak* (*answer*, etc.) *in monosyllables*: to speak with intentional curtness; to answer little but 'yes' or 'no'.

1608 Dekker *Lanth. & Candle-Lt.* i. A, She dealt in nothing but in Monosyllables, (as if to haue spoken words of greater length would haue crackt her Voice). 1679 Dryden *Tr. & Cr.* II. iii, *Achil.* I can brook no comparisons. *Ajax.* Nor I. *Achil.* Well, Ajax. *Ajax.* Well, Achilles. *Thers.* So, now they quarrel in monosyllables. 1824 Miss Mitford *Village Ser* I. 20 A low soft voice, sweet even in its monosyllables. 1833 L. Ritchie *Wand. by Loire* 165 Her reply was conveyed in a monosyllable. 1865 Trollope *Belton Est.* v, 'No'. She pronounced the monosyllable alone. 1885 'E. Garrett' *At Any Cost* vi. 104 He..remembered her only as a gaunt, black-eyed girl, who answered in monosyllables. 1903 *Longm. Mag.* Sept. 291 Juliet leant back in her corner responding by an occasional monosyllable.

B. *adj.* **1.** = Monosyllabic *a.* 1. Now *rare*.

1589 Puttenham *Eng. Poesie* II. vi[i]. (Arb.) 92 Words monosillable which be for the more part our naturall Saxon English. 1640 Torriano *Ital. Tutor* title-p., A display of the monasillable particles of the Language, by way of Alphabet. 1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Monasyllable*, that hath but one syllable. 1658 Phillips Pref., Pronouns, and Monosyllable Verbs, as *Mine*, *Thine*, *This*, *What*, *Love*, *Give*. 1676 Marvell *Mr. Smirke* 43 The Gentleman's name..is the Monosyllable voice with which Cats do usually address themselves to us. *c* 1790 Cowper *Wks.* (1837) XV. 320 [He] would think the line improved by a monosyllable epithet, which would make it run more smoothly.

2. = Monosyllabic *a.* 2. *rare*.

1697 Dryden *Æneid* Ded. (e) 4 b, It seldom happens but a Monosyllable Line turns Verse to Prose. 1706 Pope *Let. to Walsh* 22 Oct., Monosyllable-lines, unless artfully managed, are stiff or languishing; but may be beautiful to express Melancholy. 1821 Byron *Juan* v. liii, Others in monosyllable talk chatted.

Monosy·llable, *v. rare.* [f. Monosyllable *sb.*] *trans.* To reduce to a monosyllable.

a 1647 Cleveland *Smectymnuus* 46 Like to nine Taylors, who if rightly spell'd, Into one man are monosyllabled.

Monosy·llabled, *a. rare.* [f. Monosyllable *sb.* + -ed 2.] = Monosyllabic *a.* 3.

1838 I. Taylor *Home Educ.* 131 A monosyllabled stanza.

‖ **Monosy·llabon.** *Obs.* Pl. -syllaba. [L. *monosyllabon*, a. Gr. μονοσύλλαβον, neuter of μονοσύλλαβος adj., f. μόνο-ς Mono- + συλλαβ-ή Syllable.] A monosyllable.

1576 Gascoigne *Steele Gl.* (Arb.) 77 That Grammer grudge not at our English tong, Bycause it stands by Monosyllaba, And cannot be declined as others are. 1580 G. Harvey *Three Proper Lett.* 55 You shal as well..heare *fayer* as *faire*,..wyth an infinyte companye of the same sort: sometime Monosyllaba, sometime Polysyllaba. 1608 Middleton *Fam. Love* v. iii, I will onely in Monosillaba aunswere for my selfe. 1672 H. More *Brief Reply* 102 It was a great oversight .. to leave out that Monosyllabon which was of such principal signification in the sentence. 1716 M. Davies *Athen. Brit.* II. 299 No Laconick Monosyllabon.

Monosyllogism (mɒnəsi·lŏdʒiz'm). [f. Mono- + Syllogism.] (See quot.) So **Monosyllogi·stic** *a.*

1838 Sir W. Hamilton *Logic* xix. (1860) I. 363 A syllogism, viewed as an isolated and independent whole, is called a Monosyllogism, that is, a single reasoning. *Ibid.* xxvi. II. 44 In respect to the External Form, Probations are Simple or Monosyllogistic, if they consist of a single reasoning.

Monosymmetric (mɒnəsime·trik), *a.* [f. Mono- + Symmetric.] **a.** *Cryst.* = Monoclinic.

1880 in Webster *Suppl.* 1887 *Athenæum* 10 Sept. 345/2 [Graphite occurs] in tabular crystals so indistinctly formed as to render it uncertain whether they belong to the hexagonal or monosymmetric system.

b. *Bot.* = next. 1890 in *Century Dict.*

Monosymme·trical, *a. Bot.* [f. Mono- + Symmetrical.] Of flowers, fruits, etc.: Divisible into exactly similar halves in one plane only.

1875 Bennett & Dyer *Sachs' Bot.* 184 A shoot with alternating leaves in two rows is also simply bilateral without being monosymmetrical. *Ibid.* 533 The happy expression *zygomorphic* already used by Braun may be applied equally to monosymmetrical flowers. 1898 tr. *Strasburger's Text-bk. Bot.* (1903) 16 When..a division into two similar halves is only possible in one plane, the degree of symmetry is indicated by the terms *simply symmetrical*, *monosymmetrical*, or *zygomorphic*.

Hence **Monosymme·trically** *adv.*

1875 [see Polysymmetrically].

Monosymmetry (mɒnəsi·mĕtri). *Bot.* [f. Mono- + Symmetry.] The condition of being monosymmetrical.

1875 Bennett & Dyer *Sachs' Bot.* 183 Monosymmetry is ..a particular case of the ordinary bilateral structure.

Monosymptomatic: see Mono- 1.

‖ **Monota** (mɒnō·tă). *Antiq.* Pl. -tæ. [mod. L., f. Gr. μώνωτος (also μονούατος) one-eared, with one handle, f. μόνο-ς Mono- + ὠτ-, οὐατ-, οὖς ear, handle.] A one-handled vase.

1887 B. V. Head *Hist. Numorum* 521 Amphora with small monota beside it.

Monotelephone, -phonic: see Mono- 1.

Monotessaron (mɒnɒte·sărŏn). [a. med.L. *monotessaron*, f. (erron. after *diatessaron*) Gr. μόνο-ς single + τέσσαρ-ες four.] A continuous scriptural narrative prepared from a collation of the four Gospels; = Diatessaron 3.

1831 *T. H. Horne's Introd. to Bible* (U. S. ed.) II. I. xi. 478 (Funk) The importance..of..obtaining the clear amount of their various narratives, has..suggested the plan of digesting the Gospels into..a connected history..termed..a Monotessaron. 1862 F. Barham (*title*) Improved Monotessaron;..combining the words of the Four Gospels. 1882 in Ogilvie.

Monothalamic (mɒnɒθălæ·mik), *a.* Also incorrectly -thalmic. [Formed as next + -ic.]

1. = Monothalamous 2.

1845 J. Phillips *Geol.* in *Encycl. Metrop.* VI. 608/2 Monothalamic cephalopoda.

2. *Bot.* Of fruits: Formed from one pistil or flower.

1870 *Henfrey's Elem. Bot.* § 255 Fruits may be divided into *free* or *monothalamic fruits*, formed from single flowers, and *confluent fruits*. 1871 Masters in *Nature* 2 Nov. 6/2 Classification of Monothalamic Fruits. 1874 R. Brown *Man. Bot.* 483 Monothalmic Fruits.

b. (See quot.)

1900 B. D. Jackson *Gloss. Bot. Terms*, *Monothalamic*, *monothalamous*, (1) applied to apothecia consisting of a single chamber; (2) when galls consist of only one interior chamber.

Monothalamous (mɒnɒθæ·lămɔs), *a.* [f. Gr. μόνο-ς Mono- + θάλαμ-ος bed-chamber (see Thalamus) + -ous.] Having only one chamber.

1. *Ent.* (See quot.)

1816 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* xiv. (1818) I. 456 The majority of galls are what entomologists have denominated monothalamous, or consisting of only one chamber or cell.

2. Applied to the chambered shells of foraminifers and gasteropodous molluscs.

1834 Roget *Anim. & Veg. Physiol.* I. 265 Some,..as the Argonaut, or Paper Nautilus, have shells undivided by partitions; and are accordingly termed *unilocular* or *monothalamous*. 1835-6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 114/1 The surface of the body is..covered with a shell, which is..rarely monothalamous. 1880 W. S. Kent *Infusoria* I. 328 Some Monothalamous Foraminifer such as *Lagena* or *Miliola*. 1888 Rolleston & Jackson *Anim. Life* 875 (*Radiolaria*) The cyrtoid skeleton may be monothalamous..or..polythalamous.

3. *Bot.* Applied to the apothecia of certain lichens. *a* 1886 E. Tuckerman (Cent.). 1900 [see Monothalamic 2 b].

Monothallious (mɒnɒθæ·liəs), *a. Chem.* [Mono- 2.] Applied to thallious salts which contain one equivalent of thallium.

1868 Watts *Dict. Chem.* V. 755 The monothallious salt TlH^2PO^4, is formed on mixing the dithallious salt with [etc.]. 1873 *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 11) 413 Monothallious orthophosphate.

Monothalloid (mɒnɒθæ·loid), *a. Bot.* [f. Gr. μόνο-ς Mono- + θαλλ-ός (see Thallus) + -oid.] Having a single or undivided thallus.

1891 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

Monothamnoid (mɒnɒθæ·mnoid), *a. Bot.* [f. Gr. μόνο-ς Mono- + θάμν-ος bush, shrub + -oid.] = Monothalloid. 1891 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

Monothecal (mɒnɒθī·kăl), *a. Bot.* [f. Gr. μόνο-ς Mono- + θήκ-η case, box + -al.] Having only one loculament or cell: applied to anthers.

1849 Balfour *Man. Bot.* § 405 Sometimes the anther has a single cavity, and becomes unilocular .., or monothecal. 1880 in Webster *Suppl.*; and in recent Dicts.

Monotheism (mɒnɒθī·izm). [f. Gr. μόνο-ς Mono- + θε-ός god + -ism. Cf. F. *monothéisme*.] The doctrine or belief that there is only one God.

1660 H. More *Myst. Godl.* III. ii. 62 But thus to make the World God, is to make all; and therefore this Kinde of Monotheisme of the Heathen is as rank Atheisme as their Polytheisme was proved to be before. 1736 Bailey (folio) Pref. (end), *Monotheism*, the Doctrine or Principles of the Unitarians. 1812 Cogan *Jewish Disp.* ii. § 7. 322 [The Jews] have continued firm..in their adherence to pure Monotheism, under every persecution. 1865 Lecky *Ration.* (1878) II. 277 A race whose pure monotheism formed a marked contrast to the scarcely disguised polytheism of the Spanish Catholics. 1876 Gladstone in *Contemp. Rev.* June 18 The only large monotheism known to historic times is that of Mahomet.

Monotheist (mɒnɒθī·ist), *sb.* (*a.*) [Formed as prec. + -ist. Cf. F. *monothéiste*.] One who believes in only one God; an adherent of monotheism.

1680 H. More *Apocal. Apoc.* 84 They destroy the worship of the Son of God under an ignorant pretence of Monotheisme; whereas the more distinct knowledge of that one God does not make us less Monotheists than they. 1812 Cogan *Jewish Disp.* ii. § 7. 321 The general propensity to the worship of Idols was totally subdued; and they became Monotheists in the strictest sense of the term. 1874 Mahaffy *Soc. Life Greece* xi. 334 Their literary monuments were composed by the cultivated monotheists.

b. *attrib.* or *adj.* = next.

1825 *Gentl. Mag.* XCV. I. 235 Abury..might be a temple of the first, or Monotheist Druids. 1872 Bagehot *Physics & Pol.* ii. (1880) 77 The Jews, who were monotheist, were conquered by the Romans who were polytheist. 1875 [see Polytheist b].

Monotheistic (mɒnɒθiī·stik), *a.* [f. prec. + -ic: see -istic.] Of, pertaining to, believing in, or characterized by monotheism.

1846 Trench *Miracles* Introd. 58 The monotheistic religion of the Jews. 1871 C. Hodge *Syst. Theol.* I. I. iii. 243 There are monotheistic hymns in the Vedas. 1900 Sayce *Babylon. & Assyr.* xi. 262 A monotheistic school actually existed in one of the literary circles of Babylonia.

So **Monothei·stical** *a.* = Monotheistic; hence **Monothei·stically** *adv.*, in a monotheistic manner.

1877 T. Sinclair *Mount* (1878) 81 The severe monotheistical spirit. 1905 J. Orr *Probl. O. T.* iv. 93 They [the patriarchs] thought and spoke monotheistically.

Monothelete (mɒnɒ·þĭlīt). *Theol.* A more correctly etymological form of Monothelite. So **Mo·nothele·tian, Monothele·tic** *adjs.*; **Monothe·letism.**

1850 Neale *Hymns East. Ch.* 33 He [S. Germanus] might be the more favourably disposed to Monotheletism, because he had been so deeply injured by its great opponent, Pogonatus. 1880 T. M. Lindsay in *Encycl. Brit.* XI. 156/1 The Monotheletes refused to submit. 1887 Heard *Russian Ch.* i. 2 The monotheletian patriarchs and the dyotheletian popes mutually anathematized each other. 1885 Schaff *Hist. Church, Mediæval Christ.* § 110. 490 The Monotheletic or one-will controversy.

Monothelious: see Mono- 1.

Monothelism (mɒnɒ·þĭliz'm). *rare.* [f. Monothel(ite) + -ism. Cf. F. *monothélisme*.] = Monothelitism.

1685 Lovell *Gen. Hist. Relig.* 132 They who look upon Monothelism as an Heresie, ought [etc.]. 1856 J. C. Robertson *Hist. Chr. Ch., 2nd Period* 39 He..agreed with him..in a personal profession of Monothelism.

Monothelite (mɒnɒ·þĭlīt), *sb.* and *a.* Also 6, 8 -it; in blundered forms 5 **Monacholite**, **Monalechite**, 7 **Monotholite**; cf. Monothelete. [ad. med.L. *monothelita*, ad. (with assimilation to -*ita* -ite 1) late Gr. μονοθελήτης (7th c.), f. Gr. μόνο-ς single + θελητής, agent-n. from θέλ-ειν to will. Cf. F. *monothélite*.] **A.** *sb.* An adherent of the heretical sect founded in the 7th c.) which maintained that Christ has only one will.

1430-40 Lydg. *Bochas* IX. iv. (1558) 23 Of a secte called Monacholites. 1460 Capgrave *Chron.* (Rolls) 96 His [*sc.* Eraclius] heresie, whech thei clepid Monalechites. *c* 1559 R. Hall *Life Fisher* in *F.'s Wks.* (E.E.T.S.) II. 135 Agatho against the monothelits. 1597 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* v. xlviii. § 9 The Church hath of old condemned Monothelites as Heretiques, for holding that Christ had but one will. 1615 Sir E. Hoby *Curry-combe* iv. 174 You haue heard that Honorius the first was a Monotholite. 1638 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* (ed. 2) 161 They professe Christianity taught them erroniously by Jacobus the Syrian Monothelite. 1716 Monothelit [see Monothelitic *a.*]. 1856 J. C. Robertson *Hist. Chr. Ch., 2nd Period* 67 Wilfrid..was invited to take a place in the council against the Monothelites.

allusively. 1652 *Observ. Forms Govt.* 16 It is nothing else but a Monarchy of Monothelites, or of many men of one will most commonly in one point onely.

B. *adj.* Of or pertaining to the Monothelites or their doctrine.

1619 Purchas *Microcosmus* lxix. 695 The Maronites .. maintaine the Monothelite Heresie. 1680 Baxter *Answ. Stillingfl.* xxxviii. 64 So were the Orthodox under the Nestorian, Eutychian, Monothelite,..Princes. 1788 Gibbon *Decl. & F.* xlvii. IV. 589 *note*, The Monothelite monk. 1840 W. Palmer *Eccl. Hist.* vii. 73 Honorius [bishop] of Rome sanctioned the Monothelite heresy. 1856 J. C. Robertson *Hist. Chr. Ch., 2nd Period* 55 The Monothelite controversy for a time weakened the influence of Rome.

Monothelitic (mɒnɒþĭli·tik), *a.* Cf. Monotheletic. [f. prec. + -ic.] = Monothelite *a.*

1716 M. Davies *Athen. Brit.* II. 290 The Emperor Constans the 2d, that he might the better execute his Monothelitick Principles of Arian Prosecution, he pretended to impose Silence on the Heterodox Monothelits. 1854 Milman *Lat. Chr.* II. 126 Severinus..repudiated the Monothelitic doctrine. 1882-3 *Schaff's Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* II. 1192 The Monothelitic confession of the Patriarch Sergius.

Monothelitism (mɒnɒ·þĭləitiz'm). See also Monotheletism. [f. Monothelite + -ism.] The doctrine of the Monothelites.

1765 Maclaine tr. *Mosheim's Eccl. Hist.* VII. II. v. § 5 The doctrine of Monothelitism. *a* 1861 Cunningham *Hist. Theol.* (1864) I. xi. 328 Honorius advocated Monothelitism. 1882-3 *Schaff's Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* I. 457 Monothelitism continued among the Maronites on Mount Lebanon.

Monothetic: see Mono- 1.

Monothionic (mɒnɒþəi·ɒnik), *a. Chem.* [See Mono- 2 and Dithionic.] In *monothionic acid*, a very unstable fluid, H_2SO_2, obtained by the action of diluted sulphuric acid on iron or zinc, with exclusion of air. 1891 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

Monotint (mɒ·notint). [f. Mono- + Tint.] Representation in a single colour or tint; also a picture in only one colour. Chiefly in phr. *in monotint*. Cf. Monochrome.

1886 *Contemp. Rev.* Sept. 405 To borrow the language of painting, the characters are mere studies in mono-tint. 1886 *Athenæum* 28 Aug. 273/3 The list of books .. includes ..'All round the Clock', from original drawings in colour and monotint by Harriett M. Bennett. 1887 *Ibid.* 24 Sept. 413/2 Books illustrated in colour and monotint.

Monotocous (mŏnɒ·tŏkəs), *a.* [f. Gr. *μονο-τόκ-ος* bearing but one at a time (f. *μόνο-ς* MONO- + *τοκ-*, *τίκτειν* to bring forth) + -OUS.] **a.** *Zool.* Bearing only one or normally only one at a birth; uniparous. **b.** *Ornith.* Laying only one egg before incubating. **c.** *Bot.* Bearing fruit only once: a term proposed instead of MONOCARPIC.

1880 GRAY *Struct. Bot.* 33 *note*, *Monotocous* (bearing progeny once)..would be more appropriate [than monocarpic]. 1890 [all three uses] in *Century Dict.*

Monotome (mɒ·nŏtōum), *a. rare.* [f. Gr. *μόνο-ς* MONO- + *τόμος* TOME.] Comprised in one volume.

1872 F. HALL *Recent Exempl.* 55 *note*, It is used by Southey, in *The Doctor* (monotome ed.), p. 32. 1873 — *Mod. Eng.* iii. 56 *note*, The monotome edition of Gibbon's *Miscellaneous Works*, in 1837.

Monotomous: see MONO- 1.

Monotone (mɒ·nŏtōun), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. mod.L. **monoton-us* adj., a. late Gr. *μονότονος*, f. Gr. *μόνο-ς* MONO- + *τόνος* TONE. Cf. F. *monoton* adj. Sp. *monótono*, It. *monotono*, G. *monoton* adjs. The use of the word as a sb. is peculiar to Eng.]

A. *adj.* = MONOTONOUS *a.* 1 (*rarely* 2).

1769 *Phil. Trans.* LIX. 494 The Europeans conclude.. the Chinese tongue..is barren, monotone, and hard to understand. 1851 C. P. SMYTH *Three Cities in Russia* II. 195 The dark figure of a watchman soldier pacing his weary round through the monotone snow, appeared the only living object. 1872 O. SHIPLEY *Gloss. Eccl. Termis* 6 The accent being either plain, i.e. monotone; or *medius* [etc.]. 1875 KINGLAKE *Crimea* (1877) V. i. 51 As lulling as the monotone waves. 1901 R. BRIDGES *Milton's Prosody* 78 The monotone recitation of the prayers in cathedrals.

B. *sb.*

1. A continuance or uninterrupted repetition of the same tone; the utterance, in speech or singing, of a number of successive syllables without change of pitch.

1644 BULWER *Chiron.* 136 Shun similitude of gesture; for as a monotone in the voyce, so a continued similitude of gesture. 1768 PENNANT *Brit. Zool.* I. 224 The pigeon kind excepted, whose slow plaintive continued monotone has something sweetly soothing in it. 1870-74 J. THOMSON *City Dreadf. Nt.* x. xv, He murmured thus and thus in monotone. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 367 The speech is often monosyllabic, a whispered monotone. 1906 H. BLACK *Edin. Serm.* 184 There is no music in a monotone.

b. *transf.*

a 1849 POE *Bells* Poems (1859) 77 Tolling, tolling, tolling In that muffled monotone. 1850 ALLINGHAM *Goblin Child of Ballyshannon* vii, The monotone Of the river flowing down Through the arches of the bridge. 1863 WOOLNER *My Beautiful Lady* 76 Drearily solemn runs a monotone, Heard through breathless hush. 1878 H. S. WILSON *Alp. Ascents* i. 15 A monotone of murmur from the river.

2. Monotony or sameness of style in composition or writing; something composed in such a style.

1871 T. W. HIGGINSON *Atlantic Ess., Let. to Yng. Contrib.* 78 An essay may be thoroughly delightful without a single witticism, while a monotone of jokes soon grows tedious. 1875 STEDMAN *Vict. Poets* v. (1887) 169 'In Memoriam'.. although a monotone, [is] no more monotonous than the sounds of nature,—the murmur of ocean [etc.]. 18.. BLACKIE (Ogilvie 1882), The sentimental monotone of Macpherson's *Ossian*. 1903 *Edin. Rev.* Jan. 65 The whole story is a miracle in monotone.

3. *fig.* A monotonous continuance or recurrence *of* something.

1856 RUSKIN *Mod. Paint.* IV. 172 Its [*sc.* science's] history is a monotone of endurance and destruction. 1901 HENLEY *Hawthorn & Lavender* 61 In a dull dense monotone of pain.

4. One tone or colour; cf. MONOTINT.

1896 *Boston* (Mass.) *Youth's Companion* 3 Dec. *Advt.*, Single and double-page engravings in monotone.

Monotone (mɒ·nŏtōun), *v.* [f. MONOTONE *sb.*] *trans.* To recite, speak, or sing in one unvaried tone; to chant or intone on a single note.

1864 J. W. BROOKS & J. PLACE (*title*) On monotoning Prayer. 1880 F. G. LEE *Ch. under Q. Eliz.* I. 313 The parish clerk..was duly authorized by the Primate of England..to monotone the Psalms at Mattins and Evensong. 1890 *Tablet* 25 Oct. 655 He knelt while the Litany was monotoned. 1899 *Eclectic Mag.* Feb. 184 He generally seized the opportunity..to monotone long extracts. 1899 *Daily News* 7 Feb. 6/3 The choir monotone the service.

Hence **Mo·notoning** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1883 SIR H. OAKELEY *Bible Psalter* Pref. 6 The recited portion ought to approach as nearly as possible to good monotoning. 1897 F. THOMPSON *New Poems* 159 The wind and I keep both one monotoning tongue.

Monotoned (mɒ·nŏtōund), *a. rare.* [f. MONO- + TONE *sb.* + -ED 2.] Having only one tone.

1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Miner's Right* xxxvi, The monotoned wastes of the great Gold Desert. 1890 — *Col. Reformer* (1891) 394 Sandy spaces, already flushed with green, had succeeded to the pale, dusty, monotoned landscape.

Monotonic (mɒnɒtɒ·nik), *a. Mus.* [f. MONOTONE *sb.* + -IC.] Relating to or uttered in a monotone; 'also capable of producing but a single tone, as a drum' (*Cent. Dict.* 1890).

1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XII. 538/2 The fundamental bass which in itself is monotonic and little suited for singing [etc.]. 1828-32 WEBSTER, *Monotonic*, monotonous (*little used*). 1850 HELMORE *Man. Plain Song* 227 Monotonic mediation. 1880 ROCKSTRO in Grove *Dict. Mus.* II. 355/1 The use of Monotonic Recitation is of extreme antiquity.

So **Monoto·nical** *a.*; **Monoto·nically** *adv.*

1752 CHESTERF. *Let. Son* 23 Jan., A play, in which one should not be lulled to sleep by the length of a monotonical declamation. 1890 *Lippincott's Mag.* Jan. 100 Hear'st thou that rush of homeward-hurrying things, And word-calls monotonically harsh?

Monotonist (mŏnɒ·tŏnist). [f. MONOTONE *sb.* or MONOTONY + -IST.] In various nonce-uses: One who speaks monotonously; one who constantly 'harps on' one subject; one whose style is monotonous; one who loves or advocates monotony.

1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1768) IV. 125 If I ruin such a Virtue, sayest thou! Eternal monotonist! 1785 TRUSLER *Mod. Times* I. 139 To others, who do not like to be taught by boys,..and who go to church more to keep up appearances, than from any spirit of devotion, he would provide a monotonist of sixty. 1848 GILFILLAN in *Tait's Mag.* XV. 521 To avoid insipidity of excellence in his seraphs, and insipidity of horror in his fiends,..was a problem requiring ..dramatic as well as epic powers. No mere monotonist could have succeeded in it. 1905 *Westm. Gaz.* 30 Sept. 4/2 The Imperialist or monotonist who likes to see as many people as possible under a Government of the same pattern.

Monotonize (mŏnɒ·tŏnəiz), *v.* [f. MONOTONOUS + -IZE.] *trans.* To render monotonous.

1804 SOUTHEY *Lett.* (1856) I. 257 The very snow, which you would perhaps think must monotonise the mountains, gives new varieties. 1824 *Examiner* 199/2 Madame Rossini has languished through *Zelmira*, and Madame Vestris monotonized *Rosina*, till every frequenter of the opera must be completely wearied. 1889 *Blackw. Mag.* July 93 This destroys individuality and monotonises character.

Monotonous (mŏnɒ·tŏnəs), *a.* [f. Gr. *μονό-τονος* (see MONOTONE *a.*) + -OUS.]

1. **a.** Of sound or utterance: Continuing on one and the same note; usually in modified sense, having little variation in tone or cadence. **b.** (See quot. 1811.)

1778 WARTON *Hist. Eng. Poetry* II. Emend. a 4, Every line was perhaps uniformly recited to the same monotonous modulation with a pause in the midst. 1795 SEWARD *Anecd.* (ed. 2) II. 367 Lord Chatham's eloquence ..was neither the rounded and the monotonous declamation, ..that we have seen admired in our times. 1811 BUSBY *Dict. Mus.* (ed. 3), *Monotonous*, an epithet applied to any instrument which produces but one tone or note: as the drum, the tamborine, &c. 1814 SCOTT *Wav.* xvii, The monotonous and murmured chant of a Gaelic song. 1839 FR. A. KEMBLE *Resid. in Georgia* (1863) 61 A melancholy, monotonous boat horn. 1854 BUSHNAN in *Circ. Sci.* (1865) I. 285/2 The successive notes have nearly all the same pitch. This kind of succession..is properly termed the monotonous. 1859 TENNYSON *Guinevere* 417 A voice, Monotonous and hollow like a Ghost's Denouncing judgment. 1863 MARY HOWITT tr. *F. Bremer's Greece* II. xii. 42 The owl of Minerva lets us hear in the evening his monotonous cry.

2. *transf.* and *fig.* Lacking in variety; uninteresting or wearisome through continued sameness: said e.g. of occupations, scenery, literary style, etc.

1791-1823 D'ISRAELI *Cur. Lit.* (1859) II. 208 The national character retained more originality and individuality than our monotonous habits now admit. 1827 STEUART *Planter's G.* (1828) 60 The Lime, a Tree, which, unless on the foreground, is always formal and monotonous in landscape. 1831 MACAULAY *Ess., Byron* (1897) 154 The monotonous smoothness of Byron's versification. 1873 HAMERTON *Intell. Life* xii. i. (1875) 434 The monotonous character of the Midland scenery. 1876 MISS BRADDON *J. Haggard's Dau.* II. 23 The life is somewhat monotonous,..but I hope you will not grow weary of it. 1876 GREEN *Stray Stud.* 6 Dull straight streets of monotonous houses. 1895 RIDER HAGGARD *Heart of World* i, These men proved to be half-breeds of the lowest class, living in an atmosphere of monotonous vice.

quasi-*adv.* 1845 BROWNING *Pictor Ignotus* 58 As monotonous I paint These endless cloisters and eternal aisles With the same series, Virgin, Babe and Saint.

3. *Math.* Of a function (see quot.).

[= Ger. *monoton*, introduced by C. Neumann 1881.]

1890 in *Century Dict.* 1902 LOVE in *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 10) XXVIII. 547 A function which never increases or never diminishes throughout an interval is said to be 'monotonous throughout' the interval.

Hence **Mono·tonousness.**

1839 *Fraser's Mag.* XIX. 158 Rhymed alexandrines .. produce a wearisome monotonousness. 1881 *Times* 15 Mar. 12 The weary monotonousness of Russian life. 1889 'MARK TWAIN' *Yankee at Crt. K. Arthur* xxvi. 303 There is a profound monotonousness about its facts.

Mono·tonously, *adv.* [f. MONOTONOUS *a.* + -LY 2.] In a monotonous manner; with tiresome uniformity or lack of variation.

1828-32 WEBSTER, *Monotonously*, with one uniform tone; without inflection of voice [*citing* Nares]. 1871 L. STEPHEN *Playgr. Eur* xiii. (1894) 327 Wreaths of mist..chased each other monotonously along the rocky ribs. 1872 LIDDON *Elem. Relig.* iv. 143 A man in whom disease had never been latent, and whose constitution had been even monotonously free from its assaults.

Monotony (mŏnɒ·tŏni). [f. late Gr. *μονοτονία* sameness of tone, monotony, f. *μονότονος* MONOTONE *a.* Cf. F. *monotonie* (1690 in Hatz.-Darm.).] The quality of being monotonous.

1. Sameness of tone or pitch; want of variety in cadence or inflection; occas. quasi-*concr.* a monotonous sound, a monotone.

[Cf. 1706 in sense 2.] 1724 BAILEY (ed. 2), *Monotony*, the having but one Tone. [1731 *Ibid.* (vol. II.), *Monotonia*, the having but one tone; also a want of inflection or variation of voice, or a pronunciation, where a long series of words are delivered with one unvaried tone.] 1748 J. MASON *Elocut.* 19 To avoid a Monotony in Pronunciation, or a dull, set, uniform Tone of Voice. 1749 *Power Pros. Numbers* 15 For though its [*sc.* the drum's] Sound be only a Monotony, yet [etc.]. 1761 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* IV. xix, It is in vain longer, said my father, in the most querulous monotony imaginable, to struggle as I have done. 1774 WARTON *Hist. Eng. Poetry* i. I. 21 Our earliest poets..were fond of multiplying the same final sound to the most tedious monotony. 1818 SHELLEY *Stanzas written in Dejection* iv, I might.. hear the sea Breathe o'er my dying brain its last monotony. 1831 W. GOUWIN *Thoughts Man* 22 A sheepish..schoolboy, that hung his head, and replied with inarticulated monotony. 1866 GEO. ELIOT *F. Holt* i, The soft monotony of running water. 1896 'H. S. MERRIMAN' *Flotsam* ii, The sleepy monotony of the rattling block-sheaves.

2. *transf.* and *fig.* Wearisome sameness of effect; tedious recurrence of the same objects, actions, etc.; lack of interesting variety in occupation, scenery, literary style, etc.

1706 POPE *Let. to Walsh* 22 Oct., I could equally object to the Repetition of the same Rhimes within four or six lines of each other, as tiresome to the ear thro' their Monotony. 1783 BLAIR *Lect. Rhet.* xiii. 261 Monotony is the great fault into which writers are apt to fall, who are fond of harmonious arrangement. 1820 W. IRVING *Sketch Bk.* I. 13 At sea, everything that breaks the monotony of the surrounding expanse, attracts attention. 1831 MACAULAY *Ess., Byron* (1897) 158 Never was there such variety in monotony as that of Byron. 1843 BORROW *Bible in Spain* vii. 46 A tower—the only object which broke the monotony of the waste. 1883 GILMOUR *Mongols* xxiv. 295 The monotony of prison life.

Monotremal (mŏnɒtrī·məl), *a. rare*$^{-1}$. [f. MONOTREME + -AL.] = MONOTREMATOUS.

1866 *Reader* No. 163. 152/2 Monotremal mammalians.

‖ **Monotremata** (mŏnɒtrī·mătă), *sb. pl. Zool.* [mod.L., neut. pl. of *monotrēmatus* adj., f. Gr. *μόνο-ς* MONO- + *τρηματ-*, *τρῆμα* perforation, hole, f. *τρᾱ-* root of *τετραίνειν* to bore through, perforate.] The lowest Order of Mammalia, containing mammals which have only one opening or vent for the genital, urinary, and digestive organs.

The Order comprises the duck-billed platypus (*Ornithorhynchus paradoxus*) and several species of spiny ant-eaters of the genera *Tachyglossus* (or *Echidna*) and *Zaglossus* or *Acanthoglossus*. They are native to Australia and New Guinea, and are oviparous.

1833 *Proc. Zool. Soc.* 12 Mar. 29 [tr. of Geoffroy St. Hilaire], The Monotremata. 1839-47 OWEN in *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* III. 368/1 The skull in both genera of Monotremata is long and depressed.

Monotremate (mŏnɒtrī·mĕt), *a.* and *sb. Zool.* [ad. mod.L. *monotrēmatus*: see prec.] **a.** *adj.* = MONOTREMATOUS. **b.** *sb.* in *pl.* = MONOTREMATA.

1846 SMART, *Monotremates.*

Monotrematous (mŏnɒtrī·mătəs), *a. Zool.* [f. MONOTREMATA + -OUS.] Pertaining to or characteristic of the *Monotremata.*

1835-6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 174/2 The monotrematous animals..form a complete exception to this statement. 1886 *Fortn. Rev.* Apr. 527, I am by no means convinced that all mammals had monotrematous progenitors.

Monotreme (mŏnɒtrīm), *sb.* and *a. Zool.* [f. Gr. *μόνο-ς* MONO- + *τρῆμ-α*: see MONOTREMATA. Cf. F. *monotrème.*]

A. *sb.* A member of the *Monotremata.*

1835 KIRBY *Hab. & Inst. Anim.* II. xxiv. 483 This Subclass is divided into two Orders, Monotremes, and Marsupians. 1884 *Rep. Brit. Assoc.* 777 Mr. Caldwell..had discovered that the Monotremes were oviparous.

B. *adj.* = MONOTREMATOUS.

1890 *Century Dict.* s.v., Monotreme mammals; a monotreme egg.

Hence **Mo·notre·mous** *a.* = MONOTREMATOUS.

1890 in *Century Dict.*

Monotriglyph (mŏnɒtrəi·glif), *a.* and *sb. Arch.* [ad. L. *monotriglyph-os* (Vitruvius), a. Gr. **μονοτρίγλυφος* adj., f. Gr. *μόνο-ς* MONO- + *τρίγλυφος* TRIGLYPH. Cf. F. *monotriglyphe* sb. and adj.]

A. *adj.* Having only one triglyph in the space over an intercolumniation.

1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) II. 239/1 [The Doric intercolumniations] were either systyle, monotriglyph..; diastyle..; or araeostyle. 1823 P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Build.* 588 *Monotriglish*; having only one triglish between two adjoining columns: the general practice in the Grecian Doric. 1842 GWILT *Archit.* § 2605, A is the systyle monotriglyph intercolumniation of 3 modules.

B. *sb.* (See quot. 1850.)

1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Monotriglyph.* 1734 *Builder's Dict.* 1823 CRABB *Technol. Dict.*, *Monotriglyph* (*Archit.*), monotriglyphon; the space of one triglyph between two pilasters or columns. 1850 PARKER *Gloss. Archit.* (ed. 5) I. 308 *Monotriglyph*, .. the intercolumniation in the Doric order which embraces one triglyph and two metopes in the entablature.

So **Monotrigly·phic** *a.* = MONOTRIGLYPH *a.*

1837 *Penny Cycl.* VII. 218/2 Monotriglyphic intercolumniation.

† **Mo·notroch.** *Obs.* Also -troche. [ad. Gr. *μονότροχ-os* one-wheeled (car), f. *μόνο-ς* MONO- + *τροχός* wheel.] A vehicle with only one wheel.

1807 *Sporting Mag.* XXIX. 66 A most curious sort of gig called a Monotroche from its having only one wheel was exhibited in Bond Street, the 24th inst. 1825 MOORE *Sheridan* I. 22 Ixion..instead of being fixed to a torturing wheel, was to have been fixed to a vagrant monotroche, as knife-grinder. 1828 SCOTT *My Aunt Margaret's Mirr.* (*Init.*), These monotrochs [*jocularly* = wheelbarrows].

Monotrochal (mɒnɒ·trŏkăl), *a. Zool.* [f. mod.L. *monotroch-us* (Ehrenberg, a. Gr. *μονό-τροχος*: see prec.) + -AL.] **a.** Belonging to the division *Monotrocha* of rotifers, in which the trochal disk or 'wheel' is single. **b.** Having a single band of cilia, as the larva of a polychæte worm. **c.** Belonging or pertaining to the division *Monotrocha* of *Hymenoptera*, in which the trochanter has but one joint. So **Monotro·chian** *a.* (*sb.* a monotrochal rotifer), **Mono·trochous** *a.*

1845 *Encycl. Metrop.* VII. 266/1 The Wheel Organs are either *Monotrochous*, i.e. have a simple connected ring of cilia, or [etc.]. 1854 ADAMS, etc. *Man. Nat. Hist.* 341 Rotifers. .. 1 Order.—Monotrochians (Monotrocha). 1886 A. G. BOURNE in *Encycl. Brit.* XXI. 8/1 A monotrochal polychætous larva. 1890 *Century Dict.*, *Monotrochian* [*a.* and *sb.*]. 1895 *Cambr. Nat. Hist.* V. 494 In the stinging Hymenoptera the trochanters are usually of a single piece, and these Insects are called monotrochous.

‖ **Monotropa** (mɒnɒ·trŏpă). *Bot.* [mod.L. (Linnæus 1737), f. Gr. *μονότροπος* living alone, solitary, f. *μόνο-ς* MONO- + *τρόπος* turn, direction, way, manner (f. *τρέπειν* to turn).] A genus of dicotyledonous plants, the type of the N.O. *Monotropeæ*, characterized by a solitary flower with separate petals. *M. uniflora* (the only species) is the Indian-pipe or corpse-plant. Also this plant.

[1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.*, *Monotropa*, in botany, the name of a genus of plants, called by Tournefort, *orobanchoides*, and by Dillenius, *hypophitis*.] 1778 G. WHITE *Selborne*, *To Barrington* 3 July, *Monotropa hypopithys*, yellow monotropa, or birds' nest. 1845-50 MRS. LINCOLN *Lect. Bot.* x. 61 The *Monotropa*, or Indian pipe, is of pure white, resembling wax-work. 1905 *Longm. Mag.* Jan. 257 The uncanny yellow monotropa abounds as of old.

Monotropaceous (mɒnɒtrɒpē·ʃəs), *a. Bot.* [f. mod.L. *Monotropāce-æ* (Lindley 1836) + -OUS.] Of or pertaining to the *Monotropaceæ* (or *Monotropeæ*), an order of gamopetalous herbs, having the *Monotropa* as typical genus.

In recent Dicts.

Monotropeous (mɒnɒtrō·pĭəs), *a. Bot.* [f. mod.L. *Monotrope-æ* (Nuttal 1818) + -OUS.] = MONOTROPACEOUS.

1856 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Monotropeus*, applied to a Family..of plants established by Nuttal, having the Monotropa for their type: monotropeous.

Monotrophic (mɒnɒtrɒ·fik), *a. Zool.* [f. Gr. **μονότροφ-ος* (f. *μόνο-ς* MONO- + *τρέφειν* to feed) + -IC. Cf. *μονοτροφεῖν* (Strabo) to eat but one kind of food.] Of a parasitic organism: Infesting only one host; feeding on one kind of food.

1900 A. C. JONES tr. *Fischer's Struct. Bacteria* 49, I. Prototrophic Bacteria..occur only in the open in nature, never parasitic, always monotrophic. II. Metatrophic Bacteria, ..(facultative parasites), monotrophic or polytrophic.

Monotropic (mɒnɒtrɒ·pik), *a.* [f. Gr. *μόνο-ς* single, MONO- + *τρόπ-ος* turn + -IC.]

1. *Math.* = MONODROMIC (opp. to *polytropic*).

1891 tr. *Harnack's Diff. & Int. Calc.* 128 The total course of a one-valued (monotropic) function is realised by help of two planes.

2. (See quot.) [? Error for *monotrophic*.]

1900 B. D. JACKSON *Gloss. Bot. Terms*, *Monotropic*, applied to bees which visit only one species of flower.

Monotypal (mɒ·nɒtəipăl), *a.* [f. MONOTYPE + -AL.] = MONOTYPIC.

1890 in *Century Dict.* And in later Dicts.

Monotype (mɒ·nɒtəip), *sb.* and *a.* [f. MONO- + TYPE; in sense 1 repr. mod. L. *monotypus*.]

A. *sb.* **1.** 'The only or sole type; especially, a sole species which constitutes a genus, family, or the like' (Ogilvie *Suppl.* 1882).

1881 BENTHAM in *Jrnl. Linn. Soc.* XVIII. 345 Macodes, Blume, and Hyophila, Lindley, are both monotypes from the Malayan Archipelago.

2. 'A print from a metal plate on which a picture is painted, as in oil-colour or printer's ink. Only one proof can be made, since the picture is transferred to the paper' (*Cent. Dict.*). Also, the method of producing such a print. Also *attrib.*

1882 *Artist* 1 Feb. 60/1 A very interesting collection of monotypes executed by Mr. Charles A. Walker of Boston. Though Mr. Walker did not invent the monotype still to him is due the credit of developing this process. 1902 E. BALE in *Encycl. Brit.* XXXII. 18/1 The monotype is not a new, but a revival of a somewhat old, method of reproducing on paper a painting by an artist.

3. The inventor's name for a composing-machine which first casts, and then sets up the type by means of a perforated paper roll which has been previously produced on another part of the machine. Cf. LINOTYPE, MONOLINE. Also *attrib.*

1895 *Current Hist.* (Buffalo) V. 961 The Lanston Monotype..invented by Tolbert Lanston, of Washington, D.C. marks an important advance in the development of typographical art..both a type-setting and a type-casting machine. 1897 *Daily News* 15 Oct. 6/2 The monotype machine. 1906 *Daily Chron.* 15 Sept. 6/5 The machinery .. included a couple of Monotypes.

B. *adj.* = MONOTYPIC [cf. F. *monotype* adj.]. Cf. also MONOTYPE 2 and 3.

1885 in *Cassell's Encycl. Dict.* And in later Dicts.

Monotypic (mɒnɒti·pik), *a.* [f. mod.L. *monotyp-us* (see next) + -IC.]

1. Having or containing only one type or representative.

1878 T. GILL in *Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus.* 231 All the genera are monotypic except *Malthe*. 1881 BENTHAM in *Jrnl. Linn. Soc.* XVII. 322 Paradisanthus, Kegelia [etc.]..are all monotypic genera. 1888 J. T. GULICK *ibid.*, *Zool.* XX. 201 Monotypic Evolution is any transformation of a species that does not destroy its unity of type. *a* 1894 ROMANES *Darwin & after D.* (1897) III. 75 The all-important distinction between monotypic and polytypic evolution.

2. That is a monotype; that is the sole representative of a genus or a higher group.

1886 P. L. SCLATER *Catal. Birds Brit. Mus.* XI. 17 *Hemidacnis*...This is again a monotypic form.

So **Monoty·pical** *a.* = MONOTYPIC.

1890 in *Century Dict.* And in later Dicts.

Monotypous (mɒnɒ·tipəs), *a.* [f. mod.L. *monotyp-us* (f. Gr. *μόνο-ς* MONO- + *τύπ-ος* TYPE) + -OUS.] = MONOTYPIC 1. (See quots.)

1856 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Monotypus*, applied by Mirbel to *genera*, as the *Rosa*, and to Families, as the *Labieæ*, composed of one union of objects intimately joined by a multitude of relations perceptible at first glance; applied by De Candolle to *genera* which contain but a single species: monotypous. 1891 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Monotypous*, of one type. Applied to genera the species of which are very similar, and form a distinct type.

Monoundai, -day, obs. forms of MONDAY.

Monovalent (mɒnɒ·vālĕnt), *a. Chem.* [Hybrid f. MONO- + VALENT.] = UNIVALENT.

1869 ROSCOE *Elem. Chem.* (1871) 122 The elements of the first group combine atom for atom with hydrogen, they are monovalent elements or monads. 1881 tr. *A. Strecker's Org. Chem.* 114 The Monovalent Alcohol Radicals.

Hence **Mono·valence, Mono·valency**, the character of being monovalent.

1890 in *Century Dict.* And in later Dicts.

Monoxide (mɒnɒ·ksəid, -ɒ·ksid). *Chem.* [f. MONO- 2 + OXIDE.] An oxide containing one equivalent of oxygen.

The term is used where several oxides of the same element are to be distinguished, as carbon monoxide CO, to be distinguished from carbon dioxide CO_2.

1869 ROSCOE *Elem. Chem.* (1871) 69 The salt decomposes on heating into nitrogen mon-oxide and water. 1873 *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 11) 129 Equal weights of oxygen, nitrogen, and carbon monoxide are transpired in equal times. 1891 *Lancet* 2 May 993/2 Small quantities of carbon monoxide.

b. *attrib.*

1900 *Lancet* 25 Aug. 607/2 Deaths from carbon monoxide poisoning. 1904 *Athenæum* 31 Dec. 909/2 The oxygen .. combines with a portion of the carbon to form carbon monoxide gas.

Monoxy-, monox-. *Chem.* Also **mono-oxy-**. [f. MONO- 2 + OXY(GEN).] Combining form, expressing the presence in a compound of one equivalent of oxygen.

1863 *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 9) 494 Monoxethylenamine $C_4H_7O_2, NH_2$. Dioxethylenamine $(C_4H_7O_2)_2, NH_2$. *Ibid.* 578 Monooxysalicylic-acid. 1881 *Nature* 14 Apr. 566/1 Benzene, when acted on by .. nitrogen tetroxide—N_2O_4—yields .. monoxy-benzene—C_6H_4O—an isomer or metamer of quinone. 1891 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Monoöxybenzol. Ibid.*, *Monoxybenzol*, the same as *Carbonic acid.*

Monoxyle (mɒnɒ·ksil). Also **-xyl.** [a. F. *monoxyle* adj. (Littré), ad. Gr. *μονόξυλον*: see MONOXYLON.] = MONOXYLON.

1774 *Misc.* in *Ann. Reg.* 169/2 To these succeeded trunks of trees cut hollow, termed by the Greeks monoxyles. 1840 KEIGHTLEY *Rom. Emp.* III. v. 376 The Goths embarked their warriors in three thousand monoxyls or canoes. 1885 R. F. BURTON *Arab. Nts.* IV. 168 *note*, Here it [*sc.* the Arab word] refers to the canoe..pop. 'dug-out 'and classically 'monoxyle'.

Monoxylic (mɒnɒksi·lik), *a.* [Formed as MONOXYLOUS + -IC.] = MONOXYLOUS.

1863 D. WILSON *Preh. Ann.* III. vi. (ed. 2) II. 160 The rude oaken coffin, or monoxylic cist. 1878 MILLER & SKERTCHLY *Fenland* ii. 28 Monoxylic canoes could not have conveyed a large number of men. 1882 C. ELTON *Orig. Eng. Hist.* 168 Buried in the canoe-shaped chests of oak which are known as the 'monoxylic coffins'.

‖ **Monoxylon** (mɒnɒ·ksilŏn). Pl. **monoxyla**. Also 7–8 in mod.Gr. form **monoxylo** (sing.). [a. Gr. *μονόξυλον*, neut. of *μονόξυλος*: see next.] A canoe or boat made from one piece of timber.

1555 EDEN *Decades* 78 Theyr canoas whiche we may well caule Monoxyla, bycause they are made of one hole tree. 1682 WHELER *Journ. Greece* I. 37 The Fortress..neither can be approached to by Land, nor Sea, except in those Monoxylo's, or little Barques, which draw not above a foot of water. 1776 R. CHANDLER *Trav. Greece* 281 A man waded to it [*sc.* a hut] and procured us a monoxylo or tray. *Ibid.*, The monoxyla or skiffs carry every thing to and fro. 1800 *Naval Chron.* III. 478 There you may see the Monoxylon, built exactly upon the model of the ancient Greek vessel; whose name it likewise retains. 1863 D. WILSON *Preh. Ann.* I. ii. (ed. 2) I. 57 The rude British monoxyla, shaped and hollowed out by stone axes, with the help of fire.

¶ **b.** Erroneously explained.

1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Monoxylon*, boats in the Ionian Isles propelled with one oar. [Hence in recent Dicts.]

Monoxylous (mɒnɒ·ksiləs), *a.* [ad. L. *monoxyl-us* (a. Gr. *μονόξυλος* made from a solid trunk, f. *μόνο-ς* MONO- + *ξύλ-ον* wood, timber, piece of wood) + -OUS.] Formed or made out of a single piece of wood; also, using one piece of wood to make a boat or coffin, etc.

1863 D. WILSON *Preh. Ann.* I. ii. (ed. 2) I. 47 The monoxylous artificers of Britain's prehistoric times. *Ibid.* IX. 229 The monoxylous boat-builders of the Forth. 1875 — in *Encycl. Brit.* II. 338/2 The monoxylous oaken canoes dug up from time to time in the valley of the Clyde.

Monozo·an, *a. Zool.* [Formed as next + -AN.] = MONOZOIC 1. 1890 in *Century Dict.*

Monozoic (mɒnɒzō·ik), *a. Zool.* [f. mod.L. *Monozō-a* neut. pl. (f. Gr. *μόνο-ς* MONO- + *ζῷον* animal) + -IC.]

1. Belonging to the division *Monozoa* of radiolarians; = MONOCYTTARIAN. 1890 in *Century Dict.*

2. Applied to a spore which produces one sporozoite (see quot.).

1901 [see POLYZOIC 1 b]. 1903 MINCHIN *Sporozoa* in E. R. Lankester *Zool.* I. 165 The spores are distinguished as *monozoic*, *dizoic*, *tetrazoic*, *polyzoic*, and so forth, according as they contain one, two, four, or many sporozoites. In the monozoic condition there is no secondary multiplication within the sporocyst.

Monra(d)dene, variant forms of MANRED *Obs.*

Monradite (mɒ·nrədəit). *Min.* [a. G. *monradit* (A. Erdmann 1842), f. the name of Dr. *Monrad* of Bergen: see -ITE.] A massive granular variety of pyroxene found at Bergen in Norway.

1846 *Penny Cycl.* Suppl. II. 308/2. 1849 J. NICOL *Man. Min.* 190. 1852 BROOKE & MILLER *Phillips' Min.* 662.

Monræidene, monreden, var. ff. MANRED.

Monroeism (mŏnrō·iz'm). [f. name of James *Monroe*, president of the United States 1817–1825.] The 'Monroe doctrine' (see DOCTRINE 2 c). So **Monroe·ist,** a supporter of the Monroe doctrine.

1896 *Westm. Gaz.* 18 Jan. 5/1 It is stated..that the report ..in its definition of Monroeism, declares that the acquisition by purchase, aggression, or otherwise, of territory on the American Continent by a foreign Power will be construed as an unfriendly act. 1901 *Ibid.* 17 Sept. 2/2 He was a determined Monroeist. 1904 *Speaker* 1 Oct. 6/2 Monroeism before the advent of Mr. Roosevelt has always been confined to enforcing a 'hands off' policy.

Monrolite (mɒ·nrələit). *Min.* [f. *Monroe* the name of its locality in New York State + -LITE.] = FIBROLITE.

1849 SILLIMAN in *Amer. Jrnl. Sci.* VIII. 385 On Monrolite. 1852 BROOKE & MILLER *Phillips' Min.* 662.

‖ **Mons** (mɒnz). Pl. **montes** (mɒ·ntīz). [L. *mons* mountain.] The Latin word for 'mount', 'mountain', used in certain phrases. **a.** *Palmistry*: **Mons Jovis, Mercurii, Saturni, Veneris** (see quot. 1678). **b.** *Anat.*: **Mons pubis**, the more or less prominent fatty eminence covering the pubic symphysis of the human male; **Mons Veneris**, the similar eminence in the woman.

1621 B. JONSON *Gipsies Metam.* Wks. (Rtldg.) 620/2 You are no great Wencher, I see by your table. Although your *Mons Veneris* sayes you are able. 1678 PHILLIPS (ed. 4), *Tubercula*, in Chiromancy are those more eminent Muscles, or protuberant parts under the Fingers; they are otherwise called *Montes*; that under the Thumb, *Tuberculum*, or *Mons Veneris*; that in the Root of the Fore-finger, is called *Mons Jovis*, of the Middle-finger, *Mons Saturni*, of the Ring-finger, *Mons Solis*, of the Little-finger, *Mons Mercurii*. 1693 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Mons Veneris*, the upper part of a Womans Secrets, something higher than the rest. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) I. 740/1 The *mons veneris*..is internally composed of adipose membranes. 1857 BULLOCK tr. *Caseaux' Midwif.* 39 The Mons Veneris is a rounded eminence..situated in front of the pubis, and surmounting the vulva.

Mons., erroneous abbreviation of MONSIEUR.

Monsc(h)ipe, obs. forms of MANSHIP.

Monse, obs. form of MANSE *v.*

‖ **Monseigneur** (mɒ̃sɛ̃nyör). Pl. **messeigneurs** (mɛsɛ̃nyör). Forms: 7 **montseigneur, -senior, mount-segnior, -senicr, mons(e)igneur,** 7– **monseigneur.** [F., f. *mon* my + *seigneur* lord. Cf. SEIGNEUR.]

1. A French title of honour given to persons of eminence, esp. to princes, cardinals, archbishops, and bishops. Abbreviated *Mgr.* † In absolute use: The title conferred since the time of Louis XIV upon the Dauphin of France. *Obs.*

1610 *Histrio-m.* E ij, Every Pedlers French is term'd Monsigneur. 1698 M. LISTER *Journ. Paris* (1699) 195 The chief of the Blood Royal are lodged here, *viz.* the King, Monseigneur the Dauphin, and the 3 Grandsons [etc.]. *Ibid.* 201 Monseigneur had been but lately possessed of it [*sc.* Meudon]. 1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.*, *Monseigneur*, in the plural Messeigneurs, a title of honour and respect used by the French. *Ibid.*, *Monseigneur*..is a quality now restrained to the dauphin of France. 1859 DICKENS *T. Two Cities* II. vii, Monseigneur, one of the great lords in power at the Court, held his fortnightly reception. 1871 E. C. G. MURRAY *Member for Paris* III. 331, 'I drink to the health of Monseigneur le Duc de Hautbourg', cried M. Ballanchu.

† **2.** Used for MONSIGNOR. *Obs.*

1600 W. WATSON *Decacordon* (1602) 96 First be [Doctor Lewis] was made Montseigneur. 1601 *Imp. Consid. Sec. Priests* (1675) 55 And when was that, our great Monseigneurs? 1660 FISHER *Rusticks Alarm* Wks. (1679) 589 The Pope, and his Cardinals Mount Seniors, Jesuits [etc.].

‖ **Monsieur** (mɒsyö, mɒsyö̃). Forms: 6 **monsure, -sire, -sieú, mounsire, -syre,** *Sc.* **monsour,** 6–7 **mouns(i)er, -sieur,** 7 **mouncer, -seur, monser, monnsieur, meunsier,** 6– **monsieur.**

Also *jocularly* 8-9 MOUNSEER, 9 MOSSOO. [F.; originally two words, *mon* my, *sieur* lord. Cf. MESSIRE and MONSEIGNEUR.

Cf. Sp. *monsiur*, It. *monsù*, used in speaking to or of a Frenchman.]

1. The title of courtesy prefixed to the name, surname, or nobiliary title of a Frenchman; originally restricted to men of high station, but now equivalent to the Eng. 'Mr.', exc. that it is applied to the bearer of any title of rank as well as to others. In English often used in speaking of (European) foreigners of other than Fr. nationality, instead of the equivalent prefix (as *Herr, Signor, Señor*) used by the particular nation. Abbreviated *M.* (the forms *Mons.*, *Monsr.*, often occurring in Eng. writings, are not now current in France). See also the plural MESSIEURS.

1512 in *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scotl.* (1902) IV. 399 Monsure Lamote servitouris, that dansit ane moris to the King. **1523** *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, VI. 194 Monsr. de Rokyndollff off th Almains. **1533** in *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scotl.* (1905) VI. 133 Writtingis send furth of Ingland to Monsieur Bewis. **1616** SIR C. MOUNTAGU in *Bucclench MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 248 Mouncer Shainburgh when he is in town I hear lies near me. **1643** EVELYN *Diary* 5 Dec., The palace of Mons. de Bassompiere. **1670** COTTON *Espernon* I. I. 3 Monsieur de la Valette was he that would take upon him to execute this design. **1759** GOLDSM. (*title*) Memoirs of M. de Voltaire. **1763** *Ann. Reg.* 86 When M. Rousseau published his Emilius... The following letter from mons. Rousseau... To accept of Mons. Rousseau's resignation. **1798** (*title*) Stella. Translated from the German of M. Goethe. **1848** JULIA KAVANAGH *Madeleine* viii. 99 Monsieur Bignon was a hale ..little man, on the verge of fifty. **1871** E. C. G. MURRAY *Member for Paris* III. 332 M. le Duc de Hautbourg.

†**b.** *transf.* and *jocular.* Often with reference to the French custom of prefixing the title to designations of office. *Obs.*

1553 *Respublica* I. iv. 395 Sayde not I he sholde be called Mounsier Authorityе? *a* **1553** UDALL *Royster D.* IV. viii. (Arb.) 77, I my selfe will mounsire graunde captaine vndertake. **1556** J. HEYWOOD *Spider & F.* lvii. 246 With this mounser graund captayne the great bragger: Was much a mased. **1563** PILKINGTON, etc. *Burn. Paules* D j b, But that a man may not be wiser than Mounser Pope, I would interprete this greate miracle thus. **1590** SHAKS. *Mids. N.* IV. i. 10 Mounsieur Cobweb, good Mounsier get your weapons in your hand. **1678** DRYDEN *All for Love* Pref., He has.. transformed the Hippolytus of Euripides into Monsieur Hippolyte. **1792** WOLCOT (P. Pindar) *Solomon & Monstrap* ii, To catch that vile free-booter, Monsieur Mouse.

c. *Monsieur* (*dè*) *Paris*, a euphemistic title conferred in France upon the public executioner.

1859 DICKENS *T. Two Cities* II. vii, At the gallows and the wheel..Monsieur Paris..presided.

2. Used (vocatively or otherwise) as a title of courtesy substituted for the name of the person addressed or referred to: (*a*) in speaking to or of a Frenchman; (*b*) in literal renderings of the mode of speech of Frenchmen.

1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* V. i. 47 Mounsier, are you not lettred? **1602** — *All's Well* II. v. 94 Where are my other men? Monsieur, farwell. **1713** SWIFT *Salamander* Wks. 1755 III. II. 75 We say monsieur to an ape Without offence to human shape. **1768-74** TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 595 The French carpenter cannot saw his boards without..calling to his fellow, 'Monsieur, have the goodness to reach me that file'. **1873** HOWELLS *Chance Acquaint.* viii, 'Monsieur heaps me with benefits;—monsieur'—began the bewildered cooper.

†**b.** Used for: The French people. *Obs.*

1673 *Remarques Humours Town* 95 When they are witty, they are alwaies beholding to Monsieur. **1695** *Roxb. Ball.* (1887) VI. 446 Now Monsieur bring out all you can, We'll fight you ship or man to man. **1701** T. BROWN *Advice* in *Collect. Poems* 106 That, that's the sure way to Mortifie France: For Monsieur our Nation will always be Gulling. [**1755**: see MOUNSEER.]

3. *Hist.* A title given to the second son or to the next younger brother of the King of France.

1572 MIDDELMORE in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. III. 8 The motion that was made to the Quene your mistris for Monsieur. **1608** MIDDLETON *Mad World* IV. F 3, It was suspected much in Mounsiers dayes. *a* **1635** NAUNTON *Fragm. Reg.* (Arb.) 36 The same time that Mounsier was here a Suitor to the Queen. **1670** COTTON *Espernon* III. IX. 445 The King, the Queens, the Monsieur, and Madame, with all the other Princes, and Princesses. **1798** R. C. DALLAS tr. *Cléry's Jrnl. Occur. Louis XVI* 159 Monsieur, and the Count d'Artois, were again assembling all the emigrants. **1821** JEFFERSON *Autobiog. & Writ.* (1892) I. 128 They procured a committee to be held..to which Monsieur and the Count d'Artois should be admitted.

4. A person who is addressed as 'Monsieur'; in early use, a Frenchman of rank; in later use, a Frenchman generally. Now *rare* or *Obs.*: see MOSSOO, MOUNSEER.

1500-20 DUNBAR *Poems* lxiii. 42 Monsouris of France, gud clarat-cunnaris. **1613** SHAKS. *Hen. VIII*, I. iii. 21 Now I would pray our Monsieurs To thinke an English Courtier may be wise, And neuer see the Louure. **1627** DRAYTON *Agincourt* 59 A shoolesse Souldier there a man might meete, Leading his Mounsier by the armes fast bound. **1640** T. RAWLINS *Rebell.* II. i. D, And I..onely surviv'd to threat defiance In the Mounsiers teeth, and stand Defendant For my Countries cause. **1644** MILTON *Educ.* 8 Nor shall we then need the Mounsieurs of Paris to take our hopefull youth into thir..custodies, and send them over back again transform'd into mimics. **1659** HOWELL *Lexicon, Ital. Prov.*, The Counts of Germany, the Dons of Spain, the Monnsieurs of France, the Cadets of England, the Nobles of Scotland, ..make a poor company. **1698** FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 88 The French..whose Factory is better stor'd with Monsieurs than with Cash. **1705** LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) V. 580 At last the monsieurs struck, and are brought into Plymouth. **1756** *Rhode Island Col. Rec.* (1860) V. 472, I do not doubt if the monsieurs should think proper to attack us, we should be able to give them a good flogging.

5. Monsieur John, Jean, a kind of pear.

[**1664** EVELYN *Kal. Hort.* Nov. 78 Pears. Messire Jean.] **1731** MILLER *Gard. Dict.* s.v. *Pyrus*, Messire-Jean blanc & gris, *i. e.* The White and Grey Monsieur John. **1741** *Compl. Fam.-Piece* II. iii. 400 These Pears. [Oct.] Green Sugar,..Monsieur Jean,..and others. **1860** R. HOGG *Fruit Manual* 200 [Pears] Messire Jean (..Monsieur John).

6. (See quot.) ? *Obs.*

1760 MRS. GLASSE *Cookery* (1767) 331 To dress a turtle the West Indian way...Then take from the back-shell all the meat and entrails, except the monsieur, which is the fat, and looks green. **1769** ELIZ. RAFFALD *Eng. Housekpr.* (1805) 15. **1785** FARLEY *Lond. Art Cookery* (1789) 30.

†**7.** *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as **monsieur-land**, France; **monsieur-like** *adv.*, after the manner of a Frenchman; **monsieur's pear**, ? = 5; **monsieur('s) plum**, a large yellow plum. *Obs.*

1668 DRYDEN *Evening's Love* I. ii, They were of your wild English..,a kind of Northern Beast, that is taught its feats of activity in *Monsieur-land. **1679** G. R. tr. *Boaystuau's Theat. World* III. 245 And dressing of themselves *Monsieur-like. **1658** EVELYN *Fr. Gard.* (1675) 114 *Monsieurs Pear. *Ibid.* 128 *Monsieurs Plum. **1706** LONDON & WISE *Retir'd Gard.* I. 40 The Monsieur Plum is large, round, and of a Violet Colour. **1731** MILLER *Gard. Dict.* s.v. *Prunus*, Prune de Monsieur, *i. e.* the Monsieur Plum.

†**Monsieurship.** *Obs.* [f. prec. + -SHIP.] **a.** The personality of a 'monsieur'. **b.** The condition of being a 'monsieur'.

1579 G. HARVEY *Letter-bk.* (Camden) 66 Hath your Monsieurshipp so soone forgottin. **1607** DEKKER *Knt.'s Conjur.* (1842) 36 Practising all the foolish tricks of fashions after their Mounsieur-ships. **1673** WYCHERLEY *Gentl. Dancing-Master* IV. i, You have sworn..he shall never have me if he does not leave off his Monsieurship.

Monsignor, -nore (*mɒnsinyɔ̄r, -nyɔ̄rē*). Pl. **monsignori** (*-nyɔ̄rī*). [It. *Monsignore* (shortened *-signor*), formed after Fr. MONSEIGNEUR: see SIGNOR.] An honorific title bestowed upon prelates, officers of the Papal court and household, and others. Also *absol.*

1641 MILTON *Ch. Govt.* II. i. 43 Bilson hath decipher'd us all the galanteries of Signore and Monsignore, and Monsieur. **1670** G. H. *Hist. Cardinals* II. I. 130, I have encharged Monsignor Burlemont to wait upon you. **1768** BARETTI *Acc. Manners & Cust. Italy* II. 168 Their cardinals and principal monsignori's seem in general to have a greater turn for the science of politics than for any other. **1813** C. O'CONOR *Columbanus ad Hibernos* No. 6. 116 The thunders of scarlet Cardinals and purple Monsignores. **1870** DISRAELI *Lothair* lxiii, There were some cardinals in the apartment and several monsignori. **1884** *Men of Time* (ed. 11) 218/2 Monsignor Capel..was named private chamberlain to Pope Pius IX., in 1868. **1896** *Century Mag.* Feb. 595 'Monsignori' are not necessarily bishops, nor even consecrated priests, the title being really a secular one.

Hence **Monsigno·rial** *a.*, possessing this title.

1876 *Tinsley's Mag.* XIX. 342 [He] was not a cardinal archbishop, a monsignorial prelate, or Loyolite.

Monslæht, -slauȝt, etc.: see MANSLAUGHT, etc.

Monsoon (*mɒnsū·n*). Forms: 6 **monssoyn,** 6-8 **monson,** 7 **monzoon(e, -sone, -coin, -zoin, monthsoune, mon(e)thsone, moonsoon, mounson, -soun(e, munso(o)n, manson, -sound, mossoon, mous(s)on,** 8 **mounsoon, mous(s)oon,** 6- **monsoon.** [a. early mod. Du. *monssoen, -soyn* (Linschoten 1596), a. Pg. *monção*, in 16th c. also *moução* (Yule), believed to be a. Arab. *mausim* lit. season, hence monsoon, f. *wasama* to mark.

The word is found in all the Rom. langs.: F. *mousson* (in 17th c. also *monson, muesson*), Sp. *monzon*, It. *monsone* (in 16th c. *moson*).]

1. A seasonal wind prevailing in southern Asia and especially in the Indian Ocean, which during the period from April to October blows approximately from the south-west, and from October to April from the north-east, the direction being dependent upon periodic changes of temperature in the surrounding land-surfaces.

The south-west or summer monsoon is commonly accompanied by heavy and continuous rainfall, and is therefore often referred to as the *wet* or *rainy monsoon*, the north-east or winter monsoon being known as the *dry monsoon*.

1584 BARRET in *Hakluyt's Voy.* (1599) II. i. 278 The times or seasonable windes called Monsons. *Ibid.* 280 The monson from India for Portugall. **1598** W. PHILLIP tr. *Linschoten* I. xcii. 143 In Goa they stayed till the Monson, or time of the windes came in to sayle for China. **1615** in Danvers & Foster *Corresp.* III. 268, I departed for Bantam having.. the opportunity of the Monethsone. **1615** SIR T. ROE *Embassy* (Hakl. Soc.) I. 36 The Monthsone will else be spent. **1687** A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* III. I. i. 1 The proper season for Sailing on the Indian-Sea is called *Mousson* or *Monson*, by corruption of *Mousseu*. **1757** J. H. GROSE *Voy. E. Indies* 365 The winter monsoon. **1778** ORME *Hist. Milit. Trans. in Indostan* II. 533 The monsoon..warned Admiral Pococke to quit the coast. **1779** FORREST *Voy. N. Guinea* 182 During the north east monsoon, the highest tide is in the night. **1783** JUSTAMOND tr. *Raynal's Hist. Indies* I. 47 The dry and rainy monsoons. **1804** C. B. BROWN tr. *Volney's View Soil U. S.* 205 The current called the summer monsoon. **1815** ELPHINSTONE *Acc. Caubul* (1842) I. 167 The most remarkable rainy season, is that called in India the south-west monsoon. **1873** H. F. BLANFORD *Winds N. India* 12 North-east winds are more than twice as frequent in the so-called south-west monsoon as at the opposite season, when the north-east monsoon prevails at sea. *Ibid.* 23 While the average direction of the summer monsoon is less easterly, that of the winter monsoon is less westerly.

b. *The breaking up, change of the monsoon*: the period of tempestuous weather which frequently prevails between the north-east and the south-west monsoons.

1693 SIR T. P. BLOUNT *Nat. Hist.* 418 The Tempestuous Months about Autumn, or at the change of the Monsoons. **1698** FRYER *Acc. E. Ind. & P.* 48 The breaking up of the Munsoons. **1761** *Ann. Reg., Charac.* 7/1 Toward the end of October, the rainy season, which they term the change of the monsoon, begins on the coast of Coromandel. **1898** F. T. BULLEN *Cruise Cachalot* 99 The change of the monsoon in the Bay of Bengal is beastliness unadulterated.

c. The rainfall which accompanies the south-west monsoon; the rainy season.

1747 *Scheme Equip. Men of War* 23 Like Monsoons or Water-Spouts, the higher they rise, the more they are contracted. **1800** WELLINGTON in Gurw. *Desp.* (1837) I. 77, I doubt whether that will be sufficiently early to enable us to conclude matters before the setting in of the monsoon. **1838** *Lett. fr. Madras* (1843) 224 There is a great deal of distress among the natives, owing to the failure of the monsoon. **1869** E. A. PARKES *Pract. Hygiene* (ed. 3) 82 The floods of the excessive monsoon which prevails there [*i. e.* Burmah]. **1877** C. GEIKIE *Christ* xlix. (1879) 589 The early rains were longed for as the monsoons in India after the summer heat.

2. *transf.* Any wind which has periodic alternations of direction and velocity, caused by variations of temperature between the land surfaces and the surrounding ocean, or by the difference of temperature between the polar and equatorial regions. Cf. TRADE WIND.

1691 RAY *Creation* I. (1692) 79 That the Monsoons and Trade Winds should be so constant and periodical even to the thirtieth Degree of Latitude all round the Globe..is a Subject worthy of the Thoughts of the greatest Philosophers. **1796** MORSE *Amer. Geog.* II. 560 Easterly and westerly monsoons..prevail in this country. *c* **1796** T. TWINING *Trav. Amer.* (1894) 8 The northwest monsoon was now prevailing. **1855** MAURY *Phys. Geog. Sea* XIV. § 787 Monsoons are, for the most part, formed of trade-winds. When at stated seasons of the year a trade-wind is deflected in its regular course.. it is regarded as a monsoon. **1889** W. FERREL *Treat. Winds* 199 All the great monsoons..are found in countries and on oceans adjacent to high mountain ranges.

3. *fig.* and in figurative context.

1785 BURKE *Nabob of Arcot* Wks. IV. 320 Those who have seen their friends sink in the tornado which raged during the late shift of the monsoon. **1831** CARLYLE *Sart. Res.* III. viii, Such a minnow is Man;..his Ocean the immeasurable All; his Monsoons and periodic Currents the mysterious Course of Providence. **1846** DE QUINCEY *Antigone of Sophocles* Wks. 1862 XIII. 212 In the very monsoon of his raving misery.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

1662 J. DAVIES tr. *Mandelslo's Trav.* 245 Which put us in hope, we should soon have the Manson-wind. **1804** ANNA SEWARD *Mem. Darwin* 186 The monsoon winds. **1883** ELIOT in *Ind. Meteorol. Mem.* II. 2 These characteristics of the monsoon rains of that year. *Ibid.* 3 Cyclonic or South-west Monsoon Storm of..July 1878.

Hence **Monsoo·nal** *a.*, of or relating to a monsoon; **Monsoo·nishly** *adv.*, as in a monsoon.

1878 *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 148/2 The heavy monsoonal rains fairly set in. *Ibid.*, The winds of Australia are also strictly monsoonal. **1900** KIPLING in *Academy* 17 Mar. 219/1 It rained monsoonishly.

Monster (*mɒ·nstəɹ*), *sb.* and *a.* Forms: 3-6 **monstre,** 5-6 *Sc.* **monstir, -tour,** 6 **mounster, monstur(e, -tuire,** *Sc.* **-toure,** 5- **monster.** [OF. *monstre* (= Pg., It. *monstro*), ad. L. *monstrum* monster, something marvellous; orig. a divine portent or warning, f. root of *monēre* to warn.]

A. *sb.*

†**1.** Something extraordinary or unnatural; a prodigy, a marvel. *Obs.*

c **1374** CHAUCER *Boeth.* II. pr. i. 20 (Camb. MS.) Thilke mervayles Monstre [L. *illius prodigii*] fortune. **1382** WYCLIF 2 *Macc.* v. 4 Alle men preyeden, the monstris, or wondres, ..for to be turned in to good. *c* **1412** HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 344 Was it not eek a monstre as in nature þat god I-borē was of a virgine? *c* **1430** LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 119 It were a monstre geyne nature, as I fynde, That a grete mastyfe shuld a lyoun hynde. **1533** BELLENDEN *Livy* IV. viii. (S.T.S.) II. 74 Is it nocht ane huge monstoure, .. þat It [*sc.* the city] suld haue made him king. **1537** in *Lett. Suppress. Monast.* (Camden) 160 The vicar off Mendyllsham .. hath .. brought home hys woman and chyldern into hys vicarage. Thys acte by hym done is in thys countre a monster, and many do giowge at it. **1558** KNOX *First Blast* (Arb.) 20 He that indgeth it a monstre in nature, that a woman shall exercise weapons. **1562** WINJET *Last Blast* Wks. (S.T.S.) I. 44 Ingratitude and vtheris deuyllische monstres of vice. **1614** BUDDEN tr. *Ærodius' Disc. Parents' Hon.* (1616) 5 Contempt, impiety, murdering of parents, were therefore ordinary monsters among the Greekes. **1641** *Vind. Smectymnuus* vii. 91 That power, which was a stranger and a monster to former times. **1702** *Eng. Theophrast.* 43 'Tis the rarity that makes the monster. **1710** SHAFTESB. *Adv. Author* III. iii. 183 Monsters and Monster-Lands were never more in request.

2. An animal or plant deviating in one or more of its parts from the normal type; spec., an animal afflicted with some congenital malformation; a misshapen birth, an abortion. Cf. MONSTROSITY.

a **1300** *Cursor M.* 9846 If þou fand..A harn..þat had thre fete and handes thre, And if þou siþen a-noiþer fand þat wanted oiþer fote or hand,..monstres moght man call þam like. *c* **1400** MAUNDEV. (1839) v. 47 A monstre is a thing

difformed a3en Kynde both of Man or of Best. 1481 CAXTON *Myrr.* I. xiv. 44 Or it hath a membre lasse than he ought to haue,..and may be called therfor a monstre. 1556 *Chron. Gr. Friars* (Camden) 57 A monstre, a calfe wyth ij. heddes, iiij. eres, iiij. eyne, viij. f[eete] and ij. taylles. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 337 A horsse-keeper which brought..an infant, or rather a monster, which he had got vpon a Mare. 1614 B. JONSON *Bart. Fair* III. i, Then you met the man with the monsters, and I could not get you from him. *a* 1680 BUTLER *Rem.* (1759) II. 72 His Parts are disproportionate to the whole, and like a Monster he has more of some, and less of others than he should have. 1717 LADY M. W. MONTAGU *Let. to C'tess Mar* 16 Jan., The princes keep favourite dwarfs. The Emperor and Empress have two of these little Monsters. 1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v. *Mule*, Mules, among gardeners, denote a sort of vegetable monsters. 1754–64 SMELLIE *Midwif.* I. 123 When two children are distinct they are called twins; and monsters, when they are joined together. *a* 1793 J. HUNTER *Ess. & Observ.* (1861) I. 240 The vegetable kingdom abounds with monsters. 1840 POE 1002*nd Tale* Wks. 1864 I. 141 The term 'monster' is equally applicable to small abnormal things and to great. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV. 528 It [*i.e.* congenital absence of spleen] has been noted in monsters.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* III. iii. 107 Thou ecchos't me; As if there were some Monster in thy thought Too hideous to be shewne. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* XXX, Varney was one of the few—the very few moral monsters, who contrive to lull to sleep the remorse of their own bosoms. 1837 EMERSON *Address, Amer. Schol.* Wks. (Bohn) II. 175 The state of society is one in which the members have suffered amputation from the trunk, and strut about so many walking monsters. 1873 M. ARNOLD *Lit. & Dogma* (1876) 356 The non-Christian religions are not to the wise man mere monsters.

3. An imaginary animal (such as the centaur, sphinx, minotaur, or the heraldic griffin, wyvern, etc.) having a form either partly brute and partly human, or compounded of elements from two or more animal forms.

Except in heraldic use, the word usually suggests the additional notion of great size and ferocity, being specifically associated with the 'monsters' victoriously encountered by various mythical heroes.

c 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 1928 (*Ariadne*) This Minos hath a monstre, a wikked beste, That was so cruel that..he wolde him [*i. e.* a man] ete. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 123 A Monstre [*i. e.* Sagittarius] with a bowe on honde: On whom that sondri sterres stonde. *c* 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* I. 935 For eddris, spritis, monstris, thyng of drede, To make a smoke and stynk is good in dede. 1490 CAXTON *Eneydos* XV. 58 Wherof was made a monstre fulle terrible, that hath as many eyen in her hede..as she hathe fedders vpon her. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* XXXV. 28 He sall ascend as ane horrebble grephoun, Him meit sall in the air ane scho dragoun; Thir terrible monsteris sall togidder thrist. 1567 *Gude & Godlie Ball.* (S.T.S.) 214 Thocht Hercules, for Exionie, A mychtie monster did subdew, Zit endit he in miserie. 1586 MARLOWE *1st Pt. Tamburl.* IV. iii, A monster of fiue hundred thousand heades, Compact of Rapine, Pyracie, and spoile. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* II. ii. 69 This is some Monster of the Isle, with foure legs. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 54 Annedotus a Monster (otherwhere like a fish, his head, feet and hands like a Man). 1737 POPE *Hor. Epist.* II. i. 18 The great Alcides, ev'ry Labour past, Had still this Monster [*sc.* Death] to subdue at last. 1821 BYRON *Sardan.* I. ii, A sort of semi-glorious human monster. 1874 PAPWORTH & MORANT *Brit. Armorials* Introd. 7 How difficult it often is to determine what species of beast, bird,..monster,..or tree, a charge was intended to represent. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) V. 13 The book of the Laws if left incomplete is compared to a monster wandering about without a head. 1893 CUSSANS *Her.* (ed. 4) 98 The Dragon is a winged monster.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* XXVI. 91 The fowll monstir Glutteny. 1515 BARCLAY *Egloges* iv. (1570) C vj b, Fearefull is labour,..Dreadfull of visage, a monster intreatable. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 17 h, He would wishe that all learned men woulde set on with touch and nayle to overcome that Monstre. 1666 DRYDEN *Ann. Mirab.* CCXVIII, The infant monster [*i.e.* the fire of London], with devouring strong, Walk'd boldly upright with exalted head. 1702 ROWE *Tamerl.* I. i. 96 Oh thou fell Monster, War. 1825 LYTTON *Zicci* i, The monster that lives and dies in a drop of water—carnivorous—insatiable. 1856 EMERSON *Eng. Traits, Wealth* Wks. (Bohn) II. 75 Engineers and firemen without number have been sacrificed in learning to tame and guide the monster [*sc.* Steam].

¶ In collocations like 'faultless monster', 'monster of perfection', connoting an incredible or repulsively unnatural degree of excellence.

1682 SHEFFIELD (Dk. Buckhm.) *Ess. Poetry* 235 Reject that vulgar error which appears So fair, of making perfect characters, There's no such thing in Nature, and you'l draw A faultless Monster which the world ne're saw.

4. A person of inhuman and horrible cruelty or wickedness; a monstrous example *of* (wickedness, or some particular vice).

1556 J. HEYWOOD *Spider & F.* liv. 22 Which deede: if we do, wheare are our like monsturs? 1598 B. JONSON *Ev. Man in Hum.* III. iii, And he to turne monster of ingratitude, and strike his lawfull host. 1605 SHAKS. *Lear* I. ii. 102 He cannot bee such a Monster. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 51 That Monster of irreligion, Mahomet. 1642 D. ROGERS *Naaman* 14 Open monsters and odious livers. 1683 EVELYN *Diary* 5 Dec., That monster of a man, Lord Howard of Escrick. 1707 WATTS *Hymns & Spir. Songs* I. XXXIX. (1751) 28 Should Nature change, And Mothers Monsters prove. 1713 ADDISON *Guard.* No. 105 ¶ 5 These monsters of inhumanity. *a* 1715 BURNET *Own Time* II. (1724) I. 269 Dryden..being a monster of immodesty. 1783 JUSTAMOND tr. *Raynal's Hist. Indies* VI. 293 They were no sooner landed at Barbadoes, but the monster sold her who had saved his life. 1847 EMERSON *Repr. Men, Montaigne* Wks. (Bohn) I. 336 The correspondence of Pope and Swift describes mankind around them as monsters. 1877 MRS. OLIPHANT *Makers Flor.* xii. 297 Alexander VI was a monster of iniquity. 1887 BOWEN *Æneid* I. 347 Pygmalion, monster unrivalled in hellish deed.

5. An animal of huge size; hence, anything of vast and unwieldy proportions.

1530 PALSGR. 744/2 A monster of the see. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* I. 167, I condempne thee to be .xxviii. yeres a monster in ye see. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 839 A great beast..(a Crocodile or some other monster). 1738 WESLEY *Ps.* CXLVII. vii. Monsters sporting on the Flood, In scaly Silver shine. 1759 GOLDSM. *Pres. St. Polite Learn.* (Globe) 432/2 From these inauspicious combinations proceed those monsters of learning, the Trevoux, Encyclopédies, and Bibliothèques of the age. 1832 TENNYSON *Lotos-eaters* 152 The wallowing monster spouted his foam-fountains in the sea.

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.* **a.** simple attrib., as *monster-brood, -bulk, -land, -market, -spite*; *monster-like* adj. and adv.; **b.** objective, as *monster-master, -monger, -queller, -tamer*; *monster-bearing, -breeding, -taming, -teeming* adjs.; **c.** instrumental, as *monster-guarded* adj.; **d.** appositive, as *monster-crew, -god, -lord, -man, -master, -paddock, -people.*

1648 FANSHAWE *Il Pastor Fido* I. v. 9 The *monster-bearing earth Did never teem such a prodigious birth. 1728 POPE *Dunc.* I. 108 In each she marks her Image full exprest, But chief, in Tibbalds *monster-breeding breast. 1738 GRAY *Propertius* ii. 41 Earth's *monster-brood stretch'd on their iron-bed. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneid* IX. 959 Down sunk the *Monster-Bulk, and press'd the Ground. *Ibid.* VIII. 395 Thy Hands, unconquer'd Heroe, cou'd subdue The Cloud-born Centaurs, and the *Monster Crew. 1716 POPE *Iliad* V. 954 To tame the *Monster-God Minerva knows, And oft' afflicts his Brutal Breast with Woes. 1594 *Selimus* K 2, Thou hast trode The *monster-garded [*printed* monster-garden] paths, that lead to crownes. 1710 SHAFTESB. *Adv. Author* III. iii. 183 Monsters and *Monster-Lands were never more in request. 1736 THOMSON *Liberty* V. 676 Vanish'd Monster-land. 1561 T. NORTON *Calvin's Inst.* III. xxii. (1634) 456 It was a *monsterlike change that the honour of first birth was removed to Jacob. 1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* IV. xii. 36 Monster-like. 1610 GUILLIM *Her.* III. XXVI. 183 Animals, which being duly shaped, doe neuerthelesse monster-like degenerate from their kind. 1655 H. L'ESTRANGE *Chas. I*, 119 In the same moneth..wherein this *Monster-Lord [Audley] was sentenced. 1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. i. II. *Imposture* 638 Which, like the vaunting *Monster-man of Gath, Have stirr'd against us little David's wrath. 1690 DRYDEN *Amphitryon* V. i, Monsters and monster men he shall engage. 1638 JUNIUS *Paint. Ancients* 43 A man may find them always upon the *monster-market, where they stand and stare upon such maimed creatures. 1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. ii. II. *Babylon* 85 This *monster-master stout, This Hercules..they tender. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 5 Guiding their Monster-masters to a prey. 1704 SWIFT *T. Tub* V, I have always looked upon it as a high Point of Indiscretion in *Monster-mongers, and other Retailers of strange Sights, to hang out a fair large Picture over the Door, drawn after the Life. 1634 MASSINGER *Very Woman* III. i, A March Frog kept thy mother; Thou art but a *monster Paddock. 1680 OTWAY *Caius Marius* I. i, The *Monster-people roar'd aloud for joy. 1751 *Pope's Dunciad* IV. 492 *Scribl. note*, It becomes a doubt, which of the two Hercules's was the *Monster-queller. 1797 *College* 26 How to mitigate their *monster-spite. ? 1606 DRAYTON *Eglog* iv. *Poems* D 7 b, Such *monster-tamers who would take in hand? 1648 FANSHAWE *Il Pastor Fido* I. i. 155 That *monster-taming King..Had never grown so valiant..If first the monster Love he had not tam'd. 1819 SHELLEY *Prometh. Unb.* I. 447 Never yet there came Phantasms so foul through *monster-teeming Hell.

7. Special Comb., as †**monster-little-man**, a dwarf monstrosity; †**monster-love**, a deformed or aborted love.

1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 12 The most parte thought him to be some Monster-little-man. 1633 FORD *Broken H.* I. i, This thought Begets a kind of monster-love.

B. *adj.* [developed from the attrib. and appositive use of the sb.]

1. Of extraordinary size or extent; gigantic, huge, monstrous. Cf. MONSTRE *a.*

1839 *Spirit Metrop. Conserv. Press* (1840) II. 152 This monster product of our time. *c* 1842 F. ROGERS (Ld. Blachford) *Lett.* (1896) 113 The phrase 'monster meeting' was due to me. An immense balloon..had been popularly christened the 'monster balloon', and I applied the phrase contumeliously to one of O'Connell's immense..meetings. 1843 BORROW *Bible in Spain* XXXVI, The monster bell of Moscow. 1843 *Ann. Reg.* 227 The assemblage of immense masses of people..denominated 'Monster Meetings'. 1844 LINGARO *Anglo-Sax. Ch.* (1858) II. App. C. 344 In the old church..was a monster organ. 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* xlvi. (1856) 423 The port of Prōven is securely sheltered by its monster hills. 1868 DISRAELI *Let. to Mrq. Abercorn* 8 June (in *Davey's Catal.* (1895) 21), I have to receive this morning a monster deputation of your Excellency's subjects. 1901 *Oxford Times* 16 Mar. 4/2 This monster liner, will..be the biggest vessel afloat.

2. *Comb.* with advb. force = 'like a monster', as *monster†-eating, -neighing* adjs. *rare.*

1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 261 Their..liuely vgly figure, represented in this monster-eating-beast. 1886 KIPLING *Departm. Ditties*, etc. (1888) 82 An incarnation of the local God, Mounted upon a monster-neighing horse.

Hence †**Mo·nsterful** *a.*, marvellous, extraordinary. †**Mo·nsterfy** *v.*, to make monstrous. **Mo·nsterhood**, the state of being a monster. **Mo·nstership**, a mock title for a monster.

c 1400 *Beryn* 2767 These monstrefulle thingis, I devise to the Be-cause þow shuldist nat of hem a-basshid be. 1597 WARNER *Syrinx* N iv, These Monsters [abusers of women] woulde monsterfie the Manners and beautifull Ornaments of Women. 1598 B. JONSON *Ev. Man in Hum.* III. ii, Let who will make hungrie meales for your monster-ship, it shall not bee I. *a* 1745 SWIFT *Dr. Delany's Reply* 10 'Tis so strange, that your monstership's crany Should be envied by him, much less by Delany. 1852 *Fraser's Mag.* XLV. 90 It was a Behemoth of puffs..standing alone in solitary monsterhood.

Monster (mɒ·nstəɹ), *v. rare.* [f. MONSTER *sb.*]

1. *trans.* To make a monster of.

1605 SHAKS. *Lear* I. i. 223 Sure her offence Must be of such vnnaturall degree, That monsters it.

2. To exhibit as a monster; to point out as something wonderful.

1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* II. ii. 81, I had rather haue one scratch my Head i' th' Sun, When the Alarum were strucke, then idly sit To heare my Nothings monster'd. 1833 LAMB *Elia* Ser. II. *Productions Mod. Art*, Were the 'fine frenzies', which possessed the brain of thy own Quixote, a fit subject ..to be monstered, and shown up at the heartless banquets of great men? 1873 E. FITZGERALD *Lett.* (1889) I. 352 He [Béranger] hated Paris,..hated being monstered himself as a Great Man, as he proved by flying from it.

3. *To monster it*: to play the monster, assume the appearance of greatness. *nonce use.*

1646 BUCK *Rich. III* Ded., They will haunte the noblest merits and endeavors to their Sun-set, then they monster it.

Hence **Mo·nstered** *a.*, rendered monstrous, abnormally great. Also **Mo·nsterer**, one who makes great in a remarkable degree, an exaggerator. (Echoing Shaks.: see MONSTER *v.* 2, 1607.)

1877 BLACKIE *Wise Men* 95 You worship your own selves, and make your gods A monstered self. 1840 MRS. GORE in *New Monthly Mag.* LX. 52 The political Lady Patroness;.. the accredited monsterer of nothings inaudible in the gallery.

Monster: see MONSTRE *sb. Obs.*

†**Mo·nstrable,** *a. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [ad. L. *monstrābil-is*, f. *monstrāre*: see MONSTRATE *v.* and -ABLE.] Capable of being shown or demonstrated.

c 1450 *Mirour Saluacionn* 1694 Thre thinges notable The whilk be thre figures of olde tyme ware monstrable. 1656 in BLOUNT *Glossogr.*

†**Monstral.** *Obs. rare*⁻¹. [Perh. some error; cf. MONSTRATE.] = MONSTRANCE 2.

1532 CRANMER *Let. to Hen. VIII* in *Misc. Writ.* (Parker Soc.) 233 Spoiling and robbing all the countries of Austria, Stiria, and Carinthia..as well churches as other houses, not leaving Monstral nor the Sacrament.

Monstrance (mɒ·nstrăns). Also 3–4 **mustranee**, 4 **munstrance**, 6 **moustrans**. [a. OF. *monstrance* (AF. *moustraunce*: Britton *c* 1290), ad. med.L. *monstrant-ia*, f. L. *monstrant-em*: see MONSTRANT *a.* and -ANCE.]

†**1.** Demonstration, proof. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 21796 In constantinopil and in france, Godd had mad mani mustrance. *c* 1400 *Ibid.* 22298 (Edinb.) Antecriste..in þe tempil sale he site..þare sale he do him circumsise, and munstrance make of his maistris.

†**b.** *Law.* In *monstrance of right*, translating AF. *monstrance* (*moustrance*) *de droit*, a writ issuing out of Chancery, for restoring a person to lands or tenements legally belonging to him, though found in possession of another lately deceased. *Obs.*

1651 tr. *Kitchin's Courts Leet* (1675) 421 He shall have Traverse or Monstrans of Right to the same. 1668 HALE *Pref. to Rolle's Abridgm.* a ij b, Offices post Mortem, Traverses interpleder, and Monstrans of Right in relation thereunto.

2. *R.C. Ch.* **a.** An open or transparent vessel of gold or silver, in which the host is exposed.

1506 in *Brit. Mag.* (1833) III. 39 Itm paid for the hyre of A Monstrans at corpus xpe tyde viij d. 1552 *Inv. Ch. Goods Surrey* 84 A monstrance of sylver. 1851 J. H. NEWMAN *Cath. in Eng.* 244 One of them [*i. e.* the priests]..takes out the Blessed Sacrament, inserts it upright in a Monstrance of precious metal. 1872 O. SHIPLEY *Gloss. Eccl. Terms* s.v. *Benediction*, The priest..turns and blesses the people with the monstrance which contains the blessed Sacrament.

b. A receptacle used for the exhibition of relics.

1522 in Nichols *Mann. Anc. Times* (1797) 272 Item, a monstrans, w^t^ a relike of Sent Marten. 1876 C. M. DAVIES *Unorth. Lond.* 233 The chapel of St. Paul..exhibited in a monstrance the relics of the saint.

†**Monstrant,** *sb. Obs. rare.* In 6 **monstraunt.** [app. ad. L. *monstrant-em* (see MONSTRANT *a.*) in subst. use. Cf. MONSTRAL, MONSTRATE *sb.*] = MONSTRANCE 2.

1509 FISHER *Serm. in St. Pauls* Wks. (1876) 274 He..kyssed not the selfe place where the blessyd body of our lorde was conteyned, but..the fote of the monstraunt.

†**Mo·nstrant,** *a. Obs. rare*⁻⁰. [ad. L. *monstrant-em*, pr. pple. of *monstrāre*: see MONSTRATE *v.*] Showing or declaring. 1727 in BAILEY vol. II.

†**Monstrate,** *sb. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [Perh. some error; cf. MONSTRAL, MONSTRANT *sb.*] = MONSTRANCE 2.

1524 in G. Oliver *Hist. Coll.* (1841) App. 16 A Monstrate, siluer, bole gilte with..a crucifix in the topp.

†**Monstrate,** *v. Obs.* [f. L. *monstrāt-*, ppl. stem of *monstrāre* to show, f. *monstr-um*: see MONSTER *sb.*] *trans.* To prove, demonstrate.

1647 M. HUDSON *Div. Right Govt.* II. x. 166 The light of nature is sufficient to monstrate the..impiety thereof.

†**Monstra·tion.** *Obs.* [ad. L. *monstrātiōn-em*, f. *monstrāre*: see prec.] A demonstration.

1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 82 The blood burst incontinent out of the nose of the dead king at the comming of his sonne, geuing thereby as a certaine monstracion, howe he was the author of his death.

†**Mo·nstrative,** *a. Logic. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [ad. L. type **monstrātīvus*, f. *monstrāre* to show: see -IVE.] (See qnot.)

1653 Z. COKE *Logick* (1657) 164 A necessary Syllogism is

either Monstrative [or] Demonstrative. Monstrative is, whose Mean is taken from a monstrative place, that is, from every place of necessary invention, except the efficient cause, the end, and the effect.

† **Monstra·tor.** *Obs.* [L., f. *monstrāre*: see MONSTRATE *v.*] A demonstrator, exhibitor.

1852 Sir W. Hamilton *Discuss. Philos.* etc. 689 This exhibition a University ought to supply; and at the same time, as a necessary concomitant, a competent monstrator.

† **Mo·nstre,** *sb. Obs.* Also **monster, monstyr, monestere.** [ad. med.L. *monstrum*, app. ad. OF. *monstre* fem. (mod.F. *montre*), vbl. sb. f. *monstrer* to show.] = MONSTRANCE.

c 1480 *Acc. St. Andrew Hubbard* in *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* p. lxi, The crose of the monestere. 1498–9 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* 233 Item, for mendyng of the monstyr for the Sacrament xvjd. 1519 *Churchw. Acc. St. Margaret's, Westm.* (Nichols 1797) 8 A monstre of siluer and gilt to bear in the Sacrament on Corpus Christi day. 1548 in *Archæologia* (1869) XLII. 89 Item a monster of silver and gilt.

‖ **Monstre** (mǫ̃nstr), *a.* [Fr.; adjectival use of *monstre* MONSTER *sb.*] A frequent journalistic substitute for MONSTER *a.*, esp. as applied to meetings, 'demonstrations', etc.

1840 Barham *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. 1. *Monstre Balloon (ad fin.)*, Three cheers for the 'Monstre' Balloon. 1893 Peel *Spen Valley* 352 He .. helped .. to organise the monstre gathering on Peep Green.

Monstre, obs. form of MONSTER.

Mo·nstricide. *nonce-wd.* [f. L. *monstr-um*: see -CIDE 2.] The slaughter of monsters.

1859 Thackeray *Virgin.* xxv, If Perseus had cut the latter's [*i.e.* the Dragon's] cruel head off he would have committed not unjustifiable monstricide.

† **Monstri·ferous,** *a. Obs.* [f. L. *monstr-um*: see -FEROUS.] Producing or bearing monsters.

1558 Knox *First Blast* (Arb.) 7 This monstriferouse empire of women. 1716 M. Davies *Athen. Brit.* II. 379 Not to be able to stand the Brunt or Medusæan Aspect of his own Monstriferous Bantling. 1891 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

Monstrifica·tion. *nonce-wd.* [Formed as next: see -FICATION.] The action of making monstrous.

1849 Ruskin *Sev. Lamps* iv. § 3. 96 Many forms of so called decoration .. ought in truth to be set down in the architect's contract, as 'For *monstrification*'.

† **Mo·nstrify,** *v. Obs.* [f. L. *monstr-um*: see -FY.] *trans.* To render monstrous; to pervert.

1617 Collins *Def. Bp. Ely* To Rdr. 12 How punctuall he is in his recitings, marring and monstrifying anothers directest meaning, with his..prodigious interpunctions.

† **Monstrison.** *Obs. rare* −¹. [OF. *monstraison, -treson, -trison*, repr. L. *monstrātiōn-em*: see MONSTRATION.] A parade.

1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 139 Ther was a fayre custome amonge the Iues, for onys a yere the kynge sholde haue of his Pepill and his hoste a monstrison.

Monstrosity (mǫnstrǫ·siti). [ad. late L. *monstrōsitās*, f. *monstrōs-us* MONSTROUS: see -ITY.]

1. An abnormality of growth, esp. in an animal or plant; *concr.* a part or organ that is abnormally developed; also occas. = MONSTER *sb.* 2.

1555 Eden *Decades* To Rdr. (Arb.) 53 So that the monstrositie growth owt of the body. 1652–62 Heylin *Cosmogr.* iv. (1682) 138 Amongst these there are some Rarities, if not monstrosities, in nature. 1793 Clarke in *Phil. Trans.* LXXXIII. 161 The defect of heart (not an uncommon kind of monstrosity) proves, that [etc.]. 1797 M. Baillie *Morb. Anat.* (1807) 38 The person to whom this monstrosity belonged, lived to near fourteen years of age. 1859 Darwin *Orig. Spec.* ii. (1878) 33 By a monstrosity, I presume is meant some considerable deviation of structure, generally injurious, or not useful to the species. 1884 J. Tait *Mind in Matter* (1892) 49 It is because nature refuses to propagate monstrosities that hybrids are sterile.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1639 Fuller *Holy War* II. xxxiv. (1647) 89 The body of their state being a very monstrosity, and a grievance of mankind. 1664 Power *Exp. Philos.* Concl. 184 This numerous piece of Monstrosity (the Multitude). 1701 Norris *Ideal World* I. ii. 48 Those few defects, .. monstrositys or whatever you please to call them, which are to be found in the world, and seem to disfigure the face of nature. 1831 [see MOON-CALF 1 b]. 1858 Greener *Gunnery* 113 Such a monstrosity [*sc.* as the 'Lancaster gun'] would have been buried soon after its birth. 1886 C. A. Briggs *Messianic Proph.* Pref. 11 The word Jehovah .. is a linguistic monstrosity.

2. = MONSTER *sb.* 3. Also *fig.*

1643 Sir T. Browne *Relig. Med.* II. § 1 The Multitude .. confused together, make but one great beast, and a monstrosity more prodigious then Hydra. 1646 — *Pseud. Ep.* v. xix. 262 We shall tolerate flying Horses, .. Harpies and Satyres; for these are monstrosities, rarities, or else Poeticall fancies. 1665 Glanvil *Scepsis Sci.* xiv. 95 Education..can lick us into shapes beyond the monstrosities of Africa.

3. The condition or fact of being monstrous, or formed contrary to the ordinary course of nature.

1656 Blount *Glossogr., Monstrosity*, .. monstrousness. *c* 1714 Arbuthnot, etc. *Mem. M. Scribl.* I. xv. (1741) 56 'Monstrosity could not incapacitate from Marriage', witness the Case of Hermaphrodites. 1766 *Compl. Farmer* s.v. *Smut*, Wolfius was of opinion that the smut of corn proceeds from a monstrosity of the embryo. 1873 Mivart *Elem. Anat.* ix. 389 The optic structure is never single and median except by monstrosity.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1651 Binning *Serm.* (1847) 530 What a monstrosity is it for one member to seek its own things..as if it were a distinct body. 1662 Gurnall *Chr. in Arm.* verse 18. I. lv. § 2 (1669) 425/1 Sin being a brat of hell, comes not to its full complexion and monstrositie, till it be sent back to the place it came from. *a* 1697 South *Serm.* II. v. 224 We sometimes read .. of Monstrous Births, but we may often see a greater Monstrosity in Educations. 1846 Southey *Vind. Eccl. Angl.* 246 The statement of his contemporary biographer confuted itself by its monstrosity. 1856 Hort *Coleridge* in *Cambr. Ess.* 327 The moral monstrosity of supposing that God can have given us lying faculties. 1902 A. B. Davidson *Called of God* xi. 282 To be lost..does not imply any uncommonness of vice, or monstrosity of wickedness.

Monstrous (mǫ·nstrəs), *a.* Forms: 5 **monstrows, 6 monstrowis, -terus, -trose, -t(e)rouse, monstreous, 6–7 monsterous, 6– monstrous.** [ad. OF. *monstreux, -tereux*, ad. late L. *monstrōsus*, f. L. *monstrum* MONSTER: see -OUS and cf. MONSTRUOUS.]

† **1.** Of things, material and immaterial: Deviating from the natnral order; unnatural. *Obs.*

1460 Capgrave *Chron.* (Rolls) 26 Zoroastes, whan he was bore, lowas no child ded but he, and this lawhing was no tokne of good, for it was monstrows, that is to seyn, ageyn course of kynde. 1508 Dunbar *Tua Mariit Wemen* 57 God gif matrimony were made to mell for ane ȝeir! It war bot monstrous to be mair, but gif our myndis pleisit. 1577 Vautrouillier *Luther on Ep. Gal.* 83 It seemeth a very straunge and a monstrous maner of speaking thus to say: I liue, I liue not: I am dead, I am not dead [etc.]. 1625 Bacon *Ess., Unity in Relig.* (Arb.) 433 It is a thing monstrous, to put it [*i.e.* the temporal sword] into the hands of the Common People. 1648 Beaumont *Psyche* I. xv, His Diadem was neither brass nor rust, But monstrous Metal of them both begot. 1682 Sir T. Browne *Chr. Mor.* I. § 9 That Vice may be uneasy and even monstrous unto thee, let iterated good Acts.. make Virtue..a second nature in thee. 1701 Rowe *Amb. Step-Moth.* II. ii. 924 More monstrous Tales have oft amus'd the Vulgar. 1736 Butler *Anal.* I. iii. Wks. 1874 I. 60 That there are instances of an approbation of vice .. for its own sake .. is evidently monstrous.

† **b.** Of persons: Strange or unnatural in conduct or disposition. *Obs.*

1568 Bible (Bishops') *Zech.* iii. 8 They are monstrous persons. 1579 Lyly *Euphues* (Arb.) 108 Pasiphae so monstrous to love a Bull. *Ibid.* 158 An atheist, a man in my opinion monstrous. 1627 Drayton *Moone-calfe, Agincourt* etc. 165 And in her fashion she is likewise thus, In euery thing she must he monstrous. 1607 Shaks. *Timon* iv. ii. 46 Hee's flung in Rage from this ingratefull Seate Of monstrous Friends. 1654 tr. *Scudery's Curia Pol.* 137, I must appear to them..uncivill and monstrous.

2. Of animals and plants: Abnormally formed; deviating congenitally from the normal type; malformed.

1597 Gerarde *Herbal* I. lxxxix. 143 A degenerate Garlick growen monstrous. 1638 Junius *Paint. Ancients* 23 They are as little brought forth after the nature of man, as prodigious and monstrous bodies. *a* 1697 South *Serm.* II. v. 224 We sometimes read and hear of Monstrous Births. 1790 Horne in *Phil. Trans.* LXXX. 296 The..double skull of a monstrous child. 1830 R. Knox *Béclard's Anat.* 307 Certain monstrous fœtuses, acephalous and others, have been seen destitute of all the muscles. 1859 Darwin *Orig. Spec.* v. (1873) 115 This is often seen in monstrous plants.

fig. 1742 Young *Nt. Th.* v. 489 A sensual, unreflecting life is big With monstrous births. 1875 E. White *Life in Christ* III. xviii. (1878) 233 It was a mingling of the law and the gospel; which, like all unnatural unions, produced a monstrous birth.

† **b.** said of human beings. *Obs.*

[1500–20: see 4.] 1586 Marlowe *1st Pt. Tamburl.* iv. (1590) D 2 b, Were that tamburlaine As monstrous as Gorgon, prince of Hell, The Souldane would not start a foot from him. 1615 Chapman *Odyss.* ix. 268 In which kept house A man in shape, immane, and monsterous. 1688 in *Wood's Life* 28 July (O. H. S.) III. 273 A monstrous young woman,..whose shapes is very wonderful.

transf. and *fig.* 1538 Starkey *England* I. iii. 84 The partys in proportyon not agreyng .. make in thys polytyke body grete and monstrose deformyte. 1575–85 Abp. Sandys *Serm.* xx. 349 Those are ongly paternes of monstrous mindes.

3. Having the nature or appearance of a monster (see MONSTER *sb.* 3).

c 1540 *Pilgr. T.* 325 in *Thynne's Animadv.* (1865) App. 86 This is the woman .. whom Iohn saw .. syting apon a monsterus best. 1547 Boorde *Introd. Knowl.* vi. (1870) 141 Castours and whyte beares, & other monsterous beastes. 1581 Marbeck *Bk. of Notes* 924 The Sea of the monsterous beast Antichrist. 1615 G. Sandys *Trav.* 113 Adorned with the statues of gods and men; with other monstrous resemblances. 1667 Milton *P. L.* II. 625 Nature breeds, Perverse, all monstrous, all prodigious things..Gorgons and Hydra's, and Chimera's dire. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Past.* VII. 62 Such and so monstrous let thy Swain appear, If one Day's Absence looks not like a Year. 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* II. (Globe) 580 Their monstrous Idol. 1835 Thirlwall *Greece* I. vi. 210 On its confines are the haunts of the monstrous Chimæra, and the territory of the Amazons. 1870 Morris *Earthly Par.* I. 1. 418 Long-necked dragons .. And many another monstrous nameless thing.

b. Abonnding in monsters. ? *Obs.*

1637 Milton *Lycidas* 158 Where thou..under the whelming tide Visit'st the bottom of the monstrous world. 1725 Pope *Odyss.* iv. 658 Must I the warriors weep, Whelm'd in the bottom of the monstrous deep?

4. Of unnaturally or extraordiuarily huge dimensions; gigantic; immense; enormous.

1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* xviii. 29 Be I bot littill of stature, Thay call me catyve createure; And be I grit of quantetie Thay call me monstrowis of nature. 1553 Eden *Treat. Newe Ind.* (Arb.) 29 They haue serpentes of monstrous greatnes. 1568 Grafton *Chron.* II. 379 This man..in his Mairaltie had made great and monstreous stockes to emprison men in. 1582 T. Watson *Centurie of Love* lviii, There is a monstrous hill in Sicill soyle. 1600 J. Pory tr. *Leo's Africa* ix. 349 Of locustes there are..such monstrous swarmes .. that [etc.]. 1667 Milton *P. L.* I. 197 Thus Satan .. Lay floating .. in bulk as huge As whom the Fables name of monstrous size, Titanian,..Briarios,..or that Sea-beast Leviathan. 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 129 ₱ 7 Dressed in a most monstrous Flaxen Periwig. 1726 Swift *Gulliver* II. viii, I was equally confounded at the Sight of so many Pigmies..after having so long accustomed mine Eyes to the monstrous Objects I had left. 1818 Creevey in *C. Papers* (1904) I. 277 Dined at Lord Hill's with my young ladies .. and a monstrous party. 1848 W. H. Bartlett *Egypt to Pal.* xxi. (1879) 452 The soil revealed its singular fertility in noble grain-crops and weeds of monstrous growth.

b. of immaterial things.

1601 Shaks. *All's Well* II. ii. 34 It must be an answere of most monstrous size, that must fit all demands. 1867 J. G. Rogers *Priests & Sacram.* v. 103 The power, indeed, is too monstrous for any man under heaven to exercise.

† **c.** Excessively difficult. *Obs. nonce-use.*

1664 Power *Exp. Philos.* I. 81 The right figures of both which Crystallines are monstrous, if not impossible, to find out.

5. With emotional sense, expressing indignation or wondering contempt: Outrageously wrong or absurd.

1573–80 Baret *Alv.* E. lf. 1 What a monstrous absurditie is this that E. .. should haue neither sound nor significatiou. 1588 Marprel. *Epist.* (Arb.) 31 Nay saies my L. of winchester (like a monstrous hypocrite, for he is a very duns). 1588 Shaks. *Tit. A.* IV. iv. 51 Shall I endure this monstrous villany? 1610 — *Temp.* III. ii. 33 Wilt thou tell a monstrous lie? 1662 Stillingfl. *Orig. Sacræ* III. i. § 15 What monstrous arrogancy would it be in any man to think there is a mind and reason in himself and that there is none in the world? 1682 Dryden & Lee *Dk. of Guise* III. i, To spread your monstrous Lyes and sow Sedition. 1715 Addison *Freeholder* No. 7 ₱ 4 So many absurd and monstrous falshoods. 1836 J. Gilbert *Chr. Atonem.* viii. (1852) 221 Monstrous would be the supposition that an injury could be repaired by a compensation provided at the cost of Him who had been injured. 1850 Robertson *Serm.* Ser. III. i. (1872) 4 The monstrous fact of Christian persecution. 1878 R. W. Dale *Lect. Preach.* ix. 285 It seems monstrous for us to sing about God's goodness to the Jews and never to sing about his goodness to ourselves. 1888 Bryce *Amer. Commw.* I. xxv. 371 A monstrous system of bribery.

6. Like or befitting a 'monster' of wickedness; atrocious, horrible.

1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 336 Monstrouse and pestiferous persones. 1567 *Ballad on Murder Darnley* in *Fraser's Mag.* LXX. 221 His cruell murther ye will call monsterous. 1595 Shaks. *John* II. i. 173 *Qu.* Thou monstrous slanderer of heauen and earth. *Con.* Thou monstrous Iniurer of heauen and earth. 1608 *Yorksh. Trag.* I. ix, What made you show such monstrous cruelty? *a* 1661 Holyday *Juvenal* (1673) 22 No man at first is monstrous. 1858 Holland *Titcomb's Lett.* viii. 159 So I say that a godless woman is a monstrous woman.

absol. 1898 G. Meredith *Odes Fr. Hist.* 15 Nor would he shun her sullen look, nor monstrous hold The doer of the monstrous.

† **7.** As an exclamation, in the sense 'greatly to be marvelled at', 'astounding'. *Obs.*

1590 Shaks. *Mids. N.* III. i. 107 O monstrous. O strange. We are hanted. 1596 — 1 *Hen. IV*, II. iv. 243 O monstrous! eleuen Buckrom men growne out of two? *Ibid.* 591 O monstrous, but one halfe penny-worth of Bread to this intolerable deale of Sacke? 1605 — *Lear* v. iii. 159 Most monstrous! O, know'st thou this paper? 1693 Congreve *Old Bach.* IV. xxi, O bless me! O monstrous! A Prayerbook?

† **8.** Used as a colloquial or affected intensive. *Obs.* Cf. 4.

1710–11 Swift *Jrnl. to Stella* 7 Feb., We have a monstrous deal of snow. 1717 Lady M. W. Montagu *Let. to Abbé Conti* 29 May, The Greeks have a most monstrous taste in their pictures .. drawn upon a gold ground. 1782 Miss Burney *Cecilia* I. iii, After all this monstrous fatigue, I was forced to have my hair dressed by my own maid. 1782 Wolcot in J. J. Rogers *Opie & his Wks.* (1878) 22 West the famous painter, a monstrous favourite of George's. 1825 Cobbett *Rur. Rides* (1885) II. 38 Here is a monstrous deal of vanity and egotism.

b. quasi-*adv.* in the sense: Exceedingly, wonderfully, 'mighty'. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1590 Shaks. *Mids. N.* I. ii. 54 He speake in a monstrous little voyce. 1608 Rowlands *Humors Looking Glasse* 14 A Gentleman ..Hath a young wife and she is monstrous fine. 1655 in *Nicholas' Papers* (Camden) II. 262, I cannot but feare he may doe this monstrous vnhappy act. 1710 Swift *Jrnl. to Stella* 6 Dec., It is such monstrous rainy weather, that there is no doing with it. 1782 Miss Burney *Cecilia* I. v, She's a monstrous shocking dresser. 1801 tr. *Gabrielli's Myst. Husb.* III. 84 She had a prettyish face and monstrous nice hair. 1826 Disraeli *Viv. Grey* II. xiii, The most monstrous clever young man. 1840 Mrs. F. Trollope *Widow Married* xii, I think we shall be monstrous good friends.

9. *Comb.*, as † *monstrous-kinded* adj.; **monstrous craws,** a form of elephantiasis common in the West Indies; **monstrous pippin, rennet,** large kinds of apple.

1787 H. Walpole *Let. to C'tess Ossory* 6 Sept., The principal babe put me in mind of what I read so often, but have not seen, the *monstrous craws. 1558 Phaer *Æneid* VIII. (1562) Cc ij b, All *monstrous kynded gods. 1860 R. Hogg *Fruit Manual* 9 (Apples), *Gloria Mundi*,..*Monstrous Pippin. 1731 Miller *Gard. Dict.* s.v. *Apple*, A List of such Apples as are preferr'd for Kitchen Use .. *Monstrous Reinette. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XV. 721/1 Monstrous rennet.

Monstrously (mǫ·nstrəsli), *adv.* [-LY 2.]

† **1.** In the manner of a monster; with congenital malformation. *Obs.*

1532 More *Confut. Barnes* VIII. Wks. 741/2 A man myght haue seene frere Barns when he came laste into the lande.. and yet myght happely..haue taken him for a monstre, he had so monstrouslye dressed himself because he would be

wondred on. 1604 T. WRIGHT *Passions* I. x. 44, I might declare, what Passions they are subiect vnto, whom Nature monstrously hath signed.

2. †**a.** In an unnatural or extraordinary manner.

1555 EDEN *Decades* To Rdr. (Arb.) 53 Vicious behauoures which monstrously deforme the myndes of men. 1588 J. UDALL *Diotrephes* (Arb.) 17 My flesh trembleth to heare you speake so monstrously. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* I. iii. 10 They melted down their stolen ear-rings into a calf, and monstrously cryed out: These are thy gods O Israel! that brought thee out of the land of Egypt. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XII. 330/1 Virtues..of the same nature as those which the Basilians [*sic*] attributed to their monstrously cut stones.

b. To a monstrous degree; in later use often as a mere intensive, 'hugely', 'vastly'.

a 1674 CLARENDON *Surv. Leviath.* (1676) 301 We are monstrously in the fault. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 48 ▸ 1 Heels to his Shoes so monstrously high, that he had three or four Times fallen down, had he not [etc.]. 1782 MISS BURNEY *Cecilia* I. v, She had been..so monstrously engaged, I could never find her at home. 1826 DISRAELI *Vis. Grey* IV. ii, In life, surely man is not always as monstrously busy as he appears to be in novels and romances. 1861 HUGHES *Tom Brown at Oxf.* ii, In monstrously short time the pursuing skiff showed round the corner. 1904 'ANTHONY HOPE' *Double Harness* i. 4 She's monstrously fat.

Monstrousness (mɒ·nstrəsnés). [Formed as prec. + -NESS.] The quality of being monstrous, in various senses of the adj.; esp. unnaturalness, hugeness; enormity.

1574 *Brieff Disc. Troub. Franckford* 211 All monstrousnes off errors, and whiche Satan newlie sekethe to bring into the churche againe [being] driuen awaie. 1606 *Proc. agst. Late Traitors* 22 The monstrousnesse and continuall horrour of this so desperate a cause. 1625 K. LONG tr. *Barclay's Argenis* v. vii. 350 The monstrousnesse of his knavery. *a* 1734 NORTH *Exam.* III. vii. § 33 (1740) 527 Let none start at the Monstrousness of this supposition. 1818 HALLAM *Mid. Ages* (1872) I. 138 The apparent incredibility of the charges from their monstrousness.

b. as a mock-title. *nonce-use.*

1726 in *Hist. Norfolk* (1829) II. 1202 The two dick fools will be new dressed to attend to his monstrousness [*sc.* the Norwich Guild Snap Dragon].

†**Monstruo·sity.** *Obs.* [ad. F. *monstruosité*: see MONSTRUOUS and -ITY.] = MONSTROSITY.

1402 *Repl. Friar Daw Topias* in *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 106 Kynde hath determyned the noumbre of thi fyngris, and if it passe noumbre, it is clepid monstruosité. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 359 Ouer and aboue those monstruosities which Italy hath deuised of it selfe, we haue remaining..those also of strange..nations abroad. 1604 T. WRIGHT *Passions* v. 265 If his Parents were..marked by any monstruositie of Nature. 1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* III. ii. 87 This is the monstruositie in loue Lady, that the will is infinite, and the execution confin'd. 1650 GENTILIS *Considerations* 84 That of one member bigger than another, hath nothing to doe with goodness, but with Monstruosity. 1724 WARBURTON *Tracts* (1789) 2 If the Monstruosity of their Crimes exceed even imaginary oaes. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XII. 247/2 M. Fabri arranges..compressions of the cranium, and many other deformities of this kind in the class of morbific monstruosities. *Ibid.* 248/2 Monstruosities which are perpetuated exist in the original organization of the seed of the plant.

†**Mo·nstruous,** *a. Obs.* Also 4 -ruos, 5-6 -ruus, -rowous, 6 -ruows, 6-7 -ruouse. [ad. L. *monstruōs-us*, irreg. f. *monstrum* MONSTER: see -OUS. Cf. F. *monstrueux*, Sp., Pg., It. *monstruoso*.] = MONSTROUS in various senses.

Very common in the 16th c.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* IV. met. iii. 95 (Camb. MS.) Hem ..þat..hyweyleth the Monstruos chaungynge þat they suffren. 1432-50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 133 This pope Benedicte appered to a man after his dethe, in a monstruous similitude. 1471 CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) 17 The fiers dragons, the dedely griffons, the monstrowous bestes. *c* 1495 *Epitaffe*, etc. in *Skelton's Wks.* (1843) II. 392 O murtherer vnmesurable..Monstruus of entrayle, aborryd in kynde. 1542 BECON *Pathw. Prayer* xlvii. R iv b, All the monasticall sectes haue put of theyr cowles & monstruous garmentes. 1562 WINJET *Cert. Tractates* (S.T.S.) I. 22 The monstruus ydoll of auarice. 1609 BIBLE (Douay) *Numb.* xxii. Comm., Being accustomed to such monstruous tbinges, he replied familiarly, nothing thefwith astonished. 1668 CULPEPPER & COLE *Barthol. Anat.* I. xvii. 45 Tis monstruous, when both the kidneys are joyned into one beneath, and cleave together. 1692 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) II. 332 A monstruous fish of an ell long, having the parts and shape of a dog..was shot in the Thames. 1700 W. KING *Transactioneer* 55 A Monstruous Birth. 1724 WARBURTON *Tracts* (1789) 3 Revenge is monstruous. 1727 *Philip Quarll* 238 Several Rarities, which they said did belong to a monstruous English Hermit.

Hence †**Mo·nstruously** *adv.*, **Mo·nstruousness** = MONSTROUSLY, MONSTROUSNESS.

1545 ASCHAM *Toxoph.* I. (Arb.) 53 If I woulde enter, to descrybe the monstruousenes of it, I shoulde rather wander in it, it is so brode. 1561 T. NORTON *Calvin's Inst.* IV. 125 They that vomite out such monstruousnesse, are so not ashamed of their own shame, that [etc.]. 1563 *Homilies* II. *Agst. Idol.* III. 56 Some spake more monstruously then euer did Balams Asse. 1653 R. SANDERS *Physiogn.* 159 Malice is represented in a man by some deformity or monstruousness. 1690 CHILD *Disc. Trade* (1694) 206 It is evident they do monstruously increase. 1708 *Brit. Apollo* No. 38. 1/2 Two children.., who are so monstruously conjoyn'd.

Monstuire, -tur(e, obs. ff. MONSTER.

Monsware, variant of MANSWEAR *sb. Obs.*

Mont, obs. form of MOUNT.

Montabanke, obs. form of MOUNTEBANK.

‖ **Montagnard** (mɒ̃ntaɲar). [Fr., f. *montagne*: see MOUNTAIN and -ARD.]

1. An inhabitant of a mountain region; a highlander, mountaineer. Also *attrib.*

1842 MRS. F. TROLLOPE *Vis. Italy* I. i. 10 A montagnard population is always better worth looking at, than any other.

2. *Hist.* A member of the 'Mountain' or extreme democratic party in the legislatures of the first French revolution.

1879 *Encycl. Brit.* IX. 602/2 The Montagnards alone.. opposed a declaration of war.

Monta(i)gne, obs. forms of MOUNTAIN.

Montan, obs. form of MOUNTAIN, MUNTIN.

‖ **Montaña** (mɒntaⁿ·ñă). [Sp.: see MOUNTAIN.]

1. *pl.* As the proper name of certain mountain districts in Spain.

1842 *Penny Cycl.* XXII. 291/1 The Montañas of Asturias.

2. In Spanish-American countries: A forest of considerable extent; *spec.* the name of the part of Peru east of the Andes. Cf. MONTE 2.

1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVIII. 3/2 [Peru], The Mountain Region, or *Montaña*, runs parallel to the Pacific. 1856 I. F. HOLTON *New Granada* 436 (Cent.) All land covered with thicket is called monte if it be but a few miles through, and montaña if more. 1878 H. W. BATES *Central Amer.*, etc. 210 The traveller..finds himself in the Montaña of Peru, a..little-known region on the eastern slopes of the Andes. *Ibid.* 339 The Ecuador Montaña is..more abundantly watered. 1888 GUILLAUME *Amazon Prov. Peru* 3 The Montaña or forest country—is that immense region lying along the slopes of the..eastern range of the Andes.

Montance, obs. variant of MOUNTANCE.

Montane (mɒ·ntein), *a. Nat. Hist.* [ad. L. *montān-us*, f. *mont-*, *mons*: see MOUNT *sb.* and -ANE. So F. *montane*.] Pertaining to or inhabiting mountainous country.

1863 J. G. BAKER *N. Yorks. Stud. Bot.*, etc. 211 One of the most frequent of the characteristically montane species. 1881 *Gardeners' Chron.* 15 Oct. 503/2 A single species restricted to elevated montane localities in Tasmania. 1885 J. G. BAKER *Lake Dist. Flora* 238 Parsley Fern..one of the most universal of the montane Lakeland plants.

Montane, obs. form of MOUNTAIN.

†**Monta·nic,** *a. Obs. rare.* [f. L. *montān-us* (see prec.) + -IC.] Of or pertaining to mountains; consisting of mountains.

1799 KIRWAN *Geol. Ess.* 161 The most extensive montanic ranges commonly consist of three chains.

†**Monta·nical,** *a. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. *Montan-us* (see MONTANISM) + -ICAL.] = MONTANISTIC.

1607 *Schol. Disc. agst. Antichr.* I. i. 39 It was superstitious and neere Montanicall.

Montanism (mɒ·ntăniz'm). [f. *Montān-us* (see below) + -ISM.] The tenets of a heretical Christian sect, founded in Phrygia by Montanus about the middle of the 2nd century.

Montanus claimed for himself and two female associates prophetic inspiration. The tenets of the sect were millenarian and severely ascetic, but otherwise did not differ appreciably from those of the Catholic church.

1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* V. lxxii, § 11 Tertullian proclayming euen open warre to the Church maintained Montanisme. 1649 JER. TAYLOR *Gt. Exemp.* III. Disc. xvi. 57 If by such austerities I lead others to a good opinion of Montanism I must..alter my dyet. 1902 T. M. LINDSAY *Ch. & Ministry in Early Cent.* vi. 215 *note*, Prophecy lasted until it was finally discredited by Montanism.

Montanist (mɒ·ntănist), *sb.* (and *a.*) [f. *Montān-us* (see prec.) + -IST.] A believer in Montanism. Also as *adj.* = MONTANISTIC.

1577 HANMER *Anc. Eccl. Hist.* 89 *margin*, Apollonius against the Montanistes. 1579 FULKE *Heskins' Parl.* 439 Other heresies of ye Montanistes. 1653 BAXTER *Chr. Concord* 69 Some Arians, Nestorians, Monothelites, Montanists, denied the souls immortality. 1702 ECHARD *Eccl. Hist.* (1710) 546 Tertullian..began to incline towards the errors of the Montanists. 1833 MOORE *Trav. Irish Gentl. in Search Relig.* I. 263 The Montanists..took it on the word of their founder that he was the very Paraclete promised by the Redeemer. 1859 SCHAFF *Hist. Chr. Ch.* (an. 1-311) 300 The Montanist prophets. *Ibid.* 301 The Montanist Proclus.

Hence **Montani·stic,** †**Montani·stical** *adjs.*, of or relating to Montanism.

1629 BP. HALL *Hon. Marr. Clergy* II. xvi, The Montanisticall vaunt of virginitie. 1645 PAGITT *Heresiogr.* (1647) 89 A fourth hold Antinomian, Montanisticke, and Familisticke Tenets. 1660 STILLINGFL. *Iren.* II. ii. (1662) 160 Setting aside the Montanistical spirit..the first-rise of this Ignis fatuus was from the bogs of Popery. 1833 J. H. NEWMAN *Arians* I. i. (1876) 17 The perverse spirit..which we have been tracing in its Montanistic and Novatian varieties, still lurked in those parts.

Montanite (mɒ·ntănəit). *Min.* [f. the name of *Montana*, one of the States of the American Union: see -ITE.] A hydrous telluride of bismuth occurring in yellowish earthy incrustations.

1868 GENTH in *Amer. Jrnl. Sci.* Ser. II. XLV. 317 A tellurate of bismuth, for which I propose the name 'Montanite'.

Montanize (mɒ·ntănəiz), *v.* [f. *Montān-us* (see MONTANISM) + -IZE.] *intr.* To follow the doctrines of the Montanists.

1594 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* IV. vii. § 4 Tertullian..iudged all them who did not Montanize to be but carnally minded. 1620 BP. HALL *Hon. Marr. Clergy* I. xix, Hee might haue found his Tertullian, then Montanizing, to vpbraid the true and catholike Church. 1840 MILMAN *Hist. Chr.* III. 363 *note*, Tertullian evidently Montanises in this treatise.

†**Montanous,** *a. Obs. rare*⁻⁰. [ad. L. *montān-us* (f. *mont-*, *mons*; see MOUNT) + -OUS.] 'Belonging to Mountains, mountainous' (Bailey 1721).

Montant[1] (mɒ·ntănt). ?*Obs.* In 5 mountaunt. [a. F. *montant*, pres. pple. of *monter* to rise, MOUNT, used subst.] = MUNTIN. Also *attrib.*

1449 in *Cal. Proc. Chanc. Q. Eliz.* (1830) II. Pref. 55 Beames, mountaunts,.. rafturs. 1723 CHAMBERS tr. *Le Clerc's Treat. Archit.* I. 108 Without the Chambranle is a Plat-Band..called a Montant or Window-post. 1823 P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Build.* 228 Muntins or Montants. 1838 *Civ. Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* I. 150/1 They [*i. e.* the piles] were driven in panels (montants) of sixteen feet. *Ibid.*, Two other similar pieces were then placed near the top of the 'montant' piles. *Ibid.* 150/2 Additional ties..were notched on to the 'montant' pieces.

†**Montant.**[2] *Obs. rare.* Also 6 montanto. [a. F. *montant* 'an upright blow, or thrust' (Cotgr.), subst. use of *montant* pr. pple.: see prec. The form *montanto* is fictitious It. or Sp.; Prof. Skeat compares Sp. *montante* 'two-handed sword' (Minsheu).] A 'downright' blow or thrust.

1598 B. JONSON *Ev. Man in Hum.* IV. v, I would teach these nineteene [gentlemen], the speciall rules, as your *Punto*, ..your *Passada*, your *Montanto*: till they could all play very neare..as well as my selfe. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* II. iii. 27 To see thee fight,..to see thee passe thy puncto,.. thy distance, thy montant. [1599 — *Much Ado* I. i. 30, I pray you, is Signior Mountanto return'd from the warres?]

Montayn(e, obs. forms of MOUNTAIN.

‖ **Montbretia** (mɒntbrī·ʃiă). [mod.L. (De Candolle), named after A. F. E. Coquebert de *Montbret*, a French botanist (1780-1801).] A genus of iridaceous plants, bearing bright orange-coloured flowers; a plant of this genus.

[1845 LINDLEY *Veg. Kingd.* (1846) 161.] 1899 *Daily News* 22 July 4/4 Nasturtiums, montbretias, etc. 1900 *Book of Gardening* 352 Those [Tritonias] usually catalogued as Montbretias are the most popular.

Monte[1] (mɒ·nte). Also **monty.** [a. Sp. *monte* mountain; heap or stock of cards left after each player has his share.] A Spanish and Spanish-American game of chance, played with a pack of forty-five cards. *Three-card monte*, a game of Mexican origin, played with three cards only of which one is usually a court-card.

1850 B. TAYLOR *Eldorado* I. xii. 80 They are playing monte, the favorite game in California. 1876 BESANT & RICE *Gold. Butterfly* Prol. ii, I thought we should find a choice hotel, with a little monty or poker afterwards. 1877 BLACK *Green Past.* xiii, Five-Ace Jack received a liberal percentage from the three card-monte men who entertained these innocent folks. 1887 F. FRANCIS *Saddle & Mocassin* 66 'Do you want to play monte?' he asked. *Ibid.* 144 He ..was eight hundred [dollars] ahead once. But he played it off at monté.

‖ **Monte**[2] (mɒ·nte). [Sp.: lit. 'mountain'.] In Spanish-American countries: A more or less wooded tract; a small forest.

1856 [see MONTAÑA]. 1879 *Encycl. Brit.* IX. 406/2 The montes of Uruguay are of no commercial value.

Monte, obs. form of MOUNT.

Montebank(e, obs. forms of MOUNTEBANK *sb.*

Montebrasite (mɒntɪ·brā·zəit). *Min.* [f. the name of *Montebras* in France (A. Des Cloizeaux 1871): see -ITE.] A variety of AMBLYGONITE.

1873 J. NICOL *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) 124 Amblygonite.. *Montebrasite*, with no soda, is perhaps distinct. 1882 C. ELTON *Orig. Eng. Hist.* 9 The newly described mineral 'montebrasite', a phosphate of alumina.

Montecule, variant of MONTICULE.

Monteere, obs. form of MONTERO.

Montéff, variant of MONTEITH *Obs.*

Montegre, variant of MANTIGER.

Monteigh, erron. form of MONTEITH.

Monteigne, -ir(o, obs. ff. MOUNTAIN, MONTERO.

Monteith (mɒntī·þ). *Antiq.* Also 7 monteigh, 8 montéff, 7-9 monteth. (See quot. 1683.)

1683 WOOD *Life* Dec. (O. H. S.) III. 84 This year..came up a vessel or bason notched at the brims to let drinking glasses hang there by the foot so that the body or drinking place might hang in the water to coole them. Such a bason was called a 'Monteigh', from a fantastical Scot called 'Monsieur Monteigh', who at that time or a little before wore the bottome of his cloake or coate so notched ○○○○. 1689 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2453/4 Stolen..; a large Monteth. 1699 FARQUHAR *Constant Couple* Epil., The poet merits an ignoble death, Who fears to fall over a brave Monteth. 1728 *Ann. Barber-Surg. Lond.* (1890) 489 An earthen monteth. 1721 BAILEY, *Monteth*, a scollop'd Bason to cool Glasses in. 1773 *Lond. Chron.* 7 Sept. 248/3 The following articles.. were assayed and marked;.. montéffs, mazareens. 1901 *Athenæum* 10 Aug. 197/2 A monteth, containing thirteen silver beakers, given to the town [*i. e.* Nottingham] in 1689.

Montem (mɒ·ntem). *Obs.* exc. *Hist.* In 8 montain. [From the L. *ad montem*, 'to the Hill'.] A festival (originally annual, latterly triennial) formerly celebrated by the scholars of Eton, who in fancy costumes went in procession to 'Salt Hill', a mound near Slough, and there collected money from the bystanders. The money collected was applied to defray the expenses of the senior colleger (the 'Captain of the Montem') at King's College, Cambridge. The last celebration was in 1844.

1743 DOD in *Phil. Trans.* XLII. 562 This young Gentleman had..over-heated himself..by performing a Part at the Montain, near Eton, where he was a Scholar. 1745 R. CUST in Maxwell-Lyte *Eton Coll.* (1899) 511 It was never

Mr. Cook's intention to let us have a Montem this year. 1777 SHERIDAN *Sch. Scand.* v. ii, Mr. Surface, it seems, had come home the night before late from Salthill, where he had been to see the Montem with a friend, who has a son at Eton. 1817 J. EVANS *Excurs. Windsor*, etc. 353 The ancient custom of the Montem is celebrated at Eton every third year on Whit-Tuesday. 1899 SIR A. WEST *Recoll.* I. i. 60, I took part in the last 'montem .

b. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *montem day, dinner, dress, pole, procession*; **montem-sure-night**, the night of the twentieth day before the montem, when it became 'sure' that the senior colleger could not receive a twenty-day summons to present himself for a vacancy in King's College, Cambridge, and so would be Captain of the Montem.

a 1769 HUGGETT in *Brand's Pop. Antiq.* (1813) I. 345 The Montem day used to be fixed for the first Tuesday in Hilary Term. 1817 *Gentl. Mag.* June 559/2 The young Gentlemen walked .. in grand procession, to Frogmore, in their full Montem dresses. 1865 W. L. C. *Etoniana* 153 The night which followed the twentieth day before the Montem was called *Montem-sure-night*. 1886 DOWDEN *Shelley* I. i. 25 The years 1805 and 1808 were made glorious by the Montem processions. 1893 A. G. GRINNAN in *Will. & Mary Coll. Quarterly* II. 118 Mrs. Young..paid the bills of tailors,.. cost of montem poles and the montem dinner, and all manner of expenses incident to their position.

Montenance, variant of MOUNTENANCE.

† **Montene·grian**, *a. Obs. rare.* = next.

1845 *Blackw. Mag.* Jan. 45/1.

Montenegrin(e (mɒntɪnē·grin), *a.* and *sb.* [f. *Montenegro* (Venetian It., = Tuscan *monte nero*, black mountain, a literal translation of the local Slavonic name *Crnagora*) + -IN.]

A. *adj.* Relating to Montenegro (a Slavonic principality on the east of the Adriatic) or to its inhabitants, language, etc.

1840 *Brit. & For. Rev.* XI. 136 The Montenegrine mode of making war. 1849 PATON *Highl. Adriatic* I. 105 The idea of a Montenegrine port on the Adriatic was at once negatived. 1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 781/2 The first Montenegrin newspaper..began to appear in 1870.

B. *sb.*

1. A native or inhabitant of Montenegro.

1840 *Brit. & For. Rev.* XI. 136 A Montenegrine is always armed. 1887 L. OLIPHANT *Episodes* (1888) 181 A stalwart Montenegrin, looking magnificent in his national costume.

2. A close-fitting woman's garment resembling some Oriental military costumes, and ornamented with braid-work and embroidery (*Cent. Dict.* 1890).

Monterey (mɒntere·ɪ). The name of a city in California. Used *attrib.* in **Monterey cypress, halibut, mackerel, pine** (see quots.).

1884 SARGENT *Rep. Forests N. Amer.* (10th Census IX) 179 *Cupressus macrocarpa* Hartweg...*Monterey Cypress. 1882 JORDAN & GILBERT *Synopsis Fishes N. Amer.* 821 *Paralichthys californicus* ..*Monterey halibut; Bastard Halibut. 1884 G. B. GOODE *Nat. Hist. Aquatic Anim.* 316 The *Monterey Mackerel—*Scomberomorus concolor.* 1834 SARGENT *Rep. Forests N. Amer.* (10th Census IX) 196 *Pinus insignis* Douglas..*Monterey Pine.

‖ **Montero** (mɒntē·ro). Also 7 **muntiro, mountera, -re, -ro**, 7, 9 **montera**, 9 **monteiro**; 7 *anglicized* **mountire, monte(e)re, mounteer, moutier**. [Sp. *montera*, f. *montero* hunter, lit. 'mountaineer', f. *monte*: see MOUNT *sb.*] A Spanish hunter's cap, having a spherical crown and a flap capable of being drawn over the ears. Also *montero cap*. (Common in the 17th cent.)

1622 R. HAWKINS *Voy. S. Sea* xiii. 28 Upon their heads they weare a Night-capp, vpon it a Montero, and a Hat over that. *a* 1626 BACON *New Atl.* (1900) 32 His Hatt was like a Helmett, or Spanish Montera. *a* 1642 BEDELL *Erasmus* in Fuller *Abel Rediv.* (1867) I. 83 Another .. sent him ..a muntiro lined with rich sables. 1652 URQUHART *Jewel* Wks. (1834) 230 A mountera-cap on his head. 1659-60 PEPYS *Diary* 20 Mar., Two monteeres for me to take my choice of. 1665 J. FRASER *Polichron.* (S. H. S.) 164 The fellow..shot an arrow at him, which stuck fast in the tippet of his mountire cape which hung behind his back. *Ibid.* 354 A Montier cape called Magirky on his [Montross's] head. *a* 1674 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* IX. § 55 [He] was taken in his Journey, having a Mountero on his head. 1694 MOTTEUX *Rabelais* IV. xxx. (1737) 124 The *Midriff*, like a Mounteer-Cap. *a* 1713 ELLWOOD *Autobiog.* (1765) 74 A large Montier-cap of Black Velvet, the Skirt of which being turned up in Folds [etc.]. 1762 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* VI. xxiv, The Montero-cap was scarlet..mounted all round with furr, except [etc.]. 1823 SCOTT *Peveril* xxxv, A large montero cap, that enveloped his head. 1826 J. WILSON *Noct. Ambr.* Wks. 1855 I. 98 Now all these old heroes Of helms and monteros. 1833 LONGF. *Outre Mer* Prose Wks. 1886 I. 146 A peasant woman .. with a montera cocked up in front.

transf. 1820 W. IRVING *Sketch Bk.* II. 382 The cedar bird, with..its little monteiro cap of feathers.

Monteth, variant of MONTEITH.

Monteyne, obs. form of MOUNTAIN.

Montgolfier (mɒntgo·lfiəɹ; Fr. mɔ̃golfye). Also *erron.* **mongolfier**. [The name of the brothers J. M. and J. E. *Montgolfier* of Annonay (Ardèche), France, who invented the apparatus. In Fr. the Montgolfier balloon is called by the derivative name *montgolfière* fem., which has sometimes been adopted by Eng. writers.] A balloon raised by heated air instead of gas; a 'fire-balloon'. (More fully *Montgolfier balloon.*)

The first voyage made in a Montgolfier balloon was by Pilatre de Rozier, 21 Nov. 1783.

1784-5 *Ann. Reg.* 329 He made a small balloon filled with inflammable air .. suspended to which was an enormous Montgolfier (a balloon of rarified air). 1785 *Ibid., Principal Occur.* 39/1 A Montgolfier, or fire-balloon. 1849 SIR G. HEAD *Rome* I. 46 A huge paper 'Montgolfier', or fire balloon. 1860 *Chamb. Encycl.* I. 646/2 The longest voyage ever executed in a Montgolfière. 1866 BRANDE & COX *Dict. Sci.* etc., *Mongolfier Balloon*, a balloon filled with atmospheric air .. dilated by heat.

Month[1] (mʊnþ). Forms: 1 **mónað, -oð, -eð, móndˇ**, 3 **mondˇ**, 2–5 **moneð**, 3 **moneþþ** (*Orm.*), 3–4 **monþe, monthe, monet**, 3–7 **monethe**, 4 **munth, mooneþ, monyþ, mooneth, mounthe**, 4–5 **moneþe**, 4–6 **monyth**, 4–7 **moneth**, 5 **munethe**, 5–6 **monythe**, 6 **monneth**, *Sc.* **monecht**, 3– **month**. [Common Teut.: OE. *mónað* masc., = OFris. *mônath, môn(a)d*, masc., OS. *mânoth* masc. (in glosses; MLG. *mânet*, MDu. *maent*, Du. *maand* fem.), OHG. *mânôa* (MHG. *mânôt*, mod.G. *monat*) masc., ON. *mánuðr* masc. (Sw. *månad*, Da. *maaned*), Goth. *mēnōþs*: —OTeut. **mēnōþ-*, related to **mēnon-* MOON *sb.*

In the 16–17th c. the spelling *moneth* was almost universal.]

A measure of time corresponding to the period of revolution of the moon.

1. Any one of the twelve portions into which the conventional year is divided. (When not otherwise determined by the context, the reference is to the 'months' inherited by Western civilized nations from the Romans, and known by the names January, February, etc.) More explicitly *calendar month*, less commonly † *calendary, civil, political, usual month* (for illustrations of these designations see under the adjs.).

The primitive calendar month of ancient nations began on the day of new moon or the day after, and thus coincided (except for fractions of a day) with the synodical month (see 2). Among many peoples of antiquity, however, it was from a very early period found desirable that the calendar year should contain an integral number of the smaller periods used in ordinary reckoning. Hence the true 'months' were superseded by a series of twelve periods each having a fixed number of days (on the average one-twelfth of the number in the calendar year), and thus having no relation to the changes of the moon; but this artificial period continued to bear the name of 'month'. The systems according to which the reckoning by months was brought into relation with that by years were very various. In the Julian calendar, the months in leap year had alternately 31 and 30 days, while in other years February had only 29 instead of 30. This symmetrical arrangement was under Augustus broken up by the transference of a day from February to August, and of a day from September and November to October and December respectively, producing the system now in use.

c 888 K. ÆLFRED *Boeth.* v. § 2 Þonne ðære sunnan scima on Agustes monðe hatost scinð ðonne dyseȝað se ðe þonne wile hwelc sæd oðfæstan þæm dryȝum furum. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gen.* vii. 11 On þam oðrum monðe on þone seofenteoðan dæȝ þas monðes, *a* 1123 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1110 On þære fiftan nihte on Maies monðe. *c* 1205 LAY. 7220 He [Julius Cæsar] makede þane kalender þe dihteð þane moneð & þe ȝer. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 92 He was as fresh as is the month of May. 1477 EARL RIVERS (Caxton) *Dictes* 1 In the moneth of Juyll the said yere. 1535 COVERDALE *Exod.* xiii. 4 This daye are ye gone out, euen in ye moneth of Abib. 1615 BEDWELL *Arab. Trndg., Alkoran*, This moneth they call *Ramadhan*, which also is their Lent. 1678 SIR G. MACKENZIE *Crim. Laws Scot.* II. iv. § 1 (1699) 185 Registrat in the Books of Secret Council, the 15. day of that Moneth. 1681 W. ROBERTSON *Phraseol. Gen.* (1693) 868 The Moneth of March. 1775 S. J. PRATT *Liberal Opin.* lxiv. (1783) II. 236 The arid month of July. 1794 CRUDEN *Concord.* (ed. 5) s. v. *Month*, The names and order of the months in the [Hebrew] Civil year are the same as in the preceding table, only beginning the year with Tisri or September. 1807 ROBINSON *Archæol. Græca* III. xxv. 332 The Roman January, which was their first month, was in the depth of winter. The Macedonians reckoned Dius their first month from the autumnal equinox. 1861 M. PATTISON *Ess.* (1889) I. 36 Dr. Pauli..more than once gives the day and the month, without remembering to add the year of an event.

b. An emblematic representation of this.

1644 EVELYN *Diary* 7 Nov., The Temple of Janus quadrifrontis, having 4 arches importing the 4 Seasons, and on each side niches for the Monethes. 1712 BUDGELL *Spect.* No 425 ₱ 4 Then came up the three Months which belong to this season. *Ibid.*, Then came the Attendant Months.

2. *Astr.* a. (In full *Lunar month.*) The period in which the moon makes a complete revolution relatively to some point, either fixed or moveable.

There are thus several species of lunar month, as the time of the revolution is different according to the point with regard to which it is reckoned. Usually the term denotes the *synodical month*, i. e. the period from one new moon to the next, the length of which is 29 days, 12 hours, 44 minutes, 2·7 seconds. The other kinds of lunar month (the lengths of which are all between 27 and 28 days) are the *anomalistic, sidereal, tropical*, and *nodical month*: see those adjs.

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* III. 248 On ðam monðe synd ȝetealde nigon & twentiȝ daȝa & twelf tida, þis is se monelica monað. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 145 Þe mones liȝt is moneð met. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* IX. ix. (1495) 354 The month of the mone is that space in the whyche the mone passyth from one poynt in the fyrmament and comyth ayen to the same ..conteynyth xxvij dayes and viij houres. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 246/2 A munethe, *interlunium*. 1551 RECORDE *Cast. Knowl.* (1556) 14 A Moneth is the iuste time of the propre course of the Moone, from chaunge to chaunge. 1715 tr. *Gregory's Astron.* (1726) I. 241 Tho' a Month be properly that space of time wherein the Moon goes thro' the Zodiac; yet [etc.].

1875 *Encycl. Brit.* II. 800/1 We have as many different species of months as there are different motions with which that of the moon can be compared. *Ibid.* 800/2 The different lunar months. Synodical month, Sidereal month, Tropical month [etc.].

† b. *Month of apparition, illuminative month*: that part of the lunation during which the moon is actually visible. (The length of this was variously stated.) *Obs.*

1594 BLUNDEVIL *Exerc.* III. i. xlvi. (1636) 360 The month of Apparition consisteth of eight and twenty daies. 1658 PHILLIPS s. v., A moneth of Apparition, *i.* the space of 26 dayes and 12 hours, wherein the Moon appears, the other three days being deducted wherein it is obscured by the Sun.

c. *Solar month*: the twelfth part of the solar year; the time occupied by the sun in passing through one of the signs of the zodiac.

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* III. 244 Dære sunnan ȝear is þæt heo beyrne þone miclan circul zodiacum...Ælce monðe heo yrnð under an þæra tacna. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* IX. ix. (1495) 354 The monthe of the sonne duryth as longe as the sonne ahydyth in one sygne in his course. 1715 tr. *Gregory's Astron.* (1726) I. 241 That space of time..wherein the Sun runs thro' one Sign of the Zodiac, is call'd a Solar Month.

3. A space of time, reckoned from any moment, and either (*a*) extending to the corresponding day of the next calendar month (in which case the space of time is called 'a calendar month'), or (*b*) containing 28 days (often miscalled a 'lunar month').

a 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* v. xvii. [xix.] (1890) 454 He þa fela monþa þær ȝesæliȝum ȝelesum ȝeornlice abysezad wæs. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gen.* xxix. 14 Ða an monuð aȝan wæs. *c* 1205 LAY. 7771 Þreottene monðes wunede Julius in Oðeres. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2592 Dre moneð haueð ȝhe him hid. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 5074 Þe fest of þat mariage a moneþ fulle lasted. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* III. 140 Heo may as muche do In a Mooneþ ones, As [ȝoure] secre seal In Seuen score dayes. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) v. 49 At the ende of 3 Wekes or of a Monethe, thei comen aȝen. 1481 CAXTON *Godeffroy* cxxi. 183 The siege had thenne endured nygh ix. monethes. 1579 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 46 A quicke vnderstanding, is able to attaine to more in a moment..then a dull and blockish head in a month. 1599 *Acts Privy Council* XXIX. 591 Allowance .. at x.li. the monneth, accompting xxviij daies to the monethe, is yearlie cxxx.li. 1628 COKE *On Litt.* 135 b, A month *mensis* is regularly accounted in Law 28. dayes, and not according to the Solar moneth, nor according to the Kalender, vnlesse it bee for the account of the laps in a *quare impedit*. 1683 TRYON *Way to Health* 134 Which comes to pass in six, eight or twelve Moneths, more or less. 1747 W. HORSLEY *Fool* (1748) II. 248 The hurricane Months begin about the Twelfth of July, and continue to the Nineteenth of October. 1766 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* II. ix. 141 A month in law is a lunar month, or twenty-eight days, unless otherwise expressed. 1842 J. AITON *Domest. Econ.* (1857) 303 In Scotland, we are said to enjoy nine months of winter and three months of very bad weather. 1850 *Act* 13–14 *Vict.* c. 21 (An Act for shortening the Language used in Acts of Parliament) § 4 The Word 'Month' to mean Calendar Month, unless words be added showing Lunar Month to be intended. 1886 LUCY *Gladstone Parl.* 372 That plank bed, every square inch of which is as well known in the House of Commons as if members had passed upon it a month of all-night sittings.

b. *sing.* for *pl.* after a numeral. *Obs.* exc. *dial.*

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 3 Þe mon þe leie xii moneð in ane prisune. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 218 Sum ancre is þet weneð þet heo schule beon stronglukest inonded iðe uormeste tweolf moneð þet heo bigon ancre lif. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 11127 Mare þan thre monet duelld he In his aghen kindli contre. *c* 1300 *Harrow. Hell* 208 Twelne moneþ is agon, þat I þolede martirdom. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 8373 Sex moneth & no more. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* III. 334 Till x moneth war gayne.

c. *spec.* One of the 'nine months' commonly accounted to make up the period of pregnancy in women (about 270–80 days). So *seven months' child*, one born about 30 weeks after conception.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Luke i. 36 Dis moneð [*Rushw. MS.* monoð] is ðe seista ðær ðiu ȝe-ceized is un-berend. 1834 *Cycl. Pract. Med.* III. 471/2 Both mother and daughter.. were in the habit of menstruating up to the seventh month.

d. Used as an indefinite measure of time, esp. in *pl.*, a long while.

1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* IV. iii. 99, I haue to night dispatch'd sixteene businesses, a moneths length a peece. 1819 SHELLEY *Cenci* III. i. 330 What you in one night squander were enough For months! 1891 MEREDITH *One of our Cong.* XXV, 'Is there anything of Dartrey's wife?' 'Dead', he answered. 'When?' 'Months back'. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 455 Beriberi often originates in ships miles and months away from the land.

e. *ellipt.* for a month's leave, duty, absence, etc.; also for the amount of wages corresponding to a month's service.

1787 CHARLOTTE SMITH *Romance Real Life* I. 211 Here Beaulieu put the infant to nurse with Gabriella Niviniot, to whom he paid a month before-hand. 1793 SMEATON *Edystone L.* § 330 The present third man, who was at this time taking his month on shore.

f. Phrases. † *Month about*: during alternate months. *Month by month*: in each successive month (without suggestion of cessation). *Month after month*: each month as a sequel to the preceding (without suggestion of continuity). *From month to month*: continuously from one month to the next. *From the month*: from the period when the lying-in mother is left by the monthly nurse. *Month of Sundays* (colloq.): an indefinitely pro-

longed period. *This day month*: at a time a month after the day indicated.

1611 Bible 1 *Chron.* xxvii. 1 Nowe the children of Israel ..which came in, and went out moneth by moneth, throughout all the moneths of the yeare. 1656 H. Phillips *Purch. Patt.* (1676) 89 Moneth by moneth, nay, day by day. 1668 Pepys *Diary* 11 Mar., About four o'clock the House rises, and hath put off the debate to this day month. 1749 *Hist. Pelham, Mass.* (1898) 224 Said Scole is to be Keept, Month about at each Plase. 1771 Goldsm. *Hist. Eng.* II. 74 Entrusted with the charge of guarding him month about. 1808 *Times* 26 Feb. 4/4 A Widow..[wants] to take the Care of a Child from the month. 1818 Shelley *Marenghi* xiii. 3 He hid himself, and hunger, toil, and cold, Month after month endured. 1832 Marryat *N. Forster* v, It may last a month of Sundays. 1864 Tennyson *Aylmer's Field* 488 So month by month the noise about their doors..made The nightly wirer of their innocent hare Falter before he took it. 1884 H. Collingwood *Under Meteor Flag* 269 Don't be a month of Sundays about it. 1894 Owen & Boulger (*title*) The Country Month by Month.

†**4.** Applied (as the name of the nearest recognized division of time) to certain measures of duration supposed to be important in particular sciences. *Philosophical month* (old Chem.): see quot. 1727–41. *Medical* or *medicinal, decretory* or *decretorial month*: the space of 26 days 22 hours, formerly supposed by physicians to represent the interval between the crises of disease. *Obs.*

1646 [see Medical *a.* 1 d]. 1727–41 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v. *Month*, Philosophical Month, amongst chymists, is the space of 40 days and nights.

†**5.** *pl.* = Menses. *Obs.*

1578 Lyte *Dodoens* II. lxxi. 241 The wilde Basill..stoppeth ..the inordinate course of the Moneths. 1664 Pepys *Diary* 27 Sept., My wife having..her months upon her is gone to bed. 1694 Westmacott *Script. Herb.* 183 Saffron .. expelleth the Months and Child.

6. Attributive uses and combinations. a. *attrib.*, as *month-long* adj. and adv.; †**month**-book, an account book intended to serve a month; †**month courses** = Menses; †**month-day**, (*a*) a stipulated or allowed period of a month's duration, chiefly in phr. *within a month day* (cf. Day *sb.* 11); (*b*) the corresponding day of the following calendar month; **month-man** *dial.* = *month's man* (see b); **month-name**, the name of any one of the calendar months; †**month-nurse** = *monthly nurse*.

1557 *Order of Hospitalls* F vj, You shall kepe xiij *Moneth-Books. Every Booke shall containe all your receipts and Paiments receued and paid in euery Moneth. 1563 Hyll *Art Garden.* (1593) 100 The same water drunk .. doth stay the excesse of the *month courses. 1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 27 He his trowthe leith to borwe To come, if that he live may, Ayein withinne a *Monthe day. *Ibid.* 100 Withinne .. two Monthe day. *c* 1440 *Generydes* 1890 To muster withynne a moneth day. *c* 1470 [see Day *sb.* 21]. 1546 Langley *Pol. Verg. De Invent.* v. iv. 103 b, Thei vse commonly not to be purified afore the moneth day. 1843 Pusey *Serm. Holy Euch.* 28 All but a *month-long fast from our 'daily Bread'. 1887 Morris *Odyss.* x. 14 And me month-long there he cherished. 1794 *Annals of Agric.* XXII. 212 Harvest-men, (month-men) 4l. per month. 1906 *Athenæum* 8 Sept. 280/3 The old dislike of Quakers to the ordinary *month-names. 1828 *Lights & Shades* II. 312, I was boxed up with a market-gardener, a *month-nurse [etc.].

b. Possessive genitive, as †**month's day** = *month day* (see a); also = Month's mind; **month's end** *dial.*, a religious celebration held after the expiration of a month from the date of a funeral (cf. Month's mind); **month's man**, a man employed at enhanced wages for one month's labour during harvest.

c 1526 *Plumpton Corr.* (Camden) 226 As I understand, ye are contented to bide the order of me & others,..so that an end wear maid before *months day next. 1542 in *Suss. Arch. Coll.* (1869) XXI. 201 [Will of T. Delve: At his burial x masses...At his month's day a cast of bread, two pounds of beef, and a penny]. 1863 *Monthly Packet* Dec. 683 In many a parish, the only occasions on which the church is well filled is when one of these '*Month's Ends' (as they are called, whatever time may have elapsed since the funeral) gathers together a train of mourners. 1750 W. Ellis *Mod. Husbandm.* V. ii. 8 He commonly employed six *Months-Men every Harvest. 1804 Charlotte Smith *Conversations*, etc. I. 191 But what is a monthsman?..One who is hired by the farmer, to work for him for a month, during harvest.

Month [2] (mʌnθ). *Obs.* exc. *Hist.* Also 5 **monthe**, 5, 9 *Hist.* **mounth**. [ad. Gael. *monadh* (until 13th c. pronounced *monað*). Cf. place-names such as *Month Blair*.] A high hill, mountain. Applied *spec.* to the Grampians, esp. towards their eastern extremity (Jamieson).

1375 Barbour *Bruce* II. 494 Dreand in the month thar pyne. *c* 1425 Wyntoun *Cron.* VII. v. 634 Þe bak þai turnyt richt son, and flede, And oure þe Monthe richt son þaim spede. *c* 1470 Harding *Chron.* (1543) 236 Betwixt the mounthes and the water of Tay, Which some do call mountaignes in our language. 1520 *Sc. Acts Parl.* (1814) I. 201 All kynd of monthis..hes mercheis thre, Heidrown, watter, and monthis bord. 1561 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 193 The benefices on this syde of the Month..and beyond the Month. *c* 1600 *Battell of Balrinness* in *Scot. Poems* 16*th C.* (1801) II. 347 On Towie Mounth I mett a man. 1640 in *Rose of Kilravock* (Spalding Club) 333 [Twelve tenants of the] Twa Culmores were peacefully leading peats ..from the Month of Mulbuy.

†**Mo·nthish**, *a. Obs. rare*—[1]. [f. Month *sb.*[1] + -ish.] Of or pertaining to a month, monthly.

1540 Palsgr. *Acolastus* Q iij, A monthyshe vytayle...i. as moche vitayles, as wolde serue vs for a hole monethe.

Monthling (mʌ·nθlin). *rare*—[1]. [f. Month [1] + -ling.] A child a month old, or whose age can be counted only by months.

1804 Wordsw. *To my Infant Daughter* 16 Frail, feeble Monthling!—by that name methinks, Thy scanty breathing time is portioned out Not idly.

Monthly (mʌ·nθli), *a.* and *sb.* [f. Month [1] + -ly [1]. OE. had *mónð(a)lic*; cf. OS. *mônothlic*, OHG. *mânôdlîh* (G. *monatlich*).] **A.** *adj.*

1. Done or recurring once a month or every month.

1647 Fuller *Good Th. in Worse T.* (1841) 125 We have.. not care enough to keep one monthly day of humiliation. 1661 Cowley *Prop. Adv. Exp. Philos.* Verses & Ess. (1669) 46 Two of the Professors by daily, weekly or Monethly turns shall teach the publick Schools. 1783 Burke *Ind. Comm. Rep.* Wks. II. 260 Mr. Hastings..urges the necessity of the monthly payment of the Nabob's stipend being regularly made. 1838 Lytton *Alice* I. iii. 26 She saw Evelyn opening the monthly parcel from London. 1889 H. Campbell *Causat. Disease* viii. 54 Monthly migraine.

b. = Menstrual *a.* 2.

1612 Woodall *Surg. Mate* Wks. (1653) 68 Anise-seed..moveth urine and monethly termes. *Ibid.* 71 *Amoniacum* ..provoketh the monethly courses and urine. 1806 *Med. Jrnl.* XV. 29 About five years ago the monthly period ceased, and since that time the head-ach became universal. 1889 J. M. Duncan *Clin. Lect. Diseases Wom.* xix. (ed. 4) 152 The woman has this violent disease during her monthly time.

2. Pertaining or relating to a month; payable every month.

1572 Walsingham in Digges *Compl. Ambass.* (1655) 213 My monethly charges [are] drawing now to two hundred pounds the moneth. 1573 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* II. 219 Dalie, owlklie, or monethlie wageis. 1843 Borrow *Bible in Spain* xli, An offer of a monthly salary. 1848 Glaisher in *Phil. Trans.* CXXXVIII. 125 On the Corrections to be applied to the Monthly Means of Meteorological Observations taken at any hour, to convert them into Mean Monthly values. 1902 T. M. Lindsay *Ch. & Ministry in Early Cent.* iv. 125 They paid a monthly subscription to the common fund (*stips menstrua*).

3. Continued or enduring for a month. Now *rare* exc. as applied to the revolution of the moon, where the sense blends with sense 1.

1589 Greene *Menaphon* (Arb.) 26 Minutes ioyes are monthlie woes. 1605 Shaks. *Lear* I. i. 134 Our selfe by Monthly course..Shall our abode Make with you by due turne. 1667 Milton *P. L.* III. 728 The neighbouring Moon ..her aide Timely interposes, and her monthly round Still ending,..in her pale dominion checks the night. 1692 Bentley *Boyle Lect.* vi. 24 The monthly Revolutions of the Moon. 1825 A. R. C. Dallas *Prelim. Statem.* in R. C. Dallas *Corr. Byron* I. p. lxxx, It is truly absurd to see how all Lord Byron's *monthly* friends prostitute the word *intimacy*.

4. Special combinations, as **monthly bird**, the fieldfare (Swainson *Prov. Names Birds* 1885); †**monthly mind** = Month's mind; **monthly nurse**, a sick-nurse who attends a woman lying in during the first month after her accouchement; **monthly rose** (tree), the Indian or China rose, erroneously supposed to flower every month.

1649, 1660 [see Mind *sb.* 5 b]. 1664 Evelyn *Kal. Hort., Mar.* (1699) 31 Cut away some Branches of the Monthly Rose-tree close. 1688 R. Holme *Armory* II. 62/2 The Monthly Rose [is] of the purple colour, it bears three times in the year. 1707 Mortimer *Husb.* (1721) II. 164 The Monthly Rose bearing Flowers only three Months in England. 1844 Dickens *Mart. Chuz.* xix, A monthly-nurse, or, as her sign-board boldly had it, 'Midwife'. 1866 *Chamb. Encycl.* VIII. 335/2 The name Monthly Rose is often given to it from the notion that it flowers every month.

B. *sb.*

1. *pl.* = Menses.

1872 J. G. Murphy *Comm. Lev.* xv. 25 The issue is not at the usual time of the monthlies.

2. A literary periodical magazine or review published once in each month.

1856 *Gentl. Mag.* July 7 All the monthlies above named had passed away before Cave started The Gentleman's Magazine. 1904 *Daily Chron.* 12 Mar. 4/7 'Can you get me a copy of the Apocrypha?' he asked...'I can't quite remember, sir', she replied; 'is it a weekly—or a monthly?'

3. Short for *monthly rose* (see A 4).

1852 Motley *Corr.* (1889) I. v. 130 Our gardener has dug up his half-hardy roses, multifloras, and monthlies.

Monthly (mʌ·nθli), *adv.* [f. Month [1] + -ly [2].] **1.** Once a month; in each or every month; month by month.

1533–4 *Act* 25 *Hen. VIII*, c. 8 The poore cariers..repairynge wekely and monthely to your citee of London. 1569 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* II. 23 And sua furth monethlie upoun the first day of everie moneth. 1603 Owen *Pembrokeshire* (1892) 10 He held Sessions and a Countye Courte monethlie. 1664 Evelyn (*title*) Kalendarium Hortense, or Gard'ner's Almanack, directing what he is to do monthly throughout the Year. 1744 Berkeley *Let. to Prior* 3 Sept., Wks. 1871 IV. 300 Two pamphlets that come out monthly. 1878 Jevons *Prim. Pol. Econ.* 53 Clerks receive their salaries monthly.

†**2.** After the manner of a lunatic. *Obs. rare*—[1].

1611 Middleton & Dekker *Roaring Girl* v. ii, The man talkes monthly:..I see hee'l be starke mad at our next meeting.

Month's mind. Also 5–7 **month mind**.

1. *Eccl.* In England before the Reformation, and still in Ireland among Roman Catholics: The commemoration of a deceased person by the celebration of masses, etc., on a day one month from the date of his death.

There seems to be no authority for applying the term to the commemoration *throughout* the month following the funeral. The notion that it meant a commemoration recurring every month is baseless. For an English rustic survival of the 'month's mind' custom, see *month's end* in Month *sb.* 6 b.

1466 in *Somerset Medieval Wills* (1501) 210, I will that there be at my dirige mass and moneth mynde noon other tapers ne candelstikkes but such as he of the same chirch. 1487 in *Paston Lett.* III. 463 Every weke folowing unto my monthes mynde oon trentall, and iij. trentalles at my monthes mynde hiside the solempne dirige and masse that is to be requyred for me at that tyme. 1530 in *N. & Q.* (1900) 9th Ser. VI. 414/1, I will that my executors cause an hole trigintall of masses to be saide..upon the day of my buryall..and likewise as manny at the moneths mynde and asmany at my yeres day. 1546 Langley *Pol. Verg. De Invent.* VI. viii. 128 In England the custome is to kepe the thirty daie or moneth mynde with like Obites, as wer dooen on the buriall daies. [Orig. *Apud Anglos hoc fit vigesimo nono die postquam mortuus est sepultus.*] 1565 Cooper *Thesaurus, Cenotaphium*, a monument of one dead where the body is not, as the herse at the monthes minde. 1721 Strype *Eccl. Mem.* II. iv. 281 The month's mind for the two Dukes of Suffolk late deceased was kept September 22: so the more solemn celebration of the funerals of great persons about a month more or less after their interments used to be callid. 1830 W. Carleton *Traits Irish Peas.* (1843) I. 163 He hadn't even a Month's mind! *Ibid. note*, A Month's Mind is the repetition of one or more masses, at the expiration of a month after death, for the repose of the departed soul. 1884 *Weekly Reg.* 11 Oct. 452/2 The month's mind of the late Marchioness of Londonderry was celebrated in the Catholic Church of Newtownards.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1598 Tofte *Alba* (1880) 18 Loe here the Months Mind of my deare bought loue, Which (once a Month) I vowd to memorise. 1601 Holland *Pliny* II. 522 They doe offer sacrifice euery 20 day of the Moone, and these moneth-mindes they keep as holy-daies. 1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* VIII. vi. 763 They vse to solemnize certaine months-mindes in their Sauage manner for any great personage dead.

2. Used allusively as a more or less playful synonym for Mind *sb.*[1] 13; an inclination, a fancy, a liking. Also (rarely) *To be in a month's mind*. to have a strong expectation. *Obs.* exc. *dial.*

1580 Lyly *Euphues* (Arb.) 464 Determininge to ende his lyfe in Athens, although he hadde a moneths minde to England. 1598 Bp. Hall *Sat.* IV. iv. 116 He thaw's like Chaucers frosty Ianinere; And sets a Months minde vpon smyling May. 1611 Cotgr. s.v. *Engrand*, *Tu es bien engrand de trotter*.. thou hast a moneths mind to be gone. 1621 Bp. Mountagu *Diatribæ* 382 You bend toward them in the parting, and beare a moneths mind still vnto them. 1660 Pepys *Diary* 20 May, In another bed there was a pretty Dutch woman, but though I had a month's mind I had not the boldness to go to her. 1700 Congreve *Way of World* III. i, She has a Month's mind; but I know Mr. Mirabell can't abide her. 1755 J. Shebbeare *Lydia* (1769) II. 76 This baronet then had a month's mind to the Dowager Viscountess. 1809 Malkin *Gil Blas* VI. ii. 2 If you once leave us, we are in a month's mind that we shall not see you again. 1815 *Hist. J. Decastro & his bro. Bat* IV. 224 Now her ladyship felt malice enough against the men to have a month's mind to another husband. 1826 Scott *Jrnl.* 8 July, He [a lion] was lying like a prince in a large cage, where you might be admitted if you wish. I had a month's mind—but was afraid of the newspapers.

Monticellite (mɒntise·lɔit). *Min.* [f. the name of T. *Monticelli* (1758–1846) an Italian mineralogist: see -ite.] A yellowish chrysolitic silicate of magnesium, calcium, and iron.

1831 H. J. Brooke in *Philos. Mag.* X. 265 Monticellite... On the supposition of its being an undescribed mineral, and from Vesuvius, I have named it after Mr. Monticelli, who has published a work in illustration of the minerals found in the neighbourhood of that mountain. 1845 *Encycl. Metrop.* VI. 509/1 *Monticellite*...A Mineral from Vesuvius. 1896 in Chester *Dict. Min.*

Monticle (mɒntik'l). Also 5 mo(u)ntycle. [ad. F. *monticule*: see Monticule.] A small mountain or hill.

1490 Caxton *Eneydos* i. 13 Vpon whom was so moche sonde layde, that vpon polydorus semed to be a lityl hille or montycle. *Ibid.* iii. 17 In whiche place there hadde be accumyled, or heped, of sonde a lytyl hylle or mountycle. 1721 Bailey, *Monticles*, little Mountains. 1842 Borrow *Lavengro* xxv, He stood on the top of a steep monticle. 1877 Lyttelt *Landmarks* II. ii. 51 A moated hillock,.. the learned-men's monticle or moated camp.

Monticoline (mɒntɪ·kɔlain), *a. Nat. Hist. rare*—[0]. [f. L. *monticol-a* mountaineer (f. *monti-, mons* mountain + *col-ĕre* to inhabit) + -ine.] Inhabiting mountains (*Cent. Dict.* 1890).

Monticolous (mɒntɪ·kɔləs), *a. rare*—[0]. [Formed as prec. + -ous.] Living or growing on mountains.

1856 Mayne *Expos. Lex.* 1891 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

†**Monti·culate**, *a. Obs. rare*—[0]. [f. Monticule + -ate [2] 2.] (See quot.)

1840 Smart s.v. *Montanic*, Monticulate means, having many little projections.

Monticule (mɒntikiul). Also *erron.* 9 monticole. [a. F. *monticule* (whence the earlier Monticle), ad. late L. *monticulus*, dim. of *monti-, mons* mountain: see -cule.]

1. = Monticle. Also *fig.*

1799 *Hist. Europe* in *Ann. Reg.* 46/2 Five sources contribute to form these fountains, which send up to the top little monticules of sand. 1818 J. Mitford in *Observer* 15 Nov., Mount Ida (a small monticole so named). 1864

M. Eyre *Lady's Walks in S. France* xxi. (1865) 236 On a high monticule frowns the grim old ruin. 1904 *Speaker* 19 Mar. 592/2 An amphitheatre of abrupt monticules.

b. *spec.* A small conical mound produced by volcanic eruption.

1833 Lyell *Princ. Geol.* III. 100 If we could strip off from Etna all the lateral monticules now visible..the diminution of the entire mass would be extremely slight! 1883 Burton & Cameron *To Gold Coast for Gold* I. ii. 41 The lower monticules and parasitic craters.

2. *Anat.* and *Zool.* A minute eminence (on the surface of an animal or organ).

1874 H. A. Nicholson in *Q. Jrnl. Geol. Soc.* XXX. 501 The presence of 'monticules' or 'mamelons' from which the name *Monticulipora* was derived, cannot be relied upon. 1890 *Century Dict.*, *Monticulus*, in *anat.*, a little elevation, a monticule.

Monticuliporoid (mɒntikiuli·pŏroid), *a.* and *sb. Zool.* [f. mod.L. *Monticulipora*, a genus of corals (f. L. *monticul-us* + mod.L. *-pora*: see Madrepore) + -oid.] a. *adj.* Of or pertaining to the genus *Monticulipora*. b. *sb.* A coral of the genus *Monticulipora*.

1881 H. A. Nicholson *Genus Monticulipora* 12 Some other Monticuliporoid type. *Ibid.*, This character being common to many Monticuliporoids. 1883 — in *Ann. Nat. Hist.* Ser. v. XIII. 117 The Monticuliporoid Corals of the Wenlock Limestone. *Ibid.*, Some of the commoner Wenlock Monticuliporoids.

Monticulose (mɒnti·kiulōus), *a.* [Formed as next: see -ose.] Covered with small eminences.

1846 Dana *Zooph.* (1848) 562 With an uneven or monticulose surface.

Monticulous (mɒnti·kiŭlŏs), *a. rare*—°. [ad. med.L. *monticulōsus*, f. L. *monticul-us*: see Monticule.] Having little projections or hills.

1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Monticulous*, full of hills or mountains. (In mod. Dicts.)

Montiform (mɒ·ntifɔm), *a.* [f. L. *monti-*, *mons* mountain + -form.] Mountain-like; having the shape of a mountain.

1816 G. S. Faber *Orig. Pagan Idol.* II. 289 Like the montiform pagodas of Buddha. 1819 *Blackw. Mag.* V. 583 The earliest montiform edifice, which the sons of men reared as a studious copy of Mount Meru.

Montigenous (mɒntidʒi·nəs), *a. rare*—°. [f. late L. *montigen-a* native of the mountains (f. *monti-*, *mons* mountain + *gen-* root of *gignĕre* to beget) + -ous.] Native of mountain localities.

1721 Bailey, *Montigenous*, born on the hills.

Montipore (mɒ·ntipōəɹ). *Zool.* [ad. mod.L. *montipora* a genus of perforate corals, f. L. *monti-*, *mons* mountain + mod.L. *-pora*: see Madrepore.] A perforate coral of the genus *Montipora*.

1899 Bernard in *Jrnl. Linn. Soc., Zool.* XXVII. 129 A heterogeneous group consisting of Montipores [etc.].

So **Monti·porine** *a.*, related to the Montipores.

1899 Bernard in *Jrnl. Linn. Soc., Zool.* XXVII. 147 *Psammocora*, Dana, is the last genus which Milne-Edwards and Haime placed in their Montiporine subfamily of the Poritidæ.

Montit, obs. pa. t. of Mount *v.*

†**Monti·vagant,** *a. Obs. rare*—°. [f. L. *monti-*, *mons* mountain + *vagant-em*, pres. pple. of *vagārī* to roam (cf. *montivagus*): see -ant 1.] (See quot.)

1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Montivagant*, that wandreth on the mountains.

So †**Monti·vagous** *a.* [f. L. *montivag-us* + -ous.]

1658 Phillips, *Montivagous*, wandering up and down the hills and mountains.

†**Montjoy.** *Obs. rare*—¹. [a. F. *mont joie*, a commemorative cairn, f. *mont* hill + *joie* joy.] See quot. 1727; also *transf.*

1653 Urquhart *Rabelais* II. xxxiii. 218 Finally they found a montjoy or heap of ordure and filth. 1727 Bailey vol. II, *Mont-joye*, a Name by which they call Heaps of Stones, laid together by Pilgrims, in which they stick Crosses [etc.].

Montmartrite (mɒntmā·ɹtəit). *Min.* [Named by Delamétherie 1806 after *Montmartre*, near Paris, its locality: see -ite.] A variety of gypsum containing calcium carbonate.

1821 Ure *Dict. Chem.*, *Montmartrite*.

Montmorillonite (mɒntmori·lɒnəit). [Named 1847 after *Montmorillon* in France: see -ite.] A massive rose-red silicate of aluminium.

1865 Watts *Dict. Chem.*, *Montmorillonite*, a rose-red, fragile, argillaceous substance found at Montmorillon. 1866 in Brande & Cox *Dict. Sci.*, etc. II. 534/3 s.v. *Mineralogy*.

‖ **Montoir.** *Obs.* [Fr., f. *mont-er* to Mount.]

1. A horse-block.

1727 Bailey vol. II, *Montoir*, a stone as high as the Stirrups, which Italian Riding Masters mount their Horses from. 1755 in Johnson. In mod. Dicts.

2. (See quot.)

1727 Bailey vol. II, *Montoir*, the Poise or Rest of the Foot on the left Stirrup.

†**Monton** 1. *Obs.* [a. OF. *monton*, var. of *mouton* sheep: see Mutton.] A battering-ram.

a 1533 Lo. Berners *Huon* cv. 348 Themperour..dressed vp his engyns and montons to breke the walles.

‖ **Monton** 2 (mɒ·ntɒn). *Mining.* [Sp. *monton* heap, pile, f. *monte* Mount *sb.*]

1. (See quots.)

1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade*, *Monton* (Spanish), a miner's name for a heap of ore; a batch under the process of amalgamation, varying in quantity in different localities, from 15 to 32 quintals. 1880 D. C. Davies *Metall. Minerals* 414 *Monton*..a pile of ore, the weight of which varies in the various mining districts of South America.

2. A unit of weight employed in Mexico chiefly for ore under the process of amalgamation (*Cent. Dict.* 1890, citing Duport).

†**Mo·ntra.** *slang. Obs.* [a. F. *montre* watch: cf. Munter *Sc.*] A watch.

1812 J. H. Vaux *Flash Dict.*, *Montra*, a watch.

‖ **Montre** (mo·ntr). *Organ-building.* [F. *montre* sample, show, f. *montre-r* to show.] (See quots.)

1876 Stainer & Barrett *Dict. Mus. Terms*, *Montre*, mounted diapason. An organ stop whose pipes form part of the case or are placed away from the soundboard. 1888 tr. *Locher's Explan. Organ Stops* 40 *Montre* is the name given by the French to the visible, or front, Principals.

Montross, Montt, obs. ff. Matross, Mount.

Montuous, variant of Mountuous *Obs.*

Monture (mɒ·ntiuɹ). [a. F. *monture*, f. *monter* to Mount: see -ure.]

1. 'A mounting, setting, or frame; the manner in which anything is set or mounted: as, the monture of a diamond. *Shaft-monture*, a kind of mounting for the heddles of looms in figure-weaving'. (*Cent. Dict.* 1890.)

1831 G. R. Porter *Silk Manuf.* 245 The carefulness and skill..required in preparing the various arrangements of the harness in the loom or, to use the technical phrase, in *building the monture*. 1882 Ogilvie, *Monture*, a setting, mounting, frame, or the like.

‖ 2. [As Fr. (mɒ̃tūr).] Something mounted or 'set up'.

1886 *York Herald* 10 Aug. 3/2 Flower Department...A quantity of French Montures.

Monture: see Mounture.

Monty, variant of Monte 1.

Monument (mɒ·niműmĕnt), *sb.* Forms: 4–5 monyment, 4–6 monumente, 6–7 moniment, 3– monument. [ad. L. *monu-*, *moniment-um* something that reminds, a memorial, monument, f. *monēre* to remind: see -ment. Cf. F. *monument*, Sp., Pg., It. *monumento*.]

†1. A sepulchre, place of sepulture. *Obs.*

[The earliest recorded sense in Eng.; repr. a late L. development of the sense as in 5 b, which was adopted later. Cf. Welsh *mynwent* (a. L. *monumentum*), graveyard.]

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 16904 Þe prince o preistes o þair lagh went to þat monument, And sperd it wit a mikel stan. 13.. *Evang. Nicod.* 723 in *Archiv Stud. neu. Spr.* LIII. 404 He wand þat cors..And layd it in his monument. *c* 1450 *Mirour Saluacionn* 3403 The dore of the monument was stopped with a grete stone. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 228 All yᵗ be in theyr monumentes, or graues, shall heare the voyce of the sone of god. 1592 Shaks. *Rom. & Jul.* III. v. 203 In that dim Monument where Tybalt lies. 1611 Bible *Isa.* lxv. 4 A people..Which remaine among the graues, and lodge in the monuments. 1658 Sir T. Browne *Hydriot.* ii. (1736) 31 The Saints we observe arose from Graves and Monuments. [Echoing Vulg. Matt. xxvii. 53.]

fig. c 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 299 Wo be to you, pharisies,..þat ben but hud monumentis.

2. A written document, record; a legal instrument. (App. sometimes confused with *muniment.*)

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 342/2 Monyment, or charterys, or oþer lyke, *munimentum*. 1559 Morwyng *Evonym.* 332 Leaninge to the moniments and sayings of Paulus Ægineta. 1563 Foxe (*title*) Acts and Monuments of these latter and perillous Dayes. 1631 Gouge *God's Arrows* III. § 65. 303 Their rolles in which they recorded their monuments. 1685 Stillingfl. *Orig. Brit.* i. 4 Gildas..sadly laments the want of any Domestick Monuments, to give him certain information. 1709 Strype *Ann. Ref.* I. iv. 84 This discourse of Guest.. I have transcribed from the original, and put in among the monuments in the end of the book. ? 1757 Burke *Abridgm. Eng. Hist.* III. ix. Wks. 1812 V. 727 All our monuments bear a strong evidence to this change [in the laws]. 1868 M. Pattison *Academ. Org.* v. 184 The critical study of the monuments of Roman and Feudal Law may justly claim no inconsiderable share in our endowments.

†b. A piece of information given in writing.

†*Monuments of letters* (=Renaissance Latin *monumenta litterarum*): information furnished by documents.

1555 Eden *Decades* 283 But when Demetrius was demaunded whether eyther by the monumentes of letters or by fame lefte theym of theyr predecessours they hadde any knowleage of the gothes. *c* 1560 R. Morice in *Lett. Lit. Men* (Camden) 24 Suche papers of monuments as I hadd in my custodie concernyng the furnyture of your Ecclesiasticall storye. 1650 Stapylton *Strada's Low C. Warres* VII. 40, I can promise many Animadversions concerning them, out of the Monuments of Letters in my hands.

3. An indication, evidence, or token (of some fact). Now *rare.*

1605 Rowlands *Hell's Broke Loose* 4 For Fatus the Gouernour of Inry ouertooke Theudas, and sent his head as a monument to Ierusalem. 1672 Petty *Pol. Anat.* (1691) 25 There is at this Day no Monument or real Argument that, when the Irish were first invaded, they had any Stone-Housing at all. 1711 Wallis in *J. Greenwood's Eng. Gram.* Pref. 4 Other Books..where may be found many Monuments of uncommon Learning. 1903 Matheson *Repr. Men of Bible* 93 They came to Aaron to ask a sign—a visible monument of the Divine Presence.

†b. Something serving to identify; a mark, indication; something that gives warning, a portent.

1590 Spenser *F. Q.* I. v. 38 His goodly corps..Was quite dismembred, and his members chast Scattered on every mountaine as he went, That of Hippolytus was lefte no moniment. *Ibid.* II. xii. 80 His brave shield, full of old moniments, Was fowly ras't, that none the signes might see. 1596 Shaks. *Tam. Shr.* III. ii. 97 Wherefore gaze this goodly company, As if they saw some wondrous monument, Some Commet, or vnusuall prodigie? 1656 tr. *Hobbes' Elem. Phil.* (1839) 13 For the acquiring of philosophy, some sensible moniments are necessary, by which our past thoughts may be not only reduced, but also registered every one in its own order. 1657 Thornley tr. *Longus' Daphnis & Chloe* 205 Laius has shewed the monuments [*orig.* γνωρίσματα] thou hadst about thee.

c. *U. S. Law.* Any object, natural or artificial, fixed permanently in the soil and referred to in a document as a means of ascertaining the location of a tract of land or any part of its boundaries.

1828–32 in Webster. 1858 J. Kent *Comm. Amer. Law* (ed. 9) IV. 546 In the description of the land conveyed, the rule is, that known and fixed monuments control courses and distances.

4. Anything that by its survival commemorates a person, action, period, or event.

c 1530 Tindale *Answ. More* Wks. (1573) 283/1 For our false fayth in visityng the monumentes of Christ, therefore hath God also destroyed them. 1596 Spenser *State Irel.* Wks. (Globe) 628/1 Is there any token, denomination, or monument of the Ganles yet remaynyng in Ireland? 1618 Bolton *Florus* (1636) 92 He razed Saguntus to the ground, an ancient rich City of Spaine, and a great, but grievous moniment of her truth, and faith to the Romans. 1769 *De Foe's Tour Gt. Brit.* IV. 130 Many Monuments of this Battle are still to be seen here. 1837 J. Phillips *Geol.* 5 It is not certain that monuments remain of all the changes which have occurred. 1876 E. Melloa *Priesth.* vi. 280 The Supper becomes thus a historic objective monument.

b. An enduring evidenee or example.

1675 *Strange News from Oakingham* 5 We..do deserve, no more mercie at his hands than other the Monuments of his Exemplary Justice. 1713 Addison *Cato* III. ii, One.. Who pants for breath, and stiffens, yet alive, In dreadful looks: a monument of wrath! 1789 Gibbon *Autobiog.* (1896) 154, I wished to have observed a country, the monument of freedom and industry. 1820 Hazlitt *Lect. Dram. Lit.* 40 It may be considered as a monument of the taste and skill of the authors. 1853 Kane *Grinnell Exp.* xxxiv. (1856) 299 They [ice-bergs] were beautiful objects, monuments of power.

5. A structure, edifiee, or erection intended to commemorate a notable person, action, or event.

The Monument: a Doric column 202 feet in height, built in the City of London (1671–77) after the design of Sir C. Wren, to commemorate the great fire of London, 1666, which originated in a house 202 feet from the site of the column.

1602 Warner *Alb. Eng.* Epit. (1612) 365 Their edifying and sumptuous Erections of all our chiefe Minsters, Monasteries, and Monuments. 1645 Evelyn *Diary* 26 Feb., This monument [*i. e.* the Forum Trajanum] being at first set up on a rising ground. 1685 *Ibid.* 17 June, At this time the words engraved on the monument in London, intimating that the Papists fir'd the Citty, were erased and cut out. 1701 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3718/4 Mr. Jer. Wayte, Fishmonger, near the Monument in New Fish street, London. 1842 Barham *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. II. *Misadv. Margate*, And now I'm here, from this here pier it is my fixed intent To jump, as Mister Levi did from off the Monu-ment! 1864 Bayce *Holy Rom. Emp.* xvi. (1875) 284 Over all rose those two monuments of the best of the heathen Emperors .. the columns of Marcus Aurelius and Trajan.

b. A structure of stone or other lasting material erected in memory of the dead, either over the grave or in some part of a sacred edifice. (Cf. 1.)

1588 Shaks. *Tit. A.* I. i. 350 Traytors away, he rest's not in this Tombe: This Monument fine hundreth yeares hath stood, Which I haue Sumptuously re-edified. 1683–4 in Swayne *Sarum Churchw. Acc.* (1896) 346 Setting up yᵉ monument of Mrs. Ray. 1771 *Junius' Lett.* liv. (1820) 286 Honours shall gather round his monument. 1860 Warter *Sea-board* II. 183 Sometimes the dead were buried in haste, and Monuments were erected .. on the sides of the public roads. 1903 Morley *Gladstone* II. v. ix. 157 He found the speech for a monument to Lord Palmerston in the Abbey 'a delicate and difficult duty'.

†c. A carved figure, statue, effigy. *Obs.* (Often in Shaks.)

1593 Shaks. *Lucr.* 391 Where, like a vertuous Monument shee lies, To be admir'd of lewd vnhallowed eyes. 1602 — *All's Well* IV. ii. 5 If the quicke fire of youth light not your minde, You are no Maiden but a monument. 1601 Holland *Pliny* II. 567 At Rome there bee divers peeces of Praxiteles his making .. standing among the monuments and bookes withia the librarie of Asinius Pollio. 1611 Shaks. *Cymb.* II. ii. 32 O sleepe, thou Ape of death, lye dull vpon her, And be her Sense but as a Monument, Thus in a Chappell lying.

†6. abstr. *In monument of*: in commemoration of.

1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* (1614) 695 At the foot thereof was a great heape of Elephants teeth,..vpon them were set the skulls of dead men, which they had slaine in the warres, in monument of their victorie.

7. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *monument-builder, -maker*; *monument-like* adj.; †**monument candlestick,** a candlestick fashioned after the model of the Monument (see 5 above); †**monument-money,** money collected from visitors to Westminster Abbey who were shown the monuments.

1654 Whitlock *Zootomia* 409 All more or lesse strive at a Perpetuity of their Names; thongh let me say in a more Preposterous way, than these *Monument-Builders do. 1688 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2316/4 A pair of *Monument Candlesticks. 1886 A. Winchell *Walks Geol. Field* 42 A striking *monument-like remnant of a formation that once covered the whole of this high plateau. *Ibid.* 55 Many a monument-like outlier. 1665 J. Webb *Stone-Heng* (1725) 86 These were .. their barbarous *Monument-makers. 1655–6 in *Athenæum* 9 Aug. (1884) 187/1 The Counsell was moved this day,.. that those who have the .. disposing of the *monument money at Westmr, may be directed to dispose the same.. to the maintainance of five Masters of Musicke.

Monument (mɒ·niŭmĕnt), *v.* [f. prec. Cf. F. *monumenté* placed on official record.] *trans.* In various nonce-uses: To cause to be perpetually remembered; to record on a monument; to furnish with a monument.

1606 FORD *Honor Tri.* (Shaks. Soc.) 24 Unspotted Lucrece who..monumented her rape with extremity of death. 1660 WATERHOUSE *Arms & Arm.* 36 They had their *Arcus Triumphales*, in which..were monumented the Victories of those to whose memory those piles of fame were erected. 1756 H. WALPOLE *Let. to Bentley* Aug., The poor woman ..passed her whole widowhood .. in collecting and monumenting the portraits and relics of all the great families from which she descended. 1856 HAWTHORNE *Eng. Note-bks.* (1870) II. 86 The ecclesiastical dignitaries bury themselves and monument themselves to the exclusion of almost everybody else.

Monumental (mɒniume·ntăl), *a.* [ad. late L. *monumentālis*, f. L. *monument-um* MONUMENT *sb.*: see -AL. Cf. F. *monumental.*] **A.** *adj.*

1. Pertaining to a monument or memorial structure, or to monuments in general. †In early use (cf. MONUMENT *sb.* 1), pertaining to the tomb, sepulchral.

1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* v. ii. 5 Skin .. smooth as Monumentall Alabaster. *c* 1647 CRASHAW *Upon Death of most desired Mr. Herrys* 68 Softly may he be possesst, Of his monumentall rest! 1715–20 POPE *Iliad* VI. 591 Press'd with a Load of Monumental Clay! 1728 — *Dunc.* II. 313 And Monumental brass this record bears. 1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) III. 143 Marbled effigies and monumental deposits of the renowned. 1769 THORPE (*title*) Registrum Roffense: or, a Collection of .. Instruments of divers kinds...Together with the Monumental Inscriptions in the several Churches and Chapels. 1856 *Eng. Cycl., Biogr.* II. 163 Chantrey's career for the last twenty years of his life, as a monumental sculptor, was unrivalled. 1890 *John Bull* 5 Apr. 228/1 When the light of monumental history first dawned upon Assyria, the land was found to be inhabited by a Semitic race.

fig. 1837 J. PHILLIPS *Geol.* 6 The general rules of geology contribute continually to fill up the void spaces in its monumental history.

2. Serving as a monument or memorial.

1632 BROME *Northern Lasse* III. ii. Wks. 1873 III. 55, I will now bestow my wealth in Monumental good deeds. 1784 COWPER *Task* i. 276 The Mole..Toils much to earn a monumental pile, That may record the mischiefs he has done. 1785 BURKE *Sp. Nabob of Arcot's Debts* Wks. IV. 30 A name that will be well remembered as .. long as the monumental debt of England shall endure. 1817 RICKMAN *Archit.* 108 The monumental chapels of this style are peculiarly deserving attention.

†**b.** Serving as a memento; also, serving as a proof of identity. *Obs.*

1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* IV. iii. 20 Hee hath giuen her his monumentall Ring. 1657 THORNLEY tr. *Longus' Daphnis & Chloe* 207, I exposed her with these monumentall toyes.

3. Having the aspect of a monument; like a monument.

1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* III. iii. 153 Perseuerance, deere my Lord, Keepes honor bright, to haue done, is to hang Quite out of fashion, like a rustie male, In monumentall mockrie. 1632 MILTON *Penseroso* 135 Shadows brown that Sylvan loves Of Pine, or monumental Oake. 1740 BAYNARD *Health* (ed. 6) 25 Lot's sad monumental wife. 1839 *Fraser's Mag.* XX. 710 It has really an air quite *monumental*, as our French neighbours phrase it. 1874 MICKLETHWAITE *Mod. Par. Churches* 18 A monumental building, such as a church should be. 1879 SALA in *Daily Tel.* 8 May, The monumental fourpost bed has been taken down.

4. *transf.* Comparable to a monument in massiveness and permanence. Often said of literary works. Also, *loosely*, vast, stupendous.

a 1658 CLEVELAND *Gen. Poems*, etc. (1677) 77 Defend my Rump, great love, allay my grief, O spare me this, this Monumental Beef! 1864 SALA in *Daily Tel.* 18 Nov., The public began to doubt the veracity of that monumental liar. 1876 GEO. ELIOT *Dan. Der.* xxii, His monumental obtuseness. 1894 J. T. FOWLER *Adamnan* Pref. 11 Dr. Reeves's original edition of Adamnan, a truly monumental work. 1901 *Weekly Reg.* 6 Dec. 714 Manuals of etiquette..embodying monumental snobbery and priggishness.

5. Historically prominent and significant; remaining conspicuous to posterity.

1844 MRS. BROWNING *Drama of Exile* 36 Thou shalt be an Idea to all souls;—A monumental melancholy gloom Seen down all ages. 1870 SWINBURNE *Ess. & Stud.* (1875) 313 That gallery of monumental men and mighty memories. 1876 LOWELL *Among my Bks.* Ser. II. 94 The relation of Dante to literature is monumental, and marks the era at which the modern begins.

†**B.** *sb.* in *pl.* **a.** Identifying tokens. **b.** Monumental erections. *Obs. rare.*

1657 THORNLEY tr. *Longus' Daphnis & Chloe* 203 Now it seem'd best..to view the monumentals. *a* 1687 COTTON *Martial* VIII. iii. 5 When raz'd Messalla's Monumentals must Lye with Licinus's lofty Tomb in dust.

Hence **Monumenta·lity**, the quality of being monumental.

1890 *Scott. Leader* 11 Nov. 7 Art, in spite of a number of good artists, lacks monumentality. 1890 in *Century Dict.*

Monumentalize (mɒniume·ntălaiz), *v.* [f. MONUMENTAL + -IZE.] *trans.* To make permanent record of; to record or commemorate as by a monument.

1857 G. J. WIGLEY *Borromeo's Instr. Eccl. Building* Pref. 1 Christianity has dwelt and monumentalized itself. 1874 C. P. SMYTH *Our Inher. in Gt. Pyramid* III. xi. (ed. 2) 223 Our ancient measures..had been monumentalized there ..before history began. 1881 *Athenæum* 20 Aug. 229/3 Who are .. impelled to monumentalize their impressions in rhyme. 1885 'HELEN FAUCIT' in *Blackw. Mag.* 758 Looks and gestures, which it is, or it is not, the business of the artist to monumentalise.

Hence **Monume·ntaliza·tion**, the act of making or state of being monumental. **Monume·ntalizing** *vbl. sb.*, a placing on record, commemoration.

1877 C. P. SMYTH *Our Inherit. in Gt. Pyramid* (ed. 3) 32 This monumentalisation of superhuman contemporary knowledge. 1881 *Athenæum* No. 2811. 328/2 The sonnet as a poetic form for the monumentalizing of a single thought or phase of emotion..is already high in favour.

Monumentally (mɒniume·ntăli), *adv.* [f. MONUMENTAL *a.* + -LY².]

†**1.** By means of a monument. *Obs. rare*—¹.

a 1619 FLETCHER, etc. *Knt. Malta* v. i, Thy memory .. in brazen Characters, Shall monumentally be register'd To ages consequent.

b. As regards monuments.

1882–3 M. R. VINCENT in *Schaff's Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* 2000 Monumentally, the city [Ravenna] falls into the line of ecclesiastical history with the era of the Theodosian family.

2. By way of a monument or memorial; like a monument.

1654 GAYTON *Pleas. Notes* I. 2 Like Pauls Scaffolds, Monumentally standing, because none dare take them down. 1705 PENN in *Pa. Hist. Soc. Mem.* X. 15, I would have the said county to be marked northerly by trees or stones monumentally. 1891 *Harper's Mag.* July 275/1 Embodied monumentally in stone.

3. In a 'monumental' degree.

1888 LOWELL in *Daily News* 26 July 6/3, There is something especially—I might almost use a cant word and say monumentally—interesting in a meeting like this.

Monumentary (mɒniume·ntări), *a.* [f. MONUMENT *sb.* + -ARY. Cf. late L. *monumentarius.*] Of the nature of a monument.

1810 *Sporting Mag.* XXXVI. 153 The remains of this once celebrated character are permitted to remain without any monumentary token of respect.

Monumented (mɒniŭmĕntĕd), *ppl. a.* [f. MONUMENT *v.* + -ED¹.] Monumentally commemorated.

1774 S. WESLEY in *Westm. Mag.* II. 654 When..lies desert the monumented clay. 1844 R. CHAMBERS *Vest. Creation, Early Hist. Man.* (1850) 249 The dimly monumented Toltecans.

Monumenter (mɒniŭmĕntəɹ). [f. MONUMENT *v.* + -ER¹.] One who erects monuments.

1890 E. L. ARNOLD *Phra* viii, Nor did I think I was marble, or even the plaster of more frugal monumenters.

Mo·numentless, *a.* [f. MONUMENT *sb.* + -LESS.] Without monuments or memorials.

1843 CARD. WISEMAN *Ess., Superficial Trav.* (1853) III. 441 The mushroom growth of a monumentless people.

Mony, obs. form of MANY. **Mony-**: see MONI-.

-mony, *suffix*, occurring only in sbs. adopted from Latin; in *acrimony, ceremony, querimony, sanctimony*, it represents L. *-mōnia*, and in *matrimony, parsimony, patrimony, testimony*, it represents L. *-mōnium*; for *alimony* there are two L. forms *alimōnia, -mōnium*, the former being ante- and post-classical. The *-mōn-* of the two L. suffixes is related by ablaut to the suffix *-men* of object-nouns, of which *-mentum* -MENT is an extended form.

Monyal(e, monyall, var. ff. MONIAL.

Monycion, obs. variant of MUNITION.

Monye, Monyel(l, obs. ff. MANY, MULLION.

Monyer, obs. form of MONEYER.

Monyfa(u)ld(e, -ffold, obs. ff. MANIFOLD.

1509 *Sel. Cas. Crt. Star Chamber* (Selden) 198 The monyffold riettes oppressions & wranges don to him.

Monykin: see MANYKIN.

Monyment, obs. form of MUNIMENT.

Monyon, obs. form of MULLION.

Monyour, -owre, obs. forms of MONEYER.

Monyple: see MANYPLIES.

Monys, -y(s)ch, obs. forms of MONISH.

Monyssh, obs. form of MANNISH, MOONISH.

Monyst: see MONISH.

Monyth(e, obs. forms of MONTH.

†**Monzie.** *rare.* Sc. corruption of MONSIEUR.

a 1686 PEDEN in *Biogr. Presbyt.* (1838) I. 79 Oh the Monzies, the French Monzies, see how they run.

Monzonite (mɒnzōu·nəit). *Min.* [Named by F. v. Kobell 1871 (*monzonit*) after Mt. Monzoni, Tyrol, its locality: see -ITE¹.] A silicate of aluminium, iron, etc., resembling green hornstone.

1882 *1st App. to 5th ed. Dana* II.

Moo (mū), *sb.* [f. Moo *v.*] The low of a cow; an act of lowing.

1789 D. DAVIDSON *Seasons* 46 Thou rangest o'er thy food, among the queys, A' fearless o' thy moo, or cap'ring tail. 1902 *Contemp. Rev.* Dec. 840 The cows utter long 'moos' of excitement.

Moo (mū), *v.* Also 6 mo, (9 mue). [Echoic.] *intr.* Of a cow or ox: To low. **b.** Of a person: To utter the sound represented by 'moo'.

1549 *Compl. Scot.* vi. 39 The calfis began tyl mo. 1565 GOLDING *Ovid's Met.* I. (1593) 21 Thou [*sc.* Io]..dolefullie dost moo Unto my talke. 1607 *Barley-Breake* (1877) 25 Whose dolefull Sounds the Eccho did receiue, That to his moanes the syluan beasts did moo. 1818 TODD, To *Mue*,.. 2. To low as a cow; usually pronounced *moo*, though *mue* should seem to be the orthography. 1855 THACKERAY *Newcomes* II. 174 Blessed darling crows, moos, jumps in his nurse's arms. 1892 J. S. FLETCHER *When Chas. I was King* ii, I used to wonder..if that were Farmer Denby's roan cow that mooed so loudly under the western window.

Hence **Moo·ing** *vbl. sb.*

1844 THACKERAY *Little Trav.* i, A huge penful of Durham oxen..maintain an incessant mooing and bellowing.

transf. 1888 *Harper's Mag.* Apr. 738 The mooing of the waters seemed to deepen.

Moo, obs. f. Mo, more; obs. and dial. f. Mow.

Mooch (mūtʃ), *sb. slang* and *dial.* Also **mouch.** [f. Mooch *v.*]

1. *slang.* The action of mooching; esp. in phr. *on the mooch.*

1867 *Lond. Herald* 23 Mar. 221 (Farmer s. v. *Moocher*) If ..asked..what he was doing, he would have said he was on the mouch. 1889 J. K. JEROME *Three Men in Boat* iv, You are doing a mouch round the town.

2. *dial.* The fruit of the blackberry.

1839 *Hereford. Gloss.* 69 In the Forest of Dean 'to mooche blackberries', or simply 'to mooch', means to pick blackberries; and blackberries have thus obtained their name of 'mooches'. 1886 BRITTEN & HOLLAND *Eng. Plant-n.*

Mooch, mouch (mūtʃ), *v.* Now *slang* and *dial.* Forms: 5 **mowche,** 7, 9 **mouche,** 7 **mootch,** 9 **mooche, moach, moche, modge,** 7– **mouch,** 8– **mooch.** [In 15th and 17th c. *mowche, mouche*; the senses, closely similar to those of MICHE *v.*, suggest that it was adopted from the source of that word (OF. *muchier* to hide, skulk, etc.) with some dialectal variety of pronunciation.]

†**1.** *intr.* ? To act the miser, pretend poverty; = MICHE *v.* 3 b. *Obs. rare*—¹.

c 1460 *Towneley Myst.* XXX. 571 The pennys thai powchid and held thaym still; The negons thai mowchid and had no will ffor hart fare.

2. To play truant; *esp.*, in later use, to play truant in order to pick blackberries; hence *trans.* to pick (blackberries).

1622 MABBE tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* II. 289 Wee..runne a-mouching eyther to our Aunts house, or our grandfathers, where wee are made much of. 1655 tr. *Com. Hist. Francion* VI. 9 The Eagle more mindfull of Prey than Honour, did one day mootch from the Thunder which lame Vulcan had made..for Almighty Jupiter. 1787 GROSE *Provinc. Gloss., Mooch*, to play the truant. 1839 [see MOOCH *sb.* 2]. 1887 F. T. HAVERGAL *Herefordsh. Gloss.* 23 'Where is —?' 'Oh, he's gone mouching'.

3. *intr.* To loaf, skulk, sneak, loiter, or hang *about*; to slouch *along.*

1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* I. 424/1 These hedge fellows are slow and dull; they go mouching along as if they were croaking themselves. 1879 MISS JACKSON *Shropsh. Word-bk.* 285 'E's no good, 'e does nuthin' but moach about from mornin' tell neet'. 1882 OGILVIE, *Mouch*,..to live a sort of semi-vagabond life, selling water-cresses and other wild produce, and without a fixed place of abode. 1888 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Robbery under arms* XXII. II. 15 And I don't see but what bushranging..ain't as safe a game,..as mooching about cattle duffing. 1889 J. K. JEROME *Three Men in Boat* VII, All the inhabitants..come out and mouch round the lock with their dogs, and flirt, and smoke.

transf. 1881 *Daily Tel.* 20 Oct., They found the vessel able to do little more than drift. After mooching along in barge-fashion awhile, they sighted a steamer.

4. *trans.* To pilfer, steal.

1862 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* [IV.] 418/2, I don't mean to say that if I see anything laying about handy that I don't mouch it (*i. e.* steal it). 1880 JEFFERIES *Hodge & M.* II. 178 To mouch a good armful of fresh-cut clover. 1888 *Daily Tel.* 27 Nov. 5/2 They..would hotly assert that they never mouched a penny from anybody.

5. *intr.* 'To sponge, to slink away and allow others to pay for your entertainment' (Barrère & Leland *Dict. Slang*).

Moochary, obs. form of MOHAIR.

Moocher, moucher (mū·tʃəɹ). Now *slang* and *dial.* Forms: (9 **mochar, mutcher, mocher**), 7, 9– **moucher,** 9– **moocher.** [f. Mooch *v.* + -ER¹.]

†**1.** ? An offender *against*. *Obs. rare*—¹.

1671 J. BRYDALL *Law Eng. relating to Nobility & Gent.* (1675) Pref., If High-Shoon Common-wealths-men, and other Mouchers against Honor, Decency, and Order should continue as they were wont before the Re-Erecting of this Honorable Court, I should be sorry.

2. *dial.* One who 'mooches' or plays truant from school, *esp.* in order to gather blackberries; hence a gatherer of blackberries.

1870 LADY VERNEY *Lettice Lisle* x. 117 What a moucher you are, David! Allays after them blackberries. 1876 MRS. EWING *Jan of Windmill* vi, 'I played moocher', he continued—by which he meant truant.

3. *slang.* One who loiters about, a loafer; also in various specific applications (see quots.).

1862 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* [IV.] 282/1 They loiter about the streets and public-houses to steal from drunken persons, and are called 'Bug-hunters' and 'mutchers'. 1878 JEFFERIES *Gamekeeper at H.* vii. 142 There are three kinds of poachers, the local men, the raiders,..and the 'mouchers'—fellows..who occasionally loiter along the roads and hedges, picking up whatever they can lay hands on. 1880 — *Gt. Estate* 89 Broad burdock leaves, which the mouchers put on the top of their baskets to shield their freshly gathered watercresses from the sunshine. 1905 J. K. JEROME *Idle Ideas* xi, The Whitechapel hawker or the moocher of the Paris boulevard. 1906 *Daily News* 17 Dec. 6 The moucher—the man who lives by gathering watercress, blackberries, nuts, mushrooms [etc.].

Moocherus, variant of MOCHRAS.

Mooching, mouching (mū·tʃiŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. MOOCH *v.* + -ING 2.] That 'mooches'.

1862 HUGHES in *Macm. Mag.* V. 250/1 And the yuckle did scraam, 'Let us peck out his eyes' 'Zich a girt mouchin woshird deserves to be caddled'. 1888 *Bury Times* 28 Jan. 7/5 The Mouching Fraternity.—James Thompson .. and John Sullivan..were charged with begging at Walmersley.

Moochulka, variant of MUCHULKA.

‖ **Moochy** (mū·tʃi). *Anglo-Ind.* Also **mochee**. [Hindī *mōčī*.] One of the caste of leather-workers.

1837 *Lett. fr. Madras* (1843) 123 The Bramins and merchant boys all sat together; there was another row of the Moochy or workman caste. 1850 *Benares Mag.* IV. 380 Mild indeed we thought such a penalty for a vile mochee's infringement of the great budmash's dustoor.

Moock, dial. variant of MUCK *sb.*

Moo-cow (mū·ˌkau). [f. Moo *v.* + COW.] A childish name for a cow.

1812 COMBE *Picturesque* XIV. *ad fin.*, The sheep all baa'd, the asses bray'd, The moo-cows low'd, and Grizzle neigh'd! 1841 THACKERAY *Charac. Sk., Artists* (1869) 428 Can they design so much as a horse, or a dog, or a 'moo-cow', for little Jack who bawls out for them? not they.

Mood (mūd), *sb.*[1] Forms: 1 **mód**, 3–5 **mod**, 3 **modd**, 4–5 *Sc.* **mud**, **mwde**, 5 **modde**, **moed(e**, 4–6 **mode**, *north.* and *Sc.* **mude**, 5 *north.* **moyde**, 6 **moud**, *Sc.* **moyd**, **muyd**, 5–7 **moode**, 3– **mood**. [Com. Teut.: OE. *mód* neut. = OFris. *môd* neut., mind, thought, intention, OS. *môd* masc., mind, courage (MDu. *moet*, *moed-*, Du. *moed* masc.), OHG. *muot* masc., mind, thought, courage (MLG. *muot*, mod.G. *mut*), ON. *móð-r* masc., anger, grief (Sw. *mod* neut., Da. *mod* courage), Goth. *môþ-s*, *môd-* anger, emotion:—OTeut. **mōdo-*, f. pre-Teut. root **mō-* : *mē-* : *mə-* (in Doric Gr. *μῶ-σθαι* to seek after, OSl. *sŭ-mĕti* to venture, Gr. *μα-τεύειν* to seek).]

†**1.** Mind, heart, thought, feeling. *Obs.*

a 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* IV. XXX. (1890) 374 God onsende in ðara broðra mod, þæt heo woldan his ban ȝeneoman. *c* 1205 LAY. 11 Hit com him on mode & on his mern þonke þet he wolde of Engle þa æðelæn tellen. *Ibid.* 4489 Heo hauede enne leoue-mon..þe leof hire weis on mode [*c* 1275 on heorte]. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 240 Nim ofte iðine mode þene grime dom of domesdei. *c* 1275 *Wom. Samaria* 22 in *O. E. Misc.* 84 Wymmon, if þu vnderstode Hwo hit is þat drynke byd, þu woldest beon of oþer mode. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 103/85 Nov ich wot, quath þe Iustise, ȝware-to þou tornest þi mod. *c* 1300 *Seyn Julian* 103 (Ashm. MS.) Vor we nabbeþ power no mon to bringe in sunne aȝen is mode. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 163 If thou wolt take into thi mod Reson, thou myht be reson deeme That [etc.]. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 515 For to mele with þat maidyn & hir mode here.

2. With specific colouring.

†**a.** Fierce courage; spirit, stoutness, pride.

Beowulf 1167 He hæfde mod micel. *c* 1205 LAY. 25476 Ah cniht he wes wunder god & he hafde swiðe muchel mod. *c* 1290 *Beket* 1838 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 159 Heo bi-leueden al heore grete mod and heore þretningue al-so. *a* 1330 *Otuel* 1123 Þo was otuwel fol of mood, & faust as he were wood. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 401 Maysterful mod & hyȝe pryde. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XIX. 622 The erll, that wes of mekill mude. *a* 1500 *Syr Peny* 117 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* I. 166 Peny wyll mayster be, Prove nowe man of mode. [1579 FENTON *Guicciard.* XIII. (1599) 604 Not weighing in their glorious moodes, how farre the daunger exceeded the attempt.]

†**b.** Anger. *To peck, pick mood*: to take offence, become angry. *Obs.*

c 1175 *Pater Noster* 215 in *Lamb. Hom.* 67 For-ȝif þi wreððe and þi mod, for þenne is þi bode god. *c* 1205 LAY. 8792 Þat mines æmes muchele mod swa milde is iwurðen. 13.. *Seuyn Sag.* (W.) 262 And sone sche gan to pekke mod. *c* 1320 R. BRUNNE *Medit.* 345 To turne a waye from hem, fadyr, by mode. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 3635 His herte wax angry & ful of mod. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Knt.'s T.* 902 Til at the laste aslaked was his mood. *c* 1412 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 4347 But or þey twynned þens, þei pekkid moode. 1513 SKELTON *Agst. Scottes, Vnto diuers people* 21 Who so therat pyketh mood, The tokens are not good To be true Englysh blood. *c* 1535 REDFORDE *Play Wit & Sci.* etc. (Shaks. Soc.) 101 Lord let thy mercye fall, And mytygate thy moode. 1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* IV. i. 51 Who, in my moode, I stab'd vnto the heart. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* I. x. 9 Mood without might is vain and bootlesse [orig. *vanam sine viribus iram esse*]. [1819 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* XXIX, And now my father in his mood may slay this poor bondsman. 1855 TENNYSON *Maud* I. i. xiv, What! am I raging alone as my father raged in his mood?]

†**c.** Passionate grief. *Obs.*

a 1300 *K. Horn* 1519 (Cambr. MS.) Rymenhild was ful of mode; He wep teres of blode. 13.. *Guy Warw.* (A.) 1549 Neyȝe his bert brast for mode, & for sorwe ȝede ner wode. *c* 1430 *Syr Gener.* (Roxb.) 1259 She wept, she sobbed, for grete moode.

3. A frame of mind or state of feelings; one's humour, temper, or disposition at a particular time.

In early use not always distinguishable from sense 1.

Beowulf 50 Him wæs ȝeomor sefa, murnende mod. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 7, & bliþe mode heo sang on þæm cantice. *c* 1200 ORMIN 8945 Witt hafenn sohht te widewhar..Wiþþ serrhfull hertte & sariȝ mod. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 8 And eyþer ayeyn oþer swal And let þat vuele mod vt al. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3577 So wurð he wroð, o mode sarp. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 7701 David, þat was mild o mode. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 1703 Þo was Ubbe bliþe of mod, þat he saw him so fayr and hende. 1481 CAXTON *Reynard* iv. (Arb.) 7 Tho spack Grymbart the dasse..with an angrey moed. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. iii. 8 With pittie calmd downe fell his angry mood. 1601 SHAKS. *Jul. C.* III. ii. 272 Fortune is merry, And in this mood will giue vs any thing. 1638 R. BAILLIE *Lett.* (Bann. Cl.) I. 37 Thir reasones make the multitude in a high moode to flock to the Counsell-house. 1660 F. BROOKE tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 382 But like mules they [sheep] are humoursome, and one must..expect their good mood before they will travail. *a* 1703 BURKITT *On N. T.* Luke ii. 38 Nature will have her good moods, but grace is steady. 1807 *Med. Jrnl.* XVII. 8 The self-dubbed Doctor retired in an angry mood. 1839 KEIGHTLEY *Hist. Eng.* II. 52 Assailing him with a virulence of scurrility hardly exceeded by Luther in his worst moods. 1852 MRS. STOWE *Uncle Tom's C.* xix, Miss Ophelia had never seen him in this mood before, and she sat perfectly silent. 1887 BOWEN *Virg. Æneid* IV. 424 Only to thee were his moods and his hours of tenderness known.

transf. 1816 BYRON *Siege Cor.* xvi, Wildest of waves, in their angriest mood. 1872 LIDDON *Elem. Relig.* ii. 58 Men talked about..the moods of Nature, the religion of Nature.

b. *To change* (†*turn*) *one's mood*: to change one's state of mind. Also, *one's mood changes*. (Cf. MIND *sb.*[1] 13.)

a 1300 *Siriz* 109 Dame, dame, torn thi mod. 13.. *K. Alis.* 102 Y-chaunged was al his mod. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* I. (*Katerine*) 485 The emprioure þan changit his mud. ? *a* 1440 *Morte Arth.* 3222 Bot be ane aftyre mydnyghte alle his mode changede. 1551 CROWLEY *Pleas. & Payne* 19 No fende, therefore, shall chaynge your mode. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. xxiv. 170 His mood was entirely changed.

c. *In a mood* (*for* something), *in the mood* (*to do* something): disposed, inclined. Also †*in the mood* (*of* doing something).

1589 [see MOOD *sb.*[2] 1 b]. 1613 FLETCHER, etc. *Captain* v. iii, You'r pleasant, but Fabritio know I am not in the mood [*printed* wood] of Suffering jest. 1838 THIRLWALL *Greece* III. xxv. 393 But the Council was not in a mood for such reflections. 1840 DICKENS *Barn. Rudge* ix, She was in no mood for sleep. 1880 MCCARTHY *Own Times* III. xlvii. 426 He saw what men were in the mood to do.

d. *pl.* Fits of variable or unaccountable temper; esp. melancholy, gloomy, or bad-tempered fits.

1859 TENNYSON *Elaine* 795 Then turn'd Sir Torre, and being in his moods Left them. 1863 'HOLME LEE' *A. Warleigh* II. 307 When first he asked me to marry him did I not say 'No'..? Have I not told him since I should be dead with moods in a month?

4. Formerly used in many alliterative collocations: **a.** with verbs, as *to mend, amend, mese one's mood*; *to mar, meng, meve* (= move) *one's mood*; also *marred, meved*, etc., *in one's mood*. Also *to mourn in mood, to mean* (MEAN *v.*[2]) *one's mood, mean oneself of one's mood*.

c 1205 LAY. 3407 His mod him gon mengen, he morȝnede swiðe. *a* 1225 [see MENG *v.* 3]. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 2259 Bot sua he mengud þam þair mode, þat naman oþer vndirstode O his spece wat he wald sai. *Ibid.* 3059 Quils sco hir mened of hir mode Comfort had sco son ful gode. *a* 1300–1400 [see MEAN *v.*[2] 1 b]. *a* 1300 [see MEND *v.* 2]. *c* 1325 *Spec. Gy de Warewyke* 123 Hit is a derne mourni[n]g in mod. 13.. [see MESE *v.*]. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. x. 263 Why meuestow þi mode for a mote in þi brotheres eye. ? *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 3454 Mane, amende thy mode, or thow myshappene. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xxii. 43 He has fastid, þat marris his mode, Ther fourty dayes with-owten foode. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* VII. 1099 Als Inglismen sair murnyt in thar mude. *a* 1510 DOUGLAS *K. Hart* I. 170 Out of mesour marrit in thair mude. 1513 — *Æneis* I. ii. 13 Witht sceptour in hand thair muyd to meis and still. *a* 1518 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 2394 He may mende your mode. *a* 1529 — *Bowge of Courte* 317 Meuyd all in moode.

†**b.** (*With*) *mood and main, main and mood, mood and might.* (Cf. MAIN *sb.*[1] 2, MIGHT *sb.* 5.)

Cf. OS. *mōd endi meginkraft* (Hel. 156).

a 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* I. XVI. (1890) 54 Ða ongunnon heo sticce mælum mod & mægen monian. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 97 Forðon we sceolan mid ealle mod & mægene to Gode gecyrran. *c* 1300 *Cursor M.* 2624 Þou sal hir serue wit mode and mayn. *Ibid.* 23584 To wirscip þat godd þam had fordight, Þai graid þam bath mode and might. *a* 1352 MINOT *Poems* (ed. Hall) vi. 77 God..Strenkith him main & mode His reght in France to win. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 555 Þai þat loues god with mayne and mode. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xix. 157 With moyde and mayn. 1560 [see MENG *v.* 3].

Mood (mūd), *sb.*[2] [An alteration of MODE *sb.*, due to association with MOOD *sb.*[1]]

1. *Logic.* (= MODE *sb.* 3 a.) Any one of the classes into which each of the four 'figures' (see FIGURE *sb.* 23) of valid categorical syllogisms is subdivided on the ground of the several ways in which syllogisms differ with regard to the quality and quantity of their constituent propositions.

The moods have mnemonic names (BARBARA, CELARENT, etc.), in which the three vowels represent the quality and quantity of the three propositions: A=universal affirmative, E=universal negative, I=particular affirmative, O=particular negative. (Some of the consonants also have significant functions.) The number of recognized moods is 19, viz. four in the first figure, four in the second, six in the third, and five in the fourth.

A different, probably a historically older, sense of the word occurs in some writers (e.g. Aldrich and Whately) alongside the sense above explained, and without being expressly distinguished from it. In this sense the mood of a syllogism is the type of structure to which it belongs in respect of quality and quantity alone, without regard to the figure; so that, e.g. Celarent in the first figure and Cesare in the second would be not two moods but two varieties of the same mood. (See quot. 1906, where this sense is definitely adopted to the exclusion of the other.)

[1532: see MODE *sb.* 3 a.] 1569 J. SANFORD tr. *Agrippa's Van. Arts* 21 b, A Syllogisme..which ought to be in one of the .xix. Moodes. 1589 *Marprel. Epit.* E iv b, The moode answereth unto Celarent, elder daughter to Barbara. 1638 CHILLINGW. *Relig. Prot.* I. iii. § 29. 142 In what mood or figure, would this conclusion follow out of these Premises? 1870 JEVONS *Elem. Logic* xvi. 136 We call each of these triplets of propositions a mood or form of the syllogism. 1884 tr. *Lotze's Logic* 88 The above rule, which, where both premisses are affirmative, requires one to be universal, prescribes a particular affirmative conclusion, and admits the moods *Darapti*, *Datisi*, and *Disamis*. 1906 JOSEPH *Logic* xii. 240 The difference of mood depends on the quantity and quality of the propositions composing the syllogism. This may be the same in different figures, or different in the same figure...The different moods have received distinct names in the various figures wherein they occur; and hence what are called the 'mood-names'..indicate both figure and mood.

b. *In mood and figure*: in due logical form.

1589 *Pappe w. Hatchet* B b j, Tis neither in moode nor figure. [1699: see MODE *sb.* 3 a.]

attrib. 1693 DRYDEN *Juvenal* vi. (1697) 146 O what a midnight Curse has he, whose side Is pester'd with a Mood and Figure-Bride! [*Note*] A Mood and Figure-Bride, a woman who has learn'd Logick.

2. *Gram.* Any one of the several groups of forms in the conjugation of a verb which serve to indicate the function in which the verb is used, i.e. whether it expresses a predication, a command, a wish, or the like; that quality of a verb which depends on the question to which of these groups its form belongs.

1573 GOLDING in Baret *Alv.* To Rdr. viii, How shall men directly fynde The Coniugation, Nomber, Person, Tence, And Moode of Verbes togither in their kynde? 1669 MILTON *Accid. Grammar* 17 There be four Moods which express the manner of doing; the Indicative, the Imperative, the Potential or Subjunctive, and the Infinitive. 1751 HARRIS *Hermes* I. viii. (1765) 140 Hence..the variety of Modes or Moods. 1824 L. MURRAY *Eng. Gram.* (ed. 5) I. 111 Mood is a particular form or state of the verb, showing the manner in which the being, action, or passion, is represented. 1869 J. MARTINEAU *Ess.* II. 69 A mere grammatical metamorphosis from mood to mood.

¶ **b.** with punning reference to MOOD *sb.*[1]

1621 B. JONSON *Gipsies Metam.* (1641) 52 All your fortunes we can tell yee,..In the Moodes too, and the Tenses, That may fit your fine five senses. 1682 N. O. *Boileau's Lutrin* II. 14 This Baggage once in her mad Moods and Tenses Had Lombard read, the Master o' th' Sentences. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* xvii, You are, of course, jealous, in all the tenses and moods of that amiable passion? 1905 *Westm. Gaz.* 1 July 13/1 The things that were momentous to FitzGerald were the moods and tenses of himself, of nature, and his friends.

3. Musical senses. †**a.** In mediæval music, a term used to indicate the relative duration or time-value of certain notes to each other in the rhythm of a piece; = MODE *sb.* 1 b. *Obs.*

The *great mood* determined the relation of the 'long' to the 'large', the *lesser mood* that of the 'breve' to the 'long'; each of these was called *perfect* when the greater note was equal to three of the smaller, *imperfect* when it was equal to two. (Cf. PROLATION, TIME.)

1597 MORLEY *Introd. Mus.* 12 *Ma.* Degrees of musicke they made three, Moode: Time and Prolation. *Phi.* What did they tearme a Moode? *Ma.* The dew measuring of Longes and Larges, and was either greater or lesser. *Ibid.* 18 There be foure Moodes now in common vse: Perfect of the more prolation, Perfect of the lesse prolation. Imperfect of the more prolation. And Imperfect of the lesse prolation. *Ibid., Annot.* P 4 b, If a plainsong consisted al of Longes, it was called the first mood: if of a Long & a Briefe successiuely, it was called the second mood, &c. 1609 DOULAND *Ornith. Microl.* 42 A Moode..is the measure of Longs in Larges, or of Breefes in Longs. 1609 C. BUTLER *Fem. Mon.* v. (1623) K iij, Now and then she beginneth in duple time some two or three Semibriefes, but alwaies endeth with Minims of the triple Moode. 1782 BURNEY *Hist. Mus.* II. 183 As all Discant moves in some particular Measure, Mode, or *Mood*, he [Franco] first defines a Mood. ..'A *Mood* is the representation of the time of measured sounds, expressed by Longs or Breves.'

†**b.** A written symbol used to indicate 'mood' (in the above sense). *Retorted mood*: see RETORTED *ppl. a.* 1597 MORLEY *Introd. Mus.* 2.

†**c.** = MODE *sb.* 1 a (in the various applications).

1597 MORLEY *Introd. Mus., Annot.* P 4 b, By the name of Mood, were signified many thinges in Musicke. First those which the learned call moodes, which afterwards were tearmed by the name of tunes. 1667 C. SIMPSON *Compend. Pract. Mus.* 112 That which the Grecians called Mode or Mood, the Latins termed Tone or Tune. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* I. 550 Anon they move In perfect Phalanx to the Dorian mood Of Flutes and soft Recorders. 1694 HOLDER *Harmony* 138 The several Moods (some call'd them Tones) of Music. 1706 A. BEDFORD *Temple Mus.* iii. 57 Their [*sc.* the Greeks'] Seven Moods,..were no more than the Seven different Methods of altering their Tunes, by Flats and Sharps placed at the Beginning of a Lesson. 1788 CAVALLO in *Phil. Trans.* LXXVIII. 252 The best keys to be played in are the keys of C, of F, of E flat, of B flat, of G and of D in the major mood, and the keys of C, of D, of A, and of B, in the minor mood. 1844 BECK & FELTON tr. *Munk's Metres* 59 Poems of the Doric mood.

d. *transf.* (from **c**, associated with MOOD *sb.*[1]).

1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV*, IV. v. 200 And now my death Changes the Moode: For what in me, was purchas'd, Falles vpon thee, in a more Fayrer sort. 1637 MILTON *Lycidas* 87 That strain I heard was of a higher mood. 1671 — *Samson* 662 But with th' afflicted in his pangs thir sound..seems a tune, Harsh, and of dissonant mood from his complaint.

†**4.** = MODE *sb.* 6. *Obs. rare*—[1].

1666 BOYLE *Orig. Formes & Qual.* 10 Whether these Accidents may not conveniently enough be call'd the Moods or primary affections of Bodies.

†**5.** = MODE *sb.* 9. *Obs. rare*—[1].

1646 SHIRLEY *Poems* II. 48 Others, that have..fashionably observ'd the English Scene, Say (but with lesse hope to be understood) Such titles unto Playes are now the mood.

†**Mood**, *v. Obs. rare*—[1]. [? f. MOOD *sb.*[1] (if not an error for *brood*.)] *intr.* To reflect moodily.

1796 Sir J. Duckworth in *Corr. Adm. J. Markham* (1904) 81 We returned to Port au Prince to mood upon our absurd indigested and blundering plan.

Mood, dial. (Sheffield) variant of Mould *sb.* and *v.*, adopted in certain technical uses.

1833 J. Holland *Manuf. Metal* II. 23 In this state it [*sc.* the fork] is called, in common with all articles after the first formation by the hammer, a *mood*. 1860 Tomlinson *Arts & Manuf.* Ser. II. *Cutlery* 49 This *mood* or *mould*, as it is called, is shown in the annexed cut. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1233/1 A length is cut off, and the forger speedily *moods* this, that is, shapes it roughly into the form of a pocket-knife blade.

Mood(e, Moodal, obs. ff. Mud, Modal.

Mooddin, variant of Muezzin.

Mooder, obs. form of Mother *sb.*

Moodie, variant of Moudie (mole).

Moodily (mū·dili), *adv.* Forms: 1 módelíce, 3 modi(ȝ)liȝ, modi(ȝ)like, 4 modilich, 4–5 mo(o)diliche, 7– moodily. [OE. **módiglíce* (for the actual form *módelíce* cf. the parallels cited s.v. Mightly *adv.*), f. *mód* Mood *sb.*[1]; see -ly [2].]

†**1.** Bravely, boldly; haughtily, angrily. *Obs.*

993 *Battle of Maldon* 200 Þær modelice maneȝa spræcon. *c* 1200 Ormin 1296 Forr bule lateþþ modiliȝ, & bereþþ upp hiss hæfedd. *Ibid.* 2041 Þuss mihhte ȝho full modiliȝ Off hire sinne ȝellpenn. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2584 Đo bad ðis king al opelike, In alle burȝes modilike, Eneriic knape child of ðat kin ben a-non don ðe flod wið-in. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. IV. 173 And modilich [C. v. 167 *v. rr.* modiliche, moodiliche] vppon Mede with myȝte þe kynge loked. 1603 Florio *Montaigne* I. xlvii. (1632) 152 If the fervor of Monsieur de Foix had not drewne him over rashly and moodily to pursue the straglers.

2. In a moody or sullen manner.

1611 Cotgr., *Moruement*, sadly, pensively; moodily, lumpishly. 1833 Marryat *P. Simple* xxxviii, 'I can do nothing for you, Peter; I have no interest whatever', replied he moodily. 1872 Tennyson *Last Tourn.* 647 Pacing moodily up and down. 1876 Lowell *Among my Bks.* Ser. II. 306 When his mother died, in 1810, [he] was moodily inconsolable. 1906 *Blackw. Mag.* Jan. 104/1 Thirlstone.. was staring moodily into the fire.

Moodiness (mū·dinės). [OE. *módignes*, f. *módig*: see Moody and -ness.]

†**1.** Pride, passion, anger. *Obs.*

c 1000 Ælfric *Hom.* (Th.) I. 360 Da heofenlican myrhðe beȝytan, ðe ða heofenlican englas ðurh modiȝnysse forluron. *a* 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 219 Hi wolde mid modinesse heon betere þonne he ȝesceapen were. *c* 1200 Ormin 4979 Þiss mahhte tredeþþ unnderrfot All modiȝnessess trennche. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1405 Þe gost..styhþ on heyh þur modynesse. *c* 1275 *Sinners Beware* 79 in *O. E. Misc.* 74 Prude and modynesse. 1530 Palsgr. 246/1 Modynesse angre, *attayne, ire*. 1571 Golding *Calvin on Ps.* lv. 16 This wish proceeded not of a trubbled or unadvysed head, or of moodynesse. 1626 tr. *Boccalini's New-found Politicke* III. ii. 179 Such was the naturall hatreed of the sheepe towards the Dogs, and the implacable moodinesse which they conceiued to be hurried vp and downe, that [etc.].

2. The state or condition of being moody, sullen, or abstracted.

1858 Carlyle *Fredk. Gt.* (1872) I. I. iii. 29 Whiffs of jealousy..the product of accidental moodinesses in him. 1861 J. Nichol in *Mem.* (1896) 75 His kindness was often tried by my moodiness and eccentricity. 1891 Weyman *Story F. Cludde* x, In the general silence and moodiness I escaped notice.

†**Moo·ding.** *dial. Obs.* [f. **mood* a. Welsh *mwd* arch + -ing [1].] Vaulting, an arched ceiling.

1749 in D. R. Thomas *Hist. Dioc. St. Asaph* (1870) 701 The mooding of the chancel.

Moodir, Moodirieh, var. ff. Mudir, Mudirieh.

Moodish (mū·diʃ), *a. rare*—°. [f. Mood *sb.*[1] + -ish.] Characterized by moods; fitful, capricious. Hence **Moo·dishly** *adv.*, **Moo·dishness.**

Davies, followed by recent Dicts., quotes an example of *moodishly* from Richardson's *Grandison*; but in the passage quoted (I. let. xxii) all early editions have *moodily*.

1876 H. Gardner *Leone* II. in *Sunflowers* 122 Lay aside this rustic moodishness. 1898 *Academy* 29 Oct. 173 The turbulent neurotic moodishness of the Italian poet.

‖ **Moodooga** (mūdū·gă). [a. Telegu *moduga*.] The East Indian tree *Butea frondosa* or *monosperma*; only *attrib.* in *moodooga oil*, a clear oil obtained from the seeds of this tree.

1866 *Treas. Bot.* s.v. *Butea*, The seeds [of *Butea frondosa*] yield a small quantity of oil, called moodooga oil, which the native doctors consider to possess anthelmintic properties. 1887 Bentley *Man. Bot.* (ed. 5) 532. 1890 in *Century Dict.* 1891 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

Moodur, obs. form of Mother.

Moody (mū·di), *a.* Forms: 1 módiȝ, -eȝ, 2–3 modiȝ, 1–5 modi, 3–6 mody, 4 modey, *Sc.* mwdy, 4–5 mode, 4, 6 *Sc.* mudy, 5 modee, 6 modye, 6–7 (8 *Sc.*) moodie, (7 muddy), 8 *Sc.* mudie, 6– moody. [OE. *módiȝ* = OS. *môdag, -ig* (MDu. *moedich*, Du. *moedig*), OHG. **muotag* implied in *muotigî* courage (MHG. *muotec, -ig*, mod.G. *mutig*), ON. *móðug-r* (Sw., Da. *modig*), Goth. *môdag-s* angry:—OTeut. *mōdago-*, f. **mōdo-* Mood *sb.*[1]]

†**1.** Brave, bold, proud, high-spirited. (Often applied vaguely as an epithet of praise.) *Obs.*

Beowulf 1812 Pæt wæs modiȝ secg. *c* 1205 Lay. 23698 Muche cniht & strong mon and modi on heorten. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 500 Þu art wel modi & wel breme. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* IX. 659 Thretten Castellis with strynth he wan, And ourcom mony a mody man. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 215 Þe mode kynge of Messedone. *Ibid.* 3327 Þe mody men of Messedone. 1606 Birnie *Kirk-Buriall* xvii. (1833) E 3 b, Πολυάνδριον, sometyme the name of Gehenna, for the boulkes of many muddy men that fell in that greene. 1755 *Capt. Car* xxvii. in Child *Ballads* III. 434/2 But mony were the mudie men Lay gasping on the grien.

†**2.** Proud, haughty, arrogant; headstrong, stubborn, wilful, obstinate. *Obs.*

c 1000 Ælfric *Deut.* xxi. 18 ȝif æniȝ man hæbbe modiȝne sunu and rancne [Vulg. *filium contumacem et protervum*]. *a* 1100 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 316/17 *Superbus*, modiȝ. *c* 1200 Ormin 9613 Forr Drihhtin hateþþ modiȝ mann, & lufeþþ alle meoke. *Ibid.* 11852 To ȝeornenn aftterr laferrddom & affterr modiȝ wikenn. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 418 ȝef ha þeos modi motild [L. *hanc contionatricem temerariam*] ouercumen mahten. 1362 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. x. 212 And so comeþ Dobest aboute and bringeþ a-doun Modi, And þat is wikkede wil. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xxiii. 86 Yee, for as modee as he can loke, he wold haue turnyd an othere croke Myght he haue had the rake.

†**3.** Angry, given to anger, wrathful. *Obs.*

c 1200 Ormin 8263 Forr þatt he wass modiȝ mann & grimme wiþþ his leode. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2712 A modi stiward he ðor fond, Betende a man wid hise wond. 13.. *Guy Warw.* (A.) 906 Þe douke Reyner seye þat cas Of Sessoine: wel modi [*Caius MS.* full angry) he was. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 341/1 Mody or angry. 1544 Bale *Brief Chron. Cobham* B vij, In his modye madnesse without iust profe ded he openlye excommunicate him. 1567 Golding *Ovid's Met.* VI. 43 Hir countnance did hewray Hir moodie minde [orig. *confessaque vultibus iram*]. 1589 Warner *Alb. Eng.* VI. xxxiii. (1612) 162 When, like a Lion thirsting bloud, did moodie Richard range. 1608 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. iv. IV. *Decay* 1190 O ragefull Tyrants! moody Monsters, see, See here my Case. 1649 Milton *Eikon.* 240 There be a sort of moodie, hot-brain'd, and alwayes unedify'd consciences. 1697 Dryden *Æneid* XII. 1233 Angry Jove..the moody sire.

4. Subject to, or indulging in, moods of ill-humour, depression, or the like; ill-humoured, gloomy, sullen, melancholy.

1593 Shaks. *Lucr.* 553 And moodie Pluto winks while Orpheus playes. 1632 Sherwood, Moodie, *morne, triste*. 1658 *Witty Apophth.* 147 A young maid having married an old man, was observed on the day of marriage to be somewhat moody. 1681 Dryden *Abs. & Achit.* 45 The Iews, a headstrong, moody, murmuring race. 1805 Wordsw. *Waggoner* IV. 134 It rather hath Stirred him up to livelier wrath; Which he stifles, moody man! With all the patience that he can. 1815 Byron *Hebr. Melodies* X. ii, Those smiles unto the moodiest mind Their own pure joy impart. 1846 Trench *Mirac.* XX. (1862) 327 Her sickness..had brought her into a moody melancholic state. 1887 T. Hardy *Woodlanders* I. IV. 61 Even among the moodiest, the tendency to be cheered is stronger than the tendency to be cast down.

b. Applied to humour, thought, action, etc.

1593 Shaks. *Lucr.* 1602 Unmaske deare deare, this moodie heauinesse. *a* 1649 Drumm. of Hawth. *Poems* (1656) 178 Those Soules which vices moody Mists most blind. 1742 Gray *Eton Coll.* 79 Moody Madness laughing wild. 1785 Burke *Sp. Nabob of Arcot's Debts* Wks. IV. 215 It may be said that this letter was written by the nabob of Arcot in a moody humour, under the influence of some chagrin. 1829 Hood *Eugene Aram* 38 Then leaping on his feet upright Some moody turns he took. 1850 Prescott *Peru* II. 48 The cavaliers rode back to Caxamalca, with many moody speculations on what they had seen.

c. Expressive of moodiness or ill-humour.

1596 Shaks. 1 *Hen. IV*, I. iii. 19 Maiestie might neuer yet endure The moody Frontier of a seruant brow. 1800 Coleridge *Death of Wallenstein* III. vii, What! meet such news with such a moody face? 1814 Wordsw. *Excursion* IV. 482 Cleave not so fondly to your moody cell. 1820 Byron *Mar. Fal.* I. ii, A moody brow and mutter'd threats.

Hence **Modiȝleȝȝe** (Orm.) [see -laik], pride.

c 1200 Ormin 73 Acc þurrh þatt laþe modiȝleȝȝe þatt comm all off hemm sellfenn. *Ibid.* 2633 Ne toc ȝho þohh nan modiȝleȝȝe Off hire miccle sellþe.

Moody, variant of Moudie (mole).

Mooe, obs. form of Mo, more.

Mooftee, -ti, variant forms of Mufti.

Moogan, Moogree, var. ff. Moggan, Mogra.

Moohummudam, variant of Mohammedan.

Mooil, dial. variant of Moil *sb.*[1]

Mool (mūl), *sb. Sc.* and *north. dial.* Forms: 6–9 mule, 6 mull, 7 mole, 7, 9 mowle, 8–9 mooil, 9 moul, muil, mowl, mee(a)l (see E.D.D.), 8– mool. [app. a dial. variant of Mould *sb.*[1]; for the form cf. *gool* Gold *sb.*[2] Some of the forms coincide with those of Mull *sb.*, and it is occasionally difficult to distinguish the two words.]

1. Mould, earth, soil; also in *pl.* 'dry earth in a pulverized state; earth for working' (*Eng. Dial. Dict.*); a small lump or clod of earth. (In the first quot. used *fig.*)

a 1578 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 369 Quhen scho come on Scottis ground scho..inclynnit hir self to the earth and tuik the mullis thairof and kissit. 1641 Best *Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 107 They..rake it all over with heyrakes..till the mowles bee indifferent small. *Ibid.*, Another hath a showle and showleth the mowles into the hole. 1775 J. Watson *Hist. Halifax* 543 *Mooil*, Mold or Earth. 1788 W. Marshall *Yorks.* II. 341 Gloss., *Meals*, mould, earth soil. 1802 A. Scott *Poems* (1808) 48 Now fields, convuls'd like dashin' waves, Wild row alang, An' out the ripen'd treasure laves The mools amang. 1834 J. Wilson *Noct. Ambr.* Wks. 1856 IV. 72 Men ca' the wee sleek mole blind because he has nae een they can see, and leeves darklin in the moul. 1889 Fenn *Cure of Souls* 52 (E.D.D.) Good leafy mowles for nex year's blubs [bulbs].

2. The soil for a grave; the grave. Also *pl.* grave-clods.

1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 69 The rest I pas ouer, of quhilkes mony now vndir ane mule and lumpe of clay ly togither. 1645 Rutherford *Tryal & Tri. Faith* xx. (1845) 258 The mules of the holy grave. 1728 Ramsay *Robt., Richy, & Sandy* 22 Ah, heavens! did e'er this lyart head of mine Think to have seen the cauldrife mools on thine. 1789 Burns *Addr. to Toothache* iv, Or worthy friends rak'd i' the mools, Sad sight to see! 1816 Scott *Antiq.* xxxiv, When ye laid his head in the grave..ye saw the mouls laid on an honest lad that likit you weel. 1885 Runciman *Skippers & Sh.* 260 Aw'll be putten away and happed up amang the mouls afore maw bonny lad comes hyem ony mair. 1894 Crockett *Lilac Sunbonnet* IX. 75 Ye smell o' the muils. 1903 J. Lumsden *Toozle* IV. i. 74 Guid auld Younger's i' the mools.

3. *Comb.*, **mool-board**: see Mould-board.

Mool (mūl), *v. Sc.* Forms: 6, 9 mule, 9 moul, 6– mool. [f. Mool *sb.*]

1. *trans.* To crumble; esp. to crumble (bread) into a bowl in order to soak it in liquid.

1595 Duncan *App. Etymol.* (E.D.S.) 70 *Intero*, to mule in. 1737 Ramsay *Sc. Prov.* (1797) 95 Ye ken naithing but milk and bread when it is mool'd in to you. 1824 Mactaggart *Gallovid. Encycl.* 413 The bairnies them daigh did mool.

2. *intr.* To associate intimately *with*.

17.. *Blythsome Bridal* iii. in Herd *Coll. Scot. Songs* (1776) II. 24 And there will be Alaster Sibbie Wha in wi' black Betsy did mool. 1808–80 Jamieson, *To mule in with one*, to have intimacy with one, as those who crumble their bread into one vessel; q. to eat out of the same dish. *I wadna mule in with him*, I would have no intimate fellowship with him. 1818 Hogg *Brownie of Bodsbeck* I. xi. 219 Though I ken I'll soon be in a warld o' spirits, an' that I maun mingle an' mool wi' them for ages.

3. *trans.* To bury (cf. Mool *sb.* 2 and 3).

1818 Hogg *Brownie of Bodsbeck* I. xi. 208 But where are they now? A' mouled! a' mouled!

Mool, obs. f. Mole, Mule, var. Moul.

Moola e, -lah, obs. forms of Mullah.

Moolavee, variant of Moolvee.

Moolberye, obs. form of Mulberry.

Moold, obs. form of Mole [2]; Mould.

Moole, obs. form of Mole, Mule.

Moo·lin(g)s, *sb. pl. Sc.* Also mu(i)lin, moulin. [f. Mool *v.* + -ing [1].] Crumbs.

1828 Moir *Mansie Wauch* vii. 60 The laddie's girn set with moolings of bread. 1895 Crockett *Men of Moss-Hags* ii. 18, I fed him with crumblings out of my jacket pocket—'moolings' Maisie Lennox called them.

Mooll, obs. f. Mole [2]. **Moollah**, var. f. Mullah.

Moollen, obs. form of Mullein.

†**Moolowe**, *a. Obs. rare*—[1]. ? Variant of or error for Mellow *a.*

1574 R. Scot *Hop Gard.* 6 If your grounde be grassye, roughe, or styffe, it should be first sowen with Hempe, or Beanes, which naturally maketh the grounde moolowe, destroyeth weedes [etc.].

‖ **Moolvee** (mū·lvi). Forms: *a.* 7 meuleuee, 8 moulewy, molavie, -vee, moulavie, 9 moolavee, 9 moulvie, maulavi; *β.* (? *erron.* moolevelee), 9 moulvi(e, -vee, maulvie, moolvee. [Urdū *mulvī*, a. Arab. مولوى *maulawiyy*, properly an adj., judicial, but used as sb., = *maulā* Mullah, of which it is a derivative.] A Mohammedan doctor of the law; in India, a complimentary designation among Mohammedans for a teacher of Arabic, or a learned man generally.

1625 Purchas *Pilgrims* II. IX. xv. 1611 Amongst the Turkes..the Meuleuees..are an order of Derueeshes, that turne round with Musike in their Diuine Seruice. 1772 *Order of Council of H.E.I.C.* in *Claim of Roy Kader Churn* 13/2 (Stanf.) The Cauree and Muftee of the district, and two Moulewys, shall sit to expound the Law. 1784 N. B. Halhed in *Calcutta Rev.* (1856) XXVI. 79 A Pundit in Bengal, or Molavee May daily see a carcase burn. 1788 Burke *Sp. agst. W. Hastings* Wks. XVI. 103 These women have Mr. Middleton's..guarantee..for their having a law officer of high rank, or moulavie (*printed* moulavre) of their own. 1834 *Baboo* II. xii. 253 The holy Moolavee was sent on board the ship. 1841 Elphinstone *Hist. Ind.* II. VIII. iii. 235 Though there was no organised body of clergy, there was a class (called moulavis or mullahs) from which judges, lawyers, and ministers of religion were..taken. 1862 Beveridge *Hist. Ind.* III. IX. vi. 677 The Moulvie of Lucknow. 1891 *Daily Chron.* 4 Sept. 5/5 Mohammedan moulvis. 1904 G. Smith *Short Hist. Chr. Missions* 106 The Maulvies or Mohammedan doctors of Tunis.

Hence **Moolvee-ship**, the office of the moolvee formerly appointed as assessor in certain courts.

a 1886 Sir G. Yule in Yule & Burnell *Anglo-Ind. Gloss.* Suppl. (1886) s. v. *Law-officer*, The Moulvee-ship..must have been abolished before I became a judge (I think), which was 2 or 3 years before the Mutiny; for I have no recollection of ever sitting with a Moulvee.

Mooly, Sc. variant of Mouly *a.*[1] and [2].

Moon (mūn), *sb.* Forms: 1 mōna, 2–7 mone, (4 mon, mowne), 4–7 moone; *north.* 4–6 moyn(e, 5–6 mwne, 8 mune, 8–9 muin, 6– moon. [Com. Teut.: OE. *mōna* wk. masc. = OFris. *mōna*, OS. *mâno* masc. (MLG. *mâne* masc., MDu. *mâne* masc., fem., Du. *maan* fem.), OHG. *mâno* masc. (MHG. *mâne, mône, môn* masc., rarely fem.; also *mânt, mônt, mônde*, mod.G. *mond* masc.), ON. *máne* masc. (Sw. *måne*, Da. *maane*), Goth. *mêna* masc.:—OTeut. **mǣnon-*.

According to Brugmann this form has arisen by substitution of suffix, from the *t*-stem **mǣnōþ-* Month, as OTeut. **nefon-* Nephew from Indogermanic **nepōt-* (cf. L. *nepōt-*

em). Cognate words for 'moon' and 'month' are found in all branches of the Indogermanic family; outside Teut. the following types occur: **mēnā* (Gr. *μήνη* moon), **mēnon-* (Lith. *mẽnů* moon), **mēne-s, -os-* (Lith. *mẽnesis*, dial. *mẽnas*, month), and with reduced grade of stem-suffix **mēns-* (Skr. *mās*, *māsa*, Zend *mānha*, OSl. *mĕsęcĭ*, moon, month, Gr. *μήν*, Ion. *μείς*, L. *mēnsis*, Irish *mī*, month). The prevailing view that the root is **mē-*, to measure (the moon having, it is supposed, been named from its function as a measurer of time) is plausible, but cannot be considered certainly true.]

1. The satellite of the earth; a secondary planet, whose light, derived from the sun, is reflected to the earth and serves to dispel the darkness of night.

The moon's constantly recurring changes and phases (see 1 c and NEW MOON, FULL MOON, HALF-MOON, HARVEST MOON, and cf. CRESCENT, QUARTER) have caused it to be taken as a common type of changeableness or fickleness. They are popularly supposed to influence the health of body and mind, and to cause lunacy (cf. LUNATIC). The moon's appearance to the eye of being diversified with light and dark patches gave rise to the fanciful comparison of its disc to a man's face (see 1 f and MAN-IN-THE-MOON). It has been worshipped as a deity by many races; in classical mythology it was identified with various goddesses (see 1 b). Its white or silvery light is taken as emblematical of coldness or chastity.

The moon's attraction is the chief cause of the tides. The period in which the moon completes her series of changes, or in which her orbital revolution brings her back to the same apparent position with regard to the sun, is called a month; in astronomical use this term is applied in a wider sense (see MONTH *sb.*[1] 2 a).

c 888 K. ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxi, Sio sunne bringð leohte dagas, & se mona liht on niht. *c* 1205 LAY. 17861 þa a þan auen time þe mone gon to scine. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 145 De mones liȝt is moneð met. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 17288+59 He wald for vus marterd bee, þat time when þe moyn wor ful. *c* 1384 CHAUCER *H. Fame* III. 1026 To wexe and wane..As dooth the faire whyte mone. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xiv. 177 It gyfys more light..Then any son..Or mone, when he of son has ton his light. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* c vj, Take hony at the chaungyng of the moon. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* I. (1586) 20 Looke that the winde be Westerly, and the moone in the wane. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* IV. iii. 30 The siluer Moone. 1649 FULLER *Just Man's Funeral* 13 The moon would have shined without any spots. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) I. 253 The waters of the sea, running from all parts, to attend the motions of the moon, produce the flowing of the tide. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* xxviii. The moon is hid; the night is still. 1873 DAWSON *Earth & Man* i. 9 The moon seems to be a body which has had time to complete the whole history of geological change, and to become a dry, dead, and withered world.

b. Since the disappearance of the grammatical genders of OE., in which *móna* was masc., the feminine pronoun has commonly been used in referring to the moon, even when no personification is intended (the neuter pronoun occurs, but less frequently); in poetry the moon is often personified, always as a female, and sometimes, after classical example, identified with various goddesses, as Cynthia, Diana, Phœbe.

c 1290 *St. Michael* 451 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 312 Ase man may bi þe Mone i-seo þe ȝwyle heo is neowe riȝt. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 1069 The mone may þer-of acroche no myȝte, To spotty ho is, of body to grym. 1382 WYCLIF *Isa.* xiii. 10 The moone shal not shyne in his [1388 hir] lyȝt. — *Matt.* xxiv. 29 The sunne schal be maad derk, and the mone schal not ȝyue hir liȝt. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 108 Benethe alle othre stant the Mone..: Of flodes hihe and ebbes lowe Upon his change it schal be knowe. 1591 SPENSER *Virg. Gnat* 508 And eke the Moone her hastie steedes did stay. 1784 COWPER *Tiroc.* 38 And, when descending he [*sc.* the sun] resigns the skies, Why takes the gentler moon her turn to rise? 1842 TENNYSON *Love & Duty* 22 The Sun will run his orbit, and the Moon Her circle.

c. With reference to the moon's changes or phases, its influences, etc.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Compl. Mars* 235 He that hath with love to dune Hath ofter wo then changed is the mone. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. X. 108 Lunatik lollers and leperes a-boute, And mad as þe mone sitt more oþer lasse. 1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* XVIII. (Percy Soc.) 83 The minde of men chaungeth as the mone. 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* III. i. 25 Thou art not certaine, For thy complexion shifts to strange effects, After the Moone. *a* 1668 DAVENANT *Law agst. Lovers* III. i, That were a sudden change, and would shew More of the Moon in him, than is in a mad-woman. 1784 COWPER *Task* II. 599 Our habits..change with ev'ry moon. 1803 *Med. Jrnl.* IX. 138 This periodical increase and decrense of the fever he was inclined to ascribe to the changes of the moon.

d. *Mean moon* (Astr.): an imaginary moon supposed for purposes of calculation to move uniformly in the ecliptic, completing its circuit in the same time as the actual moon. *Calendar, ecclesiastical moon*: an imaginary moon used in determining the date of Easter.

1712 *Rule for Finding Easter* p. vii, In the Year 1664, the Astronomical Moon, viz. the Moon in the Heavens; and the Ecclesiastical one, viz. that found by the Column of Golden Numbers, happening to differ from each other, this Rule became matter of great Dissention. 1877 *Encycl. Brit.* VII. 615/1 This calendar moon is not the moon of the heavens, nor the mean moon of the astronomers. 1878 *Bk. Com. Prayer acc. to Use Ch. Irel.*, The Moon referred to in the definition of Easter-Day is not the actual Moon of the Heavens, but the Calendar Moon, or Moon of the Lunar Cycle, which is counted as full on its fourteenth day.

e. Proverb. *To believe that the moon is made of* (†*a*) *green cheese* (or *cream cheese*): to believe an absurdity. Similarly, †*to say that the moon is blue.*

1528 ROY *Rede Me* (Arb.) 114 Yf they saye the mone is belewe, We must beleve that it is true. 1529 FRITH *Antith.* Wks. (1573) 105/1 They woulde make men belene..that ye Moone is made of grene chese. 1611, 1638, 1783 [see CHEESE *sb.*[1] 2]. 1752 MRS. LENNOX *Fem. Quix.* IV. i, You may as well persuade me the Moon is made of a Cream Cheese, as that [etc.]. 1768–74 [see CREAM-CHEESE].

f. with allusion to the MAN-IN-THE-MOON.

a 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* xxxix. 110 This ilke mon upon heh when er he were, wher he were ythe mone boren ant y-fed. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* I. 1024 þou hast a ful grete care Lest þat þe Cherl wole falle out of þe mone. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* II. iv. (Rolls) 155 A man which stale sumtyme a birthan of thornis was sett in to the moone, there forto abide for euere. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* V. ii. 214 *Rosa.* You tooke the Moone at full, but now shee's changed? *Kin.* Yet still she is the Moone, and I the Man. 1597 LYLY (*title*) The Woman in the Moone.

†**g.** *Moon's man*: a man who is under the moon's influence. (See also MOON-MAN.) *Minion of the moon* = MOON-MAN 1. *Moon's minion* (pseudo-arch.): a night-watchman.

1596 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. IV*, I. ii. 30 Let vs be Dianaes Forresters, Gentlemen of the Shade, Minions of the Moone. [Cf. I. ii. 15.] *Ibid.* 35 The fortune of vs that are the Moones men, dooth ebbe and flow like the Sea. 1609 [DEKKER] *Ravens Alm.* B, At the beginning of every Almanack, it is the fashion to haue the body of a man..bitten and shot at by wild beasts and monsters. And this fellow, they..call the man of the moon, or the moons man. 1623 CAMDEN *Rem., Apparel* (1636) 237 To what cause our mutability.. may be referred, I know not, vnlesse that we..are *Lunares* or the Moones men. 1827 LYTTON *Pelham* xlix, In an instant two of the moon's minions, staffs, lanterns, and all, were measuring their length at the foot of their namesake of royal memory.

h. *fig.* (esp. associated with the sun or the stars).

c 1586 ROYDON *Elegie Sir P. Sidney* Spenser's Wks. (Globe) 569/2 Tis likely they acquainted soone; He was a Sun, and she a Moone. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* IV. iii. 230 My Loue (her Mistres) is a gracious Moone, Shee (an attending Starre) scarce seene a light. 1668 R. STEELE *Husbandman's Calling* v. (1672) 70 The moon of the world doth interpose and hide from him the sight and beams of the Sun of Righteousness. 1778 JOHNSON 29 Apr. in *Boswell*, Modern writers are the moons of literature; they shine with reflected light, with light borrowed from the ancients.

2. The moon as visible during one (lunar) month is in popular language spoken of as a distinct object from that of another month; its 'age' being the number of days that have elapsed since new moon. Similarly, the sb. is used with qualifying words for: The moon as shining or visible at some particular time or place, or as presenting some particular appearance. (See also NEW MOON, FULL MOON, HARVEST MOON, etc.)

There is a moon, there is no moon = the moon is visible (not visible) at the time and in the place indicated or implied. *The old moon in the new moon's arms* (or *lap*): the appearance of the moon during the first quarter in which the dark portion of the orb is made faintly luminous by earth-light.

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* III. 182 On anre nihte ealdne monan. *Ibid.* 252 Se winterlica mona gæð norðor þonne seo sunne ga on sumera. 1154 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1135 Als it unare threniht ald mone an sterres abuten him at mid dæi. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 403 But of his craft to rekene wel his tydes, .. His herberwe and his moone,..Ther nas noon swich. 1556 WITHALS *Dict.* (1568) 1/2 The time betweene the olde Moone and the newe. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* III. ii. 167 And thirtie dozen Moones with borrowed sheene, About the World haue times twelue thirties beene. 1661 EVELYN *Tyrannus* (ed. 2) 13 When the State it self was as seldome above the Age of a Moon without a new face. 17.. *Sir Patrick Spens* vi, I saw the new moon..Wi' the auld moone in her arme. 1802 COLERIDGE *Dejection* 13 Lo! the New-moon winter-bright!..I see the old Moon in her lap, fortelling The coming-on of rain and squally blast. 1820 KEATS *Hyperion* I. 83 One moon, with alteration slow, had shed Her silver seasons four upon the night. 1823 F. CLISSOLD *Ascent Mt. Blanc* 22 The sun being now near his setting, and there being no moon. 1837 *Penny Cycl.* IX. 253/1 If the paschal moon fall on a Sunday, the next Sunday is Easter Sunday. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. XXV. 185 The night being without a moon, we carried three lanterns. 1884 *Harper's Mag.* Nov. 906/2 The young moon hung in the west. 1894 H. NISBET *Bush Girl's Rom.* 17 The moon was divine as it bathed everything with its silver lustre, as only Australian moons can do.

3. With reference to the moon's position above the earth, or its conspicuousness in the sky; often quasi-personified, e. g. as the witness of terrestrial doings, the 'queen of the night', or the like.

Shakspere has many passages containing such allusions.

c 1220 *Bestiary* 598 He sweren bi ðe rode, bi ðe sunne and bi ðe mone. 1484 CAXTON *Fables of Æsop* IV. x. (1889) 115 God kepe..the mone fro the wulues. [Cf. Cotgr. s.v. *Lune*, *Garder la lune des loups*, and Rabelais I. xi.] 1553 *Respublica* III. iv. 759, I will couche yone all vp soone, where ye shalnot bee spied neither of Sonne nor Mone. 1597 MORLEY *Introd. Mus.* 183 Making as little account of them as the moone doth of the barking of a dog. 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* V. ii. 119 Pray you no more of this, 'tis like the howling of Irish Wolues against the Moone. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* I. 784 While ouer head the Moon Sits Arbitress. 1807 COLERIDGE *To Wordsw.* 101 A tranquil sea, Outspread and bright, yet swelling to the moon.

†**b.** Phrases. *Under the moon, anunder moon*: in this sublunary sphere, on earth; contrariwise *above, beyond the moon. Below the moon*: sublunary, earthly. (*To praise, boast*) *above* or *beyond the moon*: extravagantly. *To cast, go beyond the moon*: to go to extravagant lengths. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 15610 Of his soru mai naman tell þat liues vnder þe mone. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 1092 His lyf wer loste an-vnder mone. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 192 Trewe seruyce of god is lettid & þis veyn knackynge..is preised abouen þe mone. *c* 1425 *Cast. Persev.* 2691 in *Macro Plays* 154 Mary! þi sone a-bouyn þe mone, as make Mankynde trewe & sad, In grace for to gon. *a* 1518 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 226 All is without measure, and fer beyonde the mone. *a* 1533 FRITH *Another Bk. agst. Rastell* (1829) 220 Rastell thinketh that I stand well in my own conceit, and boast myself above the moon. 1559, etc. [see CAST *v.* 41]. 1586 A. DAY *Eng. Secretary* I. (1625) 80 You reckon too wide, you goe beyond the Moone. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* IV. vii. 146 All Simples that haue Vertue Vnder the Moone. 1613 — *Hen. VIII*, III. ii. 134 His Thinkings are below the Moone, not worth His serions considering. 1625 BACON *Ess., Ceremonies* (Arb.) 27 The Dwelling vpon them, and Exalting them aboue the Moone, is..Tedious. 1724 RAMSAY *Vision* xii, Far abuve the mune, We watching beings do convene.

c. Typifying a place impossible to reach or a thing impossible to get.

1593 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. VI*, III. i. 158 And dogged Vorke, that reaches at the Moone, Whose ouer-weening Arme I haue pluckt back. 1777 PRIESTLEY *Matt. & Spir.* (1782) I. Pref. 7 My mind is no more in my body, than it is in the moon. 1813 WELLINGTON in Gurw. *Desp.* (1838) XI. 86 If I had been at any time capable of doing what these gentlemen expected, I should now I believe have been in the Moon. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* IV. 408, I babbled for you, as babies for the moon. 1852 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* vi, He was a mere child in the world, but he didn't cry for the moon. 1860 THACKERAY *Lovel* v. (1861) 196, I might as well wish for the moon as hope to get her.

†**d.** In various phrases expressing ineffectual or useless action or attempt. *Obs.*

a 1529 SKELTON *Bouge of Court* 383 Thou mayste not studye, or muse on the mone. 1590 SIR J. SMYTH *Disc. Weapons* 15 Their bullets doo worke as much effect against the Moone, as against the Enemie that they shoote at. 1655 [see BARK *v.*[1] 2]. 1705 tr. *Bosman's Guinea* 433 To think of forcing any thing from them, is to dispute with the Moon.

e. *To shoot* (†*bolt*, †*shove*) *the moon* (slang): to make a 'moonlight flit'.

1823 *Grose's Dict. Vulgar T.* (ed. Egan), *Shoving the Moon*, moving goods by moonlight to prevent their being seized by the landlord. *Cant.* *a* 1825 *Universal Songster* I. 70 She wish'd to gammon her landlord, and likewise bolt the moon. 1837 COL. HAWKER *Diary* (1893) II. 123 He having just 'shot the moon', I had to follow him to a cockloft in St. Giles's. 1892 ZANGWILL *Bow Mystery* 10 It is well for the landlord to be about his own estate in Bow, where poachers often shoot the moon.

4. An appearance in the sky resembling a moon. (Cf. *mock-moon.*)

a 1123 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1106 (MS. E) On þa niht þe on morȝen wæs Cena Domini..wæron ȝesewen twegen monan. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* XXXV. 50 Full wedl I wist to me wald nevir cum thrift, Quhill that twa monis were sene vp in the lift. 1595 SHAKS. *John* IV. ii. 182 They say fiue Moones were seene to night: Foure fixed, and the fift did whirle about The other foure, in wondrous motion. 1784 COWPER *Task* V. 152 A wat'ry light..that seem'd Another moon new risen, or meteor fall'n From heav'n to earth.

5. A figure or representation of the moon, either crescent-shaped (cf. HALF-MOON) or circular (like the full moon); a moon-shaped ornament or vessel.

Specific uses are: (*a*) a gas-globe (cf. MOON-SHADE); (*b*) *U. S. slang*, a large circular biscuit.

1431 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* (1905) 26 A hole vestement of blu veluet with sterres & mones of golde. 1520–1 *Fabric Rolls York Minster* (Surtees) 305 Too corporax casis..the one wth a moone, & the other of cloth of tusshew blake of the owt side. 1594? PEELE *Alcazar* I. i, Our Moores haue seen the siluer moons to wane, In banners brauely spreading ouer the plaine. 1642 R. CARPENTER *Experience* v. xix. 326 Your arguments are like your invincible Armado's which in their first appearance make a mighty Moone, but are burnt and confounded in the end. 1821 [see MAHOMET]. 1832 TENNYSON *Pal. Art* 188 And pure quintessences of precious oils In hollow'd moons of gems. 1883 'MARK TWAIN' *Life on Missis.* III. 460, I spent my last 10 cts. for 2 moons (large round sea-biscuit) & cheese. 1883 *B'ham Daily Post* 11 Oct., Tumblers and Gas Moons.

6. The disc, plate, or orifice representing the moon in a clock which exhibits the moon's phases.

1546–7 *Burgh Rec. Stirling* (1887) 45 Ane orlege and mone with all necessaris tharof, kepand just cours fra xij houris to xij houris. 1628 *Burgh Rec. Glasgow* (1876) I. 366 For..vpputting of the horolog brodis, mones, bunkis and roweris. 17.. FERGUSON in J. Nicholson *Operat. Mechanic* (1825) 493 The plate that carries the moon, that is a round hole *m*, through which the phase or appearance of the moon is seen on the sun's plate.

7. The satellite of a planet.

1665 *Phil. Trans.* I. 72 If these two Planets have Moons wheeling about them. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VIII. 149 And other Suns..With thir attendant Moons. 1784 COWPER *Tiroc.* 634 The moons of Jove. 1838 J. P. NICHOL *Solar Syst.* 139 Jupiter has four moons, each larger than ours.

8. *poet.* = MOONLIGHT.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 327 Piramus cam after sone Unto the welle, and be the Mone He fond hire wimpel blodi there. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* I. 440 To whose bright Image nightly by the Moon Sidonian Virgins paid their Vows. 1833 TENNYSON *Lady of Shalott* I. 33 And by the moon the reaper weary, Piling sheaves in uplands airy. 1896 A. E. HOUSEMAN *Shropshire Lad* XXXVI, White in the moon the long road lies.

†**9.** With ordinal numeral, denoting a particular day after a new moon. *Obs.*

Cf. L. *luna tertia, quarta*, etc.

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* III. 184 Mona se forma on ealdum þingum dondum nytlic ys..& blod lætan oððe wanian ealne dæȝ mona god ys. *Ibid.*, Mona se oðer..Mona se ðridda. 1709 *Rule for finding Easter* 8 By fixing Easter-Day upon the Lord's-Day following the 14th Moon.

10. The period from one new moon to the next; a lunation, lunar month; *gen.* a month. † *Twelve moons* = twelvemonth.

Still common in *the —th (day) of the moon*; otherwise now chiefly *poet.* and in renderings of barbarian speech.

*c*1375 *Cursor M.* 9152 (Fairf.) Helias þat prophete..þat stint þe rayne þorou his praier, hit lasted vj. mones [*Cott.* monet, *Gött.* monethes] & iij. 3ere. *a* 1400 *Med. Receipts* in *Rel. Ant.* I. 52 The .ix. day in that ilk mone. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1064 At Mid Aprille, the mone when myrthes begyn. 1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 20 Terre..neuer dothe appere, tyll the moneth of Iune, and specyallye whanne there is great wete in that mone. 1608 SHAKS. *Per.* II. v. 10 One twelue Moones more shee'le weare Dianas linerie. 1618 J. DYKE *Caveat Archippus* (1619) 20 Who may not soone be sufficient to reade..the Church-seruice, and once in a Moone to bestow a mornings blessing vpon his people? 1653 H. COGAN tr. *Pinto's Trav.* ii. (1663) 33 The last assault, that was given on the thirteenth day of the Moon. 1716 GAY *Trivia* II. 360 When hoary Thames..Was three long moons in icy fetters bound. 1756 WASHINGTON *Lett.* Writ. 1889 I. 393 They proposed..to stay only one moon, and then to start for their nation. 1822 LAMB *Elia* Ser. I. *Roast Pig*, A yonng and tender suckling—under a moon old. 1876 *Encycl. Brit.* IV. 675/1 The 14th of the paschal moon. 1877 W. MATTHEWS *Ethnogr. Hidatsa* 60 A land where the summer was hut three moons long. 1901 HENLEY *Hawthorn & Lavender* 40 This is the moon of roses, The lovely and flowerful time.

b. *slang.* A month's imprisonment.

1830 MONCRIEFF *Hrt. London* II. i. (Farmer), They've lumbered him for a few moons, that's all. 1894 A. MORRISON *Mean Streets* 259 So Scuddy's life went on, with occasional misfortnnes in the way of a moon, or another drag.

c. = HONEYMOON.

[1709 MRS. MANLEY *Secret Mem.* (1736) I. 28 Tho' it survives not the Hymenæan moon.] 1859 G. MEREDITH *R. Feverel* xxxii, Where may these lnnatics have gone to spend the Moon?

11. The time during which the moon is visible. *Obs.* or *poet.*

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* IV. 617 And als soyn as the moyn wes past, Hym thoncht weill that he saw a fyre. 1832 TENNYSON *Eleanore* 124 The..odorous wind Breathes low between the sunset and the moon.

†12. *The moon.* **a.** *Alch.* Silver. **b.** *Her.* Argent.

1572 BOSSEWELL *Armorie* II. 119 b, His fielde is Saturne, an hande dextre in fesse, of the moone. 1610 B. JONSON *Alch.* II. i, The great med'cine! Of which one part proiected on a hundred Of..Venus, or the Moone, Shall turne it to as many of the Sunne. 1651 FRENCH *Distill.* vi. 197 It will resolve the bodies of the Sunne, and Moone.

†13. A fit of frenzy; = LUNE 2. *Obs.*

1607 TOURNEUR *Rev. Trag.* II. E 2, I know 'twas but some peeuish Moone in him. 1642 SIR E. DERING *Sp. on Relig.* 94 A new Moon did take these men, I did begin to finde a different greeting.

14. = MOON-EYE 1. ? *Obs.*

1726 W. GIBSON *Diet. Horses* (ed. 2) 213 Other Infirmities..such as Moons and Defluxions in the Eyes.

15. *attrib.* and *Comb.* **a.** Simple attrib. = 'of or pertaining to the moon, existing in or made by the moon or moonlight', as *moon-blasting, -cloud, -dawn, -gleam, -glimpse, -haze, -path, -ray, -tide, -wake*; **b.** objective, as *moon-gazing* adj.; **c.** instrumental or locative = 'by the moon or moonlight, in the moonlight, under the influence of the moon', as *moon-blanched, -blasted, -bright, -charmed, -freezing, -gathered, -glittering, -led, -loved, -made, -mellowed, -raised, -soaked, -tanned, -taught, -trodden, -whitened* adjs.; also (sense 5) *moon-crowned* adj.; **c.** similative, as *moon-arched, browed, -faced* ppl. adjs.; also = 'moon-shaped', as *moon-face, -head.*

1776 MICKLE tr. *Camoens' Lusiad* II. 77 Stern warriors with the quivering lance, Or *moon-arch'd bow. 1852 M. ARNOLD *Summer Night* 1 In the deserted *moon-blanched street. 1794 COLERIDGE *Relig. Musings* 338 Ghastlier shapings than surround *Moon-blasted Madness when he yells at midnight. 1642 MILTON *Apol. Smect.* Wks. 1851 III. 314 Those thanks in the womans Churching for her delivery from Sunburning and *Moonblasting. 1806 MOORE *Epist.* I. iv, How we shonld feel, and gaze with bliss Upon the *moon-bright scenery here! 1855 BAILEY *Mystic*, etc. 90 *Moon-browed maids. 1855 M. ARNOLD *Southern Night* xxx, Down to the brimm'd *moon-charmed Main. 1813 HOGG *Queen's Wake* II. Wks. (1876) 19 His cap the *moon-clouds silver gray. 1776 MICKLE tr. *Camoens' Lusiad* IV. 168 And *moon-crown'd mosques lay smoaking in the dnst. 1895 F. M. CRAWFORD *Casa Braccio* xiii, The *moon-dawn sending np its soft radiance to the sky. 1855 THACKERAY *Newcomes* liii, He..surveyed the beauties of his time as the Caliph the *moonfaces of his harem. 1619 *Pasquil's Palm.* (1877) 131 To comfort *Moone-fac'd Cnckolds, that were sad. 1806-7 J. BERESFORD *Miseries Hum. Life* 304 The necessity of borrowing the spectacles of a moon-faced friend. 1855 TENNYSON *Maud* I. I. xviii, Maud the beloved of my mother, the moon-faced darling of all. 1819 SHELLEY *Prometh. Unb.* I. 32 The spears Of their *moon-freezing crystals. 1834 LYTTON *Pompeii* III. xi, These old hags, with..their *moon-gathered herbs. 1828 *Lights & Shades* II. 274 This ominous ramble of the *moon-gazing 'thrice illustrious'. 1870-4 J. THOMSON *City Dreadf. Nt.* XIV. i, With tinted *moongleams slanting here and there. 1821 SHELLEY *Hellas* 633 In the faint *moon-glimpse He saw..the Turkish admiral. 1794 COLERIDGE *Relig. Musings* 274 Where by night, ..The lion couches..Or serpent plants his vast *moon-glittering bnlk. 1891 KIPLING *Light that Failed* (1900) 103 A faint beating like that of a muffled drum came out of the *moon-haze. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. III. vi, The rnbicund *moonhead goes wagging; darker beams the copper visage. 1832 TENNYSON *Pal. Art* 252 A still salt pool..that hears..The plunging seas draw backward from the land Their *moon-led waters white. 1629 MILTON *Hymn Nativ.* xxvi, The yellow-skirted Fayes..leaving their *Moon-lov'd maze. 1880 W. WATSON *Prince's Quest* Poems (1905) II. 178 As steals The *moon-made shadow at some traveller's heels. ? 1795 COLERIDGE *To Nightingale* 10 With-in whose mild *moon-mellow'd foliage hid. 1897 KIPLING *Captains Courageous* iv. 103 She sat down in the *moon-path on the water. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xxix, Haud your tongue, ye *moon-raised b——! 1844 LD. HOUGHTON *Palm Leaves* 202 A pictnre by *moon-rays designed. 1892 LD. LYTTON *King Poppy* Epil. 133 Herbs *moon-soak'd on Hecate's altars. 1648 HERRICK *Hesper., Oberon's Pal.*, And now he finds His *Moon-tann'd Mab. 1850 MRS. BROWNING *Sea-side Walk* ii, The water grey Swang in its *moon-taught way. — *Early Rose* xii, Singing gladly all the *moontide Never waiting for the snntide. 1865 SWINBURNE *Atalanta* 41 Making sweet..*moon-trodden ways And breathless gates and extreme hills of heaven. 1876 MORRIS *Sigurd* II. 137 The *moonwake over the waters. 1892 LD. LYTTON *King Poppy* vii. 187 Their *moon-whiten'd wings.

16. Special combinations: **moon-blink** (see quot.); **moon-blow**, injury to the body produced by the moon's rays; **moon-born** *ppl. a.*, (*a*) born under the moon's influence; (*b*) born in the moon; **moon-bow**, a lunar rainbow; **moon-box**, a device for exhibiting the moon on the stage of a theatre (*Cent. Dict.*); **†moon-burnt** *ppl. a.*, moonstruck; **moon-clock**, a clock showing the changes and phases of the moon; **†moon-clover** = *moon-trefoil* **moon-creeper** = MOON-FLOWER 2 (*Cent. Dict.*); **moon-culminating** *ppl. a.*, applied to such stars (used in calculating longitude) as culminate with the moon and are near its parallel of declination; so **moon-culmination**, the culmination of certain stars with the moon (*Cent. Dict.*); **moon-culminator**, a moon-culminating star; **moon-cutter**, one who cuts gas globes (see sense 5); **moon-daisy**, the ox-eye daisy, *Chrysanthemum Leucanthemum*; **moon-dog**, a dog that bays the moon; **†**in early use = MOONER 1; **†moon-drake** (fancifully modelled on FIRE-DRAKE), a fiery moon; **†moon-flaw**, a defect attributed to the moon's influence; **moon-glade** *U.S.*, the track made by moonlight on water; **moon-god**, the god of the moon; a deity associated with the moon; so **moon-goddess**; **moon-knife**, a crescent-shaped knife used by leather-workers; **moon-lily** = MOON-FLOWER 2; **moon-madness**, lunacy (cf. sense 1 c); **moon-month**, a lunar month (Ogilvie 1882); **moon-penny**, *Chrysanthemum Leucanthemum* (Treas. Bot. 1866); **moon-plant**, the plant SOMA; **moon-proof** *a.*, proof against the moon's light or influence; **moon-rainbow**, a lunar rainbow; **moon-sail**, **-sheered** *ppl. a.* (see quots.); **moon-shooter** *slang*, one who makes a 'moonlight flit'; **moon-shot** *ppl. a.*, accompanied by fitful moonlight; **moon-slave** *poet.*, applied to the tide as dependent upon the moon; **moon-sted** *ppl. a.*, ? occupied by the moon; **moon-trefoil**, *Medicago arborea*; **moon-wise** *a.*, learned in the moon's movements, etc.; **†moon-wiser**, an instrument for finding the position of the moon; **†moon-work** (see quot.); **moon-year** [cf. G. *mondjahr*], a lunar year (Webster 1864).

1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, **Moon-blink*, a temporary evening blindness occasioned by sleeping in the moonshine in tropical climates. 1851 R. F. BURTON *Scinde* I. ii. 12 It took his countenance a year or two to recover from the effects of the *moonblow. 1691 DRYDEN *K. Arthur* II. i, A *moon-born elf. 1857 W. SMITH *Thorndale* IV. ii, There would be no end to the astonishment of your moon-born traveller. 1892 LD. LYTTON *King Poppy* vii. 69 The moon-born music of the nightingale. 1871 G. MACDONALD *Ode to Light* in *Organ Songs*, All the colonrs..In rainbow, *moon-bow, or in opal gem. *c* 1560 A. SCOTT *Poems* (S.T.S.) iv. 65 Sum *monebrnnt madynis myld, At nonetyd of the nicht, Ar chappit vp with chyld. 1800 *Gentl. Mag.* 1226/2 Under the West tower is a *moon-clock. 1713 J. PETIVER in *Phil. Trans.* XXVIII. 47 Camerarius his *Moon Claver. 1827 *Philos. Mag.* I. 47 A List of *Moon-culminating Stars for 1827. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, **Moon-culminators*, certain stars near the same parallel of declination as the moon [etc.]. 1883 *B'ham Daily Post* 11 Oct., Flint-glass Trade.—*Moon Cutter wanted. 1855 MISS PRATT *Flower. Pl.* (1861) III. 311 Ox-eye or *Moon Daisy. *a* 1887 JEFFERIES *Toilers of Field* (1892) 310 The broad moon-daisies stand in the grass. 1668 EVELYN *Corr.* 24 June, Let the *Moon-dogs bark on, 'till their throats are drie. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* II. 184/1 The Mooner, or Moon-Dog which continually is Barking at the Moon. 1832 J. BREE *St. Herbert's Isle* 163 'Tween the screech of the owl and the moon dog's moan. *a* 1635 CORBET *A non sequitur* Poems (1807) 218 See where a *moon-drake 'gins to rise. *a* 1652 BROME *Queen & Conc.* IV. vii, I fear she has a *Moonflaw in her brains. 1866 LOWELL *Bigtow P.* Ser. II. Introd., *Moonglade: a beautiful word: for the track of moonlight on the water. 1893 *Westm. Gaz.* 8 Nov. 3/1 The gondolas and launches pass like dark shadows in a moon-glade. 1862 RAWLINSON *Anc. Mon., Chald.* viii. I. 200 The temple at Mugheir was bnilt in honour of the *moon-god, Sin or Hurki. 1831 KEIGHTLEY *Myth. Gr. & It.* 194 From their confonnding her with their own Artemis, it would seem that they regarded her as the *moon-goddess. 1882 J. PATON in *Encycl. Brit.* XIV. 389/2 The dyed leatber is.. grounded with a curious *moon knife. 1888 CLARK RUSSELL *Death Ship* III. 129 The *moon-lily when it hangs down its white beanty and contracts its milky petals. 1817 SHELLEY *Rev. Islam* VI. xvii. 2 Want, and *Moon-madness, and the pest's swift Bane. *a* 1843 SOUTHEY *Comm.-pl. Bk.* IV. 634 A seller of *moonplant. 1862 R. H. PATTERSON *Ess. Hist. & Art* 475 The soma or moon-plant is a rnnnd smooth twining plant, pecnliar to the Aravalli Hills [etc.]. 1616 B. JONSON *Masque of Oberon* Wks. 979 Be your eyes, yet *Moone-proofe? 1817 SHELLEY *Rev. Islam* VI. xxvii. 9 A hanging dome of leaves, a canopy moon-proof. 1835 J. P. KENNEDY *Horse Shoe R.* vi, Your thick skull is moon-proof. 1850 BROWNING *Christmas Eve* VI. II 'Twas a *moon-rainbow, vast and perfect. 1841 R. H. DANA *Seaman's Man.* 116 **Moon-sail*, a small sail sometimes carried in light winds, above a skysail. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, **Moon-sheered*, a ship the upper works of which rise very high, fore and aft. 1892 *Globe* 2 Apr. 1/5 The *moon-shooters sometimes have lodgers in their abodes. 1902 *Contemp. Rev.* Dec. 842 The gusty *moon-shot night. 1839 BAILEY *Festus* viii. (1852) 93 Where tide, the *moonslave, sleeps. 1591 *Troub. Raigne K. John* II. (1611) 75 Could I..Remoue the Sunne from our Meridian, Vnto the *moonested circle of th' antipodes. 1731 MILLER *Gard. Dict., Medicago*; *Moon-Trefoil..It hath..a..Fruit, shap'd somewhat like a Half-Moon. 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* III. (Arb.) 74 And *moonewise Coribants on brasse their od harmonie tinckling. 1674 FLAMSTEED in *Phil. Trans.* IX. 219, I fell to peruse Mr. Street's Discourse, and to consider the Contrivance of his *Moon-wiser. 1679 C. NESSE *Antichrist* 201 His work is Idolatry, a work of darkness, *moon or night-work.

Moon (mūn), *v.* [f. MOON *sb.*]

1. In various nonce-uses. **a.** *trans.* To expose to the rays of the moon; *refl.* to 'bask' in the moonlight (cf. SUN *v.*); to give *out* (a light) as a moon. **b.** *intr.* To shine as a moon; to move as a satellite.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 96 If they would haue it [*sc.* wax] to be exceeding white indeed, they seeth it yet once more, after it hath bin thus sunned and mooned. *a* 1850 MRS. BROWNING *Night & Merry Man* i, Where be all thy laughters clear?..Where thy festive companies, Mooned o'er with ladies' eyes? 1854 DE QUINCEY *Autobiog. Sk.* vi. Wks. II. 337 The huge man..not sunning, but mooning himself—apricating himself in the occasional moonbeams. 1871 G. MACDONALD *Wks. Fancy & Imag.* IV. *Parables, Love's Ordeal*, An earthen lamp whose faint light Mooned out a tiny halo. 1886 R. F. BURTON *Arab. Nts.* (abr. ed.) III. 99 White as a full moon when it mooneth on its fourteenth night. *a* 1903 H. S. MERRIMAN *Tommaso's Fortune*, etc. (1904) 64 The more curious of the President's guests, who were now mooning innocently around them as they sat.

2. *intr.* To move or look listlessly or aimlessly (as if moonstruck); to go *about, along, around* (etc.) in a moonstruck or listless manner. *colloq.*

1848 ALB. SMITH *Idler upon Town* 46 A mooner is an individual who moons about without any object, half absent, half contemplative. 1861 HUGHES *Tom Brown at Oxf.* i, I mooned up and down the High-street, staring at all the young faces. 1867 MISS BRADDON *Run to Earth* I. ii. 40 'What are you standing mooning there for?' asked the man. 'Why don't you go to bed?' 1886 J. K. JEROME *Idle Thoughts* (1889) 44, I..did nothing whatever, except moon about the house and gardens.

b. *trans.* To pass *away* (the time) in an aimless or listless manner; also *occas.* to utter mooningly.

1836 T. HOOK *G. Gurney* III. 179, I 'mooned' out, that my sympathetic ignorance of the object of our dialogue had wounded her feelings. 1876 BESANT & RICE *Gold. Butterfly* xvi, I might have mooned away the afternoon in the Park. 1878 W. C. SMITH *Hilda among Broken Gods* (1879) 235 Why had I mooned away the night, when there was that to do Which still might heal our sorrow?

3. To hunt by moonlight.

1898 *Encycl. Sport* II. 64 All the excitement of the expedition may be said..to lie in this 'mooning'. If the dark object which the hunter fondly imagines to be an opossum lie higher than the line of the moon, he must perforce fix his eyes on it and walk steadily backwards until the moon is directly behind it..The beast can obviously be mooned from one spot only at any given moment.

Moon, rare obs. f. MAN *sb.*[1]; obs. f. MOAN.

Moonack (mū·næk). Also 7–8 **monack**, 8 **monax**, 9 **moonax**. [a. Lenape *monachgeu* (f. *monham* to dig); the mod.L. form is *monax*.] The ground-hog or woodchuck, *Arctomys monax*.

Among the negroes, the name is applied to a mythical animal supposed to have a baneful influence.

1676 T. GLOVER *Virginia* in *Phil. Trans.* XI. 630 There are also several sorts of ravenous Beasts, as Wolves, Racoons, ..Monacks, Flying Squirrels. 1740 P. COLLINSON *Mem. Bartram* (1849) 140 A harmless land-animal, about the size of the large gray Fox-Squirrel, called a Monack. 1747 G. EDWARDS *Nat. Hist. Birds* II. 104 The Monax, or Marmotte, of America. 1814 LEWIS & CLARK *Trav. Missouri River* (1893) III. 966 We observed in our route no animals except..a moonax. 1872 SCHELE DE VERE *Americanisms* 152 The poor negro who meets it..is doomed..Experienced negroes say when they look at him: 'He gwine to die; he seed the moonack'.

Moonaul, variant of MONAUL.

Moo·nbeam. A ray of moonlight. Also *fig.*

1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* III. i. 176 And plucke the wings from painted Butterflies, To fan the Moone-beames from his sleeping eies. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 113 As the Moone-Beames playing vpon a Wane. 1737 POPE *Hor. Sat.* II. vi. 189 Tell how the Moon-beam trembling falls, And tips with Silver all the walls. 1793 COLERIDGE *Imit. Ossian* 19 But I..shall..dwell, the Moon-beam of thy soul, In Slumber's nightly honr. 1817 WOLFE *Burial Sir J. Moore* ii, By the struggling moonbeams' misty light.

Moo·n-blind, *a.* [Cf. Du. *maanblind*, G. *mondblind.*]

1. Of horses: Suffering from 'moon-eye'; moon-eyed. Also used *sb.* as the name of the disease.

1668 *Phil. Trans.* III. 731, I had a very narrow escape from an excellent Horse which had that only defect, which they call Moon-blind. 1689 O. HEYWOOD *Diaries*, etc. (1885) IV. 134 [The mare] was a very likely beast, but proved moon-blind. *c* 1720 W. GIBSON in *Compl. Farmer* (1766) s.v. *Blind* Q 3/2 Most..foreign writers,..in treating the diseases of horses, have..reckoned the moon-blind symptoms as a peculiar disease of the eyes, without having any relation to a cataract. 1905 *Blackw. Mag.* Jan. 66/1

Another horse..which was..moonblind—that is to say, he was more blind at certain times than at others.

2. *fig.* Of intellect: Purblind. ? *Obs.*

1711 Shaftesb. *Charac.* (1737) III. 211 We have to deal with a sort of moon-blind wits, who..may be said to renounce day-light, and extinguish..the bright visible outward world. 1738 Warburton *Div. Legat.* I. 39 The Professors of them [*sc.* metaphysics and logic] are Moon-blind Wits. 1757 — *Let. to Hurd* 8 June (1809) 244 In full .. confidence of the publick's being more than moon-blind, you gave them a key to the secret.

3. Suffering from blindness brought on by sleeping exposed to the moon's rays.

1830 Marryat *King's Own* xxii, It would be as well ..to request the officer of the watch not to permit the men to sleep on the upper deck. We shall have many of them moon-blind. 1846 Mrs. R. Lee *Afr. Wanderers* xviii. (1854) 314 Soldiers who have been moon-blind for life.

Hence **Moo'n-blindness.**

c 1720 W. Gibson in *Compl. Farmer* (1766) s. v. *Blind* Q 4/1 Another kind of moon-blindness, which is also the fore-runners of cataracts. 1857 Livingstone *Trav.* vi. 133 You may sleep out at night, looking up to the moon till you fall asleep, without a thought or sign of moon-blindness. 1894 Hayes *Among Men & Horses* i. (ed. 2) 9.

Moo'n-calf. [Cf. G. *mondkalb* (Luther); also *mondkind*, MLG. *maanenkind* (*kind* = child).]

†**1.** An abortive shapeless fleshy mass in the womb; a false conception. *Obs.*

Regarded as being produced by the influence of the moon.

1565 Cooper *Thesaurus*, *Mola*,..a moone calfe (in the womans woumbe). 1594 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* II. 387 The moone calfes in the womb, which fall out often. 1615 Crooke *Body of Man* 193 The signes of the Mola or Mooncalfe. 1658 tr. *Porta's Nat. Magic* II. ii. 29 A certain woman..brought forth in stend of a child, four Creatures like to frogs...But this was a kind of a Moon-calf.

fig. 1623 *Poems on Aff. State* (1703) II. 106 And then Democracy's Production shall A Moon-calf be. 1644 *Prerogative Anatomized* 12 The Parliament is in labour of a Moon-Calfe.

b. A missbapen birtb, a monstrosity. *Obs.* or *arch.*

1610 Shaks. *Temp.* II. ii. 139 How now Moone-Calfe. 1831 Carlyle *Sart. Res.* III. x. (1858) 168 England .. offers precisely the elements .. in which such moon-calves and monstrosities are best generated. 1837 — *Fr. Rev.* (1872) III. I. vii. 41 This huge mooncalf of Sanseulottism.

c. One born with undeveloped brain; a congenital idiot; a born fool.

[1620 B. Jonson *News fr. New World, Pr.* .. Moone Calves! what Monster is that ..? 2 *Her.* Monster? none at all; a very familiar thing, like our foole here on earth] 1627 Drayton (*title*) The Moone-Calfe. *Stultorum plena sunt omnia.* 1693 Dryden *Juvenal* vi. (1697) 158 The Potion..turns his Brain, and stupifies his Mind. The sotted Moon-Calf gapes. 1765 Beattie *To Churchill* 4 Fame,.. What half-made moon-calf can mistake for good? 1818 Scott *Hrt. Midl.* xxx, If he is as you say, d'ye think he'll ever marry a moon-calf like Madge? 1886 Stevenson *Kidnapped* v, 'No', said the poor moon-calf, changing his tune at once.

2. In allusive or misapprehended senses. a. One who gazes at the moon; a 'mooning', absent-minded person. (Cf. Calf[1] 1 c.)

c 1613 Middleton *No Wit like Woman's* I. i. 112 One Weatherwise, .. Observes the full and change, an arrant moon-calf. 1826 Disraeli *Viv. Grey* III. vi, I have been playing, I fear, the mooncalf tonight; and find that, though I am a late watcher, I am not a solitary one. 1840 Dickens *Barn. Rudge* vi, Instead of standing gaping at her, like an old mooncalf as I am.

†b. A child of the moon; a fickle, unstable person. *Obs. rare.*

1607 Chapman *Bussy d'Ambois* iv, Women..Are the most perfect images of the Moone (Or still-vnweand sweet Mooncalues with white faces). 1647 Trapp *Comm. Acts* xxii. 19, I shall be counted a Moon-calf; a *Retraxit* shall be entred against me. 1656 — 1 *Tim.* iii. 8 Ministers must neither be Sea-calves, nor Moon-calves; double-tongued, nor unstable, or double-minded.

Moo'n-curser. †a. *Old Cant.* (See quot. 1673.) b. *dial.* A wrecker.

1673 R. Head *Canting Acad.* 101 The Moon Curser is generally taken for any Link-Boy; but particularly he is one that waits at some Corner of Lincolns-Inn-Fields with a Link in his hand, who under the pretence of Lighting you over the Fields..shal light you into a Pack of Rogues. 17.. in J. Ashton *18th Cent. Waifs* (1887) 234 One Volly Vance, otherwise call'd Glym Jack from his having been a Moon Curser, or Link Boy. 1770 C. Bidole *Autobiog.* (1883) 51 A ship from Jamaica .. the crew of which had left her, and gone to Providence in what was called one of the Mooncursers or wreckers. 1813 R. B. Thomas *Farmer's Almanack* (Boston, U.S.) Dec., All the village moon-cursers came in for their portion of the wreck.

Moo'n-dial. A dial for showing the hours of the night by the moon.

1686 Goad *Celest. Bodies* I. vi. 17 Some pretious Stones are Natural Moon-dials; the Selenite [etc.]. 1727–52 Chambers *Cycl.* s. v. *Dial.* *a* 1849 Poe *Fairyland* 11 About twelve by the moon-dial. 1877 *Encycl. Brit.* VII. 154 *note*, In one of the Courts of Queens' College, Cambridge, there is an elaborate sun-dial..and around it a series of numbers which make it available as a moon-dial when the moon's age is known.

Moone, obs. form of Moan, Moon.

Mooned (mūnd, *poet.* mū'nĕd), *ppl. a.* [f. Moon *sb.* or *v.* + -ed.]

†**1.** Lunatic. *Obs. rare*—[1].

c 1550 Cheke *Matt.* iv. 24 Al y[t] weer .. other sprited, or moond, or palseid.

2. a. Shaped like the (crescent) moon; crescent-shaped. b. Ornamented with moons or crescents; having moon-shaped markings.

1607 Dekker *Whore of Babylon* Wks. 1873 II. 258 Goe; cut the salt fome with your mooned keeles. *a* 1618 Sylvester *Mirac. Peace* Sonn. xxxviii, The Mahomite..in Vienna plaine His mooned Standards hath already pight. 1630 Drayton *Noah's Flood* 381 When with his mooned traine The strutting Peacock..Flutters into the Arke. 1667 Milton *P. L.* IV. 978 Th' Angelic Squadron .. sharpning in mooned hornes Thir Phalanx. 1776 Mickle tr. *Camoens' Lusiad* I. (1778) 20 Their bowsprits pointing to the shore, (A safe moon'd bay). 1817 Shelley *Rev. Islam* XII. xiii. 6 The brazen rein she flung Upon his neck, and kissed his moonèd brow. 1868 Tegetmeier *Pigeons* xxi. 174 The Swiss and Mooned pigeons have a crescent-shaped coloured mark on the breast. 1885–94 R. Bridges *Eros & Psyche* Nov. v, 'Twas then he wrought this work ..Emboss'd with rich design, a moonèd car.

3. †a. *Mooned man* = Man-in-the-moon. *Obs.*

b. Accompanied or attended by the moon, or moonlight. Also applied to a moon-goddess.

1605 Drayton *Man in the Moon* ad fin., And oftentimes the Mooned man outspies the Eauedropper. 1629 Milton *Hymn Nativ.* xxii, Mooned Ashtaroth, Heav'ns Queen and Mother both. *c* 1825 Beddoes *Apotheosis* Poems (1851) 96 Be pale, thou moonèd midnight!

4. Moonlit. *rare.*

1831 Lytton *Milton* I. ii, Dreams he of nymph half hid in sparry cave, Or Naiad rising from her mooned wave?

Mooner (mū'nəɹ). [f. Moon *sb.* or *v.* + -er[1]. In first sense rendering mod.L. *lūnārius.*]

†**1.** A kind of watch-dog (see quots.). *Obs.*

1576 Fleming tr. *Caius' Dogs* 29 This kinde of dogge is likewise called..the Mooner; Because he doth nothing else but watch and warde .. bawing and wawing at the Moone. 1589 L. Wright *Hunting of Antichrist* 16 The dogge called Lunarius, the Mooner, whose nature is continually to barke at the Moone-shine in the water. 1688 R. Holme *Armoury* II. 184/1.

2. One who moons about.

1848 [see Moon *v.* 3]. 1866 Sala *From Waterloo to Peninsula* II. 102 A 'Mooner' is an idle, listless, friendlessly inquisitive person, of street-wandering habits. 1884 *Punch* 5 July 1/1 The ancient grey Bridge is delightful to moon on, For ne'er such a spot for the mooner was made.

Moonery (mū'nəri). [f. Moon *v.* + -ery.] = Mooning *vbl. sb.* 1.

a 1834 Coleridge in *Blackw. Mag.* CXXXI. 119/2 The most fantastic yet maudlin mooncry.

Moonest: see Monish *v.*

†**Moo'net.** *Obs. rare*—[1]. [f. Moon *sb.* + -et.] A small moon, satellite.

1642 Bp. Hall *Free Prisoner* ii. Three Tract. (1646) 112 Some lesser Planets moving round about the Sun, and the Moonets about Saturn and Jupiter.

Moo'n-eye. [f. Moon *sb.* + Eye *sb.*; in sense 1 transl. of L. *oculus lunaticus* (Vegetius).]

1. *Farriery.* (Usually *pl.*) An eye affected with intermittent blindness (attributed to the moon's influence); also, the disease itself, moon-blindness.

1607 Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 280 Of Lunatick or Moon-eyes. 1639 T. de Gray *Compl. Horsem.* 6 Be you.. marvellous carefull that neither your stallion or mare have ..moon-eyes, watry eyes, or bloud-shotten eyes. 1748 tr. *Vegetius' Distemp. Horses* 152 There is another Distemper ..the Ancients called it a Moon-eye.

2. a. A North American fish, *Hyodon tergisus.* b. The cisco, *Coregonus hoyi.*

1845 Storer *Synopsis Fishes N. Amer.* in *Mem. Amer. Acad.* II. 462 Hyodon tergisus .. Called 'Moon-eye', 'Shiner', 'Lake Herring' at Buffalo. 1884 G. B. Goode *Nat. Hist. Aquatic Anim.* 541 The Moon-eye or Cisco.

Moo'n-eyed, *ppl. a.* [f. Moon-eye + -ed[2]. Cf. G. *mondäugig.*]

1. *Farriery.* Affected with the disease of 'moon-eyes'; moon-blind.

1610 Markham *Masterp.* II. xii. 239, I haue seene many a slothfull and heauy horse brought to be moone eyed by the folly of his rider. 1792 A. Young *Trav. France* 75 The English mare that carries me..is going rapidly blind. She is moon-eyed. 1821 *Sporting Mag.* VIII. 262 George Parker on his examination found that she was 'moon-eyed'.

†b. Purblind; squint-eyed. *Obs.*

1688 Dryden *Brit. Red.* 94 So manifest, that even the moon-eyed sects See whom and what this Providence protects. 1736 Ainsworth *Lat. Dict.*, Moon eyed, *lusciosus, luscitiosus.* 1785 Grose *Dict. Vulg. T., Moon-eyed hen*, a squinting wench.

†**2.** Having eyes adapted for seeing at night. *Obs.*

1699 Wafer in *Phil. Trans.* LV. 51 From their seeing so clear as they do in a moon-shiny night, we used to call them moon-eyed. 1706 Phillips (ed. 6), *Moon-eyed* or *Owl-eyed*, that can see better at Night, than by Day. 1796 *New Ann. Reg.* 166 Or whether blinded by the solar glare, The moon-ey'd Indian..to balsam groves repair. 1817 G. Field *Chromatics* (1845) § 335. 165 That kind of nyctalophia [*sic*] called moon-eyed, which is common to the Bushmen of Southern Africa, who sleep out the day, and are blind when the sun shines, but..see well in seeming darkness.

3. Having round, wide-open eyes, as a terrified person.

1790 Wolcot (P. Pindar) *Compl. Ep. to J. Bruce* Wks. 1812 II. 358 Moon-eyed Wonder opes her lap to thee. 1799 Campbell *Pleas. Hope* II. 265 Fly, like the moon-ey'd herald of Dismay, Chased on his night-steed by the star of day.

Moo'n-fern. [Cf. G. *mondfarn.*] = Moonwort 1.

1671 in Skinner *Etymol. Ling. Angl., Bot.* 1813 Hogg *Queen's Wake* I. iii. (1814) 68 We saddled ouir naigis wi' the moon-fern leif, And rode fra Kilmerrin kirk. 1840 Browning *Sordello* III. 2 Braid moonfern now with mystic trifoly.

Moo'n-fish. A name for various fishes resembling, or having parts that resemble, the moon: a. The sunfish, *Orthagoriscus mola.* b. *U.S.* An ephippioid fish, *Chætodipterus faber.* c. Any fish of the genus *Selene.*

1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* III. xxiv. 169 The Moone fish, or Orthragoriscus. 1681 Grew *Musæum* I. 102 Moon-fish, *Mola Salviani Luna*; Because the Tail-fin is shaped like a Half-Moon. 1810 *Nat. Hist.* in *Ann. Reg.* 631/2 The moon-fish (tetraodon mola). 1845 Storer *Synopsis Fishes N. Amer.* in *Mem. Amer. Acad.* II. 339 Ephippus gigas, Parkinson...Called 'Moon-fish' in the Antilles. 1883 Goode *Fish. Indust. U. S.* 17 (Fish. Exhib. Publ.) Moon-fish *Chætodipterus faber.* 1884 — *Nat. Hist. Aquatic Anim.* 322 *Selene setipinnis*..known..in North Carolina as the 'Moonfish' or 'Sunfish'. *Ibid.* 323 The Silver Moon-fish—*Selene argentea.*

Moo'n-flower.

1. The ox-eye daisy, *Chrysanthemum Leucanthemum*; also *C. segetum* (Treas. Bot.).

1787 Withering *Brit. Plants* (ed. 2) II. 929 Greater Daisy. Ox-eye. Moon-flower. 1861 Dora Greenwell *Poems* 268 The Sun-flowers and the Moon-flowers.

2. A tropical plant, *Ipomæa Bona-nox*, that blooms at night, having large fragrant white flowers.

1859 Tennent *Ceylon* II. VII. iii. 162 One most interesting flower .. is a night-blowing convolvulus, the moon-flower of Europeans. 1887 Miss E. Money *Dutch Maiden* (1888) 23 The odorous moon-flower gave out a rich perfume.

Moong, mung (mūŋ, mʊŋ). [Hindī *mūng.*] A species of vetch, *Phaseolus Mungo*, common in India; also, the fibre of this plant, of which mats are made.

1800 *Misc. Tracts* in *Asiat. Ann. Reg.* 299/1 The stalks of the Oord are hispid in a less degree than those of the Moong. 1866 Livingstone *Last Jrnls.* (1873) I. ii. 34 A large basket of soroko, or, as they call it in India, 'mung'. 19.. *Mod. Trade List*, Moong mats.

Moonge, variant of Munge *dial.*

†**Moo'nified,** *ppl. a. Obs. rare*—[1]. [f. Moon *sb.* + -ify + -ed[1].] Shaped like a moon.

1795 *Jemima* I. 143 [A peacock's] moonified tail.

Moonily (mū'nili), *adv.* [f. Moony *a.* + -ly[2].] a. ? Like a moon. b. In a mooning manner.

a 1849 Beddoes *Song on Water* ii, So our sails in the bubbles Ghostily Are mirrored, and hover Moonily. 1887 *Punch* 10 Sept. 110 'Far worse!' he moonily muttered.

Mooniness (mū'ninės). [f. Moony *a.* + -ness.] The quality or condition of being moony.

1895 G. Meredith *Amazing Marriage* I. xix. 216 Contact with her spirited him out of his mooniness.

Moo'ning, *vbl. sb.* [f. Moon *v.* + -ing[1].]

1. The action of the verb Moon; listless or aimless wandering about or contemplation.

1857 Kingsley *Two Y. Ago* i, John Briggs .. neglected alike work and amusement for lazy mooning over books. 1882 L. Stephen *Swift* ix. 195 The knight used, it seems, to lose himself in metaphysical moonings.

attrib. 1859 Meredith *R. Feverel* xii, Lady Blandish likewise hinted at his mooning propensities. 1862 Sala *Acc. Addresses* 214 It may have been on a mooning excursion..when I had..nothing to do.

2. Hunting by moonlight. (See Moon *v.* 3.)

Moo'ning, *ppl. a.* [-ing[2].] Listless, aimless. Hence **Moo'ningly** *adv.*

1893 Max Pemberton *Iron Pirate* 177 Chinese mooningly silent. 1905 *Athenæum* 19 Aug. 232/2 The Celt of 'the Forty-five' was not a mooning misanthrope.

Moonish (mū'niʃ), *a. Obs.* or *arch.* Also 5 monyssh. [f. Moon *sb.* + -ish.] Resembling or characteristic of the moon; influenced by the moon; acting as if under the moon's influence; changeable, fickle.

c 1407 Lydg. *Reson & Sens.* 6183 God forbede That ther sholde in womanhede Ben any Monyssh tache at al, But stedfaster than ys a wal. 1581 Mulcaster *Positions* xxxviii. (1887) 176 As for bodies the maidens be more weake, most commonly euen by nature, as of a moonish influence. 1600 Shaks. *A. Y. L.* III. ii. 430 At which time would I, being but a moonish youth, greeue, be effeminate, changeable. 1612 Webster *White Devil* K 3, These are but Moonish shades of greifes or feares. 1834 Sir H. Taylor *2nd Pt. Artevelde* IV. ii, 'Tis moonish madness.

Moo'nite. [+ -ite.] A dweller in the moon.

1762 Sterne *Tr. Shandy* V. xxxiii.

‖ **Moonjah, munjah** (mū'ndʒa, mʊ'ndʒa). Also moon-, munja, moonyah. [Hindī *munj*, Skr. *munja.*] A name for certain Indian plants yielding fibres used for making ropes.

1855 Royle *Fibr. Plants India* 32. 1864 *Chamb. Encycl.* VI. 559/1 *Moonjah, Munjah*, or *Moonyah* (*Saccharum Munja*), a grass of the same genus as the sugar-cane. 1866 *Treas. Bot., Moonyah*, an Indian name for the fibre of *Arundo Karka.* 1879 E. Arnold *Lt. Asia* V. 130 Its head bound back With munja grass.

Moonke, -rie, obs. forms of Monk, Monkery.

Moonless (mū'nlės), *a.* [f. Moon *sb.* + -less.] Without a moon; not lit up by the moon.

1508 Dunbar *Flyting* 92 Eolus full woid, and Neptunus, Mirk and moneless. 1535 Stewart *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) III. 53 But saill or ruthir in the mirk midnycht, And mvneles als withoutin ony licht. 1653 H. More *Conject. Cabbal.* (1713) 3 Moonless and starless nights. 1750 Carte *Hist. Eng.* II. 393 It was..in a dark moonless night that the Scots before midnight..marched under cover of the adjoining wood. 1894 K. Grahame *Pagan Papers* 104 The moonless night has a touch of frost, and is steely-clear.

Moonlet (*mū*·nlĕt). [-LET.] A little moon.
1832 MOTHERWELL *Poems* 47, I pledge thee in the silver horn Of yonder moonlet bright. 1891 *Cassell's Fam. Mag.* Dec. 55/1 The satellites of satellites, the little moonlets of the moons.

Hence † **Moo**·**nleted** *a. Bot.* = LUNATE.
1787 tr. *Linnæus' Fam. Pl.* 385 *Isopyrum*...Capsules many, moonletted, recurved, one-cell'd.

Moonlight (*mū*·nləit), *sb.* [f. MOON *sb.* + LIGHT *sb.*[1] Cf. Du. *maanlicht*, Ger. *mondlicht*.]
1. The light of the moon.
?*a* 1366 CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 1010 Ne she was derk ne broun, but bright, And cleer as [is] the mone-light. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 166 In þe nyȝt folwyng, be þe monelyȝt, a knyȝt..cam rydyng homwarde. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* v. i. 54 How sweet the moone-light sleepes vpon this banke. 1666 DRYDEN *Ann. Mirab.* lxviii, Till the last streaks of dying day withdrew And doubtful moonlight did our rage deceive. 1765 MATY in *Phil. Trans.* LV. 311, I saw the comet, but could form no judgment as to its appearances, because of the moon-light. 1883 STEVENSON *Silverado Sq.* 4 A tall ship lying anchored in the moonlight.
b. *transf.* and *fig.*
a 1450 *Tourn. Tottenham* 153 The cheefe was a plowmell, And the shadow of a bell, Quartered with the Moone-light. 1868 FARRAR *Silence & V.* ii. (1875) 30 This pale moonlight of a utilitarian or rational morality. 1873 BLACK *Pr. Thule* iii, If you asked him what Sheila was like, he would have answered by saying that there was moonlight in her face.
† **2.** A moonlight scene or landscape. *Obs.*
1753 *Scots Mag.* May 263/2 A moon-light, from Van Bosman. 1762–71 H. WALPOLE *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1786) III. 243 A small moon-light. 1778 SIR J. REYNOLDS *Disc.* viii. (1876) 457 A picture which I have of Rubens: it is a representation of a moonlight.
3. = MOONSHINE 4. ? *Obs.*
1809 SCOTT *Poacher* 81 Yon cask holds moonlight, run when moon was none. 1824 — *Redgauntlet* ch. xviii, A cask of moonlight. 1829 [see MOONSHINE 4].
4. *U.S.* An excursion made by moonlight.
1886 *Boston* (Mass.) *Jrnl.* 13 Aug. 3/7 To-night the fourth in the series of moonlights will be made.
5. *Amer. Univ. slang.* (See quots.)
1851 B. H. HALL *College Words* 210 *Moonlight.* At Williams College, the prize rhetorical exercise is called by this name; the reason is not given. The students speak of 'making a rush for moonlight', i. e. of attempting to gain the prize for elocution. 1860 C. DURFEE *Hist. Williams College* 104 Those who receive the appointment to speak for the prize have always..been called 'Moonlights'.
6. *attrib.* as *adj.* Accompanied by, bathed in moonlight; lit up by the moon, moonlit; performed by the light of the moon.
1584 R. SCOT *Discov. Witches.* x. ix. (1886) 150 Riding in a moone light night. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* II. i. 141 If you will..see our Moone-light reuels, goe with vs. 1797 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Italian* xii, The gate opened at once upon the moonlight mountains. 1819 KEATS *Eve St. Agnes* xiii, A little moonlight room, Pale, latticed, chill. 1829 COLERIDGE *Monody Chatterton* (later vers.) 135 Dancing to the moonlight roundelay.
b. *Moonlight flit, flitting*: the removal of household goods by night to avoid paying rent. So *moonlight wanderer*. (*colloq.* or *slang.*)
1721 [see FLITTING *vbl. sb.*]. 1823 'J. BEE' *Dict. Turf* 120 Moonlight wanderers, or 'fly-by-night' persons, who cheat their landlords and run away by night. 1824 *Craven Gloss.* 93 Moon-light flit. 1866 *Athenæum* 13 Oct. 474 Probably Walkden wished to have his rent before it was due, that he might be safe against 'a moonlight flit'.
7. *Comb.*
1762 WARTON *On Birth Pr. Wales* 48 The cloister's moonlight-chequer'd floor. 1820 SHELLEY *Sensitive Plant* I. 34 The wand-like lily..lifted up..its moonlight-coloured cup.

Moonlight (*mū*·nləit), *v.* [Back-formation f. MOONLIGHTER.] **a.** *pass.* To be attacked by moonlighters. **b.** *intr.* To engage in moonlighting.
1887 *Spectator* 15 Oct. 1376 An Irish tenant pays this rather than be moonlighted. 1887 *Times* 26 Feb. 8/3 Eight men were..charged with moonlighting...The accused were not moonlighting.

Moonlighted (*mū*·nləitĕd), *ppl. a.* [f. MOON *sb.* + LIGHTED *ppl. a.* after MOONLIGHT *sb.* Cf. MOONLIT.] Moonlit.
1829 JAMES *Richelieu* xxviii, The thunder-clouds passed away, and left the sky clear and moonlighted. 1859 MEREDITH *R. Feverel* xx, The moon-lighted valley.

Moonlighter (*mū*·nləitəɹ). [Formed as next: see -ER[1].] One who engages in moonlighting or commits a moonlighting outrage.
1882 *Leeds Merc.* 27 Mar., A 'moonlighter' shot by the police. 1893 VIZETELLY *Glances Back* II. xxxv. 275 Irish landlords driven abroad..by the fear of moonlighters.

Moonlighting (*mū*·nləitiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. MOONLIGHT *sb.* + -ING[1].]
1. The performance by night of an expedition, or of an illicit action.
1881 *Gentl. Mag.* Jan. 67 The exciting occupation of moonlighting...The object is to capture the cattle that have gone wild [etc.]. 1883 *Century Mag.* July 330/2 Sometimes well owners 'torpedo' their wells stealthily by night to avoid paying the high price charged by the company. This operation is called 'moonlighting'.
2. *spec.* In Ireland, the perpetration by night of outrages on the persons or property of tenants who incurred the hostility of the Land League.
1882 *Pall Mall G.* 20 June 2/1 As Boycotting is preferable to 'Moonlighting', so is parliamentary obstruction to physical force. 1892 *Times* 9 Dec. 9/1 A gross 'moonlighting' outrage is reported from Kerry, where..a party of ten men entered the house of a farmer..and treated him so brutally that he is not expected to recover.
fig. 1886 HUXLEY in *Life* (1900) II. ix. 144 All good men and true should combine to stop this system of literary moonlighting.

So **Moo**·**nlighting** *ppl. a.*
1886 *Pall Mall G.* 26 Aug. 8/2 Small Moonlighting gangs. 1887 *Spectator* 8 Oct. 1330 One of the moonlighting party that attacked Sexton's house.

Moonlighty (*mū*·nləiti), *a.* [f. MOONLIGHT *sb.* + -Y.] Resembling moonlight.
1876 MRS. OLIPHANT *Curate in Charge* vii, A sort of moonlighty blue.

Moo·**n-like**, *a.* and *adv.* [f. MOON *sb.* + -LIKE.] Like or resembling a moon; having the characteristics of the moon; after the manner of the moon.
1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* v. vii. 13 She saw transfigured Her.. Moone-like Mitre to a Crowne of gold. 1642 H. MORE *Song of Soul* II. iii. III. lxii, Venus Moon-like grows corniculate. 1810 SOUTHEY *Kehama* VIII. iv, The multitude behind close up the rear With moon-like bend. 1865 G. MACDONALD *A. Forbes* 5 A pale face, on which a faint moon-like smile was glimmering.

† **Moo**·**nling.** *Obs.* [f. MOON *sb.* + -LING[1].] A simpleton; an idiot.
1616 B. JONSON *Devil an Ass* I. vi, I haue a husband,.. But such a moon-ling, as no wit of man Or roses can redeeme from being an Asse.

Moonlit (*mū*·nlit), *a.* [f. MOON *sb.* + LIT *ppl. a.*] Lit up by the moon; bathed in or flooded with moonlight.
1830 TENNYSON *Arab. Nts.* 27 The sloping of the moon-lit sward. 1883 *Gd. Words* 112 She stood on deck, watching the moonlit sea.

Moo·**n-litten**, *a. poet.* [See LITTEN *ppl. a.*] = prec.
1845 HIRST *Poems* 74 Under a lattice encircled with flowers Dim with the dew of the moon-litten hours. 1870 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* II. III. 105 A piece of fair moonlitten snow.

† **Moo**·**n-man.** *Obs.* [Cf. MOON *sb.* 1 g.]
1. One whose occupation is pursued by moonlight; a 'night-walker'; one who robs by night. Cf. 'the moones men', Shaks. 1 *Hen. IV*, I. ii. 35.
1632 SHERWOOD, Moone-men, *brigands.*
2. A gipsy.
1608 DEKKER *Lanth. & Candle Lt.* G 2 b, A Moone-man signifies in English a mad-man..By a by name they are called Gipsies, they call themselues Egiptians, others in mockery call them Moone-men. 1621 B. JONSON *Gipsies Metam.* Wks. (1641) 65 They are Gipsies o' this yeare, o' this Moone...*Cl.* Oh they are called the Moone men I remember now! *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Moon-men*, Gipsies.
3. A dweller in the moon.
a 1625 FLETCHER, etc. *Fair Maid Inn* IV. ii, *Tay.* Shall I be a moon-man? *Foro.* I am of opinion, the people of that world..do vary the fashion of their cloathes oftner then any Quick-silver'd nation in Europe. 1847 EMERSON *Poems* (1857) 104 Beauty of a richer vein..Unto men these moonmen lend, And our shrinking sky extend.

Moonraker (*mū*·nrēikəɹ). [f. MOON *sb.* + RAKER[1].]
1. A native of Wiltshire.
See quot. 1787. In Wiltshire a more complimentary turn is given to the story: the men were caught raking a pond for kegs of smuggled brandy, and put off the revenue men by pretending folly.
1787 GROSE *Provinc. Gloss., Prov.* R vij b, Wiltshire Moonrakers. Some Wiltshire rusticks, as the story goes, seeing the figure of the moon in a pond, attempted to rake it out. 1819 J. C. HOBHOUSE *Lett.* in Smiles *J. Murray* (1891) I. xvi. 409, I have been..immersed in the miserable provincial politics of my brother moon-rakers of this county. 1881 SLOW *Wiltsh. Rhymes* 1 The Wiltshire Moonrakers.
2. *Naut.* A sail above the sky-sail; cf. *moon-sail.*
1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* 1890 W. J. GORDON *Foundry* 37 Now all the old canvas has gone, with its snowy wings from the watersails to the moonrakers.

Hence **Moo**·**n-raking** *vbl. sb.*, 'raking the moon'; *fig.* pursuing vain thoughts.
1869 BLACKMORE *Lorna D.* xvii, As soon as ever it was known that my wits were gone moonraking. 1894 HALL CAINE *Manxman* I. ix. 43 Have the lad's wits gone moonraking, I wonder?

Moo·**nrise.** [f. MOON *sb.* + RISE *sb.*] The rise of the moon. Also used for: The east.
1728 *Phil. Trans.* XXXV. 454 A luminous Arch..which extended it self almost from Sun-set to Moon-rise. 1817 SHELLEY *Rev. Islam* II. x, O'er the still sea and jagged islets darted The light of moonrise. 1868 LOCKYER *Elem. Astron.* 172 The time between two successive moonrises varies considerably.

Moonseed (*mū*·nsīd). [f. MOON *sb.* + SEED *sb.*, after mod.L. *mēnispermum* (badly f. Gr. *μήν* moon, *σπέρμα* seed).] A plant of the genus *Menispermum* (having lunate seeds).
1739 MILLER *Gard. Dict.* II, *Menispermum*, Moon-seed. 1822 *Hortus Anglicus* II. 547 *Menispermum Canadense.* Canadian Moon Seed...*M. Virginicum.* Virginian Moon Seed. 1857 GRAY *First Less. Bot.* (1866) 95 The rudiments of pistils are often found in the sterile blossom, and rudimentary stamens in the fertile blossom, as in Moonseed.
attrib. 1849 BALFOUR *Man. Bot.* § 746 *Menispermaceæ*, the Moon-seed Family.

Moonset (*mū*·nset). *poet.* [f. MOON *sb.*, after *sunset.*] The setting of the moon.
1845 BROWNING *Good News* iii, 'Twas moonset at starting. 1870 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* III. IV. 280 In the darkling tide Betwixt the moonset and the dawn of day.

Moo·**n-shade.** [Cf. G. *mondschatte* in sense 3.]
† **1.** The plant nightshade. *Obs.*
1626 BACON *Sylva* § 975 Soporiferous Medicines..Hemlocke, Mandrake, Mooneshade.
2. A circular lamp-shade. (Cf. MOON *sb.* 5.)
1830 GALT *Lawrie T.* IX. vii, A table-lamp with a moon-shade. 1841 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* IV. 195/1 No moon-shades should ever be used, as, besides intercepting a considerable portion of the light, they [etc.].
3. Shadow occurring between spells of moonlight.
1905 H. HUNT *Pre-Raphaelitism* II. 19 Like palled shapes in a heavy dream, detached by moonlight and moonshade.

Moo·**n-shaped**, *a.* Shaped like the moon, *esp.* crescent-shaped, lunate.
1709 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4510/7 The Hoy Burthen 9 or 10 Tun,..Moon shap'd in her Sleir. 1763 MILLS *Pract. Husb.* III. 282 Compressed moon-shaped pods. 1868 W. K. PARKER *Shoulder-girdle Vertebr.* 32 The moon-shaped 'glenoid' spaces of the coraco-scapular cartilage.

‖ **Moonshee, munshi** (*mū*·nʃi). Also 8 munchee, 8–9 moonshi, -shy, 9 munshee. [Urdū *munshī*, a. Arab. *munshi'*, pres. pple. of *ansha'a* to compose, causative of *nasha'a* to grow up.] A native secretary or language-teacher in India.
1776 N. B. HALHED *Code Gentoo Laws* I. 17 *Moonshi*, a Writer or Secretary. 1782 J. PRICE *Tracts* I. 89 (Y.) The young gentlemen..reason and dispute with the *munchees* (tutors) in Persian and Moors. 1788 BURKE *Sp. agst. W. Hastings* Wks. XVI. 223 There was a Persian moonshee in a secret, of which Cantoo Baboo was ignorant. 1800 WELLESLEY in Owen *Desp.* (1877) 743 An establishment of Moonshies and native teachers..will be attached to the new College. 1849 E. B. EASTWICK *Dry Leaves* 40, I made my old Muhammadan Munshi..compute the date. 1865 *Spectator* 11 Feb. 164 The Queen read Persian like a moonshi.

Moonshine (*mū*·nʃin). Also 5 -shone (?). [f. MOON *sb.* + SHINE *sb.* Cf. OHG. *mânschîn* (mod.G. *mondschein*), Du. *maneschijn*, ON. *mánaskin.*]
1. = MOONLIGHT *sb.* 1. Now *rare* or *poet.*
c 1500 *Melusine* 22 Here shall we abyde tyl it be mone shyn. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* v. v. 106 Pinch him, and burne him, and turne him about, Till Candles, and Starlight, and Moone-shine be out. 1633 EARL MANCH. *Al Mondo* (1636) 130 His dayes..passe as a shadow by Moone-shine. 1798 COLERIDGE *Anc. Mar.* I. 78 Whiles all the night, through fog-smoke white, Glimmered the white moon-shine. 1814 SCOTT *Wav.* XXXVII, The twilight had given place to moonshine when the party halted upon the brink of a precipitous glen. 1884 W. C. SMITH *Kildrostan* 45 Every.. gleam of moonshine..mocked and laughed at him.
b. *fig.* and *allusive.*
1607 CHAPMAN *Bussy d'Ambois* IV. i, Women..as the tender Moon-shine of their beauties Cleeres, or is cloudy, make men glad or sad. 1839 BAILEY *Festus* XVI. (1852) 186 The lap-dog dreams, as round he lies, In moonshine of his mistress' eyes.
† **c.** The time when the moon begins to shine.
1690 *Gt. Scanderbeg* 19 We went together, at the Moon-Shine, upon the Sea Shore.
† **d.** *transf.* (*jocular*). A month. *nonce-use.*
1605 SHAKS. *Lear* I. ii. 5 For that I am some twelue, or fourteene Moonshines Lag of a Brother?
2. Taken as the type of: An appearance without substance; something unsubstantial or unreal; now *esp.* foolish or visionary talk, ideas, plans, etc.; orig. in phr. † *moonshine in the water*, later simply *moonshine.* Also *a matter of moonshine* (? *obs.*).
1468 *Paston Lett.* II. 326 If Sir Thomas Howys wer.. made byleve and put in hope of the moone shone in the water and I wot nat what. 1530 PALSGR. 865/1 For moone shyne in the water *pour vne chose de riens.* 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* v. ii. 208. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* III. 6 Their continuall brawlings about Moone shine in the water. 1624 BEDELL *Lett.* ii. 49 Our dissentions are about Moone-shine. 1658 R. FRANCK *North. Mem.* (1821) 33 Their..delectable morsels will melt into moonshines. 1785 GROSE *Dict. Vulg. T.* s. v., A matter or mouthful of moonshine, a trifle, nothing. 1822–56 DE QUINCEY *Confess.* (1862) 7 Coleridge's entire statement upon that subject is perfect moonshine. 1841 B. HALL *Patchwork* II. viii. 155, I found the whole affair..a matter of moonshine. 1874 L. STEPHEN *Hours in Library* (1892) I. vii. 261 A science, and not a mere edifice of moonshine. 1887 *Spectator* 3 Sept. 1173 As for all this talk about Federalism, it is moonshine. It means nothing practical at all.
† **b.** *To hang by the moonshine*: to be baseless.
1532 MORE *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 564/2 Ye may wel perceiue..that the profe of al his whole conclusion..hangeth all by the moneshyne.
c. *slang. Gilded moonshine*: see quot. ? *Obs.*
1823 'J. BEE' *Dict. Turf* 121 *Gilded Moonshine*, sham bills of exchange: 'no effects'. 1824 *Hist. Gaming* 19 To borrow money on his own notes of hand, which they call 'gilded moonshine',
† **3.** *Cookery.* **a.** *Eggs in moonshine*: a preparation of eggs used in the 16th and 17th c. Also *allusively* (with reference to sense 2). **b.** A dish in which a 'sky' of blancmange or custard was diversified with a half-moon and stars in clear jelly. (Mrs. Glasse *Cookery*, 1767, p. 289.)
1576 in *Hakluyt's Voy.* (1600) III. 23 It is to be thought that the King of Portugall would not have given to the Emperor such summes of money for egges in mooneshine. 1593 G. HARVEY *Pierce's Super.* 24 You may discourse of.. I wott not what maruelous egges in mooneshine. 1605 SHAKS. *Lear* II. ii. 35 Ile make a sop o'th' Moonshine of you. *c* 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* (1655) II. xxii. 34 Could I those whitely Stars go nigh,..I'd poach them, and as Moon-shine dress, To make my Delia a curious mess. 1660 MAY *Accompl. Cook* (1665) 437 Eggs in Moon-shine.
4. Smuggled or illicit spirit. Cf. MOONLIGHT *sb.* 3. (The precise application varies with the locality.)
1785 GROSE *Dict. Vulg. T.* s. v., The white brandy smuggled

on the coasts of Kent and Sussex, is [ed. 1796 and the gin in the north of Yorkshire are] called moonshine. 1849 Brockett *N. C. Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Moon-light, Moon-shine*, ..smuggled whiskey. 1841 J. T. Hewlett *Parish Clerk* I. 9 A glass of real Hollands—genuine moonshine.

attrib. 1901 *Munsey's Mag.* XXV. 428/1 Georgia and Arkansas have the greatest number of moonshine stills. *Ibid.* 430/2 Moonshine whisky.

†**5.** *attrib.* or as *adj.* Illuminated by the moon; moonlit; (of persons) active by moonlight or at night. Cf. Moonlight *sb.* 6. *Obs.*

1587 Harrison *England* I. xxiv. 129 A spirit that would of custome in a moone shine night..run at tilt and turneie in complet armor with anie knight..in that place. 1598 Shaks. *Merry W.* v. v. 42 You Moone-shine reuellers. 1626 Bacon *Sylva* § 866 Starre-Light Nights, yea, and bright Moone-shine Nights, are Colder than Cloudy Nights. 1726 Swift *Gulliver* I. v, It being likewise a Moon-shine Night. 1820 *Sporting Mag.* VII. 97 Moonshine sportsmen, familiarly termed poachers. 1831 Brewster *Nat. Magic* xiii. (1833) 327 During the clear moonshine nights of November.

†**b.** Vain, empty. *Obs.*

1668 H. More *Div. Dial.* III. xxvi. (1713) 242 They are weak, abortive, Moonshine Conceptions.

Moonshiner (mūˑnʃəinəɹ). *U.S.* [f. prec. + -er 1.] A distiller of 'moonshine' (see prec. 4). So **Moo·nshining** *vbl. sb.*, illicit distilling.

1860 Agnes Strickland *Old Friends* 31 The moonshiners had no cargo to defend. 1892 *Pall Mall G.* 8 Mar. 7/3 A Knoxville (Tenn.) telegram..says:—A desperate fight has occurred between a party of 'moonshiners' and a sheriff's posse. 1895 *Chicago Advance* 6 June 1285/3 A young man speaking at a temperance meeting while his brother is in the penitentiary for 'moonshining'.

†**Moo·nshining,** *ppl. a. Obs.* [f. Moonshine *sb.* + -ing 2.] = Moonshiny 1.

1710 R. Ward *Life H. More* 134 Lying one Moon-shining Night in the Cradle awake, he was taken up thence. 1786 Mrs. Inchbald *I'll tell you what* IV. i, It was a fine moonshining night, last night. 1828 *Lights & Shades* II. 231 Jack and myself went thither on a moonshining Monday.

Moonshiny (mūˑnʃəini), *a.* [f. Moonshine *sb.* + -y.]

1. Illuminated by the moon; moonlight.

1602 Carew *Cornwall* 136 b, In a faire Moone-shinie night, he hyeth to dig it up. 1717 Pope in *Lady M. W. Montagu's Lett.* Oct., I lie dreaming of you in moonshiny nights. 1886 P. S. Robinson *Valley Teetotum Trees* 140 Every one who likes to do so may still believe that on moonshiny nights the elves and fays come out into the meadows.

2. White as moonlight; resembling moonlight.

?1825 Coleridge *Alice du Clos* 18 As spotless fair, as airy light As that moon-shiny doe. 1837 Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* I. iv. iv, Thy serenely beautiful Philosophising, with its soft moonshiny clearness.

3. Of the nature of 'moonshine'; vain, unreal.

1880 *Sat. Rev.* No. 1291. 122 There is a good deal of moonshiny sentiment in it, especially in the conversation of the lovers. 1884 A. Maclaren in *Chr. Commw.* 11 Dec. 111/2 Unsubstantial emptinesses and moonshiny illusions..which men chase after.

†**Moo·nsick,** *a. Obs.* [f. Moon *sb.* + Sick *a.* In OE. *mónsék* (Northumb.), **mónséoc* = MDu. *maensiec* (Du. *maanziek*).] Lunatic.

c 975 *Rushw. Gosp.* Matt. iv. 24 þa þe dioful hæfdun & mon-sekæ [*lunaticos*] & loman. 1562 J. Heywood *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 205 Wyfe, I weene thou art dronke or Leunitike. Nay husband: women are neuer moone sicke. 1616 T. Adams *Soul's Sickness* Wks. (1629) 473 If his Itch proceed from a Moone-sicke head, the chiefe intention is to settle his braines.

‖ **Moonsif, munsif** (mūˑnsif). [Urdū, a. Arab. *munṣif* just, honest (pres. pple. of *anṣafa* to be bisected, be impartial, from *niṣf* half).] A native judge in India.

1812 *Gloss. to 5th Rep. Sel. Comm. E. Ind. Comp.* 31 *Munsiff.* 1835 Macaulay in Trevelyan *Compet. Wallah* (1866) 327 The Shasters and the Hedeya will be useless to a Moonsiff or Sudder Ameen. 1844 H. H. Wilson *Brit. India* II. 519 It was provided, that the Heads of villages should be Munsifs in their respective villages. 1876 Grant *Hist. India* I. ci. 556/2 Moonsifs, who were at first restricted to hearing cases valued at fifty rupees, were made competent to deal with those of 150.

Moonstone (mūˑnstōun). [f. Moon *sb.* + Stone *sb.*, after L. *selēnītēs*, Gr. σελήνιτης (λίθος) Selenite.] 'A popular name, alluding to the lustre, for some varieties of adularia and albite. The moonstone of the ancients was probably selenite' (Chester *Dict. Min.* 1896).

1632 Sherwood, A moone-stone, *pierre de la lune.* 1681 W. Robertson *Phraseol. Gen.* (1693) 893 A moon-stone; *Selenites.* 1778 *Eng. Gazetteer* (ed. 2), *Hanborough*, Oxf. near Woodstock, is noted only for the selenites, or moonstone. 1802 *Phil. Trans.* XCII. 289 Moonstone of Ceylon. 1839 Bailey *Festus* xix. (1852) 311 The moonstone's changing light. 1877 Streeter *Prec. Stones* 210, 211.

attrib. 1898 G. Meredith *Odes Fr. Hist.* 24 She gazed With eyes, the moonstone portals to her heart. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 5 May 3/2 The coat was of Parma violet velvet and the skirt moonstone-grey.

Moo·n-stricken, *ppl. a.* = Moonstruck.

1820 Scott *Abbot* xxxi, Like some moon-stricken knight in a Spanish romance. 1844 Lo. Brougham *Brit. Const.* xvi. (1862) 248 The moonstricken Prince.

Moonstruck (mūˑnstrʊk), *ppl. a.* [f. Moon *sb.* + *struck*, pa. pple. of Strike *v.* Cf. *Ps.* cxxi. 6 and late Gr. σεληνόβλητος, -πλήκτος.]

1. Affected in mind or deranged in conduct (through the supposed influence of the moon); in early use and *arch.* = lunatic; now implying a distracted or dazed condition apparently due to some mental obsession.

1674 Milton *P. L.* XI. 486 And Moon struck madness, pining Atrophie. 1742 Pope *Dunc.* IV. 12 The moon-struck Prophet felt the madding hour. 1849 Dickens *Dav. Copp.* xxxiii, I, the moon-struck slave of Dora, perambulated round and round the house and garden for two bours. 1852 M. Arnold *Tristr. & Iseult* I. 209 'Up, Tristram, up!'.. 'thou moonstruck knight! What foul fiend rides thee?' 1885–94 R. Bridges *Eros & Psyche* Mar. xxii, Deform'd in body, and of moonstruck mind.

2. (See quots. and cf. Moon-blind 2.)

1846 Mrs. R. Lee *Afr. Wanderers* xviii, I was afraid I was moon-struck [*note*, by sleeping in the open air]. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk., Moon-struck*, an influence imputed to the moon in the tropics, by which fish..though recently taken, become intenerated, and even spoiled.. Human beings are also said to be injured by sleeping in the moon's rays.

Moontan, obs. form of Muntin.

Moonward(s (mūˑnwŏɹd(z), *adv.* [f. Moon *sb.* + -ward(s.] Towards the moon.

1855 Bailey *Mystic* 35 From the immoveable star-plane to the prime Conceptacle of motion, moonwards, through All spheres in graded order.

Moonwort (mūˑnwɹt). [f. Moon *sb.* + Wort *sb.*, after med.L. *lūnāria* Lunary *sb.*1, Du. *maankruid*, G. *mondkraut.*]

1. The fern *Botrychium Lunaria* = Lunary *sb.* b. Also *small* or *lesser moonwort* (= old Bot. name *Lunaria minor*).

1578 Lyte *Dodoens* I. xciv. 136 This herbe is now called in Latine *Lunaria*, and *Lunaria minor*..in English Lunarie, or Moonewort. 1591 Sylvester *Du Bartas* I. iii. 763 Horse, that..Tread upon Moon-wort with their hollow heels; Though lately shod, at night goe bare-foot home. 1597 Gerarde *Herbal* II. lxxxv. 329 *Lunaria* or small Moonewoort groweth vpon dire and barren mountaines and heathes. 1651 French *Distill.* ii. 46 The leaves of..the lesser Moonwort. 1785 Martyn *Rousseau's Bot.* xxxii. (1794) 489 Moonwort, which grows on dry pastures, has one naked stem, and one pinnate frond. 1854 S. Thomson *Wild Fl.* III. (ed. 4) 138 The curious little fern moonwort.

2. The plant Honesty, *Lunaria biennis*; = Lunary *sb.* a. Also *great moonwort.* ?*Obs.*

1611 Cotgr., *Lunaire majeur; on grande lunaire.* Great Moonewort, Pennie-flower..Honestie. 1656 W. Coles *Art of Simpling* 37 The seed of Bulbonack resembles the Moon, which is therefore called Great Moonwort. 1785 Martyn *Rousseau's Bot.* xxiii. (1794) 320 The brilliant whiteness of these silicles has occasioned this plant [*sc.* Honesty] to be called White Sattin: and from the shape of them it is named Lunaria and Moonwort.

†**3.** = Madwort, *Marrubium Alysson. Obs.*

1597, 1611 [see Madwort 1]. 1635 Swan *Spec. M.* (1670) 216 Mad-wort or Moon-wort..in Latine *Alyssum* or *Lunaria.*

4. The tree-sorrel, *Rumex Lunaria.*

1697 *Phil. Trans.* XIX. 435 A Tree-Sorrel from the Canaries, which is no other than the Magicians Moon-wort of the Arabians in Lobel. 1866 *Treas. Bot.*

†**5.** *Blue moonwort*: a plant of Switzerland, *Soldanella alpina*, having circular leaves. *Obs.*

1629 Parkinson *Parad.* 234 *Soldanella Alpina.* Mountaine Soldanella or blew Moonewort.

Moony (mūˑni), *a.* [f. Moon *sb.* and *v.* + -y.]

1. Of or belonging to the moon; resembling or characteristic of the moon; like that of the moon. *a* 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* III. (1622) 257 What mou'd me to inuite Your presence (sister deare) first to my Moony sphere. 1789 Blake *Songs Innoc., Cradle Song* 4 Sweet dreams of pleasant streams By happy, silent, moony beams! 1875 G. Macdonald *Malcolm* III. x. 148 The cave shone silvery gray, with a faint moony sparkle.

2. Moon-shaped. †**a.** Crescent-shaped, lunate; hence, having the crescent as an emblem or ensign, belonging to the Turkish or Mohammedan power.

1591 Sylvester *Du Bartas* I. ii. 467 The Moony Standards of proud Ottoman. 1697 Dryden *Æneid* XI. 963 They clash with manly force their Moony Shields. 1716 Fenton *Poems* 227 The miscreant Moony Host, Before the Victor-Cross shall fly. 1814 Southey *Roderick* XIII, One..aim'd against his neck The moony falchion's point.

b. Round, circular.

1836 *Blackw. Mag.* XXXIX. 670 He was large and stout with a very red face, full and moony. 1865 Dickens *Mut. Fr.* I. x, An oilcake-fed style of business-gentleman with mooney spectacles.

3. Illuminated by the moon; also, resembling moonlight.

1648 Herrick *Hesper., Oberon's Pal.*, Mildly disparkling, ..like those mites Of Candi'd dew in Moony nights. 1830 W. Taylor *Hist. Surv. Germ. Poetry* I. 292 The scenery of Klopstock is always illuminated by a moony twilight, a misty glory. 1883 G. Macdonald *D. Grant* II. xvii. 187 On the moony side [of the street] people .. could recognize each other two houses away.

4. Inclined to moon or act in a listless, aimless manner; given to mooning; stupidly dreamy.

1848 Thackeray *Bk. Snobs* xliii, Casting upon the reflection of his white neckcloth a pleased moony smile. 1865 Dickens *Mut. Fr.* III. ii, What a mooney godmother you are, after all. 1879 McCarthy *Own Times* II. xviii. 170 It was agreed..that he [*sc.* Louis Napoleon] was a fatuous, dreamy, moony, impracticable, stupid young man.

b. Slightly intoxicated. *slang.*

1854 N. I. Lucas *Eng.-Germ. Dict.* 1125. 1857 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk., Mooney*, not quite intoxicated, but unfitted for duty. 1872 Latham, *Moony*..3 Tipsy. *Colloquial.*

Moony, obs. form of Many.

c 1460 *Oseney Reg.* 139 John Duke..and moony other þenne þere Beyng present.

Moop, variant of Sc. Moup, to nibble, etc.

Moope, Mooped, obs. ff. Mope *sb.*, Moped.

Moopoo, variant of Mopoke.

Moor (mūəɹ, mōəɹ), *sb.*1 Forms: 1 mór, 3–5 mor, 3–8 more, 4–5 mur, *Sc.* mwr(e, 4–6 mure, 5–7 moore, 8–9 *Sc.* muir, 7– moor. [OE. *mór* masc. = MDu., Du. *moer* neut., MLG. *môr, moor* (whence mod.G. *moor* neut., Da. *mor*), OHG. *muor* neut.:—OTeut. **môro-*, whence **môrjâ* fem., represented in OHG. *muorra* str. fem., ON *már-r* fem., moorland.

ON. had *mó-r* in the same sense; but this must be wholly unconnected, unless the *-ro* of OTeut. **môro-* be a suffix, the pre-Teut. root being **mō-* (: *mē-*, as possibly in **mē-ri* Mere *sb.*1). Most scholars, however, regard the *r* as belonging to the root, which they consider to be an ablaut variant of **mer-, mr-* to die, so that the primitive sense of the sb. would be 'dead' or barren land.]

1. A tract of unenclosed waste ground; now usually, uncultivated ground covered with heather; a heath. Also, a tract of ground strictly preserved for shooting.

Beowulf 103 Se þe moras heold, fen and fæsten. *Ibid.* 1405 Ofer myrcan mor. *c* 1205 Lay. 4817 Meduwen and mores & þa hæȝe muntes. *a* 1340 Hampole *Psalter* lxxvii. 18 He brake þe stane in þe more [Vulg. *in eremo*]. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* VII. 108 Syne in a mwre thai enterit ar, That wes bath hee & lang & braid. 1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 95 The Ro, which renneth on the Mor, Is thanne noght so lyht as I. 14.. *Customs of Malton* in *Surtees Misc.* (1888) 58 It was grauntyd..pastur' to all þe bestes in þe feyldes and in þe more. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* III. 60 Wyth thar serwandis fra Ricardtonn thai raid To Mawchtlyne mur. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scotl.* I. 17 Heir I say is ane gold mynde in Craufurde mure. 1602 Shaks. *Ham.* III. iv. 67 Could you on this faire Mountaine leaue to feed, And batten on this Moore? 1776 Adam Smith *W. N.* I. xi. (1869) I. 155 The most desert moors in Norway and Scotland produce some sort of pasture. 1785 Burns *Holy Fair* i, 'The risin' sun owre Galston muirs, Wi' glorious light was glintin. 1846 McCulloch *Acc. Brit. Empire* (1854) I. 16 The Yorkshire moors are by far the most extensive and important of any in the kingdom. 1860 Emerson *Cond. Life, Culture* Wks. (Bohn) II. 371 In the country he can find.. moors for game, hills for geology, and groves for devotion. 1886 *Times* (weekly ed.) 6 Aug. 13/3 The moors thrown on the market for the year hung heavily on hand at first.

2. † A marsh (*obs.*); also *dial.* (see quot. 1883).

1441 *Tintinhull Churchw. Acc.* (Som. Rec. Soc.) 180 Et de segitibus venditis in le more hoc anno [etc.]..x*s*. *c* 1475 *Pict. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 797/9 *Hec Palis*, a more. 1591 Spenser *Virg. Gnat* 230 Therto the frogs, bred in the slimie scowring Of the moist moores, their jarring voices bent. 1701 A. de la Pryme in *Phil. Trans.* XXII. 982 Acorns have frequently been found at the bottom of the Soil of those Levels and Mores. 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Moor*..is now commonly taken for a Marsh, or Fen. 1787 Winter *Syst. Husb.* 25 Moors and Bogs generally consist of rotten trees, roots of weeds, and other half dissolved vegetable substances. 1883 Grant Allen *Colin Clout's Calendar* XXXVIII. 228 In Yorkshire a moor means a high stretch of undulating heath-covered rock; whereas in Somerset it means a low flat level of former marshland, reclaimed and drained by means of numerous 'rhines'.

3. *dial.* The soil of which moorland consists; peat.

1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 9 Ruch, scharpe and hard hillis full of mosse, more and marrase. 1610 W. Folkingham *Art of Survey* 3 The vulgar [species of the earth] is either simple as..Clay, Moulde, Moor, Gravell, Sande. 1799 J. Robertson *Agric. Perth* 25 A thin stratum of moss, where the subsoil is gravel or sand, is called Moor. 1877 Skertchly *Geol. Fenland* 138 The word *peat* is quite unknown among the agricultural population of the fens. The substance is called *turf*, and where thin, or so weathered as to be unfit for fuel, the term *moor* is applied.

4. *Cornwall.* **a.** A moor or waste land where tin is found; hence *moor-house, -tin, -works* (see quots. 1602, 1778). **b.** (See quots. 1778, 1860.)

1602 Carew *Cornwall* 8 Under this title [Streamworke], they comprise also the Moore workes. *Ibid.* 15 b, A foote of good Moore-tyn (which is counted the best sort) will way about fourescore pound. *Ibid.* 18 The Tynners of the whole shire are deuided into foure quarters, two called Moores, of the places where the Tynne is wrought, viz. Foy moore, and Black moore: the other Tiwarnaill and Penwith. 1778 Pryce *Min. Cornub.* 316 But if the place or Mine lies low, it is usual to say, 'He is gone to Moor;' if in the valley, they say, 'He is gone to Coomb.' *Ibid.* 324 *Moor*...This word signifies a root or a quantity of Ore in a particular part of the Lode; as 'A Moor of Ore'. 'A Moor of Tin'. *Ibid., Moorhouse*, a hovel built with turf for workmen to change cloaths in. A Coe, Derby. 1860 *Eng. & For. Min. Gloss.* (Cornw. Terms), *More*, a quantity of ore in a particular part of a lode, as a 'more' of tin.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *moor-dike, -keeper, -side, -wind*; *moor-bred, -haunting* adjs.

1603 Drayton *Barons Wars* VI. lxiv. 147 The *more-bred Mallard. 1579 *Mem. St. Giles, Durham* (Surtees) 1 Payde to Rycharde gylson for sixe dayes..at the *more dycke for layinge up earthe to y° whicke. 1871 W. Morris in Mackail *Life* (1899) I. 234 With a wild musical note, like all the *moor-haunting birds. 1891 *Pall Mall G.* 1 July 5/1 The *moor-keepers state that searches for grouse-nests during April proved most successful. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* V. 131 At the *mur syde. 1813 Vancouver *Agric. Devon* 282 Those cold and blighting vapours carried by the *moor-winds through all the country below. 1902 R. W. Chambers *Maids of Paradise* xvii, To my numbed ears the moor-winds bore a sound coming from a great distance.

6. Special comb.: **moor-band,** a hard substratum of the soil found in moorland, consisting of clay, iron ore, and small stones, and impervious to moisture; called also **moor-band pan**; **moor-**

bath [after G. *moorbad*], a therapeutic procedure in which the patient is buried up to the neck in peat taken from a bog; **moor-coal**, †(*a*) ? peat used for burning (*obs.*); (*b*) a friable variety of lignite [after G. *moorkohle* (Werner)]; †**moor-earth**, peaty soil; **moor-evil**, a kind of dysentery in sheep and cattle; †**moor-fen**, a marsh; †**moor grieve**, an overseer of a moor; **moor-hag**, broken ground from which peats have been dug = *peat hag* (see PEAT[1] 3 d); **moor-head**, the highest part of a moor; **moor-house** (see 4); **moor-ill** = *moor evil*; **moor-master**, †(*a*) an officer of the corporation of York; (*b*) in Cumberland 'the superintendent (not captain) of a mine' (Linton *Lake Country*, 1864, p. 308); **moor-pan** = *moor-band*; **moor peat**, peat derived chiefly from varieties of sphagnum or moss (*Cent. Dict.*); **moor planter** (see quots.); **moor-sick** *a.*, affected with moor-sickness; **moor-sickness**, a disease of sheep = *moor-evil*; **moor-tin, -works** (see 4).

1800 TUKE *Agric. N. Riding* 10 There is some cold thin clay upon what is here called a *moorband. 1844 STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* I. 670 Moor-band pan belongs to a class of bodies known to chemists under the name of *ochrey deposites*. 1882 GEIKIE *Text-bk. Geol.* III. II. ii. § 2. 354 A dark ferruginous layer known to Scottish farmers as 'moorband-pan'. 1878 tr. *von Ziemssen's Cycl. Med.* XIII. 170 *Moor-Baths and Mud-Baths, so-called, form a separate class. 1562 *Act* 5 *Eliz.* c. 4 § 6 Woorking..of any..Stone Sea Cole, Stone Cole, *Moore Cole or Cberk Cole. 1816 JAMESON *Syst. Min.* (ed. 2) II. 378 Moor-Coal or Trapezoidal Coal. 1607 NORDEN *Surv. Dial.* IV. 229 Many fetch *Moore-earth or Murgion from the river betweene Colebrooke and Uxbridge, and carry it to their barren grounds. 1749 W. ELLIS *Compl. Syst. Sheep*, etc. III. v. 321 What they call Wood-Evil in some other Parts, they call it here the *Moor-Evil, because they conceive it is bred in a Sheep or Lamb, by its lying on moory, cold Ground. 1787 A. CROKE *Short View Otmoor* 8 The larger cattle are frequently visited by an epidemical distemper called the Moor-evil. 1847 W. C. MARTIN *Ox* 151 Wood-evil, moor-evil, or pantas. *c* 1205 LAY. 20164 Swa doð þe wilde cron i þan *moruenne [*c* 1275 mor-fenne]. 1590 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* IV. 499 Thomas Strauchane, his *mure greiff. 1814 W. NICHOLSON *Tales in Verse* 241 The *moor-baggs were wide—but be sten'd them. 1637–50 ROW *Hist. Kirk* (Wodrow Soc.) 557, I hope if I may rule my familie on a *moorhead, may my neighbours in a citie robbe me of my priviledge because I bave nighbours? 1798 R. DOUGLAS *Agric. Roxb.* 150 Cattle..are seized frequently with a serious and alarming disease called the *wood-ill*, and sometimes the *moor-ill*. 1816 SCOTT *Bl. Dwarf* x. Though he helped Lambside's cow weel out o' the moor-ill. 1785 *Hist. & Antiq. York* (1788) I. 249 The chamberlains..had two assistants, called bridge-masters, and *mure-masters. 1846 J. BAXTER *Libr. Pract. Agric.* (ed. 4) II. 306 The sub-soil plough was used for breaking the *moor-pan. 1832 *Planting* 35 in *Libr. Usef. Knowl., Husb.* III, Slit planting..is performed..by the *moor planter. *Ibid.*, The moor planter is a heavy instrument, consisting of a wooden shaft and handle two feet nine inches in length, terminated by a single slightly curved prong of well tempered iron or steel. 1811 in W. Marshall *Rev. South. Rep. to Board Agric.* 532 Sheep pastured on these moors..become what is called *moor-sick. 1814 SHIRREFF *Agric. Surv. Shetl.* 66 A pining, or wasting, called provincially the *moor-sickness, affects sheep, chiefly in autumn.

b. In names of plants: **moor-ball**, a sponge-like ball formed by the threads of a fresh-water alga, *Conferva ægagropila*; **moor-berry**, any plant of the genus *Vaccinium*, esp. the bog bilberry (*Vaccinium uliginosum*) and the cranberry (*V. oxycoccos*); **moor myrtle**, *Myrica Gale* (Britten & Holland *Plant-n.*); **moor-palm**, (*a*) the flower of the *Carex* or sedge tribe; (*b*) the flower of the *Eriophorum* or cotton-rush; (*c*) the catkin of the dwarf sallow, *Salix aurita*; **moor-silk** = *moor-palm* (b); **moor-wort**, †(*a*) in OE., some unidentified plant, conjectured by some to be the sundew; (*b*) *Andromeda polifolia*.

1777 ROBSON *Brit. Flora* 318 *Conferva ægagropila*.. *Moor-balls. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* s.v., Moorballs are sometimes used as pen-wipers. 1760 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* App. 319 *Moor Berries, *Vaccinium*. 1777 ROBSON *Brit. Flora* 56 *Vaccinium Oxycoccus*..Cranberry,..Moorberry. 1788 W. MARSHALL *Yorksh.* II. 342 *Moor-pawms (that is, Moor-Palms), the flowers of the *carex* tribe [ed. 2, 1796, II. 333, the flowers of *eriophorum*, the cotton rush]. 1849 *Sidonia Sorc.* II. 46 From the quantity of moor-palms (*Eriophorum Vaginatum*) which grow in their numerous rich meadows. 1888 F. A. LEES *Flora W. Yorks.* 406 *Salix aurita* L. Dwarf Sallow. 'Moor-palm'. *Ibid.* 470 *Carex binervis* Sm. 'Seggs'. 'Moor Palms'—the polliniferous catkins in bloom. *c* 1882 J. LUCAS *Stud. Nidderdale* 10 In the spring the sheep feed greedily on the flowers of the *moor-silk (cotton-grass). *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 128 Of þæne smalan *mor-wyrte. 1776 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (1796) II. 373 *Andromeda Daboecia*. Linn. Irish Wort, or Moorwort.

c. In names of animals: **moor-bird**, a bird that nests in the moors, esp. the common grouse, *Tetrao lagopus*; **moor blackbird** (see quot.); **moor-buzzard**, the marsh harrier, *Circus æruginosus*; **moor coot**, the common gallinule or water hen, *Gallinula chloropus*; **moor-fly**, a fly used by anglers; cf. *moorish fly*; **moor game**, the red grouse, *Lagopus scoticus*; also rarely, the black grouse, *Tetrao tetrix*; **moor harrier**, the marsh harrier; **moor hawk** = *moor buzzard* (Swainson 1885); **moor-tetter, -tit, -titling**, (*a*) the stonechat, *Pratincola rubicola*; (*b*) the meadow-pipit, *Anthus pratensis*.

1812 ANNE PLUMPTRE tr. *Lichtenstein's Trav. S. Afr.* I. 224 Woods and level green valleys, with ponds in them, in which were large flocks of *moor-birds. 1900 H. SUTCLIFFE *Shameless Wayne* v, Moor-birds were clamorous up above her head. 1839 MACGILLIVRAY *Brit. Birds* II. 100 *Turdus torquatus*. The Ringed Thrush, or Ring Ouzel...*Moor Blackbird. 1678 RAY *Willughby's Ornith.* 75 The *More-Buzzard: *Milvus Æruginosus*..common to be seen in Heaths and Wasts. 1605 DRAYTON *Man in Moone* 186 The Teale and *Morecoot raking in the Weed. 1831 *G. Montagu's Ornith. Dict.* 327 Moor coot and Moor hen, names for the Gallinule. 1653 WALTON *Angler* iv. 97 The *moor flie. 1611 COTGR., *Poule griesche*,..the henne of the Grice, or *Mooregame. 1769 MRS. RAFFALD *Eng. Housekpr.* (1805) 52 To pot red and black Moor Game. 1846 J. BAXTER *Libr. Pract. Agric.* (ed. 4) I. 333 The red grouse, or moor game, is found upon most of the mountainous districts in the United Kingdom. 1840 MACGILLIVRAY *Brit. Birds* III. 382 *Circus æruginosus*. The Marsh Harrier...*Moor Harrier. Moor Buzzard. 1544 TURNER *Avium Præcip.* I 1 b, Qualis est avicula Anglis stonecbattera aut *mortettera dicta. 1668 CHARLETON *Onomasticon* 91 *Rubetra, Rubicola*..the Stone-chatter,..Mortetter, or Black Cap. 1885 SWAINSON *Prov. Names Birds* 45 Meadow Pipit (*Anthus pratensis*)...*Moor tit. 1900 H. SUTCLIFFE *Shameless Wayne* iii, Thou look'st scared as a moor-tit. *a* 1672 WILLUGHBY *Ornithol.* II. xv. (1676) 169 The *Moor-Titling: The Stone-smich or Stone-chatter. 1855 *Eng. Cycl., Nat. Hist.* III. 894 *Moor-titling*, one of the names of the..Stone-Chat,...*Saxicola rubicola*.

Moor (mūəɹ, mōəɹ), *sb.*[2] Forms: 4 Maur, 4–7 More, 5 Moure, Mowre, 6, 8 Maure, 6–7 Moore, 7– Moor. (Now with initial capital.) [ME. *More*, a. F. *More* (13th c.), *Maure*, ad. L. *Maurus* (med.L. *Mōrus*), Gr. Μαῦρος. Cf. Sp., Pg., It. *Moro*; MDu. *Moor*, *Moer* (Du. *Moor*), OHG. *Môr*, pl. *Môrî* (MHG. *Môr*, *Mœr*, mod.G. *Mohr*).

The L. *Maurus*, Gr. Μαῦρος may possibly be from some ancient North African language. Some believe the word to be merely a use of Gr. *μαῦρος* black (which on this view is aphetic from *ἀμαυρός* blind); but this adj. (or at least this sense of it) is confined to late Gr., and may even be derived from the ethnic name.]

1. In *Ancient History*, a native of *Mauretania*, a region of Northern Africa corresponding to parts of Morocco and Algeria. In later times, one belonging to the people of mixed Berber and Arab race, Mohammedan in religion, who constitute the bulk of the population of North-western Africa, and who in the 8th c. conquered Spain. In the Middle Ages, and as late as the 17th c., the Moors were commonly supposed to be mostly black or very swarthy (though the existence of 'white Moors' was recognized), and hence the word was often used for 'negro'; cf. BLACKAMOOR.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 98 Ther was no grace in the visage,.. Sche loketh forth as doth a More. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XIX. ix. (1495) 869 Also men of the nacyon of Maurys theyr blacke colour comyth of the inner partyes. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) xiv 156 Ethiope is departed in 2 princypalle parties;..the..partie meridionelle is clept Moretane. And the folk of that Contree ben blake..and thei ben clept Mowres. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* xxvi. 565 He was soo angry for it, that he became as blacke as a moure. 1512 in *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scotl.* (1902) IV. 338 Item,..to the Bischop of Murrais more, at brocht ane present to the King..xiiijs. 1547 BOORDE *Introd. Knowl.* xxxvi. (1870) 212 Barbary..the inhabytours be Called the Mores: ther be whyte mores and black moors. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VII* 23 b, Granado, which many yeres had bene possessed of the Moores or Mawritane nacion. 1555 W. WATREMAN *Fardle Facions* I. iv. 48 The reste of the people of Libia westward..are called Maures, or Moores. 1555 EDEN *Decades* 355 Ethiopes, which we nowe caule Moores, Moorens, or Negros. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* III. v. 42, I shall answere that better to the Commonwealth, than you can the getting vp of the Negroes bellie: the Moore is with childe by you Launcelet? 1609 RO. C. *Muley Hamets Rising* title p., The Religion and Policie of the More, or Barbarian. 1613 MIDDLETON *Triumphs of Truth* C 1, I being a Moore; then in Opinions lightnesse As far from Sanctity as my Face from whitenesse. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 687 The Sea coast-Moores, cal'ed by a general name Baduini. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* v. 232 A Towne inhabited by Christians, Arabs, and Moores: not blacke Moores, as the Affricans be, but..a kinde of Egyptians. 1647 COWLEY *Mistr., Not Fair*, A very Moor (methinks) plac'd near to Thee, White as his Teetb, would seem to be. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Moor*, or *Blackmoor*, a native of Mauritania, in Africa. 1707 M. HENRY *Expos. Exod.* ii. 5, etc., Pity so fair a Child should suck the Brest of a Tawny-more. 1728 ELIZA HEYWOOD tr. *Mme. de Gomez's Belle A.* (1732) II. 121 Mezemorte was extremely diverted at the recital, in what manner the Maure had been entertain'd. 1776 J. RICHARDSON *Arab. Gram.* 4 The Mauritanick [hand], which is used by the Moors of Morocco and Barbary. 1849 JAMES *Woodman* iv, A tawny Moor with silver bracelets on bis arms, and a turban on his head. 1904 *Athenæum* 2 July 20/1 Another discussion has arisen on the origin..of the term 'Moor'... M. Bloch finds the expression used in five different senses, as applying to the mixed race inhabiting the towns of Algeria and Tunisia, the mountain tribes of Morocco on the Algerian frontier, and the nomadic tribes of Western Sabara... M. Delisle..thinks that those called Moors have never been either black or the descendants of black races.

2. A Mohammedan, esp. a Mohammedan inhabitant of India. (Cf. MOORS.)

1588 HICKOCK tr. *Frederick's Voy.* 23 And wheras I speak of Moores I meane Mahomets sect. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 462, I haue beard a story of an Englishman in Barbary which turned Moore. 1697 DAMPIER *Voy.* I. 507 A Town of the Moors; which name our Seamen give to all Subjects of the great Mogul, but especially his Mahometan Subjects. 1763 SCRAFTON *Indostan* (1770) 18 The word Moors is used by us to express the Mahometans of all sects and countries who are settled in India. 1864 TREVELYAN *Compet. Wallah* (1866) 251 In those days the rank and file of our army always spoke of the inhabitants of India by the appellation of 'Moors'.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *Moor-lass*, *-tabroner*; **Moor bridle**, a kind of bridle used by Moors; **Moor dance** (see quot.); **Moor-lipped** *a.*, having thick lips like those of a Moor; **Moor macaque, monkey**, the black macaque, *Macacus maurus*; **Moor saddle**, a Moorish saddle.

1704 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4056/8 A *Moor Bridle and Saddle. 1801 STRUTT *Sports & Past.* III. v. 171 The Morisco or *Moor dance is exceedingly different from the morris-dance,..being performed with the castanets, or rattles, at the end of the fingers, and not with bells attached to various parts of the dress. 1504 in *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scotl.* (1900) II. 465 Item, for hors to the *More lasses. *Ibid.* 469 Quhen the More las wes cristinit. 1639 MASSINGER *Unnat. Combat* IV. i, *Moore lip'd, flat nos'd, dimme ey'd [etc.]. 1906 *Westm. Gaz.* 26 Oct. 8/3 The *Moor Macaque, a stump-tailed Indian monkey. 1885 *Cassell's Encycl. Dict.*, *Moor-monkey. 1504 in *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scotl.* (1900) II. 430 Item,..to the *More taubronar, to his expens maid be the Morienis, viij Franch crounis.

Moor (mūəɹ, mōəɹ), *sb.*[3] *Naut.* [f. MOOR *v.*[1]] An act of mooring. *Flying* (or *running*) *moor* (see quot. 1883).

1750 BLANCKLEY *Nav. Expositor, Moar*, signifies the laying out the Anchors of a Ship so, as is best and safest for her Riding. 1883 CLARK RUSSELL *Sailors' Lang., Flying moor*, letting go a weather anchor whilst the ship has way, and then, when the cable range is nearly out, letting go the other anchor 1893 SLOANE-STANLEY *Remin. Midshipm. Life* xxxii. 437 The *Queen*..ran into Beikos, and there made a running moor, which was well performed.

attrib. 1906 *Daily Chron.* 19 Nov. 5/5 In being cast out of the boat they actually fell upon the moor rope.

Moor (mūəɹ, mōəɹ), *v.*[1] Also 5, 7 more, 6–8 moore, 7 moar. [Early mod.E. *more*; prob., in spite of its late occurrence, repr. OE. **márian*, corresponding to MDu. (according to Kluyver originally Frisian, which accounts for the vowel) *mâren* to moor (a vessel), tie up (an animal):—WG. **mairôjan*, a parallel formation with **mairjan*, whence OE. **mæran* (not recorded, but implied by the derivative *mǽrels* mooring-rope), MDu. *mêren* (mod.Du. *meren*) to moor (a vessel). The word passed from Teut. into Fr. as *amarrer* (13th c.), for which the simple *marer* occurs in OF.

The MDu. *merren*, *marren* to moor (whence MARLINE) resulted from a confusion of this vb. with *merren*, *marren* to delay, binder (mod.Du. only *marren* intr., to loiter, delay, hesitate), cogn. w. MAR *v.*]

1. *trans.* To secure (a ship, boat, or other floating object) in a particular place by means of chains or ropes, which are either fastened to the shore or to anchors.

[1495: see MOORING *vbl. sb.*] 1497 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 239 Yron chaynes..that the seid Ship was mored & Rode by in Portesmouth haven. 1540 in R. G. Marsden *Sel. Pl. Crt. Adm.* (1894) I. 91 The said shippe..being not moryd came rydyng with thee floode by force. 1577 NORTHBROOKE *Dicing* (1843) 64 If it bee lawfull (as Christ sayth).. to moore a ship faster that is ready to runne against the rockes. 1653 H. COGAN tr. *Pinto's Trav.* v. 12 They had moored up the Galley. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1780) Cc 3, A ship may be either moored by the head..or by the head and stern. 1793 SMEATON *Edystone L.* § 102 A transport buoy..was moored with chains at the distance of about fifty fathoms directly North from the Gut. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* I. xxiv, Until the rocky isle they reach, And moor their shallop on the beach. 1840 R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast* xv, Until night, we were employed in getting out the boats and mooring ship. 1896 MRS. CAFFYN *Quaker Grandmother* 301 I'll..moor up the boat at our landing-place.

†**b.** *To moor anchor*, to anchor. *Obs.*

1600 HAKLUYT *Voy.* III. 66 The Michael mored ancker vpon this great yce. 1621, 1647 [see d].

c. *refl.* or in *passive* with personal subject.

1614 RALEIGH *Hist. World* V. i. § 4. 331 They therefore not only mored themselues strongly by their Anchors, but chained the sides of their Gallies together. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. i. 112 We carried our hawsers on board her, in order to moor ourselves nearer in shore. 1877 C. W. THOMSON *Voy. Challenger* I. ii. 109 About mid-day we were moored in the Tagus off the town.

d. *transf.* and *fig.*

1621 T. WILLIAMSON tr. *Goulart's Wise Vieillard* 179 Who hath commaunded you to moore your ancher of hope in such a little lump of dust as man is? 1647 WARD *Simp. Cobler* (1843) 20 Those men never Moored their Anchors well in the firme soile of Heaven, that are weather-waft up and down with every eddy-wind of every new doctrine. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* IX. 597 Thou, whose heart, Whose little heart, is moor'd within a nook Of this obscure Terrestrial. 1856 STANLEY *Sinai & Pal.* i. (1858) 65 The camels as they lie, like stranded ships, moored round the tents. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. xxv. 185 Moored to the rock on two sides, the cabin stood firm.

2. *absol.* and *intr.* **a.** To secure one's ship (etc.) in a particular place; to anchor.

1627 CAPT. SMITH *Seaman's Gram.* IX. 45 More Crosse. To More a crosse is to lay one anchor to one side of the streame, and the other to the other right against one another, and so they beare equally ebbe and flood. *Ibid.*, More Prouiso. To more a Prouiso, is to haue one anchor in the riuer, and a bawser a shore, which is mored with her head a shore. *Ibid.*, Two cables is the least, and foure cables the best to more by. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* I. 207 The Pilot of some

small night-founder'd Skiff, .. With fixed Anchor in his skaly rind Moors by his side under the Lee. 1678 PHILLIPS (ed. 4), To *Moor alongst*, is to lay an Anchor amidst the stream, a Head, and another a Stern, when you fear driving ashore. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. 165/1 Mooring Water-shot, that is quartering between both [anchors]. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. i. 114 Cumberland Bay, where we moored. 1877 A. B. EDWARDS *Up Nile* xxi. 641 Most travellers moor for a day or two at Karnak.

b. Of a ship: To be made secure by means of anchors; to take up a particular position at anchor.

1697 DRYDEN *Æneid* VI. 1246 At length on Oozy ground his Gallies moor. 1701 in Picton *L'pool Munic. Rec.* (1883) I. 308 Such ships .. shall moore West Nor-west and East Southeast. 1875 J. H. BENNET *Winter Medit.* II. xi. 364 A solid granite quay, that enables small vessels to moor close to land.

Hence **Moored** *ppl. a.*

1867 JEAN INGELOW *Christ's Resurrect.* x, Swaying on a purple sea, The many moored galleys clustering at her quay. 1900 *Daily News* 24 Sept. 8/7 A violent collision with the moored barges followed.

Moor (mūə1, mōə1), *v.*2 [Prob. f. MOOR *sb.*1 Cf. *moor-evil*.] *intr.* Of cattle: To evacuate sanguineous urine. Hence **Moo·ring** *vbl. sb.*

1737 BRACKEN *Farriery Impr.* (1756) I. 257 Cattle which piss Blood, or have the Mooring, as they call it. 1775 J. WATSON *Hist. Halifax* 543 Moor, as a cow does, when her water is mixed with blood. 1824-8 *Craven Dial.* s. v., When cattle are inflicted with a disease which occasions bloody urine, they are said to be moored. .. Some attribute it to coarse grass in marshy grounds.

Moor: see MOAR, MOHUR, MORE, MORT.

Moorad (mū·răd), *a.* and *sb. Shetland dial.* Also **moorat**, **-et**, **-it**, **murid**, **murrit**. [a. ON. *móraud-r*, f. *mó-r* moor, heath + *raud-r* red.] **a.** *adj.* Heather-brown, reddish brown: *esp.* of sheep and wool. **b.** *sb.* A reddish brown colour.

1809 EDMONDSTON *Zetland* II. 210 The sheep .. are of different colours; as white, grey, black, speckled, and of a dusky brown called moorit. 1871 R. COWIE *Shetland* ix. 162 Sheep .. of a peculiar brownish shade, termed by the natives murid. 1884 RAMPINI in *Gd. Words* Nov. 746/2 A herd of native sheep, black, white, grey, and moorat. 1895 *Spectator* 31 Aug. 278/1 It is sometimes difficult to convince people that our moorad is not dyed.

Moorage (mūə·rédʒ, mōə·rédʒ). [f. MOOR *v.*1 + -AGE.]

1. The action or process of mooring; the condition of being moored; also a place for mooring.

1648 EARL OF WESTMORLAND *Otia Sacra* 162 She's come to Moorage, and there fast, To lie aside untill carin'd. 1682 WHELER *Journ. Greece* I. 25 It hath good Moorage, and is deep enough for Ships of any rate. 1887 HALL CAINE *Deemster* xl, Since my coming to moorage there no boat had crossed its water. 1892 *Daily News* 30 May 2/3 There are spots where you may pay for moorage.

2. Money paid for the use of moorings.

a 1676 HALE *Narr. Customes* iv. in S. A. Moore *Foreshore* (1888) 344 Morage for ships, terrage, wharfage. 1868 *Rep. Trial Appledore Harbour* in *Exeter & Plymouth Gaz.* 13 Mar., The only custom he had proved was the right to come in, paying a certain moorage or postage.

Moorat, variant of MOORAD.

Moo·r-burn. *Sc.* Forms: see MOOR *sb.*1 [f. MOOR *sb.*1 + BURN *sb.*3] The burning of the heather on a moor, which is unlawful between April 11 and Nov. 1. So **Moor-burner**, one who sets fire to heather; also **Moor-burning** *vbl. sb.*

14.. *Ordo Justiciarie* in *Sc. Acts* (1814) I. 342/1 All..mur burnaris in forbodin tyme. 1424 *Sc. Acts Jas. I* (1814) II. 6/1 It is ordanyt þt na man mak murburyn eftir þe monethe of marche..vnder þe payne of xls. 1499 *Exch. Rolls Scotl.* XI. 395 That thair be na mureburne. 1610 *Act* 7 *Jas.* I, An Acte against burning of Lingard Heath and other Moor Burning. 1678 SIR G. MACKENZIE *Crim. Laws Scot.* II. xiv. § 1 (1699) 210 They have power to punish..Makers of Moor-burn, Keepers of Crooves, wilful Beggers. 1773 *Act* 13 *Geo. III* c. 54 § 4 Every Person who shall make Muir-burn, or set fire to any Heath or Muir, in .. Scotland, .. shall [etc.]. 1851 STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* 3736 As heath constitutes a principal food of the mountain sheep, muir-burning improves the heath for food. 1894 CROCKETT *Raiders* 218 We were now among the burnt heather .. kicking up the ashy dust of the March muirhurn.

fig. 1839 in J. MacKerrow *Hist. Secession Ch.* (1841) 647, I was afraid of raising a *muir burn* that might not be easily quenched.

Moo·r-cock. [f. MOOR *sb.*1 + COCK *sb.*1] The male of the red grouse, *Lagopus scoticus*. Also occas. the blackcock, *Tetrao tetrix*.

1329-30 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 16 In .. xij Murkokes emptis. In..vij Murkokes. 1427 *Sc. Acts Jas. I* (1814) II. 16/2 Blak cokes gra hennys and mur cokes. 1567 GOLDING *Ovid's Met.* VIII. (1593) 201 Now it is a meare And moorecockes, cootes, and cormorants do breed and nestle there. *a* 1695 WOOD *Oxford* (O. H. S.) III. 157 Arms.. argent, a chevron between 3 more-cocks sable. 1731 ALBIN *Nat. Hist. Birds* I. 23 The Red Game, or More-Cock *Lagopus altera*. 1780 EDMONDSON *Her., Moor cock*, the male of the black game, or large black grouse. 1850 J. STRUTHERS *Life* Poet. Wks. I. p. xiv, The Scraigh of the paitrick, the birr of the muircock. 1899 CROCKETT *Kit Kennedy* 298 Moor-cocks were crowing in the hollows.

Moord(e)re, obs. forms of MURDER.

Moore, obs. form of MOOR, MORE.

Mooreash, obs. form of MOORISH *a.*1

Mooren, variant of MORIAN.

Moorery (mūə·rəri, mōə·rəri). *nonce-wd.* [f. MOOR *sb.*2 + -ERY. Cf. *Jewry*.] A Moorish quarter.

1808 SOUTHEY *Chron. Cid* App. 386 They arose and entered the Moorery, and slew many Moors.

Mooress (mūə·rès, mōə·rès). [f. MOOR *sb.*2 + -ESS.] A female Moor.

1611 COTGR., *Moresque*, a Mooresse, a shee Moore, a blacke woman. 1677 T. HOLYOKE *Eng.-Lat. Dict.*, A shee moor, or mooress, *morula*. 1835 CAMPBELL *Epistle fr. Algiers to Hor. Smith* 25 The Mooresses, shrouded in white. 1891 HALL CAINE *Scapegoat* xxii. A matronly Mooress.

Mooret, variant of MOORAD.

Moo·r-fowl. [f. MOOR *sb.*1 + FOWL.]

1. *Sc.* The red grouse, *Lagopus scoticus*.

1506 in *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scotl.* (1901) III. 191 Tua wild geis and xij mure fowlis. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* III. 106 Abundance of Geese, .. Pigeons, Partridges, Moore-Fowle. 1773 *Act* 13 *Geo. III* c. 54 § 3 Pheasants, Muir Fowl, Tarmagans, Heath Fowl [etc.]. 1787 BURNS *Tam Samson's Elegy* xiii, Perhaps upon his mould'ring breast Some spitefu' muirfowl bigs her nest, To hatch an' breed. 1881 J. GRANT *Cameronians* I. iv. 56 Muirfowl, ptarmigan [etc.]. *Comb.* 1816 SCOTT *Old Mort.* i, The moor-fowl shooter has been often surprised to find him busied in cleaning the moss from the grey stones.

2. *South Carolina.* The ruffed grouse.

1791 W. BARTRAM *Trav. Carolina*, etc. (1792) 329 The wary moor fowl thundering in the distant echoing hills.

3. *Sc.* **Moorfowl('s egg**, a variety of pear.

1705 *Lease* in W. Hector *Select. Judic. Rec. Renfrew* (1876) 42 That pear tree called the Muirfowl Egg. 1817 NEILL *Hortic.* in *Edin. Encycl.* (1830) XI. 212 The Muirfowl egg is another pear of good qualities, said to be originally Scottish. 1860 HOGG *Fruit Man.* 202 Muirfowl's Egg.

Moo·r-grass. [f. MOOR *sb.*1 + GRASS.]

1. Sundew, *Drosera rotundifolia*.

1597 GERARDE *Herbal* III. clv. 1366 It is called in English Sunne deaw,..in the North parts Red rot, .. and in Yorkeshire Moore grass. 1674 JOSSELYN *Voy. New Eng.* 80 *Rosa-solis*, Sun-dew, moor-grass. 1749 W. ELLIS *Compl. Syst. Sheep*, etc. III. v. 321 Now this Moor-Grass, in the Parish of Wing [Buckinghamshire], they call *Rosa-Solis*, as it is distinguished by Shepherds from other Grasses.

2. *Sc.* Silver-weed, *Potentilla anserina*.

1777 LIGHTFOOT *Flora Scot.* I. 268 *Potentilla anserina* .. Moor-Grass. Scotis.

3. A grass of the genus *Sesleria*, esp. *S. cærulea*, blue moor-grass.

1799 J. HULL *Brit. Flora* I. 21 *Sesleria cærulea*, .. Blue Moor-grass. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* s. v. Grass.

4. The cotton-grass, *Eriophorum angustifolium* (Britten & Holland).

5. *gen.* A grass growing on a moor.

1900 *Archæol. Æliana* XXII. 80 Black-faced sheep, which maintain a spare existence on the heather and moor-grasses.

Moor-head: see MOOR'S-HEAD.

Moo·r-hen. [f. MOOR *sb.*1 + HEN.]

1. The Water-hen, *Gallinula chloropus*.

c 1300 *Pol. Songs* (Camden) 158 Heo cometh hy-modered ase a mor-hen. 14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 599/43 *Palestris*, a morhen. 1575 TURBERV. *Falconrie* 137 Some hold opinion, that the bones and bloud of a Bargander, Moorehen, and such like, may be ginen to an hauke. 1655 MOUFET & BENNET *Health's Impr.* (1746) 205 Some Birds are sodden or roasted without their Skins, because they are black and bitter, as Rooks, Daws, Coots, and Moor-hens. 1705 DALE *Pharmacol.* Suppl. 359 *A. Gallina aquatica*...The Common Water-Hen, or Moor-Hen. 1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 808/2 In winter, when the inland waters are frozen, the majority of Moor-hens betake themselves to the tidal rivers.

2. The female of the red grouse, *Lagopus scoticus*.

1347 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 42 In..vj Morehennes empt. 1530 PALSGR. 246/1 Morehen, *poulle griache*. 1553 *Burgh Rec. Edin.* (1871) II. 185 The best mure hen vjd. 1611 COTGR., *Poule griesche*, a Moorehenne, the henne of the Grice, or Mooregame. *a* 1796 BURNS '*The Heather was blooming*' 4 At length they discovered a bonie moorhen. 1837 MACGILLIVRAY *Brit. Birds* I. 169 *Lagopus Scoticus*. .. Moor-fowl. Moor-cock, Moor-hen.

3. A bird of the Australian genus *Tribonyx*.

1860 G. BENNETT *Gatherings Nat. in Australasia* viii. 169 The Rail-like bird, the Black-tailed Tribonyx, or Moor Hen of the colonists.

4. The American coot, *Fulica americana*.

1888 TRUMBULL *Names of Birds* 117.

Moorian, variant of MORIAN.

Mooring (mūə·riŋ, mōə·riŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. MOOR *v.*1 + -ING1.]

1. The action of the verb MOOR *v.*1

1485 [see *mooring-chain* below]. 1495 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 162 The Bryngyng the seyd Ship to the Shore And for moryng of hyre there. 1626 CAPT. SMITH *Accid. Yng. Seamen* 3 To haue..the command of the long boate, for.. warping, towing, and moreing. 1797 BURKE *Regic. Peace* iii. (1892) 251 There is much want of room for the safe and convenient mooring of vessels, and constant access to them. 1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XXI. 598/1 One of the objections made to slack mooring is that turns are formed below water where they are not visible.

2. *concr.* Something (*e.g.* a rope, chain, etc.) by which a floating object is made fast; also the object to which it is moored. **a.** *sing.* (Somewhat *rare*.)

1775 FALCK *Day's Diving Vessel* 51 Slacking a little of the mooring. 1809 BYRON *Lines to Mr. Hodgson* 17 Now our boatmen quit their mooring, And all hands must ply the oar. 1820 SCORESBY *Acc. Arctic Reg.* I. 256 Wrecked by the fall of their icy mooring. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVI. 451/1 To one end of the line a chain-shot was attached by way of mooring. 1894 *Outing* (U. S.) XXIII. 401/1 Mainsail, foresail and gaff-topsail were hoisted, and her jib ready to hoist as soon as the mooring was dropped.

fig. *a* 1854 H. REED *Lect. Brit. Poets* xiv. (1857) II. 184 The tempest which had driven him from his domestic mooring was followed by a fitful calm.

b. *pl.*

1744 J. PHILIPS *Jrnl. Anson's Exped.* 192 The Prize drove off from her Moorings. 1750 BLANCKLEY *Nav. Expositor, Moarings*, are laid out in Harbour, and consists of Claws, Pendant Chains, Cables [etc.]. 1858 LYTTON *What will he do* I. v, Vance loosened the boat from its moorings, stepped in, and took up the oars. 1875 *Encycl. Brit.* II. 8/2 Mushroom anchors first proposed for ships, are now only used for moorings. 1889 *Cath. News* 27 July 8/6 The huge Rodney fouled a lightship the other day and broke her moorings.

transf. and *fig.* 1836 J. GILBERT *Chr. Atonem.* (1852) 116 Having broken from all moral moorings, he will find himself adrift. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 507 When..the pyloras is dragged from its moorings.

3. *pl.* The place in a river or harbour where a vessel can be moored.

1758 J. BLAKE *Plan Mar. Syst.* 65 Nearly the same time will be elapsed before the..ship..can be secured at her moorings. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* iii. I. 300 Some of the new men of war, indeed, were so rotten that, unless speedily repaired, they would go down at their moorings. 1860 LONGF. *Wayside Inn, P. Revere's Ride* 18 Where swinging wide at her moorings lay The Somerset.

fig. 1851 CARLYLE *Sterling* II. iv. (1872) 118 When once the household was settled in its new moorings..he returned to his employments and pursuits.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *mooring bridle, buoy, cable, chain, -ground, -port, -stone*; **mooring anchor**, one of the fixed anchors placed at the bottom of a harbour, to which vessels are moored; **mooring-block** (see quot. 1815); **mooring-post**, (*a*) a strong upright post fixed into the ground for securing vessels to the landing-place by hawsers or chains; (*b*) one of the strong pieces of oak inserted into the deck of a large ship for fastening the moorings to when alongside a quay (Adm. Smyth); **mooring swivel**, a swivel used in mooring a ship to shackle two chains together so that they may not become twisted.

1820 SCORESBY *Acc. Arctic Reg.* I. 257 For the purpose of placing a *mooring anchor. 1875 *Encycl. Brit.* II. 8/1 Mooring anchors are not limited by considerations of weight, &c., as other anchors are... Mooring anchors may therefore be of stone..or of cast iron. 1809 in *Trans. Soc. Arts* (1811) XXVIII. 173 Many of the line-of-battle ships..are moored with Mr. Hemman's cast-iron *mooring-blocks. 1815 *Falconer's Dict. Marine* (ed. Burney), *Mooring-block* is a sort of cast iron anchor of about 150 cwt. used in some of his Majesty's ports for riding ships by. 1809 *Naval Chron.* XXIV. 23 She ran against one of the *mooring buoys. 1875 *Encycl. Brit.* II. 8/1 A large buoy is attached to the end of a *mooring cable. 1485 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 38 Chenes for the Loves..j, *Moryng chenes..ij. 1856 LEVER *Martins of Cro' M.* 576 Can you not see..that where one drags the anchor so easily, the *mooring-ground was never good? 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1780) Cc 3 b, Bridles ..whose upper ends are drawn into the ship at the *mooring-ports. 1864 MRS. LLOYD *Ladies Polc.* 41 Two or three hardy fellows, who held on for life to the *mooring-posts. 1803 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 468/2 The *mooring-stones remained perfectly steady as did all the ships that were properly moored. *c* 1860 H. STUART *Seaman's Catech.* 54 What is the use of a *mooring swivel? It is put on when the ship has two anchors down, to keep the turns out of the cables.

Moorish (mūə·riʃ, mōə·riʃ), *a.*1 Forms: 4 **moorysshe**, 4-5 **morysshe**, 5-6 **moresch**, **-isch**, 6 **moarish**(e, **morishe**, **-ysh**, 6-7 **morish**, 7 **mooreash**, 9 *Sc.* **muirish**, 6- **moorish**. [f. MOOR *sb.*1 + -ISH.]

†**1.** Of soil: Boggy, swampy. *Obs.*

1491 CAXTON *Vitas Patr.* (W. de W. 1495) I. xxxiii. 28 The grounde was soo softe and morysh, that they entred up to the raynes. 1538 LELAND *Itin.* V. 81 It is to be supposid that thes Pooles for the most part in Morisch [*v. r.* Moresch] Groundes, and lying sumwhat in low Groundes dreane the moist Places about them. 1591 SPENSER *Ruines of Time* 140 There now no rivers course is to be seene, But moorish fennes, and marshes ever greene. 1634 MILTON *Comus* 432 By lake, or moorish fen. 1641 WITHER *Hallelujah* II. xx. (1879) 292 Moorish Grounds are now so hard, That, on them we safe may ride. 1766 ENTICK *London* IV. 199 A thousand loads..were..laid in a moorish place. 1820 SCORESBY *Acc. Arctic Reg.* I. 120 This swamp had a moorish look, and consisted apparently of black alluvial soil.

fig. 1601 B. JONSON *Poetaster* v. i, They be path-lesse, moorish minds That..sinke Beneath the steps of any villanie.

†**b.** *transf.* ? Spongy, soft. *Obs.*

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVIII. xci. (1495) 840 The frogge is watry and moorysshe. *Ibid.* XIX. ix. 869 Morysshe thynges dooth growe in erthe. 1750 E. SMITH *Compl. Housew.* 8 If their noses are snotty, and their throats moorish and muddy, they are bad.

†**c.** Of water: Such as is found in bogs. *Obs.*

1496 *Fysshynge w. Angle* (1883) 11 Those waters that ben hethy or morysshe. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* IV. xi. 29 The chaulky Kenet,..The morish Cole. *a* 1640 DAY *Parl. Bees* xii. (1881) 75 The moorish pooles stand emptie, left By water.

d. *Moorish mallow* = MARSH MALLOW.

1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. cccxxxviii. 789 In English marsh Mallow, Moorish Mallowe, and white Mallowe.

e. Moorish brown, moorish fly, the names of an artificial fly for fishing.

1635 MARKHAM *Pleas. Princes* 26 The Moorish-fly is made of fine flocks, shorne from a freese-gray russet, and the wings of the blackest male of a Drake. 1799 G. SMITH *Laboratory* II. 309 March..Flies proper..3. Moorish-brown.

2. Of or pertaining to a moor; abounding in moors or moorland; having the characteristics of a moor; belonging to a moor.

1546 *Yorks Chantry Surv.* (Surtees) II. 413 In a wyld and morishe contree. *c* 1600 NORDEN *Spec. Brit., Cornw.* (1728)

63 A church standinge amonge the moarishe hills. 1744 PRESTON in *Phil. Trans.* XLIII. 61 The Land is mountainous and moorish, abounding with Moss and Heather. 1787 BURNS in Cunningham *Life* (1850) 55/1 A romantic, but rather moorish place, on the banks of the Poole. 1802 WORDSW. *Resol. & Independ.* xi, Upon the margin of that moorish flood. 1853 G. JOHNSTON *Nat. Hist. E. Bord.* I. 104 Common in muirish pastures. 1887 RUSKIN *Præterita* II. 177 Moorish Skiddaw and far-sweeping Saddleback.

3. Inhabiting a moor; growing on moors.

1612 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* xii. 580 Or'e-gone with loue of Hanse, a dapper More-land Lad..the wanton hart of that delicious mayd..was turn'd so much from beeing coy That shee migbt seeme to doat vpon the Morish boy. 1844 STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 474 The disease..is there called the muir-ill, as if it were the consequence of cows eating muirish plants.

Moorish (mūᵊ·riʃ, mōᵊ·riʃ), *a.*[2] Also 5 morys, 7 morish. (Now with capital M.) [f. MOOR *sb.*[2] + -ISH.]

1. Of or pertaining to the Moors.

Now often used with reference to the style of architecture characteristic of the buildings erected by the Moors in Spain (8th–15th c.) and in Northern Africa. Cf. MORESQUE.

1434 in *Privy Purse Exp. Eliz. of York* (1830) 242/2 Her hullyng of black, red and green, with morys letters, with cushions. 1600 E. BLOUNT tr. *Conestaggio* 323 For that a moorish slaue, who hoped by that meanes to saue himselfe, discouered him to a Prouost marshall. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 112 ¶ 3 Augustus..is said to have passed many of his Hours with little Moorish Boys at a Game of Marbles. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) II. 223/1 The greatest peculiarity in the Moorish architecture is the horse-shoe arch. 1843 BORROW *Bible in Spain* vii, A large ancient and seemingly Moorish castle. 1885 *Encycl. Brit.* XIX. 622/2 A fine dish, now in the British Museum..; though Moorish in style, it has a Spanish inscription. 1903 *Edin. Rev.* Apr. 278 The Moorish peasantry..fought for their masters.

b. Befitting a Moor, barbarous. *nonce-use.*

1795 COLERIDGE *Plot Discovered* 28 And if by the wanton and moorish exercise of this privilege he can ensnare the assembly into marks of indignation, then [etc.].

2. Mohammedan. Now only *colloq.* (chiefly in uneducated use) in Southern India and Ceylon. † Formerly also used (*adj.* and quasi-*sb.*) as a name of the Urdū or Hindustānī language: see MOORS.

1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 482 The Religion in Cambaia is partly Moorish, partly Heathenish. 1763 ORME *Milit. Trans. Hindostan* I. 276 The centinel was sitting at the top of the gate, singing a moorish song. 1784 in Seton-Karr & Sandeman *Select. fr. Calcutta Gaz.* (1864) I. 15 Lieutenants Speediman and Rutledge..were bound, circumcised, and clothed in Moorish garments. 1804 WELLINGTON in Gurw. *Desp.* (1837) III. 290 She had a Moorish woman interpreter, and as I heard her give orders to her interpreter in the Moorish language [etc.]. 1889 *Ceylon Observer* 11 June, From Weligama comes the news that another alexandrite has just been discovered by the Moorish priest (Moulana) weighing 6 lb. and 8 rupees.

† **Moo·rishly,** *adv. Obs.*[−1] [f. MOORISH *a.*[1] + -LY[2].] In a marshy manner.

1622 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* xxv. 332 Shee in her foggy Fennes so moorishly doth feed.

† **Moo·rishness.** *Obs.* [f. MOORISH *a.*[1] + -NESS.] Marshy or peaty quality.

1649 BLITHE *Eng. Improv. Impr.* (1653) 59 If this be not.. steeped so w[th] constant corrupt water, that it is turned into a moorishness,..this very Land may prove your best Land in a little time. 1692 R. L'ESTRANGE *Josephus, Wars of Jews* III. xviii. (1733) 686 The Water sweet and potable, without any thing of Moorishness either in the Taste or Colour.

† **Moo·rism.** *Obs.* [f. MOOR *sb.*[2] + -ISM.] **a.** The polity or religion of the Moors; Mohammedanism. **b.** Moors collectively. **c.** Conduct befitting Moors, barbarism.

1620 SHELTON *Quix.* II. xxvi. 174 Don Quixote seeing and hearing such a deale of Moorisme, and such a coyle, he thought fit to succour those that fled. *Ibid.*, He began to raine strokes vpon the Puppetish Moorisme, ouerthrowing some, and beheading others. 1627 R. ASHLEY *Almansor* 1 The great Caliph, the sustayner of Morisme. 1681 RYCAUT tr. *Gracian's Critick* 148 Banishing not only her, but her devoted Worshippers from the extent of their Dominions, with which barbarous Morism, not yet fully satisfied [etc.].

Moorit, variant of MOORAD.

Moorland (mūᵊ·lănd, mōᵊ·lănd), *sb.* [f. MOOR *sb.*[1] + LAND *sb.*]

1. Uncultivated land; in early use chiefly fenland; in mod. use, country consisting of moors; land abounding in heather; a moor.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Luke i. 65 Ofer alle mor-londa iudæes. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2968 And aaron held up his hond, to ðe water and ðe more lond. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 288, j half acre in the morelond. 1773 *Act* 13 *Geo. III* c. 54 § 6 Every Proprietor of high and wet Muir Lands. 1851 D. JERROLD *St. Giles* xi. 103 The road opened into a patch of moor-land. 1896 'Q' (Quiller Couch) *Ia* 94 They stood in the heart of a moorland.

b. *spec.* (See quot. 1845.)

1612 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* xii. 531 But Muse, thou seem'st to leaue the Morelands too too long. 1845 *Encycl. Metrop.* XXV. 10/1 The Northern part [of Staffordshire] bordering upon Derbyshire, contains a great portion of waste, devoted to feeding sheep, and enclosed with stone walls, denominated the Moorlands.

2. (See quot.)

1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp., Moor-land* or *Moory-land*, in agriculture is a black, light and soft earth, very loose, and without any admixture of stones; and with very little clay, or sand. The uppermost stratum of fen-lands is usually of this earth.

3. *attrib.* passing into *adj.* Of the nature of or pertaining to moorland; inhabiting moorland.

[1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xiii. 1 Ane morlandis man of vplandis mak At hame thus to his nychbour spak.] 1612 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* xii. 576 Or'e-gone with loue of Hanse, a dapper More-land Lad. 1785 BURNS *To William Simpson* 104 While moorlan' herds like guid, fat braxies. 1799 J. ROBERTSON *Agric. Perth* 306 In the moorland parts of the county, the attention of the farmer is mostly confined to his cattle. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* I. xxxiii, But vainly did the heath-flower sped Its moor-land fragrance round his head. 1902 R. W. CHAMBERS *Maids of Paradise* x, The moorland wind rose and tossed her elf-locks in her eyes.

Moorlander (mūᵊ·lăndəɹ, mōᵊ·lăndəɹ). [f. MOORLAND + -ER[1].] One who lives in a moorland; *spec.* one who lives in the Moorlands of Staffordshire.

c 1646 *True Relat.*, etc. in *Glover's Hist. Derby* (1829) I. App. 62 The moorlanders in Staffordshire came to him, entreating him for assistance. 1660 *Leyborne-Popham MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm. 1899) 139 The county [Stafford] is apt to fly into arms, the northern inhabitants being 'moorlanders' and the southern parts abounding with 'ironmen'. 1667 COTTON *Scarron.* IV. 69 Rascals as false as Moorlanders.

† **Moo·rlandish,** *a. Obs.*[−1] [-ISH.] Characteristic of the inhabitants of the moorlands.

1686 PLOT *Staffordsh.* 109 To prevent these little country Moorelandish cheats,..the Factors keep a Surveyor all the summer here.

† **Moo·rlog.** *Obs.* Also -logg. [app. f. MOOR *sb.*[1] + LOG *sb.*] (See quots.)

1651 R. CHILD in *Hartlib's Legacy* (1655) 141 This is in briefe my Philosophy concerning Moorlog. 1721 PERRY *Daggenh. Breach* 72 *note*, Moorlogg, is a vein of divers sorts of rotten Wood..which lyes about 3 Foot and a half ..underneath the Surface of the Marsh Ground. 1840 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* III. 106/1 Moorlogg is described as a vein of matted brushwood, with nuts and pieces of rotten wood interspersed.

Moorman[1] (mūᵊ·ɹ-, mōᵊ·ɹmăn). [f. MOOR *sb.*[1] + MAN *sb.* Cf. MOORSMAN.]

1. One who lives on a moor.

c 1790 SIR M. HUNTER *Jrnl.* (1894) 74 The Moormen fight cocks, and are very fond of the diversion. 1836 MRS. BRAY *Tamar & Tavy* I. 23 The moormen most commonly convey their peat, and all things else, on what is called a crook. 1872 M. COLLINS *Two Plunges for Pearl* I. vi. 123 The best pedestrian upon ordinary roads will find himself tried by the swinging step of the moorman on his native soil.

2. An official who has charge of a moor.

1687 in Croke *Case of Otmoor* (1831) 38 Every man that keeps cattle upon the More, shall bring his cattle to the Moor-man to be branded. 1885 *Sat. Rev.* 5 Sept. 322 Dartmoor is divided into four quarters,..and there is a functionary called *par excellence* a Moorman, who has charge of each quarter on behalf of the Duchy.

Moo·rman[2]. [f. MOOR *sb.*[2] + MAN.] = MOOR *sb.*[2]; in India, a Mohammedan.

1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 55 These Moormen..never set their hands to do any Labour, but that they sing a Psalm, or Prayer. 1763 SCRAFTON *Indostan* (1770) 26 The Moormen..make them, of whom they have no jealousy, the ministers of their oppression. 1836 *Lett. fr. Madras* (1843) 41, I gave some embroidery to be done by a Moorman recommended by my tailor. 1850 WHITTIER *Derne* 113 Men speak the praise of him who gave Deliverance to the Moorman's slave. 1889 *Ceylon Observer* 4 May, The gem was bought in by the owner. I hear since that some of the Moormen who came for the sale have made offers. 1897 *Tablet* 16 Oct. 606 Whether the man be a Christian, Jew, Agnostic, Buddhist, Mormon or Moorman.

Moorn(e, obs. forms of MORN, MOURN.

Moo·r-pa·rk. [Use of *Moor Park*, the name of the house of Sir W. Temple (*d.* 1699), by whom this fruit was cultivated.] A variety of apricot.

1788 *Brompton Park Catal.* in Hogg *Fruit Man.* (1875) 177. 1797 W. NICOL *Sc. Forcing Gardener* 156 Apricots... More Park. 1812 *Trans. Hortic. Soc.* (1817) II. 19 On the proper Stock for the Moor Park Apricot. 1881 *Encycl. Brit.* XII. 270/1 The Moorpark is undoubtedly the best apricot in cultivation.

Moor-pout (mūᵊ·ɹpaut, mōᵊ·ɹpaut). Also 7 moore poult, -pout, moorpoot, -poult, -powte, more pout, 8 moor powt, 9 *Sc.* muir poot, *dial.* moor-pot, 7– moor-pout. [f. MOOR *sb.*[1] + *pout*: see POULT *sb.*] A young grouse.

1506 in *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scotl.* (1901) III. 333 Item, to ane man brocht quyk mure powtis to the King..iijs. 1677 N. COX *Gentl. Recreat.* III. 45 How to take Rails, Quails, Morepoots, &c. 1684 E. CHAMBERLAYNE *Pres. St. Eng.* I. (ed. 15) 6 What abundance of..heath-cocks, more-pouts, or grouse-thrushes. 1728 RAMSAY *Lure* 12 Peartricks, teals, moor-powts, and plivers. 1816 SCOTT *Old Mort.* Introd., The Laird accused our Landlord, deceased, of having encouraged..the destruction of hares,..moor-pouts [etc.]. *a* 1835 HOGG *Siege Roxb.* iv. Tales & Sk. 1837 VI. 105, I will.. smoor the transgressors like as many moor-poots.

‖ **Moorpunky** (moᵊɹpʊ·ŋki). *Indian.* Also moorpungkey, moorpunkey, morpunkee. [Hindī *morpaykhī*, lit. 'peacock-tailed', f. *mor* peacock + *paykhī* fan.] A kind of Indian pleasure-boat formerly used on the Ganges.

1767 in J. Long *Select. fr. Unpubl. Rec. Govt.* (1869) 524 (Y.) A few moorpungkeys and beauleahs for the service of Mahomed Reza Khan..25,000.0.0. 1796 ELIZA HAMILTON *Lett. Hindoo Rajah* (1811) I. 253 Moor Punky. A country vessel of a peculiar construction, used for the conveyance of cotton and other bulky articles. 1855 OGILVIE, *Morpunkee*, a native pleasure boat of the Ganges, elegantly decorated, and propelled by numerous paddles.

† **Moors,** *a.* and *sb. Anglo-Indian. Obs.* [Perh. a. Du. *Moorsch*, MOORISH. Yule refers to the parallel forms *Bengals* for *Bengāli*, *Indostans* for Hindustānī, and *Turks* for Turkish.] A name for the Urdū or Hindustānī language: cf. MOORISH.

1767 J. RENNELL *Let.* 10 Mar. (MS.) (Y.), The politest Language is the Moors or Mussulmans and Persian. 1784–5 *Ann. Reg.* II. 81 The Hindustanic or as it is vulgarly termed in India, the Moors language. 1796 HADLEY (*title*) A compendious Grammar of the Current Corrupt Dialect of the Jargon of Hindostan (commonly called Moors); with a Vocabulary, English and Moors, Moors and English. 1803 BEDDOES *Hygëia* x. 53 Speaking scarce any thing but *Moors*. 1883 R. N. CUST *Mod. Lang. Afr.* I. ix. 97 Forty years ago in India in Military circles a man who knew the Vernacular of British India was said to know 'the Moors'.

† **Moor's-head.** *Obs.* Also moor-head. [f. MOOR *sb.*[2] + HEAD *sb.*]

1. A representation of the head of a Moor; *spec.* in *Her.* (see quot. 1780).

1673 RAY *Journ. Low C.* 487 Vpon many of the pillars are Moors heads carved in the stone, and one or two with turbants on. 1722 NISBET *Syst. Her* 267 John Moir of Stonniewood, Argent, three Moors Heads couped, distilling Drops of Blood proper. 1780 EDMONDSON *Heraldry* II. Gloss., *Moor's Head*..the head of a black, or negro-man, placed in profile, couped at the neck, wreathed about the temples, ar. and az. and having a pearl pendent at his ear. 1847 *Gloss. Heraldry* 160 Moor's or Blackamoor's head,

2. (See quots.) Cf. F. *tête-de-More.*

1677 tr. *Glaser's Compl. Chem.* 31 The Brass Vesica, with its Refrigeratory, or Moors head. 1678 SALMON *New Lond. Dispensatory* 816 Of the cover of the Vesica, or Moors-head. It is made of Brass, having a Neck six Inches deep [etc.]. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Moors-head*, a Copper-cap, tinn'd on the inside, and made like a Head, to be set over the Chimney of a Reverberating Furnace; Also the Head of a Copper or Glass-still, which is luted on the Body, having a Beak, Nose, or Pipe, to let the raised Spirit run down into the Receiver. 1712 tr. *Pomet's Hist. Drugs* I. 8 Put green Anniseeds..in a Glass Cucurbit, which cover with its Moor-Head. 1844 T. WEBSTER *Encycl. Dom. Econ.* 1045 The Moor's head is another form of still that has been used, and is found convenient for distillation on a small scale.

3. (See quots.) Cf. F. *cheval teste de more* (Cotgr.).

1660 HOWELL *Voc.* ii, A horse that hath his head darker then his body, called the Moors head. 1726 W. GIBSON *Diet. Horses* (ed. 2) 212 The Roan well mark'd, or with a More's Head. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp., More's-head*, in the manege, implies the colour of a Roan horse, who besides the mixture or blending of a grey and a bay, has a black head.

Moo·rship. *nonce-wd.* [f. MOOR *sb.*[2] + -SHIP.] *His Moorship*, a derisive title applied to a Moor.

1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* I. i. 33 This Counter-caster, He (in good time) must his Lieutenant be, And I (blesse the marke) his Mooreships Auntient.

Moorsman (mūᵊ·ɹz-, mōᵊ·ɹzmăn). [f. *moor's*, gen. of MOOR *sb.*[1] + MAN. Cf. MOORMAN.] A dweller on the moors (in quot., on the 'moors' or drained marshes of Somerset). Also, one accustomed to the moors.

1889 DOYLE *Micah Clarke* xxxii, The Bussex Rhine..is not ..broad, and was, therefore, unmentioned by the moorsmen. 1904 E. RICKERT *Reaper* 246 These dangers to life and limb never entered the head of the practised moorsman.

Moorstone (mūᵊ·ɹ-, mōᵊ·ɹstoun). *Min.* [f. MOOR *sb.*[1] + STONE.]

1. A kind of granite found chiefly in Cornwall.

c 1600 NORDEN *Spec. Brit., Corn.w.* (1728) 18 There is a stone called a Moar-Stone, which lyeth dispersed vpon the face of the mountaynes and on the confused rockes. *c* 1630 RISDON *Surv. Devon* § 215 (1810) 223 Wheie is a table and seats of moorstone. 1674 RAY *Collect. Words, Prep. Tin* (E.D.S.) 13 A mould made of moore-stone. 1793 SMEATON *Edystone L.* § 91 Moorstone, which in reality is the true Granite. 1842 GWILT *Archit.* Gloss., *Moorstone*, a species of granite found in Cornwall and some other parts of England, and very serviceable in the coarser parts of a building. 1875 W. MCILWRAITH *Guide Wigtownshire* 105 This ancient fence [the Deil's Dyke] is built of blocks of common moorstone.

2. A slab or piece of moorstone.

1698 LISTER *Journ. Paris* (1699) 146 By reason of those Sand or Moore Stones, with which they grind their Corn. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* (1721) I. 104 The Sand is very white, and in Scilly glistering, which may be occasion'd from the mouldering of Moor-stones.

3. *attrib.*

c 1630 RISDON *Surv. Devon* § 22 (1810) 32 Their arms are cut in the moorstone pillars. 1773 IRONSTONE in *Phil. Trans.* LXIV. 102 A globular piece of moorstone granite. 1883 F. G. HEATH in *Century Mag.* Dec. 165/1 Semicircular arches surmounting moor-stone columns.

‖ **Mooruk** (mūᵊ·ruk). [See quot. 1860.] A kind of cassowary, *Casuarius Bennetti.*

1860 G. BENNETT *Gatherings Nat. in Australasia* 244 A new species of Cassowary procured from the natives of New Britain...It utters a peculiar whistling sound, and I am informed it also emits a loud one resembling the word Mooruk, whence no doubt is derived its native name. 1876 *Encycl. Brit.* V. 186/1 The Mooruk, or Bennett's Cassowary..approaching in the thickness of its legs to the moas.

‖ **Moorva** (mūᵊ·ɹvă). [Skr. *mūrvā.*] Bow-string hemp (see BOW-STRING 3).

[*a* 1794 SIR W. JONES in *Asiatic Res.* IV. 271 Murva.] 1855 ROYLE *Fibrous Pl. India* 55 The Moorva fibre is employed by the natives for their bowstrings. 1884 *Imp. & Mach. Rev.* 1 Dec. 6710/2 The Glenrock Company..intend to treat on a somewhat large scale the 'moorva' or bow-string hemp.

‖ **Moory** (mūᵊ·ri), *sb.* Also 7–9 moree, 8 moore, mouri. [Possibly connected with Pg. *morim*, shirting.] A kind of Indian cloth.

1696 J. F. *Merch. Wareho. laid open* 29 Morees...This is a Callico extreamly in use..to Work for Petty-Coats and Waste Coats. 1703 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3932/4 The Cargo of the

Star of the East, consisting of Long Cloth,..Betelles, Moores, Neckcloths [etc.]. 1704 *Ibid.* No. 4054/6 Lots 414, 415, Cont. 200 Moores. 1754 Sewel *Eng.-Du. Dict.*, Morees, *mouris*, zekere Oostindische Katoenen. 1857 Balfour *Cycl. India*, *Moories*, *Blue*. These cloths are principally manufactured [etc.]. The trade ..at Pondicherry consists of long cloths..morees, dimities [etc.]. 1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade*, *Moory*, a brown cloth made in India. 1882 Caulfeilo & Sawaro *Dict. Needlework* 350 *Morees*, Manchester-made Muslins, much employed for the African export trade.

Moory (mū·ri, mō·ri), *a.*[1] Forms: 4–5 **mory**, 6 **morey**, 6–7 **moorie**, 7 **moarie**, 8 **moary**, 9 *Sc.* **muiry**, 6– **moory**. [f. Moor *sb.*[1] + -y. Cf. MDu. *môrich* (mod.Du. *moorig*), G. *moorig*.]

1. Marshy, fenny; growing in a marsh or fen. *Moory land, -earth* = Moorland *sb.* 2.

1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 157 Herdes fond hym among mory flagges and sprayes. ?*c* 1400 Lydg. *Æsop's Fab.* v. 118 The frosshe delyteþ to abyde in mory lakys. 1577 B. Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* I. (1586) 31 b, It delighteth in a watrishe moorie grounde. 1603 Holland *Plutarch's Mor.* 1191 Because neither the Palme tree is a moorie plant and loving the waters,..neither [etc.]. 1612 Drayton *Poly-olb.* ix. 444 Guint, forth along with her Lewenny that doth draw; And next to them againe, the fat and moory Frawe. 1667 Milton *P. L.* II. 944 As when a Gryfon through the Wilderness With winged course ore Hill or moarie Dale, Pursues the Arimaspian [etc.]. 1731 Miller *Gard. Dict.* s.v. *Lupulus*, The Essex Planters account a moory Land the properest for Hops. 1805 R. W. Dickson *Pract. Agric.* II. 853 On peaty or moory lands marl and other similar materials will be of advantage in rendering them more compact. 1877 Skertchly *Geol. Fenland* 130 [In Lincolnshire] It is usual to speak of 'moory land', 'black land', or 'fen' where the soil is peaty.

2. Of or pertaining to a moor or heath; having the characteristics of a moor; abounding in heath.

1794 W. Marshall *Central Highl. Scot.* 12 On the Yorkshire hills, the moory earth, generally of greater thickness, lies on a dead sand, or an infertile rubble; without any intervening soil. 1830 Cobbett *Rur. Rides* (1885) II. 326 The moory and rocky parts in the West Riding. 1865 Geikie *Scen. & Geol. Scotl.* x. 267 A tract of moory heights. 1875 *Encycl. Brit.* I. 360/2 On muiry soils this crop is also not unfrequently lost.

Moory (mō·ri, mū·ri), *a.*[2] [? f. Moor *sb.*[2] + -y[1].] ? Dark coloured, black.

1581 J. Stunley *Seneca's Hercules Œtæus* II. 196 b, Him that weildes the moary mace [L. *furva sceptra*] of blacke Auerne to smoake. *Ibid.* IV. 210, I see the dumpish moary denne of glowming lady night. 1600 Tourneur *Transf. Metam.* VII, The skie..Is cloathed with moorie Vesperugoe's coate.

Moos, obs. variant of Moss.

Moose[1] (mūs). Also 7 **mose**, **mosse**, **mus**, 7–8 **moos**, 8 **mooze**. [a. Narragansett *moos* (= Abenaki *mus*, Penobscot *muns*); according to Trumbull, from *moosu* 'he trims or cuts smooth', in allusion to the animal's habit of stripping the lower branches and bark from trees when feeding.] A cervine animal native to N. America closely allied to, or identical with, the European Elk (*Alces malchis*). Also *moose deer*.

The moose is termed *Alces americana* by those zoologists who regard it as specifically distinct from *A. malchis*.

1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* (1614) 755 Captaine Thomas Hanham sayled to the Riuer of Sagadahoc 1606. He relateth of their beasts..redde Deare, and a beast bigger, called the Mus. 1637 T. Morton *New Eng. Canaan* II. v. 74 The Elke, which the Salvages call a Mose..is a very large Deare, with [etc.]. 1672 Josselyn *New Eng. Rarities* 19 The Moose Deer..is a very goodly Creature. 1783 Justamond tr. *Raynal's Hist. Indies* VI. 494 The moozedeer, called there Caribou. 1877 *Encycl. Brit.* VII. 24/1 The Elk or Moose Deer (*Alces malchis*) is the largest of living *Cervidæ*. 1879 Lo. Dunraven in *19th Cent.* July 50 The Moose of America is almost, if not quite, identical with the Elk of Europe, but it attains a greater size. 1903 Kipling *5 Nations* 39 The lakeside lilies where the bull-moose waits the cow.

b. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *moose-flesh*, *-hide*, *-horn*, *-hunt* sb. and vb., *-hunter*, *-hunting*, *-meat*, *-path*, *-sinew*, *-skin*, *-track*, *-trail*; **moose berry** *U. S.*, the fruit of the moose-bush; **moose bird** *U.S.*, the Canada jay, *Garrulus canadensis*; **moose bush** *U.S.*, the shrub *Viburnum lantanoïdes*; **moose call**, a trumpet of birch bark used by hunters in calling moose to an ambuscade or blind (*Sportsman's Gazetteer* in *Cent. Dict.*); **moose calling** (see quot.); **moose elm** (see quot.); **moose-head plant** *U. S.*, some river-side plant; **moose man**, a moose-hunter; †**moose suit**, a suit of clothes made of moose-skin; **moose-wood**, (*a*) striped maple, *Acer pennsylvanicum* or *striatum*; (*b*) leatherwood, *Dirca palustris*; **moose yard**, an area in which the snow is trodden down by moose, where they remain together during the winter months.

1848 Thoreau *Maine W.* (1894) 79 Solomon's seal and *mooseberries. 1857 *Ibid.* 293 Three large slate-colored birds of the jay genus (*Garrulus Canadensis*), the Canada jay, *moose-bird, meat-bird, or what not. 1784 M. Cutler in *Life*, etc. (1888) I. 102 The ground covered with an underwood of *moose bush. *a* 1817 T. Dwight *Trav. New Eng.*, etc. (1821) II. 418 The black-moose bush, a pretty shrub with a rich pulpy leaf and a tuft of brilliant white flowers at the end of each branch. 1879 Ld. Dunraven in *19th Cent.* July 52 *Moose-calling..consists in imitating the cry of the female moose, and thereby calling up the male. 1884 Sargent *Rep. Forests N. Amer.* (10th Census IX) 122 *Ulmus fulva*, ..Red Elm...*Moose Elm. 1873 Miss Braddon *L. Davoren* I. Prol. i. 4 Rare meals of buffalo or *moose flesh. 1868 Lossing *Hudson* 6 A winding and narrow river, fringed with rushes, lilies, and *moose-head plants. 1858 Thoreau *Maine W.* (1894) 121 A St. Francis Indian, with his canoe and *moose-hides. 1672 Josselyn *New Eng. Rarities* 19 *Moose Horns better for Physick use than Harts Horns. 1876 *Forest & Stream* 24 Aug. 34/2 Sebatis and Lola went off on a *moose hunt. 1837 *Penny Cycl.* VIII. 352/2 The skill of a *moose-hunter is most tried in the early part of the winter. 1857 Thoreau *Maine W.* (1894) 307 Some friends of mine..were serenaded by wolves while *moose-hunting by moonlight. *Ibid.* 369 He found himself dining one day on *moose-meat. 1858 *Ibid.* 148 *Moose-men. 1876 *Forest & Stream* 10 Aug. 2/1, I saw the bear lying in an old well-worn *moose-path quite dead. 1765 T. Hutchinson *Hist. Mass.* I. v. 464 Their bowstrings were made of *Moose sinews. 1637 T. Morton *New Eng. Canaan* I. vi. 29 They make shooes of *Mose skinnes, which is the principall leather used to that purpose. 1903 *All Nations* Mar. 73/1 Living a shivering life in moose-skin tents. 1645 in *N. Eng. Hist. & Gen. Reg.* (1849) III. 82 The said Alexander Bradford have giuen to Robert Stowton his *Moose Suite and a musket and Sworde. 1857 Thoreau *Maine W.* (1894) 390 There were pretty fresh *moose-tracks by the water-side. 1890 N. Hibbs in *Big Game N. Amer.* 37 Just as I passed the point..I found a *Moose-trail. 1792 Belknap *Hist. New Hampsh.* III. 163 He [the Moose] feeds on..a species of the maple, which is called *moose-wood. 1860 A. Gray *Man. Bot.* 84 *Acer Pennsylvanicum*..Moose-Wood. *Ibid.* 380 *Dirca*..Moose-wood. 1890 W. J. Gordon *Foundry* 116 His poultices will be the bark of the moose wood boiled till it is soft. 1843 *Zoologist* I. 134 It will take so many days to reach the *moose-yard. 1872 Schele de Vere *Americanisms* 53 They [*sc.* Moose] live in families of fifteen to twenty, each one of which confines itself to a certain part of the woods; this is called a moose yard.

†**Moose**[2]. *Obs. rare.* [a. Du. *moes.*] Pottage, stewed vegetables.

1568 Turner *Herbal* III. 9 The weomen cookes in the spring time use to gather this herbe, and put it in there potages and mooses with other pot herbes. *Ibid.* 20.

Moosel(l, obs. forms of Muzzle.

Moo·sey, *a. nonce-wd.* Suggestive of the presence of the moose.

1857 Thoreau *Maine W.* (1894) 377 It is all mossy and moosey.

Mooshik, variant of Moujik.

Moosie, variant of Mosy *a. dial.*, mossy.

Moosle, **Moost**, obs. ff. Muzzle, Most, Must.

Moosted, variant of Musted.

Moosulman, variant of Mussulman.

Moot (mūt), *sb.*[1] Forms: 1 ȝemót, 2–3 imot, mot, 4–9 mote, 5–6 mute, 6 mout, 6–7 mute, 7 moat, mott, 5– moot. [Early ME. *mōt*, *imōt*, repr. OE. *mót* neut. (before 12th c. found only in compounds) and *ȝemót* neut. (with prefix *ge-*, Y-; the prefix in sbs. disappeared early in ME., so that the two forms became coincident); an adoption of the equivalent ON. *mót* neut., encounter, meeting, public assembly, may prob. have coalesced with the native word. The sb., OTeut. *(*ga*)*mōto*[m], is found in OLow Frankish (Hildebrandsl.) *muot* encounter, MDu. *moet* neut., masc., *gemoet* neut. (mod.Du. *gemoet*), MHG. *muoz*, *môz* (and in LG. form *muot*), *gemôt* fem.; the derivative Meet *v.* appears in all branches of Teut. The ultimate etymology of OTeut. **mōto*[m] is unknown.]

†**1.** *gen.* Meeting, encounter. *Obs.*

a 1000 *O. E. Chron.* an. 937 Gar mittinge gumena ȝemotes wæpen ȝewrixles. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy-Bk.* 10389 Many a man was ther assoyned Off ther lyff ther at her mote. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* VIII. 1529 Wallang fled our, and durst nocht bid that mute.

2. An assembly of people, *esp.* one forming a court of judicature; a meeting, also the place where a meeting is held. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.* and *arch.* Cf. Gemot, Witenagemot; also Burgh-mote, Folk-mote, Hall-mote, Hundred-mote, etc.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. x. 17 Hia ȝesellas forðon Iuih in ȝemotum. 1154 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1129 Þa bi ðider comen þa þe gan þæt mot on Monendæiȝ & heold on an to ðe Fridæig. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 83 Þe soðe quen shal a domes [dai] arisen, on þe michele mote, and fordemen þis frakede folc. *c* 1205 Lay. 11545 Hit wes witene-imot. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 2458 Lo! al þat meidene mot & tet hird of heouene, cumeð her aȝein þe, mid kempene crune! *c* 1275 *Passion our Lord* 280 in *O. E. Misc.* 45 Heo by-wste þe dure þer al þat mot was. 13.. *Childh. Jesus* 260 in *Archiv Stud. neu. Spr.* LXXIV. 330 Modire, one mee he [Caiphas] salle halde mote, And do bete my body all bare. 14.. *Assise Reg. Willelmi* xxv. in *Acts Parlt. Scotl.* (1845) I. 379 Þe twa hed mutis of þe Justice salbe haldin ȝerly at Edinburgh or Pehlis. *a* 1641 Br. Mountagu *Acts & Mon.* (1642) 416 In Common Councels, at popular mootes, they could beare no sway. *c* 1670 Hobbes *Dial. Com. Laws* (1840) 169 After the Saxons had received the faith of Christ, those bishops that were amongst them, were always at the great moots in which they made their laws. 1794 W. Hutchinson *Hist. Cumb.* I. 252 The whole country..seems to have been parcelled out into small districts,..in each of which there was a mote, or court of justice. 1885 *Encycl. Brit.* XVIII. 302/2 In the Anglo-Saxon moots may be discerned the first germs of popular government in England. 1903 *Contemp. Rev.* Oct. 496 Necessary results of the Customs Union would be an imperial Moot containing representatives from the various parts of the Empire.

†**3.** Litigation; an action at law; a plea; accusation. *Obs.*

c 888 K. Ælfred *Boeth.* xxvi. § 2 Hwi bið elles ælce dæȝ swelc seofung & swelce ȝeflitu & ȝemot & domas. *a* 1240 *Lofsong* in *Cott. Hom.* 205 Nim mot for me and were me for ich am pine wurðe. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 16299 Þe man es noght ouertan in mote at smit him as tresun. *Ibid.* 27694 If þou bringes man in iuel blame, or mote,..of þis behoues þe mak þi scrift. ?*a* 1500 *Chester Pl.* (E.E.T.S.) 438 Now is the Devill ready, I see, his moote to further agaynst me. 1566 Drant *Horace, Sat.* I. i. A j b, Of mout or suite undreamde Of barre thou beares oo kepe. *c* 1575 *Balfour's Practicks* (1754) 53 All mutes and pleyis quhilk happinis to rise within burgh, sould be pleadit and determinat within the samin. 1609 Skene *Reg. Maj.* I. 13 The order of mute or pley in court, is alreadie exponed.

†**4.** Argument; discussion; disputation; talking.

a 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1321 Ah nis nawt lihtliche of þis meidenes mot; for, ich soð schal seggen, in hire ne moted na mon. *c* 1250 *Owl & N.* 468 Þeos vle luste & leyde on hord Al þis mot, word after word. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 11949 Was þar wit him na langer mote, Bot þar he fel dun at his fote. *c* 1400 *Gamelyn* 373, I swor in that wraththe and in that grete moot, That thou schuldest be bounde bothe hand and foot. 1565 Jewel *Repl. Harding* (1611) 457 Afterward, hee keepeth great Mootes about Qualities and Quantities. *c* 1620 A. Hume *Brit. Tongue* Ded., In the disputes of al purposes quher with, after the exemple of the wyse in former ages, you used to season your moat. 1645 Milton *Tetrach.* 53 But to end this moot, the Law of Moses is manifest to fixe no limit therin at all. 1676 *Doctrine of Devils* 125 When the Lord hath decided the Controversy, & setled the Question, should men's Moots, groundless Opinions, small Arguments, and wilde Winter-Tales, unsettle us?

5. *Law.* The discussion of a hypothetical case by students at the Inns of Court for practice; also a hypothetical doubtful case that may be used for discussion. Now in use only at Gray's Inn.

1531 Elyot *Gov.* I. xiv, In the lernyng of the lawes of this realme, there is at this daye an exercise, wherin is a..shadowe ..of the auncient rhetorike. I meane the pleadynge used in courte and Chauncery called motes. 1539 *Magna Carta* title-p., With an Alminacke & a Calender to know the mootes. Necessarye for all yong studiers of the lawe. 1605 *Hist. Capt. Stukeley* A 4, I had as liue you had seen him in the Temple walk, confering with some learned Councelor or at the moote vpon a case in Law. *a* 1650 Sir S. D'Ewes *Autobiog.* (1845) I. 232 On Thursday,..after our supper in the Middle Temple Hall ended, with another utter barrister, I argued a moot at the bench to the good satisfaction of such as heard me. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XII. 271/2 There is a bailiff, or surveyor of the moots, annually chosen by the bench, to appoint the moot-men for the inns of chancery. 1855 *Rep. Comm. Inns of Court* 81 Mr. Lewis [*c* 1847]..also established what are called 'Moots', that is to say, discussions on points of Law? 1876 *Times* 8 Nov. 10/6 A moot was held last night in the hall of Gray's-inn on the following question.

6. *attrib.* †**moot-bell**, a bell to summon people to a moot or assembly; †**moot book**, a book containing law cases to be 'mooted' by students; **moot court**, a court at which students argue imaginary cases for practice; †**moot horn**, a horn for summoning people to a moot; **moot-stow** *Hist.*, the place where a moot was held. Also Moot Hall, -hill, -house, -man.

a 1066 *Laws Edw. Conf.* c. 32 § 4 Pulsatis campanis, quod Anglici uocant *motbele. 1647 N. Bacon *Disc. Govt. Eng.* I. xxiv. (1739) 42 If the emergent occasions were sndden and important, by extraordinary summons of ringing the Moot-bells. 1588 Fraunce *Lawiers Log.* I. xvii. 61 b, Wee by a *moote-booke and a Brookes abridgement climbe to the Barre. 1788 Jefferson *Writ.* (1859) II. 428 He gives lectures regularly, and holds *moot courts and parliaments wherein he presides. 1899 *Law Quarterly* XV. 422 A moot-court is held there [*sc.* at Gray's Inn] six or eight times a year. 1888 Bryce *Amer. Commw.* III. xcviii. 376 In some law schools much educational value is attributed to the moot courts in which the students are set to argue cases. 12.. *Chron. Joc. de Brakelonda* (Camden) 54 Habitaque disputatione de cujus manu cornu acciperent, quod dicitur **mot-horn*. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 145/11 *Forus, uel prorostra*, *motstow on burȝe. *Ibid.* 164/34 *Forus, uel prorostra*, motstow. 1898 Maitland *Township & Borough* 39 Cambridge is the right and proper moot-stow for the thegns of the shire.

Moot (mūt), *sb.*[2] *Mech.*

1. A piece of hard wood hooped with iron at each end, used in block-making.

1815 in *Falconer's Dict. Marine* (ed. Burney). 1875 in Knight *Dict. Mech.*

2. a. A ring-gauge for shaping treenails cylindrically to required size. **b.** Any particular size or diameter to which a treenail is to be made.

1815 *Falconer's Dict. Marine* (ed. Burney), *Mooter*, or *Tree-Nail Mooter*, a name given to the person who turns the tree-nails by the assistance of a moot. *c* 1850 *Rudim. Navig.* (Weale) 133 *Mooting*. Making a treenail exactly cylindrical to a given size or diameter, called the *moot*. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.*, *Moot*, a gage-ring for determining the size of tree-nails.

Moot (mūt), *sb.*[3] *dial.* Also moote, moto, mott. The stump of a tree.

1832 *Planting* 91 (*Libr. Usef. Knowl.*), *Moot*, in Devonshire, is the same with stool in other counties. 1862 *Blackw. Mag.* Jan. 2 There was a layer of motts, as the stumps of old trees are called in the west. 1863 J. R. Wise *New Forest* xiv. 150 Sailors..dredging..sometimes draw up great logs of wood, locally known as 'mootes'. 1872 W. Cory *Lett. & Jrnls.* (1897) 288 Old roots festooned with flowers—roots called here [Devon] 'motes'.

Moot (mūt), *a.* [Developed from the attributive use of Moot *sb.*[1], to which some of the earlier examples should perhaps be referred.] That can be argued; debatable; not decided, doubtful.

Orig. in *moot case* (? obs.), primarily meaning a case proposed for discussion in a 'moot' of law students. See Moot *sb.*[4] 5.

1577–87 Holinshed *Chron.* II. 19/2 The like question [*sc.* whether 'fish' or 'flesh'] may be mooued of the sell [= seall], and if it were well canuassed, it would be found at the least-wise a moot case. *a* 1650 Sir S. D'Ewes *Autobiog.* (1845) I. 240, I was scarce come into commons, but..I was set at work, arguing a moot-point or law-case on Thursday night after supper. *a* 1652 Brome *Covent Gard.* II. i. (1658) 22 Now I'll put a plain home-spun case, as a man may say, which we call a moot-case. 1658–9 in *Burton's Diary* (1828) III. 46 Jersey is part of France; so it is a moot point whether a *habeas corpus* lies. 1732–3 Sir C. Wogan in *Swift's Wks.* (1824) XVII. 469 'My lords and gentlemen', says he, 'it is a very moot point to which of those causes we may ascribe the universal dulness of the Irish. 1736 West *Let.* in *Gray's Poems* (1775) 15 An inn of court is as horrid a place as a college, and a moot case is as dear to gentle dullness as a syllogism. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XII. 271/2 Particular times are appointed for the arguing moot-cases. 1876 A. D. Murray *Charnwood* 110 It remains a moot problem to be guessed at. 1899 J. Hutchinson in *Arch. Surg.* X. No. 38. 190 Those who are already well informed in essentials and quite prepared to discuss moot and difficult points.

Moot (mūt), *v.*[1] Forms: 1 mótian, 2 motien, 3 motin, 3–6 mote, mot, *Sc.* mwt, 3–4, 5 *Sc.* mut, mwte, 3–4, 5–7 *Sc.* mute, muit, 5 moyte, moytt, 4–7 moote, 7– moot. [OE. *mótian*, f. *mót* Moot *sb.*[1]]

†**1.** a. *intr.* To speak, to converse. In Sc. of 16–17th c. to complain, murmur. *Obs.*

c 1000 Ælfric *On N. Test.* 15 (Gr.) Man mot on eornost motian wið his drihten, se þe wyle, þæt we sprecon mid weorcum wið hine. *c* 1205 Lay. 1443 Cniht þu ært muchel sot þat þu swa motest. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 22550 O murthes þan es nan to mote; Vnquemfulli þan sal þai quak, þat all þe erth it sal to scak. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* XIII. 60 This marschall that I of mwt, That schir Robert of Keth was cald..Quhen that he saw [etc.]. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxxiii. (*George*) 138 Quhen he it fand na but forthir þare-o for to mute, one þe morne he [etc.]. *c* 1400 *Ywaine & Gaw.* 3328 The lord saw it was na bote Obout that mater mor to mote. 1535 Stewart *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) II. 178 In this mater heir will I mute no moir. *a* 1600 Montgomerie *Misc. Poems* ix. 12 If thou be he of vhom so many moots [etc.]. 1603 *Proph. of Waldhaue* (Bannatyne) 39 Mute on if ye may for mister ye haue. 1642 D. Rogers *Naaman* 519 That none should be so daring or presumptuous, as once to mute or quetch, if they once proclaime their will. 1643 R. Baillie *Lett.* (1841) II. 91 Mr. Harie Guthrie made no dinne. His letter was a wand above his head to discipline him, if he should mute. 1644 *Ibid.* 147 This was read openlie in the face of the Assemblie, and in the eares of the Independents, who durst not mute against it.

†b. *trans.* To say, to utter. *Obs.*

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxiv. (*Alexis*) 430 Þat is my bale, but ony but, for þu na word wil to me mut. *c* 1430 *Syr Tryam.* 1439 Syr Tryamoure faght on fote, What schalle we more of hym mote? 1508 Kennedie *Flyting w. Dunbar* 375 For thou sik malice of thy maister mutis, It is wele sett that thou sik barat brace. 1529 Lyndesay *Compl.* 91 The first sillabis that thow did mute Was 'þa, Da Lyn, vpon the lute'. *a* 1585 Montgomerie *Flyting* 294 Of this mismade mowdewart, mischeif they muit.

†**2.** a. *intr.* To argue, to plead, to discuss, dispute, esp. in a law case. In later use *esp.* to debate an imaginary case of law, as was done by students in the Inns of Court. *Obs.*

c 1000 tr. *Basil's Hexameron* iii. (1849) 6 Ðu scealt ȝelyfan on ðone lifiendan God, and na ofer ðine mæðe motian be him. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 43 Ofter he walde anuppon his underlinges mid wohe motien and longe dringan þenne he walde salmes singen oðer eani oðer god don. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 587 Makien se monie clerkes to cumene & se swiðe crefti of alle clergies..to motin wið a meiden! *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1725) 58 The kyng com to London, with lawe to mote in benke. *c* 1350 *St. Mary Magd.* 360 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 85 þe gude man saw it was no bute Ogayns hir wil more forto mote. *a* 1352 Minot *Poems* (ed. Hall) vi. 28 Oure men sall with ȝow mote. 1362 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. III. 155 Heo ledeþ þe lawe as hire luste and louedayes makeþ, þe Mase for a Mene mon þau3 he mote enere. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 17236 Hem is no bote A-ȝeyn Gregays more to mote. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* xlvii. 295 To mote in wronge causys. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* XX. 298 Syr, therof let vs moyte no mare. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* X. 994 The byschop Synclar agayn fled in to But; With that fals king he had no will to mut. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 247/2 To Mute, *allegare*. 1570 Levins *Manip.* 178/32 To moote, *arguere, mouere dubia*. 1602 *2nd Pt. Return fr. Parnass.* IV. i. 1536 It is a plaine case, whereon I mooted in our Temple. 1621 Bp. Mountagu *Diatribæ* 169, I meruaile, Master Selden should moote no better. 1628 Earle *Microcosm., Atturney* (Arh.) 66 He talkes Statutes as fiercely, as if he had mooted seuen yeers in the Inns of Court. 1637 Heylin *Answ. Burton* 9, I..marveile that you have not mooted all this while in some Inne of Chancery. *a* 1652 Brome *Covent Gard.* II. i. (1658) 25 We will Cry mercy, you are busie, we will not moote to day then?

†b. *trans.* To argue (a point, case, etc.). *Obs.*

a 1470 in *Hist. Coll. Citizen London* (Camden) 60 Ande that yere were the plays holdyn and motyde at the Towre of London. 1531 Elyot *Gov.* I. xiv, A case is appoynted to be moted by certayne yonge men, contaynyng some doubtefull controuersie. 1609 Skene *Reg. Maj.* I. 106 b, Quha sa mutes any partie in Court to the third day. 1770 Foote *Lame Lover* I. i. 24 *Mrs. Circuit.* Lord! I wonder Mr. Circuit you would-breed that boy up to the bar. *Sergeant.* Why not, chuck? He has fine steady parts, and for his time moots a point—. 1770 Burke *Pres. Discont.* Sel. Wks. I. 22 If it were not a bad habit to moot cases on the supposed ruin of the constitution. 1796 J. Anstey *Pleaders' Guide* (1803) 145 Then dreams he that some point he's mooting.

3. *trans.* To raise or bring forward (a point, question, subject, etc.) for discussion.

1685 *Gracian's Courtier's Orac.* 253 Politicians now a-days moot nothing else, but that the greatest Wisedom consists in making it appear. 1817 J. Gilchrist *Intell. Patrimony* 153 Those who chiefly moot the business. 1842 E. FitzGerald *Lett.* (1889) I. 82, I am now awaiting the third request in confidence: if you see no symptoms of its being mooted, perhaps you will kindly propose it. 1848 J. H. Newman *Loss & Gain* xix. 285 And now..the question is at least plausibly mooted again. 1902 A. Lang *Hist. Scot.* II. ix. 202 The idea of their marriage had been mooted.

Moot (mūt), *v.*[2] *Obs.* exc. *dial.* [? f. Moot *sb.*[3] (which, however, has not been found earlier than the 19th c.).] *trans.* To dig up, to dig up by the roots. Also, to dig out, unearth (an otter). Hence **Moo·ted** *ppl. a.* (Her.), **Moo·ting** *vbl. sb.*

1473 *Vatton Churchw. Acc.* (Somerset Rec. Soc.) 109 For motyng of the Asschys xx[d]. 1610 Guillim *Heraldry* III. vii. (1660) 131 He beareth, Gules, the Stemme or Trunk of a Tree Eradicated, or Mooted up by the roots. 1661 Morgan *Sph. Gentry* I. iii. 23 Trees on a stock are called Trunked, which also if they are cut, they are called Couped; but if torn (as it were) it is called Irradicated, or Mooted up by the roots. 1823 *New Monthly Mag.* VIII. 500 Thrice did he 'scape us after we mooted him [*sc.* an otter] from the bank. 1847 *Gloss. Heraldry* 226 *Mooted* (or *Moulted*) *up by the roots*, eradicated. 1855 *Archæologia* XXXVI. 428 A huge portion of it [*sc.* this building] on all sides had, to use the provincial term, been 'mooted up', and carried away, for the sake of the stone for building purposes. 1867 Rock *Jim an' Nell* lxxxiv. (E.D.S. No. 76) Moot iv'ry brack about un.

Moot (mūt), *v.*[3] [f. Moot *sb.*[2]] *intr.* To fashion by means of a moot. Hence **Moo·ted** *ppl. a.*, **Moo·ting** *vbl. sb.*

c 1850 *Rudim. Navig.* (Weale) 133 *Mooting.* Making a treenail exactly cylindrical to a given size or diameter, called the *moot*: hence, when so made, it is said to be *mooted*. 1865 *Navy Dockyard Expense Acc.* 6 The planed deals and board, and mooted treenails must be separated from the rough articles to admit of valuation. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.*, Mooting. 1880 *Times* 2 Dec. 8/2 Several thousands rough and mooted oak treenails.

Moot, obs. form of Mote *sb.* and *v.*

Mootable (mū·tăb'l), *a.* [f. Moot *v.*[1] + -able.] Capable of being mooted; open to discussion.

1533 More *Debell. Salem* Wks. 944/2 Much after the maner of a motable case. 1824 Dibdin *Libr. Comp.* 526 But, surely this was a mootable point.

Mootch, obs. form of Mooch *v.*

Moote, obs. f. Moat *sb.*[1], Mote, Moult *v.*

Mooted (mū·tĕd), *ppl. a.* [f. Moot *v.*[1] + -ed[2].] Brought forward for discussion.

1650 Earl Monm. tr. *Senault's Man bec. Guilty* 147 What would you say if the crime were in a mooted case put to you. 1856 Dove *Logic Chr. Faith* v. i. § 2. 269 We must turn to the often mooted question of Idealism. 1887 *Pall Mall G.* 19 Nov. 7/1 He supposed that Sir L. Sackville West and himself..could decide any mooted point.

Mooted, obs. form of Moulted *ppl. a.*

Mooter[1] (mū·tər). Forms: 1 mótere, 3 motere, 4 mutere, 5 mootiere, motare, muter, mwter, 6– mooter. [f. Moot *v.*[1] + -er[1].] One who moots, in senses of the vb.

†**1.** A speaker; one who argues or discusses, a lawyer who argues cases in a court of justice, a pleader; one who discusses a moot case. *Obs.*

a 1000 *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 212/16 *Contionator*, i. *locutor*, motere, *uel* mapelere. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 725 Maxence.. bed bringen biforen him þeos modi moteres. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxxvi. (*Baptista*) 968 Þis alisander can so lere, þat he wes a gud mutere. *c* 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* IV. xix. (1869) 185 And for our mootiere þou art, and our sergeantesse we [etc.]. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 247/2 A Muter, *actor, aduocatus*. *a* 1500 *Ratis Raving* I. 990 Trow weil, It mone be swa, ore vere, Fra þow be mwter at the bare. 1580 Hollyband *Treas. Fr. Tongue, Declamateur*, a Declaimer, a moocer [*read* mooter]. 1637 J. Williams *Holy Table* 72 For the Case must be taken as it is in the Letter..not as this poore Mooter doth reasonably (that is, against all the Laws of reasoning) presume it. 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Moot-men* or *Mooters*, Students at Law, who argue Reader's Cases. 1827 *Mirror* II. 151/2 An expounder of the laws, an arbiter of quibble mooters.

2. One who starts or proposes a qnestion, etc.

1844 Hood *On a Certain Locality* 2 Of public changes, good or ill, I seldom lead the mooters. 1891 *Q. Rev.* Oct. 322 One Professor Beddoes was its mooter.

Mooter[2] (mū·tər). *Ship-building.* [f. Moot *sb.*[2] + -er[1].]

1. (See qnots.)

1750 Blanckley *Nav. Expositor, Mooter*, is the Person who (after the Tree-Nails which are received into Store, rough from the Merchant) makes them smooth, and of proper Sizes. 1815 [see Moot *sb.*[2]] In some recent Dicts.

2. A spike, bolt, treenail.

1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.*

Mooter, obs. form of Multure.

Moot hall. Also 4 mut halle, 4–6 mot(e hall(e, 5 moyt halle, mute hall(e, 6 moute hal. [f. Moot *sb.*[1] + Hall.] A hall in which a moot is held. **a.** A council chamber; a town hall; a judgement hall. (Now only *Hist.* and in names of buildings surviving in certain English towns.) **b.** In the inns of court, a hall where moot cases were argued.

c 1380 Wyclif *Serm.* Sel. Wks. II. 123 Þei ledden Jesus.. in to þe Mut-halle. *c* 1400 *Gamelyn* 717 Gamelyn com boldelich in-to the moot-halle. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 299 Saynt Leonard apperid in myddest of þe mute-hall. 14.. *Nom.* in Wr.-Wülcker 720/22 *Hoc pretorium*, a moythalle. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 253 He was brought forth agayn of the mote hall, & presented to the iewes. 1566 Drant *Horace, Sat.* II. vi. H vj b, The scribes pray me, for maine affayres, to haste the moute hal fro. 1648 *Siege of Colchester* in *Antiquary* Apr. (1880) 168 Fairfax..appointed a Council of War which met at the Moot Hall. 1677 Nicolson *Gloss. Cumb. & Westm.* in *Trans. R. Soc. Lit.* (1870) IX. 316 *Moothall*, guildhall. 1684 *Cowel's Interpr.* s.v. *Moot*, The places where Moot-Cases were argued, was anciently called a Moot-hall. 1794 W. Hutchinson *Hist. Cumbld.* I. 253 The hall in which the assizes are held at Carlisle, still goes by the name of the mote, or moot-hall. 1865 *Reader* 5 Aug. 144 [Hexham] A picturesque moot-hall and prison in one. 1905 *Athenæum* 23 Sept. 402/2 Kindly coastguards had stretched flags from the old Moot Hall [Aldeburgh] to the houses opposite.

Moother, obs. form of Mother *sb.*

Moo·t-hill. *Antiq.* Also 7 *Sc.* mute-. [f. Moot *sb.*[1] + Hill *sb.*

Often confused with Mote-hill; but there seems to be no reason for doubting that both words are genuine.]

A hill on which 'moots' or assemblies were held.

1609 Skene *Reg. Maj.* I. 1 King Malcolme..reserved na thing in propertie to himselfe, bot..the Mute-hill, in the Towne of Scone. 1827 *Archæologia* (1829) XXII. 200 Moot-hills were first raised for such purposes as Churches were considered unfit for. 1874 Green *Short Hist.* I. § 2. 12 Each little village-commonwealth..had its moot hill or sacred tree as a centre. 1902 W. S. Crockett *Scott Country* vii. 123 The Scottish motes have been generally confounded with moot-hills or meeting places, and their military character has even been altogether denied.

†**Moo·t-house.** *Obs.* [OE. *móthús*: see Moot *sb.*[1] and House *sb.*] = Moot Hall.

c 1050 *Suppl. Ælfric's Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 184/8 *Epicausterium*, domhus, *uel* mothus. *c* 1275 *Passion our Lord* 304 in *O. E. Misc.* 46 Þe Gywes..brouhten vre louerd crist to heore mothuse. 1677 Thoroton *Antiq. Nottinghamsh.* 71 A certain Pit on the top of the Hill,..near the most westerly corner of Bingham Lordship, called Moot-house Pit, where the Hundred Court, now known by the name of Moot-house Court, is, or ought to be still kept, or called.

Mooting (mū·tiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [OE. *mótung* fem., f. *mótian*: see Moot *v.*[1] and -ing[1].] The action of Moot *v.*[1]; an instance of this.

†**1.** Discussion, debate; in later use *esp.* forensic argument, legal contest or pleading.

a 1000 *Aldh. Glosses* 4522 in Napier *O. E. Glosses* 117/2 *Colloquio*, of motunge. *c* 1205 Lay. 30235 Þer wes þa motinge bituxe þan twam kinge. *c* 1275 *Passion Our Lord* 87 in *O. E. Misc.* 39 Hi nomen heom to rede at heore motynge. 1362 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. VIII. 61 His pardoun In purgatorie is petit, I trouwe, þat eny Meede of mene Men for Motynge receyueþ. *c* 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) xvii. 79 It giffez him grace to ouercomme his enmys, if his cause be rigtwys, bathe in were and in motyng. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 247/2 A Mutynge, *causa*. 1496 *Dives & Paup.* (W. de W.) III. vii. 143 Also pledynge, motynge, markettes, fayres,..& all the werkes that sholde lette a man from goddes seruyce. *a* 1500 *Ratis Raving* I. 978 For causs of mwtyne and of pled. *a* 1529 Skelton *Col. Cloute* 1075 Stande sure, and take good fotyng, And let be all your motyng, Your gasyng and your totyng. 1553 T. Wilson *Rhet.* 39, I haue knowne diuers, that by familiar talkyng and moutyng together, haue come to right good learnyng. 1641 Baker *Apol. Laymen* 48 We are no Patrons of Lay Elders: though wee give them place in Theological mootings. 1649 Milton *Eikon.* v. Wks. 1851 III. 373 To which and other Law-tractats I referr the more Lawyerlie mooting of this point. 1848 L. Hunt *Town* iii. 138 Young men, brought up in the mooting of points.

†b. A deliberative meeting or body. *Obs.*

c 1275 *Passion of Our Lord* 178 in *O. E. Misc.* 42 Nedde he bute þet word iseyd iudas him com þrynge Mid Gywes and myd phariseus from heore motyrge. *c* 1290 *Beket* 753 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 128 In þe castel sat þe motinge of þis tyraunz ech-on.

2. *spec.* Discussion of imaginary cases at law, as practised by students of the Inns of Court.

1602 *2nd Pt. Return fr. Parnass.* IV. ii. (Arb.) 52, I thinke I do remember this also at a mooting in our Temple. 1636 B. Jonson *Discov., Eloquentia*, There is a difference betweene Mooting, and Pleading, betweene Fencing, and Fighting. 1737 J. Chamberlayne *St. Gt. Brit.* I. III. x. (ed. 33) 241 There are no Mootings or Readings in the Inns of Court or Chancery at this Day. 1880 *Encycl. Brit.* XIII. 89/1 The society of Gray's Inn has revived mootings..with some success.

attrib. 1634 W. Cartwright *Ordinary* III. v. Song, A Mooting Night brings wholsome smiles When John an Okes, and John a Stiles, Doe greaze the Lawyers Satin.

3. The action of propounding for discussion.

1858 Froude *Hist. Eng.* III. 509 Anne herself—who, after the slight agitation which the first mooting of the matter naturally produced, had acquiesced in everything which was proposed to her,—received this intimation with placidity.

Mooting (mū·tiŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. Moot *v.*[1] + -ing[2].] Taking part in a 'moot' of an Inn of Court.

1817 J. Gilchrist *Intell. Patrimony* 131 Probably neither the one nor the other understands what he is writing about more than a big school-boy or mooting babbler.

Mooting, obs. form of Moulting.

Mootit, variant of Moulted.

Mootley, obs. form of Motley.

†**Moo·tman.** *Obs.* [f. Moot *v.*[1] + Man *sb.*[1]]

1. A law student of an Inn of Court; a student who argues a moot case.

1602 Coke *Rep.* III. To Rdr. Ð iv, So in the profession of the Law, there are Mootemen, (which are those that argue Readers Cases in houses of Chauncerie..). Of Mootemen after eight yeres Studie or thereabouts, are chosen Vtterbarristers. 16.. Howell *Twelve Treat.* (1661) 391 In the Constitutions of England, there are two incontroulable Maximes, whereof the meanest mootman that hath but saluted Littleton cannot be ignorant. 1671 E. Chamberlayne *Pres. St. Eng.* II. (1679) 225 Out of these Mootmen

are chosen Readers for the Inns of Chancery. 1707 *Ibid.* III. (ed. 22) 416 The young Student in the Common-Law.. is admitted to be one of the four Inns of Court, where he is first called a Moot-man. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XII. 271/2 There is a bailiff, or surveyor of the moots, annually chosen by the bench, to appoint the moot-men for the inns of chancery.

2. Used for: ELECTOR 3.

1654 VILVAIN *Epit. Ess.* VI. lxxvii. 149 The 7 German Princes or Mootmen, which the Pope constituted to meddle in electing the Emperor.

Moove, Moozheek: see MOVE *v.*, MOUJIK.

Moozle, Moozy: see MUZZLE, MOSY *a.*

† Mop, *sb.*[1] *Obs.* Forms: 4 mopp, 4–5 moppe, 5 mop. [Of obscure origin: prob. related to MOPE *v.* and *sb.*; and perh. also related to MOP *v.*[1]

Cf. Du., LG. *mop*, *mops*, G. *mops* poodle, LG. *mops* block-head.]

1. A fool. Cf. MOPE *sb.* 1.

13.. *Seuyn Sages* (W.) 1114 Ther was a burgeis in this toun..That wolde spouse no nethebours schild, But wente fram hom as a moppe wild. He let his negheboures child for a vice, And wente from hem als moppe and nice. 13.. *Evang. Nicod.* 21 in *Archiv Stud. neu. Spr.* LIII. 392 þis mopp, þat merres our men, calles him god son of heuen. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xxxi. 196 This mop meynes þat he may marke men to þer mede.

2. A playful term for a baby; in quot. 1440 app. a rag doll. Cf. MOPPET[2] 2.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 342/2 Moppe, or popyne [cf. '*Popyne*, chylde of clowtys', *ibid.* 409], *pupa*, *pusio*. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xiii. 724 Hayll, lytyll tyne mop! 1598 FLORIO, *Pupo* ..a daintie mop, a playing babie.

Mop (mɒp), *sb.*[2] Also 5 mappe, 7–8 map(p, mopp, 9 *dial.* map. [Late 15th c. *mappe*; the relation to the earlier MAPPLE is not quite clear.

On the assumption that *mapple* is ad. L. *mappula* (dim. of *mappa* napkin) which may in monastic Latin have been used for 'mop', it would be possible that *mappe* is similarly a direct adoption of L. *mappa*. The ordinary hypothesis that the word is a. OF. *mappe*:—L. *mappa* involves the difficulty that the evidence for this OF. form is slender and doubtful, the Fr. representative of the L. word having been *nap(p)e* from the 11th c. Cf., however, mod. Walloon *map* table-cloth, *mappe* napkin (Remacle).

The form *mop* first appears in the 17th c. (cf. however MOPPET[1], which is recorded much earlier), and may have been due to association with MOP *sb.*[1] in the sense of 'rag doll'. The W.Flem. *moppe*, a ship's mop (De Bo), may possibly be adopted from Eng.]

1. A bundle of coarse yarn or cloth fastened at the end of a stick and arranged so as to soak up liquid easily, used in cleaning floors, etc., and nautically for laying on pitch.

1496 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 174 Shepeskyns bought & spent abought makyng of mappes for layng on of piche Rosyn & talow uppon the seid ship. 1614 *Vestry Bks.* (Surtees) 169 A mapp: for the pulpitt, iiij d. 1623-4 MIDDLETON & ROWLEY *Sp. Gipsy* II. ii, Not such maps as you wash houses with, but maps of countries. 1624 CAPT. SMITH *Virginia* 245 Thrums for pitch Maps. 1659 TORRIANO *Ital. Dict.*, *Pannatore*, a maulkin, a map of clouts or rags to rub or cleanse withall. 1711 TEMPEST *Cryes of London* 28 Maids buy a Mapp.

1665 BOYLE *Exp. Hist. Cold* Postscr. 678 The water that was imployed to wash them, being thinly spread with a Mop, would presently congeal. 1709 SWIFT *Morning* in *Tatler* No. 9 P 1 Now Moll had whirl'd her Mop with dext'rous Airs. 1801 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Gd. Fr. Governess* (1831) 200 A woman was twirling a mop at the door. 1881 BESANT & RICE *Chapl. of Fleet* I. xii, She was supposed to be.. helping Molly the maid with the mop. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl., *Rubber Mop.* The mop-head has a plate of thick rubber which is used as a scrubber or squeezer.

b. (*To be*) *mops and brooms*: half-drunk.

It has been conjectured that this is an allusion to the drinking that took place at the hiring fairs (see MOP *sb.*[3]), at which the maids carried mops or brooms in token of the capacity in which they wished to be hired.

1814 *Sporting Mag.* XLIV. 188 'Now Tom, you're drunk!' 'No Dame not I, I'm only mops and brooms!' 1858 S. BROOKS *Gordian Knot* xxiv. (1868) 217 If I had married a wife, I don't think I should go home to her in a state of mops and brooms. 1891 T. HARDY *Tess* xxxiv. (1892) 288 There is not much doing now, being New Year's Eve, and folks mops and brooms from what's inside 'em.

¶ **c.** (See quot.) ? *nonce-use.*

Halliwell 1847 gives '*Mop*, a napkin (Glo.)'.

1683 SNAPE *Anat. Horse* I. viii. (1686) 13 [The Caul is] called *mappa ventris*, the Map or Dish-clout of the Belly.

2. *transf.* **a.** Applied to various small instruments resembling a mop, e.g. a circular pad of cloth, used in polishing silver with rouge; a brush used by gilders; a surgical instrument with a sponge or other absorbent substance at the end of a handle, for applying medicated fluids or for removing purulent matter, etc.

1869 *Eng. Mechanic* 26 Nov. 254/1 Trees..are painted in .. with a tool called a gilder's mop. 1875 H. C. WOOD *Therap.* (1879) 100 It should be applied by means of a little mop, scrupulous care being exercised to prevent any of the acid from coming in contact with parts not protected. 1898 T. B. WIGLEY *Art Goldsm. & Jeweller* xv. 136 A 'calico mop' charged with a little rouge moistened with water. 1904 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 17 Dec. 1647 A Uterine Mop.

b. *nonce-use.* An aspergillum.

1838 PRESCOTT *Ferd. & Is.* I. xvii. II. 231 The mop, or hyssop, with which the Roman Catholic missionaries were wont to scatter the holy drops. *Ibid.* II. vi. II. 513.

3. A thick mass (of hair, occasionally of foliage).

1847 HALLIWELL, *Mop*, a tuft of grass. West. 1874 SYMONDS *Sk. Italy & Greece* (1898) I. xiv. 307 She had.. a tempestuously frizzled mop of powdered hair. 1886 MRS. F. H. BURNETT *Lit. Ld. Fauntleroy* vii, A little boy..with a splendid mop of bright waving hair. 1887 O. W. HOLMES *Hundred Days in Europe* I. 32 Trees..feathered all the way up their long slender trunks with a lop-sided mop of leaves at the top, like a wig which has slipped awry.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*: **a.** simple attrib., as *mop-cloth*, †*staff*; *mop-headed*, *-topped* adjs.; **b.** objective, as *mop-maker*; **c.** special comb., as **mop-board** *U. S.* (see quot. 1859); **mop brush,** a round paint-brush with a short thick head; **mop-head,** (*a*) the head of a mop; (*b*) a thick head of hair resembling a mop; also, a person having a 'mop' of hair; (*c*) a clamp for a mop-rag on the end of a handle (Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1875); **mop-nail** (see quot.); **mop-squeezer** *slang*, a housemaid.

1859 BARTLETT *Dict. Americanisms*, **Mop-board*, the wash-board which extends around the floor at the base of the walls in the interior of a house, is so called in New England. 1904 *Westm. Gaz.* 10 Sept. 14/2 Take a *mop brush and coat the paper quickly and evenly. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* s.v. *Mop-head*, The *mop-cloth is clamped between toothed jaws. 17.. SHERIDAN (Hoppe), The fops at your end of the town, with *mop-heads and empty skulls. 1824 SCOTT *Redgauntlet* ch. xxiv, Benjie thrust in his mop head. 1878 H. M. STANLEY *Dark Cont.* II. xvi. 426 Many adopt the mop head. *a* 1625 FLETCHER, etc. *Fair Maid Inn* II. ii, As long as we kept the *Mop-headed butter-boxes sober. 1779 FORREST *Voy. N. Guinea* 68 The long hair'd Moors..and the mopheaded Papuas. 1862 H. MARRYAT *Year in Sweden* II. 354 Mop-headed junipers with myriads of unripe berries. 1891 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Mop-headed*, a term applied to those races of men with crisp or woolly hair, which is long and bristly, and grows into a round mass on the top of the head, as in Kafirs. 1723 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 6172/8 John Elston,..*Mopmaker. 1851 in *Illustr. Lond. News* 5 Aug. (1854) 119/2 Mop-maker. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, **Mop-nail*, a flat-headed nail, used in securing a bunch of junk or rope-ends to a handle in making a mop such as sailors use. 1876 AITKEN *Brit. Manuf. Industr., Guns*, etc. 34 Gate, pipe, plate, scupper, mop nails and spikes. 1771 *Misc. Ess.* in *Ann. Reg.* XIV. 197/2 She looks like a *mop-squeezer. 1718 *Free-thinker* No. 21. 146 A Wife has been trained up to handle a Broomstick or a *Mopstaff. 1887 W. RYE *Norfolk Broads* 77 With its trimly-kept lawn, and *mop-topped rose trees.

Mop (mɒp), *sb.*[3] Also 7 mopp. [f. MOP *v.*[1]] A grimace, esp. one made by a monkey. Chiefly in phrase *mops and mows*.

1581 PETTIE tr. *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* I. (1586) 32 b, The Ape..giueth himself to make vs laugh with his mops and mowes. 1621 FLETCHER *Wild Goose Chase* III. i, Heartily I hate these Travellers, These Gim-cracks, made of Mops and Motions. 1668 R. L'ESTRANGE *Vis. Quev.* (1708) 29 Others they call'd Apes (and we Mimicks), these were perpetually making of Mopps and Mowes. 1710 *Banbury Apes* (ed. 4) 8 Truly, says the Mayor, there's sufficient witness that saw him make Mops and Mows at her. 1820 *Marmaiden of Clyde* in Whitelaw *Sc. Ball.* (1857) 92/2 Wi' mop an' mowr, an' glare an' glowr, Grim faces grin ower the waves. 1893 STEVENSON *Catriona* iii, The mops and mows of the old witch.

† Mop, *sb.*[4] *Obs.* Also 6 moppe, 7–8 mopp. [Of obscure origin: cf. MOP *sb.*[1], sense 2.] In the combinations *whiting-mop*, *gurnard-mop*, a young whiting or gurnard. Hence (perh. with allusion to MOP *sb.*[1]) used as a playful appellation for a girl.

1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* III. xix. (Arb.) 229 In our triumphals calling familiarly vpon our Muse, I called her Moppe...Vnderstanding by this word (Moppe) a litle prety Lady, or tender young thing. For so we call litle fishes, that be not come to their full growth (*moppes*,) as whiting moppes, gurnard moppes. 1597 LYLY *Wom. in Moon* v. i, Pandora..louest thou Gunophilus? *Pan.* I, if he be a fish, for fish is fine; Sweete Stesias helpe me to a whiting moppe. 1607 DEKKER & WEBSTER *Westw. Hoe* D.'s Wks. 1873 II. 302 Do you hear, the whiting mop has nibled. 1624 HEYWOOD *Captives* II. ii. in Bullen *O. Pl.* IV, Wheres my sweete? Not heare? no where? why, hoe, my whytinge mopp Late scapt from feeding haddocks. 1630 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Jacke-a-Lent* Wks. I. 117/1 The Whiting, Rotchet,..and the Mop. 1758 *Descr. Thames* 222 The young Fish of this Sort are called by the Londoners Whiting-Mopps.

Mop (mɒp), *sb.*[5] *dial.* Also 8 mapp. [Perh. short for *mop-fair*, f. MOP *sb.*[2]; for the reason for the name see quot. *c* 1830.] The name in some districts for the annual fair or gathering at which servants are hired; a 'statute fair'.

1677 PLOT *Oxfordsh.* 203 In the Northern part of Oxfordshire,..it has always been the custom at set times of year, for young people to meet to be hired as servants; which meeting, at Banbury they call the Mop; at Bloxham the Statute. 1743 in Noake *Rambler in Worcs.*, A mapp will be held at the same time for the hiring of servants. 1797 EDEN *State of Poor* I. 33 *note*, In Gloucestershire..servants continue to attend the mopp or statute, as it is called (i. e. Michaelmas fair), in order to be hired. *c* 1830 MRS. SHERWOOD in *Houlston Tracts* III. No. 62. 3 It is an ancient custom..for servants out of place to assemble, once a year, in or near some great town, for the purpose of being hired. I have heard my mother say, that formerly each person carried a mop, or a broom, or a flail,..or some other badge denoting the office in which they desired to engage; but this was done away with before my time. In this assemblage, which is called a mop, persons in want of servants generally make their choice. 1859 *All Year Round* No. 29. 52 The provincial policeman had said that it was the Mop, or, as the officer pronounced it, the Mope-day. 1870 *3rd Rep. Comm. Employm. Children, etc. Agric.* 62 As many as 500 young men and women come to the great mop fair at Monmouth which takes place in May. 1894 *Westm. Gaz.* 13 Oct. 5/3 Stratford-on-Avon 'mop', said to be the largest statute fair in England, was held yesterday.

† Mop, *sb.*[6] *Obs.*—[o] [Cf. MAUPE; R. Holme perh. mistook the application.] = COALMOUSE.

1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* II. 122/2 Crows, Pies,..Titmouses, Mopps, &c. do much hurt in Orchards. *Ibid.* 243/1 This..we in our Countrey call Tittimous, or Mop.

Mop (mɒp), *v.*[1] Also 6 moppe. [Perh. imitative of movements of the lips: cf. Du. *moppen* to pout.] *intr.* To make a grimace. Chiefly in phrase *to mop and mow* (cf. the older *mock and mow*).

1567 GOLDING *Ovid's Met.* XIV. 174 b, Too moppe and mowe, but not too speake. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 169/17 To moppe, maw, *mouere labia*. 1583 GOLDING *Calvin on Deut.* xxiii. 138 Whensoeuer a Crucifix stands mopping & mowing in the Church [etc.]. 1606 RICH *Faults & nothing but F.* 7 Marke but his countenance, see how hee mops, and how he mowes. 1655 tr. *Com. Hist. Francion* IV. 17 Fremond, drawing her mouth an inch and a half wider than ordinary, and mopping at him [etc.]. 1692 R. L'ESTRANGE *Fables* x. 9 An Asse was so Hardy once, as to fall a Mopping and Braying at a Lyon. 1823 BYRON *Island* IV. vii, Fantastic faces mop'd and mow'd on high. 1858 MERIVALE *Rom. Emp.* I. (1865) VI. 206 He mops and mows, and shakes his palsied head.

Mop (mɒp), *v.*[2] [f. MOP *sb.*[2]]

1. *trans.* To rub with a mop; to wipe or clean with or as with a mop. Also with *out*.

1755 in JOHNSON. 1812 H. & J. SMITH *Rej. Addr., Baby's Debut* vii, I wiped the dust from off the top, While Molly mopp'd it with a mop, And brushed it with a broom. 1898 HENLEY *Lond. Types, Barmaid*, And having mopped the zinc for certain years, And faced the gas, she fades and disappears. 1898 P. MANSON *Trop. Diseases* xxiii. 375 The whole breadth of the abscess cavity, which he [i. e. Zancarol] mops out and stuffs with iodoform gauze.

b. slang. *To mop the floor with*: said of a combatant in whose hands his opponent is helpless.

1887 HENLEY & STEVENSON *Deacon Brodie* I. iii. 1 Newcastle Jemmy! Muck: that's my opinion of him...I'll mop the floor up with him any day. 1897 *Daily News* 2 Oct. 6/2 James I. of England, was more Popish than Protestant; and the King of Spain mopped his floor with him.

2. To wipe perspiration, tears, etc., from (the face, brow, etc.). Also *rarely* with *up*.

1840 THACKERAY *Paris Sk.-bk.* (1869) 67 Gambouge mopped his eyes with his handkerchief. 1852 MRS. STOWE *Uncle Tom's C.* xi, The good-natured old body..who had pulled out a great yellow silk pocket-handkerchief, and was mopping up his face with great energy. 1870 LOWELL *Study Wind.* 4 As we mopped our brows at each other. 1881 BESANT & RICE *Chapl. of Fleet* I. xii, A boy pumped the cold water over him. This done, he..mopped his poll with his silk handkerchief.

3. Mop up. To absorb, wipe up (water, etc.) with or as with a mop. Also in various slang uses: To drink greedily; to absorb, appropriate, get hold of (profits, etc.); to make an end of, slaughter.

1709 [E. WARD] *Rambling Fuddle-Caps* 10 Come, mop up the Batter you've trampl'd and stood in. 1781 P. BECKFORD *Hunting* (1803) 36 If water should remain,..it should be carefully mopped up. 1811 *Lex. Balatron.*, *To Mop up*, to drink up. To empty a glass or pot. 1851-61 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* III. 203 If I gets inside I'll mop up 1*s.* if it's good company. *Ibid.* 250, I have seen the youngest 'mop up' his half-quartern as well as I did. 1888 RIDER HAGGARD *Col. Quaritch* III. i. 2 As he mopped up the streaming blood with a sponge. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Miner's Right* xv, It seems they have been mopping up some rich surfacing. 1899 RIDER HAGGARD *Farmer's Yr.* 387 Afterwards this reverend gentleman very nearly slew me also in mopping up a low pheasant. 1901 *Westm. Gaz.* 18 Dec. 7/2 It is not to be expected..that a force, however large, will be able to 'mop up'..a far smaller body of Boers in a short time.

Hence **Mop-up** *sb.*, a state of being 'mopped up'.

1900 DOYLE *Gt. Boer War* xv. 263 Better six battalions safely down the hill than a mop up in the morning. 1902 *19th Cent.* June 920 He was in for a mop-up this time.

Mop, *v.*[3], variant of MAP *v.*[2], to bewilder.

c 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 18204 The knyghtes that were In that hors stopped, Thei were nother mased ne mopped.

Mope (mōup), *sb.* Also 6 moope. [Related to MOPE *v.*, from which senses 2 and 3 are derived.]

† 1. A fool; = MOP *sb.*[1] 1.

1540 HYRDE tr. *Vives' Instr. Chr. Wom.* (1592) I viij, Nor thou shalt not thereof be reckoned the more moope and foole but the more wise. 1638 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* I. ii. IV. iv. (ed. 3) 142 They will be scoffing..till they baue made by their humoring or gulling, *ex stulto insanum*, a mope or a noddy.

2. One who mopes; a gloomy, listless person.

1693 *Humours Town* 125, I shou'd grow the veriest Mope in the World, if I shou'd forsake this Town. 1728 POPE *Dunc.* II. 33 A Poet's form she plac'd before their eyes, No meagre, muse-rid mope, adust and thin. 1747 W. HORSLEY *Fool* (1748) II. 257 All dull and disconsolate, as the Mopes in Bedlam. *a* 1766 MRS. F. SHERIDAN *Sidney Bidulph* IV. 121 She is become such a mope, that she is really fit company for no one but herself. 1878 M. C. JACKSON *Chaperon's Cares* xiii, She is no mope, only thoughtful and quiet.

3. pl. *The mopes*; depression of spirits.

1825 HONE *Every-day Bk.* I. 944, I have got the mopes. 1838 THACKERAY *Yellowpl. Corr.* iii, Master still in the mopes. 1845 *P. Parley's Ann.* VI. 199 If I go with my eyes fixed upon the ground, they say I have got the mopes, and am going mad. 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 29 Mar. 3/2 If you did not take exercise you fell into a state of weakness and mopes, in which you were an easy victim to enteric.

Mope (mōup), *v.* Also 6–7 moop(e, 7–8 moape. [Of obscure origin; connexion with MOP *v.*[1] is doubtful. Cf. MOP *sb.*[1], MAP *v.*[2], MOP *v.*[3]

In mod. dialects (see *Eng. Dial. Dict.*) the vb. has the senses 'to wander about aimlessly', 'to grope'; among the dialectal forms are *maup*, *maap*, etc. The corresponding word is found in several Scandinavian langs.: cf. Sw. dial. *mopa* to look discontented, sulk, Da. *maabe* to be stupid or unconscious, to mope, Norw. *maapa* to lay about one

wildly with a weapon, Bornholm *måva* to stand gaping, expecting something good. (MSw. *mopa* to befool seems to be more nearly connected with Mope *sb.*[1])]

1. *intr.* 'To be in a state of unconsciousness, to move and act without the impulse and guidance of thought' (Schmidt). *Obs.* exc. *dial.* (see *E. D. D.*).

1568, 1593 [see Moping *ppl. a.*]. 1599 Shaks. *Hen. V*, III. vii. 143 What a wretched and peeuish fellow is this King of England, to mope with his fat-brain'd followers so farre out of his knowledge. 1602 — *Ham.* III. iv. 81 (1604 Qo.) What deuill wast That thus hath cosund you at hodman blind; Eyes without feeling, feeling without sight...Or but a sickly part of one true sence Could not so mope. 1610 — *Temp.* V. 240 Euen in a dreame, were we diuided from them, And were brought moaping hither.

2. To yield oneself up to ennui; to remain in a listless, apathetic condition, without making any effort to rouse oneself; to be dull, dejected and spiritless.

c 1590 Greene *Alphonsus* IV. Wks. (Grosart) XIII. 395 And as for Mars .. He moping sits behind the kitchen-door. 1676 Etherege *Man of Mode* V. ii, Sitting moping like Three or Four Melancholy Birds in a spacious vollary. 1709 Steele *Tatler* No. 2 ¶ 2 Here I sit moping all the live-long Night, Devour'd with Spleen, and Stranger to Delight. 1770 Foote *Lame Lover* II. Wks. 1799 II. 73 For this fortnight he has gone about sighing, and musing, and moping. 1865 Trollope *Belton Est.* V, He's out somewhere, thinking of what is going on, instead of moping in the house. 1882 Miss Braddon *Mt. Royal* II. iii. 31 She was still moping and regretting the discarded lover.

fig. 1795 Wolcot (P. Pindar) *Pindariana* Wks. 1812 IV 164 See yonder cloud that mopes with mournful shade.

b. quasi-*trans.* with *away*.

1791 Charlotte Smith *Celestina* II. 227 Celestina has too much spirit and too much sense to mope away her youth and beauty. *a* 1792 Horne *Disc.* (1795) IV. xii. 279 His religion..directs him not to shut himself up in a cloister alone, there to mope and moan away his life.

3. *trans.* To make dull, dejected, or melancholy. Now only *refl.* and in *passive*, to be the victim of ennui.

1602 Warner *Alb. Eng.* XII. lxxi. (1612) 297 Not moop't at home, but mapping Lands. 1621 Burton *Anat. Mel.* I. ii. iv. iv. (1624) 134 Many men are vndone by this meanes, moped, and so dejected that [etc.]. 1681–4 J. Scott *Chr. Life* I. iv. (ed. 3) 283 It is doubtless a great Disgrace to our Religion to imagine..that it is an Enemy to Mirth and Chearfulness,..that men are never serious enough till they are mope'd into Statues. 1740 J. Clarke *Educ. Youth* (ed. 3) 140 Boys of mild..Tempers, must be dispirited, and moaped..by it. 1799 Mrs. J. West *Tale of Times* II. 94 The viscountess..urged her not to mope herself at home. 1803 Jane Porter *Thaddeus* XXXVI, My father is moped to death for want of you both. 1881 Lady Herbert *Edith* 16 Gordon could not compel her to remain at home and 'mope herself to death' as she expressed it. 1903 *Longm. Mag.* Apr. 494 Any one can see you are moped to death.

Moped (mōupt), *ppl. a.* [f. Mope *v.* + -ed[1].] †**a.** Stupefied, bewildered (*obs.*). **b.** Affected with ennui, dejected, melancholy, low-spirited.

1606 *Sir G. Goosecappe* I. i. in Bullen *O. Pl.* III. 8 Out, ye mopede monckies, can yee not knowe a man from a Marmasett, in theis Frenchified dayes of ours? *a* 1625 Fletcher *Hum. Lieutenant* IV. vi, He is bewitch'd or moop'd or his braines melted. 1692 Locke *Educ.* § 51 Severity..often..breaking the Mind; and then in the Place of a disorderly young Fellow, you haue a low-spirited moap'd Creature. 1713 Swift *Frenzy J. Dennis* Wks. 1755 III. i. 140 Her master never read in them, but he was either quite moped, or in raving fits. 1866 Mrs. Gaskell *Wives & Daus.* xlviii, I've got quite moped and dismal. 1887 R. N. Carey *Uncle Max* I, I was moped, hipped, with all that dreary hospital work.

†**Mo·pedness.** *Obs.* [f. Moped *ppl. a.* + -ness.] The condition of being moped.

1660 H. More *Myst. Godl.* VII. x. 321 Unless Scepticism be heightned unto a disease as perfect as either Madness or down-right Mopedness. 1668 — *Div. Dial.* II. xxiii. (1713) 161 Given over either to miserable Mopedness or Distraction.

Mo·pe-eye. *rare*—°. [Back formation from next.] Myopia. 1891 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

Mope-eyed (mōu·pi̯əi·d), *a.* Also 7 mop(p)-eyed. [f. stem of Mope *v.* (where see sense 1).] Purblind, short-sighted.

Johnson 1755 erroneously explains it as 'blind in one eye', following Ainsworth, who renders it by L. *luscus*.

1606 Heywood *2nd Pt. You know not me* (1609) D 3, I think thou art mop-eide this morning, giue me the booke. 1607 Walkington *Opt. Glass* 36 A mope-ei'd foole he rising, first was deem'd. 1648 Herrick *Hesper., Upon Himselfe*, Mop-ey'd I am, as some have said, Because I've liv'd so long a maid. 1736 Ainsworth *Lat. Dict.* II, *Lippus*... Having dropping, or waterish eyes; mopeyed. 1768 Boyer *Dict. Eng. & Fr.* II, *Mopeyed* (dim sighted.) *Qui a la vue courte.* 1861 *Temple Bar* I. 174 He is not good-looking; he is mope-eyed and ungainly.

Mo·peful, *a.* [f. Mope *v.* + -ful.] (See q. ot.)

1846 Worcester, *Mopeful*, drowsy; stupid; dull. *C. B. Brown.* In recent Dicts.

Mo·per. [f. Mope *v.* + -er[1].] One who mopes.

1876 W. Cory *Lett. & Jrnls.* (1897) 422 Am I not the same moper that heard Hallam read aloud? 1880 J. Nicoll *Poems & Songs* 169 I'll he nae permissive moper.

Mopey, var. Mopy *a.* **Moph**: see Moff[1].

Mo·phrodite. Also 8 morphrodite. A vulgar corruption of Hermaphrodite.

1706 Vanbrugh *Prov. Wife* IV. iii. (ed. 2), I heard Mr. Constable say she was little better than a morphrodite. 1742 Fielding *Jos. Andrews* I. ix, You must..get a set of mophrodites to wait upon you. 1889 *N. W. Linc. Gloss*, *Mophrodite.* (1) An hermaphrodite. (2) A waggon that can be converted into a cart. [Cf. Morfrey.]

Moping (mōu·piŋ), *vbl. sb.* [-ing[1].] The action of the vb. Mope; an instance of this.

1671 H. Foulis *Hist. Rom. Treasons* (1681) 63 One may know his meaning by his moping. 1700 Dryden *Pal. & Arc.* I. 541 Full of museful Mopings, which presage The loss of Reason, and conclude in Rage. 1850 Kingsley *Alton Locke* XXXVI, Long melancholy mopings..were periodically succeeded by wild frenzies.

attrib. 1812 Byron *Ch. Har.* I. xxviii, Again he rouses from his moping fits.

Moping (mōu·piŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. Mope *v.* + -ing[2].] That mopes; †wandering aimlessly, bewildered (*obs.*); in mod. use, dejected, dull, spiritless.

1568 *Hist. Jacob & Esau* I. i. A iij b, Nowe a mischief on all mopyng fooles for mee. 1593 Drayton *Ecl.* vi. 167 See where yon little moping Lambe of mine It selfe hath tangled in a crawling Breere. 1674 Milton *P. L.* (ed. 2) XI. 485 Moaping Melancholie. 1709–10 Steele *Tatler* No. 125 ¶ 2 A moaping Lover would grow a pleasant Fellow. 1750 Gray *Elegy* iii, The moping owl. 1851 Borrow *Lavengro* lxx, How sad and moping must life be in mighty Jupiter, on which no sun ever shines. 1876 T. Hardy *Ethelberta* (1890) 402 Moping sounds came from the trees and sky, as from Sorrow whispering to Night.

Hence **Mo·pingly** *adv.*, in a moping manner.

1880 Miss Broughton *Sec. Th.* I. viii, She sits..mopingly thinking from breakfast to bed-time.

†**Mo·pish,** *a.*[1] *Obs.* Also 7 moppish, 4 mop(p)isch(e. [f. Mop *sb.*[1] + -ish. (Sense 1 is akin to that of Mope *v.* 1, though appearing much earlier.)]

1. Stupidly bewildered. *Obs.*

c 1300 *Beket* 78 Heo..3code aboute as a best that ne couthe no wysdom, As heo were of another wordle, that folc thicke ynou3 To biholde such a mopisch best aboute hire ther nou3. 13.. *St. Brandan* 115 (Trin. Coll. Camb. MS.) Hu wende aboute as moppysche [*Harl. MS.* maskede] men that nuste wer hu were.

2. Foolish.

1568 *Hist. Jacob & Esau* V. x. G iij, Yea mother, see that ye holde with that mopishe elfe. 1577 T. Kendall *Flowers of Epigr.* 107 As mopish Monkes and foolish Friers did weare most commonly. 1608–11 Bp. Hall *Medit. & Vows* II. § 52, I need not be so mopish as not to beleeue rather the language of the hand than of the tongue. 1609 Bp. W. Barlow *Answ. Nameless Cath.* 315 Presenting nothing worthy view but moppish toies, in ridiculous fables.

Mopish (mōu·piʃ), *a.*[2] [f. Mope *v.* + -ish.] Given to moping; causing moping; characterized by a weak melancholy; dejected.

1621 S. Ward *Life of Faith* 16 Why are many of thy followers so dead, so mopish, so melancholy? 1675 Howe *Liv. Temple* I. v, 'Tis a sad moapish disconsolate Temper, cuts off, and quite banishes all manly rational joy. 1716 M. Davies *Athen. Brit.* III. *Suppl. Diss. Drama* 18 Becoming stupid and mopish as well as sottish and foolish. 1889 Clark Russell *Mayooned* (1890) 262 A woman who had been fretful and mopish.

Hence **Mo·pishly** *adv.*; **Mo·pishness.**

1598 J. Dickenson *Greene in Conc.* (1878) 100 Tush (quoth he) thou art too scrupulous; this is not modesty, but mopishnesse. 1651 Bp. Hall *Soliloq.* xxix. Wks. 1808 VI. 359 Here, one mopishly stupid, and so fixed to his posture, as if he were a breathing statue. 1707 Sloane *Jamaica* I. p. cxiv, By degrees she fell into a perfect Mopishness or stupidity. 1859 C. S. Henry *Dr. Oldham's Talks* xi. (1860) 93 His mopishness vanished with his wife's return. 1879 Miss Braddon *Vixen* III. 115 You have behaved mopishly of late.

Moplah (mo·plä). *Anglo-Indian.* Also 8–9 mopla, 9 mapilla, mopilla, moplai, -lar, -lay. [a. Malayālam *māppila.*] One of the Mohammedan inhabitants of Malabar, descended from Moors and Arabs who have settled on that coast, and married Malabar women.

1787 Ritson *Life & Lett.* (1833) I. 124 Your wond'rous tales..Of Moplas fierce your hand has tam'd, And monsters that your sword has maim'd. 1807 F. Buchanan *Journ. Madras*, etc. II. 391 No instance occurs of a Moplay having been converted. 1880 C. R. Markham *Peruv. Bark* 363 The Chettis, Nairs, and Moplahs, who occupy land in Wainad, generally select elevated knolls for the sites of their dwellings.

Mopoke (mōu·pōuk), **morepork** (mōu·rpōuk). Also maw(e)pawk, mope hawk, moopoo. [Imitative of the bird's note; the forms *morepork, mope hawk* are obvious interpretative corruptions; the prevailing form in Australian use is now *mopoke.*]

1. A name given in New Zealand to an owl, the *Spiloglaux novæ-zealandiæ*, in Tasmania to the night-jar, *Podargus cuvieri*, and in Australia to other birds, as the *Ninox boobook.*

1827 Hellyer in Bischoff *Van Diemen's Land* (1832) 177 One of the men shot a 'more pork'. 1846 G. H. Haydon *5 Yrs. Austral. Felix* VI. 132 The doleful cry of the morepork. 1848 Gould *Birds Australia* II. pl. 1 *Ægotheles Novæ-Hollandiæ* Vig. and Horsf., Owlet Nightjar..Little Mawepawk, colonists of Van Diemen's Land. 1852 Mrs. Meredith *My Home in Tasmania* II. xviii. 253 The Mawpawk, More Pork, or Mope Hawk, is common in most parts of the colony. 1864 J. Rogers *New Rush* II. 39 A Mopoke may pick out my eyes. 1890 *Melbourne Argus* 26 July 4/4 The shapeless moopoo seemed to cast down an evil eye as he flitted past. 1896 Spencer *Through Larapinta Land* 124 In the gum trees the 'mopokes' (*Ninox boobook*) were calling to one another. 1898 M. Roberts *Keeper of Waters* 138 He sold a station in Victoria, and they said he was as silly as a 'morepork'.

b. *transf.* A 'stupid'.

1890 'R. Boldrewood' *Col. Reformer* xiii. 125 What a regular more-pork I was to be sure.

2. The note of this bird.

1827 Hellyer in Bischoff *Van Diemen's Land* (1832) 177 The owl's doleful cry of 'more pork'. 1868 Carleton *Austr. Nts.* 19 The Austral cuckoo spoke His melancholy note—'Mo-poke'. 1889 Lumholtz *Cannibals* 33 We are lulled to sleep by the melancholy..voices of the night bird Podargus 'more-pork! more-pork!'

†**Mo·ppet**[1]. *Obs.* Forms: 6 mappatt, moppat(t, moppett. [? Alteration of *mapolt*, var. of Mapple.] A mop; a sponge for a cannon.

1512 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scott.* IV. 454 For moppatis to the calfetouris. 1512–13 *Ibid.* 465 For iiij scheip skynnys to mak moppatis for the tallowyng of the James. 1532 *Ibid.* VI. 157 For mappattis and tappounis xxs. 1566 *Inv. R. Wardr.* (1815) 168 Item, nyne moppatis mountit, all serving to sindrie peceis. 1580 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* III. 320 With thre moppettis to serve the saidis peces.

Moppet[2] (mo·pĕt). Also 7 mopphet. [f. Mop *sb.*[1] + -et.]

1. Used as an endearing appellation for a baby, a girl, etc.; a darling, a favourite. Also used contemptuously (? after sense 2) for a gaily dressed or frivolous woman. *Obs.* or *arch.*

1601 Munday & Chettle *Death Earl Huntington* K 2 b, And, moppet, you were best To take their proffers. 1630 Lennard tr. *Charron's Wisd.* III. xiv. (1670) 460 A simple instinct..according to which Parents love..their children, though deformed..and use them like moppets or little apes. 1713 Rowe *Jane Shore* IV. Wks. 1792 II. 164 A moppet made of prettiness and pride. 1746 Francis tr. *Horace, Sat.* I. iii. 64 Is he of dwarfish and abortive size? 'Sweet little moppet', the fond father cries. 1782 Eliz. Blower *Geo. Bateman* III. 70 I'll..tell father and mother, and Peggy, what a moppet you have made of yourself. 1796 Mrs. M. Robinson *Angelina* II. 79, I had rather see her dead, than making such a moppet of herself, as to run about like a vagrant, play-acting. 1801 Charlotte Smith *Lett. Solit. Wand.* II. 10 While the most insipid moppet that ever looked in a glass is preferred to one of those reasoning damsels.

b. Contemptuously applied to a man.

1707 Cibber *Double Gallant* III, He'll think I don't love him else. Poor Moppet! 1766 H. Walpole *Lett.* 13 Nov., He went to the Lord Mayor's feast, and dragged along with him that wise moppet, Lord Lyttelton. 1781 *Ibid.* 25 Mar., A moppet in Grosvenor Square has conceived hopes from this rising storm [etc.].

†**2.** A rag doll. *Obs. rare*—°.

[Cf. quot. *c* 1440 s.v. Mop *sb.*[1] 2.]

1755 Johnson, *Moppet*, a puppet made of rags, as a mop is made.

3. A woolly variety of dog. (Cf. Mops[2].)

1861 Gen. P. Thompson in *Bradford Advertiser* 7 Dec. 6/1 The curly moppet of the respectable household, whose locks are carved into some absurd suggestion of a lion.

†**Mo·ppet**[3]. *Obs. rare*—[1]. [f. Mop *sb.*[2] + -et.] A grimace.

1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. Prol. 17 And albeit we see them sometimes counterfeit Devotion, yet never did Old Age [? *read* Ape] make pretty Moppet [orig. *onques vieil singe ne fit belle moue*].

Mopp-eyed, obs. form of Mope-eyed.

Mopping (mo·piŋ), *vbl. sb.*[1] [f. Mop *v.*[1] + -ing[1].] Grimacing; also, an instance of this.

1615 G. Sandys *Trav.* 227 Administring matter of mirth with their ridiculous moppings. 1881 Stevenson *Virg. Puerisque* 110 Such a mopping and a mowing.

Mopping (mo·piŋ), *vbl. sb.*[2] [f. Mop *v.*[3] + -ing[1].] Rubbing or wiping with or as with a mop.

1833 Marryat *P. Simple* XXXI, The heat was terrible, and the *mopping* of the ladies' faces everlasting. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV. 830 A method which combines general chloroform narcosis with frequently-repeated local moppings of the pharynx and larynx of the patient.

Moppish: see Mopish *a.*[1]

Moppit, obs. form of Moppet.

Moppy (mo·pi). [f. Mop *sb.*[2] + -y.]

1. Of hair, foliage, etc.: Resembling a mop; having the characteristics of a mop; thick.

1725 Bradley *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Orange tree*, Let him pare off two Thirds of the Earth, and prune the Fibres and moppy Roots. 1880 A. H. Keane in *Nature* 30 Dec. 202/2 The moppy head being thoroughly Papúan. 1884 G. Moore *Mummer's Wife* (1892) 49 His moppy black hair

2. *slang.* Intoxicated. (Cf. Mop *sb.*[2] 1 b.)

1823 *Grose's Dict. Vulg. T.* (ed. Egan), *Moppy*, drunk. *Cant.*

†**Mops**[1]. *Obs.* Also 7 mopse. [Prob. an extension of Mop *sb.*[1]; cf. Moppet, Mopsy.] A term of endearment for a young girl.

1565 Golding *Ovid's Met.* III. (1567) 32 b, Little bibling Phyale, and Pseke that pretie Mops. 1584 Peele *Arraignm. Paris* IV. i, I' faith, i' faith, my gentle mops, but I do know a cast. 1588 T. Thomas *Dict.* (1613), *Puellula*,..a little pretie girle: a little mopse. 1592 Lyly *Midas* I. ii, We are no chase (prettie mops,) for Deere we are not, neither red nor fallow. 1654 Gayton *Pleas. Notes* II. ii. 37 Which Sancho stole from his ill favoured Mopse.

Mops[2] (mɒps). *rare*—°. [a. G. *mops* = Du. *mops, mop.*] A pug-dog. 1890 in *Century Dict.*

†**Mo·psical,** *a. Obs. rare*—[1]. [? f. Mops[1] or Mopsy + -ical.] ? Like a spoiled child, pettish.

Blount *Glossogr.* 1656–61 explains it as 'that cannot see well'; connecting it with 'our phrase *mop-eyed*'. The explanation has been copied in many later Dicts.

1653 Gauden *Hierasp.* Pref. to Rdr. 9 Their Mopsicall humors being never satisfied, but in fancying themselves as Kings, and reigning with Christ.

Mopstick (mɒ·pstik). [f. Mop *sb.*3 + Stick.]

1. The handle of a mop.

1710 Swift *Jrnl. to Stella* 16 Dec., Hang it [a picture] carefully in some part of your room, where chairs and candles and mop-sticks won't spoil it. 1818 Miss Mitford in L'Estrange *Life* (1870) II. 31 Our candidate is vastly like a mopstick, or, rather, a tall hop-pole.

†b. *Cry mapsticks!* app. a vulgar jocose perversion of 'I cry you mercy'. *Obs.*

1738 SWIFT *Pol. Conversat.* i. 26 *Neverout.* Cry, Mapsticks, Madam; no Offence, I hope.

2. *Pianoforte manufacture.* (See quot. 1875.)

1870 BRINSMEAD *Hist. Pianoforte* 52 The sticker, or mop-stick,..raised the damper at the same moment that the hammer was impelled against the string. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech., Mop stick*, a vertical damper-rod at the end of the key in the old piano-forte movement, single action.

attrib. 1885 HIPKINS in *Encycl. Brit.* XIX. 72/2 This defect is overcome by Zumpe's 'mopstick' damper.

Mopsy (mɒ·psi). Also 7–8 **mopsie**, 8 **mapsie**, 9 **mopsey**. [f. MOP *sb.*[1]; the ending *-sy* is common *dial.* in terms of endearment, as in *babsy, ducksy*: cf. the pet names *Betsy, Patsy*.]

1. Used as a term of endearment; a pretty child; a darling, a sweetheart. ? *Obs.*

1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* I. (Arb.) 41 Thee mopsy [*sc.* the infant Ascanius] her phantasye lurcheth. 1583 STUBBES *Anat. Abus.* I. (1879) 147 Borrowed for the most parte of their pretie Mopsies & looving Besses. 1705 VANBRUGH *Mistake* IV. i, *Jacin.* But don't expect I'll follow her Example. *San.* You would, Mopsie, if I'd let you. 1706 E. WARD *Hud. Rediv.* x. v. 10 These mix'd with Brewers, and their Mopsies.

2. A slatternly, untidy woman. ? *Obs.*

a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Mopsie*, a Dowdy, or Homely Woman. *c* 1785 *John Thompson's Man* 14 If you wed an old mapsie, murlie .deformed Creature to be thy Wife. 1800 LAMB *Let. to Coleridge* You encouraged that mopsey, Miss Wesley, to dance after you, in the hope of having her nonsense put into a nonsensical Anthology.

3. 'A woolly variety of dog'. 1855 OGILVIE *Suppl.*

Mopus[1] (mō·pŭs). *Obs.* exc. *dial.* (see E. D. D.). [f. MOPE *sb.* (? with quasi-Latin ending).] A mope; a dull, stupid person.

a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew* s. v., *A meer Mopus grown*, become dispirited, dull and Stupid. 1700 CONGREVE *Way of World* III. i, Dids't thou not hear me, Mopus? 1729 SWIFT *Grand Quest. Debated* 27 I'm grown a mere mopus; no company comes But a rabble of tenants and rusty dull rums.

†**Mo·pus**[2]. *Obs.* In Barbadoes, the local name of the Knot, *Tringa canutus*.

1750 G. HUGHES *Barbados* 78 Of the Mopuses. There are three Sorts of these..the Large, the Small, and the Hiding Mopus. 1848 in SCHOMBURGK *Hist. Barbados* 681.

Mopus[3] (mō·pŭs). *slang.* †a. 'A halfpenny or farthing' (B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, a* 1700). b. *pl.* Money in general.

1769 *Stratford Jubilee* II. i. 32 If she [a rich widow] has the mopus's, I'll have her, as snug as a bug in a rug. 1798 *Geraldina* I. 44 You have got the *mopusses, the ready*. 1840 *New Monthly Mag.* LX. 373 Without the mopuses to pay for your call, the demand will be like Owen Glendower's demand for 'spirits from the vasty deep'. 1892 M. WILLIAMS *Round Lond.* (1893) 23 They hav'nt got any mopusses.

attrib. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* vi, Look to the pewter room, Blowser. You, Mark, to the old gaff's mopus box!

Mopy (mō·pi), *a.* Also **mopey**. [f. MOPE *v.* + -Y.] Given to moping, causing moping, dull.

1827 *Sporting Mag.* XIX. 274, I am so very deaf and mopy like. 1833 MRS. LYNN LINTON *Ione* i, A dull country town like this mopy old Oakhurst! 1889 W. S. GILBERT *Gondoliers* II. 33 After you left we felt very dull and mopey.

Moqua, obs. form of MOHAWK.

†**Moquet**. *Obs. rare*[−1]. [? a use of F. *moquette*: see next.] = CHAWDRON.

1578 LYTE *Dodoens* v. xviii. 572 The second kinde of Lettuce hath crompled leaues, wrinckled and..drawen togither almost like the Moquet or Chauden of a Calfe.

Moquette (mɒke·t). Also 8 *quasi-fl.* **mocketto**. [a. F. *moquette*; according to Hatz.-Darm. a corruption of *mocade* MOCKADO.] A material composed of wool and hemp or linen, chiefly used for carpeting. Also *moquette carpet*.

1762 tr. *Busching's Syst. Geog.* II. 401 In it are also made very beautiful baragons, together with mockettoes, a kind of carpets. 1852–4 *Tomlinson's Cycl. Usef. Arts* (1866) II. 867 The Wilton carpet, called *Moquette* by the French, differs from the Brussels in the form of the wire [etc.]. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Moquette*, a tapestry Brussels carpet of a fine quality; a species of Wilton carpet. 1876 *Encycl. Brit.* V. 130/1 Moquette or Wilton Carpets are woven in the same manner as Brussels carpets. 1894 J. PENDLETON *Our Railways* I. 443 Its saloons..upholstered in moquette.

Mor, obs. form of MOOR, MORE.

‖ **Mora**[1] (mō·rā). [L. *mora* delay.]

1. *Scots Law.* Negligent delay (see quot. 1838).

1569 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* II. 9 Nowther the said Erll of Huntley nor yit the parteis complenaris ar in mora. 1838 W. BELL *Dict. Law Scotl., Mora*, or delay, is a general term applicable to all undue delay in the prosecution or completion of an inchoate bargain, diligence, or the like.

†2. A short space of time; a delay. *Obs. rare.*

a 1633 G. HERBERT *Jacula Prud.* 145 Good is the *mora* that makes all sure. *a* 1677 HALE *Prim. Orig. Man.* 76 This preparation..requires a competent *mora*, or time, antecedent to its complete and full constitution. *Ibid.* 102.

3. (Pl. *moræ*.) A unit of metrical time equal to the duration of a short syllable.

1848 DONALDSON *Gr. Gram.* 16 The shortest time in which a syllable can be pronounced is called a *mora*, or single *time*. A short syllable has one *mora*: a long syllable contains two *moræ*. 1879 J. W. WHITE tr. *Schmidt's Rhythmic & Metric* 65.

‖ **Mora**[2], **morra** (mɒ·rā). [It. *mora*, of unknown origin. Cf. F. *mourre* in the same sense.] A popular game in Italy in which one player guesses the number of fingers held up simultaneously by another player. Also applied by Europeans to a similar game in China.

1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Mora*, the Italian Play of Love with the Fingers. 1797 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Italian* ii, Vivaldi heard only the quick and eager voices of some Lazaroni.. as they contended at the simple game of *Morra*. 1833 LONGF. *Outre-Mer, Rome in Midsummer* P 1 The idle facchino..plays at *mora* by the fountain. 1848 S. W. WILLIAMS *Mid. Kingd.* (1883) I. 808 The guests relieve its tedium by playing the game of *chai mei*, or morra (the *micare digitis* of the old Romans), which consists in showing the fingers to each other across the table, and mentioning a number at the same moment; as, if one opens out two fingers, and mentions the number four, the other instantly shows six fingers, and mentions that number. If he mistake in giving the complement of ten, he pays a forfeit by drinking a cup.

‖ **Mora**[3] (mō·rā). *Gr. Hist.* Pl. **moras**. [Gr. μόρα, f. μορ-, μερ- to divide.] One of the (originally six) divisions of which the Spartan army consisted.

1838 THIRLWALL *Greece* XXXVIII. V. 77 Two moras had been kept at home, together with the veterans. 1850 GROTE *Greece* II. lvi. VII. 109 Every order emanated from the Spartan King..and was given to the Polemarchs, each commanding a mora, the largest military division.

‖ **Mora**[4] (mō·rā). [Shortened from Tupi *moiratinga* 'white tree', f. *moira* tree, *tinga* white.] A lofty tree, *Mora excelsa*, found in British Guiana and Trinidad. Also *altrib.*, as *mora-tree, wood*.

1826 SYD. SMITH *Wks.* (1859) II. 74 Among these, pre-eminent in height rises the mora. 1840 SCHOMBURGK *Descr. Brit. Guiana* 31 The Mora (*Mora excelsa*, Benth.) may well be called the king of the forest; it towers above every other tree. 1843 HOLTZAPFFEL *Turning*, etc. I. 94 Morawood .. is close-grained like teak, and superior to oak, esteemed for ship-building..; in colour it resembles moderately red mahogany. 1864–5 WOOD *Homes without H.* ii. (1868) 82 The Toucan..may generally be seen perched on the topmost boughs of the lofty mora-tree.

‖ **Mora**[5] (mō·rā). *Anglo-Indian.* Also **morah**. [Hind. *morha*.] A stool, foot-stool. ('In common colloquial use', Yule.)

c 1813 MRS. SHERWOOD *Stories Ch. Catech.* vii. 45 She took her Bible and a mora, and went and sat in one corner of the room. 1845 STOCQUELER *Handbk. Brit. India* (1854) 98 One or two morahs, or stools.

Morabit, -bot, obs. forms of MARABOUT.

‖ **Morai**, incorrect form of MARAE.

1772–84 COOK *Voy.* (1790) V. 1705. 1840 F. D. BENNETT *Whaling Voy.* II. 394.

Morain, variant of MORION.

Morainal (morē·nal), *a.* [f. MORAINE + -AL.] Of or pertaining to a moraine.

1872 C. KING *Mountain. Sierra Nev.* viii. 154 An accumulation of morainal matter deposited by ancient Merced glaciers. 1899 *Pop. Sci. Monthly* LV. 570 The flora is morainal in its general character.

Moraine (morē·n). [a. F. *moraine*.] An accumulation of débris from the mountains carried down and deposited by a glacier.

Lateral, terminal moraine, a deposit at the side or the extremity of a glacier respectively. *Medial moraine*, a deposit between two conjoining glaciers.

1789 COXE *Trav. Switz.* II. xxxviii. 3 We crossed some snow..and immediately got upon the moraine, the term given to the stones and earth which the glaciers disgorge on each side. 1863 LYELL *Antiq. Man* xv. 298 The lateral, medial, and terminal moraines of great glaciers. 1878 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* 159 We generally find, across the end of the glacier, a confused heap of rubbish, known as a *terminal moraine*.

attrib. 1863 *Q. Rev.* CXIV. 410 It seems to be moraine mud. 1878 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* 163 Bergs break off and float away carrying their burden of moraine matter.

Moraine, obs. form of MURRAIN.

Morainic (morē·nik), *a.* [f. MORAINE + -IC.] Of or pertaining to, or of the nature of, a moraine.

1863 LYELL *Antiq. Man* xv. 314 The ponds .. consist exclusively of what M. de Mortillet has denominated morainic lakes, i. e. caused by barriers of glacier-mud and stones. 1889 G. F. WRIGHT *Ice Age N. Amer.* 478 Morainic ridges.

Moral (mɒ·rāl), *sb.* Also 6–7 mor(r)all. [Subst. use of MORAL *a.*; but several of the uses are wholly or in part suggested by the corresponding late L. *mōrāle* neut. sing., *mōrālia* neut. pl., F. *moral* masc., *morale* fem. (see MORALE).]

1. *pl.* (earlier †*sing.*) Used to render L. *Moralia* pl. as the title of St. Gregory the Great's work on the moral exposition of the Book of Job, and (later) as the collective title given to Plutarch's writings other than the 'Lives', to the ethical writings of Seneca, etc.

c 1380 *Antecrist* in Todd 3 *Treat. Wyclif* (1851) 121 Gregor in þe two & þritti boke of hise moral. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 22 As saynt Gregory sayth in his Moralles. 1603 HOLLAND (*title*) The Philosophie commonlie called, The Morals. Written by .. Plutarch. 1678 R. L'ESTRANGE (*title*) Seneca's Morals, by way of Abstract. 1824 SCOTT *Epilogue* (init.), The sages—for authority, pray look Seneca's morals, or the copy-book.

2. The moral teaching or practical lesson (of a fiction or fable; sometimes, of a real occurrence); also in phr. *to point a moral* (cf. POINT *v.*[1] 5 b).

a 1500 *Everyman* end, This morall men may have in mynde: Ye herers take it of worth,..And forsake Pryde. 1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II*, IV. i. 290 Marke silent King, the Morall of this sport. 1602 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* x. lx. (1612) 263 The Fables Morall of the Stock and Stork. 1634 W. TIRWHYT tr. *Balzac's Lett.* (vol. I.) 282 The Morall hereof is, that you must make use of your youth, and gather Nosegays before the roses wither. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* IX. 361 No fancy'd God .. descends To solve all knots; to strike the moral home. 1748 JOHNSON *Van. Hum. Wishes* 222 To point a moral, or adorn a tale. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* ii, There's a moral in everything. 1861 M. PATTISON *Ess.* (1889) I. 45 An inscription..in which the moral was better than the point.

b. An exposition of the moral teaching or practical lesson contained in a literary composition; that part of a composition (*e.g.* of a fable) which applies or points the moral meaning.

1560 T. H. (*title*) The Fable of Ouid treting of Narcissus, translated out of Latin into Englysh Mytre, with a moral ther vnto. 1892 R. L'ESTRANGE (*title*) Fables, of Æsop ..with Morals and Reflexions. 1752 YOUNG *Brothers* V. i, As if the Thracian queen conducted all, And wrote the moral in her children's blood.

†c. Import, meaning, signification. *Obs.*

1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* IV. iv. 79 *Biond.* You saw my Master winke and laugh vpon you? *Luc.* Biondello, what of that? *Biond.* Faith nothing: but has left mee here behinde to expound the meaning or morall of his signes and tokens. 1841 CATLIN *N. Amer. Ind.* (1844) I. xiv. 102 Indians,..with their few and simple oddities, all of which have their moral or meaning.

†3. A symbolical figure. *Obs.*

1584 CONSTABLE *Soun.* IV. iv, Fooles be they that inueigh gainst Mahomet, Who's but a morrall of Ioues Monarchie. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, III. vi. 40 Fortune is painted blinde.. to signifie to you, that Fortune is blinde...Fortune is an excellent Morall.

b. *vulgarly.* Counterpart, likeness. Chiefly in phr. *the very moral of...* (Cf. MODEL *sb.* 2 b.)

1757 SMOLLETT *Reprisal* I. ii, Och! the delicate creature!—she's the very moral of my own honey. 1850 SMEDLEY *F. Fairlegh* (1894) 41 He's the very moral (as the old women call it) of Sir John. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* (1891) 102 He's..the very moral of a horse the whipper-in..rode.

4. = MORALITY 4 b. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.*

1578 in Cunningham *Revels at Crt.* (1842) 125 A Morrall of the marryage of Mynde and Measure shewen at Richmood. 1592 NASHE *Four Lett. Confut.* 21 You haue counterfeited the stile of the olde Vice in the Morralls. 1606 DEKKER *Sev. Sinnes* VII. (Arb.) 45 Crueltie hath yet another part to play, it is acted (like the old Morralls at Maningtree) by Trades-men. 1875 A. W. WARD *Eng. Dram. Lit.* I. i. 23 Morals teach and illustrate the same religious truths..by allegorical means.

†5. A moralist. *Obs. rare.*

1615 BRATHWAIT *Strappado* 125 Nor did that Morall erre, who wisely would, Compare a Courtiers witte to th' Marigold. 1626 BRETON *Fantastiques* (Cass.), That experienst morall [*i.e.* Socrates].

†6. *sing.* (A person's) moral principles or practice. *Obs.*

1688 *Answ. Talon's Plea* 6 But they continue still to upbraid 'em, that they are of the Caball;..that their Moral is rotten. 1718 PRIOR *Epitaph* 17 Their Moral and Oeconomy, Most perfectly They made agree. 1733 POPE *Ess. Man* III. 286 'Twas then..Poet or Patriot, rose but to restore The Faith and Moral Nature gave before. 1757 MRS. GRIFFITH *Lett. Henry & Frances* (1767) I. p. iii, This pair of polite and happy lovers seem to have used their passions as they were designed by Providence, to inspirit their reason, and to actuate their moral. 1820 BYRON *Let. to Murray* 21 Feb., Their [*sc.* Italians'] moral is not your moral; their life is not your life.

‖ b. The condition (of troops, etc.) with respect to discipline, subordination, and confidence.

[Fr.; pronounced (mɒral): see MORALE 2.]

1883 EVE in *Three Lect. Educ.* 18 It is not good for the *moral* of a class if [etc.]. 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 19 Mar. 5/1 The force investing Mafeking..is daily becoming shaken in *moral*. 1901 HENDERSON tr. *Sternberg's Exper. Boer War* Introd. 37 Whatever might be the percentage of casualties our battalions suffered, they never lost their *moral*.

7. *pl.* In early use: †(A person's) moral qualities or endowments (*obs.*). Now, Moral habits or conduct; habits of life in regard to right and wrong conduct; also *spec.*, sexual conduct.

1613 FLETCHER, etc. *Captain* II. i, My morals and those hidden pieces That art bestows upon me, they are such That ..I am sure will shame me. 1663 COWLEY *Govt. O. Cromwell* Wks. (1669) 69 Which if you please to take notice of for the advantage of his Intellectuals, I desire you to allow me the liberty to do so too, when I am to speak of his Morals. 1697 DRYDEN *Georg.* Ded., 'Tis infectious even to the best Morals to live always in it [*sc.* the Court air]. 1719 SWIFT *To Ymg. Clergyman* Wks. 1751 V. 27 The People of England are more corrupt in their Morals than any other Nation this day under the Sun. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* vi. II. 69 The morals of Sedley were such as, even in that age, gave great scandal. 1862 LYTTON *Str. Story* I. vii. 54 An earl's daughter, with a good income and an awfully bad name, of the best manners, and of the worst morals.

8. *pl.* Moral science; moral doctrine; ethics. Chiefly construed as *sing.* Now *rare.*

1651 HOBBES *Govt. & Soc.* Ep. Ded., For treating of Figures, tis call'd Geometry; of motion, Physick; of naturall right, Moralls. 1655 STANLEY *Hist. Philos.* III. (1687) 73/2 His [*sc.* Socrates'] Morals, consider a Man either as a single person, or as the Father of a Family, or as a member of the Commonwealth. 1785 PALEY *Mor. & Polit. Philos.* Pref. P 1 All just principles of reasoning in morals. 1861 MILL *Utilit.* v. 92 A direct emanation from the first principle of morals. 1872 SWINBURNE *Ess. & Stud.* (1875) 41 In morals the action is judged by the intention.

¶ *sing.* in the same sense. [? After G. *moral.*]

1828 PUSEY *Hist. Enq.* I. 149 It contains a perfect system of moral.

†b. *The small morals*: the 'minor moralities'; rules of behaviour in small matters. *Obs.*

1651 HOBBES *Leviathan* I. xi. *init.*, By Manners, I mean

not here, Decency of behaviour; as how one man should salute another, or how a man should wash his mouth, or pick his teeth before company, and such other points of the *Small Moralls*.

9. *slang.* A 'moral certainty': see MORAL *a.* 11.

1861 WHYTE MELVILLE *Mkt. Harb.* 24 A contingency which the dealer was pleased to observe amounted to what he called 'a moral'. 1887 BLACK *Sabina Zembra* 460 'Why, Joe,' I said, 'it's a moral, if the horse is ridden fair.'

10. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *moral-directing* adj.; *moral-mender*.

1645 RUTHERFORD *Tryal & Tri. Faith* xx. 196 Which condemnation..doth go and come without hurting the essence of the Law, and its commanding and eternall Morall-directing power. 1739 CIBBER *Apol.* (1756) I. 200 Collier is by profession a moral-mender himself.

Moral (mŏ·răl), *a.* Also 4 morale, -alle, 4-7 morall. [ad. L. *mōrālis*, f. *mōr-*, *mōs* custom (pl. *mōrēs* manners, morals, character): see -AL.

The Latin word was formed by Cicero (*De Fato* II. i) as a rendering of Gr. *ἠθικός* ETHIC *a.* (*mōrēs* being the accepted Latin equivalent of *ἦθη*). It has passed into all the mod. Rom. and Teut. langs.: Fr., Sp., Pg. *moral*, It. *morale*; G. *moralisch*, Du. *moraal*, Sw., Da. *moral*.]

1. Of or pertaining to character or disposition, considered as good or bad, virtuous or vicious; of or pertaining to the distinction between right and wrong, or good and evil, in relation to the actions, volitions, or character of responsible beings; ethical.

Moral virtue: a rendering of L. *virtus moralis*, Gr. *ἀρετὴ ἠθική* (Aristotle), (an) excellence of character or disposition, as distinguished from *intellectual virtue* (*ἀρετὴ διανοητική*). As in English (and in other modern languages) *virtue* is rarely used exc. as synonymous with *moral virtue*, the use of the adj. with this sb. has become infrequent.

a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* cxviii. 1 Þis psalme..all shynys of haly lare and morale swetnes. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 307 Sownynge in moral vertu was his speche. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* II. iv. (Rolls) 155 Sum vntrewe opinioun of men..is leding into deedis whiche ben grete moral vicis. 1529 MORE *Dyaloge* I. Wks. 173/2 He called his churche out of the gentiles which els as for morall vertues and politicall..were .. not farre vnder mani of vs. 1592 G. HARVEY *Pierce's Super.* 103 An aduancement..of that morall, and intellectuall good, that..so forciblie emprooueth itselfe. 1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* I. ii. 21 Youth, thou bear'st thy Fathers face.. Thy Fathers morall parts Maist thou inherit too. 1675 R. BURTHOGGE *Causa Dei* 97 Since the Objection doth proceed of Moral, and not of Metaphysical and Abstract Goodness. 1698 STILLINGFL. *Serm.* III. vi. 242 In Matters of Religion, Moral Difficulties are more to be regarded than Intellectual. 1699 SHAFTESB. *Inq. Virtue* I. i. § 1 in *Charac.* (1711) II. 8 An Author..who dares plead for Religion and Moral Virtue. *Ibid.* 30 *margin*, Moral Beauty and Deformity. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 195 ¶ 6, I have not here considered Temperance as it is a Moral Virtue..but only as it is the Means of Health. 1839 HALLAM *Hist. Lit.* IV. iv. 306 The theologians who went no farther than revelation, or at least than the positive law of God, for moral distinctions. 1876 MOZLEY *Univ. Serm.* iv. (1877) 85 It is plain that eloquence, imagination, poetical talent, are no more moral goodness than riches are.

¶ **b.** *Moral virtue* occasionally occurs in contradistinction to the 'Christian virtues' (Faith, Hope, Charity), or as restricted to such virtues as may be attained without the aid of religion.

1598 BARCKLEY *Felic. Man* (1631) 713 To pray to God... That He will endue us with vertues both Morall and Christian. *a* 1686 T. WATSON *Body of Div.* (1692) 979 Moral Vertue may stand with the hatred of Godliness. 1791 BP. HORNE *Charge to Clergy* 14 Cold inanimate Lectures on moral virtue, independent of christianity.

c. Of knowledge, opinions, judgements, etc.: Relating to the nature and application of the distinction between right and wrong. (Cf. sense 2.)

1500-20 DUNBAR *Poems* lxv. 2 To speik..Off vertew, morall cwnnyng, or doctrine [etc.]. 1752 CHESTERF. *Lett. to Son* 6 Jan., If the religious and moral principles of this society [*sc.* the Jesuits] are to be detested. 1860 MILL *Repr. Govt.* (1865) 6/2 It was not by any change in the distribution of material interests, but by the spread of moral convictions, that negro slavery has been put an end to in the British Empire. 1879 GEO. ELIOT *Theo. Such* xvi, A correct moral judgment is the strong point in woman.

d. *Moral sense*: the power of apprehending the difference between right and wrong, *esp.* when viewed as an innate and unanalysable faculty of the human mind. Similarly *moral faculty*.

1699 SHAFTESB. *Inq. Virtue* I. iii. § 1 in *Charac.* (1711) II. 41 The taking away the natural Sense of Right and Wrong. *Marg.* Loss of Moral Sense. 1754 EDWARDS *Freed. Will* I. v. (1831) 43 To moral agency belongs a moral faculty, or sense of moral good and evil. 1827 WHATELY *Logic* (1837) 380 The Moral faculty..is one of which brutes are destitute. 1885 J. MARTINEAU *Types Eth. Th.* II. 93 Bentham describes the moral-sense-man as a sort of bully, intent on brow-beating men into accepting the verdict he wants them to pronounce. 1901 BALDWIN *Dict. Philos.* s. v. *Moral Sense*, The term 'moral sense writers' is now commonly used to denote a succession of English moralists, of whom Shaftesbury and Hutcheson were the chief.

e. Of feelings: Arising from the contemplation of an action, character, etc., as good or bad.

1768 STERNE *Sent. Journ.* (1778) I. 134 (*Amiens*), With what a moral delight will it crown my journey. 1837 M. DONOVAN *Dom. Econ.* II. 45 To those who have got over the moral disgust of such food [*viz.* human flesh], it..has recommendatory qualities. 1871 MORLEY *Voltaire* (1886) 8 Perhaps a moral relish for veritable proofs of honesty.. drives men to grasp even a crudity with fervour.

f. Of concepts or terms: Involving ethical praise or blame.

1845 WHEWELL *Elem. Morality* I. 233 The Supreme Standard..is expressed by the Moral Ideas, Benevolence, Justice, Truth, Purity, and Wisdom. 1865 J. GROTE *Moral Ideals* (1876) 108 Those words, like all moral words, by frequent complimentary use..have lost much of their warmth and force. 1892 WESTCOTT *Gospel of Life* 216 The distinctness of moral conceptions will correspond with the growth of the race.

2. Treating of or concerned with virtue and vice, or the rules of right conduct, as a subject of study. (Cf. 1 c.)

Moral philosophy: the department of philosophy which treats of the virtues and vices, the criteria of right and wrong, the rightness or wrongness of particular classes of actions, the methods to be adopted for the formation of virtuous character, and the like; ethical philosophy, ethics. Formerly often employed in a wider sense, including psychology and metaphysics. *Moral philosopher*: one who studies or is versed in moral philosophy. *Moral science* has in recent times been used in the same senses as 'moral philosophy'. *The moral sciences* is sometimes used (e. g. at Cambridge) as a comprehensive name for a branch of academic study including psychology, ethics, political and economic science, and in fact all that is now commonly understood by the term 'philosophy'. Also *attrib.* as in *moral sciences tripos*.

1387 T. USK *Test. Love* III. i. (Skeat) I. 53 Philosophie, with her three speces, that is, natural, and moral, and resonable. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* I. (1495) 3 Deuowte doctours of Theologye..for this consyderacyon..rede and vse natural philosophye and morall. 1531 ELYOT *Gov.* I. xi, Hit were nedefull to rede vnto hym..that parte that may enforme him vnto vertuous maners, whiche parte of philosophie is called morall. 1600 J. PORY tr. *Leo's Africa* III. 151 Certaine learned men, which will haue themselues called wizards and morall philosophers. 1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* II. ii. 167 Young men, whom Aristotle thought Vnfit to heare Morall Philosophie. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* I. xv. 79 Morall philosophy is nothing else but the Science of what is Good, and Evill. 1785 PALEY *Mor. Philos.* I. i. 1 Moral Philosophy, Morality, Ethics, Casuistry, Natural Law, mean all the same thing. 1791 BP. HORNE *Charge to Clergy* 14 Morality..hath four chief virtues, which moral writers have well explained. 1828 G. PAYNE (*title*) Elements of Mental and Moral Science. 1830 MACKINTOSH *Eth. Philos.* Introd. (1862) 8 The purpose of the Moral Sciences is to answer the question *What ought to be?* *a* 1866 J. GROTE *Exam. Utilit. Philos.* iv. (1870) 61 A description as complete and beautiful, I think, as is to be found in any moral writings. 1866 *Students' Guide Univ. Cambr.* 162 The establishment of a Philosophical or Moral Sciences Tripos in the year 1851. 1870 H. SPENCER *First Princ.* II. i. § 36 Under the head of Moral Philosophy, we treat of human actions as right or wrong.

b. *Moral theology*: (*a*) the practical part of ethics treated as a branch of theology; the part of theological learning which is concerned with the resolution of cases of conscience; casuistry, casuistic divinity; (*b*) see quot. 1902.

1727-41 in CHAMBERS *Cycl.* 1883 in *Catholic Dict.* 1902 BALDWIN *Dict. Philos., Moral Theology*, the doctrines of theology developed as postulates of the moral as distinguished from the logico-speculative reason.

3. a. Of a person, esp. a writer: That enunciates moral precepts. ? *Obs.* In early quots. applied to writers of allegory.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* v. 1856 O moral Gower þis boke I directe To the. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 25 The tragidés diverse and unkouth Of morall Senec. 1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* v. i. 30 'Tis all mens office, to speake patience To those that wring vnder the load of sorrow: But no mans vertue nor sufficiencie To be so morall, when he shall endure The like himselfe. 1718 PRIOR *Picture of Seneca*, While cruel Nero only drains The moral Spaniard's ebbing Veins. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* v. 319 Let us read Her moral stone. *Ibid.* ix. 534 The moral muse has shadow'd out a sketch.

b. Of a literary work, a pictorial or dramatic representation, etc.: That deals with or treats of the ruling of conduct; that has the teaching of morality as its motive; that conveys a moral; also, †allegorical, emblematical. **Moral play** (*obs.* exc. *Hist.*) = MORALITY 4 b.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Melib.* Prol. 22 It is a moral tale vertuous. *c* 1400 tr. *Secreta Secret., Gov. Lordsh.* 48 He [Alexander] made many morales epistels to Aristotel. *a* 1500 *Everyman* (1773) Here begynneth a treatyse..in maner of a moralle playe. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 2 They shal haue therby a lyght to perceyne the better all moral matter, that they shall here preched or taught. 1607 SHAKS. *Timon* I. i. 90 A thousand morall Paintings I can shew, That shall demonstrate these quicke blowes of Fortunes, More pregnantly then words. 1660 F. BROOKE tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 272 We had the pleasure there to see a moral representation of the Magdalens conversion. 1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* II. vii, From this way of reasoning the author drew several moral applications useful in the Conduct of Life. 1744 *Pope's Wks.* (ed. Warburton 1755) III. 105 (*title*) Moral Essays, in four epistles to Several Persons. 1784 COWPER *Tiroc.* 126 Lisping our syllables, we scramble next Through moral narrative, or sacred text. 1789 MRS. PIOZZI *Journ. France* I. 115 To what purpose then..the moral dances, as they call them now? One word of solid instruction to the ear, conveys more knowledge to the mind at last, than all these marionettes presented to the eye. 1831 J. P. COLLIER *Hist. Dram. Poetry* II. 384 John Heywood's dramatic productions ..are neither Miracle-plays nor Moral-plays. 1873 BROWNING *Red Cott. Nt.-cap* 171 The late death-chamber, tricked with..Skulls, cross-bones, and such moral broidery.

Comb. 1798 EDGEWORTH *Pract. Educ.* (1822) I. 427 A tragedy heroine..is a moral-picturesque object.

c. Of a literary work: Beneficial in moral effect.

1671 MILTON *Samson* Introd., Tragedy..hath been ever held the gravest, moralest, and most profitable of all other Poems.

4. *Moral law*: the body of requirements in conformity to which right or virtuous action consists; a particular requirement of this kind. Opposed to 'positive' or 'instituted' laws, the obligation of which depends solely on the fact that they have been imposed by a rightful authority.

In early use chiefly applied to that part of the Mosaic Law which enunciates moral principles, and therefore, unlike the 'ceremonial' and 'judicial' parts, remains valid under the Christian dispensation. So *Moral commandment*, etc.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 366 Siþ þat moyses lawe is moralle in þis poynte,..criste myʒte not distroy þes lawis. *a* 1450 *Wyclif's Bible* Prol. ii, The old testament is departid ..in to moral comaundementis, iudicials, and cerimonyals. 1551 [see JUDICIAL *a.* 1 b]. 1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* II. ii. 184 If Helen then be wife to Sparta's King..these Morall Lawes Of Nature, and of Nation, speake alowd To haue her backe return'd. 1640 BASTWICK *Lord Bps.* viii. H iij b, If the Prelates shall pronounce the 4th Commandement not to be Morall for the sanctifying of a Seventh day. 1645 MILTON *Tetrach.* Wks. 1851 IV. 215 The firmenesse of such right to divorce as here pleads, is fetcht from the prime institution, does not stand or fall with the judiciall Law, but is as morall as what is moralest. 1667 — *P. L.* XII. 298. 1819 [see JUDICIAL *a.* 1 b]. 1851 H. SPENCER *Soc. Stat.* i. 55 The moral law must be the law of the perfect man. 1876 L. STEPHEN *Eng. Th. 18th C.* II. ix. 5 Hobbes..audaciously identified the moral with the positive law.

5. Of rights, obligations, responsibility, etc.: Founded on the moral law; valid according to the principles of morality. Opposed to *legal*.

1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* II. xxviii. § 3 Sometimes the foundation of considering things, with reference to one another, is some act whereby any one comes by a moral right, power, or obligation to do something. 1736 BUTLER *Anal.* II. 403 Our obligation to attend to his voice is surely moral in all cases. 1818 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) I. 178 Dower is not only a civil, but also a moral right. *Ibid.* IV. 584 There is one case in which a conveyance, founded on a moral consideration only, has been held good against a subsequent purchaser. 1882 MORLEY *Cobden* xix. (1902) 71/1 Cobden thus strove to diffuse the sense of moral responsibility in connexion with the use of capital.

6. a. Of actions: Subject to the moral law; having the property of being right or wrong. *The moral world*: the sphere or region of moral action.

1594 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* I. xvi. § 3 The axiomes of that lawe ..haue their vse in the morall, yea, euen in the spirituall actions of men. 1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* II. xxviii. § 4 There is another sort of relation, which is the conformity or disagreement men's voluntary actions have to a rule to which they are referred, and by which they are judged of; which, I think, may be called moral relation, as being that which denominates our moral actions. 1809-10 COLERIDGE *Friend* (1866) 278 To possess the end in the means, as it is essential to morality in the moral world, and the contra-distinction of goodness from mere prudence, so is it, in the intellectual world, the moral constituent of genius.

b. Of an agent or his attributes: Capable of moral action; capable of volition for the rightness of which he is responsible.

1736 BUTLER *Anal.* I. iii. Wks. 1874 I. 58 That God has given us a moral nature..[is] a proof of our being under his moral government. 1754 EDWARDS *Freed. Will* I. v. (1831) 43 A moral agent is a being that is capable of those actions that have a moral quality. 1802 PALEY *Nat. Theol.* xxvii. (1819) 485 The moral and accountable part of his terrestrial creation. 1868 BAIN *Ment. & Mor. Sci.* 403 Every creature possessing mind is a moral agent. 1887 J. A. C. MORISON *Service Man* (1889) 84 Good and bad men, whose goodness and badness depends on their moral endowment.

7. Pertaining to, affecting, or operating on the character or conduct, as distinguished from the intellectual or physical nature of human beings.

1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* v. lvii. § 4 Sacraments..are not physicall but morall instruments of saluation, duties of seruice and worship. 1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* I. iii. 13, I wonder that thou..goest about to apply a morall medicine to a mortifying mischiefe. 1659 H. THORNDIKE *Wks.* (1846) II. 539, I acknowledge the Scriptures to be an instrument of God, though a moral instrument. 1727-41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v. *Necessity*, The schools distinguish a physical necessity, and a moral necessity...Moral Necessity is only a great difficulty; such as that arising from a long habit, a strong inclination or violent passion. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* II. 46 For what calls thy disease, Lorenzo? not For Esculapian, but for moral aid. *Ibid.* v. 284 I'll..gather ev'ry thought of sov'reign power To chace the moral maladies of man. *Ibid.* VI. 814 'Tis moral grandeur makes the mighty man. 1780 COWPER *Progr. Err.* 272 'Tis not alone the grape's enticing juice Unnerves the moral pow'rs, and mars their use. 1823 COBBETT *Rur. Rides* (1885) I. 291 There is now very little moral hold which the latter [the clergy] possess. 1823 D'ISRAELI *Cur. Lit.* Ser. II. I. 183 The art of curing moral disorders by corporeal means has not yet been brought into general practice. 1833 J. C. PRICHARD in *Cycl. Pract. Med.* II. 826/2 Moral insanity, or madness consisting in a morbid perversion of the natural feelings,..and moral dispositions, without any notable lesion of the intellect. 1851 *Edin. Rev.* XCIII. 225 The only effect produced was a kind of amicable splitting of the repeal party into two co-operative factions, —the moral-force men and the physical-force men. 1851 H. SPENCER *Soc. Stat.* i. 58 Just so it is with a true morality. ..Its office is simply to expound the principles of moral health...Whether it is possible to develope scientifically a Moral Pathology and a Moral Therapeutics seems very doubtful. 1868 BAIN *Ment. & Mor. Sci.* 395 Moral Inability expresses the insufficiency of ordinary motives, but not of all motives.

† **b.** *Moral cause*: see quot. (Cf. CAUSE *sb.* 5.)

1697 tr. *Burgersdicius his Logic* I. xvii. 63 Author, here is said to be him who proposing Reasons, persuades the principal Cause either to, or from Action: He is also call'd the Moral Cause.

c. Applied to the indirect effect of some action or event (e. g. a victory or defeat) in producing

confidence or discouragement, sympathy or hostility, and the like.

Moral victory: applied to a defeat or an indecisive result which it is claimed will, on account of special circumstances, produce the moral effects of a victory.

1835 Alison *Hist. Europe* (1849-50) V. xxxi. § 17. 310 The loss to the contending parties was nearly equal;..but all the moral advantages of a victory were on the side..of the French. 1860 Mill *Repr. Govt.* (1865) 61 The instructed minority would, in the actual voting, count only for their numbers, but as a moral power they would count for much more. 1883 C. J. Wills *Mod. Persia* 111 Armenian .. scowls staggering along in secure insolence, confident in the moral protection given him by the presence of the Englishman. 1885 *Daily Chron.* 23 Jan. 4/8 Italy on her side will on all occasions offer moral support to England in her Egyptian policy. 1888 *Times* 13 June 6/1 His idea was that the moral effect of artillery fire was greater than the positive. 1896 *Daily News* 14 Nov. 7/4 One had gained an actual victory, and the other had gained a moral victory.

d. *Moral courage*: that kind of courage which enables a person to encounter odium, disapproval, or contempt, rather than depart from what he deems the right course: contradistinguished from *physical courage*.

1822 Colton *Lacon* (1825) I. 44 Hypocrisy..sometimes neutralized his [Cromwell's] moral courage, never his physical. 1860 Fitzjames Stephen *Ess.* (1862) 175 Moral courage is readiness to expose oneself to suffering or inconvenience which does not affect the body. It arises from firmness of moral principle, and is independent of the physical constitution. 1887 [see Courage 4].

8. Of, pertaining to, or concerned with the morals (of a person or a community). Also (*occas.*), pertaining to the 'morale' of an army.

1794 Paley *Evid.* I. v. § 4 (1817) 97 The phrases which the same writer employs to describe the moral condition of Christians compared with their condition before they became Christians. 1818 Hallam *Mid. Ages* ix. (1868) 700 *note*, His standard is taken, not from Avignon, but from Edinburgh,..where the moral barometer stands at a very different altitude. 1844 H. H. Wilson *Brit. India* I. 545 He quoted largely from a memoir on the Moral State of India by Mr. Grant. 1848 W. H. Kelly tr. *L. Blanc's Hist. Ten Y.* I. 382 The moral interests of society seemed still more compromised than the material. 1889 D. Hannay *Capt. Marryat* 38 The squadron was in an indifferent moral condition, divided by sour professional factions, and impatient of its Admiral.

9. a. *Moral sense* or *interpretation*: originally, that mode of interpreting a passage of Holy Scripture which treats of the events recorded as typical of something in the life of the Christian soul. (Now chiefly *Hist.*) †Hence *transf.* applied to the 'moral' of a fable and the like.

1503 Hawes *Examp. Virt.* ix. 10, I..lykened the wylderne̅s by morall scence Vnto worldely trouble by good experyence. 1572 Huloet s. v., The morall sence of a fable, *epimythium*. 1599 Shaks. *Much Ado* III. iv. 80 Morall? no by my troth, I haue no morall meaning, I meant plaine holy thissell. 1609 Bible (Douay) *Gen.* i. 1 Comm., There are three spiritual senses besides the literal..: Allegorical ..Moral..and Anagogical.

quasi-adv. 1529 More *Supplic. Soulys* Wks. 322/1 Because som doctours do conster those wordes of the apostle in diuers other senses,..sometyme after the letter, sometime moral, & sometime otherwyse.

b. Qualifying a descriptive noun: That is such in a metaphorical sense relative to moral character or condition.

1692 R. L'Estrange *Fables* I. cccxxviii. 286 If all our Moral Wolves in Sheeps-Cloathing, were but Serv'd as This Hypocritical Wolfe was in the Fiction. 1813 Shelley *Q. Mab* II. 163 Where Athens, Rome, and Sparta stood, There is a moral desert now. 1819 — *Peter Bell 3rd* IV. xi, But from the first 'twas Peter's drift To be a kind of moral eunuch. 1821 Scott *Kenilw.* xxx, Varney was one of the few—the very few moral monsters, who contrive to lull to sleep the remorse of their own bosoms. 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* xxxvii, I mean a *moral* shepherd's dog...A dog to keep the wolves off me...A companion. 1852 Mundy *Our Antipodes* (1857) 18 Sufferers for the sins of their fathers, moral bastards. 1894 Gladstone in *Times* 9 Nov. 7/5 In my opinion..an undenominational system of religion, framed by or under the authority of the State, is a moral monster.

10. Of persons, their habits, conduct, etc.: Morally good; conforming to the rules of morality.

1638 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* (ed. 2) 233 Morall men they are, and humane in language and garbe. 1697 Dryden *Æneid* Ded. (a) 3 Your Essay of Poetry..I read over and over with much delight,..and, without flattering you, or making my self more Moral than I am, not without some envy. 1700 — *Fables* Pref., My enemies..will not allow me so much as to be a Christian, or a moral man. 1781 Cowper *Conversat.* 193 A moral, sensible, and well-bred man Will not affront me. 1841 Myers *Cath. Th.* IV. § 23. 293 A man may be Moral without being Religious, but he cannot be Religious without being Moral. 1868 Ruskin *Arrows of Chace* (1880) II. 199 A man taught to plough, row or steer well..[is] already educated in many essential moral habits.

¶ b. with reference to 'moral' as opposed to 'evangelical' virtue (cf. 1 b).

a 1686 T. Watson *Body of Div.* (1692) 979 A Moral Man doth as much hate Holiness as he doth Vice. 1824 Hogg *Conf. Sinner* 197 A Mr. Blanchard, who was reckoned a worthy, pious divine, but quite of the moral cast.

c. Virtuous with regard to sexual conduct. *Moral restraint*: see quot. 1803-6.

1803 Malthus *Popul.* IV. i. 483 The various checks to population..seem all to be resolvable into moral restraint, vice, and misery. 1806 *Ibid.* I. i. i. 19 *note*, By moral restraint I..mean a restraint from marriage, from prudential motives, with a conduct strictly moral. 1810 Shelley *Œd. Tyr.* I. 74 Spay those Sows That load the earth with Pigs ..Moral restraint I see has no effect. 1879 Geo. Eliot *Theo. Such* xvi, Sir Gavial..is a thoroughly moral man... Very different from Mr. Barabbas, whose life..is most objectionable, with actresses and that sort of thing. *Ibid.*, Yet I find even respectable historians..after showing that a king was treacherous, rapacious [etc.]..end by praising him for his pure moral character.

d. Of a tale, etc.: Conforming to morality; not ribald or vicious. (Cf. 3 b.)

c 1386 Chaucer *Pard. Prol.* 39 Nay lat hym telle vs of no ribaudye; Telle vs som moral thyng þat we may leere Som wit. 1780 Cowper *Table-t.* 599 But still, while virtue kindled his delight, The song was moral, and so far was right.

11. Used to designate that kind of probable evidence that rests on a knowledge of the general tendencies of human nature, or of the character of particular individuals or classes of men; often in looser use, applied to all evidence which is merely probable and not demonstrative. *Moral certainty*: a practical certainty resulting from moral evidence; a degree of probability so great as to admit of no reasonable doubt; also, something which is morally certain. *Moral universality*: see quot. 1727-41.

This use of the word is prob. ultimately connected with Aristotle's ἠθικὴ πίστις, which means the effect of the known personal character of an orator in producing conviction.

The currency of the terms *certitudo, evidentia moralis* appears to be due to the Cartesian logicians of the 17th c.

1646 Moral certainty [see Certainty 5]. 1660 Jer. Taylor *Duct. Dubit.* I. v. Rule i. § 6 The Negative doubt is either Metaphysical or Moral, or it is only a Suspicion. *a* 1677 Hale *Prim. Orig. Man.* II. i. 128 Though the evidence be still in its own nature but moral, and not simply demonstrative or infallible. 1664 Tillotson *Wisdom of being Religious* 25 Conclusions in Natural Philosophy are to be proved by a sufficient Induction of experiments; things of a moral nature by moral Arguments, and matters of Fact by credible Testimony. 1692 R. L'Estrange *Fables* cccxci. 254 He .. so Parts with a Moral Certainty in Possession, for a Wild and a Remote Possibility in Reversion. 1725 Watts *Logic* II. ii. § 9 In Matters of Faith, an exceeding great Probability is called a moral Certainty. 1727-41 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v. *Universality*, Moral Universality, is that which admits of some exception...In such-like propositions, it is enough that the thing be ordinarily so. *a* 1754 Fielding *Conversat.* Wks. 1784 IX. 373 When your guest offers to go, there should be no solicitations to stay..farther than to give him a moral assurance of his being welcome so to do. 1864 Bowen *Logic* xii. 378 The inference is rightly said to rest upon moral, or probable, evidence. 1868 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* (1877) II. ix. 430 Was the succession of Harold merely a likelihood, a moral certainty?

†12. In etymological sense: Pertaining to manners and customs. *Obs. rare.*

1604 E. G[rimstone] (*title*) The Naturall and Morall Historie of the East and West Indies...Written in Spanish by Joseph Acosta.

Moral (mɒ·răl), *v.* Also 7 mor(r)all. [f. Moral *sb.*] = Moralize *v.* in various senses. a. *intr.* To make a moral application. b. *trans.* To expound the moral of. c. To symbolize.

1600 Shaks. *A. Y. L.* II. vii. 29 When I did heare The motley Foole, thus morall on the time. 1608 Armin *Nest Ninn.* (1842) 40, I would fain morrall of it, if you please. *a* 1618 J. Davies *Ecl. betw. Willy & Wernocke* 175 Morall thy matter so, that, tho thou smite, Thou maist with tickling her dull sence, deceine. 1627 Drayton *Moon-Calf* in *Agincourt*, etc. 181 As you haue moral'd Bumbyes [*sc.* tale], I will yours. 1839 Bailey *Festus* ix. (1852) 99 This is a snakelike world, And always hath its tail within its mouth, As if it ate itself, and moralled time.

Hence **Mo·ralling** *vbl. sb.*, moralizing.

1890 *Sat. Rev.* 26 July 110/2 Here is..'Generic', soundest of historical morallings; and many excellent fables.

‖ **Morale** (morā·l; as Fr. moral). [F. *morale*, fem. of *moral* adj.: see Moral *a.*]

1. Morality, morals. a. Moral principles or practice.

1752 Chesterf. *Lett. to Son* 6 Jan., If you would know their [*sc.* the Jesuits'] *morale*, read Pascal's *Lettres Provinciales*. 1839 Miss Pardoe *Beauties Bosphorus* 22 Here the Frank traveller may see more of the habits and morale of the Turkish women than he can hope to do elsewhere.

b. Moral teaching; lesson of conduct.

1812 Chalmers in Hanna *Mem.* (1849) I. xi. 280 There are two verses in the Bible which comprise the whole morale of a man's conduct in these circumstances,—'Watch ye, stand fast' [etc.]. 1824 *Ibid.* (1851) III. i. 8 You have already made full conveyance to my mind of the whole *morale* of this intended honour, and..it does not lie within the power of any *matériel* to enhance the impression of it.

c. Moral aspect.

1834 *Tait's Mag.* I. 551/1 To look at the *morale* of any case was..out of the question. He looked to his brief.

2. Moral condition; conduct, behaviour; esp. with regard to confidence, hope, zeal, submission to discipline, etc. Said of a body of persons engaged in some enterprise, esp. of troops.

[In Fr. the word used in this sense is not *morale*, but *moral*: see Moral *sb.* 6 b.]

1831 Gen. P. Thompson *Exerc.* (1842) I. 342 But the greatest advantage of all, on the side of the people, is the *morale*. Every soldier knows in his heart..that he was not made to fire upon the citizens. 1860 Tyndall *Glac.* I. xxiii. 162 The morale in my case had a physical basis. 1866 Crump *Banking* ii. 71 To improve the *morale* of the entire mercantile community. 1870 *Times* 8 Aug. 5/3 The *morale* of the troops is excellent.

Moralism (mɒ·răliz'm). [f. Moral + -ism.]

1. Addiction to moralizing; also (with *pl.*) an instance of this, an act of moralizing.

1828 J. Wilson in *Blackw. Mag.* XXIV. 674 A' she writes has..an endearin' mainnerism and moralism about it. 1836 *Fraser's Mag.* XIV. 703 In all their poetry..we find no romance, no fable; but familiar descriptions, and sharp and lively moralisms. 1859 Farrar *J. Home* xx. 257 A delicious spice of worldliness..which was quite refreshing to him, accustomed as he was to the somewhat droning moralisms of his 'congenial friends'.

2. The practice of a natural system of morality; religion consisting of or reduced to merely moral practice; morality not spiritualized.

1850 H. James (*title*) Moralism and Christianity. 1872 *Contemp. Rev.* XIX. 810 No mere philosophy or moralism can ever transmute itself with evangelical righteousness. 1889 Boyd Carpenter *Permanent Elem. Relig.* vi. 210 There is in the realm of morality a shadow corresponding to that which we saw waiting on religion. This shadow we shall call Moralism. *Ibid.* 212 Thus, where inward sympathy with good is lacking, though there may be outward moralism, there can be no true morality. 1890 H. S. Bowden tr. *Hettinger's Nat. Relig.* 284 *note*, We describe this theory [*sc.* the moral idea as independent of religion] as 'moralism'.

Moralist (mɒ·răl̆ist). [f. Moral + -ist. Cf. F. *moraliste*.]

1. One who practises morality.

1621 Bp. Hall *Heaven upon Earth* iii. Wks. (1625) 75 The wisest and most resolute Moralist that euer was, lookt pale when he should taste of his Hemlocke. 1750 Gray *Elegy* 84 And many a holy text around she strews, That teach the rustic moralist to die. 1836 Hor. Smith *Tin Trump., Advice*, That man must be a sturdy moralist, who does not love his own judgment better than the interest of his neighbours. 1874 H. R. Reynolds *John Bapt.* I. § 6. 54 A certain man, good, virtuous .. an uncompromising moralist, acquired great influence over the people.

2. A teacher or student of morals; a moral philosopher. *Intuitive moralist*: see Intuitive *a.* 6.

a 1639 Wotton in *Relig.* (1651) 321 Nature surely (if she be well studied) is the best Moralist. 1661 Boyle *Style of Script.* 116 Too many of our Moralists write, as if they thought Virtue could be taught as easily..as Grammar. 1736 Butler *Anal.* II. v. Wks. 1874 I. 215 Heathen moralists thought the present state to be a state of punishment. 1770 Goldsm. *Bolingbroke* Wks. (Globe) 468/2 As a moralist.. Lord Bolingbroke..seems to have done nothing; but as a political writer few can equal..him. 1821 Byron *Juan* III. lxiv, Soft Persian sentences, in lilac letters, From poets, or the moralists, their betters. 1869 [see Intuitive *a.* 6]. 1876 L. Stephen *Eng. Th. in 18th C.* I. III. iii. 125 Clarke, though an intuitive moralist, is by no means inclined to dispense with hell. *Ibid.* II. ix. 2 Hobbes..represented the evil principle to moralists as well as to theologians.

3. One who lives by or teaches a natural system of ethics; a merely moral man.

1649 Hammond *Chr. Obligations*, etc. 135 The Love (in the Moralist of vertue, but in the Christian) of God himself. *a* 1716 South *Serm.* (1744) VII. 286 How severely..do they judge of Men's Hearts? Such a Man is profane, another is carnal, and a mere Moralist. 1816 A. Stewart in *Mem.* (1822) 326 Moralists fear that salvation is degraded by connecting it with faith alone.

4. *Cambridge University*. A student who is examined in the 'Moral Sciences Tripos'. *Senior Moralist*: the head of the first class in this Tripos.

1866 *Students' Guide Univ. Cambr.* 177 *note*, [He] obtained his Fellowship on the ground of his very high distinction as a Moralist, without having taken honours either in the Classical or Mathematical Tripos.

Moralistic (mɒrălĭ·stik), *a.* [f. prec. + -ist.] Pertaining to or characteristic of a moralist; addicted to moralizing; characterized by moralism.

1865 J. Grote *Moral Ideals* (1876) 108 Those words..by frequent commonplace and moralistic enlarging upon, have lost much of their warmth and force. *a* 1866 — *Exam. Utilit. Philos.* (1870) 34 By the 'moralistic' view of life, in a sense slightly depreciatory, I mean such a view of it as is taken by Juvenal in the tenth Satire. 1876 Stedman *Victorian Poets* 242 Several moralistic poets date from this early period—Mitford, Trench, Alford, and others of a like religious mood. 1889 Boyd Carpenter *Permanent Elem. Relig.* vi. 211 Such an action is moralistic rather than moral, for it has not been prompted by the sentiment of goodness.

Morality (moræ·lĭtī). Also 4-5 **moralite**(e, 5 **moralte**, 5-6 **moralyte**, 6 **-ytee**, **-ytye**, 5-7 **-itie**. [a. F. *moralité* (13th c.), ad. L. *mōrālitās*, f. *mōrālis*: see Moral *a.* and -ity.]

†1. Ethical wisdom; knowledge of moral science.

c 1386 Chaucer *Monk's T.* 507 A maister hadde this Emperour To teche hym lettrure and curteisye ffor of moralitee he [*sc.* Seneca] was the flour. 1423 Jas. I *Kingis Q.* cxcvii, Gowere and Chaucere..quhill thai were lyvand here, Superlatiue as poetis laureate In moralitee and eloquence ornate. 14.. Lydg. *Ball. Gd. Counsel* 101 And though a man..Of Tullius hadde the sugred eloquence, Or of Senek the greet moralitee,..Yet [etc.].

2. *pl.* Moral qualities or endowments.

c 1386 Chaucer *Pars. T.* P 388 For sothe o manere gentrie is for to preise that apparailleth mannes corage with vertues and moralitees. 1581 Campion in *Confer.* IV. (1584) D d iv, The wise men of the Gentiles did alledge their moralities as a cause of their election. 1684 Z. Cawdrey *Cert. Salvation* 26 A person..of such eminent Moralities and Intellectuals. 1819 Byron *Juan* I. xx, Neglect, indeed, requires a saint to bear it, And such, indeed, she was in her moralities.

3. Moral discourse or instruction; a moral lesson or exhortation. Now chiefly in disparaging sense, moralizing.

c 1386 Chaucer *Pars. Prol.* 38 If that yow list to heere Moralitee and vertuous mateere..I wol fayn..Do yow plesaunce leefful. 1509 Hawes *Past. Pleas.* XI. (Percy Soc.) 39 They fayned no fable without reason, For reasonable is al theyr moralitie. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 5 We haue not taken theyr errours..but all moralytees and in-

struccyons of good maner and pollicy. 1625 T. H[AWKINS] (*title*) Odes of Horace.., Contayning much morallity, and sweetnesse. 1648 BOYLE *Seraph. Love* xx. (1700) 125 The excellent Moralities, couched in those ingenious Emblems. *a* 1704 T. BROWN *Walk round Lond., Coffee-Houses* (1709) 37 We pop'd into *Old Man's* just as I had ended my Morality. 1837–9 HALLAM *Hist. Lit.* II. II. v. § 58 (1854) 120 Too often he [Hunnis] falls into trivial morality. 1841 D'ISRAELI *Amen. Lit.* I. 285 The *Confessio Amantis*.. ; a singular miscellany of allegory, of morality, and of tales. 1877 MRS. OLIPHANT *Makers Flor.* iii. 68 Quaint monkish moralities and scriptural quotations. 1889 RUSKIN *Præterita* III. 147 What is only a dream in Chaucer, becomes to us, understood from Scott, a consummate historical morality and truth.

†**b.** Moral sense or interpretation (see MORAL *a.*); also, the moral (of a fable, etc.). *Obs.*

c 1386 CHAUCER *Nun's Pr. T.* 620 But ye that holden this tale a folye,..Taketh the moralite goode men. 1447 BOKENHAM *Seyntys* (Roxb.) 46 Yf yt lyke on to moralyte To draw ye names of the progenytours Of marye. *c* 1470 HENRYSON *Mor. Fab.* II. (*Town & C. Mouse*) XXX, Freindis, ye may find..In to this fabill ane gude moralitie. 1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* Prol., But who that redeth in the hoke of the moralytes of the chesse, shal therby perceyue, that [etc.]. 1622 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* xxi. 197 Orpheus, whose sweet Harpe.. Intised Trees, and Rocks, to follow him along: Th' moralitie of which, is that [etc.]. 1623 COCKERAM III. s. v. *Aglaia*, The morallity of this inuention was to expresse the cheerfull conuersation which ought to be amongst friends.

c. Moral truth or significance.

1773 GOLDSM. *Stoops to Conq.* v, *Tony.* Ecod, mother, all the parish says you have spoiled me, and so you may take the fruits on't... *Hard.* There's morality, however, in his reply.

†**4.** A literary composition or artistic representation inculcating a moral lesson; a moralizing commentary; a moral allegory. *Obs.*

c 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 117 The moralite of the hors, the goose, and the sheepe, translated by Dan Johne Lidgate. 1599 THYNNE *Animadv.* (1875) 28 Molinet, the frenche auctor of the moralytye vppon the Romante of the roose. 1627 DRAYTON *Moon-Calf* in *Agincourt*, etc. 176 *margin*, The morallity of mother Bumbyes tale. *a* 1649 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Fam. Ep.* Wks. (1711) 140 She presented ..a fair Face,..but on the other Side..was the Image of Death; by which Morality [*printed* Mortality] he surpassed the others [*i. e.* other painters of the same subject], more than they did him by Art.

b. *Hist.* Used by mod. writers as the distinctive name for the species of drama (popular in the 16th c.) in which some moral or spiritual lesson was inculcated, and in which the chief characters were personifications of abstract qualities.

App. adopted in the 18th c. from French literary historians; the F. *moralité* had this sense in the 16th c., but in English we find only *moral* and *moral play*.

1773 (*half-title to reprint of J. Skot's ed.*), Everyman. A Morality. 1801 STRUTT *Sports & Past.* III. ii. 113 When the mysteries ceased to be played, the subjects for the drama were not taken from historical facts, but consisted of moral reasonings in praise of virtue and condemnation of vice, on which account they were called moralities. 1858 R. A. VAUGHAN *Ess. & Rem.* I. 55 In one of our old English Moralities, the seven cardinal virtues are represented as besieged by the seven deadly sins.

5. The doctrine or system concerned with conduct and duty; moral science.

c 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* II. iv. (Rolls) 155 Sum other vntrewe opinioun of men is such that for it her conuersacioun schal not be maad the worse moralli, or ellis not ayens notable, good, vertuose moralte. 1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* II. xviii. § 2 The end of Moralitie, is to procure the Affections to obey Reason, and not to inuade it. 1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* III. xi. § 16 Upon this ground it is I am bold to think, that morality is capable of demonstration, as well as mathematicks. 1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* II. vii, The learning of this people..consisting only in morality, history, poetry, and mathematics. 1841 ELPHINSTONE *Hist. Ind.* I. 237 Principles..on which every theory in physics and every maxim in morality depends.

b. *pl.* Points of ethics, moral principles or rules.

1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* II. xxii. § 7 Wherin they ought to haue handled Custom, Exercise, Habit, Educacion [etc.]: theis as they haue determinate vse, in moralityes, from these the mind suffereth. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 447 ₱ 4 If we consider attentively this Property of Human Nature, it may instruct us in very fine Moralities. *a* 1854 H. REED *Lect. Eng. Lit.* xii. (1855) 405 The letters of Lord Chesterfield make a book of the minor moralities, and the major immoralities of life. 1861 MILL *Utilit.* v. 89 The moralities which protect every individual from being harmed by others.

c. A particular system of morals.

1680 BURNET *Rochester* (1692) 38 The two maxims of his morality were, that [etc.]. 1695 LOCKE *Reas. Chr.* (1696) 271 He that shall collect all the Moral Rules of the Philosophers..will find them to come short of the Morality delivered by our Saviour. 1781 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xxxi. III. 261 He soon experienced, that the principles of honour and integrity, which might regulate the ordinary conduct of Constantius, were superseded by the loose doctrines of political morality. 1867 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1877) I. ii. 33 The morality of the Gospel had a direct influence upon the politics of the age. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 26 Sept. 8/1 In these days of lying advertisements, when 'commercial morality' has become almost synonymous with ordinary immorality.

d. Ethical aspect (of a question).

1869 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1875) III. xii. 253 The morality of the question is easily summed up.

6. The quality or fact of being moral. **a.** Conformity to the moral law; moral goodness or rightness; (of writings) good moral tendency. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1592 G. HARVEY *Pierce's Super.* 104 Oh, that learning were euer married to such discretion;..contention to such moralitie. 1691–8 NORRIS *Pract. Disc.* (1711) III. 181 The Good represents the Morality of His Nature. 1715 ADDISON *Freeholder* No. 6 ₱ 7 Euripides..tho' famous for the morality of his plays, had introduced a person, who, being reminded of an oath he had taken, reply'd, 'I swore with my mouth, but not with my heart'. 1772 *Junius Lett.* lxviii. (1820) 338 Instances..of genius and morality united in a lawyer.. are distinguished by their singularity.

†**b.** Of a Mosaic enactment: The fact of being part of the moral law (see MORAL *a.* 4). *Obs.*

1656 in *Burton's Diary* (1828) I. 25 By the Mosaic law, blasphemers were to be stoned to death. The morality of this remains. *a* 1662 HEYLIN *Laud* (1668) 124 These Doctrinal heads [of Puritanism], being ten in number, related to the indispensible morality of the Lords-day-Sabbath [etc.].

†**c.** The quality or fact of being a 'moral action' (see MORAL *a.* 6 a), i. e. of being morally either good or evil. *Obs.*

a 1716 SOUTH *Serm.* (1727) II. 326 Did Christ himself ever assume such a Power, as to alter the Morality of Actions, and to transform Vice into Virtue..by his bare Word? 1736 BUTLER *Anal.* I. iii. 72 The..advantage in this case is gained by the action itself, not by the morality, the virtuousness or viciousness of it.

7. Moral conduct; usually, good moral conduct; behaviour conformed to the moral law; moral virtue. (Sometimes in contradistinction to the higher excellences of the Christian character.)

1609 B. JONSON *Sil. Wom.* III. i. (1620) F 2 b, Goe to, behaue your selfe distinctly, and with good moralitie. 1658 T. WALL *Charact. Enemies Ch.* 59 It is hatred of sin makes them so malicious: It is separation from the wicked that makes them void of Christian society and common Morality. *a* 1699 STILLINGFL. *Serm.* Wks. 1710 I. viii. 117 They [*sc.* the Jews in their spiritual pride] had the purity of his ordinances,..whereas all others, they thought, served God only with their own Inventions, or placed their Religion in dull morality. 1791 BP. HORNE *Charge to Clergy of Norwich* 14 And here, by Religion is to be understood the Christian Religion; and by Morality, such good works as are independent of it. 1814 JANE AUSTEN *Mansf. Park* ix, We do not look in great cities for our best morality. 1824 HOGG *Conf. Sinner* 214 The most popular of all their preachers of morality. *Ibid.* 216 It was easy to see that the true Gospel preachers joined all on one side, and the upholders of pure morality and a blameless life on the other. 1877 E. R. CONDER *Bas. Faith* i. 19 Justice, truth, love, duty, virtue—in one word, morality. 1878 R. W. DALE *Lect. Preach.* viii. 243 There may be morality where there is no religion; but that there should be religion where there is no morality, is impossible. 1887 TENNYSON in *Mem.* (1897) II. 337 Evil must come upon us headlong, if morality tries to get on without religion.

b. Used as a nickname or a mock-title for one who assumes airs of virtue.

1672 MARVELL *Reh. Transp.* I. Wks. (Grosart) III. 98, I am resolved, instead of his *Grace*, to call him alwayes his *Morality*. 1806 SURR *Winter in Lond.* (ed. 3) III. 138, I suspect that his own son, young morality, will require a little of his parental inspection.

Moralization (mɒrălaizē·ʃən). [ad late L. *mōrālizātiōn-em*, f. *mōrālizāre* to MORALIZE. Cf. mod.F. *moralisation*.] The action of moralizing.

1. a. Moral interpretation; a moralizing commentary (*of* or *upon* a book of Scripture, etc.). **b.** Indulgence in moral reflection; a moralizing discourse.

c 1420 LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 860 Moralizacion of Holy Scripture. 1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* v. (Percy Soc.) 24 Who knewe gramer wythout impediment Shoulde perfytely haue intelleccion Of a lytterall cense and moralyzacion. 1531 ELYOT *Gov.* I. xxvi, If the players haue radde the moralization of the chesse. 1599 THYNNE *Animadv.* (1875) 74 The learned molinet, in his moralizatione of that Romant. 1641 BAKER *Chron.* (1674) 179/2 William Wallis..who made a Book of Moralizations upon Ovid's Metamorphosis. 1795 R. ANDERSON *Johnson* 201 These compositions..evince..that happy art of moralization, by which he gives to well-known incidents the grace of novelty and the force of instruction. 1820 *Retrospective Rev.* II. 5 [In Sidney's *Arcadia*] there is perceptible an air..of melancholy yet not gloomy moralization. 1846 WRIGHT *Ess. Mid. Ages* II. xii. 62 In the thirteenth century these stories with moralizations were already used extensively by the monks.

2. The action of making moral or more moral; the process of becoming moral.

1848 *Tait's Mag.* XV. 325 None ever laboured more for their happiness and moralization. 1879 H. SPENCER *Data of Ethics* vii. § 46. 127 The sense of duty or moral obligation ..will diminish as fast as moralization increases. 1884 *Ch. Reformer* 201 Those who would work at the moralization of our literature. 1892 MONTEFIORE *Hibbert Lect.* ii. 101 The moralization of Yahveh's character was by no means completed at the close of the pre-prophetic period.

Moralize (mɒ·răləiz), *v.* [a. F. *moraliser*, ad. late L. *mōrālizāre*, f. *mōrāl-is*: see MORAL *a.* and -IZE.]

1. *trans.* To interpret morally or symbolically; to explain the moral meaning of; to point the moral of; to make (an event, etc.) the subject of moral reflection.

c 1450 in *Lydgate's Nightingale* 1 This [fable of the nightingale] ys moralysyd vn-to Cryste. 1593 G. HARVEY *Pierce's Super.* 18 My leisure will scarsely serue to moralize Fables of Beares, Apes, and Foxes; (some men can giue a shrewd gesse at a courtly allegory). 1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III*, III. i. 83 Thus, like the formall Vice, Iniquitie, I morallize two meanings in one word. 1600 — *A. Y. L.* II. i. 44 But what said Jaques? Did he not moralize this spectacle? 1608 WILLET *Hexapla Exod.* 465 Some doe moralize it; that by boring the eare is signified [etc.]. 1692 R. L'ESTRANGE *Fables* I. cccxxviii. 286 This Fable is Moraliz'd in the Holy Gospel it self. *a* 1711 KEN *Hymnotheo* Poet. Wks. 1721 III. 293 The Herd of Gods, which his Olympus stor'd, He mean'd, should moraliz'd be, not ador'd. 1841 TRENCH *Parables* xii. (1877) 245 Christ moralizes the whole parable..with those solemn words, 'For many are called, but few are chosen'.

†**2.** Of an incident, event, etc.: To exemplify or instance the moral of (a fable, saying, etc.). *Obs.*

1597 J. KING *On Jonas* (1618) 119 Nay, but there shall be a king ouer vs; yet it may be, when they haue their wish, the fable will be moralized, and verefied vpon them; A storke was giuen them. 1601 BP. W. BARLOW *Eagle & Body* (1609) B ij, I speake..onely to shewe how it doth moralize this Prouerbe, That where the Body is, the Eagles will Resort. 1608–11 BP. HALL *Medit. & Vows* ii. § 4 (1624) 23 That which is said of the Elephant,..we see well moralized, in men of euill conscience.

†**b.** To supply (a poem) with a moral or subject for moralizing. *Obs.*

1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. Induct. i, Fierce warres and faithful loves shall moralize my song. 1706 PRIOR *Ode to Queen* i, And with his Prince's Arms He moraliz'd his Song.

†**c.** To make (something) the subject of an allegory; to symbolize. *Obs.*

1652 *Persuasive to Compliance* 12 Not sparing Jupiter himselfe, whom they challenge to have wrested the Celestiall Monarchy from his Father Saturne: (in which is morallized the unnaturalnesse of Ambition).

3. *intr.* To indulge in moral reflection; to found a moral (*on* or *upon* an event, etc.).

1649 OGILBY *Virg. Georg.* I. (1684) 51 *note*, Seneca takes occasion thus to morallize: The Land..is divided into Regions..; the Chief Good hath its place too. 1692 R. L'ESTRANGE *Fables* cccl.xxxix. 362 The Pretended Criminal began now to Moralize upon the Story. 1710 STEELE *Tatler* No. 170 ₱ 5, I know you came Abroad only to Moralize and make Observations. 1813 SHELLEY *Q. Mab* 22 A gloomy theme, On which the lightest heart might moralize. 1824 W. IRVING *T. Trav.* I. 343 No one can moralize better after a misfortune has taken place. 1886 KIPLING *Departm. Ditties*, etc. (1888) 82 So we said He was a victim to the Demon Drink, And moralized upon him.

b. *trans.* To change the condition or aspect of (a person or thing) by moral discourse or reflection. Const. *into*, *out of*.

1722 MITCHELL *Ep. Death Dalrymple* 9 Nor is it Rudeness for the Friendly Muse To moralize Affliction into Use. 1796 BURNEY *Mem. Metastasio* II. 274 Whom he very anxiously tries to moralize into philosophy and tranquillity. 1807–8 W. IRVING *Salmag.* (1824) 275 In a similar humour was Launcelot at present, and I knew the only way was to let him moralise himself out of it.

4. To make moral; to give a moral quality to or affect the moral quality of (actions, feelings).

1592 LYLY *Gallathea* III. iii, *Astron.* Thy thoughts shall be metamorphosed, and made haile fellowes with the Gods. *Raffe.* O fortune! I feele my very braines moralized. 1627 SANDERSON *Serm.* (1681) I. 282 God..seldom bringeth a man from the wretchedness of forlorn nature,..but..by His restraining grace..He doth correct nature, and moralize it. 1647 CUDWORTH *Serm. 1 Cor. xv.* 57 (1676) 93 Such other laws and circumstances as moralize humane actions. 1682 SIR T. BROWNE *Chr. Mor.* III. § 7 Good and bad Stars moralize not our Actions. 1762 *Gentl. Mag.* 86 To raise the thoughts and moralize the mind. 1861 MILL *Utilit.* v. 77 When moralized by the social feeling it [the natural feeling of retaliation] only acts in the directions conformable to the general good.

5. To improve the morals of.

1633 PRYNNE *Histrio-m.* 106 If Stage-playes doe onely discover Vices for to make them odious, then those lascivious Pagans who most delighted in them, should haue heene meliorated and morralized by them. 1647 N. BACON *Disc. Govt. Eng.* I. xlvi. (1739) 76 Henry the first..being trained up..in the English garb, moralized by Learning, and now admitted to the Throne. 1723 WELSTED *Steele's Consc. Lovers* Prol., 'Tis yours with Breeding..To Chasten Wit, and Moralize the Stage. 1817 COLERIDGE *Biog. Lit.* xxii. (1882) 217 For the communication of pleasure is the introductory means by which alone the poet must expect to moralize his readers. 1840 THACKERAY *Paris Sk.-bk.* (1869) 250 Was any man who saw the show [the execution of a murderer] deterred..or moralised in any way? 1891 W. J. GREENSTREET tr. *Guyau's Educ. & Heredity* 96 Not only individuals, but whole races are moralised or demoralised.

Moralized (mɒ·răləizd), *ppl. a.* [-ED 1.]

1. a. Morally or symbolically applied or interpreted. **b.** Made instructive in morals.

c 1412 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 2111 There is a booke.. That 'the Chesse moralisede' cleped is. 1498 *Lydgate's Assembly of Gods, Interpr. Names Gods* end, Thus endeth this lytell moralized treatyse. 1601 BP. W. BARLOW *Eagle & Body* (1609) D iij, These moralized Eagles. 1865 TYLOR *Early Hist. Man.* xii. 342 A story of which the European fable..might be a mere moralized remnant.

2. Of a man or his attributes; Made moral.

1647 W. LYFORD *Transl. Simner* (1648) 4 Moralized Christians, which have a forme of knowledge and of the truth in the Law. 1648 JENKYN *Blind Guide* i. 3 Thousands of morallizd heathens..would blush. 1656 T. WATSON *One Thing Necessary* 70 A moraliz'd man is but a tame divell. 1677 W. HUBBARD *Narrative* II. 48 There are two principal Actors among the Indians..who are said to be..a strange kind of moralized Salvages. 1831 *Fraser's Mag.* III. 54 [His] finely moralized mind, elevated with the purest religious sentiments, is exactly fitted for such a subject. 1892 MONTEFIORE *Hibbert Lect.* i. 38 Resembling rather the insensate violence of angered nature, than the reasonable indignation of a moralized personality.

†**3.** Having morals of a specified kind. *Obs.*

1650 H. MORE *Observ.* in *Enthus. Tri.*, etc. (1656) 145 Do you think that they are..so singularly moralized, that Socrates-like, if an Asse kick they will not kick again? 1652 GAULE *Magastrom.* 15 Why God would call the Magi ..to Christ? Not because they were wisemen or men well morallized.

Moralizer (mɒ·răləizəɹ). [f. MORALIZE *v.* + -ER 1.] One who or something which moralizes.

1. One who is given to making moral reflections.
1600 NASHE *Summer's Last Will* Prol. B2 Moralizers, you that wrest a neuer meant meaning, out of euery thing, applying all things to the present time, keepe your attention for the common Stage. 1742 RICHARDSON *Pamela* IV. 120 But what a Moraliser am I! 1825 COLERIDGE *Aids Refl.* (1848) I. 26 There sometimes occurs an apparent play on words, which not only to the moralizer, but even to the philosophical etymologist, appears more than a mere play. 1837 HAWTHORNE *Twice-told T.* (1851) I. xvi. 248 The old man looks eastward,and (for he is a moralizer) frames a simile.

2. A moralizing agent.
1840 CHALMERS in Hanna *Mem.* (1851) IV. xi. 206 The Gospel..is the most powerful and efficient of all moralizers.

Moralizing (mɒ·răləizĭŋ), *vbl. sb.* [-ING 1.]
†1. The action of explaining the moral meaning of (a fable or tale); a moralization, moral. *Obs.*
c 1422 HOCCLEVE *Jereslans' Wife* Moralizacion 12 Where is the moralizynge..Bycome heere-of? was ther noon in the book Out of the which þat thow this tale took?

2. The action of making moral.
1677 GALE *Crt. Gentiles* II. III. Pref., There are many excellent Philosophemes and Notions..which..may be of great use..for the moralising of persons and republics. 1691–8 NORRIS *Pract. Disc.* (1711) III. 227 Such studies as signify little or nothing to the moralizing of their Minds.

3. Moral reflection; an instance of this.
1692 R. L'ESTRANGE *Fables* CCXCVI. 258 And let there be No Moralizing in the Pulpit upon the Fable. 1727 DE FOE *Syst. Magic* I. i. (1840) 31 But to leave moralizing,..I go on with my story. 1870 MRS. STOWE *Oldtown* XXVIII, It will be seen by these edifying moralisings how eminently scriptural was the course of Sam's mind.

Moralizing (mɒ·răləizĭŋ), *ppl. a.* [-ING 2.] That moralizes, in the senses of the verb.
1795 COLERIDGE *To Unq. Friend* Poems (1877) I. 154 It were a lot divine To cheat our noons in moralizing mood. 1816 *Remarks Eng. Manr.* 79 A nation of moralizing, thinking people. 1825 SOUTHEY *Paraguay* III. XX, A land Which..should one day Take up from thence his moralizing lay. 1869 LECKY *Europ. Mor.* (1880) I. ii. 291 We find a society almost absolutely destitute of moralising institutions. 1902 J. H. ROSE *Napoleon* xii. 295 He [*i.e.* the legislator] will turn by preference to education as a more potent moralizing agency. 1904 *Speaker* 23 Apr. 93/1 Thackeray and the other moralising theorists were wrong.

Hence **Mo·ralizingly** *adv.*
1782 ELIZ. BLOWER *Geo. Bateman* III. 180 They likewise moralizingly observed, that [etc.]. 1865 *Daily Tel.* 15 Dec. 5/3 Moralisingly, she added,..There were girls since the world began [etc.].

Moralled (mɒ·răld), *ppl. a.* Also **moraled.** [f. MORAL *sb.* + -ED 2.] Having morals (of a specified kind, indicated by a prefixed adv. or adj.).
1614 W. B. *Philosopher's Banquet* (ed. 2) 98 The king thus morald, he was vnfit to gouern others. 1826 *Westm. Rev.* VI. 18 This vice..is well touched on by Locke, in the same finely toned and finely moraled discourse. 1863 COWDEN CLARKE *Shaks. Char.* x. 257 He is light-moraled, loose-conscienced. 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 5 Aug. 5/2 Silenus..sought consolation in wine, and thus..became the agreeable and well-informed but loosely-moralled old person who is represented in..Virgil's Eclogues.

†**Mo·raller.** *Obs. rare*−1. [f. MORAL *v.* + -ER 1.] A moralizer.
1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* II. iii. 301 Come, you are too seuere a Moraller.

Moralless (mɒ·răl,lĕs), *a.* [f. MORAL *sb.* + -LESS.] Without a moral.
1884 *Mag. Art* Feb. 150/1 The artist of independent and moral-less purpose. 1898 G. A. SMITH *Drummond* vi. (1899) 140 Drummond had never treated religion..as if it were utterly without the great law of life, a moral-less magic of arbitrary formulas.

Morallon: see MORILLON.

Morally (mɒ·răli), *adv.* [f. MORAL *a.* + -LY 2.]
†1. In a moral sense; with a moral meaning or purpose. *Obs. rare.*
a 1400 HYLTON *Scala Perf.* (W. de W. 1494) II. xliii, Whan Jhesu is mayster it is expowned and declared litterally: morally: mystily: and heuenly. 1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* xiii. (Percy Soc.) 51 They take no hede nothyng they wryte, Whyche morally dyd so nobly endyte, Reprouyng vyce.

2. In respect of moral character or conduct; from the point of view of ethics or of the moral law; with reference to moral responsibility.
c 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* II. (Rolls) 155 Sum vntrewe opinioun of men is such that for it her conuersacioun is the worse morali. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 153 What su euer vertue enclyneth or moueth man or woman morally to moo thynges than one perteyneth to the actyue lyfe. 1634 *Documents agst. Prynne* (Camden) 40 They are all able umpyres of all vices and vertues, of thinges that are morally good or evill. *a* 1716 SOUTH *Serm.* (1727) II. 321 For generally speaking, to take away the Life of a Man, is neither morally Good, nor Morally Evil. 1790 BURKE *Fr. Rev.* 28 The house of lords..is not morally competent to dissolve the house of commons. 1841 MYERS *Cath. Th.* III § 9. 33 The testimony of the best men morally as to the immediate origin of their thoughts and feelings may conceivably not be trustworthy. 1859 KINGSLEY *Misc.* (1860) I. 124 A government is morally bound to keep itself in existence. 1897 MARY KINGSLEY *W. Africa* 499 Morally speaking, the African is far from being the brutal fiend he is often painted.

3. In accordance with morality; virtuously.
a 1540 BARNES *Wks.* (1573) 312/2 Those poore men that marry, be cause they would not all onely lyue vertuously beefore God, but also morally before the world. 1685 DAVDEN *Sylvæ* Pref. a 2 To take away rewards and punisbments, is only a pleasing prospect to a Man, who resolves before hand not to live morally.

4. On grounds of moral evidence.
1645 [see CERTAIN *a.* 4]. 1647 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* VI. § 76 It being morally sure, that the Earl of Essex would put himself in their way. 1660 JER. TAYLOR *Duct. Dubit.* I. v. Rule ii. § 5 But there is a Negative doubt which is called Morally negative; that is, when there is no way of being readily and clearly determined, but yet the doubt is founded upon some slight conjecture, and no more. 1660 R. COKE *Power & Subj.* 95 God did scarce ever leave men so destitute, but they were morally certain to whom they did owe their topical and natural obedience. 1667 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 48 The said Manley was gone for England, and, as he himselfe hath given out and is morally supposed, will not returne. 1692 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) II. 462 He was morally assured of success. 1782 MISS BURNEY *Cecilia* III. iv, It's quite morally impossible I should raise such a sum. 1808 LIEUT. COL. SYMES in J. Moore *Narr. Campaign Spain* (1809) 131 It is morally impossible that they can stand before a line of French infantry.

5. *Comb.*: **morally-given** *a.*, whose inclinations are on the side of morality.
1896 A. MORRISON *Child of the Jago* 25 So well-conducted, morally-given and respectable a gathering.

Moralness (mɒ·rălnĕs). *rare.* [f. MORAL *a.* + -NESS.] The state of being moral; morality. Also *personified.*
1642 D. ROGERS *Naaman* 10 It is not the moralnes of any people, nor their vertuous qualities. 1889 *Univ. Rev.* Jan. 91 Go, mask of Pride and mannered Moralness!

Morass (mɒræ·s). Also 7 **moras(e, morasse,** morost. [a. Du. *moeras*, earlier *moerasch*, an altered form (influenced by *moer* MOOR *sb.*1) of MDu. *marasch*, *maras*, a. OF. *maresc*, *marais*: see MARISH. Cf. MLG. *moras*, early mod.G. *morasz*, from 17th c. *morast* (whence the Eng. form *morost*); from LG. are Sw. *moras*, Da. *morads.*
The word is now confined to literary use, exc. in some parts of the West Indies, where it survives with the pronunciation (mɒ·rəs).]
1. A wet swampy tract, a bog, marsh; occas. in generalized sense, boggy land.
1655 FULLER *Hist. Camb.* v. 72 Athens..was seated in a Morass or Fenny place. 1657 R. LIGON *Barbadoes* (1673) 25 There remains, making a great part of that flat, a kinde of Bog or Morost. 1691 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) II. 199 They..are making canalls to drain the moras. 1730–46 THOMSON *Autumn* 476 Nor the deep morass Refuse, but thro' the shaking wilderness Pick your nice way. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* i, The sighs of the wind as it passed along the dreary morass. 1860 HOOK *Lives Abps.* (1860) I. 355 Only a small portion of the country was under cultivation, the rest was morass or impenetrable forest.
fig. 1867 MACGREGOR *Voy. Alone* (1868) 64 The east end of London—that morass of vice, and sighs and savagery. 1884 GLADSTONE *Sp.* 28 Feb. (1885) 136 Let us not wander into the morasses and fogs of doubt.

2. *West Indian.* Short for *morass-weed*, q.v. in 3.

3. *attrib.*, as *morass ground, -way*; **morass ore,** bog iron ore; **morass-weed** *West Indian*, the aquatic plant *Ceratophyllum demersum.*
1712 E. COOKE *Voy. S. Sea* 149 This *Morass Ground was full of the largest Toads I ever saw. 1804–8 JAMESON *Syst. Min.* (1816) III. 294 *Morass-ore, or Friable Bog Iron-ore. Morasterz, Werner. 1817 T. THOMSON *Chem.* (ed. 5) III. 478 Morass Ore. 1675 OGILBY *Brit.* (1698) 2 Here bear to the Left, thro' a *morass-way..to Morton in the Marsh. 1756 P. BROWNE *Jamaica* 345 The Morass or *Morass-weed is very common in all the brackish waters of Jamaica. 1864 GRISEBACH *Flora W. Ind.* 785 Morass-weed.

Morassy (mɒræ·si), *a.* [f. MORASS + -Y 1. Cf. Ger. *morastig*, earlier *marassig.*] Of or pertaining to a morass; having the characteristics of a morass; consisting of wet spongy ground; found in a morass. *Morassy iron ore = morass ore.*
1699 DAMPIER *Voy.* II. i. 160 The Land on the backside of the Town seems to be morassy. 1784 DARWIN in *Phil. Trans.* LXXV. 3 Our next operation was to build a wall of clay against the morassy sides of the well. 1801 *Encycl. Brit.* Suppl. II. 240/1 Morassy iron ore. 1881 BLACKMORE *Christowell* (1882) II. x. 219 The ground was uneven, though not bouldery, nor morassy.

Morat (mō·răt). *Antiq.* [ad. med.L. *mōrātum*, f. L. *mōr-us* mulberry: see -ATE 1.] A drink made of honey and flavoured with mulberries.
1807 SHARON TURNER *Hist. Anglo-Saxons* II. 52 The vessels of wine, mead, ale, pigment, morat and cyder. 1809 CAMPBELL *O'Connor's Child* IV, And kneeling pages offer'd up The Mórat in a golden cup. 1819 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* III, Place the best mead,..the richest morat,..upon the board. 1842 SIR H. TAYLOR *Edwin the Fair* III. VII, Six meals a day, With morat and spiced ale, is generous living.

Morate (mō·rĕt), *sb. Chem.* [f. L. *mōr-us* mulberry + -ATE 1.] A salt of moric acid.
1856 in MAYNE *Expos. Lex.* 1891 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

†**Mo·rate,** *a. Obs.* [ad. L. *mōrāt-us*, f. *mōr-ēs*: see MORAL *a.*] Mannered; well-mannered, respectably conducted, moral.
1652 GAULE *Magastrom.* xvii. 138 To see a man well morate so seldom applauded. *a* 1677 HALE *Prim. Orig. Man.* iv. vii. 355 So that the wiser and more morate part of Mankind were forced to set up Laws and Punishments, to keep the generality of Mankind in some tolerable order.

Moration (mɒrēi·ʃən). *rare.* [ad. L. *morātiōn-em*, n. of action f. *morā-rī* to delay.] Delay, tarrying.
16.. SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* VI. x. (1658) 400 We shall..say he [*sc.* the sun] is more powerful in the Northern Hemisphere, and in the Apogeum; for therein his moration [1646, p. 325 motion] is slower. 1839 *New Monthly Mag.* LV. 518 The sublime Obscure still lingered—a moration which failed not to raise some misgivings.

‖**Moratorium** (mɒrătō·rĭŭm). *Law.* [mod.L., neut. of late L. *morātōrius*: see next.] A legal authorization to a debtor to postpone payment for a certain time.
1875 *Times* 28 Sept. 5/3 The merchants of Belgrade, taking advantage of the warlike rumours, have asked for a *moratorium.* 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 27 Aug. 5/2 The Vienna sugar firm..in demanding a *moratorium*..assumes that its assets will, in a year's time, be sufficiently valuable to pay the debts which it is now unable to liquidate. 1905 (Official Receiver in) *Author* XV. 233/2 The refusal of his largest unsecured creditors to consent to a *moratorium* of sufficient length to enable him to recover his position.

Moratory (mɒ·rătəri), *a. Law.* [ad. late L. *morātōr-ius* serving to delay, f. *morā-rī* to delay: see -ORY. Cf. F. *moratoire*, It. *moratorio.*] Authorizing delay in payment.
1891 CHALMERS *Bills of Exchange* 149 By a French moratory law, passed in consequence of war, the maturity of bills payable in Paris is postponed three months.

Moratta, morattoe, obs. forms of MAHRATTA.

Moratto (mɒræ·to). ? *Obs.* Also 8 morotto, 9 marotta. A kind of pea.
1731 MILLER *Gard. Dict.* s.v. *Pisum*, The Spanish Morotto Pea...The Spanish Morotto..is a great Bearer, and a hardy Sort of Pea. 1789 J. FARLEY *Lond. Art of Cookery* (ed. 6) 163 Take a quart of green Moratto peas. 1824 LOUDON *Encycl. Gard.* (ed. 2) § 3599 The egg, the moratto, the Prussian blue, and the rouncivals..are all very fine eating peas in young growth. 1835 *Trans. Horticult. Soc.* Ser. II. I. 386 Varieties of the Pea..Spanish Marotta.

Moratty, obs. form of MAHRATTI.

Moravian (mɒrēi·vĭăn), *sb.*1 and *a.*1 [f. med. L. *Moravia* Moray (ad. Gael. *Muireibh*) + -AN.]
A. *sb.* An inhabitant of Moray (in early use, one of the great divisions of Scotland; in mod. use, a county occupying part of the territory formerly so named).
1577–87 HOLINSHED *Hist. Scot.* 52/2 When they were thus assembled, Britains, Scots, Picts, & Morauians on one part, and Romans..on the other. 1791 NEWTE *Tour Eng. & Scot.* 191 A striking difference between the Moravians and Aberdonians appears. 1836 SKENE *Highlanders Scot.* (1902) II. vi. 282 He easily succeeded in exciting the Moravians once more to revolt.
B. *adj.* Of or pertaining to Moray.
1897 C. RAMPINI *Hist. Moray & Nairn* I. 43 No period of Moravian history is more obscure than that which followed the accession of Malcolm Ceannmor.

Moravian (mɒrēi·vĭăn), *sb.*2 and *a.*2 [f. *Moravia* (med.L., f. *Morava* the river March), the English name of a portion of the Austro-Hungarian empire, called in Ger. *Mähren*: see -AN.] A. *sb.*
1. An inhabitant of Moravia.
1788 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* V. 554 That..land was loosely occupied by the Moravians, a Sclavonian name and tribe.

2. A member or adherent of the 'Unity of Moravian brethren', a Protestant sect, founded early in the 18th c. in Saxony by emigrants from Moravia, and continuing the tradition of the *Unitas Fratrum*, a body holding Hussite doctrines, which had its chief seat in Moravia and Bohemia.
The virtual founder of the body was Count Zinzendorf, who was the patron of the Moravian refugees, and embraced their doctrines. The Moravians early obtained many adherents in England and the American colonies.
1746 WESLEY *Princ. Methodist* 10 There needs a little farther Proof, that I charge any dreadful Crimes on the Body of the Moravians. 1760 *Ann. Reg.* 108 Died..,in the 60th year of his age, Count Nicholas Lewis of Zinzendorff, founder and head of the sect of Moravians. 1777 JOHNSON 28 June in Boswell *Life* (1816) III. 130 He had a Moravian with him much of his time. 1809 BYRON *Bards & Rev.* 323 Moravians rise! bestow some meet reward On dull devotion. 1838 W. BELL *Dict. Law Scotl., Moravians*, a sect of dissenters, who, on account of conscientious scruples, are permitted, in lieu of an oath, to make a solemn affirmation in courts of justice. 1871 LONGF. in *Life* (1891) III. 173 Meditating a third play,..the scene to be among the Moravians at Bethlehem, Pennsylvania.
B. *adj.*
1. Of or pertaining to Moravia.
1616 B. JONSON *Epigr.* cvii. *To Captain Hungry*, Fill them full Of your Morauian horse, Venetian bull. 1837 YOUATT *Sheep* v. 139 The Moravian sheep are larger.

2. Of or belonging to the sect of Moravians.
1745 WESLEY *Answ. to Ch.* 5, I have scarce heard one Moravian Brother own his Church to be wrong in any thing. 1777 J. ADAMS in *Fam. Lett.* (1876) 236 The Moravian mills in New Jersey. 1876 L. STEPHEN *Eng. Th. in 18th C.* I. vii. 351 He [Warburton] calls the Moravian hymn book 'a heap of blasphemous and beastly nonsense'.

Hence **Mora·vianism,** the religious system of the Moravians; **Mora·vianized** *ppl. a.*, influenced by Moravianism.
1820 SOUTHEY *Wesley* I. 344 The Areopagite was a favourite book among the Moravianized members. 1829 BENTHAM *Justice & Cod. Petit., Abr. Petit. Justice* 21 Of Quakerism or Moravianism declaration can no longer serve. 1888 SCHAFF *Hist. Chr. Ch.* VI. VIII. xcix. 598 Frederick the Great had as little sympathy with pietism and Moravianism as with Lutheranism and Calvinism.

Moray (mɒrē·). *U.S.* Also 7 **moreraye,** 8–9 **muray, murrey,** 9 **maray, murry** (*Cent. Dict.*). [? a. Pg. *moreia* = Sp. *morena*:—L. *muræna.*] A name for various tropical species of eel belonging to the family *Murænidæ.*
1624 CAPT. SMITH *Virginia* v. 172 Some of them yet knowne to the Americans, as the Purgoose, the Cauallo, the Gar-fish, Flying-fish and Morerayes. 1735 MORTIMER *Nat. Hist. Carol. & Bahamas* in *Phil. Trans.* XXXIX.

112 *Muræna maculata nigra*; the black Murrey. 1754 CATESBY *Nat. Hist. Carol.* II. 20 *Muræna maculata, nigra, & viridis.* The Muray. 1884 G. B. GOODE, etc. *Nat. Hist. Aquatic Anim.* 629 The Morays—Muræniдæ. . . The most important species is the Speckled Moray, *Sidera ocellata.* 1897 H. G. CARLETON in *Outing* XXIX. 330/1 [Fishes of Florida.] There is the murrey, which is pronounced with the accent on the final.

Morayne, Morbery: see MURRAIN, MULBERRY.

Morbid (mɔ̄ɹbid), *a.* [ad. L. *morbid-us*, f. *morb-us* disease, f. root of *morī* to die. Cf. F. *morbide*, It., Pg. *morbido*, Sp. *mórbido.*]

1. Of the nature of or indicative of disease; also, †productive of disease, morbific.

1656 H. MORE *Enthus. Tri.* (1712) 51 There may be very well a sanative and healing Contagion, as well as a morbid and venomous. 1748 THOMSON *Cast. Indol.* II. 705 Of morbid hue his features, sunk and sad; His hollow eyne shook forth a sickly light. 1771 T. PERCIVAL *Ess.* (1777) I. 8 Sylvius exults in the discovery that an acid is the sole morbid principle. 1799 UNDERWOOD *Dis. Children* (ed. 4) I. 44 Under such treatment, the morbid-snuffles has been found to yield in the course of two or three weeks. 1799 *Med. Jrnl.* I. 324 The variolous matter, first inserted by the puncture, like that of other morbid poisons, is not capable of being immediately absorbed. 1845 BUDD *Dis. Liver* 335 No morbid appearance could be discovered to account for his sudden death, except that [etc.]. 1883 *Nature* XXVII. 236 Evolution of microscopic organisms. . in the dead body and morbid products.

fig. 1818 MACAULAY *Ess., Hallam* (1851) I. 53 It may be quickened into morbid activity. It may be reasoned into sluggishness.

b. Of persons or animals, their parts, etc.: Affected by disease, diseased, unhealthy. ? *Obs.*

1731 ARBUTHNOT *Aliments* vi. (1735) 152 Tho' every Human Constitution is morbid, yet are their Diseases consistent with the common Functions of Life. 1750 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 43 ¶ 1 Every man comes into the world morbid. 1846 G. E. DAY tr. *Simon's Anim. Chem.* II. 406 Morbid Bones.

c. *Morbid anatomy*: the anatomy of diseased organs or structures.

1804 ABERNETHY *Surg. Obs.* 6 The structure of tumours is a part of morbid anatomy which deserves to be examined. 1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XV. 816/1 This increase of knowledge is therefore due, not to auscultation alone, but to auscultation combined with morbid anatomy.

fig. 1851 WILLMOTT *Pleas. Lit.* 291 Books. . belong to the study of the mind's morbid anatomy.

2. Of mental conditions, ideas, etc.: Unwholesome, sickly: chiefly applied to unreasonable feelings of gloom, apprehension, or suspicion. Hence of persons: Addicted to morbid feelings or fancies.

[1777 JOHNSON in Boswell *Life* (1816) III. 210 There must be a diseased mind, where there is a failure of memory at seventy. A man's head, Sir, must be morbid, if he fails so soon.] 1834 B'NESS BUNSEN in Hare *Life* (1879) I. x. 419 But that was a morbid vision, and has given way to the actual reality of so much good. 1842 KINGSLEY *Lett.* (1878) I. 59 Pray to God to save you from the temptations of morbid melancholy and unavailing regret. 1853 HUMPHREYS *Coin-Coll. Man.* xxvi. (1876) 392 Such a morbid kind of enthusiasm in this delightful science is much less common now. 1886 HALL CAINE *Son of Hagar* III. iv, You morbid little woman, you shall be happy again. 1889 RUSKIN *Præterita* III. 145 The morbid German fancies which proved so fatal to Carlyle.

3. *Painting.* Of flesh-tints: Painted with 'morbidezza'. [After It. *morbido.*]

1727–52 CHAMBERS *Cycl., Morbid*, in painting, is particularly applied to fat flesh very strongly expressed.

‖ **Morbidezza** (mɔrbideˑtsa). *Painting.* [It., f. *morbido* MORBID *a.*] Life-like delicacy in flesh-tints.

1624 WOTTON *Archit.* II. 89 A kinde of Tendernesse, by the Italians tearmed Morbidezza. 1686 AGLIONBY *Painting Illustr.* i. 21 There is a thing which the Italians call Morbidezza; The meaning of which word, is to Express the Softness, and tender Liveliness of Flesh and Blood. 1722 J. RICHARDSON *Statues, etc., Italy* 58 But the Beauty! the Morbidezza! the Thought and Expression! Good God! 1881 *Athenæum* 19 Feb. 271 Nor does the morbidezza which distinguishes every line of its perfect contours and characterizes all of them detract from the fineness of the whole.

Morbidity (mɔɹbiˑdĭti). [f. MORBID *a.* + -ITY.]

1. The quality or condition of being morbid; a morbid state or symptom; *pl.* morbid characteristics or ideas.

1721 in BAILEY. 1795 ANNA SEWARD *Lett.* (1811) IV. 364 To decry episodes of sentiment, allegory, or narrative, in didactic composition, is a singular morbidity in criticism. 1821 *New Monthly Mag.* II. 300 Our feelings. . lie rankling and rotting into morbidity and corruption. 1825 *Ibid.* XV. 508 We trust he will endeavour to shake off his morbidities, whether real or assumed. 1884 *Spectator* 4 Oct. 1324/1 On the whole the story is singularly free from morbidity. 1904 A. C. BRADLEY *Shakesp. Trag.* 111 It makes all his cynicism, grossness and hardness appear to us morbidities.

2. *Med.* Prevalence of disease; the extent or degree of prevalence of disease in a district: = MORBILITY.

1882 *Quain's Med. Dict.* 998/2 *Morbidity.* This term, which is of recent introduction, is employed to denote the amount of illness existing in a given community; and, as 'mortality' expresses the death-rate, so 'morbidity' indicates the sick-rate, whether the diseases be fatal or not. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 30 The table which I have constructed in order to exhibit the relative morbidities of several groups of [French] departments. 1893 P. MANSON *Trop. Diseases* i. 1 [Malaria] is the principal cause of morbidity and death in the tropics and sub-tropics.

Morbidize (mɔ̄ɹbidəiz), *v. rare.* [f. MORBID *a.* + -IZE.] *trans.* To make morbid.

1850 L. HUNT *Autobiog.* I. ii. 62 They helped to morbidize all that was weak in my temperament.

Morbidly (mɔ̄ɹbidli), *adv.* [f. MORBID *a.* + -LY 2.] In a morbid manner.

1804 *Med. Jrnl.* XII. 380 Hence the vessels will be morbidly distended with blood. 1816 J. SCOTT *Vis. Paris* (ed. 5) 7 This indifference as to the past, chiefly arises out of a morbidly quick sensibility to the present. 1873 T. H. GREEN *Introd. Pathol.* (ed. 2) 56 The morbidly fatty liver is one which contains an abnormal quantity of fat. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Dec. 116/1 You are morbidly afraid of death.

Morbidness (mɔ̄ɹbidnĕs). [f. MORBID *a.* + -NESS.] The quality or state of being morbid.

1668 H. MORE *Div. Dial.* II. iv. (1713) 95 To which he adds. . the Morbidness of the Seasons of the Year, and the frequentness of untimely Death. 1681 GLANVILL *Saddducismus* I. (1726) 103 By some Weakness or Morbidness of Mind tumbling into so foul an Error. 1791 BOSWELL *Johnson* an. 1777, To consider such indifference as a failure of reason, morbidness of mind. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Mar. 633/2 The story [is] free from any element of morbidness.

Morbiferal (mɔɹbiˑfĕrăl), *a. rare*—1. [f. L. *morbifer* (f. *morb-us* disease + *-fer* bearing) + -AL.] Causing disease or illness.

1848 LOWELL *Biglow P.* Poems 1890 II. 1 Certificates to the virtues of various morbiferal panaceas.

Morbiferous (mɔɹbiˑfĕrəs), *a.* = prec.

1806 *Med. Jrnl.* XV. 23 It may well be doubted, whether more sacrifices are not annually made to the injudicious administration of mercury, than to all the combined effects of the morbiferous poisons. 1808 *Ibid.* XIX. 199 The action of it upon the body is very extensive and morbiferous.

Morbific (mɔɹbiˑfik), *a.* Also 7 morbifick, morbifique, 7–8 morbifick. [ad. F. *morbifique* or its source mod.L. *morbificus*, f. *morbus* disease: see -FIC.] That produces disease; causing disease.

1652 FRENCH *Yorksh. Spa* iv. 43 Winter also, and a cold, crass slimy morbifick. . matter, . . forbid the use of cold water. 1706 BAYNARD in Sir J. Floyer *Hot & Cold Bath.* II. 360 Impregnated with morbifick Salts. 1804 ABERNETHY *Surg. Obs.* 127 It is probable that these morbific poisons may be absorbed without any evident ulcer. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 347 Pleurisy is due to irritation of the pleural membrane by certain morbific microbes or poisons.

b. Sometimes misused for: Diseased, pertaining to or caused by disease.

1658 R. FRANCK *North. Mem.* 295 Morbifick Deformities. 1800 *Med. Jrnl.* IV. 77 A morbific bone. 1858 *London Jrnl.* 27 Feb. 408/3 What a capital green-house for the production of morbific rarities.

†**Morbi·fical,** *a. Obs.* [Formed as MORBIFIC *a.* + -AL.] = MORBIFIC.

1620 VENNER *Via Recta* viii. 190 They. . doe at length. . produce morbificall affects. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* IV. iii. 183 The vessels whereby the morbificall matter is derived unto this membrane, are [etc.]. 1694 WESTMACOTT *Script. Herb.* 40 Its [the cedar's] perfuming odor corrects the malignity. . of a morbifical air.

Hence **Morbi·fically** *adv.*, with regard to the production of disease.

1716 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* II. 340 The Astrological Influences of the Heavens are Morbifically and Politically as well as Learnedly declar'd against.

†**Morbi·ficous,** *a. Obs.*—1 [f. mod.L. *morbific-us* MORBIFIC *a.* + -OUS.] = MORBIFIC.

1657 TOMLINSON *Renou's Disp.* 20 Medicine is not made for the Disease, but for the morbificous cause.

Morbify (mɔ̄ɹbifəi), *v.* [f. L. *morb-us* disease + -IFY. Late L. had *morbificāre.*] *trans.* To make diseased.

1875 BROWNING *Aristoph. Apol.* Wks. 1896 I. 680/2 So morbifies their flesh The poison-drama of Euripides.

Morbility (mɔɹbiˑlĭti). *Path.* [ad. G. *morbilität*, ad. mod.L. type **morbilitās*, f. **morbili-s* characterized by disease, f. *morb-us* disease: see -ILE and -ITY.] The proportion of sickness in a given locality; the sick rate. = MORBIDITY 3.

1876 tr. *Wagner's Gen. Pathol.* (1877) 70 It is, however, further necessary to know the mortality and morbility of a locality in order to proceed upon perfectly safe ground. 1885 *Med. Times* 4 July 13/1 Dr. John Williams. . was able to state a very low rate of deaths and morbility.

Morbillary (mɔɹbiˑlări), *a. Path.* [f. mod.L. *morbill-us* (see next) + -ARY.] Resembling measles.

1900 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 5 May 1084 On the neck and chest there was. . subcutaneous mottling, morbillary in character.

‖ **Morbilli** (mɔrbiˑləi), *pl. Path.* [med.L., pl. of *morbillus*, dim. of L. *morbus* disease.] The spots characteristic of measles.

1693 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Morbilli*, the Measles, red Spots, which proceed from an Aerial Contagion in the Blood. 1706 in PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey).

Morbilliform (mɔɹbiˑlifɔ̄ɹm), *a.* [f. med.L. *morbill-us* + -(I)FORM.] Resembling measles.

1879 *St. George's Hosp. Rep.* IX. 204 Morbilliform eruption. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 935 In the morbilliform variety [of antitoxin rashes] the face may be affected.

Morbillous (mɔɹbiˑləs), *a. Path.* [ad. med.L. *morbillōsus*, f. *morbill-us*: see MORBILLI and -OUS.] Of or pertaining to measles.

1775 J. PERCIVAL *Ess.* (1776) III. 104 The morbillous matter has since been ingrafted by means of lint. 1879 *St. George's Hosp. Rep.* IX. 64 A faint morbillous rash was still visible on admission.

‖ **Morbleu** (mɔrblō̃). Also 7 morbleau, 8 mortblue, 9 marblue, mortbleu. [Fr.; an altered form of *mort Dieu*: see MORTDIEU.] A comic oath: usually attributed to French speakers.

To sing out morbleu dial. (Cornw.), to cry out lustily, as a boy when flogged (*N. & Q.*, 8th Ser. V. 34).

1664 ETHEREDGE *Comical Revenge* III. iv, Morbleu, see, see de insolence of de Foot-boy English. 1679 SHADWELL *True Widow* II. 30 *Stan.* Come let's in, and put it off to the Ladies as if you were friends. *Prig.* Ay, with all my heart; what care I? *Y. Mag.* Morbleau, Brutal. 1692 M. MORGAN *Late Victory* 11 Morbleus and Jernies were but common Sport, Oathes only for the Lacquies of the Court. *a* 1754 FIELDING *Fathers* Wks. (1840) 1106 A lady whom I. . saw again last night with another young lady at the play; and mortblue, if I marry any other woman. 1823 SCOTT *Peveril* xxvii, He upset both horse and Frenchman,—*mortbleu!* thrilling from his tongue as he rolled on the ground. 1840 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg., Bagman's Dog*, His ear caught the sound of the word 'Morbleu!' 1888 NELLIE CORNWALL *Twice Rescued* xvii. 211 Just listen to my Johnnie—he is singing out marblue [*foot-n.* Making a great noise].

Morbose (mɔ̄ɹbōus), *a.* [ad. L. *morbōsus*, f. *morb-us* disease: see -OSE.] Proceeding from disease, causing disease, diseased, unhealthy.

1691 RAY *Creation* II. (1692) 77 All Preternatural and Morbose Tumors and Excrescencies of Plants. 1765 *Ann. Reg.* II. 108/2 He philosophises. . on the effect of this bath, and believes that the earth absorbs into it morbose miasmas, &c. 1891 *Syd. Soc. Lex., Morbose*, sickly, unhealthy.

†**Morbo·sity.** *Obs.* [f. MORBOSE + -ITY.] The condition of being morbose; also, a morbose characteristic.

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* VI. x. 328 Their morbosities have vigorously descended to their posterities. 1689 T. PLUNKET *Char. Gd. Commander* 2 Nor coin excuses in a time of War, . . Nor counterfeit Morbosity, when well.

†**Mo·rbous,** *a. Obs.* [ad. L. *morbōsus*: see MORBOSE and -OUS.] Causing disease; of or pertaining to disease, diseased.

1651 WITTIE tr. *Primrose's Pop. Err.* II. xv. 130 When an inward disposition lurks in the body, and a morbous preparation, which such causes do stir up. 1682 T. GIBSON *Anat.* (1697) 109 In a morbous state it is often of several other colours. 1684 tr. *Bonet's Merc. Compit.* XIV. 506 Nature. . does sometimes purge out. . the Morbous purulent Matter.

Morbulent mɔ̄ɹbiˑlĕnt), *a. rare*—0. [f. L. *morb-us* disease: see -ULENT.] (See quots.)

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, Morbulent (*morbulentus*), full of diseases; sickly. 1891 *Syd. Soc. Lex., Morbulent*, somewhat sickly.

‖ **Morbus** (mɔ̄ɹbŭs). [L.] A disease. Used in combination in mod. Latin names of diseases, as CHOLERA *morbus*; *Morbus Gallicus* (see quots.).

1579 W. CLOWES (*title*) A short and profitable treatise touching the cure of the disease called Morbus Gallicus by Unctions. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Morbus Gallicus*, otherwise called *Morbus Indicus, Neopolitanus, Hispanicus* (in Lat. *Lues Venerea*) the French Pox or great Pox. 1663 BOYLE *Usef. Exp. Nat. Philos.* II. ii. 43 An humour, such as that which causes the cholera morbus. 1672 JOSSELYN *New Eng. Rarities* 34 They are good for the Ptisick and Consumptions, and some say the *Morbus Gallicus*. 1693 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Icterus*, the Jaundice, . . the Latins call it *Regius Morbus*, the Kingly Disease.

Morbut, obs. form of MARABOUT.

1769 *Town & County Mag.* Sept. 406/1 Magic figures drawn upon paper by the morbuts or priests of the country.

‖ **Morceau** (mɔrso). [Fr.: see MORSEL *sb.*] A short literary or musical composition.

1751 SMOLLETT *Per. Pic.* (1799) I. iii. 25 He sat down and produced the following morceau. 1788 'A. PASQUIN' *Childr. Thespis* (1792) 149 She purloined the stool on which Kemble had writ, The choicest morceaus of his Jesuit wit. 1819 *Europ. Mag.* LXXVI. 161 This very laughable operatic morceau.

Morcel/e, morcell, obs. forms of MORSEL.

Morcellated (mɔ̄ɹsĕlĕˑlĕtĕd), *ppl. a.* [f. **morcellate* vb. (formed after MORCELLEMENT) + -ED 1.] Divided into many pieces; parcelled.

1888 N. S. SHALER in *9th Rep. U. S. Geol. Surv.* (1889) 585 It is probably to this morcellated character of the rock . . that we owe the great erosion of the granites. . of this vicinity.

Morcellation (mɔ̄ɹsĕlĕˑĭˑʃən). *Surg.* [f. **morcellate* vb.: see prec. and -ATION.] The action of breaking up a diseased part into small pieces.

1898 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 17 Sept. 789 Any myomatous nodules that presented in the wound were removed generally by morcellation. 1900 *Lancet* 12 May 1368/1 The method of performing vaginal ablation. . and vaginal ablation with morcellation are all fully and clearly described.

‖ **Morcellement** (mɔrsɛlmaⁿ). [Fr., f. *morceler* to break in pieces, f. OF. *morcel, morceau* morsel: see -MENT.] Division (*spec.* of land or property) into small portions.

1848 H. DRUMMOND in *Croker Papers* (1884) III. xxvi. 184 As a national system it [the allotment system] is again infinitesimal *morcellement*. *a* 1859 AUSTIN *Jurispr.* (1863) II. xlv. 462 The effect of this *morcellement* would be endless repetition. 1889 *Pall Mall G.* 3 July 3/1 In the South peasant proprietors own most of the land, and the morcellement is in many cases excessive.

Morchuel: see MORHWELL.

Morcok, obs. form of MOOR COCK.

Mordacious (mɔɹdēˑʃəs), *a.* Now *rare.* Also 9 *erron.* mordaceous. [f. L. *mordāc-, mordax* (f. *mord-ēre* to bite) + -IOUS.]

1. Biting; given to biting.

1777 G. FORSTER *Voy. round World* I. 450 They likewise assured us the hats were very mordacious. 1801 J. JONES tr. *Bygge's Trav. Fr. Rep.* xiv. 335 Serpents in general,

and mordaceous ones in particular. 1829 LANDOR *Imag. Conv., Galileo, Milton*, etc. Wks. 1853 II. 234/1 To begin with the horses:..all are noisy and windy, skittish and mordacious. 1875 E. J. PAYNE *Burke's Sel. Wks.* II. Introd. 59 The mordacious snarl of the cur.

†**2.** Of material substances: 'Biting', pungent, caustic. *Obs.*

1675 EVELYN *Terra* (1676) 29 All Earths abounding more or less in their peculiar Salts..; some sweet and more grateful; others bitter, mordacious or astringent. 1684 tr. *Bonet's Merc. Compit.* VI. 232 So mordacious a matter must never be carried off by vomit.

3. Of or with reference to sarcasm or invective: Biting, keen.

1650 T. B. tr. *Estienne's Art Making Devises* Catal. 71 The Earle of Carnarvan was thus mordacious in his Devise, whereln he had a Lyon depainted, and 6 Dogs bayting or baying at him. 1654 COKAINE *Dianea* IV. 315 Then..shall I neither have power nor punishment to bridle thy mordacious insolency. 1823 D'ISRAELI *Cur. Lit.* Ser. II. II. 270 Grand-duke and taxes were synonimes, according to this mordacious lexicographer! 1841 — *Amen. Lit.* (1867) 465 A repose freed from..mordacious malignity.

Hence **Morda·ciously** *adv.*

1663 WATERHOUSE *Comm. Fortescue's De Laud. Legum Angliæ* 201 Buchanan, a learned though violent Scot, has mordaciously taunted this tradition.

Mordacity (mɒɪdæ·sĭti). [ad. F. *mordacité*, ad. L. *mordācitās*, f. *mordāc-*, *mordax*: see MORDACIOUS *a.* and -ITY.]

1. Propensity to biting.

a 1677 BARROW *Serm.* v. Wks. 1687 I. 65 He hath little of the Serpent (none of..its rancorous venom, of its keen mordacity). 1824 in *Spirit Pub. Jrnls.* (1825) 406 We all know the vivacity, or mordacity, with which the veriest cur resents an outrage offered to his tail.

2. 'Biting' or mordant quality. †**a.** Of material substances: Causticity, pungency, penetrating power, etc. *Obs.*

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 83 It goeth into..collyries or eyesalues, by reason of a certain subtil mordacitie and penetratiue qualitie that it hath. 1651 BIGGS *New Disp.* § 301 Most medicines do depone all their acrimony and mordacity. 1699 EVELYN *Acetaria* 57 The young..Roots..affording a very grateful mordacity. 1725 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Sallet*, The Mordacity thus allay'd, be sure to make the Mortar very clean before you stamp any thing else in it.

b. Mordancy in speech.

c 1630 C. MORE *Life Sir T. More* i. 24 He iesteth, but without mordacitie. 1660 WATERHOUSE *Arms & Arm.* 168 But for all these speeches of anger and mordacity, London has bin and I hope yet will be London. 1823 D'ISRAELI *Cur. Lit.* Ser. II. II. 329 [*Lenglet du Fresnoy*] His mordacity, his sarcasm.., contribute to his reader's amusement more than comports with his graver tasks. 1846 POE *L. Osborn* Wks. 1864 III. 55 Its mordacity cannot be gainsaid.

Mordancy (mɔ̄·ɹdănsi). [f. MORDANT *a.*: see -ANCY.] The quality of being biting in speech; sarcastic force; incisiveness (of style).

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Mordancie*, biting; sharpness of speech, detraction, bitter tearms. 1871 *Echo* 26 Aug., Speeches denouncing Mr. Gladstone,..none of them equal in mordancy to the Duke of Somerset's recent jet of vitriol. 1892 *Critic* 1 Oct. 176/1 This is surprising from a man the mordancy of whose style has been heretofore so remarkable.

Mordant (mɔ̄·ɹdănt), *sb.* Also 4 **mourdant**, 5–6 **mordaunt**. [a. OF. *mordant*, subst. use of *mordant* adj.: see next.]

I. An instrument that 'bites' or holds fast.

†**1.** A chape or tag of metal, sometimes jewelled, at the end of the pendant of a girdle. *Obs.*

? *a* 1366 CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 1094 The mourdant, wrought in noble wyse, Was of a stoon ful precious. *c* 1400 *Land Troy Bk.* 8242 Eche man his coffer vnsperes And takes gerdeles of riche barres With bokeles of gold and fair pendaunt, Wel anamayled with the mordaunt. 1500 *Will of Whiting* (Somerset Ho.), A girdell of black silk..the pendaunt and the mordaunt ther of ys syluer.

2. One of the nippers of a crab, lobster, etc.

1848 JOHNSTON in *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* II. No. 6. 300 The mandibular arms have a short..pincer, with a moveable nipper (mordant) placed above.

II. 3. *Dyeing.* A substance used for fixing colouring matters on stuffs.

1791 HAMILTON *Berthollet's Dyeing* Introd. 10 Mordants [serve] to render the colour more fixed. 1826 HENRY *Elem. Chem.* II. 375 The latter class, however, may be durably attached by the mediation of what was formerly called a mordaunt, but has since been more properly termed, by the late Mr. Henry, a *basis*. 1865 LIVINGSTONE *Zambesi* i. 32 Columba root is said to be used as a mordant for certain colours. 1887 *Manch. Courier* 13 May 8/4 Turkey purple, which is made by substituting a mordant or basis of iron.

fig. 1809–10 COLERIDGE *Friend* (ed. 3) III. 131 The link or mordant by which philosophy becomes scientific and the sciences philosophical. 1864 LOWELL *Fireside Trav.* 124 Practical application is the only mordant which will set things in the memory.

b. *Gilding.* An adhesive compound for fixing gold-leaf.

1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 748 Some prepare their mordants with Jew's pitch [etc.]..They employ it for gilding pale gold. 1881 YOUNG *Ev. Man his own Mechanic* § 1629 The principal mordants, or sizes, used by the gilder are known as *gold size* and *fat-oil gold size*.

c. In Pathological laboratories (see quot.).

1891 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Mordant.* In Pathological investigations mordants are certain substances such as anilin oil, salicylic aldehyde, turpentine, carbolic acid, and borax, which are added to the basic anilin dyes to fix them on bacteria which may be present, and so render them more or less insensitive to decolourising agents. 1899 CAGNEY tr. *Jaksch's Clin. Diagn.* x. (ed. 4) 438.

4. *Etching.* The fluid used to 'bite in' the lines on the plate.

1878 P. G. HAMERTON in *Encycl. Brit.* VIII. 443/2 The nitrous mordant widens the lines; the Dutch mordant bites in depth.

Mordant (mɔ̄·ɹdănt), *a.* Also 5, 9 **mordent**. [a. F. *mordant*, pres. pple. of *mordre* to bite:—popular L. **mordĕre* (= classical L. *mordēre*); the form *mordent* is assimilated to the L. pple. *mordentem*.] Biting (in various senses).

1. Of satiric utterances (hence also of speakers or writers): Caustic, incisive.

1474 CAXTON *Chesse* II. v. (1481) d viij b, They ben..right mordent and bytyng detractours. 1858 ELLICOTT *Destiny Creature* (ed. 3) 22 A petty spirit of detraction, with unkindly words or mordant satire. 1881 *Spectator* 19 Nov. 1454/1 Lord Salisbury was, as usual, very mordant in his tone towards Mr. Gladstone. 1903 *Blackw. Mag.* July 12/2 He was endowed with a peculiarly mordant wit.

2. Corrosive. Now *rare.*

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 506 Of those marles which are found to be fat, the white is chiefe; and thereof be many sorts. The most mordant and sharpest of them all, is [etc.]. 1666 G. HARVEY *Morb. Angl.* v. 61 The consumption of the kidneys is to be imputed to..mordant armoniack salt.

fig. 1870 BALOW. BROWN *Eccl. Truth* 225 The mordant acid of what they were pleased to conceive of as pure reason.

3. That causes pain or smart; pungent; biting. Of pain: acute, burning.

a 1845 SYD. SMITH *Recipe for Salad* 7 in Lady Holland *Mem.* (1855) I. 373 Of mordant mustard add a single spoon. 1876 G. MEREDITH *Beauch. Career* III. xii. 218 With a shadow of an elevation of her shoulders as if in apprehension of mordant pain.

4. Having the property of fixing colouring matter or gold-leaf (see MORDANT *sb.* 3, 3 b).

1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 748 Mordant Varnish for Gilding. 1836 *Penny Cycl.* VI. 156/1 [Calico-printing.] Mordant reserves, which form the *lapis lazuli* style. 1847–64 in WEBSTER.

5. In literal sense: Given to biting. *rare.*

1891 BAX *Outlooks New Standp.* III. 174 Those who would take steps to restrain the mordant liberty of the cur, since they do not hold the doctrine of the divine right of dogs to bite. 1895 *Pop. Sci. Monthly* Sept. 652 The boy C—— was for some time vigorously mordant in his angry fits.

Mordant (mɔ̄·ɹdănt), *v. Dyeing.* [f. MORDANT *sb.*] *trans.* To impregnate with a mordant. Hence **Mo·rdanted** *ppl. a.*, **Mo·rdanting** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1836 *Penny Cycl.* VI. 153/2 The bath must be replenished with dung from time to time, as it gets exhausted by the passage of the mordanted goods. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 195 Such stuffs must be galled, mordanted with alum.. and cleared with a soap boil. 1877 O'NEILL in *Encycl. Brit.* VII. 574/1 The cloth is mordanted by boiling it in a solution of salt of tin. *Ibid.*, Owing to the decomposition of the mordanting salts. 1884 I. LEVINSTEIN in *Manch. Exam.* 6 Oct. 4/5 The preparing or mordanting of the stocking (before any dye whatever had been used).

Mordant, variant of MORDENT.

Mordantly (mɔ̄·ɹdăntli), *adv.* [f. MORDANT *a.* + -LY 2.] **a.** In a mordant manner; bitingly. **b.** In the manner of a mordant.

1836 *New Monthly Mag.* XLVI. 205 To lay to her heart more mordently the serpents of jealousy and despair. 1849 in CRAIG; and in later Dicts.

Mordauncester, obs. f. MORT D'ANCESTOR.

Mordaunt, variant of MORDANT *sb.*

Mord de chien: see MORTECHIEN *Sc.*, glanders.

†**Mo·rdell.** *Obs.* [app. repr. an OE. type **morgendǽl*, f. *morgen* MORN, MORROW + *dǽl* DEAL *sb.*1 Cf. the synonymous *morrow-part.*] The share of the husband's property to which a widow was entitled, as representing her 'morning-gift'.

1552 *Will of Baldwin* (Somerset Ho.), [Mentions his wife's] mordell [part of property].

Mordenite (mɔ̄·ɹdĕnəit). *Min.* [Named by H. How, 1864, from *Morden*, Nova Scotia, its locality. See -ITE.] A hydrous silicate of aluminium, calcium, and sodium, resembling heulandite.

1864 How in *Jrnl. Chem. Soc.* XVII. 100 On Mordenite, a New Mineral from the Trap of Nova Scotia.

Mordent (mɔ̄·ɹdĕnt). *Mus.* Also **mordant, mordente.** [a. G. *mordent*, ad. It. *mordente*, pr. pple. of *mordere* to bite. Cf. MORDANT *a.*] A grace consisting in the rapid alternation of a written note with the one immediately below it. It has two varieties, the *short mordent* (symbol ⁓), and the *long* or *double mordent* (⁓⁓).

Also applied by various writers to the passing shake (G. *Pralltriller*), sometimes called *inverted mordent*; to the ACCIACCATURA (*abbreviated mordent*); to the TURN; and to various other graces.

1806 CALLCOTT *Mus. Gram.* vi. 61 The Mordent, Beat, Slide, and Spring are peculiar to the Germans. 1818 BUSBY *Gram. Mus.* 153 The *Mordente*, or according to the Germans, the *Spring*, consists of two notes preceding the note to be graced; the first of which is the same as the principal, and the second, one note higher than the principal. 1845 GWILT in *Encycl. Metrop.* V. 775/1 *Mordente*, a grace used by the Italian School, by turning upon the note without employing the note below. 1906 *Daily Chron.* 12 Nov. 3/4 The importance of the proper interpretation of the 'upper mordant' in Beethoven's sonatas. 1907 *Grove's Dict. Mus.* (ed. 5) III. 259 The appropriateness of the term Mordent..is found in the suddenness with which the principal note is, as it were, attacked by the dissonant note and immediately released. Walther says its effect is 'like cracking a nut with the teeth'.

Mordent, Morder, obs. ff. MORDANT, MURDER.

†**Mo·rdicancy.** *Obs.* [f. next: see -ANCY.] The quality of being biting or pungent; also, a biting or acute irritation.

a 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. xxxii. 271 Their..figging Itch, wrigling Mordicancy. 1699 EVELYN *Acetaria* 53 The Mordicancy thus allay'd, be sure to make the Mortar very clean.

Mordicant (mɔ̄·ɹdikănt), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. L. *mordicant-em*, pr. pple. of *mordicāre*: see next.]

A. *adj.* Biting, sharp, pungent.

1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 48/1 Accompanied with bitinge or mordicante payn. 1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 669 These fruits (for the most part) carrie with them a certeine piercing and mordicant quallitie. 1675 EVELYN *Terra* (1676) 124 First be sure they [*sc.* pigeons' dung, etc.] pass their mordicant and piercing spirits, and be discreetly mixt. 1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) II. 338 In the latter the itching is more mordicant and aculeate.

†**B.** *sb.* A mordant. *Obs. rare*−1.

1799 *Med. Jrnl.* I. 168 The three principal mordicants in dying cotton red, are, oil, galls, and alum.

Mordicate (mɔ̄·ɹdikēit), *v.* [f. L. *mordicāt-*, ppl. stem of *mordicāre*, f. *mord-ēre* to bite.] *trans.* To bite, sting, affect with a biting pain.

1651 BIGGS *New Disp.* § 150 The urine also, though salt, doth not mordicate or fret the bladder. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Mordicate*..to burt with biting.

Mordication (mɔ̄·ɹdikēi·ʃən). [ad. L. *mordicātiōn-em*, n. of action f. *mordicāre*: see prec.]

1. A biting, burning, or gnawing sensation or pain in a part of the body. Now *rare.*

1528 PAYNEL *Salernes Regim.* P iv, Whey is..washyng & leusynge and therin is no mordication. 1574 NEWTON *Health Mag.* 21 When throughe drinkinge of wine there is any upbraidinge and mordication in the Stomacke. 1684 tr. *Bonet's Merc. Compit.* x. 353 The Meat creates trouble and mordication, so that it cannot be retained. 1891 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Mordication*, inflammation of the skin with burning and prickling.

†**2.** 'A biting or fastning the teeth deep in anything' (Phillips 1658). *Obs.*

†**Mordicative,** *a. Obs.* [ad. late L. *mordicātīv-us*, f. *mordicāre*: see MORDICATE and -IVE.] Biting or stinging, sharp, pungent.

1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 944 Whereas the conceits and jests of Aristophanes are bitter and sharpe withall, carrying with them a mordicative qualitie which [etc.]. *Ibid.* 1187 That the aire in the citie of Delphos was..mordicative, as witnesseth the speedie concoction of meat that it causeth. *Ibid.* Explan. Words, *Mordicatiue*, that is to say, Biting and stinging: as mustard seed, Pelletary of Spaine. 1634 R. H. *Salernes Regim.* 45 The cause why this fume is mordicative is by reason that the wine that it commeth of, is mordicative.

†**Mordificative,** *a. Obs. rare*−1. [Altered form of prec., after *mundificative*, etc.] = next.

1612 *Benvennto's Passenger* 113 Garlicke..It hath a facultie mordificatiue (as it were of the race of backbiters and slanderers). [The It. has *mordificativo.*]

†**Mordishee·n.** *Anglo-Indian. Obs.* Forms: 6 **mordexijn,** 7 **mordesin, mordechan, mordechine, mordisheen,** 8 **mordechin, mordyxim,** 8–9 **morxi,** 9 **mordexyn.** See also MORT-DE-CHIEN. [a. Pg. *mordexim*, a. Mahrattī *moḍachī* cholera.] The cholera.

1598 W. PHILLIP tr. *Linschoten* I. xxxiv. 67 There raigneth a sicknesse called Mordexijn, which..weakeneth a man, and maketh him cast out all that he hath in his bodie. 1660 F. BROOKE tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 51 Another infection called Mordesin,..begins with vomiting, and pains in the head, and is infectious. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* III. 108 The Portuguese call the four sorts of Cholicks that people are troubled with in the Indies..Mordechin. 1696 OVINGTON *Voy. Suratt* 350 The Mordechine is another Disease of which some die, which is a violent Vomiting and Looseness. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 114 They apply Cauteries most unmercifully in a Mordisheen, called so by the Portugals, being a Vomiting with a Loosness. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.*, *Morxi*, an Indian name of a pestilential distemper, very common in Malabar. 1757 J. H. GROSE *Voy. E. Indies* 52 The mordechin..is a fit of violent vomiting and purging, that often proves fatal. 1787 *Proc. Madras Med. Board* 29 Nov., in *Good's Study Med.* (1834) I. 219 An epidemic..under the appearance of dysentery, cholera morbus or mordyxim. 1823 CRABB *Technol. Dict.*, *Mordexyn.*

‖ **Mordoré** (mordore). Also 8 **mortdore,** 9 **mordorés.** [Fr., in 17th c. *moredoré*, f. *more* MOOR *sb.*2 + *doré* gilt.] A brown colour mixed with red.

1796 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) I. 29 Colours...Mordoré—dark red of the crimson kind, mixed with brown. 1804 TINGRY *Paint. & Varnish. Guide* 240/1 Pulverulent lake of a dark mordoré colour. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 420 To this shade may be referred..marigold, orange peel, *mordoré*, cinnamon, gold, &c. 1894 *Westm. Gaz.* 3 May 3/3 Another, in brown lace of the shade known as *Morderé* [*sic*].

Mordre, Mordrer, Mordrice, obs. forms of MURDER, MURDERER, MURDERESS.

Mordu, obs. variant of MORTDIEU.

Mordyxim: see MORDISHEEN.

More, *sb.*1 *Obs.* exc. *dial.* (chiefly s.w.). Also 5–7 **moore,** 6 **maure, moare,** 8–9 **maur, moor, moar,** 9 **mor, mawer, mawr**(e, **mar, moir, moer.** [OE. *more, morū* wk. fem., corresp. to OHG. *moraha, morach, morha* (MHG. *morche, morhe, more*; mod.G. *möhre* carrot, *morche* dial.,

carrot, mushroom:—OTeut. type **murhōn-*; cf. Lith. *mõrkas*, Russian морковь, carrot.]

1. The root of a tree or plant; the fibrous roots of a tap-root; a tree-stump.

In OE., an edible root, e.g. a carrot or parsnip.

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 354 Ete .. wælwyrte moran. *Ibid.* II. 312 Wylisc moru .. englisc moru. *a* 1100 *Ags. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 301/25 *Pastinace*, moran. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 139 Moren and wilde uni was his mete. *c* 1205 Lay. 31885 Heo lufeden bi wurten, bi moren and bi roten. *c* 1290 *St. Brendan* 284 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 227 ȝwite moren, use it of herbes were, bi-fore heom he sette al-so. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 7228 A grene wexinge tre þat is fram þe more Ismite adoun. *c* 1400 *Beryn* 1056 A man I-passid ȝowith, & is withouten lore May be wele I likened, to a tre withouten more. *c* 1470 *Build. Bodm. Ch.* in *Camden Misc.* VII, Item de Will. Androwe for olde tymber and moris xjd. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* B iij, Take the Juce of percelly Moris otherwise calde percelly Rootis. 1578 Lyte *Dodoens* III. lxxxviii. 441 The roote putteth foorth many branches or moores, spread abrode here and there. 1599 T. M[ouffet] *Silkwormes* 6 Long Plantaine, Hysope, Sage, and Comfrey moares. 1725 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 6447/4 Taking up small Moors of Wood. 1787 Grose *Provinc. Gloss.* s.v. *Maur, More*, or Maur, also in Gloucestershire, signifies a root; as, a strawberry-more. 1796 W. Marshall *W. England* I. 328 *Mores*, roots, whether of grass or trees (the ordinary name). 1885 Jefferies *Open Air* (1890) 211 The mars or stocks of the plants that do not die away.

†**b.** A plant. *poet. Obs.*

a 1599 Spenser *F. Q.* VII. vii. x, And all the earth .. Was dight with flowers that voluntary grew Out of the ground, .. Tenne thousand mores of sundry sent and hew, That might delight the smell, or please the view.

†**2.** *fig.* Origin, source, 'stock'. Also ME. in certain phrases, associated with *top*. *Obs.*

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 103 *Auaricia* .. heo is more of elchere wohnesse. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 217 An ȝerd sal spruten of iesse more. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1328 Ac he ne con þe bet þarvore of clerkes lore top ne more. *Ibid.* 1422 Vp to þe toppe from þe more. *c* 1305 *Pilate* in *E. E. P.* (1862) 111 Pilatus was a liþer man and com of liþer more. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* v. 25 As she þat was þe soþfast crop and more Of al his lust or Ioyes here byfore. 14.. *Sir Beues* (MS. M.) 70 A fleyrer child was nevure none bore, Sithe god sponge of Jesses more.

†**3.** *Comb.*: **more-loor** (see quot.). *Obs.*

1733 Tull *Horse-Hoeing Husb.* xiii. 163 Another sort of lodging Blight there is, which some call Moar-Loore, .. mostly happens on light Land; this is when the Earth sinking away from the Roots, leaves the bottom of the Stalk higher than the subsided Ground, and then the Plant .. falls down to the Earth.

†**More**, *sb.*[2] *Obs. rare.* Also 1 mór-, 4 mour, moor(e. [OE. *mór-(bēam)*, ad. L. *mōrus*.] The mulberry tree. Also *more-tree* (in OE. *mórbēam*).

c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* lxxvii. 47 Ofsloȝ in hegle wingeardes heara & marbeamas hearra [L. *moros eorum*] in forste. *a* 1340 Hampole *Psalter* lxxvii. 52 He sloghe .. þaire mours [1388 Wyclif moore trees] in ryme froist. 1382 Wyclif *Luke* xvii. 6 ȝe schulen seye to this more tree [*v.r.* tree moor, Vulg. *huic arbori moro*], Be thou drawun vp by the roote.

†**More**, *sb.*[3] *Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *mōrum* mulberry, used in mod.L. with this sense (Blancard *Lex. Nov. Med.* 1690).] A small swelling or tumour (resembling a mulberry); cf. Moro[1].

1547 Boorde *Brev. Health* ccxxxix. 81 b, A More or a lytle lumpe of fleshe the whiche doth growe in the browes or eares, or in any mannes foundement or other places.

More (mōəɹ), *a.* (*sb.*) and *adv.* Forms: 1 *mára* (*fem.* and *neut.* *máre*), 2–3, 4–6 *north.* mare, 4–6 *north.* mar, *Sc.* maire, mayr, 4– *Sc.* mair; 3–6 mor (5–6 *Sc.* moir), 4–6 moor(e, 3, 6 moare, 2– more. Also with added compar. suffix, 4 marere. [The adj. is Com. Teut.: OE. *mára* = OFris. *mâra*, OS. *mêro* (MLG., MDu. *mêre*; mod.Du. has the double compar. *meerder*), OHG. *mêro* (MHG. *mêre*; mod.G. has traces in the inflected *mehr-* in *mehres* neut., *mehre* pl.; cf. the double compar. forms OHG. *mêrôro*, *mêriro* greater, MHG. *mêrer*, *mêrre*, mod.G. *mehrere* pl., several), ON. *meire* (Sw. *mera*, Da. *mere*, which are the neut. adj. used advb.), Goth. *maiza*:—OTeut. **maizon-*, f. **maiz* adv., which (with normal loss of final *z*) is represented by OE. *má*: see Mo. The use of the neut. adj. as quasi-sb. and as adv. occurs in OE., but rarely, as *má* (see Mo) was the ordinary word in both applications.]

A. *adj.*

(In senses 1, 2, 3 the word expresses respectively the comparative of the three adjectival notions now denoted by *great, much*, and *many*.)

1. Greater.

†**a.** Of material objects: Greater in size, larger. Also of a city, country, etc. (with mixture of senses b and f). Of persons and animals: Taller, bigger.

c 897 K. Ælfred *Gregory's Past. C.* xxi. 155 Ða nietenu ðonne, ðeah hie maran sien, hie beoð suiður abæfen from eorðan. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 179 Eft-sone þe more fishes in þe se eten þe lasse. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 999 More he [*sc.* Ireland] is þan engelond. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 2112 Mani contre þar-in es And dughti cites mare and lesse. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 1701 Þo stod Hauelok .. Riht al bi þe heued more þanne ani þat þer-inne stod. *c* 1350 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 360 Pilke cofre wi[t] þe þre heuedes shal be y-set in a more Cofre. *c* 1384 Chaucer *H. Fame* I. 500 Hit semed moche more Then I had any Egle seyne. *c* 1400 Maundev. (1839) xxi. 231 He founded the grete Cytee Iȝonge in Cathay, that is a gret del more than Rome. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 132 þer is with-in my body a precious stone .. and it is more þan ane egg. *c* 1460 J. Russell *Bk. Nurture* 65 Looke þow haue tarrers two, a more & lasse for wyne. *c* 1540 in *Trans. Lond. & Mdsx. Archæol. Soc.* IV. 346 A more and a lesse quysshion of crymsyn velvet. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 20 Another kynde of hunting dog is to sent, of quhilkes sum ar mekle mair than vthir sum.

†**b.** Greater in number, quantity, or amount.

c 1000 Ælfric *Hom.* (Th.) I. 74 Ðu cwæde þæt ic anbidode, þæt ic ðe mare folc ȝestrynde. *c* 1200 Ormin 19566 Þatt miccle mare genge Off Lerninngcnihhtess wass att himm Þann att Johan Bapptisste. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 993 His name ðo wurð a lettre mor. 1521 *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, II. 66 Sending a more power to hym .. for his assistence. 1529 Rastell *Pastyme, Hist. Brit.* (1811) 125 The Danis, with a more strenght, enteryd the west part of this land.

†**c.** Qualifying a sb. which expresses quantity or amount. *Obs.* exc. *arch.* (in phr. *the more part*).

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 649 In þe more half of his schelde. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Boeth.* IV. pr. ii. 116 Shrewes whiche þat contienen þe more partie of men. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* III. 352 But more part of þis world erreþ here. 1525 Ld. Berners *Froiss.* II. ccxxxii. [ccxxviii.] 721 Tyll the kyng had assembled toguyder more nombre of noble men. 1533 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scott.* VI. 155 In part of payment of ane mair soume. 1535 Coverdale *Acts* xxvii. 12 The more parte off them toke councell to departe thence. [Also 1611.] 1577–82 Breton *Flourish upon Fancie* (Grosart) 6/2, I .. learned so long there, till I prou'd more halfe a very foole. *a* 1648 Ld. Herbert *Hen. VIII* (1683) 298 The more Party of the Sutors of this Your Realm. 1871 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* (1876) IV. xviii. 117 The more part of them perished by falling over the rocks.

†**d.** Greater in power or importance. *Obs.*

The absol. use in the phrase *more and less* (B. 2 f) survived until Shakspere's time.

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 131 Bitwuxe were and wife nes nefre mare mon þenne he. 1382 Wyclif *John* xiii. 16 The seruaunt is not more than his lord. *c* 1430 *Hymns Virg.* 102 Of which þre noon is more ne moost, But al oon god.

†**e.** Used *spec.* to characterize the greater or superior of two things, places, etc., of the same name, as (*the*) *more Britain*, (*the*) *more Ind.* (Cf. Less *a.* 3, Lesser *a.* 2, Greater *a.* 4.) *Obs.*

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 2223 þe more brutaine. 1340 Hampole *Pr. Consc.* 1484 þe mare world es þis world brade, And þe les es man. 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* iii. (*Andreas*) 13 In more Iynd Mathew prechit. 1387 [see Litany 1]. *a* 1400–50 *Stockh. Med. MS.* 157 More morel, *solanum nigrum*. 1436 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 105 The chirche of Alhalowen the more. *c* 1460 *Oseney Reg.* 117 All the tithis (both more ande smale). 1477 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 168/2 The maners of Sillry Mountsorell the more, and the lesse. 1593 *Rites & Mon. Ch. Durham* (Surtees) 57 Then the Buship Aldunus dyd hallowe the more kyrk or Gret Kirke.

†**f.** Used for L. *major* = 'elder'; also in *St. James the More*; opposed to Less. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 3486 O þir tua breþer .. þe less þe mare laght he þe fote. *Ibid.* 21009 Iohn and iacob þe mar. 1382 Wyclif *Gen.* xxvii. 1 And he clepide Esau, his moor sone [Vulg. *filium suum majorem*]. 1555 W. Watreman *Fardle Facions* II. xii. 204 The firste of Maie is hallowed for Philippe and James the more. 1594 Carew *Huarte's Exam. Wits* ix. (1596) 122 Of the same opinion was Cato the more.

g. With sbs. of quality, condition, action, and the like: Greater in degree or extent; also, having a fuller title to the designation. *Obs.*, exc. where it coincides with sense 2. The expression (*the*) *more's the pity* may be regarded as a historieal survival.

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 35 Swa maȝon we þe maran blisse habban þa Easterdaȝas. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 156 Vpe þe plein of salesbury þat oþer wonder is, þat ston heng is icluped, non more wonder nis. 1362 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. v. 228 For nis no gult her so gret his Merci nis wel more. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* I. 643 Ek whit by blak .. Eche set by oþer more for other semeth. 1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 324 His moder wiste wel sche mihte Do Tereus no more grief Than sle this child. *a* 1440 [see Pity *sb.* 3]. 1477 *Paston Lett.* III. 191 Ye dyd it off kyndenesse, and in eschywyng off a moor yll that myght befall. 1529 More *Dyalogc* III. ii. Wks. 208 So is it a much more faute to be therin rechelesse & negligent. 1562 J. Mountgomery in *Archæologia* XLVII. 233, I .. dailie doe heare, of the greate decaie of parrishes in England; the more ys the pittie. 1563 *Homilies* II. *Rogation Week* I. 234 Borne among the number of Christian people, and thereby in a muche more nyghnes to saluation. 1632 Heywood *2nd Pt. Iron Age* IV. i. Wks. 1874 III. 413 Lets flye to some strong Cittadell, For our more safety. 1685 Evelyn *Diary* 6 Feb., That the Lords, &c. should proceede in their coaches thro' the Citty for the more solemnity of it. 1752 J. Louthian *Form of Process* (ed. 2) 102 And, for the more Verification, I and the said Witnesses have subscribed the same. 1829 Southey *Pilgr. to Compostella* Poet. Wks. 1838 VII. 267 To make the miracle the more, Of these feathers there is always store. 1859 Geo. Eliot *A. Bede* xxxviii, There's no amends I can make ye, lad—the more's the pity.

h. Qualifying the designation of a person with the sense: Entitled to the designation in a greater degree. (Cf. Great *a.* 17 a.)

Surviving only in *the more fool* (*you*), where *more* would now be explained as adv. (see C. 1 a).

c 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 190 Þus þes fonnyd ypocritis putten errour in ihū crist. But who ben more heretikis? *c* 1400 *Gamelyn* 232 Whyl thou were a yong boy a moche schrewe thou were.. 'Now I am older woxe thou schalt me find a more!' 1530 Palsgr. 852/2 The more fole is he, *tant plus sot est il*. 1584 R. Scot *Discov. Witchcr.* II. xi. 36 A more heretike than either Faustus or Donatus. 1607–12 Bacon *Ess., Beauty* (Arb.) 210 A man cannot tell whether Apelles or Albert Durere were the more trifler. 1611 *Tarlton's Jests* (1638) C j, Well, said Tarlton, the more foole you. 1613–18 Daniel *Hist. Eng.* (1621) 21 The pressing necessity of the time that required a more man to vndergo the burthen of warre. 1844 Thackeray *B. Lyndon* iii, The more great big blundering fool you, for giving the gold piece to him.

†**i.** with *in* = having a greater supply of. *Obs.*

1526 Tindale *John* xix. 11 Therfore he that delivered me vnto the is moare in synne. 1666 Dryden *Ann. Mirab.* lv, The Duke, less numerous, but in courage more.

2. Existing in greater quantity, amount, or degree; a greater quantity or amount of.

Developed from the older use of Mo with partitive genitive. In many of the examples here given (where the sb. is abstract) the word would at an earlier date have been the adj. of quality = 'greater' (see 1 g).

c 1386 Chaucer *Prol.* 703 Vp on a day he gat hym moore moneye Than þat the person gat in Monthes tweye. 1508 Dunbar *Flyting* 133 Thow skaffis and beggis mair beir and aitis Nor ony cripill in Karrik land abowt. 1542 Udall *Erasm. Apoph.* 38 *margin*, The more hast ye wurst speede. 1606 Shaks. *Tr. & Cr.* III. ii. 160 Perchance my Lord, I shew more craft then loue. 1611 Bible *Exod.* v. 9 Let there more worke be layde vpon the men, that they may labour therein. 1640 T. Carew *Poems* (1651) 14 Give me more Love, or more Disdaine. 1742 *Lond. & Country Brew.* I. (ed. 4) 26 So that the Brewer is capacitated .. to make more Ale. 1781 J. Moore *View Soc. It.* (1790) I. xxxiv. 368 There is more appearance of industry. 1830 Coleridge *Table-t.* 11 May (1835) I. 125, I recognize more genius in the latter. 1850 M'Cosh *Div. Govt.* IV. ii. (1855) 517 There is some truth, but there is more error, in each of these representations. 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 405 Ten is two more than eight. 1895 R. L. Douglas in *Bookman* Oct. 23/1 Had he but shown a little more firmness and astuteness.

†**b.** with *a* (cf. *many a*). *Obs.*

1680 Higgeringill *Meroz* Wks. 1716 I. 250 If there be but two or three Fanaticks in a Parish, .. they shall make more a Noise, more a Disturbance, .. than all the rest.

3. (With sb. in *pl.*) A greater number of . . .

The earlier word is *mo* (see Mo *a.* 2); *more* in this use is not found in the Bible of 1611 or Shakspere.

1584 Lyly *Campaspe* III. iv. 95 So in painting, the more colours, the better counterfeit. 1669 Sturmy *Mariner's Mag.* I. ii. 15 There was never more lame and decrepit Fellows .. as is now adays. 1711 Steele *Spect.* No. 17 ¶ 6 If there shall be two or more Competitors for the same Vacancy. 1775 Burke *Sp. Conc. Amer.* Sel. Wks. I. 231 The more they multiply, the more friends you will have. 1785 Paley *Mor. Philos.* III. iii. vi. (1841) 146 If to one man be allowed an exclusive right to five or more women. 1836–7 Sir W. Hamilton *Metaph.* xl. (1870) II. 409 Nature never works by more .. instruments than are necessary. 1842 Tennyson *Morte d'Arthur* 247 More things are wrought by prayer Than this world dreams of. 1845 Stephen *Comm. Laws Eng.* (1874) I. 83 With more or less restrictions.

b. with ellipsis of *sb.*

1656 Cowley *Death Sir H. Wootton* 4 Who had so many Languages in store, That onely Fame shall speak of him in More!

c. Existing in greater numbers, more numerous. *Obs.* exc. (*rarely*) in predicative use.

1565 Stapleton tr. *Bæda's Hist.* 27 As though they had ben thrise as many more in number then they wer. 1590 Swinburne *Testaments* 272 The fewer and weaker presumptions giue place to the more & stronger. 1614 in Swayne *Sarum Churchw. Acc.* (1896) 164 It was agreed by the more voyces. 1885 Bible (R. V.) 2 *Kings* vi. 16 They that be with us are more [so 1762; 1611 moe] than they that be with them.

4. Additional to the quantity or number specified or implied; an additional amount or number of; further. Now *rare* exc. as preceded by an indefinite or numeral adj., e. g. *any more*, *no more*, *some more*; *many more*, *two more*, *twenty more*; and in archaic phrases like *without more ado*.

This use appears to have been developed from the advb. use as in *anything, nothing more* (see C. 4 b).

a 1300 *K. Horn* 834 Sire, ischal al one Wiþute more ymone Wiþ mi sweord wel eþe Bringe hem þre to deþe. 13.. *Sir Beues* 3541 Beues .. tok þe tresore anon riȝte: Wiþ þat and wiþ mor catel He made þe castel of Arondel. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* I. 142 He buskyt hym, but mar abad. *c* 1380 [see Aoo 3]. *c* 1400 Maundev. (1839) xxxi. 314 With outen ony more rehercyng .. of marvaylles. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 118 How his land sulde be lost withouten lett mare. 1570 *Satir. Poems Reform.* x. 185 Quha stickit him, withouttin proces moir. 1672 C. Manners in *12th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 25 Wee have every day newes of more townes taken by the French in Holland. 1818 Cruise *Digest* (ed. 2) III. 370 Then the wife received some rent for the houses; and afterwards .. the son was born, and .. the widow received more rent: then the son died .. and she received some more rent after his death. 1876 [see Ado 3].

b. with ellipsis of sb.

1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) I. 237 The Dead Sea .. is so exceedingly salt, that its waters seem scarce capable of dissolving any more. 1802 Dorothy Wordsworth *Jrnl.* 16 Apr. (1897) I. 106 As we went along there were more, and yet more. 1838 Dickens *O. Twist* ii, Oliver .. basin and spoon in hand, said .. 'Please, sir, I want some more'

B. *absol.* and quasi-*sb.*

1. Used *absol.* in the sense 'greater'.

†**a.** In the phrases *more and less*, *more and min* = persons of all ranks; all without exception.

c 1205 Lay. 31253 Nefden heo nane are of þan lasse no of þan mare, ah al þa ferde wes of-slaȝen. *a* 1300 *Assump. Virg.* (Camb. MS.) 62 Heo seruede boþe lasse and more. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 6650 'As armes I' gred alle .. Boþe þe more & þe lasse. *c* 1375 *Lay Folks Mass Bk.* (MS. B) 136 Haue mercie on vs, more & mynne. 1567 *Gude & Godlie Ball.* (S. T. S.) 43 Christ .. gaif the same Till his Apostillis mair and min. 1605 Shaks. *Mach.* v. iv. 12.

†**b.** Used to render L. *majores*, elders, ancestors. Also with plural inflexion as a *sb. Obs.*

1382 Wyclif *Deut.* xxxii. 7 Aske thi fader, and he shal telle to thee, thi more [Vulg. *majores tuos*] and thei shulen seie to thee. — 2 *Kings* xv. 7 They birieden hym with his moris [Vulg. *cum majoribus suis*] in the cytee of Dauith.

† c. *The more*: that which is greater. *Obs.*

1387–8 T. Usk *Test. Love* II. ix. (Skeat) I. 74 Every cause is more and worthier than thing caused, and in that mores possession al thinges lesse ben compted. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* XIII. xxix. (Tollem. MS.), Some [fish] eteþ euery oþer..and þe lesse is þe mores mete, and þan þe more is his mete þat is more þan hee. 1413 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton) (1859) 70 Nedes must the lesse be conteyned within the more.

2. Something that is more; a greater quantity, amount, degree, etc.

a 1100 *Gerefa* in *Anglia* (1836) IX. 259 Ac he mot ægðer witan ge læsse ge mare. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 111 Ðu gederast mare and mare [*orig.* (Ælfric) p. 300 þu gaderast ma & ma]. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1561 Þet ha nowðer ne ete lesse ne mare tweolf dahes fulle. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 10219 Sum wit lesse and sum wit mare, All þair vois þai yeld ai þare. *a* 1340 Hampole *Psalter* cxl. 8 Comm., My wordis myght marere þan þairs. *c* 1412 Hoccleve *De Reg. Princ.* 259 He wele telle al and more. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* xv. 11 Sum askis mair than he deservis. 1611 Bible *Exod.* xvi. 17 And the children of Israel .. gathered some more, some lesse. 1632 Milton *Penseroso* 120 Where more is meant then meets the ear. 1725 Watts *Logic* I. vi. § 10 All the Parts taken collectively..must contain neither more nor less than the Whole. 1886 Ruskin *Præterita* II. 177 The more I got, the more I asked.

b. followed by *of* partitive.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 308 Hwon he of hire nauеð more ne lesce. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 5951 So þat is quene deide, & of sorwe & sore Him com in ech half euere þe leng þe more. 1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 136 The more he hath of worldes good, The more he wolde it kepe streyte. *c* 1460 Fortescue *Abs. & Lim. Mon.* x. (1885) 131 For in tho dayis ther was but litle more off the reaume off Fraunce in the kynges handes, but þat parte wich is callyd the Ile off Fraunce. 1693 Dryden *Juvenal* (1697) Ded. 15 An Heroique poem requires.. as much, or more of the Active Virtue, than the Suffering. 1802–12 Bentham *Ration. Judic. Evid.* (1827) I. 509 The quack, that he may sell the more of his pills at one time, distributes them gratis at another. 1856 Ruskin *Mod. Paint.* IV. v. xviii. § 5 We may see more and more of it the longer we look. 1860 Tyndall *Glac.* I. iii. 28 The more I saw of my guide the more I liked him. 1886 *Manch. Exam.* 13 Mar. 5/2 If money could be eaten or worn, the more we had of it the better.

c. Used predicatively: Something of greater importance or magnitude. *To be more*: to count for more, to be of greater importance. (Cf. the similar use of *much*.) Also in phrases introducing a sentence or clause as expressing something more important than what has preceded, e. g. *what is more*, † *and* (*that*) *more is*.

1484 Caxton *Fables of Æsop* v. x, I shalle not ete the, For thow shuldest hurte my tendre stomak, and more is, I shall this day haue better mete. 1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* I. i. (1592) 6 Yea, and that more is, should by adoption make them the sonnes of God. 1600 Shaks. *A. Y. L.* III. ii. 241 To say I and no, to these particulars, is more then to answer in a Catechisme. 1618 Bolton *Florus* (1636) 143 There is more in it, to keepe a Province, than to make one. 1833 Tennyson *Lady Clara Vere de V.* 55 Kind hearts are more than coronets. 1842 — *Locksley Hall* 142 And the individual withers, and the world is more and more. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* ii. I. 168 Honour and shame were scarcely more to him than light and darkness to the blind. 1859 Farrar *J. Home* xvi. 204 He'll carry all our provisions .. up to the top, which is more than most of our A.C.'s would do.

d. *Or more*: added to approximate designations of quantity, to indicate that the actual amount is probably greater than that stated. Cf. 4 e.

c 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 249 A damysell of þe age of x yere or mor. 1800 Wordsw. *Michael* 473 Three years, or little more, did Isabel Survive her Husband.

e. *More or less*: appended to a designation of quantity to indicate that it is merely approximative.

1589 Hakluyt *Voy.* 560 They [*sc.* sheep] .. liue together in heards, in some 500. as it happeneth, more or lesse. 1709 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4509/3 Her Cargo of about 1000 Bushels of French Salt, more or less. 1798 *Times* 28 June 4/1 Consisting of 91 acres, more or less, of excellent..land.

f. When coupled with *less*, the word is sometimes treated as a real sb., admitting of qualifying words.

1874 Morley *Compromise* ii. 64 There is no discoverable law fixing precisely the more or the less of these. 1884 tr. *Lotze's Metaph.* II. vii. 327 Such effects as do not directly display a more or a less. 1902 Phillimore *Sophocles* Introd. 83 The colouring of the phrase, its more or less of poetical and imaged quality.

3. (With plural construction.) A greater number *of* the class specified; also, a greater number of persons.

1629 Massinger *Picture* IV. ii, I must confesse The more the merier. *a* 1633 G. Herbert *Jacula Prud.* 682 More have repented speech then silence. 1666 Stillingfl. *Serm.* Wks. 1710 I. 11 It is hard to say whether ever any Age produced more studious and skilful to pervert the design of Laws..than this of ours hath done. 1818 Cruise *Digest* (ed. 2) III. 395 More of the purchaser's male ancestors have been descended from..the femes in the higher classes.

¶ The phr. *more than one* is followed by a verb in the sing., like Fr. *plus d'un*.

1865 Oakeley *Hist. Notes Tract. Movemt.* 103 More than one who took a part in the more extreme developments of the work has since been conspicuous on the rationalistic side of more recent controversies.

4. An additional quantity, amount, or number.

a. Something else in addition to what is specified. Chiefly with prefixed word, *any*, *some*, *no*, *little*, *much*: for examples see those words; also No more.

For the advb. use of *any more*, see C. 4 a.

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 79 Ȝif þu mare spenest of þine. 1611 Shaks. *Wint. T.* II. i. 168 We neede no more of your aduice. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* IV. 765 This Answer Proteus gave, nor more he said. 1895 Sir E. E. Kay in *Law Times Rep.* LXXIII. 651/1 If the underwriters wanted to know more, they ought to have asked for information.

b. *elipt.* (as obj. of an omitted verb of 'saying' or the like). Now somewhat *arch.*

c 1460–1822 [see No more A. 1 b]. ?1536 Latimer in *Lett. Suppress. Monast.* (Camden) 149 Butt of thys my dewtye moor att moor leyser. 1580 Lyly *Euphues* (Arb.) 390 But more of this at our next meeting. 1596 Shaks. *Merch. V.* II. vi. 20 Heere comes Lorenzo, more of this hereafter. 1863 *Chem. News* 14 Feb. 84/1 Lubricating Oils.—Some consignments to hand, of which more again.

† c. *Without more* (Sc. *but mair*, etc.): without anything further or additional; often = without more ado, without delay. *Without less, without more; but min or more*: without addition or diminution; exactly. *Obs.*

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 81 Þanne beþ þer in walis þre wiþ oute Mor. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 1186 To beriing þai his bodi hare Adam and eue wit-outen mare. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* IV. 105 (133) They yaf hym Antenor withoute more. 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* i. (*Petrus*) 51 Na clathis he had, at ware gude, bot kirtil and clok, but mare. *Ibid.* iii. (*Andreas*) 128 Forowtine ony mare to þe bordale I wente ine hy. 1447 Bokenham *Seyntys* (Roxb.) 83 And anoon iulyan wyth out moor For hir to presoun hys offycers sent. 1552 Lyndesay *Monarche* 2732 Four hundreth stageis and four score In circuit, but myn or more. 1560 Rolland *Crt. Venus* I. 802 Inclining law but mair this Nimph anone,..Scho said [etc.].

† d. *With the mair* (Sc.): ? = 'and more'. *Obs.*

1563–4 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 257 Quhairat thai remanit thir twa yeris bigane, with the mair. 1568 *Ibid.* 636 Fourty thowsand stane wecht of leid ure, with the mair.

e. *And more*: used (chiefly after a statement of quantity or number), to indicate an indefinite or unspecified addition to what has been mentioned.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 54 Þer heo lei ine prisune uour þusend ȝer & moare. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 5056 He hint him in his armes þare And kyst him, fourti sithes and mare [*Gött.* sexti sith or mar]. *c* 1400 *Gamelyn* 205, I wold ȝeue ten pound by Iesu Crist! and more. 1450 *Paston Lett.* I. 126 Peris Brusy..hadde x m[l]. Frenshe men and more. *c* 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 480 Be it wes mydmorne and mare, markit on the day. 1610 Shaks. *Temp.* I. ii. 48 Had I not Fowre, or fiue women once, that tended me? Thou hadst; and more, Miranda. 1856 Aytoun *Bothwell* I. xxv, They call me savage, brutal, base, And more.

f. Other persons *than* that or those mentioned.

1896 A. E. Housman *Shropshire Lad* xxx, More than I, if truth were told, Have stood and sweated hot and cold.

¶ g. Often rhetorically treated as a real sb. with qualifying words: The 'something more' that has been spoken of or implied in the context.

c 1600 Shaks. *Sonn.* xl, What hast thou then more then thou hadst before?..All mine was thine before thou hadst this more. 1690 Locke *Hum. Und.* II. xvii. § 15 He knows the depth to be so many fathoms, and more; but how much that more is, he hath no distinct notion at all. 1849 M. Arnold *To Indep. Preacher*, Know, man hath all which Nature hath, but more, And in that *more* lie all his hopes of good. 1849 Clough *Dipsychus* II. v, Hints haunt me ever of a more beyond.

C. *adv.*

1. In a greater degree, to a greater extent.

a. qualifying a verb, a ppl. adj., an adjectival or advb. phrase, or the whole predication.

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 47 For-þi þa engles heom [*MS.* hem heð] rested mare þenn on sum oðer dei. *c* 1200 Ormin 4662, & mare lufesst tu þatt þing þann ohht off Godess wille. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* III. 350 And þus þei loven more þer ordre þan Crist. 1411 *Rolls of Parlt.* III. 650/2 For as myche I am a Justice, that more than an other comun man scholde have had me more discretly and peesfully. 1431–2 in *Wills & Inv. N. C.* (Surtees) I. 70 *note*, And touching tidinges..I haue charged ye berar of this to c'tfie yow mor at large. 1538 Starkey *England* I. ii. 27 Surely they wold mor extyme hyt then they dow. 1597 Beard *Theatre God's Judgem.* (1612) 335 To reuenge himselfe more at full vpon the citizens. 1662 Gurnall *Chr. in Arm.* III. verse 19. iii. § 4. 677 If any in the World need walk pendantly upon God, more than others, the Minister is he. 1677 Earl Orrery *Art of War* 15 More at home, and at ease, and safety. 1694 F. Bragge *Disc. Parables* xi. 384 A man is never more himself, than when he exercises his reason upon the best of objects, religion. 1706 Pope *Let. to Wycherley* 10 Apr., Some [verses]..I have entirely new express'd, and turned more into Poetry. 1735 Berkeley *Reasons for not replying Mr. Walton* § 7 The more he explains, the more I am puzzled. 1742 Young *Nt. Th.* II. 28 O time! than gold more sacred; more a load Than lead, to fools. 1797 Godwin *Enquirer* I. ii. 10, I shall be..more a man and less a brute. 1797–8 Jane Austen *Sense & Sens.* xxxi, Every friend must be made still more her friend by them [her sufferings]. 1836 *Lett. fr. Madras* (1843) 20 The more trifles and the less worth telling they seem to you, the more valuable to me at such a distance. 1855 Whewell in Todhunter *Acc. Writ.* (1876) II. 404 The notion must be followed much more into detail than he has done. 1857 Buckle *Civiliz.* I. ii. 112 The fine arts are addressed more to the imagination; the sciences to the intellect.

b. qualifying an adj. or adv., to form the comparative.

With most adjs. and advs. of more than one syllable, and with all of more than two syllables, this is the normal mode of forming the comparative. A few monosyllables (e. g. *right*, *just*) normally form their comparatives in this way instead of taking the suffix *-er*.

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 5 Þes we ahte to beon þe edmoddre and þa mare imete. 1340 Hampole *Pr. Consc.* 858 And what es mar horibel in stede þan a man es when he es dede? 1375 Barbour *Bruce* VII. 555 He beheld hir mayr ynkirly. 1711 Steele *Spect.* No. 6 ₱ 2 He finds Rest more agreeable than Motion. 1788 Mrs. Hughes *Henry & Isabella* I. 180 He was..more gallant, more generous, more everything that is agreeable in youth, than his brother. 1821 Southey in *Life* (1850) V. 106 His merits are every day more widely acknowledged. 1851 Landor *Popery* 30 It is more just that a bishop's salary should be reduced to a thousand a year than an admiral's to three hundred. 1884 tr. *Lotze's Logic* 348 The true law is far more complicated.

c. Often prefixed to monosyllabic and disyllabic adjs. and advs. which have otherwise a regular comparative in *-er*; as *more true*, *more busy*, *more often* = *truer*, *busier*, *oftener*.

By mod. writers this alternative form is used (1) for special emphasis or clearness; (2) to preserve a balance of phrase when other comparatives with 'more' occur in the context; (3) to qualify the whole predicate rather than the single adj. or adv.

c 1330 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 235 Was neuer at Saynt Denys feste holden more hy. 1340 *Ayenb.* 63 Ac þe leazinges likinde byeþ more grat zenne. *c* 1400 Maundev. (1839) xxx. 305 He rennethe more faste than ony of the tother. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* VII. vii. 222, I am a gentyl man borne and of more hyghe lygnage than thou. 1597 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* V. lxxx. § 4 So that of the two indefinite ordination..doth come more neere th' Apostles example. 1645 *Ord. Lords & Com. Sacram.* 1 Neuer had they more high and strong engagements. *a* 1649 Drumm. of Hawth. *Poems* Wks. (1711) 3 Their arms more white than milk. 1650 W. Brough *Sacr. Princ.* (1659) 177 Thou wilt live more wel, and dye much better. 1765 Goldsm. *Ess.* Misc. Wks. 1837 I. 160 With a voice more rough than the Staffordshire giant's. 1798 Coleridge *Anc. Mar.* VI. v, Fly, brother, fly! more high, more high! 1803–5 Wordsw. *Solitary Reaper* 21 Or is it some more humble lay? 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* IX. II. 441 He was more busy than they had ever known him. 1849 M. Arnold *Mycerinus* 17, I look'd for life more lasting, rule more high. 1851 Whewell *Grotius* I. 99 The opposite opinion, as it is the more common, so does it seem to us the more true. 1877 Morley *Crit. Misc.* Ser. II. 211 A clumsy collector, who more often than not knew neither how to read nor to write.

d. Formerly often prefixed pleonastically to the comparative of the adj. or adv. *Obs.* exc. *arch.*

In quot. *c* 1205 the use is not pleonastic.

[*c* 1205 Lay. 4349, & þu ær muchele ahtere & ec mare bærdere.] 1340 *Ayenb.* 61 An eddre .. þet yernþ more zuyþere þanne hors. *Ibid.* 64 Hi byeþ more worse þanne þe gyewes. *c* 1400 Maundev. (1839) IV. 29 That Lond is meche more hottere than it is here. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* XX. vi. 806 Ye shold haue the same dethe or a more shamefuller dethe. 1561 T. Hoby tr. *Castiglione's Courtyer* II. (1577) K viij b, More excellenter it cannot be, nor more subtiller. 1589 *Rare Tri. Love & Fort.* in *Five Old Plays* (Roxb. Club) 111 If thou escape the perrill of distresse, My feare and care is twenty times more lesse. 1598 Grenewey *Tacitus' Ann.* IV. i. (1622) 89 He vsed sometime largesse and lauishing; but more oftner industrie and diligence. 1669 Sturmy *Mariner's Mag.* I. ii. 15, I should be glad..to see a more equaller Balance among Sea-men, and their Imployers. 1676 Wood *Jrnl.* in *Acc. Sev. Late Voy.* I. (1694) 166 Captain Hawes ship got clear, wearing more rounder. 1832 Tennyson *Œnone* Poems (1833) 56 But Paris was to me More lovelier than all the world beside.

e. *More and more*: in an increasing degree.

c 1200 Ormin 676 He wile himm færenn, ȝiff he maȝȝ, & skerrenn mare & mare. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 511 Chirches ben wursiped mor and mor. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 5865 Þai rise and bredes ai mare and mare. 1567 *Gude & Godlie Ball.* (S.T.S.) 9 Greuand God ay moir and moir. 1732 Berkeley *Alciphr.* V. § 7 Men grow daily more and more wicked. 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 46 At this he blushed more and more.

f. with ellipsis of the word or sentence qualified. Also (now more frequently) *more so*, where *so* is substituted for the omitted part. *The more* = the rather, the more so (*because*, etc.).

1340 *Ayenb.* 127 He ssolde by wel perfect and yblissed ine þise wordle and more ine þe oþre. ?1461 *Paston Lett.* II. 74 And hevery man wyl sey wel ther of, the mor cause he is a gentylman,..and in gret penur. 1561 T. Hoby tr. *Castiglione's Courtyer* II. (1577) N iij b, I wyl we defer the whole vntil to morow, the more for that I thynke it well done wee folowe the L. Julians counsel. 1640 O. Sedgwicke *Christs Counsell* 84 How much more, when thy crowne is losing! 1735 Berkeley *Def. Free-think. in Math.* § 28 This is so plain that nothing can be more so. 1852 M. Arnold *A Farewell* viii, I too have wish'd, no woman more, This starting, feverish heart away. 1862 Borrow *Wild Wales* lii, 'Are the Welsh..as clannish as the Highlanders?' said I. 'Yes', said he, 'and a good deal more'. 1876 Besant & Rice *Gold. Butterfly* Prol. i, The English servant was dressed like his master, but 'more-so'.

g. *Any more*, *no more* (dial. also *more* simply) are used to exclude or deny a second clause equally with a first. See No more C. 4.

1838 Jas. Grant *Sk. Lond.* 209 Faith, Sir! she did not come back again at a', mair than the ither. 1844 Lingard *Anglo-Sax. Ch.* (1858) I. vii. 273 These..did not, any more than those.., lead to controversy. 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 112 Poets, who ought not to be allowed, any more than flute-girls, to come into good society.

h. *More like* (colloq.) = nearer (a specified number or quantity). Cf. *something like*, *nothing like* (Like *a.* 2 f).

1902 W. Headlam in *Class. Rev.* XVI. 348/1 Some 200 conjectures.., among which Mr. Housman considered 4 quite certain; I gladly adopted more like 12 in my prose version.

2. Phr. *More or less* († *less or more*, † *more or min*, etc.): in a greater or less degree; to a greater or less extent. Hence with negative: (Not) at all.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 92 Efter þet me luueð hine more oðer lesse. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 107 Riht so ne mor ne lesse. *c* 1398 Chaucer *Fortune* 61 The see may ebbe and flowen moore or lesse. ?*c* 1400 *Pety Job* 143 in 26 *Pol. Poems* 125 Though I offende more or mynne. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.*

(W. de W. 1531) 27 b, Ought to folowe hym more or lesse euery persone after his habilite. 1625 HART *Anat. Ur.* II. iv. 74 This fluxe continued lesse or more for some few dayes after. 1683 MOXON *Mech. Exerc., Printing* xix. ¶ 7 It will more or less job against every Letter. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 21 ¶ 3 Lawyers..that are more or less passionate according as they are paid for it. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 827 Formerly fluxes more or less compound were employed for these purposes. 1855 HT. MARTINEAU *Autobiog.* (1877) I. 39, I certainly never believed, more or less, in the 'essential doctrines' of Christianity. *Ibid.* 170, I could not afford to ride, more or less. 1863 MRS. CARLYLE *Lett.* (1883) III. 173, I had had pain more or less in my left arm for two months.

†**b.** *More and less* (*more and min*): altogether, entirely, as a whole. (Cf. B. 1 a.) *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 13664 þair strijf he wist bath less and mare. *c* 1420 LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 306 Clad all in purpur was she more & lesse. *c* 1560 ROLLAND *Seven Sages* 243, I sall 30w schaw the mater mair and min. 1567 *Gude & Godlie Ball.* (S.T.S.) 29 Quhat I haif tholit les and mair.

3. Qualifying a predicate or a predicative adjunct as being applicable in greater measure or degree *than* another. Hence often used to indicate that the one predicate, etc., is more correct than the other, or (by way of euphemism or cautious statement) that the former and not the latter expresses the truth. Cf. RATHER *adv.* 5 a, b.

c 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 39 Þe soðe luue of godd, hie is mare on werkes ðanne on wordes. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xiv. (*Lucas*) 40 Luke mad his ewangel syne, of thingis hard mar þan of sene. *c* 1477 CAXTON *Jason* 78 Fro day to day they apayred more than amended. 1546 HEYWOOD *Prov.* (1867) 9 He shall let fall all, And be more fraid then hurt. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 29 Which..was done more of pride than of compassion. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. ii. 17 More huge in strength then wise in workes he was. 1616 B. JONSON *Epigrams* xxxv, A Prince that rules by example, more than sway. 1663 BUTLER *Hud.* I. i. 30 But here our Authors make a doubt, Whether he were more wise, or stout. 1834 MEDWIN *Angler in Wales* xxvi. II. 146 More dead than alive. 1857 BUCKLE *Civiliz.* I. vii. 331 The Puritans were more fanatical than superstitious. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 17 Aug. 2/1 The railways are laid more with a strategical purpose than with a view to [etc.].

4. Additionally, in addition. (Cf. A. 4.) **a.** In negative, interrogative, or hypothetical contexts: In repetition or continuance of what has taken place up to a particular time; further, longer, again. Frequent in phrases *ever more*, *never more* (see EVERMORE, NEVERMORE), *once more* (see ONCE 8 b). The phrase *any more* (see B. 4 a), in which *more* is the absolute adj., is used *advb.* in the same sense, and has superseded the simple adv. except in rhetorical or poetic use. See also NO MORE *adv.*

c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xxii. 46 Ne nan ne dorste of ðam dæge hyne nan þing mare axiȝean. *c* 1275 *Passion our Lord* 39 in *O. E. Misc.* 38 Anon he hyne byleuede more to vondy. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 14001 3yf ȝe chalange hym any mare. *c* 1400 *Gamelyn* 265 Ther was noon with Gamelyn wolde wrastle more. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 212 But now he shall neuer dye ony more. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* I. ii. 294 If thou more murmur'st. 1611 BIBLE *Gen.* viii. 12 Hee..sent forth the doue, which returned not againe vnto him any more. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 83 ¶ 3 Little did I think I should ever have Business of this Kind on my Hands more. 1712 — *Spect.* No. 272 ¶ 1 She is now odious to her Mistress for having so often spoke well of me, that she dare not mention me more. 1784 COWPER *Task* v. 91 Where neither grub, nor root, nor earth-nut, now Repays their labour more. 1870 RUSKIN *Lect. Art* vii. § 182 Since their day, painting has never flourished more. 1871 R. ELLIS tr. *Catullus* lxiv. 69 Not for silky tiara nor amice..Recks she at all any more. 1885–94 R. BRIDGES *Eros & Psyche* June xiv, But never call me woman more, if soon I cannot lure her from her height divine.

b. In addition to what has been specified or implied; besides, moreover. Now used only after a designation of quantity or number (whether definite or indefinite), indicating an addition which swells a previous total.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 3 Hit lasteð þre wuke fulle and sum del more. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 426 Siggen..Pater noster & Aue Maria biuoren mete, and efter mete also, & Credo moare. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XII. 314, I wat nocht quhat mar say sall I. *a* 1550 *Freiris Berwik* 395 in *Dunbar's Poems* (S. T. S.) 298 Baith breid and wyne, and vthir thingis moir. 1573 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 195 Of silner, golde, of precious stones, and treasures many more. 1577–87 HOLINSHED *Hist. Scot.* 430/1 To which he more added these speeches. *c* 1578 in *Household Ord.* (1790) 241 The Lord Chauncellor.. fee 419*l.* 0*s.* 0*d.* For his attendance in the Star-chamber, 200 0 0. More, by the names of annuities 300 0 0. 1589 *Burgh Rec. Glasgow* (1876) I. 142 Item, fyvetene schillingis for the price of ane hogheid; item, mair, twentie sex schillingis viij*d.* for ane lang courchay; item, mair, twentie schillingis for ane cod and codwair. 1616 B. JONSON *Epigrams* xxxiii, Ile not offend thee with a vaine teare more. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* (1721) I. 35 It will ripen in about a Month's time more. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* II. (Globe) 500, I won't have one Creature touch'd more, upon Pain of Death. 1766 GOLDSM. *Vic. W.* i, After an interval of twelve years, we had two sons more.

5. Expressions in which *more* (in sense B. 2) is followed by *than* with a designation of number or quantity admit of being used instrumentally or adverbially, as in 'more than ten years old'. The analogy of these has given rise to expressions like 'more than once' (a multiplicative corresponding to the quasi-numeral 'more than one'). Hence, from the 16th c. onwards, *more than* has been placed before adjs., advs., vbs., and descriptive sbs., to indicate that the word thus qualified is (in some obvious respect) inadequate to the intended meaning.

Cf. the similar uses of *plus quam* in Latin.

c 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 196 The scriptur of þaim is mor þan ccclxxij yere old. 1553 *Respublica* I. ii. 32 (Brandl) And yonder he cometh—me thinketh more then half madde. 1572 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* II. 168 The grit murtheris and mair then beastlie crewelteis usit..aganis the trew Christianis. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* I. xviii, Sheepe, which haue very long tayles more then a foote long. 1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 58 It is..more then conjectured, that Mahomet grounded his devised Paradise, upon the Poets invention of Elisium. *a* 1626 BACON *Ch. Controv.* Wks. 1879 I. 344 It is more than time that there were an end..made of this immodest..manner of writing. 1696 DRYDEN *Lucian* Prose Wks. 1800 III. 360 For this reason he calls himself more than once an Assyrian. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* III. 69 So frequent death, Sorrow, he more than causes, he confounds. 1777 CHATHAM *Sp. on Address* 18 Nov., These more than popish cruelties. 1818 BYRON *Mazeppa* xiii, 'Twas more than noon. 1834 MEDWIN *Angler in Wales* I. 203 Places that it was hardly safe to have descended at more than a walk. 1847 DISRAELI *Tancred* III. v, O, my more than sister, 'tis hell! 1867 RUSKIN *Time & Tide* xix. § 116 My much more than disrespect for the Jamaica Committee. 1870 L'ESTRANGE *Miss Mitford* I. v. 163 The orator was more than usually brilliant. 1889 D. HANNAY *Capt. Marryat* 147 'The Little Savage'..ends by being more than a little tiresome.

b. *Neither more nor less than*: exactly, precisely, (that) and nothing else.

So F. *ni plus ni moins que.*

c 1460 SIR R. ROS *La Belle Dame* 305 For my desire is nothir more ne lesse But my seruise to doo for your plesance. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* V. i, The drama, which he will have contain neither more nor less than five acts. 1843 BORROW *Bible in Spain* xxxvi, The first step which I took ..was a very bold one. It was neither more nor less than the establishment of a shop for the sale of Testaments.

6. Used conjunctionally to introduce a clause or sentence which is of the nature of an important addition. Now only *arch.* chiefly in *nay more*, rarely (*and*) *more*. Formerly also †*more above*. Cf. MAIRATOUR (*Sc.*), MOREOVER. *More by token*: see TOKEN *sb.*

1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 83 To tile loud..Saturnus of his oghne wit Hath founde ferst, and more yit Of Chapmanhode he fond the weie. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 85 Mair, it had bene goode for the commone weill of Scottland that [etc.]. 1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* II. iv. 179 We are betrothd: nay more, our mariage howre ..Determin'd of. 1602 — *Ham.* II. ii. 126 This in Obedience hath my daughter shew'd me: And more aboue hath his soliciting..All giuen to mine eare. 1615 W. LAWSON *Country Housew. Gard.* (1626) 19 More then this, there is no tree like this for soundnesse. 1683 CREECH tr. *Lucretius* II. (ed. 3) 43 But more, 'tis nothing strange that every Mass Seems quiet and at rest. 1870 DASENT *Annals* (ed. 4) II. 15 He was industrious, and more, he was handsome. 1905 A. R. WHITHAM *Watchers by the Cross* ii. 15 Tradition .. tells us that she was wealthy, influential and beautiful, and yet before her conversion living a life of worldliness,—more, a life of deadly sin.

†**7.** quasi-*prep.* = PLUS 1. *Obs.*

1545 *St. Papers Hen. VIII* (1830) I. 796 Item, 2 of the gretest hulkes that may be gotten, more the hulkes that rydeth within the havyn. 1694 HOLDER *Harmony* (plate opp. p. 120), 5 to 4 more Diesis...5 to 3 more Diesis & comma. 1706 W. JONES *Syn. Palmar. Matheseos* 67 That Number more one.

More, *v.*[1] *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Also 7 moare. [f. MORE *sb.*[1]]

1. *intr.* To take root, become rooted; chiefly *fig.*

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 163 [He] sewen on þis lond godes word for sede and hit morede on here heorte and weacs and wel þeaȝh. 1607 *Schol. Disc. agst. Antichr.* I. i. 42 They gane them scope..not only to moare but also to spread, and finally to gaine that height in which at this day we find them. 1825 JENNINGS *Obs. Dial. W. Eng.* 56 To *More*, v.n. to root; to become fixed by rooting.

†**2.** *trans.* To root, implant; to establish. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Leg. Rood* (1871) 28/126 To one hi [the three trees] were alle icome And Imored so naste also þat hi ne miȝte awei be inome. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 16587 Whenne..þe folk was wel y-mored. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 2834 Hure loue ys mored on þe ful vaste. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XIV. ii. (1495) 466 Noo thynge on lyue maye growe but yf he be rotyd and moryd in substaunce of erthe. *Ibid.* XV. XXXVII. (Tollem. MS.), Seuen naciones of them were of children of Canaan, in þe whiche þe curse þat was ȝeuen to them, was y moret, as it were by heritage. 1593 BILSON *Govt. Christ's Ch.* 15 The grounding vs in faith, moring vs in hope, and rooting vs in charitie.

3. To uproot, root *up*.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 10263–4 Þe erchebissopes wodes ek þe king het echon þat me morede al clene vp, þat þer ne bileuede non. Þat ech tre were vp mored, þat it ne spronge namore þere. 1890 *Gloucester Gloss.* s.v. *More* sb., *To more*, to root up.

Hence **Moring-ax,** an axe for 'moring' trees.

1777 *Horæ Subsecivæ* 277 (E.D.D.). 1787 GROSE *Provinc. Gloss., Moreing-ax*, an ax for grubbing up the roots of trees. 1890 *Gloucester Gloss.*

†**More,** *v.*[2] *Obs.* Also 3–4 mare, 5 mooryn. [f. MOREa. Cf. MDu., MLG. *mêren* (Du. *vermeeren, vermeerderen*), OHG. *mêrôn* (MHG. *mêren*, mod.G. *mehren*).]

1. *trans.* To increase, augment, exaggerate.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 2354 To mare þe medes of his fai. 1340 *Ayenb.* 79 Of þe guodes þet god him ylend uor to mory. *Ibid.* 175 Efterward me ssel zigge naȝt onlepiliche þe zennes ac þe aboutestondinges alle þet moreþ þe zennes. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 147 What he wol make lasse, he lasseth, What he wol make more, he moreth. 1433 LYDG. *St. Edmund* I. 891 So was he besy the tresour, that men calle Rem publicam, to moren and amende. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* xvi. 111 To encresyn & to moryn þi mede in blysse. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 343/1 Moryn, or make more (*H.* mooryn), *majoro*. *a* 1450 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 451 In moryng the pris of the linere. 1450–1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* 209 Then the kynge of all blysse mored hys treasure puttynge in to yt a lyuynge sowle. 1483 *Vulg. abs Terentio* 15 He dredith lest thy olde angyr or hardnes be mored or increasyd.

2. *intr.* To become increased or augmented.

1412 20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* III. XXVII. (1555) S j, They him besought..on their woo to rewe, That lykly was to more [ed. 1513 morne] and renewe. *c* 1430 — *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 243 For rihte as Ver ay moreth in grennesse, So doth childhood in amerows lustynesse.

More, var. MOHUR; obs. f. MOOR.

-more (mōəɹ), *suffix*, forming advs. of place (rarely of time) in the comparative degree (most of which have given rise to adjs. of identical form). Chiefly appended to advs. having already the comparative ending *-er*, as in *backermore, downermore, farthermore, furthermore, hindermore, innermore, outermore, overmore, rathermore, uttermore*; in the 16–17th c. a few formations occur in which it is added to a positive or uncompared adv., as *hindmore, hithermore, inmore*, Sc. *yonder mair*.

The suffix is identical with MORE *adv.*; the addition of this adv. to comparatives occurs in Scandinavian, as ON. *fyrrmeir* earlier, *firrmeir* farther off, *nærmeir* nearer, OSw. *innarmer* = INNERMORE, *nithirmer* = NETHERMORE. The earliest instances in Eng. occur in the Ormulum (*furthermore*) and the Cursor Mundi (*farthermore, innermore*); it is therefore likely that the use was originally due to Scandinavian influence. But the majority of the comparatives in *-more* were formed to correspond to previously existing superlatives in -MOST, which were partly altered forms of OE. superlatives in *-m-est*, and partly new formations on the analogy of these.

More bery, obs. form of MULBERRY.

Moreclacke: see MORTLAKE.

†**Mo·recrop.** *Obs. rare.* Also 6 (? *erron.*) merecrop. [? f. MORE *a.* + CRAP *sb.*[1] (sense 2).] The plant Burnet Saxifrage, *Pimpinella Saxifraga.*

a 1400–50 *Stockholm Med. MS.* 194 Pympernol or selfhol or weyewourth or morecrop: *ipia maior*. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* App., Merecrop is Pimpernell.

Moreen (morī·n). Also 8 morine. [Of obscure origin; possibly a fanciful formation on MOIRE. Cf. MORELLA.] A stout woollen or woollen and cotton material either plain or watered, used for curtains, etc. Also *attrib.*

a 1691 ETHEREDGE *Song of Basset* 4 Wks. (1704) 287 Let Equipage and Dress despair, Since Basset is come in; For nothing can oblige the Fair Like Mony and Morine. 1796 CHARLOTTE SMITH *Marchmont* III. 67 A high, long, old-fashion room, with a dark blue morine bed at the end of it. 1797 *Bradford Parish Acc.* (E. D. D.), Moreen and lace, 12*s.* 1*d.* Making a curtain of it before the organ, 14*s.* 1*d.* 1823 J. F. COOPER *Pioneers* vii, Her petticoat of green mooren. 1857 J. H. WALSH *Dom. Econ.* 183 Woollen damasks and moreens are sold at from 9*d.* to 1*s.* 6*d.* per yard. *a* 1864 HAWTHORNE *Dolliver Rom.* (1883) 15 The old gentleman .. pulled aside the faded moreen curtains of his ancient bed. 1905 *Longm. Mag.* July 198 She had discarded horsehair for cretonne and moreen for dimity.

b. *Comb.*: **moreen-damask, moreen-silk.**

1837 T. HOOK *Jack Brag* XX. III. 185 An unsavoury smell of pitch, moreen-damask, savoury viands, and fresh paint. 1889 *John Bull* 2 Mar. 151/2 A dress of blue moreen silk.

Mo·refold, *adv. rare.* [f. MORE *a.* + -FOLD.] More times over.

1830 MARRYAT *King's Own* xli, There is no talent which returns morefold than courage.

Morefound, variant of MORFOUND.

Moreghen, obs. form of MORN.

†**Mo·rehand,** *adv. Obs. rare.* [f. MORE *a.* + HAND *sb.* Cf. *at least hand* (LEAST *a.* 3) and HAND *sb.* 4 c.] = MORE *adv.*

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 475 What more-hond moȝte he acheue þat bade endured [etc.].

Morehen, morehen(n)e, obs. ff. MOORHEN.

Moreings: see MORINGS.

Morein, Moreis, obs. ff. MURRAIN, MORRIS.

Moreish (mōə·riʃ), *a. colloq.* Also morish. [f. MORE *a.* + -ISH.] That makes one desire more.

1738 SWIFT *Pol. Conversat.* 9 How do you like this Tea, Colonel? Well enough, Madam; but methinks it is a little more-ish. 1886 *Peasant* Nov. 187 The beer was the best they had ever drank in their lives and tasted so 'morish'. 1901 *Advt.*, M——'s Extra Cream Toffee is 'Moreish'. More you eat, More you want.

Morel (more·l), *sb.*[1] Forms: 3–5 morele, 6 morrell, 5 moreole, 5–9 morelle, 6–8 morell, 5– morel. [a. OF. *morele* (mod F. *morelle*) = Pr., It., med.L. *morella*; prob. the fem. of *morel* (= It. *morello*): see MOREL *a.* Cf. MDu., Du. *morreel.*]

1. A name applied to various plants also known as NIGHTSHADE; chiefly the Black Nightshade (= *petty morel*: see 2).

c 1265 *Voc. Plants* in Wr.-Wülcker 558/25 *Morella*, morele, atterlope. *c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 55 Putte to þis medi-

cyn þe ius of sum cold erbe: as morel, penywort, virge pastoris. 14.. *MS. Linc. Med.* lf. 295 (Halliw.) Tak moreoles, and the rute of everferne that waxes on the ake. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 243/2 Morelle, *quedam herba est, solatrum.* 1519 Horman *Vulg.* 110 Purple veluette of Ynde: that hath the coloure of morelle, or vyolette, or rousty yron: is moost of pryce. 1546 Phaer *Bk. Childr.* (1553) S vj, The iuyce of morel, otherwyse called nightshade. 1598 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. i. II. *Imposture* 580 Thou seest, no wheat Helleborus can bring; Nor barley, from the madding Morrell spring. 1601 Holland *Pliny* II. 58 Morel or Nightshade. 1707 *Curios. in Husb. & Gard.* 256 If we make use of the Juice of Poppy, of Morel,..or of Hen-bane, we shall have Fruits of a Narcotick and Soporative Virtue. 1836 J. M. Gully *Magendie's Formul.* (ed. 2) 144 Solania..may be employed in all cases where the extract of the morel or the bitter-sweet is indicated.

attrib. 1544 Phaer *Regim. Lyfe* (1553) C ij b, Seeth it in nightshade or morell water.

2. Petty morel, also 6 **petermorell, petimorel, petiemorel.**

a. The black nightshade (*Solanum nigrum*).

c 1450 *ME. Med. Bk.* (Heinrich) 85 Take groundeswele, lemke, chiken mete, daysyes, reubarbe, petit morel, & herbe benet. 1548 Turner *Names Herbes* (1881) 75 *Solanum hortense*..is called in Englishe Nyghtshade, or pety morel ..in frenche Morel. 1578 Lyte *Dodoens* III. lxxxix. 444 The greene leaves of Petiemorel, or Nightshade, pounde with parched barley meale, is marueious profitable .. layd to Saint Antonies fire. 1611 Cotgr., *Morelle*, the hearbe Morell, pettie Morell. garden Nightshade. 1725 Bradley *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Headache*, Dissolve four or five Grains of Camphire, in either Lettice, Petty-Morel, or Purslain-Water. 1879 Prior *Plant-n.* s.v. *Morel, Petty-Morel*, the garden nightshade, *Solanum nigrum*, L.

b. *U.S.* American spikenard, *Aralia racemosa.*

1846–50 A. Wood *Class-bk. Bot.* 294 *Aralia racemosa.* Pettymorrel. Spikenard. 1890 in *Century Dict.*

3. Great morel, *Atropa Belladonna* (*Treas. Bot.* 1866).

Morel (more·l), *sb.*[2] Also 7–8 **morell**, 9 **morelle.** [app. a. F. *morelle* (Cotgr. 1611; not in recent Dicts.): see Morella[1].] A morella cherry. Also *morel cherry.*

1611 Cotgr., *Morelles*, Morell Cherries; late-ripe Cherries, dryed for Winter prouision. 1813 Hogg *Queen's Wake* III. xvii. (1814) 293 His lip like the morel when glossed with dew. 1819 *Pantologia* VIII, *Morel*, or Morella Cherry.

Morel (more·l), *sb.*[3] Forms: 7–9 **morille**, 8 **murrel**[1], 8–9 **morell**(**e**, **morril**, 8– **morel.** See also Moriglio. [a. F. *morille* (16th c. in Hatz.-Darm.); the history of the word is obscure, but it is certainly a. some form of the Teut. word represented by OHG. *morhila* (MHG. *morchel, morel*, mod.G. *morchel*, whence the botanical L. *morchella*), dim. of *morha* More *sb.*[1]

In OHG. the dim., like the primary word, occurs only for 'carrot' or 'parsnip'; in MHG. both were applied also to the fungus; mod.G. *morchel* means only this.]

An edible fungus of the genus *Morchella*, esp. *Morchella esculenta.*

1672 Evelyn *Fr. Gard.* (1675) 260 Concerning Morilles and Truffs: (the first whereof is a certain delicate red Mushroom..). 1716 Gay *Trivia* III. 203 Spongy morells in strong ragousts are found, And in the soup the slimy snail is drown'd. 1761 *Ann. Reg.* IV. i. 242/2 Third service. Consisting of vegetable and made dishes .. green morrelles, green truffles. 1791 H. Walpole *Let. to Lady Ossory* 29 Aug., Queen Elizabeth, when shrivelled like a morel, listened with complacency to encomiums on her beauty. 1856 Griffith & Henfrey *Microgr. Dict.*, *Morels*, species of *Morchella.* 1884 *Encycl. Brit.* XVII. 76 *Morel.* This delicious edible fungus, *Morchella esculenta* (Pers.), is more common in Britain than is generally supposed.

† **Morel**, *a.* and *sb.*[4] *Obs.* Also 5 **morrel**, 6 **morrell**(**e**, **morrell.** [a. OF. *morel* (early mod.F. *moreau*) = It. *morello*, perh. f. L. *mōrum* mulberry. Some scholars refer the word to late Gr. *μαῦρος* black: see Moor *sb.*[2] Sp. and Pg. have *moreno* dark complexioned, 'brunette'. The Fr. sb. appears in MDu. as *moreel* black horse.]

A. *adj.* †Of a horse: Dark-colonred. *Obs.*

c 1530 Lo. Berners *Arth. Lyt. Bryt.* (1814) 293 He was well mounted vpon a good black morell horse.

B. *sb.* A dark-coloured horse; hence, a proper name for such a horse.

c 1425 Wyntoun *Cron.* IV. vii. 729 Þar morel, hayerde, don and gray, Withe wondis flyngande ran away. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 343/1 Morel, horse, *moreltus.* 1466 *Plumpton Corr.* (Camden) 17, I have sold both my horse, good morrel & his felow. *a* 1529 Skelton *Agst. Garnesche* III. 13 Gup, marmeset, jast ye, morelle! *c* 1550 (*title*) The Wife lapped in Morels Skin. 1587 M. Grove *Pelops & Hipp.* (1878) 120 For such was Morrell slayne and layde in saltish bryne.

Moreland, obs. form of Moorland.

Morele, variant of Morel *sb.*[1]

Moreling, obs. form of Morling.

† **More·lla.** *Obs.* Also 7 **morelly.** [Perh. a quasi-It. dim. of Moire: cf. Moreen.] A kind of material used for dresses, curtains, etc. Also *morella mohair.*

1670 Lady M. Bertie in *12th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 21 Upon the Queene's Birthday most wore..plaine black skirts of Morella Mohair and Prunella. 1681 in *Mem. Verney Fam.* (1899) IV. 252 My Mother hath bought ye Child a Morelly Coate Striped Yellow & Black. 1702–3 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) II. 211 Crimson Morella mohair for the Curtains.

Morella, morelli: see Morello.

Morelle, variant of Morel *sb.*[3]

† **More·llian**, *a. Obs.* [f. *Morelli-us* (see below) + -an.] Pertaining to the opinions of Morellius (J. B. Morély of Geneva, *fl.* 1560) who advocated an extreme democratic theory of church government. Hence † **More·llianism.**

1644 Rathband *Brief Narrat. Ch. Courses* vi. 26 They professe to condemne Morellian and popular Government, but what can be more popular than this, wherein all have equall power to decree [etc.]. 1676 W. Hubbard *Happiness of People* 62 This [*sc.* charity] would cure all the morellianisme, and libertinisme in the Brethren of New-England Churches.

Morello (more·lo). Also 7 **morrello**, 8 **morelli**, 7–9 **morella.** [Of uncertain origin.

Usually referred to It. *morello*, fem. *morella* dark-coloured; but evidence that the fruit was so designated in It. is wanting. On the other hand the early mod. Flemish name was *marelle*, recognized by Kilian as aphetic for *amarelle*, ad. It. *amarella*, dim. of *amaro*:–L. *amārus* bitter. The Eng. name (also Morel *sb.*[2], obs. F. *morelle*) may be an alteration of this, due to association with Morel *a.*]

1. A kind of cherry, with a bitter taste. Also *attrib.*

a 1648 Digby *Closet Open.* (1669) 112 Morello Wine. 1657 Austen *Fruit Trees* I. 81 The Morello Cherry and other deep-coloured pleasant Cherries no doubt would make a speciall good wine. 1664 Evelyn *Kal. Hort.* July 70 Cherries. Carnations, Morella, Great-bearer [etc.]. 1693 — *De La Quint. Compl. Gard.* II. 89 For really those Bigarreaux, and Morello's are admirable Fruits. 1707 Mortimer *Husb.* (1721) II. 297 Morella, or the Great Bearer, being a black Cherry fit for the Conservatory before it be through ripe, but 'tis bitter eaten raw. 1755 Johnson *Connoisseur* No. 80 ¶ 3 One was to pickle walnuts .. another to make Morella brandy. 1761 Fitzgerald in *Phil. Trans.* LII. 72 Several branches of a morelli cherry-tree. 1824 Loudon *Encycl. Gard.* (ed. 2) § 4583 The morello is much improved in flavor when planted against a wall of good aspect. 1882 *Garden* 21 Jan. 50/2 We should like..to know where a more beautiful flowering tree than the Morello Cherry can be found in spring.

† **2.** *Morello peach*: see quot. *Obs.*

1665 Rea *Flora* 220 Morello Peach is a fair red-sided fruit, and parts from the stone.

Morelly, Moren, var. ff. Morella, Morian *sb.*

Moren, obs. form of Morn, Mourn, Murrain.

‖ **More·na.** *Obs.* [Sp., fem. of *moreno*, cogn. w. It. *morello* Morel *a.*] A brunette.

1661–2 Pepys *Diary* 27 Jan., One Mr. Dekins, the father of my Morena. *Ibid.* 18 Dec., To church, where..I spent most of my time looking on my new Morena..an acquaintance of Pegg Penn's.

‖ **Morendo** (more·ndo). *Mus.* [It., lit. 'dying'; gerund of *morire* to die.] (See quot.)

1811 Busby *Dict. Mus.* (ed. 3), *Morendo* (Ital.), a term indicating a style of performance in which the tones of the instruments are to be gradually..made to die away.

† **Morene.** *Obs. rare*[−1]. [ad. It. *morena*:–L. *muræna.*] A kind of eel, *Muræna helena.*

1773 Brydone *Sicily* xviii. II. 194 The morene..is a species of eel found only in this part of the Mediterranean.

Morene, -er, obs. forms of Mourn, Mourner.

† **Mo·reness.** *Obs.* [f. More *a.* + -ness.]

1. The condition of being greater or more than another.

c 1380 Wyclif *Serm.* Sel. Wks. I. 386 Here we synnen doubli, deniyng þat we knowun not, and reversing Cristis sentence of morenesse þat he spake of. *Ibid.*, Gretenes of clerkes is morenesse of mekenesse and morenesse in service. 14.. in Hawkins *Hist. Mus.* (1776) II. 234 Arithmeticke [tretith] of morenesse and lassnesse of numbir.

2. The condition of being more than one; plurality.

1611 Cotgr., *Pluralité*, pluralitie, or morenesse; more then one of. 1674 N. Fairfax *Bulk & Selv.* 187 A moreness of worlds, and a soonerness of this world, may alwayes be, and often are, grounded upon a like way of reasoning.

Morening, obs. form of Mourning *a.*

Morenly, variant of Murrainly *Obs.*

Morennyng(**e**, obs. forms of Morning.

Morens, pl. of Moring *vbl. sb. Obs.*

Moreole, variant of Morel *sb.*[1]

Moreote (mōe·ri,ōut), *sb.* and *a.* Also **moreot.** [ad. mod.Gr. Μορεώτης, f. Μορέα Morea, the modern name of Peloponnesus.]

A. *sb.* A native of the Morea.

1838 *Penny Cycl.* XI. 432/2 The Moreotes, on the contrary, with the exception of Maina, had completely submitted to the Turkish yoke. 1905 *Q. Rev.* July 113 The descendants of the unwarlike Moreots.

B. *adj.* Of or pertaining to the Moreotes.

1838 *Penny Cycl.* XI. 434/2 Some intrigues and dissensions between the Roumeliote chiefs, the Moreote primates, and the old Klepht Colocotroni. 1848 J. G. Wilkinson *Dalmatia & Montenegro* II. 453 The Moreote character, too, bears a far stronger resemblance to that of the ancient Greeks, than of the Slavonians.

Moreover (moerō·vəɹ), *adv.* Now only *literary* and slightly *arch.* Forms: 3–5 **more-over**, 4–7 **more over**, 5 **mare over, more ovyr**, 5–6 **morover**, 6 *Sc.* **mair over, mairovir, maiowyr, marower, moirover**, 6–7 **mairour, mairover**, 4– **moreover.** [f. More *adv.* + Over *adv.*]

† **1.** In the phrase *And yet more over* = 'that is not all,' 'there is yet more to be said.' *Obs.*

Frequent in Chaucer, who does not otherwise use *moreover.* Here *more* is not strictly an adv., but rather an elliptical use of the absolute adj. (quasi-sb.).

c 1374 Chaucer *Boeth.* II. Pr. iv. l. 110 And yit more ouer [orig. *ad hæc*] what man that [etc.]. *c* 1386 — *Knt.'s T.* 1943 And yet moore ouer for in hise Armes two The vital strengthe is lost and al ago. *c* 1386 — *Melib.* ¶ 415 And yet moore ouer of thilke word that Tullius clepeth consentynge, thou shalt considere if [etc.]. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 13 b, And yet more ouer he hath not lefte vs as chyldren confortlesse.

2. Used at the beginning of a sentence or clause, or parenthetically, in order to mark the statement as additional to what has been said before; besides, further. (Often preceded by *and*; sometimes by *but.*) Cf. Mairatour *Sc.*

1382 Wyclif *Acts* xxi. 28 This is the man, that ayens peple and lawe..techinge euery where alle men more ouer and [Vulg. *insuper et*] hath ledd yn hethen men into the temple. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl.* C. VI. 53 And al-so more-ouer me þynkeþ ..men sholde constreyne no clerke to knauene werkes. *c* 1430 Lydg. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 37 He..askid hir if she myht feithfullie Lul him of herte, and, morover, fynallye Become his wife. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 228/1 Mare ouer, *preterea, insuper, quineciam.* 1509 Fisher *Funeral Serm. C'tess Richmond* Wks. (1876) 295 And more ouer to thentente all her werkes myght be more acceptable [etc.]. 1530 Tindale *Num.* XX. 2 More ouer there was no water for the multitude. 1552 Abp. Hamilton *Catech.* (1884) 50 Mairouir thow so doand, condemnis thi awin saule to panis eternal. 1654 Bramhall *Just Vind.* ii. (1661) 16 Some were excluded..only from the use of the Sacraments, others moreover..both from Sacraments and Prayers. 1725 De Foe *Voy. round World* (1840) 278 And he, moreover, told me that it was next to a miracle they could keep possession of the place. 1839 Keightley *Hist. Eng.* II. 41 And moreover, then, as at all times, the clergy had been the most lenient of landlords. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* ii. I. 177 He was, moreover, partial to the Roman Catholic religion. 1860 Tyndall *Glac.* I. x. 65 Vast plates of ice moreover often stood out midway between the walls of the chasms.

† **b.** in fuller form, *moreover than this*, etc. *Obs.*

1569 J. Sanford tr. *Agrippa's Van. Artes* 71 b, More ouer then this, if there be any Philosophie or Doctrine of manners [etc.]. 1795 *Jemima* I. 162 But moreover than all that, he is painted up to the eyes and perfumed.

† **3.** Qualifying a predicate: Besides. *Obs. rare.*

1517 *Domesday Inclos.* (1897) I. 260 Thei say that [etc.]..thei say that [etc.]..And moreoner thei haue nothing to say.

† **4.** Used prepositionally. *Obs.*

1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 341 And if I schol more over this Declare what this vertu is [etc.].

† **b.** Governing a clause: Besides *that. Obs. rare.*

1602 Shaks. *Ham.* II. ii. 2 Moreouer, that we much did long to see you, The neede we haue to vse you, did prouoke Our hastie sending.

Morepork: see Mopoke.

More pout: see Moorpout.

† **Mo·rer.** *Obs.* [f. More *v.* + -er[1].] One who increases.

1451 Capgrave *Life St. Augustine* 2 It [Augustus] soundith in our langage as a morer of þe lordschip. *Ibid.*, A morer of þe cite a-boue, a gret encreser of þe blis of heuene.

Moreraye, Mores, obs. ff. Moray, Morris *sb.*[1]

Moresch, obs. form of Moorish *a.*[1]

Moresco (more·sko), *a.* and *sb.* Also 6 **moresko.** [a. It. *moresco*, f. *Moro* Moor *sb.*[2]: see *-esque.* Cf. the Sp. form Morisco.]

A. *adj.* Of or pertaining to the Moors; Moorish.

1551 W. Thomas tr. *Barbaro's Trav.* (1873) 52 Besides him was his buckler of the Moresco facon with his scimitarra. 1584 W. Barret in *Hakluyt's Voy.* (1599) II. i. 272 The said mamedine is of siluer, haning the Moresco stampe on both sides. 1673 Ray *Journ. Low C.* 482 Within there is all the same kind of Moresco-work. *a* 1780 Watson *Philip III*, III. (1783) 288 A tax..a part of which he was authorised to employ in building..a Moresco college. 1832 W. Irving *Alhambra* II. 4 A small gallery supported by..moresco arches.

B. *sb.*

1. A Moor, *esp.* one of the Moors in Spain.

1577–87 Holinshed *Chron.* III. 805/1 The torchhearers were apparelled in crimsin sattin and greene, like Moreskoes, their faces blacke. 1777 Watson *Philip II* (1839) 65 The Morescoes in Spain. 1845 *Encycl. Metrop.* XII. 526/1 An Edict was published, forbidding the Morescoes, under pain of death, from using their native language.

† **2.** The Moorish language. *Obs.*

1615 G. Sandys *Trav.* 110 Some in the Copticke language, vnderstood but by few; most in the Moresco. 1678 J. Phillips tr. *Tavernier's Trav.* I. II. v. 76 The little Moresco or Gibbrish of the Country.

3. A morris dance.

It. has the fem. *moresca* in this sense.

1625 Purchas *Pilgrims* II. VII. iv. 1020 According to the sound they dance and moue their feet, as it were in a Moresco, with great gruitie. [1869 W. Gilbert *Lucrezia Borgia* I. 213 Between each act of the comedies a moresca was to be performed.]

attrib. 1715 tr. *C'tess D'Aunoy's Wks.* 464 They exceeded all the Tumblers and Moresco-dancers in Activity.

4. Arabesque ornament.

1823 Crabb *Technol. Dict.*, *Moresque-work* (*Paint.* &c.) or *moresco.*

Moresk, -esko, obs. ff. Moresque, Moresco.

Morespike, -py(c)ke, obs. ff. Morrispike.

Moresque (more·sk), *a.* and *sb.* Also 7 **moresk**, 9 **mauresque.** [a. F. *moresque*, ad. It. *moresco*: see Moresco and -esque.] **A.** *adj.*

1. Of painting, carving, architecture, etc.: Moorish in style, or ornamental design.

1611 Cotgr. s. v. *Moresque, Fueillage, & Ouvrage, moresque.* Moreske worke; a rude, or anticke painting, or caruing, wherein the feet and tayles of beasts, &c., are intermingled with, or made to resemble, a kind of wild leaues, &c. 1656 in Blount *Glossogr.* (citing *Cotgr.*). 1757 J. H. Grose *Voy. E. Indies* 177 Their style of building, which is partly Gentoo and partly Moresk. 1817 Moore *Lalla R.* (1824) 11 Between the porphyry pillars, that uphold

The rich Moresque-work of the roof of gold. 1842 GWILT *Archit.* § 126 The first period in the history of Moresque architecture is from the foundation of Islamism to the ninth century. 1875 *Encycl. Brit.* II. 234/1 While the genuine Arabian art, the Saracenic, was distinguished as Moresque or Moorish. 1888 *Lady* 25 Oct. 374/3 [A lady's cap] made of mauresque lace.

†**2.** *Moresque dance*: a modern etymologizing rendering of MORRIS-DANCE. *Obs.*

1727-41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.*, *Moresque dances*, vulgarly called *morrice-dances*, are those altogether in imitation of the Moors; as sarabands, chacons, &c.

B. *sb.*

1. Arabesque ornament.

1727-52 [see MORISCO B. 3]. *a* 1843 SOUTHEY *Comm.-pl. Bk.* Ser. II (1849) 457 Here, too, the dome is gold and azure Moresque within.

2. A Moorish woman.

1895 WORKMAN *Algerian Mem.* 18 The women, or Mauresques, cannot impress one with the idea of grace.

Morethrumble, obs. variant of MIRE-DRUM.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XIX. cvi. (1495) 916.

Morewe, Moreys, obs. ff. MORROW, MORRIS *sb.*[1]

†**Morfer.** ? *dial.* ? *Obs.* [? corruption of W. *morfran* cormorant.] (See quot.)

1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Morfer*, the lesser Puffin, a kind of Water-fowl.

Morfew(e, obs. forms of MORPHEW.

†**Morfound,** *sb. Obs.* Also 6 morfounde, 7–8 morefound. [f. MORFOUND *v.*] A disease in hawks, horses, sheep, etc., resulting from taking cold after being too hot.

1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 100 Morfounde is an yll sorance, and cometh of rydynge faste tyll he swete, and than sette vp sodeynely in a colde place. 1575 TURBERV. *Falconrie* 326 Morfound is the frenche worde which doth signifie in English the taking of colde. 1614 MARKHAM *Cheap Husb.* 74 (Sheep.) Of the Sturdy, Turning-euill, or More-found. 1725 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* s. v. *Turning Evil*, The Morefound.

†**Morfound,** *v. Obs.* Also 5 morefound, 6 morfonde, *Sc.* pa. pple. **mortfundit.** [ad. F. *morfondre* to affect (a horse) with catarrh, to chill (a person) through; according to Hatz.-Darm. f. *morve* mucus, catarrh + *fondre* to melt: cf. FOUND *v.*[3] and *v.*[6]] *intr., refl.*, and in *passive.* Of horses or other animals: To take a thorough chill, to be benumbed with cold. Hence **Morfounded** *ppl. a.*; **Morfounding** *vbl. sb.*

c 1410 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) xii, Sometyme for þei [*sc.* hounds] more foundeth [*Royal MS.* morfoundeth] as an horse. 1525 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* II. clxxiv. [clxx.] 516 We shal be morfounded and frosen to dethe. 1530 PALSGR. 640/2, I morfonde, as a horse dothe tbat waxeth styffe by taking of a sodayne colde, *je me morfons.* 1575 TURBERV. *Falconrie* 326 Sometimes it falleth out that hawkes are morfounded. 1639 T. DE GRAY *Compl. Horsem.* 38 Morfounding, which is the foundring in the body by over riding. *c* 1720 W. GIBSON *Farrier's Guide* II. XXV. (1738) 85 Of a Cold and Morfounding.

transf. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VII. Prol. 136 The dew droppis congelyt on stibyll and rynd, And scharp hailstanis, mortfundit of kynd, Hoppand on the thak.

†**Morfounder,** *v. Obs.* Also 6–7 marfounder. [a. the infinitive form of F. *morfondre*: see prec.] = prec. Hence **Morfoundering** *vbl. sb.*

1525 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* II. lxxx. [lxxvi.] 241 They and theyr horses, after theyr trauayle all the daye in the hote sone, shall be morfoundred or they be ware. 1575 TURBERV. *Venerie* 24 They woulde marfounder themselues and would not fayle to become maungie. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* II. 188/1 Marfounder, is when a Dog is not able to run, sick, subject to Mange. 1737 BRACKEN *Farriery Impr.* (1756) I. 149 Of Colds, or what Farriers call Morfound'ring.

Morfrey (mɔ̄·ɹfri). *dial.* Also **mophrey, morfra.** [Corruption of HERMAPHRODITE. Cf. MOFF[1], MOPHRODITE.] (See quot. 1886.)

1886 *S. W. Linc. Gloss., Morphrey*, the common contraction for a so-called Hermaphrodite, that is, a Cart which may be used as a Wagon also. 1892 P. H. EMERSON *Son of Fens* 150 Make your end fast to the forerunners of the morfra. 1903 *Longm. Mag.* Oct. 519 Nockold was obliged to take the horse out of the morfrey and hook it on to the waggon.

Morfu, variant of MORPHEW.

Morgage, obs. form of MORTGAGE *sb.* and *v.*

†**Mo·rgan**[1]. *Obs.* (See quot.)

1659 FULLER *App. Inj. Innoc.* I. 65 There were lately false twenty-Shilling pieces, (commonly called Morgans,) coined by a cunning and cheating Chymist.

Morgan[2] (mɔ̄·ɹgən). Now *dial.* (Sussex, Hants). Also 9 **margon, margin** (E.D.D.). [See MARG.] A name for various species of camomile (*Anthemis*); also applied to the Ox-eye Daisy, *Chrysanthemum Leucanthemum.*

1669 WORLIDGE *Syst. Agric.* (1681) 189 Mugwort, Morgan, Wormwood,..or other bitter or noisome Weeds or Herbs. *a* 1722 LISLE *Husb.* (1757) 448, I filled my meads with morgan and other trumpery. 1847 HALLIWELL, *Margan*, the stinking camomile. 1886 BRITTEN & HOLLAND *Eng. Plant-n.* 341 Dutch Morgan, *Chrysanthemum Leucanthemum.* 1892 *Times* 15 Feb. 12/1 A large number of ewes are said to have aborted in one farm in Hampshire through being fed on hay containing 'morgan' or 'hay weed'.

Morganatic (mɒ̄ɹgănæ·tik), *a.* [ad. mod.L. *morganāticus* (whence G. *morganatisch*, F. *morganatique*, It. *morganatico*, etc.) evolved from the med.L. phrase *matrimonium ad morganaticam*, where the last word is prob. synonymous with *morganāticum* MORNING-GIFT, f. OHG. *morgan* (= MORN) in **morgangeba* morning-gift (*morgangiba* in Gregory of Tours, 6th c.; MHG. *morgengâbe*). The literal meaning of the term 'morganatic marriage' (*matrimonium ad morganaticam*) is, as is explained in a 16th c. passage quoted by Du Cange, a marriage by which the wife and the children that may be born are entitled to no share in the husband's possessions beyond the 'morning-gift'.] The distinctive epithet of that kind of marriage by which a man of exalted rank takes to wife a woman of lower station, with the provision that she remains in her former rank, and that the issue of the marriage have no claim to succeed to the possessions or dignities of their father; also, occasionally, used to designate the marriage, under similar conditions, of a woman of exalted rank to a man of inferior station. Hence *morganatic husband, wife.*

A morganatic marriage is sometimes called a 'left-handed marriage' (G. *Ehe zur linken hand*), because in the ceremony the bridegroom gave the bride his left hand instead of his right. The latter term is sometimes used in a wider sense, for the *matrimonium inæquale* of German law, in which, though the spouse of inferior rank was not elevated, the children retained the rights of succession.

1727-41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v. *Marriage*, In Germany, they have a kind of Marriage called *morganatic*, wherein [etc.]. 1827 DISRAELI *Vis. Grey* VI. iv, His Royal Highness..espoused the lady with his left hand..which we..call a morganatic marriage. 1838 *Murray's Handbk. N. Germ.* p. xxxix, A Countess of Hochberg, to whom he [the Grand Duke] was united by a left-handed, but not morganatic, marriage, an union which did not exclude the children from the succession. 1846 *Times* 10 Sept. 4/4 Maria Christina [ex-Queen of Spain] after procuring the title of 'highness' to her morganatic husband and 'grandee of the first class' to the eight children [etc.]. 1865 *Even. Stand.* 7 Feb., The Countess Danner, the morganatic wife of the late King of Denmark, is about to marry Count Siliwerstolpe.

So **Morgana·tical** *a.* In recent Dicts.

Morganatically (mɒ̄ɹgănæ·tikăli), *adv.* [f. MORGANATICAL + -LY[2].] In a morganatic manner.

1865 *Pall Mall G.* 11 Aug. 11/1 The well-known Rosina, whom it is said he has married morganatically,..also has her civil list. 1895 *Daily News* 29 May 6/4 Elizabeth, Princess of Saxony, who after the death in 1855 of her first husband, was morganatically married..to the Marquis de Rapallo.

Morganic (mɒ̄ɹgæ·nik), *a.* [ad. mod.L. *morganicus* (Zedler 1739).] = MORGANATIC.

[1830 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 259 The eldest of three sons of the grand-duke Charles-Frederick, by his *morganique*, or private-marriage, with Louisa-Caroline, countess of Hochberg.] 1854 *Fraser's Mag.* L. 248 Scandal to which the Queen-Mother sought to put an end by a morganic marriage.

Morganize (mɒ̄·ɹgănəiz), *v. U.S.* [f. *Morgan*, proper name + -IZE.] 'To assassinate secretly, in order to prevent or punish disclosures, as the Freemasons were said to have done in the case of William Morgan in 1826' (*Cent. Dict.* 1890).

Morgan sterne: see MORGENSTERN.

Morgay (mɒ̄·ɹgē). Also **morghi.** In some Dicts. *erron.* **morgray.** [a. Cornish (and Welsh) *morgi*, f. *môr* sea + *ci* dog.] The Dog-fish, esp. the lesser spotted Dog-fish.

a 1672 WILLUGHBY *Hist. Pisc.* (1686) 64 *Mustelus Stellaris tertius Bellonii.* The Rough Hound or Morgay, *Cornub.* 1752 J. HILL *Hist. Anim.* 303 We, in Cornwall, call it the rough Hound or Morgay. 1828 FLEMING *Brit. Anim.* 165 *Scyllium Catulus.* Bounce or Morgay. 1828-32 WEBSTER, *Morgray.* 1862 COUCH *Brit. Fishes* I. 16 In the West of Cornwall it [the Rough Hound] is used to make what is there valued as Morghi soup.

Morgelai, -ay, variant forms of MORGLAY.

Morgeline, variant form of MARGELINE.

‖**Morgen** (mɒ̄·ɹgən). [Du. and G. *morgen*, believed to be the same word as *morgen* MORN, with the sense 'area of land that can be ploughed in one morning'.] A measure of land in Holland and the Dutch colonies (and hence in parts of the U.S.), equal to about two acres. Also, in Prussia, Norway, and Denmark, a measure of land now equal to about two-thirds of an acre.

1674 *New Jersey Archives* (1880) I. 151 Each is allowed a piece of land for a bouwerie, each piece 25 morgens. 1688 *Ann. of Albany* (1850) II. 101 Two flatts or plains upon both sides of ye Maquase river..containing about eleven morgen. 1845 *Encycl. Metrop.* XXII. 483/1 (*Netherlands*) Of Superficial measures, the morgen, or Dutch acre, is equal to 2 acres and a perch English. 1849 JOHNSTON *Exp. Agric.* 104 The produce from a Prussian morgen (0.631 of an imp. acre) was [etc.]. 1868 *Rep. U. S. Comm. Agric.* (1869) 151 Connected with this department of forestry are six thousand morgen of forest. 1885 RIDER HAGGARD *K. Solomon's Mines* V, This queer hill..covering at the base nearly a morgen (two acres) of ground. 1895 J. G. MILLAIS *Breath fr. Veldt* (1899) 42 With 10,000 morgen of land that he can call his own, he is indeed a happy man.

Morgen, obs. form of MORN.

Morgenstern (mɒ̄·ɹgənstēn). *Antiq.* Also 7 **morgan sterne, morgenstiern.** [a. Ger. *morgenstern*, lit. 'morning star', f. *morgen* MORN + *stern* STAR.] A club with a head set with spikes: = MORNING-STAR 2.

1637 R. MONRO *Exped.* I. 65 One of our souldiers shewing them over the worke, a Morgan sterne. 1868 *Archæol. Jrnl.* XXV. 141 As for huge two-handed swords, morgensterns, partizans,..the walls are loaded with them. 1889 DOYLE *Micah Clarke* 37 Pike or half-pike, morgenstiern, and halbert.

Morgeown, Morghen, obs. ff. MURGEON, MORN.

Morghi, variant of MORGAY.

†**Morglay.** *Obs.* Forms: 4 **Morgelai, -ay,** 5 **Morglaye,** 5– **Morglay.** [? a. Welsh **mawrgleddyf** (or the equivalent Breton or Cornish form), f. *mawr* great + *cleddyf* sword. Cf. CLAYMORE, which contains the Gaelic equivalents of these words in reversed order.]

1. The name of the sword belonging to Sir Bevis.

13.. *Sir Beues* 956 (MS. A.) His gode swerd Morgelay [*v. rr.* Mordelay, Morglay(e). 1598 [see EXCALIBUR]. 1612 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* ii. 332 Arundell his steed, And Morglay his good sword.

2. Used allusively for: A sword.

1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* II. (Arb.) 60 And bootelesse morglay to his sydes hee belted vnhable. 1592 *Nobody & Somebody* D 4 Giue me my sword, my morglay! 1644-7 CLEVELAND *Char. Lond. Diurn.*, etc. 16 The Souldier with his Morglay watch't the Mill.

Morgray, Morgree, erron. ff. MORGAY, MOGRA.

‖**Morgue**[1] (mɔrg). [Fr., of unknown origin.] A haughty demeanour, haughty superiority, pride.

1599 JAS. I Βασιλ. Δωρον (1603) 116 Neither looking sillely, like a stupide pedant, nor vnsetledlie, with an vncouth morgue, like a new-comouer Caualier. 1614 EP. FORBES *Def. Lawf. Ministers Ref. Ch.* 65 A vaine..bravado, which to offer vs with a newe and high morgue, our adversaries have newlie bene animated, by their late supplement of fresche forces from beyond sea. 1829 SCOTT *Anne of G.* XXIX, Prudence..induced him to wave the *morgue*, or haughty superiority of a knight and noble towards an inferior personage. 1863 M. ARNOLD *Lett.* 2 Dec., An amiable family, and with nothing at all of the English *morgue.* 1893 F. ADAMS *New Egypt* 59 That official *morgue*, that narrow and unsympathetic self-satisfaction which has done us such incalculable harm in our dealings with other races.

‖**Morgue**[2] (mɔrg). [Fr.] The name given to a building in Paris, in which the bodies of persons found dead are exposed, in order to identification. Hence (esp. in the *U.S.*), any building or room used for the same purpose.

1821 *Sporting Mag.* VIII. 69 'The Morgue' where those who die by accident or self-murder are carried—a small building in Paris. 1885 *Boston* (Mass.) *Jrnl.* 4 May 1/7 The body was taken to the morgue.

attrib. 1883 *Pall Mall G.* 28 Nov. 3/1 He was a morgue-keeper [in New York].

†**Morhwell.** *Obs.* Also 7 **morchuel** (? *erron.* for **morrhuel*). [ad. (after mod.L. MORRHUA) OF. *morluel* (cf. mod.F. *merlau*), dim. of *morue* cod.] A small cod.

1611 COTGR., *Moruë*, the Cod, or Greenefish; (a lesse, and dull-eyed kind whereof is called by some, the Morhwell). 1668 CHARLETON *Onomasticon* 122 *Molva Minor, seu Morhua*, the Morchuel.

‖**Moria** (mōə·riă). *Path.* [mod.L., a. Gr. μωρία folly, f. μωρός, μῶρος foolish.] (See quots.)

1693 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Moria*, Dulness or Folly, or Stupidity, is a defect of Judgment and Understanding; it proceeds chiefly from lack of Imagination and Memory. 1856 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Moria*, the same as *Fatuity*...Also, a variety of *Monomania* in which the patient believes himself distinguished for talents, bravery, genius, etc.; also called *Morosis.*

Moriam, obs. form of MORION.

†**Mo·rian,** *a.* and *sb. Obs.* Also *a.* 6 **Maurien,** 6 **Maurian**; *β.* 6 **Mooren, Moren, Moriane, Morien, Moryan, -en, Morryon, Murreyne, -ian, -ionn, -yen, -yon,** (7 **Moorian**). [Early mod.E. *Morien, Maurien, -an*, a. OF. *Morien, Maurien*, f. *More, Maure*, MOOR *sb.*[2]: see -IAN.]

A. *adj.* Moorish, of Moorish race; pertaining to the Moors; resembling a Moor; black, dark.

1504 in *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scott.* (1900) II. 427 Item,..to the Moryen taubronar, v Franch crounis. 1570 *Satir. Poems Reform.* x. 133 Thocht he wes blak and Moriane of hew, In credite sone and gorgius clais he grew. 1595 MUNDAY *John a Kent* (Shaks. Soc.) 17 First the golden Tunne Borne by that monstrous murrian black-a-moore. 1597 J. KING *On Jonas* (1618) 493 What remaineth, but to repent? to change our Morian skinnes, to put off our stained coats, and to wasb our feet from their filthinesse.

B. *sb.* A Moor, blackamoor, negro.

1500 in *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scott.* (1900) II. 97 Item, to Petir the Moryen..xxviij *s.* 1509 BARCLAY *Ship of Folys* (1570) 198 The uggly Maurians are also of this sect. *a* 1529 SKELTON *Agst. Garnesche* iii. 170 Thou murrionn, thou mawment, Thou fals stynkyng serpent. 1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* lxviii. 31 The Morians londe shal stretch out hir hondes vnto God. 1580 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 315 A faire pearle in a Murrians eare cannot make him white. 1657 REEVE *God's Plea* 120 How often hath this Morian been washed, and yet he is never the whiter?

attrib. *c* 1530 in Gutch *Coll. Cur.* II. 311 Oone doson of Sponnes parcell gilte withe morryan heddes. 1559 in Jupp *Acc. Carpenters' Comp.* (1887) 52 Item payd for skarffe for morren heads ij^{s} vijd. 1631 BRATHWAIT *Eng. Gentlew.* (1641) 354 It is incredible what rare effects were sometimes drawne from a Morian-picture being onely hung up in a ladies Chamber.

Morian, variant of MARIAN *sb.*[1]

1721 MORTIMER *Husb.* (ed. 5) II. 245 Violet Morian, or Canterbury Bells, come up the first Year.

Morian, obs. form of MORION.

Moribund (mɒ·ɹribənd), *a.* and *sb.* [a. L. *moribund-us*, f. *mor-ī* to die. Cf. F. *moribond* (from 16th c.), Sp. *moribundo*, It. *moribondo.*]

A. *adj.* At the point of death; in a dying state.
1721 in Bailey. 1835–6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 801/1 The state of the respiration in a moribund person is extremely various. 1875 H. C. Wood *Therap.* (1879) 354 Cases .. of persons apparently moribund who have been aroused by the inhalation of nitrite. 1886 Bynner *A. Surriage* xvi. 174 A tangle of brambles and moribund herbs.

b. *fig.* On the point of coming to an end.
1837 Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* I. II. viii, The wail of a moribund world. 1865 Earl Derby in Hansard *Parl. Deb.* Ser. III. CLXXVII. 22 One of just such a character as might naturally have been expected to be addressed by an aged Minister to a moribund Parliament. 1889 *Spectator* 9 Nov. 624/2 We all talk of the Turkish Empire as moribund.

B. *sb.* A person in a dying state.
1835 Caroline Bowles in *Corr. w. Southey* (1881) 328 Another person was mortally wounded and his death hourly expected... Every day the moribund's door was besieged by crowds of anxious inquirers. 1852 Mundy *Our Antipodes* (1857) 205 There will be more lawyers than litigants, more medicos than moribunds. 1890 'R. Boldrewood' *Miner's Right* xxvii, 'What's the odds?' queried the persistent moribund wearily.

Moribundity (mǫribʊ·ndĭti). *rare.* [f. Moribund + -ity.] Moribund condition.
1842 Syd. Smith in Lady Holland *Mem.* (1855) II. 471 Mrs. Sydney and I are both in fair health,—such health as is conceded to moribundity and caducity. 1900 Henley *Mem.* in *G. W. Steevens' Things Seen* p. xvi, The 'National Observer'..was still afoot, and though conscious of its moribundity..was keeping the bravest of fronts.

Moric (mō·rik), *a.* [f. L. *mōr-us* mulberry + -ic.] *Moric acid*, (*a*) see quot. 1856; (*b*) = Morin.
1856 Mayne *Expos. Lex.*, *Moricus*, applied by Klaproth to a particular acid which he found in the bark of the *Morus alba*: moric. 1866 Brande & Cox *Dict. Sci.*, etc., *Moric acid, Morin*, a variety of tannic acid existing in the wood of *Morus tinctoria*, or *fustic*.

Morice, obs. form of Morris *sb.*1 and *v.*

Moriche (mori·tʃe). *West-Indian.* [a. Carib *moriche, morichi, muriche* = Tupi *muriti, miriti.*] A South American palm of the genus *Mauritia.* Also called *moriche palm. Moriche apple, nut*: names for the fruit of this palm.
1866 [see Ita-palm]. 1871 Kingsley *At Last* viii, Sixty feet and more aloft, the short smooth columns of the Moriches towered around us. *Ibid.* xii, The Moriche apples floated down the stream. *Ibid.* xvii, The ripple lapped the Moriche-nuts about the roots of the Manchineel bush.

Morien, variant of Morian.

† **Mo·rient**, *a. Obs.* [ad. L. *morient-em*, pr. pple. of *morī* to die.] Dying.
1679 C. Nesse *Antichrist* 64 He adds a 6th period, to wit, morient..our posterity shall see him die.

Moriform (mō·rifɔ̄m), *a.* [f. L. *mōr-um* mulberry + -(i)form.] Having the shape or form of a mulberry.
1856 in Mayne *Expos. Lex.* 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV. 719 Moriform hypertrophy of the inferior turbinals.

Morigerate (mori·dʒĕrēt), *a. rare.* [ad. L. *mōrigerātus*, pa. pple. of *mōrigerārī*: see next.] Complying, obedient.
a 1533 Ld. Berners *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) Z viij h, The armies..were as well disciplined and morigerate, as the schooles of the philosophies. 1560 Rolland *Crt. Venus* III. 14 Baith ald and 3oung richt weill Morigerat. 1836 J. H. Newman *Lett.* (1891) II. 199 They were morigerate, through the Exhortation and half the Confession, when they bolted.

† **Morigerate,** *v. Obs.*–° [f. L. *morigerāt-*, ppl. stem of *mōrigerārī*, f. *mōriger-us*: see Morigerous.] *intr.* (See quot.)
1623 Cockeram, *Morigerate*, to doe as one is commanded, to obey.

Morigeration (moridʒĕrē·ʃən). [ad. L. *mōrigerātiōn-em* compliance, n. of action f. *mōrigerārī* (see prec.) + -ation.] Obedience, compliance, deference to superiors, obsequiousness.
1605 Bacon *Adv. Learn.* I. iii. § 10 Not that I can taxe or condemne the morigeration or application of learned men to men in fortune. 1659 Evelyn *Let. to Boyle* 3 Sept., That fond morigeration to the mistaken customs of the age. 1903 *Edin. Rev.* Apr. 384 Morigeration served their turn during the first part of their Asiatic journey.

Morigerous (mori·dʒĕrəs), *a.* [f. L. *mōriger-us* (I. *mōr-*, *mōs* custom, humour + *ger-ĕre* to bear, carry; after the phr. *morem gerere* to humour or comply with the wishes of a person) + -ous.] Obedient, compliant, submissive. Const. *to.*
c 1600 *Timon* III. v. (Sbaks. Soc.) 53 Timon, thou hast a wife morigerous Shee is the onely comfort of my age. 1637 Bastwick *Litany* I. 3 Fire, aire, water, earth, all most morigerous; the winds and the seas obey him. 1681 H. More *Exp. Dan.* Pref. 65 Let us..be morigerous to the Magistrate. 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Morigerous*, obedient, dutiful, complaisant. 1814 Berington *Lit. Hist. Mid. Ages* v. (1846) 260 He had early acquired the character of a morigerous and well disciplined monk.
Hence † **Mori·gerousness.**
1681 H. More *Exp. Dan.* Pref. 77 All Decency and Order and Morigerousness to the Magistrate.

‖ **Moriglio.** *Obs.* Also 8 morillia. [It. = F. *morille* Morel.] = Morel *sb.*3
1698 W. King tr. *Sorbière's Journ. Lond.* 32 As that for Champignons, and Moriglio's they were as great strangers to 'em as if they had been bred in Japan. 1699 M. Lister *Journ. Paris* 154 The Moriglio split in two from top to bottom is all hollow and smooth. 1713 C'tess Winchelsea *Misc. Poems* 35 In the plain, unstudied Sauce Nor Treufle, nor Morillia was.

Moril, morille, var. forms of Morel *sb.*2

Mori·lliform, *a.* [f. F. *morille* Morel *sb.*3 + -(i)form.] Having the form of a morel (fungus).
1828–32 in Webster; and in recent Dicts.

† **Morillion.** *Obs.* [Cf. next.] A kind of tulip.
1721 Mortimer *Husb.* (ed. 5) II. 241 Morillion of Antwerp, a pale Scarlet and pale Yellow.

Morillon1 (mori·lən). [a. F. *morillon* (OF. *moreillon*, 13th c.), according to Hatz.-Darm. related to *morel* dark-coloured: see Morel *a.*] A variety of the vine; also, its fruit.
1664 Evelyn *Kal. Hort., Catal.* (1699) 174 Vines..Muscatell, Black, White, excellent, Morillon, Chassela [etc.]. 1731 Miller *Gard. Dict., Vitis; præcox Columellæ, acinis dulcibus, nigrantibus.* The black Morillon. 1824 Loudon *Encycl. Gard.* (ed. 2) § 4801 Black morillon... White morillon. *attrib.* 1860 Redding *French Wines* iii. 40 The black morillon grape.

Morillon2 (mori·lən). [a. F. *morillon.*] A name for the female or young of the Golden-Eye, formerly mistaken for a separate species.
1678 Ray *Willughby's Ornith.* 368 The Glaucium or Morillon of Bellonius. 1768 Pennant *Brit. Zool.* (1776) II. 498 Morillon. This species is rather less than the last [*sc.* the Golden Eye]. 1802 G. Montagu *Ornith. Dict.* (1831) 211 This bird [Golden-eye], in its immature state is the Morillon (*Anas glaucion*) of various authors. 1863 C. St. John *Nat. Hist. & Sport Moray* 36 There was not a single duck of any sort to be seen, with the exception of one morillon. 1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 824/2 *Morillon*, a name commonly given by fowlers to the female or immature male of the Golden-Eye.

Morimal, variant of Mormal.

Morin (mō·rin). *Chem.* [a. F. *morine*, f. L. *mōr-us* (in mod.L. the name of the genus formerly including the fustic-tree): see -in.] A yellow colouring matter obtained from fustic.
1837 P. Keith *Bot. Lex.* 259 The colouring matter obtained from *Morus tinctoria* has been regarded by M. Chevreul as a peculiar substance, and designated by the appellation of *morin*. 1875 *Ure's Dict. Arts* III. 365 *Morine.* This is the name given by Gerhardt to the principal colouring matter of the *Morus tinctoria* or *old fustic.*

‖ **Morinda** (mori·ndă). *Bot.* [mod.L., f. L. *mōr-us* mulberry tree + *Ind-us* Indian.] A cinchonaceous genus of plants, native of tropical Asia and Polynesia, the bark and roots of which yield red and yellow dyes. Also *attrib.* in *morinda bark.*
1882 J. Smith *Dict. Econ. Plants* 276 *Morinda Bark.*

Morindin (mori·ndin). *Chem.* Also -ine. [f. mod.L. *Morind-a* (see prec.) + -in.] (See quots.)
1848 Anderson in *Trans. Roy. Soc. Edin.* (1849) XVI. 438 The colouring matter of sooranjee, to which I give the name of Morindine. 1858 *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 7) 630 Morindin..yellow crystalline colouring matter.

Morindone (mori·ndōun). *Chem.* Also morindon. [See prec. and -one.] (See quots.)
1848 Anderson in *Trans. Roy. Soc. Edin.* (1849) XVI. 441 Morindine, when heated, is entirely altered, a quantity of carbonaceous matter being left, and a crystallizable principle sublimed...To it I give the name of Morindone. 1858 *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 7) 630 Morindin,..when heated ..is converted into..morindon.

Morine, obs. form of Moreen.

Morinel (mǫrinel). ? *Obs.* [ad. mod.L. *morinellus.* Cf. F. *morinelle* (Littré).
The mod.L. word is due to Caius *De rar. Anim.* (1570) 21. He says that he gave this name to the bird for two reasons: because it is common in north-eastern France (*apud Morinos*), and on account of its stupidity (Gr. μωρότης folly).]
A name for the Dotterel.
1828–32 in Webster; and in later Dicts.

† **Mo·ring,** *vbl. sb. Obs.* Also 4 morynge, 6 *pl.* morens. [f. More *v.*2 + -ing 1.]
1. The action of the vb. More; making greater.
c 1380 Wyclif *Serm.* Sel. Wks. I. 65 þis was no morynge but lassing of God. *c* 1430 Capgrave *Sermon* (B. M. Addit. MS. 36704 lf. 119), The xj son hite Joseph, and he is to say a moring or augmentacion.
2. *pl.* Extras.
1532 in *Househ. Ord.* (1790) 221 [Charge for] Necessaries yearly, without any further allowance for moreings or other, to be given by peticion. 1540 *Ibid.* 237 Likewise of Morens of Beefs & Muttons.

Moringa (mori·ngă). Also 8 morunga, 9 marenga. [ad. mod.L. *Moringa.*] The Ben-nut tree (*Moringa pterygosperma*). Also *attrib.*
1753 Chambers *Cycl. Supp., Moringa*, in botany, the name by which some authors call the tree which produces the ben nut. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) VIII. 176/2 s.v. *Guilandina*, The moringa, or morunga nickar, is a native of the island of Ceylon, and some places on the Malabar coast. 1861 Bentley *Man. Bot.* 531 The Moringa or Ben-Nut Order. 1892 Mar. North *Recoll. Happy Life* I. 102, I saw the two marenga-trees, from the berries of which the oil of Ben used by watch-makers is pressed.
Hence **Mori·ngad,** Lindley's term for a plant of the order *Moringaceæ* (Veg. Kingd. 1846, p. 336).

Morintannic: see Moritannic.

Morion1 (mǫ·riən). *Antiq.* Forms: 6 mirrioun, (morlion), morrian, mory(o)n, murreowne, murryon, 6–7 morian, murren, 6–8 morrion, murrian, -ion, 7 moriouue, morryoune, mourron, murrain, murrin, 8 moriam, 6– morion. [a. F. *morion* (according to Hatz.-Darm. not found earlier than 1553, Rabelais), or the equivalent Sp. *morrion* (Pg. *morrião*) or It. *morione.* The history of the Rom. word is obscure; most etymologists regard it as originally Sp., f. *morra* crown of the head.]
1. A kind of helmet, without beaver or visor, worn by soldiers in the 16th and 17th c.
Antiquaries have distinguished certain varieties by prefixed designations, as *cockscomb, pear-shaped morion.*
1563 *Lanc. Wills* (1857) I. 141 A shirt of mayle wth the bed peace or murren therennto belonginge. *a* 1575 *Diurn. Occurr.* (Bannatyne Cl.) 212 Ane greit number of hagbittis, corslattis and mirriounis, togedder with some vyne [etc.]. 1582–8 *Hist. James VI* (1804) 137 In the shipp was funden ..twa hundrethe murreownes. 1590 C'tess Pembroke *Antonie* 1768 The vseles morion shall On crooke hang by the wall. 1601 Holland *Pliny* I. 480 The people of Thracia ..do with Ivie..garnish the heads of their launces,..their mourrons also and targuets. 1650 Bulwer *Anthropomet.* i. 22 At Brasil..Helmets are of little use, every one having an artificialized natural Morian of his head. 1688 R. Holme *Armoury* III. xix. (Roxb.) 166/1 The Italians call such caps, a Morion, and we from them a Murrian. 1700 Dryden *Pal. & Arc.* III. 451 Polish'd Steel that cast the View aside, And Crested Morions with their Plumy Pride. 1808 Scott *Marm.* I. ix, The soldiers of the guard With musquet, pike, and morion. 1834 *Gentl. Mag.* CIV. I. 158 The combatants' headpieces are different in form; one has a rim like a morion, and much resembles a modern hat. 1907 *Q. Rev.* Jan. 83 It belongs to the school of poetry in which helmets are called morions.
† 2. A kind of punishment used at sea. *Obs.*
[In Fr. the word appears to have been in military rather than naval use, and to have denoted a number of blows with a pike-staff.]
1626 Capt. Smith *Accid. Yng. Seamen* 4 The Marshall is ..to see Justice executed according to directions, as..setting in the bilbowes, and to pay the Cobty or the Morryoune.

Morion2 (mǫ·riən). *Min.* [a. F. *morion*, a. corrupt L. *morion*, a misreading in early edd. of Pliny for *mormorion.*] Black smoky quartz.
1748 J. Hill *Hist. Fossils* II. 470 Pramnion Morio sive Morion dictum. The Morion or Pramnion of the antients. 1796 Kirwan *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) I. 241 Mountain or Rock Crystal. When..pale or dark brown, or bronze falling into black, then called morion. 1866 Brande & Cox *Dict. Sci.*, etc., *Morion*, a lapidaries' name for black Rock Crystal.

Morioplasty (mǫ·riǫplæsti). *Surg.* [mod. f. Gr. μόριον part + -plasty.] 'The restoration of lost parts of the body' (Webster's *Suppl.* 1880).

Morioune, Moris, obs. ff. Morion 1, Morris.

Moriscan (mori·skăn), *a.* [f. Morisc-o + -an.] Moorish.
1838 Lytton *Leila* I. iii, Gilded balconies, the super-addition of Moriscan taste.

Morisch, obs. form of Moorish *a.*1

Morisco (mori·sko), *a.* and *sb.* Forms: 6–8 morisko, 7 morissco, 9 moriska, 6– morisco. [a. Sp. *morisco*, f. *Moro* Moor *sb.*2 Cf. the It. form Moresco.]
A. *adj.* Of or pertaining to the Moors; Moorish.
1551 W. Thomas tr. *Barbaro's Trav.* (1873) 53 Sitteng vpon carpetts aftre the Morisco maner. 1586 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* I. (1594) 84 The emperor Frederike the II. spake the Greeke, Latin, Hebrew, Arabian, Morisko, Almaigne, Italian and French toong. 1605 *Relat. Journ. Earl Nottingham* 27 Diuers Gypsies (as they termed them) men and women, dauncing and tumbling much after the Morisco fashion. 1612 Shelton *Quix.* IV. xiv. (1620) 452 In the Morisco tongue. 1656 Earl Monm. tr. *Boccalini's Pol. Touchstone* (1674) 277 The chain..being of Morisco-work. 1710 Palmer *Proverbs* 95 A true Spaniard ..is particularly proud..that he's no heretick, has neither Jews nor Morisco blood in his body. 1835 Marryat *Pirate* xiii, It was of a composite architecture, between the Morisco and the Spanish. 1847 Prescott *Peru* V. i. II. 308 Fears were generally entertained of a general rising of the Morisco population.
Comb. 1834 Beckford *Italy* I. 48 Aldernach, an antiquated town with strange morisco-looking towers. 1885 Kerry-Nicholls in *Jrnl. Anthrop. Instit.* XV. 195 Many of the women of this class are remarkable for their personal beauty, which partakes somewhat of the Morisco-Spanish type.
† **b. Alla Morisco** [= It. *alla moresca*]: in the Moorish fashion. *Obs.*
a 1592 Greene *2nd Pt. Manillia* (1593) H 1 b, Needelesse noughts, as crisps, and scarphes worne Alla Morisco.
B. *sb.*
1. A Moor, *esp.* one of the Moors in Spain.
1629 Wadsworth *Pilgr.* v. 40 These Moriscoes came into Spaine with Iacob Almansor. 1706 tr. *Dupin's Eccl. Hist. 16th C.* II. IV. xi. 451 As he went to Montserrat, he met a Morisco upon the Road. 1838 Prescott *Ferd. & Is.* II. vi. (1846) II. 390 From this period the name of Moors.. gave way to the title of Moriscoes. 1903 *Edin. Rev.* Apr. 278 The Moriscos were preferred as tenants because they were tied to the soil.
† **b.** *Her. Morisco's head* = Moor's head 3.
a 1550 in Baring-Gould & Twigge *W. Armory* (1898) 8 Gyronny of 6 or and sab.: 3 moriscoes heads of the 2nd.
c. In Mexican use. (See quot.)
1900 Deniker *Races Man* xiii. 542 A Mulatto woman, the offspring of a Spaniard and a negress, may give birth to a Morisco by uniting with a Spaniard.
† 2. The Moorish language. *Obs.*
1612 Shelton *Quix.* IV. xiv. (1620) 457 He..said in Morisco, Let none of you..stirre himselfe.
3. Arabesque ornament.
1727–52 Chambers *Cycl.*, *Moresk*, or *Morisko*, a kind of painting, carving, &c. done after the manner of the Moors. 1855 Ogilvie *Suppl.*, *Morisco*, the work called *moresque.*
4. A morris dance.
1561 T. Hoby tr. *Castiglione's Courtyer* II. L iij b, To goe about the streetes daunsing the Morisco. 1600 Rowlands

(*title*) The Letting of Hvmors Blood in the Head-Vaine. With a new Morissco, daunced by seauen Satyres, vpon the hottome of Diogines Tubbe. 1634 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* 141 The bridemaids..began a Morisko, their faces, hands, and feet painted with flowres. 1844 Louisa S. Costello *Béarn & Pyrenees* II. 252 The celebrated dance called the Morisco, which is reserved for great occasions.

fig. 1612 Beaum. & Fl. *Cupid's Rev.* II. iii, There's mad Morisco's in the state; but what they are, I'll tell you when I know.

† **b.** A morris-dancer. *Obs.*

1593 Shaks. 2 *Hen. VI*, III. i. 365, I haue seene Him capre vpright, like a wilde Morisco.

c. *attrib.*

1679 Blount *Anc. Tenures* 149 With Musick and a Morisco Dance of Men, and another of Women. 1698 Fryer *Acc. E. India & P.* 136 He..diverted me with several Interludes of Morisco Dancing.

Morise, obs. f. Morris. **Morish:** see Moreish.

Morish(e, pike, pyke, obs. ff. Morris-pike.

† **Morisk,** *a.* and *sb. Obs.* Also 5 **mouryske,** 6 **morisque, moryske,** 6–7 **moriske,** 7 **maurisk(e.** [Anglicized form of Morisco.]

A. *adj.* Of or pertaining to the Moors; Moorish.

1547 Boorde *Introd. Knowl.* xxxvii. (1870) 216 Some dothe speake Moryske speche.

B. *sb.*

1. The Moorish language.

1485 Caxton *Paris & V.* (1868) 69 Whan Parys coude wel speke mouryske.

2. A morris-dance.

1512 *Helyas* in Thoms *Prose Rom.* (1858) III. 31 Moriskes, comedies, daunces, interludes. 1530 Palsgr. 553/2, I foote a dance or morisque. 1613 T. Godwin *Rom. Antiq.* (1625) 57 The former 12 being called *Salij Palatini*, from the Palatine Mount, where they did begin their mauriske. 1627 Hakewill *Apol.* (1630) 365 To this purpose were taken up at Rome these forraine exercises of vauting and dancing the Moriske.

attrib. 1601 Holland *Pliny* I. 192 To make good sport in a kinde of Moriske dance.

3. A Moorish coin.

1525 Ld. Berners *Froiss.* II. liii. [lii.] 187 We pray you to be our frende, and we wyll gyue you xx. moryskes of golde.

Moriska, -o, variant forms of Morisco.

Morisonian (mɒrisōˑnĭăn), *a.* and *sb.* [f. *Morison* + -ian.] **a.** *adj.* Holding the doctrines of James Morison, who in 1841 was suspended from the office of minister of the United Secession Church at Kilmarnock for preaching against Calvinism, and founded a sect called the 'Evangelical Union'. **b.** *sb.* A follower of Morison; a member or adherent of the Evangelical Union. Hence **Morisoˑnianism.**

a 1861 Cunningham *Hist. Theol.* (1864) I. xi. 324 In the Morisonianism of our own day they have assumed a more scriptural..garb. *Ibid.* II. xxiv. 357 Those who are popularly known amongst us by the name of Morisonians. 1878 *Encycl. Brit.* VIII. 726/1 'Morisonian' doctrines.

Morispike, obs. form of Morris-pike.

Morisque, variant of Morisk.

Morissco, Morisse, obs. ff. Morisco, Morris.

Moritannic (mɒritæˑnik), *a. Chem.* Also **morintannic.** [f. Mori-n + Tannic *a.*] Only in *Moritannic acid* (see quots.).

1857 Millea *Elem. Chem.* (1862) III. 602 Fustic furnishes a yellow colouring matter..termed moritannic acid. 1891 *Syd. Soc. Lex., Moritannic acid*...The name given by Wagner to a powder obtained from fustic.

† **Mork,** *v. Obs. rare.* [OE. *murcian*, a formation (with *k* suffix as in *talk, lurk*) on the onomatopœic root *murr-* (MLG. *murren*, Du. *morren*, G. *mürren* to grumble). OE. had also *murcnian* in the same sense.] *intr.* To complain, murmur.

c 888 K. Ælfred *Boeth.* v. § 1 Sona swa ic þe ærest on þisse unrotnesse ȝeseah þus murciende. *a* 1300 *E. E. Psalter* cv. 24 (Horstm.) Noght leued þai to his worde oghte; And morkedene with þair thoghte.

Morkin[1] (mōˑɹkin). Also 5 **mortkyn,** 6 **morkyn,** 7 **morkein, morking, mortkin.** [Late ME. *mortkyn* = AF. *mortekine* (Angier, 15th c.), a distorted form (influenced by -kin) of OF. *mortecine*, ad. L. *morticīna* carrion, f. *mort-*, *mors* death.]

1. A beast that dies by disease or accident.

14.. 26 *Pol. Poems* 91 As mortkyn forsaken, she let me lige. 1598 Br. Hall *Sat.* III. iv. 4 Could he not sacrifice Some sorry morkin that unbidden dies? 1656 Blount *Glossogr., Morkein* or *Morkin*..among huntsmen is a Deer that dies by some disease or mischance. 1786 *Burns's Poems* Gloss., *Braxie*, a morkin sheep.

¶ **b.** *erron.* or *transf.* An abortive animal. *rare*—°.

1530 Palsgr. 246/1 Morkyn a beest, *auortin.*

† **2.** ? The skin of a morkin sheep. *Obs.*

1582 *Rates of Custom Ho.* F v, Lamb skinnes called Morkins. 1640 in Noorthouck *London* (1773) 843/1 Skins, morkins, tawed or raw. 1660 *Act* 12 *Chas. II*, c. 4 Sched. 2 Lambe skins vocant Morekins.

† **3.** *Comb.*, **morkin-gnoff,** a miser.

1602 W. Bas *Sword & Buckler* B iij, A morkin-gnoffe that ..Sits carping how t'advance his shapelesse brood.

† **Morkin**[2]. *Obs.* [a. MDn. *moorkijn*, MHG. *mörche(n*, dim. of *Moor* Moor *sb.*[2]; see -kin. Cf. med.L. *mauriculus*, OF. *morequin.*] A German coin of small value.

1547 Boorde *Introd. Knowl.* xiv. (1870) 161 In Hygh Almayne..they haue Morkyns, Halardes, Phenyngs.

Morking, variant of Morkin 1.

Morling (mōˑɹlin). Forms: 5–6 **morlyng,** 6 **moreling,** 7 **morlin, morlinge,** 7–9 **mortling,** 5– **morling.** [App. formed after Morkin[1] by substitution of -ling suffix for -kin.]

1. Wool taken from the skin of a dead sheep.

Obs. exc. in the traditional language of schedules to Acts of Parliament. Opposed to *shorling.*

1448 *Act* 27 *Hen. VI*, c. ii, Colourant par novelles controves nouns come Morlyng & Shorlyng, &c. 1455 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 330/2 Carie Woll and Wolfelles, Shorlyng and Morlyng, oute of this youre Reame. 1562–3 *Act* 5 *Eliz.* c. 22 § 2 Yt shall not bee laufull..to shippe..any maner of Shepe skynnes, Woolfelles, Shorelinges, Morelinges [etc.]. 1607 Cowell *Interpr., Morlinge* seemeth to be that wolle which is taken from the skinne of a dead sheep. 1669 Sturmy *Mariner's Mag., Penalties & Forfeit.* 4 Wooll, Wooll-fells, Wooll-flocks, Mortlings. 1688 *Royal Proclam.* 6 Apr. in *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2338/1 Laws..Prohibiting the Transportation of Sheep Woolls, Woolls-fells, Woolen-yarn, Mortlings, Shorlings. 1819 *Mortimer's Commerc. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Morling* or *Mortling*, is that wool taken from the skin of a dead sheep, either dying of the rot, or killed, called in some counties mort-wool. 1833 *Act* 3 & 4 *Will. IV*, c. 56 Woolfels, Mortlings, Shortlings, Yarn.

† **2.** = Morkin 1. *Obs.*

1636 *Fasciculus Florum* 35 A wretched witherd Mortling, and a piece Of Carrion, wrapt up in a Golden Fleece. 1753 Chambers *Cycl. Supp.* s. v. *Shorling*, In some parts of England, they understand by a shorling, a sheep whose fleece is shorn off; and by a morling, a sheep that dies.

Morlop (mōˑɹlɒp). *Min.* A variety of jasper pebble found in New South Wales.

1886 *U. S. Cons. Rep.* No. 70. 319 (Cent.) Amongst the jasper pebbles are some of pale mottled tints of yellow, pink, drab,..&c. These are termed morlops by the miners.

† **Moˑrmal.** *Obs.* Forms: 4–7 **mormal,** 5, 7 **morimal, mormale,** 5–7 **mormall(e,** 6 **marmoll(e, mortmale, mermole,** 6–7 **marmole,** 7 **marmall, mortmal.** [a. OF. *mortmal* (=med.L. *mortuum malum*), f. *mort* dead + *mal* evil. Cf. F. *mal de mort*, used *Hist.* to render the OF. word.]

1. An inflamed sore, esp. on the leg.

Prob. used vaguely; the description in quot. 1543 and its context seems to refer to ecthyma or impetigo.

c 1386 Chaucer *Prol.* 386 Greet harm was it as it thoughte me That on his shyne a mormal hadde he. *c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 178 þe blood-letyng of þis veyne is good ..for cancrena þat ben in þe hipis & for a mormal. *c* 1400 *Brut* (E.E.T.S.) 230/3 Also ij men haue bene helede þere of þe morimal. *c* 1483 Caxton *Dialogues* 41/40 He can hele and cure..mormale. *a* 1518 Skelton *Magnyf.* 1906 Some with the marmoll to halte I them make. 1533 More *Answ. Poysoned Bk.* Wks. 1088/1 To heale the foule marmole of theyr scabbed shynnes. 1543 Traheron *Vigo's Chirurg.* v. iii. 164 Of the deed euyll, or mortmale. The deed euyl ..is a maligne, fylthy, and corrupt scabbe, which begynneth for y° most part in y° armes, thyghes, & legges, & chefly in the legges it causeth crusty pustules, ful of fylthy matter. 1579 Langham *Gard. Health* (1633) 41 For Festers, Mermoles, sores of the yard, and all other sores, take Ash [etc.]. 1601 Holland *Pliny* II. 588 Such morimals or sores as scorne ordinary cures & be full of suppuration.

fig. 14.. *Seven Deadly Sins* 109 in *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 247 'Luxiria' ys a lyther mormale. 1547–64 Baldwin *Mor. Philos.* (Palfr.) 57 The festered & stinking cores of old marmoles & inueterate sores of the weale publike.

2. ? Used for Agnail 3.

1685 *J. Cooke's Marrow Chirurg.* I. xi. (ed. 4) 75 There are also little Marmoles, so called by some, which are little bits of the Skin that rise near to the Nails.

[**Mormal,** *a.*, 'grievous, dangerous' (Webster 1864) is app. a mistaken inference from prec. sb.]

‖ **Mormaor** (mɒɹmēˑŏɹ). Also **maormor, mormaer,** *erron.* **maarmor.** [a. Gael. *mormaer* (Book of Deer), mod. *màrmhaor*, app. f. *màr* great + *maor* bailiff, steward; the form *maormor* app. originated from the notion that the word should follow the rule of placing the adj. after the sb.] In ancient Scotland, a high steward of a province.

1807 G. Chalmers *Caledonia* I. III. vii. 405 He became maormor of Moray, during the infancy of Lulach. 1882 *Blackw. Mag.* Mar. 350 The title of earl having been substituted for mormaer when Normanism and feudalism made their way across the Border. 1900 A. Lang *Hist. Scot.* I. 169 Macbeth being introduced as a king, by the English Chronicle, before he was even a mormaor.

Hence **Morma·ordom, Morma·orship.**

1837 Skene *Highlanders Scot.* (1902) II. ix. 365 The Rikis or districts in Scotland mentioned in the Sagas..are exactly synonymous with maormorships. 1860 W. Anderson *Scott. Nation* I. 54 Edgar had bestowed on his cousin the maormordom of Athol.

Mormaset, obs. form of Marmoset.

Mormelade, obs. form of Marmalade.

Mormeluche, variant of Mormolukee.

Mormeracyone, obs. form of Murmuration.

† **Moˑrmo.** *Obs.* Also 7–8 **mormoe.** [a. Gr. *μορμώ*, a hideous she-monster.] A kind of hobgoblin; a bugbear; an imaginary terror.

1605 Z. Jones tr. *De Loyer's Specters* 15 In like sort Mormo..was one of those with which they terrified little children. *a* 1652 J. Smith *Sel. Disc.* ii. 37 To all which we may add the..frightful apparitions of ghosts and mormos. 1676 [see Moaphosis]. 1738 Warburton *Div. Legat.* I. 335 A Mormo fit only to fright Women and Children.

† **Mormolukee.** *Obs.* Also 7 **mormeluche, mormolyceue.** [ad. Gr. *μορμολυκεῖον*, *-λύκη*, f. *μορμώ* Mormo + *λύκ-ος* wolf.] = Mormo.

1621 Burton *Anat. Mel.* III. iv. II. vi. (1624) 556 Diuells and Mormeluches, noysome smells &c. 1624 Br. Mountagu *Gagg* To Rdr. 2 Horrible affrights and mormolyceues, to put young children out of their wits. 1644 J. Goodwin *Innoc. Triumph.* (1645) 9 Hee tells his Antiquerist, that hee must renounce his oath of Allegeance [etc.]..with some such other mormolukees as these.

Mormon (mōˑɹmən). [f. *Mormon*, the name of the pretended author of 'The Book of Mormon': see below. The earlier name was Mormonite.]

1. A member or adherent of a religious body, calling itself 'The Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter-day Saints', founded in 1830 at Manchester, New York, by Joseph Smith, on the basis of alleged Divine revelations contained in the 'Book of Mormon', which Smith professed to have translated by special inspiration from the original written on gold plates, miraculously discovered by himself.

The feature of the sect which is popularly best known, and which is referred to in allusive uses of the name, is the practice of polygamy: but this is not countenanced by the Book of Mormon, and is now understood to have been abandoned in obedience to the law of the United States.

1842 Caswall *City of Mormons* 34, I begged him to inform me whether the Mormons believed in the Trinity. 1845 G. Struthers in *Ess. Chr. Union* vii. 372 Mormons, Atheists, Deists,..and other small sects and parties. 1881 W. G. Marshall *Thro. Amer.* viii. 184 Considerable disgrace attaches to a Mormon if he lives a bachelor life.

fig. 1906 *Spectator* 3 Feb. 175/2 In distinction from the barnyard duck, who is a regular Mormon, the mallard is monogamous.

2. *attrib.* passing into *adj.*

1842 Caswall *City of Mormons* 6 Houses..occupied, I was told, by Mormon emigrants. 1843 Marryat *M. Violet* xliii, The whole of Texas becomes Mormon. 1884 J. Hall *Chr. Home* 42 We have on the one side the Mormon problem to face, and on the other the divorce problem.

3. *Comb.* **Mormon-weed** *U.S.*, the Indian mallow, *Abutilon Abutilon* (Britton & Brown *Flora* 1896–8).

Hence **Moˑrmondom,** Mormons collectively, the territory of the Mormons, Mormon usages; **Mormoˑnic** *a.*, resembling the Mormons, polygamous.

1860 Mayne Reid in *Chamb. Jrnl.* XIV. 359 He would not be the only parent who..has so sacrificed upon the unhallowed altar of Mormondom. *a* 1886 H. S. Brown *Autobiog.* (1887) 114 Salt Lake City is the capital of Mormondom. 1904 *Blackw. Mag.* June 812/1 Other domesticated male animals are so mormonic in their ideas that they recognise no distinction of any kind between their own kittens, puppies, calves, &c., and their neighbours' children.

Mormonism (mōˑɹmŏnizˈm). [f. Mormon + -ism.] The religious doctrine of the Mormons.

1834 E. D. Howe (*title*) Mormonism unvailed. 1845 J. H. Newman *Ess. Developm.* iv. § 1. 241 A religion, such that men look at a convert to it with a feeling which no other sect raises, except Judaism, Socialism, or Mormonism. 1881 W. G. Marshall *Thro. Amer.* viii. 184 Mormonism does not necessarily involve polygamy.

Mormonist (mōˑɹmŏnist). [f. Mormon + -ist.] = Mormon. 1890 in *Century Dict.*

Mormonite (mōˑɹmŏnəit), *sb.* and *a.* [f. the personal name *Mormon* (see Mormon) + -ite.] **a.** *sb.* A Mormon. Now *rare.* **b.** *adj.* Of or pertaining to the Mormons.

1833 T. Hamilton *Men & Manners in Amer.* II. vii. 310 We passed several parties of what were called Mormonites. 1882 *Illustr. Mission. News* Mar. 28 Meetings..to denounce Mormonite polygamy.

Mormope (mōˑɹmōup). *Zool.* [ad. mod.L. *mormōp-*, *mormōps*, f. Gr. *μορμώ* Mormo + *ὤψ* face.] 'A bat of the genus *Mormops*' (*Cent. Dict.* 1890).

Mormor, mormur, obs. forms of Murmur.

Mormosett, obs. form of Marmoset.

‖ **Mormyrus** (mōˑɹmirŭs). *Ichth.* Also 8 **mormylus.** [mod.L., a. Gr. *μορμύρος* (corruptly *μορμύλος*).] A fish of the African genus *Mormyrus.*

1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Mormyra*, or *Mormyrus*, (*Gr.*) a kind of Sea-fish of divers Colours. 1752 J. Hill *Hist. Anim.* 254 The Mormylus. This is a very singularly marked species [etc.]. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) VI. 315 The Mormyrus. The body oblong; the head elongated. 1887 *Amer. Naturalist* XXI. 584 G. A. Boulenger has recently described a Mormyrus from the Lower Congo.

Hence **Moˑrmyr(e, Mormyˑrian, Moˑrmyrid,** a fish of the family *Mormyridæ*, of which the genus *Mormyrus* is the type.

1890 *Century Dict., Mormyre, Mormyrian.* 1898 *Proc. Zool. Soc.* 15 Nov. 778 Those possible ancestors of the Mormyrs belong to the most generalized forms of Clupeines. 1899 *Ibid.* 28 Nov. 934 The Mormyrids.

Morn (mɒn). Forms: 1 morȝen, marȝen, mer(i)ȝen, **merien** (also in oblique forms morȝn-, morn-, marn-), 2 marȝan, moreȝen, 2–3 marȝen, 3 mærȝen, marhen, mor(e)ghen, 2–4 morȝen, (4 moryhen); 3 marwen, morwhen, 3–5 morwen, 4 morewen, 5 morewane, morwyn, morwoun, morwynge; 3–5 morun, 4 moroun, 4–5 moren, 5 moron, moryn; 4–7 morne, 3– morn. See also Morrow. [Com. Teut.: the OE. forms represent three distinct types, each of which is represented in one or more of the other Teut. langs. (1) OE. *morgen* (inflected also *morgn-*, *morn-*) = OFris. **morgen*, *morn*, OS. *morgan* (MLG., MDu., Du. *morgen*), OHG. *morgan* (MHG., mod.G.

morgen):—OTeut. **murgano-z*, represented also, with variation of suffix, by ON. *morgunn*, *-onn* (Sw. *morgon*, Da. *morgen*). (2) OE. *myrgen-* (in the comb. *myrgenlic*) = ON. *myrginn*, Goth. *maurgin-s*:—OTeut. **murgino-z*. (3) OE. *margen*, *mergen* = MDu. *margen*, *mergen*, ON. *merginn* (OSw. *marghan*):—OTeut. **margano-z*, *-ino-z*. The word in all forms retains the masculine gender.

The affinities outside Teut. are doubtful. Some refer the word to the pre-Teut. root **merk-* to be dark; but the absence of consonant-ablaut, as well as the inappropriateness of the sense, seems to render this view less probable than the alternative hypothesis that the root is **mergh-*, represented by Lith. *mirgu* to twinkle, *margas* parti-coloured.

The present monosyllabic form descends, partly at least, from the OE. contraction in oblique cases, *morne*, *mornes* for *morg(e)ne*, *morg(e)nes*. (The same contraction existed in ON.? But it may also in part represent the result of a process of contraction starting from ME. *morwen*, the intermediate forms being *morun*, *moren*, etc.

The ME. forms that retain the final *n* are for convenience placed here, though many of them might with equal propriety be referred to MORROW. In MSS. it is often doubtful whether the word is *morn* or *morn* = 'morrow'.]

1. The beginning of the day, dawn, sunrise. Only *poet.*: often *personified*.

Beowulf 1077 Syþðan morgen com. *Ibid.* 2103 Mergen. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 9141 Hit semyt by sight of sitters aboute, As the moron mylde meltid aboue, When ho hasted with hond þe hore for to touche. 1480 CAXTON *Chron. Eng.* ccxliv. 298 The morne aroos, the day gan spryng. 1592 SHAKS. *Ven. & Ad.* 454 Like a red morne, that euer yet betokend Wracke to the sea-man, tempest to the field. 1637 MILTON *Lycidas* 187 While the still morn went out with Sandals gray. 1792 WORDSW. *Descr. Sk.* 405 'Tis morn: with gold the verdant mountain glows. 1830 TENNYSON *Ode to Mem.* 70 What time the amber morn Forth gushes from beneath a low-hung cloud. 1852 M. ARNOLD *Farting* 86 Thy high mountain platforms, Where Morn first appears.

fig. 1813 SHELLEY *Q. Mab* ix. 38 Yet slow and gradual dawned the morn of love. 1852 M. ARNOLD *Empedocles* I. ii. 167 The first faint morn Of life.

b. The east; 'the land of dawn'.

1642 H. MORE *Poems* (1647) 31 A trimly decked Close Whose grassie pavement wrought with even line Ran from the Morn upon the Evening-close. 189. BARING-GOULD *Hymn*, '*On the Resurrection morning*' iii, For a while the wearied body Lies with feet toward the morn. 1896 A. E. HOUSMAN *Shropshire Lad* iii, And you will list the bugle That blows in lands of morn.

c. *Northern morn* (poet. nonce-use): the aurora borealis (cf. MORNING 4 b).

1842 TENNYSON *Morte d'Arthur* 139 The great brand .. Shot like a streamer of the northern morn.

2. The early part of the day; morning. Now chiefly *poet.*

Beowulf 2450 Symble bið ȝemyndȝad morna ȝehwylce eoforan ellorsið. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xx. 1 Ar in merne [Vulg. *primo mane*]. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 115 Wa þere þeode..þer þa aldormen etað on erne marȝen ulaȝeliche [Eccl. x. 16]. *c* 1250 *Kent. Serm.* in *O. E. Misc.* 33 On good-man was þat ferst uut-yede bi þe Moreghen for to here werkmen in-to his winyarde. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 493 Myryly on a fayr morn, monyth þe fyrst. 1389 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 4 In morun atte messe. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) xv. 164 For sume of hem, worschipe the Sonne, .. or the first thing that thei meeten at morwen. 1567 *Satir. Poems Reform.* iii. 1 About vj. houris at morne. 1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* IV. ii. 1 Deere trouble not your selfe: the morne is cold. 1629 MILTON *Christ's Nativ.* i, This is the Month, and this the happy morn Wherein [etc.]. 1750 GRAY *Elegy* xxviii, One morn I miss'd him on the custom'd hill. 1859 TENNYSON *Marriage Geraint* 157 But Guinevere lay late into the morn. 1896 A. E. HOUSMAN *Shropshire Lad* iv, Morns abed and daylight slumber Were not meant for man alive.

fig. 1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III*, IV. iv. 16 Say that right for right Hath dim'd your Infant morne, to Aged night. 1602 — *Ham.* I. iii. 41 And in the Morne and liquid dew of Youth, Contagious blastments are most imminent.

b. In phrases, as *at* (†*on*) *morn and* (*at*, †*on*) *even* (also *eve and morn*), etc.; *morn by morn*, morning after morning, occurring every morning; *from morn to* (or *till*) *night*, etc., all day long; †*good morn*, a salutation (see further GOOD *a.* 10 c).

c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* liv. 18 On efenne on marne & on midne deȝ. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 6385 It come at morn and euening. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 1208 'God moroun, sir Gawayn', sayde þat fayr lady. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 4769 Fra morewane to þe mydday merely þai spring. *c* 1450 HOLLAND *Howlat* 195 At euyn and at morn. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* v. ii. 660 He would fight, yea From morne till night. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* I. 742 From Morn To Noon he fell, from Noon to dewy Eve, A Summer's day. 1781 COWPER *Truth* 509 Herself, from morn to night, from night to morn, Her own abhorrence. 1816 J. WILSON *City of Plague* II. iii. 48 A morn and even, And through the dismal day, that fierce aspect Glared on the city. 1827 KEBLE *Chr. Y., Even.* viii, Abide with me from morn till eve. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* VII. 30 Morn by morn the lark Shot up and shrill'd in flickering gyres. 1896 A. E. HOUSMAN *Shropshire Lad* vi, Buy them, buy them: eve and morn Lovers' ills are all to sell.

3. The next morning. Hence, the day after to-day or the day mentioned; = MORROW 2.

[Com. Teut.: cf. Goth. *du maurgina*, G. *morgen*, etc.]

†**a.** Without article. Chiefly with prep. as *on* or *upon morn*. *Obs.* exc. in TO-MORN *dial.* (See also A-MORROW 2.)

Beowulf 2484 Þa ic on morȝne ȝefrægn mæȝ oðerne billes eȝum on bonan stælan. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Saints' Lives* iii. 584 Se læce him cwæð to. Ne lyfastu oð æfen. þa cwæð basilius. hwæt ȝif ic bide meriȝenes. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1161 Abraham up on morȝen stod. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 3345 On morn wit godds beniscon Was mai rebecca lede o ton. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 7104 Þai war on morne to durham boun.

†**b.** *Other morn* (Sc.): the next day but one.

1572 tr. *Buchanan's Detect. Mary Q. Scot.* T ij b, He hes prayit me to remane vpoun hym quhill vther morne.

c. *The morn*: the morrow. Now only *Sc.* and *north. dial.*

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 79 A þe marȝen [the good Samaritan] bitahte him twa peneȝes to spenen on him. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 2917 Abraham went him, on þe morn, To þat sted. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 811 On þe morwen, hwan it was day, He stirt up sone. *a* 1440 *Sir Degrev.* 1337 Sire Degrivaunt on the morwoun Com aȝe to the thorun. 1485 CAXTON *Paris & V.* (1868) 42 Tyl on the morne at nyght. 1508 DUNBAR *Poems* v. 18 Scho slepit quhill the morne at none, et rais airly. 1544 in Tytler *Hist. Scot.* (1864) II. 401 My lord Governor tuke to be advised while the morne at even. 1887 P. M'NEILL *Blawearie* 133 Mother's away for the morn's meat. 1888 BARRIE *Auld Licht Idylls* viii. 171 Ay, Bell, the morn's the Sabbath.

d. *The morn*: used advb. (orig. in the accus.) = to-morrow, on the morrow. Now only *Sc.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 11532 Þe mornn quen þai risen ware,.. þai tok þair leue. 1340 *Ayenb.* 46 Þane morȝen huanne he zet ate gemene: his arowe vil ope þet cheker al blody. 1461 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 476/2 And the morne, the xvi day of Decembre, my Lord Chaunceller opened..the matiers aboveseid. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilȝear* 299 Cum the morne to the Court and do my counsall. 1569 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 669 To tak jornay the morne the aucht day of this instant. 1621 *Gude & Godlie Ball.* App. i. (S. T. S.) 234 This day thow was ane King with Croun, The morne cummis deith withouttin dreid. 1788 BURNS '*There was a lass*' ii, But Duncan swoor a baly aith That Meg sbould be a bride the morn. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* xxiii, He wad be glad if I wad eat a reisted haddock .. at breakfast wi' him the morn. 1869 C. GIBBON *R. Gray* iv, I'll see how ye're getting on the morn or neist day.

†**e.** More explicitly, *The morn after*. *Obs.*

14.. *Gregory's Chron.* in *Hist. Coll. Citizen London* (Camden) 110 The kyng sende hem worde yf they wolde delivery the towne on the morne aftyr, be the oure of mydnyght..he wolde accepte hyt [etc.]. *Ibid.* 112 Onne the morne aftyr Syn Symonnys day and Jude. 1483 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 253/2 From the afore written morne next after Seint Hillarie day. 1560–1 *Bk. Discipl. Ch. Scot.* I. (1621) 2 The Assembly appointed, the laird of Dunn .. to conveen the morn after the preaching. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S. T. S.) I. 55 The morne thairefter the gentillmen war honourabillie burieit in the kirk yaird.

f. *The morn's morn(ing, night*, etc. = to-morrow morning, night, etc. Also used advb. *Sc.*

1816 SCOTT *Antig.* xi, Till the morn's morning. 1822 GALT *Sir A. Wylie* lx, Your Leddyship's brother..will be here betimes the morn's morning. 1889 BARRIE *Window in Thrums* xx. 193 Jamie, I'll no hae ye to sit aside me the morn's nicht.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.* **a.** In the sense of 'morning', as *morn-devotion*, *-dew*, *-drink*, *-light*, *milk*, *-prayer*, *rising*, *sleep*, *-song*; †**morn-bell**, a bell rung as a call to matins or to early mass; †**morn-mass** = MORROW-MASS; †**morn-priest**, the priest celebrating early mass; also similative, instrumental, and objective, with *adjs.* and *pples.*, as *morn-bright*, †*-dawning*, *-like*, *-loved*, *-waking*.

1568–9 in *Fabric Rolls York Minster* (Surtees) 115 To Nicholas Richerdson for a rope to the *morne bell, 3s. 1641 H. MORE *Song of Soul* III. III. xlv, She sees his blazing *morn-bright eye. 1645 RUTHERFORD *Tryal & Tri. Faith* (1845) 269 A glimmering of *morn-dawning light. 1600 FAIRFAX *Tasso* I. xv, Godfrey..then his *morne deuotions sed. 1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* III. xii. 9 The *Morne-dew on the Mertle leafe. *a* 1440 *Sir Eglam.* 381 Hys *morne-drynke he had tane. *Beowulf* 917 Ða wæs *morȝenleoht scofen and scynded. *c* 1205 LAY. 17946 þat we i þan morȝen-liht mæȝen come forð riht forn at Meneue. 1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* 71 b, Your *morne-like christall countenaunces shall be netted ouer. 1606 DRAYTON *Eglog.* ii. Poems D 2, The *morn-lou'd Marygould. 1511 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scotl.* IV. 180 For offerand to tua *morne missis and at the hie miss. *a* 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* ix. 36 Whittore then the *moren mylk. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 358 An Anlaas and a gipser al of silk Heeng at his girdel, whit as morne Milk. 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* II. iv. 71 If that be sin, Ile make it my *Morne-praier, To haue it added to the faults of mine, And nothing of your answere. 1466 in *Archæologia* L. i. 44 Item j nothir Riddyll be bynde the *morne preste in the quere. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 13 [Mercurie hath] the *morne rising in Aquarius, but very seldome in Leo. *a* 1572 KNOX *Hist. Ref.* Wks. 1846 I. 175 And tharefore qwyetness, after the reullis of pbisick, and a *morne sleap was requisite for My Lord. 1601 DEACON & WALKER *Spirits & Divels* 339 His Euen-song and *Morne-song, they are one and the same. 1593 LODGE *Phillis* (1875) 21 And Phillis hath *morne-waking birdes, Hir risinges for to honour.

†**b.** In the sense of 'to-morrow', as *morn-day*, MORN-WHILE. *Obs.*

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 213 Godes man ne sceolde be þan morȝendæȝe þencean, þylæs þæt wære þæt [etc.]. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xl. (*Ninian*) 462 þai..bad þare til þe morne-day. *a* 1450 *Cursor M.* 5993 (Fairf.), Moises prayed þe morne day & alle þe fleys ware a-way.

Morne (mɔ̄ɹn), *sb.*[1] *Antiq.* Forms: 5 **moorne**, 6–7 **mourne**, 8 **mourn**, 9– **morne**. [a. F. *morne*, vbl. sb. f. OF. *morner* to blunt (a lance), f. *morne* blunted, dull: see MORNE *a.*] The rebated head of a tilting lance; = CORONAL *sb.* 3.

The editor of Guillim (quot. 1632) gives an explanation which would make the word synonymous with MORNETTE.

1494 in *Lett. & Papers Rich. III & Hen. VII* (Rolls) I. 399 Thomas Ryder came owt of the towne and to hym was presented ij speres with moornes, where of he toke the choise and Treury toke the toder. *Ibid.* 400 And Sir Edward A Borough at that cours brac his spere well apon therll of Suffolke; and the said erll glissed on the helme of the said Sir Edward, the wiche ran with speres with moornes. *c* 1500 in *Strutt's Sports & Past.* (1801) Introd. 13 The speare hedded with the morne. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* II. (1622) 179 His Lances..so were they coloured with hookes neere the mourne, that they prettily represented sheephooks. 1632 *Guillim's Her.* IV. xiv. 342 The Iron heads of Tilt-speares..which usually haue six or eight Mournes (for so are those little piked things called, which are on the top or head of this cronell or Coronet). 1824 MEYRICK *Anc. Armour* II. 246 Their lances have small points rebated or bent down, called mornes. 1876 *Jrnl. Brit. Archæol. Assoc.* XXXII. 125 We hear of spears, of..tilting-lances with mornes, coronels, and vamplates.

‖ **Morne** (mɔ̄ɹn), *sb.*[2] [American-French, ? corruption of Sp. *morón*.] A small round hill.

1889 *Harper's Mag.* Nov. 846/1 The road..sinks between mornes wooded to their summits.

‖ **Morne** (mɔ̄ɹn), *a.* [Fr.; believed to be of Teut. origin: cf. MOURN *v.*] Dismal, dreary.

1844 KINGLAKE *Eothen* xvi. 215 The chaunt was morne and doleful. 1848 AYTOUN *Danube & Euxine* 16 Rolling down my torpid waters Through a silence morne and drear. 1879 MRS. OLIPHANT *Geo. II*, I. 14 The morne monotony of the life that lingers out to its last moment.

Morne, obs. form of MOURN.

‖ **Morné** (mɔ̄ɹne), *a. Her.* Also **mornee**, *erron.* **mortne**, **mortné**. [Fr.; pa. pple. of *morner* to blunt.] Said of a lion rampant represented as having no tongue, teeth, or claws.

1722 NISAET *Syst. Her.* 296 The Lion of his Family was represented afterward, without Claws, and blazoned Mornee. 1725 J. COATS *Dict. Her.* (1739), *Mort ne*, is a term Colombiere has, and apply'd to a Lyon. 1780 EDMONDSON *Heraldry* II. Gloss., *Morné* or *Mortné*. 1868–93 CUSSANS *Handbk. Her.* viii. (ed. 4) 129 *Morné*: Disarmed.

Morned (mɔ̄ɹnd), *a. Her.* [f. MORNE *sb.*[1] + -ED[2].] Of a spear: Having a blunt head.

1890 in *Century Dict.*

Morner, obs. form of MOURNER.

Mornette (mɔɹnɛ·t). *Antiq.* [a. OF. *mornet* (Littré), dim. of *morne*: see MORNE *sb.*[1]] One of the points of the coronel of a tilting-spear.

1824 MEYRICK *Anc. Armour* II. 246 *note*, The points of the cronel were called mornettes, or little mornes. 1846 FAIRHOLT *Costume* (1885) II. Gloss. 289.

Mornevall, obs. form of MOURNIVAL.

†**Mo·rnif**, *a. Obs. rare*—[1]. [? f. MOURN *v.* + *-if*, -IVE; but cf. OF. *morni*, f. *morne* sad.] Mournful.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 386 In blysse I se þe blybely blent & I a man al mornyf mate.

Morning (mɔ̄ɹniŋ), *sb.* (and *a.*) Forms: 3 **moreȝening(e**, 3–4 **mor(e)wening(e**, 4 **mor(e)wenyng(e**, **morennyng(e**, 4–5 **morwenyng(e**, **mor(o)wnyng(e**, **morowning**, **morowenyng**, 5 **morenyng(e**, 6 *Sc.* **moirneing**, 4–6 **mornyng(e**, 4– **morning**. [ME. *morwening*, *morning*, f. *morwen* MORN + -ING[1], on the analogy of EVENING.]

I. The simple word.

1. Originally, the time of the approach or beginning of 'morn'; the period extending from a little before to a little after sunrise. The word gradually became synonymous with MORN (which is now only *poet.* and *dial.*). In modern use: The early part of the day-time, ending at noon or at the hour of the midday meal.

a 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1718 (Jesus Oxf. MS.) Þe wrenne for heo cube singe þar com in þare moreweninge [(Cott. MS.) moreȝeninge] To helpe þare nyhtegale. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1725) 17 Right in the mornyng in aldermost nede Com þe kynge's sonnes tuo. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Serm.* Sel. Wks. I. 266 A nyȝt is partid in foure houres; as evenynge and mydnyȝt, cockis crowinge and morewnynge. *c* 1407 LYDG. *Reson & Sens.* 458 Herest, how the briddes synge For gladnesse of the morwenynge. *c* 1450 HOLLAND *Howlat* 157 All thus in May, as I ment in a mornyng. 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* III. ii. 113 The morning weares, 'tis time we were at Church. 1678 R. L'ESTRANGE *Seneca's Mor.* II. xix. (1696) 282 How many precious Mornings do we spend in Consultation with Barbers, Taylors [etc.]. *a* 1707 BP. PATRICK *Autobiog.* (1839) 90 Some pious persons..had desired prayers at the hour of ten in the morning. 1728 VANBR. & CIB. *Prov. Husb.* IV. i, An hundred Pound in the Morning, and want another afore Night! 1833 TENNYSON *New-Year's Eve* vi, In the early early morning. *Mod.* My mornings are occupied with correspondence.

b. *In the morning*, appended to an hour-date, means between midnight and noon; = *a.m.*

a 1654 SELDEN *Table-T.* (Arb.) 82 Sitting up till two of the Clock in the Morning. 1727–52 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v., The astronomers reckon *morning*, *mane*, from the time of mid-night, to that of midday.—Thus an eclipse is said to begin at eleven o'clock in the morning, &c. 1797 T. WRIGHT *Autobiog.* (1864) 194 A quarter past one o'clock in the morning. 1876 *Encycl. Brit.* V. 292/1 The Celestines were bound to say matins in the choir at two o'clock in the morning.

c. The portion of the day extending to the fashionable dinner time.

1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* xv. ii, Past three in the morning, or to reckon by the old style, in the afternoon. 1840 *John Bull* 31 May 1 M. Liszt will give at Two o'clock on Tuesday morning, June 9, Recitals on the Pianoforte.

d. *fig.* The beginning, or early part (of anything likened to a day).

1595 W. S. *Locrine* II. vi. E, Thus in the morning of my victories, Thus in the prime of my felicitie To cut me off by such hard ouerthrow. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 351 Moses telleth of the reigne and power of Chederlaomer King

of Elam, in that morning of the world extended to the borders of Canaan. 1786 BURNS *To James Smith* xv, O Life! how pleasant in thy morning. 1855 PRESCOTT *Philip II*, I. viii. (1857) 149 A war which hung like a dark cloud on the morning of her reign.

2. With qualifying adj. denoting the kind of weather, etc., prevailing, or the pleasure (or the contrary) experienced during the morning.

One or *some fine morning*, etc.: see FINE *a.* 15 b.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Compl. Mars* 151 And therfore in this lusty morwnynge As I best can I wol hit seyn and synge. *c* 1402 LYDG. *Compl. Bl. Knt.* 23 Clere and faire was the morowning. 1546 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 81 Thus cloudy mornynges turne to cleere after noones. 1678 R. L'ESTRANGE *Seneca's Mor., Epist.* vi. (1696) 503 In a Frosty Morning. 1784 COWPER *Task* VI. 58 The morning [was] sharp and clear. 1865 G. MACDONALD *A. Forbes* II When the morning was wet.

b. *Good morning*: see GOOD *a.* 10 c. (Cf. the earlier *good morn*, GOOD-MORROW.) In vulgar or off-hand speech often shortened to *morning*.

1611 [see GOOD *a.* 10 c]. 1653 WALTON *Angler* i. 1 You are wel overtaken Sir, a good morning to you. 1751 ELIZA HEYWOOD *Betsy Thoughtless* I. 268 In going out, he saw Mr. Goodman in the parlour, who gave him the good morning as he passed. 1895 'H. S. MERRIMAN' *Grey Lady* II. vii. (1899) 254 'Morning—morning!' he cried. 'Good morning', replied Luke.

3. Idiomatic uses and phrases. **a.** Used advb. (in ME. rarely †*the morning*) for 'in the morning'. Now only in collocations like *morning and evening*. Also in proverbial phrase *morning, noon, and night* = all the day, incessantly.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 11676 Þe tiwesday to euesham he wende þe morweninge. 1697 T. BROWN *Dispensary* (*ad fin.*) Wks. 1709 III. III. 90 Take one Spoonful of it Morning and Evening. 1891 N. GOULD *Double Event* 17 I'm sick of the name. Morning, noon, and night I hear nothing else. 1892 C. WHITAKER *Student's Aid to Prayer Bk.* Hist. Sk. p. vi, The Litany may be used morning or evening or both.

b. In certain phrases the article is omitted, as †*in morning* (obs.), *at morning* (now *rare*), *till morning, before morning*; *from morning till evening, to night*, etc.; also *all morning* (adv.) beside *all the morning*. Also † A-MORNING.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 7181 On nighter-tale, or in morning. *Ibid.* 13291 Amorning fand he dan leui. 1530 PALSGR. 434/1 He applyeth his crafte from mornyng to nyght. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* III. ii. 279 He plyes the Duke at morning and at night. 1713 SWIFT *Address to Earl of Oxford, Imit. Horace, Ep.* I. vii. 78 Soon grows Domestick; seldom fails Either at Morning, or at Meals. 1788 MRS. HUGHES *Henry & Isabella* III. 17 Not having seen her all morning, she [etc.]. 1832 SOUTHEY *Lett.* (1856) IV. 261, I..very seldom employ myself upon the same [thing] at morning and in the evening. 1842 PLANCHÉ *White Cat* II. Extravaganzas 1879 II. 164 We won't go home till morning, Till day-light doth appear. 1849 M. ARNOLD *New Sirens* i, I, who in your train at morning Stroll'd and sang with joyful mind, Heard, at evening, sounds of warning. 1887 HALL CAINE *Deemster* xii, All morning she had dreamt of her husband.

c. †*On mornings*, A-MORNINGS (*obs.*), *of mornings* (see OF *prep.* 52 b): habitually in the morning. Also *mornings* as adv. in the same sense; now *rare* or *dial.* Also, †*of a mornings* = 'of a morning'.

[1377, etc.: see A-MORNINGS]. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. xxvi. 38 The scottis, on mornyngis and nyghtis, made many skryes to trouble the oste, but lytle hurt they dyd. 1575 LANEHAM *Let.* (1871) 58, I am..iolly & dry a mornings. 1620 VENNER *Via Recta* (1650) 55 Sometimes mornings fasting a small draught thereof may be profitable for them. 1652 tr. *Scudery's Ibrahim* IV. II. 174 Mornings and evenings only I took him out Lessons. 1732 MRS. WESLEY in *Wesley's Wks.* (1829) I. 388 Mornings they had always spoon-meat; sometimes at nights. *c* 1740 CHESTERF. *Lett. to Son* xlvii. (1774) I. 118 When the sun shines on either side of us (as it does mornings and evenings) the shadows are very long. 1795 COLERIDGE *Lett.* (1895) I. 137 Only amusing myself on mornings. 1849 [see OF 52 b]. 1893 H. C. O'NEILL *Told in the Dimpses* 28 Farmer Spurrier could see the plough at work..before he got out of his bed mornings.

d. *This morning*: the morning of to-day. Chiefly in advb. use.

1577 C'TESS MAR in *3rd Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* 419/1, I rassault this moirneing ane wreitting. 1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* V. iii. 305 A glooming peace this morning with it brings. 1606 — *Ant. & Cl.* IV. v. 5 The Soldier That has this morning left thee. 1703 MAUNDRELL *Journ. Jerus.* 5 May (1810) 181 This morning we pass'd by the fountain of Barrady. 1865 H. KINGSLEY *Hillyars & B.* xii, The fellows who got hailed up by young Hillyar this morning.

e. *In* OR *of a morning*: habitually in the morning.

1678 R. L'ESTRANGE *Seneca's Mor.* II. xvi. (1696) 264 We wonder..how any Man can..endure to rise so early in a Morning. 1798 *Monthly Mag.* VI. 171 To take a walk in the High-Street in a morning. 1824 LADY GRANVILLE *Lett.* (1894) I. 325, I am..going to receive them of a morning. 1862 MRS. H. WOOD *Channings* x, He should only have to go to the office for two hours before breakfast in a morning, to make up for the two lost in the day.

f. In genitive. Formerly often equivalent to the attrib. use. Now only in the senses 'belonging to the particular morning', 'occupying a morning'.

1588 SHAKS. *Tit. A.* II. iii. 201 Vpon whose leaues are drops of new-shed-blood, As fresh as mornings dew distil'd on flowers. 1602 F. HERING *Anat.* 8 Readie to visit his Patients at any hour, being as good an afternoones-man as a morning's-man. 1655 WALTON *Angler* v. (1661) 90 Come give my Scholer and me a Mornings-drink, and a bit of meat to breakfast. 1678 R. L'ESTRANGE *Seneca's Mor.* II. xxii. (1696) 318 He gave me a Mornings Visit. 1697 T. BROWN *Dispensary* I. Wks. 1709 III. III. 68 What will be the Charges of this Morning's Work? 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 134 ¶ 2, I constantly peruse your Paper as I smoke my Morning's Pipe. 1859 TENNYSON *Geraint & Enid* 571 So the ruffians growl'd, Fearing to lose..Their chance of booty from the morning's raid.

4. *poet.* The dawn, daybreak; the light of dawn. Often *personified*. (Cf. Ps. cxxxix. 9.)

1593 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI*, II. i. 21 See how the Morning opes her golden Gates. 1599 — *Hen. V*, IV. i. 88 Is not that the Morning which breaks yonder? 1611 BIBLE *Isa.* xiv. 12 O Lucifer, sonne of the morning. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* V. 20 Awake, the morning shines, and the fresh field Calls us. 1781 COWPER *Retirement* 432 While morning kindles with a windy red. 1821 SHELLEY *Adonais* xiv, Morning sought Her eastern watch-tower, and her hair unbound. 1833 TENNYSON *Œnone* 54 Far up the solitary morning smote The streaks of virgin snow. 1859 FITZGERALD tr. *Omar* i, Awake! for Morning in the Bowl of Night Has flung the Stone that puts the Stars to Flight.

fig. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* VIII. 255 The blush of morning, in his cheek, turns pale.

b. *Northern morning*: the Aurora Borealis. *rare.*

1836 *Uncle Philip's Convers. Whale Fishery* 215 The Aurora Borealis, or northern morning, as it is called. 1842 TENNYSON *Talking Oak* 275.

5. a. A morning draught, a glass of liquor taken before breakfast. Chiefly *Sc.*

1718 RAMSAY *Christ's Kirk Gr.* III. vi, Steen..Came in to get his morning. 1814 SCOTT *Wav.* xviii, Of this he took a copious dram, observing, he had already taken his *morning* with Donald Bean Lean, before his departure. 1843 LEVER *J. Hinton* iv, 'Are you ready for your morning?'.. He poured..a brimming goblet full of some white compound, and handed it to me...I put it to my lips, and found it to be capital milk-punch. 1894 'IAN MACLAREN' *Bonny Brier Bush* v. 187 Aifter a whilie they tak a mornin' wi' a freend and syne a glass at the public-hoose in the evenin'.

b. 'A slight repast taken at rising, some hours before what is called breakfast' (Jam.). *dial.*

1818 SCOTT *Leg. Montr.* vi, But now I must go down.., and see that Gustavus [a horse] has his morning. 1861 HUGHES *Tom Brown at Oxf.* iii, I just watched the 'ed porter..across to the buttery to get his mornin'. 1897 *Shetland News* 29 May (E.D.D.), Bread for the Mason's mornings.

II. *attrib.* and *Comb.* (and quasi-*adj.*).

6. Simple *attrib.*, with various nouns of action, as in *morning-dawn, -peep, -rise,* †*-spring, -wake.* Chiefly *poet.*

1810 S. GREEN *Reformist* I. 28 Notwithstanding the moon lasting till *morning-dawn. *a* 1687 VILLIERS (Dk. Buckhm.) *Poems* (1775) 144 Rhime next his heart, he takes at *morning-peep, Some love-epistles at his hours of sleep. 1599 SHAKS., etc. *Pass. Pilgr.* xiv, The *morning rise Doth scite each mouing scence from Idle rest. 1535 COVERDALE *Josh.* vi. 15 Vpon the seuenth daye whan the *mornynge sprynge arose, they gat them vp early. 1678 DRYDEN & LEE *Œdipus* III. i. (1679) 44 My Soul then stole my Body out by night; And brought me back to Bed e're *Morning-wake.

7. *attrib.* passing into adj., with the sense: Existing, prevailing, or taking place in the morning.

1593 SHAKS. *Lucr.* 778 With rotten damps rauish the *morning aire. 1535 COVERDALE *Hosea* vi. 4 Youre loue is like a *mornynge cloude, & like a dew y^t goeth early awaye. 1535 — *Wisd.* xi. 22 Yee as a droppe of y^e *morninge dew, that falleth downe vpon the earth. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* IV. i. 126 Their heads are hung With eares that sweepe away the morning dew. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. ix. 41 And he, that points the Centonell his roome, Doth license him depart at sound of *morning droome. 1634 MILTON *Comus* 920 And I must haste ere *morning hour To wait in Amphitrite's bowr. 1667 — *P. L.* IX. 194 The humid Flours, that breathd Thir *morning Incense. 1593 SHAKS. *Lucr.* 745 He in his speed lookes for the *morning light. 1820 SHELLEY *Good-Nt.* iii, To hearts which near each other move From evening close to morning light, The night is good. 1722 DE FOE *Plague* (1840) 51 The watchman..let them alone till the *morning-man, or day-watchman, as they called him, came to relieve him. 1675 HAN. WOOLLEY *Gentlewoman's Comp.* 203 Cheese, of which there are three kinds: *Morning-Milk-Cheese, Nettle-Cheese, and floaten-Milk-Cheese. 1862 MRS. H. WOOD *Channings* v, It is in all the *morning papers. 1896 MARY ANDERSON *Few Mem.* vi. (ed. 2) 92 A *morning performance when two young men ..disturbed the actors and public with loud remarks. 1535 COVERDALE *Hosea* vi. 3 As the euenynge and *mornynge rayne vpon the earth. 1634 MILTON *Comus* 622 Every.. plant..That spreds her verdant leaf to th' *morning ray. 1657 in *Shropsh. Parish Documents* (1903) 51 Published 3 severall Lords Days..at the close of *morning service. 1862 MRS. H. WOOD *Channings* xxxviii, The day was a holiday from school, but not from morning service. 1891 *Law Times* XCI. 3/1 For the two sessions 1833 and 1834 *morning sittings from twelve to three were devoted to petitions. 1894 *Daily News* 17 Jan. 5/3 There have been twenty-three morning sittings of the House of Commons since the beginnmg of the present session. A 'morning' sitting, as most people know, opens at two o'clock in the afternoon, and ends at seven. 1593 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI*, IV. vii. 80 When the *Morning Sunne shall rayse his Carre Aboue the Border of this Horizon. 1632 SHERWOOD, The *morning time, *la matinée*. 1858 W. T. MATSON *Sonn.* Poems 460 In the rathe morning-time of life. 1727–52 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v., **Morning twilight.* 1849 DE QUINCEY *Dream Fugue* Wks. 1890 XIII. 321 The morning twilight even then was breaking. 1736 AINSWORTH *Lat. Dict.*, A *morning visit, *Matutina salutatio.* 1828 P. CUNNINGHAM *N. S. Wales* (ed. 3) II. 112 Morning visits, too, are made in the afternoon.

¶ In poetry, *morning* adj. often connotes vaguely the attributes possessed in the morning, or the fact that morning is the time referred to.

1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* IV. i. 99, I doe heare the morning Larke. 1600 — *A. Y. L.* II. vii. 146 The Schoole-boy with his Satchell And shining morning face. 1602 — *Ham.* I. ii. 218 The Morning Cocke crew lowd. 1833 BROWNING *Pauline* 13 The morning swallows with their songs like words.

b. Of things intended to be worn in the morning. In this use *morning* usually means early morning or forenoon; but in *morning dress, clothes, costume*, it is now used merely in contradistinction to 'evening'.

c 1620 *Roxb. Ball.* (1891) VII. 422 Casting from him his morning gown. 1702 T. BROWN *Acc. Journ. Exon.* Wks. 1709 III. II. 101, I have given you an Account of my Journey, every Part just scribbled o'er with as much Freedom as 'twas acted, wanting Leisure to put it in any other than a loose Morning-dress. 1755 JOHNSON, *Morning-gown*, a loose gown worn before one is formally dressed. 1804 *Jackson's Oxford Jrnl.* Aug., Morning dress of fine cambric. 1825 J. F. COOPER *Lionel Lincoln* II. vi. 151 As the airy band of her morning cap waved aside. 1862 MRS. H. WOOD *Channings* xvii, At ten, Lady Augusta..entered the breakfast-room in a dirty morning wrapper, and rang the bell. 1891 T. HARDY *Tess* xxxii, A perfect morning costume. 1896 MARY ANDERSON *Few Mem.* vii. (ed. 2) 110 Her strange working costume of pale grey cloth, made like a man's morning suit. 1897 *Genealog. Mag.* Oct. 325 Ladies wore what is technically described as morning dress.

8. *Comb.* (similative, objective, or instrumental) with adjs. or pples., as in *morning-breathing, -bright, -coloured, -winged* adjs. Only *poet.*

1596 FITZ-GEFFRAY *Sir F. Drake* (1881) 15 Clymenes audacious boy Torne by the *morning-breathing horses rage. 1820 KEATS *Hyperion* II. 294 *Morning-bright Apollo! young Apollo! 1601 CHESTER *Love's Mart.* (1878) 3 Her *morning-coloured cheekes. 1818 SHELLEY *Lines Written Euganean Hills* 297 The leaves unsodden Where the infant Frost has trodden With his *morning-winged feet.

9. Special comb., as **morning call**, a visit paid during the 'morning' (*i.e.* afternoon); hence **morning-calling** *ppl. a.*, that makes a morning call; **morning draught**, a portion of drink taken in the morning; **morning-flower** (see quot.); **morning-gun**, a gun fired from the admiral's or senior officer's ship, or at a military post or camp, to announce day-break; **morning-hour** *U.S.*, 'in the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States, the hour after the reading of the journal, set apart for reports, motions, etc., before the taking up of unfinished business' (*Cent. Dict.* 1890); †**morning-house**, a tavern or public-house open in the early morning; **morning-killer**, one who wastes the morning by lying in bed; †**morning-knowledge** [L. *cognitio matutina*], according to St. Augustine and Aquinas the knowledge of things in their causes or Divine archetypal ideas, as opposed to 'evening knowledge', which is of things in their actual nature; **morning-land** [cf. G. *Morgenland*], the East, the Orient; **morning-office**, morning-prayer; **morning planet** = MORNING-STAR 1; **morning prayer**, (*a*) a prayer said in the morning; (*b*) the Anglican service of matins; **morning-red**, (*a*) (see quot. 1805–17); (*b*) the dawn (*rare*, after G. *morgenroth*); **morning-room**, a room used as a sitting-room during the early part of the day; **morning-sickness**, nausea occurring in the morning, one of the earlier symptoms of pregnancy; †**morning-stead** *rare*—[1], the time of dawn. Also MORNING-GIFT, -GLORY, etc.

1811 L. M. HAWKINS *C'tess & Gertr.* (K. O.). *Morning call. 1862 MRS. H. WOOD *Channings* xv, I am only making a morning call upon you, after the fashion of gentlefolks. 1840 GEO. ELIOT in Cross *Life* I. 65 A magazine of easily-wielded weapons for *morning-calling and evening-party controversialists. 1588 *Marprel. Epist.* (Arb.) 38 Whereunto he resorted for his *morning draught. 1667 PRIMATT *City & C. Build.* 49 Money..given to workmen for Morning-draughts. 1843 BORROW *Bible in Spain* I, Some fishermen entered, clamouring for their morning draught. 1890 *Century Dict.*, **Morning-flower*, a plant of the iris family, *Orthrosanthus multiflorus* (Australia). 1743 WOODROOFE in *Hanway's Trav.* (1762) I. II. xx. 91 We beat the drum and fired the *morning gun. 1867 in SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* 1781 R. KING *Mod. Lond. Spy* 110 You have seen several night-houses..we shall now see a *morning-house. It is between 4 and 5. 1753 RICHARDSON *Grandison* (1811) II. vi. 109 Lady L— is a **morning-killer*: she always loved her bed. 1621 JENISON *Height Israels Idol.* 31 This knowledge, of S. Augustine is called *scientia matutina & diurna*, *morning and day-knowledge. 1704 NORRIS *Ideal World* II. xii. 469 That morning-knowledge which they [*sc.* the Schoolmen] ascribe to the angels. 1842 MACAULAY *Prophecy of Capys* xxxi, Through the sand of *morning-land The camel bears the spice. 1765 H. WALPOLE *Otranto* iv. (1798) 74 It was not till late after the *morning-office, that he recollected [etc.]. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VII. 366 And hence the *Morning Planet guilds his horns. 1552 *Bk. Comm. Prayer*, An ordre for *morninge prayer dayly throughout the yeare. 1557 SEAGER *Sch. Vertue* in *Babees Bk.* 225 ¶ The mornynge prayer. 'O God, from whom al good gifts procede! [etc.]'. 1585 in *Fabric Rolls York Minster* (Surtees) 137 To Sir Hugh Hook, clerk, for saying morenynge praiers..33s. 4d. 1805–17 R. JAMIESON *Char. Min.* (ed. 3) 71 *Aurora* or **morning red* is carmine-red mixed with much lemon yellow. *a* 1864 HAWTHORNE *Amer. Note-bks.* (1879) II. 132 The birds that ..sing for us at morning-red. 1822 *Magic Lantern* 4 The *morning room of the female part of the family next excited my attention. 1876 T. HARDY *Ethelberta* x, The next day old Lady Petherwin..came into the morning-room, with a newspaper in her hand. 1893 ASHBY-STERRY *Naughty Girl* iii. 26 He had the morning-room [of the club] all to himself. 1879 *St. George's Hosp. Rep.* IX. 124 A fortnight's dyspepsia and *morning sickness. *a* 1618 SYLVESTER *Maiden's Blush* 1176 Toward *morning-sted To mighty Pharaoh the Almighty sent A double Dream.

Mo·rning-gift. *Antiq.* A modern rendering of OE. *morgenzifu* (see MORYEVE) or the equivalent form in other Teut. langs.

1597 [see MORWYNGIFT, quot. 1593]. 1597 SKENE *De Verb. Sign.* s.v. *Dos*, The Dutch word *morgengab*, morning gift, is ane kind of dowry. 1824 J. MAIDMENT *North Countrie Garland* (1884) 1 He has wooed the young Countess .. An' given her for a morning gift Strathboggie and Aboyne. 1867 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1877) I. v. 306 The royal bride, like other Teutonic brides, had her morning-gift.

Mo·rning-glo·ry. [f. MORNING + GLORY *sb.*]

1. An American convolvulaceous plant, *Ipomæa purpurea*; also applied to other species of *Ipomæa* and other convolvulaceous genera.

1836 *Backwoods of Canada* 142 The pillars [of the verandah] are wreathed with the .. 'morning glory', the American name for the most splendid of major convolvuluses. 1885 G. ALLEN *Babylon* i, The morning-glories opened their great pink bells. 1892 *Harper's Mag.* May 937/1 The .. little cabin that sat smiling through a cool green garment of .. morning-glory vines.

2. *attrib.* (U.S.) designating a kind of stove.

1885 ROE *Driven back to Eden* Pref. 1 A morning-glory stove gave out abundant warmth.

Mo·rningless, *a. poet. rare.* [f. MORNING + -LESS.] Having no morning. Cf. MORNLESS *a.*

1866 M. ARNOLD *Thyrsis* xvii, Thine earth-forgetting eyelids keep The morningless and unawakening sleep.

Morningly (mō·rnĭŋlĭ), *adv. rare.* [f. MORNING + -LY 2.] In the morning; also, every morning.

1560 ABP. PARKER *Corr.* (Parker Soc.) 131 That cause which all your loving subjects so daily sigh for and morningly in their prayers desire to appear to their eyes. 1563 HYLL *Art Garden.* II. liv. (1593) 135 The Onion accustomed to be eaten morningly. 1844 J. T. HEWLETT *Parsons & W.* xlv, That used to be taken in morningly.

So **Mo·rningly** *a.*, occurring every morning.

1894 CROCKETT *Lilac Sunbonnet* 148 The nightly and morningly ceremony of 'milking'.

Morning star. [Cf. the earlier MORN-STAR.]

1. The planet Venus when visible in the east before sunrise; = LUCIFER 1. Also *gen.* a star or planet that is visible in the morning.

1535 COVERDALE *Job* xxxviii. 7. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. xii. 21 As bright as doth the morning starre appeare Out of the East. 1630 MILTON *On May Morning* 1 Now the bright morning Star, Dayes harbinger, Comes dancing from the East. 1812 WOODHOUSE *Astron.* xxiii. 249 Pereeive Venus rising just before the Sun, and becoming the Morning Star.

b. *fig.* Applied (after Rev. xxii. 16) to Christ; also, to any person who is regarded as the precursor of a figurative 'dawn'.

1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S. T. S.) 145 He [Christ] is the Morning Star. 1671 MILTON *P. R.* I. 694 So spake our Morning Star then in his rise. 1720 J. HUGHES *Siege Damascus* III. (1777) 38 The great Mahomet, Arabia's morning-star. 1732 NEAL *Hist. Purit.* I. 3 John Wickliffe, the morning star of the Reformation. 1818 BYRON *Giaour* 1130 She .. rose, where'er I turn'd mine eye, The Morning-star of Memory! 1833 TENNYSON *Dream of Fair Wom.* i, '*The Legend of Good Women*', long ago Sung by the morning star of song, who made His music heard below.

2. *Antiq.* = MORGENSTERN.

1684 J. PETER tr. *Siege Vienna* 87 Our Men being provided with .. Hooks and Clubs beaded with Iron, Morning Stars and the like Instruments. 1868 *Archæol. Jrnl.* XXV. 85 The acquisition by the Royal Artillery Museum .. of some specimens of 'Morning Stars'. 1871 B. TAYLOR *Faust* (1875) II. iv. iii. 259 There hangs a morning-star so strong, The like of which I've wanted long.

3. *dial.* = STAR-OF-BETHLEHEM.

1890 *Nature Notes* I. 23 (Hampshire), Morning-star .. *Ornithogalum umbellatum.*

Mo·rningtide. Now *poet.* [f. MORNING + TIDE.] The morning, or early part of the day.

1530 PALSGR. 68 Of *matyn*, a mornyng, *matynée*, a mornynge tyde. 1611 COTGR., *Matinée*, a forenoone, or morning-tide. 1848 KINGSLEY *Saint's Trag.* I. i. All the gentle angels Which glance about my dreams at morning-tide. 1881 BLACKMORE *Christowell* i, But morning-tide spread all soft herbage with a silvery tissue.

Mo·rningward. *rare.* [f. MORNING + -WARD.] *To the morningward of*: = to the east of.

1845 E. WARBURTON *Crescent & Cross* II. 48 The seas, over which the sun rises to the morningward of Malta.

Morning-watch. [f. MORNING + WATCH *sb.*]

1. The last of the (three or four) watches into which the night was divided by the Jews and Romans.

1535 COVERDALE 1 *Sam.* xi. 11. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* XII. 207 All night he will pursue, but his approach Darkness defends between till morning Watch.

2. *Naut.* The watch between four and eight A.M.; the men on duty at that time.

1840 R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast* iii, The larboard watch .. go below until four in the morning, when they come on deck again and remain till eight, having what is called the morning watch. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Morning watch*, those of the crew on watch from 4 to 8 A.M.

Mornivall, obs. form of MOURNIVAL.

Mo·rnless, *a. rare.* [f. MORN + -LESS.] Having no morn. Cf. MORNINGLESS.

1795 ANNA SEWARD *Lett.* (1811) IV. 97 Before the long and mornless night descends. 1830 J. WRIGHT *Retrospect* II. 95 One wayward step—thou sink'st in mornless night.

† **Mo·rnly,** *adv. Obs. rare.* [f. MORN + -LY 2.] In the morn or morning; every morning.

1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. ii. II. *Babylon* 327 All the winged quiers Which mornly warble, on green trembling briers, Ear-tickling tunes. 1609 HEYWOOD *Brit. Troy* XII. lxix, These faire Andromache doth mornely feed.

† **Mo·rn-speech, Mo·rrow-speech.** *Obs.* Forms: see *a.* MORN; *β.* MORROW (also 4–5 morspeche); and SPEECH. [Cf. MDu. *morgensprake* in the same sense, mod.Du. *morgenspraak* discussion.] A periodical assembly of a guild held on the morrow after the guild-feast.

a. c 1000 in Thorpe *Charters* 613 Se ȝeȝilda ðe ne ȝesece his morgenspæce ȝilde his syster hunizes. 1389 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 49 At þt mornspeche, þorow on assent of all þe brethen to chesen an Aldirman. 1487 *Ann. Barber-Surgeons Lond.* (1890) 578 At the first mornspeech after he shall have taken the said apprentice.

β. 1389 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 49 To haue foure morspeches in þe ȝere. 1431 *Ibid.* 275 At ech of these ij. morowe spechis euery brother schall payen to ye costage..ij denar. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 344/1 Morow speche [*King's Coll. MS.* and *Heber MS.* morwe speche, *Winch. MS.* morspech], *crastinum colloquium.* [1890 GROSS *Gild Merch.* II. 143 The Gild at its meetings, which were called 'morrow-speeches'.]

Mo·rn-star. *Obs.* exc. *poet.* [Cf. MDu., MHG. *morgensterre* (MHG. also *-sterne*, mod.G. *-stern*), Du. *morgenstar.*] = MORNING-STAR 1.

c 888 K. ÆLFRED *Boeth.* iv, Þone beorhtan steorran þe we hatað morȝensteorra. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 344/2 Morow sterre (morwynstere, K.), *Lucifer.* 1811 SHELLEY *To a Star* 6 More sweet Than the expiring morn-star's paly fires.

† **Mo·rn-tide.** *Obs.* Forms: see MORN and TIDE; also MORROW-TIDE. [Cf. OS. *morgantîd*, MDu. *morgentijt*, G. *morgenzeit.*] = MORNINGTIDE.

Beowulf 484 Ðonne wæs þeos medoheal on morzentid, drihtsele dreorfah. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 59 Ðat was ðe firme morȝen tid, ðat euere sprong in werld[e] wid. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 6333 Þar he sleped þat morntide. *c* 1440 *Bone Flor.* 114 Sche schall..in hur lovely armes me lappe Bothe evyn and morne tyde.

Mo·rnward s, *adv. poet. rare.* [f. MORN + -WARD, -WARDS.] Towards the morning, towards the rising sun or the east; eastward.

1850 LOWELL *New Year's Eve* i, And mornward now the starry hands move on. 1855 BAILEY *Mystic*, etc. 88 From Athabascan cape, mornwards, to where [etc.].

† **Mo·rn-while.** *Obs.* Forms: *α.* see MORN and WHILE; *β.* 3 morȝewile, -quile. Morning; the time of morning.

α. c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3275 God him had helden up his hond to-ward ðis water, in a morȝen quile ðe se luked, so god it wile. ?*a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 2001 Thise lordly knyghttez, Salle lenge on his lefte hand, wyth legyones ynewe, To meue in the morne-while.

β. c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 39 Mid-niht ðe bilimpeð to frumberdliges, hanecrau þe bilimpeð þownene men, morȝewile to alde men. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3461 De ðridde daiȝes morȝe quile, ðunder and leuene made spike.

Mornyfle, obs. form of MOURNIVAL.

Mornyng(e, obs. ff. MORNING, MOURNING.

‖ **Moro**[1] (mō·rō). *Path. Obs.* [It. *moro* mulberry, also 'a wart in a horse called an Anburie' (Florio 1598).] (See quot. 1891.)

1823 in CRABB *Technol. Dict.* 1891 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Moro*, old name for a small abscess like a mulberry. Also, a mulberry-like tumour on the genitals.

‖ **Moro**[2] (mō·rō). [Sp. = MOOR *sb.*2] One of the Mohammedan Malays in the Philippine Islands.

1886 YULE & BURNELL *Anglo-Ind. Gloss.* Suppl., *Moro* is still applied at Manilla to the Musulman Malays. 1901 A. H. KEANE in *Chamb. Encycl.* VIII. 118/1 Nearly all Malays are either 'Indios' (i.e. Roman Catholics) or 'Moros' (i.e. Mohammedans). 1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 23 Aug. 6/1 Dealing with the situation in the Philippines, he asserted that it was imperative that the United States should chastise the Moros for their delinquencies.

‖ **Moro**[3] (mō·rō). [f. Sp. *pájaro moro*, Moorish sparrow.] The vinous grosbeak, or stone-bird, *Carpodacus* (*Bucanetes*) *githagineus*, inhabiting the desert countries of North Africa.

1890 in *Century Dict.*; and in later Dicts.

Moroccan (morǫ·kăn), *a.* and *sb.* Also **Marocan.** [f. *Morocco* (also *Marocco*, F. *Maroc*) + -AN.] **A.** *adj.* Of or pertaining to Morocco (see next). **B.** *sb.* An inhabitant of Morocco.

1860 *Chamb. Encycl.* I. 8/1 He [Abd-el-Kader] would not abandon his attached followers .. to the plunder and massacre of the Maroccans. 1883 BURTON & CAMERON *Gold Coast* I. i. 17 The Mersa or water-port of a Moroccan town. 1900 *Q. Rev.* Oct. 354 The Moroccan has a jingling rhyme which he loves to repeat. 1905 *Jewish Encycl.* IX. 27/2 (*Morocco*) The Moroccan Jewesses.

Morocco (morǫ·kō), *sb.* Also 7 morocko, maroco, 9 marocco, morrocco. [The European name (= It. *Marocco*, Sp. *Marruecos*, F. *Maroc*) of the 'sultanate' or 'empire' called in Arabic *Maγrib-al-Aqçā* 'Extreme West', comprising the north-western part of Africa. The name properly belongs not to the country but to the chief city; its native form is *Marrākesh.*]

I. 1. Used *attrib.* in the sense 'of or pertaining to, or made in Morocco'; *esp.* in the names of things coming (or supposed to have originally come) from Morocco, as *Morocco cherry, daisy, gum, grape, -leech, plum.*

1664 EVELYN *Kal. Hort., June* (1706) 78 Cherries..Great-bearer, Morocco Cherry, the Egriot [etc.]. *Ibid.*, Plums .. the King's-Plum, Spanish, Morocco-Plum [etc.]. 1731 MILLER *Gard. Dict.* s.v. *Prunus* § 2 The early black Damask, commonly called The Morocco Plum. 1763 MILLS *Pract. Husb.* IV. 378 The morocco, or barbarou, is a large purple grape, the bunches of which are also of an extraordinary size. 1882 *Garden* 8 July 19/3 The blue Morocco Daisy is much admired. 1887 BENTLEY *Man. Bot.* (ed. 5) 538 Morocco, .. or Brown Barbary Gum [is obtained] from *Acacia arabica.* 1891 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Morocco leech*, the *Sanguisuga interrupta.* 1901 *Daily Chron.* 7 Dec. 3/4 The Morocco youth has no tendency towards reform.

b. *Morocco leather*: see 3. So *Morocco hides, skins*: the skins from which morocco is made.

1716 GAY *Trivia* I. 30 Then let the prudent walker shoes provide, Not of the Spanish or Morocco hide. 1727–52 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v., We have Morocco-skins brought from the Levant, Barbary, Spain, Flanders, and France.

† **2. Morocco-man**: see quots. *Obs.*

1796 COLQUHOUN *Police Metrop.* (ed. 3) 153 *note*, Fraudulent Lottery Insurances have not diminished. The Offices are numerous all over the Metropolis, .. to many of which there are persons attached, called Morocco Men, who go about from house to house among their former customers, and attend in the back parlours of Public Houses, where they are met by customers who make insurances. 1798 EDGEWORTH *Pract. Educ.* (1811) I. 315 And the men who are sent about to public-houses to entice poor people into illegal lottery insurances, are called Morocco-men.

II. (Cf. MAROQUIN.)

3. (In full *morocco-leather.*) Leather made from goatskins tanned with sumac, originally produced in Morocco (and other Barbary States), and afterwards in the Levant, Turkey, and now in Europe from skins imported from Asia and Africa; it is used particularly for bookbinding and upholstery. Also, a leather in imitation of this, made from sheepskins and lambskins, etc., and used for the same purposes, but chiefly in shoemaking.

French morocco, an inferior quality of Levant morocco, having a smaller and less prominent grain; **imitation morocco,** see above; **Levant morocco,** a high-grade morocco, with a large grain, properly made from the skin of the Angora goat; **Persian morocco,** see PERSIAN *a.* 2.

[1600 J. PORY tr. *Leo's Africa* II. 61 Here is that excellent leather dressed, which is called leather of Maroco.] 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 151 Saddles of Velvet, some like the Morocko. 1695 MOTTEUX tr. *St. Olon's Morocco* 140 The Red Morocco Leather, known here by the Name of Spanish Leather, is drest in that City [Fez], and is the finest in all Barbary. 1727–52 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v., The various manners of preparing Morocco. *Ibid.*, Manner of preparing black Morocco. *Ibid.*, Red Morocco. 1743 POPE *Last Will* Wks. 1751 IX. 268 All the volumes of my Works and Translations of Homer, bound in red morocco. 1771 *Ann. Reg.* XIV. II. 88/1 When they [*sc.* skins of the sea-lions] are tanned, they have a grain almost like Morocco. 1817 DIBDIN *Bibliogr. Decam.* II. 533 For your Fifteaners .. let me entreat you invariably to use morocco. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XIV. 436/1 The marocco leather of the capital is yellow, that made in Tafilet green, and in Fez it is dyed red. 1852 MORFIT *Tanning & Currying* (1853) 363 Imitation Morocco .. is prepared from sheep-skins in the same manner as true Morocco. 1870 YEATS *Nat. Hist. Comm.* 297 Deer skins are used for the finer kinds of morocco leather, and for bookbinding. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 88/1 English, French, and Spanish morocco all excel in their own way, either in grain or in colour. 1907 *Edin. Rev.* Apr. 431 A .. parchment album bound in green morocco.

b. *attrib.* in the sense 'made of or covered with morocco'; also *Comb.*, as *morocco-bound, -like* adjs.

1817 DIBDIN *Bibliogr. Decam.* II. 481 Your De Thous .. are almost always in morocco bindings. 1820 W. IRVING *Sketch Bk.* (1849) 141 Small morocco-bound prayerbooks. 1827 DISRAELI *Viv. Grey* VII. iv, The morocco case was unlocked, and the manuscript of Haroun Al Raschid revealed. 1849 THACKERAY *Pendennis* vii, A little morocco box, which .. contained the Major's back-teeth. 1858 MRS. GORE *Heckington* II. i. 16 A morocco-housewife or pocket-book. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 613 In lupus erythematosus the adherent crusts and morocco-like surface are a characteristic feature.

c. *local U. S.* **morocco-head,** the American merganser, *Mergus americanus*; **morocco-jaw,** the surf-scoter or surf-duck, *Œdemia perspicillata.*

1888 G. TRUMBULL *Names of Birds* 65, 103.

4. A fanciful name given to a kind of strong ale brewed at Levens Hall, Westmorland.

1792 BUDWORTH *Fortn. Rambles Lakes* 17 We were regaled by a liquor called Morocco ..; it is of a high colour, and is made from malt and hops; has an acid taste, and does not ferment. 1870 M. COLLINS *Vivian* III. ix. 186 Washed down with more copious draughts of strong ale and Morocco. 1894 R. S. FERGUSON *Hist. Westmorland* 285 Levens Hall..is also famed for its 'morocco' or old ale.

5. *Red morocco*: a local name for the plant *Adonis autumnalis* or Pheasant's eye.

1771 *Encycl. Brit.* I. 27/2 The English names [of the genus *Adonis*] are, adonis-flower, pheasant's eye, red maithes, or red morocco. 1863 PRIOR *Plant-n.* 188 Red Morocco, from the colour of the petals, *Adonis autumnalis.*

6. *In morocco*, used by Longfellow as gipsy slang for: Stripped, naked. Cf. BUFF.

1843 LONGF. *Sp. Stud.* III. v, There you are in your morocco!

Moro·cco, *v. trans. rare*—°. [f. MOROCCO *sb.*] To convert into morocco. 1890 in *Century Dict.*

Morocock, variant of MARACOCK.

1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Morococks.*

Moroder, obs. form of MARAUDER.

Morolo·gical. *Humorously pedantic.* [f. MOROLOGY + -ICAL.] Pertaining to 'morology'. Hence **Morolo·gically** *adv.*

1607 R. C[AREW] tr. *Estienne's World of Wonders* 269 The old maner [of preaching] was, to make one part Allegoricall, another Anagogicall, and a third Tropologicall: whereas they should haue made one part Morological,

another Mythological, and a third Pseudological. 1865 Strangford *Lett. & P.* (1878) 164 Morologically speaking, the production is no richer or sillier than your prize-fool from Gloucestershire. 1867 — *Select.* (1869) I. 320 If the condition of liberalism be insisted upon, as well as the morological..conditions of mind necessary to such a question, there is but one man in the House who can put it.

Morologist (morǫ'lŏdʒist). *rare*⁻¹. [f. Morology + -ist.] **a.** One who talks foolishly. **b.** A student of 'morology'.

1727 in Bailey (vol. II). 1894 Wilkins & Vivian *Green Bay Tree* I. 146 But then I am a student of fools, a morologist—to coin a word.

Morology (morǫ'lŏdʒi). [ad. Gr. *μωρολογία* foolish talking, f. *μωρολόγ-ος* that talks foolishly, f. *μωρό-ς* foolish + *-λόγος* that speaks: see -logy.]

†**1.** Foolish talking. *Obs.*

1596 in *J. Melvill's Diary* (Wodrow Soc.) 350 Corrupt communication, morologie, aischrologie. 1652 W. Rowland *Judic. Astrol.* Title-p., Of Will. Ramsey's Morologie in his pretended Reply (called *Lux veritatis*) to Doctour Nathaniel Homes his Demonologie. 1656 in Blount *Glossogr.*

2. *humorously.* The science that treats of fools.

1867, 1894 [implied in Morological, Morologist].

†**Moromantie.** *Obs.*⁻° [F. *moromantie* (Cotgr.), f. Gr. *μωρό-ς* foolish + *μαντεί-α* -mancy.] 'Foolish divination' (Blount *Glossogr.* 1656).

‖ **Moron.** *Obs.* [F. *moron, mouron* (OF. *moronne*, 14th c.).] A variety of salamander.

1774 Goldsmith *Nat. Hist.* (1824) III. 158 With respect to the Salamander, the whole tribe, from the Moron to the Gekko, are said to be venomous to the last degree.

Moron, obs. form of Morn.

Morone, incorrect var. Maroon *sb.*¹ and *a.*¹ In some Dicts. with pseudo-etymological explanation as if from L. *mōr-um* mulberry.

1836 Smart, *Morone*, a deep crimson, or the colour of the unripe mulberry. 1890 *Century Dict.*

Morose (morō'us), *a.*¹ Also 7 morous, moross. [ad. L. *mōrōs-us* peevish, fretful, wayward, fastidious, scrupulous (*transf.* of things, hard to manage), f. *mōr-*, *mōs* manner: see Moral *a.* and -ose.]

1. Of persons, their attributes and actions: Sour-tempered, sullen, gloomy, and unsocial.

1565 Cooper *Thesaurus, Morosus*, waywarde: frowarde: overthwarte: morose: diuers in condition: harde to please. [1609 B. Jonson *Sil. Wom.* Dram. Pers. (1620), *Morose*, a Gentleman that loues no noyse.] 1620 Venner *Via Recta* viii. 166 Neither .. am I against sauces so morose as that I doe altogether deny them. 1647 Clarendon *Hist. Reb.* I. § 185 He was a man of very morose manners, and a very sowr aspect. 1694 F. Bragge *Disc. Parables* xiv. 458 They were .. of very morose countenances, as greatly mortified, and strangers to the world. *a* 1770 Jortin *Serm.* (1771) VI. i. 18 A man should not give way to a morose, captious and cavilling humour and be eager to find fault. 1775 Mason *Mem. Gray* Poems 119 He was also morose, unsocial, and obstinate. 1815 J. Smith *Panorama Sci. & Art* I. 242 There are very few so obstinately morose, as to be uninfluenced by the opinions of others. 1853 C. Bronte *Villette* xi, She looked stony and stern, almost mortified and morose. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* I. 3 No man who is correctly informed as to the past will be disposed to take a morose or desponding view of the present. 1907 *Spectator* 5 Jan. 9/2 That great morose genius [*sc.* Swift].

absol. 1620 T. Granger *Div. Logike* 275 This to delight, to moue, and to allure with wiles, euen the refractory, and morose. 1762 Goldsm. *Nash* 40 Let the morose and grave censure an attention to forms and ceremonies.

b. of opinions, principles, etc.

1791 Maxwell in Boswell *Johnson* an. 1770, His philosophy..was by no means morose and cynical. 1838 Lytton *Alice* II. iv, Morbid and morose philosophy, begot by a proud spirit on a lonely heart. 1861 J. A. Alexander *Gospel of Christ* xiv. 194 Pleasures which a more morose religion would proscribe as dangerous.

c. *transf.*

1658 Franck *North. Mem.* (1821) 311 The carp is a fish complicated of a moross mixture, and a torpid motion. 1902 A. Lang *Hist. Scot.* II. v. 104 Mary's arrival was darkened by the morose climate.

†**2.** Scrupulous, painstaking. *Obs.*

1696 Bentley *Serm.* IX. (1724) 354 Unworthy of the most cautious and morose searcher of truth. 1695 J. Edwards *Perfect. Script.* 482 He was a very morose interpreter.

†**3.** Of a thing: Hard to manage. *Obs.*

1652 L. S. *People's Liberty* xxii. 53 This knot is somewhat morose, and will not easily be untied.

4. *Comb.*, as *morose-looking, -natured.*

1845 James *Arrah Neil* ii, The elder of the two was a hard-featured somewhat morose-looking personage. 1884 J. Payn *Lit. Recollect.* 62 A morose-natured man.

Morose (morō'us), *a.*² *rare.* Cf. Morous *a.* [ad. late L. *morōs-us*, f. *mora* delay: see -ose.]

1. *Casuistry.* Chiefly in the phrase *morose delectation*, the habit of dwelling with enjoyment upon evil thoughts. So *morose thoughts.*

Aquinas uses *morosa delectatio* as a term already established, and discusses its meaning, connecting it with *mora* delay and its derivative *immorārī* to linger upon. Cf. St. Augustine *De Civ. Dei* xxii. xxiii, Ne in eo quod male delectat vel visio vel cogitatio remoretur.

1644 Hammond *Pract. Catech.* II. § 6 (1646) 77 All morose thoughts, i.e. dwelling or insisting on that image, or phansying of such unclean matter with delectation. 1651 Jer. Taylor *Holy Dying* iii. § 9 We may suspect Drunkenness, when it may be also a morose delectation in Unclean thoughts. 1661 Bp. Nicholson *Exp. Catech.* (1663) 123 In this Commandment are forbidden .. All that feeds this sin [adultery], or are incentives to it: as..3. Morose thoughts, that dwell in the phancy with delight.

2. *Civil Law.* (See quot.)

1875 Poste *Gains* III. 449 If he is Morose (a debtor chargeable with mora).

Morosely (morō'usli), *adv.* [f. Morose *a.*¹ + -ly².] In a morose or sullen manner.

1654 Whitlock *Zootomia* 253 Such whole Heads are filled with those Principles of Prejudice .. which are either falsly receptive, or morosely exclusive. 1750 Johnson *Rambler* No. 74 ¶ 6 Their singularities therefore are only blameable, when they have imprudently or morosely withdrawn themselves from the world. 1838 Gladstone in Morley *Life* (1903) I. 150 Morosely withdrawing himself from the range of human sympathies. 1873 Black *Pr. Thule* x. 164 Morosely objecting to pretty nearly everything Lavender said.

Moroseness (morō'usnés). [f. Morose *a.*¹ + -ness.] The state or quality of being morose.

a 1661 Fuller *Worthies, Northampt.* (1662) II. 291 Always cheerful without the least levity, and grave without any moroseness. 1746 Dr. Parsons in *Phil. Trans.* XLIV. 44, I..know some, on whose Faces a settled Moroseness always strikes the Beholder. 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) V. 4 The grace and cheerfulness .. have disappeared; and a spirit of moroseness..has taken their place.

Morosity (morǫ'siti). Now *rare.* [ad. F. *morosité*, ad. L. *mōrōsitas*, f. *mōrōsus* Morose *a.*: see -ity.] = Moroseness. In 17th c. often in particularized sense, † an instance of moroseness.

1534 Whitinton *Tullyes Offices* I. (1540) 39 Leste..we shulde slyp in to morosyte yuell to please, vnprofytable and odyous to other men. 1563–87 Foxe *A. & M.* (1596) 710/1 The world is come now to such a morossity and peeuish insensibilitie in these contentious and cauilling daies of ours, that [etc.]. 1625 Donne *Serm.* 3 Apr. 40 There may bee a Jealousie in the Husband, a Morositie in the Father, an Imperiousnesse in the Master. 1649 Jer. Taylor *Gt. Exemp.* II. Pr. i. 102 Blot out all peevish dispositions and morosities. *a* 1677 Barrow *Serm.* (1810) II. 157 No affected singularities, no supercilious morosities, no frivolous ostentations. 1711 *Vind. Sacheverell* 81 The Stoical Morosities, and mis-tim'd Preachments of these Lay Baptists. 1849 F. W. Newman *Soul* (ed. 2) 176 At least this appears the best way of showing that no morosity mingles with distaste for such things. 1873 Miss Broughton *Nancy* III. 146 By the utter morosity of Algy's face .. I conjecture that it is a joke. 1884 C. Rogers *Soc. Life Scot.* II. xi. 160 James VI sought to repress the prevailing morosity.

‖ **Moro'so.** *Obs.* Pl. morosi. [It. *moroso* adj., ad. L. *mōrōsus* Morose *a.*¹] A morose person.

1592 *Greene's Vision* G.'s Wks. (Grosart) XII. 215 Feare not then what those Morosi [*printed* Morosie] wil murmure. *a* 1661 Fuller *Worthies, Denbighsh.* (1662) IV. 33 Such as accuse them [*sc.* organs] for superstitious in Churches must allow them lawful in private places. Otherwise such Moroso's deserve not to be owners of an articulate voice.

Morosoph (mō'rŏsǫf). [a. F. *morosophe* (Rabelais), ad. Gr. *μωρόσοφ-ος* foolishly wise, f. *μωρό-ς* foolish + *σοφός* wise.] †**a.** In Rabelais: A 'wise fool', jester. (Cf. Fool-sage.) *Obs.* **b.** One who is 'foolishly wise'; a foolish pedant or would-be philosopher.

a 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. xlvii. 377 Our unique Morosoph, .. the Lunatick *Triboulet*. 1751 Cambridge *Scribl.* I. 367, I mark'd where'er the Morosoph appear'd .. How Young and Old, Virgins and Matrons kiss'd The footsteps of the blest Gymnosophist. 1818 T. Moore *Fudge Fam. Paris* II. 41 The praises and the trophies Thou gain'st from Morosophs and Sophis. 1835 *Fraser's Mag.* XI. 369 Those who follow the sect of that illustrious morosoph.

So †**Moro'sophist,** in the same sense; †**Moro'sophy,** foolish pretence of wisdom.

1594 *Mirr. Policy* (1599) 139 As I haue more largely shewed in my Morosophie in these verses. 1610 *Histriomastix* II. 56 That..I may..leave this Idle contemplation To rugged Stoicall Morosophists. 1617 Collins *Def. Bp. Ely* II. Contents 6 The Bishops exposition..is defended against the Adioynders intricate Morosophies. 1794 Mathias *Purs. Lit.* (1798) 336 Some Morosophists of the Society.

†**Moro'sous,** *a. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. late L. *morōsus* Morose *a.*² + -ous.] = Morose *a.*² 1.

1616 Sheldon *Miracles Ch. Rome* 201 Who..findeth by daily experience either of often lapses, or else of morosous desires..let such a one marrie.

Moross, Morost, obs. ff. Morose, Morass.

Morou, Moroun, obs. ff. Morrow, Morn.

†**Mo'rous,** *a. Obs. rare.* [ad. late L. *morōsus* Morose *a.*²] = Morose *a.*²

1447 Bokenham *Seyntys* (Roxb.) 257 Lyht..ryht furth procedyth wyth owte crokydnesse And a long lyne wyth owte morous dilacyoun. 1594 Southwell *Magd. Funeral Teares* 128 Guilty consciences are ever morous.

Morow(e, obs. forms of Morrow.

Morow(e)nyng(e, -ing(e, obs. ff. Morning.

Morowing gift, var. Morwyngift *Sc. Obs.*

Moroxite (morǫksəit). *Min.* [G. *Moroxit* (1798), f. Gr. *μόροξ-ος* (also *μόροχθος*) a kind of pipeclay: see -ite.] A crystallized form of apatite, found in Norway and Finland.

1814 T. Allan *Min. Nomencl.* § 94. 1879 Rutley *Study Rocks* x. 147 Asparagus-stone and moroxite are names given to yellowish-green and blueish-green varieties of apatite.

†**Moroxy'lic,** *a. Chem. Obs.* [f. Gr. *μόρο-ν, μῶρο-ν* mulberry + *ξύλ-ον* wood + -ic.] *Moroxylic acid*: a supposed acid obtained from a salt of the white mulberry tree. (Cf. Moric.) So †**Moroxylate,** a salt of moroxylic acid.

1807 T. Thomson *Chem.* (ed. 3) II. 274 A peculiar acid, which he [Klaproth] called moroxylic. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XV. 410/2 Moroxylic acid..is obtained by decomposing the natural moroxylate of lime by acetate of lead.

†**Morph.** *Obs. rare*⁻¹. [Anglicized form of med.L. *morphea*: see Morphew.] = Morphew.

1681 Grew *Museum* I. § vi. i. 131 A Wilk..being burnt.. and mixed with old Oil..is an admirable Remedy against Baldness and Morph of long standing.

Morphe, -phea, var. ff. Morphew, -phœa.

Morphean (mǫɪfī'ăn, mǭ-ɪfī'ăn), *a.* [f. Morpheus + -an.] Of or pertaining to Morpheus; hence, sleepy, drowsy.

1694 Motteux *Rabelais* (1737) V. 234 Morphean Visions. 1773 J. Ross *Fratricide* VI. 557 (MS.) Wak'd by the magic of Morphean spell. 1803 *Edwin* II. xii. 186 He yielded to the Morphean wand, and..Sleep shed its balmy dews over his weary lids. 1809 J. Jebb *Corr.* (1834) I. 523 To work my mind immediately went, even in its morphean state. 1818 Keats *Endym.* I. 747. 1820 — *Eve S. Agnes* xxix, O for some drowsy Morphean amulet!

Morphe'tic, *a.* [irregularly f. Morpheus + -ic².] Pertaining to sleep.

1788 Mme. D'Arblay *Diary* 26 July, The moment I cease all employment, my thoughts take such an ascendence over my morphetic faculty, that [etc.]. 1796 — *Camilla* II. iv, I am invulnerably asleep at this very moment! In the very centre of the morphetic dominions.

Mo'rphetine. *Chem.* [a. F. *morphétine*, formed as prec.: see -ine.] A slightly bitter substance obtained from morphine.

1865 in Watts *Dict. Chem.* III. 1050.

‖ **Morpheus** (mǭ'ɪfiŭs). [L.; Ovid's name for the god of dreams, the son of Sleep, as if a. Gr. *Μορφεύς*, f. *μορφή* form.] The god of dreams (popularly often taken as the god of sleep).

c 1369 Chaucer *Dethe Blaunche* 167 Morpheus, and Eclympasteyre, That was the god of slepes heyre. *c* 1420 Lydg. *Assembly of Gods* 14 Anone came in Morpheus & toke me by the sleue. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* I. i. 36, 40. 1605 Chapman *All Fools* III. Plays 1873 I. 146 Or from the Iuory gate Hath Morpheus sent a vision to delude me? 1748 Thomson *Cast. Indol.* I. xliv, And hither Morpheus sent his kindest dreams. 1857 Kingsley *Two Y. Ago* xxiv, Sunk though he be upon a garret floor, With fumes of Morpheus' crown about his head.

†**Morphew** (mǭ'ɪfiu). *Obs.* Forms: 4–6 morphe, 5 morphu, -fu, -fw, morffue, 5–6 morfew, 5–7 morphue, 6 morfewe, 6–7 morphewe, 5–9 morphew. [ad. med.L. *morphea* (written in mod.L. *Morphœa*), a. It. *morfea*, of obscure origin. Cf. F. *morphée* (16th c.).] A leprous or scurfy eruption. *Black, white morphew.*

a 1400 *Stockh. Med. MS.* ii. 962 in *Anglia* XVIII. It distroith þe morphe And disposing to þe lepre. *?c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* (Brit. Mus. Add. MS.) 4 Cap. iiij of Morfu, ffrakles,.. & Cicatrices of woundes. *Ibid.* 193 Morphue. *Ibid.* 195 þe white morphu is curid wiþ purgacioun þat purgiþ roten fleume. *Ibid.*, þe blac morphe is curid wiþ ofte purging of malancoli. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 343/1 Morfu, sekenesse, *morphea.* 1545 Raynold *Byrth Mankynde* IV. vi. (1634) 201 This is also very good for the Morphew, and other discoloration or staining of the skin. 1562 Turner *Baths* I The bathes of brimstone..are good for the whyte morphewe and black. 1586 Bright *Melanch.* xxi. 124 Then altereth the colour, and fairenesse is turned into morphe. 1688 Holme *Armoury* II. 428/1 Morphew is a disease that dyeth the skin yellow. 1748–9 *Gen. Advertiser* No. 4440 Tetters, Ring-worms, Morphew, Sun-burn. 1794–6 E. Darwin *Zoon.* (1801) III. 124 Morphew or freckles—Tawny blotches on the skin of the face and arms of elderly people. 1810 *Splendid Follies* II. 106 A few morphews and wrinkles incident to her age. 1835 Browning *Paracelsus* IV. 117 My outward crust Of lies, which wrap as tetter, morphew, furfair, Wrap the sound flesh. *fig.* 1610 Bp. Hall *Apol. Brownists* 29 He cannot but acknowledge..a true face of a Church (though ouer-spreade with some morphue of corruptions). 1647 Ward *Simp. Cobler* 21 No man ever saw a gray haire on the head.. of any Truth, wrinckle, or morphew on its face.

attrib. 1541 R. Copland *Guydon's Quest. Chirurg.* Q iv b, The seconde is a morfewe colour & derke. 1640 H. Mill *Nts. Search* 147 The morphew wals are growne so bleake and thin, They have..lost the outward skin.

Hence **Mo'rphewed** *ppl. a.*, afflicted with morphew; also *fig.*

1598 Bp. Hall *Sat.* IV. v. 26 Whose..sullen rags bewray his Morphew'd skin. 1610 R. Tofte *Honours Acad.* IV. 150 Though the Sunne sheweth himselfe pale, morphewed and ghastly, yet was he by all creatures..desired. 1646 G. Daniel *Poems* Wks. 1878 I. 7 Sometime put A gracefull mole, for a dull morphew'd Spot. 1694 Westmacott *Script. Herb.* 65 Mark that, you women, and morphew'd ladies.

Morphia (mǭ'ɪfiă). *Chem.* [mod.L., f. Morpheus: see -ia¹. Cf. Morphium.] = Morphine.

1818 A. T. Thomson *Lond. Disp.* (ed. 2) 286 Robiquet.. has confirm'd his [Sertuerner's] statement regarding the existence of morphia. 1874 Garrod & Baxter *Mat. Med.* (1880) 193 Apomorphia.. Obtained by heating morphia.. with excess of hydrochloric acid. 1876 Harley *Mat. Med.* 753 Morphia is the chief and essential constituent of opium.

b. *attrib.*, as in *morphia habit, lozenge, salt*, etc.; **morphia syringe,** a syringe for the hypodermic injection of morphia.

1874 Garrod & Baxter *Mat. Med.* (1880) 198 Morphia Lozenges. *Ibid.* 204 The opium and morphia salts become absorbed. 1881 *Trans. Obstet. Soc. Lond.* XXII. 132 Dr. Godson tapped it with a morphia syringe. 1891 *Daily News* 23 Mar. 5/1 The morphia habit of the deceased.

Hence **Mo'rphiated** *a.*, impregnated or affected with morphia (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1891).

Morphic (mǭ'ɪfik), *a. Biol.* [f. Gr. *μορφή* form: see -ic.] Of or pertaining to form; relating to the anatomical shape; morphological.

1868 E. D. Cope *Orig. Fittest* (1887) 111 The majority of specific characters are..'morphic' as distinguished from developmental. 1894 Buckman *Inf. Ool. Ammonites* (Palæont. Soc.) 382 Morphic equivalents must always be compared. *Ibid.* 444 Such forms are only morphic equivalents.

Mo·rphil. *Obs. rare.* [a. F. *morfil*, †*marfil*, a. Sp. *marfil* (= Pg. *marfim*), of Arabic origin (*fīl* elephant; the first element is obscure).]

†1. Raw ivory. *Obs.*

1698 T. Froger *Voy.* 11 Their trade consists in Slaves, Gold, Morphil or Ivory, and Wax.

2. Vegetable ivory (see Ivory 2).

1891 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

Morphinated (mɔ̄·ɹfine·tĕd), *ppl. a.* [f. Morphin-e + -ate[2] + -ed[1].] Charged with morphine.

1891 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1898 *Rev. Brit. Pharm.* 53 Morphinated water, for use in opium assaying.

Morphine (mɔ̄·ɹfin), *sb. Chem.* Also -in. [a. G. *morphin* (Sertürner 1816), f. Morph-eus: see -ine.] The most important alkaloid narcotic principle of opium, largely used in medicine to alleviate pain.

1818 *Lancet* 2 Feb. 663/1 Morphine..is the narcotic principle of opium. 1850 Mrs. Carlyle *Lett.* II. 115 Took morphine last night, and slept some. 1856 Mayne *Expos. Lex.*, *Morphin.* 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 734 Morphine is only a palliative.

b. *attrib.*, as *morphine habit, salt, taker*; **morphine injection**, a hypodermic injection of morphine; **morphine injector**, a medical man addicted to the practice of morphine injection; **morphine syringe** = *morphia syringe*.

1892 Gunter *Miss Dividends* (1893) 45 Effects more demoralizing than the *morphine habit. 1878 tr. *von Ziemssen's Cycl. Med.* XVII. 857 *Morphine injection also exercises an influence on those addicted to it. *Ibid.* 117 A considerable number of *morphine-injectors have sprung up—chiefly young doctors—who carry on this pernicious practice. *c* 1865 in *Circ. Sci.* I. 417/1 *Morphine salts are ..chiefly employed. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 885 The *morphine syringe was invented during my student days. 1899 *Ibid.* VIII. 317 Sulphate of spartein is used by some *morphine takers.

Hence **Mo·rphine** *v. trans.*, to drug with morphine. **Morphi·nic** *a.*, relating to morphine (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1891). **Mo·rphinism**, the effect of morphine on the human system; the practice of injecting morphine into the system. **Mo·rphinist**, one who takes morphine to excess; also *attrib.* **Morphiniza·tion**, the producing of the physiological action of morphine in the system by internal administration or hypodermic use (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*). **Mo·rphinize** *v. trans.*, to treat with morphine.

1856 Neale *Mediæval Preachers* Introd. 15 Their somnolence morphinized into death. 1874 Longf. in S. Longfellow *Life* (1891) III. 236 When you were morphined out of your wits, anything might pass. 1882 Morphinism [see Morphiomania]. 1894 *Blackw. Mag.* Nov. 583 Dipsomaniacs, morphinists and epileptics. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 882 The children of three morphinist mothers were fairly healthy. 1899 *Ibid.* VIII. 423 The worst case of morphinism I have seen.

Morphinomania (mɔ̄·ɹfinoмē·niă). *Nosology.* [f. Morphine: see -mania.] Uncontrollable craving for morphine or opium. Hence **Morphinoma·niac**, one affected with morphinomania.

1887 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 5 Feb. 300 On the Effects of the Sudden Discontinuance of Morphine in Morphinomaniacs suffering from Pneumonia. *Ibid.* 21 May 1003/1 The diagnosis of morphinomania. 1898 *Scotsman* 30 July 11/8 Transformed the dipsomaniac and morphinomaniac into self-controlled and useful members of society.

Morphiomania (mɔ̄·ɹfiomē·niă). *Nosology.* [f. Morphi-a + -mania.] = Morphinomania.

1882 *Nature* XXVI. 470 Dr. Landowsky..deprecated.. this new method of intoxication; he calls it morphiomania or morphinism. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 893 Except on withdrawal of the drug I have not seen the excitement or violence to which the name morphiomania would be properly applied.

Hence **Morphioma·niac** = Morphinomaniac.

1888 *Pall Mall G.* 8 Sept. 6/1 A Novel for Morphiomaniacs. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 274 The so-called dipsomaniac or morphiomaniac.

†**Mo·rphium.** *Obs.* [mod.L., f. Morpheus + -ium.] Older name for morphia.

1823 J. Badcock *Dom. Amusem.* 90 Although..resembling opium.., it counteracts the evil effects of that dangerous morphium. 1824 *Q. Jrnl. Sci.*, etc. XVII. 170 The tincture of nutgalls a very sensible test of the presence of morphium in fluids. 1856 Mayne *Expos. Lex.* s. v. *Morphium*, Name given by Sertuerner to morphin.

‖ **Morphœa** (mɔɹfī·ă). *Med.* [mod.L.: see Morphew.] A sclerodermatous disease.

1874 T. R. Jones & Siev. *Phys. Anat.* 94 The skin disease called Morphœa. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 680 Morphœa generally appears as yellowish white, waxy or ivory like spots, surrounded by a rosy or purplish areola.

‖ **Morphoge·nesis.** [mod.L., f. Gr. *μορφ-ή* form + *γένεσις* origin: see Genesis.] The origination of morphological characters; morphogeny. So **Morphogene·tic** *a.*, of or pertaining to morphogenesis.

1884 *Q. Jrnl. Microsc. Sci.* XXX. 98 A direct morphogenetic change in the ganglion cells. 1890 *Century Dict.*, *Morphogenesis.* 1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 20 July 9/2 The force of gravitation is..the first morphogenetic factor in the individual development of animals.

Morphogenic (mɔ̄ɹfodʒe·nik), *a.* [f. prec. -ic.] = Morphogenetic (*Cent. Dict.* 1890).

Morphogeny (mɔɹfɒ·dʒĭni). *Biol.* [mod.L., f. Gr. *μορφ-ή* form + -geny. Cf. F. *morphogénie*.] = Morphogenesis.

1879 tr. *Haeckel's Evol. Man* I. i. 24 Germ-history of Forms. (Morphogeny.) 1891 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

Morphographer (mɔɹfɒ·grăfəɹ). [f. Gr. *μορφ-ή* form + -grapher.]

†1. One skilled in the delineation of form. *Obs.*

1697 Evelyn *Numism.* viii. 291 Vandyke..the most incomparable Morphographer and Painter.

2. *Biol.* One who investigates and records facts of morphology.

1888 E. R. Lankester in *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 817/2 Those of the morphographer and systematist rather than of the bionomist.

Morphography (mɔɹfɒ·grăfi). [f. Gr. *μορφ-ή* form + -graphy.] The scientific description of form; descriptive morphology; also, the phenomena which form the object of this.

1856 Mayne *Expos. Lex.*, *Morphographia*, term for a description or history of external form: morphography. 1888 E. R. Lankester in *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 803/2 Anatomical study has associated itself with the more superficial morphography. 1898 Günther in *Nature* 21 Apr. 583/1 Estimating how far the existing superficial configuration or morphography of a volcanic region is an indication of the past history of its development.

Hence **Morphogra·phic, -graphical** *adjs.*, of or pertaining to morphography.

1856 Mayne *Expos. Lex.*, *Morphographicus*,..morphographic. 1888 E. R. Lankester in *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 818/2 Experimental researches..are not provided for either in the morphographical or physiological laboratories of our universities.

Morpholecithal (mɔ̄ɹfole·siþăl). *Biol.* [f. mod.L. *morpholecith-us*, f. Gr. *μορφ-ή* form + λέκιθος the yolk of an egg + -al.] Pertaining to the yolk of the animal ovum (*Cent. Dict.* 1890).

Morphologic (mɔ̄ɹfolɒ·dʒik), *a.* [f. Morphology + -ic: cf. F. *morphologique*.] = next.

1872 in Latham *Dict.* 1877 J. E. Carpenter tr. *Tiele's Hist. Relig.* 2 It is really history, and not a morphologic arrangement of religions.

Morphological (mɔ̄ɹfolɒ·dʒikăl), *a.* [Formed as prec. + -al.]

1. *Biol.* Of, pertaining to, or derived from morphology; such as is described, investigated, or ascertained by morphology.

1830 Lindley *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 84 No order can be more instructively studied with a view to morphological inquiries [than the *Pomaceæ*]. 1876 E. R. Lankester *Hist. Creat.* I. ii. 30 All the known morphological phenomena in the animal and vegetable kingdoms. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 77 The distinctions drawn were..purely morphological.

2. *Philol.* Pertaining to morphology; based on characteristics of form.

1860 Farrar *Orig. Lang.* ix. 185 Pott's formula for the morphological classification of language. 1861 Max Müller *Sci. Lang.* 75 In these languages..we shall have to be satisfied with the criteria of a morphological affinity, instead of those of a genealogical relationship.

3. *gen.* Of or pertaining to the history of form.

1865 Lecky *Ration.* I. 315 Another branch of scientific progress which I may notice on account of its influence upon speculative opinions is the rapid growth of a morphological conception of the universe. 1885 C. F. Keary in *Numism. Chron.* V. 165 General Pitt-Rivers, taking up the same kind of morphological study in relation to other objects, has arranged a collection of..human implements, and has communicated.. papers upon their morphology. *Ibid.* 168 The morphological aspect of the coin-type.

4. *Min. Morphological axis* (see quots.).

1878 Gurney *Crystallogr.* 38 The axis of hexagonal symmetry in the Rhombohedral System and the axis of tetragonal symmetry in the Pyramidal System are called morphological axes. 1895 Story-Maskelyne *Crystallogr.* 128 Where two or more planes of symmetry lying in a zone are conformable, their zone-axis will be termed a morphological axis or axis of form for the system.

Morphologically (mɔ̄ɹfolɒ·dʒikăli), *adv.* [f. prec. + -ly[2].] In a morphological manner; with reference to the facts or principles of morphology (in various senses).

1859 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* V. 220/2 Saprolegnia, which is morphologically so closely related to Vaucheria,..we obtain [etc.]. 1868 Max Müller *Sel. Ess.* (1881) I. 83 It had been the custom in classifying languages morphologically to represent some languages .. as isolating. 1878 Gurney *Crystallogr.* 40 Directions which are morphologically symmetrical—that is which make equal angles with similar faces. 1899 tr. *von Jaksch's Clin. Diagn.* vi. (ed. 4) 203 A definite and morphologically distinctive parasite occurs in the discharge of cholera patients.

Morphologist (mɔɹfɒ·lŏdʒist). *Biol.* [f. Morphology-y + -ist.] One versed in morphology; one who pursues morphological investigations.

1845 Whewell *Indic. Creator* 34 The morphologists have declared .. that they could not allow themselves to ascribe to the Creator any intention. 1857 Goodsir in *Edin. New Philos. Jrnl.* V. 119 It is..incumbent on the morphologist to ascertain in what respects they correspond. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 616 But for the morphologist the eruption still runs from dorsum to venter.

Morphology (mɔɹfɒ·lŏdʒi). [f. Gr. *μορφ-ή* form + -logy.] The science of form.

1. *Biol.* That branch of biology which is concerned with the form of animals and plants, and of the structures, homologies, and metamorphoses which govern or influence that form.

1830 R. Knox *Cloquet's Anat.* 2 It is to this kind of investigation, which has by some been named Morphology, that anatomy belongs. 1859 J. R. Greene *Protozoa* Introd. 17 By some the word 'morphology' is employed in a restricted sense, to signify the study of homologous organs. 1880 Gray *Struct. Bot.* 5 *note*, The term Morphology was introduced into science by Goethe, at least as early as the year 1817.

2. *Philol.* The branch of grammar which is concerned with the form of words (including word-formation and inflexion).

1869 Farrar *Fam. Speech* iv. 118 By the morphology of a language we mean the general laws of its grammatical structure. 1871 *Public Sch. Lat. Gram.* 21 Morphology or Wordlore..has three divisions:—I. Flexion. II. Derivation. III. Composition. 1907 *Athenæum* 2 Mar. 256/1 Two volumes—one dealing with phonology, morphology, and inflexions, and the other with syntax.

3. *gen.* The history of variation in form.

1885 C. F. Keary in *Numism. Chron.* V. 165 By the morphology of coins I mean the history of those changes in their form which have resulted .. from influences which ..are always affecting..the evolution of coins.

Morphometry (mɔɹfɒ·mĕtri). [f. Gr. *μορφ-ή* form + -metry.] The art or process of measuring the external form of objects.

1856 in Mayne *Expos. Lex.* 1898 *Nature* 13 Jan. 256/1 Dr. Wilhelm Halbfass has worked out in detail the morphometry of the Lake of Geneva.

Hence **Morphome·trical** *a.*, pertaining to or connected with morphometry.

1856 in Mayne *Expos. Lex.*, and in later Dicts.

Morphon (mɔ̄·ɹfɒn). *Biol.* Also **morphone**. Pl. (badly formed) **morphontes**. [a. G. *morphon* (pl. *morphonten*), invented by Haeckel, who explains it as f. Gr. *μορφ-ή* form + *ὄν* being.] A morphological individual, element, or factor.

1873 W. S. Dallas (tr. Haeckel) in *Ann. Mag. Nat. Hist.* Sér. iv. XI. 245 Because the morphontes (morphological elements) of the first order which form the sponge-organism..exhibit a relatively high degree of physiological individuality, and because the personality of the sponges built up of these (the morphon of the third order) was not recognised, the former have been regarded as the 'true individuals' of the sponge. 1880 Pascoe *Zool. Classif.* (ed. 2) 284 *Morphone*, a morphological element. 1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 842/1 He distinguishes..the physiological individual (or *bion*)..from the morphological individual (or *morphon*).

Morphonomy (mɔɹfɒ·nŏmi). *Nat. Hist.* [f. Gr. *μορφ-ή* form + *-νομία*, f. *νόμος* law.] The science concerned with the laws of form in animals, plants, and crystals.

1856 in Mayne *Expos. Lex.*, and in later Dicts.

Hence **Morphono·mic** *a.*, of or pertaining to morphonomy (*Cent. Dict.* 1890).

Morphophyly (mɔɹfɒ·fili). *Biol.* [f. Gr. *μορφ-ή* form + *φῦλ-ον* tribe + -y.] The tribal history of living forms; that branch of phylogeny which treats only of form.

1879 tr. *Haeckel's Evol. Man* I. i. 24 Tribal history of forms (Morphophyly). 1890 in *Century Dict.*

Morphoplasm (mɔ̄·ɹfoplæzm). *Biol.* [f. Gr. *μορφ-ή* form + *πλάσμα* Plasma, Plasm.] The vital substance of an organic cell.

1893 W. N. Parker tr. *Weismann's Germ-Plasm* 38, I shall .. call the vital substance of the cell the 'formative plasm' or morphoplasm..in contrast to the idioplasm.

Morphosco·pic, *a.* [f. Gr. *μορφ-ή* form + *σκοπ-εῖν* to look: see -ic.] Having regard to form.

1816 Bentham *Chrestom.* Wks. 1843 VIII. 85 Morphoscopic Posology. [Proposed as a better name for Geometry.]

Morphoscopy (mɔɹfɒ·skŏpi). *Biol.* [f. Gr. *μορφ-ή* form + *σκοπ-εῖν* to look (see -scope) + -y.] = Morphology (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1891).

Morphosis (mɔɹfō·sis). Pl. **morphoses** (mɔɹfō·sīz). [mod.L., a. Gr. *μόρφωσις* a shaping, f. *μορφοῦν* to shape, fashion, f. *μορφή* form.]

†1. Form, figure, configuration. *Obs.*

1675 Sir E. Sherburne tr. *Manilius* Pref. 3 As they [the Constellations] are distinguished into prophane and Sacred Figures or Morphoses according to the different Uranography of the Antient Ethnicks. 1676 Owen *Nat. Apostasy* ii. 115 Instead of that Mystical spiritual Union with himself and among themselves which Christ prayed for, and purchased for his Disciples, they have substituted the *Morphosis* or *Mormo* of an Agreement in professing Subjection to the Pope of Rome.

2. *Bot.* The manner or order of development of an organ or organism.

1857 M. J. Berkeley *Cryptog. Bot.* § 94. 114 The morphosis of the production has not yet been properly observed. 1874 R. Brown *Man. Bot.* 609 *Morphosis*, order or mode of development of any organ or organs.

b. Used for Metamorphosis. (Cf. sense 3.)

1882 G. Maw in *Jrnl. Linn. Soc., Bot.* XIX. 370 The only other point I have to refer to is the tendency to morphosis of nearly every part of a Crocus. 1886 — *Monogr. Crocus* 19 *Morphosis.* Nearly every organ of a Crocus has a strong tendency to metamorphosis.

3. *Med.* A morbid formation; organic disease.

1856 in Mayne *Expos. Lex.* 1891 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

Morphotic (mɔɹfɒ·tik), *a. Biol.* [ad. Gr. type *μορφωτικός*, f. *μορφοῦν* to form, f. *μορφή* form.] Formative; contributory to organic structure.

1876 Bartholow *Mat. Med.* (1879) 544 Cupping and leeching..may diminish..the proportion of the morphotic elements. 1891 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

Morphotomy (mɒrfɒ·tŏmi). *Biol.* [f. Gr. μορφ-ή form + -τομία cutting, f. τομ-, τέμνειν to cut, after *anatomy*.] The art of dissecting the different parts of any organized body for purposes of morphological investigation (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1891).

Morphous (mɔ̄·fəs), *a. rare.* [f. Gr. μορφ-ή form: see -OUS.] Having a determinate shape; opposed to *amorphous*.

1885 Roberts *Urin. & Renal Dis.* I. iv. (ed. 4) 166 A large quantity of amorphous, or barely morphous granular debris.

Morphrodite: see Mophrodite.

Morphu(e, variant forms of Morphew.

†**Mo·rpion.** *Obs.* [a. F. *morpion*.] = Crab 4.

1597 Lowe *Chirurg.* (1634) 126 The Morpions..are found chiefly about the privy parts. 1678 Butler *Hud.* III. i. 437 His Flea, his Morpion, and Punese, If had gotten for his proper ease. 1826 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* III. xxviii. 26 *Phthirus* Leach, or the Morpion.

Morpunkee, variant of Morepunky.

Morra, variant of Mora[2]; obs. form of Murrey.

Morraine, obs. form of Murrain.

Morral, variant of Morel[1].

Morrane, Morre, Morreine: see Marram, Murr, Murrain.

Morrass(h)e, Morre(i)s, obs. ff. Morris *sb.*[1]

Morrell, obs. form of Merel.

1627 W. Hawkins *Apollo Shroving* III. iv. 49 That can set his three along in a row, And that is fippeny morrell.

Morrell(e, -lo, var. ff. Morel *sb.*[3], Morello.

Morrenian (mɒrī·niăn), *a. Zool.* [f. the name of C. F. A. *Morren* (1807–58), Belgian naturalist: see -IAN.] Epithet of certain glands in worms, whose function appears to be to adapt the ingesta for nutrition (*Cent. Dict.* 1890).

Morres, Morrey, obs. ff. Morris, Murrey.

Morreyn(e, obs. forms of Murrain.

‖ **Morrhua** (mɒ·ruă). [mod.L. *Morrhua*, a genus of fishes of which the cod (now *Gadus morrhua*) was typical, a. med.L. *morua, moruca, moruta* cod. Cf. F. *morue*.] Used *attrib.* in *morrhua-oil*, cod-liver oil (Cassell 1885).

Morrhuine (mɒ·ruəin). *Chem.* Also 9 -in. [f. prec. + -INE.] (See quot. 1897.)

1891 *Syd. Soc. Lex., Morrhuin.* 1897 C. W. Lynan in *New York Voice* 19 Aug. 7/3 Cod-liver oil..contains minute amounts of a substance secreted in the liver, 'gaduine', or 'morrhuine'.

Hence **Morrhui·nic** *a. Chem.*, in *morrhuinic acid* = Gadinic *acid* (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1891).

Morrian, Morrice, obs. ff. Morion, Morris.

Morricer (mɒ·risəı). [f. *morrice* Morris *sb.*[1] + -ER[1].] A morris-dancer.

1810 Scott *Lady of L.* v. xxii, There morricers with bell at heel, And blade in hand, their mazes wheel.

Morries, obs. form of Morris *sb.*[1]

Morrion, obs. form of Morion.

Morris (mɒ·ris), *sb.*[1] Forms: 5 moreys, mourish, 6 mor(r)es, moreis, -yce, -ys, morrass(h)e, morreis, 6–7 moris, morrisse, 6–8 morice, 6–9 morrice, 7 morise, 6– morris. [subst. use of *morys* obs. var. Moorish *a.*[2] Cf. OF. *morisque, morixe* sb., in the same sense.]

1. = Morris-dance. † *To dance the morris*, to take part in a morris-dance.

1512 [see Monsieur 1]. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* XIII. ix. 112 Thar morisis and syk riot. 1589 R. Harvey *Pl. Perc.* 8 All the picked youth,..footing the Morris about a May pole. 1617 Moryson *Itin.* IV. 477 Setting vp maypooles daunsing the morris with hobby horses, bringing home the lady of the harvest. 1712 *Spect.* No. 425 ₱ 3 Four Reapers, who danced a Morrice to the Sound of Oaten Pipes. 1817 Southey *Wat Tyler* I. i, Since we were boys together, And play'd at barley-brake, and danced the morris. 1856 Boker *Leonor de Guzman* I. ii. Poems (1857) I. 261 I'll dance the morrice, and you'll ride the horse With an alms-pipkin at your saddle-bow.

2. A body of morris-dancers.

1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* lvii. 8 Sum lait at evin bringis in the moreis. 1554 *Burgh Recs. Edinb.* (1871) II. 293 Vtheris that furneist the grayth to the convoy of the moris to the Abbay. 1603 Harsnet *Pop. Impost.* 49 The Fidler comes in with his Taber and Pipe and a whole Morice after him with Motly Visards. 1616 *Pasquil & Katherine* I. 51 Oh, a Morrice is come, observe our country sport. 1621 Bp. Mountagu *Diatribæ* 448 A certaine Lasse .. came with others, in a Morrice vnto the Church of Enyalius. 1636 Randolph in *Ann. Dubrensia* C 3 b, These teach that Dancing is a Iezabell,..The Morrice, Idolls.

3. *transf.* and *fig.*

1547 Coverdale *Old Faith* To Rdr., The man wyll not daunce in the deuyls morys with them. 1571 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xxix. 35 Sum for þe hure garris heid þameselff, and is not þat a morreis? 1613 Fletcher *Captain* v. i, Certainly my body Is of a wild-fire For my head rings backward Or else I have a morise in my braines. 1634 Milton *Comus* 116 The Sounds and Seas with all their finny drove Now to the Moon in wavering Morrice move. 1698 Fryer *Acc. E. India & P.* 23 A Chorus of Porpoises had taken the Sea in their Dance; which Morris once over, the Seas were quiet. 1892 Henley *Song of Sword*, etc. Rhymes xi. 1 Gulls in an aëry morrice Gleam and vanish and gleam. 1894 K. Grahame *Pagan Papers* 23 And all the attendant hurry and scurry of the human morrice.

4. *attrib.*, as *morris feast, garment, mate, train*; **morris bell**, one of many small metal bells attached to the clothing of morris dancers.

1560 *Churchw. Acc. St. Helen's, Abingdon* in *Archæologia* I. 17 For two dossin of *Morres belles 1s. 1748 Smollett *Rod. Rand.* xiii. (1804) 70 His fears had magnified .. the sound of small morrice bells to the clanking of massy chains. 1750 W. Ellis *Mod. Husbandm.* IV. xvii. 185 A fourth way Is to tie a Morrice-Bell about the Neck of a catch'd rat. 1821 Bp. Mountagu *Diatribæ* 488 The Salij, the habite they vsed in those *Morrice-Feasts. 1507 in Lysons *Envir. Lond.* (1792) I. 226 [Kingston upon Thames] For 4 plyts and ¼ of laun for the *mores garments o. 2. 11. *c* 1621 Rowley, etc. *Witch of Edmont.* III. i. (1658) 26, I pray you, good *Morrice-mates, now leave me. 1802 Wordsw. *To Daisy* 17 In shoals and bands, a *morrice train, Thou greet'st the traveller in the lane.

Morris (mɒ·ris), *sb.*[2] *Obs.* exc. *Hist.* [Corruption of *merels*: see Merel 2.] = Merel 2. Chiefly *Nine men's* (*peg*) *morris*.

1590 Shaks. *Mids. N.* II. i. 98 The nine mens Morris is fild vp with mud. 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Merils*, a Play among Boys, otherwise call'd *Fivepenny Morris*. 1825 J. Neal *Bro. Jonathan* I. 7 Peters had beaten him..at fox and geese; then at morris; then at checquers, or draughts. 1835 Clare *Rural Muse* 119 Oft we may track his haunts .. By nine-peg-morris nicked upon the green. 1865 S. Evans *Bro. Fabian's MS.* 9 He found his abacus expressly scored For nine-men's morris on an indoor scale.

Morris (mɒ·ris), *sb.*[3] *Nat. Hist.* [f. the name of William *Morris* of Holyhead.] An elongated flat eel-like fish formerly named *Leptocephalus morrisii*, but now regarded as the aborted young of the conger-eel. Also *Anglesea morris*.

1769 Pennant *Brit. Zool.* III. 125. 1781 — *Tour Wales* II. 252 The Beaumaris Shark,..the Morris, and the trifurcated Hake .. are new species taken in this sea. 1835 Jenyns *Brit. Vertebr. Anim.* 480 *Leptocephalus Morrisii*, Ginel. (Angelsea Morris).

Morris, morrice (mɒ·ris), *v.* [f. Morris *sb.*[1]]

1. *intr.* To dance. Also *slang* (see quot. 1725).

1725 *New Cant. Dict., Morris*, to hang dangling in the Air, to be executed. 1861 M. Collins in *Temple Bar* I. 268 Where the unseen fairies gaily morriced.

2. *slang.* To move away rapidly; to decamp. Also with *off*. ? *Obs.*

1765 Cowper *Let. to Hill* 8 Nov., Wks. 1837 XV. 6, I think the Welshman must *morris*. 1773 Goldsm. *Stoops to Conq.* III. ii, Zounds! here they are. Morrice! Prance! 1796 Mrs. M. Robinson *Angelina* II. 81 You'll be pleased to morrice off while you are in a whole skin. 1838 Dickens *O. Twist* viii, Up with you on your pins. There! Now then! Morrice!

†**b.** To move at a rapid pace. *Obs.*

1826 *Sporting Mag.* XVII. 333 They [horses] are not large, but they can all 'morris' a little.

3. *trans.* To dance (a particular measure).

a 1845 Hood *Forge* i. 4 However it's quite As wild a night As ever was known on that sinister height Since the Demon-Dance was morriced.

Mo·rris-dance. Forms: see Morris *sb.*[1] [f. Morris *sb.*[1] (or *morys* Moorish *a.*[2]) + Dance *sb.* Cf. Flemish *mooriske dans* (perh. the immediate source), Du. *Moorsche dans*, early mod.G. *moriskentanz*, F. *danse moresque*.]

A grotesque dance performed by persons in fancy costume, usually representing characters from the Robin Hood legend, esp. Maid Marian and Friar Tuck. Hence, any mumming performance of which fantastic dancing is an important feature. Also, a representation of the dance.

1458 *Will of Wetenhale* (Somerset Ho.), Ciphus argenti sculpt. cum moreys daunce. 1494 in *Excerpta Hist.* (1831) 95 For playing of the Mourice dance. 1510 *Will of Jackson* (Somerset Ho.), My cuppe w[t] the morres daunce. 1532 *Lett. & Pap. Hen. VIII*, V. 739 A gold salt, called the Moresdaunce, with 5 Moresdaunccrs and a tabrett. 1552 Latimer *Serm.* (1562) 148 Such felowes are more meete to daunce the morrice daunce, then to bee admitted to preache. 1633 Ford *Love's Sacrif.* I. ii, Thou wouldst sweare A Morris-dance were hut a Tragedy Compar'd to that. 1708 J. Chamberlayne *St. Gt. Brit.* I. I. v. (1743) 35 In the reign of King James the First, 8 old men danced a moricedance .. whose ages put together made 800 years. 1801 Strutt *Sports & Past.* III. v. 201, I make no doubt the morris-dance..originated from the fool's dance.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1662 Stillingfl. *Orig. Sacræ* II. iv. § 17 The Dithyrambus was .. a kind of extatick Morice-dance. *a* 1639 Wotton *Parallel Essex & Buckhm.* (1641) 11 Whilest the Queene stood in some doubt of a Spanish Invasion (though it proved but a Morrice dance upon our Waves). 1781 Cowper *Table-T.* 519, I judged a man of sense could scarce do worse Than caper in the morris-dance of verse.

Hence **Mo·rris-dancer**, (*a*) one who takes part in a morris-dance. †(*b*) *pl.* The aurora borealis.

Mo·rris-dancing *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1507 in Jupp *Acc. Carpenters' Comp.* (1887) 200 Itm payd to y[e] morys daunsers viij[d]. 1532 [see Morris dance]. 1612 Rowlands *Knave of Hearts* B 1 b, My Sleeues are like some Morris-dancing fellow. 1612 Peacham *Gentl. Exerc.* I. xii. 45 Those peeces that shewed .. a countrey village, faire or market, .. Morrice dancing, peasants togetber by the eares, and the like. 1621 B. Jonson *Gypsies Met.* (1640) 65 They should be Morris-dancers by their gingle. *a* 1680 Butler *Rem.* (1759) I. 224 A Morrice-dancer drest with Bells. 1755 tr. *Pontoppidan's Nat. Hist. Norway* I. 4 *note*, In England..the north light..is..called Morrice-dancers, Merry dancers, and streamers. 1825 Scott *Talism.* xx, How wouldst like such beverage thyself after such a morrice dancing? 1856 Vaughan *Mystics* (1860) I. 248 All the year is May for the morris-dancers.

Morris-pike (mɒ·rispəik). *Obs.* exc. *Hist.* Forms: 5 mareyspyke, marespike, 6 morys-peke, -peik, -pike, -pyke, morryspike, morespike, -pycke, morrespike, mo(o)rishe pike, pyke, morrisshe pike, morishpike, morest spycke, 6, 8 morispike, 7, 9 morrice-, morris-pike. [f. *morys*, obs. var. Moorish *a.*[2]: cf. Moris *sb.*[1]] A form of pike supposed to be of Moorish origin.

1487 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 397/2 Marespikes, Bowes, Gonnes, ..and many other Wepyns. 1517 Torkington *Pilgr.* (1884) 8 Halbardes, Sperys, Moryspekys. 1545 in *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, III. 543 Iteni, Morest Spyckes, laden with wylde fyer. 1548 *Rutland MSS.* (1905) IV. 568 [Thirty] morrispykes. 1548 *Acts Privy Council* (1890) II. 197 The munitions folowing..morispikes, m[l]. *Ibid.*, Morryspikes, ij[mi] vije. 1608 [A. Munday] *Reynard's Deliv. Christians* B, The English Mariners so laid about them with..browne bills, .. and morris pikes, that [etc.]. 1641 Baker *Chron., Hen. VIII* (1653) 369 They entred the Gallies again with Morris Pikes, and began a new fight. 1709 Strype *Ann. Ref.* xv. 190 They marched out of London .. with guns, moris pikes, halberds, and flags. 1808 Scott *Marm.* I. x, The guards their morrice-pikes advanc'd. 1877 Miss Yonge *Cameos* III. 188 The men who knew how to use harquebuses and morris-pikes were stationed round them.

†**b.** *transf.* A morris-pike-man. *Obs.*

1600 Heywood *1st Pt. Edw. IV*, III. ii. (1613) F 4, With our Gunnes and billes browne O the French were beaten downe, Morrys pikes and bowmen.

Morrisse, obs. form of Morris *sb.*[1]

Morris tube. [From the name of Richard *Morris* (died 1891), the inventor.] A small-bore rifle barrel capable of being inserted in a large-bore rifle or shot-gun for shooting practice; patented in 1881. Also *attrib.*

1884 *Army Gen. Orders* 2 Instructions with regard to the employment of Morris's Aiming Tubes in Government rifles have been approved. 1887 *Ibid.* 160 Morris Aiming Tubes. ..The issue of Morris tubes to battalions of Militia is deferred. 1896 Greener *Gun* (ed. 6) 649 The chief use of a Morris tube is to convert a large bore or powerful rifle into a weapon of the saloon rifle type for gallery practice. 1901 *Scotsman* 28 Feb. 8/2 The question of providing Morris-tube ranges in the public parks.

Morrow (mɒ·rəu), *sb.* Now only *literary* and *dial.* (see E. D. D.). Forms: 3–4 moru, 3–5 mor(e)we, 4–6 morow(e, 5 morue, morou, mor(e)w, 6–7 morrowe, 6– morrow. [ME. *morwe, moru*, shortened variant of *morwen* Morn.]

1. = Morn 1, Morning 1. Occas. as a salutation = Good morrow. *Obs.* exc. *dial.*

c 1275 Lay. 877 He lette clemben an heþ and swiþe loude clepie þat þane ilke morewe come al his gode folke. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Compl. Mars* 12 The glad nyght ys worthe an heuy morowe. *c* 1386 — *Prol.* 336 Wel loved he by the morwe a sop in wyn. *c* 1450 *M. E. Med. Bk.* (Heinrich) 94 Let þe seek drinke þer of .. at euen hot an morew colde. 1530 Palsgr. 549/1 The two hostes fought togyder from morowe to nyght. 1597 Bp. Hall *Sat.* I. vii, Shee's white as morrows milk, or flakes new blowne. 1632 Massinger *Maid of Hon.* I. i, Morrow to my Vncle. 1706–7 Farquhar *Beaux' Strat.* II. i, Morrow, my dear Sister; are you for Church this Morning? 1710–11 Swift *Jrnl. to Stella* 4 Jan., Morning. Morrow, little dears.

2. The day next after the present; the day subsequent to any specified day. *The morrow*, frequently used advb. = on the following day.

c 1290 *St. Cross* 37 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 2 Þene Morewe aftur Midewinter day to dehe huy him brouȝte. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 7842 Þe morwe after seinte mari day. 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* 41 In morewe men he sohte, At under mo he brohte. *c* 1449 Pecock *Repr.* I. v. 24 Whanne heuen is rody in the euentid a cleer dai schal be the morewe. 1535 Coverdale *Exod.* ix. 6 Tomorow shal the Lorde do this vpon earth. And the Lorde dyd the same on the morow. *Ibid. Matt.* vi. 34 Care not then for the morow, for the morow shall care for it self. *a* 1626 Bacon *New Atl.* (1900) 8 The Morrow after our three dayes were past, ther came to us a new Man. 1693 Dryden *Persius* v. (1697) 475 Unhappy he who does this Work adjourn, And to to morrow wou'd the search delay: His lazy morrow will be like to day. 1712 M. Henry *Daily Commun.* Wks. 1855 I. 242/1 Taking thought for the morrow is the great hinderance of our peace in the night. 1813 Byron *Br. Abydos* II. xxvii, There late was laid a marble stone; Eve saw it placed—the Morrow gone! 1817 Wolfe *Burial Sir J. Moore* iv, We bitterly thought of the morrow. 1878 Browning *La Saisiaz* 12 With yourself it rests to have a month of morrows like to-day!

†**b.** *The next morrow*: the day after. *The third morrow*: the day but one after. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 24549 He hight to rise þe thrid moru. *a* 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* 82 Hire blisse sprong the thridde morewe. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 250 Wherof his lord, which was deceived, A seknesse er the thridde morwe Conceived hath of dedly sorwe. *c* 1430 *Syr Gener.* (Roxb.) 175 On the third morow Bellins the king Rose erlie or the day ganne spring. 1565 Stapleton tr. *Bede's Hist. Ch. Eng.* 104 If Sonday were not the next morow after the fourtenth day of the chaunge of the Moone,..he taryed for the Sonday. 1647 W. Browne tr. *Polexander* I. 65 The Assembly.. thought it fit to resolve of nothing that day, but that they should meet againe the next morrow to conclude all things.

3. *transf.* and *fig.*, esp. in the sense: The time immediately following a particular event.

a 1586 C'tess Pembroke *Ps.* CXLIII iv, Let mercies morrow Soone chase my night of sorrow. 1646 Crashaw *Steps to Temple* 40 Let them sleepe on, Till this stormy night be gone, And th' eternall morrow dawne. 1834 Ht. Martineau *Farrers* ii. 22 This morrow of a piece of good fortune. 1886 J. Fiske in *Atlantic Monthly* LVIII. 377 On the morrow of a long and costly war, it was not strange

that the whole country was in some measure pauperized. 1887 *New Princeton Rev.* III. 1 The morrow of the death of a public favorite is apt to be severe upon his memory.

4. *attrib.* (now only *poet.*), as *morrow* †*dew*, †*letler, light, morn, noon, song*; **morrow day**, (*a*) the next day, the morrow; (*b*) daybreak; †**morrow part** = MORNING GIFT (cf. MORDELL); †**morrow priest**, a priest who says morrow-mass; †**morrow star** = MORNING STAR 1.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 5993 Moises praid þe *moru dai, All þe fleies ware went awai. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 63 Wherof erli the morwe day..he gan to fare Into the field. *c* 1530 *Crt. of Love* 437 Seven at midnight, seven at morow-day. 1582 N. T. (Rhem.) *Matt.* vi. 34 The morow day shal be careful for it self. 1820 KEATS *St. Agnes* xxvii, Flown, like a thought, until the morrow-day. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVI. lxii. (Tollemache MS.), White margarites..þat ben conceyuid of þe *morow dewe ben made dym with þe eyer of þe euentide. 1619 HALES *Gold. Rem.* II. (1673) 82 In my *morrow Letters I will not fail .. to send your honour the transcripts. 1582 BENTLEY *Mon. Matrones* 107 O Lord, I beseech thee, that .. thy grace may spring in my heart with the *morrowe light of thy comfort. 1830 TENNYSON *Poems* 96 The ocean with the morrow light Will be both blue and calm. 1798 COLERIDGE *Anc. Mar.* VII. ad fin., A sadder and a wiser man He rose the *morrow morn. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Blanchardyn* v. 22 A grete forest, in whiche he entred and rode styl tyl the *morowe none, wythout ony aduenture. 1557–8 *Will of W. Rayner* (Somerset Ho.), Unto maude my wif for her full Dowery and *morrowe parte. 1563 BECON *Acts of Christ*, etc. Wks. III. 414 This *morowe priest and that morowe priest. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 832 If even-song and *morrow-song acorde, Lat se now who shal telle the firste tale. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 344/2 *Morow sterre.., *Lucifer*. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 67 b, The morowe sterre that commeth before the daye.

Morrow (mǫ·rǫu), *v. rare.* [f. MORROW *sb.*] *intr.* To dawn. Also (*nonce-use*) in *passive*, to be endowed with mornings.

1839–52 BAILEY *Festus* 157 When earth was dayed—was morrowed—the first ray Perched on his pen, and diamonded its way. *Ibid.* 228, I have turned to thee, moon, from my heart,..And have hoped it might mix, as I watched thee depart, Like thyself, with the morn which had morrowed. 1884 J. PAYNE *Tales fr. Arabic* I. 70 When the morning morrowed..he summoned the chief of his viziers.

Morrow-3yfe, var. MORYEVE, 'morning-gift'.

†**Mo·rrowing**, *vbl. sb. Obs. rare.* [f. MORROW *sb.* + -ING 1: cf. *morning*; in sense 2 implying a vb. **morrow* to procrastinate.]

1. Morning; dawning.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Compl. Mars* (Tanner MS.) 26 Yit will I..synge The sentence of the compleynt..That wofull mars made at the departynge Fro fressh venus in a morowynge [*Trin. MS.* morownyng]. *c* 1385 — *L. G. W.* 1483 The morwynge [*Trin. MS.* morowyng; *Selden MS.* morowenyng] attempre was & fayr. 1508 DUNBAR *Gold. Targe* 247 Suete war the vapouris, soft the morowing.

2. A postponing till 'the morrow'.

1602 BRETON *Mother's Blessing* lxvi. D 3 b, If he importune thee with horrowing,..Or daily put thee off with morrowing, Till want do make thee wearie of thy lending.

Morrowing gift, var. MORWYNGIFT *Obs. Sc.*

†**Mo·rrow-mass.** *Obs.* The first mass of the day.

c 1440 *Jacob's Well* 116 3e, þat heryn noȝt full dyvyn seruyse in ȝoure parysch-cherche, hut a morwemasse. 1484 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* (1905) 116 Payd to syr Iohn plommer for hys labur to syng the morowmas. 1584 R. SCOT *Discov. Witchcr.* v. iii. (1886) 76 He heard a little saccaring bell ring to the elevation of a morrowe masse. 1601 F. GODWIN *Bps. of Eng.* 304 He built..a little Chappell for morrow masse. 1849 ROCK *Ch. of Fathers* IV. 8 After Terce, the first mass of the day, or the 'morrow mass' was sung.

b. *attrib.*, as *morrow-mass altar, monger, priest.*

1494 FABYAN *Chron.* VII. 617 The morowe masse preest of Bowe Churche in Chepe was moste commendyd. 1512 in *Jacob's Hist. Faversham* (1774) 164 At the Morrow Masse Awter. 1556 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* (1905) 401 Payed to sir William Rychard, morrowmas prest, for halfe a yeare ended at midsomer 1556. *a* 1603 T. CARTWRIGHT *Confut. Rhem. N. T.* (1618) 703 A Popish Sheppard, or Morrow-Masse-Priest. 1624 BP. MOUNTAGU *Gagg* 57 Let you morrow Massmungers when they masse it alone, use Iaponian, or Mexico Language. 1635 PAGITT *Christianogr.* 216 Monks, Nuns, and morrow Masse Priests.

Morrow-speech: see MORN-SPEECH.

†**Mo·rrow-tide.** *Obs.* Also 5 mortyde. [Cf. MORN-TIDE.] = MORNINGTIDE.

c 1290 *Beket* 49 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 108 In þe morewe-tide heo weren i-souȝt. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 2895 Erly on þe morwetyde after þat þay were there, þe Amyral wolde no leng abyde bot þe Galwys let arere. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Merch. T.* 981 And so hifel, that brighte morwe-tyde, That [etc.]. *c* 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 1441 In þe mortyde þo, whenne hit was day. 1481 CAXTON *Reynard* (Arh.) 37 It happed so that on a morowtyde erly that grymbert my neuew was of wyne almost dronke. 1504 ATKYNSON tr. *De Imitatione* I. xx. 169 A mery euentyde foloweth a sory morow tyde. 1520 *Myrr. our Ladye* 13 In some chirches they say mattyns in the morow tyde.

Morryeve, var. MORYEVE, 'morning-gift'.

Morryoune, obs. form of MORIAN.

†**Mors**, *v. Obs.* [aphetic a. F. *amorcer* to prime (a gun), to prepare for an operation.]

1. *trans.* To grease (firearms).

1533 *Acc. Ld. Treas. Scotl.* (1905) VI. 160 For walx and talloune to mors the baghutis.

2. To prime (a gun). Implied in MORSING *vbl. sb.*

Mors, Morsall, obs. ff. MORSE *sb.*2, MORSEL.

†**Mo·rsare.** *Obs.* [aphetic a. F. *amorçoir*, f. *amorcer*: see MORS *v.*] A priming-flask for a cannon.

1540 *Ld. Treas. Acc.* in Pitcairn *Crim. Trials* I. 304* Ane morsare to þe Kingis grace Culvering, quhilk wes of siluer.

Morsbunker: see MOSSBUNKER.

Morscel, obs. form of MORSEL.

Morse (mǭɪs), *sb.*1 Also 5 **mors.** [a. OF. *mors* (Godef. 1380), ad. L. *mors-us* bite, catch (of a buckle), f. *mordēre* to bite.] The clasp or fastening of a cope, frequently made of gold or silver, and set with precious stones.

1404 *Durh. Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 394 Item j mors cum lapidibus. 1489 *Will of Atwode* (Somerset Ho.), A mortuary cloth of blac velvett the orfraies & mors w^t^ flowres. 1489–90 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* (1905) 150 Item, for Cere clothe to the orpharas, the hode & the moose [? *read* morse] of the saide coope. 1536 in *Antiq. Sarisb.* (1771) 197 Six copes..having in the Morse red and white Roses of pearls. *c* 1540 *Invent.* in *Trans. Lond. & Mdx. Archæol. Soc.* IV. 329, iij copes of white bawdekyn with fflewres of gold and dases..and thys letter I in the morses. *Ibid.* 349, xxvij newe morsys for copys. 1826 MRS. BRAY *De Foix* ii. (1884) 15 His tunic was fastened in front by a morse, or brooch, richly enamelled, ..and representing the Virgin Mary.

Morse (mǭɪs), *sb.*2 Forms: 5–8 **mors**, 6 **morsse**, 7 **morss**, **moss**, 8 **morsh**, 6– **morse.** [a. Lapp. *morsa, morssa*, or the equivalent Finnish *mursu*. Cf. F. *morse* (first in *morce marin* = Caxton's *mors marine*), Russian МОРЖЪ.]

1. The sea-horse or walrus, *Trichechus rosmarus.*

1482 CAXTON *Chron. Eng.* cclvii. 336 This yere were take iiij grete fisshes hytwene Eerethe and london, that one was callyd mors marine [etc.]. *c* 1553 CHANCELOUR in *Hakluyt's Voy.* (1599) I. 237 There are also a fishes teeth, which fish is called a Morsse. *c* 1614 *Voy.* [*to Spitzbergen*] in *Archæologia Amer.* (1860) IV. 313 Theise morses use to goe ashoare vpon some beach or pointe of lowe land. 1710 WHITWORTH *Acc. Russia* (1758) 83 Morses, or sea-horses, from Nova Zembla, used to load thirty boats a year with blubber. 1855 W. S. DALLAS in *Syst. Nat. Hist.* II. 471 The Walrus, Morse, or Sea-Horse,..is an inhabitant of the Arctic portions of both Hemispheres.

†**2.** Erroneously applied to the hippopotamus.

1775 ASH, *Morse*, the hippopotamus, the river horse. 1891 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Morse teeth*, a name given to the teeth of the hippopotamus used for making artificial teeth.

3. *attrib.*, as *morse-hide, -ivory, -teeth.*

1681 GREW *Musæum* I. § v. i. 89 A piece of a *Morse-Hide. 1877 W. JONES *Finger-ring* 89 A *morse ivory thumb-ring of an Earl of Shrewsbury. 1618 T. BARKER in *St. Papers Col., E. Indies* 1617–21 (1870) 159 Tin, brass, *morse teeth, Muscovy hides.

Morse (mǭɪs), *sb.*3 *Telegraphy.* The name of the American electrician S. F. B. *Morse* (1791–1872), the inventor of the recording telegraph, and of the alphabet (in which the letters are expressed by combinations of dots and dashes) used for sending messages by this instrument. Used *attrib.* in designations of these inventions and things pertaining to them; also *ellipt.* as *sb.* = 'Morse telegraph'.

[1847 'PETER PROGRESS' *Electr. Telegr.* 63 Morse's Telegraph. This variety of the Electric Telegraph is employed on all the American lines.] 1860 PRESCOTT *Electr. Telegr.* III. v. 73 Electric telegraph apparatus. The Morse system. 1867 SABINE *Electr. Telegr.* 84 Simple Morse Circuit.—In its simplest form the Morse telegraph consists of a transmitting key [etc.]. *Ibid.* 86 Embossing Instrument with movable Magnet. This is a construction of the Morse by Messrs. Siemens and Halske. *Ibid.* 87 The Morse Code. *Ibid.* 90 The Morse alphabet. *Ibid.* 149 The Morse recorder. 1876 PREECE & SIVEWRIGHT *Telegraphy* 105 In England we never do use the Morse on such circuits..It is an exceedingly rare thing to fix more than four stations on one Morse circuit. 1889 PREECE & MAIER *Telephone* 110 Ordinary Morse signals. 1898 R. KERR *Wireless Telegr.* 93 The Morse inker. *Ibid.* 97 A small Morse key.

Hence **Morse** *v. intr.*, to signal by means of the Morse alphabet.

1906 KIPLING in *Windsor Mag.* Jan. 232/2 Ah! now she's Morsing against the fog.

Morsebonker: see MOSSBUNKER.

Morseed, obs. variant of MAWSEED.

1724 *Weekly Jrnl.* No. 276 Very fine singing Nightingales, with a fine Parcel of Morseed, to be sold.

Morsel (mǭ·ɹsĕl), *sb.* Forms: 3 **mossel**, 4–5 **mussel(e, mossele**, 5 **mussell(e, mossell(e**; 4 **morsele, morsele**, 4–6 **morselle**, 4–7 **morsell**, 4–8 **morcel**, 5 **morssel, murssell, morsylle**, 5–7 **morcell**, 6 **morssell**, *Sc.* **morsall**, 3– **morsel.** [a. OF. *morsel* (mod.F. *morceau*: see MORCEAU) = It. *morsello*, med.L. *morsellum*, dim. of F. *mors*, It. *morso* a bite:—L. *morsum*, neut. pa. pple. of *mordēre* to bite.]

1. A bite; a mouthful; a small piece of food.

Now apprehended as a contextual use of sense 2.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 7028 Þe mossel he dude in to is mouþ .. Hit bileuede amidde is þrote. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 13485 Qua had o penis thre hundreth Bred for to hi, þai ar sua fele, War til ilkan bot a morsel. *c* 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* IX. 398 Our lordis of France, that ay With gud morsellis farsis thair panch. 1382 WYCLIF *Ps.* cxlvii. 17 He sendeth his cristal as mussells [*v.r.* morselis]. *c* 1450 *M. E. Med. Bk.* (Heinrich) 219 Ete þat at fyue mosseles, & þenne drynk a gret draw3t of good wyn. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* a v, Take .iij. cornes of whete and put hem in a morcell of flesh and yeue thessame morcellis to the hawke. 1565 T. STAPLETON *Fortr. Faith* 30 This apple is all rotten, and yet there are some sound morsells in him. 1663 H. COGAN tr. *Pinto's Trav.* lviii. 230 She eat of the Fruit, and made her Husband likewise to eat of it, whence it ensued that they were both of them by that unhappy Morsel subjected to the pains of Death. 1665 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (1677) 334 They..wrap it in a leaf of Betele..and chew it in morsels. 1758 JOHNSON *Idler* No. 19 § 8 The first morsel is in his mouth. 1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* vi, He took a cake in his hand, broke it, and was about to eat a morsel, when the effort to swallow seemed almost too much for him. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. xxvii. 202 At the spring..the men paused to have a morsel of bread.

b. with omission of *of*.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 7025, & al so late þis mossel bred þoru mi þrote wende. *c* 1450 *Merlin* i. 6 Vef we hadde hut a mossell brede, we haue more ioye..than ye haue with alle the delicatys of the worlde. 1528 PAYNELL *Salerne's Regim.* Q j b, They eate a morsell breadde.

c. A choice dish; a 'tit-bit'.

c 1440 LYDG. *Horse, Goose & Sheep* 207 A fatt goos..a morsel [*v.r.* mussell] agreable. *a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* 22, I wolle telle you an ensaumple of a woman that ete the good morsell in the absence of her husbonde. *Ibid.*, No woman shulde ete no lycorous morcelles in the absens .. of her husbond. 1848 W. H. BARTLETT *Egypt to Pal.* x. (1879) 225 The Sheikh brought me, as choice morsels, two or three clusters of large sorrel, which tasted very refreshing.

d. A small meal; a 'snack'.

† *To bring* (*a person*) *to a morsel*: ? to bring to poverty.

1470–85 MALORY *Arth.* XVI. viii. 675 She prayd hym to take a lytyl morsel to dyne. 1655 TERRY *Voy. E. India* 8 The Shark..will make a morsell of any thing he can catch, master, and devour. *a* 1734 NORTH *Life Ld. Kpr. Guilford* (1742) 291 But his Vices, in the Way of Women and the Bottle, were so ungoverned, as brought him to a Morsel. 1765 BICKERSTAFFE *Maid of Mill* I. iii. 8 Thou'lt come and eat a morsel of dinner with us. 1818 LADY MORGAN *Autobiog.* (1859) 154 We were eating our morsel at home. 1898 W. F. CLARK *N. Gleams* 56 (E. D. D.) Janey was gettin' ready some kind o' morsel.

e. *transf.* and *fig.*

c 1412 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 3434 Rauyssht of þe beaute of þis womman, This tendir yong morsel, þis doghter, I seye. 1471 CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) 413 Whan the hisperyens sawe hym brought to that sorowe as for to taste the bitter morsell of deth, alle lefte their armes. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xxxii. 23 Scho wes an morsall of delyte. 1538 BALE *Thre Lawes* 713 He shall be at the last a morsell for the deuyll. 1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV*, II. iv. 396 Now comes in the sweetest Morsell of the night, and wee must hence, and leaue it unpickt. 1625 BURGES *Pers. Tithes* 33 Tithes which is a sweet morsell that they are loath to part with. 1649 MILTON *Eikon.* ix. 81 That revenge was no unpleasing morsel to him. *a* 1676 GUTHRIE *Mem.* (1702) 91 The Rent of the Chapel Royal (esteem'd formerly a Morsel sufficient for a Bishop). 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* IX. 2044 Few years, the sport Of fortune; then, the morsel of despair. 1775 HARRIS *Philos. Arrangem.* Wks. (1841) 382 Many choice morsels, both from Greek and Roman writers. 1848 L. HUNT *Jar of Honey* Pref. 2 With this sauce a man might swallow some of the bitterest morsels of life. 1874 DEUTSCH *Rem.* 74 Scores of other tough morsels in the Koran.

f. *jocularly* applied to a person.

1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* II. i. 286 You doing thus, To the perpetuall winke for aye might put This ancient morsell: this Sir Prudence. 1838 MRS. CARLYLE *New Lett.* (1903) I. 69 Beware..how you encourage that little morsel of yours to follow the trade of being a Genius.

2. A small piece (of anything), esp. a portion cut or broken from a mass; a little piece; a fragment. Also *Comb.* †**morsel-meal** *adv.*, piecemeal.

c 1290 *St. Kath.* 247 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 99 Hire tetes heo to-drowe Fram hire bodi mossel mele. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 1268 Maistris & mynistris menere & grettir, þat was in morsels magged. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* I. 30 Take Applys, & pare hem, an smal screde hem in mossellys. 1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* v. lxxix. 5 He simply deliuered vp a large morsell whereby the value of that which remained was betrayed. 1662 EVELYN *Chalcogr.* 92 A morcel of St. Peters by it self. 1693 TATE *Juvenal* XVI. (1697) 374 An Ombite Wretch..is Pris'ner made: Whose Flesh torn off by Lumps, the rav'nous Foe In Morsels cut, to make it farther go. 1800 tr. *Lagrange's Chem.* I. 349 When dry, it appears in white morsels, which may be reduced by the fingers into an exceedingly fine powder. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 815 The small morsels of quicksilver ore. 1860 MOTLEY *Netherl.* (1868) I. i. 8 A morsel of territory.

fig. 1860 A. TROLLOPE *Castle Richm.* I. vi. 106 I'm blessed if I've a morsel of feeling in my toes. 1873 BURTON *Hist. Scot.* VI. lxxiv. 391 No morsel of the system could now be counted an open question.

Morsel (mǭ·ɹsĕl), *v.* [f. MORSEL *sb.* Cf. F. *morceler.*]

1. *trans.* To divide into 'morsels' or small pieces.

1598 FLORIO, *Morsecchiare*, to morsell, to bite. 1621 MOLLE *Camerar. Liv. Libr.* IV. xvii. 301 Chopping into peeces, morselling and deuouring their prisoners.

2. With *out*: To distribute (property, etc.) in small parcels or quantities.

1855 MRS. GORE *Mammon* I. 7 Their estates have been morselled out; while ours remain intact. 1859 MASSON *Brit. Novelists* i. 50 The total mass..was shaped, adjusted, and again morselled out in parts by subsequent minstrels.

Hence **Mo·rselled** *ppl. a.*; **Mo·rselling** *vbl. sb.*

1799 BEDDOES *Contrib. Phys. & Med. Knowl.* 536 advt., The practice..of tantalizing readers by morselled information. 1844 M. HENNELL *Soc. Syst.* 188 Civilization and all historic periods known, have their narrow foundation on family management, or morselling. 1861 LYTTON & FANE *Tannhäuser* 95 The split and morselled crags.

Morselize (mǭ·ɹsĕlaiz), *v. rare.* [f. MORSEL *sb.* + -IZE.] *trans.* To break up into small pieces. Hence **Morseliza·tion**, the act of dividing into small pieces.

1886 A. G. WARNER tr. Le Play in *Pop. Sci. Monthly* Oct. 793 The chaotic .. condition of the foremost nations of Europe resulted..from the 'infinite morselization'.. of interests. 1893 *19th Cent.* Feb. 214 The plan..has been called in America the 'morcelization of government'. 1894 G. S.

HALL. in *Forum* Apr. 158 We have morselized the old curriculum.

Morsh, obs. form of MORSE *sb.*2

Morsicant (mɔ̄ˑsikănt), *a.* [ad. L. *morsicant-em*, pres. pple. of *morsicāre* to bite continually, f. *mors-*, *mordēre* to bite.] (See quot.)

1891 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Morsicant*, producing a sensation as of repeated biting or pricking.

Morsing, *vbl. sb. Sc. Obs.* exc. *Hist.* Also *corruptly* 7 mosine ; (in Comb.) 8–9 motion-, 9 moshin-. [f. MORS *v.* + -ING 1.] The action of priming (a gun). In quot. *concr.*, priming-powder, priming.

1629 Z. BOYD *Last Battell* I. 374 They..cry, Peace, peace, enen while God is putting the fierie lunt into the mosine of their sudden destruction.

b. *attrib.* as *morsing-horn*, *-powder* ; **morsing-hole,** touch-hole.

1552 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 131 Hagbutteris, furnischit with powldir flask, morsing hornis, and all uthair geir. 1568 *Satir. P. Reform.* xlvii. 54 ȝe want ȝor morsing powder. 1789 DAVIDSON *Seasons* 26 An', frae the flake.. He whips the carabine.—The motion-hole Frae rust unspik'd..Adown the bank he hastens. 1805 SCOTT *Last Minstr.* IV. xviii, Buff coats, all frounc'd and 'broidered o'er, And morsing-horns and scarfs they wore. 1824 MACTAGGART *Gallovid. Encycl.*, *Moshin-hole*, the touch-hole of a piece of ordnance; *'pike the moshin-hole'*.. means, to clean out the touch-hole. 1828 MOIR *Mansie Wauch* xii, The piker for clearing the motion-hole. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* 485 *Morsing powder*, an old term for priming powder.

Morsitation. *rare*−0. [n. of action f. late L. *morsitāre* (found only as v. r. for *morsicāre*: see MORSICANT), freq. of *mordēre* to bite.] (See quot.)

1819 SEAGER, *Morsitation*, the act of biting frequently and slightly ; gnawing. Whence in later Dicts.

Morspeche, obs. form of MORROW-SPEECH.

Morss(e, obs. forms of MORSE *sb.*2

†Morsure. *Obs.* [a. F. *morsure* (Hatz.-Darm. 13th c.), ad. L. *morsūra*, f. *mors-*, *mordēre* to bite.] The action or an act of biting ; a bite.

a 1400–50 *Alexander* 4088 Þan wald his pepill & his princes haue past ouir þe bourne, And miȝt noȝt for þe morsure & mayning of bestis. 1614 D. T. *Dove & Serp.* Ded., Whereby to free those which behold it from the morsures of such vipers. 1730 *Hist. Litt.* I. 31 He opened a Salamander's Mouth, and endeavoured to make it bite.. a Chicken.. At last he.. succeeded in forcing it to make several morsures. 1819 H. BUSK *Tea* 183 Shall I..The morsure of their fang escape alone?

Mort (mɔ̄ˑt), *sb.*1 Also 5–7 morte. [Partly a. F. *mort* (= Pr. *mort-z*, Sp. *muerte*, Pg., It. *morte*):—L. *mort-em*; partly a. F. *mort* (fem. *morte*), adj. (= Pr. *mort-z*, Sp. *muerto*, Pg., It. *morto*) :—pop.L. **mort-um* for L. *mortuum* dead.]

†1. Death, slaughter. *Obs.*

c 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 9066 (Kölbing), Þo stode Herui bi Bohort, Bobe in perill of mort. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 1279 (Dublin MS.), The morte of all þe masydons & of þe mony grekez. 1536 *Exhort. to North* in Furnivall *Ballads fr. MSS.* I. 306 Noitt dowtyng off them to maike gret morte. 1560 ROLLAND *Crt. Venus* I. 834 Ouirset with slicht sulphurious, And suddant mort.

2. *Hunting.* The note sounded on a horn at the death of the deer. Chiefly in *to blow a mort.*

App. an alteration of the earlier MOTE *sb.*3 perh. by association with Fr. phr. *à mort.*

Various edd. of the ballad of *Chevy Chase* l. 31, read *mort*, but MS. Ashm. 48 has *mot* (= MOTE *sb.*3).

? *a* 1500 in Blount *Anc. Tenures* (1679) 170 As soone as the Bukks head is offered uppe all the kepers shall blowe a Morte three tymes. 1589 R. ROBINSON *Gold. Mirr.* (1851) 14 Presently, the Mort the Hunts-man blew. *a* 1592 GREENE *Card of Fancie* (1593) H, He that bloweth the Mort before the fall of the Buck, may verie well misse of his fees. 1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* I. ii. 118 And then to sigh, as 'twere The Mort o' th' Deere. 1677 N. COX *Gentl. Recreat.* I. 80 Then, having blown the Mort, and all the company come in [etc.]. 1741 *Compl. Fam.-Piece* II. i. 292 Then sound the Mort or Morts. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xxxiii, The horns again poured on her ear the melancholy yet wild strain of the mort, or death-note. 1845 BROWNING *Flight of the Duchess* xi, When horns wind a mort and the deer is at siege.

b. A dead stag. ? *nonce-use.*

1827 HOOD *Mids. Fairies* cx, 'Tis these befriend the timid, trembling stag, .. And prompt fresh shifts in his alarum'd ears, So piteously they view all bloody morts.

c. The death, the kill. *arch.*

1855 KINGSLEY *Westw. Ho!* iv, You will..be enabled yourselves to see the mort more pleasantly.

3. The skin of a sheep or lamb that has died a natural death. Also *mort skin. dial.*

1592 GREENE *Upst. Courtier* F 3, The Sadler..makes the lether of them of morts, or tand sheeps skinnes. 1611–12 *Rutland MSS.* (1905) IV. 486 Sheepeskinnes slaughtered hath bin sold by great, for xxiiij*s.* the dozen, good and bad, mortes and all included. 1624 in *Naworth Househ. Bks.* 212 Received of my Lady for mort skins, iij^{li} vj^{s} viij^{d}. 1752 *Rec. Elgin* (New Spald. Club 1903) I. 464 Ilk dozen of mort lamb skins 2*d.* 1798 R. DOUGLAS *Agric. Surv. Roxb. & Selkirk* 259 *note*, Morts are the skins of sheep and lambs who die. 1816 SCOTT *Bl. Dwarf* i, He'll be unco busy amang the morts this season.

4. ? A dead body, corpse. ? *Obs.*

1658 FRANCK *North. Mem.* (1694) 7 Every Generation since Adam, has so diminished that Beauty and Lustre, that from Men we are almost dwindled into Morts. *a* 1839 GALT *Demon Destiny* 14 The gathering myriads of the famous great—All skeletons, like morts, derisive grin.

5. *Comb.*: **†mort bell** *Sc.*, a funeral bell; **†mort cape** *Sc.*, a funeral cope ; **mort head** *dial.*, a death's head ; **†mort mumblings** *Sc.*, mumbled prayers for the dead ; **mort note** (quasi-*arch.*) = sense 2 ; **mort safe** *Sc.*, an iron frame placed over a coffin or at the entrance to a grave as a protection against resurrectionists in Scotland ; **mort-skin** *Sc.* and *dial.* (see sense 3) ; **mort stand** *Sc.*, app. a bier or catafalque ; **†mort stone,** a stone on which the bearers of a dead body rested the coffin.

1590 *Burgh Rec. Glasgow* (1876) I. 153 Thair twa commoun bellis, viz. the *mort and skellet bellis. 1612 *Ibid.* 326 The provest, bailleis and counsale, haifing continwit Thomas Kilmawris in the office of the mort bell to this day. 1824 GALT *Rothelan* III. VI. i. 13 From the hour that the mort-bell was again heard in the land, men relapsed into their wonted customs. 1554–5 *Burgh Rec. Edin.* (1871) II. 359 To mak twa *mortcaippis. *Ibid.*, Item, for half ane quarter quhit sating to be the *mort heids, iiij*r*. 1691 R. KIRK *Secret Commonwealth* i. § 7 'Tis as the constrained grinning of a Mort-head. 1722 NISBET *Syst. Her.* 267 Crest, a Mort-head, with two Leg-Bones, Saltier-ways proper. *c* 1560 A. SCOTT *Poems* (S. T. S.) i. 92 Mantand *mort mvmblingis mixt wᵗ monye leis. 1830 MRS. BRAY *Fitz of Fitz-ford* xvi. (1884) 134 The woods rang with the clamour of blowing the stag to bay, or the triumph of the *mort-note. 1821 A. THOMSON *Jrnl.* 1 Mar. in *Life & Ministry* (1869) iii. 285 The *mort-safe was for the first time put into his grave. 1888 *North. N. & Q.* III. 51 The coffin is then lowered, the cage-like mortsafe put over it, and the hinged rods, the tops of which interlace, bent over and padlocked..The grave is then filled up. 1896 J. B. BAILEY *Diary Resurrectionist* 76 Mort-safes, or strong iron guards, were placed over newly-made graves for protection. 1503 *Acc. Ld. Treas. Scott.* (1900) II. 290 The *mortstand, with tua tunycales with offrez of fine gold, ane gret caip of the mortstand with sternys of gold on it and offrez of gold. 1561 *Extracts Aberd. Reg.* (1844) I. 330 Ane croce of siluer, the forclayth of the hie altar,..ane arress bed, ane siluer spune, the mort stand [etc.]. 1842 SIR H. TAYLOR *Edwin* v. vii. 227 Oh me ! the *mortstone !

†Mort, *sb.*2 *Obs.* Also 6 mortes (?). [Form and origin uncertain ; but cf. MORTAR *sb.*1 2.] A kind of wax candle (? or a set of wax candles).

1394 in Gough *Sepulchral Mon.* (1786) I 170* Fynolx, morts, brennynges, croppes, tapres quarrez. *c* 1530 LD. BERNERS *Arth. Lyt. Bryt.* (1814) 56 The foure mortees of waxe [orig. *quatre cierges ardans*] yᵗ stode brennynge before her beddes fete. 1546 in Blomefield *Topogr. Hist. Norfolk* (1806) III. 216 An herse with 120 lyghts and dyverse floryshes, hangyngs and a mortes of wax.

Mort (mɔ̄ˑt), *sb.*3 Also 6 morte. [Origin unknown.] A name for the salmon in its third year.

1530 PALSGR. 246/2 Morte a fysshe. 1584 COGAN *Haven Health* clxxxii. 145 The mort is of like nature, for it is the young Salmon. *a* 1672 WILLUGHBY *Hist. Pisc.* IV. iv. 189 Nostratibus in fluvio Ribble agri Eboracensis Salmones primo ætatis anno Smelts dicuntur ; secundo Sprods ; tertio Morts. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* s. v. *Salmon.* 1861 [see PEAL *sb.*2]. 1872 *Daily News* 13 Aug., Nine fish were killed..namely, one mort, one smelt, three brandlings, and four river trout. 1904 *Peterite* XIX. 147 Sea-trout, or 'mort' as they are locally termed.

Mort (mɒrt), *sb.*4 *Cant.* Also 6 morte, 8–9 mot, 9 mott. [Origin unknown.] a. A girl or woman. Often with qualifying word, as *autem*, *gentry*, KINCHIN-, *strolling*, *walking mort* (q. v.).

1561–75 AWDELAY *Frat. Vacab.* (1869) 5 A Kitchin Mortes [*sic*] is a Gyrle. 1592 CHETTLE *Kind-harts Dr.* (1841) 57 It happened, within these few yeeres, about Hampshire there wandered a walking mort, that went about the countrey selling of tape. 1611 MIDDLETON & DEKKER *Roaring Girl* K 4 b, Ben mort (good wench) shal you and I heaue a booth? 1621 B. JONSON *Gypsies Met.* (1640) 65 Male Gipsies all, not a Mort among them. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew*, *Morts*, Yeomen's Daughters ; also a Wife, Woman, or Wench. 1837 *Gambler's Dream* III. 225 Every cove and every mot Brings in some swag to boil the pot. 1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* I. 217 After some altercation with the 'mot' of the 'ken' (mistress of the lodging-house).

b. A harlot, a loose woman.

1567 HARMAN *Caveat* (1869) 32 Their harlots, whiche they terme Mortes and Doxes. 1601 A. MUNDAY *Downf. Rbt. Earl Huntington* III. ii. F 2 b, If I can get the girle to goe with mee, Disguis'd in habit, like a Pedlers mort. 1622 FLETCHER *Beggar's Bush* II. i, Each man shall..enjoy His owne deare Dell, Doxy, or Mort, at night. 1708 *Motteux's Rabelais Pantagr. Prognost.* v, Those whom Venus is said to rule, as .. Morts, Doxies. 1796 F. GROSE *Olio* 228 Our regiment has not so fine a blowen ; Nor all the seven battalions such a mot. 1812 J. H. VAUX *Flash Dict., Mott*, a blowen, or woman of the town.

Mort (mɔ̄ˑt), *sb.*5 Also mord. [? Celtic Cornish; cf. Welsh *mêr* marrow.] Lard ; pig's grease.

1610 MARKHAM *Masterp.* II. cxiii. 408 You shall adde therto of hogges mort, and fresh butter, of each a pound. 1839 MRS. PALMER *Dial. Dev. Dial.* I. 15 Their high-peak'd loady heads, wi' a wallage o' hair, plaster'd with mort and flour. 1864 QUILLER-COUCH *E. Cornw. Wds.* in *Jrnl. R. Inst. Cornw.* Mar., *Mord*, lard, pig's grease. 1865 T. GARLAND *W. Cornw. Wds.* ibid. Apr., *Mort*, unmelted lard. 1886 *West Somerset Gloss.* s.v., Nif any-body-v a got a bad leg or ort, there idn no fineder thing vor-t-n mort-n chalk.

Mort (mɔ̄ˑt), *sb.*6 *dial.* [Origin obscure.

The suggestion that it is derived from ON. *mart*, neut. of *margr* great, as in *mart manna* a great number of people, is not supported by the form, chronology, or locality of the Eng. word. It is possibly a dial. corruption of *mortal* used as an intensive (e.g. with such a sb. as *deal*). The existence of the north. dial. MURTH (ON. *mergð*) in the same sense may have assisted its development.]

A great quantity or number ; a great deal. Usually const. *of* ; rarely *absol.* Also *pl.* (cf. *quantities*).

1694 ECHARD *Plautus* 94 They had a mort o' Prisoners. 1708 *Brit. Apollo* No. 44. 3/2 You having such a Mort of Wit. 1775 SHERIDAN *Rivals* I. i, Here's a mort o' merry-making, hey? 1821 CLARE *Vill. Minstr.* I. 123 She talk'd of morts of luck. 1850 DICKENS *Dav. Copp.* xxxii, 'We have had a mort of talk, sir', said Mr. Peggotty to me. 1868 HELPS *Realmah* ii, My Betsy..knew a mort more than I do. 1887 H. SMART *Cleverly won* I. 7 There's a mort of money to be made off the farm in a good year.

b. *A mort* used advb.

1887 HALL CAINE *A Son of Hagar* I. Prol., I'll not say but other folks look a mort madder nor ever I looked. 1904 WEYMAN *Abb. Vlaye* viii, You've fared better with me, ay, a *mort* better, than you'd have fared if the Captain had been here.

†Mort, *a. Obs.* Also 5 morte. [a. F. *mort* (fem. *morte*) : see MORT *sb.*1] Dead.

14.. *Sir Beues* 1696 (MS. E), He was so ffeynt in hys hurte, Per ffore he was al most al morte. *c* 1440 *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (E. E. T. S.) 189/127 Thy mede is markyd, whan thow art mort, in blysse. *c* 1485 *Digby Myst.* (1882) III. 455 My mynd waxit mort. 1658 C. HOOLE *Sentences for Children* A 3, The many difficulties that attend the work (especially in a Mort language).

b. *Battle mort*, *mort battle* : war to the death. *Sc.*

1501 DOUGLAS *Pal. Hon.* III. xviii, Plesand pastance, and mony lustie sport, Thair saw we als, and sum time battell mort. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* II. 297 With mort battell agane King Edelfryde. 1560 ROLLAND *Crt. Venus* II. 272 Of Infidelis mony he did downe thring Be battell mort.

†Mort, *v. Obs. rare*−1. [a. OF. *mortir*, f. *mort* (see MORT *sb.*1).] *trans.* To put to death.

c 1440 *York Myst.* xxvi. 77 *Pil.* Howe mene ȝe? *Cay.* Sir, to mort hym for mouyng of menne.

Mortaban : see MARTABAN.

Mortagon(e, obs. forms of MARTAGON.

a 1400 *Stockholm Med. MS.* ii. 367 in *Anglia* XVIII. 316 Mortulaca & mortagon Of swiche an erbe name is on. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 344/1 Mortagone, herbe, *herba Martis.*

Mortaill, Mortaise, obs. ff. MORTAL, MORTISE.

Mortal (mɔ̄ˑtăl), *sb.* [f. MORTAL *a.*]

1. Mortal thing or substance (see quot.).

1526 TINDALE 1 *Cor.* xv. 53 For this corruptible must putt on incorruptibilite, and this mortall [Gr. *τὸ θνητὸν τοῦτο*, Vulg. *mortale hoc*] must put on immortalite. 1611 *Ibid.*

2. One who is mortal ; a human being in contrast with an immortal.

1567 *Gude & Godlie Ball.* (S. T. S.) 133 Lord I am heir ane wratcheit mortall. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* III. ii. 115 Lord, what fooles these mortals be ! 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* III. xxxiv. 213 Names .. are usefull onely to the short memories of Mortalls. 1713 ADDISON *Cato* I. ii, 'Tis not in Mortals to command Success. 1882 W. S. GILBERT *Iolanthe* I. 4 By our laws, the fairy who marries a mortal, dies !

b. Often used playfully for 'person'. In negative contexts an emphatic equivalent for '(any) one', '(no) one'. Cf. MORTAL *a.* 8 b.

1718 PRIOR *'Her Eyebrow-Box'*, I can behold no Mortal now : For what's an Eye without a Brow? 1728 BERKELEY *Let.* Wks. 1871 IV. 149 Speak not, therefore, one syllable of it to any mortal whatsoever. 1846 W. E. FORSTER in Reid *Life* (1888) I. vi. 186 What a strange little mortal he [Lord J. Russell] is, to be ruler of a mighty nation ! 1860 READE *Cloister & H.* Ixxviii, She dared not trust such a treasure to mortal. 1864 A. MCKAY *Hist. Kilmarnock* 164 Sandy and the other jolly mortals.

Mortal (mɔ̄ˑtăl), *a.* Forms : 4–5 mortail(e, -taill, 4–7 mortall, 5 mortalle, 5–6 mortale, 4– mortal ; *β.* 4–5 mortel(e, -teil, -tiel, 4–6 mortell. See also MORTUAL. [a. OF. *mortel*, *mortiel*, *mortal* (mod.F. *mortel*), or ad. L. *mortāl-is*, f. *mort-*, *mors* death.]

1. Subject to death, destined to die.

Often in the tautologically emphatic phrase *mortal man.*

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* III. 376 Al were my lyf eterne, As I am mortal. *c* 1391 — *Astrol.* Prol. (1872) 1 Alle the conclusiouns..ben vn-knowe perfitly to any mortal man in this regioun. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 524 And the forsaid abbesse and Couente and ther successours shold warantize and defende for euer the forsaid tenement,..to the forsaid Rector and scolers and to ther successours ayenst all mortall men. 1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III*, I. ii. 44–5 Are you all affraid ? Alas, I blame you not, for you are Mortall, And Mortall eyes cannot endure the Diuell. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 355 No mortall man might ascend the Seat. 1667 SIR W. TEMPLE *Let. M. Gourville* Wks. 1731 II. 31, I begin to think that King and his Ministers are mortal like other People. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* IV. 643 What Madness cou'd provoke A Mortal Man t'invade a sleeping God? 1728 YOUNG *Love Fame* vi. 174 Old-age will come ; disease may come before ; Fifteen is full as mortal as three-score. 1820 SHELLEY *Prometh. Unb.* IV. 297 Whose population which the earth grew over Was mortal, but not human. 1836 C. FORSTER *Life Jebb* (1851) 325 His mortal remains were laid in St. Paul's Churchyard, Clapham. 1853 M. ARNOLD *Scholar-Gipsy* xv, For what wears out the life of mortal men?

†b. Doomed to immediate death. *Obs.*

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* X. xi. 45 Gif thow askis a respyt or delay..Of this evident deyd of Turnus ȝing,..Allthocht he mortale be rycht sone we knaw. *c* 1622 ROWLEY, etc. *Witch Edmonton* III. (1658) 34 Not yet mortal? I would not linger you, Or leave you a tongue to blab. ? 1624 CHAPMAN *Revenge for Honour* III. ii, Not pledg my peerlesse Mistresse health? Souldier, thou'rt mortall, if thou refuse it.

2. Causing death, deadly, fatal. Const. *to.* Now only of diseases, wounds, and blows.

† *Mortal nightshade* = deadly nightshade : see DEADLY 4 c.

c 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 2252 The furies thre with al here mortal brond. *c* 1407 LYDG. *Reson & Sens.* 3418 This mortal beverage So noyous ys and so doutable. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Blanchardyn* xxxviii. 141 He .. made in his body a grete wounde mortall. 1551 ROBINSON tr. *More's Utopia* II. viii. (1895) 262 At hande strokes they vse not swordes but pollaxes, whiche be mortall, aswel in sharpenes as in weyghte. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* III. xxiii. 448 Mortal Nightshade. 1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* IV. x. 236 It is a dangerous thing to frequent so perillous and mortall a creature [quicksilver]. 1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* v.

ii. 205, I am glad thy Father's dead, Thy Match was mortall to him. 1665-6 *Phil. Trans.* I. 161 It is mortal to eat of the Flesh of creatures killed by Vipers. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* I. 2. 1682 BUNYAN *Holy War* 284 Since the sickness had been so mortal in Mansoul. 1763 *Museum Rust.* I. lxxxiii. 369 To avoid the early frosts, which are mortal to them. 1805 JEFFERSON *Let.* 8 Feb. (1829) IV. 33 Strangers .. find this fever as mortal as the genuine yellow fever. 1814 SCOTT *Ld. of Isles* III. xxix, The master'd felon press'd the ground, And gasp'd beneath a mortal wound.

b. *fig.* Destructive or fatal (*to* a thing).

1670 BAXTER *Cure Ch. Div.* Pref. 2, I know that these principles are as mortal to the Churches, as they are to Souls. 1769 BURKE *Late St. Nat.* Wks. 1842 I. 83, I will shew him a fact more that is mortal to his assertions. 1802 PALEY *Nat. Theol.* (1819) 324 Here therefore might seem to be a mortal defect in their constitution. 1832-4 DE QUINCEY *Cæsars* Wks. 1859 X. 100 Even the more innocent exhibitions, in which brutes only were the sufferers, could not but be mortal to all the finer sensibilities.

c. Of a season or region: Characterized by many deaths. (Cf. MORTALITY.) ? *Obs.*

1649 EVELYN *Diary* 30 Oct., This was a very sickly and mortal Autumne. 1741 *Lett. James Murray, Loyalist* (1901) 62 So sickly and mortal a place as So. Carolina. 1775 ABIGAIL ADAMS *Fam. Lett.* lix. (1876) 95 So sickly and so mortal a time the oldest man does not remember. 1803 MALTHUS *Popul.* II. ii. 207 The years 1757 and 1758 [in Sweden] were barren, and comparatively mortal years. *Ibid.* 209 Notwithstanding the mortal year of 1789, it appeared.. that the general healthiness of the country had increased.

†**d.** *Mortal place*: the 'vital part'. *Obs. rare*$^{-1}$.

1670 MILTON *Hist. Gt. Brit.* II. 96 Last of all against himself he turns his Sword; but missing the mortal place, with his poinard finishes the work.

3. Aiming at the destruction of an adversary.

a. Of war, a battle, etc.: Fought to the death.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Frol.* 61 At mortal [*v.r.* mortel] batailles had he ben fiftene. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* XVIII. 290 Among here enemys in morteils [*v.r.* mortel(e, mortail] bateles To be culled and ouercome. *c* 1420 LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 732 For he was lyke to endure that day A gret mortall shoure..With Vyce. *c* 1500 *Melusine* 144 There bygan a mortal medlee. *c* 1600 SHAKS. *Sonn.* xlvi. 1 Mine eye and heart are at a mortall warre How to deuide the conquest of thy sight. 1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turks* (1621) 512 The undoubted flower..of his army, which were in that mortall battell almost all slaine. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* IV. 115 The shocking Squadrons meet in mortal Fight.

b. Of an enemy: That will be satisfied only with the death of the object of his hostility; relentless, implacable. Also *fig.*

c 1386 CHAUCER *Knt.'s T.* 732 For I am Palamon thy mortal [*v.r.* mortel] foo. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 347 To grieve his mortiel enemy. *c* 1407 LYDG. *Reson & Sens.* 3134 But that they be .. Mortal foon to chastite. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Armis* (S. T. S.) 124 He suld..bald him..for his inymy mortall. 1579 G. HARVEY *Letter-bk.* (Camden) 60 The mortallest enemy I have in this world? 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* I. vi. 20 The mortallest enemy unto knowledge. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* V. 38 Pleasure and pride, by nature mortal foes. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* IV. I. 445 Halifax was the mortal enemy of despotism and of Popery.

c. Of enmity, hatred, and the like: Pursued to the death, unappeasable; 'deadly'. Hence *fig.* or *hyperbolically*, as *a mortal aversion*.

14.. in *Tundale's Vis.* (1843) 107 Thou Herode of malice most mortall. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* III. i. 69 From childly & fatherly kindnes to mortal enmity. 1586 J. HOOKER *Hist. Irel.* 162/2 in *Holinshed*, Betwixt whome was a mortall hatred. 1665 SIR W. TEMPLE *Let. to Sir J. Temple* Wks. 1731 II. 4 He has a mortal Hatred to the Dutch for their supporting his City of Munster against him. 1714 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 562 ¶ 5 A Tribe of Egotists for whom I have always had a mortal Aversion. 1761 HUME *Hist. Eng.* I. xix. 459 This great and unusual act of authority in the council gave the Roman pontiffs ever after a mortal antipatby to those assemblies. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* vi. II. 117 The Popish Chancellor became an object of mortal hatred. 1885 O. W. HOLMES (*title*) A mortal Antipathy.

4. Of pain, grief, fear, and the like: Such as might cause death; deadly in its effects. Often used hyperbolically and jocularly.

c 1368 CHAUCER *Compl. Pite* 61 Sheweth unto your rial excellence Vour servaunt, if I durste me so calle, His mortal harm, in which he is y-falle. *c* 1402 LYDG. *Compl. Bl. Knt.* 214 To here this man,..His mortal wo, and his grete perturbaunce Compleyning. 1426 — *De Guil. Pilgr.* 13679 Lyk a bryd..Wych, in hyr gret mortal ffer,..begynneth quake. 1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* XXX. (Percy Soc.) 148 He thinketh long after delyveracion Of his great wo and eke mortall paynes. 1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turks* (1621) 477 By such meanes as he least feared might have procured any such mortall distrust or danger. 1693 DRYDEN *Ovid's Met.* I. *Daphne* 128 The nymph grew pale, and in a mortal fright. 1822 W. IRVING *Braceb. Hall* XVIII. 158 Her finery at church on Sundays has given mortal offence to her former intimates in the village. 1849-50 ALISON *Hist. Europe* V. XXIX. § 51. 221 Reports of the failure of the enterprise were generally spread, and diffused the most mortal disquietude. 1864 MEREDITH *Sandra Belloni* XXV, Poor Braintop..sat in mortal fear lest his admiration of Emilia was perceived. 1879 M. ARNOLD *Mixed Ess., Falkland* 210 The marriage gave mortal offence to his father.

5. Of sin: Entailing spiritual death; = DEADLY 5. Opposed to *venial*.

1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 12486 Dedly synne..The wych ycallyd ys 'mortal' Be-cause hys hurtys ffynally Ben in effect verray dedly. *c* 1485 *Digby Myst.* (1882) II. 510 Ther be vij mortall synnes. ? 1566 (*title*) Whether it be mortall sinne to transgresse ciuil lawes which be the commaundements of ciuill Magistrates. *a* 1602 W. PERKINS *Cases Conse.* I. ii. (1609) 10 Now though euery sinne of it selfe be mortall, yet all are not equally mortall: but some more, some lesse. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* III. 215 Mans mortal crime. *Ibid.* IX. 1003. 1887 LECKY *Eng. in 18th C.* VI. 266 The Church had pronounced it to be a sin of that 'mortal' kind which excludes from heaven.

fig. 1581 PETTIE tr. *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* II. (1586) 66 b, If the fault in wordes be veniall, the fault in sentence and matter is mortall.

6. Pertaining to or accompanying death.

1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 154 When be [Diogenes] was awaked out of his mortal slepe, that is to saye, the last that euer he had before his death. 1638 BAKER tr. *Balzac's Lett.* (vol. III.) 79 To reade nothing but pitifull stories, and mortall predictions. 1672 SIR T. BROWNE *Let. Friend* § x, All these, with many more, were so drowned in a mortal visage and last face of Hippocrates, that [etc.]. 1702 STEELE *Funeral* I. (1724) 16 This Fellow has a good mortal Look—place him near the Corps. 1732 POPE *Ess. Man* I. 288 Safe in the hand of one disposing Pow'r, Or in the natal, or the mortal hour. 1807 WORDSW. *White Doe* I. 336 A tale of tears, a mortal story! 1821 SHELLEY *Hellas* 851 Thou seest the mortal throes Of that whose birth was but the same. 1871 MORLEY *Condorcet* in *Crit. Misc.* Ser. I. (1878) 38 The mortal struggles of a society in revolution.

7. *transf.* (from sense 1.) Of or pertaining to man as a creature living on this earth and destined to die; relating to humanity.

1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 9306 In thys mortal lyff. 1565 T. STAPLETON *Fortr. Faith* 45 This Testament is written in mens hartes,..not in tables of stone or mortall mettall. 1596 SPENSER *Hymn Heav. Beauty* 153 How then can mortall tongue hope to expresse The image of such endlesse perfectnesse? 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* III. i. 67 When we haue shuffel'd off this mortall coile. 1637 MILTON *Lycidas* 78 Fame is no plant that grows on mortal soil. 1651 *Fuller's Abel Rediv.* 487 About this time Queen Elizabeth exchanged her mortall crown with an immortall. 1700 DRYDEN *Pal. & Arc.* II. 68 In Brakes and Brambles hid, and shunning Mortal Sight. 1839 KEIGHTLEY *Hist. Eng.* II. 31 The axe descending, terminated his mortal existence. 1842 BORROW *Bible in Spain* VI, He..possessed the largest head which I ever beheld upon mortal shoulders. 1842 TENNYSON *Sir Galahad* 70 This mortal armour that I wear. *absol.* 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* IX. V, Heroes..have certainly more of mortal than divine about them.

8. In colloquial and slang uses.

a. Extremely great, 'awful'; = DEADLY 8.

App. arising from hyperbolical or jocular applications of senses 3 and 4.

1716 C'TESS COWPER *Diary* (1864) 69 Lord Nottingham and the Duchess of Roxhurgh take mortal pains to make the Princess think well of the Tories. 1762 BICKERSTAFFE *Love in Village* I. vi. (1765) 12, I never saw such a mortal throng in our village in all my born days again. 1772 FOOTE *Nabob* II. Wks. 1799 II. 307 They do a mortal deal of harm in the country. 1852 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* V, I was a mortal sight younger then. 1865 — *Mut. Fr.* I. XV, I'm not in a mortal hurry.

b. As an emphatic expletive (with *any*, *every*, or a negative). Cf. 'earthly', and sense 7 above.

1609 B. JONSON *Silent Woman* IV. V, *Cle.* Shall I goe fetch the Ladies to the Catastrophe?..*Daup.* By no mortall meanes. 1843 FR. A. KEMBLE *Later Life* III. 36, I have every mortal thing to pack with my own single pair of hands. 1892 *Daily News* 19 Nov. 5/4 We have the authority of Sir James Sawyer for saying that 'we may eat any mortal thing we like'.

c. *slang.* Long and tedious. [Cf. F. 'quinze mortels jours', etc.]

1820 SCOTT *Monast.* XXX, The interior one,..occupied them for three mortal hours. 1838 DICKENS *O. Twist* XXXIX, You ..take no more notice of me, all this mortal time, than if I was that 'ere dog. 1842 LYTTON *Zanoni* Introd. 19 And so on for 940 mortal pages in foolscap! 1878 STEVENSON *Inland Voy.* 232 The marionettes..performed a piece, called *Pyramus and Thisbe*, in five mortal acts.

d. Short for *mortal drunk* = dead drunk (see 10). *Sc.* and *north. dial.*

1824 MACTAGGART *Gallovid. Encycl.* 54 He was often carried home to his crue, on a hand-barrow, just mortal. 1825 JAMIESON, *Mortal*, dead drunk. 1867 A. DAWSON *Rambling Recoll.* (1868) 21 They had tasted of the bottles of the whole fifteen by which time they were one and all of them 'mortal'. 1891 BARRIE *Little Minister* XXIV, He doesna strike me except when he's mortal.

9. *Comb.*

1670 DRYDEN *and Pt. Conq. Granada* IV. iii, Instruct thy mortal-elemented son. 1697 — *Æneid* XII. 1073 The mortal-temper'd steel deceiv'd his hand. 1814 SCOTT *Ld. of Isles* II. xi, Or, mortal-moulded, comest thou here From England's love, or France's fear?

10. *adv.* = MORTALLY. Now only *dial.* or *vulgar* in the sense: Extremely, excessively, 'deadly' (cf. 8 a).

Mortal drunk = dead drunk.

c 1407 LYDG. *Reson & Sens.* 3665 The pereyl ys so mortal strong. *c* 1500 *Melusine* 175 The batayll was there mortall fyers & doubtous for bothe partyes. 1753 WARBURTON in W. & Hurd *Lett.* (1809) 156 St. John's well, after the name of a mortal cold bath in Nottinghamshire. 1778 SUSAN BURNEY *Let.* 16 July in *Mme. D'Arblay's Early Diary* (1889) II. 247 She is mortal fond of the book, and has got it by heart. 1784 R. BAGE *Barham Downs* I. 9 A mortal rich gentleman. 1816 BYRON *Siege of Corinth* XXI, Though slight was that grasp so mortal cold. 1844 W. CROSS *Disruption* XXVI. (E.D.D.), The mistress o' the house was 'mortal drunk' in bed. 1855 THACKERAY *Newcomes* II. 35 Missis was mortal angry. 1850 R. G. CUMMING *Hunter's Life S. Afr.* (1902) 92/1 All hands were mortal drunk. 1867 A. TROLLOPE *Last Chron. Barset* (1869) I. XXXIII. 352, I wouldn't speak if I warn't well nigh mortal sure.

†**Morta·lian.** *Obs.* = MORTALIST.

1647 WARD *Simp. Cobler* 11 Brownists, Mortalians [etc.].

†**Mo·rtalism.** *Obs.* [f. MORTAL *a.* + -ISM.] The belief that the soul is mortal: see MORTALIST 1.

1646 T. EDWARDS *Gangræna* I. 114 From that he fell to Anabaptisme..and to Mortalisme, holding the Soul Mortall.

†**Mo·rtalist.** *Obs.* [f. MORTAL *a.* + -IST.] One who holds the soul to be mortal (see quot.).

1646 R. BAILLIE *Anabaptism* (1647) 99 The Familistick Anabaptists .. are not onely for the sleeping of the soul at death, but for its annihilation...At first these mortallists did grant a resurrection of the body,..but now..they deny any resurrection after death, all life either of body or soul. *appositively.* 1757 MRS. GRIFFITH *Lett. Henry & Frances* (1767) II. 26 A mortalist Deist sinks into an Atheist.

Mortality (mɔɹtæ·lĭti). Forms: 4–6 **mortalite, -itee, 5 -ytee, -ytie, 5–6 -yte, 5–7 -itie, 6 -itye, 7 mortallitie, -ity, 6– mortality.** [ad. F. *mortalité* (12th c.), ad. L. *mortālitāt-em*, f. *mortālis*: see MORTAL *a.* and -ITY.]

1. The condition of being mortal or subject to death; mortal nature or existence.

a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* XXIX. 14 The mortalite of my fleysse..thou distroyd in my resurreccioun. 1446 LYDG. *Nightingale* I. 149 This hygh forfet whych Adam sone had don Was grounde & cause of oure mortalite. 1447 BOKENHAM *Seyntys* 55, & for my mete is inuysible & my drink celestyal It may not be seyn in þis mortalyte. 1509 FISHER *Funeral Serm. C'tess Richmond* Wks. (1876) 302 *In diebus carnis sue*..That is to saye in the dayes of his mortalite. 1526 TINDALE 2 *Cor.* V. 4 That mortalite [Gr. τὸ θνητόν] myght be swalowed vppe of lyfe. 1641 J. JACKSON *True Evang. T.* II. 137 Elizabeth Folks,..when her soule was ready to take flight out of her body, concluded her mortality with these words. 1644 HEYLIN *Brief Relat. Laud* 23 Never did man put off mortality with a braver courage. 1703 MAUNDRELL *Journ. Jerus.* (1732) 79 The Sepulcher out of which he [Lazarus] was rais'd to a second Mortality. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* IX. 65 Life's gayest scenes speak man's mortality. 1820 WORDSW. *Vandracour & Julia* 53 A man too happy for mortality! 1847 R. W. HAMILTON *Rewards & Punishm.* iii. (1853) 122 Mortality is the rule of all mere animal life. 1867 JOLLY *Sunday Serv.* 301 He passed from mortality, to eternal felicity.

b. Mortals collectively. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

? 1601 DANIEL *Epist. Lady Margaret, C'tess Cumberland* vi, The perplexed State Of troublous and distrest mortalitie, That thus make way vnto the ougly birth Of their owne sorrowes. 1654 FULLER *Two Serm.* 56 All Mortalitie shall be tryed by one of these two Statutes.

c. *pl.* Mortal properties or attributes. *rare.*

1832 L. HUNT *Poems* 227 (tr. Theocr. xxiv), And in Trachinia shall the funeral pyre Purge his mortalities away with fire.

2. Loss of life on a large scale; abnormal frequency of death, as by war or pestilence; †*spec.* a visitation of deadly plague.

c 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) xviii. 189 But alle weys thei maken gret mortalitee of poeple. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 321 þe infeccion of þe ayre þat was cauce in Rome of grete dead & mortalitie. *c* 1450 *Merlin* iii. 56 In that bataile was grete mortalite on bothe parties. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. cccxxxi. 210 Ther fell suche a mortalyte in the hoost, that of fyue ther dyed thre. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII* 109 There was slain at the siege .lxiiii. thousande Turkes, and .xl. thousande dedde of mortalitie and mo. 1596 S. FINCH in Ducarel *Hist. Croydon* (1783) App. 154 Some waste place wherin (in the tyme of some mortalitie) they did burie in. 1654 EARL MONM. tr. *Bentivoglio's Wars Flanders* 185 The conflict lasted many hours, and great was the mortality on all sides. 1693 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) III. 5 Our merchants have an account from Jamaica that there has been a mortality there since the late earthquake. 1727-52 CHAMBERS *Cycl.*, *Mortality*, a term frequently used to signify a contagious disease, which destroys great numbers of either men or beasts. 1761-2 HUME *Hist. Eng.* (1806) III. xlii. 501 Many of these adventurers were killed..; a great mortality seized the rest. 1776 ADAM SMITH *W. N.* I. viii, Years of dearth..are generally among the common people years of sickness and mortality. 1842 BORROW *Bible in Spain* XXV, The mortality amongst the horses..being frightful. 1863 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* VII. 42 The mortality in the Tudor race which had raised her to the throne had left her also with scarcely a relation in the world.

b. The number of deaths which occur in a given area or period, from a particular disease, etc.; average frequency of death, death-rate.

1645-1854 *Bill of mortality* [see BILL *sb.*^{2} 10]. 1672 PETTY *Pol. Anat.* (1691) 17 If 250 Ministers would serve all Ireland, then 10 per Ann. will supply their Mortality. 1843 R. J. GRAVES *Syst. Clin. Med.* IX. 99 It is this which constitutes the great difference between the mortality in private and hospital practice. 1845 *Encycl. Metrop.* II. 459 The method of forming tables of mortality. 1887 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 10 Dec. 1257 Hysterectomy..its mortality is out of all proportion to the benefits received by the few. 1899 LD. LISTER in *Daily News* 1 Dec. 3/4 The case-mortality in the inoculated is less by 50 per cent. than that in the uninoculated.

†**c.** Death, decease (of individuals). *Obs.*

1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* I. (Arb.) 20 Eeche thing mortalitye threatneth [L. *intentant omnia mortem*]. 1591 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. VI*, IV. V. 32 Here on my knee I hegge Mortalitie, Rather then Life preseru'd with Infamie. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* IX. 191 Amongst the mortalities of this year [1587], most remarkable the death of Richard Barnes Bishop of Durham. 1703 J. LOGAN in *Pa. Hist. Soc. Mem.* IX. 267 With power to succeed the governor in case of absence or mortality. 1723 DR. WHARTON *True Briton* No. 59 II. 509 Ever since the Mortality of the Immortal Queen Anne. 1760-72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) II. 70 You will prove a father to her in case of my mortality.

d. The mortal part of man; mortal remains.

1827 SOUTHEY *Hist. Penins. War* II. 132 It happened not unfrequently that these piles of mortality were struck by a shell, and the shattered bodies scattered in all directions. 1871 R. ELLIS tr. *Catullus* lxviii. 99 Now on a distant shore, no kind mortality near him,..Tomb'd in Troy the malign.

3. Deadliness, power to kill.

1430-40 LYDG. *Bochas* I. XX. (1494) e viij, O swetnesse ful of mortalite. 1727 SWIFT *God's Rev. agst. Punning* ¶ 1 That destructive Pestilence, whose mortality was so fatal, as to sweep away..five millions of Christian Souls.

4. Of a sin: The quality of being mortal.

1532 MORE *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 476/2 Such sinnes, as

were either veniall in the begynnyng, or from mortall tourned to veniall by the forgeuenesse of the mortalitie. 1681 DRYDEN *Span. Friar* II. iii, Actions of Charity do alleviate, as I may say, and take off from the Mortality of the Sin.

5. *attrib.*, as (sense 2 b) *mortality bill, returns, table*; †**mortality walk**, the occupation of collecting obituary notices for a newspaper.

1665 PEPYS *Diary* 29 June, The *Mortality Bill is come to 267. 1899 *Daily News* 13 Sept. 5/1 The fall in temperature ..has been followed by an immediate diminution in the *mortality returns. 1880 *Encycl. Brit.* XIII. 169/2 These were very limited data upon which to found a *mortality table. 1773 FOOTE *Bankrupt* III. Wks. 1799 II. 129, I shall quit the *mortality walk, so provide yourself as soon as you can.

Mortalize (mɔ·ɹtălaiz), *v.* [f. MORTAL + -IZE.]

1. *intr.* To become mortal. *rare.*

1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. i. 1. *Eden* 7 Tell who (immortall) mortalizing, brought us The balm from heav'n wch hoped health hath wrought us.

2. *trans.* To make mortal; also, to consider or represent as mortal. Hence **Mortalized** *ppl. a.*

1633 T. ADAMS *Exp. 2 Peter* iii. 7 If we look inwards, there we find a depraved soul, a mortalized body. 1643 R. O. *Man's Mortality* i. (1644) 1 What of Adam was immortall through Innocency, was to be mortallized by Transgression. 1706 S. CLARKE *Let. to Mr. Dodwell* 10 That the Soul is by Nature Immortal, and must be mortalized by the Omnipotence of God, if ever it perish. 1831 KEIGHTLEY *Mythol. Anc. Greece & Italy* 477 In later times he [sc. Faunus] was mortalised like all the other Italian gods.

Mortally (mɔ·ɹtăli), *adv.* Also 4-5 **mortelly, mortali, mortaily.** [f. MORTAL *a.* + -LY 2.]

1. In such a manner that death ensues; so as to cause death; †(to fight) to the death.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Man of Law's T.* 308 This scorpioun.. Caste vnder this ful mortally to stynge. *c* 1400 *Brut* lxix. 64 þai foujten togeder mortaily. 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 21374 And thogh they berke nat On A man, fful mortally they byten kan. 1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* v. iii. 10 The Enemy ..strooke downe Some mortally, some slightly touch'd. 1700 DRYDEN *Fables* Ded. C 1 b, When you were not only dangerously, but in all appearance mortally wounded. 1798 LD. CLARE in *Ld. Auckland's Corr.* (1862) III. 422 None of the parties, however, are hurt mortally. 1839 THIRLWALL *Greece* VI. 243 They left him mortally wounded.

2. In reference to hatred, jealousy, fear, disquietude, offence, etc.: Bitterly, grievously, intensely. (Cf. MORTAL *a.* 3, 4.)

c 1386 CHAUCER *Manciple's T.* 209 He wol yow haten mortally [*v. r.* mortelly], certeyn. 1553 HOOPER in Foxe *A. & M.* (1583) 1513/2 They hate it mortally, & of all things most detest Gods holy worde. 1625 BACON *Ess., Envy* (R.) 8 Adrian the Emperour, that mortally Enuied Poets, and Painters, and Artificers, in Works, wherein he had a veine to excell. 1692 R. L'ESTRANGE *Fables* xxxviii. 40 Who would have Imagin'd..that the want of a Cap, or a Cringe, should so Mortally Discompose him. 1693 DRYDEN *Juvenal* Ded. (1697) 89 In Holiday and Stapylton, my Ears..are mortally offended. 1711 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 16 Sept., I hate these suppers mortally. 1847 C. BRONTË *J. Eyre* v, Mortally apprehensive of some one coming in and kidnapping me. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* vi. II. 104 Johnson was one of those persons who are mortally hated by their opponents. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 13 June 5/3 The sober and well-to-do would be mortally offended.

3. In the way of mortal sin (see MORTAL *a.*).

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 80 b, I graunt my selfe therin to have..offended mortally, commyttynge deedly synne and dampnable. 1662 J. DAVIES tr. *Olearius' Voy. Ambass.* 142 For which they give this reason, that about that age [*viz.* seven] one begins to sin mortally.

†**4.** In the manner of mortals, as a mortal.

1608 SHAKS. *Per.* v. i. 105 Yet I was mortally brought forth, and am No other then I appeare.

5. *colloq.* Extremely, exceedingly, 'terribly'. (Cf. MORTAL *a.* 8.)

1759 *Rec. Town Counc. Newburgh* in A. Laing *Lindores Abbey*, etc. xxi. (1876) 275 Many become mortally drunk. 1771 SMOLLETT *Humph. Cl.* (1815) 33 His pupil, who seemed to be about the age of three-score, stooped mortally. 1789 A YOUNG *Trav. France* (1890) 278 The people are in general mortally ugly and dwarfish. 1831 MRS. CARLYLE *New Lett.* (1903) I. 35 It was very stormy, and I was mortally sick the whole twenty four hours. 1883 STEVENSON *Merry Men, Treas. Franchard* vi, With swollen eyes and looking mortally sheepish. 1895 CROCKETT *Men of Mosshags* 37 He was indeed mortally fond of her girdle-cakes.

†**Mortalness.** *Obs.* [f. MORTAL *a.* + -NESS.] The quality being mortal (in various senses).

1530 PALSGR. 246/2 Mortalnesse, *mortalité*. 1591 SAVILE *Tacitus, Hist.* I. [c. 79] 44 In the one place the mortalnesse, in the other the misery of their woundes wasted them all. 1638 BP. REYNOLDS *Medit. Last Supper* xv. Wks. (1658) 623 Though we are not perfectly cleansed from the soil [of sin], yet are we soundly healed from the mortalness and bruises of it. 1659 *Gentl. Calling* v. § 16 Those edgeless weapons may vie with the keenest for the mortalness of their effects.

Mortancestry (mɔɹtænsĕstri). *Scots Law.* Corrupt Sc. form of MORT D'ANCESTOR. Chiefly in *brieve of mortancestry*, which corresponds to the Eng. 'writ of assize of mort d'ancestor'.

1609 SKENE *Reg. Maj.* 58 Qvhen ane man deceisses saised in frie tenement, swa that he is vest and saised therein in propertie, and as of fie: his heire may seik saising thereof: and gif he be of perfite age, he sall haue the brieve of mortancestrie. 1678 SIR G. MACKENZIE *Crim. Laws Scot.* II. xv. § ii. (1699) 212 They were Judges to Recognitions, Brieves of Mortancestrie [etc.]. *a* 1768 ERSKINE *Inst. Law Scot.* III. viii. § 62 (1773) 576 Though the brief of inquest sometimes gets the name of the brief of mortancestry..these two were originally distinct. 1746-7 *Act 20 Geo. II*, c. 50 § 3 Upon the brief of mortancestry of any heir or heirs. 1838 W. BELL *Dict. Law Scot.* 659 The brieve of mortancestry was used for calling into court those in possession of the ancestor's property, for trying the title under which they possessed.

Mortar (mɔ·ɹtəɹ), *sb.*1 Forms: 1, 4-6 **mortere**, 3-8 **morter**, 4-5 **mortyer**, (5 **moorter, morteer, -ier**, 6 **mortre**, 7 **mortore, -ure**), 5-6 **mortare**, 6- **mortar.** [In sense 1 perh. partly repr. OE. *mortere* masc., a. L. *mortārium*, of obscure origin, whence also MLG. *mortêr, mottêr, morten*, OHG. *morsâri, morsali* (perh. affected by popular etymology, as if f. Teut. *mors-* to crush), also without sound-shifting *mortâri* (MHG. *morsære, morsel*, mod.G. *mörser, mörsel*), OSw. *mortare* (mod.Sw., Da. *morter*). It is, however, doubtful whether the word survived beyond OE.; if not, the existing word must be regarded as wholly a. F. *mortier* (whence Du. *mortier*), to which several of the ME. forms are clearly due. Senses 2, 3, 4 were taken from Fr.; the Fr. lexicographers regard them as transferred applications to objects more or less similar in shape to the 'mortar' of pharmacy.

Cf. Pr. *mortier-s* (in sense 1), Rumanian *moseriu* (sense 1), It. *mortaio* (senses 1, 3), Sp. *mortero* (senses 1, 2, 3, 4), Pg. *morteiro* (senses 1, 3).]

1. A vessel of a hard material (e.g. marble, brass, wood, glass), having a cup-shaped cavity, in which ingredients used in pharmacy, cookery, etc., are pounded with a pestle.

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 216 Genuna þonne eall tosomne on anum mortere. *c* 1050 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 448/29 *Mortariola*, mortere. 13.. *K. Alis.* 332 Herbes he tok in an herber, And stamped heom in a morter. *c* 1420 *Liber Cocorum* (1862) 7 Take wete,..And do hit in a morter shene; Bray hit a lytelle. 15.. in *Vicary's Anat.* App. IX. i. (1888) 220 Take the rootes of marche mallowes..and brysse them a lytle in a mortre. 1599 *Acc. Bk. W. Wray* in *Antiquary* XXXII. 243 One little brasse morter and ij pesteles. 1653 WALTON *Angler* I. viii. 171 Then beat these together in a Mortar. 1681 BELON *New Myst. Physick* Introd. 26 Take of good red Coral,..make it into a gross Powder, in a Marble Mortar. 1747 MRS. GLASSE *Cookery* ii. (1767) 57 Make a force-meat with half a pound of veal [etc.]..all beat fine together in a marble mortar. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts*, etc. 438 By bruising a piece of enamel in an agate or porcelain mortar to a coarse powder like sand.

fig. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. xiii. 44 Ac her sauce was..vnsauourely grounde, In a morter, post-mortem of many bitter peyne. 1382 WYCLIF *Prov.* xxvii. 22 If thou bete togidere a fool in a morter..shal not ben take awei fro hym his folie. 1535. 1610, 1664, 1855 [see BRAY *v.*2 1 b]. 1662 M. W. *Marriage Broker* v. i, This Pestle shall ne're pound i' th widows mortar. [Cf. It. *mortaro* (ad fin.) Florio.]

†**b.** As an instrument of punishment (see quots.).

[1423 *Maldon* (Essex) *Court Rolls* (Bundle 14. no. 1*), Uxor Johannis Morys est communis litigatrix et portabit mortarium.] 1468 *Maldon* (Essex) *Liber* B. fol. 12 b, Alle maner of brethelde braulerres..for ther braulyng shull bere the morter accordyng to the olde custum of this toun. 1572 in A. Clark *Shirburn Ball.* (1907) 47 [At Maldon, Essex.] To the sonne of Simon Sawyer for the ringinge of the hason borne before the surgeon wearinge the morter about his necke for baudry. 1637 in Boys *Coll. Hist. Sandwich* (1789) 708 A woman carries a wooden mortar throughout the town, hanging on the handle of an old broom upon her shoulder..for abusing mrs mayoress. 1789 Boys *ibid.* 789 The..wooden mortar for punishment of scolds.

†**c.** Proverb. *To fly to Rome with a mortar on one's head*: app. a legendary achievement of some famous wizard. *Obs.*

1600 KEMP *Nine Daies Wonder* Ep. Ded., Me thinkes I could flye to Rome (at least hop to Rome, as the olde Prouerb is) with a morter on my head. *a* 1625 FLETCHER *Fair Maid Inn* v. ii, He did measure the starres with a false yard, and may now travaile to Rome with a morter on's head to see if he can recover his mony that way.

d. *transf.* (*a*) In early use, a literalism of translation; (*b*) later, applied to various mechanical appliances in which materials are pounded or ground.

(*a*) *c* 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* IV. 113 A morter [orig. *mortarium* = hole] faste is maad aboute the tre. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 594 In Greece they have a cast by themselves, to temper and beat in morters, the mortar made of lime and sand..with a great wooden pestill. 1728 T. COOKE tr. *Hesiod, Wks. & Days* II. 60 Provide a Mortar three Feet deep, and strong; And let the Pistil be three Cubits long.

(*b*) 1766 C. LEADBETTER *Roy. Gauger* II. xiv. (ed. 6) 370 The Rags..are put into Troughs called Mortars, each Mortar having to it five Hammers. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 1255 For grinding the tobacco leaves into snuff, conical mortars are employed. 1881 RAYMOND *Mining Gloss., Mortar*,.. the receptacle beneath the stamps in a stamp mill, in which the dies are placed, and into which the rock is fed to be crushed. 1902 HALL & NEAL *Anc. Ruins Rhodesia* vi. 77 In no ruin, so far discovered, have the ancient mortars, or crushing-stones, or even gold quartz been discovered.

2. A bowl of wax or oil with a floating wick, and later a kind of thick candle, used esp. as a night-light. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.*

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1487, & oþer lowelych lyȝt þat lemed ful fayre As mony morteres of wax merkked without-oute. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* IV. 1245 For, by this morter which that I see breune, Knowe I ful wel that day is not far henne. *c* 1430 *Bk. Curtasye* 503 in *Babees Bk.*, A morter of wax..þat alle nyȝt brennes in bassyn clere, To saue þo chambur on nyȝt for fyre. 1530 in *Archæologia* III. 156 Returning to the chaundry all the remains of mortars, torches, quarries, prickets and sizes. *a* 1603 in Nichols *Progr. Q. Eliz.* II. 56 Quarriers, Torches, and Mortroses. 1604 *Housek. Ord.* (1790) 305 Mortores, Torchetts, Torches, Quarriours. 1641 J. MURRELL *Cookery & Carving* 184 When your Souerainge is in bed, draw the Curtaines, and see there be morter or waxe of perchours ready. 1852 ROCK *Ch. of Fathers* III. viii. 89. *c* 1865 LETHEBY in *Circ. Sci.* I. 93/2 The wicks of wax mortars and nightlights are made of flax.

3. orig. †*mortar-piece*: A short piece of ordnance with a large bore and with trunnions on its breech for throwing shells at high angles.

1558 *Voy. Osep Napea* in *A. Jenkinson's Voy. & Trav.* (Hakl. Soc.) II. 360 They haue also a great many of morter pieces or potguns, out of which pieces they shoote wild fire. 1613 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII*, v. iv. 48 Hee stands there like a Morter-piece to blow vs. 1667 PEPYS *Diary* 28 Apr., Stone-shot of thirty-six inches' diameter, which they shot out of mortar-pieces. 1687 EVELYN *Diary* 16 Mar., Those..Engines called bombs, shot out of the Mortar-piece on Blackheath. 1760 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* III. xxii, They are two mortar-pieces for a siege next summer.

1627 CAPT. SMITH *Seaman's Gram.* xiv. 68 For Morters, or such chambers are only vsed for triumphs, there is no vse for them in this seruice. 1691 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2699/4, 8 Mortars, two of which are of 18 Inches diameter. 1727-52 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Mortar-piece*, There are two kinds of mortars: the one hung or mounted on a carriage..; called pendent or hanging mortars: the other fixed on an immoveable base, called standing mortars. 1800 WELLINGTON in Gurw. *Desp.* (1834) I. 112 Howitzers will not answer at Jemalabad; and I have therefore ordered there a thirteen and a ten inch mortar. 1858 GREENER *Gunnery* 65 Mortars are intended for three purposes; firstly, to bombard a town, or injure the defenders' artillery; secondly, to fire or overthrow the works; thirdly, to break through the vaulted roofs of barracks and magazines. 1875 *Encycl. Brit.* II. 664 The number of men required is calculated for three reliefs,..15 per large mortar, and 9 per small mortar.

b. *transf.* Applied to contrivances for firing 'shells' in pyrotechnic displays and for throwing a life-line (cf. *life-mortar* s.v. LIFE *sb.* 17).

1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* v. xiii. 83 Of Artificial Fire-Works. To make the Mortar-Piece of Wood and Past-Board. Provide a Wooden-Ruler of such bigness as you desire to make the Diameter of the Morter. 1749 *Descr. Machine for the Fireworks* 9, 12 Mortars with Air Ballons. 1792 *Trans. Soc. Arts* X. 203 Trials were made, by throwing a loaded Shell on shore, from a small mortar...To the Shell was attached a rope. 1829 MRS. OPIE in Brightwell *Life* (1854) 223 To..watch, lest any vessel should be in distress on the coast, that the mortar might be used. 1873 *Cornhill Mag.* XXVIII. 72 The rocket and mortar apparatus..has frequently done good service where a lifeboat would have been useless. 1878 T. KENTISH *Pyrotechn. Treas.* 117 Shells are hollow paper globes, fired vertically, from mortars.

†**4.** = MORTIER. Also *mortar cap. Obs.*

The sense can hardly be said to have really existed in Eng. Quot. 1604 is a mere literalism of translation, and the examples cited in recent Dicts. belong to 1 c. Davies *Suppl. Gloss.* erroneously places under this sense a passage from Fuller *Pisgah* (1650) IV. vi. 107, based on an obscure Talmudic text which (as translated by some scholars) describes the hypocritical Pharisee as 'hanging down his head like a pestle in a mortar'.

1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* VI. xvi. 467 In some parts [they wear] as it were little morters [Sp. *morteretes*] or hattes. 1686 CHARDIN *Coronat. Solyman* 40 A flat Bonnet, somewhat like the Mortar Caps of the Presidents of the French Parliaments.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as (sense 1) *mortar-fashioned* adj., †*pestle*; (sense 1 d) *mortar-crushing*; (sense 2) *mortar-light*; (sense 3) *mortar-battery, -carriage, platform, -shell*; (sense 3 b) *mortar station.*

1708 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4470/2 The *Mortar-Battery on the Counterscarp..began to play. 1810 WELLINGTON in Gurw. *Desp.* (1838) VI. 360 They have not yet broken ground.. excepting to construct what I conceive to be a mortar battery. 1875 *Encycl. Brit.* II. 664/1 *Mortar-carriages. 1877 RAYMOND *Statist. Mines & Mining* 246 About two tons [of ore] treated by hand (*mortar-crushing) yielded $8,000. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* s.v. *Lycoperdon*, The *mortar fashioned lycoperdon. 1856 *Orr's Circ. Sci., Pract. Chem.* 460 The best description of candle manufactured from wax is the **mortar-light*, which is used either for night-watching or for heating dishes on the table. 14.. *Metr. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 626 *Mortare pestelle, *mortarium, pila.* 1876 VOYLE & STEVENSON *Milit. Dict.* (ed. 3) s.v. *Platform*, **Mortar Platform*, a platform similar to that used with siege guns, but of smaller dimensions. 1879 *Man. Artill. Exerc.* II. 40 *Mortar shells have no wooden bottom attached. 1812 in G. W. Manby *Ess. Preserv. Shipwr. Persons* 32 Ships in danger of being wrecked on parts of the coast intermediate to the *mortar stations.

b. Special comb.: **mortar-bed**, (*a*) see BED *sb.* 12 a; (*b*) the bed on which the ore is crushed in a stamp-mill; **mortar-block**, the foundation-timber of a stamp-mill; **mortar body**, a paste used in the manufacture of porcelain mortars; †**mortar-cap** (see 4); **mortar casemate** (see quot.); **mortar-hole**, a hole in a rock used as a mortar in primitive ore-crushing; **mortar-man** *nonce-wd.*, an apothecary; †**mortar-piece** (see 3); **mortar-press**, the trough in which tobacco leaves are pressed before cutting; **mortar vessel** (see quot.); **mortar ware**, a very hard porcelain biscuit invented by Wedgwood and used by him in the manufacture of mortars.

1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1776) s.v. *Mortar*, The middle..is bent..to embrace the trunnions, and keep them fast in the *mortar-bed. 1802 C. JAMES *Milit. Dict.* s.v. *Mortar*, Land-Mortar-Beds, are made of very solid timber. 1811, 1816 [see BED *sb.* 12 a]. 1874 RAYMOND *6th Rep. Mines* 353 The mortar-beds constitute a series of inclined terraces,..and the pulp passing through the screens of one battery is discharged immediately into the one next in front. 1889 C. G. W. LOCK *Pract. Gold-mining* 429 Mortars are often fixed directly upon vertical *mortar-blocks. 1839 URE

Dict. Arts 1020 *Mortar body, is a paste composed of 6 parts of clay [etc.]. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 138/2 *Mortar casemates are vaulted chambers without a front wall employed..to secure the mortars of the fortresses from vertical fire. 1902 Hall & Neal *Anc. Ruins Rhodesia* vi. 78 Shallow hollows on the rocks where the quartz powdered in the *mortar-holes was evidently reduced to the fineness required for washing. 1756 Toldervy *Hist. 2 Orphans* I. 17 Prithee fellow its one of thy lies, replied the *mortar-man. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXV. 17/2 The damp [tobacco] leaves are..laid in what is called a '*mortar-press'. 1864 *Chamb. Encycl.*, *Mortar-vessel*, a class of gun-boat for mounting sea-service mortars. 1865 Jewitt *Wedgwoods* x. 187 Josiah Wedgwood's inventions and discoveries... Basaltes,..jasper, bamboo and *mortar wares.

Mortar (mɔ̄·ɹtəɹ), *sb.*[2] Forms: 3–7 morter, 5 -ere, -yer, 6 -are, 7– mortar. [ME. *morter, mortier*, a. F. *mortier* (13th c. in Littré) :—L. *mortārium*. Cf. MDu. *morter, mortel* (Du. *mortel*), MHG. *mortel, morter* (G. *mörtel*), from Latin or Fr.

The L. *mortārium* in the sense 'product of trituration' (applied by Juvenal to drugs, and by Vitruvius to mortar) is commonly regarded as a transferred use of *mortārium* Mortar *sb.*[1] 1, which was applied by extension to the trough in which mortar was mixed. It is possible, however, that the two senses of the Latin word are equally original, the suffix *-ārium* being employed in two different functions.]

A material consisting of lime and sand mixed with water, which is used to make the joints between stones and bricks in building, and which, when set, binds them together into a solid mass. Also applied to materials of other composition used for the same purpose.

Various kinds are *gauged, hydraulic, pointing, pozzolana, trass, water mortar*, etc.; see the qualifying words.

The collocations *stone and mortar, bricks and mortar*, are freq. used to denote the essential materials used in building; the latter phrase is also employed colloq. for 'houses' or 'house property' (sometimes attrib.).

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 57/125 Þo he ne mi3hte non oþur do þe churche for-to a-rere, he..bar morter þar-to. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 2246 Þe wark þai raised..Wit tile and ter, wit-vten stan Oþer morter was þer nan. 1340 *Ayenb.* 116 Þet guode mortyer huer-of me makeþ þe guode walles sarzineys. 1426 Lydg. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 23504 The morter Was not.. Stably among the stoones layd. 1534 *Act* 26 *Hen. VIII* c. 8 If the owner..doo not..with walles of morter and stone sufficiently inclose the same vacant grounde. 1592 Greene *Upst. Courtier* F 4 An so spoiles hee much good morter and bricke. 1611 Bible *Exod.* i. 14 They made their liues bitter, with hard bondage, in morter and in bricke. *a* 1745 Swift *Char. of Legion Club* 178 We must give them better Quarter, For their Ancestor trod Mortar. 1825 J. Nicholson *Operat. Mechanic* 530 In making mortar, particular attention must be paid to the quality of the sand. 1836 N. Paterson *Manse Garden* (1860) 29 The legal fence is one of stone and mortar. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* xxiii, Fragments of mortar..came dropping down. 1863 P. Barry *Dockyard Econ.* 116 The plant must he sold, the brick and mortar walls demolished. 1895 *Daily News* 28 Oct. 9/3 Business..will be practically confined to small metropolitan brick and mortar investments.

b. *transf.* (See quots.)

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 344/2 Morter, for playsterynge.., *litura*. 1573 Baret *Alv.* M 435 Morter or clay mixed with straw, wherewith walles are dawbed, *aceratum*. 1605 Shaks. *Lear* II. ii. 71, I will tread this vnboulted villaine into morter, and daube the wall of a Iakes with him. 1607 Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 398 To keep mice from corn, make morter of the froth of oyl mingled together with chaff, ..then plaister the walls of your garnery therewith. *c* 1710 Celia Fiennes *Diary* (1888) 101 The mill..pounded the raggs to morter for ye paper. 1797 *Statist. Acc. Scott.* XIX. 339 *note*, That coarse red clay, called mortar, is the basis of all the grounds in this part of Strathmore. 1842–59 Gwilt *Archit.* II. iii. § 2235 The sorts of it [*sc.* plaster] are various; as for instance, white lime and hair mortar on bare walls. 1892 Pit-mortar [see Pit *sb.* 14].

† c. (*a*) Building, masonry; (*b*) *fig.* building operations. *Obs.*

1582 Stanyhurst *Aeneis* II. (1880) 59 No man, no morter can his onset forcibil hynder. 1665 Gerbier *Brief Disc.* 3 Those who say, That a wise man never ought to put his finger into Morter. 1798 W. Hutton *Life* 43, I..altered the plan..till, when put in execution, it cost more than 700*l.* Mortar is rather apt to corrode the pocket.

d. *fig.*

1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xix. 321 And of his baptesme & blode þat he bledde on Rode He made a maner morter & mercy it hi3te. 1480 Caxton *Chron. Eng.* v. (1520) 43/1 The morter of a werke that I have begon behoveth to be tempred with your blood. 1562 Winjet *Cert. Tractates* Wks. (S.T.S.) I. 14 The prophetis of it, spargeonit thaim with vntemperit morter [cf. Ezek. xxii. 28]. 1649 J. Owen *Shaking Heaven & Earth* Wks. 1851 VIII. 277 All that antichristian mortar wherewith from their first chaos, they have been cemented. 1827 Carlyle *Misc.* (1857) I. 2 A trowel or two of biographic mortar. 1903 *Speaker* 21 Mar. 612/1 They regarded faith as the mortar which kept the bricks of society sticking together.

e. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *mortar-built* adj., *-engine, -joint, -like* adj., *-maker, -making, -mill, -tempering*, †*-treader*, †*-treading*, *-tub*; **mortar-bed**, the layer of mortar between courses of brickwork or masonry; **mortar-liquid** = Grout; **mortar-man** *nonce-wd.*, a builder; **mortar-wash**, thin mortar.

1842 Gwilt *Archit.* § 1900 The propriety of the *mortar beds being as thin as possible. 1900 A. Lang *Hist. Scotl.* I. iv. 68 *Mortar-built stone edifices. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.*, **Mortar-engine*, a machine for grinding and combining materials into mortar. 1878 Sir G. Scott *Lect. Archit.* (1879) II. 40 A steep skewback being formed for their springings to..moderate the thickness of the *mortar-joint. 1704 London & Wise *Compl. Gardener* III. xx. (ed. 4) 89 Rainy weather being apt to reduce the Mould to a *Mortar-like consistence. 1888 C. H. Fagge *Syst. Med.* (ed. 3) I. 105 The calcified growth has a peculiar dull white chalky, or mortar-like appearance. 1776 G. Semple *Building in Water* 78 The Antients filled up their Work with *Mortar-liquid. 1606 Holyoke *Rider's Dict.*, A *morter maker or dawber, *cementarius*. 1825 [see *mortar tub*]. 1596 S. Finch in Ducarel *Hist. Croydon* (1783) App. 152 Nowe we take *morter-makinge in hande. 1659 Gauden *Tears Ch.* IV. xvi. 513 While Ministers preach .. with divided tongues,..they are likely to produce no better successes.. than those..*morter-men did, whose work deserved the nick-name of Babel. 1878 *Dict. Archit.* (Arch. Publ. Soc.), *Mortar mill. 1904 *Athenæum* 31 Dec. 908/2 Poplar and St. Pancras both run fan-engines, clinker-crushers, and mortar-mills. 1878 *Dict. Archit.* (Arch. Publ. Soc.) s.v. *Mortar mill*, The *mortar-tempering machine. 1602 Dekker *Satirom.* Wks. 1873 I. 234, I smelt the foule-fisted *Morter-treader. 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* IV. (1622) 427 Parting with his sword one of his legs from him, left him to make a roring lamentation that his *morter-treading was marred for euer. 1825 J. Nicholson *Operat. Mechanic* 806 The Floor of the gallery where the mortar makers and smiths worked; shewing the situation of the *mortar tubs. 1778 *Phil. Trans.* LXVIII. 889 They ought to be washed over with a brush, wet with *mortar-wash.

† **Mo·rtar,** *v.*[1] *Obs. rare.* [f. Mortar *sb.*[1]] *intr.* To use a mortar (and pestle). Only in **Mortaring** *ppl. a.*

1596 Nashe *Saffron Walden* O 4, He may be such another craftie mortoring Druggeir.

Mortar (mɔ̄·ɹtəɹ), *v.*[2] [f. Mortar *sb.*[2]] *trans.* To plaster with mortar; to fix or join with mortar or a mortar-like substance.

1382 [see *ppl. a.* below]. 1563 Hyll *Art Garden.* (1593) 6 They made their inclosure..with earth and stones mortered together. 1623 Bingham *Xenophon* 33 The Wall ..was built of Bricke mortered with asphalt. 1641 Best *Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 145 When they come to morter the rigge of an howse. 1658 Sir T. Browne *Hydriot.* iii. 12 We found the bones and ashes half mortered unto the sand and sides of the Urne. 1859 R. F. Burton *Centr. Afr.* in *Jrnl. Geog. Soc.* XXIX. 67 *note*, Bowls of broken china and pottery are mortared into the tombs. 1861 Smiles *Engineers* II. 182 *note*, Every stone being fitted, mortared, and laid with studious accuracy.

b. in fig. context.

1610 Donne *Pseudo-martyr* Pref. C 3, You are euer after his [*sc.* the Pope's] instruments, to build vp his spirituall Monarchy..and your selues must ciment and morter the wals with your blood. 1619 Bp. Williams *Serm. Apparell* (1620) 8 This rotten house of ours, the which (were it not continually mortered and repaired with meat and drinke) [etc.]. 1633 Bp. Hall *Hard Texts, N. T.* 292 Ye are living stones, ye must bee..firmly mortered upon the foundation of Christ.

Hence **Mo·rtared** *ppl. a.*, plastered, cemented, or daubed with mortar.

1382 Wyclif *Amos* vii. 7 A wall teerid, or morterd [1388 plastrid, Vulg. *murum litum*]. 1892 T. B. F. Eminson *Epidemic Pneumonia at Scotter* 11 A catch-pit of mortared or unmortared brick. 1897 *Harper's Mag.* Apr. 730 Workers ..are thus spared the mortification of intruding..mortared or sooty shoes..among the well-dressed passengers. 1905 Holman Hunt *Pre-Raphlm.* II. 276 The unlovely stone and mortared wall.

Mo·rtar-board. [f. Mortar *sb.*[2] + Board *sb.*]

1. A board for holding mortar: (*a*) see quot. 1876; (*b*) the small square board on which a bricklayer carries mortar; = Hawk *sb.*[3]

1876 Papworth in *Encycl. Brit.* IV. 457 (art. *Building*) The mortar is placed on ledged boards about 3 feet square ..; and the bricks are strewn on the scaffold between the mortar boards. 1882 Young *Every Man his own Mech.* § 1141 The mortar-board..is held in the left hand by the handle below while pointing.

2. A popular name for the academic or college cap, which consists of a stiffened head-piece surmounted by a square of 'board', the whole being covered with black cloth.

1854 'C. Bede' *Verdant Green* II. iii, 'I don't mind this ere mortar-board', ..as he pointed to the academical cap.

† **Morta·rian,** *a. Obs.* [f. Mortar *sb.*[1] + -ian.] Of or pertaining to a (druggist's) mortar.

1651 Biggs *New Disp.* P 34. 12 The Schools in the Remedies of Diseases, both of simples and their mortarian labour of Compositions, have apply'd themselves [etc.].

Mortarie, obs. (*erron.*) form of Mortuary *sb.*

Mo·rtarize, *v.*[1] *rare.* [f. Mortar *sb.*[1] + -ize.] *trans.* To pound in a mortar (*fig.*).

1615 *Curry-Combe for a Coxe-Combe* Contents, Lipsian Miracles morterized.

Mortarize, *v.*[2] *rare.* [f. Mortar *sb.*[2] + -ize.] *trans.* To bring to the consistency of mortar.

1852 Dickinson in *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* XIII. 1. 237 The wet clays were mortarized (to use a coined term).

Mortarless (mɔ̄·ɹtəɹlĕs), *a.* [f. Mortar *sb.*[2] + -less.] Without mortar.

1667 Waterhous *Fire Lond.* 87 The Stones of Structures Mortarless. 1886 *Athenæum* 31 July 152 The remains of mortarless stone churches. 1891 Atkinson *Moorland Parish* 38 A..mortarless stone wall or dike.

Mo·rtar-stone. Chiefly *Sc.* and *north. dial.* (-stane). [f. Mortar *sb.*[1] Cf. MDu. *mortierstcen.*] A block of stone hollowed to form a mortar; *spec.* 'a stone formerly used for preparing barley, by separating it from the husks' (Jam.).

1480–1 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 97, ij morterstanez cum iij pilis lign. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* lx. 60 Mell-heidit lyk ane mortar-stane. 1580 *Reg. Privy Council Scol.* Ser. I. III. 320 Item, in the kitchene..ane mortar stane. 1696 *Invent.* in W. Hector *Select. Judic. Rec. Renfrewsh.* (1876) 304 Ane morter-stone and ane mell yrto. 1865 Lubbock *Prehist. Times* 249 The objects of stone found in the bone caves..are flakes,..hammers, and mortar-stones.

Mortary (mɔ̄·ɹtəɹi), *a.* [f. Mortar *sb.*[2] + -y.] Of the nature of, consisting of, or resembling mortar.

1805 R. W. Dickson *Pract. Agric.* II. 643 The mortary rubbish from old walls. 1845 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* V. II. 432 A mortary loam, and a strong clay. 1876 Bristowe *Th. & Pract. Med.* (1878) 435 Yellow tubercle not unfrequently undergoes retrogressive changes..first, into a mortary, and lastly, into a calcareous inert mass.

b. Having mortar obtrusively present. *rare.*

1855 *Househ. Words* XII. 194 We are a little mortary and limey at present, but we are getting on capitally. 1858 Dickens *Lett.* (1880) II. 52 The room..is new and mortary.

Mortas(e, mortays(e, obs. forms of Mortise.

Mortaunceter, variant of Mort d'ancestor.

† **Mo·rtcharge.** *Sc. Obs.* [a. F. *morte charge* 'dead load'.] = Dead-weight 1 b.

1541 *Burgh Rec. Edin.* (1871) II. 105 That is to say fra Scotis men xx s. greit the mortcharge and xxj s. greit the lycht guddis. 1553 *Ibid.* 184.

Mortclake: see Mortlake.

Mortcloth (mɔ̄·ɹtklɔ̆þ). *Sc.* [f. Mort *sb.*[1] + Cloth *sb.*]

1. A funeral pall.

(Used by Carlyle in the sense of: Funeral hangings.)

1511 *Acc. Ld. Treas. Scotl.* (1902) IV. 195, xvj elnis iij quartaris blak weluus to be ane mort clailth, to ly one King James the Secundis tumbe. *a* 1670 Spalding *Troub. Chas. I* (Bannatyne Club) I. 43 Haveing above his chist a rich mortcloath of black velvet. 1678 Calderwood *Hist. Ch. Scot.* 826 It was reported that they were to use a white cloth above the mort-cloth [at a funeral in 1579]...Answer was returned, that the mort-cloth should be covered with black velvet. 1799 J. Robertson *Agric. Perth* 80 Certain dues for the proclamation of banns, the use of the mort-cloth ..and other casualties. 18.. Hogg *Tales & Sk.* (1837) II. 189 When I saw the mortclaith drawn off the coffin. 1837 Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* II. II. vi, The vast Champ-de-Mars wholly hung round with black mortcloth.

2. Fees paid for the use of a pall.

1794 *Statist. Acc. Scott.* XI. 452 The fund for their support arises from..the weekly collections..mortcloths, proclamation money [etc.]. 1876 Grant *Burgh Sch. Scot.* II. xiv. 457 In 1762 the schoolmaster of Banff derived part of his salary from the town's bells and Mort Cloth.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

1768 *Parish Rec. Leslie* in Small *Hist. U. P. Congreg.* (1904) I. 280 Mortcloth dues for Mr James Clunie. 1902 A. Thomson *Lauder & Lauderdale* vii. 83 Alexander Creze was mortcloth keeper.

Mort d'ancestor (mɔ̱ɹdæ·nsĕstəɹ). *Old Law.* Also 6 **mortaunceter, mort(d)auncesto(u)r,** 7, 9 **mortdancester,** (8 -or), 7 **mort d'ancester, mordauncester.** [a. AF. *mordancestre, mort d'auncestre* 'ancestor's death'.] The term applied to an assize brought by the right heir against one who wrongfully took possession of his inheritance on the death of his ancestor (see *Britton* III. vi.).

1523 Fitzherb. *Survey.* 13 The kynges writ of assise of nouell disseson or of assise of mortauncteer. 1540 *Act* 32 *Hen. VIII*, c. 2 § 2 That no maner of persone..shall herafter have sue or maintain any issue of Mortauncestor [etc.]. 1543 tr. *Act* 9 *Hen. III*, c. 12 Assyses of newe dysseisin, and of mortdauncestour. 1642 tr. *Perkins' Prof. Bk.* v. § 383. 165 If Tenant in Taile of land bath issue and dyeth and a stranger abateth..and the issue in tayle bring an Assise of Mordauncester. 1833 *Act* 3 & 4 *Will. IV*, c. 27 § 36 No Writ..of Mort d'ancestor..shall be brought after the Thirty-first Day of December One thousand eight hundred and thirty-four. 1875 Digby *Real Prop.* ii. § 9 The writ of assize of Mort d'Ancestor was perhaps instituted by the ordinance called the Assize of Northampton, A.D. 1176.

‖ **Mort-de-chien.** *Obs.* [Fr.; lit. 'dog's death', but this is an etymologizing perversion of the Pg. *mordexim* (mordeʃĩ·ñ) : see Mordisheen.] A name used by Europeans in India for cholera.

1780 Impey in Sir J. F. Stephen *Nuncomar & Impey* (1885) II. 239 *note*, I am once or twice a year subject to violent attacks of cholera morbus, here called the *mort de chien*, and to other disorders. 1813 J. Johnson *Influ. of Tropical Climate* (1815) 405 Mort de chien is nothing more than the highest degree of Cholera Morbus.

‖ **Mort dieu,** *int. Obs.* In 6 **mortdew, mordu.** [Fr. = 'God's death'.] An oath.

1593 Marlowe *Massacre Paris* C, *Mor du*, wert not the fruit within thy wombe..This wrathfull hand should strike thee to the hart. 1605 *Tryall Chev.* II. ii. in Bullen *O. Pl.* (1884) III. 292 Mortdew! Ile be reveng'd, by heaven I will.

Mortdore, obs. form of Mordoré.

† **Morteaulx.** *Obs.* [? Error for *marteaulx.*] = Martel *sb.*[1] 2.

1472 in *Archæologia* (1836) XXVI. 277 The quene had there [in her chamber] her ladyes playinge at the morteaulx.

† **Mortechien.** *Sc. Obs.* Forms: 7 **mortie-chein, mortichеyne,** 8 *corruptly* **mord de chien,** 9 **mortersheen.** [Of difficult etymology.

Identical with the alleged F. *mort d'eschine* (lit. death of the spine), for which Fitzherbert 1534 (*Husb.* § 119) quotes the proverb 'Mort de langue et de eschine sont maladyes saunce medecine'. It is probable that *mort* here is a mistake for *morve*, running of the nose, glanders (for which, or its dial. variant *mourve*, Cotgr. has erroneously *mourrue*). The notion that the morbid matter of glanders came from the spine was generally held. The 16th c. Eng. name for the disease, Mourning *of the chine* is prob. a corruption of the original form of the Fr. term. Fountainhall's *mord de chien* is pseudo-etymological (as if 'bite of dog').]

= Glanders.

1637 *Rec. Elgin* (New Spald. Club) I. 257 Anent horses that ar suspectit to haue the mortiechein. *a* 1670 Spalding

Troub. Chas. I (Bannatyne Club) II. 299 Seing the uther tuo hors regimentis..wes scatterit heir and thair, and mony deid in the mortichcyne [ed. 1792 mortichien]. 1759 Fountainhall *Decisions* I. 406 Anent the horse infected with the mord de chien. ?1816 Duff *Poems* 86 (Jam.) And now he's [*sc.* a horse] tane the mortersheen.

Mortegon, obs. f. Martagon. **Morteise,** obs. f. Mortise. **Mortelack,** obs. f. Mortlake. **Mortemale,** var. Mormal. **Morterews,** obs. var. Mortress. **Mortersheen,** var. Mortechien. **Mortes(ce, -es(s)e,** obs. ff. Mortise.

† **Mortesse.** *Obs.* App. error for Mortar.

1614 *Inv.* in *Trans. Cumb. & Westm. Arch. Soc.* III. 114 One mortesse with pestell.

Mortesse, ? erron. var. Mortress.

Morteys(e, obs. forms of Mortise.

Mortfundit, Sc. pa. pple. of Morfound.

Mortgage (mɔ̄·ɪgĕdʒ), *sb.* Forms: 4–7 morgage, 6 mortegage, 6– mortgage. [a. OF. *mortgage* (13th c.) lit. 'dead pledge' (see Mort *a.* and Gage *sb.*) : whence med.L. *mortuum vadium* and *mor(t)gagium.*

For the explanation of the etymological meaning of the term current among 17th c. lawyers, see the following quot.

1628 Coke *On Litt.* 205 It seemeth that the cause why it is called mortgage is, for that it is doubtful whether the Feoffor will pay at the day limited such summe or not, & if he doth not pay, then the Land which is put in pledge vpon condition for the payment of the money, is taken from him for euer, and so dead to him vpon condition, &c. And if he doth pay the money, then the pledge is dead as to the Tenant, &c.]

Law. The conveyance of real or personal property by a debtor (called the *mortgagor*) to a creditor (called the *mortgagee*) as security for a money debt, with the proviso that the property shall be reconveyed upon payment to the mortgagee of the sum secured within a certain period. Also applied to the deed by which the transaction is effected, the rights thereby conferred on the mortgagee, and the condition of being mortgaged.

'The general object of mortgage is to secure a money debt by making it a charge on land, so that, if the debt be not paid by a time agreed upon between the parties, the creditor may sell the land and pay himself out of the proceeds' (*Encycl. Brit.* s.v.).

1475 *Rolls of Parl.* VI. 147/2 That all Maners, Londes [etc.]..of the which any persone..were seased, or had any astate, title,..or possession..in any maner morgage. 1542–3 *Act* 34 & 35 *Hen. VIII*, c. 26 § 37 Mortgages of landes tenementes or hereditamentes made or had after the saide feaste of Sainct John Baptest. *a* 1634 Randolph *Muses Looking Gl.* II. iv, A glibbery heir With all his lands melted into a mortgage. 1642 Chas. I *Sp.* Wks. 1662 I. 412, I will ..expose all My Land to Sale or Morgage. 1663 Cowley *Cutter Coleman St.* v. i, I have some Hold now upon my Estate again; (tho' she, I confess, be a Clog upon it worse than a Mortgage). 1708 *Act 7 Anne* c. 19 In like Manner as Trustees or Mortgagees of full Age are compellable to convey or assign their Trust Estates or Mortgages. 1728 Young *Love Fame* vi. (1757) 149 His lordship's rent-roll is exceeding great—But mortgages will sap the best estate. 1828 R. Peters *Cases Supreme Crt. U. S.* I. 441 In discussions in Courts of Equity, a mortgage is sometimes called a lien for a debt. 1856 W. R. Fisher *Law Mortgage* 3 The Welsh mortgage, by which the estate is conveyed absolutely to the creditor, without condition; the rents and profits being enjoyed by him in lieu of interest. 1865 Trollope *Belton Est.* I. 2 Mortgages were paid off the property with his wife's money. 1872 W. W. Barry *Forms & Prec. Convey.* 31 A mortgage is made by the same form of assurance as a conveyance, and contains somewhat similar recitals. 1878 Jevons *Prim. Pol. Econ.* 84 They can borrow money by the mortgage of the buildings and machinery belonging to the company.

b. Phrases. † *In mortgage*: mortgaged. † *To lay in* or *to mortgage*, † *set to mortgage*: to mortgage. *To lend on mortgage*: to advance (money) on the security of properly, esp. houses or land.

[1390: see c.] *c* 1430 Lydg. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 50 My purse and I be callid to the lure, Of indigence oure stuff leyde in morgage. 1448 Marg. Paston in *Paston Lett.* (1897) I. 69 That he wyl sett hys gode to morgage to Heydon. *c* 1460 *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1866) 24 And whethir it [*sc.* the land] be in any morgage. 1530 Tindale *Pract. Prel.* F viij b, Then to do the kinge seruyce the lordes sell or laye their loades to morgage. 1544 tr. *Littleton's Tenures* 77 b, As a man may make a feoffement in fee in Mortgage, so may a man make a gyft of the tayle in Mortgage. *c* 1595 *Office Alien.* in *Bacon's Wks.* (1730) III. 559 Sometime the land is given in mortgage only, with full intention to be redeemed within one year. 1719 *State Trials, Raleigh* (1730) I. 209, I knew her own Subjects.. would not lend her Majesty Money, without Lands in Mortgage. 1844 J. Williams *Real Prop.* IV. (1845) 295 The larger proportion of the lands in this kingdom is at present in mortgage. 1849 Lyell *2nd Visit U. S.* II. 62 Those to whom portions of the borrowed money were lent on mortgage. 1870 L'Estrange *Life Miss Mitford* III. vi. 88 The debts [were] paid, and the residue [of the money] placed out on mortgage.

c. *fig.* (Cf. Mortgage *v.* b.)

1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 234 In mariage His trouthe plight lith in morgage. *c* 1430 Lydg. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 166 Of eche thyng [he] medlithe, his thrift litbe to morgage. 1629 Massinger *Picture* v. iii, I know not..how to redeeme This morgage of her manners. 1633 Marmion *Antiquary* IV. i, If I plot not so, to make all hit, Then you shall take the morgage of my wit. 1684 T. Hockin *God's Decrees* 363 Men..suffer themselves..to be..ensnared into unhappy contracts and morgages of themselves. 1822 Hazlitt *Table-t.* Ser. II. vi. (1869) 128 They will purchase the hollow happiness of the next five minutes, by a mortgage on the independance and comfort of years. 1866 Lowell *Biglow P.* Ser. II. Introd., Poems (1890) II. 199 A man speaking to me once of a very rocky clearing said, 'Stone's got a pretty heavy mortgage on that land'.

† **d.** *transf.* A pledge. *Obs. rare* —1.

1598 Manwood *Lawes Forest* xvi. § 11. 99 b, If it be found, that the dogge that was so deliuered to be kept, was a pledge, or a morgage for money.

e. *attrib.*, as *mortgage bond, debt, deed,* † *man, money, security, term.*

1890 *Century Dict.*, **Mortgage-bond*, a bond secured by a mortgage. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XVI. 422/2 The mortgagee may..by express declaration, convert the *mortgage debt into land. 1818 Cruise *Digest* (ed. 2) II. 158 That the second *mortgage deed, comprising all the mortgaged premises, put it in the power of the mortgagee..to [etc.]. 1864 *Chamb. Encycl.* VI. 580/1 The ordinary form of a mortgage-deed resembles an absolute conveyance. 1708 *Rhode Island Col. Rec.* (1859) IV. 50 The said committee..there heard the claims and pretended titles of those gentlemen, called the *mortgage men. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XII. 367/1 With condition to be void on repayment of the *mortgage-money. 1858 Lo. St. Leonards *Handy-Bk. Prop. Law* xiv. 92 Unless the mortgagor will pay off the mortgage-money at a short day. 1864 *Chamb. Encycl.* VI. 580/1 Trustees are entitled to invest their funds there [*sc.* in Scotland] in *mortgage security. 1827 Jarman *Powell's Devises* II. 139 The question was whether a *mortgage term passed with copyholds, under a devise of all that his (testator's) estate in Bassey, to M. B. and her heirs.

Mortgage (mɔ̄·ɪgĕg), *v.* Also 6–7 morgage. [a. obs. F. *mor(t)gager*, or f. prec. sb.] *trans.* To make over (property, esp. houses or land) as security for a money debt, on condition that if the debt is discharged the grant shall be void.

In early use, chiefly in pa. pple.

1530 Palsgr. 640/2 He hath nat solde his lande out ryght, but he hath mortgaged it for more than it is worthe. 1536 Layton in *Lett. Suppress. Monasteries* (Camden) 93 The howse is in dett gretly, the landes solde and morgagede, the fermes let owte. 1612 Dekker *If it be not good* E 3, This day..a Gallants bound To pay 400. Crownes to free his Landes Fast morgag'de to mee. 1663 Cowley *Verses & Ess.* (1669) 90 [He] Does like an unthrift morgage his Estate Before it falls into his Hand. 1769 Robertson *Chas. V*, V. iv. 361 Lannoy, by mortgaging the revenues of Naples, procured some money. 1817 Wheaton *Cases Supreme Crt. U. S.* II. 396 If..the debtor has made a *bona fide* conveyance of his estate to a third person, or has mortgaged it to secure a debt. 1864 *Chamb. Encycl.* VI. 580/1 In Scotland there is no such practice as mortgaging lands with banks by merely depositing the title-deeds. 1875 Miss Braddon *Strange World* I. iv. 64 The Bellingham estate was mortgaged up to the hilt when he inherited it.

absol. 1790 Burke *Fr. Rev.* (1824) 270 If he wishes to mortgage, he falls the value of his land. 1819 *Stat. Realm* VI. 405 *marg.*, Persons having mortgaged and mortgaging again without Notice to the Second..Mortgagee.

b. *fig.* To pledge; to make liable; *esp.* to establish a claim in advance upon (an income or the like); hence *pass.* to be attached or pledged (*to* something) in advance.

1588 J. Udall *Demonstr. Discipl.* (Arb.) 3 Haue you morgaged the saluation of your sóules and bodies, for the present fruition of your pompe and plesure? 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* I. v. 46 Mortgaging their lives to Covetise. *c* 1600 Shaks. *Sonn.* cxxxiv, And I my selfe am morgag'd to thy will. 1651 Biggs *New Disp.* P 290 Morgaged, and benighted to eternall dulnesse. 1712 Steele *Spect.* No. 493 P 1 When Suitors of no Consideration will have Confidence enough to press upon their Superiors, those in Power..are mortgaged into Promises out of their Inpatience of Importunity. *a* 1732 Gay *Mad-dog* Poems (1737) II. 67 Gaming succeeds; if fortune crosses, Then virtue's mortgag'd for her losses. 1822 Lamb *Elia* Ser. II. *Conf. Drunkard*, To mortgage miserable morrows for nights of madness. 1838 Lytton *Alice* III. i, His income was already deeply mortgaged. 1838 Emerson *Lit. Ethics* (1875) II. 207 The new man must feel that he has not come into the world mortgaged to the opinions and usages of Europe. 1873 Miss Braddon *Str. & Filgr.* II. iii. 164 Every man's autumn is mortgaged before the spring is over. 1887 Huxley in *Life* (1900) II. x. 163 What little energy I possess is mortgaged to quite other occupations.

Hence **Mo·rtgaging** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1625 Bacon *Ess., Usury* (Arb.) 543 As for Mortgaging, or Pawning, it will little mend the matter. 1768 Hume *Ess., Publ. Credit* 208 The abuses of mortgaging are more certain and inevitable. 1892 *Daily News* 25 Nov. 7/3 Large capitalist houses have continually taken over numbers of farms left by the mortgaging farmers.

Mortgageable (mɔ̄·ɪgĕdʒăb'l), *a.* [f. Mortgage + -able.] Capable of being mortgaged.

1862 T. A. Trollope *Marietta* I. ii. 36 Value of a mortgageable property. 1888 *Univ. Rev.* Nov. 424 There were mortgageable debts to dealers in curiosities [etc.].

Mortgaged (mɔ̄·ɪgĕdʒd), *ppl. a.* [f. Mortgage *v.* + -ed 1.] Of land, etc.: Having a mortgage on it; made over as a security for a debt. Also said of debts.

1614 Beaum. & Fl. *Wit at Sev. Weap.* I, To redeem morgag'd Land. 1718 *Free-thinker* No. 42. 307 He will redeem his mortgaged Estate at any Price. 1765 Blackstone *Comm.* I. 173 That in mortgaged or trust-estates, the person in possession..shall have the vote. 1868 Rogers *Pol. Econ.* xiii. (1876) 172 Peasant proprietors are often heavily burdened with mortgaged debts. 1890 Kipling *Departm. Ditties*, etc. *Masque of Plenty*, His speech is of mortgaged bedding, On his kine he borrows yet.

fig. 1643 Lightfoot *Glean. Ex.* 32 Moses Law..taught Israel to expect that one..should redeeme for him morgaged heaven. 1667 *Decay Chr. Piety* vi. 136 Let men consider themselves..as ensnar'd in that unhappy contract which has rendered them part of the Devils possession, and contrive how they may..disentangle their Mortgag'd Souls.

Mortgagee (mɔ̄·ɪgĕdʒī·). [f. Mortgage *v.* + -ee 1.] The person to whom property is mortgaged: one who lends money on mortgage.

1584 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 439 Yt.. shalbe lawfull to and for the morgagee to challenge the morgagor for the resydue. 1628 Coke *On Litt.* 207 The Morgagee or his heire agreeing thereunto may re-enter into the land. 1648 *Art. Peace* xxvi. in *Milton's Wks.* 1851 II. 529 Where Entry hath been made by the Mortgagers against Law..and detained wrongfully by them without giving any satisfaction to the Mortgagees. 1708 [see Mortgage *sb.*]. 1827 Jarman *Powell's Devises* II. 147 A testator, who was a mortgagee in fee. 1831 Macaulay *Ess., Civil Disab. Jews*, If we were to say that a Jew mortgagee would not foreclose because [etc.]. 1878 Jevons *Prim. Pol. Econ.* 90 The mortgagee or lender of the money then becomes part-owner of the land and capital.

Mortgager (mɔ̄·ɪgĕdʒəɹ). [f. Mortgage *v.* + -er 1.] = Mortgagor.

1638 Sanderson *Serm.* (1681) II. 94 So as the mortgager is upon the point the proprietary still. 1648 [see prec.]. 1692 *Act 4 Will. & Mar.* c. 16 The Mortgager or Mortgagers of the said Lands and Tenements. 1790 Burke *Fr. Rev.* 169 Those are to answer the debt who neither were lenders or borrowers, mortgagers or mortgagees. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XV. 421/2 After the mortgage is made, the mortgager cannot make a lease of the lands without the mortgagee's consent. 1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 848/1 In equity the mortgager remains the real owner, and the mortgagee is merely an encumbrancer.

Mortgagor (mɔ̄·ɪgĕdʒɔ̄·ɹ). *Law.* Also 6–7 morgagor, 9 mortgageor. [f. Mortgage + -or.

An attempt has been made in some Dicts. to rectify the anomalous spelling *mortgagor*, in which *g* before *o* is pronounced (dʒ), by the insertion of *e*; but the form *mortgageor* is not recorded in actual use. (Cf., however, *obligeor*, s.v. Obligor.)]

A person who mortgages or makes over property as a security for debt.

1584 [see Mortgagee]. 1628 Coke *On Litt.* 206 The Executors or Administrators of the Morgagor. 1708 *Act 7 Anne* c. 19 By the Direction of the Cestuy que Trust or Mortgagor. 1766 Blackstone *Comm.* II. 157 That the mortgagee shall re-convey the estate to the mortgagor. 1861 *Law Jrnl. Repts.* XXX. (Com. Pl.) 180 Sold..to pay the debts of the mortgagor. 1875 Digby *Real Prop.* v. (1876) 251 A mortgagor, after default in payment of the mortgage debt, cannot make a valid lease of the lands without the concurrence of the mortgagee. 1890 Hall Caine *Bondman* II. x, Jacob..bargained to be made Mortgagor.

Morth: see Murth.

Morther: see Mauther, Murder.

Mortice: see Mortise.

Mortiechein, variant of Mortechien.

Mortiel, obs. form of Mortal.

‖ **Mortier** (mɔrtye). [Fr. (Cf. Mortar *sb.*1 4.)] A cap formerly worn by high officials of France.

1727–52 Chambers *Cycl., Mortier*, a badge or ensign of dignity, borne by the chancellors, and great presidents, of the parliaments of Paris. 1820 Ranken *Hist. France* VIII. I. ii. 28 The first president..His cap, or mortier,.. was ornamented with a double round of gold lace. 1830 James *Darnley* xxxix, The star and collar of St. Michael, with the velvet mortier and short white plume.

† **Mo·rtifer.** *Obs. nonce-wd.* [f. L. *morti-, mors* death + *-fer* bearing.] A bringer of death.

1667 [see Noctifer].

Mortiferous (mɔ̄ti·fĕrəs), *a.* Now *rare.* [f. L. *mortifer, -fer-us*: see Mort *sb.*1 and -ferous. Cf. F. *mortifère*.] Bringing or producing death; death-dealing, deadly.

1535 Stewart *Cron. Scot.* I. 20 The perelus poysoun, mortiferus melancolie,..In that distres hes done him for to de. 1660 H. More *Myst. Godl.* VI. x. 240 Burnt up by this mortiferous Fever. 1699 Evelyn *Acetaria* 74 The Cicuta..whatever it is in any other Country 'tis certainly Mortiferous in ours. 1702 C. Mather *Magn. Chr.* VII. vi. (1852) 555 Many of them..were a fair mark for the mortiferous bullets. 1859 R. F. Burton *Centr. Afr.* in *Jrnl. Geog. Soc.* XXIX. 40 That fevers are in these regions the natural expression of mortiferous influences generally. 1902 *Fortn. Rev.* June 1019 If such a 'mortiferous' action really exists, perhaps it could be checked chemically.

b. *transf.* Bringing spiritual death.

1542 Becon *Christmas Bang.* iii. F iij, In the body of him, which without ony carnall entysemente & mortiferous delectacion was conceyued. 1654 Hammond *Fundam.* viii. 73 While we make no distinction of sins, and deem every invincible infirmity..to be as dangerous and mortiferous as the most wilful act. 1844 S. R. Maitland *Dark Ages* 117 [tr. Eligius] Whenever you sin, do not wait in mortiferous security until your wounds putrefy. 1851 Sir F. Palgrave *Norm. & Eng.* I. 198 Every erroneous doctrine..is only the repetition of an earlier error,..the venom enfeebled or more mortiferous.

Hence **Morti·ferously** *adv.*, in a mortiferous or deadly manner; **Morti·ferousness,** deadliness.

1685 H. More *Paralip. Prophet.* xlii. 364 That was not the healing of the Beast, but the mortiferously wounding the Dragon. 1856 Ruskin *Mod. Paint.* IV. v. xix. § 21 The pure mortiferousness of this mind, capable neither of patience, fidelity, grace, or wit.

Mortific (mɔti·fik), *a. rare.* [ad. eccl.L. *mortific-us*: see Mort *sb.*1 and -fic.] Death-producing; deadly. So **Morti·fical** *a.*

1651 Biggs *New Disp.* P 100 Mortifick distempers and maladies. 1657 Tomlinson *Renou's Disp.* III. i. 97 That Medicament must be given..which..will free from such a mortifical cause. 1657 *Physical Dict., Mortifical.* 1808 *Sporting Mag.* XXXII. 195 With such rapidity did the mortific matter attack his system, that he became a corpse.

†**Morti·ficate,** *ppl. a.* and *sb. Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *mortificāt-us*, pa. pple. of *mortificāre* to MORTIFY: see -ATE³.] a. *adj.* Killed. b. *sb.* ? One who is mortified or dead to the world.

1471 RIPLEY *Comp. Alch.* I. xx. in Ashm. (1652) 134 Our Tode of the Erth whych etyth hys fyll: Sum name hyt by whych it ys mortyfycat The spyryt of the Erth with venome intoxycate. 1600 W. WATSON *Decacordon* (1602) 67 No Prince or prelate liuing can escape their [the Jesuits'] tongs, ..vntill these mortificats haue their wils.

Mortification (mɒ:tifikē·ʃən). [a. F. *mortification* (14th c.), or ad. eccl.L. *mortificātiōn-em*, n. of action f. *mortificāre* to MORTIFY.]

1. In religious use: The action of mortifying the flesh or its lusts: the subjection of one's appetites and passions by the practice of austere living, esp. by the self-infliction of bodily pain or discomfort.

a. in phr. *mortification of the body, of sin*, etc.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Pars. T.* ¶ 1006 This blisfull regne mow men purchace by pouertee espirituell..the lyf by deth and mortificacion of synne. 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 12010 Mortyfycacioun off the body. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 1 b, Goostly exercyse, or mortifycacyon of the senses. 1532 MORE *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 700/2 The mortificacion of the fleshly woorkes. *c* 1535 NISBET *Prol. Romans* (S.T.S.) III. 342 Thann exhorttis he to gude werkis, and vnto contynewall mortificatiounn of fleische. 1671 TILLOTSON *Serm.* 219 Mortification of our lusts and passions, though..it have something in it that is troublesome, yet [etc.]. 1674 OWEN *Holy Spirit* IV. viii. 483 The Foundation of all Mortification of Sin, is from the Inhabitation of the Spirit in us. 1780 BENTHAM *Introd. Princ. Morals* ii. § 8 (1789) 10 Saints who, for the good of their souls, and the mortification of their bodies, have voluntarily yielded themselves a prey to vermin. 1836 J. H. NEWMAN *Par. Serm.* II. xvii. 221 Self-denial, mortification of life, bearing our cross, are especially insisted on by Christ.

b. simply, without qualification.

1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* IV. ii. 562 But we in this disputation of ours, will vse Repentaunce for a conuerting or turning to the Lord..for mortification, and the beginning to leade a newe life. *a* 1633 AUSTIN *Medit.* (1635) 101 It is Lent: a time of Mortification. 1657 TRAPP *Comm. Ps.* lxii. 8 Give not over the practice of Mortification untill you feel your hearts part asunder in your bosoms. 1709 LADY M. W. MONTAGU *Let. to Mrs. Wortley* lx. 99, I must content myself with reckoning it of the mortifications proper to this devout time [Ash Wednesday]. 1775 SHERIDAN *Duenna* III. v, Ye eat and swill and sleep..while we are wasting in mortification. 1841 ELPHINSTONE *Hist. Ind.* I. 109 A Bramin..after having passed through a period of solitude and mortification as an anchoret. 1843 MRS. JAMESON *Sacr. & Leg. Art* (1850) 201 He destroyed his health by his austerity and mortifications.

2. *Path.* The death of a part of the body while the rest is living; gangrene, necrosis.

1555 BONNER *Homilies* 69 Mortification, putrifaction, and other suche lyke thinges. 1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 2/3 There ensuethe a Gangræna or mortificatione. 1677 GALE *Crt. Gentiles* III. 122 A gangrene properly signifies the mortification of some carnose part by reason of an inflammation. 1725 DE FOE *Voy. round World* (1840) 90 Pickling, that is to say, throwing salt and vinegar on the back after the whipping..is certainly the way to prevent mortification. 1779-81 JOHNSON *L. P., Dryden* Wks. II. 358 He died..of a mortification in his leg. 1826 S. COOPER *First Lines Surg.* (ed. 5) 3 In parts of inferior vascularity, like tendons, fasciæ, &c. inflammation readily occasions mortification. 1878 T. BRYANT *Pract. Surg.* I. 35 Mortification of any part of the body signifies its death.

transf. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 540 A seuerall kind of blasting or mortification there is besides in vines..which is called Roratio.

†3. Deadening or destruction of vital or active qualities; devitalization. In 17–18th c. often applied to the state of torpor and insensibility preceding death. *Obs.*

1542 BORDE *Dyetary* ii. (1870) 235 Mortyfycation of the vytall, and anymall, and spyrytuall powers. 1596 NORDEN *Prepar. Spec. Brit.* 11 There seemeth a mortification of the nedles vertue, which staggereth vncertainly. 1654 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 25 Inchoate mortifications lessening the horrour of (that must-be-done) Dying. 1706 STANHOPE *Paraphr.* III. 259 The Mortification of some old, and quickening of some contrary Principle, in a spiritual Sense. 1732 ARBUTHNOT *Rules of Diet* (1736) 367 A sudden Remission of the Pain, with cold Sweats [etc.]..are Signs of a Mortification and approaching Death. 1770 GRAY *Let. to Nicholls* 25 Nov. (1843) 115 If a mortification does not come to release her, [she] may lie in this agony for months.

†4. *Old Chem.* Alteration of the form of metals, etc.; destruction or neutralization of the active qualities of chemical substances. Cf. MORTIFY 6.

1605 TIMME *Quersit.* I. ii. 44 The sole elements, separated from those three beginnings, doe bring nothing but impurities, corruption, and mortification. 1610 B. JONSON *Alch.* II. v, *Sub.* And when comes Viuification? *Fac.* After Mortification. 1678 PHILLIPS, *Mortification*..that by which Mixts are as it were destroyed, and lose the vertues of their first nature, to acquire others more efficacious by the help of revivification. 1706 — (ed. Kersey).

5. *Scots Law.* The act of disposing of property for religious, or, since the Reformation, for charitable or public purposes. Also, property given for such purposes. (Cf. MORTMAIN.)

1498 *Exch. Rolls Scot.* XI. 81 *note*, We haue gevin and perpetualy mortifyt to the cathedrale kirk of Orkna..the..ile of Burra..as our charter of gift and mortification..mar fullily purportis. 1652 Z. BOYD in *Zion's Flowers* (1855) App. 25/1 Reservand furth of this mortificatioune..the sowme of ane thowsand punds. 1685 in *Buccleuch MSS.* (15*th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. VIII.) 119 Thomas Moodie's mortification for building a kirk in Edinburgh. 1700 LAW *Council of Trade* (1751) 11 All gifts, charities, and mortifications already given, or to be given, and appropriated to the poor. 1775 L. SHAW *Moray* (1827) 362 Mortifications for the poor are £650 Scots. 1858 RAMSAY *Remin.* (ed. 2) 58 One of the bailies died and left it [*sc.* a hospital] 10,000 pounds, which was really a great mortification. 1863 A H. CHARTERIS *Life J. Robertson* II. 22 A deed of mortification.

6. The feeling of humiliation caused by a disappointment, a rebuff or slight, or an untoward accident; the sense of disappointment or vexation. Also, an instance of this; a cause or source of such humiliation.

1645 EVELYN *Diary* June, Which..frustrated my designe, to my very greate mortification. 1692 R. L'ESTRANGE *Fables* cccxxvii. 285 It is one of the most vexatious Mortifications perhaps, of..a Studious Mans Life to have his Thoughts disorder'd..by the Importunity of a Tedious.. Visit. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* I. ii. 21 We had the mortification to be forty days in our passage. 1769 *Junius Lett.* xvi. 73 Let them spare us..the mortification of being amused and deluded like children. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* vi. II. 75 He continued to offer his advice daily, and had the mortification to find it daily rejected. 1872 BLACK *Adv. Phaeton* iii. 31 A blush of shame and exceeding mortification.

7. *attrib.*: **mortification root,** marsh mallow, *Malva officinalis*.

1897-8 BRITTON & BROWN *Flora North. U. S. & Canada.*

†**Mo·rtificative,** *a. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [a. OF. *mortificatif*, ad. med.L. **mortificātivus* (see MORTIFY and -ATIVE).] ? That deadens pain.

a 1400 *Stockholm Med. MS.* 12 Anoþer clister þat is clepyd mortificatyf.

Mortified (mɒ:tifəid), *ppl. a.* [f. MORTIFY *v.* + -ED¹.]

1. In religious use, of persons, their actions or occupations: Dead to sin or the world; having the appetites and passions in subjection; ascetic. Now *rare*.

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 143 How euery mortifyed soule..sholde resorte to ye arke of clere conseyence & there counseyle with god. 1579 TOMSON *Calvin's Serm. Tim.* 488/2 Ho, thou art of the companie of hypocrites, thou art mortified. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* I. i. 28. 1646 BUCK *Rich. III*, I. 4 Such a mortified and perilous Pilgrimage to Jerusalem. 1651 WOOD *Life* (O.H.S.) I. 166 He became a mortified and pious minister in Shropshire. 1656 EARL MONM. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* I. lxiii. (1674) 79 That laudable zeal of Reputation, which is most intense in even the most mortified Vertuosi. *a* 1668 LASSELS *Voy. Italy* II. (1670) 19 They content themselves to go bare foot, and teach only the lower Schools, and first rudiments;..A strange mortified trade. 1704 NELSON *Fest. & Fasts* II. *Prel. Instr.* (1707) 436 St. James the Great and St. John were very eminent for a mortified Life. 1720 STRYPE *Stow's Surv.* 17/1 A long Beard, Eyes sunk, and an old mortified Face. 1829 SOUTHEY *All for Love* IV. iv. Poet. Wks. VII. 170 To carnal wishes would it turn The mortified intent? 1844 LINGARD *Anglo-Sax. Ch.* (1858) I. iii. 120 An abstemious and mortified life.

†b. *Mortified to* (rarely *of*): dead to (the world or its pleasures); hence occas. = insensible to. *Obs.*

1659 *Gentl. Calling* ix. § 8, I fear there are few so mortified to wealth, as to do it upon the score of self-denial. 1660 INGELO *Bentiv. & Ur.* II. (1682) 89 He is mortified to all sense of Ingenuous Principles. 1670 EACHARD *Cont. Clergy* 90 An hardy and labouring clergy, that is mortified to an horse, and all such pampering vanities. 1676 RAY *Corr.* (1848) 123 Reputation (to the vanity of any affectation whereof I desire to be wholly mortified). 1748 MRS. HARRISON *House-keeper's Pocket-Bk.* Pref., There are but few Philosophers..who are so..mortified to the world as to prefer a dish of Roots. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* x. i, You are mortified to all the pomps and vanities of the world.

†c. In jocular use: Abstemious. *Obs.*

1665 PEPYS *Diary* 16 Oct., I observing Mr. Povy's being mightily mortifyed in his eating.

†2. Dead, slain. *Obs.*

1593 R. HARVEY *Philad.* 17 If any man will raise them from the graue, who will beleeue their mortified Ghosts? 1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turks* (1638) 270 Having ended his speech, he shewed vnto them the grisely mortified heads. 1625 FLETCHER & SHIRLEY *Night Walker* II, My young Mistriss, that is mortified.

†3. Deadened; numbed; insensible. *Obs.*

1601 SHAKS. *Jul. C.* II. i. 324 Thou like an Exorcist, hast coniur'd vp My mortified Spirit. 1605 — *Lear* II. iii. 15 Bedlam beggers, who with roaring voices, Strike in their num'd and mortified Armes, Pins, Wodden-prickes, Nayles.

4. Affected by gangrene or necrosis.

1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 33 b, It is necessarye that the vivificent parte expelle from it the mortified. *a* 1676 HALE *Prim. Orig. Man.* I. i. (1677) 23 A mortified Limb or Member. 1695 *New Light Chirurg. put out* 52 His Arm was but little swell'd and not at all mortified. 1720 DE FOE *Capt. Singleton* xi. (1840) 196 He cut off a great deal of mortified flesh. 1801 *Med. Jrnl.* V. 534, I found the fingers and thumb exhibiting a mortified appearance. 1822-34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) II. 656 The mortified parts..are cast off.

†b. *transf.* Of plants: Decayed. *Obs*

1672-3 GREW *Anat. Plants, Anat. Roots* II. (1682) 83 Divers of the Succiferous Vessels..lying next the Soil, usually more or less mortified.

†5. Of meat: see MORTIFY *v.* 6. *Obs.*

1617 MORYSON *Itin.* III. 134 The French alone delight in mortified meates. 1733 TULL *Horse-hoeing Husb.* 38 Palates, accustom'd to the Goût of..mortify'd Venison.

6. *Scots Law.* (See MORTIFY *v.* 5.)

1655 in Z. Boyd *Zion's Flowers* (1855) App. 38/2 The aforsaid mortified sowmes. 1813 CARLISLE *Topogr. Dict. Scot.* II. s.v. *Hoddom*, £400..arising from two mortified sums.

7. Humiliated deeply; vexed, chagrined.

1717 LADY M. W. MONTAGU *Lett.* II. xlv. 29 As I prefer English to all the rest, I am extremely mortified at the daily decay of it in my head. 1725 DE FOE *Voy. round World* (1840) 341 They came home to the rest mortified, wet, and almost famished. 1833 HT. MARTINEAU *Loom & Lugger* II. iii. 54 They were mortified at finding the house shut. 1838 LYTTON *Alice* I. iii, The mortified pride of affection. 1885 S. COX *Expos.* XXV. 343 Base greed and mortified ambition moved him to betray his master.

Hence **Mo·rtifiedly** *adv.*, **Mo·rtifiedness.**

1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* (1613) 127 If..a young Student sets not a grave face on it, or seemes not mortifiedly religious. 1643 T. GOODWIN *Trial Chr. Growth* 122 So much mortifiednesse, so much constancie. 1832 T. SCOTT *Comm. 2 Kings* I. 8 In this manner he showed his mortifiedness to the world. 1846 LANDOR *Exam. Shaks.* Wks. II. 298 Whereunto Sir Thomas replied mortifiedly.

Mortifier (mɒ:tifəi,əɹ). [f. MORTIFY *v.* + -ER¹.] One who or that which mortifies. †a. One who practises mortification; an ascetic (*obs.*). b. One who or a thing which causes mortification (in various senses). c. *Scots Law* (see MORTIFY *v.* 5).

a. 1649 JER. TAYLOR *Gt. Exemp.* I. Disc. ii. 76 The Sarabaites..were stricter mortifiers than the religious in families and Colledges. 1756 W. DODD *Fasting* (ed. 2) 9 The daily fast of great mortifiers.

b. 1658 PITMAN & BATT *Truth Vind.* 5 None can know him a Justifier, but they who know him a Sanctifier and a Mortifier. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 450 ¶ 6 The Love of Business and Money is the greatest Mortifier of inordinate Desires imaginable. 1801 LAMB *John Woodvil* III, I want.. Some strokes of the old mortifier Calamity, To take these swellings down. 1841 HOR. SMITH *Moneyed Man* III. iv. 104 How sweet it is when a fallen man can thus mortify his intended mortifiers!

c. 1655 in Z. Boyd *Zion's Flowers* (1855) App. 38/2 Quhich by the will of the mortifiers comes not to be payable untill [etc.]. 1820 J. CLELAND *Rise & Progr. Glasgow* 222 A preference is to be given to the mortifier's relatives.

Mortify (mɒ:tifəi), *v.* Also 5–7 **mortefy,** 6–7 **mortyfy.** [a. F. *mortifier*, ad. L. *mortificāre*, f. *morti-*, *mors* MORT *sb.*¹: see -FY.]

†1. *trans.* To deprive of life; to kill, put to death. (In first quot. *absol.*) Also, to make as if dead; to render insensible. *Obs.*

1382 WYCLIF 1 *Kings* ii. 6 The Lord mortifieth, and quykeneth. *c* 1412 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 608 Thogh men sowen seed Of vertu in a yong man, it is deed As blyue, his rebel goost it mortifieþ. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 67 b/1, His herte was mortefyed wythin hym, and he was deed lyke a stone. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) Q ii b, It is..a swouunyng, that incontinently mortifieth al the membres. 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus, Caprimulgi*, Birdes..that in the night sucke goates and mortifie their vdders. 1600 SURFLET *Country Farm* I. xxviii. 176 It were better to writb about and mortifie their cods altogither with pincers, then to geld them all at once. 1615 BRATHWAIT *Strappado* (1878) 153 Thou..hast well neere my senses mortefied. 1664 EVELYN *Sylva* ix. (1679) 53 If of the principal Stem so left, the frost mortifie any part. 1688 *Persec. Piedmont* 33 These Ruffians mortified her little Daughter about seven months old before her face. 1692 RAY *Disc.* III. ii. (1732) 415 Their seeds..will..be mortified and destroyed.

†b. To bruise. [Cf. OF.] *Obs.*

1609 ROWLANDS *Crew of Kind Gossips* 11, I set a little stoole, And ouer that, downe comes my reeling foole:..I am sure it mortified his shins.

†c. *intr.* for *pass.* To lose vitality. *Obs.*

1701 STEELE *Funeral* III. (1702) 42 To see one that was a Beauty unfortunately move with the same languor,..that once was Charming in her—To see, I say, her Mortify that us'd to Kill—ha ha ha! 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* (1721) II. 9 Their Roots are very apt to mortifie or harden and wither by the wind.

†2. *trans.* To kill (in transf. and fig. senses); to destroy the vitality, vigour, or activity of; to neutralize the effect or value of; to deaden (pain); to dull (colour), etc. *Obs.*

c 1386 CHAUCER *Pars. T.* ¶ 159 The gode werkes, that he dide..been al mortified..by the ofte sinning. *c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* (1894) 96 If þat þou dredist wheþer þat it be symple vlcus or a cankre..bigynne to mortifie it wiþ sum maner of poudre. 1489 CAXTON *Faytes of A.* III. viii. 183 Yf cas be that he goo hys waye so he mortyfyeth his hyre ..for seruyce ought not to haue noo hyre tyl that hit be complisshed. 1553 BRENDE *Q. Curtius* D iij, His face waxed pale, and the livelye heate was mortified in all partes of his body. 1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 113 An herbe which quencheth and mortifieth the violent poyson of the herbe. 1590 MARLOWE *2nd Pt. Tamburl.* III. ii. H 3 My mothers death hath mortified my mind, And sorrow stops the passage of my speech. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, I. i. 26 His wildnesse, mortify'd in him, Seem'd to dye too. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* I. xii. 60 With other signes of private interest, enough to mortifie the most lively Faith. 1682 SIR T. BROWNE *Chr. Mor.* (1756) 112 The knowledge of future evils mortifies present felicities. 1711 SHAFTESB. *Charac.* III. VI. v. 373 He must take care at least so to mortify his Colours, that these plain poor Men may not appear,..adorn'd like so many Lords.

b. *Irish Gram.* (See quot.)

1843 NEILSON *Introd. Irish Lang.* 5 *B, c, d, f, g, m, p, s, t*, are called mutable, because they can be aspirated, or mortified, i.e. change or lose their sound, by the addition of *h*.

†3. *Old Chem.* (See quot. 1704.) *Obs.*

c 1386 CHAUCER *Can. Yeom. T.* 573 This quik-silver wol I mortifye. 1460–70 *Bk. Quintessence* 19 Take also a litil quantite of Mer[curie?] & mortifie it wiþ fastynge spotil. 1558 WARDE tr. *Alexis' Secr.* (1568) 101 b, It will be good ..for to mortifie other Quick Sylver. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 257 Clodius..to know what tast pearles had, mortified them in vinegre, and drunke them up. 1657 STARKEY *Helmont's Vind.* 315 The sharpnesse of the salt is totally mortified. 1694 SALMON *Bate's Dispens.* 681/2 This Salt is ..used in opening and purging Medicines to mortifie the Acids, which excite Fermentations in our Bodies. 1704

J. Harris *Lex. Techn.* I. s.v. *Mortifie*, The Chymists say a thing is Mortify'd when its outward Form is altered or destroyed, as particularly when Mercury, or any other Metal is dissolved in an Acid Menstruum. Sometimes they say also, that Spirits are Mortified, when they are mix'd with such things as destroy their strength, and hinder their Operation.

4. To bring into subjection (the body, its appetites and passions) by the practice of self-denial, abstinence, or bodily discipline.

c **1412** Hoccleve *De Reg. Princ.* 3665 Than oghte vs cristen men þat vice fleeme, And swiche lustes in vs mortifie. *c* **1450** tr. *De Imitatione* I. xi. 11 þei studied to mortefie hemself in all wises fro erþely desires. **1477** Earl Rivers (Caxton) *Dictes* 33 He that wol the lif of his saule lete hym mortifie hit & yeue it payne in this world. **1526** Tindale *Rom.* viii. 13 But if ye mortifie the dedes off the body by the helpe off the sprete ye shall live. — *Col.* iii. 5 Mortifie therfore youre members which are on the erth, fornicacion [etc.]. *c* **1535** Nisbet *Prol. Romans* (S.T.S.) III. 340 Quhilk spret..subdewis, ande mortifyis the fleiss. **1660** Jer. Taylor *Worthy Commun.* i. § 6. 110 Give me strength to subdue my passions, to mortifie my inordinations. **1842** Tennyson *St. Simeon Stylites* 176 Mortify Your flesh..with scourges and with thorns. **1853** Kingsley *Hypatia* xxiv, Can she not mortify these base affections? **1864** W. W. Story *Roba di R.* (ed. 3) III. 39 They really mortify the flesh by penance, fasting, and wretched fare.

†**b.** To render 'dead' to the world and the flesh. Cf. Mortified I. *Obs.*

1556 J. Heywood *Spider & F.* B b, I am not mortified to beare distres. **1567** Dk. Norfolk in Strype *Ann. Ref.* (1709) I. 501, I am too well mortified to care for slanderous reports. **1581** Pettie tr. *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* II. (1586) 111 b, Your philosophie perchaunce hath so mortified you, that you can promise your selfe the constancie of that Philosopher whome a woman tooke for an image.

†**c.** *absol.* or *intr.* To practise mortification; to be an ascetic. *Obs.*

1568 H. B. tr. *Peter Mart. On Rom.* 203 To mortefy is nothing els, but for a man to be violent against himselfe, and to withstand and resist wicked lustes. **1709** Collier *Ess. Mor. Subj.* II. (1722) 147 What can be a more wretched Sight, than to see a Man mortify without Religion? **1742** Young *Nt. Th.* IX. 2389 They mortify, they starve, on wealth, fame, power. **1753** Richardson *Grandison* VI. xxxii. 223 She is retired to Shirley-manor to mortify, after so rich a regale. **1784** R. Bage *Barham Downs* I. 164 If you will mortify with me to-night upon toasted cheese and ale. **1804** Jane Austen *Watsons* (1879) 327 Imagine him mortifying with his barrel of oysters in dreary solitude. **1842** Barham *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. II. *Nelt Cook*, And a Warden-pie's a dainty dish to mortify withal.

5. *trans. Scots Law.* To dispose of (property) by mortification.

1498 [see Mortification 5]. **1652** Z. Boyd *Zion's Flowers* (1855) App. 23/2 Mr. Zacharias Boyd..mortifies and dispones to the .. colledge .., the .. bands contracts debtis. **1742** Richardson *Pamela* (1785) IV. 49 She has..mortify'd, as the Scots call it, 150*l.* as a Fund for Loans, without Interest. **1842** J. Aiton *Domest. Econ.* (1857) 157 When a minister and heritors disagree as to the propriety of cutting trees on a glebe, the matter must be determined by the Judge Ordinary, and their value, when cut, mortified for behoof of the benefice. **1885** A. Mackay in *Dict. Nat. Biog.* III. 154 In 1380 .. Barbour mortified his pension of twenty shillings in favour of the cathedral.

6. *Cookery.* To make (raw meat, game, etc.) tender by hanging, keeping, etc. Also *intr.* for *pass. Obs.*

1594 R. Ashley tr. *Loys Le Roy* 15 b, Raw flesh..which they do presse betweene two stones..or els do mortifie it on the backe of a horse when a man is on him. **1611** Cotgr., *Faisander*, to mortifie fowle. **1626** Bacon *Sylva* § 891 Try it also with Capon..laid abroad, to see whether it will mortifie and become tender sooner. **1632** Massinger *Maid of Hon.* III. i, With a worthy loyne of veale, and valiant Capon, Mortifi'd to grow tender. **1718** Ozell tr. *Tournefort's Voy.* I. 192 They presented us..a goat which proved very good, because we let it mortify some hours. [**1733**: see Mortified 5.] **1790** Gouv. Morris *Diary* 22 Jan. (1889) I. 276 As that day does not suit the company, poor Monsieur Trout must e'en mortify two days longer.

transf. **1572** Mascall *Plant. & Graff.* (1592) Exhort, Ye must digge your holes a yeere before ye plant that the earth may be the better seasoned, mortified and wax tender. **1658** Evelyn *Fr. Gard.* (1675) 284 Let them lie..in the sun to mortifie them a little, that they may the better receive in the salt.

7. *intr. Path.* To become mortified or gangrenous. Also (rarely) *trans.*, to render mortified.

1603 Knolles *Hist. Turks* (1638) 120 The wound..began to mortifie and grow blacke. **1708** Swift *Predictions for* 1708, Wks. 1751 IV. 195 The Swellings in his Legs breaking, and the Flesh mortifying, [he] will die on the 11th instant. **1748** *Anson's Voy.* I. viii. 78 Snow and sleet..disabling many of them, by mortifying their toes and fingers. **1847** Grote *Greece* xxxvi. IV. 494 His injured limb mortified.

8. *trans.* To cause to feel humiliated; to cause (a person) mortification (freq. in *pass.*).

1691 Luttrell *Brief Rel.* (1857) II. 193 The bull of the last pope had extreamly mortified that court. **1699** Bentley *Phal.* Pref. 35, I had no design in't, but to mortifie him a little for his pertness. **1726** Swift *Gulliver* II. iii, Nothing angered and mortified me so much as the Queen's Dwarf. **1769** Robertson *Chas. V*, IV. Wks. 1851 III. 611 He was fond of mortifying a man whom he had many reasons to hate. **1796–7** Jane Austen *Pride & Prej.* V, I could easily forgive his pride, if he had not mortified mine. **1837** Disraeli *Venetia* I. vii, No one was more mortified by her rages.

Mo·rtifying, *vbl. sb.* [-ing 1.] The action of the vb. Mortify.

1382 Wyclif 2 *Cor.* iv. 10 Euermore beringe aboute the mortifyinge [*gloss* that is, the dyuerse tourmentynge] of Jhesu Crist in oure body. *c* **1450** tr. *De Imitatione* II. xii. 56 Þere is non oþer way to lyfe..but þe way of þe holy crosse, and of quotidian mortifieng. **1530** Tindale *Prol. Lev.* Wks. (1573) 14/2 Baptisme signifieth vnto vs repentaunce, and the mortifying of our vnruly members, and bodyes of sinne, to walke in a new life. **1674** Owen *Serm.* Wks. 1851 IX. 469 If our hearts are not engaged to the mortifying of all sin.

Mo·rtifying, *ppl. a.* [-ing 2.] That mortifies.

1. Involving mortification or repression of natural appetites and desires. Formerly also, that practises self-denial; austere, self-denying, abstemious.

1596 Shaks. *Merch. V.* I. i. 82 And let my Liuer rather heate with wine, Then my heart coole with mortifying grones. **1638** Rawley tr. *Bacon's Life & Death* (1650) 18 His Life was Austere and Mortifying. **1654** A. Gray *Spirit. Warfare* iii. (1736) 49 A mortifying Christian is a most Experienced Christian. *a* **1697** Aubrey *Lives* (1898) I. 132 Here he had several mortifying and divine motto's. **1706** Stanhope *Paraphr.* III. 517 It will not decline the most mortifying Severities, when used as Expedients to secure his good Graces. **1835** I. Taylor *Spir. Despot.* III. 86 The mortifying purity of the ministers of heaven.

2. Causing death; mortal, fatal; deadly.

1683 Tryon *Country-Mans Comp.* title-p., To preserve Sheep from that Monsterous, Mortifying Distemper, The Rot. *a* **1691** Boyle *Hist. Air* (1692) 167 The cold in the woods..was yet not so mortifying as the other. **1706** E. Ward *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 103 Mortifying, gripegut Beer. **1707** Mortimer *Husb.* (1721) I. 117 Urine..is reckoned to be of a destructive, mortifying Nature to Vegetables. **1896** Rosebery in *Times* 12 Feb. 6/2 The noble duke's icy cold spray has been turned on, and no political plant with which I am acquainted has survived that mortifying process.

†**b.** Dying (hours). *Obs.*

1649 Milton *Eikon.* xxviii. 226 Those few mortifying howres that should have been most at peace from all disquiet.

3. Marked by mortification or necrosis.

1797 Downing *Disord. Horned Cattle* 18 A swelling attended with lameness and a mortifying blackness. **1901** *Daily Chron.* 25 July 3/2 The explorer held the mortifying finger upright during many a weary march.

4. Causing humiliation of feeling, vexation, or depression; vexatious, annoying; depressing.

1726 Swift *Gulliver* III. x, They were the most mortifying Sight I ever beheld; and the Women more horrible than the Men. **1756** Cowper *Wks.* (1837) XV. 270, I live in hourly apprehensions of more mortifying adventures. **1823** Lamb *Elia* II. *Stage Illusion*, The most mortifying infirmity in human nature..is, perhaps, cowardice. **1879** Perowne in *Expositor* X. 166 The disappointment was naturally the more acute and mortifying.

Hence **Mo·rtifyingly** *adv.*

1748 Richardson *Clarissa* (1811) III. 284 How tender, how mortifyingly tender now in him! **1832** *Examiner* 293/1 A time mortifyingly short. **1853** C. Bronte *Villette* xxvii, What she said..was of a purpose somewhat mortifyingly below the standard of the occasion.

Mortilage, -oge, etc., altered ff. Martiloge.

1500 *Will of Treffry* (Somerset Ho.), In the mortlage boke & in the commune bederoll. **1523** *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) V. 172 To have my name writtyn on ther Mortilage booke. **1527** *Trevisa's Higden* v. iv, The mortylogye [*Rolls ed.* martiloge]. *c* **1640** J. Smyth *Lives Berkeleys* (1883) I. 215 The day of theire deaths shall be written in their mortiloge.

†**Mortisate,** *pa. pple. Obs. rare*−1. [For **amortisate*, ad. med.L. *amortizātus*: see Amortize *v.*] Given in mortmain.

c **1535** *Art. Inquis. Monast.* in T. West *Antiq. Furness* (1805) 146 What evedence haue ye to shewe for all..yowre possessions, mortisate and giuen unto you, and this your monasterie?

Mortise, mortice (mō·rtis), *sb.* Forms: 5–6 mortas(e, mortays(e, -eys(e, -es(e, -esse, mortyse, 5–7 morteis, 5–8 mortaise, (6 mortress(e, morteise), 6–7 mortess, 7 mortis(s(e, (mortesce, mortize, mortuis), 7–9 mortoise, mortes, 6– mortise, 8– mortice. [a. F. *mortaise* (13th c. *mortoise* in Hatz.-Darm.), of unknown origin. Cf. Sp. *mortaja*.]

1. A cavity or hole into which the end of some other part of a framework or structure is fitted so as to form a joint; also, a groove or slot for the reception or passage of a rope, an adjustable pin, etc.

Frequently used in 15–16 c. Legends and Mystery Plays for the socket into which the foot of the Cross was set.

c **1400** Maundev. (Roxb.) ii. 5 And þe stock [of the cross] þat stode in þe erthe, in þe whilk was made a mortas [orig. F. *vne morteise*], was of cedre. *Ibid.* x. 38–9 And þe crosse was sette in a mortays in the roche..And þat es now called Golgatha. **1483** Caxton *Gold. Leg.* 167 b/1, And another piece wherin the sokette or morteys was maad that the body of the crosse stood in. **1541** R. Copland *Guydon's Quest. Chirurg.* K iv b, In the ioynynge with the bygger bone doth they [*sc.* the tibia and fibula] make one holowe pyt or morteys wherin the fyrste bone of the fote is receyued. **1611** Cotgr. s.v. *Orbite, L'orbite d'une poulie*, the mortaise wherein the shiuer of a Pullie runnes. **1676** *Phil. Trans.* XI. 680 Each Lever is pierced in the middle by a Mortaise,..in which an iron-nail..turns round. **1733** Tull *Horse-hoeing Husb.* xxi. 304 The Socket is a Mortise of about a Foot long, at the upper part; two Inches deep. **1825** J. Nicholson *Operat. Mechanic* 406 The screw passes through a groove or mortise at the end of the wheel frame. **1844** H. Stephens *Bk. Farm* I. 413 The coulter-box is formed by piercing an oblong mortice through the bar. **1844** *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* VII. 107/2 The mortoise, in the cap, should be made exactly to suit the mortoise in the piston-rod. **1857** R. Tomes *Amer. in Japan* ix. 198 The cylinders..are arranged in a row, with a mortise between them to regulate their approach.

2. *spec.* in *Carpentry* and *Joinery*: The counterpart of a Tenon; a cavity or hole, usually rectangular in shape, cut in the surface of a piece of timber, etc., to receive the shaped end (called a 'tenon') of another piece.

Chase, chased, or *pulley mortise*, a long mortise in which a tenon may be inserted transversely and driven home. *Double mortise*, (*a*) = prec.; (*b*) one consisting of two holes cut side by side to receive a double tenon. *Stub mortise*, one that is cut only partially through the timber.

c **1440** *Promp. Parv.* 344/1 Morteys of a tenowne, *gumphus.* **1546** Gardiner *Declar. Art. Joye* 35 b, That were euen as wysely done of vs, as if a man wolde frame a tenaunte without a mortesse. **1570** Levins *Manip.* 85/19 A mortresse, *cumphus.* **1590** Greene *Upst. Courtier* F 3, The ioyner though an honest man, yet he maketh his ioynts weake, and putteth in sappe in the morteses. **1663** Gerbier *Counsel* 42 That the Carpenters be good husbands .. in .. sparing to make double Mortises, which doe but weaken the Summers. **1678** Moxon *Mech. Exerc.* v. 80 If you were to make a Tennant upon a piece of Fur, and a Mortess to receive it in a piece of Oak. **1697** Bp. Patrick *Comm. Exodus* xxvi. 19 There were two silver Sockets for each Plank, whose Tenons, sinking into these Mortaises [etc.]. **1753** F. Price *Brit. Carpenter* (ed. 3) 8 Double, or pully mortices, (as they are call'd). **1823** P. Nicholson *Pract. Build.* 119 Girders..are made with mortises, in order to receive the tenons at the end of the binding-joists. *Ibid.*, These long mortises are called pulley-mortises, or chase-mortises. **1842** Gwilt *Archit.* § 2019 The bridging joists are notched;..though sometimes they are framed between with chased mortices. **1860** Worcester (citing Loudon), Stub mortise. **1875** Knight *Dict. Mech.* s.v. *Mortise-chisel*, The chisel..is a double one, each limb having two lips, adapting the tool to cut a double mortise.

transf. **c 1710** Celia Fiennes *Diary* (1888) 10 Two stones stands up and one laid on their tops with morteses into each other. **1852** T. Wright *Celt, Rom., Sax.* ii. 59 Each of the upright stones had two tenons..which fitted into mortices or hollows.

b. *Mortise and tenon, tenon and mortise*, as the component parts of a particular kind of joint; hence, a joint composed of a mortise and a tenon. Also *collect.* as a method of joining material.

1610 Holland *Camden's Brit.* 251 [Stonehenge]..certaine mighty and unwrought stones..upon the heads of which, others like ouerthwart peeces do beare and rest crossewise, with a small tenents and mortescis. **1623** Gouge *Serm. Extent God's Provid.* § 15 Two girders were by tenents and mortaises let into the midst of it. **1624** A. Wotton *Runne from Rome* i. 4, I am instructed to take the frame in sunder..; to trie how every tenant and mortuis is fitted each to other. **1631** Weever *Anc. Funeral Mon.* 317 With Mortis and tenents. **1757** *Phil. Trans.* L. 200 They were joined together at the ends with mortoise and tenon. **1801** *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) Suppl. I. 171/1 Where the beams stand square with each other..the common mortise and tenon is the most perfect junction. **1859** Jephson *Brittany* xii. 200 Horizontal stones are laid across the tops of the menhirs, and fastened with mortise and tenon.

attrib. **1791** Smeaton *Edystone L.* § 158 The stones..were all curiously joined together at the ends, mortoise and tenon fashion. **1802** Paley *Nat. Theol.* IX. 118 There is the hinge joint, and the mortice and tenon joint. **1904** Windle *Rom. Prch. Age Eng.* viii. 185 An ellipse of hewn sarsen trilithons, with mortise and tenon connections.

c. *Her.* (See quot.)

1725 Coats *Dict. Her.*, *Mortaise*, or *Mortise*, as our Carpenters and Joyners call it, is..a square Piece of Wood, with a square Hole through it. **1828–40** Berry *Encycl. Her.*

3. *nonce-use.* [From the vb.] State of being mortised.

1875 Tennyson *Q. Mary* III. i, And oversea they say this state of yours Hath no more mortice than a tower of cards.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*: †**mortise-articulation** = Gomphosis; **mortise-bolt** (see quot.); †**mortise bones**, the tibia and fibula, the ends of which together form a cavity into which the ball of the ankle-joint is placed; **mortise chisel**, a chisel with a stout blade used in cutting mortises; **mortise clamp**, a clamp mortised at the ends; so **mortise-clamped** *a.*, furnished with such a clamp; **mortise gauge** (see Gauge *sb.* 11); **mortise-hole** = sense 1 above; hence *fig.*, an obscure place; **mortise-joint**, a mortise and tenon joint; **mortise lock**, one made for insertion in a mortise cut in the edge of the lock-rail of a door; also *attrib.*, as **mortise lock bit, chisel**, tools for cutting a mortise for this lock; †**mortise-piece**, a joining piece; **mortise wheel**, a cast iron wheel having cogs of wood set into mortises; †**mortise wimble**, a tool for boring a mortise.

1658 Sir T. Browne *Gard. Cyrus* iii. 57 The seeds..lockt up in sockets after a gomphosis or *mortis-articulation, diffuse themselves circularly into branches. *Ibid.* 59. **1875** Knight *Dict. Mech.*, **Mortise-bolt*, one let into a mortise in a door. **1541** R. Copland *Guydon's Quest. Chirurg.* K iv b, There be two [bones in the knee] that be called y* *morteys bones. *Ibid.* L j, In the vpper roundnes therof is affyrmed the bolownesse of the pyt or morteys bones, and there the fote is moued. **1678** Moxon *Mech. Exerc.* iv. 74 The *Mortess Chissel..is a narrow Chissel but hath its Blade much thicker, and..stronger...Its Office is to cut ..Mortesses in..wood. **1852–61** *Archit. Publ. Soc. Dict.* s.v. *Clamp*, *Mortise clamp. **1825** J. Nicholson *Operat. Mechanic* 602 Boards..*mortise-clamped. **1812** P. Nicholson *Mech. Exerc.* 140 The *Mortice Gauge..has two teeth instead of one...The use of this gauge is..for gauging mortices and tenons. **1585** J. Higins *Junius' Nomenclator* 205/2 *Columbaria*...The *mortesse holes: the holes wherein the endes of rafters and quarters are fastened. *a* **1654** Selden *Table T.* (Arb.) 43 They do it in a Corner, in a Mortice-hole, not in the Market-place. **1882** Ogilvie s.v. *Mortise*, *Mortise-joint. **1780** *Birmingham*, etc. *Directory* 79 Foxall, William, *mortice lock maker. **1852–61**

Archit. Publ. Soc. Dict. s. v. *Bit*, Those excellent tools the mortise lock bits. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech., Mortise-lock Chisel*..It has a peculiar shape, in order to pull out the wood. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* II. 108 For Rafters, and *Mortisse peeces [orig. L. *coagmentationes*] the Elme and the Ashe, by reason of theyr length serues best. 1843 HOLTZAPFFEL *Turning*, etc. I. 351 A *mortise wheel.. with spaces around its edge .. to be filled with wooden cogs. 1407–8 in *Fabric Rolls York Minster* (Surtees) 207 *note*, j *mortas wymbyll, j bandwymbyll.

Mortise, mortice (mɔ̄·rtis), *v.*[1] Forms: see the sb.: also 6–9 **mortize**. [f. MORTISE *sb.*; cf. F. *mortaiser* (OF. *mortissier*, 1302 in Hatz.-Darm.).]

1. *trans.* To fasten or join securely; to fix in or join together closely and firmly; *spec.* in *Carpentry* and *Joinery*, to join with a mortise; to fasten *into* or *to* by means of mortise and tenon; to secure (a tenon) with a mortise. Also *fig.*

c 1440 *York Myst.* xxvi. 163, I fele by a figure in youre fals face, It is but foly to feste affeccioun in 30u. For Mars he hath morteysed his mark, Eftir all lynes of my lore. 1530 PALSGR. 640/2, I mortayse a thynge in byldyng, as a carpenter dothe... Mortayse this study in to this princypall. 1547 J. HARRISON *Exhort. Scottes* H v, I wote not whether firme concorde be otherwise more sureli mortized in mens hartes, then when [etc.]. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 409 When King Henry had thus mortised himselfe and his issue so sure and fast, as he thought, that the same was not possible to be remooued, then [etc.]. 1570 FOXE *A. & M.* (ed. 2) 1387/1 Which Image was mortrest in a wall behynd the hye altare. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* III. iii. 20 Maiestie.. is a massie wheele..To whose huge Spoakes, ten thousand lesser things Are mortiz'd and adioyn'd. 1620–55 I. JONES *Stone-Heng* (1725) 40 Each Stone having two Tenons mortaised into the Architrave. *Ibid.* 41 The Architrave..being mortaised into them. 1637 GILLESPIE *Eng. Pop. Cerem.* Ep. E 2, We must therefore be mortaised togither..by the bands of Trueth. 1727 ARBUTHNOT *Coins*, etc. 236 The Ship was built by halves, and the one half being finished..the other half was join'd to it by great Brass Nails..mortiz'd with Lead. 1777 ROBERTSON *Hist. Amer.* (1783) III. 392 The Peruvians could not mortize two beams together, or give..stability to any work composed of timber. 1794 W. FELTON *Carriages* (1801) I. 13 The door-case rails are..morticed on the standing pillars. 1800 COLERIDGE *Piccolom.* III. iii, So will he, falling, draw down .. All us, who're fixed and mortised to his fortune. 1863 *Q. Rev.* CXIV. 310 The..ingenuity with which that great engineer mortised his tall tower to the wave-worn rock. 1899 R. MUNRO *Prehist. Scotl.* x. 335 A rectangularly shaped framework of oak beams, mortised at the corners.

absol. 1876 W. PAPWORTH in *Encycl. Brit.* IV. 479/1 But as this exposes the tenon .. to the risk of being torn off, we are obliged to mortise further down.

b. *intr.* for *passive.* To be fixed firmly *into*.

1861 BERESF. HOPE *Eng. Cathedr. 19th C.* vi. 229 The aisles..require a horizontal wall-space in the nave, between the arcade and the clerestory, for the roofing to mortice into.

2. To cut a mortise in; also with *through*.

1703 T. N. *City & C. Purchaser* 23 These Posts are.. made by the Piece..and ½*d.* per Hole for Morticing them. 1753 F. PRICE *Brit. Carpenter* (ed. 3) 6 You may mortice through both flitches. 1782 SMEATON in *Phil. Trans.* LXXII. 347 The cross-piece..is mortoised through, to let the rods pass. 1846 HOLTZAPFFEL *Turning*, etc. II. 716 The several styles to be mortised..are placed side by side.

† **Mortise,** *v.*[2] *Obs.* Also 4–5 **mortese**, 5 **mort(e)yse, -eise**, 5–6 **mortayse**, 6 **mortis(')ie**. [Aphetic form of AMORTIZE, -ISE.] *trans.* To alienate in mortmain; = AMORTIZE *v.* 3.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 123 Here temporaltees ben mortesid, þat is confermyd in þis dep. *c* 1450 in *9th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. I. 285/2 James of Pecham yaff and morteysed to the sayed brygg the manor of Nerschenden. 1496–7 *Act* 12 *Hen. VII*, c. 13 § 17 Londis .. mortised appropried or belonging to any College in any of the Universitees. 1530 PALSGR. 640/2 He hath mortaysed twenty pounde a yere to founde a chaunterye. 1533 MORE *Debell. Salem* Wks. 943/2 Some one hath thought that it wolde be..profytable to the realme, that the lordes had the landes whose auncestours had mortisied them. 1546 *Galway Arch.* in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 411 Shall not in leasse set nor mortissie any manner landes,.. nor..mortissie any of the said teithes or revnus.

Mortised, morticed (mɔ̄·rtist), *ppl. a.* [f. MORTISE *v.*[1] + -ED[1].]

1. In the senses of the verb.

1800 *Vitruvius' Archit., Lexicon* 13/2 *Cardinatus*..Mortised. 1823 P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Build.* 129 The joint is sometimes made partly parallel, and partly perpendicular, to the mortised piece. 1833 LOUDON *Encycl. Archit.* § 239 Doors..having good mortised locks. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, A morticed block is one made out of a single block of wood, chiselled for one or more sheaves; in distinction from a made block. 1875 *Carpentry & Join.* 56 When the pieces of wood to be framed are too thin to allow tenoned and morticed joints to be made.

2. *Her.* = ENCLAVE *a.*

1828–40 in BERRY *Encycl. Her.* 1899 in ELVIN *Dict. Her.*

† **Mortisement.** *Obs.* [Aphetic form of AMORTIZEMENT: cf. MORTISE *v.*[2]] An investment in mortmain.

c 1465 *Eng. Chron.* (Camden 1856) 113 The relygious of Esex and of Northfolke..scholde schewe to hem ther wrytynge of ther mortysementes.

Mortising, morticing (mɔ̄·rtisiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. MORTISE *v.*[1] + -ING[1].] The action of the verb MORTISE in its various senses.

1606 HOLYOKE *Rider's Dict.*, A kind of building, where there is a mortising of timber and stones one within another, *orthostata*. *a* 1676 HALE *Prim. Orig. Man.* IV. iv. 327 The admirable accommodation of the several Parts of the Human Body..the mortising of the Bones one into another [etc.]. 1678 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* v. 80 You must take care in Mortessing and Tennanting, that [etc.]. 1873 J. RICHARDS *Wood-working Factories* 150 All the mortising in France.. is performed by rotary machines.

b. *attrib.*

1819 *Rees' Cycl.* XXII. s.v. *Machinery*, The Mortising Machine which cuts out the mortises for the reception of the sheaves. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* III. 1156 The enlargement of the hole is then performed either with the mortising-chisel..or by the mortising-machine. 1846 HOLTZAPFFEL *Turning*, etc. II. 505 One rectilinear planing machine that is exclusively intended for cutting across the grain, namely, the morticing engine.

Mortivan, Mortize, obs. ff. MARTABAN, MORTISE. **Mortkin,** var. MORKIN. **Mortlage:** see MORTILAGE.

Mortlake (mɔ̄·rtlēk). *Obs.* exc. *Hist.* Also 7 **Mortclake, Mortelack**, 7–8 **Moreclack**. The name of the Surrey town *Mortlake* used *attrib.* in *Mortlake hangings, tapestry*, a kind of tapestry woven there in the reigns of James I and Charles I.

[1639 MAYNE *City Match* II. iii, Why Lady doe you think me Wrought in a Loome, some Dutch peece weavd at Mooreclack?] 1682 OLDHAM *Imit. 3rd Sat. Juvenal* Wks. III. (1686) 198 A rich Suit of Moreclack-Tapestry. 1690 EVELYN *Mundus Muliebris* 8 With Moreclack Tapistry, Damask Bed. 1691 *Loud. Gaz.* No. 2655/4 Two pieces of Mortelack Hangings of Boys and Landskips. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIII. 213/1 Most of the Mortlake tapestry has distinct marks, such as the shield of St. George with F. C. (F. Crane).

† **Mo·rtle.** *Obs.* [var. of MORTAR *sb.*, perh. through association with *pestle*; but cf. Icel. *morteel* (1396 in *Dipl. Isl.* III. 614; in Vigf. erron. given as *mortil*).] A mortar.

1570 in *Wills & Inv. N. C.* (Surtees) I. 327, I gyue to my m^es brandlinge my marble mortle wth ye pestell.

Mortling, variant of MORLING.

Mortmain (mɔ̄·rtmēin), *sb. Law.* Forms: 5–6 **mortmayn(e, mortemayn(e**, 6 **mortemeyn, morttmayne**, 6–8 **mortmaine**, 6– **mortmain**. [a. OF. *mortemain*, AF. *morte mayn* (Britton *c* 1290), ad. med.L. *mortua manus, manus mortua* (cf. F. *mainmorte*, Sp. *manos muertas*, Pg. *mão morta*, It. *mano morta*) 'dead hand' (L. *mortua*, fem. of *mortuus* dead, *manus* hand).

It seems probable that 'dead hand' in English legal use is a metaphorical expression for impersonal ownership, and is unconnected with the older feudal use of *manus mortua* to denote the custom by which serfs (and other classes included under the term *homines manus mortuæ*) had no power of testamentary disposition, their possessions, if they died without legitimate offspring, reverting to the lord.]

The condition of lands or tenements held inalienably by an ecclesiastical or other corporation. Also *attrib.*

Alienations in mortmain, as being injurious to the rights of the crown and the mesne lords, were forbidden by 7 Edw. I, st. 2 (see quot. 1279) and many subsequent Acts, known as the 'Statutes of Mortmain'. The intention of these statutes was to a great extent evaded by judicial interpretations. *The Mortmain Act*: the statute 9 Geo. II, cap. 36, passed in 1736, imposing restrictions on the devising of property to charitable uses; also, the title of various later statutes having a similar object. *Licence of mortmain*: an instrument conveying the permission of the king to alienate property in mortmain.

[1279 *Act* 7 *Edw. I* (*Statutum de Viris Religiosis*), Provisum..quod nullus Religiosus aut alius quicumque terras .. emere vel vendere .. præsumat .. per quod ad manum mortuam terre..hujusmodi deveniant quoquo modo.] *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 446 That hit shold not be lawfull to Religious peple to entre the fee of ony or of other, so that hit shold come into morte-mayne, without his licence. 1494 FABYAN *Chron.* VII. 385 This yere was the statute of Mortmayn enacted firste. *c* 1550 BALE *K. Johan* (Camden) 8 This cumpany hath provyded for me morttmayne. 1590 SWINBURNE *Testaments* 71 Citizens, burgesses and freemen, maie bequeath their burgage landes to Mortmain, which others can not doe. 1623 SIR T. CREW *Sp. Ho. Com.* in Rushw. *Hist. Coll.* (1659) I. 117 The Subjects thereby were enabled to found Hospitals without Licence of Mortmain. 1642 D. ROGERS *Naaman* 165 There was a Statute we know of Mortmaine,..to cut of the validity of such gifts as were given to the Clergy for Popish ends. 1736 LD. BRUCE in *Buccleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 389, I intend being at London..to attend the Mortmain Bill. 1827 JARMAN *Powell's Devises* (ed. 3) II. 13 The statute 7 and 8 Wm. III. c. 37..provides that the Crown .. may grant licenses to aliene, or take in mortmain, of whomsoever the tenements shall be holden. 1844 WILLIAMS *Real Prop.* (1877) 69 The stringency of the provisions in the Mortmain Act. 1846 MCCULLOCH *Acc. Brit. Empire* (1854) II. 373 In some parishes..money has been placed in mortmain.. for the better endowment of parish schools. 1903 A. ROBERTSON *Rom. Cath. Ch. in It.* v. (1905) 114 The Mortmain Statutes were framed to prevent the Church Corporations from getting hold of real property.

b. A licence of mortmain.

1567 in W. H. Turner *Select. Rec. Oxford* (1880) 320 In purchasinge a mortmayne. 1596 SPENSER *State Irel.* Wks. (Globe) 680/2 For mayntenaunce of..which [school-houses] it were meete that some severall portion of lande were allotted, sith no more mortmains are to be looked for. 1655 FULLER *Hist. Cambr.* 153 They humbly requested of Her Highnesse a Mortmaine to found a Colledge. *a* 1661 — *Worthies, Northumbld.* (1662) II. 308 He bought three tenements..and (by a Mortmain procured from King Edward the fourth) erected of them a small Colledge.

c. *transf.* and *fig.*

The figurative use is often based on the notion that the 'dead hand' means the posthumous control exercised by the testator over the uses to which the property is to be applied.

1625 JACKSON *Creed* v. xxi. § 3 Alexander..seeks afterward to solace his griefs by procuring mortmain from the oracle for his dead friend to hold greater honours than this great conqueror..could have bestowed upon him. 1852 LONGF. *Haunted Houses* v, Owners and occupants of earlier dates From graves forgotten stretch their dusty hands, And hold in mortmain still their old estates. 1876 LOWELL *Among my Bks.* Ser. II. 228 Sir George Beaumont, dying in 1827,..contrived to hold his affection in mortmain by the legacy of an annuity of £100. 1876 J. B. MAYOR in *Contemp. Rev.* XXVII. 892 There was a time when the thought of Christendom was in mortmain no less than its land.

Hence † **Mo·rtmain** *v. trans.*, to grant in mortmain. † **Mortma·iner** (*nonce-wd.*), one who lays a 'dead hand' *upon*.

1530 PALSGR. 641/1, I mortmayne landes, I gyve landes to the churche to be payed for... He hath mortmayned his chiefe maner..to the next abbaye to hym. 1534 CRANMER *Let. to Cromwell* in *Misc. Writ.* (Parker Soc.) II. 287 The said lands, which the said prebendaries shall have of him, to be mortmained by a certain day. 1808 J. W. CROKER *Sk. St. Irel.* (ed. 2) 39 One-third of them [*sc.* clergy] are not resident—absentees from their duties—mortmainers upon the land!

Mortmal(l,-mayn(e: see MORMAL, MORTMAIN.

Mortne, erroneous form of MORNÉ.

Mortoise, obs. form of MORTISE.

† **Mort-pay.** *Obs.* [a. F. *morte-paye*, lit. 'dead pay'.] = DEAD PAY 2.

1622 BACON *Hen. VII* 101 The Seuere punishing of Mortpayes, and keeping backe of Souldiours wages in Captaines.

Mortre, obs. form of MORTAR.

† **Mortrel.** *Obs.* Also 4 **morterel**, 5 **moteryl**, 7 **mortrell**. [a. OF. *morterel, morteruel* (pl. *mortreux*), a kind of milk soup.] = MORTRESS.

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XIII. 62 He eet many sondry metes mortrewes [*Camb. MS.* mortreux, *Bodl. MS.* mortrels] and puddynges. 1381 *Form of Cury* (1780) 92 Morterelys. Nym hennyn and porke and seth hem togedere [etc.]. 14.. *Nom.* in Wr.-Wülcker 725/6 *Hoc pepe*, moteryfs. 15.. in Cullum *Hist. Hawsted* (1813) 11 To a baker of Bury St. Edmund's for wastle bread to make morterels. 1758 LOWTH *Wm. of Wykeham* 75 Each of the Thirteen secular Brethren [of the Hospital of St. Cross, Winchester] had daily..three messes at Dinner, namely, one mess called Mortrell, made of milk and Wastelbred [etc.].

† **Mo·rtress.** *Obs.* Forms: 4 **mortreux**, 4–5 **mortrewes, -treuus**, 4–5 (9) **mortrews**, 5 **mortrewys, -trow(e)s, -trw(y)s, -terews, -treus, -trowis, -trowse**, 5–6 **mortrus**, 6 **mortesse** (? erron.), 6–7 **mortresse**, 7 **mortress**. [OF. *mortreux, -tereoux, mourtereoux* (ONF. *moitrou, matrou*), pl. of *morterel, morteruel*: see MORTREL.] A kind of soup or pottage, made either of bread and milk or of various kinds of meat.

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XIII. 41 Ac þei ete mete of more coste mortrewes and potages. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 384 He koude .. Maken Mortreux. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 14 Mortrewes of Fysshe...Caste þer-to Sugre and Salt, an serue it forth as other Mortrewys. *c* 1450 *Ibid.* 70 Mortreus de Chare. *Ibid.* 71 Put hit in disshes in maner of Mortrewes. 1513 *Bk. Kervynge* in *Babees Bk.* (1868) 164 In the second course, potage, mortrus, or conyes. 1530 PALSGR. 246/2 Mortesse mente. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 48 A Mortresse made with the Brawne of Capons.

Mortress(e, rare obs. forms of MORTISE.

Mortrus, variant of MORTRESS *Obs.*

† **Mo·rtual,** *a. Obs. rare.* [var. MORTAL. Cf. OF. *mortuel* (*rare*).]

1. = MORTAL *a.*

c 1440 *Generydes* 6399 The corde is made, the mortuall werre is sese. *c* 1500 MEDWALL *Nature* I. 84 (Brandl) As chyef possessyoner of thyngys mortuall.

2. = MORTUARY *a.* 1.

1514 *MS. Acc. St. John's Hosp., Canterb.*, Rec. for wast of iiij mortualle taperys for Ser Wellyam.

Mortuary (mɔ̄·rtiu,ări), *a.* and *sb.* Also 6 *erron.* **mortarie**. [ad. L. *mortuāri-us* adj. (med.L. *mortuārium* neut., used as sb.), f. *mortu-us* dead: see -ARY. Cf. F. *mortuaire* (AF. *mortuarie* sb., 1302–3), Pg. *mortuario*.]

A. *adj.*

1. Of or belonging to the burial of the dead.

1514 *MS. Acc. St. John's Hosp., Canterb.*, Rec...for þe wast off iiij mortuary taperys. 1705 GREENHILL *Art Embalm.* 323 Near the Pyramids and mortuary Caves. 1791 COWPER *Wks.* (1837) XV. 227, I enclose a copy of my last mortuary verses. 1826 SCOTT *Diary* 8 Apr. in Lockhart *Life*, He carried me with him as often as he could to these mortuary ceremonies. 1878 BOSW. SMITH *Carthage* 415 The ancient mortuary chambers were filled, after the lapse of centuries, by new occupants. 1904 *Westm. Gaz.* 13 Feb. 5/1 The mortuary chapel which now rises over his grave was only erected some thirty years ago.

2. Of, concerned with, or depending upon death; relating to or reminiscent of death.

1540 TAVERNER *Postils, Passion Sondaye*, Pourge oure consciences from dead or mortuarie workes. 1651 MARIUS *Adv. Conc. Bills Exch.* 65 You must..demand the mony of his Executors..at his Mortuary House or last dwelling House. 1796 BURKE *Let. Noble Ld.* Wks. VIII. 6 His attack upon me and my mortuary pension. [Cf. *supra*, p. 5, where Burke speaks of himself as 'hardly to be classed with the living'.] 1855 *Jrnl. Archæol. Assoc.* XI. 234 These mortuary badges are generally in the form of a heart. *Ibid.* 236 A mortuary ring..is described in the *Gentleman's Magazine* of July 1823.

B. *sb.*

1. A customary gift formerly claimed by the incumbent of a parish from the estate of a deceased parishioner.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 285 Or ellis þei schullen not be cristened, ne oyntid, ne biried wiþouten mortuarie. 1469 in *Somerset Med. Wills* (1901) 216, I will that the parson of Brympton have for me to his mortuarie a donne hors of mine. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 119 b, The parson and vicar wyll have for a mortuary..the best thynge that is about the house. 1647 *Husbandman's Plea agst. Tithes* 40 They must have a mortuary, of every dead mans goods, and that was to be the second best of the dead mans moveable goods or cattell. 1775 J. WATSON *Hist. Halifax* 399 These two chapelries have also contended for the mortuaries within their respective divisions. 1852 ROCK *Ch. of Fathers* III. viii. 25 Soul shot, under another though not so fit a name—mortuary—continued to be paid. 1897 *Athenæum* 7 Aug. 184 Mortuaries have been claimed by rectors and vicars within the memory of the present generation.

attrib. 17.. POPE *Happy Life of Country Parson* 6 Tithe-Pig, and mortuary Guinea. 1875 STUBBS *Const. Hist.* I. viii. 229 The clergy received..soul-scot or mortuary-dues.

†**b.** A fine payable to certain ecclesiastical dignitaries on the death of a priest within their respective jurisdictions. *Obs.*

1590 SWINBURNE *Testaments* 232 It shall be lawfull to the Bishops of Bangors, Landaffe, Saint Dauids and Saint Asse, and likewise to the Archdeacon of Chester, to take such Mortuaries of the Priests..as heretofore hath heene accustomed. 1778 PENNANT *Tour Wales* (1883) I. 110 Northop is a sinecure, annexed to the bishopric of St. Asaph,..to compensate for the mortuaries due to the bishop on the death of every beneficed clergyman in the diocese.

†**2.** A funeral; obsequies. *Obs.*

c 1440 *Jacob's Well* 56 þey schulde noȝt offeryn at weddynges, at puryficacyouns, at mortuaryes, but o messepeny. 1594 *Selimus* H 3, When thus they see me with religious pompe, To celebrate his tomb-blacke mortarie. 1598 GRENEWEY *Tacitus' Ann.* I. xiii. (1622) 25 A Generall honored with the Augurall dignitie..ought not to meddle in mortuaries. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* XXX. xliv. 772 Yee keepe a weeping and wailing, as in some publicke funerall and mortuarie carried forth. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* VIII. xii. (1614) 804 At these mortuaries they did eate and drinke.

†**3.** A burial place, sepulchre. *Obs.*

1654 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 36 Look on thy full Table as a Mortuary of the dispeopled Elements. 1658 PHILLIPS, A *Mortuarie*, a Funeral, a burying place.

†**4.** An obituary record. *Obs. rare*—1.

1715 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* I. 180 Bale fixes his Death at the Year 1359, but..Waræus places it to the Mortuary of 1360.

5. A building or room in which dead bodies are kept for a time; a dead-house. Also, a place specially prepared for the temporary reception of a corpse.

1865 *Morning Star* 1 June, This mortuary is open every day. 1894 *Times* 19 Dec. 9/6 A mortuary will be erected in the cabin, which will be draped.

attrib. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 18 Mar. 5/1 Mortuary keeper. 1905 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 16 Sept. 688 Mortuary attendant.

Mortylogye: see MORTILAGE.

†**Mo·rtyn.** *Sc. Obs. rare.* Also 5 mortoun, martoune. Some kind of wild-fowl.

c 1450 HOLLAND *Howlat* 213 The Martoune [*Bannat. MS.* mortoun], the Murcoke, the Myresnype in ane, Lichtit, as lerit men, law by that laike. 1599 *Sc. Acts Jas. VI* (1816) IV. 180/2 Teillis atteillis Goldyndis mortynis [etc.]. 1600 *Ibid.* 236/2.

Moru(e, obs. forms of MORROW.

Moruȝiue, var. MORYEVE, 'morning-gift'.

‖ **Morula** (mō·rĭlă). [mod.L., dim. of L. *mōrum* mulberry: see MORO 1.]

1. *Path.* In various uses (see quots.).

1856 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Morula*, term for a mulberry-formed, fungous excrescence: a morule. 1891 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Morula*...Also, a synonym of *Frambœsia*. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 506 Frambœsia is..essentially a disease of the tropics, though possibly the 'morula', or button-scurvy of Ireland..was closely allied to..it.

2. *Embryol.* Haeckel's term for that stage of development of an ovum in which it has become completely segmented; an ovum at this stage of development.

1874 E. R. LANKESTER in *Phil. Trans.* CLXV. 33 The name *Gastrula* is given by Professor Haeckel to the embryonic form which I had proposed to designate by the old name *Planula*; and the multicellular blastosphere, from which the *Gastrula* is developed, which I had proposed to speak of as a *polyplast*, he well christens the *Morula*. 1875 HUXLEY in *Encycl. Brit.* II. 51/1 All the *Metazoa*, in fact, commence their existence in the form of an ovum...The ovum, after impregnation, divides into cleavage masses, or *blastomeres*, giving rise to a *Morula*.

Hence **Mo·rular** *a.*, 'relating to a morula' (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1891); **Morula·tion,** the conversion of the vitellus or yolk of an ovum into a morula (*Cent. Dict.* 1890); **Mo·ruloid** *a.*, having the character of, or resembling a morula (*Ibid.*).

Morule (mō·rūl). *Path.* Anglicized form of MORULA. 1856 [see MORULA 1].

‖ **Mo·rum.** *Path. rare*—0. [mod.L., f. L. *mōrum* a mulberry: see MORULA.] = MORO 1.

1693 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Morum*, the same that *Pladarosis*. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Morum*, a Mulberry; Also a little soft Swelling under the Eye-lids.

Morun, obs. form of MORN, MOURN *v.*

Morunga, variant of MORINGA.

Morvenite (mɒ̄·rɪvənəit). *Min.* [Named by T. Thomson from *Morven* in Scotland, its locality: see -ITE.] A variety or synonym of HARMOTOME.

1836 T. THOMSON *Min., Geol.*, etc. I. 351 The third species [of harmotome], to which I have given the name of morvenite. 1883 M. F. HEDDLE in *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 423/1.

Morw(e, obs. forms of MORROW.

Morw(e-)ȝyve, variant forms of MORYEVE.

Morwen, obs. form of MORN.

Morwening(e, -yng(e, obs. forms of MORNING.

Morwhen, obs. form of MORN.

Morwnyng(e, obs. forms of MORNING.

‖ **Morwong** (mɒ̄·rɪwɒŋ). *Austral.* [The native name.] A fish of the genus *Chilodactylus*.

1880 INGLIS *Austral. Cousins* 298 From Broken Bay to Terrigal,..there are splendid fishing grounds, and the capture of..morwong, travallay, salmon, and hundreds of other varieties, would give exciting sport. 1883 E. P. RAMSAY *Food Fishes N. S. Wales* 13 (Fish. Exhib. Publ.) The Morwongs—*Chilodactylus macropterus*, *C. morwong* (sp. nov.), and *C. fuscus*—are more plentiful, and find a ready sale.

Morwoun, morwyng(e, obs. forms of MORN.

†**Mo·rwyngift.** *Sc. Obs.* Also **mor(r)owing gift.** [f. *morwyn* MORN *sb.* + GIFT.] = MORYEVE: cf. MORNING-GIFT.

1503 *Sc. Acts Jas. IV* (1814) II. 240/1 þe qwenis drowry & morwyngift. 1592 *Sc. Acts Jas. VI* (1814) III. 565/1 The Morowing gift gevin be his hienes to his darrest spous. 1593 *Ibid.* (1816) IV. 24/2 His hienes for þe singular luif and affectioune borne toward hir [*sc.* his queen], Gaif, grantit and confirmit to hir in forme of morrowing gift [(ed. 1597) 143 morning gift], All and haill the lordschip of dumfermling wt all baronies, landis [etc.].

Morxi, variant of MORDISHEEN.

Mory, obs. form of MOORY *a.*

Moryce, obs. form of MORRIS *sb.*1

Moryen, var. of MORIAN; obs. f. MURRAIN.

†**Moryeve.** *Obs.* Forms: α. 1 morȝenȝifu, -ȝyfu, morȝanȝifu, 3 marhenȝiue, morȝen-ȝiue; β. 3 mærȝeue, morȝeue, mor(h)ȝiue, 5 mor(r)yve; γ. 3 mareȝeue, marechȝeue, marheȝeue, mahre-ȝiue, moru-ȝiue, 4 morw(e-)ȝyve, morow-ȝyfe, more ȝif. [OE. *morgenġifu*, f. *morgen* MORN, MORROW + *ġifu* gift, YEVE; corresponding to OHG. **morgangeba* (*morganegiba* in Gregory of Tours, 6th c.); cf. the synonymous MHG. *morgengâbe*, mod.G. *morgengabe*, *morgengift*.] The gift made by the husband to the wife on the morning after the consummation of the marriage. Also sometimes misused for *dowry*. Also *fig.* Cf. MORNING-GIFT.

c 974 *Will* in Birch *Cartul. Sax.* III. 630 Ic cyþe hwæt ic minum wine to morȝenȝyue sealde; þæt is Beadewan [etc.]. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 115/13 *Dos*, morȝanȝifu. *c* 1205 LAY. 14394 Maiden he heo hæfde, & mærȝeue hire bi-tahte. *Ibid.* 31090 He wulle hire to morȝeue þene Mans hitæchen. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 94 Ancren þeos two morhȝiuen [*MS. C.* marechȝeuen, *MS. T.* marhenȝiues] habben biuoren oðre. *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* 54 (Bodl. MS.) Eadi is his spuse..hwas marheȝeue [*MS. Tit.* mahre-ȝiue] is þe kinedom of heouene. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1428 Siðen men hauen holden skil, first to freinen ðe wimmanes wil, Or or men hire to louerd ȝiue, for wedding or for morȝen-ȝiwe. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 257/24 A lauedi of a gret contreie, and of grete moruȝiue al-so. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Serm.* Sel. Wks. I. 142 And þis morwȝyve [*v. r.* morwe-ȝyve, morow-ȝyfe, more ȝif] is clepid of clerkes, dower of bodily sutilte. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 343/2 Moryve (morryve, *S.*), *dos*.

Moryhen, obs. form of MORN.

Moryn, obs. form of MORION, MORN.

Moryn(e, obs. forms of MURRAIN.

Moryon, variant of MORIAN and MORION.

Morys, obs. form of MOORISH *a.*2, MORRIS *sb.*1

Morysh, obs. form of MOORISH *a.*1

Moryspeik, -peke, obs. ff. MORRIS PIKE.

Moryssh(e, Mos, obs. ff. MOORISH *a.*1, MOSS.

Mosaic (mozē·ik), *a.*1 and *sb.* Forms: α. 5 musycke, 6 mousaique, 6–7 musaique, 7 musaic(k, musai(c)ke; β. 6–8 mosaique, 7 mosaiq, mosaike, 7–8 (9) mosaick, 7– mosaic. [a. F. *mosaïque* adj., used subst. in masc. (OF. *mosaicq*, *musaicq*, *musec*, *music* adj., used subst. in masc. and fem.) = Pr. *muzec* adj., Sp. *mosáico* (used subst. in fem.), Pr. *mosaico* (used subst. in fem.), It. *mosaico*, *musaico* (used subst. in masc.), ad. med.L. *mosaicus*, *mūsaicus*, as if a. Gr. **μουσαϊκός* f. **μουσαῖος* by-form of *μούσειος* pertaining to the muses (cf. late Gr. *μουσεῖον* mosaic work, whence late L. *opus mūsīvum* in the same sense), f. *μοῦσα* MUSE *sb.*]

A. *adj.*

1. Pertaining to that form of art in which pictures and decorative patterns are produced by the joining together of minute pieces of glass, stone, or other hard substances of different colours; produced by this method.

1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* I. xvi. 17 b, The court is pauid with Mosaique stone. *Ibid.* II. xx. 57 S. Sophia..within is most artificially made with Mosaique figures. 1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 31 Mosaike painting: an antique kind of worke, composed of little square peeces of marble. 1665 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (1677) 63 A stately monument, graced with three fair Courts, each of which is paved with stone, the outside Fabrick (after the Persian mode) being pargettred or plaistered, and polished in Mosaick order. *a* 1680 BUTLER *Rem.* (1759) I. 173 And join it by Mosaic Art, In graceful Order, Part to Part. 1703 MAUNDRELL *Journ. Jerus.* 18 Mar. (1721) 43 We saw many Granite Pillars and remnants of Mosaick Floors. 1816 BYRON *Siege Cor.* XXXI, The vaults beneath the mosaic stone Contain'd the dead of ages gone. 1845 STOCQUELER *Handbk. Brit. India* (1854) 330 The inlaid or Mosaic work-boxes, card-cases, writing-desks, &c. 1893 *Archæologia* LIII. 566 The mosaic panel is not worn at all.

b. *fig.*

1644 BULWER *Chiron.* 141 And from it Eloquence receives her beauteous colours, her Musive or Mosaique Excellency. 1710 HEARNE *Collect.* (O. H. S.) III. 41 After a farrago of English, Greek, and Latin—'You'l pardon this way of writing—I never use it but in an Epistolary Way. I rem. a Gent. lately found fault wth it: and call'd it Mosaic'. 1824 CARLYLE *Misc., Richter* (1869) 16 Let the mosaic brain of old Burton give forth the workings of this strange union. 1882 W. T. DOBSON *Poet. Ingenuities* 225 The next..is a mosaic compilation from poems written to the memory of Robert Burns.

2. *Mosaic wool-work*: a kind of work used in rugs, carpets, and the like, in which coloured threads are arranged side by side so that the cross-section shows a pattern resembling that of mosaic. So *mosaic carpet*, etc. *Mosaic canvas*: see quot.

1864 WEBSTER, *Mosaic wool-work*. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 390/2 This is..the plan on which the so-called 'mosaic carpet' is made. 1882 CAULFEILD & SAWARD *Dict. Needlework*, *Mosaic Canvas*, the finest descriptions of canvas employed for Embroidery, whether of silk, thread, or cotton, have acquired the popular appellation of Mosaic.

3. Applied to a variety of tile (see quot.).

1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, *Mosaic Tile*, a tile molded with different colored clays, arranged in patterns in imitation of the associated pieces of colored stones in true mosaic. 1903 *Edin. Even. News* 12 Oct. 4 A mosaic tile layer.

4. *Mosaic vision*: the manner of vision of the compound eye of an arthropod. *Mosaic theory*: any theory in explanation of the vision of arthropods with compound eyes.

1880 HUXLEY *Crayfish* iii. 12 The theory of mosaic vision propounded by Johannes Müller. 1888 LUBBOCK *Senses Anim.* vii. (1889) 166 Plateau regards the mosaic theory of Müller as definitely abandoned, but seems rather to have had in his mind that of Gottsche.

B. *sb.* (= MOSAIC WORK.)

1. The process of producing pictures or decorative patterns by cementing together small pieces of stone, glass, or other hard material of various colours; pictures or patterns produced in this manner; the constructive or decorative material composed of small pieces of coloured material cemented together.

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1662 Within this palis of prise was a proude halle, ..With a flore þat was fret all of fyne stones, Pauyt prudly all with proude colours, Made after musycke, men on to loke. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* II. vii. 37 b, A church..which esteemed to be the fayrest..in al those Ilands .., being artificially made of Mosaique. *Ibid.* II. xx. 57 The Images of Mosaique and other flat pictures. 1596 DANETT tr. *Comines* (1614) 279 It is built throughout of the curious worke called Musaique [*marg.* Mousaique], or Marqueterie. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 141 The seeling..is in many places gilt and painted in Mosaick. 1756 NUGENT *Gr. Tour, Italy* III. 53 The name of Mosaic is given to all works composed of little inlaid pieces, whether they be of stone, wood, ivory, enamel, or any other natural or artificial matter. 1832 G. DOWNES *Lett. Cont. Countries* I. 282 Some of the apartments are painted in fresco, with floors in mosaic. 1845 STOCQUELER *Handbk. Brit. India* (1854) 330 The Mosaic is sometimes used as a sort of veneer over the whole surface of an article, and at others, simply as an inlaid bordering on cedar or ivory. 1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 854/2 The modern so-called 'Roman mosaic' is formed of short and slender sticks of coloured glass fixed in cement, the ends, which form the pattern, being finally rubbed down and polished.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1667 MILTON *P. L.* IV. 700 Each beauteous flour, Iris all hues, Roses, and Gessamin Rear'd high thir flouriſht heads between, and wrought Mosaic. *a* 1711 KEN *Sion* Poet. Wks. 1721 IV. 332 From various Flowers which she together brought, In sweet Mosaick she a story wrought. 1753 HOGARTH *Anal. Beauty* IV. 23 The pine-apple, which nature has particularly distinguished by bestowing ornaments of rich mosaic upon it. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 489 The disc of bone removed was cut into pieces and packed in mosaic in the wound [*sc.* a trephine-hole in the skull].

c. Applied to work in various other materials analogous to mosaic in method of production, or resembling it in appearance; usually with defining word, as *paper*, *straw*, *wood*, *wool mosaic*.

1727–52 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v., Mosaic work of wood, more properly called *marquetry*, or inlaid work. 1875 W. BEMROSE (*title*) Mosaicon: or paper mosaic, and how to make it. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* s.v., The Tunbridge wood-mosaic is made of colored parallelopipeds of wood glued together so as to show a pattern at their ends or sections.

2. A piece of mosaic work; a design in mosaic.

1699 M. LISTER *Journ. Paris* 124 By the application of a good Eye-glass, I could readily distinguish the squares of all colours, as in other Mosaiques. 1756 BURKE *Subl. & B.* II. xvi, Much of guilding, mosaicks, painting, or statues, contribute but little to the sublime. 1762–71 H. WALPOLE *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1786) II. 30 *note*, [He] fitted up entire windows with them, and with mosaics of plain glass of different colours. 1841 W. SPALDING *Italy & It. Isl.* I. 155 A Mosaic lately found, representing one of Alexander's battles. 1874 MICKLETHWAITE *Mod. Par. Churches* 318 Modern mosaics have nearly always a great deal of gold.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

a 1678 MARVELL *Appleton House* 582 What Rome, Greece, Palestine, ere said I in this light Mosaick read. 1774 BURKE *Sp. Amer. Taxation* 40 He [Pitt in 1766] made an administration, so checkered..; a cabinet so variously inlaid; such a piece of diversified Mosaic;..that it was indeed a very curious show. 1853 RUSKIN *Stones Ven.* II. vi. § 8. 156 We do not enough conceive for ourselves that variegated mosaic of the world's surface which a bird sees in its migration. 1882 W. T. DOBSON *Poet. Ingenuities* 224 Centones or Mosaics. 1882 FARRAR *Early Chr.* I. 352 He does so in a mosaic of magnificent quotations from the .. Psalms. 1896 tr. *Boas' Zool.* 384 The buccal teeth are low knobs (sometimes pointed) or plates, which are arranged in several rows and form a mosaic over the edges of the jaws.

3. In various scientific uses.

1877 FOSTER *Phys.* III. ii. (1878) 420 The mosaic of rods and cones is the basis of distinct vision. 1888 LUBBOCK *Senses Anim.* vii. (1889) 166 Plateau..states that, according to Müller, the mosaic [*sc.* the image presented by the compound eye of an arthropod] is formed by a number of partial images, each occupying the base of one of the elements composing the compound eye. 1891 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Mosaic of muscle compartments*, the polygonal areas surrounded by dark lines seen on fresh section of a muscular fibre, without addition of reagents or with acetic acid alone. *Ibid.*, *Mosaic of pigment cells of eye*, the appearance presented by the inner surface of the choroid tunic.

4. *Comb.*, as *mosaic-drawn*, *-floored*, *-like*, *-paved*.

1726 POPE *Odyss.* XIX. 265 In the rich woof a hound, *Mosaic-drawn Bore on full stretch, and seized a dappled fawn. 1888 *Pall Mall G.* 1 Feb. 5/2 A glass-covered, *mosaic-floored, plant-furnished promenade. 1901 *Scribner's Mag.* XXIX. 512/2 A delicate *mosaic-like effect was obtained. 1803 MARY CHARLTON *Wife & Mistress* IV. 157 Ponderous gates, that led into a *Mosaic-paved court.

Mosaic (mozē·ik), *a.*[2] [a. mod.L. *Mōsāicus*, f. L. *Mōsēs*. Cf. F. *mosaïque* (Calvin, 16th c), G. *mosaisch*.] Of, pertaining, or relating to Moses the lawgiver of the Hebrews, or the writings and institutions attributed to him.

Mosaic law, the ancient law of the Hebrews, contained in the Pentateuch.

1662 STILLINGFL. *Orig. Sacr.* III. iii. § 6 The Mosaick history of the Creation. 1701 GREW *Cosm. Sacra* IV. i. § 8 A Greek copy of the Mosaick Law. 1895 SALMOND *Chr. Doctr. Immort.* II. iii. 226 The silence of the Mosaic books on the subject of future awards was a stock argument with the Deistical School.

Mosa·ic, *v. rare.* [f. MOSAIC *a.*[1] and *sb.*]

1. *trans.* To adorn with mosaics. Also *transf.*

1839 *Tait's Mag.* VI. 255 A cottage .. embosomed, or rather matted and mosaicked, by roses and honeysuckles. *c* 1850 *Arab. Nts.* (Rtldg.) 239 Its walks were mosaicked with small stones of various colours. 1890 FREEMAN in W. R. W. Stephens *Life & Lett.* (1895) II. 418 It also wants William the Bad to mosaic the walls. 1895 MRS. A. C. WILSON 5 *Years India* 294 A boy with a face mosaiced out in different squares of colour like a clown.

2. To combine as if into a mosaic; also, to produce by such combination.

1841 MOTLEY *Corr.* 18 Nov., Prussia .. is new, and an artificial patchwork, without natural coherence, mosaiced out of bought, stolen, and plundered provinces. 1867 *Even. Stand.* 13 July 3 After all the rest of the world had been created the best bits were neatly cut out and mosaicked, so as to form Arcachon. 1889 W. S. GILBERT *Foggerty's Fairy*, etc. (1892) 331 They have mosaiced a hundred of his pithy apophthegms into our daily conversation.

† Mosa·ical, *a.*[1] *Obs.* Also 6 **museacall**, 7 **musaicall**. [Formed as MOSAIC *a.*[1] + -ICAL.] = MOSAIC *a.*[1] Also *mosaical work* = MOSAIC WORK.

a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* I. (1622) 7 New beds of flowers, which being vnder the trees, the trees were to them a Pauillion, and they to the trees a Mosaicall floore. 1592a R. D. *Hypnerotomachia* 49 b, Little flying Byrdes, excellently imphrygiated of museacall paynting. 1604 PARSONS *3rd Pt. Three Convers. Eng.* 346 One Ricimerus..had adorned that Church with diuers sacred pictures of Christ and his Apostles in Musaicall worke. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 457 The Mosaicall floore pouldred with pearles. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* IX. 401 A delicate Roome, and Artificially decored with Mosaical Worke. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 203 We went into the Church, which is..full of the pictures of the Saints, after the Mosaical way, and paved also in that manner.

Mosaical (mozē·ikăl), *a.*[2] (and *sb.*) Also 7 **Moysaicall**. [Formed as MOSAIC *a.*[2]: see -ICAL.]

A. *adj.*

1. Pertaining to or resembling what is Mosaic. † Formerly also often = MOSAIC *a.*[2]

1563 WINJET *Four Scoir Thre Quest.* To Rdr., Wks. (S.T.S.) I. 53 Blindit be feruent zele towart the Mosaical law. 1586 HOOKER *Disc. Justif.* (1617) 56 They .. saw not how repugnant their beleeuing the necessitie of Mosaicall Ceremonies was to their faith in Iesus Christ. 1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 8 As in some cases commanded by the Moysaicall Law. 1753 BP. CLAYTON *Jrnl. Cairo to Sinai* 18 Sept. an. 1722 *note*, The truth of the Mosaical history. 1869 ALFORD in *Gd. Words* 1 Apr. 277 Too frequently, while the practice of a family on the Lord's Day is thoroughly Christian, the theory is as thoroughly Mosaical.

† **2.** *Mosaical rod* (see quot. 1778). *Obs.*

a 1681 LILLY *Life & Times* (1715) 33 One John Scott, who pretended the Use of the Mosaical Rods. 1778 PENNANT *Tour Wales* I. 54 [The divining rod] from the rod of Moses, was also profanely called the Mosaical rod.

† **B.** *sb. pl.* Things belonging to the Mosaic Law.

1643 W. GREENHILL *Axe at Root* 13 Shall wee reject truth and light? it's feared we stick too much to Mosaicalls, Prelaticalls, and Traditionalls.

Mosaically (mozē·ikăli), *adv. rare.* [f. MOSAICAL *a.*[1] + -LY [2].] In a mosaic manner.

1614 EARL STIRLING *Domes-day, Twelfth Houre* viii, They (mix'd in workes) mosaically grow, And yet each part doth every kinde bestow. *a* 1849 POE *Longfellow*, etc. Wks. 1864 III. 325 What is here not taken from Tennyson, is made up mosaically from the death scene of Cordelia. 1856 DORAN *Knts. & their Days* iii. 45 Illustrative materials, such as anecdotes..he worked mosaically together.

Mosaiced: see MOSAICKED *a.*

Mosaic gold. [MOSAIC *a.*[1] and *sb.*]

† **1.** [= F. *or de mosaïque* (*Dict. de Trévoux*).] (See quot. 1727–41.) *Obs.*

1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Gold*, Mosaic Gold, is gold applied in panels on a proper ground, distributed into squares, lozenges, and other compartments; part whereof is shadowed to raise or heighten the rest.

2. [tr. late L. *aurum mūsīvum*.] A disulphide of tin.

1746 H. PEMBERTON *Dispens.* 220 *Aurum Musivum*. Mosaic Gold. Take of tin one pound; of flowers of sulphur seven ounces; sal-ammoniac [etc.]. 1890 BRANNT *Metal Worker's Handy-Bk.* 149 Red Bronze is produced by the application of red bronze lacquer or red bronze powder or red mosaic gold.

3. An alloy of copper and zinc, used for cheap jewellery and ornamental metal work; = ORMOLU.

1839 in URE *Dict. Arts* 869. 1852 MRS. SMYTHIES *Bride Elect* xiv, The metal was mosaic gold..and the emeralds ..were bits of green glass.

Mosaicist (mozē·isist). [f. MOSAIC *sb.* + -IST.] One who makes, or deals in, mosaic work; a worker in mosaic.

1847 LD. LINDSAY *Chr. Art* I. 140 Through the influence of the Byzantine revival, a school of native mosaicists arose in Italy. 1853 RUSKIN *Stones Ven.* II. iv. § 57. 103 The art of the mosaicist. 1877 MRS. OLIPHANT *Makers Flor.* iv. 120 Tafi..was more a mosaicist than a painter.

Mosaicity (mōuzē¡i·sĭti). *rare.* [f. MOSAIC *a.*[2] + -ITY.] The fact of being of Mosaic origin.

1885 tr. *Wellhausen's Prolegom. to Hist. Israel* 160 It is possible with Bleek to explain the transcendence of history as Mosaicity. 1892 A. B. BRUCE *Apologetics* II. iv. 211 The Mosaicity of the first table of the Decalogue thus appears to be intrinsically credible.

Mosaicked (mozē·ikt), *a.* Also **mosaiced**. [f. MOSAIC *sb.* + -ED [2].] Ornamented with, or composed of, mosaic work.

1849 ROCK *Ch. of Fathers* II. 138 *note*, The mosaiced apse belonging to one of those large halls built in the Lateran palace, at Rome, by Leo III..still remains. 1902 *Longm. Mag.* Mar. 426 The finely mosaicked floor.

Mosa·iculture. *Gardening.* [f. MOSAI(C *sb.* + CULTURE.] = *Carpet-bedding* (see CARPET *sb.* 5).

1881 *Encycl. Brit.* XII. 261/2 *Carpet Bedding* or *Mosaiculture*.

Mosaic work. Now *rare.*

1. = MOSAIC *sb.* 1. Also *transf.* and *fig.*

1606 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iv. II. *Tropheis* (1633) 202 For, in the bottom of this liquid Ice, Made of Musaick worke, with quaint device The cunning work-man had contrived trim Carpes, Pikes, and Dolphins seeming even to swim. 1643 EVELYN *Diary* 11 Mar., They also shew'd us the picture of Secretary Cecil in mosaiq worke, very well don by some Italian hand. *a* 1680 BUTLER *Rem.* (1759) II. 110 His Writings are like a Taylor's Cushion, of mosaic Work, made up of several Scraps sewed together. 1779 J. MOORE *View Soc. Fr.* (1789) II. lv. 53 This art of copying paintings in Mosaic work. 1842 H. ROGERS *Ess.* (1874) I. 28 That curious mosaic work of different tongues, which is so common in the pages of Burton and Taylor. 1878 SIR G. G. SCOTT *Lect. Archit.* I. 312 Of mosaic-work, whether of porphyry or enamel, you will find abundant examples.

2. = MOSAIC *sb.* 2. ? *Obs.* Also *fig.*

1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* II. 76 The different colours of these Flints make a pretty pleasant Mosaick work. 1749 CHESTERF. *Let. to Son* 15 May, The several pieces of a Mosaic work, though separately of little value or beauty, when properly joined, form those beautiful figures which please every body. 1756–7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) II. 22 At the entrance..hangs a Mosaic work, representing an owl. 1839 HALLAM *Hist. Lit.* II. II. i. 18 *note*, Language is always a mosaic work, made up of associated fragments, not of separate molecules.

So **Mosaic-worker**, one who works in mosaic; **Mosaic-working** *vbl. sb.*

1878 SIR G. G. SCOTT *Lect. Archit.* I. 178 The bringing to England of two master mosaic-workers. 1883 J. H. MIDDLETON in *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 853/2 The period when mosaic-working was a real art.

Mosaiq(ue, obs. forms of MOSAIC *a.*[1] and *sb.*

Mosaism (mōu·zē¡iz'm). *Theol.* [ad. mod.L. *Mōsāismus*, f. *Mōsēs*: see -ISM.] The religious system, laws and ceremonies prescribed by Moses; adherence to the Mosaic system or doctrines.

1845 KITTO *Cycl. Bibl. Lit.* s.v. *Theology*, The period of Mosaism extends from the commencement of the exile..to about the year B.C. 400. 1882 FARRAR *Early Chr.* I. 64 It [Christianity] even tended to render those who were born Jews indifferent to the institutions of Mosaism.

Mosaist [1] (mōu·zē¡ist). *rare.* [a. It. *mosaista*, irreg. f. *mosaico*: see -IST. Cf. F. *mosaïste*.] = MOSAICIST.

1864 CROWE & CAVALCASELLE *Hist. Painting Italy* II. 192 Della Valle mentions Angioletto of Gubbio as a mosaist at Orvieto in 1321–1329. 1887 *Athenæum* 20 Aug. 242/1 The two master mosaists, or workers in mosaic, of which it treats are Francesco and Valerio Zuccato.

Mosaist [2] (mōu·zē¡ist). *rare.* [Formed as MOSAISM: see -IST.] One who believes in the Mosaic history of the creation. Also (*nonce-use*) the writer of that history.

1887 HUXLEY *Life & Lett. Darwin* II. 196 Inclined to say to both Mosaists and Evolutionists, 'a plague on both your houses!' 1890 GLADSTONE in *Gd. Words* May 303/1 The recorder of the Creation Story in Genesis I may designate by the name of the Mosaist or the Mosaic writer.

† **Mosal.** *Obs. rare.* [repr. the proper name *Mosul*: see MUSLIN.] Mnslin.

1657 S. CLARKE *Geog. Descr.* 56 [Grand Cairo] They sell ..cloth called Mosal, of a marvellous bredth and finenesse, whereof the greatest persons make shirts.

Mosandrite (mozæ·ndrəit). *Min.* Also **mosanderite**. [Named after K. G. *Mosander*, a Swedish chemist (1797–1858) + -ITE.] 'A silicate of the cerium metals, calcium and sodinm, with titanium and fluorine' (Chester *Dict. Min.* 1896).

1846 *Penny Cycl.* Suppl. II. 308/2 *Mosanderite* occurs massive and fibrous, and crystallized in flat prisms. 1855 *Orr's Circ. Sci., Min.* 530 *Mosandrite*.

Mosarabic, variant of MOZARABIC *a.*

Mosard, -ry, variant ff. MUSARD, MUSARDRY.

‖ **Mosasaurus** (mōusăsō·rŭs). *Palæont.* Also **Moso-, Mosæ-**. Pl. **-i.** [mod.L. (W. D. Conybeare), f. L. *Mosa* the river Meuse or Maas + Gr. *σαῦρος* lizard.] A genus of large extinct marine reptiles, combining the characters of a saurian reptile with those of a snake. It was first discovered near Maestricht (on the Meuse) in 1780.

1830 MORTON in *Amer. Jrnl. Sci.* XVII. 289 Mosasaurus. 1833 MANTELL *Geog. S. E. Eng.* 146 The Mososaurus, or Fossil Monitor of Maestricht. 1836 BUCKLAND *Geol. & Min.* xiv. § 7 (1837) I. 215 The Mosasaurus. 1875 C. MACLAREN in *Encycl. Brit.* I. 679/2.

Hence **Mo·sasaur**, a reptile of the genus *Mosasaurus*. **Mosasau·rian** *a.*, of or pertaining to the mosasaurus; belonging to the sub-order *Mosasauria*; *sb.*, a reptile of this sub-order. **Mosasau·rid**, a reptile of the family *Mosasauridæ*. **Mosasau·roid** *a.*, having the form or characters of a mosasaurus; *sb.*, a mosasauroid reptile.

1841 OWEN in *Brit. Assoc. Rep.* (1842) 60 The shape of the tooth thus approximates very closely to that of the Mosasaur. 1850 — in F. Dixon *Geol. & Fossils Sussex* 384 They demonstrate another Mosasaurian character. *Ibid.* 385 That genus of Mosasauroid Lizards. 1877 — in *Q. Jrnl. Geol. Soc.* XXXIII. 690 The type of the genus and family of Mosasauroids. 1878 *Ann. & Mag. Nat. Hist.* July 92 In the single occipital condyle and the composite structure of the mandible the Mosasaurians are Reptilian. *Ibid.* Oct. 341 Since then [1851] Prof. O. C. Marsh has published a reconstruction of the fore limb of the Mosasauroid *Lestosaurus simus*. 1895 *Funk's Stand. Dict.*, *Mosasaurid*.

Mosaul, obs. form of MUSSAL.

‖ **Moscardi·no.** *Obs.* Pl. **-ini.** [It., 'a kinde of Muske-comfets' (Florio 1611), f. med.L. *moschus* MUSK *sb.*] A sweetmeat flavoured with musk.

1599 B. JONSON *Cynthia's Rev.* v. iv, Give mee my confects, my moscardini.

Moscatel, variant of MOSCHATEL.

Mosch, obs. form of MOSQUE, MUSK.

† **Moschat.** *Obs.* Also **moschatte**. [ad. mod. L. *moschātus*, f. *moschus* MUSK.] = MUSK-CAT.

1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 551 Of the Moschatte, or Mus-kat. 1629 SYMMER *Spir. Posie* Epist. A ij b, The Moschat, Sivet, &c.

† **Moschata.** *Obs. rare.* Also **muscata**. [a. mod.L. *moschāta*, *muscāta*, fem. of *moschātus*, *muscātus*: see next.]

1. *Erodium moschatum*, stork's-bill.

1578 LYTE *Dodoens* I. xxxii. 47 The first kinde [of Geranium] is called..in English..of some Moschata. 1611 COTGR. s.v. *Aiguille*, Musked Pinkneedle..; Muscata.

2. *Nux moschata*: the nutmeg.

1587 MASCALL *Govt. Cattle, Horses* (1627) 176 Take..of *baccarum lauri*..of *nux muscata*, of each two ounces. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Moschata Nux*, or *Moschocaryon*, Nutmeg, an Indian Spice. 1823 CRABB *Technol. Dict.*

Moschate (mɒ·skeit), *a.* [ad. mod.L. *moschātus*, f. med.L. *moschus* MUSK.] Exhaling or having the odour of musk.

1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* IV. xlvi. 301 Moschate (*Moschatus*). A scent of musk. 1880 A. GRAY *Struct. Bot.* 420.

Moschatel (mɒskătе·l). *Bot.* Also 8 **moscatell**, 8–9 **moschatell**, 9 **muskatel, moscatel.** [a. F. *moscatelle*, ad. It. *moscatella*, f. *moscato* musk.] An inconspicuous plant (*Adoxa Moschatellina*, N.O. *Caprifoliaceæ*) 4 or 5 inches high, having pale-green flowers with a musky smell, found in shady places; freq. *tuberous moschatel.*

1732 J. MARTYN *Tournefort's Hist. Plants* II. 124 *Moschatellina*,..Tuberous Moscatell. 1756 WATSON in *Phil. Trans.* XLIX. 831 Tuberous Moschatell, or Musk-wood Crowfoot. 1854 DOBELL *Balder* xi, Inglorious moschatel ..Sickening below the nightshade. 1866 R. BUCHANAN *Lond. Poems* 185 The musk and the muskatel That grow on the window sill. 1874 T. HARDY *Far fr. Mad. Crowd* xxii, The square-headed moschatel, the odd cuckoo-pint.

Moschatous (mɒ·skătəs), *a.* [Formed as MOSCHATE + -OUS.] = MOSCHATE *a.*

1866 *Treas. Bot.*, *Moschatous*, having the smell of musk.

Mosche(a, moschee, obs. forms of MOSQUE.

Moschet, obs. form of MUSKET *sb.*[1]

Moschet(t)o, obs. forms of MOSQUITO.

Moschey, obs. form of MOSQUE.

† **Moschical**, *a. Obs. rare* —[1]. [f. *Mosche*, an occasional transliteration of Heb. משה Moses + -ICAL.] = MOSAICAL *a.*[2]

1687 H. MORE *Answ. Psychop.* (1689) 136 Seems..to have been the old Moschical or Mosaical Philosophy.

Moschie, obs. form of MOSQUE.

Moschiferous (mɒski·fĕrəs), *a. Zool.* [f. med.L. *mosch-us* MUSK + -(I)FEROUS.] Bearing or producing musk.

1856 in MAYNE *Expos. Lex.* 1890 *Century Dict.* s. v., Moschiferous organs; a moschiferous animal. 1902 *Webster's Suppl.* s.v., The moschiferous glands of the musk deer.

Moschine (mɒ'skin), *a.* (and *sb.*) *Zool.* [f. mod.L. *Moschin-æ* (f. *Moschus* the typical genus): see -INE¹.] **a.** *adj.* Of, pertaining to, or having the characters of the *Moschinæ*, an Asiatic family of *Cervidæ*, containing the two genera *Moschus* and *Hydropotes*. **b.** *sb.* An animal of the family *Moschinæ*, a musk-deer. In recent Dicts.

Moschite, obs. form of MESQUITA, mosque.

1593 DONNE *Sat.* iv. 199 Would not Heraclitus laugh to see Macrine, From hat, to shooe, himselfe at doore refine, As if the Presence were a Moschite.

Moschito, obs. form of MOSQUITO.

Mosc(h)o, moschy, obs. ff. MOSQUE.

Moschovite, obs. form of MUSCOVITE.

Mosc(h)yon, obs. form of MOTION.

Moscov-: see MUSCOV-.

†Mose, *sb. Obs. rare.* [OE. *máse* wk. fem. = MDu. *mêze* (Du. *mees*: see MEESE), OHG. *meisa* (MHG., mod.G. *meise*); ON. has only the derivative *meising-r*, whence F. *mésange*. Cf. COALMOUSE, TITMOUSE, where *-mose* has been corrupted into *-mouse*.] The titmouse.

a 700 *Epinal Gloss.* 806 *Parrula*, masae. *c* 1050 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 286/14–15 *Parra*, colmase. *Parrula*, spicmase. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 503 Þu..pipest al so doþ a mose.

†Mose, *v. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [Etymology obscure; possibly a corruption.] = MOURN *v.*²

1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shrew* III. ii. 51 His horse..possest with the glanders, and like to mose in the chine.

Mose, obs. f. MOOSE, MOSS, MUSA (banana).

Moseache, moseak, obs. forms of MOSQUE.

Mosel(l, obs. forms of MUZZLE.

Moselle (mozе·l). Also 8 **mossel**. [The Fr. name (= G. *Mosel*, L. *Mosella*) of a river which joins the Rhine at Coblentz.] In full *Moselle wine*: a dry white wine, produced near the Moselle.

1687 CARTE in *Magd. Coll. & Jas. II* (O.H.S.) 158 A glass of Moselle wine. 1693 [R. AMES] *Bacch. Sessions* Rhenish, Hock, Old and Young, Moselle, and Backrag. 1703 *Art & Myst. Vintners* 60 Put into the Vessel 20 ounces of mossel. 1839 BAILEY *Festus* xvi. (1852) 180 Thy wit..Is like cool moselle. 1869 BLACK *In Silk Attire* II. 240 He..contemplatively stirred his Moselle with a bit of biscuit. 1879 VIZETELLY *Facts about Champagne* xvi. 176 The sparkling moselles..are largely dosed with the preparation of elder-flowers, which imparts to them their well-known muscatel flavour and perfume.

Moseque, obs. form of MOSQUE.

Moses (mō·uzĭz). Forms: 6–7 **Moyses**, 7 (*pl.* **Mosesses**), 7– **Moses**. [a. L. *Mōses*, *Mōÿses*, Gr. Μωσῆς, Μωυσῆς, ad. Heb. מֹשֶׁה *Mōshéh*.]

1. Applied allusively to some one resembling Moses, esp. in his character as lawgiver or leader.

1528 TINDALE *Obed. Chr. Man* 13 How cometh it that our Moyseses..commaunde vs the contrary. 1624 T. TAYLOR 2 *Serm.* ii. 23 As Israel had not only Ioshua fighting..but also Moses praying..; so wee have many Mosesses lifting up hands, and praiers. 1652 OWEN *Advantage Kingd. of Christ* Wks. 1851 VIII. 320 They will not understand that such Moseses will be deliverers. 1660 *Iter Australe* 12 A second, Moses styled him [*sc.* Cromwell] (for why His Shining Nose made the Synecdoche). 1888 *Times* (weekly ed.) 22 June 14/3 He prayed for another Moses to limit the wanderings of the..party to four years instead of 40.

b. *slang.* (See quots.); also *to stand Moses.*

[1611 COTGR., *Moyse*, Holie Moyses; whose ordinarie counterfeit hauing on either side of the head an eminence, or luster arising somewhat in the forme of a horne, hath imbouldened a prophane Author to stile Cuckolds, *Parents de Moyse.*] 1796 *Grose's Dict. Vulg. T.* s.v., A man is said to stand *Moses* when he has another man's bastard child fathered upon him, and he is obliged by the parish to maintain it. 1859 MATSELL *Voc.* s.v. (Farmer), *Moses*, a man that fathers another man's child for a consideration.

c. Used as an oath or expletive.

1855 STRANG *Glasgow & Its Clubs* (1856) 295 Very well the front rank; but holy Moses! what a rear! 1858 O. W. HOLMES *Aut. Breakf.-t.* (1883) 222 The parson..stopped perplexed At what the—Moses—was coming next. 1872 SCHELE DE VERE *Americanisms* 595 By the Ever-Living Jumping Moses. 1890 H. NISBET *Bail Up!* xxx. 212 'And, by the piper that played before Moses, so they did.'

†2. a. A kind of boat used in the West Indies (see quot.). **b.** *Moses boat*: a kind of boat used in Massachusetts. *Obs.*

Whether these two applications have a common origin is doubtful. The Massachusetts use has been said to be derived from the name of *Moses* Lowell, a famous boat-builder at Salisbury, Mass.

a. 1768 *Boston Chron.* 2–9 May 195/3 An advertisement appeared in the Antigua Gazette, offering forty pistoles, for apprehending one — Scott who was mate of a sloop,..and two sailors, for robbing said sloop, then lying at Antigua, of a moses boat, two barrels of beef [etc.]. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1780) F iv b, A moses is a very flat broad boat, used by merchant-ships amongst the Carribbee-islands, to bring hogsheads of sugar off..to the shipping. 1775 ROMANS *Florida* App. 87 In almost every gut among the many islands in this bay, I have found it as much as four stout men could do, to stem the current in a Moses.

b. 1765 *Mass. Gaz.* 25 Apr. 1766 *Ibid.* 16 Oct., A Moses Boat, about fourteen Foot long. 1770 *Boston Gaz.* 23 Apr. 3/2 Taken from Long Side a Schooner at the North-End, the 13th Inst. a Moses Boat, 16 Feet. 1775 *New. Eng. Chron.* 18–25 May 4/3 A Moses Boat, 13 Feet long, went adrift about a Month ago from Beverly.

3. *Comb.*: **Moses' law** (see quot., and cf. Deut. xxv. 3); **Moses' rod**, a divining-rod (cf. MOSAICAL *a.*² 2); **Moses-seam** (see quot.); **Moses' tables**, see quot. 1803 [in allusion to Exodus xx].

1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, **Moses' law*, the term among pirates for inflicting thirty-nine lashes on the bare back—forty save one. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* v. xxi. 271 A forked hazell, commonly called *Moses his rod, which freely held forth, will stirre and play if any mine be under it. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, **Moses-seam*, a sail-maker's seam, as the selvages of the canvas lap past each other. 1803 *Gazetteer Scot.* Introd. 12 At Portsoy is found that singular kind of granite called *Moses' Tables, which, when polished, resembles the Hebrew characters on a white ground.

Mosetale, obs. form of MOUSETAIL.

Mosette (mozе·t). [a. F. *mosette*, ad. It. *mozetta*: see AMICE².] = MOZZETTA.

1862 F. C. HUSENBETH *Bp. Milner* 339 Representing the Bishop seated in rocket, mosette, and stole.

Mosey (mō·uzi), *v. slang. U. S.*

I. *intr.* To go away quickly; to decamp. Also, to make haste, 'be lively'.

1838 J. C. NEAL *Charcoal Sk.* i. (1850) 17 If your tongue wasn't so thick I'd say you must mosey; but moseying is only to be done when a gemman's half shot. *a* 1859 *N. Y. Family Companion* (Bartlett), After you left me, when them fellows told you to mosey off before the boat went to sea. 1871 J. HAY *Banty Tim* 7 The nigger has got to mosey From the limits o' Spunky P'int! 1885 MISS M. N. MURFREE *Prophet Gt. Smoky Mts.* xiii. 233 Hurry 'long, D'rindy, ..you-uns ain't goin' ter reel a hank ef ye don't mosey.

2. To jog *along*. *lit.* and *fig.*

18.. *New York Tribune* (Bartlett 1877), I'll get a room nicely furnished, and my wife and I will jes mosey along till the election trouble is over, an' den dere'll be a powerful sight of whitewashin' to be done. 1891 KIPLING *Naulahka* vi, I'll mosey along somehow. 1903 A. ADAMS *Log Cowboy* ix. 124 You fellows just mosey along up the trail.

Mosey, var. MOSY *a. dial.*

Mosged, obs. form of MASJID, mosque.

1594 R. ASHLEY tr. *Loys le Roy* 101 Not suffering in his Mosgedes, or Temples, any corruptible thing whatsoeuer.

Moshin, mosine, corrupt ff. MORSING *vbl. sb.*, *Sc.*

Moshrump, obs. form of MUSHROOM.

Mosie, var. MOSY *a. dial.*

Mosing: see MOZING, MOZE *v.*

Mosk (mɒsk), *v. slang.* [Shortened from MOSKENEER.] = MOSKENEER *v.*

1902 *Standard* 5 June 10/2 The practice of obtaining a living by professional pawning—known as 'mosking'.

Mosk, variant of MOSQUE; obs. form of MUSK.

Moskalonge: see MASKINONGE.

Moskee, mos'keh, obs. forms of MOSQUE.

Moskeneer (mɒskĕnī·ə(r)), *v. slang.* Also moschkener, moshkeneer, moskuiner, moskeener. [Of Yiddish origin, f. mod.Heb. מִשְׁכֹּן *mashkōn* a pledge, whence מִשְׁכֵּן *mishkēn* to pawn (Dalman *Aram.-neuhebr. Wb.*).] *trans.* To pawn (an article) for more than it is worth.

1874 in *Slang Dict.* 1887 HENLEY *Villon's Straight Tip* 10 Fiddle, or fence, or mace, or mack; Or moskeneer, or flash the drag. 1890 BARRÈRE & LELAND *Dict. Slang*, etc., *Moshkeneer.* 1893 P. H. EMERSON *Signor Lippo* xxii. 100 He moschkeners from twenty to thirty supers a week.

Mosker (mɒ'skəɹ), *sb. slang.* [f. MOSK *v.* + -ER¹.] One who 'moskeneers'.

1883 *Daily Tel.* 9 July 3/1 The 'mosker'..is, in slang vernacular, one who makes a living by taking advantage of the business incapacity of persons engaged in the pawnbroking trade. 1905 *Daily News* 1 Mar. 6 There is an average loss to the pawnbroker on these unredeemed pledges, which are often bought cheaply and in bulk by the 'mosker'. Then they are artfully retailed, one by one, and in the character of personal belongings, to unwary pawnbrokers.

Mosker (mɒ'skəɹ), *v. Obs.* exc. *dial.* (Yorks., Linc.: see E.D.D.) [Of obscure origin.] *intr.* To decay, rot; to crumble or moulder *away*. Hence **Mo'skered, Mo'skering** *ppl. adjs.*

1612 CAPT. SMITH *Map Virginia* 15 Some moskered shining stones and spangles which the waters brought down. 1621 T. GRANGER *Comm. Eccles.* xii. 320 The teeth stand thin, or loose, or moskerd at the root. 1641 BEST *Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 122 The first decay of wilfes is allwayes att the hearte, for they will rotte, mosker, and bee hollowe within, soe that [etc.]. 1691 RAY *N. C. Words* 50 To *Mosker*; to Rot, or contract Corruption, perhaps from gathering Mosse; as a Moskerd Tree, a Moskerd Tooth.

Moskie, Moskuee, obs. forms of MOSQUE.

Moskito, obs. form of MOSQUITO.

Moskyta, var. MESQUITA, MESQUIT, a mosque.

Moslem, Muslim (mɒ'zlĕm, mʊ'zlim, mʊ's-), *sb.* and *a.* Also 9 (**Mooslim**), **Moslim**. [a. Arab. *muslim*, active pple. of *aslama*, of which the noun of action is *islām*: see ISLAM.]

A. *sb.* One who professes Islam; a Mohammedan.

1615 BEDWELL *Arab. Trudg., Moslim*, or *Musslinan*,..is one that is instructed in the beleefe of the Mohammetanes. 1788 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* lviii. VI. 48 The Moslems soon found, that..resistance was impotent. 1816 BYRON *Siege Cor.* ii, The crescent shines Along the Moslem's leaguering lines. 1836 LANE *Mod. Egypt.* I. iii. 97 The public worship of the Mooslims. 1841 — *Arab. Nts.* I. 59 The Muslim holds that he is to be admitted into heaven only by the mercy of God, on account of his faith. 1877 J. E. CARPENTER tr. *Tiele's Hist. Relig.* 99 The severe asceticism in which the Moslims were soon to rival Christians and Buddhists. 1903 G. W. FORREST *Cities of India* iii. 66 All the Muslim wants is a courtyard with a tank for ablution [etc.].

¶ The form **Moslemin** [repr. the Arab. pl. (oblique case) *muslimīn*] is sometimes used for the plural, and occasionally in error for the singular (with a pl. *moslemins*). Some writers have employed the singular form as a plural or collective.

1819 T. HOPE *Anastasius* (1820) I. i. 10 Upon this principle they cringed to the ground to every Moslemin they met. *Ibid.* ii. 41 The lion at whose roar Moslemen trembled. 1836 LYTTON *Athens* (1837) II. 147 They might have..seen that opening paradise in immortality below, which the Moslemin beheld in anticipation above. 1840 MACAULAY *Ess., Clive* (1897) 512 The recurrence of this solemn season excites the fiercest and saddest emotions in the bosoms of the devout Moslem of India. 1840 CARLYLE *Heroes* ii. 104 All Moslem are bound to study it [the Koran]. 1847 DISRAELI *Tancred* v. iv, The Ansarey..are not Moslemin. 1854 MILMAN *Lat. Chr.* IV. ii. (1864) II. 209 Jonas..led the conquering Moslemins in pursuit of the fugitives from Damascus. 1905 *Mission. Rec. United Free Ch.* Jan. 23/2 A few Muslim and Hindus..were also present.

B. *adj.* Of or pertaining to the Moslems; Mohammedan.

1777 J. RICHARDSON *Dict. Persian, Arab.*, etc., Dissert. 24/2 An open scoffer at the Moslem faith. 1788 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* lxiv. VI. 294 The most powerful of the Moslem princes. 1812 BYRON *Ch. Har.* II. lxiv, The pilgrim..gazed around on Moslem luxury. 1841 E. ROBINSON *Bibl. Res. Palestine* I. 352 The tract around this tank [the Upper Pool]..is occupied as a Muslim cemetery. 1877 A. B. EDWARDS *Up Nile* ii. 25 The mosque of Sultan Hassan,..perhaps the most beautiful in the Moslem world. 1905 *Athenæum* 7 Jan. 15/3 Whereof the Muslim writers..of course say nothing. 1907 SIR W. M. RAMSAY in *Expositor* Oct. 318 The lower town is now purely Moslem.

¶ The plural form **Moslemin** (see A) occurs appositively or as adj.

1844 DISRAELI *Coningsby* IV. x, The Moslemin Arabs.

Hence **Mosle·mic** *a.* = MOSLEM *a.*; **Mo·slemism**, the religion of the Moslems, Islam, Mohammedanism; **Mo·slemite** = MOSLEM *sb.* (in quot. used as adj.); **Mo·slemize** *v. trans.*, to convert to Moslemism, hence **Mo·slemized** *ppl. a.*

1777 J. RICHARDSON *Dict. Persian, Arab.*, etc., Dissert. 6/1 Moslemism. *a* 1835 MOTHERWELL *Poet. Wks.* (1847) 71 On thunders the might Of the Moslemite war. 1845 E. WARBURTON *Crescent & Cross* I. 310 These captives are all christians when caught, but are immediately Moslemised. 1872 T. L. CUYLER *Heart-Th.* 82 Christ is in the Missionary Church. He is not in heathenism, or in Moslemism, or in Rome. 1898 *Daily Chron.* 25 Feb. 6/3 Colonel Trotter remarked that the Moslemized towns were in advance of the pagan. 1903 *19th Cent.* Mar. 387 The countries and peoples of the Moslemic East.

Moslemah, used erron. as a pl. of MOSLEM.

1825 SCOTT *Talism.* ii, Dried hogs-flesh, the abomination of the Moslemah.

Moslings (mɒ'zliŋz), *sb. pl.* [? = **mosselings*, f. *mossel*, vulgar form of MORSEL *v.*] (See quots.)

1850 HOLTZAPFFEL *Turning*, etc. III. 1080 *Moslings*, the thin shreds or shavings of leather shaved off by the currier in dressing cow, or calf skins. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, *Moslings*, the thin shreds or scrapings of leather shaved off by the currier in dressing skins. They are used in wiping off metals while grinding and polishing.

Mosole, variant of MAUSOLE, MAUSOLEE.

1663 GERBIER *Counsel* c iij b, A glorious Mosole.

Mosolem, var. MUSELLIM (a Turkish officer).

Mosolyd, obs. form of MUZZLED.

Mosque (mɒsk). Forms: 4 **moseak, moseache**; 6 **muskey, muskaye**, 6–7 **mosquee**, 7 **moschy, -ee, -ie, -ey, muskie, mos'keh, moskuee, moski**(**e, -ee, mosquy, mozki**, 7 **mosquey**; 6–7 **moschea**, 7 **muskia**; 7 **mosquo, mosco, moscho**; 7 **moseque**, 7–8 **mosch**(**e**, 8–9 **mosk**, 6– **mosque**. [In 16th c. *mosquee* (later shortened to *mosque*), a. F. *mosquée*, a. It. *moschea* (whence G. *moschee*), a. Arab. مسجد *masgid* (so pronounced in N. Africa; elsewhere *masjid*), f. *sagada* (*sajada*) to worship.

Cf. early mod.F. *mosquete*, Sp. *mezquita*, Pg. *mesquita*, It. *meschita* (see MESQUITA¹). Eng. writers have occas. used forms directly taken from Arabic, as MASJID, MOSGEO, MUSCHIO. Some of the forms above are from Italian; the precise history of the forms in Mandeville is obscure.]

I. A Mohammedan temple or place of worship.

c 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xxv. 114 þaire tempill, þe whilk es called Moseak [ed. 1839 xxii. 232 Moseache]. 1511 *Guylforde's Pilgr.* (Camden) 50 The Sarrasyns wyll suffre no man to come into this place..bycause it is theyr muskey. 1544 in *Lett. & Pap. Hen. VIII*, XIX. II. 452 [The Turk made offers in his] muskaye. 1551 THOMAS tr. *Barbaro's Trav. Persia* (1873) 10 He..was lodged in an auncient Moschea. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* I. xii. 13 b, A very faire and sumptuous Mosquee. *Ibid.* Table 164 b, S. Sophia and other Mosques of Constantinople. 1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turks* (1638) 341 The Temple of S. Sophia..(now reduced vnto the form of a Mahometan Moschy,..) is most beautifull. 1609 W. BIDDULPH in T. Lavender *Trav.* (1612) 105 There is built in the place thereof [Temple at Jerusalem] a Muskia or Turkish Church. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* II. xxii. § 4 (1617) 249 Demolishing their Moschees. *Ibid.* III. ix. 325 Mahomet..therefore appointed publike Prayers in all the Mosques of his dominion. 1624 SIR T. ROE *Negotiations* (1740) 343 The building of so many Mabometan moschyes. 1628 ROBSON *News fr. Aleppo* 16 The Courts of their Mos'kehs or Churches. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* VI.

279 The Viccario shewed vs a little Moskee, kept by Turkes. 1648 W. Browne *Polex.* IV. II. 191 The daily denying my ransomer in the Mosquo of his adversary. *a* 1659 Osborn *Observ. Turks* Wks. (1673) 297 By which means such Baths and Moscos are erected. *a* 1668 Lassells *Voy. Italy* II. (1670) 31 The great Moski at Fez. 1673 *Lady's Call.* I. v. § 49 The present Mahometans..permit none to sit in their moschos. 1696 tr. *Du Mont's Voy. Levant* 157 Sabcta Sophia, which was formerly a Christian Church, and is now a Turkish Mosquee. 1717 Lady M. W. Montagu *Let. to Abbé Conti* 1 Apr., They..go to the mosques on Fridays and the church on Sundays. 1788 Gibbon *Decl. & F.* lxviii. VI. 509 The same model was imitated in the *jami* or royal moschs. 1828 Landor *Imag. Conv., Soliman & Mufti* Wks. (1853) I. 355/1 My commands are, .. that praises be offered up in every mosk. 1877 A. B. Edwards *Up Nile* ii. 30 A Mahommedan mosque is as much a place of refuge and rest as of prayer. 1896 H. C. Trumbull *Threshold Covenant* I. iv. 37 A Muhammadan is always careful to put his right foot first in crossing over the threshold of a mosk.

b. *The mosque*: Those who worship in mosques; the body of Mohammedans.

1779 Burke *Corr.* (1844) II. 270, I could not justify to myself to give to the synagogue, the mosque, or the pagoda, the language which your pulpits so liberally bestow upon a great part of the Christian world. 1856 R. A. Vaughan *Mystics* I. 326 Those Sufis who proclaimed the difference between the Church and the Mosque of little moment.

2. *attrib.* (or *adj.*) and *Comb.*, as *mosque-lamp, -tower, worship*; *mosque-like* adj. Also **mosque Gothic**, ? a variety of Gothic influenced by Saracenic architecture.

1753 H. Walpole *Let. to Chute* 4 Aug., The style has a propensity to the Venetian or *mosque Gothic. 1900 *Daily News* 7 Apr. 5/5 A *mosque lamp that is 14th century Arab work. 1857 S. Osborn *Quedah* xx. 274 In the centre of the town a *mosquelike building rose amongst the trees. 1892 E. Reeves *Homeward Bound* 224 At 9 p.m. a Moor ascends to the top of the *mosque tower and calls the hour of prayer. 1711 Shaftesb. *Charac.* (1737) I. 26 There is hardly now in the world so good a Christian..who, if he happen'd to live at Constantinople, or elsewhere under the protection of the Turks, wou'd think it fitting or decent to give any disturbance to their *mosque-worship.

Hence **Mosqued** *a.*, abounding in mosques; **Mo·squelet**, a little mosque; **Mo·squish** *a.*, resembling, pertaining to, characteristic of, a mosque.

1902 F. Thompson in *Academy* 12 Apr. 378/1 The mosquèd Cairene. 1888 *Cornh. Mag.* June 374 A tiny domed mosquelet in a close-set hedge of prickly pear. 1813 Forsyth *Rem. Excurs. Italy* 362 A roof hooded all over with mosquish cupolas.

Mosquet, obs. form of Musket.

Mosqueto, obs. forms of Mosquito.

Mosquettier, obs. form of Musketeer.

Mosquetto, mosquit(e, mosquita, variant forms of Mesquita, Mesquit, a mosque.

Mosquital (mǫskī·tăl), *a.* [f. Mosquit(o + -al.] Of or pertaining to a mosquito.

1890 *Century Dict.* s.v., Mosquital saliva. 1901 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 6 Apr. 842/1 In support of the 'mosquital origin of malarial fever' Dr. King [in 1883] cited numerous medical authorities.

Mosquito (mǫskī·to). Forms: 6 muskyto, mosqueta, 6–8 musketa, 7 muskeito, musceto, muscheto, muskitto, musqueeto, muskeeto, 7–8 musketoe, muscato, musket(t)o, 8 moskito, muskeitoe, mosqueto, 8–9 moschet(t)o, moschito, musqueto, musquitto, 9 musquitoe, mosquetoe, 6– muskito, 7–9 musquito, 7– mosquito. [a. Sp. and Pg. *mosquito*, dim. of *mosca* (:—L. *musca*) fly.

Cf. F. *moustique* (whence Moustick *Obs.*), a metathetic alteration of the Sp. word.]

1. A 'gnat' of several different species of the genus *Culex* (esp. *C. mosquito*) and other allied genera, the female of which has a long proboscis, by means of which it punctures the skins of animals (including man) and sucks their blood.

It is now believed that certain kinds of mosquito are the agents by which the germs of malaria are introduced into the human body.

c 1583 M. Phillips in *Hakluyt's Voy.* (1589) 568 We were also oftentimes greatly annoyed with a kinde of flie,..the Spanyards called them Musketas. 1600 O. E. *Repl. Libel* III. vii. 35 He is like a flye, or rather, because he speaketh so much for Spaniards, a Spanish mosqueta. 1623 Whitbourne *Newfoundland* 99 A very little nimble fly..which is called a Muskeito. 1625 G. Percy in Purchas *Pilgrims* IV. 1685 Their bodies are all painted red to keepe away the biting of Muscetos. 1634 W. Wood *New Eng. Prosp.* (1865) 51 The fourth is a Musketoe which is not unlike to our Gnats in England. 1655 E. Terry *Voy. E. India* 123 In the night we were..very much disquieted with another sort [of fly] called Musqueetoes. 1665 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* (1677) 121 Howheit the Muskitto or Gnats pestered us extreamly. 1672 W. Hughes *Amer. Phys.* 9 That very small black and poysonous Fly, called a Muscato. 1674 Josselyn *Voy. New Eng.* (1675) 95 The countrie is strangely incommodated with flies, which the English call Musketaes. 1702 C. Mather *Magn. Chr.* VI. i. (1852) 351 They were..grievously infested with moschetos. 1745 *Lond. Mag.* 396 Peach Trees..which are Nurseries of Muskettos and other Vermin. 1747 Franklin *Lett.* Wks. 1887 II. 98 If a musqueto.. were to light on one of them. 1796 Stedman *Surinam* II. xx. 90 We were almost devoured by the clouds of gnats or musquitoes, which arose from a neigbouring marsh. 1825 J. Neal *Bro. Jonathan* I. 217 Kept awake all the night before by the wolves or moschettoes. 1837 Landor *Pentameron* i. Wks. 1853 II. 310/2 The peopled region is peopled chiefly with monsters and moschitoes. 1858 Lytton *Alice* IV. ix, At Venice I was bit to death by musquitoes. 1902 *19th Cent.* Nov. 679 The great drawback to the far north of Sweden is the Mosquitoes.

fig. 1739 Cibber *Apol.* XVI (1740) 340 While these buzzing Muscatos have been fluttering round their Eyes and Ears. 1853 Reade *Hard Cash* I. vii. 210 When a man has a deep anxiety, some human midge or mosquito buzzes at him.

2. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *mosquito-bite, -season, -sting*; *mosquito-bred, -free* adjs.

1805 *Med. Jrnl.* XIV. 113 Small lumps resembling *mosquito bites. 1898 P. Manson *Trop. Diseases* i. 17 The *mosquito-bred plasmodial spore. 1904 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 17 Sept. 642 The measures taken at Ismailia, which have made it a *mosquito-free and malaria-free sanatorium. 1900 *Ibid.* 10 Feb. 301 In Italy the *mosquito season..extends from the first warm days of spring to the first cold days of autumn or winter. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 798 The scar of a *mosquito sting.

b. Special comb.: **mosquito-bar** *U.S.*, a kind of mosquito net; **mosquito-bee** (see quot.); † **mosquito-bier** (? mistake for *mosquito-bar*); **mosquito-blight**, a plant-bug of the East Indian genus *Helopeltis*; **mosquito brigade**, a body of persons engaged in destroying mosquitoes, with a view to the prevention of malaria; **mosquito-bush**, a West Indian shrub (see quot.); **mosquito-canopy, -curtain**, a canopy or curtain of gauze to keep off mosquitoes; **mosquito-fire**, a fire to keep away mosquitoes; **mosquito-fly, -gnat** (= sense 1); **mosquito-hawk** *U.S.*, (*a*) (see quot. 1894); (*b*) any dragon-fly which preys upon mosquitoes; **mosquito-net**, a net (of lace, gauze, etc.) to keep off mosquitoes; so **mosquito-netting**, a coarse fabric with open meshes, used for mosquito-nets.

1828 J. Hale *Lett. fr. West* 227 The *musquitoe bar..is a curtain, of the thinnest gauze, or leno, or some such slight fabric, which admits the air, and excludes the mosquitoe. 1889 Mary E. Bamford *Up & Down Brooks* 65 A section of mosquito-bar was tied over the whole. 1899 D. Sharp *Insects* II. 61 Some of these Insects [*Melipona*] are amongst the smallest of bees, so that one, or more, species go by the name of 'Mosquito-bees'. 1814 Lewis & Clarke *Exped. Missouri* (1893) III. 1082 The mosquitoes have been so troublesome that it was impossible even to write without the assistance of a *mosquito-bier. 1899 D. Sharp *Insects* II. 562 They are known as *Mosquito blight. The egg is of comparatively large size, and is placed by the bug in the stems of the tea plant. 1904 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 17 Sept. 631 The operations of the *mosquito brigade were very largely devoted to treating cesspits which were the breeding grounds of *Stegomyia*. 1750 G. Hughes *Barbadoes* 169 *Musketo-Bush. This derives its name from its either real or pretended service in driving away by its smell Musketoes from bed-chambers. 1885 *Cassell's Encycl. Dict.*, *Mosquito-canopy. 1819 Bowdich *Mission to Ashantee* II. xiii. 439 They sleep on bedsteads encircled with *musquito curtains of bamboo cloth. 1826 J. F. Cooper *Mohicans* xiv, The smoke which settles above a *mosquetoe fire. 1802 Bingley *Anim. Biog.* (1813) III. 329 The *Musqueto-fly is.. a large variety of the Common Gnat. 1828 G. W. Bridges *Ann. Jamaica* II. xiii. 130 *Culex pipiens*, the *mosquito gnat. 1782 P. H. Bruce *Mem.* 424 *Musketo hawks. 1894 Newton *Dict. Birds* 593 *Mosquito-hawk*, a name in America for the species of *Chordiles* (Nightjar). 1764 Smollett *Trav.* xxiii. (1766) I. 354 Instead of curtains, there is a.. *mosquito net, made of a kind of gauze. 1840 J. B. Fraser *Trav. Koordistan*, etc. I. viii. 221 The bed being without curtains or *mosquito netting. 1885 *Encycl. Brit.* XVIII. 829/2 A piece of..mosquito-netting made into a bag.

c. **Mosquito craft**, small light vessels adapted for rapid manœuvring. So **mosquito fleet**, a fleet of such vessels; **mosquito-built** *a.*, said of a light vessel adapted for being rapidly manœuvred.

1804 Larwood *No Gun Boats* 18 Man and victual the Musquitoe Fleet (as Wit in its wantonness has described it). 1824 W. Irving *T. Trav.* II. 242 A little rakish, musquito-built vessell, that could run into all kinds of waters. 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 15 Sept. 1/2 Have we a sufficiently numerous mosquito fleet of torpedo boats, steam launches, and picket boats?

Hence **Mosqui·toey, Mosqui·toish** *adjs.*, infested with mosquitoes.

1857 Thoreau *Maine W.* (1894) 259 The bank would often be too steep, or else too low and grassy, and therefore mosquitoey. 1880 Senior *Trav. & Trout in Antipodes* 185, I was assured it was unbearably hot, muggy, mosquitoish, rainy, and stormy at Auckland. 1888 Lees & Clutterbuck *B.C.* 1887 : *Brit. Columbia* xxxv. (1892) 382 Golden..looked ..not nearly so mosquitoey as when we last saw it.

Mosquito, variant of Mesquita, a mosque.

Mosquo, -quy, obs. forms of Mosque.

Moss (mǫs), *sb.*[1] Forms: 1, 3, 6 **mos**, 2, 6 **mose**, 4–6 **mosse**, 5 **moos**, **mosh**, 4– **moss**. [OE. *mos* neut., bog (also 12th *c. mose* moss), corresponding to MDn., MLG. *mos* bog, also moss, lichen, mildew (Du. *mos* moss), OHG., MHG. *mos* (mod.G. *moos*) bog, moss, MSw., Da. *mos*:—OTeut. **muso*^{m}; declensional variants are represented by Flemish *moze* mud, ON. *mose* wk. masc., bog, moss, Sw. *mosse* masc., bog, *mossa* fem., moss. From a different ablaut-grade of the same root (OTeut. **meus-, meuz-*) are OE. *méos* (? masc.) moss (see Mese *sb.*[1]), OHG. *mios* masc., moss (mod.G. *mies* masc., neut., moss, lichen; in some dialects bog), ON. *mýr-r* Mire *sb.*[1] Cognates outside Teut. (f. Indogermanic **mus-*) are L. *muscus* moss, OSl. *michŭ* moss, ? Lith. *musai* scum on sour milk. The Fr. *mousse* fem. (Pr. *mossa*), moss, is prob. of Teut. origin.

All branches of Teut. exc. Gothic have the word or its cognates in both the senses 'bog' and 'moss' (the plant). As moss is the characteristic plant of bogs, there is no reason for doubting the identity of the word in the two senses. Which is the prior sense is doubtful; the fact that the cognates outside Teut. have the sense 'moss' only is not decisive. The sense 'bog' is the only one known in OE.; but the use as the name of the plant (called in OE. *méos*) presumably existed in OE., as a late adoption from continental Teut. would be very improbable. The 12th c. northern form *mose* (sense 3, quot. *c* 1150) is perh. adopted from ON.; it cannot be the ancestor of the mod. form with unvoiced (s).]

I. **1.** A bog, swamp, or morass; a peat-bog. (Chiefly *Sc.* and *north. dial.*)

975 *Grant* in Birch *Cartul. Sax.* III. 646 Of þære dic in þæt micle mos; of þæm mose in þæt sic. *c* 1260 [cf. Peat-moss 1]. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* VIII. 167 Apon athir syde Wes a gret moss, mekill & braid. ? *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 2014 The mosse and the marrasse. 1485 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 382/1 Oure Mosse of Penwortham, otherwise called tbere the Kings Mosse, in oure Countie of Lancastre. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* E iv b, In moore or in moos he hidyth hem fast. 1535 Coverdale *Jer.* xiv. 6 The wilde Asses shall stonde in the Mosse. 1535 Stewart *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) I. 19 The mos, the mure, the craigis, and the clewis. 1573 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xxxix. 347 He raid throw montanes many, mose, and myre. *a* 1706 Evelyn *Sylva* I. xviii. (1776) 228 In many of the mosses of the West-Riding of Yorkshire are often dug up Birch-trees that burn and flame like Fir. 1790 Burns *Tam o' Shanter* 7 We think na on the lang Scots miles, The mosses, waters, slaps, and styles. 1810 Scott *Lady of L.* I. v, With anxious eye he wandered o'er Mountain and meadow, moss and moor. 1813 Bakewell *Introd. Geol.* (1815) 259 The great moss of Cree in Galloway lies close upon the sea, on a bed of clay. 1880 Haughton *Phys. Geog.* v. 221 The White Nile takes its origin in a gigantic boggy plain or moss.

b. Wet spongy soil; bog.

1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 9 Scharpe and hard hillis full of mosse, more and marrase. 1769 *De Foe's Tour Gt. Brit.* (ed. 7) III. 332 A Tract of Ground full of Holes, filled with a boggy Substance, which in this Country is called Moss. 1773 *Gentl. Mag.* XLIII. 265 The Solway-flow contains 1300 acres of very deep and tender moss. 1887 Stevenson *Merry Men* i, The road .. went over rough boulders, so that a man had to leap from one to another, and through soft bottoms where the moss came nearly to the knee.

2. *Border dial.* [Short for *moss-crop*: see 6 b.] Cotton-grass, *Eriophorum vaginatum*.

1798 R. Douglas *Agric. Surv. Roxb.* 108 Early in spring, sheep, in marshy districts, feed much upon the *Eriophorum vaginatum*, called by the farmers and their shepherds *moss*. 1893 *Northumbld. Gloss.*, *Moss*, the first shoots and the flower stalks of the cotton grass, *Eriophorum vaginatum*.

II. **3.** Any of the small herbaceous cryptogamous plants constituting the class *Musci*, some of which form the characteristic vegetation of bogs, while others grow in crowded masses covering the surface of the ground, or of stones, trees, etc. In popular language, the term is often extended to small cryptogams of other orders, esp. lichens and lycopods, and occas. to small phanerogams resembling mosses in appearance and habit.

a. *collect.* Plants of this kind massed together.

Formerly often referred to as a material for filling the chinks between roofing slabs or slates, or for stopping crevices in mill-dams; also as bedding for cattle.

? *c* 1150 *Durham Gloss.*, *Muscus*, mose. 1324–5 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 15 Mulieribus colligentibus mosse pro eodem [stagno]. 1355–6 *Ibid.* 557 Cum colleccione Bruerae et Mos pro eodem [molendino]. ? 1370 *Robt. Cicyle* 59 Fyftene yere he levyd thare, Wyth rotys, and grasse, and evylle fare, And alle of mosse hys clothyng was. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xv. 282 Poule *primus heremita* had parroked hym-selue, þat no man mi3te hym se for mosse and for leues. *c* 1400 Maundev. (1839) xxx. 304 The Walles ben covered alle over with Mosse. 1447 Bokenham *Seyntys* (Roxb.) 51 A sparow fedyng hyr bryddes she seye In a nest made of mosh & cleye. 1485 Caxton *St. Wenefr.* 5 The mosse that groweth vpon the sayde stones smellyth lyke encense. 1502 *Mem. Ripon* (Surtees) III. 267 Rogero Sclayter, 6*d.*, tegenti super cameram..Sclaytston, 4*d.*, ad idem opus, ac del mosse, 1*d.*, pro dicto opere. 1523 Fitzherb. *Husb.* § 132 Croppe them [*sc.* the trees] in wynter that thy beestes maye eate..the mosse of the bowes. 1573–4 *Rewley Accts.* (Feuillerat) 193 Torchebearers vj attyred in Mosse & Ivye. 1588 Shaks. *Tit. A.* II. iii. 95 The Trees .. Ore-come with Mosse, and balefull Misselto. 1626 Bacon *Sylva* § 340 Mosse is a Kinde of Mould, of the Earth, and Trees. But it may be better sorted as a Rudiment of Germination. 1657 W. Coles *Adam in Eden* xv. 31 The last [sort] which is the Mosse of a dead Mans Skull is oftner brought out of Ireland, then found with Us. 1712 Steele *Spect.* No. 514 P 2, I saw three figures seated on a bank of moss. 1727–41 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v., There is also a kind of greenish moss growing on human skulls that have been long exposed to the air, called *usnea humana*, or *muscus calvarius*. The antients made a deal of use of it as an astringent, &c. 1765 A. Dickson *Treat. Agric.* IV. vi. (ed. 2) 483 Moss is commonly ranked in the class of vegetables. 1784 Cowper *Task* I. 270 Hence, ancle-deep in moss and flow'ry thyme, We mount again. 1809 *Med. Jrnl.* XXI. 398, I packed it carefully in fresh moss. *c* 1830 Mrs. Sherwood in *Houlston Tracts* III. lxi. 8 Is it not a deal, a great deal to me, to see the one whom I love best in all the world wearing away like moss under a dripping rock, from trouble and from weariness. 1864 Skeat *Uhland's Poems* 312 On couch of moss sat Merlin.

fig. 1559 *Mirr. Mag., Dk. Suffolk* xx, Affirming me to have brought the realme to mosse. 1679 C. Nesse *Antichrist* Ded., Nobility .. is but the moss of time. 1680 H. More *Apocal. Apoc.* 353 The rest being no part of that ..Christianity, but at best mere moss and filth added to it.

b. Proverb. *A rolling stone gathers no moss*: used to imply that a man who restlessly roams

from place to place, or constantly changes his employment will never grow rich. Hence, in *slang* or allusive use, *moss* occas. = money.

[Cf. Cotgrave s.v. *Mousse, Jamais tu ne cueilleras mousse*, Thou wilt neuer grow rich; from the Pronerbe; *Pierre qui se remue n'accueille point de mousse*; Pro. The rolling stone gathers no Mosse.]

[1362, *c* 1460: cf. Moss *v.* 1 a.] *a* 1541 WYATT *How to use the Court* 4 On the stone that styll doth turne about, There groweth no mosse. These prouerbes yet do last. 1546 J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* (1867) 26 The rollyng stone neuer gatherth mosse. 1548 BRADFORD *Let.* in Foxe *A. & M.* (1583) 1662/2 A tumblyng stone gathereth no mosse. 1621 SANDERSON *Serm.* I. 212 Some men are ever restless, .. every new crotchet putteth them into a new course. But thes rowling stones carry their curse with them; they seldom gather moss. *a* 1635 NAUNTON *Fragm. Reg.* (Arb.) 48 He [Rawleigh] foresaw his own destiny; that he was first to roul ..before he could come to a repose, and as the stone doth by long lying gather moss.

c. With *a* and *pl.*: A species or kind of moss.

1562 TURNER *Herbal* II. 36 Lichen .. cleueth vnto watery stones, or such as at the leste are somtyme sprynkled wyth water as a mosse. 1691 RAY *Creation* I. (1692) 100 Such Mosses as grow upon Walls, the Roofs of Houses [etc.]. 1785 MARTYN *Rousseau's Bot.* xxxii. (1794) 491 The Mosses, have leaves like the more perfect vegetables, distinct from the stalk. 1814 SCOTT *Ld. of Isles* III. xiv, On high Benmore green mosses grow. 1849 LYELL *2nd Visit U. S.* (1850) II. xxxii. 215, I saw, on the damp ground beneath the trees, abundance of mosses, with scarcely a blade of grass. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* s.v. *Mosses*, Small species of *Sedum*..are sometimes termed Mosses—of course merely on accounnt of their habit. 1882 VINES tr. *Sachs' Bot.* 903 Such as the Ferns, Equisetaceæ, the Mosses, and others.

d. Applied to sea-weed. *rare.*

1543 TRAHERON *Vigo's Chirurg.* (1586) 436 Coraline, corolina, is thought to be Brion, which is mosse growing to stones in the sea. 1601 CHESTER *Love's Mart.* (1878) 82 Mosse of the Sea, and yellow Succorie. 1830 TENNYSON *Mermaid* 49 In the hneless mosses under the sea. 1895 MAR. L. POOL *Boss* in *Chapbook* III. 478 Granny often wheeled her to the breakwater where she could see the moss gathered. *Ibid.*, The water had gone far out so that one could get to one of the ledges where the moss grew.

4. With defining word.

American moss, the dried stems of Florida moss, which are used in upholstery; **animal moss** = *moss-animal*; **black moss** = *Florida moss*; **Canary moss**, *Parmelia perlata*, a lichen used for dyeing (*Treas. Bot.* 1866); **Ceylon moss**, the common name for *Plocaria candida*, which is imported from Ceylon with some other species (*Treas. Bot.*); see also quot. 1889; † **chin-cough moss**, ? = *chalice-moss* (CHALICE 4); **club-foot moss** = CLUB-MOSS (*Cent. Dict.* 1890); **Corsican moss** (see quot. 1866); **film moss**, *Hymenostomum* (Treas. Bot.); **Florida moss**, *Tillandsia usneoides*; **flowering moss** *U.S.*, (*a*) the creeping evergreen plant, *Pyxidanthera barbulata*; (*b*) = *moss-pink* (see 7 d); (*c*) *Sedum pulchellum* (Britton & Brown *Flora* 1896–8); † **hairy moss**, ? = *hair moss* (HAIR *sb.* 10); † **head moss** (see quot. 1688); **heath-moss** (see quot. 1753); **idle-moss** (see quot. 1866); **Jaffna moss**, *Alectoria sarmentosa*, a dye lichen collected in Ceylon (*Treas. Bot.* 1866); see also quot. 1889; **snake moss**, *Lycopodium clavatum* (Treas. Bot., Suppl. 1874); **velvet moss**, *Gyrophora murina* (Ibid.); **white moss**, a name for various lichens. Also BEARD-*moss*, BOG-*moss*, CARRAGEEN *moss*, CHALICE *moss*, CLUB-MOSS, HORNED *moss*, ICELAND MOSS, LONG-*moss*, etc., q.v. as main words or under their first element.

1597 Hairy moss [see GOLDEN *a.* 10 b]. 1610 Chin-cough moss [see *Chalice-moss*, CHALICE 4]. 1653 WALTON *Angler* iv. 96 White Moss, which grows on some heaths, and is hard to be found. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp., Heath-moss, Coralloides*, in botany, the name of a genus of the mosses. *Ibid.* s.v. *Heath-moss*, Of the Cup-mosses, with less perfect cups, the following are the known species: 1. The skewer *Coralloides*. .. It is commonly called *horned Moss*. 1796 W. MARSHALL *W. England* I. 222 During the winter months, a West Devonshire Orchard.., appears as if hung with hoar frost; owing to the *white moss* which hangs in ribbons from its boughs. 1857 GRAY *First Lessons Bot.* (1866) 34 We have two or three flowering air-plants in the Southern States,..one of them is..the Long-Moss, or Black Moss, so called. 1866 *Treas. Bot.*, *Moss, Corsican*, a supposed vermifuge, once in some repute, but now almost exploded. If genuine, it should consist of *Gracilaria Helminthochorton*, one of the rose-spored *Algæ*, but for this the common *Laurencia obtusa* is frequently substituted. *Ibid.*, *Moss, idle*, an old name for various tree lichens, especially those which are pendulous. 1882 J. SMITH *Dict. Econ. Plants* 277 American or New Orleans Moss. 1884 *Cassell's Fam. Mag.* Apr. 316/2 A new material for paper..is the white moss which grows so largely in Norway and Sweden. 1888 Florida moss [see *moss-head* in 7 d below]. 1889 G. S. BOULGER *Uses of Plants* 50 Ceylon Moss, Jaffna Moss.. (*Sphærococcus lichenioides*, Agardh) another of the Floridæ from..Ceylon, Burma, etc...now used as a demulcent food jelly for invalids. 1890 *Century Dict.*, Animal moss.

5. *transf.* a. An excrescence or incrustation resembling moss; esp. the mossy covering of the stalk and calyx of the moss rose.

1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 278 The Hedg-hog..is.. beset .. with sharpe thorney haires,.. and those sharpe prickles are couered with a kind of soft mosse. 1837 T. RIVERS *Rose Amateur's Guide* 6 The Double Moss Rose.. covered with that glandular excrescence which we term moss. 1864 LOWELL *Fireside Trav.* 10 Coals, over which a gray, soft moss of ashes grew.

b. *Confectionery.* (See quots.) ? *Obs.*

1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Moss*, .. Also a kind of fine Sugar-Work, made by Confectioners, in Imitation of Moss. 1727 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Confectioner*, Pastils and Mosses which are sugar works that may be made in the season. 1841 *Guide to Trade, Baker* 64 [Cakes] *Moss.*— Rub a little rout cake paste through a fine sieve, and it will look like moss. Gently squeeze a little together, about the size of half-a-crown, and bake them.

c. *slang.* (See quot.)

1796 *Grose's Dict. Vulgar T.* (ed. 3), *Moss*, a cant term for lead, because both are found on the tops of buildings.

III. Combinations.

6. In sense 1.

a. General comb., as *moss-bank, -bound* adj., *-cart, -field, -fog* (FOG *sb.*[1] 2), *-ground, -hole, -pit, -pot* (= hole), *-sod, -traversing* adj., *-work*.

1799 J. ROBERTSON *Agric. Perth* 494 He then digs a new drain at the foot of the *moss-bank. 1840 J. BUEL *Farmer's Comp.* 206 If the land is poor, or *moss-bound. 1834 *Brit. Husb.* I. 165 A peculiar sort of cart..called a *moss-cart, which appears to be admirably adapted to the application of marl..to the surface of peaty soils. 1527 in *Lanc. Wills* (Chetham Soc.) I. 25, I will that the seid John have..the *mosse fylds..in the severall holldings of the seid John Dutton [and others]. 1831 W. PATRICK *Pop. Descr. Plants Lanarksh.* Pref. 20 Tracts of land,..yielding chiefly Heather .. and *Moss-fogs, such as Sphagnums, Brynms, Polytrichums. 1584 COGAN *Haven Health* (1636) 258 In Lankashire, in their *mosse grounds where they dig their turves, there is great store of it. 1746 *Compl. Farmer* s.v. *Watering Flax*, *Moss-holes..frequently answer well for watering the flax. *c* 1510 *Reg. Burrough* lf. v. b (P. R. O.), Hey hille lyes betwix the scharthe Hylle and *Mosse pyttes. 1845 JANE ROBINSON *Whitehall* xl. II. 191 What hath any of us done, that grace should come and lug us out of the *moss-pot into which we have strayed of our own folly? 1844 STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* III. 1038, I cover with *moss-sods (from the turf-banks) laid perfectly close, the shear of each fitted to the other. 1785 BURNS *Address to Deil* 73 And aft your *moss-traversin Spunkies Decoy the wight that late an' drunk is. 1799 J. ROBERTSON *Agric. Perth* 509 Though *moss-work be laborious.

b. In names of plants growing in bogs: as **moss-berry**, the cranberry, *Vaccinium Oxycoccos*; **moss-corn**, the silverweed, *Potentilla anserina*; **moss-crop**, (*a*) applied to various species of cotton-grass, esp. *Eriophorum vaginatum* and *E. polystachion*; (*b*) see *moss-corn* above; (*c*) the tufted club-rush, *Scirpus cæspitosus*; **moss-rush**, goose-corn, *Juncus squarrosus*; **moss-whin**, *Genista anglica*; **moss-willow**, ? *Salix fusca*.

1732 J. MARTYN *Tournefort's Hist. Plants* II. 153 Oxycoccus. .. Cran-berries, .. *Moss-berries, or Moor-berries. 1868 *Rep. U. S. Commissioner Agric.* (1869) 178 Among them [*sc.* small fruits] may be noted .. mossberries [etc.]. 1818 HOGG *Brownie of B.* etc. II. 269 He [*sc.* a boar] found nothing to eat, save one or two *moss-corns [etc.]. *c* 1475 *Cath. Angl.* 244/2 (Addit. MS.) A *Mosse croppe. 1696 PLUKENET *Opera Bot.* (1769) II. 201 Juncus Alpinus cum caudâ Leporina...*Moss-Crops* Vestmorlandicis dicitur. 1808–18 JAMIESON, *Moss-corns*, Silver-weed,..also called *Moss-crops*, and *Moor-grass*. 1815 *Pennecuik's Descr. Tweed.* 53 *note*, Their [*sc.* sheep's] earliest spring food is a plant bearing a white cotton head, vulgarly designed *Moss-crop*. 1879 J. LUCAS in *Zoologist* Sept. 356 Sheep feed greedily on the flowers of the moor-silk (cotton-grass), or, as it is termed in the dale [Nidderdale] 'Mosscrops and cnttbroats'. 1762 W. HUDSON *Flora Angl.* 130 *Juncus culmo nudo*,..*Moss-rush or Goose-corn. 1863 PRIOR *Plant-n.* 154 *Moor-whin*, or *Moss-whin*, a whin that grows on bleak heaths and mosses. *Genista anglica*, L. *a* 1869 C. SPENCE *Fr. Braes of Carse* (1898) 60 Lichen, and liver grass, And the *moss willow Curtain the narrow pass.

c. Special comb.: **moss-cheeper**, (*a*) the meadow pipit, *Anthus pratensis*; (*b*) *white winged moss-cheeper*, the reed-bunting, *Emberiza schœniclus*; **moss-earth**, earth composed of, or largely mixed with, peat; **moss-flow**, a semi-fluid part of a bog or morass; **moss-oak**, oak-wood preserved in a black state in peat-bogs, etc., bog-oak; also, a seat made out of bog-oak; **moss-reeve**, 'a bailiff or reeve appointed to regulate claims for land on the mosses' (*Cheshire Gloss.* 1886); **moss-tenant**, the tenant of a moorland farm; **moss-wood**, the wood of trees found buried in peat-bogs. Also MOSS-HAG, MOSS-TROOPER.

1684 SIBBALD *Scotia Illustrata* II. II. 22 *Titlinga*, Titling, or *Moss-cheeper. 1901 *Shooting Times* 22 June 21/2 The reed bunting is almost entirely known in the North of Ireland as the 'white winged moss-cheeper'. 1805 W. AITON (*title*) A Treatise on the origin, qualities, and cultivation of *Moss-earth. 1816 SCOTT *Old Mort.* viii, The hundreds forced from their ain habitations to the deserts, mountains, muirs, mosses, *moss-flows, and peat-hags. 1785 BURNS *Halloween* xxiii, He taks a swirlie, auld *moss-oak, For some black, grousome Carlin. 1824 MACTAGGART *Gallovid. Encycl.* (1876) 23 He claps his auld bum down on the mossaik by the cheek o' the chanmer door. 1552 in Picton *L'pool Munic. Rec.* (1883) I. 59 *Moss Reeves Thos Eyre Jno Sudley. 1799 J. ROBERTSON *Agric. Perth* 496 The obloquy of becoming a *moss-tenant gradually became less regarded. 1686 PLOT *Staffordsh.* 217 This *moss-wood (as some call it) grew not far from where found.

7. In sense 3.

a. simple attrib., as *moss-bank, -bed, -root*.

1742 COLLINS *Oriental Ecl.* III. 18 The violet-blue, that on the moss-bank grows. 1830 TENNYSON *Merman* 39 Soft are the moss-beds under the sea. 1883 G. MEREDITH *Poems & Lyrics* 131 Rich with life as moss-roots breathe of earth In the first plucking of them.

b. instrumental, as *moss-*† *begrown, -bordered, -clad, -covered, crowned, -inwoven, -lain, -lined,* † *-thrummed, woven*.

c 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xxxiii. 150 It es all *mosse begrowen and couerd so with mosse and with bruschez. 1668 H. MORE *Div. Dial.* v. xxxiii. (1713) 507 *Philoth*... It was not still to have ly'n unpolished or Moss-begrown. 1849 M. ARNOLD *New Sirens* xxx, By *moss-border'd statues sitting. 1747 LD. LYTTELTON *Mem. Lady* 90 Or under Campden's *moss-clad mountains hoar. 1792 MARY WOLLSTONECR. *Rights Wom.* v. 253 *Moss-covered opinions.. indolently adopted only because age has given them a venerable aspect. 1742 COLLINS *Oriental Ecl.* ii. 24 Here, where no springs in murmurs break away, Or *moss-crown'd fountains mitigate the day. 1818 SHELLEY *Marenghi* xiv, And hillocks heaped of *moss-inwoven turf. 1819 KEATS *Ode to Psyche* 57 There by zephyrs, streams, and birds, and bees, The *moss-lain Dryads shall be lulled to sleep. 1727–46 THOMSON *Summer* 625 An ample chair, *moss-lined and overhead, By flowering umbrage shaded. 1613–16 W. BROWNE *Brit. Past.* II. i, Each *mosse-thrumb'd mountaine bends. 1779 MASON *Eng. Gard.* III. 205 Their *moss-woven nest.

c. similative, as *moss-green, -like*.

1884 *West. Daily Press* 29 May 3/7 The rest of the trimmings are in *moss green. 1648 HERRICK *Hesper., Oberon's Palace* 42 *Mosse-like silk. 1881 TYNDALL *Floating Matter of Air* 161 Patches of moss-like matter would appear here and there in the field of the microscope.

d. Special comb.: **moss-agate**, a popular name for a variety of agate containing brown or black moss-like dendritic forms; **moss-animal, -animalcule**, a bryozoon or polyzoon (see BRYOZOA and POLYZOA); **moss-basket** (see quot.); **moss-bass**, 'the large-mouthed black-bass, *Micropterus salmoides*' (*Cent. Dict.* 1890); **moss-bee** = *moss-carder bee* (see below); **moss-box** *Coal-mining*, a stuffing-box filled with moss, used in Kind and Chaudron's method of sinking shafts through water-bearing strata; **moss campion**, a dwarf, perennial, tufted moss-like plant (*Silene acaulis*) with purple flowers, growing in northern latitudes; **moss-carder**, also **moss-carder bee**, *Bombus muscorum*, a variety of humble-bee; **moss-copper** (see quot.); **moss-coral** = *moss-animalcule* (see above); **moss-fibre** *Anat.* (see quot. 1906); **moss-gold**, a fungus, *Clavaria muscoides*; † **moss hair**, hair resembling moss, 'woolly' hair; **moss-head**, a name given by the negroes of Charleston, South Carolina, to the hooded merganser, *Mergus cucullatus*; **moss-house**, a garden shelter lined or covered with moss; **moss-locust**, an American name for the rose acacia, *Robinia hispida*; **moss pink**, a species of phlox (*Phlox subulata*), with dark purple flowers, growing on rocky hills and sandy soils in the central United States; **moss-polyp** = *moss-animalcule* (see above); **moss-rake**, a kind of rake used in gathering Irish moss; **moss-seat**, a mossy seat; also, a seat artificially mossed; **moss-starch** = LICHININ; † **moss-work**, (*a*) decoration resembling moss; (*b*) moss arranged so as to form a covering. See also MOSS-BACK, MOSS-ROSE.

1845 J. C. ATKINSON in *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* II. No. 13. 132 Chert, hornstone, and *moss agate, may be found. 1881 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* V. 269 The Bryozoa, or *Moss-animals. 1890 *Century Dict.*, **Moss-animalcule*. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, **Moss-basket*, a fancy basket for a room, conservatory, &c., covered with moss. 1863 *Chamb. Encycl.* V. 434/1 One of the most abundant [species of the humble-bee] is the yellow and orange **Moss-bee* (*Bombus muscorum*), the *Foggie* of the Scotch. 1877 H. BAUERMAN in *Encycl. Brit.* VI. 63/1 *Moss-box. 1791 CHARLOTTE SMITH *Celestina* IV. 191 Lichen and *moss campion. 1853 *Zoologist* XI. 4097 A *moss-carders' nest. 1861 PERCY *Metallurgy, Fuel*, etc. 359 **Moss-copper*. In copper-works this term is commonly used to designate those accumulations of filamentous, or moss-like copper, which are formed in cavities in pigs of certain kinds of regulus. 1906 CUNNINGHAM *Text-bk. Anat.* (ed. 2) 514 The fibres which end in the granular layer are called **moss-fibres*..because..they present at certain points moss-like thickenings. 1887 HAY *Brit. Fungi* 117 *Clavaria muscoides*, the *Moss-gold. 1689 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2433/4 Run away .., a Negro Man of a Tawny Complexion, with *Mosse Hair. 1888 G. TRUMBULL *Bird Names* 75 The colored women often use a large bunch of 'Florida moss', *Tillandsia usneoides*, as a cushion for the heavy loads they carry on their heads, and I am inclined to believe that '*Moss-head' was suggested by this practice, rather than by any resemblance to moss in the bird's crest. ? 1793 COWPER (*title*) Inscription for a *Moss-house in the Shrubbery at Weston. 1824 LOUDON *Encycl. Gard.* (ed. 2) § 1816 Roofed seats, boat-houses, moss houses [etc.], are different modes of forming resting-places containing seats. 1890 *Century Dict.*, **Moss-locust*. 1856 GRAY *Man. Bot.* (1860) 332 *Phlox subulata* (Ground or *Moss Pink). 1879 tr. *Haeckel's Evol. Man.* II. 369 The *moss-polyps (*Bryozoa*). 1883 *Fisheries Exhib. Catal.* 195 Sponge-hook, *moss-rakes. 1806 J. BLACK *Falls of Clyde* III. i. 139 Upon a *moss-seat Jamie sits alone, In pensive guise. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xxxiii, A grotto, ornamented with rustic work and moss-seats. 1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 181 The compassed roofe adorned with *mos-worke and Mosaique guilding. 1648 HERRICK *Hesper., To Robin Red-brest*, Laid out for dead, let thy last kindnesse be With leaves and mosse-work for to cover me.

† **Moss**, *sb.*[2] *Obs.* [? A use of prec.; ? or repr. some eastern word.] A 'head' of raw silk.

1753 HANWAY *Trav.* II. I. v. 18 The moss, or head of silk, often appears fair to the eye, when much coarseness is concealed under it. *Ibid.*, A moss, which is about 60 inches in the round, can be most conveniently reeled off. *Ibid.*, They generally comb the heads of the mosses to deceive the buyer.

Moss, *sb.*[3] Short for MOSS ROSE.

1837 T. RIVERS *Rose Amateur's Guide* 8 The Perpetual White Moss is a Damask Rose. *Ibid.* 9 The New Striped Moss has not yet bloomed here. 1869 S. R. HOLE *Bk. about Roses* 103 He admires the..Mosses, Chinas and Bourbons.

Moss (mɒs), *v.* Forms: 4–5 mose, 6–8 mos, 7– moss. [f. Moss *sb.*[1]]

†**1.** *intr.* To become mossy (in various senses).

1362 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. x. 101 Selden Moseþ þe Marbelston þat men ofte treden. *c* 1460 in *Q. Eliz. Acad.* (1869) 39 Syldon mossyth the stone þat oftyn ys tornnyd & wende. 1654 Gayton *Pleas. Notes* II. iii. 42 Sancbo's face moss'd, and his chinne had a down sprung out.

2. To gather or collect moss.

1700, etc. [implied in Mossing *vbl. sb.*]. 1895 Mar. L. Pool *Boss* in *Chapbk.* III. 480 I've moss'd twenty year, 'n' I never slipped to speak of before.

3. *trans.* †**a.** To cover with moss. *Obs.*

c 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* III. 365 Do cley vppon and mose hit al aboute. *Ibid.* 419 Bende as a bowe or vynes that men pleche, And cleme hit, mose it, bynd hit soft abowte.

b. To cover with a growth of moss.

1600 Shaks. *A. Y. L.* IV. iii. 105 Vnder an old Oake, whose bows were moss'd with age. 1797 W. Nicol *Sc. Forcing Gardener* 175 Washing the branches and stem of trees, which are anywise mossed, with soapsuds and sulphur. 1836 Mrs. Browning *Poet's Vow* v. x, When years had mossed the stone. 1862 *Macm. Mag.* Sept. 426 How was it [the island] lichened and mossed, ferned and heathered.

fig. 1660 Waterhouse *Arms & Arm.* 3 But when they are sober, learned, and usefull, to let them be Mossed over with the scurfe of neglect. 1839 Bailey *Festus* xxix. (1852) 477 The world shall rest, and moss itself with peace.

†**c.** To roof with moss (*i.e.* to put moss between or under the slates or tiles). *Obs.*

1591 *Churchw. Acc. Minchinhampton* in *Archæologia* (1853) XXXV. 436 To William Webbe, the tyler, upon a bargin for mosing and tiling and pynting of the church house and pentises, vij s. 1657 *Churchw. Acc. Prestwich* in *Ch. Times* 24 Mar. (1905) 395 Pd. to George Milln's son ffor mossinge the church 01. 06. 08. 1722 *Churchw. Acc. Finghall* (MS.), Pd. for liming & mossing ye Ch'ch, 10*s.* 6*d.*

d. To cover the trunks of (cinchona trees) with moss to increase the yield of alkaloid.

1853–4 W. G. McIvor *Extract fr. Rep. Govt. Chinchona Plantations* § 35 With the permission of Government I will at once moss from 7,000 to 10,000 of our largest plants. 1876 *Encycl. Brit.* V. 781/2.

†**4.** To remove moss from (trees, etc.). *Obs.*

1677 *Dade's Prognostication* A vij, May... Weed your Hop-Gardens, and take away superfluous Branches, and Moss your Gardens. 1707 Mortimer *Husb.* (1721) II. 78 If the Moss is much and long..it may..do well to prune off the greatest part of the Branches, and to Moss the rest.

5. *intr.* To work in a peat-bog; to cut and prepare peats. 1866 W. Gregor *Dial. Banffsh.* 115.

Mossalagee, obs. f. Mussalchee.

Mo·ss-back. *U.S.* Also **mossy-.** [f. Moss *sb.*[1] + Back *sb.*; ? orig. a perversion of *mossbunker.*]

1. a. A name for the menhaden or mossbunker.

b. 'A large and old fish, as a bass: so called by anglers, in allusion to the growth of seaweed, etc., which may be found on its back' (*Cent. Dict.* 1890).

1872 Schele de Vere *Americanisms* 87 In the State of New York the same fish [Menhaden] appear under the name of Mossy Back or Mossbunkers.

2. *slang.* **a.** During the civil war in the United States, one who hid himself to avoid the conscription for the Southern army.

1872 Schele de Vere *Americanisms* 283 The Mossy-back...was the man of the South, who secreted himself in a remote forest, or an inaccessible swamp, in order to escape conscription. His name was derived from the quaint fancy that he was determined to keep in hiding till 'the moss should grow on his back'. 1890 *Century Dict., Moss-back.*

b. One 'behind the times'; one attached to antiquated notions; an extreme conservative. Often applied to the farmers of the Western States.

1885 *Boston* (Mass.) *Jrnl.* 5 Mar. 2/3 Everbody rejoices over the passage of the bill...We say everybody—we except a few intense mossbacks, who were known during the war as copperheads. 1891 C. Roberts *Adrift Amer.* App. 249 He was followed to the very verge of the wood, and then the exhausted 'mossback' left him to return to the house.

attrib. 1885 *N. Y. Sch. Jrnl.* XXXI. 245 You visit a poor drunkard's wife, and in comes the husband, peremptorily ordering you out of door, quoting the moss-back maxim as his authority.

So **Moss-backed, Mossy-backed** *adjs.*

1893 *Outing* (U. S.) XXII. 121/2 Earth-worms, fresh from the garden, will lure many a mossy-backed hermit from his lair. 1900 *Speaker* 17 Mar. 644/1 A few malcontents and mossbacked mugwumps.

Mossbunker (mɒ·sbʊŋkəɹ). Forms: 8 **mosbanker,** 8–9 **mossbonker, 9 mossbanker;** 9 (in Du. form) **marshbanker;** (in mod. Dicts. **massbanker, marshbunker, morsebonker, morsbunker, mousebunker**); 9– **mossbunker.** [a. Du. *marsbanker* (formerly also *masbank*), of obscure etymology.] The menhaden.

1792 [see Menhaden]. 1796 Morse *Amer. Geog.* I. 222 Mossbonker. 1809 W. Irving *Knickerb.* (1861) 264 A huge moss-bonker. 1868 W. Whitman *Poems, Salut au monde* 145, I see ten fishermen waiting—they discover now a thick school of mossbonkers—they drop the joined sein-ends in the water. 1880 Günther *Fishes* 659 The 'Mossbanker', common on the Atlantic coasts of the United States. 1884 Goode, etc. *Nat. Hist. Aquatic Anim.* I. 569 This name [Mossbunker]..[bas] evidently been transferred from the 'Scad', or 'Horse Mackerel'..known to the Hollanders as the 'Marshbanker' [1888 — *Amer. Fishes* 386 'Marsbanker']. New Jersey uses the New York name with its local variations, such as 'Bunker' and 'Marshbanker'.

attrib. 1881 *N. Y. Times* in Goode *Amer. Fishes* (1888) 112 These smacks are engaged in the menhaden or 'mossbunker' fishery.

Mosschette, obs. variant of Matchet.

1827 Roberts *Voy. Centr. Amer.* 36 We gave them Mosschettes (or G. R. Cutlass-blades) and a variety of toys.

‖ **Mosse.** *Obs.* [G. *mass* measure.] (See quot.)

1617 Moryson *Itin.* III. 235 Two small fennings for each Mosse or measure of wine.

Mosse, obs. form of Morse *sb.*[2]

Mossed (mɒst), *ppl. a.* [f. Moss *sb.*[1] + -ed[2].] Covered over, or overgrown, with moss.

1744 Hanmer *Shaks. Timon* IV. iii. 223 Those moss'd [1623 moyst] trees. 1830 Tennyson *Claribel* ii, At noon the wild bee hummeth About the moss'd headstone. 1876 Mrs. Oliphant *Curate in Charge* (ed. 5) I. x. 240 Wild old gardens and mossed apple-trees.

Mossel(e, -ll(e, obs. ff. Morsel, Muzzle.

Mosser (mɒ·səɹ). [f. Moss *sb.*[1] or *v.* + -er[1].]

†**1.** One who 'mosses' or roofs with moss.

1708 *Baslow Parish Reg.* 21 July in *Sheffield Gloss.* 322 [Buried,] Edmundus Litlewood de Totley, Moser.

2. A moss-trooper.

1854 Denham *Tracts* (1892) 176 These gentry were also called prickers, riders,..bogtrotters, mossers, snatchers.

3. One who works in a 'moss' or bog; one who is engaged in cutting and preparing peats.

1866 W. Gregor *Dial. Banffsh.* 115. 1880 in Jamieson.

4. A collector or gatherer of moss.

1880 P. Furnivall *Let.* (*MS.*) 5 Sept. 1895 Mar. L. Pool *Boss* in *Chapbk.* III. 478 Granny had no boat as most of the mossers had.

Mo·ssery. A place where mosses are grown.

1895 *Scotsman* 25 Oct. 6/6 Visiting the Botanic Gardens in Glasgow the other day, I observed in the 'mossery'..a peculiar-looking selaginella.

Mossful (mɒ·sfúl), *a.* [f. Moss *sb.*[1] + -ful.] Full of, or covered with, moss.

1862 Chr. G. Rossetti *Goblin Market,* etc. (1884) 185 Primrose and veined violet In the mossful earth are set.

Mo·ss-grown, *a.* [f. Moss *sb.*[1] + Grown.] Overgrown with moss.

13.. *Metr. Hom.* (Vernon MS.) in *Archiv Stud. neu. Spr.* LVII. 277 A Mos growen wal he gan fynde þer þe 3ate was wont to be. 1596 Shaks. 1 *Hen. IV,* III. i. 33 Which..tombles downe Steeples, and mosse-growne Towers. 1820 W. Irving *Sketch Bk.* (1859) 46 Every antique farm-house and moss-grown cottage is a picture.

b. *fig.* Antiquated.

1893 L. F. Townsend in J. H. Barrows *Parl. Relig.* II. 1221 Dr. Channing..saw, as he thought, the speedy..burial of the moss-grown doctrines of Bible orthodoxy. 1902 A. B. Davidson *Called of God* viii. 215 Even the holiest things had become mouldy, moss-grown and eaten away.

Mo·ss-hag. *Sc.* [f. Moss *sb.*[1] + Hag *sb.*[4]] Broken ground from which peat has been taken; a pit or hole from which peat has been dug.

1816 Scott *Old Mort.* viii, A sour fit o' the batts wi' sitting amang the wat moss-hags for four hours at a yoking. 1818 — *Hrt. Midl.* xii, When I was in the moss-haggs and moors, wi' precious Donald Cameron, and worthy Mr. Blackadder. 1884 Speedy *Sport* xx. 398 Concealing themselves among the moss-hags before daybreak.

Hence **Mo·ss-hagger,** a dweller among moss-hags.

1902 W. S. Crockett *Scott. Country* xvi. 412 A coveted sheltering place for many a poor oppressed moss-hager.

Mo·ssify, *v. nonce-wd.* [f. Moss *sb.*[1] + -fy.] *trans.* To make mossy. (In quot. *absol.*)

1822 Mrs. E. Nathan *Langreath* I. 25 You may mossify and poetize if you choose.

Mossiness (mɒ·sinės). [f. Mossy *a.* + -ness.] The condition of being mossy (in senses of the adj.); *concr.* a mossy substance or growth.

[1538: see Mosiness under Mosy *a.*] 1558 Warde tr. *Alexis' Secr.* I. IV. (1580) 75 b, The firste softe haire, or mossinesse of the face. 1625 Bacon *Ess., Gardens* (Arb.) 561 That the Water be neuer by Rest Discoloured, Greene, or Red, or the like; Or gather any Mossinesse or Putrefaction. 1725 Bradley *Fam. Dict.* s. v. *Oak,* The frequent Mossiness of most Trees on the North Side. 1817 Keats *Spec. Indnct. to Poem* 22 Th' half seen mossiness of linnets' nests. 1893 Burrell & Cuthell *Indian Mem.* 175 A Himalayan forest is a wealth of leafiness and mossiness.

Mossing (mɒ·siŋ), *vbl. sb.* [-ing[1].] The action of the vb. Moss in various senses.

1700 O. Heywood *Diaries,* etc. (1885) IV. 231 Sam. Stocks came a mossing. 1856 Kane *Arct. Expl.* I. xxvii. 355 All hands..are out 'mossing'. This mossing..is a frightfully wintry operation.

attrib. 1880 C. R. Markham *Peruv. Bark* 329 This mossing process for renewing the bark

Mossless (mɒ·slės), *a.* [f. Moss *sb.*[1] + -less.] Without moss; having no moss.

1880 'Mark Twain' *Tramp Abroad* I. 201 The mossless spots were places where repairs had been made by the insertion of bright new masses of yellow straw.

Mossoljee, obs. form of Mussalchee.

Mossoo (məsū·). A vulgar mispronunciation of Monsieur, used in representations of illiterate speech or in derisive allusion to English patriotic prejudices. Cf. Mounseer.

1870 Miss Bridgman *R. Lynne* II. vi. 129 You pick out any Mossoo you like. 1886 Ashby-Sterry *Lazy Minstrel* 68 A stout fur-capped Mossoo.

Moss rose. [Moss *sb.*[1]] A garden variety of the cabbage rose, *Rosa centifolia*; so called from the moss-like growth on its calyx and stalk.

[1731 Miller *Gard. Dict., Rosa Provincialis, spinosissima, pedunculo muscoso.* The Moss Province Rose.] 1776 *Ann. Reg.* 118 Half a guinea for some moss roses. 1800 Coleridge *Keepsake* 30 There..she sate and stretched The silk upon the frame, and worked her name Between the Moss-Rose and Forget-me-not. 1888 S. Hibberd in *Times* 20 Aug. 10/3 To the question..Is the white moss rose becoming extinct? the proper answer is, No.

Mosstick, obs. form of Maulstick.

1658 Phillips, A *Mosstick,*..a round stick about a yard long, which the artist doth rest upon when he paints.

Mo·ss-trooper. [Moss *sb.*[1] 1.] One of a class of marauders who infested the 'mosses' of the Scottish Border, in the middle of the seventeenth century; a border freebooter.

1651 Whitelocke *Mem.* 14 Feb. (1853) III. 289 The Scots, in a village called Geddard..set upon captain Dawson as he returned from pursuing some moss-troopers. *a* 1661 Fullea *Worthies, Northumb.* (1662) II. 303 A sprigg of these Borderers hath lately been revived (disguised under the new name of Moss-Troopers). 1805 Scott *Last Minstr.* I. xix. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* iii. I. 294 A single troop of dragoons..was stationed near Berwick, for the purpose of keeping the peace among the mosstroopers of the border.

b. *transf.* A bandit or raider.

1701 Collier tr. *M. Anton.* 187 A fourth sort value themselves extremely upon their Hunting the Sarmatian Moss Troopers. 1809 W. Irving *Knickerb.* (1861) 121 These moss-troopers of the east. 1900 L. S. Amery *Times' Hist. War S. Afr.* I. viii. 188 Dr. Jameson and his band of moss-troopers.

So **Mo·sstroopery,** the practices of the moss-troopers; **Mo·ss-trooping** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1805 Scott *Last Minstr.* I. xxi, A stark moss-trooping Scott was he. 1845 Carlyle *Cromwell* vi. II. 150 Rebellion .. with much mosstroopery and horsestealing. 1881 J. Russell *Haigs* v. 89 A moss-trooping and reiving race. 1884 Gardiner *Hist. Eng.* I. 338 Still, the old mosstrooping spirit was not to be changed in a day.

Mossy (mɒ·si), *a.* [f. Moss *sb.*[1] + -y[1].]

I. [Cf. Moss *sb.*[1] I.]

1. *Sc.* and *dial.* Marshy, boggy, peaty.

1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 35 This land .. will be sax, sevin, or viii cubites hich of fat mossie ground as glew, bot maist barren. 1661 J. Childrey *Brit. Baconica* 167 Chatmos in this shire is a low mossey ground. 1792 Burns *Yon wild, mossy mountains* ii, Not Gowrie's rich valley, nor Forth's sunny shores, To me hae the charms o' yon wild, mossy moors. 1796 Morse *Amer. Geog.* II. 175 The rains of so many ages subsiding on the lower grounds, have converted most of the extensive plains into mossy morasses. 1845 *New Statist. Acct. Scotl.* XIV. 120 Many of the natives drink mossy and surface water.

II. [Cf. Moss *sb.*[1] II.]

2. Overgrown or covered with moss, abounding in moss. Also of a fountain, spring, pool, etc.: Encircled with moss; issuing from, or existing in, a moss-grown rock, etc.

1565 Cooper *Thesaurus* s.v. *Muscosus, Solum muscosum,* a mossie grounde. 1579 Langham *Gard. Health* (1633) 41 The Mossie barke of an Ash. 1628 W. L[isle] tr. *Virg. Bucol.* VII. 61 Ye mossy Fountaines [L. *muscosi fontes*] and yee Hearbs which bee Softer then sleepe. 1665 Boyle *Occas. Reft.* II. ii. (1848) 18 To..conjure up wormeaten Carkases out of their Mossy Graves. 1712 Pope *Messiah* 3 The mossy fountains, and the sylvan shades,..Delight no more. 1818 Shelley *Woodman & Nightingale* 23 And every bird lulled on its mossy bough. 1875 Mrs. Randolph *W. Hyacinth* I. 3 The soft mossy turf. 1885–94 R. Bridges *Eros & Psyche* Oct. iv, Echo, sweet Echo, watching up on high, Say hast thou seen to-day my love go by, Or where thou sittest by thy mossy spring?

3. Covered with something resembling moss; appearing as if covered with moss; downy, velvety.

15.. *An Other Balade* in *Chaucer's Wks.* (1561) 344 b, O Mossie Quince hangyng by your stalke. 1573 in Cunningham *Revels at Crt.* (1842) 58, vj paier of Mossy buskins. 1602 Dolman *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* (1618) III. 796 The myrrh which heere wee haue..is blacke, and as if it were scorched, mouldy and mossie on the outside. 1668 Wilkins *Real Char.* 112 Bearing mossy flowers. 1837 T. Rivers *Rose Amateur's Guide* 5 The Moss Rose, or Mossy Provence Rose.

4. Resembling moss; formerly applied to down or young growth of hair. Cf. Mosy *a.*

1579 E. K. *Gloss. to Spenser's Sheph. Cal.* May 187 Young and mossie heares. 1585 Higins tr. *Junius' Nomencl.* 18 *Ephebus*..a stripling, that hauing passed 14 yeares, beginneth to haue a mossie beard. 1698 Fryer *Acc. E. India & P.* 390 His Beard is Cut neatly, and the Whiskers kept in Cases,..not so mossy or slovenly, as either Turkish or Indian Mabometans. 1796 Kirwan *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) II. 132 It [*sc.* malachite) is found either massive, or..mossy. 1861 J. R. Greene *Man. Anim. Kingd., Cœlent.* 83 The slender mossy threads which compose the connecting stem of smaller species. 1887 D. Maguire *Art Massage* ii. (ed. 4) 19 The strigil is a bent instrument in the form of a sickle mossy on its edge, and terminating with a handle at one of its extremities, the other rounded off and mossy.

†**5.** *slang* or *jocular.* Stupid, dull. *Obs.*

1597 *Pilgr. Parnass.* II. 168 Woulde anie leaden Mydas, anie mossie patron, bave his asses ears deified, let him [etc.]. 1597 *1st Pt. Return fr. Parnass.* I. i. 110 Mossy idiotts. 1602 *2nd Pt. Return fr. Parnass.* II. i. 574 Mossy barbarians the spectators be, That sit and laugh at our calamity.

6. *Comb.,* as *mossy-chinned, -footed, -tinctured* adjs.; **mossy-back, -backed** *a.* (see Moss-back), **mossy-cup oak,** the bur-oak, *Quercus macrocarpa*; **mossy stonecrop,** *Sedum acre* (Syd.Soc.Lex. 1891).

1694 Motteux *Rabelais* IV. xxix. (1737) 119 A *Mossy-chin'd Demy-giant. 1832 *Planting* 115 (Libr. Usef. Knowl.) The American *mossy-cup oak. 1883 Meredith *Woods of Westermain* 16 *Mossy-footed squirrels leap, Soft as winnowing plumes of Sleep. 1728–46 Thomson *Spring* 381 When.. whitening down their *mossy-tinctured stream Descends the billowy foam.

Most (mōust), *a.* (*sb.*) and *adv.* Forms: *a.* 1 **mǽst,** (mǽsð), *Merc.* and *Kent.* **mést,** 3 **mæst,** 2–5 **mest,** 3 **meast,** 4 **meste,** 5 *Norfolk* **myst.**

β. 1 *north.* mást, (maast, mástð), 3–5 mast, (3 *Orm.* masst), 4–6 moste, moost(e, (5–6 *Sc. poet.* moiste), 3– most; also *Sc.* and *north. dial.* 4–7 mast(e, 4–6 mayst, 6 maiste, 4–9 maist, (9 meast). [Com. Teut.: OE. *mæst* (Northumb. *mást*) = OFris. *mâst, maest*, OS. *mêst* (Du. *meest*), OHG. (MHG., mod.G.) *meist*, ON. *mest-r* (Sw., Da. *mest*), Goth. *maist-s*:—OTeut. **maisto-*, formed with superlative suffix *-isto-* (see -EST) from the root of **maiz*, Mo *adv.*

The OE. *mást*, the normal representative of the Com. Teut. type, has been found only in Northumbrian, but it is not certain that it existed only in that dialect. The ordinary OE. form (WS. *mást*, Kentish *mést*) has abnormal umlaut, and seems to descend from a prehistoric **mɑ́t-ist*, a re-formation due to a consciousness of the grammatical relation of the word to *mɑ́* Mo. The umlaut form survived, in the south, down to the 15th c., but seems to have now entirely disappeared even in dialects. (The 19th c. northern form *meast* represents OE. *mást*; the coincidence with the early ME. *meast*:–OE. *mást* is accidental.) The establishment of *most* as the only form in the midlands and south was probably due to the influence of the related *mo, more.*

The southern form *most*, occasionally spelt *moist*, was often used, esp. in rimes, by the Sc. poets of the 15–16th c.]

A. *adj.* (The senses 1, 2, 3 express respectively the superlative of the three adjectival notions now denoted by *great, much*, and *many*.)

1. = GREATEST *a.*, in various applications.

†a. with reference to size, bulk, or stature. *Obs.*

c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xiii. 32 Soðlice þanne hyt wexað hyt ys alre wyrte mæst. *c* 1220 *Bestiary* 500 Cethegrande is a fis ðe moste ðat in water is. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 385 Þe moste mountaynez on mor þenne was no more dryge. *c* 1450 *Merlin* xiv. 210 Kynge Clarion, that was the moste man of the hoste of alle the Geauntes. 1548–77 VICARY *Anat.* iv. (1888) 30 The braine is diuided into three partes.. of which the foremost part is the moste.

†b. with reference to amount or degree. (*a*) As superlative of comparison: Greatest in degree or extent, often passing into 'utmost', 'chief', occas. used predicatively. (*b*) As intensive superlative: Very great. *Obs.*

(*a*) *c* 893 K. ÆLFRED *Oros.* IV. xi. § 6 þonne þæt gefeoht mæst wære. *c* 1200 ORMIN 5328 Þe maste lufe he shæwebþ þær þatt anij mann maȝȝ shæwenn. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Sqr.'s T.* 191 But eueremoore hir mooste wonder was How þat it [the hors] koude go and was of bras. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* XVII. v. 695 The swerd fayled hym at his moost nede. *c* 1586 SANDERS in *Hakluyt's Voy.* (1599) II. I. 190, I had the Italian & Spanish tongues, by which their most trafique in that countrey is. 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* III. i. 78 The sence of death is most in apprehension. 1702 ECHARD *Eccl. Hist.* (1710) 609 The most imaginable fatigue and industry.

(*b*) *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 174 þes prestis þat wole not helpe here maistris ont of þis moste peril. 1479 J. PASTON in *P. Lett.* III. 266, I wryght not so largely to yow as I wold do, for I have not most leyser. 1555 in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* (1721) III. App. xliii. 118 So likewise is freewil a most untruth undoubtedly.

c. said of a numerical aggregate, proportion, etc. *Obs.* except in the phr. (*the*) *most part.*

Most part (without article) may be used advb. In quot. *c* 1205 the adverbial accus. *mesten dæl* is used subst. as a nominative.

c 1205 LAY. 7864 And heom sælliche i-lomp þæt mesten dæl com a lond. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 330 Scheome is þe meste del ..of ure penitence. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 12839 In to þe most pres Ider þen sprong. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 394/2 The moste parte of the peple of the cyte. *c* 1511 [see DEAL *sb.*[1] 1 d]. 1532 in *Thanes Cawdor* (Spalding Club) 155 The landis and barony of Schancar or the mast part thereof. 1579 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 429 The most noumber shall have the choice and election. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* I. 20 Blood-sucking Inquisitors, of which the most part were mine owne Country-men. 1700 S. L. tr. *Fryke's Voy. E. Ind.* 2, I went and took a view of most part of Hungary.

d. *For the most part* (also †*party*, †*deal*): usually; in the main. †Also rarely without *the.*

1387 [see DEAL *sb.*[1] 1 d]. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) xxix. 294 Thei holden for the moste partye, the..gode manneres, as men of the Contree aboue seyd. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* (1812) I. ccccxxvi. 746 Y[e] lorde of Concy went to Mortayn..and there refresshed hym and his company; but for the most partye he hymselfe was with the kyng at Turney. 1545 RAYNOLD *Byrth Mankynde* 90 For the moste parte when there be two at once, the one is masculyne, and the other femenyne. 1561 T. HOBY tr. *Castiglione's Courtyer* III. G g ij, For moste part these kinde of inurious persons..are menne wel stricken in yeeres. 1647 TRAPP *Comm. 2 Cor.* vii. 3 Such faithful friends are in this age all for the most part gone in pilgrimage. 1715 ADDISON *Freeholder* No. 20 P 8 A House of Commons, which..must consist for the most part of Landed Men. 1871 SMILES *Charac.* viii. (1876) 220 Men of the greatest genius have been for the most part cheerful, contented men.

†e. with reference to (*a*) power, authority; (*b*) importance, consequence. *Most master*: ruler, commander; also, one who is 'master' in a contest, etc. *Obs.*

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xviii. 1 Hia cuęðende huelc wenes ðu maast is in ric heofna. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 816 þe meast kempe is icud & kenest of ow alle of þe creft. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 2735 þe segges were a-slepe..al but þe mest maister. 1382 WYCLIF *Matt.* xxii. 38 This is the firste and the most maundement. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* XXI. i. 840 He that was the moost kyng and knyght of the world. 1571 CAMPION *Hist. Irel.* iii. (1633) 9 Turffe and Sea-coales is their most fuell. 1591 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. VI*, I. iii. 149 Shee'le..dandle thee like a Baby: Though in this place most Master weare no Breeches.

†f. Const. *in, of.* *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 205 How he þat o myght es mast Send in till erth his haly gast. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Serm.* Sel. Wks. I. 316 þis Cesare was moost in generalte and larges, and pees of his lordship. *c* 1440 *Sir Gowther* 755 (end) Gyff us myȝt with hym to won, þat lord, þat is most of meyn! Amen. 1533 in Furnivall *Ballads fr. MSS.* I. 380 Wheron to rest, And build hir nest, God graunte hir, moste of might!

†g. Oldest. *Obs.*

c 1205 LAY. 21567 Mauric, þe mæst of his childeren. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 900 For he [Melchisedech] was boden king and prest, of elde most, of wit hezest.

h. qualifying the designation of a person: Entitled to the designation in the highest degree. *Obs.*

c 1300 *Havelok* 323 Godard was..þe moste swike, þat eure in erþe shaped was. 13.. *Sir Beues* (A.) 1611 The meste wreche of alle Wiþ a strok me doþ adoun falle. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 207 b/2 Fle hens thou moste wretche. *a* 1553 UDALL *Royster D.* IV. iv. (Arb.) 66 The moste loute and dastarde that euer on grounde trode. 1605 CHAPMAN *All Fooles* Wks. 1873 I. 149 These politicians..are our most fooles. 1624 MIDDLETON *Game at Chess* III. ii. (end), She's caught, and, which is strange, by her most wronger. 1690 W. WALKER *Idiomat. Anglo-Lat.* 439 He had been a most Mad-man had he stood against them.

i. *The most thing that*, the chief thing that; what . . . most. *Obs.* exc. *dial.*

a 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* 65 The most thinge that greuid her was her good and gay clothing. *c* 1460 *How Wise Man taught Son* 182 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* I. 177 For deth ys, sone, is I trowe, The most thyng that certyn ys. 1474 CAXTON *Chesse* I. iii, Ryght dere lord and kynge, the grettest and most thinge that I desire is that [etc.]. 1835 D. WEBSTER *Sc. Rhymes* 4 (E.D.D.) The maist thing that troubled the bodies, I think was their hungry wames.

j. †**Most end** (*obs.*), **most an end** *dial.* [? OE. **mæstan ende*, advb. accus.]: see END *sb.* 5 c.

2. With *sb.* in *pl.* (†occas. with *the*): The greatest number of; the majority of. †*Most times*, usually, in the majority of cases.

a 900 *O. E. Chron.* an. 894, & him mon eac mid oþrum floccum sohte mæstra daȝa ælce, oþþe on dæȝ oþþe on niht. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XIX. 150 And who þat moste maistries can, be myldest of berynge. 1473 WARKW. *Chron.* (Camden) 5 Whereof the most peple were sory. 1579 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 53 Vertue is harboured in the heart of him that most men esteeme mishapen. 1628 BP. HALL *Old Relig.* Ded., I have passed my most and best hours in quiet meditation. 1643 TRAPP *Comm. Gen.* xxiii. 7 Abrahams behaviour to these Hittites may shame the most Christians. 1701 TUTTELL *Descr. & Expl. Math. Instrum.* I Most Questions in Arithmetick. 1888 BRYCE *Amer. Commw.* II. lx. 427 Party loyalty is strong enough, with most people.

†b. With *sb.* in *sing.*: Numerically strongest.

1638 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 487 It was ..agreed upon, by comon consent and most voice in oppen court.

3. Existing in the greatest quantity, amount, or degree; the greatest amount or quantity of.

This use, like the corresponding uses of *much* and *more*, prob. arose mainly from the absolute use 5, with virtual ellipsis of *of*. When used with abstract sbs. this sense is hard to distinguish from the obsolete sense 'greatest' (1 b).

c 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 406 Bot moste harm in þis mater stondes in þis; þat þei perverte þo feythe of þo gospel. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* iii. 16 Of all angels in brightnes God gaf lucifer most lightnes. 1502 ARNOLDE *Chron.* (1811) 16 Our trewe men doo vs to vnderstonde that moost prayeng and leste profyt myght falle to the same cite and to me. 1720 OZELL *Vertot's Rom. Rep.* I. IV. 20 At those tumultuous Assemblies..such had most Authority as could make most Noise. 1727 SWIFT *Gulliver's Let. to Sympson* Wks. 1751 IX. 143 Have not I the most Reason to complain? 1856 RUSKIN *Mod. Paint.* IV. v. xvi. § 42 The work will.. have most power which was begun with most patience.

II. *absol.* (quasi-*sb.*)

4. Absolute uses of sense 1. The greatest persons (or, rarely, things); chiefly, with reference to rank or importance. Usually in association with *least*. Now only *poet.* in *most and least* = 'all without exception' (in ME. verse often as a metrical tag).

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 198 And for his sinne oc he to munen, ðat moste and leiste him ben binumen. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 1659 Fra þe mast dun to þe lest Sal neþer line ne fouul ne best. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Clerk's T.* 75 We wol..Chese yow a wyf..Born of the gentilleste and of the meeste Of al this land. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 59 b/1, Moyses..gadred all the most of byrthe. 1526 TINDALE *Heb.* viii. 11 They shall a knowe me, from the lest to the moste off them. 1600 FAIRFAX *Tasso* VIII. lxxii, Ennenoming the hearts of most and least. 1879 BROWNING *Pheidippides* 78 Then praise Pan who fought in the ranks with you most and least.

5. The greatest amount or quantity.

c 1122 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1011, þonne hi mæst to yfele ȝedon hæfdon. *a* 1200 *Moral Ode* 112 þe ðe lest wat biseið ofte mest. *c* 1200 ORMIN 15278 þiss follc iss laȝhesst, & tiss lott Addleþþ þe læste mede, Forr þatt teȝȝ hafenn allre masst Off þeȝȝre flæshess wille. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 318/671 Ho-so hath of þe eorþe mest, he is slouȝ as þe Asse. 1419 in *Thanes Cawdor* (Spalding Club) 6 To sel thaim to hym or to ony othir that wil gif mast for thaim. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* lviii. 29 Quha maist hes than sall maist repent. 1648 GAGE *West Ind.* 162 Four hundred Crowns had been the most that my old Predecessor had given yearly. *Mod.* This is really the most that I can concede.

†b. Const. *genitive.* Only OE. and early ME.

c 888 K. ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxiv. § 3 Forðæm þæt he þurh ðæt mæȝe mæst bearna begitan. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 169 Mest manne him gremede mid scorne. *a* 1225 *St. Marher.* 6 Ant tu schalt wummon meast wunne ant weole welden.

†c. *All* (*one's*) *most*: (one's) utmost. *Obs.* In quot. used *advb.*

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XVII. 818 Quhen all thair mast assaȝeit thai, And the schot thikkest [wes] with-all [etc.].

d. *To make the most of* (†*to make most of*): (*a*) To employ to the best advantage; (*b*) To treat with the greatest consideration; (*c*) To represent or exhibit at the best or worst.

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 13 He maketh moost of vs & cheryssheth vs. 1588 *Marprel. Epist.* (Arb.) 22 Thackwelt is..permitted to make the most he could of his presse and letters. *a* 1627 HAYWARD *Edw. VI* (1630) 73 The most [was] made of that which was true, and many falsities added. 1660 FULLER *Mixt Contempl.* (1841) 237, I always made the most of the youngest. 1727 GAY *Begg. Op.* I. iv, How to make the most of her beauty. 1859 FITZGERALD tr. *Omar* xxiii, Ah, make the most of what we yet may spend. 1891 *Temple Bar* June 167 He..made the most of his opportunity.

6. Governed by a prep. forming an advb. phrase.

a. At most, at the most (ME. *atte meste*). A qualifying phrase, attached to a quantitative designation to indicate that the amount, number, or quantity is the largest admissible. Also in wider sense, appended to a statement to denote that it expresses not less, but probably more, than the truth.

c 1300 *St. Brandan* (Percy Soc.) 31 Ther thu schalt fourti dayes bileve atte meste. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* V. 947 He spak y-now for o day at þe meste. 1453 in *Trevelyan Papers* (Camden) 25 If the chaplen dy, elec another honest man..within foure monethis at the most. 1535 COVERDALE *Isa.* XXX. 17 A thousand of you shal fle for one, or at the most for fyue. 1662 J. DAVIES tr. *Olearius' Voy. Ambass.* 196 One degree of Longitude under the thirty seventh degree of Latitude,..consists but of fifty minutes at the most. 1756 MRS. F. BROOKE *Old Maid* No. 30. 177 After these entered a tall child, at most but in her thirteenth year. 1885 *Law Times* LXXIX. 38/1 The duty of the magistrate should be at most ancillary to that of the doctor.

†b. For the most. For the most part. *Obs.*

c 1531 LATIMER in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* (1822) I. II. 177 Those other, for the most, teach nothing, but that whych ys manifest in the Scripture. 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* V. i. 445 They say best men are moulded out of faults, And for the most, become much more the better For being a little bad.

†c. With the most. In the utmost degree; in the greatest quantity; to the full. *Obs.*

c 1205 LAY. 2547 Ah Menbriz dude vnwreste he wes swike mid þan meste. 13.. *Guy Warw.* (A.) 274 Now is Gij in gret tempest Sorwe he makeb wib þe mest [*MS. C.* Sorowe he maketh with the moste] Of Felice þat feir may. *a* 1440 *Sir Degrev.* 1404 Ther ware metus with the maste, I do ȝow to wytte. *a* 1586 SIR H. SIDNEY *Godly Let. to his son Philip*, Feed them well, and pay them with the most. 1628 GAULE *Pract. Theorists Panegyr.* 10 Our gratefull acknowledgement of his Goodnesse, when it is with the most; is but a slender requitall for his Benefits.

7. (Construed as *pl.*) The greatest number. Now usually without article; in early use *most* and *the most* were both common.

a. The most numerous part of an aggregate specified or implied; the majority. Const. *of.*

1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* II. i. 77 Moost of all the barons ..assayed alle by rewe but ther myght none spede. 1535 COVERDALE *Matt.* xi. 20 The cities, in the which most of his miracles were done. 1588 J. UDALL *Diotrephes* (Arb.) 12 The most of them woulde neuer deale in that lawe at home. 1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* IV. iv. 594 For she seemes a Mistresse To most that teach. 1635 J. HAYWARD tr. *Biondi's Banish'd Virg.* 173 Moste of the Fleete came lagging on by ones and two's. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* II. 32 Most of these Divans have large Windows. 1767 *Jrnl. Byron's Voy. round World* 10 The most of the priests are negroes. 1796 BURKE *Let. Noble Ld.* Wks. VIII. 63, I looked over a number of fine portraits, most of them of persons now dead. 1852 G. W. CURTIS *Wand. in Syria* 161 We found a spot less dreary than the most. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 9, I found a number of persons, most of whom I knew. 1882 STEVENSON *New Arab. Nts.* (1884) 30 The most of my patrons are boys.

b. = *Most persons*: the majority of people.

1608 WILLET *Hexapla Exod.* 38 The most here doe vnderstand this signe. 1670 LADY MARY BERTIE in *12th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 21 Upon the Queene's Birthday most wore embraudered bodys. 1791 *Gentl. Mag.* 22/2 A gentleman..who felt the infirmities of age at an earlier period than most do. 1833 HT. MARTINEAU *Charmed Sea* i, Her indifference was towards..most who crossed her daily path. 1852 M. ARNOLD *Youth of Nature* 71 Sunk .. Too deep for the most to discern.

B. *adv.*

1. As a superlative of comparison: In the greatest degree; to the greatest extent. **a.** qualifying a verb, a ppl. adj., or an adjectival or advb. phrase.

c 893 K. ÆLFRED *Oros.* I. iv. § 1 þara nytena meolc þe hy mæst bi libbað. *a* 1200 *Moral Ode* 217 þe þe deþ is wille mest, he haueð wurst mede. *c* 1200 ORMIN 2595, & 3ho þatt cwemmde himm allre mæst Off all mannkinn onn eorþe. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 238 Most of alle his herte is set..upon these grete Offices. *a* 1450 MYRC *Festial* 24 For þat a man loueth most yn þys world, þat ys callet his god and his mawmet. 1537 WAIOTHESLEY *Chron.* (Camden) I. 104 The Bishopp of Rochester..had occupied preachinge most at Pawles Crosse of any bishopp. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII* 107 b, He..thought it most for his honor & profite. 1624 CAPT. SMITH *Virginia* 3 The soyle is most plentifull, sweete,..and fruitfull of all other. 1723 DR. WHARTON *True Briton* No. 26. I. 228 Their most obliged Creatures have shunn'd them most. 1790 BURNS *To Gentl. who sent a Newspaper* 3 How guess'd ye, sir, what maist I wanted? 1853 M. ARNOLD *Scholar-Gipsy* viii, For most, I know, thou lov'st retired ground!

b. Prefixed to an adj. or adv. to form the superl.

For the conditions under which the comparison with *more* and *most* is used, see MORE *adv.* 1 b, c.

c 1230 *Hali Meid.* (MS. Bodl.) l. 585 For þah be beo richest,..þe alre measte poure þe him to were cheoseð, is him wel iceweme. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 52 The moste principal of alle. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) v. 56 This Weye is most schort. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* II. i. 227 Ebbing men, indeed (Most often) do so neere the bottome run By their owne feare, or sloth. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 283 Hee had some warres .. against the Christians, more vnnaturall against his brother, but most most vnnaturall and monstrous against his sonne Selym. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 146 The most sweete walke that ever I beheld. 1725 T. THOMAS in *Portland Papers* VI. (Hist. MSS. Comm.) 122 One of the Kirks most Commodious for its largeness. 1818 COLERIDGE *Lett.* (1895) 698 These lectures will be found by far the most interesting..of any that I have yet delivered. 1892 *Bookman* Oct. 27/2 The most dogged of fighters, the most dangerous of enemies.

c. prefixed pleonastically to the superl. of the *adj.* or *adv.* Now only *poet.* exc. in illiterate use.

c 1400 MAUNDEV. (1833) xxvii. 279 The most fairest Damyselles that myghte be. 1535 [see HIGHEST B. 1]. 1586 A. DAY *Eng. Secretary* I. (1625) 40 The three battels .. by him in his most yongest yeares so miraculously foughten. 1683 PENN *Let. conc. Pennsylvania* 6 One of the most wretchedst Spectacles in the World. 1878 T. HARDY *Ret. Native* IV. vii, I was always first in the most gallantest scrapes in my younger days! 1881 E. H. HICKEY in *Macm. Mag.* XLIII. 236 My most extremest time of misery.

2. As an intensive superlative qualifying adjs. and advs.: In the greatest possible degree.

For the ceremonial titles, *Most Christian, Most Honourable, Most Noble, Most Reverend*, etc., see those adjs.

1508 DUNBAR *Poems* vii. 3 Most wyse, most valyeand, most laureat hie wictour. 1536 *Act 27 Hen. VIII*, c. 42 § 1 The Kynges mooste Riall Magestie. 1559 ABP. PARKER *Corr.* (Parker Soc.) 70, I ought and do, acknowledge my most bound duty, to be a faithful orator for your grace during my life. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* I. v. 80 Oh horrible, Oh horrible, most horrible. 1631 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. III. III. 205 To the King's most excellent Majesty. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 183 The rinde or skin peeles off most easily. 1688 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. III. III. 316, I am, Sr, your most affectionate friend and servant, Sunderland P. 1710 HEARNE *Collect.* (O. H. S.) II. 351 A most vile, stinking Whigg. 1775 JOHNSON *Let. to Earl Chesterfield* in *Boswell*, I am..your lordship's most humble, most obedient servant. 1853 DICKENS *Let.* 21 Sept., Ever .. Most affectionately yours. 1879 BAIN *Higher Engl. Gram.* 150 His argument was most convincing.

†**3.** Mostly; for the most part. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 2118 Þis land lies mast vnto þe south þer þe blamen mast er cuth. 1451 CAPGRAVE *Life St. Aug.* (E.E.T.S.) 1/27 We rede of hyin þat whan he cam to lerne dyuers sciens which were þan most in Greke tonge þat he hated þe Greke letteris and loued weel þe Latyn. 1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 21 They vse most to put them [*i.e.* certain weeds] vppe with theyr handes. 1530 PALSGR. 598/1 Where kepeth he his resydence moste? 1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* II. ii. § 9 Although ..States are most collected into Monarchies. 1635 PAGITT *Christianogr.* I. ii. (1636) 72 Those that now inhabite Egypt, are most Moores. 1726 *Adv. Capt. R. Boyle* (1768) 107 As to the Nature of the Inhabitants, they are most of a tawny Complexion. *a* 1734 NORTH *Lives* (1826) III. 388 He took most to silence,..yet, when he did speak, it was much to the purpose.

†**b.** Qualifying *all.* (In this use the sense 'for the most part' passes into that of 'nearly': see ALMOST.) Similarly *everich mest*, nearly every one.

a 1000-1130 [see ALMOST 1]. *a* 1200 *Moral Ode* 7 Mest al þet ich habbe idon bi-fealt to child-hade. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 181 Mast alle þe hund limen hersumieð þe onre wombe. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 88 Euerich mest, haueð on olde cwene to ueden hire earen. *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* 103 As gentille wimmen mest alle nu o worlde. 1627 SCLATER *Exp. 2 Thess.* iii. 12 (1629) 275 Wee are most all of Issachars Tribe: therefore vsually choose callings of greatest ease.

4. Almost, nearly. *Obs.* exc. *dial.*

It is doubtful whether this is not merely an aphetic form of *almost* (Sc. *amaist*); it is often written '*maist*, '*most*.

a 1584 MONTGOMERIE *Cherrie & Slae* 243 Sum tyme I musit and maist gane mad. 1613–39 I. JONES in Leoni *Palladio's Archit.* (1742) II. 49 This Architrave returns the Cornice most to the solid of the Pilasters. 1621 LADY M. WROTH *Urania* 541 Her forehead was most conered with her Hat. 1785 BURNS *Addr. Deil* xvi, Ye..gied the infant warld a shog, 'Maist ruin'd a'. 1808 FORSYTH *Beauties Scott.* V. 344 The distance of most three leagues. 1855 THACKERAY *Newcomes* xxv, Most everybody's here. 1874 J. W. LONG *Amer. Wild-fowl Shooting* 151 You .. wade out, most to the edge of the open water.

†**C.** *Comb.*: **mostwhat** *adv.*, for the most part (common in 17th c.), also quasi-*adj.*, the greater part of; **mostwhen** *adv.*, most frequently, on most occasions; **mostwhere** *adv.*, in most places.

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 137 Þesne lehter babbeð mest hwat alle men. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 14571 Þe freindes þou has aurquar, We wat mast quat er þai þar. *a* 1400 in Halliwell *Rara Math.* (1841) 56 A Tretis of Geometrie wherby you may knowe the heghte, depnes, and the brede of mostwhat erthely thynges. 1494 FABYAN *Chron.* V. CXXXVII. 123 The kynge kepte mooste what his paleys. 1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 164 Here and there sum: But most when and most where no sum doth cum. 1581 MULCASTER *Positions* I. (1887) 3 The parentes and freindes with whom I haue to deale, be most-what no latinistes. 1602 CAREW *Cornwall* 13 b, The Lord of the soyle is most-where allowed libertie to place one workman in euerie fifteene for himself. 1681 H. MORE *Exp. Dan.* I. 5 That State..being most-what supported by the Supreme Power of their Two Consuls. 1737 in *N. & Q.* 8th Ser. (1895) VII. 405/1 This Month was mostwhat inclin'd to wet and very changable wether.

Hence †**Ma·stheде** [-HEAD], supreme greatness, majesty; †**M·ostness**, maximal size.

a 1300 *E. E. Psalter* xxviii. 3 God of masthede þonnered he. 1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* 99 From the leastness and mostness, not from the things themselves, it is, that [etc.].

Most, obs. form of MUST *sb.* and *v.*

-most (mōust, möst, məst), *suffix*, forming adjs. in the superlative degree (many of which are also used as advs.), is an altered form of OE. *-mest* (= Goth. *-umist*), a combination of two distinct OTeut. (and Indogermanic) superlative suffixes, *-mo-* (which occurs, e.g., in OE. *forma* first, *hindema* last, and in L. *prīmus* first), and *-isto-* -EST. Those OE. superlatives in *-mest* which either descend from OTeut., or are extensions of OTeut. superlatives in *-mo-*, are formed not on adjs. but on prepositional or demonstrative stems; examples are *æftemest* (see AFTERMOST), *formest* or *fyrmest* FOREMOST, *inmest* INMOST, *niðemest* lowest, *ufemest* or *yfemest* (see OVEMEST), *útmest* or *ýtmest* UTMOST, *ýmest* (= Goth. *auhumists*) highest; the only instance (among the words belonging to this primary group) of formation on an adj.-stem is *midmest* MIDMOST. On the analogy of these older words, the suffix *-mest* was in OE. used to form superlatives of several adjs. of local and temporal signification, as *lætmest, síðemest* latest, *æstmest, westmest* (also *westema*), *norðmest, súðmest.*

In late OE. the adjs. in *-mest* came to be regarded as compounds of *mæst* MOST, as the frequent spelling *-mæst* shows. The subsequent history of the written form of the suffix coincides with that of the adj., exc. that the absence of stress led to the occasional retention of the spelling *-mest* (beside the quasi-etymological *-most*) down to the 16th c. In mod. English the formal pronunciation of the suffix is assimilated to that of the adj., though colloq. the normal pronunciation (məst) is usual.

As the superlatives in *-mest, -most* corresponded to comparatives in *-er*, analogy led to the insertion of *r* or *er* before the suffix: thus *æftemest* was in early ME. altered to *aftermest*, and *ovemest* was replaced by *overmost*. In the 15th and 16th c. the suffix *-most* (interpreted as identical with MOST *a.*) was added to many comparatives in *-er*, on the analogy of earlier adverbial formations in -MORE, as in *furthermost, hindermost, innermost, lowermost, outermost, uppermost, uttermost.*

In ME. and modern English, the suffix has been appended to certain positive adjs.; to sbs. used adjectively, as in *backmost, bottommost, topmost*; and to advs., as in *downmost, upmost, hithermost.*

The restriction of the application of the suffix to words denoting position in place, time, or serial order, which existed in OE., has almost universally been adhered to in the subsequent formations; the only exception, in a word that has obtained any degree of currency, is *bettermost.* The only other violations of the rule occur in mere nonce-words, as in the following quot.

a 1618 SYLVESTER *Ded. Sonn.* i, *To Maidens Blush*, Accept a Heart which to Your Highnesse owes whole Hecatombs of Happy-most Desires.

Mostache, -chium, -choe, obs. ff. MOUSTACHE.

Mostar-de-velis, variant of MUSTERDEVILLERS.

Moste, obs. form of MUST *sb.* and *v.*, MOIST *a.*

Moster, var. MOISTURE *v.*

1567 MAPLET *Gr. Forest* 87 The cricket .. He useth .. to dig and bore in the harde Earth and mostered places.

Moster, obs. form of MUSTER.

Mostesa, -tese, obs. forms of MESTIZO.

Mostic(k, obs. variant forms of MAULSTICK.

Mostlings (mōu·stlinz). *dial.* [f. MOST *a.* + -LING 2, -LINGS.] Mostly, for the most part; usually.

1855 ROBINSON *Whitby Gloss.* s.v., It's mostlings rainy now-a-days, I think. 1870 E. PEACOCK *Ralf Skirl.* I. 35 That greasy green coat ye mostlins wears. 1889 TENNYSON *Owd Roä* 38 But Dicky, the Ghoäst moästlins was nobbut a rat or a mouse.

Mostly (mōu·stli), *adv.* [f. MOST *a.* + -LY 2.]

1. For the most part; in the main.

1594 CAREW *Huarte's Exam. Wits* 42 Mostly he made complements of verses very well compored. 1627 W. SCLATER *Exp. 2 Thess.* (1629) 42 Our Religion is mostly talke and discourse. 1719 W. WOOD *Surv. Trade* 82 The Goods after they are manufactured are mostly sent Abroad. 1850 CARLYLE *Latter-d. Pamph.* vi. *Parliaments*, Twenty-seven millions mostly fools. 1904 H. BLACK *Pract. Self-Culture* iii. 77 A man whose mind has been mostly fallow ground will not easily take to the mental plough and hoe.

†**2.** In the greatest degree; to the greatest extent; most. *Obs.*

1691 *Emilianne's Observ. Journ. Naples* 311 Those Women who mostly frequent the Confessionals .. become [etc.]. 1754 SHEBBEARE *Matrimony* (1766) I. 90 It [the epithet] was applied to those Things which were mostly esteemed. 1768 *Woman of Honor* I. 14 Children..being susceptible of any impressions,..mostly so of good ones.

Mostour, obs. form of MOISTURE.

‖ **Mostra** (mɒ·stra). *Mus.* [It., a mark, indicator, vbl. sb. f. *mostrare* to show.] A 'direct'; a small mark at the end of a line indicating the note with which the next line begins.

1724 *Short Explic. For. Words Mus.*, *Mostra*, is a little Mark or Character in Musick. 1752 AVISON *Ess. Mus. Express.* 131, I have ventured to introduce a new musical character, namely, this Mostra (√) or Index. In mod. Dicts.

Mostre, Mostur, obs. ff. MUSTEB *sb.* and *v.*

Mostwhat, -when, -where: see MOST C.

Mostyrdewyk: see MUSTERDEVILLERS.

†**Mosy**, *sb. Obs.* A dish in cookery.

14.. in *Househ. Ord.* (1790) 460 Mosy for Soper in Somer. Take smale chekyns and chop hom [etc.].

Mosy (mōu·zi), *a. Obs.* exc. *dial.* Also 5 **moosy**, 6 **moocie**, 7, 9 **mozy**, 9 **mosey, mosie, moosie, moozy, mouzy.** [ME. *mosy* (?OE. **mosig*), f. *mos* MOSS *sb.*[1] + -Y. Cf. MOSSY *a.*, which is a later formation with the same elements.] Downy, hairy; = MOSSY *a.* 3 and 4.

1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 13704 Pyled and seynt as any kaat, And moosy [*v.r.* mosy] heryd as a raat. 1559 ELYOT *Dict.* s.v. *Barba, Incipiens barba* .. a younge moocie bearde. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 108/34 Mosy, *puber.* 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* II. lxxxviii. 267 Dictam, is..a hoate and sharp herbe..his leaues be..somewhat hoare or mosy with a certaine fine downe. 1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* 159 It is of a fungous or Mozy substance. *a* 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia, Mozy*, shaggy; covered with hair. The clown, who shaves but once a week, is of course very mozy when he comes under the barber's hands.

Hence **Mo·einess.**

1538 ELYOT *Dict., Iulus*,..the mosynesse of the outwarde parte of fruites. .. *Iuli*, be also the mosynesse or softe heares, whiche do growe on the beardes & visages of yong men, before that they be shaued.

†**Mot**[1]. *Obs.* Also 6 **mote**, 6–7 **mott(e.** [a. F. *mot* word, saying, motto = Pr. *mot-z*, It. *motto* (see MOTTO):—popular L. **mottum*, altered form of earlier *muttum* (Lucilius) uttered sound, cogn. w. *muttīre, mūtīre* to murmur.]

1. A motto.

1586 FERNE *Blaz. Gentrie* II. 7 To what purpose the cote of a Gentleman is manteled and doubled, why some haue assumed motes or wordes, &c. 1593 SHAKS. *Lucr.* 830 Reproch is stampt in Colatinvs face, And Tarqvins eye maie read the mot a farre, 'How he in peace is wounded not in warre'. 1600 AGARD in *Hearne's Collect.* (1771) I. 261 As for motts, I am of that opynyon that they took theyre first beginninge from men's conceits of there being some speciall vertues in them; or from the etymologye of theyre own names. 1602 MARSTON *Ant. & Mel.* V. Wks. 1856 I. 55, I did send for you to drawe me a devise, an Impreza, by Sinecdoche a Mott. 1659 HOWELL *Lexicon, Let. French Prov.*, When you have cast an eye upon this Letter which goeth stuff'd with all Proverbs, old Motts, and Adages.

2. A word.

c 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* I. II. xv, I haue been long in the Survay of these [the United] Provinces..[and] will conclude with a mot or two of the people.

‖ **Mot**[2] (mo). [Fr.: see prec.] A witty saying.

[1631 BRATHWAIT *Eng. Gentlew.* 198 That Mot of the Athenians to Pompey the Great, Thou art so much a God, as thou acknowledgest thy selfe to be a man, was no ill saying.] 1813 JEFFREY *Contrib. Edin. Rev.* (1844) I. 345 Another *mot* of hers became an established canon at all the tables of Paris. 1861 DUTTON COOK *P. Foster's Dau.* vii, At length the day came when the Chevalier had uttered his last mot.

Mot[3] (mɒt). *dial.* Also **motte**; and see MOTTY. [? a. F. *motte* hillock; also, 'a butt to shoot at' (Cotgr.).] A mark for players at quoits.

1847 in HALLIWELL. 1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* Answ. to Corr. 2 Dec., In the Country the mark in Quoit playing is termed a 'motte'.

†**Mo·table**, *a. Obs.*—° [ad. late L. *mōtābilis* (Vulg. *Gen.* i. 21), f. L. *mōtāre*, freq. of *movēre* (ppl. stem *mōt-*) to MOVE.] (See quot.)

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Motable*..alwayes moving, still in motion.

Motacil (mōu·tăsil). *rare.* [Anglicized form of next: cf. F. *motacille.*] A bird of the genus *Motacilla*, a wagtail. 1828–32 in WEBSTER.

‖ **Motacilla** (mōtăsi·lă). [L. *mōtacilla* wagtail, perh. f. *mōtāre* to keep moving; according to VARRO so called 'quod semper movet caudam'; cf. the Eng. name.] A genus of birds, now restricted to the wagtails, but formerly of wider extent; a bird of this genus.

1752 J. HILL *Hist. Anim.* 505 The Motacilla, with a black breast. The common Wagtail. 1808 A. WILSON *Amer. Ornithol.* (1831) I. 256, I saw him..pursuing what I took to be a species of motacilla.

Hence **Motaci·llid, -ine, -oid** *adjs.*, belonging to or resembling the family *Motacillidæ* or the sub-family *Motacillinæ*, of which the genus *Motacilla* is the type. (In recent Dicts.)

†**Mota·tion.** [a. L. *mōtātiōn-em*, f. *mōtāre*: see MOTABLE *a.*] Frequent movement.

1721 BAILEY, *Motation*, an often moving to and fro.

Motatorious (mōu·tătōu·riəs), *a.* [Formed as next + -OUS.] Vibratory, in constant motion; applied to the legs of some insects.

1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* xlvi. IV. 345 Motatorious (*Motatorii*). Legs, which when the insect is at rest, are in a perpetual vibratory motion.

Motatory (mōu·tătəri), *a. Ent.* [ad. mod.L. *mōtātōrius*, f. L. *mōtātor*, agent-n. f. *mōtāre*: see MOTABLE.] = prec.

[1818 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* xxiii. (ed. 2) II. 306 Long anterior legs..denominated *pedes motatorii* by Linné.] 1856 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Motatorius* [Kirby],..motatory.

Motazilite (mǫtæ·ziləit), *sb.* and *a.* Also 8 **moatazalite**, 9 **motazelite, mutazalite.** [f. Arab. *muʿtazil* seceder (active pple. of *iʿtazala* to secede, 8th conj. of *ʿazala* to go) + -ITE.] **a.** *sb.* A member of a heretical Mohammedan sect, which denied predestination and the possibility of assigning definite attributes to the Deity. **b.** *adj.* Of or pertaining to this sect.

1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl., Moatazalites.* 1734 G. SALE tr. *Koran, Prel. Disc.* viii. 158 Wasel..and his followers being thenceforth called Motazalites or Separatists.

Mote (mōut), *sb.*[1] Forms: 1–5 **mot**, 4 **moot**, 4–6 **moote**, 6 **moet, moit, motte**, 6–7 **moate**, (?**moth**), 6–8 **moat**, 7 **mothe, mott**, 9 (sense 3 b) **moit, moiet**, 4– **mote.** [OE. *mot* neut. (dat. *mote*), perh. cogn. w. Du. *mot* dust from turf, sawdust, grit (MDu. found only in combs. *steenmot, turfmot*), also fine rain, LG. (EFris.) *mut* dust, grit; connexion with SMUT is possible. With sense 3 b cf. Sp. *mota*, knot in cloth, which however is of uncertain origin.]

1. A particle of dust; esp. one of the innumerable minute specks seen floating in the sunbeam; an irritating particle in the eye or throat.

A mote in the eye: often *fig.* (*a*) with allusion to Matt. vii. 3, a relatively trifling fault observed in another person by one who ignores a greater fault of his own (cf. BEAM *sb.*[1] 3 c); †(*b*) a cause of irritation or annoyance.

c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. vii. 3 To hwi ȝesihst þu þæt mot on þines broþer eȝan. *c* 1050 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 355/24 *Atomo*, mote. 1340 *Ayenb.* 175 Þet y-zyeþ þet mot ine þe oþres eȝe. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xx. (*Blasius*) 345 Quhasa-euire in þare throt seknes has, awne ore mot [etc.]. *Ibid.* xxviii. (*Margaret*) 494 As motis ar in Sown-beme fare. 1481 CAXTON *Reynard* (Arb.) 84 What man loked in the glasse had he ony dissease of prickyng or motes smarte or perles in his eyen he shold be anon heled of it. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis, Direction* 66 Quhilk in myne E fast staris a moit to spy. 1546 BALE *1st Exam. Anne Askew* 21 b, Johan Frith is a great moate in their eyes. 1563 T. GALE *Antidot.* II. 8 Pouders..made subtile and fyne lyke mootes of the sonne, as they call them. 1627 ABP. ABBOT in Rushw. *Hist. Coll.* (1659) I. 454 The first of these is Sir Dudley Diggs, a very great Mote in the Dukes Eye, as I am informed. 1632 MILTON *Penseroso* 8 As the gay motes that people the Sun Beams. 1789 W. BUCHAN *Dom. Med.* (1790) 259 Sometimes he imagines his eyes are full of motes. 1800 HELENA WELLS *Constantia Neville* (ed. 2) II. 243 He pretended to shew to his brethren the moat that he had discovered in their's. 1821 SHELLEY *Hellas* 781 All that it inherits Are motes of a sick eye, bubbles and dreams. 1880 W. WALLACE *Epicureanism* viii. 192 Moving freely about like the motes we see in the sunbeam.

b. A minute solid particle of foreign matter in food or drink. ? Now chiefly *dial.* † *To make no motes of*: not to scruple at.

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 284/204 And Ine blessede nouȝt mi drinke: and a swuch mot þare was Inne, And with þat drinke þat ich dronk: it schet me sone with-Inne. *c* 1460 J. RUSSELL *Bk. Nurture* 272 Ne put youre fyngurs in the cuppe mootes for to seche. 1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* xxiii, I ne'er noticed it afore, and it's nae sic mote neither but what ane might see it in their parritch. 1842 J. AITON *Domest. Econ.* (1857) 221 A corn sickle is then drawn through the butter several cross ways, in order to take out any hairs that may remain in it; and if any other motes appear, they are also taken out.

fig. 1637 RUTHERFORD *Lett.* (1664) 114, I speak it for your encouragement, that ye may make the best out of your joyes ye can, albeit ye finde them mixed with motes. 1637–50 ROW *Hist. Kirk* (Wodrow Soc.) 422 Some made no motts of it to subscryve simplie and absolutelie. 1822 GALT *Sir A. Wylie* I. vii. 51 The ragged coat o' the callant was ne'er a mot in the man's marriage.

†**c.** A minute particle of anything, an atom; something very minute or trivial, a trifle. (*Not*) *a mote*: (not) a jot. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Body & Soul* 266 in *Map's Poems* (Camden) 343 That no mon cou nou fynden a mote Of hem, ne of mooder that hem bar. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* III. 1554 (1603) It myghte nought a mot in þat suffise. *c* 1412 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 943 Nat wold I rekke as mochel as a mote. *c* 1550 BALE *K. Johan* 1826 Whie wert thu cast in preson? ..For conjurynge, calkynge, and coynynge of newe grotes, For clippynge of nobles, with such lyke pratye motes. 1611 BEAUM. & FL. *Maid's Trag.* II. i, Let me know the man that wrongs me so, That I may cut his body into motes. 1632 MASSINGER *City Madam* v. iii, I presume the sight Would move you to compassion. *Luke.* Not a mote. 1725 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Milk*, Where not the least Mote of any Filth may by any means appear.

†**d.** = ATOM 2. *Obs.*

1580 SIR E. DYER *Prayse of Nothing* Poems (Grosart) 75 For whilst they traueyled (Curiositie being their guide) to find out in the numbers of Pythagorus the moets of Epicure [etc.]. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 136 He saith that this diuersitie proceedeth from those little motes or bodies that go to the making of all things.

†**2.** A spot, a blemish. *Obs.*

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 763 For mote ne spot is non in þe. *c* 1485 *Digby Myst.* (1882) IV. 1329 In your conscience..is noȝt so great mot. 1530 PALSGR. 246/2 Mote on a gowne or garment, *povtie*. *c* 1586 C'TESS PEMBROKE *Ps.* LXIX. iii, Mote, nor spott, nor least disgrace, But for thee, could taint my face. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, IV. i. 189 Therefore should euery Souldier..wash euery Moth out of his Conscience. *a* 1711 KEN *Hymns Evang.* Poet. Wks. 1721 I. 71 In your bright souls endure no wilful Mote.

†**3. a.** A tuft of wool forming the nap on cloth.

1583 *Leg. Bp. St. Androis* 779 in *Satir. Poems Reform.*, To sponge his cloak durst not be done. It hurte the woole, and wrought it bair, Puld off the mottes, and did no mair.

b. An imperfection in wool.

1851 *Catal. Gt. Exhib.* II. 490 Burry and motey wool, with the same cleaned from the burs and motes. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 340/1 Many wools contain peculiar seeds called 'burrs' and 'moiets' very difficult to remove, as they are covered with prickles. 1903 F. M. LUPTON in *Eng. Dial. Dict., Moit*, the seed of an Australasian plant, which clings to wool, and is unravelled by the scribbler, without being separated from the wool.

4. 'A single straw or a single stalk of hay; a part of a single straw; a slender twig' (E.D.D.). Now only *dial.*

1578 LYTE *Dodoens* IV. xiii. 467 Otes..in grassie leaues, and knottie straw or motes, are somwhat like to wheate. 1747 GOULD *Eng. Ants* 69 The Hill Ants collect a vast Quantity of Pieces of dry Sticks, Chips, Straw-Motes, and other Rubbish.

b. *Mining.* (See quot. 1883.)

1881 in RAYMOND *Mining Gloss.* 1883 GRESLEY *Gloss. Coal Mining* 171 *Mote* or *Moat*, a straw filled with gunpowder for igniting a shot.

5. *Comb.*

1592 NASHE *Four Lett. Confut.* H 2, Thou impotent moate-catching carper.

Mote (mōut), *sb.*[2] *Obs.* exc. *Hist.* Forms: 3–7, 9 **mote**, 5, 8 **mot**, 9 *arch.* **moat**(e. [ME. *mote*, a. OF. *mote, motte* clod, hillock, mound, castle-hill, castle (mod.F. *motte* clod, mound), whence med.L. *mota, motta*, MDu. *mote* mound, castle-hill, castle; cf. Pr. *mota* (Levy) hill, castle, Sp. *mota* embankment, dam, Pg. *mota* terrace, rampart, dam; the It. *motta* (obs.) landslip, and *mota* mud, are commonly cited as cognate, but this is doubtful. See MOAT *sb.*[1], which seems to be orig. the same word. The Rom. word is commonly supposed to be of Teut. origin; cf. Mid.Ger. *mot* moor, bog, HG. dial. *mott* peaty soil, peat, stack of peats (?cogn. w. Eng. MUD).]

1. A mound, eminence, hill, esp. as the seat of a camp, city, castle, fort, or other building; also, an embankment.

a 1272 *Lune Ron* 121 in *O. E. Misc.* 97 Hit stont vppon a treowe mote þar hit neuer truke ne schal. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 165 Doun of the kastelle mote Isaac douhter cam, & felle R. to fote gretand. 1419 in *Surtees. Misc.* (1888) 14 That nane entir..to defoule the walles na the motes, bot thay that has taken tham to ferme, the whilke sall kytte the herbage that grewys apon the mote. 1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* V. xvii. (S. T. S.) II. 206 Ane litill mote [L. *editus locus*] in quhilk was laid ane buschement full of armit men. *c* 1630 RISDON *Surv. Devon* § 225 (1810) 241 Above the clifts appear the hanks and motes rudely cast up, called *Clovelly Dikes*. 1768 ROSS *Helenore* III. 116 Frae aff a rising mot, He cry'd to stop, an' crying stampt the ground, Until the hillock gae a trembling sound.

†**b.** *poet.* A castle, fortress; a city. *Obs.*

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 936 Þat mote þou menez in Iudy londe, Þat is þe cite þat [etc.]. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 635 Voyded of vche vylany, wyth vertuez ennourned in mote. *a* 1400 *Min. Poems fr. Vernon MS.* 489/173 Boþe þe Mot and þe molde Schon al on red golde.

2. A barrow, tumulus.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VII. i. 13 Enee..Apon the sepulture, as custum was and gise, An baye of erd and litle mote gart wpraise. 1724 *Macfarlane's Geog. Collect.* (S. H. S. 1906) I. 8 Hard by this Church..stands a remarkable artificial Mote or little hill rising up like a Piramide. 1886 G. T. STOKES *Irel. & Celtic Ch.* (1888) 72 The interior chamber of the New Grange Moat.

Mote[3] **, moot,** *sb. Hunting. Obs.* exc. *arch.* Forms: 4 **moot**, 4–6 **mote**, 4, 7 **mot**, 5 ?**motye**, 6 **mott**, 8–9 *arch.* **moot**, 9 *arch.* **mot.** [a. F. *mot* (see MOT[1]), similarly used in French hunting.] A note of a horn or bugle.

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 1364 Baldely þay blw prys..Strakande ful stoutly mony stif motez. *c* 1369 CHAUCER *Dethe Blaunche* 376 The mayster hunte..With his horne blewe thre mote At the vncouplynge of his houndes. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* VII. viii. 223 There he blewe thre dedely motys. 15.. *Chevy Chace* 16 in Wright *Songs & Ballads* (1860) 24 The blwe a mot uppone the bent. 1575 TURBERV. *Venerie* 86 Blowyng two motts with his horne to call in his fellowes and to cause the reste of the kenell to approche. 1819 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* xli, Three mots on this bugle will.. bring round..a jolly band of yonder honest yeomen.

†**Mote,** *sb.*[4] *Astr. Obs.* [ad. L. *mōtus* (*u* stem), f. *mō-, movēre* to MOVE.] Motion (of a heavenly body).

c 1391 CHAUCER *Astrol.* II. § 44 That thou findest in directe wryte in thy slate under thy rote, and adde hit to-geder, and that is thy mene mote. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) I. 89 [The sun's] proper muyn and his mot raptyue. 1839 BAILEY *Festus* xix. (1852) 299 As motion in an atom leads at last To a world's orbit—mote and motion given.

†**Mote,** *sb.*[5] *Gardening. Obs.* [a. F. *motte* (†*mote*) clod.] The soil clinging to the roots of a plant.

1693 EVELYN *De La Quint. Compl. Gard.* II. 61 Not that the Water of Rains often penetrates the Body of the Mote.

Mote (mōut), *sb.*[6] (See quots.)

1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Mote*, ..a name for the nut of the *Carapa guineensis*, used for extracting oil in Sierra-Leone. 1887 BENTLEY *Man. Bot.* (ed. 5) 508 An oil of a similar nature is also obtained from *Carapa Touloucouna*; it has been imported under the name of mote-grease.

Mote (mōut), *v.*[1] *arch.* Forms: *a.* 1 **mót** (*pl.* **móton**, *subj.* **móte**, *pl.* **móten**), 2–9 **mot** (2–5 *pl.* **mote**(**n**, 2–4 *subj. sing.* **mote**), 4–5 **moot**(**e, mut**, 5 **mowte, mutt**, 5–6 **mott**(**e**, 6 **moit**, (**mothe**), 6–7 **mought**, 6, 8 *Sc.* **mat**, 4– **mote**; *β. 2nd sing.* 1 **móst**, 2–5 **most**, 4–5 **moste**, 4 **must.** [A WGer. and Gothic preterite-present verb (wanting in Scandinavian): OE. *mót* corresp. to OFris. *mōt*, OS. *mōt, muot* may, must (Du. *moet* must), OHG., MHG. *muoz* may, must (mod.G. *muss* must), Goth. *ga-mōt* (it) has room, related to OHG. *muoza* (mod.G. *musse*) leisure :—OTeut. type **mōtā.*

The primary sense seems to be that preserved in Gothic, from which the sense 'is permitted, may' can easily have been developed. The transition from this to the sense 'is obliged, must' is more difficult to explain; it may have arisen from the use in negative contexts, where the two senses ('may not', 'must not') are nearly coincident. Normally, OTeut. **mōt* should be the perfect of a verb **mat-*, but there is no trace of a vb. of this form with a suitable sense; the word may be related to **met-* to measure (see METE *v.*). If the verb had come down to mod. English, its form would have been *moot*. Exc. in northern dialects, it seems not to have survived in colloquial use beyond the 15th c., or at latest the middle of the 16th c. In the 16th c. it was often confused with *mought* (see MAY *v.*), with which it was prob. identical in sound. In the early part of the 16th c., the verb was still used correctly as a present tense, though commonly misspelt *mought*. In the archaistic use of Spenser and later writers, on the other hand, it is, even when written *mote*, almost always a preterite except in traditional phrases.

The pa. t. (OE. *móste*) is treated under MUST. The survival of the inflected 2nd person (OE. *móst*) is doubtful after the early part of the 15th c., on account of its formal coincidence with the pa. t., which by that time had already assumed the function of a present.]

1. Expressing permission or possibility; = MAY.

† In early use sometimes with ellipsis of a verb of motion.

Beowulf 347 ȝif he us ȝeunnan wile, þæt we hine swa godne gretan moton. *a* 1000 *Cædmon's Gen.* 2473 (Gr.) Onfoð þæm fæmnum, lætað frið agon ȝistas mine, þa ic for gode wille ȝemundbyrdan, ȝif ic mot, for eow! *c* 1200 ORMIN 1266 ȝif þu..ȝeornesst tatt tu mote sket Uppcumenn inntill heoffne. *a* 1300 *X Commandm.* 2 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 15 Ȝif vs grace to wirch workis gode to heuen þat we mot enter inn. *c* 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 903 (*Thisbe*) We preyen ȝow.. That in on graue that we motyn lye. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 6 God grante I mot it wel achieve. 1437 *Libel Eng. Policy* in *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 188, I beseche God that some prayers devoute Mutt lett the seyde apparaunce probable Thys disposed wythought feyned fable. 1562 WINȜET *Cert. Tractatis* i. Wks. (S. T. S.) I. 10 To the intent that all errour and abuse being cuttit away, we al on baith sydis mot knaw the veritie. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* VI. viii. 46 Now mote ye understand that [etc.]. 1812 BYRON *Ch. Har.* I. i, Nor mote my shell awake the weary Nine To grace so plain a tale.

β. Beowulf 1671 Ic hit þe þonne ȝehate þæt þu on Heorote most sorhleas swefan.

¶**b.** Used as pa. t. (ind. or subj.) = *might, could.*

c 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 93 He was so strang in his selfe, þat he mott withstond any temptacion of þe devull. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* IV. ii. 8 Therefore he her did court, did serve, did wooe, With humblest suit that he imagine mot. 1600 FAIRFAX *Tasso* III. xiii, Within the postern stood Argantes stout To rescue her, if ill mote her betide. 1763–5 CHURCHILL *Prophecy of Fam.* Poems 1769 I. 116 And from that day Mote never Sawny tune the merry lay.

c. In wishes, forming a periphrastic subjunctive; = MAY. Often in asseverative phrases, *So mote I thee, so mote I go*, etc.

c 1275 *Passion Our Lord* 71 in *O. E. Misc.* 39 Iblessed hi seyde mote he beo þe cumeþ on godes nome. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 5150 'Sais þou soth?' 'yaa, sa mot i the'. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Frankl. T.* 49 Lerneth to suffre or elles so moot I goon Ye shul it lerne. 1471 MARG. PASTON in *P. Lett.* III. 25 Goddes hlissyng and myn mut ye have both. *a* 1518 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 2072 Ye, mary, is it, ye, so mote I goo. 1533 MORE *Apol.* 158 The kynge our souerayne lorde that now is and longe mote be, hath [etc.]. 1546 *Primer Hen. VIII* 72 Our sin forgive, Lord gratious, And our darknes mought lightened be. 1573 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xxxix. 271 Long moit thir countreis leue in pace togidder. 1586 FERNE *Blaz. Gentrie* 22 All is too litile for himzelfe and our yong maisters his zon full ill mought they both thee. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. i. 33 Well mote yee thee, as well can wish your thought. 1595 DUNCAN *App. Etymol.* (E.D.S.) 71 *Mehercle, hercle*; so Hercules mot be my helpe. 1598 R. BERNARD tr. *Terence, Heauton.* v. iv. 261 So mought thou liue after me and my husband Chremes, as thou art his and mine. 1775 W. PRESTON *Illustr. Masonry* (1781) 37 *Amen.* So mote it be. *a* 1800 *Sang Outlaw Murray* xix. in Scott *Minstr. Scott. Bord.* (1869) 62 God mot thee save, brave Outlaw Murray.

β. c 1374 CHAUCER *To Scriv.* 3 Adam scryveyne if euer it þee byfalle Boece or Troylus to wryten nuwe Vnder þy long lokkes þowe most haue þe scalle But affter my makyng þowe wryte more truwe.

2. Expressing necessity or obligation: = MUST.

In early use sometimes with ellipsis of verb, esp. of a verb of motion.

Beowulf 2886 Londrihtes mot þære mæȝburge monna æȝhwylc idel hweorfan. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 19 And þarto moten fif þing to bileuen in god. *c* 1205 LAY. 1051 Ah heo mot nede beien þe mon þe ibunden bið. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 64, & hwon ȝe alles moten uorð, creoised ful ȝeorne our muð, earen, & eien. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XIII. 261 For ar I haue bred of mele ofte mote I swete. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Man of Law's T.* 196 Bot forth she moot wher so she wepe or synge. *a* 1450 *Ibid.* 11587 (Laud MS.) Ye mote nedis [*MS. Cotton* For yow behoues] alle thre Into Egipt lond fle. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* I. xxi. 67, I merueylle moche of thy wordes that I mote dye in bataille. 1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* vii. 154 But shepheard mought be meeke and mylde, Well-eyed, as Argus was.

β. a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 102a Cheos nu þu on of þeos two; vor þet oðer þu most leten. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Man of Law's Prol.* 6 Maugree thyn heed thou most for Indigence Or stele, or begge, or borwe thy despence. *a* 1450 MYRC 14 ȝef thou plese thy sauyoure, ȝef thow be not grete clerk, Loke thow moste on thys werk.

¶**b.** Incorrectly used as pa. t.

1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* v. viii. 5 However loth he were his way to slake, Yet mote he algates now abide, and answere make. 1685 H. MORE *Paralip. Prophet.* xiv. 115 Sith he mought needs sail by Judaea.

Mote (mōut), *v.*[2] Also (sense 2) 7 moat, 9 moit. [f. MOTE *sb.*[1]]

†**1.** *intr.* ? To pick motes, to find fault. *Obs. rare*—[1].

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis, Exclam. aganis Detractouris* 28 Far eithar is, quha list syt doun to mote, Ane othir sayaris faltis to spy and note.

2. *trans.* To remove motes from wool.

1681, 1876 [see vbl. sb. below].

3. *intr.* Of wool: To show or form motes.

1880 *MS. Cotton Rep. U.S. Census*, The lint rating about the same from old or fresh land, the former motes worse in ginning.

Hence **Mo·ting** *vbl. sb.* (also *attrib.*). Also **Mo·ter**, a workman who removes motes from wool.

1681 in *New Mills Cloth Manuf.* (S.H.S.) Introd. 86 The refuse and losse upon moating and scouring of the Spanish wooll. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVII. 551/2 Such are afterwards picked out by boys or women, called 'wool-moaters', or 'wool-pickers'. 1876 W. CUDWORTH *Round about Bradford* 373 Extensive premises..containing willeying, moiting,..and condensing machinery. 1881 *Instr. Census Clerks* (1885) 64 Woollen cloth manufacture...Moater.

Mote (mōut), *v.*[3] *colloq.* [Back-formation from MOTOR.] *intr.* To drive, or ride in, a motor car. Hence **Mo·ting** *vbl. sb.*

1890 *Prospectus of 'Gen. Electric Power & Traction' Co.* June, This practical demonstration of 'Moting' is likely to prove very attractive. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 18 Jan. 4/1 Leaving London about midday we shall mote to Ascot.

Mote, obs. f. MOAT, MOOT, MOT, MOTH.

Mo·ted, *a.* [f. MOTE *sb.*[1] + -ED[2].] Full of motes.

1821 BYRON *Foscari* III. i. 101 Those moted rays of light Peopled with dusty atoms.

Mo·te-hill. *Antiq.* Also 7 mott hill, 9 moat hill. = MOTE *sb.*[2] 1. (Cf. MOOT-HILL.)

c 1682 J. OCHTERLONY *Acc. Forfar* in *Spottiswv. Misc.* (1844) I. 328 Dundie Law is at the back thereof, ane exceeding high mott hill. 1805 SCOTT *Last Minstr.* I. XXV, Dimly he view'd the Moat-hills mound, Where Druid shades still flitted round. 1851 D. WILSON *Preh. Ann.* (1863) II. III. iii. 87 Of the aboriginal strongholds we have the Mote-hill or earthen mound, steeply escarped.

Moteless (mōu·tlés), *a.* [f. MOTE *sb.*[1] + -LESS.]

†**1.** Without blemish, spotless. *Obs.*

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 898 þat moteles meyny. 1648 EARL OF WESTMORLAND *Otia Sacra* 46 (*My Looking-glass*) For if thou shouldst like to thy self, rubb'd ore, Give All for Moteless that comes Thee before.

2. Free from motes or minute dust-particles.

1880 W. S. KENT *Infusoria* I. 127 Those pure and moteless optic conditions of the atmosphere. 1890 TYNDALL in *Fortn. Rev.* 1 Jan. 7 Into one of these rooms, which was stocked with my moteless chambers, I took Mr. Carlyle.

Motele, moteley, obs. forms of MOTLEY.

Mo·teling. *rare.* [f. MOTE *sb.*[1] + -LING.] A little mote; something very small.

1605 SYLVESTER *Dn Bartas* II. iii. 1. *Vocation* 335 A cloud of Moatlings hums Above our heads. *a* 1618 — tr. *Pibrac* Wks. (Grosart) II. 24/1 It is a moatling hatcht of th' Unity. 1824 LAMB *Lett. to Hood* in E. V. Lucas *Life* II. 130, I wash my hands in fishets that come through the pump every morning thick as motelings.

Motely, obs. form of MOTLEY.

Moten, obs. pa. pple. of METE *v.*[1]

Moten(e, obs. forms of MUTTON.

Moter: see MOTE *v.*[2]; obs. form of MOTOR *sb.*

Moteryl, variant of MORTREL *Obs.*

Motet (mote·t). *Mus.* Forms: 4–5 motete, 5 motide, 7 mottet(t, 7–9 motette, 4– motet. See also MOTTETTO. [a. F. *motet* (13th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), dim. of *mot* word (see MOT). Cf. med.L. *motetum*, Sp. *motete*, It. *mottetto*.] †**a.** A melody. *Obs.* **b.** A vocal composition in harmony, set usually to words from Scripture, intended for church use.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 91 þei don not here sacrifices bi mekenesse of herte..but wiþ knackynge of newe song, as orgen or deschant & motetis of holouris. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 242 The amerous fowlys with motetys and carollys, Salwe that sesoun every morwenyng. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 244/1 Motide of musyk, *modulus*. 1597 MORLEY *Introd. Mus.* 179 A Motet is properlie a song made for the church, either vpon some hymne or Antheme, or such like. 1664 PEPYS *Diary* 4 Sept., The boy and I again to the singing of Mr. Porter's mottets. 1763 J. BROWN *Poetry & Mus.* xii. 208 The Admission of Hymns or Motets as a Part of divine Service. 1875 OUSELEY *Mus. Form* xii. 57 Many of the Motetts of Haydn and Mozart are written strictly in the modern binary form.

Motetto, obs. form of MOTTETTO.

†**Motewoke**, *a. Obs.*—[0] Forms: see quot. [f. **mōt* (? Scandinavian: cf. MSw. *mät*, *mäta*, mod.Sw. *mått* measure, Icel. *mát* moderation) + *wōk*: —OE. *wác* soft: see WEAK *a.*] Moderately soft.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 345/1 Mothe woke, neyder to nesche, ne to harde (*H.* moothewyc, or mothwoc, neþer to neysch, ne to hard, *S.* motewoke, *P.* mothwyc, or mothwoc), *dimollis*. *Ibid.* 430/2 Rere, or motewoke (*S.* mothewoke).

†**Mo·tey**, *sb. Obs.* ? Some pigment.

1426–7 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* (1905) 66 Also for vj dischis cole & xij lb moty..x d. 1446–7 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) I. 395 Et in empcione .x. dd motey pro superornacione caminorum..iijs. 1510 *Ibid.* II. 199 Mastyke vernysch yelowe moty orpment vermylyon.

Motey (mōu·ti), *a.* Also 8 motie, 9 moatie, moity. [f. MOTE *sb.*[1] + -Y. Cf. MOTTY.]

1. Full of tiny particles; full of specks, spotty.

a 1758 RAMSAY *Highland Lassie* ii, [Lasses] wha mak their cheeks with patches motie. 1893 R. BRIDGES *Shorter Poems* v. *Winnowers* 21 The sunbeams on the motey air Streamed through the open door.

2. Of wool: Full of small hard pieces.

1851 [see MOTE *sb.*[1]]. 1878 *Yorkshireman* Aug. 93 (E.D.D.) A splendid lot [of wool]..., not moity, and free from burr.

Moth (mɒþ), *sb.* Forms: 1 moþþe, *Northumb.* mohðe, mohða, 2 moȝðe, 2–3 mohþe, 4 moghe, moȝhe, moȝte, mothþe, mouȝthe, mouthe, mowȝhe, 4–5 motthe, moþþe, moughte, mouȝte, 5 moghte, mote, mougthe, mowght(e, 5–6 mought, 5–7 mothe, 6 moght, mowthe, 6–7 moath, 6– moth. Also *Sc.* MOCH *sb.* [OE. *moþþe, mohðe* wk. fem., corresponds to MDu. *motte* (mod.Du. *mot* fem.), late MHG. and mod.G. *motte* fem. (? from LG.), ON. *motte* wk. masc. (Sw., Norw. *mott* maggot, weevil).

The phonology is obscure. The word has usually been supposed to be cogn. w. OE. *maða* maggot (see MATHE), which is plausible as regards the sense; but the OE. form *mohðe* points rather to the Teut. root **mug-* as in MIDGE.]

1. A small nocturnal lepidopterous insect of the genus *Tinea*, which breeds in cloth, furs, etc., on which its larva feeds; a clothes-moth. In early use, the name seems to have been applied rather to the larva than to the insect itself. From the 16th c. it has been taken to denote primarily the insect in its winged state, and applied to any nocturnal lepidopterous insect of similar appearance.

†*False moth* (tr. mod.L. *pseudo-tinea*, Réaumur): an insect closely resembling the clothes-moth, but feeding on leaves.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. vi. 20 Ðer ne hrust ne ec mohðe ȝespilles. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Luke xii. 33 Þyder ðeof ne ȝe-nealæcð ne ne (*sic*) moððe [*c* 1160 *Hatton* moȝðe] ne ȝe-wemð. *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* 29 Mohðe fret te claðes & cwalm slað þat ahte. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 5572 And wormes and moghes on þe same manere, þat in þair clathes has bred here. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVIII. CV. (1495) 849 A moughte hyght Tinea and is a worme of clothes. *c* 1412 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 225 As motthes to a clobe annoyen, And of his wolle maken it al bare. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 346/1 Mowȝte, clothe wyrme (*K.* mowhe, *S.* mow, *P.* mowghe), *tinea*. *c* 1520 ANDREW *Noble Lyfe* III. xvi, The Asshes of hym is gode to make white tethe & to kepe the motes out of the clothes. 1534 *Inv. Wardr. Kath. Arragon* in *Camden Misc.* (1855) 30 Oone counterpoynte..sore perisshid withe mowthis. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Ps.* VI. vi, Woe, lyke a moth, my face's beauty eates. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 696 The Moath breedeth upon Cloth;..It delighteth to be about the Flame of a Candle. 1683 SOAME & DRYDEN tr. *Boileau's Art Poetry* III. 48 Neglected heaps we in by-corners lay, Where they become to Worms and Moths a prey. 1755 JOHNSON, *Moth*, a small winged insect that eats cloths and hangings. 1763 MILLS *Syst. Pract. Husb.* III. 53 False Moth. 1857 MRS. CARLYLE *Lett.* (1883) II. 313 She let the moths get into my fur last year.

b. *fig.* Something that eats away, gnaws or wastes gradually and silently. Now *rare*.

1577 WHETSTONE *Life Gascoigne* xxvi, The valiant man, so playes a pleasant parte: When mothes of mone, doo gnaw vppon his hart. 1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* II. ii. § 4 The Corruptions and Mothes of Historie, which are Epitomes. *c* 1680 BEVERIDGE *Serm.* (1729) I. 535 That which ye have unlawfully gotten..will be a moth in your estates, which will..eat them up. 1861 DORA GREENWELL *Poems* 208 This garment old And fretted by the moth Thy love hath borne Upon Thee.

c. in allusion to the insignificance or fragility of the moth, or to its liability to be attracted by the flame of a candle to its own destruction.

1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* II. ix. 79 Thus hath the candle sing'd the moath. 1613 CHAMBERLAIN in *Court & Times Jas. I* (1848) I. 264 But you had not need meet with many such poor moths as Master Pory, who must have both meat and money. 1784 COWPER *Task* VI. 211 So man, the moth, is not afraid, it seems, To span Omnipotence. 1866 RUSKIN in Collingwood *Life* (1893) II. 63 We don't deserve either such blessing or cursing, it seems to poor moth me.

†**d.** Applied vaguely to various kinds of animal parasites or 'vermin', as lice, bugs, cockroaches.

c 1460 J. RUSSELL *Bk. Nurture* 280 Ne youre heere ye stryke, ne pyke to pralle for a flesche mought. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* II. XXXVII. 196 This herbe dryueth away and killeth the stinking wormes or Mothes called Cimici. 1658 ROWLAND tr. *Moufet's Theat. Ins.* 998 There are three sorts of Blattæ; the soft Moth, the mill Moth, and the unsavoury or stinking Moth. 1748 tr. *Vegetius' Distemp. Horses* 83 Small Maggots or Moths, which others call Lice cause an intolerable Pain in the Intestines.

†**e.** transl. of L. *tinea*: A disease of the scalp.

1600 SURFLET *Country Farm* I. xii. 84 For the falling of the haire called the moth, wash the head [etc.].

2. *Ent.* Any insect of that one of the two great divisions of the *Lepidoptera* which includes the 'moths' in the older sense.

According to the ordinary modern use, the 'moths' are the same as the *Heterocera*, which are distinguished from the *Rhopalocera* ('butterflies') in that their antennæ are not clubbed. Most of them are of nocturnal habit.

1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp., Phalenæ*..the name by which authors distinguish those butterflies which fly by night, and which the French thence call *papilions nocturnes*, and we vulgarly *moths*. *Ibid.*, Those moths which have large and heavy bodies..always make a great noise in flying. 1759 JOHNSON *Idler* No. 64 ¶ 5, I happened to catch a moth of peculiar variegation. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* II. 5 When these were on, And we as rich as moths from dusk cocoons. 1902 CORNISH *Naturalist Thames* 43 The first butterfly, to use an Irishism, was a moth, a sphinx moth.

b. With defining word, in popular names of particular species or genera, as BURNET-*moth*, CODLING-*moth*, GIPSY-*moth*, HAWK-MOTH, etc.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *moth-grub, -wing*, also *moth-like* adj. and adv.; **moth-blight**, various species of homopterons insects of the genus *Aleurodes*, which are destructive to plants; **moth-fly** = *moth-gnat*; **moth freckle**, 'a term for *Chloasma*' (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1891); †**moth-fretten** *a.*, moth-eaten; **moth-gnat**, a dipterous insect of the family *Psychodidæ*; **moth-hunter**, (*a*) one who hunts for moths; (*b*) a name for the Nightjar; **moth-miller**, ? a white moth, the miller; **moth orchid**, an orchid of the genus *Phalænopsis*, the flower of which resembles a moth; **moth patch**, 'a synonym of *Chloasma*' (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*); **moth sphinx**, 'a moth of the family *Castniidæ*' (Cassell's *Suppl.* 1902); **moth-time**, the time of evening when moths abound; †**moth-weed** = *mothwort*; **moth-worm**, the larva of a moth; †**mothwort**, the plant *Helichrysum Stœchas*.

1855 OGILVIE Suppl., **Moth-blight*. 1668 CHARLETON *Ornomast.* 47 *Blatta*..the *Moth-fly, produced out of the Meal-Worm. 1791 *Trans. Soc. Arts* IX. 114 The moth-fly..gets in and lays her eggs in the comb. 1899 D. SHARP *Insects* II. 470 Fam. 7—*Psychodidae* (Moth Flies).—Extremely small, helpless flies [etc.]. 13.. *St. Erkenwolde* 85 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 268 Oþer of moulynge oþer of motes oþir *moght fretene. 1855 OGILVIE Suppl., **Moth-gnats*. 1840 *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 196 The *Moth-hunters bear the same relationship to the Swifts (not to the Swallows) that the Owls do to the Hawks. 1797 MARY WOLLSTONECR. in C. K. Paul *W. Godwin* (1876) I. 242, I spare the *moth-like appearance. 1839 BAILEY *Festus* ix. (1852) 121 From him who hovereth, mothlike, round the sun To six-mooned Ouranus. 1885 S. O. JEWETT *Marsh Isl.* xiii, Come and sit down, and don't flit about so, mother; you make me think of a singed *moth-miller. 1880 F. W. BURBIDGE *Gardens of Sun* II. 18 In Singaporean gardens the rarest of *moth orchids are planted in cocoanut-shells. 1819 KEATS *Lamia* I. 222 Now on the *moth-time of that evening dim He would return that way. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. CXCVI. 520 The branches and leaues laid among clothes keepeth them from moths, whereupon it [*Eliochrysson*] hath bene called of some *Mothweede or Mothwoort. 1612 AINSWORTH *Annot. Ps.* VI. 8 Ghnash is a *moth-worme, Psalm 39. 12. that fretteth garments. 1885 H. C. MCCOOK *Tenants of Old Farm* 91 The moth-worms pass the summer within these silk-lined rolls. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* I. lxi. 89 Called..in English Golde floure, *Motheworte, or Golden Stechados. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. CXCVI. 519 Of Golden Mothwoort, or Cudweede.

Moth (mɒþ), *v.* [f. MOTH *sb.*[1]] *intr.* To hunt for moths. Chiefly in **Mo·thing** *vbl. sb.*

1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* IV. l. 518 The former colour..is most proper for mothing in the night. 1894 *Naturalist* 14 Geometræ have been on the whole very scarce, and mothing at and after dusk uniformly unproductive.

Moth, obs. form of MOTE *sb.*[1], MOUTH *sb.*

†**Mothe**, *a. Obs.* [? a. ON. *móð-r* weary (OSw. *móþ-er* annoyed, disquieted.] ? Disquieted, annoyed.

c 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 859 Þe childre wer confused and mothe. *Ibid.* 6186 He wald noȝt trowe, bot made him mothe, And said he wald it se.

Mothe, obs. f. MOTE *sb.*[1] and *v.*[1], MOUTH *sb.*

†**Moth-eat**, *v. Obs.* [Back-formation from next.] *trans.* To eat away by or as by moths.

1598 FLORIO, *Carolare*..to worme or moth-eate. 1638 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (ed. 2) 61 From whence ruine and neglect have moatheaten her. 1721 WODROW *Hist. Suff. Ch. Scot.* (1829) II. II. xiii. 498 The younger ministers did either motheat or too much suffer to be motheaten by the Vulgar the reputation of such who did not follow their way.

Mo·th-eaten, *a.* Eaten away or destroyed by moths. Often *fig.*

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. X. 362 Owre bakkes þat moth-eten be. 1551 ROBINSON tr. *More's Utopia* Ep. (1895) 25 Whatsoeuer is not stuffed full of olde moughteaten termes. *a* 1660 *Contemp. Hist. Irel.* (Ir. Archæol. Soc.) III. 85 Sufficient motiue to moue the moat-eaten conferences of these poysonall anti-Catholicks. 1796 MRS. M. ROBINSON *Angelina* I. 241 Like a bale of cotton..grown yellow by keeping, and moth-eaten by ill-nature. 1809 E. S. BARRETT *Setting Sun* I. 28 The old system is moth-eaten, and kings have had a severe lesson. 1882 J. HAWTHORNE *Fort. Fool* I. X, The mortality symbolised by the poor moth-eaten clothes.

Mothed (mɒþt), *ppl. a.* [f. MOTH *v.* + -ED[1].] Full of moths, moth-eaten.

1835 BROWNING *Paracelsus* IV. 212 From closet long to quiet vowed, With mothed and dropping arras hung.

†**Mo·then**, *a. Obs.* [f. MOTH + -EN[4] (if not a misprint for *moth-eaten*).] Full of moths.

1580 FULKE *Confut. Allen* 125 We take not vp olde, mouldie, and mothen parchementes to seeke our progenitours names. [Hence 1818 in TODD; and in later Dicts.]

Mother (mv·ðəɹ), *sb.* Forms: 1 móder, -or, -ur, (módder), *dat.* méd(d)er, mœder, 3 moderr, (? moðer), *pl.* modren, 4–5 modire, modre, modur, modyr(e, mooder, 5 modure, 6 moeder, mothir, *Sc.* muddir, muder, 8–9 *Sc.* mither, 5– mother. [Com. Teut, (but wanting in Gothic) and Indo-Germanic: OE. *módor* = OFris. *módar*, OS. *môdar*, *muodar* (Du. *moeder*, LG. *moder*), OHG. *muotar*, *-er* (MHG. *muoter*, mod.G. *mutter*), ON. *móðer* (Sw., Da. *moder*):—OTeut. **môdar-* (cons.-stem):—pre-Tent. **mātĕr-*, cogn. w. Skr. **mātṛ*, *mātar-*, Gr. *μᾰτηρ-*, *μᾰτέρ-*

(Doric), *μήτηρ, μητέρ-* (Attic and Ionic), L. *māter*, OSl. *mati*, OIrish *māthir*.

As in the case of FATHER, the substitution of *th* for the earlier *d* dates from the beginning of the 16th c., though the pronunciation with (*ð*) probably existed earlier. The occasional occurrence of the spelling *moþer* in the 14th c. (e. g. in the Göttingen MS. of the Cursor Mundi) has prob. no phonetic significance, being due to association with words like *broþer, oþer*, which in fact occur in the immediate context of several of the examples. The development of OE. *ð* to mod.E. *v* (through *ð̄, u*, u) is normal in the case of words in *-ther, -der*: cf. *brother, other, rudder*. In OE. the genitive sing. normally coincided in form with the nom., and many instances of the uninflected genitive occur in ME. and early mod.E. (see also 15 b). The genitive *móderes* is common in the Northumbrian gospels (10th c.).]

1. A female parent; a woman who has given birth to a child. Correlative with *son* or *daughter*.

As with other terms of relationship, *my* is (exc. in poetic language) commonly omitted before *mother* used vocatively. On the other hand, in the 3rd person the use of *mother* for *my mother* is colloquial and familiar; in the middle of the 19th c. it was regarded as vulgar, or at least as unfashionable, but has now regained currency.

c 1050 *Voc. in* Wr.-Wülcker 450/25 *Mater*, anes cildes modor. *Materfamilias*, manizra cilda modur. *c* 1200 ORMIN 168 He heþ full off Haliȝ Gast ȝet in his moderr wambe. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 931 Of his feader soð godd, & of his moder soð mon. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1434 Ysaac ..wunede ðor in ðoȝt and care, for moderes dead and sondes care. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 447 He was consayved synfully With-in his awen moder body. 1340 *Ayenb.* 67 Þis zenne is ine uele maneres ase..ine children aye hare uaderes and hare modren. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Doctor's T.* 93 Ye fadres and ye moodres. *c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* II. vi. 488 And thare modyre banys ta. *c* 1511 *1st Eng. Bk. Amer.* (Arb.) Introd. 33/1 The[y] ete theym all rawe, both there one fader or moeder. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 13 As infantes or tender babes newe borne of theyr mother. 1556 *Chron. Gr. Friars* (Camden) 25 The qwenys moder dicessyd. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* II. i. 255 Then was Venus like her mother, for her father is but grim. 1607 — *Cor.* IV. i. 15 Nay Mother. *Ibid.* 27 My Mother, you wot well [etc.]. *c* 1633 MILTON *Arcades* 22 Cybele, Mother of a hunderd gods. 1702 C. MATHER *Magn. Chr.* VI. ii. (1852) 356 She lived to be a mother of several children. 1790 COWPER *Receipt Mother's Picture* 21 My mother! when I learn'd that thou wast dead. *c* 1830 T. H. BAYLY *Song*, '*We met —'twas in a crowd*', Oh, thou hast been the cause of this anguish, My mother!

b. Said of animals.

Rare in ME. and early mod.E., being superseded by DAM *sb.*[1] 2, which afterwards became restricted to quadrupeds, and is now rarely used exc. of mares.

a 900 *Laws Alfred* xvi, ȝif mon cu oððe stodmyran forstele & folan oððe cealf ofadrife, forȝelde mid scill. & þa moder be hiora weorðe. 1382 WYCLIF *Exod.* xxiii. 19 Thow shalt not seethe a kydde in the mylk of his moder. [So all later versions.] 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* IX. 380 Young Chickens, which are not hatched by their mothers, but in the Fernace. 1692 R. L'ESTRANGE *Fables* ccxxi. 193 Pray Mother (says the Young Crab) do but set the Example your self, and I'll follow ye. 1868 TENNYSON *Lucretius* 100 And lambs are glad Nosing the mother's udder.

c. *Mother of God, God's Mother* (= Gr. Θεοτόκος): a frequent designation of the Virgin Mary in Pre-Reformation and Roman Catholic use.

c 1122 *A. E. Chron.* an. 994 (Laud MS.) Se halize Godes modor. *c* 1410 HOCCLEVE *Mother of God* 1 Modir of god, and virgyn undefouled. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* lxxxv. 405 (Add. MS.) That blessyd ladie, goddis modre. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 161/1 Goddes modyr; *mater dei, theoticus*. 1591 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. VI*, I. ii. 78. 1898 W. K. JOHNSON *Terra Tenebr.* 105 Mother of God, we here enthrone Thee, thy slain Son, within thy house.

d. *abstr.* (*a*) Womanish qualities inherited from the mother. (*b*) That which is characteristic of motherhood; maternal affection.

1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, IV. vi. 31 But I had not so much of man in mee, And all my mother came into my eyes, And gaue me vp to teares. 1745 POPE *Odyss.* XI. 188 Strait all the mother in her soul awakes. 1747 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* I. 121, I thought, by the glass before me, I saw the mother in her soften'd eye cast towards me. 1807 J. BARLOW *Columb.* III. 186 Thrice have those lovely lips the victim prest, And all the mother torn that tender breast. 1847 MARY HOWITT *Ballads* 33 The mother in my soul was strong. 1884 TENNYSON *Becket* V. ii, Look! how this love, this mother, runs thro' all The world God made.

e. In extended sense: A female ancestress. Now *rare* exc. in *our first mother*.

c 1050 *Suppl. Ælfric's Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 173/11 *Proauuia*, þridde moder. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 934 Eue sco hight eue fra þat dai, þat moder of mani es for to sai. 14.. *Nom.* in Wr.-Wülcker 689/41 *Hec proava*, the forne modyre. 1611 BIBLE *Gen.* xvii. 16 Yea I wil blesse her, and she shalbe a mother of nations. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* XI. 159 Whence Haile to thee Eve rightly call'd, Mother of all Mankind.

f. Applied to a stepmother or a mother-in-law.

c 1546 EDW. VI *Let. to Q. Cath. Parr* in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. I. II. 131 Most honorable and entirely beloued mother. 1589 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* IV. 444 His Hienes, invited be his darrest moder the Quene of Denmarkis .. letters. 1859 TENNYSON *Geraint* 779 O my new mother, be not wroth or grieved At thy new son, for my petition to her.

g. Proverbs and proverbial phrases. † *To take one's* (own) *mother for a maid*: app. orig. intended to exemplify extreme simplicity. *To have too much of his mother's blessing*: said of a youth who is unreasonably prudish or scrupulous. *Does your mother know you're out?* (slang): a jeering question addressed to one who shows excessive simplicity or juvenile presumption.

[1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* II. ii. 40 *Fal.* Good-morrow, good-wife. *Qui.* Not so and't please your worship. *Fal.* Good maid, then. *Qui.* Ile be sworne, As my mother was the first houre I was borne.] 1606 BRYSKETT *Civ. Life* 102 Too much, is harmeful euen in iustice it self: whereupon is growne..our English prouerbe, that too much of a mans mothers blessing is not good. 1664 COTTON *Scarron.* I. 48 So smug she [Venus] was, and so array'd He took his Mother for a Maid. 16.. *MS. Ashm.* 36 If. 112 If euor Ice doe come heare againe, Ice zaid, Chil give thee my Mother vor a maid. 1838 ? T. MARTIN in *Bentley's Miscell.* III. 416 And she asked me 'How's your mother? Does she know that you are out?' 1842 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg., Misadv. Margate*, 'Sir, does your mother know that you are out?'

2. *fig.* Applied to things more or less personified, with reference either to a metaphorical giving birth, to the protecting care exercised by a mother, or to the affectionate reverence due to a mother.

a. Said of a quality, condition, event, etc., that gives rise to some other.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Pard. T.* 263 Hasard is verray mooder of lesynges, And of deceite and cursed forswerynges. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* V. xiv. 555 Loue to money..is moder of passing myche yuel. 1463-4 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 507/1 Ydelnes, moder of all vyces. 1573 *New Custom* I. i, That I Ignorance am the mother of true deuotion. 1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* V. xv. § 1 The mother of such magnificence (they thinke) is but only a proude ambitious desire to be spoken of farre and wide. 1611 B. JONSON *Catiline* III. ii, For 'tis despaire that is the mother of madnesse. 1766 FRANKLIN *Let.* Wks. 1887 III. 463, I congratulate you on the repeal of that mother of mischiefs, the Stamp Act. 1799 *Hull Advertiser* 21 Dec. 4/2 The..maxim that 'freight is the mother of wages'. 1824 LAMB *Elia* Ser. II. *Blakesmoor in H—shire*, The solitude of childhood is not so much the mother of thought.

b. Said of the earth. See also MOTHER EARTH.

a 1000 *Charms* i. 69 Hal wes þu, folde, fira modor. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 122 Of euerilc ouȝt, of euerilc sed, Was erðe mad moder of sped. 1600 SURFLET *Country Farm* I. iv. 13 As for the earth..it beareth all manner of corne, fruits,..and other things,..and heereupon old writers haue iustly giuen vnto it the due name of mother. 1625 BACON *Ess., Riches* (Arb.) 235 Our Great Mothers Blessing, the Earths. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* V. 338 Whatever Earth all-bearing Mother yeilds In India East or West. 1822 SHELLEY tr. *Calderon's Mag. Prodig.* ii. 79 O Beloved earth, dear mother. 1821 LAMB *Elia* Ser. I. *Old Benchers*, But the common mother of us all in no long time after received him gently into her lap. 1876 [see MOTHERLY 3].

c. Said of the church: see CHURCH *sb.* 8.

Mother Church is either treated as a quasi-proper name (though initial capitals are not always used) or preceded by a possessive pronoun.

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XVI. 197 Children of charite & holicherche þe moder. *c* 1460 *Wisdom* 992 in *Macro Plays* 68 Now haue ye for-yeffnes þat were fylyde, To prey yowur modyr chyrche of her proteccion. 1539 PERY in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. II. 145 According to the lawdehwll usse and costom of owr holly mother Chwrche. 1630 YAXLEE *Morbus & Antid.* To Rdr., The obedient sonne of my deare Mother the true Church of England. 1695 J. EDWARDS *Perfect. Script.* 589 A learned and pious son of our mother. 1726 AYLIFFE *Parergon* 22 The Good of Mother Church, as well as that of Civil Society, renders a Judicial Practice in criminal Cases entirely necessary. 1784 COWPER *Task* II. 576 So we, no longer taught By monitors that mother church supplies [etc.]. 1833 *Tracts for Times* No. 13. 6 The mysterious time of Christmas approaching, our Mother, with true parental anxiety, takes up..the thread of her instructions anew.

d. Said of a country, city, etc., in relation to its natives.

[1382 WYCLIF *Gal.* iv. 26: literally from Vulg.] *c* 1550 BALE *K. Johan* (Camden) 66 O Englande, Englande! showe now thyselfe a mother, Thy people wyll els be slayne here without nomber. 1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II*, I. iii. 307 Then Englands ground farewell: sweet soil adieu, My Mother, and my Nurse. 1699 *Rhode Isl. Col. Rec.* (1858) III. 374 We being wholly ruled and governed by the good and wholesome [laws] of our Mother, the kingdom of England. 1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* II. vii, I have always borne that laudable Partiality to my own Country, which [etc.]..: I would hide the Frailties and Deformities of my political Mother. 1786 BURNS *Ernest Cry & Pr.* Postscr. vii, Scotland, my auld, respected Mither! 1851 BORROW *Lavengro* xvi, 'What horse is that?'..'The best in mother England', said the very old man. 1901 HENLEY *Hawthorn & Lavender*, etc. 102 Blow, you bugles of England, blow Over the camps of the fallen foe—Blow glory and pity to the victor Mother, Sad, O, sad in her sacrificial dead!

e. Said of one's university. Cf. ALMA MATER.

1647-8 WOOD *Life* 15 Feb. (O. H. S.) I. 140 Who fed with the papp of Aristotle at twenty or thirtie yeares of age, and suck at the duggs of their mother the University. 1721 AMHERST *Terræ Fil.* Ded. (1754) 5, I had much rather have your approbation than your censure, and enjoy the favour of my deaf mother.

f. Applied to Nature, and occasionally to other personified abstractions represented as protecting or controlling powers.

1601 R. JOHNSON *Kingd. & Commw.* (1603) 35 Whereas mother Nature hath interlaced so riotously her golden and siluer veins in the bosom and wombe of Peru. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 181 Experience, the mother of fooles. 1764 GOLDSM. *Trav.* 81 Nature, a mother kind alike to all. 1813 SHELLEY *Q. Mab* VI. 198 Necessity! thou mother of the world! 1866 M. ARNOLD *Thyrsis* xviii, And now in happier air Wandering with the great Mother's train divine.

g. Said of a city, country, institution from which another originates as an offshoot.

1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 280 b, The churche of Rome, mother and maistres of al others. 1838 THIRLWALL *Greece* II. xii. 106 It [Sinope] became in its turn the mother of several flourishing cities.

h. In physical sense: The material source of a substance; also, the parent stock on which anything grows, or the main stem or channel from which others branch off.

c 1384 CHAUCER *H. Fame* 1083 Auenture, That is the moder of tydynges, As the see of welles and sprynges. 1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* V. xviii. 378 Saying, that these shells were daughters of the sea, the mother of all waters. 1611 COTGR., *Artere aorte*, the great Arterie, mother Arterie, or mother of arteries. 1668 CULPEPPER & COLE *Barthol. Anat.* Man. I. iii. 306 All the Veins of the whole Body are referred unto two as their Mothers. 1675 EVELYN *Terra* (1676) 44 Water..was by some thought to be the Mother of Earth. 1681 GREW *Musæum* III. I. iv. 283 Another clear Crystal, growing on a Semiperspicuous Mother. 1721 BRADLEY *Philos. Acc. Wks. Nat.* 41 The fruit of the Indian Fig ..will strike Root and become a Plant as perfect as the mother it was taken from. 1868 LOCKYER *Elem. Astron.* iii. § 15 (1879) 85 Aqueous vapour is the great mother of clouds.

3. A woman who exercises control like that of a mother, or who is looked up to as a mother.

a. One who has religious authority or dignity. Often applied to the Virgin Mary (cf. 1 c).

c 1366 CHAUCER *A. B. C.* 133 Mooder, of whom oure merci gan to springe Beth ye my juge & eek my soules leche. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xviii. (*Egipciane*) 307 Spirituale modyr, quhat-sa þu be, for godis sak schau þe to me! 1563 WINȜET *Four Scoir Thre Quest.* Wks. (S. T. S.) I. 73 The glorius Virgine, the Mothir. *a* 1711 KEN *Psyche* Poet. Wks. 1721 IV. 165 Sophronia ..Who of her sex the guidance nicely skill'd,..Heav'n for their Ghostly Mother had design'd. 1868 SIR H. W. BAKER in *Hymns A. & M.* App. No. 376 Shall we not love thee, Mother dear, Whom Jesus loves so well?

b. A title given to the head or superior of a female religious community.

1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* I. iv. 86, I will about it strait, No longer staying, but to giue the Mother Notice of my affaire. 1611 BEAUM. & FL. *Philaster* II. ii, The reuerend mother sent me word, They would all be for the garden. 1798 JOANNA BAILLIE *De Monfort* V. vi, *Freberg* [to Abbess] And you have wisely done, my rev'rend mother. 1820 SCOTT *Abbot* xii, They call me Lady Abbess, or Mother at the least, who address me. 1883 MRS. CRAIK in *Longm. Mag.* Jan. 306, I could understand how the Mother was just the woman to be head of a community like this. 1907 *Athenæum* 2 Nov. 545/3 The astute yet saintly mother-superior.

† **c.** *Mother of the maids*: the head of the maids of honour in a Royal household. *Obs.*

1577-8 *New Yr.'s Gifts* in Nichols *Progr. Eliz.* (1823) II. 88 To Mrs. Hyde, Mother of the Mades. 1633 BROME *North. Lass* I. iv, She might ha' been Mother o' the Maids. 1682 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) I. 159 The lady Sanderson, mother of the maids of honour to her majestie, was interred in the abby. 1711 HEARNE *Collect.* (O.H.S.) III. 132 Mrs. *** Mother of the Maids to K. James II[ds] Queen.

d. In occasional uses.

1897 *Daily News* 13 July 8/7 Separate cottage buildings, each under the charge of a person called a 'mother', had been established [as homes for girls].

4. A term of address for an elderly woman of the lower class. Also used (instead of *Mrs.*) as a prefix to the surname of such a person.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Wife's T.* 149 My leeue mooder, quod this knyght [etc.]. 1476 *Paston Lett.* III. 148 That owther Syme or Mother Brown maye deliver it me to morow. 1496-7 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* (1905) 34 Item, a Towell of the gyfte of Mother Ienet. 1533 J. HEYWOOD *Play of Love* C iij b, Mother quoth I how doth my dere darlyng. 1588 *Nottingham Rec.* IV. 221 At one wyddoez house named Mother Jane. 1593 *Tell-troth's N. Y. Gift* (1876) 13 While mother trot and her fellowes were descanting on others honesty. 1847 C. BRONTE *Jane Eyre* xix, 'Well, and you want your fortune told', she said...'I don't care about it, mother; you may please yourself'.

b. *Mother Carey's Chicken, Goose*: see CHICKEN 4, GOOSE 2. *Mother Hubbard*: a kind of cloak (named after a person celebrated in a well-known nursery rime). *Mother Shipton*: the name of a legendary 'prophetess' of the 16th c.; adopted as the name of a moth, *Euclidea mi* (also called the *Shipton moth*).

1591 SPENSER (*title*) Prosopopoia, or Mother Hubberds Tale. 1882 W. F. KIRBY *Europ. Butterflies & M.* (1903) Plate xlii, Euclidia Mi—Mother Shipton. 1883 *Fort. Rev.* 1 Sept. 351 The ugly and unbecoming covering so long popular as the Mother Hubbard cloak. 1894 *Outing* XXIV. 271/1 Six years ago the finest dress to be seen was a calico Mother Hubbard.

II. Technical applications.

5. In obsolete scientific uses: after L. *mater*.

† **a.** *Anat.* In the names of certain structures in the brain. *Hard mother* = DURA MATER; *godly, meek, mild, soft mother* = PIA MATER. *Obs.*

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* V. i. (Tollem. MS.), Þe harde moder and þe milde moder. *Ibid.* V. iii. (1495) 105. *Ibid.* 106 The seconde webbe and skynne of the brayne hyghte pia mater the meke moder. 1541 R. COPLAND *Guydon's Quest. Chirurg.* E j, The soft moder by vaynes. 1594 [see GODLY *a.* 3]. 1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* 444 The one of these..is thicke and called *dura mater* the hard Mother, the other..thinne called *pia mater*, the deere or neere Mother.

† **b.** *Astrol.* = MATER I. *Obs.*

c 1391 CHAUCER *Astrol.* I. § 3 The Moder of thyn Astrolabie is the thikkeste plate.

† **c.** *Geomancy*. (See quot. 1591.)

1591 SPARRY tr. *Cattan's Geomancie* 8 These four figures be called the mothers, whereof the first is attributed to the Fire, the second to the Aire, the third to the Water, the fourth to the Earthe. 1653 R. SANDERS *Physiogn.* 32, I erected my Figure, drawing from my points and lines, a Mother. 1889 *Sat. Rev.* 16 Feb. 175/1 You then have in all four geomantic figures, which are called the mothers.

The top spot (or pair of spots) of each mother is called the head, the second the neck, &c.

6. = *Mother-liquor, -water*: see 16 a.

1611 FLORIO, *Acqua Maestra*, the master-water. Salt-peeter men call it mother of Salt peeter. 1674 RAY *Collection* 136 (Manner of making Vitriol) The liquor that remains after the vitriol is crystallized, they call the mother. 1678 *Phil. Trans.* XII. 1055 When the Work is begun, and Alum once made, then they save the Liquour which comes from the Alum, or wherein the Alum shoots, which they call Mothers. 1681 GREW *Musæum* III. § iii. i. 343 The Lee after the first shooting of the Alum; is called Mothers. 1758 REID tr. *Macquer's Chym.* I. 240 Evaporate and crystallize... Repeat the same operation till the liquor will yield no more crystals: it will then be very thick, and goes by the name of *Mother of Nitre*. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XV. 448/1 *Mother-water*. When any saline solution has been evaporated so as to deposit crystals on cooling, the remaining solution is termed the mother-water, or sometimes merely the mothers.

7. (More fully, *artificial mother*.) An apparatus for rearing chickens artificially.

1807 *Trans. Soc. Arts* XXV. 25 Artificial mothers for the chickens to run under. 1830 'B. MOUBAY' *Dom. Poultry* (ed. 6) 48 An artificial mother cannot be dispensed with, under which the chickens may brood and shelter. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl., *Mother*, the hen-mother at Baker's Cresshill poultry farm is of hollow zinc, filled with hot water [etc.]. 1906 *Westm. Gaz.* 14 Nov. 8/3 Incubators, and poultry 'mothers'.

8. A cask or vat used in vinegar-making.

1830 M. DONOVAN *Dom. Econ.* I. 329 Into each vat or mother are poured twenty-two gallons of good vinegar boiling. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 3 The vessels employed for carrying on the fermentation are casks, called mothers.

9. The inner bark of a cork-tree.

1862 *Illustr. Lond. News* 25 Jan. 101/1 The first act of the cultivator is to separate it [the 'male'] from the trunk, which thus leaves exposed the liber, termed 'mother'.

10. *Naut.* = *mother-ship*: see 16 a, below.

1907 *Daily Chron.* 5 Aug. 4/4 Four 'mothers' and the 'Sapphire', flagship of Admiral Montgomerie.

III. 11. The womb. *Obs.*

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* v. xlix. (1495) 166 The moder in wymen is synguler membre disposyd as a bladder. 14.. *Parts of Hum. Body* in Wr.-Wülcker 632/7 Modure, *matrix*. 1545 RAYNOLD *Byrth Mankynde* 9 These thre woordes, the matrix, the mother, and the wombe do sygnyfie but one thyng. 1609 HOLLAND *Amm. Marcell.* 55 The daintie meat made of the mother..of a young sow. 1657 W. COLES *Adam in Eden* ix. 20 The lesser Lavander is much commended in all Diseases of the Mother. 1681 W. ROBERTSON *Phraseol. Gen.* (1693) 897 The mother or womb; *matrix*. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Hystera*, the Mother or Womb. *fig.* 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XI. xiv. (Tollem. MS.), As Gregory sayeþ, he [lightning] comeþ oute of his moder [L. *de matrice sua*] as a twynkelynge of an ye. 1610 WILLET *Hexapla Dan.* 291 That first law was the mother and wombe as it were of all Gods precepts.

† **b.** *Rising* (*suffocation, swelling upward*, etc.) *of the mother*: Hysteria.

1527 ANDREW *Brunswyke's Distyll. Waters* M iv, Dronke of the same water..is very good for women whose moder dooth ronne upwarde to the harte. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 40 The rising or suffocation of the mother in women, ..it cureth. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 935 They doe use for the Accident of the Mother, to burn Feathers [etc.]: and by those Ill Smels the Rising of the Mother is put down.

12. Hysteria: equivalent to the phrases in 11 b. Also *fits of the mother*. *Obs.* or *arch.*

14.. *Stockh. Med. MS.* II. 314 in *Anglia* XVIII. 315 It is good to playster & many oþer thyng For þe moder & to drynkyng. 1545 RAYNOLD *Byrth Mankynde* 116 [Diseases of infants.] Fearefulnesse in the dreames: the mother: yssuynge out of the fundament gut. 1605 SHAKS. *Lear* II. iv. 56 Oh how this Mother swels vp toward my heart! *Histerica passio*, downe thou climing sorrow. 1607 TOPSELL *Hist. Fourf. Beasts* (1658) 104 It pacifieth the milt,.. expelleth away mothers. 1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* 231 Many passions called *Hystericæ*, which we call fits of the Mother. 1620 VENNER *Via Recta* (1650) 63 It is not fit for women to use that are subject to hystericall fits, which they call the Mother. 1672 JOSSELYN *New Eng. Rarities* 86 Mayweed, excellent for the mother. 1706–7 FARQUHAR *Beaux Strat.* I. i, She cures..fits of the mother, in women. 1792 SIBLY *Occult Sciences* I. 103 The particular diseases of this sign are..hardness of the spleen, mother, hypocondriac melancholy. 1820 MAIA *Tyro's Dict.* (ed. 10) 373 *Strangulatus*, a disease in women called the mother.

IV. Quasi-adj. and in Combination.

13. Used *appositively*: = 'that is a mother'.

a. *lit.*, of animals.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 14969 A moder ass yee sal þar find, And yee hir sal vn-do vte of hir band. 1465 *Paston Lett.* II. 211 There lefte behynde of Heylesdonfolde of my mastre schepe xlj modreschep. 1630 in R. Griffiths *Ess. Conservancy Thames* (1746) 74 No Trinck shall stand to fish before any Breach Mouth at the rising or sinking of any Mother-Fishes, or in the Time of Spawn or Brood of Fishes. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 87 The Mother Cow must wear a low'ring Look. 1793 COWPER *A Tale* 45 The mother-bird is gone to sea. 1817 COLERIDGE *Zapolya* II. ii, The mother-falcon hath her nest above it. 1882 FLOYER *Unexpl. Baluchistan* 202 Then there were four old mother goats.

b. of a woman or a goddess.

1625 K. LONG tr. *Barclay's Argenis* I. xx. 58 Pallas, whose young and tender yeeres No Mother-goddesse dandeled. 1675 HAN. WOOLLEY *Gentlew. Companion* 3 Be ye Mother-patterns of Virtue to your Daughters. 1759 GRAINGER *Tibullus* I. 41 Thee, Orpheus, what avail'd..Thy Mother-muse and beast-enchanting song. 1904 W. M. RAMSAY *Lett. to Seven Ch.* xix. 258 The tutelary deity of Smyrna was the Mother-goddess Cybele.

c. *transf.* and *fig.* of things (see sense 2).

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 216 Ze habbeð iherd..of þeo þet me cleopeð ze seoue moder sunnen. 1479 *Priory of Hexham* (Surtees) II. 24 Molendinum..cum stagno et le modir-dame. 1594 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* I. iii. § 2 Those principall & mother elements of the world, wherof all things in this lower world are made. 1604 HIERON *Wks.* I. 484 Because ignorance is a mother sin, therefore [etc.]. 1611 COTGR., *Veine saphene*, the mother veine. *c* 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* XXII. 149 Till they reacht, where those two mother springs, Of deepe Scamander, pour'd abroad, their siluer murmurings. 1645 RUTHERFORD *Tryal & Tri. Faith* (1845) 85 Christ hath covenant-right to the promises by this mother-right, that God is his God hy covenant. 1691 NORRIS *Pract. Disc.* 118 Love..is a general Mother-Vertue, the principle of a more particular and special Obedience. 1763 MILLS *Syst. Pract. Husb.* IV. 403 The layers..must be allowed two years to take root, before they are cut off from the mother-tree. 1784 M. WEIGHTON *Drainage Award* 9 The mother drain, or navigable canal, now made. 1791 E. DARWIN *Bot. Gard.* I. 32 Lifts proud Anteus from his mother-plains. 1798 COLERIDGE *Fears in Solit.* 176 O dear Britain! O my Mother Isle! 1854 STANLEY *Mem. Canterb.* i. (1857) 26 The Cathedral of Canterbury [is] the mother cathedral of England. 1874 RAYMOND *Statist. Mines & Mining* 342 On the supposition that it is the mother-vein of the country from which the ores of the Silver Flat..are derived.

d. In modern Biology and Pathology, of structures or growths from which others proceed, as *mother-abscess, -cell, -meristem, nucleus, -vesicle*.

1898 P. MANSON *Trop. Diseases* xxiii. 361 Generally the pulmonary abscess communicates with the *mother-abscess in the liver. 1845 *Encycl. Metrop.* VII. 239/1 This may depend either upon the walls of the *mother-cell having been originally thicker, or [etc.]. 1875 BENNETT & DYER *Sachs' Bot.* 440 The pollen-grains, when free from their mother-cells, are unicellular and spherical. 1874 *Q. Jrnl. Microsc. Sci.* XIV. 304 The *mother-meristem of the fibro-vascular system. 1891 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, **Mother nucleus*. 1885–8 FAGGE & PYE-SMITH *Princ. Med.* (ed. 2) I. 28 In such cases [of infection by inoculation] however, there is developed a 'primary' or '*mother-vesicle'.

14. a. Simple attrib. (more or less *rhetorical*): as *mother arms, bosam, heart, love, mind, pain, pang, pity, smile, want*; objective, as *mother* † *queller, -slayer*; *mother murdering* adj.; instrumental, as *mother murdered* adj.; parasynthetic, as *mother hearted* adj. Also *motherwards, motherwise* advs.

1843 CARLYLE *Past & Pr.* III. viii. 235 In how many ways ..does she, as with blessed *mother-arms, enfold us all! 1837 — *Fr. Rev.* I. III. ii. 135 How she will reabsorb the former into her *Mother-bosom. 1854 [DE POWYS] *Uriel*, etc. (1857) 106 All things rest,..Lulled in Mary's *mother-love. 1647 COWLEY *Mistr., My Hrt. Discovered* 16 Thoughts ..Fair and chast, as *Mother-Mind. *a* 1592 MARLOWE *Ovid's Eleg.* II. xiv. 30 *Mother-murder'd Itys. 1590 C'TESS PEMBROKE *Antonie* 58 Orestes torche, Which sometimes burnt his *mother-murdering soule. 1709 MRS. MANLEY *Secret Mem.* (1736) II. 44 When the *Mother-Pains came upon her. *Ibid.* III. 15 Like..Abortives under the *Mother Pangs. 1819 J. H. PAYNE *Brutus* v. iii, To strike their country in the mother-pangs Of struggling child-birth. 1878 PATER *Wks.* (1901) V. 110 His [C. Lamb's] simple *mother-pity for those who suffer. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 341/2 *Modyr qwellare,..*matricida*. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xvi. (*Magdalena*) 462 Allace! nov is þe barne sa borne *modyr-slaar. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 242/1 A Modyr slaer, *matricida*. 1838 MRS. BROWNING *Rom. Ganges* xix, Press deeper down thy *mother-smile His glossy curls among. 1856 — *Aur. Leigh* I. 40, I felt a *mother-want about the world. 1893 *Tablet* 15 July 110 It does not forbid the dying son to cast his eyes *motherwards. 1890 LE GALLIENNE *Meredith* 52 She smiles on them *motherwise.

b. with the sense 'inherited or learned from one's mother', 'native', as in MOTHER TONGUE and combinations imitated from this; also in MOTHER-WIT, *mother-sense*.

1603 OWEN *Pembrokeshire* iii. (1892) 36 For otherwise the Englishe tongue had not ben theire comon and mother speache as it was. 1611 BEAUM. & FL. *Philaster* v. iv, Let..your nimble tongs forget your mother Gibberish. 1644 MILTON *Educ.* 2 He were nothing so much to be esteem'd a learned man, as any..tradesman competently wise in his mother dialect only. 1732 LAW *Serious C.* xix. (1761) 324 As we call our first language our mother-tongue, so we may as justly call our first tempers our mother-tempers. 1851 BORROW *Lavengro* xvii, You want two things, brother: mother sense, and gentle Rommany. 1904 J. WELLS *J. H. Wilson* vi. 64 A racy and powerful evangelist in his mother-Scotch.

15. Genitive combinations, as *mother's bairn* Sc. (said of a spoiled child); MOTHER'S SON, MOTHER'S CHILD († in ME. *moder bern*), *daughter* = (every) person.

a 1225 *St. Marher.* 2 Ha..walde 3eorne 3ef godes wille were þæt ha moste beon an of þe moder bern þæt so muche drohen for drihtin. 1675 COTTON *Burlesque upon B.* 147 Ladies! thou (Paris) moov'st my laughter, They'r Deities ev'ry Mothers Daughter. 1896 A. LANG *Monk of Fife* I. 3 Of me, in our country speech, it used to be said that I was 'a mother's bairn'.

† **b.** The uninflected genitive survived late in Sc. in certain combinations, as *mother-brother, sister*, a maternal uncle or aunt; *mother half, motherside* = mother's side (with reference to descent). *Obs.*

1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 70/2 This thamar was Absalons suster by the moder syde. *a* 1500 *Burgh Lawis* xcviii. (1868) 48 That ayre..sal be in yemsell of his frendis on the mudyr-half. 1513 in *Fam. Rose of Kilravock* (Spalding Club) 183 Valter Ross of Kinstary moder broder to the said vmquhile Archibalde. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) II. 175 Thair captane Monsr de Gwise our quens mother brother. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* IX. 181 He was the kingis mother brother. 1622 MABBE tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* II. 184 His kinswoman by the mother-side. 1678 *Wedderburn's Vocab.* 11 (Jam.) *Avunculus*, the mother-brother. *Ibid.*, *Matertera*, the mother-sister. 1768 BOSWELL *Corsica* ii. (ed. 2) 58 Being uncle by the mother-side to Eurysthenes.

16. Special comb.: **a.** attrib. (and genitive), **mother-alkali**, alkali obtained from the mother-liquor left after crystallization; † **mother-borough**, **mother-city** = METROPOLIS in various senses; **mother-clove** (see quot. 1866); **mother coal**, mineral charcoal; † **mother descent**, descent by the mother's side; **mother fit** = 'fit of the mother', a hysteric attack; **mother gate** *Coal-mining* [GATE *sb.*[2]] (see quot. 1860); **mother idea** [= F. *idée mère*], the fundamental idea (of something, e. g. of an institution, a literary work); **mother liquid, liquor** = the liquid left after crystallization, e. g. of sea-salt; **mother-lye**, the mother-liquor of an alkali; **mother maid, -maiden**, the Virgin Mary; **mother mark** (? *obs.*), **mother's mark**, a nævus; **mothers' meeting**, a meeting (usually weekly) of mothers (of the working classes) connected with a parish or congregation, for the purpose of receiving instruction and counsel; **mother pian** = *mamma pian*; **mother plant**, (*a*) a parent plant from which other plants have been derived; (*b*) the female or seed-bearing parent of a hybrid (B. D. Jackson *Gloss. Bot. Terms* 1900); **mother queen** = QUEEN-MOTHER; also applied to a queen-bee; **mother right**, (*a*) = MATRIARCHY; (*b*) the custom by which dynastic succession passes only in the female line; **mother ship**, a ship having charge of one or more torpedo boats; **mother sick** *a.*, pining for one's mother (cf. *mammy-sick*); **mother skein**, 'a continuous ribbon-like figure of chromatin in the early stages of nuclear division' (B. D. Jackson); † **mother spar**, the matrix of an ore; **mother spot** = *mother's mark*; **mother star** = MONASTER; **mother stone**, (*a*) the matrix of a mineral; also, a stone from which other minerals are derived by structural or chemical change; (*b*) see quot. 1770–4; † **mother suppository**, a suppository for the womb, a pessary; **mother thought** = *mother idea*; † **mother wasp** (see quot.); **mother-water** = *mother-liquor*; **mother wool** (see quot.); **mother yaw** = *mamma pian*.

1880 LOMAS *Alkali Trade* 244 'Weak' or '*mother' alkali is a fine powdery substance. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 46 þe *moder burh of Alexandres riche. 1563–87 FOXE *A. & M.* (1596) 10/2 Bishops of the *mother citie and archbishops were all one. 1575–85 ABP. SANDYS *Serm.* viii. 132 The mother Citie of the Realme is reasonably furnished with faithfull preachers. 1690 BLANCARD *Lex. Med.* 41 *Anthophylli*... Angl. *Mother cloves. 1693 A. VAN LEEUWENHOEK in *Phil. Trans.* XVII. 952, I chose some of the largest Cloves I could find, called Mother-Cloves. 1866 *Treas. Bot.*, *Mother cloves*, a name in the East for the fully expanded flower-buds of *Caryophyllus aromaticus*. 1873 DAWSON *Earth & Man* vi. 118 A dusty fibrous substance, like charcoal, called '*mother-coal' by miners. 1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* IV. xv. 313 Her royall birth by her Fathers side doth comparatively make her *Mother-descent seem low. 1657 P. HENRY *Diary & Lett.* (1882) 65 *Mother-fits. 1681 GREW *Musæum* I. i. 4 A Thong hereof ty'd about the middle, is of good use.. especially against Mother-Fits. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XV. 247 When the bord or '*mother-gate' has proceeded some distance on both sides of the pit [etc.]. 1860 *Eng. & For. Min. Gloss.* (Newc. Terms), *Mothergate*, the bord along which the coals are trammed from a district of workings. 1858 O. W. HOLMES *Aut. Breakf.-t.* x, There is a *mother-idea in each particular kind of tree, which, if well marked, is probably embodied in the poetry of every language. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 1133 The more of the crystalline particles are drained from the metallic bath, the richer does the *mother liquid become in silver. 1796 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) II. 362 The *mother liquor poured off. 1890 ABNEY *Photogr.* (ed. 6) 73 The mother liquor may be employed for intensifying. 1800 *Med. Jrnl.* III. 82 These *mother-leys still contain a certain quantity of caustic soda. *c* 1865 *Circ. Sci.* I. 331/2 The fluid from which crystals are precipitated is called mother-lye. 1612 DONNE *Progr. Soul, 2nd Anniv.* 341 Where thou shalt see the blessed *Mother-maid. *c* 1425 *St. Mary of Oignies* II. viii. in *Anglia* VIII. 173 Lyke a childe soukynge þe pappes of þe *moder-mayden. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XII. 615/2 *Nævus*, a mole on the skin, generally called a **mother's mark*. 1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) IV. 536 These [moles] differ essentially from nævi or genuine mother-marks. 1884 *Encycl. Brit.* XVII. 163/1 It is often congenital, hence the term 'mother's mark', or it may appear in early childhood. 1887 'EDNA LYALL' *Knt. Errant* (1889) 282, I was trying to get the *Mothers'-Meeting accounts right. 1898 *Mother-pian [see MAMMA' d]. 1655–87 H. MORE *App. Antid.* (1712) 211 Now this regular conformation of the Seed came from the uniform motion of particles in the *Mother-plant. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* (1721) II. 48, I think those raised by Layers from a Mother-plant make the best Trees. 1868 DARWIN *Anim. & Pl.* xxvii. II. 365 Foreign pollen occasionally affects the mother-plant in a direct manner. 1591 *Troub. Reigne K. John* ii. 55 The *Mother Queene she taketh on amisse Gainst Ladie Constance. 1595 SHAKS. *John* II. i. 62 With him along is come the Mother Queene. 1816 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* xviii. (1818) II. 117 When the mother-queen was removed, several of the small females contended for the cell with indescribable rage. 1885 *Mother right [see MATRIARCHY]. 1907 *Q. Rev.* July 195 Matriarchy, or rule of the mother, is not to be confused with mother-right, or rule through the mother. 1890 *Pall Mall G.* 2 June 2/1 In the case of the picket-boats, they should be entirely independent of a *mother-ship. 1903 *Daily Chron.* 10 Jan. 5/1 The torpedo gunboat Hazard, which was stationed at Barrow to act as 'mother-ship' to the five tiny diving torpedo-boats. 1759 SARAH FIELDING *C'tess of Dellwyn* I. 112 In fact, she was Husband-sick in a Manner the very reverse of what is

generally termed *Mother-sick; for Girls are so called when they pine on being separated from their Mothers. 1681 Grew *Musæum* III. i. v. 306 The *Mother-Spar of the Tin-Ore. 1690 Blancard *Lex. Med.* 388 *Macula Matricalis*.. Angl. The *mother spot. 1849 Craig, *Mother-spots*. 1889 *Mother star [see Monaster]. 1442 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) I. 386 Cariage of xviij lodis of *modrestone. 1770–4 A. Hunter *Georg. Ess.* (1803) I. 506 It's abounding with the stone, called in Hertfordshire, mother-stone (a concretion of many small blue pebbles). 1796 Kirwan *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) I. 433 Granite..is the mother-stone, by whose fusion basalt is produced. 1799 J. Robertson *Agric. Perth* 17 Which some farmers call motherstone soil. 1855 J. R. Leifchild *Cornwall Mines* 91 Quartz generally prevails in the matrix (mother stone). 1578 Lyte *Dodoens* I. lxxxviii. 130 Pessarie (whiche is a *mother suppositorie). 1861 Motley in *Corr.* (1889) I. 368 As to the *mother-thought of the book, it is to me original. 1679 M. Rusden *Further Discov. Bees* 4 The Male among Wasps, which some call the *Mother-Wasp, stings more venemously than the common Wasp doth. 1758 Reid tr. *Macquer's Chym.* I. 245 All saline solutions in general, after having yielded a certain quantity of crystals, grow thick, and refuse to part with any more, though they still contain much Salt. They are called **Mother-waters*. 1854 J. Scoffern in *Orr's Circ. Sci., Chem.* 14 To clear away from any crystalline product the *mother-water*. 1727–41 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v. *Wool*, The French and English usually separate each fleece into three sorts; viz. 1. **Mother-wool*, which is that of the back and neck. 1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) II. 433 The master fungus being named [in St. Domingo] the mama-pian or *mother yaw.

b. Phrasal combinations with *of*: †**mother of amethyst**, ? = **Blue John** 2; **mother of anchovies**, the scad or horse-mackerel, *Trachurus saurus*; **mother of cloves** = *mother clove* (see 16 a); **mother of coal** = *mother coal* (see 16 a); †**mother of emeralds** (see quot.); †**mother of gold**, a mineral supposed to indicate the presence of gold (quot. 1596 identifies the word with Mother *sb.*2); **mother of the herringe** (see Herring 1 c); **mother of millions**, the ivy-leaved toad-flax, *Linaria Cymbalaria*; †**mother of the mine** (see quot.); **mother of (the) months**, the moon; **mother of thousands**, (*a*) = mother of millions; (*b*) the common daisy, *Bellis perennis*; (*c*) *Saxifraga sarmentosa*; (*d*) the double blue creeping campanula (Britten & Holl.); **mother of wheat** (see quot.); **mother of the wood**, 'the *Asperula odorata*' (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1891); **mother of yaws** = *mother yaw* (*Ibid.*).

1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XII. 79/1 What we call *amethyst root*, or **mother of amethyst*, is but a sparry fluor, of which we have plenty in Derbyshire. 1668 Charleton *Onomasticon* 143 *Trachurus*..the *Mother of Anchovies. 1727–52 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v. *Clove*, *Mother of cloves. 1867 W. W. Smyth *Coal & Coal-mining* 34 Soft mineral charcoal or 'mother-of-coal'. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) VI. 567/2 Hence the green cochle spar brought from Egypt may have obtained the name of **mother of emeralds*. 1596 Raleigh *Discov. Guiana* To Rdr., In Guiana..the rocks..are in effect thorow-shining..which being tried to be no Marcasite ..but are no other then *El* [sic] *madre del oro*..the *mother of golde, or as it is saide by others the scum of golde. 1712 E. Cooke *Voy. S. Sea* 26, I am of Opinion there is also Gold in the Island because we took up the Mother of Gold in several places by the Water-side. 1836 Mrs. Bray *Tamar & Tavy* I. xviii. 318 *Mother of millions, with its numerous small drooping flowers. 1794 W. Hutchinson *Hist. Cumbld.* I. *Catal. Anim.* etc. 52 Heterogeneous Iron Ores, Calx of Iron, mixed with calcareous earth. Sparry Iron Ore...Miners call it *mother of the mine. 1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* (1614) 13 The silent Moone; which..is Queene of the Night,..*Mother of moneths. 1820 Shelley *Witch of Atlas* 73 Ten times the Mother of the Months had bent Her bow beside the folding-star. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 684/1 *Linaria Cymbalaria*, Ivy-leaved Toadflax or *Mother-of-thousands, is frequent on..old garden walls. 1876 *Hartwicke's Science Gossip* 39 *Veronica hederifolia* is named by farmers [near Kelso] the '*mother-of-wheat'.

Mother (mʌ·ðəɹ), *sb.*2 [Corresponds in meaning to MDu. *moeder*, *moer* (in mod.Du. *moer*), G. *mutter*, identical in form and gender with the equivalent of Mother *sb.*1

Comparison with the synonymous It., Sp. *madre* scum of liquids, F. *mère* (*de vinaigre*), OF. *mere* 'vendange pressée' (=sense 3 below), seems to show that this word, in Eng., Du., and Ger., is really an application of Mother *sb.*1 The transition of sense is difficult to explain; but most probably the scum or dregs of discilled waters and the like was regarded as being a portion of the 'mother' or original crude substance which had remained mixed with the refined product, from which in course of time it separated itself. (The term may possibly have belonged originally to the vocabulary of alchemy.) An explanation sometimes given, that 'mother of vinegar' was so called on account of its effect in promoting acetous fermentation, does not agree with the history of the use. It has been pointed out that Gr. γραῦς, old woman, is used in the sense 'scum, as of boiled milk', but the coincidence is prob. accidental.

Most etymologists have regarded the word (with its Du. and Ger. equivalents) as altered by popular etymology from Du. *modder* masc., mud, mire (for which Middle Du. has a rare variant *moeder*, occurring chiefly in derivatives) = LG. *modder*, *moder* (whence mod.G. *moder*), HG. dial. *motter* masc. (for which a variant *mutter* occurs). This notion goes back to Kilian's (Du. or Flemish) dictionary of 1598, which contains the two following entries: (1) '*Modder*, *moder*, *moyer*, *more*, *moer*, limus, cœnum mollius, lutum, volutabrum; Ang. *mire*, *mudde*'; and (2) '*Modder*, *moeyer*, *moeder*, *grondsoppe*, fæx, fæces, crassamen, crassamentum; Ang. *mother*'. But there appears to be no evidence that the form *modder* was ever used for 'mother' or 'scum', nor is that sense recorded for Ger. dial. *motter*.]

†**1.** Dregs, scum. In the 16th c. examples always the dregs or scum of oil (chiefly rendering L. *amurca*); later applied chiefly to the scum rising to the surface of fermenting liquors. *Obs.*

1538 Elyot *Dict.*, *Amurca*, the mother or foam of all oyles. 1563 Hyll *Art Garden.* (1593) 31 The new mother or fome of oyle. 1577 B. Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* II. (1586) 69 Powre into a Platter the thickest mother of oile. 1600 Surflet *Country Farm* III. xlix. 529 Else your cyder will ..growe couered with much white mother swimming aloft. 1601 Holland *Pliny* II. 159 The mother or lees of oile oliue. 1609 C. Butler *Fem. Mon.* x. L 5 The Meth in time wilbe covered with a mother. 1611 Cotgr., *Fleur du vin*, the mother of wine; the white, or mouldie spots that float on the top of old wine. 1626 Bacon *Sylva* § 339 If the Body be liquid and not apt to putrefie totally, it will cast up a Mother in the Top; As the Mothers of Distilled Waters. 1676 Grew *Anat. Leaves* I. vi. § 4 The Cuticular and other Concretions, commonly called Mothers, in Distill'd Waters, Vinegar, and other Liquors. 1814 Cary *Dante, Paradise* XII. 106 That, mouldy mother is, where late were lees. 1870 *Henfrey's Bot.* (ed. 2) § 558 Distribution [of filamentous Fungi or 'Moulds']. Universal,..occurring constantly in infusions of organic matter..as 'mother', producing various fermentations.

2. *spec.* (In full *mother of vinegar*.) A ropy mucilaginous substance produced in vinegar during the process of acetous fermentation (which it hastens) by a mould-fungus called *Mycoderma aceti*.

1601 Holland *Pliny* II. 334 A pultesse made of beasts dung & the mother of vineger tempered together. 1676 [see 1]. 1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 460 The slimy sediment of vinegar casks called mother. 1870 Lowell *Study Wind.* (1871) 95 Unhappily the hit of mother from Swift's vinegar-barrel has had strength enough to sour all the rest [of Carlyle]. 1879 *Encycl. Brit.* IX. 98/2 Mother of vinegar.. is the 'non-aerobiotic' form of the mycoderma.

†**3.** *Mother of grapes*: the solid mass of skins, etc., left after the expression of the juice by the winepress; = Marc. *Obs.*

1611 Cotgr., *Espeć*..a certaine round staffe, that lies betweene the vpper boords of a Vinepresse, and the mother, or substance of the grapes. 1694 Motteux *Rabelais* v. vii, For fear there should still lurk some Juice among the Husks, and Hullings, in the Mother of the Grape. 1725 Bradley *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Vinegar*, To make strong Vinegar, dry the Mother of Grapes for the space of two Days.

Mother (mʌ·ðəɹ), *v.*1 [f. Mother *sb.*1]

1. *trans.* To be the mother of, give birth to; in quots. *fig.*, to be the source of, give rise to, produce.

1548 Gest *Pr. Masse* A vj, This pryuate masse whych mothereth so manyfolde and hayniouse vyces. 1850 Blackie *Æschylus* II. 189 But tears are vain, And weeping might but mother worser woe. 1900 *Nation* (N. Y.) 15 Nov. 389/1 The historic college at Querétaro, which mothered the evangelization of so enormous a share of the North American wilderness.

2. To take care of or protect as a mother.

1863 C. E. B. *Work for All* 68 You would like to take Lizzie Reed into our house, for a time, and mother her till something can be found for her. 1878 *Scribner's Mag.* XV. 555/1 Some mothers 'mother' their children too much. 1894 Mrs. H. Ward *Marcella* I. 127 Someone..will take up Marcella and mother her.

fig. 1889 *Chicago Advance* 21 Feb., The weak churches do feel deeply the need of brotherhood. They want to be mothered. 1899 Baring-Gould *Bk. of West* I. xii. 208 Okehampton..is not fathered by the castle, nor mothered by the church.

b. *Naut.* in *passive*. Of a torpedo-boat: To be protected by a 'mother'.

1901 *Blackw. Mag.* Oct. 449 Torpedo craft could also be 'mothered'.

3. To profess to be the mother of; to acknowledge (truly or falsely) the maternity of (a child).

1622 Fletcher & Mass. *Span. Curate* v. iii, You Sir, that Would have me mother Bastards, being unable To honour me with one Child of mine owne. 1679 W. Howell *Medulla Hist. Angl.* (1687) 284 That the Queen, to have put lady Elizabeth besides the Crown, would have mothered another bodies Child; but King Philip scorn'd to father it. *fig.* 1788 Anna Seward *Lett.* (1811) II. 41 The congenial rants which pretend to reply to them, are from the same pen, whoever Mr. Merry may persuade to mother them. 1840 T. A. Trollope *Summ. Brittany* II. 370 It is evident throughout the country that 'Our Lady' was called on to mother every Pagan worship that could not be otherwise disposed of. 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 12 June 4/2 Such books are translated by some humble hand, and fathered or mothered by another of some literary standing.

4. Const. *on*, *upon*. **a.** *lit.* To attribute the maternity of (a child) to (a woman).

1542 Udall *Erasm. Apoph.* 139 A childe mothered on a woman that neuer beare it, or a chaungelyng. 1888 'R. Boldrewood' *Robbery under Arms* (1890) 234 They must have changed her, and mothered the wrong child on the old woman.

b. *fig.* To attribute the authorship of (something) to (a woman); also, to ascribe the origin of (something) to something else.

1644 J. Goodwin *Innoc. Triumph.* (1645) 35 That conception..is indifferently fathered, or mothered rather, upon them all. 1675 Traherne *Chr. Ethics* 300 Which accident is wholly to be fathered on Adams fondness to please his wife, and to be mothered upon her lightness and credulity. 1831 *Fraser's Mag.* IV. 11 [She] wrote the greater portion of a novel which was mothered on Miss Spence. 1907 *Blackw. Mag.* May 668/2 Many venerable repartees were mothered on her.

5. To find a mother for (a lamb or calf). Also const. *upon*.

1844 Stephens *Bk. Farm* II. 609 It is necessary when a lamb is left an orphan, or is a supernumerary, to *mother* it, as it is termed, upon another ewe. 1888 'R. Boldrewood'

Robbery under Arms xlviii, Mothering the calves, bailing up, leg-roping, and all the rest of it. 1898 — *Rom. Canvass Town* 92 It is vitally necessary to turn-out all the lambs and get them 'mothered' as soon as they are 'tailed'.

Mother (mʌ·ðəɹ), *v.*2 [f. Mother *sb.*2] *intr.* To become mothery. Hence **Mo·thering** *vbl. sb.*

1718 Quincy *Compl. Disp.* 228 It's an insipid Phlegm.. and will not keep long without mothering and stinking. 1728 E. Smith *Compl. Homew.* (1750) 109 If your pickle mothers, boil it again. 1750 Johnson *Rambler* No. 51 ? 15 Her conserves mould, her wines sour, and pickles mother. 1863 *Fownes' Elem. Chem.* (ed. 9) 481 Frequently a little sulphuric acid is afterwards added, with a view of checking further decomposition, or mothering.

Mother, obs. var. Mauther *dial.*, young girl.

Mo·therage. *nonce-wd.* [f. Mother *sb.*1 + -age.] The condition or state of being a mother.

a 1591 H. Smith *Serm.* (1614) 13 Mariage is called Matrimonie, which signifieth motherage [*earlier edd.* Mothers], because it makes them mothers which were virgins before.

Mother-church. (See also Mother *sb.*1 2 c.)

1. †**a.** A parish church, as distinguished from a chapel of ease. *Obs.*

c 1325 *Chron. Eng.* (Ritson) 923 Fifti moder chirchen ant mo He lette falle, ant chapeles bo. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 649 Except the tethys of wolle & of lambys of the modurchurche of Bloxham. 1546 *Yorks. Chantry Surv.* (Surtees) II. 228 The same chauntery is distaunt from the paryssh church..whych they calle the mother church, ij myles. 1712 Addison *Spect.* No. 452 ? 7 We are informed from Pankridge, that a dozen Weddings were lately celebrated in the Mother Church of that Place. 1778 *Eng. Gazetteer* (ed. 2) s.v. *Weymouth*, Some of the inhabitants go to Radipole church,..others to Wyke-Regis the mother-church.

attrib. 1688 R. Holme *Armoury* III. xiii. 473 A Square Steeple, or Parochiall, or Mother Church Steeple.

b. The principal church of a country, region, or city; sometimes a cathedral or a metropolitan church. Now *rare*.

1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) II. 77 Þe þridde chirche was þe chief moderchirche of al Wales. 1513 Bradshaw *St. Werburge* II. 464 Whiche churche was principall to all the citie, And the mouther-church called withouten doubt. 1738 J. Chamberlayne *St. Gt. Brit.* I. ix. (ed. 8) 106 St. Paul's, the Mother Church of London Diocese. 1871 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* (1876) IV. xviii. 125 The mother church of the whole land, the church of Christ at Canterbury.

2. The church (i.e. organized body of Christians) of which another church is a 'daughter' or offshoot; also, the oldest or original church from which all others have sprung.

1574 G. Scot *Treat. agst. Err. Rom. Ch.* A iij b, Herein that wicked mother-churche We may to witnes call. 1667 Poole *Dial. betw. Protest. & Papist* (1735) 31 Not Rome, but Jerusalem should be the Mother-Church. 1882 Farrar *Early Chr.* I. 94 In reading St. James we can realise the sentiments of the Mother-Church of Jerusalem.

Mother country.

1. A country in relation to its colonies.

1587 Golding *De Mornay* xxxiii. (1592) 530 After the custome of their Mother country Persia from whence they descend. 1732 Berkeley *Serm. to S. P. G.* Wks. 1871 III. 245 No fashions are so much followed by our Colonies as those of the mother-country. 1861 Ld. Brougham *Brit. Const.* App. I. 405 If Canada were separated from the mother country.

2. One's native country.

So F. *terre mère*. In Caxton's *Eneydos* (1490) the words *la doulce terre mere* of the Fr. original are rendered simply *the swete countrey* (ed. E.E.T.S. p. 29).

1595 Daniel *Civ. Wars* I. lxxxviii, Thy Mother-countrey, whence thyself didst spring. 1639 Massinger *Unnat. Combat* I. i, To joyne with them to lift a wicked arme against my mother Countrey, this Marsellis. 1723 Shaftesb. *Charac.* III. 143 *note*, Absolute Power annuls the Publick: And where there is no Publick, or Constitution, there is in reality no Mother-Country or Nation. 1824 Lady Granville *Lett.* 13 Dec., She seems a very charming person..with *l'air noble* and not a shade of her mother-country.

†**Mo·therdom.** *Obs. rare*−1. [f. Mother *sb.*1 + -dom.] Maternal status or authority.

a 1638 Mede *Wks.* v. (1672) 921 All joyntly as one Body anew acknowledging the Motherdom of the Roman City.

Mother earth.

1. The earth considered as the mother of its inhabitants and productions; also (in somewhat jocular use, with allusion to this), the ground.

Cf. L. *Terra mater* (as a goddess). In Eng. the personification remains so far that the article is commonly omitted as before a proper name, although initial capitals are rarely used. Often with possessive, *my*, *your*, etc.

c 1586 C'tess Pembroke *Ps.* cxlvi. ii, His strength is none, if any in his breath; Which vapor'd foorth to mother earth he goes. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* I. ii. 19 He..With bloudy mouth his mother earth did kis. 1600 Shaks. *A.Y.L.* I. ii. 213. 1667 Milton *P. L.* I. 687 Men also..Rifl'd the bowels of their mother Earth For Treasures better hid. 1696 Tate & Brady *Ps.* civ. 29 Forthwith to mother Earth return. 1766 *Compl. Farmer* s.v. *Vegetation*, The sun,.. cannot either help the mother earth in her pregnancy, nor [etc.]. 1851 D. Jerrold *St. Giles* xiv. 137 It is..made a misdemeanour against mother earth to sleep..with only the heavens above the sleeper. 1890 'R. Boldrewood' *Col. Reformer* (1891) 292 The unbounded treasures of mother earth.

2. (See quots.)

1731 Miller *Gard. Dict.* s.v. *Earth*, Some by Loam mean that Sort of Earth that equally partakes of Sand and Clay, being a Medium between Sand and Clay, which they call Mother-Earth. 1766 *Compl. Farmer* s.v. *Mould*, *Mould*, a loose kind of earth, every where obvious on the surface of the ground, called by some mother earth, and by others loam.

Mothered (mʌ·ðəɹd), *a.*[1] [f. MOTHER *sb.*[1] + -ED [2].] In parasynthetic formations and with advs.: Having a mother.

1669 GALE *Crt. Gentiles* I. II. iii. 29 The Poets fable Bacchus to be..double mothered. 1791 CUMBERLAND *Observer* No. 151 V. 275 Three such high-blooded bards as Linus, Orpheus, and Musæus, so fathered and so mothered, were enough to people all Greece with poets and musicians.

†**Mo·thered,** *a.*[2] *Obs.* [f. MOTHER *sb.*[2] or *v.*[2] + -ED.] Containing mother.

1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 683 They oint their naked Limbs with mother'd Oyl. 1728 T. SHERIDAN *Persius* IV. 61 *note*, Mothered wine.

Motherer (mʌ·ðəɹəɹ). *Austral.* [f. MOTHER *v.*[1] + -ER [1].] A person employed to 'mother' lambs (cf. MOTHER *v.*[1] 5).

1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Squatter's Dream* vii. 65 No more shepherds and 'motherers' to pay in that humbugging way next year.

†**Mo·therful,** *a. Obs.* [f. MOTHER *sb.*[1] + -FUL.] Of or pertaining to a mother; motherly.

c 1450 *Mirour Saluacioun* 212 Oure ladie tholed in sawle be moderfull compassionne.

Motherhead (mʌ·ðəɹhed). *Obs.* exc. *arch.* [f. MOTHER *sb.*[1] + -HEAD.] a. The state or condition of being a mother. b. Motherly care. c. *concr.* An embodiment of maternal qualities.

c 1315 SHOREHAM v. 24 Wanne he þat al þys worlde schel welde To hyre worschipe hys yhelde For here moder-hede. 1357 *Lay Folks Catech.* 124 Withouten ony merryng of hir modirhede. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 195 So mot I nedes be that weie For Moderhed and for tendresse. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xliii. 201 My modirhed, John, schall þou haue, And for my sone I wolle þe take. 1879 E. ARNOLD *Lt. Asia* I. (1881) 9 Countless Devas worship her and wait Attendant on that radiant Motherhead.

Motherhood (mʌ·ðəɹhud). [+-HOOD.]

1. The condition or fact of being a mother.

1603 FLORIO *Montaigne* (1634) 463 For my part, I no more acknowledge Venus without Cupid, then a mother-hood without an off-spring. 1681 W. ROBERTSON *Phraseol. Gen.* (1693) 897 Mother-hood, *Maternitas.* 1837 C. LOFFT *Self-formation* II. 103 Rejoicing in thy motherhood. 1869 MRS. HEATON *A. Dürer* I. iii. (1881) 62 Some women need the warm sun of motherhood to ripen their true nature.

transf. and *fig.* 1623 LISLE *Ælfric on O. & N. Test.* Pref. 8 That were against his owne Apostleship, and the motherhood Rome by him got here. 1672 STILLINGFL. *Idol. Ch. Rome* (ed. 2) 225 Three properties in the Holy Trinity, of the Fatherhood, of the Motherhood, and of the Lordship. 1873 B. GREGORY *Holy Cath. Ch.* xv. 156 The motherhood of the Church was manifested..in her respect for the individuality of her children.

b. The spirit of a mother; the feeling or love of a mother.

1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* 33 b, Not hate but hunger, taught Miriam to forget mother-hood. 1875 MISS MULOCK *Serm. out of Ch.* iii. (1881) 99 The mere fact of bringing eight or ten children into the world does not in the least imply true motherhood.

2. Used collectively for mothers.

1835 *Tait's Mag.* II. 101 The motherhood of Great Britain was in a conspiracy to entrap him.

3. *Anthropology.* A clan constituted by kinship through the mother.

1884 A. LANG *Custom & Myth* 108 A man of the Mouse 'motherhood', as the totem kindred is locally styled, may not eat mice.

Mothering (mʌ·ðəɹiŋ), *vbl. sb.*[1] [f. MOTHER *v.*[1] and *sb.*[1] + -ING [1].]

1. The action of the vb. MOTHER; motherly care or supervision.

1868 STEVENSON *Lett.* in *Scribner's Mag.* (1899) XXV. 30/1 Her mothering and thought for others displays itself in advice against hard-boiled eggs, well-done meat, and late dinners. 1892 'G. TRAVERS' *Mona Maclean* (1893) I. 86 Mothering is woman's work without a doubt.

2. The custom of visiting parents and giving or receiving presents on Mid-lent Sunday, hence called *Mothering Sunday.*

1648 HERRICK *Hesper., To Dianeme, A Ceremonie in Glocester,* Ile to thee a Simnell bring, 'Gainst thou go'st a mothering. 1720 [see MIDLENTING]. 1825 HONE *Every-day Bk.* I. 359 It is still a custom on Mid-Lent Sunday in many parts of England, for servants..to carry cakes..as presents to their parents; and in other parts, to visit their mother for a meal of furmity, or to receive cakes..with her blessing. This is called going a mothering. 1845 *Encycl. Metrop.* XXI. 379 Midlent Sunday..has also a vulgar name of *Mothering* Sunday. 1883 C. S. BURNE *Shropsh. Folk Lore* 325 'Shrewsbury Simnels'..are eaten by many who do not heed the pious habit of 'mothering' which they were intended to celebrate.

Mothering (mʌ·ðəriŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. MOTHER *v.*[1] + -ING [2].] That acts as a mother.

1855 BAILEY *Spiritual Leg.* in *Mystic,* etc. 68 Earth's all mothering bosom. 1894 H. DRUMMOND *Ascent Man* 344 The Botanist..places the mothering plants at the top of his department of Nature. 1901 HENLEY *Hawthorn & Lavender* 30 The clement rain, the mothering dew.

Mo·ther-in-law. Also 6 moder of law, motherelawe, 7 mother law. [See -IN-LAW.]

1. The mother of one's husband or wife.

a. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 341/1 Moodur in lawe, *socrus.* 1477 *Paston Lett.* III. 175, I trow ther is not a kynder woman leveing then I shall have to my modyr in lawe. 1540 HYRDE tr. *Vives' Instr. Chr. Wom.* (1592) A a v, It is said, that mothers in lawes beare a stepmothers hate unto their daughters in lawes. 1688 PENTON *Guard. Instr.* (1897) 26 The everlasting Din of Mothers-in-law. 1781 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xix. II. 130 *note*, His only crime was a refusal to gratify the desires of his mother-in-law. 1880 FISON & HOWITT *Kamilaroi* 203 Among the Kamilaroi, if a man be compelled to speak with his mother-in-law, the pair will turn their backs upon one another.

β. 1538 *Extracts Aberdeen Reg.* (1844) I. 154 Jonat Barbour, hir moder of law.

γ. 1526 TINDALE *Luke* xii. 53 The motherelawe agaynst the doughterelawe. 1637 in *Bury Wills* (Camden) 169 My mother lawes children.

2. = STEPMOTHER. Now regarded as incorrect.

1516 *St. Bridget* in *Myrr. our Ladye* p. xlviii, Hir moder in lawe. 1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* I. x. 26 If she becomes a mother in law, there is no difference betwixt her carriage to her own and her second husbands children. 1732 FIELDING *Miser* IV. xiv, I know the word mother-in-law has a terrible sound; but perhaps I may make a better than you imagine. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xiv, Miss Sharp will be your mother-in-law..that's what will happen.

3. *slang.* (See quot. 1886.)

1884 *Daily Tel.* 3 July 5/4 (Farmer). 1886 'J. BICKERDYKE' *Curios. Ale & Beer* 392 Mother-in-law...The drink of this name is composed of equal proportions of 'old and bitter'.

Hence **Mother-in-law** *v. nonce-wd.*, to rule as a mother-in-law.

1855 DICKENS *Dorrit* II. xiv, I will not..submit to be mother-in-lawed by Mrs. General.

Motherkin (mʌ·ðəɹkin), **-kins.** [f. MOTHER *sb.*[1] + -KIN.] An affectionate diminutive for 'mother'.

1879 BROWNING *Ivan Ivanovitch* 55 See, motherkin, your friends! 1896 MRS. CAFFYN *Quaker Grandmother* viii. 89 'Oh, frivolous motherkin', he said. 1905 MRS. BARNES-GRUNDY *Vacill. Hazel* 259 'What is the matter?' 'Nothing'. ..'Really?'..'Really, motherkins', I replied.

Motherland (mʌ·ðəɹlænd, -lănd). [f. MOTHER *sb.*[1] + LAND *sb.*] a. A country as the mother or producer of anything. b. The country of one's origin; one's native country.

1711 SHAFTESB. *Charac.* III. 42 It happen'd of old in [Egypt] this Mother-Land of Superstition. *c* 1823 SOUTHEY *Inscr. at Clachnacharry,* Egypt, mother-land of all the arts. 1828 CARLYLE *Misc.* (1857) I. 218 Our own stern Motherland. 1846 PROWETT *Prometh. Bound* 53 Scythia was to the Greeks the mother-land of iron. 1881 MRS. C. PRAED *Policy & Passion* II. 246 The longing for one's motherland. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* (1891) 40 The wayfarer from the misty mother-lands.

Mother language. Also (in sense 1) 5 modiris, modris langage.

1. One's native language.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* II. 393 Sum men wolde seie it in her modir langage as þei cunnen. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* I. xiii. 66 Thei of the lay parti which han vsid the hool Bible or oonli the Newe Testament in her modris langage. *a* 1568 ASCHAM *Scholem.* II. (Arb.) 117 In the rudest contrie, and most barbarous mother language, may be found yat can speake verie wiselie. 1659 H. THORNDIKE *Wks.* (1846) II. 599 Whether translations in mother languages are to be had. 1805 SOUTHEY *Madoc in Azt.* v, The very mother-language which I learnt, A lisping baby on my mother's knees.

2. A language from which others have sprung.

1680 *High Dutch Minerva a-la-mode* (title-p.) Whereby the English may both easily and exactly learne the Neatest Dialect of the German Mother-Language. 1846 GROTE *Greece* II. ii. II. 315 They seem capable of being traced back to a certain ideal mother-language. 1902 GREENOUGH & KITTREDGE *Words* 161 Similar processes enable us to postulate a number of similar mother-languages, as Celtic, Slavic, Greek, and so on.

†3. The language in which something was written.

1651 C. CARTWRIGHT *Cert. Relig.* I. 364 Which also the antient Fathers have subscribed, which (I suppose) the Marquesse doth mean by the Scriptures Mother-language.

Motherless (mʌ·ðəɹlės), *a.*[1] [f. MOTHER *sb.*[1] + -LESS.] Having no mother.

a 1023 WULFSTAN *Hom.* xlv. (Napier) 228 Fylstan widewum and fæderleasum and moderleasum cildum. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 78 Dis meiden was baðe faderles & moderles. 1382 WYCLIF *Jas.* i. 27 To visite pupilles, that is fadirles or modirles. 1477 EARL RIVERS (Caxton) *Dictes* 79 Many poure children that wer fadir and modir lees. 1548 CRANMER *Catech.* 100 b, Oppressers of fatherles and motherles children. 1631 GOUGE *God's Arrows* II. Ep. Ded., To become a mother to the motherlesse. 1712 ARBUTHNOT *John Bull* II. iv, The three poor Motherless Children. 1829 SOUTHEY *All for Love* III. iii, An only child and motherless. 1901 G. S. LAYARD *Mrs. Lynn Linton* I. 3 Eliza's was practically a motherless childhood.

Hence **Mo·therlessness.**

1889 ADEL. SERGEANT *E. Denison* V. xxxvii, An indefinitely lonely and neglected look hung about the two—the look of motherlessness.

†**Mo·therless,** *a.*[2] *Obs.* [f. MOTHER *sb.*[2] + -LESS.] Free from 'mother'.

1607 *Lingua* IV. iii, Steeped seven days in change of motherless rose-water.

Motherlike (mʌ·ðəɹlaik), *a.* and *adv.* [f. MOTHER *sb.*[1] + -LIKE.]

A. *adj.* Resembling a mother; having the qualities of a mother; proper to a mother.

1530 PALSGR. 319/1 Motherlyke belongyng to a mother, *maternal.* 1605 BP. HALL *Medit. & Vows* III. § 98 Wks. (1625) 68 It is a mother-like favour of the Earth, that she heares and nourishes me. 1647 TRAPP *Comm. 1 Thess.* ii. 11 Here he tempers his mother-like meekness with the gravity and authority of a father. 1856 MRS. CARLYLE *Lett.* II. 282 She was so glad over me, so motherlike.

B. *adv.* After the manner of a mother.

1589 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* V. xxviii. 124 Mother-like I moane their death. 1878 SMILES *Robt. Dick* ii. 13 Mother-like.. she could not but regard these young things as intruders.

Motherliness (mʌ·ðəɹlinės). [f. MOTHERLY *a.* + -NESS.] The quality of being motherly.

a 1637 B. JONSON *Eng. Gram.* I. vii. (1640) 54 [The word is accented] mótherlinesse. 1747 in BAILEY vol. II. 1856 MISS MULOCK *J. Halifax* xxxix, The sweet motherliness of character which had come to her so early. 1882 *Spectator* 18 Mar. 345 The people will be deeply touched both by its piety and motherliness.

Motherling (mʌ·ðəɹliŋ). [f. MOTHER + -LING.] A term of endearment for a mother. = MOTHERKIN.

1865 MISS YONGE *Dove in Eagle's Nest* xix, 'Nay, motherling', he added [etc.]. 1886 CORBETT *Fall of Asgard* I. 145 'Motherling', she heard him say softly, 'it is very beautiful'.

Motherly (mʌ·ðəɹlĭ), *a.* [OE. *módorlic*: see MOTHER *sb.*[1] and -LY [1]. Cf. MDu., Du. *moederlijk,* OHG. *muoterlîh* (MHG. *mueterlich,* mod.G. *mütterlich*).]

1. Of or pertaining to a mother. *rare.*

† *Motherly language*: = 'mother tongue'.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gram.* v. (Z.) 15 *Maternus,* modorlic. 1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* v. viii. § 5 In them who can owe no lesse then childlike obedience to her that hath more then motherly power. 1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* *v, The secretes of Physicke in their maternall and motherlye language. 1871 R. ELLIS *Catullus* lxi. 56 You from motherly lap the bright Girl can sever.

2. Befitting or characteristic of a mother.

a 1240 *Wohunge* in *Cott. Hom.* 285 Þu..seh al þis sorhe vpo þi deore wurðe sune was wiðinne martird iþi moderliche herte. *c* 1420 LYDG. *Thebes* I. in *Chaucer's Wks.* (1561) 358/1 Bidding the quene, whan the childe wer borne, Without mercie, or moderly pitee That he be dedde. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* lii. 232 (Harl. MS.) Certeinly Crist is oure fader, For he hathe to vs a fadirlye affeccion, and not a modirly. *c* 1530 LD. BERNERS *Arth. Lyt. Brit.* (1814) 437 Syr, syth ye are lefte me in the stede of my moder, for Goddes sake man leue your faderly herte and take a moderly herte vnto you. 1611 BIBLE *Transl. Pref.* ¶ 9 Now the Church of Rome would seeme at the length to beare a motherly affection towards her children. 1671 MILTON *P. R.* II. 64 Within her brest..Motherly cares and fears got head. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 500 ¶ 3 When I see the Motherly Airs of my little Daughters when playing with their Puppets. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* v, Mrs. Chick interposed with some motherly words about going to sleep like a dear. 1874 BURNAND *My time* xiii. 112 She pressed her lips on my forehead with another loving motherly kiss. 1885-94 R. BRIDGES *Eros & Psyche* Oct. xxii, Motherly pity, bend thy face and grant One beam of ruth to thy poor suppliant.

3. Resembling a mother; having the character, manner, or appearance befitting a mother.

1530 PALSGR. 246/2 Motherly woman, *matrone.* 1576 BAKER *Jewell of Health* 162 b, Mydwives and other motherlye women. 1752 J. LOUTHIAN *Form of Process* (ed. 2) 215 To cause to come twelve good and motherly Women, by whom the Prisoner's Plea of Pregnancy may be tried. 1787 BURNS *Border Tour* Wed. 10 May, *Pr. Wks.* 127 Mrs. Somerville an excellent, motherly, agreeable woman, and a fine family. 1815 JANE AUSTEN *Emma* iii, Mrs. Goddard was a plain, motherly kind of woman. 1825 CARLYLE *Schiller* III. (1845) 197 The sky is so blue, and all is so calm, and motherly, and safe. 1876 SWINBURNE *Erechtheus* 20 O holy and general mother of all men born, But mother most and motherliest of mine, Earth. 1882 L. STEPHEN *Swift* I. 10 A brisk, wholesome, motherly body.

Motherly (mʌ·ðəɹli), *adv.* [f. MOTHER *sb.*[1] + -LY [2].] In a motherly manner.

1433 LYDG. *St. Edmund* I. 726 in Horstm. *Allengl. Leg.* (1881) 389 Whan she hir sope gan kyssen and enbrace And in hir armys moderly hym streyne. 1554 BRADFORD in Coverdale *Lett. Martyrs* (1564) 288 The mother .. casteth the rodde into the fier, and colleth the childe, geneth it an apple, and dandleth it moste motherly. 1663 COWLEY *Verses & Ess.* x. *Danger Procrast.* (1669) 140 Those studies to which Nature had so Motherly inclined me. 1887 G. MACDONALD *Home Again* vii, The forehead his mother had been so motherly prond of.

Mo·ther na·ked, *a.* [Cf. MDu. *moeder naect* (Du. *-naakt*), MHG. *muoternacket* (G. *mutternackt*).] As naked as at birth; stark-naked.

c 1400 *Sege Jerus.* 346 Sayþ, y bidde hem be boun, bishopes & oþer, To morow or mydday modur nakyd alle. *c* 1440 CAPGRAVE *Life St. Kath.* v. 608 Take this mayden and strype hir modir-naked. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 260 He all mother naked, spredyng hym selfe on the crosse for vs moost pacyently. 1612 in Pitcairn *Crim. Trials* III. 539 Mother-naikit as he was borne. 1760-72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) I. 2 Harry .. would run about, mother-naked..in a frosty morning. 1872 RUSKIN *Fors Clav.* xxiii. 4 Mother-naked sits Theseus.

Mother of pearl. Also 6 moder perl, mother perle, 7-8 mother pearl(e. [Cf. F. †*mère perle* pearl oyster (16th c. in Godef.), It., Sp. *madreperla,* G. *perlenmutter* (late MHG. *perelmuoter*), Du. *parel-, paarlmoeder, -moer.*]

1. A smooth shining irideseent substance forming the inner layer of some shells. = NACRE 2.

a 1510 *Inv. York Minster* in Raine *Abps. of York* (Rolls) III. 388 Unum pece de moder perl. 1552 *Invent. Ch. Goods* (Surtees No. 97) 86 An ymage of the birth of Our Lord, of mother of perle, sylver and gylt. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. vii. 30 Handle strong Of mother perle. 1698 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3358/4 A large Cabinet Frame inlaid with Mother Pearle. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. viii. 218 They saw .. great heaps of shells of fine mother of pearl scattered up and down. 1827 *Gentl. Mag.* XCVII. II. 70 A screen, curiously wrought with mother-o'-pearl. *c* 1850 *Arab. Nts.* (Rtldg.) 724 Inlaid with mother-of-pearl and ebony. 1889 'J. S. WINTER' *Mrs. Bob* (1891) 4 The useful and highly-ornamental mother-o'-pearl.

b. Used as an exclamation.

1632 ROWLEY *New Wonder* I. i, Mother a pearle woman, shew your husband the cause.

2. A shell fish yielding mother of pearl. = NACRE 1.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 255 The shell that is the mother of

Pearle. *Ibid.* II. 451 Sundry sorts of other shell fish, and among them, those that..beare pearles, and therof be called Mother-pearls. 1658 tr. *Porta's Nat. Magic* IX. xii. 241 There are .. shells, we call the Mothers of pearl. 1703 PETIVER *Musei Petiver.* 81 The Sea-Ear, Mother of Pearl, and by some Normans or Norman Shell. 1864 *Chamb. Encycl.* VI. 588/2 *Mother of pearl*, the shells of the large bivalve mollusc *Meleagrina margaritifera.*

fig. 1593 G. HARVEY *Pierce's Super.* 16 It is superexcellent wit, that is the mother pearle of precious Inuention.

†**3.** ? = NACRITE. *Obs.*

1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* II. 40 The bowels of the earth abound with..mother-of-pearl, and some other productions of the mineral kingdom.

4. *attrib.*, as in *mother-of-pearl oyster, shell*; with the sense 'made of mother-of-pearl', as in *mother-of-pearl button*, etc.; also similative, as in *mother-of-pearl gloss, -tint.*

1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XII. 610/1 The margaritiferus, or pearl-bearing mussel. .. This is the *mater perlarum* of Rumphius, or mother of pearl shell. 1799 KIRWAN *Geol. Ess.* 229 The shells found in limestone strata are commonly entire; some preserve their internal mother of pearl gloss. 1802 *Brookes' Gazetteer* (ed. 12) s.v. *Pelew Isl.*, The best knives are made of a piece of the large mother-of-pearl oyster. 1802 WOLLASTON in *Phil. Trans.* XCIII. 8 The.. angles were taken with a mother-of-pearl micrometer. 1810 *Sporting Mag.* XXXV. 293 A blue jacket with mother-of-pearl buttons on it. 1849 MRS. CARLYLE *Lett.* (1883) II. 64 Button-hook with the mother-of-pearl handle. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 871 A peculiar white 'mother-of-pearl' tint.

b. *Comb.*: **mother-of-pearl moth** (sec quots. 1829, 1850); **mother-of-pearl work**, a kind of embroidery in which pieces of mother-of-pearl are sewn on velvet or silk.

1829 J. F. STEPHENS *Catal. Insects* II. 165 *Margaritia verticalis*..Mother of Pearl M. 1850 — *Catal. Lepidoptera* 240 *Botys verticalis.* The Mother-of-Pearl. *Ibid.* 241 *Botys perpendicularis.* The Scarce Mother-of-Pearl. 1882 CAULFEILD & SAWARD *Dict. Needlework* 351 Mother-of-Pearl Work.

Mother of thyme. Also 8 mother thyme. **a.** The wild thyme, *Thymus Serpyllum.* **b.** *Calamintha Acinos* (Britten & Holland).

1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. clxiv. 457 Wild Time is called ..in English..Mother of Time, and our Ladies Bedstrawe. 1693 DALE *Pharmacol.* 234 *Serpullum vulgare*...Mother of Thyme. 1741 *Compl. Fam.-Piece* I. iv. 254 Take .. Agrimony, Mother-thyme,..Roman Wormwood, Carduus Benedictus. 1845 *Encycl. Metrop.* XXV. 627/2 *Thymus Serpyllum* is the Wild Thyme or Mother of Thyme.

attrib. 1747 WESLEY *Prim. Physic* (1762) 86 Let his breakfast be Mother of Thyme tea.

†**Mother's child.** *Obs.* A person, chiefly in phrase *every mother's child.* (Cf. *Mother's son.*)

a 1300 *K. Horn* 664 (Camb. MS.) At hom lefte ffikenhild, þat was þe wurste moder child. *c* 1305 *St. Lucy* 93 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 104 Beo ilad oþer ibore And þer schal menie a moder child. 1608 DOD & CLEAVER *Expos. Prov.* xi–xii. 167 It was a fault in Dauid to swear so peremptorily that he would kill Nabal, his familie, and euery mothers child of them. 1692 R. L'ESTRANGE *Fables* CCXVII. 190 We have our Failings, Every Mothers Child of us.

Mothership (mɒ·ðəɹʃip). Also 5 **moderchypp, -ship, modyrchep.** [f. MOTHER *sb.*1 + -SHIP.] The office of a mother; motherly care.

c 1440 *Partonope* 3589 For on your modership shall I neuer trust. 1453 *Paston Lett.* I. 258 He hathe seyde as myche ther ageyns as he dar do to have hyr gode modyrchep. 1478 *Ibid.* III. 225, I recomaund me on to yowr good moderchypp. 1905 *Blackw. Mag.* Feb. 239/1 Even bad self-defence impelled Clarie to abandon her mothership.

†**b.** (See MOTHER *sb.*1 3 c.)

1624 MIDDLETON *Game at Chess* IV. ii, I haue promis'd The Mother-ship 'oth Maids.

Mo·thersome, *a. dial.* [f. MOTHER (?*v.*1) + -SOME.] Anxious like a mother.

1840 MRS. TROLLOPE *M. Armstrong* XV. II. 96, I hope excuse, miss, if I seem over mothersome and foolish about him,..but he's a precious boy to me.

Mother's son.

1. A man. Chiefly in phr., *every mother's son.*

a 1240 *Wohunge* in *Cott. Hom.* 269 Luue iwile þe mi leue lif, moder sune feirest. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 7061 Mani modir son was feld, Als it es in þe stori teld. 13.. *Sir Beues* (A.) 4102 þat þai ner ded vpon þe grene, Eueri moder sone, i wene. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 1429 þe first modire son he mett .. Was Balaan þe bald berne. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* X. xxix. 460 He casteth that we shalle neuer escape moder sone of vs. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 330 Tydeus slewe theim euery mothers soonne excepte one. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* I. ii. 80. 1665 J. WEBB *Stone-Heng* (1725) 223 The English..massacred them all, every Mother's Son of them. 1694 MOTTEUX *Rabelais* IV. i. (1737) 5 Each Mother's Son retired on board his own Ship. 1865 TENNYSON *Captain* 50 Every mother's son—Down they dropt. 1896 A. E. HOUSMAN *Shropshire Lad* XLIII, 'Tis that every mother's son Travails with a skeleton.

2. A spoilt child.

1882 'EONA LYALL' *Donovan* XXIV, He's never been allowed to shift for himself, he's a mother's son.

Mother tongue. [In sense 1, *mother* was originally the uninflected genitive; cf. the form **mothers tongue** in 16–17th c.]

1. One's native language.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 114 Secler lordys schuld, in defawte of prelatys, lerne and preche þe law of God in here modyr tonge. *c* 1400 *Brut* (E. E. T. S.) 315 Hit was ordeyned..þat men of lawe..fro þat tyme forth shold plede in her moder tunge. *c* 1470 HENRYSON *Mor. Fab.* Prol. v, In mother toung of lating I wald preif To mak ane maner of translatioun. 1519 *Interl. 4 Elements* (Percy Soc.) 3 The Grekes, the Romayns, with many other mo, In their moder tonge wrot warkes excellent. 1540 CRANMER *Pref. to Gt. Bible* 1 The Saxones tonge whiche at that tyme was oure mothers tonge. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* III. 2 Children..soone learne forraigne languages, and sooner forget the same, yea and their mothers tongue also. 1766 FORDYCE *Serm. Yng. Wom.* (1767) I. vii. 294 The..just pronunciation of their mother-tongue. 1874 BLACKIE *Self-Cult.* 34 Without the intervention of the mother tongue.

attrib. 1615 J. STEPHENS *Ess. & Char.* (1857) 256 The learning which lyes in mother-tongue translations.

b. *transf.*

1781 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* III. 15 *note*, His [Shakespeare's] mother-tongue, the language of nature, is the same in Cappadocia and in Britain. 1865 TYLOR *Early Hist. Man.* ii. 17 The mother-tongue of the deaf and dumb, is the language of signs.

2. An original language from which others spring.

c 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* (1892) II. 475 The Mother-Tongues of Europe are thirteen. 1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v., Of *mother tongues*, Scaliger reckons ten in Europe. 1848 LATHAM *Eng. Lang.* II. iv. (ed. 2) 83 It [American English] was earliest separated from the mother-tongue.

Mother wit. Also 5 **moderis wytte.** Native or natural wit; common sense.

Often in *Proverb*: see CLERGY 5.

c 1440 CAPGRAVE *Life St. Kath.* V. 1710 Thei cowde neuere resorte on-to her moderis wytte. 1529 MORE *Dyalogue* I. Wks. 153/2 One speciall thynge, without which all lernynge is halfe lame. What is that quod he. Mary quod I, a good mother wyt. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* IV. x. 21 For all that nature by her mother-wit Could frame in earth,..Was there. 1697 J. SERGEANT *Solid Philos.* 428 Such Forms of Reasoning were, certainly, never intended..for Men of good Mother-Wits. 1760 C. JOHNSTON *Chrysal* (1822) I. 263 Well supplied with what is called mother-wit. 1860 EMERSON *Cond. Life* vi. (1861) 125 The cure for false theology is motherwit. 1885 J. MARTINEAU *Types Eth. Theory* I. 49 The domain of accidental judgment and mother-wit.

†**b.** ? One who possesses mother wit. *Obs.*

1586 MARLOWE *1st Pt. Tamburl.* Prol. 1 From iygging vaines of riming mother wits.

Hence **Mother witted** *a.*, having mother-wit.

1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* 67 Discontent,..if [it light] on a man of puissance, (be he not more then mother-witted circumspect,) to him and his family it is no lesse fatall.

Mo·therwort. Also 4–6 **moderwort**(e, 5 **moderuurt, modir-wort, modyr worte,** 6 **motherwoorte,** 6–7 **motherworte,** 8 **motherworth.** [f. MOTHER *sb.*1 (in sense 11) + WORT.]

1. A name for various plants formerly supposed to be valuable in diseases of the womb; now chiefly applied to *Leonurus Cardiaca*; formerly often to the mugwort, *Artemisia vulgaris.*

a 1387 *Sinon. Barthol.* (Anecd. Oxon.) 36/2 *Regina prati*, moderwort. 14.. *Stockholm Med. MS.* II. 247 in *Anglia* XVIII. 313 Off modir-wort I wyl þe tellyn..Off þat erbe arn spycys iij. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 341/2 Modyr worte, herbe (or mugworte, *infra*), *artemesia.* *c* 1450 *Alphita* (Anecd. Oxon.) 106/2 *Matricaria aquatica* .. modeuurt. 1533 ELYOT *Cast. Helthe* (1541) A ij, Arthemisia queene of Caria, founde the vertues of motherworte, which in latyne bearith her name. 1548 TURNER *Names of Herbes* 50 Lycopus is called of the commune Herbaries Cardiaca, in englishe Motherwurt. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 350 Take of Camomile and Motherwort, of each two or three handfuls. 1747 WESLEY *Prim. Physic* (1762) 88 A Decoction of Mother Wort. 1760 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* App. 319 Mother-wort, *Leonurus.* 1807 T. THOMSON *Chem.* (ed. 3) II. 431 Some are brown..Others blue, as camomile, motherwort. 1856 MISS PRATT *Flower. Pl.* (1861) IV. 179.

2. Man's motherwort (see MAN *sb.* 21). **Stinking motherwort,** *Chenopodium vulvaria.*

1578 LYTE *Dodoens* v. iv. 549, I haue named it in Englishe, The ranke stinking Goate, or stinking Motherwort.

Mothery (mɒ·ðəri), *a.* [f. MOTHER *sb.*2 + -Y.] Mouldy, feculent.

1709 *Brit. Apollo* No. 65. 2/1 The Wine..turns Mothery. 1759 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* II. xix, If there is such a juice.., is it not enough to make the clearest liquid in the world both feculent and mothery? 1861 H. MACMILLAN *Footn. fr. Page Nat.* 239 Wine..vinegar, catsup, not unfrequently become mothery.

Hence **Mo·theriness.**

1742 H. BAKER *Microsc.* II. iii. 76 A sort of whitish Scum or Motheriness will appear upon the Surface.

Mo·thless, *a. nonce-word.* [f. MOTH *sb.* + -LESS.] Void of moths.

a 1763 SHENSTONE *To the Virtuosi* vii, Tis you protect their pregnant hour; And when the birth's at hand, Exerting your obstetric pow'r Prevent a mothless land.

Mothley, obs. form of MOTLEY.

Moth mullein. [See quot. 1597.] The plant *Verbascum Blattaria.*

1578 LYTE *Dodoens* I. lxxxii. 122 It may be called in English Purple, or Mothe Mulleyn. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. cclviii. 634 Concerning the plants comprehended vnder the titles of *Blattaria*, or Moth Mulleins, I finde nothing written of them, sauing that mothes, butterflies, and all manner of smaller flies and bats, do resort vnto the place wheresoeuer these herbes be laide or strowed. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 538 The Hearbe called Purple, or Moth-mullein. 1778 R. WESTON *Gard. Calendar* (ed. 2) 303 Moth Mullein. Yellow Moth Mullein. White. 1838 MARY HOWITT *Woodpecker* ii, The moth-mullein..with its pale yellow flowers.

attrib. 1731 MILLER *Gard. Dict.* s.v. *Verbascum*, Mullein with a dark Moth-Mullein Leaf.

Motho, obs. form of MOTTO.

Mothe, Mothwoc: see MOTH, MOTE WOKE.

Mothy (mɒ·þi), *a.* [f. MOTH *sb.* + -Y.] Infested by moths.

1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* III. ii. 49 His horse hip'd with an olde mothy saddle, and stirrops of no kindred. 1598 FLORIO, *Tarmoso*, mothie, full of mothes or wormes. 1613 *Uncasing of Machivils Instr.* 16 Raile on a Broker whose clothes are mothie. 1890 *Illustr. Lond. News* 27 Dec. 810/1 Their mothy leathern covers.

‖ **Motif** (*motif*). [Fr.: see MOTIVE *sb.*]

1. a. In painting, sculpture, architecture, decoration, etc.: A constituent feature of a composition; an object or group of objects forming a distinct element of a design; a particular type of subject for artistic treatment. Also used for: The structural principle or the dominant idea of a work.

1848 MRS. JAMESON *Sacr. & Leg. Art* (1850) 87 The *motif* is simple and not easily mistaken. 1850 *Ecclesiologist* XI. 121 Regular stalls would not have suited the *motif* of the arrangement. 1881 *Cornh. Mag.* Mar. 309 The main motif of this landscape was the indescribable Carrara range. 1883 A. H. CHURCH *Prec. Stones* 29 Arrangements of precious stones in which the leading *motif* is either identity, or seriation, or contrast.

b. In literary composition: A type of incident, a particular situation, an ethical problem, or the like, which may be treated in a work of imagination.

1897 'EDNA LYALL' *Mrs. Gaskell* in *Women Novelists* 125 The difficult subject which forms the *motif* of 'Ruth'.

c. *Music.* Used in various senses, repectively = FIGURE *sb.* 24, LEITMOTIV, and SUBJECT *sb.*

1882 MRS. A. EDWARDES *Ballroom Repent.* I. 189, I feel original. I have got hold of a *motif*! Oh, if we had..a sheet of scored paper! 1907 in *Grove's Dict. Mus.* II. 377/1.

2. *Dress-making.* An ornament of lace, braid, or the like, sewn separately on a dress.

1882 CAULFEILD & SAWARD *Dict. Needlework, Motifs*, a French term, used to distinguish the pattern of a piece of embroidery from the groundwork or material. 1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 26 Aug. 3/2 Motifs, braces, epaulettes,..may be created from bold patterned guipure lace. 1906 *Times* 4 May 10/2 The skirt was bordered..with large jetted lace motifs.

¶**3.** Often used instead of MOTIVE in senses not specially Fr., in order to avoid the customary associations of the Eng. word as denoting an influence determining volition.

1874 DYKES *Relat. Kingd.* 163 The very *motif* to such false teaching is a desire to broaden somewhat the excessive straitness of the gospel path to life. 1887 G. T. LADD *Physiol. Psychol.* 463 The *motifs* or data which the mind would have for constructing such a surface must be found in the series of sensations of light and color.

Motif, obs. form of MOTIVE.

Motiferous (mɒutɪ·fɛ̈rəs), *a. Phys.* [f. L. *mōt-us* motion + -FEROUS.] Conveying motion or motor impulses.

1836–9 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* II. 375/1 There are fibrils which extend between the motiferous part of the cerebro-spinal axis and the sympathetic. 1839–47 *Ibid.* III. 893/1 Motiferous filaments.

Motific (mɒutɪ·fik), *a. Phys.* [f. L. *mōt-us* motion + -FIC.] Producing motion.

1822 GOOD *Study Med.* III. 30 *margin*, Motific, or irritative power of a lower description than sensific. 1835–6 *Todd's Cyc. Anat.* I. 800/2 Convulsion..is an affection of the motific not of the sensific part of the nervous system.

†**Mo·tild.** *Obs.* [f. *mote*, MOOT *v.*1 + *-ild* fem. suffix (see GRUCCHILD).] A female disputant.

a 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 418 ȝef ha þeos modi motild [L. *hanc contionatricem temerariam*] ouercumen mahten. *a* 1240 *Lofsong* in *Cott. Hom.* 205 Ich..hidde þin ore ðet tu beo mi motild aȝeines mine soule fon.

Motile (mōu·til), *a.* [ad. L. type **mōtilis*, f. *mōt-*, ppl. stem of *movēre* to move: see -ILE.] In *Zool., Bot.*, etc.: Capable of motion; characterized by motion.

1864 *Q. Jrnl. Microsc. Sci.* IV. 189 The motile phenomena hitherto observed in sponges. 1867 J. HOGG *Microsc.* II. i. 261 Still or motile cells of Protococcus. 1890 COOKE *Introd. Fresh-w. Algæ* 143 Active motile cells are so common amongst algæ that they scarce need description.

Motility (mɒti·lɪti). *Phys.* [Formed as prec. + -ITY.] Capability or power of moving (as a quality of organisms).

1835–6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 40/2 Motility and Sensation. 1836–9 *Ibid.* II. 675/1 Cold..tends to diminish sensibility and motility. 1860 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 8) XXI. 1000/2 The changes and motility of their cilia. 1875 BENNETT & DYER *Sachs' Bot.* 645 Motile leaves .. lose their motility when oxygen is withheld from them. 1878 A. M. HAMILTON *Nerv. Dis.* 90 A very small lesion may produce very decided impairment of motility.

Motion (mōu·ʃən), *sb.* Forms: 4–6 **mocioun,** 5 **mocyoun, moscyoun,** 5–6 **mocyon,** 5–7 **mocion,** 6 **mocyone, motione, motioun, motyon,** 5– **motion.** [a. F. *motion* (13th c.), ad. L. *mōtiōn-em*, n. of action f. *movēre* to MOVE.

The Eng. uses correspond not only to those of L. *mōtio*, but also, and perhaps more commonly, to those of *mōtus* (It., Sp. *moto*).

1. The process of moving, i. e. of undergoing change of place; the condition of a body (in mathematical theory also of a point, line, surface, etc.) when at each successive instant it occupies a different position in space. Also, in particularized uses: An instance, or a particular kind or variety (discriminated according to direction, velocity, etc.) of this process or condition. (In early use chiefly of the movements of the heavenly bodies.)

Motion of ROTATION, *of* TRANSLATION: see those words.

Laws of Motion: see LAW *sb.* 17 b.

1412-20 Lydg. *Chron. Troy* I. 1706 þe grete Tholome .. telleþ þe cause why..Bothe of Eclips and coniunccioun, And whi þei falle by natural mocioun. *c* 1430 — *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 85 The chieldren of Seth..Founde first the crafte of hevenly mocyouns. 1570 Billingsley *Euclid* I. def. xvi. 3 A point, by his motion or draught, describeth a line. 1590 Shaks. *Com. Err.* III. ii. 24 We in your motion turne, and you may moue vs. 1629 Massinger *Roman Actor* II. i, The motion of the Spheares are out of time, Her musicall notes but heard. 1642 Fuller *Holy & Prof. St.* IV. ix. 277 Diogenes confuted him who denyed there was any motion, by saying nothing but walking before his eyes. 1670 H. Stubbe *Plus Ultra* 163 The superiour part of the Air or Atmosphere..hath another motion or lation then that which is more low. 1690 Locke *Hum. Und.* II. xiv. § 7 This .. is the Reason, why Motions very slow, though they are constant, are not perceived by us. 1701 Grew *Cosmol. Sacra* I. i. 4 The two Visible Parts of the Universe are Matter and Motion. 1710 J. Clarke *Rohault's Nat. Phil.* (1729) I. 165 The Particles of the Water having less Motion, than our Bodies have in all those Parts which are near the Heart, they receive some Motion from us. 1812-16 Playfair *Nat. Phil.* (1819) I. Introd. 9 No body loses motion in any direction, without communicating an equal quantity to other bodies in that same direction. 1829 *Nat. Philos.* I. *Mechanics* II. xiii. 53 (Usef. Knowl. Soc.) Generally speaking,..the motions which we meet with in the use of machinery may be resolved into rectilinear and circular. 1860 Tyndall *Glac.* I. xi. 82 The clouds at a distance lay..with scarcely visible motion. 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) V. 150 The motion .. was circular, as in the motion of a top. 1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XV. 687/1 We must now consider the composition of simple harmonic motions in directions at right angles to each other.

b. *fig.* (e. g. of the progress of time.)

1681 Dryden *Abs. & Achit.* 254 Heaven has to all allotted, soon or late, Some lucky Revolution of their Fate: Whose Motions, if we watch and guide with Skill [etc.]. 1822 Byron *Heav. & Earth* I. iii. 83 Nor years, nor heart-break, nor time's sapping motion.

c. *Philos.* (now only *Hist.*) By many writers *motion* (Gr. κίνησις) was applied in a wider sense to all kinds of change, the term *local motion* being employed to distinguish change of place from the other kinds of 'motion'.

1678 Cudworth *Intell. Syst.* I. i. § 41. 50 To assert that Life and Sense, Reason and Understanding, were really nothing else but Local Motion. 1727-41 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v., The antient philosophers considered *motion* in a more general and extensive manner. They defined it, a passage out of one state into another: and thus made six kinds of motion, viz. Creation, generation, corruption, augmentation, diminution, and lation, or local motion.

†d. Change of abode; a flitting from one place to another. *Obs.*

1634 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* 130 Hee seldome resides in Cities, or any one place long, but affects perpetuall motion. 1643 Evelyn *Diary* 23 July, Which had been a greate cause of my perpetual motions hitherto between Wotton and London. 1645 [see 6 a]. *a* 1661 Fuller *Worthies, Staffs.* (1662) III. 46 William Gifford..was a man of much Motion.

†e. The action of moving or setting in movement, the fact of being moved. *Obs. rare.*

1667 Milton *P. L.* XII. 592 And see the Guards, By mee encampt on yonder Hill, expect Thir motion, at whose Front a flaming Sword, In signal of remove, waves fiercely round.

†f. *fig.* Advancement, promotion. *Obs. rare.*

1641 W. Mountagu in *Buccleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 288 The lawyers also must have their motions: Banks must be Baron and Lord Treasurer, the Attorney Chief Justice.

2. Change of place, whether voluntary or automatic, in an animate body or its parts; an instance of this, a movement.

1588 Shaks. *L. L. L.* IV. ii. 403 O! neuer will I trust to speeches pen'd, Nor to the motion of a Schoole-boies tongue. 1615 Crooke *Body of Man* 740 Men .. in their sleepe haue not so strong Tonnical motions as when they are awake. 1644 [see Local A. I. c]. 1645 Evelyn *Diary* 7 Jan, A Sermon was preach'd to the Jewes.., who are constrained to sit till the houre is don; but it is with so much ..spitting, hum'ing, coughing, and motion, that [etc.]. 1727-41 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v., *Animal Motion*, is that whereby the situation, figure, magnitude, &c. of the parts, members, &c. of animals are changed. 1742 Young *Nt. Th.* VIII. 541 The love of pleasure: that, thro' ev'ry vein, Throws motion, warmth. 1799 *Med. Jrnl.* II. 423 To retard the motion of the heart and circulating fluids. 1803 *Ibid.* X. 433 This translation of sensation and motion to parts remote from the place where impressions are made. 1813 Byron *Br. Abydos* II. xxvi, That hand, whose motion is not life, Yet feebly seems to menace strife.

†b. In artistic use.

1598 Haydocke tr. *Lomazzo* I. 23 By Motion, the Painters meane that comelines, and grace in the proportion and disposition of a picture, which is also called the spirite and life of a picture.

c. Power of movement, capability of moving (as the property of an animate body).

1603 Shaks. *Meas. for M.* III. i. 120 This sensible warme motion, to become A kneaded clod. 1667 Milton *P. L.* II. 151 Devoid of sense and motion. 1698 Rokeby in *Misc.* (Surtees No. 37) 62, I was taken with a very great indisposition..my motion in a manner wholly lost..I was necessitated to be carryed up staires.

d. The action of moving the body in walking, running, etc. Also, manner of walking or stepping; gait, carriage.

1598 Shaks. *Merry W.* III. iii. 68 The firme fixture of thy foote would giue an excellent motion to thy gate, in a semi-circled Farthingale. 1607-12 Bacon *Ess., Beauty* (Arb.) 212 Yf it be true that the principall part of Beautie is in decent mocion. 1647 Clarendon *Hist. Reb.* I. § 119 He had in his person, in his aspect and countenance, the appearance of a great man, which he preserved in his gait and motion. 1674 *Ibid.* XII. § 89 The men..must be good horsemen, otherwise they could not obey the quick motion and turns of their horses. 1711 Steele *Spect.* No. 4 ₱ 6 Her Air has the Beauty of Motion, and her Look the Force of Language.

†e. Bodily exertion (tending to fatigue); *pl.* = bodily exercises. *Obs.*

1602 Shaks. *Ham.* IV. vii. 158 When in your motion you are hot and dry. 1605 Bacon *Adv. Learn.* II. viii. § 3 By Ambages of diets, bathings, annointings, Medicines, motions, and the like, prolong life. 1689 Wood *Life* 20 Dec. (O. H. S.) III. 318 His violent motion going up Shotover Hill on foot. 1695 Dryden *Du Fresnoy's Art Paint.* Pref. 50 But that Poet was always in a Foam at his setting out, even before the Motion of the Race had warm'd him.

3. An act of moving the body (or its members); a change of posture; an external or visible movement, a gesture; in bad sense, †a grimace, antic.

1608 Machin *Dumb Knt.* I. i, In her lookes Each motion hath a speaking maiesty. 1621 Fletcher *Wildgoose Chase* III. i. (init.), These Gim-cracks, made of Mops, and Motions. 1667 Milton *P. L.* VIII. 223 Speaking or mute all comliness and grace Attends thee, and each word, each motion formes. 1798 Joanna Baillie *Tryal* II. ii. *Plays on Passions* (1821) I. 230 [stage-direction] Agnes, making a slight motion of her hand to fasten some pin in her dress. 1804 Wordsw. '*She was a Phantom of Delight*', Her household motions light and free, And steps of virgin-liberty. 1807-26 S. Cooper *First Lines Surg.* (ed. 5) 346 By a slight motion of the hand backward. 1842 Tennyson *Locksley Hall* 22 And her eyes on all my motions with a mute observance hung.

b. Phrases. *To make a motion* or *motions*: to beckon, invite by gestures (*to do* something). *To go through the motions of*: to perform by way of simulation gestures or movements such as are used in (some specified action).

1719 De Foe *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 207 Upon this my Savage ..made a Motion to me to lend him my Sword. 1743 Bulkeley & Cummins *Voy. S. Seas* 130 As soon as we discover'd them, we made Motions to them to come down.

c. A practised and regulated movement of the body; a step, gesture, or other movement acquired by drill and training (e. g. in *Fencing* and in the *Manège*). Also *fig.*

1601 Shaks. *Twel. N.* III. iv. 304 He gines me the stucke in with such a mortall motion that it is ineuitable. 1602 — *Ham.* IV. vii. 102 (1604 Qo.) The Scrimures of their nation, He swore had neither motion, guard, nor eye, If you opposd them. 1650 Milton *Tenure of Kings* (ed. 2) 57 For Divines, if we observe them, have thir postures and thir motions no less expertly, and with no less variety then they that practice feats in the Artillery-ground. *a* 1763 Shenstone *Ess.* Wks. 1765 II. 141 As a race-horse hurts his motions by condescending to draw in a team. 1809 Roland *Fencing* 98, I do not..recommend this motion to be adopted by young beginners, as it is apt to give rise to bad habits.

d. *Mil.* Each of the several successive actions of which a prescribed exercise of arms consists.

1635 Barriffe *(title)* Military Discipline .. together with the exercise of the foot in their motions. 1718 *Act New Hampshire* in *Outing* (U. S.) (1895) XXVII. 78/2 To exercise them in motions, the use of arms, and shooting at marks. 1760 *New Manual Exerc.* (ed. 3) 7 The Officers face to the Left-about in 3 Motions. 1802 C. James *Milit. Dict., Manual Exercise*..consists in seven motions of the firelock...The motions in the manual exercise will, in future, be performed slower than heretofore, leaving three seconds between each motion. 1859 [see Extension 10].

4. Commotion, agitated condition (e. g. of water); irregular movement, shaking, oscillation (of a ship, a vehicle). †Also, in immaterial applications, a political agitation or commotion; excitement, agitation (of the mind or feelings). See also 6 b.

1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 277 In token of þe mocioun of Ierusalem þat fel þre hondred 3ere afterward. 1423 *Coventry Leet Bk.* (E. E. T. S.) 45 For-asmoche as dyssencions, stirrynges and mocions haue byn had a-fore tyme.. for certen comen. 1535 Coverdale 2 *Esdras* vi. 14 There shal come a greate mocion [Vulg. *commotio*], but yᵉ place where thou stondest shal not be moued. 1582 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* III. 516 To contene thamselffis peciable..unattempting ony further motioun or trouble. 1644 S. Kem *Messengers Prepar.* 22 It's good stepping into the poole upon the motion of the waters. 1697 Potter *Antiq. Greece* I. iv. (1715) 15 The State continu'd all that time unsettl'd, and in continual motions. 1700 Dryden *Cymon & Iphig.* 30 Love .. brushing o'er, adds motion to the pool. 1715 Gay *What D'ye Call It* II. viii. *Ballad*, Cease, cease, thou cruel Ocean, And let my Lover rest; Ah! what's thy troubled Motion To that within my Breast? 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* II. (Globe) 592 He spoke this with so much Warmth in his Temper, so much Earnestness and Motion of his Spirits. 1771 T. Percival *Ess.* (1777) I. 127 The mixtures .. seemed to have some little fermentative motion in them. 1798 Coleridge *Anc. Mar.* V. xxi, But in a minute she 'gan stir, With a short uneasy motion—Backwards and forwards half her length. 1807 Crabbe *Par. Reg.* III. 572 His groans now told the motions of the cart.

5. *pl.* Activities or 'movements' on the part of a person or body of persons, when pursuing an affair; esp. the movements of an army in the field. (Now *rare.*) †Formerly also *sing.*

1674 Clarendon *Hist. Reb.* XIV. § 137 That his coming into Zealand, and his continuance there, was known to Cromwell, with all the particulars of his motion. 1693 *Humours Town* 24 Whose motions she has always as certain advice of as a Commander has of those of an Enemy. 1705 Stanhope *Paraphr.* I. 298 Joseph taking the Advantage of the Night to conceal his Motions, went away with Jesus and the Virgin, and dwelt in Egypt. 1769 Robertson *Chas. V*, IV. Wks. 1813 V. 406 All the emperor's motions, depending on himself alone, were more brisk and better concerted. 1775 Sheridan *St. Patr. Day* I. ii, My chief business with you is to watch the motions of a rake-helly fellow here. 1828 Scott *F. M. Perth* viii, He had associated himself to the Smith, whose motions he had watched for the purpose of joining him.

b. Phr. *To make a motion*: to begin to move in a particular direction or with some specified purpose.

1633 G. Herbert *Temple, Holy Script.* II. i, This verse marks that, and both do make a motion unto a third, that ten leaves off doth lie. 1709 *Tatler* No. 43 ₱ 11 The French Army had laid Bridges over the Sharp, and made a Motion as if they intended to pass that River. 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* II. (Globe) 604 About an Hour after they made a Motion to attack us again. 1800 Mrs. Hervey *Mourtray Fam.* III. 204 She made a motion towards the door.

6. In motion. a. *lit.* In a state of moving or of being moved; in a state of activity or moving about. Opposed to *at rest*. (Also †*upon motion.*) Phr. *to put in* (†*into*, †*to*) *motion*, *to set in motion*.

1601 Shaks. *Twel. N.* III. i. 87 Taste your legges sir, put them to motion. *c* 1645 Howell *Lett.* I. xiv. 27 My last unto you was from the Low-Countreys, wher I was in motion to and fro above four months. 1647 Cowley *Mistr., Called Inconst.* iii, As Men in Motion think the Trees move too. 1659 H. More *Immort. Soul* (1662) 233 The whole matter of the Universe, and all the parts thereof, are ever upon motion. 1662 Stillingfl. *Orig. Sacr.* III. ii. § 18 There must be an infinitely powerful..God, who must ..put matter into motion. 1774 Golosm. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) I. 116 Not a breeze, not a cloud which might be supposed to put all Nature thus into motion. 1836-41 Brande *Chem.* (ed. 5) 337 All the effects we are about to describe depend..upon electricity in motion, or upon electric currents. 1841 R. Willis *Princ. Mechanism* 18 Each of which is so connected with the frame-work of the machine, that when in motion every point of it is constrained to move in a certain path.

b. *fig.* In a state of activity, excitement, commotion, or the like; occas. †*in great motion*. *To put* or *set in motion*, to set going or working.

1596 Shaks. 1 *Hen. IV*, I. iii. 226 To keepe his anger still in motion. 1599 — *Hen. V*, I. ii. 185 Setting endeuour in continual motion. 1611 — *Cymb.* IV. iii. 31 The want is, but to put those Powres in motion, That long to moue. 1673 Temple *Ess., Ireland* Wks. 1731 I. 110 When Things are once in Motion, Trade begets Trade. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. vi. 192 Our people..observed..lights hurrying backwards and forwards in the fort, and other marks of the inhabitants being in great motion. 1772 *Ann. Reg.* XV. 94/2 We have now in our gaol sixteen rioters from Sudbury, and it is an alarming circumstance that the whole country seems in motion. 1804 G. Rose *Diaries* (1860) II. 139 My writ was moved for this day,..but my patent was not put in motion. 1855 Prescott *Philip II*, II. v. I. 197 They..who set a revolution in motion have not always the power to stop it.

†**7.** The action of moving, prompting, or urging (a person to do something, or that something be done); a proposal, suggestion (esp. in phr. *to make a motion*); an instigation, prompting, or bidding. *Obs.* in general sense (see 8).

c 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* IV. 1263 (1291) Pese wordes..Nys but to shewe yow my mocion To fynde vn-to oure helpe þe beste weye. 1412 Hoccleve *De Reg. Princ.* 4989 To god þi sone make a mocioun, How he þi seruaunt was, mayden marie. 1432-50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 15 Heraclius themperour..errede from the feithe thro the mocioun of Cirus.. and of Sergius [L. *suadentibus ad hoc Cyro..et Sergio*]. 1530 Palsgr. 647/1, I opyn a mater, I make first mocyon of it, or breke a mater to one, *je entame*. 1539 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. II. 131 Ye marvelle that I and my brotherne do nott frelye..surrendure upe owre Howse at the mocyone off the Kynges Commissinars. 1611 Bible *Transl. Pref.* ₱ 5 To whom..a sealed booke was deliuered, with this motion, Reade this, I pray thee. 1632 Lithgow *Trav.* III. 126 A Traueller..must alwayes at the first motion content these Rascals. 1682 Bunyan *Holy War* 19 Then they all with one consent said to this Bramble, do thou Reign over us. So he accepted the motion and became the King of the Town of Mansoul. 1720 De Foe *Capt. Singleton* x. (1840) 174 My friend made a motion to me, that we should desire Captain Wilmot to put us into the shoop. 1773 *Life N. Frowde* 26 The Mate applauded this Motion, and accordingly we went on shore. 1796 *Hist. Ned Evans* I. 21 Does she know..that I have been sent for, or was it only a mere motion of your own?

†b. ? Persuasive force. *Obs. rare*—¹.

a 1591 H. Smith *Serm.* (1614) 265 If I had the wordes of motion to speake that which might be spoken of this matter, it would fright Indas himselfe.

8. *spec.* a. A proposition or proposal formally made in a deliberative assembly.

1579-80 North *Plutarch, Aristides* (1595) 364 A generall counsell..in the which Aristides made a motion, that all the cities of Greece should [etc.]. 1605 *Nottingham Rec.* IV. 278 The mocion of 20 to be added to the Councell shalbe assented vnto. 1692 R. L'Estrange *Fables* cccix. 271 And upon this Ground, there was a Motion put up, for Changing the Monarchy into a Republique. 1710 Hearne *Collect.* (O.H.S.) III. 84, I mov'd that it might be bought for the Publick Library. My Motion not listen'd to. 1712 Steele *Spect.* No. 298 ₱ 5 The Motion being made, and the Question being put. 1838 Thirlwall *Greece* IV. xxxiv. 334 This motion was carried. 1880 McCarthy *Own Times* III. xliv. 327 The motion was never pressed to a division.

b. *Law.* An application made to a court or judge by a party to an action or his counsel, to obtain some rule or order of court necessary to the progress of the action.

a 1726 Gilbert *Tenures* (1757) 290 Upon motion to the court, it was agreed by the four justices, that [etc.]. 1729 Jacob *Law Dict.* s.v., In the Courts of Chancery, King's Bench, &c. Motions are made by Barristers and Counsellors at Law, for what concerns their Clients Causes...One ought not to move for several Things in one Motion; and where a Motion hath been denied, the same Matter may not be moved again by another Counsel, without acquainting the Court

thereof. 1818 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) I. 289 The motion was refused. 1838 DICKENS *O. Twist* xli, He..quitted the Bar in disgust because he had only one brief and a motion of course in twenty years.

†**9.** An inward prompting or impulse; an instigation or incitement from within; a desire or inclination (*to* or *towards*). Also, a stirring of the soul, an emotion. *Obs.*

1430–40 LYDG. *Bochas* II. iii. (1494) f viij, This body must haue a soule of life To queke the membres with goostly mocions. 1504 LADY MARGARET tr. *De Imitatione* IV. vii. 269 So full of mocyons and concupyscences [L. *tam plenus concupiscentiarum motibus*]. 1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* v. ii. § 3 Whereas vnto mens inward cogitations, vnto the priuie intents and motions of their harts, religion seeueth for a bridle. 1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* I. iii. 335 We haue Reason to coole our raging Motions. 1607–12 BACON *Ess., Nobility* (Arb.) 190 He that standeth at a stay when others rise, can hardlye avoyd mocions of envye. 1625 *Ibid., Love* 449 There is in Mans Nature, a secret Inclination, and Motion, towards loue of others. *a* 1680 CHARNOCK *Sinfuln. & Cure of Evil Th.* Wks. (1849) 123 Good motions cherished will spring up in good actions. 1692 DRYDEN *St. Euremont's Ess.* 9 Whether he killed his Sons by a motion of Heroick Vertue. 1718 HICKES & NELSON *J. Kettlewell* III. cx. 464 He got the Mastery of his Passions, and brought the Motions of his Mind into Subjection to the Law of Christ. 1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* III. i, The natural Love of Life gave me some inward Motions of Joy.

†**b.** *spec.* A working of God in the soul. *Obs.*

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 19 That all our actes and dedes be ordred and wrought after the inclynacyon or mocyon of grace. 1548–9 (Mar.) *Bk. Com. Prayer, Coll. 1st Sund. in Lent*, That..wee maye euer obeye thy Godlye mocions. 1670 WALTON *Lives* I. 37 God..mark'd him with ..a blessing of obedience to the motions of his blessed Spirit. 1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) II. 158 Abandoned by God, and unvisited by his gracious motions in the heart.

c. Phr. *Of* (†*upon*) *one's own* (or †*proper*) *motion* = of one's own accord. Now *arch.* Similarly †*of a* (specified) *motion.*

1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 19495 And my burdoun I heelde ryghte ffaste..And seyde (off sodeyne moscyoun) 'Bordoun' [etc.]. 1462 *Paston Lett.* II. 112 The parson comyth not of hyse owyn mocyon. 1489 CAXTON *Faytes of A.* I. v. 11 The ladies them self of theyr propre mocion brought theyr jewellis. 1533 CROMWELL in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) I. 370 Ye shall not moche nede to travayle..to procure answer other then of their owne mocyons they shall declare unto you. 1577–87 HOLINSHED *Chron.* III. 1211 He also of a godlie motion builded a conuenient roome in Pauls churchyard. 1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* v. lxxvii. § 13 Ye choose not me, but I of mine own voluntarie motion made choice of you. 1652 NEEDHAM tr. *Selden's Mare Cl.* 21 Not at the instance of any one, but of their own proper motions. 1730 WESLEY *Wks.* (1830) I. 12, I do not say you would be too officious should you of your own motions seek out the persons that want your instructions. 1903 *Expositor* Apr. 268 Christ of his own motion went further afield.

†**10.** A motive, reason; a ground or cause of action. *Obs.*

1533 BELLENDEN tr. *Livy* II. vii. (S.T.S.) I. 155 Þai war all resolute of ane mynde..; And for þir mocionns [L. *proinde*] desirit porsena [etc.]. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* iii. 27 Thai [the English] ar, ande alse hes beene, the special motione of the iniust veyris that hes trublit cristianite thir sex hundretht 3eir by past. 1657–8 in *Burton's Diary* (1828) II. 354 They have openly and avowedly trod God's people under foot, on that very motion and account; that they were Protestants.

11. The involuntary action of the intestines, leading to discharge of their contents; an evacuation of the bowels. Also, chiefly in *plural*, that which is evacuated; the fæces.

1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* III. i. 105 Shall I loose my Doctor? No, hee giues me the Potions and the Motions. 1766 [ANSTEY] *Bath Guide* ii. 50 We must swallow a Potion For driving out Wind after every Motion. 1786 R. WILLAN in *Med. Commun.* II. 118 He had..two or three loose motions. 1843 R. J. GRAVES *Syst. Clin. Med.* x. 111 Those who are dissatisfied with less than two or three motions in the day. 1871 NAPHEYS *Prev. & Cure Dis.* III. ix. 995 The motions of the bowels present a pale drab or clay color. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 737 In sprue the motions are generally very frothy.

12. *Mus.* †**a.** Movement (quick or slow); tempo.

1674 PLAYFORD *Skill Mus.* I. x. 33 This Mood..is of two Motions, the one slow, the other more swift. 1727–52 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v., The *motion*, in songs composed in double time, differs from that in those in triple time. It is the *motion* that distinguishes courants and sarabands, from gavots, borees, chacones, &c.

b. (*a*) The melodic progression of a single part with reference to the intervals taken by it. See CONJUNCT *a.* 6, DISJUNCT *a.* 3. (*b*) The progression of two or more parts with relation to each other. For *parallel, direct, similar, oblique, contrary motion*, see those adjs.

1731, 1811, etc. [see CONTRARY *a.* 5 b, OBLIQUE *a.* 6, etc.].

†**13.** **a.** A puppet-show. *Obs.*

1589 NASHE *Pasquill & Marforius* 12 Pompes, Pagents, Motions, Maskes. 1599 B. JONSON *Ev. Man out of Hum.* II. iii, They say, there's a new Motion of the city of Niniueh, with Ionas, and the whale, to be seene at Fleet-bridge. 1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* IV. iii. 103 Then hee compast a Motion of the Prodigall sonne. 1677 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1170/4 All Persons exposing publickly any Shows, Motions, Stage-Playes, or strange Sights. 1678 *Norwich Court-Bks.* 21 Dec. (1905) 152 Oliver Batt licensed to show a motion called 'Arte and Vartue'.

†**b.** A puppet. Also applied contemptuously to a person. *Obs.*

1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* II. i. 100 Oh excellent motion; oh exceeding Puppet. 1601 B. JONSON *Poetaster* III. iv, What's he, with the halfe-armes there, that salutes vs out of his cloke, like a motion? 1609 — *Sil. Wom.* III. iv, Did you thinke you had married a statue? or a motion, onely? 1623 FLETCHER *Rule a Wife* II. i, Goe, find me out this man, and let me see him, If he be that motion that you tell me of, And make no more noise, I shall entertain him. 1633 MARMION *Antiquary* I. i, This travelling motion has been abroad in quest of strange fashions. 1663 KILLIGREW *Parson's Wedd.* IV. i, One that never..sleepes in a whole skin, but is taken to pieces like a Motion, as if she were too long. 1689 SWIFT *Ode to Sir W. Temple* vii, As in a theatre the ignorant fry, Because the cords escape their eye, Wonder to see the motions fly.

14. A piece of mechanism which itself moves, or which sets other pieces moving or modifies their motion; †the MOVEMENT of a watch. Also *fig.*

Perpetual motion: see PERPETUAL *a.* 1 b. *Parallel motion*: see PARALLEL *a.*

1605 DANIEL *Philotas* III. ii. D 2 b, This great motion of a state we see Doth turne on many wheeles. *a* 1626 BACON *New Atl.* (1900) 36 Engines for Multiplying and Enforcing of Windes, to set also on going diverse Motions. *Ibid.* 43 Wee have divers curious Clocks; And other like Motions of Returne: And some Perpetuall Motions. 1678 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1315/4 A silver Watch with several motions. 1682 *True Protest. Mercury* No. 151. 2/2 Two silver Watches, the one a large one with a rising motion. 1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl., Motion* is also used among mechanics, for the inside of a watch, &c. more commonly called *movement*. 1793 W. & S. JONES *Catal. Optical*, etc. *Instr.* 2 Reflecting telescopes..with rack-work motions. 1894 *Times* 23 Mar. 4/6 The engine-driver..might know whether the line was clear even..while he was oiling the motion.

15. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as (sense 8 b) *motion-day*; (sense 14) *motion-maker, wheel*; **motion-bar**, a guide-bar in a steam-engine; **motion-block** (see quot.); †**motion-man**, the worker or exhibitor of a puppet-show; **motion-work**, the mechanism for moving the hands of a watch or clock.

1871 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* Sept. 534 Flat guides, called *motion-bars, or guide-bars. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* II. 74 The *motion-block which forms a connection between the piston-rod and connecting-rod. 1887 G. C. V. HOLMES *Steam Engine* 214 The guides or motion blocks ..which prevent the end of the piston rod from being deflected as the connecting rod assumes an angular position. 1904 E. MANSON *Builders of our Law* (ed. 2) 229 *Motion-day at the Rolls was a scene to be remembered. 1818 BENTHAM *Ch. Eng.* 118 Of these same *motion-makers, the third ..is Earl Nelson. 1614 B. JONSON *Barth. Fair* I. v, A Puppet-play..that I writ for the *motion man. *a* 1680 BUTLER *Rem.* (1759) I. 102 When truly all their Feats have been As well perform'd by Motion-men. 1764 *Ann. Reg.* I. 79/1 Two *motion wheels [in a watch]. 1795 J. AIKIN *Manchester* 311 They..excel in what is called *motion-work, such as dial wheels, locking springs [etc.]. 1884 F. J. BRITTEN *Watch & Clockm.* 179 In turret clocks, where the striking is not discharged by the motion work.

Motion (mōu·ʃən), *v.* Also 5 mocyon, 6 moshion, -yon, mocion. [f. MOTION *sb.*]

†**1.** *trans.* To propose, move, bring forward. Const. *to, unto. Obs.*

1505 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 391 Anye discord..or ingerous wordes or langauge spokin, movid or moshioned betwixte anny brother or neighboure. 1535 in *Lett. Suppress. Monasteries* (Camden) 77 Your humble oratour, disquietly vexede without cause or any pretenced occasion motioned of your said oratours partie. 1577 *F. de L'isle's Legendarie* D iij, Which was by motioning a double alliance. 1581 SAVILE *Tacitus' Hist.* III. lxx. (1591) 157 Till Vitellius began first to motion a parle. 1586 HOOKER *Suppl. Irish Chron.* 136/2 in *Holinshed*, Tirlough..making the like sutes as his wife before his comming had motioned vnto his lordship. 1611 BIBLE *Transl. Pref.* ¶ 2 It was made a capitall crime, once to motion the making of a new Law for the abrogating of an old. 1635 J. HAYWARD tr. *Biondi's Banish'd Virg.* 169, I..never entertained a thought of motioning love unto you, otherwise than in a lawfull and honourable way. 1648 GAGE *West Ind.* xviii. (1655) 136 This Fryer hath writ of this Countrey, and hath gone to Spain to the Court to motion the conquering of it. 1666 PEPYS *Diary* 8 June, Creed and I down the river as low as Sir W. Warren's, with whom I did motion a business that may be of profit to me. 1714 *New Hampshire Prov. Papers* (1868) II. 662 His Honour..often motioned it to the Council to be gratified. 1721 J. WINDHAM *Let.* 5 Jan. in *Pall Mall G.* (1891) 25 June 3/2 A bill is ordered to be brought in to make it felony for [etc.]...Motioned by Sir Joseph Jekyll, seconded by H. Walpole and others. 1802 C. JAMES *Milit. Dict., To motion a thing*, to propose it in a military or civil meeting.

†**b.** with *infinitive* or *clause* as object. *Obs.*

1524 DK. SUFFOLK in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. III. I. 331 So it is as I am enformed, vpon malice it is mocioned vnto your Grace to take into the Kingis handes .. the Pryory of Conyssed [etc.]. 1536 STAFFORD in *Lett. Suppress. Monasteries* (Camden) 122 Where I desyred Mr. Bryan to be so good master unto me as to moshion unto your mastership to helpe me to the gift of the priorie of Fynshed. *a* 1648 LD. HERBERT *Hen. VIII* (1683) 363 One Tempse .. who motion'd that they all should Petition the King to take his Queen again. 1676 NEWTON in Rigaud *Corr. Sci. Men* (1841) II. 395, I am now to return you thanks..for motioning to get the experiment in controversy tried before the Royal Society. 1676 W. ROW *Contn. Blair's Autobiog.* x. (1848) 271 They motioned in the Committee that John Hamilton should be general-major of the army. 1688 *Col. Rec. Pennsylv.* I. 233 Samll Richardson..motion'd that The order of This board..was Contrary to Law. 1823 W. FAUX *Mem. Days Amer.* 323 Another rising to say, 'I motion, that as some cannot command money they should bring vegetables'.

†**c.** To propose or recommend (a person) for employment, or as a partner in marriage. *Obs.*

1577 HOLINSHED *Chron.* II. 553 Hugh le Brun..(vnto whom Queene Isabell..had beene promised in mariage before that King Iohn was motioned vnto hir..). *a* 1641 BP. MOUNTAGU *Acts & Mon.* (1642) 282 He refused the Kings daughter in marriage, being motioned to him, and married that slave. 1641 HINDE *J. Bruen* vii. 24 A daughter of one M. Hardware,..was commended to the Father, and so by him motioned unto his Sonne. *a* 1694 M. ROBINSON *Autobiog.* (1856) 9 Our young student..being motioned to the lord general Fairfax as a page.

†**d.** To approach with a request; to petition or suggest to (a person). *Obs.*

1476 J. PASTON in *P. Lett.* III. 158 John Redwe mocyond hym onys myche aftyr thys intent. 1528 ABBESS OF WILTON *Let. to Wolsey* (P.R.O.) I have oft tymes mocioned my systers to he reclused within oure monastery. 1538 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. III. III. 218 And forasmocke as I found your Lordeschipp gudd Lorde unto me in my [former] suyte..I am now the bolder to motyon yowr Lordeschippe for my neybors of Oxford. 1544 BALE *Chron. Sir J. Oldcastle* Pref. 7 b, This noble lorde Cobham with certen other more, mocyoned the kynge at Westmynstre..that it were verye commodyouse to Englande yf the Romyshe Bysshoppes auctorite extended no further than the Occeane see.

†**e.** In *passive*: To have an inward motion, be tempted.

a 1591 H. SMITH *Serm.* (1637) 790 Marke whensoever thou art motioned to evill, if it doe not promise thee some goodesse to come of it.

†**2.** *intr.* or *absol.* To make a proposal, bring forward a motion, offer a plan. *Obs. rare.*

1509 in *Mem. Hen. VII* (Rolls) 437 And that they that had so moschyonyd unto the kynge hys lord had no good ground nor reson so for to do. 1539 LATIMER *Let. to Cromwell* 17 Jan. *Remains* (Parker Soc.) 413, I doubt not, but the king's highness..will remember his poor subjects now in Lent as touching white meat, of the which I now motion unto your lordship, to the intent it may come betime among them. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 461 The Quene motioned for the restoring of abbey landes. 1599 A. M. tr. *Gabelhouer's Bk. Physicke* 352/1 [A prescription] When anye Membre is so extreamlye inflamed that it wexeth blacke, and the Chirurgiane beginneth to motion of the extirpation therof. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IX. 229 Well hast thou motion'd, wel thy thoughts imployed How we might [etc.]. 1694 *New Hampshire Prov. Papers* (1868) II. 115 The Lieut. Governor motioned to this Board of a citadel to be built in this fourt. 1839 CARLYLE *Chartism* i. 112 For what end at all are men..sent to St. Stephen's,..kept talking, struggling, motioning and counter-motioning?

3. *trans.* To direct or guide by a sign, or significant gesture or movement. Const. *to* with *inf.*; also with *adv.* or *advb. phrase.*

1787 MME. D'ARBLAY *Diary* 1 Nov., When I produced it [a present], she motioned it away with her hand. 1820 L. HUNT *Indicator* No. 43 (1822) I. 340 She motioned him..to be silent. 1838 DICKENS *Nich. Nick.* i, Nickleby..motioning them all out of the room, embraced his wife and children. 1869 A. W. WARD tr. *Curtius' Hist. Greece* II. II. iv. 5 It was their duty..to motion off any one who approached the gods of the state without the right of so doing. 1895 SCULLY *Kafir Stories* 158 Whitson sat down on a stone, and motioned his companion to do the same.

4. *intr.* **a.** To make a motion or movement as if intending *to do* something. ? *Obs.*

1747 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1811) II. xxxiv. 248 Snatching my hand from my brother who was insolently motioning to give it to Mr. Solmes. 1754 — *Grandison* VI. xlii. 262, I..motioned to quit the hall for the parlour. 1800 HELENA WELLS *Constantia Neville* (ed. 2) II. 79, I..requested he would be seated. This he declined, motioning at the same time to go away. 1803 MARY CHARLTON *Wife & Mistress* IV. 187 She..motioned to depart.

b. To make a significant movement or gesture for the purpose of directing or guiding.

1788 CHARLOTTE SMITH *Emmeline* (1816) IV. 216 Lady Adelina.., still motioning with her hand for Fitz Edward to leave her, moved on. 1802 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Gaston de Blondeville* Posth. Wks. 1826 II. 377 The King motioned with his arm; the Archbishop made a sign in the air. 1856 MRS. BROWNING *Aur. Leigh* VIII. 81 'Will you sit?' I asked, and motioned to a chair. 1897 HALL CAINE *Christian* x, She..motioned to him to stand by her side. 1899 T. M. ELLIS *Three Cats-eye Rings* 130 Clayside motioned to the men to cover in the dead.

Motionable (mōu·ʃənăb'l), *a. rare.* [f. MOTION *sb.* + -ABLE.] Capable of motion.

1840 *P. Parley's Ann.* I. 149 She gave it a gentle pat with her paw, to see if it were motionable. 1893 R. BRIDGES *Shorter P.* v. xv. 11 The frost-bound country held Nought motionable or alive.

Motional (mōu·ʃənăl), *a.* [f. MOTION *sb.* + -AL.] Of or pertaining to motion; characterized by (certain) motions.

a 1831 BENTHAM *Language* Wks. 1843 VIII. 300/2 The existence of any expressible state of things, or of persons,.. whether it be quiescent, or motional,..is what is called *a fact.* 1879 THOMSON & TAIT *Nat. Phil.* I. I. § 343 A system so constituted that the positional forces are proportional to displacements and the motional to velocities.

†**Mo·tionary,** *a. Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. [f. MOTION *sb.* + -ARY[1]; cf. STATIONARY.] Having a motion; moving, or causing motion.

1612 R. DABORNE *Christian turn'd Turke* 230 We are sway'd As are the motionary ingines of a clocke.

†**Mo·tionated,** *a. Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. [f. MOTION *sb.* + -ATE + -ED[1].] That is moved or set in motion.

1666 G. ALSOP *Maryland* (1869) 48 He might..then with a Spade, like his Grandsire Adam, turn up the face of the Creation, purchasing his bread by the sweat of his brows, that before was got by the motionated Water-works of his jaws.

†**Mo·tioner.** *Obs.* [f. MOTION *sb.* or *v.* + -ER[1].] One who 'motions'; a proposer, instigator.

?1536 LATIMER in *Lett. Suppress. Monasteries* (Camden) 149 Butt now, syr, another thynge, that by your favour I myght be a motionare unto you, at the request [etc.].

c 1560 R. Morice in *Lett. Lit. Men* (Camden) 26 Dr. Butts was the firste motioner of his preferment. 1577 *F. de L'isle's Legendarie* H v b, They.. had bene the chiefe motioners of the estates to call for accomptes. 1665 Marq. Worcester in Dircks *Life* (1865) 278 You are no motioner of this; you do but lay before him my reasonable petition therein.

b. *transf.* of a thing. (Frequent in Hales.)

1616 Hieron *Wks.* II. 37 Where religion was not the first motioner, the issue of the marriage without great repentance can neuer bee comfortable. 1617 Hales *Gold. Rem.* I. (1673) 2 We will consider, First, the sin it self..: where we will briefly consider what it is, and what causes and motioners it finds in our corrupt understandings.

Motion-hole: see Morsing b.

Motioning (mōu·ʃəniŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. Motion *v.* + -ing 1.] The action of the verb Motion; †the proposing or suggesting (of something).

1620 in Gutch *Coll. Cur.* I. 170 The motioning of that Match maketh a general fear. 1652 Cotterell *Cassandra* II. (1676) 22 A visit of his own motioning. 1786 Mme. D'Arblay *Diary* Oct., After this, the Smelts, at royal motioning, returned the visit of Mrs. Delany.

†**Mo·tionist.** *Obs.* [f. Motion *sb.* + -ist.] One skilled in motions.

1650 Milton *Tenure Kings* (ed. 2) 58 If there come a truth to be defended which..seemes not so profitable, strait these nimble motionists can finde no eev'n leggs to stand upon.

Motionless (mōu·ʃənlės), *a.* [f. Motion *sb.* + -less.] Having no motion or movement, not moving. Also, incapable of motion.

1599 Shaks. *Hen. V*, IV. ii. 50 And in their pale dull mouthes the Iymold Bitt Lyes foule with chaw'd grasse, still and motionlesse. 1634 Milton *Comus* 819 The Lady that sits here In stony fetters fixt, and motionless. 1742 Young *Nt. Th.* v. 189 All the live-long night, Rigid in thought, and motionless, he stands. 1802 Bingley *Anim. Biog.* (1813) I. 38 The tongue [of fish] is in general motionless, obtuse, and fleshy. 1883 J. Gilmour *Mongols* 362 Etiquette requiring them to remain motionless at the board.

Hence **Mo·tionlessness.**

1817 J. Gilchrist *Intell. Patrimony* 23 The agreeableness that the sentient frame finds in motionlessness. 1840 Thackeray *Paris Sk.-bk.* Wks. 1900 V. 207 The silence and motionlessness of the whole added to its awfulness.

†**Mo·tist.** *Obs. rare.* [ad. It. *motista*, f. *moto* :—L. *mōtus* movement.] One skilled in depicting or describing movement.

1598 R. Haydocke tr. *Lomazzo* II. 13 Here then the diligent Motist [orig. *il diligente motista*] ought to obserue, how much any one humor aboundeth in the body, so that he may learne to expresse the motions accordingly. *Ibid.* 15 Whence I holde it most convenient for that Painter, which would prooue a cunning Motist, to be..precise in diligent observing of the aboue named rules. *Ibid.* 21 Those excellent Motistes Al. Magnus, Abbas Tritemius, and Rai. 1644 Bulwer *Chirol.* A j b, Thy Hand hath, like a cunning Motist, found In all the Senses, wherein they abound.

Motitation (mōutitē·ʃən). *rare.* [n. of action f. L. *mōtitāre*, freq. of *mōt-*, *movēre* to Move: see -ation.] A quivering movement.

1641 Bp. Hall *Serm. Lent* Wks. 1837 V. 434 What shall we say to those men..that love to dance upon a quaking earth? yea, that affect to be actors in these unkindly motitations? 1649 Bulwer *Pathomyot.* II. i. 67 If you rest a trembling Head upon a cushion, you shall soon stay the trembling, and free it from that motitation. 1884 J. Payne 1001 *Nights* VIII. 105 With Cairene motitations and Vemani wrigglings..and Hindi torsions.

Motivate (mōu·tivēit), *v.* [f. Motive *sb.* + -ate 3, after F. *motiver*, G. *motiviren*.] *trans.* = Motive *v.*

1885 *Athenæum* 14 Feb. 213/1 The chief defect [of the novel] is that the principal events are not sufficiently 'motivated'. 1901 Meader *Lat. Pronouns is, hic*, etc. 80 Various reasons might have motivated the change.

absol. 1863 Lytton *Caxtoniana* II. 259 But Goethe's art was not dramatic; he himself tells us so,..he adds.. that, from the philosophical turn of his mind, he 'motivates' too much for the stage.

Motivation (mōutivē·ʃən). [f. Motive *v.*: see -ation.] The action of the verb Motive.

1873 *Contemp. Rev.* XXI. 446 He [Schopenhauer] distinguishes the sufficient reason of Becoming, of Knowledge, of Being, and of Action...The fourth is the law of motivation. 1902 *Edin. Rev.* July 203 Still less are we referring to the structure of the Robertsonian drama, the 'motivation' of its plot.

Motive (mōu·tiv), *sb.* Forms: 4 motif(f, 4–5 motyf, 4–6 motyve, 6 motife, -yfe, moitive, 6– motive. [a. F. *motif* masc. (in Oresme, 14th c.), subst. use of OF. *motif* Motive *a.* Cf. Sp., Pg., It. *motivo*; also G. *motiv* (from Fr.).]

†**1.** Something moved or brought forward; a motion, proposition; esp. in *to move* (or *make*) *a motive* (cf. Motion). *Obs.*

1362 Langl. *P. Pt.* A. xi. 70 Suche Motyues þei meuen þis Maistres in heor glorie. 1451 Capgrave *Life St. Aug.* 12/25 Tho seid þei whan þei were concluded with argumentis on all sides þat Faustus schuld come and he schuld make answere on-to all þese motyues. 1523 Skelton *Garl. Laurel* 114 Madame..Vnto your grace then make I this motyue; Whereto made ye [etc.]? 1586 Ferne *Blaz. Gentrie* I. 261 Questions of the lawes of armes with their solucions which he hath deuided into fourteene motiues. 1602 *North's Plutarch, Philip* (1612) 1135 So he [Philip] made a motiue, that he desired to speake with the townes openly. 1652 Earl Monm. tr. *Bentivoglio's Hist. Relat.* 8 If..the great Assembly of the States Generall be to be called for any new extraordinary business..this Councell drawes up the motives and sends them to the particular States of every Province.

†**2. a.** ? A moving impression on the mind. *Obs.*

c 1386 Chaucer *Man of Law's T.* 530 This gentil kyng hath caught a greet motyf Of this witnesse.

†**b.** An inward prompting or impulse; chiefly in *of, from one's own* (or *proper*) *motive.* Chiefly *Sc.* Cf. Motion *sb.* 9. *Obs.*

1456 Sir G. Haye *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 60 Thre worthi princis come till him of thair awin curage and propre motyf. 1546 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 55 Of his awin fre will and motive, uncompellit or coactit. 1600 Holland *Livy* XXI. xviii. 403 An enterprise proceeding from his owne motife.

†**c.** ? A (supernatural) prompting or inciting.

1611 Tourneur *Ath. Trag.* v. ii, Heau'n..Whose gracious motiues made me still forbeare To be mine owne Reuenger. 1637 Earl Monm. tr. *Malvezzi's Rom. & Tarquin* 235 Many have beleeved, that in man also there are certaine seeds of Divination of future things..: I should beleeve them to bee the motives of our tutelary Angels [etc.].

†**3.** An argument, means of producing conviction.

c 1449 Pecock *Repr.* v. ii. (Rolls) 489 Forto proue that these religiouns hen sectis of perdicioun, he muste take his euydencis and hise motyues in othir place out and fro the seid text of Peter.

4. That which 'moves' or induces a person to act in a certain way; a desire, fear, or other emotion, or a consideration of reason, which influences or tends to influence a person's volition; also often applied to a contemplated result or object the desire of which tends to influence volition.

Writers of the 17–18th c. commonly speak of acting *on* a motive; the usual prep. now is *from*, though occasionally *with* or *for* is employed.

c 1412 Hoccleve *De Reg. Princ.* 1559 What was þi cause why þou toke a wyf? Was it..for luste, or muk? what was þi motyf? 1586 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* IV. 78 Lying undir dangear of horning, or proces of forfaltour, or uthirwayes upoun sum uthir motive, thay durst not compeir. 1594 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* II. viii. § 4 Hereof wee haue no commandement either in nature or scripture..yet those motiues there are in both which drawe most effectually our mindes vnto them. 1602 Shaks. *Ham.* I. i. 105 And this (I take it) Is the maine Motiue of our Preparations. 1647 Clarendon *Hist. Reb.* I. § 60 [Felton answered] that the motives thereunto would appear if his hat were found, in which he had.. fixed them. 1694 Locke *Hum. Und.* II. xxi. § 29 (ed. 2) 133 The motive to change, is always some uneasiness...This is the great motive that works on the Mind to put it upon Action. 1710 Steele *Tatler* No. 211 ₱ 4 There is no other motive of action that can carry us. 1754 Edwards *Freed. Will* I. ii. (1762) 5 By Motive, I mean the whole of that which moves, excites, or invites the Mind to Volition. 1796 Charlotte Smith *Marchmont* III. 147 He married her on the most laudable motives. 1813 Byron *Br. Abydos* I. xii, Now I have motive to be brave. 1824 Chr. Wordsworth *Who wrote Εἰκὼν Βασιλική* 164, I am compelled to declare, that, from the motives upon which he writes..his testimony adds very little. 1868 Bain *Ment. & Mor. Sci.* 346 The Motives, or Ends of action, are our Pleasures and Pains. 1884 F. Temple *Relat. Relig. & Sci.* iii. (1885) 80 The freedom of the will is not shown in acting without motive, but in choosing between motives.

†**b.** A moving or inciting cause. *Obs.*

1591 Sylvester *Du Bartas* I. ii. 249 Now the chiefe Motive of these Accidents Is the dire discord of our Elements. 1634 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* 65 You shall finde no motiues to beget Alexanders Riot, except barren Mountaines..can procure Epicurisme. 1727 *Philip Quarll* (1816) 75 He discovered a sail.., which quite altered the motive of his former fears: no monster, said he, has devoured him.

†**5.** A mover, instigator, promoter. *Obs.*

1600 Holland *Livy* XXIII. XXXVII. 500 Vercellius and Sicilius the motifes and chieftains of that rebellion. 1611 Bible *Transl. Pref.* ₱ 11 They were the principall motiues of it, and therefore ought least to quarrell it. 1681 Nevile *Plato Rediv.* 19 He cannot be denied to be a great motive of the Peoples unquietness.

†**6.** A moving limb or organ. (Only in Shaks.)

1593 Shaks. *Rich. II*, I. i. 193 My teeth shall teare The slauish motiue of recanting feare. 1606 — *Tr. & Cr.* IV. v. 57 Her wanton spirites looke out At euery ioynt, and motiue of her body.

7. In Art and Literature: = Motif 1, 2.

1851 tr. *Kugler's Hand-bk. Paint.* 18 The positions and *motives* in both [are] too conventional. 1851 Eastlake *ibid., note*, This word..as generally used by the author,..means the principle of action, attitude and composition in a single figure or group; thus it has been observed, that in some antique gems which are defective in execution, the motives are frequently fine. 1853 Kingslev *Hypatia* xxii, A dance .. in which every attitude was a fresh motive for a sculptor of the purest school. 1860 Ruskin *Mod. Paint.* V. VIII. ii. § 1 A great composition always has a leading emotional purpose, technically called its motive, to which all its lines and forms have some relation. Undulating lines, for instance, are expressive of action; and would be false in effect if the motive of the picture was one of repose. 1889 *Academy* 25 May 365/2 The motive [of the picture] is of the simplest.

b. *Mus.* = Motivo, Motif 3. *Leading motive*: see Leading *ppl. a.* 1 b.

1866 Engel *Nat. Mus.* ii. 82 Motive is the term which may most properly be applied to the shortest musical idea. 1883 F. Hueffer *Wagner* (ed. 2) 88 As if to remind him of this limit of his power, the orchestra intones a solemn theme which might be called the 'law or bond motive'.

8. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *motive-hunting*; **motive-grinder, -millwright,** *nonce-wds.*, a laborious searcher after motives; **motive-monger,** one who 'traffics' in motives; so **motive-mongering**; †**motive-wise** *adv.*, as a motive of conduct or action.

1831 Carlyle *Sart. Res.* II. vii, Foolish Wordmonger and *Motive-grinder, who in thy Logic-mill hast an earthly mechanism for the Godlike itself. 1907 Raleigh *Shakespeare* 189 Regan and Goneril do not go *motive-hunting like Iago. 1831 Carlyle *Sart. Res.* III. iii, *Motive-Millwrights. 1762 Sterne *Tr. Shandy* VI. xxxi, My father, who was a great *motive-monger. *a* 1834 Coleridge *Notes & Lect.* (1849) I. 233 O what a lesson concerning..the folly of all *motive-mongering, while the individual self remains! 1674 Allen *Danger Enthus.* 134 Because Faith is thus *Motive-wise such an Operative Principle of a good and Holy Life.

Motive (mōu·tiv), *a.* Also 6 moitive, motyfe. [ad. OF. *motif* or med.L. *mōtīv-us* (Erigena, *c* 860), f. L. *mōt-*, *movēre* to Move: see -ive.

Erigena renders τὸ τῆς φύσεως κινητικόν (Pseudo-Dionysius) by *naturæ motiva capacitas.*]

1. That moves or tends to move a person to a particular course of action; that constitutes a motive for action. Now somewhat *rare.*

1502 *Ord. Crysten Men* (W. de W. 1506) v. vii. 426 The cause motyue of the composycyon of this present boke. 1594 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* I. ix. § 1 What we doe against our wills..we are not properly said to do it; because the motiue cause of doing it is not in our selues. *Ibid.* IV. xi. § 12 Sball euery motiue argument vsed in such kinde of conferences be made a rule for others still to conclude the like by? 1654 Z. Coke *Logick* 9 The Causes motive of men to invent this Art, were first, The defect of mans nature. 1858 Sears *Athan.* III. x. 333 Those..whose motive principles are selfish. 1870 J. H. Newman *Gram. Assent* II. x. 469 The Emperor Marcus seems to consider obstinacy as the ultimate motive-cause to which their unnatural conduct was traceable. 1879 R. T. Smith *Basil the Great* x. 116 He held sacramental doctrine, yet we do not find the sacraments used as motive arguments.

†**b.** Powerful to move or incite. *Obs.*

1577–87 Holinshed *Chron.* I. 43/1 The oration of queene Voadicia..wherein she rippeth up the..shamefull wrongs which their enemies inflicted upon them, with other matters verie motive. 1649 Jer. Taylor *Gt. Exemp.* Disc. iii. § 8 Generals, even in spiritual things are less perceived and less motive than particulars.

2. Having the quality of initiating movement; productive of or used in the production of physical or mechanical motion; spec. in *Physics*, etc. *Motive energy*: see Energy 6. *Motive power*, the power acting upon matter to move it, moving or impelling power (so also *motive force*); also, the mechanical energy (as steam, electricity, air, etc.) used to drive machinery.

1578 Banister *Hist. Man* IV. 44 A Muscle..is construct ..wᵗ Nerues, that it might cary with it the moitiue vertue that springeth from the brayne. 1625 N. Carpenter *Geog. Del.* I. iii. (1635) 48 In the Reasonable soule of man, we haue two faculties.., a motiue, and a directiue power. 1641 Wilkins *Math. Magick* I. v. (1648) 29 The Nerves serve for the conveyance of the motive faculty from the brain. 1708 *Brit. Apollo* No. 62. 2/1 The absolute motive force of the Muscles. 1835 Whewell in *Trans. Cambr. Philos. Soc.* V. 160 That property of a force..which we may call the motive quantity of the force. 1849 Noad *Electricity* (ed. 3) 360 A machine with a motive wheel of about 2½ feet in diameter..to propel a Napier's printing press. 1862 H. Spencer *First Princ.* II. xiv. § 114 (1875) 325 When horse-power and man-power were alone employed, the motive agent was not bound up with the tool moved. 1889 G. Findlay *Eng. Railway* 6 The question of the motive power to be employed was left an open one.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1865 M. Arnold *Ess. Crit.* I. (1875) 11 The French Revolution..found..its motive power in the intelligence of men. 1889 *Spectator* 14 Dec. 845 The usual motive-power of industrial enterprises,—the desire of human beings to grow rich.

c. Of nerves = Motor *a.* 2.

1668 Culpepper & Cole *Barthol. Anat.* Man. III. ii. 325 These two motive-nerves are so united as to touch one another. 1843 R. J. Graves *Syst. Clin. Med.* Introd. Lect. 14 In cases of tic douloureux we divide the sentient and not the motive nerves.

3. Concerned with or having the function or quality of initiating action.

1569 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 684 Bayth the partiis comperand personalie, of thair awin motive willis. 1575 *Ibid.* II. 451. 1650 Hobbes *Hum. Nat.* 4 Of the powers of the Mind there be two sorts, Cognitive and Imaginative, or Conceptive and Motive. 1844 Disraeli *Coningsby* v. ii, Public reputation is a motive power. 1892 N. Smyth *Chr. Ethics* I. iii. 189 Historical Christianity, on the ethical side of it, is increased divine motive power for man.

4. Of the limbs: Concerned with the faculty of motion or locomotion. ? *Obs.*

1541 Copland *Guydon's Quest. Chirurg.* C iv b, The seconde [purpose of the sinews is] to gyue moeuynge to the motyfe or styrynge membres. 1658 Sir T. Browne *Gard. Cyrus* iii. 58 In the motive parts of animals may be discovered mutuall proportions. 1835 Kirby *Hab. & Inst. Anim.* II. xvii. 93 The motive organs may be divided into two classes, those that are employed by an animal in locomotion, and those that are used for prehension.

†**5.** Having the faculty of motion; capable of movement; mobile. *Obs.*

1579–80 North *Plutarch, Camillus* (1595) 152 Fire..is the most motiue & quickest substance that is of all naturall things. 1603 Holland *Plutarch's Mor.* 993 Cold is stationarie and heat motive. 1628 Feltham *Resolves* II. [1.] xxvi. 84 Nature is motiue in the quest of ill.

†**b.** ? Moving readily, mobile. *Obs.*

1615 Brathwait *Strappado* 88 So pure her skin, so motiue to the eie, As it did seeme compos'd of Iuorie. 1621 — *Nat. Embassie* 97 Faire in proportion, motiue in her pace.

Motive (mōu·tiv), *v.* [f. Motive *sb.*; cf. F. *motiver*, G. *motiviren*.]

1. *trans.* To furnish with a motive or inciting cause; to give or supply a motive to; to be the motive of; also *pass.*, to be prompted by (something) as a motive.

a 1650 May *Satir. Puppy* (1657) 86 He carried himself as altogether unsensible of any beating, and demands what motiv'd that mirth. 1815 J. C. Hobhouse *Substance Lett.* (1816) I. 431 Lord Castlereagh, lest anything..absurd should be wanting to motive the war, reads a forged letter. 1830 W. Taylor *Hist. Surv. Germ. Poetry* I. 197 The salary was augmented so liberally as to motive his migration. 1874 W. G. Ward *Ess. Philos. Theism* (1884) I. 258 An act need not be motived by pleasure at all; and yet a very large amount of pleasure may be annexed to its performance.

2. In *passive*, of incidents in a drama or work of fiction: To be provided with a motive; to be rendered credible by what is revealed of the character, circumstances, or antecedent history of the persons. 1858 Hawthorne *Ancestral Footstep* (1883) 486 His malice must be motived in some satisfactory way. 1884 Symonds *Shaks. Predecess.* xi. 478 Where the witch's malice might have been motived and brought into play.

Motived (mōu·tivd), *a.* [f. Motive *v.* + -ED 1.] In senses of the vb.

1862 T. A. Trollope *Marietta* II. vii. 118 A collective and motived judgement. 1900 *Daily News* 28 Nov. 9/2 His work is always delicate, suggestive, motived, and..sincere.

Motiveless (mōu·tivlés), *a.* [f. Motive *sb.* + -less.] Having no motive.

1817 Godwin *Mandeville* II. 75 Had not that accident given us rather a motiveless contempt and abhorrence for others? 1879 Miss Braddon *Clov. Foot* i, Ah!..he wants something of me. This liberality is not motiveless.

Hence **Mo·tivelessly** *adv.*, **Mo·tivelessness.**

1876 Gen. Eliot *Dan. Der.* III. xxiv, That calm which Gwendolen had promised herself to maintain had changed into sick motivelessness. 1892 *Illustr. Lond. News* 22 Oct. 515/1 Feelings..unreasonably, motivelessly strong.

Motiveness (mōu·tivnés). [f. Motive *a.* + -ness.] Capability of locomotion.

1828 J. Ballantyne *Exam. Hum. Mind* 427 As to motiveness, they [*sc.* the lower animals] frequently discover a degree of agility to which man can make no pretensions.

Motivity (mōtiv·viti). [f. Motive *a.* + -ity.] The quality or capacity of initiating motion; *spec.* in *Dynamics*, kinetic energy.

1690 Locke *Hum. Und.* II. xxiii. 145 The active power of Moving, or, as I may call it, Motivity. 1822 Good *Study Med.* III. 6 The first a nerve of hearing, the second of feeling, and the third of motivity. 1865 Bushnell *Vicar. Sacr.* i. (1868) 49 All God's quickening motivity and power are taken away from the feeling.

‖ **Motivo** (mōtī·vo). *Mus.* [It.: see Motive *sb.* Cf. Motif.] The leading subject of an air, etc.; a subject or theme out of which a movement is developed. Also (see quot. 1876).

1789 Burney *Hist. Mus.* IV. 145 It is a graceful and pleasing air, the *motivo* of which has been often used in the present century. 1811 Busby *Dict. Mus.* (ed. 3). 1875 Ouseley *Mus. Form* ix. 48 Variations may be constructed ..upon an original theme or motivo. 1876 Stainer & Barrett *Dict. Mus. Terms*, *Motivo* (It.)..(1) The sort of movement indicated by the opening notes of a sentence. (2) A subject proposed for development.

Motled, obs. form of Mottled.

Motley (mɒ·tli), *a.* (*adv.*), *sb.* Forms: 4 motteley, 4–5 mottelay, 4, 6–8 motly, 5 motle(e, motele, motleye, 6–7 moatl(e)y, (7 mothly), 7–8 motely, 5– motley. [Of obscure origin.

The early forms (with which cf. those of Meoley) suggest adoption of an AF. **motelé*, which may possibly have been formed on the native Eng. Mote *sb.*1, speck, spot; cf. *speckled*, with which in some early examples *motley* seems nearly synonymous. Formally the word might be derived from OF. *motel*, early mod.F. *motteau* little clod, also 'clot of congealed moisture' (Cotgr.), dim. of *mote*, *motte* clod, but this does not seem quite satisfactory with regard to sense. Connexion with early mod.F. *mattelé* 'clotted, knottie, curdled, or curd-like' (Cotgr.) is improbable on grounds both of form and meaning.]

A. *adj.*

1. Diversified in colour; variegated; parti-coloured; chequered.

[1388 *Calverley Chart.* (1904) 204 Pur j gowne de bloy mnttelay et j chaperon de scharlete.] 1390–1 *Earl Derby's Exp.* (Camden) 8 Pro xxiiij virgis de rubano motteley. 1415 in Rymer *Fœdera* IX. 274/2 Duas Copas de Motley Velwet nigro, rubeo, & viridi cum Orfreis de Velvet rubeo. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* I. 36 And ȝif þow wolt haue it Motley, take þre pottys, and make letlardys in eche, & coloure [them]..so þat þey ben dyuerse; an..caste al togederys in-to on, an stere hem..and he wot be Motley whan he ys lechyd. 1483 Caxton *Gold. Leg.* 49/1 Israhel lovyd Joseph..and made for hym a motley cote. 1504–5 *Norwich Sacr. Roll* (MS.), In factura unius panni de Motley velveto. 1587 Turbery. *Trag. T.* 16 b, When May, with motly robes began his raigne. 1606 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. iv. II. *Magnif.* 313 He, whose count-less Heards for pasture Dis-robe (alone) mount Carmel's moatly Vesture. 1620 Shelton *Quix.* IV. xxiii. (1652) 131 An artificiall Fountain wrought of motly Jasper and smooth Marble. 1686 Plot *Staffordsh.* 123 All the colours being..given by the variety of Slips, except the Motley-colour which is procured by blending the Lead with Manganese. 1687 A. Lovell tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* III. 36 They make the..motely colours [orig. *bigarures*] that are upon the Stuffs with Moulds. 1755 Smollett *Quix.* (1803) IV. 31 Two of them..are green, two carnation, two blue, and one motley. 1757 Dyer *Fleece* II. 111 Where pitch..must stain your motley flock, To mark your property. *a* 1839 Praed *Poems* (1864) II. 159 A motley page Of black and white. 1851 Layard *Pop. Acc. Discov. Nineveh* viii. 185 About thirty Cawals in their motley dresses of black and white.

b. *esp.* of a fool's dress. Hence *motley fool.*

1600 Shaks. *A. Y. L.* II. vii. 13, I met a foole i'th Forrest, A motley Foole. *Ibid.* 43 O that I were a foole, I am ambitious for a motley coat. 1603 Dekker & Chettle *Grissil* I. (Hübsch 1893) 14 Its hard sir for this motley Ierkin to find friendship with this fine doublet. 1812 Byron *Ch. Har.* II. lxxviii, In motley robe to dance at masking ball. 1820 Hazlitt *Lect. Dram. Lit.* 49 Shakspear has contrived to clothe..the same sort of character with a motley garb.

c. *Path.* in *Motley dandriff*, a dandriff which produces a variegated appearance of the skin. Also (by association with 'mottle'), of the skin in disease: Mottled in appearance.

1822 Good *Study Med.* IV. 573 The variegated or Motley Dandriff, pityriasis versicolor. 1843 R. G. Graves *Syst. Clin. Med.* iv. 51 In some instances the eruption was papular, or a motley appearance of the skin.

2. *transf.* and *fig.* Composed of elements of diverse or varied character: a. of things.

1824 Wotton *Archit.* II. 98, I could wish such medlie and motlie Designes confined onely to the Ornament of Freezes. 1641 Milton *Animadv.* Wks. 1851 III. 208 The motley incoherence of a patch'd missall. 1693 Dryden *Persius' Sat.* I. 158 One would enquire from whence this motley Style Did first our Roman Purity defile. 1728 Pope *Dunc.* I. 63 There motley images her fancy strike, Figures ill-paired, and Similies unlike. 1796 Eliza Hamilton *Lett. Hindoo Rajah* (1811) I. 138 Motely tales of love and murder. 1864 Burton *Scot Abr.* I. i. 14 The language of France..has left to our day some motley relics. 1871 B. Taylor *Faust* (1875) II. I. iii. 25 Motley fancies blossom may For the fashion of the day.

b. of an assembly of persons.

1687 T. Brown *Saints in Uproar* Wks. 1730 I. 77 What a motly checquer'd assembly of red-coats and wastecoateers! 1748 *Anson's Voy.* I. iii. 28 With this motly crew..Pizarro set sail. 1846 Arnold *Later Hist. Rome* I. viii. 477 The infantry were..a motley force of Greeks, Cretans, Syrians, and natives of Pontus. 1879 Lubbock *Addr. Pol. & Educ.* i. 2 In..Singapore, we see a motley population attracted from China, the Malay Peninsula and India.

†**3.** Varying in character or mood; changeable in form. *Obs.*

1593 Donne *Sat.* i. 1 Away thou changeling motley humorist. 1755 Young *Centaur* v. (1757) IV. 221 So motley a creature is man; as mutable, as God is fixed.

†**4.** Made of the cloth called motley. *Obs.*

1589 *Marprel. Epit.* G j, He deserueth to be cased in a good moatley cloakbagg for his labor. 1615 Brathwait *Strappado* (1878) 130, I had Smaw gere (at tat tide) but a lether-bagge, A Motley iacket, an a slop of blew, It was my Fadders, I mun tell thee true.

5. *Comb.*, chiefly parasynthetic, as *motley coloured, -minded, -peopled, -speckled* adjs.; also †motley-scorn (see quot.).

1799 Strutt *Dress & Habits* II. 279 The Merchand [in the *Cant. T.*]..is clothed in a *motley-coloured garment. 1600 Shaks. *A. Y. L.* v. iv. 41 This is the *Motley-minded Gentleman. 1845 Stocqueler *Handbk. Brit. India* (1854) 135 This.. *motley-peopled capital. 1600 Dekker *Fortunatus* C 4, Poore Vertue Why is this *Motley-scorne [*sc.* a cockscomb] set on thy head? 1676 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1114/4 Lost..a *Motly-speckled Greyhound.

B. *sb.*

†**1.** A cloth of a mixed colour; a mixture. *Obs.*

c 1386 Chaucer *Prol.* 271 (Lansd. MS.) A marchant was þere with a forked berde In motteley [*Ellesm., Heng.* mot-lee; *Camb., Fetw.* motle; *Corp.* mottle; *Harl.* motteleye] and hye on hors he satte. 1394–5 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 598 In uno panno viridi cum xx ulu. de motly pro garniamentis estivalibus. 14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 603.46 *Polimitus*, Ray or motle or medlee. 1467–8 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 620/1 Double Motleys, VII yerdes longe..and sengle Motleys, VI yerdes longe. 1487–8 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* (1905) 135 Paide for mendyng of a vestmente of worstede Motleye, xij d. 1556 Withals *Dict.* (1568) 34 a/1 He that maketh motley, *polymitarius*. 1617 Moryson *Itin.* III. 170 His [*sc.* the king of Denmark's] chiefe Courtiers..were all attired in an English cloth, which they call Kentish cloth, we call Motley, but much finer then that whereof we make cloakebags.

†b. *transf.* (Common in Lydgate.) In *pl.* as the material of the flowery 'mantle' of the earth. Similarly, *white motley*, as the clothing of the hawthorn. *Obs.*

c 1402 Lydg. *Compl. Bl. Knt.* xi, Ther saw I eek the fresshe hawethorn In whyte motle, that so swote doth smelle. *c* 1407 — *Reson & Sens.* 117 Hys [*sc.* the earth's] mantel ys so lusty hewed..wyth motles fressh and fyne. *c* 1450 — *Secrees* 1378 This sesoun flora that is of flloures quene, hire fressh motlees she tournyth now Citryne. *c* 1515 *Cocke Lorell's B.* (Percy Soc.) 7 The walles shallbe of hauthorne..And hanged wt whyte motly yt swete doth smell.

2. A variegated, chequered, or mixed colour; also *transf.* and *fig.* an incongruous mixture.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 345/2 Motle, colowre, *stromaticus*. 1530 Palsgr. 246/2 Motley[,] colour, *bigarrure*. 1552 *Act* 5 & 6 *Edw. VI*, c. 6 § 23 Clothes..of anye other color or colors then..watchett shepes color lyon color motteley or tren [*v.r.* Iren] grey. 1698 Fryer *Acc. E. India & P.* 366 By their joint perverting the Holy Bible sprang up this motly of Blasphemous Dotages. 1864 D. G. Mitchell *Wet Days at Edgewood* (1884) 72 Interlacing the pages into a motley of patchwork. 1889 *Amer. Nat.* May 494 A motley of white and gray on the head, neck, shoulders, and back.

Comb. 1611 Cotgr., *Bigarrément*, diuersly, of sundrie colours, motley-like.

3. A parti-coloured dress which was the recognized attire of a professional fool or jester, freq. in phr. *to wear motley*; hence, allusively, foolery, nonsense. *A piece of motley*, a fool. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.*

1600 Shaks. *A. Y. L.* II. vii. 34 A worthy foole: Motley's the onely weare. *a* 1619 Fletcher *Wit without M.* III. iv, Never hope after I cast you off, you men of Motley. 1623–34 Fletcher & Mass. *Lover's Progr.* I. i, How have you work'd This piece of motley to your ends? *a* 1680 Butler *Rem.* (1759) I. 225 Their poring upon black and white too subt'ly Has turn'd the Insides of their Brains to motly.

1842 H. Rogers *Ess.* (1874) I. i. 21 So exuberant is Fuller's wit, that..his very wisdom wears motley.

b. A fool, jester.

c 1600 Shaks. *Sonn.* CX, I haue gone here and there And made my selfe a motley to the view. 1616 Haughton *Englishm. for my Money* F 3 b, Will not this monsieur Motley take his answer? 1873–4 Dixon *Two Queens* III. XIV. viii. 113 Wolsey, in his gown and band, beat all the motleys with their caps and bells.

Motley (mɒ·tli), *v.* [f. Motley *sb.*] *trans.* To make motley or parti-coloured in hue; to diversify in character; to mix incongruously. Hence **Mo·tleyed** *ppl. a.*

1447 Bokenham *Seyntys* (Roxb.) Introd. 3 Poetrye Enbelshyd wyth colours of rethoryk So pleteuously that fully it lyk In may was neuere no medews sene Motleyed wt flours on hys verdure grene. 1598 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. i. I. *Eden* 89 With thousand Dies he motleys all the Meades. *c* 1610 F. Davison *Ps.* xxiii, Motlied [*so MS. Rawl. Poet.* 61 (1626); *edd.* mottled] with Springs flowry painting. 1630 Drayton *Muses' Elys.* vi. 57 The motlied Meadowes then, ..Shute vp their spicy sweets. 1742 Collins *Oriental Ecl.* iii. 17 Gay-motley'd pinks and sweet jonquils she chose. 1798 A. P. *Tour in Wales* 35 (MS.) They were a motleyed throng of quadrupeds and the human species. 1830 Moir in *Blackw. Mag.* XXVII. 341 Some ruins motleyed with the weeds That love the salt-breeze.

Motleyness (mɒ·tlinés). [f. Motley *a.* + -ness.] The condition or quality of being motley.

1819 *Edin. Rev.* XXXII. 358 All other dogs are prized ..for the motleyness of their coats. 1846 Lo. Cockburn *Jrnl.* (1874) II. 161 The folly was the only bond that united Sir Culling's supporters. Hence their motleyness.

Motmot (mɒt,mɒt). [mod.L. (in 17th c. also *momot*, whence *Momotus* name of the typical genus); app. echoic of the bird's note.] A bird of the family *Momotidæ* or *Prionitidæ*, native of Mexico and South America.

[1635 Nieremberg *Hist. Nat.* 209 De momot. 1651 Hernandez *Nov. Plant. Anim. et Min. Mexicanorum Hist., Hist. Anim.*, etc. 52 De Motmot.] 1837 Swainson *Nat. Hist. Birds* II. 141 Every writer, since the days of Linnæus..has placed the motmots (*Prionites*) and the toucans (*Ramphastos*) close together. 1884 Newton in *Encycl. Brit.* XVII. 3/2 The Motmots are a purely Neotropical form..the majority of the species inhabit Central America.

Moto, obs. form of Motto.

Moto-, irreg. repr. L. *mōt-* (as in Motion, Motive, Motor), used in various combinations. a. *Anat.* as in moto-sensitive *a.*, composed of motor and sensitive nerve-fibres; *Biol.* as in moto-plastic *a.*, ? suffering change in the process of motion.

1835–6 R. Owen in *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 551/1 The great moto-sensitive chords. *Ibid.*, Those two large moto-sensitive columns, which evidently represent..the spinal cord of the *Vertebrata*. 1862 H. J. Carter in *Ann. & Mag. Nat. Hist.* Ser. III. IX. 446 A mass of minute polymorphic cells (*Amœbæ*) which..soon separated from their globular aggregation, and crept away from each other under moto-plastic forms.

b. in various combinations for explanation of which see Motor *sb.* 5.

1895 *Review of Rev.* Nov. 395/2 The motocycle, as the horseless carriage is to be named in future, has come to stay. 1900 *Pall Mall G.* 17 Apr. 9/2 The only lady motocyclist who has met with any success in road races with men. 1901 *Pall Mall Mag.* Sept. 64/2 The moto-cyclette.

Motograph (mōu·tŏgrɑf). [f. Moto- + -graph.] (In full *electro-motograph.*) A receiver for an electric telegraph or telephone, invented by Edison.

1877 *Eng. Mechanic* 1 June 276/1 Edison's Motograph. 1883 J. Maier *Hospitalier's Mod. Appl. Electr.* II. 96 A principle which was first applied by the inventor [Edison] to a telegraphic relay, under the name of electro-motograph. 1894 Dickson *Edison* 83 Motograph receiving and transmitting telephone.

Hence **Mo·tographic** *a.*

1884 Knight *Dict. Mech.* Suppl., *Motographic Receiver*, an invention of Edison, by which the volume of sound is increased in a telephonic receiver. Called also Electro-motograph.

Motometer (mɒtɒ·mĭtəɹ). [Formed as prec. + -meter.] (See quot.)

1876 *Catal. Sci. App. S. Kens.* 7 'The Motometer', a machine to indicate the number of revolutions made..by a steam engine or revolving shaft.

Moton. *Antiq.* [Origin obscure.] Some portion of the armour of the 15th century.

Its place in the list suggests that it may be the plate often figured as attached to the rerebrace to protect the armpit. See Visct. Dillon *The Besague or Moton* in *Archæol. Jrnl.* LXIV. 15 ff.

c 1470 *Abilmentis for Justus* [i.e. *Jousts*] *of Pees* (Lansd. MS. 285, fol. 9 b; also in Hastings MS., *Archæologia* LVII), A rerebrace. A Moton. A vambrace and a gaynepayne [etc.]. 1824 Meyrick *Anc. Armour* III. Gloss., *Moton*, a piece of armour used in the time of Henry VI, Edward IV and Richard III, and appears to have been for the protection of the right armpit. 1846 in Fairholt *Costume* Gloss.

Moton(e, obs. forms of Mouton, Mutton.

Motonne, obs. form of Mutton.

Motor (mōu·tŏɹ, -əɹ), *sb.* and *a.* Also 7 moter. [a. L. *mōtor* (whence F. *moteur*, Sp., Pg. *motor*, It. *motore*), agent-n. from L. *movēre* to Move.]

A. *sb.*

1. One who or something which imparts motion.

†a. *First* or *prime motor* [= med.L. *primus motor*]: (*a*) in mediæval astronomy, the outermost of the ten spheres or heaveus, which was supposed to be itself fixed, but by its attraction to cause the motions of the other spheres; (*b*) applied

(allusively) to God, as the cause of the motion of the heavens; (*c*) the first instigator, or the chief director, e.g. of a plot, a political organization, etc.; (*d*) the part that initiates motion in a piece of mechanism. (Cf. *prime mover*.) *Obs.*

(*a*) **1586** B. Young *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* IV. 197 b, How the Heauens and Planets make their neuer ceasing course, Vnder their Motor first and great, from whence they had their source. **1604** E. G[rimstone] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* III. vi. 136 The earth is not mooved, by reason of her heavinesse,..being far from this first motor.

(*b*) **1620** Melton *Astrolog.* 26 From God, that is the true Prime Moter. **1678** Gale *Crt. Gentiles* IV. III. iii. 51 Al our movements or motions are from God as the prime Motor... Is he not then the first Cause and Motor of al our motions? Doth not Aristotle .. strongly demonstrate, That al our natural motions must arise from one first immobile Motor?

(*c*) **1600** E. Blount tr. *Conestaggio* 187 One of the first moters of this popular humour which made him king. *a* **1660** *Contemp. Hist. Irel.* (Ir. Archæol. Soc.) I. 93 Bagnall that was prime motor in the counties of Katarlagh and Kilkeny. **1685** Cotton tr. *Montaigne* (1711) I. xxii. 149 The Fruits of publick Commotion are seldom enjoyed by him who was the first Motor.

(*d*) **1656** *Artif. Handsom.* 41 Whose prime moter or spring ..being set true,..the outward wheeles, motions and indications cannot go amisse,

b. An agent or force that produces mechanical motion.

1644 Digby *Nat. Soul* x. § 4. 426 In heauy thinges, their easy following..an other way then downewardes, testifyeth that their motion downewardes hath an extrinsecall motor. **1674** Grew *Anat. Trunks* I. vi. § 6 Convolvula's do not wind by any peculiar Nature..but because their Parts are disposed so, as to render them more sequaceous to the external Motor. **1685** Boyle *Effects of Mot.* Suppl. 147 The heavier part of the Stople broke off from the other..and was carry'd from it by invisible motors to a great distance. **1839** *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* II. 405/1 The true motor of the system would..be the weight of the atmosphere.

c. *fig.* in various applications.

1594 Lodge & Greene *Looking Glass* (1598) G, Thine eyes the motors to command my world. **1641** Gauden *Love of Truth* 22 Love is the weight and motor of the soul. **1847** Lewes *Hist. Philos.* (1867) I. 182 Happiness was the aim..of all men—the motor of all action.

2. *Anat.* **a.** A muscle designed to move a particular part of the animal frame. **b.** A nerve whose function it is to excite muscular activity in a particular part of the animal body.

1808 Barclay *Muscular Motions* 300 In every motion.. there must always be a number of muscles employed, some as motors, some as directors, some as moderators. **1824** C. Bell *Nerves* 33 We cannot forget that this nerve is entirely devoted to the muscles of the tongue; that it is the motor of the tongue. **1840** Elliotson *Hum. Physiol.* 323 Three [nerves] conveying volition to the muscles of the eyes, the common motors [etc.]. **1846** Worcester, *Motor*..(Anat.) a moving muscle.

3. An apparatus for employing the energy of some natural agent or force for the impulsion of machinery; a machine that supplies the motive power for the propulsion of a carriage or vessel. In recent use also in a narrower sense excluding steam engines.

1856 Emerson *Eng. Traits* v. 91 They adopt every improvement in rig, in motor, in weapons; but they fundamentally believe that the best stratagem in naval war is to lay your ship close alongside of the enemy's ship. **1881** *Eng. Mechanic* 27 May 286/1 A water-motor sufficient to drive a sewing-machine would not be reliable to drive a lathe. **1884** Cotterill *Appl. Mechanics* 482 Hydraulic motors are classed according to the mode in which the water operates upon them. **1892** *Electrical Engineer* 16 Sept. 284/2 There is little difficulty in designing a cart to be driven by a motor, the motor also being able to be used for other purposes, such as winding a drum.

b. Short for Motor car and *motor carriage*.

1900 *Chamb. Jrnl.* 28 Apr. 344 The purchase by the Prince of Wales of a six horse-power Daimler motor should still further..popularise automobilism. **1902** Harmsworth *Motors & Motor-driving* 64 Many doctors who use motors have joined the Automobile Club.

4. *Math.* An operator or quantity which represents the displacement of a rigid body.

1873 Clifford *Math. Papers* (1882) 183, I propose to call this quantity a *motor*; the simplest type of it being the general motion of a rigid body. And we shall say that in general the sum of rotors is a motor, but that in particular cases it may degenerate into a rotor or vector. **1878**—*Elem. Dynamic* I. 125 A quantity like a twist-velocity, which has magnitude, direction, position, and pitch, is called a *motor*, from the twist-velocity which is the simplest example of it.

5. *attrib.*, designating a vehicle driven by a motor, as *motor bicycle, cab, carriage, cycle*, etc.

1894 *Westm. Gaz.* 14 June 7/2 A newly-invented motor-bicycle. **1896** *Daily News* 5 Feb. 5/3 The first International Motor-Carriage Exhibition will be held at the Imperial Institute in May. *Ibid.*, This Exhibition .. will comprise motor-cycles and carriages. **1896** Beaumont in *Jrnl. Soc. Arts* 10 Jan. 152 The motor tricycle shown by Fig. 34 is an oil motor cycle made in 1883. *Ibid.* 161 The motor omnibus shown by Fig. 48. **1898** *Daily News* 2 Apr. 2/6 The Post Office and Motor Vans.—A motor van service for the conveyance of the mails. **1904** *Daily Chron.* 8 Jan. 9/5 A motor-cab costs twice as much to build as an ordinary hansom. *Ibid.*, The County Council insists that the motor hansom shall also be registered.

B. *adj.* [After F. *moteur, motrice*, which like other agent-nouns in Fr. is often used as adj.]

1. Giving, imparting or producing motion.

1872 Lyell *Princ. Geol.* (1875) I. II. xx. 506 The accelerating force produced..would be inefficient as a motor power.

1880 Kinglake *Crimea* VI. iv. 75 The second of the three motor forces had its origin in the same puissant will. **1899** *Daily News* 15 June 6/5 The motor power of the future was not to be steam..but electricity.

2. *Phys.* Of nerves (opposed to *sensory*), muscles, etc.: Conveying or imparting an impulse which results or tends to result in motion. So *motor area (region, zone)*: that part of the cortex of the brain from which motor impulses are directed to the various parts of the animal body.

1824 C. Bell *Nerves* 30 The motor nerves. **1836–9** *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* II. 372/1 Those [*sc.* ganglia] which have connected with them both motor and sentient nerves. **1839–47** *Ibid.* III. 720/2 A nerve may contain sentient and motor fibres. **1848** E. Forbes *Naked-eyed Medusæ* 3 The muscular system usually consists of a marginal motor ring. **1881** *Nature* XXIII. 236 Reactions of the motor-zone of the brain. **1885** McKendrick in *Encycl. Brit.* XIX. 41/1 The evidence, therefore, is strongly in favour of the view that there are definite motor areas of grey matter on the cortex. **1893** W. R. Gowers *Man. Dis. Nerv. Syst.* (ed. 2) II. 4 This [parietal lobule] also forms part of the motor region.

3. Of or pertaining to motor nerves.

1878 tr. *Ziemssen's Cycl. Pract. Med.* XIII. 474 Motor pareses and paralyses. **1884** J. Sully *Outl. Psychol.* vii. 247 In general the motor representations are weak as compared with the sensory. **1899** *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 790 Unilateral motor trigeminal palsy.

Hence **Mo·tor** *v. trans.*, to convey in a motor car; *intr.*, to travel or drive in a motor car. Hence **Mo·toring** *vbl. sb.*

1896 *Westm. Gaz.* 10 Sept. 7/2 The cost of 'motoring' cotton to Manchester. **1897** *Truth* 28 Jan. 219 The delights of motoring on a Gladys. **1898** *Autocar* 11 June 379 On May 12th my wife and I motored. *Ibid.* 18 June 392 We motored back.

Mo·tor car. A 'horseless carriage', propelled by a motor, for use on ordinary roads.

1895 *Westm. Gaz.* 10 Sept. 3/2 The chief reason why motor-cars have not been more generally adopted in America lies in the roughness..of the roads. **1895** *Daily Chron.* 29 Oct. 5/1 A name has not yet been found for horseless carriages...The latest suggestion we have had is 'motor car'. Mr. F. R. Sims, who is responsible for it, urges [etc.]. **1895** *Daily News* 5 Feb. 5/3 The Motor Car Club.

Motorial (mōtōˑrĭăl), *a.* [f. L. *mōtōri-us* (see Motory) + -al.] Of or pertaining to motion; *spec.* of or pertaining to a motor nerve; motor.

1843 J. G. Wilkinson *Swedenborg's Anim. Kingd.* I. i. 39 Itself [*i. e.* the tongue] and its organic parts, motorial and sensorial. **1860** Forbes Winslow *Obscure Dis. Brain & Mind* ii. 25 Apparently in full possession of their intellectual, sensorial, and motorial [*ed.* 4 (1868) motor] powers. **1883** T. Lauder Brunton in *Nature* XXVII. 421 The motorial..fibres..being stimulated by a slight touch. **1899** *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 507 Such nervous affections as are marked by nervous and motorial excitement.

Motorist (mōuˑtŏrist). [f. Motor *sb.* + -ist.] An amateur of motoring; one who rides in a motor car.

1896 *Daily News* 14 Nov. 3/1 The glorious company of motorists will include such well-known men as Lord Cardross [etc.]. **1902** in Cassell's *Encycl. Dict., Suppl.*

Mo·tor-man. [f. Motor *sb.* (sense 3).] The driver of a motor car or carriage; *spec.* the hired driver of a public motor-driven conveyance.

1890 *Boston* (Mass.) *Jrnl.* 12 Apr. 4/4 Has it, then, become the established policy of the West End road, from the late vice president to the motor-men, that the public must learn that the electric cars cannot be fooled with? **1901** *Daily Record & Mail* 11 July 3 Hours and Wages of Motormen and Conductors.

Motorpathy. *U.S. rare*—°. [f. Motor *sb.* + -pathy.] The movement cure. Hence **Motorpa·thic** *a.* **1864** in Webster.

Motory (mōuˑtŏri), *a.* [ad. late L. *mōtōri-us*, f. *mōtor*: see Motor.]

1. *Phys.* = Motor *a.* 2, 3.

1692 Ray *Creation* II. (1692) 58 The motory Muscles. **1763** Johnstone in *Phil. Trans.* LIV. 184 These nerves are equally motory and sensory. **1865** *Q. Jrnl. Sci.* II. 137 Some peculiar motory phenomena not heretofore observed in the Sponges. **1885** J. Martineau *Types Eth. Th.* I. 138 The sensory and motory nerves.

2. *gen.* That causes motion. Cf. Motor *a.* 1.

1799 Sir H. Davy in Beddoes *Contrib. Phys. & Med. Knowl.* 23 The effect of a peculiar motory or vibratory impulse. **1817** Coleridge *Biog. Lit.* I. xiii. 288 A motory force of a body in one direction and an equal force of the same body in an opposite direction is not incompatible.

Motoun, Motre, obs. ff. Mutton, Mutter *v.*

Motricity (mōtrĭˑsĭti). *rare*—[1]. [ad. F. *motricité*, f. (*force*) *motrice*: see Motor *a.*] The motor function.

1903 F. W. H. Myers *Human Personality* I. 55 So soon as the cause of each accident of this kind was traced.., the perversion of sensibility or of motricity disappeared.

† Mo·trix. *Obs. rare*—[1]. Feminine, in Latin form, of Motor.

1650 Charleton *Paradoxes* 82 The phansy, which is the motrix of those qualities.

Mott, obs. pa. t. of Mete *v.*[1]

Motte (mŏt). *U.S.* Also mot, mott. [app. a special use of F. *motte* mound.] A clump of trees in a prairie (*Funk's Stand. Dict.* 1895).

1844 Kendall *Santa Fé Exped.* I. 41 All that was necessary was to keep a bright look-out..while passing the different *mots* and ravines scattered along our trail. **1857** Olmsted *Journ. thro' Texas* 137 Before us [were] very beautiful prairies,..and little belts, mottes and groups of live-oak. **1880** R. H. Loughridge *U. S. Census Rep. on Cotton for Texas*, Motts of Timber. Motts of live oak.

Motte, obs. form of Moat, Mot, Mote.

Motteleye, -tet(t, obs. ff. Motley, Motet.

‖ **Mottetto** (mŏtĕˑtō), *pl.* **-ti** (-tē). Also 8–9 **motetto.** [It.: see Motet.] = Motet b.

1644 Evelyn *Diary* 8 Nov., This being finish'd began their Motettos, which..were sung by eunuchs. **1724** *Short Explic. For. Words Mus., Motetto*, or *Motteti*, are what we call Motets. **1855** Motley *Dutch Rep.* (1861) I. 276 Full orchestra performed several fine Motettos. **1878** E. H. Pember in Grove *Dict. Mus.* I. 108 The rest..consist principally of masses, madrigals, mottetti, and psalms.

Motthe, Mott hill, obs. ff. Moth, Mote-hill.

Mottie, variant of Motey *a.*

Mottle (mŏtˑl), *sb.* Also 7 **mottel.** [Prob. a back-formation from Motley *a.*]

1. One of a number of adjacent and confluent spots or blotches, by which a surface is diversified or variegated. Also *fig.*

1676 [see Mottled *ppl. a.*]. **1683** *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1847/8 Her marks are black Mottels upon all her Legs and Nose. **1829** Landor *Imag. Conv.* Wks. 1853 I. 517/1 Is the rouge off my face? It is rather in steaks and mottles. **1855** Browning *Epist. Karshish* 47 There's a spider here.. Sprinkled with mottles on an ash-grey back.

2. The arrangement of spots or confluent blotches of colour forming a mottled surface.

1858 Greener *Gunnery* 173 The effect..is to give a beautiful mottle to the [gun] barrel. **1873** E. Spon *Workshop Receipts* Ser. I. 424/1 The mottle of these woods has very little variety. **1896** A. Morrison *Child of the Jago* 136 His chest and flanks were a mottle of bruises.

b. A kind of woollen yarn of variegated colour.

1887 *Daily News* 20 June 2/5 There is also rather more inquiry in single-hank yarns, in lustres, in mottles and in genappes. **1888** *Ibid.* 10 Sept. 2/6 A variety of yarns, including lustres, mottles, and mélanges.

Mottle (mŏtˑl), *a.* [Formed as prec.] = Mottled *a.* Also Comb. *mottle-faced, legged* adjs.

1676 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1153/4 A light gray Gelding,..motle Nosed. **1678** *Ibid.* No. 1308/4 Lost..a..Spaniel Dog, belonging to His Majesty, his legs and nose mottel. **1837** Dickens *Pickw.* xliii, The mottle-faced gentleman spoke with great energy. **1872** *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* 2 One mottle-legged, chubby-cheeked boy.

Mottle (mŏtˑl), *v.* [Formed as Mottle *sb.*] *trans.* To mark or cover with spots or blotches; to variegate or cloud with irregular spots or streaks; *spec.* in *soap-making*, to impart a mottled appearance to white soap by the addition of chemicals.

1676 [see Mottled *ppl. a.*]. **1775** M. Harris *Eng. Lepidoptera* 12 Light brown, beautifully mottled with dark brown. **1814** Southey *Roderick* XV. 4 Her beams Mottle with mazy shades the orchard slope. **1820** W. Irving *Sketch Bk.* II. 44 He has..a broad full face, curiously mottled with red. **1862** Miller *Elem. Chem.* (ed. 2) III. 271 Marseilles and Castile soaps..are mottled by the addition of green vitriol and sulphuretted lye.

fig. **1841** D'Israeli *Amen. Lit.* (1867) 128 Our national idiom has been mottled by foreign neologisms.

Mottled (mŏtˑld), *ppl. a.* [f. prec. + -ed[1].]

1. Dappled with spots or blotches; marked with spots, streaks, or patches of different colour.

1676 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1143/4 A little motled Bitch, with yellow motles from head to toe. *c* **1765** Fllloyd *Tartarian T.* (1785) 114/2, I put a pair of..baskets on a mottled goat. **1794** Herschel in *Phil. Trans.* LXXXV. 71 The mottled appearance of the sun is owing to an inequality in the level of the surface. **1808** *Times* 29 Feb. 1/2 Followed a Person, a Mottled Pointer Dog. **1813** *Gentl. Mag.* LXXXIII. i. 95 Soap..Mottled 114s...per Doz. **1848** Thackeray *Bk. Snobs* xxvii, Scrubbing..Polly's dumpy nose with mottled soap. **1868** Princess Alice *Mem.* 29 Dec. (1884) 207 My babies..look so mottled and healthy. **1874** Garrod & Baxter *Mat. Med.* (1880) 330 The leaves are..pale green when fresh, mottled-brown when dry.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1857 Buckle *Civiliz.* I. xiii. 744 The real lack of ideas which their barbarous and mottled dialect strives to hide. **1891** J. Strong *New Era* 201 A mottled population, containing the worst elements of society.

2. Special collocations: **mottled baboon,** the common baboon, *Cynocephalus papio*; **mottled calf,** a variegated leather used for book-binding; **mottled iron,** a soft kind of cast iron; **mottled grampus** (see quot.); **mottled owl,** a North American owl, *Scops asio*; **mottled pig,** a kind of pig-iron (see quot.). Also in collectors' names for many British moths, as **mottled beauty, bran, carpet, grey,** etc. (see Rennie *Butterflies & Moths*, 1832, *passim*).

1802 Bingley *Anim. Biog.* (1813) I. 73 The Common or *Mottled Baboon. **1895** J. Zaehnsdorf *Hist. Bookbinding* 27 *Mottled Calf.—Pale-coloured calf, decorated by the sprinkling of acids in drops. **1884** G. B. Goode, etc. *Nat. Hist. Aquatic Anim.* 14 On the California coast occurs the Whiteheaded or *Mottled Grampus, *Crampus Stearnsii* Dall. **1836–41** Brande *Chem.* (ed. 5) 763 Gray or *mottled-iron is softer and less brittle. **1884** W. H. Greenwood *Steel & Iron* iv. 48 The characteristic dappled appearance peculiar to mottled iron. **1781** Latham *Gen. Synopsis Birds* I. i. 126 *Mottled Owl. **1880** *Encycl. Brit.* XIII. 284/2 Sometimes a pig will solidify partly as white iron partly as grey..; such iron is known as '*mottled pig'. **1749** B. Wilkes *Eng. Moths & Butterflies* 36 The *mottled Umber-moth.

Hence **Mo·ttledness,** mottled condition.

1830 J. Wilson in *Blackw. Mag.* XXVIII. 386 The red and brown mottledness o' its striped and starry beauty.

Mottlement (mɒ·t'lmĕnt). [f. MOTTLE *v.* + -MENT.] The condition of being mottled.

1853 G. J. CAYLEY *Las Alforjas* II. 2 A confused mottlement of every shade of red.

Mottler (mɒ·t'lər). [f. MOTTLE *v.* + -ER 1.] **a.** A workman who mottles soap. **b.** A house-painter's brush for mottling.

1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 1143 As soon as the mottler has broken the paste,..he ceases to push his rake from right to left. 1875 DAVIDSON *House-painting*, etc. 106 Lay the colour over the whole panel, and work it level with a hog-hair mottler—a flat tool mounted in tin.

Mottling (mɒ·t'liŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. MOTTLE *v.* + -ING 1.] The production of a mottled appearance. Also, the appearance itself.

1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 1143 Mottling is usually given..by introducing into the nearly finished soap..a certain quantity of the strong lye of crude soda. 1851 NICHOL *Archit. Heav.* 49 The stippling is no illusion, as its dark mottling moves with the stars. 1874 WOOD *Nat. Hist.* 281 Longitudinal mottlings of variously tinted brown. 1875 DAVIDSON *House-painting*, etc. 107 The over-graining of maple should be done on the same day as the mottling. 1897 *St. George's Hosp. Rep.* IX. 127 The cheeks and extremities showed conspicuous dusky mottling.

Motto (mɒ·to). Pl. **-os, -oes.** Also 7 mot(h)o; pl. **motti.** [a. It. *motto* = F. *mot*: see MOT 1.]

1. Originally, a word, sentence, or phrase attached as a legend to an 'impresa' or emblematical design, and serving to explain or emphasize its symbolic import. Hence, in wider sense, a short sentence or phrase inscribed on some object, and expressing a reflection or sentiment considered to be appropriate to its purpose or destination; also, a proverbial or pithy maxim adopted by a person as his rule of conduct.

1589 GREENE *Span. Masquerado* A 3 b, The Spanish Masquerado with the Mottos. 1 The Pope, hauing put off his triple Crowne,..saith thus. *Neque Petrus, neque Paulus, quid igitur restat?* 2 Phillip king of Spaine..saith thus. *Iubet Ecclesia, dissentire non audeo* [etc.]. 1608 SHAKS. *Per.* II. ii. 44 The fift, an Hand enuironed with Clouds, Holding out Gold, that's by the Touch-stone tride: The motto thus *Sic spectanda fides.* 1643 *Plain English* 2 We have found it not impossible to be miserable under the Motto of *Beati pacifici.* 1720 SWIFT *Let. Advice Yng. Poet* Misc. (1722) 91 Posies of Rings, Motto's of Snuff-Boxes, the Humours of Sign-Posts [etc.]. 1796 BURKE *Let. Noble Ld.* Wks. VIII. 27 'Nitor in adversum' is the motto for a man like me. 1860 TROLLOPE *Castle Richm.* I. vi. 106 Strike when the iron's hot; that's my motto.

b. *spec.* in *Her.* A significant word or sentence usually placed upon a scroll, either below an achievement of arms or above the crest, occas. having some reference to the name or exploits of the bearer, to the charges upon the shield or to the crest, but more often expressing merely a pious aspiration or exalted sentiment.

1600 CAMDEN in Hearne *Collect.* (1771) I. 267 Mr. Richard Carew..used under his armes this Italian motto, *Chi v'crace durera*, which also conteyneth his name anagramatically. 1605 *Relat. Journ. Earl of Nottingham* 14 His *Moto* or word being *Desir N'a Repos.* 1610 GUILLIM *Heraldry* VI. vi. 271 An other ornament there is externally annexed to Coat-armour, and that is the Motto, or Word. 1644 BP. HALL *Serm.* 9 June, Wks. 1837 V. 498 The motto that was wont to be written upon the Scottish coin, as the emblem of their Thistle, *Nemo me impunè lacesset.* 1784 H. CLARK *Hist. Knighthd.* I. 101 All between three Imperial crowns, placed within the motto of the Order; viz. *Tria Juncta in Uno.* 1882 CUSSANS *Her.* (1893) 196 *Festina Lente*—'Hasten slowly', or 'On slow', is the Motto of the Onslow family; and *Doe no yll, quoth D'Oyle*, that of Doyley.

c. The poetical lines contained in a motto-kiss or paper-cracker.

1869 W. S. GILBERT *Ferd. & Elvira* 30 Tell me, Henry Wadsworth..or Mister Tupper Do you write the bonbon mottoes my Elvira pulls at supper?

†2. A pithy expression, a saying. Cf. MOT 2.

1614 TOMKIS *Albumazar* IV. xiii, You tip your speeches with Italian Motti, Spanish Refranes, and English Quoth Hee's. *a* 1660 *Contemp. Hist. Irel.* (Ir. Archæol. Soc.) I. 183 That evangelicall motho arundinem vento agitatam.

3. A short quotation (or sometimes an original passage simulating a quotation) prefixed to a literary work or to one of its parts, and expressing some idea appropriate to the contents.

1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 221 ¶ 4 But as for my unlearned Friends, if they cannot relish the Motto, I take care to make Provision for them in the Body of my Paper. 1894 J. L. ROBERTSON in *Scott's Poet. Wks.* Pref. 3 The mottoes and lyrical fragments of the Novels are of all Scott's work the most difficult part to edit.

4. *Mus.* A recurrent phrase.

1891 *Times* 10 Oct. 11/1 In the final number the 'motto' or recurrent phrase of four notes is subjected to double diminution.

5. *U.S.* = *motto-kiss.* 1890 in *Century Dict.*

6. *attrib.*, as *motto-band* (Her.), *-monger*, *-pamphlet*, *-scroll*; **motto-kiss**, a sweetmeat wrapped in fancy paper, having a motto or scrap of poetry inclosed with it.

1716 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* II. 53 His Motto-Pamphlet still remaineth in each Window, *Misericordias Domini in æternum Cantabo.* 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* Wks. 1883 VIII. 480, I..ever was a censurer of the motto-mongers among our weekly and daily scribblers. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Motto-kisses.* 1864 BOUTELL *Her. Hist. & Pop.* xvii. (ed. 3) 282 The Motto-Scroll forms both a convenient and sufficiently secure standing-place for Supporters. *Ibid.* xviii. 289 Standards were also generally divided bendwise into compartments by Motto-Bands.

Hence **Mo·tto** *v. trans.*, to inscribe with a motto. **Mo·ttoed** *ppl. a.*, inscribed with a motto † or legend. **Mo·ttoless**, without a motto.

1738 *Gentl. Mag.* VIII. 212/2 A motto'd silk garter. 1765 E. THOMPSON *Meretriciad* (ed. 6) 45 My Lord makes his approach, But at the corner leaves the motto'd Coach. 1827 HONE *Every-day Bk.* 16 Nov. II. 1546 The engraving that pictures [this incident] is mottoed, 'The Spoiled Child!' 1835 BECKFORD *Recoll.* 87 Every armorial device, every mottoed lambel. *a* 1845 HOOD *To Moon* v, Thou art a sadder dial..Than ever I have found..Motto'd with stern and melancholy rhyme. 1891 *Standard* 14 May 5/2 The London Municipality is at this moment armless, and crestless, and mottoless.

Motton, obs. form of MOUTON, MUTTON.

Mottramite (mɒ·trăməit). *Min.* [f. *Mottram* (see quot. 1876) + -ITE.] Vanadate of lead and copper occurring rarely in black incrustations.

1876 ROSCOE in *Proc. Roy. Soc.* XXV. 111 The second vanadium mineral, to which I propose to give the name of Mottramite, occurs as a crystalline incrustation on Keuper sandstone found at Alderley Edge and at Mottram St. Andrew's, in Cheshire. 1896 in CHESTER *Dict. Min.* 181.

Mottun, obs. pa. pple. of METE *v.*[1]

Motty (mɒ·ti), *sb. dial.* [Cf. MOT 3.] = MOT 3. *a* 1800 PEGGE *Suppl. to Grose* (1814) 389 *Motty*, the mark at which the quoits (or coits) are thrown. Derb.

Motty (mɒ·ti), *a. Sc.* Also **mottie.** [f. *mot*, Sc. pronunciation of MOTE *sb.*[1] + Y. Cf. MOTEY.] Containing motes.

1599 A. HUME *Day Estivall* 53 The subtile mottie rayons light. 1725 RAMSAY *Gentle Sheph.* v. ii. Prol., The rising sun shines motty through the reek. 1785 BURNS *Vision* I. iv, All in this mottie, misty clime. 1865 ALEX. SMITH *Summer in Skye* (1880) 331 Where the motty sunbeam from the pane..struck him.

Moty, -tye: see MOTEY *sb.*, MOTE *sb.*[3]

Motyfe, obs. variant of MOTIVE.

Mou', mou (mū), *Sc.* Also 6, 8 mow. [var. of MOUTH *sb.*; the dropping of the *th* is abnormal.] = MOUTH in various senses.

a 1510 DOUGLAS *K. Hart* II. 531 For he hes gottin morsellis on the mow. 1719 D'URFEY *Pills* V. 89 He..kist her bonny Mow. 1794 BURNS *Sic a Wife as Willie had*, She has .. A whiskin' beard about her mou'. 1858 PORTEOUS *Real 'Souter Johnny'* 13 He..took care..to..fill the jinglin' stoup wi mair To gust their mou.

Mou, obs. form of MAY *v.*[1]

Mou, obs. form of MOW *sb.*

Mouch (mūtʃ), *v. Obs.* exc. *dial.* [? cogn. w. MUNCH *v.*] *trans.* To eat up, to eat greedily.

1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 216/42 To Mouche [*rimed with* couche, touche, anouche], eate, *mandere.* 1658 in PHILLIPS. 1866 BROGDEN *Prov. Words Linc.* 130.

Hence † **Mou·cher**, a great eater; † **Mou·ching**, ? eating greedily.

1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 71/19 A Moucher, *manducо.* 1607 DEKKER & WEBSTER *Sir T. Wyat* Wks. 1873 III. 103 *Clowne.* O poore shrimpe, how art thou falne away for want of mouching?

Mouch, Mouchache: see MOOCH, MUSTACHIO.

‖ **Moucharaby** (mʊʃa·răbi). Also 9 moucharabey, musharab(a)yeh, -biyeh. [Fr.; corruptly a. mod.Arab. مشربية *mashrabiyya*[h] (Dozy).] In northern Africa: An external balcony inclosed with latticework. Also *attrib.*

1884 *Health Exhib. Catal.* p. lvii/2 Panels of Musharabyeh Woodwork. 1888 ALICE MEYNELL in *Art Jrnl.* II. 138/1 The actress in her mousharabiyeh chair. 1891 *Pall Mall G.* 23 May 2/1 White-curtained moucharabies. 1894 *Daily News* 22 Sept. 6/5 The Cairo musharabayeh, and the fluted silk of to-day, would have been regarded as eccentric in the extreme.

¶ **b.** In 1843 MM. Mérimée and Lenoir (*Archit. Mil. au Moyen-Age*) fancifully applied the name *moucharaby* to a kind of balcony projecting from the walls of certain European mediæval castles. It does not appear that this application of the word ever had any actual currency either in Fr. or Eng.; but *moucharaby* was inserted with this explanation (its proper sense being ignored) in Ogilvie's *Imperial Dictionary* (1850), and the entry has been copied with verbal alterations and expansions into various later Eng. Dicts.

‖ **Mouchard** (mʊʃār). [F. *mouchard*, f. *mouche* fly (used fig. for 'spy').] A police spy. Hence **Mou·chardism.**

'1802 in C. JAMES *Milit. Dict.* 1834 *Tait's Mag.* I. 663/1 Would you and your *mouchards* have me believe [etc.]? 1891 R. BUCHANAN *Coming Terror* 9 The increased corruption and *mouchardism* of an irresponsible Press. 1901 *Daily Express* 18 Mar. 7/1 At Marseilles, he had made friends with a man who turned out to be a mouchard.

Mouchato(e: see MUSTACHIO.

† **Mouche.** *Obs. rare.* Also **mouch.** [a. F. *mouche*, a fly, hence a spot, ad. L. *musca*, a fly.] A patch of black plaster worn on the face.

1676 WISEMAN *Surg.* I. xxii. 119 From which time it hath continued well, she not having worn any Mouch upon it of late years. 1690 EVELYN *Mundus Muliebris* 6 Mouches for pushes, to be sure, From Paris the tré-fine procure.

So † **Mouche·t** in the same sense. *Obs.*

a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Mouchets*, Patches for Ladies Faces. 1725 in *New Cant. Dict.*

Mouche, variant of MOOCH *v.*, MUCH *adv.*

Moucheacheo: see MUSTACHIO.

Moucher, variant of MOOCHER.

Mouching: see MOOCHING *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

‖ **Mouchoir** (mʊʃwar). [Fr.] A handkerchief.

1690 EVELYN *Mundus Muliebris* 3 Of Pocket Mouchoirs, Nose to drain, A dozen lac'd, a dozen plain. 1753 *Lond. Mag.* Oct. 481 A mouchoir with musk his spirits to chear. 1833 M. SCOTT *Tom Cringle* xi. (1842) 248 First wiping my shoes with his *mouchoir.* 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xlviii, Her mouchoirs, aprons, scarfs..and other female gimcracks.

Moucht(e, Mouct(h)e, obs. pa. t. of MAY *v.*[1]

Moud, obs. form of MOOD *sb.*[1]

Moude, obs. form of MUD.

Mouden, obs. form of MUEZZIN.

Moudewarp, -wart, -iewark, -iwarp, obs. ff. MOULDWARP.

Moudie, moudy (mau·di). *Sc. dial.* Also 8 moody, mowdy, 9 mowdie. [Short for *moudiwarp* MOULDWARP.] A mole; freq. *attrib.* Also, a mole-catcher.

c 1720 *Bewick & Graham* xlviii. in Child *Ballads* IV. 148/1 Then he stuck his sword in a moody-hill. 1789 DAVIDSON *Seasons* 62 List'ning to the chirp O' wand'ring mouse, or moudy's carkin hoke. 1828 *Craven Gloss., Moudy*, a mole catcher. *a* 1869 C. SPENCE *Fr. Braes of Carse* (1898) 186 There field mice and moudies litter.

Moudon, Moudre, obs. ff. MUEZZIN, MOULDER.

Moudy, obs. form of MUDDY.

‖ **Moue** (mū). [Fr.: see Mow *sb.*[2]] A pout.

1850 THACKERAY *Pendennis* lxfiJv, With a charming *moue.* 1883 J. HAWTHORNE *Dust* viii. 58 'You don't seem glad to see me, Uncle Francis?' she exclaimed, making a *moue* of lovely irony.

Moue, obs. form of MOW.

Mouedhin, variant of MUEZZIN.

† **Mouffette.** *Nat. Hist. Obs.* Also 8 moufette, moufete. [a. F. *moufette* (Buffon), *mofette*, *mouffette*: see MOFETTE.] Any one of the fetid American skunks of the genus *Mephitis.*

1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* II. 304 The Weasel kind..comprehends..all the varieties of the American Moufettes. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XI. 673/1 The animals which he allows to be common to both countries are, the Mexican hog, the moufete, the opossum [etc.]. 1833 *Penny Cycl.* I. 443/1 The mouffettes..are likewise a genus peculiar to the New World. 1868 *Nat. Encycl.* I. 015.

Moufflon (mū·flɒn). *Nat. Hist.* Also 8-9 mouflon, mufflon. [a. F. *mouflon*, ad. early Sard. **mofrone* (whence the mod. forms *murvoni*, *muronc*:—late L. *mufron* (Polemius Silvius, 5th c.). Cf. MUFFLE *sb.*] A wild sheep, esp. *Ovis musimon*, native of the mountainous regions of southern Europe, as Sardinia, Corsica, and the Isles of Greece. *Maned, ruffled moufflon*, the wild sheep of Barbary, *Ammotragus tragelaphus.*

1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* III. 39 The moufflon, which is the sheep in a savage state, is a bold, fleet creature. 1792 BELKNAP *Hist. New Hampsh.* III. 144 The breed might be renewed and improved by importing from Barbary the mufflon. 1864 J. ORMSBY *Autumn Rambles in N. Afr.* 70 The Feshtall is the maned moufflon of the Atlas. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIII. 635/1 Of ruminants..we find one mufflon (*Musimon vignei*). 1905 *Blackw. Mag.* Mar. 321/2 A large number of gazelle and muflon—Barbary wild sheep—were allowed to roam at will.

attrib. 1893 LYDEKKER *Horns & Hoofs* 85 An..account of mouflon shooting is given. 1905 *Westm. Gaz.* 29 Sept. 13/2 With moufflon fur.

Moufti, Mough, obs. forms of MUFTI, MOW.

Mought, obs. forms of MOTE, MOTH, MOUTH.

Mought(e, obs. pa. t. of MAY *v.*[1]

Mougnon, variant of MONION.

Mougth, Mougthe, obs. ff. MOUTH, MOTH.

Mouht, obs. pa. t. of MAY *v.*[1]

Mouie, variant of MOWE *Obs.*, kinswoman.

‖ **Mouillé** (mūye). *French Gram.* [pa. pple. of F. *mouiller* to wet, moisten.] Of a consonant, chiefly *l*, also *n*, *r*: Palatalized or 'fronted', changed into (l^{y}, n^{y}, r^{y}).

1833 *Penny Cycl.* I. 385/1 The *mouillé* sound of the French *ll.*

‖ **Moujik, muzhik** (mū·zik). Forms: 6 musick, mousike, 6-7 mousick, 8 mugike, 9 mujik, mougik, -jik, muzhik, mooshik, -zheek. [Russ. МУЖИКЪ peasant.]

1. A Russian peasant.

1568 TURBERV. *Trng. T.*, etc. (1587) 184 One [licour] called Kuas, whereby the Musick liues. 1591 G. FLETCHER *Russe Commw.* (Hakl. Soc.) 12 The marchants and mousicks.. are very much discouraged by..exactions. 1799 *Monthly Rev.* XXX. 548 The mugikes, or serfs. 1833 R. PINKERTON *Russia* 352 Set a mujik at your table, he will soon lay up his legs on it. 1877 MAR. M. GRANT *Sun-Maid* xxxii, His mougik still wore his sheep-skin wrapped close round his chin. 1877 D. M. WALLACE *Russia* xxvi. (ed. 2) II. 151 There stood the patient bearded *muzhik* (peasant) in his well-worn sheep-skins. 1892 *Daily News* 26 Jan. 6/2 All the mooshiks without exception are workmen.

2. (In full *moujik blouse, coat*). A loose fur cape for ladies' wear.

1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 30 Sept. 3/2 This moujik coat..is..now too popular. 1901 *Ibid.* 4 July 3/1 The moujik, that little blouse coat, cut low in the neck and with open fronts [etc.].

Mouk(e, obs. forms of MUCK *sb.*

† **Moul,** *sb.*[1] *Obs. rare.* In 5 mowle. [Related to MOUL *v.*[1]; cf. ON. *mygla* fem., Sw. *mögel* neut.] = MOULD *sb.*[4]

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 346/2 Mowlynge, of mowle (*S.* or mowle), *mucor*, C. F. *mucidus.*

† **Moul**, *sb.*[2] *Obs.* Also 6 moule, mowle, 7 *Sc.* mule. [var. of MOULD *sb.*[3], perh. in part an intentional alteration after mod.F. *moule.*] = MOULD *sb.*[3]

1565–6 *Trin. Coll. Acc.* in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) II. 570 Paper to make mowles for the pillers. 1593 *Tell-Troth's N. Y. Gift* (1876) 45 Your selues being of the purest mettall, and hauing your hartes framed of the kindest moule. 1606 WARNER *Albions Eng.* xv. xcvii. 387 Kist with a kisse of Iudas moule. 1647 H. MORE *Song of Soul* III. App. xxiv, How the præexistent soul..enters bodies here below, And then entire, unhurt, can leave this moul. 1655 R. BAILLIE *Lett. & Jrnls.* (1841) III. 289 [The Parliament]..flew so higb, as to mind nothing but a Fifth Monarchie on earth..and put all in a new mule of their owne.

Moul, *v.*[1] *Obs.* or *dial.* Forms: 3 muwlen, 4–6 moule, mowle, 6 mowl, 8–9 moul. [Early ME. *muwle*:—older **mugle*, a. or cogn. w. ON. **mugla* (OIcel. with umlaut *mygla*, MSw. *moghla-s*, *möghla*, mod.Sw. *mögla*, Norw. *mugla*, *mygla*, Da. dial. *mugle*), f. Teut. root **mug-*, whence Da. *muggen* mouldy, *mugne* to grow mouldy.]

1. *intr.* To grow mouldy, to mould. Also *fig.*

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 344 Leten þinges muwlen oðer rusten, oðer uorrotien. 13.. *Metr. Hom.* in *Archiv Stud. neu. Spr.* LVII. 288 Fleschlich lust Makeþ Monnes soule Rote and Rust..and Moule. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Man of Law's Prol.* 32 Lat us nat moulen thus in ydelnesse. *c* 1412 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 1420 Ententifly he kepiþ his seruise In courte; his labour þere schal not moule. 1550 CRANMER *Defence* 21 The wyne..wylle..tourne to vyneiger, and the breadde wylle mowle. 1789 D. SILLAR *Poems* 120 Your pickle cash Will ly an' moul, like ither useless trash. 1818 HOGG *Brownie of Bodsbeck*, etc. II. 164 They'll..leave the good substantial ait-meal bannocks to stand till they moul. 1828 *Craven Gloss.*, *Moul*, to grow mouldy.

2. *trans.* To make mouldy.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 153 A loof, þat trespasid not, was mowlid & fordon. *a* 1535 *Communycacyon* (W. de W.) B j, Thy drynke soureth and mouleth thy mete Wherwith the poore man myght wele fare.

† **Moul**, *v.*[2] *Obs. rare.* Also 6 mowle, 7 moule. [var. of MOULD *v.*[2], perh. after F. *moule-r.* Cf. MOUL *sb.*[2]] *trans.* = MOULD *v.*[2]

1530 PALSGR. 641/2 This stone is nat carved with the hande, but mowled. *a* 1660 *Contemp. Hist. Irel.* (Ir. Archæol. Soc.) II. 121 The Pharoes of Dublin..to whom wee did not onely moule theire breeke at our owne proper charges, but [etc.]. *c* 1710 *Mack Gregory's Advt.* 2 Reliefs Moul'd in Boss and in Solid.

Moul: see MOLE *sb.*[2], MOOL, MULE.

Moula(h, obs. forms of MULLAH.

Moulavee, -vie, variant forms of MOOLVEE.

Moulbery, obs. form of MULBERRY.

Mould (mōuld), *sb.*[1] Forms: 1–6 molde, 3–9 (now *U.S.*) mold, 5 moold, 5–6 mulde, 6 moulde, *Sc.* muild, 6– mould. [OE. *molde* wk. fem. = OFris. *molde*, MDu. *moude*, *mouwe* (Du. *moude*, LG. *mold*), OHG. *molta* fem., also *molt* masc. (MHG. *molte*, *molde*, mod.Ger. dial. *molt*, *molten* masc.), ON. *mold* (Sw. *mull*, Da. *muld*), Goth. *mulda* str. fem. :—OTeut. **muldā*, *muldā*, root **mul-* (: *mel-* : *mal-*) to pulverize, grind: see MEAL *sb.*[1], and cf. MULL *sb.*[1]]

1. Loose, broken, or friable earth; hence, the surface soil, which may be readily broken up. Also *pl.* (now only *dial.*) lumps or clods of earth; in mod. dial. use commonly equivalent to the sing.

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) S 10, *Sablo*, molde. *c* 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* III. ii. (1890) 154 Mid moldan [*pulvere terræ*]. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 898 Mold sal be þi mete for nede. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 4320 Maumettes to make of moldes & clay. 1577–87 HARRISON *England* II. xxii. (1877) I. 346 Wood, which being felled..in processe of time became to be quite ouergrowne with earth and moulds. 1668 H. MORE *Div. Dial.* II. vi. (1713) 103 It is as unskilfully alledged against Nature that all the Earth is not soft moulds. 1703 MAUNDRELL *Journ. Jerus.* (1732) 3 Vast naked Rocks without the least sign of Mould. 1767 A. YOUNG *Farmer's Lett.* 133 This would by no means do for ploughed lands, as we always throw the moulds of such drains one way. 1792 M. RIDDELL *Voy. Madeira* 43 The rains continually washing down the mold, &c. into the bottom, have formed a thick rich soil there. 1827 J. CLARE *Sheph. Cal.* 34 In fresh-turn'd moulds which first beheld the sun.

† **b.** Used disparagingly for land (as a possession); = DIRT *sb.* 2 e. *Obs.*

c 1570 *Pride & Lowl.* (1841) 77 His hart encreaseth not thereby ne lesseth Ase doon these fooles for they have gotten molde.

2. The earth of the grave. Also *pl. To bring to mould*: to bury. (*Laid, lapped, wrapped*) *in the moulds*: buried. (Cf. MOOL *sb.* 2.) Now only *poet.* or *dial.*

c 1000 *Creed* 34 (Gr.) Þæs þy ðriddan dæge þeoda wealdend aras..of moldan. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 2734 (Kölbing) His moder starf..& richeliche was brouȝt in mold. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* C. 494, I wolde I were of þis worlde wrapped in moldez. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* II. 524 Syne suddantlie the deid corpis in tha flang; And syne kest on the muldis on the clay, The grene erd syne. 1560 PILKINGTON *Expos. Aggeus* (1562) 110 Those which then were buried in no halowed churche nor churchyarde, nor christen moldes, as they be called. 1602 MARSTON *Antonio's Rev.* III. ii. Wks. 1856 I. 107 The mould that presseth downe My deade fathers sculle. *a* 1656 USSHER *Ann.* (1658) 103 That they should wrap his body neither in gold nor silver, but in plain moulds. 1746 COLLINS *Ode written in* 1746, When Spring with dewy fingers cold Returns to deck their hallowed mold. 1800 WORDSW. *Michael* 370 They were not loth To give their bodies to the family mould. 1824 SCOTT *Redgauntlet* let. xi, After Sir John and her ain gudeman were baith in the moulds. 1896 A. E. HOUSMAN *Shropshire Lad* XXX, The bed of mould Where there's neither heat nor cold.

3. The upper soil of cultivated land; garden-soil; *spec.* soil rich in organic matter and suitable for cultivation of plants. Also with qualifying word, e. g. *leaf-mould*, *vegetable mould* (see these words).

1340 *Ayenb.* 95 Þyse þri þinges byeþ nyedunolle to alle þe þinges þet in þe erþe wexeþ. Guod molde [etc.]. *c* 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* I. 293 A gret labour is to correcte A mould in this maner that is enfecte. 1601 R. JOHNSON *Kingd. & Commw.* (1603) 113 Being broken with the plough it is founde to be excellent good mould. 1731 MILLER *Gard. Dict.* s.v., The Moulds that are of a bright Chesnut or Hazelly Colour. 1771 N. NICHOLLS *Lett.* in *Corr. w. Gray* (1843) 131 The loose and fermenting mould of the garden and fields. 1796 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) I. 373 Moulds are loams mixed with animal and vegetable remains, particularly from putrefaction. 1881 G. ROMANES in *Nature* No. 624. 555 Many quantitative results are given of the amount of mould which worms are able to cast up. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 13 June 5/3 So covetable does the rich, fat mould appear to the South African farmers.

fig. *c* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 69 For ði ne mai wexen non god sad of godes wordes on ȝeure herte molde. 1651 N. BACON *Disc. Govt. Eng.* II. xxxvii. (1739) 166 Bared of the old Soil of the Papacy, yet transplanted into the new Mould of Royalty. 1828 CARLYLE *Misc.* (1857) I. 219 Our literature no longer grows in water but in mould.

4. Earth regarded as the material of the human body. (In ME. also *erþe molde.*) *Obs.* or *poet.*

c 1250 *Hymn to God* 10 in *Trin. Coll. Hom.* App. 258 Þu sscope eld & wind & water þe molde is þet feorþe Of wham we alle imaked beoð þat is þe holi eorþe. *c* 1275 *O. E. Misc.* 142 For he scop vs and alle þing of þar eorþe molde. 1535 COVERDALE *Tobit* viii. 6 Thou maydest Adam of the moulde of the earth. 1590 MARLOWE *2nd Pt. Tamburl.* IV. i, Made of the mould whereof thy selfe consists. 1629 MILTON *Hymn Nativ.* xiv, And leprous sin will melt from earthly mould.

b. *Man of mould*: a mortal man. By mod. writers, through misunderstanding of Shaks. *Hen. V*, III. ii. 23 (cf. MOULD *sb.*[3]), sometimes used for 'a man of parts or distinction'.

c 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 639 Þe power man of mold Tok forþ anoþer ring. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 446 Þat neuere man of erthe molde Mighte hit wynne byfore wiþ fyght. *c* 1400 *Sowdone Bab.* 136 Of Babiloyne the riche Sowdon, Moost myghty man he was of moolde. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, III. ii. 23 Be mercifull great Duke to men of mould. 1843 CARLYLE *Past & Pr.* II. xvii, She begins to be uncertain as to what they were, whether spirits or men of mould. 1847 EMERSON *Poems, Monadnoc* Wks. (Bohn) I. 435 When he would prepare For the next ages, men of mould Well embodied, well ensouled. 1887 SAINTSBURY *Hist. Elizab. Lit.* i. 26 Though one at least of his contributors, W. Hunnis, was a man of mould.

† **c.** The 'dust' to which a human body 'returns' after death; the ashes of the dead. *Obs.*

a 1425 *Cursor M.* 22800 (Trin.) Miȝt he not þenne wiþ his mayn þat ilke molde [*earlier texts* erþ] make flesshe azayn? 1562 WINȜET *Cert. Tractates* Wks. (S.T. S.) II. 27 The mnildis of thame now laid on sleip. 1638 G. SANDYS *Paraphr. Job* xix. (1648) 29 Though wormes devoure mee, though I turne to mold.

† **5.** The ground regarded as a surface or as a solid stratum. *Under mould*: under the ground; buried. In ME. sometimes *pl. Obs.*

a 1000 *Elene* 55 (Gr.) Mearh moldan træd. *a* 1272 *O. E. Misc.* 93 Vnder molde hi liggeþ colde. *a* 1330 *Otuel* 1530 Þo was garsie wel ny3 wood, For wraþþe on molde þere he stood. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 4774 Mynours then mightely the moldes did serche. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* II. 213 Hyr most desyr was to be wndyr mold. 1596 DRAYTON *Legends* iv. 375 Where now it lyes even levell'd with the mold. 1596 GOSSON *Pleas. Quippes* 184 These corked shooes to beare them hie makes them to trip it on the molde. 1624 WOTTON *Archit.* I. 23 Aduising vs, not to rest vpon any appearing Soliditie, vnlesse the whole Mould through which wee cut, haue likewise beene solid.

6. The world on which we dwell; the earth. Chiefly in phr. *on* (*the*) *mould*: in the world. Also, the land of a particular region. *Obs.* or *poet.*

a 1000 *Guthlac* 1203 (Gr.) Þæs þe ic..angum ne wolde monna ofer moldan melda weorðan. *a* 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* viii. 33 On molde y holde the murgest mon. *c* 1315 SHOREHAM VII. 68 Þe wolkne by-clepþ al þe molde. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. I. 64 The moste mischeef on molde mounteth vp faste. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 25 For þai þe mesure & þe mett of all þe mulde couthe. *c* 1435 *Torr. Portugal* 425 A better than yt know I nowght With in crystyn mold. 1549–62 STERNHOLD & H. *Ps.* XC. 10 Our time is three score yeare and ten, that we do line on mould. 1575 GASCOIGNE *Posies, Hearbes* 159 Which framed mee so lucklesse on the molde. 1614 J. DAVIES *Eclog. Willy & Wernocke* 187, I ne wot, on mould what feater skill Can bee yhugg'd in Lordings pectorall. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* IV. xv, The fairest knight on Scottish mold.

† **7.** *Her.* The 'field' of an escutcheon. *Obs.*

c 1435 *Torr. Portugal* 1123 Sir Torrent ordenyth hym a sheld,..On azure a squier off gold, Richely bett on mold. *c* 1450 HOLLAND *Howlat* 413 Syne in asure the mold, A lyoun crovnit with gold.

8. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *mould-earth*, †*-rake*, *-side*; †**mould-ale**, a funeral banquet; **mould-furrow** *sb.* (see quot. 1851); **mould-furrow** *v.*, to plough with a mould-furrow; **mould iron**, an iron mould-board; †**mould-meat** *Sc.*, (*a*) a funeral banquet; (*b*) the last food a person eats before death (see Jam.); **mould-plate**, the plate of a mould-board. Also *mould-basket*, *-screen*, *-scuttle*, *-sieve* (see Loudon *Encycl. Gard.* 1829, §§ 1392–4–6, 1401).

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 341/2 *Moldale (*MS. S.* 1498 molde ale), *potacio funerosa, vel funeralis.* 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* I. 507 Whilst the principal workman is rutting off the second side of the top of the drain..the other two begin to dig and shovel out the *mould-earth. 1851 *Ibid.* (ed. 2) I. 171/2 The divisions between the ridges [are called] the open furrows,..and the last furrows ploughed in the open furrows are named the *mould or hint-end furrows. *Ibid.* 185/2 The headridges should be cloven down with a gore-furrow along the ends of the ridges, and *mould-furrowed in the crowns. 1807 A. YOUNG *Agric. Essex* (1813) I. 127 The *mould-iron [of the plough], or plat, as it is called in Norfolk. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* V. ii. 118 To roist in threit The raw spaldis ordanit for the *muld meit. 1805 R. W. DICKSON *Pract. Agric.* I. Plate v, The *mould plates. 1574 *Richmond Wills* (Surtees) 254 Spaydes, axes, *moldraiks. 1805 R. W. DICKSON *Pract. Agric.* I. 123 In some cases the plants are placed in an horizontal direction upon sods turned *mould-side upwards.

Mould (mōuld), *sb.*[2] Forms: 1 molda (or -e), 4–6 molde, moolde, 6–7 moulde, 7 mold, 6– mould. [OE. *molda* or *molde* = MDu. *moude* 'fonticulus'. Brugmann connects Skr. *mūrdhán* height, highest point, head, Gr. βλωθρό-ς tall:—Indo-Germanic **mlḍh-*.] The top or dome of the head; also the fontanelle in an infant's head. (See also HEAD-MOULD I.)

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* III. 42 Ærest on þæt wynstre eare, þænne on þæt swiðre eare, þænne ufan þæs mannes moldan. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 4939 Þe ymage of Mahoun..Wiþ þe axe smot he oppon þe molde, þat al þat heued to-flente. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* IX. xxxi. (1495) 367 With Crysma chyldern ben cremyd and enoynted of a symple preeste on the molde. *a* 1425 *Cursor M.* 9098 (Trin.) His riche crowne of stone & golde he dud hit..take of his molde [*Cott. MS.* heued]. 1519 HORMAN *Vulg.* 25 The moolde of yonge babys quauereth. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 152 What a while continueth the mould and crowne of our heads to beate and pant, before our braine is well settled. 1612 PAULE *Life Whitgift* 89 He complained..of a great colde, which he had then taken in the mould of his head. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* II. 6 Betwixt the two eyes, it [the porpess] hath a hole like the mould in the head of a man. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Mould*,..the Dent in the upper Part of the Head. 1854 BAKER *Northamp. Gloss.*, *Mould*, the opening of the suture of an infant's skull. 1886 W. BARNES *Dorset Gloss.*, *Mould*, the top of the head or skull.

b. *attrib.* **mould-shot** = HEAD-MOULD-SHOT.

1754–64 SMELLIE *Midwifery* I. 430 If the ossa parietalia rise over the os Frontis the case is called the mould-shot.

Mould (mōuld), *sb.*[3] Forms: 3–9 (now *U.S.*) mold, 4–5, 6 *Sc.* muld(e, 4–6 molde, 5 mowld(e, 5–6 moold(e, mowld(e, moulde, 6 moald(e, 6– mould. See also MOUL *sb.*[2] [ME. *mold(e*, app. metathetic alteration (either in OF. or in ME.) of OF. *modle* (later *molle*, *mole*, mod.F. *moule*) = Pr. *molle*, Sp., Pg. *molde*:—L. *modulum* (see MODULE).]

I. A pattern by which something is shaped.

1. A pattern, commonly a thin plate of wood or metal, used by masons, bricklayers, and plasterers as a guide in shaping mouldings, etc.; a templet.

(For *face mould*, *falling mould*, see those words.)

1323 *Ely Sacrist Roll* in R. Willis *Arch. Nomencl. Mid. Ages* (1844) 22 Bordis empt' pro moldis cementariorum faciendum. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XI. 341 If any masoun made a molde þer-to moche wonder it were. 1458 in Parker *Dom. Archit.* (1859) III. 42 Then must they have moolds to make on the bowys. 1513 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) I. 613 Lyme, sand,..mooldes, ordinaunces, and euery other thyng concernyng the..seid vawtes. 1663 GERBIER *Counsel* 28 As for the workmen, they must observe exactly their Surveyours Molds. 1793 SMEATON *Edystone L.* § 107 A gang of masons ..who were, according to moulds and drawings, to hew the stones. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 541 To find the moulds necessary for the construction of a semicircular arch, cutting a straight wall obliquely. 1876 *Encycl. Brit.* IV. 507/1 The mouldings and cornices are run with moulds.

b. *Shipbuilding.* See quot. *c* 1850.

1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1780) s.v., There are two sorts of these, namely, the bend-mould and hollow-mould: the former..determines the convexity of the timbers, and the latter, their concavity on the outside. *c* 1850 *Rudim. Navig.* (Weale) 134 *Moulds*, pieces of deal or board made to the shape of the lines on the mould-loft floor, as the timbers, harpins, ribands, &c., for the purpose of cutting out the different pieces of timber, &c., for the ship. Also the thin flexible pieces of pear-tree or box used in constructing the ..plans of ships. 1893 *Westm. Gaz.* 22 Mar. 2/1 The moulds in their place, the cedar skin is stretched over them.

c. A glass-cutter's pattern.

1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. ix. 384 A Quarry Mould..is a Blew Slate, whereon are drawn the several sorts or sizes of Quarries of Glass.

2. A hollow form or matrix into which fluid or plastic material is cast or pressed and allowed to cool or harden so as to form an object of a particular shape or pattern. Also with qualifying word, as *brick-mould*, *bullet-mould.*

1389 in Riley *Mem. London* (1868) 513 [He shall set no new] molde [to finish, after Noon rung]. 1428 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 82 All my mooldes & instrumentis to my craft [*sc.* of wax-chandler] longyng. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 342/1 Moold for a belle, or a potte, *effigies.* 1485 *Cely Papers* (1900) 177 A mowlde of stone to caste leyd in. 1549 *Privy Council Acts* (1890) II. 350 Mowldes for fawcon,..mouldes for saker, ..mowldes for demyculverin. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* XI. 567 The liquid Ore he dreined Into fit moulds prepar'd. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* III. 43 Moulds for casting of Bullets, or Small-shot. 1762 H. WALPOLE *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1765) I. ii. 32 B. and Godfrey of Woodstreet, goldsmiths, made the moulds, and cast the images of the king and queen. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 616 The

casts are made of..plaster of Paris,..and the wax mould is oiled previously to its being put in. 1884 W. H. Greenwood *Steel & Iron* § 809 The moulds in which Bessemer steel ingots are cast are usually of cast iron.

†**b.** *Of a* (or *o*) *mould*: cast in the same mould, of the same shape. *Obs.*

c 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 942 Of mone of amold þre hundred pounde of latoun Schuld he. *a* 1450 *Sir Degrev.* 1435 Arcangelus of rede golde, ffyfty mad of o molde.

c. *To break the mould*: *fig.* to render impossible the repetition of a certain type of creation.

1566 Painter *Pal. Pleas.* I. 141 b, I thinke dame Nature her selfe hath broken the mould. 1605 Shaks. *Lear* III. ii. 8 And thou all-shaking Thunder,..Cracke Natures moulds. 1661 Wright in Spurgeon *Treas. Dav.* lix. 8 There is a counsel in heaven, that will dash the mould of all contrary counsels upon the earth. 1847 Emerson *Poems, Monadnoc* Wks. (Bohn) I. 434 But if the brave old mould is broke, And end in churls the mountain folk. 1869 Mozley *Univ. Serm.* i. 24 The mould in which they were made is broken.

d. *gen.* A modelled surface from which an impression can be taken.

1530 Palsgr. 157 A moulde, to moulde or print a thyng in. 1626 Bacon *Sylva* § 502 It is a Curiosity to haue Fruits of Diuers Shapes...This is .. performed by Moulding them, when the Fruit is young, with Moulds of Earth, or Wood. 1687 A. Lovell tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 201 They fill it [a wooden mould] with Coal-dust, and apply it to your Arm, so that they leave upon the same, the Mark of what is cut in the Mould.

e. An arrangement of two or more boards forming a cavity in which concrete or earth is placed in order to be moulded into the desired shape.

c 1870 R. S. Burn *Guide to Masonry* 161 Care must be taken to prevent rain saturating the earth with water, as in this state it will form more mud in the mould. *Ibid.*, The difficulty of adjusting the moulds necessary to contain the concrete.

3. *spec.* in *Cookery*. A hollow utensil of metal or earthenware used to give a shape to puddings, jelly, etc. Also, a pudding, etc., shaped in a mould.

1573 in Cunningham *Revels at Crt.* (1842) 37 Mony by him payde for Mowldes to cast the frutes and ffishes in. 1608 Willet *Hexapla Exod.* 590 Iron moulds and dishes which they baked the bread in. 1747–96 Mrs. Glasse *Cookery* xiv. 231 Make it into cakes, or just what shape you please with moulds. 1769 Mrs. Raffald *Eng. Housekpr.* (1778) 193 Be careful you keep stirring it till cold, or it will run in lumps when you turn it out of the mould. 18.. *Novels & Tales fr. Housek. Words* VI. 34 (Hoppe) We had preserved plums to the mould of rice. 1904 *Daily Chron.* 21 Apr. 8/5 Turn the mixture into a well-buttered border-mould and bake for twenty-five minutes in a moderate oven.

4. *transf.* and *fig.* Said of things serving as a matrix or model; esp. in phr. *to be cast in a* (certain) *mould*: to have a certain form or character.

1557 Cheke *Let. to Hoby* in *Courtier* (1561) Z z v, If..the mould of our own tung could serue vs to fascion a woord of our own. *a* 1569 Kingesmyll *Man's Est.* x. (1580) 64 The Sonne of God was well-pleased to be cast in the moulde and simple shape of man. 1607 Shaks. *Cor.* v. iii. 22 My wife comes formost, then the honour'd mould Wherein this Trunke was fram'd. 1612 Hieron (*title*) A Helpe vnto Deuotion: Containing Certain Moulds or Forms of Prayer, fitted to seueral occasions. 1689 Swift *Ode to Sir W. Temple* xi, Shall I believe a Spirit so divine Was cast in the same Mold with mine? 1738 Wesley *Ps.* li. vi, Cast in the Mould of Sin I am. 1825 Coleridge *Aids Refl.* (1836) App. xxix. 24 The shapes of the recent and nearer become a mould for the objects in the distance. 1839–52 Bailey *Festus* 328 Maid-mother! mould of God. 1878 Bosw. Smith *Carthage* 369 A father and son, each cast in so truly heroic a mould.

†**b.** Said of the body with reference to its clothes. In quot. 1639 after F. *le moule du pourpoint*.

1605 Shaks. *Macb.* I. iii. 145 New Honors come vpon him Like our strange Garments cleaue not to their mould, But with the aid of vse. 1639 Du Verger tr. *Camus' Admir. Events* 221 Tygris playing at false company saued the mold of his doublet, and left his brother ingaged in a fray.

†**5.** An object of imitation; a model, a pattern.

a 1547 Surrey in *Tottel's Misc.* (Arb.) 20 The whole effect of natures plaint, When she had lost the perfit mold, The like to whom she could not paint. 1570–6 Lambarde *Peramb. Kent* (1826) p. vi, Having neither good arte .. nor yet approved patterne or Moald to imitate and follow. 1602 Shaks. *Ham.* III. i. 161 The glasse of Fashion, and the mould of Forme. 1618 E. Elton *Expos. Rom. vii.* (1622) 249 The man or woman that suffer themselues to bee changed into the mould and patterne of the good word of God.

6. A frame or body on or round which a manufactured article is made.

†**a.** The shaped piece of wood, etc. over which silk or other material is drawn to make a button. †**b.** The body of an artificial bait. **c.** The frame on which a sheet of paper, a basket, a hurdle (etc.) is made. †**d.** In pin-making, a length of wire of the thickness of the pin-stems, round which finer wire was coiled to form the heads.

1655 Walton *Angler* I. v. (1661) 96 The mould or body of the minnow was cloth, and wrought upon, or over it thus with a needle. 1682 Grew *Anat. Plants* 86 The Shape of a Button dependeth on the Mould; the Silk and other Materials wrought upon it, being always conformable thereunto. 1727–52 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v., Moulds used in basket-making are very simple, consisting ordinarily of a willow or osier turned or bent into an oval, circle, square, or other figure. *Ibid.*, Moulds in the manufacture of paper are little frames composed of several brass or iron wires fastened together by another wire still finer. 1747 *Gentl. Mag.* XVII. 311 The wooden molds of 8 buttons. 1766 Leadbetter *Roy. Gauger* II. xiv. (ed. 6) 370 There are Moulds to answer each Size of Paper designed to be made and the Bottom of each Mould is of Brass-Wire. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVIII. 161/2 The next step is to form the head, which is effected by a piece of wire called the mould, the same size as that used for the stems. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1464/2 Hand made paper is made by a mold and deckle.

7. A package of leaves of gold-beaters' skin between which gold-leaf is placed for beating.

1727–52 Chambers *Cycl.*, *Mould*, among gold-beaters, a certain number of leaves of velom..between which they put the leaves of gold and silver which they beat on the marble with the hammer. 1879 *Encycl. Brit.* X. 753/1 A 'mould', composed of about 950 of the finest gold-beaters' skins.

8. *Photo-engraving.* The gelatine which receives the impression from the negative and from which the copper plate is taken; also, the metal plate itself.

1875 *Ure's Dict. Arts* III. 564 This process does not in the least injure the gelatine mould. *Ibid.*, The process of printing from the metal mould is conducted in the following manner. 1883 Harowick *Photo-Chem.* 358. 1885 *Encycl. Brit.* XVIII. 833/1 By means of very heavy pressure..the mould was squeezed into soft metal.

II. Imparted form or make; result of moulding.

9. Distinctive nature as indicative of origin; esp. of persons, native constitution or character.

This, the earliest sense in Eng., is perh. orig. derived directly from the primary abstract sense of the OF. word = L. *modulus* prescribed measure; but in later use there is a reference to sense 2 and to Mould *v.*[2] In expressions like 'of base mould', 'of the purest mould', there may be association with Mould *sb.*[1]

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 84 (MS. Cott. Nero lf. 20 b) Þet ȝe þe bet icnowen ham ȝif eni cumeð touward ou, Io her hore molden. Uikelares beoð þreo kunnes. 1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 39 Mi Sone, if thou of such a molde Art mad, now tell me plein thi schrifte. 1447 Bokenham *Seyntys* (Roxb.) 282 Of men and wummen also The molde these dayis ys so sore alayde Wyth froward wyl. 1589 *Late Voy. Sp. & Port.* (1881) 81 They bee of so base a mould, as they can verie well subject themselves to any government. *c* 1592 Marlowe *Jew of Malta* I, ad init., Giue me the Merchants of the Indian mynes, That trade in mettall of the purest mould. 1596 Shaks. *Tam. Shr.* I. i. 60 No mates for you, Vnlesse you were of gentler milder mould. 1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* (1614) 526 Other gods of a lesse mould they call *Camis.* 1647 Clarendon *Hist. Reb.* I. § 120 William Earl of Pembroke..a man of another mould and making. 1707 Prior *Hans Carvel* 2 Hans Carvel..Married a lass of London mould. 1805 Scott *Last Minstr.* I. xix, Their hearts of rugged mould. 1827 Lytton *Pelham* v, Her mind was wholly of a different mould from my own. 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) II. 158 He has a character of a finer mould.

10. The form or shape of an animal body, or (less usually) of something inanimate. Now *technical* (among cattle- or stud-breeders); otherwise only *rhetorical*.

15.. *Tyc the mare* 13 in Ritson *Anc. Songs* (1792) 131 A mare of good mold. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* I. ii. 39 She now is turnd to treen mould. 1598 Vong *Diana* 226 They iudged our beautious features, and gentle inclinations to differ farre from Shepherdes mouldes and dispositions. 1607 Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* 228 About the mold or bigness of a young Fox of six moneths old. 1711 Steele *Spect.* No. 17 P 1, I am a little unhappy in the Mold of my Face, which is not quite so long as it is broad. 1725 Pope *Odyss.* I. 124 The sandals of cælestial mold. 1813 Scott *Rokeby* I. vi, The buff-coat..Mantles his form's gigantic mould. 1816 Byron *Prisoner of Chillon* ii, There are seven pillars of Gothic mould. 1844 H. Stephens *Bk. Farm* III. 1259 He should select 1 or 2 of the best mares in his possession to breed from, and if he has none possessing youth and beauty of mould [etc.]. 1873 Holland *A. Bonnie.* vii. 122 Manly in size, mould and bearing.

b. *concr.* Bodily form, body. Chiefly *poet.*

1579 Lyly *Euphues* (Arb.) 458 This Beautifull moulde when I beholde to be endued with chastitie..and all other good giftes. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* II. vii. 42 For nothing might abash the villein bold, Ne mortall steele emperce his miscreated mould. 1712–14 Pope *Rape Lock* I. 48 As now your own, our beings were of old, And once inclos'd in Woman's beauteous mould. 1815 Wordsw. *Laodamia* 16 Whom doth she behold?..His vital presence? his corporeal mould? 1865 Swinburne *Atalanta* 60 [The boar] trampled, springing sideways from the tusk, Too tardy a moving mould of heavy strength, Ancæus.

†**11.** The form or structural type or model of a building or a ship. *Obs.*

1570 Dee *Math. Pref.* 32 Now, may you, of any Mould, or Modell of a Ship, make one, of the same Mould..bigger or lesser. 1577–87 Harrison *England* II. ii. 141/1 in *Holinshed*, Howbeit the moold of the quire [of the cathedrall church] was not statelie inough. 1570–6 Lambarde *Peramb. Kent* (1826) 315 All these ships Q. Elizth hath either wholy built upon the stockes or newly reedified upon the olde moaldes. 1666 Dryden *Ann. Mirab.* lxxii, Of ships which by their mould bring new supplies And in their colours Belgian lions bear. 1774 M. Mackenzie *Maritime Surv.* 106 A Vessel..of such a Mould as to draw little Water.

†**12.** Style, fashion, mode. *Obs.*

1603 Florio *Montaigne* III. xiii. 664 The best..lives..are ..those which..are ranged to the common mould and humane model. 1624 Wotton *Archit.* I. 14 All Nations doe start at Novelties, and are indeede maried to their owne Moulds. 1650 R. Hollingworth *Exerc. Usurped Powers* 5 A party..shall rise up..and set up a new mould of government. 1656 Heylin *Surv. France* 70 The houses of the new mould in London, are just after their fashion.

13. That which is moulded or fashioned. *rare.*

1667 Milton *P. L.* VI. 576 A triple-mounted row of Pillars laid On Wheels .. Brass, Iron, Stonie mould. 1814 Cary *Dante, Paradise* IV. 53 When nature gave it [*sc.* the soul] to inform her mold. 1833 Tennyson *Two Voices* 28 Think you this mould of hopes and fears Could find no statelier than his peers In yonder hundred million spheres?

†**b.** Plastic material. *Obs. rare.*

1547 J. Harrison *Exhort. Scottes* 210 All mennes expectacion is, that hauyng so apte a moulde to worke vpon, you shall..frame his youthe with verteous preceptes. 1667 Milton *P. L.* III. 708 When at his Word the formless Mass, This worlds material mould, came to a heap.

14. *Arch.* A moulding or group of mouldings belonging to a particular member of a building. (See also Hood-mould.)

1480 Botoner *Itin.* 268 The west dore frettyd yn the hede with grete gentese and small and fylled wyth entayle wyth a double moolde costely don and wrought. 1501 [see Broach *sb.* 6]. 1850 *Parker's Gloss. Archit.* I. 134 A *mould* is also the entire group or set of *mouldings* with which any architectural member is furnished, as *arch-mould, jamb-mould*, &c.

15. *Geol.* An impression made in earth by the convex side of a fossil shell; sometimes misused for Cast *sb.* 30 b.

'Mould' and 'cast' are termed in Fr. respectively *moule externe* and *moule interne*.

1839 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* II. 375/2 They [*sc.* the roach beds] are full of cavities formed by the moulds of shells. 1854 Woodward *Mollusca* 286 Specimens frequently occur in which the outer shell layer is preserved, whilst the inner is wanting, and the mould ('birostrites') remains loose in the centre. 1862 *Chamb. Encycl.* IV. 448/2 Sometimes the whole organism is dissolved and carried off by water percolating the rock, and its former presence is indicated by the mould of its outer surface and the cast of its inner in the rocky matrix.

16. Short for *mould-candle* (see 17)

1812 Byron *Waltz* vi. *note*, Best moulds (four to the pound). 1831 T. L. Peacock *Crotchet Castle* ii, She is a greasy subject, and would have burned like a short mould. 1856 *Orr's Circ. Sci., Pract. Chem.* 449 Two sorts of candles are commonly met with in commerce, namely, dips and moulds.

III. 17. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *mould-carver, -maker, -making, -turner*; often = made or cast in a mould, as *mould cigar, shot, ware, work*; **mould candle**, a candle made in a mould (as distinguished from a dip-candle); **mould-loft** *Shipbuilding*, a room on the floor of which the plans of the ship are drawn at full size; †**mould-man**, a moulder; **mould-room**, = *mould loft*; †**mould-stone**, stone used for moulded work.

1711 *Act* 10 *Anne* c. 19 § 109 If such Making or Course is intended to be of *Mould Candles. 1876 Miss Braddon *J. Haggard's Dau.* I. 59 Sally came in presently with a pair of mould candles. 1873 Spon *Workshop Rec.* Ser. I. 431/1 The *mould carver makes his mould look..directly the reverse of what he wishes the ornament to appear. 1896 *Daily News* 15 Oct. 8/5 To make *mould cigars. 1711 W. Sutherland *Shipbuild. Assist.* 77 The Platform fitted for such a Design is call'd a *Mould-loft. 1866 *Chamb. Encycl.* VIII. 683/1 The first process is to develop, or 'lay off', on the mould-loft floor, certain full-size working sections of the required ship. 1780 in Hone *Every-day Bk.* II. 1477 If any engraver, paper-maker, *mould-maker or printer, can give information of the..making any mould or paper. 1825 J. Nicholson *Operat. Mechanic* 465 The mould-maker receives the model, and forms from it the requisite moulds. 1849 Noad *Electricity* (ed. 3) 230 *Mould-making, soldering, and gilding. 1576 in Cunningham *Revels at Crt.* (1842) 110 The *Mowldeman for a houndes head mowlded for a Cenofall ij$. 1791 Smeaton *Edystone Lightho.* § 157 The work-yard, *mould-room, &c. 1675 Worlidge *Syst. Agric.* 241, I shall..here set down the true Process of making of it [*sc.* shot], of what size you please under *Mould-shot. 1832 Col. Hawker *Diary* (1893) II. 34, I..blew both barrels into them with mould shot. 1353 *Eng Roll* in R. Willis *Arch. Nomencl. Mid. Ages* (1844) 50, 17 de *muldestones pro fenestris ecclesiæ parochialis. 1777 *Birmingham Directory* 8 Brooks, William, *Mould-turner. 1612 Sturtevant *Metallica* 91 Presse-ware or *Mould-ware, is any thing that can bee made, wrought, or formed of clay and earth..by presse and mould. 1626 Bacon *Sylva* § 502 The Fruit..would..fill the Concaue, and so be turned into the Shape desired; As it is in *Mould-workes of Liquid Things.

Mould (mōuld), *sb.*[4] Also 5 mowlde, 8– (now *U.S.*) **mold.** [Perh. developed from Mould *a.* used in contexts in which it was not clear whether it was a sb. or an adj.; or perh. an altered form of Moul *sb.*[1], due to association with Mould *sb.*[1]] A woolly or furry growth (consisting of minute fungi) which forms on vegetable and animal substances that lie for some time in moist warm air. As a disease of the hop plant = Fen *sb.*[2]

Also *Bot.*, any one of the species of fungi (constituting the order *Mucorini*) of which this growth consists.

c 1425 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 658/6 *Hic mucor*, mowlde. 1626 Bacon *Nat. Hist.* § 339 All Moulds are Inceptions of Putrefaction; As the Moulds of Pyes and Flesh. 1714 Mandeville *Fab. Bees* (1725) I. 361 A man that hates cheese must call me fool for loving blue mold. 1731, etc. [see Fen *sb.*[2]]. 1794 J. Clark *Agric. Heref.* 51 *note*, Too much moisture subjects the [hop-] plants to the mould. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* xxiii, Mildew and mould began to lurk in closets. 1864 *Chamb. Encycl.* VI. 592/2 Mildews and Moulds are very nearly allied. 1874 H. V. Carter *Mycetoma* 10 The red mould (*Chionyphe*). 1877 Huxley & Martin *Elem. Biol.* 31 One of the commonest Moulds, the *Penicillium glaucum*, which is familiar to every one from its forming sage-green crusts upon bread, jam, old boots, &c.

b. *fig.*

1741 Watts *Improv. Mind* I. ii. Wks. 1753 V. 200 A hermit who has been shut up in his cell in a college, has contracted a sort of mould and rust upon his soul. 1771 P. Parsons *Newmarket* I. 32 Their researches into the mould of libraries. 1829 D'Israeli *Let.* 28 Jan. in *Croker Papers* (1884) II. 40 Letters..having..escaped the fury of cooks,.. the mould of time [etc.]. 1853 C. Bronte *Villette* ix, I was getting on, not lying the stagnant prey of mould and rust.

c. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

1800 Coleridge *Piccolom.* I. iv, Mould-rotted papers. 1874 H. V. Carter *Mycetoma* 35 *note*, The infecting Filaria and Mould-spore. 1876 tr. *Wagner's Gen. Pathol.* 95 The mould-diseases are conditional upon the above-mentioned mould-fungi. 1879 *Encycl. Brit.* IX. 98/2 A certain species of mould-plant which he calls *Mycoderma aceti*.

Mould, *sb.*5 In 6 mold. A corrupted form of MOLE *sb.*1 Cf. IRON-MOULD.

1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* VI. xii. 7 Upon the litle brest, like christall bright, She mote perceive a litle purple mold.

Mould (mōuld), *a.* (orig. *ppl.*) *Obs.* exc. *dial.* (see E.D.D.) Forms: 4 moweld, 4–6 mouled, mowled, (5 -id, -yd, *Sc.* -it), 6 moulde, 6– mould. [f. MOUL *v.*1 + -ED1.] Mouldy. Also *fig.*

13.. *Metr. Hom.* in *Archiv Stud. neu. Spr.* LVII. 288 For stunch þe hermite his neose held þat of þat mouled flesch he feled. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 5570 Þe ruste of þat moweld mone. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Reeve's Prol.* 16 Myn herte is al-so mowled as myne heres. *c* 1430 in *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 213 Þi drinkis þat sowren, & þi mowlid mete. 1535 COVERDALE *Josh.* ix. 12 This oure bred..was new..but now lo, it is harde & moulde. 1583 STUBBES *Anat. Abus.* II. (1882) 49 They keepe their butter and cheese till it be mustie and mould.

Mould (mōuld), *v.*1 Also mold. [f. MOULD *sb.*1]

†1. *trans.* To bury. *Obs.*

1530 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) V. 294, I bequeith..my bonys to be moldid wtin the sanctwary of Swyne. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 218/47 To Mould, *inhumare.*

2. To cover (plants) with mould; to earth *up.*

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 429 The Olive trees..need neither the hooke to be pruned, nor the rake and harrow to be moulded. 1649 BLITHE *Eng. Improv. Impr.* (1653) 126 In setting of it be carefull of Moulding it plentifully with the best Mould you can get. 1778 [W. MARSHALL] *Minutes Agric.* 9 Mar. an. 1775 Digging the trench, putting in the plants, and moulding them with finely tilled soil. 1837 *Ftemish Husb.* 38 in *Lib. Usef. Knowl., Husb.* III, If..the potato-plants have been well hoed and moulded up.

†3. *To mould away*: to moulder, crumble away.

1545 BRINKLOW *Lament.* (1874) 100 It [*sc.* this Sacrament] hathe a begynnynge, and maye perishe and moulde away. 1607 TOURNEUR *Rev. Trag.* II. i. C 3 b, For his white father do's but moulde away. 1633 J. CLARKE *Two-fold Praxis* 28 It is a strange sight to see the haire of the heads..mold away, and the gristle of the nose consume.

Mould (mōuld), *v.*2 Forms: see MOULD *sb.*3 [f. MOULD *sb.*3]

1. *trans.* To mix or knead (dough, bread); now used technically in the baking trade for: To shape into loaves (see quot. 1841).

14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 603/14 *Pistrio*, to moolde or bake. *c* 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* I. lxxiv. (1869) 44 She wolde it [*sc.* bread] were so wysliche moolded, .. that [etc.]. 1530 PALSGR. 641/1 He can better eate a lofe than mowlde it. 1542 BOORDE *Dyetary* xi. (1870) 262 Breade..must be well muldyd; it must be thorowe bake. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* I. (1586) 10 b, Here are..troughes to lay leauen in, and there is a fayre table to mould vpon. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. 85/2 Mould it [*sc.* the dough] into Loaves or Roulls. 1841 *Guide to Trade, Baker* 38 The operation of moulding the dough..consists in cutting the masses of weighed dough, each into two equal parts. They are then kneaded either round or long, and one placed in a hollow made in the other; and the union is completed by a turn of the knuckles on the centre of the upper piece.

fig. 1692 DRYDEN *Cleomenes* II. ii. 21 When the Gods moulded up the Paste of Man, Some of their Dough was left upon their hands, For want of Souls.

†2. To mix (ingredients) to form a paste. *Obs.*

c 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* I. 35 Take pouder of Gyngere & Canelle, & wryng it, & molde it to-gederys in þin hondys. 1587 FLEMING *Contn. Holinshed* III. 1003/1 [They] caused bran and meale to be moulded vp in cloth, for otherwise it would not sticke togither. 1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* v. xxiv. 393 They did mould it with honie, making an idoll of that paste. 1645–52 BOATE *Irel. Nat. Hist.* (1860) 125 Certain women..who mold the mud using nothing else to it but their hands.

†b. *fig.* To mix *up* or blend (*with*). *Obs.*

1701 SWIFT *Contests Nobles & Comm.* v. Wks. 1751 IV. 53 A Faction..which, under the name of Puritan, began to grow popular, by molding up their new Schemes of Religion with republican principles in Government. 1855 MILMAN *Lat. Chr.* VII. i. (1864) IV. 25 In Dunstan were moulded together the asceticism almost of an Eastern anchorite .. with some of the industry and accomplishment of a Benedictine. *Ibid.* VIII. viii. V. 32 Henry in whose character impetuosity was strangely moulded up with irresolution.

3. To produce or create (a material object) in a certain form; to shape as a sculptor or modeller; to fashion, form, model. Chiefly *poet.*

c 1475 *Cath. Angl.* 246/2 (MS. Addit.) To mowlde (1483 mulde), *conformare.* 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* III. ii. 211 Two lovely berries molded on one stem. 1608 — *Per.* III. (Gower) 11 Hymen hath brought the Bride to bed, Where by the losse of maydenhead, A Babe is moulded. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* x. 744 Did I request thee, Maker, from my Clay To mould me Man. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* IV. 773 From the bleak pole no winds inclement blow, Mold the round hail, or flake the fleecy snow. 1766 GOLDSM. *Vic. W.* XXVIII, The change which I saw in her countenance struck me...The hand of death seemed to have moulded every feature to alarm me. *a* 1822 SHELLEY *Triumph Life* 532 Obscure clouds, moulded by the casual air. 1865 SWINBURNE *Atalanta* 406 Seeing you so fair, and moulded like a god.

†b. *absol.* To make a model. *Obs.*

1644 EVELYN *Diary* 8 Feb., Monsieur Saracin, who was moulding for an image of a Madona to be cast in gold.

4. To shape (fluid or plastic matter) in or as in a mould; to press or cast *into* a particular form.

1573–4 in Cunningham *Revels at Crt.* (1842) 55 For the Mowldes and for Mowlding the frutes made of the stuf aforesaide. *a* 1676 HALE *Prim. Orig. Man.* I. ii. 65 He forgeth and mouldeth Metals. 1695 WOODWARD *Nat. Hist. Earth* IV. 184 No Metall, when..cast in a Mould, can ever..represent the Concavity of that Mould with greater Exactness than these Flints and other Minerals do the Concavities of the Shells wherein they were thus moulded. 1716 GAY *Trivia* II. 329 In harden'd orbs the school-boy moulds the snow. 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem.* (1862) III. 272 The fat.. finally is melted and moulded into candles. 1865 LUBBOCK *Preh. Times* 414 The extraordinary practice of moulding the form of the head was also common to several of the Indian tribes. 1879 J. WRIGHTSON in *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 246/2 The butter is then salted..moulded and printed.

5. *transf.* and *fig.* To create, produce, or form *out of* certain elements or material, or *upon* a certain pattern; also, to plan, design. Also with *up.*

1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* v. i. 444 They say best men are moulded out of faults. 1641 J. JACKSON *True Evang. T.* III. 199 A .. plot, moulded in the depths of satanicall contrivances. *a* 1667 COWLEY *Miscell., Wit* ix, But Love that moulds One Man up out of Two, Makes me forget and injure you. 1710 ADDISON *Whig Examiner* No. 5 P 3 There is great art in moulding a question. 1818 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) II. 333 Judges in such cases must mould and frame such estates as are agreeable to the plain intention of the legislature. 1863 GEO. ELIOT *Romola* I. xi, On that fuller knowledge he hoped to mould a statement. 1893 *Fam. Herald* 167/2 A lovely brilliant girl, moulded on Di Vernon.

†b. *To mould up*: to go to form. *Obs.*

1602 MARSTON *Ant. & Mel.* III. Wks. 1856 I. 31 Earthly durt makes all things, makes the man, Moulds me up honour. 1613 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII*, v. v. 27 All Princely Graces That mould vp such a mighty Piece as this is.

6. To bring into or reduce to a particular shape or form; to shape or model the character or style of. Const. *into, to.* † Also with *up.*

1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* II. xxii. § 15 It will follow that hee shall Moulde himselfe into al vertue at once. 1622 CALLIS *Stat. Sewers* (1647) 47 The Estate..shall be melted and newly molded by this Condition. 1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* II. xvi. 109 God moulded some for a Schoolmasters life. 1695 LD. PRESTON *Boeth.* III. 142 They are the perfect Good when they are molded up into one Form. 1741 WATTS *Improv. Mind* I. xvii. Wks. 1753 V. 282 Fabellus would never learn any moral lessons till they were moulded into the form of some..fable. 1818 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) VI. 428 In which case the Court assumed greater latitude of moulding the will according to the intention of the testator. 1859 MAX MÜLLER *Chips* (1880) III. iv. 87 His character was chiefly moulded by his intercourse with men. 1857 WILLMOTT *Pleas. Lit.* xi. 50 Buffon has told us how patiently he moulded his loose sentences into symmetry. 1868 HUXLEY *Lay Serm.* iii. (1870) 35 If we could mould the fates to our own will. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 419 Logic was beginning to mould human thought.

7. *intr.* and *refl.* (now *rare*). To assume a certain form; to become shaped; to shape itself (*into*).

1612 DEKKER *If it be not Good* B 4, Blest raigne! The Golden worlde is molding new againe. 1768 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* II. 291 When growing and moulding in the womb, what were we better than a worm? 1842 TENNYSON *Day-dream* 86 The silk star-broider'd coverlid Unto her limbs itself doth mould Languidly ever. 1858 *Ecclesiologist* XIX. 315 When the Norman man-at-arms had begun to mould into the English country gentleman. 1871 L. STEPHEN *Playgr. Eur.* vi. (1894) 140 The Jungfrau seems gradually to mould itself out of darkness.

8. *trans. Shipbuilding.* To give a particular mould to (a vessel) (? *Obs.*); to shape (timbers) with moulds. (See MOULD *sb.*3 11 and 1 b.)

1570–6 LAMBARDE *Peramb. Kent* (1826) 311 No shipping any where els..to be founde either more artificially moalded under the water or more gorgeously decked above. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVII. 407/1 The moulds being thus prepared, we shall apply them to mould timber 7. 1830 HEDDERWICK *Marine Archit.* 265 You then mark the number of the frame to which the floor belongs, and proceed to mould the two first futtocks.

9. To take a cast of. ? *Obs.*

1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 213 You must never mould any Diamond in Sand or Cuttle-bone. 1735 *Dict. Polygraph.* II. K k 6 b, How to mould the Face without much trouble to a person. *Ibid.*, To mould off the Face of a person in Wax.

10. Of clothes: To fit close to (the figure). [After F. *mouler.*]

1896 *Godey's Mag.* Feb. 214/1 The cut and fit are perfection, the jersey molding the figure like a glove.

Mould (mōuld), *v.*3 Also mold. [f. MOULD *sb.*4; or f. MOUL *v.* by addition of excrescent *d.*]

1. *trans.* †a. To allow to become mouldy. *Obs.*

b. To cause to contract mould; see also MOULDED2.

c 1460–70 in *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 212 Þou lettest poore men go bare, thy drynkis soweren, þou mouledest metis [*v.r.* þi mowlid mete] where-with the febull myght wele fare. 1613–16 W. BROWNE *Brit. Past.* I. ii. 29 Like hoording huswiues that doe mold their food, And keepe from others, what doth them no good. 1634 RAINBOW *Labour* (1635) 37 Sloth moulding some, anxiety consuming others. 1764 *Museum Rust.* III. ii. 4 This manure..is also much less inclined to mould and burn the seed.

2. *intr.* To become mouldy or covered with mould.

1530 PALSGR. 641/2 It is tyme to eate this breed, for it begynneth to mowlde. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 809 There be some Houses wherein..Baked Meats will mould, more than in others. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* (1721) I. 155 Unless the Seed be kept dry, 'tis apt to mould. 1885 A. WATT *Leather Manuf.* 152 If the drying be too slow, especially in damp weather, the leather is apt to mould.

b. *transf.* and *fig.* of things that lie unused.

a 1547 SURREY *Eccles.* II. 79 And wretched herts have they that let their tressures mold. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. iii. 41 The man that moulds in ydle cell. 1611 BIBLE *Transl. Pref.* P 6 The Grecians..were not wont to suffer bookes of worth to lye moulding in Kings Libraries. 1776 JOHNSON *Let. to Mrs. Thrale* 18 May, He carries with him two or three good resolutions; I hope they will not mould upon the road.

Mould, obs. form of MOLE *sb.*2 and *sb.*3

Mouldable (mōu·ldăb'l), *a.* Also (now *U.S.*) moldable. [f. MOULD *v.*2 + -ABLE.] Capable of being moulded (*into*).

1626 BACON *Sylva* § 846 The Differences of Impressible and Not Impressible,..Mouldable, and Not Mouldable, Scissible, and Not Scissible. 1753 tr. *Genard's School of Man* 15 The heart of a child is like soft wax, Mouldable into every form. 1883 *Chr. Commw.* 22 Nov. 737/3 These very women..are the most mouldable creatures possible. 1884 *Century Mag.* XXVIII. 124 When the mind of the parent was in a pliant and moldable condition.

Hence **Mou·ldableness, Mouldabi·lity**, the quality or condition of being mouldable.

1883 H. DRUMMOND *Nat. Law in Spir. W.* ix. (1884) 300 The other quality we are to look for in the soul is mouldableness, plasticity. 1890 *Century Dict., Moldability, mouldability*, capability of being moulded.

Mould-board1 (mōu·ldbōəd). Forms: *a.* 6 moldbo(o)rde, 7 mould bord, 8– mold-, mouldboard; *β.* 4 molebrod, 6 moulebord, 7 molebord. [f. MOULD *sb.*1 + BOARD *sb.* Cf. Du. *molbord*, and next word.] The board or metal plate in a plough, which turns over the furrow-slice. Also *attrib.*, as *mould-board clout.*

a. 1508 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) VI. 62 Item..Willelmo Farechild xij le moldboordes. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. 333/1 The parts of a Plow..The Mould Board. 1765 A. DICKSON *Treat. Agric.* (ed. 2) 209 The curved mold-board, by turning the earth of the furrow suddenly by the fore part of it, meets with more resistance than the common mold board. 1805 R. W. DICKSON *Pract. Agric.* (1807) I. 5 Giving..to the mould-board that kind of hollowed-out and twisted form which..tends to lessen friction. *Ibid.* Plate ix, The mould-board hooks. 1902 LUBBOCK (LD. AVEBURY) *Scenery Eng.* 475 The ridge of soil raised by the mould-board of the plough.

β. 1395 *Cartular. Abb. de Whiteby* (Surtees) 618 It. pro ix molebrodclowtys, iiis. xd. 1583 *Wills & Inv. N. C.* (Surtees) II. 80 A hundreth heads and shares, moulebords [*printed* moutebords], spades. 1610 HEALEY *St. Aug. Citie of God* (1620) 542 The plough may not lack other instruments, e. g. the culter,..the mole-boord [etc.].

Mou·ld-board2. [MOULD *sb.*3 or MOULD *v.*2]

1. *Founding.* = MOULDING-BOARD 3.

1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*

2. One of the boards forming a 'mould' for concrete; see MOULD *sb.*3 2 e.

1881 F. YOUNG *Every Man his own Mech.* § 1251 These mould-boards should be of good pine wood, not less than 1 in. in thickness.

†**Mou·ldbred.** *Obs.* Forms: 4 mold(e)-, mulde-, 5 mule-, 9 mool-. [f. MOULD *sb.*1 + BRED. Cf. OHG. *moldbrot*, Du. *molberd.*] = MOULD-BOARD1. *Mouldbred clout*: see CLOUT *sb.*1 2.

1343 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 205, i clitta pro moldebredd. 1348 *Jarrow Rolls* (Surtees) 53, j mold-bredeclouthe. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* XXV. (*Julian*) 131 Þe patyl his hand clewyt to, þe muldebred quben he suld myk. 1465 in *Finchale Priory Charters*, etc. (Surtees) p. CCXCIX, iij plowys, iij plowbands, ij mulebred clowtis. 1824 MACTAGGART *Gallovid. Encycl.* 460 Another article belonging to the ploughman's business, such as the mool-bred.

Moulded (mōu·ldĕd), *ppl. a.*1 Also (now *U.S.*) molded. [f. MOULD *v.*2 + -ED1.]

1. Shaped or cast in a mould; made according to a mould; cut or shaped to a mould.

1727–51 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Column*, Moulded Column is that made by impastation, of gravel and flints of divers colours, which are bound together with a cement, which grows perfectly hard, and receives a polish like marble. 1766 W. GORDON *Gen. Counting-ho.* 385, 10 boxes, containing moulded candles. 1853 URE *Dict. Arts* II. 386 The preparation or marking of the paper..is done by means of a moulded piece of wood. 1854 RONALDS & RICHARDSON *Chem. Technol.* (ed. 2) I. 97 The moulded charcoal being more dense than that made by the old plan. 1874 GOUFFÉ *Roy. Bk. Pastry*, etc. 193 Moulded cakes for entremets.

b. *Shipbuilding* (see MOULD *sb.*3 1 b and *v.*2 8). *Moulded breadth, width*: the greatest breadth of a vessel.

1773 *Life N. Frowde* 99 She..was as complete a molded Vessel as ever came out of a Dock. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVII. 405/1 The length of the keel being 29 feet, and breadth moulded nine feet. *c* 1850 *Rudim. Navig.* (Weale) 134 *Moulded*, cut to the mould. Also the size or bigness of the timbers that way the mould is laid. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Moulded breadth.* 1887 *Pall Mall G.* 19 Aug. 8/2 The vessel..was 44 ft. in moulded width of beam.

2. *Arch.* Consisting of a moulding or mouldings; ornamented with mouldings.

1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. xiii. 473 A Foure Square Stee[p]le, each corner Supported with a Buttrice, the Top set off with Moulded Battlements. 1823 P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Build.* 316 Moulded-work is that which is formed into various forms on the edges, as cornices architraves, &c. 1843 C. BARRY in *2nd Rep. Comm. Fine Arts* 7 That such of the ceilings as are flat should be formed into compartments by moulded ribs. 1878 SIR G. G. SCOTT *Lect. Archit.* I. 157 Another great characteristic of English architecture is the moulded (unfoliated) capital.

Moulded (mōu·ldĕd), *ppl. a.*2 [f. MOULD *v.*3 or *sb.*4 + -ED.] Mouldy.

a 1552 LELAND *Itin.* (1769) VII. 57 Mony hid yn Pottes so hold and muldid that when yt was strongly towchid yt went almost to mowlder. 1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turks* (1621) 624 Verie course, hoarie, moulded [1638 mouldy] bread. 1795 *Trans. Soc. Arts* XIII. 181 Not having had one rotten or moulded piece this year.

†**Mou·lden,** *ppl. a. Obs.* [str. pa. pple. of MOULD *v.*3] Mouldy.

1533 MORE *Debell. Salem* Pref., Wks. 930/1 He spake but of moulden breade.

Moulder (mōu·ldəɹ), *sb.*1 Also (now *U.S.*) molder. [f. MOULD *v.*2 + -ER 1.]

1. One who 'moulds' dough or bread.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 342/1 Mooldare of paste (*K.*, *P.* moldare of bred), .. *pistrio*. *c* 1475 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 809/11 *Hic panificator*, a mouldere. 1837 Sir R. Philips in Whittock, etc. *Bk. Trades* (1842) 19 The dough .. is ..handed over to a second workman, who slices it with a large knife for the bakers, of whom there are five. The first, or the moulder, forms the biscuits two at a time; the second [etc.]. 1880 *Daily Tel.* 24 Feb., To Bakers.—Wanted, a respectable young man. Good moulder.

2. a. One who is employed in making moulds for casting. **b.** One who moulds clay into bricks.

1535 Coverdale *Isa.* xli. 7 The Smyth comforted the moulder, & the Ironsmyth the hammerman. 1599 T. M[ouffet] *Silkwormes* 24 Eu'n as a lumpe of rude and shapeless clay Into the mould a Moulder cunning brings. 1684 E. Chamberlayne *Present St. Eng.* II. (ed. 15) 225 There belong also to the Mint many officers and others, as melters, smiths .. blanchers, moulders. 1847 Smeaton *Builder's Man.* 23 Between five in the morning and eight at night, a good moulder will produce five thousand bricks. 1883 T. D. West *Amer. Foundry Pract.* 27 Moulders frequently entertain the idea that the heavier the casting, the harder should be the surface of the mould.

3. *transf.* and *fig.*

1736 Berkeley *Disc.* Wks. 1871 III. 424 Reformers, and new moulders of the constitution. 1846 Grote *Greece* I. iii. I. 102 In the primitive..legend Prometheus is not the Creator or Moulder of man. 1892 W. Pike *North. Canada* 142 Wonderful moulders of geography they [beavers] are.

4. An instrument for moulding; a mould. ? *Obs.*

1612 Sturtevant *Metallica* xiii. 96 A Mould or Moulder is an artificiall instrument which mouldeth..the tempered earth. 1633 D. Rogers *Treat. Sacraments* II. 60 Better and holier ones than my selfe, such as stand with their moulders ready to catch any good speech! 1823 *New Monthly Mag.* VIII. 503 The hill-side shall still ring with my song—the metal be fashioned in my moulder.

† **Mou·lder,** *sb.*[2] *Obs.* [? f. Mould *sb.*[1] by association with Moulder *v.*] Mould; clay; dust.

a 1552 [see Moulded *ppl. a.*[2]]. 1592 Nashe *P. Penilesse* (ed. 2) 37 b, Men,..that are chained to such heauie earthlie moulder.

Moulder (mōu·ldəɹ), *sb.*[3] *rare.* [? f. Mould *sb.*[4] by association with Moulder *v.*] Mould.

1817 J. Blackburn *Sci. Ship-building* 145 Without almost constant fires, furniture, linen, silks, &c. &c. will be continually damaging, from moulder, rust, and mildew.

Moulder (mōu·ldəɹ), *v.* Also 6 (9 *dial.*) mulder, (7 moudre, 8 muller, 9 *dial.* mooler), 6– (now *U.S.*) molder. [? f. Mould *sb.*[1] + -er[5]; but cf. Norw. dial. *muldra* to crumble (trans. and refl.), G. *multern* to rot, grow mouldy. See also Moulter *v.*[2]]

1. *intr.* To turn to dust by natural decay; to waste away; to crumble. Also with *away*, *down*.

1531 Elyot *Governour* III. xix. (1880) II. 316 It aught to be well considered that the cement..be firme...For if it be brokle, and will mouldre a way with euery showre of raine, the buyldynge may nat contynewe. 1565 Jewel *Repl. Harding* (1611) 445 God..caused the Sacrament to mulder into ashes in his hands. 1579 Tomson *Calvin's Serm. Tim.* 414/1 A thing moldred for verie age. 1616 W. Foade *Serm.* 22 Thy house will shortly fall and moudre. *a* 1674 Clarendon *Surv. Leviath.* (1676) 171 Sand, that, assoon as you come to rest upon it, molders away to nothing. 1700 Prior *Carmen Seculare* 459 When statues moulder, and when arches fall. 1776 Gibbon *Decl. & F.* x. I. 268 The ancient walls were suffered to moulder away. 1807 Headrick *Arran* 40 Exposure to the air causes this limestone to moulder down. 1810 Southey *Kehama* xvi. xi, The robes of royalty which once they wore Long since had moulder'd off and left them bare. 1851 Borrow *Lavengro* xciv, Both gouty George and his devoted servant will be mouldering in their tombs. 1877 Ruskin *Arrows of Chace* (1880) I. 236 Those traceries should be..left in reverence until they moulder away.

b. *fig.*

1649 Milton *Eikon.* xxvii. Wks. 1851 III. 511 As to those offerd condescensions..they moulder into nothing. 1679 C. Nesse *Antichrist* 162 This Western empire was forsaken, which after molder'd into an ignoble exarchate. *a* 1688 Sir J. Lauder (Fountainhall) *Hist. Notices Sc. Aff.* (1848) 161 The use of Weapon-shawings is very ancient with us, and ware founded [etc.]..and then they mouldred away. 1758 J. Rutty *Spir. Diary* (ed. 2) 110 O, how my friendships have mouldered! 1847 Tennyson *Princess* Prol. 180 Never man, I think, So moulder'd in a sinecure as he.

2. *transf.* To be diminished in number; to dwindle. Said chiefly of armies. Also with *away*. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

a 1674 Clarendon *Hist. Reb.* VIII. § 73 If he had sat still the other great army would have mouldered to nothing. 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 221 ₱ 5 The other [preacher] finding his Congregation mouldering every Sunday. 1769 *Junius Lett.* I. (1770) 13 A gallant army..mouldering away for want of the direction of a man of common abilities. 1823 Lingard *Hist. Eng.* (1827) III. ii. 127 (Funk) The Christian army..was mouldering away with disease on the sultry coast of Mauritania.

3. *trans.* To cause to crumble, fall to pieces, or decay. Also with *away*, *down*. Now *rare* or *dial.*

1649 Blithe *Eng. Improv. Impr.* vi. 34 And so cut the Turfe, that the Soard may have all the Winters frost to wroxe, and moulder it. 1672 Sir T. Browne *Let. Friend* § 12 Sharp and corroding Rheums had so early mouldred those Rocks and hardest parts of his Fabrick [viz. his teeth]. 1752 *Scotland's Glory* III. (1786) 55 Those who once built Zion's walls are mouldering them to rubbish. 1807 Wordsw. *Let. to Lady Beaumont* 21 May, Long after we .. are mouldered in our graves. 1844 H. Stephens *Bk. Farm* I. 596 A sudden frost..moulders down still more of the earth from both sides. 1892 *Northumbld. Gloss.* s.v. *Mooler.*

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1603 Florio *Montaigne* II. iii. 210 To be mouldred and crushed to death, vnder the Chariots wheeles. *a* 1631 Donne *Serm.* ix. (1640) 88 How many men have we seene Molder and crumble away great Estates. 1759 Sarah Fielding *C'tess of Dellwyn* II. 101 A Man who moulders away his Understanding. 1826 E. Irving *Spir. Econ. Scotl.* Writ. 1865 III. 475 The causes which have..mouldered the excellency of our spiritual and moral institutions.

Mouldered (mōu·ldəɹd), *ppl. a.* [f. prec. + -ed[1].] Turned to dust; crumbled; decayed.

1615 Brathwait *Strappado* (1878) 15 All the misers-Mammons mouldred-pelfe. 1728 P. Walker *Life Peden* Pref. (1827) 27 That the Souls of our Worthies were come from Heaven, and the Dust of their mullered Bodies from their Graves. 1794 Coleridge *Melancholy* 1 Stretch'd on a moulder'd Abbey's broadest wall. 1807 Wordsw. *White Doe* VII. 79 A mouldered tree, A self-surviving leafless oak. 1855 Browning *How it Strikes a Contemp.* 19 Some house Intact yet with its mouldered Moorish work. 1857 Miller *Elem. Chem.* (1862) III. 122 Mouldered wood from the trunk of a decaying tree.

Mou·ldering, *vbl. sb.* Also 6 muldring, 7–8 mouldring. [-ing[1].] The action of Moulder *v.*

1562 Turner *Herbal* II. 28 b, The Larche tre .. is not hurted wt rottyng or muldring. 1626 Bacon *Sylva* § 337 The Mouldring of Earth in Frosts and Sunne. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* I. i. 3 Their cannon..useless by the mouldring of their carriages. 1850 Tennyson *In Mem.* lxxvi, Thy deepest lays are dumb Before the mouldering of a yew.

Mou·ldering, *ppl. a.* [-ing[2].] That moulders.

1661 J. Childrey *Brit. Baconica* 133 Under this upper Clay lyes a mouldring washy Clay. 1709 Steele *Tatler* No. 104 ₱ 5 A few crumbling Bones, and a little mouldring Heap of Earth. 1715 Pope *Ep. Addison* 11 Some felt the silent stroke of mould'ring age. 1842 J. Aiton *Domest. Econ.* (1857) 166 The mouldering earth falling from this second spade is cleared out by a corresponding shovel. 1847 Disraeli *Tancred* VI. iv, We shall..sweep away the mouldering remnants of the Tataric system.

Mouldery (mōu·ldəri), *a. rare* or *dial.* [f. Moulder *v.* + -y.] Crumbly, friable.

1600 Surflet *Country Farm* III. xxxiii. 492 The walnut tree..especially delighteth in a fat mouldrie, light..ground. 1632 J. Hayward tr. *Biondi's Eromena* 184 A hollow vault of a soft mouldrie stone. 1846 Worcester (cites Loudon). 1895 *E. Anglian Gloss., Muldry*, said of earth greatly affected by the frost, finely pulverized.

Mouldily (mōu·ldili), *adv. rare.* [f. Mouldy *a.* + -ly[2].] In a mouldy condition.

1869 Dickens *Lett.* (1880) II. 413 This mouldy old roosting-place comes out mouldily as to let of course.

Mouldiness (mōu·ldinės). [f. Mouldy *a.* + -ness.] The condition of being mouldy; often *concr.* mouldy growth, mould. Also *fig.*

1577 Harrison *England* II. xxiv. (1877) I. 359 A few ancient rolles of parchment..defaced with mouldinesse, and rotten for age. 1685 *Gracian's Courtier's Orac.* 14 Circumstances make things grow young again, they cure them of the musty scent, and the mouldiness of *Too often*. 1742 H. Baker *Microsc.* II. lii. 305 Those exceedingly small Plants, invisible to the naked Eye, which compose what we call Mouldiness. 1880 Miss Bradon *Just as I am* x, A kind of pallid mouldiness pervaded everything.

Mou·lding, *vbl. sb.*[1] [f. Mould *v.*[1] + -ing[1].] The application of soil to the stems and roots of plants; earthing-*up*.

1699 Evelyn *Kal. Hort., Jan.* (ed. 9) 13 Dress your Sweet-herb Beds..with a new Moulding every second Year. 1805 R. W. Dickson *Pract. Agric.* II. 751 The moulding should take place in the early part of August. 1899 *19th Cent.* June 876 The potatoes want moulding up.

Mou·lding, *vbl. sb.*[2] [f. Mould *v.*[2] + -ing[1].]

1. The action of Mould *v.*[2]; in various senses.

1327 [see Moulding-board 1]. 1389 in Riley *Mem. London* (1868) 513 [That no one in the said trade shall make any manner of] moldyng, turnyng, ffilyng, garnesshyng [by night]. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 342/1 Mooldynge of paste, *pistura, ducamen*. *c* 1575 J. Hooker *Life Sir P. Carew* (1857) 116 Whether it were for the building of a house, the moulding of a ship..or [etc.]. 1594 Plat *Jewel Ho.* 49 The Art of molding and casting. 1608 Willet *Hexapla Exod.* 590 In the moulding, kneading and baking. *a* 1625 Fletcher *Woman's Prize* III. iii, For there was never man without our molding, Without our stampe upon him. 1876 *Encycl. Brit.* IV. 283/2 (Brick), The temporary product..[is] then passed through the pug-mill, after which it is generally ready for moulding. 1891 C. T. C. James *Rom. Rigmarole* 82 The moulding I have given to your character.

c. Bodily form; = Mould *sb.*[3] 10 b. *rare.*

1814 Scott *Ld. of Isles* I. xxx, Wanderers of a moulding stark, And bearing martial mien.

2. *concr.* A moulded object.

1727–41 Chambers *Cycl., Moulding*, any thing cast in a mould, or that seems to have been so, though in reality it were cut with a chissel, or the ax. 1844 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* VII. 60/2 In this state the piece of iron is technically called a 'moulding,' and is completed in a tin-plate mill. 1857 Miller *Elem. Chem.* (1862) III. 593 Below 212° it [sc. gutta percha] becomes so soft that it may be moulded like wax..it will copy the finest lines with fidelity; beautiful mouldings..are thus made with great facility.

3. *spec.* **a.** *Archit.* An ornamental variety of contour given to members or subordinate parts of a building, such as cornices, capitals, jambs. † Also *occas.*, moulded work or ornamentation.

1643 Evelyn *Diary* 24 Dec., A stately pedestal..compos'd of various sorts of polish'd marble and rich mouldings. 1688 R. Holme *Armoury* III. ix. 394 An O.G. moulding for the Cornice. 1756 Burke *Subl. & B.* III. vii, A much worse-proportioned room with elegant mouldings and fine festoons. 1849 James *Woodman* ii, The doorways and the two windows were richly decorated with innumerable mouldings.

b. *Carpentry*, etc. A similar variety of outline in ornamental woodwork, effected either by means of carving or by the application of raised pieces following a definite outline or pattern; hence, woodwork shaped and prepared for application in this way. Also applied to the ornamental parts of a gun, or other metal-work.

1679 Moxon *Mech. Exerc.* ix. 169 Moldings are stuck upon the edges of stuff to Ornament it. 1769 Falconer *Dict. Marine* (1780) s.v. *Cannon*, If a cannon was without cascabel, trunnion, and mouldings, it would exactly resemble the frustrum of a cone. *Ibid., Midship frame*, The string, with the moulding under the gun-wale. 1802 C. James *Milit. Dict., Mouldings*, of a gun or mortar, are all the eminent parts, as squares or rounds, which serve for ornaments. 1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 611 The finished leaves of gold..are then cut to one size, by a sharp-edge square moulding of cane, glued on a flat board. 1845 P. Barlow in *Encycl. Metrop.* VIII. 677/1 The ornamental beadings and mouldings, seen in many plated articles. 1874 Micklethwaite *Mod. Par. Churches* 220 A plain rectangular [notice-]board is the best; a simple moulding round the edge will do no harm. 1876 *Encycl. Brit.* V. 170/1 Fashion in picture frames..fluctuates greatly. Mouldings of the prevailing sizes and patterns are ..manufactured in special factories. 1902 *How to make Things* 48/1 The edges of sides and bottom are concealed by the gluing on of strips of moulding.

4. *attrib.*, as *moulding basket*, *-box*, *dimension*, *-edge*, *-loft* (= mould-loft), *-mill*, *-plan*, *-plane*, *-sand*, *-table*, *-trough*, *-wire*, *-work*.

(For various others see Knight *Dict. Mech.* (1875) and Lockwood *Gloss. Mech. Engin.* 1888.)

1857 Miller *Elem. Chem.* (1862) III. 142 The dough is then drawn off into pans or *moulding baskets, and baked in the usual way. 1837 *Lond. Jrnl. of Arts* IX. 269 The clay is introduced into the *moulding boxes from the hopper. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.*, **Moulding dimension*, in ship-building, implies the depth or thickness of any piece of timber. 1830 Hedderwick *Marine Archit.* 265 The sirmarks are sawn in on the *moulding-edge. *Ibid.* 245 The platform or *moulding-loft being prepared, make a proper set of battens for describing the curve-lines on the floor. 1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade*, **Moulding-mill*, a saw-mill or shaping mill for timber. 1830 Hedderwick *Marine Archit.* 176 Directions for drawing the *moulding plans..of merchant vessels. 1678 Moxon *Mech. Exerc.* iv. 70 There are several other Plains in use among Joyners, called *Molding-plains; as, the Round, the Hollow, the Ogee,..&c. 1840 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* III. 33/1 Where the operations are conducted with a black material, namely, the *moulding sand. 1688 R. Holme *Armoury* III. 315/2 Sable, a Molding Board or *Moulding Table, Argent; in chief a Dough knife, proper. 1485 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 51 *Moldyng trowghes. 1688 R. Holme *Armoury* III. xxii. (Roxb.) 271½ Tobacco Pipe makers Tooles...A *Moulding Wyer: it is to make an hole all though the length of the shank. 1613–39 I. Jones in Leoni *Palladio's Archit.* (1742) II. 48 This Cornice seems to be big..; but it is the *Molding-work that makes it appear larger.

Mou·lding, *vbl. sb.*[3] [f. Mould *v.*[3] + -ing[1].]

1. The process of becoming mouldy.

1530 Palsgr. 640/1, I keep breed from moldyng and drinke from sowryng. 1617 Morvson *Itin.* III. 82 This juyce ..may long be preserved from moulding. 1707 Mortimer *Husb.* (1721) II. 56 The staking and binding it up to a pyramidical Form..heats the inward Branches..and occasions their Moulding. 1883 R. Haldane *Workshop Receipts* Ser. II. 98/1 Where paste is to be kept for a long time, various ingredients may be added, to prevent souring and moulding.

† **2.** *concr.* Mould, mouldy growth. *Obs.*

c 1610 Bodley in *Reliq. B.* (1703) 111 He should..with clean Cloths strike away the Dust and moulding of the Books. 1663 Gerbier *Counsel* 55 Green molding, which breaks through the whited walls. 1670 in *Cosin's Corr.* (Surtees) II. 257 The bookes..will contract moulding.

3. (See quot.)

1885 *Cassell's Encycl. Dict., Moulding*, the ore found on the top of veins near the surface of the ground.

Mou·lding, *ppl. a.*[1] [f. Mould *v.*[1] + -ing[2].] Mouldering.

1826 P. Pounden *France & Italy* 64 The stately pile..was then beginning to suffer from the moulding touch of time. 1907 *Academy* 23 Mar. 283/2 The moulding corpses.

Mou·lding, *ppl. a.*[2] [f. Mould *v.*[2] + -ing[2].] Forming, shaping.

1848 R. I. Wilberforce *Doctr. Incarnation* v. (1852) 103 Under the moulding power of the Holy Ghost. 1885 *Athenæum* 25 July 105/2 The environment has more moulding force in early life.

Mou·lding-board. [Moulding *vbl. sb.*[2]]

1. *Baking.* A board on which dough or paste is kneaded and shaped.

1327 *Munim. Gildh. Lond.* (Rolls) III. 416 Quamdam tabulam suam, quæ vocatur 'moldingborde'. 1450 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) II. 144 Item in brasina..unum moldyng bord. 1534 *Eng. Ch. Furniture* (Peacock 1866) 189 Item a mele seve, a moldynge boorde. 1612 in *Antiquary* Jan. (1906) 29 In the Kytchin..a mouldinge boorde. 1688 [see *moulding-table*, Moulding *vbl. sb.*[2] 4]. 1841 *Guide to Trade, Baker* 44 After the dough is well broken..it is put on the moulding board, which is placed near the mouth of the oven. 1852 Mrs. Stowe *Uncle Tom's C.* xiii, Rachel now took down a snowy moulding-board, and..proceeded quietly to make up some biscuits.

2. A board on which bricks are moulded.

1688 R. Holme *Armoury* III. ix. 395 A Brickmakers Moulding Board, with the Tub by the side of it.

3. *Founding.* The board on which the pattern for a mould is laid.

1882 Ogilvie. 1888 Lockwood *Gloss. Mech. Engin.*

Mou·ldish, *a.*[1] *rare*[−1]. [Mould *sb.*[1]] Like mould, or fine soil.

1866 G. Stephens *Runic Mon.* I. 76 Sandy earth, finer and more mouldish than that with which the mound was made.

Mou·ldish, *a.*[2] *rare*[−0]. [Mould *sb.*[4]] Mouldy.

1648–60 Hexham, *Kaemachtigh*, Hoarish or Mouldish.

†**Mou·ldness.** *Obs. rare*$^{-0}$. In 5–6 mowldnes. [f. MOULD *a.* + -NESS.] Mouldiness, mould.

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 244/2 A mowldnes,..*mucor*. 1595 DUNCAN *App. Etym.* (E.D.S.) 71 *Mucor*, hery mowldnes.

Mou·ldress. *rare*$^{-1}$. [f. MOULDER *sb.*^{1} + -ESS.] A female moulder or former.

1599 T. M[OUFET] *Silkwormes* 47 Dedalian mouldresse both of great and small.

Mouldrie, obs. form of MOULDERY.

†**Mou·ldry.** *Sc. Obs.* Also 6 muldry, -ie, 7 muildry. [f. MOULD *sb.*^{3} + -RY.]

1. Moulded work; moulding.

1501 DOUGLAS *Pal. Hon.* III. xvii, Subtile muldrie wrocht mony day agone. 1536 BELLENDEN *Cron. Scot.* (1821) II. 227 Maist subtil muldry of sindry flouris and imageris. 1616 *Aberdeen Reg.* (1848) II. 339 Gangand round about with hewen muildries the foirsyid of the pendis.

2. The making of mason's moulds.

1629 in *Archit. Publ. Soc. Dict.* III. 135/1 Ten cliftis of seasoned wanscot for the mouldre.

†**Mouldure.** *Obs.* [f. MOULD *v.*^{2} + -URE, after F. *mouture.*] = MOULDING *vbl. sb.*^{2} 3 b.

1628 R. NORTON *Gunner* 72 All which Mouldures, Rings, Armes, Deuices.. may be at pleasure added therevnto.

Mouldwarp (mōu·ldwɑ:rp). Now chiefly *north. dial.* (see E.D.D.). Forms: *α.* 4–7 moldewarp(e, 5–6 moldwarppe, 5–7 -warpe, (4 mold(e)werp, mald(e)worp, -werp, 7 mowld-, mould(e)warp, 9 moldwark, mould-warper, etc.), 4–moldwarp, 6– mouldwarp. *β.* 4 molwarp(pe, -worp, 6 moul(e)warp(e, 7 molewarp, mowlewarp(e. *γ.* 7 mouldwart, moulwatt, 9 moulderd, motherd, mowthad, etc. *δ.* 4–6 moldywarp, 6 moudy warpe, mowldiwarp, 7 moldiwarpe, 8–9 mowde-, mowdywarp, 9 mou(l)di-, mou(l)dy-, modi-, moudi-, mowdi(e)-, moulywarp, (-warf, -wark); moudy-, mouley-rat. *ε.* (chiefly *Sc.*) 5–7 mowdewart, 6 mode-, modi-, mody-, moodiewart, modeuart, 6, 9 moudiewart, 7 moudewort, 8–9 moudiewort, 9 mowdie-, mo(u)di-, muddywort. [ME. *moldwarp, molwarp, -werp,* repr. OE. **moldweorp* = MLG. *moldewerp, molwerp,* early mod.Du. *mol-, mulworp,* OHG. *multwurf* (MHG. *moltworf, -werf(e)*; also Norw. *moldvarp,* MSw. *mold-, mol-, mulvarper, -värpil,* etc., Sw. dial. *mullvarp,* Da. *muldvarp,* Icel. *moldvarpa* :—OTeut. **moldoworpo(n)-, -werpo(n)-,* literally 'earth-thrower', f. **moldā* MOULD *sb.*^{1} + **-wurp-, werp-* to throw. See also MOLE *sb.*^{2}

In English, as in other Germanic languages (cf. OHG. *mūwurf, mūwerfo, mūwerft,* MHG. *mūwerfe, mūlwurf,* G. *maulwurf,* LG. *mol(t)worm,* Sw. *mullvad*), the word has undergone various etymologizing perversions.]

1. = MOLE *sb.*^{2} Also *fig.* (cf. MOLE *sb.*^{2} 1 b, 2).

a. c 1325 *Gloss. W. de Bibbesw.* in Wright *Voc.* 166 *Taupes,* moldewarpes. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 315 Þes blynde moldewerpis, evere wrotyng in þe erþe aboute erþely muk. 1480 CAXTON *Chron. Eng.* lxxv. 60 After this lambe shal come a mold warpe. 1595 SPENSER *Col. Clout* 763 They.. drownded lie in pleasures wastefull well, In which like Moldwarps nousling still they lurke. 1596 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. IV,* III. i. 149. 1655 WALTON *Angler* i. (1661) 15 The Feret, the Pole-cat, the Mouldwarp, [etc.]. 1691 RAY *N. C. Words* 135 A *Mould Warp,* a Mole. 1813 HOGG *Queen's Wake* 103 The moldwarp digs his mossy grave. 1829 J. L. KNAPP *Jrnl. Nat.* 142 The mole, want, mouldwarper, or mould-turner.

β. c 1380 WYCLIF *Serm.* Sel. Wks. I. 402 Many men have molworpis i3en. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 242/2 A Molwarppe, *talpa.* 1580 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 350 A Moulwarpes skinne. 1596 LODGE *Wits Miserie* (1879) 37, I will make the old moulewarpe hang himselfe in his owne garters to see his villanies opened. 1605 *Tryall Chev.* III. i. in Bullen *O. Pl.* III. 307, I took you for a spy. Yet saw me not no more then a Molewarp. 1607 J. KING *Serm.* 5 Nov. 29 They begin their worke with a mine vnder ground (Romish pioners, Antichristian molewarps..). 1636 JAMES *Iter Lanc.* (Chetham Soc.) 370 The leadsmen..who lives of molewarps have.

γ. 1604 BROUGHTON *Corrupt. Handl. Relig.* (1605) 88 They..may well holde vs as Battes and Moulwattes that cannot see that. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* II. 204/2 He beareth Argent, a Mole (or Mouldwart), Sable.

δ. c 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 478 How þen durne þese ertbly moldy-warpis take so grete burtben of worldly dritte upon hem? *c* 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* I. 924 The moldywarp the Grekis thus pursue. 1577 *Nottingham Rec.* IV. 168 Payd Bakyn..for takyng of mowdy warpes. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* II. iii. 1. i. (1624) 256 As the moldiwarpe in Æsope told the Fox. *c* 1746 J. COLLIER (Tim Bobbin) *View Lanc. Dial.* Wks. (1862) 57 Hoos..os smoot os o Mowdewarp. 1829 BROCKETT *N. C. Words, Moudy-rat, Moudywarp, Mouley-rat.* 1886 *S. W. Linc. Gloss.* s.v., Our cat brings in a moulywarp nows and thens.

ε. c 1470 HENRYSON *Mor. Fab.* v. (*Parl. Beasts*) xviii, The marmisset the mowdewart couth leid, Becaus that nature had denyit hir sicht. 1589 R. BRUCE *Serm.* (Wodrow Soc.) 107 Blinde as a modewart. 1598 FLORIO, *Talpa,*..a moodiewart. *a* 1600 MONTGOMERIE *Misc. Poems* xviii. 57 Hir meit of modeuarts and myce. 1786 BURNS *Twa Dogs* 40 Whyles mice an' moudieworts they howkit. 1825 J. WILSON *Noct. Ambr.* Wks. 1855 I. 18 Mowdiewarts, tbey might as weel look at the newharled gable end of a barn. 1828 FLEMING *Hist. Brit. Anim.* 9 *Talpa europæa*... English, Moldwark; Scottish, Muddywort. 1859 RAMSAY *Remin.* 189, I was married to a moudiwart last, but now I am getting a husband who can see me.

2. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *mouldwarp foot, hand, hill*; *-like* adv.; †**mouldwarp hat,** a moleskin hat; †**mouldwarp-staff,** a stick for killing moles.

1591 in Ritchie *Ch. St. Baldred* (1880) 106 Having *moudiewart feet on a purse given him by Satan. 1647 H. MORE *Cupid's Conf.* lx, What their *mole-warp hands can feel and trie By groping touch. 1570 *Richmond Wills* (Surtees) 229 One *mold warppe hatt. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 242/2 A *Molwarpphylle. 1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 23 Take hede..that the moldywarpe hilles be spredde. 1597 H. LOK *Eccles.* v. 9 But *mouldwarp like, these blindfold grope in vaine. 1584 *MS. Inv. J. Forcet of Wawne* (E. Rid. Yorks.), A *moldwarp stafe.

Mouldy (mōu·ldi), *a.*^{1} [f. MOULD *sb.*^{1} + -Y.] Of the nature of mould or fine soil.

1615 W. LAWSON *Country Housew. Gard.* (1626) 20 That the earth be mouldy..that it may run among the small tangles without straining or bruising. 1825 LOUDON *Encycl. Agric.* § 2070. 312 Species [of soils]. Loamy, Penty, Mouldy.

Mouldy (mōu·ldi), *a.*^{2} [f. MOULD *sb.*^{4} + -Y.]

1. Overgrown or covered with monld; hence, decaying or decayed, mouldering or mouldered.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XIX. xciii. (1495) 916 In an hote place and mouldy. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 97/15 Mouldie, *mucidus.* 1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV,* II. iv. 158 Hee lines vpon mouldie stew'd Prunes. 1649 JER. TAYLOR *Gt. Exemp.* III. Ad Sect. xv. 104 Searching his scrip in expectation to have found in it mouldy bread. 1681 DRYDEN *Abs. & Achit.* I. 302 A successive title long and dark, Drawn from the mouldy rolls of Noah's ark. 1784 COWPER *Task* V. 418 To read engraven on the mouldy walls..his predecessor's tale. 1830 LINDLEY *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 338 Books will not become mouldy in the neighbourhood of Russia leather. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* iv, His nephew standing on the mouldy staircase. 1888 F. HUME *Mme. Midas* I. Prol., A bag of mouldy biscuits.

b. Of, consisting of, or resembling mould. *rare.*

1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* Feb. 135 The mouldie mosse, which thee accloieth. *a* 1719 ADDISON *Milton's Style Imit.* 68 The walls On all sides furr'd with mouldy damps. 1878 tr. *von Ziemssen's Cycl. Med.* XVII. 942 The formation of mouldy fungi. 1891 *Century Mag.* Nov. 60 The moldy blue bloom of the hemlock.

2. *transf.* and *fig.* (See also MOULDY-CHAPS.)

1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 399 Very many obseruations out of rustie and mouldie antiquaries. 1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV,* II. iv. 139 Away you mouldie Rogue, away. 1605 B. JONSON *Volpone* II. ii, With their mouldy tales out of Boccacio. 1673 [R. LEIGH] *Transp. Reh.* 43 Turning over the moth-eaten criticks, or the mouldy councils. 1780 COWPER *Lett.* 6 Aug., Wks. (1876) 55 It is to be hoped that the present century has nothing to do with the mouldy opinions of the last. 1876 STEVENSON *Lett.* (1903) I. iii. 117, I have had to fight against pretty mouldy health. 1889 *Spectator* 2 Nov., The ancient joke about smelling the paper-knife is one of the mouldiest of witticisms.

†**Mouldy,** *a.*^{3} *Obs.* [f. MULED + -Y.] = MULED *a.*

1578 LYTE *Dodoens* v. lxxviii. 646 The inner part of Squilla ..is applyed with great profite to..kibed or moldyeheeles.

Mouldy (mōu·ldi), *a.*^{4} [f. MOULD *sb.*^{3} + -Y.] Of sheep: Well-shaped. (Cf. MOULD *sb.*^{3} 10.)

1863 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* XXIV. II. 475 Mr. F.'s first pea [of ewes] were very 'mouldy', but hardly big enough.

†**Mou·ldy-chaps, -chops.** *Obs.* [f. MOULDY *a.* + CHAP *sb.*^{2}, CHOP *sb.*^{2}] A term of abuse.

[1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV,* II. iv. 139 He thrust my Knife in your mouldie Chappes. 1667 DRYDEN *Sir M. Mar-All* II. i, Pox of her old mouldy chops.]

1595 WARNER IV. *Plautus' Menæcmi* II. i, Where's mouldichappes that must dine with ye? A murrain on his manners. 1611 COTGR., *Rocard,*..a hoarse mouldichaps. 1634 MASSINGER *Very Woman* III. i, Sirrah, You mouldy chops, know your crib, I would wish you.

Mouldy-grubs, obs. form of MULLIGRUBS.

Moule, var. MOUL; also of MULE, chilblain.

Moulet, variant of MULET *Obs.*, young mule.

Moulewy, obs. form of MOOLVEE.

‖ **Moulin** (mulæñ). [F. *moulin,* lit. a mill. The term is suggested by the swirling motion of the water as it falls down the shaft.]

A nearly vertical circular well or shaft in a glacier, formed by the surface water falling through a crack in the ice, and gradually scooping out a deep chasm.

1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* II. xxv. 363 These moulins occur only at those parts of the glacier which are not much rent by fissures. 1889 G. F. WRIGHT *Ice Age N. Amer.* 19 Neither moulins nor regular dirt-bands are present.

Moulin, var. MOOLIN *Sc.*

Moulinet (mūlinet). [a. F. *moulinet,* dim. of *moulin* mill: see -ET. Cf. MOLINET.]

1. a. *Antiq.* A portable apparatus carried by crossbow-men for winding up their bows.

1846 FAIRHOLT *Costume in Eng.* 222 One..carries his bow over his shoulder, and has suspended from his waist a moulinet, and pulley for winding up his bow.

b. A wheel or winch used to turn the drum of a hoisting machine or the like. ? *Obs.*

1662 EVELYN *Sculptura* II. (1906) 7 The Moulinet, or wheele..is made to turne the upper Roller. 1706 in PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey). 1784–5 *Ann. Reg.* 324, I was obliged to unscrew and cast away our moulinet. 1855 OGILVIE *Suppl.*

†2. A kind of turnstile. *Obs.*

1706 in PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey). In mod. Dicts.

3. *Fencing.* A circular swing of a sword or sabre.

1875 KINGLAKE *Crimea* (1877) V. i. 126 The swift circling 'moulinet'..his sabre whirling round and round overhead. 1887 GILLIAT *Forest Outlaws* 235 Lucky for me I could play a pretty game at moulinet.

†**Mou·ling,** *vbl. sb. Obs.* [f. MOUL *v.*^{1} + -ING^{1}.] = MOULDING *vbl. sb.*^{3}

13.. *St. Erkenwolde* 86 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 268 Wemles were his wedes with-outen any teiche Oper of moulynge oþer of motes. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 346/2 Mowlynge, of mowle..*mucor*. 1550 BALE *Eng. Votaries* II. O j, For feare of worme eatyng, mowlynge, or stynking.

Moulled, variant of MULED *ppl. a.*

‖ **Moulleen** (mūlī·n). [Irish *maolín,* dim. of *maol* bald, hornless.] A cow without horns.

1830–3 W. CARLETON *Traits Irish Peas.* (1843) I. 54 The two moulleens that her uncle Jack left her.

Moully, variant of MULEY *a.*

‖ **Moulrush** (mū·lrvʃ). [Irish *mulrus* (Dinneen).] The coal-fish, *Gadus virens.*

1863 COUCH *Brit. Fishes* III. 84.

Moult (mōult), *sb.* Also 9 molt. [f. MOULT *v.*] The action of moulting: a. In birds. *In the moult,* in a condition of moulting.

1819 *Sporting Mag.* IV. 247 Those we have just seen are at present in the moult, and on account of their passage are in poor condition. 1874 COUES *Birds N.-W.* 44 Before the Larks leave Northern Dakota..they go into moult. 1894 R. B. SHARPE *Handbk. Birds Gt. Brit.* I. 5 The young birds retain their feathered face after their first moult.

b. *transf.* in reptiles, crustacea, etc.

1815 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* vi. (1818) I. 197 This larva is .. shagreened .. with minute black tubercles, which it loses at its last moult. 1837 *Penny Cycl.* VIII. 190/1 Eight moults in the short space of seventeen days have been observed in a young *Daphia.* 1871 DARWIN *Desc. Man* II. xi. (1890) 328 The .. organs of certain male Orthoptera are not fully developed until the last moult.

Moult (mōult), *v.* Forms: 4–7 mout, 5–7 mowt(e, 6–7 mute, 6–8 (9 *U.S.*) molt, 7 moote, 7– moult. [ME. *mouten* :—OE. **mútian* (implied in *bimútian* to exchange, *mútung* exchange, incorrectly glossing L. *mutuum*), a Com. WGer. adoption of L. *mūtāre* to change; cf. OLow Frankish *gemūtōn* to change, MDu., MLG. *mūten* to change, moult (mod.Du. *muiten* to moult), OHG. *mūzōn, gimūzōn* to change, MHG. *mūzen* to change, moult, mod.Ger. *mausen* (hence the frequentative *mausern*) to moult. The *l* was introduced late in the 16th c., on the analogy of words like *fault,* which had an etymological (orig. silent) *l* before *t*; the modern pronunciation is based on the spelling.]

†1. *intr.* Of feathers: To be shed in the process of change of plumage. *Obs.* Also with *off.* Hence loosely of hair: To fall off.

1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 781 His haire moutes, his eghen rynnes. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Hors, Shepe & G.* 180 Fetheres of goos whan thei falle or mout [1479 mowte] To gadre hem vp heerdis hem delite. 1515 BARCLAY *Egloges* iv. (1570) C iij b/1 What time the Cuckowes fethers mout and fall From sight she lurketh. 1591 LYLY *Endym.* v. iii. 190 Mee thinkes I feele my ioyntes stronge, and these mouldy haires to molt. 1647 H. MORE *Philos. Poems* 368 Souls that have their feathers moult off of them and so are fain to flag among the dirty desires of the world.

transf. 1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) I. 82 His teeth, that then happened to be moulting.

2. Of birds: To shed or cast feathers as part of the process of a change of plumage.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 347/2 Mowtyn, as fowlys, *plumeo.* 1611 [see MOULTER *sb.*]. 1616 SURFL. & MARKH. *Country Farm* 70 When they are casting off their feathers, otherwise called of the common people moulting. 1780 HUNTER in *Phil. Trans.* LXX. 534 In the following year, she moulted again, and produced the same feathers. 1831 CARLYLE *Sart. Res.* II. vii, The Eagle when he moults is sickly. 1867 BAKER *Nile Tribut.* viii. (1872) 122 The birds in this country moult twice a year.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1612 STURTEVANT *Metallica* xiii. 94 Freestone..in continuance of time..moulteth, or cromeith away. 1792 W. ROBERTS *Looker-on* No. 52 (1795) III. 23 The said dutchesses and countesses were visibly moulting very fast, and baring their necks and shoulders. 1843 LYTTON *Last Bar.* I. iii, Birds of a feather must keep shy of those that moult other colours. 1884 GOLDW. SMITH in *Fortn. Rev.* Jan. 37 England is moulting. Opinions..are..in a state of flux.

c. In extended sense, of reptiles, crustaceans, and occas. of other animals: To shed or cast some integument or other part, the place of which is supplied by a new growth.

1399 [see MOULTING *vbl. sb.*] 1868 *Rep. U. S. Commissioner Agric.* (1869) 298 On the sixth day they [*sc.* young worms] begin to molt, or change their skin. 1898 P. MANSON *Trop. Diseases* XXXV. 540 During this time it [ankylostomum] moults twice. 1902 CORNISH *Naturalist Thames* 54 The youthful crayfish 'moult', or shed their shells 8 times in their first twelvemonth of life.

3. *trans.* Of birds: To shed or cast (feathers) in the process of renewal of plumage. Hence of other animals (cf. 2 c): To shed (renewable integuments or other parts). †Also with *away, off.*

1530 PALSGR. 643/1 This hauke begynneth to mute her fethers. 1545 ASCHAM *Toxoph.* (Arb.) 26 Some hauinge their fethers mowted awaye..sanke downe into earthlie thinges. 1760 *Phil. Trans.* LI. 834 It [has] not, as he thinks, molted off all its first, or chicken feathers. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1824) II. ii. 37 One of these [ermines]..he..kept, in order to observe the manner of moulting its hair. 1875 C. C. BLAKE *Zool.* 140 Many reptiles cast or moult their skin. 1894 W. B. TEGETMEIER in *Field* 9 June 850/1, I frequently come across birds that have moulted every chicken feather in May, and the cockerels sometimes furnish the additional.. peculiarity of having moulted their spurs also.

b. *fig.* and in figurative context.

1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* II. ii. 306 So shall..your secricie to the King and Queene moult no feather. *a* 1641 SUCKLING *Last Rem.* (1659) 2 Time shall moult away his wings, Ere he shall discover..Such a constant Lover. 1768 H. WALPOLE *Let. to G. Montagu* 10 Nov., I moulted my stick to-day. 1835 SOUTHEY *Doctor* lxxx. III. 62 We all moult our names

in the natural course of life. 1871 TYNDALL *Fragm. Sci.* (1879) II. 221 The errors of ignorance are continually moulted, and ruth is organised. 1880 McCARTHY *Own Times* IV. xlviii. 12 His self-confidence moulted no feather. *refl.* 1839 LONGF. *Celest. Pilot* 24 The eternal pinions, That do not moult themselves [It. *si mutan*] like mortal hair!

c. *nonce-use.* To cause (feathers) to be shed.

1634 SANDERSON *Serm.* II. 291 Some write of the ostriches feather, that it will in time moult and consume all the feathers in the tub wherein it is put.

Moult, obs. f. MELT *v.*; obs. pa. pple. of MELT *v.*

†**Mou·ltard.** *Obs. rare.* In 5 mowtard, 7 (*erron.*) moultered. [f. MOULT *v.* + -ARD.] A moulter; a bird that is shedding its plumage.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 347/2 Mowtare, or mowtard, byrde, *plutor.* 1650 GENTILIS *Considerations* 58 Whereas the other moultered..runnes and flyes without stay or guide.

Mou·lted, *ppl. a.* [f. MOULT *v.* + -ED[1].]

1. Deprived of feathers by or as by moulting. Also *transf.* and *fig.*

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 347/2 Mowtyd, *deplumatus.* 1533–4 *Act* 25 *Hen. VIII*, c. 11 § 1 At suche time as the saide olde fowle be mouted and not replenished with fethers to flie. 1666 DRYDEN *Ann. Mirab.* cxliii, With cord and canvas from rich Hamburg sent His Navy's moulted wings he imps once more. 1689 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2494/4 His Mane and Tail of a black Grey, but something shed or moulted. 1748 THOMSON *Cast. Indol.* I. xxxi, Ah! how shall I for this uprear my moulted wing? 1813 HOGG *Queen's Wake, Kilmeny* xxi, With ane mootit wing, and wefu mene, The egil sochte her eiry agene.

2. Shed during moulting. Also *fig.*

1833 LAMB *Elia* Ser. II, *Barrenness Imag. Faculty*, Imagine..the Georges and garters, jewels, bracelets, moulted upon the occasion! 1855 BROWNING *Memorab.* iv, I put inside my breast A moulted feather, an eagle-feather.

†**Mou·lten,** *ppl. a. Obs.* [irreg. strong pa. pple. of MOULT *v.*] Having moulted.

1596 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. IV*, III. i. 152 A clip-wing'd Griffin, and a moulten Rauen.

Moulten, obs. form of MOLTEN.

Moulter (mōu·ltəɹ), *sb. rare.* Also 5 mowtare, 7 mooter. [f. MOULT *v.* + -ER[1].] A bird that is moulting.

c 1440 [see MOULTARD]. 1611 COTGR., *Albrent*, a young wild Ducke; also, (a mooter, or moulter,) the old one when she mootes, or hath cast her feathers. 1820 J. H. REYNOLDS *Fancy* (1906) 26 Have you not seen a pigeon, wheeling, fly Above a pigeon-house..; Lure one and all—the full-plumed and the moulter, The tumbler, and the carrier, and the poulter—Take them to other dove-cotes, there to die?

Mou·lter, *v.*[1] *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Also 6–7 molter, 7 moulter, -tre, 9 *dial.* multer, mouter, mowter. [Perh. an altered form of MOULDER *v.*, influenced by *molten.*] *trans.* and *intr.* = MOULDER *v.* Hence **Mou·ltering** *ppl. a.*

1568 T. HOWELL *Arb. Amitie* (1879) 71 But passe not those for moltring muck, the pestlent poole of woe. 1603 OWEN *Pembrokeshire* (1892) 70 The next showre of rayne maketh it [the lime] to Molter and fall into dust. 1631 R. BYFIELD *Doctr. Sabb.* 52 Till..he may correct the fading and moultring discipline. 1632 *Florio's Montaigne* III. viii. 523 It [*sc.* religion] would have escaped and moultred [1603 mouldred] away betweene their fingers, if [etc.]. 1636 FEATLY *Clavis Myst.* lxvii. 864 The Sea-mew..is forced daily to repaire it [*sc.* her nest], because every day the violent assault of the sea waves moulter away some part thereof. 1659 in *Glover's Hist. Derby* (1829) I. App. 85 Afterwards they drew into a town, and moultered away, so that this morning there was not one left to appear. *a* 1668 LASSELS *Voy. Italy* ii. (1698) 83 It's only time..that hath battered this Triumphal arch, and moultered even marble. 1808–80 JAMIESON, *To Mouter*, to fret, to fall off in consequence of friction or some similar cause...It is applied to friable stones, rotten wood, &c. 1881 *Leicester Gloss., Moulter*..to moulder; applied particularly to fallow soil. 1890 *Gloucester. Gloss.* s.v., Bricks ..are said to moulter with the frost.

†**Mou·lter,** *v.*[2] *Obs.* [? f. MOULTER *sb.*] *intr.* and *trans.* To moult. Hence **Mou·ltering** *vbl. sb.*

1632 MARMION *Holland's Leaguer* II. iii, Summer birds.. that once a year..moulter. 1648 MAYNE *Amorous War* v. iii, Flying Like Owles by Twilight, and moultring these our feathers. 1681 GREW *Museum* I. IV. i. 55 On the top of his Head, hath a horny Crown, which falls off when he moulters. 1696 *Phil. Trans.* XIX. 343 About Midsummer (when Moultering time is) several Persons,..with long Poles knock them [*sc.* Ducks] down. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), To *Moult* or *Moulter*, to cast, or shed the Feathers, as Birds do.

Moulter, obs. and dial. form of MULTURE *sb.*

†**Mou·ltering,** *a. Obs.* [f. *moult*, MELT *v.*, ? after *sweltering.*] 'Melting', sweltering.

1606 J. RAYNOLDS *Dolarney's Prim.* (1880) 107 The day and battaile, were so moultring hot.

Mou·lting, *vbl. sb.* [f. MOULT *v.* + -ING[1].]

1. The action of the verb MOULT, *lit.* and *fig.*

1399 LANGL. *Rich. Redeles* II. 12 Þe seson was paste ffor hertis..To make ony myrthe ffor mowtynge þat nyghed. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 347/2 Mowtynge, *deplumacio, plutura.* 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 851 Some Birds there he, that vpon their Moulting doe turne Colour. *a* 1661 FULLER *Worthies* xxiv. (1662) I. 69 Yet have our wars..been a main cause of the moulting of many Eminent and Worthy persons of this Profession. 1756 FOOTE *Eng. fr. Paris* I. Wks. 1799 I. 101, I suppose..your parrot died in moulting. 1860 PUSEY *Min. Proph.* 303 The moulting of the eagle involves some degree of weakness. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 1040 After the second moulting it passes into a sort of larval state.

b. Applied to the change of voice at puberty. [So Du. *muilen.*]

1835–6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 70/2 At this epoch [*i.e.* puberty] occurs the moulting of the voice.

†**2.** *concr.* What is shed in the process of moulting.

1610 BARROUGH *Meth. Physick* IV. v. (1639) 228 A bath.. bringeth forth excrements or moltings, if any sticke within the skinne.

3. *attrib.* in *moulting season, sickness, time.*

1457 *Sc. Acts Jas. II*, c. 94 (1566) 44 That na man..slay wylde foulis in mouting tyme. 1622 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* xxv. 120 The multitudes of Fowle in Mooting time they draw. 1687 [see BENTING *vbl. sb.*]. 1710 *Act* 9 *Anne* c. 27 § 5 In any of the Fens..or other Places of resort for Wild Fowl in the molting Season. 1835 URE *Philos. Manuf.* 238 On the fourth day they [*sc.* silkworms] labour under the moulting sickness.

Mou·lting, *ppl. a.* [f. MOULT *v.* + -ING[2].] That moults.

1635 QUARLES *Embl.* III. xv. 34 Or be thy moulting wings vnapt to flie? 1694 MOTTEUX *Rabelais* v. vii. (1737) 25 Crest-fallen, and drooping, like a Mooting Duck. 1778 BP. LOWTH *Transl. Isaiah* xl. 31 (ed. 12) 75 They shall put forth fresh feathers like the moulting eagle. 1869 'MARK TWAIN' *Innoc. Abr.* ii, Looking as droopy..as..molting chickens. 1887 BESANT *The World went* xxiv, Sitting mum, like a moulting canary-bird.

Moultiplye, obs. form of MULTIPLY.

Moulture, obs. form of MULTURE.

Moultytude, obs. form of MULTITUDE.

‖ **Moulure.** *Obs.* [Fr., f. *mouler* to mould.] ? A moulding.

c 1710 *Mack Gregory's Advt.* 2 Sculptures, Chizzelures, Moulures, Founts, Earth-Works [etc.].

Moulvee, -vi(e, variant forms of MOOLVEE.

Moulwarpe, obs. form of MOLDWARP.

Mo·uly, *a. Obs.* exc. *dial.* (see E.D.D.) Also 5–6 mowly, 6, 9 moulie, 9 mooly. [f. MOUL *v.* + -Y.] = MOULDY *a.*[2]

1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 107 b/2 As the kyng sate atte mete all the brede..waxed anon mowly..that noman myght ete of it. 1550 CRANMER *Defence* 21 Sowre wyne and mowled bread, whiche could not waxe sowre nor mowly, yf there were no breade nor wyne there at all. 1597 *Pilgr. Parnass.* v. 573 Everye one of them a fustie, moulie worde in his mouthe that's able to breede a plague in a pure aire.

Moun, obs. form of MAY *v.*[1], MOUNT *sb.*[2]

†**Mouncel.** *Obs. rare*[−1]. [a. OF. *moncel* lit. heap (mod.F. *monceau*):—late L. *monticellum* (*-us*), dim. of *mont-*, *mons*: see MOUNT.] An assemblage (of animals), a division of a herd.

c 1450 *Merlin* xxiii. 413 The crowned lyon that hadde his bestes departed in to xviij mouncels, and in eche mouncell was a lyonsewe that hadde lordsbippe ouer hem.

Mounch, -che, obs. forms of MUNCH *v.*, MONK.

Mounck(e, -ery, obs. Sc. ff. MONK, -ERY.

Mound (mound), *sb.*[1] Also 3–6 mounde, 7–8 mond(e, 7, 9 mund. [a. F. *monde* (It. *mondo*, Sp., Pg. *mundo*) :—L. *mundus* the world (see MUNDANE) : cf. MAPPEMONDE.]

†**1.** The world; the earth as man's abode. *Obs.*

a 1290 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 221/2 Þe wounde þat god for al þe mounde On rode heuede I-sprad. 13.. *Seuyn Sag.* (W.) 1928 Hold the to thine husbounde,..thou schalt haue al the mounde. *c* 1320 R. BRUNNE *Medit.* 942 For synneles y bare þe yn to þys mounde.

2. An orb or ball of gold or other precious material, intended to represent the globe of the earth; often surmounting a crown, or otherwise forming part of the insignia of royalty. Also *Her.* a figure of this, as a bearing; often used as including the cross which commonly surmounts the 'mound' properly so called.

1562 LEIGH *Armorie* 63 He beareth Azure, a Mounde Argent, enuironed and a crosse botone Or. 1586 FEANE *Blaz. Gentrie* I. 144 Other insignes..as, a Mond, or ball of gold, with the crosse vpon it. 1599 B. JONSON *Cynthia's Rev.* v. ii, She wilde them to present this Christall Mound, a note of Monarchy, and Symbole of Perfection, to thy more worthy Deity. 1660 F. BROOKE tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 310 On the top stands a golden Mund, and on that a Cressant. *Ibid.* 361 They set the Image of Pachacamac with a Monde under his Feet. 1754 A. DRUMMOND *Trav.* I. 8 Jesus Christ is represented..with..a gold crown much larger than the head, and a monde in his hand. 1793 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) VIII. 462/2 From the middle of this cap rises an arched fillet..surmounted of a mound, whereon is a cross. 1849 ROCK *Ch. of Fathers* I. iii. 258 Another angel, nimbed, supporting in his muffled hand a mund or ball. 1872 [see ORB 11]. 1882 CUSSANS *Her.* (ed. 3) 178 The Ball on the top [of the crown] which supports the Cross is termed a Mound.

†**Mound,** *sb.*[2] *poet. Obs.* Also 3 mund, mond. [Of obscure origin: perh. due to misapprehension of some poetic use of MUND hand, guardianship.] Power, strength; value, importance, dignity.

Very common in *Arthur and Merlin.*

a 1300 *St. Gregory* 747 in *Archiv Stud. neu. Spr.* LVII. 67 Gregori was knyȝt of muche mond [*v.r.* michel of mounde] ac he was wonderliche pore. *c* 1325 *Song of Passion* 12 in *O. E. Misc.* 197 Þat child þat is so milde and wlong, and eke of grete munde [*rimes* ibunde, wunde]. 13.. *K. Alis.* 2207 Gef ye lustneth me to, Ye schole here geste of mounde. *Ibid.* 2655 To hyghe stretis, Al so noble of riche mounde, So is Chepe in this londe [*MS. Laud* þat is in londe (=London)]. 13.. *Guy Warw.* (A.) 3 Michel he coupe of hauk & hounde Of estriche faucouns of gret mounde. *a* 1330 *Roland & V.* 853 Mahoun & Iuhiter.. þat beþ so michel of mounde. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* (Kölh.) 3091 A swiþe miȝti man of mounde & knyȝt of þe tabel rounde. *Ibid.* 3354 Doun fel Yder, bi godes mounde. *a* 1400 *Launfal* 597 A knyght of mochel mounde.

P In the following quot. it is doubtful whether *mounde* is this word in the concrete sense 'force', or whether, as the Fr. phrase in the context suggests, it is the F. *monde* MOUND *sb.*[1] in the sense 'number of people'.

c 1305 *Pol. Songs* (Camden) 189 He wende toward Bruges *pas pur pas*, with swiþe gret mounde.

Mound (mound), *sb.*[3] Also 6 mownde, 7 mounde. [Of obscure origin; the related MOUND *v.* occurs earlier in our quots., and may possibly be the source of the sb.

The sb. has commonly been supposed to represent the OE. *mund* (cf. MOUND *sb.*[2]); but that word means not 'defence', but 'guardianship, tutelage' (of persons). The OE. *mundbeorgas* (rendering L. *montes* in Ps. cxxiv. 3), which has been appealed to to show that *mund* might have the sense of material defence or protection, is prob. a mistake for a tautological **muntbeorgas.*

Sense 2 appears to have arisen from the modification of the original sense 'fence' by association with MOUNT *sb.*[1]; the same influence afterwards produced the now prevailing sense 'tumulus', which first occurs in the 18th c.]

1. A hedge or other fence bounding a field or garden. Now only *dial.*

Now current only in Oxfordshire and the counties near its border. The early examples of the sb. and the related verb are all from writers belonging to these localities.

1551 CROWLEY *Pleas. & Payne* 110 Your greedye gutte could neuer stynt, Tyll all the good and fruitfull grounde Were hedged in whythin your mownde. 1563 *Stanford Churchw. Acc.* in *Antiquary* Apr. (1888) 169 For mendyng a paue [*read* pane] of the churche mownde ij[d]. 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus, Sepes*, an hedge, a mownde. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. vii. 56 This great gardin, compast with a mound. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Past.* x. 83 Nor Cold shall hinder me, with Horns and Hounds, To thrid the Thickets, or to leap the Mounds. 1724 *MS. Indenture, Estate at Mappleton, co. Derby*, Together with all mounds, fences, hades, hadlands. 1726 — *Estate at Syersham, co. Northampt.*, With all mounds, hedgerows, freeboards, &c. 1789 W. MARSHALL *Glouc.* I. 330 *Mounds*, field fences of every kind. 1893 *Wiltshire Gloss., Mound*,..A hedge.

†**b.** *fig.* A boundary. *Obs.*

1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. vi. 939 New Stars, whose whirling courses..Mark the true mounds of Years, and Months, and Daies. 1660 JER. TAYLOR *Duct. Dubit.* II. ii. Rule ii. (1676) 214 Which precept was the mounds of cruelty, God so restraining them from cruelty even to beasts. *a* 1716 SOUTH *Serm.* (1823) V. 184 All those mounds and hinderances that God hath laid between them and the gratification of their vice. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* IV. 94, I see the circling hunt, of noisy men, Burst law's inclosure, leap the mounds of right.

2. *Mil.* = MOUNT *sb.*[1] 2 a. Hence *gen.* an embankment, a dam. Also *fig.* Now *rare.*

1558 J. HIGHFIELD in Ld. Hardwicke *St. Papers* (1778) I. 116 The enemy..consumed some of the gunners, which stood very open for lack of mounds and good fortification. [Cf. *supra* 115 Thereupon there were two mounts repaired for the better defence.] 1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* (1631) 62 As a Mound of Earth within a Citie, serues to make vp the breaches of the Wall, so [etc.]. 1669 WORLIDGE *Syst. Agric.* (1681) 329 *Mounds*, Banks or Bounds. 1701 NORRIS *Ideal World* I. ii. 59 Geometry..in all ages has stood an invincible mound and bank against the overflowing tides of scepticism. 1718 ROWE tr. *Lucan* I. 193 But if the mound gives way, strait roaring loud In at the breach the rushing torrents croud. 1728 THOMSON *Spring* 839 The circly Mound That runs around the Hill; the Rampart once Of Iron War. 1755 JOHNSON, *Mound*, anything raised to fortify or defend; usually a bank of earth and stone. 1796 BURKE *Let. Noble Ld.* Wks. VIII. 49 The mounds and dykes of the low fat Bedford level. 1808 SCOTT *Marmion* V. xxxiii, The fourth [side] did battled walls enclose, And double mound and fosse. 1832 LONGF. *Coplas de Manrique* xlvii, Bastion, and moated wall, and mound.

3. An artificial elevation of earth or stones, a tumulus; esp. the earth heaped up upon a grave.

1726 POPE *Odyss.* XXIV. 102 Now all the sons of warlike Greece surround Thy destin'd tomb, and cast a mighty mound. 1821 CLARE *Vill. Minstr.* I. 8 He..scarce could pass A church-yard's dreary mounds at silent night, But.. ghosts 'hind grave-stones stood. 1830 M. DONOVAN *Dom. Econ.* I. 301 Crabs [grow] on any mound or bank that may be raised on a heath. 1844 N. PATERSON *Manse Garden* II. (1860) 130 The intervening mounds will serve for earthing up..the leeks. 1871 PALGRAVE *Lyr. Poems* 18 To the small churchyard and the mound of green She look'd.

transf. 1863 MISS BRADDON *Eleanor's Vict.* I, Small mounds or barrows of luggage. 1886 *Manch. Exam.* 8 Jan. 6/1 Brushing the snow and slush into little mounds.

b. A natural elevation of inconsiderable size, resembling a heap or pile of earth; a hillock, 'mount'.

1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* I. xiii, The shaggy mounds no longer stood, Emerging from entangled wood. 1871 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1876) IV. xviii. 161 The mound which..received the name of Rougemont, overlooked the city. 1878 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* 190 The volcanic beds which make up the mass of the mound.

transf. 1839 J. STERLING *Poems* 193 Finer and finer the watery mound Softens and melts to a thin-spun veil.

4. *spec.* **a.** A pile of fuel specially constructed for the 'roasting' of metallic ores. **b.** The heap of earth, dead leaves and other refuse in which certain megapodes ('mound-builders') place their eggs. **c.** *Archæol.* An elevation produced upon a land surface by the natural burial of a ruined or abandoned city. **d.** (see quot. 1875). **e.** A kind of earthwork formerly constructed by the natives of parts of North America. **f.** = KITCHEN-MIDDEN.

1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 820 The roasting [of metallic ore] in mounds, as practised near Goslar. *Ibid.* 996 A simple coking *meiler* or *mound.* 1847 SQUIER & DAVIS *Monum. Mississ. Valley* (1848) 140 The mounds are for the most part composed of earth, though stone mounds are by no means rare. *Ibid.* 143 Altar or sacrificial mounds. *Ibid.* 161 Mounds of sepulture. *Ibid.* 172 Earthworks—Temple mounds. 1855

W. S. Dallas in *Syst. Nat. Hist.* II. 219 Each of these mounds is produced by the united efforts of several pairs of birds. 1861 Bateman 19 *Years' Diggings* 271 Remains of two individuals from the destroyed Mound at Crake Low. 1862 Rawlinson *Anc. Mon.* I. i. 247 Mounds, probably Assyrian, are known to exist along the course of the Khabour's great western affluent. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech., Mound* (Civil Engineering), a lump of original ground left at intervals to show the depth of ground excavated. 1883 L. Carr *Mounds Mississ. Valley* 3 Not only has there not, as yet, been anything taken from the mounds indicating a higher stage of development than the red Indian ..is known to have reached, but [etc.]. 1902 *Encycl. Brit.* XXXI. 666/1 The 'mound-builder'..buries its large eggs ..under great mounds of earth and dead leaves.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *mound-like, -making, -raising* adjs.; **mound-bird** = Mound-builder 2; **mound-burial** *Archæol.*, the practice of burying beneath a mound or cairn; **mound-dweller**, a primitive man who dwelt in a rudely erected mound; **mound-dwelling**, a mound erected as a dwelling by primitive man; **mound-kiln**, a lime-kiln in the form of a mound; **mound-maker** = Mound-builder 1 (*Cent. Dict.* 1890); **mound-man** = *mound-dweller*; **mound-work**, an ornamental bank of stone and earth.

1855 W. S. Dallas in *Syst. Nat. Hist.* II. 219 The *Megapodinæ*, or *Mound birds. 1896 Spencer *Through Lavapinta Land* 83 We passed a mound-bird's nest. 1865 Lubbock *Preh. Times* 86 ('*Mound-burial' was prevalent in the earliest times of which we have any historical record. 1899 Spence *Shetland Folk-Lore* 55 The *mound-dwellers, or *Pechts*, became associated in the public mind with the brochs. 1897 *Antiquary* May 135 An Aberdeenshire *mound-dwelling. 1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 869 In England the stones [for hydraulic mortar] are calcined in shaft-kilns, or sometimes in *mound-kilns. 1843 R. J. Graves *Syst. Clin. Med.* xxviii. 355 The large *mound-like indurations are best treated by poultices. 1876 *Beneden's Anim. Parasites* 8 The *mound-making Megapode. 1899 Munro *Preh. Scot.* iii. 82 The *mound-men had feasted probably during 'hard times' on their own species. 1848 Gould *Birds Austral.* V. pl. 79 Megapodius tumulus, Gould. *Mound-raising Megapode. 1705 Addison *Italy* 42 The State of Milan is like a vast Garden, surrounded by a Noble *Mound-Work of Rocks and Mountains.

Mound (maund), *v.* [See Mound *sb.*3]

1. *trans.* To cuclose or bound with a fence. Also *absol.* or *intr.*, to make fences. *Obs.* exc. *dial.*

1515 in W. H. Turner *Select. Rec. Oxford* (1880) 12 Ye same ground [they] have mounded and inclosed. 1565 Cooper *Thesaurus* s. v. *Arnum, Ab aruis arua reuellere*, to mounde one from an other. 1589 — *Admon.* 249 The Lorde hath chosen this lande, as his..vineyard, he hath mounded it with his gratious fauour and diuine protection. 1608 Doo & Cleaver *Expos. Prov.* xi-xii. 57 Their pastures are mounded, banked, and trenched. 1731-3 Tull *Horse-Hoeing Husb.* xviii. 258 To mound over the Hill would require double the Rails, or double the Hedge-wood..as to mound the Base. 1759 in *Q. Jrnl. Economics* (1907) Nov. 79 It is order'd by the Jury that the gaps in Ayls hedge be mounded by the Owners on or before Lady day next. 1789 *Coniston Incl. Act* 9 The allotments..shall be respectively mounded round.

transf. and *fig.* 1591 Sylvester *Du Bartas* I. vii. 539 Honor is like Cinnamon, Which Nature mounds with many a million Of thorny pricks. 1652 W. Hartley *Inf. Bapt.* Ded. 1 Your discourse was so well mounded with exceptions, as not a sheep-gap open for argument to try your doctrine.

2. To enclose, bound, or fortify with an embankment.

1600 Holland *Livy* 1350 Whereas before it was mounded about with rubbish,..Tarquin..was the first that enclosed it with a wall. 1612 Drayton *Poly-olb.* vii. 95 For, from the rising banks, that stronglie mound them in The Valley (as betwixt) her name did first begin. 1755 Johnson, *To Mound*, ..to fortify with a mound. 1800 Coleridge *Wallenstein* II. viii. 54 At once Revolt is mounded, and the high-swoln current Shrinks back into the old bed of obedience. 1807 J. Barlow *Columb.* I. 433 Columbus traced, with swift exploring eye,..The realms that mound the unmeasured magazine. 1830 Tennyson *Ode to Memory* 98 A sand-built ridge Of heaped hills that mound the sea.

3. To heap up in a mound or hillock.

1859 G. Meredith *R. Feverel* ii, Banks of moveless cloud hung about the horizon, mounded to the west, where slept the wind. 1874 Symonds *Sk. Italy & Greece* (1898) I. i. 22 Snow lies mounded on the roads and fields. 1905 L. Binyon in *Academy* 7 Oct. 1029/2 As we rounded Old hills greenly mounded.

4. *intr.* (*Path.*) See Mounding *vbl. sb.* 2.

† **Mound,** *a. Obs. rare*—1. [ad. F. *monde* pure, ad. L. *mundus* clean.] Pure.

c 1560 A. Scott *Poems* (S. T. S.) xxxvi. 42 Creat w‡in me and infound Ane hart immaculat and mound.

Mound-builder.

1. One of a prehistoric race of Indians, formerly inhabiting the Mississippi valley and other parts of North America, by whom were erected earth-works of immense extent as well as numerous smaller tumuli or mounds.

1841 Bryant *Poems, Prairies* 11 And the mound-builders vanish'd from the earth. 1847 Squier & Davis *Monum. Mississ. Valley* (1848) 188 Among the mound-builders the art of pottery attained to a considerable degree of perfection. 1893 *Critic* 25 Mar. 177/1 It is now generally held that the Ohio Moundbuilders..fled southward.

2. Any one of the megapode birds which deposit their eggs in a 'mound' (see Mound *sb.*3 4 b).

1880 A. R. Wallace *Isl. Life* iii. 46 The strange brush-turkeys and mound-builders, the only birds that never sit upon their eggs. 1895 C. Dixon in *Fortn. Rev.* Apr. 643 The Megapodidæ or mound-builders.

So **Mou·nd-building** *sb.* and *adj.*

1853 Lapham *Antiq. Wisconsin* (1855) 89 These later tribes continued the practice of mound-building so far as to erect a circular or conical tumulus over their dead. 1855 W. S. Dallas in *Syst. Nat. Hist.* II. 219 The most remarkable of the mound-building birds is the Australian Brush-Turkey. 1902 Hulbert *Hist. Highways Amer.* I. (*title*) Paths of the Mound-Building Indians [etc.].

Mounde, obs. variant of Mund.

Mounded (mau·ndėd), *a.* [f. Mound *v.* + -ed1.]

1. † **a.** Enclosed or bounded with a fence. *Obs.*

b. Confined or fortified with an embankment.

1565 Cooper *Thesaurus* s. v. *Ager, Discretus ager* .. seperated: bounded: mounded. 1694 Wood *Life* July (O. H. S.) III. 461 Rainsborow—a campe double-mounded: the inner mound neare half a mile in compass, the outer more. 1708 J. Philips *Cyder* I. 12 A spacious City stood, with firmest Walls Sure mounded. 1807 J. Barlow *Columb.* I. 211 The lakes, high mounded, point the streams their way. 1819 Shelley *Prometh. Unb.* III. i. 75 Let hell unlock Its mounded oceans of tempestuous fire.

2. Consisting of mounds or hillocks; having the form of a mound; heaped up into a mound.

1843 Ruskin *Mod. Paint.* I. II. v. § 8. 193 A gentle, mounded, melting undulation. 1863 Woolner *My Beautiful Lady* 151 The mounded harvest wains. 1890 *Gentl. Mag.* Feb. 166 Mounded dykes crowned with dwarf oak hedges.

Moundiness (mau·ndinės). [f. Moundy *a.* + -ness.] The quality of being moundy.

1863 A. C. Ramsay *Phys. Geogr.* xxvi. (1878) 429 The original moundiness has..been nearly obliterated.

Mou·nding, *vbl. sb.* [f. Mound *v.* + -ing1.]

1. The process of piling earth in mounds.

1827 Steuart *Planter's G.* (1828) 343 It will save the labour of mounding, or bringing extra earth from a distance. 1844 N. Paterson *Manse Garden* II. 211 Every pair of drills must have greater distance for the convenience of mounding.

2. (See quot.)

1891 *Syd. Soc. Lex.* s.v., *Mounding*, the rising of muscle into a low lump when struck by a light, sharp blow, as in some forms of locomotor ataxia, and in the weak and thin.

† **Mou·ndless,** *a. nonce-wd.* [f. Mound *sb.*1 + -less.] That is no (true) world.

1591 Sylvester *Du Bartas* I. ii. 59 That great moundlesse Mound [orig. *ce grande monde, sans monde*], I meane that Chaos

Moundlet (mau·ndlėt). [f. Mound *sb.*3 + -let.] A hillock, small mound.

1885 McCook *Tenants Old Farm* 166 The conical moundlet thus formed was composed of fine fibres of the excavated rootlets.

Moundy (mau·ndi), *a.* [f. Mound *sb.*3 + -y.] Covered with mounds.

a 1861 D. Gray *Poet. Wks.* (1874) 113 The moundy sward. 1871 *Daily News* 15 Aug., A vast moundy space.

Mounger, obs. form of Monger *sb.*

Moungrel(l, **-ill,** obs. forms of Mongrel.

Mounk(e, obs. Sc. forms of Monk.

† **Mouns.** *Obs. rare.* Also 3 mons. [a. OF. *monz*, pl. of *mont*: see Mount *sb.*] The 'mountains', i. e. the Alps.

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 4496 Þo adde king arþure ywonne fram þe west moste se Anon to þe mouns [*v. r.* mons] al þat lond. *Ibid.* 8071 Þer of be sende prechors þoru al cristendom, & him sulf a þes half þe mouns [*v. r.* mons] & to france com.

Mounseer (maunsiə·1). *arch.* An antiquated anglicized pronunciation of Monsieur, which survived as a vulgarism down to the 19th c., and occasionally appears either in representations of illiterate speech or in derisive allusion to English prejudice against foreigners. (Cf. Mossoo.)

a 1641 Suckling *Poems* (1648) 10 But the Mounsier was modest, and silence confest. 1755 *Gentl. Mag.* XXV. 229 Shall I again to sea—and bang Mounseer? 1815 *Sporting Mag.* XLV. 164 These Mounseers do not trust 'em. 1851 Thackeray *Eng. Humourists* v. (1853) 236 A hearty, plain-spoken man,..having a proper *bourgeois* scorn for French frogs, for mounseers, and wooden shoes in general.

Mounsoon, obs. form of Monsoon.

Mount (mount), *sb.*1 Forms: 1–5 **munt,** 3 (*Ormin*) **munnt,** 4 **munte,** 2–7 **mont,** 4 **monte, mownte,** 4–6 **mounte,** 5 **montt, mownt,** 6 **monnte,** 3– **mount.** [OE. *munt* masc., ad. L. *mont-em, mons.* The word was in the 12th c. taken up afresh from the F. *mont*, which the mod. form represents with normal phonetic development. Cf. Sp., Pg., It. *monte.*

The form *munnt* in Ormin *c* 1200 descends from the OE. *munt*; the later ME. spelling *munt* may represent the word as adopted from Fr.]

I. A mountain, hill.

1. In early use, a mountain, lofty hill; from the 17th c. in prose use chiefly a more or less conical hill of moderate height rising from a plain; a hillock. Now chiefly *poet.* exc. in proper names of mountains or hills, as *Mount Vesuvius, Mount Everest, the Mount of Olives, St. Michael's Mount,* and in *the Sermon on the Mount,* the usual name for the discourse of Christ in Matt. v–vii.

When prefixed commonly abbreviated *Mt.*

c 893 K. Ælfred *Oros.* IV. viii. § 2, & siþþan he gefor ofer þa monezan þeoda, oþ he com to Alpis þæm muntum. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. v. 1 Þa se hælend ze-seh þa menizu he astah on þone munt. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 87 Uppon ane dune þat is þe mont of synai. *c* 1200 Ormin 2862 Þatt ure laffdiz Marze wass Þreo moneþþ i þe munntess Wiþþ hire mezhe Elysabæþ. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2853 To mount synai forð he nam. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 4161 Þe mount of sein michel. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 457 3if þe pope speke bi þe contrarie, as a mount haþ his name of mouyng [etc.]. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 5117 Quat suld we moue in-to þe montis? *a* 1490 Botoner *Itin.* (1778) 127 Mount Mygell ultra Excestre 100 miliaria. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 1 b, The sermon that he made in the mount. 1741 *Corr. betw. C'tess Hartford & C'tess Pomfret* (1805) III. 265 A lake; and in the midst of it a green mount, on which stood a small castle. 1807 P. Gass *Jrnl.* 225 We ascended a high mount with a good deal of difficulty, as the path was very slippery. 1820 Byron *Morg. Mag.* xiv, I shall repass the mounts. 1878 Browning *La Saisiaz* 75 Ye mounts Where I climb to 'scape my fellow.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

c 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 79 Oðer hwa mai him resten upe ðin halize munte of heueneriche. 1576 Fleming *Panopl. Epist.* 267 It is thought to aduaunce the poore patients to the mount of felicitie. 1602 Marston *Antonio's Rev.* IV. iii, I have a mount of mischiefe clogs my soule, As waightie as the high-nol'd Appenine. 1742 Young *Nt. Th.* VIII. 1082 Behold him seated on a mount serene, Above the fogs of sense. 1894 Max Pemberton *Sea Wolves* vii, A low mount of black cloud upon the horizon.

c. *Her.* A representation of a hillock.

It is usually coloured vert (as turf) and borne in the base of the escutcheon, but it may be charged upon an ordinary or form part of a crest.

1611 Guillim *Her.* III. xiv. 129 He beareth Argent on a Mount Proper, a Stagge Couchant, Gules. 1688 R. Holme *Armory* III. 479/2 The second [figure] is a Mountain, or Mount Trebble mounted, or a Hill of three ascents. 1828–40 Berry *Encycl. Herald.* I, *Mount grieced* or *in degrees*, mounts cut in form of steps. *Mount mounted*, also called a *shapournel shapourned, mounted*, or *crested*, and a *mount with a hill upon it.* 1871 *Burke's Peerage*, etc. 867/1 A fess, arg., charged with a mount. 1882 Cussans *Her.* (ed. 3) 107 Or; on a Mount vert, a Tree proper.

† **d.** ? A representation of a mountain belonging to a pageant. *Obs.*

1580 in Cunningham *Revels at Crt.* (1842) 157 Hoopes to make a Mounte iij*s*. *Ibid.* 162 The payntinge of vij Cities, one villadge,..and a mount for Christmas iij Holidaies.

2. *Mil.* **a.** A substantial defensive or protective work of earth or other material, thrown up to resist an attack or to advance an assault. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.*

1558 J. Highfield in Ld. Hardwicke *St. Papers* (1778) I. 115 Thereupon there were two mounts repaired for the better defence. 1568 Grafton *Chron.* II. 465 As sone as the king was come he cast a depe trench with a high mount to prohibite them within the towne to haue any egresse. 1600 Holland *Livy* XXVI. xlv. 620 As for fabricks and mounts to be raised and planted against it [*i. e.* the City], they..would aske sonie long time. 1611 Bible *Isa.* xxix. 3, I..will lay siege against thee with a mount, and I will raise forts against thee. 1697 Potter *Antiq. Greece* III. x. (1715) 97 Their Mounts they let fall to the Ground by Undermining the Foundations. 1770 Langhorne *Plutarch* (1879) II. 726/2 He besieged that city seven months, during which time he erected vast mounts of earth..and invested it. 1860 Pusey *Min. Proph.* 410 The mount, or heaped-up earth, by which the besiegers fought on a level with the besieged.

† **b.** = Cavalier *sb.* 4. Also *fig. Obs.*

1590 Sir J. Smyth *Disc. Weapons* Ded. *** iij, The Caueleeres (by vs called Mounts). 1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 348 It standeth well also for the conquest of Greece, bordering upon it, as it were a strong mount or Cavallier. 1701 Boyer *Draughts Fortified Towns* 2 A Cavalier or Mount, is a great Body of Earth, rais'd on the Terraplain. 1721 De Foe *Mem. Cavalier* (1840) 98 A battery of six pieces of cannon..besides three small mounts,..which had each of them two pieces upon them.

† **c.** *U.S.* (See quot.) *Obs.*

1724 in Temple & Sheldon *Hist. Northfield, Mass.* (1875) 202 Self and team to cart mount timber 1 day; and self one day's work at the mount..0 7 0. [*Note*, The mounts were square towers, from 14 to 20 feet high..; were made of heavy timbers..with the upper story..fitted up for a sentry.]

† **3.** An artificial mound of earth, stones, or the like; esp. a raised piece of ground, or walk, in a garden. *Obs.*

1591 Spenser *Virg. Gnat* 660 A little mount, of greene turfis edifide. *Ibid.* 686 He..reard a mount of earth. 1615 W. Lawson *Country Housew. Gard.* (1626) 55 In diuers corners of your Orchard Mounts of stone, or wood curiously wrought. 1625 Bacon *Ess., Gardens* (Arb.) 563 At the End of both the Side Grounds, I would haue a Mount of some Pretty Height..to looke abroad into the Fields. 1653 H. Cogan tr. *Pinto's Trav.* XXXV. 140 Behind their houses.. were two great Mounts of dead mens bones. 1759 Johnson *Idler* No. 73 ₱ 9 Another [of his friends] has been for three years digging canals and raising mounts. 1791 W. Bartram *Carolina* 517 The nearest kindred or friends..lastly, cover all over with earth, which raises a conical hill or mount. 1800 Bentham *Mem. & Corr.* Wks. 1843 X. 347 It will form a mount in my garden. 1813 Hobhouse *Journey* (ed. 2) 716 Barrows—Short Account of those ancient Mounts.

b. *transf.*

1638 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* (ed. 2) 302 Their beloved Priapus is imperiously inthronir'd upon a brazen Mount. 1685 Dryden tr. *Horace, Odes* I. ix. 2 Behold yon mountain's hoary height, Made higher with new mounts of snow.

II. In various transferred senses.

† **4.** The quantity of 30 cwt. of plaster of Paris.

[So OF. *mont* (15th c. in Godefr.); a specific application of the common transferred sense 'heap'.]

1532 *Lett. & Pap. Hen. VIII*, V. 446 [Plaster of Paris..a] mount [containing 30 cwt.]. 1706 in Phillips (ed. Kersey).

† **5.** [After It. *monte.*] A bank. *Obs.*

1622 Bacon *Let. to Bp. Andrews* Misc. Wks. (1629) 85 To put forth that poore Talent..that God hath giuen me..to Banks or Mounts of Perpetuity, which will not breake. 1765 Blackstone *Comm.* I. 326 A system which seems to have had it's original in the state of Florence, *A.D.* 1344; which government then owed about 60,000 *l.* sterling: and,

being unable to pay it, formed the principal into an aggregate sum, called metaphorically a mount or bank, the shares whereof were transferrable like our stocks, with interest at 5 per cent.

†**b. Mount of piety, mount piety**, a rendering of It. *monte di pietà*, Fr. *mont-de-piété*, in Italy and France a pawnbroking establishment instituted and carried on by the state for the purpose of affording loans to the poor at low interest.

c 1618 Moryson *Itin.* IV. viii. (1903) 160 For vsury five in the hundreth is allowed in the mounts of piety, which are bankes of mony to be lent to the poore. 1661 (*title*) Observations Manifesting the Conveniency and Commodity of Mount-Pietyes, or Publick Bancks for Relief of the Poor and others in distress upon Pawns. 1765 *Ann. Reg.* 153 He has left..500,000 crowns in the Mount of Piety.

6. *Palmistry.* One of the fleshy prominences on the palm of the hand by the development of which palmists profess to ascertain the degree of influence exereised by a particular planet. (Cf. Mons a.)

1644 Bulwer *Chiron.* 101 With the Thumbe bended in, and reaching to the mount of Mercurie. 1653 R. Sanders *Physiogn.* 63 At the root of each finger there is a little rising, the which we call the mounts of the Planets. 1695 Congreve *Love for L.* II. iii, She has..a moist Palm, and an open Liberality on the Mount of Venus.

III. 7. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *mount-moving* adj.; †**mount-egg** (see quot.).

1647 H. More *Char. & Hum.* 3 Deep-searching wit, mount-moving might Are nought compar'd to that good spright. 1710 J. Harris *Lex. Techn.* II. s.v., After Tin from the burnt Ore is melted down and remelted, there will sometimes remain a different Slugg in the bottom of the Float, this they call Mount-Egg.

Mount (mount), *sb.*[2] [f. Mount *v.* Cf. F. *monte* fem. (which may be the source of some of the senses), Sp., It. *monta*, a Com. Rom. vbl. sb.]

†**1.** = Amount *sb. Obs.*

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 718 So mony mernayl bi mount þer þe mon fyndez, Hit were to tore for to telle of þe tenþe dole. 14.. in *Hist. Coll. Citizen Lond.* (Camden) 15 There wolde be schot..A hundryd gounnys..With[in] the mount of ij halfe hourys. 1651 *Raleigh's Ghost* 218 They again enjoying a long peace and increasing the mount of their former sins,..they were once more cast into the hands of Philistins.

2. An act of mounting (*rare*); †*spec.* (of a bird) a rising from the ground; a manner of mounting; † (of a gun) elevation.

1486 *Bk. St. Albans* D j b, She toke it at the mounte or at the sonce. 1571 Digges *Pantom.* I. xxx. I iv b, Making seueral angles proportionally to the seueral mounts of the peece. 1596 Harington *Metam. Ajax* 31 Doe you not sometime..talke..of putting a heron to the mount? 1602 Marston *Ant. & Mel.* v. Wks. 1856 I. 58 Now, capring wits, Rise to your highest mount. 1660 F. Brooke tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 224 The first..at two or three mounts and active leaps spear-high, fetches down the piece of meat. 1872 Jenkinson *Guide Eng. Lakes* (1879) 51 After another slighter descent, and then a gradual mount, the top of Thornthwaite Crag is gained. 1891 *Cycling* (Badm. Libr.) viii. (ed. 3) 254 This mount, when once perfectly acquired, is deliberate and graceful.

†**b.** Mil. *To sound a mount*: to give a trumpet signal for mounting. *Obs.* 1659 Howell *Vocab.* v.

3. That in or on which anything is mounted, fitted, supported, or placed; a 'mounting', 'fitting', or 'setting' [cf. F. *monture*]; *spec.* (*a*) the margin surrounding a picture, or the cardboard upon which a drawing is mounted; (*b*) *pl.* the metal ornaments serving as borders, edges, or guards to the angles and prominent parts of *e. g.* the decorative furniture of the 18th c.; (*c*) the glass slip with its adjuncts used to preserve objects for examination under the microscope.

1739 *Act* 12 *Geo. II*, c. 26 § 6 Mounts, Screws, or Stoppers to Stone or Glass Bottles or Phials. 1854 Fairholt *Dict. Terms Arts, Mount*,..the paper or card-board upon which a drawing is placed. 1859 Gullick & Timbs *Paint.* 315 The mount or margin intervening between the water-colour painting and its frame is almost invariably white. 1883 A. H. Church *Prec. Stones* 101 Diamond..§ in. diam.; claw setting on swing mount..Diamond..bordered with 12 brilliants set in silver, on gold mount. 1884 *Cyclist* 13 Feb. 243/1 Salad bowls and servers, with silver mounts. 1888 *Century Mag.* Oct. 889/1 The carriages and mounts of the guns are made entirely of bronze and steel.

b. Of a fan: (*a*) The pieces of wood, ivory, etc., forming the frame or support (see also *fan-mount* under Fan *sb.*). (*b*) The silk, paper, or similar material forming the surface of the fan.

1811 *Self Instructor* 121, 2 fans, French mounts. 1869 *Art Jrnl.* Mar. 90/3 Perforated cedar, sandal-wood, nacre, ivory—such is the proper mount of an elegant fan. 1878 *Ibid.* Aug. 173/2 Coryat..mentions some [fans]..consisting of a paper mount pasted on a wooden handle. [Coryat does not use the word.] 1889 *Harper's Mag.* Aug. 404/2 In these [Cabriolet fans] the mount is in two parts, the lower and narrower mount being half-way up the stick, the second mount in the usual place at the top of the stick.

4. *colloq.* A horse (or other animal, occas. a bicycle, etc.) on which one is mounted; a horse, etc., provided for a person's riding.

1856 'Stonehenge' *Brit. Rural Sports* 363/1 The jockey ..receiving information from the trainer as to the peculiarities of his mount. 1883 E. Pennell-Elmhirst *Cream Leicestersh.* 235 Others merely give their mounts a kick in the ribs and gallop onwards. 1885 *Century Mag.* Mar. 653/1 A good high-bred dromedary is as comfortable a mount as can be desired. 1885 *Cyclist* 19 Aug. 1088/1 This is easily accounted for by the number of strange [cycle] riders and the changing of mounts from roadsters to racers. 1889 *Standard* 17 Mar., There is every reason to believe that, in mounts as in ordnance, Great Britain will be self-sufficing.

5. An opportunity or occasion of 'getting into the saddle'; hence, an undertaking to ride or an act of riding (a horse) in a race.

1856 'Stonehenge' *Brit. Rural Sports* 361/1 The jockey ..is now expected to ride to orders in most cases, though there are still some who would refuse such a mount. 1882 B. D. W. Ramsay *Recoll. Mil. Serv.* I. i. 15 [He] had been kind to me.. giving me a mount occasionally on one of his numerous stud. 1884 *Illustr. Lond. News* 1 Nov. 410/2 The custom is to pay at least twenty-five pounds for a mount in the Derby and St. Leger. *Ibid.* 410/3 The leader of his profession, whose mounts for this year are not yet finished. 1888 Sir C. Russell in *Times* 26 June 4/4 The regular fees for his [a jockey's] ridings or 'mounts'.

6. *attrib.* (in sense 3: see quots.).

1881 *Instr. Census Clerks* (1885) 83 Mount, Passe partout —Cutter, Binder, Gilder, Maker (for Photographs, Drawings, &c.). 1896 *Daily News* 14 Sept. 2/7 A mount cutter was charged with having stolen..a quantity of cardboard patterns, mounts, &c.

†**Mount,** *sb.*[3] *Obs. rare*—[1]. [Perh. transf. use of Mount *sb.*[1]; but cf. Mound *sb.*[1]] A spherical box.

1562 *New Yr.'s Gifts* in Nichols *Progr. Eliz.* (1823) I. 108 A little rounde mounte of golde to conteyne a pomaunder in it.

Mount (mount), *v.* Also 4–5 munt(e, monte, 4–6 mont. [ME. *munte, monte*, a. OF. *munter, monter* (mod. F. *monter*) = Pr., Sp., Pg. *montar*, It. *montare*:—popular L. **montāre*, f. *mont-, mons* Mount *sb.*[1] With regard to the sense cf. F. *amont* uphill, up the stream (:—L. *ad montem* lit. 'to the hill').

The principal senses, intransitive and transitive, were adopted from Fr. The sense 'to ride', prominent in the Rom. langs., never passed into Eng.; cf. senses 3 and 9.]

I. *intr.*

1. To go upwards, ascend. Also with *up.*

a. To fly upwards, to soar. † Of a missile: To rise in its flight.

c 1384 Chaucer *H. Fame* II. 445 He..lat the reynes gon Of his hors and they anoon Gonne vp to mounten and doun descende Til both the eyre and erthe brende. *a* 1425 *Cursor M.* 23894 (Trin.) He 3yue vs grace so to acounte þat we may to heuen mounte. *c* 1450 Holland *Howlat* 638 Than rerit thir Merlȝeonis that mountis so hie. 1535 Coverdale *Job* xxxix. 27 Doth the Aegle mounte vp..at thy commaundement? 1590 Sir J. Smyth *Disc. Weapons* 15 By reason that the bullets being so much lower than the heigth of their peeces..doo naturallie mount and flie vncertainlie. 1602 Marston *Ant. & Mel.* v. Wks. 1856 I. 65 O that my spirit in a sigh could mount Into the spheare, where thy sweet soule doth rest! 1742 Young *Nt. Th.* II. 604 Like birds, whose beauties languish, half conceal'd, Till mounted on the wing, their glossy plumes Expanded shine. 1799 G. Smith *Laboratory* I. 9 If it [a rocket] muunts even and high. 1854 Allingham *Day & Nt. Songs, Lower & Birds* v, The Lark hurried, mounting from the lea.

b. To travel or proceed in an upward direction. Now usually implying a somewhat steep ascent, e. g. that of a flight of steps.

1471 Caxton *Recuyell* (Sommer) II. 422 Hercules.. began to mounte and goo vpon the degrees or steyres. *c* 1489 — *Blanchardyn* lii. 198 The prouoste..cam in to the towne and syth mounted to the paleys. *a* 1533 Ld. Berners *Huon* lix. 204 They causyd the mynstrell to mount vp on ye ladder. 1552 Huloet, Mount ouer, *trascendo.* 1604 E. G[rimstone] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* III. xv. 164 They [*sc.* certain fish] mount from the sea into the rivers. 1678 Dryden *All for Love* v. i, Antony Is mounted up the Pharos; from whose turret, He stands surveying our Egyptian galleys, Engaged with Cæsar's fleet. 1726 Shelvocke *Voy. round World* 105 They have abundance of very handsome middle-sized horses, which are said to mount with great dexterity. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) III. 66 [The chamois] always mount or descend in an oblique direction. 1853 Kingsley *Hypatia* xxii, A body of gladiators..planting their scaling-ladders.. mounted to the attack. 1872 Jenkinson *Guide Eng. Lakes* (1879) 293 On arriving at a streamlet, cross it near its source, and then mount by the side of the Pillar.

†**c.** To move towards culmination. *Obs.*

1594 Blundevil *Exerc.* IV. xxxii. (1636) 488 In a right Spheare the star called Cor Leonis,..riseth, mounteth, and setteth with the 145 degree 30′ of the Equinoctiall. 1604 E. G[rimstone] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* II. x. 104 Where the sphere is straight, and the signes mount directly, there the dayes and nights are equall.

d. To tower (*obs.*); also, to extend in an upward direction. *rare.*

1561 Daus tr. *Bullinger on Apoc.* (1573) 22 b, The temple of Dian of Ephesus..mounted up in the middes of the Citie. 1679 T. Kirke *Mod. Acc. Scot.* 6 The Houses mount seven or eight stories high, with many Families on one Floor. 1839 Murchison *Silur. Syst.* I. xxxii. 439 The overlying strata, mounting into the hills above Llanfihangel.

e. Of inanimate things: To rise, move *upwards* as if spontaneously. ? *Obs.*

1594 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* I. iii. § 5 When things naturall in that regard forget their ordinary naturall woont, that which is heauie mounting sometime vpwardes of its owne accord. 1657 Baxter *Call to Unconverted* Wks. (1846) 83 As fire doth mount upward..so the converted soul is inclined to God. 1705 Addison *Italy* 370 At the same time are seen little Flakes of Scurfe rising up, that are probably the Parts which compose the Islands, for they often mount of themselves, tho' the Water is not troubled. 1711 — *Spect.* No. 62 ₱ 5 His ambitious Love is a Fire that naturally mounts upwards.

f. To grow in an upward direction. ? *Obs.*

1638 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* (ed. 2) 322 They grow till fifteen, in that time mounting to foure and twenty foot. 1671 Grew *Anat. Plants* iii. App. § 4 The use of these Parts may be observed as the Trunk Mounts, or as it Trails. 1693 Evelyn *De la Quint. Compl. Gard.* II. 155 We replant none of those [Cabbages] that begin to mount, that is, to run up their stalks, as if they were going to Seed.

g. Of the blood: To rise into the cheeks. Also, of the effects of wine: To 'go' to the head.

1625 Middleton *Game at Chess* III. i, Ha! all my body's blood mounts to my face To look upon this letter. 1867 Trollope *Chron. Barset* I. xxiv. 206 The blood mounted all over his face. 1884 Tennyson *Becket* Prol., When the Gascon wine mounts to my head.

h. Of silkworms (see quots.).

1796 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVII. 485/1 When the worms are ready to mount, in order to spin, if [etc.]. 1876 B. F. Cobb *Silk* (Brit. Manuf. Industries) 149 At the end of the last stage the worm 'mounts', that is to say, ceases to feed, climbs up from the feeding tray to the 'bush',..or whatever may have been prepared for it, and spins its cocoon.

2. *fig.* **a.** To ascend to a higher level in rank, estimation, power, excellence, completeness, etc.

1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 145 Thogh it [Pride] mounte for a throwe, It schal doun falle and overthrowe. 1484 Caxton *Fables of Auian* ii, Who so mounteth lyher than he shold he falleth lower than he wold. 1567 *Satir. Poems Reform.* vii. 226 Thair laude and fame sall mont abone the skyis. *a* 1613 Bacon *Case Post-nati Scot.* Wks. 1826 V. 116 Naturalization is best discerned in the degrees whereby the law doth mount and ascend thereunto. 1622 *Interpreter* 4 Knowing..that Simplicitie hath onely mounted by vertue. 1647 N. Bacon *Disc. Govt. Eng.* I. xiv. (1739) 26 The Prelacy beginning to mount, nibbled at it in the second Century. 1882 *Athenæum* 22 Apr. 501 [Mr. Spencer] shows how..men mount from the lowly estate of chiefless Eskimo ..to despotisms, republics, [etc.].

b. To become elevated in spirit.

1481 Caxton *Godeffroy* ccxii. 309 Of this auenture mounted the turke in grete pryde. 1802 Wordsw. *Resolution & Independ.* 4 As high as we have mounted in delight In our dejection do we sink as low.

c. To ascend or go back in time.

1796 Morse *Amer. Geog.* II. 467 [They] seem to fix their foundation to a period before the Christian era, but without mounting to the ancient times of the Jews or the Phœnicians. 1803 *Med. Jrnl.* IX. 369 For the antiquity of which [method] we must mount up to Celsus. 1859 Jephson *Brittany* vii. 83 An antiquity which mounts up to the eighth century of our era.

3. To get upon the back of a horse or other animal (occas. upon a person's shoulders) for the purpose of riding. Const. *on, upon,* † *to.*

1509 Hawes *Past. Pleas.* xxvii. (Percy Soc.) 131 My fayre barbed stede, On whome I mounted. 1565 Stapleton tr. *Bede's Hist. Ch. Eng.* v. vi. 159, I was able to mounte to my horse. 1582 Stanyhurst *Æneis* II. (Arb.) 66 Wel father in Gods name, mount on my shoulder, I pray you. 1596 Spenser *F. Q.* v. x. 16 He was readie to his steede to mount. 1660 F. Brooke tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 225 After this .. appears..one..mounted on an Elephant. 1662 J. Davies tr. *Olearius' Voy. Ambass.* 18 We mounted at the same place where we alighted, and return'd to our Lodgings. 1788 Gibbon *Decl. & F.* xlvi. IV. 505 Six thousand guards successively mounted before the palace gate. *c* 1850 *Arab. Nts.* (Rtldg.) 631 Each man then returned to his horse, put on its bridle,..and then mounted.

4. To get up *on* something that serves to raise one above the ground.

1642 Milton *Apol. Smect.* 10 The idlest and the paltriest Mime that ever mounted upon banke. 1726 Swift *Gulliver* II. viii, I mounted on the Cbair. 1753 *Lond. Mag.* Sept. 396 But mount on French heels when you go to a ball, 'Tis the fashion to totter and shew you can fall. 1852 Thackeray *Esmond* v, The window was too high to reach from the ground; but, mounting on a buffet which stood beneath it, Father Holt showed me how [etc.].

†**b.** *simply.* To ascend the stage, platform, rostrum, etc.; to make an appearance as a performer, orator, etc. *Obs.*

1745 *Daily Advertiser* 28 Sept. 3/3 [Advt. of a Prize-fight] The Doors will be open'd at Ten, and the Champions mount at Twelve. 1760 Foote *Minor* II. Wks. 1799 I. 259 It being impossible he should mount [as an auctioneer], I have consented to sell. 1764 — *Patron* I. ibid. 335, I never got salt to my porridge till I mounted [*sc.* on the pillory] at the Royal Exchange.

5. To rise in amount; to increase by addition. Chiefly with *up.* Also, †to be amassed.

1362 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. Prol. 64 But holychirche bi-ginne holde bet to-gedere, þe moste Miscbeef on molde mounteþ vp faste. 1601 ? Marston *Pasquil & Kath.* I. 92 So great a masse of coyne might mount from wholsome thrift. 1622 Fletcher *Beggar's Bush* IV. i, Sir, you know not To what a masse, the little we get dayly, Mounts in seven yeares. 1695 J. Edwards *Perfect. Script.* 220 It is by the fault of the transcribers that the arithmetick mounts so high. 1798 Coleridge *To Lesbia* 13 To the store Add hundreds—then a thousand more! And when they to a million mount, Let confusion take the account. 1874 Green *Short Hist.* iii. § 5. 141 The debts of the Crown mounted to four times its annual income. *Mod.* The debt will mount up fearfully at such a rate of interest.

†**6.** To amount or be equal *to* a certain sum, number, or quantity. *Obs.*

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* C. 332 Þose vnwyse ledes þat affyen hym in vanyte & in vayne þynges, For þink þat mountes to noȝt, her mercy forsaken. 1521 Tunstal in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. III. I. 273, I have..lent M. Spinel money which monteth in al to thyrty[ll] sterlinge. 1534 *Act* 26 *Hen. VIII*, c. 3 § 22 The incumbent..shall not..pay..more..than the value of the thirde parte of his..benefice..shall mounte vnto. 1560 Bible (Geneva) *Acts* xix. 19 *marg.*, *Fiftie thousand pieces of siluer.* This mounteth to of our money about 2000 markes. 1734 Pope *Ess. Man* IV. 270 Bring then these blessings to a strict account; Make fair deductions; see to what they mount. 1738 Swift *Pol. Conversat.* Introd. 40 The old Stock-Oaths..do not mount to above forty five, or fifty at most.

7. *slang.* [? An application of 4 b.] (See quots.)

1789 G. Parker *Life's Painter* (1800) 145 These kind of men attend the courts of law..; their price is five shillings for what they call mounting; they have been known to mount two or three times in one day. 1812 J. H. Vaux *Flash Dict., Mount*, to swear, or give evidence falsely for the sake of a gratuity. To *mount for* a person is also synonymous with *bonnetting for* him. 1902 *Daily Chron.* 6 Mar. 8/2 He subpœnaed Roseblade as a witness for him at his trial, but, said Williams, dejectedly, 'he mounted and come it on me'. Mr. P.: What do you mean? Williams: He gave evidence against me.

II. *trans.* equivalent to intr. uses with prep.

8. To ascend or climb up (a mountain, hill, rock, tree); to ascend (a river, a stair).

c 1500 *Melusine* 324 Geffray .. mounted the mountayne. 1615 G. Sandys *Trav.* 289 We mounted a paire of high staires. 1769 E. Bancroft *Guiana* 15 He mounted the river of Essequebo. 1796 Morse *Amer. Geog.* II. 17 The birdmen..are amazingly dexterous in mounting the steepest rocks. 1843 Lever *J. Hinton* iii, We mounted an old-fashioned and rickety stair. 1866 Rogers *Agric. & Prices* I. xxiv. 611 While the fish were mounting the river. 1886 Ashby-Sterry *Lazy Minstrel* 196 You Should mount the Hill and see the view.

b. Said of a rising road, stair, etc.

1611 Shaks. *Cymb.* I. vi. 106 Lippes as common as the stayres That mount the Capitoll. 1872 Jenkinson *Guide Eng. Lakes* (1879) 13 The road .. mounts a steep rising ground.

c. *To mount a breach*: to ascend it for the purpose of assault or attack.

1704 Swift *T. Tub* Ded., Your Lordships .. undaunted Courage in mounting a Breach or scaling a Wall. 1814 Scott *Wav.* xiii, Being the first to mount the breach. 1841 Elphinstone *Hist. Ind.* II. 301 The breach had been built up to such a height as to render it impossible to mount it.

†d. To rise or soar into. *Obs.*

1675 Dryden & Mulgrave *Ess. Sat.* 117 So men in rapture think they mount the sky, While on the ground th'entranced wretches lie. 1707 *Curios. in Husb. & Gard.* 24 He sees the Sun rise every Morning and mount the Horizon. 1746–7 Hervey *Medit.* (1818) 190 Did He..not only mount the lower firmament, but ascend the heaven of heavens.

†e. *fig.* To rise to the level of, to rival. *Obs.*

1628 Earle *Microcosm., Detractor* (Arb.) 43 He is..ambitious to match others, not by mounting their worth, but bringing them downe with his Tongue to his owne poorenesse.

9. To get upon the back of (a horse or other animal, a bicycle) for the purpose of riding.

1599 Shaks. *Hen. V*, III. vii. 25 The dull Elements..neuer appeare in him, but only in patient stillnesse while his rider mounts him: hee is indeede a Horse. 1693 *Humours Town* 19 I'll mount your Horse, and ride down. 1789 Anburey *Trav.* II. 397, I went to his house just as he had mounted horse. 1819 Byron *Juan* I. ix, A better cavalier ne'er mounted horse. 1843 Borrow *Bible in Spain* vi 41, I now..having mounted my mule, set forward. 1907 *Academy* 12 Jan. 36/2 One of the majors was accustomed to mount his horse from a chair.

transf. 1808 Scott *Marmion* II. Introd., And mark the wild-swans mount the gale.

10. To get upon, for the purpose of copulation. Now only *colloq.* of animals.

[1592 Shaks. *Ven. & Ad.* 596 Now is she in the verie lists of loue, Her champion mounted for the hot incounter: All is imaginarie she doth proue, He will not mannage her, although he mount her. 1630 B. Jonson *New Inn* I. iii, Instead of backing the brane Steed, o' mornings, To mount the Chambermaid.] 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* III. 328 Whether the Bull or Courser be thy Care, Let him not leap the Cow, or mount the Mare.

11. To ascend and take a place in or on; to get upon or into, from below.

1698 Fryer *Acc. E. India & P.* 83 We were forced to mount the Indian Hackery. 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 46 ¶ 2 The Boy accordingly mounted the Pulpit. *a* 1758 Ramsay *The Mill-O* ii, My lass, like a fool, had mounted the stool. 1839 Thirlwall *Greece* VI. 191 Since he himself had mounted the throne. 1888 *Spectator* 30 June 883/2 Racing notabilities, and betting men, and blacklegs, all mounting the stand and giving their evidence.

III. *trans.* in causative uses.

†12. To cause to ascend or rise; to elevate, lift, draw or drive up. Also with *up*. *Obs.*

1538 Elyot *Dict., Exalto*, to mounte or lyfte up. *c* 1590 Marlowe *Faust* vi. (*Chorus*), Learned Faustus, To know the secrets of Astronomy .. Did mount himselfe to scale Olympus top, Being seated in a chariot burning bright. 1604 E. G[rimstone] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* v. xxiv. 395 They did mount it [*sc.* the idol] in this manner, for that the staires of the Temple were very steepe.., while they mounted vp the idoll, all the people stoode in the Court. 1610 W. Folkingham *Art of Survey* I. ix. 20 Some Enginarie aide must bee assistant to mount the water by Screwes, Pullies, Poizes. 1613 Shaks. *Hen. VIII*, I. i. 144 The fire that mounts the liquor til't run ore, In seeming to augment it, wasts it. 1614 Raleigh *Hist. World* I. iii. § 7. 45 A bird, hauing therein no feeling of her wings, or any sensible resistance of aire to mount her selfe by. 1640 tr. *Verdere's Rom. Rom.* III. 68 O from what an abisme am I mounted, said Florimond. 1647 N. Bacon *Disc. Govt. Eng.* I. lvii. (1739) 104 Like a Vapour mounted up by the Clergy. 1705 tr. *Bosman's Guinea* 282 Mounting their Heads and half their Bodies above the surface of the Water. 1766 *Compl. Farmer* s.v. *Mulberry*, When they were quite divested of the side shoots, the sap is mounted to the top.

†b. To erect. *Obs. rare.*

1610 Shaks. *Temp.* II. ii. 11 Then like Hedg-hogs, which Lye tumbling in my bare-foote way, and mount Their pricks at my foot-fall. 1821 Clare *Vill. Minstr.* II. 100 Water-lilies mount their snowy buds.

†c. To direct to a higher point. *Obs.*

1582 Stanyhurst *Æneis* II. (Arb.) 65 But father Anchises, mounting his sight to the skyward,..hertly thus his orison vttred. 1675 tr. *Machiavelli's Prince* vi. (Rtldg.) 36 By mounting their arrow to a certain proportion, they may come nearer to the mark.

13. In various *fig.* or non-material senses: †a. To raise in honour, estimation, power, or wealth. Rarely with *up*. *Obs.*

1581 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xliii. 103 So Fortoun montit neuer man on hicht, Bot sho can law him within a litill quhyle. *c* 1586 C'tess Pembroke *Ps.* lxix. xi, My God, me poore and low, High shall mount from need and woe. 1621 Quarles *Esther* vi. Medit., Who mounts the meeke, and beates the lofty downe. 1647 N. Bacon *Disc. Govt. Eng.* I. xvii. (1739) 34 This hath mounted up Kings to the top more than their own ambition. *a* 1661 Fuller *Worthies, Surrey* (1662) III. 83 Abbot..was mounted from a Lecturer to a Dignitary. *a* 1711 Ken *Hymnotheo* Poet. Wks. 1721 III. 29 Damning themselves, to mount him to his crown. 1728 Young *Love Fame* I. 283 Is there whom his tenth epic mounts to fame?

†b. To elevate spiritually; to raise to higher objects of contemplation; to excite to a higher degree of activity or emotion. *Obs.*

a 1546 G. Wishart tr. *Conf. Faith Sweuerland* in *Wodrow Soc. Misc.* (1844) 13 Except we be elluminat, styred up and mounted, by the grace of Chryst. 1591 Sylvester *Du Bartas* I. vii. 409 That we, down-treading earthly cogitations, May mount our thoughts to heav'nly meditations. 1601 Sir W. Cornwallis *Disc Seneca* (1631) 80 There is no circumstance but is a steppe, mounting the understanding to the truth. 1601 Shaks. *All's Well* I. i. 235 What power is it, which mounts my loue so hye. 1602 Marston *Ant. & Mel.* IV. Wks. 1856 I. 52 Young Prince, mount up your spirits, and prepare To solemnise your nuptials eve with pompe. 1636 Heywood *Challenge Beautie* V. I 3, What prostrates them Mounts me to expectations. *a* 1644 Quarles *Sol. Recant.* Sol. viii. 30 This mounts thy soule with more heroick fires. 1647 Fuller *Good Th. in Worse T.* v. viii. 214 May not man, by custome and improvement of Piety, mount himselfe neere to an Angelicall nature. 1742 Young *Nt. Th.* IV. 262 Such contemplations..should mount The mind still higher. 1796 Burke *Regic. Peace* I. Wks. VIII. 157 They [William III's ministers] were not yet mounted to the elevation of the king.

†c. To exalt, magnify. *Obs.*

1651 Davenant *Gondibert* III. v. 27 Love seeks no honor, but does honor bring, Mounts others value, and her own lets fall! 1673 Marvel *Reh. Transp.* II. 244 If you would mount what is said to mean Conscience, the Clause does not ..exclude it.

†d. To raise the value or price of. *Obs.*

1708 J. Chamberlayne *St. Gt. Brit.* II. iii. ii. (1737) 402 James the IId..mounted the Ounce of Silver to 12 s. 1772 Foote *Nabob* II. (1778) 39 Suppose they have mounted the beef and mutton a trifle; ar'n't we obliged to them too for raising the value of boroughs?

†e. To 'lift up' (the voice). *Obs.*

1601 ? Marston *Pasquil & Kath.* II. 13 Boy cleere thy throte, and mount thy sweetest notes 1602 — *Antonio's Rev.* v. iv, Why then Io to Hymen, mount a loftie note.

†f. To represent as amounting *to* a certain sum or number. *Obs.*

1639 Fuller *Holy War* v xxx. (1640) 284 Some have mounted his ordinarie yearly in-come to eight millions of gold. 1655 — *Hist Camb.* 27 The Oxford Antiquary insulteth on the paucity of ancient Hostles in Cambridge.. much boasting of the numerousness of the Halls in Oxford, which he mounteth to above two hundred.

14. To set or place upon an elevation. Now only with const. *on, upon*.

1567 *Satir. Poems Reform.* vii. 43 To se ane monstuire, full of fylthynes, Abone the rest heich mountit vp in gloir. 1577 B. Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* I. (1586) 9, I haue set my house in this place without the bankes, and mounted it as hie as I could. 1590 Greene *Orl. Fur.* (1599) A 3 b, From thence, mounted vpon a Spanish Barke Such as transported Iason to the fleece:..I furrowed Neptunes Seas. 1607 Marston *What you Will* II. ii, *Ped.* Sance delaies,..mount him, mount him! [i.e. 'horse' him for a flogging.] 1615 G. Sandys *Trav.* 186 Mounted a good height on the side of the mountain is Acceldama *c* 1662 *Roxb. Ball.* (1887) VI 359 O the Pinacle of Shrowsbury shews itself still, For it's mounted gallantly on a high Hill. 1678 Butler *Hud.* III. ii. 972 For Chiarlatans can do no good, Until th' are mounted in a Crowd. 1683 *Condemn. & Exec. A. Sydney* 2 They.. Conveyed him to the Scaffold .on which being Mounted, he Bowed. *a* 1700 Dryden *Iliad* I. 239 We bear thee on our Backs and mount thee on the Throne. 1742 Pope *Dunc.* IV. 564 Gone ev'ry blush, and silent all reproach, Contending Princes mount them in their Coach. 1870 J. H. Newman *Gram. Assent* II. vii. 222 No wonder we see more than the ancients, because we are mounted upon their shoulders. 1897 Mary Kingsley *W. Africa* 386 A cluster of outbuildings ..each mounted on poles.

15. To set on horseback; to help into the saddle; also, to furnish with a saddle horse. In *passive*, to be seated on horseback.

1603 Knolles *Hist. Turks* (1638) 52 Isanc .. royally mounted vpon one of the Emperors horses..was..brough ..to the court. *c* 1618 Moryson *Itin.* IV. v. i. (1903) 438 Next rode some 400. gentlemen of Rome brauely mounted. 1647 W. Browne *Polex.* I. 199 He was..mounted on a Black Barbary. 1662 J. Davies tr. *Olearius' Voy. Ambass.* 202 He was..excellently well mounted, on a very gallant horse. 1678 Butler *Hud.* III. ii. 1547 He's mounted on a hazel bavin. 1697 Dryden *Æneid* VII. 381 Of these [horses] he chose the fairest and the best, To mount the Trojan troup. 1701 Grew *Cosm. Sacra* II vii. 73 Phancy without Reason; is like a Horse without a Rider; and Reason without Phancy is not well Mounted. 1728 Morgan *Algiers* II. iv. 283 He hastily mounted his own Wife and Daughter. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) IV. 299 High enough to admit a man mounted upon a middle-sized horse. 1838 Prescott *Ferd. & Isa.* II. xii. III. 131 He commanded that each trooper should take one of the infantry on his crupper, setting the example himself by mounting a German ensign behind him on his own horse. 1848 Thackeray *Bk. Snobs* xxix, He.. rides when somebody mounts him. 1853 J. H. Newman *Hist. Sk.* (1873) II. I. i. 11 These populations have in all ages been shepherds, mounted on horseback. 1877 'Rita' *Vivienne* I. ii, Now mount me, please. It is time we were off. 1883 S. C. Hall *Retrospect* II. 305 He had horses more than enough to mount a regiment of cavalry.

b. Of a horse: To carry (its rider).

1737 Bracken *Farriery Impr.* (1757) II. 27 The hollow-back Horse generally puts out a good Neck, and mounts the Rider handsomely.

16. *Mil.* a. To raise (guns) into position; to place in a position ready for use.

1539 in *Archæologia* XI. 437 A saker of brasse..mountyd uppon shod whelys. 1565 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 402 Propositioun wes maid of befoir..how all the artailyearie.. mycht be perfytlie montit, ordounit, and put in dowbill equippage. 1595 Shaks. *John* II. i. 381 By East and West let France and England mount Their battering Canon charged to the mouthes. 1653 H. Cogan tr. *Pinto's Trav.* x. 33 The General..caused his forces to land, and mounting twelve great pieces he renewed the battery. *c* 1710 Celia Fiennes *Diary* (1888) 215 The platform for the Gunns wch are well mounted and very well kept. 1838 Prescott *Ferd. & Is.* II. xii. III. 131 On this rampart he mounted his little train of artillery.

b. Of a fort, a ship: To have (cannon) in position.

1748 *Anson's Voy.* III. v. 338 One is..an insignificant fortress, mounting only five guns eight pounders; the other ..fort mounts the same number of guns. 1831 Sir J. Sinclair *Corr.* II. 277 He met only four ships, three of which escaped, but one, mounting 64 guns, struck on a rock. 1841 Elphinstone *Hist. Ind.* II. 207 He .. sent out vessels mounting guns from Cambay.

c. *passive.* To be provided *with* cannon.

1662 J. Davies tr. *Olearius' Voy. Ambass.* 57 The Great Duke's Palace..is..very well mounted with Cannon. 1743 tr. *Mem. M. Du Gué-Trouin* (ed. 2) 14 The commadore, bored for 40 guns, and mounted by 28, was boarded and carried. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* III. x. 415 Four .. junks, .. mounted only with eight or ten guns. 1867 H. Latham *Black & White* 104 Earthworks mounted with cannon.

d. To raise the muzzle of (a gun); to place at a particular angle of elevation. Cf. 12 c.

1545 *St. Papers Hen. VIII* (1834) III. 543 Item, in Crabbez, to mounte or level thOrdnaunce. 1669 Sturmy *Mariner's Mag.* v. xii. 72 Find what deg. you shall need Mount the Gun to for any other shot. 1688 R. Holme *Armoury* III. xviii. (Roxb.) 142/1 Mount the Morter, is to turne it in the carriage with the mouth vpwards. *Ibid.* xix. 153/1 Granadeers on Horseback...Vnsling your musket. Mount your musket. 1692 *Capt. Smith's Seaman's Gram.* II. xxxi. 146 To so many degrees of Mounture must the Morter be mounted. 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *To Mount a Piece*,..to lay its Mouth higher.

e. To set up or post for the purpose of defence or observation. Hence, *to mount* (†*the*) *guard*: to go on duty as a guard.

1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *To Mount the Guard*,..is to go on that Duty. 1737 *Gentl. Mag.* VII. 538/2 The Nature of that Watch and Ward was, that each Burgher, for perhaps 5 or 6 Days in a Month, should mount Guard. 1764 *Mem. G. Psalmanazar* 161, I have seen many of them go up to the gallows..as if they were mounting the guard. 1781 Gibbon *Decl. & F.* xvii. (1787) II. 57 They mounted guard in the interior apartments. 1783 B. G. Jackson *Orders in Harper's Mag.* Nov. (1883) 921/1 *note*, Each Battalion will mount a Piquett. 1826 Scott *Woodst.* iii, The yeomen of the guard, who mounted their watch there. 1872 *Punch* 21 Sept. 116/1 Let an intelligent policeman be told off to mount guard. 1894 *Outing* XXIV. 313/2 At this camp, guard was mounted twice a day.

absol. 1844 *Regul. & Ord. Army* 31 The Royal Standard ..is never to be carried by any Guard, except that which mounts on the Person of the Sovereign.

f. *transf.*

1843 Dickens *Chr. Carol* iii, The two young Cratchits set chairs for everybody,..and mounting guard upon their posts [etc.]. 1884 Rider Haggard *Dawn* xliii, Miss Terry mounted guard over the plates and dishes.

17. To set up or prepare for use. a. To fix in position for the accomplishment of a particular purpose; to put in working order. *To mount a loom* (see quot. 1831).

1712 J. James tr. *Le Blond's Gardening* 81 The Semi-circle is mounted upon a Knee-Joint. 1763 *Museum Rust.* I. 160 When the scythe is mounted, from the point of the blade to the end of the long handle measures an angle of seven feet. 1831 G. R. Porter *Silk Manuf.* 220 In mounting the loom—that is in fixing the warp preparatory to the commencement of actual weaving. 1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 817 A set of stamping and washing works..as mounted at Bockwiese 1857 Miller *Elem. Chem.* (1862) III. 898 The apparatus having been mounted, was caused to rotate. 1873 E. Spon *Workshop Receipts* Ser. I. 387/2 Marble workers mount and fasten their works upon plaster. 1895 *Outing* XXVI. 370/1 He mounted his rod, and tried casting in shallow water.

b. To set or place in or upon a mount or support; *spec.*, to fit a picture on or in a mount. Also, to fit with decorative appendages, as metal plates, ferrules, or the like.

1806 Pike *Sources Mississ.* (1810) 84 A bear skin (the most beautiful I ever saw, which I wanted to mount a saddle). 1841 C. V. Walker *Electrotype Manip.* I. 36 A method of mounting the medals obtained from the fusible moulds, which..enhances their value in the cabinet. 1859 Gullick & Timbs *Paint.* 302 The paste used for 'mounting' water-colour paintings. 1867 F. Francis *Angling* x. (1880) 352 Most of the Findhorn flies are mounted in this way.

c. *Microscopy.* To fix (objects) upon a slide or in a cell for examination under a microscope. Also, to fit up (a microscope-slide) in this way.

1839 *Penny Cycl.* XV. 188/2 The objects should be mounted

between spherical glasses. 1884 G. Allen *Philistia* I. 198 Looking up from the microscope slides she had begun to mount. 1885 Hinde in *Phil. Trans.* CLXXVI. 426 The spicules..when mounted in Canada balsam are nearly transparent.

d. To put (a play) on the stage; to adapt for exhibition by the provision of suitable accessories.

1874 *Slang Dict., Mount*, in theatrical parlance, to prepare for production on the stage. 'The piece was excellently mounted.' 1884 Malmesbury in *Pall Mall G.* 11 Nov. 5/1 They 'mount' the events presented and the persons introduced very happily.

e. *slang.* To provide, 'set up'. ? *Obs.*

1775 D. Graham *Lothian Tom* v. Writ. (1883) II. 79 The old woman bestowed a vast of presents on Tom, and mounted him like a gentleman.

18. To put on, assume, display oneself as wearing (some special article of costume).

1812 *Sporting Mag.* XXXIX. 239 A dashing buck having just mounted a fashionable great coat. 1815 W. Irving in *Life & Lett.* (1864) I. 340, I expect he has mounted a pair of leather breeches, and is playing off the knowing one on the turf. 1842 S. Lover *Handy Andy* xxi, It was time to .. mount fresh linen and cambric. 1889 Doyle *Micah Clarke* 138 Our friend was permitted to wear his gay trappings .. without being suspected of having mounted the livery of Satan.

b. *transf.* ? Chiefly *U.S.*

1842 W. Iaving in *Life & Lett.* (1866) III. 211 My desire has been not to mount the Minister..until my arrival in Spain. 1884 *Harper's Mag.* Nov. 889/2 When rumor of bacteria..reached the vulgar ear, [she] had mounted the germ theory. 1894 G. Meredith *Ld. Ormont* iii, The reason why I mount red a little—if I do it—is, you mention Lord Ormont.

Mountable (mau·ntăb'l), *a.* [f. Mount *v.* + -able.] Capable of being mounted or ascended.

a 1608 Sir F. Yere *Comm.* (1657) 38 [The rampier] was very mountable, and lay close to the old wall of the town. 1611 Cotgr., *Montable*, mountable, ascendable, climable.

Mountain (mau·ntĕn). Forms: 3 monetain, 3–5 -a(i)n, 3–6 -ayn, mo(u)ntayne, 4 monteyne, -eine, muntayne, 4–6 mo(u)taigne, mounteyn, -ayn, *Sc.* montane, 4–7 mountaine, 5 -eyne, mowntan, -eyne, -ane, (*pl.* -aunce), montagne, 5–6 *Sc.* mountane, -ene, 6 -eine, 8 *Sc. dial.* muntain, 4– mountain. [a. OF. *montaigne* (mod. F. *montagne*) = Pr., Pg. *montanha*, Sp. *montaña*, It. *montagna* :—popular L. **montānia*, **montānea* fem., mountain region; a use either of the fem. sing. (with ellipsis of *regio*, *terra*), or perh. orig. of the neut. pl. used absol., of **montāneus* pertaining to mountains (class. Latin has the parallel derivative *montānus*), f. *mont-em*, *mons* Mount *sb.*1]

I. The simple word.

1. A natural elevation of the earth's surface rising more or less abruptly from the surrounding level, and attaining an altitude which, relatively to adjacent elevations, is impressive or notable.

With regard to the modern limitation of use see also Hill *sb.*1 Down to the 18th c. often applied to elevations of moderate altitude (cf. e. g. quots. 1766, 1773).

c 1205 Lay. 1282 Bi Ruscikadan heo nomen þa sæ & bi þe montaine of Azare. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 1776 þe water wex oute ouer þe plains, þe bestes ran þan to monetains. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 2619 þe werwolf hem ladde ouer mures & muntaynes. *c* 1430 Lydg. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 24 Mistis blake..At whos uprist mounteyns be maade so feyre. 1523 Ld. Berners *Froiss.* I. clxii. 198 They sawe a rowt of Englysshmen commynge downe a lytell mountayne a horsebacke. 1602 Shaks. *Ham.* IV. i. 29 The Sun no sooner shall the Mountaines touch, But we will ship him hence. 1685 Dryden *Hor.* I. ix. 1 Behold yon mountain's hoary height Made higher with new mounts of snow. 1766 P. Thicknesse *Observ. Customs Fr. Nation* 39 St. Germain [near Paris] is situated upon a very high mountain. 1773 G. White *Selborne, Let. to Barrington* 9 Dec., That chain of majestic mountains [*sc.* the Sussex Downs]. 1799 Kirwan *Geol. Ess.* v. 156 In common language, mountains are distinguished from hills only by annexing to them the idea of a superior height...Geologists have aimed at greater precision; Pini and Mitterpachter call any earthy elevation a mountain whose declivity makes with the horizon an angle of at least 13°, and whose perpendicular height is not less than ⅛ of the declivity. 1859 Tennyson *Merlin & Vivien* 525 Writ in a language that has long gone by. So long, that mountains have arisen since With cities on their flanks. 1879 Geikie in *Encycl. Brit.* X. 258 Mountains formed in the volcanic way are almost always conical.

b. *Cat of the mountain*: see Catamountain.

1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) III. 123 A catte of þe mowntaunce.

c. In allusions to a well-known story of Mohammed told by Bacon *Ess.* xii. (*Boldness*): see Mahomet 1 (quot. 1625).

1642 Owen *Display Armin.* viii. (1643) 85 If the mountaine will not come to Mahomet, Mahomet will goe to the mountaine. [The allusion is still proverbially current.]

d. *Poet.* Used in *pl.* as the type of a region remote from civilization.

1601 Shaks. *Twel. N.* IV. i. 52 Fit for the Mountaines, and the barbarous Caues, Where manners nere were preach'd. *a* 1645 Waller *Palamede to Zelinde* 19 Great Iulius, on the Mountaines bred, A flock perhaps or herd had led.

e. *Anglo-Irish.* (See quot.)

1834 *Brit. Husb.* I. 30 (*Ireland*) Large tracts are in what is there called 'mountain'; but the term is applied to all waste land on which young cattle and sheep are fed until they are fit to be sent into the richer pastures.

f. *Mountains high*: said hyperbolically of waves. Cf. *mountain-high* (7 c below).

1719 De Foe *Crusoe* (Globe) 9 The Sea went Mountains high. 1726 Shelvocke *Voy. round World* (1757) 187 Where the sea breaks mountains-high, if I may use that sea phrase. 1878 Huxley *Physiogr.* 172 It is not uncommon to hear of the sea running 'mountains high'; yet..the height of a wave..rarely exceeds 40 ft.

†**g.** Applied to an artificial hill or tumulus of great size. *Obs.*

1568 Grafton *Chron.* II. 584 The Lorde Talbot .. enuironed the towne of Depe, with depe trenches, and great mountaynes. 1590 Webbe *Trav.* (Arb.) 32 There [within sixe miles of the Gran Caer] are seauen Mountaines builded on the out side, like vnto ye point of a Diamond, which Mountaines were builded in King Pharoes time for to keepe Corne in, and they are Mountaines of great strength. 1636 E. Dacres tr. *Machiavel's Disc. Livy* 423 They made towres of wood, or cast up mountaines of earth, which leaned upon the wall on the outside.

†**h.** *Her.* = Mount *sb.*1 1 b. *Obs.*

1610 Guillim *Heraldry* III. iv. (1611) 96 The Field is Or, a Mountaine Azure, inflamed proper.

2. *transf.* A huge heap or pile; a towering mass. †*Mountain of ice* = Iceberg.

c 1450 *Merlin* 333 The mounteins of bodyes were a-boute hem so grete that noon myght come to hem but launchinge. 1590 Shaks. *Com. Err.* IV. iv. 158 But for the Mountaine of mad flesh that claimes mariage of me, I could finde in my heart to stay heere still. 1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* (1614) 740 The entrance..was barred with Mountaines of Ice. 1698 Fryer *Acc. E. India & P.* 157 Mountains of Fish salted on the Beach. 1830 Macaulay in *Life & Lett.* (1880) I. 157 We have oceans of beer, and mountains of potatoes, for dinner. 1855 Orr *Geol.* 3 In the cold seas,..blue mountains of ice..are every day broken off.

b. (transl. of Norw. *berg.*) A 'swarm' (of fish).

1880 *Daily News* 30 Sept. 5/3 The mountain consists of banks of fish escorted and driven in by whales. 1883 Huxley in *Standard* 19 June 3/2 The codfish formed what was called a cod's mountain of from 120 ft. to 180 ft. deep.

3. *fig.* A quantity or amount impressive by its vast proportions.

1592 *Conspir. Pretended Ref.* 94 Entertayning the said twelue persons with mountaines of large promises. 1623 Bingham *Xenophon* 111 They heard, that all that followed Cyrus gathered mountaines of wealth. 1771 *Junius Lett.* xlix. (1820) 253 The favour of a king can remove mountains of infamy. 1894 Parry *Stud. Gt. Composers, Beethoven* 171 The word 'memory' carries a mountain of meaning.

4. *Mountain of piety* = *Mount of piety* (see Mount *sb.*1 5 b.). Now *jocular*, in allusion to the Fr. or Italian term.

1617 Moryson *Itin.* I. 93 A house called the mountaine of piety, where poore men may borrow money freely, bringing pawnes. 1797 W. Johnston tr. *Beckmann's Invent.* III. 18 The Pope declared the holy mountains of piety..to be legal. 1891 *Daily News* 15 Apr. 7/1 You had to resort to what is called 'climbing the mountain of piety'?..Yes, I had to pledge nearly all my jewellery.

5. (In full *mountain wine.*) A variety of Malaga wine, made from grapes grown on the mountains.

1710 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4782/3 There is also good Mountain ..to be Retaled at 6*s.* 6*d.* per Gallon. 1730 Fielding *Rape upon Rape* IV. vi, Women love white best.—Boy, bring half a pint of mountain. 1744 Berkeley *Siris* § 115 A spoonful of mountain-wine in each glass. 1833 Redding *Mod. Wines* (1851) 201 Very little old Mountain or Malaga sweet wine is grown at present.

6. *The Mountain* [Fr. *la Montagne*]: an extreme party led by Robespierre and Danton in the first French Revolution, from the fact that it occupied the most elevated position in the chamber of assembly.

The term was also applied in England to an extreme party in parliament at the close of the 18th and beginning of the 19th c., and was revived in France *c* 1848 to describe the extreme republican party of that epoch.

[1792 *Pref. Explan. New Terms* in *Ann. Reg.* p. xii, The *Mountain*. The higher or most elevated seats in the hall of the Assembly; occupied by the violent revolutionists, or democrats.] 1827 Scott *Napoleon* Introd., Wks. 1870 IX. 295 They were..deputies of the Mountain gang. 1839 Alison *Hist. Europe* (1847) XIII. 35 The Jacobins [occupied] the seats on the summit of the left; whence their designation of 'The Mountain' was derived. 1848 Bp. S. Wilberforce in R. G. Wilberforce *Life* (1881) II. 11 The high 'Mountain' party attended in force [a meeting of the National Society] on a summons sent round by Mr. G. Denison. 1880 Disraeli *Endym.* lxxvi, There is this difference between the English Mountain and the French. The English Mountain has its government prepared.

II. *attrib.* and *Comb.* (and quasi-*adj.*).

7. a. Simple *attrib.*, as *mountain breast, brow, foot, head, pass, peak, top.* Also appositive, as *mountain-barrier, -island, -wall.*

1742 Young *Nt. Th.* IV. 726 Death's terror is the mountain faith removes; That *mountain barrier between man and peace. 1876 G. W. Cox *Gen. Hist. Greece* II. i. 102 The chain of Tauros..extends its huge mountain-barrier to the north of the Kilikian country. 1810 Scott *Lady of L.* VI. xxvii, As wreath of snow on *mountain-breast, Slides from the rock that gave it rest. 1728–46 Thomson *Spring* 829 The *mountain-brow, Where sits the shepherd. 1591 Shaks. *Two Gent.* v. ii. 46 The rising of the *Mountaine foote That leads toward Mantua. 1844 Mrs. Browning *Brown Rosary* II. Poems 1850 II. 28, I saw his steed on *mountain-head, I heard it on the plain. 1871 Morris in Mackail *Life* (1899) I. 247 A hog-backed steep *mountain-island. 1830 Scott *Macduff's Cross* Prel. 5 The summit of this *mountain pass. 1834 *Penny Cycl.* II. 470/1 The highest *mountain peak in this country. 1593 Shaks. *2 Hen. VI*, III. ii. 336 Well could I curse away a Winters night, Though standing naked on a *Mountaine top. 1816 Wordsw. *2nd Ode Battle of Waterloo*, Like mountain-tops whose mists have rolled away. 1849 J. Forbes *Physic. Holiday* xv. (1850) 134 The *mountain-walls of it [*sc.* the valley] are very precipitous. 1871 Morris in Mackail *Life* (1899) I. 256 The great mountain-wall closes up the valley.

b. objective, as *mountain-climbing, -making*; *mountain-loving* adj.

1872 Jenkinson *Guide Eng. Lakes* (1879) Introd., The lover of natural scenery and of *mountain-climbing. 1621 Sandys *Ovid's Met.* I. (1632) 7 Where *Mountaine-louing Goats did lately graze. 1810 Scott *Lady of L.* VI. iii, The mountain-loving Switzer. 1886 A. Winchell *Walks Geol. Field* 117 *Mountain-making may be another incident of the earth's contraction.

c. similative, as *mountain-high, -like*, adjs. and advs.; parasynthetic, as *mountain-bellied, -sized* adjs.

1654 Gataker *Disc. Apol.* 67 That more eminent *mountain-bellied..Proteus. 1693 T. Power in *Dryden's Juvenal* XII. (1697) 313 High, *Mountain-high, he pil'd the shining Ore. 1815 Mrs. Pilkington *Celebrity* III. 114 At one moment the vessel was elevated mountain high. 1851 Thorpe *North. Mythol.* I. 68 He struck its [the Midgard serpent's] mountain-high head with his hammer. 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* I. 50 A raging Wave, *Mountain-like, came rowling a-stern of us. 1868 Browning *Ring & Bk.* I. III. 1322 Oh mouse-birth of that mountain-like revenge! 1839 Bailey *Festus* ix. (1852) 111 In form and stature they are *mountain-sized.

d. locative, as *mountain battle, -journey* sbs.; *mountain-built, dwelling* adjs.

a 1835 Mrs. Hemans *Spells of Home* 28 The *mountain battles of his land. 1819 Keats *Ode Grecian Urn* 35 What little town ..*mountain-built with peaceful citadel. 1603 Florio *Montaigne* III. xiii. 646 Will any beleeve..that milke or whit-meates are hurtfull vnto a *mountaine-dwelling people? 1837 W. Irving *Capt. Bonneville* I. 158 In the course of this *mountain-journey.

e. instrumental, as *mountain-circled, -girdled, -walled* adjs.

1858 O. W. Holmes *Aut. Breakf.-t.* x. (1895) 248 The mountain-circled green of Grafton. 1859 Hawthorne *Fr. & It. Note-Bks.* II. 261 A vast mountain-girdled plain. 1897 Mary Kingsley *W. Africa* 180 We seem to be in a mountain-walled lake.

8. *attrib.* passing into adj., with the senses: **a.** Of, or belonging to mountains; situated in or on mountains; consisting of mountains.

1865 Allingham *Among the Heather* ii, Your *mountain air is sweet. 1808 Eleanor Sleath *Bristol Heiress* V. 207 A *mountain-beck, or brook. 1801 Scott *Eve St. John* xv, The *mountain-blast was still. 1730–46 Thomson *Autumn* 409 The mazes of the *mountain brook. 1817 Byron *Manfred* III. i. 109 The *mountain-cataract. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Serm.* Sel. Wks. II. 9 Marie..wente into *monteyne contre wiþ haste. 1577–87 Holinshed *Chron.* I. 170/2 The pleasant mountaine-countrie of Belsham. 1726 Pope *Odyss.* XIX. 621 The bird of Jove Fierce from his *mountain-eyrie downward drove. 1837 Youatt *Sheep* vii. 294 The time for shearing, in a *mountain-farm, is of considerable importance. 1860 Pusey *Min. Proph.* 181 A *mountain fastness in a rich valley. 1776 G. Semple *Building in Water* 59 Sudden *Mountain Floods. 1813 Scott *Rokeby* IV. vi, [He] bore them to his *mountain-hold. 1827 G. Darley *Sylvia* 25 Cyclops' *mountain-home. 1833 *Penny Cycl.* I. 433/1 The *mountain-masses in North America. 1812 Byron *Ch. Har.* II. xxxvi, We have many a *mountain-path to tread. 1821 tr. *Decandolle & Sprengel's Elem. Philos. Plants* IV. v. 281 From the high *mountain plains of central Asia. 1833 *Penny Cycl.* I. 182/1 The *mountain regions of the Atlas. 1895 R. Horsley in *Eng. England* XVI. 18/1 Up the steep *mountain road they went. 1611 Shaks. *Cymb.* III. iii. 10 Now for our *Mountaine sport. 1816 H. G. Knight *Ilderim* 275 Where..*mountain stream and mountain turf was found. 1802 Coleridge *Dejection* 100 Bare crag, or *mountain-tairn, or blasted tree. 1814 Scott *Ld. of Isles* VI. xxiv, They come like *mountain-torrent red. 1610 Shaks. *Temp.* I. ii. 499 As free As *mountaine windes.

b. Born in or inhabiting mountains; having (one's) abode in mountains; coming from the mountains; native of a mountain region.

1812 Byron *Ch. Har.* II. xlvii, Yet here and there some daring *mountain-band Disdain his power. 1725 Pope *Odyss.* IX. 347 He..devours it like a *mountain beast. 1591 Fraunce *C'tess Pembr. Veychurch* I. II. i, This *Mountaine-byrd, Montanus daughter. *c* 1700 Congreve *Homer's Hymn Venus* 10 She [Diana] loves..To wound the *Mountain Boar. 1808 Scott *Marm.* II. Introd., The mountain-boar on battle set. 1777 Hamilton *Wks.* (1886) VII. 522 Nixon's brigades, and Colonel Warner's *mountain boys. *c* 1614 Mure *Dido & Æneas* II. 300 *Montaine Faryes did bewaile the chance. 1599 Shaks. *Hen. V*, IV. iv. 20 Thou damned and luxurious *Mountaine Goat. 1604 E. G[rimstone] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* IV. xlii. 324 The mountaine goates, which are nourished and fed vpon poison. 1831 *Sutherland Farm Rep.* 80 in *Libr. Usef. Knowl., Husb.* III, The sweetest of the *mountain-grass. 1720 Gay *Rur. Sports* 355 Nor shall the *mountain lark the muse detain. 1601 R. Johnson *Kingd. & Commw.* (1603) 7 The *mountaine men cannot live any long time without..trafficke with the men of the plaine countrey. 1755 Smollett *Quix.* (1803) I. 238 The leaves of these *mountain-oaks. 1596 Shaks. *Merch. V.* IV. i. 75 You may as well forbid the *Mountaine Pines To wagge their high tops. 1814 Wordsw. *Excurs.* VII. 181 Long enduring *mountain-plants. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* III. 621 Thy faithful Dogs..who..hold at Bay The *Mountain Robbers. 1809 Byron *Bards & Rev.* 155 While *mountain spirits prate to river sprites. 1599 Shaks. *Hen. V*, v. i. 37 You call'd me yesterday *Mountaine-Squier. 1693 Congreve *Old Bach.* IV. xxii, Thou hast the heart of a *mountain-tiger. 1845 Kitto *Cycl. Bibl. Lit.* (1849) I. 247/1 The Kenites, a *mountain tribe on the east side of Jordan. 1617 Drumm. of Hawth. *Forth Feasting* A 4, To pearce the *mountaine Wolf with feathred Dart.

c. Used in the mountains.

1848 tr. *Hoffmeister's Trav. Ceylon*, etc. iii. 153 In the most extraordinary costumes,..hats of basket-work plait, 'leechstockings,'..and over these a sort of mountain shoes. 1897 *Outing* XXX. 135/2 The mountain-chaises and the

stage-coaches. 1900 CROCKETT *Fitting of Peals* vi. Love Idylls (1901) 38 Behind a red-bodied mountain cart. 1906 *Macm. Mag.* Apr. 457 A courteous constable, who kindly procured me a mountain-chair.

d. Resembling a mountain; huge, enormous.

1693 DRYDEN *Juvenal* x. (1697) 269 Sporus..nor crooked was, nor lame With *mountain Back. 1887 STEVENSON *Misadv. J. Nicholson* ii, The *mountain bulk of his misfortunes. 1798 COLERIDGE *Fears in Solitude* 164 Thy lakes and *mountain hills. 1816 BYRON *Ch. Har.* III. lxvii, The high, the *mountain-majesty of worth. 1795 FAWCETT *Art of War* 47 Smite *Mountain-mischief, Evil's mightier fiend. 1656 COWLEY *Pindar. Odes, Life & Fame* ii, Some build enormous *Mountain-Palaces. 1696 TATE & BRADY *Ps.* lxxxviii. 7 Me all thy *Mountain Waves have press'd.

9. Special comb.: **mountain artillery**, light ordnance for use in mountainous countries; **mountain barometer**, a barometer adapted for measuring the heights of mountains (Ogilvie *Suppl.* 1855); **mountain battery**, a battery of light guns capable of being transported in hilly country on the backs of mules; **mountain chain**, a connected series of mountains, esp. an aggregate of ranges of mountains having a common geographical relation; **mountain cross** *Her.*, a plain cross humetty (Berry *Encycl. Her.* I. 1828–40); **mountain cure**, the cure of disease (esp. of a tuberculous character) by residence in the rarefied atmosphere of high elevations; **mountain dew**, Scotch whisky; **mountain fever**, a name loosely applied to malarial or typhoid fevers contracted in mountain regions; †**mountain folks**, a designation of the Scottish Cameronians; **mountain guide**, one whose local knowledge enables him to act as a guide amongst mountains; *spec.* a person specially trained to act as guide in dangerous mountain ascents; **mountain-gun, -howitzer**, a gun or howitzer specially adapted for use in a mountainous country; **mountain land**, in Ireland and New England, wild unenclosed pasture, frequently on the slopes of hills; **mountain-man**, (*a*) *pl.* = *mountain folk*; (*b*) *U. S.* a trapper; **mountain railway**, a light railway for transport in mountain regions; **mountain range**, a series of mountains ranged in a line, and connected by elevated ground; **mountain sickness**, a malady caused by breathing the rarefied air of mountain heights; **mountain slide**, a landslip occurring on a mountain side; **mountain wine** (see 5 above).

1860 *Chamb. Encycl.* I. 455/1 There are several kinds of equipments of Light Artillery, under the names of horse, field, rocket, *mountain, and reserve. 1875 *Encycl. Brit.* III. 443/1 In *mountain and position batteries both gunners and drivers usually walk. 1821 tr. *Decandolle & Sprengel's Elem. Philos. Plants* iv. v. 281 When a particular *mountain chain stretches into the level country beneath it, its peculiar plants will also appear in the low land. 1876 TOLLEMACHE in *Fortn. Rev.* Mar. 340 Very many invalids seek the *mountain-cure. 1816 SCOTT *Old Mort.* Introd., A pleasing..liquor, which was vended..under the name of **mountain dew*. 1855 [BURN] *Autobiog. of Beggar Boy* x. (1859) 153 The exhilarating fumes of mountain dew, vulgarly called whisky toddy. 1875 tr. *von Ziemmsen's Cycl. Med.* II. 567 Whether similar conditions will be found to exist, explaining the origin of '*mountain fever'..is not yet determined. 1713 WODROW *Corr.* (1843) I. 520 The *mountain folks, as they were called, who did not join in hearing till they gave in a written testimony against the indulgence, hearing conformists [etc.]. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* II. vi, With a trusty *mountain-guide. 1881 *Instr. Census Clerks* (1885) 31 Mountain Guide. 1904 *Blackw. Mag.* Feb. 183/1 In still denser dust swing by the *mountain-guns. 1812 BYRON *Ch. Har.* I. li, The *mountain-howitzer, the broken road..Portend the deeds to come. 1667 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 39 Barren *mountaine lands, not worth six pence an acre yearely. 1797 J. A. GRAHAM *Pres. St. Vermont* 166 There is much Mountain land in these districts. 1691 J. HOWIE in *Collect. Dying Test.* (1806) 10, I testify against those that were called '*Mountain-men'. 1851 MAYNE REID *Scalp Hunt.* xx, These were the trappers, the prairie hunters, the mountain men. 1898 *Daily News* 22 Nov. 5/1 The *mountain railway reaches an elevation of nearly five thousand feet. 1831 M. RUSSELL *Egypt* xi. § 1 (1832) 470 The alluvial soil of valleys near a *mountain-range. 1848 tr. *Hoffmeister's Trav. Ceylon*, etc. x. 351 The feelings of indisposition caused by the **mountain sickness*. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 456 The supposition,..of heart failure as a cause of mountain-sickness. 1886 A. WINCHELL *Walks Geol. Field* 106 *Mountain-slides..sometimes occasion genuine earthquake tremours.

b. In the names of minerals and mineral substances, etc. [chiefly after G. compounds of *berg-*]: †**mountain blue** [after G. *bergblau*], a native carbonate of copper; **mountain butter** (tr. G. *bergbutter*, A. G. Werner 1789) = ALUNOGEN; **mountain cork, flesh, leather, paper, wood** (also MOUNTAIN FLAX 2), descriptive names for varieties of asbestos; **mountain crystal** = ROCK-CRYSTAL; **mountain flour, meal** (tr. G. *bergmehl*), (*a*) a recent freshwater deposit consisting of the siliceous frustules of diatoms; (*b*) a white cotton-like variety of calcite occurring as an efflorescence on rocks; **mountain limestone** *Geol.*, a thick massive limestone belonging to the Carboniferous series; **mountain milk** (see quot.); †**mountain mine**, epithet applied to the group of rocks forming the lower coal measures; †**mountain pitch**, a kind of native bitumen; **mountain soap** (G. *bergseife*, A. G. Werner 1780), a kind of bole of a blackish colour; **mountain tallow** = HATCHETTITE (Crabb *Tech. Dict.* 1823); †**mountain tar** = PISSASPHALT; †**mountain yellow** [after G. *berggelb*], yellow ochre; hence as the name of a colour.

1801 *Encycl. Brit.* Suppl. II. 237/1 Earthy blue carbonat. **Mountain blue.* 1796 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) I. 163 *Mountain cork. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* s.v. *Milk*, The internal use..of calcin'd *mountain crystals, in powder. 1796 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) I. 241 Mountain or Rock Crystal. 1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 418/1 Structure [of Pilolite] varies considerably, and has given rise to trivial names, as..*mountain flesh.. &c. 1861 *Chamb. Encycl.* II. 49/1 *Bergmehl*, or **mountain-flour*, is a recent deposit of a white or cream-coloured powder. 1796 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) I. 163 It is found .. in thin flat pieces, then called *mountain leather, or paper. 1819 BRANDE *Man. Chem.* 517 The banks of the Avon too, in the vicinity of Chepstow, are of *mountain limestone. 1865 LYELL *Elem. Geol.* 513 Crinoidea are also common in the Mountain Limestone. 1823 W. PHILLIPS *Introd. Min.* (ed. 3) 54 *Mountain-meal. Bergmehl. 1876 GOODE *Anim. Resources U. S.* 66 'Mountain meal', a kind of infusorial earth, mixed with flour, and used as food in Lapland and China. 1842 BRANDE *Dict. Sci.* etc., '*Mountain milk*, a very soft spongy variety of carbonate of lime. 1855 J. PHILLIPS *Man. Geol.* 184 The lower coal measures or '*mountain mine' group. 1796 *Mountain paper [see *mountain-leather*]. 1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 418/1 Mountain Paper occurs in thin sheets at Boyne Castle near Banff. 1797 HATCHETT in *Nicholson's Jrnl.* (1799) II. 203 Mineral Tar, Bitumen Petroleum tarde fluens.. *Mountain or Mineral pitch—Bitumen Maltha. 1796 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) I. 189 The earth called *mountain soap. 1797 HATCHETT in *Nicholson's Jrnl.* (1799) II. 203 *Mountain or Mineral Tar. 1816 JAMESON *Syst. Min.* (ed. 2) III. 577 *Mountain or rock wood. 1801 *Encycl. Brit.* Suppl. II. 218/2 Colour..olive or mountain green, pale flesh red, and *mountain yellow.

c. Prefixed to the names of many animals found in upland districts.

Mountain antelope = GORAL (Webster 1897); **mountain-barbel**, a cyprinoid fish of the genus *Schizothorax*, or of certain other allied genera; **mountain bat**, a very small social bat, *Emballonura monticola*, native of Borneo, Java, Sumatra and the Philippine Islands; **mountain beauty** *U. S.*, the black spotted trout, *Salmo purpuratus* (*Cent. Dict.* 1890); **mountain beaver** *U. S.*, a small haplodont, *Haplodon rufus*, native of Washington, Oregon and parts of California; **mountain blackbird**, the ring ouzel, *Turdus torquatus* (Swainson 1885); **mountain boomer** *U. S.*, the common red squirrel, *Sciurus hudsonius*, of North America (*Cent. Dict.* s. v. *Boomer*); **mountain bunting**, the snow bunting, *Plectrophanes nivalis*; **mountain burnet**, a species of burnet moth, *Zygæna Exulans*; **mountain cat**, a catamount or catamountain; **mountain cock** = CAPERCAILYIE; †**mountain cow**, the tapir; **mountain crab**, a land crab (*Cent. Dict.*); **mountain devil** = MOLOCH 2; **mountain duck** (see quot.); **mountain eagle**, the golden eagle, *Aquila chrysaëtus*; **mountain finch** = BRAMBLING; also any bird of the genus *Montifringilla*; **mountain goat** = MAZAME 2; **monntain hare**, (*a*) the Cape jerboa, *Pedetes capensis*, native of South Africa; (*b*) the alpine hare, *Lepus variabilis*, native of the northern parts of both hemispheres; (*c*) a tailless hare, *Lagomys Roylii*, native of Ceylon; **mountain hawk**, a kind of buzzard, *Regerhinus uncinatus*, native of Grenada in the West Indies; **mountain herring** *U. S.*, a salmonoid fish, *Coregonus Williamsoni*; **mountain linnet**, a kind of finch, *Linota montium*, native of Europe; **mountain lion** = PUMA; **mountain magpie**, the green woodpecker, *Picus viridis*; **monntain mocking-bird**, *Oreoscoptes montanus*, native of the interior table-land of North America; †**mountain mouse**, the MARMOT; **mountain nymph** (see quot.); **mountain ouzel** (see OUZEL 1 b); **mountain panther**, (*a*) = OUNCE *sb.*[2] 2; (*b*) = PUMA (Webster *Suppl.* 1902); **mountain parrot** = KEA; **mountain partridge** (see PARTRIDGE 2); **mountain pheasant**, the lyre-bird; **mountain quail** = *plumed partridge* (see PARTRIDGE 2); **mountain ram** = *mountain sheep*; **mountain rat** = MARMOT; **mountain ringlet**, an English satyrid butterfly, *Erebia Epiphron*; **mountain sheep**, the Rocky Mountain sheep, *Ovis montana*; **mountain sparrow**, the tree sparrow, *Passer montanus*; **mountain thrush**, (*a*) an Australian thrush, *Oreocincla lunulata*; (*b*) the ring ouzel (Swainson 1885); **mountain trout**, (*a*) a name for two Californian species of trout, *Salmo iridens* and *S. purpureus*; (*b*) any one of the acanthopterygian fishes of the genus *Galaxias*, native of Australia, etc.; **mountain white butterfly**, a European 'white', *Pieris Callidice*; **mountain witch**, a ground dove, *Geotrygon sylvatica* or *cristata*, native of Jamaica.

1880 GÜNTHER *Fishes* xvii. 242 The alpine freshwater fishes .. are principally Salmonoids; and in Asia, besides, *mountain-barbels and Loaches. 1887 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* I. 314 The *Mountain Bat. 1885 *Riverside Nat. Hist.* (1888) V. 121 This is the..'Sewellel' of the aborigines.. known to .. trappers as the 'Boomer' and '*Mountain Beaver'. 1768 PENNANT *Brit. Zool.* (1776) I. 281 *Mountain Bunting. 1882 W. F. KIRBY *Europ. Butterfl. & M.* (1903) Plate xxii, Zygæna Exulans—*Mountain Burnet. 1709 J. LAWN *New Voy. Carolina* 118 Cat-a-Mount. The *Mountain-Cat, so call'd, because he lives in the Mountainous Parts of America. 1780 EDMONDSON *Heraldry* II. Alphabet, *Keate*,..ar. three mountain-cats passant in pale sa. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* v. xvi, Like mountain-cat who guards her young, Full at Fitz-James's throat he sprung. 1802 MONTAGU *Ornith. Dict.* (1831), **Mountain cock*, a name for the Capercalzie. 1699 DAMPIER *Voy.* II. II. iv. 102 Horses, and other Animals, amongst which the *Mountain Cow..is most remarkable. 1827 ROBERTS *Voy. Centr. Amer.* 45 The tapir, or mountain cow. 1853 *Proc. Roy. Soc. Van Diemen's Land* II. 515 (Morris) *Mountain-devil. 1894 NEWTON *Dict. Birds* 600 *Mountain-Duck, several species of *Anatidæ*—and in New Zealand apparently applied colloquially to *Tadorna tadornoides* (Sheld-drake). 1877 — in *Encycl. Brit.* VII. 590/1 The Golden or *Mountain-Eagle..is the second British species. 1678 RAY *Willughby's Ornith.* 255 The great pied *Mountain-Finch or Bramlin. 1800 COLERIDGE *Keepsake* 6 The foxglove..bends beneath the up-springing lark Or mountain-finch alighting. 1867 A. L. ADAMS *Wand. Naturalist India* 283 The black-headed mountain-finch *Montifringilla hæmatopygia* is often seen around the lake. 1859 S. BAIRD *Mammals N. Amer.* 671 *Aplocerus montanus*..*Mountain Goat, Mountain Sheep, White Goat, &c. 1785 G. FORSTER tr. *Sparrman's Voy. Cape G. Hope* II. 195 By the colonists it is called *berg-haas*,..(the *mountain..bare). 1848 tr. *Hoffmeister's Trav. Ceylon*, etc. xii. 446 Tall bushes of furze, the home of a multitude of..small mountain-hares. 1887 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* III. 149 The Mountain Hare (*Lepus variabilis*) or Northern Hare. 1888 GOODE *Amer. Fishes* 490 This species is usually known..in Utah as the '*Mountain Herring'. 1678 RAY *Willughby's Ornith.* 261 The *Mountain Linnet: *Linaria Montana*. 1874 G. KINGSLEY *Notes Sport & Trav.* (1900) 172 *note*, It was not a bear we were after; it was a *mountain lion...Our lion is the puma. 1802 MONTAGU *Ornith. Dict.* (1831), **Mountain magpie*, a name for the Popinjay. 1883 NEWTON in *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 541/1 The so-called *Mountain Mocking-bird..is a form not very distant from *Mimus*. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 687 A Dor-mouse, a *Mountain-mouse, and such like. 1869–73 T. R. JONES *Cassell's Bk. Birds* III. 52 The *Mountain Nymphs (*Oreotrochilus*). 1678 RAY *Willughby's Ornith.* 195 The Rock Ouzel, or *Mountain Ouzel of Gesner. 1894 NEWTON *Dict. Birds* 600 *Mountain-Parrot. 1884 *Cassell's Fam. Mag.* Apr. 272/1 The 'lyre-bird', or *mountain pheasant. 1807 P. GASS *Jrnl.* 74 Horns of the *Mountain ram. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp., App.* s.v. *Rat*, *Mountain-rat, the English name of a creature, otherwise called the Marmotte. 1859 FARRAR *J. Home* xvi. 208 With all the ardour of a young entomologist in full chase of a little *mountain-ringlet. 1807 P. GASS *Jrnl.* 82 We saw some *Mountain sheep. 1738 ALBIN *Nat. Hist. Birds* III. 62 The *Mountain Sparrow. 1848 J. GOULD *Birds Australia* IV. pl. 7 *Oreocincla lunulata*, *Mountain Thrush,..Colonists of Van Diemen's Land. 1886 J. T. CUNNINGHAM in *Encycl. Brit.* XXI. 223/1 The Californian *Mountain, or Rainbow Trout. 1898 MORRIS *Austral Eng.* 304/2 *Mountain-Trout*, species of *Galaxias*. 1882 W. F. KIRBY *Europ. Butterfl. & M.* (1903) Plate iii, Pieris Callidice..*Mountain White Butterfly. 1847 GOSSE *Birds Jamaica* 318 These moans, heard..while the bird is rarely seen, have..given it the name of *Mountain Witch.

d. In the names of plants, their fruits, etc., growing in elevated situations.

Mountain arnica = *mountain tobacco*; **mountain avens**, a subalpine plant, *Dryas octopetala*; **mountain balm** *U. S.*, (*a*) = *bastard balm*; (*b*) a trade name for Oswego tea (*Cent. Dict.* 1890); (*c*) an evergreen plant, *Eriodictyon glutinosum*, also prob. *E. didyma* (*Ibid.*); **mountain balsam** *U. S.*, a coniferous tree, *Abies subalpina*; **mountain bay**, a small ornamental tree, *Gordonia pubescens*, native of Georgia and Florida (Funk's *Stand. Dict.* 1895); **mountain beech**, †(*a*) ? = *Dutch beech*, the white poplar, *Populus alba*; (*b*) *Austral.*, the proteaceous tree *Lomatia longifolia* (Morris 1898); **mountain bindweed**, a plant of the primulaceous genus *Soldanella*; **mountain bramble** = CLOUDBERRY; **mountain cabbage** (tree), a West Indian palm tree of the genus *Oreodoxa*; †**mountain calamiot**, calamint (cf. *mountain mint*); **mountain cherry** *U. S.*, a kind of cherry, *Cerasus Chicasa*; **mountain chickweed** (see quot.); **mountain clover**, a papilionaceous subalpine plant, *Trifolium montanum*; **mountain coralline** = REINDEER-MOSS; **mountain cowslip**, a herbaceous plant, *Primula Auricula*, native of the Swiss Alps; **mountain cranberry** *U. S.* = COWBERRY (*Cent. Dict.*); **mountain damson**, a simarubaceous tree, native of the West Indies and Guiana, esp. *Simaruba glauca*, native of Jamaica; †**mountain dock**, Welsh sorrel, *Oxyria reniformis* (Withering *Brit. Plants*, ed. 3, 1796); **mountain ebony**, a leguminous tree of the genus *Bauhinia* having dark-coloured and hard wood; also the wood itself; **mountain fern**, an aspidioid fern, *Nephrodium Oreopteris*; **mountain flower**, a kind of crane's bill, *Geranium sylvaticum*; **mountain fringe** *U. S.*, a climbing biennial fumariaceous plant, *Adlumia cirrhosa*; **mountain grape** (tree) (see quots.); **mountain groundsel**, the *Senecio sylvaticus*; **mountain guava** (see GUAVA 1); **mountain heath**, a handsome ericaceous shrub, *Menziesia taxifolia*, native of North America; **mountain hemp**, a species of henbane, *Hyoscyamus insanus*, native of Baluchistan; **mountain holly**, an aquifoliaceous tree, *Nemopanthes Canadensis*, native of North America; **mountain ironwort**, a labiate plant, *Sideritis montana*; **mountain larch**, a kind of fir, *Larix lyalli*, native of the Rocky Mountains; **mountain laurel**, the North American shrub *Kalmia latifolia*; also, the leaves of this plant used medicinally; **mountain laver** (see quot.); **mountain lily** = MARTAGON; **mountain liquorice**, a kind of trefoil, *Trifolium alpinum*, native of Europe; **mountain magnolia**, *Magnolia acuminata*; **mountain manchineel**, a West Indian sumac, *Rhus Metopium*; **mountain mango**, the fruit of certain species of *Clusia*, grown in the West Indies; **mountain mint** †(*a*) calamint, (*b*) the U. S. genus *Pycnanthemum*; **mountain moss**, the lycopodiaceous plant *Selaginella selaginoides* (Britton & Brown *Amer. Flora* 1897–8); **mountain parsley** (see PARSLEY 2); **mountain pine**, a dwarf alpine pine, *Pinus Pumilio*, native of Europe; **mountain plum**, an olæaceous tree, *Ximenia americana*, native of tropical America; **mountain poly** (see POLY c); **mountain pride** = MOUNTAIN GREEN 2; **mountain puliol** (see PULIOL); **mountain rice**, (*a*) a variety of rice grown in upland districts where irrigation is impossible (in recent Dicts.); (*b*) any grass of the genus *Oryzopsis*; **mountain rose**, the rhododendron; †**mountain rose bay**, the kalmia (Miller *Gard. Dict.* ed. 1759, Index); **mountain saffron**, a liliaceous plant, *Anthericum serotinum*; **mountain sandwort**, a caryophyllaceous plant, *Arenaria groenlandica* (in recent Dicts.); †**mountain siler**, a kind of willow; **mountain sorrel**, *Oxyria reniformis*; **mountain spiderwort** = *mountain saffron*; **mountain spinach** = ORACH; **mountain stone parsley**, ? = *Mountain parsley* (a); **mountain sweet** (see quot.); **mountain tea**, *Gaultheria procumbens*; also its leaves used for infusion; **mountain tea-tree**, *Kunzea pedunculata* (Morris *Austral Eng.*); **mountain tobacco**, *Arnica montana*.

1861 BENTLEY *Man. Bot.* 580 *Mountain Arnica,..or Leopard's bane, is an acrid stimulant. 1796 WITHERING *Brit.*

Plants (ed. 3) II. 478 *Dryas octopetala*...*Mountain Avens. 1856 Mayne *Expos. Lex.*, **Mountain Balm*, common name for the *Melittis melissophyllum*. 1902 *Encycl. Brit.* XXXI. 263/2 The principal trees of the Rocky Mountains are aspen and..*mountain balsam. 1707 Mortimer *Husb.* (1721) II. 26 The *Mountain-Beech is the whitest and most sought after by the Turner. 1597 Gerarde *Herbal* II. cxxciii. 690 *Soldanella* or *mountaine Bindweed, hath many round leaues spred vpon the ground. 1818 Withering *Brit. Plants* (ed. 6) III. 625 *Rubus Chamæmorus*...Cloud-herry, *Mountain Bramble, Knot-berries. 1681 Grew *Musæum* II. i. § 1. 181 Part of the Trunk of a young *Mountain Cabbige. 1796 Stedman *Surinam* II. xvi. 23 A tree called the mountain-cabbage-tree, which is one of the palm species. *c* 1450 J. Metham *Wks.* (E. E. T. S.) 49 Modyrwort, rwe, red malwys, and *calamynt mowateyn [*read* mownteyn]. 1847 Darlington *Amer. Weeds*, etc. (1860) 117 *Chicasa Prunus*. ..*Mountain Cherry. 1778 Pennant *Tour in Wales* (1883) I. 27 The *Arenaria Verna*, or *Mountain chickweed. 1882 W. F. Kirby *Europ. Butterfl. & M.* (1903) Plate xxii, Plants...*Mountain Clover. 1598 Florio, *Corallina* .. also Corall or *mountain coralline. 1753 Chambers *Cycl. Supp.* s. v. *Heath-moss*, The alpine coralline-like *Coralloides*. This is called, by some, mountain Coralline. 1597 Gerarde *Herbal* II. cclxii. 640 There be diuers sorts of *Mountaine Cowslips, or Beares eares. 1863 Prior *Plant-n.* 156 Mountain Cowslip, *Primula auricula*. 1814 Lunan *Hortus Jamaic.* I. 521 Mountain Damson, *Quassia* .. *Simaruba*..This tree is known in Jamaica by the name of *mountain damson, bitter damson, or stavewood. 1864 Grisebach *Flora W. Ind. Isl.* 785 Mountain-damson, *Simaruba amara*. 1725 Sloane *Jamaica* II. 51 *Mountain Ebony. This tree rises to about fifteen foot high. 1756 P. Browne *Jamaica* (1789) 287 *Bauhinia*... Mountain Ebeny. 1814 Lunan *Hortus Jamaic.* I. 278 Mountain Ebony. *Bauhinia*..*Porrecta*. Stretched. 1864 Grisebach *Flora W. Ind. Isl.* 785 Mountain-ebony, *Casparea porrecta*, and *Bauhinia megalandra*. 1898 Morris *Austral Eng.* 134/1 Both [*Bauhinia Carronii* and *B. Hookeri*] are called Queensland or Mountain Ebony. 1863 Prior *Plant-n.* 156 *Mountain fern, *Aspidium Oreopteris*. 1853 G. Johnston *Bot. E. Bord.* 48 *Geranium sylvaticum*. The King's-Hood: *Mountain-Flower. 1846–50 A. Wood *Class-bk. Bot.* 158 *Adlumia cirrhosa*...*Mountain Fringe. 1756 P. Browne *Jamaica* (1789) 210 *Coccolobis* 4...The *Mountain Grape-Tree. 1864 Grisebach *Flora W. Ind. Isl.* 785 Mountain-grape, black, *Guettarda longiflora*. Mountain-grape, common, *Cocoloba tenuifolia*. Mountain-grape, large-leaved, *Coccoloba Plumieri*. 1880 *Encycl. Brit.* XI. 221/2 *Senecio sylvaticus* and *S. viscosus* are known respectively as *mountain groundsel and stinking groundsel. 1846–50 A. Wood *Class-bk. Bot.* 373 *Mountain Heath. 1887 Bentley *Man. Bot.* (ed. 5) 632 *Hyoscyamus insanus*..is called *Mountain Hemp. 1807 P. Gass *Jrnl.* 130 There is also a small bush..about 6 inches high, which bears a small bunch of small purple berries. Some call it *mountain holly; the fruit is of an acid taste. 1822 *Hortus Anglicus* II. 75 *Sideritis Montana*. *Mountain Iron Wort. Herbaceous, decumbent, hairy. 1891 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1902 *Encycl. Brit.* XXXI. 263/2 *Mountain larch (*Larix lyallii*). 1759 Miller *Gard. Dict.* (ed. 7) s.v. *Kalmia* Ever-green Rose Laurel..commonly called in America *Mountain Laurel. 1887 Bentley *Man. Bot.* (ed. 5) 605 The leaves, under the name of 'Mountain Laurel', are said to be a valuable remedy in obstinate diarrhœa. 1866 *Treas. Bot.*, **Mountain laver*, a reddish gelatinous *Alga*, belonging to the genus *Palmella*, ..growing on the sides of mountains. 1664 Evelyn *Kal. Hort., June* (1679) 19 Campions or Sultans, *Mountain Lillies white, red. 1728 J. Gardiner tr. *Rapin's Of Gardens* Index, Martagon, or Mountain Lilly. 1829 Loudon *Encycl. Plants* 1153 *Mountain liquorice. 1884 Sargent *Rep. Forests N. Amer.* (10th Census IX) 20 Magnolia acuminata..*Mountain magnolia. *Ibid.*, 54 Rhus Metopium..*Mountain Manchineel. 1861 Bentley *Man. Bot.* 478 In Nevis and St. Kitt's the three species [of *Clusia*] are known indifferently under the names of Fat Pork, Monkey Apple, and *Mountain or Wild Mango. 1671 Salmon *Syn. Med.* III. xxii. 393 Calamintha..*Mountain-Mint. 1866 *Treas. Bot.*, *Pycnanthemum*, the generic name of the Mountain Mints of the United States. 1777 Robson *Brit. Flora* 264 *Lycopodium Selaginoides*...Prickly Wolfsclaw. Seeding *Mountain-moss. 1856 Mayne *Expos. Lex.*, **Mountain Pine*, common name for the *Pinus pumilio*. 1864 Grisebach *Flora W. Ind. Isl.* 786 *Mountain-plum, *Ximenia americana*. 1814 Lunan *Hortus Jamaic.* I. 524 *Mountain Pride. *Spathelia*..*Simplex*. 1845–50 Mrs. Lincoln *Lect. Bot.* App. 134/2 *Oryzopsis asperifolia* (*mountain rice..). 1739 Miller *Gard. Dict.* II., *Chamærhododendron*, Sweet *Mountain Rose. 1826 P. Pounden *France & Italy* 197 The rhododendron, or mountain-rose. 1838 Mary Howitt *Birds & Flowers, Mill-stream* ii, Into the mad Mill-stream The mountain-roses fall. 1796 Withering *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) II. 339 *Anthericum serotinum*...*Mountain Saffron. *c* 1550 Lloyd *Treas. Health* L v b, Syler, *montayne and Comin sod in wyne. 1863 Prior *Plant-n.* 156 *Mountain sorrel, *Oxyria reniformis*. 1849 Craig, *Mountain-spiderwort, the plant *Anthericum serotinum*. 1829 Loudon *Encycl. Plants* 863 *Atriplex hortensis*, sometimes called *mountain spinach, was formerly cultivated as a culinary herb. 1719 Quincy *Lex. Physico-Med.* (1722) 348/1 *Mountain-Stone-Parsley. 1866 *Treas. Bot.*, **Mountain-sweet*, a Canadian name for *Ceanothus americanus*. 1861 Bentley *Man. Bot.* 585 An infusion of the leaves [of the Partridge Berry] is employed in certain parts of North America, as a substitute for China tea, under the name of *Mountain or Salvador Tea. 1846 Lindley *Veg. Kingd.* 707 *Arnica montana*, a Swiss herb, called in our gardens *Mountain Tobacco.

Mountain ash.

1. The tree *Pyrus* (formerly *Sorbus*) *Aucuparia*, characterized by its delicate pinnate leaves and masses of bright scarlet berries. In North America applied to the native species, *Pyrus americana* and *P. sambucifolia*. Also *Bastard Mountain ash*: see quot. 1812.

1597 Gerarde *Herbal* III. civ. 1290 The..*Ornus* which also is named ὀρεινὴ μελία, or *Montana Fraxinus*, mountaine Ash. 1697 Dryden *Æneid* x. 1087 Like a mountain ash [L. *ornum*], whose roots are spread, Deep fix'd in earth. 1745 P. Thomas *Jrnl. Anson's Voy.* 36 Besides those Myrtle Trees, there are the Mountain-Ash..the Pepper Tree [etc.]. 1812 *Sowerby's Eng. Bot.* XXXIII. 2331 *Pyrus pinnatifida*. Bastard Mountain Ash. 1845–50 Mrs. Lincoln *Lect. Bot.* App. 172 *Sorbus americana* (mountain ash..). 1875 *Encycl. Brit.* II. 680/2 Pear trees are sometimes grafted on the mountain ash.

2. a. *dial.*; b. *Austral.* (see quots.)

1871 *Scott. Naturalist* I. 54 In Inverness-shire, the Aspen (*Populus tremula*) is known as the Mountain, or Quaking, Ash. 1898 Morris *Austral Eng.* 304/1 *Mountain-Ash*, a name applied to various Eucalypts, and to the tree *Alphitonia excelsa*, Reiss.

Mountained (mau·ntênd), *ppl. a. poet. rare.* [f. **mountain* vb. (f. Mountain *sb.*) + -ed 1.]

1. Stationed upon a mountain; elevated, lofty.

1628 Feltham *Resolves* I. ii. 5 In high and mountain'd Fortunes resolution is necessary, to insafe vs from the.. wyles of prosperity...In the wane of Fortune, Resolution is likewise necessary, to [etc.]. 1818 Keats *Endym.* II. 197 Like old Deucalion mountain'd o'er the flood.

†**2.** Heaped 'mountain high'. *Obs.*

1655 H. Vaughan *Silex Scint.* I. *Storm* i, Yet have I.. boyling stremes that rave With the same curling force, and hisse, As doth the mountain'd wave. 1748 J. Brown *Ess. Satire* 302 When Giant-Vice and Irreligion rise On mountain'd falsehoods to invade the skies. 1762–9 Falconer *Shipwr.* III. 491 Now no more a-lee Her trembling side could bear the mountain'd sea.

3. † a. Obstructed by mountains (*obs.*). b. Containing mountains.

1655 H. Vaughan *Silex Scint.* I. *Regeneration* ii, My walke a monstrous, mountain'd thing, Rough-cast with rocks and snow. 1820 Keats *Hyperion* II. 123 Such noise is like the roar of bleak-grown pines: Which, when it ceases in this mountain'd world, No other sound succeeds; but ceasing here, among these fallen [etc.].

Mountaineer (mauntĭnī·ə(r)). Also 7 -ier, -tanier, -taneer, -tineer. [f. Mountain + -eer. Cf. Mountainer and OF. *montagnier, montainier* adj., mountain-dwelling.]

1. A native of or dweller amongst mountains. Also *attrib.* as adj.

1610 Shaks. *Temp.* III. iii. 44 When wee were Boyes Who would beleeue that there were Mountayneeres, Dew-lapt [etc.]. 1625 Tuke *Conc. Holy Eucharist* 6 That Mountineer, Michah of Ephraim. 1630 Drayton *Muses' Elysium* Nymphal ii. 10 This Cleon was a Mountaineer. 1678 R. L'Estrange *Seneca's Mor., Happy Life* xvii. (1696) 268 The Mountanier makes the best Soldier. 1725 De Foe *Voy. round World* (1840) 277 We saw several huts of the mountaineer inhabitants. 1821 Byron *Two Foscari* III. i, The longing sorrow Of the sad mountaineer when far away. 1879 Chr. G. Rossetti *Seek & F.* 91 The Mountaineer is characteristically hardy,..a lover of freedom, a patriot.

2. A member of the 'Mountain' (see Mountain 6).

1802 *Sketch of Paris* II. liii. 197 The *montagnards* or mountaineers, that is, those monsters who were always thirsting for blood. 1827 Scott *Napoleon* Introd., Wks. 1870 IX. 263 The Mountaineers, his former associates.

3. One skilled or occupied in mountain climbing.

1860 Tyndall *Glac.* I. xvi. 116, I had improved as a mountaineer since my ascent of Mont Blanc. 1872 Jenkinson *Guide Eng. Lakes* (1879) 221 The experienced mountaineer may have a rough and romantic walk by descending along the side of the Comb Gill ravine.

Hence **Mountaineer** *v. intr.*, to be a mountain climber; usually in *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1803 Southey *Lett.* (1856) I. 247 My mountaineering recollections are to come in the next book. 1862 Tyndall (*title*), Mountaineering in 1861. 1890 *Dickens' Dict. Lond.* 23/2 The mountaineering qualification of the club is a severe one. 1892 C. T. Dent *Mountaineering* ii. 61 Those who mountaineer in regions where the heights are undetermined must not depend on aneroids alone. 1897 Mary Kingsley *W. Africa* 582, I wish I had got the mountaineering spirit.

†**Mountainer.** *Obs.* [f. Mountain + er 1; cf. Mountaineer.] = Mountaineer 1.

1598 Le Roy *Aristotle's Polit.* v. 267 For the Mountainers were Democraticall; those of the champion countrey, Oligarchical. 1692 Bentley *Boyle Lect.* iii. 96 Being illiterate Rustics, as Mountainers always are.

Mountainet, -ette (mauntène·t). [a. F. *montagnette*, dim. of *montagne* mountain.] A small mountain; a hillock, mound. Also *fig.*

a 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* I. (1590) 60 b, Her breasts (which sweetly rase vp like two faire Mountainets in the pleasaunt vale of Tempe). *c* 1586 C tess Pembroke *Ps.* LXVIII. vi, This mountainett..doth God desire. *a* 1603 T. Cartwright *Confut. Rhem. N. T.* (1618) 86 He hath cast down many..mountaines and mountainets. 1859 Singleton *Virgil* II. 218 And work with Share Rutulian mountainets [*Aen.* VII. 798 *collis*]. 1892 S. R. Hole *Mem.* 238 The most perfect of rock-gardens, a natural conjunction of mountainettes and streamlets.

Mountain flax.

1. A name for various plants. a. = Mill-mountain. b. The centanry, *Erythræa Centaurium* (Cumberland Gloss. 1878). c. Quaking-grass, *Briza media*. d. The corn spurry, *Spergula arvensis* (Miss Jackson *Shropshire Word-book*, 1879). e. U. S. *Polygala Senega*.

1718 Quincy *Comp. Disp.* 186 Mountain Flax.—This is own'd in Medicine only by the common People. 1788 W. Marshall *Yorks.* II. 119 Mountain flax—*linum catharticum*—purging flax. 1845–50 Mrs. Lincoln *Lect. Bot.* App. 144/2 *Polygala senega* (seneca snake-root, mountain-flax). 1871 *Scott. Naturalist* I. 54 In Kirkcudbrightshire, the Quaking Grass (*Briza*) is called Mountain Flax.

2. A kind of asbestos; = Amianthus 1.

1807 Aikin *Dict. Chem. & Min.* I. 107 Amianth or Mountain Flax. 1856 A. Faulkner *Dict. Comm. Terms* 6.

Mountain-green. [After G. *berggrün.*]

1. *Min.* † a. = Malachite. *Obs.*

1727–52 Chambers *Cycl.* s. v. *Green*, Mountain Green..is a sort of greenish powder found.. among the mountains of Kernausent, Hungary. 1836–41 Brande *Chem.* (ed. 5) 825 The pulverulent variety [of malachite] has been termed *chrysocolla* and *mountain-green*.

b. Glauconite or green earth.

1822 Cleaveland *Min. & Geol.* I. 445 Green Earth..is employed as a pigment, and sometimes called *mountain green*.

2. As the name of a colour. Also *adj.*

1796 Kirwan *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) I. 389 Mountain green hornstone is often debased, apparently by green earth. 1807 Aikin *Dict. Chem. & Min.* I. 541 Green Earth...The colour of this mineral is celandine green..passing into mountain and blackish-green. 1835 *Penny Cycl.* IV. 336/2 Various shades of sky-blue or mountain-green.

3. A handsome simarubaceous plant, *Spathelia simplex*, native of the West Indies.

1864 Grisebach *Flora W. Ind. Isl.* 786.

Mountinier, obs. form of Mountaineer.

†**Mountainist.** *Obs. rare.* [f. Mountain + -ist.] = Mountaineer 1.

1625 N. Carpenter *Geog. Del.* II. x. (1635) 174 Bodin seemes to make a Harmony and Concent betwixt the Northerne man and the Mountainist.

†**Mou·ntainly,** *a. Obs.* [f. Mountain + -ly 1.] Mountainous, hilly.

1603 Owen *Pembrokeshire* (1892) 61 The Causes whie these mountenlie partes doe vse this tillinge of oates..are diverse.

Mountainous (mau·ntênəs), *a.* Also 4–5 mounteynous, 7 -aynous, -aignous, montanous, 7–8 mountauous. [a. F. *montagneux* (= Sp. *montañoso*, Pg. *montanhoso*, It. *montagnoso*) :—popular L. **montāniōsus* mountainous, f. **montānia*, **montānea* Mountain: see -ous.]

†**1.** Situated in the mountains. *Obs. rare.*

a 1430 mounteynous [in several MSS. of *Wyclif's Bible*, Jer. xvii. 26, xxxiii. 13, where the MSS. followed by the editors have *mountuous, mountewous*]. *a* 1649 Drumm. of Hawth. *Irene* Wks. (1711) 171 The eccho's, so often redoubled and multiplied amongst mountanous concavities.

2. Characterized by mountains; abounding in mountains; of the nature of a mountain.

1601 R. Johnson *Kingd. & Commw.* (1603) 4 Those countries, whereof one part is plaine and fruitefull, and the other mountaynous and barren. 1687 A. Lovell tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 11 This little Isle..is..almost all cultivated, though it be mountanous. 1737 Whiston *Josephus, Antiq.* v. i. § 18 (1834) 131/2 The mountainous parts of Canaan. 1846 M'Culloch *Acc. Brit. Empire* (1854) I. 275 The greater part of the surface is mountainous.

3. Resembling a mountain or mountains; huge, enormous. Now *rare.*

1607 Shaks. *Cor.* II. iii. 127 The Dust on antique Time would lye vnswept, And mountainous Error be too highly heapt, For Truth to o're-peere. 1641 Milton *Animadv.* Wks. 1851 III. 215 Hee may perhaps delight the eyes of some with his huge and mountainous Bulk. 1678 J. Phillips *Tavernier's Trav., India* II. II. iv. 114 The Raja..made him mountainous promises to no effect. 1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* v. viii, The two mountainous cheek-bones of the house-keeper. 1768 J. Byron *Narr. Patagonia* (ed. 2) 10 However, a mountainous sea hove her off. 1822 Scott *Pirate* xi, Mordaunt..placed her upon the summit of her mountainous saddle. 1889 Ruskin *Præterita* III. 182 The white edges of the mountainous clouds.

†**4.** Inhabiting mountains; dwelling in inaccessible mountain regions; hence, barbarous. *Obs.*

1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* (1614) 789 This wilde Mountainous people. 1625 Bacon *Ess., Viciss. Things* (Arb.) 569 The Remnant of People, which hap to be reserued, are commonly Ignorant and Mountanous People, that can giue no Account, of the Time past. 1703 Savage *Lett. Antients* cxiv. 283 The Mountainous People no sooner saw me,..than they cry'd out.

†**5.** Derived from or owing characteristics to mountains. *Obs.*

1683 Pettus *Fleta Min.* I. 287 Others say, That the Goslarish Calaminaris brings more increase than the mountanous Calaminaris. 1799 R. Warner *Walk* (1800) 45 The yew, the ash, and other mountainous trees. 1801 Anna Seward *Lett.* (1811) V. 387 The pure gales, mountainous and maritime, which blow around your delightful retreat.

Hence **Mou·ntainously** *adv.*, **Mou·ntainousness.**

1612 Drayton *Poly-olb.* xv. 31 Chiltern..mountainously hie. 1716 Brerewood *Disc. Learning* (J.), Armenia is so called from the mountainousness of it. 1845 Jane Robinson *Whitehall* I. 354 The waves mountainously rolling. 1854 *Chamb. Jrnl.* II. 161 Even in the quality of mountainousness..some parts are strikingly unlike others.

Mountain side. The sloping surface of a mountain below the summit.

c 1350 *St. John* 533 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 41 By a mountayne syide þai dweld. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* viii. 98 Now am I sett to kepe, vnder thys montayn syde, By-shope Iettyr shepe. 1697 Dryden *Æneid* I. 120 He.. hurld against the Mountain side His quiv'ring Spear. 1860 Tyndall *Glac.* I. xviii. 123 We went along the mountain-side for a time.

Mountain snow.

1. Snow lying white on the mountains.

1592 Shaks. *Ven. & Ad.* 750 As mountain snow melts with the midday sonne. 1602 — *Ham.* IV. v. 35 White his Shrow'd as the Mountaine Snow. 1845 G. Murray *Islaford* 16 Her brow was like a wreath of mountain-snow.

2. (See quot.)

1878 Abney *Photogr.* (1881) 154 Barium sulphate, known as 'Mountain snow'.

3. *U.S.* The plant *Euphorbia marginata*.

1897–8 Britton & Brown *Amer. Flora.*

Mountainward (mau·ntênwŭd), *a.* and *adv.* [f. Mountain + -ward.] a. *adj.* Directed towards

mountains. b. *adv.* In the direction of mountains. Also **Mountainwards.**

1834 Mudie *Brit. Birds* (1841) II. 80 Mountainward they approach. 1885 *Century Mag.* XXIX. 839 Tenanted by the most advanced settler mountainwards in the Yakima Valley. 1898 *Pop. Sci. Monthly* LIII. 792 Mountainward tourists need their water boots.

Mountainy (mau·ntĕni), *a.* ?Now *Anglo-Irish.* Also 7 **-any.** [f. Mountain + -y.] **a.** Having mountains or hills. b. Belonging to or dwelling in the mountains.

1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* (1614) 379 To be conueied to Zalga, a strong mountainy place. 1637 T. Morton *New Eng. Canaan* (1883) 122 The Massachusetts..is a very beautifull Land, not mountany nor inclininge to mountany. 1744 A. Dobbs *Hudson's Bay* 140 In Lat. 44° 30′ it was mountainy, and full of Silver Mines. 1780 A. Young *Tour Irel.* (1887) 65 Crossed an immense mountainy bog. 1825 T. C. Croker *Fairy Leg.* (new ed.) 357 He rented a small mountainy farm. 1881 Miss Laffan in *Macm. Mag.* XLIV. 386 The mountainy people brought down but little [butter].

Mountan, obs. form of Muntin.

† **Mou·ntance.** *Obs.* Forms: 3–4 **mountaunce,** 4 **-touns,** 4–5 **mo(u)ntaunce,** 5 **mountans(e), mowntans, -ance, -aunse.** [a. OF. *montance,* f. *monter* to rise: see Mount *v.* and -ance.] Amount, value.

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 384/280 Þe sike Men alle..leiȝen þare..þe mountaunce of half a tide. 1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 5768 And withholde þerof no þyng, þe mountouns of a ferþyng. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Manciple's T.* 151 Noght worth to thee in comparison The montance of a gnat. *c* 1485 *E. E. Misc.* (Warton Club) 85 Salle-peter the mowntance of the ȝolke of an egge.

Mountaneer, -ier, obs. var. ff. Mountaineer.

Mountanous, obs. variant of Mountainous.

† **Mountant,** *a.* and *sb.*[1] *Obs.* [a. F. *montant,* pr. pple. of *monter* Mount *v.*]

A. *sb. Astrol.* Ascendant.

c 1400 tr. *Secreta Secret., Gov. Lordsh.* 112 Þe mountant, or þe vpspryngand.

B. *adj.* Mounting, rising.

1525 Ld. Berners *Froiss.* II. 658 They caused him to have, in ready money, mountante to the somme of thyrty thousande pounds. 1607 Shaks. *Timon* IV. iii. 135 Hold vp you Sluts Your Aprons mountant; you're not Oathable, Although I know you'l sweare. 1625 C. Brooke *On Sir A. Chichester* Poems (1872) 222 That fyre shall make hym mountant, and aspire A radiant light. 1812 W. Tennant *Anster F.* II. lxiv, Tumblers..mountant from the scaffolds planks, Kick with their whirling heels the clouds on high.

Mountant (mau·ntănt), *sb.*[2] [f. Mount *sb.* + -ant [1], after F. *montant*: see prec.] An adhesive substance with which to mount photographs, etc.

1886 *Queen* LXXX. 538 Several mountants are daily employed, such as common glue, gum, and clear starch paste. 1892 *Photogr. Ann.* II. 956 Any gelatine mountant.

Mountany, obs. form of Mountainy.

Mountayne, obs. form of Muntin.

Mountbanke, obs. form of Mountebank.

† **Mount cent.** *Obs.* Also 6–7 **mount sant,** 7 **mount saint, mounte cent.** [Of obscure origin. The evidence of the first quot. suggests connexion with Cent [2], Sp. *ciento* hundred; the first element may be connected with Mount *v.* in the sense 'to amount'.] A card game resembling piquet.

1599 Minsheu *Sp. Dict., Dialogues* 25, *L.* Let vs play at Loadam. *M.* It is a play of much patience...*L.* At mount sant [Sp. *a los cientos*]. *M.* It makes my head to be in a swoune to be alwaies counting. 1607 T. Cocks *Diary* 17 Apr. (1901) 4 Wonne at mounte cent 4 d and vyed ruffe. 1610 *Ibid.* 21 June 100 Lost at mountcent xij d. 1608 Machin *Dumb Knt.* IV. H 3 b, *Que.* Come.., here are cards... *Phi.*..At what game will your Maiesty play? *Que.* At mount saint. 1609 Markham *Famous Whore* (1868) 34 Were it Mount cent, Primero, or at chesse. *a* 1621 Sir F. Moore *Reports* (1688) 776 Action sur le case..p[our] luy disceaver al cards, al un game le mountsant.

Mountebank (mau·ntĭbæŋk), *sb.* Forms: 6 **mounterbanck, mountbanke, mountebancke,** 6–7 **mountebanke, -iban(c)k(e,** 7 **mountabanke, -ebanque, -ebanc(k, montabanke, -eban(c)ke, -ebank,** *Sc.* **muntibank, (montibanchi** *pl.*), **monte-banke, mowntibanck,** 8 **mountabanck,** 7– **mountebank.** [ad. It. *montambanco, montimbanco,* contracted form of the older *monta in banco* (Florio), lit. 'mount-on-bench' (*monta* imperative of *montare* Mount *v., banco* bench). Cf. Saltimbanco.

Florio 1598 gives *montar' in banco* (lit. 'to mount on a bench') 'to plaie the mountibanke'. Godefr. has one instance of OF. *montenbancque,* and Sherwood 1632 gives F. *monte-banc* as the rendering of Mountebank.]

1. An itinerant quack who from an elevated platform appealed to his audience by means of stories, tricks, jnggling, and the like, in which he was often assisted by a professional clown or fool.

1577 [see 6 below]. *a* 1586 Sidney *Apol. Poetry* (Arb.) 61 Poets..are almost in as good reputation, as the Mountibancks at Venice. 1605 Bacon *Adv. Learn.* II. x. § 2. 39 Men..will often preferre a Mountabanke or Witch, before a learned Phisitian. 1672 [H. Stubbe] *Rosemary & Bayes* 2 If you will now examine this new book, it will appear like a mountebank's ball. 1714 Gay *Sheph. Week* Sat. 83 The mountebank now treads the stage, and sells His pills, his balsams, and his ague-spells. 1871 Rossetti *Last Confession* 502 A poor painted mountebank was playing tricks and shouting in a crowd.

attrib. 1713 Swift *Frenzy of J. Dennis* Wks. 1755 III. i. 147 He hath told others..that he had seen me upon a mountebank stage in Moorfields.

2. *fig.* An impudent pretender to skill or knowledge, a charlatan; one who resorts to degrading means to obtain notoriety. So *to play the mountebank.*

1589 Nashe *Pasquill's Counter-C.* A iij b, To discredite the Phisitions of their soules vnto them, and to suffer euerie Martin and Mounte-bancke to practise on them. 1610 Boys *Expos. Dom. Epist. & Gosp.* Wks. (1622) 111 He that will not be a mountaine in Christs way, must not bee a mount-banke of his owne vertue. 1624 Wotton in *Relig.* (1672) 545 Upon the Design you must play the Mountebank. And tell the Duke, that [etc.]. *a* 1704 T. Brown *Two Oxford Schol.* Wks. 1730 I. 2 Nature has fitted me pretty well to be one of these godly Mountebanks. 1817 Coleridge *'Blessed are ye'* 24 The Mountebanks and Zanies of Patriotism. 1877 Mrs. Forrester *Miguon* I. 33 One can hardly wonder at the women when the men make such asses and mountebanks of themselves.

† **3.** = Mountebankery. *Obs.*

1638 *Penit. Conf.* vii. (1657) 154 O Devillish Mountebanke! by which Spiritual kind of Cosenage many are perswaded. 1722 De Foe *Plague* (1756) 277 As for Quackery and Mountebank, of which the Town was so full [etc.].

4. The short-tailed African kite, *Helotarsus ecaudatus* (*Cent. Dict.* 1890).

5. *appositive.* (quasi-*adj.*) That is a mountebank; characteristic of a mountebank.

1603 Holland *Plutarch's Mor.* 111 These Mount-bank Chirurgians. 1614 Latham *Falconry* To Rdr., I could haue vsed a more mountebanque preface. 1852 Gladstone *Glean.* IV. ii. 141 Theatrical, not to say charlatan and mountebank, politics.

6. *Comb.*

1577 Stanyhurst *Descr. Irel.* ii. 8/2 in *Holinshed,* He shoulde haue gone shotfree with his complices, and haue made in Mounterbanckwyse the most he coulde of his wares. 1654 Whitlock *Zootomia* 46 How easily might I here digresse in Satyre against Mountebanck-making Patients. 1727 De Foe *Syst. Magic* I. iii. (1840) 68 They were counted the best and wisest men, who, mountebank like, could show most tricks.

Hence **Mou·ntebankish** *a.*, worthy of a mountebank. **Mou·ntebankism,** the practice or method of a mountebank. † **Mou·ntebankly** *adv.*, after the manner of a mountebank.

1619 Purchas *Microcosmus* lviii. 562 Nature, by some Naturalists hath beene too Mounte-bankly magnified. 1653 R. Sanders *Physiogn.* 50 An inclination to all sorts of Cheateries and Mountebankism. 1660 Howell *Parly Beasts* 87 A Saturnian Merchant..whom..for som Hocos-pocos and Mountebankish tricks I transformed to a Fox. 1882 *Society* 7 Oct. 14/2 If he is..able to stem the tide of musical mountebankism rampant at another series of..concerts.

Mou·ntebank, *v.* [f. Mountebank *sb.*]

† **1.** *trans.* To prevail over (a person) by 'mountebank' persuasion. *Obs.*

1607 Shaks. *Cor.* III. i. 132 Ile Mountebanke their Loues, Cogge their Hearts from them, and come home belou'd Of all the Trades in Rome. 1702 De Foe *Reform. Manners* I. 124 With Eloquence endu'd To Mountebank the listning Multitude.

† **2.** To introduce by mountebank persuasions; to transform by mountebank trickery. *Obs.*

1647 Ward *Simp. Cobler* 2 Men of Paracelsian parts..are fittest to Mountebanke his [Satan's] Chimistry into sicke Churches and weake Iudgements. 1702 De Foe *Reform. Manners* I. 316 The wondring Bubbles stand amaz'd to see Their Money Mountebank'd to Mercury.

3. *intr.* To play the mountebank. Usually with *it.*

1814 Byron *Let. to Moore* 9 Apr., I..will mountebank it no longer. 1848 Kingsley *Saint's Trag.* II. v, Say if 'tis wise to..mountebank it in the public ways Till she becomes a jest? 1882 Stevenson *New Arab. Nts.* (1884) 302, I find you mountebanking in a public café.

Hence **Mou·ntebanking** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1602 Marston *Ant. & Mel.* Induct., Wks. 1856 I. 2, I play Balurdo, a wealthie mountbanking burgomasco's heire of Venice. 1705 *Dyet of Poland* 17 The Quacking, Mountebanking Tool of State. 1860 Thackeray *Round. Papers, De Juventute* 77 Do not suppose I am going..to indulge in moralities about buffoons..and mountebanking.

Mountebankery (mau·ntĭbæŋkəri). [f. as prec. + -ery.] Action, or an act, which bespeaks or characterizes a mountebank.

1618 Sir R. Naunton in *Fortescue Papers* (Camden) 71 For giving no easier way to theyr mountebanqueries. 1677 Gilpin *Demonol.* (1867) 421 When I have sometime observed a mountebank..giving excessive commendations of a trivial medicine..it hath put me in mind of this spiritual mountebankery of the devil. 1845 *Medico-Chirurg. Rev.* Apr. 370 Our author is too acute to believe in any of the mountebankeries..of this 'forlorn thing' [*i. e.* mesmerism]. 1887 *Sat. Rev.* 16 July 71/1 The kind of mountebankery which has carried many a man into power in France.

Mounte cent, variant of Mount cent.

Mounted (mau·ntĕd), *a.* [f. Mount *v.* + -ed [1].]

1. Of material things: Elevated or piled up like a mountain. Now *rare.*

1582 Stanyhurst *Æneis* II. (Arb.) 69 Lucifer owtpeaking in tips of mounted hil Ida On draws thee dawning. 1614 Sir A. Gorges tr. *Lucan* I. 26 The stilled maine Reclaimes her mounted waues againe. 1859 G. Meredith *R. Feverel* xix, At the farthest bourne of mounted eastern cloud, the heralds of the sun lay rosy fingers.

† **2.** Elevated in situation. Also *fig. Obs.*

1601 ? Marston *Pasquil & Kath.* I. 115 What's wealth without respect and mounted place? *a* 1645 Habington *Surv. Worc.* in *Worc. Hist. Soc. Proc.* II. 271 Descendinge from the mounted Prioryes of Maluerne..I come to Hanly Castele.

† b. Elevated on a platform or stage. *Obs.*

1683 in Kennett tr. *Erasm. on Folly* (e) 3 b, While mounted Andrews, bawdy, bold, and loud, Like Cocks, alarum all the drowsie Crowd.

3. Seated on the back of a horse or other animal. Also, of soldiers: Appointed to serve on horseback. *Mounted infantry, rifles* (see quots.).

In recent use said also of the rider of a bicycle or tricycle.

1598 Barret *Theor. Warres* 141 These mounted people ought to haue some skill in diseases of horses. 1799 *Instr. & Reg. Cavalry* (1813) 279 In passing on foot, all mounted officers are in front of the regiment, except the adjutant. 1882 *Army & Navy Mag.* May 19 The ideal Mounted Infantry is, what the name implies, infantry soldiers mounted on horseback for the purpose of enabling them to get with celerity from one position to another. 1901 *Empire Rev.* I. 375 While Mounted Infantry are footmen trained for purposes of mobility to ride a horse or bicycle, Mounted Rifles are horsemen trained to fight on foot.

b. Of evolutions, etc.: Performed on horseback.

1883 *Daily News* 31 Aug. 6/6 A series of mounted contests promoted for the entertainment of the garrison.

4. Set up or adjusted for use; placed on a stand or support; fitted.

1692 Sir W. Hope *Fencing-Master* (ed. 2) 161 A well mounted sword, which is light before the Hand...If the Hilt contrepoise the Blade, it is well mounted, otherwise not. 1854 Fairholt *Dict. Terms Art, Mounted,* secured to a *mount.* A term applied to a print or drawing fastened upon mounting-paper or card-board. 1855 Hopkins *Organ* 122 The Mounted Cornet is a Compound-stop, consisting usually of 5 ranks of pipes, made to a very large scale. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 123/1 The stuffed animals and mounted skeletons. 1900 *Daily News* 1 June 2/7 A fine five-inch equatorially mounted astronomical telescope.

5. *Mil.* Of cannon: Set up for use. Of a fort, a ship, etc.: Furnished (*with* cannon).

1639 Baillie in Boyd *Zion's Flowers* (1855) Introd. 45 Our Hill was garnished..with our mounted canon. 1769 Falconer *Dict. Marine* (1780), *Mounted,* the state of being armed..with a certain number of cannon; expressed of a vessel of war. 1829 Marryat *F. Mildmay* iv, The quarter-deck guns all adrift, and not even mounted.

6. *Her.* a. Of a horse: Bearing a rider. b. Of a cross or the like: Set upon greces or degrees.

1828–40 Berry *Encycl. Herald.* I.

† **Mountee.** *Mil. Obs.* In 5 **mowntee.** [a. F. *montée*: see Mounty.] (See quot.)

1415 *Stat. Hen. V* in Upton *De Studio Milit.* IV. (1654) 137 Volumus..quod nullus..clamores vel turbationes facere audeat, quibus nos vel excercitum nostrum turbari contingat quovismodo. Et specialiter illum clamorem, quem Mowntee appellamus. 1701 in *Cowel's Interpr.* (ed. Kennett), *Mowntee,* an Out-cry or Alarm to mount, and make some speedy Expedition. 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Mountee,* or *Mowntee.*

Mountee, -teer, obs. ff. Mounty, Montero.

Mountein(e, -elet, obs. ff. Mountain, -let.

Mounten, obs. form of Mountain.

† **Mountenance.** *Obs.* Forms: 3–4 **montenance,** 4–6 **mountenaunce,** 5 **mowntenawnce, -awns,** 5–7 **mountenance.** [App. a corruption of Mountance, assimilated to *maintenance.*] Amount in extent, quantity, or value.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 29166 Þai sal ciþer for þair foly bren in þe fier of purgatori, to þe montenance o þat plight, agh for þat sin was here to right. 1387–8 T. Usk *Test. Love* I. ix. (Skeat) 49 As farre in a moment, as in mountenaunce of ten Winter. *c* 1420 *Liber Cocorum* (1862) 26 Take powder þo mountenaunce of a pownde. 1579 Baker *Guydon's Quest. Chirurg.* 30 The gaule..conteyneth peradventure a glasse ful, or the mountenaunce of a Viole. 1674 Josselyn *Voy. New Eng.* 130 They satisfie themselves with a small quantity of meal,..which taken to the mountenance of a Bean would satisfie both thirst and hunger.

b. Total quantity, mass.

1615 Crooke *Body of Man* 35 The third Region comprehendeth the Muscles, Membranes, Bones, and in a word, all the *Moles* or mountenance of the body.

† **Mountenesse.** *Obs. rare.* [? Corruption of Mountance, as if f. Mount *v.* + -ness.] = prec.

c 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 2278 Þis twaylle y-bordryd about was Wt palle þe mountenesse ofe han hondbrede. *c* 1420 *St. Etheldred* 8 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 283 þe mountenesse of two and thretty full ȝere.

Mountenous, obs. form of Mountainous.

† **Mou·nter** [1]. *Obs. rare.* Also 6 **mownter.** [? var. of Mounture. (Cf. provincial F. *monture* cattle on a farm (Godefr.).] ? A portion of the chattels of a deceased tenant which was due by feudal custom to the lord; cf. Heriot.

c 1500 in I. S. Leadam *Star Chamber Cases* (1903) 101 The seid Erle owght to haue by deth of his tenaunt a mownter and a heryott. *Ibid.* 104 For part of the seid heriottes or mownters the seid Erle toke vj Oxen and a hors.

Mounter [2] (mau·ntəɪ). [f. Mount *v.* + -er [1].] In various senses of the verb.

1. *gen.* One who ascends.

1609 Bible (Douay) *Deut.* xxxiii. 26 The mownter of heaven is thy helper. 1627 Drayton *Agincourt,* etc. 131 And though they to the earth were throwne, Yet quickly they regain'd their owne,..They were two Gallant Mounters. 1827 Hood *Monkey Martyr* vii, He went above—a solitary mounter Up gloomy stairs.

2. One whose business it is to mount, fit, or set (anything) in place or order.

1747 *Gentl. Mag.* 101 Stick-maker, flint-maker, and mounter or screwer together. 1863 *Reader* 24 Jan. 101 Nothing but practice..will make any one a good mounter [of microscope slides]. 1881 *Instr. Census Clerks* (1885) 50 Scabbard Making (Leather):..Gilder, Mounter. 1884 C. G. W. Lock *Workshop Receipts* Ser. III. 19/2 After the chaser has finished

his work, the piece returns to the mounter, who definitively secures the elements of the pieces in their places.

3. (See quot.)

1812 J. H. Vaux *Flash Dict.*, *Mounter*, a man who lives by mounting, or perjury, who is always ready for a guinea or two to swear whatever is proposed to him.

Mountera, -re, -ro, obs. forms of Montero

Monteyn, obs. form of Mountain.

‖ **Mountflascon.** *Obs.* [ad. It. *Monte Fiascone* (Englished *mounth Flask* by Bokenham 1447).] A wine produced at Monte Fiascone in Italy.

1566 Drant *Horace, Sat.* II. iv. H j, If thou wilte purge mounteflascon wynes..Set them ahrode in open ayre.

Mountiban(c)k(e, obs. forms of Mountebank.

Mountie, variant of Mounty *Obs.*

Mountineer, obs. form of Mountaineer.

Mounting (mau·ntiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. Mount *v.* + -ing 1.]

1. The action of the verb Mount in various senses.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 347/1 Mowntynge, or steynynge (*sic, S.* styynge), *ascensus.* 1515 *Acc. Ld. Treas. Scotl.* V. 17 To pas..to Glasgw, for the stokking, monting, drawing, and making of crane and wyndais for fourtene pecis of artal3ary. 1624 Wotton *Archit.* II. 109 From this [terrace] the Beholder descending many steps, was afterwards conueyed againe, by seuerall mountings and valings, to various entertainements of his sent, and sight. 1805 Wordsw. *Prelude* I. 19 Trances of thought and mountings of the mind Come fast upon me. 1816 Byron *Ch. Har.* III. xxv, And there was mounting in hot haste. 1880 *Athenæum* 6 Mar, 322 As regards mounting and general decorations the revival is superior to any previous performance of *As You Like It.* 1892 Monier-Williams, etc. *Figure-Skating* 8 The mounting of the blade and its attachment to the boot are important.

b. *attrib.*, as **mounting-block,** a block of stone from which to mount on horseback. Similarly *mounting-place, -stone.*

c 1489 Caxton *Blanchardyn* xix. 61 Theire coursers..were brought anone to the mountyng place before the halle. 1659 Howell *Vocab.* ii, A mounting block. 1869 Tozer *Highl. Turkey* I. 334 To cross [this bridge] on foot..appears to be the custom among the natives, from the mounting stones which are placed at either end. 1899 Somerville & Ross *Irish R. M.* 297, I smoked in the yard, seated on the old mounting-block by the gate.

c. The angle at which the iron of a plane is set.

1678 Moxon *Mech. Exerc.* iv. 70.

2. *concr.* **a.** Something that serves as a mount, support, or setting to anything. Also *attrib.*

c 1618 Morvson *Itin.* IV. (1903) 422 The Italians..excell in the Art of setting Jewells, and making Cabinetts, tables and mountings, of Christall, corall, Jasper, and other precious stones. 1716 Addison *Freeholder* No. 15 ¶ 5 Another..has filled her Fan with the Figure of a huge taudry Woman... The following Designs are already executed on several Mountings. 1727-41 Chambers *Cycl., Mounting of a fan*, the sticks which serve to open and shut it. 1763 *Museum Rust.* I. 160, Fig. 7. is the handle, or mounting of the largest scythe. 1767 Fergusson *Dict. Terms Small Sword* 12 *Hilt*, the head or mounting of a sword. 1793 W. & S. Jones *Catal. Optical*, etc. *Instr.* 1 Reading and burning glasses, in various mountings. 1854 Fairholt *Dict. Terms Art, Mount (Mounting-board, Mounting-paper)*, the paper or cardboard upon which a drawing is placed. 1899 R. Munro *Prehist. Scotl.* vi. 196 Sheaths of bronze or wood with bronze mounting were used to protect the blades.

†b. *sing.* and *pl. Mil.* A soldier's outfit or 'kit'; also, in narrower sense, 'The shirt, shoes, stock, and hose, or stockings, formerly furnished by the colonel or commandant of the corps every year' (Crabb). Also, *half* or *small mounting* in the same sense (C. James *Milit. Dict.* 1802). *Obs.*

a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Mountings*, a Soldier's Arms and Cloths. 1702 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3860/4 Deserted ..John Hellier,..and John Brown,..with their whole Mounting, being Red lined with Yellow. 1722 De Foe *Col. Jack* (1840) 115 They stood upon their defence, having the regiment sword on,..but none of the mounting or clothing.

c. 'That which is or may be mounted for use or ornament' (*Cent. Dict.*).

3. = Harness *sb.* 6 (Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1875).

4. Used for Muntin.

1823 P. Nicholson *Pract. Build.* 160 Vertical pieces, that separate the panels [are denominated] mountings. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* I. 184 The extreme parts of the frame.. are called the stiles, and the intermediate ones..mountings.

Mou·nting, *ppl. a.* [f. Mount *v.* + -ing 2.]

1. Rising, ascending, soaring. *lit.* and *fig.*

1563 B. Googe *Cupido* 230 in *Eglogs*, etc. (Arb.) 113 We flewe, my Guyde and I, with mowntyng flyght apace. 1577 Whetstone *Gascoigne* (Arb.) 18 The mounting minde had rather sterue in need. [Cf. Shaks. *L. L. L.* IV. i. 4.] 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* I. xi. 51 With mery note her lowd salutes the mounting larke. 1664 Dryden *Rival Ladies* I. ii, I am no more afraid of flying Censures, Than Heav'n of being fir'd with mounting Sparkles. 1720 Gay *Rur. Sports* 45 While with the mounting sun the meadow glows. 1859 Geo. Eliot *A. Bede* vii, Straining your eyes after the mounting lark.

†b. *Her.* (see quot. 1731). *Obs. rare.*

1688 R. Holme *Armoury* II. 175/2 He beareth Sable, a demy Ram mounting, Argent. 1731 Bailey (vol. II.), *Mounting* signifies the same spoken of beasts of chase, as rampant does of beasts of prey.

†2. Amounting, resulting. *Obs.*

1571 Digges *Pantom.* II. xxiv. P iij b, If ye square the perpendicular, the mounting summe will be [etc.].

Hence **Mou·ntingly** *adv.*, so as to rise high.

a 1640 Massinger, etc., *Old Law* II. i, I..leapt for joy So mountingly I touchd the stars me thought.

Mountire, obs. form of Montero.

Mountjack, obs. form of Manjak.

†Mou·ntlet. *Obs.* Also 7 mountelet. [f. Mount *sb.*1 + -let.] A little mount.

1610 G. Fletcher *Christ's Vict.* I. l, Those snowie mountelets, through which do creep The milkie rivers, that are inly bred. [Echoed by later 17th c. poets.]

†Mountredinctido. ? = Mountebank.

1651 C. Walker *Hist. Independ.* III. 25 William Pemoier Esquire was heretofore an ape-carrier, Cherry-lickom or Mountredinctido.

†Mountro·se. *Obs.* Some kind of wine.

? *c* 1475 *Sqr. Lowe Degre* 755 Both ypocrasse, and vernage wyne, Mountrose and wyne of Greke.

†Mou·ntuous, *a. Obs.* Also montuous, mountewous. [ad. L. *montuōs-us* (also *montōsus*), f. *mont-, mons* mountain: see Mount *sb.*1 and -ous. Cf. OF. *montueux.*] Mountainous, hilly. Also, situated among mountains.

1382 Wyclif *Jer.* xvii. 26 Fro the mountuous places [Vulg. *de montuosis*]. *Ibid.* xxxiii. 13 In the mountewous [*v. r.* mountuous] cites. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) I. 157 Ethiopia hab þre parties, þe firste is hilly and montuous.

†Mou·nture. *Obs.* [a. OF. *monteure* (mod.F. *monture*), f. *monte-r* to Mount.]

1. A horse (or other animal) for riding.

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 1691 Miry was þe mornyng, his mounture he askes. *c* 1420 *Anturs of Arth.* 555 (Douce MS.), I mourne for no mounture, for I may gete mare. 1481 Caxton *Godeffroy* xc. 141 More hurte in theyr mounture than alle the other of thoost. 1579-80 North *Plutarch, Alexander* (1657) 584 Porus..being upon an Elephants backe he wanted nothing in height and bignesse to be proportionable for his mounture. 1600 Fairfax *Tasso* xvii. xxviii, An Elephant this furious Giant bore, He fierce as fire, his mounture swift as winde.

2. a. An erection to mount upon. **b.** A mound or hillock.

c 1400 Maundev. (1839) xx. 217 In the myddes of this Palays is the Mountour [L. *ascensorium*, F. *mountaynette*] for the grete Cane, that is alle wrought of Gold and of precyous Stones and grete Perles. 1614 Raleigh *Hist. World* I. (1634) 89 There were removed divers old heapes and mountures of ground.

3. = Mounting *vbl. sb.* 2.

1489 Caxton *Faytes of A.* I. 17 Be he habylled and arrayed rychely in harnoys and mountures. 1575 Gascoigne *Posies, Weeds* 183 The bruest peece for breech and hore, that euer yet was bought: The mounture so well made.

4. = Elevation 10.

1613 T. Milles tr. *Mexia's Treas. Anc. & Mod. T.* 56 The Barbacanes or Subburbes, which were of as high mounture and strength, as the walles of the City.

5. *Mil.* The angle at which a gun is elevated.

1628 R. Norton *Gunner* 60 The proportion of powder, fitting each sort of Shot and Mounture. 1644 Nye *Gunnery* II. (1647) 8 The next Shot was at five Degrees Randon, at which mounture shee conveyed 416 paces. 1692 *Capt. Smith's Seaman's Gram.* II. xxvi. 138 If a Piece carries her Shot, at 16 deg. of Mounture 1074 Paces, the Horizontal Rainge of that Peece will be found to be 374 Paces.

6. ? = Harness *sb.* 6.

1799 G. Smith *Laboratory* II. 50 These are called the tail of the mounture; and from each of these packthreads, just by the side of the loom, are fastened other packthreads.

†Mou·nty. *Falconry. Obs.* Also 6-7 mountie, 7 mountee. [a. F. *montée*, n. of action f. *monter* to Mount. Cf. Mountee.] The action, or an act, of rising in pursuit of the quarry.

a 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* II. (1590) 114 But the sporte which for that daie Basilius would principallie shewe to Zelmane, was the mountie at a Hearne. 1615 Latham *Falconry* (1633) 73 Then ought you to be most carefull of the yong Ger-Faulcon, whom you intend to make to the high mounty, and stately flight of the Hearne. 1650 Weldon *Crt. Jas. I* 105 To see that flight..for the high mountee;..the flight was shewed, but the Kite went to such a mountee, as all the field lost sight of Kite and Hawke and all. 1657 R. Ligon *Barbadoes* 105 No mountie at a Hieron, to cause the lustie Jerfaulcon to raise her to a losse of her selfe.

Mountycle, obs. form of Monticule.

Moup, moop (mūp), *v. Sc.* [Of obscure origin; possibly two different words.]

1. *trans.* (See quot. 1721.) Also *intr.* or *absol.*

1513 Douglas *Æneis* VII. iii. 22 The paringis of thair breid to movp wp sone. 1721 Ramsay *Keitha* 3 My sheep and kye neglect to moup their food. 1721 — *Poems* Gloss., *Moup*, to eat, generally used of children, or of old people, who have but few teeth, and make their lips move fast tho' they eat but slow.

2. To associate *with.* Phr. *to moup and mell.*

1783 Burns *Death Poor Mailie* 55 But ay keep mind to moop an' mell Wi' sheep o' credit like thysel! *a* 1796 — *Gude Ale* ii, Guid ale hauds me bare and busy, Gars me moop wi' the servant bizzie.

Hence **Mou·ping** *ppl. a.*, mumbling, toothless.

1718 Ramsay *Christ's Kirk Gr.* III. v, A moupin runkled granny.

Mour(e, variant forms of Maur and More *sb.*2

Mourdant, Mourdre, obs. ff. Mordant, Murder.

Moure, Mourish, obs. ff. Moor *sb.*2, Morris *sb.*1

†Mou·rken, *v. Obs. rare*−1. [a. ON. *morkna.*] *intr.* To rot.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 407 Penne mourkne in þe mudde most ful nede Alle þat spyrakle in-spranc.

Mourkenen, obs. variant of Murken *v.*

Mourkenes, obs. form of Murkness.

Mourn, *sb. Obs.* exc. *dial.* [f. Mourn *v.*] Sorrow, lamentation, grief, mourning; also *dial.* a murmur, a murmuring sound.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 10478 Son quen sco was comun þar, Sco gaf hir al to murn and care. *Ibid.* 24229 He þat sa reufulli was dight, If he þe said oght for to light Þi mode þat was in murn. 1470-85 Malory *Arthur* II. xii. 89 Sire ryght now cam rydynge this way a knyght makynge grete moorne for what cause I can not telle. 1594 Lodge & Greene *Looking-gl.* (1598) C 3, Is she not faire?..A pretie peate to driue your mourne away. 1824 Mrs. Cameron *Marten & his Schol.* vii, I helped to carry him to the grave, poor lad! His parents made great mourn over him.

†Mourn, *a. Obs.* Forms: 3 mourne, 3-4 murne, 4 morne. [Perh. a. F. *morne*, believed to be of Teut. origin cogn. w. Mourn *v.* Cf. however OE. *unmurn* untroubled.] Sad, mournful.

c 1205 Lay. 16159 Þa weoren Bruttes mid blisse anulled.. þæt ær weoren murne. *a* 1300 *K. Horn* 748 (Camb. MS.) Alymar azen gan turne, Wel Modi and wel Murne [*MS. Laud* Mourne]. *c* 1315 Shoreham *Poems* ii. 40 O swete leuedy, wat þey was wo, þo ihesus by-come morne. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 8213 (Kölbing) His hert was sore, his cher murne.

Mourn (mōəɹn), *v.*1 Forms: 1 murnan, 3 morȝne(n, 3-4 morun, 3-6 morn(e, 3-7 mourne, murn(e, 4 morene, mourene, 4-6 moorn(e, 5 mowrn(e, 6- mourn, (9 *dial.* moorn, murn). [Com. Teut.: OE. *murnan* wk. vb. (commonly str., pret. *mearn*, pl. *murnon*) = OS. *mornon* (also *mornian*), OHG. *mornên* to be anxious or careful, ON. *morna* to pine away (so Norw. *morna*, Ross), Goth. *maurnan* to be anxious; the Teut. root **mur-* is commonly referred to the Indogermanic **smer-* to remember, whence Gr. *μέριμνα* care, sorrow; some scholars, however, taking the ON. sense as primary, suggest the root **mer-* to die, wither.]

I. *intr.*

1. To feel sorrow, grief, or regret (often with added notion of expressing one's grief); to sorrow, grieve, lament. (†In OE. also to be anxious or careful.)

In early use often said of the heart, soul, etc. Also †*to mourn in (one's) mood, mind, heart, thought*, etc.

c 888 K. Ælfred *Boeth.* vii. § 2 3if þu þonne heora þeȝen heon wilt & þe heora þeawas liciað, to hwon myrnst þu swa swiðe? *a* 1000 *Andreas* 99 (Gr.) Ne beo ðu on sefan to forht ne on mode ne murn! *c* 1205 Lay. 3116 In hire bure heo [Cordoille] abed & þolede þene mod-kare & mornede swþe. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2052 He [Joseph] herde hem [the butler and baker] murnen, he hem freinde for-quat. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxx. (*Theodora*) 346 Þane scho cane miurne, gretand sare. 1382 Wyclif *Matt.* v. 5 Blessid he thei that mournen [*c* 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 7 mornun], for thei shuln be comfortid. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Wife's Prol.* 848, I shal make thyn herte for to morne ffor wel I woot thy pacience is gon. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 344/1 Moornyn, and sorowyn, *mereo, gemo.* *c* 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 1128 The king precious in pane Sair murnand in mude. 1508 Dunbar *Tua Maryit Wemen* 212 Apone sic materis I muse, at mydnyght, full oft, And murnys so in my mynd, I murdris my selfin. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 86 b, In all euyll thou mayst fynde cause to mourne and sorowe. *a* 1533 Ld. Berners *Huon* liv. 181 When Huon sawe howe he had not wherewith to arme him his hert mourned ryght sore. 1590 Shaks. *Com. Err.* I. i. 74 The prettie babes That mourn'd for fashion, ignorant what to feare. 1697 Congreve *Mourn. Bride* I. iv, Some Here are, who seem to mourn at our Success! 1784 Burns *Man was Made to Mourn* viii, Unmindful, tho' a weeping wife, And helpless offspring mourn. 1860 Pusey *Min. Proph.* 299 It is as we would say, 'Let me mourn on', a mourning inexhaustible, because the woe too and the cause of grief was unceasing.

b. Const. *for, over*, also †*of*, †*on*, †*upon.*

a 1000 *Waldere* i. 43 Ne murn ðu for ði mece ðe wearð maðma cyst. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 19014 For þair misdedes morun. 1530 Palsgr. 640/2 He morneth sore for the losse of his father. 1535 Coverdale *Hos.* x. 5 Therfore shall the people mourne ouer them. 1602 Shaks. *Ham.* II. ii. 151 (1604 Qo.) He..Fell..by this declension, Into the madnes wherein now he raues, And all we mourne for. 1611 Bible 1 *Esdras* viii. 72, I mourned for the iniquitie. 1715 De Foe *Fam. Instruct.* I. v. (1841) I. 106 What we laughed at and made a jest of in our children before, we must now mourn over, and correct them for. 1789 Witherspoon *Regeneration* iii. § 4 They never mourned for sin in a manner corresponding to the strong scripture declarations of its odious and hateful nature. 1829 Lytton *Disowned* x, Let us not waste them in mourning over blighted hopes and severed hearts. 1875 J. P. Hopps *Princ. Relig.* iii. (1878) 12 We have, then, not a past to mourn for, but a future to win.

c. To utter lamentations *to* some one. *rare.*

1533 Gau *Richt Vay* (S. T. S.) 5 Bot ane cbrissine prayer is quhen ane man prais and murnis inuertlie in his hart to god efter his help. 1704 Pope *Pastorals, Autumn* 21 Far from Delia, to the winds I mourn. 1742 Gray *Sonnet Death R. West* 13, I fruitless mourn to him that cannot hear.

†d. Of animals: To pine. *Obs.*

1577 B. Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* IV. (1586) 169 b, The Pigion..mourneth, if she be restrained of her liberty. 1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* (1614) 631 The cattell mourned for want of milkers. 1725 Bradley *Fam. Dict.* s. v. *Rabbit*, [The female rabbits] will otherwise mourn, and hardly bring up their Young. 1784 Cowper *Task* v. 27 The cattle mourn in corners where the fence Screens them [from the cold].

e. *fig.* Of a plant or flower. †Also, in gardening language, to droop, hang down.

1626 Bacon *Sylva* § 493 Mary-golds..and indeed most Flowers, doe open or spread their Leaues abroad, when the Sunne shineth serene and faire;..They reioyce at the presence of the Sunne; and mourne at the absence thereof. 1798 *Trans. Soc. Arts* XVI. 164 And by being dryer, the plants did not mourn so much as the others when the weather was wet. *a* 1832 'B. Cornwall' *Eng. Songs* 3 The weed mourns on the castle wall.

2. *esp.* To lament the death of some one. Const. *for*.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 23984 Clething wil i me tak o care.. And murn wit hir þat him [*sc.* Christ] bar. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 20 Of his body was no force, non for him wild murne. *c* 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 796 Than schir Spynagros.. Murnyt for schir Gawyne. 1535 Coverdale 2 *Chron.* xxxv. 24 All Iuda and Ierusalem mourned for Iosias. 1559 *Mirr. Mag., Dk. York* i, Nor yet to mourne, for this my sonne is dead. 1601 Shaks. *All's Well* iv. iii. 102, I haue..buried a wife, mourn'd for her [etc.]. *c* 1611 Chapman *Iliad* vii. 357 Priam commanded none should mourne, but in still silence yeeld Their honord carkasses to fire, and onely grieue in heart. 1695 Prior *Ode Queen's Death* iii, For Her the Wise and Great shall mourn. 1756 C. Smart tr. *Horace, Art P.* (1826) II. 351 Those who mourn at funerals for pay, do and say more than those that are afflicted from their hearts. 1822 Shelley *Chas. I*, v. 10 A widow bird sate mourning for her love Upon a wintry bough. 1849 Tennyson *In Mem.* ix. 5 So draw him home to those that mourn In vain. 1881 Besant & Rice *Chapl. Fleet* I. 3 The people listen, now, to the solemn words of a service which seems spoken by the dead man himself to those who mourn.

b. To exhibit the conventional signs of grief for a period following the death of a person; *esp.* to wear mourning garments. † *To mourn up*: to complete the period of mourning.

1530 Palsgr. 640/2, I morne for a deed man, I weare blacke garmentes, *je porte le dueil.* Yonder gentylman morneth, by lykelybodde his father is deed. 1546 Langley *Pol. Verg. De Invent.* vi. vii. (1663) 239 Wherefore Numa ordained that such as mourned up before the day limited should offer a Cow..for an expiation. 1591 Shaks. 1 *Hen VI*, I. i. 17 We mourne in black, why mourn we not in blood? Henry is dead, and neuer shall reuiue. 1661 Heylin *Hist. Ref.* II. iii. § 3. 69 A Levite that mourned might not serve or sing. 1717 Pope *Elegy Unfort. Lady* 56 What tho' no friends in sable weeds appear, Grieve for an hour, perhaps, then mourn a year. 1727–41 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v. *Mourning*, The antient Spartan and Roman ladies mourned in white;..Kings and cardinals mourn in purple. 1737 Whiston *Josephus, Antiq.* iv. v. § 1 The people mourned for Aaron thirty days. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* ii. I. 250 When foreign princes died, he [Dk. of Monmouth] had mourned for them in the long purple cloak, which [etc.]. 1885 H. Conway *Family Affair* xxvi, He knew that for all that had befallen she was mourning in mental sackcloth and ashes.

†3. To have a painful longing. Const. *after*; also *to* with *inf.* In OE. also to care *for*. *Obs.*

a 1000 *Andreas* 37 (Gr.) Hyge wæs oncyrred, þæt hie ne murndan æfter mandreame. *c* 1205 Lay. 14369 He murnede ful swiðe to habben þat mæiden to wiue. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 366 His deore spuse murnede so swuðe efter him þet heo wiðuten him nefde no delit i none þinge. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Miller's T.* 518, I moorne as dooth a lamb after the tete.

4. To make a low inarticulate sound indicative of pain or grief. In literary use only of a dove (with mixture of sense 1); *dial.* = Moan *v.*

1535 Coverdale *Isa.* lix. 11 We roare all like Beeres, & mourne stil like doues. 1632 Sherwood, To mourne or croo like a Doue, *roucouler.* 1822 Shelley *Fragm. Unfinished Drama* 68 The dove mourned in the pine, Sad prophetess of sorrows not her own. 1881 *Oxfordsh. Gloss.* Suppl., s.v., That poor baby do moorn.

II. *trans.*

5. To grieve or sorrow for (something); to lament, deplore, bewail, bemoan.

a 1000 *Bi Manna Wyrdum* 20 (Gr.) Sumne sceal..murnan meotudgesceaft mode gebysgad. 1586 ? C'tess Pembroke *Clorinda* 96 Thus do we weep and waile,..Mourning, in others, our own miseries. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* v. 298 To murne and Lament thair sinis. 1604 Shaks. *Oth.* I. iii. 204 To mourne a Mischeefe that is past and gon, Is the next way to draw new mischiefe on. 1697 Congreve *Mourn. Bride* III. viii, All those Ills which thou so long hast mourn'd. 1713 Addison *Cato* I. vi, Portius himself oft falls in tears before me, As if he mourn'd his rival's ill success. 1817 Shelley *Rev. Islam* x. xliii, As near one lover's tomb Two gentle sisters mourn their desolation. 1900 H. Lawson *Over Shiprails* 108 Finally he was left, the last of his tribe, to mourn his lot in solitude.

b. With *clause* as obj.

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 6591 Then Menestaus mournyt, & mykell sorow hade, That Troilus, þe triet, was takyn of his hond. 1567 *Gude & Godlie Ball.* (S.T.S.) 95 Thow sall not follow wickit mennis wayis, Nor ait murne that sinfull haif gude dayis. 1588 Shaks. *L. L. L.* iv. iii. 259 O if in blacke my Ladies browes be deckt, It mournes, that painting vsurping haire Should rauish doters with a false aspect. 1817 Shelley *Rev. Islam* II. xxxvi, She mourned that grace and power were thrown as food To the hyaena lust.

6. To lament, grieve, or sorrow for, to express grief for (some one dead, or some one's death).

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 306 Mournynge thy deth, after ye custome of ye Iewes. *c* 1586 ? Bryskett *Past. Aegl. Death Sidney* 18 Now hath the pore turtle gon to school..To learne to mourne her lost make! 1601 Shaks. *Jul. C.* III. ii. 45 Here comes his Body, mourn'd by Marke Antony. 1667 Milton *P. L.* xi. 760 As when a Father mourns His Children. 1685 Dryden *Thren. August.* 372 The Muse that mourns him now his happy triumph sung. 1742 Young *Nt. Th.* II. 22 Dost thou mourn Philander's fate? 1805 Scott *Last Minstr.* vi. xxiii, Soft is the note, and sad the lay, That mourns the lovely Rosabelle. 1863 Woolner *My Beautiful Lady* 105 Thou mourn'd'st not most the vanished soul Which was my Lord's through thine. 1880 Miss Braddon *Just as I am* vi, She loved him dearly, and mourned him more deeply than any of us.

7. 'To utter in a sorrowful manner' (J.).

1607 Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 361 The Lion sighed deeply, and mourned forth a lamentable roaring. 1634 Milton *Comus* 235 Where the love-lorn Nightingale Nightly to thee her sad Song mourneth well. 1819 Keats *Isabella* xli, The Spirit mourn'd 'Adieu!' 1889 W. S. Gilbert *Gondoliers* I. 14 Bury love that all condemn, And let the whirlwind mourn its requiem!

†**Mourn**, *v.*[2] *Obs. rare.* [A perversion of the Fr. name for glanders (see Mortechien), due to association with prec.] *intr.* Only in *to mourn of the chine*: to suffer from glanders. Cf. Mose *v.*

1590 Greene *Never too late* (1600) 55 Well, this Louer.. began..to mourne of the chine, and to hang the lip.

Mournaval, obs. form of Mournival.

Mourn(e, obs. forms of Morne *sb.*[1], Mourn.

Mourned, variant of Morned *a. Her.*

1847 *Gloss. Heraldry, Mourned*, blunted.

Mourner[1] (mōə·ɹnəɹ). Also 4–5 morener, 6 moerner, 7 mournour, morner. [f. Mourn *v.*[1] + -er[1].]

1. One who mourns, laments, or grieves; *spec.* one who mourns the death of a friend or relation; one who attends a funeral out of respect or affection for the deceased.

Chief (or †*principal*) *mourner*: the nearest relative who is present at a funeral. †*Close mourner*: a near relative of the deceased.

1388 Wyclif *Isa.* lvii. 18, Y 3af coumfortyngis to hym, and to the moreneris of hym. *c* 1525 *Elegy Hen. VIII's Fool* in Halliw. *Nugæ Poet.* 45 Ye as chefe moerner yn your own folys hode. 1535 Coverdale *Eccl.* xii. 2 When..the mourners go aboute the stretes. 1594 Shaks. *Rich. III*, III. ii. 51, I am no mourner for that newes. *c* 1618 Moryson *Itin.* iv. (1903) 334 The men that are cheefe Mournours haue their faces Covered with blacke Sipres. *a* 1662 Heylin *Laud* (1668) 133 The Funeral he attended in his own Person, as the principal Mourner. 1688 R. Holme *Armoury* III. 20/1 These kind of hoods..are to this day worn by close Mourners at the Solemnities of great Funerals. 1762 Golosm. *Nash* 177 The masters of the assembly-room followed as chief mourners. 1820 Shelley *Sensit. Pl.* III. 8 The sobs of the mourners. 1870 Dickens *E. Drood* iv, I have been since a solitary mourner.

fig. *c* 1600 Shaks. *Sonn.* cxxxii, Thine eies..Haue put on black, and louing mourners bee.

b. One employed or hired to attend funerals in a habit of mourning, or to utter wailing cries or songs of lamentation for the dead.

1698 R. L'Estrange *Fables* cxcviii. 168 A Woman that had Two Daughters, Bury'd one of them, and Mourners were Provided to Attend the Funeral. 1741 tr. *D'Argen's Chinese Lett.* xl. 313 The Muscovites pay Mourners to shed Tears at the Interment of their Kindred.

¶ c. quasi-*adj.* (cf. Chaucer *Parl. Foules* 180).

1700 Dryden *Pal. & Arc.* III. 961 The Mourner Eugh, and Builder Oak were there.

d. *U.S.* (See quot. 1859.)

1859 Bartlett *Dict. Amer., Mourners.* Persons on the 'anxious seat'.. at 'revival' meetings are technically termed 'mourners'; that is persons mourning for their sins. 1885 'Mark Twain' in *Century Mag.* Feb. 549/2 Folks got up..and worked their way..to the mourners' bench, with the tears running down their faces.

2. *Indian mourner*: the Sad-tree.

1890 in *Century Dict.*

†**Mou·rner**[2]. *Obs. rare*—[1]. [f. Mourn *v.*[2] + -er[1].] One who has the 'mourning of the chine'. In quot. *transf.*

a 1625 Fletcher & Mass. *Cust. Country* III. iii, Hee's chin'd, he's chin'd good man; he is a mourner.

†**Mou·rneress.** *Obs. rare*—[1]. [f. Mourner[1] + -ess[1].] A female mourner.

1596 Smyth *Lives Berkeleys* (1883) II. 389 The seaven principall mourneresses and estates of the funeralls.

Mourneval, obs. form of Mournival.

Mournful (mōə·ɹnfůl), *a.* (and *sb.*) [f. Mourn *v.*[1] + -ful.]

1. Expressing or betokening mourning or sorrow; doleful, sad, dismal.

Now only of expressions, looks, sounds, scenery; formerly also of costume, etc.

1542 Udall *Erasm. Apoph.* 14 Nor maketh any mournefull chere when he hath lost a frende. 1588 Shaks. *Tit. A.* v. iii. 196–7 No Funerall Rite, nor man in mournfull Weeds: No mournfull Bell shall ring her Buriall. 1667 Milton *P. L.* I. 244 Is..this the seat That we must change for Heav'n, this mournful gloom For that celestial light? 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* iv. 494 A mournful Sound agen the Mother hears. 1747 Carte *Hist. Eng.* I. 113 The women running about, like furies, in a mournful habit. 1784 Cowper *Task* iv. 756 Much consoled That here and there some sprigs of mournful mint, Of nightshade, or valerian, grace the well He cultivates. 1850 Dickens *Lett.* (1880) I. 231 He shook his head with an intensely mournful air. 1883 'Ouida' *Wanda* I. 2 The scene was bleak and mournful.

2. Full of, or oppressed with, sorrow or grief; sad, sorrowful, grieving; †making display of sorrow.

1579 Spenser *Sheph. Cal.* Nov. 53 Vp then *Melpomene* thou mournefulst Muse of nyne. 1593 Shaks. 2 *Hen. VI*, III. i. 226 Glosters shew Beguiles him, as the mournefull Crocodile With sorrow snares relenting passengers. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* iv. 671 His mournful Mind, with Musick to restore. 1738 Wesley *Ps.* li. ix, Thou wilt the mournful Spirit chear. 1880 A. B. Todd *Circling Year* Poet. Wks. (1906) 203 The sweet lambs Call mournful for their mothers. *Comb. a* 1835 Mrs. Hemans *Sicilian Captive* Poems (1875) 413 The mournful-sounding seas?

3. Causing sorrow or grief; deplorable.

1591 Shaks. 1 *Hen. VI*, II. ii. 16 His mournefull death.

†4. *sb. The mournfuls*: low spirits, 'the blues'.

c 1800 R. Cumberland *John De Lancaster* (1809) I. 136 You have cured me of the mournfuls.

5. **Mournful Monday**, 30 Oct. 1899, the day of the British defeat at Nicholson's Nek. **Mournful widow** = *Mourning-bride.*

1866 *Treas. Bot.* 1027/2 *Scabiosa atropurpurea*, called Mournful Widow in cottage gardens. 1902 *Times Hist. War S. Africa* II. vi. 256 It is not difficult to point out specific reasons for the failure of 'Mournful Monday'.

Mournfully (mōə·ɹnfůli), *adv.* [f. Mournful *a.* + -ly[2].] In a mournful or sorrowful manner.

1607 Shaks. *Cor.* v. vi. 151 Beate thou the Drumme that it speake mournfully. 1611 Bible *Mal.* iii. 14 Wee haue walked mournfully before the Lord of hosts. 1791 Mrs. Radcliffe *Rom. Forest* iv, Having mournfully bade each other good-night, they lay down and implored rest. 1838 Dickens *Nich. Nick.* xx, 'No', said Smike, shaking his head mournfully, 'I must talk of something else to-day'. 1882 'Ouida' *In Maremma* I. ii. 34 The old mule..only had long journeys twice a year, and resented them mournfully.

Mournfulness (mōə·ɹnfůlnés). [-ness.] The condition or quality of being mournful.

1633 P. Fletcher *Piscat. Eclogs*, etc. 62 Then would I.. Sing of Eliza's fixed mournfulness, And much bewail such wofull heaviness. 1755 Johnson, *Mournfulness*,..1. Sorrow; grief. 2. Show of grief; appearance of sorrow. *a* 1835 Mrs. Hemans *Sound of Sea* ii, And hush'd is many a lovely [voice] Of mournfulness or mirth. 1870 Morris *Earthly Par.* III. iv. 177 Just so the mournfulness Of the tale told out did their hearts oppress.

Mournful, obs. form of Mournival.

Mourning (mōə·ɹnin), *vbl. sb.*[1] [f. Mourn *v.*[1] + -ing[1].]

1. The action of Mourn *v.*[1]; feeling or expression of sorrow; sorrowing, lamentation. Also with *a* or in *pl.*

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 342 Heui murnunge. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3205 For swinc and murning hem was on. *a* 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* xvi. 54 For hire love mournyng y make more then eny mon. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 3797 Whar-for was mad þat gret mornyng Amonges þe Sarazyns olde & 3yng, As hy þar herden alle. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Miller's T.* 520 Ywis lemman I haue swich loue longynge That lik a turtel trewe is my moornynge. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* xviii. 125 In þis mournyng, an aungyl com to hym. 1535 Coverdale *Ps.* ci[ii]. 20 He maye heare the mournynges of soch as be in captiuyte. *a* 1631 Donne *Lam. Jeremy* iii. 19 But when my mourning I do thinke upon My wormwood, hemlocke and affliction; My Soule is humbled in remembring this. *a* 1716 South *Serm.* (1744) VII. vi. 129 Neither mourning for sin, or confession of it, avail any thing but a new creature. 1868 Morris *Earthly Par.* I. II. 545 With mourning sore Toward the king's palace did they take their way.

2. *spec.* The feeling or the expression of sorrow for the death of a person; also, an expression of grief, a lament. Phrase, † *to make mourning.*

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 51/172 Heo bi-lefte, þo it was non oþur in gret deol and mournyng. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 14239 At þat castel his frendes bade, And for þair frend gret murning made. *c* 1420 *Sir Amadace* (Camden) xxxvii, Sir Amadace wasse in mournyng brogte. 1509 Fisher *Funeral Serm. C'tess Richmond* Wks. (1876) 301 Thes sorrowfull cryes of her thy seruaunte with the other lamentable mornynges of her frendes & seruauntes. 1589 Puttenham *Eng. Poesie* I. xxiv. (Arb.) 63 Poeticall mournings in verse. *a* 1644 Quarles *Sol. Recant.* ch. vii. iv, The wise mans sober heart is always turning His wary footsteps to the house of mourning. 1828 Scott *F. M. Perth* xxviii, The Highlanders..are wont to mingle a degree of solemn mirth with their mourning. 1852 Tennyson *Ode Death Dk. Wellington* 4 Let us bury the Great Duke To the noise of the mourning of a mighty nation.

3. The conventional or ceremonial manifestation of sorrow for the death of a person; esp. the wearing of black garments. Also, the period during which such garments are worn.

c 1532 Du Wes *Introd. Fr.* in *Palsgr.* 920/1 Mournyng, *deul.* *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VIII* 228 The kynge ware whyte for mournyng. 1641 Shirley *Cardinal* I. (1652) 1 How does her Grace since she left her mourning For the young Duke Mendoza, whose timeless death At Sea, left her a Virgin and a Widdow? 1683 Penn *Lett. conc. Pennsylv.* 6 Their Mourning is blacking of their faces, which they continue for a year. *a* 1854 H. Reed *Lect. Brit. Poets* viii. (1857) 281 Those who, after a long mourning, resume their ordinary dresses. 1868 Marriott *Vest. Chr.* p. xvii, Thus, where the hair is ordinarily worn short it is a sign of mourning to let it grow long.

b. An instance of this; a ceremonial manifestation of grief for the death of a person. Now *rare.*

1611 Bible *Gen.* l. 10 And he made a mourning for his father seuen dayes. 1753 Chambers *Cycl. Supp.* s.v., In public Mournings at Rome the shops were shut up, the women laid aside all their ornaments [etc.]. 1776 Adam Smith *W. N.* I. x. II. (1869) I. 149 Except in the case of a general mourning. 1803–6 Wordsw. *Ode Intim. Immort.* 95 A wedding or a festival, A mourning or a funeral.

4. The dress or customary garment (now usually black) worn by mourners. Also occas. applied to the black draperies placed on furniture or the walls of buildings, etc., on occasions of mourning.

Deep, half, second mourning: see those words. †*Close mourning*: mourning such as is worn by the nearest relatives; = deep mourning.

1654–66 Earl Orrery *Parthen.* (1676) 606 All..should for the revolution of twelve Moons wear close Mourning. 1661 Pepys *Diary* 23 July, Put on my mourning. 1663 Wood *Life* July (O.H.S.) I. 479 Three tressels theron, covered with mourning. 1700 Dryden *Pal. & Arc.* III. 942 They.. through the Master-Street the Corps convey'd. The Houses to their Tops with Black were spread, And ev'n the Pavements were with Mourning hid. 1708 Swift *Bickerstaff Detected* Wks. 1751 IV. 207 The Stair-case, I believe, and these two apartments hung in close Mourning will be sufficient. 1752 Johnson *Let. to Taylor* 18 Mar. in *Boswell*, Pray desire Mrs. Taylor to inform me what mourning I should buy for my mother and Miss Porter. 1833 Ht. Martineau *Loom & Lugger* II. iii. 43 They had at first offered to make up her mourning for her.

b. *pl.* in the same sense. Now *Sc.* and *north.*

1634 W. Tirwhyt tr. *Balzac's Lett.* (vol. I) 97 If we hold

all the men in the world to be of our affinity, let us make account to weare mournings all our life. 1650 R. Stapylton *Strada's Low C. Wars* I. 9 Putting on mournings, [he] commanded an adjournment of the Courts of Justice. 1822 Galt *Sir A. Wylie* II, To the total wreck and destruction of all the unfinished bravery of mournings which lay scattered around. 1838 W. Bell *Dict. Law Scot.* 662 A widow has a legal claim to mournings for her husband. *a* 1842 A. Cunningham *Burns & Byron*, They came into the street in their mournings.

c. Phr. *In mourning* (as adjectival phrase): wearing the garments indicative of grief. Also *Naut.* (see quot. 1867). So *To go* or *put into mourning*; *to be out of mourning*, etc.

a 1656 Hales *Gold. Rem.* III. *Serm.*, etc. (1673) 21 Demades the Orator was wont to say of the Athenians, that they never came to consult of peace, *nisi atrati*, but in blacks and mourning. 1683 Wood *Life* 23 Aug. (O.H.S.) III. 66 An hears..followed by 5 coaches in morning. 1711 Swift *Jrnl. to Stella* 25 Dec., Her brother would fain have her death a secret, to save the charge of bringing her up here to bury her, or going into mourning. 1778 Miss Burney *Evelina* xiv, She was already out of mourning. 1821 Byron *Juan* III. vii, Sad thought! to lose the spouse that was adorning Our days, and put one's servants into mourning. 1860 Miss Yonge *Stokesley Secret* iii, There were two ladies, one in stately handsome slight mourning. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.* s.v., A ship is in mourning with her ensign and pennant half-mast, her yards topped awry, or apeek, or alternately topped an-end. If the sides are painted blue instead of white, it denotes deep mourning. 1869 Tozer *Highl. Turkey* II. 310 Seeing the wife of the priest..in mourning.

d. *slang* or *jocular*. *To be in mourning*: said of the eyes when blackened by fighting. Also of the finger-nails when allowed to become dirty.

1814 *Sporting Mag.* XLIII. 70 Bolter..had his eyes in mourning. 1867 O. W. Holmes *Guardian Angel* x, His eyes were 'in mourning', as the gentlemen of the ring say. 1890 Barrère & Leland *Dict. Slang* (1897), *Mourning* (common), a full suit of mourning, two black eyes; half-mourning, one black eye.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *mourning apparel, attire, clothes, coat, colour, duty, garment, gown, habit,* † *head,* † *hood, house, livery, song, time, weeds*, etc.; also **mourning-band**, (*a*) see quot. *c* 1618; (*b*) a strip of black cloth or crape worn round the sleeve of a coat or round a hat in token of bereavement; (*c*) *slang*, a dirty or black edge to a finger-nail; **mourning border**, a black border on note-paper, envelopes, etc., used by persons who are 'in mourning'; hence *mourning-bordered* adj.; **mourning-brooch**, a brooch of jet or other black material, worn by women when mourning; † **mourning carriage**, in quot. a carriage for conveying a corpse; † **mourning chariot** = *mourning coach*; **mourning cloak**, † (*a*) a cloak formerly worn by persons following a funeral, usually hired from the undertaker; (*b*) a butterfly, the Camberwell beauty, *Vanessa antiopa*; **mourning coach**, (*a*) a coach of black colour formerly used by a person during the whole period of his mourning; (*b*) a closed carriage, usually black, used to convey mourners on the occasion of a funeral; † **mourning coffin, hearse** (app. = 'coffin', 'hearse', simply; possibly, however, one of a black colour or with black draperies); † **mourning horse**, the horse belonging to a deceased person, led riderless and draped with black in the funeral procession; **mourning-paper**, note-paper with a black edge; **mourning-piece** *U.S.*, a pictorial representation of a tomb, etc., intended as a memorial of the dead; **mourning-pin**, a black pin for use with mourning-attire (Worcester 1860); **mourning-ring**, a ring worn as a memorial of a deceased person; **mourning shirt**, (*a*) see quot. 1650; (*b*) *slang*, a flannel shirt, as it does not require washing so often as others; † **mourning-staff**, a black pole carried in a funeral procession; **mourning-stuff**, 'a lusterless black textile material, such as crape, cashmere, or merino, regarded as especially fitted for mourning-garments' (*Cent. Dict.*).

1565 Cooper *Thesaurus* s.v. *Lugeo, Lugubris ornatus.* Cic[ero] *Mournyng apparell. 1611 Bible 2 Sam. xiv. 2. 1503-4 Act 19 Hen. VII*, c. 14 § 11 Any lyvere..giffyn by any executoures at the interement of any person for any *mornyng array. 1611 Cotgr., *Dueil*, dole, griefe,..also, mourning weeds, or *mourning attire; as, *Il porte le dueil. c* 1618 Moryson *Itin.* IV. (1903) 334 The other men that followe the Herse haue..hattbandes of black Sipres hanging downe behynde, Called Trawerbandes that is *mourning bandes. 1884 *St. James's Gaz.* 5 Dec. 6/1 The 'mourning-bands' on the finger-nails are faithfully recorded. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 16 Nov. 2/3 *Mourning-bordered envelopes. 1710 M. Henry *Life Lieut. Ilidge* Wks. 1853 II. 585/1 His corpse was carried on a *mourning carriage to Witembury. 1703 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3945/4 At Mr. Harrison's, Coach-Maker,..is a Mourning Coach and Harness,..also a *Mourning Charriot. 1610-11 in Halliwell *Anc. Invent.* (1854) 66 Item, one *mourning cloak. 1898 W. J. Holland *Butterfly Bk.* (1902) 169 *Vanessa antiopa*...(The Mourning-cloak; The Camberwell Beauty.) 1535 Coverdale *Baruch* v. 1 Put of thy *mournynge clothes (o Ierusalem). 1690 Luttrell *Brief Rel.* (1857) II. 148 The 23rd, sir John Jonston, condemned for stealing Mrs. Wharton, went up in a *mourning coach to Tyburn, and was executed for the same. 1714 A. Smith *Lives Highwaymen* II. 18 He was..carry'd into a mourning Coach, and so convey'd to the Tangier-Tavern. 1840 Dickens *Barn. Rudge* ix, I wish I may..never be buried decent with a mourning-coach and feathers. 1586 ? Bryskett *Past. Aegl. Death Sidney* 28 Hath not the aire put on his *mourning coat, And testified his grief with flowing teares? 1683 *Condemn. & Exec. A. Sydney* 2 They put it [the body] into a *Mourning-Coffin..and conveyed it thence, in order to its Interment. 1564 Bulleyn *Dial. agst. Pest.* Ded. (1888) 1 My Chamber..hanged al in one *mournyng darcke colour. 1885 Dillon *Fairholt's Costume in Eng.* II. Gloss. 290 Black appears to have been the mourning colour generally worn in England. 1602 Shaks. *Ham.* I. ii. 88 'Tis sweet and commendable In your Nature Hamlet, To giue these *mourning duties to your Father. 1530 Palsgr. 246/2 *Mournyng garment, *habit de dveil.* 1535 Coverdale 2 *Sam.* xiv. 2. 1593 Shaks. 3 *Hen. VI*, II. i. 161 Wrap our bodies in blacke *mourning Gownes. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 4 þei maken hem self in siȝte of peple more holi þan oþere men and hosten þereof in owtward signes or wordes, as *mornynge abite, lettris of fraternite. 1736 Ainsworth *Lat. Dict.*, A *mourning hat-band, *Torulus atratus.* 1530 Palsgr. 253/1 Peake of a ladyes *mournyng heed, *biquoquet.* 1641 Evelyn *Diary* 2 Jan., We at night followed the *mourning hearse to the Church at Wotton. *c* 1495 *Epitaffe*, etc. in *Skelton's Wks.* (1843) II. 391 Of with your rich caperons, put on your *mourning hodes. 1736 Ainsworth *Lat. Dict.*, A mourning hood, *Epomis atrata.* 1695 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3059/1 Then followed the *Mourning Horse, led by the Lord Viscount Villers, Master of the Horse to Her late Majesty, attended by two Equerries. 1402 *Repl. Friar Daw Topias* in *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 76 To make sich housynge to men that ben deede, to whiche longith but graves and *mornynge bousis. 1588 Shaks. *L. L. L.* v. ii. 818, I will..shut My wofull selfe vp in a mourning house, Raining the teares of lamentation, For the remembrance of my Fathers death. 1760-72 H. Brooke *Fool of Qual.* (1809) IV. 26 Two footmen in *mourning-liveries. 1800 Mar. Edgeworth *Belinda* (1832) II. xxv. 155 The letter was copied upon a sheet of *mourning paper. 1889 M. C. Lee *Quaker Girl of Nantucket* iii. 48 There ain't a house on the island, I expect, but what's got a *mourning piece hangin' up in the front room. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVIII. 162/2 *Mourning pins may be made of brass,..varnishing being substituted for tinning. 1703 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3897/4, 3 other *Mourning Rings, with W. C. ob. 18 Dec. 1702. 1852 Miss Mulock *Agatha's Husb.* xii. (1875) 306 The large diamond mourning ring which the widower always wore, 'In memory of Catherine Harper'. 1634 W. Tirwhyt tr. *Balzac's Lett.* (vol. I) 105 Your *Mourning-robes. 1650 Fuller *Pisgah* IV. vi. 98 As we say 'mourning shirts, it being customary for men in sadness, to spare the pains of their laundresses. 1736 Ainsworth *Lat. Dict.*, A *mourning song, *Nenia, carmen lugubre, threnodia. c* 1730 Savage *Author to be let* Publ. Pref., Had it not been more laudable in Mr. Roome, the son of an undertaker, to have borne a link and a *mourning-staff in the long procession of a funeral, than [etc.]. 1881 M. Arnold *Westminster Abbey* x, The *mourning-stole no more Mantled her form. 1703 *Burgh Rec. Stirling* (1889) 99 Four *mourning strings..which they are to wear above their belts that day upon account of the funerals of the deceast John Stivensone, provost. 1662 Gurnall *Chr. in Arm.* verse 18. I. xliv. § 1 (1669) 401/2 Gaudy rich cloaths on a fast-day do no better, than a light trimming on a *mourning suit. 1819 Byron *Juan* II. cxxxix, And night is flung off like a mourning suit Worn for a husband,—or some other brute. *c* 1407 Lydg. *Reson & Sens.* 6926 Ther ys..woman noon so stedefast That, whan *Mowrenyng tyme is past, she may of mercy and pite save and kepe hir honeste, And forsake hir clothes blake And chesen hir a nywe make. 1821 Shelley *Adonais* xli, Thou Air, Which like a *mourning veil thy scarf hadst thrown O'er the abandoned Earth. 1572 *Lament. Lady Scotl.* 6 in *Satir. Poems Reform.* xxxiii, With ȝour *murning weid absconse my face. 1588 Shaks. *Tit. A.* I. i. 70 Haile Rome: Victorious in thy Mourning Weedes.

† **Mou·rning**, *vbl. sb.*[2] *Obs.* [f. Mourn *v.*[2] + -ing[1].] *Mourning of the chine*: The disease of glanders. Cf. Mortechien.

1523 Fitzherb. *Husb.* § 87 Mournynge on the chyne.. appereth at his nosethryll lyke oke-water. *Ibid.* § 119 The frenche-man saythe, *Mort de langue et de eschine Sount maladyes saunce medicine.* The mournynge of the tongue, and of the chyne, are diseases without remedy or medicyne. 1598 Florio, *Ciamorro*, a disease in horses called the mourning of the chine, issuing at the nosthrils. 1607 Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* 371 This word mourning of the Chine, is a corrupt name borrowed of the French toong, wherein it is cald *mote* [1658 *Morte*] *deschien*, that is to say the death of the backe. Because many do hold this opinion that this disease doth consume the marrow of the backe. 1611 Cotgr., *Mourne*, the Mumpes; and (in a horse, &c.) the mourning of the Chyne. 1735 Burdon *Pocket Farriery* 74 The Mourning of the Chine is downright Poverty of Flesh and Blood.

Mou·rning, *ppl. a.* [f. Mourn *v.*[1] + -ing[2].]

1. That mourns; sorrowing, lamenting; characterized by or expressive of grief.

Beowulf 50 Him wæs ȝeomor sefa, murnende mod. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 4963 He mened him þus, wit murnand cher. 1382 Wyclif *Ezek.* xxiv. 17 Nether thou shalt ete meet of mournynge men. *c* 1550 *Knt. Curtesy* 59 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* II. 69 Alas! be sayd, with murnynge eyen, Now is my herte in wo and payne. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* I. iii. 36 When mourning altars, purg'd with enemies life, The black infernall furies doen aslake. 1622 Mabbe tr. *Aleman's Guzman D'Alf.* I. 134, I put on a mourning-face, looke sad [etc.]. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XII. 436/1 *Præficæ*, or mourning women,..went about the streets. 1815 Shelley *Alastor* 55 No mourning maiden decked With weeping flowers.

2. *transf.* Bruised. Cf. Mourning *vbl. sb.*[1] 4 d.

1708 Mrs. Centlivre *Busy Body* I. i, On condition you'll give us a true account how you came by that mourning nose.

3. Mourning bride, a popular name for the sweet scabious, *Scabiosa atropurpurea*; **mourning dove**, the common American or Carolina turtle-dove, *Zenaidura carolinensis*; **mourning warbler**, an American warbler, *Geothlypis philadelphia*; **mourning widow**, (*a*) a European geranium with petals of a dusky colour, *Geranium phæum*; (*b*) = *Mourning bride* (*Cent. Dict.* 1890).

1846-50 A. Wood *Class-bk. Bot.* 310 *Scabiosa atropurpurea*, *Mourning Bride. 1839 Peabody in *Boston Jrnl. Nat. Hist.* (1841) III. 192 The Carolina Turtle Dove..is called [in western Massachusetts] the *Mourning Dove. 1808-13 A. Wilson *Amer. Ornith.* (1831) II. 140 *Sylvia Philadelphia*, Wilson.—*Mourning warbler. 1866 *Treas. Bot.*, *Mourning widow. *Geranium phæum.*

Mourningly (mōə·ɹnĭŋlĭ), *adv.* [f. Mourning *ppl. a.* + -ly[2].] In a mouming manner.

1519 in *Fabric Rolls York Minster* (Surtees) 268 Item we thynke it were convenient that whene we fetche a corse to the Churche that we shulde be in our blak abbettes mornyngly. 1601 Shaks. *All's Well* I. i. 34 The King very lately spoke of him..mourningly. 1831 Lytton *Godolphin* lxvii, The wind..swept mourningly over the..leaves.

Mournival (mōə·ɹnĭvăl). *Cards.* Now only *Hist.* Forms: 6 mornyfle, 7 mournaval, morne-vall, mournivall, murnivall, mornivall, mournifal, (*erron.* murrinall), 8 mourneval, 7- mournival, murnival. [a. F. *mornifle*, of obscure origin. The word also means 'a slap in the face', which is perh. the primary sense.]

1. A set of four aces, kings, queens, or knaves, in one hand. Also in figurative context.

1530 Palsgr. 246/1 Mornyfle a maner of play, *mornifle.* 1614, 1615 [see Gleek *sb.*[1] 2]. 1674 Cotton *Gamester* (1680) 68 A Mournival is either all the Aces, the four Kings, Queens, or Knaves. 1719 D'Urfey *Pills* I. 331 I'se ne'er win by Mournival or blaze, Or conquering Knave. 1822 Scott *Nigel* xvi, Concerning a certain game at gleek, and a certain mournival of aces held by his lordship.

† **2.** *transf.* A set of four (things or persons). *Obs.*

1625 B. Jonson *Staple of N.* IV. Interm. 81 *Cen.* Let a protest goe out against him. *Mer.* A mourniuall of protests; or a gleeke at least! *c* 1650 J. Poole *Eng. Parnassus* (1657) 272 Elements..Natures first mournival. *a* 1711 Ken *Hymnotheo* Poet. Wks. 1721 III. 390 With his double mourneval of Eyes, Tarantula a poor Apulian spies.

† **Mou·rnless**, *a. nonce-wd.* [f. Mourn *sb.* + -less.] That mourns not, failing to mourn.

1633 D. Rogers *Treat. Sacraments* II. 139, I hope you mourne, that you are so mournelesse.

Mournour, obs. form of Mourner.

Mou·rnsome, *a. nonce-wd.* [irreg. f. Mourn *v.*[1] + -some.] Mournful.

1869 Blackmore *Lorna D.* iii, Then there came a mellow noise, very low and mournsome.

Mourron, Mourther: see Morion, Murder.

Mous, obs. pl. form of Mow *sb.*[2]

Mousaique, obs. form of Mosaic *a.*[1] and *sb.*

Mouse (maus), *sb.* Pl. **mice** (mois). Forms: *sing.* 1 mús, muus, 2, 5 mus, 4-5 mows, 4-7 mous, 5 mows(8)e, 6 mowss, mousse, 4- mouse. *pl.* 1 mýs, 4-5 mys, 4 myys, musz, myis, 4-5, (9 *dial.*) mees, muys, myes, 4-6 myse, 4-7 myce, 5 muyse, mysz, myesse, 6 myss, miese, mise, 7, (9 *dial.*) meece, 6- mice; also 4 musus, 8 (in sense 4 a) mouses. [Com. Teut. and Indo-Germanic: OE. *mús* fem. = OFris., OS. *mûs* (Du. *muis*), OHG. *mûs* (MHG. *mûs*, mod.G. *maus*), ON. *mús* (Sw., Da. *mus*), L. *mūs*, Gr. *μῦς*, Skr. *mūš*:—Indo-Germanic **mūs-* (cons.-stem).]

I. 1. An animal of any of the smaller species of the genus *Mus* of rodents.

Most commonly applied to the house mouse, *M. musculus*. Other species are the field or wood mouse, *M. sylvaticus*, the harvest mouse, *M. minutus*, and the Barbary mouse of North Africa, *M. barbarus*.

c 888 K. Ælfred *Boeth.* xvi. § 2 ȝif ȝe nu ȝesawan hwelce mus þæt wære hlaford ofer oðre mys, & sette him domas.. hu wunderlic wolde eow ðæt þincan. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 53 Þurh þe sweote smel of þe chese he bicherreð monie mus to þe stoke. 1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 5383 For þou ȝyuest myys [*v.r.* mys] to ȝete þat was ordeyned to mannys mete. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Boeth.* II. Pr. vi. 41 (Camb. MS.) Now yif thow saye a mous amonges oothers musus [*v.r.* myse] þat chalengede to hym self ward ryht and power ouer alle oothers mysus [*v.r.* myse] how gret scorn woldisthow han of hit. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 297 While a myȝti man sat at þe feste muys [MS. *B.* mnyse, *Caxton* myes] bysette hym sodenliche al aboute. *c* 1450 *Merlin* xxxiii. 665 He seide that he hadde nede ther-of in his house for rattes and mees. 1535 Stewart *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) III. 388 Ouir Albione aboundit so the myss, Ouir all the feild in mony hoill and dyke, And in the houssis..That [etc.]. 1562 Turner *Herbal* II. 160 It [Hellebore] kylleth miese knodden wyth mele and honye. 1605 Shaks. *Lear* IV. vi. 18 The Fishermen, that walk'd vpon the beach Appeare like Mice. 1822 Shelley tr. *Goethe's Faust* I. 84 For I am like a cat—I like to play A little with the mouse before I eat it. 1864 Tennyson *Aylmer's F.* 853 The thin weasel there Follows the mouse, and all is open field. 1894 *Spectator* 30 June 901 There are those who have tried the bat, and found it taste like a house-mouse, only mousier.

fig. c 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* III. 687 (736) Quod Pandarus thow wrecched monses herte. Art þow a-garst so þat she wole þe byte. 1633 *Costlie Whore* I. ii. in Bullen *O. Pl.* IV, Oh wherefore should we fawne upon such curres, The mice of mankind, and the scorne of earth?

b. Popularly applied to animals of other genera having some resemblance to mice, esp. the shrews (*Sorex*) and the voles (*Arvicola*). Also in book-names (chiefly translations from mod.Latin) of various exotic animals, e.g. † *Alpine mouse*, † *mouse of the mountain*, the Marmot; † *Indian mouse*, † *Pharaoh's mouse*, the ichneumon; † *Pontic*

mouse, an animal described by Pliny, commonly identified with the ermine.

a 700 *Epinal Gloss.* 977 *Sorix (-ex), id. est* : mus. *a* 1593 HESTER 114 *Exper. Paracelsus* (1596) 12 Anointing the outward parts with the oyle of the mouse of the mountaine. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 448 Marcellus and Solinus, doe make question of this beast (Ichneumon) to be a kind of Otter...There be some that call it an Indian Mouse. *Ibid.* 532 The Movse Pontiqve. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 151 An Indian Mouse. 1864 *Chamb. Encycl.* VI. 597/2 The name Mouse is often popularly given to animals considerably different from the true mice, as the Voles. 1868 GRAY in *Proc. Zool. Soc.* 199 The species of *Saccomyinæ*, or Pouched Mice. 1889 [see POUCHED *a.* 1].

2. Phrases. **a.** In various similes: *Drunk as a mouse*, earlier †*drunk as a dreynt* (= drowned) *mouse*; *mum, mute, quiet, still*, etc., *as a mouse* (†*in a cheese*). Also, †(*to speak*) *like a mouse in a cheese*, i.e. with a muffled voice, inaudibly; *like a drowned mouse*, i.e. in a miserable plight.

a 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* xxxix. 111 When that he is dronke ase a dreynt mous, thenne we shule borewe the wed ate bayly. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Wife's Prol.* 246 Thou comest hoom as dronken as a Mous. 1536 in *Lett. Suppress. Monast.* (Camden) 133 Monckes dryuk an bowll after collacyon tell ten or xii. of the clock, and cum to mattens as dronck as myss. 1591 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. VI*, I. ii. 12 Or pitteous they will looke, like drowned Mice. 1599 PORTER *Angry Wom. Abingt.* (1841) 71 Mum, mouse in cheese, cat is neare. 1686 E. VERNEY 24 June in *Verney Mem.* (1899) IV. x. 381 Child,—I pray when you speak in the Theatre [Oxf.] doe not speak like a mouse in a chees..., but speak out your words boldly and distinctly. 1736 AINSWORTH *Lat. Dict.* s.v., He speaketh like a mouse in a cheese, *mussat, mussitat; occulte & depressa voce loquitur.* 1856 MISS YONGE *Daisy Chain* II. xxv. 636 If I only begin to say 'Miss May told me—' they are all like mice. 1859 GEO. ELIOT *A. Bede* v, She looks as quiet as a mouse. There's sometbing rather striking about her, though. 1883 STEVENSON *Treasure Isl.* xiv, I squatted there, hearkening, as silent as a mouse.

b. In alliterative association with *man*. (*a*) See MAN *sb.*[1] 7; (*b*) *Neither man nor mouse*, not a creature; *Mouse and man*, every living thing.

1627 W. HAWKINS *Apollo Shroving* I. v. 14 Looke Præco, canst thou see no audience? *Præco.* Nor man, nor mouse. 1845 CARLYLE *Cromwell* v. lxxix. I. 483 Poor Prince Maurice, sea-roving..sank, in the West Indies, mouse and man.

c. As a type of something small or insignificant. Chiefly after Horace (see quot. *a* 1637).

1584 LYLY *Campaspe* Prol. at Bl. Fryers, So we hope, if the shower of our swelling mountaine seeme to bring foorth some Eliphant, perfourme but a mouse, you will gently say, this is a beast. 1596 LODGE *Wits Miserie* 4 At euery word he speaketh, hee makes a mouse of an elephant, he telleth them of wonders done in Spaine by his ancestors. 1598 F. ROUS *Thule* Bj, Nor let your harts great hils bring foorth a mouse. *a* 1637 B. JONSON tr. *Horace, Art P.* 199 The mountains travail'd, and brought forth A scorned mouse! 1887 *Times* (weekly ed.) 14 Oct. 14/4 It is curious that such a grave contingency should spring from such a trivial cause. This time it is the mouse that brings forth the mountain.

d. Proverbs, and proverbial sayings.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Wife's Prol.* 572, I bolde a Mouses herte nat worth a leek, That hath but oon hole for to sterte to And if þat faille, thanne is al ydo. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 167 An hardy mowse, that is bold to breede In cattis eeris. *c* 1530 R. HILLES *Common-Pl. Bk.* (1858) 140 It ys a sotyll mouse that slepyth in the cattys ear. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew* s.v. *Mouse-trap, A sorry Mouse, that has but one Hole*, or a poor Creature that has but one Shift. *Ibid., A Mouse in the Pot is better than no Flesh*, or something has some savour.

†**3.** **a.** As a playful term of endearment, chiefly addressed to a woman. *Obs.*

c 1520 [see PRIM *sb.*[1]]. 1567 *Triall Treas.* Ej, My dere lady. My mouse my nobs and cony swete. 1586 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* II. x. (1592) 42 God blesse thee Mouse the Bridegroome sayd, and smakt her on the lips. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* v. ii. 19. 1602 — *Ham.* III. iv. 183. 1607 DEKKER & WEBSTER *Westw. Hoe* II. i, *Iud.* [to her husband] I am so troubled with the rheume too: Mouse whats good fort? 1655 MENNIS & SMITH *Mus. Delic.* (1656) 14 Mopsa, even Mopsa, prety Mouse. 1798 JOANNA BAILLIE *Tryal* IV. ii. *Plays on Passions* (1821) I. 263 *Agnes.* You are an idler! *Harwood.* You are a little mouse!

†**b.** *slang.* (See quot.) *Obs.*

1781 R. KING *Mod. Lond. Spy* 38 The harlots or women taken up for assault or night-brawls were there [in Wood Street Compter] called Mice.

4. *Technical uses.* Applied to various things resembling a mouse in shape or appearance.

a. *Naut.* (See quots.)

1750 BLANCKLEY *Naval Expos.*, *Mouse* is a large Knot artificially made by the Riggers on the Ship's Stays. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1780), *Mouse*, a sort of knob, usually in the shape of a pear, wrought on the outside of a rope, by means of spun yarn, parceling, &c...It is used to confine some other [rope] securely to the former, and prevent it from sliding along its surface. These mouses are particularly used on the stays of the lower-mast, to prevent the *eye* from slipping up to the mast. 1833 MARRYAT *P. Simple* vi, And then he asked the first lieutenant whether something should not be fitted with a *mouse* or only a *turk's-head*. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk., Mouse*, a kind of ball or knob, wrought on the collars of stays by means of spun-yarn,..&c. The mouse prevents the running eye from slipping...Also, a mark made upon braces and other ropes, to show their squaring or tallying home. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech., Mouse*,..*b.* a turn or two of spun-yarn uniting the point of a hook to the shank to prevent its unhooking.

b. A match used in firing a mine or a gun.

1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk., Mouse*,..a match used in firing a mine. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech., Mouse*,..2. (*Blasting*) A match used in firing guns or mines.

c. *U.S.* A small round cushion-shaped hair-pad.

1888 [see RAT *sb.*[1] 5 a]. 1895 in *Funk's Stand. Dict.*

d. (See quot.)

1897 *Archit. Publ. Soc. Dict., Mouse*, a small weight to which a cord is attached, used by plumbers for clearing a stoppage in a closet pipe. The carpenters also use a similar weight for passing a sash line over the pulley.

5. A species of cowry.

1815 S. BROOKES *Introd. Conch.* 156 Mouse, *Cypræa Mus.*

6. *slang.* A lump or discoloured bruise, *esp.* one on or near the eye, caused by a blow; a black eye.

1854 'C. BEDE' *Verdant Green* II. iv, That'll raise a tidy mouse on your ogle, my lad! 1886 SIR F. H. DOYLE *Remin. & Opin.* iv. 81 He acquired a severe black eye, of that peculiar kind known to professional pugilists as a 'mouse'.

7. Short for *mouse-moth* (see 10 f).

1829 J. F. STEPHENS *Catal. Brit. Insects* II. 77 *Pyrophila ..Tragopogonis.* Mouse. 1832 RENNIE *Conspect. Butterfl. & M.* 63 The Mouse..appears in June...First pair [of wings] mouse-brown. 1882 W. F. KIRBY *Europ. Butterfl. & M.* (1903) 192/1 When disturbed in the day time it falls down and shuffles about in such a manner that it has acquired the name of 'the Mouse'.

II. 8. A muscle. *Obs.* in general sense (see 9). [Cf. the similar use of OHG. *mûs*, mod. G. *maus*, Du. *muis*, ON. *mûs*; also Gr. μῦς.]

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 158/6 *Torus, uel musculus, uel lacertus*, mus ðæs earmes. 1561 HOLLYBUSH *Hom. Apoth.* 12 b, Binde the garlike vpon the wrest of the arme..so that it do not touche the mousse of the hande.

9. *spec.* Applied variously to certain muscular parts of meat (see quots.). Now only *dial.*

[Cf. 1530 *Mouse-piece.*] 1584 LYLY *Sappho* I. iii. 11 *Criti.* ..but come among vs, and you shall see vs once in a morning haue a mouse at a bay. *Molus.* A mouse? vnproperly spoken. *Criti.* Aptly vnderstoode, a mouse of beafe. *Molus.* I thinke indeed a peece of beafe as higge as a mouse, serues a great companie of such cattes. 1808 JAMIESON, *Mouse*, the outermost fleshy part of a leg of mutton, when dressed; the bulb of flesh on the extremity of the shank, S. pron. *moose.* When roasted, it formerly used to be prepared with salt and pepper. 1854 MISS BAKER *Northamptonsh. Gloss.* II. 36 *Mouse*, the strongest muscle in the shoulder of a pig; which, when drawn out quickly from the flitch, makes a squeaking noise; and children often say to the butcher, 'Come, let's hear the mouse squeak.' 1881 *Oxfordsh. Gloss.* Suppl., *Mouse*, a small piece of meat under the spare-rib of a pig, about the size of a mouse.

III. 10. *attrib.* and *Comb.* (the pl. form *mice-* has occas. been used instead of *mouse-*). **a.** simple attributive, as *mouse-birth, -cage, dung, -skin*, etc.

1868 BROWNING *Ring & Bk.* III. 1322 Oh *mouse-birth of that mountain-like revenge! 1855 DICKENS *Dorrit* I. xviii, Here Young John turned the great hat round and round upon his left-hand, like a slowly twirling *mouse-cage. 1538 ELYOT *Dict., Muscerda*, *mouse dunge. 1581 W. FULKE in *Confer.* III. (1584) X j, He should keepe the Pix diligently from mise dung. 1609 HOLLAND *Amm. Marcell.* 400 They are clad all over in garments made of linnen, or else patched up of wild *mice skinnes. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 245/1 A *Mowsse turde, *musterda*.

b. objective, and obj. genitive, as *mouse-catcher, -killer, -killing* (adj.), *-slayer, -taker*.

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 244/2 A Mowse slaer, *muricida. Ibid.*, A Mowsse taker, *muscipulator.* 1538 ELYOT *Dict., Muricidus*, a mouse killer. 1611 COTGR., *Souricier*, a Mouser, or Mouse-catcher. 1647 TRAPP *Comm. Epist.* 153 Those Popish Muscipulatores or Mice-catchers, as the story calleth them, that raked together their Peter-pence, and other moneys here in England by most detestable arts. 1772 FOOTE *Nabob* III. Wks. 1799 II. 317 The..mouse-killing cat.

c. adverbial, as *mouse-proof*.

1895 *Outing* (U.S.) XXVI. 365/2 A mouse-proof locker.

d. instrumental, as *mouse-crope* (dial.), *-eaten*.

1721 BAILEY, **Mouse-crope*, a Beast that is run over the Back by a Shrew Mouse is said to be so. *C[ountry word.]* 1866 *Treas. Bot.* s.v. *Rubus*, We have heard of cows that were said to be mouse-crope, or to have been walked over by a shrew-mouse (an ancient way of accounting for paralysis), being [etc.]. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Apol. Poetrie* (Arb.) 31 The Historian..loden with old *Mouse-eaten records.

e. similative, as *mouse-brown, -grey* (also *sb.*), †*-haired, -like, -still* adjs. Also *mouse-like* adv. See also MOUSE-COLOURED, MOUSE-DUN.

1796 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) IV. 247 Pileus *mouse brown. 1834 *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) XXII. 249/1 The fur.. of a uniform *mouse-grey above. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 619 Mouse-gray is obtained, when with the same proportions as for ash-gray. *c* 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* IV. 913 A staloun asse..al blaak Or *moushered or reed is to been hadde. 1838 DICKENS *Nich. Nick.* xxviii, Inserting her *mouse-like feet in the blue satin slippers. 1874 LISLE CARR *Jud. Gwynne* I. vi. 172 She crept mouselike to the bedside. 1871 LONGF. *Wayside Inn* II. *Cobbler of Hagenau* 70 His quiet little dame..Eager, excited, but *mouse-still.

f. Special comb.: †**mouse ballock**, some plant; **mouse-bane**, *Aconitum myoctonum* (Treas. Bot. 1866); **mouse barley**, *Hordeum murinum*; **mouse-bird**, (*a*) any bird of the African genus *Colius*; one of the colies; (*b*) 'a whidah-bird (genus *Vidua*)' (*Funk's Stand. Dict.* 1895); **mouse-bur**, the seeds of *Martynia proboscidea*; **mouse buttock** 'the fleshy piece which is cut from a round of beef' (*Eng. Dial. Dict.*); †**mouse catch**, a mouse-trap; **mouse chop**, *Mesembryanthemum murinum* (Treas. Bot.); **mouse-fish**, *Pterophryne* (or *Antennarius*) *histrio*, a fish which builds a sort of nest in the Sargasso Sea; †**mouse-foot**, (*a*) in *By the mouse-foot*, an old oath; (*b*) a plant; **mouse-galago**, a small West African galago, *Galago murinus* (*Funk's Stand. Dict.*); **mouse-grass**, †(*a*) a species of stonecrop; (*b*) a dial. name for the silvery hair grass, *Aira caryophyllea*; (*c*) an Australian name for *Dichelachne crinita*; **mouse-hare**, a rodent of the genus *Lagomys*, esp. *L. roylei*; **mouse-hawk**, (*a*) a hawk that devours mice; (*b*) the short-eared owl or hawk-owl, *Asio brachyotus*; (*c*) *U.S.* 'the rough-legged buzzard' (*Cent. Dict.* 1890), *Archibuteo lagopus*; **mouse-hood**, a fungus (see quot.); **mouse lemur**, any small Madagascan lemur of the genus *Chirogaleus*; **mouse-mark**, a birth-mark resembling a mouse; **mouse-mill** (see quot.); **mouse-moth**, the moth *Amphipyra tragopogonis* (see 7); **mouse-piece** = *mouse-buttock*; **mouse-powder**, a poison for mice; **mouse-roller** *Printing* (see quot.); **mouse-sight**, a pseudo-etymological rendering of *Myopia*; †**mouse-stock**, a mousetrap; **mouse-thorn** (see quot.); † **mouse-wort**, another name for mugwort. See also MOUSE-COLOUR, MOUSE-DUN, MOUSE-EAR, MOUSE-FALL, MOUSE-HOLE, MOUSE-HUNT, etc.

c 1450 *Alphita* (Anecd. Oxon.) 184/2 Testiculus muris folia habet ualde parua. ang. *museballok. 1840 W. BAXTER *Brit. Phænog. Bot.* V. 344 *Hordeum murinum*, Wall Barley. Way-side Barley. *Mouse Barley. 1822 J. LATHAM *Gen. Hist. Birds* V. 196 These birds [*sc.* Colies] are called at the Cape *Mouse Birds. 1893 SELOUS *Trav. S. E. Africa* 64 A flock of parroquets, or mouse birds, of a species unknown to me. They were of a pale green colour, with rose-coloured heads and long tails. 1877 LADY BRASSEY *Voy. Sunbeam* vi. (1878) 84 The seeds of the Martynia proboscidea, *mouse-burrs, as they call them. 1818 *Min. Evid. Comm. Prisons Metrop., Lond.* 38 That [meat] which I bought for them is called the *mouse buttock. 1382 WYCLIF *Wisd.* xiv. 11 Into a *mousecacche [Vulg. *in muscipulam*]. 1876 G. B. GOODE *Anim. Resources U.S.* 13 *Pediculati*. (Sea-bats or devil-fish, goose-fish or angler, *mouse-fish, &c.) *c* 1560 *Misogonus* III. i. 255 Bith *mouse foote, do so, Mr. 1605 *Lond. Prodigal* II. ii, I'll come and visit you; by the mouse-foot I will. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 504 Plants ..receiued names from this litle beast, as...Mouse-foot, and such like. 1611 COTGR., *Ioubarbe sauvage*, *Mouse-grasse, wild Prickmadame. 1888–91 BLANFORD *Mammalia India* 456 *Lagomys roylei*. The Himalayan *Mouse-Hare. *c* 725 *Corpus Gloss.* 1890 *Soricarius*: *mushabuc. *c* 1050 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 259/10 *Suricaricis*, mushafuc. 1772 FORSTER in *Phil. Trans.* LXII. 384, *Strix*.. Brachyotos. The short-eared Owl...Mouse Hawk at Hudson's Bay. 1840 MACGILLIVRAY *Man. Brit. Birds* (1846) 67 *Asio Brachyotus*. ..Mouse-hawk. 1887 HAY *Brit. Fungi* 175 *Hygrophorus murinaceus*, the *Mouse Hood. 1893–4 *Lydekker's Roy. Nat. Hist.* I. 219 The tiny creatures known as the *mouse-lemurs. 1725 RAMSAY *Gentle Sheph.* III. ii, I'll wager there's a *mouse-mark on your side. 1876 *Jrnl. Soc. Telegr. Engineers* V. 186 The electrification of the ink is effected by means of an electrostatic induction machine called the *mouse mill, which is driven either by clockwork or by an electro-magnetic arrangement. 1819 G. SAMOUELLE *Entomol. Compend.* 251 *Mouse moth (*Noctua Tragopogonus*). 1530 PALSGR. 246/2 *Mouspece of an oxe, *mouffle*. 1696 AUBREY *Misc.* 109 There is a certain piece in the Beef, called the Mouse-piece, which given to the Child, or Party so affected, to Eat, doth certainly Cure the Thrush. 1886 *York Herald* 10 Aug. 5/6 After the death of Mrs. Dixon, Mrs. Britland ..suggested that they might have been poisoned with *mouse powder. 1888 JACOBI *Printer's Vocab.*, **Mouse roller*, a small additional roller for the better distribution of ink on a machine. 1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) III. 152 Mice are said to have this kind of vision naturally, and hence one of the technical names for it is myopia or myopiasis, literally '*mouse-sight'. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 53 Þeos wimmen .. beoð þes deofles *mousestoch iclepede, for þenne þe mon wule tilden his musestoch he bindeð uppon þa swike chese and bret hine for þon þet he scolde swote smelle. 1866 *Treas. Bot.*, *Mouse-thorn. *Centaurea myacantha*. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 512 Mug-wort, otherwise cald *mouse-wort.

Mouse (mouz), *v.* Also 3 muse, 5–7 mowse, mouze, 7 mowze, 9 *dial.* moose. [f. MOUSE *sb.* Cf. G. *mausen*, Du. *muizen*.]

1. *intr.* To hunt for or catch mice; said esp. of a cat or an owl.

a 1250 *Prov. Ælfred* 296 in *O. E. Misc.* 120 For ofte Muse þ þe kat after hire moder. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 347/1 Mowsyn, or take myse, *muricapio*. 1692 R. L'ESTRANGE *Fables* lxxxi. 79 An Old Weazle that was now almost past Mousing. 1791 HUDDESFORD *Salmag., Monody Death of Dick* 133 Thee, generous Dick, the Cat-controlling Powers Ordained to mouse in Academic Bowers. 1856 MISS YONGE *Daisy Chain* I. xxi, The large white owl floating over the fields as it moused in the long grass. 1871 BLACKIE *Four Phases* I. 42 You expect..your cat to mouse well.

2. *transf.* and *fig.* To hunt or search industriously or captiously; to go or move *about* softly in search of something, to prowl. Also with *around, along*.

1575 TURBERV. *Venerie* 153 When he [*sc.* the Bore]..doth but a little turne vp the grounde with his nose, he seeketh for wormes. So may you say that he hath bene mowsing. 1673 MARVELL *Reh. Transp.* II. 254 You fall a mousing about the definition of a Quibble. 1778 WOLCOT (P. Pindar) *Epist. to Reviewers* xxviii, There, Wisdom,..I've seen o'er pamphlets,..Mousing for faults, or, if you'll have it, Owling. 1842 J. FOSTER in *Life & Corr.* (1846) II. 421 This has been the consequence of mousing for them [engravings] during a good many years. 1849 W. IRVING *Goldsmith* xiii. 143 He ..wrote in a more free and fluent style than if he had been mousing at the time among authorities. 1856 R. A. VAUGHAN *Mystics* IX. iii. (1860) II. 135 He..mouses for flaws of regulation. 1874 G. H. KINGSLEY *Sport & Trav.* vi. (1900) 161, I was mousing around by myself the other day. 1885 H. C. MCCOOK *Tenants of Old Farm* 365 Maybe they peep and mouse into the tunnels and caves of worms.

b. *To mouse over* (a book): to study eagerly. *U.S.*

1807–8 W. IRVING *Salmag.* (1824) 385 With..a table full of books before me, to mouse over them alternately. 1864 B. TAYLOR in *Life & Lett.* (1884) II. xvii. 422, I have Little and Brown's 'British Poets' complete now, so you'll have wherewithal to mouse over. 1889 GRETTON *Memory's Harkb.* 137 He was..always 'mousing' over books.

c. *trans.* To hunt for by patient and careful search. Also with *out*. *U.S.*

1864 *N. Y. Evangelist* 20 Oct. (Cent.), He..usually returned laden with boxes and bundles of literary odds and ends, moused from rural attics and bought or begged for his collection. 1870 H. STEVENS *Bibl. Histor.* Introd. 11 They are driven..to mouse out in foreign countries..what ought to be at home..in the public libraries.

†**3.** *trans.* To handle as a cat does a mouse; to tear, bite. *Obs.*

1530 TINDALE *Answ. More* III. xiii. Wks. (1573) 311/1 In the xiii. [chapter]..he biteth, sucketh, gnaweth, towseth, and mowseth Tyndall. 1573 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 91 Keepe sheepe from dog, keepe lambes from hog. If foxes mowse them, then watch or howse them. 1595 SHAKS. *John* II. i. 354 *Bast.* Oh, now doth Death line his dead chaps with steele;..And now he feasts, mousing the flesh of men, In vndetermin'd differences of kings! 1603 DEKKER *Wonderful Year* C 2 b, Whilst Troy was swilling sack and sugar, and mowsing fat venison, the mad Greekes made bonefires of their houses. 1647 FANSHAWE *Il Pastor Fido* IV. 124 But 't had been worse t' have been prisoner To such a beast; Who though he doth not bear A mouses heart, might have mouz'd me.

†**b.** To pull about good-naturedly, but roughly; chiefly *touse and mouse*; cf. MOUSLE *v.* *Obs.*

1607 MIDDLETON *Fam. of Love* V. iii. 334 Vet if you did but see how like a cock sparrow he mouses and touses my little Bess already. *a* 1627 H. SHIRLEY *Mart. Souldier* IV. iii. in Bullen *O. Pl.* I. 235 Is't the kings pleasure that I should mouse her, and before all these people? 1675 WYCHERLY *Country Wife* II. i, He would not let me come near the gentry, who sat under us [at the play]...He told me, none but naughty women sat there, whom they toused and moused. 1691 SHADWELL *Scourers* IV. i, My dear chicken, I'll mouse thee.

absol. 1681 OTWAY *Soldier's Fort.* I. i, To see a pretty Wench and a young Fellow touze and rouze and frouze and mouze.

†**4.** To ransack, rummage, pillage. *Obs.*

c 1580 JEFFERIE *Bugbears* II. i. in *Archiv Stud. neu. Spr.* (1897), They have rifeled and mowsed the cofer by a false key thei made.

5. *Naut.* To put a mouse (see MOUSE *sb.* 4 a) on (a stay); to secure (a hook) with a mouse.

1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1780), *Mousing a hook*, the operation of fastening a small cord..across the upper-part, from the point to the back.., in order to prevent it from unhooking. 1837 MARRYAT *Dog-fiend* ix, I can bring my tarry trousers to an anchor—mousing the mainstay, or puddening the anchor. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk*, s.v. *Mouse, To mouse a hook.*

Hence **Moused** *ppl. a.*, supplied with mousing.

1883 *Fisheries Exhib. Catal.* 9 These Patent Slip-Hooks ..form an automatically 'Moused' hook when in use.

Mouse: see MOOSE [2] and MUSA (banana).

Mouseare, obs. form of MOUSE-EAR.

Mousebunker: see MOSSBUNKER.

Mou·se-colour, *sb.* (*a.*).

1. A colour resembling that of the common mouse; a dark grey with a yellowish tinge.

1606 *Jrnls. Ho. Comm.* I. 309/1 A strange Spanyell, of Monse-colour, came into the House. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVIII. 648/1 The fur is of a mouse-colour, tinged with reddish. 1903 'MARJORIBANKS' *Fluff-Hunters* 65 Her hair was of that subtle half-shade known as mouse-colour.

2. *attrib.* passing into *adj.* Mouse-coloured.

1716 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5481/4 Lost..a Mouse-Colour Mare. 1728–9 MRS. DELANY in *Life & Corr.* (1861) I. 193 The Prince of Wales was in mouse-colour velvet. 1828 STARK *Elem. Nat. Hist.* I. 120 Fur mouse-colour.

So **Mouse-coloured** *a.*

1687 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2307/4 Lost..a little Greyhound,.. her Ears Mouse-coloured,..and several Mouse-coloured spots on her Body. 1861 F. METCALFE *Oxonian in Icel.* ix. (1867) 129 The mouse-coloured horse which I am riding is crossed..with black streaks. 1900 *Daily News* 10 Feb. 6/3 The rest of the dress was mouse-coloured cloth.

Mou·se-deer. Also 9 **moose-**. [*Moose-deer* and *mouse-deer* seem to be corruptions of *musk-deer*, a name which was early misapplied to this animal; the former due to association with the known *moose-deer* = MOOSE, the latter perh. suggested by the animal's small size and the colour of its hair.] A small tragulid animal, the Chevrotain (*Tragulus meminna*), native of Ceylon and Java.

1836 *Penny Cycl.* VI. 454/1 (*Ceylon*) There is also another of very diminutive size, called the moose deer. 1874 JERDON *Mammals of India* 269 *Memimna indica*... The Mouse-deer.

Mouse-dun, *a.* and *sb.* **a.** *adj.* Mouse-coloured. **b.** *sb.* The dun colour of a mouse; mouse-colour.

c 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* IV. 832 Black bay, & permixt gray, mousdon [L. *murinus*]..and many mo [colours]. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* III. 116 b, Touching the colours ..the mousedun, and the grisel weare most esteemed. 1611 COTGR. s.v. *Poil, Couleur de poil de souris*, a Mouse-colour, or Mouse-dunne. 1639 T. DE GRAY *Compl. Horsem.* 58 Your mouse-dunne and such like rusty and sut colours. 1686 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2146/4 Stray'd or stolen.., a dark mouse dun long made Gelding. 1859 DARWIN *Orig. Spec.* v. (1873) 129 These stripes occur far oftenest in duns and mouse-duns. 1907 *Q. Rev.* Apr. 554 The mouse-dun Tarpan of the Russian steppes.

Mou·se-ear. Also 3 **musere**, 4 **mouser**, 4–5 **mous(h)ere**, 5 **mowseer**, **mushere**, **mousher**. [transl. of med.L. *auricula muris*, Gr. *μυὸς ὠτίς*: see MYOSOTIS. Cf. OHG. *mûsôra* 'pilosa', G. *mäuse-, mauseohr.*

In senses 1–3 the name seems to refer to the hairy leaves of the plants.]

1. A species of hawkweed, *Hieracium Pilosella.* Also *mouse-ear hawkweed.*

Bastard Mouse-ear *Hieracium Pseudo-Pilosella* (Treas. Bot. 1866). Golden Mouse-ear, *Hieracium aurantiacum.*

c 1265 *Voc. Plants* in Wr.-Wülcker 558/18 *Pilosella*, peluselle, musere. *a* 1387 *Sinon. Barthol.* (Anecd. Oxon.) 33/2 *Pelvette*, mouser. *c* 1440 *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* Add. (1903) 311 Tak an handful of Bugyl..an oþer of Pympurnele, an oþer of mousere. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* I. xxxvi. 53 Mouse eare..hath many small and slender stemmes somewhat redde bylow. *Ibid.* 54 *Auricula muris Matthioli.* Mouse eare. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. xxxvi. (1633) 305 Golden mouse-eare or Grimme the Colliar. 1612 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* xiii. 224 To him that hath a flux, of Sheepheards purse he giues, And Mous-eare vnto him whom some sharpe rupture grieues. 1682 WHELER *Journ. Greece* I. 25 This Plant is very like to the Great Mouse-Ear. 1760 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* App. 319 Mouse-ear, Creeping, *Hieracium.* 1789 W. AITON *Hortus Kewensis* III. 121 *Hieracium Pilosella*...Mouse-ear Hawkweed. 1806 GALPINE *Brit. Bot.* § 346 Hieracium...Pilosella. ..Mouse-ear. 1855 MISS PRATT *Flower. Pl.* (1861) III. 213 Orange Hawkweed...The plant is sometimes called by gardeners Golden Mouse-ear.

2. (More fully *mouse-ear chickweed.*) A plant of the genus *Cerastium*, somewhat resembling chickweed, esp. *C. vulgatum*, *C. triviale*, and *C. viscosum*; also applied to *Holosteum umbellatum*, a plant with flowers like chickweed.

1578 LYTE *Dodoens* I. xxxvi. 53 There is yet an other herbe, which some holde for Mouse eare:..set about with a fine and softe heare, the rest is very like the second Chickeweede. 1585 HIGINS tr. *Junius' Nomencl.* 115/1 *Alsine*, Chickweede or mouseare. 1731 P. MILLER *Gard. Dict.*, *Myosotis*, *Mouse-ear Chickweed...The Species are; 1. *Myosotis*; *Hispanica, segetum. Tourn.* Spanish Corn Mouse-ear Chickweed. 2. *Myosotis*; *Alpina, latifolia. Tourn.* Broad-leav'd Mouse-ear Chickweed of the Alps. 1799 J. HULL *Brit. Flora* 30 *Holosteum umbellatum*... Umbelliferous Mouse-ear. *Ibid.* 101 *Cerastium viscosum.* .. Clammy Mouse-ear. .. *C. vulgatum.* .. Narrow-leaved Mouse-ear [and others]. 1840–8 MAUNDER *Sci. & Lit. Treas.* (ed. 5), *Mouse-ear*, in botany, a plant of the genus *Cerastium*, very similar to chickweed. 1866 *Treas. Bot.*, *Cerastium*, a rather extensive genus of *Caryophyllacer*, containing small white-flowered plants, generally called Mouse-ear Chickweeds.

3. A plant of the genus *Myosotis*, esp. the forget-me-not, *M. palustris* and *M. arvensis*. Also *mouse-ear scorpion grass.*

1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. cxciv. 514 *Pilosella flore cæruleo.* Blewe Mouseare. 1690 RAY *Synopsis Meth. Stirpium* (1724) 229 Mouse-ear Scorpion-Grass. 1776–96 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) II. 225 *Myosotis arvensis*... Field Mouse-ear. Scorpion-grass. 1845–50 MRS. LINCOLN *Lect. Bot.* XXV. 146 The Mouse-ear (*Myosotis*) is valued for its medicinal properties; a species, the *arvensis*, or Forget-me-not, is an interesting little blue flower. 1883 'OUIDA' *Wanda* I. 157 The swollen brooks were blue with mouse-ear.

4. The name of various other plants. **a.** The cruciferous plant *Sisymbrium Thaliana*; more fully *mouse-ear cress.* † *mouse-ear molewort, codded* (or *podded*) *mouse-ear.* **b.** *dial.* Various species of woundwort, esp. *Stachys germanica* and *S. lanata.* **c.** *U.S.* A species of everlasting flower, *Antennaria plantaginifolia*, having small grey soft leaves resembling a mouse's ear; also called *mouse-ear everlasting* (Cent. Dict.), † *mouse-ear plantain.*

1578 LYTE *Dodoens* I. xxxvi. 53 Bysides these two there is yet a kinde of Mouse-eare whiche..standeth vpright, growing amongst other herbes, lyke to the others in stemme and leaues, but it is greater and of colour white, couered ouer with a clammy Downe or Cotton, in handling as though it were bedewed or moystened with Honie, and cleaueth to the fingers. 1696 PLUKENET *Opera Bot.* (1769) II. 298 Plantago Virginianna Pilosellæ foliis angustis radice turbinata ..*Mouse-ear Plantain.* 1732 J. MARTYN *Tournefort's Hist. Pl.* II. 318 *Turritis vulgaris*...Codded Mouse-ear. 1770 J. HILL *Herb. Brit.* II. 269, 1. *Arabis Thaliana.* Mouse-ear Molewort. *Folia integerrima.* Podded Mouse-ear. 1874 GRAY *Less. Bot.* 70 *Sisymbrium Thaliana*,..(Mouse-ear Cress). 1879 MISS JACKSON *Shropsh. Word-bk.*, Mouse-ear, *Stachys Germanica*, downy Woundwort (garden plant). 1882 FRIEND *Devonsh. Plant-n.*, Mouse's Ear, *Stachys lanata*, L. the white-leaved garden variety.

So **Mou·se-eared** *a.*, having an appendage resembling a mouse's ear; *spec.* †(*a*) of willows, having catkins; (*b*) in *mouse-eared chickweed, hawkweed* = MOUSE-EAR 1, 2.

1641 BEST *Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 15 The best wood for barres is the willow; but such as have had experience advise not to fell them till such time as they beginne to budde and bee mouse-ear'd. 1789 J. PILKINGTON *View Derbysh.* I. 344 *Myosotis scorpioides.* Mouse-eared Scorpiongrass. *Ibid.* 397 *Cerastium vulgatum.* Common mouse-eared Chickweed. *Ibid.* 449 *Hieracium pilosella.* Creeping Mouse-Ear or Mouse-eared Hawkweed.

Mou·se-fall. *Obs.* exc. *dial.* [f. MOUSE *sb.* + FALL *sb.*[2] Cf. OHG. *mûsfalla* (mod.G. *mausfalle, mäuse-, mausefalle*), Du. *muizenval*, Da. *musefælde.*] A mousetrap.

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* 1340 *Muscipula*: munsfalle. *c* 1050 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 477/17 *Pelx*, musfealle. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 347/1 Mowsfalle, *muscipula.* 1866 EDMONDSTON *Shetl. & Orkney Dial.* 74 *Moosfa*, a trap for catching mice.

Mou·se-hole. A hole used by a mouse for passage or abode; a hole only big enough to admit a mouse. Also *transf.* and *fig.*

c 1420 LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 1953 For fecre I lookyd as blak as a coole, I wold haue cropyn in a mouse hole. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 244/2 A Mosse (MS. A. mowse) hole, *anfractus.* 1603 DEKKER *Wonderfull Yeare* E j, Not a creuis but was stopt, not a mouse-hole left open. 1679 T. KIRKE *Mod. Acc. Scot.* 10 Men, Women, and Children pigg altogether in a poor Mouse-hole of Mud. 1708 MRS. CENTLIVRE *Busie Body* III. iii, Have you let a Man into my House?..I'll not leave a Mouse-hole unsearch'd. 1888 EGGLESTON *Graysons* XX. 216 Bob..liked this lurking for prey as a cat likes the watching at a mouse-hole.

Mou·se-hunt [1]. *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Also 5 **muse-hont**. [a. MDu. *muushont* weasel (mod.Du. *muishond*), f. *muus* mouse + *hont* dog (see HOUND *sb.*); there may also have been a native word, f. MOUSE *sb.* + HUNT *sb.*[1]] **a.** A weasel. **b.** *gen.* An animal that hunts mice.

Halliwell (1847) gives '*Mouse-hound*, a weasel, *East*'. In S. African Du. *muishond* is a synonym of MEERKAT, whence the use in quot. 1850.

1481 CAXTON *Reynard* (Arb.) 79 The squyrel, the musehont [*printed* -hout], the fychews. 1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* IV. iv. 11, I haue watcht ere now All night for lesse[r] cause, and nere beene sicke. *Ln.* I you haue bin a Mouse-hunt in your time. 1611 COTGR. s.v. *Geline, Qui naist de geline il aime a grater*: Prov. Cat after kind good Mouse-hunt. 1641 MILTON *Reform.* I. Wks. 1851 III. 31 Many of those that pretend to be great Rabbies in these studies..have bin but the Ferrets and Moushunts of an Index. [1850 R. G. CUMMING *Hunter's Life S. Afr.* (ed. 2) I. 102 The whole ground was undermined with the holes of colonies of meercat or mouse-hunts.]

Mouse-hunt [2]. *rare*—[o]. [HUNT *sb.*[2]] A hunt for mice. 1828–32 WEBSTER; and in later Dicts.

Mou·sekin. *rare.* [-KIN.] = MOUSELING.

1859 THACKERAY *Virgin.* XXXVIII, 'Frisk about, pretty little mousekin,' says grey Grimalkin.

Mousel, obs. form of MUZZLE.

Mouselet (mau·slĕt). *rare.* [f. MOUSE *sb.* + -LET.] = MOUSELING. Also a species of moth.

1832 RENNIE *Conspect. Butterfl. & M.* 89 *Simyra*...The Mouselet appears near marshes. 1873 T. W. HIGGINSON *Oldport Days* iii. 78 This [nest] contained, moreover, a small family of mouselets. 1906 *Athenæum* 30 June 796/2 Though mountains heave in all directions, the outcome is likely to be some ridiculous mouselet.

Mouseling (mau·slĭŋ). *rare.* [f. MOUSE *sb.* + -LING.] A small or young mouse.

1832 J. BREE *St. Herbert's Isl.*, etc. 149 So in the silly mouseling went..Here, eat this silly mouseling up! 1860 GOSSE *Rom. Nat. Hist.* Ser. I. 148 The tiny harvest mouse, ..which brings up its large little family of eight hopeful mouselings in a nest no bigger than a cricket-ball.

Mousell, obs. form of MUZZLE.

Mou·se-pea. *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Forms: 1 *músepise*, 4 *muspese*, *mous pese*, 5 *mousepese*, 6 *mowsepease*, 9 *dial.* *moose's*, *mouse's peas*, 9– **mouse-pea.**] The Heath-pea (*Lathyrus macrorhizus*); also the Meadow Vetchling (*L. pratensis*).

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 148/35 *Vicia*, musepise. *a* 1387 *Sinon. Barthol.* (Anecd. Oxon.) 32/2 *Orobus* sive *orobum* est pisa agrestis, s. muspese. *Ibid.* 43/1 *Vesces*, i. fecches vel mous pese, orobus idem. *a* 1400–50 *Stockh. Med. MS.* in *Archæologia* XXX. 410/2 Monsope [*read* mousepe]: *erobus.* *c* 1450 *Alphita* (Anecd. Oxon.) 131/1 *Orobus*,..anglice thare uel mousepese. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* App., Mowsepease is *Orobus.* 1665 LOVELL *Herbal* (ed. 2) 292 Mouse-pease, see Bitter-vetch. 1894 *Northumbld. Gloss.*, *Moose's peas, mouse's peas*, the tufted vetch, *Vicia cracca.*

Mouser (mau·zəɹ). Forms: 5 **mowsare**, 6– **mouser**. [f. MOUSE *v.* + -ER [1].]

1. An animal that catches mice; *esp.* applied to a cat, or an owl.

c 1400 *Promp. Parv.* 347/1 Mowsare, as a catte, *musceps.* 1573 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 172 Though cat (a good mouser) doth dwell in a house, yet euer in dairie haue trap for a mouse. 1692 R. L'ESTRANGE *Fables* lxi. 61 For Puss, even when she's a Madam, will be a Mouser still. 1771 FOOTE *Maid of B.* II. Wks. 1799 II. 222 Owls..are counted very good mousers. 1839–40 W. IRVING *Wolfert's R.* (1855) 9 Watching for hours together any ship or galley at anchor or becalmed—as a valorous mouser will watch a rat hole.

fig. 1608 DAY *Law-Tricks* III. E 2, Bring the Lady a Diamond,..for I can tel you these same paultrie stones are in high request amongst Ladies, especially such old mowsers as I haue beene in my time. 1848 LOWELL *Lett.* (1894) I. 147 He [Shakspeare] invented a new order of poetry; for, let the mousers trace all the resemblances they will, it is entirely new in its idea.

2. *slang.* **a.** (see quot. 1802); **b.** a detective.

1802 C. JAMES *Milit. Dict.*, *Mouser*, an ironical term, which is sometimes used in the British militia to distinguish battalion men from the flank companies. It is indeed generally applied to them by the grenadiers and light bobs, meaning, that while the latter are detached, the former remain in quarters, like cats, to watch the mice, &c. 1863 *Confess. Ticket of Leave Man* 266 Two shrewd 'mousers', were sent off at once with Mr. Gee to York Street.

Mouser(e, obs. forms of MOUSE-EAR.

Mouseroll, obs. form of MUSROLL.

Mou·seship. *nonce-wd.* [-SHIP.] The condition of being a mouse; a mock title for a mouse.

1702 *Mouse grown a Rat* 15 My Mouseship had not a Hole to creep into. 1802–12 BENTHAM *Ration. Judic. Evid.* (1827) V. 65 Debates..concerning the comparative value..of a possible Angelship and a present Mousesbip.

Mou·setail. [f. MOUSE *sb.* + TAIL *sb.*[1]]

†**1.** The stonecrop, *Sedum acre.* *Obs.*

1548 TURNER *Names of Herbes*, *Sedum*, The thyrd kinde is called in Englishe Mouse tayle or little stoncroppe. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. cxxxvii. 415 Stonecrop..Mousetaile. 1611 COTGR. *Pain d'oiseau*, Stonecrop,..Mousetaile.

2. A plant of the genus *Myosurus*, esp. *M. minimus*, from the shape of its seed receptacle.

1578 LYTE *Dodoens* I. lxv. 96 Of Bloud strange or Mouse tayle. Mouse tayle is a small low herbe, with small leaues and very narrow [etc.]. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. xcv. 345 Mousetaile or *Cauda muris*, resembleth the last kind of wild Coronopus or sea Plantain. 1789 J. PILKINGTON *View Derbysh.* I. 376 *Myosurus minimus.* Little Mousetail. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 769/2 *Myosurus minimus*, or Mouse-tail, ..rarely attains more than three or four inches in height.

3. Applied to other plants, as (*a*) *Alopecurus agrestis* (cf. 5); (*b*) the genus *Mygalurus*; (*c*) the orchid *Dendrobium Myosurus*.

1866 *Treas. Bot.*, Mousetail, *Mygalurus*; also *Myosurus minimus*, and *Dendrobium Myosurus*. 1893 *Wiltsh. Gloss.*, *Mousetails*, a kind of grass, perhaps Cats'-tail, but not *Myosurus*.

4. *pl.* Moustaches. *jocular.*

1855 SMEDLEY *H. Coverdale* iv, 'Why the brute actually wears moustaches.' 'He..sports the mouse-tails on the strength of his military pretensions.'

5. *attrib.*: **mousetail grass**, (*a*) one of the fox-tail grasses, *Alopecurus agrestis*; (*b*) a fescue grass, *Festuca Myurus* (*Cent. Dict.* 1890).

1696 RAY *Synopsis Meth. Stirp.* (1724) 397 *Gramen myosuroides majus*...The greater Mouse-tail-Grass...*Gramen myosuroides minus*. ..The lesser Mouse-tail-Grass. 1766 *Museum Rust.* VI. 442 Field Fox-tail..or Mouse-tail Grass. 1792–4 MARTYN *Flora Rustica* 22 *Alopecurus agrestis.* Field Fox-tail Grass, or Mouse-tail Grass.

Mousetrap (mau·s,træp), *sb.* Pl. **mouse-traps**, also 7 **mice-traps**. [f. MOUSE *sb.* + TRAP.]

1. A trap for catching mice. (Cf. the older MOUSEFALL and *mouse-stock*.)

In England usually a small cage inside which the bait (a piece of toasted cheese) is so suspended that when the mouse seizes it a spring is released which closes the door. In Scotland a wholly different contrivance is used, which is baited with meal, and is constructed to catch *and kill* two or three mice without being re-set.

c 1475 *Cath. Angl.* 245/1 (MS. Addit.) A Mowse trape, *muscipula*. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 127 b, And he sayth that in contrary wyse, they be as mouse trappes to them that be vnwyse. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 510 There are many kinds of mice-traps where mice do perish by the waight thereof. 1623 MIDDLETON *More Dissemblers* IV. i. 220 Like a mouse-trap baited with bacon. 1772 WESLEY *Jrnl.* 14 Jan., He could invent the best mouse-trap. 1842 LOUDON *Encycl. Gardening* § 1478 The garden mouse-trap is generally composed of a slate and a brick, supported by..three slips of wood.

b. *fig.* A device for enticing a person to his destruction or defeat.

1577 *F. de L'isle's Legendarie* F vij, They..called the kings letters patents the mousetrappes to catch fooles. 1613 HAYWARD *Norm. Kings* 12 Others demanded if he had any more mouse-traps to lead them into. 1674 *Essex Papers* (Camden) 256 A monstrap laid by Orrery & that gang. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew*, The Parson's *Mouse-trap*, Marriage. 1887 H. R. HAWEIS *Lt. of Ages* v. 139 He [the Greek] did not look upon the senses as so many mouse-traps. *appositive.* 1678 BUTLER *Hud.* III. iii. 751 Ply her with love-letters and billets, And bait 'em well, ..And if she miss the mouse-trap lines, They'll serve for other by-designs.

c. *transf.* Applied humorously to a tiny house.

1839 TENNYSON in Ld. Tennyson *Mem.* (1897) I. 171 The house at Tunbridge is too small, a mere mouse-trap. 1885 *Harper's Mag.* Mar. 545/2 They have hunted up a..house ..—the most dingy..little mouse-trap you ever saw.

† **2.** The cheese with which a mousetrap is baited.

1650 B. *Discolliminium* 17 Their Braines are made of grated Mouse-traps, steep'd in the spirits of Projects.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *mousetrap-man*, *-maker*; **mousetrap-switch** *Electr.*, an automatic switch moved by a spring which is released when the current through a controlling magnet falls below a certain limit.

a 1695 WOOD in Hearne *Liber Niger Scaccarii* (1728) II. 594 Mr. Selden said, they had as good inquire, whether they had best admitt Inigo Jones, the Kings Architect, to the Company of *Mous-trapmakers, &c. 1894 *Daily News* 30 Nov. 5/5 Among the curious occupations taken up by boys is that of bird dealer, crossing sweeper,..mousetrap maker [etc.]. 1631 B. JONSON *Barth. Fair* Dram. Pers., Costard-monger. *Movsetrap-man. Clothier [etc.]. 1708 SWIFT *Hist. Vanbrug's Ho.* 48 We might expect to see next year, A Mouse-trap Man, Chief Engineer.

Hence **Mouse-trapped** *ppl. a.*, caught like a mouse in a trap.

1607 DEKKER & WEBSTER *Westw. Hoe* v. iv, You shall heare the poore mouse-trapt-guilty-gentlemen call for mercy.

Mou·se-web. *Sc.* and *north.* Also 6 **mous-, muswob.** [app. f. MOUSE *sb.* + WEB *sb.*, though the reason for the application is not clear.

Possibly so called because dusty cobwebs suggest the colour of mice, or because cobwebs and mice are both associated with neglected buildings.]

A spider's web, cobweb.

1567 *Gude & Godlie Ball.* (S. T. S.) 110 Thir Imagis..ar ouergane with mouswobis [*v.r.* musewobs] & moitis. 1819 W. TENNANT *Papistry Storm'd* (1827) 197 The..wind..Blew down the mouse-webs black and mirk.

transf. 1773 FERGUSSON *Wks.* (1807) 272 Ye benders a', ..You'll tak your liquor clean cap out; Synd your mouse-wabs wi' reamin stout, While ye hae cash.

Mousey, variant of MOUSY *a.*

Mousher(e, obs. forms of MOUSE-EAR.

Mousherom, moushrimpe, obs. ff. MUSHROOM. **Mousick, -ike**, obs. ff. MOUJIK. **Mousie**, variant of MOUSY *sb.*

Mousil, obs. form of MUZZLE *sb.*

Mousiness (mau·sinés). [f. MOUSY *a.* + -NESS.] The condition of being mousy.

1882 M. A. PAULL *Thistledown Lodge* III. 88 A musty odour joined to the greasiness and mousiness of the apartment.

Mousing (mau·ziŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. MOUSE *v.* + -ING 1.]

1. The action of catching or hunting for mice.

1856 F. E. PAGET *Owlet of Owlst.* 10 Ever since her accident, my mother finds mousing much more difficult. *Ibid.* 41 For the present I must cease, and go a mousing. 1863 GEO. ELIOT *Romola* i, A handsome..'Tom', with the highest character for mousing.

b. Searching, rummaging. *U.S.*

1870 H. STEVENS *Bibl. Histor.* 223 It has been the good fortune of the writer, in his bibliographical mousings up and down the world, to light upon the original paintings. 1875 STEDMAN *Victorian Poets* 179 This may be..a result of his mousing among Pre-Chaucerian ballads.

2. *Naut.* **a.** The action of fastening spun yarn or rope, etc., round the point and shank of a hook; *concr.* the rope or yarn so fastened, or a 'latch connecting the bill with the shank of a hook' (Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1875); **b.** The action of making a mouse' on a rope; *concr.* the 'mouse' so made.

1832 MARRYAT *N. Forster* xlv, The mousing of a stay or the strapping of a block. 1844 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* VII. 35/1 The two parts of the hook thus formed, when affixed to the rigging, are secured by a cord or 'mousing'.

3. In a loom: A movement similar to that of a ratchet-wheel. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*

4. *attrib.* (sense 1) as *mousing-place*; (sense 2) as *mousing-arm*, *-block*, *-hook*, *-link* (see Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1875 and Suppl. 1884).

1856 F. E. PAGET *Owlet of Owlst.* 11 Fold-yards, and other good mousing-places. 1883 *Fisheries Exhib. Catal.* 45 Samples of Patent Mousing Hook, for all kinds of hooks.

Mousing (mau·ziŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. MOUSE *v.* + -ING 2.] That hunts or catches mice; given to hunting or catching mice.

1605 SHAKS. *Mach.* II. iv. 13 A Faulcon towring in her pride of place, Was by a Mowsing Owle hawkt at, and kill'd. 1904 W. H. HUDSON in *Speaker* 9 Jan. 359/2 The gentle mousing wind-hover has a nobler spirit than any crow of them all.

b. *transf.* Prying, prowling, rapacious, inquisitive; hunting as a cat does.

1692 R. L'ESTRANGE *Fables* cccxviii. 279 The Mouse that took this Cat for a Saint, has very Good Company...For we have seen a whole Assembly of these Mousing Saints, that under the Masque of Zeal, Conscience, and Good Nature, have made a Shift to lay I know not how many Kingdoms in Blood and Ashes. 1866 FELTON *Anc. & Mod. Greece* II. xii. 521 The dialects..will have become..obsolete curiosities for the researches of the mousing antiquarian. 1883 H. C. LODGE *D. Webster* iii. (1885) 107 One Parker Noyes, a mousing, learned New Hampshire lawyer.

Mousle (mau·z'l), *v. arch.* Also 7 **mouzle, mowsle, 9 mowzle.** [frequentative of MOUSE *v.* 2 c: cf. TOUSLE *v.*] *trans.* To pull about roughly.

1662 J. WILSON *Cheats* II. iv, Away Captain:—You do so mousle one. 1675 WYCHERLEY *Country Wife* IV. ii, He put the tip of his tongue between my lips, and so mousled me. 1695 CONGREVE *Love for L.* III. ix, He has got her into a Corner,..he'll touzle her, and monzle her.

transf. 1672 MARVELL *Reh. Transp.* I. 214 The poor word is sure to be mumbled and mowsled to purpose.

Hence **Mou·sled** *ppl. a.*, pulled about roughly.

1691 J. WILSON *Belphegor* III. iii, I see a mousled Hood, rumpled Tippet, or tumbled Petty-coat wou'd not down with you! 1878 H. S. WILSON *Alp. Ascents* IV. 121 But there were the mowzled blobs.

‖ **Mousmee** (mu·sme). Also **musume(e, -mē, -mé, musmé, -me, moosme, mousmé.** [Japanese *musume*.] An unmarried Japanese girl; *esp.* applied to a Japanese tea-girl or waitress.

1880 H. C. ST. JOHN *Wild Coast Nipon* 217 The gentle kindness and pretty ways of the musmees. 1905 *Longm. Mag.* July 228 A weeping mousmee brought the news to O Takke San as she lay in her room.

‖ **Mousquetaire** (muskətɛ̄r). Also *erron.* **mus-.** [Fr.: see MUSKETEER.]

1. *Fr. Hist.* Originally, a foot-soldier armed with a musket; in the 17th and 18th c. a member of either of two bodies (called respectively the Grey or White and the Black Mousquetaires, from the colour of their horses) which formed part of the king's household troops. They were all of noble birth, and were famous as dandies.

1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Mousquetaire* (*Fr.*), a Foot-Soldier, armed with a Musket; a Musketeer. *Mousquetaires* are also certain Troops of Horse that belong to the French King's House-hold. *a* 1715 BURNET *Own Time* (1734) II. 451 Both the French *Mousquetaires* and the *Cuirassiers* were there [*sc.* at 'Ramellies']. 1775 *Ann. Reg.* 188 The French King having thought proper..to suppress the Mousquetaires, that well-known body, as being entirely composed of young gentlemen of the best families in France. 1842 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. II. *Black Mousquetaire*, François Xavier Auguste was a gay Mousquetaire, The Pride of the Camp, the delight of the Fair.

2. Applied *attrib.* to certain styles of articles of female attire that have been in fashion at various times from the middle of the 19th c., as *mousquetaire cloak, cuff, glove, hat, sleeve* (transl. of Fr. *manchette*, *manteau*, etc., *mousquetaire* or *à la mousquetaire*). Also short for *mousquetaire glove.*

[1850 *Ladies' Gaz. Fashion* Oct. 270/2 The sleeves..with wide and deep open cuffs of the old-fashioned military form, called *à la mousquetaire*. 1852 *Lond. & Paris Ladies' Mag. Fashion* Mar. 11/3 The sleeves mousquetaire to correspond. 1857 *Ibid.* Jan. 3/2 The Parisian name is *chapeau mousquetaire.*] 1883 MISS BRADDON *Gold. Calf* I. iv. 91 Hat and feather, pongee sunshade, mousquetaire gloves, 1888 *Lady* 25 Oct. 378/1 The three-cornered 'Mousquetaire' hat is again to be worn. 1890 *Daily News* 8 Jan. 7/7. 10-button length Suede Mousquetaires, 23d. per pair. 1896 *Boston* (Mass.) *Jrnl.* 3 Dec. 5/2 Showing the long mousquetaire sleeves of the gown. 1897 *Daily News* 2 Oct. 6/4 The sleeves are furnished with pointed mousquetaire cuffs [of red velvet].

‖ **Mousse** (mus). *Cookery.* [Fr.; app. identical with *mousse* Moss *sb.*[1] 3.] (See quot. 1892.)

1892 *Encycl. Cookery* (ed. Garrett) I. 366/2 Chestnut Mousse.—Mix [etc.]...To serve, dip the mould in hot water, wipe it, and turn the Mousse out on a folded napkin. *Ibid.* 949/2 Mousse.—Fr. for froth or foam, and applied to some forms of culinary preparations, such as Chestnut Mousse, Chocolate Mousse, Coffee Mousse, Strawberry Mousse, &c. 1899 *Daily News* 15 July 7/5 While strawberries are still with us, the following Mousse should be tried. *Ibid.*, A peach or apricot Mousse would be made very similarly. *Ibid.*, These Mousses should turn out quite solid, but will never be hard on account of the cream.

Mousse, obs. form of MOUSE *sb.*

‖ **Mousseline** (muslin). Also 9 *erron.* **mouse-line, mousselaine.** [Fr.: see MUSLIN.]

1. French muslin; also, a dress of this material. (Often short for *mousseline-de-laine*: see b.)

1696 PHILLIPS (ed. 5), *Mousseline*, a sort of Linen, made of Cotton, very clear, very fine, but not very close woven, nor very smooth, but full of Puffs, like Moss. 1847 MRS. HAWTHORNE in *N. Hawthorne & Wife* (1885) I. 311 The dark purple mousseline which I wore in Boston I had to give up. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, Suppl., *Mousseline*, a fine wool French goods, taffeta woven.

attrib. 1901 *Westm. Gaz.* 25 Feb. 3/2 The insertion lace.. is enriched by little mousseline roses.

b. Mousseline-de-laine ('muslin of wool'), a dress-material originally composed wholly of wool, but afterwards of wool and cotton, printed with varied patterns. Also *attrib.*

1835 *Court Mag.* VI. p. xviii/2 The *mousslines de laine* ..are printed in very small patterns. 1840 THACKERAY *Shabby Genteel Story* iii, Dressed in a sweet yellow *mousseline de laine*. 1851 *Official Catal. Gt. Exhib.* III. 1373 A variety of French merinos,..mousseline de laines and satin de laines, of different colours. 1861 MRS. H. WOOD *East Lynne* (1888) 99 All three of my damsels decked out in fine mousseline-de-laine gowns.

c. Mousseline de soie [='muslin of silk'], a thin silk fabric with a texture like that of muslin.

1850 *Ladies' Gaz. Fashion* Aug. 255/1 Plain *mousseline de soie*..begins to be a good deal seen in half-dress. *Ibid.* 256/2 Pink *mousseline de soie* robe. 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 3 May 3/2 A lining of chiffon—or, as we now call it, mousseline de soie.

2. A very thin blown glass-ware with ornamentation resembling muslin or lace; in full *mousseline-glass*. Also, a wine-glass made of this.

1862 THACKERAY *Philip* xxxii, These *mousseline* glasses are not only enormous, but they break by dozens. 1867 'OUIDA' *Idalia* vii, Deep claret glasses, broad champagne goblets, and tiny spiral mousselines for liqueurs.

Moussell, obs. form of MUZZLE.

‖ **Mousseron** (musərōñ). Forms: 7 **muceron**, 8 (*erron.* in Ash) **mousgeron**, 7– **mousseron.** [Fr.: see MUSHROOM.] A white mushroom, common in woods, pastures, etc., *Agaricus prunulus*.

a 1655 T. MAYERNE *Archimag. Anglo-Gall.* xx. (1658) 19 You may also adde thereunto [*sc.* the pasty] Mucerons. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Mousseron*, a kind of white Mushroom. 1736 BAILEY *Housek. Dict.* 463 Mix all well together with parsly, chibbols, mousserons, common mushrooms [etc.]. 1887 HAY *Brit. Fungi* 66 *Agaricus prunulus*; *Clitopilus prunulus*: The Mousseron.

Moussiliman, obs. form of MUSSULMAN.

Moust: see MUST *sb.*, MUST *v.* (powder).

‖ **Moustac.** *Obs.* Also **moustoc, mustac.** [Fr.] The moustached guenon, *Cercopithecus cephus*.

1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* IV. 234 The seventh [monkey] is the Moustoc, or White Nose. 1828–32 WEBSTER, *Mustac.*

Moustache, mustache (musta·ʃ, mŭs-), *sb.* Forms: 7 **mostache, mustage, mustachis** (*Sc. pl.*), 8 **mustachus** (*pl.*), 6– **mustache**, 6, 9– **moustache.** [a. F. *moustache* fem., ad. It. *mostaccio, mostacchio*: see MUSTACHIO.

In present British use the unaltered Fr. spelling *moustache* greatly predominates, but the earlier British Dicts. (Johnson, Walker, Smart) and all the American Dicts. prefer the semi-Anglicized form *mustache*. With regard to the pronunciation, British usage is divided between (u) and (ŭ) in the first syllable; in the U. S. (ŭ) appears to be general.]

1. The hair which grows upon the upper lip of men. **a.** The hair on both sides of the upper lip taken to form a single moustache.

1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* III. iii. 73 b, [They] let their mustaches grow very long. *Ibid.* IV. xii. 125 [They] suffered no baire to grow, but only the moustaches betwixt the nose & the mouth. 1637 ADAMSON *Muses Threnodie* (1774) 30 Their horrid beardes, thrown browes, brustled mustages. 1653 R. SANDERS *Physiogn.* 170 Those that have but a little Mustache, are of an ill nature. 1720 DE FOE *Capt. Singleton* v. (1840) 84 They saw .. men with beards, that is to say, mustaches. 1823 SCOTT *Peveril* xxiv, Men wiped their mouths and mustaches. 1860 C. A. COLLINS *Eye-witness* ii. 16 He was a little, middle-aged gentleman,..with..a dyed moustache.

b. The hair covering either side of the upper lip; one half of a 'pair of moustaches'.

1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 541 The..*Ephori*..cause proclamation to be published..that no man should weare mustaches, or nourish the haire on their upper lips. *a* 1680 BUTLER *Rem.* (1759) I. 194 Two fair, And large, well-grown Mustaches. 1828 tr. *Manzoni's Betrothed Lovers* I. i. 8 Two long mustaches were curled at the extremities. 1842 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. II. *Black Mousquetaire*, And he twirl'd his moustache with so charming an air,—His moustaches I should say, because he'd a pair. 1902 A. E. W. MASON *Four Feathers* xiv, He twirled first one moustache and then the other before he spoke again.

c. Applied to hair on the upper lip of a woman.

1893 SLOANE-STANLEY *Remin. Midshipm. Life* xxx. 402 A woman with a black and bristly moustache.

2. *Zool.* Hairs or bristles, resembling a moustache, round the mouth of certain animals.

a 1605 MONTGOMERIE *Cherrie & Slae* (revision) iii, The con, the cuning, and the cat, Quhais dainty downs with dew were wat, With stiff mustachis strange. 1622 R. HAWKINS *Voy. S. Sea* xxxi. 75 Seales..are beneficiall to man in their skinnes for many purposes; In their mostaches for Pick-tooths. 1677 J. PHILLIPS tr. *Tavernier's Trav.* I. III. iv. 107 The Fish had a great Head, and a large Mustache. 1828 STARK *Elem. Nat. Hist.* I. 161 Mustaches [of the manatee] composed of a bundle of very strong hairs directed downwards, and forming on each side a kind of corneous tusk.

b. *Ornith.* A stripe of colour on the side of the head of a bird beneath the eye. (In recent Dicts.)

†3. A lock of hair worn at the temples. *Obs.*

1662 J. DAVIES tr. *Olearius' Voy. Ambass.* 9 Children..so dress'd as that we could not distinguish the Boies from the Girles, for both had their hair cut all off, excepting only two mustaches, which were suffered to grow at their Temples

4. Short for *moustache monkey.*

1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVII. 498/1 The mustache, or cercopithecus cephus, has a beard on the cheeks. 1823 CRABB *Technol. Dict., Moustache* (*Zool.*). 1895 *Funk's Stand. Dict., Mustache.*

5. *Old moustache* [tr. F. *vieille moustache*]: an old soldier.

1828 [MARQ. NORMANBY] *Engl. in France* II. 67 These old *moustaches* are so modest, that they never allude to their exploits. 1859 LONGF. *Children's Hour* viii, Do you think, O blue-eyed banditti Because you have scaled the wall, Such an old mustache as I am Is not a match for you all!

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.*: **moustache-cup**, a cup with a partial cover to protect the moustache when drinking; **moustache monkey**, a West African monkey, *Cercopithecus cephus*; **moustache tern**, *Sterna* (*Viralva*) *leucopareia.*

1886 *N. Zealand Herald* 1 June 1/6 *Moustache Cups. 1906 *Macm. Mag.* Apr. 407 It's the only moustache-cup we have. 1840 tr. *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 57 The *Moustache Monkey (*Simia cephus*, Lin.). 1871 DARWIN *Desc. Man* II. xviii. (1890) 552 The moustache-monkey. 1837 GOULD *Birds Europe* V. pl. 424 *Moustache Tern.

Hence **Mousta·cheless** *a.*, having no moustache.

1873 MISS BROUGHTON *Nancy* I. 210 With a rather triumphant smile on his handsome moustacheless lips.

Moustached (musta·ʃt), *a.* [f. MOUSTACHE *sb.* + -ED 2.] Furnished with a moustache.

1843 BORROW *Bible in Spain* xl, His..moustached lips. *transf.* 1881 BLACKMORE *Christowell* xiii, The trees, moustached with moss and fungus.

b. *spec.* in names of animals, as *moustached guenon, honey-eater, monkey, tamarin, warbler.*

1837 GOULD *Birds Europe* II. pl. 111 Moustached Warbler. 1848 — *Birds Australia* IV. pl. 26 *Meliphaga mystacalis*, Gould. Moustached Honey-eater. 1896 H. O. FORBES *Hand-bk. Primates* I. 142 The so-called Moustached Tamarin (*Midas mystax*, Spix). 1897 *Ibid.* II. 53 The Moustached Guenon. *Cercopithecus cephus. Ibid.* 54 The Moustached Monkey.

Moustachial (musta·ʃiăl), *a. Nat. Hist.* [f. MOUSTACHE *sb.* + -IAL.] Resembling a moustache.

a 1873 E. BLYTH *Catal. Mammals & Birds Burma* 57 The red of the breast [of the parrot] is continued past the black moustachial streak and the ear-coverts. 1888 NEWTON in *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 652/1 *note*, A patch of conspicuous colour, generally red, on this part [*sc.* the base of the lower mandible] is characteristic of very many Woodpeckers, and careless writers often call it 'mystacial', or some more barbarously 'moustachial'. 1894 R. B. SHARPE *Handbk. Birds Gt. Brit.* I. 72 Cheeks..separated from the throat by a distinct moustachial streak of dusky greenish-olive.

Moustachio(e: see MUSTACHIO.

Moustaffa, obs. form of MUSTAPHA.

Moustang, -guer, var. ff. MUSTANG, -GUER.

Mousted, variant of MUSTED *ppl. a.*

Mouster, obs. form of MUSTER.

†**Moustick, -ique.** *Obs. rare.* Also 7 **moustico.** [a. F. *moustique.*] = MOSQUITO.

1666 J. DAVIES *Hist. Caribby Isles* 146 A sort of very small Flies, by some called Mousticoes, which are felt commonly before they are seen. 1698 FROGER *Voy.* 152 The Inhabitants..are much incommoded with Ants, Mousticks [etc.]. 1801 C. GRANT *Hist. Mauritius* 68 The gnat called moustique or maringouin is very troublesome.

Moustoc: see MOUSTAC.

Moustre, obs. form of MUSTER.

Mousum, variant of MOWSOME *a. Obs.*

Mousy (mau·si), *sb.* Also mousie. [f. MOUSE *sb.* + -Y 4.] A playful diminutive of *mouse.*

1693 *Scotch Presbyt. Eloquence* (1738) 138 Thou'rt like a Mousie peeping out at the Hole in the Wall. 1785 BURNS *To Mouse* vii, But Mousie, thou art no thy lane, In proving foresight may be vain. 1845 *Zoologist* III. 1030 On my return [I] found poor mousy in convulsions.

Mousy (mau·si), *a.* Also mousey. [f. MOUSE *sb.* + -Y 1.]

1. Resembling a mouse, its colour, smell, etc.

1859 F. E. PAGET *Curate of Cumberworth* 348 A taste..which I can only describe as mousy. 1865 LIVINGSTONE *Zambesi* xxviii. 575 Where we inhaled so much of the heavy mousey smell that it was distinguishable in the odour of our shirts and flannels. 1888 G. MACDONALD *Elect Lady* 10 He would..pass a white left hand through his short-cut mousey hair. 1888 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Robbery under Arms* (1890) 355 The doctor's short-tailed, mousy mare. 1897 *Star* 4 Jan. 1/7 A curious shade of mousy grey.

2. As quiet as a mouse.

1812 *Sporting Mag.* XXXIX. 210 A man ought not to remain mousy [*note*, idle]. 1863 HOLME LEE *A. Warleigh* II. 309 To marry that most tiresome and disagreeable of mousy men. 1887 FLO. MARRYAT *Dau. of Tropics* I. xiii. 209, I always suspect those very quiet, mousey, saint-like creatures.

3. Abounding in, or infested with mice.

1871 STORMONTH *Dict.* 1876 MISS BRADDON *Dead Men's Shoes* I. i. 11 She has tea-things and tea-kettle to her hand in the roomy and mousey old closet beside the fire place.

4. *Comb.*, as *mousy-faced, -quiet.*

1880 MRS. LYNN LINTON *Rebel of Family* iii, A pale, light-haired, mousey-faced little woman. 1902 KIPLING *Just So Stories* 146 Taffy took a marrow-bone and sat mousy quiet for ten whole minutes.

Mout, obs. f. MOULT; obs. pa. t. of MAY *v.*[1]

Mouter, obs. form of MULTURE.

Mouth (mauþ), *sb.* Forms: 1 múþ, 3–4 muth, (mudh, moth), 3–5 mouþ(e, (3 mouthþ, 4 mouht, 6 mothe, *Sc.* mwtht), 4–7 mowth(e, 6 mougth, mought, 9 *Sc.* muthe, 3– mouth. [Com. Teut.: OE. *múþ* masc. = OFris. *mûth* masc. (in later texts *mund, mond*; mod.NFris. *müth, müt, müs*), OS. *mûth* masc., MDu. *mont, mond, munt* masc. and fem. (Du. *mond* masc.), OHG., MHG., mod.G. *mund* masc., ON. *munn-r, muð-r* masc. (Sw. *mun* masc., Da. *mund*), Goth. *munþ-s* masc.:—OTeut. **munþo-z*:—pre-Teut. **mnto-s*, corresponding formally to L. *mentum* chin.]

I. 1. The external orifice in an animal body which serves for the ingestion of food, together with the cavity to which this leads, containing the apparatus of mastication and (in man and other lung-breathing animals) the organs of vocal utterance.

c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xv. 17 Ne onzyte ze þæt eall þæt on þone muþ gæþ gæþ on þa wambe. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2655 And in hise muth so depe he is [*sc.* burning coals] dede Hise tunges ende is brent ðor-mide. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 1904 Son sco [*sc.* the dove] com and duelld noght, An oline branche in moth sco broght. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* C vj b, For blaynis in haukes mouthes cald frounches. 1593 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. VI*, IV. vii. 10 He was thrust in the mouth with a Speare. 1661 J. D. *Civ. Warres* 164 Every man might march away..Matches Lighted, Bullet in Mouth, &c. 1789 W. BUCHAN *Dom. Med.* (1790) 185 When it happens to burst within the lungs, the matter may be discharged by the mouth. 1875 *Encycl. Brit.* I. 837/1 The cavity of the mouth forms the commencement of the alimentary canal.

b. In invertebrate animals.

1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* s.v., The mouth [of the garden-snail] is like a hare's. 1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* III. 416 The Mouth, or rather the orifice in which the trophi or organs of manducation are inserted. 1881 E. R. LANKESTER in *Encycl. Brit.* XII. 556/2 *Hydrozoa.* The mouth is either a simple opening at the termination of a rudimentary manubrium.., or it is provided with four or eight arm-like processes.

c. In references to an open or gaping mouth as expressive of wonderment or vacancy of mind.

1693 DRYDEN *Persius* i. (1726) 239 The nauseous Nobles ..With gaping Mouths to these Rehearsals come. 1859 TENNYSON *Lancelot* 1242 Mouths that gaped, and eyes that ask'd 'What is it?'

†d. *To draw one's mouth*: to extract a tooth.

1669 PEPYS *Diary* 18 May, She being much troubled with the tooth-ake..I staid till a surgeon of hers come,..who hath formerly drawn her mouth, and he advised her to draw it.

e. In expressions like *a good, bad, hard,* etc., *mouth*, used with reference to a horse's readiness or the contrary to feel and obey the pressure of the bit. Hence *abstr.* of a horse: Capability of being guided by the bit.

1727–51 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Amble*, Others attempt it by sudden stoping..but this is apt to spoil a good mouth and rein. 1731 BAILEY vol. II. s.v., A fine mouth [*Horsemanship*]. *A fix'd mouth, a certain mouth. A false mouth. A mouth of a full Appui.* 1791 'G. GAMBADO' *Ann. Horsem.* xvi. (1809) 133 One of my neighbours..tells me he has a horse that has no mouth. 1856 'STONEHENGE' *Brit. Rural Sports* 346/1 The..delicacy of mouth which is so essential to the action of the racehorse. *Ibid.* 347/1 To obtain the desired result of its [*sc.* the bit's] presence in the mouth, which is called 'getting a mouth', and which is merely the giving to the sense of touch in the lips an extra degree of delicacy. 1863 LE FANU *Ho. by Churchyard* (ed. 2) III. 310 In the end his 'mouth was made'.

2. Considered as the receptacle of food or with reference to swallowing, devouring, the function of taste, etc.

c 897 K. ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* xvi. 104 Ne forbinde ze no ðæm ðerscendum oxum ðone muð. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 7028 þe mossel he dude in to is mouþ. *c* 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 1519 His mouþe opened þai And pelt treacle in þat man. *c* 1475 *Babees Bk.* 149 Withe fulle mouthe drynke in no wyse. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 5 b, Whiche had the taste in theyr mouthes of all thynges pleasaunt and delectable. 1530 PALSGR. 468/2 This axes hath brought my mouthe quyte out of taste. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* (Globe) 216 And putting a little into his own Mouth, he seem'd to nauseate it. 1859 TENNYSON *Lancelot* 771 This fruit is hung too high For any mouth to gape for save a queen's.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1596 BP. W. BARLOW *Three Serm.* i. 129 They fal into ye mouths and teeth of biting and deuouring vsurers. 1601 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* V. i. 81 That..boy..From the rude seas enrag'd and foamy mouth Did I redeeme. 1660 JER. TAYLOR *Worthy Communic.* I. ii. 43 Christians are spiritual men; faith is their mouth, and wisdome is their food. 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem.* (1862) III. 823 The root of a plant may be considered as its mouth.

c. Phrases. *The mouth waters* (*after, at* something), (it) *makes* (one's) *mouth water*, referring to the flow of saliva caused by the anticipation of appetizing food; also *fig.* *To have one's mouth made up* (U.S.), to have an expectant desire *for* (a particular kind of food); also *fig.* †*To make up one's mouth*, to finish one's meal with something specially delicious; also *fig.* †*To meet..in the mouth*, †*to run into* (another's) *mouth*, to meet face to face or full face. *To open one's mouth wide*, to ask a high price. See also HAND TO MOUTH.

1555 EDEN *Decades* 143 These craftie foxes [*sc.* cannibals] .. espying their enemies a farre of, beganne to swalowe theyr spettle as their mouthes watered for greedines of theyr pray. 1657 *North's Plutarch, Add. Lives* (1676) 76 The Mountains of Gold also..made his [Cortez's] mouth water. 1762 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* VI. xxviii, Never did my uncle Toby's mouth water so much for a pipe in his life. 1860 GOSSE *Rom. Nat. Hist.* 274 He has drawn a picture..such as makes a brother naturalist's mouth water.

1890 *Century Dict.* s.v. *Mouth*, His mouth was made up for a chicken salad. 1890 *Harper's Mag.* Oct. 715/2 No one who has his mouth made up for a laugh is prepared to relish a dose of reason.

1546 HEYWOOD *Prov.* (1867) 36 His wife to make vp my mouthe, Not onely hir husbandes tauntyng tale auouthe, But therto deuiseth to cast in my teeth, Checks and chokyng oysters. 1549 LATIMER *1st Serm. bef. Edw. VI* D vij, Surueiers there be, y^t^ gredily gorge vp their conitouse guttes, ..honest men I touch not, but al such as so suruai thei make vp their mouthes, but the commens be vtterlye vndone by them. 1584 COGAN *Haven Health* (1636) 170 Commonly at great feasts..they use to serve vp sturgeon last, as it were to make up the mouth. 1640 BP. HALL *Chr. Moder.* II. x. 75 He to make up his mouth, shall goe away with an opinion of an hundred severall foule errors in Iohn Calvin. 1720 CTESS COWPER *Diary* (1864) 153 Walpole [is] to make up his Mouth by a Bubble, because he did not get enough in South Sea.

1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, III. vii. 154 Foolish Curres, that runne winking into the mouth of a Russian Beare. 1605 — *Lear* III. iv. 11 Thou'dst shun a Beare, But if thy flight lay toward the roaring Sea, Thou'dst meete the Beare i' th' mouth. 1671 MILTON *Samson* 1521 Best keep together here, lest running thither We unawares run into dangers mouth. 1737 WHISTON *Josephus, Wars* III. x. (1834) 672/1 So Titus pressed upon the hindmost, and slew them;..and some he prevented, and met them in the mouth, and run them through. 1762 FOOTE *Lyar* II. Wks. 1799 I. 291 Gad, I had like to have run into the old gentleman's mouth.

1891 C. ROBERTS *Adrift Amer.* 251 To use a vulgarism, he did not open his mouth so wide as the other, but at once offered me a through ticket to Liverpool for $72. 1898 *Daily News* 28 Oct. 3/1 Directly the word England is mentioned, the mouths of the Continental artists are opened so unconscionably wide.

†d. *The king's mouth*: what pertains to the providing and preparing of food for the king. Cf. BOUCHE *sb.*[1] *Obs.*

1433 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 433/2 Suche [servants] as serve aboute the Kyngs persone, and for his mouthe. 1450 *Ibid.* 194/1 Yoman of oure Larder for oure Mouth. 1567 EDWARDS *Damon & Pithias* (1571) F j, Was it you sir, who cryed so lowde, I trow And bid us take in Coles for the Kinges mouth euen now? 1578 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* II. 689 The cair of the attendance upoun his Hienes mowth and dyet.

e. A person viewed only as a consumer of food. *Useless mouth*, one who does no work but yet has to be fed. Cf. F. *bouche inutile.*

c 1550 *Decay of Eng. by Shepe* (E.E.T.S.) 97 So many mouthes goith to motton, whiche causeth motton to be deare. 1609 B. JONSON *Sil. Wom.* III. v, Where are all my eaters? my mouthes now? harre vp my dores, you varlets. 1637 MILTON *Lycidas* 119 Of other care they little reck'ning make, Then how to scramble at the shearers feast,..Blind mouthes! 1722 DE FOE *Plague* (1884) 253 Those who in Case of a Siege, are call'd the useless Mouths. 1875 *Encycl. Brit.* III. 496/1 Having thus got rid of the useless mouths [*sc.* the drones] which consumed, without any advantage to the public, a large portion of their provisions [etc.].

3. Considered as the instrument of speech or voice.

Much less frequent in ordinary use than *tongue.* All the Eng. versions of the Bible have many examples in passages literally rendered from Hebrew or Hebraistic Greek.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* I. 366 Hi habbað dumne muð and blinde eazan. *c* 1205 LAY. 5726 Mid muðen heo seiden mid aðen heo hit sworen. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 1030 þe toun me clupeþ ludestoun þat is wide couþ & now me clupeþ it londone þat is liztore in þe mouþ. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. IV. 105 Rede me not..Reuþe to haue, Til Clerkes and knihtes ben Corteis of heore Mouþes. 1382 WYCLIF *Prov.* xiii. 3 Who kepeth his mouth [Vulg. *Qui custodit os suum*], kepeth his soule. *a* 1450 MYRC 27 Of honde & mowþe þou moste be trewe. 1513 MORE in Grafton *Chron.* (1568) II. 778 Neyther can there be any thing..amisse..but it shoulde be in mine eares or it were well out of their mouthes. *c* 1550 CHEKE *Matt.* xv. 18 Thoos thinges y^t^ commeth forth of ye mougth commeth forth of ye hart, and y^t^ defile a man. 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* III. ii. 239 You must borrow me Gargantuas mouth first: 'tis a Word too great for any mouth of this Ages size. 1611 — *Cymb.* IV. ii. 79 Thy words I grant are bigger: for I weare not My Dagger in my mouth. 1638 R. BAKER tr. *Balzac's Lett.* (vol. II) 77, I will come and

learne from your own Mouth, all the particulars. 1724 De Foe *Mem. Cavalier* (1840) 38, I had the relation from his own mouth. 1845 M. Pattison *Ess.* (1889) I. 16 The Frank ..learned..his faith from the mouth of the Roman priest.

transf. and *fig.* 1595 Shaks. *John* III. iii. 38 The midnight bell Did with his yron tongue, and brazen mouth Sound on. *a* 1628 Preston *New Covt.* (1634) 440 Where the Scripture hath a mouth to speake, Faith hath an eare to heare. 1667 Milton *P. L.* II. 967 And Discord with a thousand various mouths.

b. Used as the subject of a verb of speaking. Hence *rhetorically* put for the person speaking.

c 1250 *Kent. Serm.* in *O. E. Misc.* 30 Ase godes oghe mudh hit seid. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 904 As Alexander awyn mouth had þam all enfourmed. 1474 Caxton *Chesse* III. iii. 104 Saynt Bernard..sayth that the mouthe that lyeth destroyeth the sowle. 1508 Dunbar *Gold. Targe* 265 O morall Gower, and Ludgate laureate,..Your angel mouthis most mellifluate Our rude langage has clere illumynate. 1662 Stillingfl. *Orig. Sacr.* II. vi. § 1 His own mouth told him he was a lying Prophet. 1713 Addison *Cato* II. ii, You don't now thunder in the capitol, With all the mouths of Rome to second you. 1864 Tennyson *Sea Dreams* 14 He cursed..that one unctuous mouth which lured him, rogue, To buy strange shares in some Peruvian mine.

c. †*By mouth* (obs.), *by word of mouth*: by spoken words, orally; often opposed to 'by writing'.

c 1330 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 299 Bi letter & bi mouth he praied þam of socoure. *c* 1420 Lydg. *Assembly of Gods* 2060, I had left hit vntolde—Nowthyr by mowthe nor in remembraunce Put hit in wrytyng. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 29 Commaunding thee..to declare what thou wilte do herein, by mouthe, and not by writynge. 1601 Shaks. *Twel. N.* III. iv. 209, I will deliuer his Challenge by word of mouth. 1720 Gordon *Independent Whig* No. 6. 41 Not content to abuse each other by Word of Mouth, they sometimes scolded in Writing. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* vi. II. 96 'This', he said, 'is not a court in which written charges are exhibited. Our proceedings are summary, and by word of mouth.'

d. *By* (formerly †*through*) *the mouth of*: through (some one) as spokesman. (Cf. *Luke* i. 70.)

c 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (E.E.T.S.) 2 We aske þe, lauerd, þur3 þe mu3 [*read* mub] of þe profete. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 24 b, They rode forthe to mete the Emperour, whom ..they receiued honorably by the mouthe of my Lorde of Mentz. 1870 *Eng. Gilds* (E.E.T.S.) Gloss., *Assoyne*,..excuse sent by the mouth of another for non-appearance.

e. *From the mouth of* (a person): from him as the speaker. *In the mouth of* (a person): when spoken or spoken of by (him); †also *transf.* So *in* or *with a French, an English*, etc. *mouth* (sometimes with reference to pronunciation). *It does not lie in his mouth to* (say something): it is not befitting for him. (*To condemn a person*) out of his *own mouth* (Luke xix. 22): by his own evidence.

1596 Shaks. 1 *Hen. IV*, I. iii. 153 And for whose death, we in the worlds wide mouth Liue scandaliz'd. 1614 Bradshaw *Unreasonableness Separ.* (1640) 56 Why may not preaching [etc.]..be sufficient to argue our ministers to be true pastors and teachers, notwithstanding that in the mouth of the Law, they are sometimes called Priests and Deacons. 1644 Milton *Educ.* 4 To smatter Latin with an english mouth, is as ill a hearing as law French. 1781 Cowper *Table-T.* 500 Hence, in a Roman mouth, the graceful name Of prophet and of poet was the same. 1828 Scott *F. M. Perth* xiii, My princely nephew entertains with so much suspicion any admonition coming from my mouth. 1859 Tennyson *Merlin & Vivien* 644 How, in the mouths of base interpreters..Is thy white blamelessness accounted blame! 1861 Hughes *Tom Brown at Oxf.* xxxv, It did not lie in his mouth to be curious on the subject. 1874 L. Stephen *Hours in Library* (1892) II. vii. 221 In other mouths Rousseau's sentiment..became unequivocally misanthropical. 1885 Ld. R. Churchill *Sp.* (1889) I. 245 Does it lie in the mouth of members of that Government to taunt the Tory party with having no policy?

f. *From mouth to mouth*: from one speaker to another; also, speaking in turn or in succession.

1838 Dickens *Nich. Nick.* xxx, The stories they invent.. and bandy from mouth to mouth! 1847 Tennyson *Princess* Prol. 189 We..often told a tale from mouth to mouth As here at Christmas.

g. †(*To have..*) *in mouth* (obs.), (*to be*) *in the mouth* or *mouths of* = in one's speech or conversation, on one's lips.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 4136 And fra þis dede he made coube alle men sal 3ou haue in mouth. 1513 More in Grafton *Chron.* (1568) II. 767 It redowneth greatly to the dishonour ..of the kinges highnesse..to haue it runne in euery mans mouth..that the kings brother should be faine to kepe sanctuarie. 1555 Eden *Decades* 242 Which sayinge was afterwarde in euery mans mouth. 1562 Winjet *Cert. Tractates* i. (S.T.S) I. 13 All man hes this word reformatioun in mothe. 1595 Shaks. *John* IV. ii. 187 Yong Arthurs death is common in their mouths. 1712 Addison *Spect.* No. 447 ¶ 1 A Common Saying..we often hear in the Mouths of the Vulgar. 1855 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xv. III. 505 The names of..the..chiefs of the conquering army, were in many mouths.

†**h.** *With full mouth* [= L. *pleno ore*], *with open mouth*: loudly, aloud. *To open full mouth*: to rail furiously. Also (*to come, laugh*) *full mouth*, = 'with full mouth'. *Obs.*

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 86/93 Loude he gradde with folle Mouth: 'Ich am cristine Man.' 1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 4442 Þey..bad me þat y shuld hyt rede..; And y þat neuer on boke coube, Alle y hit red with opun mouthe. 1539 Taverner *Erasm. Prov.* (1545) 39 The fryer..ragynge oute with open mouthe lyke a madde man agaynste the lyfe of princes. 1599 Shaks. *Hen. V*, I. ii. 230 Either our History shall with full mouth Speake freely of our Acts, or else our graue, Like Turkish mute, shall haue a tongueles mouth. 1652 J. Wright tr. *Camus' Nat. Paradox* IX. 215 Then Belinda, who being a Married Wife had somewhat more confidence, laughing full mouth, said [etc.]. 1677 *Govt. Venice* 117 The Embassador coming to the Colledg full mouth with the news of his Master's Victory. 1687 A. Lovell tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. xxix. 52 He opened full mouth against the Christians. 1702 Farquhar *Inconstant* II. 16 She was coming full mouth upon me with her Contract.

i. *With one mouth*, with one voice or one consent; unanimously. (A Hebraism, as in 2 Chron. xviii. 12, *margin*.) Now *rare*.

c 1290 *Beket* 915 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 132 We habbez ore red þarof i-nome: and mid one moube ech-on to queme þe kinge we redez þe. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 15039 All þai sang als wit a muth. 1738 Wesley *Jrnl.* 12 May, They added with one mouth that this faith was the gift..of God.

j. *Mouth to mouth*, also, more rarely †*mouth with mouth*, = in close and intimate conference; face to face. (Now *rare*; a Hebraism, as in Num. xii. 8, where the Vulgate has *ore ad os*.) Hence *mouth-to-mouth* vb. (burlesque *nonce-wd.*) to speak face to face.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 105 And bigan to turnen þe iuele to gode mid his wise wordes, þe he wiþ hem spec muð wiþ muðe. 1529 More *Dyalogue* I. Wks. 174/2 But he [God] tolde it you not mouth to mouth. 1607 Tourneur *Rev. Trag.* II. i, Madona, there is one..that would very desireously mouth to mouth with you. 1895 Salmond *Chr. Doctr. Immort.* II. iv. 241 A fellowship in which Jehovah speaks mouth to mouth with his servant.

k. †*To hold one's mouth* [cf. G. *den mund halten*] = to 'hold one's tongue', be silent. *To open one's mouth*: to begin speaking. *To open the mouth of*: to give the power of speech to. (See also Open *v.* IV.) *To close, shut one's mouth*: to refrain from speaking. †*To make up one's mouth*: to finish speaking. *To stop* (a person's) *mouth* = to keep (him) from talking.

c 1290 *Beket* 2035 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 165 Beo stille,..hold þinne mouþþ, ich rede. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 19941 Petre opend þan his muth..he said [etc.]. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 85 Sche Commandeth me my mowth to close. *c* 1520 Nisbet *New Test. in Scots* (S.T.S.) I. 11 And how Christ stoppit the mowthis of the Saduceis. 1549 Latimer *3rd Serm. bef. Edw. VI*, E viij *margin*, A preacher offyce is to be a mouth stopper. But not to haue hys one mouthe stopped wyth a benefice or byshoprike. 1605 Shaks. *Lear* V. iii. 154 Shut your mouth Dame, Or with this paper shall I stop it. 1606 Dekker *Serv. Sins* I. 2 The poore Orator hauing made vphis mouth, Bankruptisme gaue him very good words. 1720 De Foe *Capt. Singleton* xiii. (1840) 219 We stopped his mouth with his share of two hundred thousand pieces of eight. 1847 Marryat *Childr. N. Forest* xiii, I stopped his mouth by telling him that [etc.]. 1895 Pocock *Rules of Game* 1 (Farmer) 'Shut your mouth', he said, 'or I'll knife you!'

l. *To put words into another's mouth* = to tell him what to say. *To put* (a speech) *into a person's mouth*: to represent him as having uttered it. *To take the words out of* another's *mouth*: to anticipate what another was about to say.

1382 Wyclif 2 *Sam.* xiv. 3 Forsothe Joab putte the wordis in hire mouth. 1530 Palsgr. 751/1 It is no good maner to take the worde out of my mouthe, or I have made an ende of my tale. 1568 Grafton *Chron.* II. 100 The Pope.. takyng their wordes out of their mouthes, sayd [etc.]. 1599 Shaks. *Hen. V*, IV. vii. 45 It is not well done (marke you now) to take the tales out of my mouth, ere it is made and finished. 1725 Pope *Wks. of Shaks.* Pref. 19 Many speeches also were put into the mouths of wrong persons, where the Author now seems chargeable with making them speak out of character. 1867 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* (1877) I. App. 627 The strong legitimist harangue which is put into his mouth by Richer.

m. *To make a poor mouth*, to plead poverty.

1822 *Blackw. Mag.* Sept. 307/1 I'm sure ye may weel spare twa three pounds...It's no right o' you to be aye making a puir mouth. 1885 Howells *Silas Lapham* xxv, You wanted to..make a poor mouth to Mrs. Lapham.

†**n.** Used for: (A person's) utterance. *Obs.*

a 1400 *Pistill of Susan* 253 (Vernon MS.) For I am dampned, I ne dar disparage þi mouþ. 1583 Golding *Calvin on Deut.* vi. 33 Wherby we see that they flatly resist Gods mouth. 1702 *Lex Vera* 1 They unanimously barricado'd their Ears against the Mouth of the Prophet.

o. *Give it mouth* imp. = express it with vehemence. *To give mouth to* = to express in words.

1840 Dickens *Barn. Rudge* lxv, What I say in respect to the speeches always is, Give it mouth. 1865 — *Mut. Fr.* II. vii, I have an opinion of you, sir, to which it is not easy to give mouth. 1880 Miss Braddon *Just as I am* xxi, Give it mouth, boys.

p. With reference to the barking or baying of a hound. *To spend their mouths, to give mouth*: to bark or bay vehemently, to give tongue, also *transf.* of a person.

1590 Cokaine *Treat. Hunting* D ij b, At which time the houndes will spend their mouthes verie lustely. *Ibid.*, They will so double their mouthes and teare them together, that you would thinke there were more houndes in companie than your owne. 1590 Shaks. *Mids. N.* IV. i. 128 My hounds are..match'd in mouth like bels. 1591 — 1 *Hen. VI*, II. iv. 12. 1599 — *Hen. V*, II. iv. 70. 1648 Heylin *Relat. & Observ.* I. 134 The Beagles of the faction spent their mouths freely against the said Commissioners again. 1700 Dryden *Meleager & Atalanta* 108 The boar Deals glancing wounds; the fearful dogs divide: All spend their mouth aloft, but none abide. 1854 Cardl. Wiseman *Fabiola* I. vi, Calpurnius, thus challenged,.. solemnly gave mouth: 'The Christians', said he, 'are a foreign sect' [etc.]. 1859 Tennyson *Marr. Geraint* 186 They listen'd..for the baying of Cavall, King Arthur's hound of deepest mouth. *a* 1872 B. Harte *Goddess* 28 The watch-dog on the distant shore Gives mouth.

4. The exterior opening or orifice of the mouth considered as part of the face.

a 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* III. ii. (1890) 156 Swa þæt he for þy sare ne meahte furðon his hond to muðe gedon. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 102 *Osculetur me osculo oris sui*; þæt is cus me, mi leofmon, mid cosse of þine muðe, muðene swetest. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 8081 Þair muthes wide, þair eien brade, Vn-freli was þair face made! *c* 1386 Chaucer *Prol.* 153 Hir mouth ful smal, and ther-to softe and reed. 1457–8 *Anc. Cal. Rec. Dublin* (1889) I. 298 Men with bardys above the mowth. 1599 Shaks. *Hen. V*, II. iii. 61 *Pist.* Touch her soft mouth, and march. *Bard.* Farwell Hostesse. 1690 Locke *Hum. Und.* III. vi. § 26 There can be no reason given,..why, a visage somewhat longer,..or a wider mouth, could not have consisted..with such a soul. 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* (Globe) 209 A very good Mouth, thin Lips, and his fine Teeth well set. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) VI. 112/1 Of Drawing Faces. ..The middle of the mouth must always be placed upon the perpendicular line. 1820 Keats *Lamia* I. 60 She had a woman's mouth with all its pearls complete. 1847 Tennyson *Princess* VI. 252 And on her mouth A doubtful smile dwelt like a clouded moon In a still water. 1875 *Encycl. Brit.* I. 837/1 The corners of the mouth can be drawn to one side or the other, by the action of various muscles.

b. Phrases. *Down in* (rarely *of*) *the mouth*, having the corners of the mouth turned downwards, as a sign of dissatisfaction; dejected, dispirited; so also *down-at-mouth*. *To flap in the mouth* (*with a lie*): see Flap *v.* 1 c. *To laugh* (*on*) *the wrong side of one's mouth*, in early use to laugh in an evidently forced manner; now, to lament instead of laughing (see Laugh *v.* 1 b); so, *to sing on the wrong side of one's mouth*. *To make a* (*wry, ugly, hard*, etc.) *mouth*, or *mouths*: to express disapproval, derision, etc., by distorting or putting awry one's mouth, to grimace; of an animal, to menace with the mouth; also *fig.* to refuse to believe or accept. Const. *at, upon*.

1649 Bp. Hall *Cases Consc.* I. vi. (1650) 43 The Roman Orator was downe in the mouth; finding himselfe thus cheated by the money-changer. 1694 Motteux *Rabelais* v. (1737) 224 You are damnably down o' the Mouth. 1764 Foote *Patron* III. Wks. 1799 I. 356 Poor lad! he will be most horribly down in the mouth: a little comfort won't come amiss. *a* 1850 Rossetti *Dante & Circle* I. (1874) 224 He'll never more be down-at-mouth, hut fill His beak at his own beck. 1891 Freeman in *Life & Lett.* (1895) II. 426, I got down-in-the-mouth yesterday.

1714 T. Lucas *Mem. Gamesters* (ed. 2) 65 But tho' he laugh'd; 'twas on the wrong side of his Mouth. 1761 *Brit. Mag.* II. 498 They'll quick make you sing the wrong side of your mouth. 1884 W. E. Norris *Thirlby Hall* xxxiii, We shall be laughing on the wrong side of our mouths before the day is over, unless I'm mistaken.

1551 Robinson tr. *More's Utop.* I. (1895) 71 And as he was thus saying, he shaked his heade, and made a wrie mouth. 1579 G. Harvey *Letter-bk.* (Camden) 69 Me thinkes I see the make a mowthe At certayne Tuscane brave conceites. 1590 Shaks. *Mids. N.* III. ii. 238 Counterfeit sad lookes, Make mouthes vpon me when I turne my backe, Winke each at other. 1681 Otway *Soldier's Fort.* II. i, I desire you to..make ugly Mouths, laugh aloud, and look back at me. 1712 Addison *Spect.* No. 481 ¶ 3 They say he's a warm Man, and does not care to be made Mouths at. 1868 Browning *Ring & Bk.* IV. 127 How long, now, would the roughest marketman..Harass a mutton ere she made a mouth Or menaced biting?

II. Transferred applications to persons.

5. One who speaks on behalf of another or of others; a spokesman. Cf. Mouthpiece. *Obs.* exc. in renderings of foreign modes of speech.

1563 J. Davidson in *Wodrow Soc. Misc.* (1844) I. 253 The Spirit of God, quha spake be his prophetis,..(as his mouth). 1591 R. Bruce *Serm.* iii. E 7 For seing the Lord hath appoynted vs to be his mouth, we man not speak what we please. 1666 Pepys *Diary* 20 Oct., I was but the mouth of the rest, and spoke what they have dictated to me. 1712 Addison *Spect.* No. 403 ¶ 2 Every Coffee-house has some particular Statesman belonging to it, who is the Mouth of the Street where he lives. 1892 Rider Haggard *Nada* 188 You are a little man to be the mouth of so big a chief.

6. *slang.* **a.** A silly person; a dupe.

1680 Cotton *Compl. Gamester* (ed. 2) 7 The whole Gang will be ever and anon watching an opportunity to make a Mouth of you. 1753 *Discov. J. Poulter* (ed. 2) 31 One shall lead a Horse about, and another shall look out for a Mouth [*note*, an ignorant Person] that has a Horse to sell or change. 1823 'Jon Bee' *Dict. Turf*, s. v., 'I've a mouth at the Mint, as brings me out plenty o' gold blanks'.

b. A noisy person.

a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Mouth*, a noisy Fellow. 1725 in *New Cant. Dict.* 1811 in *Lex. Balatr.*

III. Applied to things resembling a mouth.

7. The opening of anything having a containing capacity, by which it is filled or emptied.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2216 Đo hreðere seckes hauen he filt.., And bunden ðe muðes ðor hi-foren. *c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 21 Þe maris..closiþ hir mouþ, þat þer myȝte not entre the poynt of a nedle. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 347/2 Mowthe of a bottelle, *lura*. 1583 Stubbes *Anat. Abus.* II. (1882) 47 They will put good corne in the top or mouth of the bag. 1664 Power *Exp. Philos.* 97 Stop the mouth of your Syringe close with your finger. *a* 1745 Swift *Direct. Serv.* I. Wks. 1751 XIV. 18 And lastly, wipe the Mouth of the Bottle with the Palm of your Hand. 1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) IV. 139 In natural labour which, consists in a gradual enlargement of the month of the womb, &c.

b. The aperture for charging or filling (an oven, a furnace, or the like).

1574 R. Scot *Hoppe Garden* 41 At one ende belowe, besides the mouth of the furnace, you must make a little doore into the roume beneath the bedde [or upper floor of the 'Oste']. 1608 Shaks. *Per.* III. Gower 7 And Cricket sing at the

Ouens mouth. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* II. 888 They..like a Furnace mouth Cast forth redounding smoak and ruddy flame. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XV. 389/1 He then discontinues the fire, and entirely closes up the mouth of the [porcelain] furnace. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech., Mouth*, the hole in a furnace out of which melted metal flows.

8. The 'door' of a beehive, entrance-hole to a nest, etc.

1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 122 It is conuenyent that the hyue be set in a garden..and the mouth of the hyue towarde the sonne. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 657 The mouth of their [*sc.* Squirrels'] nest is variable, sometimes at the sides, and sometimes at the top. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* IV. 49 Whether thou build the Palace of thy Bees With twisted Osiers, or with Barks of Trees; make but a narrow Mouth.

9. The surface opening of a pit, cave, well, ditch, and *fig.* of the pit of Hell.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 43 Þe pīt tineð his muð ouer þe man, þe lið on fule synnen. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxiii. (*VII Sleperis*) 159 Þane til his mene cane he byd, þat þai suld..be cawe mowth stope. 1551 RECORDE *Pathw. Knowl.* Pref., In dichyng, if he kepe not a proportion of bredth in the mouthe, to the bredthe of the bottome .. the diche shall be faultie. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. xi. 12 His deepe devouring jawes Wyde gaped, like the grisely mouth of hell. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* IV. i. 216 This is the mouth o'th Cell. 1702 SAVERY *Miner's Friend* 35 The Coals commonly burned on the Mouths of the Coal-Pits. 1876 FAWCETT *Pol. Econ.* III. iii. (ed. 5) 334 The rise in price at the pit's mouth was..not less than 10*s.* a ton.

b. The crater of a volcano.

1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* III. ii. 119 Those which are in the Vulcans and mouths of fire at the Indies. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 59 A mouth continually throwing forth boiling pitch. 1813 BAKEWELL *Introd. Geol.* (1815) 230 The ancient mouth or crater of Teneriffe. 1830 LYELL *Princ. Geol.* I. 340 The great crater of Vesuvius had been gradually filled by lava..and by scoriæ falling from the explosions of minor mouths.

10. The muzzle (of a gun).

1587 FLEMING *Contn. Holinshed* III. 1410/1 The earle.. laid the mouth of the dag vpon his left pap..and..discharged the same. 1595 SHAKS. *John* II. i. 381 Their battering Canon charged to the mouthes. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* V. xii. 72 You put the Brass into the Mouth of the Piece. 1802 GOUV. MORRIS in Sparks *Life & Writ.* (1832) III. 396 Are our arguments to fly from the mouths of our cannon?

11. The outfall of a river; the entrance to a haven, valley, etc.

In this sense OE. had the derivative *mūða* str. masc. (=OFris. *mūtha*, ON. *munnr* :-OTeut. **munpoz*-); but this did not survive into ME. Cf. F. *bouche*.

a 1122 *O. E. Chron.* an. 792 (Laud MS.), & his lic liȝð at Tinan muþe. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 474 A lute bi norþe cornewaile as in an hauene mouþ. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XV. cix. (1495) 528 Hollond is a prouynce by the mouth of the Ryne. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* IV. ix. 121 [Arabia] ioyneth there with the firme land of Egypt..at the mouth of the red sea. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 422 The riuer Volga..hath threescore and ten mouthes or falls into the Caspian Sea. 1725 DE FOE *Voy. round World* (1840) 15 We stood south again past the mouth of the Straits of Magellan. 1796 MARSHALL *W. Eng.* II. 178 The narrowed mouth of the Vale of Taunton. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* V. I. 556 The castle of Ealan Ghierig, situated at the mouth of Loch Riddan.

12. The opening out of a tube, passage, drain, burrow, and the like; *spec.* in *Physiol.* of a vessel.

1582 N. LICHEFIELD tr. *Castanheda's Conq. E. Ind.* I. 79b, There were twentie Trumpets..the mouthes whereof, were ..set with stone. 1634 T. JOHNSON *Parey's Chirurg.* IX. i. (1678) 216 That solution of Continuity, which happens in the vessels, their mouths being open, is termed Anastomosis. 1839 LONGF. *Hyperion* I. vi, The valley..opens upon the broad plain of the Rhine, like the mouth of a trumpet. 1839-47 TODD *Cycl. Anat.* III. 228/2 The lacteals commence ..not by open mouths, but by a delicate network of vessels. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* I. 563 The mouth of the main drain at its outlet should be protected with masonry. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 865 The mouth of the burrow.. ..is usually marked by a vesicle.

13. a. The hole in the stock of a plane through which the shavings pass.

1694 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* ii. 68 Nor doth it [*sc.* the Rabbet-Plane] deliver its shaving at a Mouth on the top of the Stock as the other Planes do: But it hath its mouth on the sides. 1846 HOLTZAPFFEL *Turning*, etc. II. 478 In all the bench planes..the mouth is a wedge-formed cavity.

b. The aperture in a musical pipe by means of which the sonnd is produced.

1727-52 [see LIP *sb.* 5 f]. 1855 HOPKINS *Organ* xviii. 83 The mouth..is the horizontal cutting or opening that occurs at the junction of the body and foot of the pipe. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech., Mouth*, in a flute,—the edge of the opening against which the air from the mouth of the performer is cut.

14. *Conch.* The apertnre of a univalve shell.

1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1824) III. 104 As the body of the snail can be extended no where but to the aperture, the mouth of the shell only can..receive augmentation. 1776 DA COSTA *Elem. Conchol.* 97 The mouth is oblong-oval. 1838 *Penny Cycl.* XII. 107/1 [Helix.] 4th Group... Mouth rounded.

15. *Bot.* **a.** The orifice of the tube of a corolla. **b.** The opening which is produced by the dehiscence of the sporanginm of mosses (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1891).

a. 1759 MILLER *Gard. Dict.* (ed. 7) *Rosmarinus*..The Flower has..the Mouth erect, and divided into two Lips. 1785 MARTYN *Rousseau's Bot.* xxii. (1794) 314 Snapdragon. ..The colours of these are red with white or yellow mouths. 1857 MISS PRATT *Flower. Pl.* (1861) IV. 32 (Hound's Tongue.) ..Its mouth closed by prominent blunt scales.

b. 1857 HENFREY *Bot.* 161 When the lid falls off, the border of the mouth of the capsule [of moss] is found either naked or furnished with..teeth. 1861 BENTLEY *Man. Bot.* 377 The stoma or mouth is entire.

16. The fork between the open jaws of scissors, pincers, or a vice.

1576 R. SCOT *Hoppe Garden* 23 They [*sc.* pincers] must be one yarde in length, whereof sixe or seauen ynches maye be allowed for the mouth or lower end of them, which serueth to claspe..the Poale,..the mouth [should be] somewhat hollowe in the middest. 1611 COTGR., *Forpie*, the mouth, or middle of an opened paire of sheeres. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech., Mouth*, the opening of a vice between its chops, chaps, cheeks, or jaws.

17. The cutting or working edge (of a tool).

1615, etc. [implied in *broad-mouthed*: see MOUTHED]. 1851 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* (ed. 2) § 5812 The..earth is removed ..with the narrow spade..having a mouth 6 inches wide.

18. *Fortif.* (See quots.)

1839 F. A. GRIFFITHS *Artill. Man.* xi. 223 The mouth of the embrazure is the outward or widest part of it. 1876 VOYLE & STEVENSON *Milit. Dict.* 126 The opening of the embrasure is termed the neck,..that towards the country, the mouth.

19. Short for *mouth-piece*: **a.** of a bridle bit; **b.** of a pipe. ? *Obs.*

1607 MARKHAM *Caval.* II. (1617) 53 This mouth giueth all possible libertie to the tongue. 1727-51 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Bit*, The cannon with a fast mouth all of a piece. 1821 BYRON *Juan* V. liii, Pipes decorated With amber mouths.

IV. Attributive uses and Combinations.

20. a. simple attrib., as *mouth-opening, -part*; (surgical instruments for the mouth), as *mouth-gag, -glass, -syringe*, etc.; (pertaining to or composing the oral cavity in echinodermata), as *mouth-papillæ, parts, -plate, -shield*; with the meaning 'coming from the mouth only and not from the heart', as *mouth-charity, -friend, -honour, -love, -mercy*; **b.** objective, as *mouth-stopper*; *mouth-embracing, -stopping* adjs.; **c.** appositive, as *mouth-hole*; **d.** locative, as *mouth-deep, -high* advs.; **e.** instrumental, as *mouth-breathing*; *mouth-made* adj.

1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV. 673 The difficulty in breathing through the nose leads to *mouth-breathing. 1692 SOUTH *Serm.* (1697) I. 463 Why, then answers the Man of *Mouth-Charity again, and tells you, That..he can give nothing, but he will be sure to pray for the poor Gentleman. 1906 *Daily Chron.* 28 June 5/3 Two had to wade *mouth-deep in water. 1883 E. R. LANKESTER in *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 674/1 The *mouth-embracing foot [of a Nautilus]. 1607 SHAKS. *Timon* III. vi. 99 May you a better Feast neuer behold You knot of *Mouth-Friends. 1895 *Arnold & Sons' Catal. Surg. Instruments* 217 Harelip, mouth and cleft palate instruments. *Mouth Gag. Mouth Prop. Mouth Dilator. Mouth Retractor. Mouth Speculum. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, **Mouth glass*, a small hand-mirror for inspecting the teeth and gums, &c. 1790 J. FISHER *Poems* 66, I did awake—my heart yet loups *Mouth high for fear. 1683 PETTUS *Fleta Min.* I. iii. 10 Leave in the sides [of the assay-oven] Wind-holes, and in the fore-part leave also a *Mouth-hole. 1605 SHAKS. *Mach.* V. iii. 27 Honor, Loue, Obedience..I must not looke to haue: but in their steed, Curses,..*Mouth-honor. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* I. (1622) 64 Vowing..that neither heart nor *mouth-loue should euer anie more intangle him. 1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* I. iii. 30 Those *mouth-made vowes, Which breake themselues in swearing. 1647 TRAPP *Comm.* I *John* iii. 18 There is a great deal of *mouth-mercy abroad. 1875 HUXLEY & MARTIN *Elem. Biol.* (1883) 208 Enlarge the *mouth-opening. 1876 J. H. KIDDER *Nat. Hist. Kerguelen Isl.* II. 74 This species..[of Echinoderm] differs widely..in the characters of the *mouth-papillæ and mouth-shields. 1799 G. SMITH *Laboratory* I. 119 Let the *mouth part of the muffle be placed fronting the mouth of the furnace. 1882 SLADEN in *Jrnl. Linn. Soc., Zool.* XVI. 194 *Mouth-plates short. 1876 *Mouth shield [see *mouth-papillæ*]. 1549 A *mouthe stopper [see 3 k]. 1641 'SMECTYMNUUS' *Vind. Answ.* § 6. 85 Good reader, consider this mighty *mouth-stopping argument. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. 427/1 A *Mouth or Ear Syringe; so called, because used chiefly about those parts.

21. Special comb.: **mouth-arm**, each of the several tentacles or prolongations from the mouth of a jelly-fish, with which it catches its prey; **mouth-bearing** *a.*, (of a protozoan) having a definite oral cavity or cell-mouth; **mouth-blower** (*Cent. Dict.* 1889), **blowpipe**, a blowpipe operated by the mouth; **mouth canker** *Path.*, gangrenous stomatitis or *Noma* (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1891); **mouth-case**, that part of the integument of a pupa that covers the mouth (*Cent. Dict.*); **mouth-filling** *a. fig.*, (of an oath, compliment, etc.) that fills the mouth, bombastic, inflated; **mouth-flying** *a.*, that evades the mouth; **mouth-foot** = *foot-jaw* (see FOOT *sb.* 35); so **mouth-footed** *a.* (see quot.); **mouth-funnel**, the funnel-shaped mouth of a rotifer; **mouth-gauge** (see quot.); †**mouth-grenado** [after *hand grenade*], a violent or 'explosive' speech; **mouth guard**, a protector for the mouth of an operative in needle-manufacture; **mouth-harness** *jocular*, provisions of food; **mouth hoop**, the hoop forming the entrance to a decoy; **mouth infection**, communication of disease by the medium of the mouth; **mouth pipe** *Organ-building* (see quot.); **mouth plate**, a plate fitted into the mouth in the surgical treatment of the palate; **mouth-pore** *Physiol. Bot.*, a stoma or breathing-pore in leaf-structure; **mouth provision**, provisions of food (for an expedition); **mouth ring**. (*a*) the ring forming the mouth of a bottle; (*b*) = *nerve ring* (see NERVE *sb.* 12); **mouth-root** *U.S.*, the plant *Coptis trifolia* (see quot.); **mouth wash, -water**, a therapeutic wash for the mouth; **mouth-watering** *sb.*, the flowing of saliva in the mouth (cf. 2 c above); **mouth-watering** *a.*, (of a person) that experiences mouth-watering; (of a thing) that causes the mouth to water; **mouth-wise** *adv.* (*nonce-word*), by means of the mouth, by speech.

1884 R. VON LENDENFELD in *Ann. & Mag. Nat. Hist.* Dec. 411 The Melbourne specimens [of this medusa] possess *mouth-arms which are deep purple throughout. 1885 E. R. LANKESTER in *Encycl. Brit.* XIX. 835/1 The *mouth-bearing corticate Protozoa. 1827 FARADAY *Chem. Manip.* iv. 109 The *mouth blow-pipe. 1596 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. IV*, III. i. 259 Sweare me .. A good *mouth-filling Oath. 1873 L. STEPHEN *Ess. Freethinking* 286 The flattery..was..reciprocal; and perhaps the great man pours out more mouth-filling compliments than his satellite. 1625 K. LONG tr. *Barclay's Argenis* v. i. 330 Condemn'd, like Tantalus, with vaine pursuit To gape at water, and *mouth-flying fruit. 1841-71 T. R. JONES *Anim. Kingd.* (ed. 4) 448 The Stomapoda (*Mouth-footed Crustaceans) are so called on account of the size and preponderant development of the jaw-feet. 1877 *Encycl. Brit.* VI. 662/1 The sub-class Gnathopoda, 'mouth-footed'. 1862 GOSSE *Rotifera* in *Pop. Sci. Rev.* I. 40 The *mouth-funnel was well marked. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, **Mouth-gage* (Saddlery), a device for measuring a horse's mouth. 1651 CLEVELAND *Poems* 34 Vet to expresse a Scot, to play that prize, Not all those *mouth-Granadoes can suffice. 1693 *Humours Town* 27 The roaring Mouth-Granado's of Oaths. 1852 M. T. MORRALL *Needle-Making* (1862) 25 A *mouth guard, which was approved of and found to answer when used by the needle pointers. 1653 URQUHART *Rabelais* I. xxxii. 147 We are here but badly victualled, and furnished with *mouth-harnasse very slenderly. 1895 SUFFLING *Land of Broads* 28 The *mouthhoop would be perhaps 5 yds. across. 1903 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 14 Mar. 43 A paper on *mouth infection. 1855 HOPKINS *Organ* xviii. 83 Lip, *mouth, or flue pipes..are such as have an oblong opening, called the *mouth*, at the junction of the body with the foot. 1876 *Trans. Clinical Soc.* IX. 126 That part which connected the *mouth-plate with the nasal rim. 1888 CLODD *Story Creation* (1894) 72 The carbonic acid which the plant absorbs through the numberless stomata or *mouth-pores in its leaves or integuments. 1746 *Rep. Cond. Sir J. Cope* 184 We..have no other Way of carrying '*Mouth Provision' with us but by the East Coast. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 578 The finisher..cracks off the bottle smoothly at its *mouth-ring. 1903 *Contemp. Rev.* Sept. 384 The anterior knots of the mouth-ring [of the cray-fish] have swelled into a still larger brain. 1847 W. DARLINGTON *Amer. Weeds* (1860) 51 *Coptis trifolia*...A domestic remedy for the sore mouths of children; whence the name '*Mouth-root'. 1840 PEREIRA *Mat. Med.* 1260 An astringent *mouth-wash. 1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 24 b/2, A *mouth-water, or gargrise, made of barley-water. 1706 S. SEWALL *Diary* 28 Dec., He call'd for Mouth-Water..and then for his little pot to void it into. 1822-34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) I. 71 *Mouth-watering:—Produced by the sight, smell or thought of agreeable food. 1845 FORD *Handbk. Spain* I. 67 The mouth watering bystanders sigh as they see and smell the rich freight steaming away from them. 1900 *Speaker* 3 Jan. 338/2 The White Star shareholders have made a most mouth-watering bargain. 1876 BROWNING *Pacchiarotto* 403 So grind away, *mouth-wise and pen-wise, Do all that we can to make men wise!

Mouth (mauð), *v.* [f. MOUTH *sb.*]

1. *trans.* To pronounce, speak; to give utterance to. *Obs.* exc. *arch.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 18941 Was na langage man for to muth, at þai [*sc.* the apostles] ne all kindli it cuth. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. IV. 115 Til lordes and ladies louien alle treuthe, And haten al harlotrye to heren it, or to mouthen it. *c* 1450 J. METHAM *Wks.* (E.E.T.S.) 33 And Amoryus this mowthyd to plese Cleopes. 1621 QUARLES *Argalus & P.* (1678) 47 He that knows not how to mouth a curse. 1744 AKENSIDE *Ep. to Curio*, From year to year the stubborn herd to sway Mouth all their wrongs. 1822 BYRON *Werner* II. ii, Who Taught you to mouth that name of 'villain'? 1871 ROSSETTI *Dante at Verona* xlviii, Lords mouthed approval.

† **b.** *intr.* To speak, talk. *Obs.*

a 1375 *Cursor M.* 21419 (Fairf.) Quat þing þat ho him of wald mouþ atte hir deuise make he coupe. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 686 þere Medea the mylde met hym hir one, And with myrthe at þere metyng mowthet togethir.

2. *trans.* To utter in a pompously oratorical style, or with great distinctness of articulation; to declaim. Also with *out*.

1602 *and Pt. Return fr. Parnass.* v. i, With mouthing words that better wits haue framed, They [*sc.* actors] purchase lands. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* III. ii. 3. 1603 FLORIO *Montaigne* I. li. (1632) 167 When I heare our Architects mouth-out those big, and ratling words of Pilasters, Architraves [etc.]. 1761 CHURCHILL *Rosciad* Poems 1763 I. 16 He..mouths a sentence, as curs mouth a bone. 1842 TENNYSON *Epic* 50 And the poet..Read, mouthing out his hollow oes and aes. 1892 A. BIRRELL *Res Judicatæ* v. 144 The pompous high-placed imbecile mouthing his platitudes.

b. *intr.* To admit of being 'mouthed'.

1762 WILKES *N. Briton* No. 11 It [the word 'glorification'] found favour among their long-winded divines, only because it was so long, and mouthed so well.

c. *trans.* To declaim against. *rare*—[1].

1742 R. BLAIR *Grave* 386 Then might the debauchee Untrembling mouth the heavens.

3. *intr.* To mouth one's words; to use a pompous or affected style of utterance; to declaim. Also *to mouth it*.

1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* V. i. 306 Nay, and thoul't mouth, Ile rant as well as thou. 1682 DRYDEN & LEE *Dk. Guise* II. ii, You have Mouth'd it bravely. 1713 ADDISON *Cato* I. iii, I'll..mouth at Cæsar 'till I shake the Senate. 1891 E. W. GOSSE *Gossip in Library* xx. 256 The poet tramped the grassy heights..mouthing and murmuring as he went.

4. *trans.* To put or take (something, esp, as

food) in the mouth; to seize with the mouth; to press (a thing) with the mouth or lips.

a 1400–50 *Alexander* 748* (Dubl. MS.) For other mete þan manysflesche mouthed he neuer. 1573 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 132 Corne carried, let such as be poore go and gleane, and after, thy cattle to mowth it vp cleane. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* IV. ii. 20 He keepes them like an Ape in the corner of his iaw, first mouth'd to be last swallowed. 1621 G. SANDYS *Ovid's Met.* VII. (1626) 146 The Beast..Appeares to catch th'vncaught; and mouthes the aire. 1693 DRYDEN *Persius* (1697) 417 He mouth'd 'em, and betwixt his Grinders caught. 1717 EUSDEN *Ovid's Met.* IV. 162 She found the veil, and mouthing it all o'er, With bloody jaws the lifeless prey she tore. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* VI. 196 [She] in her hunger mouth'd and mumbled it [*sc.* her restored babe], And hid her bosom with it. 1855 BAIN *Senses & Int.* 406 *note*, The satisfaction first of mouthing the object [the lamb's mother's teat]. 1867 F. FRANCIS *Angling* iv. (1880) 119 If the fish mouths it.

b. *spec.* Of a hound: To mangle (dead game) with the mouth.

[1693: see 6.] 1884 SPEEDY *Sport* IX. 158 It [*sc.* the dog] showed a very slight disposition to mouth its game when shot.

c. *Cock-fighting. To mouth it*: to fight with the mouth or beak.

a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Sparring-blows*, ..those in a Battel before the Cocks come to Mouth it.

5. To train the mouth of (a horse); to accustom to the use of the bit.

a 1533 LD. BERNERS *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) E vij b, Gyue hym..a sharpe bytte to thentente that he he well mouthed. 1618 M. BARET *Horsemanship* I. 14 For he is accompted a good Horse-man in other parts thereof if he can but mouth a Horse. 1690 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2590/4 Stolen.., a bay Colt.., newly mouth'd and pac'd. 1860 *Luck of Ladysmede* (1862) I. 339 There is the new palfrey which you have been mouthing for me. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* (1891) 94 Why, he cannot be nearly mouthed.

†**6.** *intr.* (*contemptuously.*) To join lips (*with*); to kiss. (In quot. 1693 app. with allusion to 4 b.)

1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* III. ii. 194 The Duke..would mouth with a beggar, though she smelt browne-bread and Garlicke. 1693 CONGREVE *Old Bach.* I. iv, *Heart.* And it should be mine to let 'em [*sc.* partridges] go again. *Sharp.* Not till you had mouthed a little, George.

7. To 'make mouths'; to grimace; to make derisive grimaces and noises with the mouth.

1827 DISRAELI *Viv. Grey* VI. i, He drew the cork from his bottle..and mouthed at his companions even while he bowed to them. 1883 LO. R. GOWER *My Remin.* I. viii. 148 The unfortunate queen..retaining her calm demeanour as the mob shouted and mouthed around her.

8. Of a river: To disembogue (*in, into*).

1598 FLORIO, *Sboccare*, to mouth, or fall into the sea, as a river doth. 1831 MRS. F. TROLLOPE *Dom. Manners Amer.* (1894) II. 16 The Ohio and Chesapeake canal..there mouths into the Potomac. 1881 R. F. BURTON in *Academy* 21 May 366/1 He had originally intended to explore this great stream, which mouths as the 'Nourse River.'

9. *trans.* To point the mouth of (a pistol). *nonce-use.*

1612 DEKKER *If it be not good* K i b, Fetch me deare friend, An armed Pistoll, and mouth it at my breast.

Mouth, obs. pa. t. of MAY *v.*[1]

Mouthable (mau·ðăb'l), *a.* [f. MOUTH *v.* + -ABLE.] That may be uttered with good effect; suitable for oratory or recitation.

1825 J. WILSON in *Blackw. Mag.* XVII. 127 Fine mouthable apophthegms. 1887 O. W. HOLMES in *Atlantic Monthly* LIX. 640 Good mouthable lines.

Mouthacho, -chato: see MUSTACHIO.

Mouthe, form of MOTH; obs. pa. t. of MAY *v.*[1]

Mouthed (mauðd), *a.* [f. MOUTH *sb.* + -ED[2].]

1. Having a mouth, or a mouth of a certain kind (in various senses of the sb.).

13.. *K. Alis.* 6125 Rowgh they weore so a beore, They weore mowthed so a mare. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. xi. 12 A grysie rablement; Some mouth'd like greedy Oystriges; some faste Like loathly Toades. 1637 T. MORTON *New Eng. Canaan* (1883) 204 The Beaver..[is] mouthed like a cunny. 1741 *Compl. Fam. Piece* II. i. 296 Which this Sort will do, having Courage and a thick Skin, as participating of the Cur, and mouthed from the Beagle. 1820 KEATS *Hyperion* II. 270, I..sat me down, and took a mouthed shell.

†**2.** Gaping, open-mouthed. *Obs.*

1599 B. JONSON *Cynthia's Rev.* v. iv, Reflect: what meanes hee by that mouthed waue. *c* 1600 SHAKS. *Sonn.* lxxvii, The wrinckles..Of mouthed graues will giue thee memorie. 1649 G. DANIEL *Trinarch.* To Rdr. 81 As mouthéd Peasants (throng to see the state,..And Gape vpon the Gowne,..) magnifie Merit. *Ibid., Hen. IV*, cclxviii.

3. In parasynthetic derivatives.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 144 A janglere, an evel mouthed oon. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. x. 126 For hit aren murye-mouthede men mynstrales of heuene. 1551 BIBLE *Exod.* iv. 10 But I am slowe mouthed and slowe tongued. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. viii. 6 And every head was..bloody mouthed with late cruell feast. 1593 MARKHAM *Horsmanship* ii. F j, But if he [your Horse] be..gentle mouthed, then shall the cheeke of your Bytte be made hut vppon one degree. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 95 Seuentie mouthed Volga. *a* 1680 BUTLER *Rem.* (1759) II. 316 He prefers a Cry of Lawyers at the Bar before any Pack of the best mouthed Dogs in all the North. 1853 MARKHAM *Skoda's Auscult.* 139 A single-mouthed fistulous opening. 1899 F. T. BULLEN *Way Navy* 68 An occasional blast from our bull-mouthed siren is also inimical to slumber. 1905 HOLMAN HUNT *Pre-Raphælitism* II. 295 A many-mouthed chorus began.

Mouther[1] (mau·ðəɹ). [f. MOUTH *v.* + -ER[1].] One who mouths; one given to vain, boastful, or declamatory speech.

1818 SCOTT *Nigel* xiii, Courtiers..whose only merit to their masters is to repeat their own words after them—a pack of mouthers, and flatterers, and ear-wigs. 1886 *American* XII. 175 Were there less loafing about bars by windy mouthers and less frothy talk.

Mouther[2] (mau·þəɹ). *Pugilistic slang.* [f. MOUTH *sb.* + -ER[1].] A blow on the mouth.

1814 *Sporting Mag.* XLIII. 68, B. gave a mouther which told.

Mouthful (mau·þful). [f. MOUTH *sb.* + -FUL.] A quantity that fills the mouth; as much as a mouth can hold or take in at one time; hence, a small quantity (*of* something).

1530 PALSGR. 247/1 Mouthfull, *baufre.* *c* 1532 DU WES *Introd. Fr.* in *Palsgr.* 1017 In their mouthfull takyng refection. 1608 SHAKS. *Per.* II. i. 35 A [*sc.* a whale] playes and tumbles, Dryuing the poore Fry before him, And at last, deuowre them all at a mouthfull. 1692 R. L'ESTRANGE *Fables* xxviii. 28 A Goat that was going out one Morning for a Mouthful of Fresh Grass, Charg'd her Kid..not to Open the Door. 1693 DRYDEN *Juvenal* iii. *ad fin.*, When ..You to your own Aquinum shall repair, To take a mouthful of sweet Country air. 1827 FARADAY *Chem. Manip.* iv. 113 Acquire the power of using the air of one inspiration by mouthfuls. 1837 W. IRVING *Capt. Bonneville* I. 176 They were three entire days without a mouthful of food. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 71 He was continually bringing up mouthfuls of dark-coloured mucus.

b. *transf.*

1748 SMOLLETT *Rod. Rand.* lvi, I can't have a mouthful of English for love or money. 1884 F. M. CRAWFORD *Rom. Singer* ii. 31 'He taught me to pronounce the name Königgratz, so—Conigherazzo', said the maestro. ..'Capperi! What a mouthful', said I.

Mouth glue.

1. Glue to be used by moistening with the tongue (see GLUE *sb.* 2); originally, a preparation of isinglass. † Hence used for isinglass itself.

1573–80 BARET *Alv.* G 288 Glue made of fish skinnes, mouthglue. *Ichthyocolla.* 1661 LOVELL *Hist. Anim. & Min.* 238 *Ichthiocolla*... It's used in gellies: boiled with white Sugar it becommeth white, and is called mouth glew. 1727 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Glass*, Put some Mouth-glue into a Porringer upon the Fire, with some Spirit of Wine, and when the Glue is become liquid enough, rub the Pieces of Glass therewith, and they will re-unite. 1766 *Compl. Farmer* s.v. *Surveying*, These sheets may be pieced together with mouth-glew. 1889 in *Century Dict.* s.v. *Glue.*

†**2.** *fig.* (*allusive.*) 'Glue' made of words.

1615 J. STEPHENS *Ess. & Char., Gossip* (2nd impr.) 368 By the vertue of a speciall mouth-glew, she cleaues readily to all acquaintance. 1700 CONGREVE *Way of World* v. ix, My contract went no further than a little Mouth-Glew, and that's hardly dry.

Mouthing (mau·þiŋ), *sb. Mining.* [f. MOUTH *sb.* + -ING[1].] The entrance to a mine.

1883 GRESLEY *Gloss. Coal Mining.* 1902 *Daily Chron.* 4 Apr. 6/4 It is only a new mine, and there was only three yards in the mouthing.

Mouthing (mau·ðiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. MOUTH *v.* + -ING[1].] The action of the verb MOUTH.

1598 FLORIO, *Sbarléffo*..a mouthinge, or looking staringlie. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* III. vi. 117 The beholder at first sight, conceives it [*sc.* the cub] a rude and informous lumpe of flesh, and imputes the ensuing shape unto the mouthing of the Dam. 1728 POPE *Dunc.* II. 237 The monkey-mimics rush discordant in; Twas chatt'ring, grinning, mouthing, jabbring all. 1874 L. STEPHEN *Hours in Library* (1892) II. i. 14 Thomson..too often falls into mere pompous mouthing. 1884 YATES *Recoll.* v. 205 A fine old-crusted actor, full of mouthings and conventionalisms.

b. Comb.: **mouthing bit,** a bit used in 'mouthing' a horse; **mouthing machine** (see quot. 1884).

1856 'STONEHENGE' *Brit. Sports* II. i. viii. § 5. 346/1 The Mouthing-Bit may now be put on. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl., *Mouthing Machine* (Sheet-metal Working), a machine for crimping bottoms and swaging or mouthing the tops of open-top cans, to receive the covers.

Mouthing (mau·ðiŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. MOUTH *v.* + -ING[2].] That mouths, in the senses of the verb.

1681 W. ROBERTSON *Phrascol. Gen.* (1693) 898 A mouthing fellow, *Clamosus.* 1693 DRYDEN *Persius* v. (1697) 471 When Progne's or Thyestes' Feast they write; And, for the mouthing Actor, Verse indite. 1865 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* XXI. iv. (1872) X. 23 A solemn, arrogant, mouthing..kind of man. 1904 EDITH RICKERT *Reaper* 62 One might see in her withered mouthing face the wreckage of a great heauty.

b. Of speech, etc.: Characterized by grandiloquence or pomposity.

1814 L. HUNT *Feast of Poets*, etc. (1815) 50 A translation ..which..is at least..much above the mouthing nonentities which have been palmed upon us of late years for that wonderful poet. 1877 MRS. OLIPHANT *Makers Flor.* v. 128 That fine mouthing speech of his, magniloquent and generous.

Hence **Mou·thingly** *adv.*, in a mouthing manner.

1903 *Blackw. Mag.* Aug. 277/2 What the philosophical Radicals..mouthingly extolled as 'individual initiative'.

Mou·thishly, *adv.* [f. MOUTH *sb.* + -ISH + -LY[2].] In a mouthy manner.

1798 COLERIDGE *Lett.* (1895) 251 *note*, Flat lines forced into poetry by italics (signifying how well and mouthishly the author would read them).

Mouthless (mauþlĕs), *a.* [f. MOUTH *sb.* + -LESS.] Having no mouth.

a 1000 *Riddles* lxi. 9 (Gr.) Lyt ic wende, þæt ic..æfre sceolde..muðleas sprecan, wordum wrixlan. 1552 HULOET Mouthles beastes, *inora.* 1856 MAYNE *Expos. Lex., Mouthless, Bot., Zool.* 1877 HUXLEY *Anat. Inv. Anim.* iii. 131 The gonophores are developed upon special stalks, each of which has essentially the structure of a mouthless hydranth.

†**Mou·thly,** *a.* and *adv. Obs. rare.* [f. MOUTH *sb.* + -LY[1] and [2].] **a.** *adj.* Done with the mouth. **b.** *adv.* By or with the mouth.

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 3538 Vnto Menelay, the mene tyme, mowthly was told Of the rape vnrightwis of his Riche qwene.

1537 COVERDALE *Exp. Ps. xxii.* C viij b, By the mouthly preachynge of the worde which goeth in at the eares. 1653 [? HALES] *Brevis Disquisitio* ix. 29 The mouthly eating and consubstantiation of the Lutherans.

Mouth-organ.

1. A musical instrument operated by the mouth. **a.** = PAN-PIPE; **b.** = HARMONICA, -ON; **c.** *dial.* = JEWS' HARP.

a 1668 LASSELS *Voy. Italy* (1698) II. 199 Pan also plays on his mouth-organ tuneably. 1836–9 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, First of May*, The instrumental accompaniments rarely extended beyond the shovels and a set of Pan-pipes, better known to many, as a 'mouth-organ'. 1887 *Sci. Amer.* 19 Feb. 120/3 The mouth organ, or harmonica, is a familiar example of a simple reed instrument.

2. *Zoöl.* One of the parts or appendages forming the mouth (of an insect, crustacean, etc.).

1863 DANA in *Amer. Jrnl. Sci.* Ser. II. XXXVI. 4 Insects, ..have three pairs of mouth-organs, and three pairs of legs. 1866 H. WOODWARD *Brit. Fossil Crustacea* I. 37. 1878 BELL *Gegenbaur's Comp. Anat.* 239 Such of these more anterior ventral appendages as lie near the mouth are converted into mouth-organs.

Mou·thpiece, mou·th-piece.

1. A piece placed at or forming the mouth (of a receptacle, organ-pipe, tool, and the like).

1683 MOXON *Mech. Exerc., Printing* xv. P 6 Letter-Founders call this altogether a Mouth-Piece. 1832 G. R. PORTER *Porcelain & Gl.* I. v. 59 These openings [for fuel] are provided with mouth pieces of plate iron. 1855 HOPKINS *Organ* xviii. 83 Reed or tongue pipes are..those which are made to sound through the medium of a mouth-piece. 1893 *Labour Commission* Gloss., *Mouth-pieces*, castings fixed on the open ends of 'retorts' [in gas-making]...The term is also applied to the pipes conveying the gas from the retorts.

2. a. *jocular.* Used for *mouth* (cf. *headpiece*). **b.** The part (of a model) representing the mouth.

1738 SWIFT *Pol. Conversat.* 41 You have made a fine speech, Colonel. Pray, what will you take for your Mouthpiece? 1831 BREWSTER *Nat. Magic* viii. (1833) 209 To the mouth-piece was added a nose made of two tin tubes.

3. Something to put in the mouth. **a.** That part of a musical instrument, a pipe, etc., which is placed between the lips, usually adjustable and of a material agreeable to the mouth, as silver, amber, etc. Also, a tube by which a cigar or cigarette is held in the mouth.

1776 BURNEY *Hist. Mus.* I. 279 This contrivance..left only a small aperture between the lips, just sufficient to receive the mouth-piece of the flute. 1857 W. COLLINS *Dead Secret* III. i, His lips began to work round the mouth-piece of the pipe. 1876 *Smoker's Guide* v. 61 For our part, to smoke a cigar through a mouthpiece is equivalent to kissing a lady through a respirator. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 414 To..allow the child to suck the mixture from the sterilising bottle fitted with a mouth-piece.

b. That part of a bit which crosses the horse's mouth.

1727–51 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Bit*, The several parts of a snaffle or curb-bit are—the mouth-piece, the cheeks [etc.]. 1833 *Regul. Instr. Cavalry* I. 83 Each regiment should have a few bits with different and easy mouth-pieces and curbs.

4. One who voices the sentiments, opinions, etc., of (a party); one who speaks on behalf of (another or others); one who gives official or public expression to (common opinion or sentiment); a spokesman.

1805 SOUTHEY *Madoc in W.* viii, They look'd Toward their chief and mouth-piece, the High Priest Tezozomoc. 1818 COBBETT *Pol. Reg.* XXXIII. 64 The thing called the Cabinet is nothing more than the mouth-piece of the Boroughmongers. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* viii. § 9. 557 The popular discontent at once found a mouthpiece in John Lilburne.

b. *slang.* A solicitor.

1883 GREENWOOD *Odd People* (1888) 18 It was for the benefit of a man..who was 'in trouble'..to 'procure him a mouthpiece',—which..is another word for a defending counsel among those sort of characters.

5. A protector for the mouth; a respirator.

1884 *Health Exhib. Catal.* 129/1 Mouthpiece for unhealthy and poisonous trades.

Mouthy (mau·ði), *a.* [f. MOUTH *sb.* + -Y.] Characterized by railing, ranting, or the use of bombastic language; **a.** of persons.

1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* III. xvii. (Arb.) 189 As another said to a mouthy Aduocate, why barkest thou at me so sore? 1617 COLLINS *Def. Bp. Ely* To Rdr. 15 Bestow these thy qualicums (thou mouthy Sophister) vpon some younger eares. 1819 BYRON *Juan* I. ccv, Thou shalt not set up Wordsworth, Coleridge, Southey; Because the first is crazed..the third so quaint and mouthy. 1850 W. IRVING *Goldsmith* 137 He ..was prone to be mouthy and magniloquent.

b. of language.

1827 *Blackw. Mag.* XXI. 737 Much more to the same purpose, mouthy and magnificent. 1887 *Athenæum* 3 Sept. 302/3 Although somewhat 'mouthy', it [the poem] possesses considerable power and impressiveness.

Hence **Mou·thily** *adv.*, **Mou·thiness.**

1830 *Blackw. Mag.* XXVII. 142 Playing the Mocking Bird to the Muse, with a monotonous mouthiness..that cannot deceive a schoolboy.

Moutne, obs. form of MUTTON.

Mouton (mū·tŏn). *Hist.* Forms: 4–6 moto(u)n, 5 mutoun, 6 motton, 7, 9 mutton, 6–9 mouton. [a. OF. *mouton*, lit. 'sheep' (see MUTTON).]

1. A French gold coin, bearing the figure of the Lamb of God (whence the name), current in the 14th and 15th centuries.

The 'mouton' issued by Edw. III and Hen. V for use in

the English possessions in France, is said to have had the value of five shillings sterling.

1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. III. 24 Mildeliche Mede..gaf..The leste man of here meyne a motoun of golde. 1494 Fabyan *Chron.* (1533) 104 b/1, A moton is a coyne vsed in Fraunce and Brytayne, and is of value after the rate of sterlynge money vppon v. s. or there aboute. 1523 Lo. Berners *Froiss.* I. clxxi. 208 These thre estates [France, 1356] made newe money to be forged of fyne gold, called moutons. 1562 Leigh *Armorie* 229 Certeyne skinnes, of this beast [the Panther], whiche were valued, at 5000 mottons of gold. 1828 Scott *F. M. Perth* vi, My father..will pay you gallantly—a French mutton for every hide I have spoiled. 1894 Lane-Poole *Coins & Medals* 111 The gold coins of Edw. III. were the *guiennois*..and *mouton* (Paschal Lamb). *Ibid.* 112 Henry V. struck in gold mottons and demi-moutons.

2. (See quot.) Cf. *ram*.

1523 Lo. Berners *Froiss.* I. cccciii. 701 They..made..a marueylus gret engyn, xx. fote large and xl. foote longe; they called this engyn a moton; it was to cast gret stones into the towne to beate downe houses.

‖ **3.** (Pronounced *mutoñ.*) A spy quartered with an accused person with a view to obtaining incriminating evidence.

1804 *Edin. Rev.* III. 442 A *mouton*, or jail-spy [was] quartered in his chamber. 1902 Lang *Hist. Scotl.* II. ix. 239 A mouton or prison-spy had extracted much of the truth from Bailey.

Mouton, obs. form of Mutton.

‖ **Moutonnée** (*mutone*), *a. Geol.* Also inadapted form **moutonnéed.** [Fr. (in *roche moutonnée*), fem. pa. pple. of *moutonner*, f. *mouton* sheep: see Mutton.] Rounded like a sheep's back; said of rocks that have been subjected to glacial action.

1872 W. S. Symonds *Rec. Rocks* ii. 23 At a point close to the road..is a roche moutonnée..and on the opposite side of the lake is a bill moutonnéed and rounded like a barrow. 1876 A. H. Green *Phys. Geol.* (1877) 456 If the moutonnéed surfaces are preserved, we learn from them in what direction to look for the source of the ice. 1893 H. H. Howorth *Glacial Nightmare* II. 428 We ought to have the proper marks of ice action..polished, moutonnée surfaces.

Mouwe, Mouwen, obs. ff. Mow, May *v.*[1]

Mouzle, Mouzy, var. ff. Mousle *v.*, Mosy *a.*

Movability (*mūvăbi·lĭti*). Forms: 3–4 moeuablite, 9 mov(e)ability. [f. Movable *a.*: see -ity. (Chaucer's form is a. OF. *movableté.*)] The quality or condition of being movable; mobility.

c 1374 Chaucer *Boeth.* IV. Pr. vi. 106 (Camb. MS.) They sormownten the ordre of destynal moeuablete. 1824 Loudon *Encycl. Gardening* § 926 Primitive surfaces affect vegetables mechanically according to their different degrees of moveability or tenacity. 1846 Brittan tr. *Malgaigne's Man. Oper. Surg.* 295 The eye had resumed its moveability on the inside but not on the outside. 1894 *Thinker Mag.* V. 153 Without beginning, without any movability of change, and without end.

Movable, moveable (*mū·văb'l*), *a.* and *sb.* Forms: 4 moeveable, movabele, 4–5 moevable, 5 me(o)veable, mov(ey)abylle, mofabil, 5–6 mevable, 6 movabul, (*Sc.*) movabil(l, 7 mooveable, *Sc.* movabell, 5– movable, moveable. [a. OF. *movable*, f. *mov-oir* (mod. F. *mouvoir*) to Move: see -able. Cf. Mobile, Mobile.] **A.** *adj.*

†1. Apt or disposed to movement; quick or ready in movement; having a tendency to move. *Obs.*

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* XI. i. (1495) 381 By cause of his substancyall lyghtnesse ayre is kyndly meuable and also chaungable. *c* 1400 Maundev. (1839) xv. 162 Therfore is ther gret multitude of peple: but thei ben not sterynge ne mevable, be cause that thei ben in the firste Clymat, that is of Saturne. 1426 Lydg. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 12332 And thyderward they [the planets] be meveable, To thylke poynt to kome ageyn, Fro wych they meuede ffyrst certeyn. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 234 Of all the membres of the body, nature hath made the eye moost mouable. 1592 R. D. *Hypnerotomachia* 83 b, And somtimes her fine and moveable legges..discovered themselves. 1607 Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 188 Goats are nimble, moveable, and inconstant, and therefore apt to depart away, except they be restrained by the herd and his Dog. 1705 Addison *Italy* 370 Any one that sees the Teverone must..conclude it to be one of the most moveable Rivers in the World, that has its Stream broken by such a Multitude of Cascades, and is so often shifted out of one Channel into other.

†2. *fig.* Changeable, fickle, inconstant; capable of being influenced or prevailed upon. *Obs.*

c 1374 Chaucer *Boeth.* IV. Met. v. 103 (Camb. MS.) The moeuable poeple [orig. *mobile vulgus*]. 1477 Earl Rivers (Caxton) *Dictes* 75 Trust not in eny thingis of this moeuaeble world. 1582 N. Lichefield tr. *Castanheda's Conq. E. Ind.* I. xxi. 55 The King was moneable, and therefore it was possible that the Moores would alter his minde. 1611 Bible *Prov.* v. 6 Her wayes are moueable, that thou canst not know them. 1682 Bunyan *Holy War* 129 O full of deceit, how movable are thy ways! how often hast thou changed and rechanged.

3. Capable of being moved; not fixed in one place or posture. Sometimes used *Phys.* and *Path.* as a synonym of Floating *ppl. a.*, as in *movable kidney, rib.*

a 1400 in Halliwell *Rara Mathem.* (1841) 65 Þe side of þe quadrat bitwene A and B mote be persede reulefully, in whilk persyng put a chippe like þe oper thre, bot it sale be moveable fro A to B. 1539 in *Archæologia* XI. 440, 4 payer of geests of woode dormint, two payer of geests movable. 1553 Eden *Decades* 360 The degrees of the Equinoctiall distaunte..from the moueable meridian. 1597 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* v. xi. § 1 In the vast wildernes when the people of God had themselues no settled habitation, yet a moueable tabernacle they were commanded of God to make. 1656 *Hobbes's Elem. Philos.* (1839) 141 We must also have in our mind an imagination of some moveable thing passing over that line. 1707 Mortimer *Husb.* (1721) II. 282 He was proposing to me to have a moveable Sty, and about it to make a Yard with Hurdles, to remove from one Tree to another. 1788 Cowper *Gratitude* 25 This moveable structure of shelves. 1802 C. James *Milit. Dict.* s. v., When the pivot flank of any body of men describe in the wheel a smaller circle than the wheeling flank, the wheel is said to be made on a moveable pivot. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* iii. I. 346 Some of these cabins were moveable, and were carried on sledges from one part of the common to another. 1835–6 Owen in *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 280/2 If the moveable ribs had commenced as in Mammalia, by extending to the sternum. 1878 tr. *von Ziemssen's Cycl. Med.* XV. 763 The clinical history of the movable kidney dates from the time of Rayer. 1879 Harlan *Eyesight* ii. 23 The upper lid..is very movable, while the lower one is almost stationary.

4. Of property: Admitting of being removed or displaced; applied to 'personal' as opposed to 'real' property. In *Sc. Law*, the distinctive appellation of such property as does not pass by inheritance: opposed to Heritable *a.*

1418 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 32 Alle othere meuable Godes ther-in beyng. 1482 *Charters Edinb.* (1871) 156 Gudis mofabil and vnmofabill. 1538 in *Lett. Suppress. Monasteries* (Camden) 175 Certen other catell and movable goodes that dyd belong to the howse. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* xvii. 150 Ane person may succeid to heretage and to mouabil gudis of his predecessours. 1618 Naunton in *Fortescue Papers* (Camden) 63 Who committed her and her porcion and all her moveable estate unto me at his death. 1754 Erskine *Princ. Sc. Law* (1809) 71 The right of the husband to the wife's moveable estate, is burdened with the moveable debts contracted by her before marriage. 1818 Hallam *Mid. Ages* vii. (1868) 376 The first eminent instance of a general tax required from the clergy was the famous Saladine tithe; a tenth of all movable estate, imposed by the kings of France and England upon all their subjects..to defray the expense of their intended crusade. 1838 W. Bell *Dict. Law Scotl.* s. v. *Heritable and moveable*, Things, in their nature heritable, may become moveable by being made part of a moveable *universitas*. Thus, a share of heritable subjects, forming part of the stock of a trading company is moveable. 1871 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* xvii. (1876) IV. 60 Besides these seizures of landed property William also possessed himself of great moveable wealth from various sources.

5. Changing from one date to another every year. *Movable feast*: one which, though always on the same day of the week, varies its date in the calendar.

1430 in Halliwell *Rara Mathem.* (1841) 92 Þe table of þe 5 festes moveyabylle. *c* 1440 *Astron. Cal.* (MS. Ashm. 391), Than followeþ a noþer table of all mouable feestes. 1694 Holder *Disc. Time* i. 20 The Lunar Month..by which the Moveable Festivals of the Christian Church are regulated. 1825 Hone *Every-Day Bk.* I. 189 Shrove Tuesday regulates most of the moveable feasts.

transf. (*Mod. collog.*) Breakfast is a movable feast with us.

†6. *Astron.* (See quot. 1696.) *Obs. rare.*

1647 Lilly *Chr. Astrol.* vii. 52 If she [i. e. the moon] be posited therein, especially in a moodable [*sic*] Signe, it's an argument of much travell, trotting and trudging. 1696 Phillips (ed. 5), *Moveable Signs*, the same that are named Cardinal, as *Aries*, *Cancer*, *Libra*, and *Capricorn*, as from which the Changes of the Seasons are made in Spring, Summer, Autumn, and Winter.

7. *Semitic Grammar.* Of certain letters, etc.: Pronounced; not 'quiescent'.

1837 G. Phillips *Syriac Gram.* 33 In the plural Yud quiescent is changed into Vud moveable. 1839 Conant tr. *Gesenius' Hebr. Gram.* 15 Where they [*sc.* א, ה, ו, י] serve as vowels they are called quiescents (*quiescentes*); where they are consonants, moveable (*mobiles*). 1847 M'Caul *Introd. Hebr. Gram.* 9 The Gutturals, when a moveable Sh'va is required, take the compound Sh'va.

B. *sb.*

†1. In the Ptolemaic astronomy: Any of the nine concentric revolving spheres of the heavens. Chiefly in *First* or *highest movable* = Primum mobile. *Obs.*

c 1391 Chaucer *Astrol.* I. § 17 And *nota*, that firste Moeuyng is cleped 'Moeuyng' of the firste Moeuable of the 8 spere. *a* 1649 Drumm. of Hawth. *Irene* Wks. (1711) 171 The planets have a motion contrary to the first moveable. 1669 Sturmy *Mariner's Mag.* I. i. 2 The Figure, Number, and Motion made in the Heavens by the highest Moveable called Primum Mobile. 1690 Leybourn *Curs. Math.* 760, I now enter upon their Hypotheses, that suppose it [the Earth] to be mov'd about the Sun. But before the Phaenomena of the secondary Moveables can be explained by this supposition, we must first understand [etc.].

2. *pl.* Personal property; property that is capable of being moved; any species of property not fixed, as distinguished from real or fixed property (as land, houses, etc.). In *Sc.* and *Civil Law*, 'movable' as distinguished from 'heritable' property (see A. 4).

c 1440 *Gesta Rom.* xiv. 180 (Add. MS.) My sone, I have none mevables that I may yeve to the, But I have iij. Iewelx, that I bequethe to the. 1537 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 133, I wyll that Margary my wyff haue all my mouables, as corne and catall. 1594 Shaks. *Rich. III*, III. i. 195 When I am King, clayme thou of me The Earledome of Hereford, and all the moueables Whereof the King, my Brother, was possest. *a* 1655 Vines *Lord's Supp.* (1677) 113 These I say are moveables and not of the free-hold. 1766 W. Gordon *Gen. Counting-ho.* 486 Moveables..is the stock that receives the addition, diminution, or variation. 1884 *Law Times Rep.* LI. 119/1 The property..as regards movables..is governed by the law of Spain, the country of her domicile.

3. An article of furniture that may be removed from the building in which it is placed: opposed to *fixture.* Now chiefly in *pl.* †Also, a portable object belonging to a person, as an article of clothing, a jewel, a tool, etc. (*obs.*).

1523 Lo. Berners *Froiss.* I. clv. 187 They shall pay nothyng for that they may spende aboue v. M. li. nor for their mouables. 1596 Shaks. *Tam. Shr.* II. i. 198 You were a mouable. *Pet.* Why, what's a mouable? *Kat.* A ioyn'd stoole. 1605 B. Jonson *Volpone* IV. i, I..tooke me a house, Dealt with my Iewes, to furnish it with moueables. 1645 Evelyn *Diary* 5 May, It has in the middle a hall furnish'd with excellent marbles and rare pictures..the moveables are princely and rich. 1685 Sir E. Verney *MS. Let. to Son at Oxford* June, I will supply you with [money] very shortly but not to lay out in vain moveables. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Moveables*, Rings, Watches, Swords, and such Toies of value. As we bit all the Cull's Cole and Moveables, we Won all the Man's Money, Rings, Watches, &c. 1709 Steele *Tatler* No. 49 ₱ 7 As capable of being dispos'd of elsewhere, as any other Moveable. 1727–41 Chambers *Cycl., Parasol*, a little moveable, in manner of a canopy, bore in the hand to screen the head from the sun, rain, &c. 1820 Byron *Let. to Hoppner* 20 Jan., I wrote to you..for my movables. 1878 Sir G. G. Scott *Lect. Archit.* I. 328 The movables..are the richest inheritance of the German churches..Besides the more ordinary objects, such as chancel fittings, reredoses, bronze gates [etc.].

fig. 1841 Emerson *Misc.* (1855) 222 So that a man may say, his religion is now no more within himself, but is become a dividual movable.

†4. Something capable of being moved or set in motion. *Obs.*

1619 H. Burton *Truths Triumph* 348 He would remoue this whole terrestriall Globe, if he had but a Ground or Base to fasten his Engine vpon (although the Base must needes be farre bigger than the Moueable). 1656 [J. Serjeant] tr. *T. White's Peripat. Inst.* 73 If a Moveable be violently struck against a hard resister. 1682 Creech tr. *Lucretius* I. (1683) 13 This could not be, were there no empty space, Thro which these Moveables might freely pass.

†b. *spec.* Any part of the 'works' of a watch.

1709 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4599/4 Lost.., a small Gold Watch with a plain Gold Case, the Moveables pretty old. 1779 *Phil. Trans.* LXVIII. 979 What is meant by a pinion in watch-making is that moveable which is set in action by another of a greater number of teeth.

†5. A person given to movement or change.

1621–2 Lamb *Serm.* 24 Mar. 35 And this is a great Successe. To haue to doe with the greatest moueables in the world, the people, and not miscarry. 1632 Marmion *Holland's Leaguer* I. i, His business Is only to be busy, and his tongue's still walking Though himself be one of the worst moveables. 1658 E. Phillips *Myst. Love* 175 What is a Tinker? He is a moveable, for he hath no certain abiding.

†Mo·vabled. *Obs. rare*[–1]. [f. Movable *sb.* + -ed[2].] Furnished with 'movables'; furnished.

a 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. xvii. 137 That straw-thatch'd Cottage, scurvily built, naughtily movabled.

Movableness (*mū·văb'lnĕs*). [-ness.] The attribute of being movable; mobility.

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* V. xxix. (1495) 140 The meuablenes of the fingres is conuenyent to take and to holde. 1530 Palsgr. 246/2 Movableness, *mobilité.* 1643 Lightfoot *Glean. Ex.* (1648) 22 This mooveablenesse of this Feast. 1878 Spurgeon *Treas. Dav.* Ps. cxiv. 4 The movableness of things which appear to be fixed and settled.

Movably (*mū·văbli*), *adv. rare.* [-ly[2].] In a movable manner; so as to be movable.

1681 Grew *Museum* I. i. § 2. 20 His [the Armadillo's] Back-piece..is composed of several Plates, in number eighteen, moveably joyned together by as many intermediate Skins. 1835–6 Owen in *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 281/1 The true ribs are not joined to the sternum by elastic cartilages, but by straight osseous portions, called sternal ribs, which are moveably connected at both their extremities. 1899 Cagney tr. *Jakseh's Clin. Diagn.* x. (ed. 4) 431 An Abbe's or other condenser adjusted movably to the microscope-stand is needed.

†Mo·val. *Obs. rare.* [f. Move *v.* + -al, after *removal.*] The fact of being moved.

1632 Vicars *Virgil* VIII. 315 Whereat he by and by Put forth his strength, and rous'd it from the root, And it remov'd: whose movall with loud shout Did fill the echoing aire. 1769 R. Griffith *Gordian Knot* I. 44 (F. H.).

Move (*mūv*), *sb.* Also 5 meeve. [f. Move *v.*]

†1. A proposal; motion. *Obs. rare*[–1].

1439 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 17/2 Ye seide John, many tymes hath made diverse meeves and tretice, for to have pees with ye seide Phelip.

2. *Chess, Draughts*, etc. The moving or changing of position of a piece in the regular course of the game; the manner or mode in which a piece is allowed to be moved; (a player's) turn to move. (Cf. Remove *sb.* 3 c.)

The move: the right to make the first move in the game (similarly in *pawn and move* in chess, with reference to odds); also the superiority of position (at any stage of the game) which depends on having the turn to move at the right moment.

1656 Cowley *Pindar. Odes, Destiny* ii, I saw two Angels play'd the Mate. With Man, alas, no otherwise it proves; An unseen Hand makes all their Moves. 1761 Hoyle (*title*) An Essay towards making the Game of Chess easily learned, by those who know the moves only. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) IV. 640/2 When the game is near finished, each party having only three or four pawns,..the kings must endeavour to gain the move. 1800 J. Sturges *Draughts* 2 The first move of each Game to be taken by both players alternately. 1808 Sarratt *Chess* (1822) 3 The player who gives odds has always the advantage of the move; except, of course, in those games where the move is also given to the inferior player. 1850 *Bohn's Handbk. Games* 381 (Backgammon) The moves of the men are determined by the throws of the dice. 1870 Hardy & Ware *Mod. Hoyle, Draughts* 107 White may..capture the whole of the three black men in one move. 1876 W. N. Potter in *Encycl. Brit.* V. 592/1 Those to whom the masters of the game can only concede the small odds of 'pawn and move'. *Ibid.* 593/2 *Castling.*—This is a peculiar move permitted to the king once in the game. 1884 Tennyson *Becket* Prol. 8 *Becket.* It is your move. *Henry.* Well—there.

b. *fig.* A device, trick; an action calculated to secure some end. *A (good, bad,* etc.) *move*: a (prudent or imprudent) step or proceeding. *To be up to every move on the board, to be up to* (or *know*) *a move or two*: to be cunning, smart, wide-awake, experienced.

1812 J. H. VAUX *Flash Dict.* s.v., To be flash to every move upon the board, is to have a general knowledge of the world, and all its numerous deceptions. 1840 HALIBURTON *Clockm.* Ser. III. viii. 105 And a-travellin' about, and a-livin' on the best, and sleepin' in the spare bed always, ain't a bad move nother. 1844 DICKENS *Christmas Carol* iii, Gentlemen of the free-and-easy sort, who plume themselves on being acquainted with a move or two. 1861 HUGHES *Tom Brown at Oxf.* vi, A cunning old beggar,..up to every move on the board. 1868 E. YATES *Rock Ahead* III. ii, He has sent for his own housekeeper, which is a good move. 1884 *Gd. Words* June 400/1 The practical details of prison discipline, and the moves by which its rigours may be softened or evaded by the old birds.

3. *On the move*: in process of moving from one place to another, travelling, moving about.

1796 *Instr. & Reg. Cavalry* (1813) 165 Column of half squadrons is then formed, either from the halt, or on the move. 1811 L. M. HAWKINS *C'tess. & Gertr.* II. 357 (K. O.) On the move [said of people]. 1849 THACKERAY *Pendennis* xxxi, Everybody seemed to be busy, humming, and on the move. 1889 JESSOPP *Coming of Friars* ii. 104 The Bishop..was always on the move when he was in his diocese.

fig. 1881 TYLOR *Anthrop.* i. 18 It does not follow from such arguments as these that civilization is always on the move, or that its movement is always progress.

4. An act of moving from a stationary position; a beginning of movement or departure; a 'rise' from the (dinner) table (to go to the drawing-room), etc.; esp. in phrase *to make a move.*

1827 DISRAELI *Viv. Grey* v. vi, The Grand Duke, bowing to his circle, made a move. 1855 HALIBURTON *Nat. & Hum. Nat.* I. xii. 381 So in due time we parted...Cutler made the first move by ascending the companion-ladder. 1856 WHYTE MELVILLE *Kate Cov.* xx, Lady Scapegrace..'made the move', at which we all sailed away to tea and coffee in the drawing-room. *Ibid.* xxi, Directly there was a move, the ladies went to bed. 1858 GREENER *Gunnery* 76 The great principle in a propellant force is so to arrange it that you do not obtain too great a velocity at the first move of the projectile. 1883 *Daily Tel.* 10 Nov. 5/1 Without such decided moves forward on his part, many other friends of progress would have hesitated to move at all.

5. A change of habitation or place of sojourn.

1853 LYNCH *Self-Improv.* 47 Christianity is just now moving to a larger house, and everybody knows how confusing and laborious a move is. 1857 MRS. CARLYLE *Lett.* (1883) II. 325 Making no further move that is not a move homeward. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 29 June 5/3 The first holiday-seekers are making a move to the seaside.

6. *colloq.* (*U.S.*) *To get a move on one*: to hasten one's steps, to hurry up. In recent Dicts.

7. *Glass-making.* (See quot.)

1849 PELLATT *Curios. Glass Making* 90 The mode of reckoning the piece-work of Glass-makers is peculiar. The 'move', as it is technically called, is a nominal period of six hours; and the payment is proportionate to the number of articles supposed, by fair exertion, capable of being made in that time by a set of ordinary workmen.

Move (mūv), *v.* Inflected moving, moved. Forms: *α.* 3–5 meove, 3–6 moeve, meve, 4–5 mew(e, meuve, mefe, meefe, meffe, 4–6 meeve, 6 mieve. *β.* 3– move, (4 mwe), 4–6 *north.* mow(e, 4–7 moove. Also *north.* and *Sc.* 4–6 mofe, 5 moffe, moyfe, moyff, mowff, muff, mwff, 5–6 muve, mufe, 6 muif, moif(f, mwve. [ME. *move*, a. AF. *mov-er*, OF. *mov-oir, mouvoir* (mod.F. *mouvoir*), = Pr., Sp., Pg. *mover*, It. *movere, muovere*:—L. *movēre* (derivation-stem *mō-* for **movi-*: see MOBILE *a.*, MOMENT, MOTILE *a.*, MOTION, MOTIVE, MOTOR). The intransitive use (developed from refl.), almost non-existent in Latin and in mod.Fr., was extensively current in OFr., and came into Eng. at least as early as the transitive use.

The *α* forms, *moeve, meove, mēve* represent the OF. flexional forms with root-stress, e.g. 3 plur. pres. ind. *muevent, moevent* (mod. F. *meuvent*). Cf. the parallel forms of PROVE *v.*, and the ME. *poeple, peple, pēple* repr. OF. *pueple, poeple* (mod.F. *peuple*), PEOPLE *sb.*]

I. Transitive senses.

1. To change the place or position of; to take from one place or situation to another; to shift, remove; *occas.* to dislodge or displace (something fixed). Also, *to move away, along,* etc.

1382 WYCLIF *Acts* v. 6 3onge men rysinge mouedyn hym awey. *c* 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 2498 Þe vrthe þat my body lyȝt on, is mevyd, also, Y-mevyd alle from þe grounde an hyȝe. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 336/2 Mevyn, or remevyn,..*amoveo.* 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* I. iii. 40 But none myght stere the swerd nor meue hit. 1535 COVERDALE *Job* xxxvii. 1 At this my hert is astonnied, and moued out of his place. [Also 1611.] 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 366 He moves his Camp, to meet his careless Foe. 1791 M. CUTLER in *Life*, etc. (1888) I. 466 My barn was moved from the Hubbard house round the north end of the Meeting House to my other barn. 1832 TENNYSON *Miller's Daughter* 125 At last you rose and moved the light. 1897 'SARAH GRAND' *Beth Bk.* xx, She..moved the tray, and put the table back in its place.

fig. 1538 ELYOT *Dict., Deduco*..somtime to moue from his purpose. 1601 BP. W. BARLOW *Serm. Paules Crosse* 30 Neither did it moue my affection from him. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneid* VII. 523 When she saw her Reasons idly spent, And cou'd not move him from his fix'd Intent; She flew to rage.

b. *Chess, Draughts,* etc. To change the position of (a piece) in the course of play; to transfer from one position to another. (Cf. REMOVE *v.* 2 c.) † Also *refl.* of the piece (= sense 16 e).

1474 CAXTON *Chesse* IV. ii. 163 We ought to knowe..how the kynge meueth hym and yssueth oute of his place. 1761 HOYLE *Ess. Chess* Pref., When you castle your King, do not move the Pawns before him till forced to it. 1800 J. STURGES *Draughts* 2 If..you move your Man..over the Angle which divides the Squares..you must finish your move so begun. 1884 TENNYSON *Becket* Prol., My liege, I move my bishop.

†**c.** To bring or apply (something) *to*; to administer (a remedy). *Obs.*

c 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* II. pr. iii. 25 (Camb. MS.) For wan þat tyme is, I shal moeue [L. *admovebo*] swych thinges þat percen hem self depe. 1538 ELYOT *Dict., Admoueo*, to moue to, or put to. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 509 They use their forefeet in stead of hands,..and move their meat to their mouth with them. 1611 BIBLE *Deut.* xxiii. 25 But thou shalt not mooue a sickle vnto thy neighbours standing corne.

†**d.** To promote or advance *to* an office. (Cf. MOTION *sb.* 1 f.) *Obs. rare.*

1556 LAUDER *Tractate* 335 And, geue thay haue the floke abusit, ȝe, Kyngs, sall be for that accusit..Because ȝe mouit thame to sic curis Quhilk nother techis ryche nor puris.

e. To take off or lift (a hat, cap) from one's head, as a gesture of salutation.

1573 G. HARVEY *Letter-bk.* (Camden) 5, I passing bi him, and mouing mi cap. 1647 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* VII. § 232 That every member might, as a testimony of his particular acknowledgment, stir or move his hat towards him; the which..when very many did, the lord Falkland,..instead of moving his hat,..held it close down to his head. 1825 T. COSNETT *Footman's Direct.* 175 Always show your respect to the family by moving your hat when you meet any of them.

f. *Comm.* in *passive*, of merchandise: To 'go off', find purchasers. Cf. 16 j.

1900 *Daily News* 20 June 9/1 There has been a rather better demand for leather during the week, and some fair parcels have been moved.

2. To put or keep in motion; to shake, stir, or disturb (an object which would otherwise be at rest).

To move heaven and earth: to make unheard-of efforts (*to* effect or obtain something).

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XVI. 77 And þanne comsed it to crye, And wagged wydwehode and it wepte after. And whan it meued Matrimoigne it made a foule noyse. *c* 1384 CHAUCER *H. Fame* II. 305 Euery worde..That lowde or pryvee y-spoken ys, Moveth first an ayre a-boute, And of thys movynge, out of doute, Another ayre anoon ys meved. 1471 RIPLEY *Comp. Alch.* II. xv. in Ashm. *Theat. Chem. Brit.* (1652) 138 Beware thy Glasse thou never opyn ne meve. 1539 BIBLE (Great) *Ps.* lxviii. 8 Euen as Sinai also was moued at yᵉ presence of God. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* II. xv. 50 The chanell..was so moued that by great surges, it cast the water ouer the walles. 1792 A. YOUNG *Trav. France* 225 Englishmen..would move heaven and earth to establish a better conveyance, at a higher price. 1846 KEIGHTLEY *Notes Virg., Bucol.* v. 5 The shadows..are unsteady, in consequence of the western breezes moving the trees. 1885 'F. ANSTEY' *Tinted Venus* 49 There's the police moving heaven and earth to get you back again.

b. To put or keep in motion which is of a continuous, regular, or recurrent kind, or which effects some result; to impel or agitate (an implement, etc.) in the proper way; to actuate (a machine). In early use chiefly of God as the mover of the universe. Also with advs. as *to and fro*, etc.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* I. (*Katerine*) 475 Ȝe suld kene þat bot a god suld be, þat mad & mowis alkine thing. 1566 PAINTER *Pal. Pleas.* II. 308 The courteous Gods that gives me lyfe now mooves the planets all. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* Introd. 1 *Automata* (Engines that move themselves by springs and wheeles as doth a watch). 1709 *Tatler* No. 100 ¶ 1 As she moved it [a mirror] in her Hand, it brightened the Heavens, the Air, or the Earth. 1797 G. JEE in *Trans. Soc. Arts* XVI. 303 The handle is required to be turned one way only, which moves the machine more steadily. 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem.* (1862) III. 193 If a glass rod be..moved quickly through the air.

3. Of a living being or its powers: To change the position or posture of (its body or any member).

1382 WYCLIF *Isa.* xxxvii. 22 Aftir thee the hed he mouede, thou maide doȝter of Jerusalem. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* III. xii. (1495) 55 The vertue that hyghte animalis motiua..moeuyth all the lymmes. 1533 GAU *Richt Vay* (S.T.S.) 83 Quhen men mwuis the mwtht and the lippis and the tunge wtuertlie without ye hart and mind. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* V. ii. 146 But shall we dance, if they desire vs too't? *Quee.* No, to the death we will not moue a foot. 1611 BIBLE *Exod.* xi. 7 But against any of the children of Israel, shal not a dog moue his tongue. 1807–26 COOPER *First Lines Surg.* (ed. 5) 274 Inability to move or use the limb. 1878 T. HARDY *Ret. Native* IV. vii, She moved her lips..but could not speak. 1907 J. H. PATTERSON *Man-Eaters of Tsavo* xviii. 201 Had either of us moved hand or foot just then, it would, I am convinced, have at once brought on another and probably a fatal charge.

†**b.** *refl.* To set oneself in motion, change place or posture, stir. Also, to go, proceed. = senses 16, 17.

c 1290 *St. Brendan* 674 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 238 Þe fisch bi-gan to meouen him..And bar þis Monekes forth with him. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 9740 Meue you with manhode to mar of your fos. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 120 When a man is in deadlie syn, all his membres is bon, & he may not mofe hym. *c* 1500 *Melusine* 8 He lept & mevyd hym as a man wakynge from slep. 1530 PALSGR. 641/1 He is so sycke that he can nat move him in his bedde.

†**4.** To put forth, utter (sound). *Obs.*

1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 125 There is no creature that will more stir, bark, and move noise, then one of these against thief or wilde beast. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* III. 37 Then feed on thoughts, that voluntarie move Harmonious numbers. 1674 PLAYFORD *Skill Mus.* I. 58 A full Chorus of four or five Parts, which moveth a kind of Heavenly Harmony.

5. *Med.* **a.** To provoke (an excretion or discharge). ? *Obs.*

1597 GERARDE *Herbal* I. xxix. § 2. 40 Camels haie..mooueth the tearmes. 1605 TIMME *Quersit.* I. vii. 31 Salt..hath vertue..to move sweates.

b. To cause (the bowels) to act; also *absol.* Also *intr.* of the bowels = to be moved, to act.

a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew*, s.v. *Pass, Do the Waters Pass well?* much in use at the Wells, do they Move as they ought? 1808 *Med. Jrnl.* XIX. 308 The very large doses of medicine that were necessary to move her bowels. 1889 J. M. DUNCAN *Clin. Lect. Dis. Wom.* xiv. (ed. 4) 101 Even when the bowels were truly described as moving regularly. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 414 The bowels being moved immediately after each meal.

6. *To move* (a person's) *blood*: to make it flow more rapidly; hence, to excite or stir a passion in one. In early use said of the person himself = to become excited, angry, etc.; similarly † *to move one's mood* = to wax wroth.

a 1330 *Otuel* 355 King charle gan to meuen his blod. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. x. 263 Why meuestow þi mode for a mote in þi brotheres eye. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 16792 That bold mayden meved hir blod, When sche tho tydandes vndirstode. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xvi. 472 For to se this flode..Mefys nothing my mode. 1471 CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) I. 257 In this chaungyng of colour there was not a vayne but he was meuyd. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 155 When his Blood no Youthful Spirits move.

7. To stir up or excite (an emotion, appetite, etc.) in a person; to provoke (laughter, contradiction).

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XII. 126 And medle we nauȝt muche with hem to meuen any wrathe. 1474 CAXTON *Chesse* III. vi. 132 Anon as he is chaufféd lecherye is meuyd in hym. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* V. ii. 865 To moue wilde laughter in the throate of death? 1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* II. viii. § 4 Wherein if I haue differed from the ancient, and receiued doctrines, and thereby shall moue contradiction. 1676 DRYDEN *State Innoc.* V. i, Your Penitence does my Compassion move. 1711 FELTON *Dissert. Classicks* (1753) 83 Images are very sparingly to be introduced;..their Use is to move Pity or Terror, Admiration [etc.]. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* ii. I. 243 All the prejudices, all the exaggerations of both the great parties in the state, moved his scorn. 1878 BOSW. SMITH *Carthage* 26 Such delicious fruits as those with which Cato moved the astonishment and the envy of the senators.

†**b.** *occas.* To excite, evoke (a state, activity, etc., in a person); to affect (a sense). *Obs.*

1528 LYNDESAY *Dreme* 811 Quhate dois nuse our Misere? Or quhareof dois proceid our pouertie? 1551 T. WILSON *Logike* (1580) 1 All soundes and noises that be made moue the hearyng, as coughyng. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 978 It is said to moue Dreames also. 1633 BP. HALL *Hard Texts N. T.* 116 His proper worke is both to lie, and to move lies in others.

8. To stir up, commence (strife, war, and the like). Now *rare* or *Obs.*

[Cf. L. *arma, bellum, tragœdias movere.*]

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1725) 206 Bot Jon was þe enchesonne, & moued þer a strif. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Melib.* P 683, I se wel, that..ye wole moeue werre and bataille. *c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* II. i. 17 Obir nacionys..þat latthe was bargan for to moyff. 1570–6 LAMBARDE *Peramb. Kent* (1826) 200 Odo..mooved many Tragedies within this Realme, and was in the end throwen from the Stage. 1585 *Act 27 Eliz.* c. 2 § 1 Seminarie Priestes..stire up and move Sedition, Rebellion and open Hostilitie within her Highnesse Realmes. 1612 DAVIES *Why Ireland*, etc. (1747) 79 His foure sonnes..rose in armes and mooued warre against him. 1680 COTTON *Compl. Gamester* xxxvii. (ed. 2) 169 Turn him [*sc.* the cock] into the Pit to move his fortune.

9. To affect with emotion; to rouse or excite feeling in (a person); to stir (the feelings, etc.); to trouble, disquiet, perturb in one's mind; to excite *to* (laughter, pity, tears, etc.). Often *spec.* to affect with tender or compassionate emotion.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 9738 Merci me mous wit her praier. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* vii. (*Jacobus*) 118 Þe folk with a sowdane cry Þai mewit þan sa sodanly, þat þai war in wil fur to stane Þe apostollis. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* V. 2 For woo my witte es in a were, That mofles me mykill in my mynde. 1483 CAXTON *G. de la Tour* C ij b, Yf the knyght hadde be sore meuyd and sorrowful at the deth of his first wyf. 1549 LATIMER *3rd Serm. bef. Edw. VI* (Arb.) 84 They were so moued wyth his preachynge, that they returned home agayne. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* IV. xii. 26 To disclose Which of the Nymphes his heart so sore did mieve. 1611 BIBLE *Mark* i. 41 And Iesus mooued with compassion, put foorth his hand, and touched him. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IX. 1143 To whom soon mov'd with touch of blame thus Eve. *a* 1715 BURNET *Own Time* (1897) I. 476 He commonly gives all he has about him, when he meets an object that moves him. 1807 WORDSW. *Sonn.*, *'The world is too much with us'*, For this, for everything, we are out of tune; It moves us not. 1835 MARRYAT *Jac. Faithf.* xxxiii, I was moved with the kindness of the old couple. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* i. I. 66 They were an ardent and impetuous race, easily moved to tears or to laughter, to fury or to love. 1896 T. F. TOUT *Edw. I*, iii. 50 All Christendom was terribly moved by the assassination.

b. To provoke to anger; to make angry. *Obs.* exc. in the full phr. *to move to anger, wrath,* etc.

a 1400–50 *Alexander* 1217 Þan was ser Meliager moued & maynly debatis. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* XIX. v. 779 Syre Launcelot why be ye soo moeued...Me semeth said sir launcelot ye ouȝte to be more wrothe than I am. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 234 Therfore let it moue no body, yf in the entreatynge of these matters, somtyme we [etc.]. 1548–9 (Mar.) *Bk. Com. Prayer, Burial,* O Lorde,

whiche for our synnes iustly art moued. *c* 1592 MARLOWE *Jew of Malta* IV. v, 'Tis not 500 Crownes that I esteeme; I am not mou'd at that: this angers me, That he [etc.]. 1624 Capt. SMITH *Virginia* 144 But Jack so moued their patience, they shot him. 1737 WHISTON *Josephus, Antiq.* III. xv. § 1 God was moved at their abuse of him, and would inflict punishment upon them.

†c. *refl.* To be perturbed; to become excited or angry. *Obs.*

c 1290 *Beket* 485 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 120 Sire, quath þis holi man, ne meue 3e ov riȝt nouȝt! *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xx. 150 Sir pylate, mefe you now no mare, bot mese youre hart and mend youre mode. 1567 *Gude & Godlie Ball.* (S.T.S.) 96 Mufe the not at thair prosperitie.

10. To operate as a motive or influence on the volition or belief of (a person); to prompt, actuate, or impel *to* (an action) or *to do* (something).

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 9304 Ac an oþer reson wel ver meueþ more me þer to. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* lii. 177 What hathe moued the thus to do? *c* 1560 A. SCOTT *Poems* (S.T.S.) xxxiv. 97 Quhair money may 3ow moif, I hald it aweryce. 1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turks* (1638) 634 Their furious minds more desirous of reuenge than mony, were not to be moued with any gold. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* III. xxxiii. 205 Some are moved to beleeve for one, and others for other reasons. 1693 DRYDEN *Juvenal* vi. (1726) 74 What reason shou'd thy Mind to Marriage move? 1732 BERKELEY *Alciphr.* II. § 4 What moves men to build and plant but vanity. 1821 BYRON *Two Foscari* IV. i, I have prepared such arguments as will not Fail to move them. 1857 BUCKLE *Civiliz.* I. xi. 630 The two great principles which move the world are the love of wealth and the love of knowledge.

b. *absol.*

1573 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xl. 90 Becaus exempills fetchit far Mufis not so muche as thay thingis quhilk we se. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* IV. iii. 55, I feare these stubborn lines lack power to moue. 1611 TOURNEUR *Ath. Trag.* IV. v, To make th'example moue more forceably To vertue.

11. Of God, good or evil spirits, one's own heart, etc.: To prompt, impel *to* some action; in *passive*, to have an inward prompting, to feel inclined.

The spirit moves me: a phrase orig. in Quaker use, of promptings attributed to the Holy Spirit; now often used (without any irreverent intention) for 'I feel impelled or in the humour (*to do* something)'.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 412 What profit were hit Crist to begge þus, siþ he myght mefe men to gif hym when hym nedid, wiþouten any bisynes of askyng of hom? 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 11215 Wolde god yt stoode so That ye wer mevyd, & that a-noon, To passe the way that I shal gon. *c* 1450 *Cov. Myst.* xi. (Shaks. Soc.) 106 The aungel.. Whos synne hath mad hym a devyl in helle, He mevyd man to be so contraryous. 1530 PALSGR. 318/2 Meved or inclyned to do a thynge, *enclin.* 1552 *Bk. Com. Prayer, Ordering Deacons*, Doe you trust that you are inwardlye moued by the holye Ghoste to take vpon you thys office and ministracion..? 1656 G. FOX *Jrnl.* (1852) I. 271 The power of the Lord God arose in me, and I was moved in it 'to bid him lay down his crown at the feet of Jesus'. 1835 J. H. NEWMAN *Par. Serm.* (1837) I. viii. 128 God moves us in order to make the beginning of duty easy 1850 MRS. CARLYLE *Lett.* (1883) II. 105 The spirit moves me to write you a letter.

†b. *passive.* To be inclined to think. *Obs.*

1586 MARLOWE 1*st Pt. Tamburl.* II. v, I am strongly mou'd, That if I should desire the Persian crown, I could attain it with a wondrous ease.

†12. To urge (a person) *to* (an action) or *to do* (something); to exhort, incite; to apply or appeal to; to make a proposal or request to. *Obs.*

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XII. 4 Many tymes [I] haue moeued þe to þinke on þine ende. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 527 A preste movid ane vsurar when he was seke to dispose hym for þe heale of his sawle. 1476 *Paston Lett.* III. 157 Wherto I promysed hym my poore helpe, as ferforthe as I durst meve your good lordshepp for hym. 1552 *Bk. Com. Prayer, Morn. Prayer*, The scripture moueth vs in sondrie places to acknowledge and confess our manifold synnes and wickedness. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* II. 84 He had earnestly moved her Majesty to give him leave to come over for a short time. 1662 *Bk. Com. Prayer, Visit. Sick* (rubric), Here shall the sick person be moved to make a special confession of his sins. 1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* III. i, I..begged him..that he would move the Captains to take some Pity on us.

†b. To apply to or solicit (a person) *for* something, or *in* or *of* a matter. *Obs.*

1399 LANGL. *Rich. Redeles* Prol. 32 To meuve him of mysserewle, his mynde to reffresshe. *Ibid.* III. 2 For mater þat my mynde is meued in now. *c* 1440 *Generydes* 1760 The Sowdon..ganne his councell to meve Of that mater that towchid hym soo nere, And Askid ther avise in this mater. 1582 N. LICHEFIELD tr. *Castanheda's Conq. E. Ind.* I. xxi. 55 Did therfore moue yᵉ King of Calicut hy a messenger for license to send the same. *a* 1674 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* XIII. § 28 If he desired any thing..he would move the King in it. 1768 FOOTE *Devil on 2 Sticks* I. Wks. 1799 II. 243 If you want money..you move me for further supplies.

13. To make a formal application, suit, or request to (the sovereign, a court, Parliament, etc.). Const. *for*. Cf. MOTION *sb.* 8 a, b.

1683 TEMPLE *Mem.* Wks. 1731 I. 464 He would move the Parliament to have my Statue set up. 1796 J. ANSTEY *Pleader's G.* (1803) 41 Down to the Hall of Erebus I'll go, And move some Dæmon in the Courts below. 1816 *Ann. Reg.* 20 The Earl of Liverpool moved the House..on the subject of an address upon the treaties. 1885 *Standard* 20 Mar. 6/1 The Bank now moved the Court..for..a reversal of the verdict.

b. const. *that* (something be done). Cf. 15 c.

1660 INGELO *Bentiv. & Ur.* I. (1682) 103 He moved the Company that the arrogant fool might be put out of the Room. 1739 *Wks. Learned* I. 48 Dr. Reynolds..moved his Majesty, on the second Day of the Dispute, that there might be a New Translation of the Bible.

†14. To propose or suggest (something to be done); to prefer (a request); to lodge (a complaint); to bring forward, propound (a question, etc.), mention (a matter). Const. *to* (a person).

1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. IX. 113, I durste meue no mateere to make him to Iangle. *c* 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* Prol. 344 3e motyn herkenyn If he can replye A-geyns these poyntys that 3e han to hym mevid. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 304 On a tyme when Saynt Petur prechid, þer was som þat wolde mofe vnto hym vnprofitable questions. 1524 J. ALEN in *Carew MSS.* (1867) I. 25 The doubts that I moved to your Grace. 1540 HEYWOOD *Four PP.* 1034 (Manly), I could ryght well ten tymes sooner all that haue beleued Then the tenth parte of that he hath meued. 1625 BACON *Ess., Cunning* (Arb.) 437 The like Surprize, may be made, by Mouing things, when the Party is in haste, and cannot stay, to consider aduisedly, of that is moued. 1676 DRYDEN *Aurengz.* IV. 55 To Indamora you my Suit must move. 1710 PRIDEAUX *Orig. Tithes* iv. 193 The third Difficulty moved concerning this matter is whether the Grant was made for all the Lands of the Kingdom. *a* 1715 BURNET *Own Time* (1900) II. 383 No man ever had the impudence to move to him any thing with relation to the king's life. 1759 ROBERTSON *Hist. Scot.* V. Wks. 1813 I. 370 Elizabeth..did not expect that he would have moved any such difficulty.

†b. *To move in one's mind*: to revolve, turn over (a question). In quots. with clause as object.

c 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 5763 He moued [*printed* moned] and moysid in his mynde, þat þe se passid his kynde. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 166 Conjectering and moving in his mynd quhome this sould be.

15. *spec.* †a. To plead (a cause or suit) in a court; to bring (an action at law). *Obs.*

c 1420 LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 145 Loke thow fayle nought Thy sentence to yeue without favour so, Lyke as thou hast herde the causys meuyd the to. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 507 A plee I-meved by a breef of the kyngis I-called Cessauit bitwene the abbesse and Andrew Culuarde. 1571–2 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* II. 129 The awnaris thairof wald move actioun aganis him thairfoir. 1641 W. SHEPPARD *Court-Keepers Guide* (1654) 48 *Barretor*, one that moves suits and that commonly for small matters and taking the worst side.

b. To propose (a question, resolution, etc.) formally in a deliberative assembly.

1452 in Gross *Gild Merch.* (1890) II. 68 That all brethirn may be sworne to kepe all cownsayll of all matters that bene mewit in the sembles. 1789 PITT in *G. Rose's Diaries* (1860) I. 93 Your Lordship would undertake to move the Address. 1828 *Hansard's Parl. Debates* 25 Apr. XIX. 141 Mr. C. Grant moved the order of the day. 1838–42 ARNOLD *Hist. Rome* (1846) III. xliv. 147 The resolutions which he moved were..unanimously adopted. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* vi. II. 24 The opposition moved the previous question.

c. with clause: To propose (now only, in a formal manner) *that* something be done, or *to do* something. †Formerly also with clause expressing a fact: To put in a plea or suggestion *that* . . .

1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* II. xxiii. § 41 The two frogs, which consulted when their plash was drie, whether they should go: and the one mooued to go down into a pit because it was not likely the water would dry there. 1621 ELSING *Debates Ho. Lords* (Camden) 20, I moved first that the L. Chancellor be brought to the barre. 1720 POPE *Iliad* XVIII. 300 In free Debate, my Friends, your Sentence speak; For me, I move, before the Morning break To raise our Camp. 1817 JAS. MILL *Brit. India* II. v. viii. 661 It was moved by Mr. Stables..that the inquiry should be instituted. 1886 *Law Rep., Weekly Notes* 106/1 The plaintiff now moved that the foreclosure be made absolute. 1897 FLANDRAU *Harvard Episodes* 151, I move we adjourn.

II. Intransitive senses.

16. Of persons and things: To go, advance, proceed, pass from one place to another. Usu. implying deliberate or measured or laborious progress. Also with advs., as *about*, *away*, etc.

c 1250 *Kent. Serm.* in *O. E. Misc.* 29 Þo seide ure lord to þo serganz. Moveth to-gidere and bereth to Architriclin. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 4285 With here menskful meyne sche meued on gate. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1601 Thurgh myddis þe mekill toune meuyt a water, And disseuert þe Cite. *c* 1450 HOLLAND *Howlat* 677 All thus thai mufe to the meit. 1508 DUNBAR *Tua Mariit Wemen* 2 Apon the Midsumer ewin.. I muvit furth allane. 1605 SHAKS. *Macb.* V. v. 35 Me thought The Wood began to moue. *a* 1691 BOYLE *Hist. Air* (1692) 194 As if a shining fish were moving to and fro very swiftly in a somewhat troubled water. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* VIII. 395 To the soft Cyprian shores the Goddess moves. 1747 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1768) I. xxi. 147 Not a door opens; not a soul stirs. Hannah, as she moves up and down, is shunned as a person infected. *a* 1774 GOLDSM. *Surv. Exp. Philos.* (1776) I. 299 A globe moving through a fluid, such as air, that closes behind the body as it moves. 1831 CARLYLE *Sart. Res.* II. iii, The aproned or disaproned Burghers moving-in to breakfast. 1853 M. ARNOLD *Scholar Gypsy* xi, And marked thee..Through the long dewy grass move slow away. 1855 TENNYSON *Brook* 87 Katie never ran: she moved To meet me, winding under woodbine flowers. 1861 ANDERSSON *Okavango River* 94 They [*sc.* elephants] would then as suddenly move off at full speed. 1871 R. ELLIS *Catullus* lxiv. 249 She, as his onward keel still moved, still mournfully follow'd.

fig. 1681 FLAVEL *Meth. Grace* xxxi. 533 Were there a principle of spiritual life in their souls, they would move Christ-ward. 1876 L. STEPHEN *Eng. Th. 18th Cent.* I. 3 Thought moves in a spiral curve, not in a straight line.

b. of the heavenly bodies in their regular course.

c 1391 CHAUCER *Astrol.* II. § 35 The Moone Moeuyth the contrarie from othere planetes as in hire Episicle. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) xvii. 181 And tho ij. sterres ne meeven neuere. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VIII. 70 Whether Heav'n move or Earth Imports not, if thou reck'n right. 1842 TENNYSON *Move Eastward* 1 Move eastward, happy earth.

c. Of an army or body of men (or their leader): To go forward, march. Also, to quit one's position.

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 13460 Þey meoued fro Langres toward Ostum Wyþ mikel folk & grete route. ?*a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 2001 Sir Lott and sir Launcelotte.. Salle lenge on his lefte hande, wyth legyones ynewe, To meue in þe morne-while, 3if þe myste happynne. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* I. 549 Anon they move In perfect Phalanx to the Dorian mood. 1779 J. MOORE *View Soc. Fr.* II. liv. 46 Observing that the King had moved at a greater distance than usual from the town. 1844 H. H. WILSON *Brit. India* II. 254 He again moved in pursuit. 1847 L. HUNT *Jar Honey* x. (1848) 132 Religious processions move through the streets.

d. *transf.* Of time, a narrative, a piece of work, etc.: To advance, make progress. Also in *Music*, of a voice or part: To proceed from note to note.

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 7167 By two monethes were myldly mouit to end. 1694 PRIOR *Hymn to Sun* ii, From the Blessings They bestow, Our Times are dated, and our Æra's move. 1712 HEARNE *Collect.* (O.H.S.) III. 426 The 9th Vol. (which will be the last) moves apace. 1771 *Encycl. Brit.* III. 333/2 The part for the organ should move in long notes, and by the least intervals. 1819 KEATS *Isabella* xx, Then the tale Shall move on soberly. 1842 TENNYSON *Locksley Hall* 134 Science moves, but slowly slowly, creeping on from point to point. 1877 STAINER *Harmony* vi. § 73 Oblique [motion is] when one part is stationary and another moves. 1890 *Spectator* 31 May 765 The story moves far too slowly, and the long conversations .. are tiresome. 1902 T. M. LINDSAY *Ch. & Min. in Early Cent.* iv. 149 Things move fast in young communities organising themselves for the first time.

e. *Chess, Draughts*, etc. (*a*) Of a piece: To be transferred, pass, from one position to another in the course of the game (= 1 b *refl.*); (*b*) Of a player: To make a move (= 1 b *absol.*).

1474 CAXTON *Chesse* IV. ii. 165 Therefore may the kynge meue on the lifte side of his propre poynt. 1734 R. SEYMOUR *Compl. Gamester* (ed. 5) 1. 128 The Gamesters must move by Turns, as they do at Draughts. 1800 J. STURGES *Draughts* 2 You are allowed five minutes more to move, and in default of moving in that time you lose the Game. 1876 W. N. POTTER in *Encycl. Brit.* V. 593/1 They [*sc.* knights] move from one corner of any rectangle of three squares by two to the opposite corner. 1884 TENNYSON *Becket* Prol., Check—you move so wildly.

f. To depart, start off; = to move off or away. Now *colloq.*

c 1450 *Merlin* 130 Than they graunted to the Messagers that thei sholde meve the thirde day. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* IV. 648 Thar twa dayis our thar lugyng still thai maid; On the thrid nycht thai mowit but mar abaid. 1756 TOLDERVY *Hist. 2 Orphans* II. 116 As I shall lay with a friend two miles off, 'tis high time to be moving. 1855 HALIBURTON *Nat. & Hum. Nat.* I. xii. 376 As soon as the ceremony was over, 'Now,' sais I, 'we must be a movin'.

g. To change one's abode; to go from one house or residence to another. Also *to move about*, etc., to keep changing one's abode. *To move in*, to take possession of a new domicile.

a 1707 BP. PATRICK *Autobiog.* (1839) 244 He was afterwards the occasion of his leaving the College, and moving towards London. 1751 EARL CHATHAM *Lett. Nephew* ii. 5, I have been moving about from place to place. 1796 LAMB *Let. to Coleridge* 2 Dec., Write to me when you move, lest I should direct wrong. 1887 A. BIRRELL *Obiter Dicta* Ser. II. 63 In 1715 Pope moved with his parents to Chiswick. 1891 N. GOULD *Double Event* 18 You shall have the place Thurton had..and you can move into his cottage as soon as you please.

h. *To move off*: to die. *colloq.* (Cf. *go off.*)

1764 FOOTE *Mayor of G.* I. (1783) 11 Whether from the fall or the fright, the Major mov'd off in a month.

i. *Move on*: the order given by a policeman to a pedestrian who is standing too long in one place so as to cause obstruction. Hence occas. *trans.* = to order to 'move on'.

1831 *Blackw. Mag.* Jan. 83/2 He possesses the power..of ordering them to 'move on'. 1855 THACKERAY *Newcomes* lviii, In vain policemen told them to move on; fresh groups gathered after the seceders. 1894 *Times* (weekly ed.) 19 Jan. 56/2 The proceedings were..abruptly closed by the intervention of the police, who 'moved on' the preacher.

j. Of merchandise: To change hands, circulate, find buyers. Also, of a stock of goods, an edition or impression of a book, *To move off*: to be in course of being sold off (more or less rapidly).

1759 GOLDSM. *Pres. St. Polite Learn.* vi. Wks. (Globe) 432/2 To borrow a bookseller's phrase, the whole impression moves off. 1876 BREWER *Eng. Studies* ii. (1881) 50 A second or third edition moves off languidly enough. 1888 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* Apr. 52 The new crop does not begin to move to any considerable extent before the middle of that month. 1893 E. W. GOSSE *Questions at Issue* 60 Both of them achieved fame .. long before their books began to 'move', as publishers call it.

17. Of living beings: To change position or posture, to exhibit motion or physical activity (in respect of the whole body or of a member). Freq. with negative = to remain still, not to stir.

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 13330 Meue nought, for oughte þat may bytide, Til þat y come, when y se nede. *a* 1400 *Prymer* (1891) 25 (*Benedicite*) Alle that meuith in wateres. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* VIII. xxxii. 321 But at that tyme there was not one wold meue for his wordes. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* V. viii. 32 Entellus standis stif and grave of cors, Nocht moiffand fra his first stand in a fors. 1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* II. i. 15 He heareth not, he stirreth not, he moueth not. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) VIII. 191 The animal..has been cut in every division, yet still it continued to move. 1865 TENNYSON *Princess* VI. (*Song*), Yet she neither spoke nor moved. 1898 G. B. SHAW *Plays* II. *You never can tell* 297 He moves as if to go.

b. of a part of the body.

1535 COVERDALE 1 *Sam.* i. 13 Hir lippes onely moued, but hir voyce was not herde. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* III. ii. 116 Moue these eies? 1717 PRIOR *Alma* I. 312 Both Legs and

Arms spontaneous move. 1898 Henley *Lond. Types, Guardsman,* Nor would his lips Move, though his gorge with throttled oaths were charred!

c. To dance. Also with cognate object. Now *rare.*

1594 Marlowe & Nashe *Dido* III. D 4 b, What more then delian musicke doe I heare, That calles my soule..To moue vnto the measures of delight. 1667 Milton *P. L.* III. 579 As they move Thir Starry dance in numbers that compute Days, months, and years. 1785 G. A. Bellamy *Apology,* etc. VI. 23, I beheld a lady moving a minuet with infinite grace.

d. To bow in salutation.

1594 *1st Pt. Contention* (1843) 33 He will neither move nor speak to us. 1852 Dickens *Bleak Ho.* xxix, I have the pleasure of being acquainted with Mr. Tulkinghorn—at least we move when we meet one another.

† e. Of speech: To be uttered. *Obs.*

c 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 1166 Thair wes na word muuand, Sa war thai all stil.

18. Of inanimate objects: To suffer change of position or posture (as a whole or in respect of the parts); to be stirred.

c 1400 Maundev. (1839) iv. 22 Men may see þere the erthe of the tombe apertly many tymes steren and meuen, as þere weren quykke thinges vnder. *c* 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 3108 Hurre thouȝt he say þe clothe þat honged vpone hurre tombe þere þo Meue oſte and store wondere fast. 1535 Coverdale *Jer.* x. 4 They hewe downe a tre..: they fasten it with nales and hammers, that it moue not. 1676 J. Beaumont in *Phil. Trans.* XI. 731 The Stones, I have given you an account of, generally move in Vinegar. 1842 Tennyson *Sir Galahad* 77 Then move the trees, the copses nod. 1890 Clark Russell *Marriage at Sea* ii, I believe there's a little air of wind a-moving.

b. Of a piece of machinery: To turn, work, revolve. Also *fig.*

a 1400–50 *Alexander* 5292 Þis selere was be sorsry selcuthely foundid, Made for a mervall to meeue with engine. 1669 Sturmy *Mariner's Mag.* II. vi. 67 This Instrument contains two Parts..moving one upon the other. 1726 Swift *Gulliver* II. viii, The Door did not move on Hinges, but up and down like a Sash. 1798 Joanna Baillie *Tryal* II. ii, I thought I heard a door move.

19. Of animate beings: To exist, live; 'to have vital action' (J.). Also, to live *in* a particular sphere; to comport oneself in a specified way.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 303 Alle-kynez flesch þat on vrthe meuez. *c* 1430 Lydg. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 243 For rihte as Ver ay moveth in grennesse, So doth childhood in amerows lustynesse. *a* 1713 Ellwood *Autobiog.* (1765) I My Station not being so eminent..as others who have moved in higher Orbs. 1837 Disraeli *Venetia* II. ii, With no aspirations beyond the little world in which she moved. 1847 Tennyson *Princess* I. 75, I have a sister at the foreign court, Who moves about the Princess. 1886 Ruskin *Præterita* I. v. 170 A man of great power..moving in the first Circles of Edinburgh.

b. *transf.* or *fig.* of things.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 64 My goste is gon in godez grace, In auenture þer mernayiez meuen. 1865 Gladstone in Morley *Life* (1903) II. v. ix. 148 In a cold and lukewarm period, and such is this in public affairs, everything which moves and lives is called extreme. 1874 H. R. Reynolds *John Bapt.* i. § 3. 20 If the narrative..moved completely in the region of the natural.

20. To take action, act, proceed (*in* an affair). Also with cognate obj. (fig.) *to move a step.* † *To move against,* to oppose (cf. OF. *mouvoir contre*).

c 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* III. 407 Bot ȝitte ageyns þis sentence meeſes Anticrist. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 2382 (Ashm. MS.) And for Strasagirs þe strang he of his strenth priued, ȝe meue al þus malicoly his maieste a-gayne. 1709 Steele *Tatler* No. 67 ₱ 5 Sacred Persons move upon greater Motives than that of Fame. 1720 Ozell *Vertot's Rom. Rep.* I. v. 300 Valerius and Horatius, declared they wou'd not move a Step, so long as [etc.]. 1791 Cowper *Retired Cat* 114 That all around, in all that's done, Must move and act for him alone. 1879 Lubbock *Addr. Pol. & Educ.* iii. 69, I would urge parents to move in the matter.

† **21.** Of a war, strife, etc.: To break out, be stirred up. (Cf. sense 8.) *Obs.*

c 1470 Henry *Wallace* VIII. 551 We sall do nocht, less than it mowe in yow. 1485 Caxton *Paris & V.* 10 There moeved a strife betwyxte the barons and knyghtes. 1523 Ld. Berners *Froiss.* I. iv. *heading,* The occasion wherby the warre moued bitwene the kyngis of Fraunce and Ingland. 1562 A. Scott *Poems* (S.T.S.) i. 44 Be bissie now to banisch all debatis Betuix kirkmen and temporall men dois muſe.

† **22.** *To move to mind* = to come to mind (in quot. *impers.*). *To move of* or *out of mind,* to be forgotten. *Obs.*

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* Prol. 30 Þof fele yeres ben faren syn þe fight endid, And it meuyt out of mynd, myn hit I thinke. *Ibid.* 1691 Then meuyt to his mynde, as yt most nede, þat his Cite was sure of hym selfe wroght. *Ibid.* 2340 Hit is not meuyt of mynde ne mony day past. *c* 1460 *Play Sacram.* 453 Now by Machomyth so myghty yt meuyth in my mode tbys ys masterly ment.

† **23.** To proceed, emanate, originate *from. Obs.*

1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 322 The will which of my bodi moeveth, Whos werkes that the god reproeveth, I have restreigned everemore. 1615 Sir R. Cotton in *Buccleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 163 The King..could not with his greatness answer the proposition, moving only but from Count de Somerset and Cavillero Cotton. 1676 Dryden *State Innoc.* IV. i, Smiles, not allow'd to Beasts, from Reason move.

† **24.** *To move of, by*: Of property: To be held by, to belong or pertain to. *Obs.*

Cf. OF. *movoir (de)* 'relever, dépendre, en terme de féodalité' (Godefroy).

1438 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 111 That the saide Iohn Russell haue & reioyce for euer more all the lyuelode that meueth of his moder after her deces. 1587 Harrison *England* II. ix. (1877) I. 203 The husband that marieth an heire to haue such lands as mone by hir during his naturall life.

† **25.** To incline, tend *to* or *to do* (something); to incline *toward* (a proposal). *Obs.*

c 1384 Chaucer *H. Fame* II. 227 Vnto whiche place euery thynge Thorgh his kyndely enclynynge Moveth for to come to Whan that hyt is awey therfro. *c* 1450 Holland *Howlat* 396 Furth on my matir to muse I muſe as I may. 1573 Tusser *Husb.* (1878) 184 Ill huswiferie mooueth with gossep to spend. 1677 Maavell *Corr.* cccviii. Wks. (Grosart) II. 551 Some of the House seemed to move toward the 600,000*l.*

† **26.** Of the passions, etc.: To be stirred or excited (*to*). *Obs.*

1483 Caxton *Gold. Leg.* 37 b, Their flesshe began to meue and stire to concupiscence. *c* 1586 C'tess Pembroke *Ps.* LXXVIII. ix, The raked sparkes in flame began t' appeare, And staied choller fresh again to move.

† **27.** To speak, treat, or argue *of* (a matter). (Cf. 12 b and OF. *movoir de.*) Also in indirect passive.

c 1320 *Cast. Love* 401 (Halliw.) This thralle of whom my sustren mevyn Hath dome deserved, as ȝe ȝevyn. 1387–8 T. Usk *Test. Love* III. v. (*ad fin.*), And this, me thinketh, shulde be the wexing tree, of which ye first meved. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 7206 Of þat mater was meuit no more at þat tyme. 1423 Jas. I *Kingis Q.* clxxvii, Moving within my spirit of this sight. 1509 Hawes *Past. Pleas.* xxix. (Percy Soc.) 138, I durst never of the matter meve Unto your person, lest it should you greve. *Ibid.* 139 It should be meved To her of love.

28. *To move for*: to make a request, proposal, or application for (something). (*absol.* from 12 b, 13.)

1638 H. Spelman in *Lett. Lit. Men* (Camden) 154, I gave my Lord of Eely thanks in your behalfe, and moved also for the continuance of his favour about the Lyving you ayme at. 1700 S. L. tr. *Fryke's Voy. E. Ind.* 111 My business now was to have leave my self, which indeed I had moved for at a distance before. *a* 1707 Bp. Patrick *Autobiog.* (1839) 44 All my acquaintance..advised me to move for a mandamus in the King's bench. *Ibid.* 76, I moved for a physician to be sent to her from Oxford. 1800 *Proc. E. Ind. Ho.* in *Asiat. Ann. Reg.* 64/1 The Chairman said it was customary, when papers were moved for, that the sense of the court should be taken on the motion before they were produced. 1828 *Hansard's Parl. Debates* 5 May XIX. 345 The Duke of Richmond said, that in rising to move for a Committee to inquire into the state of the Wool-trade, he [etc.]. 1868 Helps *Realmah* ix. (1876) 244 Cranmer was prepared to move for the destruction of all fables.

Moveable: see Movable.

† **Mo·ve-all.** *Obs.* [f. Move *v.* + All.] Some indoor game.

1782 Miss Burney *Cecilia* I. ii, Come, Morrice, you that love Christmas sports, what say you to the game of move-all?

Moved (mūvd), *ppl. a.* [f. Move *v.* + -ed[1].] In senses of the verb. In attributive use now rare exc. with prefixed adv., as *easily-moved.*

1592 Shaks. *Rom. & Jul.* I. i. 95 Hear the Sentence of your moued Prince. 1610 — *Temp.* IV. i. 146 You doe looke (my son) in a mou'd sort, As if you were dismaid. 1644 Digby *Nat. Bodies* ix. § 7. 69 More then these three, we can not expect to find in a moued body. 1704 Hearne *Duct. Hist.* (1714) I. 129 Thucydides is the best Representer of mov'd affections, Herodotus of Calm. 1838 tr. *Strauss's Lutheran Clergyman* i. 23 Many a sigh follows you from the moved breast. 1900 *Daily News* 12 May 3/1 Loud cries ..from the more easily-moved members of the audience.

† **2.** quasi-*sb.* Something moved. *Obs. rare*—[1].

1721 Wollaston *Relig. Nat.* v. 65 Z, Y, X are *moveds,* or rather Z more Y more X, taken together, are *one moved*: ..without W there would be a *moved* without a *mover.*

Moveless (mū·vlės), *a.* [f. Move *v.* + -less.] Having no movement or motion, not moving, motionless; immovable, fixed.

1578 T. Proctor *Gorg. Gallery* H ij b, Whose moueles loue and trust, doth reason far surmount. 1598 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. ii. 1. *Ark* 169, I conceiue aright Th' Almightymost to be most infinite:.. That moueless, all he moues. 1665 Boyle *Occas. Refl.* IV. i. (1848) 167 My Body as yet lay moveless in the Bed. 1718 Pope *Iliad* XV. 744 The Grecian Phalanx moveless as a Tow'r, On all sides batter'd, yet resists his Pow'r. 1836–7 Sir W. Hamilton *Metaph.* xviii. (1870) 353 The intermediate balls which remain moveless, but communicate the impulse. 1860 S. Brooks *Gordian Knot* xiii. 95 The policeman inspected all parties with a moveless countenance. 1885 Howells *Silas Lapham* II. 93 The reins lay loose in his moveless hand.

Hence **Mo·velessly** *adv.*, **Mo·velessness.**

1667 Hook in *Phil. Trans.* II. 540 It was not the subsiding or movelesness of the Lungs, that was the immediate cause of Death. 1813 Shelley *Q. Mab* VII. 262 Yet peacefully and movelessly it [an oak] braves The midnight conflict of the wintry storm. 1865 Ruskin *Sesame* 121 A kings's majesty or 'state', then, and the right of his kingdom to be called a state, depends on the movelessness of both. 1866 Alex. Smith *A. Hagart's Househ.* I. 7 He would be touched by the silence and movelessness of the mighty landscape.

Movement (mū·vmėnt). Forms: 4 moevement, 5 mouvement, 5– movement. [a. OF. *movement, moevement* (mod.F. *mouvement*), ad. med.L. *movimentum,* f. L. *movēre*: see Move *v.* and -ment. Cf. Pr. *movemen-s,* Catalan *moviment,* Sp. *movimiento,* Pg., It. *movimento.*

Somewhat rare between the 14th and the 18th c.; not found, e. g., in Shaks., Milton's poetry, or the Bible of 1611.]

1. The action or process of moving (in the intransitive senses of the verb); change of position; passage from place to place, or from one situation to another. Also, an instance or kind of this; a particular act or manner of moving.

c 1374 Chaucer *Boeth.* IV. Pr. ii. 89 (Camb. MS.) Thow nylt nat thanne denoye quod she þat the Moeuement [*v.r.* moeuementz] of goynge nis in Men by kynde. 1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 107 Astronomie is the science..Which makth a man have knowlechinge Of Sterres in the firmament, Figure, cercle and moevement Of ech of hem in sondri place. 1456 Sir G. Haye *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 75 The hevin..moves fra the orient to the occident..Bot the things that ar corporale in this erde..movis nocht with the moving of it,..bot ȝit have thai othir naturale movementis. 1698 Norris *Pract. Disc.* (1707) IV. 238 All the Movement of the Soul here is only to will the Movement of the Body towards these things. 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Movement,* Motion, Moving, particularly in Dancing, &c. 1732 Pope *Ess. Man* I. 54 In human works, tho' labour'd on with pain, A thousand movements scarce one purpose gain. 1832 Tennyson *Pal. Art* 246 A spot of dull stagnation, without light Or power of movement, seem'd my soul. 1849 Balfour *Man. Bot.* § 657 These spores, from their movements, have received the name of Zoospores. 1858 O. W. Holmes *Aut. Breakf.-t.* xi, The schoolmistress stepped back with a sudden movement. 1855 Bain *Senses & Intell.* I. i. 75 In wakening from sleep movement precedes sensation. If light were essential to the movements concerned in vision, it would be impossible to open the eyes. 1868 — *Ment. & Mor. Sci.* III. xiii. 303 The movements, as well as attitudes, of a graceful form, can hardly be other than graceful. 1878 Huxley *Physiogr.* 205 Such movements of the land..must have been brought about by the comparatively sudden action of subterranean forces. 1894 S. Fiske *Holiday Stories* (1900) 30 There was a general movement toward the door. 1903 *Mission. Rec. U. F. Ch. Scot.* Sept. 394/1 There have been considerable movements of population from the Continent to Canada.

b. *Mil.* A change of position which a body undergoes in tactical or strategical evolutions. Also 'the regular and orderly motion of an army for some particular purpose' (Voyle & Stevenson *Milit. Dict.* ed. 3, 1876).

1784 W. Carter (*title*) Genuine Detail of the several Engagements, Positions and Movements of the Royal and American Armies during the years 1775 and 1776. 1802 C. James *Milit. Dict.* s.v., Hurry and delay, in military movements, are two extremes which should be equally avoided. 1827 Southey *Hist. Penins. War* II. 401 But the march of Mortier with some 15,000 men from Aragon to their assistance had been ascertained, and it was certain therefore that a movement might be apprehended from that quarter. 1889 *Infantry Drill* III. 89 The double march is not applied to the movements of large bodies of troops for a longer distance than is required in a charge, or [etc.].

† c. *Chess.* A move. *Obs.*

1734 R. Seymour *Compl. Gamester* (ed. 5) I. 128 The Queen ..may pass from one end of the Board to the other at one Movement. *Ibid.* 131 After some Movements, you will find it impossible to proceed without exposing your Men or Officers.

d. Chiefly *pl.*: Actions, activities, 'doings' of a person or body of persons.

1833 Chalmers in Hanna *Mem.* (1851) III. 388 He was one of the five who called the night before, and arranged for us then part of the movements of this day. 1861 M. Pattison *Ess.* (1889) I. 34 The close attention which was paid in England to every step and movement of the new emperor. *Mod.* They eyed his movements with keen interest. The police watched the movements of the mob.

† **2.** Used for *moment. Obs.*

1490 Caxton *Eneydos* xxi. 76 That man..that..hath vttered his secretes vnto the entierly, so that thou knowest..the places, the houres & mouementes, and the oportunyte of the tyme moost propyce for to speke wyth hym.

3. *concr.* a. A cause of movement. *Obs. rare*—[1].

1725 N. Robinson *Th. Physick* 25, I shall take it as a Postulatum granted, *viz.* That the Heart is the principal Movement in human Bodies.

b. *Mech.* (*a*) *sing.* and *pl.* The moving (as distinguished from the stationary) parts of a mechanism, e. g. of a watch or clock; (*b*) a particular part or group of parts in a mechanism serving some special purpose.

1678 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1296/4 A Watch, with two silver Cases belonging to it, the Moodment [*sic*] being ungilt. 1684 Wheeler in *Phil. Trans.* XIV. 648 This hoop and the 2 Plates form the Case of the Movement. 1704 J. Harris *Lex. Techn.* I, *Movement*..signifies all those Parts of a Watch, Clock, or any such curious Engine which are in motion. 1710 Berkeley *Princ. Hum. Knowl.* I. § 60 The spring and wheels, and every movement of a watch. 1776 Adam Smith *W. N.* i. xi, A better movement of a watch, than about the middle of the last century could have been bought for twenty pounds, may now perhaps be had for twenty shillings. 1825 J. Crosse *York Festival* 137 There are movements likewise for enabling the performer to play two or three sets of keys at once [on the organ]. 1860 Emerson *Cond. Life* v. Wks. (Bohn) II. 383 Men are like Geneva watches with crystal faces which expose the whole movement. 1880 E. J. Hopkins in Grove *Dict. Mus.* II. 607/2 A second substitute for the long tracker movements, etc., in large or separated organs, is the 'pneumatic tubular transmission system'. 1884 F. J. Britten *Watch & Clockm.* 179 The plates and train of a watch without the escapement are also spoken of as the movement.

4. In certain figurative and immaterial applications. a. A 'moving' (of the mind) towards or from some object; an impulse of desire or aversion, an act of volition. Now *rare.* † *Of* (one's) *proper movement* = of one's own motion.

1456 Sir G. Haye *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 26 He came nocht to his presence of his proper mouvement. *Ibid.* 141 Tobe renounced a worthy man of armes..was his principale movement. 1732 Pope *Ess. Man* II. 36 Could he, whose rules the rapid Comet bind, Describe or fix one movement of his Mind? 1752 Hume *Ess. & Treat.* (1777) I. 88 He has forgotten the movements of his heart. 1768 Sterne *Sent. Journ., Snuff-box* I. 57, I blush'd in my turn; but from what movements I leave to the few who feel to analyse. 1813 Shelley *Q. Mab* II. 50 The light and crimson mists..Yielded to every movement of the will. 1852 Thackeray *Shabby Genteel Story* ix, Brandon had some good movements in him. 1868 Bain *Ment. & Mor. Sci.* I. iv. 80 The movements of the will are select and pointed to an end.

b. *Philos.* The regular process or course of thought in reasoning.

1869 *Jrnl. Specul. Philos.* III. 363 *note*, The movement (or dialectic) of the syllogism consists in mediating each term so that in the higher forms each (term) becomes a complete realization of the Comprehension (or Totality).

c. In a poem or narrative: Progress of incidents, development of plot; the quality of having abundance of incident, or of carrying on the interest of the reader.

1838 PRESCOTT *Ferd. & Is.* I. xx. II. 324 The dialogue is written with much vivacity and grace, and with as much dramatic movement as is compatible with only two interlocutors. 1878–83 VILLARI *Life & Times Machiavelli* (1898) I. ix. 410 He wrote Latin verses full of movement and fervour.

d. *Fine Art.* In a work of painting or sculpture, the quality of suggesting that the figures represented are moving. Also, in *Arch.*, harmonious variety in the lines and ornamentation of a building; freedom alike from monotony and incongruity.

1773–8 R. & J. ADAM *Wks. in Archit.* Pref. 3 *note*, 'Movement'; meant to express, the rise and fall, the advance and recess with other diversity of form, in the different parts of a building, so as to add greatly to the picturesque of the composition. *c* 1782 *Exhibition, or second Anticipation* 35 They are nobly negligent of the constituent parts, and trust for the effect to the movement. 1867 A. BARRY *Sir C. Barry* iv. 126 Repose, rather than what artists call 'movement', was the characteristic of his designs.

5. a. *Music.* (*a*) The manner in which a piece or a passage 'moves': variously applied to manner of melodic progression, 'tempo' or relative speed of performance, and rhythm or accentual character. (*b*) quasi-*concr.* A principal division of a musical work, having a distinctive melodic and rhythmical structure of its own.

1771 *Encycl. Brit.* III. 326/1 The most common movement of jiggs, which is by six or twelve quavers in a bar, have their bass, for the smoothness of the movement, often written in plain crotchets. 1776 BURNEY *Hist. Mus.* (1789) I. iv. 56 The beginning or first movement of the piece he mentions was in *A*. 1818 BUSBY *Gram. Mus.* 476 If the piece be intended for an overture to a three-act opera..or a grand sonata, it ought not to consist of fewer than three movements. 1823 CRABB *Technol. Dict.*, *Movement* (*Mus.*), the progress or course of sounds from grave to acute, or from acute to grave. 1846 KEBLE *Lyra Innoc.* (1873) 204 Some heart-thrilling chime, Some Dorian movement, bold or grave.

transf. 1822 *Blackw. Mag.* XII. 28 She is led up from hall to hall of the high-piled edifice, in one continued movement, may we call it, of the poem.

b. *Prosody.* Rhythmical or accentual character; in classical prosody often applied to the manner in which what is theoretically the same metre may be differentiated by variety of treatment.

1871 B. TAYLOR *Faust* I. 274 The movement of the original is as important as its meaning. Shelley's translation of the stanza's, however, is preferable to Hayward's. 1871 *Public Sch. Lat. Gram.* 468 Propertius..in his later [poems]..approaches much nearer to the Ovidian movement. 1887 BOWEN *Virg.* Pref. (1889) 9 The orderly and majestic movement of the Roman hexameter.

6. A course or series of actions and endeavours on the part of a body of persons, moving or tending more or less continuously towards some special end. Often with defining word prefixed, as in *the Oxford movement* (see OXFORD).

1828 D'ISRAELI *Chas. I*, I. viii. 250 A long line of secret communication made him the centre of every political movement. 1856 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* (1858) II. vii. 137 The Reformation was essentially a Teutonic movement. 1885 *Pall Mall G.* 1 Dec. 4/1 Oxford is the home they say of movements, and Cambridge of men. 1903 C. E. OSBORNE *Fr. Dolling* xxii, The main aims and principles of the Catholic Movement in the Anglican Church.

b. *In the movement*: 'in the swim', (moving or taking part) in the direction or tendency of things which is prevalent at a particular period or in a particular field.

1907 *Q. Rev.* July 160 To make life vivid: to be 'in the movement', this was his [*sc.* Disraeli's] desire.

c. The way in which 'things' are moving at a particular time or in a particular sphere.

1846 J. D. MORELL *View Specul. Philos.* I. 152 By so doing, he [*sc.* Descartes] has unquestionably merited the reputation of standing at the head of the whole modern movement of metaphysical philosophy. 1861 BUCKLE *Civiliz.* II. vi. 587 Read by..thousands..who accept its conclusions because they like them; which is merely saying, because the movement of the age tends that way. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* viii. § 1. 449 It was long before the religious movement.. came into conflict with general culture.

7. [After F. *le parti du mouvement.*] Applied, in the first half of the 19th c., to designate the aims of the 'liberal' or innovating parties in European politics. Chiefly *attrib.*, as in *movement party*.

1835 DE QUINCEY *Wks.* (1863) XV. 213 The new doctrines of Radical Reformers, and of that section amongst political men denominated the Movement party. 1835 *Court Mag.* VI. 116/2 If the movement party retains its ascendency. 1838 MILL *A. de Vigny* Diss. & Disc. (1859) I. 291 The sympathies of the Radical or Movement poet will take the opposite direction. 1842 T. ARNOLD *Lect. Mod. Hist.* v. 246 The popular side in the great questions of English history, the side, in later language, of the movement.

8. *Comm.* Activity in the market for some commodity. Also, a rise or fall in price.

1886 *Rep. Sec. Treas.* I. 58 (Cent.) The total movement of bonds held for national banks was $87,967,300. 1890 *Century Dict.* s.v., The movement in coffee is insignificant. 1895 *Funk's Stand. Dict.* s.v., An upward movement in stocks.

9. = MOTION *sb.* 11.

1891 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Movement*,..the act of evacuating the bowels; as well as the matter resulting therefrom.

10. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, (sense 3 b) as *movement-maker*, (sense 6) as *movement party*; movement cure = *kinesipathy*: see KINESI-.

1856 M. ROTH (*title*) The *Movement Cure. 1736 AINSWORTH *Lat. Dict.*, A *movement maker, *Internarum horologii portatilis partium faber*. 1884 F. J. BRITTEN *Watch & Clockm.* 82 What movement-makers call a bay-leaf pinion.

† **Mo·ven**, *a. Obs.* [irreg. pa. pple. of MOVE *v.*; cf. *proven.*] Motioned; proposed; brought forward.

1641 PRYNNE *Antip.* 78 They..agreed to offer the King a great summe of mony, to stay this new moven Demand.

† **Mo·vent**, *a.* and *sb. Obs.* [ad. L. *movent-em*, pres. pple. of *movēre* to MOVE.] **A.** *adj.* That moves or is moved; moving.

1644 DIGBY *Nat. Bodies* ix. § 11. 73 The force of the velocity is equall to a reciprocall force of weight in the vertue mouent. 1665 HOOKE *Microgr.* 197 The smooth wing'd Insects have the strongest muscles or movent parts of their wings. *a* 1734 NORTH *Life Ld. Kpr. Guilford* (1742) 292 Whoever observes them, even in their most quiet State, shall discern their Fins more or less movent and employ'd.

b. *Law.* (See quot.)

1837 T. D. HARDY *Rot. Chart.* Pref. 23 Comprised in the premisses of a charter, and generally following the salutation, occurs the Movent Clause, which is here so called because it states the reasons moving the king to make the grant.

B. *sb.* Something that moves or is moved.

1656 tr. *Hobbes' Elem. Philos.* (1839) 212, I define force to be the impetus or quickness of motion multiplied either into itself, or into the magnitude of the movent, by means whereof the said movent works more or less upon the body that resists it. 1665 G. HARVEY *Advice agst. Plague* 1 Physicians can never discharge their Duty with greater Applause than by contributing their aid to popular Diseases, which at this season is the prime movent of these Meditations. 1706 in PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey).

Mover[1] (mū·vəɹ). Also 4 moevere, 4–5 mever, 6 meever, *Sc.* movar, 6–7 moover. [f. MOVE *v.* + -ER[1]; cf. OF. *mo(u)veor, mo(u)veur.*]

1. One who moves or sets in motion. Applied *esp.* to God, as moving the universe; also *First Mover* (cf. 2 a).

c 1384 CHAUCER *H. Fame* I. 81 He that mouer ys of alle. *c* 1386 — *Kn.'s T.* 2129 The firste moeuere of the cause aboue. 1593 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. VI*, III. iii. 19 Oh thou eternall mouer of the heauens. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VII. 500 Now Heav'n..rowld Her motions, as the great first-Movers hand First wheeld thir course. 1772 PRIESTLEY *Inst. Relig.* (1782) I. 10 How could these atoms move without a mover. 1817 J. SCOTT *Paris Revisit.* (ed. 4) 120 The whole dreadful machine [*sc.* the army] was now in motion,—..the eye of the mover superintending and understanding all. 1879 DORA L. SHEPHERD *Liturg. Year* I. iii. 11 The soul yields herself up..to the impulse of the divine Mover.

2. Something which sets in motion or actuates.

a. *First mover*, in mediæval astronomy = *first motor*, PRIMUM MOBILE. Also *fig.*

1586 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* I. (1594) 72 From the tower of the highest heaven, called the first moover, unto the center of the earth. 1617 BACON *Sp. in Star-Chamber* Resusc. (1657) 87 Do therefore, as they [*sc.* the planets] do; Move alwayes and be carried, with the Motion of your first Mover, which is your Soveraign. 1676 DRYDEN *State Innoc.* IV. i, So Orbs, from the first Mover, Motion take.

b. A machine or mechanical agency which imparts motion. *First* or *prime mover*: an initial source, natural or mechanical, of motive power; *spec.* a machine which receives and modifies motive power supplied by some natural source.

1654 J. OWEN *Doctr. Saints Persev.* v. § 5. 113 In your Automata, there is one originall spring or wheele, that giveth motion to sundry lesser and subordinate movers. 1711 W. SUTHERLAND *Shipbuild. Assist.* 108 The Main-mast is the first Mover. 1809 *Edin. Rev.* XV. 146 Suppose a delicate magnetic bar were made the prime-mover of a watch. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* I. 402 When a fly is used merely as a regulator, it should be near the first mover. 1845 *Encycl. Metrop.* VIII. 88/1 Of water as a first mover. 1859 RANKINE (*title*) A manual of the Steam engine and other Prime movers. *Ibid.* 13 Prime Movers..are machines for driving other machines. 1869 *Eng. Mech.* 31 Dec. 378/1 Until recently (and even now for convenience) such machines as windmills, water-wheels, and steam-engines, were called 'prime movers'. 1870 YEATS *Nat. Hist. Comm.* 30 Previous to the employment of steam as a motive force, water was the prime mover. 1884 HIGGS *Mag. Dyn.-Electr. Mach.* Pref. 6 Steam and other prime movers.

fig. 1788 JEFFERSON *Writ.* 1859 II. 471 The treasury became literally moneyless and all purposes depending on this mover, came to a stand.

† c. A cause (*of*). *Obs.*

1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* I. v. 9 These most poysonous compounds, Which are the mouers of a languishing death.

3. One who incites or instigates to action; one who promotes or originates (an action, etc.). Sometimes *first* or *prime mover* (cf. 2 a, b).

1497 BP. ALCOCK *Mons Perfect.* A iij, The pryncipal & fyrst meuer to vertue in our soules. 1513 MORE in Grafton *Chron.* (1568) II. 776 The Duke was the first mooуer of the Protector to thys matter. 1578 *Reg. Privy Council Scotl.* III. 20 The movaris of his majestie to attempt the same governament..hes sensyne..dissobeyit his majesteis chairgis. 1674 *Essex Papers* (1890) I. 191 Four or five men..have made it their whole business..to incite the Citizens to these disturbances..which prime movers are men of small Estates. 1704 DE FOE in *15th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. IV. 83 Providence, which I humbly recognize as the first mover of your thoughts in my favour. 1711 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 22 Apr., They will want him prodigiously in the House of Commons, of which he is the great mover. 1838 THIRLWALL *Greece* IV. xxvii. 17 The chief movers of the rebellion made their escape. 1826 DISRAELI *Viv. Grey* III. i, Who is the mover of the party? 1867 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1877) I. iv. 197 The prime mover in the whole matter was Hugh the Great.

b. *spec.* One who moves a proposition or proposal in a deliberative assembly.

1737 *Gentl. Mag.* VII. 525/1 Therefore we must suppose, that without any Regard to the Mover, the Parliament approved of the Motion. 1795 WINDHAM *Speeches Parl.* 27 May (1812) I. 268 The house had now heard the reasons urged by the Honourable Mover and Seconder, in support of a motion so extraordinary. 1876 BANCROFT *Hist. U. S.* V. lxix. 317 In the absence of the mover of the resolution, the eyes of everyone turned towards its seconder, John Adams.

4. A person or thing that moves or is in motion. Now chiefly of an animal, with prefixed adj. indicating the manner or speed of his motion or 'going'.

1592 SHAKS. *Ven. & Ad.* 368 O fairest mouer on this mortall round. 1597 J. S. *Guistard & Sismond* II. C 3, O slow malicious meeuer, thou cursed Saturne. 1736 BUTLER *Anal.* I. i. 22 Nor is there any Ground to think..that his Eyes are the Seers or his Feet the Movers. 1895 J. G. MILLAIS *Breath fr. Veldt* (1899) 157 Though elegant in form, this buck is but a poor mover.

5. *U.S.* One who is 'on the move' or flitting from one place to another. ? *Obs.*

1822 J. FLINT *Lett. Amer.* 53 The other tavern was so completely thronged with movers, that [etc.]. 1849 LYELL *2nd Visit U. S.* (1850) II. 109 On board were many 'movers' going to Texas with their slaves.

6. A remover; one whose business it is to move furniture and other household goods, from one residence to another. ? *U.S.* 1890 in *Century Dict.*

7. *Chess.* With prefixed numeral, denoting a problem in which the king is to be mated in a specified number of moves.

[*Two-*, *three-mover*, etc., are properly distinct words, f. numeral + MOVE *sb.* + -ER[1].]

1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 14 Apr. 3/3 A three-mover by Loyd which we consider a remarkable composition.

† **Mover**[2]. *Obs.* In *office of mover* = AMOBRESHIP, MOBARSHIP.

1473 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 86/1 Th' office of mover within Dynbiegh Land in Wales.

[**Mo·veress.** A female mover.

Introduced by modern editors into the text of Chaucer *Rom. Rose* 149, where Thynne and the MS. have *mynoresse*. Although Méon's edition of the French original has *moverresse*, other texts have *meneresse*, which is doubtless the reading that Chaucer had before him. There is therefore no ground for altering Thynne's text.]

† **Mo·vership.** *nonce-wd. Obs.* [f. MOVER[1] + -SHIP.] *First movership*: the office of a 'first mover'.

1658 BRAMHALL *Schism guarded* I. xii. Wks. (1677) 351 He urgeth that I ascribe no more to St. Peter and the Pope for their first Movership, but onely authority to sit first in Council or some such things.

Moving (mū·vin), *vbl. sb.* Forms: see MOVE *v.*, also 6 *Sc.* muyn. [f. MOVE *v.* + -ING[1].]

1. The action of the verb MOVE (in trans. and intr. uses); changing of place or position; stirring, motion, movement.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* II. 406 þes foure wyndis þat Crist spekiþ of moun be foure mevingis of þe eir. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* IX. i. (1495) 345 There ben syxe manere meuynges, that ben callyd generacion, corrupcion, alteracion, augmentacyon, dimynucion and chaungynge of place. 1427 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* (1905) 67 Payd for certeyne pavynge & mevynge of pewes in the cherche..vij s. ix d. 1570 BILLINGSLEY *Euclid* I. def. ii. 2 A lyne is the mouyng of a pointe. 1610 BARROUGH *Meth. Physick* I. xxix. (1639) 48 Tremor..is a disease which is accompanied with two sundry movings. 1726 LEONI *Alberti's Archit.* II. 12/2 These forces..are of great power for the moving of any weight. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* CXXI, Thou hear'st the village hammer clink, And see'st the moving of the team.

† b. *spec.* The motion of the heavenly bodies.

1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 7609 Of þair moveyng þan have yhe no wonder. *c* 1391 CHAUCER *Astrol.* Prol., The .4. partie shal ben a theorik to declare the Moeuynge of the celestial bodies. 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 12323 The planetys..in ther mevynges. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) I. 87 [He knew the sun's] proper muyn and his mot raptyne. 1591 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. VI*, I. ii. 1 Mars his true mouing. 1594 BLUNDEVIL *Exerc.* III. i. viii. (1636) 285 The ninth heaven is ..without starres, having two movings, the one from East to West upon the Poles of the world.., and the other from West to East upon his owne Poles.

† c. Bodily movement or gesture. *Obs.*

1577 NORTHBROOKE *Dicing* (1843) 92 Those filthie and vnhonest gestures and mouings of enterlude players. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* II. ii. 317 What a piece of worke is a man!.. in forme and moving how expresse and admirable? 1607 MARKHAM *Caval.* II. (1617) 123 Let him goe and come continuall with easie, soft, and vndisturbing mouings.

† d. Power or faculty of motion. *Obs.*

1499 CAXTON *Eneydos* IV. 29 Lyke a corps..wythoute partycypacion of sensityf moeuynge. 1580 BLUNDEVIL *Order Curing Horses Dis.* XVI. 8 Those conduits througb which the spirites animall do giue feeling, and moouing to the bodie.

† e. *Chess.* A move. *Obs.*

1474 CAXTON *Chesse* IV. VII. (1883) 179 One yssue and one mouynge apperteyneth vnto alle the peple [=pawns]. For they may goo fro the poynt they stande in at the first meuynge vnto the thirde poynt right forth to fore them [etc.].

f. *Moving of the waters*: used after John v. 3 for: A stir or excitement, a change or disturbance in the course of events.

[1388 WYCLIF *John* v. 3 In these lay a greet multitude.. abidynge the mouyng of the watir. (So in all later versions.)]

1900 J. A. H. MURRAY *Evol. Eng. Lexicogr.* 27 But by the end of the sixteenth century, as by the end of the nineteenth, there was a moving of the waters.

† **2.** *fig.* A disturbance or commotion. *Obs.*

c 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 367 They considered..that ther shold come therof, by the occasion of such maner of discencion, not all-only dyuerse mevyngis, but also..harmes and expensis.

3. The action of prompting, instigating, etc.; † an inward prompting or impulse (= MOTION *sb.* 9).

c 1386 CHAUCER *Melib.* ¶ 273 Youre conseil..ne sholde nat ..be called a conseillyng, but a mocion or a moeuyng of folye. *c* 1450 *Mirour Saluacioun* 4265 Oure wille and oure movinges knawes he wele evry whitte. 1502 ATKYNSON tr. *De Imitatione* III. lix. 249 Se thou gyue hede dylygentlye vnto the mouynges of nature & grace. *a* 1716 SOUTH *Serm.* (1744) XI. viii. 190 He also suffers by the movings and yearnings of his own compassion.

4. *Fencing*, etc. (see quot.). ? *Obs.*

1747 J. GOODFREY *Sci. Defence* 31 The going down to the Leg..is done after receiving or moving...Receiving is the stopping our Adversary's Blow first, and then going to his Leg: Moving is going down without receiving, but taking care before you go down, to move his Sword out of the Line. *Ibid.* 32 It is a difficult Matter for him to..guard against your little or no notice-giving Movings and going down.

5. *attrib.*: † **moving-bell** (see quot.); **Moving Day**, (*a*) *U.S.* the first of May, being the usual day in New York for household removals (Schele de Vere *Americanisms*, 1872, p. 92); (*b*) *Mil.* a day on which a regiment or troops are on the march.

?*c* 1760 NOLLEKENS in J. T. Smith *Life* (1828) I. 54 The Moving-bell..goes when they move a body out of one parish to the next. 1897 *Cavalry Tactics* II. 7 It is better to lengthen the marches on the moving days than to omit the rest day.

Moving (mū·vin), *ppl. a.* [f. MOVE *v.* + -ING 2.]

1. That moves (in intransitive senses); that passes from one place to another; capable of moving, or of being moved; not fixed or stationary.

In quot. *c* 1386 *firste moeuyng* may be *absol.* = PRIMUM MOBILE, in apposition with *firmament*.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Man of Law's T.* 197 O firste moeuyng cruel firmament. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) xxviii. 282 Dreadfulle Eyen, that ben evere more mevynge and sparklynge, as Fuyr. 1605 SHAKS. *Mach.* v. v. 38 Within this three Mile you may see it comming, I say, a mouing Groue. 1683 MOXON *Mech. Exerc., Printing* xii. ¶ 6 Extend the moving Foot of your Compasses where it will fall in the Circle, and make there a Mark. 1709–10 *Tatler* No. 129 ¶ 1 The moving Picture in Fleet-Street. 1798 COLERIDGE *Anc. Mar.* IV. x, The moving Moon went up the sky, And nowhere did abide. 1859 FITZGERALD tr. *Omar* li, The Moving Finger writes; and, having writ, Moves on. 1882 MINCHIN *Unipl. Kinemat.* 32 Path of a moving point relatively to a moving plane.

absol. *c* 1391 CHAUCER *Astrol.* I. § 17 This equinoxial is cleped the girdel of the firste moeving. 1594 R. ASHLEY tr. *Loys le Roy* 125 b, They which in times past beheld the heauens, found but few mouings, and could scarce perceiue ten.

b. *Moving plant*: the Indian plant *Desmodium gyrans*, in which the leaflets are constantly moving.

1787 tr. *Linnæus' Fam. Plants* I. p. xix, The Moving plant (*Hedysarum movens*). 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 395/1.

c. *fig.* Unstable, changeful.

1560 ROLLAND *Crt. Venus* Prol. 61 For he that hes of the Air the nature, Is oft muisand, licht, merie, with plesure. 1599 *Pass. Pilgr.* xv, The morning rise Doth scite each mouing scence from Idle rest. 1712–14 POPE *Rape Lock* I. 100 The moving Toyshop of their heart.

d. That progresses, or moves forward.

1903 MORLEY *Gladstone* II. v. i. 4 Austria, in turn, was far too slow for a moving age.

2. That moves (in transitive senses).

a. That causes or produces motion.

1659 LEAK *Waterwks.* 8 The more the moving force is distant from the center of motion, so much the more force it shall have. 1822 IMISON *Sci. & Art* I. 52 The motion of machines must be excited and kept up by some cause which is called the moving power. 1838 KEBLE *Serm.* ix. (1848) 245 Which, had she been free and erect she might have achieved by her own moving force applied to her own machinery.

b. *transf.* That originates, causes, instigates, or actuates.

c 1489 CAXTON *Blanchardyn* xx. 65 Concedere you not that ye be occasion, and the cause mouyng of thassemble of the ostis that are for your towne, and of the shedyng of bloode that procedeth therof. 1682 *Eng. Elect. Sheriffs* 38 Nor may it be amiss briefly here to unfold both the first occasion of, and the moving Reason unto it. 1724 DE FOE *Mem. Cavalier* (1840) 172 The great moving men began to go out of town. 1833 J. H. NEWMAN *Arians* v. i. (1876) 353 The error..of mistaking whatever shows itself on the surface of the Apostolic Community, ..for the real moving principle and life of the system. 1902 R. LOVETT *Jas. Chalmers* ii. 46 He was a moving spirit in fun and mischief.

c. That touches, or has power to touch, the feelings; that affects or influences the mind.

1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* v. iv. 55 If the gentle spirit of moving words Can no way change you to a milder forme; Ile wooe you like a Souldier. 1599 NASHE *Lenten Stuffe* 5 The delectablest lustie sight and mouingest obiect, me thought it was that our Ile sets forth. 1658 SLINGSBY *Diary* (1836) 220 Sure I am that the dying words of an affectionate Father cannot but fasten deeper, and retain a Memory longer then the speech of the movingst Orator. 1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* II. viii, I..begged, by all that was moving, to be delivered out of the Dungeon I was in. 1837 MRS. CARLYLE *Lett.* (1883) I. 67 Mrs. Marsh, the moving authoress of the 'Old Man's Tales'. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 367 How he produced his children in court, which was a moving spectacle.

d. Of a question: Exciting public interest.

1907 *Outlook* 23 Mar. 390/1 His subject..is one of the moving questions of our time.

Movingly (mū·vinli), *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY 2.] In a moving, touching, or affecting manner.

1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* II. i. 134, I would haue bad them writ more mouingly. *c* 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* III. 412 So fresh, and mouingly attir'd. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 147 ¶ 2 The Art of Reading movingly and fervently. 1893 STEVENSON *Catriona* xix, 'And she pled for me?' says I. 'She did that, and very movingly'.

† **Mo·vingness.** *Obs. rare.* [f. MOVING *ppl. a.* + -NESS.] The quality of being moving or affecting.

1661 BOYLE *Style of Script.* 242 There is a strange Movingnesse..to be found in some Passages of the Scripture, which is to be found no where else. 1669 GALE *Crt. Gentiles* I. III. x. 107 Plato commends..the use of Repetitions as that which carries in it a great..movingness of Affection [in oratory].

Mow (mau), *sb.*[1] Forms: 1 múga, múha, múwa, 3 moue, muȝe, 3–7 mowe, 4 mou, 4, 7, 8 mough, 5 moghe, mughe, 6 moowe, mowgh(e, 8 maw, 9 *dial.* mew, moo, mow, 5– mow. [OE. *múga, múwa, múha* wk. masc., corresponding to ON. *múge* swath, also crowd of people (in the latter sense also *múg-r* str. masc.; cf. MSw. *moghe* masc., multitude, Sw. dial. *muga, muva* fem., heap, Norw. *muga, mua, mue* fem., heap, *muge* masc., heap, crowd). The word also exists in the compound ON. *almúge, almúg-r* (MSw. *almoghe, -mogher*, Sw. *allmoge*, Da. *almue*), common people.

Evidence that the word existed in some other Teut. lang. may possibly be afforded by Sp. *muga* landmark, pile (so app. med.L. *muga* from Spain), which, however, some scholars assert to be from Basque; and med.L. *mugium* hay-stack (one example from Italy dated 1334). The conjecture that the first element in OHG., MHG. *múwerf* MOULDWARP represents this word is very doubtful.]

In England now mainly dialectal; in the U. S. it seems to be general.

1. A stack of hay, corn, beans, peas, etc.; also, a heap of grain or hay in a barn. Cf. HAY-MOW.

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) A 108 *Aceruus*, muha. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Exod.* xxii. 6 ȝif fyr bærne muȝan oððe standende æceras. *c* 1050 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 348/6 *Aceruum*, muwan. *c* 1205 LAY. 29280, I þan eouesen he [*sc.* þa sparwen] grupen swa heo duden in þen muȝen. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 6760 If fire be kyndeld and ouertak Thoru feld, or corn, or mou, or stak. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* IV. 117 He tuk a culter hat glowand, That het wes in a fyre byrnand,..And heych vpon a mow [it] did. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* IV. i. (1495) 77 As it faryth in a wete mough of whete. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 4434 þan as a Mare at a moghe ȝoure mawis ȝe fill. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* XI. 339 A mow off corn he biggit thaim about. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 245/2 A Mughe, *archonicus*. 1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* 25 For and it sweate not in the heycockes it wyll sweate in the mowe. 1539 *Knaresborough Wills* (Surtees) I. 58 The value of a mowghe of hay. 1573 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 131 In gouing at haruest, learne skilfully how ech graine for to laie by it selfe on a mow. 1609 HOLLAND *Amm. Marcell.* 220 The whole mow or stacke being shaken was borne downe. 1718 RAMSAY *Christ's Kirk Gr.* III. xxi, But Lawrie he took out his nap Upon a mow o' pease. 1794 BILLINGSLEY *Agric. Surv. Somerset* (1797) 310 It is very difficult to keep the mows on stadles free from them [*sc.* rats and mice]. 1844 STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 264 To pile up the sheaves as they are brought in into what are called *mows*, that is, the sheaves are placed in rows. 1862 LONGF. *Wayside Inn, Prel.* 28 The barns display..their mows of hay. 1896 *Daily News* 19 Sept. 2/5 The stooks, locally called mows, present a mass of green shoots.

2. A place in a barn where hay or corn is heaped up.

1755 JOHNSON, *Mow*, a loft or chamber where hay or corn is laid up. 1856 G. HENDERSON *Pop. Rhymes Berwick* 91 They were engaged in carrying his corn from the stack in the barn-yard to the mow in the barn. 1884 *W. Sussex Gaz.* 25 Sept., Good spacious barn, asphalte floor, and mow.

† **3.** A heap or pile; also, a heap of earth, a mound, hillock. *Obs.*

1424 in Picton *L'pool Munic. Rec.* (1883) I. 23 On a mow within the said town we saw the said Sir Richard. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* IV. ix. 69 Abufe the mowe the foirsaid bed was maid. 1681 W. ROBERTSON *Phraseol. Gen.* (1693) 899 A mow or heap, *strues*.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*: *mow-breast, -maker, -side, -stack, -yard*; **mow-barton**, a stackyard; † **mow-floor**, the floor of a barn in which hay or corn is stored; **mow-heat**, a disease of hay or corn caused by overheating and fermenting in the mow; **mow-staddle**, 'the framework or stone upon which a stack is built' (*Eng. Dial. Dict.*); **mowstead**, (*a*) the place where the rick stands; the stand or supports which raise the rick from the ground; (*b*) a bay or division between the threshing-floor and the end of the barn; (*c*) a mass of hay or corn filling such a bay.

1789 *Trans. Soc. Arts*, etc. VII. 12 For [the] Fence of a *Maw-Barton on the same Farm. 1895 W. RAYMOND *Tryphena in Love* i. 8 He looked upon..the cow-stalls and mow-barton full of yellow stacks. 1641 BEST *Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 75 Putte them into the hey-house, and lette them lye att the *mowe-brest all night. 1868 *Rep. U. S. Commissioner Agric.* (1869) 424 Making chimneys, so to speak, in the mow, by putting barrels on the *mow floor and drawing them up as the hay was stowed about them. 1896 P. A. BRUCE *Econ. Hist. Virginia* I. 453 Spontaneous combustion, *mowheat, and the depreciation resulting from the entrance of sea water. 1766 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* IX. 117/2 Let the *mow-maker be provided with a quantity of salt. 1865 MRS. WHITNEY *Gayworthys* I. 240 Wealthy tossed down great trusses of hay to them from the *mowside. 1894 BLACKMORE *Perlycross* 368 *Mowstack and oak-wood, farm-house and abbey. 1235–53 *Rentalia Glaston.* (Som. Rec. Soc.) 140 Et debet habere *mugstathel et unum sedlep plenum de frumente. 1530 *Will T. Tubbe of E. Challow, Berks*, So that shoe have my parlor & the over-chambre unto hir use wth a *mowsted in the north ende of my barne. 1629 *Inventory* in *Best's Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 110 A piece of a mewstead of wheate and maslin unthresht 6l. 1833 LOUDON *Encycl. Archit.* § 889 Along the sides of the threshing-floor are what are called mowsteads. 1869 BLACKMORE *Lorna D.* xxxix, And here was our own *mowyard better filled than we could remember.

Mow (mau, mōu), *sb.*[2] Forms: 4 mouwe, 4–6 mowe, 5 mawe, 6 mew, 6–7 moe. *Pl.* 6 moues, -is, mowis, 6–8 mows, 6–7 mowes, 6, 9 mous, mowse. [a. OF. *moe, moue* mouth, lip, pout (mod.F. *moue* pouting grimace), of obscure origin; or perh. a MDu. *mouwe* of the same meaning.

The MDu. word is prob. from OFr.; some, however, think that it was the source, regarding it as a special use of *mouwe* thick flesh (MOW *sb.*[4]), from which sense the senses 'thick lip', 'pout' are assumed to have been developed.

In England the word has little colloquial currency, and the pronunciation is uncertain. The British Dicts. give (mau), the recent U. S. Dicts. (mōu). In Scotland, where the word is still in use, the sound is (mau).]

1. A grimace; esp., a derisive grimace.

c 1325 *Poems Times Edw. II* 348 in *Pol. Songs* (Camden) 339 He makketh the a mouwe. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* IV. Prol. 7 And when a wight is from hire whiel Ithrowe, Than laugheth she and maketh hym þe mowe. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 32 Wherof bejaped with a mowe He goth. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 4728 Þan stode þai glorand on his gome with grisely mawis. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 346/1 Mowe, or skorne, *vangia, vel valgia*. 1484 CAXTON *Curiall* 4 The man that hath grete corage & vertuous mespriseth her lawhynges and mowes. 1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* xxxiv. 15 Yee ye very lame come together ugaynst me vnawarres, makynge mowes at me, & ceasse not. 1581 PETTIE tr. *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* III. (1586) 170 [They] will not stick to make moes at their maister behinde his back. 1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* I. vi. 41 Apes, and Monkeys 'Twixt two such she's would chatter this way, and Contemne with mowes the other. 1660 F. BROOKE tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 333 One that we preserved alive was quite amazed, and made us good laughing, with his mows and monkey faces. 1794 GODWIN *Cal. Williams* 80 By that devil that..made mows and mocking at his insufferable tortures. 1808 LAMB *Let. to Manning* 26 Feb., A sort of a frantic yell, ..with roaring sometimes, like bears, mows and mops like apes. 1847 LYTTON *Lucretia* II. vii, Bob grinned, made a mow at Mr. Grabman, and scampered up the stairs.

b. In phrases *mops and mows* (see MOP *sb.*[3]), *mocks and mows, mows and mocks*.

1508 KENNEDIE *Flyting w. Dunbar* 353 In to thy mowis and mokis, It may be verifeit that thy wit is thin. 16oa FULBECKE *1st Pt. Parall.* 71 Things must be recompenced with things...And wordes with wordes, and taunts with mockes, and mowes. 1681 W. ROBERTSON *Phraseol. Gen.* (1693) 898 Mocks and mows with the mouth, *sannæ*.

2. *Sc.* † **a.** A jest. *Obs.*

c 1450 HOLLAND *Howlat* 831 The fulis fonde in the flet, And mony mowis at mete On the flure maid. 1501 DOUGLAS *Pal. Hon.* III. xlix, And Benytas of ane mussill maid ane aip, With mony vther subtill mow and jaip. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) II. 375 Mony mow & knak. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 198 Everie word was ane mow that he spak.

b. The plural form is used (latterly without consciousness of its grammatical character) with the sense 'jest' (as opposed to earnest). Often *predicatively* (quasi-*adj.*), esp. in negative contexts, = '(no) laughing matter', '(not) to be trifled with'.

1530 LYNDESAY *Test. Papyngo* 71, I maid it bot in mowis. *a* 1550 *Christis Kirke Gr.* 155 The millar wes of manly mak, To meit him wes na mowis. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 175 My lordis, is it mowse or earnest? 1728 RAMSAY *Archers diverting themselves* 156 Or in earnest, or in mows, Be still successful. 1877 G. MACDONALD *Mrq. Lossie* lvii, Juist tak tent the morn what ye say whan Jean's i' the room..for she's no mowse. 1888 BARRIE *Auld Licht Idylls* xii, Its not mous to be out at such a time.

Mow, *sb.*[3] *dial.* East Anglian var. of MAW *sb.*[3], a gull.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 346/1 Mowe, hyrd, or semewe. *a* 1490 BOTONER *Itin.* (1778) 111 Et ibi nidificant aves vocatæ ganettys, gullys, see mowys, et cæteræ aves marinæ. 1893 *Broad Norfolk* (ed. Cozens-Hardy) 49 Mow, Gull (in general).

† **Mow**, *sb.*[4] *Sc. Obs.* [App. a var. of *moll*, MULL *sb.*[1]] Dust, mould.

c 1470 HENRYSON *Mor. Fab.* VIII. (*Preach. Swallow*) xliii, Like to the mow before the face of wind Quhiskis away, and makis wratchis blind. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) II. 79 For-quhy that wall wes nocht biggit with lyme, Bot with dry mow that wes of lytill effect.

† **Mow**, *sb.*[5] *Obs. rare*—[1]. [a. MDu. *mouwe* = mod.G. *maue*.] Fleshy part, muscle.

c 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* vii. 173 Mawgys..cam to hayarde, and bounde hym the mowes of the feete there wyth all well streyghte.

Mow (mōu), *v.*[1] Forms: 1–2 máwan, 2–4 mowen, 3 meowen, mewen, mouin, 3–8 mowe, 5–9 *dial.* maw(e, 7 mough, 6– mow. *Pa. t.* 5, 8 (9 *dial.*) mew(e, 8– mowed. *Pa. pple.* 1 máwen, 5 mowe, 5–7 mowen, 6 mowne, 8 *Sc.* mawn, 6– mowed, 7– mown. [A Com. WGer. (orig. reduplicating) verb: OE. *máwan* (pa. t. **méow*, pa. pple. *máwen*); in the other langs. conjugated weak: OFris. *mêa*, MLG. *meien*, MDu. *maeien* (Du. *maaien*), OHG. *mâen* (MHG. *mæjen*, mod.G. *mähen*); from LG. are Sw. *meja*, Da. *meie*. The root, OTeut. **mæ-*, pre-Teut. **mē-*, occurs in MEAD, MEADOW, and in Gr. ἀμάω to reap; an extended form is found in L. *mēt-ĕre* to reap.

The pa. t. is now always *mowed*; in the pa. pple. the str. and wk. forms are both current.]

1. *trans.* To cut down (grass, corn, etc.) with a scythe, or (in recent use) with a machine that operates like a scythe. Also with *away*, *down*.

a 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* I. i. (1890) 28 Þær nænig mann for wintres cyle on sumera hęȝ ne maweþ. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 5253 Þe gode knigtes leye adoun as gras þat me doþ mowe. 14.. *Child. Jesus* 26 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1878) 111 Þen men hyre corne repyd & mew. *c* 1462-3 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 269 Withe wedys, whiche must be mowen doune playne. *c* 1482 in *Cal. Proc. Chanc. Q. Eliz.* (1830) II. Pref. 69 Alianore..mewe down his corn growyng grene on the felde. 1530 Palsgr. 641/1, I mowe with a sythe, *je fauche*. Wyll you mowe this corne or shere it? 1607 Shaks. *Cor.* I. iii. 39 Like to a Haruest man, that task'd to mowe Or all, or loose his hyre. 1660 F. Bacoke tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 371 They mowed green corn, to give the blades to horses. 1668 Dryden *Even. Love* I. ii. Our love here is like our grass, if it be not mowed quickly 'tis burnt up. 1711 Swift *Jrnl. to Stella* 13 May, The hay of our town is almost fit to be mowed. 1847 Marryat *Childr. N. Forest* v, It was time to mow down grass to make into hay for the winter. 1875 *Encycl. Brit.* I. 323/1 It can..be kept going sixteen hours a day, and will easily mow from 16 to 18 acres of seeds or meadow in that time.

b. In figurative context. Now *rare*.

† Formerly used (instead of *reap*) antithetically with *sow*.

c 1250 *Prov. Ælfred* 83 in *O. E. Misc.* 106 Hwych so þe mon sowęþ Al swuch he schal mowe. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 239 For Supplant with his slyhe cast Fulofte happneth forto mowe Thing which an other man hath sowe. 1549 Coverdale, etc. *Erasm. Par. Gal.* 20 Suche seede as enery man soweth, suche shal he mowe. 1628 Wither *Brit. Rememb.* III. 67 And I mow Oft times with mirth, what I in teares did sow. 1690 W. Walker *Idiomat. Anglo-Lat.* 305 What you sow so that you must mow.

c. *transf.* and *fig.* To cut (*off*, *down*, etc.) with a sweeping stroke like that of a scythe; to destroy or kill indiscriminately or in great numbers. Now *rare* exc. with *down*, in reference to slaughter in battle by cannon-shot or fusillade.

c 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* II. cl. (1869) 135 It is thilke that moweth the lyfe and the gost out of the bodi. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* X. ix. 10 Than, as wod lyoun, ruschyt he in the fycht, And all quham he arekis nerrest hand Without reskew down mawis with his brand. 1593 Shaks. 3 *Hen. VI*, v. vii. 4 What valiant Foe-men, like to Autumnes Corne, Haue we mow'd downe in tops of all their pride? 1609 B. Jonson *Sil. Wom.* IV. v, Hee has got some-bodies old two-hand-sword, to mow you off at the knees. 1625 Bacon *Ess., Seditions* (Arb.) 405 The Population of a Kingdome (especially if it be not mowen downe by warrs). 1697 Dryden *Æneid* X. 775 He..Mows off his Head. 1720 Pope *Iliad* XX. 406 'Tis not in me, tho' favour'd by the Sky, To mow whole Troops, and make whole Armies fly. 1836 Alison *Hist. Europe* (1849-50) VII. xlii. § 38. 120 The Imperial had seen 500 of its bravest sailors mowed down by the irresistible fire of the English vessels. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 21 Mar. 5/1 The rifle mowed them down as they approached till not more than a score lived to reach the lines.

2. To cut down the produce of (a field, etc.) with a scythe or (in recent use) with a mowing machine.

In early use always with the etymologically related *mead*, *meadow*, as cognate object.

c 893 K. Ælfred *Oros.* II. viii. § 2 ȝelice & mon mæd mawe. *c* 1205 Lay. 1942 Cornes heo seowen medewen heo meowen. *c* 1425 [see Mastery 3 b]. 1523 Fitzherb. *Husb.* § 25 Whan thy medowes be mowed, they [etc.]. *a* 1550 *Treat. Galaunt* 145 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* III. 157 The florysshyoge mede of our welth we haue begon to mawe. 1604 Dekker *Honest Wh.* Wks. 1873 II. 103 Are not the fields mowen and cut downe? 1664 Evelyn *Kal. Hort.* Apr. 65 Mow Carpet-walks. 1788 Burns *Bonie Moor-Hen* i, The heather was blooming, the meadows were mawn. 1871 R. Ellis *Catullus* lxiv. 354 As some labourer .. Under a flaming sun, mows fields ripe-yellow in harvest. 1900 Mrs. Glyn *Visits Eliz.* (1906) 65 He looks as quiet and respectable as the pony that mows the lawn.

†*fig.* 1711 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 153 The Irish foot..were moweing the field of honour.

b. *transf.* in jocular use: To shave.

1650 Bulwer *Anthropomet.* Pref., Here the luxuriant Chin quite down is mown. 1719 D'Urfey *Pills* I. 229 My Holiday Cloaths on, and face newly Mow'd. 1833 J. Holland *Manuf. Metal* II. 27 'So', said one of the metropolitan journalists, 'we may one day mow our beards with a relic of old London Bridge'. *a* 1839 Praed *Poems* (1864) II. 99 He..mows his beard *en militaire*.

3. *absol.* To cut down grass, corn, etc., with a scythe, or (in recent use) with a mowing machine.

a 1100 *Gerefa* in *Anglia* (1886) IX. 261 In Agusto and Septembri and Octobri mawan. 1340 *Ayenb.* 214 Huo þanne ssolde erye and zawe ripe and mawe. 1523 Fitzherb. *Husb.* § 22 In the later ende of Iune is tyme to begyn to mowe. 1605 Bacon *Adv. Learn.* I. viii. § 2 Like an ill Mower, that mowes on still, and neuer whets his Syth. 1711 Swift *Jrnl. to Stella* 19 May, About our town we are mowing already and making hay. 1772 C. Robinson *Let. to J. Grimston* 19 July in *Grimston Papers*, My mowers the other day mew over a partridge nest with sixteen eggs. 1785 Burns *Death & Dr. Hornbook* viii, Friend! hae ye been mawin, When ither folk are busy sawin? 1863 A. H. Charteris *Jas. Robertson* iii. 48 Saying, he was going to mow.

b. in figurative context. (Cf. 1 b.)

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 131 Þe ðe saweð on blescunge he scal mawen of blescunge. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 147 Hie hiden wepende and sewende, and shule cumen mid blisse and mowen. 1633 Bp. Hall *Occas. Medit.* (1851) 144 He, therefore, that spends his whole time in recreation, is ever whetting, never mowing. 1655 Waller *Panegyric to Ld. Protector* 63 Ours is the Harvest where the Indians mowe.

c. *transf.* To sweep down men in battle. Hence *trans.* with cognate obj., to make (one's way, a passage) by 'mowing'.

c 1300 *Havelok* 1852 But thanne bigan he for to mowe With the barre, and let hem shewe, Hw he cowthe sore smite. 1678 Dryden *All for Love* I. i, Mow 'em out a Passage, And, entring where the foremost Squadrons yield, Begin the noble Harvest of the Field. 1757 Gray *Bard* 86 Long years of havock..thro' the kindred squadrons mow their way.

Mow (mau), *v.*2 Now *dial.* (see E.D.D.). Also 4, 7 mowe, 5 moweye, mughe, 7 mough, moow. [f. Mow *sb.*1] *trans.* To put in mows. Also with *up*.

1393 Langl. *P. Pl.* C. VI. 14 (MS. Vespasian B. xvi.) Canst þow..Mowe oþer mouwen [*MS. Phillipps* 8231 mowen, *MS. Camb. Univ. Libr.* muwe] oþer make bond for sheues. 14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 565/17 *Archonizo*, to moweye. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 245/2 To mughe hay, *archoniare*, *archonizere*. 1609 Holland *Amm. Marcell.* XXIII. ii. 220 In this maner in those countries such kinds of farage are mowed up. 1620 Markham *Farew. Husb.* xii. 80 How to Stacke or Moow your Corne without the dores. 1764 *Museum Rust.* II. xxxiii. 107 Let them be thrown promiscuously into the bay of the barn, and not regularly mowed.

Mow (mau, mōu), *v.*3 Also 5-6, 9 mowe, 6 moo, mowgh, 7, 9 moe. [f. Mow *sb.*2]

1. *intr.* To make mouths or grimaces.

c 1430 Lydg. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 255 To skoffe and mowe lyk a wantoun ape. 1522 *World & Child* (Roxb.) A iij, I can mowe on a man And make a lesynge well I can. 1589 R. Harvey *Pl. Perc.* (1590) 11 He spide a Iacke an apes, in a gaie cote, sit mooing on a Marchants bulke. 1610 Shaks. *Temp.* II. ii. 9 Sometime like Apes, that moe and chatter at me, And after bite me. 1647 Trapp *Comm. Heb.* xi. 36 So they mowed at David, mocked at Isaiah..jeared our Saviour. 1748 Smollett *Rod. Rand.* lviii, A noise like that of a baboon when he mows and chatters. 1819 Shelley *Peter Bell 3rd* VI. xx, With Flibbertigibbet, imp of pride, Mocking and mowing by his side. 1855 J. H. Newman *Callista* (1890) 264 An animal of some wonderful species..proceeded to creep and crawl, moeing and twisting as it went. 1884 W. C. Smith *Kildrostan* 45 Every streak of mist..Pointed and mowed and mocked and laughed at him.

†**2.** *Sc.* **a.** *intr.* To jest. **b.** *trans.* To deride, mock. *Obs.*

1456 Sir G. Haye *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 208 He did bot scornyt the merchand, and mowit the lettres of the kingis. 1529 Lyndesay *Compl.* 246 Quod the thrid man; thow dois bot mow. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S.T.S.) V. 268 The king mowit verie oft with him.

† **Mow,** *v.*4 Also 7 mowe. [Echoic.] = Moo *v.*

1603 Holland *Plutarch's Mor.* 4 Brute and wilde beasts, which hardly are parted from their companie,..but still they lowe and mowe after them. 1641 J. Jackson *True Evang. T.* II. 112 S. Luke..an Oxe indeed,..that he did mow and low the Gospel abroad over all the world.

Hence **Mow·ing** *vbl. sb.* Also **Mow·er,** a cow.

1556 Withals *Dict.* (1568) 162 a/1 The mowynge or lowynge of beastes, *mugitus*. 1578 Best in *Hakluyt's Voy.* (1600) III. 63 Making great noise, with cries like the mowing of Buls. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew*, *Mower*, a Cow.

Mow, obs. form of May *v.*1

Mowable (mōu·ăb'l), *a.* Also 7 moable. [f. Mow *v.*1 + -able.] That can be mown; capable of growing grass for hay.

1607 Norden *Surv. Dial.* v. 196 Because we speake of upland meddowes, we will accept all mowable grounds in that sence. 1793 Washington *Let.* 12 Dec., Writ. 1891 XII. 364 For every acre of ploughable and mowable ground.

Mowah, Mowar(e: see Mahwa, Mower.

Mowburn (mōu·bʊrn), *v.* [Back-formation from Mowburnt.] *intr.* Of hay, corn, etc.: To heat and ferment through being stacked too green.

1707 Mortimer *Husb.* (1721) I. 134 Be careful not to house it green, lest it mow-burn. 1876 *Encycl. Brit.* IV. 266/2 The buyer has also to judge if it has been heated or 'mow-burnt', while lying in the field after being cut, or in the stack.

Hence **Mow·burn** *sb.*, the process of becoming mowburnt; = *mowheat* (Mow *sb.*1 4).

1764 *Museum Rust.* II. lxxv. 251 Your correspondent's method seems to threaten that dreadful malady, mow-burn.

Mowburnt (mōu·bʊrnt), *a.* [f. Mow *sb.*1 + Burnt *ppl. a.*] Of hay, corn, etc.: Spoilt by becoming overheated in the mow.

1548 *Act* 2 & 3 *Edw. VI*, c. 10 § 2 Any Malte..beinge made of mowburnte or spired Barley. 1641 Best *Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 54 To lye such barley aside for seede as is.. moweburnt. 1764 *Museum Rust.* II. lxxi. 234 The hay stacked in this damp state is always mow-burnt. 1900 *Daily News* 23 May 9/1 The greater part was good, but there was a mixture of bad mowburnt (overheated in the rick).

Mowchatowe, obs. form of Mustachio.

Mowche, obs. form of Mooch *v.*

Mowcht, mowcte, obs. pa. t. of May *v.*1

Mowdie, -y, var. forms of Moudie.

Mowd(i)ewart, -wort, etc.: see Mouldwarp.

† **Mowe.** *Obs.* Forms: 1 máge, 2-3 maȝe, 3 mawe, mohe, mouie, moȝe, mowe, 4 mau, 4-5 mow. [OE. *máge* (also *mæge*):—OTeut. type **mǣgōn-*; the corresponding fem. to *mǽg* May *sb.*2] A female relative, kinswoman; esp. by marriage, as an aunt, niece, sister-in-law.

Beowulf 1391 Grendles maȝan gang. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 125 Seinte marie..com to hire moȝe Seinte elizabet. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1651 He was hire mouies sune. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 6458 Suþþe he made þe oþer þat het edward spousi þe emperours mowe. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 2807 'Has þou her', þai said, 'ani man, Sun or dogther, mik or mau'. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 345/2 Mow, husbondys syster, or wyfys systyr, or syster in lawe.

Mowe, obs. f. May *v.*1, Mew *sb.*2, Move *v.*, Mow.

Moweare, obs. form of Mower 1.

Mowed (mōud), *ppl. a. rare.* [f. Mow *v.*1 + -ed 1.] = Mown *ppl. a.*

1659 Hammond *On Ps.* lxxii. 6 Like rain upon the mowed grass. 1859 P. Beaton *Jews in the East* II. vii. 261 Fields of mowed corn.

† **Mo·wel.** *Obs.* [? repr. OE. **múgel*, a. L. *mūgil*.] The mullet.

c 1475 *Pict. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 765/1 *Hic mugilus*, a mowel.

Mowen, obs. f. May *v.*1; obs. pa. pple. of Mow *v.*1

Mowence, variant of Muance.

Mower 1 (mōu·əɹ). Also 5 moware, -eare, -eer, -ere, 6 mowyer. [f. Mow *v.*1 + -er 1.

With regard to the form *mowyer*, see -ier.]

1. One who cuts grass, etc., with a scythe.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 345/2 Moware wythe a sythe, *falcator, metellus*. 1573 Tusser *Husb.* (1878) 120 Set mowers a mowing, where meadow is growne. 1632 Milton *L'Allegro* 66 The Mower whets his sithe. 1727 in *6th Rep. Dep. Kpr.* App. II. 118 The Office of Keeper of Bushy Park..and of Paler and Mower of the Brakes thereof. 1866 M. Arnold *Thyrsis* xiii, Where are the mowers, who..Stood with suspended scythe to see us pass?

b. Prov. phrase. *No meat for mowers*: unsuitable to, or unobtainable by, people of low degree.

1542 Udall *Erasm. Apoph.* 342 Lais an harlot of Corinthe of excellent beautie, but so dere & costely that she was no morsell for mowyers. 1552 Latimer *Serm., Septuag.* (1584) 322 b, Therefore it [*sc.* this parable] may well be called hard meate, not meate for mowers nor ignorant people. 1581 Mulcaster *Positions* xxxviii. (1887) 179 To hope for hie mariages, is good meat, but not for mowers.

c. Mower's mite, the *Leptus autumnalis*.

1891 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

2. A mowing machine.

1852 in *Encycl. Brit.* (1853) II. 279/1 Mowers and reapers must become as indispensable..as horse-rakes, ploughs and thrashing machines. 1903 *Motor. Ann.* 245 This machine is designed to draw mowers and reapers in the field.

† **Mo·wer** 2. *Obs.* Also 5 moware, 6 mowar. [f. Mow *v.*3 + -er 1.] One who makes mouths; a jester, a mocker.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 345/2 Moware, or makere of a mowe, ..*valgiator*. 1500-20 Dunbar *Poems* lxxxii. 34 Think ȝe nocht schame, To hold sic moweris on the mounе. 1501 Douglas *Pal. Hon.* II. li, Juuenall like ane mowar him allone, Stude scornand euerie man as thay ȝeid by. 1530 Palsgr. 246/2 Mower skorner, *mocqueur*.

Mower 3: see Mow *v.*4

Mowest, Moweye, obs. ff. Moist *a.*, Mow *v.*2

Mowgh, obs. form of Mow *sb.*1, Mow *v.*3

Mowghe, obs. form of May *v.*1, Mow *sb.*1

Mowght(e, Mowhair, obs. ff. Moth, Mohair.

Mowhake, -hawke, obs. forms of Mohawk.

Mowing (mōu·iŋ), *vbl. sb.*1 [f. Mow *v.*1 + -ing 1.]

1. The action of Mow *v.*1

1494 *Nottingham Rec.* III. 278 Paid for mowyng and teddyng. 1575 *Stanford Churchw. Acc.* in *Antiquary* XVII. 171 It. for moyng and kockyng of an acre of pulsse. 1858 Glenny *Gard. Every-day Bk.* Dec. 283/2 Mowing must not be neglected where you have to keep the grass in good order.

b. *concr.* The quantity of grass cut at one time; also *pl.* grass removed by mowing.

1764 *Ann. Reg.* 48, I sold the first, second, third, and fourth mowings at a shilling per rod. 1802 W. Forsyth *Fruit Trees* XXV. (1824) 349 You must lay some short grass mowings ..at the bottoms of the large baskets.

2. *U.S.* Land on which grass is grown for hay.

1786 *Mem. Amer. Acad. Sci.* (1793) II. 120 This extent contains..as fine ploughland and luxuriant pasture and mowing, as I had before seen. 1788 [see Orcharding 2]. 1869 Mrs. Stowe *Old Town Folks* iv. (1870) 33 And be off lying in the mowing, like a partridge, when they come after ye.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *mowing-crop, ground, -machine, meadow*; **mowing grass,** grass reserved for mowing; **mowing-machine bird,** the grasshopper warbler, *Locustella nævia*.

1766 *Museum Rust.* VI. 30 Burnet will rarely make a *mowing-crop the first year. 1773 *Ann. Reg.* 112 A horse had got into his *mowing-grass. 1884 Jefferies *Life of Fields* 50 Only a few [bees] go down to the mowing grass. 1636 in *1st Cent. Hist. Springfield, Mass.* (1898) I. 158 Less than three acres of *mowinge ground. 1850 Ogilvie, *Mowing-machine. 1884 Roe *Nat. Ser. Story* viii, The mowing machine would be used in the timothy fields. 1887 A. C. Smith *Birds Wiltsh.* 154 [The Grasshopper Warbler] is ..known as the '*mowing-machine bird', in allusion to its remarkable note. 1799 Washington *Writ.* (1893) XIV. 231, I am not sanguine enough to expect that it will make good *mowing meadow.

Mowing (mau-, mōu·iŋ), *vbl. sb.*3 [f. Mow *v.*3 + -ing 1.] The action of making grimaces; an instance of this; also, derision.

1382 Wyclif *Hosea* vii. 16 This the mowyng, or scornynge, of hem in the lond of Egypt. *c* 1430 *Stans Puer ad Mensam* 29 in *Babees Bk.* 278 Grennynge & mowynge at þi table eschewe. *a* 1568 Ascham *Scholem.* I. (Arb.) 54 If som Smithfeild Ruffian take up..som new mowing with the mouth. 1607 Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* 7 Because of their marueilous and diuers mowings, monings, voices, and gestures. 1833 M. Scott *Tom Cringle* xi. (1842) 248 He skipped up to us..with sundry moppings and mowings. 1881 [see Mopping *vbl. sb.*1].

† **Mow·ing,** *vbl. sb.*4 *Obs.* [f. *mowe* (see May *v.*1) + -ing 1.] Ability.

c 1374 Chaucer *Boeth.* IV. pr. iv. 99 (Camb. MS.) The Mowynge of shrewes [orig. *malorum potestas*] which Mowynge the semyth to ben vnworthy nis no mowynge.

Mowing, *vbl. sb.*[5]: see MOW *v.*[4]

Mowing (mōu·iŋ, mō·iŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. MOW *v.*[3] + -ING[2].] Grimacing; mocking, derisive.

a 1518 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 2124 To mockynge, to mowynge, to lyke a iackenapes. 1532 MORE *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 358/1 And then should stande vp and preache vppon a stoole and make a mowyng sermon. 1858 S. WILBERFORCE *Let.* in R. G. Wilberforce *Life* (1881) II. xi. 394 To get rid of the nauseous Romanizing peculiarities of these mowing apes.

Mowkisin, obs. form of MOCCASIN.

Mowl, *v. rare*—[1]. In phr. *mope and mowl*, substituted by Carlyle for 'mop and mow': see MOW *v.*[3]

1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. i. iv, With these it is a hollow phantasmagory, where like mimes they mope and mowl.

Mowl(e, variant forms of MOOL *sb. dial.*

Mowla, Mowld, obs. ff. MULLAH, MOULD.

Mowl(l)e, variant forms of MULE, chilblain.

Mowlewarp(e, obs. forms of MOULDWARP.

Mown (mōun), *ppl. a.* [pa. pple. of MOW *v.*[1]] Cut down with a scythe or mowing-machine. See also NEW-MOWN.

c 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Th.) cii. 14 Beoð mannes dagas mawenum hege æghwær anlice. 1611 BIBLE *Ps.* lxxii. 6 He shall come down like rain upon the mown grass. 1844 STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* III. 1068 A mown stook does not look so well as a reaped one. 1906 *Edin. Rev.* Apr. 386 Untrodden stretches of mown grass.

Mown(e, obs. forms of MAY *v.*[1]

Mowntan, obs. form of MOUNTAIN.

Mowntance, -ans, obs. ff. MOUNTANCE.

Mowr, variant form of MAUR *Obs.*, ant.

Mowra, variant of MAHWA.

1866 *Treas. Bot.*, *Mowra*, a kind of arrack obtained from *Bassia latifolia*. 1895 Mrs. B. M. CROKER *Village Tales* (1896) 177 Drink—drink, from the fatal mowra-tree.

Mowre, var. MAUR *Obs.*; obs. form of MOOR *sb.*[2]

Mows, obs. f. MEUSE, MOUSE; obs. pl. MOW *sb.*[2]

Mowsare, obs. form of MOUSER.

Mowse, obs. f. MEWS, MOUSE; obs. pl. MOW *sb.*[2]

Mowsɔale, obs. form of MUZZLE *v.*

Mowsle, variant of MOUSLE *v.*

†**Mow·some,** *a. Sc. Obs.* In 6 mowsum, mousum. [f. MOW *sb.*[2] + -SOME.] Jocular.

1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* v. (S.T.S.) 268 This Jhone, quha naturalie was iocund, Jellie, and mowsum. *Ibid.*, His honest, wittie, mousum, and mirrie conceitis.

Mowss(e, Mowster, obs. ff. MOUSE, MUSTER.

Mowster de vylers: see MUSTER-DEVILLERS.

Mowstre, obs. form of MUSTER *sb.*

†**Mow·sy,** *a. Obs.* [Cf. *mosey* (*moisy, mouzy*, etc.) 'mouldy, rotten, over-ripe' in E.D.D., and F. *moisi* mouldy.] ? Mouldy (in quot. *fig.*).

1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 211 b, This mowsy and drossy chaffe long sithence blowne abroad in y[e] eyes of Augustine by the Pelagianes.

Mowsyn, Mowt(e, obs. ff. MUSE *v.*, MOULT *v.*

Mowte, Mowter, obs. ff. MOTE *v.*[1], MULTURE.

Mowth (mōuþ). [app. a refashioning of MATH after MOW *v.*] A mowing, MATH.

1711 J. GREENWOOD *Eng. Gram.* 175 Later-mow'th, the after-mowth, now call'd Math. 1817 V. THOMAS *Papers* (Bodl. MS. Top. Oxon b. 19) lf. 174 A man's Mowth is reckoned at a Statute Acre. 1886 *Schedule to Conveyance* Oct., The first mowth of an allotment in Burcott Revel Mead.

Mowth, obs. pa. t. of MAY *v.*[1]

Mowthad, variant of MOULDWARP.

Mowthe, mowȝhe, obs. forms of MOTH.

†**Mow·yer**[1]. *Obs.* Also 5 mugher, muwyer. [f. MOW *v.*[2]: see -IER.] One who puts hay in mows.

14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 565/18 *Archonistus*, a mowyer. *Ibid.* 577/2 *Cumularius*, a muwyer. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 245/2 A Mugher of hay, *archouizator*.

Mowyer[2] (mōu·yəɹ). *U.S.* The long-billed or sickle-billed curlew, *Numenius longirostris*.

1888 in TRUMBULL *Names Birds* 198.

Mowyer, obs. form of MOWER[1].

Moxa (mɒ·ksă). [a. Jap. *mokusa* (phonetically mɒ·ksa), contracted from *moe kusa* burning herb.]

1. The downy covering of the dried leaves of *Artemisia moxa*; esp. as prepared in the form of a cone or cylinder for burning on the skin as a counter-irritant for gout, etc. Also, the plant itself.

1677 *Phil. Trans.* XII. 904 He did me the favour to shew me some of that Moxa, which by burning it upon any gouty part removeth the Gout. 1693 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Moxa*, a certain Down growing upon the lower part of the Leaves of Mugwort; it comes from Japan and China. 1707 FLOYER *Physic. Pulse-Watch* 214 The Artery will shrink by any sort of Burning such as is made with Moxa, or hot Irons. 1812-34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) I. 51 The burning of a little cone of moxa behind the ear.

2. Any substance used like moxa for burning on the skin.

1833 *Cycl. Pract. Med.* I. 492/1 The material generally employed in Europe for moxas is cotton, rendered downy by carding, and made into a roll an inch long, and from half an inch to two inches in diameter. 1846 BRITTAN tr. *Malgaignes' Man. Oper. Surg.* 63 A small pad was made with spider's web, and placed on the corn; it was then lighted, and left to burn as a moxa. 1877 tr. *von Ziemssen's Cycl. Med.* VII. 227 Mustard plasters, blisters, the actual cautery, the moxa &c. to the epigastrium, have sometimes given relief.

Hence **Moxibu·stion** [irreg. after COMBUSTION; cf. F. *moxibustion* (Littré 1885), cauterization by means of a moxa (Dunglison 1833-55); ‖ **Moxocau·sis** [mod.L., f. Gr. *καῦσις* burning] = prec. (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1891).

†**Moy,** *sb.*[1] *Obs.* Also 6 moye. [Assumed sing. form of MOYSE, taken as pl.] Only in *apple moy* = APPLE-MOSE.

c 1390 *Form of Cury* in Warner *Antiq. Culin.* (1790) 42 Appulmoy. 1594 *Gd. Huswife's Handmaid to Kitchin* 43 b, To make an Apple Moye. 1802 J. WILSON *MS. Let. to J. Boucher* 17 Apr., Apple moy, or Apple de moy, the Pulp of boiled Apples sweetened and put by ready for Use.

†**Moy,** *sb.*[2] *Sc. Obs.* [app. a. F. *muid* (OF. *mui*) 'bnshel':—L. *modium* (*-us*). Cf. MUID.] A measure used for salt; ? a bushel.

1535 *Aberdeen Reg.* XVI. 693 (Jam.) Twenty twa moys of gryt salt. 1538 *Ibid.*, Ane moy of salt.

[Moy, *sb.*[3] An imaginary name of a coin, evolved by 'Ancient Pistol' from a misunderstanding of the Fr. *moy* (me) in his prisoner's speech.

It seems unnecessary to suppose that there is an allusion to any genuine name of a coin. MOIDORE, if the word existed so early, may have furnished Shaks. with the suggestion; but our oldest instance is of the 18th c. That the Pg. *moeda* was familiar to Shaks. is unlikely. Still less plausible is Douce's suggestion, that the word is the F. *muid* (MOY *sb.*[1]).

1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, IV. iv. 15 *French. O prennes misericordio aye pitez de moy. Fist.* Moy shall not serue, I will haue fortie Moyes... *French. O perdonne moy. Fist.* Say'st thou me so? is that a Tonne of Moyes?]

Moy (moi), *a. Sc.* and *north.* Mild, gentle; demure. Also, affected in manners, prim.

14.. *How Gd. Wife taught Dau.* 20 Suet and hamly, sempill and coy, Vith fenȝeit fair nocht mak our moy. 1500-20 DUNBAR *Poems* xliii. 11 Richt myld and moy. 1721 KELLY *Scot. Prov.* 31 A bit butt, and bit bend, make a moy Maiden at the board end. 1855 ROBINSON *Whitby Gloss.*, *Moy*, demure, close or unsocial.

Hence **Moy·ly** *adv.*, gently, demurely.

1529 LYNDESAY *Compl.* 333 Geue thay cnn..mollet moylie on ane Mule. *a* 1585 MONTGOMERIE *Cherrie & Slae* 111 So moylie and coylie He lukit like ane sant.

‖ **Moya** (mō·ya). *Geol.* [? S. American Sp.] A name for volcanic mud.

1830 LYELL *Princ. Geol.* I. 410 Streams of water and fetid mud, called 'moya', poured out, overflowing and wasting everything. 1884 *Leisure Hour* Apr. 246/2 A substance called moya, composed of augite, carbon, and infusoria.

Moyan(n(e, variant forms of MOYEN.

†**Moyce.** *Eccl. Obs.* Also 6 moseye, moyse. [? Corrupt var. of MORSE *sb.*[1] (Cf. *moose* in quot. 1489-90 s.v.)] ? = MORSE *sb.*[1]

c 1550 *Fabric Rolls York Minster* (Surtees) 311 Moyses. A riche Moseye of goulde with ruby in the middest. Another with the image of our Ladye... Two ould Moyses. 1889 J. RAINE *Hist. Hemingborough* 77 Gisburgh's will is dated.. 1479... He gave to the minster a green cope of tissue with an eagle standing upon a book on the moyce.

Moyd, obs. f. MOOD *sb.*[1] **Moye:** see MOY *sb.*[1]

Moyen (moi·ĕn), *sb.*[1] After 15th c. only *Sc.* Forms: 5 moene, 5-6 moyane, -ene, moyne, 5, 7 moien, 5-9 moyan, 6 moyanne, myane, *pl.* moyance, 7 moyand, 8 moyean, 5- moyen. [a. OF. *moien* (mod.F. *moyen*), subst. use of *moien* (*moyen*), later form of *meien* adj., middle: see MEAN *a.*[2] Cf. MEAN *sb.*[2]]

†**1.** A middle condition or quality; = MEAN *sb.*[2] 1.

1484 CAXTON *Chivalry* 86 Yf there were no vertue hytwene the ouer grete and ouer lytyl there shold be no moyen.

†**2.** Something interposed or intervening; = MEAN *sb.*[2] 6. *Obs.*

1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 24 b/1 Syth the pryncypal angellis ben nyghe to god, and ben without moyen enlumyned of god.

†**3.** A mediator. = MEAN *sb.*[2] 9, 9 c. *Obs.*

1455 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 286/1 Request made unto you.. to be moyen unto the Kynges Highnesse to ordeyne and name a persone. 1458 *Paston Lett.* I. 421 To bee my good and tendre moyen..unto the Kinges goode grace, for th'excuse of my nown comyng. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 279 b/1 Thenne late us praye unto this hooly Saynt Saynt Iohan baptist to be a moyen bytwene god and us.

†**4.** A means, agency. = MEAN *sb.*[2] 10. *Obs.*

To make moyen(s: to take steps, use efforts. *To find* (*the*) *moyen(s*: to find out a way, contrive. Cf. MEAN *sb.*[2] 10 d.

1440 in *Wars Eng. in France* (1864) II. 444 Youre partie aduerse and the saide due might not godely haue founden the moyens and the weyes to haue communed to geder. *a* 1470 TIPTOFT *Tulle on Friendsh.* (Caxton 1481) b j, That the said feblenesse sholde be the moyen to attain to that which they desire in friendship. 1502 in *Lett. Rich. III & Hen. VII* (Rolls) II. 112 We have made suche secrete moynes as we can to knowe howe the exchaunge of the said l. M. crownes myght be made. 1572 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xxxi. 117 The moyane for till find, How that yai micht eschew ye quene. 1581 HAMILTON *Cath. Traictise* 20 Thir sort of men not onlie be sic moyens drauis sindrie to thair faction, but also [etc.].

†**b.** Means, resources. = MEAN *sb.*[2] 12. Also *pl.*

1580 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* III. 316 Personis..that hes the moyen to leif on thair awin. 1591 ABP. ADAMSON *Recant.* (1598) B j b, I..beseekis zou to make intercessionne.. to the King, that I may haif sum moyance to liue. 1593 *Aberdeen Reg.* (1848) II. 84 To have sufficient rent of thair awin, or some honest moyen, industrie, craft or occupatioun, to leive on. 1609 HUME *Admonit.* in *Wodrow Soc. Misc.* (1844) 587 Thei who have best moyen to remane, perhappis werie first. 1617 J. CHAMBERLAIN in *Crt. & Times Jas. I* (1848) II. 7 The greatest part of the prime Scots..make no great haste homeward, which perhaps may be for want of *moyens*, as they call it, to carry them along.

5. Mediation, intercession; exercise of influence to bring about something, instigation; influence used on behalf of another, interest. †*Moyen of* (or *at*) *court*: court influence. *To make moyen(s*, to intercede, make interest, negotiate (*with*), make overtures. = MEAN *sb.*[2] 13 a.

1454 *Paston Lett.* I. 309 And that ye lyke seke a moyen of such frendys as ye can best avyse and may verrayly trust uppon to gyde thys mater. 15.. in Cochran-Patrick *Rec. Coinage Scotl.* (1876) I. 98 Ane Inglischmane..vpon fair promisis be moyen of cowrte was appointed maister Coinyeour. 1581 *Aberdeen Reg.* (1848) II. 42 Thair be moyanne of court, sinister and wrang informatioun, hes purchest ane gift and preuilege of our said Souerane Lord. 1583 *Leg. Bp. St. Androis* 800 With Monsier tben he moyen maid. *c* 1610 SIR J. MELVIL *Mem.* (1735) 347 The Master of Gray had made moyen for Mr. Archibald. 1636 RUTHERFORD *Lett.* (1862) I. lix. 160 We are using our weak moyen and credit for you up at our own court. 1649 BP. GUTHRY *Mem.* (1702) 14 King Charles..preferr'd Men by Moyen at Court. *a* 1651 CALDERWOOD *Hist. Kirk* (1678) 243 By moyen he [Bothwell] got presence of the King in the garden. 1706 A. SHIELDS *Ch. Commun.* (1747) 62 The Priesthood was acquired and kept by Moyen. 1717 *Wodrow Corr.* (1843) II. 221, I hear he has been at London making moyen and friends to be made Principal of the Old Town College. 1721 KELLY *Scot. Prov.* 243 Moyen does mickle but Money does more. 1777 J. LOVE in *Mem.* (1857) I. 330 Little improving of the *moyen* which I have through Christ in heaven. *c* 1820 G. BEATTIE *John o' Arnha* (1826) 17 When Charlie Stuart, the vile Pretender, Made moyen to be our Faith's Defender. 1871 W. ALEXANDER *Johnny Gibb* xxxix. (1873) 218 His purpose being, as his father phrased it, 'to lay moyen for a placie come time'.

b. *pl.* in the same sense.

1471 *Arriv. Edw. IV* (Camden) 9 Dayly came certayne personns on the sayd Erlls behalve to the Kinge, and made great moynes, and desired him to treat withe hym. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 165 Thinkand na thing better nor they wald mak thair moyenis witht him. 1873 *Leg. North, Guidman o' Inglismill* 30, I mith bae moyens laid to win wi' you.

†**6.** Instrumentality. Chiefly in phrases *By* or *through* (*the*) *moyen of*: (*a*) by the instrumentality of (a person or thing); (*b*) in consequence of, by reason of, owing to. *By this or that moyen*, by means of this or that; in this or that way; thus. Cf. MEAN *sb.*[2] 14. *Obs.*

14.. *Lett. Marg. Anjou & Bp. Beckington* (Camden) 160 The socour and trust of oure moene that she putteth in us. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 268 The witnes.., be the moyen of the quhilkis ilk ane..thinkis to prove his entencioun. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 108 Be quhat moyane sall I red me of this mischeif. *a* 1651 CALDERWOOD *Hist. Kirk* (1843) II. 198 By my moyen muche innocent blood hath beene spilt. 1703 D. WILLIAMSON *Serm. bef. Gen. Assemb.* 58 Connived at by the Moyen of the..Noble Lord.

†**b.** *pl.* with *sing.* sense. *Obs.*

a 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 284 Convenit ane consall be his moyance of the maist pairt of the nobilitie at Edinburgh. *Ibid.* 331 Quhither the castell was so strong or the gouneris corrupit be the Earle of Angus moyans, I can nocht tell.

†**Moy·en,** *sb.*[2] *Obs.* Forms: 6 mayan, moyan(e, myan(d, myone, 6-9 moyen, 7 moyenne, 9 *Hist.* moienne. [a. OF. *moyenne*, subst. use of *moyenne* fem. of *moyen* adj., middle (-sized): see MOYEN *a.*] A kind of cannon; = *culverin moyen* (see MOYEN *a.* c.).

1509 in Tytler *Hist. Scot.* (1864) II. 279 *note*, Three hundred small artillery, under the names of myand, culverins, and double-dogs. 1569 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* II. 25 That thair be ane moyen and ane falconer convoyit towart Dunbartane. 1577 *Ibid.* 655 Twa myonis. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) VIII. 194/2 Moyens, which carried a ball of 10 or 12 ounces. 1802 C. JAMES *Milit. Dict.*, *Moienne*, Fr. A piece of ordnance, which is now called a four pounder, and which is ten feet long, was formerly so called.

†**Moy·en,** *a. Obs.* [a. F. *moyen* middle: see MEAN *a.*[2]] Middle.

1481 CAXTON *Myrr.* II. iii. 68 Thise two flodes [Tigris and Euphrates] trauerse many grete contrees so longe tyl they mete in the see moyen. 1550 J. COKE *Eng. & Fr. Heralds* § 26 (1877) 63 As well of tyme past, moyene as present.

b. Of middle rank. (In quot. 1483 *absol.* with plural ending).

1481 CAXTON *Godefroy* xxvi. 59 Here ye maye here how so moche peple was loste by the folye of the moyen peple. 1483 — *Gold. Leg.* 308/1 Alle spirites ben sent for us. The superyors ben sente to the moyens, the moyens [*printed* moyest] ben sente to the lowest. 1485 — *Chas. Gt.* 82 And in thys bataylle was slayn..many otber of the moyen people.

c. Of middle size.

1513 *Acc. Ld. Treas. Scot.* (1902) IV. 510 For xxvj chargeouris to the culvering moyaine. *Ibid.* 517 Item, the first culvering moiyane, drawin with viij oxin. 1515 *Ibid.* (1903) V. 27 Chargit with twa culvering myance.

Moyen (moi·ĕn), *v. Sc.* [f. MOYEN *sb.*[1], or a. F. *moyenner* of equivalent formation.]

1. *trans.* To accomplish by the use of means; 'to manage or bring about' (E.D.D.).

1589 R. BRUCE *Serm. Sacram.* ii. (1590) H 3 b, This conjunction is moyaned, be twa speciall moyans.

†**2.** To compromise. *Obs.*

1598 J. MELVILL *Autobiog. & Diary* (Wodrow Soc.) 441 The best part thought it meittest to tak tyme to mollefie and moyen maters.

†**Moy·enant,** *prep. Obs.* Also 5 moiena(u)nt, moyenaunt, 6 moynant. [a. F. *moyennant*, orig. pr. pple. of *moyenner*: see MOYEN *v.*] By means of. *Moyenant that*: on condition that.

1471 *Arriv. Edw. IV* (Camden) 21 Moyenaunt he false

faynyd fables and disclandars, that..were wont to be seditiously sowne & blowne abowt. 1471 Caxton *Recuyell* (Sommer) I. 206, I geue the thy lif and gyue the plain absolucion of all, moienant that neuer after thou replicque ne reherce this trespaas. 1483 — *Gold. Leg.* 417/b/2, Thy fader the deuyl ouer whome I haue hope to haue vyctorye moyenaunt on hym the name of Jhesu cryst. *a* 1500 in *Three 15th Cent. Chron.* (Camden) 81 At the whiche daye, moynant the grace of Almyghty Jesu, the saide towne and castell were delivered unto the saide good Kynge Edward.

Moyenau, moyeneaw, var. ff. Moineau.

†Moy·ener. *Sc. Obs.* In 6–7 moyan(n)er. [f. Moyen *v.* + -er[1].] A mediator, a 'go-between'.

1589 R. Bruce *Serm. Sacram.* ii. (1590) H j, Quhilk ar the moyaners of this conjunction, vpon the part of God; and quhilk are the moyaners vpon the part of man? 1609 Hume *Admonit.* in *Wodrow Soc. Misc.* (1894) 570 Yow hold..that Bishops should be..moyanners and mediatoris betweene the Kirk and the Prince.

†Moy·ening, *prep. Obs.* In 6 moiening. [f. Moyen *v.* + -ing[2].] = Moyenant.

?*c* 1520 R. Copland *Prol. to Helyas* in Thoms *Prose Rom.* (1828) III. 2, I Robert Copland have me applied moiening the helpe of god to reduce..it into our..english tonge.

†Moy·enless, *a. Obs.* [f. Moyen *sb.* + -less.] Having no means or resources.

1587 Hume *Ep. G. Montcrief* 203 Simple sauls, unskilfull, moyenles.

Moyenne, variant of Moyen *sb.*[2]

Moyhair, Moyitie, obs. ff. Mohair, Moiety.

Moyl(e: see Moil *sbs.* and *v.*, Mule *sbs.*

Moyle. *Mining.* Also moil. [? f. the surname *Moyle.*] (See quots.)

1874 J. H. Collins *Metal Mining* 64 The larger kinds of wedges known in Cornwall as 'moyles' are used more especially in quarry work. 1881 Raymond *Mining Gloss.*, *Moil* or *Moyle* (Cornw.). A drill pointed like a gad.

Moylere, Moylet, obs. ff. Mulier, Mulet.

Moyleteer, obs. form of Muleteer.

Moylie, variant of Moiley *dial.*

Moyn, obs. form of Moan.

Moynant, variant of Moyenant *Obs.*

Moynd, moyne, obs. forms of Mine *sb.*

1542 *Invent. R. Wardr.* (1815) 63 Item, ane uthir peice of gold of the moynd unmoltin. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VI* 113 So thei cast trenches and made moynes.

Moyne, variant of Moyen.

Moynel(l, -iele, obs. forms of Monial *sb.*[2]

Moynȝeoun, obs. Sc. form of Minion.

Moyodore, obs. form of Moidore.

Moyre, obs. f. Mire, Moire; var. Mure *a. Obs.*

Moysaicall, obs. form of Mosaical *a.*[2]

†Moyse. *Obs.* Also 5 moys; and see Moy *sb.*[1] [The last element in *apple-moyse*, Apple-mose, used as a word by itself.] (See quot. 1611.) Cf. also Moose[2].

[*c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 113 (Laud MS. 553) Apple moys. 1597 *Bk. Cookerie* F v b, To make an apple moyse.] 1611 Florio, *Mosa*...Also a moyse, or phroise made of egges, milke, butter and spice and so fride in a pan.

Moyse, obs. var. Mois, Moyce, Muse *v.*

Moysin, Moyso(u)n: see Moisten, Moison.

Moyster, obs. form of Moisture, Muster *sb.*

Moyte(e, -ie, obs. forms of Moiety.

Mozambique (mōuzĕmbī·k). [The name of a Portuguese territory on the East coast of Africa.] A name given to various kinds of dress material.

1875 Knight *Dict. Mech., Mozambique* (Fabric), an open dress-goods having a chain in which the cotton threads are associated in pairs, and the woolen filling is soft and fleecy. 1896 *Godey's Mag.* Apr. 436/1 A new material of mohair and silk is known as Mozambique.

Mozan, obs. Sc. form of Mizen.

Mozarab (mozæ·răb). *Hist.* Also Mozarabe, Muzarab. [a. Sp. *Mozárabe* (med.L. *Mosarabes* pl., and with etymologizing perversion *Mixtarabes*), corrupt form of Arab. *musta*ᶜ*rib*, 'would-be Arab', active pple. of a verb of the 10th (desiderative) conjugation f. ᶜ*arab* Arab.] In Spain under Moorish rule: One of those Christians who, on condition of owning allegiance to the Moorish king, and conforming to certain Moorish customs, were allowed the exercise of their own religion.

1788 Gibbon *Decl. & F.* li. V. 387 The name of Mozarabes (adoptive Arabs) was applied to their civil or religious conformity. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVI. 35/2 *Muzarab, i. e.* a Christian living under the sway of the Arabs.

Mozarabic (mozæ·răbik), *a.* Also mos-, mus-, muzarabic. [f. Mozarab + -ic.] Of or pertaining to the Mozarabs.

Mozarabic liturgy (*rite, use, office*, etc.): the ancient ritual of the Spanish Church, so called prob. as having been retained by the Mozarabs after it was disused by other Spanish Christians. A modified form of it is still used in some few chapels in Spain.

1706 tr. *Dupin's Eccl. Hist. 16th C.* II. iii. 251 Then he mentioned the Musarabic Use, according to which Mass was still celebrated every Sunday. 1791 J. Townsend *Journ. Spain* (1792) I. 311 In one of the chapels, where they use only the Mozarabic Missal. 1863 J. M. Neale *Ess. Liturgiology* 125 The Mozarabic Liturgy. *Ibid.* 126 The Mozarabic Office. *Ibid.* 134 Three Priests of Mozarabic churches. *Ibid.* 135 The present state of the Mozarabic Rite. *Ibid.*, The question of mixed marriages between Roman and Mozarabic Christians.

Mozartean (mozā·rtiăn), *a.* Also -ian. [f. the name of the musician W. A. *Mozart* (1756–91) + -ean.] Characteristic of the music of Mozart.

1845 E. Holmes *Mozart* 272 The combination of playfulness and grace..imparts to 'Figaro'..a more decided Mozartean character than any other of his works. 1881 *Athenæum* 19 Feb. 273/1 The composer welds his themes together with absolute Mozartian ease and grace.

So **Moza·rtish** *a.*, somewhat resembling the music of Mozart; **Moza·rtism,** partisanship of Mozart as against other composers.

1825 Lamb *Lett.* (1888) II. 132 My sister's cold is as obstinate as an old Handelian, whom a modern amateur is trying to convert to Mozart-ism. 1845 E. Holmes *Mozart* 318 Why my productions take from my hand that particular form and style that makes them Mozartish..is probably owing to [etc.].

Moze (mōuz), *v.* In 6 moise, 7 mose. [Perh. a derivative of Moss *sb.*[1] (in the sense of 'nap': cf. Moss *sb.*[1] 5).] *trans.* To gig (cloth); to subject to the operation of a gig-mill. Hence **Mo·zing** *vbl. sb.*

1505–6 *Corporation Minutes York* IX. 32 (MS.) To crop and moise every suche clothe. 1633 *Proclam.* in Rymer *Foedera* XIX. 446/1 Whereas..the use of Gigmills is forbidden..yet of late time the same Mills are used under the name of mosing Mills. *Ibid.*, All mosing Mills shall be taken down before Midsomer next. 1842 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 7) XXI. 934/2 After being sheared, it is subject to the gig-mill in one direction only, which is called *mozing*. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech., Mozing*, gigging of cloth.

Mozel(l, Mozki, obs. ff. Muzzle, Mosque.

Mozy, variant of Mosy *a. dial.*, mossy.

Mozzetta, mozetta (mŏze·tă, ‖ mɒtsɛtta). *Eccl.* Also 8 mozet, 9 *pl.* mozzette. [It. *mozzetta*, dim. of *mozza*: see Amice[2].] (See quot. 1885.)

1774 T. West *Antiq. Furness* 51 Their choir dress was a white or grey Cassock,..over that a mozet, or hood. 1849 Rock *Ch. of Fathers* II. 417 The old hood was close all round, whereas the mozetta is cut in front. 1866 F. G. Lee *Direct. Angl.* (ed. 3) 356 Mozetta, a cape with a small hood worn by canons and others in the Latin Communion. 1885 *Catholic Dict.* (ed. 3) 654 *Mozetta*,..a short vestment, quite open in front, which can, however, be buttoned over the breast, covering the shoulders and with a little hood behind. It is worn by the Pope, by cardinals, bishops, abbots, and others who do so by custom or Papal privilege. *Ibid.*, The Pope wears five different mozzette.

M. P. The usual abbreviation for 'Member of Parliament'. Often treated (*colloq.* or in informal writing) as a word, with the pronunciation (em pī); the plural is written *M.P.'s*, sometimes *M.Ps.*

1809 Byron *Bards & Rev.* 273 All hail, M.P.! from whose infernal brain Thin-sheeted phantoms glide. 1868 Holme Lee *B. Godfrey* xxviii, M.P. to their name is a handsome advertisement. 1870 Disraeli *Lothair* viii, There were no less than four M.P.s, one of whom was even in office. 1886 Kipling *Departm. Ditties*, etc. (1888) 53 'Skittles!' says Pagett, M.P. 1889 E. Parry *Gay Umbrella* iii, I shall represent the City And be known as the gay M.P.

Hence **M.P.-ship,** the office of an M.P.

1832 Miss Mitford *Village* Ser. v. 83 The son's M.P.-ship had probably tended to make his mamma epistolary. 1886 Tupper *My Life as Author* 67 As to M.P. ship I may have had other chances.

Mr. [Orig. an abbreviation of Master.]

†1. In the 16th and 17th c. used for Master in any of the applications of the word. *Obs.*

1538 Cromwell in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) II. 139 My Lordes Letteres Syngnyfing to my Mr. he hath apoyncted the Abbot of Kenelworth for his yerlie pencion c. li. 1575 *Gamm. Gurton* (title-p.) Made by Mr. S. Mr. of Art. 1597 *1st Pt. Return fr. Parnass.* iv. i. 1324 But tell mee, art thou put away nowe for whippinge thy yonge Mr? 1617 *Court-bk. Merch.-Taylors' Comp.* VI. 633 in *Webster's Wks.* (Rtldg.) p. ix. *note*, John Webster made free by Henry Clinckard his Mr. 1631 W. Foster *Hoplocrismaspongus* 2, I am a Mr. of Arts in both Vniversities. 1657 Austen *Fruit Trees* I. 133 Bare the Roots and cut off a Mr Root or two from the Tree. 1669 Sturmy *Mariner's Mag.* v. xii. 71 All Mr Gunners should be able to draw. 1674 R. Goofrey *Inj. & Ab. Physic* 141, I refused the Title of Mr. of Arts.

2. As a prefixed title. Now pronounced (mi·stəɹ), or with entire absence of stress (mistəɹ, m'stəɹ). The want of a plural form is supplied by *Messrs.*, Messieurs 2.

Until the latter half of the 17th c. the title was often written in the full form *master*; but there is reason for believing that from the 16th c. it was, at least in rapid or careless speech, treated proclitically, with consequent alteration of the vowel of the first syllable. (See Mister *sb.*[2] 1, quot. 1551.) Eventually the word came to have the weakened pronunciation whenever it was used as a prefixed title, and it became customary to employ the abbreviated spelling always for this use, and for this only. Hence at the beginning of the 18th c. *master* and *Mr.* were already regarded as distinct words. Cf. Mister *sb.*[2], which is merely an occasional (chiefly jocular) rendering of the pronunciation of the word of which 'Mr.' is the accepted spelling.

The early history of the application of *Mr.* is identical with that of the use of its fuller form: see Master *sb.* 21. From the 17th c. it has been the customary ceremonious prefix to the name of any man below the rank of knight and above some humble but undefined level of social status, except where usage requires the substitution of some honorific title, such, for instance, as those denoting military and naval rank. As with other titles of courtesy, the inferior limit for its application has been continually lowered; at the present day any man however low in station would be styled 'Mr.' on certain occasions, e. g. in the address of a letter. Modern custom forbids the use of the prefix when *Esquire* is appended to the name, and it is now omitted after 'The Hon.' and 'The Rev.' (though some still write 'the Rev. Mr. A.' when the Christian name happens to be unknown); but in other than ceremonious use 'Mr.' is substituted for these titles.

The use of *Mr.* before a *prefixed* title of office is nearly obsolete. The Judges of the Supreme Court are still styled 'Mr. Justice A.'; the designations 'Mr. Baron A.', 'Mr. Serjeant B.', belonged to dignities now abolished. In municipal use we still occasionally read of 'Mr. Alderman A.', 'Mr. Deputy B.', 'Mr. Councillor C.'.

Before an official title *not* followed by the name, the prefix *Mr.* is still common, as in 'Mr. Chairman', 'Mr. Editor', 'Mr. President', 'Mr. Mayor'. These are now used only vocatively; 'Mr. Speaker' is used also in the 3rd person.

1447–8 Shillingford *Lett.* (Camden) 89 Maister John Waryn Mr William Filham. *c* 1524 More in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. I. 294 All the lettres of Mr. Secretary sent unto your Grace. 1553 *Respublica* I. iii. 61 (Brandl) Nowe, Mr Insolence, to your ghostelye purpose. 1557 in *Shropsh. Parish Documents* (1903) 58 Item Re'd of Mr. Vicar for olde shingle vi*d*. 1597 *1st Pt. Return fr. Parnass.* iv. i. 1211 Let mee heare Mr. Shakspear's veyne. 1600 Shaks. *A. Y. L.* III. iii. 74 Good euen good Mr what ye call't. 1662 *Tryal Sir H. Vane* 84 He further told Mr. Sheriff, he was ready: but the Sheriff said, he was not. 1680 Ld. Russell in *Parl. Debates* 1 Mr. Speaker, Sir, seeing by Gods Providence [etc.]. 1706 Hearne *Collect.* 13 Mar. (O.H.S.) I. 203 Mr. Poley, Esq*r*, Member of Parliament. 1841 R. H. Dana *Seaman's Man.* 154 Both the chief and second mates are always addressed by their surnames, with *Mr.* prefixed. 1844 Owen in *Hunterian Lect.* (1846) II. 1 Mr. President and Gentlemen. 1865 *Even. Standard* 10 Mar., At the meeting to-day Mr. Vice Chancellor, the rev. the Master of St. Peter's, presided. 1886 Tupper *Autobiog.* 58 'What have I done, Mr. Dean?..' 'Why, sir, the porter states that this is the fifth time you have not come into college until past twelve o'clock.'

b. *jocularly.*

1655 Walton *Angler* x. (1661) 176 If Mr. Pike be there, then the little Fish will skip out of the water. 1757 W. Thompson *R. N. Advoc.* 45 With a handsome Salary for Mr. Operator. 1895 J. G. Millais *Breath fr. Veldt* (1899) 161 There..stood Mr. and Mrs. Pig and the entire Pig family.

c. Prefixed to a foreign name. Now *rare*, the usual practice being to employ *Monsieur* (*M.*, *Herr*, *Signor*, or the like.

In French *Mr.* is used (beside *M.*) as an abbreviation of *Monsieur*. It may possibly be so intended in the Shaks. quot. below, where modern editors print *Monsieur*.

1601 Shaks. *All's Well* v. ii. 1 Good Mr Lauetch giue my Lord Lafew this letter. 1746 Francis tr. *Horace, Ep.* II. i. 158 *note*, Mr. Sanadon thinks [etc.]. 1778 Fletcher *Lett.* Wks. 1795 VII. 223 Mr. Tronchin the physician of the Duke of Orleans was sent for to attend Voltaire. 1817 Coleridge *Satyrane's Lett.* iii, W—— and myself accompanied Mr. Klopstock to the house of his brother, the poet.

Hence **Mr.** *v.*, *trans.* to address as 'Mr.'; **Mr.-ship,** the position of being styled 'Mr.'

1747 H. Walpole *Let. to Mann* 26 June, Archer and Rolle have only changed their Mr.-ships for Lordships. 1850 Smedley *Frank Fairleigh* vi, I tell you what it is, Oaklands (we don't Mr. each other here), you are a right good fellow.

Mris., obs. abbreviation of *mistris*, Mistress.

Mrs. [Orig. an abbreviation of Mistress.]

†1. In the 17th c. often written for Mistress in all uses. *Obs.*

a 1612 Sir J. Harington *Brief View* (1653) 4 [Q. Eliz. to Abp. Parker's wife] And you (saith she), Madam, I may not call you, and Mrs. I am ashamed to call you, so as I know not what to call you, but yet I do thank you. 1615 Sir G. Helwys in *Buccleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 161 A man of Mrs. Turner's was sent..to meet his Mrs. at Ware. 1632 B. Jonson *Magn. Lady* I. (1640) 19 [If he could] beget him a reputation, and marry an Emperours Daughter for his Mrs. 1637 — *Sad Sheph.* II. ii, I give 'hem yee; As presents Mrs. 1677 W. Hubbard *Narrative* (1865) II. 158 Knowing enough before of their Villanys, how well soever her Mrs...might think of them. 1679 *Trials of White, & Other Jesuits* 80 Pray Mrs. what did that Minister say to you..concerning Mr. Oates?

2. As a prefixed title of courtesy. Now pronounced (mi·sis, mi·siz).

In the latter half of the 17th c. there was a general tendency to confine the use of written abbreviations to words of inferior syntactical importance, such as prefixed titles. The form *Mrs.* for *mistress* therefore fell into disuse exc. when prefixed to a name; and in this position the writing of the full form gradually became unusual. The contracted pronunciation, which in other applications of the word has never been more than a vulgarism (see Missis), became, for the prefixed title, first a permitted colloquial licence, and ultimately the only allowable pronunciation. When this stage was reached, *Mrs.* (with the contracted pronunciation) became a distinct word from *mistress*. As to the chronology of these changes evidence is wanting; but it may be noted that Walker 1828 says that *mistress* as a title of civility is pronounced *missis*, and that 'to pronounce the word as it is written would, in these cases, appear quaint and pedantick'.

a. Prefixed to the surname of a married woman (sometimes with her Christian name or that of her husband intervening).

Originally distinctive of gentlewomen, the use of the prefix has gradually extended downwards; at the present time, every married woman who has no superior title is styled 'Mrs.' even though her husband is of so humble a position as not ordinarily to be referred to as 'Mr.'. In British use the insertion of a woman's Christian name after *Mrs.* (as 'Mrs. Mary Smith') is rare exc. in legal documents, cheques, or the like, the normal practice when distinction is needed being to insert the husband's name (as 'Mrs. John Smith'). In the U.S. both these modes of designation are in general use.

1615 [see 1]. 1647 *Moder. Intell.* No. 129. 1 Sept., Mrs. Car being a second wife of the said Mr. Car. 1745 H. Walpole *Let. to Mann* 11 May, Just as a woman is not called Mrs. till she is married. 1794 C. Pigot *Female Jockey Club* 54 Yet Mrs Bull is still tenacious of the honour of her master. 1819 Shelley *Peter Bell 3rd* VI. ix. 2 And who *is* Mrs. Foy? 1870 Miss Bridgman *R. Lynne* II. iii. 66 Mrs. This and Mrs. That..approved of the..friends of their respective husbands.

†b. In the 17th and 18th c. prefixed to the name of an unmarried lady or girl; equivalent to the mod. use of MISS *sb.*² *Obs.*

Late in the 18th c. the title (usually, but not always, followed by the Christian name) was applied occasionally to elderly maiden ladies (as 'Mrs. Elizabeth Carter', 'Mrs. Hannah More') after this use had ceased to be general.

c 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* (1655) I. v. 235 An ill-favoured quarrell..about Mrs. Baker, the Maid of honor. 1707 HEARNE *Collect.* (O.H.S.) II. 17 Mrs. Molly Levins..Which Mrs. Levins is a Beautifull young Brisk Lady of about 16 or 17 Years of Age. 1720 DE FOE *Col. Jack*, etc. (1840) 342 Mrs. Veal was a maiden gentlewoman. 1751 SMOLLETT *Per. Pic.* i, His only sister Mrs. Grizzle..was now in the thirtieth year of her maidenhood. 1791 BOSWELL *Johnson* an. 1781, The company was..Mrs. Elizabeth Carter, Sir Joshua Reynolds [etc.]. *Ibid.*, Mrs. Carter said [etc.].

MS., abbreviation of MANUSCRIPT (L. *manu scriptum*). Formerly also **MS^t**, *erron.* **MSS^t.** The form **MSS.** is used for the pl. *manuscripts*; by some writers also (after the custom in mod.Latin) for *manuscript* adj. when agreeing with a plural sb.

1670 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* (ed. 3), *M.S.* stands for *manuscriptum*, a Manuscript. 1699 BENTLEY *Phal.* Introd. 22 To shew that it was not taken out of some ancient MS. *Ibid.* 32 Though some of the MSS Copies of Eusebius date it VI Years before. 1709 MS^t [see MATTER *sb.*¹ 19 d]. 1716 HEARNE *Collect.* (O.H.S.) V. 334 A little MSS^t. containing MSS. Additions to Guil. Neubr. 1780 C. BURNEY in Louisa Twining *Recreat. & Stud.* (1882) 82 A coachfull of the MSS. I had collected for my 'History'. 1798 *Brit. Crit.* XI. 111 A selection of all the most important readings from MSS. editions, and versions. 1883 *A. Barratt's Phys. Metempiric* Pref. 21 He generally kept his MSS. at his chambers in Lincoln's Inn.

¶ b. Treated jocularly as a word (em es).

1818 BYRON *Occas. Pieces, To Mr. Murray* ii, To thee.. The unfledged MS. authors come. 1821 — *Vis. Judgm.* cii, He..drew forth an MS.

Mt., abbreviation of MOUNT *sb.*¹

†**Muable,** *a. Obs.* Also 4 muuable. [a. OF. *muable*:—L. *mūtābilem*: see MUTABLE *a.*] Mutable, changeable, variable.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* IV. Pr. vi. 104 (Camb. MS.) Alle the progression of Muable nature..taketh his causes..of the stablenesse of the dyuine thowght. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 295 Fortune hath evere be muable And mai no while stonde stable. 1481 CAXTON *Myrr.* I. xiii. 42 Thus ben not the sciences muable but alleway ben estable and trewe.

†**Muance.** *Obs.* Also 4 *Sc.* mowence. [a. OF. *muance* = Sp. *mudanza*, It. *mutanza*:—popular L. **mūtantia*, f. *mūtant-em*, pr. pple. of *mūtāre* to change.] Change, mutation.

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* I. 134 God..Reserwyt till his maieste For to knaw..Off alkyn tyme the mowence. 1480 CAXTON *Ovid's Met.* XIV. xii, Lytil avaylled hym thise changes & muances.

†**Muant,** *a. Obs.* In 5 muaunt. [a. OF. *muant*:—L. *mūtant-em*: see prec.] Changing.

? *a* 1412 LYDG. *Two Merchants* 574 My fulle is derkyd into wane, With wynd forwhirlyd as is a mvaunt fane.

Muasin, obs. form of MUEZZIN.

†**Mubble-fubbles,** *sb. pl. slang. Obs.* Also 6–7 muble-fubles, 7 mumble-. Depression of spirits, 'blue devils'.

1589 *Pappe w. Hatchet* in *Lyly's Wks.* (1902) III. 410 Ile make him pull his powting croscloath ouer his beetle browes for melancholie, and then my next booke shall be Martin in his mubble fubbles. 1592 LYLY *Midas* v. ii, Melancholy is the creast of Courtiers armes, and now euerie base companion, beeing in his muble fubles, sayes he is melancholy. 1607 *Acc. Christmas Prince* 55 in *Misc. Antig. Angl.* (1816) I, And when your brayne, feels any payne, With cares of state & troubles, We'el come in kindnesse to put your highnesse Out of y^r mumble fubbles. 1654 GAYTON *Pleas. Notes* III. xi. 145 When shee was in the Mubble-fubles.

Mubulle, Muc, variant forms of MOBLE, MUCK.

†**Mucage.** *Med. Obs.* [a. med.L. *mūcāgo* (*mūcāgin-*), f. *mūcus*: see MUCUS.] = MUCILAGE.

1657 TOMLINSON *Renou's Disp.* 194 If the Mucage should be more crass, then the quantity of roots..must be augmented.

†**Muca·ginous,** *a. Obs.* [f. med.L. *mūcāgin-*: see prec. and -OUS.] = MUCILAGINOUS.

1657 TOMLINSON *Renou's Disp.* 133 External Unguents, mucaginous Salves, and Pultises. 1806 ABERNETHY *Surg. Obs.* II. 87 The soapy or mucaginous feel of bile.

Mu·cate. *Chem.* [see -ATE.] A salt of mucic acid.

1838 T. THOMSON *Chem. Org. Bodies* 78 They found the mucate of silver composed of Mucic acid [and] Oxide of silver.

Mucche, Mucchel, obs. ff. MOUCH *v.*, MICKLE.

Muccilaginous, obs. form of MUCILAGINOUS.

Muccinigo, variant of MOCCENIGO.

Muocomucoo, obs. form of MOCO-MOCO.

Muccudum, variant of MOKADDAM.

Mucculent, Muccus: see MUCULENT, MUCUS.

Muce, variant of MEUSE.

Mucedin (miusī·din). *Chem.* [f. L. *mūcēdo* (see MUCEDINOUS) + -IN.] A nitrogenous substance, one of the constituents of gluten.

1871 WATTS tr. *Gmelin's Handbk. Chem.* XVIII. 443 Wheat-mucedin...Properties. Mucedin, which is gummy when separated, forms, after drying in a vacuum, slightly coherent lumps [etc.]. *Ibid.* 444 Rye-mucedin. 1879 *Encycl. Brit.* X. 696 It [*sc.* gluten]..according to Ritthausen consists of *glutencasein..,glutenfibrin,gliadin..,glutin*, and *mucedin.*

Mucedinous (miusī·dinəs), *a. Bot.* [f. L. *mucēdin-*, *mūcēdo* mucus (in mod.L. used for 'mould', after L. *mūcēre* to be mouldy) + -OUS.] Having the character of mould; resembling mould.

1857 BERKELEY *Cryptog. Bot.* § 224 A mucedinous mass of threads or cells from which the plant grows. 1867 J. HOGG *Microsc.* II. i. 332 Another more closely connected growth of mucedinous fungi, commonly called mushroom spawn.

Muceron, obs. form of MOUSSERON.

Much (mʌtʃ), *a.*, quasi-*sb.* and *adv.* Forms: 3–6 **muche, miche, moche,** 4–6 **meche, mouche, mych(e,** 5–6 **moch, mich,** 5 **mech,** 6 **mutch, mitch, mytch, mushe,** 3– **much.** [Early ME. *muche, moche, meche, miche,* shortened from *muchel, mochel, mechel, michel*: see MICKLE.

The shortening may have been suggested by the relation of *lut* to the longer form *lutel* (see LITE and LITTLE *adjs., advs.*, and *sbs.*). The cause, however, may have been phonetic; another instance of the loss of *l* after *ch* seems to exist in *wench*, 14th c. *wenche*, app. from early ME. *wenchel.*]

A. *adj.*

1. = GREAT *a.*, in various applications.

†**a.** with reference to size, bulk, stature. Of persons, occas.: Adult, grown up. *Obs.*

Surviving in certain names of English villages, as Much Burstead, Much Leighes (now Great Leighs), Much Wenlock (in 17th c. also More Wenlock). Cf. GREAT *a.* 6 e.

c 1205 LAY. 28036 Al þere muche halle rof mid hire honden heo to-droh. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 4467 A stounde sate þey by me styl And drogh furþ a moche boke. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. IX. 61 A Muche Mon, me þouhte lyk to my-seluen. *c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 323 In þis maner þou schalt bringe in þe boon of a child wel ynow. If it be a miche man, lete him ligge adoun strei3t. *c* 1450 *Merlin* I. 97 Antor, that hadde this childe norisshed till he was a moche man of xv yere of age, he hadde hym trewly norisshed, so that he was faire and moche. 1460 CAPGRAVE *Chron.* (Rolls) 132 This William mad Westminster Halle: and whan he sei it first, he seide it was not half mech inow. 1509 BARCLAY *Shyp of Folys* (1874) I. 112 Whiche in a nother's iye can spye a lytell mote And in his owne can nat fele nor espye A moche stycke. 1573 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 38 A sheepe marke, a tar kettle, little or mitch, two potties of tar to a pottle of pitch.

†**b.** with reference to power, rank, importance, or eminence. *Obs.*

c 1205 LAY. 11537 Hercne Maximian þu ært of much cunne. *c* 1325 *Chron. Eng.* (Ritson) 11 A muche mon com from Troye, y wis, Wes icleped Bruyt Sylvius. *a* 1400 *Pistill of Susan* 315 Bi þe muche god, þat most is of miht. *a* 1450 MYRC 1268 Any mon myche or luyte.

†**c.** with reference to amount or degree. *Obs.*

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 203 þe me ledeð fram miche wowe to michele wele. 13.. *Guy Warw.* (A.) 164 Al þai wonderd strongliche, For his feirhed was so miche. 1697 J. BLAIK in W. S. Perry *Hist. Coll. Amer. Col. Ch.* I. 15 Those Gentlemen sold themselves so much bargains of the Kings tobacco that [etc.].

†**d.** said of a numerical aggregate, proportion, etc. *Much deal*: a great part; also *advb.* in great part, largely. *Obs.*

c 1205 LAY. 14224 A-buten he hilæde muche [*c* 1275 moche] del of londe. *c* 1275 *Ibid.* 3689 3eo sal fare mid þee mid mochere [*c* 1205 mochelere] ferde. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 4920+32 He lay muchedel of þe nyʒt in wo & in sorwe. *Ibid.* 7719 Monye heyemen of þe lond in prison he huld strong, So þat muchedel engelond þoʒte is lif to long. 1413 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton 1483) IV. xxvi. 72 What so euer the body hath done, he hath hit done by the, be it good or bad, and moch dele by thyn excitacion. 1509 BARCLAY *Shyp of Folys* (1874) I. 76 Of other folys yet is a moche nomber. 1531 *Dial. on Laws Eng.* II. xxv. 54 b, Moche parte of the lawe is in suche speche that fewe men haue knowlege of it. 1566 DRANT *Horace, Sat.* vi. D vj, My many muche, my traine of men. 1609 BIBLE (Douay) *Exod.* i. 9 Behold the people of Israel is much, and stronger than we.

†**e.** qualifying the designation of a person with the sense: Entitled to the designation in a high degree. *Obs.*

c 1325 *Spec. Gy de Warewyke* 102 Nu i wole nempne þe wicke þewes, þat beþ noht gode, ac muche shrewes. *a* 1400 HYLTON *Scala Perf.* (W. de W. 1494) II. xviii, Sothly he were a moche foole. *c* 1400 *Gamelyn* 230 Whyl thou were a yong boy a moche schrewe thou were.

†**f.** const. *in, of* (some quality). *Obs.*

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 4011 Florens was nat so moche yu lore, Yu preyours he was euermore. *c* 1460 *Play Sacram.* 194 In eraclea ys noon so moche of myght.

2. A great quantity or amount of, existing or present in great quantity.

In *as much, so much, thus much, how much, that much, this much*, the adj., like others of similar meaning, often loses its distinctive sense and expresses merely relative quantity (whether great or small). For idiomatic uses of these collocations, see the first words. *Too much*: see TOO.

c 1205 LAY. 136 Muche lond he him 3ef. *a* 1300 *K. Horn* 1211 (Camb. MS.) Wyn nelle ihc, Muche ne lite, Bute of cuppe white. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 305 For aquitaunce [þei] taken moche gold. *c* 1425 *Hampole's Psalter* Metr. Pref. 15 Mych vertu he may him wynne. *c* 1435 *Torr. Portugal* 1399 She loke the ryngis with moche care. 1458 in Parker *Dom. Archit.* III. 41 In labor & lavyng moche money was lore. 1523 [COVERDALE] *Old God & New* (1534) H iv b, The tree hath miche worke to growe. 1535 — *Deut.* xxviii. 38 Thou shalt cary out moch sede in to ye felde, and shalt gather but litle in. 1601 SHAKS. *Jul. C.* I. ii. 177, I am glad that my weake words Haue strucke but thus much shew of fire from Brutus. 1710 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 10 Oct., Mr. Harley..presented me to the Attorney-General, Sir Simon Harcourt, with much compliment on all sides, etc. 1831 COLERIDGE *Table-t.* 2 Aug., There is much beast and some devil in man. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 81 There is much truth in that remark of yours. 1903 *Mission Field* May 17 Over as much space as possible.

ellipt. 1766 GOLDSM. *Vic. W.* viii, An amour, which promises little good fortune, yet may be productive of much.

†**b.** Qualifying *people*, etc.: A great number of. *c* 1205 LAY. 23204 Muche moncum [*c* 1275 moche folk] he þer of-sloh. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* I. i. 36 There was.. moche peple slayne. 1538 LONDON in *Lett. Suppress. Monast.* (Camden) 225 Thys ys a towne of moch power people. 1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* II. vi. 7 Let vs know, If 'twill..carry back to Cicelie much tall youth That else must perish heere. 1611 BIBLE *Num.* xx. 20 And Edom came out against him with much people.

†**c.** *Much thing*: many a thing, many things.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 49 So schal I moche thing foryete. *c* 1450 *Merlin* I. 17 The Iuges seiden he moste be counynge of moche thynge yef he shulde sane his moder.

†**d.** Used (where *many* would now be substituted) with a plural sb. taken collectively. *Obs.*

1565 STAPLETON tr. *Bede's Hist. Ch. Eng.* Ded., The same Emperour after much disputations and conferences had with the Arrians,..commaunded [etc.]. 1591 SPARRY tr. *Cattan's Geomancie* 165 This figure..sheweth that the seruantes of the saide Lords shall get much friends. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* I. i. 8 For this releefe much thankes. 1660 GAUDEN *Brownrig* 238 All these died..in the foresight and fear of much future miseries impending over us. 1664 PEPYS *Diary* 17 July, After dinner walked to my Lord's, and there found him and much other guests at table at dinner. 1719 D'URFEY *Pills* III. 315 Much Pagan Pates, he made to tumble in Dust.

e. Forming with its sb. a kind of combination, with the abstract sense 'abundance of' (what the sb. denotes).

1609 BIBLE (Douay) 2 *Kings* i. Comm., Elias was knowen by his much hayre. 1630 WINTHROP *New Eng.* (1825) I. 377 My much business hath made me too oft forget Mondays and Fridays. 1650 W. BROUGH *Manual* (1659) 214 Keep me from the much evill of an Idle life! 1872 TENNYSON *Last Tournament* 724 Now mocking at the much ungainliness..of Mark. 1891 KIPLING *Light that Failed* (1900) 39 A pale yellow sun..showed the much dirt of the place.

f. *ironically*, where *no* would be used in serious language. Also in the derisive wish *Much good may it do you* (formerly in many corrupt forms: see DICH = do it).

1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 84 In the waye of mockage, liddyng muche good dooe it hym. 1598 B. JONSON *Ev. Man in Hum.* IV. iv, Much wench, or much sonne! 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* IV. iii. 2 Is it not past two a clock? And heere much Orlando. 1622 MABBE tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* I. 209 So many Ryals (Gentlemen) and so many Maravedis miche yee God diche you, and you are hartily welcome. 1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 87 So mich God dich you with your sustenancelesse sance. 1783 [see GOOD C. 5 a]. 1843 DICKENS *Christmas Carol* i, 'Let me leave it [Christmas] alone, then,' said Scrooge. 'Much good may it do you. Much good it has ever done you!' *Mod.* Much right he has to interfere with me!

3. With agent-noun: that is much in the habit of performing the action. *rare.* [From the *adv.*]

1711 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 28 Apr., I have heard them say, 'Much talkers, little walkers'. 1833 LAMB *Elia* Ser. II. Pref. (1865) 236 Your long and much talkers hated him.

B. *absol.* and quasi-*sb.*

The word never completely assumes the character of a sb.; in sense 2 it admits of being qualified by advs. like *very, rather.* Unlike *little*, it never takes the indefinite article.

†**1.** Used *absol.* in the sense 'great'. Only in the phrases *much and lite, much and little* = persons high and low; all (people) without exception. *Obs.*

13.. *Seuyn Sag.* (W.) 1137 He let of-sende moche and lite, Hise neyebours to visite. *a* 1375 *Cursor M.* 23154 (Fairf.) Wite 3e for-soþal þat is suche sal be dampned litel & muche. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 494 He ne lafte nat..to visite The ferreste in his parisshe, muche and lite.

2. A great deal, a great quantity. Proverb *Much will have more.*

13.. *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* xlix. 53 3if þou haue muchel, muche 3ine also; 3if þou haue nouʒt, muche þou schalt 3iue. *c* 1350 *Old Usages Winchester* in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 355 To þe clerk a peny. 3if he selleþ meche by 3ere; and 3if he sulleþ lasse, vp-on þe quantite. *a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* (1906) 74, I wylle not say moche nor al. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* II. i. 55 He misses not much. 1615 W. LAWSON *Country Housew. Gard.* (1626) 5 Much will haue more: and once poore, seldome or neuer rich. 1710 *Tatler* No. 241 P 1 He who drinks much is a Slave to himself. 1814 BYRON *Lara* I. xvii, In him inexplicably appear'd Much to be loved and hated, sought and fear'd. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* ii. I. 169 He bestowed much; yet he neither enjoyed the pleasure nor acquired the fame of beneficence. 1885 *Times* 25 May 10 Much is due to the prejudices of well-meaning but uncultured people.

b. followed by *of* partitive.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 438 Siche apostataes marreu meche of Cristis ordre. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 38 The French king..lost muche of his people. 1655 tr. *Com. Hist. Francion* XII. 29 There must be much of Malice in his accusation. *a* 1761 CAWTHORN *Antiquarians* 85 Pythagoras ..With much of thought, and pains, and care, Found [etc.]. 1817 JAS. MILL *Brit. India* III. VI. i. 10 That friendship..which Mr. Hastings claimed so much of merit for maintaining. 1871 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (ed. 2) IV. xvii. 84 There was room for much of thoughtful consultation.

c. with *the* (or other defining word).

1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 631 Therefore the French aucthors make of a litle, much, and yet their much (all things consydered) is in effect nothing at all. 1594 CAREW *Huarte's Exam. Wits* (1616) 11 Our vnderstanding is not filled by the much which wee read in little time. 1646 H. P. *Medit. Seige* 69 How apt are they to boast the little they have done, whilst they utterly forget the much that is behinde? 1700 DRYDEN *Iliad* I. 250 Nor grudge I thee, the much the Grecians give; Nor murm'ring take the little I receive. 1778 BURKE *Corr.* (1844) II. 247 If I, or mine, can contribute our mite, or our much,..we shall not omit to serve you. 1804 EUGENIA DE ACTON *Tale without Title* III. 190 Every one endeavoured to say something of the much with which his heart was filled. 1866 G. MEREDITH *Vittoria* xxxi, The much which hangs on little was then set in motion.

d. *By much*: by a great deal. † Formerly often (with comparative or superlative, or *too*) = *much* adv.

c 1450 Myrc (1902) 1517 A-bregge hys penaunce þen by myche. 1536 Cromwell in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) II. 16 Whiche his grace will neyther by moche seke ne yet refuse if it be put unto him. 1622 Gataker *Spirituall Watch* (ed. 2) 87 [Death] is neerer by much many times then we are aware of. 1628 Digby *Voy. Medit.* (Camden) 46 Now my shippe outsayled all my fleete by much. *a* 1634 Randolph *Muses' Looking-Gl.* iv. i, She hath made this cheek By much too pale. 1793 *Minstrel* III. 185 The third, by much the least hardened,..was struck with remorse.

e. In negative or interrogative context: Any great amount, anything important.

1871 G. Meredith *H. Richmond* xl, It was comical and not likely to lead to much. *Mod.* I do not think the evidence amounts to very much. Does all this come to much? No!

f. *To think much of*: see Think *v.* *To make much of*: see Make *v.* 18 d, 21, Of 20.

g. Used predicatively. *To be much*: to be a great thing, an important point, matter, etc. *To think (it) much* (with *inf.*): to regard as important or onerous; to be 'shy of' (doing something). *Not to be much to look at*: to be of insignificant or unattractive appearance.

c 1325 *Spec. Gy de Warewyke* 150 Sinful men þat þinkeþ it were muche for hem To haue gret worldes honour. 1568 Grafton *Chron.* II. 301 They thought it much if they coulde bring the French King..in safetie to Burdeaux. 1610 Shaks. *Temp.* I. ii. 252 Thou..thinkst it much to tread ye Ooze Of the salt deepe. 1618 W. Lawson *New Orchard* (1623) 24 For men not knowing..this secret of needfull distance,..thinke much to pull vp any [trees], though they pine one another. 1622 Bacon *Hen. VII.* 234 It was also much, that one that was so great a Louer of Peace should bee so happy in Warre. 1667 Milton *P. L.* x. 219 He..thought not much to cloath his Enemies. 1671 Tillotson *Serm.* i. 30 It is much, if Men were from eternity, that they should not find out the way of Writing in all that long long duration which had past before that Time. 1700 Dryden *Wife of Bath* 78 The ladies..thought it much a man should die for love, And with their mistress join'd in close debate. 1861 Dickens *Gt. Expect.* v, You are not much to look at. 1875 *Encycl. Brit.* II. 252/1 All men allow their beards, whiskers, and moustaches full growth, though none of these are much to speak of.

h. *Much of a* . . . (colloq.): in negative contexts = 'a great . . .', 'a . . . of any noteworthy quality', 'a . . . in any great degree'.

1843 Dickens *Christmas Carol* iii, What's the consequence? He don't lose much of a dinner. 1889 J. K. Jerome *Three Men in Boat* 114 You don't look for much of a voice in a comic song. *Mod.* He is not much of a scholar.

i. *ironically* (cf. A 2 e above).

Mod. Much you know about the matter!

3. With modified sense, in absolute uses of the adj. as qualified by *as*, *so*, *thus*, *how*, *that*, *this*, *too*: see those words and A 2 above.

†b. *Like* or *a like much*: a similar quantity. *Obs.*

1544 Phaer *Regim. Lyfe* (1560) B iv b, Take lytarge of Sylver, and Brymstone, of eche lyke muche, and seethe them. *Ibid.* D iij, Of eche a lyke muche. *c* 1550 Lloyd *Treas. Health* H iij, Take of Castoreum, of Pellytory, of Pyonye rootes, of eche lyke muche make pylles wyth Triakell.

4. *Comb.*, objective with pr. pples., as *much-containing*, *-devouring*, *-enduring*, *-suffering* adjs.

c 1611 Chapman *Iliad* xxiii. 631 The much-suffering man. 1725 Pope *Odyss.* viii. 172 A..much-enduring man. 1828 Pusey *Hist. Eng.* I. 156 In his concise but deep and much-containing essay. 1873 Longf. *Wayside Inn* iii. *Interlude* iii. 32 Wood, To feed the much-devouring fire.

C. *adv.*

1. In a great degree; to a great extent; greatly.

a. qualifying a verb or the whole predication.

a 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 229 Ne ne mei na þing wiðstonden bis wille, þah he muche þolie. 1382 Wyclif *Luke* vii. 47 Manye synnes ben forȝouun to hire, for sche hath loued myche. *a* 1425 *Cursor M.* 10941 (Trin.) Muche þerfore þei mournyng were. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 2 Some in religyon be ryght holy & moche exercysed in goostly conuersacyon. 1573 Baret *Alv.* M. 496 Saie that I am here much against my will. 1603 Shaks. *Meas. for M.* iv. iii. 9 Ginger was not much in request, for the olde Women were all dead. 1662 J. Davies tr. *Olearius' Voy. Ambass.* 422 The Ambassadors ..made him some other Presents, which..made him very much our friend. 1766 Goldsm. *Vic. W.* vii, For my part, I don't much like it. 1785 Cowper *Let. to Newton* 27 Aug., The publisher of it is neither much a friend to the cause of religion nor to the author's memory. 1854 H. Miller *Sch. & Schm.* ii. (1857) 37, I was much a favourite with Uncle James. 1863 W. C. Baldwin *Afr. Hunting* viii. 350 He complained much of his poverty. 1891 E. Peacock *N. Brendon* I. 208 'Thank you very much,' she said. 1902 Eliz. L. Banks *Newspaper Girl* 211 I'm much obliged to you.

b. qualifying comparatives or words implying comparison; occasionally with the intervention of *the* (pron.) before a comparative.

In the 17th c., when *a* or *an* preceded the comparative, *much* was sometimes interposed instead of being placed first. (Strictly, this construction belongs rather to 1 a.)

c 1275 Lay. 3201 He moche þe wodlokere wilnede þat mayde. *Ibid.* 9911 Wel riche was Aruiragus and moche richere was Maurus. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* III. 334 And ȝif it fare þus wiþ hiere penytaunceris..it is moche þe werse on alle ordris. *c* 1450 *Merlin* 4 He dought that yef he dide hym gretter damage, that he wolde be moche wrother. 1505 in *Mem. Hen. VII* (Rolls) 231 Much the less we could come by the very knowledge of that cause for that the queen weared black kerchowes. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* III. ix. 33 Troy, thou art now nought but an idle name,..Though whilome far much greater then thy fame. 1654–66 Earl Orrery *Parthen.* (1676) 370 She manifested by the esteem she plac'd upon the performance, how much a higher one she had for him for whom 'twas performed. 1668–9 Marvell *Corr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 267 It will be some expense, but much otherwise husbanded then formerly. 167. Prideaux *Lett.* (Camden) 64 The translation of Æmilius Porta is much the best. *a* 1674 Clarendon *Surv. Leviath.* (1676) 255 Euripides..is much a graver writer. 1688 Collier *Sev. Disc.* xii. (1725) 385 A grateful..Receiver is much a greater Man than such a pretended Benefactor. 1711 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 170 The much major part of the souldiery. 1711–12 Swift *Jrnl. to Stella* 23 Feb., The Secretary is much the greatest commoner in England. 1766 Goldsm. *Vic. W.* xviii, Our modern dialect is much more natural. 1838 Moore *Mem.* (1856) VII. 218 Nothing much different to add in the subject. 1875 *Encycl. Brit.* II. 707/1 Much the largest river of the peninsula is the Halys.

c. qualifying positive or uncompared adjs. and advs.; = Very. *Obs.* exc. with *like* (now only as quasi-prep.).

c 1449 Pecocke *Repr.* I. x. 53 Y wolde not make me miche bisi forto seie ther aȝens. *c* 1483 Caxton *Dialogues* 32 Vet is he moche dangerous. 1490 — *Eneydos* x. 40 Dydo toke grete playsir in his conuersacyon and deuysed wyth him moche gladely. 1539 Cromwell in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) II. 214 She confesseth in substance, the moche like wordes to have ben told her. 1550 Cranmer *Defence* 65 b, And *contra Adamantium* he writeth much like, saying [etc.]. 1551 Robinson tr. *More's Utop.* Ep. P. Giles (1895) 11 Beynge muche lyke vncourteis, vnthankefull, and chourlishe guestes. 1612 Bacon *Ess., Parents & Child.* (Arh.) 276/1 In nature it is much a like matter. 1650 Earl Monm. tr. *Senault's Man bec. Guilty* 212 Health so dearly bought, cannot be much delightfull. 1796 Mrs. J. West *Gossip's Story* I. 156 'Twas much unkind to go.

d. Used ironically for 'not at all'. Also (now only *U.S.*) *ellipt.* as a derisive exclamation indicating incredulity.

c 1590 Marlowe *Faustus* (2nd vers.) (1631) E 2, *Vint.*.. Come giue it to me againe. *Rob.* I much, when can you tell? 1597 Shaks. 2 *Hen. IV*, II. iv. 143 Since when, I pray you, Sir? what, with two Points on your shoulder? much. 1598–9 B. Jonson *Case is Altered* III. i, And to solicite his remembrance still In his enforced absence, much, I faith. 1599 — *Ev. Man out of Hum.* I. iii, To charge me bring my Graine into the markets: I, much, when I haue neither Barne nor Garner. 1873 'Susan Coolidge' *What Katy did at Sch.* ix, 'Much you don't like oranges?' he said.., 'Much! I've seen you eat two at a time, without stopping.' 1879 Besant & Rice *Seamy Side* 114 'Oh! yes,' he says, 'you think it's yours, do you? Much. I'm the owner, I am.' *Mod.* Much *you* care about my feelings!

2. In modified sense, qualified by *as*, *how*, *so*, *too* (cf. A 2, B 3 above): see those advs.

3. Pretty nearly, approximately. Chiefly qualifying expressions denoting similarity, as in *much as*, *much of an age*, *of a muchness*, *of a size*, *of a piece*; † *much at one*. Also prefixed to *about* prep., to emphasize the notion of indefiniteness.

1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 203 Moche aboute thys same tyme. *a* 1568 Ascham *Scholem.* Pref. (Arb.) 20, I heare saie, you haue a sonne, moch of his age. 1662 J. Davies tr. *Mandelslo's Trav.* 112 The death of Derma, and that of the King of Candy..happened much about a time. 1686 J. S[ergeant] *Hist. Monast. Convent.* 100 The word Allon, which is much at one with Allons in French. *a* 1699 Temple *Misc.* III. i. Wks. 1720 I. 257 All of them left the World much as they found it. 1704 N. N. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* III. 340 It was much about that time. 1739 'R. Bull' tr. *Dedekindus' Grobianus* 136 Old Men are much at one. 1741 *Corr. betw. C'tess Hartford & C'tess Pomfret* (1805) II. 256 The siege and the soldiers are much of a piece with the fire. 1763 Scrafton *Indostan* (1770) 56 He marched against his relation..who was much such a giddy abandoned youth as himself. 1859 W. Collins '*Blow up with the Brig!*', I..lose myself in my memory now, much as I lost myself in my own feelings at the time. 1884 J. G. Bourke *Snake Dance of Moquis* xv, He sprinkled water upon the ground, very much as a Catholic priest would asperse his congregation.

4. 'Often or long' (J.); for a large part of one's time.

1798 Joanna Baillie *Tryal* v. ii, I have been pretty much with him these two days past, and I don't believe he gives me great thanks for my company. 1839 Darwin in *Life & Lett.* (1887) I. 300 Read little, was much unwell, and scandalously idle. *Mod.* I have not been much away from home of late.

5. Comb.: (*a*) with pa. pples., as in *much-admired*, *-loved*, *valued*; (*b*) with pples. of indirect passive, as in *much talked of*; (*c*) with adjectival phrases composed of *to be* and pa. pple., as in *much-to-be-admired*, *-to-be-pitied*.

1595 Shaks. *John* iv. ii. 73 A much troubled brest. 1612 Drayton *Poly-olb.* xvi. 311 To much beloued Lee, this scarcely Sturt had spoke. 1634–5 Brereton *Trav.* (Chetham Soc.) 175 Although there be many grafts of the old thorn engrafted, yet all (save this) degenerate from this much-to-be-admired budding and blossoming at this time. 1645 R. Baillie *Lett. & Jrnls.* (Bannatyne Club) II. 267 The much-talked of weakness of our army. 1785 Burns *Cotter's Sat. Night* xx, A virtuous populace may rise the while, And stand a wall of fire around their much-lov'd Isle. 1791 Boswell *Johnson* (1831) I. 310 His much-valued friend. 1820 Southey *Wesley* I. 180 This so much-to-be-admired eternal Providence. 1873 Howells *Chance Acquaintance* i. (1883) 23 A much-galleried hotel. 1879 Huxley *Hume* i. 56 This full-crammed and much-examined generation.

Much (mʌtʃ), *v. dial.* [f. Much *quasi-sb.*] *trans.* To make much of; to pet, fondle, caress.

1736 Pegge *Kenticisms* (E.D.S.) 38 To much a child, to fondle it when it is peevish. 1848 Lowell *Fable for Critics* Poet. Wks. (1879) 154 As soon as she's touched it And (to borrow a phrase from the nursery) *muched* it.

Muchache, -ate, -ato(e, obs. ff. Mustachio.

Muchalka, -are, var. ff. Muchulka, Micher.

Muche, obs. form of Mouch *v.*

Muchel(e, -ell, -head, -ness: see Mickle, etc.

Mucherus, variant of Mochras.

† Muchet. *Obs.* [a. F. *mouchet.*] A tuft.

1601 Holland *Pliny* II. 4 A fourth kind of linnen..commeth from a certaine fennie reed..I meane the tender muchets or chats thereof.

† Mu·chfold, *a. Obs.* [f. Much *a.* + -fold.] = Manifold *a.*

1382 Wyclif *Eph.* iii. 10 The mochefold wysdom of God. 1387–8 T. Usk *Test. Love* I. viii. (Skeat) I. 43 Thou were ensample of moche folde errour.

† Much good. *Obs. rare.* Mountain parsley.

1597 Gerarde *Herbal* II. cccLxxxii. 863, 864. 1665 Lovell *Herbal* (ed. 2) 292 Much good, see Mountain parsly.

† Muchhead. *Obs. rare*—[1]. [f. Much *a.* + -head, -hood.] = Micklehead.

13.. *K. Alis.* 7352 Pors afyed in his streynthe, In his muchehed, and in his leynthe.

Muchil, -in, variant forms of Mickle, Mucin.

Muchi-ras, variant of Mochras.

† Muchity. *Obs. rare.* [f. Much *a.* + -ity.] **a.** A thing of importance. **b.** Great bulk or size.

1621 Br. Mountagu *Diatribæ* 72 For those especially observed mutchities, in the eyght last Chapters, I haue reason to think..they were also scored vnto your hand. *Ibid.* 221 Liberality is discouered two wayes: by the Quality, and goodnesse of the gift: by the quantity and muchity of what is presented.

Muchly (mʌ·tʃli), *adv.* Now *jocular.* [f. Much *a.* + -ly[2].] Much, exceedingly.

1621 *MS. Bibl. Reg.* 17 B. xv. (Halliwell) The Ladie Cantabrigia..Went gravelie dight to entertaine the dame, They muchlie lov'd, and honor'd in her name. 1647 J. Birkenhead *Assembly-Man* (1662–3) 14 Commonly 'tis larded with fine new words, as Savingable, Muchly, Christ-Jesusness [etc.]. 1881 Miss Braddon *Asph.* I. 33 Thank you muchly. And now my box? 1882 Morris in Mackail *Life* (1899) II. 70, I took this place muchly for the sake of its water-power.

† Much-making, *vbl. sb. Obs. rare.* [f. Much *quasi-sb.* + Making *vbl. sb.* Cf. *to make much of*: see Make *v.* 18 d., 21.] The action of making much (of a person or thing).

a 1656 Hales *Serm. Eton* I. (1673) 4 Sick persons must not look for smoothing, and much-making, but for that which fits their malady. 1828 E. Irving *Last Days* 6 The admiration and much making either of the love of Christ or the work of the Spirit.

Muchness (mʌ·tʃnés). Also 4 mochenesse, 5 -nes. [f. Much *a.* + -ness: cf. Mickleness.]

† 1. Large size or bulk; bigness; also, size, magnitude (large or small). *Obs.*

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* v. xli. (1495) 158 Yf the mylte is somdeale more drawynge to lityhnesse thanne to mochenesse it is a sygne and token of good complexyon. 1496 *Fysshynge w. Angle* (1883) 30 The gogen is a good fisshe of the mocheness. 1572 J. Jones *Bathes of Bath* II. 17 By reason of the smalnesse or muchnesse of the same. 1631 R. Bolton *Comf. Afft. Conse.* (1635) 296 It is not so much the muchness and measure of our sorrow, as the truth and heartinesse which fits us for the promises and comforts of mercy.

2. Greatness in quantity, number, or degree.

a 1400 Hylton *Scala Perf.* (W. de W. 1494) II. xxxiv, The endles mochenes of the loue of god. 1559 *Mirr. Mag., Jas. I*, xviii, Attaste no poyson..beware eke of to much, All kil through muchnes, sum with only touche. 1669 Pepys *Diary* 27 Mar., To bed, my head a little troubled with the muchness of the business I have upon me at present. 1744 T. Eayre in *Mem. W. Stukeley* (Surtees) I. 368 [I] do fear the muchness of the worke will prevent it. 1863 Hawthorne *Our Old Home* (1883) I. 66 She imposes awe and respect by the muchness of her personality. 1887 James in *Mind* No. 45. 15 We have relations of muchness and littleness between times,..as well as spaces.

b. An instance of this.

1674 N. Fairfax *Bulk & Selv.* 21 After the nice brattling out of reality, into muchnesses and littlenesses, there falls to the share of this, as little as may be. *a* 1680 Charnock *Attrib. God* (1834) II. 677 He will have a muchness of mercy for those that are prepared..by faith and repentance. 1893 J. Moyes in *Dublin Rev.* Apr. 246 A muchness of going and coming between Rome and this country.

3. *Much of a muchness*: much of the same importance or value; very much the same or alike. *colloq.*

1728 Vanbr. & Cib. *Prov. Husb.* I. i, *Man.* I hope..you and your good woman agree still? *L. Moody.* Ay, ay; much of a muchness. 1845 De Quincey *Goldsmith* Wks. 1857 VI. 217 Compare Addison's age..with Goldsmith's..the two ages will be found to offer 'much of a muchness'. 1893 Kath. Simpson *Yorks. Stories* 255 Gifts seem to me much of a muchness. They are apt to create a sense of obligation.

Mucht, obs. pa. t. of May *v.*[1]

‖ Muchulka (mʌtʃʊ·lkă). Also 9 muchelka, muchalka, moochulka. [Hindī *mučalkā.*] A written bond.

1803 Wellington in Gurw. *Desp.* (1844) I. 323 The soubahdar insisting upon the man giving a muckelka [*sic*] to produce the stolen goods was an assumption of authority, highly unwarrantable. 1818 Sir T. Munro in Gleig *Life* (1849) 265 Lord B—— told me that I should have ten thousand pagodas per annum, and all my expenses paid;..I never thought of taking a Muchalka from Lord B——, because [etc.]. 1886 Yule & Burnell *Anglo-Ind. Gloss.*, *Moochulka.*

† Mu·chwhat, *sb.* and *adv. Obs.* [f. Much *adv.* + What *pron.*] **a.** *sb.* Many matters. **b.** *adv.* Greatly; nearly, almost; just; 'pretty much', 'pretty well'. (Very common in the 17th c.)

a. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kni.* 1280 Þus þay meled of much-quat, til myd-morn paste.

b. 1494 Fabyan *Chron.* v. cxxiii. 100 He was by theyr counceyll moch what aduyzed and gyded. 1548 Gest *Pr. Masse*

L vj, Notwithstanding..I hertofor haue moch what vehemently gaynsayd the preuie masse. 1619 W. SCLATER *Exp. 1 Thess.* (1630) 450 They think of this second Adam, much what as Pelagians of the first. 1631 WEEVER *Anc. Funeral Mon.* 138 Their first comming into England was much what about the yeare 1414. 1662 GLANVILL *Lux Orient.* xiv. 148 All things proceed much-what in like manner as before. 1701 COLLIER *M. Aurel.* (1726) 201 The world in a dream, and the world out on't, will appear much what the same thing.

Mucic (miū·sik), *a. Chem.* [a. F. *mucique*, f. L. *mūc-us* : see MUCUS and -IC.] *Mucic acid*: an acid formed by the action of dilute nitric acid upon various kinds of gum. *Mucic ether*, an ether obtained from mucic acid.

1809 YOUNG in *Phil. Trans.* XCIX. 158 Sulfuric acid 1000 ..Mucic 900. 1838 T. THOMSON *Chem. Org. Bodies* 337 Of mucic ether ..One part of mucic acid was mixed wit parts of sulphuric acid. *c* 1865 J. WYLDE in *Circ. Sci.* I 412/2 Mucic acid is obtained by the action of nitric acid on gum, and the sugar of milk.

Mucid (miū·sid), *a. rare.* [ad. L. *mūcid-us*, f. *mūcēre*, to be mouldy.] Mouldy, musty.

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Mucid*, fined, hoary, mouldy, filthy. 1694 WESTMACOTT *Script. Herb.* (1695) 6 A few mucid and decayed Anise-Seeds. 1710 T. FULLER *Pharm. Extemp.* 213 And where they..find it degenerated into Mucid, Salt or Sharp, they..reduce it to Freshness. 1837 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* I. 57/1 A lazy old water wheel, which lifts into elevated reservoirs the mucid quantum of supply.

Hence **Muci·dity, Mu·cidness,** *rare*—°.

1658 PHILLIPS, *Mucidity*, or *Mucour*, mouldinesse, hoarinesse, filthinesse. 1731 BAILEY vol. II, Mucidness.

Mucidine, erroneous form of MUCEDINE.

Mucidous (miū·sidəs), *a. rare*—°. [f. L. *mūcid-us* MUCID + -OUS.] = MUCID.

1866 *Treas Bot.*, *Mucidous*, musty; smelling of mouldiness.

† **Mu·ciduct.** *Obs. rare*—¹. [f. L. *mūc-us* MUCUS + *duct-us* DUCT. Cf. MUCODUCT.] A canal (in the root of a plant) by which mucilage is conveyed.

1672-3 GREW *Anat. Roots* I. iii. § 18 The proper Liquor of these Muciducts.

Muciferous (miūsi·fĕrəs), *a.* [f. mod.L. type **mūcifer* (f. *mūc-us* MUCUS + *-fer* bearing) + -OUS : see -FEROUS.] Secreting or conveying mucus.

1842 *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* II. No. 10. 36 These hollow places..are excavated..by long maceration of the soft muciferous foot upon the rock. 1881 GÜNTHER in *Encycl. Brit.* XII. 689/2 Bones of the head with wide muciferous channels. 1882 TENISON-WOODS *Fish & Fisheries N. S. Wales* 8 This perforated line is provided with abundant nerves, and is called the *muciferous* system.

Mucific (miūsi·fik), *a. Phys.* and *Path.* [f. L. *mūc-us* + -FIC.] Producing mucus.

1833-55 in DUNGLISON *Med. Lex.*

Muciform (miū·sifōm), *a. Phys.* [f. L. *mūc-us* + -FORM.] Resembling mucus.

1833-55 in DUNGLISON *Med. Lex.*

Mucigen (miū·sidʒĕn). *Chem.* [f. L. *mūcus* : see MUCUS and -GEN 1.] The substance of the granules forming a mucous cell.

1876 in DUNGLISON *Med. Lex.* 1882 *Quain's Anat.* (ed. 9) II. 225 The clear substance which accumulates within the cells is not mucin, but a precursor of mucin, which is termed 'mucigen'.

Mucigenous (miūsi·dʒĕnəs), *a.* [f. L. *mūcus* + -GEN + -OUS.] **a.** Producing mucus. **b.** Of the nature of mucigen.

1886 *Buck's Handbk. Med. Sci.* II. 448/2 The transparent mucigenous .. substance has almost wholly disappeared. 1888 *Nature* 13 Dec. 168/1 Out of the breeding season none of these mucigenous cells are to be found in the kidneys.

Mucilage (miū·silĕdʒ). Forms: 5 **muscillage**, 5–7 **muscilage**, 6 **muscellage, musilage, mus(se)lege, mucculage**, 6–7 **mucillage**, 7 **mussilage, mus(i)lidge, mucilege**, 8 **mucillage**, 9 **musilage**, 7– **mucilage.** [a. F. *mucilage* (14th c.), ad. late L. *mūcilāgo* (*c* 400) musty juice (whence Sp. *mucilago*, Pg. *mucilagem*, It. *mucillaggine, mucellaggine*), f. L. *mūcus* MUCUS.]

1. A viscous substance obtained from the roots, seeds, and other parts of plants by maceration in water. Also *pl.* in the same sense.

c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 245 Tempere hem wiþ muscilage of fenigrec. 15.. in *Vicary's Anat.* (1888) App. ix. 221 Put in x vnces of the saide muscellage. 1575 TURBERV. *Falconrie* 222 A mucillage of Psillium. 1681 tr. *Willis' Rem. Med. Wks.* Vocab., *Mucilage*, thick boiling up of a thing to a gelly, or thick consistency. 1746 H. PEMBERTON *Dispens.* 349 Oil of Mucilages. 1747 WESLEY *Prim. Physic* (1762) 118 Boil Comfrey Roots to a thick Mucilage. 1842 PARNELL *Chem. Anal.* (1845) 37 The mucilage may be prepared by rubbing common starch with cold water. 1887 MOLONEY *Forestry W. Afr.* 282 *Urena lobata*, L.—A common Tropical weed, used medicinally as a mucilage.

b. *transf.* A viscous mass, a pulp.

1657–83 EVELYN *Hist. Relig.* (1850) I. 196 The hardest seeds corrupt and are turned to mucilage and rottenness. 1692 BENTLEY *Boyle Lect.* v. 124 A mucilage of bruised spiders. 1766 *Museum Rust.* VI. 318 To pound their bodies and eggs together into one common mucilage. 1812 J. J. HENRY *Camp. agst. Quebec* 96 The meat required no cutting, as it was reduced to a musilage, or at least to shreds.

fig. 1825 *Examiner* 271/2 Their dramatic dialogue is..a mucilage of sentiment without natural bones or substance.

c. *spec.* Chiefly *U.S.* An aqueous solution of gum or of substances allied to it, used as an adhesive (Webster 1897).

In England commonly called 'gum'.

1880 W. NEWTON *Serm. for Boys & G.* (1881) 413 She [a spider] makes mucilage in her body and fastens the two pieces down.

2. A viscous lubricating fluid (e. *g.* mucus, synovia) in animal bodies.

1600 SURFLET *Country Farm* I. xii. 58 The muscilage of shell snailes. 1689 HAVERS *Osteol. Nova* (1691) 201 The Liquor separated by them [*i. e.* the mucilaginous glands] is a Mucilage, which is almost like the white of an Egg. 1717 J. KEILL *Anim. Oecon.* (1738) 120 The most viscid Secretions, such as the Mucilage of the Joints, are separated at the greatest Distance from the Heart. 1718 J. CHAMBERLAYNE *Relig. Philos.* (1730) I. iv. § 8 The Mucilage or Slime of the Stomach. 1802 PALEY *Nat. Theol.* vii. (1819) 76 The slippery mucilage which lubricates the joints. 1831 R. KNOX *Cloquet's Anat.* 566 M. Vauquelin thinks that three substances form the base of the cerumen: a fat oil, an albuminous animal mucilage, and a colouring matter.

3. *Bot.* A gummy secretion present in various parts of vegetable organisms.

1677 GREW *Anat. Fruits* i. § 14 Out of all these sap-vessels, issues a transparent and viscous Mucilage. 1807 J. E. SMITH *Phys. Bot.* 70 The most distinct secretions of vegetables require to be enumerated..Gum or mucilage, a viscid substance..is very general. 1884 BOWER & SCOTT *De Bary's Phaner.* 510 In other woods..a transformation into disorganised masses of mucilage and gum takes place.

b. *Chem.* 'Vegetable gelatine belonging to the amylose group of carbohydrates' (B. D. Jackson *Gloss. Bot. Terms* 1900).

1807 T. THOMSON *Chem.* (ed. 3) II. 293 He concluded that mucilage had been present; for mucilage is composed of carbon, hydrogen, and oxygen. 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem.* (1862) III. 109 Mucilage or bassorin ($C_{12}H_{10}O_{10}$) is a modification of gum which is insoluble in water.

4. *Comb.*, as *mucilage-containing* adj.; also † **mucilage mallow,** *Althæa officinalis*; **mucilage-passage** *Bot.*, a vessel or duct by which mucilage is conveyed.

1578 LYTE *Dodoens* v. xxvii. 586 The Mucculage Mallowe. 1884 BOWER & SCOTT *De Bary's Phaner.* 137 This plant has mucilage-containing sacs and cavities. *Ibid.* 202 Mucilage- and gum-passages in the Marattiaceæ [etc.].

Mucilaginous (miūsilæ·dʒinəs), *a.* Also 7 **muccilaginous.** [ad. F. *mucilagineux*, ad. mod. L. type **mūcilāginōsus*, f. late L. *mūcilāgin-*, (*-āgo*) MUCILAGE : see -OUS.]

1. Having the nature or properties of mucilage; of a soft, moist, and viscous quality or appearance. Also, pertaining to or characteristic of mucilage.

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* III. xxiii. 168 A jelly, or muccilaginous concretion. 1651 FRENCH *Distill.* v. 109 Stones are produced out of water that hath a mucilaginous Mercury, which the Salt..fixeth into stones. 1710 T. FULLER *Pharm. Extemp.* 71 A Pectoral Decoction..is endow'd with a mucilaginous..Sweetness. 1845 DARWIN *Voy. Nat.* xi. (1879) 236 It has a mucilaginous, slightly sweet taste. 1884 M. MACKENZIE *Dis. Throat & Nose* II. 49 Occasionally warm mucilaginous drinks are more soothing. 1884 BOWER & SCOTT *De Bary's Phaner.* 534 In many species..the mucilaginous disorganisation begins early.

2. Containing or secreting mucilage. *Mucilaginous glands*: the fringed vascular folds of the synovial membrane.

1689 HAVERS *Osteol. Nova* (1691) 189, I shall give them a more comprehensive name, such as *Glandulæ Mucilaginosæ*, or the mucilaginous Glands. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* I. 195 In summer they feed on wild grasses, and the leaves of the most mucilaginous shrubs.

Hence **Mucila·ginously** *adv.*, † **Mucila·ginousness.**

1651 FRENCH *Distill.* v. 112 It attracts to it selfe the mucilaginousnesse of the water. 1859 SALA *Two. round Clock* (1861) 79, I have..known them [*i. e.* eggs] by bits of straw and flecks of dirt mucilaginously adhering to their shells.

Mucin (miū·sin). *Phys.* Also 9 **-ine.** [a. F. *mucine*, f. L. *mūc-us* MUCUS : see -IN 1.] The nitrogenous principle of mucus.

1833-55 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex.*, *Mucin*, mucus. 1846 CARPENTER *Princ. Hum. Phys.* (ed. 3) 131 The chief organic constituent [of bronchial and nasal mucus] is a substance termed *Mucin*. 1871 WATTS tr. *Gmelin's Handbk. Chem.* XVIII. 340 Mucin..To be distinguished from the mucin of wheat-gluten. 1872 THUDICHUM *Chem. Phys.* 48 Mucine has never been found in pus.

b. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

1878 FOSTER *Phys.* (ed. 2) 221 The greater part of the protoplasm of the cells has become converted into a mucin-bearing substance. 1882 *Quain's Anat.* (ed. 9) II. 580 The mucin-cells become gradually smaller and less clear. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV. 476 A mucin-yielding modification ..of the connective tissue.

Mucinogen (miūsi·nŏgĕn). *Phys.* [f. MUCIN + -(o)GEN.] = MUCIGEN.

1886 *Buck's Handbk. Med. Sci.* II. 448/2 The sequence, then, is protoplasm, mucinogen, mucin, over and over again.

Mucinoid (miū·sinoid), *a.* and *sb.* [f. MUCIN + -OID.] **a.** *adj.* Resembling mucin. **b.** *sb.* = MUCOID (Webster *Suppl.* 1902).

1900 *Lancet* 28 July 249/1 Mucin and mucinoid bodies.

Mucinous (miū·sinəs), *a.* [f. MUCIN + -OUS.] Pertaining to or resembling mucin.

1863 AITKEN *Pract. Med.* (1866) II. 59 Such [fluids] as contain albuminous, fibrinous, mucinous, or caseinous substances. 1876 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex.*, *Mucinous Cysts... Mucinous exudations.* 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV. 467 Mucinous degeneration of the connective tissue.

Muciparous (miūsi·pārəs), *a.* [f. L. *mūc-us* + *-par-us* producing (f. *parĕre* to bring forth) + -OUS.] Producing or secreting mucus.

1835-6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 310/1 The pituitary membrane..displays numerous pores of muciparous glands. 1878 FOSTER *Text Bk. Physiol.* (ed. 2) 221 In addition to these 'muciparous cells' are seen a number of smaller..cells.

Mucivore (miū·sivō·ɔr). *Ent.* [ad. mod.L. *Mucivora* neut. pl., f. *mūc-us* + *-vor-us* devouring.] A dipterous insect of the family *Mucivora* (Webster 1864). Hence **Muci·vorous** *a.*, 'feeding upon the juices of plants' (*Cent. Dict.* 1890).

Muck (mŏk), *sb.*¹ Forms: 3–4 **muo, 3 mokke**, 3–5 **mukke**, 3–6 **muk**, 3–4, 6 *Sc.* **mok**, 4 **moke**, 4–7 **mucke**, 5–6 **muke**, 6 **mouk**(e, *Sc.* **mwk**, 5– **muck.** [Early ME. *muk*, prob. of Scandinavian origin: cf. ON. *myki* fem., dung (Da. *møg*, in 16th c. *mwgh* neut., *mug, mog, møk*, Norw. *myk*):—**mukīn*-wk. fem., prob. f. OTeut. **muk-* wk. grade of **meuk-* soft (see MEEK *a.*). ON. has the cognate verb *moka* to shovel (manure): see MUCK *v.*]

1. The dung of cattle (usually mixed with decomposing vegetable refuse) used for manure; farm-yard manure. Now chiefly *dial.* and *vulgar.*

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2557 Summe he deden..Muc and fen nt of burȝes beren ðus bitterlike he gun hem deren. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 2301 Þe muk ys þe more stynkyngge Þere þe sunne ys more shynyngge. *c* 1325 *Knowe þi self* 80 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 132 Eueri mok most in-to myre. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. VI. 144 Ac ȝe myȝte trauaille..Diken or deluen..or bere mukke a-felde. 1538 in *Lett. Suppress. Monast.* (Camden) 176 Our lond is not tylde, muke is not led, our corne lyth in the barn [etc.]. 1615 W. LAWSON *Country Housew. Gard.* (1626) 3 Digge a trench halfe a yard deepe,..and fill the same with good short, hot, and tender muckе. 1725 RAMSAY *Gentle Sheph.* II. iii, Is there nae muck to lead? 1813 SIR H. DAVY *Agric. Chem.* (1814) 303 The violent fermentation which is necessary for reducing farm-yard manure to the state in which it is called short muck. 1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* I. ii, The shaky surface of the great muck reservoir. 1890 *Farmer's Gaz.* 4 Jan. 7/3 Want of 'muck' causes want of apples.

† **b.** Applied to other fertilizers. *Obs.*

1669 *Phil. Trans.* IV. 1079 All the ground, where Salt or Brine is spilt, is, when dugg up, excellent Muck for Grazing Ground. 1772 *Projects in Ann. Reg.* 108/1 The ashes, which are called pot-ash muck, make excellent manure.... The principal inducement to make pot-asb is, for the muck.

c. Phr. *Wet as muck* (cf. *muck-wet*).

1782 Miss BURNEY *Cecilia* II. ix, 'But how did you find yourself when you got home, sir?' 'How? why wet as muck.' 1787 WOLCOT (P. Pindar) *Apol. Post. to Ode upon Ode* Wks. 1812 I. 458 Wet as muck.

d. *U.S.* (See quot.)

1862 DANA *Man. Geol.* 614 Muck is another name for peat, ..especially when the material is employed as a manure.

† **2.** *fig.* Contemptuously applied to money. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Sarmun* xx. in *E. E. P.* (1862) 3 Þe wrecchis wringit þe mok so fast up ham silf hi nul noȝt spened. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 147 ȝif þei ben pore..þei ben cursed for þei han not moche muk. *c* 1412 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 1632 But þey þat marien hem for muk & good Only, & noght for loue [etc.]. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 17 The drosse and mucke of this worldly Egypte. 1633 ROWLEY *Match at Midnt.* I. i. B j b, I tell 'em I haue given over Brokering, moyling for mucke and trash. 1710 LADY M. W. MONTAGU *Lett., To Mrs. Wortley* 113 For those that do not regard worldly muck, there is extraordinary good choice indeed.

3. Unclean matter such as soils that upon which it is deposited or to which it adheres; dirt, filth. Also *fig.* Now *vulgar.*

13.. *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* xxxv. 63 Þou proude mon, þou art nouȝt elles But of Muk bretful a sekke. 1439 *Coventry Leet Bk.* (E.E.T.S.) 191 They ordeyne that from thys tyme forward that any muk or fflith be Cast ther by eny person, but ȝif the Comyn seriant do execucion he schall lese his office. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 348/1 Muk, or duste.., *pulvis.* 1505 *Burgh Rec. Edin.* (1869) I. 105 For purgeing and clengeing of the hie streitt..of all maner of mwk, filth of fische and flesche, and fulzie weit and dry. 1533 *Presentm. of Juries* in *Surtees Misc.* (1888) 34 That no man cast eny..mouk uppon the chanell. 1596 DALRYMPLE *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* x. (S.T.S.) 462 Now thair consciences ar compellit be force of the Edictes of the Catholikis, in thair muk to clag and fyle thame selfe. 1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* II. ii. 130. 1661 GLANVILL *Van. Dogm.* xxiv. *Apol. Philos.* 247 The Swine may see the Pearl, which yet he values but with the ordinary muck. 1668 BP. HOPKINS *Serm., Vanity* (1685) 10 Whence is it, that we..lie here groveling in the thick clay and muck of this world? 1682 DRYDEN & LEE *Duke of Guise* III. i, You moving Dirt, you rank stark Muck o' th' World. 1849 DICKENS *Dav. Copp.* iii, Mr. Peggotty went out to wash himself in a kettleful of hot water, remarking that 'cold would never get *his* muck off'. 1861 CALVERLEY *Verses* (1862) 20 Who fled like an arrow, nor turned a hair, Through all the mire and muck.

b. *colloq.* Anything disgusting.

1899 E. PHILLPOTTS *Human Boy* 108 There were bottles of stuff to rub bruises with..and some muck for his eye. *Ibid.* 174 The muck doctors give you.

c. (Commercial slang.) *Muck and truck*: miscellaneous articles of trade.

1898 *Daily News* 22 July 4/7 'Sufficient attention is not paid to muck and truck'. So says the British Consul at Shanghai.

4. *colloq.* or *vulgar.* An uncleanly or untidy condition. *To be in, all of a muck*, to be 'smothered' in dirt. Also *fig.*

1766 GOLDSM. *Vic. W.* ix, She observed, that 'by the living jingo, she was all of a muck of sweat'. 1800 *Sporting Mag.* XVI. 284 'I'm all in such a muck', she cried, 'with so much dust and jolting'. 1876 'MARK TWAIN' *Tom Sawyer* xxiii, When a body's in such a muck of trouble.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *muck* †*-hearted*, †*-sprung* adjs.; **muck-bar** (see quot. 1875); **muck-cart,**

a cart in which 'muck is carried; †**muck crook** = ? *muck-hack*; †**muck-hack**, an implement for raising and dragging manure from the dunghill; †**muck-heaping**, *fig.* amassing of wealth; †**muck-hook** = *muck-hack*; **muck-iron** (see quot.); **muck-man** = SCAVENGER; †**muck-midden**, a dunghill; †**muck-monger**, a miser; **muck-pit**, a cesspool; **muck-roll** (see quot.); †**muckscrap**, a miser; †**mucksled**, a manure cart; **muck-snipe** *slang* (see quot.); **muck-sweat**, profuse sweat; **muck-thrift** = MUCKWORM; †**muckwain**, a manure cart; **muck water**, liquid manure drained from a dunghill; **muckweed** (see quots.); †**muck-wet** *a.*, 'wet as muck' (see 1 c), thoroughly wet.

1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, **Muck-bar*, bar-iron which has passed once through the *rolls*. 14.. *Tournament of Tottenham* 287 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* III. 95 The nedur lippe of a larke Was broght in a *muk cart And set befor the lorde. 1519 in *Archæologia* XXV. 421 For ij dayes worke, fyllyng of the mucke carts. 1573 *Lanc. Wills* (Chetham Soc.) III. 61 One *muckecrooke and thre wymble bitts. 1411 in *Finchale Priory Charters*, etc. (Surtees) p. clviii, Item, j *mokhak. 1465 *Ibid.* p. ccxcix, j mukhak. 1570 *Wills & Inv. N. C.* (Surtees) I. 342 One muck hacke, a grape, and iij forkes viij^d. *c* 1425 HOCCLEVE *Min. Poems* 200/587 Eerthely lone and to greet greedynesse In *muk-hepynge blynden many an herte. 1820 J. SCOTT in *Lond. Mag.* Jan. 14/2 An incurably wretched, grovelling, *muck-hearted creature. 1577 *Wills & Inv. N. C.* (Surtees) I. 420, ij *mocke hoockes one old sleade, and twoo olde ropes. 1766 *Compl. Farmer* s.v. *Fallow-Cleansing*, A man must be ready with a muck-hook to clear them backward. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl., **Muck Iron*, crude puddled iron ready for the squeezer or rollers. 1680 SIR J. FOULIS *Acc. Bk.* 10 Jan. (S.H.S.) 19 To y^e *muckman that dights ye close. 1689 *Depos. Cast. York* (Surtees) 291 Josias Swallow and one John Walker.. buried him in the *muck-midding. *a* 1859 DENHAM *Tracts* (1895) II. 97 There is an old proverb which says, 'The muck-midden is the mother of the meal-ark'. 1566 DRANT *Horace, Sat.* I. vi. D v, If gainegroper or *muckmunger, I can not proue it be. 1598 MARSTON *Sco. Villanie* III. xi, Brothell rime, That stinks like Aiax froth, or *muck-pit slime. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, **Muck-roll*, the *roughing* or first roll of a rolling-mill train. 1589 R. ROBINSON *Gold. Mirr.* (Chetham Soc.) 36 The worldly *Muckscraps for their goods did daily loose their life. 1560 *Burgh Rec. Stirling* (1887) 72 Ane *mwksled, ane hand towall [etc.]. 1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* I. 259 A *muck-snipe, Sir, is a man regularly done up, coopered, and humped altogether. 1647 H. MORE *Cupid's Conflt.* lvi, The *muck-sprung learning cannot long endure. 1699 L. WAFER *Voy.* (1729) 291 They came out..all in a *muck-sweat. 1765 BICKERSTAFFE *Maid of Mill* II. vii. 35 You have put yourself into a muck-sweat already. 1852 D. JERROLD *Wks.* (1864) II. 239 The old *muckthrift..was wont to familiarise his thoughts with the angel of death. 1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 146 It is a wynes occupacyon..to helpe her husbande to fyll the *mucke wayne or donge cart. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 405 To water it with *Muck water..is not practised. 1787 W. MARSHALL *Norfolk* (1795) II. 384 Gloss. *Muckweed, or Fat-hen, *Chenopodium album*, common goose-foot. 1854 MISS BAKER *Northampt. Gloss.*, *Muckweed*, pond-weed. *Potamogeton crispum*? 1567 DRANT *Horace, Epist.* I. xi. E j, *Mucke weete with myer. 1676 *Phil. Trans.* XI. 712 They rose up, finding their Horses muck-wet all over.

Muck (mʊk), *sb.*[2] Also 7 moqua, mocca. [The second syll. of AMUCK erroneously regarded as a sb. preceded by an indefinite article.] In the phrase *to run a muck* (sometimes with adj.) = 'to run AMUCK'. Hence, an act of running amuck.

[1678 J. PHILLIPS tr. *Tavernier's Voy.* II. 199 Behind the Pales a Rascally Bantamois had hid himself; one of those that was newly come from Mecca, and was upon the design of Moqua. *Ibid.* 202 Which the Java Lords seeing, call'd the English Traytors, and drawing their poyson'd Daggers, cry'd *a Mocca* upon the English.] 1687 DRYDEN *Hind & P.* III. 1188 Frontless, and Satyr-proof he scow'rs the streets, And runs an Indian muck at all he meets. 1783 MARSDEN *Sumatra* 241 Those desperate acts of indiscriminate murder, called by us, *mucks* and by the natives *mongamo*. 1848 LOWELL *Biglow P.* Poems 1890 II. 131 The late muck which the country has been running has materially changed my views. 1880 MRS. RIDDELL *Myst. Palace Gard.* xxiv, She would run the pecuniary muck on which she had evidently started.

Muck (mʊk), *v.* Now *rare* exc. *dial.* [f. MUCK *sb.*[1] Cf. ON. *moka* to shovel (manure), Da. *muge*, dial. *moge* to remove dung, clear out a stable.]

1. *trans.* To free from muck. Also *fig.*

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* XXV. (*Julian*) 132 Þe patyl his hand clewyt to, þe muldebred quhen he suld mvk. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* lx. 52 Sa far abowe him sett at tabell That wont was for to muk the stabell. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 181 He..wssit all thingis at..thair consall quho..was not worthie to be in that rowme to haue gevin ane prince counsall bot rather to haue haldin the pleugh..or, witht 3our reverence, had mokit clossitis. 1641 BEST *Farm. Eks.* (Surtees) 102 When they come backe, they fall to muckinge of the stables. 1657 THORNLEY tr. *Longus' Daphnis & Chloe* 170 He muckt the Cottage, lest the dung should offend him with the smell. 1851 *Beck's Florist* 157 He would not half muck his stables out, for he said he wanted his horses to lay warm.

2. To dress with muck, to manure. Also *absol.*

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 341/2 Moke vynys, *pastino*. *Ibid.*, Mokke londe wythe donge, *fimo, infimo*. 1530 PALSGR. 641/2 If this land be well mucked, it wyll beare corne ynough the nexte yere. 1693 EVELYN *De La Quint. Compl. Gard.* II. 172 We transport our rotten Dung to those places we design to muck. 1763 MILLS *Pract. Husb.* I. 102 Ground mucked with horse-dung is always the most infected of any. 1855 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* XVI. I. 135 If you clay heavily..you must muck heavily. 1890 *Farmer's Gaz.* 4 Jan. 7/2 You always muck your orchard, do you not?

†*fig. a* 1555 BRADFORD in Coverdale *Lett. Mart.* (1564) 462 Yf god..beginne to mucke and marle you: to pour hys showers vpon you [etc.]. 1598 MARSTON *Sco. Villanie* II. vii, O Canaans dread curse To liue in peoples sinnes. Nay far more worse To muke ranke hate.

3. *refl.* To 'sweat', fag. *rare.*

1817–18 COBBETT *Resid. U. S.* (1822) 181 They..toil and muck themselves half to death to dig as much ground in a day as a Surrey man would dig in about an hour of hard work.

4. *trans.* To make dirty; to soil. *To muck up*, to litter. Now *vulgar.*

1832 LAMB *Let. to Moxon* in *Final Mem.* viii. 272 'Tis like a dirty pocket-handkerchief, mucked with tears. 1883 STEVENSON *Treas. Isl.* x, You can't touch pitch and not be mucked. 1896 MRS. CAFFYN *Quaker Grandmother* 77, I like them well enough in their places, which isn't mucking up my rooms.

b. *fig.* To make a 'mess' of. *slang.*

1899 KIPLING *Stalky* 190, I shall muck it. I know I shall.

5. *intr. To muck about*, to go aimlessly about; to 'mess around'. *slang.*

1896 KIPLING *Seven Seas, Cholera Camp* (1897) 188 Our Colonel..mucks about in 'orspital.

Hence **Mucked** *ppl. a.*, manured.

1574 *Cal. Laing Charters* (1899) 225 Ane strip on the vest syd of the said Mr. Jhonis mwkit land. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. 73/1 Mucked grounds, is ground spread over with the dung of Beasts. 1890 *Farmer's Gaz.* 4 Jan. 7/2 Every orchard that was last season fruitful was a 'mucked' orchard.

Muckel(le, obs. forms of MUCKHILL.

Muckender (mʊ'kĕndəɹ). *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Forms: 5 mokedore, mokado(u)r, moctour, 6 mocke(n)dar, mucketter, 6–7 mucketer, 7 mucki-, mocketer, 7–9 muckiuder, 9 muckinger, 7– muckender. [In 15th c. *mokedore*, prob. adopted from the equivalent of F. *mouchoir* (see MOUCHOIR) in some Occitanian dialect (see Skeat in *Mod. Lang. Rev.* Oct. 1906, p. 60). Cf. mod.Pr. *moucadour* (Honnorat), Sp. *mocador*, *-dero*, pocket-handkerchief; also It. *moccadore*, *moccatore*, 'one who snuffs a candle' (Florio).

The word presumably come from the language of some district where the article was manufactured. Adoption from Sp. is unlikely for the 15th c., and the Sp. *mocador* is prob. not of native formation, as the vb. corresponding to F. *moucher* seems not to have existed in Sp.]

A handkerchief. † Also, a table-napkin; a bib.

14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 594/29 *Mamphora*, a mokedore. *Ibid.* 614/25 *Sudarium*, a mokedore. *c* 1425 *St. Mary of Oignies* II. x. in *Anglia* VIII. 177/31 A lynnyn moctour, wiþ þe whiche she wipte hir teres. *c* 1450 *Cov. Myst.* xx. (Shaks. Soc.) 190 Goo hom, lytyl babe,..And put a mokador aforn thi brest. 1530 PALSGR. 246/1 Mockendar for chyldre, *mouchoyer*. *Ibid.* 246/2 Mockedar. 1573–80 BARET *Alv.* B 634 A bibbe or mucketter. 1611 COTGR., *Bauerette*, a bib, mocket, or mocketer to put before the bosome of a (slauering) child. 1670 COVEL *Diary* (Hakl. Soc.) 261 Into our lap or on our knee was laid a muckender..to wipe your mouth and beard. *a* 1706 EARL DORSET *To Howard on his Plays* 27 For thy dull fancy a muckinder is fit To wipe the slabberings of thy snotty wit. 1791 H. WALPOLE *Let. to Han. More* 29 Sept., How I laughed at hearing of her throwing a second muckender to a Methusalem! 1815 W. H. IRELAND *Scribbleomania* 262 As for her [Justice's] blinkers,..They've bound 'em up with muckinger. 1843 F. E. PAGET *Warden of Berk.* 22 Shouldn't I tell mother to take the lace off her caps and stitch it round her muckingers?

† **Mu'cker**, *sb.*[1] *Obs.* [f. MUCK *v.* + -ER[1].]

1. A scavenger.

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 246/1 A Mukker, *eruderista*. 1790 BURNS *Let. to Moore* 14 July, As unsightly a scrawl as Betty Byre-Mucker's answer.

2. A money-grubber.

1567 DRANT *Horace, Epist.* II. ii. H vj, What all wherefore so gredelie the moneie mucker carkes. 1584 T. BASTARD *Chrestoleros* (1880) 91 Fye filthy muckers tis not so, Ye erre, God is not goold I know.

Mucker (mʊ'kəɹ), *sb.*[2] *slang.* [f. MUCK *sb.* + -ER[1].] A heavy fall, as in the muck; a 'cropper'. Phrase, *To come, go a mucker*: chiefly *fig.*, to come utterly to grief, to ruin oneself.

1852 KINGSLEY in *Life* (1877) I. 349 The old horse..carned great honour by leaping in and out of the Loddon; only four more doing it, and one receiving a *mucker*. 1869 BP. M. CREIGHTON in *Life & Lett.* (1904) I. iii. 71 We have both of us gone a mucker in a copy of Mendel's lovely engraving. 1876 J. PAYN *Halves* xiv. II. 17 'I should make a point of ..apologising for our unfortunate mistake'. 'Yes, by Jove, a regular mucker', muttered John. 1904 V. L. WHITECHURCH *Canon in Res.* ii. 36, I came a mucker over the bank on my third run.

Mucker (mʊ'kəɹ), *sb.*[3] *U.S. slang.* [Prob. a. G. *mucker* sulky person, gloomy fanatic or hypocrite.] **a.** A fanatic or hypocrite. **b.** 'A person lacking refinement; a coarse, rough person' (*Cent. Dict.* 1890).

1891 in *Cycl. Temp. & Prohib.* (U.S.) 269/2 The saloon-keepers then resolved to make 'the muckers take their own medicine', and insisted that the Mayor should enforce the Sunday law against 'common labor'. 1897 KIPLING *Captains Courageous* x. 242 Don't I know the look on men's faces when they think me a—a 'mucker', as they call it out here?

Mucker (mʊ'kəɹ), *v.*[1] Also 4 mokre, mokere. [? f. MUCK *sb.*[1] + -ER[5].]

1. *trans.* To hoard (money, goods). Also *absol.* and with *up*. *Obs.* exc. *dial.* (see *E. D. D.*).

[1303: implied in MUCKERER.] *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* III. 1326 (1375) Trowe ye, a coueitous, a wreche..þat, of þo pans þat he can mokere & crache Was euere 3it I-3eue hym swich delit As is in lone? 1530 WHITFORD *Werke for Householders* H j, Nygardy..hurdeth & muckereth up he cannot tell for whom. 1548 FORREST *Pleas. Poesye* 56 In tyme of plentie the riche too vpp mucker Corne, Grayne, or Chafre hopinge vppon dearthe. 1604 BABINGTON *Comf. Notes Exod.* xvi. 16 Note how carefull the Lord is to haue men depend vpon his prouidence,..and not wretchedly and despairefully to mucker vp what shall never doe them good. 1755 JOHNSON, *To Mucker*, ..to scramble for money; to hoard up; to get or save meanly: a word..still retained in conversation.

†2. *intr.* To 'moil'. *Obs. rare.*

Cf. the dial. sense 'to be dirty' (see *Eng. Dial. Dict.*).

1566 DRANT *Horace, Sat.* I. i. A j b, And thou that didste disdayne To lyve and leade the Lawyers lyfe Shalt mucker in the grounde.

Hence **Mu'ckering** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

a 1400 *Burgh Laws* lxxiii. (*Sc. Stat.* I.), Gif ony suilke of usage hantys to cum on nycht because of mukeryn and tavernys [*causa lucri vel mali ingenii*] his fysche in house by nycht þe quhilk he sulde sell on þe day in þe mercate he sal geyff til his forfalt viij s. 1556 OLDE *Antichrist* 182 For a muckering vile aduantage sake.

Mucker (mʊ'kəɹ), *v.*[2] *slang.* [f. MUCKER *sb.*[2]] **a.** *intr.* To 'come a mucker'; to come to grief, fail. **b.** *trans.* To ruin (one's chances).

1861 H. KINGSLEY *Ravenshoe* xiv, By-the-bye Welter has muckered; you know that by this time. 1869 'W. BRADWOOD' *The O. V. H.* (1870) 60 It's enough to mucker any chance he has.

† **Mu'ckerer.** *Obs. rare.* Also 4–5 mokerer, 6 *Sc.* mukerar. [f. MUCKER *v.*[1] + -ER[1].] One who hoards wealth.

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 6065 Agens mokerers wyl y þrepe þat gadren pens vn-to an hepe. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* II. Pr. v. 31 (Camb. MS.) Auarice maketh alwey mokereres to ben hated. *c* 1425 AUDELAY *xi Pains of Hell* 112 in *O. E. Misc.* 214 Þese were makers of monè with cursid entent, With wrong mokerers false mesurs and vsere. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VIII. Prol. 54 The mukerar numis in his mynd the meyll gaue na price. 1755 JOHNSON *Muckerer*, ..one that muckers.

Mucket(t)er, obs. forms of MUCKENDER.

Mu'ck-fork = DUNG-FORK 1.

c 1340 *Nominale sive Verbale* (Skeat) 519 *Furche fymere*, mouke-forke. 1453–4 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 150, ij Mukforkez. 1554 in *Midl. Counties Hist. Collector* (1855) I. 234 Itm Spads and mukforks xij^d. 1846 J. BAXTER *Libr. Pract. Agric.* (ed. 4) II. 118 A common muck-fork.

Mu'ck-heap. A manure-heap, midden. Also *fig.*

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 2300 Þogh hyt [*sc.* þe sunne] on þe muk hepe [MS. D. mukhyl] shynes. 1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 17 Leue no dounge there-as the mucke-hepe stode. 1556 OLDE *Antichrist* 192 He hathe brought a confused muckeheape and burthen of ceremonies in to the churche. 1619 FAVOUR *Antiq. Triumph* xx. 518 A very midden or muckheap of all the grossest errors and heresies of the Romane Church. 1889 I. TAYLOR *Orig. Aryans* iii. 182 There were muck-heaps in the palace of Priam.

† **Mu'ckhill,** *sb. Obs.* Forms: see MUCK *sb.*[1] and HILL *sb.*; also, 5 muckelle, 6 mukylle, 7 muckel. [f. MUCK *sb.* + HILL *sb.*] = MUCK-HEAP. Also *fig.*

1303 [see MUCK-HEAP]. 1427 *Coventry Leet Bk.* (E.E.T.S.) 113 Hit was ordeyned þat noman ley no more muke at þe cross beyonde the Newe-3ate, but vppon þe mukhill besidis þe crosse. *c* 1475 *Pict. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 797/33 *Hoc simarium, hoc sterculinium*, a muckelle. 1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 282 They rake vp clods of clay in a confused heape, as it were a muckhil. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* I. ii. II. v. 109 Muckels, draughts, sinkes. *Ibid.* III. iv. I. i. 712 Why dost thou stand gaping on this drosse, muckhills, filthy excrements? *a* 1781 JAGO *Scavengers* 52 Higher than our house our muck-hill rose!

attrib. 1666 BUNYAN *Grace Ab.* § 103 To leap with my head downward into some Muck-hill hole or other.

Hence † **Mu'ckhill** *v. trans.*, to heap *up* with filth.

1596 NASHE *Saffron Walden* T j b, Nor let him muckehill vp so manie pages in saying he lookt for termes of aqua fortis and gunpowder.

† **Mu'ckibus.** *vulgar. Obs.* [A humorous formation from MUCK *sb.*[1], with the ending of a L. ablative pl.] Intoxicated, 'tipsy', 'fuddled'.

1756 H. WALPOLE *Let. to Montagu* 20 Apr., Lady Coventry ..said in a very vulgar accent, if she drank any more, she should be *muckibus*. 'Lord!' said Lady Mary Coke, 'what is that?'—'Oh! it is Irish for *sentimental*'.

Muckinder, obs. form of MUCKENDER.

Muckiness (mʊ'kinĕs). [f. MUCKY *a.* + -NESS.] The state of being mucky or dirty.

1727 in BAILEY vol. II. 1755 in JOHNSON; and in later Dicts.

Mu'cking, *vbl. sb.* [f. MUCK *v.* + -ING[1].]

†1. An application of dung or the like as manure; *concr.* what is applied as manure. *Obs.*

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 569 The sowing of this Pulse in any ground, is as good as a mucking vnto it. 1611 FLORIO, *Letaminatura*, any kind of mucking. *c* 1707 in *Encycl. Brit.* (1853) II. 262/1 A good stubble is the equalest mucking that is.

2. *colloq.* **a.** *pl.* Rubbish, 'mess'. **b.** An act of 'messing about'.

1898 KIPLING in *Morn. Post* 9 Nov. 5/2 She's only burning muckings like the rest of us. She's our 'chummy ship'. 1904 — *Traffics & Discov.* 68 His photographic muckings.

Mucking-togs, perversion of MACKINTOSH.

1842 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. II. *Misadv. Margate*, A little 'gallows-looking chap',..With a 'carpet-swab' and 'muckingtogs', and a hat turn'd up with green.

Muckiter, variant form of MUCKENDER.

Muckle (mʊ'k'l). *Fisheries.* [? subst. use of *muckle* MICKLE *a.* (But cf. Du. *moker* heavy hammer.)] A heavy maul used for killing cod.

1897 KIPLING *Captains Courageous* viii. 153 There was no sound except..the flapping of the cod, and the whack of the muckles as the men stunned them.

Muckle, dial. variant of MICKLE.

Mu·ck-rake, *sb.* A rake for collecting 'muck'. In literary use only *fig.*

The source of the figurative use is Bunyan's description of 'the Man with the Muck-rake', which was intended as an emblem of absorption in the pursuit of worldly gain; but in modern use it is often made to refer generally to a preference for what is comparatively worthless over that which is valuable, or to a depraved interest in what is morally 'unsavoury' or scandalous.

1684 Bunyan *Pilgr.* II. (1900) 184 The Interpreter..has them first into a Room, where was a man..with a Muckrake in his hand. 1870 Spurgeon *Treas. Dav.* Ps. xxxix. 6 Those all-gathering muckrakes, who in due time are succeeded by all-scattering forks, which scatter riches as profusely as their sires gathered them promiscuously. 1872 Schele de Vere *Americanisms* 618 *Muckrakes*,..persons who 'fish in troubled waters', from the idea of their raking up the muck to see what valuable waifs and strays they may find in it. 1895 *Sat. Rev.* 26 Jan. 125 The 'garbage of mythland' that Wagner gathered together with a 'muck-rake'.

So **Mu·ck-rake** *v. nonce-wd. intr.*, to rake refuse together, *fig.* **Mu·ck-raking** *ppl. a.*, *fig.*

1879 F. Harrison *Choice Bks.* iv. (1886) 82 Men, forgetful of the perennial poetry of the world, muckraking in a litter of fugitive refuse. 1906 *Daily Rec. & Mail* 19 Dec. 5 Few popular institutions in America have escaped violent attacks by muck-raking reformers.

Mucksy (mv·ksi), *a. dial.* Also 7–8 (New England) muxy. [f. Muck *sb.* + -sy (cf. *tricksy, clumsy, tipsy*).] 'Mucky', dirty, slushy.

1666–1715 in *1st Cent. Hist. Springfield* (1899) II. 218, 258, etc., The muxy [muxey, muxie] meddow. 1855 Kingsley *Westward Ho!* xiv, Mary runs in,..slips..her best gown over her dirt, and awaits the coming guests, who make a few long faces at the 'mucksy sort of a place'. 1869 Blackmore *Lorna D.* xlvi, When the ground appeared through the crust of bubbled snow..it was all so soaked and sodden, and, as we call it, 'mucksy', that [etc.].

Mu·ckworm. [f. Muck *sb.*1 + Worm.]

1. A worm or grub that lives in 'muck'; in U.S. *spec.* (see quot. 1842).

1685 Horneck *Crucif. Jesus* xxiii. 795 Grovel in the dust like a muckworm. 1842 T. W. Harris *Insects Injur. Veget.* (1862) 31 *note*, There is a grub..which is frequently found under old manure-heaps, and is commonly called muckworm. It..is transformed to a dung-beetle called *Scarabæus relictus* by Mr. Say. 1856 Brimley *Ess.* 230 A human soul metamorphosing itself into a muckworm.

2. *fig.* in various applications. a. A miserly person, 'money-grubber'.

1598 Bp. Hall *Sat.* iv. vi, Each muckworm will be rich with lawless gain. 1681 W. Robertson *Phraseol. Gen.* (1693) 393 He's a covetous fellow, a very muckworm. 1748 Thomson *Cast. Indol.* I. l, Here you a muckworm of the town might see, At his dull desk. 1873 H. Rogers *Orig. Bible* vi. 222 A mere muckworm, sordid and rapacious in the extreme.

b. A person of the lowest origin. ? *Obs.*

1695 Congreve *Love for L.* II. vii, 'Oons whose Son are you? how were you engendred, Muckworm?

c. One who is mentally or morally degraded. In quots. *appositive* and in *Comb.*

a 1635 Randolph *Hey for Honesty* Wks. (1875) 377 Muckworm-minded men. 1751 Smollett *Per. Pic.* xciii, As light-headed as some muck-worm philosophers.

d. A 'gutter-snipe', 'street Arab'.

1859 J. R. Green *Oxf. Stud.* ii. § 4 (O.H.S.) 57 The little Miss..is forbidden to play with the muckworms of the neighbourhood. 1891 Hall Caine *Scapegoat* iii, The veriest muckworm in the market-place spat out at sight of him.

Mucky (mv·ki), *a.* [f. Muck *sb.*1 + -y.]

1. Dirty, filthy, muddy. Not in polite use.

1538 Bp. Shaxton *Injunct.* A iv, Suche thinges as be set forth..vnder the name of holy relyques...Namely of stynkyng bootes, mucky combes, ragged rochettes [etc.]. 1662 J. Chandler tr. *Van Helmont's Oriat.* 151 The residue of the Odour..doth draw a waterish filthiness from the said putrefaction by continuance, and becomes rank, or muckie. 1799 G. Smith *Laboratory* II. 266 The largest fish lie in the eddies and deep mucky waters. 1894 Blackmore *Perlycross* 354 The mucky and murky lane.

b. Of the weather: 'Dirty'; foul; 'thick'. *dial.*

1804 C. B. Brown tr. *Volney's View Soil U. S.* 143 *note*, A mucky breeze from the south. 1903 *Illustr. Lond. News* 7 Nov. 685/3 Till the mucky weather's done.

†c. *fig.* Applied to money, as 'filthy lucre'; also to a miserly person.

1549 Latimer *2nd Serm. bef. Edw. VI* (Arb.) 54 We be mynded to prefer oure muckye monie..before the ioyse of heauen. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* III. ix. 4 His minde is set on mucky pelfe. 1652 Benlowes *Theoph.* x. lxxxviii, This old muckie wretched elf, Who turns..all that he scrapes, to pelf.

2. Consisting of or resembling muck.

1570 Levins *Manip.* 99/3 Muckye, *fimosus*. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* II. vii. 15 But mucky filth his braunching armes annoyes, And with uncomely weedes the gentle wave accloyes. 1861 *Amer. Cycl.* XIII. 75/1 If the peat is of mucky consistence ..the practice is to shovel it from its bed.

Mucky (mv·ki), *v. dial.* [f. Mucky *a.*] *trans.* To make dirty.

1847 C. Bronte *J. Eyre* xxix, She even brought me a clean towel to spread over my dress, 'lest', as she said, 'I should mucky it'.

Muco- (miū·ko), used as a comb. form of Mucus, employed chiefly *Phys.* and *Path.*, to indicate the presence of mucous matter. **Muco-a·lbumen,** a mucous albumen found in bile; hence **Muco-albu·minous** *a.*, containing muco-albumen. **Muco-ca·rneous** *a.* composed of mucus and flesh. **Muco-cre·pitant** *a.*, (of a sound beard in auscultation) partly mucous and partly crepitant. **Muco-cuta·neous** *a.*, having relation to the mucous membrane and the external skin. **Muco-de·rmal** *a.* = prec. **Muco-extra·ctive** *a.*, derived from mucus. **Muco-gela·tinous** *a.*, containing or resembling mucus and gelatin. **Muco-me·mbranous** *a.*, of or pertaining to the mucous membrane. **Muco-pe·ptone,** a substance formed by the gastric digestion of mucus associated with certain albuminous bodies. **Muco-pu·riform** *a.*, consisting of pus and mucus. **Muco-pu·rulent** *a.*, of the nature of pus and mucus mingled; characterized by the presence of pus and mucus. **Mu·co-pu·s,** pus with which mucus is combined. **Muco-sa·ccharine** *a.*, of a non-crystallizable sugary character. **Muco-sa·livary** *a.*, resembling or containing mucus and saliva. **Muco-sangui·neous** *a.*, having blood mixed with mucus. **Muco-se·rous** *a.*, containing serum mixed with mucus.

1835–6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 376/1 *Muco-albumen [found in gall-stones]. 1857 Bullock *Cazeaux' Midwif.* 178 *Muco-albuminous fluid. 1876 Dunglison *Med. Lex.*, *Myxosarcoma ..Myxomatous* or *Mucocarneous Sarcoma.* 1853 Markham *Skoda's Auscult.* 286 A peculiar sharp *muco-crepitant râle. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 217 The *muco-cutaneous margin of the anus. 1854 Owen *Skel. & Teeth* in *Orr's Circ. Sci., Org. Nat.* I. 179 The bones of the *muco-dermal system. 1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) I. 548 Dr. Bostock has since discovered in the serosity..a distinct substance..which Dr. Marcet has called *muco-extractive matter. *Ibid.* 203 Each evacuation consisted merely of two or three table-spoonfuls of *muco-gelatinous matter. 1870 tr. *Stricker's Man. Histol.* v. 497 (N. Syd. Soc.) Three anatomical different parts can be distinguished in it [*sc.* the mouth], a cutaneous, a transitional and a *muco-membranous portion. 1875 tr. *von Ziemssen's Cycl. Med.* X. 368 *Muco-peptone. 1859 Semple *Diphtheria* 68 The *muco-puriform secretion. 1843 R. J. Graves *Syst. Clin. Med.* xxi. 251 Copious *muco-purulent expectoration. 1873 Ralfe *Phys. Chem.* 168 In ichorous, *muco-, or serous, the solids are diminished. 1835–6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 132/2 Mere water holding..a *muco-saccharine matter. 1884 *Kirke's Hand-bk. Physiol.* (ed. 11) 282 In the *muco-salivary or mixed glands. 1898 P. Manson *Trop. Diseases* xviii. 289 The passage of..*muco-sanguineous stools. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 351 The *muco-serous (or albuminous) expectoration.

Mucocele (miū·kosīl). *Path.* [f. Muco- + Gr. κήλη tumour.] A mucous dilatation (*a*) of the lachrymal gland; (*b*) of the vermiform appendix.

1819 W. McKenzie *Ess. Dis. Excreting Parts of Lachrymal Organs* Pref. 13 The term mucocele, by which the author has ventured to designate an important disease. 1870 *Holmes' Syst. Surg.* (ed. 2) III. 223 The tears passing into the sac will accumulate there, and together with the pent-up mucus, form a swelling termed mucocele. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 888 This cystic dilatation [of the appendix vermiformis] has been termed a 'mucocele' by Péré.

Mucoduct (miū·kodvkt). *Anat.* [f. Muco- + Duct. Cf. Muciduct.] In fishes: A muciferous duct, mucous canal.

1875 C. C. Blake *Zool.* 189 In many other fishes the cranial bones emit processes from their surfaces which serve as canals for the mucoducts.

Mucoid (miū·koid), *a.* [f. Muc-us + -oid.] Resembling mucus. *Mucoid degeneration*: see quot. 1866.

1849 *Rep. & Papers Botany* (Ray Soc.) 312 Identity of the Mucoid and Filamentous Confervæ. By Dr. Schaffner. 1866 A. Flint *Princ. Med.* (1880) 57 Mucoid degeneration consists in the transformation of the albuminous constituents of cells or of intercellular substance into mucin. 1878 Tidy *Handbk. Mod. Chem.* 585 Lævulose (..Mucoid Sugar). 1885 *Lancet* 26 Sept. 562 The cough..was accompanied with frothy mucoid expectoration.

Hence **Mucoi·dal** *a.* in the same sense.

1849 H. Miller *Footpr. Creat.* viii. (1874) 147 Those thinner parts of the fin that are traversed by the caudal rays,—wholly mucoidal, as shown by this test.

‖ **Mucor** (miū·kɒr). [L. *mūcor*, f. *mūcēre* to be mouldy.]

†1. Mouldiness, mustiness; mould.

1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Mucor*, hoariness, filthiness. 1847–54 in Webster; and in later Dicts.

2. *Bot.* The name of a genus of fungi, originally including all the mould-plants, but now somewhat narrowed. Hence, a plant of this genus or of the order *Mucorini*, of which *Mucor* is the type.

[1769 Ellis in *Phil. Trans.* LIX. 139 *note*, This species of *Mucor* sends forth a mass of transparent filamentous roots.] 1818 Colebrooke *Import. Colonial Corn* 96 Mouldiness is prevented, since the seeds of mucor are shut out. 1836 *Penny Cycl.* V. 244/1 There are plants that are born and die in a day, such as the race of mucors. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 505 Some species of mucor are able to act as true alcoholic ferments.

attrib. 1875 Huxley & Martin *Elem. Biol.* v. (1877) 40 A crop of erect aërial mucor-hyphæ. 1882 Vines tr. *Sachs' Bot.* 266 The so-called *Mucor*-yeast.

Hence **Mucora·ceous, Mu·corine, Mucori·nious, Mucori·nous** *adjs.*, belonging to the order *Mucorini* (also called *Mucoraceæ*) of fungi; **Muco·rioid** *a.* [see -oid], resembling a mucor.

1862 Cooke *Brit. Fungi* 103 Mucoraceous Fungi. 1865 Berkeley in *Jrnl. Linn. Soc., Bot.* VIII. 141 Threads which seemed to give rise to the Mucorioid fruit. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 761/2 *Mucor*, the typical genus of the mucorinous Moulds. 1874 *Q. Jrnl. Microscop. Sci.* XIV. 66 A Mucorinious fungus. 1880 Cunningham *ibid.* XX. 56 Reproductive bodies occurring in mucorine fungi.

Mucorrhœa (miūkŏrī·ă). [f. Muco- + Gr. ῥοία flux, after *gonorrhœa*.] A mucous discharge.

1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 20 The paroxysms of dyspnœa and mucorrhœa may be of isolated occurrence.

‖ **Mucosa** (miūkō·să). *Phys.* [mod.L. (*membrāna*) *mūcōsa*, fem. of L. *mūcōsus* Mucous *a.*] 'The corium of a mucous membrane' (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*).

1880 M. Mackenzie *Dis. Throat & Nose* I. 351 Nowhere are there epithelial protrusions into the mucosa. 1897 *Trans. Amer. Pediatric Soc.* IX. 40 The whole of the skin and visible mucosa were of a dark blue color. 1905 H. D. Rolleston *Dis. Liver* 272 The mucosa of the intestines.

Hence **Muco·sal** *a.*, pertaining to the mucosa.

1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 455 These terms [*i.e.* mucoid or dermoid cyst]..might with advantage be replaced by the name mucosal cysts.

Mucose (miū·kōus), *a.* [ad. L. *mūcōs-us*: see Mucous *a.* and -ose.] Slimy; covered with mucus.

1731 Bailey, *Mucose*, full of snot, snotty. 1856–8 W. Clark *Van der Hoeven's Zool.* II. 90 Body..covered with small scales, mucose. 1866 in *Treas. Bot.* 761/2.

Mucosity (miūkɒ·sĭti). [ad. F. *mucosité*, ad. mod.L. **mūcōsitāt-em*, f. *mūcōs-us* Mucous *a.*]

1. Mucousness, sliminess; a mucous covering.

1684 tr. *Bonet's Merc. Compit.* xvi. 574 This potion..takes away..all Mucosities of the Throat. 1752 Watson in *Phil. Trans.* XLVII. 461 He..observ'd, that the extremities of the madrepora were soft, and cover'd with a mucosity. 1876 *Beneden's Anim. Parasites* iv. 68 There are mucosities which are incessantly renewed.

2. A fluid containing or resembling mucus.

1833–55 Dunglison *Med. Lex.*, *Mucosity*, a fluid, which resembles mucus, or contains a certain quantity of it.

Mucoso- (miūkōu·so), used [after Fr.] as a comb. form of L. *mūcōsus* mucous in various adjs. with the sense 'partly mucous and partly (something else)'. **Muco·so-calca·reous** *a.*, consisting of mucus and lime. **Muco·so-gra·nular** *a.*, consisting of granulated mucus. **Muco·so-pu·rulent** *a.* = *Muco-purulent* (see Muco-). **Muco·so-sa·ccharine** *a.*, having the properties of mucus and sugar.

1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVI. 363/1 Many naturalists appear to be satisfied that these *mucoso-calcareous bodies..are not of animal origin. 1848 Lindley *Introd. Bot.* I. i. § 8 (ed. 4) I. 147 [tr. Mohl in *Ann. des Sci.* Ser. II. XIII. 223] The *mucosogranular mass continually increases in the interior wall of these cells. 1856 Mayne *Expos. Lex.*, *Muco-Purulent*, **Mucoso-Purulent.* 1847–54 Webster, **Mucoso-saccharine*, partaking of the qualities of mucilage and sugar. 1891 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Mucoso-saccharine.*

Mucous (miū·kəs), *a.* [ad. L. *mūcōsus*, f. *mūc-us* Mucus: see -ous. Cf. F. *muqueux*, Sp., Pg. *mucoso, mocoso*, It. *mucoso.*]

1. Containing, consisting of, or resembling mucus. In early quots. with wider sense: Slimy.

1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* III. xxi. 158 It hath in the tongue a spongy and mucous extremity, whereby..it inviscates..insects. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) VIII. 194 We shall perceive its whole surface..covered with a mucous fluid. 1851 Woodward *Mollusca* I. 50 The eggs.. of the fresh-water species are soft, mucous, and transparent. 1871 T. R. Jones *Anim. Kingd.* § 2290 (ed. 4) 834 The lingual mucous lining seems to be perfectly adapted to gustation. 1878 Tidy *Handbk. Mod. Chem.* 485 The Mucous or Viscous Fermentation, *i.e.* a fermentation characterized by the formation of gummy matters.

2. Characterized by the presence of mucus. Also, in Auscultation, *Mucous râle*, a sound indicating a mucous condition of the lung.

1825 Good *Study Med.* (ed. 2) III. 381 Mucous piles. 1834 J. Forbes *Laennec's Dis. Chest* (ed. 4) 91 A chronic mucous catarrh. 1897 *Trans. Amer. Pediatric Soc.* IX. 170 Large number of coarse mucous râles made the first probable.

3. *Bot.* Covered with a viscous secretion or with a coat readily soluble in water.

1839 Lindley *Introd. Bot.* III. Gloss. (ed. 3) 471 Mucous or slimy; covered with a slimy secretion. 1870 Hooker *Stud. Flora* 350 Stratiotes aloides...Seeds with a mucous coat. 1882–4 Cooke *Brit. Fresh-w. Algæ* I. 179 *Hormiscia zonata*..More or less bright green, mucous.

4. Special collocations. **Mucous canal** *Ichthyology*, one of the canals by which mucus is excreted along the lateral line. **Mucous corpuscle,** one of numerous transparent corpuscles, with a cell-wall, a nucleus, and a number of minute moving molecules in the mucous liquid of the mouth. **Mucous exudation,** the exudation of mucus mixed with inflammatory matter, from the surface of an inflamed mucous membrane. **Mucous gland,** any gland connected with a mucous surface. **Mucous layer** = Mesoblast. **Mucous ligament,** a ligament traversing the synovial cavity of the knee. **Mucous membrane,** the internal prolongation of the skin, having the surface covered with mucus. **Mucous tissue,** gelatinous connective tissue.

1875 Huxley in *Encycl. Brit.* I. 762/1 Symmetrically disposed grooves, the so-called '*mucous canals'. 1856 Griffith & Henfrey *Microgr. Dict.* 443 *Mucous corpuscles. 1876 tr. *Wagner's Gen. Pathol.* 257 *Mucous exudation is sometimes not to be distinguished from normal mucus. 1727–41 Chambers *Cycl.* s. v., The third *mucous gland. 1872 T. Bryant *Pract. Surg.* (1876) I. 492 The Mucous Glands of the Lip. 1846 Carpenter *Princ. Hum. Physiol.* (ed. 3) Index, *Mucous layer of germinal membrane. 1891 *Syd. Soc. Lex.* s. v., *Mucous ligament of knee. 1812 J. Jackson in *Trans. Amer. Pediatric Soc.* (1897) IX. 12 The *mucous membrane of the stomach. 1881 Mivart *Cat* 21 Inside the lips and mouth it becomes soft and moist, and is termed mucous membrane. 1845 *Encycl. Metrop.* VII. 217 The term '*mucous tissue or mucous membrane', commonly applied

by anatomists to the internal lining of all the canals and cavities. 1882 *Quain's Anat.* (ed. 9) II. 69 Connective tissue of this nature is known as jellylike or mucous tissue.

Hence † **Mu·cousness** = MUCOSITY.

1727 BAILEY vol. II, *Mucousness*, snottiness. 1755 JOHNSON, *Mucousness*, ..slime; viscosity.

‖ **Mucro** (miū·krō). Pl. **mucrones** (miukrō·u·nīz), **mucros**. *Zool.* and *Bot.* [L. *mūcro* point.] A pointed part or organ; esp. **a.** *Ent.* a short, stout, sharp-pointed process; **b.** *Bot.* a sharp terminal point; **c.** *Conch.* the apex of a shell.

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* IV. ii. 181 The Mucro or point thereof [i.e. of the heart] inclineth unto the left. 1744 J. WILSON *Synopsis of Plants, Mucro*, a sharp Point. 1816 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* xxiii. (1818) II. 317 The .. elastic beetles..perform this motion by means of a pectoral process or mucro. 1826 *Ibid.* xxxi. III. 253 The head is armed with two mucros or conical eminences. 1833 HOOKER *Brit. Flora* II. i. 65 *Bryum affine*..lid conical with a mucro. 1885 MOSELEY in *Q. Jrnl. Microsc. Sci.* XXV. 42 The apices (or mucrones) of the shells.

Mucronate (miū·krŏne¹t), *a.* [ad. L. *mūcrōnāt-us*, f. *mūcrōn-em* MUCRO; see -ATE ². Cf. F. *mucroné*.] Terminating in a point; esp. *Bot.* abruptly terminated by a hard short point.

1776 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* Explan. Terms 384 *Mucronatum*, mucronate, terminating in a small Prickle. 1777 ROBSON *Brit. Flora*, Mucronate leaves. 1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* xxxvi. III. 708 The podex is sometimes..mucronate. 1882–4 COOKE *Brit. Freshw. Algæ* I. 32 *Polyedrium enorme*.. sometimes repeatedly bilobed, with the lobes mucronate. *Comb.* 1821 W. P. C. BARTON *Flora N. Amer.* I. 105 Leaves oblong, acuminate; mucronate-serrulate, smooth. 1847 W. E. STEELE *Field Bot.* 57 Leaves..very large, green on both sides, almost smooth, mucronate-dentate.

Mucronated (miū·krone¹tĕd), *a.* [formed as prec. + -ED ¹.] = prec.

1657 TOMLINSON *Renou's Disp.* 238 Mechoacans leaves are.. mucronated onely on one side. 1695 WOODWARD *Nat. Hist. Earth* (1723) 198 The..Stones..[are] mucronated or terminating in a Point. 1819 SAMOUELLE *Entomol. Compend.* 114 Last joint mucronated. 1876 HARLEY *Mat. Med.* (ed. 6) 417 Leaves..with a few coarse mucronated teeth on each side.

Hence **Mu·cronately** *adv.*, in a mucronate manner (Worcester 1860). **Mucrona·tion**, the state or quality of being mucronate; also, a mucronate process (*Funk's Stand. Dict.* 1895).

Mucroniform (miukrō·nifōm). [f. L. *mūcrōn-em* MUCRO + -(I)FORM.] Shaped like a mucro (Webster *Suppl.* 1902).

Mucronulate (miukrō·niŭlĕt), *a.* [ad. mod.L. *mūcrōnulāt-us*, f. *mūcrōnula* MUCRONULE: see -ATE.] Having a small sharp point.

1829 LOUDON *Encycl. Plants* 87 Leaves whorled..entire mucronulate. 1845 LINDLEY *Sch. Bot.* iv. (1858) 36.

So **Mucro·nulated, Mucronu·latous** *adjs.*

1806 GALPINE *Brit. Bot.* 6 Leaf elliptic-lanceolate, obtuse, macronulated. 1856 MAYNE *Expos. Lex., Mucronulatus*, having a little point, as the carpels of the *Sida mucronulata*: mucronulatous. 1882 OGILVIE, *Mucronulatous.*

Mu·cronule. [a. mod.L. *mūcrōnula*, f. L. *mūcrōn-* MUCRO.] A small mucro (*Cent. Dict.* 1890).

Mucuddum, variant of MOKADDAM.

† **Mu·culency.** *Obs.* [f. MUCULENT: see -ENCY.] 'Snottiness' (Bailey 1721).

Muculent (miū·kiŭlĕnt), *a.* Also 7 mucculent. [ad. L. *mūculent-us*, f. *mūcus* MUCUS: see -ULENT.] Slimy; mucous.

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr., Mucculent* or *Muculent*, full of snot or snivel. 1721 in BAILEY. 1755 in JOHNSON. 1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) IV. 236 A watery or whey-like sanies, or a muculent pus. 1833–55 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex.*

Mucuna (miukiū·nă). [a. mod.L. *Mucuna*, the generic name of the plant from which cowage is obtained; orig. a Tupi word.] = COWAGE.

1874 GARROD & BAXTER *Mat. Med.* (1880) 234 The watery or alcoholic solutions of mucuna.

Mucus (miū·kŭs). [a. L. *mūcus*, also *muccus*, mucus of the nose, cogn. w. Gr. *μύσσεσθαι* (:—**muky-*) to blow the nose, *μυκτήρ* nose, nostril; the root appears also (with consonant change due to a nasal infix) in L. *ē-mungĕre* to blow the nose.]

1. A viscid or slimy substance not miscible with water, secreted by the mucous membrane of animals.

1661 LOVELL *Hist. Anim. & Min.* 285 Salivous mucus which they vomit out when pricked, is emplastick. 1739 'R. BULL' tr. *Dedekindus' Grobianus* 209 When to the Mouths of some these Humours rise, Long in their Mouths the plenteous Mucus lies. 1805 BOSTOCK in *Nicholson's Jrnl.* XI. 251 Animal mucus or mucilage enters largely into the constitution of many parts of the body. 1881 MIVART *Cat* 169 A fluid, named mucus, is almost universally present where mucous membrane exists.

2. *Bot.* A gummy or glutinous substance soluble in water, found in all plants.

1839 LINDLEY *Introd. Bot.* I. i. (ed. 3) 2 Meyen admits the fact of the presence of this intercellular mucus [*sc.* in plants]. *Ibid.* ii. 50 External to the epidermis is a thin homogeneous membrane, formed of organic mucus. 1875 DARWIN *Insectiv. Pl.* ix. 209 Some of these leaves secreted much mucus.

3. A viscid substance exuded by certain animals, esp. the slime of fishes.

1835–6 [see *mucus-clad* in 4]. 1855 W. S. DALLAS *Syst. Nat. Hist.* II. 21 *Myxine glutinosa*..receives its specific name.. from the immense quantity of mucus which it can give off from its skin. 1880 GÜNTHER *Fishes* 49 In many fishes..the ducts of this muciferous system are..filled with mucus.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *mucus corpuscle, duct*; *mucus-clad, -like, -producing* adjs.

1835–6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 529/1 *Mucus-clad fishes. 1846 G. E. DAY tr. *Simon's Anim. Chem.* II. 87 Thin watery pus, rather larger than the *mucus-corpuscles. 1854 OWEN *Skel. & Teeth* in *Orr's Circ. Sci., Org. Nat.* I. 163 In *Mucus-ducts. 1845 *Encycl. Metrop.* VII. 220/2 A greyish-white *mucus-like matter. 1879 FOSTER *Text Bk. Physiol.* (ed. 3) 257 *Mucus-producing cells.

Mud (mud), *sb.*¹ Forms: 4 mode, 4–6 mudde, 5 moode, 6 moude, mude, mwde, 7 mudd, 5– mud. [ME. *mode, mudde*, cogn. w. MLG., LG. *mudde* fem., LG. also *mod, möde, müde* mud, Du. *modden* to dabble in mud (?also with Du. *modde* slut), MHG. *mot* (G. dial. *mott*) bog, bog-earth, peat.

An extended form appears in MLG., Du. *modder* mud, whence G. *moder* masc., mud, state of mouldering or decay; cf. MHG. *moter* (mod. G. dial. *motter*).]

1. Wet and soft soil or earthy matter; mire, sludge.

13.. *Coer de L.* 4360 Some..broughten..grete schydes, and the wood, And slunge it into the mode. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 407 þenne mourkne in þe mudde most ful nede Alle þat spyrakle in-spranc. 14.. *Why I can't be a Nun* 2 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 138 Whan they had resceyvede her charge, They spared neither mud ne myer. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* v. vi. 125 His face he schew besmotterit for a bourd, And all his membris in mude and dung bedoif. 1573 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 29 Though..loftie ships leaue anker in mud [etc.]. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* VII. 317 Leauing slime, mood, and Sand behind their breaches. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* IV. 618 The Sun..darting to the bottom, bak'd the Mud. 1716 GAY *Trivia* I. 200 The spatter'd mud Hides all thy hose behind. 1781 COWPER *Charity* 531 Plung'd in the stream, they lodge upon the mud. 1808 *Med. Jrnl.* XIX. 114 The Ganges has a prodigious quantity of mud at its sides. 1849 JAMES *Woodman* vii, The floor was of mud.

b. *pl.* Tracts of mud on the margin of a tidal river.

1883 G. C. DAVIES *Norfolk Broads* I. 3 At low water, the muds or flats are dry. 1897 *Spectator* 23 Oct. 553/2 Herons —which feed on the muds left by the tide. 1902 CORNISH *Naturalist Thames* 213 There are still no flounders on the famous Bishop's Muds.

c. *Geol.* A mixture of finely comminuted particles of rock with water, having a consistency varying from that of a semi-liquid to that of a soft and plastic solid; usually either deposited from suspension in water, or ejected from volcanos. Also *pl.* kinds of mud.

1878 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* 192 Herculaneum was sealed up by a crust of volcanic mud discharged from Vesuvius. 1885 *Encycl. Brit.* XVIII. 122/1 At some points in the same regions are found green muds and sands, which, as regards their origin..resemble the blue muds.

d. *Mud and stud* (dial.): posts and laths filled in with mud, as a material of which walls of cottages, etc., are built (also *stud and mud*: see STUD *sb.*); similarly *mud and log, mud and reed*, etc.

1839 STONEHOUSE *Axholme* 389 The rectory house was an old fashioned dwelling, with high gables and walls of mud and stud. 1843 MARRYAT *M. Violet* xxxii, The miserable twelve-feet-square mud-and-log cabins. 1900 *Daily News* 18 May 6/2 The mud and reed towns of the negro.

2. *fig.* **a.** As a type of what is worthless or polluting.

1563 WINJET *Wks.* (S. T. S.) II. 78 Lat the cleir fayth and credulitie of our elders be na mixing of glar or mude be tribulit. 1590 GREENWOOD *Answ. Def. Read Prayers* 31 In this your papisticall mudde,..your reading of mens writings for prayer, is a false worshipp of God. 1707 *Reflex. upon Ridicule* 66 Servile Souls form'd of Mud. 1819 SHELLEY *England in* 1819, Princes, the dregs of their dull race, who flow Through public scorn,—mud from a muddy spring.

† **b.** The lowest or worst part of anything; the lowest stratum; the dregs.

a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* III. (1629) 238 An ordinary person (borne of the mud of the people). 1602 MARSTON *Antonio's Rev.* V. v, Scum of the mud of hell! 1760 FOOTE *Minor* II. Wks. 1799 I. 255 To procure her emersion from the mercantile mud, no consideration wou'd be spar'd. 1856 EMERSON *Eng. Traits, Race* Wks. (Bohn) II. 23 Defoe said in his wrath, 'the Englishman was the mud of all races'.

3. Phrases. *As clear as mud*: said in mock commendation of something that is by no means clear (also used as a burlesque intensive of 'clear'). *As sure as mud* (school-slang): absolutely sure. *To fling* or *throw mud*: to make disgraceful imputations. *To stick in the mud*: see STICK *v.*

1762–71 H. WALPOLE *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1786) IV. 170 Never did two angry men of their abilities throw mud with less dexterity. 1842 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. II. *Merch. Venice*, That's clear as mud. 1884 FL. MARRYAT *Under the Lilies* vii, A woman in my position must expect to have more mud thrown at her than a less important person. 1884 *Nonconf. & Indep.* 24 July 713/3 Using the case to fling mud at Mr. Trevelyan and Earl Spencer. 1899 E. PHILLPOTTS *Human Boy* 10, I shall die as sure as mud.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.* **a.** simple attrib., as *mud bigging, colour, floor, heap, house, hovel*; **b.** instrumental, as *mud-bespattered, -built, -exhausted, -shot* adjs.; **c.** parasynthetic, as *mud-coloured, -roofed* adjs.; **d.** locative, as *mud-lost* adj.

1848 DICKENS *Dombey* lv, Rows of *mud-bespattered cows. 1588 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* IV. 288 The said complenaris foirsaid house.., being laich *mud bigging. 1740 THOMSON & MALLET *Alfred* I. ii, That *mud-built cottage is thy sovereign's palace. 1839 HOOD *Hood's Own* I. 32 (*Last Shilling*) A pair of *mud-colour gloves. 1838 MISS PARDOE *River & Desert* I. 110 A sort of *mud-coloured cotton. 1622 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* xxvii. 259 The *mud-exhausted Meres. 1843 BORROW *Bible in Spain* II. 13 A little side-room with a *mud floor. 1871 KINGSLEY *At Last* x, His bare feet plashing from log to log and *mud-heap to mud-heap. 1548 *Extracts Aberd. Reg.* (1844) I. 260 He has..distroyit iiij *mwd houissis in my cloise and fald. 1856 LEVER *Martins of Cro' M.* 126 He built a mud-house. 1838 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. I. *Hand of Glory*, Did you see her, in short, that *mud-hovel within. 1790 COLERIDGE *Devon. Roads* 21 While they their *mud-lost sandals hunt. 1901 KIPLING *Kim* iii, A mud-walled, *mud-roofed hamlet. 1858 R. S. SURTEES *Ask Mamma* 9 He helped her down the perilous *mud-shot iron steps of the old Independent.

5. Special combinations: **mud-bath**, a medicinal bath of heated mud; **mud-board**, a flat board fastened under the foot for walking on mud; **mud-boat**, (*a*) a board with sides, used for crossing tidal mud for the purpose of shooting sea-birds; (*b*) a barge for carrying away mud dredged from a river or bar; **mud-boot**, a kind of jack boot worn as a protection from mud; **mud-cone**, a cone formed by the accumulation of mud round the vent of a mud-volcano; **mud-crusher** *slang*, an infantry man; **mud-drum**, a cylindrical chamber attached to a boiler to collect the earthy matter in the water supplied; **mud-fat** *a. Australian*, as fat as possible; **mud-flat**, a stretch of muddy land left uncovered at low tide; **mudguard**, a piece of metal, leather, celluloid, etc., attached to the wheel of a cycle, etc., to protect the rider from mud; **mudhead** *colloq.*, a stupid person; **mud-headed** *a.*, stupid; **mud-hoe**, a kind of scraper for scraping mud off roads; **mud-honey** (*nonce-wd.*), used *fig.* for degrading pleasures; **mud-hook** *slang*, an anchor; **mud-land** (see quot.); **mud-lava** volcanic mud (= MOYA); **mud-lump** *U.S.* (see quot.); **mud-patten** = *mud-board*; **mud pie**, mud or wet earth formed by children in the shape of a pie; **mud pilot**, a pilot who works in shallow water; **mud-plunger** (see quot.); **mud-quake** *nonce-wd.*, jocularly applied to an earthquake in Holland; **mud-scow**, a flat mud-boat; **mud shine** *nonce-wd.*, the reflexion of light on muddy stones; **mud sill**, (*a*) the lowest sill of a structure, usually embedded in the soil; (*b*) *U.S.* the lowest class of society; also, a person of this class; **mud-splasher** = *mud-board*; **mudstone** *Geol.* (see quot. 1876); **mud-student** *slang*, a student of farming; **mud-valve**, 'a valve by which mud is discharged from a steam boiler' (Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1875); **mud volcano**, a volcano which discharges mud instead of lava.

1843 SIR C. SCUDAMORE *Med. Visit Gräfenberg* 64 He next proceeded to Franzens-bad, in Bohemia, and tried the *mud baths for a month. 1824 COL. HAWKER *Instr. Yng. Sportsm.* 334 *plate*, Thin oak Mudboards 16 inches square. *Ibid.* 331 The gunner first lays his piece..into the '*mud-boat', and then [etc.]..Having got pretty near to his birds, he lies down in the 'mud-boat'. 1838 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* I. 204/2 Petitioning the Admiralty for the loan of a steam-tug or mud-boat. 1831 CARLYLE *Sart. Res.* I. ix, Half-buried under..overalls and *mudboots. 1879 GEIKIE in *Encycl. Brit.* X. 251/2 *Mud cones or Salses. 1893 SIR G. CHESNEY *Lesters* I. i. xi. 142 'You are too good to be a *mud-crusher, Tommy,' said the Major of the regiment [Hussars] patronisingly. 1890 *Century Dict.*, **Mud drum.* 1901 WINSTON CHURCHILL *Crisis* II. xxii, The captain knew a mud-drum from a lady's watch. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* (1891) 394 Every beast on Rainbar run..will be *mud fat in three months. 1871 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* June 338 The *mudflats of our seaboard. 1885 FROUDE *Oceana* xi. (1886) 165 Cranes and other waders stalked about the mud-flats. 1886 *C. T. C. Monthly Gaz.* V. 144/1 Hints to tricyclists...Accessories not supplied by the maker. *Mud-guard. 1838 HALIBURTON *Clockm.* Ser. II. xix. 289 There's the hoosiers of Indiana,..the *mudheads of Tenessee [etc.]. 1886 D. C. MURRAY *First Pers. Singular* xxii, That old mud-head of a Dohroski. 1793 in Polwhele *Trad. & Recoll.* (1826) I. 329 There are a parcel of *mud-headed fellows down in that country. 1844 STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 410 A *mud-hole or harle. 1855 TENNYSON *Maud* I. xvi. 5 So that..fulsome Pleasure clog him, and drown His heart in the gross *mud-honey of town. 1884 'H. COLLINGWOOD' *Under Meteor Flag* 254 We at length found ourselves in port, and the *mud-hook down. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, **Mud-lands*, the extensive marshes left dry by the returning tide in estuaries and river mouths. 1899 *Daily News* 8 Apr. 5/3 Portsmouth Harbour and the mudland in proximity. 1804 *Edin. Rev.* IV. 28 Showers of rain..were magnified into *mud-lavas. 1879 *Encycl. Brit.* X. 250/1 Mud-lavas. 1872 SCHELE DE VERE *Americanisms* 508 **Mud-lumps*, is the technical name of the earliest appearance of soft, spongy land at the mouth of the Mississippi...They are at first conical, not unlike miniature volcanoes, and have little craters at the top, from which flows muddy water. 1791 GILPIN *Forest Scenery* II. 193 *Mud-pattens are flat pieces of board, which the fowler ties to his feet that he may not sink in the mud. 1788 LD. AUCKLAND *Diary in Spain* in *Corr.* (1861) II. 74 The children amused themselves with making *mud pies. 1885 MRS. A. JEBB in *Contemp. Rev.* Oct. 528 Clay-moulding is nothing more than a sort of glorified mud-pie making. 1899 F. T. BULLEN *Log Sea-waif* 342 Somehow the '*mud'-pilot found us, his boat taking away our deep-water man. 1906 *Westm. Gaz.* 14 Aug. 6/2 'Mud' pilots—i.e., pilots who work above Gravesend. 1892 *Labour Commission* Gloss., **Mud plungers*, men in the chemical industry engaged at bleach plant in stirring up the sediment from manganese and acid to extract the gas. 1760 H. WALPOLE *Let. to Mann* 3 Feb., The Dutch ..have lately had a *mud-quake, and giving themselves terra-firma airs, call it an earthquake! 1766 *Mass. Gaz.* (U. S.) 20 Oct. 1/3 A new *Mud-Scow, 24 Foot long. 1894 *Outing* (U. S.) XXIV. 325/1 Any kind of a boat from a crack yacht to a mudscow. 1850 L. HUNT *Autobiog.* I. vi. 247 A roar of hoarse voices round the door, and *mud-shine on

the pavement. 1741 *MS. Estimate of repairs at Northwould Bridge, Essex*, 3 *mudsells 19 foot long each. 1828-32 Webster, *Mud-sill*, in bridges, the sill that is laid at the bottom of a river, lake, &c. 1858 Hammond *Sp.* 4 Mar. (Bartlett), Such a class..constitutes the very mud-sill of society. 1863 O. W. Holmes *Inevitable Trial* in *Old Vol. of Life* (1891) 107 What the 'Christian dogs' were to the followers of Mahomet,..the 'Northern mudsills' are to the followers of the Southern Moloch. 1880 Baring-Gould *Mehalah* xxiii, What do you mean coming to a house of worship in *mud-splashers? 1736 Ainsworth *Lat. Dict.*, A *mud stone, *Saxum limosum*. 1829 *Glover's Hist. Derby* I. 50 In some places they are called clunch and mudstone. 1876 A. H. Green *Phys. Geol.* ii. § 6. 72 Mudstone is a convenient name for clayey rocks that have the appearance of partially hardened masses of sandy mud. 1856 *N. & Q.* 2nd Ser. II. 198/1 With whom a young friend of mine was 'a *mud student', that is, was a farming pupil. 1817 *Q. Jrnl. Sci.* I. 247 The *mud volcanoes of Solo. 1862 G. P. Scrope *Volcanos* (ed. 2) 401 Mud-volcanos, as they are called, *i. e.* cones of a ductile unctuous clay,..spurting up waves and lumps of liquid mud.

b. In names of animals: **mud bass**, an American fish, *Acantharchus pomotis*; **mud-borer**, a crustacean, *Gebia stellata* (A. White *Crustacea Brit. Mus.*, 1850); **mud-burrower**, a crustacean, *Callianassa subterranea* (*Ibid.*); **mud-cat, catfish** *U.S.*, names given to several species of catfish; **mud coot**, the common American coot, *Fulica americana* (*Cent. Dict.* 1890); **mud crab**, a crab of the genus *Panopæus*; **mud dab**, the winter flounder, *Pseudopleuronectes americanus*; **mud-dauber**, a wasp of the genus *Pelopæus* that builds its nest of mud; **mud-devil** = Hellbender 1; **mud-dipper**, the ruddy duck, *Erismatura rubida* (G. Trumbull *Names of Birds*, 1888, p. 110); **mud eel**, (*a*) the young of the lamprey; (*b*) = *mud iguana*; **mud-hen**, (*a*) the moor-hen, *Gallinula chloropus*; (*b*) in U.S., *Rallus crepitans, R. elegans, R. Virginianus*; also the American coot, *Fulica americana*, and the common gallinule, *Gallinula galeata*; (*c*) a bivalve mollusc of the family *Veneridæ* and genus *Tapes* (*Cent. Dict.*); **mud iguana**, a name given in S. Carolina to the Siren, *Siren lacertina*; **mud minnow** (see quot.); **mud-poke, -pout** = *mud cat*; **mud-puppy** *U. S.*, a name for the axolotl, also for the hellbender, and other salamanders; **mud shad**, a fish, *Dorosoma cepedianum*; **mud-skipper**, any fish of the genus *Periophthalmus*; **mud-sucker**, (*a*) an aquatic fowl that obtains its food from mud; (*b*) a catostomoid fish; **mud-terrapin, -tortoise, -turtle** *U. S.*, a turtle which lives in the mud or muddy water, esp. species of *Trionychidæ* and *Emydidæ*; **mud-worm**, a worm that lives in the mud, *esp.* one of the *Limicolæ*; also *fig.* applied contemptuously to a person.

1884 Goode, etc. *Nat. Hist. Aquatic Anim.* 405 The *Mud Bass. 1882 Jordan & Gilbert *Synopsis Fishes N. Amer.* 101 *Pilodictis*,..*Mud Cats. 1713 Petiver *Aquat. Anim. Amboinæ* 1 Squilla Lutaria *Rum*...*Mud-Crab. 1884 Goode, etc. *Nat. Hist. Aquatic Anim.* 772 The Mud Crabs—*Panopeus Herbstii* [etc.]. 1882 Jordan & Gilbert *Synopsis Fishes N. Amer.* 837 *Pleuronectes americanus*.*Mud dab. 1856 *Zoologist* XIV. 5030 The species of the genus *Pelopæus* are popularly known as *mud-daubers in America. 1845 *Encycl. Metrop.* XXIV. 269 By the Anglo-Americans it is called Hellbender *Mud Devil [etc.]. 1840 Kirtland in *Boston Jrnl. Nat. Hist.* III. 473 *Ammocœtes concolor* Kirtland. The *Mud-Eel. 1842 Holbrook *N. Amer. Herpetol.* V. 102 *Siren lacertina*...Mud Eel or Siren, *Vulgo.* 1611 Florio, *Limósa*, a kind of *Mud or Moore-hen. 1808-13 A. Wilson *Amer. Ornith.* (1831) III. 103 *Rallus crepitans*. ..Clapper Rail...It is designated..the mud hen. *Ibid.* 108 [The Virginian Rail] is known..along the sea-coast of New Jersey by the name of the fresh-water mud hen. *Ibid.* 124 *Fulica americana*...Cinereous Coot...It is known in Pennsylvania by the name of the mud-hen. 1766 J. Ellis in *Phil. Trans.* LVI. 189 The natives call it *Mud-Inguana [*sic*]. 1882 Jordan & Gilbert *Synopsis Fishes N. Amer.* 349 *Umbridæ*. (The *Mud Minnows.) 1809 W. Irving *Knickerb.* IV. ii. (1820) 361 That notable bird yeleped the *Mud-Poke. 1806 Fessenden *Orig. Poems* 132 Like an otter that paddles the creek, In quest of a *mud pout or sucker. 1872 Schele de Vere *Americanisms* 382 A species [of Cat-fish] is known also as *Mudpout*. 1889 *Century Dict.* s.v. *Axolotl*, The various species of *Amblystoma* known in the United States as *mud-puppies, water-dogs [etc.]. 1897 *Outing* (U. S.) XXX. 439/2 The mud-puppy..is a repulsive-looking water-lizard. 1884 Goode, etc. *Nat. Hist. Aquat. Anim.* 610 The *Mud-shad. 1850 F. Mason *Burmah* 854 *Mud-skipper, *Periophthalmus*. 1688 R. Holme *Armoury* II. xiii. 313/1 *Mudsuckers, Birds that suck and dabble in muddy waters. 1888 Goode *Amer. Fishes* 143 *note*, Gaspergou is an Indian word, meaning 'fish', and is applied by Louisianians to anything fishy from the sheepshead to the mudsucker. 1873 Leland *Egypt. Sketch-Bk.* 42 Those curious *mud-swallow nests of little villages. 1859 Bartlett *Dict. Amer., Mud-Turtle* (*Sternothærus odorata*)...Marsh Tortoise and *Mud Terrapin are other names for the same. 1668 Charleton *Onomast.* 28 *Testudo Lutaria*..the *Mud Tortoise. 1841 Storer in *Bost. Jrnl. Nat. Hist.* III. 7 *Sternothaerus odoratus*. The mud Tortoise. 1854 R. Owen in *Orr's Circ. Sci., Org. Nat.* I. 213 The soft or mud-tortoises (*trionyx* and *sphargis*). *Ibid.*, The..*mud-turtles (*trionyx*). 1891 C. Roberts *Adrift Amer.* 239 In the creeks were plenty of mud turtles. *a* 1814 *Love, Honor & Interest* II. iii. in *New Brit. Theatre* III. 276 The *mud-worm, Vanderclufe! 1865 Dickens *Mut. Fr.* IV. xiv, When..I saw such a mud-worm as you presume [etc.]. 1870 H. A. Nicholson *Man. Zool.* xxix. (1875) 216 The *Limicolæ* or Mud-worms.

c. In names of plants: **mud horsetail**, an *Equisetum*, esp. *E. Telmateia*; **mud knotweed** *U.S.* (see quot.); **mud plantain**, *Heteranthera reniformis* (*Trans. Bot.* 1866); **mud purslane** *U.S.*, *Elatine americana*; **mud-rush, -sedge**, various cyperaceous plants; **mud-weed**, (*a*) *Limosella aquatica*; (*b*) *Helosciadium inundatum* (Treas. Bot. 1866); **mud-wort**, the genus *Limosella*, esp. *L. aquatica*.

1855 Miss Pratt *Flower. Pl.* (1861) VI. 297 Great *Mud Horsetail. 1845-50 Mrs. Lincoln *Lect. Bot.* App. 145/2 *Polygonium amphibium* (*mud knotweed). 1846-50 A. Wood *Class-bk. Bot.* 195 *Elatine americana*, *Mud Purslane. 1859 Miss Pratt *Flower. Pl.* VI. 11 *Isolepis* (*Mud-rush). 1899 *Edin. Rev.* Apr. 318 The work was done by mud-rushes transporting upwards miscellaneous subterranean *débris*. 1859 Miss Pratt *Flower. Pl.* VI. 37 *Carex limosa* (*Mud Sedge). 1756 J. Hill *Brit. Herbal* 84 *Mudweed. *Plantaginella*. 1796 Withering *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) III. 557 Bastard Plantain, or Plantain Mudweed. 1789 W. Aiton *Hortus Kewensis* II. 359 *Limosella aquatica*...Bastard Plantain, or *Mud-wort.

Mud (mʌd), *sb.*[2] Also 5 mudde, mod. [a. Du. *mudde*, *mud* = OS. *muddi*, OHG. *mutti* (mod.G. *mütt*, *mutt*), OE. *mydd*:—WGer. **muddjo*- a. L. *modius*: see Modius, Muid.] A Dutch measure of capacity, in Holland now identified with the Hectolitre: see Muid.

1477 *Extracts Aberd. Reg.* (1844) I. 408 Item, tuelf mod keling, and threttene mod codlinges. 1483 Caxton *Golden Leg.* 148 b, Two hondred muddes of mele. 1863 W. C. Baldwin *Afr. Hunting* 30, I..bought a mud of mealies for the horse.

Mud (mʌd), *v.*[1] Now *rare*. [f. Mud *sb.*[1]]

1. *trans.* To make (water, liquor) turbid by stirring up the mud or sediment at the bottom.

1593 Shaks. *Lucr.* 577 Mudde not the fountaine that gaue drinke to thee. 1686 Goad *Celest. Bodies* II. xiv. 341 'Tis a great Stone which upon injection mudds the Water. 1703 Maundrell *Journ. Jerus.* 27 Apr. (1721) 124 The bough is dragg'd all along the Channel, and serves..to mud and fatten the Water for the great benefit of the Gardens. 1876 Tennyson *Harold* v. i, The wolf Mudded the brook.

† **b.** *transf.* To thicken, to clog. *Obs.*

1669 W. Simpson *Hydrol. Chym.* 123 A steam ariseth which..muds the animal spirits.

c. *fig.* (Chiefly with reference to a metaphorical 'stream' or 'fount'.)

1593 Nashe *Christ's T.* 13 The fount of my teares (troubled and mudded with the Toade-like stirring and long-breathed vexation of thy venimous enormities). 1617 Hieron *Wks.* II. 219 Thus had it, I may so speake, mudded his heart, and made his corruption worke more strongly in him. 1697 Collier *Immor. Stage* i. (1698) 29 Enough to mud their Fancy, to tarnish their Quality, and make their Passion Scandalous. 1717 *Entertainer* No. 5. 27 When Justice flows in her proper Channels, and is not mudded or soiled with Partiality [etc.]. 1774 *Westm. Mag.* II. 450 The very fountain-head is mudded by these false teachers.

2. To cover with mud; to plaster with mud.

1632 Sherwood, To mudde, beray or bedash with mudde, sticke in mudde, *embourber, enfanger, embouër*. 1649 Blithe *Eng. Improv. Impr.* (1653) 125 Lime it well, or Mud it well, and afterward Muck it over with good Cow or Horse Dung. 1769 *Trinculo's Trip* 46 Being so mudded, splash'd and wash'd. 1883 C. J. Wills *Land of Lion & Sun* 57 A roof some six feet thick, being painted wood mudded over a yard deep.

3. To bury in mud.

1610 Shaks. *Temp.* III. iii. 102 I'le secke him deeper then ere plummet sounded, And with him there lye mudded. *Ibid.* v. i. 151, I wish My selfe were mudded in that oo-zie bed Where my sonne lies.

b. *passive.* To become stuck in the mud.

1854 Sir A. West *Recoll.* (1899) I. iv. 146 We were mudded and slipped and slithered about a quarter of a mile. 1873 Leland *Egypt. Sketch-Bk.* 151 Sometimes they got sanded or mudded.

4. *intr.* Of eels, etc.: To lie dormant in the mud.

1650 *Acad. Complements* 125 Or like a Carp that is lost in mudding. 1895 P. H. Emerson *Birds, etc. of Norfolk Broadland* II. x. 365 Should a bream catch sight of you, if in a shallow, he will dart off, and 'mud', reappearing later on.

5. *trans.* To supply mud to the bottom of a pond.

1864 *Q. Rev.* CXV. 183 A pond, the owner of which informed us that several years ago he had mudded it, and then put a few eels into it.

6. To throw mud at (a person). *rare*—[1].

1832 *Blackw. Mag.* Jan. 120 Gentlemen dislike being hissed, hooted,..threatened, mudded, maimed, murdered.

Hence **Mu·dded** *ppl. a.*

1632 Sherwood, Mudded, berayed with mud, stucke in Mudde, *embourbé, emboué, enfangé*. 1898 *Daily News* 30 July 5/1 The mudded wastes of the River Crouch.

Mud (mʌd), *v.*[2] *dial.* [Of obscure origin.] *trans.* To bring *up* (a child, an animal) by hand; also, to spoil and pamper.

1814 *Monthly Mag.* 1 Sept. 114 (South Wiltshire dialect) Mud the child up, dooke. *a* 1854 Car. A. Southey *Poet. Wks.* (1867) 76 Miss will mud it [a lamb] up I know. 1891 'Maxwell Gray' *In Heart of Storm* Prol. iii, Not that she'll ever come to good spoiled and mudded up as she is.

Mudar, madar (mʌ·dɑ·r). Also **mudhar, mudarrh, muddar, mudir, mador.** [a. Hindi *madār*.] **a.** East Indian name for shrubs of the genus *Calotropis*, esp. *C. gigantea*, the root-bark of which yields a valuable diaphoretic medicine and the inner bark of the stem a strong silky fibre known as yercum. Also *attrib.* **b.** The medicinal product of the root.

1819 Robinson in *Med.-Chirurg. Trans.* X. 32 The mudar rapidly recruits the constitution, heals the ulcers [etc.]. *Ibid.* 37 In the first variety I consider Mudarrh..as the sole effectual remedy. 1823 G. Playfair in *Trans. Med. & Phys. Soc. Calcutta* (1825) I. 86, I prescribed the Madár, to the quantity of five grains twice a day. 1826 Ainslie *Mat. Ind.* I. 487 Mr. Robinson has written a paper..extolling the mudar root (yercum vayr) as most efficacious. 1836 *Penny Cycl.* VI. 168/2 The Mudar, a plant common in sandy places in many parts of India. 1838 Lindley *Flora Med.* § 1144. 540 Under the names of Mador, Mudar, Akum, and Yercund, the root and bark..are used as..purgatives. 1861 Bentley *Man. Bot.* 595 Mudar bark, which has been much employed in India in cutaneous affections. 1873 Drury *Usef. Plants India* (ed. 2) 101 It yields a kind of manna called Mudar sugar. 1880 *Encycl. Brit.* XI. 339/2 The alstonia..and the mudar gum..have also been recommended as substitutes for gutta percha.

Hence **Mu·darine**, a bitter principle obtained from the root-bark of the mudar.

1829 Duncan in *Edin. Med. & Surg. Jrnl.* July 64 It may form a new principle, and, for convenience, I shall provisionally call it Mudarine. 1873 Drury *Useful Pl. India* (ed. 2) 100 Mudarine.

Mudd(e, obs. forms of Mud.

Mudden (mʌ·d'n), *a. rare*—[1]. [f. Mud *sb.*[1] + -en [4].] Made of mud.

1871 Tyerman *Wesley* III. 276 Though the windows were unglazed, and the mudden floor was such that his feet often sunk two inches deep during the performance of service.

Muddied (mʌ·did), *ppl. a.* [f. Muddy *v.* + -ed [1].] Covered with mud; made muddy. Of water, turbid. Also *fig.*

1642 H. More *Song of Soul* I. II. lx, With muddied arms of trees the earth it strows. 1647 — *Cupid's Conflict* xvii, How would'st thou then my muddied mind deceive With fading shows. 1656 E. Calamy in Reyner *Rules Govt. Tongue* A v, The muddied fountain casteth forth foul streams. *a* 1797 Mary Wollstonecr. *Posth. Wks.* (1798) IV. 48, I..do not expect muddied water to become clear before it has had time to stand. 1865 W. J. Linton *Claribel & other P.* 72 Year after year..The muddied Wye still flows. 1902 Kipling *Islanders* 28 Then ye contented your souls With the flannelled fools at the wicket or the muddied oafs at the goals.

Muddify (mʌ·difəi), *v.* [f. Muddy *a.* + -fy.] *trans.* To make muddy, to muddle.

1789 H. Walpole *Let. to Han. More* 4 Nov., Don't muddify your charming simplicity with controversial distinctions. 1889 Gretton *Memory's Harkb.* 132, I always used to think that if I were on the jury, I should go to consider my verdict muddified rather than enlightened.

Muddily (mʌ·dili), *adv.* [-ly [2].] In a muddy manner (*lit.* and *fig.*).

1648 Jenkyn *Blind Guide* iv. 103 You having..gone over my two former quarrees, muddily jumble together my two last. 1693 Dryden *Juvenal* Ded. (1697) 43 Lucilius; who writ..loosely, and muddily. [After Hor. *Sat.* I. iv. 11 *Cum flueret lutulentus.*] 1861 *All Year Round* 1 June 235 Warning me not to leap over and be either muddily drowned or beaten to death by the vessel's keel.

Muddiness (mʌ·dinės). [-ness.] The condition of being muddy.

c 1645 Howell *Lett.* (1655) I. 39 If this Letter fail either in point of Orthography or Style, you must impute..the second to the muddinesse of my Brain. 1684-5 Boyle *Min. Waters* 25 Of the Transparency, the Muddiness, or the Opacity of the Mineral Water. 1784 J. Barry in *Lect. Paint.* vi. (1848) 217 Warm and cold tints..which by their mixture would produce muddiness and opacity. 1858 Hawthorne *Fr. & It. Note-bks.* (1872) I. 32 The horrible muddiness..of all Paris. 1867 Trollope *Chron. Barset* II. lxi. 187 That muddiness of mind of which he had..accused himself. 1874 Garrod & Baxter *Mat. Med.* (1880) 120 The solution in distilled water is clear, or has only a slight muddiness.

Mudding (mʌ·din), *vbl. sb.* [f. Mud *v.*[1] + -ing [1].]

1. The action of making muddy.

1632 Sherwood, A mudding, beraying with, or sticking in mudde, *embourbement, enfangement*. 1635 A. Stafford *Fem. Glory* (1869) 179 The mudding of their purest Fountaine. 1895 H. P. Robinson in *Forum* (N. Y.) Jan. 528 The mudding of the stream in Æsop's fable.

2. A jocular term for: Plastic work, modelling.

1892 Stevenson & L. Osbourne *Wrecker* 6 'The daubs are mine—and his; the mudding mine.' 'Mudding? What is that?' asked Havens. 'These bronzes,' replied Dodd.

Muddir, obs. Sc. form of Mother.

Muddish (mʌ·diʃ), *a.* [f. Mud *sb.*[1] + -ish.] Somewhat muddy.

1658 Rowland tr. *Mouffet's Theat. Ins.* 940 The back and belly sometimes..of muddish colour. 1829 Scott *Diary* 20 Apr. in *Lockhart*, [The wit] of Lord Erskine was moody and muddish.

Muddle (mʌ·d'l), *sb.* [f. Muddle *v.*]

1. A muddled condition; confusion, disorder; mental confusion, bewilderment. Also, a result of muddling, a bungle, 'mess'. *To make a muddle of*: to bungle.

1818 Todd, *Muddle*, a confused or turbid state: a vulgar expression. 1852 Dickens *Bleak Ho.* v, We both grub on in a muddle. 1857 Hughes *Tom Brown* Pref. (1871) 18 A pretty muddle we should have been in had he done so. 1871 Smiles *Charac.* ii. (1876) 54 Work can only be got through by method. Muddle flies before it. 1884 *Sat. Rev.* 7 June 732/1 The present Government has made an immortal muddle of the whole business. 1884 A. Baird *Egypt. Muddle* 12 The Egyptian muddle—for I can call it nothing else—into which we have been dragged by the Government.

2. A confused assemblage.

1865 Dickens *Mut. Fr.* I. vii, One dark shop-window with a tallow-candle dimly burning in it, and surrounded by a muddle of objects. 1891 Kipling *Light that Failed* xiii. (1900) 222 A scarred, formless muddle of paint.

3. *U.S.* 'A kind of chowder; a pottle made with crackers' (*Cent. Dict.* 1890).

4. *Comb.*, chiefly parasynthetic (after MUDDLE-HEADED *a.*) with the sense 'muddled', as *muddle-brained, -minded* adjs.; **muddle-pate** = MUDDLE-HEAD. Also **muddle-room** *rare*$^{-1}$, a room set apart for untidy work.

1895 MORRIS in Mackail *Life* (1899) II. 310 Coleridge was a *muddle-brained metaphysician. 1862 H. MARRYAT *Year in Sweden* II. 8 The house keeper—a *muddle-minded woman. *a* 1849 POE *R. H. Horne* Wks. 1864 III. 427 The cant of the *muddlepates who dishonor a profound..philosophy by styling themselves transcendentalists. 1886 MRS. LYNN LINTON *Faston Carew* V, A..room on the ground-floor, which the Clinton girls had made their '*muddle-room'.

¶ **b.** Taken as adj. = 'muddled'.

1798 JOANNA BAILLIE *Tryal* II. i, Damn your muddle pate!

Muddle (mv·d'l), *v.* Also (?6,) 7 mudle. [f. MUD *sb.*^{1} or *v.*^{1}: see -LE. Cf. MDu. *moddelen*, frequentative of *modden* to dabble in mud.]

†**1.** *trans.* ? To throw into the mud, to knock down. *Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. [Possibly some misreading.]

a 1550 *Christis Kirke Gr.* 129 (Bann. MS.), He mudlet thame doun lyk ony myss.

2. *intr.* To bathe or wallow in mud or muddy water. Also, 'to rout with the bill, as geese and ducks do' (Phillips, ed. Kersey 1706). *Obs.* exc. *arch.*

1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 714 Paulus Venetus saith, that..Vnicornes muddle in the durt like Swine. 1623 LISLE *Ælfric on O. & N. Test.* To Rdr. 20 As duckes who delight euer to leaue the cleere spring, and muddle in waters of their owne fouling. 1727 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Approaching*, They will quit the Middle of the Stream, and muddle along the Sides. *a* 1745 SWIFT *Dick's Variety* 15 He never muddles in the Dirt Nor scowers the Street without a Shirt. 1845 JUDD *Margaret* II. iii, The tree..easier than a duck, muddles for nourishment with its roots.

b. To grub in the soil; to do dirty work; †*fig.* to 'grub' among records. *rare.*

1756 GREVILLE *Maxims* 221 His *summum bonum* is muddling in parchments, in the offals of dulness and tastlessness. 1822 GALT *Sir A. Wylie* XXXV, I'll..muddle about the root o' this affair till I get at it. 1831 CARLYLE *Sart. Res.* III. ix, Dyers, washers and wringers that puddle and muddle in their dark recesses.

3. *trans.* To make muddy; to render (liquor) turbid by stirring up the sediment. Now *rare.*

1676 MARVELL *Mr. Smirke* I iv, Where they mudled the Water and Fished after. 1692 R. L'ESTRANGE *Fables* iii. 2 Villain (says he) how dare you lye muddling the Water that I'm a drinking? 1831 BREWSTER *Nat. Magic* xi. (1833) 268 It muddled the water which it drank with its bill. 1885 FAIRBAIRN *Cath. Rom. & Anglican* (1899) II. ii. 61 The churches that do nothing to reach and purify the source only help to muddle the stream.

b. *transf.* To destroy the clearness of (colours). Also † *To muddle over*: to variegate or mottle.

In quot. 1596, the words seem to be comic perversions of Du. terms of painting; but the passage is obscure.

1596 NASHE *Saffron Walden* F 4, I have..ouzled, gidumbled, muddled, and drizled it [*sc.* the 'picture' of G. Harvey] so finely, that [etc.]. 1647 TRAPP *Comm. Mark* ii. 12 He cares not to gild gold, or muddle over a topaz. 1807 OPIE in *Lect. Paint.* iv. (1848) 320 Colours..little muddled by vehicles, and subsequent attempts to mend the first touches. 1863 E. V. NEALE *Anal. Th. & Nat.* 259 The transparent freshness of water-color drawings, when the washes are not muddled.

c. ? *U.S.* 'To mix; stir: as, to *muddle* chocolate or drinks' (*Cent. Dict.* 1890). Cf. MUDDLER 2.

4. To confuse, bewilder, esp. with drink. Also, to render (speech) confused or indistinct.

1687 SEDLEY *Bellamira* v. i. Wks. 1778 II. 178 This drinking does so muddle one's complexion and take off one's mettle. 1692 BENTLEY *Boyle Lect.* ii. 70 Their old Master seems to have had his Brains so muddled. 1718 LADY M. W. MONTAGU *Let. to Mrs. Thistlethwayte* 25 Sept., A head muddled with spleen. 1736 AINSWORTH *Lat. Dict.*, To muddle, or intoxicate with drinking, *Inebrio.* 1819 SHELLEY *Peter Bell* 3*rd* IV. xvi, A toad-like lump of limb and feature, With mind, and heart, and fancy muddled. 1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) I. 691 The stupor is increased and the speech muddled. 1873 HOLLAND *A. Bonnic.* xvi, Mullens ran on in this way, muddled by his unexpected good fortune and his greed. 1886 G. ALLEN *Maimie's Sake* xvii, The liquor was muddling her.

b. *intr.* 'To become confused, esp. from drink' (*Cent. Dict.* 1890). † *To muddle on* (see quot.).

a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, To Muddle on*, tho' so [*i.e.* 'half drunk'], yet to Drink on.

5. *trans.* To mix up blunderingly or sophistically, to confuse *together.*

1836 S. R. MAITLAND *Remarks*, etc. 57 To muddle the Valdesii..with the Cathari. 1864 J. H. NEWMAN *Apol.* App. 43 My Critic has muddled it together in a most extraordinary manner. 1886 SPURGEON *Treas. Dav.* cxxix. 3 A writer says the metaphor is muddled. 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 22 Mar. 3/2 It is childish nonsense to muddle good and bad schools together and strike an average.

b. To bungle, mismanage (an affair); also, to render (accounts) unintelligible by want of method.

1885 *Nat. Rev.* July 675 It was only when all services had been muddled, and when the whole Governmental machinery had come to a standstill, that Nubar Pasha put down his foot. 1905 CHESTERTON *Heretics* 18 Now our affairs are hopelessly muddled by strong silent men.

6. *intr.* To busy oneself in a confused, unmethodical, and ineffective manner.

[1806–7, 1827: ? Implied in MUDDLING *ppl. a.*] 1850 W. IRVING *Goldsmith* 87 He meddled or rather muddled with literature. 1882 MISS BRADDON *Mt. Royal* I, We were muddling hopelessly in an endeavour to make good sensible rules. 1906 *Outlook* 26 May 710/2 He spends much of his time..in muddling with his flowers and vegetables.

b. With various advs. *To muddle about*: to 'potter' about, busy oneself with various matters in an unmethodical way. *To muddle on*: to 'get along' in a haphazard way, to escape absolute failure though trusting to chance and makeshift expedients. *To muddle through*: to blunder through, to succeed in one's object in spite of one's lack of skill and foresight.

1701 NORRIS *Ideal World* I. viii. 437 Mudling on in the little affairs of a lower and more innocent, perhaps, but not less ingaged life. 1802 H. MARTIN *Helen of Glenross* II. 226 We never could muddle on at Invermay. *c* 1864 BRIGHT in *M*^{c}*Carthy's Remin.* (1899) I. 85 My opinion is that the Northern States will manage somehow to muddle through. 1879 M^{c}CARTHY *Own Times* II. xx. 98 To ask the ministers who had resigned to resume their places and muddle on as they best could. 1888 MRS. H. WARD *R. Elsmere* xviii. 236, I suppose you muddle about among the poor like other people. 1901 *Scotsman* 28 Feb. 8/2 They would muddle on in the old slipshod way of trusting to chance.

7. *trans.* with *away.* To waste, get rid of (money, time, etc.) without clearly knowing how.

1827 SCOTT *Jrnl.* 10 Dec., I muddled away the evening over my Sheriff-Court processes. 1853 LYTTON *My Novel* II. v, The elder son..had muddled and sotted away much of his share in the Leslie property.

Muddled (mv·d'ld), *ppl. a.* [f. prec. + -ED^{1}.]

†**1.** Made muddy or turbid. *Obs.*

1624 QUARLES *Job* VI. medit. xv, From muddled Springs can Christall Waters come? 1645 G. DANIEL *Poems* Wks. (Grosart) II. 2, I dare not..Soe much derogate from that clear Source, as borrow water from the muddled Cisternes of her Inferiour.

†b. Of wine: Thick. *Obs.*

1717 PRIOR *Alma* III. 589 We shall..Drink fine Champaigne, or muddl'd Port. *a* 1748 C. PITT *Dial. betw. Poet & Serv.* 34 Beer at noon, and muddled port at night. 1752 LAW *Spirit of Love* I. (1816) 16 The muddled wine always works right to the utmost of its power.

c. Of colour: Not clear.

1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) I. 157 A dull muddled white, almost resembling that of tallow, or putty.

2. Confused, dazed, stupefied.

1712 ARBUTHNOT *John Bull* II. viii, I was for five years often drunk, always muddled. 1840 DICKENS *Barn. Rudge* iii, Being at the same time slightly muddled with liquor. 1854 B. TAYLOR in *Life & Letters* (1884) I. xii. 287, I write with a muddled head and a languid pen.

Mu·ddledom. *jocular.* [f. MUDDLE *sb.* + -DOM.] The condition of muddle; prevalence of muddle.

1891 BARING-GOULD *In Troub. Land* vi. 79, I then learned ..that equations might be complicated to the highest limits of muddledom. 1904 *Tablet* 15 Oct. 632/2 The helpless victim of State muddledom.

Mu·ddle-head. [Formed after next.] A confused or stupid person; a blockhead.

1853 READE *Chr. Johnstone* 130 His author, who..belongs to the class muddle-head. 1892 ZANGWILL *Bow Mystery* 16 They are a queer lot of muddle-heads are the police.

Mu·ddle-hea·ded, *a.* [f. MUDDLE *sb.* (not found in our quots. before 19th c.) or MUDDLE *v.*] Having a muddled head; characteristic of one with a muddled head; stupid, confused.

1759 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* II. ii, Such a confused, pudding-headed, muddle-headed fellow. 1817–18 COBBETT *Resid. U. S.* (1822) 189 All the materials for making people drunk, or muddle headed, are much cheaper here than in England. 1871 KINGSLEY *At Last* xiii, Muddle-headed craft and elaborate silliness. 1887 A. BIRRELL *C. Brontë* x. 117 The public, muddle-headed at the best of times [etc.].

Hence **Muddlehea·dedness.**

1862 *Sat. Rev.* 6 Sept. 274 That sort of utter muddleheadedness which disqualifies a man for reasoning equally with pure ignorance. 1884 SKEAT in *N. & Q.* 12 Jan. 32/2 Such is the muddle-headedness of modern English spelling.

Muddlement (mv·d'lmĕnt). [f. MUDDLE *v.* + -MENT.] Muddle, confusion, bewilderment.

1857 W. COLLINS *Dead Secret* VI. i, I am lost in my own muddlement.

Muddler (mv·d'lə). [f. MUDDLE *v.* + -ER^{1}.]

1. One who muddles.

1885 *L'pool Daily Post* 27 Mar. 4/7 The assumption that those who are not contented to till the narrow barren fields of non-resistance are..inconsistent muddlers. 1903 *Contemp. Rev.* May 610 One Unionist candidate is reduced to the plea that the other side will be 'greater muddlers'.

2. (See quot.)

1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl., *Muddler*, a churning stick for chocolate. A smaller one for mixing toddies.

Mu·ddlesome, *a.* [f. MUDDLE *sb.* or *v.* + -SOME.] Characterized by muddling.

1887 *Gentl. Mag.* Mar. 235 The authorities at Manchester had made extensive but muddlesome preparations.

Muddliness (mv·dlinĕs). [f. MUDDLY + -NESS.] The condition of being in a muddle.

1891 *Charity Organis. Rev.* May 219, I asked myself if poverty brought muddliness, or muddliness poverty.

Muddling (mv·d'liŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. MUDDLE *v.* + -ING^{1}.] The action of the vb. MUDDLE.

1829 SCOTT *Jrnl.* 29 Mar., This muddling among old books has the quality of a sedative. 1873 H. SPENCER *Stud. Sociol.* xi. 289 Those muddlings of provisions and confusions of language in Acts of Parliament.

Muddling (mv·d'liŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. MUDDLE *v.* + -ING^{2}.] That muddles.

a 1732 GAY *Fables* II. xiii. 17 How muddling 'tis on books to pore! 1806–7 J. BERESFORD *Miseries Hum. Life* (1826) VI. *Stage Coaches* v, Finding..at least one muddling mother with a sick—but not silent—infant. 1827 HONE *Every-day Bk.* II. 388 'Sheelah' is an Irish term,..applied to a slovenly or muddling woman. 1883 *Longm. Mag.* July 256 Copyholders..are as a rule..more muddling in their ways, than the dependent labourer.

Hence **Mu·ddlingly** *adv.*

1830 LAMB *Let. to Dyer* in *Final Mem.* xvii. 167 What a power to intoxicate his crude brains, just muddlingly awake to perceive that something is wrong in the social system.

†**Mu·ddy,** *sb. Obs.* [? Subst. use of MUDDY *a.*: see quot. 1806.] A kind of coach.

1801 in *Spirit Publ. Jrnls.* V. 233 No more the stylish, well-enamell'd fair Lolls in her muddy with affected air. 1806 SURR *Winter in Lond.* II. 210 [She] bespoke..a coach hung so low that it obtained the name of a muddy.

Muddy (mv·di), *a.* Also 6 moudy, mudie, 6–7 muddie. [f. MUD *sb.*^{1} + -Y.]

1. Abounding in mud; turbid or foul with mud; covered or bespattered with mud.

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 114 Take muddy water out of a dyche. 1555 EDEN *Decades* 99 He wandered throughe many..muddy marysshes. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* IV. 687 All these Cocytus bounds with squalid Reeds, With muddy Ditches, and with deadly Weeds. 1756 C. LUCAS *Ess. Waters* I. 36 The stagnant waters of ponds..are always foul, heavy, muddy, and ill-tasted. 1859 KINGSLEY *Misc.* (1860) I. 19 By spreading his cloak over a muddy place for Queen Elizabeth to step on. 1884 *West. Morn. News* 9 Sept. 4/5 The station..was filled by a muddy throng.

b. Of the nature of mud, resembling mud.

1737 WHISTON *Josephus, Wars* VII. viii. § 4 Free from the mixture of all terrine and muddy particles of matter. 1864 *Chamb. Encycl.* VI. 162/2 The flesh [of the Lake Loach] is soft and has a muddy flavour. 1880 C. R. MARKHAM *Peruv. Bark* 173 On one morning the surging flood being black,..and on another a light muddy colour.

2. Living or growing in mud.

1598 Q. ELIZ. *Horace* 6 That face aboue of woman faire, The rest fowle Like the moudy fische. 1611 FLORIO, *Melegna*, a kind of muddy fish. 1818 SHELLEY *Marenghi* XV, And on the other, creeps eternally, Through muddy weeds, the shallow sullen sea. 1883 'ANNIE THOMAS' *Mod. Housewife* 99 There are plenty of grey mullet to be caught;..I will dress them in such a way as shall make you fail to recognise our muddy friend.

3. Of a liquid: Not clear, thick, turbid.

1618 LATHAM *2nd Bk. Falconry* (1633) 19 With muddie and bloudie water in it verie often. *a* 1661 FULLER *Worthies, Northampt.* (1662) II. 291 Thus the most generous Wines are the most muddy before they are fine. 1708 J. PHILIPS *Cyder* II. 313 Take care The muddy Bev'rage to serene. 1806 A. HUNTER *Culina* (ed. 3) 148 Nothing is so disagreeable as a muddy gravy soup. 1836 MRS. CARLYLE *Lett.* (1883) I. 61 We breakfasted..on muddy coffee and scorched toast. 1843 BORROW *Bible in Spain* II. 12 There they..drink the muddy but strong wine of the Alemtejo.

4. *transf.* a. Not clear or pure in colour. Of light: Dull, smoky.

1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* III. ii. 139 To what, my loue, shall I compare thine eyne! Christall is muddy. 1658 GADBURY *Doctr. Nativities* 83 A muddy-duskish-brown-swarthy Complexion. 1662 BP. HOPKINS *Serm., Funeral* (1685) 91 The dim and muddy light of this world. 1710 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4737/3 One Timothy Hall, of middle Stature, muddy Complexion. 1784 BARRY in *Lect. Paint.* VI. (1848) 215 When a light colour, though opaque, is thinly spread over a dark one, it is, by the colour underneath, rendered dim and muddy. 1844 DISRAELI *Coningsby* I. i, A muddy mezzotinto of the Duke of Wellington. 1856 KANE *Arct. Expl.* I. xv. 173 We work by muddy tapers of cork and cotton floated in saucers. 1898 P. MANSON *Trop. Diseases* XXII. 350 His friends observed that his face had become muddy and haggard.

b. Of the voice: Thick, esp. through drinking.

1841 J. T. HEWLETT *Parish Clerk* I. 69 The squire..said, with a muddy voice [etc.].

c. Of air: Impure. ? *Obs.*

1726 LEONI *Alberti's Archit.* I. 5/1 The Air for want of Motion will grow thick and muddy.

5. Not clear in mind; confused, muddled.

1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* I. ii. 325 Do'st thinke I am so muddy, so vnsetled, To appoint my selfe in this vexation? 1670 BUNYAN *No Way to Heaven but by Christ* Wks. (1845) 122 If the understanding be muddy as to this, it is impossible that such should be sound in the faith. 1682 J. W. *Let. fr. New-Eng.* 7 As to their Drunkenness,..they..seldom go to bed without muddy brains. 1790 BURKE *Fr. Rev.* Wks. V. 152 Cold hearts and muddy understandings. 1834 HOOD *Lament Toby* X, Day after day my lessons fade, My intellect gets muddy.

b. Partly intoxicated. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1776 JOHNSON in Boswell *Life* (1831) III. 348 Not that he gets drunk, for he is a very pious man, but he is always muddy. 1843 NICHOLSON *Hist. & Tradit. T.* 414 The fiddler waxed muddy and was often heard scraping behind the fiddle bridge.

6. Of literary style, thought, etc.: Obscure, vague, confused.

1611 BIBLE *Transl. Pref.* P 7 Therefore the Greeke being not altogether cleare, the Latine deriued from it must needes be muddie. 1643 FEATLEY in *Newman's Concord. Bible* Advt. 4 In this thickest and muddiest passage in which no Lincius [1650 Lynceus] can see any bottome, the Originall is very cleare. 1716 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* III. 31 His own Imitation of Quintilian's muddy Expression. 1741 CHESTERF. *Lett.* (1792) I. lxxvii. 213 Every man..may be clear and perspicuous in his recitals instead of dark and muddy. 1840 THACKERAY *Paris Sk.-bk.* (1872) 173 The present muddy French transcendentalism. *a* 1872 RANKINE *Songs & Fables* (1874) 40 His style is never muddy.

7. Morally impure or 'dirty'. Now *rare.*

1413 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton 1483) IV. ii. 59 Spyrituel men, that hen contemplatyf, hauen sette theyr hertes in heyghte and drawen them oute of this moddy erthe. 1603 H. CROSSE *Vertues Commw.* (1878) 128 She is a muddie queane, a filthy beast. 1653 H. MORE *Conject. Cabbal.* (1713) 25 The muddy and tumultuous suggestions of the Flesh. *a* 1679 W. OUTRAM *Serm.* (1682) 279 On one hand there are stable joys..

on the other muddy and fleeting pleasures. 1793 Ld. Spencer in *L.d. Auckland's Corr.* (1862) III. 114 Renard's is a muddy business. 1882 Stevenson *New Arab. Nts.* (1884) 142 Your business..is too muddy for such airs.

†8. Gloomy; sullen. *Obs.*

1638 Baker tr. *Balzac's Lett.* (vol. III.) 33 Shee aspires to no glory by sullen humours, she hath nothing muddy, nor clownish in her. 1686 Horneck *Crucif. Jesus* vii. 124 When a man begins to look with a chearful countenance, and the muddy complexion clears up. 1722 Ramsay *Three Bonnets* II. 107 Wheel'd round wi' gloomy brows and muddy, And left his brither in a study. 1736 Ainsworth *Lat. Dict.*, A muddy or cloudy look, *vultus tetricus*.

9. *Comb.*, chiefly parasynthetic: *muddy-bottomed, -brained, -headed, -mettled* adjs.

1874 J. W. Long *Amer. Wild-fowl* xiv. 185 They are very partial to small, *muddy-bottomed streams. 1634 Foxo *Perk. Warbeck* II. iii, *Muddy-brain'd peasants! 1642 Fuller *Holy & Prof. St.* II. xvi. 110 Many boys are *muddy-headed till they be clarified with age. 1815 R. Thorpe *Let. to W. Wilberforce* (ed. 3) 78 *note*, The ignorant and muddy-headed confusion, in which the Institution mixed the two Treaties. 1602 Shaks. *Ham.* II. ii. 594 A dull and *muddy-metled Rascall. 1601 ? Marston *Pasquil & Kath.* II. 145 Let the vnsanctified spirit of ambition Entice the choice of *muddie-minded dames To yoke themselues to swine. 1588 Fraunce *Lawiers Log.* I. vii. 40 Hee is but a *muddy-pated asse. 1839 *Times* 25 Mar. 4/3 That *muddy-souled economist Joseph Hume. 1872 O. W. Holmes *Poet Breakf.-t.* i. (1885) 22 If I..were..*muddy-witted.

Muddy (mʌ·di), *v.* [f. Muddy *a.*]

1. *trans.* To make muddy, in various senses of the adj.; to cover or bespatter with mud; to render (water) turbid with mud; to make confused or obscure.

1601 Shaks. *All's Well* v. ii. 4, I am now sir muddied in fortunes mood, and smell somewhat strong of her strong displeasure. *a* 1652 J. Smith *Sel. Disc.* ix. 461 The Holy Spirit is too pure and gentle a thing to dwell in a mind muddied and disturbed by those impure dregs. 1669 W. Simpson *Hydrol. Chym.* 136 Upon which if oyl of vitriol be dropt, it becomes clear again, and by oyl of tartar muddied. 1760 Derrick *Lett.* (1767) I. 82 The springs and streams being all muddied with the continual rains. 1811 *Self Instructor* 524 The former would be the means of muddying your colours. 1837 *Blackw. Mag.* XLI. 603 He..began to muddy the water. 1893 Leland *Mem.* II. 122, I only muddied the palms of my gloves, on which I fell. 1905 E. Chanoler *Unveiling of Lhasa* xi. 206 The..product of restless Western energies, stirring and muddying the shallows of the Eastern mind.

2. *intr.* To become muddy or turbid.

1834 Landor *Exam. Shaks.* Wks. 1846 II. 276 Malt before hops, the world over, or the beer muddies.

Muddying (mʌ·diˌiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [-ing 1.] The action of the vb. Muddy.

1713 M. Henry *Meekn. & Quietn. of Spirit* (1822) 115 Those disorderly passions, which tend to the muddying and clouding of the Soul. 1735 *Dict. Polygraph.* s.v. *Ultramarine*, Thus you may get the colour without muddying. 1883 C. Fleet *Our Ancestors in Sussex* Ser. II. 256 The muddying of the clear fancy by all kinds of disturbances.

b. *U. S.* 'A mode of fishing in which attendants stir up the muddy bottom of a lake or stream' (*Cent. Dict.* 1890).

1877 Hallock *Sportsman's Gaz.* 371 The season for muddying begins.

Muddyish (mʌ·diˌiʃ), *a.* [f. Muddy *a.* + -ish 1.] Somewhat muddy.

1853 G. J. Cayley *Las Alforjas* II. 148 There are reservoirs of muddyish water, and ducks and geese.

Muddywort, variant of Mouldwarp.

Mude, obs. form of Mood *sb.*1, Mud.

Mu·d-fish. A fish that inhabits mud. Also variously used *spec.* (see below).

a. A kind of loach (Crabb *Technol. Dict.* 1823); b. an African dipnoan fish of the family *Lepidosirenidæ*, a lepidosiren; c. *U. S.* a fish of the family *Amiidæ*, esp. the bowfin, *Amia calva*; d. a fish of the genus *Umbra* or family *Umbridæ*, a mud minnow; e. a name formerly given in New York to the Killifish (*Cent. Dict.*); f. a gobiine fish, *Gillichthys mirabilis* (ibid.); g. *Melanura pygmæa*; h. the Australian barramunda, *Ceratodus forsteri*; i. a New Zealand fish, *Neochanna apoda*.

1502 *Maldon, Essex, Court-Rolls* Bundle 61. No. 2 Attachiatus est per Ml. mudfish, vic stokfishe, x barells samonum. 1558 *Wills & Inv. N. C.* (Surtees) I. 167 viijbus of modefyshe. 1699 Dampier *Voy.* 128 The Sea also supplys divers sorts of very good Fish, (*viz.*) Snooks, Mullets, Mudfish. 1756 P. Browne *Jamaica* 450 The Mud-fish. The species of this tribe are easily distinguished by the fleshy appendicule at the anus. 1859 Bartlett *Dict. Amer.*, Mud-Fish (*Melanura pygmæa*), a small fish on the Atlantic coast which burrows in the mud. 1859 Darwin in *Life & Lett.* II. 174 The mud-fish or lepidosiren. 1880 Günther *Fishes* 372 The 'Bow-fin' or 'Mud-fish' (*Amia calva*) is not uncommon in many of the fresh waters of the United States. *Ibid.* 619 *Umbra limi*, locally distributed in the United States; called..'Dog fish' or 'Mud-fish' in America. 1882 Tenison-Woods *Fishes N. S. Wales* 108 *Neochanna* is a remarkable mudfish of New Zealand. 1896 tr. *Boas' Zool.* 386 The Mud-fish or Barramunda (*Ceratodus*) is a large, elongate animal, pointed at both ends.

Mudge (mʌdʒ), *v.*1 *Sc.* *intr.* and *trans.* = Budge *v.*

1802 Jamieson *Water Kelpie* xv, in Scott *Minstrelsy* (1803) III. 361 Thai dare na mudge for fricht. 1823 Galt *Entail* xxxv, I'll no' mudge the ba' o' my muckle tae in ony sic road. 1835 *Blackw. Mag.* XXXVIII. 161 One never mudged for hours. 1875 Alex. Smith *New Hist. Aberdeen.* II. 696 They could'na mudge the brig.

Mudge (mʌdʒ), *v.*2 ? *dial.* [? Related to Mush *v.* Cf. '*Modge*, to crush or bruise. *Warw.*' (Halliwell).] *trans.* To bruise, crush (hops).

1848 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* IX. II. 576 Hops may be pressed warmer than they can be trod, without breaking or mudging them.

Mudgeon, Mudhar: see Murgeon, Mudar.

Mudie, obs. form of Muddy.

‖ **Mudir** (mudī·r). Also **moodir, moodeer.** [Turk. use of Arab. مدير *mudīr*, active pple. of *adāra* to administer, govern (Dozy), causative of *dāra* to go round.] In Turkey, the governor of a village or canton; in Egypt, the governor of a province.

1864 *Athenæum* No. 1921. 245/2 The Mudirs or district-governors. 1881 *Blackw. Mag.* June 698 During our stay in the Fayoum we saw a good deal of the mudir or governor. 1885 *Nat. Rev.* July 677 One day the [Egyptian] police was under the Moodeers, the next it was the reverse.

Mudir, variant of Mudar.

Mudirate (mudī·rĕt). Also **mudirat, mudiriate.** [f. Mudir + -ate.] = Mudirieh.

1881 *Blackw. Mag.* June 699 The exact condition of every village in his mudirate. 1884 Gordon *Jrnls.* (1885) 222 No sentries at the North Fort, or Bourré, or on the Mudirat. 1885 *Pall Mall G.* 16 Feb. 1/1 Because we have taken no steps to set up any Administration in the Mudiriate of Dongola.

‖ **Mudirieh** (mudī·rie). Also **mou-, moodirieh, mudiriet.** [Egyptian Arabic *mudīriyah*, f. *mudīr* Mudir.] In Egypt: a. The territory of a mudir. b. The official head-quarters of a mudir.

1877 McCoan *Egypt as it is* 114 The following fourteen *mudirichs* or Prefectures. 1877 E. De Leon *Khedive's Egypt* 432 Sundry taxes and revenues in the provinces (Moudiriehs). 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 28 Oct. 7/1 A French traveller is resident at Fashoda, occupies the half-ruined mudirieh or town-hall. 1907 *Blackw. Mag.* July 124/1 At important Mudiriets, where ten years ago British functionaries were in charge.

Mudlark (mʌ·dlāɹk), *sb.* [f. Mud *sb.*1 + Lark *sb.*1 (a jocular formation).]

†1. *slang.* A hog (Grose *Dict. Vulg. Tongue* 1785).

2. *colloq.* One who dabbles, works, or lives in mud.

a. (See quots.)

1796–1800 Colquhoun *Police Metrop.* (ed. 6) 230 *Mud-Larks*, so called from their being accustomed to prowl about, at low water, under the quarter of West India ships.. under pretence of grubbing in the mud for old ropes, iron.., &c. but whose chief object..was to receive and conceal small bags of sugar, coffee [etc.]..which they conveyed to such houses as they were directed, and for which services they generally received a share of the booty. 1799 Mar. Edgeworth *Lame Jervas* xi, He..became what is called a mud-lark; that is, a plunderer of the ships' cargoes that unload in the Thames. 1801 *Monthly Rev.* XXXV. 243 Miserable beings..accustomed to grub in the river at low water for old ropes..known by the appellation of Mud-larks. 1851 Mayhew *Loud. Labour* II. 155/2 The mud-larks collect whatever they happen to find, such as coals, bits of old-iron [etc.]. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Mudlarks*, people who grovel about bays and harbours at low water for anything they can find. 1892 Dobson *18th Cent. Vignettes* 233 The same crowd of mud-larks and loafers would come rushing into the water to offer..their services.

b. A soldier of the Royal Engineers.

1878 Trimen *Regim. Brit. Army* 42 Royal Engineers.., nicknamed 'the Mudlarks'.

c. A man who cleans out common sewers. *rare*—0.

1882 in Ogilvie.

d. A gutter child, street arab. In quot. *transf.*

1865 *Sat. Rev.* 5 July 4 It is Lord Palmerston's misfortune ..to number three or four of these incurable mudlarks among his official offspring. 1890 in *Century Dict.*

3. A name given to various birds: a. A kind of Pipit. b. The skylark, *Alauda arvensis* (E.D.D.). c. 'The Australian magpie-lark (*Grallina picata*), from its building its nest of mud' (Morris 1898).

1882 Newton in *Encycl. Brit.* XIV. 317/1 The Mud-Lark, Rock-Lark, Titlark, and Tree-Lark are Pipits.

Mudlark (mʌ·dlāɹk), *v.* [f. Mudlark *sb.*] *intr.* To carry on the occupation of a mudlark; also, to 'play about' in the mud. Hence **Mu·dlarking** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1840 Marryat *Poor Jack* xi, You mud-larking vagabond. 1851 Mayhew *Lond. Labour* II. 155/2 This, he says, he liked much better than mud-larking. 1888 *Sat. Rev.* 21 July 66 A series of sunny summers and perfect grounds have not taught us the noble lessons of mudlarking, as it hath often been played in the fens and marshes of rural cricket-grounds. 1894 *Outing* (U. S.) XXIV. 193/2 He mingled with us for some time on the beach, mudlarked with the boys and watched our model yacht matches.

Mudlarker (mʌ·dlāɹkəɹ). [f. Mudlark *v.* + -er 1.] = Mudlark *sb.* 2 a.

1840 Marryat *Poor Jack* viii, I was now what is termed a regular *Mud-larker*, picking up halfpence by running into the water. *Ibid.* xviii, A mudlarker was a man who had an old boat,..furnished with an iron bar full of hooks, which was lowered down by a rope to catch pieces of cordage, oakum, canvas, or other articles, which might fall overboard from the..vessels in the river.

Mudle, obs. form of Muddle *v.*

Mudless (mʌ·dlĕs), *a.* [f. Mud *sb.*1 + -less.] Free from mnd.

1610 Holland *Camden's Brit.* I. 388 The mudlesse Tamis cleere. 1872 *Daily News* 31 July, His life had been as the flowing of a mudless stream. 1884 *Field* 6 Dec. (Cassell), To-day it was clean and mudless.

†**Mu·dly**, *a. Obs.*—1 [f. Mud *sb.*1 + -ly 1.] Mnddy.

a 1340 Hampole *Psalter, Cant. Isaye* xii. 4 When ȝe drynke of tha clere wellis & lefis the mudly watirs of erthly lustis.

Mud wall. A wall built of earth or clay, or of materials laid in clay as a substitute for mortar. † Also, the material forming such a wall.

1395 *Acc. Manor of Savoy* in *Archæologia* XXIV. 313 Pro factura ij perticatarum muri ex parte occidentale gardini vocata mudwall. 1464 *Nottingham Rec.* II. 373 For makyng of the modde walle. 1578 Nicholas tr. *Lopez de Gomara's Conq. W. India* 52 The houses are great, made of lime stone & bricke: others there are made of mood wal, and rafters. 1679 T. Kirke *Mod. Acc. Scot.* 10 The Houses of the Commonalty are very mean, Mud-wall and Thatch the best. 1690 Locke *Hum. Und.* IV. xix. (1695) 403 Earthly Minds, like Mud-Walls, resist the strongest Batteries. *a* 1771 R. Wood *Ess. Homer* (1775) 242 The mud walls of a Turkish cottage. 1789 *Trans. Soc. Arts* VII. 34 Two parts old cobb (alias mud-wall). 1833 Loudon *Encycl. Archit.* § 159 Mode of building the Mud Walls of Cottages in Cambridgeshire.

†b. *fig. Obs.*

1662 Br. Hopkins *Serm., Funeral* (1685) 78 There stand nothing between us and our eternal state, but this thin mud-wall of our bodies. 1670 *Devout Commun.* (1688) 142 Our mudwall of flesh made spiritual and transparent.

c. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

c 1470 Henry *Wallace* XI. 680 Castell was thar nayn, Bot mudwall werk withoutyn lym or stayn. 1543 tr. *Statutes* Table, Mud wall makers. 1785 Cowper *Wks.* 1837 XV. 159 The mud-wall cottages of our poor at Olney.

Mudwall: see Modwall.

Mudwalled (mʌ·dwɔ̄ld), *ppl. a.* [f. Mud *sb.*1 + Wall *sb.* + -ed 2.] Having mud walls. Also *fig.*

1607 Walkington *Opt. Glass* 22 This mud-wald cottage. 1630 *Epitaph* in J. R. Leifchild *Cornwall Mines* (1855) 20 O what a bubble, vapour, puffe of breath,..Is mud-wald man! 1689 Prior *Epist. to F. Shephard* 20 As Folks from Mud-wall'd Tenement Bring Landlords Pepper-corn for Rent. 1805 R. W. Dickson *Pract. Agric.* I. Plate xxviii, A small mud-walled cheap cottage. 1884 J. Colborne *Hicks Pasha* 84 Mud-walled streets are unnumbered.

Mue, Mued, obs. ff. Mew *sb.*2, *v.*1, 2, Muid.

Mueddin, variant of Muezzin.

Muee, obs. form of May *v.*1

Muekliche, -nesse: see Meekly, Meekness.

‖ **Muermo** (mue·rmo). *Bot.* [Chilian Spanish.] A tall tree native to Chili, *Eucryphia cordifolia*, having a valuable hard wood. Also called ulmo.

1890 in *Century Dict.*; and in later Dicts.

Mues, obs. f. Mews. **Muese,** var. Meuse.

Muesin, Muetden, obs. forms of Muezzin.

Muet, obs. form of Mute *a.*

‖ **Muezzin** (mu(e·zin). Forms: α. 6 **maizin,** 7 **meizin, muyezin,** (*pl.* **muyezini**), **muezem, -im,** 7–8 **muezin,** 8 **muasin, mezzin, muesin,** 9 **muezzeem, -im,** 9– **muezzin**; β. 7 **muetden, mouden, -on,** 9 **moo-ed'din, mueddin, moue-dhin, mood(d)in.** [Arabic مؤذن *mu'aḏḏin*, active pple. of اذّن *aḏḏana*, 2nd conjug. (frequentative) of *aḏana* to proclaim, f. *uḏn* ear. The α forms proceed from the widespread dialectal pronunciation with (z) or (dz) for (ð). Some of the forms appear to be meant for Arab. *mu'ðin*, the pple. of the 4th conjug. of the same vb.] In Mohammedan countries, a public crier who proclaims the regular hours of prayer from the minaret or the roof of a mosque.

α. 1585 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* III. xxi. 110 b, The Maizins beginne to cry vppon the towres. 1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* (1614) 301 And the Meizin or Muetden (Clarke, Sexten, Priest, Bell-ringer, or Bell rather) standeth up and readeth that Psalme. 1638 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* (ed. 2) 267 The Muyezini crie from the tops of Mosques, battologuizing *Llala Hyllula*. 1687 A. Lovell tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 49 A Muezim goes up to the top of the Minaret and calls to Prayers. *Ibid.* II. 18 The Turks say that the Muesem cannot call to prayers there as at other Mosques. 1702 W. J. *Bruyn's Voy. Levant* xii. 59 These Criers are called *Muasins*. 1704 J. Pitts *Acc. Mohammetans* vi. 38 The Mezzins, or Clerks are ready to observe his motions. 1816 Byron *Siege Cor.* xi, As rose the Muezzin's voice in air In midnight call to wonted prayer. 1819 T. Hope *Anastasius* (1820) I. xii. 224 Hark!..there is the Muezzeem of Sultan Achmet, just calling to prayers. 1820 T. S. Hughes *Trav. Sicily* II. 25 The sonorous tones of their muzzeins [*sic*: *misprint*.]

fig. 1907 *Q. Rev.* Apr. 585 His Majesty's Cabinet listened to this call of the muezzin of the revolution from the minaret of the Duma.

β. 1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* (1614) 603 When the Mouden, or Sexten crieth in the steeple. 1615 Browell *Arab. Trudg., Salie*, The Moudon from the top of the steeple cryeth..*Allah cabir, la allah, illa ilellah*. 1836 Lane *Mod. Egypt.* I. iii. 83 Most of the moo-eddins of Cairo have harmonious and sonorous voices. 1845 Ford *Handbk. Spain* I. 248 The Giralda was the great tower from whence the mueddin summoned the faithful to prayers. 1854 Milman *Lat. Chr.* IV. i. (1864) II. 185 The Mouedhin proclaimed from the roof 'There is one God and Mohammed is his prophet'. 1875 W. G. Palgrave in *Encycl. Brit.* II. 250/1 In most cases there is no minaret attached [to the mosque], the times of prayer being merely announced by the 'mûeddin', or crier, from the roof itself. 1889 Hall Caine *Scapegoat* xxv, The mooddin was chanting to call to prayers.

†**Muff,** *sb.*1 *Obs.* Also 6–7 **muffe.** [a. Du. *mof*, a contemptuous appellation for a Westphalian.] A depreciative term for a German or Swiss; sometimes loosely applied to other foreigners.

1590 Marlowe *2nd Pt. Tamburl.* I. i, King Sigismond hath brought from Christendome More then his Camp of stout Hungarians, Sclauonians, Almans, Rutters, Muffes, and Danes. 1592 Warner *Alb. Eng.* VII. xxxv. 151 Those Stiles to him weare strange, but thay Did feofe them on the bace-borne Muffe (*sc.* Warbeck) and him as King obay. 1596 Lodge *Wits Miserie* 35 The Italian ruffe, the French doublet, the Muffes cloak, the Toledo rapier [etc.]. 1598

E. Guilpin *Skial.* (1878) 57 Is he not a Sargeant? then say's a muffe For his furr'd sattin cloak. 1598 Florio, *Stitticozzi*, swearing or swaggring muffs or dutchmen. *a* 1639 Sir J. Reresby *Mem. & Trav.* (1904) 135 The Low Dutch call the High, muffes, that is *étourdi*, as the French bave it, or blockheads. 1649 W. M. *Wandering Jew* (1857) 61 Shop-keepers ..(like a guard of Muffes) every morning wait at their doores to get their money. 1656 Finett *For. Ambass.* 38 An Ambassadur (with his assistant Commissioner Chancellour of Muscovey)..was..received at Tower Wharfe... The Kings Coach,and five or six others tooke them in at Tower Wharfe, but with such disorder..as without my care,..some must of the better sort of Muffes have walked on foote to their Lodgings.

Muff (mʊf), *sb.*2 Also 6–7 muffe. [Prob. a. Du. *mof* (not found earlier than 17th c.), a. F. *moufle* (Walloon *mofe*, *mouffe*) : see Muffle *sb.*5 Cf. G. *muffe*, *muff* (17th c.), Sw. *muff*.]

1. A covering (usually of fur and of cylindrical shape) into which both hands may be thrust from opposite ends to keep them warm.

Now used only by women ; in 17–18th c. also by men.

1599 B. Jonson *Cynthia's Rev.* II. i, She alwayes weares a Muffe. 1608 H. P. *Epigr.* 32 Should Spruso leaue the wearing of his muffe. 1662 Pepys *Diary* 30 Nov., This day I first did wear a muffe, being my wife's last year's muffe. 1695 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3065/4 Lost.., a large Sabble Tip, Mans Muff, with a parting in the middle of it. 1713 Gay *Fan* I. 205 Then in the muff th' unactive fingers lay, Nor taught the fan in various forms to play. 1746 H. Walrole *Let. to Mann* 17 Jan., Seeing him [*sc.* a French spy] dangle on a gallows in his muff and boots. 1775 Mme. D'Arblay *Early Diary* 21 Nov., Another man..carries her muff, in whicb is her little lap-dog. 1847 Alb. Smith *Chr. Tadpole* xii, Sbe had also a muff, something like a grenadier's cap. 1902 *Daily Chron.* 20 Dec. 8/3 One of the huge, flat, bag-shaped muffs that are now at the apex of fashion.

b. *transf.* (For *foot-muff* see Foot *sb.* 35.)

1797 Bailey & Culley *Agric. Northumb.* 132 The long-woolled sheep..were called Muggs, probably from their faces being covered with a muff of wool. 1802 Paley *Nat. Theol.* xv. (ed. 2) 292 Such a defence is furnished to the swan in the muff in which its body is wrapped. 1830 M. Donovan *Dom. Econ.* I. 223 The bottles may be enveloped in muffs made of thick canvass, to protect them from being broken by striking against each other.

†**c.** = Muffle *sb.*5 3, Muffler 2 c. *Obs.*

1854 Wilkes in *8th Rep. Comm. Lunacy* App. G. 137 The means of restraint employed were the leather muff and wrist-straps, iron hand-cuffs [etc.]. *Ibid.*, One patient.. had been for some time wearing the muff and hobbles.

†**2.** = Mitten 2. *Obs.*

Cf. the widespread dialectal use = Mitten 1 (see E.D.D.).

1748 Richardson *Clarissa* (1811) III. iii. 30 On her charming arms a pair of black velvet glove-like muffs of her own invention. 1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* v. iv, She was playing one of her father's favourite tunes..when the muff fell over her fingers.

3. A tuft or crest on the heads of certain birds.

1849 D. J. Browne *Amer. Poultry Yd.* (1855) 60 Whether the climate of Northern Europe has any tendency to develop the growth of crests, 'muffs', etc. (as in what are called Siberian fowls or muffed Dorkings), on the heads of fowls.

4. In various technical senses.

a. *Founding.* (See quots. ; cf. Muffle *sb.*4)

1756 *Dict. Arts & Sci.* s.v. *Foundery of Statues*, The furnace consists of a hearth and its muff, a fire-place, an ash-hole, and an earthen bason...The muff is a brick arch made very low to reverberate the flame upon the metal. 1880 *Coach Builders' Art Jrnl.* I. 86 If a silver beading is required a strip of copper and a strip of silver is taken and placed one on the other and put into a furnace (technically termed 'muff') to be annealed, that is, softened.

b. *Glass-manuf.* A cylinder of blown glass for flattening out into a plate.

1875 in Knight *Dict. Mech.*

c. *Plumber's work.* A joining tube driven into the ends of two adjoining pipes.

1875 in Knight *Dict. Mech.*

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *muff-chain*, *-maker*, *-string*, *-stuffer*, *warmer* ; *muff-headed* adj.; **muff-bag**, a bag, usually of sealskin, on the outside of which is a muff ; **muff-box**, (*a*) a box in which a muff is kept, or sold ; (*b*) a large hat worn by women at the beginning of the 19th century ; **muff-cap** *jocular*, a soldier's bearskin cap ; **muff-coated duck** *dial.*, the muscovy duck (Halliwell 1847) ; **muff coupling**, a cylindrical shaft coupling to fit over the abutting ends of shafts.

1895 *Army & Navy Price List* 15 Sept. 1612/2 A large selection of Real and Imitation Sealskin *Muff Bags in stock. 1816 J. Scott *Vis. Paris* (ed. 5) 101 Under the poke and the *muff-box, the face sometimes entirely disappears. 1864 Pineas *Ergänzungsbl.* 34 *Muff-cap, *Bärenmütze*. 1872 *Daily Tel.* 4 July 5/1 The Americans appear to have a peculiar fondness for the 'busby' and the muff-cap as items of military head-gear. 1902 *Words Eyewitness* 204 The new-fashioned jewelled *muff-chains. 1887 D. A. Low *Machine Draw.* (1892) 25 **Muff Couplings*. 1768 R. Smith *Univ. Direct. Rats*, etc. 139 These vermin [Water rats] are something like the Norway Rat, but smaller,.. their heads rounder, or what is commonly termed, *muff-headed. 1688 R. Holme *Armoury* III. 25/1 By this Sign or Cognizance [of two Muffs]..you may easily know where a Furrier or *Muff-maker dwelleth. 1706–7 Farquhar *Beaux Strat.* I. i, A contrary sort..contract their spacious acres to the circuit of a *muff-string. 1895 *Army & Navy Price List* 15 Sept. 308 *Muff Warmer, Nickel plated.

Muff, *sb.*3 *Obs.* exc. *dial.* [repr. an inarticulate sound ; cf. the synonymous G. *muff* int., also Humph, Buff *sb.*5, and Eng. dial. *muff* adj. = Mum *a.* (see E.D.D.).] In phr. *Not to say muff, to say neither muff nor mum* : not to utter a sound.

Quot. *c* 1460 s.v. Muff *v.*1 may perh. belong to this sb.

1652 C. B. Stapylton *Herodian* VI. 45 The drunken guards say not so much as muff. *c* 1681 Hickeringill *Trimmer* vi. Wks. 1716 I. 388 The slaves never durst mutter since, nor scarce say muff. 1881 *Leicestersh. Gloss.* s.v. A didn' sey no moor, nayther moof nur moom.

Muff (mʊf), *sb.*4 *colloq.* [Of doubtful origin.

As the word has not been found earlier than the second quarter of the 19th c. (being unrecorded even in the slang dictionaries), its identity with the long obsolete Muff *sb.*1 is unlikely. It may be an application of Muff *sb.*2, conveying the scoffing accusation of keeping one's hands in a muff.]

1. Originally, one who is awkward or stupid in some athletic sport. Hence, in wider sense, one without skill or aptitude for some particular work or pursuit, a 'duffer'; also, one who is generally deficient in practical sense. *To make a muff of oneself*: to make oneself ridiculous.

1837 Dickens *Pickw.* vii, Such denunciations as—..'Now butter-fingers'—'Muff'..—and so forth. *a* 1845 Hood *Pen & Pencil Pict.* (1857) 144 Awful muff! Can't pull two strokes without catching as many crabs. 1857 Hughes *Tom Brown* II. iv, I didn't think..that you'd have been such a muff as to let him be getting wet through. 1860 W. E. Forster *Let.* 5 Dec. in Reid *Life* (1888) I. viii. 324, I find I know absolutely nothing [he was going through a course of instruction in musketry], and am therefore a complete muff. 1866 Mansfield *Sch. Life Winchester* (1870) 136, I was..rather a muff at the latter [*sc.* cricket). 1880 Miss Braddon *Just as I am* xxi, I know I was a tremendous muff in the hunting-field. 1884 *Nonconf. & Indep.* 25 Sept. 930/3 Both sides have succeeded in making muffs of themselves.

2. [Prob. from the verb.] A failure ; anything clumsily or badly done or bungled, as a bad stroke of play in a game of ball ; *spec.* in any game at ball, failure to hold a ball that comes into one's hands.

1871 *Punch* 25 Feb. 81/2 *Old Gent.* 'Well, Charlie, what sort of a book is that ? interesting?' *Bloodthirsty Young Rascal.* 'Not a bit. It's a great muff. I've read sixty pages and there's only one man killed yet.' 1897 Farmer & Henley *Slang, Muff*...2. (common).—Anything badly bungled.

Muff (mʊf), *sb.*5 *dial.* [Perh. a use of Muff *sb.*2, from the ring of outstanding feathers round the neck. But cf. Du. *mof* greenfinch.] The whitethroat, *Sylvia cinerea*.

1831 J. Rennie *Montagu's Ornith. Dict.* 538. 1839 [see Muffet].

Muff (mʊf), *a.* [f. Muff *v.*4] In *muff glass* : glass which has been 'muffed'.

1865 *Morn. Star* 24 Apr., The subdued light from globes of muff glass...The light was..from globes of muff glass let into the ceiling. 1890 *Century Dict.*, *Muff-glass*.

Muff, *v.*1 *Obs.* exc. *dial.* (see E.D.D.). [Belongs to Muff *sb.*3] *intr.* With expressed or implied negative : (Not) to say 'muff'; (not) to utter a word.

Quot. *c* 1460 perh. belongs to Muff *sb.*3

c 1460 *Towneley Myst.* viii. 188 If thou can nother muf nor mom, I shall sheld the from shame. 1645 Pagitt *Heresiogr.* (1647) 74 They dare not so much as whisper, or as much as muffe against it.

†**Muff,** *v.*2 *Obs. rare.* [f. Muff *sb.*2] *trans.* To provide with a muff.

1621 Brathwait *Nat. Embassie*, etc. 254 Th' Ladie in her coach..is muff'd when frosts approach. 1688 R. Holme *Armoury* III. 234/2 The Inhabitants [of France] in cold Weather keep warm, and Muff themselves.

Muff, *v.*3 *colloq.* and *slang.* [f. Muff *sb.*4]

1. *trans.* To make a muddle or 'mess' of, to bungle; to perform or play badly or clumsily; to miss (a catch or ball) at cricket or other games. Also *intr.*, to miss catches, to act bunglingly.

1857 G. A. Lawrence *Guy Liv.* vi. 49, I don't see why you should have muffed that shot. 1860 Hughes *Tom Brown at Oxf.* xiii, 'Brazen-nose was better steered than Exeter'. 'They muffed it in the Gut, eh?' 1901 *Scotsman* 5 Sept. 7/3 Mr. McDonald muffed his stroke [in golf].

2. *intr.* To fail (in an examination).

1884 J. Sturgis in *Longm. Mag.* III. 617 Freddy and Tommy and Dicky have all muffed for the army.

Hence **Muffed** *ppl.a.*, clumsily missed or bungled; **Mu'ffing** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1841 J. Mills *Old Eng. Gentlm.* I, You may rest assured that no muffing work would be looked over in any young man. 1876 *World* V. No. 107. 18 A muffed catch raises the first little cloud of chaff. 1905 *Review of Rev.* Feb. 115/2 There must be no more muffing of parliamentary chances.

Muff, *v.*4 *trans.* = Muffle *v.*1 5. Hence **Muffed** *ppl. a.* = Muffled *ppl. a.* 5. (Cf. Muff *a.*)

1868 *Morn. Star* 7 Jan., A cordon of white-muffed glass burners. 1877 *Eng. Mechanic* 3 Aug. 522/3 Would some correspondent inform me how I am to proceed in muffing glass, leaving ornamental scroll work clear glass on muffed ground ?

Muffat(t)ee, variant forms of Muffetee.

Muffe, obs. f. Move *v.*, Muff *sbs.* 1 and 2.

Muffed (mʊft), *a.* [f. Muff *sb.*2 + -ed 2.] **a.** Wearing a muff (in quot. *transf.*). **b.** Of certain birds : Having a crest or tuft on the head.

a. 1813 L. Hunt in *Examiner* 4 Jan. 3/2 The muffed chin was a matter of taste.

b. 1809 T. Donaldson *Poems* 40 My Hen she was a shining Brown, Wi' Muffi'd head. 1828 Moir *Mansie Wauch* xx. 290 Finding the head of the muffed hen..lying in a bye corner. 1845 *Zoologist* III. 929, I never met with more than two kinds of woodcocks, the one, the common muffed or muffled cock..and the other a much smaller bird of darker plumage. 1885 *Bazaar* 30 Mar. 1265/1 [Pigeons] warranted good performers, flyers, and breeders, muffed, or clear legged. 1899 *B'ham Weekly Post* 18 Mar 24/1 The Blondinette [pigeon] is a muffed, crested, and frilled variety.

Muffel(le, obs. forms of Muffle *v.*

Muffet (mʊ·fĕt), *dial.* Also **muffit.** [f. Muff *sb.*2 + -et.] = Muff *sb.*5

1839 Macgillivray *Brit. Birds* II. 350 *Sylvia cinerea*. The..White-Throat...Muff. Muffet. Mufty. 1885 Swainson *Provinc. Names Birds* 23.

Muffetee (mʊfĕtī·). Also 8–9 **muffatee**, 9 **mufflee**, (-ies *pl. Sc.*), **muffettee**, **muffattee**, **mufftee**. [App. irreg. f. Muff *sb.*2]

1. A muffler worn round the neck. *Obs.* exc. *dial.*

c 1706 *Songs Costume* (Percy Soc.) 206 Let 'em [*sc.* the men] mind their ruffles and muffetees. *Ibid.* 207 Scarlet and saxon-green muffetees [worn by men]. 1772 Colman *Prose Serv. Occas.* (1787) III. 194 Nay lest Rouleaus themselves should soil their ruffles A muffatee each Pretty Master muffles. 1839 Thackeray *Leg. St. Sophia of Kioff*, Warm her soldier lad she wrapt in Comforter and muffettee. *a* 1890 E. Waugh *Tufts of Heather* (1892) I. 25 He'd a thick, red wool muffatee reawnd his neck.

2. A worsted cuff worn on the wrist.

1808–18 Jamieson, *Muffities*,..mittens, either of leather or of knitted worsted, worn by old men. 1842 Mrs. Stone *W. Langshawe* I. xii. 180 Her whole pride and delight..were centered in having her husband's hose, gloves, and muffatees —all her own knitted manufacture—in superlative order. 1844 Cornelia Mee *Comp. Work-Table* 82 New Cross-way Pattern for Gentlemen's Muffatees...For a muffatee, make a chain of 52 stitches [etc.]. 1865 *Cornh. Mag.* XII. 703 She stood..with her red muffetees and her chilblainy hands clasped. 1878 *Yng. Ladies' Jrnl.* Christmas No. 5 Here are a pair of scarlet muffatees for his wrists. 1902 'Mrs. Alexander *Stronger than Love* xii. 147, I have a little present for Uncle Garth—a pair of rabbit-wool muffatees.

Muffin (mʊ·fin). Also 8 **muffin** ; *dial.* 8 **moofin**, 9 **mowffin**, **moufin**. [Of obscure origin ; but perh. in some way connected with OF. *mouflet* soft (said of bread), also used subst., soft bread.]

1. a. *dial.* (See quots. 1703, 1888.) **b.** A light, flat, circular, spongy cake, eaten toasted and buttered at breakfast or tea.

1703 Thoresby *Let. to Ray* Philos. Lett. (1718) 332 A *Moofin*, a Wheat Cake bak'd upon a Bake-stone over the Fire, as Oat-cakes. 1747 Mrs. Glasse *Cookery* xvii. 151 To make Muffings and Oat-Cakes. 1766 [Anstey] *Bath Guide* xiii. 105, I freely will own I the Muffins preferr'd To all the genteel Conversation I heard. 1782 Wolcot (P. Pindar) *Odes R. Acad.* xiv, A face..That boasts no more expression than a muffin. 1802 Lamb *Let. to Coleridge* 11 Oct., We..can trace the dirt in it to having read it at tea with buttered muffins, or over a pipe. 1886 J. K. Jerome *Idle Thoughts* (1889) 120, I eat a large plateful of hot buttered muffins about an hour beforehand. 1888 Jessie Fothergill *Lasses of Leverhouse* xix. 179 'Mowffin', a generic name for tea bread in all its varieties.

2. A kind of flat earthenware or china plate.

1864 in Webster. 1885 C. Mackeson in *Brit. Alm. Comp.* 94 In some parts of the country identical titles are very differently applied. Among the double meanings..[are] Muffin Maker for a maker of tea-cakes or the maker of a muffin in China manufacture.

3. *slang* and *colloq.* **a.** = Muff *sb.*4 1. ? *Obs.* **b.** One who habitually 'muffs' a catch or ball. (*Funk's Stand. Dict.* 1895.)

1830 W. T. Moncrieff *Hrt. of Lond.* II. i, A visitor? hurrah ! some muffin, I daresay—he must pay his footing.

4. *Canadian slang.* (See quot. 1856.)

1856 Miss Bird *Englishw. Amer.* 260 Every unmarried gentleman, who chooses to do so, selects a young lady to be his companion in the numerous amusements of the season.. when she acquiesces, [she] is called a 'muffin'. 1904 Major A. Griffiths 50 *Yrs. Pub. Serv.* iv. 52 A pleasant *tête-a-tête* drive for many miles..with your 'muffin' by your side.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *muffin-dish*, *-maker*, *-plate*; **muffin-bell**, the bell rung by a seller of muffins ; **muffin-cap**, a flat woollen cap worn by charity-school boys, etc. ; **muffin-countenance**, **-face** *slang*, an expressionless countenance ; so **muffin-faced** *adj.* (see also quot. 1823) ; **muffin-fight** *colloq.* = *muffin-worry* ; **muffin-head** *dial.*, a blockhead ; **muffin-man**, a man who sells muffins ; **muffin-ring**, **muffin-tin**, 'a ring, usually of tinned iron, in which muffins are cooked' (Worcester 1860) ; **muffin-worry** *colloq.*, a tea-party.

1840 Hood *Up Rhine* 89 By and by a bell rang, and that sent him into a fresh tantrum. 'What..has a *muffin-bell to do with religion?' 1840 Barham *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. I. *Spectre of Tapp.*, Mr. Peters..had received a liberal education at a charity-school, and was apt to recur to the days of his *muffin-cap and leathers. 1823 *Spirit Publ. Jrnls.* (1825) 53 The *muffin countenance of the renowned Sancho Panza. 1895 *Army & Navy Price List* 15 Sept. 824 *Muffin Dish and Cover. 1777 I. Jackman *All World's a Stage* I. ii, Who is that gentleman?..Has he a *muffin-face? 1823 'J. Bee' *Dict. Turf*, **Muffin-faced*, one who has large protruding muscles on his phiz, which is pale withal, is 'a muffin-fac'd son of a —. 1837 Syd. Smith *Let. to Archd. Singleton* Wks. 1859 II. 277/1 His little muffin-faced son. 1887 *Old Man's Favour* I. II. i. 198 A rare dinner, an occasional *muffin-fight. 1892 Mrs. H. Ward *D. Grieve* I. v, Yo good-for-nowt, yo *muffin-yed, yo donkey! 1790 *Bystander* 382 The Italian *muffin-maker. 1810 *Splendid Follies* II. 6 A *muffin-man. 1895 *Army & Navy Price List* 15 Sept. 292/2 Hot Water *Muffin-Plate and Cover. 1860 *Hotten's Slang Dict.* (ed. 2), **Muffin-worry*, an old ladies' tea party. 1877 'Ouida' *Puck* xvi, Day before yesterday she came to muffin-worry in Fred. Orford's rooms.

Muffineer (mʊfinī·ə·r). [f. MUFFIN + -EER.]

1. A small castor with a perforated top for sprinkling salt or sugar on muffins.

1806–7 J. BERESFORD *Miseries Hum. Life* (1826) IX. xli, As you are shaking a muffineer..the cover springing off. 1821 SYD. SMITH *Wks.* (1859) I. 316/2 Is this Mr. Thomas Hope?..he who meditated on muffineers and planned pokers? 1841 DICKENS *Barn. Rudge* lxx, With regard to the expense..two or three silver tea or coffee pots, with something additional for drink (such as a muffineer, or toast-rack) would more than cover it. 1897 *Daily News* 17 Sept. 5/2 Silver and turquoise inlaid muffineers.

2. 'A covered dish to keep toasted muffins hot'. The sense perh. never existed, but is the only one recognized in Dicts. before the *Century Dict.* 1890.

1858 in SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade.* 1860 in WORCESTER; and in later Dicts.

3. *nonce-uses.* a. A seller of muffins. b. A muffin-bell.

1830 *Fraser's Mag.* II. 450 If the thin small voice of the muffineer's ring be justifiable, why is not the baker let loose upon us? 1859 SALA *Tw. round Clock* (1861) 23 A bell to which Great Tom of Lincoln..and our own defunct 'Big Ben', are but as tinkling muffineers.

Muffish (mʊ·fiʃ), *a. colloq.* [f. MUFF *sb.*⁴ + -ISH.] Of the nature, or characteristic, of a muff.

1858 FARRAR *Eric* II. iii, You don't want to make the whole school such a muffish set as the Rosebuds, do you? 1893 LELAND *Mem.* I. 166 He was always rather mild, quiet, and old-fashioned—in fact, muffish.

Hence **Mu·ffishness**, the quality of being 'muffish.'

1858 FARRAR *Eric* II. vii, He professed to ridicule diligence as an unboyish piece of muffishness. 1868 *Sat. Rev.* 14 Mar. 340/1 The girl of the period has done away with such moral muffishness as..regard for counsel and rebuke.

Muffism (mʊ·fiz'm). *colloq.* [f. MUFF *sb.*⁴ + -ISM.] The action characteristic of a muff; foolishness.

1854 LADY LYTTON *Behind the Scenes* II. x, The muffism of walking down St. James's Street, on a gusty day in September, in a rough, and somewhat shabby, pilot coat.

Muffit, variant of MUFFET *dial.*

Muffitee, variant Sc. form of MUFFETEE.

Mufflar, obs. form of MUFFLER.

Muffle (mʊ·f'l), *sb.*¹ Also 8 (*? erron.*) muftel. [App. f. MUFFLE *v.*¹]

1. Something that muffles or covers the face or neck. = MUFFLER 1 a. *rare.*

1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 184/10 A Muffle, *focale.* *a* 1850 ROSSETTI *Dante & Circ.* I. (1874) 164 Why, with a hood on (if one only thinks) Or muffle of prim veils and scapularies.

† b. A muzzle. *Obs.*

1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 184/11 A Muffle for a dog, *fistella* [read *fiscella*].

2. Something that muffles or deadens sound.

1734 in Mackenzie *Newcastle* (1827) I. 314 Muftel's for the bells, 1s. 1830 GREVILLE *Mem.* (1874) II. 7 He sent for the officer on guard, and ordered him to take all the muffles off the drums.

3. Muffling effect; muffled sound.

1886 STEVENSON *Dr. Jekyll, Incident of Lct.* (ed. 8) 50 The fog still slept on the wing above the drowned city..; and through the muffle and smother of these fallen clouds, the procession of the town's life was still rolling in..with a sound as of a mighty wind. 1902 *Daily Chron.* 11 Oct. 3/4 All one heard was the muffle of many hoofs and the eternal rattle of gun-carriage and baggage wagon.

Mu·ffle, *sb.*² [a. F. *mufle*, of unknown origin.]

1. The thick part of the upper lip and nose of ruminants and rodents. (Cf. quot. 1846.)

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 331 Some haue but one horne apiece, and that either in the midst of the forehead, as the Oryx; or else in the nose, and muffle, as the Rhinoceros. 1846 G. R. WATERHOUSE *Nat. Hist. Mammalia* I. 50 *note*, The French naturalists use the word 'muffle' for that part at the end of the nose which is naked in the Ox, Dog, &c.; where the same part is covered by hairs, as in the Rabbit, the animal is said to have no muffle. The term will be used to designate the corresponding part of the nose, whether hairy or not, in this work. 1855 LONGF. *Hiaw.* II. 24 Mudjekeewis..drew the Belt of Wampum..Over the long nose and nostrils, The black muffle of the nostrils [of the Great Bear]. 1891 FLOWER & LYDEKKER *Introd. Mammals* 163 Potorous...Tarsus short. Muffle naked.

† b. A proboscis. *Obs. rare.*

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 314 Their forefeet..again are charged full hy the meanes of their [*sc.* bees'] muffle. *Ibid.* 353 Through that muffle or trunke of his, he [*sc.* the elephant] soundeth (as it were) out of a Trumpet.

2. *Comb.*: **muffle-jaw** *U.S.* = MILLER'S THUMB 2 c.

1882 JORDAN & GILBERT *Synopsis Fishes N. Amer.* 696 *Uranidea richardsonii*...Miller's Thumb;..Muffle-jaw.

† **Muffle,** *sb.*³ *Obs. rare*⁻¹. [ad. G. *muffel-(thier)*, a perversion of F. *mouflon.*] = MOUFFLON.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 399 A beast [in Sardinia] called Ophion [*marg.*, A Muffle, as Munster taketh it].

Muffle (mʊ·f'l), *sb.*⁴ Also 9 muffel. [a. F. *moufle*, prob. a use of *moufle* mitten (whence MUFFLE *sb.*⁵). Cf. G. *muffel* in the same sense.]

1. A receptacle, placed within a furnace, in which substances may be exposed to heat without coming in contact with the products of combustion.

a. in *Chemistry* and *Metallurgy*, used for cupellation, calcination, annealing, etc.

1644 DIGBY *Nat. Soul* x. § 11. 433 It continueth melted, flowing, and in motion vnder the muffle. 1677 tr. *Glaser's Compl. Chem.* 70 Place a good Cupple with its Muffle in a little Furnace made for this purpose. 1791 HAMILTON *Berthollet's Dyeing* II. II. i. 54 Indigo exposed to the action of fire..under a muffle fumes and swells. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 475 The enamel-kiln is made in the shape of a chemist's muffle. 1868 JOYNSON *Metals* 113 On then heating the metal to bright redness, in a muffle or iron cylinder, a white surface of arsenide of iron is produced. 1884 J. PATON in *Encycl. Brit.* XVII. 314/1 [The needles] are..then re-heated in the muffle. 1897 *Daily News* 2 Oct. 2/5 These odd little furnaces are called 'muffles', and consume the tobacco to get at the ash.

b. *Ceramics*, etc. A chamber in a kiln in which pottery, porcelain, and glass is baked after being painted; also applied to the kiln or furnace containing such a chamber.

1742 *Phil. Trans.* XLII. 188 The Vessels that are painted or cover'd over with this Glazing, must be..put under a Muffle, and as soon as the Glass runs, you must smoak them, and take out the Vessels. 1832 G. R. PORTER *Porcelain & Gl.* II. xiv. 301 The glass is placed during the firing in a close iron box or oven, which is called a muffle. 1881 *Porcelain Works, Worcester* 30 The kilns used for this purpose may properly be called muffles.

2. A receptacle for fuel in a kiln for drying grain.

1797 *Monthly Mag.* III. 49/2 The fuel in these kilns is put into a cast-metal muffle, placed under the centre, and adapted to the size of the kiln. To this muffle are joined pipes of rolled iron, &c. which carry the heat to the extreme parts, and terminate in a chimney.

3. *attrib.*, as *muffle chamber, furnace, plate.*

1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech., Suppl.* s. v. *Muffle*, The other view has grating *g*, cinder hole *f*, charging hole *d*, *muffle chamber *b*, escape for fumes *l*. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 578 Sometimes the cylinders are spread in a large *muffle furnace, in order to protect them from being tarnished by sulphureous and carbonaceous fumes. 1816 MUSHET in *Encycl. Brit., Suppl.* I. 572/1 Fig. 5 [is] the *muffle plate.

Muffle (mʊ·f'l), *sb.*⁵ [a. F. *moufle* mitten, OF. *mofle, moufle*:—med.L. *muffula* thick glove. Cf. Du. *moffel* muff, mitten.]

1. A boxing-glove; = MUFFLER 2 a. *? Obs.*

1747 in H. Wilson *Wonderf. Charact.* (1821) III. 448 Muffles are provided, that will effectually secure them [*sc.* pupils] from the inconvenience of black eyes, broken jaws, and bloody noses. 1819 MOORE *Tom Crib* Pref. 19 The Greeks, for mere exercise of sparring, made use of muffles or gloves as we do. 1819 BYRON *Juan* II. xcii, Just like a black eye in a recent scuffle (For sometimes we must box without a muffle). 1858 *Eclectic Rev.* Ser. VI. III. 428 That all boys in a school be taught to box with muffles.

2. = MITTEN 1 and 2.

1808 JAMIESON, *Muffles*, s. pl., mittens, gloves that do not cover the fingers, used by women. 18.. D. NICHOLSON *Caithness Words* (E.D.D.), A muffle has only two divisions; one for the thumb, and the other for the four fingers.

3. A sort of leather glove for lunatics who are given to tearing up their clothes, etc. (cf. MUFF *sb.*² 1 b).

1862 MAYHEW & BINNY *Crim. Prisons Lond.* 433 Several handcuffs on pegs, and instruments that appear like leathern bottles, but which, we are informed, are muffles, which were sent from Hanwell some years ago, when some lunatic prisoners were given to tearing up their clothes.

Muffle (mʊ·f'l), *sb.*⁶ [a. F. *moufle.*] 'A pulley-block containing several sheaves' (Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1875).

Muffle (mʊ·f'l), *v.*¹ Forms: 5 muffelle, moffel, 5–6 mufle, muffel, moffle, 6 muffyl, -il, moffell, 6– muffle. [Of somewhat obscure origin; app. f. OF. *mofle, moufle* thick glove (see MUFFLE *sb.*⁵, MUFF *sb.*²); but no early instance of the sb. is found in Eng., and of the OF. *mofler* v. Godef. has only one instance in the sense 'to stuff'. Cf. however OF. *enmouflé* 'muffled', from 13th c.]

1. *trans.* To wrap or cover up or enfold *esp.* so as to conceal, also for protection from the weather and for warmth. Freq. with *up*, occas. with *round.*

c 1430 *Syr Gener.* (Roxb.) 7055 She mufled hir face hir todesgyse That noon shuld know hir in noo wise. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* VIII. XXV. 311 Thenne came syre Breunor..wyth his lady in his hand muffeld. *? a* 1500 *Chester Pl., Antichrist* 390 Moffled in mantells. 1530 PALSGR. 641/2, I muffyl ones visage or his heed, I cover hym with clothes that he shulde nat be knowen, or from colde, *je emmouffle.* 1589 NASHE *Pasquill & Marforius* 12 His face handsomlie muffled with a Diaper-napkin to couer his beard. 1593 SHAKS. *2 Hen. VI*, IV. i. 46 The Duke of Suffolk, muffled vp in ragges? 1638 JUNIUS *Paint. Ancients* 131 Michal..muffled up in the bed an image in stead of her husband David. 1657 W. MORICE *Coena quasi* Κοινή Dent. iii. 139 To..muffle their left hand when their right dispenseth almes. 1754 RICHARDSON *Grandison* (1811) I. xxxiii. 247 He tied a handkerchief over my face, head, and mouth, having first muffled me up in the cloak. 1815 *Hist. J. Decastro & bro. Bat.* III. 44 A lady is muffled up to the throat. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* II. 443 But we three Sat muffled like the Fates. 1872 BLACK *Adv. Phaeton* ix, She besought Bell to muffle up her throat. 1876 GEO. ELIOT *Dan. Der.* XXXV, The ladies must muffle themselves: there is only just about time to do it well before sunset.

b. said of a garment, etc.

1754 RICHARDSON *Grandison* (1811) I. xxxiii. 251 The cloak enough muffling me, and the handkerchief being over my mouth. 1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* ii, A tall young man wrapped in a cloak, which obscured or muffled a part of his face.

c. *transf.* and *fig.*

1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* III. (Arb.) 86 Thee whilste thee sunbeams are maskt, hyls darcklye be muffled. 1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* III. ii. 8 Muffle your false loue with some shew of blindnesse: Let not my sister read it in your eye. 1768 H. WALPOLE *Hist. Doubts* 81 What did Henry ever muffle and disguise but the truth? 1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* I. Introd., Till envious ivy did around thee cling, Muffling with verdant ringlet every string. 1859 TENNYSON *Vivien* 186 And therefore be as great as ye are named, Not muffled round with selfish reticence. 1871 R. ELLIS *Catullus* lxiv, 260 Mystical emblems, Emblems muffled darkly.

† 2. To prevent from seeing by covering up the head (or only the eyes); to blindfold; also *fig. Obs.*

1566 GASCOIGNE *Jocasta* III. ii. Hearbes (1587) 99 b, As though our eyes were muffled with a clowde. 1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* A v, How long will ye suffer your mouthes to be mooseled, and your eyes muffeled with such blynde errours. 1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* I. i. 177 Alas that lone, whose view is muffled still, Should without eyes, see path-wayes to his will. 1658 OSBORN *Jas. I*, Wks. (1673) 499 Muffled with love to the person of that Prince and his own Ambition. 1677 W. HUBBARD *Narrative* 27 Taught by late experience how dangerous it is to sight in such dismal Woods, when their eyes were muffled with the leaves. 1688 SOUTH *Serm.* (1727) I. xii. 490 When the Malefactor comes once to be muffled, and the fatal Cloth drawn over his Eyes. 1700 DRYDEN *Ceyx & Alcyone* 231 And since he was forbid to leave the Skies He muffled with a Cloud his mournful Eyes.

3. To restrain (a person) from speaking by wrapping up his head.

1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 184/13 To Muffle ye mouth, *obturare.* 1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* IV. iii. 134 *Enter Parolles with his Interpreter. Ber.* A plague vpon him, muffeld; he can say nothing of me: hush, hush. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xxvii, 'I wish you could muffle that 'ere Stiggins, and take him with you,' said Mr. Weller. 1846 H. MARSHALL *Milit. Misc.* 373 A practice prevailed at one time in some lunatic asylums, of 'muffling' the more noisy patients, which consisted in binding a cloth tightly over the mouth and nostrils, for the alleged purpose of 'dunning' the noise, and keeping the patients quiet.

4. To envelop or wrap up (oars, a drum, bell, etc.) so as to deaden the sound.

1761 *Brit. Mag.* II. 500 They laid all their oars across, except two in each boat, which they muffled with baize, to prevent their being heard at a distance. 1806 A. DUNCAN *Nelson's Funeral* 28 The drums were muffled with black cloth. *Ibid.*, Ninety-second..Regiment;..band playing muffled. 1833 MARRYAT *P. Simple* xliv, Cutting up old blankets to muffle the oars. 1838 DICKENS *Nich. Nick.* xxxvi, Kenwigs proceeded to muffle the knob of the street door knocker therein.

fig. 1901 *Speaker* 20 July 450/1 Academism is all very well, but..it too often muffles the hammer of criticism, which ought to hit the nails of economic theory hard and on the head.

b. To deaden (a sound). Chiefly in *passive.*

1832 TENNYSON *Œnone* 210 From beneath Whose thick mysterious boughs..The panther's roar came muffled. 1877 BLACK *Green Past.* I, The call of the cuckoo soft and muffled and remote. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV. 389 The first [heart] sound is muffled and prolonged.

5. To render (glass) semi-opaque by giving it a crinkled surface. (Cf. MUFFE *v.*⁴)

1908 *Let. from glass-manufacturer* (Birmingham), We speak of the 'muffling' of the glass being good or bad according as the glass is well or badly 'muffled'. These are the only parts of an imaginary verb 'to muffle' which are used.

† **Mu·ffle,** *v.*² *Obs. rare.* [Onomatopœic: cf. MAFFLE *v.* (? Associated with MUFFLE *v.*¹ 3, 4.)] *intr.* To speak indistinctly.

1669 HOLDER *Elem. Speech* 79 On the other side, the closeness and Muffling, and (as I may say) Laziness of speaking..render the sound of their Speech considerably different.

Muffled (mʊ·f'ld), *ppl. a.* [f. MUFFLE *v.*¹ + -ED¹.]

1. Wrapped or covered up, *esp.* about the face, for the purpose of concealment or disguise.

1593 SHAKS. *Lucr.* 768 O comfort-killing night!..Blinde muffled bawd. 1599 B. JONSON *Ev. Man out of Hum.* II. iv, The muffled fates. 1651 CLEVELAND *Poems* 29 His muffled feature speaks him a recluse. 1813 SCOTT *Rokeby* VI. x, A muffled horseman late Had left it at the castle-gate. 1898 J. B. WOLLOCOMBE *From Morn till Eve* iv. 35 Muffled figures, with shawls wrapped over mouth and nose.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1599 B. JONSON *Cynthia's Rev.* I. iv, Yet will our muffled thought Choose rather not to see it, then anoide it. 1851 MAYNE REID *Scalp Hunt.* XXVI, The Indians would not fail to notice so many muffled tracks. 1870–74 J. THOMSON *City Dreadf. Nt.* XVI. i, Keen as lightning through a muffled sky.

† c. Blinded. *Obs. rare*⁻¹.

1629 T. ADAMS *Medit. Creed* Wks. 1153 Muffled Pagans know there is a God, but not what this God is.

2. Wearing or provided with 'muffles' or boxing-gloves. Also *dial.* wearing 'mufflers' or mittens.

1721 KELLY *Sc. Prov.* 50 A muffled Cat was never a good Hunter. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* XIII. v, He was..a match for one of the first-rate boxers, and could..have beaten all the muffled graduates of Mr. Broughton's school.

3. Wrapped up so as to deaden sound.

1762 GOLDSM. *Nash* 178 And the muffled bells ring a peal of Bob Major. 1813 BYRON *Giaour* 42 Then stealing with the muffled oar,..Rush the night-prowlers on the prey. 1839 LONGF. *Psalm of Life* iv, Our hearts..like muffled drums, are beating Funeral marches to the grave. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk., Muffled drum*, the sound is thus damped at funerals: passing the spare cord, which is made of drummer's plait (to carry the drum over the shoulder), twice through the snares or cords which cross the lower diameter of the drum. 1872 HOLLAND *Marb. Proph.*, etc. 84 But they knock with muffled hammers.

b. *transf.* Of a sound: Deadened as if proceeding from something 'muffled'.

1837 LYTTON *E. Maltrav.* I. ii, His ear..caught the faint muffled sound of creeping footsteps. 1846 W. BLUNT *Use & Abuse Ch. Bells* 5 Persons..who ring 'the muffled' or 'the merry peal' for the rich man's sorrow or rejoicing. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* xlix, The sorrow..Whose muffled motions blindly drown The bases of my life in tears. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. viii. 57 A low muffled thunder resounding through the valley. 1860 WALSHE *Dis. Lungs* (ed. 3) 77 M. Woillez, correctly distinguishing this tonelessness, from ordinary so-called dulness, invents for it the title *obtusion* of sound—the phrase *muffled tone* will perhaps convey the idea. 1878 H. S. WILSON *Alp. Ascents* I. 16, I heard a muffled stir.

4. *dial.* Of a bird, *esp.* a hen: Having a top-knot or tuft of feathers on its head, or feathers protruding from under the throat; also, covered with feathers. Cf. MUFFED *a.*

1845 [see MUFFED *a.*]. 1888 *Sheffield Gloss., Muffled*, covered with feathers. A fowl is said to be muffled down to its feet.

5. Of glass (see MUFFLE *v.*[1] 5).

Hence **Mu·ffledness** *nonce-wd.*, the state or condition of being muffled (in quot. of sound).

1851 H. MELVILLE *Whale* xxi, He breathed with a sort of muffledness.

Muffler (mv·flə). Also 6 mofeler, muffelar, (? muffley), mufflar, 6–7 mufler. [f. MUFFLE *v.*[1] + -ER[1].]

1. a. A sort of kerchief or scarf-worn by women in the 16th and 17th centnry to cover part of the face and the neck, either for partial concealment when in publie, or as a protection against the sun or wind. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.*

1535-6 in Fairholt *Costume* (ed. 3, 1835) II. 292 Muffelars. 1536 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. II. 80 She hath neither.. handcerchers, nor mofelers, nor begens. 1540 in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* (1721) I. App. cxiv. 311 The Kings Majesty had brought ..a muffley furred, to geve the Quene. 1560 BIBLE (*Geneva*) *Isa.* iii. 21 The rings and the mufflers. 1598 YONG *Diana* 19 Pulling off her muffler, mine eies beheld a face, whose countenance [etc.]. 1651 JER. TAYLOR *Holy Dying* iii. § 4 (1686) 75 The image of the Goddess Angerona was with a muffler upon her mouth placed upon the Altar of Volupia, to represent, that those persons who bear their sicknesses and sorrows without murmurs, shall certainly pass from sorrow to pleasure. 1694 MOTTEUX *Rabelais* v. xxvii. (1737) 118 Mufflers.., which they call Masks. 1820 SCOTT *Abbot* xxvii, From some awkwardness in her management of the muffler, she was unable again to adjust it with that dexterity which was a principal accomplishment of the coquettes of the time.

†b. A bandage for blindfolding a person. *Obs.*

1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, III. vi. 33. 1609 SIR E. HOBY *Let. to Mr. T. H.* 43 By this you may see, (if the muffer of Superstition hath not cleane hoodwinked your eyes) the weaknes of your first ground. 1621 QUARLES *Esther* xvi, Like as a pris'ner muffl'd at the tree,..At last (vnlook'd for) comes a slow Reprieue, And makes him (euen as dead) once more aliue: Amaz'd, he rends deaths Muffler from his eyes.

c. A wrap or scarf (usually of wool or silk) worn round the neck or throat, by both men and women, for warmth. Also *gen.* anything used to muffle the head or face or any part of the person.

1594 LYLY *Moth. Bomb.* III. iii, Silena, I praie you looke homeward, it is a colde aire, and you want your mufler. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 35 Cloath'd with long Breeches to their Toes, and Mufflers on their Hands and Face. 1787 M. CUTLER in *Life*, etc. (1888) I. 200 Very unwell. Went to meeting with my muffler. 1874 SYMONDS *Sk. Italy & Greece* (1898) I. ii. 45 The mufflers in which his father..has wrapped the child. 1895 *Army & Navy Price List* 15 Sept. 1156/2 Gentlemen's..Cashmere Mufflers..Silk Mufflers [etc.].

d. *fig.* Something that muffles or disguises.

1633 D. R[OGERS] *Treat. Sacram.* I. 89 Oh Lord! strip me starke naked, plucke off my mufflers, shame me. 1653 W. HEMINGS *Fatal Contract* II. ii, What man art thou, That hast thy count'nance clouded with thy cloak..? If thy intents deserve a Muffler too, Withdraw, and act them not. 1869 SWINBURNE *Ess. & Stud.* (1875) 236 Passages in which the special experience of the writer is thrust forward under the mask and muffler of allegoric rhapsody.

2. = MUFFLE *sb.*[6] a. A boxing-glove.

1755 DUNCOMBE in *Connoisseur* No. 52 ₱ 9 He..is sturdy enough to encounter Broughton without mufflers. 1827 *Sporting Mag.* XX. 72 The mufflers were introduced and some capital first-rate sparring was exhibited. 1891 *Licensed Victualler's Mirror* 30 Jan. 7 (Farmer) There were few, if any, men of about his height and weight who could stand before bim with the mufflers.

b. A glove or 'mitten'.

1824 MEYRICK *Anc. Armour* I. 25 Sleeves..terminating with gloves, manakins, or mufflers, which cover the outsides of the hands and fingers. 1844 DICKENS *Chimes* I. (1845) 11 His chilly hands..poorly defended from the searching cold by threadbare mufflers of grey worsted, with a private apartment only for the thumb, and a common room or tap for the rest of the fingers. 1883 S. W. BECK *Gloves* 14 Tbe mufflers themselves are very singular.

c. = MUFFLE *sb.*[6] 3.

1846 DICKENS *Cricket on Hearth* ii. 68 Bedlam broke loose! ..We shall arrive at the strait-waistcoat and the mufflers soon.

†3. A jeweller's tool (see quot.). *Obs. rare*—[0].

1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. 382/1 A Mufler..is a long square piece of Copper Plate turned direct half round, standing like an Arch.

4. Something to deaden sound; *spec.* in a pianoforte, a pad of felt which is inserted between the hammers and the strings by touching a lever; in a steam-engine, a contrivance for rendering noiseless the escape of steam.

1856 KANE *Arct. Expl.* II. xxix. 287 Stockings were drawn over the oars as mufflers. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech., Muffler.* 1. (*Music.*) A soft cushion employed to terminate or soften a note. 1896 *Cosmopolitan* XX. 420/2 The noise of the exhaust is stifled in a muffler.

5. *dial.* a. = MUFFLIN. b. The great crested grebe.

1868 *Sussex Gloss.* in Hurst *Horsham* (1889), *Muffler*, a long-tail tit. 1889 APLIN *Birds Oxfordsh.* 214 (Local Names) Muffler = Great-crested Grebe.

Muffley, obs. form of MUFFLER.

Mufflin (mv·flin). *dial.* [Cf. MUFFLER 5.] The long-tailed titmouse, *Acredula rosea.*

1837 STRICKLAND in *Mag. Nat. Hist.* I. 199 (art.) On the Habits and Peculiarities of the common Bottletit or Mufflin (*Mecistura vagans* Leach). 1839 MACGILLIVRAY *Brit. Birds* II. 421 *Mecistura longicaudata.* Long-tailed Mufflin.

Muffling (mv·flin), *vbl. sb.* [f. MUFFLE *v.*[1] + -ING[1].] The action of the verb MUFFLE; wrapping up for warmth or for concealment; *concr.* (*sing.* and *pl.*) garments or stuff used for this purpose. Also the deadening of a sound.

1788 MME. D'ARBLAY *Diary* 20 Nov., The face was much hid by the muffling of the high collar to the great coat. 1821 SCOTT *Pirate* xxxvi, Throw back your mufflings from your faces, and don't be afraid, my Lindamiras. 1859 TENNENT *Ceylon* II. vii. vii. 261 European visitors are glad to recall associations of England by producing their winter muffling and surtouts. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 45 The area of cardiac dulness increases, and there is muffling of the sound over the mid-cardiac region. 1908 [see MUFFLE *v.*[1] 5].

b. *attrib.* in muffling-box, a contrivance for rendering noiseless the escape of steam from a steam-engine; †muffling-cheat *slang*, a napkin.

1567 HARMAN *Caveat* (1869) 83 A mofling chete, a napkyn. 1896 *Cosmopolitan* XX. 422/1 The exhaust passing through the muffling box.

Muffling (mv·flin), *ppl. a.*[1] [f. MUFFLE *v.*[1] + -ING[2].] In senses of the vb.

1638 G. SANDYS *Paraph. Job* xxxiv. (1648) 50 No mufling Clouds, nor Shades Infernall, can From his inquiry hide offending Man. 1839-41 S. WARREN *Ten Thous. a-year* xiii, Next came Mr. Quicksilver, a man of great but wild energy, who received what may be called a *muffling* retainer. 1861 LYTTON *Str. Story* II. 378 Before I could turn, some dark muffling substance fell between my sight and the sun, and I felt a fierce strain at my throat. 1876 GEO. ELIOT *Dan. Der.* lii, Sometimes it occurs to Jacob that Hebrew will be more edifying to him if he stops his ears with his palms, and imitates the venerable sounds as heard through that muffling medium.

†**Mu·ffling,** *ppl. a.*[2] *Obs.* (See MUFFLE *v.*[2])

1616 HOLYDAY *Persius* I. B 4, If forsooth one clad in purple cloth's, Snaffle some mustie stuff through's muffling nose.

‖ **Muffro** (mv·fro), **muffrone** (mufrō·ne). [Corsican: see MOUFFLON.] = MOUFFLON.

1872 BLACKMORE *Clara Vaughan* (1893) 251 Those islanders [Corsicans]..shoot a man with no more compunction than they shoot a muffro. *Ibid.* 277, I had wondered..whether he would like to shoot the muffrone.

Muffti, -ty, obs. forms of MUFTI.

Muffy (mv·fi), *a. nonce-wd.* [f. MUFF *sb.*[2] + -Y.] Resembling a muff.

1831 LYTTON *Godolph.* xlix, A little muffy sort of dog. 1859 *All Year Round* No. 36. 220 A huge, round, high cap, muffy and ridiculous as an English grenadier's, crowned his head.

Mufle(r, obs. forms of MUFFLE *v.*, MUFFLER.

‖ **Mufti**[1] (mv·fti). Forms: 6 muphtie, 7 muftie, muffty, -ti, mophty, -ti, mufiti, mufty, moufti, 7–8 muphti, 7–9 muftee, 9 mooftee, -ti, 7– mufti. [Arab. مفتي *muftī*, active pple. of *aftā* (4th conjug. of *fatā*) to give a FETWA or decision on a point of law.] A Mohammedan priest or expounder of the law; in Turkey restricted to the official head of the religion of the state (formerly often †*Grand Mufti*) and to deputies appointed by him in some of the larger cities.

1586 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* I. (1594) 631 The muphtie is chiefe of the religion, and looketh unto matters of conscience. 1609 RO. C. *Muley Hamets Rising* I 4 b, The chiefest man for iudgement vnder the King [of Barbary] is the Muftie, to whome the partie greeued may appeale from any other ordinary Iudge. 1624 MASSINGER *Renegado* I. i, One of their Mufties, We call them Priests at Venice, with a Razor Cutts it of. 1690 DRYDEN *Don Sebast.* I. i, I tell thee Mufty, Good feasting is devout: and thou our Head, Hast a Religious ruddy Countenance. 1695 MOTTEUX *St. Olon's Morocco* 115 The Grand Mufti for Affairs of Religion and Justice. 1775 in *Claim of Rada Churn* (1776) 13/2 In the Pbousdance Audlaulet [*sic*], the Cauree and Muftee of the district, and two Moulewys, shall sit to expound the Law. 1813 BYRON *Giaour* 491 On her might Muftis gaze, and own That through her eye the Immortal shone. 1852 THACKERAY *Esmond* I. xi, Not all the marriage oaths sworn before all the parsons, cardinals,.. muftis and rabbins in the world.

b. *transf.*

1654 GATAKER *Disc. Apol.* 75 A goodlie number of Popelings, and young little Mufties. 1700 W. KING *Transactioneer* 34 He's the very Muffti, the Oracle of our Club. *a* 1716 SOUTH *Serm.* (1717) V. 247 The great Mufti of Geneva. 1835 *Court Mag.* VI. 189/1 'Oh, but', says some she mufti, in a turban,..'*if* you have good introductions,..*then* you are welcome everywhere'. 'Stop, my worthy mufti', I reply; 'do you suppose' [etc.].

Hence **Mu·ftiship,** the office or position of mufti.

1690 DRYDEN *Don Sebast.* IV. ii, The Iniquity of thirty Years Muftiship converted into Diamonds.

Mufti[2] (mv·fti). Also **mufty, muftee.**

[Perh. a facetious use of prec. It has been suggested that the original application may have been to the costume of dressing-gown, smoking-cap, and slippers, suggesting the attire of the 'mufti' of the stage.]

1. Plain clothes worn by any one who has a right to wear a uniform; esp. in phr. *in mufti.*

1816 'QUIZ' *Grand Master* II. 50 His mufti's off, and now, instead, *Qui hi* per force assumes the red. 1824 in *Spirit Pub. Jrnls.* (1825) 479 A lancer in mufty. 1833 MARRYAT *P. Simple* xiv, Next morning [I] made my appearance in a suit of mufti. 1857 TROLLOPE *Three Clerks* xxxix, He knew that..he was dogged at the distance of some thirty yards by an amiable policeman in mufti. 1896 N. DAVIS *Three Men & a God* 122 He was made kennel huntsman to the regimental pack, and spent his time, dressed in most disreputable mufti, between the boiling house and kennels.

attrib. 1854 THACKERAY *Newcomes* viii, He has no mufti-coat, except one sent him out..to India in the year 1821.

2. A civilian; one who wears, or is in, 'mufti'.

1833 M. SCOTT *Tom Cringle* xx, There was also a sprinkling of civilians, or *muftees*, to use a West India expression.

Mufty (mv·fti). *dial.* [Extension of MUFF *sb.*[4]] a. The whitethroat, *Sylvia cinerea*; b. 'A fowl with a tufted or crested head' (E. D. D.).

a. [1831 J. RENNIE *Montagu's Ornith. Dict.* (ed. 2) 538 White throat...*Provincial.* Nettle-Creeper...Muff. Charlie Muftie. Peggy.] 1839 MACGILLIVRAY *Brit. Birds* II. 354 Even after being shot, you find the feathers of that part [*sc.* the throat] standing out more than is usual in birds: and from this habit is probably derived the familiar names of Muftie or Muffety, or Charlie Muftie, by which it [*sc.* the White-throat] is generally known in Scotland.

b. 1829 J. WILSON *Noct. Ambr.* Wks. 1855 II. 252 What'n a cleckin she's gotten!..Mufties, too, I declare.

Mug (mvg), *sb.*[1] Also 6 mugge, 7–8 mugg. [Of unknown origin: cogn. w. LG. *mokke, mukke* mug, Norw. *mugga, mugge* 'an open can or jug, esp. for warm drinks' (Aasen), Sw. *mugg* mug, Norm. dial. *moque* cup, Guernsey *mogue.*]

1. In some northern dialects: Any (large) earthenware vessel or bowl; also, a pot, jug, or ewer. *Pan-mug*: see PAN *sb.* 11 b.

1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 184/24 A Mugge, potte, *ollula.* *a* 1585 POLWART *Flyting w. Montgomerie* 763 Lowsie lugs, leape jugs! toome the mugs on the midding. 1902 Mrs. BARNES-GRUNOV *Thames Camp* 176 A large, stone bread-mug.

2. A drinking-vessel, usually cylindrical, with or without a handle.

A silver mug is a common christening gift to a child.

1664 COTTON *Scarron.* I. 107 Dido..takes a Mug, that held two Quarts,..And thus begins, Here Sirs, here's to you. 1688 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2316/4 A Mug,..a set of Casters, and an Orange-Strainer, all of Silver. 1762-71 H. WALPOLE *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1786) V. 94 Mr. Place discovered.. a method of making porcelaine,..of which manufacture he gave Thoresby a fine mug. 1844 DICKENS *Chimes* I. (1845) 5 They had had their Godfathers and Godmothers, these Bells..and had had their silver mugs no doubt, besides. 1846 D. JERROLD *Mrs. Caudle's Curt. Lect.* xiii, Then there's my china mug. 1880 Miss BROUGHTON *Sec. Th.* III. viii, From the time when he held her at the font, and gave her a mug and a rattle, he has always called his betrothed Sophia. 1886 J. K. JEROME *Idle Thoughts* (1889) 142 Life tastes much the same, whether we quaff it from a golden goblet or drink it out of a stone mug.

b. A mug with its contents; the liquid in a mug.

1682 DRYDEN *Mac Fl.* 121 A mighty mug of potent ale. 1739 *Joe Miller's Jests* No. 133, I say, bring this Fellow a Mugg of Strong Beer. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* I, Kit carried a large slice of bread and meat, and a mug of ale. 1903 *Contemp. Rev.* May 644 Twenty to thirty good sized mugs of malt liquor in an evening is by no means out of the way at academical gatherings.

3. A cooling drink.

1829 *Sporting Mag.* XXIII. 268 The refreshing but dangerous liquor..known by the appellation of 'mug'. 1865 *Indian Dom. Econ.* (ed. 6) 325 Cool Tankard or Mug.

4. *Comb.*: mug-hunter *U. S. colloq.* = POT-HUNTER 3; mugware *dial.*, earthenware.

1883 *Harper's Mag.* Aug. 443/2 To the..mug-hunters [at yacht-races] it meant all three. 1900 *Daily News* 9 Oct. 3/1 The old brown mugware settling pans have also passed into the limbo of a now almost forgotten age.

Mug (mvg), *sb.*[2] *dial.* Also **mugg.** In full *mug sheep*: A breed of sheep having the face completely covered with wool. So *mug ewe, lamb*, etc.

In some glossaries explained as a 'pollard' or 'hornless' sheep; this may have been the original sense: cf MUGGED *a.*

1596 in *Archæologia* XLVIII. 152 Item weather mugges xxviij. Item mugge lambes vj^ti^ix. 1621 BRATHWAIT *Nat. Embassie*, etc. (1877) 204 For good mug-sheepe and cattell ..none could come neare thee. 1793 *Statist. Acc. Scot.* VI. 25 The sheep are of the English mugg kind. 1820 SCOTT *Monast.* Introd. Ep., A wig like the curled back of a mug-ewe. 1879 J. LUCAS in *Zoologist* Sept. 356 They are all Scotch ewes for breeding, and first-rate Leicester tups, called in the dale [Nidderdale] 'mugs'.

Mug (mvg), *sb.*[3] *slang.* [Perh. a use of MUG *sb.*[1]; drinking mugs made to represent a grotesque human face were common in the 18th c.]

1. The face.

1708 *Brit. Apollo* No. 2. 2/2 My Lawyer has a Desk, nine Law-books without Covers, two with Covers, a Temple-Mug, and the hopes of being a Judge. 1812 J. H. VAUX *Flash Dict., Mug*, the face; a *queer mug* is an ugly face. 1824 EGAN *Boxiana* II. 412 His mug was often disfigured with the claret trickling down. 1850 E. FITZGERALD *Lett.* (1889) I. 200, I found A. Tennyson in chambers at Lincoln's Inn: and recreated myself with a sight of his fine old mug. 1897 G. MEREDITH *Amazing Marr.* I. xvi. 186 Look at old Rufus Abrane. I see the state of the fight on the old fellow's mug. He hasn't a bet left in him!

2. The mouth.

1820 J. H. REYNOLDS *Fancy* (1906) 22 Speak, Mrs. Tims; open thy mug, my dear; Mouths here are made to speak, and not to eat. 1835 HALIBURTON *Clockm.* Ser. I. xx. (1837) 202 Hold your mug, you old nigger.

Mug (mvg), *sb.*[4] *dial.* (*E.Angl., Shropsh.*, etc.) [eogn. w. MUG *v.*[1]; cf. ON. *mugga* mist, drizzle (perh. the source).] 'A fog or mist; a slight rain or drizzle; a damp, dull, gloomy state of the atmosphere' (E. D. D.).

1775 ASH, *Mug* (a cant word), a mist, a fog.

Mug (mvg), *sb.*[5] *slang.*

1. A stupid or incompetent person, a 'muff', 'duffer'; a fool, simpleton; a card-sharper's dupe.

1859 MATSELL *Voc.* (Farmer). 1861 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour*

III. 193 We sometimes have a greenhorn wants to go out pitching with us—a mug, we calls them. 1894 MASKELYNE *Sharps & Flats* 170 It does not need much persuasion to induce the 'mug' to take the bank. 1900 Mrs. GLYN *Visits Elizabeth* (1906) 91 He fished out a scrap of paper from his pocket and pressed it into my hand, and said, 'Don't be a mug this time'.

2. *Comb.*: **mug-hunter** (see quot.).

1887 J. W. HORSLEY *Jottings fr. Jail* 95 An old mug-hunter, one, that is to say, of the wretched horde who haunt the street at midnight to rob drunken men.

Mug (mʌg), *sb.*[6] *slang.* [f. MUG *v.*]

1. An examination.

1853 MAXWELL in L. Campbell *Life* (1882) 191, I was down after the Mug [*note*, Trinity College Examination] with Tayler's uncle in Suffolk.

2. One who 'mugs' or reads hard.

1888 *Berkshire Gloss., Mug*, as a schoolboy's expression to work hard, and one who does so is somewhat contemptuously termed 'a mug' by others who [etc.]. 1901 *Daily News* 6 Feb. 9/5 At the University of Oxford a 'mug' is a person who is not given to sport, or any indulgence, but who reads a great many books which he doesn't understand.

Mug (mʌg), *sb.*[7] Also **moog.** Var. of MOONG.

1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVIII. 57/2 *Phaseolus Mungo*, or Moog, is one of the dry leguminous grains of India. 1876 SIR W. W. HUNTER in *Encycl. Brit.* IV. 23/1 Of the pulses the most important are gram (*Cicer arietinum*), túr.., kulti.., and mug (*Phaseolus Mungo*).

‖ **Mug** (mʌg), *sb.*[8] Forms: 8–9 **Mug**, 9 **Mugg**, **Mugh.** [Bengālī *Magh*, of obscure origin; in 16–17th c. *Mogen*, *Mog*, *Mogue* occur as names for Arakan and its people (see Yule s. v.).] The name given in Bengal to natives of Arakan and Chittagong. The Mugs were formerly celebrated as the best native cooks in Calcutta.

1752 in J. Long *Unpubl. Rec. Govt.* (1869) 87 (Yule) The Mugs. 1802 C. JAMES *Milit. Dict., Mugs*, a banditti of plunderers from an Indian nation. 1839 *Court Mag.* VI. 65/2 Two or three stout broad faced Mughs. 1866 TREVELYAN in *Fraser's Mag.* LXXIII. 389 That vegetable curry was excellent. Of course your cook is a Mug?

attrib. 1897 HENTY *On Irrawaddy* 39 This Mug language ..is..almost the same as Burmese.

Mug (mʌg), *v.*[1] *dial.* (see E. D. D.). [Prob. of Scandinavian origin: cf. Norw. *mugga* to drizzle. Cf. MUG *sb.*[4]] *intr.* To drizzle or rain slightly.

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 2080 Þe heuen was vp halt, bot vgly þer vnder, Mist muged on þe mor, malt on þe mountez. 1825–80 JAMIESON, *To Mug, Muggle, v. n.* To drizzle. Aberd.

Mug (mʌg), *v.*[2] *slang* and *dial.* Also **mogg.** [? An application of MUG *v.*[1]] *intr.* 'To pout, grow sullen; to mope; to refuse food' (E. D. D.).

c 1730 HAYNES *MS. Dorset. Voc.* in *N. & Q.* 6th Ser. (1883) VIII. 45 To *mogg*, pout or grow sullen. 17.. *Collins' Misc.* (1762) 122 (Halliwell) Wit hung her blob, ev'n Humour seem'd to mourn, And sullenly sat mogging o'er his urn. 1828 *Sporting Mag.* XXIII. 28 Snoozing and mugging over the fire after a hard day's work. 1861 HOLLAND *Less. Life* xx. 283 By 'mugging' over your trouble out of business hours.

Mug (mʌg), *v.*[3] *slang.* [f. MUG *sb.*[3]]

1. *Theatr.* **a.** *intr.* To 'make a face'; to grimace. **b.** *To mug up*: to paint (one's face); to make up. *trans.* and *intr.* for *refl.*

1855 DICKENS *Dorrit* I. xx, The low comedian had 'mugged' at him in his richest manner fifty nights for a wager. 1859 *Hotten's Slang Dict., Mug-up*, to paint one's face. Theat. 1861 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* III. 193 Then he underwent the operation of mugging him up with oil-colour paint, black, and..red. 1869 W. S. GILBERT *Bab Ball., Rev. Micah Sowls* 54 He saw a dreary person on the stage, Who mouthed and mugged in simulated rage.

2. *Pugilism. trans.* To strike in the face.

1818 *Sporting Mag.* II. 279 The latter got away, and in return mugged him.

Mug (mʌg), *v.*[4] *slang* and *dial.* [f. MUG *sb.*[1]] *trans.* To bribe with liquor. Also *refl.* and *intr.* to get drunk (see E. D. D.).

1830 H. INGELO *Remin.* II. 479 Having..mugged, as we say in England, our pilot.

Mug, *v.*[5] *slang.*

1. *intr.* To read or study hard, to 'grind'. Const. *at*; also with *away*, *on*, *up*.

1848 MAXWELL in L. Campbell *Life* (1882) 117 Please to write about your Prizes at College, and about coming here to mug. 1860 *Hotten's Slang Dict.* (ed. 2), *Mug-up*...To 'cram' for an examination.—Army. 1878 *About Some Fellows* vii. 45 Stortford, ever since he had settled to work, had..been patiently mugging on at his verses, and had got twelve done. 1893 G. ALLEN *Scallywag* I. 241 That prize essay you were mugging away at.

2. *trans.* To get up (a subject) by hard study. Also with *up*.

1882 BESANT *Revolt of Man* v. 111 When they ought to have been 'mugging bones', or drawing contracts, or reading theology. 1889 G. ALLEN *Tents of Shem* xxiv, I've mugged it all up out of books, that's all. Anybody can mug it all up if he'll only take the pains.

Mug, *v.*[6] *slang. intr.* 'To crowd, huddle *together* in a confined space' (E. D. D.).

1878 *N. & Q.* 5th Ser. IX. 84/2 They are all, father, mother, and children, mugging together in one room.

Mug (mʌg), *v.*[7] *U. S. slang. intr. To mug up*: to make a plentiful meal.

1897 KIPLING *Captains Courageous* v. 123 No reg'lar meals fer no one then. 'Mug-up when ye're hungry, an' sleep when ye can't keep awake. *Ibid.* ix. 202 Him an' my boy hookin' fried pies an' muggin' up when they ought to ha' been asleep. 1901 *Scribner's Mag.* XXIX. 498/2 Let Martin and me mug up and get over near the fire to dry out, and we'll have it again.

‖ **Muga** (mū·gă). Also **mooga, munga, moonga.** [Assamese *mugá*.] A wild silk (of Assam) obtained from the cocoons of the *Saturnia assama*; also the silkworm which produces this silk. Also *attrib.* or *adj.*, as *muga dhoties* pl., *muga silk*, (*silk*) *worm*.

1833 Capt. JENKINS in Geoghegan *Parl. Rep. Silk in India* (1874) 113 The fawn-coloured moonga silk. *Ibid.*, The moonga worm. 1850 OGILVIE, *Muggadooties*, in the East Indies, a sort of cloth manufactured from wild silk. 1881 T. WARBLE *Wild Silks of India* 55 The Moonga, Mooga, or Muga Silk. 1887 J. PATON in *Encycl. Brit.* XXII. 60/1 Next in promising qualities is the muga or moonga worm of Assam, *Antheræa assama*, a species to some extent domesticated in its native country.

Mugen, obs. form of MUGGEN *a. dial.*

Mugg: see MUG *sb.*[2] (sheep); and obs. f. MUG *sbs.*

Muggar, variant of MUGGER[2].

† **Mu·ggard,** *a. dial. Obs.* [? f. MUG *v.*[2] + -ARD.] Sullen, displeased.

1746 *Exmoor Scolding* 194 Why, than tha wut be a prilled, or a muggard, a Zennet outreert. *Ibid.* 313. *Ibid.* Vocabulary, *Muggard*, sullen. 1787 GROSE *Provinc. Gloss., Muggard*, sullen. Exm. Hence 1818 in TODD, and in later Dicts.

Muggart, dial. form of MUGWORT.

Mugged, *a. dial.* [Cf. MUG *sb.*[2] b.] Hornless.

1588 *Wills & Inv. N. C.* (Surtees) II. 33 *note*, To my son Henry Ogle a brass pot, a black tagged cow, a black mugged cow. 1828 *Craven Gloss.* II. 289 Neen gimmer mugg'd hogs.

Mu·ggen, *a. dial.* Also 7 **mugen.** [f. MUG *sb.*[1] 1 + -EN[4].] Made of earthenware.

1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. xiv. (Roxb.) 2/1 Mugen weare. *Ibid.* xxii. 280/1 Made of earth or clay, Muggen weare. 1887 *S. Cheshire Gloss., Muggen, adj.* of earthenware. 'A muggen egg' is the name for a manufactured article used as a nest-egg.

[Muggent, Gesner's (1555) German rendering (= mod.G. *mückenente*, f. *mücke* fly + *ente* duck) of mod.L. *anas muscaria*, a species of wild duck described by Aldrovandus. Quoted in 1678 in Ray *Willughby's Ornith.* III. iii. 375, and mistaken by some later writers for an Eng. word. Hence in Webster 1828–32, and in later Dicts.]

Mugger[1] (mʌ·gəɹ). *dial.* Also 8 **mogger.** [f. MUG *sb.*[1] + -ER[1].] A hawker of earthenware.

1743 *Heddon-on-the-Wall Par. Reg.*, William, son to Michell the Mogger, bp. 23 March. 1816 SCOTT *Old Mort.* Introd., The ware of Cooper Climent was rejected in horror, much to the benefit of his rivals the muggers, who dealt in earthenware. 1852 R. S. SURTEES *Sponge's Sp. Tour* lix, A nimble-handed mugger or tramp might have carried off whatever he liked with impunity. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 1 Sept. 5/1 Alnwick is a great resort of..'muggers',..tramps who travel round the district to sell earthenware.

‖ **Mugger**[2] (mʌ·gəɹ). Also **-ur, -ar.** [Hindī *magar.*] The broad-nosed crocodile of India.

1844 J. E. GRAY *Catal. Tortoises*, etc. *Brit. Mus.* 62 The Muggar or Goa. *Crocodilus palustris.* 1854 HOOKER *Himal. Jrnls.* I. ii. 54 Of the short nosed, or mugger kind. 1895 COOK *India, Burma & Ceylon* 68 Muggers or man-eating alligators.

Mu·gger[3]. *slang.* [f. MUG *v.*[4] + -ER[1].] One who 'mugs' or studies diligently.

1883 J. PAYN *Canon's Ward* viii, 'A mugger'—a comprehensive term understood to include all persons with an ambition for University distinction.

Mugger[4] (mʌ·gəɹ). *Theatr. slang.* [f. MUG *v.*[3] + -ER[1].] A comedian who 'mugs' or grimaces.

1892 *Nat. Observ.* 27 Feb. 379/1 None had ever a more expressive viznomy than this prince of 'muggers'.

Muggert, muggerwarte: see MUGWORT.

Mugget[1] (mʌ·gĕt). Forms: 6 **muguet**, 6–9 **mugwet**, 9 **mugget.** [a. F. *muguet* (in mod. use lily of the valley and woodruff), semi-popular ad. med.L. *muscātum* 'musk-scented', f. *musc-us* MUSK. Cf. OF. *muguete* nutmeg, ad. (*nux*) *muscāta*.] A name given to several plants: **a.** *Petty mugget* (*mugwet*), maid's hair, or yellow bedstraw, *Galium verum*. **b.** *Golden mugget*, crosswort, *Galium Cruciata*. **c.** Woodruff, *Asperula odorata*. **d.** The lily of the valley, *Convallaria majalis*. **e.** The guelder rose, *Viburnum Opulus*.

1578 LYTE *Dodoens* IV. lxxv. 539 In French, *Petit Muguet*. ..We may also name it Pety Muguet. *Ibid.* lxxvii. 541 In high Douche, *Golden Walmaister*, that is, Golden Muguet. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. ccccxlviii. 968 In English our Ladies Bedstraw, Cheese renning, Maides Haire, and petie Mugwet. *Ibid.*, Table Eng. Names, Mugwet, that is Woodroofe. 1665 LOVELL *Herbal* (ed. 2) 292 Mug-wet, see Woodroof. Petty mugwet, see Ladies bedstraw. 1871 PULMAN *Rustic Sk.* (ed. 3) 117 'Mugget' is also the local name for the guelder rose.

Mugget[2] (mʌ·gĕt). *Obs.* exc. *dial.* (see E.D.D.). Forms: 5 *pl.* **mog(g)hettis**, 6 **moget, moquet**, 6–8 **mugwet**, 8–9 **muggut**, 9 **muggat, muggett**, 7– **mugget.** [Of obscure origin; it is difficult to regard it as an application of prec.]

1. The intestines of a calf or sheep, as an article of food. Also = GATHER-BAG.

1481 CAXTON *Reynard* xxxii. (Arb.) 92 The moghettis, Lyuer longes and the Inward [of the calf] shal be for your chyldren. *c* 1550 LACY *Wyl Bucke's Test.* A iij, For the thrid course of the bucke. The potage Mogets and Nowmbleis stued [etc.]. *Ibid.* B j, For to dight the Moget. 1575 TURBERV. *Venerie* 39 The gatherbagge or Mugwet of a yong harte. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* V. xviii. 572 Like the Moquet or Chauden of a Calfe. 1605 in *Archæologia* (1800) XIII. 370 Calves-plucke. Calves Mugget. Calves Foote. 1791 WOLCOT (P. Pindar) *Remonstr.* Wks. 1812 II. 452 I'm a poor botching tailor for a court Low bred on liver and what Clowns call mugget. 1864 *E. Cornw. Words* in *Jrnl. R. Inst. Cornw.* Mar. 18, *Muggets*, the small entrails; chitterlings.

† **2.** A dish made from the 'mugget' of a calf or sheep. *Obs. rare.*

1596 *Gd. Huswives Jewell* C 5, To make muggets. First perboyle them, and take white and chop them both togeather [etc.]. 1597 *Ibid.* II. B iij, You may make a mugget of a Sheepe as these allowes bee, sauing you must put no mutton into it. 1677 LOCKE in Ld. King *Life* (Bohn) 134 At Bristol..taste..marrow puddings, cock ale metheglin white and red muggets.

3. *attrib.*: *mugget-pie* (also *muggety pie*).

1696 SALMON *Fam. Dict.* (ed. 2) 212 Mugget Minced-Pye. Boil your Muggets tender, and being cold, mince them small; then put [etc.]. 1800 *Archæologia* XIII. 388 In Cornwall a Muggity Pye is a pye made of Calves intrails.

Muggewede, obs. form of MUGWEED.

† **Muggill.** *slang. Obs. rare.* A beadle.

1610 ROWLANDS *Martin Mark-all* E 3, The Muggill, the Beadle.

Mu·ggily, *adv. nonce-wd.* [f. MUGGY *a.* + -LY[2].] In a muggy state or condition.

1867 Miss BROUGHTON *Cometh up as Fl.* xxvii, Winter.. has come in meekly, wetly, muggily.

Muggin, variant of MOGGAN *Sc.*

Mugginess (mʌ·ginės). [f. MUGGY *a.* + -NESS.] The state, quality, or condition of being muggy.

1872 GEO. ELIOT in Cross *Life* III. 171 We are languishing with headache from two days' damp and mugginess. 1887 Miss BRADDON *Like & Unlike* xix, The mild mugginess of a London autumn.

Muggins (mʌ·ginz), *sb.* [perh. the surname *Muggins*, used arbitrarily with allusion to MUG *sb.*[5] Cf. the use of the surname in Surtees *Handley Cross* (1843).]

1. *slang.* A fool, simpleton; a 'juggins'. *To talk muggins*: to say silly, foolish things. Also 'a borough-magnate; a local leader' (Farmer).

1881 *Punch* 10 Sept. 110/2 Well them as talks Muggins like that to our gurls must be milks. 1884 *Ibid.* 11 Oct. 180/1 Must ha' thought me a muggins, old man, To ask sech a question of 'Arry.

2. a. A children's game of cards.

Each player lays down a card face upwards, forming a pile before him. When the top cards before two players match, the one who first cries 'Muggins' transfers his pile to the other. When all the cards are brought into one pile, the player to whom it belongs is the loser. The word *muggins* is also applied to the player who has to receive cards from another, and to the pool formed by the cards that remain of the pack after an equal division in dealing.

1876 HEATHER *Cards & Card Tricks* 199.

b. A game of dominoes in which the players count by fives or multiples of five.

1881 *Cassell's Bk. Sports* 390 (Dominoes) The game of All Fives, or Muggins, is very popular in some circles.

Mu·ggish, *a.* ? *Obs.* [f. MUG *sb.*[4] (though earlier in our quots.) + -ISH.] Damp, musty.

1655 GURNALL *Chr. in Arm.* I. 280 The World we live in is corruptible, and all here is subject to putrifie, as things kept in a rafty muggish Room subject them to mould. 1731 BAILEY vol. II, *Muggish*, inclinable to be musty, or to smell so. 1755 in JOHNSON; and in later Dicts.

† **Mu·ggite.** *Obs.* [f. MUG *sb.*[1] + -ITE[1].] ? A member of a 'mug-house club'.

1718 *Entertainer* No. 30. 205 This would be to take up the Practice of our modern Muggites, to grin like a Dog, and go about the City.

† **Mu·ggle**[1]. *Obs. rare.* Also 3 **moggle**, 4 **mughel.** [Origin unknown.] An alleged Kentish word for 'tail'. Hence † **Mu·ggling** (also **moglynge**), a tailed man.

c 1205 LAY. 29588 Þa tailes heom comen on; þer uoren heo maȝen iteled beon. Iscend wes þat mon-cun; muggles [*c* 1275 moggles] heo hafden and inne hirede ælches men cleopeð heom muglinges [*c* 1275 moglymges]. *c* 1450 BOWER in *Fordun's Scotichron.* (1759) I. 139 *Vocatur..cauda ab indigenis, patria lingva*, Mugbel.

† **Mu·ggle**[2]. [Origin and meaning obscure.]

1607 MIDDLETON *Your Five Gallants* II. i, Oh the parting of vs twaine, Hath causde me mickle paine, and I shall nere be married Vntill I see my muggle againe. 1617 T. YOUNG *England's Bane* E 4 b, I haue seene a company amongst the very Woods and Forests, drinking for a muggle. ..Sixe haue determined to trie their strengths who could drinke most glasses for the muggle. The first drinkes a glasse of a pint, the second two, the next three [etc.].

Muggletonian (mʌ·g'l(tō)nĭăn), *a.* and *sb.* Also 7 **Mugultonian.** [f. *Muggleton* (see below) + -IAN.] **a.** *sb.* A member of the sect founded *c* 1651 by Lodowicke Muggleton and John Reeve. **b.** *adj.* Belonging or pertaining to this sect. Hence **Muggleto·nianism.**

The belief of the sect rests on the personal inspiration of its founders, who claimed to be the 'two witnesses' of Rev. xi. 3–6.

a 1670 RUST *Disc. Truth* (1682) 158 The Blasphemies of the present Muggletonians. 1687 T. BROWN in *Dk. Buckhm.'s Wks.* (1705) II. 113 Here started up Presbyterians, there Mugultonians, one making God damn all but themselves; and the other saving him the Labour, and doing it themselves. 1729 FIELDING *Author's Farce* III. Wks. 1882 VIII. 229 A Muggletonian dog stabbed me. 1796 COLQUHOUN *Police Metrop.* 374 [In a list of Meeting houses for Dissenters] 4 for Muggletonians. 1868 *Pall Mall G.* 5 May 8/2 The death is announced of Mr. Joseph Gandar..and it is

added that 'he was a sincere member of the sect called Muggletonians for upwards of sixty years'. There is, it is understood, only one place of worship in London connected with this extraordinary sect of religionists, and not three more in the whole of England. 1881 *N. & Q.* 6th Ser. IV. 431/2 In externals Muggletonianism resembles Quakerism, rejecting as it does all symbolical religion.

Muggur, variant of MUGGER[2].

Muggut, variant of MUGGET[2] *dial.*

Muggy (mʌ·gi), *sb. dial.* [Alteration of *Moggie, Maggie*: cf. PEGGY *sb.* 2.] (Also *muggy-cut-throat.*) The white-throat, *Sylvia cinerea*; also the lesser white-throat, *Sylvia curruca*.

1829 BROCKETT *N. C. Words* (ed. 2), *Muggy*, the white-throat. 1831 J. RENNIE *Montagu's Ornith. Dict.* 538 *White throat*...Muggy-Cut-Throat. 1894 NEWTON *Dict. Birds* III. 601.

Muggy (mʌ·gi), *a.* [f. MUG *sb.*[4] or *v.*[1] + -Y.]

1. Mouldy, moist, damp, wet. *Obs.* exc. *dial.*

1731 BAILEY vol. II, *Muggy*, inclinable to be musty, or to smell so. 1902 *Daily Chron.* 25 Oct. 7/6 Was it [the meat] not slimy, and did it not smell?—The Defendant: Oh, it's what we call 'muggy' in the trade. That only has to be wiped off, and then it's all right.

2. Of weather (also of a day, season, place, etc.): Damp, close and warm.

1746 in W. Thompson *R. N. Advoc.* (1757) 24 The Salters complained the Weather was hot and muggy. 1782 MISS BURNEY *Cecilia* v. ix, Weather quite muggy. 1851 D. JERROLD *St. Giles* viii. 72 He heard a far-off voice roar through the muggy air. 1891 T. HARDY *Tess* xxix, The evening, though sunless, had been warm and muggy for the season.

b. Close, stifling.

1820 J. H. REYNOLDS *Fancy* (1906) 51 His two rooms are naked, dun and muggy. 1906 *Pall Mall G.* 19 Mar. 10/1 The 'muggy' smell so generally noticeable in lodging-houses and barrack-rooms.

Mughal, variant of MOGUL.

Mughe, obs. f. MAY *v.*[1]; MOW *sb.*[1], *v.*[2]

Mughel, Mugher: see MUGGLE[1], MOWYER.

Mu·g-house. [f. MUG *sb.*[1] + HOUSE.]

1. An ale-house, beer-house. ? *Obs.* or *arch.* Also *attrib.* in **mug-house club**, the designation of certain political clubs (of Hanoverian sympathies) which met at 'mug-houses' early in the 18th c.; so *mug-house chief*.

1685 *Choice Collect.* 180 *Loyal Songs* (ed. 3) 322 The Mug-house. 1710 STEELE *Tatler* No. 180 ₱3 There is a Mug-house near Long-Acre, where [etc.]. 1717 TICKELL *Epist. fr. Lady to Gent. at Avignon* 73 Our sex has dar'd the Mugg-House Chiefs to meet. 1753 H. WALPOLE *Let. to Bentley* Sept., Every ale-house is here [Birmingham] written *mug-house*, a name one has not heard of since the riots in the late King's time. 1827 HONE *Table Bk.* I. 378 At the mug-house club in Long-acre [*temp.* Geo. I]. 1891 BARING-GOULD *Urith* xv, When a young gallant begins to squabble at village mug-houses.

2. *dial.* A pottery.

1841 C. H. HARTSHORNE *Salopia Antiq.* 511.

Mught, obs. pa. t. of MAY *v.*[1]

Mughwarde, obs. form of MUGWORT.

Mugient (miū·dʒiĕnt), *a. rare.* [ad. L. *mūgient-em*, pr. pple. of *mūgīre* to bellow.] Lowing, bellowing.

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* III. xxv. 173 A Bittor maketh that mugient noyse, or as we terme it Bumping by putting its bill into a reed [etc.]. 1816 PARR *Let. to Routh* 8 Mar., Wks. 1828 VII. 671 He, like myself, hates the final mugient M in Latin.

Hence † **Mu·giency**, a bellowing.

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* III. xxvii. (1658) 219 This mugiency [*printed* magiency] or boation.

Mugike, obs. form of MOUJIK.

‖ **Mugil** (miū·dʒil). Forms: 4–5 mugill, 6 mugyll, 6– mugil. [L. *mūgil.*] The mullet. In modern use only as the Latin name of the genus.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XIII. xxvi. (1495) 461 There is a manere fysshe that hyght Mugill whyche is full qwyuer and swyfte. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 203 In an other kynde of fysshe, called a mugyll, and also in ye ele, neuer man myght discerne ony male or female. 1584 LYLY *Campaspe* II. ii. 51 Mugil, of all fishes the swiftest. 1856 MAYNE *Expos. Lex., Mugil, Silvery Grey. Ichthyol.* Common name for the *Mugil cephalus*.

Mugiloid (miū·dʒiloid), *a.* and *sb. Ichthyol.* [ad. mod.L. *Mūgilōidēi*, f. *mūgil*: see MUGIL and -OID.] a. *adj.* Of, pertaining to, or resembling the family *Mugiloidei* (Cuvier) of fishes, of which *Mugil* is the typical genus. b. *sb.* A mugiloid fish.

1842 BRANDE *Dict. Sci.*, etc., *Mugiloids*, a family of Acanthopterygian fishes in the system of Cuvier.

† **Muglard.** *Obs. rare*—[0]. [Cf. Norw. *mugga* to heap up, hoard (money).] A miser.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 347/2 Muglard, or nyggarde, *tenax.*

† **Mugle.** *Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *mūgil*: see MUGIL.] = LUMP *sb.*[2]

1574 T. N[EWTON] tr. *Gratarolus' Direct. Health* L j b, Those fishes that are called Mugles or Lompes [orig. *qui a Latinis Mugiles, vulgo autem Cephali, quasi capitones dixeris, appellantur*]. 1598 FLORIO, *Leuciscо*, a kinde of mugle or lamp fish. Some take it for a fresh water mullet.

Mugster (mʌ·gstəɹ). *School slang.* [f. MUG *v.*[4] + -STER.] One who 'mugs' or works hard.

1888 GOSCHEN *Rectorial Addr. to Students of Aberdeen* in *Scotsman* 1 Feb., Schools and colleges..have invented for this purpose [*viz.* depreciation of hard intellectual work] ..phrases..such as a 'sap', a 'smug',..a 'mugster'.

Muguart, obs. Sc. form of MUGWORT.

Muguet, obs. form of MUGGET[1].

Mugultonian, obs. form of MUGGLETONIAN.

Mugweed (mʌ·gwīd). *dial.* Forms: 4 muggewede, 5 mugwed, muguned, (mogwed), 8– mugweed. [f. *mug-* (in MUGWORT) + WEED; perh. in part an etymologizing perversion of *mugwel* MUGGET[1].] a. Mugwort, *Artemisia vulgaris*. b. Crosswort, *Galium Cruciata*; also *golden mugweed* (Treas. Bot. 1866).

a 1387 *Sinon. Barthol.* (Anecd. Oxon.) II/2 *Arthemesia*, muggewede. *Ibid.* 20/1. *c* 1450 *Alphita* (ibid.) 13/2 *Archemesia..angl.* mugwort *uel* mugwed. 1756 WATSON in *Phil. Trans.* XLIX. 853 Crosswort or Mugweed. 1886 *Cheshire Gloss.*, Mugweed, *Artemisia vulgaris*.

Mugwet: see MUGGET[1] and 2.

Mugwort (mʌ·gwɐɹt). Forms: 1 mucgwyrt, (mugcwyrt), mugwyrt, 1–2, 6 mugwurt, 3 mugwet, 4–6 mogwort, mugworte, 5 mugwortt, mughwarde, 6 mogworte, mugwourt, mogworth, *Sc.* muguart, 6–7 mugwoort, 7 muggorwarte, 9 mugworth, *dial.* and *Sc.* muggart, muggert, 5– mugwort. [repr. WGer. **muggiwurti*, f. **muggjo-* fly, MIDGE + **wurti-* plant, WORT; the *i* of the first element seems to have disappeared before the period of umlaut.]

1. The plant *Artemisia vulgaris*, formerly also called *motherwort*. Also applied to other species of *Artemisia*, as wormwood, *A. Absinthium*.

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 102 Herba artemesia traganthes þæt is mugcwyrt. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 134/15 *Artemisia, uel matrum herba*, mugwyrt. *c* 1265 *Voc. Plants* ibid. 554/3 *Artimesie*, mugwrt, merherbarum. *c* 1450 *ME. Med. Bk.* (Heinrich) 77 Tak mogwort, and stampe hit. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* vi. 67, I sau muguart, that is gude for the suffocatione of ane vomans bayrnis hed. 1641 BEST *Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 62 Three or fower stalkes of muggerwarte to lye on the bough or place wheare the bees light. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.*, Mugwort has long been famous as an uterine and antispasmodic. 1799 J. HULL *Brit. Flora* 182 *Artemisia cærulescens*... Bluish Mugwort. 1850 CARLYLE *Latter-d. Pamph.* ii. 71 Fill your thrashing-floor with docks, ragweeds, mugworths, and ply your flail upon them,—that is not the method to obtain sacks of wheat. 1866 *Treas. Bot.*, Mugwort. *Artemisia vulgaris.* —, Indian. *Artemisia hirsuta.* —, West Indian. *Parthenium Hysterophorus.*

2. Crosswort, *Galium Cruciata*.

1796 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) II. 187 *Galium cruciata.* Scop. Crosswort. Mugwort. Mugweed. 1855 MISS PRATT *Flower. Pl.* III. 148.

Mugwump (mʌ·gwʌmp), *sb. U. S.* [a. Natick *mugquomp* great chief (occurring in Eliot's Massachusetts Bible, e. g. in Gen. xxxvi. 15, where it answers to the 'duke' of the Eng. Bible).]

1. A jocular term for: A great man, a 'boss'.

1832 in *Nation* (1891) 21 May 414/3 It has extensively circulated among the Knights of Kadosh and the Most Worshipful Mugwumps of the Cabletow. 1877 J. H. BROMLEY in *N. Y. Tribune* 16 Feb., John A. Logan is the Head Centre, the Hub, the King Pin, the Main Spring, Mogul, and Mugwump of the final plot.

2. One who holds more or less aloof from party-politics, professing disinterested and superior views. In 1884, *spec.* applied to Republicans who refused to support the nominee of their party for president.

1884 *N. Y. Even. Post* 20 June (Cent.), We have yet to see a Blaine organ which speaks of the Independent Republicans otherwise than as Pharisees, hypocrites, dudes, mugwumps, transcendentalists, or something of that sort. 1884 W. EVERETT *Sp. at Quincy, Mass.* 13 Sept. (Stanf.), I am an independent—a Mugwump. 1884 *Sat. Rev.* 22 Nov. 659/1 It may be that in a few years..a little group of British Mugwumps..will arise in their might [etc.]. 1888 BRYCE *Amer. Commw.* II. III. lvi. 379 The case of these Independents, or Mugwumps, is an illustrative one...Very few.. take an active part in 'politics', however interested they may be in public affairs. 1890 C. L. NORTON *Polit. Americanisms* 74 Mugwump. 1898 *Academy* 22 Oct. 109 Halifax is, of course, the typical 'trimmer', which is to say 'mugwump' of Restoration politics.

3. *attrib.* quasi-*adj.* That is a mugwump; of or pertaining to mugwumps.

1890 in *Century Dict.*

Hence **Mu·gwump** *v. intr.*, to play the part of a mugwump; **Mugwu·mpery, Mu·gwumpism.**

1885 *Boston* (Mass.) *Jrnl.* 13 Apr. 2/2 Will E. Haskell of the Minneapolis Tribune says that 'Previousness is one of the worst characteristics of Mugwumpery'. 1887 *Nation* 31 Mar. 265/1 It will thus be seen that Mugwumpism is growing both in the East and the West. 1889 *N. Y. Tribune* 10 Mar. (Cent.), They mugwumped in 1884.

Muhal, variant of MAHAL.

Muhammad, -an: see MOHAMMED, -AN.

Muhar, variant form of MOHUR.

Muharem, -arram, -em: see MOHARRAM.

Muhooa, variant of MAHWA. 1866 in *Treas. Bot.*

Muhr, obs. form of MOHUR.

Muid (müi). Forms: 4–7 muy, 5 muye, mue, 6 mui, 5 mewe, 6–8 mew, 7 mued, 7– muid. See also MOY *sb.*[1], MUD *sb.*[2] [a. OF. *mui*, mod.F. *muid*:—L. *modium*: see MODIUS. Cf. Du. *mud(de*, MUD *sb.*[2]]

1. A former French measure of capacity, varying greatly in different localities and as applied to different commodities. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.*

a. A dry measure (for corn, meat, salt, etc.).

In recent times the values assigned to it range from about 52 to about 110 bushels; in early use it was a much smaller measure, often stated as =4 bushels.

c 1400 *Rom. Rose* 5590 An hundred muys [*so Thynne*; *read* muys; *Glasgow MS.* mavis; *Fr. orig.* muis] of whete greyn. 1481 CAXTON *Godeffroy* xl. 78 He gaf to hym ten muyes, every muye is four busshellys. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* xiv. 113 Annibal send to cartage thre muis of gold ryngis. 1692 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2831/2 The offer..of furnishing them with 18000 Muids [of Corn] at a reasonable Price. 1703 *Ibid.* No. 3891/4 About 57 Mews of Bay-Salt. 1727 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Bushel*, The Half-Minot contains three Bushels, and the Muid of Coals contains thirty Half-Minots. 1771 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* XIV. 100/1 In Swabia the muid of rye sells for 36 florins. 1804 RANKEN *Hist. France* III. v. 318 A modius or muid of seed yielded but a setier.

† b. A liquid measure; a cask holding this.

The local varieties ranged from 60 to 160 gallons.

1491 CAXTON *Vitas Patr.* (W. de W. 1495) I. xxxvii. 47 There was thenne estemyd fruyte ynough for to gadre an hundred mues, or tonnes of wyne. 1529 RASTELL *Pastyme, Hist. Rom.* (1811) 22 A mew of wyne which is almost iiii galons. *c* 1618 MORYSON *Itin.* IV. (1903) 173 Each Mued of Wyne commonly yeildes the king Eighteene Shillings of our mony. 1655 *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) II. 160 They have established to her her pretentions of soe much upon every muy of wine as amounts unto the best part of a million per annum. 1686 PLOT *Staffordsh.* 62 Accounting 72 Gallons to the Hogshead, the Muid contains scarce ⅔ of a Hogshead. 1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v., Muid is also one of the nine casks, or regular vessels used in France, to put wine and other liquors in.

2. A French measure of land, representing the area that would require a 'muid' of seed.

1674 JEAKE *Arith.* (1696) 114 A Muid of Land is 12 Septiers or Arpents.

Muil, var. MOIL *sb.*[5], MOOL *sb.*, MULE *sb.*[2]

Muild, Muildry: see MOULD, MOULDRY.

Muile, Muill e: see MULE[1] and [2].

Muilin, Muinde, obs. ff. MOOLIN, MIND.

Muir, Sc. variant of MOOR *sb.*[1]

Muise, muish, obs. forms of MEUSE.

Muist, variant of MUST *Obs.*, musk.

Muit e, Muitable, obs. ff. MUTE, MUTABLE.

Mujik, variant of MOUJIK.

Muk e, obs. forms of MEEK *a.*, MUCK *sb.*[1]

Mukaddim, variant of MOKADDAM, headman.

Mukel: see MICKLE.

Mukhede, variant of MEEKHEAD *Obs.*

Mukke, Mukylle, obs. ff. MUCK *sb.*[1], MUCK-HILL.

Mulagatoney, obs. form of MULLIGATAWNY.

Mulane, obs. form of MILAN[1].

† **Mu·lat.** *Obs.*—[1] Anglicized form of MULATTO.

1678 T. JONES *Heart & Rt. Sovereign* 497 A monstrous equivocal bastard-brood of spiritual-carnal mulats.

Mulata, obs. form of MULATTA, MULATTO.

Mulateer, -ier, obs. forms of MULETEER.

Mulato, mulatow, obs. forms of MULATTO.

† **Mula·tta.** *Obs.* Also 7 mulata. [a. Sp. *mulata*, fem. of *mulato* MULATTO.] A female mulatto.

1622 MABBE tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* II. 328 *margin*, Mulata, is a maid-childe, that is borne of a Negra, and a fayre man; and so on the contrary. 1668 DRYDEN *Even. Love* IV. (1671) 52 'Tis impossible your love should be so humble, to descend to a Mulatta. 1828 TYERMAN & BENNET *Jrnl. Voy.*, etc. 28 Jan. (1831) II. iii. 491 There is a law here [Mauritius] that no Englishman shall marry a woman of colour, not even a mulatta.

Mulatto (miulæ·to), *sb.* and *a.* Forms: 6 mulatow, 7 malato, mallatto, melotto, molata, -o, mol(l)otto, mulata, -o, muletto, mullato, 7–8 molatto, -etto, mullatto, 8 malotto, melatto, moletta, 9 mulattoe, 7– mulatto. [a. Sp. (and Pg.) *mulato* young mule, hence one of mixed race, a mulatto, obscurely derived from *mulo* MULE *sb.*[1]; hence F. *mulâtre* (with assimilation of suffix to *-âtre* = -ASTER), It. *mulatto.*]

A. *sb.*

1. One who is the offspring of a European and a Negro; also used loosely for any half-breed resembling a mulatto.

1595 *Drake's Voy.* (Hakl. Soc.) 22 By meanes of a Mulatow and an Indian, we had, this night, forty bundles of dried beife. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* VI. xiv. 545 Why then are the Portugalls Children and Generations White, or Mulatos at most. 1657 R. LIGON *Barbadoes* 10 A great fat man,.. his face not so black as to be counted a Mollotto. 1697 DAMPIER *Voy.* (1699) 199 The Mulata, because he said he was in the Fireship..was immediately hanged. 1713 C'TESS OF WINCHILSEA *Misc. Poems* 209 Grinning Malottos in true Ermin stare. 1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.*, *Mulatto*, a name given, in the Indies, to those who are begotten by a negro man on an Indian woman; or an Indian man on a negro woman. 1854 THACKERAY *Newcomes* I. 31 Two woolly-headed poor little mulattos. 1885 R. L. & F. STEVENSON *Dynamiter* xi, That hag of a mulatto was no less a person than my wife.

† 2. (See quot.) *Obs.*

1664 JER. TAYLOR *Dissuas. Popery* I. i. § 3 Purgatory, which is a device to make men be Mulata's as the Spaniard calls half-Christians.

3. *Geol.* The greenstone of Northern Ireland.

1816 CONYBEARE in *Trans. Geol. Soc.* III. 130 Mulattoe, an arenaceous stone, with a calcareous cement of a speckled appearance (whence its name). 1843 PORTLOCK *Geol.* 110 The chalk..rests on..indurated greensand or (as it has been called) mulatto stone.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *mulatto-like* adj.; **mulatto jack**, a term for *Yellow fever* (Syd. Soc. Lex. 1891); **mulatto land, -soil** *U. S.*, a dark coloured fertile kind of soil; **mulatto tree** (see quot.).

1794 Morse *Amer. Geog.* 556 The *mulatto lands [of Georgia] are generally strong. 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* I. 177 As for my Face, the Colour of it was really not so *Moletta like, as one might expect. 1794 Morse *Amer. Geog.* 556 The *mulatto soil [of Georgia], consisting of a black mould and red earth. 1876 *Encycl. Brit.* IV. 97/1 The *Mulatto tree (*Eukylista Spruceana*), one of the Cinchonaceæ.

B. *adj.*

1. Belonging to the class of mulattos.

a 1704 T. Brown *Walk round Lond., Tavern* Wks. 1709 III. iii. 9, I shall observe your Caution, says my Moletto Comrade [an Indian]. 1837 Hr. Martineau *Soc. Amer.* II. 156 She was asked whether she thought of doing anything for her two mulatto children. 1900 Deniker *Races of Man* xiii. 542 A Mulatto woman, the offspring of a Spaniard and a negress, may give birth to a Morisco by uniting with a Spaniard.

2. Of the colour of a mulatto; tawny.

1622 Mabbe tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* II. 328, I sweare and vow vnto thee by this my Mulata face, that [etc.]. 1826 Prichard *Res. Phys. Hist. Man.* (ed. 2) I. 151 A man, who ..was of a mulatto complexion. 1870 W. M. Baker *New Timothy* 84 (Cent.) Women of all shades of color, from deepest jet up to light mulatto.

Mulattoism (miulæ·tŏiz'm). [f. Mulatto + -ism.] The production of mulattos.

1861 Van Evrie *Negroes* 147 The fourth generation of mulattoism is as absolutely sterile as muleism.

Mulattress (miulæ·très). [ad. F. *mulâtresse*, fem. of *mulâtre* Mulatto.] A female mulatto.

1845 Darwin in *Life & Lett.* (1887) I. 344 Our party consisted of two Catholic priests and two Mulattresses.

Mulberry (mʌ·lbĕri). Forms: *α.* 4 **molberi, moolbery**, 4–7 **mulberie**, -**y**, 5–6 **molbery**(**e**, 6 **moulberie**, 7 **mulburie**, 6– **mulberry**. *β.* 3 **murberie**, 5–6 **morbery**, -**berie**, 6 **more berry**. [In 14th c. *mulberie*, prob. ad. MHG. *mûlbere* (mod. G. *maulbeere*) :—OHG. *mûlberi*, an altered form (cf. *mûlboum* mulberry tree) of *mûr-beri*, *môr-beri* (= Du. *moerbezie*), f. L. *mōr-um* mulberry (see More *sb.*2) + *beri* Berry *sb.*

The *β* forms prob. never had any real currency. In quot. *c* 1265 *mur-* is a. OF. *mure* (mod.F. *mûre*, altered form of *moure* :—L. *mōra* pl.); Caxton's *morberies* is after Du. *moerbezie*; and the 16th c. instances are prob. pedantic corrections of *mulbery* after the Latin.]

1. The fruit of any tree of the genus *Morus*, esp. the Black Mulberry, *M. nigra*.

The 'berry', of roundish oval shape, is an aggregate of a multitude of true fruits covered by succulent calyces.

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xvii. i. (Tollem. MS.), In some tren and herbes frute ripeþ sone, as mulberies [1535 moulberyes]. *c* 1407 Lydg. *Reson & Sens.* 3954 The Molberye. 1535 Coverdale *Amos* vii. 14 Now as I was breakynge downe molberies. 1562 Turner *Herbal* II. 58 The iuice of the rype mulberries is a good mouth medicine. 1592 Shaks. *Ven. & Ad.* 1103 Some other in their bils Would bring him mulberries & ripe-red cherries. 1718 Quincy *Compl. Disp.* 100 Mulberries are grateful, cooling, and astringent. 1850 *J. Bell's Syst. Geog.* IV. 314 The white mulberry [*Morus alba*] forms the wealth of the country of the Druses. 1907 *Daily News* 5 Sept. 4 In a good season ripe mulberries may be plucked within fifty yards of Fleet-street.

β. c 1265 *Gloss. Plant-n.* in Wr.-Wülcker 557/31 *Celsi*, murer, murberien. *c* 1483 Caxton *Dialogues* 13 Cheryes, sloes, Morberies, strawberies. *c* 1532 [see *Mulberry-tree* in 4]. 1548 Turner *Names Herbes* (E. D. S.) 9 A litle blacke bery lyke a blacke morbery.

b. = *mulberry-tree*.

1382 Wyclif 2 *Chron.* i. 15 The kyng ȝaue in to Jerusalem ..cedres as long mulberies [Vulg. *cedros quasi sycomoros*]. 1577 B. Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* II. (1586) 92 Whensoeuer you see the Mulberie begin to spring, you may bee sure that winter is at an ende. 1617 Purchas *Pilgrimage* (ed. 3) 588 Vines, which they plant at the foot of the Mulberrie, the same Tree seeming to beare two Fruits. 1785 Martyn *Rousseau's Bot.* xxviii. (1794) 436 Black Mulberry has rugged, heart-shaped leaves. 1819 Warden *United States* I. 185 Red mulberry, *Morus rubra*. 1882 *Garden* 23 Dec. 545/2 The common Mulberry is a native of Italy, but has been grown in this country for more than 300 years.

2. Applied to plants or trees of other genera; in Eng. dialects often to the Blackberry, *Rubus fruticosus*; in the U.S. to various other species of *Rubus*, otherwise called Raspberry. Also Cloth-*mulberry*, Paper-*mulberry*.

1672 Josselyn *New Eng. Rarities* 93 Raspberry, here called Mulberry. 1848 *Rural Cycl.* II. 313/1 *Flax-dodder* —botanically *Cuscuta Epilinum*..is popularly known in Somersetshire as 'the mulberry'. 1866 *Treas. Bot.*, Mulberry, Australian, *Hedycarya Pseudo-Morus*. —, Indian, *Moriuda citrifolia*. —, New Zealand, *Entelea arborescens*. 1880 Britten & Holland *Eng. Plant-n.* 346 *Mulberry*.. (2) *Rubus fruticosus* L.—Norf...(4) *Pyrus Aria*. L.—Aberdeensh. 1897–8 Britton & Brown *Amer. Flora*, Mulberry. *a. Rubus odoratus* (Purple-flowering raspberry). *b. Rubus strigosus* (Wild red raspberry). *c. Rubus Americanus* (Dwarf raspberry). *Ibid.*, Bermuda or French mulberry, *Callicarpa Americana*.

3. The colour of a mulberry. Also as *adj.* = mulberry-coloured.

1837 Dickens *Pickw.* xxv, If ever there was a wolf in a mulberry suit, that ere Joh Trotter's him. 1882 *Garden* 21 Oct. 354/3 Among other seedlings the following struck us as being remarkably fine..Darkness, deep mulberry.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*: *mulberry-colour, -leaf, -tree; mulberry-coloured, -faced, -leaved, -like* adjs.; **mulberry-bird**, (*a*) the Australian fig-bird, *Sphecotheres maxillaris* (Morris); (*b*) 'the rose-coloured pastor, *Pastor roseus*' (Funk's *Stand. Dict.* 1895); **mulberry blite** (see quot. 1856); **mulberry body** = Morula 2 (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1891); **mulberry bush**, a children's game, with a marching ditty 'Here we go round the mulberry-bush'; **mulberry calculus** *Path.* (see quot. 1872); **mulberry eyelid** = *Trachoma* (Syd. Soc. Lex.); **mulberry germ, mass** = Morula 2; **mulberry rash**, a name given by Sir W. Jenner to the rash of typhus fever; **mulberry shell**, a species of *Delium* (Chambers *Cycl. Supp.* 1753).

1760 J. Lee *Introd. Bot.* App. 319 *Mulberry Blite, *Blitum*. 1856 Mayne *Expos. Lex.*, *Mulberry Blight*, Bot. Common name for the *Chenopodio-morus*, or *Blitum capitatum* of Linn. 1897 Flo. Marryat *Blood Vampire* iii, [They] take hands and dance round in a ring as if they were playing at '*Mulberry Bush'. 1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) IV. 391 **Mulberry calculus*, or oxalate of lime. 1856 Druitt *Surgeon's Vade Mecum* 572 The Mulberry Calculus is composed of oxalate of lime. It is dark red, rough, and tuberculated. 1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) IV. 402 A deep reddish-brown or *mulberry colour. 1776–96 Withering *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) II. 415 *Mulberry coloured. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIII. 677/1 The eruption which..consists of dark red (mulberry coloured) spots or blotches varying in size. 1812 *Sporting Mag.* XL. 23 A *mulberry-faced, bumper-loving blade. 1868 Tennyson *Lucretius* 54 The mulberry-faced Dictator's orgies. 1879 tr. *Haeckel's Evol. Man* I. 189 We call this mass the *mulberry-germ (*morula*). 1727–41 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v. *Silk*, In this state it feeds on *mulberry-leaves. 1891 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Mulberry-leaved booby bark, the bark of *Cinchona purpurea*. 1883 E. R. Lankester in *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 662/2 At the same time a space—the cleavage cavity or blastocœl—forms in the centre of the *mulberry-like mass. 1851 Carpenter *Man. Phys.* (ed. 2) 473 A large part of its structure having undergone but little change from the state of the '*mulberry mass'. 1833–55 Dunglison *Med. Lex.*, **Mulberry Rash*. *a* 1300 *E. E. Psalter* lxxvii. 52 [lxxviii. 47] And þar wine-yherdes in haile he slogh, And þar *molberi-tres in froste inogh. 1480 Caxton *Ovid's Met.* x. iv. (Roxb. Club), Morbery trees, Okes, Planes [etc.]. *c* 1532 Du Wes *Introd. Fr.* in *Palsgr.* 914 More bery tre, *mourier*. 1886 Ruskin *Præterita* I. 335 Sitting under the mulberry tree in the back garden.

Mulce, var. Milce *sb. Obs.*; obs. f. Mulse.

Mulch (mʌlʃ), *sb.* Also 8–9 **mulsh**. [Prob. subst. use of Mulch *a.*] Half-rotten straw; in *Gardening*, a mixture of wet straw, leaves, loose earth, etc., spread on the ground to protect the roots of newly planted trees, etc.

1657 S. Purchas *Pol. Flying-Ins.* ix. 114 Then make a smoak of mulch and wet straw. 1674–91 Ray *S. & E. C. Words* 107 *Mulch*; Straw half rotten. 1706 London & Wise *Retir'd Gard.* I. ii. ii. 110 We put in a little short Mulsh upon the Root. 1763 Mills *Pract. Husb.* IV. 367 Laying a little heap of haulm, straw, or any kind of mulch, round the stem of each vine. 1891 T. Hardy *Tess* xvii, His boots were clogged with the mulch of the yard.

†**Mulch,** *a. Obs.* In 5 **molsh**. [ME. *molsh*, prob. related to Melch; cf. Ger. dial. *molsch* soft, beginning to decay.] Soft.

c 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* II. 120 Thy vynys soil be not to molsh [L. *resolutum*] or hard, But sumdel molsh.

Mulch (mʌlʃ), *v.* Also **mulsh**. [f. Mulch *sb.*] *trans.* To cover with mulch.

1802 W. Forsyth *Fruit Trees* iii. (1824) 64 Mulch the border with some very rotten leaves, or dung. 1859 R. Thompson *Gard. Assist.* 24 Mulch over the roots with stable manure. 1884 *Australasian* 8 Nov. 875/1 The entire surface [was] mulched with straw.

Mulching (mʌ·lʃiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. Mulch *v.* + -ing 1.] The action of covering with mulch.

1817 Neill in *Edin. Encycl.* XI. 199/1 Mulching..consists in rendering a portion of the ground thoroughly moist by adding water, and working it like mortar. To increase the retentiveness of moisture, some short stable dung or other litter is added. 1856 Delamer *Fl. Gard.* (1861) 65 A slight mulching with manure in winter.

b. *concr.* = Mulch *sb.*

1890 *Daily News* 30 May 7/4 In a furtnight's time the rain will have washed the nutriment out of the mulching.

Mulciberian (mʌlsibĭə·riăn), *a.* [f. L. *Mulciber* Vulcan + -ian.] Resembling Vulcan.

1847 Thackeray *Curates' Walk* i, What powerful Mulciberian fellows they must be, those Goldbeaters?

†**Mu·lcible,** *a. Obs.* [ad. L. type **mulcibilis*, f. *mulcēre* to soothe.] (See quot.)

1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, Mulcible (*mulcibilis*) which may be appeased.

†**Mu·lcify,** *v. Obs.* [f. L. *mulcēre* to soothe: see -fy.] *trans.* To allay, to soothe.

1653 R. Sanders *Physiogn., Moles* 13 If it be red, these sorrows are somewhat mulcified.

Mulct (mʌlkt), *sb.* Also 6 **multe**, 6–8 **mult**, 7 **mulcte**, 6– **mulct**. [ad. L. *mulcta, multa*. Cf. obs. F. *mulcte* (earlier *multe*).]

1. A fine imposed for an offence. Also *occas.* in wider sense, a compulsory payment (usually implying unfair or arbitrary exaction).

1591 Horsey *Trav.* (Hakl. Soc.) 207 This Emperowr reduced..their lawes..into a most..plain forme of a written lawe, for everie man..to..challenge upon a great mult to the crown judgment without delaye. 1598 *Hakluyt's Voy.* I. 266 To set and leuie..penalties and mulcts by fine or imprisonment. 1616 Sir C. Mountagu in *Buccleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 249 The Low Countries have banished all our dyed cloths, and set such a mult on the white as will mar the trade. 1664 H. More *Myst. Iniq.* xix. 71 For multitude and frequency of Transgressours brings in Mulcts and Fees to the Ecclesiastick Officers. 1796 Morse *Amer. Geog.* II. 86 A rape and adultery is punished with a mulct of nine head of cattle. 1816 T. L. Peacock *Headlong Hall* viii, Imposed a heavy mulct on every one of his servants. 1858 Carlyle *Fredk. Gt.* III. iii. (1872) I. 148 Humiliating peace, with mulct in money, and slightly in territory, attached to it. 1874 Stubbs *Const. Hist.* I. ii. 28 The state received the portion of the mulcts which in the monarchies fell to the king.

attrib. 1610 Healey *St. Aug. Citie of God* 174 Which P. Posth. Megellus being Ædile built with the mulct-money hee had gathered.

2. A penalty of any kind.

a 1619 Fletcher, etc. *Knt. Malta* III. iii, Chastity That lodges in deformity, appeares rather A mulct impos'd by nature, then a blessing. 1657 Hawke *Killing is M.* 38 He justly paid the mult of his head which forged them, and his hands which pressed them. 1724 R. Welton *Chr. Faith & Pract.* 113 The losing of the soul..is to have a mulct inflicted upon the soul. 1892 Zangwill *Childr. Ghetto* I. 47 Nor was this the only mulct which Providence exacted from the happy father.

¶**3.** Misused by Massinger for: A blemish.

Cf. quot. 1619 in sense 2, which Massinger has unintelligently imitated.

1632 Massinger *Maid of Hon.* I. ii, *Ber.* If so, what diverts Your Favour from me? *Cam.* No mulct in your selfe, Or in your person, mind or fortune. 1639 — *Unnat. Combat* IV. i, That which all the world Admires and cries up in thee for perfections Are to unhappy me foule blemishes And mulcts in nature.

Mulct (mʌlkt), *v.* Also 5–6 **multe**, 9 *pa. pple.* **mulct, mulked**. [ad. L. *mulctāre, multāre*, f. *mulcta, multa* Mulct *sb.* Cf. F. *mulcter* (15th c. *multer*).]

1. *trans.* To punish (a person, †an offence) by a fine. †Also *occas.* to subject to a penalty of any kind. (The penalty or amount is expressed by a second object, or introduced by *in*.)

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 246/2 To Multe, *multare*. 1530 Palsgr. 642/1, I multe. 1611 B. Jonson *Catiline* v. vi, Those townes, then to be mulcted, as enemies to the State. *a* 1619 Fotherby *Atheom.* I. x. § 4 (1622) 101 They mulcted him with exile. *a* 1626 Bacon *New Atl.* (1900) 31 Marriage without consent of Parents they doe not make void, but they mulct it in the Inheritours. 1667 *Causes Decay Chr. Piety* v. 96 He that mulcts the more Indeliberate Oaths, may yet enjoyn a solemn Perjury. 1747 *Gentl. Mag.* 45/1 The master was mulcted all his pay. 1792 Burke *Let to Sir H. Langrishe* Wks. VI. 355 Will you punish by deprivation of their privileges, or mulct in any other way, those who have tempted us? 1800 Colquhoun *Comm. Thames* 664 On pain of being mulked when such arms are found rusty or unserviceable. 1851 Dixon *W. Penn* xv. (1872) 131 The new sect were..mulcted in heavy fines. 1858 J. B. Norton *Topics* 81 Mulct the holders of India Stock, the fault is theirs.

2. To deprive or divest *of*.

1748 *Anson's Voy.* III. ix. 397 The Linguist was seized, and..mulcted of all he had gotten in the Commodore's service. 1833 I. Taylor *Fanat.* vi. 201 Let any one conceive himself..to be mulct at once of manhood and humanity. 1851 Mayhew *Lond. Labour* II. 233/1 When..the wages of which the men are mulct go to increase the profits of the capitalist, [etc.]. 1902 *Contemp. Rev.* Dec. 838 Every third year each tree is mulcted of her spreading boughs.

Mulctable (mʌ·lktăb'l), *a.* [f. Mulct *sb.* + -able.] That can be subjected to a mulct; †worthy of being punished.

1658 Osborn *Q. Eliz.* Wks. (1673) 465 A desire to free the Laity, in all things temporal and mulctable, out of the hands of the Church. 1678 T. Jones *Hrt. & Right Sov.* 436 Which was adjudg'd infamous and mulctable.

†**Mu·lctary,** *a. Obs.* [f. Mulct *sb.* + -ary. Cf. Mulctuary.] Of the nature of a fine.

1695 Temple *Hist. Eng.* (1699) 172 Fines, or some known mulctary Punishments upon other Crimes.

†**Mulcta·tion.** *Obs.* In 5 **multation**. [ad. L. *mul(c)tātiōn-em*, n. of action f. *mul(c)tāre* to Mulct.] An act of mulcting.

1413 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton 1483) IV. xxxiv. 83 Of suche multacions he muste yeue rekkenynge before the kynges offycers.

†**Mulctative,** *a. Obs.* [f. Mulct *v.* + -ative.] Of or pertaining to punishment by fines.

1610 Bp. Carleton *Jurisd.* 43 Externall Iurisdiction being vnderstood all that is practised in externall Courts or consistories, is either definitiue, or mulctatiue.

†**Mu·lctuary,** *a. Obs.* [f. Mulct *sb.*, after *tumultuary*.] **a.** That punishes by a fine. **b.** Punishable by a fine.

a 1613 Overbury *A Wife*, etc. (1638) N 4 b (*A Reverend Judge*), He wishes fewer Lawes, so they be better observ'd: and for those are mulctuary, he [etc.]. 1689 Palmes *Sp. in Ho. Com.* 16 May, Determine what crimes shall be capital and what mulctuary, before you begin.

Mulcture, variant of Multure.

†**Muld.** *Obs. rare*—1. Perh. due to some misreading in a MS. of the Latin original; the printed text has *Mercurio mella* (honey).

a 1400–50 *Alexander* 4535 Appollo with a quite swan is paid him to tende; A manere of corne to mercure þat we þi muld call.

Muld, Muldry: see Mulled, Mouldry.

Mule 1 (miūl). Also 1 **múl**, 4 **moul, muile**, 4–5 **muyle**, 5 **meule, mewle**, (*pl.* **moyllez**), 5–9 (9 *arch.*) **moyle**, 6 **moole, muill, mull**, 6–7 **moile**, 6–8 **moil, moyl**. [The OE. *múl* masc., ad. L. *mūlus*, was in early ME. superseded by the

adoption of the OF. *mul* masc., *mule* fem. (mod.F. *mule* fem.; for the masc. the dim. *mulet* is used) = Sp., Pg., It. *mulo* masc., *mula* fem. :—L. *mūlus* masc., *mūla* fem.

The L. *mūlus* was adopted at an early period into most of the Teut. langs.: MLG., OHG. (MHG.) *mûl*, MDu. *muul* (mod.Du. *muil*, early mod.G. *maul*), ON. *múli* (Sw. *mula*, Da. *mule*). In the later stages of continental Teut. the simple word largely gave place to combs. with explanatory second element: MHG. *nültier*, mod.G. *maulthier*, Da. *muldyr* (G. *thier*, Da. *dyr*, animal), G. *maulesel*, Du. *muilezel*, Da. *muldesel*, Sw. *mulåsna* (G. *esel*, Du. *ezel*, Da. *æsel*, Sw. *åsna* ass), G. *maulpferd* (*pferd*, horse).

A 14th c. survival of the OE. *mûl* may perh. be found in the isolated form *moul* in the Göttingen MS. of the *Cursor Mundi*. The obsolete forms *muil*, *moul*, represent an Eng. development of OF. *ü*, which is found also in other words, as *recoil*, *ois* (=USE).]

1. The offspring of a he-ass and a mare. Also popularly applied to the offspring of a she-ass and a stallion (technically called a HINNY).

The mule combines the strength of the horse with the endurance and surefootedness of the ass, and is extensively bred for certain employments for which it is more suited than either; it is ordinarily incapable of procreation. With no good grounds, the mule is a proverbial type of obstinacy.

c 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Th.) xxxi. 10 Ne beo ge na swylce hors and mulas. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 3913 Mid so gret charge þer to Of mules. 13.. *K. Alis.* 175 A muyle [*MS. Bodl.* mule], al so whit as mylk. 13.. *Cursor M.* 6001 Hors and ass, moul and camayle. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl. B.* XVII. 48 Þanne seye we a samaritan sittende on a mule. *?a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 2287 Moyllez mylke whitte, and meruayllous bestez. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* VIII. 189 A Knyghte mounted vpon a mewle all vnarmed. 1535 COVERDALE *Job* XXXIX. 4 Who letteth the wilde asse go fre, or who lowseth the bondes of the Moole? *c* 1560 A. SCOTT *Poems* (S.T.S.) XXXIV. 107 The mull frequentis þe anis, And hir awin kynd abusis. 1653 H. COGAN tr. *Pinto's Trav.* III. 5 We went by Land mounted upon good Mules. 1679 DRYDEN *Tr. & Cr.* II. ii, I have been labouring in your business like any moyle. 1749 SMOLLETT *Gil Bl.* V. i, A vast barn in which the moyls and the baggage were disposed. 1809–12 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Absentee* XIII, She was as obstinate as a mule on that point. 1822 SCOTT *Nigel* IV, Though he is not just so rich just now as some folks, yet I hope to see him ride upon his moyle. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 360 You might as well affirm the existence of mules, and deny that of horses and asses.

† **b.** Phrases. *One mule doth scrub another*: one fool flatters another. *To shoe one's mule*: to help oneself ont of funds trusted to one's management.

a 1635 RANDOLPH *Muses Looking-Gl.* III. iv, I need not flatter these, they'le doe't themselves, And crosse the Proverb that was wont to say One Mule doth scrub another. 1655 tr. *Com. Hist. Francion* III. 75 He had the keeping ..of the Moneyes, and yet shod not his Mule at all.

¶ **c.** Used (= Gr. ἡμίονος) for the Syrian wild ass.

1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 556 There is another kind of mules in Syria, diuers from those which are procreated by the copulation of a mare and an asse...These mules procreate in their owne kinde, and admit no mixture.

2. *transf.* **a.** A person having the characteristics of a mule; *chiefly*, a stupid or obstinate person.

c 1470 ASHBY *Active Pol. Prince* 564 Thaugh he were an asse hede or a dulle mule, He myght not lyve wildly at his pleasance. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* VI, 'Now don't be a young mule', said Good Mrs. Brown.

† **b.** ? A strumpet, concubine. *Obs.*

1494 FABYAN *Chron.* VII. CCXXIX. 259 Ve Cardynall made sharpe processe agayn prestys, y^t noresshed Cristen-moyles, & rebuked them by open publysshement and otherwyse. 1638 FORD *Fancies* I. ii, Trudging between an old moil, and a young calf, my nimble intelligencer? 1746 *Exmoor Courtship* (E. D. S.) 502 A zower-zop'd, yerring, chockling Trash, a buzzom-chuck'd haggaging Moyle, a gurt Fustilug.

c. One who is 'neither one thing nor the other'.

1625 B. JONSON *Staple of N.* II. iv, *Alm.* I wonder what religion hee's of! *Fit.* No certaine species sure, A kinde of mule! That's halfe an Ethnicke, halfe a Christian!

3. A hybrid. **a.** Of plants. (See also MOIL *sb.*[2])

1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.*, *Mules*, among gardeners, denote a sort of vegetable monsters produced by putting the *farina fœcundans* of one species of plant into the pistil, or utricle of another. 1731 MILLER *Gard. Dict.* s.v. *Caryophyllus* (*ad fin.*), The Double Rose-colour'd Sweet-John, or Fairchild's Mule. 1857 HENFREY *Elem. Bot.* § 948 Gærtner states that in hybrids of *Digitalis* the mules most resembled the female parent, while in *Nicotiana* the reverse appeared.

b. Of animals; also of birds, esp. a mule canary (see 5 c).

1771 FORSTER in *Phil. Trans.* LXI. 319 The mules between carp and tench, partake of the nature of both fish. 1818 *Sporting Mag.* II. 67 As to mules from the fox and dog, they are equally fruitful. 1868 F. SMITH *Canary* XIII. 92 The linnet and the goldfinch..from both of which [with the canary] mules are..obtained. 1884 A. H. BARTLETT in *Proc. Zool. Soc.* 401 The belief, so general, that all hybrids or mules are barren and useless for breeding-purposes is simply a stupid and ignorant prejudice.

c. (See quot.) *rare*—°. [So F. *mulet*.]

1856 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Mule*, applied to insects of which the organs are not properly developed and which are really of neither sex.

4. *techn.* in applications of sense 3.

a. A kind of spinning machine invented by S. Crompton (*died* 1827).

1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) V. 488/2 It is called a *mule*, being a kind of mixture of machinery between the warp-machine of Mr. Arkwright and the woof-machine or hand-jenny of Mr. Hargrave. 1812 *Hansard's Deb.* XXI. 1173 To remedy this defect, the Petitioner [S. Crompton] in the year 1779, completed the discovery of a Machine, now called a Mule, but which, for several years, bore the name of the Hall of the Wood Wheel. 1884 W. S. B. MCLAREN *Spinning* (ed. 2) 229 Tatham's woollen mules—which are very different from cotton mules.

b. A boat combining the characteristics of a 'coble' and a fishing boat.

1884 *Whitby Gaz.* 28 June 4/4 Several of the Whitby mules have landed good catches of herrings.

c. *Numism.* (See quot.)

1884 R. S. POOLE in *Encycl. Brit.* XVII. 630/2 A coin which presents two obverse types, or two reverse types, or of which the types of the obverse and reverse do not correspond, is called a mule; it is the result of a mistake or caprice.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.* **a.** Obvious comb., (sense 1) as *mule-back*, *-trot*; (sense 3 b) as *mule breeding*; (sense 4 a) as *mule-carriage*, *-spinner*, *-spinning*.

1725 DE FOE *Voy. round World* (1840) 256 His majordomo on horseback, that is to say on *muleback. 1885 R. L. WALLACE *Canary Bk.* 56 Canaries for *Mule Breeding. 1835 URE *Philos. Manuf.* 301 The *mule-carriage began to recede from the fixed roller beam. *Ibid.* 423 The *mule-spinners ..always prefer children who have been educated at an infant school. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 379 *Mule-spinning, which is by far the most perfect process, and by which the finest yarn is produced, shall first have our attention. 1871 KINGSLEY *At Last* x, A truck, with chairs on it, as usual here, carried us off at a good *mule-trot.

b. *attrib.* passing into *adj.* in sense 'hybrid'.

1755 *Gentl. Mag.* XXV. 408/1 Other bastard or mule plants. 1800 E. DARWIN *Phytol.* 115 A mule cabbage is described.. which is said to fatten a beast six weeks sooner than turneps. *a* 1833 J. T. SMITH *Bk. for Rainy Day* (1861) 163 *note*, Which, by reason of Mr. Bentley's fancy mouldings, interfering so often with parts which are really chaste, must be considered a mule building. 1892 *Berwick Advertiser* 16 Sept. 2/1 Cheviot and mule lambs.

c. Special combinations: **mule armadillo**, *Dasypus septemcinctus* or *hybridus*; **mule-bird**, **mule canary**, a cross between a canary and another finch, esp. the goldfinch; **mule coble** = sense 4 b; **mule deer**, a name given to *Cariacus macrotis*, on account of its mule-like ears; † **mule-doctor** [= late L. *mūlomedicus*], a veterinary surgeon; **mule doubler** *Cotton manuf.*, a doubling machine resembling the 'mule' (sense 4 a); **mule('s) fern**, a name for *Asplenium hemionitis*; † **mule herd**, a keeper or driver of mules; **mule jenny** = sense 4 a; † **mule-medicine** [= late L. *mulomedicīna*], farriery; hence **mule-medicinal** *a.*; **mule rabbit** *U. S.* (see quot.); **mule-skinner** *U. S.*, a prairie mule-driver; **mule-stair** (*? nonce-wd.*), a mountain ascent practicable for mules; **mule twist, yarn**, yarn spun on a mule.

1840 *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 124 The *Mule Armadillo.. *Dasypus septemcinctus*. 1768 PENNANT *Zool.* II. 317 These birds will produce with the goldfinch and linnet, and the offspring is called a *mule-bird, because, like that animal, it proves barren. 1885 *Cassell's Encycl. Dict.*, **Mule canary*. 1883 *Fisheries Exhib. Catal.* 16 Model of Improved *Mule Coble for Herring Fishery. 1806 LEWIS & CLARK *Trav. Missouri*, etc. (1893) III. 844 The *mule-deer inhabit both the sea-coast and the plains of the Missouri. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Mulo-medicina*, Medicine for Cattel, the Art and Mystery of a *Mule-Doctor, or Farrier. 1877 I. WATTS in *Encycl. Brit.* VI. 491/1 (*Cotton*), Machines used in cotton-spinning..*mule doublers or twiners. 1668 WILKINS *Real Char.* II. iv. § 3. 71 *Mule Fearn, *Hemionitis*. 1792 in *Patents Abridgm. Specif. Spinning* (1866) 53 Those machines commonly known by the names of roving billies, and slobbing, and common, and *mule jennies. 1716 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* III. *Diss. Physick* 46 The old Writers of the Rustick or Country-Physicks are generally the same that writ of *Mule-Medicines. *Ibid.* 44 Those *Mulemedicinal Authors, therein contain'd are Absyrtus, Prusuensis, Æmilius Hispanus [etc.]. 1859 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer.*, Jackass Rabbit (*Lepus callotis*)...It is known also by the names of *Mule Rabbit, Texan Hare, and Black-tailed Hare. 1888 T. ROOSEVELT in *Century Mag.* Feb. 499 The brawny teamsters, known either as 'bull-whackers' or as '*mule-skinners', stalking beside their slow-moving teams. 1864 M. J. HIGGINS *Ess.* (1875) 179 The steep and stony *mule-stair between Monaco and Turbia. 1864 TREVELYAN *Compet. Wallah* (1866) 92 *Mule-twist. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 380 The whole of which are essential in the manufacture of *mule yarn.

Mule[2] (miūl). Forms: 5 moule, mowlle, 5–6 mowle, 6–7 moyle, mull(e, 6–8 moile, 7 mool(e, muille, 9 *Sc.* muil, 4– mule. [a. F. *mule* fem., slipper, *mules* pl., chilblains; corresp. to It. *mula*, Sp. (dim.) *mulilla* slipper; cf. MDu. *mûle* (Du. *muil*) slipper, chilblain (from Fr.).]

† **1.** A chilblain on the heel; also, in later use, a sore on a horse's heel. *Obs.*

a 1400 *Brev. Barth.* in *Sinon. Barthol.* (Anecd. Oxon.) 3 De apostemate et-cissuris in calcaneo quæ vulgaliter dicuntur mule. 14.. *Nom.* in Wr.-Wülcker 707/32 *Hec podegra*, *Hic pernio*, a mowlle. *c* 1500 Mowlis [see MARE[2] 1]. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 318 Of Mules or Kibed heels. *c* 1720 W. GIBSON *Farrier's Guide* II. LXXXIII. (1738) 244 Mules or Kib'd Heels..are chinks and sores on the inside of the hind Pasterns, and in the Heels.

2. A kind of slipper or shoe. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.*

Sometimes used to render the like-sounding L. *mulleus*, a coloured shoe worn by Roman magistrates.

1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 214 Thou wearst ..Moyles of veluet to saue thy shooes of lether. 1585 HIGINS *Junius' Nomenclator*, *Mulleus*, a shooe with a high sole,.. a moyle. *a* 1586 in *Maitland Poems* (1786) 184 Thair mullis glitteran on thair feit. 1603 *Philotus* XIX, Lo Maistres heir 3our Muillis [*v.r.* mooles]. *a* 1670 SPALDING *Troub. Chas. I* (Bannatyne Cl.) II. 249 He had..ane pair of mules on his feit. 1824 SCOTT *Redgauntlet* Let. XI, He seldom wore shoon, unless it were muils when he had the gout. 1894 SIR E. SULLIVAN *Woman* 52 She [Mlle. de Caynon] threw them her velvet mules that the executioner had left her.

† **Mule**[3]. *Obs.*

c 1410 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) XXIV, Whann he hath gret beemes alle aboute, as if it were sette lyke as it were with smale stones, and þe mules nere þe heede. *Ibid.*, þe aunteleres, þe whiche beth þe first tyndes, beth gret and longe and nere þe mules and wele apperynge.

Mule, variant of MEWL *v.* and MOOL *dial.*

† **Muled**, *a. Obs.* In 6 moulled. [f. MULE[2] + -ED[2].] Having chilblains on the heels.

1551 TURNER *Herbal* I. F iij b, It swageth the paines of the moulled or kibed heles.

Muleish, Muler: see MULISH, MULLER.

Mulere(r, Mulerie: see MULIER, MULIERY.

† **Mu·let.** *Obs.* Forms: 5–6 mulette, 6 moulet, moylet, mwlat, 7 mulett, mullet, 4– mulet. [a. F. *mulet*, dim. of OF. *mul*: see MULE[1] and -ET. Cf. *Sp. muleto*, It. *muletto*.]

1. A mule, esp. a young or small mule.

13.. *Guy Warw.* (A.) 1330 Now comeþ Gij soft rideing Opon a mulet ambling. 1481 CAXTON *Godeffroy* LXXVI. 122 Horses and mulettis. 1526 *Househ. Ord.* (1790) 200 Moyles 2. Moyletts 23. *Ibid.* 204 Keepers of carriage Moulets. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII* 64 One of the Mulettes brake from her keper, and ouerthrewe the chestes. 1563 in *Rental Bk. Cupar Angus* (1879) II. 278 For furnesing of the quenis grace mwlatis. 1686 BURNET *Trav.* iii. (1750) 158 A Mullet's Load of Trunks and Portmanteaus.

2. A muleteer. *rare*—[1]. (? erron.)

c 1575 J. HOOKER *Life Sir P. Carew* (1857) 7 There as a mulett to attend his master's mule.

3. 'A Portuguese craft, with three lateen sails.'

1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*

Mulet, obs. form of MULLET.

Muleteer (miūlĭtī·ĕɹ). Forms: 6 mulitar, mewlyter, moyleteer, muletour, muletteer, -oure, 6–7 muletor, mulet t)er, muletto(u)r, 7 mulateer, -ier, mulet t)ier, muliter, 7–8 mulliteer, -ier, 8– muleteer. [a. F. *muletier* (= Sp. *muletero*, *mulatero*, Pg. *mulateiro*, It. *mulattiere*), f. *mulet*: see MULET and -EER.] A mule-driver.

1538 *Arc. Ld. Treas. Scotl.* (1905) VI. 404 Mulitaris. 1540–1 ELYOT *Image Gov.* (1556) 51 b, A horse keper and a mulettour. 1549 CHALONER *Erasm. on Folly* P j b, Do you judge they coulde easily fynde in theyr hertes that..so many moyleteers..shoulde have cause to crie on theim? 1591 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. VI*, III. ii. 68 Base Muleters of France. 1645 EVELYN *Diary* 11 Apr., On May-day the greate procession of the Universitie and the Mulatiers at St. Antonie's. 1692 R. L'ESTRANGE *Fables* CCCCXVII. (1694) 451 It far'd worse here with the State-Ass than with the Muleteirs. 1780 COWPER *Progr. Err.* 541 The creature is so sure to kick and bite A muleteer's the man to set him right. 1845 FORD *Handbk. Spain* I. 16 The muleteers, the 'arrieros' of Spain form a class of themselves.

Hence (irreg.) **Mu·letress**, a female muleteer.

1867 HOWELLS *Ital. Journ.* 120 The muletresses chosen were a matron of mature years [etc.].

† **Mule·tto.** *Obs.* Also muleto. [a. It. *muletto*, Sp. *muleto*: see MULET.] (See quots.)

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Muleto*, a Moil or great Mule, a beast much used in France for carrying Sumpters, &c. It may also be taken for a diminutive of (*Mule* and so signifies a little *Mule*. 1751 R. PALTOCK *P. Wilkins* (1884) I. 59 A muletto very gently put his head into the doorway.

Muletto, obs. form of MULATTO.

Mulettour(e, obs. forms of MULETEER.

Mu·ley (miū·li), *sb.* and *a.*[1] Also 6, 9 mulley, 9 mooley. [variant of MOILEY.] **A.** *sb.*

1. A name for a hornless cow. (Now common in the U. S.) Also used for any cow.

1573 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 135 Leaue milking and drie vp old mulley thy cow. 1838 HALIBURTON *Clockm.* Ser. II. iv, Gives his Old Mooley a chance o' sneakin' into his neighbour's fields o' nights. 1903 A. ADAMS *Log Cowboy* ii. 25 There were a number of muleys among the cattle.

2. *U. S.* A 'muley saw' (see B 2). Also *attrib.*, as *muley head* (sec quot. 1875 in B 2).

1864 in WEBSTER. 1883 E. INGERSOLL in *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 208/2 The log..is sent at once against a 'muley', or straight rip-saw.

B. *adj.*

1. Of cattle: Hornless.

1885 HORNADAY 2 *Yrs. in Jungle* XV. 169 A stag without its horns..always reminded me of a mulley cow. 1903 A. ADAMS *Log Cowboy* VI. 83 That muley steer, the white four year old, didn't like to bed down amongst the others.

2. *U. S.* (*Mech.*) In **muley axle**, 'a car axle having no collars at the ends' (*Cent. Dict.* 1890); **muley saw** (see quot. 1875).

[The conjecture that *muley saw* is a perversion of G. *mühlsäge* mill-saw seems to be unfounded: see *Encycl. Brit.* (1886) XXI. 343/2 *note*.]

1872 SCHELE DE VERE *Americanisms* 146 The muley-saw, a saw which is not hung in the gate. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, *Muley saw*, a mill-saw..which is not strained in a *gate* or *sash*, but has a more rapid reciprocating motion, and has guide-carriages above and below, called *muley-heads*.

† **Mu·ley,** *a.*[2] *Obs.* In 7 moully, 9 mooly. [f. MULE[2] + -Y.] Having chilblains on the heels.

1610 MARKHAM *Masterp.* II. LXXVIII. 351 Scratches, Moully heeles, or any other scirruy scalls whatsoeuer. 1819 W. TENNANT *Papistry Storm'd* (1827) 207 Kickin' the neist to garr him gae On's mooly-heel rapt thorny tae.

Mulga (mv·lgă). *Austral.* Also malga, mulgah, mulgam. [Native Australian.]

1. An Australian tree, *Acacia aneura*. Also *collect.* and *attrib.*

1862 KENDALL *Poems* 79 Look for the malga, and saltbitten shrubs. 1854 J. M. STUART *Explor. Australia* 190 Our course was through a very thick mulga scrub. *Ibid.* 345, I..entered a dense forest of tall mulga. 1889 J. H. MAIDEN *Usef. Native Plants Australia* 3 These latter galls are called 'Mulga-apples', and are said to be very welcome to the thirsty traveller. *Ibid.* 82 *Danthonia racemosa*..'Mulga Grass'...It derives its vernacular name from being only found where the Mulga-tree (*Acacia aneura* and other species) grows. *Ibid.* 94 *Neurachne Mitchelliana* ..'Mulga Grass'. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* (1891) 400 The boundless ocean-plains..where the saltbush grows, and the myall and the mulgah. 1893 MRS. C. PRAED *Outlaw & Lawmaker* II. 36 She wanted to see if there were any late mulgams..and..did find some untimely berries.

2. Something made of the wood of a mulga tree: a. a club; b. a shield.

1839 T. L. MITCHELL *Three Exped.* II. 269 The malga is a weapon usually made in the form of fig. 2, but that with which these natives were provided somewhat resembled a pick-axe with one half broken off. 1889 J. H. MAIDEN *Usef. Native Plants Australia* 349 'Mulga' is the name of a long narrow shield of wood, made by the aboriginals out of Acacia wood.

Muliebral (miuli,ē·brăl), *a. rare.* [f. L. *muliebr-is* (f. *mulier* woman) + -AL.] Of or pertaining to women.

1657 TOMLINSON *Renou's Disp.* 726 The Matrix..is the very Spring and Continent of most Muliebral Affections.

† **Mulie·brious,** *a. Obs. rare.* [f. L. *muliebri-s* (see prec.) + -OUS.] Effeminate. Hence **Mulie·briousness,** effeminacy.

1652 GAULE *Magastrom.* 185 A little chin signes one envious;..and a round and smooth chin, muliebrious. *Ibid.* 266 Nor are the French [debarred by nativity] from their muliebriousnesse.

Muliebrity (miuli,ē·brĭti). *rare.* [ad. L. *muliebrit-ās*, f. *muliebris*: see MULIEBRAL.] Womanhood; the characteristics or qualities of a woman.

1592 [? KYD] *Soliman & Pers.* IV. ii, The Ladies of Rhodes haue made their petition to Cupid to plague you aboue all.. other, as one preiuditiall to their muliebritie. *a* 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. xxxii. 270 Individual Womanishness or Muliebrity. 1858 O. W. HOLMES *Aut. Breakf.-t.* ix, The second of the ravishing voices..had so much woman in it,—muliebrity, as well as femineity.

† **Mu·lier,** *sb.*[1] *Obs.*—[1] [AF.: see next.] Wife.

a 1375 *Cursor M.* 7849 (Fairf.) Isaac his sone of mulier [*Cotton* o spus] was.

Mulier (miū·liəɹ), *a.* and *sb.*[2] *Law.* Forms: 4 moillere, moylere, 5 mulire, mulyer, 6 melior, 4– mulier; also as variant readings in *Piers Pl.* moilere, moilre, moilliere, -ller, mu-l(l)iere, mulere(r. [repr. AF. *muliere* (Britton), Law Lat. *mulierātus*, a derivative of AF. *mulier*, OF. *moiller* wife, ad. L. *mulier* woman.

With regard to the dropping of final *e* in Law terms of AF. origin, cf. ASSIGN *sb.*[2] In the variant MULIERY the *é* is rendered by *y*.]

A. *adj.* Of a child: Born in wedlock, legitimate, as opposed to 'bastard'; also in *Eccl. Law*, legitimatized by marriage.

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. II. 131 Wel 3e witen..That fals is faitilees..And was a bastarde y-bore..And Mede is moylere a mayden of gode. 1430–1 *Rolls Parlt.* IV. 375/2 To yentent yat she shuld be certified mulire be sum ordinarie. 1527 *Lanc. Wills* (Chetham Soc.) I. 26 Isabelle and Dowce my mulier doughtours .. Kateryn and Anne my bastard doughtours. 1642 tr. *Perkins' Prof. Bk.* i. § 49. 22 A bastard eigne who is mulier in the spirituall law.

quasi-*adv.* *c* 1450 LOVELICH *Grail* xxxix. 543 For..that Mulyer not born he was [*pour chou k'il ne sera pas engeures de mere moillier*]. 1549 *Will of Awbrey* (Somerset Ho.), My base sonne & not melior begotten.

B. *sb.* A legitimate child; a child born in wedlock. *Mulier puisne* (also anglicized *mulier youngest*): see BASTARD *sb.* 1.

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XVI. 221 Man & his make & moillere her children. 1579 *Expos. Terms Law* 148 And alwayes you shall finde this addicion to them (Basterd eldest, & mulier yongest) when they bee compared together. 1628 COKE *On Litt.* 244 b, If a man hath Issue Bastard eigne and Mulier puisne. *Ibid.* 245 Where the Bastard enter after the death of the father, and the mulier oust him. 1766 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* II. 248.

† **Mu·lierly,** *adv. Obs.* [f. MULIER *a.* + -LY[2]; perh. orig. an error for MULIERY.] (Begotten or born) in wedlock; legitimately.

1506 *Pleadings Duchy Lancaster* XXXII. 29 The said Ranlyn had..iiij Bastardes and never issue mulierly begoten. 1586 J. HOOKER *Hist. Irel.* 113/1 in *Holinshed*, It ought to descend to him, as next heire being mulierlie borne.

Mulierose (miū·liĕrōus), *a. rare*—[1]. [ad. L. *mulierōs-us*: see MULIEROUS.] Fond of women.

1721 in BAILEY. 1860 [see MULIEROSITY].

Mulierosity (miu·liĕrɒ·sĭti). *rare.* [ad. L. *mulierōsitāt-em*, f. *mulierōs-us* MULIEROUS.] Excessive fondness for women.

1656 in BLOUNT *Glossogr.* 1664 H. MORE *Myst. Iniq.* 393 Both Gaspar Sanctius and he tax Antiochus for his Mulierosity and excess in Luxury. 1860 READE *Cloister & H.* (1861) II. xxxiii. 54 Well then, dame, mulierose—that means wrapped up, body and soul, in women. So prithee tell me; how did you ever detect the noodle's mulierosity?

† **Mulierous,** *a. Obs.* [ad. L. *mulierōs-us*, f. *mulier* woman: see -OUS.] Fond of women.

1652 GAULE *Magastrom.* 186 Fat and fleshy hips [of a man] signe mulierous.

† **Mu·lierty.** *Obs.* [a. AF. *muliertie*: see MULIER *a.* and -TY.] The condition of being a legitimate issue.

1628 COKE *On Litt.* 352 b, Where the Record of the Estoppel doth run to the disabilitie or legitimation of the person, there all strangers shall take benefit of that Record, as Outlawrie..Bastardie, Muliertie [etc.].

† **Muliery,** *a.* and *sb. Obs.* Forms: 4 moillerie, -ye, mulerie, 6 mulyery, malary. [ad. AF. *mulieré, moilleré*: see MULIER *a.*] **a.** *adj.* = MULIER *a.* (also quasi-*adv.*). **b.** *sb.* Legitimate offspring collectively.

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XVI. 219 Ne matrimoigne with-oute moillerye is nouȝt moche to preyse. *c* 1472–3 FORTESCUE *Wks.* (1869) 528 Buth not all the heires of Edmonde..though he hadd be muliery,..barred for evermore..? 1529 RASTELL *Pastyme Hist. Norm.* (1811) 85 The child that was son to Robert and mulyery gotten. 1572 *Schoole Ho. Women* A iij b, Be it malary borne or base.

Muling (miū·liŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. **mule* vb. (f. MULE[1]) + -ING[1].] The breeding of mule canaries (see MULE[1] 5 c). In quots. *attrib.*

1891 *Bazaar* 20 Feb., Sib bred muling hens [canaries]. 1893 R. L. WALLACE *Canary Bk.* (ed. 3) 105 Birds..to pair with what I may term the regular muling strain. *Ibid.*, When birds are sufficiently 'sib-bred' for muling purposes.

† **Mu·lion.** *Obs. rare*—[1]. [ad. L. *mūliōn-em*, f. *mūlus* MULE.] A keeper of mules.

1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 178 In a Pasture wythout the Cite was a kepere of Mulis, that Romanes callid a mulion. This Mulion euery day be-helde the hostis [etc.].

Mulire, obs. form of MULIER.

Mulish (miū·liʃ), *a.* [f. MULE *sb.*[1] + -ISH.] Characteristic of a mule; resembling a mule; intractable, stubborn. † Also, hybrid (*obs.*).

1751 SMOLLETT *Per. Pic.* x, He was as inflexible and mulish as ever. 1765 GOLDSM. *Ess.* xxxiv. Misc. Wks. 1837 I. 372 It will continue a kind of mulish production, with all the defects of its opposite parents. 1880 'OUIDA' *Moths* III. 15 Obstinate is no word for it, for she is mulish.

¶ *nonce-use.* Pertaining to mulcs.

a 1763 BYROM *Ep. G. Lloyd* III. x, For Idæus directed the Mulish Machine While Horses drew that in which Priam was seen.

Hence **Mu·lishly** *adv.*, **Mu·lishness.**

1763 J. WILKES *N. Briton* No. 46 A mulishness, which could never be conquered, rendered him the contempt of all. 1835 BOOTH *Analyt. Dict.* 323 A man of a sullen, obstinate temper is said..to act Mulishly. 1889 R. S. S. BADEN-POWELL *Pigsticking* 82 A mulishly obstinate horse.

† **Mu·lism.** *nonce-wd.* Also muleism. [f. MULE *sb.*[1] + -ISM.] **a.** A mulish characteristic; a piece of obstinacy. **b.** Production of mules, hybridism.

1798 ANNA SEWARD *Lett.* (1811) V. 167 It was one of her little mulisms to fancy and assert that she could not understand verse. 1861 [see MULATTOISM].

Mulite(e)r, -ier, obs. forms of MULETEER.

Mulked, obs. pa. pple. of MULCT *v.*

Mull (mʌl), *sb.*[1] Forms: α. 4 mol, 5–6 molle, 7 moll; β. 4–6 mul, 4–5 mull(e, 9 *dial.* mull. [ME. *mol, mul*, cogn. w. OE. *myl*, MDu. *mul, mol, mil, mulle* neut. (Du. *mol* neut., *mul* fem.) dust, ON. *mole* crumb, *molna* (intr.) to crumble, *mylja* (pa. t. *mulde*) to shiver, crush; f. Teut. root **mul-* (: *mal-, mel-*): see MEAL *sb.*[1]] Something reduced to small particles; dust, ashes, mould, rubbish. *Obs.* exc. *dial.*

α. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 382, I am bot mol and maneres [*MS.* mareres] misse. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxiv. (*Alexis*) 213 In care bed scho lay done, In mol & hayre & woful fude. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 4682 Molle on þair heueds þai scaterd. 1683 PETTUS *Fleta Min.* I. (1686) 304, I conclude it better to melt with Coals, than with Moll, Sod or turf.

β. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 6198 And þere þey fonde þe cofre ful Sperd wyþ þe deuylys mul Of florens [etc.]. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 905, I am hot mokke & mul among. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 204 That other cofre of straw and mull..he felde also. 1481 CAXTON *Myrr.* I. v. 25 The Cock ..shrapeth so longe in the duste and mulle til he fynde a gemme. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 185/20 Mul, *rudus.* 1729 P. WALKDEN *Diary* 9 July (1866) 30, I sodded the turf stack top, and dressed the mull from beside it. 1876 *Whitby Gloss.*, *Mull*, dust.

† b. *Comb.*: mull-rain, fine rain.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 348/1 Mulreyne, *plutina.*

Mull (mʌl), *sb.*[2] *Sc.* Forms: 4 mole, 6–8 mule, 7 mould, 9– mull. [In Gael. *maol*; in Icelandic *múli* (common in place-names; perh. identical with *múli* snout, cogn. w. OHG. *mūl* (G. *maul*).] In Scotland, a promontory or headland.

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* III. 696 Thai raysyt saile, and furth thai far; And by the mole thai passyt 3ar. 1564 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 306 The boit liand at Garvellane, in the Mule of Galloway. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* X. 495 Betweene Dungsby head..and the..Mould of Galloway. 1795 J. SINCLAIR *Statist. Acc. Scott.* XIV. 324 *note*, Such places are quite frequent, both in Shetland, such as the Mule of Unst, and in..Orkney, called the Mule-head of Deerness. 1846 MCCULLOCH *Acc. Brit. Empire* (1854) I. 242 The coasts of Scotland..are very much indented, the shores extend into lengthened headlands or mulls.

† **Mull,** *sb.*[3] *Sc. Obs.* [Origin and sense uncertain.] ? A lip. Cf. 'Mulls, the lips of a sheep, or, in contempt of a man' (Brockett *N. C. Words*, ed. 3, 1846).

c 1500 KENNEDY *Poems* (Schipper) ii. 20 Frely to gife I wald nocht lett, To pleiss þa mullis attour all þingis. *a* 1550 *Freiris Berwik* 142 in *Dunbar's Poems* (S.T.S.) 290 Thir mvllis of 3ouris ar callit to ane feist.

Mull (mʌl), *sb.*[4] [a. Du. *mul*, etymologically = MULL *sb.*[1]] The lowest of the four qualities of Dutch madder. Also *mull-madder.*

1640 in Entick *London* (1766) II. 168 Crop madder, and all other bale madder..Fat madder..Mull madder. 1834 MCCULLOCH *Dict. Comm.* (ed. 2) 771 Dutch or Zealand madder..is divided..into four qualities,..mull, gamene, ombro, and crops...The first species, or mull, consists of a powder formed by pounding the very small roots.

Mull, *sb.*[5] *Obs.* exc. *dial.* [? var. of MOIL *sb.* Cf. MOILEY, MULLY.] A heifer, a cow.

1655 J. PHILLIPS *Sat. agst. Hipocrites* 3 To keep the Sabbath such have been our cares, That Cisly durst not milk the gentle Mulls. *a* 1658 CLEVELAND *Upon a Miser* Poems (1677) 77 Thou that didst once put on the form of Bull, And turn'd thine Io to a lovely Mull. 1881 *Leicestersh. Gloss., Mull, Mull-cow*, or *Mully-cow*, a child's name for a cow.

Mull (mʌl), *sb.*[6] *Sc.* [Sc. form of MILL *sb.*[1]] A snuff-box = MILL *sb.*[1] 2 c.

1771 SMOLLETT *Humph. Cl.* III. 3 Oct., The lieutenant..pulled out, instead of his own Scotch mull, a very fine gold snuff-box. 1885 ROSS & STONEHEWER-COOPER *Highl. Cantabria* 347 A veritable mull of the most approved proportions.

Mull (mʌl), *sb.*[7] [Shortened form of MULMULL.] A thin variety of plain muslin.

1798 JANE AUSTEN *Northang. Abb.* x, The texture of their muslin..the spotted, the sprigged, the mull or the jackonet. 1880 *Specif. Patent* No. 4765 in *Engineer* L. 76/1 The mulls or butter-cloths in which butter is kept or packed for transmission. 1880 *Boston Sunday Herald* 3 Oct. 10/7 A new fichu comes from Paris. It is made of silk mull. 1882 CAULFEILD & SAWARD *Dict. Needlework, Mull Muslin*, a very thin and soft variety of Muslin employed for morning dresses, and for trimmings. It is undressed, whereas the Swiss Mull is dressed. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 520 The plaister muslins (mulls) introduced by Unna.

Mull (mʌl), *sb.*[8] *Anglo-Ind. slang.* [Shortened f. MULLIGATAWNY.] Applied as a distinctive sobriquet to members of the service belonging to the Madras Presidency (Yule *Hobson-Jobson*).

1816 'QUIZ' *Grand Master* VI. 145 A well-known Mul. popp'd out his head. *Note*, An abbreviation for Mulkatany, a common appellation for Madras officers.

Mull (mʌl), *sb.*[9] *colloq.* or *slang.* [Of obscure origin: possibly f. MULL *v.*[1]] A muddle, 'mess'. Chiefly in phr. *to make a mull of.*

1821 EGAN *Life in Lond.* I. 606 Somebody must make a mull—but Randall's the man. 1840 E. E. NAPIER *Scenes & Sports For. Lands* II. App. 260 On a subsequent attempt to navigate..I nearly made a mull of the business. 1870 *Lond. Soc.* Sept. 268 The French are for ever making a mull of our names. 1894 *Rugby U. Football Handbk.* 16 Hanging about off-side on the look-out for a 'mull'.

Mull (mʌl), *v.*[1] [f. MULL *sb.*[1] Cf. Du. dial. *mullen.*]

1. *trans.* To grind to powder, pulverize; to crumble (cf. Sc. MOOL *v.* 1). *Obs.* exc. *dial.*

c 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* IV. xxxiii. (1869) 194 An oother j sigh that wente bi tbe cloistre and as me thouhte she bar mete croumed [*MS. St. John's Coll., Camb. fol.* 127 *b*, muled, Fr. orig. *enmiellee* (? misread *emiettee*)] up on parchemyn. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 348/1 Mullyn, or breke to powder, or mulle.., *pulveriso.* 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 246/1 To Mulbrede, *jnterere, micare.* 1620 MIDDLETON & ROWLEY *World Tost at Tennis* E 2, Herre's one spits fire as he comes, hee will goe nye to mull the world with looking on it, how his eyes sparckle? 1829 BROCKETT *N. C. Words* (ed. 2) s.v. *Mull*, Oaten bread broken into crumbs, is called mulled bread. 1877 *Holderness Gloss., Moll*, to crumple; to crush..'Ah can moll it all ti pieces wi mi finger an thumb'.

† 2. *intr.* To rain fine rain; to mizzle. *Obs.*—[0]

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 348/1 Mullyn, or reynyn a mulreyne, *plutinat.*

† **Mull,** *v.*[2] *Obs. rare.* [Of obscure origin: perh. a use of MULL *v.*[1]] *trans.* To dull, stupefy.

1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* IV. v. 239 Let me haue Warre say I... Peace, is a very Apoplexy, Lethargie, mull'd, deafe, sleepe, insensible. *a* 1687 COTTON *Poems* (1689) 96 Till Ale, which crowns all such pretences, Mull'd them again into their senses.

Mull (mʌl), *v.*[3] [Of obscure origin.

It is not easy to connect the sense satisfactorily with that of MULL *v.*[1] It has been suggested that the vb. is f. MULL *sb.*[1] applied to the powdered spices used in mulling; but there is no evidence of such a specific use of the sb. Another unsupported conjecture is that the original sense may have been 'to soften', 'render mild' (cf. Du. *mul* soft) of which MULL *v.*[2] might be another application. Quite inadmissible is the notion, which appears in all recent Dicts., that *mulled ale* is a corruption of *moldale* (MOULD *sb.*[1]) funeral banquet.]

trans. To make (wine, beer, etc.) into a hot drink with the addition of sugar, spices, beaten yolk of egg, etc.

1618 FLETCHER *Loyal Subj.* IV. vi, Do not fire the Cellar, There's excellent Wine in't, Captain, and though it be cold weather, I do not love it mull'd. 1636 DAVENANT *Witts* IV. i. Wks. (1673) 207 The Town affords not Sack enough To mull for a Parsons cold. 1769 MRS. RAFFALD *Eng. Housekpr.* (1778) 311 To mull Wine. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* I. vi, When they mulled your ale.

fig. *c* 1640 *Capt. Underwit* IV. ii. in Bullen *O. Pl.* II. 376 What shalls doe with him; this Engine burnes like Etna. Throw him into the River. Hee'sable to mull the Thames well.

Mull (mʌl), *v.*[4] *rare*—[1]. [App. ad. Hindī *malnā* to rub, anoint.

But possibly associated with an Eng. dialect word (? a developed sense of MULL *v.*[1]). Cf. the following:

1881 *Leicestersh. Gloss., Mull*, to..rub round and round. 'Mulling his knee.' 'That child mulls his tongue.']

trans. To massage.

1825–9 MRS. SHERWOOD *Lady of Manor* V. xxix. 74 She

..was rubbed every day with oil, and mulled and kneaded according to the fashion of the country.

Mull (mʌl), *v.*[5] [f. MULL *sb.*[3]; sense 2 may be a distinct word.]

1. *trans.* (*Athletics.*) To make a failure of.

1862 *Sporting Life* 14 June, Pooley here 'mulled' a catch. 1894–5 *Rugby U. Football Handbk.* 15 Opportunities of scoring are lost in every match by a forward mulling a pass.

2. *intr.* (See quots. 1879, 1890.) *colloq. U. S.*

1879 WEBSTER Suppl., *Mull*, to work steadily without accomplishing much. (*Colloq. Amer.*) 1880 R. GRANT *Confess. Friv. Girl* (1881) 155 Not exactly wondering what he was doing, but mulling over the various incidents of our acquaintance. 1889 *Atlantic Monthly* Aug. 188/1 Milborne was not likely to act upon impulse, and there is even reason to believe he took much time mulling over the matter after it developed in his mind. 1890 WEBSTER, *Mull*, v.i. To work (over) mentally; to cogitate; to ruminate; usually with *over*; as, to mull over a thought or a problem. *Colloq. U. S.*

Mull (mʌl), *v.*[6] *Lithography.* [Back-formation from MULLER *sb.*[1]] *trans.* To give a granular surface to (the plate) by means of a muller and sand.

1876 ABNEY *Instr. Photogr.* (ed. 3) 134 The zinc plates.. are mulled in the ordinary manner with a muller and fine sand. *Ibid.* 156 The property that a calcareous stone or mulled zinc plate possesses for absorbing..water.

Mull, *v.*[7] Used (? by mistake) for MILL *v.* 5.

1840 THACKERAY *Paris Sk.-bk.* II. 288 His simple taste found little..to enjoy beyond the mulling of chocolate.

Mull, obs. form of MULE.

Mullah (mʌ·lă). Forms: 7 mula, mul(l)ay, mulha, mowla, moolae, moulla, 7–8 molla, 7, 9 mollah, 8 moula, 8–9 moul(l)ah, 7–9 mulla(h, 9 moola(h, moollah. [a. Pers., Turk., and Urdū *mullā*, corrupt pronunciation of Arab. *maulā* (which some of the earlier forms directly represent).] A title given among Mohammedans to one learned in theology and sacred law.

1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 477 The Mulla's, or Priests of the Mogores. 1662 J. DAVIES tr. *Olearius' Voy. Ambass.* 215 They were all sate against the Wall, excepting only the Molla, or Master of the School. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* II. 102 There are Mulas who have great Salaries ..for teaching all comers, Sciences and the Law, and they are properly the Doctors... These Mulas are also in Persia like Clerks or Notaries; they make the deeds of conveyances ..and other deeds. 1715 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5306/2 The Ambassador's Moula, or Doctor of the Mahometan Law. 1849 M. ARNOLD *Sick King in Bokhara*, A certain Moollah, with his robe All rent. 1865 *Q. Jrnl. Sci.* II. 97 He settled..at Constantinople, studying as a Mollah or Divinity Student in the colleges there. 1895 MRS. B. M. CROKER *Village Tales* (1896) 219 This must be the place the preaching moola meant when he spoke of the garden of Paradise.

Mullane, Mullat(t)o: see MILAN[1], MULATTO.

Mulle, obs. form of MOLE *sb.*[2], MULE [2].

Mulled (mʌld), *a. Sc.* [f. MULL *sb.*[4] + -ED [2].] Hornless, pollard.

1835 *Blackw. Mag.* XXXVII. 434*/2 The worst want of this dilemma is the want of horns. It is like the front of a Galloway stot—mulled.

Mulled (mʌld), *ppl. a.* [f. MULL *v.*[3] + -ED [1].] Of ale, wine, cider, etc.: Made into a sweetened and spiced hot drink and sometimes thickened with beaten yolk of egg. † Of water, vinegar: ? Sweetened and made hot (= MULSED).

1607 G. WILKINS *Mis. Enforced Marr.* F j b, I can drinke Muscadine and Egges, and Muld-sack. 1661 LOVELL *Hist. Anim. & Min.* 13 *Castorium* drunk in mulled water q. drach. 2. looseneth the belly. *Ibid.*, Being given in *unc.* 4. *sem.* of mulled vinegar fasting it helpeth the falling sickness. 1764 ELIZ. MOXON *Eng. Housew.* (ed. 9) 85 Then mix them together as you would do mull'd ale. 1809 W. IRVING *Knickerb.* (1861) 237 The whole community was deluged with cherry-brandy..and mulled cider. 1882 MISS BRADDON *Mt. Royal* II. xi. 265 A tankard of mulled claret.

Mullein (mʌ·lĕn, -in). Forms: 5–6 moleyne, (5 molyn, 6 molin, -en, -ayne), 6 mollen, mulleyn(e, 6–7 mullin, -eine, 6– (8–9 *U. S.*) mullen, 6– mullein. [a. AF. *moleine* (F. *moulaine*, Cotgr.; *molène*, Littré), perh. a derivative of F. *mol* soft. Cf. MULLET [4].

The AF. word occurs in the 13th c. gloss '*Tapsus barbatus, i.* moleine, *i.* softe' (*Lat. Fr. Eng. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 556/31), and in *Alphita* (*c* 1450) as *molayne*. The OE. *molegn*, explained as 'mullein' in dictionaries, appears to have meant 'curds'.]

1. The common name of various species of the genus *Verbascum*, consisting of herbaceous plants with woolly leaves and an erect woolly raceme of yellow flowers: a. esp. *V. Thapsus*, Common or Great (Torch) Mullein.

Candlewick mullein: see CANDLE-WICK b.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 342/1 Moleyne, herbe *tapsus*. *c* 1450 *ME. Med. Bk.* (Heinrich) 120 Take molyn, & styue hit in good red wyn, & make a plaster. 1548 TURNER *Names of Herbs* (E.D.S.) 79 Verbascum is called..in englishe Mullen higgis taper or Longe wurt. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. cclvi. 629 The male Mullein..bath broade leaues.., in the midst of which riseth vp a stalke..couered with the like leaues,.. among which, taperwise are set a multitude of yellowe flowers...The female Mullein hath..white flowers. 1782 J. SCOTT *Poet. Wks.* 97 And golden spikes the downy mulleins rear. 1851 MRS. STOWE *Pearl Orr's Isl.* 8 Only savins and mullens with their dark pyramids or white spires of velvet leaves, diversified the sandy wayside. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* s.v., Great Torch Mullein.

b. Applied to other species of the same genus.

Great (white) or Hoary mullein, *V. Lychnitis*. Purple mullein = MOTH MULLEIN.

1578 LYTE *Dodoens* I. lxxxi. 118 There be foure sortes of Mulleyne,..wherof y^e^ two first are white Mulleyne..: The third is blacke Mulleyne: The fourth is wilde Mulleyne. *Ibid.* lxxxii. 122 It may be called in English Purple, or Mothe Mulleyn. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. cclvii. 631 Of base Mullein. 1..Base white Mullein. 2..Base black Mullein. 1882 *Garden* 28 Oct. 377/1 The Purple Mullein..is an old garden favourite.

c. Applied to similar plants of other genera.

† Petty mullein, *Primula vulgaris* and *P. veris*. † Wild or Woody mullein, *Phlomis fruticosa*.

1578 LYTE *Dodoens* I. lxxxiii. 122 Of Petie Mulleyn or the kindes of Primeroses. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. ccliii. 625 *Verbascum Mathioli*. French Sage. Wilde Mullein, woodie Mullein, Mathiolus his Mullein...In English it is generally called French Sage, we may call it Sage Mullein. 1754 *Catal. Seeds in Fam. Rose Kilravock* (Spald. Club) 427 Phlomis (Sage-leaf Mullein).

2. Short for *mullein moth* (see 3).

1868 F. O. MORRIS *Brit. Moths* III. 30 *Cucullia Verbasci*. Mullein. 1869 E. NEWMAN *Brit. Moths* 430.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*: simple attrib., as *mullein-leaf*; similative, as *mullein-leaved* adj.; **mullein foxglove**, a wild plant of the U. S. (see quot.); **mullein moth, shark**, a moth, *Cucullia Verbasci*, whose larva feeds upon the mullein plant; **mullein pink** (see quot.); **mullein tea**, an infusion of mullein leaves; **mullein wave**, the moth *Acidalia promutata*.

1856 GRAY *Man. Bot.* (1860) 292 *Seymeria macrophylla* (*Mullein-Foxglove). 1873 MRS. PHELPS *Trotty's Wedd. Tour* 259 Under a great soft *mullein leaf. 1822 *Hortus Anglicus* II. 75 *Mullein-leaved Iron Wort. 1827 J. F. STEPHENS *Catal. Brit. Insects* II. 102 *Mullein M[oth]. 1846–50 A. WOOD *Class-bk. Bot.* 192 *Lychnis coronaria*. ..*Mullein Pink. Rose Campion. 1887 J. C. HARRIS *Free Joe*, etc. (1888) 193 She sent me word to make me some *mullein-tea. 1832 J. RENNIE *Conspect. Butterfl. & M.* 140 The *Mullein Wave (*Ptychopoda incanata*, Stephens). 1869 E. NEWMAN *Brit. Moths* 80 The Mullein Wave (*Acidalia promutata*).

Mu·llen. *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Also 9 mullin. See also MOLAN. [App. the same word as MOLAN.] A head-stall for a horse. See also E. D. D.

1620 MARKHAM *Farew. Husb.* (1625) 147 He shal make readie his collars, hames, treates, halters, mullens [etc.]. 1879 MISS JACKSON *Shropsh. Word-bk.*, Suppl., *Mullin bridle*, a kind of bridle with blinkers, used for cart-horses.

Muller (mʌ·ləɹ), *sb.*[1] Forms: 5 molour, -owre, mulloure, 6 mol(l)er, molver, 7, 9 mullar, 8– muller. [Perh. a. AF. **moloir* (cf. OF. *moloir* adj., serving to pound or grind), f. *mol-*, *moldre* (mod.F. *moudre* to grind.] A stone with a flat base or grinding surface, which is held in the hand and used, in conjunction with a grinding stone or slab, in grinding painters' colours, apothecaries' powders, etc. Also *muller-stone*.

1404 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 396, j petra cum j molour pro pictoribus. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 342/1 *Molowre*, gryndynge stone (*K.* for colourys) *mola*. 1612 PEACHAM *Graphice* 69 The choice of your grinding stone and mullar. I like best the porphyrie, white or greene Marble, with a muller or vpper stone of the same. *c* 1790 IMISON *Sch. Art* II. 67 The student must be provided with..a large stone and muller to levigate the colours. 1873 E. SPON *Workshop Receipts* Ser. I. 106/1 The muller is a hard and conical-formed stone, the diameter of the base or rubbing surface of which should be about one-sixth of that of the grindstone.

Comb. 1856 ROYLE & HEADLAND *Mat. Med.* (ed. 3) 687 Tapioca Starch...Grains convex, ovoid, or mullar-shaped.

b. A similar implement used for polishing.

1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.*, *Muller*, is also an instrument used by the glass-grinders; being a piece of wood, to one end whereof is cemented the glass to be ground.

† c. Used (? *erron.*) for the slab upon which ingredients are mullered. Also *muller stone*. *Obs.*

1559 MORWYNG *Evonym.* 12 Renewing..the destillation, and powering again ye water upon ye dregges grounde vpon a marble moler. 1563 T. GALE *Antidot.* II. 78 Grynde them verye fyne vppon a moller stone.

d. Applied to mechanical contrivances for grinding or crushing.

1858 *Patents Specif., India Rubber* (1875) 133 Disintegrating..india-rubber, and passing it through 'mullers' or rollers heated or not. 1889 C. G. W. LOCK *Pract. Goldmining* 691 The muller runs at 72 revolutions a minute.

† **Mu·ller,** *sb.*[2] *Sc. Obs.* Also 6 mullar, 7 muler. [a. F. *moulure*: see MOULURE.] = MOULDING.

1554–5 *Burgh Rec. Edinb.* (1871) II. 354 Item,..mullars to the nether queir dur. 1563 SHUTE *Archit.* 8 The muller or Coronicis, of the antiques. 1635 G. JAMESONE in J. Bulloch *Life* (1885) 92 The pryce [of the picture]..is twentie merkis, ..bot iff I furniss ane double gilt muller, then it is twentie poundis.

Hence † **Mu·llered** *a.*, furnished with a moulding.

1663 in *Kirkcudbr. War-Comm. Min. Bk.* (1855) 188 Ane large keicking glass mulered with eibonie and caice conforme.

Muller (mʌ·ləɹ), *sb.*[3] [f. MULL *v.*[3] + -ER [1].]

1. A vessel in which wine or other liquor is mulled.

1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Muller*,..a vessel for heating wine over a fire. 1889 A. WATT *Electro-Metall.* 237 Large brass and copper articles, as mullers, for example, must be literally surrounded by anodes, otherwise they will not receive a uniform coating of nickel.

2. One who, or that which, mulls (Webster 1864).

Muller (mʌ·ləɹ), *v.* [f. MULLER *sb.*[1]] *trans.* To grind with a muller.

1853 URE *Dict. Arts* II. 127 As long as the phosphorus is being ground or 'mullered', copious fumes are evolved.

Müllerian (müli·əriăn), *a.* [f. the name of Joh. *Müller* (1801–58), an eminent German physiologist + -IAN.] In *Müllerian duct*, a duct in a chick, first observed by Müller, which afterwards becomes the oviduct or Fallopian tube in the female.

[1859 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* Suppl. 613/1 This is called after its first observer, the duct of Müller.] 1875 *Q. Jrnl. Microscop. Sci.* XV. 91 The Müllerian duct.

Mulleston(e, obs. forms of MILL-STONE.

Mullet [1] (mʌ·lĕt). Forms: 5 molet, 5–6 molett(e, 5–7 millet, (5 mylet, 7 millett), 6 mullett, 7 mullot, 6– mullet. [ME. *molet*, *mulet*, a. OF. *mulet*, dim. f. L. *mullus* red mullet.]

1. A name applied to two genera of fishes: a. the genus *Mullus*, family *Mullidæ*, of which the Red mullet (*M. barbatus*) is the type; b. the genus *Mugil*, family *Mugilidæ*, of which the Grey mullet (*M. capito*) is the best-known species.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 342/1 Molet, fysche, *mullus*. *c* 1450 *Two Cookery-bks.* 104 Take a Millet, and scale him..And boile hem ouer the fire..; or elles..fry him in good oyle. 1513 *Bk. Kervynge* in *Babees Bk.* 166 Base, trowte, molette. 1610 B. JONSON *Alch.* IV. i, We will eate our mullets, Sous'd in high-countrey wines. 1732 POPE *Hor. Sat.* II. ii. 21 Of Carps and Mullets why prefer the great? 1802 BINGLEY *Anim. Biog.* (1813) III. 63 The white or common mullet [*Mugil cephalus*]. 1836 YARRELL *Brit. Fishes* I. 27 The Red Mullets were well known to the ancients. *Ibid.* 28 The Striped Red Mullet is the species which occasionally only attains to so enviable a size in the Mediterranean (*Mullus surmuletus*). 1888 GOODE *Amer. Fishes* 365 On our eastern coast..the most familiar is the Striped Mullet, *Mugil albula*; the other is the so-called 'White Mullet', *Mugil brasiliensis*. ..On various parts of the coast they have special names... About Cape Hatteras the names 'Jumping Mullet' and 'Sand Mullet' occur; in..Southeastern Florida 'Silver Mullet' and 'Big-eyed Mullet'. 1895 J. BICKERDYKE *Sea Fishing* xi. 324 The Grey Mullet...Of these fish there are two kinds, the great grey mullet (*Mugil capito*) and the lesser grey mullet (*Mugil chelo*).

2. Applied to fish of other genera, as black mullet, *Menticirrus nebulosus*, the American king-fish; cucumber m., the Australian grayling, *Prototroctes maræna*.

1880 W. SENIOR *Trav. & Trout* I. viii. 93 These must be the long-looked-for cucumber mullet, or fresh-water herring. 1888 GOODE *Amer. Fishes* 123 The King-Fish,..also known as..the 'Black Mullet' in the Chesapeake.

Mullet [2] (mʌ·lĕt). *Her.* Forms: 5–6 molet, 6 molette, mollet(t, 6– mullet. [a. OF. *molette* rowel, mullet (mod.F. *molette* rowel).]

1. *Her.* A figure of a star, having five straight points (when a larger number is not specified). Given as a mark of cadency for a third son.

Perh. originally pierced to represent a spur-rowel. In modern practice, if the mullet is pierced this is specified in the blazon.

[1216–72 *Roll temp. Hen. III* in Parker *Gloss. Her.* 1894, Le Conte de Oxford, quartele d'or et de goules [*sic*], ung molet d'argent ent le quarter devant. 1327–77 *Roll, temp. Edw. III* ibid., Monsire Hansted, gules a trois mulletts argent.] *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 8713 He beres an egle..And he hath rose & he has molettis. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans, Her.* b j b, Fixall in armys is calde the thirde degre..thay may bere there faderis cote armure with a differans molet. 1562 LEIGH *Armorie* 178 A Mullet of v. poyntes sable...This may be also of vii. poyntes, but of no more. 1612 PEACHAM *Gentl. Exerc.* III. (1634) 161 The mullet is often pierced of the field and the Starre never. 1808 SCOTT *Marm.* VI. ii, And in the chief three mullets stood The cognizance of Douglas blood. 1864 BOUTELL *Her. Hist. & Pop.* XV. 184 The St. Johns, in like manner, bear mullets on a chief.

b. *Comb.*, as *mullet-footed*, *-shaped* adjs.

1851 AGNES STRICKLAND *Queens Eng.* I. 236 A mullet-shaped brooch. 1897 *Trans. Glasg. Archæol. Soc.* III. I. 219 This is known as a lobed or mullet-footed chalice.

2. Pseudo-*arch.* The rowel of a spur.

1830 JAMES *Darnley* XXXII. 143/2 The horse's feet were brought on the very brink of the river, and a slight touch of the mullet made him plunge over.

† **Mu·llet** [3]. *Obs.* [a. F. *molet*.] *pl.* A kind of pincers or tweezers. *Obs.*

1398 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) I. 245 [Apothecary's will], j draghyng-dobler, cum les moletts. 1599 B. JONSON *Cynthia's Rev.* V. iv, Here is a haire too much, take it off. Where are thy mullets? 1634 T. JOHNSON *Parey's Chirurg.* XXVII. xvii. (1678) 675 Cutting Mullets. Mullets onely to hold and not to cut. Mullets to take forth splinters of bones. Mullets to draw teeth.

Hence † **Mu·llet** *v.*, to treat with the 'mullet'.

1649 QUARLES *Virgin Widow* V. i, And then Cis must be call'd, and then her Ladiships haire must be crispt,..and then her Ladiships browes must be mullited.

† **Mullet** [4]. *Obs. rare.* = MULLEIN.

1597 GERARDE *Herbal* 390 The first..kind of *Conyza* hath large and broad leaues like *Verbascum nigrum* or black Mullet. *Ibid.* 391, I would gladly haue *Conyza* to be called in English Fleabane Mullet. 1750 E. SMITH *Compl. Housewife* 323 Take of the tops of parsley, of mullet, and of elder buds, of each one handful.

† **Mu·llet** [5]. Some part of a musket barrel.

1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. xviii. (Roxb.) 134/2 The seuerall parts of the Barrell of a Muskett. The Barrell. The squares. The mulletts. 1881 GREENER *Gun* 50 Their [*sc.* the Italian gunsmiths'] early barrels..were beautifully formed on the outside, with many squares and mullers [*sic*].

† **Mu·llet** [6]. *Obs.* [a. F. *molette*, dim. of *meule* millstone.] = MULLER *sb.*[1]

1755 JOHNSON, *Mullar*...Often called improperly *mullet*.

† **Mu·llet** [7]. *Obs.* The Puffin, *Fratercula arctica*.

1678 RAY *Willughby's Ornith.* III. v. 325 The Bird called

Coulterneb at the Farn Islands,..at Scarburgh Mullet..: Anas Arctica *Clus.* 1852 MACGILLIVRAY *Brit. Birds* V. 365 *Mormon arcticus.* The Arctic Puffin...Mullet.

Mullet, variant of MULET *Obs.*

Mu·lleted, *a. Obs.* [? f. MULLET[2] + -ED[2].] ? Ornamented with mullets.

1610 BONLEY in *Relig.* (1703) 310 It puts me in a Dump, that my Mason having laid but one only course of Mulleted Work, he should complain so soon of the Badness of the Stone.

Mu·lletry. [f. MULLET[1] + -RY.] A pond or reservoir for breeding mullets (Webster *Suppl.* 1902).

Mulley, Mulliere: see MULEY, MULIER.

Mulligatawny (mʌ·lĭgătɔ̄·nĭ). Forms: 8 mullaghee-tanny, mulagatoney, 9 mulkatany, mullikatauny, malaca-tawney, malachatauni, malagatany, mulla-, mulligatawn(e)y. [a. Tamil *milagu-tannīr* 'pepper-water' (Yule).]

1. An East Indian highly seasoned soup. Also *mulligatawny soup.*

1784 in Seton-Karr *Select. Calcutta Gaz.* (1864) I. 18 On Mullaghee-tanny we dine. 1798 *Sporting Mag.* XI. 308, I supped..in his house on Mulagatoney or pepper-water. 1829 SOUTHEY *Sir T. More* (1831) II. 286 Curry and malagatany soup from the East Indies. 1863 SALA *Qualk* 61 He ..devoured prodigious quantities of curry, pepperpot, chillum, cutlets, capsicum-hash, and mulligatawny soup.

b. *Mulligatawny paste* (see quot. 1858).

1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Mulligatawny-paste,* a curry paste, used for flavouring mulligatawny-soup. 1865 LIVINGSTONE *Zambesi* vi. 130 We had taken a little mulligatawney paste for making soup.

2. *Anglo-Ind.* = MULL *sb.*[3]

1816 'QUIZ' *Grand Master* VI. 147 [He] grew, in fact, a mulkatany.

Mulligrubs (mʌ·lĭgrʌbz), *pl.* Forms: 6 mulliegrums, (7–8 *Dicts.* mouldy-grubs, 8 ma-lé-grubbles, 9 mulleygrubs), 9 *Sc.* mulligrumphs, 8–9 mullygrubs, 7–9 mulligrubs. [A grotesque arbitrary formation.]

1. A state of depression of spirits; a fit of megrims or spleen; in early use in phr. (*in*) *her, his,* etc., *mulligrubs, sick of the mulligrubs*; hence jocularly, stomach-ache or colic.

1599 NASHE *Lenten Stuffe* 55 The yeoman of the mouth.. rehearsed this second il successe, wherwith Peters successour was so in his mulliegrums that he had thought to haue buffeted him. 1619 FLETCHER *M. Thomas* II. ii, Whither goe all these men-menders, these physitians? Whose dog lyes sicke o' th mulligrubs? 1678 DRYDEN *Limberham* IV. i, She is in her mulligrubs already. 1720 RAMSAY *Rise & Fall of Stocks* 85 It lulls a wee my mullygruhs, To think upon these bitten scrubs. 1736 AINSWORTH *Eng.-Lat. Dict.,* The mouldy grubs, *tormina ventris.* 1789 in *N. Eng. Hist. & Gen. Reg.* (1876) XXX. 47 We had father —— of —— who rolled and bellowed as if he had the *ma-lé grubbles,* or, as many thought, as if he were in liquor. 1802 G. COLMAN *Br. Grins, Knt. & Friar* II. xxxix, His bowels; Where spasms were.. Afflicting him with mulligrubs and colic. 1826 SCOTT *Jrnl.* 14 Mar., I have scarce stirred to take exercise for four or five days, no wonder I had the mulligrubs. 1827 *Ibid.* 19 Sept., Surely these mulligrubs belong to the mind more than the body. 1853 'C. BEDE' *Verdant Green* I. viii, Peakyish you feel, don't you, now, with a touch of the mulligrubs in your collywobbles?

†2. In sing. form. a. Ludicrously applied to a person. b. A fit of 'mulligrubs'. *Obs. rare.*

1633 SHIRLEY *Gamester* IV. i, Command my sword, my lungs, my life, Thou art a puffe, a mulligrube, a Metaphysicall Coxcombe, and I honour you with all my hart. 16.. MIDDLETON *Father Hubbard's T.* Wks. (Dyce) V. 597 Some Londoner's son..that must hear twice a-week from his mother, or else he will be sick..of a university-mulligrub. 1827 *Ibid.* 19 Sept., Surely these mulligrubs belong to the mind more than the body. 1853 'C. BEDE' *Verdant Green* I. viii, Peakyish you feel, don't you, now, with a touch of the mulligrubs in your collywobbles?

†Mu·lling, *sb. Obs. rare.* [Cf. MULLY *sb.* and -ING[3].] A term of endearment.

c 1450 *Cov. Myst.* xvi. (Shaks. Soc.) 160 3it fayre mullynge, take it nat at no greve. 1519 HORMAN *Vulg.* 295 This is a feyre and swete mullynge. *Blandus est puerulus insigni festiuitate.* *a* 1529 SKELTON *E. Rummyng* 224 He calleth me his wbyting, His mullyng and his mytyng.

Mulling (mʌ·lĭŋ), *vbl. sb.* Bustle, stir, excitement. Chiefly *U. S.*

1845 S. JUDD *Margaret* 170 (Bartlett) There has been a pretty considerable mullin going on among the doctors. 1866 LOWELL *Biglow P.* II. Introd., We have always heard *mullin* used for *stirring, bustling,* sometimes in an underhand way.

Mullion (mʌ·lyən). *Arch.* Also 6 *Sc.* mullen. [Prob. a metathetic alteration of the synonymous *munniall* MONIAL. Cf. MUNNION, which appears somewhat later in our quots.] A vertical bar dividing the lights in a window, *esp.* in Gothic architecture; also, a similar bar in screen-work.

1567 HARMAN *Caveat* (1869) 39 The windowes be thicke of mullions, that ther is no kreping in betwene. 1590 in *Compt Bk. D. Wedderburne* (S.H.S.) 64 Item for mending the Mullenis in the sylling xvj[d]. 1793 SMEATON *Edystone L.* Introd. 4 The lantern..was..domed over; the doming being supported upon eight stone pillars or mullions, with openings between them for the passage of the light. *a* 1878 SIR G. G. SCOTT *Lect. Archit.* (1879) I. 163 This is, in fact, the great use of the mullion, to enable you to use wider windows.

b. *attrib.* and *Comb.*: **mullion seat** (see quot.); **mullion window** = mullioned window.

1843 LYTTON *Last Bar.* II. iii, A large mullion window. 1888 C. C. HODGES *Hexham Abbey* 30 *note,* A reprise or reprisal in the foot of a window mullion or jamb...*Mullion-seat* is the term used in some localities.

Mullioned (mʌ·lyənd), *a.* [f. prec. + -ED[2].] Having mullions; constructed with mullions.

1763 STUKELEY *Palæogr. Sacra* i. 18 The mullion'd lace-work of the windows. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* I. 128 The square pannelled mullioned windows..of the great houses of the time of queen Elizabeth. 1853 M. ARNOLD *Church of Brou* 11 From her mullion'd chamber casement Smiles the Duchess Marguerite.

Mu·llipuff. *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Forms: 7 mully-puffe, mullipuff(e, 8 mollipuff, 9 mully-puff (E.D.D.). [f. MULLY *a.* + PUFF *sb.*]

1. = FUZZ-BALL; hence, as a term of contempt.

1629 SHIRLEY *Wedding* IV. H 4 b, Thou mully-puffe, were it not iustice to kicke thy guts out. 1674 JOSSELYN *Voy. New Eng.* 81 Fuss-balls, Mullipuffes called by the Fishermen Wolves-farts, are to be found plentifully. 1705 DALE *Pharmacol.* Suppl. 42 *Crepitus Lupi...Lycoperdon vulgare.* ..Puff-Balls, Bull-fists, Mollipuffs.

†2. *Surg.* A styptic used instead of fuzz-ball.

1658 A. FOX *Würtz' Surg.* II. viii. 74 The next day..I found the lint mullipuff stick close to the wound.

Mullock (mʌ·lək), *sb.* Forms: 4 mulloc, -ok(e, 6–7 mullocke, 7 mollocke, 8 mollock, 7– mullock. [f. MULL *sb.*[1] + -OCK.]

1. Rubbish, refuse matter. Now only *dial.*

c 1386 CHAUCER *Reeve's Prol.* 19 That ilke fruyt [*sc.* the medlar] is euer leng the wers Til it be roten in Mullok or in stree. 1555 W. WATREMAN *Fardle Facions* I. vi. F vij, The Ethiopians..gather together..a great deale of rubbeshe and mullocke..apte for firyng. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 158/43 Mullocke, *puluis.* 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 17 It cannot abide rank mucke, but contenteth itselfe with rotten chaffe or pugs, and such like plain mullock. 1624 *Nottingham Rec.* (1889) IV. 389 For layinge his mullocke and ashes short of the place appoynted..vj d. 1735–6 PEGGE *Kenticisms* (E.D.S.) s.v., In Glouc., mould under a faggot-stack is call'd mollock, from its wetness or dampness. 1879 MISS JACKSON *Shropsh. Word-bk., Mullock,* dirt; rubbish, as of the refuse of masons' work, gardeners' sweepings, &c.

2. *Austral.* Rock which does not contain gold; also the refuse from which gold has been extracted.

1864 J. ROGERS *New Rush* II. 26 A man each windlass-handle working slow Raises the mullock from his mate below. 1885 MRS. C. PRAED *Head Station* 79 Here and there great heaps of earth and mullock..indicated the whereabouts of a claim. 1895 *Daily News* 19 Feb. 2/1 About 80 ft. and parallel with the main reef is a lode of reef formation divided by bands of mullock, the bands of stone varying from 10 in. to over 2 ft. wide.

b. *transf.* Applied to a person.

1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Miner's Right* iv. 39 Some of the swells here..are the biggest rapscallions out, instead of setting a good example to us poor ignorant lower-class mullocks.

Hence **Mu·llocky** *a.*, of the nature of mullock. Also **Mu·llock** *v. trans.*, to litter (a place), to make slovenly; to do (something) in a slovenly way. Const. with *up, over.* (*Sc., dial.,* and *Austral.*)

1897 *Daily News* 14 Dec 2/1 In sinking the shaft 'mullocky lode stuff' was passed through.

†Mu·lly, *sb. Obs. rare*[−1]. [Cf. MULLING *sb.*] A term of endearment applied to a woman.

1538 BALE *Thre Lawes* B iiij b, It is myne owne swete bullye, My muskyne and my mullye, My gelouer and my cullye.

Mu·lly, *a. Obs.* exc. *dial.* [f. MULL *sb.*[1] + -Y.] Dusty, powdery.

1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 100/22 Mully, *puluerulentus.* 1855 *Norfolk Wds.* in *Trans. Philol. Soc.* 34 *Mully,* mouldy, powdery.

Mulmull (mʌ·lmʌl). Also 7–8 mulmul, 8 mallemolle, 9 mull-mull. [a. Hindī *malmal.*] A thin variety of muslin. Cf. MULL *sb.*[6]

1676 S. MASTER *Diary* 14 Oct. in *Hedges' Diary* (Hakl. Soc.) II. 235 Maulda..is a place where great..Varietyes of Course goods proper for Europe are made and procured, as Cossaes, Hummums, Mulmulls [etc.]. 1721 C. KING *Brit. Merch.* I. 223 Which..I value at 20*s.*, the 10 Yards, from a Long Cloth or Bast to a Mulmul or Dorea. 1862 MRS. SPEIR *Last Yrs. India* iv. 86 Our ghost is clad in white. Not in specific white—mull mull or nainsook,..but in white, or whiteness the abstraction.

†Mulome·dic, *a.* and *sb. Obs.* In 7 -ick. [ad. late L. *mūlomedicus,* f. *mūl-us* MULE *sb.*[1] + *medicus* physician.] (See quot.)

1678 PHILLIPS (ed. 4), *Mulomedick,* belonging to the cure of Mules; also substantively taken a *Mulomedick,* is no other then a Farrier, if a Mule-doctor may be so called.

†Mulse. *Obs.* Also 7 mulce. [ad. L. *mulsum,* neut. pa. pple. of *mulcēre* to sweeten.] A liquor made of honey mixed with water or wine; hydromel, mead. Also *mulse-water.*

1533 ELYOT *Cast. Helth* (1541) 76 b, Paulus Aegineta prayseth moche Mulse, or the water of honye. 1574 HYLL *Ord. Bees* xxix, Of the drinke of Hony which they call the Mulse-water. 1622 MALYNES *Anc. Law-Merch.* 233 Take Mulce, which is eight times so much water as hony, boyled to a quart or three pintes. 1661 LOVELL *Hist. Anim. & Min.* 263 Melicrate hath the same nature as mulse.

†Mulsed, *a. Obs.* In 6 mulset. [f. L. *muls-us* (see prec.) + -ED[1].] Mingled with honey.

1547 RECORDE *Judic. Ur.* 60 The uryne of a wylde Bore with mulset vyneger is good for the fallyng evyll.

Mulsh: see MULCH.

Mult, Multacion: see MULCT, MULCTATION.

†Mu·ltangle. *Geom. Obs.* [ad. mod.L. *multangulum,* neut. sing. of *multangulus*: see MULTI- and ANGLE *sb.*] A polygon.

1674 JEAKE *Arith.* (1696) 174 If 3 [angles] then called a Triangle, if 4 a Quadrangle, if more a Multangle or Polygone. 1788 T. TAYLOR *Proclus* I. 85 Multangles, and all the figures of many bases, concerning which geometry informs us.

So **†Mu·ltangled** *a.* [see ANGLED 4] = next.

1674 JEAKE *Arith.* (1696) 176 Of Triangular, Quadrangular, or Multangled Form at the Base. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Multangled* or *Multangular Figure.*

Multangular (mʌltæ·ŋgĭŭlăr), *a.* (*sb.*) [ad. mod.L. *multangulāris*: see MULTI- and ANGULAR. Cf. F. *multangulaire.*] **A.** *adj.* Having many angles; many-angled; polygonal.

1679 EVELYN *Sylva* (ed. 3) XXXV. § 21 Some [leaves] round; others long, Oval, Multangular, indented. 1683 *Phil. Trans.* XIII. 238 A..Multangular-Tower at York. 1751 R. PALTOCK *P. Wilkins* xxxix, Pikes—some headed with sharp-pointed stone, others with multangular stone. 1831 CARLYLE *Misc., Taylor's Germ. Poetry* (1840) III. 250 Grim boughs dishevelled in multangular complexity. 1875 BLAKE *Zool.* 210 The body covered either with multangular scutes or with spines and rough scales.

B. *sb. rare.* A polygon.

1766 *Complete Farmer* 7 E 2 Regular multangulars take their names from their number of angles.

Hence **Multa·ngularly** *adv.*, **Multa·ngularness.**

1701 GREW *Cosmol. Sacra* I. iii. 14 Granates are Multangularly Round. 1727 BAILEY vol. II, *Multangularness,* the having many Angles.

†Multa·ngulous, *a. Obs. rare.* [f. L. *multangul-us* (see MULTANGLE) + -OUS.] Multangular.

1659 STANLEY *Hist. Philos.* XI. ix. (1687) 765/1 He referred Sapours to Figure; the round Atoms..make a sweet Sapor;.. the Multangulous..a harsh. 1680 T. LAWSON *Mite into Treas.* 33 Obtusangulous, Acutangulous, Multangulous.

Multa·nimous, *a. rare*[−1]. [f. L. *mult-us* MULTI- + *anim-us* mind + -OUS: cf. L. *multanimis* courageous.] Having a many-sided mind.

1854 LOWELL *Keats* Prose Wks. 1890 I. 231, I look upon it rather as one of the phenomena of that multanimous nature of the poet, which makes him for the moment that of which he has an intellectual perception.

Multarti·culate, *a. Zool. rare.* [See MULTI-; cf. *multi-articulate.*] Many-jointed.

1681 GREW *Musæum* I. 144 The Multarticulate Oyster with a bended Base. 1778 DA COSTA *Brit. Conchol.* 168 Those [bivalves] that have the hinge set with numerous teeth, or are multarticulate. 1822 *Trans. Geol. Soc.* Ser. II. I. 122 Its small nostrils and multarticulate paddles.

Multati·tious, *a. rare*[−0]. [f. L. *multātīci-us,* f. *multāt-, multāre* to MULCT.] (See quot.)

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr., Multatitious,* gotten by fine or forfeit.

Multe, obs. form of MELT, MULCT.

Multeity (mʌltī·ĭti). [f. L. *multus* many, perh. after *hæcceity.*] The quality or condition of being many (i.e. more than one); manifoldness.

1814 COLERIDGE *Princ. Genial Crit.* iii, The Philosopher of the later Platonic, or Alexandrine School, named the triangle the first-born of beauty, it being the first and simplest symbol of multeity in unity. 1817 — *Biog. Lit.* xii. (1847) I. II. 279 The convenience of the scholastic phrase to..express the kind with the abstraction of degree, as for instance *multeity* instead of multitude. 1881 F. Y. EDGEWORTH *Math. Psychics* 50 That continuity of fluid, that multeity of atoms which constitute the foundations of the uniformities of Physics. 1891 WESTCOTT *Ess.* 170 The central idea of the sacrament is placed in unity realised in multeity.

b. *concr.* or semi-*concr.* A thing consisting of many individual parts or members.

1836 *Fraser's Mag.* XIII. 738 A sonnet consists of fourteen lines. What magic lies within that limitary multeity! 1894 *19th Cent.* Apr. 633 *note,* [History] tells only of the conflict of opposed multeities of men with organisation of each multeity for its hostile purpose.

Multen, obs. pa. pple. of MELT *v.*[1]

†Mu·lteous, *a. Obs. rare*[−1]. [f. L. *multus* many + -EOUS. Cf. *multuous.*] Numerous.

1589 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* V. XXV. 112 Yet of more multeous Armies we than Scotland were at cost.

Multepli, Multer: see MULTIPLY, MULTURE.

Multi- (mʌ·lti), occas. before a vowel mult- (e.g. *multangular, multarticular, multocular*), combining form of L. *multus* much, many. The compounds having this prefix in Latin belong for the most part to non-classical times: they are chiefly of parasynthetic formation, in which *multi-* = 'many', as *multangulus* many-angled, *multicaulis* many-stalked, *multigenerus* of many kinds, but a certain number of objective or adverbial compounds also existed, in which *multi-* = 'much', as *multibibus* much-drinking, *multicupidus* desiring much, *multiscius* knowing much.

In English the compounds of *multi-* were originally either direct adaptations from Latin compounds or were modelled upon them, but in the 19th c. the prefix came into frequent general use with ppl. adjs. and sbs. (Cf. POLY-.) The earliest English borrowings from Latin were *multifary* (Lydgate), *multifarious* (Nashe, 1593), *multiformity* (Puttenham, 1589); they did not become numerous till the middle of the 17th c. The more important compounds (being chiefly those which have a continuous history from the 17th c. onwards) are entered as Main words; the present article comprises a typical selection of modern scientific terms and of compounds of a general character.

1. Forming parasynthetic adjectives, with the sense of 'many'. **a.** In scientific and technical

use: **Multi-a·ngular** = MULTANGULAR. **Multia·reolate,** consisting of many small areas. **Multiarti·cular,** affecting more than one joint. **Multiarti·culate, -ated,** having many articulations, as the legs and antennæ of insects; cf. MULTARTICULATE. **Multia·xial,** having many axes or lines of growth. **Multica·merate,** of many chambers. **Multica·psular,** (of a pericarp) having many capsules. **Multi-ca·rinate, -ated** (see quots.). **Multice·llular,** many-celled. **Multice·ntral,** connected with or dependent upon several centres. **Multici·liate, -ated,** having many cilia. **Multici·pital** [cf. BICIPITAL], many-headed. **Multico·ccous** [see COCCUS], having many cocci or cells. **Multico·rneal,** having many corneæ. **Multico·state,** having more than one rib; palmately nerved. **Multicu·spid, -cu·spidate,** having more than two cusps. **Multide·ntate,** having or armed with many teeth. **Multidenti·culate,** having many denticulations; having a finely-toothed margin. **Multidi·gitate,** having many fingers or finger-like processes. **Multidime·nsional,** of more than three dimensions. **Multiflage·llate,** having many flagella. **Multifo·liate, -fo·liolate,** having many (more than 7 or 9) leaflets. **Multiga·nglionate,** having many ganglia. **Multigra·nulate, -gra·nulated,** having many granules or grains. **Multigu·ttulate,** having many drop-like spots. **Multijugate** (*mʌltidʒū·gēt, mʌltidʒū·gĕt*), **Multijugous** [L. *jugum* yoke, pair], having many pairs of leaflets. **Multilaci·niate,** having many laciniæ. **Multilame·llar, -lame·llate, -lame·llous,** having many lamellæ. **Multila·minar, -la·minate, -ated,** having many laminæ or layers. **Multili·neal,** having many lines. **Multili·near,** having many lines; *Alg.,* applied by MacMahon to an operator invented by him. **Multili·teral,** (of an equation) involving several unknowns. **Multilo·bar, -lo·bate, Mu·ltilobed,** having many lobes. **Multilo·bular, -lo·bulate, -ated,** characterized by many lobules. **Multilo·cular, -lo·culate, -ated,** having, consisting of, or characterized by many cells or chambers. **Multima·cular,** having many maculæ. **Multine·rvose,** having many nervures. **Multino·dal, -no·date, -no·dous,** having many nodes or knots. **Multinu·clear, -ate, -ated,** having more than one nucleus; so **Multinu·cleolar, -ate, -ated** (in recent Dicts.). **Multi-o·vular, -o·vulate,** containing many ovules. **Multipalea·ceous,** having numerous paleæ. **Multipe·rforate,** characterized by many perforations. **Multipi·nnate,** many times pinnate. **Multipla·nar,** consisting of, or related to, a number of planes. **Multipo·lar,** having many poles: *Phys.* said of nerve-cells; *Electr.* of dynamos. **Multira·diate, -ated,** having many rays. **Multiradi·cular,** having many radicles. **Multisa·cculate,** having many sacculi. **Multise·gmentate, -se·gmented,** having many segments. **Multise·ptate,** having many septa or partitions; divided into many chambers, as the pith of a walnut. **Multise·rial,** arranged in many series or rows; hence **Multise·rially** *adv.*; so **Multise·riate.** **Multisi·liquose, -si·liquous,** having or prodncing many seed-vessels. **Multispe·rmous** [Gr. *σπέρμα* seed], many-seeded. **Multispi·culate,** having many spicules. **Multispi·nous,** many-spined. **Multispi·ral,** having many spiral coils or convolutions. **Multistri·ate,** marked with numerous striæ or streaks. **Multisu·lcate, -ated,** many-furrowed. **Multitenta·culate,** having many tentacles. **Multitube·rculate, -ated,** having many tubercles. **Multitu·bular,** having numerous tubes; applied *esp.* to locomotive boilers having many tubes traversing the flame space. **Multivo·ltine** [It. *volta* time, turn], (of a silkworm) producing several broods in a year; cf. *polyvoltine.*

1842 FRANCIS *Dict. Arts,* **Mulliangular.* 1874 H. C. WOOD *Fresh-w. Algæ N. Amer.* 11 Very often triangular, rarely multiangular. 1861 HAGEN *Syn. Neuroptera N. Amer.* (Smithsonian Misc. Collect. IV.) 341 *Multi-areolate. 1879 *St. George's Hosp. Rep.* IX. 232 Two previous attacks had commenced in the typically gouty fashion, but had become subsequently *multi-articular. 1819 SAMOUELLE *Entomol. Compend.* 99 Legs bifid, the last joint of the four anterior pairs..uniarticulate..; of the other pairs of legs *multiarticulate. 1870 ROLLESTON *Anim. Life* 78 The termination of the multi-articulate antennæ in a filament, not in a club. 1840 *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 486 A pair of legs terminated by a very long, slender, and *multiarticulated tarsus. 1864 H. SPENCER *Princ. Biol.* I. § 50. 137 Of *multiaxial growth that is discontinuous, a familiar instance among plants exists in the common strawberry. 1878 BELL tr. *Gegenbaur's Comp. Anat.* 282 The elongated *multi-camerate hearts found in some Crustacea. 1731 BAILEY vol. II, **Multicapsular,* divided into many partitions, as poppies, flax, &c. 1760 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* II. xxxiii. (1765) 158 *Reseda,* with a multicapsular Fruit. 1842 BRANDE *Dict. Sci.,* etc., **Multi-carinate,* in Conchology, is applied to a shell which is traversed by many keel-like ridges. 1840 SMART, **Multi-carinated,* having many projections. 1857 HENFREY *Bot.* § 626 *Multicellular filaments. 1884 BOWER & SCOTT *De Bary's Phaner.* 95 The celebrated glands of the Hop..are multicellular peltate scales. 1864 H. SPENCER *Princ. Biol.* I. § 50. 137 Central development may be distinguished into *unicentral* and **multicentral*; according as the product of the original germ, develops symmetrically round one centre, or .. in subordination to many centres. 1902 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 12 Apr. 908 Cancers either started from one centre (unicentral or monocentral) or from many centres (multicentral or plurocentral). 1902 *Encycl. Brit.* XXXII. 75/2 The *multiciliate spermatozoids. 1901 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 12 Jan. Epitome of Current Lit. 8/3 In *multiciliated species [of Bacteria]. 1857 A. GRAY *First Less. Bot.* Gloss., **Multicipital,* many-headed. 1831 MACGILLIVRAY tr. *Richard's Elem. Bot.* 315 A fruit often raised into ridges, and separating naturally, when ripe, into as many distinct *cocca,* which open longitudinally ..; whence the expressions *tricoccous,* **multicoccous,* applied to this kind of fruit. 1883 *Q. Jrnl. Microsc. Sci.* XXIII. 186 The *multicorneal (polymeniscous) eye of Insects. 1849 BALFOUR *Man. Bot.* § 144 Reticulated Venation..I. Unicostate. A single rib or costa in the middle (midrib). II. *Multicostate. More than one rib. 1881 *Linn. Soc. Jrnl., Bot.* XVIII. 271 Achenia multicostate. 1848 *Quain's Anat.* (ed. 5) 971 The molar teeth, true or large molars, or *multicuspid teeth. 1870 H. A. NICHOLSON *Man. Zool.* 58 Minute spherical bodies covered with radiating and multicuspid spines. 1839–47 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* III. 298/2 The incisors are always very small, the molars generally *multicuspidate. 1819 SAMOUELLE *Entomol. Compend.* 97 Rostrum descending, *multidentate above. 1873 *Trans. Amer. Philos. Soc.* 287 (Cassell) The species of this group have the anterior tibiæ sometimes *multidenticulate. 1847–9 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* IV. I. 727/2 In all *multi-digitate mammalia, such as the Quadrumana, Carnivora, Rodentia, and Edentata. 1884 R. A. PROCTOR in *Gentl. Mag.* Jan. 36 Systems of non-Euclidean geometry, or of *multidimensional space. 1856 MAYNE *Expos. Lex., Multifoliatus,* applied to a digitated leaf of which the common petiole terminates by more than nine folioles, as the *Lupinus varius*: *multifoliate. 1884 BOWER & SCOTT *De Bary's Phaner.* 341 One bundle runs out into each of the leaves, which form multifoliate whorls. 1831 MACGILLIVRAY tr. *Richard's Elem. Bot.* 138 *Multifoliolate [leaves], composed of numerous leaflets; as in *Lupinus varius.* 1877 HUXLEY *Anat. Inv. Anim.* vi. 263 The posterior part of the *multiganglionate cord which surrounds the gullet. 1860 WORCESTER, **Multigranulate.* 1840 SMART, **Multi-granulated.* 1887 W. PHILLIPS *Brit. Discomycetes* 322 Sporidia *multiguttulate. 1831 MACGILLIVRAY tr. *Richard's Elem. Bot.* 139 Oppositely pinnate leaves..are said to be..*Multijugate, when the pairs of leaflets are in indeterminate number. 1828–32 WEBSTER, **Multijugous.* 1871 W. A. LEIGHTON *Lichen-flora* 90 *Evernia furfuracea* .. dichotomously *multi-laciniate. 1878 BELL tr. *Gegenbaur's Comp. Anat.* 398 On one spot of this [visual organ]..is placed a *multi-lamellar refractive apparatus. 1882 VINES tr. *Sachs' Bot.* 95 The multilamellar epidermis. 1846 DANA *Zooph.* (1848) 216 Cells..infundibuliform,..*multilamellate. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XIV. 266/2 Animal..containing a calcareous *polyparium*..fixed in the lower part, enlarged, flattened, excavated, and *multilamellous in the upper part. 1876 tr. *Wagner's Gen. Pathol.* 469 Thickening of the epithelial layer of some mucous membranes with *multilaminar pavement epithelium. 1890 *Century Dict.,* **Multilaminate.* 1877 *Q. Jrnl. Microsc. Sci.* XVII. 182 A *multilaminated coat. *a* 1800 STEEVENS *Note on Shaks. Twel. N.* III. iii, This Map is *multilineal in the extreme, and is the first in which the Eastern Islands are included. 1882 OGILVIE, *Multilineal,* **multilinear,* having many lines. 1886 *Proc. Lond. Math. Soc.* XVIII. 61 The Theory of a Multilinear Partial Differential Operator...By P. A. MacMahon. 1817 H. T. COLEBROOKE *Algebra,* etc. 227 Analysis by a *Multiliteral equation. 1895 *Funk's Stand. Dict.,* **Multilobar.* 1831 MACGILLIVRAY tr. *Richard's Elem. Bot.* 129 [Leaves are] *Multilobate; when the divisions are broader and separated by obtuse sinuses. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 81 The cells with multilobate nucleus. 1856 W. CLARK *van der Hoeven's Zool.* I. 203 Rotatory organ *multilobed or parted. 1882–4 COOKE *Brit. Freshw. Algæ* I. 202 Cells..bi-, tri-, or multi-lobed. 1874 VAN BUREN *Dis. Genit. Organs* 170 It contains *multilobular mucous glands in its substance. 1905 H. D. ROLLESTON *Dis. Liver* 176 Multilobular cirrhosis. 1902 *Webster's Dict.* Suppl., **Multilobulate, Multilobulated,* having many lobules. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 504 Longitudinal sections show them [*viz.* miliary patches] as *multilobulated masses. 1815 W. WOOD *Gen. Conchol.* p. lvii, All chambered shells are *multilocular. 1845 LINDLEY *Sch. Bot.* i. (ed. 14) 16 If there are more cells than one it [*sc.* the pistil] is either bilocular, trilocular, multilocular, or otherwise. 1854 BAOHAM *Halieut.* 37 He divides and then subdivides it into partitions, almost as multilocular as a painter's box of colors. 1867 J. HOGG *Microsc.* II. ii. 376 The Polythalamia or Multilocular Rhizopods, in their earliest state are unilocular. 1890 *Century Dict.,* **Multiloculate.* 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 504 These morbid bodies..may eventually coalesce with similar bodies..to form large *multiloculated bodies. 1859 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* V. [134]/2 The germinal vesicle is..*multimacular in the large-yolked ova. 1856 W. CLARK *van der Hoeven's Zool.* I. 314 *Hippobosca* Latr.—Wings parallel, incumbent, obtuse, *multinervose. 1839 LINDLEY *Introd. Bot.* I. ii. (ed. 3) 160 The *multinodal cyme offers no fixed rule in the spirals of its nodes. 1840 SMART, **Multinodate,* or *Multinodous* (many-knotted). 1727 BAILEY vol. II, **Multinodous,* full of Knots. 1874 *Q. Jrnl. Microsc. Sci.* XIV. 97 Greef regards *Pelomyxa* as a multicellular, or, rather, *multinuclear amœboid organism. 1882 VINES tr. *Sachs' Bot.* 946 The multinuclear bast-fibres and laticiferous cells of various Phanerogams. 1877 HUXLEY *Anat. Inv. Anim.* xii. 659 Unicellular organisms, which occasionally become multicellular, or at any rate *multinucleate, by the multiplication of the nucleus. 1873 T. H. GREEN *Introd. Pathol.* (ed. 2) 211 A *Multinucleated Cell from a Grey Miliary Tubercle of the Lung in a case of Acute Tuberculosis. 1882 *Nature* XXV. 523 The sixth internodal cell might be multinuclear, with *multinucleolar nuclei. 1849 BALFOUR *Man. Bot.* § 765 Ovary sessile, 3-lobed, 1-celled, *multiovular. 1856 MAYNE *Expos. Lex., Multiovulatus,* applied to the cells or compartments of the ovary when they contain a great many ovules: *multiovulate. 1881 *Linn. Soc. Jrnl., Bot.* XVIII. 267 Ovary linear, multiovulate. 1831 MACGILLIVRAY tr. *Richard's Elem. Bot.* 184 [The spikelet] may be..*multipaleaceous,..as in some species of *Uniola.* 1870 ROLLESTON *Anim. Life* p. lxxxiv, The mouth is constituted by a *multiperforate branchial skeleton. 1875 BENNETT & DYER tr. *Sachs' Bot.* 195 Whole systems of shoots frequently have the appearance of *multipinnate leaves. 1850 CAYLEY *Math. Papers* (1889) I. 505 The developable which is the envelope of such a system [of *n* different planes] may be termed a '*multiplanar developable'. 1859 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* V. 443/2 Of the ganglia, it is exclusively the sympathetic which are made up of *multipolar ganglion-cells. 1884 HIGGS *Magn. Lyn. Electr. Mach.* 259 Formerly, in multipolar machines there were as many brushes as poles. 1846 DANA *Zooph.* vii. (1848) 113 Cells *multiradiate. 1878 BELL tr. *Gegenbaur's Comp. Anat.* 105 The acicular structures, which are combined together in various ways to form multiradiate stars. 1840 SMART, **Multiradiated.* 1819 LINDLEY tr. *Richard's Obs. Fruits & Seeds* 48 Some..botanists..have regarded such tubercles as so many radicles, and have attributed to these genera a *multiradicular embryo. 1878 BELL tr. *Gegenbaur's Comp. Anat.* 272 [In the Hemiptera] the fore-gut, which is frequently *multisacculate. 1870 H. A. NICHOLSON *Man. Zool.* 289 The..*multisegmentate 'cirri' of the adult [Cirripede]. 1881 *Athenæum* 18 June 818/1 A central *multisegmented axis. 1857 M. J. BERKELEY *Cryptog. Bot.* § 199 The filiform *multiseptate antheridia. 1838 G. JOHNSTON *Brit. Zoophytes* 287 *Flustra Murrayana,* cells *multiserial, ovate. 1872 H. A. NICHOLSON *Palæont.* 325 In the Pycnodonts the teeth are multiserial. 1870 ROLLESTON *Anim. Life* 71 The cells..are arranged *multiserially in parallel longitudinal rows. 1870 HOOKER *Stud. Flora* 187 Arctium..Pappus-hairs *multi-seriate. 1686 *Phil. Trans.* XVI. 287 The *Multisiliquose or corniculated Herbs, which after each Flower bear many Pods or horned Seed Vessels. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey) s. v. *Corniculate Plants,* They are also termed *Multisiliquous. 1887 BENTLEY *Man. Bot.* (ed. 5) 334 The fruit or pericarp is..*multispermous. 1900 *Proc. Zool. Soc.* 139 The meshes of the reticulum are *multispiculate. 1852 DANA *Crust.* I. 538 Carapax *multispinous. 1839 SOWERBY *Conch. Man.* 66 **Multispiral,* applied to a shell when the spire consists of numerous whorls; or to an operculum of numerous volutions. 1899 *Fortn. Rev.* LXV. 122 Arrangements of multispiral springs [etc.]. 1842 BRANDE *Dict. Sci.,* etc., **Multistriate.* 1856 MAYNE *Expos. Lex., Multisulcatus*..*multisulcate. 1840 SMART, **Multisulcated.* 1846 DANA *Zooph.* (1848) 698 Polyps *multitentaculate. 1888 *Q. Jrnl. Microsc. Sci.* XXIX. 20 The *multituberculate molar teeth of Myrmecobius. 1883 W. H. FLOWER in *Encycl. Brit.* XV. 376/1 Two small molars with low *multituberculated crowns. 1862 SMILES *Engineers* III. 100 Without the steam-blast.. the advantages of the *multitubular boiler (afterwards invented) could never have been fairly tested. 1874 J. GEOGHEGAN *Silk in India* 28 In 1866 experiments were tried .. with so-called Japan bivoltine and *multivoltine seed. 1883 G. WATT *Econ. Prod. India* III. 66 The multivoltine worms are confined chiefly to Bengal, where they produce three chief crops.

b. In general use (mostly nonce-words): as *multi-bladed, -branched, -faced, -faceted, -hued, -pointed, -spired, -threaded, -toned*; occas. with advb. force, as *multi-ramified.* **Multifi·stular** [L. *fistula*], consisting of many pipes. **Multiflu·vian** [L. *fluvius*], having many rivers flowing into it. **Multifu·rcate,** forked in many directions. **Multili·ngual,** using, characterized by, or written in, many languages. **Multime·dial,** coming through many media. **Multimo·nstrous,** consisting of many monstrosities. **Multipe·rsonal,** comprising several personalities. **Multise·nsual,** of many meanings. **Multiti·tular,** having many titles.

1897 MARY KINGSLEY *W. Africa* 455 The *multi-bladed, real throwing knives of some middle Congo tribes. 1862 *Temple Bar* VI. 266 The lofty and *multi-branched genealogical tree. 1821 SOUTHEY *Vis. Judgem.* v. 70 Caitiffs, are ye dumb? cried the *multifaced Demon in anger. 1885 E. DANNREUTHER in Grove *Dict. Mus.* IV. 366 This is the central question, the multifaced problem he set himself to solve. 1870 ROLLESTON *Anim. Life* p. cxi, The larger *multifacetted eyes. 1892 *Pictorial World* 2 Jan. 311/1 The multi-faceted mind of the German Aristophanes. 1728 NORTH *Mem. Music* (1846) 51 The organon hydraulicon distinguisht the *multifistular engine. 1807 J. BARLOW *Columb.* I. 514 Thy capes, Virginia,..guard secure thy *multifluvian Bay. 1816 BENTHAM *Chrestom.* Wks. 1843 VIII. 95 Why *bifurcate* rather than **multifurcate*? 1804 FESSENDEN *Orig. Poems* (1806) 17 The flame cinctur'd, *multihu'd arch in the sky. 1838 *Fraser's Mag.* XVII. 122 The art of *multilingual quotation is no mark of reading. 1880 WESTCOTT *Speaker's Comm., John* xix. 20 Such multilingual inscriptions were not uncommon in the Roman provinces. 1802–12 BENTHAM *Ration. Judic. Evid.* (1827) III. 438 For species..of *multimedial evidence, we have simple (composed either of multi-personal alone .. or of transcriptural alone), and complex. 1647 WARD *Simp. Cobl.* 21 Such a *multi-monstrous maufrey of heteroclytes and quicquidlibets. 1802–12 *Multipersonal [see *multimedial*]. 1899 C. F. D'ARCY *Ideal. & Theol.* iv. 153 Christianity teaches us to think of God as multipersonal unity. 1902 R. W. CHAMBERS *Maids of Paradise* vi. 104 He was engaged in constructing a *multi-pointed paper star. 1816 T. L. PEACOCK *Headlong Hall* i, Any of the last-named *multiramified families. 1811–31 BENTHAM *Logic* Wks. 1843 VIII. 249 *Multisensual, by reason of analogy. 1884 *Punch* 20 Sept. 141 Vast, *multi-spired, thick-roof'd..is London. 1844 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* VII. 236/1 '*Multi-threaded' ..screws. 1864 WEBSTER, **Multi-litular.* 1843 LYTTON *Last Bar.* II. i, Blended with these *multitoned discords.

2. Prefixed to a sb. either with adjectival sense = 'multiple, manifold', or with adverbial sense = 'in many ways or directions'. **Mu·lticycle,**

(*a*) a cycle having more than three wheels; (*b*) a cycle for two or more riders. **Multifœta·tion,** pregnancy with (*a*) more than one fœtus, or (*b*) more than two fœtuses. **Multiloca·tion,** location in many places at the same time. **Mu·ltimillionai·re,** one who is worth many millions of money. **Multispe·cialist,** a specialist in many subjects. **Mu·ltisyllable,** a polysyllable. † **Multithe·ism,** polytheism.

1887 *Longman's Mag.* July 271 Composite or *multicycles, carrying two or more passengers. 1898 *Field* 6 Aug. 275 This record stood until the 27th ult., when H. W. Payne, assisted by two multicycles as pacemakers, reduced this time to 1 min. 39⅘ sec. 1857 Dunglison *Dict. Med.*, **Multifœtation.* 1891 *Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1865 Pusey *Truth Eng. Ch.* 169 A *multilocation (i. e. a contemporaneous presence in different portions of space) of Mary, according to her flesh. 1893 *Month* Apr. 483 The multi-location of one substance in separate parts of space. 1858 O. W. Holmes *Aut. Breakf.-t.* x. (1895) 250 The *multi-millionaires sent him a trifle, it was said, to buy another eye with. 1904 J. Wells *J. H. Wilson* xiv. 118 Dr. Wilson might fairly be called a *multi-specialist. 1659 [O. Walker] *Instr. Art Oratory* 38 A *multisyllable better answers a monosyllable precedent, than a monosyllable a multisyllable. 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* II. (Globe) 585 For..Idolatry, and *Multitheism no People in the World ever went beyond them.

3. Prefixed to a sb. forming a compound used attrib. with the force of a parasynthetic adj.; e. g. *multicharge*, (of a cannon) capable of containing several charges; *multicoil*, consisting of many coils.

1883 *Standard* 21 Sept. 5/3 Haskell's accelerating *multicharge cannon. *a* 1894 C. G. Rossetti *Divers Worlds, The Earth shall tremble* iii, The *multichord Thrilled harp of heaven. 1877 *Elem. Lect. Electricity* 19 *Multicoil Galvanometer. This is a galvanometer with three distinct coils of wire. 1903 *Public Opinion* 8 Oct. 471/1 The *multi-course dinner. 1884 Knight *Dict. Mech.* Suppl., **Multi-cylinder Engine*, a steam engine with a plurality of cylinders. 1838 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* I. 121/1 The *multiflue boiler of Mr. Booth. 1778 [W. Marshall] *Minutes Agric.* 11 Sept. an. 1774 It [*sc.* an implement] is *multifurrow—the number may be increased or decreased at pleasure. 1884 Knight *Dict. Mech.* Suppl., *Multifurrow Plow*, one having several bodies for plowing two or more furrows at once. 1864 *Daily Tel.* 11 Apr. 3/2 The *multigroove rifling. 1895 *Century Mag.* Aug. 635/1 *Multi-partizan government leads inevitably to greater and more diversified partizanship. 1890 *Century Dict.*, **Multiphase*, having many phases, in any sense of that word. 1892 S. P. Thompson *Dynamo-Electr. Mach.* 687 Motors.. requiring multiphase currents. 1895–6 *Cal. Univ. Nebraska* 97 Single and multiphase dynamos. 1881 *Nature* XXV. 198 Our *multireflex arrangement for creating greater sensitiveness. 1778 [W. Marshall] *Minutes Agric.* 8 Jan. an. 1776 A *multi-soil Farm. 1884 *Cyclist* 13 Feb. 252/1 A new *multispeed gearing.

† **Multibibe.** *Obs.*—° [ad. L. *multibib-us*, f. *multi-* + *-bibus* drinking, *bibĕre* to drink.]

1727 Bailey vol. II, *Multibibe*, one that drinks much, a great Drinker.

Multibladed to **-carinated:** see Multi- 1 a, b.

Multicavous, *a. rare*—°. [f. L. *multicav-us* (f. *multus* Multi- + *cavus* hollow) + -ous.]

1721 Bailey, *Multicavous*, full of Holes. [Hence in Johnson, etc.].

Multicellular to **Multicoil:** see Multi- 1 a, 3.

† **Multicolorate,** *a. Obs.* [f. L. *multicolor*, late L. *multicolōrus* + -ate 2.] Multi-coloured.

1651 Biggs *New. Disp.* P 233 However oftentimes a multicolorate bloud by the Court-ship of iterated bloud-lettings may be sent forth.

Mu·lti-colour, *sb.* and *a.* [Multi- 2, 3.]

1. a. The condition of being many-coloured.

a 1849 Poe *Landscape Garden* Wks. 1864 IV. 340 In the multiform of the tree, and in the multicolor of the flower.

b. *pl.* Many or various colours.

1901 *Daily Chron.* 14 Dec. 8/4 Bars of applied silk done in multi-colours.

2. a. *attrib.* Applied to printing in many colours or a machine for such printing. b. *adj.* = next.

1881 *Macm. Mag.* XLIV. 388 Hawkweed topped all the multi-colour weeds. 1884 Knight *Dict. Mech.* Suppl., *Multicolor Printing Press*, a chromatic printing press. 1888 Jacobi *Printers' Vocab.*, *Multicolour letters.*—Characters cut in separate pieces for working in two or more colours.

Mu·lti-coloured, *a.* [Multi- 1.] Of many or various colours; many-coloured.

1845 Hirst *Poems* 65 Butterflies on every floweret wave their multi-coloured wings. 1859 Sala *Tw. round Clock* (1861) 417 Multicoloured streamers of attenuated ribbon. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 465 A rare but striking development of the ring formation is the production of multicoloured concentric circles.

Multi-corneal to **-facetted:** see Multi- 1, 2, 3.

Multifarious (mʌltifē·riəs), *a.* (*sb.*) [f. late L. *multifāri-us* (class.L. *multifāriam* adv.) + -ous.]

1. Having great variety or diversity; much diversified; (with pl. sb.) many and various.

1593 Nashe *Christ's T.* 38 The Scripture thou madest a too-to compounde Cabalisticall substaunce of, by canonizing such a multifarious Genealogie of Comments. 1617 Sir T. Lake in *Fortescue Papers* (Camden) 36 The title is multifarious and the contents multiplicious. *a* 1652 J. Smith *Sel. Disc.* i. 20 That complex and multifarious man that is made up of soul and body. 1655–87 H. More *App. Antid.* (1712) 194 This Idea is not free from the intanglement of multifarious Contradictions in the conception thereof. 1779 Johnson *L. P., Pope* (1868) 375 His reading, though his favourite authors are not known, appears to have been sufficiently extensive and multifarious. 1790 Burke *Fr. Rev.* 65 That multifarious thing called a state. 1826 Good *Bk. Nat.* (1834) I. 111 The component parts of the cemented rocks are often very multifarious. 1850 Grote *Greece* II. lxvi. (1862) VI. 1 Two years of cruel and multifarious suffering. 1884 F. Temple *Relat. Relig. & Sci.* iv. (1885) 99 The things themselves which thus change are as multifarious as the changes which they undergo.

b. *Bot.* (See quot.)

1838 Barton & Castle *Brit. Flora Med.* II. Gloss., *Multifarious*, very numerous; or arranged in many rows.

2. *Law.* 'Improperly joining in one bill distinct matters, and thereby confounding them' (Story).

1838 Story *Equity Pleadings* v. 186. 1872 *Law Rep.* Chanc. 7 App. 463 The bill is multifarious. Each Defendant has a separate defence, and the cases of all cannot be united in the same record.

3. *sb.* In Kantian philosophy = Manifold *sb.* 2 a.

1819 J. Richardson *Kant's Logic* Introd. 46 Distinctness itself may be two-fold: First, a sensual one. This consists in the consciousness of the multifarious by intuition. 1836 J. W. Semple *Kant's Metaphysic of Ethic* Introd. li. *note.* 1837 Sir W. Hamilton *Metaph.* xlvi. (1870) II. 509 The principal function of the Understanding, out of the multifarious presented to it, to form a whole.

Multifa·riously, *adv.* [-ly 2.] In a multifarious manner; with great variety or diversity; in many and various ways.

1657 Tomlinson *Renou's Disp.* 502 This syrupe is multifariously made. 1692 Bentley *Serm.* (1724) v. 194 If only xxiv parts..may be so multifariously placed and ordered,.. as to make many Millions of Millions of differing Rows. 1763 W. Lewis *Phil. Comm. Arts* 91 The mutual relations of bodies are multifariously modified by the circumstances in which the subjects are applied to one another. 1864 Burton *Scot Abr.* II. i. 116 Another multifariously endowed Scottish physician, Walter Donaldson. 1885 *Law Times* LXXIX. 58/2 The person..may sell it, lease it, and deal with it multifariously under the Act.

Multifa·riousness. [-ness.] The state or quality of being multifarious; multiplied diversity.

1687 Norris *Coll. Misc.* 439 According to the multifariousness of imitability, so are the possibilities of Being. 1849 Robertson *Serm.* Ser. I. ii. (1856) I. 28 Multifariousness of knowledge is commonly opposed to depth. 1893 *Nation* LVI. 14/3 The multifariousness of the workings of French upon our language.

b. *Law.* (See Multifarious *a.* 2.)

1838 Story *Equity Pleadings* v. 184. 1843 *Law Jrnl. Rep.* XII. I. 89 A demurrer, which had been filed upon two grounds, multifariousness and want of parties. 1876 *Law Rep.* 3 Chanc. Div. 370 Multifariousness..has ceased to be an objection by the express enactment of the Judicature Act.

† **Multifary,** *a. Obs.* In 5 -phary(e. [ad. L. *multifāri-us*, med.L. *-phārius.*] Multifarious.

? *a* 1412 Lydg. *Two Merch.* 530 'O, out on neede of malys multipharye', He gan to crye. 1436 *Libel Eng. Policy* in *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 181 As though wee sent into the londe of Fraunce Tenne thousande peple, men of gode puissaunce, To werre unto her hynderynge multiphary.

Multiferous (mʌlti·fĕrəs), *a. rare*—°. [f. L. *multifer* or mod.L. *multiferus*: see Multi- and -ferous.] (See quots.)

1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Multiferous*, bearing much or many; fruitful. 1721 in Bailey. 1856 Mayne *Expos. Lex.*, *Multiferus*, *Bot.*, employed by De Candolle to characterize vegetables which bear flowers and fruits many times in the course of a year: multiferous. 1866 in *Treas. Bot.*

Multifid (mʌ·ltifid), *a. Bot.* and *Zool.* [ad. L. *multifid-us*, f. *multus* Multi- + *fid-*, stem of *findĕre* to cleave.] Having many divisions; cleft or divided into many parts. Also *Comb.*

1752 J. Hill *Hist. Anim.* 23 The short and multifid-tailed monoculus. 1760 J. Lee *Introd. Bot.* II. xxxi. (1765) 153 *Cucurbica*, with multifid Leaves. 1835 Kirby *Hab. & Inst. Anim.* I. App. 359 The lubricous, multifid, and constantly moving organs. 1877 Huxley *Anat. Inv. Anim.* viii. 471 A simple, bifid, or multifid fold of the integument.

Hence **Mu·ltifidly** *adv.*, with multifid divisions.

1840 Paxton *Bot. Dict.*, *Multifidly-pinnatifid*; a leaf is so called when it is pinnately-lobed, and these lobes are again divided into many parts. 1857 *Moore's Handbk. Brit. Ferns* (ed. 3) 187 The rachis bifidly or multifidly divided towards the apex.

Multi·fido-, used as combining form of Multifid; = Multifidly.

1871 W. A. Leighton *Lichen-flora* 152 Multifido-laciniate.

Multifidous (mʌlti·fidəs), *a.* [f. L. *multifidus* Multifid + -ous.] = prec.: said *esp.* of feet, or of animals having such feet.

1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* III. xxvii. 175 Those animalls..which are multiparous and multifidous, that is, which have many at a litter, and have also their feet divided into many portions. 1715 *Phil. Trans.* XXIX. 307 Quadrupeds, Viviparous (multifidous and bifidous) and Oviparous. 1856 W. Clark *van der Hoeven's Zool.* I. 48 Lorica globose or oval..emitting from the terminal apertnre processes of the animal variable, multifidous.

Multifistular to **-flagellate:** see Multi- 1 a, b.

‖ **Multiflora** (mʌltiflō·ră). [L. fem. (sc. *rosa*) of *multiflōrus* Multiflorous.] A variety of rose.

1852 [see Monthly *sb.* 3]. 1869 Hole *Roses* 127 Nor am I acquainted..with any garden which has space to spare for the Multiflora or for the Hybrid Climbing Roses.

Multifloral (mʌltiflō·răl), *a. Bot.* [Formed as next + -al.] = next.

1875 Bennett & Dyer tr. *Sachs' Bot.* 431 The formation of multifloral inflorescences of peculiar form being characteristic of the more highly developed structure of Angiosperms.

Multiflorous (mʌltiflō·rəs), *a. Bot.* [f. late L. *multiflōr-us* (f. *multus* Multi- + *flōr-*, *flōs* flower) + -ous.] Of a stalk: Bearing many (i. e. more than three) flowers.

1760 J. Lee *Introd. Bot.* III. iv. (1765) 172 Uniflorous, Biflorous, Triflorous, or Multiflorous Peduncles. 1831 Macgillivray tr. *Richard's Elem. Bot.* 180.

Multi-flue to **-fœtation:** see Multi- 1 b, 2, 3.

Multifoil (mʌ·ltifoil). *Arch.* [f. Multi- 2 + Foil *sb.*1] An ornament consisting of many (i. e. more than five) foils. Also *attrib.* or *adj.*

1835 [see Foil *sb.*1 2 b]. 1848 B. Webb *Cont. Ecclesiol.* x. 419 There are multifoils with reliefs of angels singing. 1849 Freeman *Archit.* 278 The strange multifoil shape which is a peculiarity of the Arabian architecture of Spain.

Hence **Mu·ltifoiled** *a.*, composed of many foils.

1851 Ruskin *Stones Venice* I. viii. § 15 Multifoiled shafts are seldom true grouped shafts.

Multifold (mʌ·ltifould), *a.* [f. Multi- + -fold, after *manifold.*] Manifold.

1806 T. Maurice *Ind. Antiq.* I. 64 A first essay..composed ..amidst multifold disappointment. 1825 Coleridge *Lit. Rem.* (1836) II. 334 The multifold application of faculties common to man and brute animals. 1877 Ruskin *Fors Clav.* lxxviii. 161 Machinery for multifold killing.

Multifoliate, -foliolate: see Multi- 1 a.

Multiform (mʌ·ltifɔm), *a.* and *sb.* [a. F. *multiforme* or ad. L. *multiform-is*: see Multi- and -form.] **A.** *adj.* Having many forms, shapes, or appearances; highly diversified in form; of many and various forms or kinds.

1603 Florio *Montaigne* III. iii. (1632) 458 Life is a motion unequall, irregular and multiforme. 1667 Milton *P. L.* v. 182 Aire, and ye Elements..that in quaternion run Perpetual Circle, multiform. 1744 Harris *Three Treat.* i. (1765) 32 Human Life—a Compound of various and multiform Actions. 1784 Cowper *Task* II. 287 The shifts and turns, Th' expedients and inventions, multiform, To which the mind resorts. *a* 1817 T. Dwight *Trav. New Eng.*, etc. (1821) I. 509 The multiform brogue, which salutes the ears of a traveller in..New-York. 1859 Darwin *Orig. Spec.* v. 131 The variations—so common and multiform in organic beings under domestication. 1895 *Army & Navy Co-op. Soc.* Price List No. 62. 1649 Multiform or Lounge [Hat].

b. *Math.* (See quot.)

1893 A. R. Forsyth *Theory of Functions* 15 If a function have more than one value for any given value of the variable, or if its value can be changed by modifying the path in which the variable reaches that given value, the function is called multiform.

B. *sb.* That which is multiform; that which exhibits many and various forms. Also, multiform character, multiformity.

a 1849 Poe *Landscape Garden* Wks. 1864 IV. 340 In the multiform of the tree, and in the multicolor of the flower. 1852 H. Rogers *Ecl. Faith* (1853) 123 When I attempt..to seek the elusive unity in the infinite multiform. 1856 Mrs. Browning *Aur. Leigh* III. 9 If He spoke To Peter then, He speaks to us the same; The word suits many different martyrdoms, And signifies a multiform of death.

Hence **Mu·ltiformness** *rare*—°, multiformity.

1727 in Bailey vol. II.

Multifo·rmity. [ad. late L. *multiformitās*, f. *multiformis* (see prec.). Cf. F. *multiformité.*] The condition or character of being multiform; diversity or variety of form, shape, or appearance.

1589 Puttenham *Eng. Poesie* I. viii. (Arb.) 34 So is that part [the imagination]..in his much multiformitie vniforme, that is well proportioned. 1605 Bacon *Adv. Learn.* II. 64 Contention hath been mooued..touching an Vniformitie of Methode in Multiformitie of Matter. 1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* To Rdr., Barking out a multiformitie of oathes, like hellish Cerberi. 1720 J. Johnson *Collect. Laws*, etc. *Ch. Eng.* I. Pref. p. xvii, Which created Confusion and Multiformity in the Church. *a* 1834 Coleridge *Notes & Lect.* (1849) I. 105 The characters in this play are either impersonated out of Shakspeare's own multiformity..or [etc.]. 1862 Merivale *Rom. Emp.* lxiv. (1865) VIII. 77 The immensity and multiformity of Nature. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 56 The multiformity and frequent latency of the disease.

Multifo·rmous, *a. rare.* [f. L. *multiform-is* Multiform + -ous.] Multiform.

a 1670 Hacket *Cent. Serm.* (1675) 171 His justice was multiformous in all the actions of his life. *a* 1670 — *Abp. Williams* I. (1692) 204 His [Buckingham's] multiformous places compelled such a swarm of suitors to hum about him that [etc.]. 1847–54 Webster (citing Taylor).

Multi·forous, *a. rare*—°. [f. L. *multifor-is*, *-us* (f. *multus* Multi- + *foris* door, opening).]

1721 Bailey, *Multiforous*, having many Holes. 1856 Mayne *Expos. Lex.*, *Multiforus*, *Zool.*, ..pierced by a great number of holes, as the *Asterias multifora*: multiforous.

Multifurcate to **-ganglionate:** see Multi-.

Multige·nerous, *a. rare*—°. [f. L. *multigener-us* (f. *multus* Multi- + *gener-*, *genus* kind) + -ous.] 1721 Bailey, *Multigenerous*, of many Kinds.

Multigranulate to **-laminar:** see Multi- 1, 3.

Multila·teral, *a.* [Multi- 1. Cf. med.L. *multilaterus* (Boeth.), *multilaterālis* (Duns Scotus).]

1. *Geom.* Having many (i. e. more than four) sides; = Many-sided 1.

1696 Phillips, *Multilateral*, all Figures that have more than four Right Lines. *a* 1696 Scarburgh *Euclid* (1705) 27 After the division of strait-lin'd Figures..into Trilateral.. and Multilateral, Euclide begins [etc.]. 1766 *Complete Farmer* s.v. *Surveying* ¶ E 4/2 A regular polygon, otherwise called a regular multangular, or multilateral figure. 1862 Toohunter *Euclid* Def. 23 Multilateral figures, or polygons, [bounded] by more than four straight lines. 1875 Bennett & Dyer tr. *Sachs' Bot.* 765 Multilateral erect stems.

2. *fig.* = Many-sided 2.

1784 Sir W. Jones in *Burke's Corr.* (1844) III. 31 The charter of justice..makes me multilateral; it gives me an equity side, a law side, an ecclesiastical side, a crown side, an admiralty side. 1869 J. F. Clarke *Brahmanism* in *Atlantic Monthly* May 561/1 The whole poem represents the multilateral character of Hinduism.

3. (See quot.)

1802-12 Bentham *Ration. Judic. Evid.* (1827) II. 495 In the case of a bilateral or multilateral deed, viz. to which there are parties more than one.

Hence **Multila·terally** *adv.*, so as to make a multilateral figure; **Multila·teralness**, the condition or quality of being many-sided.

1731 Bailey vol. II, *Multilateralness.* 1847 Tulk tr. *Oken's Physiophilos.* 222 The spiriform ranks higher. In it the stem is manifestly differenced more multilaterally. 1879 *Haeckel's Evol. Man* I. viii. 214 Granular entoderm-cells, which, by mutual pressure, are flattened multilaterally.

Multilineal to **-loculated**: see Multi- 1 a, 2.

Multi-loqua·cious, *a.* = Multiloquent.

1819 *Metropolis* II. 179 A fat, elderly gentleman, multi-loquacious, and who speaks very fast.

Multiloquence (mʌlti·lōkwĕns). *rare.* [ad. late L. *multiloquentia*: see Multi- and Loquency.] Much speaking; talkativeness; use of many words.

1760 'J. Copywell' [W. Woty] *Shrubs of Parnassus* 147 Where Clamour wages war with Sense, And Oratory centres in Multiloquence. 1846 Worcester (citing J. Q. Adams). 1893 *Temple Bar* XCVII. 625 He would invariably flounder astray in his own multiloquence.

So **Multi·loquent** [cf. Loquent], **Multilo·quious** (whence **Multilo·quiousness**), **Multi·loquous** [L. *multiloqu-us*] *adjs.*, given to much talking, talkative; **Multi·loquy** [L. *multiloqui-um*] = Multiloquence.

1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, **Multiloquent*, full of speech, that hath many words. 1891 S. Mostyn *Curatica* 77 He ventured more than once to silence even the multiloquent Babbleton. 1640 Quarles *Enchir.* (1641) II. xxvi, With three sorts of men enter no serious friendship: The Ingratefull man; the *Multiloquious man; the Coward. 1727 Bailey vol. II, **Multiloquiousness*, talkativeness. 1658 Phillips. 1664 *New Haven Col. Rev.* (1858) II. 530 In your large scedule and *multiloquous penings. 1542 Becon *Pathw. Prayer* xxxiii, V^t *multiloquie & manner of bablyng in prayers, which the Ethnickes & Infidels dyd vse. 1677 Gale *Crt. Gentiles* III. 205 In Battologie there are two vices, (1) vain repetition of the same words, (2) Multiloquie or much speaking. 1700 Astry tr. *Saavedra-Faxardo* I. 81 Multiloquy makes their Words unregarded. 1721 Bailey, *Multiloquy*, talkativeness.

Multimacular to **-millionaire**: see Multi-.

Multimodous, *a.* [f. L. *multimod-us* (f. *multus* Multi- + *modus* Mode *sb.*) + -ous.]

1727 Bailey vol. II, *Multimodous*, of divers Sorts, fashions or manner.

Multimonstrous to **-nodous**: see Multi- 1.

Multinomial (mʌltinōu·miăl), *a.* and *sb. Alg.* Also 7 **-nomall.** [f. Multi- after *binomial.* Cf. F. *multinome* sb., †*multinomie* adj.] **A.** *adj.* Of an expression: Consisting of many (i. e. more than two) terms connected by the signs + or −.

Multinomial Theorem, a theorem discovered by De Moivre for the expression of any power of a multinomial without actual involution.

1608 R. Norton tr. *Stevin's La Disme* D, Ptolome and Iohannes Monta-regio haue not described their Tables of Arches, Chords, or Sines, in extreme perfection (as possibly they might haue done by Multinomall numbers) [orig. *nombres multinomies*]. 1697 *Phil. Trans.* XIX. 619 The infinite Number Multinomial. 1704 [see Polynomial A. 1]. 1706 W. Jones *Syn. Palmar. Matheseos* 42 When the Dividend and Divisor are Multinomial Quantities .. there may be a Common Multiplier of both. 1742 McLaurin *Fluxions* II. 761 An investigation of the binomial and multinomial theorems. 1858 Todhunter *Algebra* xxxvii. § 530 By applying the multinomial theorem to find the coefficients of other powers of *x*. 1904 *Jrnl. Math.* Ser. II. II. 478 The deficient multinomial expansion $\{x_1+x_2+x_3+\dots\}^p$.

B. *sb.* A multinomial expression.

1674 Jeake *Arith.* (1696) 294 Where the composition hath more than two parts, the Compound is called a Polynomial or a Multinomial. 1697 *Phil. Trans.* XIX. 619 A Method of Raising an infinite Multinomial to any given Power. .. By Mr. Ab. De Moivre. 1742 McLaurin *Fluxions* II. 608 Mr. De Moivre's theorem for raising a multinomial to any power of the index *n*. 1858 Todhunter *Algebra* xxxvii. § 528 The expansion of the proposed multinomial.

Multinominal (mʌltinǫ·minăl), *a.* [f. L. *multi-nōmin-is* (f. *multus* Multi- + *nōmin-*, *nōmen* name) + -al.] Having many names; polyonymous.

1656 Blount *Glossogr.* 1822 T. Taylor *Apuleius* XI. 281 The divine mandates of the multinominal Goddess. 1855 M. Baidges *Pop. Mod. Hist.* xx. 462 At these places he crushed..the multinominal and heroic legions of his enemies.

So †**Multino·minous** *a.*

a 1615 Donne *Ess.* (1651) 101 How multinominous is the father in law of Moses? *a* 1631 — *Paradoxes* (1652) 52 Why is Venus-star multinominous, called both Hesperus and Vesper?

Multinuolear to **-paleaceous**: see Multi- 1 a.

‖ **Multipara** (mʌlti·pără). *Obstetrics.* [mod. L., fem. of *multiparus*: see Multi- and -parous.] A woman who has borne more than one child.

1872 T. G. Thomas *Dis. Women* (ed. 3) 76 Should the case be one of a multipara, the cylinder may be introduced without pain. 1879 J. M. Duncan *Clin. Lect. Dis. Women* xix. 209 Procidentia is..more likely to occur to a multipara than a primipara.

Multipa·rient, *a.* [See Multi- and Parient *a.*] = next 1.

1822 Good *Study Med.* IV. 233 While some women produce thus rapidly in single succession, there are others that are multiparient. 1851 Ramsbotham *Obst. Med. & Surg.* (ed. 3) 49 If one ovary only is removed from a multiparient animal, she becomes less fruitful.

Multiparous (mʌlti·părəs), *a.* [f. mod.L. *multipar-us*: see Multi- and -parous.]

1. Bringing forth many young at a birth; pertaining to or characterized by this kind of parturition.

1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* III. xv. 141 It is not denied there have been bicipitous Serpents with the head at each extream,..which double formations do often happen unto multiparous generations. *Ibid.* 175 [see Multifidous]. 1691 Ray *Creation* (1692) 106 Multiparous quadrupeds, as Dogs, as Swine, are furnished with a multitude of Paps. 1782 A. Monro *Compar. Anat.* (ed. 3) 31 In bitches and other multiparous animals. 1829 *Good's Study Med.* V. 225 *Parodynia Pluralis.* Multiparous Labour. 1839-47 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* III. 315/1 The oviducts are shorter..in the multiparous Kangaroo, than in the multiparous Opossums. 1870 Rolleston *Anim. Life* 8 The multiparous character of the order [Rodentia].

2. That is a multipara; of or pertaining to a woman who has borne more than one child.

1860 Tanner *Pregnancy* ii. 78 The multiparous organ [*sc.* uterus] is in every respect rather larger and heavier. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 572 In the case of children of the multiparous, no less than 16 proved insusceptible to vaccination.

3. *Bot.* Applied to a cyme that has many axes.

1880 A. Gray *Struct. Bot.* 152 Bravais distinguishes cymes as multiparous, with three or more lateral axes; biparous [etc.].

Hence **Multipa·rity** [see Parity 2].

1890 *Cent. Dict.* 1905 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 16 Sept. 42 Woman is in a state of transition from multiparity to uniparity.

Multipartite (mʌltipā·ɹtəit), *a.* [ad. L. *multipartīl-us*: see Multi- and Partite *a.*] Divided into many parts; having many divisions.

1721 in Bailey. 1775 Jenkinson *Brit. Plants* Gloss. 1811-31 Bentham *Logic* Wks. 1843 VIII. 253/1 Strict division is bipartite; loose division is multipartite. 1819 *Pantologia* s. v., Multipartite Corol,..Multipartite leaf... Divided into several parts almost to the bottom. 1872 Oliver *Elem. Bot.* II. 153 Meadow Geranium..with multipartite stipulate leaves. 1891 tr. *Harnack's Diff. & Int. Calc.* 367 All the curves constituting the multipartite boundary of a domain. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 638 The ordinary 'multinucleated' leucocytes, or more correctly, those with multipartite nucleus.

Multi-partizan: see Multi- 3.

Multiped, -pede (mʌltiped, -pēd), *sb.* and *a.* Now *rare.* [ad. L. *multiped-*, *-pēs* sb. and adj., *multipeda* sb., f. *multus* Multi- + *pēs* foot.] **A.** *sb.* A many-footed creature; † *spec.* a woodlouse.

1601 Holland *Pliny* II. 378 A liniment made with the creepers called Sowes or Multipedes. 1670 Lister in *Phil. Trans.* V. 2067 The Long and Round-bodied read-coloured Julus, distinguished from all other Multipeds, in that their innumerable legs are as small as hair, and white. 1713 Derham *Phys.-Theol.* IX. i. (1714) 406 *note*, It is a wonderful pretty Mechanism observable in the going of Multipedes, as the *Juli*, *Scolopendræ*, &c. 1860 *Temple Bar* I. 127 Those multipeds have the advantage over quadrupeds. 1861 *Fraser's Mag.* Dec. 766 A blood-thirsty swarm of brown broad backed multipeds.

B. *adj.* Many-footed.

1736 H. Brooke *Univ. Beauty* v. 110 All the wondrous train, Who plung'd recluse in silent caverns sleep; Or multipede, Earth's leafy verdure creep. 1798 G. Wakefield *Lett. Sir J. Scott* 18 Every fellow-creature, biped, quadruped, or multiped. 1828-32 Webster, *Multiped.* 1850 Ogilvie, *Multipede.*

So **Multipedous** (mʌlti·pĭdəs) *a.*, pertaining to or characteristic of many-footed animals.

1713 Derham *Phys.-Theol.* IX. i. (1714) 406 Motion.. Vermicular, or Sinuous..or the Multipedous, or any other Way. 1851 *Fraser's Mag.* XLIII. 211 This subcuticular multipedous mode of going through the world.

Multiperforate to **-planar**: see Multi- 1 a, 3.

Multiple (mʌltip'l), *a.* and *sb.* Also 6 *Sc.* multipill (?), 8 (*rare*) multuple. [a. F. *multiple*, ad. late L. *multiplus* (cf. *duplus* Double) = L. *multiplex* (see Multiplex). The word is rare before the 19th c. exc. in A. 1 and B. 2.] **A.** *adj.*

1. *Math.* **a.** That is a multiple (see B. 2); † that is some multiple *of.*

1714 Barrow *Euclid* VII. Def. 20 Numbers are proportionall, when the first is as multiple of the second, as the third is of the fourth. 1727-52 Chambers *Cycl.* s. v., Multiple ratio, or proportion, is that which is between multiple numbers. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIII. 564/2 *marg.*, Formulæ for multiple and sub-multiple angles.

b. *Multiple proportion, ratio*: the proportion or ratio existing between a quantity and some multiple of it, or between several multiples of it. *Law of multiple proportions* (Chem.): see quot. 1876.

1704 J. Harris *Lex. Techn.* I, *Multiple Proportion*, is when the Antecedent being divided by the Consequent, the Quotient is more than Unity. 1795 Hutton *Math. Dict.* s. v., Duple, triple, &c. ratios; as also subduples, subtriples, &c., are so many species of Multiple and Submultiple ratios. 1837 Whewell *Hist. Induct. Sci.* I. 151 Dalton's ideas concerning multiple proportions. 1876 Armstrong in *Eneycl. Brit.* V. 468/1 It is often the case that elements combine together in several proportions; whenever this occurs the several proportions in which the one element unites with the other invariably bear a simple relation to one another. Thus 1 part by weight of hydrogen unites with 8 parts by weight of oxygen, forming water, and with 16 or 8×2 parts of oxygen, forming peroxide of hydrogen. ..This law is known as the law of combination in multiple proportions.

c. *Printing. Multiple mark* (see quot.).

1888 Jacobi *Printers' Vocab., Multiple mark.*—A sign in arithmetic, thus ×.

2. Consisting of or characterized by many parts, elements, or individual components; having many origins, results, influences, issues, or the like; manifold. With pl. sb.: Many and various.

1647 N. Bacon *Disc. Govt. Eng.* I. vii. 25 That Kings should bow down their necks under the double or rather multiple yoke of Pope and Archbishops. 1662 Petty *Taxes* x. § 13 Why should not the solvent thieves and cheats be rather punished with multiple restitutions than death, pillory, whipping, &c.? *a* 1734 North *Lives* (1826) I. 427 It introduced two reports instead of one, and multiple attendances. 1831 Carlyle *Sart. Res.* I. vii. (1858) 29 Doublets of fustian, under which lie multiple ruffs of cloth. 1859 Darwin in *Life & Lett.* (1887) II. 230 You overrate the importance of the multiple origin of dogs. 1876 *Haeckel's Hist. Creation* II. 45 The multiple, or polyphyletic, hypothesis of descent. 1879 Thomson & Tait *Nat. Phil.* I. I. § 327 This problem is essentially determinate, but generally has multiple solutions. 1886 *Sat. Rev.* 12 June 801/1 The intention of the Government to abolish the multiple vote which now belongs to the larger ratepayers.

3. In technical use.

a. *Anat., Zool.*, and *Bot.* † **b.** *Chem.* Of salts: Containing many 'ingredients' or radicals. **c.** *Astron.* (*Multiple star*: a cluster of stars forming apparently one system.) **d.** *Path.* Involving many parts, etc. **e.** *Physics.* (*Multiple echo, image*: see quots.) **f.** *Electr.* (*Multiple arc*: a compound electric circuit. *Multiple telegraphy*: a system by which many messages may be sent over the same wire.) **g.** Applied to mechanical contrivances or operations in which there are many parts of the same kind or in which the same action is many times repeated. **h.** *Math.* (See quots.) **i.** In the Kantian philosophy: That is a manifold. *rare.*

a. 1752 J. Hill *Hist. Anim.* 20 The Monoculus, with multiple and capillaceous antennæ. 1831 Macgillivray tr. *Richard's Elem. Bot.* 109 The bulb is sometimes simple... Or it is multiple, when several small bulbs are found collected under the same envelope. *Ibid.* 319 Multiple fruits are those which result from the aggregation of several pistils contained in the same flower. 1848 *Quain's Anat.* (ed. 5) 972 The fangs of all the molar teeth are multiple. 1887 Bentley *Man. Bot.* (ed. 5) 239 The corolla is usually composed of but one whorl of petals,..but in some flowers there are two or more whorls..in which case it is called multiple.

b. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVI. 628/2 M. Magellan thinks, that the aphronitrum is not only a triple but a multiple salt. 1865 Mansfield *Salts* 55 A double salt will be indicated by a single cross,..the cross being repeated for multiple salts of higher degree.

c. 1850 J. P. Nichol *Archit. Heavens* 207 Multiple stars and groups like the Pleiades. *Ibid.* Contents p. xxi, Multiple systems. 1867 H. Macmillan *Bible Teachings* i. (1870) 17 The double and multiple stars shine with differently-coloured light.

d. 1851 Paget *Lect. Tumours* vii. 78 Multiple ossifications of tendons, muscles, and other tissues. 1857 Bullock tr. *Cazeaux' Midwifery* 238 The term, compound or multiple pregnancy, has been applied to that in which two or more fœtuses are enclosed in the uterine cavity. 1872 T. Bryant *Pract. Surg.* 255 Sometimes they [*sc.* sublingual cysts] are multiple, and on several occasions on opening one cyst I have seen a second within. 1877 tr. *von Ziemssen's Cycl. Med.* XII. 708 Abscess of the brain is either single or multiple. *Ibid.* 852 Multiple cerebro-spinal sclerosis. 1887 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 26 Mar. 681/1 Multiple Peripheral (Alcoholic) Neuritis in Women.

e. 1727-52 Chambers *Cycl.* s. v. *Echo*, A multiple echo may be made, by so placing the echoing bodies, at unequal distances, as that they may reflect all one way. 1863 Atkinson tr. *Ganot's Nat. Philos.* § 193 Multiple echoes are those which repeat the same sound several times; this is the case when two opposite surfaces..successively reflect sound. *Ibid.* § 416 Multiple images formed by glass mirrors.

f. 1873 F. Jenkin *Electr. & Magn.* iv. § 7 With a long circuit of great external resistance large cells, or many of them joined in multiple arc, will fail to give us strong currents. 1877 *Athenæum* 21 July 84/1 An apparatus designed for multiple telegraphy, in which vibrations from a number of forks at the sending end were to be taken up by corresponding forks at the other end. 1879 G. Prescott *Sp. Telephone* 50 A practical system of multiple telegraphy. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIII. 124/1 Delaunay's multiple telegraph.

g. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1496/2 *Multiple bolt*, an arrangement by which a number of bolts are simultaneously moved. 1879 *Engineering* XXVII. 506 Multiple woodboring machine. *Ibid.* XXVIII. 195 Multiple drilling machine for rails. 1891 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Multiple staining*, dyeing tissues for microscopical examination with more than one staining agent.

h. 1841 D. F. Gregory *Ex. Diff. & Int. Calc.* xi. 460 Multiplication of several definite integrals together, so as to obtain a multiple integral. 1842 De Morgan *Diff. & Int. Calc.* 379 Multiple points are those in which two or more branches of the curve pass through the same point. 1879 Salmon *Higher Plane Curves* 32 A curve may.. have multiple tangents; or, in other words, that there may be lines which touch the curve in two or more points, or which bave with the curve a contact of the second or higher order.

i. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XIII. 176/1 The multiple matter presented by experience. *Ibid.* 176/2 The matter of mathematics is the multiple object of space and time.

4. *Comb.*, as *multiple-valued* adj.; **multiple-annular**, of many rings; **b.** in phr. with sb. used attrib., as *multiple contact switch*; **multiple-colour, -cylinder, -phase** = Multi-colour, etc.

1902 *Scotsman* 3 Jan. 7/6 A wonderfully complex, spiral, or *multiple-annular, nebula. 1899 *Daily News* 16 Feb. 5/1 His scheme of *multiple-colour illumination. 1889 *Electr. Engineer* 19 Apr. 310 The secondary coil is sub-divided into a number of sections connected with a *multiple contact switch. 1888 J. F. Wilson & D. Grey *Mod. Printing Mach.* x. 201 The large *multiple-cylinder machine erected

by Colonel Hoe in 1848 for the Parisian daily paper *La Patrie*. **1891** *Times* 28 Sept. 13/6 A self-exciting *multiple-phase alternator of 80 volts electromotive force. **1878** *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 731/2 (art. *Money*) When the state fixes the ratio between these metals a new system has come into existence, which has been called the *multiple tender system. **1882** MINCHIN *Unipl. Kinemat.* 197 Hence we do not get a *multiple-valued potential at *Q*.

B. *sb.*

†**1.** = MULTIPLIE. *Sc. Obs.* (Perh. an error.)

1577–95 *Descr. Isles Scot.* in Skene *Celtic Scot.* (1880) III. App. 437 In all the small burnis of this Ile are multipill of salmond and other fisches.

2. *Math.* A quantity which contains another quantity some number of times without remainder. Thus, 4 is a multiple of 2; 6, of 2 and of 3.

Least common multiple (L. C. M.): the least quantity that contains two or more quantities some number of times without remainder; e.g. 12 is the L. C. M. of 2, 3, and 4.

1685 tr. *Milliet's Elem. Euclid* v. 209 If the multiple of the first exceed that of the second, the multiple of the third will also exceed that of the fourth. *a* **1696** SCARBURGH *Euclid* (1705) 181 If the Antecedent be not..a Multiple of the Consequent. **1818** HALLAM *Mid. Ages* viii. 1. (1819) II. 401 The preference given to twelve, or some multiple of it, in fixing the number ..of judges. **1823** J. MITCHELL *Dict. Math. & Phys. Sci.* s. v., To find the least common Multiple of several Numbers. **1856** KANE *Arct. Expl.* II. vii. 81 Their breadth either twelve, twenty-four, thirty-six, or some other multiple of twelve paces.

b. In chemical use (cf. A. 2 b).

1812 SIR H. DAVY *Chem. Philos.* 112 If one number be employed to denote the smallest quantity in which a body combines, all other quantities of the same body will be multiples of this number. **1857** MILLER *Elem. Chem., Org.* (1862) III. 28 Containing a certain additional number of multiples of the hydrocarbon C_2H_2. **1881** LUBBOCK in *Nature* 1 Sept. 403/2 Nearly all atomic weights are simple multiples of the atomic weight of hydrogen.

c. *fig.*

1858 J. MARTINEAU *Stud. Chr.* 171 According as we..take each man as an integer, of which the race is a multiple [etc.]. **1869** LECKY *Europ. Mor.* (1877) I. 89 No multiple of the pleasure of eating pastry can be an equivalent to the pleasure derived from a generous action.

3. In the Kantian philosophy = MANIFOLD *sb.* 2 a.

1839 *Penny Cycl.* XIII. 176/1 The understanding, which subsumes the given multiple into unity.

Multiple, variant of MULTIPLIE *Sc. Obs.*

†**Multiplee.** *Math. Obs.* [? f. MULTIPLE + -EE (with vague meaning).] A partial product. Also (*? erron.*) a multiple.

1660 J. MOORE *Arithm.* I. 50 (*Division*) In this example I set 568 on the [Napier's] bones, which gives me the severall Multiplées. **1674** JEAKE *Arith.* (1696) 23 Under all these lines of production sometime called Multiplees..draw another right line. **1706** PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Multiplee*, is a greater Number that contains a less, a certain Number of Times without any Remainder.

Mu·ltipleποi·nding. *Scots Law.* [See POIND *v.*] An action raised by the holder of a fund or property to which there are several claimants, who are thereby required to come together and settle their claims in court.

1693 STAIR *Instit.* III. i. (ed. 2) 376 Seing he ought to have raised a Process of multiple poinding, calling the Debitor and all the Arresters or Assigneys to dispute their several Rights. **1753** *Scots Mag.* May 258/1 A multiple-poinding was brought by the heritors. **1824** SCOTT *Redgauntlet* let. xiii, How can he bring a Multiplepoinding, the very summons of which sets forth, that the pursuer does owe certain monies, which he is desirous to pay by warrant of a judge? **1890** *Daily News* 30 Jan. 4/2 In the action of Multiplepoinding defending before the Lords of Council and Session, at the instance of Henry Calder..and others the sole trustees..acting under the Trust Disposition and Settlement, granted by Alexander Robertson,..and Mrs. Catherine Robertson,..Pursuers and Real Raisers.

Multiplex (mʌ·ltipleks), *a.* and *sb.* †Pl. **multiplices** (*Math.*). [a. L. *multiplex*, f. *multus* MULTI- + *-plex* = -FOLD.]

A. *adj.*

†**1.** *Math.* a. *Multiplex to, of*: that is some multiple of. *Obs.*

1570 BILLINGSLEY *Euclid* v. 126 b, Multiplex is a greater magnitude in respect of the lesse, when the lesse measureth the greater. As the line CD..is multiplex to the lyne AB. **1651** T. RUDD *Euclide* 185 How multiplex one magnitude is to one, so multiplex are all the magnitudes, to all. **1660** BARROW *Euclid* VI. Prop. 1 The triangle ACH is as multiplex of the triangle ACB, as the base HC is of the base BC. **1690** LEYBOURN *Curs. Math.* 211 Where AB 3 measureth CD 9, and therefore 9 is Multiplex to 3.

†b. *Multiplex proportion,* multiple proportion.

1557 RECORDE *Whetst.* B iv b, There is one kinde of proportion, that is named multiplex, or manyfolde. **1609** DOWLAND *Ornith. Microl.* 62 The Proportions, which make Musicall Consonances, are six..three in the Multiplex Kind, ..3 in the super particular. **1709–29** V. MANDEY *Syst. Math., Arith.* 35 *Proportion Multiplex*, is the Habitude of a greater Number to a lesser, when the greater Number contains the lesser some times exactly. **1788** T. TAYLOR *Proclus* I. 49 All the multiplex and super-particular proportions which they [*sc.* numbers] contain.

2. = MANIFOLD *a.* 1, 2; MULTIPLE *a.* 2, 3.

1676 GREW *Anat. Flowers* ii. § 21 The reason why the Figure of the Flower is more multiplex, than that of the Leaf. **1822** T. L. PEACOCK *Maid Marian* i, The whole complex and multiplex detail of the noble science of dinner. **1837** CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* (1872) III. I. viii. 54 Vehicles of all forms: ..carriages, single, double and multiplex. **1838** — *Sart. Res.* III. x, Their raiment..is fastened together by a multiplex combination of buttons, thrums, and skewers. **1879** FARRAR *St. Paul* I. 10 Brief and scattered letters out of the multiplex correspondence of a varied life. **1886** PATER *Ess. fr. Guardian* (1896) 25 So multiplex is the result that minds of quite opposite type might well discover in these pages their own special thought or humour.

3. In technical use. (Cf. MULTIPLE *a.* 3.)

a. *Bot.* Having many parts of the same kind together. Of a corolla: Having petals lying over each other in folds.
b. *Electr.* = MULTIPLE *a.* 3 f. c. *Philos.* = MULTIPLE *a.* 3 i.
d. *Path.* = MULTIPLE *a.* 3 d.

a. 1819 *Pantologia* s. v., *Multiplex Corol.* **1856** HENSLOW *Dict. Bot. Terms* 111 *Multiplex*, where many of the same parts or organs occur together.

b. **1886** *Rep. Brit. Ass.* 812 Multiplex Telegraphy. By W. H. Preece, F.R.S. **1895–6** *Cal. Univ. Nebraska* 102 Telegraphy and Telephony. Single, duplex, quadruplex, and multiplex systems.

c. **1838** tr. *Kant's Crit. Pure Reason* Explan. Terms 648 Diverse, Multifarious, Multiplex, Various, (*Mannichfaltig*).

d. **1899** *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 895 Eyelid xanthoma differs essentially in structure from the multiplex variety.

B. *sb.*

†**1.** *Math.* = MULTIPLE *sb.* 2. *Obs.*

1570 BILLINGSLEY *Euclid* v. 132 For the multiplex of 3.. ye shall haue 18. **1651** T. RUDD *Euclide* 183 When equimultiplices being taken, the multiplex of the first exceedeth the multiplex of the second .. then [etc.]. *Ibid.* 195 Like parts of multiplices .. have one and the same proportion. **1695** ALINGHAM *Geom. Epit.* 61 The double, treble, (or any other Multiplex..) of two quantities are in the same reason as the Quantities themselves.

2. In the Kantian philosophy: = MANIFOLD *sb.* 2 a.

1836 J. W. SEMPLE *Kant's Metaphysic of Ethic* Introd. p. li. *note*, Even Space and Time, though singulars *a priori*, do, so far forth as they consist of *partes extra partes*, exhibit a multiplex.

Mu·ltipliable, *a.* [f. MULTIPLY *v.* + -ABLE. So in Fr.] Capable of being multiplied.

1625 BP. HALL *Medit.* III. lxxviii. Wks. 62 Good deeds are very fruitfull; and not so much of their nature, as of Gods blessing, multipliable. **1678** CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* I. v. 776 It is Indivisibly and Vnmultipliedly, and Illocally.. present with that which is naturally Divisible and Multipliable, and in a Place. **1706** PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Multipliable*, or *Multiplicable*. **1865** RUSKIN *Sesame* i. § 32 There is bread, sweet as honey,..in a good book; and the family must be poor indeed which, once in their lives, cannot, for such multipliable barley-loaves, pay their baker's bill.

Hence **Mu·ltipliableness** (Bailey vol. II, 1727).

†**Mu·ltipliant.** *Arith. Obs.* [a. F. *multipliant*, pres. pple. of *multiplier* to MULTIPLY.] As adj. in *number multipliant* and absol. as sb.: = MULTIPLIER 2.

c **1430** *Art Nombryng* (E. E. T. S.) 10 Euery figure of the nombre multipliant is to be brought to the last save one nombre to be multipliede, til me come to the first of the multipliant.

Multiplicability (mʌ·ltiplikăbi·lĭti). *rare.* [f. next: see -ITY.] Capability of being multiplied.

1677 [see next]. **1851** RUSKIN *Stones Venice* I. App. xvii. 393 *note*, Of course mere multiplicability, as of an engraving, does not diminish the intrinsic value of the work.

Multiplicable (mʌ·ltiplikăb'l), *a.* [ad. L. *multiplicābil-is*, f. *multiplicāre* to MULTIPLY.]

1. Capable of being multiplied; multipliable.

1471 RIPLEY *Comp. Alch.* in Ashm. (1652) 111 Eche thing multiplicable is in hys kinde. **1596** BELL *Surv. Popery* III. viii. 336 They that pray are innumerable and multiplicable into infinit *in potentia*. **1654** JER. TAYLOR *Real Pres.* 221 How then can Christs body be supposed to be multiplicable? **1677** GALE *Crt. Gentiles* IV. 250 If a singular is not multiplicable, then whatever agrees to any thing as singular admits not of multiplicabilitie. **1826** BENTHAM in *Westm. Rev.* VI. 497 Of all multiplicable beings,—among those in whose instance the practice of that rule of arithmetic is most mischievous, are locusts. **1851** RUSKIN *Stones Venice* I. App. xvii. 393 As noble..as coins can be, or common cast bronzes, and such other multiplicable things.

†**2.** In active sense: Capable of multiplying (in the alchemical sense). *Obs.*

1471 RIPLEY *Comp. Alch.* in Ashm. (1652) 188 Then hast thou a Medcyn of the thyrd order of hys owne kynde Multyplycable.

Multiplicand (mʌ·ltiplikæ·nd, mʌ·ltiplikænd). *Math.* [ad. L. *multiplicand-us*, gerundive of *multiplicāre* to MULTIPLY. Cf. F. *multiplicande* (16th c.).] The quantity to be multiplied: correlative to *multiplier*.

1594 BLUNDEVIL *Exerc.* I. iv. (1636) 9 The multiplicand, which must alwayes stand above. **1674** JEAKE *Arith.* (1696) 23 Multiply every figure of the Multiplicand by the multiplying digit. **1798** HUTTON *Course Math.* (1806) I. 32 Set the multiplier under the lowest denomination of the multiplicand, and draw a line below it. **1859** B. SMITH *Arith. & Algebra* (ed. 6) 11 The number to be repeated or added to itself, is called the Multiplicand. **1875** *Encycl. Brit.* II. 528/1 The process of multiplication by a single digit—by 8, for instance—is nothing but an abridgement of the operation of writing the multiplicand eight times and adding.

Multiplicate (mʌ·ltiplikĕt, mʌlti·plikĕt), *a.* and *sb.* Now *rare.* [ad. L. *multiplicāt-us*, pa. pple. of *multiplicāre* to MULTIPLY.]

A. *adj.* † Multiplied, increased (*obs.*); manifold; of many parts, elements, or sections; multiplex.

1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) I. 191 The chiefe cite of whom is Athenas, where study was somme tyme multiplicate. *Ibid.* III. 467 Lyke as the reason of the wittes of man is multiplicate [orig. *multiplex*], so he is mutable. **1656** HOBBES *Six Lessons* Wks. 1845 VII. 301 The proportions of the ordinate lines beginning at the vertex were triplicate, or otherwise multiplicate of the proportions of the intercepted parts of the diameter. **1664** *Phil. Trans.* I. 30 A Multiplicate Refraction of the rays of Light. **1713** DERHAM *Phys. Theol.* 95 There is another thing considerable in this multiplicate Number of the Eye; and that is, that the Object seen is not multiplied. **1802–12** BENTHAM *Ration. Judic. Evid.* (1827) II. 450 Multiplicate scription, or transcription: penning many scripts of exactly the same tenor. **1822** GOOD *Study Med.* IV. 233 Multiplicate Labour. *Ibid. marg.*, Multiplicate fertility. **1863** DANA in *Amer. Jrnl. Sci.* XXXVI. 333 The multiplicate Myriapods.

absol. **1846** GREENER *Sci. Gunnery* 174 An arrangement of leverage partaking of the multiplicate.

b. *Bot.* = MULTIPLEX *a.* 3 a.

1760 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* I. xx. (1765) 53 Flowers are said to be Multiplicate, when by the Increase of the Corolla only a Part of the Stamina are excluded. **1816** KEITH *Phys. Bot.* I. 117 Sometimes the pistil..is multiplicate, that is when the flower produces more than one.

c. *Math.* (See quot.)

1868 A. SANDEMAN *Pelicoletics* 201 The ratio compounded of ratios that are all the same as one another is called the Multiplicate Compound Ratio of any one of these ratios.

B. *sb.* a. *In multiplicate*: in many exactly corresponding copies or reproductions. b. One of many exact copies (of a document, etc.).

1858 A. J. B. BERESFORD HOPE in *Cambr. Ess.* 22 He offers it [*sc.* his report], copied in multiplicate, under the expressive name of flimsy. **1889** *Pall Mall G.* 24 Sept. 1/3 It was his habit to write a synopsis or *scenario* of his novels..This was in later years, when it was necessary to send multiplicates to the various subscribers to his syndicates.

†**Mu·ltiplicated,** *pa. pple. Obs.* [f. L. *multiplicātus* (see prec.) + -ED 1.] Folded many times.

1638 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (ed. 2) 232 Their cap (or helmet) was a Tyara of linen multiplicated.

So †**Mu·ltiplicating** *ppl. a.*, multiplying.

1661 LOVELL *Hist. Anim. & Min.* Introd. c 2 The life is more tenacious..in those that have long bodies and many feet,..by reason of the multiplicating part of their originall.

Multiplication (mʌ·ltiplikē·ʃən). [a. F. *multiplication* (12th c.), ad. L. *multiplicātiōn-em*, n. of action f. *multiplicāre* to MULTIPLY.]

1. The act or process of multiplying, or increasing the quantity or amount of, a thing; the state of being multiplied or increased. Now *rare* exc. as coloured by sense 3.

c **1384** CHAUCER *H. Fame* II. 312 (Fairf. MS.) Euerych ayre other stereth More and more and speche vpbereth .. Ay through multiplicacion Til hyt be atte house of Fame. *c* **1450** LOVELICH *Grail* xlviii. 364 Thus there As Alle these good men sete, Fulfylled they were with Alle Manere of Mete; but in place as the Synneris were, Non Multiplicacion was not there. **1593** R. HARVEY *Philad.* 104 The ouerthrow of contraries is the generation of concord, and multiplication of consent. **1626** BACON *New Atl.* (1900) 41 Wee represent also all Multiplications of Light, which wee carry to great Distance. **1644** EVELYN *Diary* 17 Nov., Looking-glasses, which render a strange multiplication of things resembling divers most richly-furnish'd roomes. **1758** JOHNSON *Idler* No. 85 ¶ 1 One of the peculiarities which distinguish the present age is the multiplication of books. **1863** E. V. NEALE *Anal. Th. & Nat.* 37 The cottage becomes a mansion, the mansion a palace, the palace a town, simply by the multiplication of its parts. **1881** WESTCOTT & HORT *Grk. N. T.* Introd. § 8 Repeated transcription involves multiplication of error. **1888** BRACKENBURY *Field Works* 46 The.. strength of the defence consisted in..Multiplication of tiers of fire [etc.].

b. of words. (Cf. MULTIPLY *v.* 1 b.)

1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* II. xxx. 182 Multiplication of words in the body of the Law, is multiplication of ambiguity. **1709** BERKELEY *Th. Vision* § 134 Wks. 1871 I. 97 No multiplication of words will ever suffice to make them understand the truth. **1709** STRYPE *Ann. Ref.* I. xxxviii. 396 After a multiplication of language on both sides, Malvisier departed.

2. Propagation of animals and plants.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) I. 255 Pere is more multiplicacioun and encrese of men and children in þe norþ contray þan in þe south. **1398** — *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. ii. (1495) 595 Some trees haue multyplycacyon by graffynge of stockes. **1426** LYDG. in *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 140 That he may se his generacioun Unto the forteth multiplicacioun Victoriously for to regnen here. **1662** STILLINGFL. *Orig. Sacræ* III. iv. § 9 Wee have yet cause to beleeve that there was a more than ordinary multiplication in the posterity of Noah after the flood. **1838** *Penny Cycl.* XI. 18/2 The artificial multiplication of that species in gardens. **1845** MILL *Diss. & Disc.* II. 198 If..it is intended that the law.. should assume a control over the multiplication of the people.

3. *Math.* The process of finding the quantity produced (see PRODUCT) by the summation of a given quantity (called the *multiplicana*) taken as many times as there are units in another given quantity (called the *multiplier*); or, in the case of a fractional multiplier, of finding the same fraction of the multiplicand as the multiplier is of unity.

Compound multiplication: †(*a*) see quot. 1706; (*b*) see quot. 1859 and COMPOUND *a.* 2 b (*b*). *Simple*, †*single multiplication*: see quots. 1706, 1854.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 89 Be which [*sc.* Arithmetic] multiplicacioun Is mad and diminucioun Of sommes. *c* **1425** *Crafte Nombrynge* (E. E. T. S.) 21 Multiplicacioun is a bryngynge to-geder of 2 thynges in on nombur, þe quych on nombur contynes so mony tymes on, howe mony tymes þere ben vnytees in þe nowmbre of þat 2, as twyes 4 is 8. **1542** RECORDE *Gr. Artes* (1575) 122 Multiplication is suche an operation, that by two summes produceth the thirde. **1690** LEYBOURN *Curs. Math.* 14 Multiplication may be fitly termed a Compendium of Addition. **1706** PHILLIPS (ed. 6) s. v., *Single Multiplication* is when the Numbers given, consist each of them of one only Figure; as if 5 were to be multiply'd by 3, 9 by 6. *Ibid.* s. v., *Compound Multiplication*, is when either one or both Numbers given, consist of more Figures than one; as if 134 were to be multiply'd by 2, or 1232 by 23. *Ibid.* s. v., In Geometry, Multiplication, changes the Species or Kind; Thus a Right-line multiply'd by a Right-line, produces a Rectangle, or Plane; and that Rectangle, multiply'd again by another Line, produces

a Solid. 1854 *Orr's Circ. Sci., Math.* 10 When the quantities are..all of one denomination, the operation is called *simple* multiplication. *Ibid.* 162 The sign × placed between two quantities denotes the multiplication of those quantities together. 1859 B. Smith *Arith. & Algebra* (ed. 6) 111 Compound Multiplication is the method of finding the amount of any proposed compound number, that is, of any number composed of different denominations.

fig. 1699 South *Serm.* (1823) III. 355 Society and converse..being a kind of multiplication of himself into every person of the company he converses with.

†**b.** *Table of multiplication*, multiplication table.

1594 Blundevil *Exerc.* I. iv. (1636) 10 Before I teach you the true order of multiplying, I thinke it good to set you downe a Table of Multiplication. 1706 W. Jones *Syn. Palmar. Matheseos* 18 All the variety that can happen .. is express'd in the following Table of Multiplication.

†**c.** Used for: Product. *Obs. rare*$^{-1}$.

1586 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* (1587) 531 The number of 63. which is the multiplication of seven by nine.

d. In *Higher Algebra*, used in extended sense for: The successive application of operators.

1843 Sir W. R. Hamilton in *Trans. Royal Irish Acad.* (1848) XXI. 257 We have now the system of the two equations, $q''=q'q$; $q_{11}=qq'$; q'' and q_{11} being those two distinct quaternion products which arise from the multiplication of the same two quaternion factors, q and q', with two different arrangements of those factors.

†**4.** *Alch.* The art of 'multiplying'. *Obs.*

1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 88 This Ston..makth multiplicacioun Of gold, and the fixacioun It causeth. 1471 Ripley *Comp. Alch.* XI. i. in Ashm. (1652) 181 Multyplycacyon..ys ..dyfynyd, Augmentacyon yt ys of that Elixer indede, In goodnes, in quantyte, both for Whyt and Rede. 1543 [see Multiply *v.* 6]. 1584 R. Scot *Discov. Witches.* XIV. i. (1886) 294 The art or rather the craft of Alcumystrie, otherwise called Multiplication. 1612 Woodall *Surg. Mate* Wks. (1653) 273 Multiplication by projection, is of a body amalgamated from 7. to 10. from 10. to 50. from 50. to 100. &c. according to the force and quantity of the tincture. *a* 1661 Fuller *Worthies* (1662) III. 204. 1696 in Phillips.

5. *Bot.* Increase in the number of whorls or in the number of organs in a whorl.

1849 Balfour *Man. Bot.* § 653 *Multiplication*, or an increase of the number of parts, gives rise to changes in plants. *Ibid.*, Multiplication causes a repetition of successive whorls, which still follow the law of alternation. 1880 A. Gray *Struct. Bot.* vi. § 3 (ed. 6) 179.

6. *attrib.*: **multiplication table**, a table of products of factors taken in pairs, usually beginning with 'twice one are two' ($2\times1=2$) and going up to some assumed limit. (See also 3 b.)

1674 Jeake *Arith.* (1696) 22 To learn by heart the Table commonly called Multiplication Table. 1709 J. Ward *Yng. Math. Guide* I. ii. § 4 (1734) 15 Multiplication Table. 1864 Bowen *Logic* xi. 356 Our conclusions..are as absolute as the truths of the multiplication-table.

fig. 1871 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* 277 Some young scamp who has learned the whole multiplication table of mischief..before he can repeat the sevens' column in arithmetic.

Hence **Multiplica·tional** *a.*

1868 A. Sandeman *Pelicotetics* 47 The laws of multiplicational equivalence.

Multiplicative (mʊ·ltiplikătiv), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. med.L. *multiplicātīv-us*, f. *multiplicāt-*, ppl. stem of *multiplicāre* to Multiply: see -ive.] Tending to multiply or increase; having the power or property of multiplying.

1653 R. G. tr. *Bacon's Hist. Winds* 350 It is a Diffusive, Communicative, Transitive and Multiplicative Motion. 1670 Clarke *Nat. Hist. Nitre* 18 The form of Minerals is multiplicative of it self in a dispos'd matter, and proper place. 1765 *Univ. Mag.* XXXVII. 236/1 The plague.. proves the multiplicative power of those spirits. 1863 Dana in *Amer. Jrnl. Sci.* XXXVI. 325 The abnormal number of segments under the multiplicative method may arise from a self-subdivision of enlarging normal segments. 1868 A. Sandeman *Pelicotetics* 24 By finding the products in backward order the multiplicative and the additive parts of the process may be carried on together.

b. *Gram.* Applied to numerals that express 'so many times'. Also *sb.*, a multiplicative numeral.

1727–52 Chambers *Cycl., Multiplicatives.* See *Numerals.* 1863 W. Smith *Gram. Lat. Lang.* § 71. 33 Multiplicative Numerals end in -plex. 1872 Morris *Hist. Outl. Eng. Accid.* § 134 Multiplicatives are expressed..By adjectives, with suffix *-fold* [etc.]. 1886 T. Le M. Douse *Gothic of Ulfilas* 149 'Multiplicative' adjs. are formed by adding *falþa-*, '-fold' to the cardinals.

Multiplicator (mʊ·ltiplikeɪtəɹ). [late L., agent-n. f. *multiplicāre* to Multiply.]

1. *Math.* = Multiplier 2. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1542 [see Multiplier 2]. 1579 Digges *Stratiot.* 4 The lesse is named the Multiplicator or Multiplyer, the other summe, or number to be multiplyed. 1690 Leybourn *Curs. Math.* 146 The Summ of the Logarithms of the Multiplicand, and of the Multiplicator, is equal to the Logarithm of the Product. 1734 J. Ward *Yng. Math. Guide* App. of Gauging 435 If any one would rather work by Multiplication than by Division, he may .. change any Divisor into a Multiplicator. 1828 *Blackw. Mag.* XXIV. 320 The sign of a thousand with that of the proper multiplicator..showed the number slain.

2. *Electr.* and *Magn.* = Multiplier 4.

1823 *Q. Jrnl. Sci.* XVI. 124 It is this which constitutes the electro-magnetic multiplicator. 1876 *Catal. Spec. Collect. Sci. Apparatus S. Kens. Mus.* (1877) 1049 Multiplicator, according to Schweigger, for thermo-electrical currents.

b. In a galvanometer, a flat coil of conducting wire for multiplying the effect of the current.

1884 in Knight *Dict. Mech.*

†**Multiplicature.** *Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. [Multi- 2.] The condition of having many folds.

1671 Grew *Anat. Plants* I. iv. § 16 We have the Multiplicature; as in Gooseberries,..the Plaits being not only divers in the same Leaf, but..each Leaf gather'd up in five, seven, or more Foulds.

†**Multipli·cious,** *a. Obs* [f. L. *multiplici-, multiplex*: see Multiplex and -ous.] Multiplex.

1617 [see Multifarious 1]. 1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* III. xv. 141 That animall is not one, but multiplicious or many, which hath a duplicity or gemination of principall parts. 1660 Stanley *Hist. Philos.* IX. § 1. iv, From the symbolical use of numbers, proceeded a multiplicious variety of names. 1713 Derham *Phys. Theol.* IV. iv. 138 Its Apparatus [*sc.* of the nose]..is not so multiplicious as of the Eye.

Hence †**Multipli·ciously** *adv.*

1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* VII. ii. 343 The seed conveigheth with it not onely the extract and single Idea of every part, whereby it transmits their perfections or infirmities, but double and over againe; whereby sometimes it multipliciously delineates the same, as in Twins in mixed and numerous generations.

Multiplicity (mʊltipli·sĭti). [ad. L. *multiplicitās*, f. *multiplic-*, Multiplex.]

1. The quality or condition of being multiplex or manifold; manifold variety.

1597 Morley *Introd. Mus.* Annot. *4, By this, which in *dupla* and *tripla* is spoken, may all other things concerning proportions of multiplicity be easily vnderstoode. 1607 Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 113 Cerberus himself with his three heads signified the multiplicity of Devils. 1659 Pearson *Creed* 641 The infinity of the divine essence is incapable of multiplicity. 1701 Grew *Cosmol. Sacra* I. v. 25 As the manifold Variation of the Parts, so the Multiplicity of the Use of each Part, is very wonderful. 1825 Macaulay *Ess., Milton*, With the greatest precision and multiplicity in its details. 1873 Symonds *Grk. Poets* ix. 297 The Greek Drama owed its power to the qualities of regularity and simplicity: the strength of the modern lies in subtlety and multiplicity. 1884 J. R. Seeley in *Contemp. Rev.* Nov. 654 In Nature..the unity is much less obvious than the multiplicity.

b. An instance of this.

1587 Golding *De Mornay* ii. (1592) 14 Of vnitie or one in nombering, proceedeth..all the multiplicities..we see. 1602 Warner *Alb. Eng.* XIII. lxxviii. (1612) 323 Of one all Multiplicities, Formes, Harmonies,.. Be..produced and begot. 1646 Gaule *Cases Consc.* II Haply .. at some purer Times of the Church, a Witch may not then and there be found..at least wise.., not in those Multitudes, or Multiplicities. 1878 Stubbs *Const. Hist.* III. xxi. 567 The diversities and multiplicities of legal usages.

c. In the Kantian philosophy = Manifold *sb.* 2 a.

1839 *Penny Cycl.* XIII. 176/1 The consciousness of the individual in this multiplicity is effected by the imagination, which combines them into a whole.

d. In technical use (cf. Multiple *a.* 3).

1841 J. J. Sylvester in *Lond. Phil. Mag.* XVIII. 136, I use the word *multiplicity* to denote a number, and distinguish between the total and partial multiplicities of the roots of an algebraic equation. 1851 Paget *Lect. Tumours* vi. 70 Multiplicity is sufficiently marked in the cases of the hands and feet. 1872 T. Bryant *Pract. Surg.* 735 These black cancers have..one peculiarity, and that is in their tendency to multiplicity. 1887 Cayley *Math. Papers* (1897) XII. 463 We might..have symbols of indefinite multiplicity ($x, y, z, v, ..$), including within them all finite multiplicities, viz. (x, y) meaning ($x, y, 0, 0, ..$).

2. *The multiplicity of*: the great number of, the very many or numerous. Similarly *a, such* (*a*), *this*, etc., *multiplicity of.*

1598 Dallington *Meth. Trav.* X 3 Such multiplicity of words he hath. 1627 Drayton *Moone-Calfe* Poems 162 That on the Stationers Stall, who passing lookes, To see the multiplicity of Bookes, That pester it. 1659 Slingsby *Diary* (1836) 356 T'was all the night as bright as day with the multiplisity of bone fires. 1659 Pearson *Creed* 384 The coronary thorns..did..pierce his..temples to a multiplicity of pains, by their numerous acuminations. 1710 Steele *Tatler* No. 176 P 8, I..am distracted with such a Multiplicity of entertaining Objects, that I am lost in the Variety. 1847 C. Bronte *J. Eyre* v, Like one who had always a multiplicity of tasks on hand. 1860 G. Prescott *Electr. Telegr.* 243 A few large bells would be preferable to this multiplicity of smaller ones. 1885 J. Payn *Talk of Town* II. 138 It was not the least like a dressing-room except that it had a multiplicity of mirrors.

b. with collective sing. sb.

1601 Holland *Pliny* I. 504 In that one significant word (*Cariosa*) hee said more than could be expressed possibly by any multiplicity of language whatsoeuer. *a* 1656 Hales *Gold. Rem.* (1673) 5 These places that are so fertile..of interpretation, and yeild a multiplicity of sense. 1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* XII. x, I was so hurried, and drove and tore with the multiplicity of business. 1876 F. Harrison *Choice of Bks.* iv. (1886) 90 Since which date, let us trust, the multiplicity of print and the habits of desultory reading have considerably abated.

†**c.** Without article or qualifying word. *Obs.*

1629 Le Grys tr. *Barclay's Argenis* 188 Argenis being confounded with multiplicity of griefs. *a* 1734 North *Life Dr. J. North* (1744) 240 After he was grown old and much worn by Multiplicity of Business. 1769 E. Bancroft *Guiana* 378 Multiplicity of law-suits are universally allowed to be detrimental to new countries.

†**3.** *The multiplicity of*: the majority of. *Obs.*

1639 in Nalson *Coll. Gt. Aff. State* (1682) I. 279 The Multiplicity of the People are mean conditioned.

†**Multiplie.** *Sc. Obs.* Also 5 -ple, -plye. [app. a. OF. *moltepli, multepli* multiplication (Godefroy), vbl. sb. f. *multiplier* to Multiply.] Multitude; great numbers or quantity.

c 1470 Henry *Wallace* IX. 1707 'Dicson', he said, 'wait thow thair multiple?' 'Iij thowsand men tbair power mycht nocht be'. *Ibid.* XI. 13 The Sotheroun fled fra him on athir sid To Burdeouss, in gret multiplye. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* I. 23 Quhilk causit..my een to be cum obscure throucht the multiplie of salt teyris. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 7 In sum places is lunde multiplie of Tinne.

Multiplied (mʊ·ltiplɔid), *ppl. a.* (*sb.*) [f. Multiply *v.* + -ed 1.] Made many, much, or more; increased in number or quantity; manifold.

1463–4 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 503/1 Wherthurgh the Citees.. mowe..be multiplied inhabitations, and restored to their auncien..prosperite. 1585 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* Ep. Ded., Olde men.., by reason of their multiplied yeeres, are to be released. 1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* III. xvii. (1614) 334 Another Caue..which terrifieth those that enter with the multiplied sounds of Cymbals and vncouth minstrelsie. 1646 H. P. *Medit. Seige* 35 Their varied and multiplyed dangers. 1669–70 Pepys *Let. to Capt. Elliot* 3 Mar., I pray you to accept..my hearty thanks for your multiplied kindness. 1783 *Dodsley's Ann. Reg.* (1785) 22/2 Orders were written and dispatched in multiplied copies to the different military stations. 1784 Cowper *Task* II. 597 Our habits, costlier than Lucullus wore, And by caprice, as multiplied as his. 1804 Jas. Maitland *Public Wealth* (1819) 274 The multiplied relations which the varied distributions of property create. 1841 D'Israeli *Amen. Lit.* (1867) 307 The poems of Surrey were often read, as their multiplied editions show. 1865 Lyell *Elem. Geol.* 576 Others again have the number of segments excessively multiplied as in *Paradoxides.*

b. *Math.*; †occas. as *sb.* = Multiplicand.

1579 Digges *Stratioticos* 6 Place the Digitte 4 vnder 7 the thirde of your multiplyed number. 1660 Barrow *Euclid* VII. Def. 15 In every multiplication a unitie is to the multiplier, as the multiplied is to the product. *a* 1696 Scarburgh *Euclid* (1705) 219 If a number multiplying two numbers make some numbers, their Products shall have the same proportion with the multiplied numbers.

c. *Bot.* = Multiplex *a.* 3 a.

1777 Robson *Brit. Flora* V. 20. 1793 Martyn *Lang. Bot.* s.v., According to the number of rows in a multiplied corolla.

Multiplier (mʊ·ltiplәiəɹ). [f. Multiply *v.* + -er 1. Cf. F. *multiplieur* (16th c.).]

1. One who or a thing which multiplies or causes something to increase.

1470–85 Malory *Arthur* XIV. viii. 652 That same man is an enchaunter and a multyplyer of wordes. 1477 Caxton *Dictes* 11 b, Loue..thoo that be the grete multiplyers, that is to saye, the commones that labour the erth. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. V*, 43 b, Money the multiplier of iniquitie. 1667 *Causes Decay Chr. Piety* v. 81 Broils and quarrels, which are alone the great accumulators and multipliers of injuries. 1694 Motteux *Rabelais* IV. xlvi. 180 Multiplyers of Law-suits. 1835 J. Hodgson *Hist. Northumb.* III. iii. p. iv, Doubt and uncertainty are great multipliers of words. 1870 Spencer *Princ. Psychol.* I. 35 At the surface of the body, where the extremities of nerve-fibres are so placed as to be most easily disturbed, we .. find .. multipliers of disturbances.

b. A (great) breeder. ? *Obs. rare.*

1661 J. Childrey *Brit. Baconica* 19 The Pilchard is a little fish, and a great multiplier.

2. *Math.* The quantity by which another (the *multiplicand*) is multiplied.

1542 Recorde *Gr. Artes* F vii b, The multiplier or multiplicatour, that is to say, the numbre by which multiplication is made. 1674 Jeake *Arith.* (1696) 23 Then take the second figure of the Multiplier, and proceed..as before. 1706 W. Jones *Syn. Palmar. Matheseos* 17 Both Multiplicand and Multiplier are call'd Factors. 1798 Hutton *Course Math.* (1806) I. 13 We shall multiply all the parts of the multiplicand by all the parts of the multiplier. 1854 *Orr's Circ. Sci., Math.* 163 A figure, or number, prefixed to a letter, as a multiplier, is called the coefficient of that letter.

†**3.** One who performs the alchemical process of multiplication; hence, a false coiner. *Obs.*

c 1420 Lydg. *Assembly of Gods* 681 False vsurers, Multyplyers, coyn wasshers & clyppers. 1477 Norton *Ord. Alch.* in Ashm. (1652) 17 The Multiplier doth him beguile With his faire promise. *c* 1515 *Cocke Lorell's B.* 8 Golde smythes, and grote clypper, Multyplyers, and clothe thyckers. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 119 Farre exceadinge all the Alcumisticall multipliers that ever were.

4. *Electr.* and *Magn.* An instrument used for multiplying or increasing by repetition the intensity of a force, current, etc. so as to make it appreciable or mensurable. Cf. Thermo-multiplier.

1823 *Ann. Philos.* June 436 M. Schweigger's electro-magnetic Multiplier. 1858 Noad *Man. Electr.* I. 66 Of the various instruments that have been termed 'multipliers' and 'doublers' we shall only describe the multiplier of Cavallo. 1877 Rosenthal *Phys. Muscles & Nerves* 150 The nerve..exhibits a difference which the multiplier is incapable of indicating.

b. = Multiplicator 2 b. In recent Dicts.

5. *Angling.* A multiplying-reel (see Multiplying *ppl. a.* b, quot. 1856).

1867 F. Francis *Angling* I. (1880) 15 The best reels..are the plain reels...Do not have a multiplier, even at a gift. 1875 'Stonehenge' *Brit. Rural Sports* I. v. iv. § 3. 349 Though the multiplier is very pretty in theory, yet it is constantly failing in practice. 1897 *Outing* XXX. 262/1 On my reel, finest and most powerful of multipliers, I carried a thousand feet of line.

6. An arithmometer for performing calculations in multiplication. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.*

Multiply (mʊ·ltiplәi), *v.* Forms: 3–5 multe-, 4–6 multy-, (6 moulti-, moulty-); 3–6 -plie, -plye, 4–5 -pli(i); 4– multiply. [a. OF. (mod.F.) *multiplier*, ad. L. *multiplicāre*, f. *multiplic-*, Multiplex.]

1. *trans.* To cause to become much, many, or more; to make many or manifold; to augment the number, amount, or quantity of. Now *rare* except as coloured by sense 5.

a 1275 *Prov. Ælfred* 675 in *O. E. Misc.* 137 Ac nim þe to þe a stable mon, þat word and dede bi-sette con, and multeplien heure god. *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* xi. 1 A haly man that sees the vanyte of the warld multiplid. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Melib.* ℙ 774 Swete wordes multiplien & encressen frendes. *c* 1400 26 *Pol. Poems* 148 In salt see I sayled well wyde ffor to multiply my tresoure. 1462 *Litt. Red Bk. Bristol* (1900) II. 128 Suche..Allions beth gretely multeplied and encreased within the Town. 1535 COVERDALE *Bel & Dr.* G, Peace be multiplied with you. 1648 WILKINS *Math. Magic* I. vii. 50 These Pulleys may be multiplyed according to sundry different situations. 1694 ADDISON *Poems, Virgil* Wks. 1726 I. 30 Till into seven it multiplies its stream. 1788 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* lvii. V. 661 The activity of the emperor seemed to multiply his presence. 1833 TENNYSON *Poems* 76 And all things that she [*sc.* my soul] saw, she multiplied, A manyfaced glass. 1858 GREENER *Gunnery* 155 Elongating the fibres and multiplying their number to an indefinite extent. 1872 ATKINSON tr. *Ganot's Nat. Philos.* § 671 By coiling the copper wire in the direction of the needle..the action of the current has been multiplied. 1878 JEVONS *Primer Pol. Econ.* 21 Public libraries, museums, picture galleries and like institutions all multiply utility.

b. To use or utter a multiplicity of (words, etc.). *To multiply words*: †(*a*) to be loquacious; (*b*) to be verbose.

1340 *Ayenb.* 218 Huanne þe multepliest þine benes ich nelle none y-here. 1382 WYCLIF *Job* xxxv. 16 Job..withoute kunnynge woordis multiplieth. ?1520 tr. *Dial. Creat. Moral.* xii. D ij, This vale..hrak owte and multyplyed greate wordis agayne the hyll. 1529 in *Vicary's Anat.* (1888) App. xiv. 258 No man..shall multiplye langage yn the Courte tyme. 1530 PALSGR. 641/2, I moultiplye langage with one, as folkes do that chyde togyther. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 100 When they had thus multiplied talke vpon both sydes. 1652 [see MULTIPLYING *vbl. sb.* 1]. 1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* II. vii, They avoid nothing more than multiplying unnecessary Words, or using various Expressions. 1818 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) VI. 444 What he meant by the said premises was evident, and could not have been rendered clearer by saying *all* the said premises, though it might have served to multiply words.

c. In const. of the type *to multiply evil upon evil*, to add evil to evil, accumulate instances of evil.

1477 EARL RIVERS (Caxton) *Dictes* 74 b, And he sawe a long mayde that lerned to wryte, of whom he sayde that me multiplied euyl vpon euyll. 1625 BP. HALL *Medit.* III. xc. Wks. 65 It is a damnable iniquitie in man, to multiplie one sinne vpon another. 1830 TENNYSON *Poet* 33 Thus truth was multiplied on truth.

d. To adduce a large number of (instances, etc.).

1716 ADDISON *Freeholder* No. 6 ℙ 3 'Tis unnecessary to multiply Instances of this nature. 1845 *Encycl. Metrop.* II. 899/1 These explicit declarations against heresy might be multiplied to almost any extent. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* II. xxxii. 418 Instances of this kind might be multiplied.

†**e.** Const. inf. (A Hebraism.) *Obs.*

a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* Cant. 500 Willis noght multiply to speke heghe thyngis. 1649 BP. REYNOLDS *Hosea* v. 12 He multiplyeth to pardon. 1684 BUNYAN *Pilgr.* II. 9 He taketh delight to multiply to pardon offences.

†**f.** To increase the intensity of; *occas.* to magnify optically. *Obs.*

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVIII. xci. (1495) 840 The frogge multyplyeth his voyce whan he dooth his nether jowe somdeale in the water and strykyth the vpper jowe. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* III. (1629) 249 His eies saw no terrour, nor eare heard any martiall sound, but that they multiplied the hidiousnesse of it to his mated mind. 1626 BACON *New Atl.* (1900) 42 Wee Multiply Smells, which may seeme strange. 1651 J. CLEVELAND *Wks.* C 5 Just as an Optique Glasse contracts the sight At one end, but when turn'd doth multiply't.

2. *intr.* To become of great number or quantity; to be increased or augmented by accumulation or repetition.

c 1330 *Spec. Gy de Warewyke* 1009 Almesdede fordoþe þi synne..And þi god shal multiplie. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 278 Euelez on erþe..grewen & multyplyed mony-folde. *c* 1412 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 5195 By concorde, smale þinges multiplien. 1412–20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* II. 4376 Þat þoruȝ þe worlde þe fyr gan multiplie. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* VIII. 1002 He saw the Sothroun multipliand mayr. 1588 KYD *Housch. Phil.* Wks. (1901) 280 Much more may riches multiply that consist in bare money then [etc.]. 1666 MARVELL *Corr.* lii. Wks. (Grosart) II. 188 Busynesse does so multiply of late that I can scarce snatch time to wrlte to you. 1781 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xix. II. 127 Reduced to an humble station by the prudence of Constantine, they [*sc.* eunuchs] multiplied in the palaces of his degenerate sons. 1842 MANNING *Serm.* i. (1848) I. 7 As sin has multiplied in its extent, so it would seem also to have become more intense. 1858 KINGSLEY *Lett.* (1878) I. 21 The flame increased—multiplied—at one point after another.

†**b.** *transf.* To accrue as interest. *Obs. rare*⁻¹.

c 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 525/25 At it sulde be lent in vsurie iij yere after his decese, and at þai sulde gyff for his sawle all þat multiplied þerof.

†**c.** *intr.* and *pass.* To be abundantly provided *with*. *Obs.*

a 1533 LD. BERNERS *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) E, Oure senate faylethe of meke and wyse Senatours, and multiplieth with these serpentines. 1588 KYD *Housch. Phil.* Wks. (1901) 265 That wealth whereby we should expect to haue our houses so distinguished and multiplyed with offycers.

†**3.** *trans.* To increase (a family, etc.) by natural generation or procreation (freq. in *pass.*); to cause (the earth) to become populous. *Obs.* or *arch.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 2647 Abram,..Multipli þi sede i sall. 1375 *Creation* 510 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1878) 130 Þe3.. broȝten forþ mo [children], þe worlde to multiply. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xx. 89 Waxez and beese multiplied and fillez þe erthe. 1474 CAXTON *Chesse* III. i. (1883) 76 Whan Adam their fader maried them for to multiplye yᵉ erthe of hys lignye. 1538 STARKEY *England* II. i. 146 The way and mean to suffyce, multyply, and encrese them [*sc.* the people] agayn to a conuenyent nombur, ys only natural generatyon. 1673 TEMPLE *Ess. on Ireland* Wks. 1731 I. 110 People are multiplied in a Country by the Temper of the Climate, favourable to Generation. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 413 ℙ 5 That all Creatures might be tempted to multiply their Kind. 1784 COWPER *Task* v. 221 When man was multiplied and spread abroad In tribes and clans.

absol. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. XIX. 226 A man with-oute a make myghte nat wel of kynde Multeplie.

b. To breed (animals); to propagate (plants). †Also (of the parts of a plant), to produce by propagation, to cause to grow.

1471 RIPLEY *Comp. Alch.* XI. v. in Ashm. (1652) 182 The Tre of Hermes..Of whych one Pepyn a thowsand wyll Multyply. 1599 [see MULTIPLYING *vbl. sb.* 1]. 1707 *Curios. in Husb. & Gard.* 197 The Method of Multiplying Plants by Layers. 1760 J. LEE *Bot.* III. iii. (1810) 416 The Trunk, which serves to multiply the herb, and leads immediately from the root to the fructification. 1796 H. HUNTER tr. *St. Pierre's Stud. Nat.* (1799) III. 659 They could themselves drain marshes, clear waste lands, multiply flocks. 1833 *Penny Cycl.* I. 61/1 Most of them may be multiplied by cuttings struck in silver sand. 1857 BALFOUR *Cycl. India* 1184 This is a large Mango multiplied at Mergui.

4. *intr.* To increase in number by natural generation or procreation (occas. by artificial means).

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 638 Drightin þam blessed, and had þam brede, And multipli in þar sede. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 344 Hou god to man be weie of kinde Hath set the world to multeplie. 1413 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton) v. xiv. (1859) 80 Whiche fisshes he putte in the stewe, where they haue spawned and multyplyed. *c* 1420 LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 1717 Isys was callyd the Goddesse Of Frute, for she fyrst made hit multyply By the meane of gryffyng. 1535 COVERDALE *Job* xii. 23 He both increaseth the people, and destroyeth them: He maketh them to multiplie, and dryueth them awaye. 1665 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (1677) 57 The Priests thereupon throw Rice upon their heads, praying that they may multiply as Rice. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 183 As for my Cats, they multiply'd. 1844 H. H. WILSON *Brit. India* II. 83 Under a climate more congenial ..the descendants of a northern race may be able to aggregate and multiply. 1883 DARWIN in *Pall Mall G.* 7 Dec. 11/2 Multiply, vary; let the strongest live and the weakest die.

5. *trans.* (*Math.*) To operate upon (a given quantity, called the *multiplicand*) with another quantity (called the *multiplier*) so as to produce a quantity (called the *product*) having the same ratio to the multiplicand as the multiplier has to unity. In *Higher Algebra*, to apply an operator to (an operand).

c 1391 CHAUCER *Astrol.* II. § 41 a, Þan loke how moche space of feet ys be-twen þe and þe tour, & multiplie þat be 12. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xx. 92 Now be þise all multiplied CCC. tymes and LX. 1594 BLUNDEVIL *Exerc.* I. iv. 5 b, Whensoeuer you haue to multiply one number by another. 1610 W. FOLKINGHAM *Art of Survey* II. viii. 62 Multiply the Basall Area by 6. 1635 J. BABINGTON *Geometry* 34 Let the line AB be given to be multiplyed by the line CD. 1706 W. JONES *Syn. Palmar. Matheseos* 20 Multiply each Figure of the Multiplicand, by each Figure of the Multiplier. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 293 A force equal to 20 cwt. multiplied by 2304. 1842 DE MORGAN *Int. & Diff. Calc.* 11 What is *a* multiplied by $\frac{1}{1000}$? The answer is *a* taken the thousandth part of a time, or the thousandth part of *a*. 1858 BRIGHT *Sp., Reform* 27 Oct. (1869) 281 The annual income of the estate multiplied by the number of years which..he may be expected to live. 1885 W. K. CLIFFORD *Common Sense of Exact Sci.* 201 If a vector step be multiplied by itself, the product is zero; that is, $AP \cdot AP = (AP)^2 = 0$.

transf. and *fig.* 1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* I. ii. 7 Like a Cypher (Yet standing in rich place) I multiply With one we thanke you, many thousands moe, That goe before it. 1891 MEREDITH *One of our Conq.* xviii, You have multiplied your investment by ten.

b. *To multiply* (one quantity) *into*, †*in* (another); *to multiply* (two quantities) *together*: to find the product of the two quantities.

1557 RECORDE *Whetst.* E ij b, 1225. And so moche doeth there arise by .35. multiplied into it self. 1571 DIGGES *Pantom.* I. vi. C iij b, The firste multiplied in the fourth, produceth a quantitie equall to that which is made by multiplication of the seconde in the thirde. 1610 W. FOLKINGHAM *Art of Survey* II. viii. 61 Multiply the perpendicular in the demibase. 1690 LEYBOURN *Curs. Math.* 15 The numbers to be multiplied must be set one under another. 1709 J. WARD *Yng. Math. Guide* (1734) 340 Multiply the Base of the given Triangle into Half its perpendicular Height. *Ibid.* 439 Multiply the Two Diameters (*viz.* the Length and Breadth) together. 1812 PLAYFAIR *Nat. Phil.* I. 110 The weight multiplied into the height to which it is raised. 1885 LEUDESDORF *Cremona's Proj. Geom.* 283 If these equations be multiplied together.

c. *intr.* To perform the process of multiplication.

1579 DIGGES *Stratioticos* 4 To multiplie, is to find of two Numbers a number product the one in the other augmented. 1652 *News fr. Low Countr.* 8 Podex can..Adde, Multiply, Subtract, Divide. 1798 HUTTON *Course Math.* (1806) I. 13 The number you multiply by, or the number of repetitions, is the Multiplier. 1840 LARDNER *Geom.* 102 If we require the area, we have only to multiply by 3·14.

d. Said of the multiplier (*trans.* and *intr.*).

c 1425 *Crafte Nombrynge* (E. E. T. S.) 21 Numerus multiplicans. Anglice, þe nonibur multiplyynge. 1570 BILLINGSLEY *Euclid* 214 b, If a number multiplieng himselfe produce a cube number: then is that number also a cube number. 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* II. s.v. *Multiplication*, Negatives multiplying Positives, must produce Negatives. 1709 J. WARD *Yng. Math. Guide* I. ii. (1734) 14 When the Number Multiplied is so often Added to itself, as there are Units in the Number Multiplying. 1859 SALMON *Higher Alg.* 70 The terms multiplying xy must be a_1a_0 and a_2a_1.

†**6.** *Alch.* (*trans.* and *intr.*) To increase the precious metals, as by transmutation of the baser metals. Also *intr.* (for *pass.*), said of the precious metals. *Obs.*

c 1386 CHAUCER *Can. Yeom. Prol. & T.* 848 A man may lightly lerne, if he have aught, To multiplye, and bringe his good to naught. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 84 Thei founden thilke experience, Which cleped is Alconomie, Wherof the Selver multeplie Thei made and ek the gold also. 1477 NORTON *Ord. Alch.* in Ashm. (1652) 17 Saying how they can Multiplie Gold and Silver. *Ibid.* 18 When such men promise to Multiplie, They compasse to doe some Villony. *Ibid.*, Upon Nature thei falsely lye For Mettalls doe not Multiplie. 1543 tr. *Act* 5 *Hen. IV*, c. 4 It is ordeyned..that none from hensforth shall vse to multiplie golde or sylner, nor vse the craft of multiplication. 1592 LYLY *Gallathea* III. iii, An arte quoth you, that one multiplieth so much all day, that he wanteth money to buy meate at night? 1650 EVELYN *Diary* 14 Dec., An impostor that had like to have impos'd upon us a pretended secret of multiplying gold. 1688 *Act* 1 *Will. & Mary*, c. 30 [citing Act 5 Hen. IV].

Multiply (mʌ·ltipli), *adv. Math.* [f. MULTIPLE + -LY ².] *Multiply connected* (see quot. 1893). *Multiply-periodic*, having many periods.

1881 MAXWELL *Electr. & Magn.* I. 120 If the region s is doubly or multiply connected. 1893 A. R. FORSYTH *Theory of Functions* 315 A surface is simply connected, if it be resolved into two distinct pieces by every cross-cut; but if there be any cross-cut, which does not resolve it into distinct pieces, the surface is multiply connected. *Ibid.* 464 Functions which are multiply-periodic.

Multiplye, variant of MULTIPLIE *Sc.*

Mu·ltiplying, *vbl. sb.* [-ING ¹.]

1. = MULTIPLICATION, in various senses.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 37 In covetise of multipliinge of richessis. *c* 1384 CHAUCER *H. Fame* II. 293 (Fairf. MS.) Fro roundel [to] compas Eche aboute other goynge, Caused of othres sterynge And multiplyinge euer moo. *c* 1386 — *Pard. T.* 46 He shal have multiplying of his greyn. *a* 1400 in Halliwell *Rara Mathem.* (1841) 58 Þan al þat comes of þat multiplyeng departe þou by þe noumbre of þe poyntes of þe vmbre. 1474 CAXTON *Chesse* III. i. (1883) 77 The multiplynge of his goodes temporell. 1549 LATIMER *3rd Serm. bef. Edw. VI* (Arb.) 87 *marg.*, These mixtures and multiplyinges are theft. 1553 *Acts Privy Counc.* (N. S.) IV. 254 Informacions, lettres and examinacions towching Whalley's accusacion for multiplying. 1599 DUBRAVIUS (*title*) A new Booke of good Husbandry. .. Conteining the order..of making of Fish-pondes, with the breeding, preserving, and multiplying of the Carpe [etc.]. 1625 BACON *Ess., Seditions & Troubles* (Arb.) 405 The Multiplying of Nobilitie, and other Degrees of Qualitie. 1652 J. CHETWIND in Harington *Briefe View* Ep. Ded., This Authour..hath avoyded the needlesse multiplying of words. 1659 MILTON *Civ. Power in Eccl. Causes* Wks. 1851 V. 332 The multiplying and the aggravating of sin to them both. 1707 *Curios. in Husb. & Gard.* 129 These four last Observations for the multiplying of Corn. 1800 LAMB *Let. to Coleridge* 6 Aug., I cram all I can in, to save a multiplying of letters. 1855 BAIN *Senses & Int.* II. ii. § 12 (1864) 201 The multiplying of points of contact, by our having a plurality of fingers.

¶ **b.** Alleged term for a 'company' of husbands.

1486 *Bk. St. Albans* f vij, A Multiplieng of husbondis.

2. *attrib.*: *multiplying way* (?nonce-use), = 'family way' (see FAMILY 10 b).

1599 T. M[OUFET] *Silkwormes* 47 What made thee shew thy multiplying pride, More in these egges, then all the egges beside? 1739 MRS. DELANY in *Life & Corr.* (1861) II. 53 Duchess is very well, though in a multiplying way.

Mu·ltiplying, *ppl. a.* [-ING ².] That multiplies. †*Multiplying of*: tending to multiply.

a 1425 *Cursor M.* 2348 (Trin.) More..þen þe graueles in þe see So multeplyinge [*earlier texts* untelland] shulde þei be. 1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* v. iii. 102 Plutus himselfe, That knowes the tinct and multiplying med'cine. 1611 BIBLE *Wisd.* iv. 3 The multiplying brood of the vngodly shall not thriue. 1646 H. LAWRENCE *Comm. Angells* 64 Such punishments..are multiplying of evill infinitely, if God prevent not. 1690 CHILD *Disc. Trade* (1698) 23 Interest..which is of so prodigious a multiplying nature, that it must of necessity make the lenders monstrous rich. 1709 J. WARD *Yng. Math. Guide* I. vi. (1734) 72 The Multiplying Fraction is less than an Unite or 1. 1855 BP. WILBERFORCE in R. I. Wilberforce *Life* (1881) II. vii. 287 Oh! our multiplying embarrassments from concessions and inconsistencies. 1877 BESANT & RICE *Harp & Cr.* viii. 60 What time the *placens uxor* expects her husband to return with wavering step and multiplying eye.

b. in the names of instruments and machines having devices for increasing the number of movements, images, etc. Also *multiplying-machine*, a machine for performing mechanically the arithmetical process of multiplication. (See Knight *Dict. Mech.* and *Suppl.*)

1823 *Ann. Philos.* June 437 The multiplying wire [in Schweigger's Multiplier] is of plated copper. 1839 T. C. HOFLAND *Brit. Angler's Man.* I. (1841) 6 The multiplying reel was formerly much used, but, from its liability to be out of order [etc.]. 1849 NOAD *Electricity* (ed. 3) 396 Rapid horizontal motion is then given to the coil by means of a multiplying wheel. 1856 'STONEHENGE' *Brit. Rural Sports* I. § 621. 234/2 Multiplying-reels, in which, by the introduction of machinery, the barrel is made to travel several times to the single revolution of the handle. 1876 TAIT *Rec. Adv. Phys. Sci.* iv, An arrangement..consisting of a driving wheel and multiplying gear, by which I can communicate an extremely great velocity of rotation to this copper disc. 1882 NARES *Seamanship* (ed. 6) 53 *Multiplying sheaves.*—Are sometimes fitted to blocks where much friction takes place. 1889 *Nature* 21 Nov. 71/2 A multiplying apparatus which determines..in one function, the product of a number by each figure of the multiplier.

Hence †**Mu·ltiplyingly** *adv.*, manifoldly.

1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 346 b/2 They suffrid in many maners prouffitably constantly and multyplyengly.

Mu·ltiplying-glass.
†1. A magnifying-glass. Also *fig.* *Obs.*
Cf. MULTIPLY *v.* 1 f.
1628 FELTHAM *Resolves* II. xxxv, On our sicke beds, [hee] shewes vs all our sinnes in multiplying Glasses. *c* 1640 *Capt. Underwitt* 1. in Bullen *O. Pl.* II. 336, I wod not have a man .. so much a dwarfe that I must use a multiplying glass to know the proportion of his limbes. 1656 COWLEY *Misc., Ode of Wit* ii, Some things do through our Judgment pass As through a Multiplying Glass. 1680 S. MATHER *Irenicum* 19 The blind prophane world, who pretend to take offence at our divisions, looking upon them in the multiplying Glasses of their own enmity, and so accounting every difference in Religion to be a different Religion.

2. A toy consisting of a concave glass or lens, the surface of which is cut into numerous facets so as to give as many reflexions of the object observed. Also *fig.*
1671 FOULIS *Hist. Romish Treasons* (1681) 60 As for Bellarmine, you may look through him like a Multiplying-glass and perceive multitudes of people. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. ix. 375/1 Multiplying Glasses, that makes one things [*sic*] seem many. 1701 NORRIS *Ideal World* I. ii. 50 So many reproductions of one thing, like the image of the same face repeated in a multiplying glass. 1764 J. FERGUSON *Lect.* 147 The multiplying glass is made by grinding down the round side..of a convex glass..into several flat surface[s]. 1831 BREWSTER *Optics* xxxix. 329 Natural multiplying glasses may be found among transparent minerals which are crossed with veins oppositely crystallised. 1862–7 *J. Wylde's Circ. Sci.* I. 60/2.

Multi-pointed to **-polar**: see MULTI- 1 a, b.

Multipotent (mʌltiˑpǒtĕnt), *a. rare.* [f. L. *multipotent-*, *-potens*: see MULTI- and POTENT.] Having much power; very powerful.
1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* IV. v. 129 Ioue multipotent. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* VI. 239 Thousands famished, and put to the sword within this multipotent City, by Vespasian. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* 1889 TALMAGE in *Voice* (N. Y.) 28 Feb., I leave this imperial and multipotent numeral seven where the Bible leaves it.

Multipreˑsence. [ad. mod.L. *multipræsentia*: see MULTI- and PRESENCE.] The fact or faculty of being present in many places at once.
1614 BP. HALL *No Peace with Rome* § 17 That exploded opinion of transubstantiation, and (which is the root of it) the multi-presence of Christs body. 1727 DE FOE *Hist. Appar.* iv. (1840) 31 He has invisibility and multipresence, as a spirit has. 1885 SCHAFF *Christ & Christ.* 75 The mediæval schoolmen..ascribe..a miraculous multipresence to his body and blood in the sacrament of the altar.
So **Multipreˑsent** *a.*, having the property of multipresence.
1882–3 *Schaff's Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* III. 2415/2 The glorified body is not omnipresent, but multipresent.

Multi-radiate to **-sacculate**: see MULTI- 1 a, 3.

Multiscience (mʌltiˑsĕns). [f. L. *multus* MULTI- + *scientia* SCIENCE.] Knowledge of many things. So **Multiˑscient** *a.* (in recent Dicts.); †**Multiˑscious** *a.* [f. L. *multisci-us*], 'knowing much, skilful' (Blount *Glossogr.* 1656).
a 1834 COLERIDGE *Church & State* (1839) 226 *note*, Multiscience (or a variety and quantity of acquired knowledge) does not teach intelligence.

Multisect (mʌˑltisekt), *a. Ent.* [f. mod.L. *multisect-us*, f. *multus* MULTI- + *sectus*, pa. pple. of *secāre* to cut.] (See quot.)
1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* xlvi. IV. 305 Multisect (*Multisectum*). When an insect appears to have no distinct trunk and abdomen, but is divided into numerous segments.

Multiseˑct, *v. rare*⁻⁰. [f. MULTI- + L. *sect-*, ppl. stem of *secāre* to cut.] *trans.* To divide into many parts (*Century Dict.*). Also **Multiseˑction** (*rare*⁻¹), division into many parts.
1862 MASSON in *Macm. Mag.* Dec. 85 On the plan of multisection, as well as on that of trisection, bisection.

Multi-segmentate to **-soil**: see MULTI- 1 a, 3.

Multisonant (mʌltiˑsǒnănt), *a. rare.* [f. L. *multison-us* + -ANT. See MULTI- and SONANT.] Having many sounds; sounding much.
1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Multisonant*, that hath many or great sounds, that makes a great noise. 1821 *Tales of my Landlord* I. 241 The multisonant dash of ocean's billows. 1888 *Harper's Mag.* Oct. 741/1 The multicolored, multisonant stream rushes by.
So **Multiˑsonous** *a.*
1905 *Westm. Gaz.* 29 Dec. 2/1 The multisonous voices of winds and sea and forest.

Multi-spermous to **-tubular**: see MULTI-.

Multitude (mʌˑltitiūd). [a. F. *multitude* (13th c.), or ad. L. *multitūdo*, *-tūdin-*, f. *multus* much, many: see *-TUDE.*]
1. The character, quality, or condition of being many; numerousness; great number. Also, number whether great or small.
In the common biblical (Hebraistic) phrase *the multitude of* = 'the many, the numerous', the meaning of the sb. varies between senses 1 and 2.
a 1325 *Prose Psalter* li. 7 He hoped in þe multitude of his riches. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* II. 330 For multitud mais na victory. *c* 1450 tr. *De Imitatione* III. xxiii. 93 Be þou blessed, þat hast done þys godenes wiþ þi seruaunt after þe multitude of þi mercy. *c* 1460 G. ASHBY *Dicta Philos.* 8 Truste nat oonly in men is multitude. 1560 BIBLE (Geneva) *Ps.* xxxvii. 11 Meeke men..shall baue their delite in the multitude of peace. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* I. (1586) 8 Riches are not to be measured by their multitude. 1611 BIBLE *Josh.* xi. 4 Euen as the sand that is vpon the Sea-shore in multitude. 1650 BULWER *Anthropomet.* 230 That which fails in magnitude is called smal; as that which in multitude, few. 1734 tr. *Rollin's Anc. Hist.* IV. 208 Valour and not multitude determines the success of arms. 1774 WARTON *Hist. Eng. Poetry* Diss. ii. k 2 William the conqueror permitted great numbers of Jews..to settle in England...Their multitude soon encreased. 1868 TENNYSON *Lucretius* 168 Or do they fly..like the flakes In a fall of snow, and so press in, perforce, Of multitude? 1869 RUSKIN *Q. of Air* § 121 The strength of the nation is in its multitude, not in its territory.

2. A great number, a host, a 'crowd' (*of* persons or things). Freq. qualified by *great*. Often *elliptical* = multitude of men, etc. in question. a. *sing.*
The sing. was formerly often used (without article) where the pl. is now idiomatic, esp. in *great multitude.*
a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* xxiii. 6 Swilk is the getynge [L. *generacio*], that is, multitud of tha that sekis him. 1340 — *Pr. Consc.* 5113 And with him grete multitude sal come Of angels. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xi. (*Symon & Judas*) 299 Of serpentis a multytude. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 220 This Perseüs ..With al his multitude rod. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* I. xvi. 58 It was pyte on to behold that multitude of the people that fledde. 1508 DUNBAR *Tua Mariit Wemen* 73 To manifest my makdome to multitude of pepill. 1586 A. DAY *Eng. Secretary* II. (1625) 34 Having..heaped on thy head a multitude of favours. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* I. ii. 50 A multitude of actions done by a multitude of men. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* x. 554 Imagining For one forbidden Tree a multitude Now ris'n. 1703 MAUNDRELL *Journ. to Euphrates* (1732) 2 Here are a multitude of Subterraneous Aqueducts. 1778 MISS BURNEY *Evelina* xxiv. (1791) II. 150 She asked Mr. Lovel a multitude of questions. 1872 MORLEY *Voltaire* (1886) 5 It was he who conveyed to his generation in a multitude of forms the consciousness..of.. the rights of human intelligence.

b. *pl.* Great numbers, hosts, 'crowds'.
1596 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. IV*, III. ii. 143 For euery Honor sitting on his Helme, Would they were multitudes. 1603 SALMON *Doron Med.* I. 333 Multitudes of words bring much error. 1781 COWPER *Retirem.* 158 The waves o'ertake them in their serious play, And ev'ry hour sweeps multitudes away. 1860 TYNDALL *Glaciers* II. xxiv. 357 Multitudes of such little explosions must be heard upon a glacier. 1875 C. F. WOOD *Yachting Cruise* vi. 143 Multitudes of barnacles.

†c. A great quantity (of somcthing). *Obs.*
c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 98 If þat greet multitude of blood lettiþ. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 69 Slik was þe multitude of mast so mekil & so thike, þat [etc.]. 1529 S. FISH *Supplic. Beggers* (1871) 2 What a multitude of money gather the pardoners in a yere? 1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* III. xvii. 175 The multitude of waters that runne into it, quench this smoake and fire. 1677 YARRANTON *Eng. Improv.* 134 Here is cheap Corn, good Corn, and a multitude of it. 1777 CHATHAM *Sp. on Address* 18 Nov., All this disgraceful danger, this multitude of misery.

3. A large gathering of people; a mass of people collected in one place; a throng.
1382 WYCLIF *Ezek.* xvi. 40 And thei shulen lede to vpon thee a multitude [Vulg. *multitudinem*], and thei shulen stoone thee. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 217 The nyht suiende he schop to gon This multitude to assaile. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 104 Emang þe multitude of men quare mane ere togeder. 1538 STARKEY *England* I. ii. 51 To the intent that thys multytude of pepul and bole commynalty,..may.. relygyously worschype God. 1581 LAMBARDE *Eiren.* I. xvii. 133 Three or more in one companie (which the lawe properly calleth a multitude). 1593 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. VI*, v. i. 94 Thou are not King: Not fit to gouerne and rule multitudes. 1682 DRYDEN & LEE *Dk. Guise* IV. i. (1683) 39 A Multitude's a Bulky Coward. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) II. 355 Our horses would scarcely, in this manner,.. continue their speed, without a rider, through the midst of a multitude. 1784 COWPER *Task* VI. 100 Books are..spells, By which the magic art of shrewder wits Holds an unthinking multitude enthrall'd. 1828 WHATELY *Rhet.* in *Encycl. Metrop.* I. 300/1 A skilful orator's being able to rouse..the passions of a multitude. 1862 BP. WORDSWORTH *Hymn, 'Hark, the sound of holy voices'* i, Multitude, which none can number, Like the stars, in glory stands.

4. With *the*: 'The many', the populace, the common people.
1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* xxx. 13, I haue herde the blasphemy of the multitude: euery man abhorreth me. *a* 1586 [see MANY-HEADED]. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* v. i. 95 In the posteriors of this day, which the rude multitude call the after-noone. 1607 — *Cor.* II. iii. 18 1. *Cit.*..He himselfe stucke not to call vs the many-headed Multitude. *a* 1637 B. JONSON *Discoveries* (1640) 130 Jests that are true and naturall, seldome raise laughter with the beast, the multitude. 1671 MILTON *Samson* 696 The unjust tribunals,..condemnation of the ingrateful multitude. 1708 SHAFTESB. *Charac.* (1727) I. 76 To affect a superiority over the Vulgar, and to despise the Multitude. 1769 *Junius Lett.* I. 2 The multitude, in all countries, are patient to a certain point. 1843 RUSKIN *Mod. Paint.* I. 2 *note*, The multitude is the only proper judge of those arts whose end is to move the multitude.

Multitudinaˑrious, *a. rare*⁻¹. [f. L. type **multitūdinārī-us*, f. *multitūdin-*: see MULTITUDE and -ARIOUS.] Multitudinous. So **Multituˑdinary** *a. rare*⁻⁰ (Worcester 1846, citing Mitford).
1810 *Splendid Follies* I. 188 Don't talk to me..my ideas are multitudinarious.

†**Multitudine.** *Obs.* [a. OF. *multitudine*, or ad. L. *multitūdinem* MULTITUDE.] Multitude.
1547 BOORDE *Brev. Health* iii. (1557) 8 Knowledge, by the whiche wilfull Abhorsion maye come of the multitudenes of the flowers of a woman. 1556 *Chron. Gr. Friars* (Camden) 84 The Scottes toke a grete multitudyne of the Ynglych pepulle. *c* 1610 *Women Saints* (1886) 48 Being much terrified with the noise of the multitudine pursuing them.

Multitudinism (mʌltitiūˑdiniz'm). [f. L. *multitūdin-*, *multitūdo* MULTITUDE + -ISM, after Fr.] The principle according to which the interests of multitudes are placed before those of individuals, *esp.* in religion.
1860 H. B. WILSON in *Ess. & Rev.* 146 The Comte Léon de Gasparin..laid it down..that the individualist principle supplies the true basis of the Church, and that by inaugurating the union between Church and State Constantine introduced the false..principle of Multitudinism. 1866 *Contemp. Rev.* I. 92 The vicious multitudinism of the great public schools. 1870 *Ibid.* XIV. 390 Sentimental multitudinism, seeking to base itself on a loose humanitarianism.
Hence **Multituˑdinist, Multitudiniˑstic** *adjs.*, favouring such a doctrine or principle.
1860 H. B. WILSON in *Ess. & Rev.* 159 To the multitudinist principle are due the great external victories which the Christian name has hitherto won. 1862 W. J. IRONS in *Replies to Ess. & Rev.* 226 Whether primitive Christianity ..was 'multitudinistic',..or whether it was 'exclusive' and sought access to the individual conscience of the few.

Multitudinoˑsity. [f. MULTITUDINOUS: see -OSITY.] Multitudinousness.
1840 *Blackw. Mag.* XLVIII. 762 A fiery man..must be goaded into madness..by the multitudinosity of absurdities.

Multitudinous (mʌltitiūˑdinəs), *a.* [f. L. *multitūdin-*, *multitūdo* MULTITUDE + -OUS.]
1. a. with pl. sb.: Existing in multitudes or great numbers; very numerous.
1629 DONNE *Serm.* (1649) II. xxviii. 242 The foundation of all, the Trinity, undermined by those numerous, those multitudinous Anthills of Socinians. 1644 HEYLIN *Stumbling-block* Tracts (1681) 723 The more multitudinous and united the Petitioners are, the more like to speed. 1650 *Descr. Fut. Hist. Europe* 23 Confounding..the multitudinous Pagans and Idolaters fighting against Christians. 1800 COLERIDGE *Talleyrand to Ld. Granville* 46 It argues, my Lord! of fine thoughts such a brood in us To split and divide into heads multitudinous. 1805 SOUTHEY *Madoc* II. xxv. Poems V. 367 The lesser fowls Flock multitudinous in heaven. 1846 TRENCH *Mirac.* Prelim. Ess. iv. 45 The multitudinous races of animals which people this world.

b. with collective sb.: Consisting of a multitude or great number of individuals.
1606 DEKKER *Serv. Sins* II. (Arb.) 20 In a State so multitudinous, where so many flocks of people must be fed. *a* 1662 HEYLIN *Laud* (1668) 70 The Puritan faction, which was grown multitudinous and strong. 1837 HALLAM *Hist. Lit.* I. vi. § 35 A more multitudinous brood of sectaries. 1840 H. AINSWORTH *Tower of London* (1862) 212 When this multitudinous and confused assemblage had nearly filled the inclosure. 1882 A. W. WARD *Dickens* v. 112 Never before had his versatility..filled his canvas with so multitudinous and so various a host of personages.

c. with sing. sb.: Existing in or exhibiting a multitude of forms; having many elements or features; arising from or involving a multitude.
Often applied to bodies of sound which are varied in volume and tone.
1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Multitudinous*, pertaining to a multitude; that hath a great..number, or great store of. *a* 1734 NORTH *Lives* (1826) III. 155 The abuses in the management of the royal navy, and the multitudinous fraud that corroded there. 1820 L. HUNT *Indicator* No. 20 (1822) I. 155 It was the rocks of an isle beyond Inistore, which made that multitudinous roaring of the wind. 1850 HAWTHORNE *Scarlet L.* Introd. (1879) 12 The pavement..has not ..been worn by any multitudinous resort of business. 1858 KINGSLEY *Lett.* (1878) I. 21 The multitudinous moan and wail of the lost spirits. 1874 R. TYRWHITT *Sketch Club* p. vii, Multitudinous murder of tame pheasants. 1891 HARDY *Tess* xxxii, From the whole extent of the invisible vale came a multitudinous intonation.

d. Said of the ocean or any mass of water with reference to its great bulk or (after the *ἀνήριθμον γέλασμα* of Æschylus) to its innumerable ripples.
1605 SHAKS. *Macb.* II. ii. 62 This my Hand will rather The multitudinous Seas incarnardine. *a* 1794 SIR W. JONES *Hymn to Narayena* Wks. 1799 VI. 370 The waters flow'd, ..Diffusive, multitudinous, profound. 1817 MOORE *Lalla Rookh, Veiled Prophet* (1854) 79 The multitudinous torrent. 1850 BLACKIE *Æschylus* II. 21 And of ocean waves The multitudinous laughter. 1860 W. COLLINS *Woman in White* I. 185 The multitudinous glory of the leaping waves.

e. Thronged or crowded (*with*). *poet.*
1820 SHELLEY *Prometh. Unb.* I. 5 Regard this Earth Made multitudinous with thy slaves. 1871 BROWNING *Balaust.* 1328 To live In a bome multitudinous with herds.

f. *nonce-use.* Immensely productive or prolific.
1816 T. L. PEACOCK *Headlong Hall* iii, Two very multitudinous versifiers, Mr. Nightshade and Mr. Mac Laurel.

2. Of or pertaining to 'the multitude'. *rare*⁻¹.
1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* III. i. 156 At once plucke out The Multitudinous Tongue, let them not licke The sweet which is their poyson.

Multituˑdinously, *adv.* [-LY 2.] In a multitudinous manner; in multitudes.
1859 MEREDITH *R. Feverel* iv, The rooms were dark, dark as the prognostics multitudinously hinted by the disappointed..guests. 1861 J. G. SHEPPARD *Fall Rome* iii. 125 They march multitudinously, openly, and incautiously, straight against the enemy. 1878 BROWNING *La Saisiaz* 44 Multitudinously wretched.

Multituˑdinousness. [-NESS.] The character or condition of being multitudinous.
1653 GAUDEN *Hierasp.* To Rdr. a 2 b, The eminency of the first, the mediocrity of the second, and the meannesse yet multitudinousnesse of the third. *a* 1662 HEYLIN *Laud* (1668) 132 He had observed the multitudinousness of his Fathers Chaplains. 1830 *Blackw. Mag.* XXVIII. 147 Shakspeare rightly called bim [*sc.* the sea] 'multitudinous'. But in spite of his multitudinousness [etc.]. 1876 *Fam. Herald* 7 Oct. 366/1 The multitudinousness of God's mercies. 1890 *Spectator* 11 Jan., Thinking grows..tired with the multitudinousness of the new subjects for thought.

Multivagant (mʌltiˑvăgănt), *a. rare.* [f. L. *multivag-us*: see MULTI- and VAGANT.] Wandering much.

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Multivagant*, wandring or straying much abroad. 1895 MONKSHOOD in *Working Men's Coll. Jrnl.* Jan. 164 Mulvaney, the multivagant, who holds the picture-place in the Kipling pantheon.

So **Multi·vagous** *a. rare*⁻°. 1727 in BAILEY vol. II.

Multivalent (mʌltɪ·vălĕnt), *a. Chem.* [See MULTI- 1.] Having many degrees of valency. Hence **Multi·valence, Multiva·lency.**

1874 J. P. COOKE *New Chem.* 278 Hydrates of multivalent radicals. *a* 1881 BARRATT *Phys. Metempiric* (1883) 64 Multi-valency of atoms. 1882 OGILVIE *Suppl., Multivalence.*

Multivalve (mʌ·ltɪvælv), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. mod.L. *multivalvis* (cf. Linnæus's division *Multivalvia*): see MULTI- and VALVE. In French 1752.]

A. *adj.* **a.** *Conch.* Having many valves, as the chitons and the acorn-shells.

1755 *Gentl. Mag.* XXV. 32. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* VII. 61 Multivalve Shell-fish may be considered as animals shut up in round boxes. 1828 STARK *Elem. Nat. Hist.* II. 122 The shell of the Cirripeda is always multivalve. 1877 HUXLEY *Anat. Inv. Anim.* vi. 291 The former firmly fixed by the base of its multivalve conical shell.

b. *Bot.* and *Enl.* (See quots.)

1819 SAMOUELLE *Entomol. Compend.* 353 Rostrum..Multivalve, forming a tube by means of many valves uniting. 1819 *Pantologia, Multivalve glume*...Having more than two valves. 1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* IV. 373 Tail of the female without a terebrant, or pungent multivalve ovipositor. 1831 MACGILLIVRAY tr. *Richard's Elem. Bot.* 274 A Pericarp is..Multivalve, when it divides into a greater number of valves or distinct segments.

B. *sb.* A multivalve shell; an animal having such a shell (as a chiton or an acorn-shell).

1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* 1776 DA COSTA *Elem. Conchol.* 242 Multivalves. Shells composed of many pieces or valves. 1851 WOODWARD *Mollusca* 36 Most of the multivalves of old authors were articulate animals.

Also **Multiva·lvate** (*rare*⁻°), **Mu·ltivalved, Multiva·lvular** *adjs.* = MULTIVALVE *a.*

1891 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, **Multivalvate*, having more than two valves. 1758 ELLIS in *Phil. Trans.* L. 846 A *multivalved shell, composed of unequal valves. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* VII. 18 The Multivalved [shell-fish], or those of the Acorn-shell Kind. 1826 GOOD *Bk. Nat.* II. 20 Of the multivalved testaceous worms..there are but three known species, the chiton, the lepas..and the phloas. 1760 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* II. xxxiii. (1765) 159 *Antirrhinum*, with a multivalvular Fruit. 1849 BALFOUR *Man. Bot.* § 530 The fruit being univalvular, bivalvular, or multivalvular, &c., according as there are one, two, or many valves.

Multivarious (mʌltɪvɛ··rɪəs), *a.* Now *rare.* [f. MULTI- + L. *vari-us* (see VARIOUS *a.*), as literal equivalent of Gr. πολυποίκιλος 'much-variegated, manifold' (L. & Sc.).] Manifold and diverse.

1620 FEATLY *Clavis Myst.* vi. (1636) 69 That manifold, or (to make a new compound to translate a compound), in the Originall multivarious wisedome [πολυποίκιλος Eph. iii. 10]. 1644 MAXWELL *Prerog. Chr. Kings* 24 God in Scripture, by frequent, pregnant, and multivarious expressions, hath so vindicated to himselfe the making and constituting of Kings [etc.]. 1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* I. iv. § 16. 293 From.. One Supreme Deity altogether proceeds the Genesis of the multivarious matter. 1832 FR. A. KEMBLE *Let.* in *Rec. Girlhood* (1878) III. 244 Multitudinous and multivarious beasts of prey. 1903 *Academy* 31 Oct. 462/1 Multi-various gossip about the London localities he knew best.

So † **Multivari·ety.**

1601 [BP. W. BARLOW] *Defence* 79 That multi-varietie of Gods wisdome. [Cf. 1620 above.]

Multive·rsant, *a.* [f. MULTI- + pr. pple. of L. *versāre*, frequent. of *vertĕre* to turn.] Protean.

1828-32 WEBSTER (citing *Jrnl. Sci.*).

Multivious (mʌltɪ·vɪəs), *a.* [f. L. *multivi-us* (f. *multus* MULTI- + *via* way) + -OUS.] Having many ways; going or leading in many directions.

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Multivious*, that hath many ways, manifold. 1721 in BAILEY. 1850 D. THOMAS *Crisis of Being* vi. 97 The sinner is often perplexed amidst the multivious and conflicting directions that are given. 1880 BESANT & RICE *Seamy Side* xx, The young clerks..were dispersed, multivious, in quest of food.

Multivocal (mʌltɪ·vŏkăl), *a.* and *sb.* [f. L. *multus* MULTI- + *voc-āre* to call, after *univocal, equivocal.*] **a.** *adj.* Susceptible of many interpretations or meanings. **b.** *sb.* A word of such a kind. Hence **Multi·vocalness.**

1810 COLERIDGE in *Lit. Rem.* (1836) III. 55 Whenever I meet with an ambiguous or multivocal word. 1862 F. HALL *Hindu Philos. Syst.* 82 'Nature', in such a sense, or *swabhâva*, is one of the classical acceptations of the multivocal *prakṛiti*. 1873 — *Mod. Eng.* 95 *note, Respect*, a word comparable, for its multivocalness, with the Latin *ratio. Ibid.* 169 Among the various blemishes which may disfigure a language, none..is more unphilosophical than multivocals.

Multi·volent, *a. rare*⁻°. [f. L. *multivol-us*: see MULTI- and VOLENT.]

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Multivolent*, of many or divers minds, mutable, wishing one while this, and another, that.

Multivoltine: see MULTI- 1 a.

Multocular (mʌltɒ·kiŭlăɹ), *a.* [f. L. *mult-us* MULT(I- + *ocul-us* eye + -AR.] Having many eyes. See also quot. 1887.

1713 DERHAM *Phys.-Theol.* VIII. iii. 401 Flies, &c. are Multocular, having as many Eyes as there are Perforations in their Corneæ. 1887 tr. *Nägeli & Schwendener's Microscope* 48 For some time past English and French opticians have made multocular Microscopes, by which several persons are enabled to observe one and the same object simultaneously. 1891 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Multocular*, having many eyes.

Mu·lto-scribbling, *ppl. a.* [f. *multo-* used as comb. form of L. *multus* in sense 'much'.] That scribbles a great deal.

1822 BYRON *Vis. Judgem.* lxv, Thus spoke the Demon (late call'd 'multi-faced' By multo-scribbling Southey).

Multre, obs. form of MULTURE.

† **Multum** (mʌ·ltŭm). *Brewing. Obs.* [? A use of L. *multum*, neut. of *multus* much.] (See quots.)

1820 *Blackw. Mag.* VI. 545 Another substance composed of extract of quassia and liquorice juice, and used by fraudulent brewers to economise both malt and hops is technically called *multum*. 1829 *Art of Brewing* (Libr. Usef. Knowl.) I. 31/2 A compound termed *multum* was (or is) a mixture of opium and other ingredients, which sold about ten years ago, at five or six shillings a pound, when what was called an *extract of cocculus* was charged at a guinea and a-half. 1844 HOBLYN *Dict. Med., Hard multum*, or Black extract, is a preparation made from Cocculus Indicus, and used by brewers to impart an intoxicating quality to beer.

‖ **Multum in parvo** (mʌ·ltŭm in pā··rvo). [L. *multum*, neut. of *multus* much; *in*, prep.; *parvō*, abl. sing. of *parvus* little.] A great deal in a small compass. Also *attrib.* applied to articles of small bulk but of great comprehensiveness.

1732 (*title*) Multum in Parvo; or, the Jubilee of Jubilees. 1825 [S. MAUNDER] *title*, The Little Lexicon; or, Multum in Parvo of the English Language. 1836 MARRYAT *Three Cutters* i, This is the kitchen: is it not admirably arranged? What a *multum in parvo!* 1861 (*title*) Multum in Parvo Series. 1876 T. HARDY *Ethelberta* xliii, A multum-in-parvo pocket-knife.

Multungulate (mʌltʌ·ŋgiŭlĕt), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. mod.L. *multungulāt-us*, f. *multus* MULT(I- + *ungula* hoof: see -ATE 2.] **a.** *adj.* Having more than two functional hoofs; belonging to the order *Multungulata.* **b.** *pl.* An animal of this order.

1839-47 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* III. 237/1 Aristotle divides them [*sc.* ungulates] into, 1st, *Polyschidæ*, or multungulates ..2d, the *Dischidæ*, or bisulcates,..3d, the *Aschidæ*, or solidungulate quadrupeds. 1863 DANA *Man. Geol.* 423 Multungulates, having three or five toes, as the Tapir,.. Rhinoceros..Palæotherium. 1866 BRANDE & COX *Dict. Sci.*, etc. II. 593/2 *Multungulate*..when a quadruped has the hoof divided into more than two parts.

† **Mu·ltuous,** *a. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [irreg. f. L. *mult-us* much + -UOUS. Cf. *multeous.*] Numerous.

1589 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* Prose Add. 165 In respect of their multuous Armies.

Multure (mʌ·ltiŭɹ, -tʃəɹ), *sb.* Forms: 4-5 **multir,** 5 **-yr,** *Sc.* **mowter,** 5-7 **molter,** 5-9 **multer,** 6 **-ur, multrar, myltour,** 7 **mou(l)ture**; *Sc.* and *dial.* 5-9 **moulter,** 7-9 **moulture, mooter,** 8 **multur, mu'ter,** 9 **multre,** etc. (see E.D.D.); 5- **multure,** 7- **mulcture.** [a. OF. *molture, moulture*, mod.F. *mouture*:—med.L. *molitūra*, f. *molit-, molĕre* to grind. The form *mulcture* is due to association with MULCT.]

1. a. A toll consisting of a proportion of the grain carried or of the flour made, paid to the proprietor or tenant of a mill for the privilege of having corn ground at it. **b.** The right to exact this toll.

c 1300 [see *multure-greve* below]. *c* 1450 *Eng. Misc.* (Surtees) 61 All maner of mesurys of ye mylne that thai take multyr with. 1478 *Acta Audit.* (1839) 59/1 Johne boid.. summond..for þe mult^r^ of þe teind schaf at dalmusternach. 1565-6 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 428 The landis of..Braidley, with the myln and multuris of the samyn. 1622 *Extr. Burgh Rec. Stirling* (1887) 157 Nor yit that their be ony alteratioun..of the quantitie of the multure or knaifshep that presentlie is payed. 1628 COKE *On Litt.* 47 A rent cannot be reserued..out of any incorporeall inheritance, as..mulcture of a Mill. 1641 BEST *Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 103 Or else the fault is in the miller that taketh more mowter then is his due. 1681 STAIR *Instit.* I. xvii. § 15 When a Superiour gives out Lands upon condition of Thirlage, the Multures are a part of the *reddendo* or price. 1747 *Act* 20 *Geo. II*, c. 43 § 17 Recovery of Multures or Services payable or prestable to their Mills. 1788 W. MARSHALL *Yorksh.* II. 342 *Mooter.* 1820 SCOTT *Monast.* viii, The Dame Glendinning had always paid her mulcture and knaveship duly. 1851 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* XII. I. 132 When farmers get oats made into meal for the use of their families and servants, the miller retains as multure 8½ lbs. (a Scotch peck) for every boll (140 lbs.) of meal produced.

c. In proverbial expressions.

1607 R. C[AREW] tr. *Estienne's World of Wonders* 302 To bring the moulter to their mill. 1623 BP. SANDERSON *Serm.* II June (1689) 114 It were a lamentable thing if these men should be..maintained by the Magistrates..of purpose to bring Moulter to their own Mills. 1653 URQUHART *Rabelais* I. xi. 55 Out of one sack he would take two moutures or fees for grinding. 1820 [see MEAL *sb.*¹ 3 a].

¶ **d.** Used (by confusion with *mult*, MULCT *sb.*) for: A fine.

1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* IV. xiii (S.T.S.) II. 93 To promulgate ane law richt plesand to þe pepil concernyng the estimatioun of multuris [orig. *multarum*].

2. *attrib.*: † **multure-ark,** a chest or box in which the multure was deposited (cf. dial. *multure-chest*); † **multure-corn,** corn taken in payment of multure; hence often = an inferior or mixed kind of corn; **multure dish** *dial.*, a vessel for measuring or collecting the multure; † **multure grave, greve** [see GRAVE *sb.*³, GRIEVE], the steward who had charge of the multure; † **multure meal** = 1 a; † **multure oath,** an oath to the effect that multure had been paid.

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 246/2 A *Multer arke, *emolimentarium.* 1546 *Yks. Chantry Surv.* (Surtees) II. 246 The xth of the *multer co[r]ne of Skipton Mylnez. 1592 *Nottingham Rec.* IV. 237 A busshell of multure corne. 1611 COTGR., *Bled barnage*, Meslin, or moulture corne. 1619 J. KING *Serm.* II *Apr.* 37 Ezekiel (Ezech. 4) lieth and sleepeth vpon his left and right side, and maketh him bread of moulter corne. 1625 F. MARKHAM *Bk. Honour* II. viii § 2, I can compare these wretched Clownes..to nothing but poore Moulter Corne, which this Milstone of knighthood grinds to dust, to feed dogs. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 246/2 A *Multer dische, *metreta, tessera.* 1636 W. SAMPSON *Vow-breaker* II. i. D, Oh the Mooter dish, the Millers thumbe and the maide behinde the Hopper. *a* 1800 in M. A. Richardson *Local Hist. Table Bk.* Leg. Div. (1844) II. 136 The moutar dish was nearly fou iv a' kinds iv grain but yits. 1547 *Multur fre [see MULTURE *v.*]. 1651 *MS. Agreement, Treeton mill, co. York*, [The tenant] shall have his corn ground at Treeton mill moulter free and free to the hopper. ? *a* 1800 in Buchan *Ball.* (1828) II. 126 When ye come to my father's mill, Ye shall grind muture free. *c* 1300 *Durh. Treas. Misc. Cart.* No. 6592 Ricardo le *Multirgreue de Werke. 1479 *Hexham Priory* (Surtees) II. 77 Sub pœna perditionis totius grani versus lez multir-grafe. 1566 *Cal. Laing Charters* (1899) 205 [The oatmeal called the] *multure meill [of the granter's mill of Denny]. 1480 *Peebles Charters*, etc. 207 To atteiche the maltmen that duellis within the fredome of burgh to the nixt court for to mak and gif ane *multer aith for the termes bygane.

Hence † **Mu·lture** *v.* [cf. OF. *multurer* in both senses], (*a*) to grind, (*b*) to exact the toll of multure from.

c 1450 *Eng. Misc.* (Surtees) 60 When j qwharter wheytt is sald for iiij s., than schall ye corne be multyrd at ye xvj vessell. 1547 *Aberdeen Reg.* (1844) I. 250 It is lesum to ws to grind and multur our cornis..at the mill of Gilcamstoun, multur fre. 1582 [see MULTURER].

Multurer (mʌ·ltiŭrəɹ). Also 6 **multarar, multrar, multerair.** [f. prec. + -ER 1.] One who pays toll for the grinding of his corn at a mill.

1580 *Rec. Elgin* (New Spalding Cl.) I. 156 James Cuming, multarar at the auld miln of Elgin. 1582 *Cal. Laing Charters* (1899) 258 The multraris to haif ane pec and the fermoraris twa bollis ay qubill the aucht chaldyr be multrit. 1702 in J. Paterson *Hist. Regal. Musselburgh* (1857) 39 That..the multurer shall draw the multures at the milnes in maner underwritten. *a* 1768 ERSKINE *Inst. Law Scot.* II. ix. (1773) 314 The multure is a quantity of grain..due to the proprietor of the mill, or his tacksman, the multurer, for manufacturing the corns. 1838 W. BELL *Dict. Law Scot.* 665 The competition there may be with other mills to which the outsucken multurers have access.

Multyn, obs. pa. pple. of MELT *v.*

† **Mu·lvel.** *Obs.* Forms: 4-5 (8 *Hist.*) **mulvel(l, -well(e, molle-, mullewelle,** (8 *Hist.* **mulvil**); 4 **milewel, milvele, mylwel,** 6 **millwell,** 7 **myll(e)well**; 4 **melewell, melvel,** 5-7 **mellwell,** (8 *Hist.* **melwel**); 6 **myllwyn,** 7 **milwyn.** [a. AF. *mulvelle* (latinized *mulvellus*, 13th c.), OF. *mulvel* (Godef.), prob. an altered form of *muruel, moruel*, dim. of *morue* (Walloon *molue*) cod: see MORRHUA. Cf. MORHWELL.] = COD *sb.*³

1338 in Dugdale *Monasticon* (1819) II. 584/1 In codelyngis et haddockis emptis iij^s^ vj^d^... In green mulvellis xv^d^. *c* 1340 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 36 In xx Milueles salsis, viij s. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) I. 423 In þe oþer [pond] is perche and trouȝtis,.. So fareþ as wel In Albania þe Milewel [*v.r.* meluel, mylwel]. *c* 1460 J. RUSSELL *Bk. Nurture* 555 Salt samoun Congur, grone fische bobe lynge & myllewelle. 1577 J. DEE *Gen. & Rare Mem.* 24 For his Majesty to be Souerayn Lord of the Fishing of Myllwyn and Codd, there [*sc.* Ireland]. 1603 OWEN *Pembrokeshire* (1892) 123 Myllwell otherwise called codde. 1661 LOVELL *Hist. Anim. & Min.* 232 Cod fish..is a great Sea-whiting, called also a Keeling or Melwel. 1674 RAY *Coll. Words* 33 *Milwyn*; *Lancash.* Greenfish. 1755 JOHNSON, *Melwel*, a kind of fish. *attrib. c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 16 Take..Freysshe Mylwell hedys. *Ibid.* 61 Mulwyl taylys.

† **Mulwine.** *Obs. rare*⁻¹. ? A drinking bout.

1607 MIDDLETON *Phœnix* H 4, You have made vs wayte a goodly time for you,..you are in your Rowses & Mulwines a poxe on you.

Mulyer, obs. form of MULIER *a.*

Mum (mʊm), *sb.*¹, *int.* and *a.* Forms: 4-6 **mom(me,** 6 **mume,** 6-7 **mumme,** 7 **mumbe,** 8 **mumm,** 5- **mum.** [Echoic; cf. G. *mumm.*]

A. *sb.*

† **1.** An inarticulate sound made with closed lips, esp. as an indication of inability or unwillingness to speak. Also, in negative or hypothetical context = '(not) the slightest word'. Sometimes with omission of *not*: 'not a word'. *Obs.*

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. Prol. 115 Thow myȝtest better mete the myste on Maluerne hulles, Than gete a momme of here mouthe but money were shewed. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xxi. 172 Though thi lyppis be stokyn yit myght thou say, mom. *a* 1500 *London Lickpenny* (MS. Harl. 542) iv, He would not geve me a momme of his mouthe. 1532 MORE *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 641/2 Tyndall neuer brought out yet eyther boke, lefe, or lyne to proue vs..that euer the ceremonies that he calleth now dumme, spake euer in old tyme so much as a mumme. 1651 LILLY *Chas. I* (1774) 235 The Common Council assembled; but mum could he get there, for the word London-Derry was then fresh in every mans mouth.

2. Refusal to speak, silence. *colloq.*

1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 163 Mum hath a grace in thee far more than speeche. 1678 BUTLER *Hud.* III. ii. 1494 Entrust it under solemn Vows Of Mum, and Silence,

and the Rose. 1890 *Pall Mall G.* 7 Jan. 1/2 If the policy of 'mum' continues.

b. *attrib.*

1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 9 ₱ 6 The Mum Club (as I am informed) is an Institution of the same Nature, and as great an Enemy to Noise. 1797 T. PARK *Sonn.* 66 Doom'd by more severe mishap, To the mum-penance of La Trappe.

†**c.** A contest at 'playing mum' (see C. b). *Obs.*

1779 JOHNSON *Let. to Mrs. Thrale* 10 Mar., So, dear Madam, it is a mumm to see who will speak first.

†**3.** A silent person. (Cf. MOME 2.) *Obs.*

1666 LOCKE *Let. to J. Alford* in *Gentl. Mag.* (1797) LXVII. I. 97, I doe not in this advise you to be either a mumbe or morose. 1807–8 W. IRVING *Salmag.* (1824) 156 These silent members are..denominated orator mums.

B. *int.* A command to be silent or secret; 'hush!' 'silence!' 'not a word!' Also in phrases, †*mum for that* (obs.), *mum's the word.*

?1399 *Title of poem* (='*Rich. Redeles*') cited by Bale *Index* (Anecd. Oxon.), Mum, soth-segger! 1568 FULWELL *Like will to Like* E iij, No more woords but mum & stand a while aside. 1605 SHAKS. *Lear* I. iv. 215 Mum, mum, he that keepes nor crust, nor crum, Weary of all, shall want some. 1687 MONTAGUE & PRIOR *Hind & P. Transv.* 7 It has cost me some pains to clear Her Title. Well but Mum for that, Mr. Smith. *a* 1704 T. BROWN *Walk round Lond., Coffee-Houses* Wks. 1709 III. III. 39 But Mum's the Word—for who wou'd speak their Mind among Tarrs and commissioners. 1705 VANBRUGH *Country-Ho.* II, What does she play her jests upon me too?—but, mum, be laughs best that laughs last. *a* 1814 *Woman's Will* I. ii. in *New Brit. Theatre* IV. 47 The reason is obvious—But mum for that. 1852 MISS MULOCK *Agatha's Husb.* xxii, As to Cornwall,..between you and me, Mrs. Harper, mum's the word. 1892 W. S. GILBERT *Mountebanks* I, But, mum! I must be discreet.

C. *adj.* Strictly silent or secret, not saying a word. Sometimes quasi-*adv.*, as *to stand mum*, etc. *colloq.* (now somewhat *arch.* exc. *dial.*)

1521 in FOXE *A. & M.* (1583) 824/1 These comming to the Church..would say no prayers, but did sitte mumme..lyke beastes. *c* 1530 REDFORD *Play Wit & Sci.* (1848) 33 Let us not stay here muet and mum. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* XXXII. xx. 820 When the publick cryer calleth you to give your opinions, ye are mum and mute. 1626–7 in *Crt. & Times Chas. I* (1848) I. 96 Wonder not the great duke bore him out, and all stood mum. 1788 COWPER *Pity Poor Africans* 5, I pity them [*sc.* slaves] greatly, but I must be mum, For how could we do without sugar and rum? 1834 *Tait's Mag.* I. 421/2 Sieg mum till the public affair is over. 1894 R. BRIDGES *Feast of Bacchus* II. 709 Don't stand there mum. 1894 WEYMAN *Under Red Robe* i, I turned and they met my eye; and they were as mum as mice.

b. *To play mum*: to be silent. (Cf. MUMBUDGET, MUMCHANCE.)

1532 MORE *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 412/2 Yet would he play mumme too, and neyther by himselfe nor bis holy spiryte vouchesaufe to speake anye one woorde vnto them. 1625 *Gonsalvio's Sp. Inquis.* 19 Which fetch of theirs whoso will wisely and warily anoid, must take heed he play mumme, and speak not one word, but premeditated..afore hand.

Mum (mʊm), *sb.*[2] Now chiefly *Hist.* Also 7 **mumme**, 9 **mumm.** [a. G. *mumme*, recorded from the end of the 15th c.

Adelung's assertion, that this beer was so called from the name of Christian Mumme, who was a brewer at Brunswick *c* 1487, is discredited by M. Heyne. Kluge quotes from G. Baist the remark that the word resembles It. *mommo*, a child's word for drink.]

A kind of beer originally brewed in Brunswick.

Largely imported into England in the 17th and 18th c.; now mentioned only *Hist.* and in customs tariffs.

1640 GLAPTHORNE *Wallenstein* III. iii, I thinke you'r drunk With Lubecks beere or Brunswicks Mum. 1677 YARRANTON *Eng. Improv.* 118 The Mum at Brunswick is made of Wheat, and the Wheat that it is made of, is brought from..Magdenburg, and Shenibank..; when it comes to Brunswick it is Malted, and so made into Mum..But the Mum at Brunswick is a Medicine, and drinks very nauseous,..that which makes it good..is its being long at Sea. 1756 NUGENT *Gr. Tour, Germany* II. 243 The chief trade of the inhabitants [of Brunswick] is in tanning leather, and in brewing mum from a malt made of barley, with a small mixture of wheat, well hopped. *Ibid.*, What they call ship-mum, is scarce drinkable, till it has purged itself at sea. 1851 THACKERAY *Eng. Hum., Steele* (1853) 119 This boy..exhibited an early fondness and capacity for drinking mum and sack. 1861 — *Four Georges* i, I fancy the..burgbers over their beer and mumm, risiog up, cap in hand, as the cavalcade passes. 1894 *Act* 57 & 58 *Vict.* c. 30 § 25 The duties of Customs now payable on beer of the descriptions called mum, spruce, or black beer, imported into Great Britain or Ireland.

†**b.** *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *mum-barrel, -beer; mum-begotten, -coloured* adjs.; **mum-catchup** (see quot. 1769); **mum-glass**, (*a*) a glass used for drinking mum; (*b*) a slang name for the MONUMENT; **mum-house**, a house for the sale of mum. *Obs.*

1682–3 in *Hedges' Diary* (Hakl. Soc.) II. 272, I sent you by Capt. Heath one *mum barril with mangoes. 1672 SIR J. FOULIS *Acc. Bk.* 15 June (S.H.S.) 7 For a pint of *mum bear..0. 8. 0. 1782–3 W. F. MARTYN *Geog. Mag.* II. 152 German exports to foreign countries are corn, tobacco ..mum beer [etc.]. 1699 T. BROWN *Life Erasmus* in R. L'Estrange *Erasmus Colloq.* (1725) B j, The Modern Dutch writers, who visit Frankfort Fair, once a Year, with two or three stupid *Mum-begotten Dissertations. 1769 MRS. RAFFALD *Eng. Housekpr.* (1778) 339 To make *Mum Catchup. To a quart of old mum put four ounces of anchovies, of mace, and nutmegs sliced, one ounce, of cloves, and black pepper half an ounce, boil it till it is reduced one third. 1702 *Phil. Trans.* XXIII. 1369 This Liquor was *Mum-coloured. 1684 R. WALLER *Nat. Exper.* 8 A tall Cup in the shape of a *Mum-glass. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Mum-glass*, the Monument, erected..in Memory of the..Fire 1666. 1664 PEPYS *Diary* 3 May, I went..to the Fleece, a *mum-house in Leadenhall, and there drank mum.

Mum (mʊm), *sb.*[3] *dial.* [Shortened form of MUMMY *sb.*[2]] A 'pet' name for 'mother'.

1823 MOOR *Suffolk Words* 242 Where's your mum? 1876 R. M. JEPHSON *He would be a Soldier* xviii, I saw the mum anxiously inquiring of her son who I was.

Mum (mʊm), *v.* [f. MUM *int.* or *sb.*[1] Cf. G. *mummen* to mutter; also = sense 4 below.]

†**1.** *trans.* To silence; to put to silence. *Obs.*

1399 LANGL. *Rich. Redeles* III. 337 He was..y-Mummyd on þe mouthe and manaced to þe deth. 1594? PEELE *Battle of Alcazar* I. Prol., Like those that were by kind of murther mumd. 1654 GAYTON *Pleas. Notes* III. viii. 123 If it were possible they would muzle bis mouth; but Gines is mumm'd presently.

†**2.** *intr.* To make an inarticulate sound with closed lips, indicating inability to speak; hence, to keep silence. *Obs.*

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 348/2 Mummyn, as þey þat no3t speke, *mutio*. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Rich. III*, 32 b, Whiche thynge yf it had bene trewe..euery goode and naturall childe would have rather mummed at, then to have blasted abroade. 1576 GASCOIGNE *Steele Gl.* (Arb.) 83 Better mumme, than meddle ouermuch. 1637 SHIRLEY *Example* IV. ii, *Jacinta*...I may reward your silence. *Vainman*...And when must I Begin to mum?

†**3.** To utter a faint sound; to whisper. *Obs.*

c 1460 *Towneley Myst.* viii. 188 If thou can nother muf nor mom, I shalle sbelde the from shame. 1570 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xii. 166 3e dar not mum quhill Saidlar cum To se quhat Ingland sendis. *c* 1680 *Roxb. Ball.* (1887) VI. 370 They dare not mumm, if we say all's our own.

4. To act in dumb-show; to play as a mummer.

1530 PALSGR. 642/1, I mumme in a mummynge, *je mumme*. ..Lette us go mumme to nyght in womens apparayle. 1554 *Act Merch. Co.* in Mackenzie *Newcastle* II. 665 *note*, [Apprentices are not] to daunse, dyse, carde or mum, or use any gyttirnes. 1606 *Choice, Chance*, etc. (1881) 50 After they had masked and mummed, away they went. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* II. I. x, When a whole People goes mumming and miming. 1900 LD. ROSEBERY *Napoleon* vi. 89 The characters who mum to Offenbach's music.

Mum, vulgar var. MA'AM. **Mumbe**, obs. f. MUM.

Mumble (mʊ·mb'l), *sb.* [f. MUMBLE *v.*] A mumbled indistinct utterance or sound.

1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 20 Sept. 1/3 A series of mumbles and grunts. 1904 KIPLING *Traffics & Discov.* 308 A mumble of bees and broken voices that might have been the doves. 1905 SIR F. TREVES *Other Side of Lantern* III. i. (1906) 193 The contented mumble of the river.

Mumble (mʊ·mb'l), *v.* Forms: 4 **momele**, 5 **momell**, -**byll**, 5–6 **momble**, **mumbyll**, 6 **mumbil**, -**bell**, *Sc.* **mumbill**, **mummyll**, 6–8 *Sc.* **mumle**, 7 *Sc.* **mummil**, 6– **mumble**. [ME. *momele*, frequentative formation on MUM *int.*; cf. Du. *mommelen*, *mummelen*, G. *mummeln*, Sw. *mumla*, Da. *mumle*, and MAMBLE.]

1. *intr.* To speak indistinctly, or with the lips partly closed; to mutter. In early use: †To babble.

1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. v. 21 Of þis Matere I mihte Momele [*B-text* mamely] ful longe. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xxvii. 106 My fellows momellis þame emang. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. i. 42 He mumbled soft, but would not all his silence breake. 1683 KENNETT tr. *Erasm. on Folly* 107 The Auditors all wondred and some mumbled to themselves. 1879 BROWNING *Halbert & Hob* 64 So tottered, muttered, mumbled he, till he died. 1902 A. LANG *Hist. Scot.* II. xiii. 352 He heard the old woman mumbling to herself.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1842 EMERSON *Lect. Transcend.* Wks. (Bohn) II. 291 Church and old book mumble and ritualize to an unbeeding ..mind. 1893 BARING-GOULD *Cheap Jack Z.* I. 9 The organ was still mumbling and tooting.

2. *trans.* To utter in subdued or indistinct tones. Sometimes with mixture of sense 4.

c 1440 *Jacob's Well* xxiii. 154 It are þei, þat whanne þei are wrotbe..momyll þe deuelys bedys. 1530 PALSGR. 642/1 He mumbleth bis wordes, byd hym speke out playnly. 1626 L. OWEN *Spec. Jesuit.* 17 By one meanes or other, he learned to mumble a Masse. 1748 J. MASON *Elocut.* 10 When a person mumbles, or (as we say) clips or swallows his Words. 1771 SMOLLETT *Humph. Cl.* 13 July, He affirmed, that we mumbled our speech with our lips and teeth. 1861 HUGHES *Tom Brown at Oxf.* vii, Tom mumbled something to the effect that it was by no means necessary.

b. With †*forth, out, over*, †*up*.

1538 STARKEY *England* I. iv. 132 Mumblyng vp a certayn dombur of wordys no thyng vnderstonde. *a* 1555 LYNDESAY *Tragedie* 385 Thay be clokit vp in clerkis arraye,.. And mummyll ouer ane pair of maglit matenis. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* III. xxi. 110 b, [They] goe to bathe..mumbling out certaine long prayers. 1658 tr. *Porta's Nat. Magic* xx. 407 Then they mumble forth some words. 1787 MME. D'ARBLAY *Diary* 18 Jan., I..mumbled out my own little compliment. 1834 GREVILLE *Mem.* 1 Dec. (1875) III. xxv. 166 The priest mumbles over the prayers.

†**c.** To whisper, utter furtively. *Obs.*

c 1539 HEN. VIII in Fiddes *Wolsey* II. (1726) 140, I dare be bolder with you then a great many that mumbell it abroad.

3. *intr.* To eat in a slow, ineffective manner; to chew or bite softly, as with toothless gums.

c 1325 *Pol. Songs* (1839) 238 The knave crommeth is crop Er the cok crawe; He momeleth ant moccheth Ant marreth is mawe. 1530 PALSGR. 642/1 Se yonder olde trot howe she mumbleth:..*comment elle masche en belyn*. 1561 AWDELAY *Frat. Vocab.* (1869) 8 Sitting as it were alone, mumblyng on a crust. 1620 MIDDLETON *Chaste Maid* I. i. 109, I have teeth, sir; I need not mumble yet this forty years. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1811) IV. v. 21 Take ye that thistle to mumble upon. 1833 MARRYAT *P. Simple* i, As prond, and, alas! as unconscious as the calf with gilded horns, who plays and mumbles with the flowers of the garland.

†**b.** *fig.*

a 1651 CALDERWOOD *Hist. Kirk* (Wodrow Soc.) III. 302 George Bishop of Murrey was a whole winter mummilling upon his papers, and had not his sermon *per cœur* when all was done.

4. *trans.* To bite or chew with toothless gums, or without making much use of the teeth.

1591 LYLY *Endym.* IV. ii. 55 Tis a stately occupation to stande..in a cold Morning, and to haue his nose bytten with frost, before hys baite be mumbled with a Fish. 1664 ETHEREDGE *Comical Revenge* III. iv, My Master pick'd him Up before a Puppit-show, mumbling a half-penny Custard. 1693 DRYDEN *Juvenal* x. (1697) 261 And Gums unarm'd to mumble Meat in vain. 1719 D'URFEY *Pills* (1872) III. 73 They're able enough to mumble a Pudding. 1826 SCOTT *Woodst.* xxviii. A child mumbling ginger-bread. 1847 LYTTON *Lucretia* II. Prol., His glove fell to the ground, and his spaniel mumbled it into shreds.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1695 CONGREVE *Love for L.* Prol. 35 As Asses Thistles, Poets mumble Wit, And dare not bite, for fear of being bit. 1864 LOWELL *Fireside Trav.* 291 The sea laps and mumbles the soft roots of the hills. 1883 A. FORBES in *Fortn. Rev.* 1 Nov. 673 A victim which she [France] was to be allowed only to mumble, not utterly to rend.

c. *transf.* To fondle with the lips.

1668 ETHEREDGE *She Would if She Could* I. ii, A right bred greyhound can as well forbear running after a hare.. as I can mumbling a pretty wench. 1695 CONGREVE *Love for L.* v. i, Give me t'other hand, and I'll mumble 'em and kiss 'em till they melt in my mouth. 1884 READE *Jilt* 7 She drew away the hand he was mumbling.

†**5.** To maul, handle roughly, maltreat. Also, to bungle, handle clumsily. *Obs.*

1628 FORD *Lover's Mel.* v. i, He has mumbled his nose, that 'tis as big as a great cod-piece. 1638 — *Lady's Trial* II. ii, 'Tis said..that a' has firk'd And mumbled the rogny Turks. 1672 WYCHERLEY *Love in Wood* III. iv, I have beat him out of the pit. I do so mumble these prating, censorious fellows they call wits, when I meet with them! 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 50 ₱ 11, [I] shall leave you to be mumbled by the learned and very ingenious Author of a late Book. 1721–2 AMHERST *Terræ Fil.* No. 44 (1754) 233 This was..a circumstance..that might be handsomely touch'd upon in a dedication. Let us see how our bungler mumbles it. 1753 H. WALPOLE *Let. to Conway* 24 May, Mr. Fox mumbled the Chancellor and his lawyers.

†**b.** *To mumble up*: to tumble together. *Obs.*

1673 RAY *Journ. Low C.*, etc. 456 Mercers never tie up anything they sell, and if they allow paper, they only rudely mumble up the commodities in it.

6. *Cookery.* (See quot.)

1718 E. SMITH *Compl. Housew.* (ed. 2) 12 To mumble Rabbets and Chickens..When they are half boiled..tear the Flesh from the Bones of the Rabbet in small flakes, and put it into the Stew-pan again with a very little of the Liquor it was boiled in,..when 'tis enough shake in a little Flour, and thicken it up with Butter. Serve it on Sippets. 1879 [see MUMBLED *a.* 2].

†**7.** *Comb.*, as **Mumblecrust**, in plays, the surname or nickname of a toothless person or a beggar; **Mumble-matins**, a nickname for a Romish priest; **mumble-news**, a tale-bearer. *Obs.*

a 1553 UDALL *Royster D.* I. iii. (Arb.) 20 Madge Mumblecrust. 1560 PILKINGTON *Expos. Aggeus* (1562) 41 Howe can they be learned, havinge none to teache them but Sir John Mumble-matins? 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* v. ii. 464 Some carry-tale,..Some mumble-newes,..Told our intents before. 1603 DEKKER & CHETTLE *Gristil* IV. ii. (Shaks. Soc.) 66 *Beggar.* Jack Mumblecrust, steal no penny loaves.

Mumblebee (mʊ·mb'lbī). *local.* A kind of boat.

1891 *Devon County Standard* 14 Mar. 3/2 The Bluebell drove foul of the mumblebee Faith. *Ibid.*, The mumble bees Energy and Laura Mildred were also brought in. 1898 ANSTED *Dict. Sea Terms, Mumbleby* or *Mumblebee*, a name applied by Brixham fishermen to a boat midway in size between a *hooker* and a *trawler*.

Mu·mbled, *ppl. a.* [f. MUMBLE *v.* + -ED[1].]

1. Spoken in an indistinct voice.

1545 BRINKLOW *Compl.* 6 The mombled and mynsed Masse. 1638 D. MITCHELL *Let.* in Ld. Hailes *Memor.* (1766) II. 37, I have beeo..followed with many mumbled threatnings behind my back. 1841 D'ISRAELI *Amen. Lit.* (1867) 325 The Romanists had reduced their whole devotion to a mumbled ritual and a mechanical service.

2. *Mumbled eggs*: buttered or scrambled eggs. (Cf. MUMBLE *v.* 6.)

1879 MRS. A. E. JAMES *Ind. Househ. Managem.* 82 Mumbled eggs, or 'rumble-tumble'.

Mumble-fubbles, variant of MUBBLE-FUBBLES.

Mumble-jumble (mʊ·mb'l,dʒʊ·mb'l), *v. nonce-wd.* [f. MUMBLE *v.* + JUMBLE *v.*] *trans.* To speak indistinctly and incoherently.

1833 MARRYAT *P. Simple* xvii, I mumbled-jumbled something or other, half Spanish and half English.

Mumblement (mʊ·mb'lmĕnt). [f. MUMBLE *v.* + -MENT.] The action of mumbling; something mumbled or muttered.

1595 COPLEY *Wits, Fits, & Fancies* 175 Such his mumblement being oner-heard came afterwardes in question to his danger. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* III. III. viii, Lasource answered with some vague painful mumblement. 1862 — *Fredk. Gt.* XI. v. (1872) IV. 76 Getting no..answer,..getting only some vague mumblement as good as none.

Mumbler (mʊ·mblə1). [f. MUMBLE *v.* + -ER[1].] One who speaks indistinctly or in muffled toues.

1543 BALE *Yet a Course*, etc. 88 b, Masse momblers, holye water swyngers [etc.]. *a* 1550 in *Anglia* (1903) Jan. 204 For a syngar,..Momelers, foreskippers, ouerskippers *sunt tria mala*. 1694 MOTTEUX *Rabelais* IV. lxiv. (1737) 260 Mumblers of *Ave Marias*. 1891 *Ch. Times* 27 Nov. 1167/2 The mumblers, who think it a Catholic custom to make the Consecration inaudible.

Mumble-the-peg. Now *U. S.* Also 9 **mumble-peg**, and *erron.* 7 **mumbledepeg**, 7, 9 **mumblety-peg**, 9 **mumble-te-peg.** A boys' game in which each player in turn throws a knife from a series of positions, continuing until he fails to make the blade stick in the ground.

The unsuccessful player is compelled to draw out of the ground with his teeth a peg which the others have driven in with a certain number of blows with the handle of the knife. In Antrim the game is said to have been played with a fork instead of a knife (see E.D.D.). In Scotland it is locally called 'knifie'.

1627 W. HAWKINS *Apollo Shroving* Prol. 5 Nor scourge-top, nor Trusse, nor Leape-frog, nor Nine holes, nor Mumble the pegge. *a* 1652 BROME *New Acad.* II. Wks. 1873 II. 33 At Mumbledepeg I will so firk her. 1883 E. INGERSOLL in *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 201/1 It'll take more mumble-te-peg 'n you're worth, I reckon, to pull it out! 1891 A. WELCKER *Wild West* 14 He..would play any game whatever, even down to 'mumble-peg', if money was at stake. 1895 *Century Mag.* Aug. 543/1 Those mysterious and irresistible forces which..bind all boyisb hearts to play mumble-the-peg at the due time.

Mumbling (mʌ·mblin), *vbl. sb.* [f. MUMBLE *v.* + -ING [1].] The action of the vb. MUMBLE.

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1864 Me meruellis of þi momlyng & þi mad wordes. 1533 MORE *Debell. Salem* Wks. 1021/1 Consider..what wisedome the man hath shewed, in makyng such a mumbling of chaunging spyrytnall rulers into prelates. *a* 1553 UDALL *Royster D.* I. iii. (Arb.) 20 Olde browne bread crustes must haue much good mumblyng. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.*, Democr. to Rdr. (1624) 24 Praying in gibberish, & mumbling of beads. 1878 BROWNING *Poets Croisic* XC, From his lips a sort of mumbling fell of who was to be kicked.

Mumbling (mʌ·mblin), *ppl. a.* [f. MUMBLE *v.* + -ING [2].] That mumbles.

c 1440 *York Myst.* xxxi. 305 Þou mummeland myghtyng. 1579 TOMSON *Calvin's Serm. Tim.* 187/1 True it is, that the Papists will pray in a mumbling and babling sort. 1693 DRYDEN *Juvenal* x. (1697) 268 For the Boys a mumbling Vow she sends. 1703 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3904/4 A mumbling Speech, his upper Teeth before double. 1876 GEO. ELIOT *Dan. Der.* I, There was a faint, mumbling smile about the lips of the old woman.

Hence **Mu·mblingly** *adv.*, in a mumbling manner.

1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1811) V. viii. 88 Mumblingly hoarse. 1872 'L. CARROLL' *Through Looking-Gl.* (1898) 102 [He] muttered mumblingly and low As if his mouth were full of dough.

Mu·mbo-ju·m. ? *Obs.* [App. shortened from next.] A kind of punch made of rum and other alcoholic ingredients.

1837 T. HOOK *Jack Brag* xv, A certain quantity of the West Indian mumbo-jum.

Mumbo Jumbo (mʌ·mbo,dʒʌ·mbo). [Of unknown origin.

Canon Robinson states that no light on the word can be obtained from the languages of the Niger region, to which the accounts of Moore and Park relate. The Kongo *nzambi*, god, might conceivably have suggested a reduplicating jingle like 'Mumbo Jumbo', but on geographical grounds this is an unlikely source.]

1. A grotesque idol said to have been worshipped by certain tribes or associations of negroes.

1738 F. MOORE *Trav. Afr.* 40 A dreadful Bugbear to the Women, call'd Mumbo-Jumbo, which is what keeps the Women in awe. *Ibid.* 116 At Night, I was visited by a Mumbo Jumbo, an Idol, which is among the Mundingoes a kind of cunning Mystery...This is a Thing invented by the Men to keep their Wives in awe. 1799 M. PARK *Trav. Africa* iv. (ed. 2) 39 A sort of masquerade habit..which I was told..belonged to Mumbo Jumbo. This is a strange bugbear..much employed by the Pagan natives in keeping their women in subjection. 1837 HOOD *Ode to Rae Wilson* xxiv, You might have been High Priest to Mumbo-Jumbo. 1873 LELAND *Egypt. Sketch-Bk.* 83 The Savage, suggestive of wild African Mumbo-Jumbo,..will have vanished.

2. *transf.* An object of unintelligent veneration.

1847 EMERSON *Repr. Men*, *Goethe* Wks. (Bohn) I. 384 The ambitious and mercenary bring their last new mumbo-jumbo, whether tariff,..railroad, Romanism, mesmerism, or California. 1876 GEO. ELIOT *Dan. Der.* xxviii, The name of Mompert had become a sort of Mumbo-jumbo.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

1870 LOWELL *Wks.* (1890) III. 354 *note*, The Mumbo-Jumbo revenge in Collins's ode. 1895 ELWORTHY *Evil Eye* 402 Formulæ to be uttered in mumbo-jumbo incantation.

Hence **Mumbo-ju·mboism,** worship of a Mumbo Jumbo.

1883 E. THAING *Theory & Pract. Teaching* 127 The civilized Mumbo-jumboism which thinks it can award over a whole kingdom the palm of mind.

† **Mu·mbu·dget.** *Obs.* = MUM *int.*, *a.*, and *sb.*[1] Perh. orig. the name of some children's game in which silence was required.

a 1564 BECON *Display. Pop. Mass* Wks. III. 47 b, Nowe ye playe mumme budget and scilence glumme. *a* 1566 R. EDWARDS *Damon & Pithias* (1571) C iij b, But mumbouget for Carisophus I espie In haste to come hether. [1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* v. ii. 6, I come to her in white, and cry Mum; she cries Budget, and by that we know one another.] 1611 COTGR., *Demeurer court*, to play at Mumbudget, or be at a Nonplus. 1622 MABBE tr. *Aleman's Guzman D'Alf.* I. (1630) 146, I was Mum-budget, and durst not open my lips to him..in that businesse. 1663 BUTLER *Hud.* I. iii. 208 Have these Bones ratled, and this Head So often in thy quarrel bled? Nor did I ever winch or grudge it, For thy dear sake. (Quoth she) Mum budget.

¶ b. With allusion to BUDGET *sb.*

a 1630 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *A Bawd* Wks. 1630 II. 97 The magazin of taciturnitie, the mumbudget of silens, the cloathbag of councell.

Mumchance (mʌ·mtʃans), *sb.* and *a.* Forms: 6 mom(me)cha(u)nce, **mumchaunce**, *Sc.* **mwmschance**, 6–7 **mumschance**, 7 **mummechaunce**, 6– **mumchance.** [a. MLG. *mummenschanze*, *-kanze* a certain game of dice, also, a masked serenade (= MDu. *mommecanse*, mod.G. *mummen-*, *mummschanz*), f. *mummen* MUM *v.* + *schanz* a. F. *chance*: see CHANCE *sb.*]

A. *sb.*

† **1.** A dicing game resembling hazard. *Obs.*

1528 ROY *Rede me* (Arb.) 60 To playe at the cardes and dyce Some of theym are nothynge nyce Both at hasard and momchaunce. 1607 DEKKER & WEBSTER *Westw. Hoe* II. ii, I thoght I had bin at Mum-chance my bones ratled so with iaunting? 1656 HARRINGTON *Oceana* (1658) 116 Do you conceive they will be better pleased when they shall be told, that upon like occasions you are at Mum-chance or Stool-ball?

† **2.** *To play mumchance*: *fig.* or *allusively*, to preserve a dogged silence. *Obs.*

1550 BALE *Eng. Votaries* II. 107 b, He played momme chaunce and wolde make none answere. 1552 HULOET, Mumchaunce or silence.

† **3.** Masquerade; mumming. *Obs.*

1557-75 *Diurn. Occurr.* (Bannatyne Cl.) 87 At evin our soueranis maid the maskrie and mumschance, in the quhilk the quenis grace, and all hir Maries and ladies were all cled in men's apperrell. 1581-2 *Burgh Rec. Edinb.* (1882) IV. 229 Jhone Gilleis, doctour in Jhone Blakis schole, oblist himself nocht to pas in mwmschance after supper to mak playes or vse siclyke vanitеis heirafter. 1591 R. BRUCE *Serm.* vi. M 8, They haue..gone to mumchances, mumries & vnknawin language.

4. In similative phrases: One who acts in dumb show. Hence, one who has nothing to say, a 'dummy'. Also as quasi-proper name, as the type of a silent person. Now only *dial.*

1694 ECHARD *Plautus* 114 Why stand ye like a Mumchance? What are ye tongue-ty'd? *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew*, *Mum-chance*, one that sits mute. He looks like Mum-chance that was Hang'd for saying of nothing. 1786 MACKENZIE *Lounger* No. 90 ? 2 The poor creature..sat as silent as mum-chance.

B. *adj.* Silent; 'tongue-tied'. *arch.* and *dial.*

1681 T. FLATMAN *Heraclitus Ridens* No. 49 (1713) II. 60 Conscience, that was so clamorous before, is Mumchance, and says nothing to the Matter. 1823 LAMB *Elia* Ser. II. *New Yr.'s Coming of Age*, Singling out poor Twenty Ninth of February that had sate all this while mumchance at the side-board. 1892 *Spectator* 13 Feb. 229/2 Why are the pulpits alone to remain mumchance under penalties? 1900 WEYMAN *Sophia* i, Such a mumchance fool as the girl herself is.

† **Mu·mchance,** *v. Obs. rare* [−1]. [f. prec. Cf. MDu. *mommecansen.*] *intr.* To masquerade.

1606 BIRNIE *Kirk-Buriall* (1833) 10 [At funerals] in steed of mourning in the dust, as they did oft-tymes, we mumchance and mourgean in such dilicate duilles.

Mume, obs. form of MUM.

Mumey, -ie, -ifie, obs. ff. MUMMY, MUMMIFY.

Mumia, -al, var. forms of MUMMIA, MUMMIAL.

Mumle, Mumm, obs. ff. MUMBLE, MUM.

Mummachog, variant of MUMMYCHOG.

Mummanize: see MUMMIANIZE *v. Obs.*

Mummary(e, obs. forms of MUMMERY.

Mumme, obs. form of MUM, MUMMY.

Mummer (mʌ·mər). Also 5 *Sc.* **mumre**, 5-6 **mummar**, 6–7 **mommer.** [a. OF. *momeur*, *-eor* (early mod.F. *mommeur* Cotgr.), f. *momer* (prob. of Teut. origin) = MUM *v.*]

† **1.** One who mutters or murmurs. *Obs.*

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 348/2 Mummar, *mussator.* *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. V* 35 b, A neglecter of my dutye, a secrete mummer of suche thynges whiche touche both the inheritance of your croune and the honor of your realme.

2. † An actor in a dumb show (*obs.*); one who takes a part in a mumming; *spec.* (see quot. 1829). Also *transf.* and *fig.*

1502 ARNOLDE *Chron.* (1811) 17 Outake mommers and our [*? read* other] mynstrels. 1511-12 *Act* 3 *Hen. VIII*, c. 9 § 1 Persones..wyth Vysoures..disgysed or apparelde as Mommers. *c* 1550 BALE *K. Johan* (Camden) 17 And over all this ye have browght in a rabyll Of latyne mummers and sects desseyvabyll. *a* 1566 R. EDWARDS *Damon & Pithias* (1571) C j b, As farre as I see they be Mummers, for nought they say, For the moste parte, what soeuer you aske them. 1648 *Hunting of Fox* 24 Like mommers in a mask, make a fair shew, but speak nothing. 1728 POPE *Dunc.* III. 108 Peel'd, patch'd, and pye-bald, linsey-woolsey brothers Grave mummers! sleeveless some, and shirtless others. 1829 J. HUNTER *Hallamsh. Gloss.* 67 *Mummers.* This is the name of parties of youths who go about at Christmas fantastically dressed, performing a short dramatic piece of which St. George is the hero. 1873 'OUIDA' *Pascarel* I. 16 Some sporting of a band of mummers headed by a scarlet Mefistofelo.

b. *slang* and *contemptuously.* A 'play-actor'.

1840 CARLYLE *Heroes* vi. (1841) 369, I, for one, will not call the man a Hypocrite! Hypocrite, mummer, the life of him a mere theatricality..? 1861 [see MUMMING *vbl. sb.* 2 c]. 1895 J. HOLLINGSHEAD *My Lifetime* I. xv. 141 The poor played-out mummer..could not complete his task.

Hence **Mu·mmerdom,** the theatrical world.

1893 K. GRAHAME *Pagan Ess.* 71 Our poor erring brothers and sisters..of Mummerdom.

Mummery (mʌ·məri). Forms: 6 **mummary(e, mumry, momerie, -y, mommerye**, 6–7 **mummerie**, 6–8 **mommery**, 6– **mummery.** [a. OF. *mommerie*, F. *momerie* (= Sp. *momeria*, early mod.Du. *mommerije* Kilian, G. *mummerei*), f. *momeur* MUMMER: see -Y.]

1. A performance of mummers. † *In mummery*, In fancy dress.

1530 PALSGR. 246/1 Mommery, *mommerie.* 1533 MORE *Debell. Salem* Wks. 975/1 This good man playeth as though he came in in a mummary, for any one worde he saith. 1565 JEWEL *Repl. Harding* (1611) 358 Their holy One of Rome ..burnt that most Reuerend Father D. Cranmer at Rome in a mummery. 1592 [KYD] *Sol. & Pers.* II. i. 191 Prouide me foure Visards, foure Gownes, a boxe, and a Drumme; for I intend to go in mummery. 1653 H. COGAN tr. *Pinto's Trav.* xxiii. 86 Divers mummeries of several inventions were represented. 1719 FENTON *Prol. to Southerne's Spartan Dame* 18 Your Fathers..Disdain'd the Mummery of Foreign Strollers. 1820 W. IRVING *Sketch Bk.* II. 130 *note*, Masquings or mummeries were favourite sports at Christmas in old times.

2. *transf.* Ridiculous ceremonial or 'play-acting'; an instance of this. Often applied to religious ritual regarded as silly or hypocritical.

1549 ALLEN *Jude's Par. Rev.* x. 1-4 Pompous byshops and monkyshe mumry. 1641 MILTON *Animadv.* Wks. 1851 III. 243 She's invisible under the lock and key of the Prelates.., they onely are..the go-betweens of this trim devis'd mummery. 1663 COWLEY *Ess. in Verse & Prose, Agric.* (1669) 101 The Heathen Religion, which consisted all in Mommery and Madness. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* VIII. i, Elves and fairies, and other such mummery. 1773 BAYDONE *Sicily* xx. (1809) 206 There is so much nonsense and mummery in their worship, that they are afraid lest strangers should believe they are serious. 1828 MACAULAY *Ess., Hallam* (1897) 60 From this compromise the Church of England sprang...Her worship is not disfigured by mummery. 1836 HOR. SMITH *Tin Trump.* I. 14 What miserable mummery are private theatricals! 1864 BURTON *Scot Abr.* I. v. 278 Those rags of Popish mummeries which Elizabeth permitted to hang round the Reformation in England.

† **Mumme-tree.** *Obs. rare* [−1]. = *Tree night-shade*: see NIGHTSHADE 2.

1629 PARKINSON *Parad.* 432 But some Latine asses corrupting the Latine word *Anonum*, doe call it the Mumme tree.

Mummey, obs. form of MUMMY *sb.*[1]

† **Mu·mmia.** *Obs.* Forms: *α.* 5 **momyan, momyn**; *β.* 6-7 **momia, mummia, mumma**, 6–9 **mumia.** [a. med.L. *mumia*, *momia*: cf. MUMMY.]

1. = MUMMY 1.

1486 *Bk. St. Albans* C iij, Take momyan oderwise called momyn, among Poticaries. 1583 *Rates Custom Ho.* D iij, Mumma the pound iiii d. 1594 PLAT *Jewell-ho.* I. 13 Their flesh so embaulmed is called Mumia. 1612 WEBSTER *White Devil* I. i, Your followers Haue swallowed you like Mummia. 1619 BERT *Hawks* 106 If you will giue any thing else, let it be Mumma beaten into powder and so giuen with her meate. 1657 *Physical Dict.*, *Mumia*, a thing like pitch sold at the apothecaries; some affirm it's taken out of old tombs.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1601 B. JONSON *Poetaster* II. i, Looke here, my sweet wife; I am mum, 'my deare mummia, my balsamum, my spermacete. 1654 GAYTON *Pleas. Notes* III. ii. 71 Consolidating..his Body of Errantry into a gumme and moving Mummia.

2. (See quot.)

1841 MAUNDER *Sci. & Lit. Treas.*, *Mumia*, in mineralogy, a sort of bitumen, or mineral pitch, which is soft and tough, like shoemaker's wax, when the weather is warm, but brittle, like pitch, in cold weather. It is found in Persia, where it is highly valued.

3. = MUMMY *sb.*[1] 2 a.

1727-41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Transplantation*, Here the patient's excrement is the magnet, and the vital spirit of the plant arising from the seed is the mumia which the magnet receives.

Hence † **Mu·mmial** *a.*, of the nature of mummia.

1650 CHARLETON *Paradoxes* Prol. 13 The incomparable Balsamicall or Mumiall Virtue of vitriol. 1694 SALMON *Bate's Dispens.* (1713) 68/1 A Kind of Mummial Balsam.

† **Mu·mmianize,** *v. Obs.* Also (? *erron.*) **mummanize.** [f. MUMMIA + -AN + -IZE. (Cf. *momyan*, 15th c. form of MUMMIA.)] *trans.* **a.** To embalm as a mummy. **b.** To transform to mummy. Hence **Mu·mmianized** *ppl. a.*

1593 NASHE *Christs T.* Ep. Ded., A handfull of Ierusalems mummianized earth..I heere..offer vp at your feete. 1613 J. DAVIES *Muses Teares* C 3 b, Deere Vault, that veil'st him, mummanize his Corse, Till it arise in Heauen to be crown'd. 1631 R. H. *Arraignm. Whole Creature* xi. § 1. 99 A glorious Sepulcher, layd over with brasse,..yet within full of dead Sculs..and mummiamired [*sic*] Earth.

Mummie, obs. form of MUMMY *sb.*[1]

Mummied (mʌ·mid), *a.* [f. MUMMY + -ED [1].]

1. Mummified; converted into a mummy.

1611 in *Coryat's Crudities* Panegyr. Verses, Thinke them happy when may be shewed for a penny..The mummied princes, and Cæsar's wine yet i' Dover. 1842 LYTTON *Zanoni* v. i, The mummied and royal dead. 1900 PETRIE *Denderch* 59 *Cercopithecus sabæus* Linn. One mummied specimen.

2. *transf.* and *fig.*

1862 B. TAYLOR *Poet's Jrnl. 3rd Even.* Poems (1866) 50 Shelved around us lie The mummied authors.

Mummification (mʌmifikē·ʃən). [f. MUMMIFY *v.* (see -FICATION) after F. *momification.*]

1. The process of mummifying or the condition of being mummied. Also *fig.*

1800 tr. *Lagrange's Chem.* II. 430 Mummification, the means by which saints were fabricated, is a thing not uncommon. 1887 J. H. MCCARTHY in *Gentl. Mag.* Mar. 297 If indeed the epithet 'Chinese', as applied to such a condition of torpidity of mummification, be not an insult to the Celestial empire.

2. *Path.* A drying of the animal tissues.

1857 BULLOCK *Cazeaux' Midwif.* 251 At other times, it

seems to have undergone a kind of mummification, a complete drying up. 1873 T. H. Green *Introd. Pathol.* (ed. 2) II The limb..may dry up..and become converted into a black shrunken mass, which undergoes but little further change:—this constitutes Dry Gangrene or Mummification.

Mummified (mʊ·mifəid), *a.* [f. Mummify *v.* + -ed[1].] In senses of the verb.

1859 Kingsley *Misc.* (1860) II. 295 An old dry weather-bleared, mummified chrysalis of a man. 1863 Reade *Hard Cash* III. 315 Creeping awestruck round that mummified figure seated dead on his pool of sovereigns. 1883 [see Mummify *v.* 3]. 1905 *Athenæum* 21 Oct. 545/3 The mummified fauna of ancient Egypt. 1905 Sir F. Treves *Other Side of Lantern* vi. iii. (1906) 416 Mummified shrubs which have still a semblance of life.

Mummiform (mʊ·mifɔ̄m), *a.* Also 9 mumiform. [ad. F. *mumiforme*, mod.L. *mumiformis* (Latreille), f. *mumia* Mummy *sb.*: see -form.] Resembling, or shaped like, a mummy; *spec.* applied to the pupæ of the Lepidoptera.

1856 in Mayne *Expos. Lex.* 728/2. 1887 A. B. Edwards *Maspero's Egypt. Archæol.* 279 The mummiform type of sarcophagus is rarely met with.

Mummify (mʊ·mifəi), *v.* [ad. F. *momifier* to make into mummy, f. *momie* Mummy: see -fy.]

1. *trans.* To make into a mummy; to preserve (the bodies of animals) by embalming and drying. Also, to dry into the semblance of a mummy.

1628 Wither *Brit. Rememb.* 44, I could bide Shut up untill my Flesh were Mummy-fi'd. 1794 Blumenbach in *Phil. Trans.* LXXXIV. 185 The practice of mummifying their dead bodies. 1883 Stevenson *Silverado Sq.* 245, I came suddenly upon his innocent body, lying mummified by the dry air and sun: a pigmy kangaroo.

2. *transf.* and *fig.*

1646 J. Hall *Poems* 58 Thou..shalt more long remaine Still mummifi'd within the hearts of men. 1661 Evelyn *Fumifugium* 1. 13 So corrosive is this Smoake about the City, that if one would hang up Gammons of Bacon..or other Flesh to fume,..it will so Mummifie, drye up, wast and burn it that it suddainly crumbles away. 1880 Sayce in *Nature* 26 Feb. 406 Can anything, therefore, be more absurd than an endeavour to mummify an extinct phase of pronunciation.

3. *Path.* Of tissues or organs: To shrivel or dry up.

1883 J. Coats *Man. Pathol.* 750 In these cases the fœtus shrivels and becomes mummified...In the mummified fœtus the various tissues may be recognized years after. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 587 Two-thirds of the palmar surface [of the index finger] were black and mummified.

Hence **Mu·mmifying** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1836 J. M. Gully *Magendie's Formul.* (ed. 2) 199 This substance might be the mummifying principle of pyroligneous acid. 1866 Laing *Preh. Rem. Caithn.* 42 Some highly artificial modes of interment, like mummyfying or burning.

Mumming (mʊ·miŋ), *vbl. sb.* Also 5 mommyng(e, 5–6 mummynge, 6 mumminge, *Sc.* muming, 7 moming. [f. Mum *v.* + -ing[1].]

†1. Inarticulate murmuring; indistinct speech.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 348/2 Mummynge, *mussacio, vel mussatus.* 1573 Twyne *Æneid* XI. H h ij b, Scarse had the legates done, when mumblynge mumminge [orig. *varius fremor*] much doth rise.

2. The action of disguising oneself; *spec.* the action of taking part in the representation of a mummers' play. Chiefly in phr. *to go a mumming.* Also, a performance of mummers.

c 1465 *Eng. Chron.* (Camden) 20 The erlle of Salisbury, the erl of Gloucestre and othir mo of thair assent were accordid to make a mommyng to the Kyng. 1546 Langley *Pol. Verg. De Invent.* v. ii. 100 b, The disguising and muming that is vsed in Christemas tyme..came oute of the feaste of Pallas. 1648 Gage *West Ind.* 152 A goodly mumming and silent stage play. 1725 Bourne in Brand *Pop. Antiq.* xvi. (1777) 191 There is another Custom observed at this Time, which is called among us Mumming. 1801 Strutt *Sports & Past.* III. vi. 222 A sport common among the ancients..consisted in mummings and disguisements. 1864 Burton *Scot Abr.* I. v. 309 While the children thus went a-mumming..the fathers took to drinking.

attrib. 1828 Scott *F. M. Perth* xi, How I am to convey her out of this crowd..in such a mumming habit.

b. *transf.* and *fig.* Often with contemptuous reference to religious ceremonial.

1528 Tindale *Obed. Chr. Man* 69 b, They thinke that they have done abundauntly ynough for God..yif they be present once in a daye at soch mummynge. 1565 Stapleton *Fortr. Faith* 132 They..practise in consecrated places their schismaticall mumming. 1848 Kingsley *Saint's Trag.* III. i. 168 'Tis no time for mumming.

c. (Cf. Mummer 2.)

1851 Mayhew *Lond. Labour* III. 139/2 We call strolling acting 'mumming', and the actors 'mummers'. All spouting is mumming.

†3. *To make a mumming of*: to treat with levity or contempt. *Obs.*

1523 Skelton *Garl. Laurel* 200 Men of suche maters make but a mummynge.

Mumming (mʊ·miŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. Mum *v.* + -ing[2].] That 'mums' in various senses of the verb.

1582 T. Watson *Centurie of Loue* l, Fortune..Who like a mumming mate so throwes the Dice. 1602 *2nd Pt. Return fr. Parnass.* IV. ii. (Arb.) 56 And all the grisly sprights of griping hell, With mumming looke hath dogd thee since thy birth. 1851 Judd *Margaret* I. xvi. (1874) 144 She enacted sundry grimaces, uttered mumming sentences. 1879 McCarthy *Own Times* I. xiii. 313 Their wild mumming way.

†**Mu·mmish,** *a. Obs.* [f. Mum *sb.*[1] + -ish. Cf. Momish.] Of the nature of mummery.

1563 *Homilies* II, *Receiv. Sacram.* I. 214 What hath ben the cause of this mummyshe massyng, but the ignorannce hereof?

Mummock (mʊ·mək), var. of Mammock *sb.* (see E. D. D.), a shred, scrap.

Used by Hood for the sake of a ludicrous rime to *stomach.*

1839 Hood *On Pawning Watch* xi, I haven't a rag or a mummock To fetch me a chop or a steak.

Mummy (mʊ·mi), *sb.*[1] Forms: 5–7 mum(m)ie, 6–7 mumme, 7 mum(m)ey, mummi, 7–8 mommy, 8 mumy, 7– mummy. [a. F. *momie*, † *mumie* (= Sp., Pg. *momia*, It. *mommia*), ad. med.L. *mumia*, a. Arab. مومیا *mūmiyā* an embalmed body, a mummy, f. *mūm* wax (used in embalming).]

1. A medicinal preparation of the substance of mummies; hence, an unctuous liquid or gum used medicinally. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.*

c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 153 Take..mirre, sarcocol, mummie [*v.r.* mumie] of ech ʒ. ss...& leie it on þe nucha. 1525 tr. *Jerome of Brunswick's Surg.* xciii. R iv, Take..Mumie .vi. barley cornes heuy. 1599 Hakluyt *Voy.* II. I. 201 And these dead bodies are the Mummie which the Phisitians and Apothecaries doe against our willes make vs to swallow. 1656 Blount *Glossogr., Mumie* or *Mummie*..is digged out of the Graves..of those bodies that were embalmed, and is called Arabian Mummie. The second kind is onely an equal mixture of the Jews Lime and Bitumen [etc.]. 1727 Swift *Further Acc. Curll* Wks. 1755 III. I. 161 The mummy of some deceased moderator of the general assembly in Scotland to be taken inwardly as an effectual antidote against Antichrist. 1786 tr. *Beckford's Vathek* (1868) 43 My taste for dead bodies and every thing like mummy is decided.

†b. Used jocularly for: Dead flesh; body in which life is extinct. *Obs.*

1598 Shaks. *Merry W.* III. v. 18 The water swelles a man; and what a thing should I haue beene, when I had beene swel'd? I should haue beene a Mountaine of Mummie. 1622 Fletcher *Sea Voy.* III. i, You shall grow mumey rascals.

c. A pulpy substance or mass. Chiefly in *to beat*, etc., *to a mummy* (earlier, *to mummy*).

1601 Sir W. Cornwallis *Disc. Seneca* (1631) 6, I believe the hanging of one man to worke better effect among men, then twenty made into mummy. 1736 Ainsworth *Lat. Dict.*, To beat one to a mummy, *Pugnis* vel *plagis aliquem valde contundere.* 1747–96 Mrs. Glasse *Cookery* vi. 130 It must be very thick and dry, and the rice not boiled to a mummy. 1796 Morse *Amer. Geog.* II. 680 The most horrible machines, calculated for grinding to mummy those unhappy criminals. 1834 *Tracts for Times* No. 22. 2 These little mountaineers [*viz.* Scotch ponies] got in at a weak place in the hedge..and trod the garden, as one may say, to a mummy. 1890 *Leeds Mercury* 28 May 5/7 John Crow..stated that ..her face appeared to be smashed to a 'mummy'.

d. *fig.*

1642 Fuller *Holy & Prof. St.* V. xvii. 426 Many men are murdered merely for their wealth, that other men may make mummey of the fat of their estates. 1790 Burke *Fr. Rev.* Wks. V. 414 With these philosophick financiers, this universal medicine made of church mummy is to cure all the evils of the state.

†e. Dried or desiccated meat. *Obs.*

1672 Josselyn *New Eng. Rarities* 11 Our way..is to make Mummy of them [*sc.* Wobbles], that is, to salt them well, and dry them in an earthen pot well glazed in an Oven.

2. In various transferred or extended uses.

†a. A sovereign remedy. Also, in Paracelsus' use (see quot. 1727–41). *Obs.*

1598 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. i. 1. *Eden* 254 Or holy Nectar..Or blest Ambrosia..Or else Nepenthe..Or Mummie? or Elixir..? No, none of these. 1605 Timme *Quersit.* III. 168 This worke is very admirable; by which the true numie [*read* mumie], the uniuersal medicine, and the true balsam conseruing and restoring nature, is made. 1658 J. Robinson *Endoxa* x. 52 Here was no mummie of the Wound, nor Mundane Soul required. 1671 Blagrave *Astrol. Physic* 157 How by the Magnet of ones Body to extract a Spiritual Mummy whereby to cure most Diseases incident unto the body of Man. 1727–41 Chambers *Cycl.*, *Mummy*, is also used by some physicians for I know not what implanted spirit, found chiefly in carcasses, when the infused spirit is fled. The infused spirit is sometimes also called mummy in living subjects.

b. A medicinal bituminous drug obtained from Arabia and the East.

1601 Holland *Pliny* II. 183 Of Pissasphalt or Mummie. 1638 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* (ed. 2) 129 Most remarkable, is a precious liquor or mummy growing here...It distills (in June only) from the top of those stupendious mountaines every yeere about five ounces. 1727 A. Hamilton *New Acc. E. Ind.* I. iii. 42 The Country, of itself, affords or produces very few valuable Commodities, besides Coffee, and some Drugs, such as Myrrh,..some Gum Arabick and Mummy.

†c. *Gardening.* A kind of wax used in the transplanting and grafting of trees. *Obs.*

1721 Bradley *Philos. Acc. Wks. Nat.* 173, I have taken notice of a new invented Method of transplanting Trees with Safety, by means of a Vegetable Mummy. 1759 Ellis in *Phil. Trans.* LI. 211 Gardeners grafting mummy, consisting of a mixture of bees-wax, rosin, and pitch. 1789 *Trans. Soc. Arts* (ed. 2) II. 97 Water..which mixing with the earth naturally adhering to their roots, forms of itself a kind of mummy.

d. A rich brown bituminous pigment.

1854 Fairholt *Dict. Terms Art*, *Mummy*, a bituminous substance employed by painters as a rich brown tint...The better kinds of mummy form useful grey tints mixed with ultramarine [etc.]. 1885 J. S. Taylor *Field's Chromatogr.* 160 Mummy varies exceedingly in its composition and properties...It is only used as an oil-colour.

3. The body of a human being or animal embalmed (according to the ancient Egyptian or some analogous method) as a preparation for burial.

1615 G. Sandys *Trav.* 133 The Mummes (lying in a place where many generations haue had their sepultures) not far above Memphis. 1650 Bulwer *Anthropomet.* 167 The Egyptians..were wont of old to guild the nails of the Dead, as appears by their Mummies. *c* 1710 *Mack Gregory's Advt.* 2 The Burial-Places of the Mommies near Memphis. 1841 Bellamy in *Rep. Brit. Assoc.* II. 75 Description of two Peruvian Mummies. 1900 Petrie *Dendereh* 59 Mr. Thomas has kindly sent me the following identifications of the animal mummies from the catacombs. *Ibid.*, *Herpestes ichneumon* L. An imperfect mummy.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1668 Dryden *Albumazar* Prol. 29 These..Dare with the mummies of the Muses play, And make love to them the Egyptian way. 1844 Kinglake *Eöthen* vi. (1878) 85 A mere oriental, who for creative purposes is a thing dead and dry—a mental mummy. 1876 L. Stephen *Eng. Th. in 18th C.* II. xii. vii. 435 The old theological dogmas had become mere mummies.

c. A human or animal body desiccated by exposure to sun or air. Also applied to the frozen carcase of an animal imbedded in prehistoric ice.

1727–41 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v. *Mummy*, There are two kinds of bodies denominated mummies.—The first are only carcasses, dried by the heat of the sun. 1866 Buckland *Curios. Nat. Hist.* Ser. III. II. 47 Since then I saw..another guano mummy described..as follows:—'This mummy was brought to Liverpool from Possession Island, western coast of Africa [etc.]'. 1875 W. H. Dall in Beach *Indian Misc.* (1877) 349 Most of the [Alaskan] mummies were wrapped up in skins or matting.

d. *Stock Exchange slang*: *pl.* Egyptian securities.

1903 *Westm. Gaz.* 17 Feb. 11/1 Certain prophets were busy over 'Mummies' months ago.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*: a. simple attrib., as *mummy-hunter*; (= 'mummified'), as *mummy-matron*; b. similative, as *mummy-like*, *-looking*, *-shaped* adjs.; c. special comb.: mummy-case, the case of wood or papier-mâché (usually decorated with hieroglyphics) in which Egyptian mummies were enclosed; mummy-pits *pl.*, the catacombs in which the Egyptian mummies were interred; mummy-wheat, a variety of wheat cultivated in Egypt, and said to have been grown from grains found in mummy-cases.

1830 Gen. P. Thompson *Exerc.* (1842) I. 274 The sermon would have been in its right place, if it had been found in a *mummy-case. 1738 *Common Sense* II. 267 The Expence the Nation is at..for maintaining our Foreign Ministers, Travellers, and *Mummy-Hunters. 1807–8 W. Irving *Salmag.* (1824) 86 A trio of as odd, runty, *mummy-looking originals as ever Hogarth fancied. 1624 Middleton *Game at Chess* IV. ii, To three olde *Mummey-Nations, I haue promis'd The Mother-ship 'oth Maids. 1645 Evelyn *Diary* 5 Aug., The Captaine presented me with a stone he lately brought from Grand Cairo, which he tooke from the *Mummy-pitts. 1841 Emerson *Ess.* Ser. I. i. (1876) 17 Belzoni digs and measures in the mummy-pits and pyramids of Thebes. 1842 Tupper in *Literary Gaz.* 18 June 425/1 As you took so lively an interest in my resuscitated *mummy-wheat.

Hence (*nonce-wds.*) **Mu·mmydom, Mu·mmyhood,** the condition of being a mummy.

1796 H. Walpole *Let. to Miss Berry* 24 Aug., I..shall remain, I believe, in my mummyhood. 1888 Mrs. Lynn Linton *Thro' Long Night* I. iv, His strange old-world way, vivified from mummydom only by excessive embarrassment.

Mummy (mʊ·mi), *sb.*[2] [Childish alteration of Mammy. Cf. Mum *sb.*3] A child's word for mother.

Formerly *dial.*; in recent years fashionable in England.

1839 C. Clark *J. Noakes & Mary Styles* 26 Wot I to 'list My mummy, how 'tood shock her! 1898 *Eliz. & Germ. Gard.* (1899) 51 'What a funny mummy!' she said, evidently much amused.

†**Mu·mmy,** *a. Obs.* [f. Mum *sb.* + -y.] ? Resembling mum; thick.

1743 *Lond. & Country Brew.* III. (ed. 2) 238 To recover thick, mummy Drink that is acid...Rack a Vessel of mummy Beer into two Casks, and fill them up with new Beer brewed not so strong and it is a Cure.

Mummy (mʊ·mi), *v.* [f. Mummy *sb.*[1]] *trans.* To mummify; to make into a mummy. Also *transf.* and *fig.*

1620 Shelton *Quix.* (1746) III. i. 2 Whom they found..so dry'd and withered up, as if his flesh had been mummy'd. 1842 Mrs. Browning *Grk. Chr. Poets* iv, It is better ..to think out one true thought..than to mummy our benumbed souls with the circumvolutions of twenty thousand books. 1866 Buckland *Curios. Nat. Hist.* Ser. III. I. 125 Your lifeless..carcases mummied in ice and lying in marble state on fishmongers' slabs. 1880 *Atlantic Monthly* Aug. 252 The Egyptians mummied all sorts of sacred brutes, including bulls, cats and crocodiles.

Mummychog (mʊ·miˌtʃɒg). *U.S.* Also 9 mumma-, mummichog. [American Indian; a plural form, spelt *moamitteaug* in Roger Williams's Narragansett vocabulary (1643).] = Killifish.

1787 Pennant *Suppl. Arct. Zool.* 149 Inhabits New York, where it is known by the Indian name of Mummy Chog. 1859 Bartlett *Dict. Amer.*, *Mummachog* (genus *Fundulus*), the popular name of the Barred Killifish of naturalists. 1884 Goode, etc. *Nat. Hist. Aquatic Anim.* 449 The fishermen there [*sc.* on the Connecticut coast] call them [*sc.* mullets] by the name of 'Bluefish Mummichog'.

Mu·mmy-cloth.

1. The cloth in which Egyptian mummies were wrapped.

1843 Wathen *Arts, Antiq. & Chronol. Egypt* 143 Painted mummy-cloths, scarabei [etc.].

2. *U. S.* Used as a trade name for certain modern fabrics more or less resembling the material used for mummy-cloths. Also *momie-cloth.*

1886 *Ann. Rep. Smithsonian Inst.* (1889) II. 652 Mummy cloth. 1890 in *Century Dict.*

Mummyll, obs. Sc. form of MUMBLE.

Mump (mʊmp), *sb.* and *a.* Also 6–7 mumpe. [Symbolical of the movements of the lips made in pronouncing the word. Cf. MUMP *v.* and MUM *int.* With sense 1 cf. Icel. *mumpaskæltur* grimace with the mouth, *mumpr* curly beard (Björn Halldórson).]

A. *sb.*

†**1.** A grimace, 'mouth'. *Obs.*

1592 NASHE *P. Penitesse* 22 b, Now he is no body that cannot drinke..with leapes, gloues, mumpes, fro[l]ickes, and a thousand such dominiering inuentions. 1611 COTGR., *Monnoye de Singe*, Moes, mumps, mouthes. 1635 [GLAPTHORNE] *Lady Mother* I. i. in Bullen *O. Pl.* II. 106 Gallants now court their Mistress with mumps & mows as apes and monkes doe.

2. *pl.* **Mumps** (now construed as *sing.*). An acute specific contagious disease characterized by inflammation and swelling of the parotid and salivary glands.

1598 FLORIO, *Recchione*, a disease or swelling in the necke called the mumps. 1758 GOOCH *Cases Surg.* 17 A Species of tumor called by the common people the Mumps. 1864 J. MARTINEAU in *Nat. Rev.* Nov. 274 The contagion of chickenpox and mumps.

3. *pl.* A fit of melancholy or ill-humour; 'sulks'.

1599 NASHE *Lenten Stuffe* 45 The sunne was so in his mumps vppon it, that it was almost noone before hee could goe to cart that day. 1671 SKINNER *Etymol. Ling. Angl.* s.v., He has the Mumps, *pro tæsci, Indignari tacitâ præsertim tracundiâ.* 1861 *Under the Spell* III. 109, I keep Kitty from getting the 'mumps'.

†**B.** *adj.* ? Drunk.

1599 PORTER *Angry Wom. Abingt.* (Percy Soc.) 48 What though he be mump, misled, blind, or as it were?

Mump (mʊmp), *v.*[1] [Related to MUMP *sb.* Cf. Icel. *mumpa* to take into the mouth, eat greedily (Björn Halldórsson), Norw. *mumpa* to fill the mouth too full, to mumble (in eating), Du. *mompelen* (rarely poet. *mompen*) to mumble (in utterance), early mod.G. *mumpfen, mumpfelen* to mumble (in eating).]

†**1.** *trans.* To utter with imperfect articulation, as a toothless person; to mumble, mutter. Also with *out*. *Obs.*

a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* IV. (1622) 407 Mumping out her hoarse chafe, shee gaue him the wooden salutation you heard of. 1694 'MUSOPHILUS' *Posie for Lovers* 5 The Godly Bedlam..Mump't out her Scorn, and grumbled Holy Words. 1773 GOLDSM. *She Stoops to Conq.* Epil., Old men, whose trade is Still to gallant and dangle with the ladies, Who mump their passion.

2. *intr.* †a. To grimace with the lips; to grin. Also *transf.* and *fig.* *Obs.*

1589 *Pappe w. Hatchet* Lyly's Wks. 1902 III. 406/7, I will make him mumpe, mow, and chatter. 1664 COTTON *Scarron.* I. 50 Venus, at that, wrigling and mumping, Cries, pray young man, leave of your frumping. 1719 D'URFEY *Pills* VI. 198 She [*sc.* a rabbit] mumps like an Ape. 1754 RICHARDSON *Grandison* (1781) VI. ix. 33 Aunt Nell..chuckled and mumped for joy.

b. To assume a demure or melancholy expression of countenance (see MUMPING *ppl. a.*); to be silent and sullen; to sulk, mope. *arch.* Also †*to mump it.*

c 1610 *Lady Compton* in Grose & Astle *Antiq. Rep.* (1808) III. 438, I would have two Gentlewomen... It is an indecent thing for a Gentlewoman to stand mumping alone, when God have blessed their Lord and Lady with a great Estate. 1675 HAN. WOOLLEY *Gentlewoman's Comp.* 69 Do not mump it, mince it, nor bridle the head, as if you either disliked the meat, or the company. 1825 SCOTT *Betrothed* xvii, These antiquated dames went mumping about with much affected indifference. 1837 T. HOOK *Jack Brag* vi, How would you like to sit moping and mumping all alone. 1883 STEVENSON *Lett.* (1901) I. vi. 304 It is better to enjoy a novel than to mump.

3. a. *intr.* To mumble with the gums; to move the jaws as if mumbling food; to munch, nibble. Also const. *at, on, upon.* *Obs.* exc. *dial.*

1596 NASHE *Saffron-Walden* Ded. C 3, Spend but a quarter so much time in mumping vppon Gabrielisme. 1615 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Urania* xlix. Wks. (1630) I. 5/2 When hee's ..Not a tooth left to mumpe on beanes and pease: Then this Companion..Will let thee haue this Palfray. 1629 DAVENANT *Albovine* IV. i, Were my lean Jaws unmuffled you should see me mump, like a Matron that had lost her teeth. 1748 SMOLLETT *Rod. Rand.* (1760) I. xi. 67 When he mumped or spoke, they [*sc.* his nose and chin] approached one another like a pair of nut-crackers. 1880 J. NICOL *Poems & Songs* 167 Jack and Pat, and Owen and Sandy, Mumping and crumping away at the candy.

†b. *trans.* To chew with toothless gums, or turn over and over in the mouth. *Obs.*

1599 NASHE *Lenten Stuffe* 47 Down she sunk to the ground, as dead as a door naile, and neuer mumpt crust after. 1818 MRS. SHERWOOD *Fairchild Fam.* XXV, Miss Puss stood..mumping her parsley, after the manner of hares. 1838 *Fraser's Mag.* XVII. 117 Here, Doctor, mump it with satisfied tooth.

Mump (mʊmp), *v.*[2] *colloq.* (orig. *slang.*) [prob. a. Du. *mompen* to cheat; connexion with prec. is doubtful. Sense 2 may belong to MUMP *v.*[1]]

†**1.** *trans.* To overreach, cheat. Const. *of, out of.* Also, 'to disappoint' (Phillips, ed. Kersey, 1706). Very common in the second half of the 17th c.

1651 *Fuller's Abel Rediv., Colet* (1867) I. 124 Intending thereby to mump Colet, who..never wrote a verse in his life. 1668 KIRKMAN *Eng. Rogue* II. xvi. 143 No sooner had I ended my Maunding, thinking to mump the Farmer out of some money,..but he [etc.]. 1676 WYCHERLEY *Gent. Dancing Master* IV. (1735) 84 He is..some debauched person, who will mump you of your daughter. 1682 MRS. BEHN *City Heiress* 59 How finely I had been mumpt now, if I had not shew'd your Ladyship trick for trick. *a* 1734 NORTH *Exam.* I. ii. § 150 They..let Indictments go, depending on the Petit-Jury for the Acquittal..but, in that also, they were mumped, as will appear.

2. a. *intr.* To beg; †to play the parasite, to 'sponge' on others. b. *trans.* To obtain by begging or 'sponging'. c. To visit (a house) in the course of a begging round.

1673 [Implied in MUMPER 1]. 1685 F. SPENCE *House of Medici* 251 His..Presupposition, That they were so earnest for admittance, onely to mump [orig. *mandier*] the onely Voice they wanted for him. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), To *Mump*,..to beg, to spunge upon. 1728 *Brice's Weekly Jrnl.* (Exeter) 27 Sept., Some of the Villains..had the no Conscience to rob a..Beggar-woman of a few Half-pence she had been mumping. 1738 WEDDELL *Voy. up Thames* 86 A giddy Heir..who is often glad to mump a Dinner of which Nature had ordained him the Giver. 1808 E. S. BARRETT *Miss-led General* 37 Was it becoming the sons of the lord of the Manor to go..mumping from their tenants, to relieve an irreclaimable spendthrift? 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xiv. IV. 260 One prince came mumping to them annually with a lamentable story about his distresses. 1866 *Temple Bar* XVII. 183 Having 'mumped' a small shop and several private houses.

Mumper (mʊ·mpəɹ). *Obs.* exc. *dial.* or *slang.* (See E. D. D.) [f. MUMP *v.*[2] + -ER[1].]

1. A beggar, mendicant. Also, †one who 'sponges' on others.

1673 R. HEAD *Cantiug Acad.* 79 *Mumpers* are both Male and Female, a Gentiler sort of Beggars, for they scorn to beg for food, but money or cloaths. 1690 *Secret Hist. Chas. II & Jas. II* 69 The Commons..readily voted the Royal Mumper no less than one million two hunder'd and fifty thousand Pounds. 1736 AINSWORTH *Lat. Dict.*, A mumper of a dinner, *Parasitus, cænipeta.* 1755 *Mem. Capt. P. Drake* iii. 25, I..from a Mumper at Cottages became a Guest at the best Inns. 1766 H. WALPOLE *Lett.* 9 Feb. (1892) IV. 476 It is below such a nation as England to trouble its head whether an old mumper at Rome calls a wretched fugitive *Rè d' Inghilterra* or *Principe di Galles.*

Mumping (mʊ·mpiŋ), *vbl. sb.*[1] *Obs.* exc. *dial.* [f. MUMP *v.*[1] + -ING[1].] The action of grimacing.

1611 COTGR., *Minauderies*, foolish trickes, apish pranks, mumpings, mowings. 1721 KELLY *Scot. Prov.* 183, I know your meaning, by your mumping. *a* 1734 NORTH *Exam.* I. iii § 46 We are to understand his Meaning by his Mumping.

Mu·mping, *vbl. sb.*[2] [f. MUMP *v.*[2] + -ING[1].] Begging. *Mumping-day* (see quot. 1817).

1694 MOTTEUX *Rabelais* IV. xiii, He spyed Tickletohy afar off, coming home from mumping. 1816 DUNKIN *Hist. Bicester* 270 The..singular custom..on the morrow after Christmas-day,..usually denominated *Mumping.* 1817 FOSBROKE *Brit. Monachism* 74 St. Thomas's Day. On this day, called Mumping-day, the poor in Herefordshire go around the parishes, begging corn, &c.

Mumping (mʊ·mpiŋ), *ppl. a.*[1] [f. MUMP *v.*[1] + -ING[2].] In senses of the verb; †Mumbling, toothless (*obs.*); grimacing, assuming a demure, sanctimonious, or miserable aspect of countenance.

1594 NASHE *Terrors of Night* Wks. (Grosart) III. 255 Aged mumping beldams. 1611 COTGR., *Morgue*,..the mumping aspect of one that would seeme grauer then he is. *a* 1720 SHEFFIELD (Dk. Buckhm.) *Wks.* (1753) I. 78 Puss transform'd, sat like a mumping bride. 1797 BURKE *Regic. Peace* iii. Wks. VIII. 274 Our embassy 'of shreds and patches' with all its mumping cant. 1820 LAMB *Elia* I. *Two Races of Men*, To say *no* to a poor petitionary rogue (your bastard borrower) who, by his mumping visnomy, tells you, that he expects nothing better. 1826 HOOD *Last Man* 109 But the beggar man made a mumping face, And knocked at every gate. 1869 LOWELL *Cathedral* 647 Superannuate forms and mumping shams.

Mu·mping, *ppl. a.*[2] [f. MUMP *v.*[2] + -ING[2].] Begging.

1829 LYTTON *Disowned* 8 And wherever we rove, we feed on the cove Who gibes at the mumping crew. 1883 G. A. SALA in *Illustr. Lond. News* 17 Nov. 475/3 Although the tramp when hard pressed solicits alms or food, he is not a 'mumping' or professional beggar.

Mumpish (mʊ·mpiʃ), *a.* [f. MUMP *sb.* or *v.*[1] + -ISH.] Sullenly angry; depressed in spirits.

1721 BAILEY, *Mumpish*, angry, and silent withal. 1846 E. B. BARRETT in *Lett. R. Browning & E. B. B.* (1899) II. 491 Mumpish! The expression proved a displeasure. Yet I am sure that I have shown as little sullenness as was possible.

Hence **Mu·mpishly** *adv.* (Webster 1847–54). **Mu·mpishness** (Bailey, vol. II. 1727).

†**Mumps.** *Obs.* [? Short for MUMPSIMUS 1 b; or connected with MUMP *v.*[1] 3.] A term of contempt or mock endearment for a woman.

1598–9 B. JONSON *Case is Altered* II. ii, Divine Mumps, prety Pastorella. *a* 1616 BEAUM. & FL. *Scornf. Lady* V. i, Not such another as I was, Mumps; nor will not be. 1695 tr. *Martial* II. xli. 106 Weep, if you're prudent, old mumps.

Mumps: see MUMP *sb.*

†**Mumpsick,** *a. Obs. rare*—°. [f. MUMP *sb.* + SICK *a.*] Having erysipelas.

1599 MINSHEU *Span. Dict., Esipulado*, mumpsicke

Mumpsimus (mʊ·mpsimʊs).

[In allusion to the story (in R. Pace *De Fructu*, 1517, p. 80) of an illiterate English priest, who when corrected for reading 'quod in ore *mumpsimus*' in the Mass, replied, 'I will not change my old mumpsimus for your new sumpsimus'.]

†**1.** One who obstinately adheres to old ways, in spite of the clearest evidence that they are wrong; an ignorant and bigoted opponent of reform. *Obs.*

1530 TINDALE *Pract. Prelates* H v, The chauncelars of englond..which be all lawers and other doctoures mumsimusses of diuinyte were called vpp sodenlye to dispute the mater. 1553 UNDERHILL in *Narr. Reform.* (Camden Soc.) 141 Yff yow loke amonge the pristes in Poolles, ye shall fynde some old mumsymussis ther.

¶ b. Used as a vague term of contempt: An 'old fogey'. ? Also = MUMPS. (In quots. 1596 and 1691 app. associated with MUMP *v.*[1]) *Obs.*

1575 GASCOIGNE *Posies, Supposes* II And if this olde Mumpsimus..should win hir, then may I say,..farewel the sight of my Polynesta. 1596 LODGE *Wits Miserie* 37 The next of this progenie is Vnlawfull lucre, looke what a handsome Mumpsimus shee is, will you know her profession? 1691 SHADWELL *Scowrers* I. i, *Eugenia.* [To Priscilla, her governess.] Did she so, old mumpsimus. [Cf. *ibid.*, Mutter no more under thy Gums, old Sybil.] 1815 *Zeluca* I. 336 He showed me into a room with some mumpsimuses.

2. A traditional custom or notion obstinately adhered to however unreasonable it is shown to be.

1545 HEN. VIII *Part. Sp.* 24 Dec. in Hall *Chron., Hen. VIII* (1550) 261 b, Some he to styff in their old *Mumpsimus*, other be to busy and curious in their newe *Sumpsimus.* 1669 PENN *No Cross* ii. § 9 (1682) 35 A by-rote *Mumpsimus*, a dull and insipid Formality, made up of corporal bowings and Cringings. 1862 KEBLE in Liddon, etc. *Pusey* (1897) IV. i. 25, I still hold to my old mumpsimus that the Prayer Book being what it is we cannot be unchurched by mere abuse or default of discipline.

3. *attrib.*, quasi-*adj.* Stupidly conservative.

1680 R. BOLRON *Narrative* 9 The Jesuits..are the most Zealous for the propagation of their Religion in their old Mumpsimus Way. 1821 SYD. SMITH *Wks.* (1859) I. 330/2 All the fat and sleek people..the mumpsimus, and 'well as we are' people, are perfectly outrageous at being compelled to do their duty.

Mumry, obs. form of MUMMERY.

Mumschance, obs. form of MUMCHANCE *sb.*

Mun, *sb.*[1] *dial.* and *slang.* Also 7 munne, 7–9 munn, 8–9 mund. [a. ON. *munn-r*: see MOUTH *sb.* Cf. MOMPYNS, MUNPYNNIS.] a. *dial.* The mouth (see E. D. D.). b. *slang. pl.* The jaws, 'chops', face.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* C. 44 Much maugre his mun, he mot nede suffer. 1665 R. HEAD *Eng. Rogue* I. iv, *Munns*, the Face. 1760 FOOTE *Minor* I. (1767) 31 Why, you jade, you look as rosy this morning, I must have a smack at your muns. 1847 HALLIWELL s.v., A common cry at Coventry on Good Friday is—One a penny, two a penny, hot cross buns, Butter them and sugar them and put them in your muns. 1859 MATSELL *Vocabulum* (Farmer), *Mund.* The mouth. *Munds.* The face.

†**Mun,** *sb.*[2] *Obs. rare*—[1]. One of a class of street-ruffians in the seventeenth century.

1691 SHADWELL *Scowrers* I. i. 3 Why I knew the Hectors, and before them the Muns and the Titire Tu's, they were brave fellows indeed. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* iii. I. 361.

Mun, *v. north.* and *midl.* Forms: *Pres. ind. sing.* and *pl.* 3– mun, 3–6 (9 *dial.*) mon, mone, 6 monn, moun. *Pres. subj.* 3 mune. *Pa. t.* 3 (Ormin) munnde, 3–5 mund(e, mond(e, (4 muond). See also MAUN. [a. ON. *monu, munu* (1st and 3rd sing. *mon, mun,* 1st pl. *monum, munum*; pa. t. *munda*), a preterite-pres. verb used as an auxiliary of the future tense = shall, will. The prehistoric sense was doubtless 'to intend' (Indo-Germanic root *men-*: *mon-*: *mn-* to think: see MIND *sb.*); ON. has a slightly differentiated form (inf. *mona, muna*) with the sense 'to remember': see MONE *v.*

In ON. the pres. sing. has a variant *man*: see MAUN *v.* In mod. Eng. dialects the pa. t. appears to be represented by *mud*, coincident in form with a frequent unstressed variant of the past tense of MAY *v.*; the two auxiliaries have therefore partly coalesced in the pa. t.

The combination of *mun* with a negative has various contracted forms, the most frequent being *mon't* (mōnt). See E.D.D. s.vv. MUD, MUN.]

An auxiliary verb, followed by inf. without *to*. In mod. dialects equivalent to 'must'; in early use sometimes with the sense 'shall' (pa. t. = 'should', 'would').

c 1200 ORMIN 1967 Forr ȝiff mann mihhte wurrþenn warr þatt ȝho wiþþ childe wære,..ȝho munnde affterr þe laȝheboc To dæþe ben istanedd. *Ibid.* 7927 Forr iwhille mann birrþ ..beon..offdredd, þatt all hiss gode dede Ne mune himm nohht beon god inoh To berrȝbenn himm fra pine. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 1105 Þai thoght þat kynd him mond forbede To haf don suilk an ogli dede. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 840, I wene that we deye mone For hunger, þis dere is so strong. *a* 1350 *St. Laurence* 231 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 110 Decius þan him umbi-thoght How saint Laurence munde be schent. *c* 1420 *Avow. Arth.* xxiv, And thou mun pay my rawunsun, Gawan, with thi leue. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 5 For þan I monde make mekull sorow. *a* 1553 UDALL *Royster D.* 4th Song (Arb.) 87, I mun be maried a Sunday. 1598 B. JONSON *Ev. Man in Hum.* I. i, Slid a gentleman mun show himselfe like a gentleman. 1688 SHADWELL *Sq. Alsatia* I. i. 5 What will awd Maaster say to this? I mun ne'er see the Face of him I wot. *a* 1721 PRIOR *Song* (1st line), Since, Moggy, I mun bid adieu, How can I help despairing? 1864 TENNYSON *North. Farmer* (*Old Style*) xvii, An' if I mun doy I mun doy.

b. with ellipsis of a vb. of motion.

c 1435 *Torr. Portugal* 1113 Sir, he said, I trow, she mone To the prynce off Aragon. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilȝear* 425 Thow mon to Paris to the King.

Mun, dial. var. *mon, man*: see MAN *sb.*[1] 4 e.

Mun, *pronoun* (= them, him, it, etc.): see E.D.D.

Mun, variant of MONE *v. Obs.*, remember.

Munc, obs. form of MONK.

†**Munce·rian.** *Obs.* Also 6 **Munseran.** [ad. mod.L. *Muncerian-us*, f. the name of *Muncerus* or Münzer.] One of the sect of Anabaptists, which arose in Germany under Thomas Münzer in 1521.

c 1559 R. HALL *Life Fisher* (1655) 222 From you are sprung Zuinglius, Munserans, or Patimontans, and a number of Hereticks mo. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 57 The madness of the Muncerians. 1727-41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Anabaptists.*

Munch (mʌnʃ), *sb.* [f. MUNCH *v.*] a. An act of munching. b. Something to eat; a meal (*dial.* and *jocular*).

a 1816 T. THOMPSON *Canny Newcastle* 53 Wiv a' the stravagin aw wanted a munch. 1897 BLACKMORE *Dariel* xlvii, The unfortunate starver..tore the cake from Cator. In a moment it was gone, almost without a munch.

Munch (mʌnʃ), *v.* Forms: 4-6 monche, 6 manche, 6-7 mounch(e, (9 mounch), 7-8 maunch, 6- munch. [App. onomatopœic (cf. CRAUNCH, CRUNCH); possibly suggested partly by MANGE *v.*]

1. *trans.* To eat with continuous and noticeable action of the jaws. Said of persons audibly masticating food which offers resistance to the teeth, and of cattle chewing their fodder. Also with *up*.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* I. 914 And some wolde monche [*v.rr.* muche, mucche, meche] hir mete alone. *a* 1518 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 2009 Nowe must you monche mamockes and lumpes of brede. 1530 PALSGR. 632/2, I manche, I eate gredylye, *je briffe*. Are you nat a shamed to manche your meate thus lyke a carter. 1540 — *Acolastus* H iij b, I..mounche vp browne breade. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* IV. i. 35, I could munch your good dry Oates. 1691 WOOD *Ath. Oxon.* II. 315 Maunching a roll of bread. 1798 JOANNA BAILLIE *Tryal* v. ii, You munch it up as expeditiously as a bit of plum-cake. 1810 *Splendid Follies* I. 180 As he mounched a large mouthful of macaroons. 1871 L. STEPHEN *Playgr. Eur.* iii. (1894) 75 He sat..calmly munching bread and cheese.

transf. 1853 Miss E. S. SHEPPARD *Ch. Auchester* III. 55 The baby, who had been munching my finger all the time we talked. 1871 ROSSETTI *Last Confession* 521 He munched her neck with kisses.

2. *intr.* and *absol.* Also with *away*.

1530 PALSGR. 640/1 It is no good fellowes touche to stande monching in a cornar whan he hath a good morcell. 1605 SHAKS. *Mach.* I. iii. 5 A Saylors Wife had Chestnuts in her Lappe, And mounch't, & mounch't, and mounch't. 1690 DRYDEN *Don Sebastian* III. ii, No, 'tis the Son of a Mare that's broken loose, and munching upon the Melons. 1883 GILMOUR *Mongols* (1884) 108 Buy so much fodder and let the animal munch away at it half the night.

b. To work the jaws up and down, as old toothless people do in talking.

1848 DICKENS *Dombey* xxvii, 'Let me tell your fortune, my pretty lady', said the old woman, munching with her jaws.

Hence **Mu·nching** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1568 *Hist. Jacob & Esau* II. iv. Dj, Dinner at this time a day? Nothing with thee, but dinner and mounching alway. 1823 BYRON *Juan* XI. lxvi, Where there is neither fruit nor flower Enough to gratify a bee's slight munchings. 1835 Miss SEDGWICK *Linwoods* (1873) I. 46 Raisons and almonds, which served..as munching for her companions.

Munchausen (mʌnʧɔ·zən). The name of Baron Munchausen (in Ger. form Münchhausen), the hero of a pseudo-autobiographical narrative of impossible adventures, written in English by the German Rudolf Eric Raspe (1785): used to denote an extravagantly mendacious story of marvellous adventure. Hence **Munchau·sen** *v.* (*nonce-wd.*) *trans.*, to recount with extravagant exaggeration; **Munchau·senish** *a.*, **Munchau·senism.**

1850 *Fraser's Mag.* XLI. 411 Herodotus..has been accused of all sorts of Munchausenisms. 1854 L. LLOYD *Scandin. Adv.* II. 252 Before setting them down as regular 'Munchausens'. 1865 *Sat. Rev.* 9 Nov. 587 A Munchausenish turn for the marvellous. 1895 J. G. MILLAIS *Breath fr. Veldt* (1899) 336 My readers may think I have caricatured and 'Munchausened' the..tomfoolery of these clowns of the desert.

Muncheel (mʌnɪʧī·l). *Anglo-Ind.* Also **manjeel, munsheel, munchil.** [a. Malayālam *manjil.*] A kind of hammock-litter used on the south-west coast of India.

1808 in C. Buchanan *Chr. Researches* (1819) 171 We proceed thither in our Manjeels. 1885 G. S. FORBES *Wild Life in Canara* 7, I..travelled by land in a munchil.

Munchene, variant of MINCHEN *Obs.*

Muncher (mʌ·nʃəɹ). [f. MUNCH *v.* + -ER 1.] One who munches.

1755 in JOHNSON. 1879 F. HARRISON *Choice Bks.* iv. (1886) 79 These munchers of vapid memoirs and monotonous tales.

Mu·nchet. [? f. MUNCH *sb.* + -ET. Cf. *hunchet.*] A small piece (of bread).

1845 THACKERAY *Leg. Rhine* iii, Munchets of bread, smeared with the same delicious condiment.

Munchil, variant of MUNCHEEL.

† **Mu·nchin.** *Obs. rare.* [? f. MUNCH *v.*, after NUNCHEON. Cf. next.] A lunch or small repast.

a 1665 C. HOOLE *Sch. Colloquies* (1688) 61 My Bever (or Munchin).

Munchion, *v. Obs. rare.* [? f. MUNCH *v.*, after *nuncheon.* Cf. MUNCHIN.] *intr.* ? To munch.

1611 COTGR. s.v. *Manger, Manger son pain en son sac*, to snudge it, or munchion alone in a corner.

Munck(e, -ckey, obs. ff. MONK, MONKEY.

Mun(ck)corn(e, variant forms of MONGCORN.

† **Mund.** *Obs.* [OE. *mund* fem. = OFris. *mund* masc. guardianship, guardian, OS. *mund* hand, OHG. *munt* fem. hand, protection, masc. protector, ON. *mund* fem. hand, *mund-r* masc. sum paid by a bridegroom for his bride.]

1. A hand or palm, as a measure of length.

The primary sense 'hand' (part of the body) is not found later than OE.

a 900 *O. E. Martyrol.* 27 Mar. 52 Stænen bed seofon fota lang ond þrym mundum hierre þonne þæs huses flor. *c* 1205 LAY. 21994 He is end-longe feouwer & sixti munden.

2. Protection, guardianship.

a 1023 WULFSTAN *Hom.* xxviii. (Napier) 132 ȝe orsorȝe wuniað on lande..under mynre munde. *c* 1205 LAY. 10518, & hælden me to munde a þire aȝere hond. 1861 MAINE *Anc. Law* v. (1876) 145 All the Germanic immigrants seem to have recognised a corporate union of the family under the *mund*, or authority of a patriarchal chief.

3. A guardian, protector.

a 1064 *Charter of Eadweard* in Kemble *Codex Dipl.* VI. 203 Ðat he beo ðærto ȝeheald & mund under me. *c* 1205 LAY. 23246 Of me þu scalt halden and habben me to munde.

Mund, var. MUN *sb.*1, MOUND *sbs.*1 and 2.

Mund(e, obs. variant forms of MIND *sb.*1

† **Mu·ndal,** *a. Obs. rare.* [ad. med.L. *mundāl-is*, f. *mund-us* world. Cf. MUNDIAL.] Mundane, worldly.

1614 Sir T. DALE in Capt. Smith *Virginia* IV. (1624) 117 Leauing all contenting pleasures and mundall delights, to reside here with much turmoile. 1631 Capt. SMITH *Advt. Planters* 33 They have builded many pretty Villages, faire houses, and Chapels, which are growne good Benefices of 120. pounds a yeare, besides their owne mundall industry.

¶ ? Taken as *sb.* = the world (i. e. this earth).

1534 *Coventry Corpus Chr. Plays* ii. 187 From the hy pales and blys eyuerlastyng Downe into this wale and meserabull mvndall [*MS. fragm.* Down into the vale off this mezerabull mundall].

Mundane (mʌ·ndēn), *a.* (*sb.*). Forms: 5 mondeyne, 5-6 mondayn(e, mundayne, 6 mondain, mundain(e, 7 mundan, 6- mundane. [a. F. *mondain* (12-13th c.), ad. L. *mundān-us*, f. *mundus* world.]

1. Belonging to this world (i. e. the earth as contrasted with heaven); worldly; earthly.

In early use (till 1550) often following its *sb.*, and sometimes taking *s* in the pl.

1475 *Bk. Noblesse* (Roxb.) 70 He saide that fortune and felicite mondeyne was joyned and knyt withe his vertue and noblesse roiall. 1509 BARCLAY *Shyp of Folys* 67 b, Alas oft goddes goodes..Of suche folys is wastyd..In great folyes mundaynes and outrage. *a* 1652 J. SMITH *Sel. Disc.* i. 21 Entangled with the birdlime of fleshly passions and mundane vanity. *a* 1720 SEWEL *Hist. Quakers* (1795) I. ii. 146 By a singular and very strange turn of mundane affairs. 1869 MOZLEY *Univ. Serm.* ii. (1876) 50 Not like the goodness which feeds upon mundane motives and is weak and sickly.

b. Belonging to the 'world' as distinguished from the church. Of literature: Secular. *rare.*

1848 W. H. KELLY tr. *L. Blanc's Hist. Ten Y.* II. 532 It [Talleyrand's reconciliation to the church] was matter of inexpressible surprise and pain to the more mundane portion of the prince's intimate acquaintances. 1865 M. ARNOLD *Ess. Crit.* vi. (1875) 245 The beginnings of the mundane poetry of the Italians are in Sicily.

c. Belonging to the world of fashion. [= F. *mondain.*]

1904 *Edin. Rev.* Oct. 298 The Athénée and the Nouveautés ..the favourite resorts of 'mundane' pleasure-seekers.

2. Pertaining to the cosmos or universe; cosmic. *Mundane soul, spirit*: the *anima mundi* of the Platonists (ἡ τοῦ κόσμου ψυχή, ἡ κοσμικὴ ψυχή in Proclus).

1642 H. MORE *Song of Soul* II. III. i. 18 We have the sight Of what the Mundane spirit suffereth By colours, figures, or inherent light. 1665 GLANVILL *Scepsis Sci.* xxiv. 147 The Platonicall Hypothesis of a Mundane Soul. 1692 BENTLEY *Boyle Lect.* vii. (1693) 7 The Atoms or Particles which now constitute Heaven and Earth, being once separate and diffused in the Mundane Space, like the supposed Chaos, could never [etc.]. 1872 MOZLEY *Mirac.* (ed. 3) Pref. 24 The idea of God as the Supreme Mundane Being.

b. *Mundane egg*: in Indian and other cosmogonies, a primordial egg from which the world was hatched.

1684, 1789 [see ORPHIC 1 b]. 1841 ELPHINSTONE *Hist. Ind.* I. I. iv. 75 From this seed sprung the mundane egg, in which the Supreme Being was himself born in the form of Brahmá.

c. *Mundane era*, an era reckoned from the time of the creation of the world.

1892 E. M. THOMPSON *Gr. & Lat. Palæogr.* Add. 323 To reduce the Mundane era of Constantinople to the Christian era.

3. *Astrol.* Pertaining to the horizon and not to the ecliptic or zodiac; chiefly in *mundane aspect, parallel.*

1687 J. BISHOP *Marrow Astrol.* II. 33 At which time the ☽ was directed to a mundane parallel of ♂. *Ibid.* 76 Narrowly observe all the Aspects, as well those in the World, as those in the Zodiack, for many times a Zodiacal Aspect may promise good in the Business, when there may be a Mundane Aspect will frustrate the good promised by the other. 1819 J. WILSON *Dict. Astrol.* 295 *Mundane Aspects*, distances in the world measured by the semiarc wholly independent of the zodiac.

4. *Nat. Hist.* Used by Darwin for: Found in all parts of the world, widely distributed.

1844 DARWIN in *Life & Lett.* (1887) II. 25 The Owl is mundane, and many of the species have very wide ranges.

† **5.** *sb.* A dweller in this world. *Obs. rare*—1.

1517 H. WATSON *Ship of Fools* Prol. A ij b, By the shyppe we maye vnderstande ye folyes and erroures that the mondaynes are in, by the se this present worlde.

Hence **Mu·ndanely** *adv.*, **Mu·ndaneness.**

1727 BAILEY vol. II, *Mundaneness*, worldliness. 1824 LANDOR *Imag. Conv.* ii. Wks. 1846 I. 46 The greatest of stakes, mundanely speaking, is the stake of reputation.

1886 MYERS in Gurney, etc. *Phantasms of Living* II. 294 This very mundaneness of the apparition is precisely what was to be expected.

Mundanity (mʌndæ·nĭti). Now *rare.* Also 7 **-eity.** [a. F. *mondanité* or ad. med.L. **mundānitā-tem*: see MUNDANE and -ITY.] The quality or fact of being mundane; worldliness; † in *pl.*, worldly affections or proclivities.

1502 *Ord. Crysten Men* (W. de W. 1506) IV. xxi. 254 The mundanytes that she sawe..to habounde in the sayd courte. 1647 TRAPP *Comm. Eph.* ii. 2 The mundaneity or worldlinesse of the world. 1648 W. MOUNTAGUE *Devout Ess.* I. xx. § 1. 376 The love of mundanity, wherein do indeed reside the vital Spirits of the body of Sin. 1888 MRS. H. WARD *R. Elsmere* II. xvi, He could have blessed her for the tone, for the escape into common mundanity.

b. The characteristics of the fashionable world.

1892 *Nation* (N.Y.) 27 Oct. 324/2 Mr. Sidgwick..carries an air of distinction and mundanity in his style.

† **Munda·tion.** *Obs.* [ad. L. *mundātiōn-em*, f. *mundāre* to cleanse, f. *mund-us* clean.] The action of cleansing or state of being cleansed.

1633 T. ADAMS *Exp. 2 Peter* iii. 10 Every day we gather new stains; for the mundation whereof there is another fountain provided. 1678 R. R[USSELL] tr. *Geber* II. I. iv. viii. 104 Such as its Mundation (or cleansing) shall be, such will be its Perfection. 1755 in JOHNSON.

Mundatory (mʌ·ndătəri, *a.* and *sb.* [ad. L. *mundātōri-us*, f. *mundāre*: see prec.] **A.** *adj.* Having the property or quality of cleansing. *rare.*

1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Mundificative* or *Mundatory Medicines*... Medicines that are proper for the cleansing of Ulcers. 1755 in JOHNSON.

B. *sb.* A means or implement of cleansing. *rare.*

1859 R. F. BURTON *Centr. Afr.* in *Jrnl. Geog. Soc.* XXIX. 323 They have, however, no mundatories; the African skin does not wash well.

b. *Eccl.* A purificator or purificatory.

1674 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* (ed. 4) *Mundatory*, the same with *Purificatory*. 1884-5 *Cath. Dict., Mundatory* or *Purificatory.*

Munday, Munde, obs. ff. MONDAY, MIND.

Mundel, variant of MANDIL.

1721 C. KING *Brit. Merch.* I. 301, 3 Toylettes, 20 Pieces of Mundels, 2 Barbary Aprons.

Mu·ndial, *a. Obs. rare.* [a. OF. *mon-, mundial*, or ad. eccl. L. *mundiāl-is*, f. *mundus* world.] Mundane, worldly.

1560 ROLLAND *Crt. Venus* I. 744 Man to desaif with foull lust mundiall. 1619 W. SCLATER *Exp. 1 Thess.* (1630) 191 Saint Augustine notes of Friendship foure kinds...Thirdly Mundiall, where the tye is profit...Discontinuance in euill abateth Mundiall Friend-ship.

Mundic (mʌ·ndik). Also 7-8 mundick, (8 mundik, mondic). [Prob. Celtic Cornish, but the original form is uncertain; *maen teg*, 'pretty stone' has been conjectured.] Cornish miners' name for iron pyrites, or pyrites in general. Also *attrib.*

1671 [see MAXY]. 1681 GREW *Museum* III. I. ii. 272 Marcasite, or Yellow Mundick. *Ibid.* v. 307 A Mundick-Spar; consisting of tabulated or flat and square Crystals. 1855 J. R. LEIFCHILD *Cornwall Mines* 219 The yellow copper ore, at present so valued,..was in fact cast aside as 'mundic'. 1880 BARING-GOULD *Preachers' Pocket* 239 Now and then a glittering particle of mundic cheats their hopes; but of gold..they..have none.

Hence **Mu·ndicky** *a.*, full of mundic.

1814 W. PHILLIPS in *Trans. Geol. Soc.* II. 117 A..mundicky..Load.

† **Mundicative,** erron. f. MUNDIFICATIVE *sb.*

1587 LEVINS *Pathw. Health* (1632) 106 For a wound in the head a good mundicatiffie. 1643 J. STEER tr. *Exp. Chyrurg.* xvi. 66 Make thereof a Mundicative. 1891 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

† **Mundici·dious,** *a.* [f. L. *mund-us* world, after *homicidious.*] World-destroying.

1647 WARD *Simp. Cobler* (1843) 21 A vacuum and an exorbitancy are mundicidious evils.

Mundi·ficant. *rare*—0. [ad. L. *mundificant-em*, pr. pple. of *mundificāre* to MUNDIFY.] A cleansing medicament.

1842 BRANDE *Dict. Sci.*, etc., *Mundificant*, a term applied in old pharmacy to certain healing and cleansing ointments and plasters. [Hence in later Dicts.]

Mundifica·tion. ? *Obs.* [a. F. *mondification* (16th c.), or ad. med.L. *mundificātiōn-em*, n. of action f. *mundificāre* to MUNDIFY.]

1. The action of mundifying, cleansing, or deterging; the state of being mundified. Chiefly *Med.* (e. g. of wounds, ulcers).

1543 TRAHERON *Vigo's Chirurg.* II. ii. 16 After mundification, ye must incarnate the place. 1672 WISEMAN *Wounds* 26 This is done by universal Regiment and Digestion, with Mundification, that a new flesh may be made to fill the Cavity. 1810 BERESFORD *Bibliosophia*, etc. 102 The unparalleled difficulty of effectuating this mighty mundification. *fig.* 1610 HEALEY *St. Aug. Citie of God* XXI. xxiii. 861 Those holy men..did not enuy the mundification [L. *mundationem*] and beatitude of those spirits.

† **2.** *concr.* ? A purified preparation.

1603 LODGE *Treat. Plague* I 3, Take of the mundification of rozen, and put it vppon the saide sores.

† **Mundificative,** *a.* and *sb. Med. Obs.* Also 5 **-atif.** [a. OF. *mon-, mundificatif* (*a.* and *sb.*), or ad. med.L. *mundificātīv-us*, f. *mundificāre* to MUNDIFY: see -IVE.] **A.** *adj.* Having power to cleanse (the body, a sore, etc.); detersive.

a 1400-50 *Stockh. Med. MS.* 13 Mu[n]dificatif clister. 1509 BARCLAY *Shyp of Folys* (1570) 165 Purging it with playsters mundificatiue. 1646 Sir T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* I. xi. 46 We

finde that gall is very mundificative, and was a proper medicine to cleere the eyes of Tobit. 1676 Worlidge *Cyder* (1691) 13 Wines that proceed from the vine being of a corroborative and mundificative nature. 1727–41 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v., Mundificative plaisters, or unguents.

B. *sb.* A cleansing or detersive medicine.

c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 37 We musten clense þe wounde wiþ þis mundificatif. *Ibid.* 81 On of þe mundificatiuis of ony which þat schal be told in þe antidotarie. 1543 Traheron *Vigo's Chirurg.* II. ii. 16 After the digestyve, ye must clense the place wyth a mundificatyve of Syrupe of Roses. 1643 J. Steer tr. *Exp. Chyrurg.* viii. 35 A mundificative of the juice of Smallege doth very much clense putrid Vlcers. 1676 Wiseman *Surg.* I. vii. 43, I continued the Mundificative and Cerote, and dressed it every other day. 1727–41 Chambers *Cycl.*, *Mundificatives*, or *Mundifyers*.

† **Mu·ndified,** *ppl. a. Obs.* [f. Mundify *v.* + -ed[1].] Cleansed; *spec.* freed from husk or other integument.

1558 Warde tr. *Alexis' Secr.* (1568) 3 Pine apple kernelles mondified. 1580 Blunoevil *Order Curing Horses Dis.* v. 4 b, Giue him..barlie faire sifted, and well sodden, and also mundified, that is to saie, the huske pulled awaie, like as when you blanch Almonds. 1725 Bradley *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Cough*, The Patient may take a Spoonful of mundify'd Barley. 1736 Bailey *Housh. Dict.* 365 Give him also gentle purges of mundified cassia.

† **Mu·ndifier.** *Obs.* [f. Mundify *v.* + -er[1].] One who, or a thing which, mundifies; a cleansing medicament.

1603 Lodge *Treat. Plague* I 3 b, Make an ointment thereof, for it is a mundifier. 1630 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Praise Clean Linen* Ded., Wks. II. 165 Hee is a mender and you are a mundifier...Your Art is to keepe our bodies sweet and cleane. 1695 J. Edwards *Perfect. Script.* 192 Smegmaticks mundifiers, cleansers, adorners, are useful. 1727–41 Chambers *Cycl.*, *Mundificatives*, or *Mundifyers*, in medicine, denote cleansers, purifyers, or detergents.

Mundify (mv·ndifəi), *v.* Now *rare* or *Obs.* Also 6–7 **mondify.** [a. F. *mondifier* (14th c.), or ad. L. *mundificāre*, f. *mund-us* clean : see -fy.]

1. *trans.* To cleanse, purify. *lit.* and *fig.*

1504 Laov Margaret tr. *De Imitatione* IV. xii. 276 It behoueth the to mundifye and cleanse the habytacion of thy herte fro all synnes. 1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* VI. xii. 335 Fire..refines those bodies which will never bee mundified by water. 1660 F. Brooke tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 189 My companion was forced to pay for mundifying the Cistern. 1748 Richardson *Clarissa* (1811) VII. lx. 237 Mundified or purified from my past iniquities. 1819 Crabbe *T. of Hall* XIX. 258 Whatever stains were theirs, let them reside In that pure place, and they were mundified.

b. *intr.* for *refl.* To make oneself neat or smart.

1699 Ed. S—cy *Country Gentl. Vade-mecum* 29 He..at least forces him [*sc.* a Beau]..to steer to the next Barber's Shop, to new Rig and Mundifie.

2. *trans.* In medical use: To free (the body, blood, a wound, ulcer, etc.) from noxious matter; to cleanse, deterge.

1528 Paynel *Salerne's Regim.* Y ij, Pipper..mundifieth the lightis. 1597 Gerarde *Herbal* II. viii. 189 The juice thereof mundifieth corrupt and filthie vlcers. 1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* VII. vii. 352 The graines of the Apples of Mandrakes mundifie the Matrix. 1758 J. B. *Le Dran's Observ. Surg.* (1771) *147 The Flesh ought..to..be well mundified. 1854 Baoham *Halieut.* 384 To scour and mundify the guts.

absol. 1541 R. Copland *Guydon's Formul.* U ij, The incarnatyfe helpes that brede flesshe and mundyfye. 1610 Markham *Masterp.* II. clxxiii. 483 Antimonuum..mundifieth and purgeth. 1710 T. Fuller *Pharm. Extemp.* 119 It [the Electuary]..mundifies, dries, heals.

Hence **Mu·ndifying** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1579 Baker *Guydon's Quest. Chirurg.* 184 A mundifiyng Vnguent for inueterate vlcers. 1610 Healey *St. Aug. Citie of God* X. xxxii. (1620) 385 The mundifying of proficients. 1626 Bacon *Sylva* § 65 Abstersive and Mundifying Clysters. 1631 R. H. *Arraignm. Whole Creature* IX. 65 The mundifying waters of the Word. 1711 *Bibl. Anat.* II. 203 The Vlcer..healed entirely..by the use of a mundifying and drying Collyry.

Mundik, obs. form of Mundic.

Mundil, variant of Mandil, turban.

1858 in Simmonds *Dict. Trade.* And in later Dicts.

Mundilion, ? erron. variant of Modilion.

1667 Primatt *City & C. Build.* 70 A fair Stone-colour laid in Oyl for..Shop-windows and Mundilions.

Munditial (mvndi·ʃəl), *a.* [f. L. *munditia* cleanliness (f. *mundus* clean) + -al.] ? Relating to cleansing or purifying.

1876 A. B. Evans *Refl. Midday Commun.* xvi. (1880) 102, I have set this commandment..side by side with the Sacramental and Munditial mandates.

† **Mundi·vagant,** *a. Obs.*—° [f. L. *mund-us* world + *vagant-em*, pres. pple. of *vagārī* to roam : cf. L. *mundivagus* and see -ant[1].] (See quot.)

1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Mundivagant*, wandring through the world. 1721 in Bailey. 1755 in Johnson.

Mundle (mv·nd'l). *dial.* Also 9 **mungle.** A stick used for stirring.

1551–60 in H. Hall *Soc. Eliz. Age* (1887) 152 In the Kytchyn..a great mundle. 1688 R. Holme *Armoury* III. xx. (Roxb.) 247/1 The Third, is called a Padle or Mundle, it is like an old spade without its Iron shooe, all wood. 1879 Miss Jackson *Shropsh. Word-bk.* 1886 *Chesh. Gloss.*

Mundul, variant (in Dicts.) of Mandil.

Mundu·ng. *Obs. rare.* Shortened form of next.

1712 ? King *Bibliotheca* in Nichols *Sel. Collect. Poems* (1780) III. 57 For vile mundung and fumy ale, Incense and odours, now exhale.

† **Mundu·ngus.** *Obs.* Forms: α. 7–8 **mundungo**; β. 7–9 **mundungus** (7 **mundungo's, -gos, -gas, mondongas**). [A jocular use of Sp. *mondongo* tripe, black-pudding (see Mondongo).]

† 1. Offal, refuse. *Obs. rare.*

1637 Bastwick *Litany* I. 10 Those Fishmongers that haue bought and sold Christs best fishes..and made them the mundungus and garbridge both of sea and land and the offscouring of all things. 1786 'A. Pasquin' *Childr. Thespis* I. (1792) 83 Thus scarceness gives value to dirt and mundungus, And dignifies that Nature meant as a fungus. 1834 Beckford *Italy* II. 198 What is so liberally paid for by the ..people as a rarity of exquisite relish, should not be suffered to turn mundungus.

2. Bad-smelling tobacco. Also *attrib.*

α. 1641 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Compl. M. Tenterhooke* (1877), [Kinds of Tobacco] Bermudas, Providentia, Shallowcongo, And the most part of all the rest (Mundungo). 1647 *M. Corbet's Learned Sp.* 3 Infernal stinking Smoaks of Mundungo [1681 p. 2 Mundungus]. 1700 J. Brome *Trav.* iii. (1707) 180 They are great lovers of Tobacco, and a little Mundungo will make them at any time very serviceable.

β. *a* 1652 Brome *Covent Gard.* I. Wks. 1873 II. 14, I must have tother glass to wash him out of my mouth, he furs it worse then Mondongas Tobacco. 1659 *Lady Alimony* II. ii. B 4, One Sir Gregory Shapeless, a Mundungo's Monopolist, ..who had smook'd himself into a Mercenary title of Knightship. 1671 Shadwell *Humorists* III. 41 With a Glass of Windy-Bottle-Ale in one hand, and a Pipe of Mundungus in the other. 1678 Butler *Hud.* III. ii. 1006 After h' had ministred a Dose Of Snuff-Mundungus, to his Nose. 1688 R. Holme *Armoury* III. xxii. (Roxb.) 273/2 Selling..that for good tobacco, which is none at all, or else the worst of all Mundungasses. 1767 S. Paterson *Another Trav.* I. 192 The Flemish tobacco is the poorest Mundungus in the world. 1785 Grose *Dict. Vulg. Tongue, Mundungus*, bad or rank tobacco. 1824 Scott *St. Ronan's* xxxii, Her jet black cutty pipe, from which she soon sent..clouds of vile mundungus vapour. 1840 B. E. Hill *Pinch—of Snuff* 54 He might..get rid of any dull flavourless mundungus under the title of Russell's Rappee. 1901 G. Gissing *Our Fr. Charlatan* 137, 'Here's a new mixture, my own blending, ..I see your pipe is empty'...'I stick to my own mundungus; any novelty disturbs my thoughts'.

Mune, variant of Min *sb.*[1] *Obs.*, Mone *v. Obs.*

Munec, obs. form of Monk.

Munechene, variant of Minchen *Obs.*

† **Mu·nec-lif.** *Obs.* [OE. *munuclif*: see Monk and Life. Cf. ON. *múnklifi* and Cotlif.] A monastery.

In the OE. version of Bæda IV. iii. the word is used in the etymological sense 'monastic life' (orig. *monastica vita*).

c 893 K. Ælfred *Oros.* VI. xxiv. 290 Hic..sende on Egypte & het toweorpan eal fra munuclifþe his broðor ær gestaþelade. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Hom.* (Th.) II. 506 He ærærde him munuclif..þat mynster he gelogode mid wellybbendum mannum. *c* 1200 *Ormin* 6292 Þatt lif þatt iss i munеclif Iss shadd fra ȝure swinnkess, & itt iss all an oþerr lif & hehhre lif & bettre. *c* 1205 Lay. 29717 At Bangor wes a munecclif. *Ibid.* 32218 Ȝeond chirchen & ȝeond munecceliuen.

Munegen, variant of Ming *v. Obs.*

Muneke, Munen, obs. ff. Monk, Min *v.*

Munendai, obs. form of Monday.

† **Mu·neral,** *a. Obs.* [ad. late L. *mūnerālis* (recorded in the sense 'relating to presents'), f. *mūner-*, *mūnus* present, gift, also office, official duty.] Pertaining to office or duty.

1606 Bp. W. Barlow *Serm. 21 Sept.* C, As if the calling Episcopall were a Numeral, not a Munerall function. 1625 T. Adams *Visitation Serm.* Wks. (1629) 933 To be a Bishop then, is not a Numerall, but a Munerall function.

† **Mu·nerary,** *a. Obs.* [ad. L. *mūnerārius*, f. *mūner-*, *mūnus* gift : see prec. and -ary.] Of or pertaining to gifts, having the nature of a gift.

1721 in Bailey; and in mod. Dicts.

† **Mu·nerate,** *v. Obs.*—° [f. L. *mūnerāt-*, ppl. stem of *mūnerāre*, *-ārī*, f. *mūner-*, *mūnus* gift. (See quot.)

1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Munerate*, to reward or recompence.

† **Munera·tion.** *Obs.*—° [ad. late L. *mūnerātiōn-em*, f. *mūnerāre* : see prec.]

1658 Phillips, *Muneration*, ..a recompencing or rewarding.

Munetere, obs. form of Minter.

Mung, var. of Mong *sb.*; *attrib.* (U. S.) : see quot.

1849 *N. Y. Express* 17 Feb. (Bartlett), As many of our citizens who intend to go to California may base their arrangements upon the mung news of some of the papers, we conceive it to be our duty to state that most of these letters are fictions. 1872 Schele de Vere *Americanisms* 618 *Mung* news means confused news; statements which seem contradictory are, in like manner, called *mung*.

‖ **Munga** (mv·ngă). The Bonnet Macaque, *Macacus sinicus*, of southern India.

1843 J. E. Gray *List Spec. Mammalia Brit. Mus.* 7. 1884–5 *Stand. Nat. Hist.* (1888) V. 516.

Mungal, -ian, obs. ff. Mongol, Mongolian.

Mungcorn(e, variant forms of Mongcorn.

† **Munge,** *v. Obs.* [ad. L. *mungĕre* = *ēmungēre* Emunge.] *trans.* To wipe (a person's nose); *fig.* to cheat.

1660 *Eng. Monarchy Freest St. in World* 7 They munged the peoples Noses, and publiquely pickt their pockets.

Munge(n, variant forms of Ming *v. Obs.*

Mungeet, variant of Munjeet.

Munger, -erell, obs. ff. Monger, Mongrel.

Mungo[1] (mv·ŋgo). Also 8 **mungos.** [var. of Mongoose.

Kæmpfer (*Amæn. Exotic.*, 1712, p. 574) says that the Portuguese called the animal *mungo* and the plant *raje mungo* i. e. 'mungo root'.]

† 1. = Mongoose 1. *Obs.*

1752 J. Hill *Hist. Anim.* 549 *Mustela griseo et albido variegata*...The tabbied Mungo. *Ibid.* 550 Ray and some others..call it *Viverra Indica quæ Mungo Lusitanis, Mungathia Ceylonensibus*; we call it the Mungo or Mungose. 1775 Martyn *Elem. Nat. Hist.* I. I. 30 Pharaob's Rat or Mungo. *Viverra Ichneumon.* 1845 *Encycl. Metrop.* XX. 236/2 This animal is known in India, of which it is a native, by the name of *Mungo* or *Mungutia*.

2. *Mungo-root* (also in recent Dicts. *mungo*): the plant *Ophiorhiza Mungos*, supposed to be a strong antidote against the poison of snakes.

1738 Mortimer in *Phil. Trans.* XL. 442 The two famous Antidotes, the Mungos-root, and the Serpentine-stone. 1762 B. Stillingfl. tr. *Gedner's Use of Curios.* in *Misc. Tracts* 192 *note*, As soon as this serpent appears the weesel attacks him, and if she chances to be bit by him, she immediately runs to find a certain vegetable; upon eating which she returns, and renews the fight. The Indians are of opinion, that this plant is the mungos. 1838 *Penny Cycl.* XII. 429/2 The story of the *Ichneumon Mungo*..having recourse to the plant *Hampaddu Tanah*, or Mungo root, as an antidote when bitten by serpents.

† **Mu·ngo**[2]. ? *slang. Obs.* ? A person of position, a 'swell'.

1770 [Colman] in *Oxford Mag.* IV. 229/1 But in the year 1770 the ladies of the first quality, the Mungoes, the superiors of the times, have abrogated [*printed* arrogated] the old Salic laws of libertinism, and openly set up a tavern in profest rivalry of Boodle's, Arthur's, and Almack's.

† **Mu·ngo**[3]. *Obs.* [See quot. 1769.] A typical name for a black slave. Hence, a negro.

1769 H. Walpole *Mem. Geo. III* (1794) III. 211 Dyson, as usual was..ill-treated by the Opposition; Colonel Barré, the day before, having baptized him by the name of *Mungo*, a black slave in a new farce called *The Padlock*, who is described as employed by everybody in all jobs and servile offices. 1794 *Times* 12 Feb. 3/2 The manner in which the Black business was settled,..was this:—The husband.. desired his wife to go where she pleased, (after she said she'd live with no one but the Black) and Mungo was taken by a press gang. 1798 *Monthly Mag.* Mar. 184/1 Might not New Yorkers give encouragement to the poor Scotch and Irish emigrants..and thus totally do away the mungo and the tawney breeds? 1839 Col. Hawker *Diary* (1893) II. 163 *note*, Heatley, the trumpet major,..and Fitzhenry, an old mungo and pupil of mine on the tambourine.

Mungo[4] (mv·ŋgo). Also **mongoe.** [Of obscure origin.

The story (obviously a figment) commonly told to account for the word is that when the first sample of the article was made, the foreman said 'It won't go', to which the master replied 'But it *mun go*' (i.e. must go).

Possibly the Scotch Christian name *Mungo* (in Yorkshire often used as a name for dogs) may have been applied to the material in jocular allusion to *mung*, Mong *sb.*, mixture, mixed meal.]

Cloth made from 'devilled' woollen rags; similar to shoddy, but of a better quality. Also *attrib.*

1857 *Post Office Directory Yorks.* 1001 Mungo Merchants and Dealers [40 entries]. 1858 *Brit. Assoc. Rept.* 160 A large quantity of rag wool called shoddy and mungo imported from Germany. 1860 S. Jubb *Shoddy-trade* 19 The principal part of a rag machine is the swift..; the coarser set swifts are used to grind soft rags into shoddy; the finer set ones, to tear cloth rags into mungo. *Ibid.* 32 Mungo rag is either old or new. 1862 *Catal. Internat. Exhib.* II. xxi. 28 Shoddy and mungo, made from woollen rags. 1864 *Times* 19 Mar. 7/2 D. Illingworth and Son, Leeds, mungo manufacturers. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 261/1 Technically speaking soft woollen rags..are converted into 'shoddy' and hard and fine woollen rags..into 'mungo'. 1884 *Cassell's Family Mag.* Feb. 155/2 A great many people are..occupied in cutting out the seams and button-holes of old cloth clothes. ..These are called *mongoe-cutters*, and the prepared woollen rags are known as *mongoe*.

Mungo·fa. = Gopher *sb.*[1] 3.

1844 J. E. Gray *Catal. Tortoises*, etc. *Brit. Mus.* 4 The Gopher or Mungofa. *Testudo Gopher.* 1879 *Encycl. Brit.* X. 780/1 The flesh of the gopher or mungofa..is considered excellent eating.

Mungoos(e, Mungos: see Mongoose, Mungo[1].

Mungrel(l, -il(l, obs. forms of Mongrel.

‖ **Munguba.** Also **monguba.** [Tupi.] A South American silk-cotton tree, *Bombax Munguba.*

1863 Bates *Nat. Amazons* i. (1864) 7 In the rainy season, when the monguba trees shed their leaves. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 155/1 *Bombax Munguba* is a smooth-stemmed tree about eighty or one hundred feet high, commonly found on the banks of the Amazon river and the Rio Negro, where the natives call it Munguba.

Mungul, obs. form of Mongol.

Mu·ngy, *a. Obs.* exc. *dial.* [Perh. an altered form of Muggy (which, however, does not occur in our quots. before 1730).]

† 1. Dark, gloomy. *Obs.*

1632 Vicars tr. *Virgil* III. 81 Mungy clouds o'respread the skie most black. 1635 Quarles *Embl.* v. v, Disperse these plague-distilling Clouds, and cleare My mungy Soule into a glorious day.

2. = Muggy *a.* 1.

1658 Evelyn *Fr. Gard.* (1675) 4 The rotten sticks and mungy stuff to be found under old wood-piles. 1664 — *Sylva* (1679) 10 Scatter a little mungy, half-rotten Littier, Fearn, Bean-hame, or old Leaves among them. 1707 Mortimer *Husb.* 384 Round the Stem of the Tree to raise a small Hill about two Foot thick,..which cover with Stones, Tiles, or mungy Straw, to keep it moist.

3. Of weather: Muggy (see E. D. D.).

1815 *Monthly Mag.* XXXIX. 125 Essex Dialect..*Mongy*, Foggy.

Muniall, obs. form of Monial *sb.*[2]

† **Mu·niate,** *v. Obs.* [Badly f. L. *mūni-o*, *mūnīre* to fortify + -ate.] *trans.* To fortify,

1657 TOMLINSON *Renou's Disp.* 190 An Epitheme thus confected, will muniate and preserve the heart.

Municion, obs. form of MUNITION.

Municipal (miuni·sipăl), *a.* and *sb.* Also *a.* 6 **municipale,** 6–7 **municipall, municiple**; *β.* 7 **municipial**(l. [a. L. *mūnicipālis*, f. *mūnicip-, mūniceps* member of a MUNICIPIUM, f. *mūni-a* pl., civic offices (cogn. w. *mūner-, mūnus*: see MUNERAL) + root of *capĕre* to take. Cf. F., Sp., Pg. *municipal*, It. *municipale*.

The form *municipial*, common in 17th c., is due either to regarding the word as a derivative of *mūnicipium*, or to uncertainty as to the proper form of a derivative from *mūniceps*.]

A. *adj.*

1. Pertaining to the internal affairs of a state as distinguished from its foreign relations. Originally and still chiefly in the phrase *municipal law*, the law of a particular state, as distinguished from international law or the law of nations. So *municipal rights, jurisdiction*, etc.

c 1540 tr. *Pol. Verg. Eng. Hist.* (Camden) I. 11 But the Englishe people use the propre and municipall lawes. 1565 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 332 Sic kynd of gudis as be the lawis municipal of this realme are expres forbidden. 1691 WOOD *Ath. Oxon.* I. 23 He retired to Greys Inn in Holbourn to obtain knowledge in the municipal Law. 1740 W. DOUGLASS *Disc. Curr. Brit. Plant. Amer.* 4 Every Country or Society have their own peculiar Regulations, which may be called their Municipal, or By-Laws in Trade. 1765 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* I. Introd. ii. 44 Municipal or civil law: that is, the rule by which particular districts, communities, or nations are governed. 1806 VESEY *Reports* VI. 699 Notwithstanding the Union, for all the municipal jurisdiction of the Great Seal,..the countries remain as distinct, as formerly. 1861 *Sat. Rev.* 7 Dec. 580 Finding accidentally in the course of her search deserters from her navy on board, she claimed the municipal right of bringing them back to the service from which they had escaped.

b. *transf.* Belonging to one place only; having narrow limits. [Cf. late L. *dii municipes*, gods whose worship is confined to particular localities.]

1631 MASSINGER *Emperor East* I. ii, Whose beames of iustice like the Sun extend Their light, and heate to strangers, and are not Municipall, or confinde. 1856 EMERSON *Eng. Traits, Lit.* Wks. (Bohn) II. 109 The essays, the fiction, and the poetry of the day have the like municipal limits.

2. Pertaining to the local self-government or corporate government of a city or town.

In common use only from the 19th c.

1600 W. WATSON *Decacordon* (1602) 43 A very hotch potch of omnium githerum,..politicall, liberall, mechanicall, municipiall, irregular, and all without order. 1604 R. CAWOREY *Table Alph., Municipall*, priuately belonging to a freeman, or hurgesse of a cittie. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr., Municipial, Municipal*, proper or peculiar to one onely City, or to the right of Freedom in a City. 1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl., Municipal officers*, are those elected to defend the interests of cities, their rights and privileges, and to maintain order and good policy; as mayors, sheriffs, consuls, bailiffs, &c. 1845 *Encycl. Metrop.* XIII. 569/2 After incredible efforts, the communes succeeded in obtaining a share in the municipal government. 1846 MCCULLOCH *Acc. Brit. Empire* (1854) II. 197 Little or no change took place in the municipal constitution of corporations. 1864 *Chamb. Encycl.* VI. 611/2 By granting or renewing to them municipal charters. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 2 July 2/3 There is just now an interesting municipal tramway development in the Midlands.

b. *Municipal borough*: see quots.

1868 *Act* 31 & 32 *Vict.* c. 41 § 2 In this Act..The Term 'Municipal Borough' means a Place subject to the Provisions of the Act of [5 & 6 Will. IV, c. 76]. 1889 *Act* 52 & 53 *Vict.* c. 63 § 15 The expression 'municipal borough' shall mean, as respects England and Wales, any place for the time being subject to the Municipal Corporations Act, 1882.

3. *Roman Hist.* Of or pertaining to a MUNICIPIUM; hence contemptuously, provincial.

1618 BOLTON *Florus* (1636) 228 Every Army of our most Valiant, and most Loyall Fellowes bad under each ensigne those municipall bad members, and monsters of men. 1658 W. BURTON *Itin. Anton.* 149 They were not any part of that Imperial body till favourably received by municipial priviledge into the freedom. 1850 MERIVALE *Rom. Emp.* ii. (1865) I. 61 The nobles looked with secret disdain upon his municipal extraction, his plebeian descent and recent nobility.

B. *sb.*

1. *Roman Hist.* An inhabitant of a municipium (tr. L. *municeps*).

1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Municipal*, In the Roman law, municipal denotes a person vested with the rights and privileges of a Roman citizen. 1853 MERIVALE *Rom. Rep.* vii. (1867) 189 He was personally little known, being a new man, a municipal of Arpinum, without family distinctions. 1887 CORY *Lett. & Jrnls.* (1897) 524 Livy bears witness to the character of the Romans, including the municipals.

‖ **2.** [Fr.: short for *garde municipal*.] A member of the Municipal Guard (F. *garde municipale*), a body of soldiers under the control of the municipality of Paris.

1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* II. VI. vi, Is it not a happiness for many a Municipal that he can wash his hands of such a business. 1841 THACKERAY *2nd Funeral Napoleon* iii. 64 These were followed by a regiment, a detachment of the municipals, on foot.

† **3.** *pl.* = Municipal laws. *Obs.*

1586 FERNE *Blaz. Gentrie* To Gent. Inner Temple, It might turne to some disparagement of my knowledge in the common lawes and municiples of our country.

Municipalism (miuni·sipăliz'm). [f. MUNICIPAL *a.* + -ISM.] **a.** Devotion to the interests of one's municipality; municipal or local patriotism in contradistinction to national patriotism. **b.** Municipal institutions generally; also, preference for the municipal as opposed to the centralizing principle in local government.

1851 GALLENGA *Italy* 41 That the provincialism, or *particularismus* (to use a German expression), of rival seats of government,..has nothing to do with the fierce rancours of ancient municipalism. 1875 MERIVALE *Gen. Hist. Rome* lxxx. (1877) 689 The narrow ideas of patriotic duty, by which they had fostered their intense municipalism, were rapidly obliterated. 1897 *Encycl. Soc. Reform* 905 Municipalism may be defined as the theory, or the practice of the theory, that it is wise to extend the functions of the municipality. 1898 *Daily News* 13 Dec. 8/3 Mr. Sidney Webb has been studying 'Municipalism',..with characteristic zeal in the United States, Australia, and New Zealand.

Municipalist (miuni·sipălist). [f. MUNICIPAL *a.* + -IST.] **a.** One who advocates the extension of the range of municipal action or control; e. g. an advocate of municipal trading. **b.** One who is skilled or experienced in municipal administration.

1859 (*title*) The Municipalist, New York. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 10 Apr. 9/2 The Municipalists in the United States scored several notable successes at the recent elections. 1904 *Daily Chron.* 20 Apr. 4/4 It was odd to hear the son of the great municipalist attacking, in his father's presence, the municipalities for their heavy borrowings.

Municipality (miunisipæ·liti). [a. F. *municipalité*, f. *municipal*: see MUNICIPAL.]

1. A town, city, or district possessed of privileges of local self-government, also applied to its inhabitants collectively.

Somewhat *rare* exc. with reference to foreign countries (as France or Italy) where the word is the regular name of an administrative unit. 'In New Orleans, a district of the city corresponding to a ward' (Webster 1847).

1790 BURKE *Fr. Rev.* Sel. Wks. II. 143 The municipalities had taken an alarm. 1841 LEWIS *On Govt. Dependencies* 71 *note*, A body of public functionaries may preside for certain purposes over a district (as a county, department, municipality, or borough). 1865 MAFFEI *Brigand Life* II. 47 In the municipality of Bisaccia..the only boys' school was a miserable place which hardly deserved the name.

2. The governing body of a town or district having municipal institutions (usually, the Mayor and Corporation).

1795 HEL. M. WILLIAMS *Lett. on France* I. 170 (Jod.) We afterwards obtained our liberty by means of the municipality to whom we were unknown. 1800 WELLINGTON in Gurw. *Desp.* (1834) I. 262 They might for a time be under the inspection of the municipality (to use a French phrase). 1836 ALISON *Hist. Europe* xlii. § 8 (1849–50) VII. 91 To the great disappointment of the municipality and people. 1885 *Pall Mall G.* 18 Nov. 4/2 If the new municipality provide these, then the supply of the inferior water of the companies may be purchased if desired.

3. A MUNICIPIUM.

a 1805 MURPHY *Sallust* (1807) 196 If by your authority you oblige the municipalities to receive the prisoners. 1872 E. W. ROBERTSON *Hist. Ess.* 237 The Municipality, from uniting the advantages of self-government with the privileges of citizenship, became the most favoured form of colony.

4. Government on municipal principles; municipal institutions.

187– E. A. FREEMAN in L. Stephen *Lett. J. R. Green* (1902) 214 Here [in Italy] was municipality on its grandest scale.

Municipalization (miunisipălaizē·ʃən). [-ATION.] The action of the verb MUNICIPALIZE.

1884 J. RAE in *Contemp. Rev.* Feb. 296 The municipalization of ground rents. 1890 G. B. SHAW *Fabian Ess. Socialism* 51 The further municipalization of the gas industry is proceeding with great rapidity.

Municipalize (miuni·sipălaiz), *v.* [f. MUNICIPAL *a.* + -IZE.] *trans.* To bring under municipal ownership or control; to endow (a city, etc.) with municipal institutions.

1880 W. M. TORRENS in *19th Cent.* Nov. 770 A measure for municipalising London. 1893 E. S. L. BUCKLAND in *Westm. Rev.* Feb. 127 Now, when men are so anxious to municipalise our institutions. 1903 L. DARWIN *Municipal Trade* 3 The different kinds of enterprises which have.. been extensively municipalised.

Municipally (miuni·sipăli), *adv.* [f. MUNICIPAL *a.* + -LY 2.] With regard to a municipality or municipal affairs.

a 1842 ARNOLD *Hist. Rome* (1843) III. 8 At the beginning of the second Punic war Capua..was beyond all doubt municipally independent. 1888 *Pall Mall G.* 9 May 6/2 General Boulanger has been municipally returned for three Communes in the Department of Loiere.

Municipial(l, obs. forms of MUNICIPAL.

‖ **Municipium** (miūnisi·piŭm). *Roman Ant.* Pl. **municipia.** [L. *mūnicipium*, f. *mūnicip-, mūniceps*: see MUNICIPAL.] A city whose citizens had the privileges of Roman citizens.

1720 STRYPE *Stow's Surv.* I. i. 7/1 Nor is there any Reason to think the Romans built the City of London, where there was neither a Colony nor a Municipium. 1727 LARDNER *Wks.* (1838) I. 79 *Municipia* were towns, or cities, which had the citizenship of Rome bestowed upon them, and yet still lived according to their own laws and constitutions. 1861 PEARSON *Early & Mid. Ages Eng.* 184 A Roman colonia or municipium had consisted pretty generally of two main classes, the servile, and the free, who might by courtesy be called the self-governing.

Municiple, obs. form of MUNICIPAL.

Municipy (miuni·sipi). *rare.* [ad. L. *mūnicipium*: see MUNICIPIUM.] † **a.** = MUNICIPIUM. **b.** A municipality.

1579 TWYNE *Phisicke agst. Fort.* II. Ep. Ded. 160 b, The actes and lawes of certeine Municipies or freedomes haue bene such,..that they haue perished with their authours. 1882 W. CORY *Mod. Eng. Hist.* II. 431 A parish was not a municipy or corporation..the Legislature quietly created federal municipies called Boards of Guardians, capable of.. buying manorial or trust lands.

† **Muni·ferous,** *a. Obs.* [f. late L. *mūnifer* (f. *mūn-us* gift + *-fer* bearing) + -OUS.] (See quot.)

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr., Muniferous*,..that carries a gift.

† **Muni·fic,** *a. Obs.* [a. L. *mūnific-us*, f. *mūn-us* gift: see MUNERAL and -FIC.] = MUNIFICENT. So † **Munifical** *a.*

1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turks* (1621) 931 With trumpets, drums, peales of ordinance, and all other signes of munificall and joyfull entertainment. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr., Munifical, (munificus)*, bountiful, liberal. 1754 T. BLACKLOCK *Hymn Div. Love* vi, To thee, munific, ever-flaming Love! One endless hymn united nature sings.

† **Muni·ficate,** *v. Obs.* [f. L. *mūnificāt-, mūnificāre*, f. *mūnific-us*: see prec.] (See quot.)

1623 COCKERAM, *Munificate*, to inrich.

† **Munifica·tion.** *Obs.* [f. MUNIFY *v.*: see -FICATION.] Protection; defence.

1653 R. SANDERS *Physiogn.* b iij, Against the most hostile shafts of envy, I shall not need much munification.

Munificence (miuni·fisĕns). [a. F. *munificence*, ad. L. *mūnificentia*, f. *mūnificent-*: see MUNIFICENT *a.*] The quality of being munificent; splendid liberality in giving.

1555 EDEN *Decades* 93 To persuade hym of the..munificence..of owre men. 1581 MULCASTER *Positions* xxxviii. (1887) 170 That benefit, which the munificence of nature hath liberally bestowed on him. 1685 PETTY *Last Will* in *Tracts* (1769) p. ix, I would advise my wife in this case, to spend her whole 1587 *l.* per ann. that is to say, on her own entertainment, charity, and munificence. 1793 *Blackstone's Comm.* I. viii. 286 *note*, Though this was a splendid instance of royal munificence, yet it's operation is slow and inconsiderable. 1845 M. PATTISON *Ess.* (1889) I. 12 The miracles and power of the saint called forth the devotion and munificence of the people. 1892 GLADSTONE in *Daily News* 5 Dec. 3/4, I am sure that Liverpool, while it continues to amass wealth, will not fall behind in the necessary concomitant to redeem wealth from degradation—the quality of munificence.

† **Muni·ficency.** *Obs.* Also 6 **-entie, munefycencie.** [ad. L. *mūnificentia*: see prec.] = MUNIFICENCE. Also, an instance of munificence.

c 1540 tr. *Pol. Verg. Eng. Hist.* (Camden) I. 83 Lucius.. consecratinge to Christe suche temples as weare erected for the idolls of the jentiles, largelie adorned them with his munificentie. 1576 WOOLTON *Chr. Manual* F vj, Munefycencie, lyberalytie, and hospytalyty. 1613 SHERLEY *Trav. Persia* 83 Why should hee not giue time to the growing of his better fortunes, by your Maiesties Munificencies and fauours. 1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 93 Whatsoever here is estimable, proceedeth from the Munificency of this River. 1651 G. W. tr. *Cowel's Inst.* 114 Either by the munificency of our Kings, or by the too much negligency of our Common-wealth.

Munificent (miuni·fisĕnt), *a.* [f. L. *mūnificent-*, derivation-stem of *mūnificus*: see MUNIFIC *a.*

Not in Fr.; the form was suggested by *magnificent* and the other words of similar ending, and by *munificence*.]

Of persons: Splendidly generous in gifts, bountiful. Of actions, gifts: Characterized by munificence.

1583 HAYES *Gilbert's Voy.* in Hakluyt (1589) 680 Imitating the nature of the munificent God. 1607 B. JONSON *Volpone* I. iii, You are too munificent. 1649 *Alcoran* 27 God proniseth to you his grace and mercie; he is munificent, and omniscient. 1682 SIR T. BROWNE *Chr. Mor.* I. § 5 Think it not enough to be Liberal, but Munificent. 1765 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* I. Introd. i. 27 Our munificent benefactor Mr. Viner. 1815 W. H. IRELAND *Scribbleomania* 200 *note*, Chaucer, and his munificent friend and patron John of Gaunt. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* vi. II. 78 Perhaps none of the munificent subscriptions of our own age has borne so great a proportion to the means of the nation. 1868 MILMAN *St. Paul's* xiii. 332 Laud..was munificent, almost magnificent. 1893 R. T. JEFFREY *Visits to Calvary* 147 A munificent marriage settlement has been made for you.

Munificently (miuni·fisĕntli), *adv.* [f. MUNIFICENT *a.* + -LY 2.] In a munificent manner; with splendid generosity.

1594 NASHE *Unfort. Trav.* G j, Some large summes of monie..which I knew not how better to imploy..than by spending it munificently vnder your name. 1628 BP. HALL *Old Relig.* vi. § 2. 48 That God doth graciously accept, and munificently recompence our good workes. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* vi. § 5. 317 Henry had munificently rewarded his services to the crown.

Hence † **Muni·ficentness.** *Obs.*—0

1727 BAILEY vol. II, *Munificentness*, Liberality, Bountifulness.

† **Munifience.** *Obs.* [Badly f. MUNIFY + -ENCE.] Fortification, defence.

1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. x. 15 Untill that Locrine for his Realmes defence, Did bead against them make and strong munifience [*so ed.* 1596; *ed.* 1590 *has* munificence].

† **Mu·nify,** *v. Obs.* [irreg. f. L. *mūni-o* (inf. *mūnīre*) to fortify + -FY.] *trans.* To fortify; to provide with defences. Hence **Mu·nified** *ppl. a.*

1603 DRAYTON *Bar. Wars* II. xxxiv, The King assayles, the Barons munify'd. 1611 SPEED *Hist. Gt. Brit.* IX. viii. 27 Though many well munified places were fetched off without any resistance. 1635 HEYWOOD *Hierarch.* 609 The Diuell..replied that he..had no power to enter, the place being so munified and defended by his holy supplications.

Muniment (miu·nimĕnt). Forms: 5 **minement, munyment**(e, 5–6 **munimente, 6 minumente, myniment,** 6–8 **miniment,** 7 **munument, mynamente,** 4– **muniment.** [a. OF. *muniment* (AF., in sense 1, *Rolls Parlt.* an. 1315), ad. L.

mūnīmentum fortification, defence (in med.Latin title-deed, etc., as sense 1 below), f. *mūnī-re*: see MUNITE *v.* and -MENT.]

1. A document (such as a title-deed, charter, etc.) preserved as evidence in defence of rights or privileges belonging to a person, family, or corporation. Chiefly in *collective plural.*

Formerly sometimes confused with MONUMENT *sb.* 2.

1433 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 479/1 Alle the Munimentes that longeth to the Cominalte of the seid Town. *c* 1470 HARDING *Chron.* Proëm. xxvii, I haue seen of it the muniment, Vnder seale wryten. 1485 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 295/2 All Evidences, Deeds and Minements, concerning the said Mannors. 1503–4 *Act* 19 *Hen. VII*, c. 35 § 2 All the evydences chartrez and munymentes concernyng the premysses. 1552 HULOET, *Rolles* or lyke places, where mmumentes or recordes be kepte. 1594 WEST *2nd Pt. Symbol., Chancerie* § 105 The said deedes, evidences, escriptes, writings, and mynuments. 1620 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 287 The ancient recordes and mynamentes, not onely of the towne, but also of other societies in other remote places of the kingdome. 1776 *Trial of Nundocomar* 32/2 Among the other records and muniments. 1845 LD. CAMPBELL *Chancellors* (1857) I. xiii. 194 The roll of his domestic expenses, preserved among the muniments of the bishopric. 1893 FOWLER *Hist. C. C. C.* (O.H.S.) 198 The various muniments, i.e. title-deeds or evidences relating to the College property.

2. Anything serving as a means of defence or protection. Now *rare.*

1546 LANGLEY *Pol. Verg. De Invent.* Pref. 2 For both Beastes and Birdes have..weapons as Hornes tuskes and other like munimentes to resist their foes. 1578 BANISTER *Hist. Man* I. 6 The Bones..which to the brayne, in their construction, are so safe a muniment. 1629 B. JONSON *On Poems Sir J. Beaumont*, Though I confesse a Beaumonts Booke to bee The Bound, and Frontire of our Poetrie; And doth deserue all muniments of praise, That Art, or Ingine, on the strength can raise. 1650 BULWER *Anthropomet.* 130 Others conceive one use of the Beard was for a munument. 1677 PLOT *Oxfordsh.* 339 These Fora, or places of Judicature (by the Danes called Tings), seem always to have had their muniments of stone. 1830 *Examiner* 163/2 Truth is the simple muniment with which every power used for evil may be met. 1860 EMERSON *Cond. Life, Worship* Wks. (Bohn) II. 403 We cannot spare the coarsest muniment of virtue.

†**b.** [Cf. F. *munir* to furnish (with); also MUNITION.] *pl.* Things with which a person or place is provided; furnishings. *Obs.*

1485 CAXTON *St. Wenefr.* 24 The couent that were gone oute cladde them with precious ornamentes of the chirche.. and dredde not a lytell that the ornamentes and munymentis shold be sore hurte by the fallyng of the rayne. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* IV. viii. 6 By chance he certaine miniments forth drew, Which yet with him as relickes did abide. 1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* I. i. 122 Our Steed the Legge, the Tongue our Trumpeter, With other Muniments and petty helpes In this our Fabricke. 1852 MUNOY *Our Antipodes* (1857) 6 Where the receiving-rooms and bed-rooms contain little beyond the muniments necessary for sitting and lying.

3. *attrib.*, as *muniment-chest, -house, -room*; also **muniment deed**, a title-deed.

1870 F. R. WILSON *Ch. Lindisf.* 114 In this chamber is a large carved *muniment chest. *a* 1864 HAWTHORNE *Sept. Felton* (1879) 162 Have you..no *muniment deed? 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, A **Muniment house* (in Cathedral, or Collegiate Churches, Castles, Colledges or such like) is a house or little room of strength, purposely made for keeping the Seal, Plate, Evidences, Charters, &c. of such Church, Colledge, &c., such Evidences being called in Law *Muniments.* 1661 WOOD *Life* 18 Mar. (O.H.S.) I. 384 Dr. Wallis sent for A. W. to com to him, then in the *muniment-room in the School Tower. 1899 A. CLARK *Wood's Oxford* (O.H.S.) III. 105 In the muniment-room of the Dean and Chapter of Lincoln.

†**Mu·nion.** *Mil. Obs. rare.* [a. F. *moignon* stump: see MONION.] The trunnion of a gun.

1646 ELDRED *Gunners Glasse* 104 The knobs of the mettal at each side of the Peece are called the Tronions or Munions.

Munion, variant of MUNNION.

†**Mu·nish,** *v. Obs.*–[1] [f. F. *munis-*, lengthened stem of *munir*:–L. *mūnīre*: see MUNITE *v.*] *trans.* To fortify, provide with means of defence.

1633 J. DONE *Hist. Septuagint* 69 It is scituated neare to the Temple in a most faire seate munished with many towers made of Stones of extreame greatnesse.

Munishon, obs. form of MUNITION.

Muni·te, *v. Obs.* exc. *Hist. Pa. pple.* 5–6 **munyte,** 7 **munite.** [f. L. *mūnīt-*, ppl. stem of *mūnīre* to wall round, fortify, secure, earlier *mænīre*, f. *mœnia* pl., walls, ramparts; cogn. w. *mūrus* (earlier *mœrus*) wall.] *trans.* To fortify, strengthen, protect. Hence †**Muni·ting** *vbl. sb.*

c 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* VI. 223 Other condite hem kepe in pottes clene With pyk munyte & couching throute alway. 1533 *St. Papers Hen. VIII* (1830) I. 411 *note*, The fortresses and havens to be fortifyed and munyted. 1578 BANISTER *Hist. Man* I. 6 The head..in whose propper angles they are.. strongly munited from all externe and accidentall iniuries. 1603 FLORIO *Montaigne* I. xlvii. (1632) 154 He had the better leasure to..strengthen Townes, to munite Castles [etc.]. 1624 QUARLES *Sion's Sonn.* XX. 14 An yvorie Tower, In..munited power. 1625 BACON *Ess., Unity in Relig.* (Arb.) 431 Men must beware, that in the Procuring, or Muniting, of Religious Vnity, they doe not Dissolue and Deface the Lawes of Charity. 1657 EARL MONM. tr. *Paruta's Pol. Disc.* 170 His Enemy is in the Dominions, in a well munited seat. 1665 J. WEBB *Stone-Heng* 150 It was not unusual..to munite the *Tumuli* of their Dead with such empalements. 1696 PHILLIPS (ed. 5), *Munite*, fenced, made strong.

Munition (miuni·ʃən), *sb.* Forms: 5 **munyoion,** 5–6 **monysion, -yon,** 5–7 **municion,** 6 **monition, monycion, munishon, munitione, -tioun(e, munycyon,** 6– **munition.** [a. F. *munition*, ad. L. *mūnītiōn-em*, f. *mūnīre*: see MUNITE *v.*]

†**1. a.** The action of fortifying or defending, fortification. *lit.* and *fig.* **b.** *concr.* A fortification, defensive structure or work; anything that serves as a defence or protection. *Obs.*

1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* I. iii. (S.T.S.) 22 Sic thingis done, he garnist mont palentyne, quhare he was nurist, with strang mvnitioun. *c* 1540 tr. *Pol. Verg. Eng. Hist.* (Camden) I. 259 Leavinge a garrison for the munition of the porte hee hasted into Denmarcke. 1555 EDEN *Decades* 121 The situation of the place hath no natural munition or defense. 1565 CALFHILL *Answ. Treat. Crosse* 39 Let vs enter into the walled cities, The battayles of the Heretiques doe arise, Let the munitions of Christ holde vs. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 598 The inhabitants..haue the middest of the Grone fortified with a triple wall. The first munition containeth the Kings Pallace; the second [etc.]. *a* 1619 DANIEL *On Death Earl of Devon.* 351 With what munition he did fortifie His heart. *a* 1619 FOTHERBY *Atheom.* II. vii. § 4 (1622) 268 The fortification and munition of their Towne. 1675 T. TURNOR *Bankers & Creditors* (ed. 2) 39 Such was the Care of our Ancestors..in the Munition and Fencing about of their Rights and Properties. *a* 1716 SOUTH *Serm.* (1744) VII. iv. 75 The inward firmness of one must be corroborated by the exterior munitions of the other. 1791 COWPER *Iliad* I. 357 Whose might, the chief munition is of all our host. 1816 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* xvii. (1818) II. 27 [Ants] unite more intimately for defence against some common enemy, and to raise works of munition that may resist his attack.

2. *sing.* and *pl.* Military stores; = AMMUNITION 1. Often more explicitly *munition's of war.*

In the 16–17th c. the sing. was often used *spec.* (= *ammunition* in the present restricted sense) for what is used in charging firearms and ordnance, as powder, shot, shell, etc. The word is now rare exc. in pl., chiefly in the full phrase, which is somewhat *arch.*

a 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* XX. 58 A grete shyppe,..wel furnyshyd with bysket, wynes and flesshe,..and with monysyons of warre. 1544 in R. G. Marsden *Sel. Pl. Crt. Adm.* (1894) I. 140 All the victelles powder and monycions of the shippe. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 56 They were neyther sufficiently furnished of munition nor weapons. 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus, Armaturæ duplices*,..Souldiours hauyng double munition. 1575 CHURCHYARD *Chippes* (1817) 154 No maruel though, their hearts within did quaile Who did..behold Their powlder fayld, theyr water waxed skant Their hope is smal, that doth munishon want. 1616 BULLOKAR *Eng. Expos., Munition*, great Ordinance for the warre, great shot. 1624 CAPT. SMITH *Virginia* IV. 163 We had of Tooles, Armes, and Munition sufficient. *a* 1639 SPOTTISWOOD *Hist. Ch. Scot.* II. (1677) 81 Right against it was all the munition of the Castle planted. 1642 *Petition in Ho. Lords* 16 Apr. in Clarendon *Hist. Reb.* V. § 55 Armes, and Munition for defence of this Kingdom. 1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl., Munition*, or *Ammunition*, the provisions wherewith any place is furnished in order for defence; or wherewith a vessel is stocked for a voyage; or [those] that follow a camp for its subsistence. 1818 COBBETT *Pol. Reg.* XXXIII. 200 The President states..that they have given aid to neither of the parties in men, money, ships or munitions of war. 1825 SCOTT *Talism.* xx, De Vaux having been sent to Ascalon to bring up reinforcements and supplies of military munition. 1836 W. IRVING *Astoria* I. 302 The company was to fit them out, and keep them supplied with the requisite equipments and munitions, and they were to yield one half of the produce of their hunting and trapping. 1868 ROGERS *Pol. Econ.* xvii. (1876) 227 Gunpowder, firearms, or any other commodity which may be brought within the definition of munitions of war.

transf. and *fig.* 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 233 That olde enemye of mankynde..layeth to all hys munition. 1625 B. JONSON *Staple of N.* I. iii, Here Master Picklocke, Sir, your man o' Law, And learn'd Atturney, has sent you a Bag of munition. *a* 1633 AUSTIN *Medit.* (1635) 101 Take (after) from the Bodie, all the Munition, that armes, and makes it strong in resisting. 1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* II. iv, They carry all their munitions [for birds' nesting] into calling-over.

†**b.** ? Apparatus. *Obs.*

1477 EARL RIVERS (Caxton) *Dictes* 33 Holding in his honde a flabotomye of [?*read* or] munycion for latyng blood.

†**3.** ? A granted right or privilege; = MUNITY.

1461 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 489/2 Corporacions, Municions,.. Annexions, Unyons, severaunccz from Shires.

†**4.** ? The action of providing, provision. *Obs.*

1480 *Wardr. Acc. Edw. IV* (1830) 113 Also for to make into the same his saide grete Warderobe monysion of all maner of stuff. 1642 LD. SAYE & SELE *Sp. in Parlt.* 25 Feb. 3 This munition of such formes upon all men.

5. *Comb.*: **munition bread** [F. *pain de munition*] = *ammunition bread*; **munition house** = *ammunition house*; **munition ship** (see quots.); †**munition-wine,** wine supplied to soldiers.

1629 *S'hertogenbosh* 50 The Gouernours diuided also *mu[n]ition bread amongst the needy Burgers. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk., Munition bread*, contract or commissariat bread. 1569 *Burgh Rec. Edin.* (1875) III. 263 To put in the samyn [pikis] in the townys *mvnition hous quhair thay war of before. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), **Munition-Ships*, such Vessels as are employ'd to carry ammunition &c. and to tend upon a Fleet of Men of War. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk., Munition ships*, those which carry the naval stores for a fleet, as distinguished from the victuallers. 1603 FLORIO *Montaigne* I. xxxv, So bard frosts, that their *munition-wines were faine to be cut and broken with hatchets.

Munition (miuni·ʃən), *v.* [f. MUNITION *sb.* Cf. F. *munitionner* (16th c. in Littré).]

1. *trans.* To supply with munitions of war.

1578–9 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* III. 79 The citie of Carlisle, with ane strong castell and citidaill thairin, weill munitioned. 1640 GENT *Knave in Gr.* I. i. B ij, A Leaguer cannot be planted, mann'd, victuall'd, and munition'd with a small magazine. 1651 HOWELL *Venice* 102 Twelve Gallies ready rigg'd and munition'd, which his Holiness shall mann for the service of the League. 1888 M. MORRIS *Claverhouse* viii. 144 The castles of Stirling and Edinburgh were munitioned for war. 1895 *N. Amer. Rev.* Mar. 375 England has strongly fortified and completely munitioned stations at Halifax and St. John's.

2. To furnish (a room). *rare.*

1877 *Hon. Miss Ferrard* II. ii. 131 Helena's room was very differently munitioned from the pretty chamber she had left.

Munitioner (miuni·ʃənəɹ). *rare.* [f. MUNITION *sb.* or *v.* + -ER[1]. Cf. F. *munitionnaire.*] †**a.** One who supplies military stores, a commissary. *Obs.* **b.** One who has the custody of ammunition.

1632 HOLLAND *Cyrupædia* 141 The order of the Pioners, merchants and trades-men, artizanes and munitioners. 1888 RODWAY & WATT *Chron. Hist. Guiana* I. 9 By some accident the whole stock of gunpowder exploded. Juan Martinez, the munitioner, or Captain of Artillery, was charged with negligence.

†**Muni·tor.** *Obs. rare*–[1]. [a. L. *mūnītor*, agent-n. f. *mūnīre*: see MUNITE *v.*] One who works on fortifications.

1669 LEYBOURN in Sturmy *Mariner's Mag.* Commend. Verses, And the Munitor hither may resort For Rules whereby to Fabricate his Fort.

Munity (miū·nĭti). Now *rare.* [App. a quasi-etymological alteration (as if from L. *mūnīre* to fortify, confirm) of IMMUNITY; the word being misapprehended in the positive sense 'privilege', the negative prefix seemed inappropriate.] A granted right or privilege; = MUNITION 3.

In the quot. from Mountague (1648) in mod. Dicts. *munity* is a misprint for *mutiny.*

1467–8 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 597/1 Libertees, Fraunchises, Muniteez, Possessions,..and all other thinges in eny of the said Letters Patentes conteyned. 1640 [H. PARKER] *Case Ship Money* 12 These all in some sense may bee called Munities, or indemnities, belonging tu the sacred person of the King. 1644 — *Jus Pop.* 46 It appears by the story of Rehoboam that the people might capitulate for just Munities. 1856 OLMSTED *Slave States* 446 It is in those elements of character which should forever prevent us from trusting him with equal social munities with ourselves.

Munjack, obs. form of MANJAK.

1699 DAMPIER *Voy.* II. II. 130 Munjack is a sort of Pitch or Bitumen, which we find in lumps.

Munjak, variant of MUNTJAC.

‖ **Munjeet** (mʊndʒī·t). Also **manjit, mungeet, munjeeth.** [Bengāli *manjīṭh* (Hindī *majīṭh*).] The Bengal Madder, *Rubia cordifolia* (formerly *Munjista*); the roots of this plant used in dyeing.

Also erroneously applied to the roots of *Morinda citrifolia* and *M. tinctoria* (Bentley *Man. Bot.*, ed. 5, 1883).

1813 E. BANCROFT *Perm. Colours* II. 278 More recently.. it has acquired in the Company's Sale Catalogues, the name of manjit and mungeet. 1819 *Act* 59 *Geo. III*, c. 52 (Rates Inwards), Madder or Munjeet. 1846 LINDLEY *Veg. Kingd.* 770 The roots of Rubia cordifolia..yield the Madder of Bengal, and form even an article of the export commerce to Europe, under the name of Munjeeth.

attrib. 1864 Munjeet-garancine [see MUNJISTIN].

Munjistin (mʊndʒi·stin). *Chem.* [f. mod.L. *Munjist-a*, Roxburgh's specific name of the *munjeet* + -IN.] An orange colouring matter contained in munjeet.

1863 STENHOUSE in *Proc. Roy. Soc. Lond.* XII. 634 Munjistine exists in munjeet in considerable quantity, and can therefore be easily obtained. 1864 — *ibid.* XIII. 86 When the greater part of the munjistine is removed from munjeet-garancine by boiling water.

Munk-corn, obs. form of MONGCORN.

Munk(e, obs. forms of MONK.

Munk(k)ey, -kye, obs. forms of MONKEY.

Munmoth, obs. form of MONMOUTH.

Munn(e, variant forms of MUN *sb.*[1]

Munne, variant of MIN *v.*[2] *Obs.*

Munnion (mʌ·nyən). *Arch.* Forms: 6 **munnyon,** 7 **minion,** 7–8 **monion,** (7 **monyon**), 8–9 **munion,** 7– **munnion.** [Alteration of *munial* MONIAL.] = MULLION.

1593–4 in Swayne *Sarum Churchw. Acc.* (1896) 299 Settinge vp of 26 foote of newe Mvnnyons, 13*s.* 1617 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) I. 205 The iames and minions to be of white stone. 1679 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* IX. 170 The upright Posts that divide the several Lights in a Window-frame, are called Munnions. 1762 in *Phil. Trans.* LII. 513 The glass not only suffered, but the monions were greatly damaged. 1823 P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Build.* 566 The window-frames, of oak, consist of a Munnion, Transom and bars. 1839 STONEHOUSE *Axholme* 293 The stone work in the munions, &c., of the clearstory were renewed. 1883 CLARK RUSSELL *Sailors' Lang., Munions*, the pieces between the lights in the galleries of ships in former times.

Munnt, Munonday, obs. ff. MOUNT, MONDAY.

Munpynnys, variant of MOMPYNS *Obs.*

a 1529 SKELTON *Howe Douty Dk. of Albany*, etc. 293, I shrewe thy Scottishe lugges, Thy munpynnys, and thy crag.

Munsel, obs. form of MANZIL.

Munshee, -i: see MOONSHEE.

Munsheel, variant of MUNCHEEL.

Munshy, obs. variant of MOONSHEE.

1801 *Encycl. Brit.* Suppl. II. 283/1.

Munsif: see MOONSIFF.

Munster, obs. form of MINSTER[1], MUSTER.

Munstral, obs. form of MINSTREL.

Munt, obs. form of MINT *v.*[1], MOUNT.

†**Mu·nter.** *Sc. Obs.* [a. F. *montre* watch. Cf. MONTRA *slang.*] A watch.

1634-5 Brereton *Trav.* (Chetham Soc.) 188 Speech in Scotland. We call here a clock a knock, a watch a munter. 1644 *Sc. Acts Chas. I* (1819) VI. 152/1 Clocks, Watches, and Munters.

Muntibank, obs. form of Mountebank *sb.*

Muntin (mʌ·ntin). *Building.* Forms: 4 mountayne, 7 mountan, moontan, 7–9 munton, 8 montan, 9 muntin, -ing. [By-form of Montant with *t* dropped.] A central vertical piece between two panels, the side pieces being called *stiles.*

[1330-2 in J. T. Smith *Antig. Westminster* (1807) 207 Six pieces of timber, called mountaynes, ready prepared for the said chapel.] 1611 Cotgr., *Montant,* a Mountan; an vp-right beame, or post in building. 1688 R. Holme *Armoury* III. xiv. (Roxb.) 15/2 The Rome well wanscoted about either with Moontan and panells, or carved as the old fashion was. 1703 T. N. *City & C. Purchaser* 28 Stiles, Rails, and Montans are of different breadths. 1774 Gostling *Walk Canterb.* xxv. 101 *note,* For example, by Gothic windows I mean those where the lights are narrow, and divided by muntons of stone. 1823 P. Nicholson *Pract. Build.* 228 Muntins or Montants.—The vertical pieces of the frame of a door between the stiles. 1850 *Parker's Gloss. Archit.* s.v., English joiners apply the term *muntin* to the intermediate upright bars of framing, and call the outside uprights *styles.*

Muntjak (mʌ·ntʤæk). Also **mintjac, munjak, muntjac(k.** [a. Sunda *minchek* (Rigg *Sunda Dict.*).] A small Asiatic deer of the genus *Cervulus,* esp. *C. muntjak* of Java. (See quot. 1891.)

1798 Nemnich *Polygl. Lex.* v. 835 Muntjack *Cervus Muntjac.* 1838 *Penny Cycl.* XV. 430/1 Such a conformation exists in some of the males of the *Cervidæ,* the Munjak for instance. 1880 *Encycl. Brit.* XIII. 602/2 The kidang or mintjac (*Cervulus muntjac*). 1891 Flower & Lydekker *Introd. Mammals* 316 The native name Muntjac has been generally adopted in Europe for a small group of Deer indigenous to the southern and eastern parts of Asia and the adjacent islands, which are separated by very marked characters from all their allies.

attrib. 1838 *Proc. Zool. Soc.* VI. 105 A new species of Muntjac Deer, which lately died at the Gardens.

Munton, variant of Muntin.

Munuc(h, obs. forms of Monk.

Munument, obs. form of Muniment.

Munundday, obs. form of Monday.

Munye, Munzel, -il, Muohwa, variant forms of Ming *v. Obs.,* Manzil, Mahwa.

Muphti(e, obs. form of Mufti.

Muquaddam, variant of Mokaddam.

Mur, obs. form of Mire *sb.*[1]

c 1275 *XI Pains of Hell* 150 in *O. E. Misc.* 151 Half heo dop in o fur And half in-to a froren mur.

Mur, obs. f. Moor *sb.*[1]; var. Mure *a.,* Murr.

Muræna, murena (miurī·nă). Also anglicized 6–8 **murene.** [a. L. *mūræna, mūrēna* sea-eel, lamprey, a. Gr. *μύραινα,* also *σμύραινα,* a fem. formation on *μῦρος, σμῦρος* sea-eel. Cf. F. *murène* (whence perh. the form *murene* above), Sp. *morena,* Pg. *moreia* (whence Moray), It. *murena.*] In early use applied vaguely as the name of a kind of eel mentioned by ancient writers. Now usually, a fish of the genus *Muræna,* the type of the family *Muræniдæ* or Eels.

1555 Eden *Decades* 200 Manates & murene & many other fysshes which haue no names. 1601 Holland *Pliny* I. 248 Hee caused certain slaues condemned to die, to be put into the stewes where these Lampreies or Muræenes were kept. 1753 Chambers *Cycl. Supp.* s.v., The *Muræna* and lamprey, called by the Latin authors, *lampetra,* are two very different fishes. 1835 Sir J. Ross *Narr. 2nd Voy.* xlvii. 620 Could we have dug out of Herculaneum or Pompeii..a muræna fattened on Syrian slaves. 1899 *Pop. Sci. Monthly* Sept. 685 Murenas are only eaten by the negroes.

Muræn-oid (minrī·noid), *a.* and *sb.* Also **murenoid.** [f. Muræn-a + -oid.] **a.** *adj.* Belonging to the family *Muræniдæ* of fishes (see prec.). **b.** *sb.* A muræn-oid fish.

1848 Owen in *Times* 14 Nov. 9/1 Both..like other muræn-oid fishes and the known small sea snake (*hydrophis*) swim by undulatory movements of the body. 1849 Craig, *Mureno-ids,* a family of Apodal fishes, including the true eels. 1859-62 Richardson, etc. *Mus. Nat. Hist.* II. 140 Family III—Muræn-oids (*Murænæ-dæ* [sic]).

Murage (miū·rėdʒ). Now *Hist.* [a. OF. *murage,* in med.L. *mūrāgium,* f. F. *mur* wall: see Mure *sb.* and -age.]

1. A toll or tax levied for the building or repairing of the walls of a town; also, in mod. use, *murage duty.* Also the right granted to a town for the levying of such a toll.

[1275 *Stat. Westm.* 3 *Edw. I,* c. 31 Des Citeins e des Burgeys a ki le Rey ou son piere ad grante Murage, por lor vile enclore.] 1423 *Cov. Leet Bk.* (E. E. T. S.) 59 þat Mold Lichefeld pay to þe murage of this cite aftur þe lond þat she holdithe, & no oþer wyse. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* iv. 29 To paye toll, pyckage, murage, or grondage. 1502 *Arnolde's Chron.* (1811) 22 We haue grauntyd for vs and for our eyers to our citezens yᵗ they..be quyt for euer of pauage pontage and murage by al our reame. 1636 Paynne *Remonstr. agst. Shipmoney* 8 Kings of England cannot by their Prerogative..grant Murage, or any other such Tallage to any by Patent. *a* 1676 Hale *Narr. Customes* iii. in S. A. Moore *Foreshore* (1888) 337 These two sorts of taxes. (1) Murage: for the wallinge in of a port so that it may bee safe against invasion of forren enemyes [etc.]. (2) Kaiage or wharfage. 1794 W. Hutchinson *Hist. Cumbld.* I. Gloss., *Murage,* a toll taken for a cart or horse laden going through a walled city or town for repairing the walls thereof. 1810 Lysons *Magna Brit.* II. ii. 581 Another ancient office is that of the murengers [of Chester], whose duty it is to receive the murage duties, and superintend their expenditure in the repair of the walls. 1851 *Orig. Paroch. Scot.* I. 467 In the same year..the same King granted to his burgesses of Rokesburgh liberty to raise a yearly murage from saleable commodities brought into the town in order to enclose it for the greater security of the same and the parts adjacent.

†**2.** The building of walls; also a system of defensive walls (cf. OF. *murage* a wall). *Obs. rare.*

1553 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 414 Massons workinge..uppon the workes of muradge and pavadge. 1600 Holland *Livy* xxxiv. xxxviii. 875 This Sparta in times past stood without murage. And the tyrants of late daies had built walles against the open flattes and plaine fields.

Murager: see Murenger.

†**Mu·ral,** *sb. Obs.* Forms: 5 muraill, -ayl(le, 6 mural, *Sc. pl.* muralȝeis. [a. F. *muraille*:—Com. Rom. *muralia* (repr. L. *mūrālia* neut. pl. of *mūrālis* Mural *a.,* taken as fem. sing.: see -al 5); cf. Sp. *muralla,* Pg. *muralha,* It. *muraglia*; also OF. *murail,* Pr. *muralh* masc.] A wall.

Modern editors have introduced the word, by a doubtful conjecture into the text of Shaks. *Mids. N.* v. i. 208, where the folio has 'Now is the morall [? *read* wall] downe'. The Quartos have the unmeaning reading 'Now is the moon vsed'.

1471 Caxton *Recuyell* (Sommer) II. 404 He sawe his enemies that hasted hem to come vnto the muraill & wallis with ladders. 1481 — *Godeffroy* iii. 21 He shewid to hym.. a parte of the muraylles whiche were thenne yet apperyng. 1485 — *Chas. Gt.* 142 In suche wyse that the grete quarters of the murayl & walles fyl and tombled doun to the erthe. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* x. i. 53 Amyd the clos muralȝeis and paill, And doubill dykis, quhou thai thame assail. 1555 Eden *Decades* 336 In folowyng this order of woorke in the pourgynge and diuydynge of golde, it shall not bee requisite as in other maner of practises, to bee at greate charges by reason of many men which shall be needefull, with manye murals [orig. *di tante muraglie*], fornaces, fiers, and dyuers artificers.

Mural (miū·răl), *a.*[1] Also 6–7 **murall,** 7 **-ell.** [a. F. *mural* (*coronne murail* 14th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), cf. Sp., Pg. *mural,* It. *murale*; ad. L. *mūrāl-is* belonging to a wall, f. *mūr-us* wall: see Mure and -al.]

1. Of or pertaining to a wall; resembling a wall. *Mural diagraph* (see quot. 1829); so *mural alphabet,* an alphabet the letters of which are represented by knocks and scratches on the wall through which the message or conversation is being sent. *Mural tower* (see quot. 1844).

1586 Warner *Alb. Eng.* II. viii. (1612) 35 Prouiding therefore murall workes, they threaten hot assault. 1624 Wotton *Archit.* I. 14 Adding much beautie & strength to the Murall Angles, where they fall gracefully into an indented Worke. 1667 Milton *P. L.* VI. 879 And soon repaird Her mural breach, returning whence it rowl'd. 1738 Glover *Leonidas* v. 551 Like the mural strength Of some proud city bulwark'd round. 1774 Pennant *Tour Scotl. in* 1772, 120 The rocks which on both sides are perfectly mural and equidistant. 1807 J. Barlow *Columb.* II. 244 Three cities gay their mural towers unfold. 1829 J. Swaim (*title*) The Mural Diagraph, or the art of conversing through a wall. 1844 G. T. Clark in *Archæol. Jrnl.* I. 102 The walls [of Edwardian castles] were strengthened by 'mural', or towers projecting inwards, ..and 'buttress-towers' projecting outwards. 1851 Richardson *Geol.* vi. (1855) 153 A mural escarpment is one of a steeper and more perpendicular character. 1860 G. Prescott *Electr. Telegr.* xxi. 420 The dots of the Mural alphabet are represented by knocks on the wall, and the lines by scratches. 1860 Hartwig *Sea & Wond.* i. 5 Bold mural coasts, rising precipitously from the deep sea. 1880 Haughton *Phys. Geog.* ii. 71 A margin of lofty unbroken mural precipices nowhere less than 12,000 feet in height.

b. *Roman Antiq.* **Mural crown** (= *corona muralis*): an embattled crown, conferred upon the soldier who first scaled the wall of a besieged town. So also *mural coronet, garland, wreath,* etc. In extended use, any embattled crown (e.g. that which the goddess Cybele is portrayed as wearing; also *Her.*).

1546 Langley *Pol. Verg. De Invent.* II. xi. 54 The mural or wal croune that was geuen to him that scaled firste the walles. 1572 Bossewell *Armorie* II. 77 b, One is named a Crowne murall. 1600 Holland *Livy* VI. 231 Two goodly murall garlands [bestowed upon Manlius] for scaling and entering upon the wals first. 1629 Massinger *Picture* II. ii, All rewards And signes of honour, as the Cinicke garland, The murall wreath, the enemies prime horse,..To him alone are proper. 1751 Johnson *Rambler* No. 85 P 2 He toils without the hope of mural or civick garlands. 1851 Helps *Comp. Solit.* iv. (1874) 54 One in rich vesture, superb, with what seems like a mural crown on her head.

Comb. 1872 Howells *Wedd. Journ.* (1892) 297 The mighty rock, mural-crowned.

2. Placed, fixed, or executed on a wall.

1561 Eden *Arte Nauig.* II. xvi. 43 b, You wyll make a mural dial. 1837 Howitt *Rur. Life* VI. xvi. (1862) 584 The mural tablets to the memory of departed rectors. 1842 Gwilt *Archit.* Gloss. s.v., An arch inserted or attached to a wall is called a *mural arch*; and columns placed within or against a wall are called *mural columns.* 1850 Mrs. Jameson *Leg. Monast. Ord.* (1863) 171 A fragment of mural painting preserved in the Christian Museum in the Vatican. 1872 Jenkinson *Guide Eng. Lakes* (1879) 186 Isel church is a small, ancient building, containing..some mural inscriptions.

†**b.** Of a fruit-tree: Growing against, and fastened to, a wall. Also of the fruit. *Obs.*

1654 Evelyn *Kal. Hort., July* 70 Mural-trees. *Ibid. Oct.* 76 Plant dry Trees.., Standard, Mural, or Shrubs. 1709 *Phil. Trans.* XXVI. 469 The Sap of our finer mural Fruit-Trees, as of Peaches, Nectarines, Apricocks, &c. 1731 *Gentl. Mag.* I. 40 The Nectarine and like delicate mural Fruit.

absol. 1699 Evelyn *Kal. Hort., Mar.* (ed. 9) 30 Now is the best time for pruning young Murals.

c. *Astr.* In *mural arch,* 'a wall, or walled arch, placed exactly in the plane of the meridian . . . for the fixing of a large quadrant, sextant, or other instrument, to observe the meridian altitudes, &c., of the heavenly bodies' (Chambers *Cycl.* 1752); hence *mural arc, circle, quadrant,* etc., an arc, circle, quadrant, etc., placed on such a wall; they have been superseded by the *transit-circle.*

1727-41 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v., Tycho Brahe was the first who used a mural-arch in his observations. 1786 *Phil. Trans.* LXXVI. 5 In the year 1689, Mr. Flamsteed compleated his mural arc at Greenwich. 1812 Woodhouse *Astron.* vi. 25 When the quadrant is fixed to the side of a vertical wall in the plane of the meridian, it is called a mural quadrant. 1867-77 G. F. Chambers *Astron.* VII. vi. 696 The Mural Circle consists of a graduated circle furnished with a suitable telescope and very firmly fixed to a wall (*murus*) in the plane of the meridian.

3. *Phys.* and *Path.* Belonging to or connected with the wall of the body or of any of its cavities. Cf. Parietal.

1884 Barnes *Syst. Obstetric Med. & Surg.* I. 329 Parietal, ..mural, interstitial or tubo-uterine gestation. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 866 Other parts of the endocardium may be affected also (mural endocarditis). 1899 *Ibid.* VI. 161 A thrombus formed from the circulating blood is at first parietal or mural.

†**Mu·ral,** *a.*[2] *Obs. rare*—[1]. [Badly f. L. *mur-ia* brine (see Muriatic *a.*) + -al.] = Muriatic *a.*

1742 Perry in *Phil. Trans.* XLII. 51 This [hot spring] Water..contains..a mural Salt of a limy Quality.

Mu·ral, *a.*[3] *Path. rare*—[0]. [a. F. *mural,* badly f. *mûre* mulberry: see -al.] In *mural calculus* = 'mulberry calculus' (see Mulberry 6).

1857 Dunglison *Med. Dict., Mural,* vesical calculi are so called, when rugous and covered with tubercles or asperities.

Mu·ralled, *a. rare.* [f. Mural *a.*[1] + -ed[2].] Made into a mural crown.

1706 J. Philips *Cerealia* 104 Ardent to deck his brows with mural'd gold, Or civic wreath of oak, the victors meed.

Murally (miū·răli), *adv. rare.* [f. Mural *a.*[1] + -ly[2].] **a.** With a mural crown. **b.** By means of walls or septa. **c.** On or from a wall.

1855 Bailey *Spir. Leg.* in *Mystic,* etc. 107 Where Balkh Mother of cities, murally encrowned Mourns. 1872 E. Tuckerman *Genera Lichenum* 138 The passage from colourless spores with entire spore-cells, to brown spores with at length murally divided spore-cells. 1882 Sala in *Illustr. Lond. News* 16 Sept. 295/2 A sprig of 'Pellitory of the wall' murally plucked from Fountains Abbey. 1895 F. Fowler in *Forum* (N.Y.) Feb. 687 Hotels..that have been ornamented murally by some of the best-known painters.

Muran, obs. form of Murrain.

Murano (miurā·no). The name of an island close to Venice, on which the manufactories of Venetian glass are situated. Used *attrib.* Hence **Murane·se** *a.,* belonging to Murano.

1879 A. Nesbitt in *Encycl. Brit.* X. 653/2 In 1428 a Muranese artificer set up a furnace in the same city [Venice]. 1883 J. Paton *ibid.* XVI. 500/1 The products of the Murano glass-houses quickly supplanted the mirrors of polished metal. 1908 *Outlook* 4 Jan. 17/1 Of very ancient Muranese stock, Carpaccio was born most probably in 1455.

†**Murated,** *a. rare*—[0]. [f. L. *mūrāt-us* walled + -ed[1].] (See quot.)

1727 Bailey vol. II, *Murated,* walled, encompassed with Walls.

Murathee, variant of Mahratti.

Muratorian (miū·rătō··riăn), *a.* [f. *Muratori* (see below) + -an.] Of or pertaining to L. A. Muratori (1672–1750), an Italian scholar. Usually in **Muratorian fragment** (or canon), the earliest Western canon of the N. T. (of about 170 A. D.), edited by Muratori in his *Antiquitates Italicæ.*

1855 Westcott *Canon N. T.* ii. § 11. 235 The Muratorian Fragment on the Canon. *Ibid.* 586 (Index), Muratorian Canon 235. 1875 Lightfoot *Comm. Col.* 358 A mention of such an epistle occurs as early as the Muratorian fragment.

†**Muray.** *Obs. rare*—[1]. [ad. OF. *murail* wall: see Mural *sb.*] A fortification, wall.

13.. *K. Alis.* 6228 (Bodl. MS.), He þer cas Butumay Of Meopante þat tou3 clay Wiþ pylers of metal stronge þat ben an hundreþ feet longe And made swiche a stronge Muray þat neuer in tyl domesday þer ne shal shipp out passe Neiþer more ne þe lasse.

Muray, variant of Moray.

Murayl(le, variant forms of Mural *sb. Obs.*

Murberien, obs. pl. form of Mulberry.

Murburne, -byrn, obs. forms of Moor-burn.

Murc(k, variant forms of Murk *sb.*[2]

Murcok(e, obs. forms of Moor-cock.

†**Murche.** *Obs. rare*—[1]. A dwarf.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 348/2 Murche, lytyll man. *Nanus, vel nanus.*

Murchisonite (mɔ̄·ɹtʃisənəit). *Min.* [f. name of Sir Roderick Impey *Murchison* (1792–1871) + -ite.] A variety of orthoclase of flesh-red colour, resembling pertite.

1827 A. Levy in *Philos. Mag.* Ser. II. I. 452, I shall propose for the substance I have described the name of Murchisonite, in compliment to the gentleman who first directed my attention to it. 1883 M. F. Heddle in *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 419/2 *Amazon Stone..*and *Murchisonite,* golden or greyish yellow, from Arran and Dawlish, are varieties [of *Common Felspar*].

† **Mu·rcid,** *a. Obs. rare*⁻⁰. [ad. late L. *murcid-us* slothful. Cf. MURCOUS *a.*] 'Cowardly, unadvised, sloathful' (Blount *Glossogr.* 1656).

† **Mu·rcous,** *a. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. late L. *murc-us* (Amm. Marc.) one who cuts off his thumb to escape military service + -OUS.] Having the thumb cut off.

1684 tr. *Bonet's Merc. Compit.* XIV. 475 When Surgeons do not handle [whitlows] as they should..they render their Patients murcous.

Murder (mɔ̄·rdəɹ), *sb.* Forms: *a.* 1 morþor, -ur, 3–4 morþre, 3–4, 6 murthre, 4 myrþer, 4–6 murthir, morther, 5 *Sc.* murthour, murthyr, 5–6 murthur, 6 mwrther, *Sc.* morthour, 4–9 (now *dial.* and *Hist.* or *arch.*) murther; *β.* 3–5 murdre, 4–5 moerdre, 4–6 mordre, 5 moordre, 6 murdur, mourdre, 6– murder. [OE. *morðor* neut. (with pl. of masc. form *morþras*) = Goth. *maurþr* neut. :—OTeut. **murþrom* :—pre-Teut. **mrtro-m*, f. root **mer-* : *mor-* : *mr-* to die, whence L. *morī* to die, *mors* (*morti-*) death, Gr. μορτός, βροτός mortal, Skr. *mṛ* to die, *marâ* masc., *mṛti* fem., death, *márta* mortal, OSl. *mrĕti*, Lith. *mirti* to die, Welsh *marw*, Irish *marþ* dead.

The word has not been found in any Teut. lang. but Eng. and Gothic, but that it existed in continental WGer. is evident, as it is the source of OF. *murdre, murtre* (mod. F. *meurtre*) and of med. L. *mordrum, murdrum*, and OHG. had the derivative *murdren* MURDER *v.* All the Teut. langs. exc. Gothic possessed a synonymous word from the same root with different suffix: OE. *morð* neut., masc. (MURTH[1]), OS. *morð* neut., OFris. *morth, mord* neut., MDu. *mort, mord* neut. (Du. *moord*), OHG. *mord* (MHG. *mort*, mod.G. *mord*), ON. *morð* neut. :—OTeut. **murþo-* :—pre-Teut. **mrto-*.

The change of original *ð* into *d* (contrary to the general tendency to change *d* into *ð* before syllabic *r*) was prob. due to the influence of the AF. *murdre, moerdre* and the Law Latin *murdrum*.]

1. The most heinous kind of criminal homicide; also, an instance of this. In *English* (also *Sc.* and *U. S.*) *Law*, defined as the unlawful killing of a human being with malice aforethought; often more explicitly *wilful murder*.

In OE. the word could be applied to any homicide that was strongly reprobated (it had also the senses 'great wickedness', 'deadly injury', 'torment'). More strictly, however, it denoted *secret* murder, which in Germanic antiquity was alone regarded as (in the modern sense) a crime, open homicide being considered a private wrong calling for blood-revenge or compensation. Even under Edward I, Britton explains the AF. *murdre* only as felonious homicide of which both the perpetrator and the victim are unidentified. The 'malice aforethought' which enters into the legal definition of murder, does not (as now interpreted) admit of any summary definition. A person may even be guilty of 'wilful murder' without intending the death of the victim, as when death results from an unlawful act which the doer knew to be likely to cause the death of some one, or from injuries inflicted to facilitate the commission of certain offences. It is essential to 'murder' that the perpetrator be of sound mind, and (in England, though not in Scotland) that death should ensue within a year and a day after the act presumed to have caused it. In British law no degrees of guilt are recognized in murder; in the U. S. the law distinguishes 'murder in the first degree' (where there are no mitigating circumstances) and 'murder in the second degree'.

a. Beowulf 2055 Þara banena byre..morðres ġylpeð. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 63 Manige men wenaþ þæt morþor sy seo mæste synne. 13.. *Cursor M.* 1072 (Gött.) Again abel her raised a strijf, wid murther he broght his broþer o lijf. *a* 1375 *Ibid.* 1121 (Fairf.) Þar-wiþ come our creatour for-to speke wiþ þat traytour [Cain] of þat myrþer [*earlier texts* murth] and þat tresoun. 1423 JAS. I *Kingis Q.* clvii, The wolf, that of the murthir noght say[is] 'ho!' 1535 COVERDALE *Mark* xv. 7 There was in preson with the sedicious, one called Barrabas, which in the vproure had committed murthur. 1588 SHAKS. *Tit. A.* IV. iv. 54 His traytrous Sonnes, That dy'd by law for murther of our Brother. 1649 BP. REYNOLDS *Hosea* ii. 77 Jezebel binds her self by an oath unto murther. 1726 BUTLER *Serm. Rolls* viii. 151 But let us suppose a Person guilty of Murther. 1836 LYTTON *Athens* (1837) II. 342 In despotic Persia all history dies away in the dark recesses and sanguinary murthers of a palace governed by eunuchs and defended but by slaves.

β. ? *a* 1366 CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 1136 He wende to have reproved be Of thefte or mordre, if that he Hadde in his stable an hakeney. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 270 Than se so gret a moerdre wroght Upon the blod which gulteth noght. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* IV. xv. 118 He gaf them londes and charged hem neuer to doo outragyousyte nor mordre. 1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* I. ii. 3 Though in the trade of Warre I haue slaine men, Yet do I hold it very stuffe o'th'conscience To do no contriu'd Murder. 1671 MILTON *Samson* 1186 Hadst thou not committed Notorious murder on those thirty men At Askalon. 1782 PRIESTLEY *Corrupt. Chr.* II. IX. 152 Ten years penance [was] enjoined for a murder. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xviii. IV. 211 The peat and flash of gun after gun gave notice, from three different parts of the valley at once, that murder was doing. 1891 C. ROBERTS *Adrift Amer.* 107 The farmer lived..for 48 hours; however he lived long enough to make it only murder in the second degree.

fig. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* III. iii. P 6 This brutal importunity is downright murder to one's feelings.

b. Proverb. *Murder will out* (also *murder cannot be hid*, etc.). *The murder is out*: said when something is suddenly revealed or explained.

13.. *Cursor M.* 1084 (Gött.) For-þi meu sais into þis tyde, Is no man þat murthir may hide. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Nun's Pr. T.* 232 Mordre wol out that se we day by day. 1433 LYDG. *St. Edmund* II. 225 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 400 Moordre wil out, thouh it abide a while. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* II. ii. 83 Murder cannot be hid long. 1706 FARQUHAR *Recruiting Officer* III. i, Now the murder's out. 1852 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* xxviii, Sir Leicester's cousins, in the remotest degree, are so many Murders, in the respect that they 'will out'.

c. Often applied to a death-sentence of a tribunal, killing of men in war, or any other action causing destruction of human life, which is regarded as morally wicked, whether legal or not. *Judicial murder*: see JUDICIAL *a.* 1.

1551 TURNER *Herbal* I. Prol. A iij b, By occasyon of thys boke euery man, nay euery old wyfe will presume not without the mordre of many, to practyse Phisick. 1662 STILLINGFL. *Orig. Sacræ* II. IX. § 11. 276 Condemn them for the Murther of Socrates. 1665 DRYDEN *Ind. Emperor* v. ii. (1668) 60 Slaughter grows murder when it goes too far, And makes a Massacre what was a War. *a* 1674 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* XI. § 244 This unparalleled murder and parricide was committed upon the 30th of January. 1790 BURKE *Fr. Rev.* 108 The actual murder of the king and queen, and their child, was wanting to the other auspicious circumstances of this 'beautiful day'. The actual murder of the bishops.. was also wanting. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* iv. I. 487 Murder by false testimony is therefore the most aggravated species of murder. 1858 W. ARNOT *Laws fr. Heav. for Life on Earth* Ser. II. xiii. 104 [War] is, rather than does, murder.

d. *personified.*

1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II*, I. ii. 21 His summer leafes all vaded By Enuies hand, and Murders bloody axe. 1812 SHELLEY *Devil's Walk* xxvi, The hell-hounds, Murder, Want and Woe, Forever hungering, flocked around.

† **2.** Used without moral reprobation: Terrible slaughter, destruction of life. *Obs.*

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 11717, & sir simond was aslawe & is folk al to grounde More murþre [*v.r.* morþre] 3are nas in so lute stounde Vor þere was werst simond de mountfort aslawe alas & sir henri his sone [etc.]. 1412–20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* III. xxii. (1513) O v, Pryamus..suche a mordre gan vpon them make That many grekes lay dede on the playne. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* v. vi. (Rolls) 516 Sowdiers wagid into Fraunce for to make miche morther of blood. 1590 *Disc. Sp. Fleet inv. Eng.* 23 The same day..the L. Henrie Seimer and sir William Winter did so thoroughly beate two Spanish Galeons..that they were inforced to withdraw themselues to the coast of Flanders, where forsomuch as they were in a very euill taking, as well in respect of the murther of their men, as the manifolde leakes of their ships, they were surprised, and without fight rifeled by the Zelanders.

3. As a cry or exclamation uttered by one who thinks or pretends to think himself or some one else in danger of murder. Also, in trivial use, as a comic ejaculation of horror. *To cry blue murder* (slang): to make an extravagant outcry or lamentation.

c 1470 HENRYSON *Mor. Fab.* IV. (*Fox & Cock*) xiii. 478 The wedow hard, and..Seand the cace, scho sichit and gaif an schout: 'How, murthour, hay! with ane hiddious beir, Allace, now lost is gentill chantecleir!' 1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* v. i. 27, I am maym'd for euer: Helpe hoa: Murther, murther. 1788 BURNS *Epigr. on Elphinstone's Martial*, Heard'st thou that groan—proceed no further; 'Twas laurelled Martial roaring murther! 1837 LOVER *Rory O'More* xlvi, Pooh! pooh!—murdher! there's not a dhrop o' wather in the pot. 1887 'J. S. WINTER' in *Eng. Illustr. Mag.* Dec. 179 The dingy person dropped his victim and howled what the half-dozen officers..afterwards graphically described as 'blue murder'. 1900 POLLOK & THOM *Sports Burma* III. 78 The foolish beast would not budge, but kept yelling 'blue murder' whilst the bull was cruelly punishing her.

4. *Hist.* Used occas. to render Anglo-Latin *murdrum*: The fine imposed, in the 12th and 13th c., on the hundred in which a 'murder' (i. e. felonious homicide of an unknown by an unknown person: see note under sense 1) had been committed.

1823 LINGARD *Hist. Eng.* (1854) I. 247 [Norman Conquest]. In legal language the penalty was denominated the 'murder'.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, simple attrib., as *murder-fine* (= sense 4), *-haunt, -oath, -tool*; objective, as *murder-aiming, -darting* adjs.; instrumental, as *murder-wasted*; † murder-man, a murderer.

1789 BURNS *On Seeing Wounded Hare* i, Blasted be thy *murder-aiming eye! 1898 E. JENKS in *Contemp. Rev.* Dec. 884 The three neighbouring villages must pay the *murder-fine. *c* 1412 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 3166 Bet it is to sle þe *mordreman, Than suffre hym regnē. *c* 1420 *Virgin's Compl.* 32 in *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 239, I criede on deth, 'why wilt þu fle? Cum, sle his moder, þu morder man!' *c* 1470 HENRYSON *Mor. Fab.* XIII. (*Frog & Mouse*) xiii, Bot gif thou sweir to me the *murthour aith But frande or gile to bring me ouer this flude But hurt or harme. *Ibid.* xvi, Thow swore the murthour aith richt now, that I. 1843 CARLYLE *Past & Pr.* III. x, Fighting with steel *murder-tools is surely a much uglier operation than Working, take it how you will. 1870 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* III. IV. 30 Of Sigurd, who the dragon slew Upon the *murder-wasted heath.

Murder (mɔ̄·rdəɹ), *v.* Forms: *a.* OE. (*a-, for-, of-*) myrþrian, 3–4 morþre, 3–5 murthre, 4 mirþer, 5 morþere, 4, 6 murthur, 4–6 morther, 5 mourther, 6 (myrther), murthir, 3–8, (9 *dial.*) murther; *β.* 4–5 mo(u)rdre, morder, moerdre, 4–6 murdre, (5 moorderyn), 6 mordir, 4– murder. [OE. (*a-, for-, of-*) *myrðrian* = OHG. *murdran* (MHG. *ermurderen, -morderen*, mod.G. *mördern*), Goth. *maurþrjan* :—OTeut. **murþrjan*, f. **murþro-* MURDER *sb.*

It is doubtful whether the OE. verb survived into ME., or whether the ME. vb. is wholly a new formation on the sb. In any case many of the forms show assimilation to the sb. Cf. OF. *mordrir, murdrir, murtrir* to murder (mod.F. *meurtrir* to bruise), Anglo-Latin *murdrāre*.]

1. *trans.* To kill (a human being) unlawfully with malice aforethought; in early use often with the additional notion of concealment of the offence (see MURDER *sb.* 1); to kill wickedly, inhumanly, or barbarously.

a. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 2383 Þe kinges 3onge breþeren aurel & ambrose Dradde vor hor eritage ymorþred to be. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 11116 (Cott.) [God] will þat he bii þe vttrage, þat murþerbed [*Fairf.* mirþerret, *Gött.* murtherrt, *Trin.* murþereþ] sua is ane ymage. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* IV. 42 He meynteneþ his Men to Morþere myn owne. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* XI. 91 How þei mourthered þat man þat we of mene. 1536 WRIOTHESLEY *Chron.* (Camden) I. 59 The Abbott of Towre Hill, being my[r]therd. 1673 RAY *Journ. Low C.* 399 There be..cut-throats ready to murther any man for a small piece of mony. 1757 BURKE *Abridgm. Eng. Hist.* III. viii. Wks. X. 511 All historians are..agreed that he murthered his nephew.

β. c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 5310 Greffes hym mordred for enuye. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 344 To take and moerdre of his malice This child. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 342/2 Moorderyn, or prively kyllyn, *sicario*. 1530 PALSGR. 642/1, I murdre, I kyll or slee a man in his bedde or at unwares, *je meurdrys*. 1647 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* IV. § 119 If he had not been seasonably rescued, it was believed they would have murdered him. 1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* XXXII, I have slain—murdered, if you will—my late master. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xviii. IV. 212 Hamilton murdered the old man in cold blood. 1861 *Times* 23 July, The charge is not merely that you killed your wife, but that you murdered her, by which is meant that you killed her with deliberate intention so to do.

† b. with adverbial extension. *Obs.*

1572 *Satir. Poems Reform.* XXXI. 37 For innocents ar murtherit downe, without remors, in land and towne.

c. *refl.* To commit suicide or self-murder.

c 1369 CHAUCER *Dethe Blaunche* 724 (Fairf.) Thogh..ye for sorwe mordred your selve. *c* 1565 in *Hakluyt's Voy.* (1904) VI. 331 The condemned person..launcing his body a crosse from the breast downe all the belly murthereth himselfe. 1619 J. COLE *Of Death* 33 The man that murdereth himselfe, after the committing of the sin, hath not any time of repentence. 1827 MACAULAY *Ess., Machiav.* (1865) I. 37/1 Othello murders his wife;..he ends by murdering himself.

d. To slaughter in a terrible manner, to massacre.

† Also with complement expressing the result: *to murder to death.*

c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 2859 So harde santes to þe cite were 3enen, þat þe komli kerneles were to-clatered wiþ engines, & mani of here miȝthi men murdred to deþe. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 10701 Paris with pyne was pricket at his hert, To se his men so be mard, & murtherit to dethe. *Ibid.* 11141 There murtherit were mony of the mayn troiens. 1876 TENNYSON *Harold* v. i, They turn on the pursuer, horse against foot, They murder all that follow.

e. In fig. and hyperbolic uses. In the 18th c. occas. † to torment, torture.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 310 Þu uniselie sunfule! þo þu, þuruh deaðliche sunne, murðredest Godes spuse, þet is, þi soule. *c* 1394 *P. Pl. Crede* 666 Boþe þey wiln & þei wolden y-worþen so grete To passen any mans miȝt to morþeren þe soules. 1592 SHAKS. *Ven. & Ad.* 502 Thy eyes' shrowd tutor, that hard heart of thine, Hath taught them scornfull tricks, & such disdaine That they haue murdred this poore heart of mine. 1605 — *Mach.* II. ii. 36 Macbeth does murther Sleepe, the innocent Sleepe. 1711 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 186 It is inexpressible, how well he prepared for his long departure, his desired exit; murdering all hearts, who viewed him in that state. 1712–13 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 18 Mar., Dilly murders us with his *if* puns. 1776 J. ADAMS *Wks.* (1854) IX. 421 Your motion..for sending ambassadors to France with conditional instructions, was murdered. 1796 SOUTHEY *Lett. fr. Spain* (1799) 221 There is not a part of the civilized world where the female mind is not murdered by the customs of society. 1884 W. C. SMITH *Kildrostan* 48 Suspicion murders love, and from its death Come anguish and remorse.

f. *transf.* with an animal as subject or object.

14.., 1583 [cf. MURDERING *vbl. sb.*]. 1597 SHAKS. *2 Hen. IV*, IV. v. 79 Like the Bees,..wee bring it to the Hiue; And like the Bees, are murthered for our paines. 1600 J. PORY tr. *Leo's Africa* IX. 337 If the elephant chanceth to breake through the hedge, he murthereth as many men as he can finde. 1863 W. C. BALDWIN *Afr. Hunting* vi. 192, I found Swartz and the Kaffirs exulting over a cow and young heifer, which they had murdered among them in about twelve shots.

g. *absol.* To perform the act of murdering; to commit murder. Now *rare.*

1535 COVERDALE *Jer.* vii. 9 When ye haue stollen, murthured, committed aduoutrie, and periury. 1597 SHAKS. *2 Hen. IV*, IV. v. 126 Haue you a Ruffian that will sweare? drinke? dance? Reuell the night? Rob? Murder? and commit The oldest sinnes, the newest kinde of wayes? 1646 SIR J. TEMPLE *Irish Rebell.* (1746) 193 The Names of such as murthered, this Examinant knoweth not. *a* 1762 LADY M. W. MONTAGU, etc. *Verses to Imitator of Horace* 103 For tho' in law, to murder be to kill, In equity the murder's in the will.

2. To spoil by bad execution, representation, or pronunciation, etc.

1644–7 CLEVELAND *Char. Lond. Diurn.* 4 Thus, they kill a man over and over, as Hopkins and Sternhold murder the Psalmes, with another to the same. *c* 1693 *Ad Populum Phaleræ* II. ii. 25 The Sense too oft is murder'd by the Sound. 1728 MORGAN *Algiers* II. 213 The Spaniards most corruptly and most abusively murder and confound several Letters. 1751 WESLEY *2nd Let. to Author Enthus. Methodists* 2 In your Second [section], you cite (and murder) four or five Lines from one of my Journals. 1830 MARRYAT *King's Own* xlv, Don't kill Billy; it's bad enough to have murdered Shakspeare. 1861 WHYTE MELVILLE *Good for N.* I. 199 Bella..insisted on her teacher sitting down with her to roast chicken when they ought to have been murdering a duet.

3. To consume or spend (time) unprofitably.

1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 371 P 8 A different kind of Men, who are the Pests of all polite Conversation, and murder Time as much as either of the two former. 1756 WASHINGTON *Lett.* Writ. 1889 I. 241 If the hurry of business..will admit

of an opportunity to murder a little time in writing to me, I should receive the favour as a mark of..esteem. 1764 *Mem. G. Psalmanazar* 95 Thus having murdered, as I may say, another year, we were dismissed. 1791–1823 D'Israeli *Cur. Lit.* (1866) 255/2 Murdering time by a constant round of giddy dissipation. 1827 Scott *Jrnl.* 8 Aug., It kills time, or rather murders it, this company-keeping.

4. To mangle cruelly. [Cf. F. *meurtrir* to bruise.] 1876 Tennyson *Harold* v. ii, They have so maim'd and murder'd all his face There is no man can swear to him.

†Mu·rderably, *adv. Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. In 5 *Sc.* **murtherabily.** [f. Murder *sb.* (*murther*) + -able + -ly 2.] Murderously, by way of murder. 1456 Sir G. Haye *Law of Arms* (S.T.S.) 260 Quhat ever he be that slais a man murtherabily and secretly.

†Mu·rderdom. *Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. [f. Murder *sb.*, after *martyrdom.*] The practice of murdering. 1525 in *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, IV. 419 *note*, Yair cruell tiranny and murthirdome of cristin pepill.

Murdered (mɔ̄·ɹdəɹd), *ppl. a.* [f. Murder *v.* + -ed 1.] In senses of the verb.

c 1402 Lydg. *Compl. Bl. Knt.* xli, How may thou see thus in thy presence, Without mercy, murdred innocence? 1588 Shaks. *Tit. A.* II. iii. 300 Some bring the murthered body, some the murtherers. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* IV. 657 For Crimes, not his, the Lover lost his Life, And at thy Hands requires his murther'd Wife. 1742 Young *Nt. Th.* v. 195 Hail, precious moments! stoln from the black waste Of murder'd time! 1765 Falconer *Demagogue* 52 Nor murder'd reputation marks his way. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* v. I. 663 The head of the murdered magistrate was placed over the Guildhall. 1876 'Ouida' *Winter City* vii, I don't like murdered languages.

Murderer (mɔ̄·ɹdəɹəɹ). [Partly f. Murder *v.* + -er 1; partly a. AF. *mordreour, murdreour* (*-drere*), agent-n. f. *mordrer, mordrir* = Murder *v.*]

1. One who murders or is guilty of a murder (see Murder *sb.*1 1).

a. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 23112 Þe first range mast stincand, sal be o wreches mistruand; þat renaid ar traiturs and fals, Murthereres [*Fairf.* man mirþeres] and monsuorn als. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* VII. xiv. 233 A saide she they were good knyghtes but they were murtherers. *c* 1515 *Cocke Lorell's B.* 11 There were theues, hores, and baudes; wt mortherers. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 235 The Murtherer standyng behynd his backe, letteth drye the knife with an hatchet. 1605 Shaks. *Macb.* I. vii. 15 First, as I am his Kinsman, and his Subiect, Strong both against the Deed: Then, as his Host, Who should against his Murtherer shut the doore, Not beare the knife my self. 1741 Middleton *Cicero* I. I. 54 Roscius prosecuted the Murtherer for damages. 1775 Adair *Amer. Ind.* 158 The Cheerake.. still observe that law so inviolably, as to allow their beloved town the privilege of protecting a wilful murtherer.

β. c 1385 Chaucer *L. G. W.* 2387 *Philomene* (Cambr. MS.) He wil nat for his shame Don so as Tereus to lese his name Ne serve 3ow as a morderour [*v.r.* morderere, -roure, -erour, murderour] or a knaue. 1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 340 Slain is the moerdrer and moerdrice. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 342/2 Moord(e)rare (*K., P.* morederar), *sicarius.* 1471 Caxton *Recuyell* (Sommer) I. 63, V had leuer to be murdrid than a murdrere. 1509 Fisher *Funeral Serm. Hen. VII*, Wks. (1876) 272 King Dauid.., all be it he had ben an auoutrer & murdrer also, yet [etc.]. 1621 Donne *Serm.* xv. (1640) I. 149 A Sheriffe that should burne him, who were condemned to be hanged, were a murderer, though that man must have dyed. 1781 Gibbon *Decl. & F.* xxx. III. 139 *note*, Those female captives, who gave their charms, and even their hearts, to the murderers of their fathers, brothers, &c. 1841 Elphinstone *Hist. India* I. App. III. 445 Alexander..proceeded in pursuit of one of the murderers of Darius to the royal city of the Zarangæi. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* iv. I. 487 The false witness..is, in truth the worst of murderers. 1865 Dickens *Mut. Fr.* I. iv, We have got a murderer for a tenant.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

c 1381 Chaucer *Parl. Foules* 353 (Camb. MS.) The swalwe mortherere of the foulis smale That makyn hony of flouris frosche & newe. *c* 1585 R. Browne *Answ. Cartwright* 15 The sinner is the murtherer of his owne soule. 1600 Shaks. *A. Y. L.* III. v. 19 Lye not, to say mine eyes are murtherers. 1611 Bible 1 *John* iii. 15 Whosoeuer hateth his brother, is a murtherer. 1738 *Gentl. Mag.* VIII. 208/2 King Alfred, who hang'd 44 Judges in one Year, as Murtherers of the Law. 1797 Godwin *Enquirer* I. iii. 17 It is the unrelenting murderer of hope and gaiety.

†2. A small cannon or mortar (see quot. 1704). 1497 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 338 Morderers of yron ..ij. 1563 in Nicolson & Burn *Westmoreld. & Cumbld.* (1777) II. 223 In the Citadel...Small serpentines 2, fowlers 2, murderers 2. 1617 J. Taylor (Water-P.) *Dolphins Danger* Wks. 1630 III. 33/1 The Dolphin..hauing..some 19 pieces of Ordnance, and 9 Murtherers. 1628 R. Norton *Gunner* xiv. 59 Morter Peeces, Square Murtherers, Tortles, and Pettards are the sorts of the fourth kind of Ordnance. 1634 *Relat. Ld. Baltimore's Plantation* (1865) 20 We haue built a strong Fort & Palizado, and haue mounted vpon it one good piece of Ordnance, and 4 Murderers. 1670 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 436/1 This week the same Fregats took another prize from the Turks being a vessel of 6 Guns 4 Murtherers and 60 men. 1704 J. Harris *Lex. Techn.* I, *Murderers*, are small Pieces of Ordnance, either of Brass or Iron, having *Chambers* (that is Charges made of Brass or Iron) put in at their Breeches: They are mostly used at Sea at the Bulk-heads of the Forecastle, Half-deck, or Steeridge, in order to clear the Decks when an Enemy boards the Ship; they are fastned and traversed by a Pintle, which is put into a Stock.

†3. A dagger or knife. *Obs. rare*$^{-1}$.

c 1510 *Robt. Deuyll* in Thoms *Prose Rom.* (1828) I. 10 Robert gate a murderer or bodkin, and thrast his mayster in the bely that his guttes fell at his fete, and so fell downe deed to the erth.

†4. (See quot.) *Obs. rare*$^{-0}$.

1690 Evelyn *Mundus Muliebris, Fop Dict.* 19 *Meurtrieres.* Murderers; a certain Knot in the Hair, which ties and unites the Curls.

5. An instrument used for catching codfish.

1883 R. M. Fergusson *Rambles in Far North* xii. 79 There is a method of catching deep-sea cod..by means of an instrument called a 'murderer',..consisting of a long bar of lead measuring about eighteen inches, with numerous hooks attached, and suspended at the end of a long strong line. This instrument is towed at the stern of the fishing boat, and by its means many a large cod bids farewell to the Pentland Firth. 1883 *Fisheries Exhib. Catal.* 12 'Murderer' for catching Codfish.

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

1592 *Arden of Feversham* III. i. E 1, Beset With murtherer theeues that came to rifle me. 1594 Kyd *Cornelia* III. ii. 37 The sword Which murdrer-like against thy selfe he drawes.

Murderess (mɔ̄·ɹdərɛs). Also 4 moerdrice, 6–7 murdress(e, murtheress(e. [f. Murder(er) + -ess. Cf. OF. *morderesse.*

Gower's *moerdrice* is properly a distinct word, imitating Fr. forms like *emperice*: see Empress.]

A woman that commits murder.

1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 346 Sche that was an homicide And of hire oghne lord Moerdrice. 1588 A. Marten *Exhort. H. M. Faithf. Subj.* A 3 b, Athalea..was slayne..as a murtheresse of her owne children. *c* 1605 Rowley *Birth Merl.* v. ii, Thou murderess of a king. 1632 J. Hayward tr. *Biondi's Eromena* 15 What want you woman will you be your owne murtheresse? 1677 Mrs. Behn *Abdelazer* I. iii, Hold! hold, inhumane Murdress; What hast thou done, most barbarous of thy sex? 1804 Southey in *Ann. Rev.* II. 531 The parents, therefore, believe her to be the murderess, and prepare a fire to burn her. 1871 B. Taylor *Faust* (1875) I. v. 87 Then laughed the murderess in her glee.

¶ In C. James *Milit. Dict.* (1802) and in later Dicts. *murdress* is given equivalent to Meurtrière.

Murdering (mɔ̄·ɹdəɹiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. Murder *v.* + -ing 1.] The action of the verb Murder; also, an act of committing murder.

c 1386 Chaucer *Knt.'s T.* 1143 The treson of the mordring in the bedde. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 342/2 Moorderynge, *sicariacio, sicariatus.* 1585 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* IV. xxxvi. 160 [The] cruel murthering of their ancient citizens. 1629 J. Cole *Of Death* 32 The murthering of a mans selfe to eschew any calamity or sorrow, doth not argue any valour, but cowardise rather. 1828 P. Cunningham *N. S. Wales* (ed. 3) II. 28 They..usually continue their murderings until, in retaliation, blood is expiated by blood.

transf. 14.. *Noble Bk. Cookry* (1882) 86 Tak a goos of a nyght and a day murdring and chope hir in the wort in the same manner. 1523 Fitzherb. *Husb.* § 51 Put not to many shepe in a penne at one tyme..for feare of murtheryng or ouer pressyng of their felowes.

†b. In passive sense. *Obs.*

1472–5 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 160/1 [The witnesses said they dared not to present the truth] for drede of murd[r]yng, and to be myscheved in their owne houses. 1600 J. Jane in *Hakluyt's Voy.* III. 844 The Captaine being in danger of murthering, was constrained to vse leuitie.

†c. *attrib.*: **Murdering battery** (see quot.); **murdering shot,** shot used in a 'murdering piece'. 1628 R. Norton *Gunner* x. 52 Peeces that either shoote stone shot, Fireballes, Murthering Sbot, or els no shot at all. 1727–51 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v. *Battery, Battery de revers*, or *murdering battery*, is one that plays on the back of any place; and being placed on an eminence, sees into it.

Mu·rdering, *ppl. a.* [f. Murder *v.* + -ing 2.] That murders or commits murder. *lit.* and *fig.*

1550 Lever *Serm.* (Arb.) 38 As pickinge theft, is lesse then murtheryng robrye: so [etc.]. *c* 1560 (*title*) Orations of Arsanes agaynst Philip the trecherous kyng of Macedone; ..and of Scanderberg prayeng ayde of Christian Princes agaynst periurous murderyng Mahumet [etc.]. 1593 Shaks. *2 Hen. VI*, III. ii. 324 Their cheefest Prospect, murd'ring Basiliskes. 1666 Dryden *Ann. Mirab.* lv, His murdering guns a loud defiance roar. 1676 Hobbes *Iliad* v. 415 Mars, bloody, murthering Mars. 1760 *Ann. Reg.* 11 These murdering wars which cut off so many experienced officers. 1790 J. B. Moreton *Mann. W. Ind.* 183 He horsewhips and shoots you dead with a murdering infamous tongue. 1859 W. Collins '*Blow up with the Brig!*', I struggled hard to force my eyes from the slow, murdering flame.

†b. Of bait; cf. Killing *ppl. a.* 1 b. *Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. 1681 Chetham *Angler's Vade-m.* iv. § 26 (1689) 57 In the month of April, for Trouts, that 'tis A Murthering Bait.

Hence **†Mu·rderingly** *adv.*

1662 J. Sparrow tr. *Behme's Rem. Wks., 1st Apol. Balth. Tylcken* 1 Venomously, spitefully, hatefully, murtheringly.

Murdering piece. *Obs.* [See Piece *sb.* 11.] **1.** = Murderer 2.

1602 Shaks. *Ham.* IV. v. 95 O my deere Gertrude, this, Like to a murdering Peece in many places, Giues me superfluous death. 1603 Knolles *Hist. Turks* (1621) 851 And seeing them that were gathered together into the market place..to fight as men altogether desperat, he caused certain murthering pieces to be bent upon them. 1655 E. Terry *Voy. E. India* 163 Mann'd she was but with ten men, and had only one small murdering-peece within her.

fig. 1617 Middleton & Rowley *Fair Quarrel* II. i, There is not such another murdering-piece In all the stock of calumny.

¶ 2. Used by Burke for: A picture of carnage. Cf. *battle-piece*: see Piece *sb.* 17 b.

1797 Burke *Regic. Piece* iii. Wks. VIII. 309 A far more cruel 'murdering piece' than had ever entered into the imagination of painter or poet.

Murderish (mɔ̄·ɹdəriʃ), *a. rare.* [f. Murder *sb.* + -ish.] Murderous.

1550 W. Lynne *Carion's Cron.* 262 b, Perceyuyng the craft and papisticall murderysh harte of his brother. 1904 E. F. Benson *Challoners* ix, Did you ever see such a murderish-looking woman?

†Mu·rderment. *Obs. rare.* [f. Murder *v.* + -ment.] The act of murdering.

c 1425 *Cursor M.* 19716 (Trin.), Nigte or day whenne þei myȝt spie Bi murþerment to do him diȝe. 1548 Udall *Erasm. Par. Luke* iv. 52 The slaughter and murdrements of howe manye persones. 1600 Fairfax *Tasso* II. ii, To her came message of the murderment.

Murderous (mɔ̄·ɹdərəs), *a.* [f. Murder *sb.*1 + -ous. Cf. OF. *mordreux.*]

1. Of persons: Guilty of murder (*?obs.*); capable of or bent on committing murder. Also *transf.* of weapons, physical agents, etc.

1535 Coverdale *Zeph.* ii. 5 Wo vnto you yᵗ dwel vpon the see coost, ye murthurous people. *a* 1586 Sidney *Ps.* v. ii, Thou, the Lord, in endless hatred hast The murd'rous man. 1588 Shaks. *Tit. A.* IV. ii. 88 Stay murtherous villaines, will you kill your brother? 1594 — *Rich. III*, I. ii. 94 Queene Margaret saw Thy murd'rous Faulchion smoaking in his blood. 1671 Milton *P. R.* II. 76 Enforc't to flye Thence into Egypt, till the Murd'rous King Were dead, who sought his life. 1689 *Col. Rec. Pennsylv.* I. 252 He was pleased to direct that ye murtherous woman's sentence should proceed. 1719 Watts *Hymns & Spir. Songs* II. lxxxiv. (1751) 206 The rich Flood of purple Gore Their murth'rous Weapons dy'd. 1720 J. Hughes *Siege Damascus* v. ii, Too well I know thee now, O murd'rous fiend! 1811 Pinkerton *Petral.* II. 496 In different parts around the mountain, powerful murtherous vapours, of a mephitic nature, were exhaled. 1837 J. H. Newman *Par. Serm.* (ed. 2) III. ii. 22 Saved from the murderous Egyptians in his infancy. 1884 A. J. E. Wilson *Vashti* iii, Putting her fingers in her ears that she might not hear the bubbling of the murderous water, she shut her eyes and sprang into the pond.

2. Of the nature of murder; characteristic of or involving murder.

1593 Shaks. *2 Hen. VI*, v. i. 185 Who can be bound by any solemne vow To do a murd'rous deede. 1660 *Trial Regic.* 53 Suppose..they should have agreed upon such a Murtherous Act. 1764 Goldsm. *Trav.* 416 Where beasts with man divided empire claim, And the brown Indian marks with murderous aim. 1877 Mrs. Oliphant *Makers Flor.* iv. 93 The Florence of the historians..in which so many murderous encounters..were always going on.

3. *Comb.*

1654 Gataker *Disc. Apol.* 62 This..murtherous-minded man. 1835 James *Gipsy* i, 'This is a murderous-looking spot', said Colonel Manners.

Hence **Mu·rderously** *adv.*, **Mu·rderousness.**

1611 Speed *Theat. Gt. Brit.* xl. 79/1 Oswy King of Northumberland..was murderously made away. *a* 1639 W. Whately *Prototypes* II. xxix. (1640) 13 Take heede of these vices, Envy, murderousnesse, hard-heartednesse, cruelty. 1844 L. Hunt *Poems* 163 Some, whom feeble love's excess, Through terror, tempts to murderousness. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 26 June 5/7 He was attacked and murderously assaulted by two men.

Murdre, obs. form of Murder *sb.* and *v.*

†Mu·rdres, *v. Sc. Obs.* Forms: *α.* 4 mwrthrys, 5 murthrys; *β.* 6 murdreis, murdris, **murdres.** [ad. OF. *murdriss-, mordriss-*, lengthened stem of *murdrir, mordrir* Murder *v.* Cf. Murtrish *v.* (The *α* forms are due to assimilation to *murther* Murder *sb.*)] = Murder *v.*

α. c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxii. (*Laurentius*) 92 He had as a wykyt mane Mwrth[r]yst his lord. *c* 1425 Wyntoun *Cron.* VI. ix. 63 (1795) I. 176 In Murrawe syne he murthrysyd was. *β. c* 1507 Dunbar *Poems* xxxiii. 30 In pottingry he wrocht grit pyne, He murdreist mony in medecyne. 1508 — *Tua Mariit Wemen* 212 Apone sic materis I mus[e], at mydnyght, full oft, And murnys so in my mynd, I murdris my selfin. 1545 in Tytler *Hist. Scot.* (1864) II. 349 *note*, The Lord Maclane's fader was cruellie murdressit..be Sir John Campbell of Calder. *a* 1578 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) II. 83 They murdrest him to the deid. 1585–86 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* IV. 57 Maist schamefullie to murdreis him. 1598 *Ibid.* V. 443 To have murdreist him be way of hamesuckin.

†Mu·rdresar. *Sc. Obs.* [f. prec. + -ar 3.] = Murderer 1 and 2.

1529 Lynoesay *Compl.* 363 Men murdresaris, and commoun theiffis, In to that court gat, all, releiffis. 1536 Bellenden *Chron. Scot.* IX. xxv. (1821) II. 116 The murdresaris at last war takin. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* vi. 41 Mak reddy 3our cannons, culuerene,..murdresaris.

†Mu·rdrier. *Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. [a. OF. *murdrier* (mod.F. *meurtrier*), f. *murdre* Murder *sb.*] = Murderer.

1481 Caxton *Godeffroy* x. 32 The contrees were ful of theues and of murdriers.

Murdris, variant of Murdres *v. Obs.*

Murdur, obs. form of Murder *sb.*

†Mure, *sb. Obs.* [a. F. *mur*:—L. *mūrum* (*mūrus*).]

1. A wall. Also *transf.* and *fig.*

1471 Caxton *Recuyell* (Sommer) I. 271 He..fortefied the Cyte of Troye with mures & towrs. *a* 1552 Leland *Itin.* (1768) II. 79 Rogerus le Poure..cast a great Dike without it, and made a false Mure without the Dike. 1577 Settle *Probisher's 2nd Voy.* in Hakluyt (1589) 624 At our first comming the streights seemed to be shut vp with a long mure of yce. 1597 Shaks. *2 Hen. IV*, IV. iv. 119. 1651 Jer. Taylor *Clerus Dom.* 3 There was never any people but had their Priests..and kept holy things within a mure.

2. quasi-*adj.* in *crown-mure* = mural crown; also Comb. in *mure-crowned* adj. *rare*$^{-1}$.

1682 Wheler *Journ. Greece* III. 238 Another I saw..of silver, with a Mure-crowned Head. *Ibid.* 264 A Figure, with a Crown-mure, with these Letters about it.

Mure, *a. Obs.* exc. *dial.* (East Angl.: see E.D.D.) Also **mewre, moyre, mur, meuer.** [a. OF. *meür, meüre*, mod.F. *mûr, mûre* ripe, mature.] **a.** Grave, modest, Demure. **b.** Mature (in phrase *mure deliberation*).

c 1440 *Jacob's Well* xli. 254 Þe secunde fote in brede [of

frenschip] is benignite, þat is, to suffere, & to be mure, & noȝt veniable, ne holde wratthe in herte. 1442 T. Beckington *Corr.* (Rolls) II. 215 By commune and mure deliberacion t'acertaine your said Mageste of such inconvenients as [etc.]. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 7678 Moyre and sobyr in worde and dede. *c* 1500 *Melusine* xxiv. 160 He purueyed of remede by good & meure deliberacion of his counseill.

b. *Comb.*: **mure-hearted** *a.* (*dial.*), tender-hearted (see E. D. D.).

Mure (miūə1), *v.* Forms: 6 mowre, 5–mure. *Pa. pple.* 4 mwryt, 5 mewred, 5–6 muryd(e, 6 murid, muryed. [a. F. *murer*:—L. *mūrāre*, f. *mūr-us* Mure *sb.*]

1. *trans.* To wall in, to surround with a wall or walls; to fortify. = Immure *v.* 1. Also with *up*, *in*.

c 1440 Maundev. (1839) xxvii. 277 He had let muren alle the mountayne aboute with a stronge walle and a fair. 1494 Fabyan *Chron.* v. cxl. 126 Howsis, Castellis, and townes strongely muryd. 1503 Hawes *Examp. Vir.* xii. 215 But sapyence with her wordes me mured With walles of comfort makynge me mery. 1653 Urquhart *Rabelais* I. lii, All other Abbies are strongly walled and mured about. 1780 Von Troil *Iceland* 189 This bath, which is large enough to contain 50 persons at one time, is mured in with a wall of basalt.

2. To block up, or build up (a door, gate, etc.), by means of bricks and mortar, stones, etc. Also with *up*.

1375 Barbour *Bruce* iv. 164 Thai or day, throu mekill pane, Had mwryt vp the ȝet agane. 1523 Lo. Berners *Froiss.* I. ccccxviii. 689 Let vs enclose ourselfe in this towne, and mure vp all our gates. 1673 Bp. S. Parker *Reproof Reh. Transp.* 519 Mure up your school doors. 1807 J. Barlow *Columb.* vii. 632 There lodge their tons of powder and retire, Mure the dread passage, wave the fatal fire.

transf. and *fig.* 1581 Mulcaster *Positions* (1887) 69 Such fleshy parts..do..as it were mure up, and stop the passage. 1596 Spenser *F. Q.* vi. xii. 34 He tooke a muzzel strong Of surest yron..: Therewith he mured up his mouth along.

b. To wall up the doors of; to stop the means of access to. With *up*.

1550 Sir R. Bowes in Hodgson *Hist. Northumbld.* (1828) III. II. 200 The said utter courde were best, as me think, to be mowred upp. 1672 Marvell *Reh. Transp.* I. 124 Why not adjourn the Term, mure up Westminster-hall [etc.].

3. To shut up or enclose within walls; to imprison; to confine as in a prison or fortress. = Immure *v.* 2. Also with *up*.

In some examples the vb. app. refers to the alleged walling up in cells of anchorites (who were fed through a hole in the wall) and of persons condemned to perish by famine.

a 1450 *Knt. de La Tour* (1906) 73 He kylde hym, and dyde his wyf to be mewred and putte in pryson perpetuel. 1530 Palsgr. 642/1 It is a payne to be mured up in a stone wall lyke an anker. 1611 Bible *Josh.* x. *heading*, The fiue Kings are mured in a caue. 1670 tr. *Bernier's Mogol Emp.* (1676) I. 179 The Women were mured up, where they dyed of hunger and misery. 1799 in *Spirit Pub. Jrnls.* III. 104 Some youth, once mur'd in squalid city jails. 1847 Marryat *Childr. N. Forest* xxvi, [They] are not a little tired of being mured up in the cottage. 1888 Amélie Rives *Quick or Dead* vii. (1889) 82 They could never voluntarily have mured themselves in labyrinths of brick and stone during these late autumn days.

b. *refl.* To shut oneself *up*.

1608 Bp. Hall *Epist.* I. v, An English-man, so madly devout, that he had wilfully mur'd up himselfe as an Anachoret. 1893 Black *Handsome Humes* I. i. 16 She said it was a pity he mured himself up in his college at Oxford.

Mure, obs. f. Mare *sb.*1, Mire, Moor *sb.*1, Myrrh.

Mureburne, -cok, obs. ff. Moor-burn, -cock.

Murell, obs. form of Mural *a.*1

†**Mu·rely,** *adv. Obs.* Also 5 meuerly, meurely. [f. Mure *a.* + -ly 2.] Demurely; considerately.

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 12431 The maidon to tho mighty meuerly saide [etc.]. *c* 1430 Lydg. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 10, vij. virgens..of ther cberis aperid murely. 1474 Caxton *Chesse* III. ii, He ought to do no thyng ayenst his wylle, But to do al thyng nobly, meurely, fermely & honestly.

Murene, obs. form of Muræna.

†**Mu·renger.** *Obs.* Forms: *α.* 6 murager. *β.* 6–9 murenger, muringer. [ME. *murager*, f. Murage; for the later insertion of *n* cf. *passenger*, *messenger*.] An officer whose duty it was to keep the walls of a city in repair.

α. 1506 in *Munic. Corpor. Rep.* (1835) IV. 2622 [The charter of Henry VII provides that the mayor and citizens of Chester, may yearly choose..two citizens to be overseers of the walls, ..called Murogers. ?1580 in *9th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. I. 305/1 [Oath for burgesses of Great Yarmouth, for their..election of] muragers.

β. *c* 1600 Webb in D. King *Vale-Royall* (1656) II. 18 The special care whereof [the wall], belongeth to certain Officers yearly..elected..called the Maringers [sic], being usually, of the most antient Aldermen of the said City. 1682 Thoresby *Diary* (1830) I. 122 The walls [of Chester] are kept in excellent repair by the Muringers. 1815 W. Paice *Hist. Oswestry* 86 The corporation of Oswestry consists of a mayor,..coroner, murenger, town-clerk [etc.]. 1883 in Picton *L'pool Munic. Rec.* I. 188 A muringer is mentioned amongst the officers in the reign of Philip and Mary.

Murepe, obs. form of Mirth.

Murex (miūə·reks). Pl. **murices** (miūə·risīz), also **murexes.** [a. L. *mūrex* (pl. *mūricēs*); prob. cogn. w. Gr. *μύαξ* (:— prehistoric **musak*-) sea-mussel.] A kind of shell-fish, the animal of which yields a purple dye.

1589 Greene *Tullies Loue* (1616) E 2 b, [Will] no color content your eye, but such as is stained by the fish *Murex*? 1698 M. Lister *Journ. Paris* (1699) 74 There were but few Shells; but amongst them there was a Murex which dies purple. 1757 Dyer *Fleece* II. 599 He beheld The wounded murex strike a purple stain. 1851 Woodward *Mollusca* I. 106 The murices appear to form only one-third of a whirl annually. 1889 Westgarth *Austral. Progr.* 316 Spinous murexes went in basketfuls for a shilling.

attrib. 1605 B. Jonson *Masque of Blackness*, All hauing their lights burning out of whelks, or murex shells.

Murexan (miūə·reksăn). *Chem.* Also **murexane.** [f. Murex + -an.] Purpuric acid.

1838 R. D. Thomson in *Brit. Ann. for* 1839 (ed. R. D. Thomson) 384 Murexan. When murexid is dissolved in boiling water, and the solution mixed with muriatic [etc.]. 1841 *Penny Cycl.* XIX. 135/2 Murexane.

Murexide (miūə·reksəid). *Chem.* Also **murexid.** [f. Murex + -ide.] Purpurate of ammonia. Also *attrib.*

1838 R. D. Thomson in *Brit. Ann. for* 1839 (ed. R. D. Thomson) 383 Murexid, or purpurate of ammonia of Prout. 1841 Brande *Chem.* (ed. 5) 1384 Murexid.—This term has been applied by Liebig and Wöhler to Dr. Prout's purpurate of ammonia. 1875 *Ure's Dict. Arts* III. 378 The murexide colours are very fresh and brilliant. 1876 G. B. Goode *Anim. Resources U. S.* 93 Series of murexides, or purpurate of ammonia dyes, made from guano. 1885 W. Roberts *Urin. & Renal Dis.* iii. (ed. 4) 68 A bright violet hue (murexid) is instantly developed.

Mureyn(e, obs. forms of Murrain *sb.*

Murg, variant of Marg.

Murgeon (mə·ɹdʒən), *sb.*1 Now *dial.* Also 5 margon, 7 murgion, 8 mergin, mudgeon. [Of obscure origin; cf. dial. *morge* (Chesh.) *mudge* (Linc.) of similar meaning.] †Dirt, refuse, dregs (*obs.*); wet peaty soil; the mortar and cement of old walls.

a 1400–50 *Alexander* 628 It come noȝt a kyng son ȝe knaw wele to sytt Doune in margon & molle emange othire schrewis. 1607 Norden *Surv. Dial.* IV. 229 Many fetch Moore-earth or Murgion from the riuer between Colebrooke and Uxbridge. 1750 G. Hughes *Barbadoes* *251 Some..Vapours that arose from the Mudgeon or Dregs of the Liquor. 1787 W. Marshall *Norfolk* (1795) I. 30 Another specimen of manure much coveted here is 'mergin'—that is the rubbish of old buildings.

Murgeon (mə·ɹdʒən), *sb.*2 Now only *Sc.* Also 6 morgeowne. [Of obscure origin.] *pl.* Grimaces, bodily antics.

1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* liii. 38 Scho maid sic morgeownis with hir hippis, For lauchter nain mycht hald thair lippis. *a* 1585 Montgomerie *Flyting* 495 With mudȝons, and murgeons, and mouing the braine, They lay it, they lift it [etc.]. 1695 J. Sage *Fundam. Charter Presbyt.* Pref. (1697) n 2, If their Mein had resembled so much as the Murgeons of an Ape, I could have pardon'd him. 1858 Ramsay *Remin.* Ser. I. (1860) 174 He..gars them fissle, and loup, and mak murgeons to please the great fowk.

Comb. 1824 Scott *St. Ronan's* ii, Down cam masons and murgeon-makers, and preachers and player-folk.

Murgeon (mə·ɹdʒən), *v. Sc.* Also 6 murion, 7 mourgean, murgean. [f. Murgeon *sb.*2] *trans.* **a.** To make grimaces at (a person). Also *absol.* to grimace. **b.** pseudo-*arch.* To murmur, mutter.

15.. *Christ's Kirk Gr.* 29 (Bannatyne MS.) Scho skornit Jok and skraipit at him, And mvrionit him with mokkis. 1606 Birnie *Kirk-Buriall* (1833) 2 The world, who..hes beene accustomed to murgean and apishly to imitate the kirks holy ceremonies. *Ibid.* 10 In steed of mourning in the dust..we mumchance and mourgean in such dilicate duilles, that [etc.]. 1837 J. M. Wilson *Hist. T. Borders* III. 304 How he..murgeoned his Cameronian aiths as he saw their smolt spirits scour awa to heaven like fire flaughts!

Murgion, obs. form of Murgeon *sb.*1

Murgullie: see Margullie.

Murhpe, obs. form of Mirth.

Murhwa, variant of Murwa.

Muri, obs. form of Merry.

Muriacite (miūə·riăsəit). *Min.* [ad. G. *muriacit* (1795), irreg. f. L. *muria*: see Muriate and -ite.] = Anhydrite.

1799 Kirwan *Geol. Ess.* 144 Muriacite..consists of 27 per cent gypsum, 14 common salt, 5 mild calx, and 53 of micaceous sand. 1883 Heddle in *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 400/1.

Muriate (miūə·riĕt), *sb. Chem.* Also 8–9 muriat. [a. F. *muriate*, f. *muriatique* Muriatic. See -ate1 1 c.] Old name, still current *Comm.*, for Chloride.

1790 R. Kerr tr. *Lavoisier's Elem. Chem.* 231 Muriat of barytes. 1791 Macie in *Phil. Trans.* LXXXI. 376 A small quantity of muriate of tartar. 1869 Phillips *Vesuv.* iv. 99 The usual ammoniacal and other muriates were collected.

Muriate (miūə·riĕt), *v. rare.* [f. L. *muria* brine + -ate 3.] *trans.* To pickle in brine.

1699 Evelyn *Acetaria* 22 Gerckems muriated with the seeds of Dill, and the Mango Pickle are for the Winter. 1859 R. F. Burton *Centr. Afr.* in *Jrnl. Geog. Soc.* XXIX. 243 Minnows of many varieties, which simply sun-dried, or muriated if salt can be afforded, find their way far east.

Muriated (miūə·riĕtĕd), *ppl. a.* [f. Muriate *sb.* or *v.* + -ed.] †**a.** *Chem.* Combined with chlorine. *Muriated iron, lead*, etc. = chloride of iron, etc. **b.** Impregnated with a chloride or chlorides.

1789 A. Crawford in *Med. Commun.* II. 349 Saturated solutions of the muriated iron and muriated barytes. 1841 R. Hunt *Art Photogr.* 11 Muriated Paper. 1892–3 *Rep. U. S. Geol. Surv.* in *Nature* 12 Mar. (1896) 439 Mineral springs..divided into sulphated and muriated. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 324 Muriated Alkaline Waters.

Muriatic (miūəriæ·tik), *a.* [ad. L. *muriātic-us* pickled in brine, f. *muria* brine. Cf. F. *muriatique*.]

1. Pertaining to, or of the nature of, brine or salt; consisting of or containing brine. ? *Obs.*

1675 Grew *Disc. Tasts Plants* I. § 22 Muriatick [taste], is Saltness joyned with some Pungency, as in common Salt. 1732 Arbuthnot *Rules of Diet* in *Aliments*, etc. 380 If the Scurvy be entirely Muriatick, proceeding from a Diet of salt Flesh or Fish. 1818 Scott *Let. to Ld. Montagu* 12 Nov. in Lockhart *Life*, The Duke is under the influence of the muriatic bath. 1830 Lindley *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 60 The leaves of *Ammannia vesicatoria* have a stroog muriatic smell.

2. *Chem.* = Marine *a.* I b, as in *muriatic acid*, hydrochloric acid (still current *Comm.*); †*muriatic salt*, a chloride; †*muriatic ether*, chloric ether.

1676 Grew *Essential & Mar. Salts of Plants* I. § 2 The Imitation of Nature, in producing a Marine, or Muriatick Salt out of the Lixivial Salt of a Plant. 1790 R. Kerr tr. *Lavoisier's Elem. Chem.* 231 Table of the Combinations of Muriatic Acid. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XII. 98/1 Muriatic copper, or marine salt of copper. 1850 *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 3) 416 A volatile, oily, colourless liquid,..long known under the name of heavy muriatic ether. 1874 Carpenter *Ment. Phys.* I. ii. (1879) 55 Some irritating vapour (such as that of ammonia or muriatic acid).

†**3.** Containing magnesium. *Muriatic earth*, magnesia. (Only in Kirwan?) *Obs.*

1796 Kirwan *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) I. 7 Magnesia, or Muriatic Earth. *Ibid.* 144 Muriatic Genus. Under this head I include not only those earths and stones in which magnesia predominates, but also those in which the siliceous earth predominates, if magnesia be next after this, the most copious ingredient.

Muriati·ferous, *a. Geol.* ? *Obs.* [f. Muriate *sb.* + -(i)ferous.] Yielding salt or other chloride (not in economically valuable quantity).

1823 tr. *Humboldt's Superposition of Rocks* 324 Muriatiferous clay containing zechstein. 1832 De la Beche *Geol. Man.* (ed. 2) 247 Most frequently the marly clays are merely muriatiferous; an abundance of salt..being more rare.

Muricate (miūə·rikĕt), *a. Bot.* and *Zool.* [ad. L. *mūricāt-us* shaped like the murex, f. *mūric-* Murex.] Furnished with sharp points, studded with short hard excrescences. †Also (*rarely*) terminating in a long sharp point, like the murex.

1661 Lovell *Hist. Anim. & Min.* Introd., The *turbines*, are great..angulous, muricate, or pentedactyls. 1777 Robson *Brit. Flora* 35 Of the pericarpy. *Muricate*, covered with sharp points, as in Xanthium. 1870 Hooker *Stud. Flora* 162 *Anthriscus vulgaris*. .. Fruit .. ovoid, muricate.

Hence **Mu·ricately** *adv.*, in *muricately-hispid* (see quot.). Also **Muricato-hispid** in the same sense.

1829 Loudon *Encycl. Plants* 811 Stem muricato-hispid. *Ibid.* 1101. 1840 Paxton *Bot. Dict.*, *Muricately-hispid*, covered with short, sharp, stiff bristles.

Muricated (miūə·rikeĭtĕd), *a.* [f. prec. + -ed.] = Muricate.

In quot. 1707 used as an epithet of the points or protuberances themselves.

1707 Sloane *Jamaica* I. 52 All along there were a great many asperities, muricated prickles, or small eminencies. *Ibid.* 53 The surface of this is..very rough with small muricated hollow tubercles. 1776 E. M. da Costa *Elem. Conchol.* 29 A Muricated, or Thorny Escallop or Spondyle. 1851 Woodward *Mollusca* I. 131 Shell..smooth or muricated. 1876 Harley *Mat. Med.* (ed. 6) 580 Carpels with five ..minute muricated ridges.

Murices, pl. of Murex.

Muricid (miūə·risid). [ad. mod.L. *Mūricid-æ*, f. *mūric-* Murex.] A member of the family *Muricidæ* of molluscs, typified by the genus *Murex*.

1861 Carpenter in *Rep. Smithsonian Inst. for* 1860, 207 The Cerites..were classed with the Muricids by Lamarck.

Muriciform (miūə·risifōɹm), *a.* [f. L. *mūric-* Murex + -(i)form.] Resembling a murex or one of the *Muricidæ*.

1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVI. 446/1 Muriciform type.

Mu·ricite. [f. L. *mūric-* Murex + -ite.] A fossil murex. 1828–32 in Webster.

Muricoid (miūə·rikoid), *a. Zool.* [f. L. *mūric-* Murex + -oid.] Resembling a murex, or what pertains to a murex.

1890 *Century Dict.*, *Muricoid operculum*, an operculum having a subapical nucleus. 1895 A. H. Cooke *Molluscs* (Camb. Nat. Hist. III.) 222 A very aberrant radula, not of the common muricoid type.

Muriculate (miūəri·kiŭlĕt), *a. Bot.* [ad. mod.L. *mūriculāt-us*, f. L. *mūricul-us* small murex + -ate. Cf. F. *muriculé*.] Minutely muricate.

1848 T. Moore *Handbk. Brit. Ferns* (1857) 61 Spores somewhat muriculate.

Murid, variant of Moorad *dial.*

†**Mu·ride.** *Chem. Obs.* [a. F. *muride*, f. L. *muria*: see Muriate and -ide.] (See quot.)

1844 Hoblyn *Dict. Med.*, *Muride*, the name first given to bromine, from its being an ingredient of sea-water.

Murie, obs. form of Merry.

Muriform (miūə·rifōɹm), *a.*1 *Bot.* [ad. mod.L. *mūriformis*, f. *mūr-us* wall + *forma* shape: see -form.] Epithet for cellular cells consisting of flattened cells so arranged as to resemble the courses of bricks or stones in a wall.

1832 Lindley *Introd. Bot.* 63 Medullary rays..are composed of a muriform cellular tissue. 1871 W. A. Leighton *Lichen-Flora* 346 Spores muriform, fuscous. *Ibid.* 349 Spores muriform, colourless.

Mu·riform, *a.*2 *Med. rare*—0. [a. F. *mûriforme* (in Littré), f. *mûre* mulberry: see -form.] Resembling a mulberry (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1891).

Mu·riform, *a.*[3] *rare*$^{-0}$. [f. L. *mūr-*, *mūs* mouse + -(I)FORM.] 'Mouse-like or murine in form; myomorphic' (*Cent. Dict.* 1890).

Murine (miū·rəin, -rin), *a.* and *sb.* Also 7 murin. [ad. L. *mūrin-us*, f. *mūr-*, *mūs* mouse.]

A. *adj.* Resembling a mouse; of or belonging to the family *Muridæ* or the sub-family *Murinæ*.

1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 506 The Murin wantonnesse of Xenophon. 1796 STEDMAN *Surinam* II. xxii. 144 A murine or mouse oppossum. 1877 COUES & ALLEN *N. Amer. Rod.* 7 Sigmodont rats..; highly murine in general aspect.

B. *sb.* A member of the family *Muridæ* or of the sub-family *Murinæ*.

1879 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* III. 112 These, although true Murines, have a very Rabbit-like character.

Murine, error (? after L. *muria* brine) or misprint for MARINE *v.*

1656 MARNETTE *Perf. Cook* II. 24 To murine Carps. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. 83/2 Murine, or Marinate, is to pickle any sort of Fish, for to keep them.

† **Mu·ring,** *vbl. sb. Obs.* [f. MURE *sb.* or *v.* + -ING[1].] Wall-building.

1624 WOTTON *Archit.* I. 27 Wals are either entire .. or intermitted ;.. The entire Muring is by Writers diuersely distinguished. 1658 in PHILLIPS. 1703 tr. *Perrault's Abridgm. Vitruvius* I. i. 2 The Friezes imitate the Muring [orig. *la maçonnerie*], that is betwixt the ends of the Beams that are directly upon the Pillars. 1721 in BAILEY.

Muringer: see MURENGER.

Mu·rinoid, *a. rare*$^{-1}$. [f. MURINE + -OID.] Resembling the mouse or its allies.

1864 H. ALLEN *Bats N. Amer.* (Smithsonian Misc. Collect.) 78 The Murinoid group of bats.

† **Murio-.** *Chem.* [f. L. *muria*: see MURIATE.] = CHLORO-[2].

1799 SIR H. DAVY in Beddoes *Contrib. Phys. & Med. Knowl.* 115 The murionitric phosacid. 1823 W. PHILLIPS *Introd. Min.* (ed. 3) 343 Murio-carbonate of lead. 1845 in *Proc. Amer. Philos. Soc.* IV. 212 Murio-phosphate of lead.

Murk, mirk (mɔ̄ɪk), *sb.*[1] Forms: 1 mirce, myrce, 4 merck, myrke, 4–5 merk(e, mirke, 5–9 mirk, 6 myrk, 6, 9 mark, 7 murke, 7– murk. [OE. *mirce* str. neut., related to MURK *a.* Cf. ON. *myrkr*, genit. *myrkrs* (Sw. *mörker*), *myrkve* wk. masc. (Da. *mørke*).]

1. Darkness. *lit.* and *fig.* Now chiefly *Sc.*

a 1000 *Daniel* 448 (Gr.) Se ðe hie of ðam mirce generede. *c* 1220 *Bestiary* 443 Ledeð man to helle merk. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 2164 ȝyf þou brake euer any kyrke, On day, or yn nyȝht, yn myrke [*Dulwich MS.* in the merke]. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xxxvii. 53 I spake of folke in mirke walkand. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S. T. S.) 107 Nor thé perturb in mark nor lycht. 1585 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* IV. 28 The diet of the proclamatioun is in the mirk of the mone. 1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* II. i. 166 Ere twice in murke and occidentall dampe Moist Hesperus hath quench'd her sleepy Lampe. 1791 BURNS *Tam O'Shanter* 31 She prophesy'd that, late or soon, Thou would be found deep drown'd in Doon; Or catch'd wi' warlocks i' the mirk. 1852 LONGF. *Jewish Cemetery at Newport* ix, They lived in.. lanes obscure,..in mirk and mire. 1858 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* VI. i. (1872) II. 138 Aloft from the murk of commonplace rise glancings of a starry splendour. 1904 HEWLETT *Queen's Quair* I. vii. 94 In the grey mirk..Lethington and his master came to rouse her.

2. Thick or murky air or vapour. Also *fig.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 23669 Ne mist ne merck ne na maner O weder to þe werld to der. 1846 LONGF. in *Life* (1891) II. 68 We came out in the murk and rain. 1891 E. FIELD *Western Verse* 34 A song of the land of murk and mist.

Murk (mɔ̄ɪk), *sb.*[2] Also 7–9 murc, 8 murck, 9 mirk. [? var. of MARC.] = MARC.

1676 WORLIDGE *Cyder* 91 In case you resolve to adde water to your Murc,..then you need not press it too hard; for your Cider will then be the worse. 1750 W. ELLIS *Mod. Husbandm.* VII. ii. 124 The Lees or Murk of the pressing [of walnuts]. 1845 *Encycl. Metrop.* XXV. 1275/2 When all the juice is received by the operation of treading, the skins, stems, and seeds, or as it is properly called, the murk, is submitted to great pressure.

Murk, mirk (mɔ̄ɪk), *a.* Now *dial.* (*Sc.*) and *poet.* or *arch.* Forms: 1 mirce, myrce, 3 mirc, 3–5 merk, 3–7 mirke, 4 merck, 4–5 merke, 4–6 myrk, 4–7 myrke, 5 marke, 6, 8, 9 mark, 4– mirk, 7– murk. [OE. *mirce* = OS. *mirki*, ON. *myrk-r* (inflected *myrkv-*; Sw. *mörk*, Da. *mørk*) :—OTeut. **merkwjo-*, **merkwi-*. Outside Teut. no certain cognates have been found.

It is usually assumed that the existing word is from ON., on the ground that OE. *mirce* should have yielded **nirch*; but it cannot be affirmed that OE. *c* from *kw* would not have remained as (k). Cf. *thick* :—OE. *picce*.

The prevailing spelling in Scottish writers is *mirk*; the modern poetic use, being chiefly imitated from Sc., usually has this spelling; the independent use by English writers associates the word with *murky*, whence the form *murk*.]

1. Obscure, deficient in light, dark.

a. Of night, day, the weather, etc. **Mirk night** *Sc.*, the darkest part of the night [cf. ON. *myrk-nætti*]. **Mirk Monday** *Sc.*, the day of the great solar eclipse of 29 Mar. (= 8th April N.S.) 1652.

c 1300 *Havelok* 404 On the mirke nith to shine. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 5339 Take eclips right as the mone, Whan.. The shadowe maketh her bemis merke. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 7136 Þai rest in Iarow, whils it was myrke. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* vi. 38 I did spaceir vp ande doune hut sleipe, the maist part of the myrk nycht. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 405 The night was growand mark wpoun thame. 1647 HERRICK *Noble Numbers, To his Conscience*, That in the mirk and tonguelesse night, Wanton I may. *c* 1767 *Archæologia* I. 230 *note*, The great Solar eclipse, vulgarly called the Mirk Monday. 1781 BURNS *My Nanie, O* ii, The night's baith mirk and rainy, O. *a* 1884 CALVERLEY *Lit. Rem.* (1885) 206 Murk night seemed lately fair-complexioned day.

b. Of places.

Beowulf 1405 Gang ofer grundas ȝeȝnum for ofer myrcan mor. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 456 Þar duellid man in a myrk dungeon. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilȝear* 22 Amang thay myrk Montanis sa madlie thay mer. 1533 BELLENDEN tr. *Livy* I. vi. (S. T. S.) I. 38 In ane myrk and obscure place. 1792 BURNS *My Ain Kind Dearie* ii, In mirkest glen, at midnight hour, I'd rove, and ne'er be eerie O. 1821 BYRON *Juan* IV. xxxiii, Mirk The sharp rocks look'd below. 1844 MRS. BROWNING *Sonn., Work & Contempl.*, These temples mirk.

c. Of air, etc.: Darkened; *esp.* darkened by mist; hence, misty, dense.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xiii. (*Marcus*) 177 Sa wondire myrke become þe ayr, þat before wes clere and fayre. 1609 HOLLAND *Amm. Marcell.* 88 A hideous bleakenesse of a thicke and mirke mist settled upon the ground. *a* 1839 PRAED *Poems* (1864) II. 353 Mirk was the air. 1888 LOWELL *Black Preacher* 38 Fingers long fleshless the bell-ropes work, The chimes peal muffled with sea-mists mirk.

d. *fig.* in various applications: † Atrociously wicked (*obs.*); obscure, hard to understand; gloomy, depressing; unenlightened.

a 1000 *Phœnix* 457 (Gr.) Fæder on fultum, forð onetteð, lænan lifes leahtras dwæscep, mirce mandæde. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 26105 And þar-wit-al sum questiones We sal vndo þe merk resons. *c* 1425 *Hampole's Psalter* Metr. Pref. 18 Þe sentence is ful merke. 1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* Sept. 103 Such myster saying me seemeth to mirke. 1725 RAMSAY *Gentle Sheph.* IV. ii, Mirk despair Made me think life was little worth. 1855 BAILEY *Spir. Leg. in Mystic*, etc. 102 That variable orb, now great with love, And hope, now murk and mean with slavish fear.

† **2.** Having the sight obscured; dim. *Obs.*

c 1220 *Bestiary* 95 Or he it biðenken can, hise eȝen weren mirke. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xvii. 33 Myn ees are woren both marke and blynd.

3. Dark in colour. *rare.*

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 286 And euerilc on ðat helden wid him, ðo wurðen mirc, and swart, and dim. *a* 1300 *E. E. Psalter* xvii. 13 Mirke watres þat ware ofe hewe. *a* 1849 H. COLERIDGE *Poems* (1850) II. 34 No fault of thine..Clothes thee in weed of penance, murk and dun. 1898 W. K. JOHNSON *Terra Tenebr.* 139 Round thee the murk and passionate wave Its waste of foam in vain would fling.

Murk, mirk (mɔ̄ɪk), *v.* Forms: see MURK *a.* [f. MURK *a.* Cf. ON. *myrkva* to grow dark (possibly the source).]

† **1.** *intr.* To grow dark. *Obs.*

1320–30 *Horn Ch.* 81 When that even bicam,..It bigan to mirke. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 7809 The night was so nighe,.. merkit the mountayns & mores aboute. 1633 J. FISHER *True Trojans* III. ix, Gif night gars tbe welkin merk.

2. *trans.* To darken, obscure. *lit.* and *fig.* Also to blacken, smudge.

a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* CXXXVIII. 11 Myrknes sall noght be myrked of þe. *c* 1450 *Cov. Myst.* xxii. (Shaks. Soc.) 207 With sum myst his wittys to merke. 1725 RAMSAY *Gentle Sheph.* III. iii, Soon the fleecy clouds mirk a' the skies. 1791 J. LEARMONT *Poems* 23 Their sordit sauls mirk't Britain's glory. 1907 *Daily News* 6 Sept. 6 Happy mites, most of them, for all the dirt which murked their countenances.

Hence **Mu·rking** *ppl. a.*, becoming dark.

1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) III. 318 Quyetlie about the myrkand nycht,..on to the wall he staw.

† **Mu·rken,** *v. Obs.* Forms: 4 merkin, mircken, mirken, -in, mourken, 5 merken, 6 myrken. [f. MURK *a.* + -EN[5].] *intr.* To become murk or dark.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 1764 Sun and mone þeir bemes hide, Merkind oueral þis werld wide. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1760 Mourkenes þe mery weder, & þe myst dryues. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 7350 All merknet the mountens & mores aboute. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* XI. xv. 131 All thyng dymmis and myrknys me about.

† **Mu·rkful,** *a. rare. Obs.* In 4 markefull, merkeful, merkful, 6 mirkful. [f. MURK *sb.* + -FUL[1].] Full of darkness.

13.. *Cursor M.* 17863 (Arundel MS.) As we were stad in merkful [*v.r.* markefull, merkeful] stalle. 1520 NISBET *N. T. in Scots* Luke xi. 34 Al the body salbe mirkful.

Murkily, -ness: see under MURKY *a.*

Murkish (mɔ̄·rkiʃ), *a.* [f. MURK *a.* + -ISH[1].] Somewhat murky, dark.

1869 STEVENSON *Let.* 18 June in *Scribner's Mag.* XXV. 41/2 The dawn, orange and yellow and red, waxing brighter above a row of murkish clouds.

Mu·rklins, *adv. Obs.* exc. *dial.* (see E. D. D.). Also 6 marklynis, 9 mirklins. [f. MURK *a.* + -LING[2].] In the dark.

1568 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xlviii. 56 Weill may thay brukit, thay neid not to lukit, Bot graip it marklynis be the grund. 1674 RAY *N. C. Words* 34 *Murklins*: in the dark.

Mu·rkly, *adv. rare*$^{-1}$. [f. MURK *a.* + -LY[2].] Darkly; obscurely.

13.. *Cursor M.* 9278 (Göttl.) Bot ȝit þat folk..until oþer said 'quat may þis be So wonderly mirkly [*c* 1425 *Trin.* merkely] spekes he?'

Murkness, mirkness (mɔ̄·rknės). [f. MURK *a.* + -NESS.] **a.** Darkness. *lit.* and *fig.* (now only *Sc.*). **b.** Intense darkness caused by vapour or smoke; murkiness (*rare*).

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3104 Miȝte non egipcien Abuten him for mirknesse sen. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 15860 Nu er yee cummen to tak me, Als in mercknes o night. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. XXI. 141 In menynge þat man shal fro meorknesse beo drawe. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 13159 A myst & a merknes mynget wit rayn. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S. T. S.) 28 That ilke myrknes, of the quhilk the sternis was blekkit. 1581 N. BURNE *Disput.* Ep. Ded. a iv b, The Ministeris of mirknes. *a* 1670 SPALDING *Troub. Chas. I* (Bannatyne Club) II. 310 So they pairt, the ane army fra the uther, throw mirknes of nicht. 1849 *Reverberations* I. 16 Thro' the mist and thro' the murkness Travels the great human soul. 1889 SKRINE *Mem. E. Thring* 158 Four legs and a tail were heaved into the mirkness.

Murkoke, obs. form of MOOR-COCK.

Murksome, mirksome (mɔ̄·rksŭm), *a. rare.* [f. MURK *sb.* + -SOME.] Dark, obscure. Hence **Mu·rksomeness.**

1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. v. 28 Through mirkesome aire her ready way she makes. 1600 FAIRFAX *Tasso* XIII. v, There in silence deafe and mirksome shade. 1625 BP. MOUNTAGU *App. Cæsar* 75 You can easily foord over all the depths therof, and cleerly comprehend all the darkest mirksomenesse therin. 1642 H. MORE *Song Soul* II. I. iv. 2 That all that springs from hence should be resolv'd Into this mirksome sourse, *first matter* hight. 1794 BURNS *Bonie Lass Made the Bed to Me* i, The mirksome night did me enfauld. 1855–9 SINGLETON *Virgil* II. 141 Confined in darkness and a mirksome jail.

Murky (mɔ̄·rki), *sb. Mus.* (See quots.)

1876 STAINER & BARRETT *Dict. Mus. Terms, Murky*, a piece of harpsichord music, having a bass consisting of broken octaves. 1897 *Riemann's Dict. Mus., Murkys* (Murky Bass), a term applied to broken octaves in accompaniment...Also pieces with such basses.

Murky (mɔ̄·rki), *a. rare* before 17th c. Also 4, 8–9 mirky, 6–7 murkie. [f. MURK *sb.* + -Y.]

1. Of places: Excessively dark or gloomy.

a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* LXXXVII. 6 Þai set me in þe nether lake: in mirky stedes & in shado of dede. 1605 SHAKS. *Mach.* V. i. 41 Hell is murky. 1610 — *Temp.* IV. i. 25 With such loue, as 'tis now the murkiest den..shall neuer melt Mine honor into lust. 1791 COWPER *Odyss.* X. 626 Haste to Pluto's murky abode. 1816 KEATS *'O Solitude!'* 3 O Solitude! if I must with thee dwell, Let it not be among the jumbled heap Of murky buildings. 1871 R. ELLIS tr. *Catullus* iii. 11 Now he wendeth along the mirky pathway, Whence, they tell us, is hopeless all returning. 1888 BURGON *Lives* 12 *Gd. Men* II. ix. 183 The ante-chapel..that afternoon happened to be exceptionally murky.

fig. 1840 DICKENS *Barn. Rudge* lxxiii, As through the narrow crevice of one good deed in a murky life of guilt.

2. Of air, mist, clouds, etc.: Thick, dark. Of gloom, darkness: Intense.

1667 MILTON *P. L.* X. 280 So sented the grim Feature, and upturn'd His Nostril wide into the murkie Air. 1718 ROWE tr. *Lucan* VI. 965 Black Clouds and murky Fogs involve her Head. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* XII. 475 When lo! a murky cloud the Thund'rer forms. 1814 SCOTT *Wav.* xvi, The path was altogether indiscernible in the murky darkness which surrounded them. 1818 BYRON *Ch. Har.* IV. xxxiv, Making the sun like blood, the earth a tomb, The tomb a hell, and hell itself a murkier gloom. 1859 JEPHSON *Brittany* I. 2 A county notorious even in England for its murky atmosphere.

3. Very dark in colour.

1791 W. GILPIN *Forest Scenery* I. 86 Its dark, murky hue is unpleasing. 1881 CABLE *Mme. Delphine* ii, The *gens de couleur*..; with 'Ichabod' legible on their murky foreheads.

4. Dirty, grimy.

1798 BLOOMFIELD *Farmer's Boy, Summer* 199 To ride in murky state the panting Steed.

5. Of looks: Sullen, cheerless, gloomy.

1841 MISS SEDGWICK *Lett. Abr.* I. 172 They would advance with downcast eyes and murky looks. 1856 R. S. HAWKER in *Life & Lett.* ix. (1905) 152 They left, looking very murky.

Hence **Mu·rkily** *adv.*, **Mu·rkiness.**

1813 BYRON *Corsair* I. ix, As if within that murkiness of mind Work'd feelings fearful, and yet undefined. 1835 *Fraser's Mag.* XII. 572 Look adown that sullen stream, flowing murkily and more murkily between its resplendent quays. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. IV. iv, Is it not rather the very murkiness, and atmospheric suffocation, that brings the lightning and the light?

† **Murl,** *v. Obs.* exc. *dial.* Also mirl, murle. [Of obscure origin: possibly a derivative of OE. *mearu* soft.] *intr.* and *trans.* To crumble; *fig.* to cause to decay. Cf. MARL *v.*[1] 3.

c 1500 *Priests of Peblis* (Laing) 313 Thair manheid, and thair mense, this gait thay murle. 1600 SURFLET *Country Farm* III. i. 424 Ground..which murleth easily in breaking and stirring it with your fingers. 1641 BEST *Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 62 That is founde to doe more harme then good, for it causeth the waxe to murle. 1691 RAY *N. C. Words* 50 To *Murl*, to crumble. 1897 P. H. HUNTER *J. Armiger's Revenge* ii. 27 He didna tak' a subjec' an' mirl it a' down to wee crumbs, that got lost in a body's pooch.

Murleon, obs. form of MERLIN *sb.*[1]

Murlie, obs. form of MURLY.

† **Mu·rlimews,** *sb. pl. Obs. rare.* Also 6 mearlew muse, 6–7 murlemews. [An arbitrary formation.] Foolish gestures or antics.

1583 GOLDING *Calvin on Deut.* xxii. 131 The Papistes.. fiske about after their foolish ceremonies and after murlimewes of their owne making [Fr. orig. *et apres tant d'agios qu'ils font*]. 1593 HOLLYBAND *Dict., Agyos* or *Agios*, blessings and crossings which the papisticall priests doe vse in their holy water, to make a mearlew muse. 1600 [? LYLY] *Maides Melam.* III. i. E 2 Good maister wizard, leaue these murlemewes, and tell Mopso plainly, whether Gemulo.. shall win the loue of the faire shepheardesse..or not.

Murlin (mɔ̄·rlin). *Sc.* Also 8 murlain, 9 murlan. [Cf. Gael. *mùrlan*, *mùrlag* of the same meaning.] A round narrow-mouthed basket.

17.. *Song*, *'The Boatie Rows'* in Johnson *Mus. Museum*

(1794) V. 439 And lightsome be her heart that bears The Murlain and the creel. 1855 OGILVIE Suppl., *Murlan*, or *Murlin*, a round, narrow-mouthed basket (Scotch).

Murling (mɜ̄·rlin), *ppl. a.* [f. MURL *v.* + -ING.] Crumbling; friable.

1610 W. FOLKINGHAM *Art of Survey* I. viii. 19 A blackish moulde which is light, deepe, fat, sweet in taste and odour, murling, plyable, mellow, of moderate warmth. 1819 W. TENNANT *Papistry Storm'd* (1827) 76 He disinterr'd their murlin' banes, And grund them into powther sma'.

Murlon, obs. form of MERLIN.

a 1566 R. EDWARDS *Damon & Pithias* (1571) F j b.

Murly (mɜ̄·rli), *a.* Also **murlie.** [f. MURL *v.* + -Y.] Of earth: Crumbly, friable.

1600 SURFLET *Country Farm* III. xx. 470 And as concerning the earth..that it be such as is verie murly, temperate [etc.]. 1610 W. FOLKINGHAM *Art of Survey* I. xi. 36 Onyons ..thriue well in a red short, murly and moistish earth. 1838 MARY HOWITT *Birds & Fl., Childhood* xvi, The gentian blue on the murly hill And the snap-dragon white and yellow.

† Murmell. *Sc. Obs.* [Cf. OF. *mormeler* to murmur, G. *murmeln* to murmur, *murmel* (obs.) murmuring.] Murmuring.

1535 LYNDESAY *Satyre* 2521 And, for till saif vs fra murmell, Schone, Diligence, fetch vs Gude-counsell. *Ibid.* 2538 Gif vs 3our counsell, How we sall slaik the greit murmell Of pure peopill.

Murmur (mɜ̄·rmər), *sb.* Forms: 4–7 **murmure,** 4–5 **mormur, -or,** 4–6, 8 **murmour,** 5, 7 **murmer,** 7 **murmor,** 4– **murmur.** [a. F. *murmure* masc. (12th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), n. of action f. *murmurer* to MURMUR. Cf. Pr. *murmuri*, Sp. *murmúrio, mormurĺo*, It. *mormorio.*

The Eng. sb. coincides in form with the L. *murmur*, by which some of its senses may have been directly influenced.]

1. Subdued continuous or continuously repeated sound; an instance of this. Now *rare* exc. in *the murmur of* (a brook, the waves, etc.).

c 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) xxviii. 281 In that Vale, heren men often tyme..grete Murmures and Noyses. 1523 SKELTON *Garl. Laurel* 270 With that there come in..A murmur of mynstrels. *c* 1586 C'TESS PEMBROKE *Ps.* XLVI. ii, Lo, a river streaming joy, With purling murmur safelie slides. 1592 SHAKS. *Ven. & Ad.* 706 Ech shadow makes him stop, ech murmour stay. 1602 MARSTON *Antonio's Rev.* V. iii, Making lowde murmur, with confused dinne. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) I. 96 The murmur of a troubled sea. 1853 M. ARNOLD *Scholar-Gipsy* ii, All the live murmur of a summer's day. 1864 TENNYSON *En. Ard.* 688 Finding neither light nor murmur there. 1884 W. C. SMITH *Kildrostan* 48 The murmur of the running brooks.

b. *Path.* A sound of this kind (whether normal or morbid) heard in auscultation.

1833 J. FORBES in *Cycl. Pract. Med.* I. 241/1 [Auscultation.] When the valve [of the heart], not closing accurately, admits of regurgitation, a murmur accompanies the first sound. 1851 WALSHE *Dis. Lungs & Heart* 73 The sounds discoverable by auscultation of the breathing-apparatus in the state of health are:—(A) The respiratory murmurs; and (B) the resonance of the voice. *Ibid.* 212 Sounds of adventitious origin and properties produced either within or on the surface of the heart, are termed Murmurs. 1876 BRISTOWE *Theory & Pract. Med.* (1878) 561 Distinct pulsatile tumours, attended with more or less thrill and often with a murmur.

2. †a. The expression of discontent or anger by inarticulate complaint; muttered or indistinct complaint, grumbling or repining. *Obs.* b. An instance of this; an act of murmuring or repining; a subdued expression of discontent.

c 1381 CHAUCER *Parl. Foules* 520 Nature, which that alway had an ere To murmour of the lewednes behinde, With facound voys seide, 'hold your touges there!' *c* 1386 — *Pars. T.* P 432 Murmure eek is ofte amonges seruauntz that gruccheu whan hir souereyns bidden hem doon leueful thynges. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 89 In myn herte I am desesed: With many a Murmur, god it wot. *c* 1477 CAXTON *Jason* 69 And [they] began to make grete bewaylinges and murmure upon Appollo. 1513 MORE *Rich. III* in Grafton *Chron.* (1568) II. 767 Done..to none other intent but to bring all the Lordes in an obloquy and murmour of the people. 1639 S. DU VERGER tr. *Camus' Admir. Events* 127 He endeavoured..to avoyde scandall, murmur, and the punishment wherewith the Judge threatned him. 1681 DRYDEN *Span. Friar* IV. ii. 54 Some discontents there are; some idle murmurs. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 95 P 1 Persons in the married State..pine away their Days, by looking upon the same Condition in Anguish and Murmur. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* VII. 732 Instinct, than reason, makes more wholesome meals, And sends all marring murmur far away. 1838 J. L. STEPHENS *Trav. Greece*, etc. 24/1, I should have..given up the remnant of my stock of borrowed money without a murmur. 1874 STUBBS *Const. Hist.* I. xii. 472 The murmurs of the people reached the king in Normandy.

†**3.** Rumour. *In murmur*: 'whispered about'.

1601 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* I. ii. 32 'Twas fresh in murmure.. That he did seeke the loue of faire Oliuia. 1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) IV. 37 Some murmur of these matters may come to her ear.

4. A softly or gently spoken word or sentence; subdued or nearly inarticulate speech.

a 1674 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* XI. § 201 That kind of Murmur which usually shews how the House stands inclined. 1773 GOLDSM. *Stoops to Conq.* IV. Wks. (Globe) 668/1 What billing, exchanging stolen glances, and broken murmurs? 1863 GEO. ELIOT *Romola* xii, His speech was the softest murmur. 1877 J. D. CHAMBERS *Div. Worship* 88 Whilst in Choir let there be no murmur heard among the Clerks.

Murmur (mɜ̄·rmər), *v.* Forms: 4, 6 **murmure,** 6 **mormour, murmour**(e, **-more,** 5– **murmur.** [a. F. *murmurer* (= Sp. *murmurar, mormurar*, Pg. *murmurar*, It. *mormorare, murmurare*), ad. L. *murmurāre*, f. *murmur* rumbling noise, murmur, a reduplicated onomatopœic formation. Cf. OHG. *murmurôn, murmulôn* (perh. from Latin; MHG., mod.G. *murmeln*) to murmur, Gr. *μορμύρειν* to boil up (as the waves), Skr. *marmara* rustling sound.]

1. *intr.* To make, produce, or emit a low continuous sound.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Sqr.'s T.* 196 They murmureden as dooth a swarm of Been. *c* 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* IV. xiii. (1869) 182 Howndes gon abayinge up on him, murmuringe with here teth. 1589 GREENE *Menaphon* (Arb.) 45 All the companie began to murmure, and euery man to prepare his eye for so miraculous an obiect. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 393 P 2, I have not heard a Bird sing, nor a Brook murmur. 1802 COLERIDGE *Picture* 56 Listening only to the pebbly brook That murmurs with a dead, yet tinkling sound. 1873 BLACK *Pr. Thule* xiv, Their conversation murmured around her unheeding ears. 1898 W. K. JOHNSON *Terra Tenebr.* 107 Where the tall pine-trees murmur round the homestead.

2. To complain or repine in low muttered tones; to give vent to an inarticulate discontent, to grumble. Often with *at, against.*

1474 CAXTON *Chesse* II. v. 61 The peple murmur and ryse agayn theyr lord. 1525 WARHAM in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. III. I. 371 It hathe been shewed me..that the people sore grudgethe and murmureth. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VI* 175 b, The capitaines of his Nauy murmured against hym. *Ibid., Edw. IV* 239 b, Dyd oppugne, and wyth yll woordes murmur at the doyng thereof. 1665 MANLEY *Grotius' Low C. Warres* 443 The multitude hereupon, murmured cruelly against Count Solmes. 1769 GOLDSM. *Hist. Rome* (1786) II. 11 Those veteran legions..began to murmur, for not having received the rewards which they had expected. 1860 WARTER *Sea-board* II. 161 He was never heard to murmur.

3. *trans.* To utter (sounds, words) in a low voice and indistinctly.

1535 COVERDALE *John* vii. 32 And it came to the Pharises eares, that ye people murmured soch thinges of him. 1596 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. IV*, II. iii. 51, I by thee haue watcht, And heard thee murmore tales of Iron Warres. 1799 WORDSW. *Poet's Epitaph* 39 He murmurs near the running brooks A music sweeter than their own. 1834 LYTTON *Pompeii* III. i, He is murmuring curses on the temple, be sure. 1897 MRS. RAYNER *Type-writer Girl* X. 111 A clerk..murmured something inaudible about 'conditions of sale'.

†**4.** *Sc.* To complain or grumble against, to animadvert upon the actions of; to accuse. *Obs.*

1478 *Rental Bk. Cupar-Angus* (1879) I. 209 Nevyr to murmur Abbot na conuent or ellis frely to gyfe our his tak. 1518 *Burgh Rec. Edin.* (1869) I. 178 He was hevely murmurit be the saidis provest..and communite of diuers gret faltis and wrangis. *Ibid.*, Gif thai had murmurit him without caus thai to be ponist siclyke. 1676 SIR J. LAUDER *Hist. Notices Sc. Affairs* (Bannatyne Cl.) 120 Any who, without reason, misrepresented or murmured Judges and Magistrats for doing their offices.

Murmuracion, -yon(e, var. ff. MURMURATION.

†**Murmurant,** *a. Obs.* [a. F. *murmurant* (16th c. Littré), pr. pple. of *murmurer* MURMUR *v.*: see -ANT.] = MURMURING *ppl. a.*

1669 HOLDER *Elem. Speech* 53 Vocal or Murmurant. 1681 H. MORE in Glanvill *Sadducismus* Postscr. 33 Wizzards.. that speak with a querulous murmurant or mussitant voice.

†**Murmura·tion.** *Obs.* Forms: 4–6 **murmuracion,** 5 **mormeracyone, murmeracion,** 5–6 **murmuracyon,** 6 *Sc.* **murmuratioun,** 5– **murmuration.** [a. F. *murmuration* (= Pr. *murmuratio*, Sp. *mur-, mormuracion*, Pg. *murmuração*, It. *mormorazione*), n. L. *murmurātiōn-em*, n. of action from *murmurāre* to MURMUR.]

1. The action of murmuring; utterance of low continuous sounds; complaining, grumbling; complaint. Also with *a* and in *pl.*

c 1386 CHAUCER *Pars. T.* P 425 After bakbityng cometh gruchchyng or Murmuracion, and somtyme it spryngeth of Inpacience agayns god, and somtyme agayns man. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) viii. 29 Þai made murmuracion agaynes him by cause of thrist. 1536 CRANMER in Burnet *Hist. Ref.* (1829) I. 403 If he find in your most noble heart..that your grace, without murmuration and overmuch heaviness, do accept all adversities [etc.]. 1541 PAYNEL *Catiline* VII. 11 Cicero rose vp and ryght sharpely rebuked Q. Mutius:.. with many and fauourable murmurations of the hole senate therunto. 1641 R. B. K. *Parallel Liturgy w. Mass-bk.* 44 The reformed Church counts the secret murmuration of their Canon and words of consecration a very vile..practice. *a* 1653 BINNING *Serm.* (1845) 205 The murmurations of the people in the wilderness. 1687 SIR J. LAUDER (of Fountainhall) *Hist. Notices Sc. Affairs* (1848) 775 They most not stand near the witnesses when they depone, nor interrupt them by murmurations or susurrings.

¶ **2.** An alleged term for a flock (of starlings).

c 1470 in *Hors Shepe & G.* etc. (Caxton 1479, Roxb. repr.) 30 A murmeracion of stares.

†**Murmura·tor.** *Obs.* Also 7 **murmerator.** [a. late L. *murmurātor*, agent-n. f. *murmurāre* to MURMUR.] A murmurer, detractor.

1670 *Conclave wherein Clement VIII was elected Pope* 30 Having banished from his company all men that were deceitful, factious, adulators, murmurators. 1689 'PHILOPOLITES' *Grumblet. Crew* 3, I cannot see what should hinder the going down of this new Oath; especially, with a great many of the debauched Sort of these Murmerators.

Murmure, obs. form of MURMUR *sb.* and *v.*

Murmured (mɜ̄·rmərd), *ppl. a.* [f. MURMUR *v.* + -ED 1.] Faintly uttered.

1800 CAMPBELL *The 'Name Unknown'* 26 Thy murmured vows shall yet be mine. 1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* xxiii, Henry Smith stepped forward, amidst the murmured applauses of his fellow-citizens. 1885–94 R. BRIDGES *Eros & Psyche* Sept. xviii, And with him sweet Euphrosynè, attent Upon his murmur'd wants.

Murmurer (mɜ̄·rmərər). [f. MURMUR *v.* + -ER 1.] One who murmurs; esp. one who complains against constituted authority.

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 107 b, Curynge the scrupulous persone..and mendyng the impacyent and murmurer. 1530 TINDALE *Prol. Levit.*, Those murmurars agenst god as sone as they repented were healed of their deadly woundes. 1613 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII*, II. iii. 131 Heau'ns peace be with him:..for liuing Murmurers. There's places of rebuke. *a* 1770 AKENSIDE *Ode* I. iii, Th' industrious bee.. Sweet murmurer! 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* viii. § 10. 579 The few murmurers were weeded from its ranks by a careful remodelling.

†**Mu·rmurhead.** *Obs. rare*—1. [f. MURMUR *sb.* + -HEAD.] Murmuring spirit; discontent.

c 1475 *Partenay* 3603 Most fals traytour And fals forsworn in-ded, Replet with uices, full of murmerhed.

Murmuring (mɜ̄·rmərin), *vbl. sb.* [f. MURMUR *v.* + -ING 1.] The action of the vb. MURMUR; an instance of this.

c 1384 CHAUCER *H. Fame* III. 434, I herd a noyse aprochen blyve That ferd as been don in an hive..Ryghte suche a maner murmuryng For al the world hyt semed me. 1515 BARCLAY *Eglogues* ii. (1570) B iv, One reacheth the bread with grutch and murmuring. 1535 COVERDALE *Phil.* ii. 14 Do all thinges without murmurynges, and disputinges. *c* 1550 LLOYD *Treas. Health, Aphor.* a viij, If they which haue certayne murmuryng and wynd in theyr helyes, haue greate paynes in the loynes, they shal haue moyst deiections. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. i. 23 But with his clowoish hands their tender wings He brusheth oft, and oft doth mar their murmurings. *a* 1639 WOTTON *Life Dk. Buckhm.* (1642) 22 He found..but smothered murmurings for the losse of so many gallant Gentlemen. 1737 *Gentl. Mag.* VII. 598/2 The Attempting to enforce any such Thing by a Law, would raise a most general Discontent and Murmuring. 1804 J. GRAHAME *Sabbath* 426 The murmuring So gentle of the brook. 1906 *Edin. Rev.* July 123 The night is full of..the murmurings of spring.

Murmuring (mɜ̄·rmərin), *ppl. a.* [f. MURMUR *v.* + -ING 2.] That murmurs, in various senses.

1530 PALSGR. 319/1 Murmuryng, grutchynge as folkes that be nat contented, *murmuratif.* 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. v. 30 A gentle streame, whose murmuring wave did play Emongst the pumy stones. 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* IV. iii. 80 The ranke of Oziers, by the murmuring streame. 1645 EVELYN *Diary* June, The..rock out of which Moses brought water to the murmuring Israelites. 1665 DRYDEN *Ind. Emp.* IV. iii. (Song), Hark, hark, the Waters fall, fall, fall: And with a murmuring Sound..To gentle Slumbers call. 1699 GARTH *Dispensary* II. 2 The ev'ning Breeze Begun to whisper through the murm'ring Trees. 1799 SHERIDAN *Pizarro* IV. i, O'er her unshelled brood the murmuring ringdove sits. 1863 WOOLNER *My Beautiful Lady* 119 Where the summer lay On honeyed murmuring limes.

Hence **Mu·rmuringly** *adv.*

1611 COTGR., *Murmurantement*, murmuringly. 1843 *Tait's Mag.* X. 558 The wing-stirr'd air shook murmuringly. 1876 BANCROFT *Hist. U. S.* V. x. 443 Greene..wrote murmuringly to Washington, that the fort might have kept the enemy at bay.

Murmurish (mɜ̄·rmərij), *a.* [f. MURMUR *sb.* + -ISH 1.] Approaching the sound of a murmur.

1851 WALSHE *Dis. Lungs & Heart* 204 The..sound..is, in fact, murmurish, without being actually converted into a murmur. 1889 *Lancet* 12 Jan. 78/1 A definite murmur was heard in forty-five cases,..and in six others the first sound was murmurish.

Murmurless (mɜ̄·rmərlĕs). [f. MURMUR *sb.* + -LESS.] Without murmur.

1862 WALSHE *Dis. Heart* (ed. 3) Index 550 Murmurless aneurismal sacs.

Murmurous (mɜ̄·rmərəs), *a.* [f. MURMUR *sb.* + -OUS.]

1. Characterized or accompanied by subdued continuous sound; abounding in or characterized by murmurs.

1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* I. (Arb.) 25 Where through nyne channels with mountayns murmerus hurring Rough the sea floas forward. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. xi. 32. 1659 H. MORE *Immort. Soul* III. xvii. (1662) 219 A joynt groaning of a multitude together, mingled with a murmurous admiration. 1726 POPE *Odyss.* XX. 19 Round his swol'n heart the murm'rous fury rowls. 1819 KEATS *Ode to Nightingale* v, The murmurous haunt of flies on summer eves. 1886 CONST. F. WOOLSON *East Angels* ix. 176 The waves..flowed softly up the beach..with a rippling murmurous sound.

quasi-*adv.* 1871 R. ELLIS tr. *Catullus* lxiv. 263 Often a trumpeter horn blew murmurous, hoarsely resounding.

†**2.** Complaining, grumbling. *Obs.*

1592 STOW *Ann.* 691 This yeere many murmurous tales ranne in the citye betweene the earle of Warwike and the Queenes blood. 1702 C. MATHER *Magn. Chr.* VI. v. (1852) 384 The judgments of God upon the murmurous Israelites.

Hence **Mu·rmurously** *adv.*, **Mu·rmurousness.**

1851 MRS. BROWNING *Casa Guidi Wind.* II. xxii, And murmurously the ebbing waters grit The little pebbles. 1890 *Chamb. Jrnl.* 13 Sept. 592/2 Murmurously low Falls the sad rhythm of old Ocean's tread. 1903 *Westm. Gaz.* 5 Oct. 2/1 Two streams of water flow..into stone basins, lulling one with a sleepy murmurousness.

Murn, obs. and dial. form of MOURN *sb.* and *v.*1

Murnival(1: see MOURNIVAL.

Muromontite (miŭəromǫ·ntəit). *Min.* [a. G. *muromontit* (Kerndt 1848), f. mod.L. *Mūromontium*, Mauersberg in Saxony, where it was found: see -ITE.] A mineral akin to allanite.

1854 DANA *Syst. Min.* (ed. 4) II. 210 With Allanite belong probably Bodenite..and Muromontite.

Murot, variant of MARROT.

Mu·rphy[1], illiterate perversion of MORPHEUS.

1748 SMOLLETT *Rod. Rand.* xvi. (1760) I. 110 When Murfy sends his puppies to the heys of slipping mortals. 1841 MARRYAT *Poacher* xi, We dropped into the arms of Murfy. 1890 G. STABLES *For England*, etc. xiii. 194 It's the nightmare I'll be having..as soon as I'm in the arms av Murphy.

Murphy[2] (mə̄·rfi). *slang.* [Jocular uses of a common Irish surname.]

†**1.** *Murphy's countenance* : 'a pig's face'.

1812 J. H. VAUX *Flash Dict.*

2. A potato.

1811 *Lex. Balatron.*, *Murphies*, potatoes. 1827 EGAN *Anecd. Turf* 151 Mathews relished the Irish stews and murpheys with greater goût. *a* 1845 HOOD *To Henrietta* vii, No, no, they have no murphies there, for supper or for lunch. 1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* I. vi, She bakes such stunning murphies.

† **Murr**, *sb. Obs.* Forms: 5 myrr, 5–7 murre, 6 morre, 6–7 mur, 7 murrhe, 7–8 murr, 8 murrh. [Of obscure origin: possibly onomatopœic.] A severe form of catarrh; an attack of this.

c 1420 ? LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 329 He ratelyd in the throte as he had the murre. 1451 *Paston Lett.* I. 224 On of the tallest younge men of this parysch lyth syke and hath a grete myrr. 1533 ELYOT *Cast. Helthe* (1541) 3 b, The brayne exceding in cold hath The head disposed..to pooses and murres. 1561 HOLLYBUSH *Hom. Apoth.* 3 If the head doth ake by reason of a morre or runninge. 1603 FLORIO *Montaigne* III. xii. 620 With them a..consumption of the lungs, is but an ordinary cough..: A pleurisie but a cold or murre. 1612 COTTA *Disc. Dang. Pract. Phys.* II. i. 81 Old men surprised with murrhes and distillations. 1630 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Urania* lviii, On his death bed grunting like a hog: And almost speechlesse with his rattling Murr. 1655 MOUFET & BENNET *Heath's Impr.* (1746) 208 The Milk of any Beast chewing the Cud..is very ill for Rhums, Murs, Coughs [etc.]. 1756 C. LUCAS *Ess. Waters* I. 181 Hence, the Murr or stuffing of the Head, Rheums, or Catarrhs.. are so rife amongst us.

Murr (mə̄r), *v. Obs.* exc. *dial.* [Echoic.] *intr.* To make a harsh noise; in *Sc.* = PURR.

1662 *Tryal Sir H. Vane* 87 Then the Trumpets were ordered to sound or murre in his face, with a contemptible noise, to hinder his being heard. 1807 HOGG *Mount. Bard, Sandy Tod* 80 Sandy beard a noise, like baudrons Murring i' the bed at e'en.

Murr, variant of MURRE.

‖ **Murra** (mə·rä). *Roman Antiq.* Also murrha, myrrha. [L. *murra* = late Gr. *μορρία* or *μόρρια*. Cf. MURRHINE.] A substance of which precious vases and other vessels were made.

1598 GRENEWEY *Tacitus, Ann.* VI. xxviii. (1622) 131 Hauing taken vp a certaine waight of the stone Murrha. 1606 HOLLAND *Sueton.* 68 On cup of the pretious stone Myrrha [*margin* Or Murrha]. 1781 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xxxi. III. 206 *note*, The fragile vessels of chrystal and *murra*, which last is almost proved..to mean the porcelain of China and Japan.

Murrage, -raie, obs. ff. MURAGE, MURREY.

Murrain (mə·rĕn), *sb.* and *a.* Forms: 4–5 moryne, 4–6 mor(e)yn(e, 5 morayne, morein, muran, murreyne, 5–6 moren, 6 morraine, -eine, -eyn(e, moryen, murrayne, -ein, murryn, 6–7 moraine, murraine, -en, -ion, 7 murain, murrin, myrren, 7– murrain. [a. F. *morine* (12th–13th c. in Hatz.-Darm.; AF. *moryn* 1321–2 in *Rolls of Parl.*; Anglo-L. *morina* 13th c.) = Sp. *morriña*, Pg. *morrinha* cattle plague, commonly regarded as a derivative of L. *morī* to die; cf. It. *moria* plague.] **A.** *sb.*

†**1.** Plague, pestilence. *Obs.*

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 16453 What for moryne, what for dere, ffewe þer wore þat might liue here. *c* 1340 [see MANQUALM]. 1430–40 LYDG. *Bochas* III. xx. (1494) m vj, Nye all bis people was slayne in that moreyne. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII* 177 b, Famyn and pestilence or a morreyn wherof the people died in euery place. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 161 A murren, procured..by Iewish exorcismes intending a plague to the men.

fig. 1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 265 b, There be many noble men..that are not coathed as yet with this Lutheran moraine.

†**b.** In imprecations: *A murrain of (it), murrain meet them, murrain on (one)*, may a murrain or pestilence fall upon (some one). Also in exclamations of anger: *With a murrain, what a (the) murrain, how a murrain. Obs.*

a 1530 HEYWOOD *Weather* (Brandl) 523 A myller wyth a moryn and a myschyefe, Who wolde be a myller as good be a theſe. *c* 1560 INGELEND *Disobed. Child* C j, What a Murryn I say, what a noyse doest thou make? *c* 1560 [RICHARDES] *Misogonus* I. iii. 12 A moringe lighte one that foules face of thine! 1575 *Gamm. Gurton* I. iii, How a murryon came this chaunce. 1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* II. i. 20 A red Murren o'th thy Iades trickes. 1607 DEKKER & WEBSTER *Westw. Hoe* IV. i, *Luce*. Who am I? *Tent*. What the Murrion care I who you are. 1607 TOURNEUR *Rev. Trag.* III. vi, A murren meete 'em! 1611 *Tarlton's Jests* (1638) A 2 b, A murren of that face. 1624 DAVENPORT *City Nightcap* IV. (1661) 36 Marry come up with a murren, from whence came you tro, ba? 1705 VANBRUGH *Confed.* I. i, What the murrain have they to do with quality? 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 113 ¶ 3 At last, with a Murrain to her, she cast her bewitching Eye upon me.

2. An epizootic disease in cattle.

1421 *Coventry Leet Bk.* (E.E.T.S.) 25 We commaund þat no bocher sell noo beestis of moren, ne no roten Schep. *c* 1450 *Merlin* 3 Thei..tolde their minister the mervelle of the moreyn, tbat was fallen a-monge the bestes. 1514 BARCLAY *Cyt. & Uplondyshm.* (Percy Soc.) 37 Why lose we our sede, our labour, and expence? Where cometh moryen, & grevous pestylence? 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* III. (1586) 129 b, The Pestilence, or Murraine, is a common name, but there are diuers kindes of it. 1670 MILTON *Hist. Eng.* VI. Wks. 1851 V. 241 The next year..was calamitous, bringing strange fluxes upon men, and murren upon Cattel. 1715 GARTH *Claremont* 162 In fillets bound, a hallow'd band Taught how to tend the flocks,..Could tell what murrains in what months begun, And how the seasons travell'd with the Sun. 1758 R. BROWN *Compl. Farmer* (1759) 28 For the Garget, Plague, or Murrain in Bulls, Cows or Oxen. 1846 J. BAXTER *Libr. Pract. Agric.* (ed. 4) II. 145 The early stage even of murrain is one of fever. 1884 G. FLEMING in *Encycl. Brit.* XVII. 57/2 It is now an established fact that murrains are all infectious.

b. *transf.*

1657 S. PURCHAS *Pol. Flying-Ins.* 130 The murrain among hees is very rare. 1817 *Sporting Mag.* L. 261 The roup, the gargut and the murrain, are terms often applied indiscriminately to the diseases of fowls. 1880 DISRAELI *Endym.* III. xiv. 141 A murrain had fallen over the whole of the potato crops in England.

†**3.** Flesh of animals that have died of disease; also in wider sense, dead flesh, carrion. *Obs.*

1382 WYCLIF *Jer.* vii. 33 And ben shal the moreyn [Vulg. *morticinum populi*] of this puple in to mete to the foules of heuene, and to the bestus of erthe. *c* 1610 in Gutch *Coll. Cur.* II. 15 That he bring no rotten flesh, no myrren, no sufferers, but lawful and wholesome for man's body.

†**b.** As a term of contempt (*nonce-use*).

1632 MASSINGER & FIELD *Fatal Dowry* III. i, If our fresh wits cannot turne the plots Of such a mouldy murrion on it selfe.

†**4.** Mortality (usually, by pestilence); *occas.* slaughter. *Obs.*

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) I. 387 Also Beda..seiþ: Pestilens of moreyn bare doun Hibernia. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 5708 He cleff Gregeis as men do swyn, He made of hem gret moryn. 1530 PALSGR. 246/1 Moreyne dethe, *mortalité*; *mourine*. 1547–64 BAULDWIN *Mor. Philos.* (Palfr.) 32 The Athenians, being consumed with warres & morraine of people, to augment the city, decreed that enery man should haue two wiues. *a* 1632 T. TAYLOR *God's Judgem.* I. II. xl. (1642) 303 By the murraine of men by pestilence..the tillage of the earth was put off.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.*: **a.** simple attrib., as *murrain cattle, flock, sheep*; *murrain-rotted* adj.

c 1490 CAXTON *Rule St. Benet* 24 viij b, They shall departe from the congregacyon, leest that suche a moreyne shepe empoysen and enfecte the residne of ye flocke. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* II. i. 97 Crowes are fatted with the murrion flocke. 1900 H. SUTCLIFFE *Shameless Wayne* xix, Clear the pens of yond murrain-rotted ewes. 1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 1 May 8/2 Tuberculous people and murrain cattle.

b. instrumental, as † **murrain-strike** *v.* (nonce-wd.), to infect with murrain.

1613 HEYWOOD *Silver Age* III. i. H 1 b, If'e breake thy plowes, thy Oxen murren-strike.

†**B.** *adj.* Ill-conditioned, 'plaguy'. Also quasi-*adv.* as an intensive, 'confoundedly'. *Obs.*

1575 *Gamm. Gurton* II. iv, It is a murrion crafty drab, and froward to be pleased. *Ibid.* III. iv, Ich know thars not.. A muryner cat than Gyb is, betwixt the Tems and Tyne. 1591 HARINGTON *Orl. Fur.* XII. xxxiv, Thou foole and murren lier. 1664 VISCT. FALKLAND *Marriage Nt.* III. i. 25 That same's a murrain wise boy, if you mark him. 1728 VANBR. & CIB. *Prov. Husb.* I. 17 My Lady was in such murrain haste to be here, that set out she would.

Hence **Mu·rrained** *a.*, infected with murrain.

† **Mu·rrainly** *adv.*, 'plagnily'.

1548 L. SHEPHERD *John Bon* (1808) 6 Ye are morenly well learned I se by your recknynge That ye wyll not forget such an eluyshe thynge. 1575 *Gamm. Gurton* III. ii, And yead bene here, cham sure yonld murrenly ha wondred! 1831 TRELAWNY *Adv. Younger Son* xciv, The Europeans ..died like murrained sheep.

Murrain, obs. form of MORION[1].

Murram, Murray, obs. ff. MARRAM, MURREY[1].

Murre (mə̄r). Also 8 merre, 8–9 murr, 9 mur, muir. [Of obscure origin: cf. MARROT.

Fleming (*Brit. Anim.*, 1828, p. 134), and later writers, give a form *murse*, probably due to a misprint or misreading.]

A name applied to **a.** several species of GUILLEMOT, esp. of the genus *Uria*; **b.** the RAZOR-BILL, *Alca torda*. Also *attrib.*

1602 G. ARCHER in Purchas *Pilgrims* IV. 1647 Pettrels, Cootes, Hagbuts, Pengwins, Murres, Gannets, Cormorants, Guls, [etc.]. 1662 RAY *Three Itin.* III. 187 We saw..some of the young murres, a bird, black on the head and back, white under the breast and belly, and bath a sharp and black bill. 1681 GREW *Musæum* I. IV. iii. 72 The Auk, Rasor-Bill, or Murre. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Murr-bird*, a kind of Bird. 1778 *Eng. Gazetteer* (ed. 2) s.v. *Pembrokeshire*, The razor-bill is the merre of Cornwall. 1845 WHITTIER *Fishermen* iii, And the noisy murr are flying, Like black scuds, overhead. 1876 GOODE *Anim. Resources U. S.* 11 Loons, grebes, auks, puffins, guillemot, murres.

Murre, var. MURR; obs. f. MURREY, MYRRH.

Murreie, Murrel, obs. ff. MURREY, MOREL *sb.*[3]

Murrelet (mə̄·rlĕt). [f. MURRE + -LET.] A small species of auk, of the family *Alcidæ*.

1872 COUES *Key N. Amer. Birds* 344 *Brachyrhamphus marmoratus*. .. Marbled Guillemot, or Murrelet. *Ibid.*, Kittlitz's Murrelet.

Murrell, Murren: see MOREL *sb.*[3], MURRAIN.

Murren, murreowne, obs. ff. MORION[1].

Murrey (mə·ri), *sb.*[1] and *a.* Now only *Hist.* and *arch.* Forms: 5 murreye, morrey(e, morreey, 5–6 murre, 5–8 murray, 5–9 murry, 6 mour(r)ey, -ye, -ie, -eie, -aie, morra, 7 muroy, 5– murrey. [a. OF. *moré* adj. and sb., *morée* fem. sb., murrey colour, murrey-coloured cloth, ad. med.L. *mōrātus*, *mōrāta*, f. L. *mōrum* mulberry.]

A. *sb.*

1. A colour like that of the mulberry; a purple-red or blood-colour. Also, cloth of this colour.

In some modern books 'murrey' is given as the name of a heraldic tincture; but Leigh and Guillim mention it only as the popular name for the colour heraldically termed *sanguine*.

[1380 in *Test. Karleol.* (1893) 138, j Kirtill cum capucio de murre.] *c* 1412 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 695 And where be my gounes of scarlet, Sanguyn, murreye, & blewes sadde & lighte. *c* 1461 *E. E. Misc.* (Warton Club) 90 3oure flote is made for 3oure sangweyns and also for 3our violettes and 3oure violettes sadder thanne 3oure morreys. 1462 *Paston Lett.* II. 103 Your son wolle have to hys jakets murry and tany. *c* 1483 CAXTON *Dialogues* 14/38 *Entrepers moret*, Sad blew morreey. 1530 in W. H. Turner *Select. Rec. Oxford* (1880) 68 A Gowne of mourrey. 1587 HARRISON *England* II. xxi. 211/1 The die thereof contendeth with skarlet, murreie, and purple. 1640 HABINGTON *Edw. IV* 165 Five hundred Commoners in murrey receiv'd him. 1657 R. LIGON *Barbadoes* 68 The rinde smooth, with various greens, interlac'd with murries, yellowes, and faint carnations. 1745 P. THOMAS *Jrnl. Anson's Voy.* 93 Their [the Vicunnas] colour is almost Murrey. 1834 PLANCHÉ *Brit. Costume* xiii. 200 Murrey and blue were the colours of the house of York.

¶ **2.** Used allusively for MUREX. *rare*—[1].

1579 TWYNE *Phisicke agst. Fort.* I. xx. 26 For thee the Tyrian Murrey swimmeth, or Purple fishe.

B. *adj.* Of a purplish-red colour; murrey-coloured. † *Murrey kersey*: used as a term of contempt for a woman.

1403 *Mann. & Househ. Exp.* (Roxb.) 216 For ij. peyre off morrey hosyn ffor my mastyr, xiiij.s. 1599 B. JONSON *Ev. Man out of Hum.* IV. vi, I had on a gold cable hatband.. which I wore about a murrey French hat. 1607 MIDDLETON *Michaelm. Term* I. i, Let her pass me; I'll take no notice of her,—scurvy murrey kersey. 1625 in Rymer *Foedera* (1726) XVIII. 240 One Plate of Goulde,..with a Case of Murrey Velvet. 1677 GREW *Colours Plants* I. § 15 The larger Buds are purple or murrey, and the open Flowers, blew. 1840 H. AINSWORTH *Tower of London* I. i. 4 Doublets of murrey and blue cloth. 1847 G. HUME *Firstlings of Fancy* 17 The sharpened verge of a dark murrey cloud.

†**b.** Of the complexion: Sanguine. *Obs. rare*—[1].

1623 COCKERAM II, A murrey Complexion.

† **c.** In the name of a variety of nectarine.

1664 EVELYN *Kal. Hort., Aug.* 72 Nectarines. The Muroy Nectarine, Tawny, Red Roman, [etc.]. 1685–90 TEMPLE *Ess. Gard.* Wks. 1720 I. 183 The only good Nectorins are the Murry and the French...Of the Murry there are several Sorts, but being all hard, they are seldom well ripened with us. 1767 ABERCROMBIE *Ev. Man his own Gard.* (1803) 674/1 *Nectarines*..Elruge, Temple, Murrey, Brugnion.

† **Mu·rrey**, *sb.*[2] *Cookery. Obs.* In 5 murreye, morreye. [App. an Eng. subst. use of OF. *moré* (see MURREY[1]) in the sense flavoured with mulberries.] A stew or 'compote' of veal, etc., prepared with mulberries.

c 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 28 Murreye.—Take Molberys, & wryng hem þorwe a cloþe; nym Vele [etc.]. *Ibid.*, A rede Morreye.—Take Molberys, and wrynge a gode hepe of hem þorw a cloþ; nym Vele [etc.].

Murrey, variant of MORAY.

† **Murrey colour.** = MURREY *sb.*[1] 1.

1537 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 133 A cote of murre color. 1573 *Art of Limming* (1588) 8 If thou wilt put to a good quantity of Synapour a little portion of blacke..you shall make thereof a sanguine or Murrye colour. 1786 W. GILPIN *Lakes Cumbld.* (1808) II. xvii. 39 A species of white lychen ..which..had been found very useful in dying a murray-colour. 1849 MRS. MERRIFIELD *Orig. Treat. Paint. in Oil* I. Introd. vi. 186 *Morello di ferro*, probably some ore of iron, burnt until it assumes a morello or murrey colour.

Hence **Murrey-coloured** *a.*

1657 W. COLES *Adam in Eden* xl. 80 Small purple or murrey coloured Flowers. *c* 1714 POPE, etc. *Mem. M. Scriblerus* I. vi. (1741) 24 A waistcoat of murrey-colour'd sattin. 1886 T. HARDY *Mayor Casterbr.* ix, Henchard's house was..fronted with murrey-coloured old brick.

Murreyne, var. MORIAN *Obs.*; obs. f. MURRAIN.

Murrh(e, variant forms of MURR *sb. Obs.*

Murrhine (mə·rin, -əin), *a.* and *sb.* Also murrine (in Dicts.); β. myrrhine. [ad. L. *murr(h)inus*, f. *murra* (see MURRA); cf. late Gr. *μόρρινος* (used subst. in fem. *μορρίνη*), f. *μορρία*, *μόρρια*. The form *myrrhine* represents the corrupt readings L. *myrrhinus*, late Gr. *μύρρινος*, which occur in some editions of the texts.]

A. *adj.* Made of or pertaining to murra. *Murrhine glass*: a modern fancy name for a delicate ware brought from the East, and made of fluor-spar.

a. 1579 TWYNE *Phisicke agst. Fort.* I. xxxviii. 56 A man myght see the pryce of one Murrhine stone to be at seuentie talentes. 1715 tr. *Pancirollus' Rerum Mem.* I. I. vii. 19 The Wine may grow warm, from the Colour of the Murrhine Cup. 1805 D. MACPHERSON *Ann. Comm.* I. 170 Murrhine stones from Ozenè. 1886 *Temple Bar* LXXVIII. 198 It has the pigeon's-neck lustre of the murrhine vase.

β. 1606 G. W[OODCOCKE] *Lives Emperors* in *Hist. Iustine* G g 2, Golden and christaline, Myrrhine vessels and pottes. 1671 MILTON *P. R.* IV. 119 Crystal and Myrrhine cups imboss'd with Gems. 1832 GELL *Pompeiana* I. vi. 98 The myrrhine vases..which were in such request. 1885 PATER *Marius* I. 60 'Like jeweller's work! like a myrrhine vase!' admirers said of his writing.

B. *sb.* A murrhine vase.

1852 ANDREWS *Lat.-Eng. Lex.*, *Myrrhina* .. murrhine vases, murrhines. 1879 LEWIS & SHORT, *Murrina* or *myrrina*..murrine vases, murrines.

Murrian, obs. form of MORIAN, MORION [1].

Murrie, obs. form of MURREY.

Murrin, Murrion(n: obs. ff. MORION [1], MURRAIN, MORIAN.

Murrit, variant of MOORAD *dial.*

Murry, variant of MORAY, MURREY.

Murryon, Mursail: see MORION [1], MESAIL.

Murse, erron. form of MURRE.

Murssell, obs. form of MORSEL.

† Murth [1], morth. *Obs.* Forms: 1–3, 5 morð (morth), 4–5 murth(e. [OE. *morð* str. neut. and masc. = OFris. *morth, mord*, OS. *morð* (MLG., MDu. *mort*, Du. *moord*), OHG. *mord* neut. and masc. (MHG. *mort*, G. *mord*), ON. *morð* :—OTeut. **murþo*[m], *-o-z*, cogn. w. L. *mort-*, *mors* death. (Cf. MURDER *sb.*)] Murder, slaughter.

c 893 K. ÆLFRED *Oros.* I. viii. 40 Þonne hi swylc ȝeblot & swylc morð donde wæron swylc her ær beforan sæde. *c* 1205 LAY. 19739 Hu heo mihten þene king mid morðe aquellen. *Ibid.* 28715 Þat heo wolden..for-saken Modredes sinne þæ þat morð wrohte. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 1072 A-gain abel he rayused strijf, Wit murth he did his broiþer o lijf. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 1279 Þe morth of all þe Messedone[s] and of þe many grekis. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 5983 Full mekull was the murthe, & mony were ded.

b. *Comb.*, as **morth burning** [cf. MHG. *mortbrennen*], incendiarism; **morth game**, murderous play, murder; **morth spel**, murder.

c 1205 LAY. 19654 Mid morð-spelle þene king aquellen. *Ibid.* 22908 Moni þer feollen for heore muchele mode morðgomen wrohten. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 27838 O couaitise.. cums..morth brinning, manslaghter, and suik.

Murth [2] (mɜ̄ɹþ). *north.* Also (in E.D.D.) **morth.** [? a. ON. *mergð*, f. *marg-r* many.] A great quantity, plenty, abundance.

1674 RAY *N. C. Words* 34 A *Murth* of corn: abundance of corn. 1855 W. BROOKE *Eastford* 76, I think we should have had a murth of it this year, but the summer has been a little too cold, and Indian corn must have a hot sun. 1882 *Lanc. Gloss., Murth*, a large quantity or number. Another form of *mort*.

Murþ(e, obs. forms of MIRTH.

† Mu·rther [1]. *Sc. Obs. rare.* Forms: 1 myrðra, 4 murthire, 6 **murther.** [OE. *myrðra* :—prehistoric **murþrjon-* f. **murþro-* MURDER *sb.*] = MURDERER 1.

a 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* II. viii. [ix.] (1890) 124 Se myrðra.. se þe hine ȝewundade. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* iii. (*Andreas*) 81 Ane woman þat wedyt was wilfully with ane murthire. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scotl.* III. (S. T. S.) 193 The cytharist, and the vthir twa murtheris, war takne.

† Mu·rther [2]. *Obs. rare*—[0]. [? a perversion of MORTAR *sb.*[1] 3 after MURDER *sb.* (cf. MURDERER 2).] ? = MORTAR *sb.*[1] 3.

1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. xviii. (Roxb.) 138/1 They are of some called Murthers and slings or sling peeces, because they are slung in their holds to turne any way.

Murther, -ir, -our, -re, -ur, obs. ff. MURDER.

Murtheris, -ys, var. ff. MURDRES *v. Sc. Obs.*

† Mu·rtrish, *v. Obs. rare*—[1]. [ad. OF. *murtriss-*, lengthened stem of *murtrir* to MURDER. Cf. MURDRES *v.*] = MURDER *v.*

c 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* x. 264 How had ye the hert for to see vs murtrished in your presence?

Muru(h)ðe, obs. forms of MIRTH.

Murva: see MOORVA.

‖ **Murwa** (mɜ̄·ɹwă). Also **murhwa.** [Hindī dial. *maruwā*.] A kind of millet, *Eleusine coracana*. Also, a fermented liquor brewed from this.

1847 *Nat. Encycl.* I. 236 Some..grains of Hindustan, as.. moong, oord, and murhwa. 1861 BENTLEY *Man. Bot.* 698 A kind of beer, called murwa or millet. 1862 [see MANO].

Mury(e, Muryn, obs. ff. MERRY, MURRAIN.

Murza, variant of MIRZA.

Mus, var. MUSS *dial.*, mouth; obs. f. MOUSE.

‖ **Musa** (miū·zăˌ). Pl. **musæ, musas.** [mod.L., from Arabic: see MUSE *sb.*[4]] In early use, the plantain or banana tree (see MUSE *sb.*[4]). Now only *Bot.*, a plant of the genus including the plantain tree (*M. paradisiaca*), the banana. Also *attrib.*

(1578: see MUSE *sb.*[4]) 1832 MACGILLIVRAY tr. *Humboldt's Trav.* (1836) III. 46 Groups of musae and dragon-trees. 1877 P. L. SIMMONDS *Trop. Agric.* 455 Plants of the *Musa* tribe. *Ibid.* 466 Experience will soon determine which variety of *Musa* is most valuable for producing fibre. 1881 *Encycl. Brit.* XII. 261/2 Many palms, some tree ferns, and the noble Musas..do fairly well.

Musaceous (miuzē·ʃəs), *a.* [f. mod.L. *Mūsāceæ*, f. MUSA: see -ACEOUS.] Pertaining to the N.O. *Musaceæ*, of which *Musa* is the typical genus.

1852 TH. ROSS *Humboldt's Trav.* I. xiii. 429 A plant of the musaceous family.

Musack, variant of MUSSUCK.

Musad (miū·zæd). [f. MUSA + -AD.] A plant of the order *Musaceæ*.

1846 LINDLEY *Veg. Kingd.* 163 *Musaceæ*. Musads.

Musadene, obs. form of MUSCADINE [1].

Musæum, obs. form of MUSEUM.

Musaic(k, -al, etc.: see MOSAIC, -AL.

Musak, variant of MUSSUCK.

Musal (miū·zăl), *a.* [f. MUSE *sb.*[1] + -AL.] 'Relating to the Muse; relating to poetry; poetical'.

1860 in WORCESTER (citing *Ec. Rev.*); and in later Dicts.

Musal, obs. form of MUZZLE.

Musalche(e, variant forms of MUSSALCHEE.

Musalit, Musall, obs. ff. MUZZLED, MUZZLE.

† Musall. *Sc. Obs. rare.* ? = MIZZEN.

1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) I. 20 [see FUK]. *Ibid.* 373 Tha led thame in with musall, fuk, and mane.

Musalman, variant of MUSSULMAN.

Musang (miūsæ·ŋ). In 8 **moosang.** [a. Malay *mūsang* wild cat.] A PARADOXURE, or Palm-Civet; esp. *Paradoxurus musanga* (or *hermaphroditus*).

1783 MARSDEN *Sumatra* 94 Pole cat: moosang. 1840 *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 93 Various species of Musang have been named as separate subgenera. 1884 STEWNDALE *Mammalia India* 215 Genus Paradoxurus—The Musangs. *Ibid.* 217 *Paradoxurus..Grayii*, the Hill Musang. *Ibid.* 220 *Paradoxurus zeylanicus*. The Golden Musang.

Musar. *Hist.* [Perh. a misinterpretation of OF. *musars* pl. of *musard* (see MUSARD), as if f. *muse* bagpipe.] (See quots.)

1776 SIR J. HAWKINS *Hist. Mus.* II. 44 About the end of the tenth century there sprang up in Provence certain professions of men called Troubadours, or Trouverres, Jongleours, Cantadours, Violars, and Musars. *Ibid.*, The Cantadours..were clearly singers of songs and ballads, as were also the Musars. 1782 BURNEY *Hist. Mus.* II. 233 At this period [12th c.] Violars, or performers on the Vielle and Viol; Juglars, or Flute-players; Musars, or players on other instruments;..abounded all over Europe.

Musarabic, variant of MOZARABIC.

† Musard. *Obs.* Forms: 4–5 **musard(e**, 5 **-erde**, 4 **mosard.** [a. F. *musard* (OF. also *musart*), f. *muser* MUSE *v.*: see -ARD. Cf. It. *musardo*.] A dreamer, foolish trifler.

13.. *Guy Warw.* (A.) 380 Ich wene þou art a fole musard! *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 229 Comen is þe Sarazin.. Clad in clobes fyn, himself is a mosard. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 4034 Alle men wole holde tbee for musarde, That debonair have founden thee. *c* 1450 *Merlin* xii. 183 And we ne do but as musardes. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* vii. 171 The kyng Charlemagn maketh vs lyke fooles and holdeth vs for nyce & musardes.

† Musardry. *Obs.* Also **mosardry.** [a. OF. *musarderie*, f. *musard*: see prec. and -ERY.] Idle dreaming, sloth.

a 1400–50 *Alexander* 4486 Of..many foule synnes, Maumentry & manslatir, mosardry & pride. 1438 *Bk. Alexander Gt.* (Bann.) 107 To leif foly And all murning of musardry. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* IV. Prol. 16 Þour curius thochtis quhat bot musardry?

† Musardy. *Obs. rare*—[1]. [a. OF. *musardie*, f. *musard*: see MUSARD and -Y.] Foolish dreaming.

1481 CAXTON *Godeffroy* cxviii. 179 This is a moch folyssh pyte that thou hast, And I see the in a grete musardye.

Mus.B., Mus.Bac. Abbreviations of mod.L. *Musicæ Baccalaureus* 'bachelor of music'.

Muscabell, muscadel, -della: see MUSCATEL.

‖ **Muscadin** (mɜ̄skădæ̃). [Fr.: a transferred use of *muscadin*, musk-comfit: see MUSCADINE 2.] A Parisian term for: A dandy, exquisite. Hence applied in contempt to the members of a moderate party in the French Revolution (about 1794–6), composed chiefly of young men of the upper middle class.

1794 C. PIGOT *Female Jockey Club* 98 It is a general complaint amongst our elegant *muscadins* and *muscadines* who frequent her Ladyship's assemblies. 1822 BYRON *Juan* VIII. cxxiv, Cockneys of London! Muscadins of Paris! 1827 SCOTT *Napoleon* III. 70 *note*, *Muscadins*, fops—a phrase applied to the better class of *sans culottes*. 1844 DISRAELI *Coningsby* IV. xv. Little do your 'muscadins' of Paris, and your dandies of London,..suspect [etc.].

attrib. 1795 BURKE *Regic. Peace* IV. (1892) 293 The Committee for Foreign Affairs..stunk so abominably, that no *Muscadin* Ambassador..could come within ten yards of them.

Muscadine [1] (mɜ̄·skădəin, -in). Forms: 6 muskadyn(e, (musca-, muskedyne, moscadyn, musadene, 6–7 **muskadine**, 7 **-den, muskedine, muscadin**), 6– **muscadine.** [Of somewhat obscure origin; not found in Fr. (cf., however, MUSCADIN and MUSCADINE 2); prob. an English formation on Pr. *muscat*, fem. *muscade* (see MUSCATEL) + -INE.

Cf. It. '*moscatini*, certain grapes, peares and apricocks so called' (Florio 1598).]

1. In full *muscadine-wine.* = MUSCATEL 1. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.*

1541 *Rutland MSS.* (1905) IV. 310 For a galon and a pynte..of muskadyne, xviij d. *Ibid.* 324 A rwndlett off Musadene. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 137 b, Well fauoured or beautyfull stroumpettes he auoched to bee like vnto bastarde or muscadyne. 1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* 32 Buts of Sack and Muscadine. 1607 DEKKER & MARSTON *Northw. Hoe* IV. D.'s Wks. 1873 III. 54 *Bel.*..How tooke he this drench downe. *May.* Like Egs and Muscadine, at a gulp. 1660 PEPYS *Diary* 19 Nov., And so he and I to the Sun and I did give him a morning draft of Muscadine. 1763 SMOLLETT *Trav.* (1766) I. xii. 210 The village of St. Laurent, famous for its Muscadine wines. 1851 LONGF. *Gold. Leg.* IV. *Convent of Hirschau*, The beautiful town that gives us wine With the fragrant odour of Muscadine. 1889 DOYLE *Micah Clarke* 72 Three flasks of most excellent muscadine.

2. In full *muscadine grape.* The name of several varieties of grape having the flavour or odour of musk; also, a vine bearing a variety of this grape.

1611 FLORIO, *Moscatello*, the Muskadine-grape. 1629 PARKINSON *Parad.* 563 The white Muscadine Grape is a verie great Grape. The redde Muscadine is as great as the white. 1664 EVELYN *Kal. Hort., Aug.* 72 Other Fruit. Cluster-grape, Muscadine, Corinths, [etc.]. 1706 LONDON & WISE *Retir'd Gard.* I. 20 This Exposition is fit only for Muscadines, Fig-trees and the like. 1719 — *Compl. Gard.* 156 In moderate Climates the Muscadine Grape requires a South Wall. 1856 GRAY *Man. Bot.* (1860) 78 *Vitis vulpina*, L. (Muscadine or Southern Fox-Grape). 1860 HOGG *Fruit Man.* 97 Black Muscadine..This is an excellent grape, and has a trace of musky aroma in its flavour. *Ibid.* 114 Royal Muscadine. *Ibid.*, The White Muscadine of some authors is the Early Chasselas. 1874 LANIER *Poems, Corn* (1892) 18 Long Muscadines Rich-wreathe the spacious foreheads of great pines.

† 3. A variety of pear. = MUSCATEL 4. *Obs.*

1755 in JOHNSON; and in some later Dicts.

4. quasi-*adj.* Resembling muscadine wine.

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* VI. xii. 336 Most decoctions of astringent plants..doe leave in the liquor a deep and Muscadine red.

† Mu·scadine [2]. *Obs.* Also 7 **muskedine, muskadine, musquedine.** [ad. F. *muscadin*, alteration of *muscardin*, ad. It. *moscardino*: see MOSCARDINO.] A sweetmeat perfumed with musk.

1665 MAY *Accompl. Cook* (ed. 2) 271 To make Muskedines, called Rising Comfits or Kissing Comfits. *Index*, Musquedines. 1696 SALMON *Fam. Dict.* (ed. 2), Muskadines, to make. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Muscadine*,..a sort of Sugar-Work made by Confectioners.

Mu·scadine [3]. *rare*—[1]. [A quasi-Fr. fem. f. MUSCADIN.] A Parisian lady of fashion.

1794 [see MUSCADIN].

† Musca·do [1]. *Obs. rare.* App. some weapon; ? a musket.

1592 *Arden of Feversham* III. vi. F 2, Zounds I hate them as I hate a toade, That cary a muscado in their tongue And scarce a hurting weapon in their hand.

† Musca·do [2]. Some kind of herb: ? musk.

1612 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* XV. 197 At Bridals..They hot Muscado oft with milder Maudlin cast.

‖ **Muscæ** (mɜ̄·sīsē). [Lat., nom. pl. of *musca* fly.] Specks which appear to float before the eyes; in full *muscæ volitantes* [L. *volitantēs*, pr. pple. of *volitāre* to fly about].

[1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.*, *Muscæ Volitantes*, dark, irregular veins and spots, seeming to fly before the eyes.., especially on looking at bright objects.] 1797 BROUGHAM in *Phil. Trans.* LXXXVII. 372 Those floating specks so often observed on the surface of the eye..called 'muscæ volitantes'. 1879 *St. George's Hosp. Rep.* IX. 531 Patients with muscæ. 1879 HARLAN *Eyesight* v. 61 'Muscæ' may be made evident in any eye by looking through a small pinhole in a card at a bright light.

Muscal (mɜ̄·skăl), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. mod.L. *Muscālēs* pl., f. *musc-us* moss: see -AL.] **a.** *adj.* in *Muscal alliance*, a group of plants comprising the mosses. **b.** *sb.* A plant of this 'alliance'.

1846 LINDLEY *Veget. Kingd.* 54 Muscales.—The Muscal Alliance. *Ibid.* 56 Natural Orders of Muscals.

Muscal(l)onge, variant forms of MASKINONGE.

Muscalmon, var. *musk-almond*: see MUSK *sb.*

† Muscane, *a. Sc. Obs.* Also **muskane.** [Of doubtful origin; cf. Gael. *mosgain* 'having dry-rot, as wood' (M°Alpine), Irish *mosgán* 'rotten, decayed' (O'Reilly); also Norw. *mosken* of the same meaning, and MOSKER *v.*] Of wood: Rotten, decaying.

Warner mistook the word in the Bellenden passage for the name of a kind of wood.

1501 DOUGLAS *Pal. Hon.* I. iii, Not throw the soyl bot muskane treis sprontit. *Ibid.* xix, I agane maist like ane elriche grume Crap in the muskane aikin stok misharrit. 1536 BELLENDEN *Cron. Scot.* (1821) II. 152 Ilk ane of thame had in thair hand ane club of muscane tre, quhilk kest ane uncouth glance, with the fische scalis, in the mirk. 1606 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* XIV. xc. (1612) 366 A club of Muscane in one hand,..For naturally that wood in darke giues Shine.

Muscanonge, variant of MASKINONGE.

† Muscardin. *Obs. rare.* [a. F. *muscardin* (Buffon).] The dormouse, *Myoxus avellanarius*.

1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* IV. 76 The greater dormouse, which Mr. Buffon calls the Loir; the middle..the Lerot; the less, which he denominates the Muscardin.

Muscardine (mɜ̄skā·ɹdin). [a. F. *muscardine*.] A disease incident to silkworms, caused by the development of a vegetable parasite or fungus in the body of the caterpillar. Also *attrib.*

1846 LINDLEY *Veget. Kingd.* 32 The Muscardine, which is so destructive to silkworms. 1890 W. P. BALL *Effects Use & Disuse* 108 The muscardine silkworm disease.

Hence **Mu·scardined** *a.* [-ED [2]], affected with muscardine.

1888 E. A. BUTLER *Silkworms* 72 The muscardined caterpillar..usually perishes before forming its cocoon.

‖ **Muscari** (mɜ̄skē·ɹri, -ɹəi). Also 6 **muscarie**, 7 (?) **muscaris**, 8 **muscaria**, 7–8 **musoary.** [mod.L. *muscari*, given by Clusius 1601 as one of the names by which the plant was known at Constantinople.

It would seem therefore to represent a mod.Gr. **μοσκάρι*, dim. of μόσκος musk: the flowers have a musk-like odour. Clusius says that another name was *muschoromi* or *muscurimi* (μόσκος Ρωμαῖος 'Roman musk'), and that (in Italy) some called it *muschio greco*.]

A genus of bulbous plants belonging to the hyacinth tribe of *Liliaceæ*; a plant of this genus, esp. *Muscari botryoides*, the grape hyacinth.

1597 GERARDE *Herbal* I. lxxii. § 1. 105 Yellow Muscarie hath fiue or sixe long leaues spread vpon the ground. 1664 EVELYN *Kal. Hort. June* 69 You may now take up all such ..Flower-roots..as..Martagon, Muscaris, Dens Caninus,

&c. 1688 R. Holme *Armoury* II. 66/2 The Muscary or Musk Grape flower. 1721 Mortimer *Husb.* (ed. 5) II. 225 Muscaries or Grape-flowers. 1741 *Compl. Fam.-Piece* II. iii. 367 Muscaria's, great Snow-drops, Dwarf-flag. 1894 *Westm. Gaz.* 19 Apr. 7/2 There were azaleas,..spireas, muscaris, snowflakes, tuberoses [etc.].

Muscariform (mɒskē·rifɒm), *a. Bot.* Also **muscariiform.** [ad. mod.L. *muscāriform-is*, f. L. *muscāri-um* fly-brush (f. *musca* fly) : see -FORM.] Of an organ: Furnished with hairs so as to resemble a brush.

1839 Lindley *Introd. Bot.* (ed. 3) Index. 1866 *Treas. Bot.*

Muscarine (mɒ·skărin). *Chem.* [f. mod.L. *muscāri-us* (see next) + -INE.] An alkaloid poison found in the fungus *Agaricus muscarius.*

1878 tr. *von Ziemssen's Cycl. Med.* XVII. 936 Muscarine contracts the pupils. *Ibid.*, Muscarine-poisoning.

Musca·rious, *a. rare*—°. [f. L. *muscāri-us* (f. *musca* fly) + -OUS.] Of or belonging to flies.

1856 in Mayne *Expos. Lex.* 1891 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

Muscarium[1] (mɒskē·riɒm). [f. L. *muscus* moss + -ARIUM, after *herbarium, rosarium*, etc.] A place where mosses are grown.

1853 C. M'Intosh *Bk. Garden* I. 667/1 The fernery and muscarium.—A garden for the cultivation of ferns and mosses is not often met with.

Musca·rium[2]. *nonce-wd.* [f. L. *musca* fly + -ARIUM.] (See quot.)

1872 O. W. Holmes *Poet Breakf.-t.* ix, Here is my *muscarium*, my home for house-flies.

† **Muscary.** *Bot. Obs. rare*—[1]. [ad. L. *muscāri-um* fly-brush.] = Umbel.

1657 Tomlinson *Renou's Disp.* I. xxvi. 239 Of Fennel... It is a kind of ferulaceous Plant..; its muscary or top, round, patulous, broad, and circulated.

Muscary: see Muscari.

Muscat (mɒ·skæt). Forms: 6 *Sc.* **musticat,** 7 **muscatt,** (8 **muscate,** 9 **muschat**), 7– **muscat.** [a. F. *muscat* adj. (also ellipt. as sb.), a. Pr. *muscat* adj. = It. *moscato* having the flavour of musk :—late L. **muscātus,* f. *musc-us* Musk *sb.*]

1. In full *muscat wine.* = Muscatel 1.

a 1578 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S. T. S.) I. 337 All kynd of drink, as aill, mallvesie, musticat [etc.]. *a* 1747 Holdsworth *Rem. Virg.* (1768) 119 This is practised about Trani in Apulia, where they make excellent Muscat. 1756 Nugent *Gr. Tour, France* IV. 253 The little town of Frontignan, famous for its muscate wine. 1816 Accum *Chem. Tests* (1818) 190 Various wines and spirituous liquors —Cape muschat. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 610/1 Of these [Neapolitan wines] the best known are Lacryma Christi.., several descriptions of good class Muscat wine [etc.].

2. In full *muscat grape.* A variety of grape; also the vine producing it. = Muscadine[1] 2.

1655 *Com. Hist. Francion* XI. 3 He said..that the Muscats he did eat were so great, that only one grain of them was enough to make all England to be perpetually drunk. 1682 S. Wilson *Carolina* 17 The Lords Proprietors have taken care to send plants of the Rhenish,..Muscatt, Madera, and Spanish grapes. 1719 London & Wise *Compl. Gard.* 229 Muscats, are a kind of Grapes..; there are three sorts of them viz. white, red, and black. 1855 C. M'Intosh *Bk. Garden* II. 620/2 Muscats..in no way differ as to pruning from other vines. 1882 *Garden* 4 Feb. 87/3 To insure the perfect keeping of Muscats..they should be quite ripe by the end of August.

† **3.** A kind of peach; also, a kind of pear. *Obs.*

1664 Evelyn *Kal. Hort., July* 20 Peaches..Newington, Violet-muscat, Rambouillet. 1675 C. Cotton *Planters Manual* 50 The Rousselet, and the little Muscat of the Summer-Pears. 1707 Mortimer *Husb., Kal.* July, [Peaches.] Muscat. 1741 *Compl. Fam.-Piece* II. iii. 400 Pears..Green Sugar,..Verte longue, Long-stalked Muscat,..and others.

4. A fungus, *Agaricus albellus.*

1887 Hay *Brit. Fungi* 86 *Agaricus albellus*; *Trichotoma albella*; The Muscat.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *muscat flavour; muscat-flavoured* adj.; **muscat-house,** a hot-house for the cultivation of the muscat grape; **muscat rose** [F. *rose muscate*], the musk rose. Also *muscat grape, wine* (see above).

1707 *Curios. in Husb. & Gard.* 146 When the Flowers begin to appear on the white Muscat Rose-Bushes. 1860 Hogg *Fruit Man.* 110 [Grapes.] Muscat of Alexandria. ..Flesh..with a fine Muscat flavour. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 610/2 The Hungarian vineyards..produce Muscat-flavoured wines. 1855 C. M'Intosh *Bk. Garden* II. 620/2 Many err in keeping their Muscat-house at too high a temperature.

Muscat, variant of Musk-cat.

Muscat, -eer, obs. forms of Musket, -eer.

Muscatel, muscadel (mɒskătĕ·l, -dĕ·l). Forms: α. 4–5 **muskadelle,** (5 **-cadelle**), 5–8 **muscadell,** (6 **-cadle,** 7 **-cadall,** 6 **mosscadell**), 6–7 **muskadel**(l, (6 **-kadyll, -kedele,** *Sc.* **-kedall**), 5– **muscadel,** 6– **muscatel.** β. 6 **muscaldella, -tello,** 7 **moscadelli, muscitella,** 9 **moscatello.** [a. OF. *muscadel, muscatel*, a. Pr. **muscadel*, dim. of *muscat*: see Muscat. The β forms come from the equivalent It. *moscadello, moscatello.* Cf. Sp., Pg. *moscatel.*]

1. A strong sweet wine made from the muscat or similar grape.

The name is now applied to several wines, both white and red, obtained from Italy, Spain, and France.

? *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 236 Malvesye and muskadelle, base mervelyous drynkes, Raykede fulle raythely in rossete cowpes. 1464 *Mann. & Househ. Exp.* (Roxb.) 251 For a quarte of muskadelle, at mastyr Hoys, iiij. d. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 53 b, There groweth the myghty swete wynes as malueseys, tyeres, & muscadels. 1535 Coverdale *Isa.* xxvii. 2 At the same tyme shal men synge of the vynyarde of Muscatel. 1590 Marlowe *2nd Pt. Tamburl.* IV. iv, You shal..drinke in pailes the strongest Muscadell. 1596 Shaks. *Tam. Shr.* III. ii. 174. 1634 R. H. *Salernes Regim.* 42 The moderate dulce or sweet wine is chosen, and not that that is exceeding dulce, as Muskadell. 1704 *Collect. Voy.* (Churchill) III. 8/1 The Wines are..generous..: The best kind is the Muscatel. 1785 J. Phillips *Treat. Inland. Navig.* p. vii, Muscadell wines. 1892 E. Reeves *Homeward Bound* 92 S——h's Special Old Port,..at 35*s.* per dozen,..and their ladies' muscatel at 25*s.*

β. 1554–5 *Burgh Rec. Edin.* (1871) II. 283, xvj quarts wyne muscaldella. 1605 B. Jonson *Volpone* II. ii, What anayles your rich man to haue his magazines stuft with Moscadelli? 1632 Lithgow *Trav.* I. 15 The..wine that is drunke in Rome, is.. Albano, Muscatello, Sheranino. 1683 Pepys *Diary at Tangier* in *Life*, etc. (1841) I. 430 The soldiers..had staved all his wine, not only good white-wine,..but canary and muscatella. 1833 C. Redding *Mod. Wines* 241 Their sweet wines the Italians call Abbocati; their dry they denominate Asciati. Of the former kind are the Moscatello, Aleatico [etc.]. *Ibid.* 246 Moscatello wines.

2. A variety of grape (in full *muscatel grape*); also the vine bearing it. = Muscadine 2.

1517 [see Malvoisie 2]. 1565 Cooper *Thesaurus* s. v. *Apianus*, The muscadell grape. 1601 Holland *Pliny* I. 407 As touching the Muscadell Vines, Apianæ, they tooke that name of Bees, which are so much delighted in them... These Muscadell grapes like wel and loue cold countries. 1699 Evelyn *Kal. Hort.* (ed. 9) 174 [A catalogue of..excellent Fruit-Trees.] Vines..Muscatell, Black, White, excellent. 1763 Mills *Pract. Husb.* IV. 371 The chasselas, otherwise called muscadel. 1851 C. Redding *Mod. Wines* (ed. 3) 201 The large white Muscatel grape. 1854 Longf. *Catawba Wine* ii, The Muscadel That bask in our garden alleys. 1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XX. 258/2 Raisins..are prepared from a variety of muscatel grape.

β. 1707 Mortimer *Husb.* 556 The Muscadella..is a White Grape, not so big as the Muscadine.

3. *pl.* In full *muscatel raisins.* Raisins prepared from the muscatel grape, Malaga raisins.

1652 Heylin *Cosmogr.* II. 267 Cephalenia...Plentifull in ..Muscadels. 1833 C. Redding *Mod. Wines* 187 The first [gathering of Malaga grapes]..furnishes the Muscatel raisins. 1870 Yeats *Nat. Hist. Comm.* II. i. (1872) 181 We receive.. fine Muscatels, or sun-dried raisins,..from Malaga.

† **4.** A variety of pear. *Obs.*

1555 Eden *Decades* 198 The frute is much lyke the muscadell peares of the Ilande of Sicilie. 1617 Morvson *Itin.* III. 77 The Muskadel peare is very delicate, especially when it is dried. 1741 *Compl. Fam.-Piece* II. iii. 383 And these Pears;..Jargonelle, Muscadella [etc.].

† **Muscate·lline,** *a. Obs. rare*—[1]. [f. Muscatel : see -INE.] Resembling muscatel wine.

1673 *Phil. Trans.* VIII. 6022 As for the Smel, that wine is very fragrant, muscatellin and aromatic.

Muscath, -att, -at(t)ier, obs. ff. Musket, -eer.

Muscato, obs. form of Mosquito.

Muscavado, obs. form of Muscovado.

Muscel, Muscelin: see Mussel, Muslin.

Muscelite, variant of Musculite.

Muscellage, -ing: see Mucilage, Muscling.

Muscelman, obs. form of Mussulman.

Muscelto, Musceto, Musch, Muschat: see Mistletoe, Mosquito, Musk, Muscat.

Muschachoe, -adoe, -atoe: see Mustachio.

Musche, variant of Mush *Obs.*

‖ **Muschelkalk** (mu·ʃĕlkalk). *Geol.* [Ger., f. *muschel* mussel + *kalk* lime.] A limestone bed belonging to the red sandstone formation of Germany.

1833 Lyell *Princ. Geol.* III. 326 One group..the Muschelkalk of the Germans, which has no precise equivalent among the English strata. 1836 T. Thomson *Min., Geol.*, etc. II. 139. 1876 Page *Adv. Text-Bk. Geol.* xvi. 286 Shelly fossiliferous limestone known as the Muschelkalk.

Muscheron, obs. form of Mushroom.

† **Muschet.** *Obs. rare*—[1]. [a. some OF. var. of *musguette, muguette*, altered form of (*noix*) *muscate, muscade*, a. Pr. *muscada* :—late L. **muscāta* (fem.) musk-scented, f. *musc-us* musk.] *Nut muschet*: nutmeg.

c 1400 tr. *Secreta Secret., Gov. Lordsh.* 85 Tak..of nottys muschet, oon vnce.

Muscheto, obs. form of Mosquito.

Muschid, variant of Masjid.

1814 W. Brown *Hist. Prop. Chr.* II. 546.

Muschilongoe, variant of Maskinonge.

1794 S. Williams *Vermont* 122 The Pike or Pickerel abounds much in Lake Champlain. It is there called by the name of Muschilongoe.

Muschrumpe, obs. form of Mushroom.

Muschyl, obs. form of Mussel.

Muscicapine (mɒsi·kăpin), *a.* [f. mod.L. *Muscicapa* (f. *musca* fly + *cap-ĕre* to catch) + -INE.] Pertaining to the genus *Muscicapa* of birds, the type of the gronp *Muscicapidæ* or flycatchers.

1885 P. L. Sclater in *Ibis* 17 On the Muscicapine Genus *Chasiempis.*

Muscicolous (mɒsi·kŏləs), *a.* [f. mod.L. **muscicol-a* inhabitant of moss (f. *musc-us* moss + *col-ĕre* to inhabit) + -OUS.] Living in, or inhabiting, the mosses; growing on mosses.

1856 in Mayne *Expos. Lex.* 1879 in Stormonth *Man. Sci. Terms.*

So also **Mu·scicole, Musci·coline** *adjs.* (with the same meaning). 1890 in *Century Dict.*

Muscid (mɒ·sid), *a.* and *sb.* [f. mod.L. *Muscidæ*, f. *musca* fly : see -ID.] **a.** *adj.* Of or pertaining to the dipterous family *Muscidæ*, or flesh-flies. **b.** *sb.* One of the *Muscidæ.*

1895 D. Sharp *Insects* I. (Camb. Nat. Hist. V.) 163 The transformations and physiological processes of the Muscid Diptera. 1896 J. B. Smith in *Trans. Amer. Philos. Soc.* (1898) XIX. 185 In most of the Muscid flies we find [etc.]. *Ibid.* 189 The labellate tip of the Muscid proboscis. 1899 D. Sharp *Insects* II. (Camb. Nat. Hist. VI.) 504 Brauer associates Conopidae with Acalyptrate Muscids, and calls the group Holometopa.

Muscien, obs. form of Musician.

Musciform (mɒ·sifɒrm), *a.*[1] [a. mod.L. *musciform-is*, f. *musca* fly: see -FORM.] Resembling a fly. In some recent Dicts.

Mu·sciform, *a.*[2] [f. L. *musc-us* moss.] Resembling a moss (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1891).

Muscil(l)age, obs. forms of Mucilage.

Muscite (mɒ·sĭsəit). *Palæont.* [ad. mod.L. *Muscītes* (T. Thomson *Min., Geol.*, etc., 1836, II. 288), f. L. *musc-us* moss + -ITE.] A fossil plant of the moss family found chiefly in amber.

1859 Page *Geol. Terms, Muscites*, a general term for fossil plants of the Moss family. In recent Dicts.

Muscke, Musckle, obs. ff. Musk, Muscle.

Musclade, variant of Musculade *Obs.*

Muscle (mɒ·s'l). Forms: 6–7 **muscule, muskle,** (6 **muskel, -il, musckle,** 7 **muskell**), **mustle,** 6– **muscle.** [a. F. *muscle*, or directly ad. L. *mūsculus*, dim. of *mūs* mouse, the form of certain muscles having some resemblance to that of a mouse. Cf. Mouse *sb.* 8.

The word is found in all the Rom. langs.: Pr. *muscle, moscle*, Sp. *músculo* (also in the popular form *muslo* thigh), Pg. *musculo*, It. *muscolo*; also in the mod. Teut. langs., Ger., Du., Da., Sw. *muskel.*]

1. *Anat.* and *Phys.* Any one of the contractile fibrous bands or bundles, having the function of producing movement in the animal body, which conjointly make up the muscular system.

They are termed *voluntary* or *involuntary* according as they are or are not controlled by, the will; those which combine in some degree the functions of both are termed *mixed.*

1533 Elyot *Cast. Helthe* (1539) 50 b, He kepeth his arme stedfast, inforcing thervnto the sinewes & muscules. 1548–77 Vicary *Anat.* ii. (1888) 20 This Corde is associated with a simple flesh, and so therof is made a brawne or a muskel. 1596 Spenser *Astroph.* xx, It both bone and muscles ryved quight. 1615 Crooke *Body of Man* 741 Contraction is the proper and ingenit action of the Muscle. 1701 Grew *Cosm. Sacra* I. v. § 3. 23 In an Urchan the Skin is assisted with a strong Muscule closely adhering to it all along the Back. 1814 Scott *Wav.* x, He was a tall, thin, athletic figure,.. with every muscle rendered as tough as whip-cord by constant exercise. 1879 tr. *Hæckel's Evol. Man* II. xxii. 274 In most lower animals, especially in Worms, we find that the muscles form a simple, thin, flesh-layer immediately below the outer skin-covering.

b. Phr. *Not to move a muscle*: to be perfectly motionless. *To control, govern one's muscles*: to refrain from laughter.

1792 Mary Wollstonecr. *Rights Wom.* iv. 121 So ludicrous..do these ceremonies appear to me that I scarcely am able to govern my muscles. 1889 O'Reilly 50 *Yrs. on Trail* 322, I stayed quite still and never moved a muscle.

2. *collect.* That part of the animal body which is composed of muscles or muscular fibre; also, muscular tissue. Also *Phys.*, the substance of which muscles are composed.

It is the chief constituent of 'flesh' in the animal body and of 'meat' in animal food.

1781 Cowper *Table-talk* 219 His form..Proportion'd well, half muscle and half bone. 1858 Carpenter *Veg. Phys.* § 4 A property peculiar to organised structure, and especially manifested in that form of it which is called muscle. 1866 Odling *Anim. Chem.* 105 *note*, One gramme of muscle should furnish [etc.]. 1871 Tyndall *Fragm. Sci.* (1879) II. xiv. 349 The combustion of muscle may be made to produce all these effects.

b. Used for: The exercise of the muscular as opposed to the 'mental' faculties.

1850 Carlyle *Latter-d. Pamph.* VI. (1872) 209 It is not by rude force, either of muscle or of will, that one man can govern twenty men. 1883 Goode *Fish. Indust. U. S.* 24 The shad fisheries of the South are prosecuted chiefly by the use of negro muscle.

3. *transf.* and *fig.*

1598 Tofte *Alba* (1880) 95 Ah do not (Surgion like) Anatomise Each muskle of my griefe in cruell wise. 1864 Tennyson *Aylmer's F.* 180 A grasp Having the warmth and muscle of the heart. 1878 R. W. Dale *Lect. Preach.* ii. 28 The muscles of their mind have degenerated. 1897 Mary Kingsley *W. Africa* 396 Wild fig-trees, with their muscles showing through the skin like our own beech-trees' muscles do.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.* **a.** simple attrib., esp. *Anat.* and *Path.*, as *muscle atrophy, bundle, fibre, rigidity, tissue, twitch, work.*

1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 381 *Muscle-atrophy. 1899 *Ibid.* VI. 465 The individual fibres and the *muscle bundles become separated from one another; lastly the muscle fibres themselves become opaque. 1876 tr. *Wagner's Gen. Pathol.* 298 *Muscle-fibres suffer like changes. 1901 Osler *Pract. Med.* i. 25 There may be early *muscle rigidity. 1878 Bell tr. *Gegenbaur's Comp. Anat.* 32 There are two varieties

of this form of *muscle-tissue. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 523 A simple *muscle-twitch. 1887 SMILES *Life & Labour* 305 Heavy brain-work..is more exhausting than *muscle-work.

b. objective, as *muscle-kneading, -making* adj.

1894 *Outing* (U. S.) XXIV. 69/1 Muscle-making food. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 385 No hesitation need be felt in using muscle-kneading.

c. instrumental and locative, as *muscle-monger, -worker*; *muscle-tired* adj.

a 1849 H. COLERIDGE *Ess.* (1851) I. 188 That disgusting pedantry which some modern muscle-mongers have brought from the dissecting-room. 1878 HOLBROOK *Hyg. Brain* 92 A brain-worker rarely eats as much as a muscle-worker. 1899 *Scribner's Mag.* XXV. 102/2 Brain-weary, muscle-tired men.

d. Special combinations: **muscle acid**, an acid obtained by the oxidation of flesh; **muscle case**, each of the segments of a muscle fibre as observed by Krause; also **muscle casket** (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1891); **muscle cell**, the element from which muscular tissue is derived; **muscle clot** = MYOSIN; **muscle column**, (*a*) Kölliker's name for a fibril of muscular fibre; (*b*) = *muscle-prism* (Cent. Dict. 1890); **muscle corpuscle**, a nucleus of a muscle fibre; **muscle current** *Electro-physiol.*, the flow of electrical current which occurs on connecting different points of a muscle; **muscle curve**, a curve indicating the amount of muscle-contraction as recorded by the myograph; **muscle epithelium** = MYOBLAST (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*); **muscle feeling** = *muscular sense* (ibid.); **muscle fibrin**, Liebig's term for what is now known as SYNTONIN; **muscle force**, the force or power of human agency; **muscle juice** = *muscle plasma* (Syd. Soc. Lex.); **muscle notch** *Ent.* (see quot.); **muscle nucleus**, a nucleus or central part of a muscle fibre; **muscle plasm, plasma**, a filtrate obtained from living muscle after freezing, mincing, and mixing it with salted snow; **muscle plate** (see quot. 1882); **muscle prism**, (*a*) a prismatic section of muscle fibre; (*b*) the prismatic mass of muscle rods composing the dark disk of a muscle case; **muscle reading**, thought reading by the interpretation of muscular movements; **muscle rhombus**, a rhomboid section of muscular fibre; **muscle rods** *pl.*, Krause's term for the fine rod-like lines running through the dark streak of muscular fibre; **muscle sense** = *muscular sense*; **muscle serum**, the fluid remaining after coagulation of the myosin from muscle plasma; **muscle sugar** = INOSITE; **muscle tone** = *muscle sound*; **muscle tumour** = MYOMA (Dunglison *Med. Lex.* 1876); †**muscle vein** *Anat.*, cf. *musculous vein* (MUSCULOUS *a.* 3, quot. 1656); **muscle wasting** = *muscular atrophy*.

1866 ODLING *Anim. Chem.* 113 *Muscle-acids. 1885 SCHÄFER *Essentials Histol.* 63 Diagrammatical Representation of a *muscle-case. 1891 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, **Muscle-cells.* 1893 TUCKEY tr. *Hatschek's Amphioxus* 137 Muscle cells. 1872 HUXLEY *Physiol.* vii. 159 Myosin (or *muscle-clot as it is sometimes called). 1882 *Quain's Elem. Anat.* (ed. 9) II. 127 Kölliker was led to term the structures formerly known as fibrils '*muscle-columns'. 1882 *Muscle-corpuscle [see *muscle-nuclei*]. 1881 tr. *Rosenthal's Muscles & Nerves* Index, *Muscle current. 1877 FOSTER *Phys.* I. ii. 36 A *Muscle-curve obtained by means of the Pendulum Myographion. 1897 M. MATHER *Ruskin* 91 He would use all this *muscle-force [of men] ere he utilized the forces of nature. 1876 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex.*, **Muscle Juice.* 1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* III. xxxiv. 527 The Myoglyphides, or *muscle-notches, are sinuses..in the posterior margin of the upper side of the head. 1882 *Quain's Elem. Anat.* (ed. 9) II. 123 *Muscle-nuclei or muscle-corpuscles. 1877 FOSTER *Phys.* I. ii. 32 The slightly opalescent filtrate or *muscle-plasma as it is called, is at first quite fluid. 1874 F. M. BALFOUR in *Q. Jrnl. Microscop. Sci.* XIV. 350 *Muscle-plates. 1882 *Quain's Elem. Anat.* (ed. 9) II. 132 Most of the voluntary muscles of the body are developed from a series of portions of mesoderm..termed the muscle-plates. 1881 *Muscle prism [see *muscle-rhombus*]. 1879 BEARD in *Proc. Soc. Psych. Res.* (1882) I. 17 It was shewn that mind-reading so-called, was really *muscle-reading. 1881 tr. *Rosenthal's Muscles & Nerves* xi. 194 In such a *muscle-rhombus, the distribution of the tensions..is much more complex. 1877 FOSTER *Phys.* I. ii. 32 *Muscle-rods. 1873 RALFE *Phys. Chem.* 119 *Muscle serum..yields..1·5 per cent. of fat. 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem.* (1862) III. 783 Inosite, or *Muscle Sugar. 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, **Muscle Vein*, this Vein is Two-fold, the Superior and the Inferior. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 460 Evidence of rapid *muscle wasting.

Muscle, obs. form of MUSSEL.

Muscled (mv·s'ld), *a.* [f. MUSCLE + -ED 2.] Furnished or endowed with muscle. Chiefly with adj. or adv. prefixed, as *full-, well-muscled*, etc.

1644 in *Bulwer's Chirol.* n 4, See here appeares a Hand.. And marke how well 'tis muscled. *a* 1732 GAY *Arachne* 172 In a strong satyr's muscled form he came. 1868 NETTLESHIP *Browning* 219 The full-armed, full-muscled god will be ready to do battle. 1889 *Harper's Mag.* Nov. 851/2 They are slight, well built, and generally well muscled.

Muscleless (mv·s'l,lès), *a.* [f. MUSCLE + -LESS.] Destitute of muscle.

1841 R. OASTLER *Fleet Papers* I. 289 The head is sick.., the limbs are muscleless. 1867 *Lond. Rev.* 23 Mar. 337/1 Speculations..as boneless and as muscleless as the dummies in a tailor's window.

†**Mu·scling.** *Obs.* [f. MUSCLE + -ING 1.] **1.** The delineation or representation of the muscles in Painting or Sculpture.

1709 SHAFTESB. *Charac.* (1711) II. 186 A good Piece, the Painters say, must have good Muscling as well as Colouring and Drapery. *a* 1720 GRAHAM in Walpole *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1765) III. 4 He..understood the anatomic part of painting,..following it so close, that he was very apt to make the muscelling too strong and prominent.

2. *transf.* Working of the muscles. *? nonce-use.*

1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) II. 116 Surprise, gratitude, ecstasy flashed from her eyes, and gave a joyous flush to the muscling of her aspect.

Muscly (mv·s'li), *a. rare.* Also 6 **muskelly**, 7 *Dicts.* **muskely, musculie, muskly.** [f. MUSCLE + -Y.] Composed of muscle; exhibiting great muscular development.

1594 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* II. 97 The tongue then is a fleshy & muscly member. 1602 *Withals' Dict.* 404 Muskely, or of muscles. *a* 1745 SWIFT *Poems* Wks. 1784 VIII. 232 The muscly swelling breast Where the Loves and Graces rest. 1879 BROWNING *Halbert & Hob* 27 The muscly mass from neck to shoulder-blade.

Muscobado, variant of MUSCOVADO.

Muscod, variant of MUSK-COD.

Muscoid (mv·skoid), *a.* and *sb.* [f. L. *musc-us* moss: see -OID.] **a.** *adj.* Resembling moss; moss-like; **b.** *sb.* A muscoid plant.

1847–54 in WEBSTER (citing *Lindley* for the *sb.*). 1879 in STORMONTH *Man. Sci. Terms.* [the *adj.*]

Muscologist (mvskɒ·lŏdʒist). [Formed as next: see -IST.] = BRYOLOGIST.

1854 STARK *Brit. Mosses* 19 These are known to Muscologists as cauline and pericbætial. *Ibid.* 55 Dillenius, the celebrated British muscologist. 1897 *Naturalist* 132 Muscologists in all parts of the world.

Muscology (mvskɒ·lŏdʒi). [ad. mod.L. *muscologia*, f. L. *musc-us* moss: see -OLOGY. Cf. F. *muscologie.*] = BRYOLOGY.

[1818 HOOKER & TAYLOR (*title*) Muscologia Britannica; containing the Mosses..systematically arranged and described. *Ibid.* Introd. p. i, The Muscologia is a subject comparatively new.] *Ibid.* p. ii, In so few parts of Europe has the Muscology of the country been fully investigated. *Ibid.* p. vii, The student of Muscology. 1868 TRIPP *Brit. Mosses* 30 The muscology of a district may be improved by these means.

Hence **Muscolo·gic, Muscolo·gical** *adjs.*, of or pertaining to muscology.

1872 in LATHAM *Dict.* 1891 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

Musco·philous, *a.* [f. L. *musc-us* moss + -PHIL + -OUS.] That flourishes among mosses.

1856 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Muscophilus*,..muscophilous; whence in *Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1891.

Muscose (mv·skōus), *a.* [ad. L. *muscōs-us*, f. *muscus* moss: see -OSE.] Of the nature of or resembling moss; moss-like.

1707 SLOANE *Jamaica* I. 124 The flowers..being brownish, very small, muscose [etc.]. *Ibid.* 125 Small muscose flowers. 1817 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 42/1 The hollows in her hull contain a quantity of fine black muscose mud.

Hence †**Musco·seness** (Bailey vol. II, 1727), †**Musco·sity,** 'mossiness' (Blount *Glossogr.*, 1656).

Muscot, variant of MESQUITA *Obs.*

Muscous (mv·skəs), *a. rare*—°. [ad. L. *muscōsus*, f. *musc-us* moss: see -OUS.] (See quot.)

1658 PHILLIPS, *Muscous*, mossy, or full of mosse. 1721 in BAILEY. 1891 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

Muscovado (mvskovā·do). Also 7–8 **muscavado**, (8 **musco-, muskavada, muscovad**, 9 **masca-, mascobado**). [a. Sp. *mascabado* adj., (sugar) of lowest quality. Cf. F. *mascovade* (1667 in Littré) now *moscouade.*] In full *muscovado sugar*: Raw or unrefined sugar obtained from the juice of the sugar cane by evaporation and draining off the molasses.

1642 *Rates Merchandizes* 32 Sugar, Candy brown.. Candy white..Muscovados the hundred weight. 1657 R. LIGON *Barbadoes* (1673) 85 The Sugars they made, were but base Muscavadoes,..so moist, and full of molosses, and so ill cur'd. *Ibid.* 86 Good Muscavado Sugar. 1689 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2512/4 Casks of Surinam Muscovado Sugars. 1770–4 A. HUNTER *Georg. Ess.* (1803) I. 419 The best brown sugar of St. Thomas, commonly called Moscovad. 1776 ADAM SMITH *W. N.* I. xi. (1869) I. 166 The brown or muskavada sugars imported from our colonies. 1828 *Register Debates Congress* IV. I. 780 Brown sugar (in which description is comprehended mascabado). 1887 *Encycl. Brit.* XXII. 626/1 The molasses is drained away from the crystallized raw sugar..The sugar so obtained is the muscovado of the sugar-refiners. 1903 *Longm. Mag.* Nov. 76 Mascobado, a natural brown sugar, is that which is allowed to drain off without 'claying'.

†**Musco·vian,** *a.* and *sb. Obs.* Also **Mos-**. [f. mod.L. *Muscovia, Moscovia* MUSCOVY + -AN.] **a.** *adj.* Belonging to Muscovy. *Muscovian glass, rat*: see MUSCOVY. **b.** *sb.* A Muscovite.

1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* I. (1586) 31 b, The Russians and Moscouians. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) II. 306 Men of weir..to help the King of Swaden agânes the Muscovianis. 1579 LODGE *Reply to Gosson* 20 Your Muscouian straungers, your Scithian monsters. 1617 MIDDLETON *Hon. & Industry* Wks. (Bullen) VII. 302 A Russian or Muscovian. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 106 Casements of broad cleere Muscouian glasse. 1655 J. OWEN *Vind. Evang.* Pref. 17 The Assembly of States, was called against the Muscovians. 1657 *North's Plutarch, Add. Lives* (1676) 80 The Moscovian Language. 1664 E. BROWNE in *Sir T. Browne's Wks.* (1836) I. 47 Mr. Gibbs gave mee a Moscovian rat's skin. *a* 1692 BOYLE *Hist. Air* (1692) 187 Whether Muscovian ice be..harder than English ice.

Muscovite (mv·skŏvəit), *sb.*1 and *a.* Now *Hist.* or *arch.* Also 6 **Moschovite, Muscovit**, 6–8 **Moscovite.** [ad. mod.L. *Mus-, Moscovīta*, f. *Mus-, Moscovia* MUSCOVY: see -ITE. Cf. F. *Muscovite.*] **A.** *sb.* A native or an inhabitant of Muscovy; a Russian.

1555 EDEN *Decades* 256 b, They were cauled Moscouites of the chiefe citie of al the prouince named Moscouia or Mosca. 1570 DEE *Math. Pref.* a iv, The wide Empire of the Moschouite. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* v. ii. 121, 303 Muscouites. *Ibid.* 265 Twentie adieus my frozen Muscouits [rimes with 'wits']. 1635 PAGITT *Christianogr.* (1639) 47 Of the Greeke Communion are the Muscovites, the Russes in Poland [etc.]. 1700 PRIOR *Carmen Seculare* 272 The young Muscovite, the mighty Head, Whose Sov'reign Terror forty Nations dread. 1788 PRIESTLEY *Lect. Hist.* v. lxv. 523 The Moscovites..were as jealous as any people in the south. 1877 D. M. WALLACE *Russia* XXV. 386 No wonder the Muscovites were scandalized by his conduct. 1905 *Daily Chron.* 11 Mar. 4/4 These may have been part and parcel of the plans of the Japanese commanders, deliberately devised to throw dust in the eyes of the Muscovite.

B. *adj.* Of or pertaining to Muscovy or its inhabitants, Russian.

1601 R. JOHNSON *Kingd. & Commw.* (1603) 168 Certaine English men sayling by the Moscouite sea,..haue pierced euen to Cathaia. 1657 *North's Plutarch*, Add. Lives (1676) 80 The Moscovite Language. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVI. 574/1 The Muscovite priests use exorcisms at the administration of baptism. 1821 SHELLEY *Hellas* 528 That Christian hound, the Muscovite Ambassador. 1835 ALISON *Hist. Europe* (1847) IV. 54 The frontier of the Muscovite dominions.

Muscovite (mv·skŏvəit), *sb.*2 *Min.* [f. the name *Muscovy* (*glass*): see MUSCOVY and -ITE.] Common mica.

1862 DANA *Man. Geol.* § 56. 56 Muscovite, or common mica, is a potash-mica. 1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 413/1 Muscovite (Muscovy-Glass)..Crystals over a yard in diameter in China, where it is used for windows.

†**Mu·scoviter.** *Obs.* [f. MUSCOVITE 1 + -ER.] A Muscovite.

1650 GENTILIS *Considerations* 225 If Gustavus..had not bin intangled in the Muscoviters and Polish wars. 1671 CROWNE *Juliana* I. 8 The Muscoviters invaded us.

†**Mu·scovitish,** *a. Obs. rare.* [f. MUSCOVITE *sb.*1 + -ISH.] Muscovite.

1684 *Scanderbeg Rediv.* v. 105 Romadanowski the Muscovitish General.

Muscovy (mv·skŏvi). Also 6 **Muskovie**, 7 **muskevia, Muscovia.** [a. F. *Muscovie*, earlier *Moscovie*, ad. mod.L. *Moscovia*, f. Russian MOCKOBA Moscow.] The name of the principality of Moscow, applied by extension to Russia generally.

I. 1. Used attrib. or quasi-*adj.* in the name of things belonging to, originating or produced in and obtained from Muscovy, as **Muscovy hide, leather**, Russia leather; †**Muscovy glass**, common mica; also, sometimes, = TALC; †**Muscovy lantern**, one furnished with Muscovy glass; **Muscovy talc** = *Muscovy glass.*

1573 in Cunningham *Revels at Crt.* (1842) 42 Muskovie glasse. 1604 MARSTON & WEBSTER *Malcontent* I. vii, She were an excellent Lady, but that hir face peeleth like Muscouie glasse. 1606 DEKKER *Newes fr. Hell* F 4 b, A wise man might haue taken it for the Snuffe of a candle in a Muscouie Lanthorne. *a* 1618 *Rates Merchandizes* H 3 b, Red Hides, or Muscouia hides. *Ibid.* I, Muscouia Leather. *Ibid.* L 4 b, Spruce or Muscouia yearne. 1624 BOYLE in *Lismore Papers* (1886) II. 143, I receaved from Sir Wm Hull 30 redd muskevia hydes. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* s.v. *Talc, Muscovy talc*, a kind of foliaceous body, well known by the English name of isinglass. 1796 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) I. 211 Mr. Sage found muscovy glass infusible in the strongest heat. 1811 PINKERTON *Petral.* II. 16 Talc has sometimes been called Muscovy glass. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 740 Substituting varnished metallic gauze in the room of Muscovy talc, a kind of mica.

II. Uses due to misinterpretation or perversion of designations connected with MUSK *sb.*

2. A species of Crane's-bill or Geranium, *Erodium moschatum.*

1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* II. 103/2 Knolted Cranes Bill... This smelleth sweet like musk, and therefore is of many Flowerists, called Muscovy. 1731 MILLER *Gard. Dict., Geranium..Moschatum.* Musked Crane's-bill or Moscovy. 1796 in WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) III. 609.

3. = MUSK-RAT.

1693 RAY *Synopsis Quadrup.* etc. 217 *Mus Aquaticus*.. The Muscovy or Musk Rat. 1781 PENNANT *Hist. Quadrup.* II. 476.

4. Muscovy duck. = MUSK-DUCK 1.

1657 R. LIGON *Barbadoes* 35 Muscovia-Ducks..larded with the fat of this Porke..are an excellent bak'd-meat. 1712 E. COOKE *Voy. S. Sea* 150 Muscovy Ducks. 1821 GALT *Ann. Parish* xiii, He brought a Muscovy duck to Lady M. 1863 W. C. BALDWIN *Afr. Hunting* v. 114 A fat Muscovy duck..is not a bad subject to work on.

Muscul, obs. form of MUSSEL *sb.*

†**Musculade.** *Obs.* Also **musclade.** [?a derivative of F. *muscle* MUSSEL.] ? Mussel sauce.

c 1460 J. RUSSELL *Bk. Nurture* 821 Flowndurs, gogeons, muskels, menuce in sewe,..Musclade in wortes, musclade of almonds for states fulle dewe. *Ibid.* 719. 1513 *Bk. Keryunge* in *Babees Bk.* 166 To go to sewynge of fysshe: musculade. *Ibid.* 167.

†**Mu·sculage.** *Obs.* In 6 mussulage. [f. L. *mūscul-us* MUSCLE + -AGE.] ? = MUSCULATURE.

1547 BOORDE *Brev. Health* ccxliii. 83 Muscles or mussulages, the whiche he lytle straynes descendynge from the head to the necke and face and other partes.

Muscular (mʊ·skiŭlăr), *a.* [ad. mod.L. **muscŭlār-is*, f. *mūscul-us* MUSCLE. Cf. F. *musculaire*.]

1. Of or belonging to muscle or the muscles.

Muscular feeling, sensation (see quot. 1829). *Muscular sense*: the faculty of muscular sensation; by some modern psychologists recognized as an independent 'sense', but popularly regarded as a particular application of the sense of 'touch'. *Muscular sound*: the sound produced by the contraction of a muscle; so *muscular murmur*, etc.

1685 *Willis' Lond. Pract. Physic* Pref., His Tract..Of Muscular Motion. 1701 GREW *Cosm. Sacra* I. iv. § 14. 19 Upon these [parallel fibres] the far greater stress of the Muscular Action doth depend. 1809 *Med. Jrnl.* XXI. 457 Some modern theories upon the cause of muscular contraction. 1829 JAS. MILL. *Hum. Mind* I. vii. 31 Muscular sensations, or those feelings which accompany the action of the muscles. *Ibid.* 33 In most cases of the muscular feelings, there is..great complexity. 1837 *Rep. Brit. Assoc.* V. 268 Muscular sound, or the resonance attending sudden muscular contraction [of the heart]. 1838–9 FR. A. KEMBLE *Resid. Georgia* (1863) 13 Diseases of the muscular and nervous systems. 1840 SWAINSON *Malacology* 399 Muscular Impressions: those indented marks in acephalous bivalves, indicating the insertion of those muscles by which the animal is attached to its shell. 1864 *Reader* No. 88. 304/3 Experiments on the muscular susurrus. 1875 LEWES *Probl. Life & Mind* II. vi. iv. 481 If I contract my muscles, a peculiar feeling is produced in me by the muscular sense. 1880 HAUGHTON *Phys. Geog.* vi. 270 *note*, The Scaly Ant-eaters are closely related to the South American Ant-eaters, even in minute details of muscular structure. 1881 tr. *Rosenthal's Muscles & Nerves* iii. 43 This muscular note clearly shows that vibrations must occur within the muscle. 1892 GREENER *Breech Loader* 202 The muscular sense may be trained: it enables sportsmen to judge accurately of distances, as letter-sorters and others judge of weights to a nicety.

b. Of diseases, etc.: Affecting the muscles.

1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Consumption*, An universal, or muscular consumption. 1807 *Med. Jrnl.* XVII. 269 Diseases..of a muscular nature. 1896 *Daily News* 1 Feb. 3/1 The very general prevalence of muscular rheumatism.

2. Composed of or of the nature of muscle; also, forming a constituent of muscle.

Muscular stomach (of a bird): one with muscular walls, as distinguished from a 'glandular' stomach. *Muscular tumour*: see MYOMA.

1681 GREW *Compar. Anat.* i. 3 The Muscular Fibers [of the gullet of a cat]..plainly Platted. *Ibid.* ii. 7 The Fibers of the Muscular Membrane. *Ibid.* iii. 14 Separated by a Muscular Ligament. *Ibid.* viii. 32 He [the Cassowary] hath no Gizard (as hath the Ostrich); yet a thick Muscular Stomach. 1704 F. FULLER *Med. Gymn.* (1711) Pref., The Muscular and Nervous Parts acquire..great Strength..by Exercises. 1851 WOODWARD *Mollusca* 6 The mollusca are animals with soft bodies, enveloped in a muscular skin. 1876 BRISTOWE *Th. & Pract. Med.* (1878) 494 The muscular walls of the heart are liable to many changes. 1888 A. FLINT *Hum. Phys.* (ed. 4) 470 A fluid, called the muscular juice.

3. Of an animal body, a limb, etc.: Characterized by muscle, having well-developed muscles.

1736 THOMSON *Liberty* IV. 146 The spreading Shoulders, muscular, and broad. 1838 JAMES *Robber* i. They were.. muscular and finely proportioned. 1859 GEO. ELIOT *A. Bede* xix, Look at this broad-shouldered man with the bare muscular arms.

Comb. 1784 COWPER *Task* v. 15 The muscular proportion'd limb Transformed to a lean shank.

b. *Muscular Christianity*: a term applied (from about 1857) to the ideal of religious character exhibited in the writings of Charles Kingsley. (See quot. 1858.)

1858 *Edin. Rev.* Jan. CVII. 190 It is a school of which Mr. Kingsley is the ablest doctor; and its doctrine has been described fairly and cleverly as 'muscular Christianity'. The principal characteristics of the writer whose works earned this burlesque though expressive description, are his deep sense of the sacredness of all the ordinary relations and the common duties of life, and the vigour with which he contends..for the great importance and value of animal spirits, physical strength, and a hearty enjoyment of all the pursuits and accomplishments which are connected with them. 1858 *Tait's Edin. Mag.* XXV. 101/1 Here our muscular Christian insinuates that [etc.]. 1858 KINGSLEY *Let.* 19 Oct. in *Lett. & Mem. Life* (1883) 213 [To a clergyman who, in a review, had called him 'a muscular Christian'.] You have used that, to me, painful, if not offensive, term, 'Muscular Christianity'. 1865—*David* i. 5. 1880 DISRAELI *Endym.* xiv, Nigel..was also a sportsman. His Christianity was muscular.

4. Having regard to muscle or the use of muscle.

1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* ii, The air of personal health and muscular strength, which the whole frame indicated. 1848 MILL *Pol. Econ.* I. i. § 1. 29 Labour is either bodily or mental; or, to express the distinction more comprehensively, either muscular or nervous. 1858 GREENER *Gunnery* 323 It would vary according to muscular development, the weight and height of the sportsman.

fig. 1853 LYTTON *My Novel* IX. xvi, No mind becomes muscular without rude and early exercise. 1862 *Illustr. Lond. News* 11 Jan. 51/1 A narrowness of chest which somebody has said is a defect fatal to muscular statesmanship.

Hence **Mu·scularly** *adv.*

1847–54 in WEBSTER. 1881 *Daily Tel.* 8 Apr. 5/2 The only way..to settle which is the better of the pair is to fight it out muscularly once a year on the Thames. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 201/1, I do not know any..motions more muscularly graceful than those of the chopper's.

Muscularity (mʊskiŭlæ·rĭti). [f. mod.L. *musculār-is* MUSCULAR + -ITY.] The quality or state of being muscular.

1. The fact of consisting of muscles, or of having well-developed muscles.

1681 GREW *Musæum* I. v. i. 102 Their [*sc.* the guts of a sturgeon] great thickness and muscularity. 1793 YOUNG in *Phil. Trans.* LXXXIII. 173 Such an arrangement of fibres can be accounted for on no other supposition than that of muscularity. 1824 *Hist. Murder of Weare* 230 The body was remarkable for its muscularity and symmetry. 1874 CARPENTER *Ment. Phys.* I. ii. (1879) 31 The muscularity of the walls of the Arteries.

2. Muscular strength or vigour.

1859 SMILES *Self-Help* x. 258 The cultivation of muscularity. 1876 L. STEPHEN *Hours in Library* II. 341 The modern taste for muscularity.

3. The quality of being cognizable by the 'muscular sense'. *rare.*

1868 BAIN *Ment. & Mor. Sci.* II. i. 95 The other element of Touch is Muscularity; the weight, hardness, size, and form of things, are tested and remembered principally by the muscles of the hand and arm.

Muscularize (mʊ·skiŭlărəiz), *v.* [f. MUSCULAR + -IZE.] *trans.* To make muscular. Hence **Mu·scularized** *ppl. a.*

1848 LOWELL *Biglow P.* Poems 1890 II. 7 A..gentleman with infinite faculty of sermonizing, muscularized by long practice. 1896 *Godey's Mag.* Apr. 447/1 Garments that reveal rather than conceal the muscularized limbs.

†**Mu·sculary,** *a. Obs. rare.* [ad. F. *musculaire*: see MUSCULAR and -ARY.] = MUSCULAR *a.*

1679 tr. *Willis' Pharmac. Rationalis* Pref., The Nervous and Musculary and Glandulous Membranes. *Ibid.* I. vi. iii. 129 What we have discoursed..concerning the Musculary Motion. 1683 SNAPE *Anat. Horse* II. vii. (1686) 81 Musculary or fleshy Fibres.

†**Mu·sculated,** *ppl. a. Obs. rare*—°. [f. L. *mūscul-us* MUSCLE + -ATE[2] + -ED[1].] 'Having or consisting of muscles' (Bailey, vol. II, 1731).

Musculation (mʊskiulē·ʃən). *rare.* [a. F. *musculation*, f. L. *mūsculus*: see MUSCLE and -ATION.] **a.** The function of muscular movement. **b.** The disposition or arrangement of muscles.

1857 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex.* s.v. *Locomotion*, It [*sc.* the word *locomotion*], as well as *musculation* has also been used for the function of animal movements. 1875 LEWES *Probl. Life & Mind* Ser. I. II. 498 It is not by Touch, Taste, Hearing, Smelling, Musculation, &c., that we can explain astronomical..and biological phenomena. 1892 *Temple Bar* Oct. 188 The anatomy of the body does not provide for the musculation of wings.

Musculature (mʊ·skiŭlătiŭi). [a. F. *musculature*, f. L. *mūscul-us* MUSCLE.] The muscular system of the whole body or of one of its organs.

1875 E. R. LANKESTER in *Q. Jrnl. Microscop. Sci.* XV. 262 The ventral musculature. 1888 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* 633 The jaw apparatus and the digestive tract have their special musculature. 1898 H. G. WELLS *War of Worlds* II. ii. 208 Bipeds, with flimsy siliceous skeletons and feeble musculature.

Muscule, -ie, obs. ff. MUSCLE, MUSSEL, MUSCLY.

Musculin (mʊ·skiulin). *Chem.* Also -ine. [f. L. *mūscul-us* MUSCLE + -INE.] The basis of animal muscle; syntonin; also, see quot. 1891.

1864 WEBSTER, *Musculine.* 1866 A. FLINT *Physiol. Man* I. 90 Musculine. This semi-solid organic principle is peculiar to the muscular tissue. *Ibid.* 91 Musculine, in combination with inorganic substances, goes to form the muscles. 1891 HALLIBURTON *Chem. Physiol.* 413 Paramyosinogen. *Note.* Termed musculin by Hammarsten.

†**Mu·sculite.** *Geol. Obs.* Also 8 musculite, 9 muscelite. [f. L. *mūscul-us* MUSSEL + -ITE.] A fossil mussel shell; a mytilite.

1681 GREW *Musæum* III. i. i. 264 A sort of Musculites fill'd with Earth. 1799 KIRWAN *Geol. Ess.* 132 Only turbinites were found in the one, and in the other only chamites, or muscullites. *Ibid.* 243 Impressions of reeds or fern, sometimes of musculites, mytilites, &c., are found on it [shale]. 1829 *Glover's Hist. Derby* I. 98 Occasionally the anomia and muscelite shells are met with in shale.

Muscull, obs. form of MUSCLE, MUSSEL.

Musculo- (mʊ·skiulo), combining form of L. *mūsculus* MUSCLE, chiefly in *Anat.* and *Phys.* terms, as **musculo-arte·rial** *a.*, pertaining to the muscular and arterial systems; **musculo-ce·llular** *a.*, partly muscular and partly cellular; **musculo-cuta·neous** *a.*, belonging or relating to muscles and skin; **musculo-ligame·ntous** *a.*, composed of muscle and ligament; **musculo-me·mbranous** *a.*, composed of musculous membrane; **musculo-pa·llial** *a.*, belonging to the muscles and pallium of a mollusc; **musculo-phre·nic** *a.*, pertaining to the muscular portion of the diaphragm; **musculo-rachi·dean** *a.*, relating to the muscles of the spine (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*); **musculo-spi·ral** *a.*, 'relating to muscle and to a spiral' (*Ibid.*); esp. in *musculo-spiral nerve*, the largest branch of the brachial plexus, which winds spirally round the humerus; also used as *sb. attrib.* in *musculo-spiral paralysis*; **musculo-te·ndinous** *a.*, partly muscular and partly tendinous.

1825 COLERIDGE *Aids Refl.* (1848) I. 85 The muscular life in the insect, and the *musculo-arterial in the bird. 1835–6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 381 That circular *musculo-cellular tissue which surrounds the cervix. *Ibid.* 148/2 The *musculo-cutaneous nerve. 1835–6 OWEN *ibid.* 526/2 The dense *musculo-ligamentous sheath, which incloses the mandibles [in the Nautilus]. 1835 KIRBY *Hab. & Inst. Anim.* II. xx. 324 A large *musculo-membranous pocket. 1885 GIBSON in *Trans. R. Soc. Edin.* (1887) XXXII. 628 The visceral ganglia..give off two important nerves..first, externally, the *musculo-pallial nerve..; and, internally, the splanchnic nerve. 1840 E. WILSON *Anat. Vade M.* (1842) 290 The *Musculo-phrenic artery winds along the attachment of the diaphragm to the ribs. 1836–9 TODD *Cycl. Anat.* II. 160/1 This groove [in the humerus] indicates the spiral course..of the *musculo-spiral or radial nerve. 1873 MIVART *Elem. Anat.* 148 An oblique groove (called musculo-spiral). 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 536 Musculo-spiral paralysis. *Ibid.* VIII. 9 The physician then examines the nerve-trunks..by means of gentle pressure..on the musculo-spirals. 1866 *Proc. Roy. Soc.* No. 86. 244 *Musculo-tendinous slip from *flexor pollicis longus* to indicial portion of *profundus*.

Musculose (mʊ·skiulōus), *a. rare*—[1]. [ad. L. *mūsculōs-us*: see MUSCULOUS *a.* and -OSE.] Composed of or full of muscular fibre; musculous.

1729 T. DALE *Freind's Emmenol.* x. (1752) 107 The musculose Coat of the trachea.

†**Musculo·sity.** *Obs.* [f. L. *mūsculōs-us* (see next) + -ITY.] The state of being musculous.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 109 They have..only a certaine musculositie at the ends..of their branches, much like to the tender buds of Asparagus. 1721 BAILEY, *Musculosity*, bigness of muscles. 1864 in WEBSTER; and in later Dicts.

†**Mu·sculous,** *a. Obs.* [ad. L. *mūsculōs-us*, f. *mūscul-us*: see MUSCLE and -OUS.]

1. Full of or composed of muscle or muscles.

Musculous stomach: cf. MUSCULAR *a.* 2.

1541 R. COPLAND *Guydon's Quest. Chirurg.* C iij, The other is flesshe musculous or lacertous. 1644 DIGBY *Nat. Bodies* XXXV. § 8. 302 It is a musculous membrane. 1720 QUINCY tr. *Hodges' Acc. Plague* 118 The musculous Flesh was..wasted.

b. *transf.* of vegetable tissue.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 18 The Elecampane hath a root shorter than the Skirwirts or Parsnips.., but more musculous and fuller as it were of brawne.

2. Characterized by muscular development. = MUSCULAR *a.* 3.

1609 HOLLAND *Amm. Marcell.* XXX. ix. 397 His bodie was well brawned, musculous & strong. 1668 CULPEPPER & COLE *Barthol. Anat.* IV. viii. 165, I have sometimes seen..in a musculous man, one triangular muscle [etc.]. 1704 SWIFT *T. Tub* xi. (1711) 196 He had a Tongue so musculous and subtle, that he could twist it up into his Nose. 1775 JOHNSON *Journ. West. Isl., Col,* They are indeed musculous and strong.

3. Of or belonging to muscle or a muscle.

1653 H. MORE *Antid. Ath.* II. xii. (1712) 79 The *Tunicall-vea* has a Musculous power, and can dilate and contract.. the Pupil. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* s.v. *Vein, Musculous vein*, the first branch of the flanck veins, tearmed thus because it communicates it self with divers muscles. 1713 DERHAM *Phys.-Theol.* I. i. 10 *note*, In the Coat of this Bladder is a Musculous Power to contract it. 1758 J. S. *Le Dran's Observ. Surg.* (1771) Dict. C c iij b, *Myodes Platysma*, a Musculous Expansion.

Hence †**Mu·sculousness,** 'largeness or fulness of muscles' (Bailey, vol. II, 1727).

Mus.D. Abbreviation of mod.Latin *Musicæ Doctor*, doctor of music.

1786 WOLCOT (P. Pindar) *Bozzy & Piozzi* I. Wks. 1794 I. 332 Of Music's College form'd to be a Fellow. Fit for Mus.D. or Maestro di Capella. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* iv, The..ditty,..which I still prefer to all the opera airs ever minted by the capricious brain of an Italian Mus.D.

Muse (miūz), *sb.*[1] Also 6 muze. [a. F. *muse*, ad. L. *mūsa*, a. Gr. μοῦσα (Doric μῶσα, μῶά, Æolic μοῖσα):—pre-Hellenic **mentya*, f. Indogermanic root **mon-* (: *men-* : *mn-*) to think, remember, etc.: see MIND *sb.*]

1. *Mythology.* (Now usually with capital.) One of nine sister-goddesses, the offspring of Zeus and Mnemosyne (Memory), regarded as the inspirers of learning and the arts, esp. of poetry and music.

In Greek antiquity there were other accounts as to the number of the Muses and of their parentage. The names of the nine Muses appear first in Hesiod, who says that Calliope is the chief of them. Later mythologists assigned to each of the Muses a particular class of functions, which, however, are less definitely limited than they appear in modern allusive use, where Clio is the Muse of history, Thalia of comedy, Melpomene of tragedy, Euterpe of music, and Terpsichore of dancing. The other names, Erato, Polyhymnia, Urania, and Calliope, are rarely mentioned in modern literature, as they have no well-known association with any particular branch of art or knowledge. Urania (lit. 'the heavenly'; in formal lists the Muse of astronomy) is invoked by Milton (*P. L.* VII.), who explains that he means not the fabled goddess of mythology, but the true celestial source of inspiration.

c 1384 CHAUCER *H. Fame* III. 309 So songe the myghty Muse, she That cleped ys caliope. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 2113 Þe muses [*Dubl. MS.* musys] of musike. 1539 TAVERNER *Erasm. Prov.* (1552) 13 The doores of the muses be wythout enuye, that is to say, lerned persons ought frely..admyt other unto them yᵗ desire to be taught. 1632 MILTON *Penseroso* 47 Spare Fast, that..hears the Muses..round about Joves Altar sing. 1714 *Spect.* No. 632 ₱ 1 Herodotus has in the same manner adapted his Books to the Number of the Muses. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* II. vi, If the historic Muse hath entrusted me with any secrets, I will by no means be guilty of discovering them till she shall give me leave. 1803 CAMPBELL *Stanzas to Painting* 7, I bless thee, Promethean muse! And call thee brightest of the Nine. 1813 NORTHCOTE *Sir J. Reynolds* (1818) I. 246 Sir Josbua.. never..even marked his own name, except in the instance of Mrs. Siddons's portrait as the Tragic Muse. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* II. 377, I learnt more from her in a flash, Than if my brainpan were an empty hull, And every Muse tumbled a science in.

b. In classical poetry *the Muse* is often invoked

or referred to as if only one Muse were recognized. Hence often in modern poetic use (cf. 2 a).

1629 MILTON *Christ's Nativ.* iii, Say Heav'nly Muse, shall not thy sacred vein Afford a present to the Infant God? 1714 TICKELL *Spect.* No. 620 Whom shall the Muse from out the shining Throng Select to heighten and adorn her Song? 1842 TENNYSON *Will Waterproof* 9 No vain libation to the Muse, But may she still be kind.

c. As represented in painting or sculpture.

1756-7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) II. 368 The two muses, under one of which is the word URANIA, are good pieces. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* II. 13 The Muses and the Graces, group'd in threes, Enring'd a billowing fountain in the midst.

d. *transf.*

a 1695 A. WOOD *Athenæ Oxon.* (1721) II. 1036 Dr. Killigrew had a Daughter named Anne, a Grace for Beauty, and a Muse for Wit.

2. (With capital or small initial, according to the degree of personification.) a. Chiefly with a possessive: The inspiring goddess of a particular poet. Hence, a poet's particular genius, the character of his style and spirit.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* II. Proeme 9 O lady myn þat called art Cleo, Thow be my speed fro þis forth and my muse, To ryme wel þis book til I haue do. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 384 My muse doth me forto wite. 1576 GASCOIGNE *Steele Gl.* (Arb.) 53 As though my muze were mute and durst not sing. 1628 MILTON *Vac. Exerc.* 53 But fie my wandring Muse how thou dost stray! 1868 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1877) II. vii. 159 The Biographer now deems it a fitting occasion to call on his muse to set forth the sufferings of the innocent.

b. *The Muse*: poetry personified, as an object of devotion. So *the Muses*: the liberal arts, 'polite literature'.

1755 JOHNSON *Dict.* Pref. B j, The votaries of the northern muses. 1776 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* x. (1869) I. 206 The barbarians became masters of the native seat of the muses and the arts. 1785-1821 RITSON (*title*) The Caledonian Muse; a Chronological Selection of Scotish Poetry. 1806 PYE *Ode for New Yr.* in *Times* 18 Jan., Weak is the loudest lay the Muse can sing, His deeds of valour to record. 1838 THIRLWALL *Greece* II. xi. 58 The leisure of his retirement from public life was to the last devoted to the muses.

c. *transf.* Used for: One under the guidance of a Muse, a poet.

1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 4 That memorable Sea-battle [at Lepanto]..sung by a crowned Muse [i.e. James I of England]. 1637 MILTON *Lycidas* 19 So may som gentle Muse With lucky words favour my destin'd Urn, And as he passes turn, And bid fair peace be to my sable shrowd. 1803 H. K. WHITE *Clifton Grove* Ded., The following trifling effusions of a very youthful muse. 1905 *Athenæum* 19 Aug. 233/2 The stately mansion built by that attenuated but majestic muse Mrs. Montagu.

†**3.** A song. *Obs.*

a 1529 SKELTON *Replyc.* 337 For all his armony In metricall muses.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as †*muse-man*, †*-monger*, †*-sucker*; *muse-bit,-descended,-discovered,-haunted, -inspired, -led, -like, -loved, -rid, -ridden*, adjs.

1770 ARMSTRONG *Sk.* II. Misc. II. 274 A *muse-bit blockhead. 1749 WEST *Odes Pindar* (1753) I. 53 The *Muse-descended Song. 1656 COWLEY *Pindar. Odes, 2nd Olympique* vii, The *Muse-discovered World of Islands Fortunate. 1871 R. ELLIS tr. *Catullus* lxi. 27 Leave the Thespian hollow-arch'd Rock, *muse-haunted, Aonian. 1660 WALLER *To King, upon Happy Return* 117 The *Muse-inspired train Triumph, and raise their drooping heads again. 1759 MASON *Caractacus, To Hurd* 14 Oft my *Muse-led steps did'st thou behold. 1711 SHAFTESB. *Charac.* (1737) I. 317 They wou'd..add their graces and attractive charms to what is most harmonious, *muse-like, and divine in human life. 1624 A. HOLLAND in J. Davies *Scourge Paper-Persecutors* 2 Each driueling Lozel now..Starts vp a sudden *Muse-man, and streight throws A Packe of Epigrams into the light. 1608 DAY *Hum. out of Br.* Ded. (1881) 3 The Ironpated *Muse-mongers about the towne. 1728 POPE *Dunc.* II. 33 No meagre, *muse-rid mope, adust and thin. 1697 COLLIER *Ess. Mor. Subj.* II. To Rdr. (1709) 5 To be *Muse-ridden at this rate is somewhat hard. 1604 MIDDLETON *Father Hubburd's T.* Wks. (Bullen) VIII. 52 You never give the poor *Muse-suckers a penny.

Muse (miūz), *sb.*[2] Also 6–7 muze. Somewhat *arch.* [f. MUSE *v.* Cf. OF. *muse* amusement, waste of time, deception.] †a. The action of musing; profound meditation or abstraction (*obs.*). b. An instance of this, a fit of abstraction; now only in *sing.* †(*To be*) *in one's muses*: in a state of abstraction (*obs.*). †c. *To be at a muse*: to be perplexed or uncertain; to 'wonder' (*whether, how, what*, etc.). *Obs.*

c 1475 *Partenay* 3431 In pensif muses hym faste beseying, He rest noght to ryde, so to Maillers cam. 1544 PATTEN *Exped. Scott.* Pref. a iv, I haue bene often at a great muse with my selfe, whither the kynges Maiestie [etc.]. 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus* s.v. *Cogitatio*, To be in a deepe muse. 1578 BANISTER *Hist. Man* IV. 55 When a man by earnest study or muse vnto him selfe, vpon any earnest or waighty matter [etc.]. 1579 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 94 His Lady, whome he finding in hir muses, began pleasantly to salute. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* II. (1622) 113 In this depth of muzes, and diuers sorts of discourses, would shee rauingly haue remained, but that [etc.]. 1626-7 in *Crt. & Times Chas. I* (1848) I. 251 For the duke and our fleet, we are now all at a muse what should become of them. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VII. 52 He..was fill'd With admiration, and deep Muse to heare Of things so high and strange. 1701 NORRIS *Ideal World* I. ii. 73 Such a profound muse as when we are said to think upon nothing. *a* 1713 ELLWOOD *Autobiog.* (1714) 234 He made me no Answer, but sate some time in a Muse. 1751 R. PALTOCK *P. Wilkins* (1884) II. 279 'Sir', says I, after a seeming muse for some time, 'what should you think of Oniwheske [for a wife]?' 1871 BROWNING *Balaust.* 2682 Where she dwells Forever in a muse. 1889 STEVENSON *Master of B.* ii, He would fall into a deep muse over our accounts.

†**Muse,** *sb.*[3] [a. OF. *muse*; by Fr. scholars regarded as identical with *muse* MUSE *sb.*[1], or as a verbal noun f. the cognate med.L. *mūsāre* to play music. Cf. CORNEMUSE.] A bagpipe.

The explanation in quot. 1782, which alone appears in modern Dicts., seems to be a pseudo-etymological guess connecting the word with OF. *muse* muzzle.

1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 14304 Bombardys and cornemusys, Thys flloutys ek, with sotyl musys. 1484 CAXTON *Fables of Æsop* VI. vii, Whanne I pyped and played of my muse or bag pype ye dayned ne wold not daunse. [1782 BURNEY *Hist. Mus.* II. 270 *note*, The Muse is the muzzle or tube of a bag-pipe, without the bellows.]

†**Muse,** *sb.*[4] *Obs.* Forms: 6 mose, mouse, (?*pl.* mowsies), mouce, 6–7 muse. [Ultimately a. Arab. ﻣﻮز *mauz*, ﻣﻮزة *mauza*[h] banana.] The fruit of the plantain or banana (see MUSA). Also *attrib.*

1578 LYTE *Dodoens* VI. xxxviii. 704 Of Musa or Mose tree. The Mose tree leaues be so great and large, that one may easyly wrap a childe..in them. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* I. xvi. 17 b, Apples of paradice, which they call muses. 1588 HICKOK tr. *Frederick's Voy.* 18 Laden with fruite, as with Mouces which we call Adams apples. *Marg.* The Mowsies is a kind of fruite growing in clusters and are 5 or 6 inches long a peece. *c* 1602 in Purchas *Pilgrims* (1625) II. 1617 At Damiatta..are great gardens, full of Adams figs,..these are also called Mouses.

Muse (miūz), *v.* Forms: 4 mwse, 4–5 moyse, 5 mouse, mowse, mewse, musee, musse, 6 muze, *Sc.* mus(s, 4– muse. [a. F. *muser* (12th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), to waste time, trifle, in OF. also to muse, meditate = Pr. *musar*, It. *musare* to stare about, idle, loiter.

Proh. a derivative of the Rom. word represented by It. *muso*, OF. *muse* muzzle (cf. Florio's explanation of It. *musare*, 'to hould ones musle or snout in the aire'), the primary allusion being to the action of 'a dog sniffing the air when in doubt as to the scent' (Skeat). Possibly the sense 'to meditate' may be due to the influence of L. *mūsa* MUSE *sb.*[1] Cf. med.L. *mūsāre* to play music.]

I. *intr.*

1. To be absorbed in thought; to meditate continuously in silence; to ponder. Const. *of, on, upon*, †*in*. †In early use occas. with *inf.* of purpose.

1340 *Ayenb.* 104 Þer-uore ich þe rede wel þet þou ne musy nazt to moche hit uor to zeche. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* XI. 137 Þe more I muse þeron þe mistiloker hit [Theology] semeþ. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* I. (*Katerine*) 111 Þu suld moyse here & merwall, of hewine & erth. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 320 Thus fulofte there he sat To muse in his philosophie. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 144 Austyn gan muse in his oppynyoun, To fynde a mene the sowle for to save. *c* 1460 SIR R. ROS *La Belle Dame* 202 He mused sore, to conquere his desire. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Blanchardyn* xliii. 162 He was musyng vpon þe werke. 1490 — *Eneydos* xxxvii. 126 Whan kynge Latyne hadde mused a lytyll in hym selfe he answered. 1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* xxxviii. 3 Whyle I was thus musynge, the fyre kyndled. 1607 EARL STIRLING *J. Cæsar* IV. i, Who muse of many things, resolve of none. 1634 W. TIRWHYT tr. *Balzac's Lett.* (vol. I.) 400 If I muse but two houres on the bankes of the Tyher, I am as understanding as if I had studied eight days. 1732 BERKELEY *Alciphr.* III. § 1 Alciphron, having mused a while, answered [etc.]. 1781 COWPER *Retirem.* 376 And cultivate a taste for ancient song, Catching its ardour as I mus'd along. 1816 J. WILSON *City of Plague* II. ii. 169 The sorrowful Still love to muse on all distressful things. 1833 HT. MARTINEAU *Berkeley the Banker* I. i, Her father paused to muse. 1901 'LUCAS MALET' *Sir R. Calmady* VI. xi, Lady Calmady.. musing of many matters..slowly went the length of the terrace. 1906 *Outlook* 14 July 42/2 In Imperial politics he decided..while other men were musing and hesitating.

quasi-*trans.* 1781 COWPER *Truth* 441 Sorrow might muse herself to madness then.

b. With dependent question.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 282 Whan that I muse And thenke how sche me wol refuse, I am with anger so bestad, For al this world mihte I be glad. *a* 1555 RIDLEY *Conf. with Latimer* (1556) e 7, I haue begonne..to muse with my selfe, howe the dartes of the olde enemye maye be borne of. *a* 1713 ELLWOOD *Autobiog.* (1714) 21, I..stood..musing with my self what Course to take.

†c. In proverbial phr.: (see quot.). *Obs.*

a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew* s.v. *Corn*, *He measures my Corn by his own Bushel, he muses as he uses*, he thinks me Bad because he is so himself.

2. With dependent question: To be at a loss to discover; to ask oneself meditatively, to 'wonder' (*what, how*, etc.). Now *rare*.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 35 But here men musen whi prelatis ben so redy to curs in here owne cause. *c* 1407 LYDG. *Reson & Sens.* 2893 Musyng, what hyt myghte be That she so straungely spake to me. 1513 MORE *Rich. III* in Grafton *Chron.* (1568) II. 785 Whyle men mused what the matter ment. *a* 1562 CAVENDISH *Wolsey* (1893) 34 It made all the noble men..and gentil-women to muse what it [*sc.* the firing of guns] shold mean, commyng so sodenly. 1581 PETTIE tr. *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* III. (1586) 161 b, Which maketh me much muse how it should be so. 1791 COWPER *Odyss.* XX. 41, I muse How single as I am I shall assail These shameless suitors. 1853 M. ARNOLD *Sohrab & Rustum* 347 Ah me, I muse what this young fox may mean!

3. To be affected with astonishment or surprise; to wonder, marvel. Const. *at*, †*of*, †*to*. Now *rare* (*poet.*).

1340 *Ayenb.* 47 Ofte hy sseaweþ and diȝteþ ham þe more quayntelíche and þe more honesteliche uor to maki musi þe foles to ham. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 6266 A grete wondir ..þat in swa short tyme..He mught..discusse al thyng; Bot of þis suld nane muse, lered ne lewed, For als grete wondirs has God shewed. *c* 1450 *Mirour Saluacioun* 3837 The aungeles with outen meseure thise thinges musyd seyng. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 6 Some persons peraduenture wyll muse or merualye. 1530 PALSGR. 443/1, I muse at it to se howe he bandeth hymselfe with your enemyes. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Edw. IV* 234 The Frenchmen their at not a littell mused. 1605 SHAKS. *Mach.* III. iv. 85 Do not muse at me my most worthy Friends. 1641 MILTON *Prel. Episc.* Wks. 1851 III. 83 We need no longer muse at the spreading of many idle traditions. 1859 TENNYSON *Elaine* 1261 Then came the fine Gawain and wonder'd at her, And Lancelot later came and mused at her.

†b. With clause or *inf.* expressing the occasion for wonder. *Obs.*

1530 CROMWELL in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) I. 328, I much muse that your Grace should so think. 1579 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 178 Thou wilt muse Philautus to heere Euphues to preach, who of late had more minde to serue his Lady then to worshippe his Lorde. 1593 SHAKS. *2 Hen. VI*, III. i. 1, I muse my Lord of Gloster is not come. 1599 Q. ELIZ. in Harington *Nugæ Ant.* (1804) I. 304 We cannot but muse that you shoulde recite that circumstance. 1631 DEKKER *Match Mee* III. Wks. 1873 IV. 180, I muse thou art so poore. 1632 *Thomas of Reading* in Thoms *E. E. Prose Rom.* (1858) I. 135, I muse thou canst indure this vile beseeming seruitude.

†c. To be a matter of wonder. *Obs.*

c 1460 *Towneley Myst.* iv. 12 Wheder ar all oure elders went? This musys mekill in my thoght.

4. To gaze meditatively; to look thoughtfully or intently. Const. *on, upon*, †*in*.

?*a* 1366 CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 1527 He so musede in the welle, That..He lovede his owne shadowe. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 128 It [his cofre] schal noght after ben unstoken, Bot whanne him list to have a syhte Of gold..That he ther on mai loke and muse. *c* 1430 *Pol. Rel. & L. Songs* (1866) 148 As y stood musynge on þe moone. *c* 1450 LOVELICH *Grail* xliv. 570 Faste towardis hym gan he to Muse, And vppon hym sette his hors hed. *c* 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 1231 Ilk man may..muse in his myrrour. 1639 N. N. tr. *Du Bosq's Compl. Woman* I. 63, I have heretofore a long time mused on the Statue of Venus made by Phidias. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 113 ¶ 1 This was the Place wherein I used to muse upon her. 1798 WORDSW. *Night-piece* 26 The mind..Is left to muse upon the solemn scene. 1820 W. IRVING *Sketch Bk.* I. 69 For some time Rip lay musing on this scene. 1883 J. H. NEWMAN *Ch. Fathers* (1840) 232 He began to eye and muse upon the great bishop of Milan.

†**5.** To wait or look expectantly. *Obs.*

a 1450 *Knt. de La Tour* (1906) 45 She..wolde no more make folke to mouse after her, but wolde be sonner arraied and atte the chirche thanne ani other.

†**6.** To murmur; to grumble, complain. *Obs.*

1382 WYCLIF 2 *Sam.* xii. 19 Whanne thanne Dauid hadde herd his seruauntis musynge [Vulg. *mussitantes*]. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 17 Wiche ought of resone the devise to excuse, To alle tho that wold ageyn it ffroune or muse. 1549-62 STERNHOLD & H. *Ps.* ii. 1 Why did the Jewish people muse, Seeing all is but vaine? 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* v. v. 253 Well, I will muse no further: Mr Fenton, Heauen giue you many, many merry dayes.

II. *trans.*

7. To ponder over, reflect upon; to contemplate, meditate. Now *rare*.

c 1395 *Plowman's Tale* 89 He mused his matter in mesure. *c* 1460 METHAM *Wks.* (E.E.T.S.) 64/1714 Ys this the loue that we haue musyd so offt? 1724 RAMSAY *Vision* i, I wandert waif and wae, Musand our main mischaunce. 1730 THOMSON *Hymn on Seasons* 121 Come then, expressive Silence, muse his praise. 1826 DISRAELI *Viv. Grey* II. i, The poet was absent, for he was musing a sonnet. 1878 B. TAYLOR *Deukalion* I. iii, What musest thou?

transf. and *fig.* 1850 MRS. BROWNING *Romaunt of Page* xi, His large eyes seemed to muse a smile.

†**8.** To murmur discontentedly. *Obs.*

1388 WYCLIF *John* vii. 32 Farisees herden the puple musinge [1382 grucchinge, Vulg. *murmurantem*] of hym these thingis. 1402 HOCCLEVE *Letter of Cupid* 238 Yt shal not ben in her elleccion the foulest slutte of al a tovne refuse, yf that me lyst, for al that they can muse.

†**9.** To excogitate. *Obs.*

a 1375 *Cursor M.* 2267 (Fairf.) Þer ware al þe speche mused þat now ar in þis werlde vsed.

†**10.** To marvel at. *Obs.*

1567 *Gude & Godlie Ball.* (S.T.S.) 165 Musing greitlie in my mynde, The folie that is in mankynde. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* III. iii. 36, I cannot too much muse Such shapes, such gesture, and such sound.

†**11.** To bewilder, puzzle. *Obs.*

1673 *S'too him Bayes* 58 But that that most muses me is this.

Muse, var. MEUSE; obs. f. MEWS, MOSS.

Museacall, variant of MOSAICAL *a.*[1] *Obs.*

Mused (miūzd), *a.* [f. MUSE *v.*[1] + -ED.] Bemused, fnddled.

1842 TENNYSON *Will Waterpr.* 74 Head-waiter, honour'd by the guest Half-mused, or reeling ripe.

†**Musedode.** *Obs. rare*[−1]. [f. *muse* MOUSE *sb.* (cf. '*Vermicularis*, herba muris', Diefenbach); the second element may be = mod. dial. *dud* teat.] Some herb; perh. the stonecrop, *Sedum acre*.

c 1450 *Alphita* (Anecd. Oxon.) 190/1 *Vermicularis maior*, tetroselio idem g. tatesoriz, ang. andrede uel musedode.

†**Musee.** *Obs. rare*[−1]. [a. F. *musée*, ad. L. *mūsēum.*] = MUSEUM.

1660 in C. Innes *Sk. Early Scot. Hist.* (1861) 452 The studie or musee belonging thereto.

Museful (miū·zfūl), *a.* [f. MUSE *sb.*[2] + -FUL.] Absorbed in thought; thoughtful, pensive.

a 1618 SYLVESTER *Maiden's Blush* 185 In musefull care

his Joseph calls hee quicke. 1700 DRYDEN *Pal. & Arc.* I. 541 Full of museful Mopings, which presage The loss of Reason. *a* 1810 C. B. BROWN *Carwin*, etc. (1822) II. 52 She was sitting in a museful posture. 1885 G. MEREDITH *Diana of Crossways* i, She is apt to spin it out of a museful mind, at her toilette, or by the lonely fire.

Hence **Mu·sefully** *adv.*, in a museful manner.

1885 G. MEREDITH *Diana of Crossways* III. xiv. 276 Musefully listening, nursing a thought.

Musehont: see MOUSE-HUNT 1.

Musel, obs. f. MUZZLE; var. MESEL *Obs.*

† Mu·seless, *a. Obs.* [f. MUSE *sb.*[1] + -LESS; in imitation of Gr. ἄμουσος, 'unpolished, inelegant, rude, gross' (L. & Sc.).] Without learning; uncultured.

1644 MILTON *Areop.* (Arb.) 36 It is to be wonder'd how museless and unhookish they were, minding nought but the feats of Warre. 1819 SHELLEY *Cyclops* 489 He [Cyclops] is coming,..Drunken, museless, awkward, yelling, Far along his rocky dwelling. 1877 RUSKIN *Fors Clav.* lxxiii. 16 The museless cry of the multitude.

Hence **Mu·selessness.**

1877 RUSKIN *Fors Clav.* lxxxiii. 360 That Deadly Muselessness of the Cameronian leaders.

Musell, obs. form of MUZZLE *v.*

Musellim (muse·lim). Forms: *a.* 7 musellem, 8 mosolem, 9 musselim, musellim; *β.* mutsel(l)im. [Arab. *musallim*, lit. paymaster, act. pple. of *sallama* to pay, 2nd conjug. of *salama*. The *β* forms represent *mutasallim*, the pple. of the 5th conjug. of the same verb.] A Turkish officer, the lieutenant of a pasha.

a. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* 193 A Convoy of three hundred Horse, and two hundred Foot, under the Command of the Musellem. 1703 MAUNDRELL *Journ. Jerus.* 29 Mar. (1721) 78 The Mosolem or Governour of the City. 1813 BYRON *Bride Abydos* I. xii, More ill-got wealth, a meaner soul Holds not a Musselim's control. 1847 MRS. A. KERR tr. *Ranke's Hist. Servia* 348 The power which..had been conceded to his Musellims.

β. 1844 KITTO *Phys. Hist. Palestine* vi. 161 Its fisheries were..rented of the Mutsellim of Szaffad by some fishermen of that town. 1855 OGILVIE *Suppl.* Mutselim.

Musselman, obs. form of MUSSELMAN.

† Mu·sen, *v. Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. [? a. MHG. *mûsen* (inf.) in the same sense: see MOULT *v.*] = MEW *v.*[1] 2.

1623 COCKERAM, *Pollard*, is a Stagge..hauing cast his head,..then he is said to musen. 1658 PHILLIPS, *Musen*, a term among Hunters, is when a Stag..casts his Head.

Museography (miūzi,ǫ·grăfi). [f. Gr. μουσεῖον MUSEUM: see -GRAPHY.] The systematic description of the contents of museums.

1904 D. MURRAY *Museums* II. 15 Museography.

So **Museo·grapher, Museo·graphist**, one who describes the contents of museums systematically.

1776 DA COSTA *Elem. Conchol.* 57 Most of the naturalists and museographists have included Shells in their works. 1880 *Athenæum* 9 Oct. 470/3 Between the museographers and the pure historians works of art are in danger of becoming transformed into scientific specimens.

Museology (miūzi,ǫ·lŏdʒi). [Formed as prec.: see -OLOGY.] The science of arranging museums.

1885 *Science* 31 July 82/1 Devices..in which museology has been notably advanced by us. 1887 HYATT in *Proc. Boston Soc. Nat. Hist.* 4 May 361 The first of the Guides to the Society's Museum..is an experiment of considerable importance in Museology. 1904 D. MURRAY *Museums* II. 41.

Hence **Museo·logist**, one versed in museology.

1899 *Nat. Science* Sept. 171 The museum as a whole is painfully suggestive of what museologists call 'the fat boy'.

† Muser[1]. *Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. [Of obscure origin; possibly an error.] (See quot.)

a 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII* 9 b, In the frount of the chafron was a goodly plume set full of musers or trimblyng spangles of gold.

Muser[2] (miū·zəɹ). In 4 musure. [f. MUSE *v.* + -ER[1]; the earlier form is a. OF. *museor.*] One who muses; one engaged in thought or meditation. Also, † a designer or schemer (*obs.*).

1382 WYCLIF *Isa.* xxix. 24 The musures [Vulg. *mussitatores*] shul lerne the lawe. 1551 RECORDE *Cast. Knowl.* Ded. (1556) 2 The musers of mischief wrought muche to the contrary. 1597 J. PAYNE *Royal Exch.* 38 There ys another sorte.., who be greate musers on Gods longe suffringe. 1677 GALE *Crt. Gentiles* II. iv. 87 Was it not a great Saying ..The greatest Musers are the best Artists? 1755 JOHNSON, *Muser*,..one who muses; one apt to be absent of mind. 1828 J. STERLING *Ess. & Tales* (1848) II. 75 The sound of tumult or of fear Rouses the muser's lazy ear. 1887 STEVENSON *House Beautiful*, Oft [shall] the morning muser see Larks rising from the broomy lea.

Muserde, Musere: see MUSARD, MOUSE-EAR.

Muserole, -roll, variant forms of MUSROL.

† Mu·sery. *Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. [a. OF. *muserie*, f. *muser* MUSE *v.*] An amusement, pastime.

c 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* II. lxix. (1869) 102 Pleyinge.. at dees, at merelles, and manye oothere museryes.

Muset[1] (miū·zĕt). *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Also 6 musit, 7 musett, 9 *dial.* mussit. [a. OF. *mucette, musselte*, 'a little hole, corner, or hoord to hide things in' (Cotgr.), f. *muce, musse*: see MEUSE.] = MEUSE *sb.* 1. Also, a hare's 'form'.

1592 SHAKS. *Ven. & Ad.* 683 The many musits through the which he goes, Are like a laberinth to amaze his foes. 1595 MARKHAM *Gentl. Acad.* 32 We terme..the places through the which she [*sc.* the hare] goeth to releefe, her muset. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* XXXVIII. xlix. 1015 To prevent those Thracian theeves that they should not hide themselves within their peakish holes & ordinarie covert musets. 1653 CHISENHALE *Cath. Hist.* Ep. Ded. A 4, The Author..had no sooner escaped out of the English sheep-fold, but straightway he discovers the Muset thorow which he stole. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* II. 134/2 A Hare [is lodged] in his Forme or Musett.

attrib. 1594 BARNFIELD *Affect. Sheph.* II. xi. (Arb.) 13 Or with Hare-pypes (set in a muset hole) Wilt thou deceave the deep-earth-delving Coney?

† Muset[2]. *Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. [a. OF. *muset*, also *musette* shrew-mouse.] A shrew-mouse.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 375 Against the biting of these musets or hardi-shrews [L. *muris aranei morsibus*].

Musette (miūze·t). [a. F. *musette*, dim. of OF. *muse*: see MUSE *sb.*[3]]

1. A kind of bagpipe.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 365 Bot yit herde I no pipe there To make noise in mannes Ere, Bot the Musette I myhte knowe. 1811 BUSBY *Dict. Mus.* (ed. 3), *Musars*, the name given to certain itinerant musicians who performed on the Musette. 1905 *Edin. Rev.* Apr. 321 The sound of pipes and musettes.

2. A soft pastoral air imitating the sound of the bagpipe; a dance for which this music served.

1811 BUSBY *Dict. Mus.* (ed. 3), *Musette*, the name of an air generally written in common-time..Dances were formerly invented of a similar cast, and which were also called Musettes. 1879 STAINER *Music of Bible* 119 A piece of music written in the style of bagpipe music came..to be called a musette. 1893 *Times* 21 Dec. 14/2 The lively gavotte, with its cleverly-scored musette.

3. A reed stop on an organ.

1825 DANNELEY *Encycl. Mus.*, *Musette*, an organ stop made of pewter, of the reed kind and of eight feet; called by the Germans *sackpfeife*. 1855 HOPKINS *Organ* 323 The Madelaine, Paris...Clavier de Récit Expressif...Muzette. *Ibid.* 333 Abbeville...Pedal, 6 Stops...Musette. 1888 tr. *Locher's Explan. Organ Stops* 63 *Schalmei*, a soft reed stop ..generally labelled Musette in French organs.

4. A small and simple variety of oboe (*Cent. Dict.* 1890).

1895 *Army & Navy Price List* 15 Sept. 1659 Musettes... Oboes [etc.].

Museum (miuzī·ŭm). Also 7–8 musæum, 8 muséum, 9 *pl.* musea. [a. L. *mūsēum*, ad. Gr. μουσεῖον a seat of the Muses, f. μοῦσα MUSE *sb.*[1] Cf. F. *musée* masc., Sp., Pg., It. *museo.*]

1. a. *Hist.* (with capital M.) The university building erected at Alexandria by Ptolemy Soter.

1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 111 That famous Musæum founded by Philadelphus. 1869 RAWLINSON *Anc. Hist.* 236 The 'Museum', or university building, comprised chambers for the Professors.

† **b.** *gen.* A building or apartment dedicated to the pursuit of learning or the arts; a 'home of the Muses'; a scholar's 'study'. *Obs.*

c 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* (1655) I. vi. xx. 265 To my Honoured Friend and Fa. Mr. Ben Johnson. I thank you for the last *regalo* you gave me at your Musæum, and for the good company. 1675 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) III. 42 A Legacy of five hundred pounds towards the building a Musæum, or commencement house. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Museum*, a Study or Library; also a College or Publick Place for the Resort of Learned Men. 1757 MRS. GRIFFITH *Lett. Henry & Frances* (1767) II. 82 It gives me uneasiness, in my musæum, when any sentiment or criticism occurs to me, that I cannot immediately communicate it to you. 1760 C. JOHNSTON *Chrysal* (1783) I. xvi. 92 He waited on the Virtuoso, and..was immediately admitted to an audience in his musæum.

2. A building or portion of a building used as a repository for the preservation and exhibition of objects illustrative of antiquities, natural history, fine and industrial art, or some particular branch of any of these subjects, either generally or with reference to a definite region or period. Also applied to the collection of objects itself.

Although a 'museum' may include a library (as does the British Museum) or a picture gallery, the word is not in ordinary Eng. use applied to an institution of which either of these is the sole or the most prominent feature. On the continent the corresponding word is often used with reference to a collection of works of painting or sculpture, and when so used is rendered 'museum' in English.

1683 *Phil. Trans.* XIII. 108 Mr. Ashmole's Musæum at Oxford. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey) s.v., The *Museum* or *Ashmole's Museum*, a neat Building in the City of Oxford. 1710 HEARNE *Collect.* (O.H.S.) III. 35 Mr. Lhuyd of the Muséum. 1771 SMOLLETT *Humph. Cl.* 2 June, Let. ii, I have seen the British Museum; which is a noble collection. 1778 MISS BURNEY *Evelina* (1791) I. xxiii. 129 [He] changed the subject to Cox's Museum, and asked what we thought of it? 1816 T. D. WHITAKER *Loidis & Elmete* 124 It would perhaps be difficult for all the musea of the kingdom to find half a dozen originals [of the wax impressions of seals] of the same date. 1863 LYELL *Antiq. Man* 10 Swords and shields of that metal, now in the Museum of Copenhagen.

attrib. 1893 COLLINGWOOD *Ruskin* I. 143 Flaws and interruptions destroy the museum-value of a mineral. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 257 The museum specimen of a uterus of a much quoted case.

3. *transf.* and *fig.*

1753 HERVEY *Theron & Aspasia* (1755) I. i. 13 The boundless Musæum of the Universe. 1846 E. FITZGERALD *Lett.* (1889) I. 166 A heathy promootory there, good museum for conversation on old poets, &c. 1849 THACKERAY *Pendennis* I. xxiv. 228 Miss Blanche..had quite a little museum of locks of hair in her treasure-chest. 1894 H. DRUMMOND *Ascent Man* 106 The physical body of Man..is..a museum of obsolete anatomies.

Muse·uming, *vbl. sb. colloq.* [f. MUSEUM + -ING[1].] The action of inspecting museums.

1838 OWEN in *Life* (1894) I. 139 We steam to Bonn; there a day or two museuming, and then for Home.

Mush (mʊʃ), *sb.*[1] [App. an onomatopœic alteration of MASH *sb.*[1]; sense 3 and the related MUSH *v.*[2] are prob. old, though not recorded till the 19th c. Sense 1 and 3 b may have been affected by Du. *moes*, formerly used in these senses.]

1. *N. American.* A kind of porridge made with meal (chiefly of maize) boiled in water or milk until it thickens.

1671 J. HARDY *Last Voy. to Bermudas* 11 Indian corn.. Which being groun'd and boyl'd, Mush they make Their hungry Servants Hunger for to slake. 1814 BRACKENRIDGE *Jrnl.* in *Views Louisiana* 202 A pot of mush for supper, with a pound of tallow in it. 1828 COBBETT *Treat. Cobbett's Corn* ix. § 156 Taking off a lump of the mush at the time, and putting it in the milk, you take up a spoonful at a time, having a little milk along with it; and this is called mush and milk. 1893 KATE SANBORN *Truthf. Wom. in S. California* 37 The old greenhorn above who had his supper of mush and milk.

2. *dial.* A kind of iron-ore found in concretionary masses.

1686 PLOT *Staffordsh.* iv. § 17. 159 Mush the best of all [Iron-Ore]..many times fill'd with a briske sweet liquor which the Workmen drink greedily.

3. Anything soft and pulpy. Also, anything reduced to or resembling a mass of powder. Chiefly *dial.*

1824 MACTAGGART *Gallovid. Encycl.*, *Mush*, a vast of matters tossed together, such as straw, grain, hay, chaff, &c. 1841 EMERSON *Man the Reformer* Wks. (Bohn) I. 247 A poor fungus or mushroom..that seemed nothing but a soft mush or jelly. 1847 HALLIWELL, *Mush*, anything mashed. 1855 ROBINSON *Whitby Gloss.*, *Mush*, any thing decayed to a state of powder. 1878 E. W. CLARK *Life Japan* 76 The rice field is stirred up into a perfect mush of mud.

b. *U. S.* 'Fish ground up; chum; pomace; stosh' (*Cent. Dict.* 1890).

c. *transf.* and *fig.*

1841-4 EMERSON *Ess., Friendship* Wks. (Bohn) I. 88, I hate, where I looked for..a manly resistance, to find a mush of concession. 1856 MRS. CARLYLE *Lett.* (1883) II. 297 Stewed into mush, hearing a popular preacher. 1876 BESANT & RICE *Gold. Butterfly* xviii, Bringing everlasting disgrace on our town with such mush as that.

Mush (mʊʃ), *sb.*[2] *slang.* [Shortened form of MUSHROOM.]

1. An umbrella. Chiefly *attrib.* in **mush-faker** = *mushroom-faker*. So **Mush-faking** *vbl. sb.*

1821 HAGGART *Life* 56 Tommy Twenty, a mush toper feeker. 1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* II. 127 The term [Mushroom-fakers]..has become very generally condensed among those who carry on the trade—they are now mush-fakers. 1856 MAYHEW *Gt. World Lond.* 6 note, The mouth has come to be styled the 'tater-trap';..umbrellas, 'mushrooms' (or, briefly, 'mush');..and so on. 1893 P. H. EMERSON *Signor Lippo* xx. 91 My old man..got his dudder by chinay-faking and mush-faking.

2. A 'small' cab-proprietor; a cab-driver who owns one, two, or three cabs. So **Mu·sher** in the same sense. **Mu·shing** *vbl. sb.*, cab-owning on a small scale.

1887 *Globe* 22 Apr. 3 A musher, or a struggler, is a man who drives a horse and cab which is his own property, and his only 'lot'. *Ibid.*, 'Mushing' in the cab-trade is another word for 'struggling'. 1892 *Labour Commission* Gloss., *Little mushes*, term applied to those in the cab-driving industry who drive their own vehicles. 1902 *Academy* 27 Dec. 706/2 A Mush is the owner of 3 or 4 cabs.

† Mush, *a. Obs.* In 6 musche. [f. MUSH *v.*[1]] = MUSHED *ppl. a.*

1578 *Inv. R. Wardrobe* (1815) 228 Ane [doublet]..of blak musche taffetie.

Mush (mʊʃ), *v.*[1] *Sc.* Also 6–7 musche. [? a. OF. *moucher* to cut, trim.] *trans.* 'To cut out with a stamp, to nick or notch, to make into flounces. (Commonly applied to grave-clothes)' (Jam.); to 'puff'. Hence **Mushed** *ppl. a.*, puffed. **Mu·shing** *vbl. sb.*, one of many nicks or notches stamped upon a garment for ornament.

1578 *Inv. R. Wardrobe* (1815) 231 Ane quheit hieland mantill. Certane pecis of muschet arming furing. 1615 in *Thanes of Cawdor* (Spald. Club) 240 Item 3 quarteris of reid bukkram to musche out the sleivis xv s. 1684 SIR J. LAUDER *Hist. Notices Sc. Affairs* (1848) 538 Many other things ware spoke of as sumptuous and prodigall, viz.,.. mushed-out silks, and flored hoods. 1752 J. LOUTHIAN *Form of Process* (ed. 2) 9 The Justice-General's [Robe] being lined with Ermine for Distinction, and the Justice-Clerk's being distinguished by Outcuttings or Mushings.

Mush (mʊʃ), *v.*[2] *dial.* [Onomatopœic alteration of MASH *v.*, suggestive of duller sound made in pounding something soft. Cf. the earlier MUSH *sb.*[1]] *trans.* and *intr.* 'To crush, pulverize, crumble; to mash, to reduce to pulp; to crumble or decay away' (E. D. D.).

1781 HUTTON *Tour to Caves* (ed. 2) 93 *Mush*, to crush, or crumble. 1855 ROBINSON *Whitby Gloss.*, *To Mush*, to crumble, to moulder. 1861 GEO. ELIOT *Silas M.* vii. 111 'Folks as had the devil to hack 'em were not likely to be so mushed' as poor Silas was.

Musha (mʊ·ʃă), *int.* [a. Irish *maiseadh*, lit. 'if it is so'.] An exclamation of surprise used by Irish speakers.

1831 LOVER *Leg. & Stor. Irel.* 3 Musha, thin, do you tell me so? 1837 — *Rory O'More* xlvi, Musha! but you're the very sowl of good nature.

Mushal, -chee, var. ff. MUSSAL, -CHEE.

Mushato(e, Mushe, obs. ff. MUSTACHIO, MUCH.

Mushere, obs. form of MOUSE-EAR.

Musherom, -on, -oom, etc.: see MUSHROOM.

‖ **Mushla** (mv·ʃlɑ̄). Also 7 **mushelaw,** 7–9 **mishlaw.** [Mosquito *mushla* (A. Henderson).] A fermented liquor from plantain, cassava, maize, etc.

1697 DAMPIER *Voy.* xi. 314 The Moskito Indians will take a ripe Plantain and roast it; then take a pint and half of Water in a Calabash, and squeeze the Plantain in pieces with their hands, mixing it with the Water; theo they drink it all off together: this they call Mishlaw. *c* 1699 M. W. *Mosqueto Indians* in *Collect. Voy.* (Churchill 1732) VI. 293 Their plantain drink they call Mushelaw. 1827 O. W. ROBERTS *Voy. Centr. Amer.* 128 Preparations were making for a grand feast and mishlaw drink. 1842 T. YOUNG *Narr. Resid. Mosquito Shore* iii. 33 It is a custom to let their quarrels rest until they get inflamed by their filthy mushla.

Mush-melon, -millian, obs. ff. MUSK-MELON.

Mushroom (mv·ʃrum), *sb.* Forms: *α.* 5 **musseroun,** 5–7 **muscheron,** 6 **mus(s)heron, mousheroun,** 7 **mucheron** (**muceron**), 8 **mushroon**; *β.* 6 **musherom, mousherom, mushrum(m)e, -romme,** (**mushorme**), 6–7 **mushrum, -rom,** 7 **muschrom(be,** (**mes-, musrume, mustrome**), 7 **musheroom, mushroome,** 6– **mushroom**; *γ.* 6 **moshrump,** (**mushrumpt**), **moushrimpe,** 6–7 **mus(c)hrump(e,** **mushrompe,** (**mustrump**); *δ.* 6 **mushrubbe,** 7 **mushrub.** See also MOUSSERON. [a. F. *mousseron* (OF. *moisseron,* 1389 in Hatz.-Darm.), usually held to be a derivative of *mousse* moss.]

1. In early use, a fungus of any of the larger 'umbrella-shaped' species, to which the names *toad's hat* and *toadstool* were also applied indiscriminately. Now commonly restricted to the common edible mushroom, *Agaricus campestris,* or to this and species that closely resemble it in general appearance. Some apply *mushroom* to any fungus supposed to be edible, and *toadstool* to any that is believed to be deleterious. Certain botanical writers have used the word as equivalent to FUNGUS. The mushroom is a proverbial type of rapid growth.

14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 597/13 *Mussetum,* musseronns. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 349/1 Muscheron, toodys hatte, *boletus, fungus.* 1533 ELYOT *Cast. Helthe* (1539) 89 Beware of musherons,..and al other thinges, whiche wyll sone putrifie. 1563 HYLL *Art Garden.* (1593) 30 The Toad stooles or Mushrooms, which grow ont of the Walnut tree, and bee stiffe and hard. 1595 SOUTHWELL *Poems* (Grosart) 69 He that high gronth on cedars did bestowe, Gave also lowly mushrumpes [*v.r.* mushrumpts] leave to growe. 1612 W. PARKES *Curtaine-Dr.* 20 That Cædar..Vnder whose girdle, nay beneath whose knee, The little Mesrumes louingly agree. 1656 MARNETTE *Perf. Cook* i. 312 With Sparagus, with Hartichokes, with Muscherons, with Cream [etc.]. 1732 ARBUTHNOT *Rules of Diet* in *Aliments,* etc. i. 258 Mushrooms contain an Oil of a volatile Salt. 1818 KEATS *Endym.* iv. 234 For wine we left our heath, and yellow brooms, And cold mushrooms. 1846 LINDLEY *Veg. Kingd.* 37 In Paris none [*i.e.* no fungi] are permitted to appear in the markets except the common Truffle, Morel, and Mushroom. 1887 BENTLEY *Bot.* (ed. 5) 378 Fungi or Mushrooms.

2. *fig.* **a.** A person or family that has suddenly sprung into notice; an upstart. Also applied to a city, an institution, etc., that is of sudden growth.

a 1593 MARLOWE *Edw. II* (1598) C 1 b, A night growne mushrump, Such a one as my Lord of Cornewall is. 1622 *Interpreter* A 3 b, He may not..seeme to shrinke, withdraw, giue way, whilst other mushrumpes doe the state betray. 1651 HOWELL *Venice* 204 Which Commonwealths may be sayed to have bin but Mushrumps in point of duration. 1721 AMHERST *Terræ Fil.* No. 13 (1754) 66, I hear them scornfully call a rising great man an upstart, a mushroom, and a thing of yesterday. 1787 BENTHAM *Def. Usury* xiii. 179 Sheffield is an old oak; Birmingham is a mushroom. 1864 BURTON *Scot Abr.* I. ii. 96 The Stewarts..were mere mushrooms beside the descendants of the Guelphs.

† **b.** A contemptible person. *Obs.*

1594 ? GREENE *Selimus* Wks. (Grosart) XIV. 282 Summon a parley sirs, that we may know Whether these Mushroms here will yeeld or no. 1676 D'URFEY *Mad. Fickle* ii. i, Come Ladies, I'le be your Gaurdian; Let these Musrumes stand if they dare. 1680 D. GRANVILLE in *Life* (1902) 224, I will make a filthy bustle before I dye among the Clergy of the nation, as contemptible a mushrump and silly ignoramus as some do make me. 1769 *Public Advertiser* 4 Oct. 2/2 A gouty Mushroom of an Earl from the West.

† **c.** An excrescence. *Obs. rare.*

1648 PAYNNE *Plea for Lords* 2 They are..the Exorbitances and Mushromes of Prerogative, the Wenns of just Government.

† **d.** A spontaneous growth. *Obs.*

1670 C. GATAKER in *Gataker's Antid. Errour* Ep. Ded. A ij b, Who endeavour to forget that they are Gods offspring, and would fain be taken for the Mushrooms of Chance.

3. *transf.* Something shaped like a mushroom.

† **a.** In ornamental waterworks (see quot.). *Obs.*

1712 J. JAMES tr. *Le Blond's Gardening* 214 Mushrooms are a sort of inverted Bowl-dishes, cut with Scales on the upper Part, over which the Water falls into the Bason below.

b. = *mushroom anchor* (see 6 c).

1890 *Nature* 10 Apr. 539 A temporary light-vessel is substituted,..but probably before her mushroom bites the ground it has dragged somewhat.

4. a. *slang.* An umbrella.

1856 [see MUSH *sb.*[2] 1]. 1871 'M. LEGRAND' *Cambr. Freshm.* 87 Mr. Pokyr said he would take care of my umbrella—'mushroom' was the term he used.

b. *colloq.* A low-crowned circular hat, esp. a lady's straw hat with down-curving brim.

1865 *Hotten's Slang Dict., Mushroom,* an inelegant round hat worn by demure ladies. 1896 GEORGIANA M. STISTEO *Capt. Sir R. F. Burton* xi. 265 Many a pretty face..surmounted by the 'mushroom' or 'pork-pie'. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 21 Apr. 3/2 The mushroom..is a quite round straw with a low crown. 1902 *Ibid.* 31 May 2/1 Mimi's costume consisted of a short holland overall and a brown straw mushroom.

5. = *mushroom-colour* (see 6 c).

1884 *West. Daily Press* 25 Apr. 7/6 The fanciful shade of mushroom. 1903 *Westm. Gaz.* 10 Sept. 4/2 A shade called mushroom..a fascinating sober and unusual tone.

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.* **a.** simple attrib., as *mushroom-juice, -ketchup* (*-catchup*), *-sauce*; parasynthetic and similative *mushroom-coloured, -like, -shaped* adjs.

1748 *Mushroom juice [see KETCHUP]. 1808 MRS. RUNDELL *Dom. Cookery* (1824) 168 *Mushroom Ketchup. 1839 T. C. HOFLAND *Brit. Angler's Man.* viii. (1841) 147 Mushroom catchup. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* s.v. *Heath-moss,* The brown *mushroom-like *Coralloides.* 1771 MRS. HAYWOOD *New Present* 46 *Mushroom Sauce. 1845 ELIZA ACTON *Mod. Cookery* 118 White Mushroom Sauce. 1835–6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 39/2 The principal organ of motion in the pulmograda is the large..*mushroom-shaped disc.

b. *attrib.* quasi-*adj.* with the sense: Resembling a mushroom in rapidity of development or growth or in brief duration of existence; upstart; ephemeral.

1599 B. JONSON *Ev. Man out of Hum.* i. ii, These mushrompe gentlemen, That shoot vp in a night to place and worship. 1647 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* vi. § 293 This was the end of that mushrump-army, which grew up and perished so soon that [etc.]. 1703 SAVAGE *Lett. Antients* lxviii. 207 A Mushrome Love sprung from a transitory View. 1707 E. FILMER *Defence Plays* 130 A new, upstart, Mushroom Sect, sprung from their own filthy Dunghill. 1818–60 WHATELY *Comm.-bl. Bk.* (1864) 145 He outlived his own mushroom-reputation. 1887 *Westm. Rev.* June 269 Radical millionaires, and mushroom aristocrats.

c. Special combinations: **mushroom anchor,** a mooring anchor having a saucer-shaped head upon a central shaft; **mushroom-bed,** a bed of horse-dung and fine earth specially prepared for mushroom growing; **mushroom colour,** a pale pinkish colour resembling that of a mushroom; so **mushroom-coloured** *a.*; † **mushroom-coral** = FUNGITE; **mushroom earth,** earth containing mushroom spawn; **mushroom-faker** *slang,* an itinerant umbrella-mender; † **mushroom gall** (see quot.); **mushroom-grown** *a.,* sprung up spontaneously like mushrooms; **mushroom hall** *dial.,* a house or hut erected by stealth (see quot.); **mushroom hat** = sense 4 b; **mushroom head,** (*a*) a kind of 'head' for a church bell; (*b*) the noseplate on the inner part of the breech-plug of a breech-loading cannon (*Cent. Dict.* 1890); **mushroom-headed** *a.* (see quot.); **mushroom house,** a house specially constructed for growing mushrooms; **mushroom loaf** (see LOAF *sb.*[1] 2 d); **mushroom-man** (see quot.); **mushroom powder,** dried mushrooms powdered to serve as a flavouring; **mushroom-ring** = FAIRY-RING; **mushroom spawn,** the vegetative mycelium of mushrooms, usually embedded in an earthy matrix; **mushroom-stone** = FUNGITE; **mushroom sugar,** mannite derived from fungi.

1845 *Encycl. Metrop.* XIV. 548/1 An anchor of a very peculiar kind is employed to secure the vessels..; it is technically called the **mushroom anchor.* 1763 MILLS *Syst. Pract. Husb.* IV. 186 The spawn of mushrooms may be procured at almost any time, by those who have not already had *mushroom-beds in their gardens. 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 16 Aug. 3/1 It is as near as you can get to it unless you say *mushroom-colour. 1904 *Daily Chron.* 13 Feb. 8/5 A..skirt of delicate *mushroom-coloured face cloth. 1681 GREW *Museum* III. i. iii. 280 *Mushroom-Coral. *Fungites.* So called from a little likeness it hath to a Toad-Stool. 1731 MILLER *Gard. Dict.* s.v. *Mushrooms,* You should put in some of the Knobs of *Mushroom Earth, about six Inches asunder. 1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* II. 127/2 The *mushroom-fakers will repair any umbrella on the owner's premises. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Suppl.,* **Mushroom Galls* ..a name given by authors to a small species of galls very common on the leaves of the oak in September and October. 1827 G. HIGGINS *Celtic Druids* 86, I have no experience of *mushroom-grown men. 1872 R. HEATH *Eng. Peasant* (1893) 145 It was a notion held among the peasantry in olden times, that he who could in one night erect a '*Mushroom Hall'..without hindrance from the officials of the manor, had obtained a copyhold right to the land. 1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 17 June 3/2, 'The *mushroom hat', the peculiar genius of which shape dwells in that coy droop of the brim. 1872 ELLACOMBE *Bells of Ch.* in *Ch. Bells Devon* viii. 393 The bell being turned a quarter round by the button or *mushroom head by which it is hung. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 30 Nov. 4/2 Over this is placed a block of steel called the mushroom head. 1839 LINDLEY *Introd. Bot.* III. (ed. 3) 454 *Mushroom-headed; cylindrical, having a rounded, convex, overhanging extremity. 1817 NEILL in *Edin. Encycl.* XI. 238/2 A *mushroom-house, constructed on Oldacre's plan. 1892 *Labour Commission* Gloss., **Mushroom-men,* men, having very little or no capital, who hire looms and start to compete in the cotton industry, on the principle that they have all to gain and nothing to lose. 1747 MRS. GLASSE *Cookery* xi. 122 To make *Mushroom Powder. 1807 WOLLASTON in *Phil. Trans.* XCVII. 138, I cut a groove..along the diameter of a *mushroom-ring. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* s.v. *Mushroom,* Into this [trench]..should be put in the knobs of *Mushroom spawn. 1850 PEREIRA *Elem. Mat. Med. & Therap.* (ed. 3) II. i. 952 Mushroom spawn is the name given by gardeners to the white branching cottony fibres (*mycelia*) which form the so-called root of the mushroom. 1668 CHARLETON *Onomasticon* 267 *Fungites..*Mushrum-stone. 1840 PEREIRA *Elem. Mat. Med.* II. 572 *Mushroom sugar has been found identical with mannite.

Mushroom (mv·ʃrum), *v.* [f. MUSHROOM *sb.*] **1.** *trans.* To elevate (a person) in social position with great suddenness. *nonce-use.*

1747 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1749) I. xl. 270 None but the prosperous upstart mushroom'd into rank (another of his peculiars) was arrogantly proud of it.

2. a. *intr.* Of rifle-bullets: To expand and flatten. Occas. with *out.* **b.** *trans.* To cause (a bullet) to 'mushroom'.

1893 SELOUS *Trav. S. E. Africa* 431 Such a bullet will mushroom on striking an animal. 1896 *Westm. Gaz.* 16 Dec. 6/3 The bullet was either mushroomed or the nickel shell and lead had parted company. 1900 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* No. 2054. 1158 The result is that the lead mushrooms out.

3. *intr.* To gather mushrooms. Chiefly in pr. pple. or gerund.

1894 *Westm. Gaz.* 2 Jan. 7/2 While walking across a field mushrooming. Occas. with *out.* 1901 *Essex Weekly News* 25 Oct. 3/3 He had been 'mushrooming'.

Mu·shroomed, *ppl. a.* [f. MUSHROOM *sb.* and *v.* + -ED.]

† **1.** *Cookery.* ? Dressed with mushrooms. *Obs.*

1821 COMBE *Wife* III. 390 Broil'd ham and a nice mushroom'd chicken.

2. Overgrown with mushrooms.

1885 MRS. CADDY *Footsteps Jeanne D'Arc* (1886) 9 The path turns downwards..across the mushroomed meadows.

3. Of rifle-bullets: Expanded and flattened.

1901 *Wide World Mag.* VIII. 160/1 The 'mushroomed' bullet was dug out of the earth.

Mu·shroomer. [f. MUSHROOM *v.* + -ER[1].] One who gathers mushrooms.

1885 *Illustr. Lond. News* 26 Sept. 331 One of the provincial advertisers calls such persons 'mushroomers'. 1898 CAOMAN *H. Druidale* 175 I'll teach those mushroomers to keep out of my meadow.

Mushroo·mic, *a. nonce-wd.* [f. MUSHROOM *sb.* + -IC.] 'Upstart'. (Cf. MUSHROOM *sb.* 6 b.)

1859 G. MEREDITH *R. Feverel* xvi, There were names historic and names mushroomic.

Mu·shrooming, *vbl. sb.* [f. MUSHROOM *v.* + -ING[1].] **a.** The gathering of mushrooms. **b.** The flattening and expansion (of bullets).

1900 *Daily News* 14 May 3/6 Soft-nosed bullets..appear to have been freely used by the Boers, as 10 per cent. of the wounds were caused by the 'mushrooming' of the core of the bullet. 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 16 Aug. 3/1 Mushrooming. The mushrooming is the event of our day.

Mu·shroomy, *a.* [f. MUSHROOM *sb.* + -Y.] Like a mushroom.

1860 O. W. HOLMES *Elsie V.* vii, A large house of some pretensions to architectural display, namely, unnecessarily projecting eaves, giving it a mushroomy aspect. 1895 *Outing* (U.S.) XXVI. 42/2 These portable roof-trees, though in shape mushroomy, have nothing else of the *parvenu* about them.

Mushrub(be, -rum(pe, etc.: see MUSHROOM.

Mushy (mv·ʃi), *a. colloq.* [f. MUSH *sb.*[1] + -Y.] Soft, pulpy; also *fig.* Hence **Mu·shiness,** the condition of being soft or pulpy.

1876 GEO. ELIOT *Dan. Der.* xlvi, She's not mushy, but her heart is tender. 1883 *Pall Mall G.* 18 Sept. 12/1 It is poured into a machine in a thick, mushy state. 1890 SARAH J. DUNCAN *Soc. Departure* 221 The unutterable mushiness of the 'bullock's heart' [fruit].

Music (miū·zik), *sb.* Forms: 3–5 **musik,** 3–6 **musike,** 4 **musyce, musiqe,** 4–6 **musyk(e,** 4–7 **musique,** 5 **musy(c)que, -icque,** 6 **musyck,** *Sc.* **mwseik,** 6–7 **musick(e,** 7 **musiq,** 5– **music.** [a. F. *musique* (12th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), ad. L. *mūsica,* ad. Gr. *μουσική* (*sc. τέχνη*) lit. 'the art of the Muse' (fem. of *μουσικός* pertaining to the Muse or Muses, f. *μοῦσα* MUSE *sb.*[1]), applied *gen.* to artistic culture, poetry, etc., but also *spec.* to music.

Cf. Pr. *muzica,* Sp. *música,* Pg., It. *musica*; also G. *musik* (MHG. *museke,* OHG. *musica*), Du. *muziek,* Da., Sw. *musik.*]

1. That one of the fine arts which is concerned with the combination of sonnds with a view to beauty of form and the expression of emotion; also, the science of the laws or principles (of melody, harmony, rhythm, etc.) by which this art is regulated.

Considered as an art, music has two distinct branches, the art of the composer and that of the executant. The word is often used with special reference to the executive branch, and to instrumental execution rather than vocal; thus, the designation of 'a teacher of music' is usually apprehended to mean one who teaches the art of playing on some instrument.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 460 Wit of musike, wel he knew. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 90 The science of Musique, That techeth upon Armonie A man to make melodie. 1481 CAXTON *Myrr.* I. xii. 37 Of this science of musyque cometh alle attemperaunce. 1570 DEE *Math. Pref.* d iij, An Architect (sayth he [*sc.* Vitruvius]) ought to..haue heard Philosophers, haue skill of Musike, not ignorant of Physike [etc.]. 1638 *Burgh Rec. Glasgow* (1876) I. 388 That na maner of persone sould be permittit to teitch musik within this burgh..except [etc.]. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 29 ¶ 13 Musick, Architecture, and Painting..are to deduce their Laws and Rules from the general Sense and Taste of Mankind. 1827 WHATELY *Logic* i. (ed. 2) 18 There must have been..musical compositions previous to the science of Music. 1884 MAC-

farren in *Encycl. Brit.* XVII. 77/1 Music..is that one of the fine arts which appropriates the phenomena of sound to the purposes of poetry.

personified. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Boeth.* II. pr. i. 31 (Camb. MS.) And with rethorice com forth Musyce A damysel of oure hous. 1509 Hawes *Past. Pleas.* xviii. (Percy Soc.) 77 Than forth so went good Counsell and I,..By Musykes toure walked most goodly. 1747 Collins *Passions* 1 When Music, Heav'nly Maid, was young.

2. Sounds in melodic or harmonic combination, whether produced by voice or instruments. † *In (good, true) music*: in tune.

† *Broken music*: see Broken *ppl. a.* 16. *Music of the spheres*: see Sphere.

c 1381 Chaucer *Parl. Foules* 62 The melodye herde he That comyth of thilke speris thryes thre That welle is of musik. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 58 In wommanysshe vois thei singe, With notes..of such musike, Wherof the Schipes thei beswike. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 13277 The myrthe of baire mowthes musyk was like. 1471 Caxton *Recuyell* (Sommer) II. 536 That made grete feste of theyr comyng in many manyers of Instrumentis of musycque. *a* 1500 *Flower & Leaf* 132 The Armony And sweet accord was in so good musyk, That the voice to angels most was lyk. *a* 1535 *Frere & Boye* 98 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* III. 65 A pype thou shalte haue also, In true musyke it sball go. 1588 Byan *Ps., Sonn. & Songs* Pref. note, There is not any Musicke of Instruments whatsoeuer, comparable to that which is made of the voyces of Men. 1591 Shaks. *Two Gent.* IV. ii. 31 Now must we to her window, And gine some euening Musique to her eare. 1611 A. Stafford *Niobe* 113 Thou deseruest a Quire of ancient Eardi to sing thy praises; who, with their musickes melody, might expresse thy soules harmonie. 1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* (1614) 308 With their voyces and cimbals, they make pleasant musicke. 1629 Milton *Hymn Nativ.* xii. 117 Such Musick (as 'tis said) Before was never made. 1643 Evelyn *Diary* 24 Dec., I was entertain'd with the church musiq. 1697 Congreve *Mourn. Bride* 1. i, Musick has Charms to sooth a savage Breast. 1769 Gray *Installation Ode* 63 Sweet music's melting fall. 1886 C. E. Pascoe *London of To-day* xi. (ed. 3) 112 The music of the military and other bands is unusually excellent.

b. *transf.* Applied, e. g., to the song of birds, the murmur of running water, the euphony of spoken words, etc., *spec.* the cry of hounds on seeing the chase. Also in ironical collocations.

1590 Spenser *F. Q.* II. vi. 25 She, more sweete then any bird on bough, Would..strive to passe..Their native musicke by her skilful art. 1593 G. Fletcher *Licia* Sonn. xiv, My love lay sleeping, where birdes musicke made. 1617 Moryson *Itin.* III. 28 Clashing of swords was then daily musicke in every street. 1653 Walton *Angler* i. 12 What music doth a pack of dogs then make. 1687 A. Lovell tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 225 With that another Volley of great and small Shot: When this Musick had lasted about an Hour, they [etc.]. 1751 Johnson *Rambler* No. 88 P 7 Milton, whose ear had been accustomed..to the music of the ancient tongues. 1808 Skurray *Bidcombe Hill* 9 The cheerful music of the opening hounds. 1836 W. Irving *Astoria* III. 25 Musquitoes, which, with their stings and their music, set all sleep at defiance. 1858 R. S. Surtees *Ask Mamma* xxxviii, The music of the hounds.

c. *fig.* in various applications, esp. something which it is a delight to hear. † *To step music*, to step with rhythmical grace.

a 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* II. (1629) 166 What Histories might euer make my fame yeeld so sweet a Musick to my eares.. as that [etc.]? 1590 Shaks. *Com. Err.* II. ii. 116 The time was once, when thou vn-vrg'd wouldst vow, That neuer words were musicke to thine eare,..Vnlesse I spake..to thee. 1611 — *Wint. T.* IV. iv. 529 It is my Fathers Musicke To speake your deeds. *a* 1668 Davenant *Fair Favorite* v. i, I shall now be kil'd, Even with the musick of her voice. 1760–72 H. Brooke *Fool of Qual.* (1809) III. 152 The performers stepped music, their action was grace. 1813 Byron *Br. Abydos* 1. vi, The mind, the Music breathing from her face. 1850 Tennyson *In Mem.* xcvi, Perplext in faith, but pure in deeds, At last he beat his music out.

d. *Rough music*: noisy uproar; usually, a din produced by knocking together pots, pans, and other domestic utensils for the purpose of annoying a neighbour.

1708 *Brit. Apollo* No. 56. 3/2 Excuse the Rough Musick of Tongs and of Hammer. 1770 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 74 A number of boys attended with shovels, playing the rough music. 1796 Grose *Dict. Vulg. T.* (ed. 3), *Rough Music*, Saucepans, frying-pans, poker and tongs, marrow-bones and cleavers, bulls horns, etc. beaten upon and sounded in ludicrous processions. *a* 1845 Hood *Public Dinner* ii, 'Mr. Tempest—one guinea, Mr. Merrington—twenty,' Rough music in plenty. 1862 *Standard* 1 Dec., Those boisterous exhibitions of popular indignation known as rough music. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-Bk.* 580 *Rough Music*, rolling shot about on the lower deck, and other discordant noises, when seamen are discontented, but without being mutinous.

e. A kind of music. *lit.* and *fig.*

1584 Powel *Lloyd's Cambria* 191 The second sort of them are plaiers vpon instrumeats, cheefelie the Harpe and the Crowth: whose musike for the most part came to Wales with the said Gruffyth ap Conan. 1664 Pepys *Diary* 5 Oct., After three hours' stay it [the 'arched viall'] could not be fixed in tune: and so they were fain to go to some other musique of instruments. 1799 Wordsw. *Poet's Epitaph* 40 He murmurs near the running brooks A music sweeter than their own. 1822 Beddoes *Bride's Trag.* II. i, That is Love: 'Tis he that acts the nightingale, the thrush, And all the living musics. 1866 Ruskin *Eth. Dust* iv. (1883) 60 All one's life is a music, if one touches the notes rightly and in time. 1883 Stevenson *Silverado Sq.* (1886) 22 The stirring sunlight, and the growing vines..made a pleasant music for the mind.

3. Sounds in melodic or harmonic combination as devised by a composer; musical composition. *To set to music*: to provide (a poem, etc.) with music to which it may be sung.

1607 T. Hume (*title*) Captain Humes Poeticall Musicke principally made for two basse-viols. 1697 Motteux (*title*) The Loves of Mars and Venus. A Play set to Music. 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 18 P 2 That nothing is capable of being well set to Musick, that is not Nonsense. 1762 Colman *Mus. Lady* I. 15 (Stage-direction), Tunes the instrument, and turns over several pieces of music. 1763 J. Brown *Poetry & Mus.* xiii. 223 If the Poet select and adapt proper Music to his Poem. 1898 Shuttleworth in *Daily News* 19 Nov. 6/3 The words attached to the music cannot make it sacred or profane.

† **4.** A piece of music composed or performed.

a 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* III. (1629) 247 Musickes at her window, and especially such Musickes, as might..call the mind to thinke of sorrow, and think of it with sweetnesse. 1589 Puttenham *Eng. Poesie* II. x. (Arb.) 96 Vnlesse it be in small and popular Musickes song by these *Cantabanqui* vpon benches and barrels heads. 1611 Shaks. *Cymb.* II. iii. 44, I haue assayl'd her with Musickes, but she vouchsafes no notice. 1668 Shadwell *Sullen Lovers* II. Wks. 1720 I. 43, I came to present my Lady Vaine with a musick I have made. 1674 *Playford's Skill Mus.* 46 Exclamations may be used in all Passionate Musicks.

5. A company of musicians; the company of musicians attached to a military force; a 'band of music' (see Band *sb.*2 4). [Cf. F. *musique.*] *Obs.* exc. in military use.

a 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* III. (1629) 235 The musick entring alone into the Lodge, the Ladies were all desirous to see from whence so pleasant a guest was come. 1588 Shaks. *L. L. L.* v. ii. 211 Play musicke then: nay you must doe it soone. *Ibid.* 216 The musick playes, vouchsafe some motion to it. 1633 Marmion *Antiquary* II. i, Julia, go throw the Music a reward. 1666 Pepys *Diary* 19 Dec., He says many of the musique are ready to starve, they being five years behind hand for their wages. 1711–12 Swift *Jrnl. to Stella* 8 Feb., A scoundrel dog, one of the Queen's music, a German. 1770 *Ann. Reg.* 102 The music of the chapel performed several Italian airs. 1847 *Infantry Man.* (1854) 75 The drummers and music are in the rear.

† **6.** Musical instruments. *Obs.*

1644 Evelyn *Diary* 1 Apr., Here also young gentlemen are taught to fence, daunce, play on musiq [etc.]. 1661 Ogilby *His Majesty's Entertainm.* 16 On the East-side, Winde-Musick. 1752 W. & J. Halfpenny *Nur. Archit. in Chinese Taste* I. 6 A Room, wherein Musicians may be secreted (and play on soft Musick to the agreeable Surprize of Strangers). *a* 1800 S. Pegge *Anecd. Eng. Lang.* (1814) 147 A fond Mother..will exultingly tell you that Miss 'learned herself to play upon the Musick'. 1816 Keats *To C. C. Clarke* 113 What time you were before the music sitting, And the rich notes to each sensation fitting.

7. The written or printed score of a musical composition; such scores collectively; musical composition as represented by the usual graphic symbols.

1655 (*title*) Parthenia, or the Mayden-head of the First Musick that ever was Printed for the Virginals. 1884 *Encycl. Brit.* XVII. 87/2 Schütz wrote music to a translation of Peri's *Dafne*. 1886 Gresswell *How to play Fiddle* 70 The music must be placed on a stand, so that it can be seen without stooping. 1895 *Westm. Gaz.* 31 Dec. 3/2 We alone..print over a ton weight of music week by week.

† **8.** *pl.* The short keys (now black) on the keyboard of an organ. *Obs.*

1694 W. Holder *Harmony* 156 The Breves representing the Tones of the broad Gradual Keys of an Organ; the Semibreves representing the Narrow Upper Keys, which are usually called Musics.

9. A species of noctuid moth.

[? From the resemblance of its markings to written music.]

1832 J. Rennie *Conspect. Butterfl. & M.* 65 The Music (*Xylophasia lithoxylea*, Stephens).

10. *U. S. colloq.* **a.** 'Lively speech or action; liveliness; excited wrangling, excitement'. **b.** 'Diversion; sport; also, sense of the ridiculous. In this sense apparently confused with *amuse*' (*Cent. Dict.* 1890). Cf. Musical 8.

1859 Bartlett *Dict. Amer., Music*, amusement, fun. 'Jim is a right clever fellow; there is a great deal of music in him.' 18.. *Lett. fr. the South* in Schele de Vere *Americanisms* (1872) 618 Jake is not without his vein of fun, music they call it down here.

11. Phrases (*slang* or *colloq.*). † *To make ill music*, † *the music's paid* (see quot. *a* 1700). *To face the music*, to face boldly the consequences of one's actions; to accept the inevitable without hesitation.

a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Musick. It makes ill Musick*, of any unwelcome..News...*The Musick's paid*, the Watch-word among High-way-men, to let the Company they were to Rob, alone, in return to some Courtesy. *a* 1851 J. F. Cooper in Schele de Vere *Americanisms* (1872) 601 Rabelais' unpleasant 'quarter' is by our more picturesque people called *facing the music*. 1857 *Worcester* (Mass.) *Spy* 22 Sept. (Bartlett) A strong determination to face the music is everywhere manifested. 1897 Rhodes in *Westm. Gaz.* 6 Jan. 5/1, I will not refer to the vulgar colloquialism that I was afraid to face the music.

12. *attrib.* and *Comb.* **a.** simple attrib., as *music-desk, -folio, -lesson, -man, -master, -meeting, -mistress, -monger, -night, -rack, -rest, -room, -school, -score, -shop, -stand, -stool.* **b.** objective, instrumental, etc., as *music-drawing, flowing, -footed, -mad, -panting, -stirring, -tongued* adjs.

1835 Dickens *Sk. Boz, Mistaken Milliner*, 'Tap-tap-tap', went the leader's bow on the *music-desk. 1788 Cowper *Stanzas for* 1788, 12 The *musick-drawing bow. 1820 Shelley *Hymn Mercury* lxxxiii, I Present thee with this *music-flowing shell. 1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade*, **Music-folio, Music-wrapper*, a case or book for holding loose music. 1607 Chapman *Bussy d'Ambois* v. i, Thy *musique-footed horse. 1835 Marryat *Pacha* iii, The *music-lesson was over. 1776 Burney *Hist. Mus.* (1789) I. Pref. 11 A great genius *music-mad. 1866 Carlyle *Inaug. Addr.* 193 Our painters, poets and *music-men. *c* 1630 B. Jonson *Expost. w. Inigo Jones* 63 He now is come To be the *music-master; tabler too. 1693 C. Dryden *D.'s Juvenal* VII. (1697) 179 Now look into the *Musick-Master's Gains. 1664 Pepys *Diary* 5 Oct., To the *Musique-meeting at the Post-office, where I was once before. 1769 Gray in *Corr. w. Nicholls* (1843) 97 Mr. Reinholt, and Miss Thomas, great names at Salisbury and Gloster music-meeting. 1861 Whyte Melville *Good for N.* I. 200 Paler and paler grew the *music-mistress's cheek. 1784 J. Potter *Virtuous Villagers* I. 100 *Music-monger. 1686 Wilding in *Collect.* (O. H. S.) I. 264 At ye *Musick-night..00 02 06. 1859 Geo. Eliot *A. Bede* xxi, On music-nights it was apparent that patience could never be an easy virtue to him. 1819 Shelley *Prometh. Unb.* II. ii. 29 [A nightingale] Sick with sweet love, droops dying away On its mate's *music-panting bosom. 1879 G. Meredith *Egoist* xxiv, She went to the *music-rack and gave the song unasked. 1892 *Pall Mall G.* 2 Mar. 2/1 A rickety piano, with a Beethoven Symphony open on the *music-rest. 1638 *Burgh Rec. Glasgow* (1876) I. 388 Seing that the *musik schoell is altogidder dekayit within this burgh. 1818 Lady Morgan *Autobiog.* (1859) 204 He declared he would go..to all the old *music-shops to try and find it. 1762 G. Colman *Musical Lady* II. 39 Away with your *music-stands. 1887 I. R. *Lady's Ranche Life Montana* 11, I bought a sofa..and music-stand. 1819 Shelley *Prometh. Unb.* I. i. 777 The *music-stirring motion of its soft and busy feet. 1879 F. W. Robinson *Coward Conse.* II. xv, Slitherwick .. sat down on the *music-stool. 1819 Shelley *Prometh. Unb.* II. ii. 42 Echoes, *music-tongued, which draw..All spirits on that secret way.

† **c.** *attrib.* quasi-*adj.* in the sense Musical *a.*

1602 Shaks. *Ham.* III. i. 164, I..That suck'd the Honie of his Musicke Vowes. 1605 *1st Pt. Ieronimo* II. iv. 35 Clap a siluer tongue Within this pallat, that..I may..Haue euery sillable a musick stop. 1657 Thornley tr. *Longus' Daphnis & Chloe* 142 Her Singing Limbs. The Earth buried them, preserving to them still their musick-property. 1669 Gale *Ct. Gentiles* I. II. iii. 30 Many music Instruments had obteined a Barbaric name.

d. Special combinations: † **music-band**, a 'band of music'; **music-bells** *Sc.* = Carillon 1; **music-book**, a book containing written or printed music-scores; **music-box**, (*a*) † a barrel-organ; (*b*) = *musical box* (see Musical *a.* 10); (*c*) jocularly, a pianoforte; † **music-club**, a club for promoting the practice of music; **music-demy** (see quot. 1859); **music gallery**, a gallery in a church or hall for the accommodation of the musicians; † **music-girl**, a female professional singer; **music-grinder**, an itinerant street musician (see Grind *v.*1 7); **music-hall**, a hall used for musical performances; *spec.* a hall licensed for singing, dancing, and other entertainments exclusive of dramatic performances; also *attrib.*; † **music-house**, (*a*) the room in a theatre, etc., in which the musicians sat (cf. *music-room*); (*b*) a public hall or saloon for musical performances; **music-licence**, a magistrates' licence to give vocal and instrumental entertainments in a public building or apartment; **music-loft** = *Organ-loft* (see Organ *sb.*1 8); **music-paper**, paper ruled for writing music upon (see quot. 1859); **music-pen** (see quot. 1840); **music-plate**, a metal alloy composed of antimony, tin, and lead; **music-room**, a room in which music is performed; † *spec.* a room at the side of a theatre-stage in which the musicians sat; † **music-shell**, one of several species of gasteropodous molluscs of the family *Volutidæ*, esp. *Voluta musica*, characterized by markings on the shell resembling written music; **music-smith**, a mechanic who makes the metal parts for pianofortes, organs, etc.; † **music speech**, an oration formerly part of the proceedings at the Encænia at Oxford; † **music-stamper**, a kind of bat; **music-type** (see quot. 1875); **music-wire**, steel wire such as is used for stringed musical instruments.

1812 J. Wilson *Isle of Palms* IV. 442 The *music bands both near and far Are playing. 1856 Olmsted *Slave States* 552 Music bands, composed of negroes. 1818 *Gentl. Mag.* LXXXVIII. II. 398 These carillons have been introduced into Scotland..where they are called *music-bells. 1597 Morley *Introd. Mus.* 1 *Musicke bookes..being brought to the table: the mistresse of the house presented mee with a part, earnestly requesting mee to sing. 1895 'Meariman' *Grey Lady* I. ix, The Spaniard opened the music-book and indicated the page. 1773 Goldsm. *Stoops to Conq.* I. i, Little Aminadab that grinds the *music box. 1844 Marg. Fuller *Wom. 19th C.* (1862) 258 Music-boxes, which you can wind up to play their set of tunes. 1849 Thackeray *Pendennis* liv, There was a piano in Mr. Sibwright's chamber .., and at this music-box, as Mr. Warrington called it, Laura..played and sang. 1801 Strutt *Sports & Past.* IV. i. § 3 There were also *music-clubs, or private meetings for the practise of music. 1859 *Stationers' Hand-bk.* 74 **Music Demy*, see short demy. *Ibid.* 82 Short Demy, a white thick soft paper, used by music publishers for printing music, 21 by 14½ inches. 1794 Sir C. Malet in J. Forbes *Or. Mem.* (1813) III. 106 Opposite to it [was] the nobut khani, or *music-gallery. 1835 *Court Mag.* VI. 117/2 The good rector casts up to the music-gallery a look..of expostulation. 1765 G. Colman *Terence, Eunuch* III. ii, Are you fond of me For sending you that *musick-girl? 1852 *Chamb. Jrnl.* 27 Mar. 197/1 (art.) *Music-grinders of the Metropolis. 1842 Dickens *Amer. Notes* iii. (1850) 21/1 The pupils all repaired..to a spacious *music-hall,..and listened..to a voluntary on the organ. 1885 W. S. Gilbert *Mikado* II. 35

The music-hall singer attends a series Of masses and fugues and 'ops' By Bach. 1602 MARSTON *Antonio's Rev.* v. v. K 1 b, While the measure is dauncing, Andrugios ghost is placed betwixt the *musick houses. 1605 in Cunningham *Revels at Crt.* (1842) 207 The musike house att ye Court. 1612 *Ibid.* 214 A Musik house dore in the hall & a doore for the Musik house in the Bancketing house. 1697 DAMPIER *Voy.* (1729) I. 361 John Thacker..had formerly learnt to Dance in the Musick-houses about Wapping. 1714 MANDEVILLE *Fab. Bees* (1725) I. 468 The musick-houses at Amsterdam, ..than which nothing can be more harmless. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, **Music-licence*, a permission from the magistrates to hold concerts and vocal entertainments, &c. at a room or house. *Ibid.*, **Music-loft*, a raised balcony or gallery for a band. 1769 BARRINGTON in *Phil. Trans.* LX. 63 He..was left only with *music-paper, and the words of an oratorio. 1859 *Stationers' Hand-bk.* 74 *Music Paper*, royal drawing paper, in the 4to size, ruled with the musical stave of five lines. 1840 LARDNER *Geom.* iii. 35 These lines [*sc.* of the stave] are sometimes drawn upon paper by an instrument called a *music pen, consisting of five points at distances corresponding to the distances between the lines. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 51 Its [*i.e.* antimony] chief employment now is in medicine, and in making the alloys called type metal, stereotype metal, *music plates, and Britannia metal. 1608 DEKKER *Belman Lond.* B 2 b, Vpon euerie branch sat a consort of singers, so that euerie tree shewed like a *Musick roome. 1630 MIDDLETON *Chaste Maid* v. K 2 b, While all the Company seeme to weepe and mourne, there is a sad Song in the Musicke-Roome. 1692 R. L'ESTRANGE *Fables* clxxvi. 147 A Man that had a very Course Voice, but an Excellent Musique-Room, would be still Practising in that Chamber, for the Advantage of the Eccho. 1842 P. CUNNINGHAM *Revels at Crt.* 223 In other plans are boxes for the nobility, and in one the situation of the music room is clear enough; viz. at the side of the stage. *c* 1711 PETIVER *Gazophyl.* VI. lvi, Small Indian *Music-Shell. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVI. 444/1 Musicales, the Music Shells. Consisting of *Volutæ ebrœa*, *musica*, &c. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, **Music-smith*, a workman who makes the metal parts for pianofortes, &c. *a* 1704 T. BROWN *Wks.* (1709) III. III. 94 (*title*) Prologue to a *Musick Speech had in the Theatre in Oxford. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 45 ^P^ 5 The Nymphs of this City [Oxford] are disappointed of a luscious Musick-Speech. 1713 PETIVER *Aquat. Anim. Amboinæ* 3 Vespertilio...*Musick-Stamper. 1841 SAVAGE *Dict. Printing* 488 Hughes' *music type. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, *Music-type*, the symbols or notes of music, cast for printing from. 1875 SOUTHWARK *Dict. Typogr.*, *Music types*, moveable types used in producing music. 1823 J. BADCOCK *Dom. Amusem.* 150 With small *musick-wire, cut your making into cakes.

Music (miū·zik), *v.* [f. MUSIC *sb.*] In various nonce-uses: a. *trans.* To influence by music; to train in music. b. To set to music, describe musically. c. *intr.* To produce music; entertain oneself with music.

1713 *Gentl. Instructed* I. Suppl. iv. (ed. 5) p. xli, A Man must have a mean Valuation of Christ to leave him for a Touch upon an Instrument, and a faint Idea of future Torments to be fiddled and musick'd into Hell. 1788 E. JERNINGHAM in *Jern. Lett.* (1896) I. 46, I suppose you have been reading, drawing, and musiking. *a* 1814 *Sixteen & Sixty* in *New Brit. Theatre* IV. 387 There he Miss Bore'em a musicing already. 1861 J. PYCROFT *Agony Point* xii. (1862) 142 The girls..have not only been Frenched, and Musicked, and Deportmented,..but they have also had [etc.]. 1876 T. S. EGAN tr. *Heine's Atta Troll*, etc. 221 The young one musicked and trilled. 1897 *Nat. Observ.* 27 Feb. 414 The authors,..after having 'musicked' mysticism in *Le Rêve*..treat now in *Messidor* the labour question. 1900 W. A. ELLIS *Wagner* I. 198 We met, ate, and even music-ed together once in Leipzig.

Musical (miū·zikăl), *a.* (and *sb.*) [a. F. *musical* (14th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), ad. med.L. *mūsicālis* (Albertus Magnus *c* 1250), f. L. *mūsica* MUSIC *sb.*]

A. *adj.*

1. Of or belonging to music.

Musical instrument: see INSTRUMENT *sb.* 3. *Musical ear*: see EAR *sb.*[1] 5.

c 1420 LYDG. *Thebes* (E.E.T.S.) 222 The musycal, the lusty instrument, I mene the harpe most melodious, yove to this kynge be Mercurius. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 7 b, Whiche..passeth all ye armony of this worlde, bothe musycall instrumentes & voyce of man. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 324 Marsyas roamed with her, who after, being ouercome in a Musicall contention of Apollo, was flayed quicke. 1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* III. ii, He gave me the names and descriptions of all their musical instruments. 1841 ELPHINSTONE *Hist. Ind.* I. 207 Musical science is said to have declined like all others. 1892 *Law Times, Weekly Notes* 188/1 The defendant had a musical evening regularly once a week.

2. Having the nature or characteristics of music; tuneful, melodious, harmonious; pleasing in sound, euphonious. Of sounds: Such as are used in music; having the nature of 'tones', as distinguished from mere 'noises'.

c 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 157 The unycorn, by musical swetnesse, Atween too maydenys is take and hath a fal. 1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* xvi. (Percy Soc.) 76 The lytle byrdes swetely dyd syng With tunes musicall in the fayre mornyng. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* IV. i. 115 Marke the musicall confusion Of hounds and eccho in coniunction. *a* 1668 DAVENANT *Entertainm. Rutland Ho.* Poems (1672) 344 Would he not have you Cough but..with a musical concordance to the rest that have taken cold? 1720 J. WELWOOD in Rowe *Lucan* Pref. 43 The Versification [is] both musical and adapted to the subject. 1858 HAWTHORNE *Fr. & It. Note-Bks.* (1871) II. 310 The murmur of their voices took a musical tone. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 43 A murmur which began as a soft, gentle, blowing sound..may ..increase to a loud musical bruit in the course of a single week. 1873 BROWNING *Red Cott. Nt.-cap* 402 What is this ..makes The musicalest buzzing at my ear?

fig. 1643 PRYNNE *Sov. Power Parl.* App. 77 Out of which things, the moderate and musicall state of the Commonweale which we enjoy, is moulded and made up. 1818 BYRON *Ch. Har.* IV. clvi, Vastness which grows—but grows to harmonise—All musical in its immensities. 1892 SYMONDS *Michel Angelo* (1899) II. 5 No edifice..is..more musical in linear proportion than the Church of S. Andrea at Mantua.

3. Fond of or skilled in music.

c 1420 LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 401 And as a poet musykall made he melody. 1596 SHAKS. *1 Hen. IV*, III. i. 237 *Hotsp.* Now I perceiue the Deuill vnderstands Welsh,..Byrlady hee's a good Musitian. *Lady.* Then would you be nothing but Musicall, For you are altogether gouerned by humors. 1685 DRYDEN *Alb. & Alban.* Pref. 6 The English I confess, are not altogether so Musical as the French. 1832 JEKYLL *Corr.* (1894) 294 At night we had four musical artistes. 1896 MRS. CAFFYN *Quaker Grandmother* 67 What! Do you take me for a musical person?

†**4.** *Math.* = HARMONIC *a.* 5 a. *Obs.*

1594 BLUNDEVIL *Exerc.* I. xxii. (1597) 23 Of Musicall proportion called in Latine *Harmoniaca proportio*. 1806 HUTTON *Course Math.* I. 119 Musical Proportion is when, of three numbers, the first has the same proportion to the third, as the difference between the first and second, has to the difference between the second and third. *Ibid.*, When numbers are in musical progression, their reciprocals are in arithmetical progression.

†**5.** Of or pertaining to the muses. *Obs.*

1490 CAXTON *Eneydos* 4 He hath redde the ix. muses, and vnderstande theyr musicalle scyences.

6. Set to or accompanied by music.

1685 DRYDEN *Alb. & Alban.* Pref. 2 The Italians..have not only invented, but brought to perfection, this sort of Dramatique Musical Entertainment. 1697 MOTTEUX *Loves of Mars & Venus* Pref., This Musical Play or Masque. 1791 H. WALPOLE *Let. to Miss Mary Berry* 28 June, Frank North..has a musical comedy at the Little Haymarket, and coldly received. 1904 MRS. A. TWEEDIE *Behind Footlights* xvi. 292 For some forthcoming musical comedy.

7. *slang.* Applied to a horse with defective respiration; that is a 'roarer'.

1900 HAYES *Among Horses in Russia* Introd. 8 His skewbald Joseph, who was a beautifully shaped hunter,..though musical.

8. *U. S.* Amusing; ridiculous. Cf. MUSIC *sb.* 10.

1816 PICKERING *Vocab. Words Amer.* 135 They would say of a man of humour, He is very musical. 1859 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer.*, *Musical*, amusing. New England.

9. *Comb.*, as *musical-headed* adj.

1587 HARRISON *England* II. vi. (1877), The nobilitie..whose cookes are for the most part musicall-headed Frenchmen.

10. Special collocations: **musical box**, a mechanical musical instrument consisting of a revolving toothed cylinder working upon a resonant comb-like metal plate; **musical chime**, a set of bells arranged to play a tune, a carillon; **musical clock**, a clock which produces short tunes at regular intervals; **musical glasses** = HARMONICA 1 a; **musical ride** (see quot.); **musical shell** = *music-shell*; **musical snuff-box**, a snuff-box containing a small musical instrument worked by machinery.

1840 HOOD *Kilmansegg, Misery* v, Toy, and trinket, and *musical box. 1878 STATHAM in Grove *Dict. Mus.* I. 311 The 'musical-box' toy, which is in fact a carillon on a minute scale, playing on vibrating tongues. 1798 CRUTTWELL *Univ. Gazetteer* (1808) s.v. *Birmingham*, In each steeple is a set of *musical chimes. 1747 H. WALPOLE *Let. to Mann* 10 Nov., Don't you see that *musical clock? 1766 GOLDSM. *Vic. W.* ix, They would talk of nothing but..pictures, taste, Shakespeare, and the *musical glasses. 1876 STAINER & BARRETT *Dict. Mus. Terms*, *Musical glasses*, a series of goblets of graduated sizes fixed in a case. The tone is produced by the friction of the fingers of the player on the edge of the glass. 1886 C. E. PASCOE *London of To-day* xviii. (ed. 3) 180 An exhibition of equestrian skill of the Life or Horse Guards, known as a *Musical Ride. This 'Musical Ride' is a kind of equestrian dance executed with extraordinary precision. 1666 J. DAVIES *Hist. Caribby Isles* 125 It may be called the *Musical-shell, because on the out-side of it there are blackish lines, full of notes. 1823 J. BADCOCK *Dom. Amusem.* 66 Pocket Organ, or *Musical Snuff-box.

B. *sb.*

†**1.** a. *pl.* Musical instruments. b. A musical performance. *Obs.*

c 1500 in Grose *Antiq. Repr.* (1809) IV. 408 All theys musycalls well handilled and orderide in ther kynde Gevithe soundes of swetnes. 1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* May 28 Tho to the greene Wood they speeden hem all, To fetchen home May with their musicall.

2. a. A musical party. b. A musical person.

1823 D'ISRAELI *Cur. Lit.* Ser. II. I. 401 Such fashionable cant terms as 'theatricals', and 'musicals', invented by the flippant Topham. 1861 *Sat. Rev.* 21 Sept. 297 A luminous constellation of musicals has risen over Hereford. 1887 *Cornh. Mag.* June 632 Dull dinners and afternoon musicals completed the list of outside amusements.

‖ **Musicale** (miūzikal). *U. S.* [ellipt. use of F. *musicale* (fem. of *musical* adj.) for *soirée* or *matinée musicale*.] A musical party or reunion.

1883 A. B. BLAKE in *Harper's Mag.* 905/1 It was to be a musicale. 1896 *Cosmopolitan* XX. 408/2 The ladies' receptions are of a different character. Some are musicales.

Musicality (miūzikæ·lĭti). [f. MUSICAL *a.* + -ITY.] The quality or character of being musical.

1853 Miss E. S. SHEPPARD *Ch. Anchester* III. 65 A third, so deficient in natural musicality that he did not like my playing! 1877 BROWNING *Agamemnon* Pref. 6 There is abundant musicality elsewhere, but nowhere else than in his poem the ideas of the poet.

Musically (miū·zikăli), *adv.* [f. MUSICAL *a.* + -LY[2].] In a musical manner; in accordance with the rules or requirements of music. Also *transf.*

1477 NORTON *Ord. Alch.* v. in Ashm. *Theat. Chem. Brit.* (1652) 60 Joyne your Elements Musically, For two causes, one is for Melody. 1577 NORTHBROOKE *Dicing* (1843) 109 In weddings they were wont to playe musically. 1663 BOYLE *Usef. Exp. Nat. Philos.* II. xv. 260 That a Sound..may powerfully operate upon the Blood and Spirits, I, who am very Musically given, have divers times observ'd in my self. 1746–7 HERVEY *Medit.* (1818) 252 A melody..far more musically pleasing than sweet Philomela's sweetest strains. 1854 MALDEN in *Philol. Soc. Trans.* 19 Such a line would be measured musically by four measures or bars. 1885 *L'pool Daily Post* 7 May 5/3 Mr. Ball took snuff with all his friends, sneezing musically after each pinch.

b. *Comb.*, as *musically-falling*, *-rhythmical* adjs.

1740 DYER *Ruins of Rome* 14 Thine too those musically-falling Founts To slake the clammy Lip. 1878 C. & M. C. CLARKE *Recoll. Writers* 179 Miss Lamb promised to..hear her read poetry with the due musically-rhythmical intonation.

Musicalness (miū·zikălnės). [f. MUSICAL *a.* + -NESS.] The quality of being musical.

1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* I. v. 759 Matter..perpetually remains, and all other things whatsoever are but..passions and affections and dispositions thereof, as musicalness and unmusicalness, in respect of Socrates. 1756–82 J. WARTON *Ess. Pope* (ed. 4) I. vi. 305 The peculiar musicalness of the first of these lines. 1881 A. AUSTIN in *Macm. Mag.* XLIII. 402 Musicalness is unquestionably the most noticeable mark ..of his own verse.

Musicaster (miū·zikæstəɹ). [f. L. *mūsic-us* musician (see MUSIC) + -ASTER.] A musician of mediocre capacity.

1838 *Fraser's Mag.* XVII. 468 You may find a musicaster calling himself Smyth, a poetaster, Smythe.

†**Mu·sicate**, *v. Obs.* [f. ppl. stem of late L. *mūsicāre*, f. *mūsica* MUSIC.] *trans.* To set to music.

1614 *Declar. Pfaltzgrave's Faith* x. 180 It was alwaies so ordered that the text, which was musicated, was withall sung in the natiue language and was vnderstood by euery one.

Musicen, obs. form of MUSICIAN.

Musician (miuzi·shən). Forms: 4 **musiceen**, **musucien**, 4–6 **musicien**, 5 **musi-**, **musycyen**, 6 **musicen**, **musyssyon**, 6–7 **musicion**, **-tian**, **-tion**, 5– **musician**. [a. F. *musicien* (Oresme, 14th c.), f. L. *mūsic-a* MUSIC: cf. *physician*.]

1. One skilled in the science or practice of music.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* II. pr. vi. 42 (Camb. MS.) Also Musike maketh Musuciens and phisike maketh phisissiens. 1494 FABYAN *Chron.* II. xlvi. 29 Bledgaret, a cunnynge musician. 1553 BECON *Reliques of Rome* (1563) 116 b, Pope Vitalian being a lustye singer and freshe couragious musition hymself, brought into the church pricksong descant, & all kynde of..melodye. 1555 W. WATREMAN *Fardle Facions* II. xii. 280 Musicens (whiche encludeth singing and plaieng). 1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* IV. i. 199 An admirable Musician. Oh she will sing the Saualiadesse out of a Beare. 1864 BROWNING *Abt Vogler* 88 The rest may reason and welcome: 'tis we musicians know. 1873 HELPS *Anim. & Mast.* iv. (1875) 88, I knew a cat who..had the nicest perception as to who was the best musician in the room.

2. A professional performer of music, esp. of instrumental music. Also *transf.* and *fig.*

c 1450 HOLLAND *Howlat* 756 All thus our lady thai lovit, with lyking and lyst, Menstralis and musicianis, mo than I mene may. 1553 EDEN *Treat. Newe Ind.* (Arb.) 25 Al the musicions and minstrels..playe on theyr instrumentes. *a* 1649 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Poems* Wks. (1711) 12/2 The wing'd Musicians did salute the Morne. *a* 1653 BINNING *Serm.* (1845) 595 Christ and His ministers are the musicians that do apply their songs to catch men's ears and hearts. 1759 ROBERTSON *Hist. Scotl.* III. Wks. 1813 I. 246 He was the son of a musician in Turin. 1880 NEWTON in *Encycl. Brit.* XI. 209/1 The notes of the hen [of the Pine-Grosbeak] may be deemed to qualify her as a musician of no small merit.

3. *Comb.*, as *musician-like* adj., *musician-wise* adv.; **musician thrush** (see quot. 1783).

1783 LATHAM *Gen. Synopsis Birds* II. i. 80 Musician Thrush...Le Musicien de Cayenne. *Ibid.*, It is much regarded for its song, which is so fine as to entitle it to the name of *Musician* among the inhabitants [Cayenne]. 1829 *Examiner* 68/1 It is..a very musician-like piece. 1897 KIPLING *Captains Courageous* ix. 185 He swept his hand musician-wise through his hair.

Hence **Musi·cianess**, a female musician.

1829 MOORE in *Mem.* (1854) VI. 35 Authors and authoresses, musicians and musicianesses.

Musicianer (miuzi·shənəɹ). Now *rare* in educated use. Forms: 6 *Sc.* **musicinar**, **musecenar**, 6–7 **musicioner**, 6–8 **musitianer**, 6–9 **musitioner**, 7– **musicianer**. [f. MUSICIAN + -ER[1].] = MUSICIAN.

1540 *Records of Elgin* (New Spald. Cl. 1903) I. 47 The toun consentit to giff to John Kyntor, musicinar, ane croun of the sone for his seruice. 1609 *Househ. Bk. Earls Cumbld.* in Whitaker *Hist. Craven* (1812) 318 Payd to the musitioners which were appointed to play at Londesbro'. 1683 TRYON *Way to Health* 13 The most skilfulest Musicianer in the World can make no harmony, if his Instrument be not in tune. 1801 tr. *Gabrielli's Mysterious Husb.* II. 47 Those scrawls musicianers set before them to look at while playing. 1843 THACKERAY *Irish Sk.-Bk.* (1857) 90 There were three girls..tossing their arms about to the tunes of three musicianers. 1899 SOMERVILLE & ROSS *Irish R. M.* 294 Here, Yates! you're a sort of musicianer yourself!

Musicianly (miuzi·shənli), *a.* [f. MUSICIAN + -LY[1].] Characteristic or worthy of a skilled musician.

1864 LITCHFIELD in *Reader* No. 97. 585/2 Her musicianly singing. 1897 *Oxford Mag.* 10 Feb. 185/2 Mr. A. Bent gave very musicianly renderings of Beethoven's Violin Sonata.

Musicianship (miuzi·shənship). [f. MUSICIAN + -SHIP.] Skill as a musician.

1867 MACFARREN *Harmony* (1892) 127 The otherwise manifested musicianship of him who made it.

Musicien, -ion, obs. forms of MUSICIAN.

Musicist (miū'zisist). *rare.* [f. MUSIC + -IST.] = MUSICIAN.

1873 M. COLLINS *Squire Silchester* II. xvi. 205 A famous trio—painter, poet, musicist.

† **Mu'sicker.** *Obs. rare.* [f. MUSIC + -ER 1.] = MUSICIAN.

14.. *Nom.* in Wr.-Wülcker 681/34 *Hic musicus*, a musyker. *c* 1425 *St. Christina* xxvi. in *Anglia* VIII. 129/33 Þat songe ..passed alle þe noyses and Instrumentis of musikers or mynstralles. 1781 *Westm. Mag.* IX. 233 Whenever he [Charles Wesley] was called to play to a stranger, he would ask, in a word of his own, 'is he a musicker?'

Musicless (miū'ziklĕs), *a.* [f. MUSIC + -LESS.] Wanting taste or capacity for music; unmusical; also, without music.

1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 172 Their musicklesse instruments are fannes of brasse, hung about with rings. 1854 FREEMAN in W. R. W. Stephens *Life & Lett.* (1895) I. 168, I, poor musicless brute, don't know the Hypo-Lydian from Cambridge New. 1873 MISS BROUGHTON *Nancy* II. 173 In many musicless waltzings..we have learned to fit each other's step exactly.

† **Mu'sicness.** *Obs.* [f. MUSIC + -NESS.] The quality of being musical.

1633 NABBES *Tottenham Court* III. iii, *Iam.* Shall we danee, gentlemen? Musicknesse, and let activenesse freeze! Shall I use you sweet Mistris? *Wife.* Kindly sir, or I am waspish.

Musico (miū'ziko). [a. It. *musico*, ad. L. *mūsicus*: see MUSIC.] A musician.

1821 BYRON *Juan* IV. lxxxvi, The musico is hut a crack'd old basin.

Musico- (miū'ziko), used as combining form of L. *mūsicus* in terms denoting the association of music with various arts or sciences, as *musico-dramatic, -mechanical, -medico-artistic, -philosophical, -poetic* adjs.; or (rarely) describing a person devoted to musical pursuits, as in *musico-fanatic*; also, **musico-mania**, an excessive fondness for music; **musicophobia**, hatred of music.

1888 *Q. Rev.* CLXVII. 66 His [Wagner's] operas..represented an entirely new type of *musico-dramatic art. 1844 J. T. HEWLETT *Parsons & W.* viii, A friend of mine, a *musico-fanatic. 1855 DUNGLISON *Dict. Med.* 581/1 **Musicomania, Musomania*, a variety of monomania in which the passion for music is carried to such an extent as to derange the intellectual faculties. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVII. 2/2 As some description of it [the Apollonicon] may hereafter be found useful, as a part of *musico-mechanical history, we refer the reader to the article Apollonicon. 1796 BUANEY *Mem. Metastasio* II. 408, I am extremely delighted by the attentive perusal of the *musico-philosophical letters. 1903 F. W. H. MYERS *Human Personality* I. 466 At church the sound of the organ terrified him. In this case we see agoraphobia, *musicophobia, &c. 1839 LONGF. *Hyperion* IV. iv, Of course, my *Musico-poetic laboratory is an attic.

Musicographer (miūzikŏ'grăfəɹ). *rare.* [f. Gr. *μουσική* MUSIC: see -GRAPHER. Cf. F. *musicographe.*] A writer on musical subjects.

1884 *Leeds Mercury* 23 Apr. 3 England knows no musicographer whose writings are read with more general interest.

Musicography (miūzikŏ'grăfi). [f. Gr. *μουσική* MUSIC + *-γραφία* writing.] The science or art of writing music; musical notation.

1839 DE STAINS *Phonegraphy* 17 Part 2nd. Musicography. The following pages relate to music, for the writing of which are proposed seven distinct signs.

† **Mu'sicry.** *Obs.* [f. MUSIC + -RY.] The art of music.

1599 MARSTON *Sco. Villanie* III. xi, Shall all the world of Fidlers follow mee, Relying on my voice in musickrie?

Musik(e, -ell, -er, obs. ff. MUSIC, -AL, -ICKER.

Musilage, -idge, variant forms of MUCILAGE.

Musilman, obs. form of MUSSULMAN.

Musimon, obs. form of MUSMON.

Musing (miū'ziŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. MUSE *v.* + -ING 1.]

† 1. Complaining, complaint. *Obs.*

1388 WYCLIF *Acts* xxviii. 29 Jewis wenten out fro hym, and hadden myche questioun, eithir musyng, among hem silf. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* lxxv. 40 Sour mvsing wald perss ane hairt of stane.

2. Thoughtful abstraction; the act of meditating or pondering.

c 1440 *Generydes* 491 Generydes stode still in grete musyng. 1594 CAREW *Huarte's Exam. Wits* (1616) 87 True it is, that much muzing, to some doth good, and to some harme. 1671 MILTON *P. R.* IV. 249 The sound Of Bees industrious murmur oft invites To studious musing. 1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) IV. 80 His auditors continued in a kind of respectful musing. 1830 J. H. NEWMAN in *Lett. & Corr.* (1891) I. 229 Is not this the meaning of musing—namely, thinking about something or other, we cannot tell what?

b. A fit of thoughtful abstraction; a meditation.

1530 PALSGR. 530/2, I dumpe, I fall in a dumpe or musyng upon thynges, *je me amuse.* 1658–9 *Burton's Diary* (1828) IV. 242, I see the House in a great musing. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 7 ¶ 1 In the midst of these my Musings she desired me to reach her a little Salt upon the Point of my Knife. 1861 DORA GREENWELL *Poems* 171 Fed With golden musings by our friend that read From out thy chosen Poet.

Musing (miū'ziŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. MUSE *v.* + -ING 2.] Given to or characterized by meditation; contemplative; meditative; dreamy.

c 1450 J. METHAM *Wkt.* (E. E. T. S.) 13 But nowe let alle this musyng matere pase. 1530 PALSGR. 247/1 Musyng felowe, *musart.* 1632 MILTON *Penseroso* 38 Com, but keep thy wonted state, With eev'n step, and musing gate. 1792 S. ROGERS *Pleas. Mem.* II. 179 The musing pilgrim. 1888 F. HUME *Mme. Midas* I. ii, 'She's a clever woman', observed Slivers, at length, in a musing sort of tone.

Hence **Mu'singly** *adv.*, in a musing manner.

1611 FLORIO, *Accigliare*, ..to looke staringlie or musinglie. 1886 STEVENSON *Kidnapped* xix, 'There's one thing', said Alan, musingly, 'that naebody kens his name'.

Musing, obs. variant of MEUSING.

Musion (miū'siɔn). *Her. Obs.* exc. *Hist.* [Of unknown origin; perh. arbitrarily f. L. *mūs* mouse.] The wild cat.

1572 BOSSEWELL *Armorie* II. 56 On a chiefe Pearle, a Musion or Catte, Gardant, Ermines. 1880 *Encycl. Brit.* XI. 699/2 The musion was the emblem of Burgundy.

Musique, obs. form of MUSIC.

† **Mu'sist.** *Obs. rare*—1. [f. MUSE *sb.*1 + -IST.] A votary of the Muses.

1606 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* XIV. To Rdr. (1612) 331 The Musists, though themselues they please, Their Dotage els finds Meede nor Ease.

Musit, variant of MUSET.

Musitian, -ion, obs. forms of MUSICIAN.

Musive (miū'siv), *a.* and *sb.* [a. F. *musif, -ive*, ad. late L. *mūsīvus*: see MOSAIC *a.*1]

A. *adj.* = MOSAIC *a.*1 1. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1506 GUYLFORDE *Pilgr.* (Camden) 37 The vaughtes be garnysshed with gold and byse with dyuers storyes of as subtyll musyn [? *read* musyu] worke as maye be. *Ibid.*, Of the sayde musyn werke. 1658 W. BURTON *Itin. Anton.* 91 Their very Poets scoffed at the Musive work of the pavements. 1813 J. FORSYTH *Remarks Excurs. Italy* 174 The musive work here exhibits a few grim old saints.

† b. *Musive gold* = mosaic gold, late L. *aurum musivum. Obs.*

1796 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) II. 512 Mr. Wolfe found musive gold insoluble in acids.

B. *sb.* † 1. = MOSAIC *sb.* 1.

1622 PEACHAM *Compl. Gent.* 118 The Grecians brought the Art of working in Musive, or Mosaique, to Venice. 1658 W. BURTON *Itin. Anton.* 156 The magnificent Acts of Statuarie, Founding, Mowlding, Musive, and Graving.

2. A species of noctuid moth.

1832 J. RENNIE *Conspect. Butterfl. & M.* 56 The Musive (*Graphiphora musiva*, Ochsenheimer).

Musjid, variant of MASJID.

Musk (mʊsk), *sb.* Forms: 4–7 **muske**, 6 **moske**, 7 **muscle, mosk**, (**musque**), 7–8 **mosch**, 5– **musk**. Also 4 in Latin forms **musco** (*abl.*), **muscum** (*accus.*). [a. F. *musc* (13th c. in Hatz.-Darm.) = Pr. *musc*, Sp., It. *musco* (also *muschio*), ad. late L. *muscus* (4–5th c.), med.L. *mos(c)hus*, late Gr. *μόσκος, μόσχος* (5–6th c.), prob. a. Pers. مشك *mušk*, whence Arab. مسك *misk* (whence, with Arab. prefixed article, Sp. *almizcle*, Pg. *almiscle, almiscar*); the ultimate source is perh. Sk. *muṣka* (Hindī *mušk*) scrotum, testicle.

The continental Teut. langs. have adopted the med.L. forms: G. *moschus*, Du., Sw. *muskus*, Da. *moskus, muskus*; obsolete forms are G. *mosch, musch*, Du. *musch.*]

1. An odoriferous, reddish-brown substance, secreted in a gland or sac by the male musk-deer. It has a very powerful and enduring odour, and is used as the basis of many perfumes, and in medicine as a stimulant and antispasmodic. Also applied occas. to substances of similar odour secreted by certain other animals.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. xix. (Tollem. MS.), Also of boxe beþ boxes made to kepe in muske and oþer spiceryе. *c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 196 If his herte quake, þan ȝeue him tiriaca maior wiþ a litil musco ouþer hoot wijn. 1471 RIPLEY *Comp. Alch.* XI. ii. in *Ashm.* (1652) 181 As musk in Pygments, and other spycys mo. 1555 EDEN *Decades* 108 They lefte a very sweete sauour behynde them sweeter then muske. 1620 J. MASON *New-found-land* 4 And a small beast like a Ferret whose excrement is Muske. 1656 RIDGLEY *Pract. Physick* 47 Hares runnet, and a little Musch. 1710 STEELE *Tatler* No. 103 ¶ 15 Perfumed so strongly with Musk that I was almost overcome with the Scent. 1798 W. YONGE in Beddoes *Contrib. Phys. & Med. Knowl.* (1799) 292 With mosch and valerian in larger doses. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* I. xv, A grain of musk will scent a drawer for many years. 1870 YEATS *Nat. Hist. Comm.* III. (1872) 278 Musk is known in commerce under two forms—as Tonquin or Thibet musk, which is the most valuable, and Siberian, Kabardinian, or Russian musk, of inferior quality.

b. *pl.*

c 1570 WREN in *Hakluyt's Voy.* (1599) II. II. 59 The Negros answered againe, they had ciuet, muske, gold and graines. 1594 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* II. 120 But nowe they must haue muskes and perfumes.

c. An artificial preparation imitating musk.

1658 SIR T. BROWNE *Gard. Cyrus* iii, Animall-musk, seems to excell the vegetable. 1840 PEREIRA *Elem. Mat. Med.* II. 1397, I have seen several artificial pods of musk which have been imported from Canton. T. W. C. Martius..calls this artificial kind Wampo musk. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVI. 27/2 An artificial musk is sometimes made with nitric acid and oil of amber.

d. An aromatic odour, resembling that of musk.

1855 TENNYSON *Maud* I. XXII. i, And the woodbine spices are wafted abroad, And the musk of the rose is blown.

2. An animal which produces 'musk', now usually the **MUSK-DEER**, sometimes called *Tibet* (or *pouchea*) *musk*; also applied (with defining word) to other animals resembling the musk-deer, or possessing a musky smell.

c 1470 HENRYSON *Mor. Fab.* v. (*Parl. Beasts*) xviii, The marmisset the mowdewart..The musk, the litill mous [etc.].

1611 FLORIO, *Lattitio*, a kind of Muske or Zinet-cat. 1771 PENNANT *Synopsis Quadrup.* 58 Brasilian Musk. *Ibid.* 59 Indian Musk..Meminna..Inhabits Ceylon. *Ibid.*, Guinea Musk. 1781 — *Hist. Quadrupeds* I. 112 Tibet Musk, of the form of a roebuck. 1801 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* II. II. 254 Pygmy Musk. *Moschus Pygmæus*..It is a native of many parts of the East Indies [etc.]. 1843 GRAY *List Mammalia Brit. Mus.* 172 The Musk. *Moschus moschiferus* Linn. *Ibid.*, The Kaharga or Siberian Musk. *Ibid.*, The White-bellied Musk. *Ibid.*, The Golden-eyed Musk. 1879 E. P. WRIGHT *Anim. Life* 155 In the musk the fur is thick and elastic, fit for a cold country. The males have an odoriferous gland in the middle of their abdomen.

3. A name for various plants having a musky odour; short for *musk-hyacinth, -mallow, okro, -tree*; in England now chiefly applied to *Mimulus moschatus* = *musk-plant* (b).

1731 MILLER *Gard. Dict.* s. v. *Geranium*, The 16th Sort [Musked Crane's-bill] is preserved in many gardens, for the sweet Scent its Leaves afford when rubb'd between the Fingers, which occasion'd its being called Musk, or Muscovy. 1786 ABERCROMBIE *Arrangem.* 74/1 in *Gard. Assist.*, (Muscaria) or musk hyacinth. Blue musk. Ash coloured musk. Purple musk. 1819 KEATS *Isabella* xi, Close in a hower of hyacinth and musk. 1866 *Treas. Bot.*, Musk, *Mimulus moschatus*; also *Erodium moschatum.* 1886 J. BONWICK in *Encycl. Brit.* XX. 174/1 Their [the Queenslander's] red cedar is the *Cedrela Goona*; .. ebony, the *Malba*; musk, the *Marlea* [etc.]. 1897–8 BRITTON & BROWN *Amer. Flora*, Musk, *Malva moschata.*

b. Short for *musk apple, pear.*

1708 J. PHILIPS *Cyder* I. 31 But how with equal Numbers shall we match The Musk's surpassing Worth! 1731 MILLER *Gard. Dict.* s. v. *Pyrus* § 9 Orange Musquée, *i.e.* The Orange Musk. 1741 *Compl. Fam.-Piece* II. iii. 388 Pears .. Orange Musk, .. Jargonelle [etc.]. 1786 ABERCROMBIE *Arrangem.* 11 in *Gard. Assist.*, [Pears] Little musk.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.* a. Obvious combinations, as *musk-animal, -colour, trade*; (sense 3) *musk-pot*; = flavoured or scented with musk, as *musk-cake, -comfit*, † *fruit, julep, lozenge, plum, -sugar.* Also *musk-coloured, -like, -scented* adjs.

1693 DALE *Pharmacol.* 626 Animal Moschiferum..The *Musk Animal. 1706 *Closet of Rarities* (Nares), To make *musk-cakes, take half a pound of red roses,..add four grains of musk; mix them well to a thickness, make them into cakes and dry them in the sun. 1654 WHITELOCKE *Jrnl. Swed. Emb.* (1772) II. 179 A plain suit of..english cloth of *muske colour. 1681 GREW *Museum* I. VII. ii. 164 'Tis about two inches long. Of a dark brown or Musk-colour. 1685 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2072/4 He was habited in a Musk colour Cloth Coat. 1684 *Ibid.* No. 1944/4 A Petticoat of *Musk coloured Silk. 1598 FLORIO, *Moscadino*, a kinde of *muske comfets. 1638 BAKER tr. *Balzac's Lett.* (vol. III.) 55 For I have not yet medled with any of the *Musque fruits, which I hope you shall eat. 1775 ASH, *Musk julep, ..A julep in which there is an infusion of musk. 1803 *Med. Jrnl.* IX. 498 It gives out a strong aromatic *musk-like smell. 1895 *Army & Navy Price List* 15 Sept. 702/2 *Musk Lozenges per box, 0/9. *a* 1643 W. CARTWRIGHT *Siege* IV. v, I've..Kept *Musk-plums in my Mouth continually. 1859 G. MEREDITH *R. Feverel* IX, The farmer pointed at some *musk-pots in the window. 1671 *Phil. Trans.* VI. 3002 Another *Musk-sented Insect. 1696 SALMON *Fam. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Musk-Sugar, to Make. 1677 J. PHILLIPS tr. *Tavernier's Trav.* II. 153 Fearing that the cheats and adulterations of Musk would spoil the *Musk-Trade.

b. In various names for the receptacle in the musk-deer (or other animal) which contains the musk. See also MUSK-BAG, -COD.

1681 GREW *Museum* I. II. ii. 22 The *Musk Bladder or Bag is about three inches long. 1837 M. DONOVAN *Dom. Econ.* II. 155 The removal of the *musk glands [in the crocodile] is absolutely necessary, as otherwise the flesh would be insupportable. 1888–91 BLANFORD *Mammalia India* 553 Many musk-deer are snared in nooses, others shot to secure the '*musk-pod', which is an article of commerce. 1834 tr. *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* I. 166 The other Musks have no *musk-pouch. 1840 PEREIRA *Elem. Mat. Med.* II. 1395 The *musk sac is of an oval form [etc.].

c. In the names of plants having a musky odour (frequently translating mod.Latin *moschatus*), as **musk carnation**, the clove-gilliflower; **musk cranesbill**, *Erodium moschatum*; **musk** († **wood**) **crowfoot**, *Adoxa Moschatellina*; **musk-flower** = *musk-plant* (*b*); **musk geranium** = *musk cranesbill*; † **musk-gillyflower**, the clove-gilliflower; † **musk-grape** (**-flower**), **-hyacinth**, one of the grape-hyacinths, *Muscari moschatum*; **musk-mallow**, (*a*) *Malva moschata*; (*b*) = next; **musk okro**, *Hibiscus Abelmoschus*; **musk orchis**, *Herminium Monorchis*; **musk-plant**, † (*a*) = *musk okro*; (*b*) *Mimulus moschatus*; (*c*) = *musk mallow* (*a*); **musk-root**, 'the Sumbul root, derived from *Euryangium Sumbul*; also the Spikenard, *Nardostachys Jatamansi*; and *Adoxa Moschatellina*' (Treas. Bot. 1866); † **musk-scabious**, ? *Scabiosa atropurpurea*; **musk-seed**, the seed of *Hibiscus Abelmoschus*; **musk thistle**, the thistle *Carduus nutans.* Also **MUSK-MELON, -ROSE, -TREE, -WOOD.**

1866 M. ARNOLD *Thyrsis* vii, Soon will the *musk carnations break and swell. 1785 MARTYN *Rousseau's Bot.* XXIV. (1794) 337 Very like this is *Musk Cranesbill..easily known by its musky odour. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* II. 103 *Muskwood Crowfoot hath the leaf divided [etc.]. 1855 MISS PRATT *Flower. Pl.* III. 91 Tuberous Moschatell..It has several rustic names, as..Hollow-root, and Musk-Crowfoot. 1852 *Cottage Gard. Dict.* (Johnson) 623 *Musk-flower, *Mimulus moschatus.* 1845–50 MRS. LINCOLN *Lect. Bot.* App. 101/2 *Erodium moschatum*, (*musk geranium). 1607 TOPSELL *Hist. Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 430 There be divers

herbs which smell sweet like musk, as Angelica, Dorsis, *Musk-gilliflowers, *Musk-grapes. 1598 Florio, *Muscorini*, *muske grape floure[s]. 1629 Parkinson *Parad.* xi. 112 *Muske Iacinth. 1731 Miller *Gard. Dict., Muscari*,.. Musk-Hyacinth or Grape-flower, of a worn-out purple-greenish Colour. 1785 Martyn *Rousseau's Bot.* xxiv. (1794) 342 Another wild species called *Musk Mallow. 1882a *Garden* 15 July 38/2 The White Musk Mallow [is] a charming British wild flower. 1756 P. Browne *Nat. Hist. Jamaica* (1789) 285 The *Musk Okro. The seeds of this plant ..have a strong and perfect smell of musk. 1731 Miller *Gard. Dict., Orchis*; *odorata moschata, sive Monorchis.* The Yellow Sweet or *Musk Orchis. 1785 Martyn *Rousseau's Bot.* xxiv. (1794) 344 The *Musk plant of the West Indies is another species of Hibiscus; its kidney-shaped seeds have a very strong smell of musk. 1852 *Cottage Gard. Dict.* (Johnson) 607/1 *Mimulus moschatus* (Musk-plant). 1897–8 Britton & Brown *Amer. Flora*, Musk-plant, a. *Mimulus moschatus*; b. *Malva moschata.* 1844 *Chem. Gaz.* II. 68 On *Radix Sumbul*, the Persian *Musk Root. 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), **Musk-scabious*, a kind of Herb. 1731 Miller *Gard. Dict.* s. v. *Scabiosa*, The Indian or Musk Scabious's are preserv'd for the Beauty and sweet Scent of their Flowers. 1712 tr. *Pomet's Hist. Drugs* I. 15 This Plant grows likewise in Egypt, where it is called *Musk-seed. 1873 *Beeton's Dict. Comm.* s. v., The musk-seed brought from the island of Martinico is accounted better than any other. 1731 Miller *Gard. Dict., Carduus*; *nutans*...The *Musk, or Nodding Thistle.

d. In the names of varieties of fruits having a musky smell or taste, as *musk-apple, cherry, peach, pear*; cf. Musk *sb.* 3 b.

1611 Cotgr. s. v. *Muscadelle, Pomme muscadelle*, a Muske apple. *Ibid., Muscateline*, the Muske Peare; the smallest, sweetest, and soonest ripe of all other Peares. 1629 Parkinson *Parad.* 583 The Muske Nectorin..both smelleth and eateth as if the fruit were steeped in Muske. 1679 Evelyn *Kal. Hort., Aug.* (ed. 5) 22 Man Peach,..Musk Peach [etc.]. 1786 Abercrombie *Arrangem.* 12 in *Gard. Assist.*, Principal Varieties [of Pears],.. Musk blanquette, .. Musk robine. 1884 Hogg *Fruit Man.* (ed. 5) 621 Pears...Musk Drone. See Bourdon Musqué.

e. In various names for Musk-ox, as *musk-bison, buffalo, sheep*; also *musk bull, cattle, cow.*

1792 Pennant *Arct. Zool.* I. Plate vii, Musk Bull and Cow. *Ibid.* II. Index, Bison or Ox, musk. 1823 Byron *Juan* xii. lxxxii, Where the musk-bull browses. 1876 Davis *Polaris Exp.* 126 A long hunt for musk-cattle. 1877 A. R. Wallace in *Encycl. Brit.* VII. 275/1 The musk-sheep (*Ovibos*).

f. In the names of animals having a musky odour, as † **musk ant**, 'the name given by Lister and Ray to a peculiar species of ant, which is of the number of the perfumed insects' (Chambers *Cycl. Supp.* 1753); † **musk-beaver** = Musk-rat 1; **musk-beetle**, a capricorn beetle, *Callichroma moschata*; **musk-cavy**, the Pilori; † **musk-fly** = *musk-beetle*; † **musk-goat** = Musk-deer; † **musk-goat-chafer** = *musk-beetle*; † **musk-hog**, the peccary; † **musk-insect** = *musk-beetle*; **musk-kangaroo**, a very small, rat-like, arboreal kangaroo, *Hypsiprymnodon moschatus*; **musk-mole**, a Mongolian mole, *Scaptochirus moschatus* (Cent. Dict. 1890); **musk-parrakeet** (see quot.); **musk-shrew**, the Indian musk-rat (see Musk-rat 2); **musk-tortoise, -turtle**, a small American fresh-water turtle, *Aromochelys odorata*; **musk-weasel**, any viverrine carnivore. See also Musk-cat, -deer, -duck, -ox, -rat.

1671 *Phil. Trans.* VI. 3002 A *Musk-Ant..observed by me. 1771 Pennant *Synopsis Quadrup.* 259 *Musk Beaver. 1753 Chambers *Cycl. Supp., Musk-Insect*, a term used by some to express the capricorn, or *Musk beetle. 1864–5 Wood *Homes without H.* viii. (1868) 174 The Musk Beetle (*Cerambyx moschatus*). 1823 Crabb *Technol. Dict.* s. v. *Musk*, *Musk Cavy, the *Mus pilorides* of Linnæus. 1665 Hubert *Catal. Rarities* 40 A dark green coloured flie called the *Musk flie, for his odoriferous sent when he is a live. 1601 Holland *Pliny* II. 87 *marg.*, Plinie neuer heard of the *Musk-goats nor Ciuet cats in these daies. 1668 Charleton *Onomasticon* 8 *Capra Moschi*, the Musk Goat. 1681 Grew *Musæum* I. vii. ii. 164 The *Musk-Goat-Chafer. *Capricornus odoratus*...While it lives, and for sometime after its death, It hath a fragrant smell; from whence the Name. 1773 *Gentl. Mag.* XLIII. 219 The Mexican *Musk-Hog. 1671 *Phil. Trans.* VI. 3002 Two or three more *Musk Insects. 1894 Lydekker *Marsupialia* 73 The *Musk-Kangaroos. Genus *Hypsiprymnodon. *Ibid.*, The remarkable creature known, from its strong scent, as the Musk-Kangaroo. 1848 Gould *Birds Australia* V. pl. 52 *Trichoglossus concinnus*, Vig. and Horsf. Musky Parrakeet... *Musk Parrakeet, Colonists. 1834 Roget *Anim. & Veg. Phys.* II. 135 The *Sorex moschatus*, or *musk shrew. 1888 Blanford *Mammalia India* 233 *Crocidura murina*, the brown musk Sbrew. *Ibid.* 236 *Crocidura cærulea*, the grey musk Shrew. 1885 *Stand. Nat. Hist.* (1888) III. 452 *Aromochelys odorata* is a small turtle found in pools..and known as the *musk-turtle, besides other savory names. 1835 Swainson *Nat. Hist. & Classif. Quadrup.* 361 *Viverrinæ*. *Musk-Weasels.

Musk, *v. rare.* [f. Musk *sb.*] *trans.* To perfume with or as with musk.

1632 Sherwood, *To Muske*, perfume with Muske, *Musquer* [1611 Cotgr. has 'bemuske', see Be- 6 b]. 1791 E. Darwin *Bot. Gard.* I. 6 Musk'd in the rose's lap fresh dews they shed. *Ibid.* 138 The Nymph..Each tangled braid with glistening teeth unbinds And with the floating treasure musks the winds.

Muskadel(l, -delle, dyll: see Muscatel.

Muskaden, -dine, -dyn(e: see Muscadine 1.

Muskalinge, -allonge, -allunge, -alo(u)nge, var. ff. Maskinonge.

† **Mu·sk-a·lmond.** *Sc. Obs.* In quot. *muscalmon.* A kind of sweetmeat.

1822 Galt *Sir A. Wylie* I. iii. 31 The muscalmons were declared to be as big as doos' eggs.

Muskane, variant of Muscane *a. Obs.*

Muskat, variant of Musk-cat.

Muskateire, obs. form of Musketeer.

Muskatoon, obs. form of Musketoon.

Muskavada, obs. form of Muscovado.

Muskaye, obs. form of Mosque.

Mu·sk-bag.

1. The bag or gland containing musk in various animals, esp. the Musk-deer.

1681 Grew *Musæum* I. II. ii. 22 The Musk Bladder or Bag is about three inches long. 1877 J. Gibson in *Encycl. Brit.* VII. 25/1 The Musk Deer..differs from the true deer in the absence of horns, and in the presence of the musk-bag.

† 2. A small bag containing musk and other perfumes, etc. *Obs. rare.*

1706 *Closet of Rarities* (Nares), To make musk-bags to lay among your cloaths.—Take the flowers of lavender-cotton six ounces [etc.]..dry them and beat them to powder, and lay them in a bag wherein musk has been.

† **Mu·sk-ball.** *Obs.* [Ball *sb.*1]

1. A 'ball' or receptacle for musk. Cf. *musk-ball*: see Must *sb.*2

1423 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 219 Item, 1 Muskball d'or. 1463 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 35 My muske bal of gold. 1550 Bale *Image Both Ch.* III. xviii. B b ij, Their vessels of Yuory comprehendeth all..their combes, their muske balles, their pomander pottes [etc.].

2. A ball of soap scented with musk.

1589 Rider *Bibl. Schol.* 979 A muske ball, *pastillus orbiculus*. 1594 Greene & Lodge *Looking Glasse* (1598) B 2 b, We neuer vse any musk-balls to wash him with. 1719 *Accomplish'd Female Instructor* (Nares), Curious musk-balls, to carry about one, or to lay in any place. Let the ground-work be fine flower of almonds, and Castle-soap, each a like quantity, seare the soap thin [etc.].

attrib. 1594 Barnfield *Affect. Sheph.* II. xxvi. (Arb.) 16 Sell thy sweet breath to th' daintie Musk-ball-makers.

† **Mu·sk-cat.** *Obs.* Forms: see Musk *sb.* and Cat *sb.*1; also 6–7 **musket, 7 muscat, muskat.** 'The animal from which musk is got' (J.); usually, the Musk-deer. Cf. Civet-cat.

1551 Gesner *Hist. Anim.* I. 787 Angli muske [dicunt]: & animal muske catte,..quod nomen zibethi animali potius conueniret. 1553 Eden *Treat. Newe Ind.* (Arb.) 25 In this region are founde many muskecattes. 1601 Shaks. *All's Well* v. ii. 21 Heere is a purre of Fortunes sir, or of Fortunes Cat, but not a Muscat. 1607 musskat [see Moschat]. *a* 1631 Donne *Elegie* Poems (1633) 149 As the sweet sweat of Roses in a Still, As that which from chaf'd muskats [*v.r.* muskets] pores doth trill. 1638 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* (ed. 2) 322 The Musk Cat here also convenes and may merit a ca'tagraph. 1794 Z. Macaulay in *Life & Lett.* iv. (1900) 67 [Referring to Sierra Leone.] Some of the sailors were..in the act of killing a beautiful musk-cat, which they afterwards ate

b. *transf.* as a term of reproach to a fop (cf. Musk-cod 2); also applied to a courtesan.

c 1566 *Merie Tales of Skelton* in *Wks.* (1843) I. p. lx, Skelton dyd keepe a musket at Dys, vpon the which he was complayned on to the bishop of Norwych. 1586 Whitney *Choice of Emblems* 79 Heare Lais fine, doth braue it on the stage, With muskecattes sweete, and all shee coulde desire. 1599 B. Jonson *Ev. Man out of Hum.* II. i. (1600) D 4, Hee sleepes with a muske Cat euery night. 1607 Tourneur *Rev. Trag.* I. iii. (1608) B 3, How dost, sweete Muskcat, When shall we lie togither? 1777 Sheridan *Trip Scarb.* III. i, Thou essence-bottle, thou musk-cat!

c. *attrib.*

1609 *Ev. Woman in Hum.* III. i. in Bullen *O. Pl.* IV, I can smell him half a mile ere hee come at me, indeede bee weares a Musk-cat—what call ye it? 1651 Cleveland *Poems* 6 Whose language is a Tax, whose Musk-cat verse Voids nought but flowers for thy Muses herse.

† **Mu·sk-cod.** *Obs.* Forms: see Musk *sb.* and Cod. Also 7 **muscod.** [Cod *sb.*1]

1. = Musk-bag 1.

1672 Blome *Descr. Jamaica* 29 They [*sc.* Allegators] have in them Musk-codds, which are stronger scented then those of the East-Indies. 1721 [see Cod *sb.*1 1 b.]

2. *transf.* A scented fop.

1599 B. Jonson *Ev. Man out of Hum.* v. vi, I beleeue, muske-cod. I beleeue you. 1634 S. R. *Noble Soldier* II. i. in Bullen *O. Pl.* I. 277, I begge, you whorson muscod! my petition Is written on my bosome in red wounds.

Mu·sk-deer. A small hornless ruminant (*Moschus moschiferus*) of Central Asia, the male of which yields the perfume called 'musk' (see Musk *sb.* 1). Applied also to the other members of the family *Moschinæ*, and to the family *Tragulidæ*, or chevrotains, which are horned and have no musk-bags.

1681 Grew *Musæum* I. II. ii. 21 The Musk Deer. 1770 Gray *Corr. w. Nicholls* (1843) 113 Are her subjects all civet-cats and musk-deer? 1865 Mathias *Sport in Himalayas* 122 The musk-deer (called by the natives mooskna far) inhabits thick, dense, scrubby jungle...Their presence in a jungle may always be known by the musky odour of their droppings. 1893 Lydekker *Horns & Hoofs* 330 The musk-deer, or kastura, as it is termed in Hindustani, is so well known to all Himalayan sportsmen, that [etc.].

Mu·sk-duck.

1. A tropical American duck, *Cairina moschata*, erroneously called the *Muscovy* and *Barbary duck.*

It is now domesticated and is larger than the common duck.

1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) VI. 130 The Muscovy duck, or, more properly speaking, the Musk Duck, so called from a supposed musky smell,..a native of Africa. 1824 *Shaw's Gen. Zool.* XII. II. 81 They have obtained the name of Musk-duck from their musky smell. 1877 Newton in *Encycl. Brit.* VII. 506/2 The Musk-duck (*Cairina*) of South America, which is often domesticated and in that condition will produce fertile hybrids with the common Duck.

2. An Australian duck, *Biziura lobata*, so called from the musky odour of the male.

1834 *Proc. Zool. Soc.* II. 19 A specimen was exhibited of the Musk Duck of New Holland, *Hydrobates lobatus* Temm. 1880 Mrs. Meredith *Tasmanian Friends & Foes* 159 That's a musk duck...The whole bird has a strange odour of musk, rendering it quite uneatable.

Musked (mʊskt), *a.* Now *rare* or *arch.* Also 7 **musket.** [f. Musk *sb.* + -ed 2.] Flavoured, or perfumed with musk; tasting like musk.

Often in names of plants and fruits (sometimes translating mod.L. *moschātus*).

1576 Baker *Jewell of Health* 227 b, Add..of sublimed wyne vj pyntes, of Rose-water Musked one pynt and a halfe. 1597 Gerarde *Herbal* II. cccxliv. 795 Musked Cranes bill bath many weake and feeble branches trailing vpon the grounde. *Ibid.* 796 It is called..*Geranium moscatum*; in English Musked Storkes bill, and Cranes bill. 1614 Drumm. of Hawth. *Sonn.* '*Alexis here she stay'd*', Shee set her by these musket Eglantines. 1694 Salmon *Bate's Dispens.* (1713) 591/2 The musked Julep against Fits of the Mother. 1706 London & Wise *Retir'd Gard.* I. I. xi. 51 Abricots of the best Sort, whereof two must be musked. 1731 Miller *Gard. Dict.* s. v. *Geranium* § 16 Musked Crane's-bill or Moscovy. 1753 Armstrong *Taste* 96 But hear their Raptures o'er some specious Rbime Dub'd by the musk'd and greasy Mob sublime. 1802 W. Forsyth *Fruit Trees* vii. (1824) 179 Its colour red and yellow, its flesh tender and musked. 1852 R. S. Surtees *Sponge's Sp. Tour* lxvi. (1893) 349 A musked cambric handkerchief.

Muskedall, -dele, obs. forms of Muscatel.

Muskedine: see Muscadine.

Muskeet, variant of Mesquite.

Muskeeto, obs. form of Mosquito.

Muskeg (mʊ·skeg). *Canadian.* Also **muskeag.** [Cree Indian; corresp. to Odjibway *mashkig*, Abnaki *mskakw.*] A kind of bog: see quots.

1865 Visct. Milton & W. B. Cheadle *N. W. Passage by Land* 207 Muskegs—or level swamps—the surface of which is covered with a mossy crust five, or six inches in thickness, while a thick growth of pines and the fallen timber add to the difficulties of the road. 1886 *Times* 24 Sept. 7 A 'muskeg' is a lake bearing on its surface a thick growth of decayed vegetable matter and peat, in layers made year after year. 1899 *Blackw. Mag.* Mar. 541/2 A thick forest of tall pines with patches of had muskeag, or marsh. 1904 M. Roberts *Bianca's Caprice* 143 Beyond the Prairie lay the muskeg, the barren lands of Northern Canada.

Hence **Muske·ggy** *a.*, abounding in muskegs.

1894 *Blackw. Mag.* June 802 Muskeggy prairies of varying size. 1903 A. C. P. Haggard *Sporting Yarns* 98 After a while this prairie..developed into muskeggy swamp.

Muskeito(r, obs. forms of Mosquito.

Muskel(e, -ell, obs. ff. Muscle, Mussel.

Muskel(l)unge, -unjeh: see Maskinonge.

Muskely, -elly, obs. forms of Muscly.

Musket1 (mʊ·skėt). *Obs.* exc. *Hist.* Also 5 **muskyte**, 5–7 **muskett(e**, 7 **musquet.** [a. ONF. *musket* (AF. pl. *muskez*, 1332 in *Litt. Cant.* I. cccclxi. 486), *mousquet*, Central OF. *mouchet* (mod.Fr. corruptly *émouchet*) = It. *moschetto* a small kind of sparrowhawk.

The word has the form of a dim. of Com. Rom. *mosca*:—L. *musca* fly: cf. It. *moscardo* of the same meaning. Some scholars regard the name as alluding to the diminutive size of the bird, others as meaning 'speckled' comparing F. *moucheter* to mark with spots like flies or fly-specks.]

The male of the sparrowhawk.

c 1425 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 641/14 *Hic capus*, muskett. *c* 1475 *Pict. Voc.* ibid. 761/6 *Hic capus*, a muskyte. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* b v b, Tho that kepe Sperhawkys and muskettys ben called Speruiteris. 1581 Derricke *Image Irel.* D ij b, Then the lacke and Musket laste, by whom the birds are vext. 1614 Markham *Cheap Husb., Of Hawkes* i. 135 The Gos-hawke and her Tercell, the Sparrow-Hawke Musket, and such like. 1687 Dryden *Hind & P.* III. 1119 The Musquet and the Coystrel were too weak. 1688 R. Holme *Armoury* II. 236/1 A Musket is the Male of a Sparhawk or Sparrow-hawk.

Musket2 (mʊ·skėt). Forms: 6 **mosquet, muscat**, 6–7 **muskett(e**, 7 **muscatt(e, musquatte**, 7–9 **musquet**, 6– **musket.** [a. F. *mousquet* (in 16th c. also *mousquette* fem.), ad. It. *moschetto*, orig. a kind of sparrowhawk (see Musket1). With regard to the practice of naming species of firearms from birds of prey, cf. *falcon, falconet, saker.*]

1. A hand-gun of the kind with which infantry soldiers are armed.

Originally applied to the matchlock, and in the 18th c. still sometimes distinguished from the 'firelock' or 'fusee'. (From early examples it appears that arrows as well as bullets were discharged from muskets.) Subsequently it became the general name for the infantry gun, whatever its construction. This use still survives, but as the modern gun is commonly (and in the Army Regulations) called by the specific term *rifle*, there is a tendency to restrict *musket* to the obsolete forms of the weapon.

c 1587 Sir R. Knyghtley in *Buccleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 225 Muskettes and calleevers and hnlebertes shall be provided for this company. 1590 Sir J. Smyth (*title*) Certain Discourses,..concerning the formes and effects of divers sorts of weapons,..and chiefly, of the Mosquet, the Caliver and the Long-bow. 1595 R. Johnson 7 *Champions* II. (1608) O j, Like unto an arrow forced from a musket. 1598 Barret *Theor. Warres* II. i. 27 One good musket may be accounted for two calliuers. 1639 *Burgh Rec. Glasgow*

(1876) I. 400, 32 musquattis at £9 16s. 8d. the peice. 1672 Capt. T. Venn *Milit. Obs. Art Drilling* ii. 34 The Musquet is to be rested at the sentinel posture. 1727–52 Chambers *Cycl., Musket*, or Musquet, properly a fire-arm borne on the shoulder, and used in war; to be fired by the application of a lighted match...At present they are little used save in the defence of places; fusees, or fire-locks, having taken their place. 1764 *Mem. G. Psalmanazar* 153 He had too great a regard for me, to send me with them to carry a brown musket. 1844 H. H. Wilson *Brit. India* III. 126 Five or six men, armed with musquets and ginjals. 1876 Voyle & Stevenson *Milit. Dict.* (ed. 3) s. v., The musket, as it is still called, has been brought to great perfection in the rifled small-arm of the present day.

2. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *musket ammunition, ball, barrel, bullet, butt, charge, flint, range, reach, stock*; *musket-armed, -like, -proof* adjs. Also **musket-arrow**, a short arrow discharged from a musket; **musket basket** (see quot. 1704); **musket powder**, the kind of gunpowder used for small-arms; **musket-rest**, a forked staff to support the heavy musket in use before the middle of the 17th century; **musket-slit**, a slit in a wall through which a musket may be fired.

1810 Wellington *Let.* 12 June in Gurw. *Desp.* (1836) VI. 188 The state of the *musket ammunition..is not so bad as [etc.]. 1885 H. M. Stanley *Congo* I. 388 Its one-story block-house..impregnable to *musket-armed natives. 1759. in Meyrick *Ant. Armour* (1824) III. 67 *Musket arrowes with 22 shefe to be new fethered. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk., Musket arrows*, used in our early fleets, and for conveying notices in 1815. 1725 De Foe *Voy. round World* (1840) 165 We returned the salute with our *musket-ball. 1825 J. Neale *Bro. Jonathan* III. 109 A musket-ball had gone thro' both legs. 1644 Evelyn *Diary* 27 Feb., Two extravagant musqueteeres shot us with a streme of water from their *musket barrells. 1688 Capt. J. S. *Fortification* 125 *Musket-Baskets, or smaller Gabions. 1704 J. Harris *Lex. Techn.* I, *Musket-Baskets*, in Fortification, are Baskets of about a Foot and half high...They are filled with Earth, and are set on low Parapets or Breast-works,..that the Musketeers may fire between them at the Enemy. 1598 Barret *Theor. Warres* 167 It is not so light a matter to skirmish among the *musket bullet. 1813 Scott *Rokeby* vi. xxxiii, Sword, halberd, *musket-but. 1859 J. Grant *Leg. Black Watch* (Rtldg.) 374 Stunned by a blow from a musket-butt. *c* 1610 Middleton, etc. *Widow* iv. ii, I'll send him a whole *musket-charge of gunpowder. 1743 Bulkeley & Cummins *Voy. S. Seas* 102 Twelve *Musket-Flints. 1892 Greener *Breechloader* 71 Guns quite plain, almost *musket-like in their outward appearance. 1644 Nye *Gunnery* (1647) 5 The *Musket Powder is now commonly made of Saltpetre five parts, one part of Brimstone, and one of Cole. 1880 *Encycl. Brit.* XI. 319/1 It was the custom for the fine grain or musket powder to contain a larger proportion of saltpetre than that for cannon. 1601 R. Johnson *Kingd. & Commw.* (1603) 92 The horsemen were all armed, many of whose curasses were heigh *musket proofe. 1603 in Meyrick *Ant. Armour* (1824) III. 81 Two blacke armors of muskett proofe. 1622 Sir R. Hawkins *Observ. Voy. S. Sea* lxvi. 164 The vpper worke of their shippes being Muskets proofe. 1863 Yonge *Brit. Navy* II. 437 A musket-proof stockade. 1834–47 J. S. Macaulay *Field Fortif.* (1581) 141 Villages commanded by the neighbouring ground, within *musket-range. 1646 H. P. *Medit. Seige* 23 To be gall'd with their small shot, if they be within *musket reach. 1598 B. Jonson *Ev. Man in H.* II. v, He will neuer come within the signe of it, the sight of a cassock, or a *musket-rest againe. 1856 Mayhew *Rhine* 225 You perceive *musket-slits hemming you in on every side. 1833 *Penny Cycl.* I. 77/1 Its wood is so hard as to be in request for the manufacture of *musket-stocks.

Musket, variant of Musk-cat.

Musketa, obs. form of Mosquito.

Musketade (mʊskĕtā·d). Also 7 **musquetad.** [f. Musket [2] + -ade, after F. *mousquetade.*] A continued discharge of muskets; an attack with muskets. So **Musketa·ding** *vbl. sb.*

1655 Flecknoe *Relat.* 10 *Vrs. Trav.* 12 Your young Gallants..talk of nothing but Rampards and Parapats, Musquetads, Estramacons, and Canonads. 1865 Carlyle *Fredk. Gt.* xx. vii. (1872) IX. 144 Broglio truly has burst-out into enormous cannonade, musketade and cavalry-work. *Ibid.* xii. 228 Most furious cannonading, musketading; and seemingly no end to it.

Musketeer (mʊskĕtī·ɹ). *Hist.* Forms: 6 **mosquettier, musketire,** 6–7 **musketear(e, muscat(t)ier,** 6–8 **musket(t)ier, musquetier,** 7 **muscateer, muskat(e)ire, musketer(e, musketteer(e, musketter, musqueteir(e, musquetiere, musquetteer, -ier,** 7–9 **musqueteer,** 6– **musketeer.** See also Mousquetaire. [f. Musket [2] + -eer, after F. *mousquetaire*, It. *moschettiere.* Cf. Sp. *mosquetero.*] A soldier armed with a musket.

1590 Marlowe *2nd Pt. Tamburl.* III. ii, It must haue.. Parapets to hide the Muscatiers. 1590 Sir J. Smyth *Disc. Weapons* 10 b, Mosquettiers. 1598 Barret *Theor. Warres* III. i. 35 The musketier is to cary his musket vpon his left or right shoulder. 1604 E. Grimstone *Hist. Siege Ostend* 170 In them were 2500 musketers and small shott. 1639 *Conceits, Clinches, Flashes & Whimzies* No. 121 Muscattiers of all other Souldiers are the most lazie: for they are alwayes at their rest. 1663 Butler *Hud.* I. ii. 567 Did they coyn Piss-pots, Bowls, and Flaggons, Int' Officers of Horse and Dragoons; And into Pikes and Musqueteers Stamp Beakers, Cups, and Porringers? 1689 *Andros Tracts* I. 175 Except he would accept of a Guard of Two Muskateires to wayte upon him. 1707 *Reflex. upon Ridicule* 74 'Tis not for a Commander to act the Part of a Musquetier. 1777 Watson *Philip II*, xiii. (1839) 257 On the left his cavalry, flanked by a body of musqueteers. 1814 Scott *Wav.* xxxv, Waverley, having mounted his horse, with a musketeer leading it [etc.].

Musketo(e, obs. forms of Mosquito.

Musketoon (mʊskĕtū·n). *Obs.* exc. *Hist.* Also 7 **musquetoon, musquettoon,** 7–9 **muskatoon.** [a. F. *mousqueton*, ad. It. *moschettone*, f. *moschetto* Musket [2]: see -oon.]

1. A kind of musket, short and with a large bore.

1650 R. Stapylton *Strada's Low C. Warres* vi. 31, 15 Supernumeraryes, armed with Musketoons, and Rests. 1655 Mrq. Worcester *Cent. Inv.* § 67 A..way..for Musquettoons fastened to the Pummel of the Saddle so that a Common Trooper cannot misse to charge them, with twenty or thirty Bullets at a time, even in full Career. 1684 Otway *Atheist* II. i, Stand Centinel..with Musquetoons and Blunderbusses. 1772 Simes *Milit. Guide* s.v. *Blunderbuss*, Blunderbuss is a short fire arm with a large bore...The shortest sort of them are called musquetoons. 1800 in *Spirit Pub. Jrnls.* IV. 22 The construction of the musquetoon, or wall piece. 1889 Doyle *Micah Clarke* 152 Your musquetoon should be sloped upon your shoulder.

2. A soldier armed with a musketoon.

1638 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* (ed. 2) 232 Three hundred thousand horse, and seventy thousand good musquetoons. 1670 G. H. *Hist. Cardinals* II. III. 185 Forty Souldiers a horseback, drawn by order out of his Majesties Musquetoons.

3. *Comb.*: **musketoon pistol,** a smaller kind of musketoon.

1695 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3055/4 At his late Dwelling-House.. are to be sold..Musketoons, and Musketoon Pistols.

Musketry (mʊ·skĕtri). Also 7–8 **musquetry.** [ad. F. *mousqueterie*, f. *mousquet*: see Musket [2] and -ery, -ry.]

1. Muskets collectively.

Chiefly in *discharge, fire of musketry* (passing into sense 2).

1646 Eldred *Gunners Glasse* 136 The Musquetry and Hargubusry. 1777 W. Dalrymple *Trav. Sp. & Port.* civ, Joined together by a wall with loopholes, defencible only by musquetry. 1790 Beatson *Nav. & Mil. Mem.* 222 When, pouring upon them the whole fire of their cannon and musquetry, almost every shot took place. 1884 F. M. Crawford *Rom. Singer* I. 28 Which he fired out of his mouth like discharges of musketry.

2. The fire of muskets.

1756 Washington *Lett.* Writ. 1889 I. 322 A garrison which was only intended to defend the stores, and might be protected by 100 against musketry. 1796 H. Hunter tr. *St.-Pierre's Stud. Nat.* (1799) II. 224 The sound of musquetry ought to be prohibited at least around the haunts of the harmless cattle. 1866 Neale *Sequences & Hymns* 105 The quicker ring of musketry.

3. The art or science of manipulating small arms.

1854 J. C. Kennedy *Theory Musketry* (1855) Introd., The following course of Instruction in the Theory of Musketry, was arranged for the use of the School of Musketry at Hythe. 1876 Voyle & Stevenson *Milit. Dict.* (ed. 3) s.v., To go through the annual course of musketry, under the regimental instructor.

4. Troops armed with muskets.

1772 Nugent tr. *Hist. Fr. Gerund* III. vi. 563 With what applause the whole juvenile musquetry received this harangue of the prating..young thing of a theologist. 1902 A. Lang *Hist. Scot.* II. i. 9 Gamboa, a Spaniard (the Scots had no musketry), was captain of 200 mounted musketeers.

5. *attrib.*, as in *musketry action, drill, fire, instruction, instructor, powder.*

1875 Clery *Min. Tact.* x. (1877) 122 Marcoguet's column of eight battalions was engaged in a *musketry action with two battalions of Pack's brigade. 1859 *Musketry Instr.* 55 *Musketry Drill and Practice Return. 1852 Chesney *Observ. Fire-Arms* 300 *marg.*, Batteries of artillery supposed to be put hors de combat by *musketry fire. 1859 (*title*) Regulations for conducting the *Musketry Instruction of the Army. 1876 Voyle & Stevenson *Milit. Dict.* (ed. 3), **Musketry Instructor. Ibid.*, **Musketry Powder* comprises the powders used with small-arms and pistols.

Musket shot.

1. Shot fired from a musket; also, a musket-ball.

1590 Sir J. Smyth *Disc. Weapons* 15 In giuing their volees of Mosquet shot but onlie twelue scores. 1621 Burton *Anat. Mel.* I. ii. I. iii. (1651) 50 Such as shall endure a Rapiers point, musket shot, and never to be wounded. 1755 Washington *Lett.* Writ. 1889 I. 193, I have also impressed wagons and sent them..for flour, musket-shots, and flints. 1884 Pae *Eustace* 143 The musket-shot flew like hail.

2. The range of a musket.

1617 Moryson *Itin.* I. 228 From hence a Musket shot, or little more, is another house, which [etc.]. 1669 Staynred *Fortification* 2, 720 Foot, being within Musket-shot. 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* II. (Globe ed.) 404 Our Men came within two Musket Shot of them. 1844 *Regul. & Ord. Army* 274 An unexpected obstacle within point-blank Musket-shot of the place attacked.

Muskett(i)er, obs. forms of Musketeer.

Musketto, obs. form of Mosquito.

Muskewashe, obs. form of Musquash.

Muskia, muskie, obs. forms of Mosque.

† Mu·skified, *ppl. a. Obs.* [f. Musk *sb.* + -ify + -ed [1].] Scented with or steeped in musk.

1677 *Compleat Servant-Maid* 105 Muskified Bisquet boyled. 1689 Movle *Sea Chyrurg.* II. xxiii. 78 Spirit Otalgicus dropt warm into the Ears morning and evening and Muskified Cotton after it.

Muskil, obs. form of Muscle, Mussel.

† Mu·skin [1]. *Obs.* [a. OF. *mus(e)quin* pretty face, sweetheart, *musquine* sweetheart.] **a.** A pretty face. **b.** A term of endearment for a woman.

1530 Palsgr. 247/1 Muskyn, a proper visage, *musquin.* 1538 Bale *Thre Lawes* B iv b, The woman hath a wytt,.. My muskyne and my mullye, My gelouer and my cullye, Yea, myne owne swete hart of Golde.

† Mu·skin [2], var. or erron. form of Misken.

1657 Beck *Univ. Char.* I 2, A muskin, vid. Titmouse. 1658 Rowland tr. *Moufet's Theat. Ins.* 901 To destroy the Muskin or Titmouse.

† Mu·skin [3], *slang. Obs. rare* −[1]. (See quot.)

1756 Johnson *Connoisseur* No. 138 ¶ 6 Those who..call a man a cabbage,..an odd fish, and an unaccountable muskin, should never come into company without an interpreter.

Muskiness: see after Musky *a.*

Musking, obs. variant of Mutchkin.

† Mu·skings, *sb. pl. Obs. rare.* [Cf. dial. (Northamp.) *musk* vb., 'of pigs, to rout about among and pick up loose or stray corn'.] ? Sweepings (of barns, etc.) used for feeding pigs.

1649 Blithe *Eng. Improv.* xx. 117 Their cornish Muskings they cast into the great yard,..and all Muskings forth of their Barnes, and of their Courts.

Muskinunge, obs. form of Maskinonge.

1798 I. Allen *Hist. Vermont* 13.

† Mu·skish, *a. Obs.* [f. Musk *sb.* + -ish.] Somewhat musky. *Comb.*: **muskish-minded** *a.*

1601 Dent *Pathw. Heaven* 67 Let all carnall worldlings, and muskish minded men lay this to heart. 1707 Mortimer *Husb.* (1721) II. 296 Small Pears having something of a muskish Flavour. 1725 Bradley *Fam. Dict.* s. v. *Peach*, When ripe [they] have a muskish Taste.

Muskle, -ly, obs. ff. Muscle, Mussel, Muscly.

Musk melon. Forms: see Musk *sb.* and Melon [1]; also 6 **mush-millian,** 7 **mus milion, mellon,** 9 **mush-melon.** [f. Musk *sb.*]

The name seems to have originally belonged to an oriental melon (Du. *muscus-meloen, moscadelmeloen*, Dodoens) which has a musky scent, and to have been transferred to the common melon by mistake.

1. The Melon, *Cucumis Melo.* (Applied both to the fruit and the plant producing it.)

1573 Tusser *Husb.* (1878) 94 Musk million, in April and May. 1578 Lyte *Dodoens* v. xxxi. 530 In Frenche, Melon ..in Englishe, Melons and muske Melons. 1591 Horsey *Trav.* (Hakl. Soc.) 253 My water to dress my meat withall was poisoned, my drincke and herbs and mush-millians sent poisoned. 1648 Gage *West Ind.* 61 Bigger then our biggest Muskmillians in England. 1694 Penn in *Academy* (1896) 11 Jan. 36/3 Water and mus mellons. 1766 W. Stork *Acc. East Florida* 48 The vines,..water and musk-melons, are indigenous plants of East-Florida. 1825 Motley *Corr.* (1889) I. i. 4 We have..planted a good many things, such as corn, radishes, water and musk melons, etc. 1884 Bourke *Snake Dance of Moquis* xxxi. 354 We feasted heartily on mush-melons and clabber.

attrib. 1649 *Survey Manor of Wimbledon* in *Archæologia* X. 432 There is a muskmilion ground trenched, manured, and very well ordered for the groweth of musmilions, which borders, herbes, flowers, and musmilion ground, wee valew to bee worth £3 0 0. 1708 E. Cook *Sot-weed Factor* (1865) 19 Musmillion vine.

2. ? Allusively for 'scented millions'.

1662 M. W. *Marriage Broaker* I. ii. 10 Musk-millions of rich gallants will besiege Her Fort; and my cake's dowe.

Muskovie, obs. form of Muscovy.

Mu·sk-ox. A ruminant, *Ovibos moschatus*, formerly existing in all arctic regions, but now only in Arctic America; it evolves a strong odour of musk. Also *attrib.*

1744 A. Dobbs *Countries Adjacent to Hudson's Bay* 18 Betwixt these Rivers is a kind of Ox, called the Musk Ox, which smells at some Time in the Year so strong of Musk, that it cannot be eat. 1835 Sir J. Ross *Narr. 2nd Voy.* xvi. 252 They further informed us that there were plenty of musk oxen on the hills to the southward. 1892 W. Pike *North. Canada* 65 We scattered over the country, hoping to find a band of musk-ox.

Muskquash, -quass, obs. forms of Musquash.

Mu·sk-rat.

1. A large aquatic rodent, *Fiber zibethicus*, common throughout N. America, so called from its musky smell. Also called Musquash and Ondatra.

1620 *Observ. Silkwormes* D 2 b, Muske Rats skins, two shillings a dozen: the cods of them will serue for good perfumes. 1714 Lawson *Hist. Carolina* 120 Musk Rats frequent fresh Streams and no other; as the Bever does. He has a Cod of Musk, which is valuable, as is likewise his Fur. 1892 W. Pike *North. Canada* 25 Musk-rats swam in all the little creeks and lakes.

b. *U. S.* A nickname for the inhabitants of low-lying districts, esp. the St. Clair Flats (Michigan).

1857 in *Archiv Stud. neu. Spr.* XXII. 162 (citing *Atlantis* II. 645). 1890 *Century Mag.* July 369/2 Her grandmother ..having a profound contempt for the 'muskrats' as the Flats people are generally called.

c. The fur or skin of the musk-rat.

1879 *Encycl. Brit.* IX. 838/2 *Musk-Rat.*—A well-known fur in North America. 1902 *Scotsman* 3 Jan. 7/5 Musk-rat is the least costly, being worth only about 2*d.*

2. Applied to other rat-like animals having a musky odour. **a.** In India and Ceylon, the shrews *Crocidura murina* and *C. cærulea.* **b.** The Desman. **c.** The Pilori (cf. *Musk-cavy*). **d.** A viverrine quadruped, the South African genet, *Genetta felina* (in recent Dicts.). **e.** The musk-kangaroo, *Hypsiprymnodon moschatus.*

1681 R. Knox *Hist. Ceylon* 31 They have a sort of Rats, they call Musk-Rats, because they smell strong of Musk. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1824) II. 92 The musk rat. Of these animals of the rat kind, but with a musky smell, there are also three distinctions..; the Ondatra, the Desman, and the Pilori. 1785 *Gentl. Mag.* LV. i. 204 A little animal, very frequent in these parts, totally unknown I believe, to other countries. It is called here [Russia] the Musk-rat. 1813 J. Forbes *Orient. Mem.* I. 41 The musk-rats [at Bombay]..have a most disagreeable smell. 1836 [see Pilori].

1884 STERNDALE *Mamm. India & Ceylon* 83 *Sorex cærulescens.* The common Musk Shrew, better known as Musk-rat. 1892 J. D. OGILBY *Catal. Austral. Mamm.* 38 *Hypsiprymnodon moschatus* Ramsay (1876). Australian Musk Rat.

3. *attrib.*: **musk-rat house**, the 'house' or burrow of the American musk-rat; **musk-rat weed**, a tall American meadow-plant, *Thalictrum polygamum* (formerly *T. Cornuti*).

1837 W. IRVING *Capt. Bonneville* I. 277 They found the swamp full of 'muskrat houses'. 1897–8 BRITTON & BROWN *Amer. Flora*, Muskrat weed, *Thalictrum polygamum.*

Mu·sk-ro·se. [So called from its musky odour; cf. F. *rose muscade* and the botanical name.] A rambling rose (*Rosa moschata*), having large fragrant white flowers, in panicled clusters.

1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* II. (1586) 66 b *marg.*, Muske-roses. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* II. i. 252. 1625 BACON *Ess., Gardens* (Arb.) 556 In May and Iune, come..Roses of all kinds, except the Muske, which comes later. 1637 MILTON *Lycidas* 146. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* (1721) II. 165 The Spanish Musk Rose. *a* 1763 SHENSTONE *Elegies* xviii. 10, I steal the musk rose from the scented brake. 1837 RIVERS *Rose Amateur's Guide* 86 The Blush Musk, or Fraser's Musk, or *Rosa Fraserii*, is not quite a pure Musk Rose. *Ibid.*, The Ranunculus, or new White Musk, is merely an improved variety of the old, or original Musk Rose. 1842 TENNYSON *Gardener's Dau.* 189 Then for roses, moss or musk, To grace my city rooms.

attrib. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* II. ii. 3 Some to kill Cankers in the muske rose buds.

Musk squash, obs. form of MUSQUASH.

Mu·sk-tree. A name given to various Oceanic trees or shrubs, from the scent of their leaves or timber. **a.** The shrub *Marlea vitiense* (N. O. *Cornaceæ*), with edible nuts. **b.** A tree of the genus *Olearia*, formerly *Aster*, *Eurybia* (N. O. *Compositæ*), esp. the Silver-leaved Musk-tree, *O. argophylla*, and the Dwarf Musk-tree, *O. viscosa.*

1848 MRS. PERRY *Let.* in Goodman *Ch. in Victoria* (1892) 71 Also there is some pretty underwood, a good deal of the musk-tree—which is very different from our musk-plant, growing quite into a shrub and having a leaf like the laurel in shape. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 479/1 The silver-leaved Musk tree, *Eurybia argophylla*, is a Tasmanian plant, attaining a height of twenty to twenty-five feet, with a girth of three feet. 1888 MRS. M'CANN *Poet. Wks.* 143 The musk tree scents the evening air Far down the leafy vale.

Muskullonge: see MASKINONGE.

Muskwash, variant of MUSQUASH.

Mu·sk-wood.

1. A name given to several trees having a musky smell. **a.** A low fragrant resinous tree, *Trichilia moschata* (often called *Moschoxylon Swartzii*), a native of Jamaica. **b.** Species of *Guarea*, esp. *G. Swartzii.* **c.** The silver-leaved musk-tree, *Olearia argophylla*, of New South Wales and Tasmania.

1725 SLOANE *Jamaica* II. 24 Musk-wood. This tree in respect of its sweet smell I reduce hither. 1794 BARHAM *Hortus Amer.* 107 Musk-Wood. This is vulgarly and commonly called *alligator-wood.* 1863 *Chamb. Encycl.* V. 127/1 *Guarea grandifolia* is called Musk-wood in some of the islands of the West Indies; the bark smelling so strongly of musk, that it may be used as a perfume. 1866 *Treas. Bot.*, *Musk-wood* of Jamaica. *Moschoxylum Swartzii*; also *Guarea Swartzii.* — of New South Wales and Tasmania. *Eurybia argophylla.*

2. (See quot.)

1891 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Musk wood*, the name of a bark obtained from Syria, and supposed to be the product of the liquid storax tree. It has an agreeable balsamic smell.

† **Mu·sk-worm.** *Obs.* Perh. = *musk-beetle* (MUSK *sb.* 4 c); applied to a dealer in perfumes.

1599 B. JONSON *Cynthia's Rev.* v. iv. Wks. (1616) 246 What coyle these muske-wormes [*printed* mukse-wormes] take, to purchase anothers delight? for themselues, who beare the odours, haue euer the least sence of them.

Mu·sky, *sb.*[1] A playful shortening of MUSK-RAT (sense 1).

1884 *Chamb. Jrnl.* 1 Nov. 704/1, I saw the dead musky being carried off.

Musky (mʌ·ski), *sb.*[2] Short for *muskallonge* (see MASKINONGE).

1894 *Outing* (U. S.) XXIV. 453/1 We were then all ready for old musky to begin his real fight. 1902 *Scribner's Mag.* XXXI. 534 The familiar term, with which sportsmen have come to know him, the musky.

Musky (mʌ·ski), *a.* Also 7 muskie. [f. MUSK *sb.* + -Y.]

1. Smelling, or tasting of musk; having a taste or smell like that of musk; perfumed with musk.

c 1610 ROWLANDS *Terrible Batt.* 13 A Muskie-Gentle, we did visit then, A Silken Gallant. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 502 Muske is made of a certaine beast called Gudderi, ..which once in the Moone sheddeth his muskie bloud. 1634 MILTON *Comus* 989 West winds, with musky wing About the cedar'n alleys fling Nard, and Cassia's balmy smels. 1769 SIR W. JONES *Palace Fortune* Poems, etc. (1777) 15 The floating ringlets of his musky hair. 1830 LINDLEY *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 34 The musky seeds of *Hibiscus Abelmoschus.* 1849 THACKERAY *Pendennis* xxv, Holding a most musky pocket-handkerchief up to his face. 1888 *Graphic* 21 Jan. 54 The musky flesh of the animal [*sc.* a crocodile].

fig. 1858 EMERSON *Lett. & Soc. Aims, Persian Poetry* Wks. (Bohn) III. 247 The garden flowers are never wanting in these musky verses. 1901 HENLEY in *Pall Mall Mag.* Oct. 262 [Rossetti] His musky, strenuous, high-piled achievements in words.

b. As a specific name for animals and plants.

1781 PENNANT *Hist. Quadrup.* II. 476 Shrew, Musky... Muscovy or Musk rat. 1822 *Hortus Anglicus* II. 82 *Ajuga Iva.* Musky Bugle. 1885 *Cassell's Encycl. Dict.*, Musky-mole, *Scaptochirus moschatus.* [= *Musk-mole*: see MUSK *sb.* 4 c.]

2. Of an odour, taste, etc.

1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 775 Some rich sables of muskie sent. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* II. 47/2 A Musk Pear..is..of a Musky Taste. 1746 HERVEY *Medit.* (1818) 107 The musky flavour of the apricot. 1862 BURTON *Bk. Hunter* I. 44 A sort of indistinct slightly musky perfume, like that said to frequent Oriental hazaars. 1897 MARY KINGSLEY *W. Africa* 228 It does not remove the musky taste from crocodile.

Comb. 1831 TENNYSON *Anacreontics* in *Germ* 131 With roses musky-breathed. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* s.v. *Adoxa*, The musky-scented flowers.

Hence **Mu·skiness**, the quality of being musky; a musky odour or taste.

1727 in BAILEY vol. II. 1755 in JOHNSON; and in later Dicts.

Muskyl, -yll(e, obs. forms of MUSSEL.

Muskyte, -kyto, obs. ff. MUSKET[1], MOSQUITO.

Musle, obs. form of MUZZLE.

Muslege, -idge, obs. forms of MUCILAGE.

Musleman, obs. form of MUSSULMAN.

Muslim: see MOSLEM.

Muslin (mʌ·zlin). Forms: 7 **muslina, muscelin, muzlin**, 7–8 **musling**, 8 **musselin, musslin, mussolin**, 8– **muslin.** [a. F. *mousseline*, ad. It. *mussolina, -ino* (whence the obs. Eng. forms *muslina, mussolin*), f. *Mussolo* (also used as appellative = muslin) the town of Mosul (in Arabic موصل *maujil*), where muslin was formerly made. Cf. Sp. *muselina*, G. *musselin*, from Fr. or It.

In the 13th c. the OF. *mosulin* was applied to 'cloth of silk and gold' made at Mosul (Marco Polo).]

1. The general name for the most delicately woven cotton fabrics, including many varieties, used for ladies' dresses, curtains, hangings, etc. Also *occas.* a dress made of this; *pl.* muslin skirts.

1609 W. BIDDULPH in T. Lavender *Trav.* 43 A little towne called Muscla, from whence the inhabitants..bring a kinde of linnen cloath called Muslina to Aleppo. 1682 *True Protest. Mercury* No. 110. 2/2 One Lac'd Cravat of Muzlin. 1706 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4269/4, 7 Pieces of strip'd Muslings, and one Piece of plain. *c* 1794 *Search after Perfection* II. iv. in *New Brit. Theatre* (1814) III. 54 O mercy on us, if they have not cut to pieces my mistress's new gold muslin. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* ii, She insisted upon Rebecca accepting..a sweet sprigged muslin, which was too small for her now. 1849 LYELL *2nd Visit U.S.* (1850) II. 332 Embroidered muslin, of the finest and costliest kind, is much worn. 1860 SALA *Badd. Peerage* I. xv. 268 The niece of Manuel Harispe disdained to answer, but with an indignant flutter of her muslins, brushed past her uncle and out of the room. 1882 MISS BRADDON *Mt. Royal* II. iv. 53 Inside the tapestry there was a screen of soft muslin.

b. 'In some parts of the United States, cotton cloth used for shirts, other articles of wearing apparel, bedding, etc.' (*Cent. Dict.* 1890).

1872 SCHELE DE VERE *Americanisms* 71 A story is told of a gentleman in Philadelphia, who ordered muslin shirts in Boston, and although reminded of the unsuitableness of that material..insisted upon his order, as he had always worn muslin, meaning cotton-shirting.

c. Muslin-de-laine = *mousseline-de-laine*: see MOUSSELINE 1 b.

1862 Muslin-de-laines [see DELAINE a].

2. *slang.* The fair sex. *A bit of muslin*, a woman or girl.

1823 MONCRIEFF *Tom & Jerry* I. i, You've got a bit of muslin on the sly, have you? 1850 THACKERAY *Pendennis* li. [I.], That was a pretty bit of muslin hanging on your arm—who was she? 1884 H. SMART *From Post to Finish* xvii. (1885) 128 Keep clear of muslin for the next six or seven years. It's brought as many of your profession to grief as spirits.

3. *Naut. slang.* 'Canvas', sails collectively.

1822 *Blackw. Mag.* XI. 429 She shewed as little muslin as the weather required. 1894 *Outing* (U. S.) XXIV. 295/2 When we got that fair wind we piled the muslin on her.

4. = *Muslin-moth* (in 5 b).

1819 G. SAMOUELLE *Entomol. Compend.* 248 *Arctia mendica* (muslin). 1869 E. NEWMAN *Brit. Moths* 27 The Round-winged Muslin (*Nudaria Senex*). *Ibid.*, The Muslin *Nudaria mundana.*

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.* **a.** simple *attrib.* or *adj.* Made or consisting of muslin.

1684 A. SYMSON *Geogr. Collect.* (S.H.S.) II. 87 It is an excellent place for whitening or bleeching of Linnen, holland and Muzlin Webbs. 1704 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3981/4 A fine new Flourish'd Muslin Apron. 1721 AMHERST *Terræ Fil.* No. 46 (1754) 247 With..long muslin neckcloths run with red at the bottom. 1880 'OUIDA' *Moths* I. 33 She rose, shook her muslin breakfast-wrapper about her impatiently.

b. Special combinations: as † **muslin calico**, ? = sense 1; **muslin glass** = MOUSSELINE 2; **muslin grounds** (see quot.); **muslin kail** *Sc.* [? named in allusion to its thinness], broth composed simply of water, shelled barley, and greens (Jam.); **muslin moth**, a name given to certain moths with semi-transparent wings; **muslin wheel** (see quot. 1830).

1705 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4146/4 *Muslin Callicoes 131 Pieces. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech., Suppl.*, **Muslin glass*...Glass blown very thin. 1882 CAULFEILD & SAWARD *Dict. Needlework*, **Muslin Grounds*..is a description of Gingham. 1785 BURNS *To Jas. Smith* xxiv, I'll sit down o'er my scanty meal, Be't water-brose, or *muslin-kail, Wi' cheerfu' face. 1869 E. NEWMAN *Brit. Moths* 34 The *Muslin Moth (*Arctia mendica*). 1903 W. F. KIRBY *Europ. Butterflies & M.* Plate xxv, *Spilosoma Mendica*—Spotted Muslin Moth. 1830 J. KENNEDY *Misc. Pap. Manuf. Lanc.* (1849) 56 Crompton's machine was called the..'Muslin Wheel, because its capabilities rendered it available for yarn for making muslins.

Muslined (mʌ·zlind), *a.* [f. MUSLIN + -ED[2].] Draped with or dressed in muslin.

1883 HOWELLS *Woman's Reason* xviii. II. 134 The pretty chintzed and muslined room. 1891 T. HARDY *Tess* vii, The muslined form of Tess could be seen standing still.

Muslinet (mʌzline·t). Also **muslinette.** [f. MUSLIN + -ET.] See quot. 1882. Also *attrib.*

1787 BP. THURLOW in Hatfield *Hist. Notices Doncaster* (1866) I. 330 Mrs. Thurlow..has determined to put herself into a dress made out of the piece of muslinette you were so good as to present her. 1803 in *Spirit Publ. Jrnls.* (1804) VII. 59 Muslinets or dimities. 1879 'EDNA LYALL' *Won by Waiting* xxxvi, Putting on a clean muslinette apron and bib, [she] took her place hy the bed. 1882 CAULFEILD & SAWARD *Dict. Needlework*, *Muslinette*, a thick variety of muslin, resembling a Brilliant; employed for infants' clothing and for dressing gowns.

Musling, Musman, obs. ff. MUSLIN, MUSMON.

Musmé, -me, variant forms of MOUSMÉ.

Musmon (mʌ·smɒn). Also 7 **musmone**, 7–8 **musimon**, 8–9 **musman**, 9 **mousmon.** [a. L. *mūsimon-* (Pliny), late Gr. *μούσμων* (Strabo).] A name for the MOUFFLON.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 228 There is in Spaine, but especially in the Isle Corsica, a kind of Musmones, not altogether vnlike to sheep. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* II. 175/1 A Musimon.—This Beast is engendered of a She-Goat and a Ram...Some term it a..Musmon. 1776 PENNANT *Brit. Zool.* (ed. 4) I. 27 *note*, Having thrice within these few years had opportunity of examining the Musimon, we found that [etc.]. 1794 *Sporting Mag.* III. 64 The Mouflon or Musman has been classed both of the sheep and the goat kind. 1887 FREEMAN in Stephens *Life & Lett.* (1895) II. 361 A mouflon or a mousmon who has not a thick armour of wool.

‖ **Musnud** (mʌ·snʊd). [Urdū *masnad*, a. Arab. *misnad*, f. *sanada* to lean against.] A seat made of cushions, esp. one used as a throne by the native princes of India.

1763 R. ORME *Hist. Milit. Trans.* I. iv. 254 Salabat-jing ..went through the ceremony of sitting on the Musnud or throne in public. *c* 1804 MRS. SHERWOOD in *Life* xvii. (1847) 295 The Nawaub was sitting..on a musnud encircled with cushions. 1890 G. HOOPER *Wellington* 45 The Hindoo gentleman, to his delight and astonishment, was placed on the musnud.

Musolin, obs. form of MUSLIN.

Musomania (miūzo,mēi·niă). [f. Gr. *μοῦσ-α* muse + *μανία* madness.] = MUSICOMANIA.

1855 [see MUSICOMANIA under MUSICO-].

† **Musoma·stix.** *nonce-wd. Obs.* [f. Gr. *μοῦσ-α* MUSE: see -MASTIX.] An enemy of the Muses.

1586 *Praise of Mus.* 64 Is it not enough for any malicious Musomastix to take his pen and write I ly..?

† **Mu·son.** *Hunting. Obs.* [a. OF. *muison* change, moulting.] The shed horns of a deer. In quot. 1663 used jocularly for 'horns'.

a 1552 LELAND *Itin.* (1769) III. 55 Fisschar men hath divers tymes taken up with theyr Nettes yn Torrehay Musons of Hartes. 1663 KILLIGREW *Parson's Wedd.* v. iv. 152 We shall have that damn'd Courtier pluck on his shooes with the Parsons Musons.

Muson, variant of MOISON *Obs.*

Musoola, obs. form of MASSOOLA(H.

Musophobist (miūzo·fŏbist). *nonce-wd.* [f. Gr. *μοῦσ-α* MUSE *sb.*[1]: see -PHOBIST.] One who regards poetry with suspicious dislike.

1880 SWINBURNE *Misc.* (1886) 49 But, be it said with leave of our most illustrious Musophobist, they are equalled at their best if not excelled [etc.].

Musoun, variant of MOISON *Obs.*

Musquash (mʌ·skwɒʃ). Forms: *α.* 7–8 **mussascus**; *β.* 7 **muskewashe, muskquash, muskequashe, musquashes, musk-quass, musquass, musquosh**, 8 **musk squash**, 9 **muskwash**, 7– **musquash.** [a. Abnaki *muskwessu* (Rasler *Abnaki Dict.* 1691) or the equivalent in other Algonkin dialects; the form *mussascus* prob. belongs to the Powhatan (Virginian) dialect.]

1. = MUSK-RAT 1.

1624 CAPT. SMITH *Virginia* II. 27 A Mussascus is a beast of the forme and nature of our water Rats, but many of them smell exceedingly strongly of Muske. *Ibid.* 216 Martins, Fitches, Musquassus, and diuers other sorts of Vermin whose names I know not. 1633 *New Hampsh. Prov. Papers* (1867) I. 71, 2 otters and 4 musquosh. 1674 JOSSELYN *Voy. New Eng.* 86 The Musquashes is a small Beast that lives in shallow ponds. 1765 T. HUTCHINSON *Hist. Mass.* I. 471 Musquashes, and even Bevers, were not much regarded, until the English..encouraged the pursuit of them. 1773 *Hist. Brit. Dom. in N. Amer.* VII. iii. 135 The mussascus, a sort of water rat, that smells like musk. 1782 CREVECŒUR *Lett.* 252 The casualties that generally happen either by inundations or the musk squash. 1812 J. SMYTH *Pract. of Customs* (1821) 221 Musquash, or Musk Rat, is a diminutive of the Beaver, which is to be met with in North America. 1848 THOREAU *Maine W.* (1894) 105 Musquash are their principal food on these expeditions. 1872 SCHELE DE VERE *Americanisms* 371 In the Northern States it [the musk-rat] is generally called Musquash, from its general Indian designation.

2. The fur of the musquash.

1884 *York Herald* 26 Aug. 1/2 [advt.] Fur Capes, in all the most Fashionable Furs, including..Musquash. 1903 *Westm. Gaz.* 17 Sept. 4/2 Musquash is a brown fur.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *musquash fur, hole, skin*; **musquash house** = *musk-rat house*; **mus-**

quash poison, the plant *Cicuta maculata* (Britton & Brown *American Flora*); **musquash root** (see quots.); **musquash sealskin**, imitation sealskin made from musquash; **musquash weed** = *muskrat weed* (Britton & Brown).

1876 Goode *Anim. Resources U. S.* 74 *Musquash fur used in felting. 1835-40 Haliburton *Clockm.* Ser. I. xxiii, I thought it was like Uncle Peleg's *musquash hole, and that no soul could ever find the bottom of. 1857 Thoreau *Maine W.* (1894) 283 What increased the resemblance was one old *musquash house almost afloat. 1859 Bartlett *Dict. Amer.*, **Musquash root* (Cicuta maculata), an umbelliferous plant and deadly poison. 1866 *Treas. Bot.*, *Musquash root*, an American name for *Cicuta maculata*; also *Claytonia acutiflora*. 1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 18 Dec. 4/2 One is really just as well off with the *musquash sealskin. 1828 *Lights & Shades* I. 211 Chattered with the broker about *musquash skins,..and gum arabic.

Musquatte, obs. form of Musket *sb.*[2]

Musquaw (mʌ·skwɔ̝). [Cree Indian.

The corresponding Odjibwa form is used by Longfellow *Hiawatha* ii, 'The Mishe-*Mokwa*, He the Great Bear of the mountains.']

An American name for the Black Bear.

1861 Wood *Nat. Hist.* I. 397 The grisley Bear and the Musquaw or Black Bear. 1902 *Pearson's Mag.* June 665 The American Musquaw bear.

Musquedine, var. Muscadine[2] *Obs.*

Musqueet, ? variant of Mesquite.

1808 Pike *Sources Mississ.* III. (1810) 272 Here commenced the oak timber, it having been musqueet in general from Saint Antonio.

Musque(e)to, -quit(t)o(e: see Mosquito.

Musquet, obs. form of Musket *sb.*[1] and *sb.*[2]

Musquetaire, variant of Mousquetaire.

Musquet(t)eer, -eir, -ier, obs. ff. Musketeer.

Musquet(t)oon, variant forms of Musketoon.

Musquosh, obs. form of Musquash.

† Mu·srol. *Obs.* Forms: 6 mouseroll, muzroule, 7 mus(e)role, mustroll, muzrole, 7–8 muse-roll, 7–9 musroll, 8 muss-rol, 8– musrol. [a. F. *muserolle*, ad. It. *museruola*, f. *muso* muzzle.] The nose-band of a bridle.

1551 T. Wilson *Logike* 76 There remaineth a wicked inclination, the same must alwaies be brideled and kept in, even with the terror of the law, as though it were a mouse-roll. 1589 *Pappe w. Hatchet* in *Lyly's Wks.* (1902) III. 410 Thou shalt be broken as Prosper broke his horses, with a muzroule, portmouth, and a martingall. 1609 Blundevil *Art of Riding* 11 h, He praiseth much ye Musroll, saying that if ye horse doe naturally keep his mouth close together, that then it cannot hurt him. 1679 T. Kirke *Mod. Acc. Scot.* 6 Their Bridles have not Bitts, but a kind of Musroll of two pieces of wood. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) X. 594 *Martingale*,..a thong of leather, fastened to one end of the girths under a horse's belly, and at the other end to the muss-rol. 1833 J. Holland *Manuf. Metal* II. 312 The snaffle..is derived from the old musrol or watering bit.

Muss (mʌs), *sb.*[1] *Obs.* exc. *dial.* (see E. D. D.) Also 6–7 musse. [Of obscure origin.

Cotgrave 1611 has 'the game called *musse*' as one of the senses of F. *mousche* (now *mouche*) lit. a fly. Although *mouche* is the name of more than one game (see Littré) the sense 'scramble' has not been shown to occur in Fr., and it is probable that Cotgrave's explanation was suggested merely by the similarity of sound in the Eng. word.]

A game in which small objects are thrown down to be scrambled for; a scramble. Also *transf.*

1591 Percivall *Sp. Dict.*, *Rebatina*, scrambling, a musse, a sudden skirmish. 1598 Florio, *Buschetta*, a play at musse, as children vse. 1606 Shaks. *Ant. & Cl.* III. xiii. 91 When I cried hoa, Like Boyes vnto a musse, Kings would start forth, And cry, your will. 1623 Middleton & Rowley *Spanish Gipsy* II. (1653) C 3, They'l throw down Gold in Musses. 1678 Dryden *Prol. to Shadwell's True Widow* 20 Bauble and cap no sooner are thrown down, But there's a muss of more than half the town. *a* 1734 North *Examen* II. iv. § 149 (1740) 311 All this Business was but a confused Muss of Oates and his Men falling foul upon one another.

Muss (mʌs), *sb.*[2] Now *dial.* Also 6 mus, musse. [Perh. a. OF. *muse* mouth, muzzle.] A playful word for: Mouth. (See also E. D. D.)

a 1529 Skelton *P. Sparowe* 362 Many a prety kusse Had I of his swete musse. — *Sp. Parrot* 270 Now kus me, Parrot,..Goddys blessyng lyght on thy swete lyttyll mus!

† Muss, *sb.*[3] *Obs.* [Perh. the same word as prec.: cf. the double sense of Muskin I.] A term of endearment.

1598 Florio, *Pupo*, a pigsneye, a sweet-hart, a prettie musse, a daintie mop [etc.]. 1598 B. Jonson *Ev. Man in Hum.* II. iii, Sweete hart will you come in to breakfast... I pray thee (good Musse) we stay for you...What ayle you sweet hart, are you not well, speake good Musse. *Ibid.* V. i, Nay kisse me sweet musse.

Muss (mʌs), *sb.*[4] *dial.* and *U. S.* [App. an onomatopœic alteration of Mess *sb.*

Sense 1 may belong to Muss *sb.*[1]; cf. quot. *a* 1734 under that word.]

1. A disturbance, row.

1848 Durivage *Stray Subj.* 138 You're eternally kicking up a muss with somebody. 1857 Borthwick *Three Yrs. California* 153, I got into a 'muss' down at the store last night, and was whipped. 1862 Lowell *Biglow P.* Ser. II. iii. 61 When Satan sets himself to work to raise his very bes' muss, He scatters roun' onscriptur'l views relatin' to Ones'mus.

2. A state of untidiness; a muddle, mess.

1843 Mrs. L. M. Child *Lett. fr. New York* 129 (Bartlett) 'My head aches', said he; 'they have put my mind and body both into a confounded muss'. 1870 Mrs. Whitney *We Girls* vi. (1874) 128 That is the difference between work and muss. 1890 *Authony's Photogr. Bull.* III. 177 He has received many a lecture from his much enduring wife, for the awful muss which he has made.

† Muss, *v.*[1] *Obs.* In 7 musse. [ad. L. *mussāre*.] *intr.* To mutter or murmur indistinctly.

1645 Pagitt *Heresiogr.* (1661) 86 They dare not so much as whisper or as much as musse against it.

Muss (mʌs), *v.*[2] *dial.* and *U. S.* [f. Muss *sb.*[4]]

1. *trans.* To make untidy; to crumple, to ruffle; to smear, mess; to entangle, confuse. Also with *up*.

a 1850 *Dow's Serm.* I. 151 (Bartlett) See that beautiful girl [the morning after a ball]; her hair mussed and mossy, except what lies in the bureau. 1856 W. T. Sherman in *Century Mag.* Dec. (1891) 297 The mayor,..a large, good man, but as usual so mussed up and involved in old business that he could do nothing. 1865 Mrs. Whitney *Gayworthys* 129, I don't like bran-new things. I want my dress to be mussed a little. 1876 Holland *Sev. Oaks* xxi. 304 O don't! Mr. Fenton; you'll muss her hair. 1893 Saltus *Madam Sapphira* 61 There, don't muss me up.

2. *intr.* To busy oneself in a confused, unmethodical, and ineffective manner. = Muddle *v.* 6.

1876 Besant & Rice *Gold. Butterfly* x, I might meddle and muss till I busted up the whole concern.

Mussak, variant of Mussuck.

‖ **Mussal** (mʊsā·l). *Anglo-Indian.* Also mosaul, mus(s)aul, mushal. [Urdū (Arabic) مشعل *mašʕal*.] A torch. Also, a torch-bearer, Mussalchee.

1698 Fryer *Acc. E. India & P.* 34 The Duties march like Furies, with their lighted Mussals in their hands. 1751 in *Hedges' Diary* (Hakl.) II. 11 Oil 2 rs. Mussaul 1,8. 1810 T. Williamson *E. India Vade M.* I. 219 The mosaul, or flambeau, consists of old rags, wrapped very closely round a small stick. 1852 *Life Bombay* 23 The Musaul, or lamplighter. 1872 E. Bradoon *Life in India* v. 161 The mussal is invariably carried so that we get the full benefit of the glare and smell.

‖ **Mussalchee** (mʊsā·ltʃi). *Anglo-Indian.* Forms: 7 massalgee, mossalagee, 8 mossoljee, mussaulche, 9 massaulchee, mosaulchy, musalche(e, mushalchee, mussalgee, 9– mussalchee. [Urdū; f. *mašʕal* Mussal with Turkish suffix.] A torch-bearer.

1610 Finch in Purchas *Pilgrims* (1625) I. 432 He always had in seruice fiue hundred Massalgees. 1751 in *Hedges' Diary* (Hakl.) II. 11 Servants' Wages, 8 Frosses 11. 6 Mussaulches 12. 1 Barber 3,, 4,, 9. 1793 Hodges *Trav. India* 17 With two additional men or boys, to carry baggage and lights in the night, called mossoljees. *c* 1803 Mrs. Sherwood in *Life* xvi. (1847) 278 A Mussalchee; his business is to wash dishes, carry a lantern, and, in fact, wait upon the Kitmutghaur. 1810 T. Williamson *E. India Vade M.* I. 218 Few mosaulchies are allowed more than five rupees monthly. 1839 Malcom *Trav.* (1840) 20/1 One cooley to carry the baggage, and a musaiche. 1907 *Blackw. Mag.* Sept. 423/1 Each carriage was met, as night fell, by mussalchees or torchbearers.

Mussalman, -mone, obs. ff. Musulman.

Mussascus, obs. form of Musquash.

Mussaul, variant of Mussal.

Mussel (mʌ·s'l), *sb.* Forms: 1 muscelle, muscle, musle, mucxle, muxle, 4–6 muscule, 4–7 muskle, 4–9 muscle, 5 moscle, moscolle, moskyll, muschyl, muskele, muskyl, musselle, musshell, mustul, (*pl.* mwskollz), 5–6 muscul(l, muskyll(e, 5–7 muskel, 6 muskil, mussil(le, 7 (mistle), mussell, mustell, 8 muscel, 7– mussel. [OE. *muscle*, etc., wk. fem., corresp. to MLG. *mussel*, MDu. *mosscele* (Du. *mossel*), OHG. *muscula* (MHG. *muschele*, mod.G. *muschel*), a. late L. *muscula* (also *musla*, whence F. *moule*), altered form of L. *mūsculus* dim. of *mūs* mouse.]

1. A bivalve molluse belonging to either of the two families *Mytilacea* (Sea Mussels) and *Unionacea* (Fresh-water Mussels).

Horse mussel: see Horse *sb.* *Pearl mussel*: see Pearl.

a 1000 Ælfric *Colleg.* in Wr.-Wülcker 94/13 Muslan, *musculas*. *c* 1050 *Voc.* ibid. 447/38 *Musculus*, muscle. 1307–8 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 4 In muscles emptis in villa. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Boeth.* v. pr. v. 131 (Camb. MS.) As oystrys and musculis and other swiche shelle fyssh of the see. 1387–8 T. Usk *Test. Love* II. xii. (Skeat) I. 32 Thilke Margarite thou desirest, was closed in a muskle, with a blewe shell. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl.* C. x. 94 A ferthyng-worth of muscles Were a feste for suche folke. *c* 1420 *Liber Cocorum* (1862) 46 Fyrst sethe thy mustuls. 1485 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 178 Item p^d for brede & mwskolls for the schype iiij^d. *a* 1529 Skelton *E. Rummyng* 556 Garnyshed was her snout Wyth here and there a puscull, Lyke to a scabbyd muscull. 1555 Eden *Decades* 93 Sea musculs are engendred of such quantitie, that many of them are as brode as buckelers. 1603 Owen *Pembrokeshire* (1892) 120 The Ryver muskles are not for meate. 1610 Shaks. *Temp.* I. ii. 463 Thy food shall be The fresh-brooke Mussels. 1661 J. Childrey *Brit. Baconica* 174 The Pearl-bearing Muskles are found upon this shore. 1697 Dampier *Voy.* (1729) I. 173 Here are a great many Perewincles and Muscles. 1740 Johnson *Sir F. Drake* Wks. IV. 434 The shell of a muscle of prodigious size. 1806 *Gazetteer Scotl.* (ed. 2) 547 In the Dovan there are sometimes found mussels containing small pearls. 1810 Lamb *Let. to B. Montagu* 12 July, How much more dignified leisure hath a mussel glued to his unpassable rocky limit two inch square! 1875 Huxley & Martin *Elem. Biol.* (1883) 107 Under the name of 'Fresh-water Mussel' two distinct kinds of animals..are included; namely, the *Anodonta* and two or three kinds of *Unio*.

2. A fossil bivalve shell found in ironstone bands in coal. See *mussel band*.

1834–5 J. Phillips *Geol.* in *Encycl. Metrop.* VI. 592/1 Coals..with bands of 'muscles'.

3. = Mussel plum.

1718 Mrs. Eales *Receipts* 29 They will blue as well as the Muscles and better than the black Pear-Plums.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *mussel dredge, extract, gatherer, gathering, monger, poisoning, sauce, soup*, † *taker*; **mussel band** *Geol.* (see quot. 1883); **mussel-bank, -bed**, a layer of mussels at the bottom of the sea; **mussel bind** = *mussel band*; † **mussel boat**, ? a mussel-shell used by children as a toy boat; **mussel crab**, a pea-crab (*Pinnotheres maculatus*), dwelling as a messmate within the shell of the edible mussel (*Funk's Standard Dict.* 1895); **mussel cracker** (see quot.); **mussel digger** *U. S.*, (*a*) a name for the California grey whale; (*b*) a machine for digging mussel mud (Funk); **mussel duck**, the scaup duck, *Fuligula marila*; **mussel eater**, (*a*) one who is in the habit of eating mussels; (*b*) *U. S.* the buffalo perch, *Aplodinotus grunniens*, of the Mississippi valley (*Cent. Dict.* 1890); **mussel farm**, a place set apart for breeding mussels; **mussel man**, one who gathers mussels; **mussel mud**, mud abounding in mussels; **mussel pecker, picker**, the oyster catcher, *Hæmatopus ostralegus*; **mussel rake**, a rake used for gathering mussels; † **mussel rock**, ? a rock containing fossil mussel-shells; **mussel scale**, an insect having the shape of a small mussel-shell, which attacks the bark of apple-trees; **mussel scalp**, a mussel-bed; † **mussel stone**, a fossil mussel-shell.

1834–5 J. Phillips *Geol.* in *Encycl. Metrop.* VI. 590/1 Ironstone courses are most plentiful in the middle and lower part, where also lie the '*muscle bands'. 1883 Gresley *Coal Mining Gloss.*, *Mussel band*, a bed of clay ironstone containing fossil bivalve shells, anthracosia, &c. 1634 W. Wood *New Eng. Prosp.* (1865) 47 The Bay..will be all flatts for two miles together, upon which is great store of *Muscle-banckes, and Clam bancks. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* VII. 47 It requires a year for the peopling a *muscle-bed. 1869 G. C. Scott *Fishing in Amer. Waters* 90 At the right time of tide, the locations of the mussel-beds are plainly indicated. 1854 F. C. Bakewell *Geol.* 34 Argillaceous layers, containing numerous shells of fresh-water muscles, called by the miners '*Muscle-bind'. *a* 1590 *Marr. Wit & Wisd.* ii. (Shaks. Soc.) 13 So we ware both put into a *mussellbote, And came saling in a sowes yeare ouer sea into Kent. 1612 R. Daborne *Chr. turn'd Turke* 353 Poore fishers brat, that neuer didst aspire Aboue a musle boat. 1845 *Zoologist* III. 1171 *Hæmatopus ostralegus*. Vulgarly termed by the Hartlepool fishermen *mussel-cracker. 1860 *Merc. Marine Mag.* VII. 213 It being difficult to capture them, they have a variety of names among whalemen, as.. '*Muscle-digger', 'Hard-head', &c. 1883 *Fisheries Exhib. Catal.* 13 *Mussel Dredge. 1864 Atkinson *Provinc. Names Birds*, *Mussel Duck...Scaup Duck. *Fuligula marila*. 1886 *Gentl. Mag.* Apr. 407 Once or twice in a lifetime, the *mussel-eater is 'musseled', i. e. poisoned more or less dangerously. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 492 After the intravascular injection of peptone or leech-extract, or crab or *mussel-extract. 1868 *Rep. U. S. Commissioner Agric.* (1869) 320 A *muscle farm near Rochelle has been cultivated, it is claimed, for hundreds of years. 1884 *Harper's Mag.* Nov. 842/1 The gay idlers..don the costume of the *mussel-gatherer. 1862 *Chamb. Encycl.* IV. 516/2 In the river Earn..*muscle-gathering is quite a trade. 1459 *Maldon (Essex) Court-Rolls* Bundle 34. No. 3, Johannes Morell, *muskylman. 1552 Huloet, Muskleman, *conchyta*. 1623 Fletcher *Rule a Wife* IV. i, Here's a chaine of whitings eyes for pearles, A *mussellmonger would have made a better. 1791 Huddesford *Salmag.* III Musclemongers and oystermen, crimps, and coal-heavers. 1774 J. Adams in *Fam. Lett.* (1876) 18 But I long more still to see the procuring more sea-weed, and *muscle mud, and sand, etc. 1885 Swainson *Prov. Names Birds* 188 *Mussel pecker. 1889 H. Saunders *Man.* 543 A common name [for the Oyster-catcher] is 'Sea Pie'..another equally appropriate term being '*Mussel-picker'. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 494 Urticaria is occasionally symptomatic of grave conditions, such as *mussell poisoning, infective fevers [etc.]. 1883 *Fisheries Exhib. Catal.* 293 A *Mussel rake. 1681 Grew *Musæum* III. I. i. 265 A Piece of white *Muscle-Rock. *Musculites Saxum.* 1747 Mrs. Glasse *Cookery* ix. 88 *Muscle-Sauce made thus is very good. 1853 *Zoologist* XI. 3862 With an especial reference to the '*mussel-scale' of the apple. 1552 Huloet, *Muskleskalp. 1593 *Minutes of Culross Council*, To be given to George Bruer for the ancarage and mussel-scalp. 1879 H. Stevenson in R. Lubbock *Fauna Norf.* Mem. 15 The sandy flats and mussel-scalps of that portion of the coast. 1896 J. H. Crawford *Wild Life Scotl.* 271 The punt lingered opposite the mud flats, or mussel-scaups exposed by the tide. 1771 Mrs. Haywood *New Present* 39 *Mussel Soup. 1681 Grew *Musæum* III. I. i. 264 The *Muscle-Stone. *Musculites.* *c* 1515 *Cocke Lorell's B.* 5 Steuen mesyll mouthe *muskyll taker.

Mussel (mʌ·s'l), *v.* [f. Mussel *sb.*] In *passive*: To be poisoned by eating mussels.

1857 Dunglison *Dict. Med.* s. v. *Mytilus edulis*, One affected with such phenomena is said, occasionally, to be musselled. 1886 *Gentl. Mag.* Apr. 407 Once or twice in a lifetime, the mussel-eater is 'musseled', i. e. poisoned more or less dangerously.

Mussel(e, -lle, obs. forms of Morsel.

Mussel(l, obs. forms of Muzzle.

Musselege, obs. form of Mucilage.

Musselim, variant of Musellim.

Musselin, -olin, obs. forms of Muslin.

Musselman(n, obs. forms of Mussulman.

Mussel plum. [Named from its resemblance in shape and colour to a mussel-shell.] A dark purple variety of plum. Also *attrib.* in *mussel-plum cheese*.

1626 Bacon *Sylva* § 509 The Muscle-Plumme, the Damasin Plumme [etc.]. 1657 Austen *Fruit Trees* (ed. 2) 57, I esteeme the Mustle Plum one of the best. 1676 Worlidge *Cyder* (1691) 220 The Muscle-plum one of the best of plums. 1729 Langley *Pomona* 89 The Bruxel Apricot..is best propagated on the Muscle-Plumb Stock. 1808 Mrs. Rundell *Dom. Cookery* (1824) 313 Mussel-plum Cheese. 1881 *Encycl. Brit.* XII. 275/2 The Mussel, Brussels, St. Julien, and Pear plums.

Mu·ssel-shell. The shell of a mussel.

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* 863 *Conca*, musclan scel. 1387–8 T. Usk *Test. Love* III. i. (Skeat) I. 45 On the see sides in the more Britain in muskle shelles of the heuenly dewe the best ben engendred. 1584 R. Scot *Discov. Witcher.* I. iv. (1886) 8 They can saile in an egge shell, a cockle or muscle shell. 1681 Grew *Museum* I. VI. ii. 148 The Natives of Brasile use Muscle-shells for Spoons and Knives. 1707 *Curios. in Husb. & Gard.* 312 As thin as a Muscle-Shell. 1829 *Glover's Hist. Derby* I. 95 A stratum of muscle shells. 1873 Browning *Red Cott. Nt.-cap* 34 Granite and muscle-shell are ground alike To glittering paste.

b. *nonce-use.* One who gapes like a mussel-shell.

1598 Shaks. *Merry W.* IV. v. 29 *Simp.* Pray you Sir, was't not the Wise-woman of Brainford? *Fal.* I marry was it (Mussel-shell) what would you with her?

†**Mu·sser.** *Obs.* [If not a misprint for *musset*, prob. f. *musse* Meuse + -er[1].] = Muset.

1611 Barrey *Ram Alley* II. i. C 2, We can finde .. the mussers, formes and holes, You yong men vse.

Musshell, mussil, obs. forms of Mussel.

Mussiek, variant of Mussuck.

Mussilage, obs. form of Mucilage.

Mussilman, obs. form of Mussulman.

Mussit, *dial.* form of Muset.

†**Mu·ssitant,** *a. Obs.* [a. L. *mussitant-em*, pr. pple. of *mussitāre*: see next.] Speaking in an undertone; muttering, murmuring.

1681 [see Murmurant].

†**Mussitate,** *v. Obs.* [f. ppl. stem of L. *mussitāre*, freq. of *mussāre* to mutter.] *intr.* To mutter.

1626 Minsheu *Ductor* (ed. 2) 484 To *Mussitate*, or mutter betweene the teeth. 1652 Gaule *Magastrom.* 59 It did still muscitate [sic] in dark corners. 1721 Bailey, To *mussitate*, to mutter often.

Mussitation (mʊsitē·ʃən). [ad. late L. *mussitātiōn-em*, n. of action f. *mussitāre*: see prec.] Muttering; murmuring.

1649 Roberts *Clavis Bibl.* 443 *marg.*, A mussitation, or low prayer. 1734 A. Young *Idol. Corrupt.* II. 144 The Murmur, or Mussitation, which Liquor makes that is pent up in a Bottle. 1891 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Mussitation*, .. Muttering; a morbid symptom consisting in movement of the lips of the sick without the production of sound or of articulate sounds, or a muttering with a very low voice.

Mussite (mʊ·səit). *Min.* [Named by Bonvoisin in 1806 from the *Mussa* Alp, Tyrol, its locality: see -ite.] Obs. synonym of diopside.

1819 Bakewell *Introd. Min.* 304 Diopside, Mussite and Alalite, are names given to certain minerals found in the plain of Mussa, and at Ala in Piedmont. 1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 416/1.

Mussleman, variant of Mussulman.

Mussoey, mussoi, variant forms of Massoy.

Mussoola(h, variant forms of Masoola(h.

Muss-rol, variant of Musrol.

‖**Mussuck** (mʊ·sŭk). *Anglo-Indian.* Forms: 7 mussocke, 9 musak, (*? corruptly*) muskatt, mussak, mussiek, mussoch, mussuck, musuk. [Hindī *maçak.*] A leather water-bag; usually, one made of the whole skin of a goat.

1610 Finch in Purchas *Pilgrims* (1625) I. 427 A Mussocke of water being sold for a Rupia. 1802 *Misc. Ess.* in *Ann. Reg.* 814/1 The troops from India brought Muskatts or leather bags to contain the water in. 1840 A. Abbott in C. R. Low *Afghan War* (1879) 133 At Kooner I had a raft of fifty 'mussucks', very badly put together and with scarcely any timber on it. 1867 A. L. Adams *Wand. Nat. India* 59 When the cooling effects of a mussiek of water refreshed us for our breakfast.

attrib. 1895 *Westm. Gaz.* 15 May 3/1 In the meantime Mussoch rafts, *i.e.*, rafts supported by inflated goats' skins, were improvised to transport men from one bank to the other, worked by native boatmen.

Mussulage, variant of Musculage.

Mussulah, variant of Massoola(h.

Mussulman (mʊ·sŭlmăn), *sb.* and *a.* Forms: 6, 9 muselman, 7 moussiliman, mulsulman, muscelman, musilman, musleman, mussalman, mussalmone, mussilman, 7–9 musalman, musselman, musslemau, musulman, 9 moosulman, musselmann, mussulmaun, 7– mussulman. *pl.* -mans. *Catachrestic pl.* 7–9 -men. [a. Pers. مسلمان *musulmān*, primarily an adj. f. Pers. (a. Arab.) مسلم *muslim*: see Moslem. Cf. med.L. *musulmānus* (Aragon, 12th c.), F. *musulman* (fem. *-ane*), Sp. *musulman*, *-mano*, Pg. *musulmão*, It. *musulmano*, G. *muselmann.*]

A. *sb.* A Mohammedan.

1563–83 Foxe *A. & M.* 759/2 And if it chaunce a Christian being on horsebacke, to meet or passe by a Musulman, that is a Turkish priest [etc.]. 1585 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* II. xxi. 59 No Muselmans shall enter into their Mosques, without they be first wel washed and purified. 1615 Bedwell *Moham. Imp.* I. § 9 The Musselmans..do exercise themselues in feats of armes. 1632 Lithgow *Trav.* V. 206 They call themselues Musilmans, to wit, good beleeuers. 1653 H. Cogan tr. *Pinto's Trav.* xv. 51 Saying that it was not lawful for any to enjoy the blessings of God, but the holy and just Moussilimans, such as they were. 1687 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2237/1 The Caimacan to raise money for the War, had sent to all the rich Musselmen. 1788 Gibbon *Decl. & F.* I. V. 212 Prayer, fasting, and alms, are the religious duties of a Musulman. 1800 Wellington in Gurw. *Desp.* (1837) I. 76 There are 4 musselmenn upon the island of Serringapatan. 1888 Allnutt *Cambr. Univ. Serm.* 15 Mar. *Cambr. Rev.* p. lxii, We have only to look at the character of the prayers which every pious Musalman daily offers up.

B. *adj.* Of or pertaining to Mussulmans.

1684 tr. *Tavernier's Trav.* II. 46 If it [Persia] were.. really sensible of Piety and the Musal-Man Faith. 1698 Fryer *Acc. E. India & P.* 91 Here are a sort of bold, lusty, and most an end, drunken Beggars, of the Musslemen Cast. 1788 Gibbon *Decl. & F.* I. V. 212 The gravest of the Musulman doctors imitate the modesty of their master. 1817 Byron *Beppo* lxxxi, Less in the Mussulman than Christian way. 1883 F. Day *Indian Fish* 17 A Mussalman tribe, composed of immigrants from Arabia.

Hence **Mussulma·nic,** †**Mu·ssulmanish** *adjs.* = Mussulman *a.*; **Mu·ssulmanism** (now *rare*), Mohammedanism; ‖**Mussulmanlik** [Turkish *musulmānlik*], the Mussulman faith, Islam; †**Mu·ssulmanlike** *a.*, Mohammedan; **Mu·ssulmanly** *adv.* (*rare*—⁰), in the manner of Mussulmans (Craig 1849); †**Mu·ssulmans** *Anglo-Indian* [cf. Moors], the Urdū language.

1599 Hakluyt *Voy.* II. 159 As well in..Constantinople, as in other places of your Musulmanlike Empire. 1625 Purchas *Pilgrims* II. ix. xv. 1610 From that time the Mussulmanlick beganne, that is, the true Beliefe. 1638 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* (ed. 2) 272 Hee dyed Anno Domini 273, and before the Hegira or Mussulmanish accompt 347. 1731 Bailey vol. II. (ed. 2), Mussulmanism, *Mahometanism.* 1767 J. Rennell *MS. Let.* in Yule 448/1 But the politest Language is the Moors or Mussulmans and Persian. 1800 *Chron.* in *Asiat. Ann. Reg.* 53/2 The leopard, with a true Mussulmanic aversion for swine's flesh, rather avoided this animal. *Ibid., Misc. Tr.* 123/2 Several of the Mussulmans assert that Ally was the first person who embraced Mussulmanism. 1865 *Morn. Star* 6 Mar., Rare as are conversions from Mussulmanism to Christianity,..yet fewer still are the instances in which the proselytes to either faith are women. 1900 *Dundee Advert.* 29 Nov. 4 Mussulmanic theology.

†**Mussulmin,** repr. Arab. *muslimīn* pl. (See Moslem.)

1679 L. Addison *1st St. Mahumedism* 96 The Musulmin are very metaphorical in expressing themselves in the description of their Faith. *Ibid.* 97.

Mussulwoman (mʊ·sŭlwumăn). *Humorous.* A female Mussulman. Hence **Mussulwomanish** *a.*

1668 Dryden *Even. Love* III. i, *Jac.* A Mussulman, at your service. *Wild.* A Musselwoman, say you? 1817 Byron *Beppo* lxxvii, The poor dear Mussulwomen whom I mention. 1840 Hood *Kilmansegg, Her Fancy Ball* xxiv, And Lady K. nid-nodded her head, Lapp'd in a turban fancy-bred,.. Some Mussul-womanish mystery. 1854 *Tait's Mag.* XXI. 136 Amidst the shrieks of the terrified Mussulwoman.

Mussy (mʊ·si), *a. U.S.* [f. Muss *sb.*[4] + -y.] Untidy, rumpled, tousled. Hence **Mu·ssiness.**

1859 Bartlett *Dict. Amer.*, *Mussy.* I. Disarranged, disordered, tumbled;..2..Smeary, dirty, nasty. 1869 *N. Y. Independent* 25 Mar. (Cent.), A general appearance of mussiness, characteristic of the man. 1873 W. S. Mayo *Never Again* viii. 101 A warm but somewhat mussy victorine of cat-skin that encircled her neck. 1896 *Peterson Mag.* VI. 330/2 A trunkful of limp, mussy, bedraggled gowns.

Mussy, obs. variant of Muzzy *a.*

Must (mʊst), *sb.*[1] Also 3–4, 9 most, 4–7 muste, 5 moste, 7 moust. [ad. L. *must-um*, orig. neut. (sc. *vīnum*) of *mustus* adj., new, fresh. Cf. OHG. (MHG. and mod.G.) *most*, OF. *moust* (F. *moût*), Sp., Pg., It. *mosto.*]

1. New wine; the juice of the grape either unfermented or before the fermentation is completed. Also *new must.*

c 888 K. Ælfred *Boeth.* v. § 2 Ne meaht þu win wringan on mide winter, þeah ðe wel lyste wearmes mustes. *c* 1205 Lay. 8723 Nes þer neouþer win ne must [*c* 1275 most]. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 18968 'Drunken,' þai said, 'o must ar þai.' 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xviii. 368 May no drynke me moiste ne my thruste slake, Tyl þe vendage falle in þe vale of Iosephath, þat I dryuke riȝte ripe must [*MS. R.* most: 1393 *C. text* most] *resurreccio mortuorum.* 1481 Caxton *Myrr.* II. x. 89 The clustres of grapes ben so grete and so full of Muste that [etc.]. 1548 Udall *Erasm. Par. Luke* v. 73 Will put newe muste into old bottelles. 1671 Milton *P. R.* IV. 16 Or as a swarm of flies in vintage time, About the wine-press where sweet moust is pour'd, Beat off, returns as oft with humming sound. 1677 W. Harris tr. *Lemery's Course Chem.* 246 Wine is nothing else but the Muste, or Juyce of ripe Grapes, whose Spirituous parts are disingaged, and set at liberty in the Fermentation. 1775 R. Chandler *Trav. Asia M.* (1825) I. 213 We stopped at Mersenet.. which afforded us a dish of boiled wheat, and some must of wine. 1813 Sir H. Davy *Agric. Chem.* iii. (1814) 130 When this juice [of the grape], or must, as it is commonly called is exposed to the temperature of about 70°, the fermentation begins. 1874 Symonds *Sk. Italy & Greece* (1898) I. xi. 210 Men..are treading the red must into vats and tuns.

pl. 1601 Holland *Pliny* II. 150 As touching Musts or new wines. 1634 R. H. *Salernes Regim.* 73 Inconveniences that breed by drinking of new Wine or Musts. 1888 *Pall Mall G.* 23 Jan. 7/1 Musts which twenty years ago readily sold for from 80 to 90 pesetas per hectolitre now sell for 13 or 14 pesetas.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1563 Man *Musculus' Commonpl.* 153 Els the Jewes might haue with good reason preferred the old wine of Moses lawe, aboue the new must of the doctrine of Christ. 1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Must*,..any thing fresh or new. 1850 Neale *Med. Hymns* (1867) 115 From the Cross's pole of glory Flows the must of ancient story In the Church's winevat stored. 1865 Swinburne *Rococo* 40 The blood red must of pain.

†**c.** *In (the) must, on the must*: said of wine while still in process of fermentation. Also *fig. Obs.*

1533 Elyot *Cast. Helthe* I. 13 b, Wyne in muste or sowre. 1594 Plat *Jewell-ho.* II. 16 Rhenish wine in the muste. 1634 Massinger *Very Woman* III. v, 'Tis wine; I sure 'tis wine! excellent strong wine! I'th must I take it. *a* 1661 Fuller *Worthies* (1662) I. 8 Which hath made his Holynesse the more cautious, to canonize none whilest their memories are on the Must, immediately after their Deaths. *a* 1700 Dryden *Baucis & Philemon* 111 The Wine..Still working in the Must, and lately press'd.

†**2. a.** Any juice or liquor undergoing or prepared for undergoing alcoholic fermentation. *Obs.*

1382 Wyclif *Song Sol.* viii. 2, I shal ȝyue thee drinken of spiced win, and of the must of my poumgarnetes [Vulg. *mustum malorum*]. 1708 J. Philips *Cyder* I. 5 The Must, of pallid Hue, declares the Soil Devoid of Spirit.

b. *dial.* The pulp of apples or pears after the juice has been pressed out in making cider or perry.

1670 in *Evelyn's Pomona*, etc. (ed. 2) 63 To preserve the Must (which is the bruised Fruit) from straining through the Crib when they apply the Skrews. 1794 J. Clark *Agric. Heref.* 40 Drawing the stone on its edge..over the fruit in the trough, until it is reduced into a kind of paste, provincially *must.* 1897 *Evesham Jrnl.* 16 Jan. (E.D.D.), There can be no doubt about the must being highly acceptable in a winter of food scarcity [for cattle].

c. 'The pulp of potatoes prepared for fermentation' (*Cent. Dict.* 1890).

†**3.** A variety of cider-apple. *Obs.*

1664 Beale in Evelyn *Pomona*, etc. (ed. 2) 26 We should prefer a peculiar Cider-fruit, which in Herefordshire are generally called Musts; (both the Apple and the Liquor and the Pulpe together in the contusion) as from the Latine *Mustum.* 1707 Mortimer *Husb.* (1721) II. 327 The best sorts [of apples] for Cyder are found to be the Redstreak, the White Must, the Green Must [etc.]. 1764 *Museum Rust.* II. x. 37.

4. *attrib.*, as *must-maker, -making, -tub, -tun, -vat*; †**must-month,** September.

1598 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. ii. IV. *Columnes* 404 In Must-Month [orig. *au mois donuc-vin*], the Beam Stands equi-poiz'd in equi-poizing them [*sc.* day and night]. 1853 Ure *Dict. Arts* I. 700 A little red precipitate of mercury, when added to the must-tun, stopped the fermentation. 1862 M. B. Edwards *John & I*, I. xii. 254 Cider or most making. *Ibid.* 255 John looked at the geese-stuffers—I at the most makers. 1870 *Auctioneer's Catal.* in Miss Jackson *Shropsh. Word-bk.*, Must-tub. ['The tub into which the apple-pulp is put, in the process of cider-making.']

†**Must,** *sb.*[2] *Sc. Obs.* Forms: 5 moist, 6–7 muist, 6, 9 must. [a. OF. *must* (15th c. in *pomme de must* must-ball), var. of *musc* Musk.] **a.** Musk; also *attrib.* in *must-ball, -box.* **b.** (See quot. 1808.)

1488 *Inv. R. Wardrobe* (1815) 5 Item, twa tuthpikis of gold, with a chenye, a perle & erepike, a moist ball of gold [etc.]. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* XII. Prol. 148 Must, myr, aloes, or confectioun. *a* 1585 Montgomerie *Flyting* 15 Thy smell was sa fell, and stronger than muist. *a* 1693 M. Bruce *Good News Evil T.* (1708) 68, I carry a little Muist-box (which is the Word of God) in my Bosom, and when I meet with the ill Air of ill company, that's like to gar me Swarf, I besmell my self with the sweet savour of it. 1808 Jamieson, *Must*, an old term, applied by the vulgar to hair-powder, or flour used for this purpose. S. Perhaps it might anciently receive this name as being scented with *musk*, S. *must.* 1843 M. A. Richardson *Local Hist. Table-bk.* VI. 272 Their necks deep-pierc'd, with must abound.

Must (mʊst), *sb.*[3] [? Back-formation from Musty *a.*: cf. Must *v.*] Mustiness; mould.

1602 Warner *Alb. Eng.* XIII. lxxviii. (1612) 322 By Rot, Must, Sowernes, Fruits, Corne, Wine good-Quallities forgo. 1693 Evelyn *De la Quint. Compl. Gard.* I. 88 A kind of Cellar, which is never without some Taste of Must. 1743 *Lond. & Country Brew.* IV. (ed. 2) 261 Water naturally breeds a Must, which is a Sort of Mushroom. 1778 [W. Marshall] *Minutes Agric.* 15 July an. 1777, I am in hopes that it will act as an antiputrescent, and preserve it from mould and must. 1827 Hood *Ode to Melancholy* 116 Like the sweet blossoms of the May, Whose fragrance ends in must. 1852 H. Mayhew in Visct. Ingestre *Meliora* Ser. I. 279 There was a smell of must and dry rot that told of damp and imperfect ventilation. 1855 Dickens *Dorrit* II. x, The gloom and must and dust of the whole tenement were secret. 1867 J. Hogg *Microse.* II. i. 298 From this stage it readily passes to that of must and mildew. 1897 *Literature* 11 Dec. 233/2 His notes..savour of dryness and must.

fig. 1633 P. Fletcher *Purple Isl.* VIII. xxxii, Such was his minde, tainted with idle must. 1869 Lynch *Ch. & State* 23 If you defile by the dust and must and rust of time the holiest pages of the Bible.

Must, *sb.*[4] The verb Must used for the nonce as a noun in obvious applications.

1603 Dekker, etc. *Grissil* IV. ii, Must is for kings, And low obedience for low underlings. 1611 Beaum. & Fl. *King & no King* IV. iii, 1 *Sw.* I, this must be granted. 2 *Sw.* Still this must? 1 *Sw.* I say this must be granted. 2 *Sw.* I, give me the must again, brother, you palter. 1616 B. Jonson *Devil an Ass* III. iii. 209 *Mer.* You must. *Eve.* Must I? Doe you your musts, Sir, I'll doe mine. 1736 Ainsworth *Lat. Dict.* s. v. *Away*, Away with this must, *auferi mihi oportet.* 1768–74 Tucker *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 680 There is no *must* in the case, but they may and ought to be forborne. 1876 Geo. Eliot *Dan. Der.* III. xxiii, In uttering these three terrible *musts*, Klesmer lifted up three long fingers in succession. 1885 *Pall Mall G.* 17 Jan. 1/1 The absolute Must of Duty and of Right.

†**Must,** *a.*[1] *Obs. rare.* Forms: 5 moste, 6 must. [ad. L. (*vīnum*) *must-um*: see Must *sb.*[1]] Of wine: New, unfermented.

c 1440 *Gesta Rom.* xxi. 337 (Cambr. MS.) Gyf me A draught of thi wyne moste. 1559 Morwyng *Evonym.* 383 Siething the medicines with the wyne whyle it is must and new.

†**Must**, *a.*[2] *rare*[−1]. [Cf. MUSTY *a.*] ? Sour.

1547 BOORDE *Brev. Health* cclxxxi. 122 His stomake is turned and must, or els is redy to perbreake or to vomyt.

Must (mʌst), *a.*[3] and *sb.*[5] Also musth (moost). [a. Urdū *mast*, a. Pers. *mast* lit. 'intoxicated'.]

A. *adj.* Applied to male animals, as elephants and camels, in a state of dangerous frenzy to which they are subject at irregular intervals. Phr. *to go must.*

1871 FORSYTH *Highl. India* 287 She is not subject to the danger of becoming 'must' and uncontrollable, as male elephants do periodically after a certain age. 1886 KIPLING *Departm. Ditties* (1899) 31 That Commissariat elephant had suddenly gone *musth*. 1895 MRS. B. M. CROKER *Village Tales* (1896) 89 A 'must' elephant.

transf. 1893 *Sat. Rev.* 2 Dec. 611 Mr. Labouchere 'went must' on the Matabele business.

B. *sb.*

1. The condition or state of being 'must'.

1878 J. GIBSON in *Encycl. Brit.* VIII. 124/1 An elephant in 'must', as this frenzied condition is termed, is regarded as the most dangerous of animals. 1901 *Wide World Mag.* VIII. 194/1 A huge, tuskless elephant, in a state of must or periodical madness.

attrib. 1882 *Times Law Rep.* 8 Mar., After Elephants arrived at the age of 21 they became dangerous at certain seasons, called 'Must' or 'Moost Season'. 1890 BAKER *Wild Beasts* I. 46 The approach of the 'must' period is ..perceived by a peculiar exudation of an oily nature.

2. 'An elephant in must'. In recent Dicts.

Must (mʌst), *v.*[1] Forms: 1 móste, 2–6 moste, muste, 3–6 most, 4 mast, 5 moost, 6 *Sc.* moist, 3– must. *2nd sing.* 1 móstes, móstest, 2–3 mostes, 2–5 mostest, 5 mustest, 5– must. *Plural* 1 móstan, -on, -un, 4–5 moston, 3–5 mosten, 4–5 mostyn, mustyn, 6 musten, 3–5 most(e, 3– must. [OE. *móste*, pl. *móston*, subj. *mósten*, pa. t. of *mót* pret.-pres., MOTE *v.*] An auxiliary of predication, followed by the infinitive (without *to*).

†**I.** The past tense of MOTE *v.* *Obs.*

1. In the sense of MOTE *v.* 1, expressing permission or possibility. **a.** Past ind. = might, was able or permitted to, could. Chiefly with negative expressed or implied.

Beowulf 3100 Þenden he burhwelan brucan moste. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gram.* xliv. (Z.) 264 *Tibi licuit* ðu mostest. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 9 Ȝef þu sungedest toward þine drihtene and me hit mihte witen, nouþer gold ne seoluer no moste gan for þe. *c* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 260 Of al þe brode eorðe ne moste he habben a grot, forte deien uppon. *c* 1275 *Vl Pains of Hell* 190 in *O. E. Misc.* 152 For heo nolden beon ischriven þe hwile þat hi mosten lyuen. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 352/243 Þo þis bodi ne moste beo ifounde in Engelonde. *c* 1384 CHAUCER *H. Fame* III. 1004 They wer a-cheked bothe two And neyther of hem most out goo. ?*a* 1400 *Arthur* 570 Mordred fly toward Londoun, He most not come in þe toun. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 17535 He..had hem mak Be-twene hem of Grece—iff thei moste—A fynal pes, what-so it coste.

b. Past subj., in petitions, final clauses, wishes, and the like = might, should, might be permitted to.

Occas. with omission of inf. of vb. of motion (cf. 8 a).

c 893 K. ÆLFRED *Oros.* v. ix. 232 And eft wæron biddende þæt Metellus to Rome moste. *a* 900 CYNEWULF *Crist* 1388 Þæt ðu mostes wealdan worulde gesceaftum. *c* 1205 LAY. 19880 He bad þe to fultume þene milde godes sune, þat þu mostes wel don. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2624 Iakabeð wente bliðe agen, ðat ȝhe ðe gildes [*MS.* gildes] fostre muste ben. *c* 1305 *St. Andrew* 75 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 100 Hail beo þu, swete Rode, he seide: swettest of alle treo þat þu wiþ mie louerdes lymes ibalewed mostest beo. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 3978 Þe king bisouȝt þe quene,..þat he most se his sone. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. VIII. 23 And for þei sworen bi heore soule—'so God hem moste helpe!'—Aȝeyn heore clene Concience, heore catel to sulle. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Clerk's T.* 494 Mekely she to the sergeant preyde..That she moste kisse hire child er þat it deyde. *c* 1400 *Brut* cxii. 114 If ȝe wolde consent and grant þat y most her haue.

2. In the sense of MOTE *v.* 2, expressing necessity or obligation. **a.** Past ind. = had to, was obliged to, it was necessary that (I) should.

Occas. with omission of inf. of vb. of motion (cf. 8 a).

Beowulf 1939 Þæt hit sceadenmæl scyran moste, cwealmbealu cyðan. *a* 1000 *Fallen Angels* 108 Ær ic moste in ðeossum atolan æðele gebidan. *c* 1205 LAY. 9904 Þider him com sonde ut of þissen londe þæt..he mosten [*sic*] cume sone to his kine-dome. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1564 Bicom to þet te king, Maxence, moste fearen. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 2249 Wit cord and plum þai wroght sa hei, þe hette o þe sun moght þai noght drei, þar-for most þai þam hide Bath wit hors and camel hide. *a* 1300 *Vox & Wolf* 85 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* I. 60 A-doun he moste, he wes therinne. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 1052 Þanne seiȝ þei no socour but sunder þanne þei moste. *c* 1384 CHAUCER *H. Fame* I. 187 And seyde he most vnto Itayle. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 119 The day was wonder hot withalle, And such a thurst was on him falle, That he moste owther deie or drinke. 1450 in *Four C. Eng. Lett.* (1880) 4 And they seyd he most speke with here master. 1471 CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) I. 33 How dardanus slew his broder iasius by trayson wherfore he moste departe out of the contre.

b. Past subj. = should or would be obliged to.., would of necessity...

c 1386 CHAUCER *Sqr.'s T.* 30, I moste been a Rethor excellent That koude hise colours longynge for that Art If he sholde hire discryuen euery part. *Ibid.* 434 For wel she wiste The ffaukon moste fallen fro the twiste, Whan þat it swowned next for lakke of blood.

II. Used as a pres. tense, and hence (under certain conditions) as a past tense corresponding to this.

The use as a present arose from the practice of employing the past subj. as a moderate, cautious, or polite substitute for the present indicative. The modern use as a past tense coincides with sense 2, but app. does not historically descend from it, exc. that the preterital use in *must needs* (see NEED, NEEDS *advs.*) may perhaps represent a continuous survival.

3. Equivalent to the older MOTE *v.* 2, expressing necessity: Am (is, are) obliged or required to; have (has) to; it is necessary that (I, you, he, it, etc.) should. In the second person, *must* now chiefly expresses a command or an insistent request or counsel; in the third person it tends to be restricted to the expression of a necessity which is either imposed by the will of the speaker, or relative to some specified end, or enunciated as a general proposition.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 5018 Vee most [*Gött.* must] yow hast on your fare. *a* 1300 *K. Horn* (Laud MS.) 1254 Reymyld, qwad horn, ich moste wende To þe wodes hende. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Wife's Prol.* 440 Oon of vs two moste bowen doutelees And sith a man is moore resonable Than woman is, ye moste ben suffrable. 1425 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 2955 Consydre how thow art ysett Vnder a-nother, and soget To hym, and mvstest hym obeye. 1548–9 (Mar.) *Bk. Com. Prayer, Athan. Creed*, He therefore that will bee saued: must thus thinke of the trinitie. 1579 GOSSON *Sch. Abuse* (Arb.) 56 The Thracians when they must pass ouer frosen streames, sende out theyr Wolues. 1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* III. ii. 45 What are you gone againe, you must be watcht ere you be made tame, must you? 1738 SWIFT *Pol. Conversat.* Wks. VI. 253 Tom, you must go with us to Lady Smart's to Breakfast. 1768 BICKERSTAFF *Padlock* I. ii. (1824) 4 *Diego* (Unseen, puts on a large padlock) That must do till I get a larger. 1776 *Trial of Nundocomar* 16/1 The books must be produced, as we cannot receive parole evidence of their contents. 1799 E. DU BOIS *Piece Family Biog.* III. 203 Well, since it seems that it must be so, I do acquiesce in it. 1810 SYD. SMITH *Wks.* (1850) 188/1 It must be remembered, that [etc.]. 1891 *Law Times* XC. 441/2 The judges criticise Parliament, and they in their turn must accept criticism upon their order.

b. Used to express a fixed or certain futurity. *I must* = I am fated or certain to . . . , I shall certainly or inevitably . . .

a 1400–50 *Alexander* 707 Thik & thraly am I threttˊ & thole must I sone þe slauughter of my awne sonn. 1526 TINDALE *John* iii. 30 He must increace: and I muste decreace. 1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* IV. i. 48, I heare thou must, and nothing may prorogue it, On Thursday next be married to this Countie. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* IV. 372 Crowds of dead, that never must return To their lov'd Hives. 1771 SMOLLETT *Humph. Cl.* 28 Apr. i, My wooll will suffer for want of grace, and I must be a loser on all sides. 1892 LD. ESHER in *Law Times Rep.* LXVII. 211/1 The sewage matter..goes along a sewer which must carry it into the stream, unless it is intercepted on the way.

c. In expressions like *I must say* = I cannot help saying. Also in explanatory clauses, as *you must know* or *understand* = you ought to be informed, I would have you know.

1563–83 FOXE *A. & M.* 988/1 You must vnderstand, through the Citie of Rome, runneth a famous Riuer, called Tiber. 1581 PETTIE tr. *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* II. (1586) 111, I must saye, that your taste differeth much from mine. 1599 Q. ELIZ. *Let.* in Moryson *Itin.* (1617) II. 40 We must therefore let you know, that as it cannot be ignorance, so it cannot be want of meanes. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 40 ¶ 1, I must allow, that there are very noble Tragedies, which have been framed upon the other Plan. 1713 — *Guard.* No. 97 ¶ 1 Now you must know, sir, my face is as white as chalk. 1721 AMHERST *Terræ Fil.* No. 34 (1754) 181 He..gave me a glass of each to taste; which, I must say, was excellent ale indeed. 1871 M. ARNOLD *Friendship's Garland* 169 The *Morning Star*, I must say, does its duty nobly. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) II. 49, I must beg to be absolved from the promise.

d. As a past tense: Was obliged, had to; it was necessary that (I, he, it, etc.) should.

In modern use confined to instances of oblique narration, and of the virtual oblique narration in which the speaker has in his mind what might have been said or thought at the time. To say 'I must go to London yesterday' would now be a ludicrous blunder.

1691 SHADWELL *Scowrers* I. i. 3 In those days a man could not go from the Rose Tavern to the Piazza once, but he must venture his life twice. 1720 WELTON *Suffer. Son of God* I. viii. 204 Thou wast but just come into the World, when, presently, Thou must Away, and take thy Flight into Egypt. 1781 C. JOHNSTON *Hist. J. Juniper* II. 13 He said he must e'en be content to stay where he was. 1785 COWPER *Let. to Newton* 27 Aug., I foresaw plainly this inconvenience: that, in writing to him on such an occasion, I must almost unavoidably make self and self's book the subject. 1802 WORDSW. *Sonn.*, '*Once did She hold*' 8 She was a Maiden City, bright and free;..And, when She took unto herself a Mate, She must espouse the everlastiog Sea. 1840 CARLYLE *Heroes* v. (1841) 260 If you wanted to know what Abelard knew, you must go and listen to Abelard. 1845 E. FITZGERALD *Lett.* (1889) I. 154 Poussin must spend his life in Italy before he could paint as he did. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* i. I. 50 It was necessary to make a choice. The government must either submit to Rome, or must obtain the aid of the Protestants. *Ibid.* v. 619 Yet a few hours of gloomy seclusion, and he must die a violent and shameful death. 1894 J. T. FOWLER *Adamnan* Introd. 74 He could not bear to be idle..he must always be doing something.

e. As a past or historical present tense, *must* is sometimes used satirically or indignantly with reference to some foolish or annoying action or some untoward event. Now *colloq.*

1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 145 Whan that the lord comth hom ayein, The janglere moste somwhat sein. 1605 SHAKS. *Macb.* IV. iii. 212 And I must be from thence? My wife kil'd too? *Mod. colloq.* The fool must needs go and quarrel with his only friend. Just when I was busiest, that bore C. must come in and waste three hours. As soon as I had recovered from my illness, what must I do but break my leg?

4. In the first person, *must* often expresses an insistent demand or a firm resolve on the part of the speaker. Hence also in the second and third persons, rendering sentiments imputed to others.

a 1425 *Cursor M.* 6569 (Trin.) Who made þis calf I most [*other texts* I wald] him ken. 1509 BARCLAY *Shyp of Folys* (1874) II. 98 Nowe Carles are nat content with one grange Nore one ferme place, such is theyr insolence They must haue many. 1530 PALSGR. 642/2, I muste be prayed..to do a thynge, *je me veulx prier*. 1673 DRYDEN *Marr. à-la-Mode* IV. iii. 60, I must, and will go. 1798 JOANNA BAILLIE *Tryal* v. i, Softly, Mariane; let us leave this room, if you must laugh, for he will overhear you. 1827 WORDSW. *Lit. Crit.* (1905) 258 He is not content with a ring and a bracelet, but he must have rings in the ears, rings on the nose—rings everywhere.

5. As *must* has no pa. pple., the need of a past conditional has been supplied by placing the principal verb in the perfect infinitive. Thus *I must have seen it* = I should (in the case supposed) necessarily have seen it; *I must have done it* = I should have had to do it, or have been obliged to do it.

c 1460 *Towneley Myst.* XXX. 180 Bot, sir, I tell you before, had domysday oght tarid, We must haue biggid hell more, the warld is so warid. 1526 TINDALE *Heb.* xii. 20 Yf a beast had touched the mountayne, hit must haue bene stoned. 1621 DONNE *Serm.* XV. (1640) I. 149 A Sheriffe that should burne him, who were condemned to be hanged, were a murderer, though that man must haue dyed. 1695 DRYDEN *Parallel Poetry & Painting* Ess. (ed. Ker) II. 146 Whereas if I had chosen a noon-day light for them, somewhat must have been discovered which would rather have moved our hatred than our pity. 1714 SWIFT *Pres. St. Affairs* Wks. 1755 II. I. 212 Had this point been steadily pursued..there must probably have been an end of faction. 1815 JANE AUSTEN *Emma* vii, Indeed, Harriet, it would have been a severe pang to lose you; but it must have been. You would have thrown yourself out of all good society. I must have given you up. 1896 *Law Times Rep.* LXXIII. 616/1 If he had looked he must have seen the light of the approaching train. 1896 F. S. BOAS *Shaks. & Predec.* 384 *note*, Had it [*Hamlet*] been in existence..before 1598, it must have been mentioned by Meres.

6. Expressing the inferred or presumed certainty of a fact; either (with present inf.) relating to the present time, as in *you must be aware of this* = I cannot doubt that you are aware of this; or with perfect inf.) relating to the past, as in *he must have done it* = it is to be concluded that he did it.

Sometimes expressing an inference which will be rendered necessary if some particular assumption is made, as in *if he says so, it must be true; if he really did it, he must have been mad.*

1652 EVELYN *Ess. 1st Bk. Lucretius* (1656) 164 The continent must be incorporeal, the contained corporeal. 1673 DRYDEN *Marr.-à-la-Mode* I. i. 8 Your friend? then he must needs be of much merit. 1762 GOLDSM. *Cit. W.* lxxi, This must have been a sad shock to the poor disconsolate parent. 1768 STERNE *Sent. Journ.* (1775) I. 61 (*Pulse*), I am sure you must have one of the best pulses of any woman in the world. 1768 GOLDSM. *Good-n. Man* III. (*ad fin.*), But, come, the letter I wait for must be almost finished. 1800 WORDSW. *Hart-leap Well* 141 What thoughts must through the creature's brain have past! 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* IV. x. ¶ 3 Such a house must belong to some family above the common. 1833 COLERIDGE *Table-t.* 4 Jan., Yet the shipping interest, who must know where the shoe pinches, complain to this day. 1879 G. MEREDITH *Egoist* XXXVI, How you must enjoy a spell of dulness! 1887 HALL CAINE *Coleridge* 123 Coleridge must have earned a substantial sum by these lectures. 1891 E. PEACOCK *N. Brendon* I. 54 He must be an old man. 1903 MORLEY *Gladstone* I. Pref. Note, Between two and three hundred thousand written papers of one sort or another must have passed under my view.

b. In oblique past tense.

1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* IV. iii, He replied, That I must needs be mistaken. *Ibid.*, After which he said, it was plain I must be a perfect Yahoo. 1834 *Tait's Mag.* I. 13/1 All was shut up in darkness, and must have been so for some hours.

†**c.** Formerly *must be* was occas. used for *must have been* = presumably was. *Obs.*

1733 TULL *Horse-hoeing Husb.* XV. 203 Whilst the Roman Empire was in its Glory..its Price must be then very high.

7. In *must not* (whether present or pa. t.) the negative, though formally belonging to the auxiliary, has the same effect as if it belonged to the following infinitive. *I must not* = I am not allowed to, I am obliged not to, etc. (sometimes, I will not permit myself to).

The coincidence with the negative use of sense 1 and of MOTE *v.* 1 is merely accidental.

1583 FULKE *Defense* XXII. 512 We must not..drawe places of Scripture vnto Christ, which by the holy Ghost had an other meaning. 1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III*, III. i. 106 *York.* And therefore is he idle? *Glo.* O my faire Cousin, I must not say so. 1601 — *All's Well* II. v. 64 You must not meruaile Helen at my course. 1606 — *Ant. & Cl.* I. iv. 10, I must not thinke There are, euils enow to darken all his goodnesse. 1607 — *Cor.* I. i. 43 You must in no way say he is couetous. 1741 RICHARDSON *Pamela* II. 362, I will love you dearly; but I must'n't love my Uncle. Why so? said he. 1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) III. 102 You must not enter any door of the lower story..for there our domestics inhabit. 1832 TENNYSON *Death of Old Year* 6 Old year, you must not die;..Old year, you shall not die. 1882 'LESLIE KEITH' *Alasnam's Lady* III. 279, 'I suppose I mustn't touch the precious papers?' she was saying. 1902 'MRS. ALEXANDER' *Stronger than Love* v, I must not sit here talking.

8. Elliptical uses. **a.** With ellipsis of a verb of motion. Now *arch.*

c 1386 CHAUCER *Man of Law's T.* 184 Allas vn to the Barbre nacion I moste goon. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. XVIII.

225 A medecine moste þer-to, þat myghte amende þe prelates. *c* 1425 *Cast. Persev.* 3038 in *Macro Plays* 167 For, wrechyd sowle, þou muste to helle. 1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* III. v. 2 My Emperor bath wrote, I must from hence. 1638 JUNIUS *Paint. Ancients* 60 With Poëts..out it must whatsoever they have conceived. 1720 [see 3 d]. 1731 SWIFT *To Gay*, His work is done, the minister must out. 1884 TENNYSON *Becket* III. ii, Seeing he must to Westminster and crown Young Henry there to-morrow. 1889 *Macm. Mag.* May 77 This shamefacedness will be thought mere folly of course in these days when everything must to the papers.

b. With ellipsis of infinitive to be supplied from the context.

Freq. in impers. phrases with *needs*: see NEEDS *adv.* d.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 1223 Þo was al þe court anuyd, as he moste nede. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1691 Then meuyt to his mynde, as yt most nede, þat [etc.]. 1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* II. ii. 2 *Pro.* Haue patience, gentle Iulia. *Iul.* I must where is no remedy. 1604 [see NEEDS *adv.* d]. 1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* III. ii. 97 *Com.* I thinke 'twill serue, if he can thereto frame his spirit. *Volum.* He must, and will. 1692 R. L'ESTRANGE *Fables* cclxxii. 238 'Tis Good..to run no more Risque of the Main Chance, then of Necessity Must. 1712 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 21 Dec., I dined with Lord Treasurer, and must again to-morrow. 1734, 1821, 1871 [see NEEDS *adv.* d]. 1838 J. P. KENNEDY *Rob of the Bowl* ix. (1866) 77 Indeed, I must not and cannot, playmates. 1863 EMERSON *Voluntaries* iii. 15 When Duty whispers low, *Thou must*, The youth replies, *I can*. 1876 TENNYSON *Harold* v. i, I have not spoken to the king One word; and one I must. Farewell! 1882 *Wheel World* May 12 There's no compulsion; only you must. 1886 [see DRIVE *v.* B. 1 b].

9. *dial.* In questions = may, shall. Also *if I must* = if I may. Cf. MOTE *v.* 1.

a 1796 PEGGE *Derbicisms* (E. D. S.) 46 (s.v. *Mun*), Also, *must* for may, as, 'I will go if I must'. 1889 *N. W. Linc. Gloss.* s.v., Must I goä oot wi' Jaane, muther; we'll be back e' time to get teä ready. 1896 *Hetton-le-Hole Gloss.* s.v., 'Would you like your milk to drink, Mr. P.?' 'Yes, please'. 'Must I bring you't, then?'

† **III. 10.** *impers.* (with personal object.) It behoves (or behoved), it is (or was) necessary for (a person) to. [Cf. Fr. *il me faut*; also ME. *me oughte*, OUGHT *v.*]

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 10671 In his seruis me most ai lend Bituixand to mi liues end. *c* 1350 *Ipomadon* 8275 (Kölbing) My lyff now muste me tyne. *Ibid.* 8409 Ipomadon saw, that nedys hym moste. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Can. Yeom. Prol. & T.* 393 Vs moste putte oure good in auenture. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xxiv. 112 He..feled wele..þat him most nedez dye þeroff. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 211 3if þou fynde a thyng þat is noȝt þin, þe muste restore it. 1471 CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) I. 27 For of force me muste obeye the kyng.

Must, *v.*[2] *Obs.* exc. *dial.* [? Back-formation from MUSTY.]

1. *intr.* 'To grow mouldy' (J.) or 'musty'; to contract a musty or sour smell.

1530 PALSGR. 642/2, I muste as breed dothe, *je moysys. Ibid.*, I muste or foyste, as a vessel dothe, *je moysis.* 1577 HARRISON *England* II. xviii. (1877) I. 299 Till it [the corn] must and putrifie. 1648 GAGE *West Ind.* xviii. 135 The Wheat will not keep long without musting and breeding a worm called Gurgojo. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* 103 In wet Weather it [*sc.* barley] will be inclined to sprout or must. 1769 MRS. RAFFALD *Eng. Housekpr.* (1778) 103 Dry it often with a cloth to keep it from musting. 1888 *Berksh. Gloss.*, Them pots o' jam be beginnin' to must.

2. *trans.* 'To mould; to make mouldy' (J.) *rare.*

1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* 111 Some Granaries..are subject, against wet Weather, to give and be moist, which is very bad for Corn, and will must it. 1892 *Harper's Mag.* June 98/2 Barley..has no dews or rains to bleach or 'must' it when it is ripening.

† **Must,** *v.*[3] *Sc. Obs.* Also 8–9 **muist,** 9 **moust.** [f. MUST *sb.*[2]] *trans.* To powder with 'must' or hair-powder.

1751 H. BLYDE *Contract* 4 Sae I..muisted my head, and made ready a clean. 1808 J. MAYNE *Siller Gun* III. xxiii. [IV. xix], Tho' muisted is your carrot pash. 1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* x, Would ye creesb his bonny brown hair wi' your nasty ulyie, and then moust it like the auld minister's wig?

Must (mʌst), *v.*[4] *Anglo-Indian.* [f. MUST *a.*[3]] *intr.* To 'go must'.

1893 KIPLING *Many Invent., My Lord Elephant* 43 'As when one o' they native king's elepbants *musted* last June.'

Mustac: see MOUSTAC.

Mustaccio, mustacheo, obs. ff. MUSTACHIO.

Mustache: see MOUSTACHE.

Mustachio (mustæ·ʃo, mʌs-). Pl. **mustachios** (-ʃoz). Forms: *α.* (*from It. and Sp.*) 6 (**mostacchi** *It. pl.*), **mustachyo(e,** (*quasi-Lat.* **mostachium**), 6–7 **mustaccio, mostacho,** 6–9 **mustachoe,** 7 **mustatioe, mustacheo, mostachoe,** 7–8 **mustacho,** 7, 9 **moustachio,** 8 **mustacio,** 8–9 **mustachioe,** 6– **mustachio**; *β.* (*corrupt forms*) 6 **moucheacheo, muschachoe, muchache,** 6–7 **mouchache,** 7 **mochachoe**; 6 **mowchatowe, mutchatoe, mutchado,** 6–7 **muschatoe,** 7 **m(o)uchato(e, mushato(e, mochatoe, muchate, mus(t)chadoe, mochedoe, monchato(e, munchattoe**; **mouthchato**; 8 **mouthacho.** [Adopted in 16th c., partly from Sp. *mostacho,* and partly from its source, It. *mostaccio* moustache, also face, snout, *mostacchio* moustache (cf. Albanian *mustakes*, Rumanian *mustate* moustache), a derivative of Gr. *μυστακ-*, *μύσταξ* masc. (also *βύσταξ*) moustache, a Doric word, commonly believed (notwithstanding the difference both in meaning and in gender) to be a dialectal variant of *μάσταξ* fem., mouth, jaws.

In the 16–17th c. the word appears in a multitude of corrupt forms due to imperfect apprehension or recollection of the sound. Some of them suggest a pseudo-etymological association with Sp. *muchacho* boy.

In the sing. the word is almost or entirely obsolete, being superseded by MOUSTACHE; but the plural *mustachios* has considerable currency, sometimes occurring in books that have *moustache* in the singular. With regard to the pronunciation of the first syllable cf. MOUSTACHE.]

1. The hair on the upper lip: = MOUSTACHE 1 a.

α. 1551 W. THOMAS tr. *Barbaro's Trav. Persia* (1873) 35 They suffer their mostacchi to growe a quarter of a yarde longer than their beardes. [*marg.*] Mostacchi is the berde of the vpper lyppe. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* v. i. 110 It will please his Grace..sometime to..dallie with my excrement, with my mustachio. 1598 FLORIO, *Mostaccio, Mostazzo*, a face, a snout, a mostacho. 1603 DEKKER *Wonderfull Yeare* B 2, The Souldier..had brisseld vp the quills of his stiffe Porcupine mustachio. 1612 SHELTON *Quix.* II. x. (1620) 63 Her beautie..was infinitely increased by a Moale she had vpon her lippe, like a Mostacho, with seuen or eight red haires like threeds of gold, and aboue a handfull long. 1621 J. TAYLOR (Water-P.) *Superb. Flagellum* C 8, Some their mustatioes of such length doe keepe, That very well they may a maunger sweepe. 1650 R. STAPYLTON *Strada's Low C. Warres* v. 110 They [the covenanters] began to cut their beards, leaving onely great mustachios, turned up like Turks. 1712 BUDGELL *Spect.* No. 331 ¶ 11 A distinct Treatise, which I keep by me in Manuscript, upon the Mustachoe. 1728 MORGAN *Algiers* II. iv. 271 Twirling his starched Mustachio. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* II. 392 The court of Madrid has of late been at great pains to clear their upper lip of mustachoes. 1811 WELLINGTON in Gurw. *Desp.* (1837) VII. 319 Almost all the artillerymen wore mustachios, which I think is contrary to your orders. 1852 LONGF. *Emperor's Bird's Nest* v, As he twirled his gray mustachio.

β. 1565 WILLES in *Hakluyt's Voy.* (1599) II. II. 85 Sauage men..with huge beards and monstrous muchaches. 1583 STUBBES *Anat. Abus.* II. (1882) 50 It is a world to consider, how their mowchatowes must be preserued and laid out, from one cheke to another, yea, almost from one eare to another. 1592 *Arden of Feversham* II. i. 54 His chinne was bare, but on his vpper lippe A mutchado, which he wound about his eare. 1596 SPENSER *State Irel.* Wks. (Globe) 635/1 To cutt of all theyr beardes close, save only theyr muschachoes which they weare long. 1615 BRATHWAIT *Strappado*, The Epistle Dedicatorie. To all..Ladies, Monkies..and Catomitoes, ..false-haires, periwigges, mouchatoes:..and Shee-painters. Send I greeting [etc.]. 1631 R. H. *Arraignm. Whole Creature* xv. § 3. 263 Entertaining of Taylers, Barbers, Perfumers, to teach them how to cut their beards: weare their Love-locks: turne vp their Mushatoes [etc.].

b. The hair on one side of the upper lip: = MOUSTACHE 1 b.

α. 1579 G. HARVEY *Letter-bk.* (Camden) 61 The clippings of your thris-honorable mustachyoes. 1592 LYLY *Midas* III. ii, Wil you haue..your mustachoes sharp? 1598 R. HAYDOCKE tr. *Lomazzo* I. 30 Those long haires..vpon the vpper lip, the mostachiums. 1638 BAKER tr. *Balzac's Lett.* (vol. III.) 108 The Cavalier..consists wholly of a Pickdevant, and two Mustachoes. 1668 R. L'ESTRANGE *Vis. Quev.* (1708) 88 He was a little severe upon his Guides, for disordering his Mustachoes. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. 177 Of these Mustachioes or Whiskers, I will not say they were long enough to hang my Hat upon them; but [etc.]. 1787 *Gentl. Mag.* Nov. 952/1 The face [on a coin] is without a beard, but hath mustacios on the upper lip. 1815–9 MRS. SHERWOOD *Lady of Manor* IV. xxiii. 15 A pair of large mustachoes. 1884 W. S. GILBERT *Princess Ida*, He grew moustachios.

β. 1579 J. JONES *Preserv. Bodie & Soule* I. xviii. 32 The space betweene the Nose ende and the vpper lippe, whence the heare groweth,..and is termed after the Spanishe phrase Moucheacheos. 1592 GREENE *Upst. Courtier* D 4, The barber..asketh..if it be his pleasure to haue..his mustachios [1620, D 2 b mouchaches] fostered to turne about his eares like the branches of a vine. 1615 BRATHWAIT *Strappado* (1878) 108 His peak't munchattoes. 1620 J. PYPER tr. *Hist. Astrea* I. II. 19 The haire, the eye-browes, the mouthchatos, the beard. 1648–58 HEXHAM, *De Knevel-baerdt*, the Muschadoes on the upper-lipp. 1650 TRAPP *Comm. Lev.* xiii. 45 *A covering upon his upper lip.* His mouchaches, that by his breath hee might not infect others. ?1651 in H. Cary *Mem. Gt. Civil War* (1842) II. 446 The king being told who it was, replied merrily, 'I did not like his starched mouchates'. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* II. 391/1 The British Beard hath long Mocbedoes on the higher lip hanging down either side the chin, all the rest of the face being bare. 1706 E. WARD *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 104 If you find him with Mouthacho's, he is certainly a Size above ordinary in his own Conceit.

† **c.** Plural form with sing. construction. *Obs.*

c 1592 MARLOWE *Jew of Malta* IV. (1633) H j, A fellow Met me with a muschatoes like a Rauens wing. 1612 N. FIELD *Woman is a Weathercock* v. i, *Abra.*..And a buge Mustachios? *Neu.* A verie Turkes.

d. = MOUSTACHE 1 c.

1612 SHELTON *Quix.* I. III. vi. (1652) 39 b, Torralua the Sheepheardesse..was a round wench,..and drew somewbat neere to a man, for shee had Mochachoes.

e. A false moustache. Also with *a* and *pl.*

1622 tr. *Luna's Pursuit Lazarillo* 30 Foure of them..came and tooke me vp, and..put me on a Beard, not forgetting the great Mustachios, and a Perewig made of Mosse, that made me shew like a wild man in a Garden. 1716 ADDISON *Freeholder* No. 7 ¶ 2 They..clapt him on a huge pair of Mustachoes to frighten his people with. 1902 SNAITH *Wayfarers* xvii, Attaching..a pair of moustachios to his upper lip.

† **2.** *pl.* The hair on the lip of an animal; † the 'whiskers' of a cat. Also, the awn or bristles of certain grasses; = BEARD *sb.* 6. *Obs.*

1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. iii. 811 Here for our food, Millions of flow'ry grains, With long Mustachoes, wave upon the Plains. 1634 S. R. *Noble Soldier* II. i. in Bullen *O. Pl.* I. 276 My Barbour..poak'd out My Tuskes more stiffe than are a cats muschatoes. 1635 BRATHWAIT *Arcad. Pr.* 219 An ambitious fire-flye..fals down, and cingeth his braving mouchate's for his labour. 1651 H. MORE *Second Lash* in *Enthus. Tri.*, etc. (1656) 214 Have you made sport with the mustacho's of it in the figure of a mouse? 1665 HOOKE *Microgr.* 157 The Mustacheos of a Cat. 1693 SIR T. P. BLOUNT *Nat. Hist.* 9 The Civet-Cat..hath..Mustachios like a Cat. 1790 BRUCE *Trav. Source Nile* V. 138 He [the Fennec] had strong thick mustachoes.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *mustachio-twiddler*; † **mustachio beard,** a moustache.

1566 DRANT *Horace, Sat.* I. ii. B ij, Fashions, in nottynge of the heare,..and mustacho beardes. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xiv, Said the moustachio-twiddler.

Mustachioed (mustæ·ʃod), *a.* [f. MUSTACHIO + -ED[2].] = MOUSTACHED.

1827 LYTTON *Pelham* xi, A most superbly mustachioed German. 1835 WILLIS *Pencillings* II. xlv. 51 A hundred indolent-looking,..mustacboed, and withal very handsome men. 1852 SMEDLEY *L. Arundel* xxxviii, Singing duets..with a palefaced moustachioed puppy. *a* 1864 HAWTHORNE *Amer. Note-bks.* (1879) I. 84 A dark mustachioed face.

Mustachis, -us, obs. pl. forms of MOUSTACHE.

Mustach(y)o(e, -acio: see MUSTACHIO.

‖ **Mustafina** (mʊstăfī·nă). Also **musteefino, -phina.** [App. a derivative of MUSTEE; the last part, if not arbitrary, may perh. represent Sp. *fino* FINE *a.*] The offspring of a mustee and a white.

a 1818 M. G. LEWIS *Jrnl. W. Ind.* (1834) 106 The child of a mustee by a white man is called a musteefino. 1825 *Gentl. Mag.* XCV. I. 6 The fifth descent, viz. from a white and musteephina, is white by law, and of free birth. 1833 MARRYAT *P. Simple* xxxi, I believe..the mustee and white [make] the mustafina, or one sixteenth black. 1872 SCHELE DE VERE *Americanisms* 115.

Mustage, obs. form of MOUSTACHE.

‖ **Mustaiba** (mʊstăī·bă). Also **mostahiba, mosatahiba.** [Brazilian Pg. *mostahiba* (a Tupi word).] A close-grained Brazilian wood.

1843 HOLTZAPFFEL *Turning*, etc. I. 94 Mustaiba, from the Brazils and Rio Janeiro..,is used at Sheffield for the handles of glaziers' and other knives [etc.]..; it is known in England as Mosatahiba. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade.* 1866 *Treas. Bot., Mostahiba*, a hard Brazilian wood.

Mustang (mʊ·stæŋ). [App. a confusion of two synonymous Sp. words, *mestengo* (now *mesteño*) and *mostrenco.*

Minsheu *Sp. Dict.* (1599) gives '*Mestengo* or *Mostrenco*, a strayer'. The *Novtsimo Diccionario* (1888) has both words as adjs., with the explanation 'Wild, having no master: said of horses and cattle'. *Mesteño* appears to be a derivative of *mesta*, an association of graziers; one of the functions of these associations being the appropriation of the wild cattle that have attached themselves to the herds (*Novts. Dicc.*). The derivation of *mostrenco* is obscure.]

1. The wild or half-wild horse of the American plains, esp. of Mexico and California; descended from the stock introduced by the Spanish conquerors. Also *attrib.* as *mustang mare, pony.*

1808 PIKE *Sources Mississ.* III. 273 Passed several herds of mustangs or wild horses. 1884 *Encycl. Brit.* XVII. 14/2 The Mexican mule, bred by a male ass of a mustang mare, is also a very hardy, strong, and useful animal. 1888 B. HARTE *Cressy* ii. (1889) I. 66 Hank and Jim ain't been off their mustangs since sun up. 1890 GUNTER *Miss Nobody* v, Sure-footed as these mustang ponies generally are.

b. *transf.* Applied to an Australian wild or unbroken horse.

1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* (1891) 315 Their time was spent in running in these swift and half-wild mustangs. *Ibid.* 318 His stud of Australian Arabs..would be sold for the price of bush mustangs.

2. In full *Mustang grape*: A small red grape, *Vitis candicans*, of Texas.

1854 LONGF. *Catawba Wine* iii, The red Mustang, Whose clusters hang O'er the waves of the Colorado. 1903 A. ADAMS *Log of Cow-boy* 6 Along the river grew endless quantities of Mustang grapes.

3. *slang.* 'An officer entering the U.S. navy from the merchant service, after serving through the Civil War' (Farmer).

1890 in *Century Dict.*; and in later Dicts.

Mustanger (mʊ·stæŋgəɹ). *Western U.S.* Also **moustanguer.** [f. MUSTANG + -ER[1].] One who catches or entraps mustangs.

1856 OLMSTED *Journ. Texas* viii. 443 The business of entrapping them [*sc.* mustangs] has given rise to a class of men called 'mustangers', composed of runaway vagabonds and outlaws of all nations. 1874 LADY HERBERT tr. *Hübner's Ramble* I. vii. (1878) 79 Others moustanguers; and their little Indian horses or moustangs.

Mustard (mʊ·stăɹd), *sb.* Forms: 3 **mustart,** 3–5 **mostard,** 4–6 **mustarde,** 5–7 **musterd,** 6 **musterde, mudsterd,** 4– **mustard.** [a. OF. *moustarde, mostarde* (mod.F. *moutarde*) = Pr., Catal., Pg., It. *mostarda*, Rumanian *mostar*, f. Com. Rom. *mosto* MUST *sb.*[1], whence Catal. *mostassa, mostalla*, Sp. *mostaza* mustard (as a condiment), Sp. *mostear* to spread mustard on. The name etymologically belongs to the condiment as originally prepared by making the ground seeds into a paste with must.

The Fr. word has been adopted into several Teut. langs., in some instances with assimilation of the ending to native suffixes: MDu. *mostaert* (Du. *mostaard*), MLG. *mostert, mustert*, MHG. *mostert, musthart* (G. *mostert, mostrich*).]

1. The seeds of black and white mustard (see sense 2) ground or pounded to a powder (often with admixture of other substances), sometimes called *flour of mustard*; also, this substance as

made into a paste by the addition of water or vinegar, and serving as a condiment of extreme pungency, or applied to the skin as a rubefacient in the form of a poultice or plaster.

Oil of mustard: a fixed oil obtained from mustard-seeds by pressure. *Essence of mustard*: a volatile oil distilled from black mustard-seed; also, the commercial name of an embrocation containing mustard and other ingredients.

1289 *Househ. Exp. R. De Swinfield* (Camden) I. 19 In mostard .iiij.*d.* *a* 1300 *Siriz* 279 in Mätzner *Altengl. Sprachpr.* III/1 Pepir nou shalt thou eten, This mustart shal ben thi mete. 13.. *Metr. Hom.* (Vernon MS.) in *Archiv Stud. neu. Spr.* LVII. 308 Summe smered hire Mouþ wt oute with grounden Mustard. *c* 1460 J. Russell. *Bk. Nurture* 686 Furst set forthe mustard & brawne of boore. 1532 More *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 582/1 And now when hys argument is all made vp, ye shal find it as full of reason as an egge full of mustarde. 1642 Fuller *Holy & Prof. St.* III. ii. 156 Some think their conceits, like mustard, not good except they bite. 1786 Abercrombie *Gard. Assist.* Mar. 75 Flour of mustard. *a* 1834 Coleridge in *Sir H. Davy's Rem.* (1858) 80, I..having seen in an advertisement something about essence of mustard curing the most obstinate cases of rheumatism. 1838 T. Thomson *Chem. Org. Bodies* 439 Oil of Mustard..is expressed from the seeds of the *sinapis alba* and *nigra*. *Ibid.* 902 *note*, The mustard of the shops is said to be often mixed with wheat flour and cayenne pepper to heighten the flavour. 1867 Bloxam *Chem.* 479 The essence of mustard and that of horseradish are composed of $C_8H_5NS_2$.

b. With prefixed place-name or local adj., indicating varieties of manufacture or preparation.

In the 16–17th c. Tewkesbury was the chief seat of mustard manufacture in England, but this industry is not now practised there.

1591 Nashe *Saffron Walden* D 4 b, A messe of Tewksbury mustard. 1597 Shaks. 2 *Hen. IV*, II. vi. 262 His Wit is as thicke as Tewkesburie Mustard. 1834 McCulloch *Dict. Comm.* (ed. 2) 810 Mustard..was formerly extensively cultivated in Durham, but it is now seldom seen in that county. At present it is principally raised in the neighbourhood of York,..and being manufactured in the city of York, is afterwards sold under the name of Durham mustard. 1842 *Penny Cycl.* XXII. 36/2 French mustard for the table is often prepared with vinegar.

c. *fig.*

1546 J. Heywood *Prov.* (1867) 44 Where her woordes seemd hony,..Now are they mustard. 1832 L. Hunt *Sir R. Esher* (1850) 126 As if the fighting they were going to have was not mustard enough to their beef.

d. *transf.* Applied to substances resembling mustard (prepared for the table) in appearance.

1582 Hester *Secr. Phiorav.* III. lxx. 96 Take this hearbe [Millefoil]..and put thereunto Bedellium, Frankensence, and common oile, and make thereof as it were a Mustarde.

e. *proverbial phrases*: esp. with reference to the pungency of mustard.

a 1732 Gay *Songs & Ball.*, *New Song of New Similes*, My passion is as mustard strong. *a* 1886 Hobart *Sk. Life* (1887) 53, I returned, keen as mustard, to my ship.

2. The name of several species of cruciferous plants forming the Linnæan genus *Sinapis*, but now included in the genus *Brassica*; esp. *B. nigra*, the black (or brown) mustard, and *B. alba*, the white mustard (see 2 c).

Also *B. arvensis*, wild (field or corn) mustard (also called Charlock); *B. juncea*, Indian (Russian or Sarepta) mustard; *B. Pekinensis*, Pekin mustard.

1340 *Ayenb.* 143 Þet zed o mostard is wel smal ac hit is wel strang and wel bitinde uor hit is hot ine þe uerþe degre ase ziggeþ bise fisiciens. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 349/1 Mustard, or warlok, or se(n)vyne, herbe.., *sinapis*. 1570 Pena & L'Obel *Stirp. Adversaria* (1576) 67 Sinapi sativvm Erucæ, aut Rapifolium...*Ang.* Mudsterd, Senbeye. 1597 Gerarde *Herbal* II. ix. 190 *Sinapi sylvestre*. Wilde Mustard. 1691 Ray *Creation* II. (1692) 73 As for the Mustard that sprung up in the Isle of Ely,..yet might it have been brought down in the Channels by the Floods. 1731 Miller *Gard. Dict.* s. v. *Sinapi*, The Species are; 1...Common or Red Mustard. 2... Garden or White Mustard. 3...Indian Mustard, with a Lettuce leaf. 1817 Neill in *Edin. Encycl.* XI. 274/2 White mustard (*Sinapis alba*)..is cultivated only as a small salad, and is used while in the seed-leaf, along with cresses. 1856 Gray *Man. Bot.* (1860) 36 *Sinapis arvensis*, L. (Field Mustard. Charlock.) 1875 *Encycl. Brit.* I. 384/1 The brown mustard is grown solely for its seeds, which yield the well-known condiment. 1884 *Ibid.* XVII. 112/2 Of these [species] the principal are the Black or Brown Mustard, *Brassica nigra* (*Sinapis nigra*, L.), the White Mustard, *Brassica alba*, and the Sarepta Mustard, *B. juncea*.

b. Applied with defining word to various other (chiefly cruciferous) plants, resembling or supposed to resemble mustard in appearance, taste, etc.

Bastard mustard = *false mustard*. **†Candy mustard** = Candytuft. **False mustard**, *Polanisia Graveolens* (formerly *Cleome dodecandria*). **†Greclan mustard**, some plant of the N.O. *Thlaspideæ* (*Thlaspi Græcum*, Gerarde). **Old man's mustard**, *Achillea Millefolium* (Britten and Holland). **†Peasant's mustard** = *Boor's mustard* (see Boor 4). **Poor man's mustard**, *Alliaria officinalis* (Britten and Holland). **Wild mustard**, (*a*) see 2; (*b*) *Raphanus Raphanistrum* (Britten and Holland); †(*c*) applied apparently to various mustards, as Treacle mustard, and Hedge mustard. See also Boor's, Buckler, Churl's, Clown's, Dish, Garlic, Green, Hedge, Knave's, Mithridate, Tansy, Tower, Treacle, Wormseed-*mustard*, etc.

1597 Gerarde *Herbal* II. xix. 206 Grecian Mustard hath many leaues spread vpon the ground, like those of the common Daisie. *Ibid.* Buckler Mustard...Small buckler Mustard. *Ibid.* xx. 207 Candie Mustarde excelleth all the rest. *Ibid.* xxi. 209 Pesants Mustarde. *Ibid.* Yellowe Mustard. *Ibid.* White Treacle Mustard. *Ibid.* 211 Thornie mustarde groweth vp to the beight of fower cubites. 1611 Cotgr., *Moustarde sauvage*, treacle Mustard, wild Mustard, wild Sene. 1633 *Gerarde's Herbal* II. xxi. 266 Round leaued Mustard hath many large leaues laid flat vpon the ground like the leaues of the wilde Cabbage. 1760 J. Lee *Introd. Bot.* App. 320 Mustard, Bastard, *Cleome*. 1845–50 Mrs. Lincoln *Lect. Bot.* App. 144/1 *Polanisia..graveolens*, (false mustard..). 1853 G. Johnston *Nat. Hist. E. Bord.* I. 35 *Sinapis arvensis*. Wild Mustard.—Cornfields.

c. *Mustard and cress*: the plants white mustard and cress (*Lepidium sativum*) used in the seed-leaf as a salad herb; also *fig.* and *attrib.*

Sometimes grown in fancy pots, etc., as an ornament.

1824 Loudon *Encycl. Gard.* (ed. 2) § 4029 Rape is cultivated in gardens as a small salad herb, to be..used in cresses and mustard. 1827 Hone *Table Bk.* I. 607 An ingenious contrivance to make mustard and cress seeds grow in pleasant forms over vessels and basketwork. 1831 Manning *Let.* 3 Apr. in *Life* I. 76 Six months of this rustic vegetation, and my cerebellum would put forth mustard and cress. *Mod.* Mustard and cress sandwiches.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.* **a.** attrib. quasi-*adj.* Of the nature of mustard, pungent.

1598 Marston *Sco. Villanie* I. ii, Sharp mustard rime, To purge the snottery of our slimie time.

b. Obvious *Comb.*, as *mustard* †*-box*, †*-breaker*, *-coloured* (adj.), *flour*, *-maker*, *-mill*, †*quern*, *spoon*, *spoonful*, *-yellow*; also in various names of appliances in which mustard is used remedially, as *mustard-plaster*, *-poultice* (also vb. trans.), *vomit.*

1687 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2296/4 A Sugar Box, a Pepper Box, and a *Mustard Box without mark. 1410 *Will of Durem* (Somerset Ho.), *Mustard brekers. 1886 Mrs. Lynn Linton *P. Carew* xxiv, A *mustard-coloured envelope. 1884 *Encycl. Brit.* XVII. 113/1 The mustard papers commonly used as rubefacients and vesicants are made from *mustard flour entirely deprived of its fixed oil. *c* 1483 Caxton *Dialogues* 42/21 Nycholas the *mustard maker. 1533 More *Debell. Salem* i. Wks. 933/2 A musterde maker in Cambridge. 1609 *Ev. Woman in Hum.* I. i. in Bullen *O. Pl.* IV, I had as leef have heard the grinding of a *Mustard-Mill. 1866 S. Thomson *Dict. Dom. Med.* 356 The well known *mustard plaster or cataplasm. 1802 *Med. Frnl.* VIII. 31 *Mustard poultices were applied to his feet. 1858 Dickens *Let. to Miss Hogarth* 18 Aug., I got home at half-past ten, and mustard-poulticed and barley-watered myself tremendously. 1356 in Riley *Memor. Lond.* (1868) 284 *Mustarde quernes. 1694 Salmon *Bate's Dispens.* (1713) 129/2 Let them be ground in a Mustard-Quern. 1890 *Anthony's Photogr. Bull.* III. 105 About a *mustard spoonful of dry pyro. 1737 Monro in *Med. Ess. Edinb.* (ed. 2) II. 303 Her Disease seemed..at last to be almost cured by the Use of *Mustard Vomits. 1904 *Daily Chron.* 30 Mar. 8/2 A certain shade of *mustard-yellow.

c. Special combinations: as **mustard ball**, † (*a*) mustard made into a ball; (*b*) *dial.* (see quot. 1888), **mustard beetle**, a beetle destructive to mustard plants; †**mustard-bowl**, a wooden bowl in which mustard-seed was pounded, proverbially referred to as the instrument for producing stage thunder; **mustard cloth, leaf, paper**, cloth or paper coated with mustard, etc. and used as a sinapism; **mustard-oil**, an oil obtained from mustard seed; **mustard shrub**, a West Indian shrub, *Capparis ferruginea*, bearing pungent berries; **mustard-stone** *Sc.*, a stone on or with which to beat or pound mustard seed; †**mustard-token**, app. a token given to purchasers of mustard, entitling them to a small repayment when a certain number have been accumulated; also *transf.* as a term of contempt; **mustard-tree**, the mustard of the N.T., described as a 'tree' (see Mustard seed 1); **mustard weevil**, a weevil which damages the white mustard plant, *Ceutorhyncus contractus*; **mustard whey**, a medicinal preparation of mustard (see quot.).

1679 Oates *Narr. Popish Plot* 48 The Deponent saith, that by Tewxbury *Mustard-balls, we are to understand, Fire-balls. 1790 W. Dyde *Tewkesbury* ii, 5 Tewkesbury ..was likewise remarkable for its mustard balls, which being very pungent, have occasioned this proverb,..' He looks as if he lived on Tewkesbury mustard'. 1888 *Sheffield Gloss.*, *Mustard-ball*, a leaden ball used in making sauce from sorrel and in bruising mustard seeds, &c. 1890 Miss E. A. Oameroo *Injur. Insects* (ed. 2) 151 *Mustard Beetle ('Black Jack'), *Phædon betulæ* Linn. 1728 Pope *Dunc.* II. 226 'Tis yours to shake the soul With Thunder rumbling from the *mustard-bowl. 1764 H. Walpole *Let. to Earl of Hertford* 6 Feb., Lord North in vain rumbled about his mustard-bowl, and endeavoured alone to outroar a whole party. 1897 *Trans. Amer. Pediatric Soc.* IX. 101 He applied warm *mustard cloths to the body and extremities. 1879 Mrs. A. E. James *Ind. Househ. Managem.* 23 *Mustard leaves in a tin case. 1900 Eva C. E. Lückes *Gen. Nursing* x. (ed. 2) 129 Mustard leaves that are procured from a chemist are nearly always used now in preference to plasters. 1850 *Fownes' Man. Chem.* (ed. 3) 539 *Mustard-oil. 1888 *Sat. Rev.* 11 Aug. 174 And what is a fish or a vegetable curry without mustard-oil? 1874 Garrod & Baxter *Mat. Med.* (1880) 209 *Mustard Paper. 1756 P. Browne *Jamaica* 247 The *Mustard Shrub. This plant is ..strongly impregnated with an acrid volatile salt, like most of the mustard tribe, among whom it ought to be placed. *a* 1550 *Freiris Berwik* 556 in *Dunbar's Poems* (S. T. S.) 303 He was sa ferce he fell owttour the sek, And brak his heid vpoun ane *mustard stane. 1600 Dekker *Shoomakers Holyday* (1610) B 4 b, Peace you crackt groates, you *mustard tokens, disquiet not the braue souldier. 1622 Massinger & Dekker *Virg. Mart.* II. iii, Ile rather part from the fat of them, then from a mustard-tokens worth of Argent. 1844 *Asiatic Jrnl.* Ser. III. III. 92 Prof. Royle read a paper on the *mustard-tree of Scripture. 1893 *Times* 5 June 8/2 Miss E. A. Ormerod issues a note of warning that we are likely to have this year a widespread attack of the *mustard weevil. 1789 W. Buchan *Dom. Med.* App. (1790) 705 *Mustard Whey. Take milk and water, of each a pint; bruised mustard-seed, an ounce and a half. Boil them together till the curd is perfectly separated; afterwards strain the whey through a cloth.

Mu·stard, *v. rare.* [f. Mustard *sb.*] *trans.* To spread or season with mustard.

1851 Mayhew *Lond. Labour* II. 227 This sort of meat, sometimes profusely mustarded, is often eaten in the beer-shops with thick 'shives' of bread.

Mustardavelles, -dybiles, variant forms of Musterdevillers.

Mu·starder. *Hist.* [mod. a. AF. *mustarder* (1301 in *Rolls Parlt.* I 250; common in 14th c.) = F. *moutardier*: see Mustard *sb.* and -er 2.] A maker of or a dealer in mustard.

1805 R. Yates *Hist. St. Edmund's Bury* 203 Squenelarii, Basket-keepers. Mustarder. 1866 Rogers *Agric. & Prices* I. iv. 104 The following trades are also enumerated..cooper ..barber, mustarder, woolcomber.

Mustardevillys, var. Musterdevillers.

Mu·stard-pot. A pot or cruet for holding table mustard.

In Wyclif's sarcastic phrase (which was often echoed by Protestant controversialists in the 16–17th c.) the word seems to mean a jar for keeping a supply of mustard ready mixed (covered with parchment to exclude the air).

c 1380 Wyclif *Serm.* Sel. Wks. I. 381 Þese lettris mai do good for to covere mostard pottis, but not þus to wynne men blis. 1580 Fulke *Retentive, Dang. Rock* xviii. 299 Their learned workes shall liue and be in bonor, when the Popes decretalls..shall stoppe mustard pottes. 1603 H. Crosse *Vertues Commw.* (1878) 109 If they set forth any notable booke of diuinitie, humanitie, or such like, they are in no request, but to stop musterd-pots. 1610–11 in Halliwell *Anc. Invent.* (1854) 70 Item, two musterd pottes. *a* 1745 Swift *Direct. Serv., Gen.* Wks. 1751 XIV. 14 You may conveniently stick your Candle in a Bottle,..a twisted Napkin, a Mustard-Pot, an Inkhorn [etc.]. 17.. R. Graves *Fable* in Dodsley *Coll. Poems* (1782) V. 73 The pepper, Tom assigned his lot With vinegar, and mustard-pot.

Mustard seed. Forms: see Mustard *sb.* and Seed *sb.* Also 7 **muster seed.**

1. The seed of mustard. Also *attrib.*

The 'mustard-seed' (κόκκος σινάπεως) of the N. T., spoken of as producing a 'tree' (Matt. xiii. 31), is prob. the seed of the black mustard (*Brassica nigra*), which in Palestine grows to a great height. Some commentators have identified it with the tree *Salvadora persica*, which does not suit the description of it as a 'herb'.

1390–1 *Earl Derby's Exp.* (Camden) 22 Pro j bz. de mustardseed iij s. 14.. *Stockh. Med. MS.* II. 467 in *Anglia* XVIII. 318 A greyn of mustard-seed (in weight). 1660 *Act* 12 *Chas. II*, c. 4 (Rates) Muster seed the c li...xs. 1763 Mills *Syst. Pract. Husb.* IV. 129 Another sort..produces the seeds which are commonly sold under the appellation of Durham mustard-seed. 1847 W. Darlington *Amer. Weeds* (1860) 47 The skin of the White Mustard seeds contains a large amount of mucilaginous matter. 1884 *Encycl. Brit.* XVII. 113/1 The mustard-seed imported from the East Indies is also largely composed of *Brassica juncea*. 1887 Moloney *Forestry W. Afr.* 274 *Brassica juncea*...Herb cultivated abundantly in India for the seeds, which yield mustard-seed oil.

fig. 1700 Congreve *Way of World* IV. ix, Thou dost bite, my dear Mustard-seed.

†**2.** The plant mustard = Mustard *sb.* 2. Also with defining word. Cf. Mustard *sb.* 2 b. *Obs.*

1523 Fitzherb. *Husb.* § 20 Kedlokes hath a leafe lyke rapes,..and groweth in al maner corne, and hath small coddes, and groweth lyke mustard sede. 1578 Lyte *Dodoens* v. lv. 618 *Sinapi sylvestre*. Wilde Mustarde seede. *Ibid.* 619 The first kind is called..in Englisb, White Senuie, & white Mustarde sede. *a* 1614 Donne *Biathanatos* 184 As much as a graine of Musterseed is enough to remove mountaines. 1626 Bacon *Sylva* § 582 Some Herbs are but Annuall,..As Borrage,..Tobacco, Mustard-Seed, and all kindes of Corne. 1681 Grew *Musæum* II. III. iii. 235 The lesser Champaine Treacle Mustard-Seed. *Thlaspios Campestris.*

3. *U.S.* A very fine shot used for shooting birds with the least injury to the plumage.

1884 Coues *Key N. Amer. Birds* (ed. 2) 4 Use 'mustard-seed', or 'dust-shot', as it is variously called...A small bird ..may be riddled with mustard-seed and yet be preservable.

Mustardvillars, var. Musterdevillers.

Mustardy (mʊ·stădi), *a.* [f. Mustard *sb.* + -y.] Resembling or covered with mustard.

1852 R. S. Suatees *Sponge's Sp. Tour* (1893) 203 The dirty, egg-stained, mustardy copy of *Bell's Life*. 1861 Thornbury *Turner* (1862) II. 342 A mustardy yellow.

Mustatioe, Mustchadoe, obs. ff. Mustachio.

Must deviles, variant of Musterdevillers.

†**Mu·sted**, *ppl. a.*[1] *Sc. Obs.* Also mousted, muisted, moosted, -et. [f. Must *sb.*[2] or *v.*[3] + -ed.] Powdered with 'must' or hair powder.

1814 Scott *Wav.* xxxvi, The carle..wi' the black coat and the mousted head. 1824 — *Redgauntlet* Let. x, Muisted hair.

†**Mu·sted**, *ppl. a.*[2] *Obs. rare*[−1]. In 7 moosted. [f. Must *v.*[2] + -ed[1].] Mouldy.

1632 Lithgow *Trav.* x. 457 No food..but three ounces of moosted browne bread.

Mustee (mʊstī·), **mestee** (mestī·). Also 8 mæsti, meste, musty, 9 mesti, musti, (*erron.* muster). [Corruptly a. Sp. *mestizo* (pronounced mestī·þo): see Mestizo.] The offspring of a white and a quadroon; also, loosely, a half-caste.

1699 in Wheeler *Madras in Old. Time* (1861) I. 356 Wives of Freemen..Mustees. 2. 1712 W. Rogers *Voy.* (1718) 203 The Mustees, begot by Spaniards on Indian women. 1781 *Hicky's Bengal Gaz.* 24 Feb. (Yule), A Slave Boy..pretty white or colour of Musty. 1783 Marsden *Sumatra* 40 They are in general lighter than the Mestees, or half breed, of the rest of India. 1796 Stedman *Surinam* (1813) I. xii. 309 The Samboe dark, and the Mulatto brown, The Mæsti fair. 1802 C. James *Milit. Dict.*, *Musti*, one born of a Mulatto father or mother and a white father or mother. 1813 *Sporting Mag.* XLII. 211 The Government have multiplied the difficulties

for Europeans mixing with Creoles or Mestis. 1825 *Gentl. Mag.* XCV. I. 6 The third descent, from a white and quadroon, is called a muster. 1865 WHYTE MELVILLE *Cerise* (1866) II. vii. 103 Those Portuguese rovers, and the mustee who commanded them.

attrib. 1829 MARRYAT *F. Mildmay* xviii, A class of women, born of white fathers and mustee or mulatto women.

Mustechee, musteese, obs. ff. MESTIZO.

1600 in *Hedges' Diary* (Hakl.) II. 209 It's alsoe of very ill consequence that your Covenant servants should intermarry with any of the people of the Country or those of mixed Race or Mustechees.

Mustelidan (məste·lidăn). [f. mod.L. *Mustēlid-æ* (f. *Mustēlus* a genus of dog-fishes, altered from L. *mustēla* weasel) + -AN.] A shark of the family *Mustelidæ*, typified by the genus *Mustelus*.

1859–62 SIR J. RICHARDSON, etc. *Mus. Nat. Hist.* II. 165 Mustelidans (*Mustelidæ*).

Musteline (mv·stĭlin), *a.*[1] and *sb.*[1] [ad. L. *mustēlīn-us* (*mustellīnus*), of or belonging to a weasel, f. *mustēla* (*mustella*) weasel.] **A.** *adj.* Of, pertaining to, or characteristic of the subfamily *Mustelinæ*, or the family *Mustelidæ*, the weasels or martens, typified by the genus *Mustela*.

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Musteline*, of or like a Weesel. 1828–32 WEBSTER, *Musteline*, pertaining to the weasel or animals of the genus Mustela; as, a musteline color; the musteline genus. 1849–52 OWEN *Teeth* in *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* IV. 914/2 The most aquatic..of the Musteline quadrupeds, viz., the sea-otter. 1891 FLOWER & LYDEKKER *Mammals* 567 Weasel-like (Musteline) forms.

B. *sb.* A musteline animal.

1891 FLOWER & LYDEKKER *Mammals* 570 The brain..differs from that of *Lutra* and other Mustelines.

Musteline, *a.*[2] and *sb.*[2] [f. mod.L. *Mustēl-us* (see MUSTELIDAN) + -INE[1].] **a.** *adj.* Of or pertaining to the *Mustelinæ*, a subfamily of dogfishes or small sharks. **b.** *sb.* A musteline fish.

1890 in *Century Dict.*

Mustelinous (mv·stĭlәinәs), *a.* [Formed as MUSTELINE *a.*[1] + -OUS.] = MUSTELINE *a.*[1]

1856 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Mustelinus*, applied by Desmarest and Gray to a Family (*Mustelini*,..) of the *Mammifera*, having the *Mustela* for their type: mustelinous.

Mustell, obs. form of MUSSEL.

†**Mustelle.** *Obs. rare*—[1]. [a. F. *mustelle* in the original of this passage.] A weasel.

1487 CAXTON *Bk. Gd. Manners* I. xiv. (W. de W. *c.* 1515) E j b.

Musteloid (mv·stĭloid), *a.* and *sb.* [f. mod.L. *Mustēl-a* (see MUSTELINE *a.*[1] + -OID.] **A.** *adj.* Pertaining to the family *Mustelidæ* or weasel-like animals. **B.** *sb.* A musteloid animal.

1891 FLOWER & LYDEKKER *Mammals* 590 The Musteloid type.

Mustenaunce, corruption of MONSTRANCE.

1479–81 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* 101 For mendyng of the mustenaunce crosse.

Mu·steous, *a. rare*—[0]. [f. L. *musteus* belonging to or like must; f. *mustum*: see MUST *sb.*[1] and -EOUS.] 'Sweet as must, like must' (Ash, 1775).

Muster (mv·stəɹ), *sb.*[1] Forms: *α.* 4–5 **moustre,** 4–6 **mustre,** 5 **mostre, muster, mowstre,** (*pl.* **mustres, mustrez**), 5–6 **moster, mouster, mustour(e, musture, 6 mowster, moystere, mustere.** *β.* 5 **mo(u)nstre, 6 mounster.** [ME. *mostre, moustre*, a. OF. *mostre, moustre* fem. (later in learned form *monstre* fem., whence mod.F. *montre*) = Sp. *muestra*, Pg., It., *mostra*, a Com. Rom. verbal noun f. *mostrare* to show :—L. *monstrāre*.

In the sense 'pattern', 'sample', the word passed from OF. into the Teut. langs. as MHG. (mod. G.) *muster*, MDu., MLG. *monster, munster* (mod.Du. *monster*).]

†**1.** The action, or an act, of showing; manifestation; exhibition, display. *To do muster*: to show one's mettle, give proof of prowess. *Obs.*

c 1380 WYCLIF *Serm.* Sel. Wks. II. 360 For þei abiden surely þe shewyng of oure Lord Jesus Crist [tr. 1 Cor. i. 7, *expectantibus revelationem Domini nostri Jesu Christi*]. For þei shal be knowun at domesday,..þat þei ben of Cristis secte, and shulen be taken in after his mustre. 1436 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 148 Thow clepest thi selfe duc, whan woltow ryse Ande in pleyne felde do mustre with thi lance? *c* 1477 CAXTON *Jason* 104 The noble and riche flees wherof Iason made mustre fro ferre. *c* 1520 *Treat. Galaunt* (W. de W., repr. 1860) 19 Small gyrdynge in the waste, with all theyr other mustur. 1538 LATIMER *Let.* 13 June *Serm. & Rem.* (Parker Soc.) 395 She herself, with her old sister of Walsingham [and other images]..would make a jolly muster in Smithfield; they would not be all day in burning. 1577 HELLOWES *Gueuara's Chron.* 45 At these dayes the pillers giue a muster vpon the fierce waters: declaring the pryde of his power. 1581 MULCASTER *Positions* xxxvii. (1887) 151 They begin to make some muster and shew of their learning. 1603 OWEN *Pembrokeshire* (1892) 80 Wyndowes of this stone would make the like varietie and muster to the eye. 1602 CAREW *Surv. Cornwall* I. (1723) 75 b, You shall hardly find an assembly of boyes in Deuon or Cornwall, where the most vntowardly amongst them, will not as readily giue you a muster of this exercise [*sc.* wrestling], as you are prone to require it. *a* 1661 FULLER *Worthies* (1662) I. xvi. 50 [tr. Record of Hen. V] He that useth such Arms or Coats of Arms, shall on the day of his Muster [orig. *die Monstrationis suæ*] manifestly shew..by virtue of whose gift he enjoyeth the same.

2. A pattern, specimen, example. Now only *Comm.*, a pattern, sample.

In mod. use confined to certain particular branches of commerce or particular localities (used, e. g. in the Sheffield cutlery trade, and by British merchants in Asia).

c 1369 CHAUCER *Dethe Blaunche* 912 Trewly she Was hir chefe patrone of beaute And chefe ensample of al hir [*sc.* Nature's] werke And moustre [*MS. Fairfax*, moûstre, *i.e.* mounstre]. 1387–8 T. USK *Test. Love* II. vi. (Skeat) I. 86 They shulde hete, nat dignite, but moustre of badnesse and mayntenour of shrewes. 1578 T. N. tr. *Conq. W. India* 223 To have knowledge of the rivers and mines of gold, and to bring a moster of the same. 1582 HAKLUYT *Voy.* (1599) II. 162 You shall send home into this realme certain Mowsters or pieces of Shew to be brought to the Diershall. 1613 J. MAY *Declar. Est. Clothing* v. 26 They haue a practize.. to shut in a fine woofe at both ends of their cloth, which serveth for a muster to shewe. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 84 Merchants bringing and receiving Musters. 1727 A. HAMILTON *New Acc. E. Ind.* I. v. 45, I shewed him the Musters of my Goods. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xvi, Your suit should succeed, being..founded in justice and honour, and Elizabeth being the very muster of both. 1879 *China Overland Trade Rep.* XXIII. No. 12. 2/3 A few musters of new Teas have been shewn.

3. An act of mustering (soldiers, sailors, etc.); an assembling of men for inspection, ascertainment or verification of numbers, introduction into service, exercise, or the like. Phrase, *to make, take a muster.*

† *To make one's muster*: to muster or review one's men; also, to present oneself for inspection.

c 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) xxii. 234 And when the firste thousand is thus passed, and hathe made his mostre, he withdrawethe him on that o syde. 1419 *Ordin. War* xiii. in *Black Bk. Adm.* (Rolls) I. 463 That noman be so hardy to have other men at his mustrez, than tho that he with hym self withold for the same voiage. *c* 1450 *Merlin* 658 The kynge..made a mustre of armed peple. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* viii. 187 The kyng Charlemagne began for to make hys mustres, for to know how much people that he had. 1513 BRADSHAW *St. Werburge* I. 227 In musture and in batayle euer the pryce haue they The kynges grace to serue. 1536 BELLENDEN *Cron. Scot.* xv. xiii. (1821) II. 441 The Erle of Ros come, with mony folkis, to Perth, and maid his mowster to the king. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VI* 185 The people of the erles parte, beyng in their muster in Sainct Jhons felde..: sodaynly the lord Fawconbridge, whiche toke the musters, wisely declared to the multitude, the offences and breaches of the late agremente. 1553 T. WILSON *Rhet.* 80 Metellus toke muster and required Cesar to be there. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 467 That the kyng of England wold hire eight thousande horsemen,..& that mounsters [orig. *delectus*] shoulde be take in sondry places. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 327 The Lorde Percye caused all his companie..to make their Musters, and they found them selues to be the number of three thousand men of armes, and vij thousande Archers. *c* 1586 C'TESS PEMBROKE *Ps.* LXXXVII. iii, Iehova this account shall make, When he of his shall muster take. 1601 B. JONSON *Ev. Man in Hum.* (Qo. 1) III. ii, No signior, as I remember you seru'd on a great horse, last generall muster. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* III. 89 The Candeots..make muster euery eight day, before the Seriant-maiors. 1667 TEMPLE *Let.* 21 May, Wks. 1720 I. 34 The Levies here and Musters go on with all the Care and Speed this Government is capable of. 1726–31 TINDAL *Rapin's Hist. Eng.* XVII. (1743) II. 89 They took a muster and found their Army amounted to four thousand Foot, and six hundred Horse. 1816 SCOTT *Old Mort.* ii, Frequent musters and assemblies of the people, both for military exercise and for sports and pastimes, were appointed by authority. 1849 COBDEN *Speeches* 86 In addition to these, the pensioners are liable to muster and drill. 1864 *Chamb. Encycl.* VI. 637/1 *Muster*..is a calling over of the names of all the men composing a regiment or a ship's company. *Ibid.*, In regiments of the line, a muster is taken on the 24th of each month; in ships of war, weekly. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* vii. § 6. 410 Catholic lords led their tenantry to the muster at Tilbury.

transf. a 1533 LD. BERNERS *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) Mm j b, The daie of forgettynge maketh the muster of my thoughtes. 1539 TONSTALL *Serm. Palm Sund.* E vij, If a muster shuld be taken of swearers. 1796 BURKE *Regic. Peace* i. Wks. VIII. 140 In divisions..we are to make a muster of our strength.

b. Phr. *To pass muster*, earlier † *to pass* (*the*) *musters*: orig. *Mil.* to undergo muster or review without censure; hence *transf.* and *fig.* to bear examination or inspection, to come up to the required standard, to be above, or go free from, censure; to succeed, be accepted (*as* or *for* the possessor of certain qualities).

1575 GASCOIGNE *Making of Verse* in *Steele Gl.*, etc. (Arb.) 35 And yet the latter verse is neyther true nor pleasant, and the first verse may passe the musters. 1598 *Acts Privy Council* XXIX. 21 You must have spetiall care that not wone (*sic*) dwellers, victuallers, horsboyes, hirelinges or vagrant *pasvolentes* do offer to passe musters in the bandes. 1627 CAPT. SMITH *Seaman's Gram.* xii. 56 Such a Ship.. might well passe muster for a man of warre. 1673 *Articles & Rules for better Govt. of H. M. Forces* xliv, No Muster-Master shall knowingly let any pass the Musters, but such as are qualified. 1689 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2426/4 The new Regiment Commanded by the Prince de Steinhuise has pass'd Muster. 1738 SWIFT *Pol. Conversat.* 42 She may pass Muster well enough. 1855 THACKERAY *Newcomes* II. 106 Enough good looks to make her pass muster. 1882 MRS. RIDDELL *Pr. Wales' Gard.-Party* 266 Perhaps if her lot had been cast in the present day she might have more than passed muster.

c. Phrase. *In muster*: mustered, assembled for inspection.

1820 BYRON *Mar. Fal.* IV. ii, Are all the people of our house in muster? 1869 MRS. STOWE *Old Town Folks* xlv. (1870) 510 There was a splendid lunch laid out in the parlour, with all the old silver in muster.

†**d.** *Master of the musters, commissary of the musters*: = MUSTER-MASTER. *Obs.*

1548 PATTEN *Exped. Scot.* A j b, Syr George Blaag, and Syr Thomas Holcroft, Commissioners of the musters. 1633 T. STAFFORD *Pac. Hib.* I. xxi. 121 The Commissaries of the Musters. 1647 SPRIGGE *Anglia Rediv.* (1854) 327 Commissary-general Stane, commissary-general of the Musters.

1785 G. A. BELLAMY *Apology* III. 49 He had been named.. deputy Commissary to the musters. 1802 C. JAMES *Milit. Dict.* s.v. *Commissary-*, Commissary-general of the musters, or muster-master general.

e. *False muster*: a fraudulent presentation at a muster, or a fraudulent inclusion in a muster-roll, of men who are not available for service. Formerly often *fig.*

1665 MANLEY *Grotius' Low C. Warres* 197 What with Death, and running away, and what with the Captains false Musters, they hardly arose to that Number. 1686 SOUTH *Serm.* (1697) II. ix. 418 It is this Plague of the World, Deception, which takes wrong Measures, and makes false Musters almost in every Thing. 1727–52 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Muster, False Muster*, is when such men pass in review, as are not actually listed as soldiers. 1790 WESLEY *Wks.* (1872) IV. 493 Still I complain of false musters. 1801 WELLINGTON in Gurw. *Desp.* (1837) I. 326 Our friend, the Commissary, has been guilty of making false musters, as appears in the clearest manner. 1817 JAS. MILL *Brit. India* II. IV. viii. 274 He excelled in deceiving the government with false musters and accounts.

†**f.** Payment given to soldiers at a muster.

1662 J. DAVIES tr. *Olearius' Voy. Ambass.* 351 While he was in those parts, he pay'd his Army twelve Musters together. 1670 COTTON *Espernon* II. VIII. 398 During which time the Army had receiv'd five Musters, and yet complain'd of being ill us'd.

g. *Austral.* A 'mustering' or inspection of cattle.

1884 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Melb. Mem.* xiii. 95 All the stockmen in the country came cheerfully to his muster. 1898 — *Rom. Canvas Town* 135 The brandings and musters went on all night.

4. The number (of persons or things) mustered or assembled on a particular occasion; an assembly, collection.

1382 WYCLIF 1 *Kings* v. 13 And king Salomon chees werkmen of al Israel; and the moustre [Vulg. *indictio*] was thretti thousandis of men. 1401 J. HANARD in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. I. 16 And Oweyn ys moster a Monday was..viij Mill. and xij[cx]. spers. 1483 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 317 What so ever parson..will make assemble congregation or monstre of people. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* I. (1586) 12 The double number of them makes the muster the greater. 1810 *Sporting Mag.* XXXVI. 145 A tolerable muster of amateurs and boxing gentry. 1863 W. C. BALDWIN *Afr. Hunting* viii. 325 We set off, a strong muster, two days ago, to hunt part of the forest in which the elephants stand. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* (1891) 236 I've never seen half, or quarter the muster we've got here lately.

5. A muster-roll. † Also, a census report.

1565 GARGRAVE in J. J. Cartwright *Chapters Yorksh. Hist.* (1872) 15, I have ben at York, wher I taryed untyll Tuysday last to have receyvyd the bokes of musters. 1612 BACON *Ess., Greatness of Kingdoms* (Arh.) 470 The population may appeare by Musters, and the number and greatnesse of Cities and Towns by Carts and Mappes. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* I. i. 5 He knew by the musters that his squadron wanted three hundred seamen of their complement. 1840 DICKENS *Barn. Rudge* xl, I..got put down upon the muster.

¶ **6.** Alleged term for: A company (of peacocks). [The notion is that of sense 1, 'show, display'.]

c 1470 in Lydg. *Hors, Shepe & G.* etc. (Caxton 1479, Roxb. repr.) 30 A muster of pecoks. [Hence 1486 in *Bk. St. Albans* F vj; and in many later works which copy the list of terms there given.] 1820 W. IRVING *Sketch Bk., Christmas Day* (1865) 259 Master Simon..told me that, according to the most ancient and approved treatise on hunting, I must say a *muster* of peacocks.

†**7.** Some astronomical instrument. *Obs. rare*—[1].

Perh. a dial, clock; cf. F. *montre* watch, It. *mostra* 'a watch or a dyall of the sunne' (Florio).

a 1400–50 *Alexander* 130 Quadrentis coruen all of quyte siluyre.., Mustours & mekil quat mare þen a littill.

8. *Muster out*: the action of 'mustering out'; discharge from service. *U.S.*

1892 LEE *Hist. Columbus, Ohio* II. 146 The Fourth Ohio Infantry..returned for muster out, Jun. 12. 1899 *U. S. Statutes* 12 Jan. XXX. 784 All matters pertaining to the muster out of volunteers.

9. *attrib.* and *Comb.*: *muster-day, -drum, -ground, -parade, -place*; **muster-card** *Comm.*, a pattern-card; † **muster file,** a muster-roll; † **muster maker,** ? the reviewing officer at a muster; † **muster mistress** *humorous*, a female muster-master; **muster paper,** 'a description of paper supplied from the dockyards, ruled and headed, for making ships' books' (Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.* 1867); **muster party,** *Austral.*, an expedition undertaken for the purpose of 'mustering' cattle on a run. Also MUSTER-BOOK, -MASTER, -ROLL.

1576 GASCOIGNE *Steele Gl.* (Arb.) 63 When *muster day, and foughten fielde are odde. *a* 1660 *Contemp. Hist. Irel.* (Ir. Archæol. Soc.) II. 162 The Major tellinge him he would putt him nexte mustar daye in the heade of a selecte regiment of horse. 1875 *Encycl. Brit.* II. 562/1 The conscripts then took the military oath, *sacramentum*, and were dismissed until the appointed muster-day. 1849 AYTOUN *Scheik of Sinai* ii, Each morning, in the market-place, The *muster-drum is beat. 1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* IV. iii. 189 So that the *muster file, rotten and sound, vppon my life amounts not to fifteene thousand pole. 1876 BANCROFT *Hist. U. S.* VI. XXXVII. 184 The chosen *muster-ground of the most various elements of human culture brought together by men. 1586 EARL LEVCESTER *Corr.* (Camden) 278 But, betwene the auditor and the *muster-maker, you will easilie find the faults. 1599 CHAPMAN *Hum. Dayes Myrth* E 1 b, He was taken learning trickes at old Lucilas house the *muster mistris of all the smock-tearers in Paris. 1876 VOYLE & STEVENSON *Milit. Dict.* (ed. 3) s. v. *Muster Roll*, The Queen's Regulations lay down that the presence of the commanding officer is necessary on all *muster parades. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* (1891) 118 These *muster parties were extremely congenial to Mr. Neu-

champ's tastes and tendencies. 1810 Scott *Lady of L.* III. xii, The *muster-place be Lanrick mead.

†**Mu·ster,** *sb.*[2] *Obs.* Also 6 mowster. Short for Musterdevillers.

1466 *Mann. & Househ. Exp.* (Roxb.) 170 Item, my mastyr owyth hym for ij. yerdes of must'. 1500 *Inv.* in *Ann. Reg.* (1768) *Antiq.* 137 A coarse single gown of muster. 1504 *Will of Broumfeld* (Somerset Ho.), A coote cloth of Mowster. 1549 *Act* 3 & 4 *Edw. VI*, c. 2 § 1 Russetes, Musters, Marbles, Grayes, Royes, and suche lyke colors.

Muster (mʌ·stəɹ), *v.*[1] Forms: *α.* 3–6 mustre, 4–5 mostre, 5 mostere, mouster, mustere, -ir, -yr, 5–6 moustre, 6 must(e)ure, mustyrre, 4– muster; *β.* (? 5 monstre), 6 monster, mounster. [ad. OF. *mostrer, moustrer* (later, in learned form *monstrer*, whence mod.F. *montrer* to show) = Pr., Sp., Pg. *mostrar*, It. *mostrare*:—L. *monstrāre* to show. Cf. M.Du., Du. *monsteren*, MHG., mod.G. *mustern* to muster.

The *β* type is doubtful for the 15th c., as *u* and *n* are usually indistinguishable in MSS. of that date. For the 16th c., though some instances might be due to misprints, the existence of the type is proved by the spelling *mounster*. In military use the form with *n* may have been due to the influence of Du. *monsteren*.]

†**1.** *trans.* To show, to show forth, display, exhibit; to show up, report, tell, explain. Sometimes with clause as obj. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 9512 Þat suilk a man cuth think in thoght Þat mustre Þat mercle mogbt? *Ibid.* 25523 Þat ilk time Þou mistred [*sic*] Þe, Suetiesu! wit hert sa fre, To maria magdalene. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 309 To Þe pape of Rome Þei mostred Þer resoun. 13.. *Evang. Nicod.* 51 in *Archiv Stud. neu. Spr.* LIII. 392 His miracles musters his myght. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* 2 In Þis sentence mustirs sain benet us hu we sal lede ure lif. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* i. 145 Ande in my fyrste makyng to mustyr my mighte,..I byd in my blyssyng 3he aungels gyf lyghte. *c* 1450 *Merlin* xxii. 407 So dide Galashin that often was he shewed, and mustred, with the fynger on bothe sides. 1471 Caxton *Recuyell* (Sommer) I. 145 In mustryng and shewyng your corayges. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VIII* 73 b, Anticke images of gold..mounsteryng their countenaunces towardes the enteryng of the palaice. 1622 R. Hawkins *Voy. S. Sea* lix. 139 If they had come to boord with the Spanish high-charged ships, it is not to be doubted but they would have mustred themselues better, then those which could not with their prowesse nor props, haue reached to their wastes.

†**b.** ? To set an example of. *Obs.*

1601 Shaks. *All's Well* II. i. 55 They weare themselues in the cap of the time, there do muster true gate, eat, speake, and moue vnder the influence of the most receiued starre.

†**c.** *intr.* for *refl.* To show, to appear, to be displayed; to make a (good, bad, etc.) appearance.

c 1412 Hoccleve *De Reg. Princ.* 415 Vndir an old pore habyt regneþ oft Grete vertu, þogh it moustre porely. *c* 1430 Lydg. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 3 So this citee with lawde, preyse, and glorye, For joy moustred lyke the sone beme, To yeve ensample thorowout this reme. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* x. xiii. 31 Sik like Mezentius mustyrris in the feyld, With huge armour, baith speyr, helm, and scheyld. *Ibid.* xii. vi. 41 And haltandly in his cart for the nanis He skippis vp and musturis wantonly. 1533 Bellenden *Livy* III. iii. (S. T. S.) I. 251 For Þe nobill palacis and towris musturit so aufully within Þe ciete, Þat Þai drewe Þe myndis of equis and wolchis fra all segeing. 1565 Calfhill *Answ. Martiall* ix. 167 b, When the Papists beholde the work of their owne hands, the Crosse it self, fayre mustering in ye church, which might peraduenture haue bene a logge for the chimney. 1578 Lyte *Dodoens* VI. i. 653 When these buddes do open and spreade, the sweete and pleasant Roses do muster and shewe foorth of colour white. 1597 Bacon *Ess., Coulers Good & Evill* v. (Arb.) 144 And this maketh the greater shew if it be done without order, for confusion maketh things muster more.

2. *trans.* To collect or assemble (*primarily* soldiers) for ascertainment or verification of numbers, inspection as to condition and equipment, exercise, display, or introduction into service. Also †*to muster their arms*: of an army, to appear in armed array. Also *absol.*

c 1420 Lydg. *Thebes* III. in *Chaucer's Wks.* (1561) 373 Soche a nombre gadred in to one Of worthy knightes, neuer aforn was sein, Whan they in feere, were moustred in a plein. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 349/2 Musteryn, or gadyr togedur, *commonstro, coaduno*. *c* 1450 *Merlin* xxvii. 560 Thei moustred and assembled all the peple that thei myght gete. 1530 Palsgr. 643/1, I muster, I take the muster of men, as a capytayne doth, *je fais les monstres*. What place wyll you sygne to muster your folkes in. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VI* 164 b, How busy he was in mustering, how diligent in setting forward. 1557 *Act* 4 & 5 *Philip & Mary*, c. 3 § 1 Commaundment bathe bene given..to diuers.. persons to muster their Majesties People..and to levie a nomber of them for the Service of their Majesties. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 137 b, This man would have also footemen ready monstered. 1593 Shaks. 3 *Hen. VI*, II. i. 112, I then in London,..Muster'd my Soldiers. 1613 R. C. *Table Alph.* (ed. 3), *Muster*, take view of men, in armour. 1 47 N. Bacon *Disc. Govt.* i. xxii. (1739) 40 They mustered their Arms once every year both in Towns and Hundreds. 1682 Bunyan *Holy War* iii. 52 When the King had mustered his Forces (for it is he that mustereth the Host to the Battel), he gave [etc.]. 1799 *Med. Jrnl.* I. 93 On Sundays, when they were mustered by the commanding officer. 1865 W. G. Palgrave *Arabia* II. 275 Before long he had mustered and equipped about thirty frigates. 1879 Froude *Cæsar* xv. 241 All sides were mustering their forces in view of an impending fight. 1894 J. T. Fowler *Adamnan* Introd. 61 The Clan Neill, mustered by Columba himself.

fig. 1700 Blackmore *Paraphr. Job* xv. 67 She'll draw her Troops of Terrors in array, Muster her Griefs, and horrid War display.

†**b.** *refl.*

1535 Coverdale *Isa.* viii. 9 Mustre you and gather you, take youre councel together. 1568 Grafton *Chron.* II. 327 So that at the last they mustered themselues and they were aboue ten thousand men. 1594 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* II. *Seneca*, Those lewde and lasciuious bookes, which haue mustered themselues of late yeeres in Pauls Churchyard, as chosen souldiers ready to fight vnder the deuils banner. *c* 1642 Twyne in *Wood's Life* (O. H. S.) I. 60 That afternoone they mustered themselves in the fields.

c. *intr.* for *refl.* Of an army, etc.: To come together for inspection, exercise, or preparation for service.

c 1450 Lovelich *Grail* xlv. 150 Eche Man In his beste Aray, To-forn him they Mostred þere þat day. 1471 Caxton *Recuyell* (Sommer) I. 143 Whan alle thassamble had mustryd and were gaderd to gyder. 1523 Lo. Berners *Froiss.* I. ccliv. 154 They went & mostred before the hastide of Arde. 1530 Palsgr. 643/1, I muster, as men do that shall go to a felde. 1535 Coverdale 1 *Kings* xx. 27 The children of Israel mustured,..and wente to mete them, and pitched their tentes ouer against them. 1593 Shaks. *Lucr.* 720 Besides his soules faire temple is defaced, To whose weake ruines muster troopes of cares. 1775 A. Cooke in Sparks *Corr. Amer. Rev.* (1853) I. 19 The country round were alarmed and mustering. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* ii. I. 186 At every conventicle they mustered in arms. 1874 Green *Short Hist.* iii. § 7. 152 The royal army had already mustered in great force at the King's summons.

transf. and *fig.* 1593 Shaks. *Lucr.* 442 Whose ranks of blew vains..mustring to the quiet Cabinet, Where their deare gouernesse and ladie lies, Do tell her shee is dreadfullie beset. 1611 Mure *Misc. Poems* i. 88 A field of fancies musterd in my mynd. 1689 H. Pitman *Relat.* 23 When the young ones [*i. e.* turtle] are hatcht, they musters out of their Cells and marches into the Sea. 1700 Blackmore *Paraphr. Job* xxxvi. 158 Recruits of Vapours which arise, Drawn from the Sea to muster in the Skys.

†**d.** *trans.* To enlist, enroll. *Obs.*

1439 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 32/2 And so have mustred and entred in of record the Kynges Souldeours. 1587 Golding *De Mornay* xxx. (1592) 483 Because he yelded his soule vnto death, & did muster himself among the transgressers. 1611 Shaks. *Cymb.* IV. iv. 10 Newnesse Of Clotens death (we being not knowne, not muster'd Among the Bands) may driue vs to a render Where we haue liu'd. 1748 Smollett *Rod. Raud.* xxvii, I had been rated on the books, and mustered as surgeon's mate.

e. To call the roll of. Now chiefly *Naut.*

To muster in (U. S.): to muster (a watch) at the time of going on duty.

1670 Eachard *Cont. Clergy* 48 He falls a fighting with his text,..then he musters all again, to see what word was lost, or lam'd in the skirmish. 1820 Scoresby *Acc. Arctic Reg.* II. 199 When the crew have been mustered by the proper officer of the customs, and paid a month's wages in advance. 1835 Sir J. Ross *Narr. 2nd Voy.* iv. 43 The ship's company was mustered. 1840 R. H. Dana *Bef. Mast* xxiii, The Carpenter sometimes mustered in the starboard watch. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Muster the watch*, a duty performed nightly at 8 p.m., and repeated when the watch is relieved up to 4 a.m.

†**f.** To take the census of. *Obs.*

1565 Cooper *Thesaurus*, *Censor*,..one that valueth or mustreth. 1636 Brathwait *Rom. Emp.* 13 In the eigth yeere of his reigne hee mustred the City.

g. Of an army, etc.: To comprise, to number.

1837 W. Irving *Capt. Bonneville* III. 6 The whole garrison mustered but six or eight men. 1851 Hussey *Papal Power* i. 2 Formed a Synod of their own, mustering about 80. 1907 *Athenæum* 18 May 597/2 Davout's corps..defeated a force comprising the choicest part of the Prussian army, and mustering nearly double its numbers.

h. U.S. *To muster in, to muster into* (*the*) *service*: to enroll as recruits. *To muster out* (*of service*): to summon together in order to discharge from service; to discharge, pay off (soldiers).

1834 J. A. Wakefield *Hist. War* 93 The place appointed for us to be discharged at (or mustered out of the service of the United States). 1862 *U. S. Statutes* XII. 339 No person under the age of eighteen shall be mustered into the United States service. 1864 Sala in *Daily Tel.* 25 Feb., Drunken or dishonest subalterns who have been 'mustered out'—*i.e.*, expelled the army for misconduct.

i. To produce for inspection.

1904 *19th Cent.* June 1033 The bluejacket may at any moment be called on to muster his kit.

3. To collect, bring together (persons or things); esp. to bring forward from one's own stores. Often in phrases (*I, he,* etc.) *can muster* (such or such a number or amount); *as many as* (*I,* etc.) *can muster.*

c 1586 C'tess Pembroke *Ps.* lxxxi, Muster hither musicks joyes, Lute, and lyre, and tabretts noise. 1692 R. L'Estrange *Fables* xxxiii. 32 A Daw that had a mind to be Sparkish, Trick'd himself up with all the Gay-Feathers he could Muster together. 1743 Bulkeley & Cummins *Voy. S. Seas* 16 All the Hands we could muster in both Watches, Officers included, were but twelve. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. ii. 135 All the..remnants of old sails that could be mustered. 1793 Smeaton *Edystone L.* § 286, I melted down all the pewter plates and dishes that we could muster on board the buss. 1832 Ht. Martineau *Ireland* ii. 16 A respectable addition was made by them to the few shillings Sullivan had been able to muster. 1835 J. P. Kennedy *Horse Shoe R.* ii, I mustered my horse and gun, and some decent clothes. 1838 Thirlwall *Greece* II. 333 The Platæans could only muster 600. 1838 *Lett. fr. Madras* (1843) 172 We cannot muster many volumes yet. 1841 Lytton *Nt. & Morn.* I. iv, With your wife's fortune, you muster 2000*l* a-year. 1855 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xii. III. 175 A procession of twenty coaches belonging to public functionaries was mustered.

b. *fig.* To summon, gather up (one's thoughts, courage, strength, etc.).

1588 Shaks. *L. L. L.* v. ii. 85 Muster your Wits, stand in your owne defence. 1671 Milton *Samson* 402 Mustring all her wiles. 1742 Young *Nt. Th.* VIII. 1319 They scarce can swallow their ebullient spleen, Scarce muster patience to support the farce. 1814 Scott *Wav.* xv, Cantering his white pony down the avenue with all the speed it could muster. 1840 Dickens *Barn. Rudge* xxv, At length you have mustered heart to visit the old place. 1849 C. Bronte *Shirley* I. vi. 119 Mr. Moore's dark face mustered colour; his lips smiled [etc.]. 1863 W. C. Baldwin *Afr. Hunting* vii. 289, I re-mounted, mustered a canter, by dint of great persuasion. 1876 Trevelyan *Macaulay* II. xv. 478 He mustered strength to dictate a letter.

4. *intr.* To assemble, gather together in a body. (Cf. 2 c *transf.* and *fig.*)

1603 Shaks. *Meas. for M.* II. iv. 20 Oh, heauens Why doe's my bloud thus muster to my heart. 1687 A. Lovell tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 57 They burn Incense about him, which they say scares away Evil Spirits and Devils, who otherwise would muster about the [dead] Body. 1820 Scott *Abbot* iii, I think he comes of gentle blood—see how it musters in his face at your injurious reproof. 1869 Lowell *Gold Egg* xxv, What marvels manifold, Seemed silently to muster! 1886 C. E. Pascoe *London of To-day* xviii. (ed. 3) 159 The members of the Four-in-Hand and Coaching clubs muster in great force.

†**5.** *trans.* To pass in review, to 'take stock of'.

a 1625 Fletcher & Mass. *Cust. Country* v. v, With what a greedy hawkes eye she beholds me? Marke how she musters all my parts.

6. *Austral.* To take account of (one's cattle).

1858 McCombie *Hist. Victoria* vii. 89 Takere..had attacked Mr. Bolden when mustering his stock. 1875 Wood & Lapham *Waiting for Mail* 29 Mustering cattle.

absol. 1892 Hornung *Under Two Skies* 41 All hands were away mustering in a distant paddock.

7. *intr.* To pass muster *for.*

1820 Lamb *Elia* Ser. I. *Oxford in Vac.*, I longed to coat him in russia, and assign him his place. He might have mustered for a tall Scapula.

8. Muster up. **a.** To assemble or bring together (troops) for battle, etc.

c 1592 Marlowe *Massacre Paris* II. iii. B 7, He muster vp an army secretly. 1593 Shaks. 3 *Hen. VI*, IV. viii. 18 In Oxfordshire shalt muster vp thy friends. 1621 Burton *Anat. Mel.* III. ii. II. i. (1651) 450 They press and muster up wenches as we do souldiers. 1700 S. L. tr. *Fryke's Voy. E. Ind.* 305 We were muster'd up, and received the next day two months Pay. 1790 Beatson *Nav. & Mil. Mem.* I. 185 Mr Hodge..mustered up about three hundred volunteers. 1891 C. Roberts *Adrift Amer.* 190 The few Indians.. returned..with all of the tribe that they could muster up.

b. *fig.* To summon up, gather up, to marshal.

1628 Prynne *Cens. Cozens* 10 Which I shall enumerate and muster vp in order. 1662 *Bk. Com. Prayer* Pref., The old Objections mustered up. 1743 R. Blair *Grave* 79 Whilst busy-meddling Memory..musters up The past Endearments of their softer Hours. 1777 Priestley *Matt. & Spir.* (1782) I. xvi. 188 Dr Oswald..has mustered up all his logic to invalidate it. 1813 Scott *Let.* 6 Nov., A very large river..is at this moment mustering up all its waters with a voice like distant thunder. 1893 Selous *Trav. S. E. Africa* 111 She had mustered up courage to speak to him.

Muster, *v.*[2] *dial.* ? *Obs.* [Of Scandinavian origin: cf. Norw. *mustra* to whisper, mumble, to chatter continually (Ross), Icel. *muskra* to murmur, maunder (Vigf.).] (See quots.) Hence **Mu·stering** *vbl. sb.* Also †**Mu·sterer.**

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 349/2 Must(e)ryn, or qwyspe)ryn privyly (or rummuelon, *infra*; *H.* whyspryn), *mussito. Ibid.* 436/2 Romelynge, or privy mysterynge (*P.* preuy mustringe), *ruminacio, mussitacio*. 1496 *Dives & Paup.* (W. de W.) v. iv. 199/2 What is susurro that is called a musterer. It is a preuy rowner, that pryuely telleth false tales amonges the people for to make dyscencyon. 1825 Jamieson, *Muster*, to talk with exceeding volubility. Clydes. 1847 Halliwell, *Mustir*, to talk together privately.

Mu·ster-book. A book in which military forces are registered. Also, on a man-of-war, a book containing the names of the crew.

1587 Golding *De Mornay* (1592) 99 The beginning thereof is nothing els but a Musterbooke of names. 1597 Shaks. 2 *Hen. IV*, III. ii. 146 Wee haue a number of shadowes to fill vppe the Muster-Booke. 1643 Davenant *Unfort. Lovers* III. i, All that I read is in the Muster-book. 1702 *Roy. Declar.* 1 June in *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3815/3 [They] are..Required..to cause the said List to be Examined, by the Muster-Book of such Man of War. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Muster-book*, a copy of a ship of war's open list, drawn up for the use of the clerk of the check, in calling over the crew.

fig. 1561 Daus tr. *Bullinger on Apoc.* (1573) 296 All the Saintes, which before the commyng of Christ are written in the registers of the heauenly muster booke.

Musterd(e, obs. forms of Mustard *sb.*

†**Musterdevillers.** *Obs.* Forms: 5 mostyrdewyk (?), mister-, mustrevilers, mowster devylers, must deviles, musterler (?), musterdelyre, musterdevyle, musturdevylers, musterdevylers, -illers, -elers, -il(l)es, -yles, -yllys, -ilous, muster dewyllers, mustardevillys, mostar de velis, mustarddybiles, mustardvillars, mustardavelles, mustyrddevyllers, moster develers, 5–6 musterdevilers, 6 mustredevyles, musterdevilys, muster de villois. See also Muster *sb.*[2] [From the name of the town now called Montivilliers, in Normandy.

The name (in med.L. *Monasterium Villare*) appears in 1530 as *Musterdevillers* (Coke *Deb. betw. Heralds* § 108); 15th c. forms are *Moustervillers* (in *Paston Lett.* I. p. lxxix), *Mustirvilers* (ibid. p. 8).]

A kind of mixed grey woollen cloth, much used in the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries.

1400 in *Cely Papers* (1900) 56, I have a gowyn clothe of mostyrdewyk of my lordes leveray for you. 1428 in Rymer *Foedera* (1710) X. 391 Duas Pecias de Russeto Mustrevilers. 1467 *Will of Bate* (Somerset Ho.), Of colour of musterdevillers. 1494 *Will Maude Parterich* (25 Feb.) P. C. C., 23 Vox, My Musterler gowne coler and cuffis lyned with velwett. 1523 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) V. 171 My musterdevilys gowne furride with shankkes. 1564 *Burgh Rec. Edin.* (1875) III. 187 Thai nor nane of thame..sall lit ony maner of cullouris of muster de villois.

Mustered (mʌ·stəɪd), *ppl. a.* [f. MUSTER *v.*[1] + -ED[1].] Gathered together; collected; assembled.

1638 G. SANDYS *Paraphr. Job* (1648) 54 Know'st thou how God collects the Must'red Clouds, How in their darknesse hee his lightning shrouds? 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* IV. 626 Himself their Herdsman, on the middle Mount, Takes of his muster'd Flocks a just Account.

Mustering (mʌ·stərĭŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. MUSTER *v.*[1] + -ING[1].] The action of the vb. MUSTER in various senses; an instance of this.

c 1440 LYDG. *Hors, Shepe & G.* 66 Withouten hors what were here mustrynges? *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 349/2 Musterynge, or gaderynge togeder of men to be schewyde,.. *coadunacio.* 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 246 They commaund Scherteline..to invade the enemies that wer in mustering underneth the Alpes. 1601 B. JONSON *Poetaster* v. iii, Hee's one that hath had the mustring or conuoy of a companie. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1780), *Mustering*, the act of calling over a list of the whole ship's company, or any..detachment thereof, who are..summoned to answer by their names on the occasion. 1835 W. IRVING *Tour Prairies* xxvi. 231 A general mustering of our horses took place. 1888 *Sat. Rev.* 8 Dec. 668 He knew..what the heavy mustering on the Opposition benches meant.

b. *attrib.*

1736 AINSWORTH *Lat. Dict.*, A mustering place, *diribitorium.* 1817 CHALMERS *Astron. Disc.* vi. (1852) 138 On some field of mustering competition, have monarchs met. 1899 *Scribner's Mag.* XXV. 7/1 The mustering-places for the regiment were appointed in New Mexico.

Mustering (mʌ·stərĭŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. MUSTER *v.*[1] + -ING[2].] That musters, in senses of the vb.

1594 GREENE & LODGE *Looking-Gl.* (1598) A 4, Like the mustering breath of Æolus That ouerturnes the pines of Libanon. 1758 J. BLAKE *Plan Mar. Syst.* 24 Let each be signed by the aforesaid mustering-officer. 1874 SYMONDS *Sk. Italy & Greece* (1898) I. xi. 211 Mustering storm-clouds blue with rain. 1897 P. WARUNG *Tales Old Regime* 110 So that his attitude should not appear strange to the mustering officer.

Musterler, (?) variant of MUSTERDEVILLERS.

Mu·ster-master. Now only *Hist.*

1. An officer who was responsible for the accuracy of the muster-roll of some portion of an army. Also, in dockyards (see quot. 1815); formerly, in penal settlements, the official charged with keeping the muster-roll of convicts. *Muster-master general* (also *chief muster-master*): see quot. 1802.

1579 DIGGES *Stratiot.* 102 He may admonish the Muster Mayster and Treasourer. 1598 BARRET *Theor. Warres* II. i. 24 We haue Muster-masters appointed in euerie Shiere. 1622 F. MARKHAM *Bk. War* IV. i. 122 Muster-Masters..are very odious vnto Captaines; for in seruing of his Prince truly, and in mustering strictly he wipeth much vndue profit from the Captaine. 1662 STILLINGFL. *Orig. Sacr.* III. ii. § 11 As though he had been Muster-Master-Generall at that great Rendes-vous. 1666 MARVELL *Corr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 190 That all muster-masters lose their places, who shall muster any that have not taken the oaths and the sacrament. 1667 PEPYS *Diary* 18 Jan., A letter from the Duke of York commanding our payment of no wages to any of the muster-masters of the fleet. 1702 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3825/3 Her Majesty has been pleased to constitute the Rt. Hon. the Lord Walden Commissary-General of the Musters, and chief Muster-master of Her Majesty's Forces. 1707 *Ibid.* No. 4310/2 Her Majesty has been..pleased..to..appoint Michael Hyde Esq; Commissary and Mustermaster-General of all the Forces. 1775 *Mass. Prov. Congr.* 6 May (1823) 199 Muster masters in the Massachusetts army, whose business it shall be to pass muster on every soldier that shall be enlisted into said army. 1802 C. JAMES *Milit. Dict., Muster-master-general, Commissary-general* of the Musters, one who takes account of every regiment, their number, horses, arms, &c. 1815 *Falconer's Dict. Marine* (ed. Burney), *Muster-master*, in royal dock-yards a person appointed by the Navy Board to call over the lists of all his Majesty's ship's companies in the different ports; as also the artificers working on board, in order to prevent false musters. 1896 *Peterson's Mag.* (U.S.) VI. 288/1 Washington directed Colonel James Glover and Muster-Master-General Moyland to co-operate with the Board of Admiralty.

fig. 1600 W. WATSON *Decacordon* (1602) 287 Their ringleader, and muster-master father Parsons. 1662 STILLINGFL. *Orig. Sacr.* III. ii. 449 Lucretius gives us in so exact an account of the several courses the Atoms took up in disposing themselves into bodyes, as though he had been Muster-Master-General at that great Rendes-vous.

¶ 2. Used incorrectly for 'drill-sergeant'.

1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 134 P 4 A new sort of Muster-master, who teaches Ladies the whole Exercise of the Fan.

Hence **Mu·stermastership.**

1664-5 PEPYS *Diary* 12 Mar., We talked also of getting W. Howe to be put into the Muster-Mastershipp in the roome of Creed. 1763 H. WALPOLE *Let. to Earl of Hertford* 2 Dec., Mr. Calcraft being turned out yesterday, from some muster-mastership.

Mu·ster-roll.

1. An official list of the officers and men a. in an army or some particular division of it; b. in a ship's company.

a. 1640 in Rushw. *Hist. Coll.* III. (1692) I. 143 They are likewise to present unto the House some fit way for a perfect Muster-Roll to be made of the King's Army. 1673 *Articles & Rules for better Govt. of H. M. Forces* xli, No Man shall presume to present himself to the Muster, to be Inrolled in the Muster-Rolls, by a counterfeit or wrong Name. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 444 P 4 He shews the Muster-Roll, which confirms that he was in his Imperial Majesty's Troops. 1781 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xvii. II. 47 Inscribed on the muster-roll of their numerous armies. 1844 THIRLWALL *Greece* lxiv. VIII. 308 He was obliged to fill up the muster-rolls with boys of sixteen. 1853 STOCQUELER *Milit. Encycl.* s.v., The muster-rolls are called over on the 24th of each month, when every individual answers to his name. 1888 PLUMPTRE *Ken* I. 162 It was believed..that pay was drawn for the troops on the strength of false muster rolls.

b. 1809 *St. Papers* in *Ann. Reg.* 757/2 If such a vessel is not provided with a muster-roll of the crew. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk., Muster-roll*, a document kept by the master of every British vessel, specifying the name, age, quality, and country of every person of the ship's company.

2. *transf.* and *fig.*

1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* II. xvi. § 7 It may bee thought I seeke to make a greate Muster-Rowle of Sciences. 1737 POPE *Hor. Epist.* II. i. 124 Tho' but, perhaps, a muster-roll of Names. 1858 BRIGHT *Sp., Reform* 21 Dec. (1876) 305 One of the brightest names in the muster-roll of English worthies. 1875 MCLAREN *Serm.* Ser. II. viii. 147 The muster-roll of heroes of faith in the Epistle to the Hebrews.

3. *Naut.* The reading of the muster-roll; roll-call.

1833 MARRYAT *P. Simple* xx, Having waited the usual hour before the governor's house, to answer to our muster-roll, and to be stared at, we were dismissed. 1869 W. S. GILBERT *Bab Ball., Nancy Bell* 36 And only ten of the *Nancy's* men Said 'Here!' to the muster roll.

† **Muster-yong.** *Obs.* [? a. G. **musterjunge*, f. *muster* MUSTER *sb.*[1] + *junge* boy.] ? A boy fraudulently entered on a muster-roll.

1635 BARRIFFE *Milit. Discipl.* CXX. (1643) 415 Besides all Officers, Muster-yongs and Pasvolants.

Mustesa, -ezo, obs. forms of MESTIZO.

Musth, variant of MUST *a.*[3]

Musticat, Mustice, obs. ff. MUSCAT, MESTIZO.

Mustify (mʌ·stĭfəɪ), *v. slang.* [f. MUSTY *a.*[2] + -FY.] *trans.* To make musty or mouldy.

1847 MRS. GORE *Castles in Air* xxi. II. 201 Should I, in my own country, have dreamed of mustifying myself by a humdrum dinner in..Bloomsbury Square?

Mustily (mʌ·stĭlĭ), *adv. rare.* [f. MUSTY *a.*[2] + -LY[2].] a. In a musty or mouldy manner. † b. Dully; ill-humouredly. *Obs.*

a 1620 FLETCHER & MASS. *False One* III. ii, These Cloaths smell mustily. 1620 MIDDLETON *World tost at Tennis* Induct., I meane, why so melancholy, thou lookst, mustily, me thinkes. *Rich.* Doe I so? and yet I dwell in sweeter ayre Then you. 1675 COTTON *Burlesque upon B.* 102 Apollo, what's the matter, pray, You look so mustily to day. 1755 JOHNSON, *Mustily*, ..Mouldily.

Mustiness (mʌ·stĭnĕs). [f. MUSTY *a.*[2] + -NESS.]

1. The state, condition or quality of being musty; 'mould; damp foulness' (J.).

1526-30 in Grose *Antiq. Rep.* (1808) II. 205 The said page to make fires for the eyres and mustenes of the said chambers. 1654 EVELYN *Kal. Hort., Oct.* (1679) 26 Keeping them [seeds] dry, and free from mustiness. 1888 MRS. H. WARD *R. Elsmere* vii, The peculiar clean mustiness of the room only just opened for the summer season.

fig. 1894 *Nation* (N. Y.) 19 July 47/1 The same impression of vagueness, of mediaeval mustiness and superstition is made by these dramas as by the others.

† 2. Crossness; ill-humour. *Obs. rare.*

a 1619 FLETCHER *Bonduca* I. ii, Any mirth, and any way, of any subject, Junius, is better then unmanly mustinesse. 1734 MRS. E. MONTAGU *Lett.* (1809) I. 14 That he might have put it in his book of drawings among the faces that express the several passions; but he has none that express mustiness.

Mustir, Mustizo, obs. ff. MUSTER, MESTIZO.

† **Mustle,** *v. Obs. rare*—[0]. [Cf. MUSTER *v.*[2]; also RUSTLE *v.*] *intr.* To murmur, make a noise.

1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 194/12 To Mustle, *strepere.*

Mustle, obs. form of MUSCLE.

Mustour(e, mustre, obs. forms of MUSTER.

Mustredevyles, variant of MUSTERDEVILLERS.

Mustroll, variant of MUSROL.

Mustrump, Mustul: see MUSHROOM, MUSSEL.

† **Mu·stulent,** *a. Obs. rare.* [a. L. *mustulentus*, f. *mustum* MUST *sb.*[1]: see -ULENT.] Abounding in must; resembling must; also *jocularly*, 'vinous'.

1592 R. D. *Hypnerotomachia* 3 In mustulent Autume. 1611 COTGR. s.v. *Visage, Visage de pressurier*, a mustulent, or mummie face. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr., Mustulent*, sweet as Must; also fresh, new, green.

Musture, obs. form of MUSTER.

† **Mu·sty,** *a.*[1] ? *Obs. rare.* [f. MUST *sb.*[1] + -Y.] Of, pertaining to, or made with must or new wine; in a state of must or newness.

c 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* XI. 525 Now..vse this ferment ffor musty breed whom this wol condiment. 1599 MINSHEU *Span. Dict., Mostóso*, mustie, of sweet wine. 1802 BEDDOES *Hygëia* VIII. 32 New musty liquors remain at least equally strong for a time.

Musty (mʌ·stĭ), *a.*[2] (and *sb.*). Of obscure origin. Prob. in some way related to MOISTY, MOIST adjs., the *oi* of which represents OF. *u.*]

1. 'Mouldy; spoiled with damp; moist and fetid' (J.).

1530 PALSGR. 730/1 Sprede your corne abrode, it wyll vaxe musty els. 1532 MORE *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 649/2 When his wordes be wel sifted, men shall find little fine flowre in them, but all very mustie branne. 1604 T. M. *Black Bk.* in *Middleton's Wks.* (Bullen) VIII. 28 Away I scudded in the musty moth-eaten habit. 1605 SHAKS. *Lear* IV. vii. 40 And was't thou faine..To houell thee with Swine and Rogues forlorne, In short, and musty straw? 1653 WALTON *Angler* xiv. 199 Have your worms well scowred, and not kept in sowre or mustie moss. 1693-4 GIBSON in *Lett. Lit. Men* (Camden) 216 Old musty papers are but ill company for neat cloaths and white hands. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* 108 The Buyers are usually furnished with musty bad Corn from Foreign Parts. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* III. xi, An early public-house, haunted by unsavoury smells of musty hay. 1874 BURNAND *My time* xiv. 120 She walked into the study amongst the old musty books. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 792 The damage done by the use of musty grain as food falls upon the nervous system.

b. Of food, liquors, etc.: Having a mouldy or decayed smell or taste. Of a cask, bottle, etc.: Stale-smelling, fusty.

1530 PALSGR. 319/1 Mustye as a vessel is or wyne or any other vitayle, *moysy.* 1577 *Patent Roll* 19 *Eliz.* IX, Corrupte and mustie butter. 1599 B. JONSON *Ev. Man out of Hum.* I. ii, He looks like a mustie bottle. 1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* I. i. 50 You had musty victuall. 1681 NEVILE *Plato Rediv.* 233 If you have a musty Vessel, and by consequence dislike the Beer which comes out of it. 1732 POPE *Hor. Sat.* II. ii. 67 Nor lets, like Naevius, every error pass, The musty wine, foul cloth, or greasy glass. 1738 SWIFT *Pol. Conversat.* 141 This Venison is musty. 1799 G. SMITH *Laboratory* I. 433 To correct a musty Taste in Wine. 1802 *Med. Jrnl.* VIII. 479 In cleansing musty casks. 1891 *Daily News* 5 Mar. 7/2 The puddings were occasionally made with sour milk and musty eggs. *Ibid.*, A custard..which was sloppy and musty.

c. Of rooms, atmosphere, etc.: Having the unpleasant faint odour suggestive of mouldiness or decay.

1577 HARRISON *England* II. vi. (1877) I. 156 Beare with me ..that lead thee..into a mustie malthouse. 1599 SNAKS. *Much Ado* I. iii. 61 Being entertain'd for a perfumer, as I was smoaking a musty roome, comes me the Prince and Claudio. 1683 TRYON *Way to Health* 592 Do not all Houses and Places grow musty..if the Air be any way prevented by Window-shutters..that it cannot have its free egress and regress? 1797 GODWIN *Enquirer* II. iv. 208 The very air ..feels musty.

2. *fig.* a. Of immaterial things, ideas, etc.: 'Stale; spoiled with age' (J.); that has lost its newness or interest; antiquated, disused, old-fashioned.

1592 NASHE *P. Penilesse* (ed. 2) 14, I know many wise Gentlemen of this musty vocation [Antiquaries]. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* III. ii. 359 But while the grasse growes, the Prouerbe is something musty. 1683 BURNET tr. *More's Utopia* (1685) 38 Some old musty laws. 1763-5 CHURCHILL *Journey* Poems 1769 II. 7 Read musty lectures on Benevolence. 1806-7 J. BERESFORD *Miseries Hum. Life* (1826) II. xxxix, Your newspapers delayed..till..all their intelligence is musty. 1900 H. SUTCLIFFE *Shameless Wayne* XXV, Each buried legend of his house, each musty tale of wrongs suffered and repaid came back to mind.

b. Of persons: 'Dull; heavy; wanting activity; wanting practice in the occurrences of life' (J.); antiquated, 'mouldy'.

1637 SANDERSON *Serm.* (1681) II. 81 They settle upon their own dregs, and grow muddy and musty with long ease. 1665 BRATHWAIT *Comment Two Tales* (Chaucer Soc.) 48 How is it, you old musty Dotard, that with a sorrow you hide the keys of your Chests from me? 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 482 P 2 Being married to a Bookish Man, who has no Knowledge of the World, she is forced..to spirit him up now and then, that he may not grow musty, and unfit for Conversation. 1745 FIELDING *True Patriot* Wks. 1775 IX. 298 None but a musty moralist..would have condemned such behaviour. *a* 1763 BYROM *Poetaster* 24 Then he..of old musty Bards mumbles over the Names. 1824 W. IRVING *T. Trav.* II. viii. 86 A little rusty, musty old fellow, always groping among ruins. 1883 *Gd. Words* 183 The doctors say we get musty and fusty if we stay in one place.

† 3. Ill-humoured, peevish, sullen. *Obs.* exc. *dial.*

1620 SHELTON *Quix.* II. xlviii. 313 The ill-wounded Don Quixote was exceeding musty and melancholy, with his Face bound vp and scarred. 1622 FLETCHER *Span. Curate* IV. iii, He is monstrous vexed and musty at my chessplay. 1672 SHADWELL *Miser* I. Wks. 1720 III. 9 What a Devil makes thee in so musty a humour? *c* 1728 EARL OF AILESBURY *Mem.* (1890) 691 He was very musty because I would not catch at the bait and be his bubble. 1760 FOOTE *Minor* II. (1767) 45 Here comes the musty trader, running over with remonstrances. I must banter the cit.

4. *Comb.*, as *musty-fusty, -smelling, walled* adjs.

1857 W. COLLINS *Dead Secret* IV. iv, In that old part of the house it is what you call *musty-fusty. 1897 MRS. E. L. VOYNICH *Gadfly* (1904) 22/1 Corridors, and stairs, all more or less *musty-smelling. 1751 *Female Foundling* II. 135 An old, *musty walled Chapel.

† B. *sb.* A kind of snuff having a musty flavour.

1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 27 P 21 I'll call at Charles's, and know the Shape of his Snuff-Box...I ought to be informed, whether he takes Spanish or Musty. *Ibid.* No. 79 P 3, I made her resign her snuff-box for ever, and half drown herself with washing away the stench of the musty.

Musty (mʌ·stĭ), *a.*[3] *rare.* [f. MUST *sb.*[5] or *a.*[3] + -Y.] = MUST *a.*[3]

1868 *Morn. Star* 6 Jan., The twentieth [elephant] was so vicious and 'musty'. 1882 FLOYER *Unexpl. Baluchistan* 57 The two 'musty' camels.

† **Mu·sty,** *v. Obs.* [f. MUSTY *a.*[2]]

1. *intr.* To become musty. *lit.* and *fig.*

1631 GOUGE *God's Arrows* II. § 22. 160 Corne..being so heaped together..mustieth, putrifieth, and is made unfit for use. 1633 SHIRLEY *Ganuester* II. ii, But I may lose it ere I go to bed. Dost think 't shall musty? What's a hundred pound? 1702 T. BROWN *Lett. Dead to Living* (1707) II. 68 You..keep your Reputation musty'ng upon an old Foundation, which is ready to sink.

2. *trans.* To render or make musty or mouldy.

1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* (1721) I. 61 It [the wheat] was mustied and spoiled with lying so long in the Ground.

Musty: see MUSTER. **Mustyr(re:** see MUSTER *v.* **Mustyrddevyllers,** obs. f. MUSTERDEVILLERS.

Musuk, Musulman: see MUSSUCK, MUSSULMAN.

Musume(, -mĕ, -mé, variant forms of MOUSMÉ.

Musure, Musycke, obs. ff. MUSER[2], MOSAIC.

Musycyen, -yssyon, obs. forms of MUSICIAN.

Mut, obs. form of MOOT *v.*[1], MOTE *v.*[1], MUTE *sb.*

† **Muta·bilate**, *v. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. L. *mūtābil-is* MUTABLE *a.* + -ATE.] *trans.* To change.

?1685 T. BROWN *Adv. Oates* Wks. 1730 IV. 245 It is a Folly..to..yield to Melancholly; for 'twill mutabilate poor Nature's Light, And turn it's Day into a gloomy Night.

Mutability (miūtăbi·lĭti). [a. F. *mutabilité*, ad. L. *mūtābilitās*: see next and -ITY.]

1. Disposition to change, variableness, inconstancy.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* I. 851 Now sith hire whiel hy no way may soiorne, what wastow if hire mutabilite Rygbt as þi seluen list wol don by the. 1412–20 LYDG. *Troy Bk.* I. v. (1513) C j b, They saye that chaunge and mutabylyte Apropred ben to femynyte. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Edw. IV* 191 The Duke of Somerset, was incontinently, for his greate mutabilitie and lightnes, behedded at Exam. 1662 STILLINGFL. *Orig. Sacr.* II. vii. § 1 It would argue mutability in God to revoke that Law, and establish another instead of it. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 162 ¶ 6 This Mutability of Temper and Inconsistency with our selves is the greatest Weakness of human Nature, so [etc.]. 1838 THIRLWALL *Greece* III. xviii. 77 He had himself experienced the mutability of the public taste. 1883 LINDA VILLARI *Machiavelli & Times* II. I. III. 242 Of his easy mutability we find proofs in two of the various *Discorsi* written by him [*sc.* Guicciardini].

2. Liability to change.

1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) III. 223 For truly the firste trawthe whiche is God may not be where mutabilite is founde. 1570–6 LAMBARDE *Peramb. Kent* (1826) 433 That heavenly kingdome, which is not subiect to mutabilitie or chaunge. 1594 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* I. ii. § 6 The law whereby he worketh is eternall, and therefore can haue no shew or cullor of mutabilitie. 1622 BP. HALL *Contempl., O. T.* XVI. iv, How slippery are the stations of earthly honors, and subject to continuall mutabilitie. 1791 COWPER *Yardley Oak* 70 What exhibitions various hath the world Witness'd of mutability in all That we account most durable below! 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* II. xxvii. 389, I endeavoured to satisfy myself of the mutability which had been ascribed to them [*i. e.* the veins in glaciers].

b. An instance of this.

1549 *Compl. Scot.* i. 20 Prosperus men prouidis nocht to resist the occasions of the mutabiliteis. 1598 YONG *Diana* 67 What place is there so strong, where one may be safe from the mutabilities of time? 1648 CHAS. I *Declar.* 22 Nov. *Wks.* (1662) 293 It is the humour of those who are of this Weather-cock-like disposition to love nothing but mutabilities. 1711 SHAFTESB. *Misc. Refl.* II. iii. Charact. III. 95 We Islanders, fam'd for other Mutabilitys, are particularly noted for the Variableness..of our Weather. 1873 SYMONDS *Grk. Poets* iii. 78 Simonides moralizes upon the mutabilities of life. 1888 PLUMPTRE *Ken* I. p. xi. *note*, One could scarcely find a more striking instance of the mutabilities of history.

Mutable (miū·tăb'l), *a.* and *sb.* Also 5 muitable. [ad. L. *mūtābil-is* changeable, f. *mūtāre* to change: see -ABLE.] **A.** *adj.*

1. Liable or subject to change or alteration.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* IV. pr. vi. 107 (Camb. MS.) The whiche, destynal causes, whan they passen owt fro the bygynnynges of the vnmoeuable puruyaunce, it mot nedes be þat they ne be nat Mutable. 1456 in *Coventry Corpus Chr. Plays* 117 With-oute whom [i.e. Fortune], sithen non playnly can prosper, That in this muitable lyfe ar nowe procedyng, I am come thurgh love. 1515 BARCLAY *Egloges* iv. (1570) C vj h/2, Protheus..Mutable of figure oft times in one houre. 1594 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* I. xv. § 1 Although no lawes but positiue be mutable, yet all are not mutable which be positiue. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* VI. vii. 306 There is no East and West in Nature; nor are those absolute and invariable, but respective and mutable points. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 39 ¶ 15 The Use of Clothes continues, though the Fashion of them has been mutable. 1783 LATHAM *Gen. Synopsis Birds* II. I. 347 Mutable Flycatcher. *Muscicapa mutata.* 1824 MISS FERRIER *Inher.* XC, Her mutable countenance had now all the fixedness and paleness of marble. 1902 A. LANG *Hist. Scot.* II. xvi. 428 Like all other laws those of the Kirk proved to be mutable.

absol. 1847 EMERSON *Repr. Men, Montaigne* Wks. (Bohn) I. 352 Let a man learn to look for the permanent in the mutable and fleeting.

b. *Gram.* Subject to mutation.

1707 LHUYD *Archæol. Brit.* 300 The Consonants are divided into Mutable and Immutable. The Mutable are such as by the Addition of an h, or else by a full point (.) above them, either alter or lose their Pronunciation, as b, c [etc.]. 1837 G. PHILLIPS *Syriac Gram.* 28 Nouns of many syllables, the last of which is mutable, are exemplified in the following Table. 1843 W. NEILSON *Irish Gram.* 5 The sounds of the mutable consonants, when aspirated, differ materially from those which they receive, when simple.

2. Inconstant in mind, will, or disposition; fickle; variable. Now somewhat *rare.*

1412–20 LYDG. *Troy Bk.* I. v. (1513) C j h, Theyr hertes be so freell and vnstable Namely in youthe so meuynge and mutable That [etc.]. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Edw. IV* 191 b, Least the sight..might..also wyn the hartes of the mutable commonaltie. *Ibid., Rich. III* 48 The mutable mynde of quene Elyzabeth. 1625 K. LONG tr. *Barclay's Argenis* IV. vii. 260 They call Fortune whatsoever is doubtfull..and for this cause they feigne her a mutable and blind Goddesse. 1795 SOUTHEY *Joan of Arc* III. 85 Paris with her servile sons, A headstrong, mutable, ferocious race, Bow'd to the invader's yoke. 1818 BYRON *Ch. Har.* IV. cvi, A child Most mutable in wishes but in mind A wit as various. 1860 MOTLEY *Netherl.* (1868) I. vii. 468 Ever variable and mutable as woman, Elizabeth was perplexing and baffling to her counsellors. 1871 DARWIN *Desc. Man* II. xix. 339 The most fertile imagination and the most mutable caprice have created the fashions of painting, as well as those of garments.

B. *sb.*

1. *pl.* Things capable of change. *Obs. rare*⁻¹.

1652 GAULE *Magastrom.* 150 Having its inherance in movables or mutables.

2. A mutable consonant (see A. 1 b).

1821 O'REILLY *Irish Dict.* Introd. 2 The division of the consonants into mutables and immutables. 1843 W. NEILSON *Irish Gram.* 4 [Letters] capable of aspiration, or mutables.

Hence **Mu·tably** *adv.*, in a mutable manner; so as to be capable of change; also, with constant change or variation; **Mu·tableness** (now *rare*), mutability.

1481 BOTONER *Tulle Old Age* (Caxton) b 3, The mutablenes & euyl dysposicion of men hit is so grete in oure dayes. 1582 BATMAN *Barth. De P. R.* v. vi. 39 If ye eie be to much mouing it betokeneth..mutablenesse of affection. 1646 E. F. *Marrow Mod. Divin.* (ed. 2) 13 Though he and his will were both good, yet were they mutably good. *a* 1677 MANTON *Serm. Ps. cxix* verse 123 (1681) 832 Every man is, or may be a liar, because of the mutableness of his Nature. 1703 J. BARBETT *Analecta* 32 How little valuable are all Worldly things, that are so unstable!..their mutableness would take off so much as would leave them of little Value. 1755 in JOHNSON. 1796 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) I. 509. Rather greasy; often in some positions mutably resplendent.

Mutage (miū·tĕdʒ). [a. F. *mutage*, f. *muter*: see MUTE *v.*[4]] The process of muting wine. Cf. MUTE *v.*[4] 1839 in URE *Dict. Arts.*

† **Mu·tal**, *a. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [irreg. f. L. *mūt-āre* to change + -AL.] Changeable.

a 1562 G. CAVENDISH *Wolsey*, etc. (1825) II. 139 Fortune.. Which is of nature bothe cruel and mutall.

Mutanize, obs. form of MUTINIZE.

Mutate (miū·tēit), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. L. *mūtāt-us*, pa. pple. of *mūtāre* to change.] **A.** *adj. Bot.* Changed. *rare*⁻°. 1840 in PAXTON *Bot. Dict.*

B. *sb. Gram.* A form having a mutated vowel.

1875–6 H. SWEET in *Trans. Philol. Soc.* 558 Several of the words given above may also be mutates, such as *ded, sed, gredig.*

Mutate (miutē·t), *v.* [f. L. *mūtāt-*, ppl. stem of *mūtāre* (:—older **moitāre*, f. root **moi-* to change, whence MEAN *a.*[1]): see -ATE.] **a.** *intr.* To undergo change, be transmuted. Now only *Gram.* to undergo mutation. **b.** *trans.* (*Gram.*) To cause mutation of (a sound). Hence **Muta·ted** *ppl. a.*

1818 J. BROWN *Psyche* 53 Since men of rank, when they mutate From one into another state, Assume the nature most allied To that which they must throw aside. 1875–6 H. SWEET in *Trans. Philol. Soc.* 549 It is extremely probable that all subjunctives originally had mutated vowels.

Mutation (miutē·ʃən). [a. F. *mutacion* (13th c. in Littré), *-ation*, ad. L. *mūtātiōn-em*, n. of action f. *mūtāre* to change: see MUTATE and -ATION.]

1. The action or process of changing; alteration or change in form or qualities.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* Pr. vi. 18 (Camb. MS.), ffor-thi wenestow þat þise Mutacyouns of fortune fletyn with-owte gouernor. 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 3280 To maken.. That merveyllous mutacion, Bred in-to flesshe, wyn in-to blood. *c* 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* I. xli. (1869) 24 Al mutacioun that is doon in haste j hate. *c* 1522 BP. FOX in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. II. 4 Thestate & condicion of the Toune & Marches of Calis & other Fortryses within the same, & of theyr ruynes, decayes, mutacyons, and alteracions, fro the auncyent estatuz and ordinances [etc.]. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. clv. 187 It is come to the kynges knowledge, howe that his subgettes ar sore greued by reason of the mutacyon of ye moneys. 1605 SHAKS. *Lear* IV. i. 11 O world! But that thy strange mutations make vs hate thee Life would not yeelde to age. 1655 G. S. in Hartlib *Ref. Commw. Bees* 21, I took the pain to observe and collect the Generation of several Insects, with their various mutations from kind to kind. 1776 BURNEY *Hist. Mus.* (1789) I. iv. 54 The Mutations or changes incident to melody which in modern music we should call..modulation. *a* 1849 HOR. SMITH *Addr. Mummy* ix, Since first thy form was in this box extended We have above ground seen some strange mutations. 1892 STEVENSON & L. OSBOURNE *Wrecker* vi, More than three years had intervened almost without mutation in that stationary household.

† **b.** Changeableness. *Obs.*

a 1548 HALL *Chron., Edw. IV* (1550) 23 Suche is ye mutacyon of the common people, lyke a rede wyth euery wind is agitable and flexible.

† **c.** Change in government, revolution. Also, ? revolt, insurrection. *Obs.*

In the sense 'revolt' the word may be a. OF. *meutacion*, f. *meute* riot, uproar (see MUTE *sb.*[3]).

a 1470 TIPTOFT *Cæsar* x. (1530) 12 He douted lest in his absence there shuld arise some chaunge or mutacyon in Fraunce. 1660 MILTON *Free Commw.* Wks. 1851 V. 432 We had bin then by this time firmly rooted past fear of Commotions or Mutations. 1737 WHISTON *Josephus, Hist.* I. xvi. § 5 He..exacted the tribute..as a penalty for the mutations they had made in the country.

† **2.** *concr.* (*Roman Antiq.*) As rendering of L. *mutatio* (see quot. 1610). *Obs.*

1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 65 Also Mutations; for so they called in that age, the places where strangers, as they journeied did change their post-horses [etc.]. 1677 PLOT *Oxfordsh.* 326 Pillars of stone, whereon they inscribed the distances from the regal Cities, Stations, and Mutations.

3. *Mus.* **a.** In mediæval solmization: The change from one hexachord to another involving a change of the syllable applied to a given note.

1597 MORLEY *Introd. Mus.* Annot., Mutation is the leauing of one name of a note and taking another in the same sound. 1609 DOULAND *Ornith. Microl.* 16 To a Musitian..Mutation is..the putting of one concord for another in the same Key. 1760 *Phil. Trans.* LI. 743 The author is speaking of the sixth division of harmonic, which was mutation. 1807 ROBINSON *Archæol. Græca* V. xxiii. 534 In music the Greeks distinguished..rhythmus, mutations, and melopœia.

b. *Mutation stop*: a stop whose pipes produce tones one-fifth or a major third above the proper pitch of the key struck, or above one of its octaves. So *mutation rank.*

1855 HOPKINS *Organ* 110 Mutation or Filling-up Stops do not give a sound corresponding with the key pressed down; but some sound g on the C key, others e. 1881 C. A. EDWARDS *Organs* 153 The proper balancing of the foundation and mutation ranks.

c. In violin-playing: 'The shifting of the hand from one position to another' (*Cent. Dict.* 1890).

4. *Gram.* **a.** In the Celtic languages, a change of an initial consonant, depending on the grammatical (or, prehistorically, on the phonetic) character of the preceding word.

1843 *Proc. Philol. Soc.* I. 124 That remarkable system of initial mutations of consonants which distinguishes the Celtic languages from all others in Europe. 1904 *Athenæum* 5 Nov. 621/3 If Welsh loses its mutations as South Wales is doing slightly, we shall be sorry.

b. = UMLAUT.

1875–6 H. SWEET in *Trans. Philol. Soc.* 558 The mutation of original *ā*, which is written *æ* in WS. *Ibid.* 567 The most marked distinction between A[nglo-]F[risian] and O[ld] S[axon] is the want of 'umlaut' or mutation in the latter. 1887 SKEAT *Princ. Eng. Etymol.* Ser. I. 211 In many instances, the original vowel of the root has suffered both mutation and gradation.

Comb. 1892 SWEET *Engl. Gramm.* I. 315 The following mutation-plurals are still in common use.

5. *Law.* **a.** In French law (see quot. 1856). Also Comb. (in Canada) *mutation-fine.*

1825 *Act 6 Geo. IV*, c. 59 § 5 Every..droit de lods et ventes, and mutation fine of every description [Lower Canada]. 1856 BOUVIER *Amer. Law Dict.* (ed. 6) II. 195 *Mutation*, French law... Applied to designate the change which takes place in the property of a thing in its transmission from one person to another... It is nearly synonymous with transfer.

b. *Mutation of libel* (see quot. 1856).

1685 CONSETT *Pract. Spirit. Courts* III. i. § 2 (1700) 82 We now come to the other part of *Mynsinger* his purpose (*Scil.*) the mutation or changing of Libels; *mutare Libellum*, to change the Libel, is to vary and alter the substance of it. 1856 BOUVIER *Amer. Law Dict.* (ed. 6) II. 195 *Mutation of libel*, practice. An amendment allowed to a libel, by which there is an alteration of the substance of the libel.

6. *Biology.* Used (in contrast to *variation*) for the kind of change which results in the production of a new species. Applied by De Vries (*Die Mutations-theorie* 1901) to the process by which, according to his theory, a new species is suddenly produced by a departure from the parent type. Hence quasi-*concr.* a species resulting from this process.

1894 W. B. SCOTT in *Amer. Jrnl. Sci.* Nov. 372 Bateson's results..emphasize strongly the difference between variation and that steady advance along certain definite lines which Waagen called mutation. 1904 *Westm. Gaz.* 23 Apr. 12/3 It is with the origin of the minor species that the De Vries Mutation Theory is concerned. 1905 in *Q. Jrnl. Geol. Soc.* LXI. *Proc.* p. lxxiii, A mutation, in the palaeontological and original sense, may be defined as a contemporaneous assemblage of individuals united by specific identity of structure *inter se*, and by common descent from a known pre-existing species, from which they differ in some minute but constant character or characters. 1907 *Athenæum* 31 Aug. 242/1 The theory of mutation..assumes that a species has its birth, its lifetime, and its death, even as an individual, and that throughout its life it remains one and the same. By a mutation it does not change itself, but simply produces a new type. The mutation 'is allied to its ancestor as a branch is to a tree'.

Mutative (miū·tătiv), *a.* [a. OF. *mutatif* (1493 Godef.), a. med.L. *mūtātīv-us* f. *mūtāt-*, ppl. stem of *mūtāre* to change: see -ATIVE.]

1. Of or pertaining to change or mutation.

1743 [see METABOLIC *a.* 1]. 1907 *Athenæum* 31 Aug. 242/3 Whilst wheat, oats, peas, and vetches are still..in a mutative state or period, barley is now in a period of stability.

2. Given to change, changeable.

1818 *Blackw. Mag.* III. 533 He is neither so mutative and *dissimilis sibi* as Odoherty.

† **Muta·tor.** *Obs. rare*⁻¹. [a. L. *mūtātor*, agent-noun f. *mūtāre* to change.] One who changes.

1632 [see PLANTATOR 1].

Mutatory (miū·tătəri), *a.* [ad. mod.L. type **mūtātōri-us*: see prec. and -ORY.] Changing; mutable; variable. In recent Dicts.

Mutazalite, variant form of MOTAZILITE.

Mutch (mʊtʃ). *dial.* Also *Sc.* 5 mwch, 5–6 much, 7 moche. [a. MDu. *mutse* (mod.Du. *muts*) = MGH., mod.G. *mütze*; prob. a shortened form of MDu. *amutse, almutse*, MHG. *armuz, almuz*, med.L. *almutia*, F. *aumusse*, Pr. *aumussa*, Sp. *almucio* AMICE[2]; the origin of the Rom. word, which meant a covering for head and shoulders worn by canons, is obscure. Cf. MOZZETTA.]

† **1.** *Sc.* A night covering for the head. Often *night mutch. Obs.*

1473 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* (1877) I. 39, v elne of Holland claith for sarkis and muchis. *Ibid.* 40, ij elne of lawne for my Lordis muchis. 1474 *Ibid.* 27, j elne of Hollande claith for mwchis to the King. *Ibid.* 41, viij elne of Hollande claith for sarkis and mwchys. 1503 *Ibid.* (1900) II. 211 Item, for thre muches brocht hame be him to the King. 1612 *Sc. Bk. Customs* in *Halyburton's Ledger* (1867) 322 Mutches called nycht mutches of linning plane..nycht

mutches embrodered with gold and siluer. *a* 1670 SPALDING *Troub. Chas. I* (Spald. Club) II. 388 He had on his heid ane white perllit mvtche. 1831 SHENNAN *Tales* 75 (E.D.D.) Even her night-mutch did appear: The vera plaits aboon her brow.

2. A cap or coif, usually of linen, worn by women and young children. Also *attrib.*

1634-5 BREERETON *Trav.* (Chetham Soc.) 188 We call here.. a cap, a mutch, if it be linen. 1724 RAMSAY *Tea-t. Misc.* (1762) 9 Their toys and mutches were sae clean, They glanced in our ladses' een. 1822 GALT *Provost* xxxvi, Mrs. Fenton, with her mutch off,..was seen trying to sunder the challengers and the champions. 1884 Q. VICTORIA *More Leaves* 113 The old mother, Mrs. Brown, in her white mutch,..and a few neighbours stood round the room. 1894 CROCKETT *Lilac Sunbonnet* 36 The 'mutch' box lined with pale green paper.

Hence **Mu·tchless** *a.*, without a cap.

1826 J. WILSON *Noct. Ambr.* Wks. 1855 I. 216 The mutchless mawsie flings herself frae the tap step.

Mutchado,-atoe: see MOUSTACHE, MUSTACHIO.

Mutcher, dial. variant of MOOCHER.

Mutchkin (mʊ·tʃkin). *Sc.* Also 6 **mych-, mutskin, musking,** 7 **mutchin, mwching,** 8 **mutchken, -kine, muchkin.** [a. early mod.Du. *mudseken* (now *mutsje*), app. an irregular diminutive of *mud*(*de* MUD *sb.*[2]] A measure of capacity for liquids (or for dry substances of a powdery or granular character); the fourth part of the old Scots pint, or about three-quarters of an imperial pint.

?1425 *Sc. Acts Jas. I* (1814) II. 12 Quhilkis makis..of þe new mete now ordanit ix pyntis & three muchekynis. 1508 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* (1902) IV. 113 Item, to Pieris the payntour, for glew,..thre mychkinnis olye, calk, for the chapell. 1591 in *Thanes of Cawdor* (Spald. Club) 200 Item thrie muskingis aquavitye xv *s.* 1603 *Rec. Convent. Roy. Burghs Scot.* (1870) II. 157 Ilk burgh..caus mak and haue all thair mesouris of stovpeis of quart, pynt, choping, and mwching,..conformeable to the jadge and stovpe of Sterling. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* x. 478 With Wine, a mutchkin, thrice a weeke Pack'd in her pocket. 1769 *De Foe's Tour Gt. Brit.* (ed. 7) IV. 252 Boys and Girls, coming..to sell us Whortleberries,..sold to every one of us near a Mutchkin for a Baubee. 1756 MRS. CALDERWOOD *Jrnl.* (1884) 85 The proportion..was like our mutchkin of salt to twenty pound weight of butter. 1814 SCOTT *Wav.* xxxix, He whistled the 'Bob of Dumblain', under the influence of half a mutchkin of brandy. *a* 1884 PEERIE *Nugæ Eccles.* I. 24 Another mutchkin, Dibble.

b. *Comb.*, as *mutchkin cap, stoup, tin.*

1721 RAMSAY *Ode to Ph—* iii, That mutchkin stoup it hauds but dribs. 1786 BURNS *Earnest Cry* 7 Paint Scotland greetan owre her thrissle; Her mutchkin stowp as toom's a whissle. *a* 1791 GROSE *Olio* (1796) 115 Paddy lifted a muchkin tin..and threw it at the narrator. 1823 GALT *Gilhaize* xiv, A smith came in for a mutchkin-cap of ale.

Mute (miūt), *a.* and *sb.*[1] Forms: *α.* 4-5 **muwet,** 4-6 **mewet, muet,** 5 **mwet, muyt,** 6 **muete**; *β.* 5 **mut,** 6- **mute.** [ME. *muet* (*mewet, muwet*), a. F. *muet*:—popular L. **mūtettus* dim. of L. *mūtus*. In the 16th c. the word was assimilated in spelling and pronunciation to L. *mūtus* (whence OF. *mu*, Pr. *mut*, Sp. *mudo*, It. *muto*).] **A.** *adj.*

1. Not emitting articulate sound; silent.

To stand mute (*of malice*): in *Law*, to refuse deliberately to plead.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* v. 194 She..stod forth mewet [*v.r.* muwet] mylde and mansuete. *c* 1450 *Merlin* 172 Thei were alle stille and mewet as though thei hadde be dombe. 1513 MORE *Rich. III* in Grafton *Chron.* (1568) II. 784 She [was]..neither mute, nor full of bable. 1543-4 *Act* 35 *Hen. VIII*, c. 5 If any person..stand muet or wilnot directly answere to the same offences. 1547 [see MALICE *sb.* 6]. 1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* I. vii. § 3 When Counsellors and seruants stand mute and silent. *a* 1674 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* XI. § 234 He could not be so ignorant as not to know what judgment the law pronounced against those who stood mute, and obstinately refused to plead. 1750 GRAY *Elegy* xv, Some mute inglorious Milton here may rest. 1772 *Act* 12 *Geo. III*, c. 20 Such Person so standing Mute..shall be convicted of the Felony or Piracy charged in such Indictment or Appeal. 1866 M. ARNOLD *Thyrsis* xxii, Which task'd thy pipe too sore, and tired thy throat—It fail'd, and thou wast mute! 1906 *Westm. Gaz.* 26 May 12/1 At the Middlesex Sessions on Saturday..a young woman..was found by the jury to be standing mute of malice. *Ibid.*, It was not till 1827 that it was enacted that a plea of not guilty should be entered for a prisoner who stood mute of malice.

b. *transf.* in the sense: Not emitting sound; not manifesting sound. *Mute swan*: the common swan, *Cygnus olor.*

1513 MORE *Rich. III* in Grafton *Chron.* (1568) II. 794 All was still and muete, and not one worde aunswered to. *c* 1600 SHAKS. *Sonn.* xcvii, For summer and his pleasures waite on thee, And thou away, the very birds are mute. 1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 117 The water..passing along with a mute and vnspeedy current. 1653 WALTON *Angler* i. 17 The children of Israel..having bung up their then mute Instruments..sate down. 1774 G. WHITE *Selborne* 14 Feb., The martin..is rather a mute bird. 1785 PENNANT *Arct. Zool.* II. 543 Mute Swan. *Ibid.* 542 *note*, We change the name of the Tame Swan into Mute, as..this species emits no sound. 1790 BRUCE *Trav. Source Nile* III. 55 The sky-lark is here, but is mute the whole year, till the first rains fall in November. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* I. xv, The groves are still and mute! 1849 C. BRONTË *Shirley* x, Mute was the room,—mute the house. 1849 M. ARNOLD *Obermann* ii, Behind are the abandoned baths Mute in their meadows lone. 1884 WOOD in *Sunday Mag.* May 306/1 The descendants of Mute Swans, Greylag Geese and Wild Ducks.

c. Proverbial phrases. *As mute as a fish* or *fishes* (and dialectically, *as mute as a mackerel, maid, mouse, poker, statue, stone*).

c 1407 LYDG. *Reson & Sens.* 6267 They be as Muet as a stone. *c* 1440 *Compleynt* 50 in *Temple of Glas* 59 A tunge I haue, but wordys none, But stonde mut as any stone. 1576 GASCOIGNE *Steele Gl.* (Arb.) 67 Be thou eke as mewet as a mayde. 1620 MELTON *Astrolog.* 38 What wife he shall haue..whether she shall be as mute as a Fish, or haue a tongue as loude as a Fish-Wife. 1621-3 MIDDLETON & ROWLEY *Changeling* III. iii, Be silent, mute, Mute as a statue. 1760 FOOTE *Minor* I. (1767) 20 *Sir Will.* You can he secret as well as serviceable? *Shift.* Mute as a mackerel. 1781 C. JOHNSTON *Hist. J. Juniper* II. 141 The Nabob's friends..had stood all this while as mute as fishes. 1807 in *Spirit Publ. Jrnls.* XI. 3 The members as mute as fishes gaping for loaves. 1844 DICKENS *Mart. Chuz.* xxviii, Damme, sir, if he wasn't as mute as a poker. 1881 BESANT & RICE *Chapl. of Fleet* I. v, They one and all..became suddenly as mute as mice.

2. Destitute of the faculty of speech; dumb. Also *absol.*

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. xvi. 111 Bothe meseles & mute and in the menysoun blody, Oſte he heled suche he ne helde it for no maistrye. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 117 b/1 Zoe..whyche had ben muet & dombe vii yere by a sekenes that she had. 1649 *Alcoran* 176 They shall be infamous, deaf, mute, and blinde, and condemned to the flames of hell, because they are wicked. 1651 G. W. tr. *Cowel's Inst.* 173 He that is mute can neither Covenant nor promise, since he cannot speak nor utter words congruous to a Covenant. 1815 SCOTT *Ld. of Isles* III. xxiii, For though from earliest childhood mute, The lad can deftly touch the lute. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 418 The leading peculiarities of hysterical mutism are these... The subjects of this disability are completely mute.

b. Applied to the lower animals as lacking the power of articulate speech. Cf. DUMB *a.* 1 b.

1667 MILTON *P. L.* IX. 557 Beasts, whom God on thir Creation-Day Created mute to all articulat sound. 1678 R. L'ESTRANGE *Seneca's Mor., Anger* vii. (1692) 392 A Brutal Folly, to be Offended at a Mute Animal. 1845 FORD *Handbk. Spain* I. 35 Oaths..seem to be considered as the only language the mute creation can comprehend.

3. Temporarily bereft of the power of speech.

1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 271/2 The blessyd Berthylmewe ..entryd in to the temple..and made the deuylle soo muet that he gat noo remembraunce to them that adoured hym. 1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 418 Noble men at their meetinges should not be mute and tong-tyed. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* I. xvi. 83 This number is no Representative; because..it becomes oftentimes..a mute Person, and unapt.. for the government of a Multitude. 1706 E. WARD *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 28 Then he's struck mute. 1781 COWPER *Conversat.* 352 The fear of being silent makes us mute. 1887 BOWEN *Virg. Æneid* III. 298 Mute with wonder I stood.

4. Of things or action: Not characterized by or attended with speech or vocal utterance.

1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, I. i. 49 When he speakes,..the mute Wonder lurketh in mens eares. 1700 DRYDEN *Sigism. & Guisc.* 684 Mute solemn Sorrow, free from Female Noise. 1802 COLERIDGE *Hymn bef. Sunrise* 26 Mute thanks and secret ecstasy. 1871 MACDUFF *Mem. Patmos* ix. 121 The four and twenty Elders prostrate themselves in mute adoration. 1898 FLOR. MONTGOMERY *Tony* 15 Their mute appealing expression.

b. *transf.*

1627 SIR R. COTTON *View Reign Hen. III* 45 In himselfe hee reformed his naturall Errors, Princes Manners though a mute law haue more of life and vigour then those of letters. 1788 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* I. V. 185 The jurisdiction of the magistrate was mute and impotent. 1782 W. GILPIN *River Wye* 91 He will work them up with such colours, mute, or vivid, as best accord with the general tone of his landscape.

5. *Gram.* and *Phonetics.* **a.** Of a consonant: Produced by an entire interruption of the passage of breath, or by the complete closure of the organs of the mouth; 'stopped'.

After late L. *mūtus*, Gr. ἄφωνος.

1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* II. xiii. (Arb.) 135 The vowell is alwayes more easily deliuered then the consonant: and of consonants, the liquide more then the mute. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. 408/1, T..is a mute Letter, and sounded through the Teeth.

†**b.** Of a consonant: Voiceless. *Obs.*

1668 WILKINS *Real Char.* 369 (*Zh*) the sonorous Consonant, and (*Sh*) its correspondent mute..The first being vocal, the other mute.

c. Of a letter: Not pronounced, silent.

1638 BRATHWAIT *Barnabees Jrnl.* (1818) 181 What tho' graves become acute too? What tho' accents become mute too? 1846 *Proc. Philol. Soc.* III. 6 It gradually was established..that when a mute *e* followed a single consonant the preceding vowel was a long one.

6. *Astrol.* (see quot. 1696).

1658 GADBURY *Doctr. Nativities* 39 Some Signs there are which be termed mute..If any of the mute Signs ascend in a Nativity [etc.]. 1696 PHILLIPS (ed. 5), *Mute Signs*, are those which are denominated from Creatures that have no Voice, as *Cancer, Scorpio, Pisces*; and in Nativities, when the Significators therein, do spoil or cause some Impediment in the Speech of him that is born. 1819 J. WILSON *Dict. Astrol.* 296 *Mute Signs*, they are called dumb signs by the Arabians, and are said to have an effect on the native's speech, and cause dumbness.

7. *Sporting.* Not giving tongue (said of hounds while hunting). *To run mute*, to follow the chase without giving tongue.

1677 COX *Gentl. Recr.* (ed. 2) 17 When Hounds or Beagles run long without opening or making any cry, we say, they run Mute. 1843 SURTEES *Handley Cross* v. 101 A short sharp chirp is borne on the breeze; it is Heroine all but running mute. 1855 'STONEHENGE' *Brit. Sports* IV. 119 The defects which should especially be avoided are—first,..'babbling'; secondly, mute running. *Ibid.*, 'Babbling', 'mute running', and 'skirting', are dependent upon a defect in breeding. 1897 *Encycl. Sport* I. 582 *Mute*, silent, the hounds going too fast to speak. Some hounds are naturally mute.

8. Of wine: (See quot.). Cf. MUTE *sb.*[4]

1801 *Tilloch's Philos. Mag.* X. 151 In Languedoc, a kind of wine is made of white grapes called mute wine, which is employed to sulphur others...This wine never ferments, and for that reason is called mute wine.

9. Said of metals that do not ring when struck.

1806 TURTON tr. *Linn. Syst. Nat.* VII. Expl. Terms. 1841 MAUNDER *Sci. & Lit. Treas.* (1848) 487/2.

10. *Comb.*

1639 S. DU VERGER tr. *Camus' Admir. Events* 311 Mute-strucken with this lustre..he remained quite astonished. 1660 *Trial Regic.* 53 This Mute-man fortuned to see the Murtherer of his Father. 1728-46 THOMSON *Spring* 162 Herds and flocks Drop the dry sprig, and, mute-imploring, eye The falling verdure. 1746 SMOLLETT *Advice* 41 Bribe him, to feast my mute-imploring eye, With some proud lord, who smiles a gracious lie! 1850 BROWNING *Christmas Eve* xx. 62 Stumbling, mute-mazed, at nature's chance.

B. *sb.*

1. *Phonetics.* [See A. 5.] An element of speech formed by a position of the vocal organs such as stops the passage of the breath, or entirely interrupts the sound; a stopped consonant, a 'stop'.

1530 PALSGR. Introd. 20 Theyr consonantes be devyded in to mutes & liquides or semivocalles. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, Mutes (*mutæ*), these letters *b, c, d, g, h, k, p, q, t*, are so called, because they have no sound, without the assistance of a vowel. 1887 *Encycl. Brit.* XXII. 383/1 In Indian languages (p') would be felt as a final post-aspirated mute.

allusively. 1654 TRAPP *Comm. Job* xxxii. (1657) 280 We use to say, That at meetings young men should be Mutes, and old men Vowels.

†**2.** *In mute*, in an undertone. *Obs.*

c 1530 *Crt. of Love* 148 In mewet spak I, so that nogbt astert, By no condicion, word that might be herd.

3. A person precluded by nature, mutilation, or employment from the exercise of speech.

a. A dumb person; one deprived of the power of articulate speech owing to some congenital or pathological infirmity.

1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 74 Fifty Mutes he hath borne deafe and dumbe. 1660 *Trial Regic.* 53, I have heard a story of a Mute, that was born Mute. 1713 SWIFT *Cadenus & Vanessa* Wks. 1755 III. II. 25 Love can with speech inspire a mute. 1823 SCOTT *Peveril* xvi, The pretty mute was mistress of several little accomplishments. 1837 HT. MARTINEAU *Soc. Amer.* III. 335 In..Hancock..there are only 3 persons between 14 and 21 who cannot read and write; and they are mutes. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 109 The hysterical mute expresses himself in writing easily and correctly.

transf. 1775 GIBBON *Priv. Lett.* 25 Feb. (1896) I. 251, I am still a Mute; it is more tremendous than I imagined; the great speakers fill me with despair, the bad ones with terror. 1841 D'ISRAELI *Amen. Lit.* (1867) 687 The mute who cannot speak at a dinner or on the hustings, is eloquent in a pamphlet.

b. An actor on the stage whose part is performed only in dumb-show.

1579 W. WILKINSON *Confut. Familye of Loue* 32 Mutes vpon a stage called forth to fill vp a roome and make a shew. 1604 DEKKER *Kings' Entertainm.* C j, The Personages (as well Mutes as Speakers) in this Pageant were these. 1765 E. THOMPSON *Meretriciad* (ed. 6) 48 Behind him waddles a theatric Mute. 1787 MME. D'ARBLAY *Diary* 18 Jan., It made me feel, once more..like a mute upon the stage. 1884 *Truth* 13 Mar. 376/2 The sea-green robes of a beautiful mute in Mr. Gilbert's topsy-turvy plays.

c. In oriental countries: A dumb house-servant or janitor; usually one who has been deliberately deprived of the power of speech.

1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, I. ii. 232 Our graue Like Turkish mute, shall haue a tongueless mouth. 1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turks* (1621) 763 Hee saw seauen Muts (these are strong men, hereft of their speech, whom the Turkish tyrants haue always in readinesse, the more secretly to execute their bloody butcherie). 1735 SOMERVILLE *Chase* III. 393 As his Guard of Mutes On the great Sultan wait. 1825 MACAULAY *Ess., Milton* (1897) 25 The mutes who throng their antechambers.

†**d.** *Law.* One who refuses to plead to an indictment. *Obs.* (Cf. MUTE *a.* 1 *note.*)

1659 FULLER *App. Inj. Innoc.* I. iii. 3 In our Common Law, Mutes at the Bar, who would not plead to the Indictment, are Adjudged guilty. 1660 *Trial Regic.* 31 He, that doth refuse to put himself upon his Legal Trial of God, and the Countrey, is a Mute in Law. 1738 NEAL *Hist. Purit.* IV. 187 Judgment was given against him as a Mute.

e. A professional attendant at a funeral; a hired 'mourner'.

1762-71 H. WALPOLE *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1786) II. 219 Forty gentlemen..submitted to wait as mutes with their backs against the wall of the chamber where the body laid in state. 1842 *Literary Gaz.* 31 Dec. 897/2 There he saw the two mutes and the hearse at the door. 1898 STEVENSON & L. OSBOURNE *Wrecker* I. 23 Those who had met at the depôt like a pair of mutes, sat down to table with holiday faces.

4. *Mus.* **a.** A clip of metal, wood or ivory that can be placed over the bridge of a violin or similar stringed instrument to deaden the resonance without affecting the vibration of the strings.

1811 BUSBY *Dict. Music* (ed. 3). 1894 *Pall Mall Mag.* Feb. 590 He played it over a dozen times with the mute on his violin after she had gone to rest.

b. A pear-shaped leather pad or piece of metal which can be inserted into the bell of a metal wind-instrument to check the emission of sound.

1841 *Musical World* Apr. 247 A mute is a piece of brass formed to fit the inside of the bell of a trumpet. 1845 E. HOLMES *Mozart* 176 The mutes which soften the tone of brass instruments.

5. *Comb.*, as *mute-like* adj.; **mute-closure** (*Phonetics*), closure of the oral passage so as to form a mute.

1875 WHITNEY *Life Lang.* iv. 62 These are the only mute-closures found in English, or French, or German. 1889 CLARK RUSSELL *Marooned* xvii, There is really no need for such a mute-like face as yours.

†**Mute,** *sb.*[2] *Obs.* Also 6 meute, 6–7 mewte, 7 mut, muite, 8 mewt. [f. MUTE *v.*[1] Cf. F. *émeut* of the same meaning.]

1. The action of 'muting'; *concr.* (*sing.* and *pl.*) dung (of birds).

1575 TURBERV. *Falconrie* 116 If hir mewtes bee cleane and white. 1596 HARINGTON *Metam. Ajax* 31 You have a speciall regard to observe, if she [*sc.* the hawk] make a cleane mute. 1614 MARKHAM *Cheap Husb.* 140 If your Hawke.. get any inward bruise, which you shall know by the blacknesse or bloodinesse of their muts, you shall then annoynt her meat..with Sperma-Cœtæ till her mutes be cleare againe. 1645 G. DANIEL *Poems* Wks. (Grosart) II. 45 Like a Falcon ..Check'd by my bonds, I fall, And lime my Selfe, in all The muite and Slime. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Mute,* dung, especially of Birds. 1727 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Apostume,* They must be held on the Fist until they have made one or two Mewts. 1820 SCORESBY *Acc. Arctic Reg.* I. 426 The reddish colour..is given by the mute of birds.

2. A kind of slimy discharge, as mucus.

1578 LYTE *Dodoens* III. cxiii. 306 It doth mundifie and clense the breast of all cold meutes or flegme.

†**Mute,** *sb.*[3] *Obs.* Also 4 mut, 9 meute. [a. OF. *muete, meute* (mod.F. *meute*) :—popular L. **movita,* verbal noun f. L. *movēre* to MOVE. Cf. med.L. *mota* (from OFr.).]

1. A pack of hounds.

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1720 Thenne was hit lif vpon list to lyþen þe houndez, When alle þe mute hade hym met, menged to-geder. *c* 1410 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) xxxv, Þanne shulde þe sergeant of þe mute of þe herte houndes..make alle hem of þe office..hardell þeire houndes. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* F vj b, A Mute of houndes. 1664 *Spelman's Gloss., Mute,* a Kenel or Crie of Hounds. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* II. 132/1 Hounds 16 [are] a Kennell of Hounds, or a Mute.

2. The cry of hounds working.

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1915 Hit was þe myriest mute þat euer men herde. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 2192 Alle men þat mut herde of þe muri houndes, seweden after ful swiþe to se þat mury chace.

¶ **3.** Misused for MEW *sb.*[2] 1.

The mistake seems to have arisen from confusion with the med.L. *mūta* mew for hawks.

1854 MILMAN *Lat. Chr.* VII. i. III. 117 The cloisters became..the kennels of their hounds, the meutes of their hawks.

Mute (miūt), *sb.*[4] *dial.* A kind of mule.

In some districts applied to the offspring of a mare and an ass (the 'mule' properly so called), and in others to that of the she-ass and stallion (the 'hinny').

1843 BORROW *Bible in Spain* xxiii, Gigantic and heavily-laden mutes and mules. 1895 *Daily News* 23 July 2/2 The most curious 'donkey' was a 'mute'. *Ibid.,* The mute was said to be nine years old.

Mute (miūt), *v.*[1] *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Also 6, 8 mewt. [a. OF. *muetir* (*mutir* Cotgr. 1611), aphetic form of *esmeutir,* earlier *esmeltir.*

The ulterior origin is obscure; the Teut. *smelt-* to melt, SMELT *v.,* would suit the form, but the affinity of sense is not very close.]

Of a bird, esp. a hawk: **a.** *intr.* To void the fæces. **b.** *trans.* To discharge as fæces.

c 1450 *Bk. Hawking* in *Rel. Ant.* I. 296 Ye schull say that your hawke mutith and not sclisith. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* C viij, She mutith when she auoydith hir order. *a* 1529 SKELTON *Ware the Hauke* 62 The hawke..mutid there a chase Vpon my corporas face. 1575 TURBERV. *Falconrie* 61 A greene seere of hir foote,..large panell, and able to slyse farre from hir when she mewteth. 1611 BIBLE *Tobit* ii. 10 Mine eyes being open, the Sparrowes muted warme doung into mine eyes. 1622 tr. *Luna's Pursuit Lazarillo* ix. 74 Aske a Philosopher why Flyes vpon a white thing doe mute black, and contrariwise, vpon a black, white. 1679 CROWNE *Amb. Statesm.* III. 38 Flying rumours, which like birds Soaring at random, mute on any head. 1698 B. BULLIVANT in *Phil. Trans.* XX. 168 It [*sc.* the bird] muted the Honey pure. 1727 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Backworm,* Make 'em into a Pill, which give her in the Morning so soon as she has cast, and after she has mewted it clean away, then give her good hot Meat. 1774 G. WHITE *Selborne* 28 Sept., When they [*sc.* swifts] mute..they raise their wings. 1820 *Blackw. Mag.* VII. 676 Sir Dick gave the dung that he ventures to mute on The glories of Europe, our Wellesley and Newton.

†**Mute,** *v.*[2] *Obs.* [Of obscure origin: perh. a. L. *mūtīre* to murmur. The identity of the word in the various quots. is uncertain.] *intr.* To murmur. Hence **Mu·ting** *vbl. sb.,* murmuring, discontent.

In quot. 1542 perh. a mistake for *mutining,* or possibly a. MDu. *muytinge* insurrection.

1542 *Fabyan's Chron.* VII. 486/2 And in this yere [1524–5] ..[was] a mutyng in Norfolke & Suffolke for payment of money. 1570 FOXE *A. & M.* (ed. 2) I. 365/2 Muche lesse durst poore subiectes once mute agaynst hym. *Ibid.* 659/2 The kyngdome of the Pope and his members..began to be so strong, that none durst styrre or once mute agaynst them. *a* 1639 SPOTTISWOOD *Hist. Ch. Scot.* (1677) III. 124 They perceived a secret muting in their own Army. 1642 D. ROGERS *Naaman* 519 That none should be so daring or presumptuous, as once to mute or quetch, if they once proclaime their will. 1643 R. BAILLIE *Lett.* (1841) II. 91 Mr. Harie Guthrie made no dinne. His letter was a wand above his head to discipline him, if he should mute. 1644 *Ibid.* 147 This was read openlie in the face of the Assemblie, and in the eares of the Independents, who durst not mute against it. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* XI. xvii. 162 That murmuring and muting against Princes differ only in degree, not in kinde.

Mute (miūt), *v.*[3] [f. MUTE *a.*]

†**1.** *intr.* (See quot.) *Obs.*—[0]

Perh. *mute* may be a mistake for *run mute,* which appears in later edd. of Phillips.

1678 PHILLIPS (ed. 4), *Mute,*..also when Hounds run long, without making any cry they are said to mute.

2. *trans.* To deaden or subdue the sound of: *spec.* in *Music,* to muffle the sound of (a musical instrument). Also *fig.*

1883 F. CORDER in Grove *Dict. Mus.* III. 637 Berlioz muted the clarinet by enveloping the bell in a bag of chamois leather. *Ibid.,* Violins are muted either by placing a wooden or brass instrument upon the bridge. 1891 G. MEREDITH *One of our Conq.* III. viii. 148 The tone of neutral colour that, as in sound, muted splendour. 1891 *Times* 22 Oct. 14/2 The strings are muted, and, yet..the woodwind is always to be kept in subjection to them. 1906 MAX PEMBERTON *Hundred Days* 101 A heavy Indian carpet muted the footsteps of the Emperor as he paced it.

b. To silence.

1891 G. MEREDITH *One of our Conq.* II. v. 129 They are spirited on, patted, subdued, muted, raised, rushed anew, away, held in hand.

Hence **Mu·ting** *vbl. sb.* (also *attrib.*).

1881 *Times* 25 Oct. 11/4 The mysterious glamour thrown over the whole by the muting of the strings. 1885 *Encycl. Brit.* XIX. 70/2 A surding or muting effect produced by impeding the vibration of the strings.

Mute (miūt), *v.*[4] *Wine-making.* [f. F. *muter,* f. L. *mūtus* dumb (cf. MUTE *a.*).] *trans.* To check the fermentation of (must). Hence **Mu·ted** *a.*[1]; **Mu·ting** *vbl. sb.*

1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 1203 If *must,* so *muted,* is boiled into a syrup within a week or ten days, it retains no sulphureous odour. A very slight muting would suffice for the most fermentable cane-juice. 1853 *Ibid.* (ed. 4) I. 155 The muted wines.

Mute, variant of MEWT *v.*

a 1529 SKELTON *Sp. Parrot* 26 Lyke your pus cate, Parrot can mute and cry In Lattyn, in Ebrew, Araby, and Caldey.

Mute, obs. form of MOOT *sb.*[1], *v.*[1], MOULT *v.*

Muted *a.*[1]: see MUTE *v.*[4]

Muted (miū·tĕd), *a.*[2] [f. MUTE *v.*[3] + -ED[1].] Rendered mute, silent; muffled. *spec.* Of music or musical instruments: Having the sound muffled.

1861 *Sat. Rev.* 14 Dec. 611 There is a pleasing effect by the muted violins. 1879 G. MEREDITH *Egoist* III. ii. 50 That low muted tone of the very heart, impossible to deride. 1897 *Edin. Rev.* Apr. 316 It is only a muted melancholy. 1905 HOWELLS *London Films* 93 The muted Sunday streets.

Hence **Mu·tedly** *adv.*

1891 G. MEREDITH *One of our Conq.* II. viii. 212 Now and then mutedly ebullient at the mouth.

Mutely (miū·tli), *adv.* [f. MUTE *a.* + -LY[2].] In a mute or silent manner.

1628 MILTON *Vac. Exerc.* 6 Hail, native Language, that ..mad'st imperfect words..slide through my infant-lips, Driving dumb Silence from the portal door, Where he had mutely sat two years before! 1687 DRYDEN *Hind & P.* I. 535 The rest amazed, Stood mutely still, and on the stranger gazed. 1863 WOOLNER *My Beautiful Lady* 42 Her mutely gracious ways. 1884 F. M. CRAWFORD *Rom. Singer* i, Nino sat mutely by, as we smoked.

Mutener, obs. form of MUTINEER.

Muteness (miū·tnĕs). [-NESS.] The quality or condition of being mute or silent.

1590 H. BARROW in *Confer.* iii. 65 Here Mr. Cooper was smitten with mutenes. 1643 MILTON *Divorce* I. iii. 8 The bashful mutenes of a virgin. 1821 LAMB *Elia* Ser. I. *Quakers' Meeting,* What is the stillness of the desert, compared with this place? What the uncommunicating muteness of fishes? 1852 SEIDEL *Organ* 138 If the foot of a wood pipe be very badly worm-eaten,..muteness of the pipe will be the consequence. 1898 *Atlantic Monthly* LXXXII. 480/1 Terror and absolute muteness reign in the house.

b. Said of hounds: The habit of being 'tongueless' when the occasion requires 'cries'.

1881 *Encycl. Brit.* XII. 315/2 Lastly, they must be free from certain faults, such as muteness, babbling, and skirting.

Mutenie, -ye, obs. forms of MUTINY *sb.*

Mu'ter, Mutere, obs. ff. MULTURE, MOOTER.

†**Mutess,** *v. Obs. rare.* Also 5 muteyse. [a. OF. *muetiss-, muetir* MUTE *v.*[1]] = MUTE *v.*[1]

1486 *Bk. St. Albans* A iij b, An euell callid the Cray..that is whan an hawke may not muteyse. *Ibid.* A vj b, Ye shall say yowre hawke mutessith or mutith and not sklysith.

Muth, variant of MATH[2].

Muthologic, -ical, etc.: see MYTHOLOGIC, etc.

Mutic (miū·tik), *a. Bot.* and *Ent.* [a. L. *mutic-us* (see MUTICOUS *a.*). Cf. F. *mutique.*] = MUTILATE *a.* 3. **a.** *Bot.* Without a point or beard, muticous. **b.** *Ent.* Wanting spines.

1777 ROBSON *Brit. Flora* 25 Of the calyx. Mutic, without awns. 1842 LOUDON *Encycl. Trees & Shrubs* Index, *Mutic,* pointless; a term opposed to mucro. 1861 HAGEN *Syn. Neuroptera N. Amer.* 341 *Mutic,* unarmed, i.e. without spines, &c.

Muticate (miū·tikēt), *a. Zool. rare*—[1]. [Formed as next + -ATE.] = MUTILATE *a.* 3.

1860 OWEN *Palæont.* 311 Both form and structure are compatible with the hoofless muticate type of herbivorous Mammal, as shown by the Manatee.

Muticous (miū·tikəs), *a. Bot.* [f. early L. *mutic-us* awnless (Varro *De Re Rust.* I. xlviii) + -OUS.] Without point or awn, beardless.

1856 MAYNE *Expos. Lex., Muticus, Bot.,* without the arista or awn; beardless, muticous. 1874 R. BROWN *Man. Bot.* 609 *Muticous,* destitute of a terminal point. 1881 *Trnl. Bot.* X. 12 Not unlike a muticous form of *Tortula unguiculata.*

Mutil, obs. form of MUTULE.

Mutilate (miū·tilĕt), *sb.* [Subst. use of next adj.] A member of the *Mutilata,* the lowest division of Megasthenes in Dana's classification of Mammalia, comprising those with 'mutilate' limbs; a cetacean or sirenian.

1862 DANA *Man. Geol.* 423 *note,* Mutilates. The limbs short and paddle-like for swimming. 1863 [see MEGASTHENE].

Mutilate (miū·tilĕt), *a.* Also 6 *Sc.* mutilat, mutillait. [ad. L. *mutilāt-us,* pa. pple. of *mutilāre* to MUTILATE.]

1. Of a human body: Wanting or deprived of one or more of its members; mutilated; of a limb, rendered imperfect by mutilation. *Obs.* exc. *poet.*

1532 FRITH *Mirror* (1626) 44 Wee..are much bound to him, that he hath given to vs our perfect members:..yet ..wee are much bound vnto him, although he hath made vs imperfect & mutilate. 1540–1 ELYOT *Image Gov.* 71 He beheld a great noumbre of persons, some..mutilate of their membres. 1563–4 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 269 In caise any of thame..happynnis to be hurt, mutilat, or slane. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* VII. ii. 342 Criples mutilate in their owne persons, do come out perfect in their generations. 1795 SOUTHEY *Maid of Orleans* I. 82 Imaged forms Of saints and warlike chiefs, moss-canker'd now And mutilate, lay strewn upon the ground. 1814 CARY *Dante, Inf.* XXVIII. 60 Another shade, Pierc'd in the throat, his nostrils mutilate.

2. Of things: Having some part destroyed or wanting. *Obs.* exc. *poet.*

c 1560 [BANNATYNE] in *A. Scott's Poems* (E. E. T. S.) 1 To Rdr., My copeis awld, mankit, and mvtillait. 1567 J. SANFORD tr. *Epictetus* 6 The instrument being mutilate and vnperfect. 1644 HAMMOND *Conscience* § 71. 38 The maimed mutilate obedience, the compounding betwixt God and Satan. 1673 [R. LEIGH] *Transp. Reh.* 57 The story as he has castrated it is so mutilate and deficient. 1814 SOUTHEY *Roderick* XVIII, Mutilate..Of royal rites was this solemnity.

3. *Nat. Hist.* Deficient in some part common to the species or to closely related species, or possessing it only in an imperfect or modified form.

1760 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* I. xx. (1765) 61 Mutilate Flowers are the reverse of Luxuriant. Linnæus confines the Term to those Flowers only that want the Corolla; though they ought to be furnished with it. 1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* IV. xlvi. 333 Mutilate (*Mutilata*). When they [the elytra] appear unnaturally short or curtailed as if mutilated. 1848 MAUNDER *Treas. Nat. Hist.* 796. 1890 *Century Dict., Mutilate,* deprived of hind limbs, as a cetacean or a sirenian.

Hence †**Mu·tilateness** *rare*—[1].

1599 A. M. tr. *Gabelhouer's Bk. Physicke* 199/1 It will prævent the mutilatenes of anye persone.

Mutilate (miū·tilēt), *v.* Also 6 mutulate, 7 *Sc.* mittellate. [f. L. *mutilāt-,* ppl. stem of *mutilāre* to cut or lop off; f. *mutil-us* maimed (? = Gr. μύτιλος or μίτυλος, hornless): see -ATE[1].]

1. *trans.* To deprive (a person or animal) of a limb or some principal organ of the body; to cut off or otherwise destroy the use of (a limb or organ). *spec.* in *Scots Law*: cf. MUTILATION.

1562 [implied in MUTILATING *vbl. sb.*]. 1609 SKENE *Reg. Maj.* (1774) 395 (tr. *Stat. Rob. II,* c. 11) Gif ane man mutilats ane other, or wounds, or beates him, be forthocht felonie. 1616 BULLOKAR *Eng. Expos., Mutilate,* to maime, cut off, or make lame. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* VII. ii. 342 Such as fearing to concede a monstrosity, or mutilate the integrity of Adam, preventively conceive the creation of thirteene ribs. 1685 SIR J. LAUDER *Chron. Notes Sc. Affairs* (1822) 135 M'Alla, skiper in Leith, sues before the Councill John Reid, skiper there, for mittellating him. 1838 THIRLWALL *Greece* IV. 337 The Greeks..mutilated the slain. 1839 *Ibid.* VI. 293 He was condemned to be mutilated, ..in his nose and ears. 1854 MILMAN *Lat. Chr.* IV. viii. (1864) II. 396 They were blinded, or mutilated by the loss of their tongues. 1866 ROGERS *Agric. & Prices* I. xxi. 525 Sheep-dogs were purposely mutilated in order to prevent their running game down.

absol. 1805 *Med. Jrnl.* XIV. 54 A high variolous susceptibility, which..when excited by art [*i.e.* by vaccination] ..very often mutilates, and very often destroys.

fig. 15.. *Narr. Reformation* (Camden) 238 The said scholemaster so appalled..the tender and fyne wittes of his scholers, whose memories were also therby so mutulated and wounded, that [etc.]. 1841 MYERS *Cath. Th.* III. § 50. 196 Let a man sit down to the study of the Bible..mutilating no endowment of his understanding.

2. To render (a thing, esp. a record, book, etc.) imperfect by cutting off or destroying a part.

1534 MORE *Treat. Passion* Wks. 1291/1, I wil not in any worde wyllingly e, mangle or mutulate that honourable mans worke. 1637–50 ROW *Hist. Kirk* (Wodrow Soc.) 65 The maters being relating to Bishops, it is easie to espy who did mutilat the Register. 1701 GREW *Cosm. Sacra* V. i. § 40. 289 The Scriptures are hereby [*sc.* the various Lections], neither Mutilated, nor Depraved. 1824 DIBDIN *Libr. Comp.* 681 Which [book-leaves] have been dreadfully devoured or mutilated by..some..animal. 1902 A. LANG *Hist. Scotl.* II. ix. 208 The deposition of Bowton was mutilated, to shield Murray's associates.

Hence **Mu·tilating** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1562 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 218 The Tolbuith..in the quhilk he wes wardit, for the cruell onsetting upoun James Lord Ogilvy and mutilating of him of his rycht arme. 1677 GILPIN *Demonol.* (1867) 402 The misrepresentation and abuse of it, as may be seen..in his clipping and mutilating of it. 1826 E. IRVING *Babylon* I. II. 125 No other book.. hath been permitted to escape the violent or mutilating hands of their inquisitory acts. 1827 STEUART *Planter's G.* (1828) 140 The Mutilating system [of transplanting trees], now generally prevalent. *Ibid.,* A planter, according to the Mutilating method,..then proceeds to lighten and lop the top. 1905 TUCKWELL *Remin. Rad. Parson* xiii. 189 The mutilating process became intolerable at last, and I gently dropped out of the journal.

a public library to replace a mutilated book with a new copy. 1875 DARWIN *Insectiv. Pl.* xiii. 319 This mutilated leaf..re-expanded in two days. 1878 Bosw. SMITH *Carthage* 340 He was encouraged to make aggressions on her mutilated territory.

3. Special applications. (See quots.)

1693 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Myurus*, a mutilated Pulse, increasing or decreasing gradually. 1696 PHILLIPS (ed. 5), *Mutilated*, otherwise called Azimene Degrees, are certain degrees in several Signs, that threaten the Native that has them Ascending, with Lameness [etc.]. 1727-41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Corniche*, Mutilated Corniche is that whose projecture is omitted, or else interrupted, right to the larmier, or reduced into a platband with a cimatium. *Ibid.*, *Mutilated Roof.* Sometimes it is cut, or mutilated, that is, consists of a true and a false roof which is laid over the former: this last is particularly called a mansard. 1793 MARTYN *Lang. Bot.* (1796) s. v. *Mutilatus*, A mutilated flower. Not producing a corolla, when it ought regularly to do it. 1802 C. JAMES *Milit. Dict.* s. v., A battalion is said to be mutilated, when its divisions, &c., stand unequal. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, *Mutilated Wheel*, a wheel, from a part of the perimeter of which the cogs are removed.

Mutilation (miūtilē·ʃən). Also 6 *Sc.* mutulatioun. [a. L. *mutilātiōn-em*, n. of action f. *mutilāre* to MUTILATE. Cf. F. *mutilation*.]

1. The action of depriving (a person or animal) of a limb or of the use of a limb; the excision or maiming (of a limb or bodily organ); also, an instance of the action; *rarely* a mutilated condition.

1646 Sir T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* VII. ii. 342 We observe that mutilations are not transmitted from father unto son; the blind begetting such as can see [etc.]. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* II. xxvii. 160 Mutilation of a limbe, [is a] greater [Crime], than the spoyling a man of his goods. *a* 1716 SOUTH *Serm.* (1744) X. viii. 239 When a man is in imminent danger of the mutilation of a leg or an arm. 1769 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* IV. 370 Some punishments..occasion a mutilation or dismembring, by cutting off the hand or ears. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* v. I. 569 Many of them were also sentenced to mutilation. On a single day the hangman of Edinburgh cut off the ears of thirty-five prisoners. 1867 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1877) I. v. 371 There he put on shore the hostages..having first subjected them to various mutilations, as the loss of hands, ears and noses. 1883 GREEN *Conq. Eng.* v. 227 The laws against mutilation of cattle.

b. *Scots Law.* The action of disabling or wounding (a person) in his members as distinguished from 'demembration'.

1525 *Extracts Aberd. Reg.* (1844) I. 113 The cruelt slauchteris, mutilatiounis, and hurts doyne amang thame under silence of nycht, be thair neychbours about. 1546 *Ibid.* 230 Tuching the hurting and bluid drawing of the said Amrouse Tailzeour, and mutilation of him of his left hand. 1555 *Burgh Rec. Stirling* (1887) 65 Thai wer acquyt..of mutilatioun of the lard of Cragingelt. 1609 [see DEMEMBRATION]. 1699 Sir A. SETON (*title*) A Treatise of mutilation and demembration and their punishments. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) IX. 720/2 [Law of Scotland.] Mutilation, or the disabling of a member, is punished at the discretion of the judge. 1838 in *Bell's Dict. Law Scotl.*

c. *spec.* Castration.

1727-41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v., Mutilation is sometimes also used in a more immediate manner for 'castration'. 1828-54 in WEBSTER. 1850 in OGILVIE. In some recent Dicts.

2. The action of rendering (a thing) imperfect by excision or destruction of one or more of its parts; also, an instance of this.

1638 Sir T. HERBERT *Trav.* (ed. 2) 117 Making the ships their object (after a great mutilation of shrowds and masts) they sunk the..Fleet. 1659 PEARSON *Creed* II. 136 All the originall letters in the name Hoseah are preserved in that of Joshua:..this alteration was not made by..diminution or mutilation; but by addition. 1867 DICKENS *Lett.* (1880) II. 270, I have no more power to stop that mutilation of my books than you have. 1874 H. R. REYNOLDS *John Bapt.* ii. 69 Very numerous other omissions and mutilations are notified by Tertullian. 1875 WHITNEY *Life Lang.* iv. 55 Another consequence of the same difference of accent is the greater mutilation of the radical part of the word in the Romanic languages..than in the Germanic.

Mutilative (miū·tilĕtiv), *a. nonce-wd.* [f. MUTILATE *v.* + -IVE.] Causing mutilation.

1883 Lyon PLAYFAIR in *Times* 20 June 11 This fatal and mutilative disease [*sc.* small-pox].

Mutilator (miū·tilēitəɹ). Also 7 -er. [a. L. *mutilātor*, agent-n. f. *mutilāre* to MUTILATE.] One who mutilates.

1637-50 Row *Hist. Kirk* (Wodrow Soc.) 181 That hurters and mutilaters of ministers may once at last be taken. 1767 Bush *Hibernia Cur.* To Rdr. (1769) 12 That class of hireling pedagogal priggs, the abridgers, or rather mutilators [illegible] mutilous monuments and the foundation of some old castle. 1692 RAY *Disc.* II. iv. 112 In all other figured Fossils it is observed that they are never found mutilous broken or imperfect. *a* 1707 WILLARD *Body of Divinity* ccxlii. (1726) 880/2 Divers do make these two [petition and thanksgiving] to be the parts of prayer,..as if it were mutilous without them both.

Hence † **Mu·tilously** *adv.*, † **Mu·tilousness.**

1648 E. SPARKE *Ep. Ded.* to *Shute's Sarah & Hagar*, While thus mutilously they render him. 1668 WILKINS *Real Char.* II. viii. § 1. 198 Mutilousness.

† **Mutina·do.** *Obs.* [Pseudo-Sp. formation on MUTINE *v.*: see -ADO. Cf. Sp. *amotinado* mutineer.] A mutineer.

1604 E. GRIMSTONE *Hist. Siege Ostend* 218 The mutinadoes..had the point. 1611 SPEED *Hist. Gt. Brit.* IX. xx. § 27. 735/2 This vnfortunate Prince, hauing..incurred extreme hatred with many of the Nobility and people laboured with King Henry..to make an accord betweene him and his Mutinadoes.

† **Mutine,** *sb.* and *a.*[1] *Obs.* Also 6 mutyne, mutin. [a. F. *mutin* adj. rebellious, mutinous, sb. rebel, mutineer; also in 16th c. rebellion, mutiny; corresponding to Sp. *motin*, Pg. *motim* rebellion, mutiny:—Rom. **movitino*, f. popular L. **movita*: see MUTE *sb.*[2]] **A.** *sb.*

1. Popular disturbance or tumult; rebellion, mutiny.

1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 426 b, In the selfe same momente, whan that heate and mutine began to ryse..was brought a remedy, and all the tempeste appeased. 1579 *Guisian Ambas.* A iv, The Fyre and Flame of..mutynes and tumultes. 1600 FAIRFAX *Tasso* I. i. 1 His soldiers wilde (to braules and mutines prest) Reduced he to peace.

2. A turbulent or rebellious person; a mutineer.

1581 SAVILE *Tacitus, Hist.* II. xvii. (1591) 83 Otho went out, & hauing rebuked the principal mutins, returning againe [etc.]. 1595 SHAKS. *John* II. i. 378 Your Royall presences be rul'd by mee, Do like the Mutines of Ierusalem, Be friends a-while. 1604 E. GRIMSTONE *Hist. Siege Ostend* 6 The mutines of Isabella fort were pacified.

B. *adj.* Turbulent, mutinous. *Obs. rare*—[1].

1587 T. HUGHES *Misfort. Arthur* Introd., Our industrie maiutaineth..The Commons libertie and each mans right; Supresseth mutin force and practicke fraude. 1598 [R. CAREW] *Herrings Tayle* A 2 b, On traytor sea, and mid the mutine [*printed* mutine] windes.

‖ **Mutine** (miūtin), *a.*[2] [Fr., fem. of *mutin* adj.: see prec.] Of a girl or woman: Rebellious, unsubmissive.

1870 Miss BROUGHTON *Red as Rose* I. 50 Essie..looking excessively mutine and ill-humoured. 1877 Mrs. FORRESTER *Mignon* I. 112 Mignon's face assumes an unmistakeably mutine look.

† **Mutine,** *v. Obs.* Also 6-7 mutin. [a. F. *mutiner*, f. *mutin*: see MUTINE *sb.* Cf. Sp., Pg. *amotinar*, It. *ammutinare*.]

1. *intr.* To rise in revolt against authority; to rebel, mutiny.

1555, 1559 [implied in MUTINING *vbl. sb.*]. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 41 b, Nowe that a subsidie is to be gathered..for the Turkishe warre, men do grudge and mutine. 1581 SAVILE *Tacitus, Hist.* I. xviii. (1591) 45 The soldiers mutin and charge the Centurions and Tribunes with treason. 1597 BEARD *Theatre God's Judgem.* (1612) 227 Thus they backbited and slaundered Moses, and mutined against him. 1609 B. JONSON *Sil. Wom.* I. iii, Then [he] railes at his fortunes, stamps, and mutines, why he is not made a counsellor. 1641 MILTON *Ch. Govt.* II. 65 This.. plainly accuses them to be no lawful members of the house, if they thus perpetually mutine against their own body. 1650 HOWELL *Giraffi's Rev. Naples* I. 12 There came no fruit at all, because the shopkeepers had mutined and agreed not to buy any fruit. 1692 O. WALKER *Grk. & Rom. Hist.* 257 When the Legions mutined in the East, and threatned to kill him.

fig. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* III. iv. 83 Rebellious Hell, If thou canst mutine in a Matrons bones, To flaming youth, let Vertue be as waxe, And melt in her owne fire. 1620 BRATHWAIT *Five Senses* II. 10 There is no discord so harsh to a good eare, as the discord of the affections; when they mutine one against another. 1642 Br. MORTON *Presentm. Schismatic* 23 In these times the hand and foot both mutine cause they are not eyes.

† **b.** *trans.* To think or say mutinously. *Obs.*

1545 *St. Papers Hen. VIII* (1849) X. 272 What so ever the Venecians have in tymes passed mutined of thEmpereurs procedinges with them.

2. *trans.* To incite to revolt.

Mutineer (miūtinī·ɹ), *sb.* Also 7 -ier, -yer. [a. F. *mutinier* (16th c.), f. *mutin*: see MUTINE *sb.*] One who revolts against or openly resists the authority of a superior; *spec.* one guilty of mutiny as defined in Military and Naval law.

1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* III. ii. 40 Keepe a good tongue in your head: If you prone a mutineere, the next Tree. 1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 34 Spinola hath made great use of a secret of warre, how in scarcitie of moneys to awe these mutiniers. 1654 Earl MONM. tr. *Bentivoglio's Warrs of Flanders* 108 The mutinyers were contented to receive a donative of four payes. 1743 BULKELEY & CUMMINS *Voy. S. Seas* Pref. 17 The very Person who accused us, was the Ringleader and chief Mutineer. 1821 SHELLEY *Hellas* 191 Silence those mutineers—that drunken crew, That crowd about the pilot in the storm. 1838-9 HALLAM *Hist. Lit.* IV. iv. iii. § 100. 121 He stands forth as a mutineer against authority. 1857 KEITH YOUNG *Delhi* (1902) 11, 12th May. Mutineers from Meerut have seized the bridge at Delhi.

Mutineer (miūtinī·ɹ), *v.* [f. prec.] *intr.* To mutiny. Hence **Mutinee·ring** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1682 Sir J. LAUDER *Hist. Notices Sc. Affairs* (1848) 375 The Lord Nairne and some others mutineered, and alledged ..ther was no law could oblidge them to afternoons meetings. 1684 *Ibid.* 561 A souldier..is shot..for..giving a blow to his serjeant. This is strict military discipline against mutineering. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 60 ₱ 9 To quell mutineering Captains. 1856 De QUINCEY *Confess.* 9 Through the gloomy vigils of his prison, you hear muttered growls of impotent mutineering. 1889 CLARK RUSSELL *Marooned* xix, We don't mean to be laid hold of, and charged with mutineering.

† **Mutiner.** *Obs.* Also 7 mutener. [f. MUTINE *v.* + -ER[1]. Cf. MUTINEER.] A turbulent, rebellious, or mutinous person; a mutineer.

1569 STOCKER tr. *Diod. Sic.* II. xxix. 81 He put to death the principall mutiners. 1589 *Pappe w. Hatchet* A iv, These mutiners in Church matters, must haue their mouthes bungd with iests, not argumeuts. 1602 SEGAR *Hon., Mil. & Civ.* I. iii. 5 According to discipline Militarie, [to] compell Muteners to obedience and order. *a* 1677 BARROW *Serm.* (1686) III. 277 They [*sc.* seducers] were..murmurers, complainers, or conjunctly discontented mutiners.

† **Mutinery.** *Obs. rare*—[1]. [ad. OF. *mutinerie*, f. *mutin* MUTINE *sb.*] Mutiny.

1563 FOXE *A. & M.* 696 b, The better instruction of your hyghnes people to..hatred of rebellion and mutinery.

† **Mutinewe.** *Obs. rare*—[1]. [If not some error, prob. f. MUTINE *sb.* or *v.* after *retinue*, *revenue*.]

c 1540 tr. *Pol. Verg. Eng. Hist.* (Camden No. 29) 14 A mutinewe [*sic MS.*] rose sodainly thereof and every man forsooke the campe and departed.

Muting (miū·tiŋ), *vbl. sb.*[1] [f. MUTE *v.*[1] + -ING[1].] The action of the vb. MUTE[1].

1613-16 W. BROWNE *Brit. Past.* I. i. 20 The Stock-doue and the Blackbird..Whose muting on those trees doe make to grow Rots curing Hyphear. 1641 MILTON *Animadv.* 31 This..liuelesse Colossus, that..is subject to the muting of every Sparrow.

b. *concr.* That which is muted; 'droppings'.

1614 MARKHAM *Cheap Husb.* II. xvii. 144 The signes [of the priuie euill in Hawkes] are..foule blacke muteings. 1615 LATHAM *Falconry* Explan. Wds., *Mvting* is the..ordure which comes from Hawkes. 1725 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Pheasant Ponts*, Their principal Haunts..may easily be known by..their Mutings. 1847 COUCH *Illustr. Instinct* xiii. 239 Many birds will carefully remove the mutings of the young from the neighbourhood of their nest.

Muting, *vbl. sb.*[2]: see MUTE *v.*[2]

Mutiny, obs. form of MOULTING *ppl. a.*

1578 *Mirr. Mag., Vter Pendragon* xv, For her disport my Ladye coulde procure The wretched winges of this my muting minde, Restlesse to seeke her emptie siste to finde.

Mutinie, -ier, obs. ff. MUTINY, MUTINEER.

† **Muti·nious,** *a. Obs. rare*—[1]. [f. MUTINY *sb.* + -OUS.] Mutinous.

1663 *Short Surv. Pres. Ministry* 38 They..did not run into Mutinious and Rebellious routes.

† **Mu·tinist.** *Obs. rare*—[1]. [f. MUTINE + -IST.] A mutineer.

1616 J. LANE *Contn. Sgr.'s T.* x. 616 Mutinistes [1630 mutiners) and wronge doers all hee hates.

Mutinize (miū·tinəiz), *v.* Now *arch.* Also 7 **mutanize.** [f. MUTINE *sb.* + -IZE.] † **a.** *intr.* To mutiny (*obs.*). **b.** *trans.* To cause mutiny in.

1605 *Play Stucley* Lj, False Abdelmeleck mortally is sick, ..His soldiers mutinise. 1606 G. W[OODCOCKE] tr. *Justine* VI. 30 b, His souldiers mutanized much against him. 1841

Blackw. Mag. XLIX. 470/2 They know them [*sc.* propagandist principles] to be most apt to mutinize and convulse kingdoms.

Hence **Mu·tinizing** *ppl. a.*

1830 *Westm. Rev.* XIII. 446 Were this our learned Reformist to add to his collection of mutinizing professors one on the art and science of Nomography.

Mutinous (miū·tinəs), *a.* [f. MUTINE + -OUS.]

1. Of persons, their attributes, etc.: Given to mutiny, rebellious.

1578 T. N. tr. *Conq. W. India* Pref. 2 Heere also is described how to use and correct the stubborn and mutinous persons. 1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* I. ii. § 8 Learning doth make the minds of men..pliant to gouernment; whereas Ignorance makes them..mutinous. 1665 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (1677) 251 Finding that neither by threats nor promises he could allay the mutinous humour of the Camp. 1677 WOOD *Life* 14 Dec. (O. H. S.) II. 395 A..report that the Masters should be put out of the Convocation house, because that they in the election of orator had proved mutinous. *a* 1715 BURNET *Own Time* (1766) I. 141 He was mutinous when out of power. 1820 SHELLEY *Œd. Tyr.* I. 98 The troops grow mutinous. 1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* xiii, Let us take counsel in friendly fashion, rather than resemble a mutinous crew of mariners in a sinking vessel. 1880 MCCARTHY *Own Times* III. xxxii. 48 A mutinous spirit began to spread itself abroad. 1882 PEBODY *Eng. Journalism* xxiii. 178 Sir Robert Peel found that, with the Press at his back, he could defy even his own mutinous followers to turn him out of office.

†b. Turbulent, contentious. *Obs.*

1589 NASHE *Pref. Greene's Menaphon* (Arb.) 15 Which makes our Poets vndermeale Muses so mutinous, as euerie stanzo they pen after dinner, is full poynted with a stabbe. 1596 — *Saffron Walden* L j b, He is verie seditious and mutinous in conuersation, picking quarrells with euerie man that [etc.]. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* V. ix. 48 Then brought he forth Sedition, breeding stryfe In troublous wits, and mutinous uprore. 1608 D. T[UVIL] *Ess. Pol. & Mor.* 2 Mutinous and turbulent assemblies. 1621 T. WILLIAMSON tr. *Goulart's Wise Vieillard* 77 Quarrell-some, mutinous, and mad-braine-sicke persons.

c. *absol.* as *pl.* Mutinous persons.

a 1627 HAYWARD *Edw. VI* (1630) 116 Charge [was] giuen that the lawes of England should be administred & the mutinous be seuerely suppressed [in Ireland]. *a* 1687 WALLER *Maid's Trag. Alter'd* Poems (1712) 206 Lend me your Guards, that if Perswasion fail, Force may against the Mutinous prevail.

d. *transf.* and *fig.* of the elements, passions, etc.

1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* v. i. 42, I haue..call'd forth the mutenous windes. 1633 HEYWOOD *Eng. Trav.* IV. Wks. 1874 IV. 69 There are in this disturbed braine of mine So many mutinous fancies. 1635–56 COWLEY *Davideis* I. 8 His mutinous waters hurry to the War, And Troops of Waves come rolling from afar. 1695 LD. PRESTON *Boeth.* I. 34 The mutinous Passions of Grief, Anger, and Sadness do..distract thee. 1820 SHELLEY *Ode to Naples* 55 Elysian City, which to calm enchantest The mutinous air and sea! 1821 — *Hellas* 156 By dreadful abstinence And conquering penance of the mutinous flesh. *Ibid.* 884 Mutinous passions, and conflicting fears.

2. Of the nature of or proceeding from mutiny; characterized by or expressing mutiny.

1592 *Nobody & Somebody* (1877) B 4 b, Goe thou in secrete.. Bring scandalls on the rich, raise mutinous lyes Vpon the state. 1593 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI*, II. v. 90 What stratagems, ..Erroneous, mutinous, and unnatural, This deadly quarrel daily doth beget! 1609 HOLLAND *Amm. Marcell.* XV. v. 39 Terrified were we with the mutinous grumbling..of the souldiors. 1647 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* I. § 53 For the late license of printing all mutinous and seditious discourses was not yet in fashion. 1717 LADY M. W. MONTAGU *Let. to Pope* 12 Feb., They..demanded justice in a mutinous way. 1857 KEITH YOUNG *Delhi* (1902) 3 What think you of the mutinous proceedings of the Native regiments? 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* III. i, Fledgeby appeared to be on the verge of some mutinous expressions.

3. [After F. *air mutin.*] = MUTINE *a.*[2]

1882 J. STURGIS *Dick's Wand.* III. xxix, She continued to regard him with a pretty mutinous look. *Ibid.* IV. xliv, 'Oh, I like flirtations,' said Miss Holcroft with her little mutinous air—'other people's flirtations'.

Hence **Mu·tinously** *adv.*, **Mu·tinousness.**

a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* II. (1891) 195 A people, in nature mutinously prowde. 1629 JACKSON *Creed* VI. II. XX. § 2 The mutinousness of the Souldiers. 1702 ECHARD *Eccl. Hist.* (1710) II They mutinously cry'd out for a king. 1859 THACKERAY *Virgin.* II. xiv. 114 She had behaved so mutinously.

Mutiny (miū·tini), *sb.* Forms: 6 mutinee, mutenye, (-inye, -yny, -enie), 6–7 mutinie, (7 muttenie), 6– mutiny. [f. MUTINE *v.* or *sb.* + -Y, ? after *felony*. Cf. the earlier MUTINERY, MUTINEWE.]

1. Open revolt against constituted authority; now chiefly *spec.* revolt on the part of a disciplined body (esp. military or naval) or a section of it against its officers; behaviour subversive of discipline, mutinous conduct.

1579 FENTON *Guicciard.* I. (1599) 33 Townes would fall into tumults, men would draw into mutinie [*printed* munitie]. 1591 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. VI*, I. i. 160 The Earle of Salisbury craueth supply, And hardly keepes his men from mutinie. 1633 BP. HALL *Occas. Medit.* xlvii. (ed. 3) 115 Wee cannot quench hot and unruly desires in youth without some mutiny, & rebellious opposition. 1648 C. WALKER *Hist. Independ.* I. 34 *margin*, The Army put into mutiny against the Parliament. 1673 *Articles & Rules for better Govt. of H. M. Forces* XV, No Officer or Souldier shall utter any words tending to Sedition, Mutiny, or Uproar. 1743 BULKELEY & CUMMINS *Voy. S. Seas* Pref. 17 We were..advised..not to return to our Country, lest we should suffer Death for Mutiny. 1780 COWPER *Table-T.* 452 He gives the word, and mutiny soon roars In all her gates. 1821 SHELLEY *Hellas* 570 His name..Holds our besieging army like a spell In prey to famine, pest, and mutiny. 1857 KEITH YOUNG *Delhi* (1902) 11, 15th May. Hear a rumour of the Goorkha corps..in open mutiny, and refusing to march. 1889 CLARK RUSSELL *Marooned* xiii, The crew are in a state of mutiny.

b. In particularized sense: A mutinous revolt; a rebellion of a considerable number of soldiers, sailors, or other persons in subordinate position, against those set in authority over them.

The Indian Mutiny, a revolt of the native troops of Bengal in 1857–8.

1581 SAVILE *Tacitus, Hist.* I. xviii. (1591) 45 A mutinee of the Gard-souldiers. 1583 STUBBES *Anat. Abus.* II. (1882) 4 Mutenies, wars, and ciuill dissentions. 1591 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. VI*, v. i. 62 Ile..sacke this Country with a mutiny. 1647 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* I. § 87 Mutinies in the fleet and army, under pretence of their want of pay. 1688 *Act* 1 *Will. & Mary* c. 5 § 2 Every Person being in Their Majestyes Service..who shall..Joyne in any Mutiny or Sedition in the Army. 1789 BRAND *Hist. Newcastle* II. 304 The coal-trade at Newcastle was for some time put a stop to by a mutiny of the keelmen. 1835 MARRYAT *Jac. Faithf.* xxix, We have had a regular mutiny, and attempt to take the ship from me. 1901 *Scotsman* 9 Mar. 8/3 The Irish mutiny in the House of Commons has been suppressed.

c. In attrib. uses; now often with the meaning 'that took part in or was present during the Indian Mutiny'.

Mutiny Act, an Act, passed annually from 1689 to 1879, authorizing the crown to frame 'Articles of War' dealing with offences against discipline in the military and naval forces and the constitution of courts-martial. It is now embodied in the Army Act, 1881. So also *mutiny bill.*

1731–2 EARL OF STRAFFORD *Sp.* in *Hist. & Proc. Ho. Lords* (1742) IV. 61, I am entirely against this Bill, or any Mutiny-Bill; because it is the turning of our Civil Government into a Military Government. 1765 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* I. 409 By the annual mutiny acts, a soldier may be arrested for a debt which [etc.]. 1857 KEITH YOUNG *Delhi* (1902) 3, 28th March.—At work all the morning at that mutiny case. 1895 KIPLING *2nd Jungle Bk.* 114, I was a Mutiny baby, as they call it. 1903 *Daily Chron.* 3 Jan. 5/6 Last night the Mutiny veterans..held a special dinner at the camp.

†2. Discord, contention; a state of discord, a dispute, quarrel. Phrase, *in* or *at* (*a*) *mutiny*. *Obs.*

1567 FENTON *Trag. Disc.* I. 34 b, He..(besides a thousand pettie mutynies that fall out in housekeping,) escapeth seldom without a sprit of grudge or cyuill discension, disturbynge hys quiet. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* I. i. 170 A man of complements whom right and wrong Haue chose as vmpire of their mutinie. 1589 GREENE *Menaphon* I 4, He found all the Swaines in a mutinie about the recouery of their beautifull Paragon. 1592 — *Disput.* 35 At this pleasant Tale all the boord was at a mutinie, and they said the gentleman did passing wisely. 1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* I. v. 82 Youle make a Mutinie among the Guests. 1593 — *Lucr.* 1153 So with her selfe is shee in mutinie, To liue or die which of the twaine were better. 1605 *Play Stucley* F 4 b, Are then Molucco and his brother king, At ciuill mutinie among themselues. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* X. 474 What mutinies and malice, are dayly among your Monasteries, each ennying anothers priuiledge. 1643 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. V. 494 Such..persons..may absent..themselves.., least that theare may be any muttenie or disorder in the said companies or meetinges. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* II. 926 Then if..these Elements In mutinie had from her Axle torn The stedfast Earth.

Mutiny (miū·tini), *v.* [f. MUTINY *sb.*]

1. *intr.* To commit the offence of mutiny; to rise in revolt *against* (rarely †*upon*); to refuse submission to discipline or obedience to the lawful command of a superior, *esp.* in the military and naval services.

1584 *Leycesters Commw.* 53 Cal you hut to minde..when her Ma..did wyth-draw, hut a litle her wounted fauour.. towardes him: did not al the Court as it were, mutinie presentlie? 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* I. i. 24 The spirit of my Father, which I thinke is within mee, begins to mutinie against this seruitude. 1679 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. III. IV. 309 The Duke of Albemarle..daily expected the army in London would mutiny upon him for want of pay. 1688 *Act* 1 *Will. & Mary* c. 5 (*title*) An Act for punishing Officers or Soldiers who shall Mutiny or Desert Their Majestyes Service. 1761 HUME *Hist. Eng.* III. lx. 294 Dundalk..was delivered up by the troops who mutinied against their governor. 1814 SCOTT *Wav.* xiv, Saunders..began to mutiny against the labour for which he now scarce received thanks. 1864 *Spectator* 24 Dec. 1467 The shopmen..found out..that their life was a little too like life on a slave plantation..and at last they mutinied. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) III. 372 They mutiny and take possession of the ship.

†b. Conjugated with *to be*. *Obs. rare.*

1648 GAGE *West Ind.* vi. 19 Wee..thereby guessed at the truth that the Barbarians were mutinied. 1656 EARL MONM. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* 56 Their Scouts..brought back word, that the whole Militia of Janisaries were mutinied against the Ottaman Monarchy.

c. *fig.*

1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III*, I. iv. 142 'Tis a blushing shamefac'd spirit [*i. e.* conscience], that mutinies in a mans bosom: It filles a man full of Obstacles. 1751 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 133 P 4 The powers of pleasure mutiny for employment. 1795 SOUTHEY *Maid of Orleans* II. 361 Temperate Myself, no blood that mutinied,..I sent abroad Murder and Rape. *a* 1822 SHELLEY *Chas. I*, II. 144 The baser elements Had mutinied against the golden sun That kindles them to harmony.

†d. To contend or strive (*with*); to quarrel.

1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II*, I. i. 28 All too late comes counsell to be heard, Where will doth mutiny with wits regard. 1606 — *Ant. & Cl.* III. xi. 13 My very haires do mutiny: for the white Reproue the browne for rashnesse, and they them For feare. 1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turks* (1621) 152 The Catalonians began to mutinie among themselues.

†2. *trans.* To cause to mutiny or rebel *against.*

1643 PRYNNE *Sov. Power Parlt.* App. 39 The Duke of Guise..mutinies the Citizens against the King. 1648 C. WALKER *Hist. Independ.* I. 34 Cromwell..by mutinying the Army against the Parliament, made them his owne.

Hence **Mu·tinied** *ppl. a.*, **Mu·tinying** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1600 *St. Papers, Domestic* 447 The Archduke, having reclaimed his mutinied Spaniards..left the Infanta at Ghent. 16.. F. DAVISON *Ps.* lxxiii, Leaue mutyniing, and rest secure. 1665 MANLEY *Grotius' Low C. Warres* 321 This mad mutinying frenzy was..among all the Garrisons of Germany. 1671 W. PERWICH *Despatches* (1903) 137 The Newfoundland's ships..will..loose their season..through the obstinacy of the mutinyed seamen. *a* 1716 SOUTH *Serm.* (1842) III. 372 The mutinying of the army about St. Albans. 1873 *Daily News* 26 Aug., The mutinied regiments of Iberia.

Mutish (miū·tiʃ), *a. nonce-wd.* [f. MUTE *sb.*[1] + -ISH.] Somewhat like a mute.

1865 *Cornh. Mag.* Sept. 310 This dress..gave him the appearance of one of the mutes..of an economic funeral company. This mutish-looking gentleman..was [etc.].

Mutism[1] (miū·tiz'm). [ad. F. *mutisme* (1741 in Hatz.-Darm.), f. L. *mūt-us*: see MUTE *a.* and -ISM.] The state or condition of being mute; the refraining from speech, silence; lack of the faculty of speech, or inability to produce articulate sounds, dumbness.

1824 W. E. ANDREWS *Crit. Rev. Fox's Bk. Martyrs* I. 365 The term of his mutism was expected with impatience. 1851 WALSHE *Dis. Lungs & Heart* 392 Cases of this affection [*sc.* tuberculous meningitis]..in which a peculiar form of mutism formed a striking symptom. 1853 C. BRONTË *Villette* xxviii, Paulina was awed by the savants, but not quite to mutism. 1859 MAX MÜLLER *Sci. Lang.* Ser. I. ii. (1864) 32 Man must have lived for a time in a state of mutism. 1891 *Temple Bar* May 114 She all at once broke through her mutism and plied me with questions. 1899 [see MUTE *a.* 2].

Mutism[2] (miū·tiz'm). [ad. F. *mutisme*, f. *muter*: see MUTE *v.* and -ISM.] = MUTAGE.

1853 URE *Dict. Arts* I. 155 Wines which have been subjected to mutism.

Muto- (miū·to). Assumed as combining form of L. *mūtāre* to change, in the following technical terms. **Mu·tograph,** an apparatus for taking a series of photographs of objects in motion; hence **Mu·tograph** *v. trans.*, to portray with this apparatus. **Mu·toscope,** an apparatus for exhibiting a scene recorded by the mutograph, which may be seen by looking through an aperture and turning a handle at the side of the instrument; hence **Mutosco·pic** *a.*, also **Mu·toscope** *v.*

1897 *Sci. Amer.* 17 Apr. 248/2 The 'mutograph' and 'mutoscope', are the inventions of Mr. Herman Casler... The machine with which the original pictures are taken..is known as the 'mutograph', nearly following the Latin and Greek words signifying 'changing delineation'. *Ibid.* 249/1 Prints..for use in the..mutoscope machines. *Ibid.* 249/2 A series of 'mutograph' pictures. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 11 Feb. 7/2 The Biograph and Mutoscope are two inventions for the reproduction of objects in motion. The negatives of views for use in both are produced by the Mutograph, a camera by which from 3,000 to 4,000 separate photographs can be taken per minute. *Ibid.* 3 Aug. 3/1 The impression that we have been indulging in a mutoscopic debauch. *Ibid.* 21 Sept. 4/1 Efforts are to be made to get Mr. Chamberlain and Lord Selborne to be 'mutoscoped' on their way to the Cabinet Council to-morrow. 1902 S. SMITH *Life Work* xlv. 464 Pictures and mutoscopic exhibitions which corrupted the young wholesale.

Muton, -oun, -own, obs. forms of MUTTON.

Mutsel(l)im: see MUSELLIM.

Mutsenigo, variant of MOCCENIGO.

Mutskinn, obs. form of MUTCHKIN.

Mutt, variant of MATH[2]; obs. form of MOTE *v.*[1]

Muttenie, obs. form of MUTINY.

Mutter (mv·təɹ), *sb.*[1] [f. MUTTER *v.*[1]] The act of muttering; a low indistinct utterance.

1634 MILTON *Comus* 817 Without his rod revers't And backward mutters of dissevering power, We cannot free the Lady. 1874 SPURGEON *Treas. Dav.* Ps. xcviii. 6 That chill mutter..which is now so commonly the substitute for earnest congregational singing. 1875 A. R. HOPE *My Schoolboy Fr.* 146, I gave an inaudible mutter.

Mutter (mv·təɹ), *sb.*[2] [Hindī *matar*.] An Indian variety of pea, sometimes used in this country as fodder for cattle.

1884 W. WILLIAMS *Princ. & Pract. Vet. Med.* (ed. 4) 298 An Indian pea.., called in Liverpool Indian mutters. *Ibid.*, Horses commenced to die very suddenly some time after the owners had commenced to use the mutters.

Mutter (mv·təɹ), *v.*[1] Forms: 4–5 moter(e, mot(t)re, 5–6 muttre, 6 muttor, 6– mutter. [Prob. an onomatopœic formation with frequentative suffix -ER[6]; cf. G. dial. *muttern* to mutter, *motter* sb. a muttering; also MUSTER *v.*[2]]

1. *intr.* To speak in low tones, with the mouth nearly closed, so that one's words are barely audible.

1388 WYCLIF 2 *Sam.* xii. 19 Whanne Dauid hadde herd his seruauntis spekynge priueli, ether moterynge [1382 musynge, Vulg. *mussitantes*]. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 301 Therewith the French men beganne to muttor, and sayde among themselues, the prince had spoken nobly. 1598 DRAYTON *Heroic. Ep.* xvii. 15 Mine eyes..thought report too niggardly had spard; And stroocken dumbe with wonder, did but mutter, Conceiuing more then she had words to vtter. 1611 BIBLE *Isa.* viii. 19 Seeke..vnto wizards that peepe and that mutter. 1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* II. xxi. 134 He heard his men muttering amongst themselves of the strength and greatnesse of the Town. 1692 R. L'ESTRANGE *Fables* CCXIX. 192 The Wolfe went Muttering away

upon't. 1717 POPE *Iliad* x. 527 The Head, yet speaking, mutter'd as it fell. 1855 BAIN *Senses & Int.* III. i. § 8 (1864) 345 Some persons of weak or incontinent nerves can hardly think without muttering—they talk to themselves. 1860 HOLLAND *Miss Gilbert* ii, At not infrequent intervals she heard her little brother moaning and muttering in his sleep.

b. *esp.* To speak in low indistinct tones expressive of dissatisfaction which one dare not utter more openly; to murmur, complain, grumble. Const. *against, at.*

a 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VI* 121 Certain souldiors.. beganne to mutter and murmure against the kyng and his counsaill. 1575-85 ABP. SANDYS *Serm.* ii. 26 The worthie magistrate Moses was muttered against. 1621 T. WILLIAMSON tr. *Goulart's Wise Vieillard* 70 They..doe mutter at, and finde fault with euery thing that is spoken or done. 1692 WASHINGTON tr. *Milton's Def. Pop.* ii. M.'s Wks. 1851 VII. 66 The People must not dare to mutter. 1706 E. WARD *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 27 Oft does he mutter at the Partialities of the Board. 1720 DE FOE *Capt. Singleton* xiii. (1840) 228 Our men muttered a little at this; but I pacified them. 1856 EMERSON *Eng. Traits, Wealth* Wks. (Bohn) II. 71 Whether it were not possible to make a spinner that would not rebel, nor mutter, nor scowl, nor strike for wages?

c. *transf.* To make a low rumbling sound.

1797 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Italian* i, Like distant thunder muttering imperfectly from the clouds. 1858 HAWTHORNE *Fr. & It. Note-bks.* II. 50 The thunder muttered and grumbled.

2. *trans.* To utter with imperfect articulation and in a low tone. Also *fig.* to express or say in secret.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* II. 492 (541) With that he smoot his heed adoun anoon, And gan to motre [*v.rr.* motere, mottre, muttre], I not what trewly. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Ps.* II. i, What do theis people meane, To mutter murmurs vaine? 1593 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI*, I. i. 165 What mutter you, or what conspire you Lords? 1604 — *Oth.* III. iii. 417 There are a kinde of men, So loose of Soule, that in their sleepes will mutter their Affayres. 1645 PAGITT *Heresiogr.* Ep. Ded., Who have their Prayers in their owne tongue, and mutter them not in latine as the Romists doe. 1724 RAMSAY *Vision* ix, Revenge is muttert be ilk clan. 1750 GRAY *Elegy* 106 Mutt'ring his wayward fancies he would rove. 1856 SIR B. BRODIE *Psychol. Inq.* I. iii. 100, I knew a gentleman who was accustomed to mutter certain words to himself..even in the midst of company.

b. with obj. clause.

1555 EDEN *Decades* 21 The people..muttered amonge them selues that owre nation hadde trowbled the elementes. 1561 T. NORTON *Calvin's Inst.* I. xiii. (1634) 46 Arrius saith that Christ is God, but he muttereth that he was created. 1622 BACON *Hen. VII* 163 They muttered extremely, that it was a thing not to bee suffered. 1623 MEADE in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. I. III. 151 Yet its muttered the Match will be. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* ii. I. 230 Some who had always professed the doctrine of nonresistance in its full extent were now heard to mutter that there was one limitation to that doctrine.

c. *To mutter over*: to recite in low indistinct tones, to mumble.

1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* III. iv, And much, 'twas said, of heathen lore Mix'd in the charms he mutter'd o'er. 1817 MOORE *Lalla R.* (1824) 175 To mutter o'er some text of God, Engraven on his reeking sword.

d. *transf.* (Cf. 1 c.)

1667 MILTON *P. L.* IX. 1002 Skie lowr'd, and muttering Thunder, som sad drops Wept at compleating of the mortal Sin Original.

Mu·tter, *v.*[2] ? Variant of MOULTER *v.*[1]

1609 BUTLER *Fem. Monarchie* vi. § 22 If you feele it [*sc.* leg-honey] betweene your warme fingers, it muttereth apart, where wax sticketh fast togither.

Muttera·tion. *nonce-wd.* [See -ATION.] The action of muttering.

1753 RICHARDSON *Grandison* (1811) IV. xxxvii. 283 So the night past off, with prayings, hopings, and a little *mutteration.* (Allow me that word, or find me a better.)

Muttered (mv·təɹd), *ppl. a.* [f. MUTTER *v.*[1] + -ED [1].] Uttered indistinctly and in low tones.

1701 ADDISON *Epil. to G. Granville's Brit. Enchantress,* Where sounding Strings and artful Voices fail, The charming Rod and mutter'd Spells prevail. 1856 EMERSON *Eng. Traits, Char.* Wks. (Bohn) II. 60 It is done in the dark, and with muttered malediction. 1888 H. SMART *Master of Rathkelly* xxiii, And now came a low muttered conference between McDermot and his companions.

Mutterer (mv·tərəɹ). [f. MUTTER *v.*[1] + -ER [1].] One who mutters.

1552 HULOET, Muttrer, *susurro.* 1671 H. FOULIS *Hist. Rom. Treasons* (1681) 88 These mutterers of King-murthering. *a* 1677 BARROW *Decalogue* ix. *Creed,* etc. (1697) 432 The words of a mutterer, saith the Wise man, are as wounds [*Prov.* xviii. 8]. 1854 H. MILLER *Sch. & Schm.* xviii. (1860) 197/1 He was a mutterer of charms, and a watcher of omens.

Muttering (mv·təriŋ), *vbl. sb:* [-ING [1].] The action of the verb MUTTER.

1513 MORE *Rich. III* in Grafton *Chron.* (1568) II. 777 Yet then began there, here and there some maner of mutteryng amongest the people. 1538 BALE *Thre Lawes* E vij b, The lorde doth not regarde Your mangy mutterynge. 1613 W. BROWNE *Brit. Past.* I. ii. (*ad fin.*), The roaring voyce of winds,..Nor all the muttring of the sullen waues. 1667-68 PEPYS *Diary* 17 Feb., Some mutterings I did hear of dissolving the Parliament. 1760-72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) III. 89, I heard secret treadings and mutterings. 1856 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* (1858) I. v. 468 The mutterings of discontent had developed into plain open treason. 1904 A. R. WHITHAM *Ep. Consolations* i. 10 Already the mutterings of the distant storm might be heard.

Mu·ttering, *ppl. a.* [-ING [2].] That mutters.

1567 MAPLET *Gr. Forest* 112 Let muttring Mutius take heede least he be serued with the same sawce Virgil requited Bauius and Meuius. 1660 INGELO *Bentiv. & Ur.* II. (1682) 143 The muttering Fiends obey'd. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 266 P 2 In a muttering Voice, as if between Soliloquy and speaking out. 1842 J. WILSON *Chr. North* (1857) II. 13 The muttering thunder seems to have changed its place. 1843 R. J. GRAVES *Syst. Clin. Med.* xiv. 147 A low muttering delirium.

Hence **Mu·tteringly** *adv.*

c 1681 HICKERINGILL *Trimmer* vi. Wks. 1716 I. 388 It was a business (than which) nothing is more discours'd of (mutteringly) at this day. 1741 RICHARDSON *Pamela* I. 69, I said something mutteringly, and he vow'd he would hear it. 1847 DE QUINCEY *Sp. Mil. Nun* Wks. 1854 III. 53 Mutteringly she put that question to herself.

†**Mu·tterous**, *a. rare*—[1]. [f. MUTTER *sb.*[1] + -OUS.] Full of muttering sound; murmurous.

1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* I. (Arb.) 31 Lyke bees..That.. toyle with mutterus humbling. *Ibid.* III. 73 With rumbling mutterus eccho.

Mutton (mv·t'n). Forms: 4 moltoun; 3–5 motoun, 4 motone, 5 motene, 5–6 motonne, mot(t)on, mouton, 5–7 muton, 6 muttoun, mot(t)en, mutown, mutten, 5– mutton. [ME. *motoun, moton* (rarely *moltoun*), a. OF. *moton,* rarely *molton* (mod.F. *mouton*) = Pr. *multó-s,* Catal. *multo,* OSp. *moton,* It. *montone,* Venetian *moltone*:—med.L. (8th c.) *multōn-em,* prob. f. Gaulish **multo-s* (OIrish *molt* ram, Welsh *mollt,* Cornish *mols,* Breton *maout*).

Some scholars have conjectured that med.L. *multōnem* is a metathetic form of *mutilōnem* (of which Du Cange has one example) f. L. *mutilus* in the sense 'deprived of horns' or in the sense 'castrated'; Diez compares mod. Pr. *cabro monta* corresponding to L. *capra mutila* hornless goat. But it seems very unlikely that the Celtic forms can be unconnected; if they are from popular Latin the adoption must have taken place at a very early period.]

1. The flesh of sheep, used as food.

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 472/344 Huy nomen with heom in heore schip al þat hem was leof, Gies and hennes, craunes and swannes and porc, motoun and beof. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxv. (*Julian*) 114 Sancte Julyane..In til his tyme wes na glotone, na wont wes nocht to ete motone. *c* 1420 *Liber Cocorum* (1862) 46 Take fressbe brothe of motene clene. *c* 1450 *Two Cookery-bks.* 72 Stwed Mutton. Take faire Mutton that hath ben roste,..and mynce it faire. *c* 1460 J. RUSSELL *Bk. Nurture* 533 Mustard is meete for brawne beef, or powdred motoun. 1533 MORE *Answ. Poysoned Bk.* Wks. 1059/1 Men bye bief or moten out of the bouchers shoppes. *a* 1575 GASCOIGNE *Posies, Hearbes* 147 Fiue flocks of sheepe coulde scarce mainteine good mutton for his house. 1620 VENNER *Via Recta* iii. 50 Of Mutton..that is the best, which is of an yeere or two olde. 1710-11 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 19 Mar., They..had a breast of mutton and a pint of wine. 1848 CLOUGH *Bothie* v, Racing home for the eight o'clock mutton. 1870 YEATS *Nat. Hist. Comm.* I. v. 49 Welsh sheep are small, but the mutton is renowned for the delicacy of its flavour. 1897 'MERRIMAN' *In Kedar's Tents* x, The steaming dish of mutton and vegetables.

2. A sheep; *esp.* one intended to be eaten. Now only *jocular.*

1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 174 A bouke of a motoun. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 39 The Wolf in pes with the Moltoun. 1481 CAXTON *Godeffroy* clvii. 231 Oxen, Kyen, Motons and other vytaylles. 1565 LADY LOVAT in Fraser *Polichron.* (S.H.S.) 153 With twa mutowns yearly price of the pice thratin s. iiij d. 1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 37 Moldavia and Valachia do serve them with beeves and muttons. 1692 R. L'ESTRANGE *Fables* ccccl.xxxv. 461 The Sheep in this Fable was clearly too hard for the Two Doctors; and we find all those Reasonings to be true in the World, which the Mutton Alleges in the Fiction. 1795 COWPER *Needless Alarm* 81 A mutton, statelier than the rest, A ram, the ewes and wethers, sad, address'd. 1833 *Penny Cycl.* I. 448/2 The word *mutton* is sometimes used [in America], as it once was in England, to signify a sheep. 1839 THACKERAY *Leg. St. Sophia & Kioff,* A humble company of pious men, Like muttons in a pen.

b. The carcase of a sheep. *Obs.* or *arch.*

1607 TOPSELL *Hist. Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 482 In many places they salt their Muttons when they are killed, and so eat them out of the pickle. 1625 B. JONSON *Staple of N.* II. iv, Goes to the Butchers, fetches in a muton. 1703 DAMPIER *Voy.* III. I. 108, I was presented with half a Mutton. 1863 HAWTHORNE *Our Old Home* (1864) II. 189 There were butchers shops..presenting no such generously fattened carcases as Englishmen love to gaze at in the market, no stupendous halves of mighty beeves, no dead hogs or muttons.

†c. *spec.* A wether, castrated ram. *Obs.*

14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 597/10 *Multo,* a wether or a moton. 1609 SKENE *Reg. Maj.* II. 135 Ane man taken with reid hand, with ane sheip, or muton, or with ane calfe,.. sould not be put to death, bot suld be scurged. 1655 MOUFET & BENNET *Health's Improv.* (1746) 143 Ewes and Rams are subject to far more Maladies than Muttons.

†3. *Sc.* Used as a term of contempt for a man.

1508 DUNBAR *Flyting* 241 Mauch muttoun, vyle buttoun, peilit gluttoun, air to Hilhouse. *c* 1560 A. SCOTT *Poems* (S.T.S.) xxx. 32 Quha bene wt beistly lust abusit, I hald him bot ane muttoun.

4. *slang.* Food for lust; loose women, prostitutes. Also *laced mutton*: see LACED *ppl. a.* 5.

a 1518 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 2265 And from thens to the halfe strete, To get vs there some freshe mete. Why, is there any store of rawe motton? 1538 BALE *Thre Lawes* B iv b, What wylt thu fall to mutton?..Ranke loue is full of heate. *c* 1590 GREENE *Fr. Bacon* (1630) H 1 b, The old lecher hath gotten holy mutton to him, a Nunne, my Lord. *c* 1590 MARLOWE *Faustus* (1604) C 4 b, I am one that loues an inch of raw Mutton better then an ell of fride stock fish, and the first letter of my name beginnes with leachery. 1636 HEYWOOD *Love's Mistr.* II. i. Wks. 1874 V. 113 Lord of lamentations,.. Mounsieur of mutton-lac'd. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Mutton-in-long-coats,* Women.

†5. Short for *mutton-candle* (see 8 b). *Obs.*

1841 J. T. HEWLETT *Parish Clerk* III. 174 A flight of sparrows..would flutter into the chapel and fan out the muttons with their wings. 1859 THACKERAY *Virgin.* xxv, Let us..bless Mr. Price and other Luciferous benefactors of mankind, for banishing the abominable mutton of our youth.

6. *Stock Exchange.* (See quots.)

1881 *Daily News* 1 Feb. 3/1 The tithes and muttons (as the tax on live stock is called) bring in 200,000 liras. 1887 ATKIN *House Scraps* 16 *Muttons,* Turks 1873. 1896 FARMER & HENLEY *Slang* s.v., *Mutton* in *pl.* (Stock Exchange).—The Turkish loans of 1865 and 1873. (From being in part secured on the sheep-tax.)

7. In various phrases. *As dead as mutton*: quite dead. *To take* (or *eat*) *a bit of* (or *one's*) *mutton with*: to dine with. *To return to one's muttons* (jocular), to return to the matter in hand (after F. *revenons à nos moutons*).

1714 MANDEVILLE *Fab. Bees* (1733) II. 43 If you will come and eat a bit of mutton with me tomorrow, I'll see no body but yourself. 1838 THACKERAY *2nd Lect. Fine Arts* Wks. 1900 XIII. 280 But let us return to our muttons. 1838 COL. HAWKER *Diary* (1893) II. 141, I shot him [a swan] as dead as mutton. 1856 READE *Never too Late* xii, Will you eat your mutton with me to-day, Palmer? 1880 DISRAELI *Endym.* lxxvi, Will you take your mutton with me?

8. *attrib.*, as *mutton* †*-bouk* Sc., *-chine, -cutlet, -gravy, -pasty, -pie,* †*-steak, -suet.*

1524 *Burgh Rec. Stirling* (1887) 20 Ane *mutton buke. 1712 PRIOR *Extemp. Invitation to Earl of Oxford* 4 If They can Dine On Bacon-Ham, and *Mutton-chine. 1730 SWIFT *Lady's Dressing Room* 99 *Mutton-Cutlets, prime of Meat. 1860 SALA *Badd. Peerage* xx. II. 44 The whiskers confined to the mutton cutlet form and size. 1675 HAN. WOOLLEY *Gentlew. Comp.* 139 With some *Mutton-gravy, beat or shake them well together in the Pan. 1775 ASH, **Muttonpasty,* a muttonpie. 1900 SUTCLIFFE *Shameless Wayne* iii, A breakfast of mutton-pasty and ham. 1696 SALMON *Fam. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Mutton-Pye. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 367 P 4 They [sheets of the 'Spectator']..make a good Foundation for a Mutton pye. 1805 SURR *Winter in Lond.* (1806) I. 196 An old mutton-pie man was run over as he was crossing Piccadilly. 1728 RAMSAY *Fables, Miser & Minos* 4 Frae his hoords he doughtna take As much would buy a *mutton-stake. 1706 LONDON & WISE *Retir'd Gard.* I. 85 An Ounce and a half of *Mutton Suet. 1844 STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 107 Mutton-suet is used in the manufacture of common candles.

b. Special combinations: **mutton-bone,** (*a*) the bone remaining from a joint of mutton; (*b*) quasi-*arch.*, app. the game of KNUCKLE-BONE; †**mutton-broker** = MUTTON-MONGER; **mutton-broth,** a broth made from mutton; **mutton-candle,** a candle made of mutton-fat (see 5); †**mutton-cumber** [? after *cowcumber* = CUCUMBER], some kind of cucumber; †**mutton-driver,** a sheep-stealer; **mutton fat,** (*a*) the fat of mutton, also *attrib.*; (*b*) = *mutton-candle*; **mutton-fist** *slang,* (*a*) a large red coarse hand, also applied to a person having such a hand; (*b*) a printer's index-hand (Jacobi *Printers' Vocab.* 1888); †**mutton haft,** ? a knife-handle of sheep's bone; **mutton-ham,** (*a*) the thigh of a sheep cured in the same fashion as ham; (*b*) a sail used in certain fishing-smacks in America, so *mutton-ham boat*; **mutton-head,** a dull, stupid person; **mutton-headed** *a. slang* and *dial.*, dull, stupid; †**mutton-light,** a mutton-candle; **mutton measles,** 'the cysticercus of the flesh of the sheep; probably the larval form of *Tænia tenella*' (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1891); **mutton quad** *Printers' slang,* an em quad; †**mutton-saddle,** ? a saddle of mutton; **mutton-sheep,** ? a sheep bred for meat, not for wool; **mutton-snapper** *West Indian,* 'a large fish of the *Mesoprion* genus' (Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.* 1867); †**mutton-tea,** ? mutton-broth, cf. *beef-tea*; **mutton-thumper** *U.S. slang,* 'a bungling bookbinder' (*Cent. Dict.* 1890); †**mutton tugger,** ? a whoremonger; †**mutton-water,** ? mutton-broth; **mutton-wood,** 'a composite tree (*Olearia Colensoi*) of New Zealand;—so called because it grows on islands frequented by mutton-birds' (Webster's *Suppl.* 1902). See also MUTTON-BIRD, MUTTON-CHOP, MUTTON-FISH, MUTTON-MONGER.

1785 WOLCOT (P. Pindar) *Lyric Odes* xi. (1786) 31 The curs.. Show'd anxiousness about the *mutton bone. 1843 THACKERAY *Men's Wives, Dennis Haggarty's Wife,* A dirty table-cloth was laid for dinner, some bottles of porter and a cold mutton-bone being laid out on a rickety grand-piano hard by. 1849 JAMES *Woodman* xxxv, Two of his servants were engaged in the ancient game of mutton-bones. 1694 MOTTEUX *Rabelais* (1737) V. 217 Procurers, and *Mutton-Brokers. 1655 J. PHILLIPS *Satyr agst. Hypocrites* 14 Nor was it *mutton-broth, nor veal broth neither. 1881 BESANT & RICE *Chapl. of Fleet* I. xiii, Have a cup of mutton-broth for him when he wakes. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* v, If a pound of *mutton-candles cost sevenpence-halfpenny, how much [etc.]. 1695 W. WESTMACOTT *Script. Herb.* 47 Cucumbers or *Mutton-cumbers..being so commonly known. 1508 DUNBAR *Flyting* 246 *Muttoun dryver, girnall ryver, sad-swyvar, fowll fell the. 1863 LE FANU *House by Churchyard* (ed. 2) III. 127 The *mutton-fat wanted snuffing. 1900 A. R. COLQUHOUN *The 'Overland' to China* viii. 163 The mutton-fat dips which they are intended to burn are only lighted for a few minutes in each month. 1664 COTTON *Scarron.* I. 18 Lifting his *Mutton-fists to th' skies. 1865 *Hotten's Slang Dict., Mutton-fist,* an uncomplimentary

title for any one having a large coarse red hand. 1668 DRYDEN *Even. Love* IV. iii, Here's the sixpenny whittle you gave me, with the *mutton haft. *a* 1791 GROSE *Olio, Grumbler* xvi. (1796) 68 A fine plate of *mutton-ham was next set on the table. 1839 *Mag. Dom. Econ.* IV. 119 The mutton hams cured in the highlands of Scotland and at the Cape of Good Hope. 1899 *Atlantic Monthly* Aug. 197 (*title of art.*) In a *mutton-ham boat. *Ibid.*, Her mutton-ham fluttered as white as new cotton around her single mast. I more than once sought to learn why Albemarle and Pamlico fishing smacks call their huge sails 'mutton-ham'. 1825 J. NEAL *Bro. Jonathan* I. 99 Peace, *mutton-head! 1768 *Woman of Honor* III. 29 A poor *mutton-headed flock, ready to follow any bell-weather. 1795 WOLCOT (P. Pindar) *Pindariana* Wks. 1812 IV. 180 Nay while a *mutton-light remains A sun with us no credit gains But yields to every Farthing Candle. 1871 *Amer. Encycl. Printing* (ed. Ringwalt), **Mutton Quad*, a slang term, in English printing-offices, for em quad. 1761 ARMSTRONG *Day, Epist. J. Wilkes* 160 But let me ne'er of *mutton-saddle eat. 1842 LD. WESTERN in Bischoff *Woollen Manuf.* (1842) II. 380 A request..that I would fairly try how far it was possible, to make them into *mutton sheep. 1786 R. WILLAN in *Med. Commun.* II. 117 He had this day some *mutton tea. *c* 1600 in Wood *Life* (O.H.S.) I. 293 [The Oxford colleges are] the nurseries of wickedness, the nests of *mutton tuggers, the dens of formall droanes. 1768 in *Med. Observ.* (1772) IV. 62 She had thrown up some *mutton-water which had been prescribed for common drink.

Mutton, variant of MOUTON (French coin).

Mu·tton-bird. *Austral.* a. The *Puffinus brevicaudus* of Australasia. b. An Antarctic Petrel of the genus *Œstrelata*, esp. *Œ. lessoni.*

1824 LATHAM *Gen. Hist. Birds* X. 176 This [Petrel] we believe is the species called in Norfolk Island, Mutton Bird; probably from the flesh having somewhat of the flavour of that meat. 1864-5 WOOD *Homes without H.* ii. (1868) 63 The ground resembles a rabbit warren, being everywhere undermined by the burrows of the Mutton Bird (*Puffinus brevicaudus*) the size of a pigeon. 1898 F. T. BULLEN *Cruise Cachalot* 358 'Mutton birds'. This latter delicacy is a great staple of their [*sc.* the Maories'] flesh food...When it is being cooked in the usual way, *i. e.* by grilling, it smells exactly like a piece of roasting mutton.

Mu·tton-cho·p.

1. A piece of mutton for broiling or frying, usually a division of the loin containing one rib (having the end of the bone chopped off) and half the vertebra to which it is attached.

1720 SWIFT *To Stella* Wks. 1755 III. II. 184 A slice of bread and mutton-chop. 1758 JOHNSON *Idler* No. 33 ¶ 25 Could get nothing but mutton-chops off the worst end. 1789 FARLEY *Lond. Art of Cookery* (ed. 6) 59 Mutton Chops. Take a loin of mutton, and cut chops from it about half an inch thick. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* viii, Mrs. Pipchin made a special repast of mutton-chops.

attrib. a 1860 ALB. SMITH *Lond. Med. Student* (1861) 103 A lot of cups, egg-shells, mutton-chop bones, and pewter spoons flew up in the air.

b. *pl. slang.*

1865 *Hotten's Slang Dict., Mutton-chops*, a sheep's-head.

2. In full *mutton-chop whisker*: a side whisker shaped like a mutton-chop, i. e. narrow at the top and broad and rounded at the bottom. So *mutton-chop whiskered* adj.

1865 *Reader* No. 121. 456/2 Mutton-chop whiskers. 1878 BESANT & RICE *Celia's Arb.* ii, His whiskers..were cut to the old-fashioned regulation 'mutton-chop', very much like what has now come into fashion again. 1882 MISS BRADDON *Mt. Royal* II. x. 216 Where Leonard sat, burly, florid, black-haired, mutton-chop whiskered. 1904 D. C. MURRAY *V. C.* 13 The clean-trimmed birsute mutton-chop on either side the heavy jowl combined to make him intensely respectable to look at.

Muttoned (mv·t'nd), *a.* [f. MUTTON + -ED 2.] Of a sheep: Having flesh (of a specified quality); having the legs covered with flesh.

1847 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* VIII. II. 432 The nicest muttoned sheep fed in Northumberland. 1871 *Daily News* 7 Dec., Their sheep show beautiful forequarters and are muttoned down to the hocks.

Mu·tton-fish.

1. A name for various American and West Indian sea-fish, esp. the eel-like *Zoarces anguillaris.*

1735 MORTIMER in *Phil. Trans.* XXXIX. 112 The Mutton-Fish. This is reckon'd one of the most delicate Fish of the Bahama Islands. 1754 CATESBY *Nat. Hist. Carol.* II. 25. 1884 GOODE, etc. *Nat. Hist. Aquat. Anim.* 247 The Mutton-fish *Zoarces anguillaris*..is occasionally eaten by the Cape Ann fishermen, by whom it is known as the Mutton-fish, the name referring to a supposed resemblance of its flesh to mutton.

2. *Austral.* An ormer.

1882 J. E. TENISON-WOODS *Fish & Fisheries N. S. Wales* 92 Then mutton fish were speared. This is the ear shell-fish (*Haliotis nævosa*), which was eagerly bought by the Chinese merchants. 1898 MORRIS *Austral Eng., Mutton-fish*, a marine univalve mollusc, *Haliotis nævosa*, Martyn: so called from its flavour when cooked.

3. *U. S.* A kind of medusa.

1884 *Stand. Nat. Hist.* (1888) I. 93 One of the most abundant medusæ at times in the neighborhood of the Florida Keys is a Discophore, called by naturalists *Linerges*, and known to fishermen there as the 'thimble-fish', 'mutton-fish thimble', [etc.]. *Ibid.* Index, Mutton-fish 93.

Mu·ttonhood. *jocular.* [f. MUTTON + -HOOD.] The state of being mutton as opposed to lamb.

1841 J. T. HEWLETT *Parish Clerk* I. 59 When they grew up to adolescent muttonhood. 1887 *Sat. Rev.* 8 Jan. 48 Mutton that is standing with reluctant feet where muttonhood and lambhood meet.

Muttoniness (mv·t'ninės). *rare*⁻¹. [f. MUTTONY *a.* + -NESS.] Muttony quality.

1882 'ANNIE THOMAS' *Allerton T.* III. ix. 164, I like to have my animal..dressed in such a way that its original beefiness or muttoniness is completely disguised.

† **Mutton-monger.** *slang. Obs.* [f. MUTTON (sense 4) + MONGER.]

1. A whoremonger.

1532 MORE *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 366/1 Motenmongers, priapistes, ydolaters, whoremaisters. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 151 b, One Didymo (who..had in euery bodyes mouth a veraye ciuil name of beeyng a muttonmoungre). 1600 *Look About You* H 4, Ah old Muttonmounger I beleeue heer's worke towards. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Mutton-monger*, a Lover of Women; also a Sheep-stealer.

2. A great eater of mutton; also, a sheep-stealer.

1649 W. M. *Wandering Jew* (1857) 42 He is a curse to Pasties; a Tormentor of Poultry,..a terrible Sheep-biter; a horrible Mutton-monger, a Gorbelly-Glutton. 1664 COTTON *Scarron.* I. 34 Yet scarce could satisfie their hungers, These Trojans were such Mutton-mongers. *a* 1700 [see 1].

† **Muttonship.** *Obs.* [f. MUTTON + -SHIP.] *Your muttonship*: as a mock title (see MUTTON 4).

1632 BROME *North. Lass* II. iv, How got your Rotten Muttonship into this Lions case?

Muttony (mv·t'ni), *a.* [f. MUTTON + -Y.] Having the quality of mutton.

1858 R. S. SURTEES *Ask Mamma* lxxv. 329 He had killed a south-down,—not one of your modern muttoney-lambs, but an honest, home-fed, four-year-old. 1881 R. GRANT WHITE *Engl. Without & Within* 101 There it was mutton which was mutton, and yet was not muttony.

Mutual (miū·tiuăl), *a.* Also 6 mutuel. [a. F. *mutuel* (from 14th c.) = Sp. *mutual*, f. L. *mūtu-us* borrowed, reciprocal:—prehistoric **moitwo-*, f. root **moi-* to change. Cf. Gr. (Sicilian) μοῖτον ἀντὶ μοίτου, tit for tat; also L. *mūtāre* (see MUTATION). OF. had *mutu* = Sp. *mútuo*, Pg., It. *mutuo.*]

1. Of relations, sentiments, actions: Possessed, entertained, or performed by each (of two persons, things, classes, etc.) towards or with regard to the other; reciprocal.

1477 NORTON *Ord. Alch.* Introd., in Ashm. (1652) 5 In mutuall love. 1539 CROMWELL in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) II. 303 His highnes wold be glad..to entre a liege for mutual ayde on bothe sydes in cace of nede to be given. *a* 1614 D. DYKE *Myst. Self-deceiving* (ed. 8) 71 When wee imbrace one another, there is a mutuall hold on both sides. 1681 VISCT. STAIR *Inst. Law Scot.* I. iii. § 9. 26 Though frequently such Obligations in mutual Contracts, are conceived by way of provision or condition. 1709 SHAFTESB. *Charac.* (1711) I. II. 113 'Tis in War that mutual Succour is most given, mutual Danger run, and common Affection most exerted. 1729 *Act 2 Geo. II*, c. 22 § 13 Where there are mutual Debts between the Plaintiff and Defendant. 1816 WHEATON *Cases Supr. Crt. U. S.* I. 279 The Mutual Assurance Society *v.* Watts' Executor. 1838 W. BELL *Dict. Law Scot.* 667 There is no contract, whether mutual or unilateral, which is binding without a *consensus in idem placitum*, expressed or implied. *Ibid.*, In the case of mutual and onerous entails, the prohibitions are effectual against the creditors of the entailer. 1848 WHARTON *Law Lex., Mutual Testament*, a will made by two persons who leave their effects reciprocally to the survivor. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* i. I. 84 Between him and his subjects there could be nothing of the nature of mutual contract. 1871 B. STEWART *Heat* § 43 The tendency of heat in crystals is to increase the mutual distance of the molecules. 1881 JOWETT *Thucyd.* I. 174 Mutual fear is the only solid basis of alliance. 1894 H. DRUMMOND *Ascent Man* 303 Organisms which give mutual aid survive and people the world with their kind.

b. Qualifying personal designations of relationship, friendship, or hostility, to indicate that the relation or sentiment is mutual.

a 1562 G. CAVENDISH *Wolsey* (1893) 221 Yt is..the especyall cause of all my travell into this contrie..to spend my lyfe with you as a very father, and a mutuall brother. 1639 GLAPTHORNE *Argalus* IV. Wks. 1874 I. 53 But Amphialus, Since we are mutuall friends,..I'le make thee my full Executour. 1719 ABP. KING in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. IV. 315 Common friends are not allowed to be common friends, but all obliged to declare themselves mutual enemies. 1813 SHELLEY *Q. Mab* III. 172 For kings And subjects, mutual foes, for ever play A losing game into each other's hands.

c. *Mutual admiration society*: a satirical designation for a coterie of persons who are accused of over-estimating each other's merits.

1858 O. W. HOLMES *Aut. Breakf.-t.* i, All generous companies of artists, authors, philanthropists, men of science, are, or ought to be, Societies of Mutual Admiration. *Ibid.*, Who can tell what we owe to the Mutual Admiration Society of which Shakspeare, and Ben Jonson, and Beaumont and Fletcher were members? 1880 L. STEPHEN *Pope* 50 That body was not more free than other mutual admiration societies from the desire to impose its own prejudices on the public.

¶ d. quasi-*ellipt.* Pertaining to or characterized by some (implied) mutual action or relation.

Mutual terms, principles: used to describe a business arrangement between two parties, in which exchange of services takes the place of money payments.

1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* v, He was admitted into Dr. Swishtail's academy upon what are called 'mutual-principles'—that is to say, the expenses of his board and schooling were defrayed by his father in goods, not money. 1880 *Encycl. Brit.* XIII. 173/2 These bodies [life assurance companies] have been of three kinds—(1) the purely *mutual* offices, in which the assured themselves constitute the society; (2) *proprietary* offices..; and (3) the *mixed* offices.

2. Respective; belonging to each respectively.

In some of the examples there is a mixture of sense 1, the notion being that of a reciprocal relation between each of the persons and what belongs to the other.

1548 UDALL, etc. *Erasm., Par. Acts* 37 b, Euen so the lorde prepared, in theyr mutuall vision, eache one for other [Saul & Ananias]. 1652 LOVEDAY tr. *Calprenede's Cassandra* III. 207 The tears that were shed on both sides in the remembrance of their mutuall losses. 1755 J. SHEBBEARE *Lydia* (1769) I. 44 Pressing each other to their bosoms in silence, they again unclasped their mutual arms. 1796 *Hist. Ned Evans* II. 152 The time would not allow them to enter into minute details of their mutual adventures. 1818 HOBHOUSE *Hist. Illustr.* (ed. 2) 59 Perhaps we shall find both the one and the other to have been more active despoilers than has been confessed by their mutual apologists. 1837 BEOFORD in *Life Southey* (1850) VI. 353, I cannot believe the difference in your mutual years can create any strong line of demarcation between you.

† 3. Of intercourse: Intimate. *Obs.*

1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* I. ii. 158 But it chances The stealth of our most mutuall entertainment With Character too grosse, is writ on Juliet. 1659 H. L'ESTRANGE *Alliance Div. Off.* 292 The society and conversation could not be so mutual between them. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* XVII. iii, Two families..between whom there has always existed so mutual an intercourse and good harmony.

4. Pertaining to both parties; common.

a. Of things, actions, sentiments.

Now regarded as incorrect.

1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* V. iv. 173 That done, our day of marriage shall be yours One Feast, one house, one mutuall happinesse. 1596 — *Merch. V.* V. i. 77 If..any ayre of musicke touch their eares, You shall perceiue them make a mutuall stand. 1631 BRATHWAIT *Eng. Gentlew.* 125 Those daughters of Scedasus of Leuctra,..conceiuing a mutuall sorrow for their lost Virginity, became resolute actors in their owne Tragedy. 1797 MRS. A. M. BENNETT *Beggar Girl* (1813) II. 45 The major hinted at their mutual obligations to Mrs. Walsingham. 1802-12 BENTHAM *Ration. Judic. Evid.* (1827) V. 204 Under the mutual appellative *self-regarding*, both self-serving and self-disserving are comprized. ? 1820 BYRON *Let. to Murray* (1821) 9 Mr. Hobhouse was desirous that I should express our mutual opinion of Pope. 1831 SCOTT *Ct. Robt.* xv, Their apartments were contiguous, but the communication between them was cut off for the night by the mutual door being locked and barred. 1882 F. J. FURNIVALL in *Digby Myst.* (E.E.T.S.) Ded. 2 A reminder of the days when his [*i. e.* Shakspere's] triumphant art was the subject of our mutual work.

b. Qualifying a personal designation expressive of a relation.

Commonly censured as incorrect, but still often used in the collocations *mutual friend, mutual acquaintance*, on account of the ambiguity of *common*, which is the only adj. correctly expressing the intended meaning. Expressions like *mutual father, mutual child*, formerly not uncommon, would now sound strange.

1632 SIR T. HAWKINS tr. *Mathieu's Unhappy Prosperitie* 22 Hee turneth himselfe towards his wife, conjureth her by the love he had borne her,..and by their mutuall children, a little to humble her spirit. 1658 G. STARKEY *Pyrotechny* Ded., My good fortune first by the occasion of our mutual Friend, Dr. Robert Child. 1723 LADY M. W. MONTAGU *Lett., to C'tess Mar* (1887) I. 346 Our mutual acquaintance are exceedingly dispersed. 1778 BURKE *Corr.* 24 Dec. (1844) II. 251 Our mutual friend, John Bourke. 1786 MRS. A. M. BENNETT *Juvenile Indiscr.* V. 86 The eldest I sent for home, to superintend my domestic affairs, before our mutual darling had compleated her education. 1802 *Noble Wanderers* II. 199 Her sister Ismena had succeeded to their mutual father, Astamanes. 1825 SCOTT *Fam. Lett.* 15 Oct., Our mutual friend Mr. Wright. 1867 GEO. ELIOT in Cross *Life* (1885) III. 20 Don't write unless you have a real desire to gossip with me a little about yourself and our mutual friends. 1883 L. OLIPHANT *Altiora Peto* I. 93 We had no mutual relations to talk about.

† c. Having the specified character in common.

1794 GODWIN *Cal. Williams* 265 He talked of the injustice of which we were mutual victims, without bitterness.

† 5. Responsive. *Obs.*

1657 COKAINE *Obstinate Lady* III. ii, Love is a passion not to be withstood, And, until hearts be mutual, never good. 1809 CAMPBELL *Gertr. Wyom.* I. x, When fate had reft his mutual heart:..and Gertrude climb'd a widow'd father's knee. 1816 BYRON *Ch. Har.* III. xxiv, Who then could guess If ever more should meet those mutual eyes. 1850 MRS. BROWNING *Poet's Vow* IV. xii, The old nurse looked within her eyes, Whose mutual look was gone.

6. *Comb.* with the sense 'mutually', as *mutual-dependent, -kindling, -melting* adjs.

a 1743 SAVAGE *'Happy the Man'* iv, Who, melting on thy mutual-melting breast, Entranc'd enjoys love's whole luxurious charms, Is all a God. 1786 BURNS *Lament* ix, Love's luxurious pulse beat high,..To mark the mutual-kindling eye. 1895 W. H. HUDSON *Spencer's Philos.* 172 Thus remaining unintegrated into the great organization of mutual-dependent parts which constitutes society.

Mutualism (miū·tiuăliz'm). [f. MUTUAL *a.* + -ISM. Cf. F. *mutuellisme* (see 1 b).]

1. a. The doctrine that individual and collective well-being is attainable only by mutual dependence. b. [after F. *mutuellisme.*] The system of the association of 'mutualists' at Lyons.

1863 J. WEISS *Life & Corr. Parker* I. 106 A mutualism to secure culture and material welfare. 1873 MORLEY *Rousseau* II. xii. 190 Those schemes of Mutualism, and all the other shapes of collective action for a common social good. 1892 SCHÄFFLE *Impossibility Soc. Democr.* 17 Socialism, communism,..anarchism, mutualism [etc.].

2. *Biol.* A condition of symbiosis in which two associated organisms contribute mutually to the well-being of each other.

1876 *Beneden's Anim. Parasites* 83 It is often very difficult to say where commensalism ends and mutualism begins.

Mutualist (miū·tiuălist). [f. MUTUAL *a.* + -IST. Cf. F. *mutuelliste* (= 1 b), *mutualiste* member of a mutual assurance society.]

1. a. An advocate of mutualism. b. A member of a corporation of labour masters at Lyons.

1848 W. H. Kelly tr. *L. Blanc's Hist. Ten Y.* II. 258 Several Lyonese republicans..had been the first to interfere between the manufacturers and the mutualists. *Ibid.*, The executive council of the mutualists..ordered the workmen to resume their suspended labours, and was obeyed. 1892 Schäffle *Impossibility Soc. Democr.* 11 Some so-called mutualists depend for everything on a brotherly reciprocity.

2. *Biol.* One of two organisms which mutually live on each other. Cf. Mutualism.

1876 *Beneden's Anim. Parasites* 84 Every colony of campanulariæ or sertulariæ lodges a crowd of messmates and mutualists. 1894 J. Weir in *Amer. Naturalist* Aug. 713, I mean by the term mutualist, an animal which gives a *quid pro quo* or specific beneficial service to the host which affords it sustenance and domicile.

Mutuality (miūːtiuˈælːlĭti). [f. Mutual *a.* + -ity: cf. F. *mutualité*.]

1. The quality or condition of being mutual; reciprocity.

a 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* III. (1622) 347 There is no sweeter tast of friendship, then the coupling of soules in this mutualitie either of condoling, or comforting. *a* 1635 Sibbes *Confer. Christ & Mary* (1656) 77 We have not comfort, because we do not make him ours by a spirit of mutuality. 1782a Paine *Let. Abbé Raynal* (1791) 43 A mutuality of wants have formed the individuals of each country into a kind of national society. 1892 *Times* 8 Feb. 5/2 In future the..South American Republics must look for protection and mutuality of interests..only among themselves.

b. *Law.* A condition of things under which two parties are mutually bound to perform certain reciprocal duties.

1845 Stephen *Comm. Laws Eng.* (1874) II. 55 There is.. a distinction between a promise and a contract; for the latter involves the idea of mutuality which the former does not. 1847 C. G. Addison *Law of Contracts* I. i. (1883) 14 The mutuality of the obligation is the very essence of all contracts founded upon mutual promises. 1848 Wharton *Law Lex., Mutuality*, reciprocation; an acting in return. 1884 Bowen in *Law Times Rep.* 24 May 380/1, I will not say whether there was sufficient mutuality between the parties to make what was done between them binding or not.

2. Interchange of acts of goodwill; intimacy.

1604 Shaks. *Oth.* II. i. 267 (1st Qo.) They met so neere with their lips tbat their breathes embrac'd together. When these mutualities [*Folios* mutabilities] so marshall the way, hand at hand, comes the maine exercise [etc.]. 1628 Earle *Microcosm., Plausible Man* (Arb.) 59 Hee loues not deeper mutualities, because he would not take sides. 1867 Bushnell *Mor. Uses Dark Th.* 207 Gathered at their firesides in domestic mutualities and pleasures.

3. *Biol.* The rendering of mutual services by organisms in the condition of symbiosis; cf. Mutualism 2.

1876 *Beneden's Anim. Parasites* Introd. 18 The services of many of tbese [animals] are rewarded either in protection or in kind, and mutuality can well be excrcised at the same time as hospitality. *Ibid.* 24.

Mutualize (miūˈtiuăləiz), *v.* [f. Mutual *a.* + -ize.] *trans.* †**a.** To give and receive in return; to reciprocate. *Obs.* **b.** To organize on the 'mutual' system. Hence **Mutualizaˈtion.**

1812 in *Spirit Pub. Jrnls.* XVI. 360 Pledges shall have been mutualized, and those solemn assurances reciprocated, which..can only be violated by the unprincipled. 1905 *Daily News* 23 June 7/2 The report advocates complete mutualisation, with elimination of stock by purchase at a price only commensurate with the dividends.

Mutually (miūˈtiuăli), *adv.* [f. Mutual *a.* + -ly 2.]

1. With mutual action or sentiment; in a mutual relation; reciprocally.

c 1540 tr. *Pol. Verg. Eng. Hist.* (Camden, No. 29) 8 They marched forward, and, drawing their blades mutually, ranne together with great cryes. 1542 Udall *Erasm. Apoph.* 211 b, The honest opinion yᵗ the subiectes haue of their kyng and the hertie good wille of the prince mutually toward his subiectes. *c* 1590 Marlowe *Faust* (1604) C 2, As are the elements, such are the spheares, Mutually folded in each others orbe. 1682 Norris *Hierocles* 27 We mutually promote each other in the advantages of virtue. 1751 Harris *Hermes* Wks. (1841) 178 And thus is it that interrogatives and relatives mutually pass into each other. 1816 G. S. Faber *Orig. Pagan Idol.* III. 4 These again are said to be mutually the same with each other. 1847 C. Bronte *J. Eyre* iv, We mutually embraced. 1893 Liddon, etc. *Life Pusey* I. xv. 348 If a good life always meant a true creed, many mutually contradictory errors would be true.

†**b.** In return; as one side of a reciprocal action. *Obs.*

1598 Shaks. *Merry W.* IV. vi. 10, I haue acquainted you With the deare loue I beare to faire Anne Page, Who, mutually, hath answer'd my affection,..Euen to my wish. 1699 Bentley *Phal.* 247 This Account..establishes and is mutually establish'd by the Testimony of Suidas. 1704 Newton *Opticks* III. i. (1721) 345 Pellucid Substances act upon the Rays of Light at a distance..and the Rays mutually agitate the Parts of those Substances at a distance.

2. In mutual co-operation or companionship; by mutual agreement; jointly, in common.

1598 Shaks. *Merry W.* v. v. 103 Pinch him (Fairies) mutually: Pinch him for his villanie. 1603 — *Meas. for M.* II. iii. 27 *Duke.* So then it seemes your most offence full act Was mutually committed. *Jul.* Mutually. 1653 Walton *Angler* xi. 197 They mutually labour to cover it with the same sand. 1735 Ld. Lyttelton *Lett. fr. Persian* (ed. 3) I. 141, I wou'd restore ber back again to him untouch'd; or in case tbey shou'd mutually desire it, carry her with me to my Seraglio in the East. 1784 J. Potter *Virtuous Villagers* I. 35 You have my free consent to marry, if you and she mutually wish it. 1786 Mrs. A. M. Bennett *Juvenile Indiscr.* II. 157 The loss we mutually sustained in the early death of our parents. *a* 1817 T. Dwight *Trav. New Eng.*, etc. (1821) II. 187 The prisoners then began to walk within their room, at the same pace with that of their watchman: the sound of their feet being mutually heard.

†**3.** By both parties respectively. *Obs.*

1632 Lithgow *Trav.* x. 460 The Gouernours interrogation and my Confession being mutually subscribed.

Mutualness (miūˈtiuălnĕs). [f. Mutual *a.* + -ness.] The quality of being mutual.

1620 T. Granger *Div. Logike* 119 Here mutualnesse in friendsbip is explicated by the equall. 1886 P. Brooks in *Life* (1900) II. 542 Here there is the perfect mutualness, the absolute..harmony of the Father and the Son.

Mutuary (miūˈtiuări). *Civil Law.* [ad. L. *mūtuāri-us*, f. *mūtu-us* borrowed: see Mutual *a.* and -ary.] (See quot. 1856.)

1839 [see Mutuum]. 1856 Bouvier *Amer. Law Dict.* (ed. 6) II. 196 *Mutuary*, [in] contracts, a person who borrows personal chattels to be consumed by him, and returned to the lender in kind.

†**Muˈtuate,** *v. Obs.* [f. L. *mūtuāt-*, ppl. stem of *mūtuārī* to borrow; f. *mūtu-us*: see Mutual *a.* and -ate 3.] *trans.* To borrow. Hence †Muˈtuated *ppl. a.*, †Muˈtuating *vbl. sb.*

a 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VII* 27 b, Dyuerse lordes..had mutuate and borowed dyverse and sondy summes of money. 1595 M. Mosse *Arraign. Usurie* 39 Mutuating and Accommodating: how they differ. *Ibid.* 40 Tbese two kindes of lending which..we call mutuating and accommodating, doe differ in these two poyntes. 1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* *iv b, I am not the man which liveth by un other mans mutuated supellectilles. 1657 Tomlinson *Renou's Disp.* 218 They mutuate their odour..from the places through whicb they permeate. 1684 T. Goddard *Plato's Demon* 288 This mutuated or fide-commissary power which he [*sc.* 'our Author'] bath placed in the King. 1689 G. Harvey *Curing Dis. by Expect.* ii. 7 From tbeir Subjects many Trades are observed to mutuate their distinction; from Physick the Physician. 1716 M. Davies *Athen. Brit.* II. Ded. to King, This one only Latin mutuated Pentameter Verse, viz. *Principis est Virtus maxima, nosse Suos.*

†**Mutuatiˈtial,** *a.* and *sb. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. L. *mūtuālĭti-us* (f. *mūtuārī*: see prec.) + -al.] **a.** *adj.* Borrowed. **b.** *sb.* Something borrowed.

1654 Vilvain *Epit. Ess.* vi, *Mutuatitial Essais.* The Sixth..Century of Mutuatitials.

Mutuation (miūtiuˌēːʃən). [ad. L. *mūtuātiōn-em*, n. of action f. *mūtuārī*: see Mutuate *v.*] An act of lending or borrowing. Also *fig.*

1604 Downam *Lect. Ps.* 15. v. 151 Wherefore the contract of vsurie is nothing else but illiberall mutuation, and may thus briefely bee defined: Vsurie is mutuation, or lending for gaine. 1649 Bp. Hall *Cases Conse.* (1650) 24 In both there seems to be a valuation of time: which whether in case of mutuation, or sale, may justly be suspected for unlawful. 1778 Halhed *Bengal Gram.* Pref. 3, I have been astonished to find the similitude of Shanscrit words with tbose..of Latin and Greek: and these not in technical and metaphorical terms, which the mutuation of refined arts and improved manners might have occasionally introduced; but [etc.]. 1827 G. S. Faber *Orig. Expiat. Sacr.* 197 Such a mutuation necessarily supposes a knowledge of the sabbatical seventh day.

†**Mutuatiˈtious,** *a. Obs. rare.* [f. L. *mūtuālĭti-us*, f. *mūtuārī* to borrow: see Mutuate *v.* and -itious.] Borrowed; taken from some other.

1625 N. Carpenter *Geog. Del.* I. iv. (1635) 87 The Peripatetickes..distinguishing the motions of the Planets into a proper or naturall, and accidentall or mutuaticious. 1664 H. More *Antid. Idolatry* x. 134 The mutuatitious Good works of their pretended Holy men and women. 1813 T. Busby *Lucretius* II. v. Comm. p. xv, With regard to their light: Metrodorus thought it mutuatitious, and borrowed of the sun.

Mutule (miūˈtiul). *Arch.* Also 6 mutilo, *pl.* mutuli, 7–8 mutil. [a. F. *mutule* (It. *mutulo*), ad. L. *mūtulus* modillion.] The modillion proper to the cornice in the Doric order; a projection upon the soffit of the Doric corona.

1563 Shute *Archit.* B iij, [If he] should make ymages.. for pillers and make ouer their heade Mutilos, and Coronas. *Ibid.* Div b, Vitruuius..dotb describe the beginning of Mutuli to be necessarie. 1664 Evelyn tr. *Freart's Archit.* I. xiii. 36 The Gotique Order..has compos'd certain lame figur'd Mutils or Corbells in stead of Cartouzes. *Ibid., Acc. Archit.* 137 Mutules..have their name from their defect, as being made thinner and more abated below than above. 1703 tr. *Perrault's Abridgm. Vitruvius* 37 The Corinthian Modillions are imitated by the Mutils of the Dorick Order. 1727–41 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v., The mutules in the Doric answer to the triglyphs, which are under them. 1843 Wathen *Arts, Antiq. & Chronol. Egypt* 181 Above the architrave of the porch is a cornice ornamented with long mutules or brackets. 1862 Mrs. Speid *Last Years Ind.* 187 The stone triglyphs and mutules of the Doric order.

†**Muˈtuous,** *a. Obs.* [f. L. *mūtu-us* Mutual + -ous.] = Mutual *a.* Hence **Muˈtuously** *adv.*

1683 E. Hooker *Pref. Pordage's Mystic Div.* 91 The opportune interposition of prudent indulgence, mutuous toleration and grand moderation. *Ibid.* 52 Such like words evn Religionists too often use in Repartées, mutuously.

†**Muˈtuum.** *Civil Law. Obs.* [a. L. *mūtuum* a loan, neut. of *mūtuus* borrowed.] A contract under which such things are lent as are consumed in the use, or which cannot be used without their extinction or alienation.

1486 *Materials Reign Hen. VII* (Rolls) I. 267 That ye, in the boke called the pele doo entre a mutuum..of the forsaide D.cccIxxvii li. ix. s. ii. d. 1681 Visct. Stair *Inst. Law Scot.* I. x. § 17. 127 Loan comprehendeth both the Contracts in the Law called *mutuum* and *commodatum*; by the former a thing Fungible is freely given, for the like to be restored in the same kind and quantity, though not the same individual. 1839 Story *Bailments* § 47. 34 A deposit differs from what is called in the civil law a *mutuum*, for there the identical tbing lent is not to be returned, but another thing of the same kind, quality, nature or value. In the latter case, the property passes immediately to the mutuary.

Muvable, obs. form of Movable.

Muwe, obs. form of Mew *sb.*2, *v.*1 and Muid.

Muwe(n, Muwes, obs. ff. May *v.*1, Mews.

Muwet, obs. form of Mute *sb.*

Muwyer, variant of Mowyer *Obs.*

Muy(e, Muyd, obs. ff. Muid, Mood *sb.*1

Muyezin, obs. form of Muezzin.

Muyle, Muynde, obs. ff. Mule, Mind *sb.*

Muyre, Muys(e, obs. ff. Mire, Mouse.

Muyson, variant of Moison.

Muzarab(ic, variant forms of Mozarab(ic.

Muze, obs. form of Muse, Mews.

Muzell, Muzhik, var. ff. Muzzle, Moujik.

Muzle(d, -lin, obs. ff. Muzzle(d, Muslin.

Muzro(u)le, variant forms of Musrol.

Muzz (mvz), *sb. slang.* Also 8–9 **muz.** [Belongs to next.] One who 'muzzes' over books. Cf. Mug *sb.*6 2.

1788 *Trifler* No. 5. 56 The diligence exercised in improving my mental abilities, brought upon me the almost indelible stigma of a Muz. 1807 *Spirit Pub. Jrnls.* (1809) XII. 305, I often wish you had been with us, though we do quiz you for a reading muz. 1899 W. K. R. Bedford *Outcomes Old Oxford* 86, I don't mind memoirs, but I hate a muzz.

Muzz (mvz), *v. slang.* [Of obscure origin; the relation to Muzzy *a.* is uncertain.

The word may be in part a grotesque alteration of Muse *v.*; cf. *bemuse.*]

1. *intr.* To study intently; to 'mug'. Const. *over.*

1775 S. J. Pratt *Liberal Opin.* lxxxv. (1783) III. 134 Curse tbat Thomas,..for ever muzzing over a musty book. 1815 *Zeluca* I. 356 To see you muzzing over a game of chess. 1829 Scott *Jrnl.* 26 Jan., I muzzed on—I can call it little better—with *Anne of Geierstein.* 1902 *Daily Chron.* 19 Mar. 3/3 To work overmucb at Eton is to 'sap',..at Westminster it is to 'muzz'.

2. *trans.* To render 'muzzy'; to fuddle. Cf. Muzzle *v.*2

a 1787 'Fred. Philon' *He would be a Soldier* IV. i, *Caleb.* A choice companion he is; only apt to get muzzed too soon. 1794 J. Williams *Shrove Tuesday* 6 When the nocturnal orgie'd muzz'd his brain. 1865 *Sat. Rev.* 17 June 727/1 A certain judge was in the habit of muzzing himself by plenteous libations. 188a H. Bradshaw in Prothero *Mem.* viii. (1888) 259 A very heavy cold on me..muzzed my head.

3. *intr.* To loiter aimlessly; to 'hang about'. Cf. Muss *v.*2 2.

1779 Mme. D'Arblay *Diary* 11 Jan., If you but knew.. who I shall see to-night, you would not dare keep me muzzing here. 1794 J. Williams *Parental Didactics* 18 And that high royal corps snug and suhlime, Who muz majestic in the court ycleped Crane.

Hence **Muzzed** *a.*, fuddled. **Muˈzzing** *ppl. a.*, that studies hard, 'mugging'.

1793 J. Beresford in W. Roberts *Looker-on* No. 54 (1794) II. 311 Hunt out some college cell, Where muzzing quizzes mutter monkish schemes. 1836 *Comic Almanack* Mar. (1870) 48 While Harlequin, half muzz'd with wine, Don't care a rush for Columbine. 1851 Owen in *Life* (1894) I. 352 At Westminster..he is in a class of very sharp and hard-working, or as he calls it, muzzing boys.

Muzzel(l, obs. forms of Muzzle.

Muzzily (mvzːili), *adv.* [f. Muzzy *a.* + -ly 2.] In a 'muzzy' manner.

1903 *Sat. Rev.* 5 Dec. 700/2 They maunder muzzily on, these wastrels.

Muzziness (mvˈzinės). [f. Muzzy *a.* + -ness.] The condition of being muzzy.

1814 Moore *Mem.* (1853) II. 37 You must excuse the muzziness you may have detected throughout this epistle. 1834 Beckford *Italy* I. Advt. p. ii, The intellectual muzziness of the past. 1847 *Brit. & For. Med. Rev.* XXIII. 553 A slight feeling of muzziness in the head. 1858 Hogg *Life Shelley* II. 416 An abiding..muzziness..inspired with..strong..ale. 1900 A. C. Benson *E. W. Benson* I. iv. 129 He used to speak..of the muzziness of head that this [*sc.* quinine]..had produced in him.

Muzzle (mvˈzl), *sb.*1 Forms: 4–6 **mosel,** 5 **mosle, mosol, -ul, -yl,** (**mor-, murselle**), 5–6 **mosell, moosle,** *Sc.* **mussal,** 5–7 **mussel,** 6 **mo(u)ssell, mousil, moozle, moozzell, musell, -yll,** (**mowseale**), **mezell** (?), *Sc.* **misel**(1, **-al**(1, **musal**(1, 4–7 **mozell,** 6–7 **mousel**(1, **moosel**(1, **mussell, musle, muzzell,** 6–8 **muzle,** 7 **muzel,** *Sc.* **myssel**(1, 7–8 **muzzel,** 6– **muzzle.** [a. OF. *musel, muzel, mousel, muisel* (12–13th c.), mod.F. *museau*:—med.L. *mūsellum*, dim. of med.L. *mūsus* (8th c. in Du Cange) or *mūsum* (whence Pr. *mus, muus*, OSp. *mus*, It. *muso*), of uncertain origin, bnt perh. connected with F. *muser* (see Muse *v.*1, *note*) and its cognates. (OF. had *muse, mouse* fem. = muzzle.)

Diez and others, connecting OF. *musel* with Pr. *mursel, morsel* (cf. the occas. 15th c. forms in Eng., also Breton *morzeel* beside *muzel*, muzzle), have assumed as the common etymon a pop. L. **morsellus*, dim. of *morsus* bite (cf. late L. *jūsum* from L. *deorsum*), but this involves serious difficulties.]

I. 1. The projecting part of the head of an animal which includes the nose and mouth.

c 1410 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) xxxi, Pe other

beloweth lowe..stoupynge with þe heede and þe musell towarde þe erthe. *c* 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* III. xlviii. (1869) 161 It is figured as a swyn that in þe eerthe hath his morselle [*v.r.* murselle]. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* xxvi. 561 The horse..smote his mussell in to the erth. 1533 MORE *Debell. Salem* Wks. 993/1 A mastyffe hath..a great mosel and a thycke boystous body. 1587 MASCALL *Govt. Cattle, Sheep* (1596) 228 There is also another scabbinesse which chanceth somtimes on the mousels of sheepe. 1649 OGILBY *Virg. Georg.* III. (1684) 104 Some from the Dams hinder the tender Kid, And with hard Muzzles from the Pap forbid. 1685 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2062. 2/2 A dark bay Gelding..with a brown Musle. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) IX. 501/1 The head of a chamæleon is not unlike that of a fish...The muzzle is blunt. 1851 MAYNE REID *Scalp Hunt.* iii, A dark-brown stallion with black legs, and muzzle like the withered fern. 1877 J. A. ALLEN *Amer. Bison* 445 An adult measures about nine feet from the muzzle to the insertion of the tail.

b. *transf.* Contemptuously or jocularly applied to the part of the human face including the nose and chin.

1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 22753 Hyt semyth..By lyfftynge vp off thy mosel, That thow pleyest the ape wel. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* II. (1622) 107 But ener and anon turning her muzzell towards mee, shee threw such a prospect vpon me, as might well haue giuen a surfet to any weake loners stomacke. *a* 1700 DRYDEN tr. *Ovid's Art of Love* I. 582 Of a black muzzle, and long beard, beware. 1829 SCOTT *Jrnl.* 25 Mar., The dry old rogue twisting his muzzle into an infernal grin. 1850 THACKERAY *Pendennis* lxi, Your black muzzle, old George, is the only face I should see.

c. *slang.* (See quot.)

a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Muzzle*, a Beard (usually) long and nasty.

d. = MUFFLE *sb.*[2] 1.

1870 DUBOIS *Cosmop. Cookery* 188 Muzzle (mufle) of beef with curry.

2. That end of a fire-arm from which the shot is discharged; *spec.* in a cannon, the part extending from the astragal to the extreme end mouldings.

1566 *Inv. R. Wardr.* (1815) 170 Item, sex missellis of irne. 1624 CAPT. SMITH *Virginia* v. 179 The powder by carelesnesse was tumbled down vnder the mussels of the two peeces. 1633 T. STAFFORD *Pac. Hib.* I. ix. (1821) 116 That the peece..should be abased at the tayle, and elevated at the musle. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 37 Over the Gates five Guns run out their Muzzels. 1711 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 9 May, They fought at sword and pistol this morning in Tuttle Fields, their pistols so near that the muzzles touched. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xiii. III. 361 The soldiers were still fumbling with the muzzles of their guns and the handles of their bayonets. 1892 GREENER *Breech-Loader* 107 The gun..should not be left muzzle-up or muzzle-down against a wall, a gate, or a tree.

b. *Charged* (*crammed*) *to the muzzle*: loaded, filled, or 'stuffed' *with*.

1807-8 W. IRVING *Salmag.* (1811) II. 63 Every body seems charged to the muzzle with gun-powder;—every eye flashes fire-works and torpedoes. 1859 G. MEREDITH *R. Feverel* vi, So instead of beating about and setting the boy on the alert at all points, crammed to the muzzle with lies, he just said [etc.]. 1875 M. PATTISON *Casaubon* 69 Casaubon bad, in this way, solicited Leunclavius in a letter charged to the muzzle with gratifying compliments.

†**3.** The nozzle of a pair of bellows. *Obs.*

1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* III. v, He had a large Pair of Bellows, with a long slender Muzzle of Ivory.

4. *Agric.* = BRIDLE *sb.* 5 d.

1765 A. DICKSON *Treat. Agric.* (ed. 2) 200 There is another thing supposed also to belong to the plough, and that is the bridle or muzzle. 1840 J. BUEL *Farmer's Comp.* 142 By setting the muzzle higher up in the index of the beam.

5. The mouth at the base of a cooking-place.

1874 BEDFORD *Sailor's Pocket Bk.* vii. 206 They [*sc.* cooking places] should be in rear of..the arms; the simplest form is a trench dug in a line with the wind..; depth, about a foot at the muzzle decreasing to 3 inches at the chimney.

II. 6. A contrivance, usually consisting of an arrangement of straps or wires, put over an animal's mouth to prevent it from biting, eating, or rooting.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Knt.'s T.* 1293 White Alauntz..folwed hym, with mosel faste ybounde. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 344/2 Moosle, or mosul for a nette [=neat], *oristrigium*. 1523 *MS. Acc. St. John's Hosp., Canterb.*, For a mezell for a calf. 1556 WITHALS *Dict.* (1568) 15 b/1 A moosle that letteth dogges to bite. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* VI. xii. 34 He tooke a muzzel strong Of surest yron, made with many a lincke. 1635 MARKHAM *Faithf. Farrier* 78 The Horse having stood all night on the Mussell or at the empty Racke. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 611 Some, when the Kids their Dams too deeply drain, With Gags and Muzzles their soft Mouths restrain. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) III. 361 It often happens..that the ferret disengages itself of its muzzel, and then it is most commonly lost, unless it be dug out. 1856 'STONEHENGE' *Brit. Sports* I. III. v. § 457 Many young dogs are such savage fighters or biters, as to require the muzzle always on at exercise. *Ibid.* II. I. vi. § 72 Some very gross feeders requiring the muzzle on immediately after their last feed of corn over night.

fig. 1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV*, IV. v. 132 For the Fift Harry, from curb'd License pluckes The muzzle of Restraint. 1644 [H. PARKER] *Jus Pop.* 60 So to inure Rome to the snaffle, and break the Senate to the musle. 1802 LADY JERNINGHAM in *Y. Lett.* (1896) I. 210 Doctor Jenner is..to have a premium..for having Discovered so useful a muzzle for..the small Pox. 1901 *Scotsman* 5 Mar. 8/3 The self-imposed muzzle which he has worn for the last five years no longer prevents him from taking part in the military debates.

b. An ornamental piece of armour covering a horse's nose.

1860 J. HEWITT *Anc. Armour* III. 667 Steel muzzles elaborately wrought in open-work. 1870 A. DEMMIN *Weapons of War* 350 The muzzle, which was placed over the nostrils..could be of no use in war.

c. The face-piece of an inhaler.

1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 55 The naso-oral muzzle must never be used.

†**7.** *Sc.* A veil, face-cloth. (Cf. MUZZLE *v.*[1] 3 b.) *Obs.*

1603 *Philotus* xxvii, 3our Velnote hat, 3our Hude of Stait, 3our Myssell quhen 3e gang to gait. 1605 *Burgh Rec. Glasgow* (1876) I. 237 That thai gang vpone the calsay syd with thair mussellis on thair faice, and clopperis.

III. 8. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as (sense 1) *muzzle-bone*, (sense 2) *muzzle-astragal, -end, moulding, rope, stopper*; **muzzle chops**, nickname for a man with prominent nose and mouth; **muzzle-lashings** (see quot.); **muzzle-loader**, a gun that is loaded at the muzzle (opp. to *breech-loader*); so **muzzle-loading** *ppl. a.*; **muzzle-peg**, a contrivance to keep the nose of a dog raised while hunting game; hence **muzzle-pegged** *a.*; **muzzle-ring**, the moulding of greatest circumference encircling the muzzle of a gun; **muzzle-sight**, a sight placed at or near the muzzle of a gun; †**muzzle-scab**, a disease in sheep; **muzzle velocity**, the velocity at which a projectile leaves the piece from which it is fired.

1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1780) I 3 b, The *muzzle-astragal and fillets. 1845 *Encycl. Metrop.* VII. 366/2 In the *Ornithorhynque* the *Muzzle-bones are flat. 1611 MIDDLETON & DEKKER *Roaring Girl* III. iii, This old *muzzle chops should be he, By the fellowes discription. 1875 *Ure's Dict. Arts* II. 376 The coil..is struck down vertically with its *muzzle end upon the anvil. 1889 KIPLING *Barrack-r. Ballads, East & West* 69 The Colonel's son a pistol drew and held it muzzle-end. 1815 BURNEY *Falconer's Dict. Marine* 290/2 **Muzzle-lashings*, are two and a half inch ropes, about four or five fathoms in length, used to lash the muzzles of guns, so as to confine them to the upper part of the ports. 1858 GREENER *Gunnery* 331 There is no possibility of a breech-loader ever shooting equal to a well-constructed *muzzle loader. *Ibid.* 333 The celebrated trial of Breech versus *Muzzle-loading fire-arms, which took place in April last. 1721 BAILEY, **Muzzle mouldings* (of a Gun) is the Ornament round the Muzzle. 1819 T. B. JOHNSON *Shooter's Comp.* 85 Your young dog..will perhaps take the wind of himself, and hunt with his nose elevated. Should this not be the case, recourse must be had to the *muzzle peg. *Ibid.* 27 The Russian Pointer..runs..his nose close to the ground (if not *muzzle-pegged). 1626 CAPT. SMITH *Accid. Yng. Seamen* 32 *Mousell rings at her mouth. 1692 *Capt. Smith's Seaman's Gram.* II. vi. 94 The Muzzle Ring, or Cornice. 1858 GREENER *Gunnery* 99 Six outside staves of great dimensions, which, at the muzzle ring, pass through openings in the muzzle ring. 1879 *Man. Artill. Exerc.* VII. vii. 508 A clove hitch is made with the centre of the *muzzle rope round the fid. 1726 *Dict. Rust.* (ed. 3), **Mousel-scab*, a Distemper that sometimes attends Sheep and young Teggs. *c* 1860 H. STUART *Seaman's Catech.* 11 On the barrel is the..*muzzle sight. 1844 *Regul. & Ord. Army* 96 *note*, *Muzzle-Stoppers. 1879 *Man. Artill. Exerc.* 8 The longer the projectile, the less perfectly it is centred, the lower its *muzzle velocity [etc.].

Muzzle (mʊ·z'l), *sb.*[2] [ad. G. *Mosel*, Du. *Moezel* = MOSELLE, where cf. the 18th c. form *mossel*.] Moselle wine.

1853 JERDAN *Autobiog.* IV. xiii. 243 We sat down to excellent rotten cabbage, but washed down with sensible muzzle and schnaps. *Ibid.* 244 The bumpers of muzzle.

†**Mu·zzle,** *a. Obs.* Also 7 mussel. = MUZZLED *ppl. a.*[2]

1691 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2652/4 A little Man,..having a Mussel Beard. 1813 GEN. P. THOMPSON *Let.* 26 Jan. (MS.), A brown muzzle horse; which upon examination I found by no means to intend a horse with a brown muzzle, but a horse that reflects brown-muzzle rays...A brown-muzzle horse therefore is a horse of a brinded or mingled brown.

Mu·zzle, *v.*[1] Forms: see the sb. [f. MUZZLE *sb.*[1] Cf. F. *museler*.]

1. *intr.* To thrust out the muzzle or nose; to feel, smell, or root about with the muzzle. (Cf. NUZZLE.)

c 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* xix. 426 They felle where thei wente, musselinge in the grounde as hogges. 15.. *Johan the Euangelyst* 499 And yf the grounde be slypper and slydynge In faythe I fall downe moselynge. 1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 80 Lyke a most filthy hogge mooselyng in the durtie swinesty of Epicure. 1598 BARCKLEY *Felic. Man* IV. 330 The Beare came..muzling about his mouth and nose, finding that he breathed not [etc.]. 1607 HIERON *Wks.* I. 156 If we euer be like swine, muzling in the ground. 1679 RUSDEN *Further Disc. Bees* ix. 91, I and others have found that an hogg musling in an Hive hath been the best way of dressing it. 1844 STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 702 Every pig takes its own place right earnestly, and muzzles away at the udder.

†**b.** *fig.* To 'growl' or murmur *at*.

1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* II. 68 Our Syr Ierume sets vp his bristles & although he know my meaning, yet mooseleth at the wordes.

2. *trans.* To bring the muzzle or snout close to.

a 1600 *Constancy of True Love* xi. in J. P. Collier *Roxb. Ball.* (1847) 94 The lyon..Ran where I left my garment first;..And having musled thus the same [etc.]. 1692 R. L'ESTRANGE *Fables* CCXXVII. 199 The Bear comes directly up to Him, Muzzles, and Smells to him.

†**b.** To root about or amongst. *Obs.*

1617 *Presentm.* in *Essex Rev.* XV. 48 His church pale, broken down, lett in hogges and other cattle, which mussells and spoyles the churchyard. 1733 TULL *Horse-hoeing Husb.* xx. 288 Had there been Oaks in the Place, I should rather have thought that Tillage perform'd by a Race of the first Teachers of it, in muzzling Acorns than by Plows.

†**c.** 'To fondle with the mouth close. A low word' (J.). Cf. MOUSLE *v. Obs.*

1692 R. L'ESTRANGE *Fables* CCXIX. 192 The Nurse..was Then Muzzling and Cokesing of it. 1697 VANBRUGH *Relapse* I. (1708) 12 Ah, you young hot lusty Thief, let me muzzle you—[*Kissing*]. 1708 MRS. CENTLIVRE *Busie Body* III. 34, I will, Chargee, so muzle, and tuzle, and hug thee.

3. To put a muzzle on (an animal or its mouth); to prevent by means of a muzzle from biting, etc.

c 1470 in *Som. & Devon N. & Q.* (1905) IX. 303 The saide Dogge beying owte of chayne was mosolyd. 1519 *Surtees Misc.* (1888) 34 They shall mosell their dogges. 1526 TINDALE 1 *Cor.* IX. 9 Thou shalt not mosell the mouth of the oxe. 1530 PALSGR. 642/2, I wolde advyse you musyll your dogge, for he is called peryllous. 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus, Fiscella*, a thing made with twigges and strynges to moosell beastes that thei mought not bite yong springes. 1597 DRAYTON *Heroic. Ep.* 49 b, Or who will muzzell that vnruly Beare? 1627 HAKEWILL *Apol.* II. v. § 4 He that made a dry path through the red sea, musled the mouthes of the Lyons. 1753 *Scots Mag.* Feb. 100/1 All the dogs..to be..muzzled. 1820 SCOTT *Abbot* xix, Large stag-hounds, or wolf-dogs.. carefully muzzled to prevent accidents to passengers. 1856 KANE *Arct. Expl.* I. xxix. 390 Completely muzzled with a line fastened by a running knot between her jaws and the back of her head. 1873 G. C. DAVIES *Mount. & Mere* xxii. 194 It is best to muzzle ferrets.

b. *fig.*

1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* I. ii. 156 My dagger muzzel'd, Least it should bite it's Master. 1613 — *Hen. VIII*, I. i. 121 This Butchers Curre is venom'd-mouth'd, and I Haue not the power to muzzle him. 1622 BP. HALL *Contempt., N. T.* III. v, It is thine onely mercy, O God, that hath chained and muzled up this band-dog. 1631 R. BOLTON *Comf. Afft. Consc.* i. (1635) 6 He is everlastingly musled by an Almighty arme, from ever doing them any deadly hurt. 1700 DRYDEN *Prol. to Pilgrim* 2 How wretched is the fate of those who write! Brought muzzled to the stage, for fear they bite. 1884 PAE *Eustace* 87, I have the power not only to muzzle him, but draw his teeth.

†**4.** *transf.* To muffle; *Sc.* to veil, mask (the face). *Obs.*

1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 17184 Thys lady, with hyr corbyd bak, Was y-moselyd with that sak. 1457 *Sc. Acts Jas. II* (1814) II. 49/2 At na woman cum to þe kirk nor mercat wt hir face musalyt or coueritt þt scho may not be kende. 1582 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* III. 525 Scho fand the foirsaid nowmer of personis accowterit in maner foirsaid, all mussallit. 1590 *Ibid.* IV. 533 They wer unknawne to him, thay being missallit.

fig. 1589 R. BRUCE *Serm.* iv. (1590) O 3, They that are this way misseled vp in thair saull, of all men in the eairth they are maist miserable.

5. To restrain from speaking, impose silence upon.

†**a.** Phr. *To muzzle (up) the mouth of* (a person).

1531 TINDALE *Exp.* 1 *John* (1538) 42 b, Who..wold put his heade in ye Romysh byshops haltre that so moseleth mens mouthes, that they can not open them. 1569 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 680 It plesit the Almichtie to brydill and musall up the mouth of Sathan. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Ps.* XXXIX. i, I muzzle will my mouth while in the sight I do abide of wicked wight. 1642 *Prince Rupert's Declaration* 4 Have they not by imprisonment or threats muzzeled the mouthes of the most grave and learnedst Preachers of London? 1737 WHISTON *Josephus, Hist.* Pref. (1777) § 5 Their tongues loosed..for law suits, but quite muzzled up when they are to write history.

b. with person as obj.

1545 BRINKLOW *Compl.* xvi. (1874) 40 Shal not he than do a Christen preacher wrong,..that moselyth hym for the space of whole .xij. monthes? 1577-87 HOLINSHED *Chron.* II. 16/2 There is nothing that ought to moozzell vp anie one from rebuking other nations. 1825 SYD. SMITH *Wks.* (1867) II. 200 What establishment can muzzle its fools and lunatics. 1878 SEELEY *Stein* III. 370 The best way of muzzling him was to take him into the Austrian service. 1888 BRYCE *Amer. Commw.* xi. I. 145 Congress has other means of muzzling an ambitious chief magistrate.

6. *Naut.* †**a.** *To lie muzzled*: (of a ship) to remain inactive. So *to muzzle oneself*: to cease from action. *Obs.* **b.** In yachting use: To take in (a sail).

1697 DAMPIER *Voy.* (1699) 83 We saw a Ship..: We lay muzled to let her come up with us, for we supposed her to be a Spanish Ship. 1726 SHELVOCKE *Voy. round World* 195 Their fire had little or no effect, all stood fast with us, and they muzzled themselves. 1745 *Gentl. Mag.* July 352 The Lion's rigging being cut to pieces,..all her lower masts and topmasts shot thro' in many places, so that she lay muzzled in the sea, and could do nothing with her sails. 1884 E. F. KNIGHT *Cruise of Falcon* I. iii. 30, I had to call up the watch below to muzzle the sail. 1895 *Outing* (U. S.) XXVI. 46/1 Muzzle it, man the down-haul!

†**7.** To render ineffective or inoperative. *Obs.*

1706 BAYNARD in Sir J. Floyer *Hot & Cold Bath.* II. 250 Whilst they [*sc.* the salts] are swimming in the Fluid, they are muzzled and invelloped in the clammy and glutinous Parts.

8. To muffle (bells). Now *dial.*

1708 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4489/2 The Bells were muzled, and rang as for a Funeral the whole Evening. 1883 *Almondbury & Huddersf. Gloss., Muzzle*, used for *muffle*, in regard to the church bells.

9. *slang.* To hit on the mouth; hence, to thrash.

1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* I. 16/1 It is often said in admiration of such a man that 'he could muzzle half a dozen bobbies before breakfast'. 1859 *Hotten's Slang Dict., Muzzle*, to fight or thrash.

10. *slang.* To take, 'bag'.

1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* ix, I thought, Sir, as you'd like a snack, so I muzzled enough grub for two. 1897 BARRÈRE & LELAND *Dict. Slang, Muzzle*, to get, to take.

Mu·zzle, *v.*[2] *dial.* [app. connected with MUZZ *v.* and MUZZY.] **a.** *trans.* To make 'muzzy'; to fuddle. **b.** *intr.* To drink to excess (1828 in *Craven Gloss.*).

1796 CHARLOTTE SMITH *Marchmont* III. 43 Gads my life, if I don't believe though that the cheating sly rascal put summot in my drink,.. I becomed all of a sudden as

muzzled! as muzzled! 1856 Miss Yonge *Daisy Chain* II. ix, You have read yourself into a maze,..what Mary calls, muzzling your head.

Hence **Mu·zzling** *vbl. sb.*

1828 *Craven Gloss.* 1866 Motley *Corr.* (1889) II. 222 From his point of view all our guzzlings and muzzlings must seem reprehensible.

Muzzled (mʊ·zˈld), *ppl. a.*[1] [f. Muzzle *sb.*[1] or *v.*[1] + -ed.]

1. Wearing a muzzle.

1530 in *Ancestor* (Oct. 1904) 182 A heyres hede sable mouseled geules. *a* 1550 in Baring-Gould & Twigge *West. Armory* (1898) 4, 3 beares' heads erased arg: musled or. 1595 Shaks. *John* II. i. 249. 1716 Gay *Trivia* II. 408 Led by the nostril, walks the muzzled bear. 1850 Mrs. Jameson *Leg. Monast. Ord.* (1863) 110 Three bears' heads muzzled.

fig. 1647 May *Hist. Parl.* I. vii. 73 They would faine be at something were like the Masse that will not bite; a muzzled Religion. 1647 Trapp *Comm. Rom.* iii. 20 Those misled and muzled souls. 1789 Burns *Elegy on* 1788 vi, Thou now hast got thy daddy's chair, Nae hand-cuff'd, mizzl'd, hapshackl'd Regent, But, like himsel', a full free agent.

†2. Muffled; veiled; masked. *Obs.*

1581 in Tytler *Hist. Scotl.* (1864) IV. 38 Certain 'musselled men'. 1582 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* III. 495 Certane uther musalit men on horsback, in weirlike maner, with pistolettis. 1588 Churchyard *Spark Friendship* C 3 b, The musled faces covered with counterfaite good maners.

† **Muzzled,** *ppl. a.*[2] *Obs.* Also 7 muzzeld. [? repr. OF. *mesle*, pa. pple. of *mesler* to mingle, mix (see Meddle, Mell *v.*). Cf. Muzzle *a.*] ? Speckled with white or grey.

1630 *Tinker of Turvey* 12 His blacke lockes dangling downe, Curl'd and knotty muzzeld beard. 1858 Lytton *What will he do* II. iv, It [*sc.* a horse] was a dark muzzled brown.

Mu·zzler. [f. Muzzle *sb.*[1] and *v.*[1] + -er[1].]

1. One who muzzles animals. (In quot. *fig.*)

1653 A. Wilson *Inconst. Ladie* III. i. (1814) 49, I must not be raind vp, by a tame musler, That shall confine my freedome to his winks.

2. *Pugilism.* A blow on the mouth.

1811 *Lex. Balatron.* s.v., The milling cove tipped the cull a muzzler. 1819 *Sporting Mag.* III. 231 Smith placed that which seemed to be a muzzler upon his adversary's jaw.

3. A muzzle-loading gun.

1872 W. Cory *Lett. & Jrnls.* (1897) 292 There is a muzzler here with which you can shoot the half-dozen pheasants.

4. *Naut.* (See quot. 1878.)

1878 D. Kemp *Yacht & Boat Sailing* 359/2 *Muzzler*, a wind that blows directly down a vessel's intended course. Synonymous with 'nose ender'. 1893 Sloane-Stanley *Remin. Midshipm. Life* xxxiii. 448 The following morning there was a nice breeze, but a dead muzzler.

Mu·zzling, *vbl. sb.* [f. Muzzle *v.*[1] + -ing[1].]

1. The action of putting a muzzle on an animal. Often *attrib.*, as *muzzling order*.

1579 Fulke *Heskins' Parl.* 9 The moosling of the oxe, that treadeth the corne. 1886 *Sat. Rev.* 22 May 712 Sir Charles Warren has done wisely in extending the Muzzling Order of his predecessor. *Ibid.*, To enforce muzzling for an adequate period in every parish in the island.

†b. *fig.* ? Putting to silence. *Obs.*

1575 R. B. *Appius & Virg.* in Dodsley *O. Pl.* (1827) XII. 350 Here is naught els but railing of words out of reason, Now tugging, now tattling, now musling in season.

2. *Pugilism.* Hitting on the mouth.

1819 *Sporting Mag.* IV. 179 He went to work at the muzzling system.

Muzzy (mʊ·zi), *a. colloq.* and *dial.* Also 8–9 mussy. [Perh. a later form of Mossy *a.* in sense 5. But cf. dial. *mosey* = mouldy, rotten, muggy, hazy, stupefied with liquor; also Mosy *a.*, downy. The chronological relations with Muzz *v.*[1] and Muzzle *v.*[2] are uncertain.]

1. Of persons, their actions, manner, etc.: Dull, stupid, spiritless; also, mentally hazy.

1728–9 Mrs. Delany in *Life & Corr.* (1861) I. 195 When I returned from the duchess of Norfolk's assembly, (muzzy enough, not having met with agreeable conversation). 1761 J. Hawkesworth *Edgar & Emmeline* 7 What, always muzzy, with a dismal countenance as long as a taylor's bill! 1817 Keats *Lett.* 15 Apr., I don't feel inclined to write any more at present for I feel rather muzzy. 1827 Scott *Jrnl.* 28 Feb., Discontinuing smoking..leaves me less muzzy after dinner. 1849 Thackeray *Pendennis* xxxi, We may expect that his view of the past will be rather muzzy. 1883 *Sat. Rev.* 10 Nov. 586 A sentimental Celt may regard himself, in his muzzy Celtic way, as being an ill-treated rightful heir of any land which chances to belong to a 'Saxon'.

b. Of places, times, etc.: Dull, gloomy.

1727–8 Mrs. Delany in *Life & Corr.* (1861) I. 159 The town is mussy, though very full. I have not been at an assemblée this winter. 1754 A. Murphy *Gray's-Inn Jrnl.* No. 80 Sunday the most muzzy Day in the year. 1770 Foote *Lame Lover* I. Wks. 1799 II. 60 A damn'd muzzy dinner at Boodle's. 1821 Coleridge in *Blackw. Mag.* X. 253 Here have I been sitting, this whole long-lagging, muzzy, mizly morning.

c. *transf.* Blurred, indistinct in form, etc.

1832 W. Irving in *Life & Lett.* (1866) III. 26 His form is still fine on the stage, but his countenance is muzzy and indistinct. 1867 *Art Jrnl.* XXIX. 123/3 The execution..is vague and muzzy to a fault. 1899 *Contemp. Rev.* June 830 A growing tendency to see everything blurred and muzzy.

2. Stupid with excess of liquor.

1775 T. Campbell *Diary* in Napier *Johnsoniana* (1884) 223 We went to the Coffee house in the evening, where almost all the gownsmen we saw were tipsy...The next night also, we went to another Coffee house, and there the scene was only shifted, all muzzy. 1849 Thackeray *Pendennis* V, His muzzy, whiskified brain. 1852 R. S. Surtees *Sponge's Sp. Tour* lix, Leather, though somewhat muzzy, was sufficiently sober to be able to deliver this message. 1892 J. Payn *Mod. Whittington* II. 133 He was 'muzzy' in the morning; be was 'elevated' in the afternoon; but at six o'clock, punctually, he was drunk.

Mwbill, Sc. var. Mobile. **Mwde,** obs. f. Mud. **Mwe,** obs. f. Mew *sb.*[2], *v.*[1] **Mwlat,** var. Mulet. **Mwncke, mwnk,** obs. ff. Monk. **Mwre,** obs. Sc. f. Moor *sb.*[1], obs. f. Mure *v.* **Mwrthrys,** var. Murdres. **Mwskoll,** obs. f. Mussel.

My (məi, *unstressed* mi), *poss. adj.* Also 2–6 mi, (4 mii, 6 mye), 9 *dial.* moy, etc. *β.* (unstressed forms) 3–6 (also 9 in representations of Irish speech) me, 8 m', 9 *dial.* ma, etc. [early ME. *mī*, reduced form of *mīn* (see Mine *poss. pron.*), used orig. before consonants except *h*, but occurring before vowels in northern texts as early as the beginning of the 14th c. and ultimately becoming the universal possessive adj. of the 1st pers. sing. in prose use.]

1. Of or belonging to me; that I have, hold, or possess. The possessive genitive of I *pron.*

For the functions of the possessive see His *poss. pron.* B. 2.

a. a 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 225, Ic wille settan mi wed betwuxe me and eow. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 157 Wa is mine saule þet mi lif þus longe ilest. *a* 1240 *Lofsong* in *O. E. Hom.* I. 213 Mi leofmonnes luft erm halt up min heaued. *c* 1290 *St. Cristopher* 40 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 272, Ich am a man opon mi seruiz and noman serui i-nelle Bote my louerd. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 4487 Me-thoght i bare A lepe..Wit bred þat i bar on mi heued [*Gött.* mj, *Fairf.* my, *Trin.* myn heued]. *a* 1300–1400 *Ibid.* 13563 (Gött.) Mi eien tua [*other texts* min, myne]. *c* 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 2997 Mi wille 3if y miȝt gete, þat leuedi wold y se. 1423 Jas. I *Kingis Q.* cxv, How long think thay to stand in my disdeyne. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* IV. xv. 139 And lete hym wete I can doo more whan I see my tyme. 1516 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) VI. 1 To pray for my soull and myn ancestres. *c* 1550 Cheke *Mark* i. 7 Mi stronger commeth after me, ye latchet of whoos schoo I am not worthi to bow down and louse. 1592 R. Greene *Blacke Bookes Messenger* Wks. (Grosart) XI. 34 Euery one..almost disdained my companie. 1602 Shaks. *Ham.* v. i. 264 A Ministring Angell shall my Sister be. 1622 Mabbe tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* 280 That they might conferre it on a Gentlemans sonne of good ranke..but my Iunior. 1721 Strype *Eccl. Mem.* II. i. xxiii. 188 Yet can I not, without some touch of my estimation,..satisfy the result herein presently. 1722 De Foe *Col. Jack* (1840) 156 It is my aversion, it fills my..soul with horror. 1788 Gibbon *Decl. & F.* IV. Pref. p. vi, My time will now be my own. 1855 M. Arnold *Balder Dead* I. 106 Who will bear my hateful sight in Heaven? 1864 Tennyson *North. Farmer* I. xiv, I done my duty by Squoire an' I done my duty by all [*ed.* 1875 *has* moy]. 1888 Stevenson *Black Arrow* II. iii, It is my murderer in the secret passage. 1895 Kekewich in *Law Times Rep.* LXIII. 663/2, I do not think I am precluded..from forming my own conclusion on this point.

β. a 1250 *Owl & Night.* 869 (Cott.) For al me song is of longinge. 13.. *Sir Beues* (A.) 2583 And ȝhe wile, for me sake, Cristendome at þe take. *c* 1400 *Cursor M.* 20704 (Brit. Mus. Add. MS.) Ther on schal ligge me modre deere. *c* 1560 A. Scott *Poems* (1902) xv. 22 Now lat me lady do quhat evir scho will. 1712 Arbuthnot *John Bull* II. xviii, *J. Bull.* I shall have it to m'own self? *L. Baboon.* To thy n'own self. 1832 W. Stephenson *Gateshead Local Poems* 37 He'll end ma days as sure as death. 1888 H. Smart *Master of Rathkelly* I. xv. 223 I'll just keep me oiye on that Cassidy.

¶ Down to the 16th c. *my* often resulted from the transference of the *n* of *mine* to the accompanying sb. or adj. (See N 3 b, Nain, Naunt, Nown, Nuncle.)

1535 in *Lett. Suppress. Monasteries* (Camden) 51 A pore pryery, a fundacion off my nawynsetres.

b. Prefixed to *lord, lady* (see Lady *sb.* 6 a, Lord *sb.* 15); hence *my lady, my lord* vbs., to address as 'my lady', 'my lord'. So *My* Nabs.

c 1330 *Amis & Amil.* 1228 Mi lord the duke, he seyd anon, For schame lete tho leuedis gon. 1395 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 7 To praye diuine seruice for my lordes soule Sir Thomas West. *c* 1412 Hoccleve *De Reg. Princ.* 1381 Men mote hir clepe 'my lady chaungeabil'. 1470 *Paston Lett.* II. 412 He sente to my Lady of Norff. by John Bernard only for my mater. 1655 Fuller *Ch. Hist.* IX. 149 To the Lord Treasurer. My singular good Lord [etc.]. 1684 Lady R. Russell *Lett.* 20 Apr. (1807) 28, I hear my Lord Gainsborough and my Lady will be shortly at Chilten. 1771 Smollett *Humph. Cl.* Let. to Sir W. Phillips 8 Aug., Ma lords and gentlemen. 1831 [see Lord *sb.* 15 c]. 1834 Marryat *P. Simple* xiv, To find myself..my lorded this and my lorded that, every minute. 1849 — *Valerie* vii, 'Don't flare up, my lady.' 'Don't my lady me.' 1886 *Blackw. Mag.* Aug. 223 To make the grievous mistake of 'my-ludding' the counsel. 1887 W. S. Gilbert *Ruddigore* II, Whose middle-class lives are embarrassed by wives Who long to parade as 'My Lady'.

c. Used with vague application (cf. His *poss. pron.* B. 2 b, Our B. 1 d). Also with ethical force in certain playful or ironical idiomatic collocations.

1592 Moryson *Let.* in *Itin.* (1617) I. 37, I knew where my Gentlemans shooe wrung him. 1653 H. More *Antid. Ath.* II. i. (1712) 37, I would have my Atheist to take Shipping with me. 1667 Dryden & Dk. Newcastle *Sir M. Mar-all* II. 20 *Sir John.* Dost thou not know the Contents on't? *Landl.* Yes, as well as I do my *Pater noster*. 1755 Smollett tr. *Gil Blas* VII. i, I lay in ambush.. and, sure enough, perceived my man enter. 1799 H. K. White *Let. to bro. Neville*, I leave [the office] at eight in the evening; then attend my Latin until nine. 1808 Col. Hawker *Diary* (1893) I. 13, I brought down my bird every shot. 1817 Coleridge *Biog. Lit.* X. (1907) I. 116 My taper man of lights listened with..praise-worthy patience.

2. Used vocatively. a. Prefixed affectionately to terms of relationship or endearment; also, affectionately or compassionately, or in a jocular or merely familiar tone, to certain designations which are otherwise rarely used vocatively, as in *my man, my boy, my good fellow, my poor man.* (See also Dear *a.*[1] 2 b, c, for the use as prefixed to that adj.)

In modern English it is not (as in some languages) the rule of ordinary speech to prefix *my* to terms of relationship (*father, mother, brother*, etc.) used vocatively; the use belongs to impassioned literary language. *Son* and *daughter*, however, are exceptions; and the omission of *my* before the vocative *friend* is somewhat *arch.* or *rhetorical.*

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 98 Cum to me, mi leofmon, mi kulure, mi schene, mi veire spuse. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Miller's T.* 513 My faire brid, my swete cinamome, Awaketh, lemman myn. 1388 Wyclif *Prov.* i. 10 Mi sone, if synneris flateren thee, assente thou not to hem. 1582 Stanyhurst *Æneis* III. (Arb.) 86 Take, myeboy, tbeese tokens by myn owne hands finnished holye. 1767 S. Paterson *Another Trav.* I. 425 My good gentlemen and lady-connoisseurs. 1816 Scott *Antiq.* viii, 'Farewell, my father!' murmured Isabella. 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 26 But consider how monstrous this is, my friend.

b. *esp.* in *my dear* (*dearest*), *my love*, etc. (see these words); hence *my dear* vb., to address as 'my dear'; etc.

1807–8 W. Irving *Salmag.* (1824) 96 Mrs. Cockloft began 'my dearing' it as fast as tongue could move. 1830 Miss Mitford *Village* Ser. IV. 93 All through her childhood, the tiny heiress..was my-deared, petted, fondled. 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* xlv, They my-loved and my-deared each other assiduously. 1855 — *Newcomes* lix, Miss Ethel and my wife..'my-dearesting' each other with that female fervour [etc.].

c. Prefixed (without intervening adj.) to the name of the person addressed: (*a*) *poet.* as a latinism, expressing intimate friendship (*obs.* or *arch.*); (*b*) in the language of fervid affection.

1732 Pope *Ess. Man* i. 1 Awake, my St. John! 1793 Cowper *To Mary* 16 Thy sight now seconds not thy will, My Mary!

3. In ejaculations, as *my eye! my God! my gracious! my stars! my word!* etc. (see these words); whence (elliptically) *My!* or *Oh, my!*, which is common (esp. *U. S.*) as a mild exclamation of surprise; also *Oh-my* vb., to say 'Oh, my!'

1707 J. Stevens *Quevedo's Com. Wks.* (1709) 350 Such Words and Sayings are a Discredit to your self..: As for Instance,..my Whither d'ye go. 1825 Jamieson *Suppl., My*, interj. Denoting great surprise, Roxb. 1840 Mrs. Trollope *Widow Married* xi, What a bonnet!—my! 1849 Mrs. Carlyle *Lett.* II. 69 When she did take in the immense fact, oh, my! if she didn't show feeling enough. 1883 'Mark Twain' *Life on Mississippi* xvii, My, what a race I've had! 1893 Baring-Gould *Cheap Jack Zita* I. 10 The servant maids..were listening and..oh-mying over the bargains.

†4. a. *My* (*un*)*witting*: with (without) my knowledge. (Cf. F. *à mon escient.*) *Obs.*

c 1450 *Merlin* 12 Yef euer man, my witynge, hadde to do with me. 1470 *Paston Lett.* II. 412 He sente to my Lady of Norff...my onwetyng.

b. *My lane* (see Lone *a.* 6 b): by myself. *Sc.*

1724 Ramsay *Vision* i, Mylane I wandert waif and wae. 1818 Hogg *Brownie of Bodsbeck* I. xi. 219 Ony thing but a bogle face to face at midnight, an' me a' my lane.

5. In names of games.

1621 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Motto* D 4, At Primefisto..at My-sow-pigg'd, and..Looke about ye. 1732 Mrs. Delany *Life & Corr.* (1861) I. 385 Played at my lady's bole, supped, and went early to bed. 1770 Mme. D'Arblay *Early Diary* 20 Apr., Mr. Seton and myself declined playing—I never do but at Pope Joan, Commerce, or My Sow's Pig'd!

‖ **Mya** (məi·ă). *Zool.* Pl. myæ, myas. [mod.L. (Linnæus 1758), prob. an alteration of Gr. *μῦ-s* mussel; Linnæus has *myes* as a plural.] A bivalve of a genus formerly of wide extent, but now restricted to the Gaper or Soft Clam (*M. arenaria*) and closely resembling species.

[1777 Pennant *Brit. Zool.* IV. 78 *Mya*, Gaper...A bivalve shell gaping at one end.] 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XII. 561/2 The margaritifera; or pearl mya. 1841 *Penny Cycl.* XIX. 143/2 The Myæ live buried in sandy beaches, wherein they often lie with the tube just projecting. 1854 Woodward *Mollusca* 317 The Myas frequent soft bottoms.

Myal (məi·ăl). [perh. of West African origin.] Only in attrib. use denoting persons or things associated with the practice of Myalism: see quots.

1774 E. Long *Hist. Jamaica* II. 416 Not long since, some of these execrable wretches in Jamaica, introduced what they called the myal dance, and established a kind of society, into which they invited all they could. The lure hung out was, that every Negroe, initiated into the myal society, would be invulnerable by the white men. *Ibid.* 417 One of these myal men..gave him a wonderful account of the powerful effects produced by the myal infusion. 1843 Phillippo *Jamaica* 249 *note*, The author once saw a negro suffering from a gum-boil, who persisted in affirming that the Myal Doctor had extracted a snake from the affected part. 1851 G. Blyth *Remin. Miss. Life* iv. 174 The doctor or Myal-man is resorted to that he may neutralise the power of the Obeah-man. *Ibid.* 175 They became excited and frenzied singing Myall songs.

‖ **Myalgia** (məi¡æ·ldʒiă). *Path.* [mod.L., f. Gr. *μῦ-s* muscle + *-αλγία*, *ἄλγος* pain.] A morbid condition of a muscle, characterized by pain and tenderness; muscular rheumatism. Hence **Myalgic** (məi¡æ·ldʒik) *a.*, of the natnre of, characterized by, or affected with myalgia.

1860 T. Inman *On Myalgia* Pref. p. viii, The Author was guided to the choice of the word 'Myalgia'—first, because it had a familiar look about it, as resembling neuralgia; secondly, because it implied no other theory than that the muscles were the seats of pain. *Ibid.* 187 Is the heart subject to myalgic affections? 1880 A. Flint *Princ. Med.* 803 Neuralgia affecting sensory nerves in muscular organs may be distinguished as myalgia. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 1 The word [Rheumatism]..has now become a convenient term for embracing myalgic, neurotic and arthritic pain.

Myalism (məi·ăliz'm). [f. Myal + -ism.] A kind of sorcery or witchcraft practised by the natives of the West Indies and other countries.

1843 Phillippo *Jamaica* 248 Myalism, as well as Fetishism, were constituent parts of Obeism. 1873 W. J. Gardner *Hist. Jamaica* 191 Of late years Myalism has generally been regarded as an art by which that of the Obeah man could be counteracted. 1874 [see Obeahism].

Hence **Myalist** (məi·ălist), one who practises myalism. Also *attrib.*

1851 G. Blyth *Remin. Miss. Life* iv. 175 Sometimes the Myalists meet in large companies, generally at night. 1889 P. A. Bruce *Plant. Negro* viii. 123 A Myalist outbreak meant the repression of the malignant influences of Obeah.

Myall [1] (məi·ăl). [Native name: Bigambel (Dumaresque River) *mail* the blacks (a black = *namail*).] A wild aboriginal of Australia.

1835 in T. L. Mitchell *Exped. East. Australia* (1839) I. App. 353 The smoke from fires of the Myall blacks. 1839 T. L. Mitchell *Ibid.* I. 20 The natives who remain in a savage state..are named '*myalls*' by their half civilized brethren. 1890 'R. Boldrewood' *Col. Reformer* (1891) 202 A lot of half-tamed naked Myalls, as yet hardly to be trusted. 1898 — *Rom. Canvas Town* 145 If murder doesn't come of it, I'm a myall black fellow.

Myall [2] (məi·ăl). [Native name: Kamilaroi (Hunter River) *maiāl.*] Any Australian acacia, esp. *Acacia pendula* or *A. homalophylla* (which yields a useful hard scented wood). Also, the wood of these trees.

1845 J. O. Balfour *Sketch N. S. Wales* 38 The Myall-tree..is the most picturesque tree of New South Wales. 1852 Munoy *Antipodes* I. x. 316 Dandy amateur bushmen have the handle of their stock-whip made of the *Myál, Acacia pendula*, or violet wood. 1859 H. Kingsley *G. Hamlyn* v, A man that's seen a naked old hag of a gin ride away on a myall-bough. 1880 *Silver's Handbk. Australia* 275 Stringy bark is useful for boards..myall for pipes. 1890 'R. Bolorewooo' *Col. Reformer* (1891) 400 The boundless ocean-plains..where the saltbush grows, and the myall and the mulgah. 1893 J. A. Barry *Steve Brown's Bunyip* 277 The myall ashes still glowed redly.

† **My·ance.** *Sc. Obs.* [Altered form of *moyens*, pl. of Moyen *sb.*[1], with assimilation of the last syllable to the suffix -ance.]

1. Means, resources; agency, intercession, influence exerted on behalf of another: see Moyen *sb.*[1]

1500-20 Dunbar *Poems* xxxiii. 36 He wald haif, for a nicht to byd, A haiknay and the hurtmanis hyd, So meikle he was of myance [*riming with* sciens, gyans, gardeviance]. 1545 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 4 Throw suppli myance and favour of the King of Ingland. 1550 *Ibid.* 109 Diverse oure Soverane Ladyis legis makis myance that the samin [coins] bes passage. *a* 1585 Montgomerie *Flyting* 71 Trot, tyke, to a tow, mandrage but myance.

¶ **2.** ? Information, intelligence.

1561 *Diurn. Occurr.* (Bannatyne Cl.) 70 The said erle havand myance thairof, rasit his freindis.

Myand, -ane, Myar: see Moyen, Mire.

‖ **Myasthenia** (məiăsθī·niă). [mod.L. *myasthenia*, f. Gr. *μῦ-s* muscle + *ἀσθενεία* weakness.] Muscular weakness. Hence **Myasthe·nic** *a.*

1856 Mayne *Expos. Lex., Myasthenia..Myasthenicus*,.. myasthenic. 1902 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 31 May 1323 The girl's distressing nervous sensitiveness made impossible..an attempt to obtain the myasthenic reaction.

† **Myce,** *v. Obs.* Also **myse.** [? a. OF. **micier, michier* (now dial.) to crumble, slice small, f. *miche* (see Miche *sb.*[1]).] *trans.* To cut up small.

1381 in *Forme of Cury* (1780) 93 Nym onyons and myce hem riȝt smal. *Ibid.* 95 Myse bred and schepys talwe as gret as dyses. *c* 1450 *Two Cookery-bks.* 71 Take fressh brawne, and myce it small. *Ibid.* 75 Putte the mary therein, and myced dates And streberies.

Myce, obs. pl. of Mouse *sb.*

Mycel, obs. form of Mickle.

Mycelial (məisī·liăl), *a. Bot.* [f. Myceli-um + -al.] Consisting of or characterized by mycelium.

1870 Bastian in *Nature* 30 June 173/2 Ordinary mycelial filaments. 1882 *Jrnl. Microscop. Sci.* Jan. 6 A mycelial thread. 1894 *Times* 13 Dec. 11/5 *Eurotium Oryzæ*, a mycelial plant of the *Aspergillus* family.

So **Myce·lian, Myce·lioid** *adjs.*

1857 M. J. Berkeley *Cryptog. Bot.* § 226, I have..found a *Cyphella* on the hardest gravel stones, where the fine mycelioid threads, by which it was attached [etc.]. 1887 W. Phillips *Brit. Discomycetes* 147 The fully developed cups are much more rare than the green mycelioid state. 1891 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Mycelian*, relating to *Mycelium*.

‖ **Mycelium** (məisī·liŭm). *Bot.* [mod.L. (Fries 1832), f. Gr. *μύκης* mushroom + -ium, with intercalated *l* (? after *epithēlium*).] The vegetative part of the thallus of fungi, consisting of white filamentous tubes (hyphæ); the spawn of mushrooms.

1836 M. J. Berkeley *Fungi* 28* *Sporidia*.., at first covered by the converging *flocci* of the *mycelium*. 1847 Johnston in *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* II. No. 5. 214 The decumbent filaments of this Mould form a cobweb-like mycelium. 1875 Huxley & Martin *Pract. Biol.* v. 34 As all the ramifying hyphæ proceed from the spore as a centre, their development gives rise..to a delicate stellate mycelium.

Mycenæan (məisĭnī·ăn), *a.* and *sb.* [f. L. *Mycēnæ-us* (f. *Mycēnæ*) + -an.] **a.** *adj.* Of or belonging to Mycenæ, an ancient Greek city in the Argive plain, and *esp.* the kind of civilization, culture, or art of which it was the centre. **b.** *sb.* A native or inhabitant of Mycenæ.

[1598 Chapman *Iliad* VII. 157 The king himself that rules the rich Mycenian land.] 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XII. 562/2 The Mycenæans, sending 80 men, partook with the Lacedæmonians in the glory acquired at Thermopylæ. 1842 Mure *Tour in Greece* II. 167 The Mycenæan structure [*sc.* the Treasury of Atreus] has..the advantage of being in a nearly perfect state of preservation. 1896 *Nat. Sci.* Dec. 353 Mycenæan culture was permeated by Oriental elements.

Mycetal (məisī·tăl). *Bot.* [f. Gr. *μυκητ-, μύκης* mushroom + -al.] (See quot.)

1857 M. J. Berkeley *Cryptog. Bot.* § 63, I shall..consider Algals, or Hydrophytes, as forming the first grand group; and for the second, propose the name of Mycetals, comprising..Fungals and Lichens.

‖ **Mycetes** (məisī·tīz), *sb. pl. Biol.* [mod.L., ad. Gr. *μύκητες*, pl. of *μύκης* mushroom, fungus.] The group of minute vegetable organisms commonly known as microbes. Hence **Myce·tic** *a.*

1876 tr. *von Ziemssen's Cycl. Med.* I. 254 If..the mycetic germ of a pestilence is supplanted..by a pathogenetic protomyces. *Ibid.* 309 A very strong proof of the possible dissemination of cholera mycetes by the air. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 504 Others have singled out the schizomycetes as mycetes or microbes.

Myceto- (məisī·tŏ, məisĭ·tŏ), before a vowel **mycet-**, combining form of Gr. *μύκης* mushroom, used in various scientific terms: **Myce·togene·tic, Myceto·genous** *adjs.*, produced by mushrooms. **Myceto·logy** (see quots.). **Myceto·philid, -philoid** *a.* and *sb.* [Gr. *-φίλος* loving], belonging to, a member of, the family *Mycetophilidæ* or fungus midges. ‖ **Mycetozo·a,** a group of fungoid organisms, consisting chiefly of the Myxomycetes; also **Mycetozo·an,** ‖ **-zo·on,** a member of this group.

1887 tr. *De Bary's Fungi*, etc. 368 These phenomena of deformation by Fungi may be termed *mycetogenetic metamorphosis. *Ibid.* 369 All these *mycetogenous deformations. 1856 Mayne *Expos. Lex.*, *Mycetologia*,..a treatise or dissertation on the mushrooms: *mycetology. 1879 *Encycl. Brit.* IX. 827/2 Mycetology, or more commonly mycology, the science of fungi. 1899 Sharp in *Camb. Nat. Hist., Insects* II. 463 The larva of *Mycetobia pallipes*..gives rise..to an ordinary *Mycetophilid fly. 1880 Saville Kent *Infusoria* I. 41 The group of the Myxomycetes or *Mycetozoa. 1885 E. R. Lankester in *Encycl. Brit.* XIX. 832/1 It indeed seems not at all improbable that..the Mycetozoa represent more closely than any other living forms the original ancestors of the whole organic world. 1881 T. Gill in *Smithsonian Rep.* 414 *Mycetozoans. 1888 Rolleston & Jackson *Anim. Life* 908 The spore of a Mycetozoan is a minute spherical or oval body. 1885 E. R. Lankester in *Encycl. Brit.* XIX. 832/1 The naked protoplasm of the *Mycetozoon's plasmodium.

‖ **Mycetoma** (məisĭtōu·mă). *Path.* [mod.L., f. Gr. *μυκητ-, μύκης* mushroom + *-ωμα* (cf. *sarcoma*).] A fungoid disease of the foot (or hand). Hence **Myceto·matous** *a.*, affected with mycetoma.

1874 H. V. Carter (*title*) On Mycetoma or the fungus disease of India. 1892 *Lancet* 16 July 170/1 The actinomycotic nature..of the black variety of mycetoma. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 90 Mycetoma or Madura foot. 1898 P. Manson *Trop. Dis.* xxxvii, A mycetomatous foot or hand.

Mych, Myche, Mychel, Mycht: see Miche *v.*, Much, Mickle, Michael, Might.

Myck(e, Mycle, obs. forms of Meek, Mickle.

Myco- (məi·ko), irreg. combining form (for Myceto-) of Gr. *μύκης* fungus, used in chemical and botanical terms: **Mycode·xtrin, -i·nulin,** substances analogous to dextrin and inulin (respectively) found in the truffle *Elaphomyces granulatus*. **Mycopro·tein,** the albuminoid which is the principal constituent of the protoplasm of the cell. ‖ **Mycorrhi·za** [Gr. *ῥίζα* root], a fungus investing the roots of certain trees and living in close relationship with the surface cells; hence **Mycorrhi·zal** *a.* ‖ **My·cothrix** [Gr. *θρίξ* hair] = Lepto-thrix.

1891 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, **Mycodextrin.* 1872 Watts *Dict. Chem.* Suppl., **Myco-inulin.* $C^{12}H^{12}O^{11}H^2O$. 1885 Klein *Micro-Org.* 34 A kind of protoplasm, the *mycoprotein of Nencki. 1898 tr. *Strasburger's Bot.* 210 Judging from the results of culture experiments made with these plants without *mycorrhiza. 1900 *Nature* 28 June 201/2 All known species of *mycorbizal fungi. 1876 *Wagner's Gen. Path.* 90 Cells..united by transverse division into short moniliform filaments of two or more members (*mycothrix, torula-forms).

‖ **Mycoderma** (məikodē·mă). Also (in sense 2) **my·coderm.** [mod.L.: see Myco- and Derma.]

1. A genus of fermentation-fungi, as that which forms the mother of vinegar (*Mycoderma aceti*).

1846 Lindley *Veget. Kingd.* 44. 1849 Balfour *Man. Bot.* § 1125 Peculiar species of Mycoderma are developed in vinegar, in yeast, and in flour. 1887 tr. *De Bary's Fungi*, etc. 250 With free admission of air the sprouts are frequently elongated cylindrical shoots (the 'Chalara-' and Mycoderma-form).

2. A pellicle or membrane formed by certain bacteria, as on the surface of liquids that have become 'mothery'.

1854 C. H. Jones & Siev. *Pathol. Anat.* v. 199 The mycoderm of favus. 1861 H. Macmillan *Footn. Page Nat.* 238 These mycodermata, as they are called, of ulcerated and mucous surfaces.

Hence **Mycode·rmatoid, -de·rmatous** [Gr. *δερματ-, δέρμα*: see Derma], **-de·rmic** *adjs.*, of, pertaining to, or consisting of mycoderms.

1847 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* IV. i. 144/1 Mycodermatous vegetations occur as elements of the crust of porrigo favosa. 1849 Balfour *Man. Bot.* § 1126 Some mycodermatous Fungi are connected with certain cutaneous..diseases. 1882 Ogilvie, *Mycodermic.* 1890 *Century Dict.*, *Mycodermatoid.*

Mycology (məikŏ·lŏdʒi). [ad. mod.L. *mycologia*: see Myco- and -logy.] That branch of botany which treats of fungi; also, the mycological features of a district or country.

1836 M. J. Berkeley *Fungi* 7* The immense advances which have of late years been made in the study of Mycology. 1845 Lindley *Veget. Kingd.* 37 The African Mycology is remarkable for the varied forms it produces amongst the puff-balls and allied genera. 1885 G. S. Woodhead & A. W. Hare (*title*), Pathological Mycology. An Enquiry into the Etiology of Infective Diseases.

Hence **Mycolo·gic, -lo·gical** *adjs.*, pertaining to or connected with mycology or the study of fungi; hence **Mycolo·gically** *adv.*; **Myco·logist,** one who studies or is versed in fungi.

1836 M. J. Berkeley *Fungi* 7* That most excellent mycologist, Schweinitz. 1838 *Penny Cycl.* XI. 19/2 The mycological system of Fries. 1846 Worcester, *Mycologic.* 1875 Cooke *Fungi* xiii. 269 The mycologic vegetation of a country. *Ibid.* 281 A great portion of this country is mycologically unknown.

Mycophagy (məikŏ·fădʒi). [See Myco- and -phagy.] The eating of fungi; esp. of those species usually neglected or avoided. Hence **Myco·phagist,** one who practises mycophagy.

1861 H. Macmillan *Footn. Page Nat.* 262 The dung and fly Agaric, whose loathsome and poisonous properties are such as to deter the most devoted mycophagist from their use. 1865 *Reader* 30 Sept. 368/2 Mycophagy, a grand name for what West of England boys call eating 'twoad's meeyat'. 1901 *Nation* 11 Apr. 295/3 'The Mushroom Book' introduces the beginner..to the most important edible and poisonous forms, placing him quickly in possession of the facts most important to the successful mycophagist.

‖ **Mycosis** (məikōu·sis). *Path.* Also myk-. [f. Gr. *μύκης* (see Myco-) + -osis.] The presence of parasitic fungi in or on any part of the body, or the disease caused thereby. Hence **Mycotic** (məikŏ·tik) *a.*, characterized by mycosis.

1876 tr. *Wagner's Gen. Pathol.* 268 The character of diphtheria is most probably a mykosis. 1877 tr. *von Ziemssen's Cycl. Med.* XII. 573 Some cases [of meningitis] have been recognised to be of mycotic origin. 1880 A. Flint *Princ. Med.* 97 A form of intestinal mycosis.

Mycterism (mi·ktĕriz'm). *rare.* [ad. Gr. *μυκτηρισμός*, f. *μυκτηρίζειν* to sneer at, f. *μυκτήρ* nose.] A gibe or scoff.

1593 R. Harvey *Philad.* 8, I may well say, notwithstanding your trifling mycterisme, that [etc.]. 1678 Phillips, *Mycterisme*, a disdainful gibe, or scoff; in Rhetorick, it is taken for a more secret and close kind of Sarcasm. 1900 Saintsbury *Hist. Crit.* I. 301 Quintilian..observes that..the Greeks call certain kinds of allegory, sarcasm, asteism [etc.]..to which it may be well to add mycterism, a kind of derision which is dissembled, but not altogether concealed.

Mycul(le, obs. forms of Mickle.

Mydaleine (məidē·lĭ(i)n). [f. Gr. *μυδαλέος* dripping, wet + -ine [5].] A poisonous ptomaine obtained from putrid flesh, etc.

1887 A. M. Brown *Anim. Alkaloids* 37 The action of mydaleine on the animal economy is very interesting. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 788 Mydaleine, which has been obtained from the human cadaver.

Myd(d)ai, etc., obs. ff. Midday. **Mydde:** see Mead *sb.*[2], Mid. **Myddel,** etc., obs. ff. Middle. **Myddes,** var. Mids. **Mydding, Myddoe, Middrefe:** see Midden, Meadow, Midriff. **Myde:** see Mid, Mide, Meed. **Mydemyst, Mydes, (-is), Mydew, Myding:** see Midmost, Mids, Meadow, Midden. **Mydle,** obs. f. Meddle, Middle.

‖ **Mydriasis** (midri(ə)·sis). *Path.* [late L. *mydriāsis* (Celsus), a. Gr. *μυδρίᾱσις*, Ionic *-ησις.*] Excessive dilatation of the pupil of the eye.

[1657 *Physical Dict.*, *Midriasis.*] 1805 *Med. Jrnl.* XIV. 402 Under the term *mydriasis*, the older writers have comprehended a morbid affection of the iris, and of the retina. 1849-52 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* IV. ii. 1466/1 Mydriasis.. renders the individual more or less presbyopic.

Mydriatic (midriæ·tik), *a.* and *sb.* [f. prec.: see -atic.] **a.** *adj.* Pertaining to, or causing, mydriasis. **b.** *sb.* A drug that produces mydriasis.

1855 Dunglison *Med. Lex.* 1863 *Syd. Soc. Year-bk.* 444 On the Antagonistic Effects of Opium and the Mydriatics. 1864 tr. *Donders' Anom. Accomm. Eye* 590 The ancients.. were acquainted with the mydriatic action of some plants.

Mydrid, Mydrif, Mydrun, Mydwe, Mydyng: see Midred, Midriff, Midgern, Meadow, Midden.

† **Mye,** *v. Obs.* [a. OF. *mier* (recorded only as refl.) to crumble, f. *mie*:—L. *mīca* crumb.] *trans.* To crumble, grate (bread).

a 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* xxxix. 111 Thah me teone with hym þat myn teh [= teþ] mye. 13.. in *Rel. Ant.* I. 51 Al this mye smal, and farse the caite within. *c* 1420 *Liber*

Cocorum (1862) 8 Take mylke of almondes, lay hit anone With myed bred. **1483** *Cath. Angl.* 239/1 To Mye brede, *micare, interrere.*

‖ **Myelencephalon** (məi·ĕlense·fălǫn). *Anat.* [f. Gr. *μυελός*, *-όν* marrow + ENCEPHALON.] **a.** The cerebro-spinal axis or system (Owen). **b.** The medulla oblongata (Huxley). So **Myelencepha·lic** *a.*, pertaining to or connected with the myelencephalon; **Myelence·phalons** *a.*, (*a*) = *Myelencephalic*; (*b*) pertaining to the sub-kingdom *Myelencephala* (Owen) or vertebrates.

[**1843** OWEN *Lect. Comp. Anat., Invertebrates* 12 The sub-kingdom *Vertebrata*, or *Myelencephala*.] **1846** — *Lect. Anat. Vertebrate Anim.* I. *Fishes* 46 The perfect type of that primary segment of the myelencephalous skeleton. **1866** — *Anat. Vertebr.* I. 268 Myelencephalon of Fishes. **1866** *Ibid.* III. 79 The myelencephalic columns. **1871** HUXLEY *Anat. Vert.* 72 All the other cerebral nerves originate in the posterior division of the hind-brain—the myelencephalon.

Myeld, obs. form of MILD.

Myelin[1]**, -ine** (məi·ĕlin). [a. G. *myelin*, f. Gr. *μυελός* marrow: see -IN, -INE.]

1. *Chem.* Virchow's term for a fatty substance obtainable from various animal tissues (e.g. brain-substance, yolk of egg), and also from some vegetable tissues. Also *attrib.*

1867 *Syd. Soc. Bienn. Retrosp.* 11 The peculiar substance termed by Virchow, myeline substance..appears to be derivable from protagon. **1867** *Jrnl. Anat.* I. 359 So-called Myeline-forms (rounded and elongated bodies with double contours, resembling nerve-tubes). **1887** tr. *De Bary's Fungi*, etc. 300 The motile formations observed in Beneke's myelin (protagon-mixtures).

2. *Anat.* The medullary sheath of nerve-fibres, or white substance of Schwann. Also *attrib.*

1873 A. FLINT *Physiol. Man, Nervous Syst.* i. 21 The medullary substance..is called by various names; as myeline, white substance of Schwann, medullary sheath. **1896** *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 176 The nerve fibres..undergo changes in the myelin sheath similar to degeneration.

Hence **My·elinate, My·elinated** *adjs.*, (of nerve-fibres) furnished with myelin; **Myelina·tion,** the process of development of the medullary sheath of nerves in the embryo (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1891); **My·eli·nic** *a.*, of or containing myelin; **Myeliniza·tion** = *Myelination*; **My·elinize** *v. trans.*, to furnish with myelin; **My·elino-neuri·tis,** inflammation of the medullary sheath of nerves.

1894 *Lancet* 3 Nov. 1037/1 In a muscular nerve trunk from one-third to one-half of the *myelinate fibres are from cells of the spinal root ganglion. **1899** *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 75 An exceedingly small group of *myelinated fibres. *Ibid.* 732 The changes in the cortex begin at a stage prior to the *myelination of the pyramidal fibres. **1900** *Lancet* 18 Aug. 529 The order of succession in the *myelinisation of the projection centres and the association centres. **1903** *Contemp. Rev.* Sept. 389 When the child plays it is literally organising its brain, *myelinising its mind-machine. **1876** tr. *Wagner's Gen. Pathol.* 329 Neither protagon..nor one of its products of decomposition..arising from the action of alkalies furnish of themselves *myelinic forms. **1897** *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 979 *Myelino-neuritis such as is met with in disseminated sclerosis.

Myelin[2] (məi·ĕlin). *Min.* Also **-ine.** [a. G. *myelin* (Breithaupt), ad. Gr. *μυέλινος* marrowy, f. *μυελ-ός* marrow.] A yellowish- or reddish-white variety of kaolin; so called from its appearance.

1854 DANA *Min.* 250 Myelin of Breithaupt (Talksteinmark) is from Rochlitz.

Myelitis (məi¸ĕlə·itis). *Path.* [mod.L., f. MYEL-ON + -ITIS.] Inflammation of the spinal cord.

1835 R. B. TODD in *Cycl. Pract. Med.* IV. 640/2 Inflammation of the spinal marrow called by Harles and Ollivier *myelitis.* **1887** *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 26 Mar. 680/1 Sections of the cord from a case of acute central myelitis.

Hence **Myelitic** (məi¸ĕli·tik) *a.*

1856 MAYNE *Expos. Lex., Myeliticus*,..myelitic. **1899** *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 15 Acute myelitic ataxy.

Myel(l)mas, obs. forms of MICHAELMAS.

Myelo- (məi·ĕlo, məi¸ĕlǫ·), before a vowel **Myel-**, combining f. Gr. *μυελός*, *μυελόν* (see MYELON), used in many medical and chemical terms, of which the following are typical examples: **My·elocœle** [Gr. *κοῖλος* hollow], the cavity of the myelon or spinal cord. **My·elocone** [Gr. *κονίς* dust]: see quots. **Myeloi·dio, Myeloi·din:** see quot. **My·eloma·rgarin,** a fatty substance obtained by Köbler from the tissue of the central nervous system. **Myelo·pathy,** disease of the spinal cord; hence **My·elopa·thic** *a.* **My·eloplaque, My·eloplax** [Gr. *πλάξ* anything flat and broad] = OSTEOCLAST (*a*). **My·eloplast** [-PLAST] = prec. Hence **My·elopla·stic** *a.*, connected with myeloplasts.

1875 C. H. JONES & SIEV. *Pathol. Anat.* xii. 290 The protruded sac contains some portion of the spinal cord itself, forming the so-called *myelocele. **1878** KINGZETT *Anim. Chem.* 267 Kühn gave to one of the principles of the brain the name of cerebrine, and to another that of *myelokon. **1891** *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Myelocone*, term employed by Couerbe for a fatty substance obtained from the cerebral structures and which consists chiefly of pulverulent stearine. **1872** WATTS *Dict. Chem.* Suppl., **Myeloidin* and **Myeloidic acid.* These names are given by Köhler..to two phosphoretted bodies which he has extracted from brain. **1876** tr. *Wagner's Gen. Pathol.* 329 His [*sc.* Köhler's] *myelomargarin. **1897** *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV. 83 The atrophy of muscle may be *myelopathic, and have a central spinal origin. **1891** *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, **Myelopathy.* **1899** *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 207 Progressive spinal muscular atrophy (Progressive myelopathy, wasting palsy). **1877** SCHÄFER *Histol.* 93 Another element to be found in the marrow is..the *myeloplaque or ostoclast. **1891** *Syd. Soc. Lex.* **Myeloplasts*...Large multinucleated protoplasmic masses or giant cells, found in the marrow of bones. **1874** H. V. CARTER *Mycetoma* 42 An alteration of the bones produced by a diathesis, such as he supposes to belong to the *myeloplastic formations generally. **1866** A. FLINT *Princ. Med.* 51 **Myeloplaxes* [sic], cells in the marrow of bones. **1876** tr. *Wagner's Gen. Pathol.* 389 So-called mother-cells with daughter-cells—giant-cells, myeloplaxes.

Myelocyte (məi·ĕlǫsəit). [f. MYELO- + -CYTE.] The nucleus of a ganglionic nerve-cell.

1866 A. FLINT *Princ. Med.* 51 *Myelocytes* [sic], or cells found in the substance of the brain, the spinal cord, and in one of the beds of the retina. **1889** *Nature* 21 Nov. 72/1 The nervous elements termed myelocytes.

Myelogenetic (məi·ĕlǫdʒĭne·tik), *a.* [f. MYELO- + GENETIC *a.*] Concerned with the development of the spinal cord.

1900 *Lancet* 18 Aug. 529/1 The myelogenetic method which investigated the details of the central fibres by tracing the history of their development.

Myelogenic (məi·ĕlǫdʒe·nik), *a.* [f. MYELO- + -GENIC.] Derived from or originating in the bone marrow. Also **Myelo·genous** *a.*

1875 C. H. JONES & SIEV. *Pathol. Anat.* ii. 74 The form [of leuchæmia] which arises from an affection of the osseous medulla..has been called the myelogenous by Neumann. **1876** tr. *Wagner's Gen. Pathol.* 515 A myelogenic cysto-sarcoma myxomatodes of the bones of the head. **1904** *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 10 Sept. 605 Myelogenous leukæmia is rare.

Myeloid (məi·ĕloid), *a.* [f. Gr. *μυελ-ός* marrow + -OID.] Resembling marrow, as *myeloid tumour*; of or pertaining to marrow, as *myeloid cell.*

1857 *Trans. Path. Soc. Lond.* VIII. 346 Large Myeloid Tumour in the Head of the Humerus. **1875** C. H. JONES & SIEV. *Pathol. Anat.* 320 The myeloid cells or 'myeloplaxes' of bone. **1887** *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 26 Feb. 438/1 A myeloid sarcoma growing from the centre of the first metatarsal bone.

‖ **Myelon** (məi·ĕlǫn). *Anat.* [a. Gr. *μυελόν*, late var. of *μυελός* marrow.] Owen's name for the spinal cord. Hence **My·elonal, Myelo·nic** *adjs.*

1846 OWEN *Lect. Anat. Vertebrate Anim.* I. *Fishes* 172 This part is called the 'brain' or encephalon: the rest of the axis I term the 'myelon'. *Ibid.* 174 At the bottom of the ventricle the myelonal canal is exposed. **1883** E. R. LANKESTER in *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 680/2 The retina of the Molluscan cephalic eye,..unlike that of the Vertebrate myelonic eye, is essentially a modified area of the general epiderm.

Myere, obs. f. MERE, MIRE; var. MYOUR.

Mysery, obs. f. MIRY. **Myes, se,** obs. pl. MOUSE.

‖ **Mygale** (mi·găli). Also **migale, mygal.** [late L., a. Gr. *μῦγαλῆ*.]

1. The shrew-mouse.

1382 WYCLIF *Lev.* xi. 30 A mygal [Vulg. *mygale*], that is a beeste born trecherows to bigile, and moost gloterous. **1398** TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVIII. lxxiv. (Bodl. MS.), The firette hatte Migale and is a litel beste as it were a wesel. **1828** Sir J. G. WILKINSON *Mat. Hierogl.* [13] The sacred animal of Buto is said to have been the mygale or shrew-mouse.

2. *Zool.* A genus of large hairy spiders of America; a spider of this genus, *e.g.* the bird-spider (*M. avicularia*). [Named by Latreille 1802.]

1834 *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* III. 287 This Mygale—*Aranea avicularia*..—is about an inch and a half long. **1843** OWEN *Lect. Anat. Invertebrate Anim.* I. 255 In the Mygale a third ganglion of very small size is formed. **1890** *Daily News* 20 Sept. 5/4 The huge Brazilian mygale.

Hence **My·galoid** *a.*, belonging to the genus *Mygale* or family *Mygalidæ*.

1893 MINCHIN in *Nat. Sci.* III. 123 A large mygaloid spider.

Myg(h)e, Myghele, -ell, obs. ff. MIDGE, MICHAEL. **Myȝt(e, Mygh(t(e:** see MID, MIGHT, MITE. **Mygnyon, Mygrame, -eym, -ime,** obs. ff. MINION, MEGRIM. **Mygth, Myhel, Myhth:** see MIGHT, MICHAEL.

Myiasis (məi¸i¸ə·sis). *Path.* Also **myasis.** [mod.L., f. Gr. *μυῖα* fly + -ASIS.] Injury inflicted by dipterous larvæ on the human body.

1837 F. W. HOPE in *Trans. Entom. Soc.* (1839) II. 259 The genera producing *Myasis*, or fly-disease. **1899** SHARP in *Camb. Nat. Hist., Insects* II. 512 The various attacks of Dipterous larvæ on man have received the general name of 'myiasis'. **1904** *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 17 Dec. 1641 Dr. J. W. Stephens showed the larvae and flies of myiasis.

Myilde, Myir, Myis, Myist, Myit: see MILD, MIRE, MOUSE, MIST, MITE.

Mykames, Myke, Mykel, -il(l, obs. ff. MICHAELMAS, MEEK, MICKLE.

Mykkis, Sc. pl. of MICHE *sb.*[2] *Obs.* **Mykkylle, mykle, mykul, -yl(l,** obs. ff. MICKLE. **Mykylmes,** obs. f. MICHAELMAS. **Mylded:** see MILE *v.* **Myldrop,** obs. f. MELDROP *Sc.* **Myle:** see MIL, MILE, MOIL. **Myleed:** see MILE *v.* **Myles, -ies,** var. MILDS. **Mylie,** obs. f. MILE *sb.*[2]

Myliobatid (mili¸ǫ·bătid). *Zool.* [ad. mod.L. *Myliobatidæ*, f. Gr. *μυλίας* millstone + *βατίς* skate.] A fish of the family *Myliobatidæ* (eagle-rays).

1859–62 RICHARDSON, etc. *Mus. Nat. Hist.* II. 168/1.

†Myll. *Obs.* [Related to MILE *v.*] ? A stripe or orphrey.

a **1500** in *Archæol.* LII. 213 The blew myllys do serve for boyth the vygylles of seynt Edward synglarly. **1540** *Invent.* in *Trans. Lond. & Mdsx. Archæol. Soc.* IV. 329, ij tuncyles without stolles and phanams of blewe velvett enbrotheryd with anteloppes and mylles of gold.

Myll-: see MIL(L-. **Myllan,** obs. f. MILAN[1]; var. MILAN[2] *Obs.* **Myllaner,** etc., obs. ff. MILLINER. **Mylle,** obs. f. MILE *sb.*[1] **Myllen,** obs. f. MILAN[1], MILL *sb.*[1] **Myllewell,** var. MULVEL. **Mylleyn,** obs. f. MILAN[1]. **Myllin soole:** see MILLENSOLE. **Myllyant,** obs. f. MILLION. **Myln(e,** obs. ff. MILL *sb.* **Mylnar, -er(e,** obs. ff. MILLER. **Mylnard,** obs. f. MILLWARD.

‖ **Mylodon** (məi·lǫdǫn). [mod.L., f. Gr. *μύλη*, *μύλο-s* mill, millstone, molar + *ὀδοντ-*, *ὀδούς* tooth.] A genus of gigantic extinct sloths from the Pleistocene, having teeth more or less cylindrical; an animal of this genus. So **Mylodont** (məi·lǫdǫnt); also used *adj.* = belonging to the genus *Mylodon.*

1839 *Penny Cycl.* XV. 70/1 Mylodon (Owen). A genus of Edentate Megatherioids. **1840** OWEN in *Zool. Voy. Beagle* I. 72 The Mylodon..holds an intermediate place between the Ai and the great Armadillo. **1850** KINGSLEY *Alton Locke* xxxvi, A mylodon among South American forests. **1899** *Nat. Sci.* XIV. 266 Mylodonts were known to have been contemporaneous with man in other parts of Argentina farther north. *Ibid.* 267 The claw is of a mylodont..type.

†My·loglosse, *a. Obs.* In 7 *erron.* **myleo-.** [ad. mod.L. *myloglōss-us*: see next.]

1669 HOLDER *Elem. Speech* 49 The Tongue being held in that posture onely by the force of the Geneoglosse or Myleoglosse Muscles.

‖ **Myloglossus** (məiloglǫ·sŭs). *Anat.* [mod.L. *myloglōssus* (sc. *musculus*), f. Gr. *μύλη*, *μύλο-s* millstone, molar + *γλῶσσα* tongue.] A muscular slip accessory to the styloglossus, passing from the angle of the jaw to the tongne.

[**1693** tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Myloglossum.*] **1756** *Winslow's Anat. Hum. Body* II. 339 The Mylo-Glossi are small fleshy Planes situated transversely, one on each side, between the Ramus of the lower Jaw, and the Basis of the Tongue. **1843** WILKINSON tr. *Swedenborg's Anim. Kingd.* I. i. 19 The mylo-glossus of some authors is a part of the mylo-hyoideus.

Mylohyoid (məilohəi·oid), *a.* and *sb.* (Earlier in L. form ‖ **Mylohyoideus.**) [ad. mod.L. *mylohyoīd-eus* (Riolanus), f. Gr. *μύλη*, *-os* (see prec.) + *ὑοειδής* HYOID.] **a.** *adj.* Connected with the lower jaw and the hyoid bone; esp. *mylohyoid muscle*, a flat triangular muscle forming a large part of the muscular floor of the mouth. Also **Mylohyoide·an** *a.* **b.** *sb.* The mylohyoid muscle.

1694 W. COWPER *Myotomia Ref.* 76 *Mylohyoideus.* Though Falloppius and his Followers make this a Pair of Muscles, It seems not to be divisible without apparent Violence. **1804** ABERNETHY *Surg. Obs.* (1827) 35 The mylohyoideus muscle. **1838** W. J. E. WILSON *Anat. Vade M.* 220 The Inferior dental nerve..gives off but one branch, the mylohyoidean. *Ibid.*, The external surface of the mylo-hyoid muscle. **1840** OWEN in *Zool. Voy. Beagle* I. 72 The mylohyoid ridge. **1843** WILKINSON tr. *Swedenborg's Anim. Kingd.* I. i. 20 The mylo-hyoideus arises broad but thin from the base of the lower jaw. **1866** *Proc. R. Irish Acad.* IX. 460 Inseparably connected to the mylohyoid of its own side. **1891** *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Mylohyoïdean ridge.*

Mylonite (məi·lǫnəit). *Geol.* [f. Gr. *μυλών* mill + -ITE.] A siliceous schist resulting from the crushing of quartzose rocks. Hence **Myloni·tic** *a.*, **My·lonized** *ppl. a.*, applied to such rocks.

1886 *Rep. Brit. Assoc.* 1026 The gneisses and pegmatites ..are crushed, dragged, and ground out into a finely laminated schist (mylonite). **1888** HATCH *Gloss.* in Teall *Brit. Petrogr.* 440 *Mylonitic.* **1901** *Nature* 19 Sept. 513/1 All these mylonised rocks show a characteristic striping on the divisional planes.

Mylse, var. MILCE. **Mylt(e:** see MELT *v.* **Mylvel, -well,** var. MULVEL. **Mylvart,** obs. f. MILLWARD. **Mylyng:** see MILE *v.* **Mylyon,** obs. f. MELON. **Myn:** see MIN, MINE. **Myna:** see MINA. **Mynace, -asse,** obs. ff. MENACE *v.* **Mynah, -eh,** var. MINA[2]. **Mynament,** obs. f. MUNIMENT. **Mynd(e,** obs. Sc. ff. MINE *sb.*[1] **Mynde,** var. pa. pple. MENG *v.* **Myndoure,** obs. Sc. f. MINER. **Myne:** see MIN, MINE. **Mynekin:** see MINCHEN. **Mynerfe, -erff, -erve,** obs. ff. MINERVA. **Mynes(ch, -essh,** obs. ff. MINISH.

My-ness. *nonce-wd.* Self-centredness.

1662 J. CHANDLER *Van Helmont's Oriat.* To Rdr., It comprehends all things, which man in his Own-ness, Selfishness and My-ness,..cannot understand.

Mynewe, variant of MING *v.* *Obs.*

†Myne-ye-ple. *Obs.* [Of obscure origin and meaning. Prof. Skeat has suggested derivation from OF. *manople* gauntlet.]

14.. *Chevy Chase* 62 (MS. Ashm. 48, lf. 16b) Thorowe ryche male and myne ye ple many sterne ye strocke done streght. **14..** *Eger & Grime* 1025 (Percy fol.), Through rich many & myny plee the red blood blemished both their blee. [*Bp. Percy's note*: It shd be Mail & many plie. See Reliques, vol. I. pag. 10, ver. 21 & Glos.].

Myng(e, variant forms of MENG *v.*

‖ **Mynheer** (mainhē·r, mənē·r). Also 7 **mynhere, menheir,** 7–8 **minheer,** 8 **miin heer,** 9 **mynher, meneer.** [Du. *mijnheer*, f. *mijn* my + *heer* lord, master (see HER *sb.*).] The courteous form of address or title of courtesy corresponding in Dutch to 'sir', 'Mr.'; hence, a Dutchman.

1652 in *Nicholas Papers* (Camden 1886) 308 Myn Heer Capel. 1654 GAYTON *Pleas. Notes* 236 True Myn-here (quoth Steepen Malten) we shall not heare of this againe. 1678 J. PHILLIPS tr. *Tavernier's Trav.* II. I. vii. 49 Menheir Velant, chief of the Holland-Factory at Agra. 1701 C. WOOLEY *Jrnl. New York* (1860) 58 Frederick Philips, the richest Miin Heer in that place. 1711 *Spectator* No. 5 ₱ 5 He afterwards proceeds to call Minheer Hendel, the Orpheus of our Age. 1782 COWPER *To Lady Austen* (12 Aug.), 'Tis thus I spend my moments here, And wish myself a Dutch mynheer. 1886 *All Year Round* 14 Aug. 35 Mynheer, as clever at a trick as a Yank or a Jap.

transf. 1819 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* i, Mynheer Calf, too, becomes Monsieur de Veau.

Hence **Mynhee·rify** *v. nonce-wd.*, to study Dutch.

1804 SOUTHEY *Let. to Lieut. Southey* 12 Sept., I am learning Dutch, and wish you were here..to mynheerify with me.

Myniment, obs. form of MUNIMENT.

Mynye, variant of MING *v. Obs.*

Myo- (məi·o), combining f. Gr. *μῦς* (gen. *μυό-s*) muscle, in many scientific terms (of which the most important will be found as Main words). **My·oblast** [-BLAST], a cell which gives rise to muscular elements; hence **Myobla·stic** *a.* (in recent Dicts.). ‖ **My·ochrome** [Gr. *χρῶμα* colour], Thudichum's name for the colouring matter of red muscle (cf. *myohæmatin*). **Myoclo·nic** *a.* [cf. CLONIC], pertaining to or affected with myoclonus. ‖ **Myo·clonus** [Gr. *κλόνος* violent confused motion], convulsive action of the muscles. **My·ocœl(e** [Gr. *κοῖλος* hollow], **Myocœ·lom(e,** the cavity in the centre of a myotome in an early stage; hence **Myocœlo·mic** *a.* ‖ **Myoco·mma** (*pl.* -co·mmata, **co·mmas**) [Gr. *κόμμα* segment], one of the lateral flakes into which the muscular system of fishes and other lower vertebrates is divided. **My·ocyte** [Gr. *κύτος* cell], a contractile fibre cell or layer in some sponges and protozoans. **My·odome** [Gr. *δόμος* house, chamber], a cavity in the skull of most teleostean fishes for the reception of the rectus muscles of the eye. **Myodyna·mics** *sb. pl.*, that branch of science which treats of muscular contraction. **Myodynamio·meter, -dynamo·meter,** an instrument for measuring muscular force. ‖ **Myofibro·ma,** a tumour consisting of muscular and fibrous tissue. **Myoge·nic, Myo·genous** *adjs.*, produced by or arising in the muscles. **Myohæ·matin,** MacMunn's name for the colouring matter of red muscle. ‖ **Myole·mma** [LEMMA ²], a delicate membranous sheath enveloping each fibril of muscular tissue. ‖ **Myolipo·ma,** a tumour containing adipose tissue and muscular tissue (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1891). **My·omere** [Gr. *μέρος* part], a myotome; hence **Myome·ric** *a.* **Myo·nymy** [Gr. *-ωνυμία, ὄνομα* name], nomenclature of muscles. **My·ophan(e** *a.* [Gr. *-φανής* appearing, *φαίνειν* to appear], having a striated appearance as of muscle. **My·ophone** [Gr. *φωνή* sound], an adaptation of the microphone for measuring the sound of contracting muscles. **My·ophore** [-PHORE], an apparatus for the attachment of muscles in certain mollusks; hence **Myo·phorous** *a.* (in recent Dicts.). **Myophy·sical** *a.*, relating to myophysics. **Myophy·sics,** the physics of muscle, the science concerned with muscular action. **Myopo·lar** *a.*, relating to muscular polarity. **Myosarco·ma,** a tumour consisting partly of muscular and partly of sarcomatous tissue; hence **Myosarco·matous** *a.* (in recent Dicts.). **Myosclero·tic** *a.*, involving hardening of the muscles. **My·oscope** [-SCOPE], an instrument for observing muscular contraction. **My·ospasm,** ‖ **Myospa·smus,** spasm or cramp of a muscle. **Myota·tic** *a.* [Gr. *-τατικός*, cogn. w. *τάσις* tension], pertaining to or developed by muscular tension. **Myoto·nic** *a.* [Gr. *τονικ-ός* pertaining to stretching, TONIC], applied to the kind of electrical reaction characteristic of the disease *Myotonia congenita.*

1884 HYATT in *Proc. Boston Soc. Nat. Hist.* 5 Mar. 121 The action of the lateral *myoblasts in moving an elongated vermiform animal. 1872 THUDICHUM *Chem. Phys.* 37 A coloured albuminous matter, *myochrome, identical with hemato-crystalline. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 889 The *myoclonic spasm may manifest itself in the weakness of overwork. 1883 in *Brain* VII. 569 Rhythmical *Myoclonus. 1889 E. R. LANKESTER in *Q. Jrnl. Microsc. Sci.* XXIX. 393 The fin-rays, the cavities of which are part of the *myocœl. *Ibid.* 377 The *myocœlomic pouches or intra-muscular lymph-spaces of the head. 1846 OWEN *Lect. Anat. Vertebrate Anim.* I. *Fishes* 164 The fibres of each *myocomma of the trunk run straight and nearly horizontally from one septum to the next. 1880 GÜNTHER *Fishes* 94 The aponeurotic septa between the myocommas. 1887 SOLLAS in *Encycl. Brit.* XXII. 419/2 Contractile fibre cells or *myocytes occur in all the higher sponges. 1888 *Amer. Naturalist* Apr. 358 [In mail-cheeked fishes] *Myodome undeveloped, the cranial cavity being closed in front. 1855 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex.*, **Myodynamics,* see Muscular contraction. 1861 *Syd. Soc. Yearbk. Med.* 30 The Myodynamics of the heart and blood-vessels. 1855 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex., Dynamometer,* **Myodynamiometer,* **Myodynamometer*...An instrument contrived by M. Regnier. 1888 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 24 Nov. 1182 Uterine *Myofibroma. 1876 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex., Paralysis,* **Myogenic*...Partial muscular paralysis dating from very early life. 1904 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 17 Sept. 682 Is conduction in the heart due to muscle or nerve—is it myogenic or neurogenic? 1885 *Proc. R. Soc.* XXXIX. 248 The name.. of *myohæmatin [is proposed] for the intrinsic pigment in striped muscle, which belongs to the same series [*sc.* that of histohæmatins]. 1840 W. J. E. WILSON *Anat. Vade M.* 132 A number of ultimate fibrils enclosed in a delicate sheath or *myolema [*sic*]. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 916 This [congenital lipoma] may be associated with spina bifida and sometimes contains striated muscle fibre (*myolipoma). 1887 HUBRECHT in *Q. Jrnl. Microsc. Sci.* XXVII. 614 An arrangement in distinct *myomeres. 1889 *Athenæum* 12 Jan. 47/2 The *myomeric value of the gill-slits and of the nerves which fork over them. 1885 WILDER in *Jrnl. Nerv. Dis.* XII. 271 A *myonymy which is..inapplicable to the same parts in many animals. 1880 SAVILLE KENT *Infusoria* I. 58 The muscular or *myophan layer. 1889 PREECE & MAIER *Telephone* 467 Applied to a muscle, the same instrument [Boudet's microphone] becomes an excellent *myophone. It indicates the normal muscular sound. 1895 *Camb. Nat. Hist.* III. 274 In *Septifer* the anterior adductor muscle is carried on a sort of shelf or *myophore. 1891 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, **Myophysical laws,* the laws governing muscular action. 1892 *Monist* II. 276 Myophysical and psycho-physical questions. 1881 G. S. HALL *German Culture* 221 Our conclusion is not likely to be affected by any solution of such..questions of *myophysics as the pre-existence of muscular currents. 1888 *Amer. Jrnl. Psychol.* I. 185 Correcting for the movement of the indifference point along the *myopolar tract. 1891 *Syd. Soc. Lex., Myopolar,* a term applied to the direction of the electric current in electrotonic experiments when the nerve is stimulated between the electronising electrodes and the muscle. 1876 tr. *Wagner's Gen. Pathol.* 420 Rhabdomyoma, *myoma striocellulare,* *myosarcoma, true myoma. 1873 A. FLINT *Princ. Med.* 720 Pseudo-Hypertrophic, or *Myo-sclerotic, Paralysis. 1876–7 *S. Kens. Mus. Catal. Sci. App.* No. 3803 Double *Myoscope for the examination and demonstration of the laws of muscular contraction. 1856 MAYNE *Expos. Lex., Myospasmus,*..a *myospasm. 1881 W. R. GOWERS *Epilepsy,* etc. 100 The *myotatic irritability of the muscles is lost. 1887 tr. *von Ziemssen's Handbk. Therap.* VI. 213 The *Myotonic Electrical Reaction.

‖ **Myocardium** (məiøkā·ɹdiŏm). [mod.L., f. Gr. *μυ(ο)-* MYO- + *καρδία* heart.] The muscular substance of the heart. Hence **Myoca·rdial** *a.* Also **My·ocardi·tis,** inflammation of the myocardium; whence **My·ocardi·tic** *a.*

1866 A. FLINT *Princ. Med.* 279 Myocarditis. 1868 *Trans. Path. Soc. Lond.* XIX. 195 Concurrent pericarditis, myocarditis, and endocarditis. 1879 *St. George's Hosp. Rep.* IX. 405 Abscess of the myocardium. 1880 FLINT *Princ. Med.* 332 To differentiate the different myocardial lesions. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 816 Myocarditic changes.

Myoctonic (məiøktǫ·nik), *a. Chem.* [f. Gr. *μυοκτόν-ος*, f. *μυ(ο)-*, *μῦς* mouse + *-κτόνος* slaying: see -IC.] The name of a highly poisonous acid obtained from *Palicourea Marcgravii.* So **Myoctonine,** an alkaloid obtained from *Aconitum lycoctonum*; hence **Myoctoni·nic** *a.* = MYOCTONIC.

1872 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* Suppl., *Myoctonic acid.* 1887 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 15 Jan. 123 Myoctonine is one of the two substances extracted from aconitum lycoctonum by MM. Dragendorff and Spohn. 1891 *Syd. Soc. Lex., Myoctoninic.*

Myogram (məi·ǒgræm). [f. MYO- + -GRAM, after next.] A tracing made by a myograph.

1890 *Century Dict.* 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 519 Its [the knee-jerk's] myogram shows it to be a simple twitch.

Myograph (məi·ǒgrof). [f. MYO- + -GRAPH.] An instrument for taking tracings of muscular contractions and relaxations. So **Myogra·phion** [Gr. *γραφεῖον* pencil, graving tool].

1867 *Jrnl. Anat.* I. 158 With both Pflüger's and Du Bois' instruments muscles must be cut out and fixed to them, with Marey's myograph this is unnecessary. Marey terms the instrument 'myographic forceps'. *Ibid.*, We have already two Myographions, Pflüger's and Du Bois Reymond's; to these Marey has added a third. 1876–7 *S. Kens. Mus. Catal. Sci. App.* No. 3798 Rosenthal's Rotating Myographion.

Myogra·phic, -ical, *adjs.* [f. prec. or next + -IC, -ICAL.] Pertaining to or produced by the myograph; also, pertaining to myography.

1808 BARCLAY *Muscular Motions* 438 Showing more than usual anxiety to point out some myographical errors. 1846 WORCESTER, *Myographic.* 1867 [see prec.]. 1885 *Brain* VII. 569 Myographic tracings.

Myography (məi·ǒgrăfi). *rare*—°. [f. MYO- + -GRAPHY.] A description of muscles; the descriptive science of muscles. Hence **Myo·grapher, Myo·graphist,** one who is skilled in myography.

1721 BAILEY, *Myography.* 1836 SMART, *Myographist.* 1890 *Century Dict., Myographer.*

Myoidal (məi·oi·dăl), *a. rare*—¹. [f. Gr. *μῦ-s* mouse + -OIDAL. Cf. Gr. *μυώδης.*] Mouse-like.

1847 TULK tr. *Oken's Physiophilos.* 640.

Myology (məi·ǒlŏdʒi). [ad. mod.L. *myologia*: see MYO- and -LOGY.] **a.** The science of muscles; that part of anatomy which treats of the muscles. **b.** A myological description; the myological features or muscular anatomy of a particular animal or part of the body.

1649 BULWER *Pathomyot.* Pref. 3 A Book which all Anatomists kisse with reverence, as conteining the Oracles of Myologie. 1699 *Phil. Trans.* XXI. 132 If we are allowed to multiply Muscles from their appearance in various Subjects, we shall never arrive to a perfect Myology. 1713 DERHAM *Phys.-Theol.* VII. ii. (1714) 357 *note*, Steno thus concludes his Myology of the Eagle. 1796 SOUTHEY *Lett. fr. Spain* (1799) 477 Myology, Neurology, and Splanchnology. 1885 *Gentl. Mag.* Sept. 281 From considerations of..myology and osteology, the Screamer cannot be placed along with the Anserine birds.

Hence **Myolo·gic, -lo·gical** *adjs.*, pertaining to or concerned with myology; **Myo·logist,** one who studies or is expert in myology.

1808 BARCLAY *Muscular Motions* 370 By..numberless combinations of flexions [etc.]..the human body may exhibit phenomena calculated to astonish the myologist himself. 1836 SMART, *Myological,* pertaining to myology. 1860 WORCESTER, *Myologic* (citing *Penny Cycl.*). 1862 *Syd. Soc. Year-bk. Med.* 16 Myological enquires.

‖ **Myoma** (məi·ōu·mă). *Path.* [mod.L., f. Gr. *μῦ-s* muscle + *-ωμα* (cf. *σάρκωμα* SARCOMA).] A tumour composed of muscular tissue.

1875 C. H. JONES & SIEV. *Pathol. Anat.* 151 Tumours consisting of smooth muscular fibre..have recently received the name of *myoma* or *fibromyoma.* 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 51 The case of a woman, forty years of age, the subject of myoma of the uterus.

Hence **Myo·matous** *a.*, pertaining to a myoma; **Myomo·tomy,** the removal of a uterine myoma by abdominal section (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1891).

1876 GROSS *Dis. Bladder,* etc. 266 A myomatous fibroma. 1887 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 14 May 1045/2 An enormous uterine tumour of the spongy myomatous variety. 1900 *Ibid.* No. 2053 Epit. Current Lit. 71 Myomotomy for Calcified fibroma.

Myomancy (məi·ŏmænsi). [f. Gr. *μυ(ο)-*, *μῦς* mouse + *μαντεία* -MANCY.] Divination by the movements of mice.

1727–52 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v., Some authors hold myomancy to be one of the most ancient kinds of divination; and think it is on this account that Isaiah, lxvi. 17, reckons mice among the abominable things of the idolater. 1855 SMEDLEY *Occult Sci.* 335.

Myomorph (məi·ŏmɒf). *Zool.* [ad. mod.L. *Myomorpha,* f. Gr. *μυ(ο)-*, *μῦς* mouse + *μορφή* shape.] A rodent of the division *Myomorpha* (including mice, rats, dormice, etc.). So **Myomo·rphic, -mo·rphine** *adjs.*, belonging to or characteristic of these rodents.

1887 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* III. 102 The Dormice..fall under the definition of the Myomorphic section. 1887 HEILPRIN *Distrib. Anim.* 357 Of the non-murine families of myomorphs the dormice (Myoxidæ) and mole-rats (Spalacidæ) belong to the Old World exclusively. 1898 *Proc. Zool. Soc.* 29 Nov. 860 In *Dipus* the incisors are capable of separation and approximation as in most myomorphine rodents.

Myone, Myoner : see MOYEN, MINER.

Myonicity (məi·ǫni·sĭti). [f. Gr. *μυών* cluster of muscle + -ICITY.] Muscular contractility.

1866 [see NEURICITY].

Myopathy (məi·ǫ·păþi). *Path.* [ad. mod.L. *myopathi-a*: see MYO- + -PATHY.] Disease of the muscles. Hence **Myopa·thic** *a.*

1849 CRAIG, *Myopathy,* a morbid condition of the muscles. 1856 MAYNE *Expos. Lex., Myopathicus,*..of or belonging to *Myopathia*: myopathic. 1877 tr. *von Ziemssen's Cycl. Med.* XVI. 86 All the maladies included in the group of rheumatic myopathies. 1880 A. FLINT *Princ. Med.* 770 A myopathic paralysis. 1897 [see NEURO-PATHIC].

Myope (məi·ōup), *sb.* (*a.*) [a. F. *myope*, ad. late L. *myōp-*, *myōps*, a. Gr. *μυωπ-*, *μύωψ*, MYOPS.] A short-sighted person.

1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* (ed. 2) s.v. *Eye*, It is not, however, myopes and old men alone that would..have their vision.. very near or very remote. 1849–52 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* IV. II. 1463/2 Myopes..read with more ease in partial darkness than those whose sight is perfect. 1887 [see MYOPIC].

fig. 1870 O. W. HOLMES *Mech. Thought & Morals* (1871) 19 Intellectual myopes, near-sighted specialists.

b. *adj.* Myopic.

1892 'H. S. MERRIMAN' *Slave of Lamp* XV, His face..was the face of a hawk, with the contracted myope vision characteristic of that bird.

‖ **Myopia** (məi·ōu·piă). [mod.L., a. late Gr. *μυωπία*, f. *μύωψ* MYOPS.] Short-sightedness.

[1693 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2).] 1727–52 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v., The myopia is owing to the too great convexity of the ball of the eye. 1803 *Med. Jrnl.* IX. 141 The structure of his eyes..being naturally such as to dispose him to myopia. 1895 ZANGWILL *Master* III. ii. 294 There's money in myopia and diseases of the eye generally.

fig. 1801 CHARLOTTE SMITH *Lett. Solit. Wand.* I. 280 Those who have what you justly called the myopia of the mind. 1891 O. W. HOLMES *Poet Breakf.-t.* Pref. p. viii, The kind of partial blindness which belongs to intellectual myopia.

Myopic (məi·ǫ·pik), *a.* (*sb.*) *Path.* [f. MYOPE or MYOPIA + -IC.] Of, relating to, or affected with myopia; short-sighted; near-sighted.

1800 YOUNG in *Phil. Trans.* XCI. 36 The focal length of spectacles required for myopic or presbyopic eyes. 1846 MRS. GORE *Eng. Char.* (1852) 91 He was repeatedly required at his own balls to call up carriages..for fashionable ladies, myopic enough to mistake him for his delegate. 1849–52 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* IV. 1467/1 The French glasses, whether presbyopic or myopic. 1887 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 21 May 1120/1 This treatment is safe in myopes who have attained the age of puberty, and have not large myopic crescents.

fig. 1891 MEREDITH *One of our Conq.* III. i. 8 Your Moralist is a myopic preacher.

b. *absol.* and *sb.*

1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 259/1 For the myopic who can see an object clearly at 4 inches distance. *Ibid.* XVII. 785/1 All myopics should work in a good light.

So **Myo·pical** *a.*; hence **Myo·pically** *adv.*, like a short-sighted person.

1748 *Phil. Trans.* XLV. 413 The Eye is myopical, and she sees the right Side of Objects a little darkened. 1830 *Fraser's Mag.* II. 95 A myopical..race, of most Lilliputian vision. 1901 G. Gissing *Our Friend the Charlatan* x, He ..blinked myopically at his visitors before rising.

Myopism (məi·ŏpiz'm). [f. Gr. *μυωπ-*, *μύωψ* Myops + -ism.] = Myopia.

1822 W. Dunlap *Mem. C. B. Brown* 31 He had discovered by accident, that he was afflicted with a myopism. 1860 C. W. King *Antique Gems* i. 34 Myopism is still in Italy almost a distinct peculiarity of aristocratic birth. 1880 'Ouida' *Moths* viii. 100 Lady Stout was one of those happy people who only see just so much as they wish to see. It is the most comfortable of all myopisms.

‖ **Myops** (məi·ɒps). Also 8 miops. [late L., a. Gr. *μύωψ*, f. *μύειν* to shut + *ὤψ* eye.] A short-sighted person (*lit.* and *fig.*).

[1693 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2).] 1798 *Founders Fr. Repub.* II. 174 Being a *miops*, he was obliged to wear spectacles. 1801 Charlotte Smith *Lett. Solit. Wand.* I. 280, I feel that I have been a myops in the present instance.

‖ **Myopsis** (məi|ɒ·psis). *Path.* [mod.L., incorrectly f. Gr. *μυῖα* fly and *ὄψις* sight.] A disease of the eyes in which *muscæ volitantes* are seen. Also (in anglicized form) **My·opsy.**

1860 Worcester, *Myopsy.* 1864 Webster, *Myopsis.*

Myoptic (məi|ɒ·ptik), *a.* [f. Myope or Myopy after Gr. *ὀπτικός* Optic.] = Myopic.

1849 *Blackw. Mag.* LXVI. 104 Such dismal domiciles were only fit resorts for the myoptic bat. 1866 Atkinson *Ganot's Physics* § 521 Persons who see only at a very short distance are called myoptic.

Myopy (məi·ɒpi). [ad. mod.L. *myōpia*: see Myopia.] Myopia, shortsightedness.

1854 Ct. Edw. de Warren tr. *de Saulcy's Dead Sea* II. 273 Was this done as a preservation against ophthalmia, or as a remedy for myopy? 1879 Mrs. Lynn Linton *Under Which Lord?* III. iv. 93 Mrs. Everett made a cold bow, and, afflicted with sudden myopy, did not see the hand held out. 1880 Le Conte *Sight* 50 Myopy is a structural defect.

Myosin (məi·ŏsin). *Chem.* Also -ine. [f. Gr. *μῦ-s* muscle + -ose[2] + -in[1].] The chief ingredient of the clot formed on coagulation of muscle-plasma.

Vegetable myosin or *myosin-globulin* is found, with vitellin, in maize, oats, peas, etc.

1869 E. A. Parkes *Pract. Hygiene* (ed. 3) 158 The nitrogenous aliments are blood-fibrine, muscle-fibrine or syntonin, myosin [etc.]. 1887 Bentley *Man. Bot.* 37 The proteids exist in these grains as globulins, which hitherto have been known only to occur in animals, that is, as myosin-globulin and vitellin-globulin.

Hence **Myosi·nogen,** a proteid of muscle-plasma.

1891 *Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 171 Several very important albuminous substances, for example, myosinogen and fibrinogen, are coagulated at 56° C.

‖ **Myosis** (məi|ō·sis). *Path.* [f. Gr. *μύ-ειν* to shut the eyes + -osis.] Contraction of the pupil of the eye.

1819 *Pantologia.* 1875 H. Walton *Dis. Eye* xxxiii. (ed. 3) 935 Myosis occurs in progressive locomotor ataxy.

Hence **Myosi·tic** *a.*[1] and *sb.* = Myotic.

1855 Dunglison *Med. Lex.*, *Myositic*, causing contraction of the pupil, as opium. 1874 Garrod & Baxter *Mat. Med.* 459 Pupil Contractors (Myositics). 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 403 Calabar bean was not..in use as a myositic.

‖ **Myositis** (məi|ŏsəi·tis). *Path.* [irreg. f. Gr. *μυός*, genit. of *μῦs* muscle + -itis.] Inflammation of a muscle; myitis.

1819 *Pantologia.* 1834 Barlow in *Cycl. Pract. Med.* III. 598/1 Sagar..describes two diseases, a chronic one ranged in the class *Dolores*, order *Vagi*; and an acute under the specific name of myositis.

Hence **Myosi·tic** *a.*[2] (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1891).

Myosote (məi·ŏsōut). [ad. L. *myosōtis* (see next).] The forget-me-not, *Myosotis palustris.*

1879 *Encycl. Brit.* IX. 414/1 The common or true Forget-me-not, the Water Myosote. 1890 R. Bridges *Shorter Poems* II. 5 And laden barges float By banks of myosote.

‖ **Myosotis** (məi|ŏsōu·tis). [L., a. Gr. *μυοσωτίς*, f. *μυός*, gen. of *μῦs* mouse + *ὠτ-*, *οὖς* ear.]

†**1.** The mouse-ear, *Hieracium Pilosella. Obs.*

1706 Phillips (ed. 6), *Myosota* or *Myosotis*, the Herb Mouse-ear, or Bloud-strange. 1753 Chambers *Cycl.* Suppl. s.v., The broad-leaved Alpine Myosotis.

2. A plant of the genus *Myosotis.*

1857 Miss Pratt *Flower. Pl.* IV. 46 In the Netherlands this Myosotis is often made into a syrup.

Myotic (məi|ɒ·tik), *a.* and *sb.* [f. Myosis: see -otic.] **a.** *adj.* Pertaining to or causing myosis. **b.** *sb.* An agent which produces myosis.

1864 tr. *Donders' Anom. Accomm. Eye* 621 It is true that all myotic action could not be denied to the agents which were formerly placed in this category. *Ibid.*, The want of an efficient myotic was long felt in ophthalmic surgery. 1887 *Buck's Handbk. Med. Sci.* V. 97/1 Eserine or physostigmine ..is the most powerful of myotics.

Myotility (məi|ɒti·lĭti). *Phys.* [irreg. f. Myo- + *-tility* (cf. *motility, contractility*), after F. *myotilité.*] A term used variously for muscular force, power of contraction, or contractility.

1830 R. Knox *Béclard's Anat.* § 667 The muscles possess an active power or property, commonly designated under the names of muscular irritability, muscular force, or myotility [orig. Fr. *myotilité*]. 1891 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

Myotome (məi·ɒtōum). [f. Myo- + Gr. *τομή* section, and *-τόμος* cutting: see -tome.]

1. *Anat.* A muscular segment or metamere.

1856 Goodsir in *Edin. New Philos. Jrnl.* (1857) V. 122 For the muscular system I employ the terms Myome, Myotome, Synmyotome. 1872 Humphry *Myology* 7 The transverse inscriptions or sclerotomes which..divide the lateral muscles into so many 'myotomes'. 1894 Gadow & Abbott in *Phil. Trans.* CLXXXVI. 182 The original protovertebræ are now differentiated into sklerotomes..and into myotomes.

2. *Surg.* An instrument for dividing muscle.

1846 Brittan tr. *Malgaigne's Man. Oper. Surg.* 289 To destroy the corresponding septum of the muscular sheath, and thus enlarge the subconjunctival space in which the myotome is to act.

Myotomic (məi|ɒtɒ·mik), *a.* [f. Myotome or Myotom-y.] Pertaining to myotomy or a myotome.

1856 Mayne *Expos. Lex.*, *Myotomicus*...Of or belonging to *Myotomia*: myotomic. 1897 *Nature* 7 Oct. 555/2 The myotomic sacs remain monodermic on their outer face.

†**Myotomist** (məi|ɒ·tŏmist). *Obs.* [f. Myotomy + -ist.] A professor of muscular anatomy.

1649 Bulwer *Pathomyot.* II. i. 97 The other Muscles..are like to retaine their old names, unlesse some ..Myotomist be pleased to take pitty of their private Condition.

Myotomy (məi|ɒ·tŏmi). [ad. mod.L. *myotomia*, f. Gr. *μυ(ο)-*, *μῦ-s* muscle + *τομή*, *-τομία* cutting.]

1. Dissection of muscles; muscular anatomy.

1676 Ray *Corr.* (1848) 123 Mr. Willughby himself hath left a myotome [*sic*] of a swan. 1727–52 Chambers *Cycl.*, *Myotomy, myotomia*, an anatomical dissection, or demonstration of the muscles.

2. The surgical division of a muscle.

1871 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 18 Nov. 578 On Intraocular Myotomy. By Augustin Prichard. 1878 tr. *von Ziemssen's Cycl. Med.* XIV. 852 The defect may..be due to an habitual spasm of the genioglossi,..which may necessitate myotomy.

†**Myour.** *Obs.* Also 4 miour(e, 5 myoure, -owre, -ure, -ere. [a. OF. *mieur, miur*, f. *mier* Mye *v.* + *-eur*, -our.] A bread-grater.

1316–17 *Durham Acc. Rolls* 513 In 1 Mioure et 1 Scourur ..1od. *c* 1420 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 660/23 *Hoc micatorium*, myowre. 1485 *Inv.* in *Ripon Ch. Acts* (Surtees) 370, j myour pro pane micando.

†**Mype.** *Obs. local.* [a. north. Welsh *maip* turnip.] A parsnip.

Gerarde, who seems to be the only independent authority for the word, was a native of Cheshire.

1597 Gerarde *Herbal* II. cccIxxxviii. 871 The old writers.. have called this wilde Parsnep by the name of *Elaphoboscum*: that of the garden we do call Parsneps and Mypes. 1600 Surflet *Country Farm* II. xxxv. 244 Parsneps, mypes, carrets,..are sowen al after one fashion. 1665 Lovell *Herbal* (ed. 2) 296 Mypes, see Parsneps.

Myr, Myrabolam, Myrac(ke, Myraltie, Myravid, Myrhorr: see Mire *sb.*[1], Myrobalan, Miracн, Mayoralty, Maravedi, Mirror.

Myria- (mi·riă), rarely **myrio-**, before a vowel **myri-**, used as combining form of Gr. *μῠριάς* Myriad (or *μῦρίος* countless, *μῦρίοι* 10,000).

1. With the meaning 'ten thousand', in names of weights and measures of the metric system: **My·riagram(me, My·rialitre, My·riametre, My·riare** = 10,000 grammes, litres, metres, ares.

1804 *Ann. Reg.* 612 A bridge..will shorten the route from Paris to Cherbourg by some myriameters. 1810 *Naval Chron.* XXIV. 301 Myriagram = 20 lb. 7 oz. 58 gr. *Ibid.*, Myriar, square killometer. 1811 P. Kelly *Univ. Cambist* I. 154 The words Decagramme, Hectogramme, Kilogramme, and Myriagramme, express 10, 100, 1,000, 10,000 Grammes. *Ibid.* II. 268 Myriometre... Myriolitre... Myriogramme. 1871 C. Davis *Metric Syst.* I. 11 The myriametre, equal to nearly 6 and one-fourth miles.

2. With the meaning 'very numerous': **Myriaca·nthous** *a.* [Gr. *ἄκανθος* thorn], having very many spines; **Myria·merous** *a.* [Gr. *μέρος* part], having very many segments; **Myria·nthous** *a.* [Gr. *ἄνθος* flower], bearing very many flowers.

1856 Mayne *Expos. Lex.*, *Myriacanthus*,..that which has numerous spines, as the *Bouria myriacantha*,..myriacanthous. *Ibid.*, *Myriamerus*...Applied by Blainville to the *Chetopoda*, which have many segments, rings, or articulations,..myriamerous. *Ibid.*, *Myrianthus*...Having very numerous flowers, as the *Hypericum myrianthum*: myrianthous. 1882 Ogilvie, *Myriacanthous*, .. myriad-spined; specifically, of or belonging to the genus Myriacanthus.

Myriad (mi·riăd), *sb.* and *a.* Also 6–7 -ade, 7 miriad(e, myrriad. [ad. med.L. *myriad-, myrias*, a. Gr. *μῦριαδ-*, *μῦριάς*, f. *μῦρίος* countless, infinite, *μῦρίοι* ten thousand. Cf. F. *myriade.*] **A.** *sb.*

1. As a numeral: Ten thonsand.

(Chiefly in translations from Greek or Latin, or in reference to the Greek numeral system.)

1555 Eden *Decades* (Arb.) 159 *marg.*, One myriade is ten thousande. 1621 Burton *Anat. Mel.* II. iii. III. (1651) 326 Rome..vaunted her self of two myriades of inhabitants. 1663 *Hanmer's Anc. Eccl. Hist.* 39 When the Historiographer had collected the number of them that perished by sword and famine, he reporteth that it mounted to a hundred and ten Myriads [*edd.* 1577, 1585 myllions, millions]. 1734 tr. *Rollin's Anc. Hist.* (1827) II. III. 159 One single myriad of talents of silver is worth 30,000,000 of French money. 1836 Thirlwall *Greece* II. 289 That 4000 men from Peloponnesus had fought at Thermopylæ with 300 myriads. 1881 N. T. *Acts* xxi. 20 How many thousands [*marg.* Gr. myriads].

†**b.** *ellipt.* for: A myriad of coins of some understood value. *Obs.*

1601 R. Johnson *Kingd. & Commw.* (1603) 74 [They] pay little lesse then two myriades and a half of ordinary reuenue. 1632 Massinger *City Madam* IV. i, Make it up a thousand, And I will fit him with such tools as shall Bring in a miriad.

2. *transf.* (*pl.*) Countless numbers, hosts (*of*).

1555 Eden *Decades* (Arb.) 159 It is a miserable thynge to hear how many myriades of men these..devourers of mans flesshe haue consumed. 1570 Dee *Math. Pref.* *iij, Who can Imagine the Myriades of sundry Cases..tried and concluded by the forenamed Rules, onely? 1660 Evelyn *Diary* 29 May, Myriads of people flocking [to London], even so far as from Rochester. 1762 Falconer *Shipwr.* I. 66 Where winged deaths in dreadful myriads fly. 1803 Wellington in Gurw. *Desp.* (1835) II. 251, I hope to be able to strike a blow against their myriads of horse in a few days. 1875 Helps *Soc. Press.* iii. 50 Amidst the myriads of planets with which the universe is probably peopled.

b. *sing.* in same sense.

1850 Robertson *Serm.* Ser. III. x. 124 A myriad of different universes. 1864 Tennyson *Aylmer's F.* 436 That codeless myriad of precedent. 1875 *Ure's Dict. Arts* III. 324 Like a myriad of tubes.

3. *absol.* Countless numbers of men, animals, or inanimate things (to be inferred from the context).

1559 Aylmer *Harborowe* B 3 b, A sclender pollycie to make so many Myriades to flee. 1667 Milton *P. L.* I. 87 Who.. Cloth'd with transcendent brightness didst outshine Myriads though bright. 1727–46 Thomson *Summer* 1030 Where putrefaction into life ferments, And breathes destructive myriads. 1784 Cowper *Task* v. 77 How find the myriads that in summer cheer The hills and vallies with their ceaseless songs, Due sustenance? 1842 Borrow *Bible in Sp.* xxx, This now desolate bay had once resounded with the voices of myriads. 1877 C. Geikie *Christ* II. xlix. 279 He might.. repair this error..if He went up now and showed His power before the assembled myriads of Israel.

b. *sing.* in same sense.

a 1718 T. Parnell *Solomon* Posth. Wks. (1858) 161 His lofty stature, where a Myriad shine, O'ertops, and speaks a majesty divine. 1724 Gay *Captives* v. (1772) 64 The silver moon, And all the starry myriad that attend her.

B. *adj.*

1. Existing in myriads; of indefinitely great number; countless, innumerable. Chiefly *poet.*

a 1800 Coleridge *Hymn to Earth* 28 Myriad myriads of lives teem'd forth from the mighty embracement. 1817 Shelley *Rev. Islam* v. 1725 The City's moonlit spires and myriad lamps. 1830 Tennyson *Ode to Memory* iv, Thou of the many tongues, the myriad eyes! 1850 Robertson *Serm.* Ser. III. i. (1872) 5 Myriad, countless curses. 1886 W. W. Story *Fiammetta* 189 The crickets were trilling a myriad infinitesimal bells in the grasses.

b. with *sing. sb.*: Consisting of myriads. Also, having a myriad phases or aspects.

[1817: see 3.] *a* 1854 H. Reed *Lect. Brit. Poets* v. (1857) 187 The myriad mind of Shakspeare. 1873 Symonds *Grk. Poets* ix. 281 Prometheus when he described the myriad laughter of the dimpling waves [etc.]. 1874 Mahaffy *Soc. Life Greece* ix. 289 The myriad life of the Peiræus. 1876 Page *Adv. Text-bk. Geol.* iii. 67 A home for itself and its myriad progeny.

2. As a numeral (cf. A. 1). *rare.*

1875 Merivale *Gen. Hist. Rome* lxii. (1877) 504 A capital sum of four myriad millions of sesterces.

3. *Comb.*: chiefly parasynthetic, as *myriad-handed, -minded*, etc.; also advb., as *myriad-murmuring*, etc.

1817 Coleridge *Biog. Lit.* xv, Our myriad-minded Shakespeare [*note*, *ἀνὴρ μυριόνους*]. 1859 Mary Howitt *Marion's Pilgr.* v. iv, Traffic, myriad-wheeled. 1860 Farrar *Orig. Lang.* (1865) 65 The myriad-ravelled intricacy of sensuous impressions. 1864 Tennyson *Boädicea* 42 The myriad-rolling ocean. 1872 Symonds *Introd. Study Dante* vii. 231 Homer, large, liberal, and myriad-murmuring as the sea. *Ibid.* viii. 255 A myriad-handed foe. 1879 Farrar *St. Paul* I. 10 A myriad-sided character.

†**My·riaded,** *a. Obs. rare*[−1]. [f. Myriad + -ed[2].] Countless.

1667 Waternouse *Fire of London* 123 We have not been worthy of the least of those Myriaded ones [*sc.* mercies] that we have enjoyed.

My·riadfold, *a.* and *sb.* [f. Myriad + -fold.]

A. *adj.* Countless, innumerable; having innumerable aspects or features.

1870–4 J. Thomson *City Dreadf. Nt.* xvi. vi, Through sequences and changes myriadfold. 1881 Tyndall *Floating Matter of Air* 78 These media declare themselves to be crowded with particles—not hypothetical, not potential, but actual and myriadfold in numbers.

B. *sb.* Only advb., with indef. article: *A myriadfold*, an infinite amount (more *than* or *beyond*).

a 1711 Ken *Hymns Evang.* Poet. Wks. I. 254 A Myriadfold an Angel flies, Swifter than Morning Splendor gilds the Skies. 1890 J. Martineau *Auth. in Relig.* IV. iv. 567 The fields and gardens will yield their produce a myriadfold beyond all experience.

Myriadth (mi·riădþ), *a.* [f. Myriad + -th.] That is a very minute (properly, a ten-thousandth) part of a whole.

1824 Landor *Imag. Conv., Aristoteles & Callisthenes* Wks. 1853 I. 232/2 A myriad of conquerors is not worth the myriadth part of a wise and virtuous man. 1873 M. Collins *Squire Silchester* II. iv. 41 The myriadth division of one beat of Time's inaudible pulse.

†**My·riagon.** *Obs. rare*[−1]. [f. Myria- + -gon.] A geometrical figure having 10,000 sides.

1674 Boyle *Corpusc. Philos.* 34 Pentagons, Chiliagons, Myriagons, and innumerable other Polygons.

Myriagram(me, -litre, etc.: see Myria-.

†**My·riander,** *a. Obs. rare*[−1]. [a. F. *myriandre* (Rabelais), ad. Gr. *μῦριάνδρος*, f. *μῦρίοι* 10,000 + *ἀνδρ-*, *ἀνήρ* man.] Having 10,000 men.

a 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. li, The Chiliander and Myriander Ships launched from their Stations.

Myriapod (mi·riăpɒd), *a.* and *sb.* Also **myrio-.** [ad. mod.L. *Myriapoda* (see next).] **a.** *adj.* Having

very numerous legs; *spec.* pertaining to or having the characteristics of the *Myriapoda*. b. *sb.* One of the *Myriapoda*.

1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* xxviii. III. 22 *note*, Though the octopod and myriapod insects breathe by tracheæ. *Ibid.* 40 The Myriapods exceed most insects in the vast elongation of their body. 1865 THOREAU *Cape Cod* ix. 187 A venomous-looking, long, narrow worm, one of the myriapods. 1877 HUXLEY *Anat. Inv. Anim.* vii. 396 The myriapod larva ..is essentially different from an insect larva. 1880 T. GILL in *Smithsonian Rep.* 352 A distinct order of Myriopods.

‖ **Myriapoda** (miriæ·pŏdă). Also Myrio-. [mod.L., f. Gr. *μῡριάς* (see MYRIA-) + *ποδ-*, *πούς* foot. Cf. Gr. *μῡριόπους* myriad-footed.] A class of arthropodous animals, comprising the centipedes and millipedes. Hence **Myria·podan** *a.*, **Myria·podous** *a.*, = MYRIAPOD *a.*

1828 STARK *Elem. Nat. Hist.* II. 208 The Myriapoda.. approach the insects in the organization of their respiratory apparatus. 1841 T. R. JONES *Anim. Kingd.* 225 The Myriapoda [*ed.* 1871 Myriopoda] may be divided into two families, originally indicated by Linnæus: the *Julidæ*, or millepedes, and the *Scolopendridæ*, or centipedes. 1856 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Myriapodus*, .. myriapodous. 1887 S. H. SCUDDER in *Proc. Boston Soc. Nat. Hist.* 4 May 373 The supposed Myriapodan genus Trichiulus.

My·riarch. *rare.* [ad. Gr. *μῡριάρχης*, *μῡρίαρχος*, f. *μῡρίοι* ten thousand + *-άρχης*, *ἀρχός* ruler.] A commander of ten thousand men.

1632 HOLLAND *Cyrupædia* 69 Then, called he togither the Myriarches [*marg.* Colonels, or leaders of ten thousand], the Chiliarches [etc.]. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Myriarck.*

So **My·riarchy** [after *chiliarchy*], government by ten thousand rulers.

1650 R. HOLLINGWORTH *Exerc. Usurped Powers* 18 Not an heptarchy, but a chiliarchy, or myriarchy might follow.

†**My·riate,** *a. Obs.*$^{-1}$ [f. Gr. *μῡριοι* 10,000 + -ATE^{2}.] That is a ten-thousandth part; infinitesimal.

1665 GLANVILL *Def. Van. Dogm.* 38 He that supposeth all the..parts of a Worm..to be actually contain'd, though in myriate and indivisible proportions, in a drop of dew.

‖ **Myrica** (mirəi·kă). [L., a. Gr. *μυρίκη*.]

1. The tamarisk.

1706 PHILLIPS (ed. 6), *Myrica* or *Myrice*, a low Shrub, call'd Tamarisk. 1819 SHELLEY *Let. to T. L. Peacock* 25 Feb., The cytisus,..the myrtle, and the myrica [at Naples]. 1855 Miss PRATT *Flower. Pl.* II. 305 *Tamarix Anglica* (Common Tamarisk)...It is the Myrica of the Greeks and Romans.

2. A Linnæan genus of shrubs mostly furnished with glands having aromatic secretions; a plant of this genus, e. g. *Myrica Gale*, the bog myrtle.

1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XII. 566/1 Wax-bearing myrica, or candleberry myrtle. 1826 CARRINGTON *Dartmoor* 69 Upon his [*sc.* the Dart's] banks..Nature's hand has thrown the odorous Myrica.

3. *attrib.* **Myrica-tallow, -wax** = myrtle-wax.

1862 *Amer. Jrnl. Sci.* Ser. II. XXXIII. 320 As a substitute for bees-wax in the manufacture of candles, the Myrica wax appears to be worthy of more attention than it has yet received. 1865 WATTS *Dict. Chem.*, *Myrica-tallow*, myrtle-wax.

Myricaceous (mirikē·ʃəs), *a.* [f. mod.L. *Myricāce-æ* + -EOUS.] Belonging to the N.O. *Myricaceæ* (consisting of the single genus *Myrica*).

In some recent Dicts.

Myricic (məiri·sik), *a.* [f. MYRICA + -IC.] In *myricic alcohol*, myricyl alcohol (*Syd.Soc.Lex.* 1891).

Myricin (mirəi·sin, mi·-, məi·risin). *Chem.* Also **-ine.** [f. MYRICA + -IN^{1}.] That part of beeswax which is insoluble in boiling alcohol.

1821 URE *Dict. Chem.*, *Myricin.* The ingredient of wax which remains after digestion with alcohol. 1856 LETHEBY in *Orr's Circ. Sci.*, *Pract. Chem.* 460 Chinese wax is entirely free from myricine. 1874 GARROD & BAXTER *Mat. Med.* 409 Wax is separable by means of alcohol into three portions: myricine,..cerotic acid..and ceroleine.

Myricyl (mirəi·sil, mi·risil). *Chem.* [f. MYRICA + -YL.] = MELISSYL. Chiefly *attrib.* in *myricyl alcohol*; also **Myricy·lic** *a.* in the same sense.

1865 WATTS *Dict. Chem.*, *Myricyl*, Hydrate of. Melissic alcohol, Melissin. 1868 *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 10) 633 Myricyl Alcohol..is obtained from myricin. *Ibid.* 731 Palmitic acid exists also as .. myricyl palmitate. 1905 *Daily Chron.* 10 Mar. 8/5 Myricylic alcohol.

Myrie, obs. form of MERRY, MIRY.

‖ **Myringitis** (mirindʒəi·tis). *Path.* [mod.L., f. *myringa*, *myrinx* membrana tympani + -ITIS.] Inflammation of the membrana tympani.

1856 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.* 1874 ROOSA *Dis. Ear* 222, Independent or primary myringitis.

Myringotome (miri·ŋgŏtōm). *Surg.* [f. mod.L. *myringa* + *-τόμος* cutting, *τέμνειν* to cut.] An instrument for perforating the membrana tympani. So **Myringo·tomy,** perforation of the membrana tympani.

1879 *St. George's Hosp. Rep.* IX. 765 The patient then came down to Brighton, with a view of having myringotomy performed. 1895 *Arnold's Catal. Surg. Instr.* 174 Myringotome.

Myriogramme, etc.: see MYRIA- 1.

Myriological (mi·riŏlɒ·dʒikăl), *a.* [f. MYRIOLOGUE + -ICAL.] Pertaining to a myriologue.

1847-54 WEBSTER.

Myriologist (miriɒ·lŏdʒist). Also *erron.* **myria-.** [Formed as next + -IST.] One who sings or composes a myriologue.

1847-54 WEBSTER. 1869 TOZER *Highl. Turkey* II. 241 In some places there are found women who are professed myriologists. 1885 R. F. BURTON *Thousand Nights* I. 137 *note*, English wants the word for the præfica or myrialogist.

Myriologue (mi·riəlɒg). [ad. mod.Gr. *μυριολόγι(ον)*, corrupted f. *μοιρολόγι(ον)*, f. *μοῖρα* fate + *λόγος* speech. Cf. *moirologist.*] An extemporaneous funeral song, composed and sung by a woman.

1824 *New Monthly Mag.* XI. 141 The myriologues (or laments) which are uttered on these occasions have all the characters of inspiration. 1863 MARY HOWITT tr. *F. Bremer's Greece* I. v. 136 The myriologues or songs for the dead. 1869 TOZER *Highl. Turkey* II. 229.

Myriophyllite (miriŏfi·ləit), *a.* [f. Gr. *μῡρίος* countless + *φύλλον* leaf + -ITE.] (See quot.)

1882 OGILVIE, *Myriophyllite*, a kind of fossil root, with numerous fibres, found in the coal-measures.

Myriophyllous (miriŏfi·ləs), *a. Bot.* [Formed as prec. + -ITE.] Having a very large number of leaves or leaflets. 1856 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*

Myriopod, variant of MYRIAPOD.

Myriorama (miriŏræ·mă, -ā·mă). [f. Gr. *μῡρίος* countless + *ὅρᾶμα* view. Cf. *panorama.*] a. A picture made of a number of separate sections which are capable of being combined in numerous ways so as to form different scenes.

1824 (*title*) Myriorama, a collection of many thousand landscapes designed by Mr. Clark on 16 oblong cards. 1832 *Encycl. Amer.* IX. 116 *Myriorama*,..a sort of landscape kaleidoscope recently invented by Brés, of Paris, and improved by Clark, of London...With 16 cards 20,922,789,888,000 changes may be made.

b. An entertainment consisting of a succession of a large number of views.

1901 *Westm. Gaz.* 7 Dec. 5/2 The School Board has paid for the admission of 2,000 children to a myriorama. 1901 *Scotsman* 12 Mar. 7/3 Mr. C. W. Poole..opened a short season's engagement with his myrioramic entertainment.

Myrioscope (mi·riŏskōəp). [f. Gr. *μῡρίο-ς* countless: see -SCOPE.] (See quot.)

1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 1504/2 *Myrioscope*, this is a variation of the kaleidoscope, and..depends upon the multiplication of images, which coalesce in such manner as to form a geometrical pattern.

Myriotheism (mi·riəθī·iz'm). *rare*$^{-1}$. [f. Gr. *μῡρίο-ς* countless + *θε-ός* god + -ISM.] Belief in, or worship of, an infinity of gods.

1818 COLERIDGE in *Lit. Rem.* (1838) III. 183 See the influence of the surrounding myriotheism in the *dea Mors!*

Myristic (məi-, miri·stik), *a. Chem.* [f. mod.L. (*nux*) *myristica* (Diefenbach), adopted by Linnæus as the generic name of the nutmeg-tree, f. Gr. *μυρίζειν* to anoint.] *Myristic acid*: a fatty acid found in nutmeg-oil and other vegetable and animal fats. Hence **Myri·state,** a salt of myristic acid.

1848 BRANDE *Man. Chem.* 1263 Nutmeg butter consists of three fatty substances, two of which are soluble, but the third nearly insoluble in common alcohol; this latter has been termed Myristine; when purified..it may be rendered nearly colorless and inodorous, and is then a compound of glycerine with myristic acid. *Ibid.*, Myristate of potassa, ..Myristate of baryta. 1868 *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 10) 730 Myristic Acid..occurs as a glyceride in Nutmeg-butter and Otoba fat. *Ibid.* 731 The myristates of the alkali-metals.. are soluble in water.

So **Myri·sticene,** the terpene obtained from volatile oil of nutmeg. **Myri·sticin**: see quots. **Myri·sticol,** an oxygenated oil forming the chief constitutent of volatile oil of nutmeg. **Myri·stin,** the glyceride of myristic acid. **Myri·stone,** a crystalline substance obtained by the distillation of calcium myristate.

1872 J. H. GLADSTONE in *Jrnl. Chem. Soc.* Ser. II. X. 3 I would suggest the following:—Hydrocarbon from Nutmeg *Myristicene. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 908 The oil of mace, lets fall, after a certain time, a concrete oil under the form of a crystalline crust, called by John *myristicine. 1876 HARLEY *Mat. Med.* (ed. 6) 464 Oil of Nutmeg contains ..several fatty acids in combination with glycerin, the most considerable of which is myristicin. 1872 J. H. GLADSTONE in *Jrnl. Chem. Soc.* Ser. II. X. 11 *Myristicol. 1848 *Myristine [see MYRISTIC]. 1868 *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 10) 731 Myristin..is obtained by pressing nutmegs between hot plates. 1854 R. D. THOMSON *Cycl. Chem.*, **Myristone.*

Myrk(e, etc., obs. forms of MURK, etc.

Myrmecic (məsmī·sik), *a. rare*$^{-1}$. [f. Gr. *μυρμηκ-*, *μύρμηξ* ant + -IC.] Ant-like.

1905 H. W. & F. G. FOWLER tr. *Lucian* III. 137 They no doubt have, on their modest myrmecic scale, their architects and politicians.

Myrmeco- (mō·ɹmĭko, -kɒ·, məɹmī·kɒ), combining form of Gr. *μυρμηκ-*, *μύρμηξ*, ant, used in a few scientific terms. **Myrmecolo·gical** *a.*, pertaining to myrmecology. **Myrmeco·logist,** a student or professor of myrmecology (in recent Dicts.). **Myrmeco·logy,** the department of study concerned with ants (ibid.). **Myrmeco·phagid, Myrmeco·phagine,** a member of the genus *Myrmecophaga* [Gr. *-φάγος* eating], family *Myrmecophagidæ*, or sub-family *Myrmecophaginæ* of ant-eaters. **Myrmeco·phagous** *a.*, ant-eating, belonging to the genus *Myrmecophaga*. **Myrme·cophile,** a myrmecophilous insect. **Myrmeco·philous** *a.*, applied (*a*) to insects that live in ant-hills, (*b*) to plants living symbiotically with ants or fertilized by them. **Myrmeco·phily,** the condition of being myrmecophilous. **Myrmecopho·bic** *a.*, refusing the society of ants. **Myrme·cophyte,** a myrmecophilous plant.

1886 *Nature* 7 Jan. 240 *Myrmecological studies, by Herr G. Adlerz. 1885 *Riverside Nat. Hist.* (1888) V. 66 These accessory articulations are well exemplified in the Dasypodids and *Myrmecophagids. *Ibid.* 59 The palatines and pterygoids of the two sides not meeting as they do in the *Myrmecophagines. 1840 OWEN in *Zool. Voy. Beagle* I. 87 The cervical vertebræ do actually differ in two *myrmecophagous species. 1898 *Nat. Sci.* May 326 The larvae at the same time both myrmecoid and myrmecophagous. *Ibid.* 324 The progeny (eggs, larvae and nymphs)..can also be utilised by the *myrmecophiles. 1866 *Intell. Observ.* No. 56. 128 Other *myrmecophilous coleoptera. 1888 *Nature* 20 Dec. 172 Myrmecophilous plants. 1898 *Nat. Sci.* May 325 The search for the liquids secreted by Aphides does not usually constitute a true case of *myrmecophily. 1897 *Pop. Sci. Monthly* L. 829 The plant, becoming *myrmecophobic..achieves an economy of nutritive forces. 1902 J. M. COULTER *Plant Studies* 162 Very definite arrangements are made by certain plants for harboring ants, which in turn guard them against the attack of leaf-cutting insects and other foes. These plants are called *Myrmecophytes.

‖ **Myrmecobius** (məɹmĭkō·biŭs). Also anglicized myrmecobe (in Dicts.). [mod.L. (Waterhouse, *Proc. Zool. Soc.*, July 1836), a. Gr. *μυρμηκόβιος*, f. *μυρμηκ(ο)-*, *-μηξ* ant + *-βιος* living, *βιοῦν* to live.] A genus of insectivorous marsupials, typical of the sub-family *Myrmecobiinæ*; an animal of this genus.

1838 OWEN in *Trans. Geol. Soc.* Ser. II. (1842) VI. 64 The Phascolothere resembles the *Myrmecobius* more than it does the Opossum. 1841 WATERHOUSE *Marsupialia* 145 Banded Myrmecobius..Red Myrmecobius. 1887 HEILPRIN *Distrib. Anim.* 99 The native ant-eater, or striped myrmecobius.

Hence **Myrmeco·bian,** an animal of this genus.

1839-47 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* III. 260/1 The Myrmecobians ..shelter themselves in the hollows of trees.

Myrmecoid (mō·ɹmĭkoid), *a. rare.* [ad. Gr. *μυρμηκοειδ-ής*, f. Gr. *μύρμηξ* ant.] Ant-like.

1861 *Eng. Wom. Dom. Mag.* III. 59 It was observed by a very ancient and learned individual, that the sluggard might imbibe information by inspecting the regularity of myrmecoid evolutions. 1898 *Nat. Sci.* May 326 Myrmecoid animals can be protected by this resemblance..against insectivorous birds which do not eat ants.

Myrmeleon (məɹmī·lĭən). [mod.L. (Linnæus), contracted f. *myrmēcoleōn*, in med.L. *mirmicoleon* (a. Gr. *μυρμηκολέων*, f. *μύρμηξ* ant + *λέων* lion).] A genus of *Myrmeleon(t)idæ*; a member of this genus, an ant-lion.

1802 BINGLEY *Anim. Biog.* (1813) III. 241 The Common Myrmeleon, or Ant-lion. 1840 J. O. WESTWOOD *Introd. Mod. Classif. Insects* II. 41 Larva of Myrmeleon. 1885 C. F. HOLDER *Marvels Anim. Life* 207 We shall find in the sandy spots..the myrmeleon.

Myrmicine (mō·ɹmisəin), *a. Ent.* [ad. mod.L. *Myrmicinæ*, f. *Myrmica* (Latreille, f. Gr. *μύρμηκ-*, *-μηξ* ant): see -INE.] Of or belonging to the subfamily *Myrmicinæ* of stinging ants.

1888. *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* V. 381 The Turf Ant (*Formica flava*) is often found occupying one side of its hillock, with a colony of another Myrmicine Ant (*Myrmica scabrinodis*) comfortably established on the other.

Myrmidon (mō·ɹmidən). Forms: *α.* 5 mirmydane, -en, myrmaidon, murmindone, -mondon, 5, 7 mer-, 5, 8 mir-, myrmydon, 6 myr-, 6-7 mir-, 7-8 mermidon, 7- myrmidon. *β.* 5 mi-, myrondone, mi-, myrundone. [ad. L. *Myrmidon-es* pl., a. Gr. *Μυρμιδόνες*.]

1. (With capital M.) One of a warlike race of men inhabiting ancient Thessaly, whom, according to the Homeric story, Achilles led to the siege of Troy (*Iliad* II. 684).

α. c 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 4597 Achilles cam thenne faste saylande With alle his gode Mirmydanes. *Ibid.* 7353 Achilles with his Murmindones. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 8666 The Myrmaidons, his men, þaire maistur can take. 1598 MARSTON *Sco. Villanie* III. viii, What Mirmidon, or hard Dolopian, What sauage minded rude Cyclopian? 1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* v. viii. 13 On Myrmidons, cry you all a maine, Achilles hath the mighty Hector slaine. *a* 1618 SYLVESTER *Woodmans Bear* lxxv, Marble-hearted Mermidon. 1715 POPE *Iliad* I. 238 Go, threat thy earth-born Myrmidons. 1833 *Penny Cycl.* I. 84/2 [Achilles] allowed his friend..Patroclus ..to lead the Myrmidons, his followers, out to battle.

β. 1412-20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* II. 8574 Þe .. ferse Achille Arriued is with his kny3tes alle, Mirundones whom men are wont to calle. 1471 CAXTON *Recuyell* (ed. Sommer) 574 And then arryued the right stronge Achilles with his myrondones. *Ibid.* 634 Mirondones. *Ibid.* 635 Myrundones.

b. Used of Achilles himself.

1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* I. iii. 378 For that will physicke the great Myrmidon, Who broyles in lowd applause.

2. *transf.* A soldier of (one's) body-guard; a faithful follower or servant. ? *Obs.*

Cf. SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* v. vii. 1.

c 1610 BEAUM. & FL. *Philaster* v. iv, We are thy Mirmidons, thy Guard, thy Rorers. 1640 GLAPTHORNE *Wallenstein* II. ii, Fall on my Mirmidon, While we retreat. 1698 FARQUHAR *Love & Bottle* III. ii, Now, my myrmidons, fall on. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* III. xiii. 88 Who knows what consequences might have follow'd upon..my projected visit, followed by my Myrmidons? 1820 T. HOPE *Anast.* (ed. 2) III. xiii. 332 Part of my myrmidons hid their apparatus and persons near the quarter which I meant to alarm. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* i, Which produced the following dialogue, betwixt the myrmidons of the bonny Black Bear [*sc.* hostler and tapster].

3. An unscrupulously faithful follower or hireling; a hired ruffian; a base attendant.

1649 MILTON *Eikon.* iv. 30 He sallied out from Whitehall, with those trusty Myrmidons, to block up..the House of Commons. 1666 PEPYS *Diary* 12 July (1877) IV. 14 He spoke contemptibly of Holmes and his mermidons, that came to take down the ships from hence. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* XV. v, The Door flew open, and in came Squire Western, with his Parson, and a Set of Myrmidons at his Heels. 1816 T. L. PEACOCK *Headlong Hall* ii, His myrmidon on this occasion was a little rednosed butler. 1874 FARRAR *Christ* II. lx. 372 Herod and his corrupt hybrid myrmidons 'set Him at nought'.

transf. 1839 in *Spirit Metrop. Conserv. Press* (1840) II. 463 Acts which..are not only being perpetrated by Britisb ministers, but are openly confessed and unblushingly gloried in by their myrmidons of the press. 1860 RUSSELL *Diary India* II. vii. 142 The Southern who harried their glens with his canine myrmidons in the evil days ere King Jamie annexed England to Scotland.

b. Chiefly *myrmidon of the law, of justice*: applied contemptuously to a policeman, bailiff, or other inferior administrative officer of the law.

a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Myrmidons*, the Constable's Attendants..; also the Watchmen. 1714 *Spectator* No. 616 ₱ 4, I have just left the Right Worshipful and his Myrmidons about a Sneaker of Five Gallons. 1809 BYRON *Bards & Rev.* 467 Bow-street myrmidons. 1840 DICKENS *Barn. Rudge* lxvi, His complaint should be..fully stated.. to all the inferior myrmidons of justice. 1863 *Conf. of Ticket of Leave Man* 160 Lest my foes, the myrmidons of the law, should track the golden stream back to its sources.

Myrmidonian (mɔ̄rmidō·niăn), *a.* [f. MYRMIDON + -IAN.]

1. Of, pertaining to, or characteristic of the Myrmidons.

1614 in Bedell *Lett.* ii. 48 All those Myrmidonian fights and bloudie encounters. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* II. 72 That Mirmidonian Phillip, and these Epirean worthies, Pyrhus and Scanderberg. 1717 POPE *Iliad* IX. 244 The Myrmidonian tents and vessels. 1804 J. LARWOOD *No Gun Boats* 18 Every bark would become a Trojan Horse..the myrmidonian cohorts would issue from its fatal carcase.

¶ 2. Used for: Pertaining to ants.

[Pseudo-etymological association with Gr. *μύρμηξ* ant.]

1747 GOULD *Eng. Ants* 106 The Myrmidonian and Jet Settlements are particularly delighted with Juices. 1818 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* xvii. (ed. 2) II. 72 As the exploits of frogs and mice were the theme of Homer's muse, so..might I celebrate..the exhibition of Myrmidonian valour.

† **Myrmidonize,** *v. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. MYRMIDON + -IZE.] *trans.* To make callous.

1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* 25 She hath steeled my soft impressiue hart, and mirmidoniz'd myne eies.

Myrobalan (mərɒ·bălăn). Forms: *α.* 6–8 miro-, (7 mera-, muro-), 6–myro-, mira-, myra-; (6 -bolon), 6–7 (9) -bolane, (7 -balane, 9 -balam, -um, -bolam, -um), 6– -bolau, -balan. *β.* 7 mira-, marablaue. [a. F. *myrobolan* (= It., Sp. *mirabolano*, Pg. *myra-*) or its source L. *myrobalanum*, a. Gr. *μυροβάλανος* (1) perh. the ben-nut, (2) in mod. Gr., emblic, f. *μύρο-ν* unguent, balsam + *βάλανος* acorn, date, ben-nut.

Known colloq. amongst dyers as *m'rabs.*]

1. The astringent plum-like fruit of species of *Terminalia* (N. O. *Combretaceæ*), e. g. *T. Bellerica* (see BELLERIC), *T. Chebula* (see CHEBULE, CHEBULIC), *T. citrina*: formerly used medicinally, but now chiefly in dyeing, tanning, and ink-making. Emblic Myrobalan: see EMBLIC.

α. 1530 PALSGR. 245/2 Mirabolon a frute, *mirabolan.* 1533 ELYOT *Cast. Helthe* (1541) 68 Myrabolones, callyd Kebuli. *c* 1540 in *Vicary's Anat.* (1888) 226 Putt therto of mirobolane cytrine pouldered, one vnce. 1562 BULLEIN *Bulwarke, Bk. Simples* (1579) 62 Who so vseth to eate often of Myrobalans being condite, shall not seeme olde, sayth Mesue. 1610 B. JONSON *Alch.* IV. ii, Shee melts Like a Myrobalane. 1611 COTGR., *Myrobalan citrin*, the yellow, or Citron Myrobalan. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 644 There be Fruits, that are Sweet before they be Ripe; As Myrabolanes. 1712 tr. *Pomet's Hist. Drugs* I. 141 The Indian Myrobalans are small long Fruit, of the Size of a Child's Finger End. 1803 *Phil. Trans.* XCIII. 267 The infusion of Myrobalans from the East Indies, differed from the other astringent infusions. 1883 *Madras Mail* 5 Dec. 21/1 It is only when the ruling price of myrabolams is too high that inferior tanning materials are in request. 1899 F. T. BULLEN *Log Sea-waif* 205 Indian produce, of which cotton, linseed, and myrabolums formed the staple.

β. 1617 MINSHEU *Ductor* 8264 *Mirablane.* [*Ibid.* 8510 *Myrabalane*, 8514 *Murobolane.*] 1624 FORD & DEKKER *Sun's Darling* II. i, Marmalades,..ponadoes, marablane [etc.].

2. A variety of plum.

1664 [see PRIMORDIAL *sb.* 2]. 1767 ABERCROMBIE *Ev. Man his own Gardener* (1803) 673/1 Plums..Myrobalan, Apricot plum [etc.]. 1860 HOGG *Fruit Man.* 232 Plums..Cherry (Early Scarlet..Myrobalan).

3. *attrib.*, as *myrobalan tree*; † **myrobalan ben,** † **date,** the ben-nut; **myrobalan plum,** † (*a*) = sense 1; (*b*) = sense 2.

1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Myrobalanum*, a Fruit, call'd by Apothecaries *Myrobalan Ben, or the Nut of Egypt. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XII. XXII. II. 163 Of the *Myrabolan Date. 1598 FLORIO, *Citrino*,..a kinde of *mirabolane plum. 1708 [see EMBLIC]. 1731 MILLER *Gard. Dict., Prunus*; *fructu rotundo, nigro-purpureo*...Myrabolan Plum. 1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 100 A greate multitude of certeine beastes ..creping as thicke as antes aboute the *myrobolane trees.

† **My·ron.** *Obs.* App. a servant, underling.

c 1440 *York Myst.* XXX. 139 Loke þat no man nor no myron of myne..be neghand me nere. *Ibid.* 147; XXXIII. 62.

Myronic (məirɒ·nik), *a. Chem.* [ad. F. *myronique* (Bussy), f. *μύρον* unguent, perfume.] In *myronic acid*, an acid obtained from black mnstard. Hence **My·ronate,** a salt of myronic acid.

1840 PEREIRA *Elem. Nat. Med.* 1267 Myronic acid. *Ibid.* The alkaline myronates are crystallizable. 1873 HOOKER tr. *le Maout & Decaisne's Bot.* 232 Black mustard..contains a fixed..oil..This volatile oil..is produced by the action of a peculiar albumine (myrosine) on the myronic acid contained in the seed.

† **Myro·polist.** *Obs.* [f. Gr. *μυροπώλης* (f. *μύρο-ν* ointment + *-πώλης* seller, *πωλεῖν* to sell) + -IST.] A dealer in ointments or perfumery.

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Myropolist*, a seller of sweet Oyls, Ointments or Perfumes. [Hence in Phillips, Bailey, and later Dicts.] 1657 TOMLINSON *Renou's Disp.* 689 He that handled or sold them [*sc.* unguents] was called an Unguentary and Myropolist.

Myrosin (məi·rŏsin). *Chem.* Also -ine, -yne. [ad. F. *myrosyne* (Bussy), f. Gr. *μύρο-ν* unguent, perfume + *-yne* (= -IN, -INE), with intercalated *s.*] A nitrogenous ferment contained in the seeds of black mustard.

1840 PEREIRA *Elem. Mat. Med.* 1267 Black mustard contains myronate of potash, myrosyne, fixed oil [etc.]. 1873 [see MYRONIC]. 1874 GARROD & BAXTER *Mat. Med.* 145 The zymotic action of..yeast, diastase,..and myrosin.

Myrospermin (məiərɒspɜ·rmin). *Chem.* Also -ine. [f. mod.L. *Myrosperm-um* (f. Gr. *μύρο-ν* balsam + *σπέρμα* seed) + -IN.] (See quot.)

1843 [see MYROXYLINE].

Myrour(e, -owre, obs. forms of MIRROR *sb.*

Myroxocarpin (məirɒksōkā·rpin). *Chem.* [f. mod.L. *Myroxylon*) + CARPIN.] A crystallizable substance obtained from white Peru balsam, *Myroxylon* (now *Myrospermum*) *peruiferum*. So **Myroxy·lic** *a.*, **Myro·xyline** (see quots.).

1843 PEREIRA *Elem. Mat. Med.* 1561 Richter asserts that oil of balsam of Peru is composed of two distinct oils;—one, called myrospermine, which is soluble in alcohol; the other, termed myroxiline, insoluble in alcohol. 1848 BRANDE *Man. Chem.* 1391 By the action of an alcoholic solution of potassa upon *cinnamèine*, Plantamour obtained a compound which he has designated Myroxylic acid. 1854 R. D. THOMSON *Cycl. Chem.*, *Myroxocarpine.*

Myrr, Myrren: see MERR, MURRAIN.

Myrrh[1] (mɔ̄r). Forms: 1 myrra, murra, 1, 4 murre, 1–6 myrre, 2–6 mirre, 4 merre, mirr, 4–5 myre, 4, 6 mir, 5 mere, myr, 5–6 myrr, 5–7 mirrhe, 6–7 mirrh, myrrhe, 7– myrrh. Also in L. form 4 mirra, 6–8 myrrha. [OE. *myrra, myrre, murra* = OS. *myrra* (MDu. *myrre, mirre*, Du. *mirre*), OHG. *myrrâ, mirrâ, murrâ*, (MHG. *mirre*, G. *myrrhe*), ON. *mirra*; also OF. *mirre* (11th c.), mod.F. *myrrhe*, It., Sp. *mirra*:—L. *murra, murrha, myrrha*, a. Gr. *μύρρα*, of Semitic origin (Arab. *murr*, Heb. *mōr*).]

1. A gum-resin produced by several species of *Commiphora* (*Balsamodendron*), esp. *C. Myrrha* (see 2): used for perfumery and as an ingredient in incense. Also *Med.*, the tincture made from this.

In early use almost always with reference to the offering of myrrh by the Magi to our Lord.

c 825 *Vesp. Ps.* xliv. 9 Myrre & dropa & smiring. *c* 975 *Rushw. Gosp.* Matt. ii. 11, & ontynden heora goldhord brohtun him lac gold recils & murra [*Ags. Gosp.* myrre, *Hatton Gosp.* mirre]. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* (Th.) I. 118 Myrra deð..þæt þæt deade flæsc eaðelice ne rotað. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 45 Gold bicumeð to kinge. Recheles to gode. mirre to deaðliche men. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 11502 Attropa gaf gift o mir, A smerl o selcuth bitturnes. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Knt.'s T.* 2080 And garlandes hangynge with ful many a flour, The Mirre, thencens, with al so greet odour. *c* 1450 MYRC *Festial* 49 Myrre ys an oynement þat kepyth ded bodyes from rotyng. ? 1550 BALE *Image Both Ch.* I. ii. D. v, The odoriferous myrrha geueth forth the swete smelle of all good christen workes. 1652 CRASHAW *Carmen Deo Nostro* Wks. (1904) 198 Mountains of myrrh, and Beds of species. 1672 WISEMAN *Wounds* II. i. 2 Put a Pea in the middle of it, with Tincture of Myrrhe and Honey of Roses. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XII. 572 The Troglodite myrrh was superior to every species of Arabian myrrh. 1803 *Med. Jrnl.* IX. 270 A mixture of three drachms of myrrh, one drachm and a half of balsamus Peruvianus or canadensis [etc.]. 1835 *Penny Cycl.* III. 345/1 Myrrh in sorts is the term applied to various inferior and adulterated kinds. 1851 LONGF. *Gold. Leg., Nativity* vi, Another goblet I quick! and stir, Pomegranate juice and drops of myrrh..therein!

† 2. Any shrub or tree that yields the gum-resin, esp. *Commiphora* (*Balsamodendron*) *Myrrha.*

c 1402 LYDG. *Compl. Bl. Knt.* 66, I saw ther Daphne..The myrre also, that wepeth ever of kinde. *a* 1450–1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* 285 Myrre is a tree that groweth fyue cubytes in lengthe. 1603 DRAYTON *Heroic. Ep.* iv. 141 Turn'd into a Myrrhe, Whose dropping Liquor ever weepes for her. 1634 MILTON *Comus* 937 With Groves of myrrhe, and cinnamon.

3. *attrib.* as *myrrh-bush, -posy, -wine*; *myrrh-breathing, -distilling* adjs.; **myrrh resin** (see quot.); **myrrh-seed,** a book-name for *Myrospermum pubescens*; **myrrh-shrub** = sense 2; † **myrrh wine,** myrrhed wine. See also MYRRH-TREE.

1616 R. C. *Times' Whistle* 1112 One kisse From thy *mirre-breathing mouth. 1605 DRAYTON *Idea* liii, Sweet mirrh-breathing Zephire. 1833 TENNYSON *Lotos Eaters* 103 Yonder amber light, Which will not leave the *myrrh-bush on the height. 1624 QUARLES *Sion's Sonn.* (1714) 354, I Op'd my Door, my *Myrrh-distilling Door. 1749 LAVINGTON *Enthus. Meth. & Papists* II. (1754) 8 Christ gaue her so large a share of the *Myrrh-posy of his Passion, that frequently under an Alienation of her Senses she would throw herself on her Back on the Ground. 1854 R. D. THOMSON *Cycl. Chem.*, **Myrrh Resin*...Obtained from myrrh by alcohol; yellowish-brown, hard and brittle. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* II. 772/2 *Myrrh-seed, *Myrospermum pubescens.* 1876 HARLEY *Mat. Med.* (ed. 6) 666 *Balsamodendron Myrrha.* The *Myrrh Shrub. 1878 H. M. STANLEY *Dark Cont.* II. xii. 350 Where the myrrh and bdellium shrubs exhaled their fragrance. 1609 BP. HALL *Passion Serm.* Wks. (1625) 425 S. Marke calls this draught, *οἶνον ἐσμυρνισμένον*, *Myrrh-wine.

Myrrh[2] (mɔ̄r). [ad. late L. *myrrhis, murris* (see MYRRHIS).] The aromatic plant, *Myrrhis odorata* (N. O. *Umbelliferæ*), Sweet Cicely.

1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. cccxcix. 82 Great Cheruill, or Myrrhe. 1638 RAWLEY tr. *Bacon's Life & Death* (1650) 32 These yield a Robust heat, especially..Valerian, Myrrhe, Pepper-wort, Elder-flowers, Garden-chervile. 1741 *Compl. Fam.-Piece* II. iii. 378 Your Myrrhs should likewise now have frequent Water given them. 1852 JOHNSON *Cottage Gard. Dict., Myrrhis*...This is the British Myrrh, formerly used in various ways. 1886 BRITTEN & HOLLAND *Plant-n.*, Myrrh, *Myrrhis odorata*,..Cumb.; Aberdeensh.

My·rrhate, *sb.* [f. MYRRH-IC + -ATE[1].] A salt of myrrhic acid. 1845 [see MYRRHIC].

† **My·rrhate,** *a. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [ad. L. *myrrhāt-us*, f. *myrrha* MYRRH[1]: see -ATE[2].] = MYRRHED *a.*

1659 HAMMOND *On Ps.* lx. 3 Thou hast made us to drink the wine of astonishment. [Paraphrase:] Thou hast..given us a myrrhate draught.

† **My·rrhean,** *a. Obs. rare*⁻⁰. [f. L. *myrrhe-us* (f. *myrrha* MYRRH[1]) + -AN.] (See quot.)

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Myrrhine, Myrrhean*..of myrrhe, made of myrrhe, seasoned with myrrhe.

Myrrhed (mɔ̄rd), *ppl. a. rare.* [f. MYRRH[1] + -ED, after L. *myrrhātus.*] a. Mixed with myrrh.

c 1450 *Mirour Saluacioun* XXV. (Roxb.) 92 And thas gyves myrred wyne to Jhū crist forto drinke Yᵗ heresies vndere coloure of trewth to teche folk swynke. 1620 J. HAYWARD *Sanct. Troub. Soul* II. ix. 221 And first they offered him myrrhed wine, which was a composition..to dull..the seuere sence of death. 1905 D. SMITH *Days of His Flesh* xlix. 492 *note*, The offering of the myrrhed wine to Jesus before the crucifixion.

b. Sprinkled with myrrh.

1609 S. W. *Marie Magd. Funerall Teares* 29 To vnwrap so mangled a bodie out of mirrhed cloathes, without tearing of any skinne, or leauing on any mirrhe, is..impossible.

Myrrhic (mɔ̄·rik, mi·rik), *a.* [f. MYRRH[1] + -IC.] In *myrrhic acid*, a substance obtained by heating the resin of myrrh.

1840 PEREIRA *Elem. Mat. Med.* 1189 Hard resin (myrrhic acid ?)..soluble in caustic alkalies, forming resinates (myrrhates ?). 1848 BRANDE *Man. Chem.* 1584.

My·rrhin. *Chem.* [f. MYRRH[1] + -IN.] That part of myrrh which is soluble in alcohol.

1845 *Chem. Gaz.* III. 265 The resin of myrrh..is..a neutral resin, and may be called Myrrhine. 1865 WATTS *Dict. Chem.*

Myrrhine, *a.*[1] and *sb.*: see MURRHINE.

† **My·rrhine,** *a.*[2] *Obs.*⁻⁰ [ad. L. *myrrhin-us*, f. *myrrha* MYRRH[1]: see -INE.] = MYRRHEAN.

1656 [see MYRRHEAN].

‖ **Myrrhis** (mɔ̄·ris, mi·ris). [late L., a. Gr. *μυρρίς.*] = MYRRH[2]. (Now only as generic name.)

1548 TURNER *Names Herbes* (E.D.S.) 54 Myrrhis is called in Cambrygeshyre casshes, in other places mockecheruel. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 202 Myrrhis, which some call Smyrrhiza, others Myrrha, is passing like vnto Hemlocke. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Myrrhis*, Mock-Chervil.

Myrrhite (mɔ̄·rəit, mi·-). Also 6–7 **mirrite.** [ad. L. *myrrhītēs*, a. Gr. *μυρρίτης* (sc. *λίθος*), f. *μύρρα* MYRRH[1]: see -ITE.] Murrhine stone.

1567 MAPLET *Gr. Forest* 1. 15 The Mirrite is a Gem, both in taste and colour like to Myrrhe. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* II. 40/2. 1855 OGILVIE Suppl., *Myrrhite*, a kind of precious stone.

Myrrhol (mɔ̄·rɒl, mi·rɒl). *Chem.* (Also -ole.) [f. MYRRH[1] + -OL.] (See quot.)

1845 *Chem. Gaz.* III. 265 The distilled oil of myrrh (Myrrhole). 1865 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* s.v. *Myrrh.*

Myrrhophore (mɔ̄·rrŏfōəɹ, mi·rŏ-). [ad. Gr. **μυρροφόρος*, f. *μύρρα* MYRRH[1] + *-φόρος* bearing, *φέρειν* to bear.] (See quot. 1848 and *Mark* xvi. 1.)

1848 MRS. JAMESON *Sacr. & Leg. Art* (1850) 218 The women who carry the spices and perfumes to the tomb of Jesus are called in Greek Art, the Myrrhophores. 1899 *Reliquary* JAN. 44 The three boxes containing the sweet spices prepared by the Myrrhophores to anoint our Saviour.

My·rrh-tree. [MYRRH[1].] = MYRRH[1] 2.

In MSS. of the Wycliffite Bible *myrre tree* occurs in several places as a variant reading for *myrte tree.*

1382 WYCLIF *Gen.* xliii. 11 The licoure of myrre tree, and of therebynt, and of almaundis. *a* 1400 *Propr. Sanct.* in *Archiv Stud. neu. Spr.* LXXXI. 301 Mirre-tre þat giueþ two-maner gummes. 1567 MAPLET *Gr. Forest* 52 The Mirhe tree, sayth Plinie, groweth in the pastures and woods of Arabia. 1601 LYLY *Love's Metam.* I. ii. 103 Cinyras that with furie followed his daughter Mirrha, till shee was chaunged to a Mirre tree. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XII. 571/2 The myrrh-tree..is a native of Abexim in Ethiopia. 1867 TRISTRAM *Nat. Hist. Bible* xii. 365 Many modern travellers have noticed the Myrrh tree both in Arabia Felix (Saba) and in Eastern Africa.

Myrrhy (mɔ̄·ri), *a.* [f. MYRRH[1] + -Y[1].] Smelling like or redolent of myrrh.

1842 BROWNING *Waring* vi, Some pigeon, from the myrrhy lands, Rapt by the whirlblast to fierce Scythian strands. 1857 *Chamb. Jrnl.* VII. 224 The sweet myrrhy buds that grow on the wood-apple. 1860 STR T. MARTIN *Horace* 135 Her myrrhy hair [*Carm.* III. iv. 22 *murreum..crinem*].

Myrriad, Myrrour(e, obs. ff. MYRIAD, MIRROR.

Myrsen : see MEERSCHAUM.

† **Myrt.** *Obs.* Also 5 **mirte**, 6 **myrte**, 7 **mirt.** [ad. L. *myrt-us*, a. Gr. *μύρτος*. Cf. F. *myrte*, It., Sp., Pg. *mirto*.] = MYRTLE.

1382 WYCLIF *Isa.* lv. 13 For the nettle shal growe the tre that is clepid myrt. *c* 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* III. 1094 Six sester old wyn do to mirtes bayis v pound. *c* 1550 LLOYD *Treas. Health* c 8 Syrupes of myrte, of licorise, of Calamente. 1589 FLEMING *Virg. Georg.* I. 26 The frutes of bloudie myrts. 1615 BRATHWAIT *Strappado* (1878) 170 Sweet-breath'd Sicamour and Mirt.

b. *attrib.* (see also MYRT-TREE).

1535 COVERDALE 2 *Esdras* (= *Neh.*) viii. 15 Pynebraunches, Myrtbraunches, Palmebraunches. 1561 HOLLYBUSH *Hom. Apoth.* 40 b, Stype Myrte berries in oyle of Violettes. 1562 TURNER *Herbal* II. 61 The brothe of Myrtilles or Myrte sedes.

Myrtaceous (mɔɹtēi·ʃəs), *a. Bot.* [f. mod.L. *Myrtāce-æ*, fem. pl. of late L. *myrtāceus* (Celsus), f. *myrt-us* MYRT : see -ACEOUS.] Of the N. O. *Myrtaceæ*, to which the myrtle belongs.

1835 *Penny Cycl.* III. 123/2 Myrtaceous plants with white blossoms. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 773/1 A myrtaceous tree.

Myrtal (mə·ɹtăl), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. mod.L. *myrtāl-is*, f. *myrt-us* MYRT + -AL.] **a.** *adj.* Belonging to Lindley's 'alliance' *Myrtales*, consisting of the myrtles and allied plants. **b.** *sb.* A plant of this 'alliance'.

1846 LINDLEY *Veget. Kingd.* 716 The Myrtal Alliance. *Ibid.* 722 An instance of the approach of Myrtals to the Asteral Alliance. *Ibid.* 726 Myrtal Exogens.

Myrtene (mə·ɹtīn). *Chem.* [f. L. *myrt-us* MYRT + -ENE.] The terpene from volatile oil of myrtle.

1872 J. H. GLADSTONE in *Jrnl. Chem. Soc.* Ser. II. X. 3, I would suggest the following :—..Hydrocarbon from Myrtle. Myrtene.

Myrther, obs. form of MURDER.

Myrtifo·liate, *a. rare*⁻¹. [f. L. *myrt-us* MYRT + *folium* leaf + -ATE².] Myrtle-leaved.

1693 *Phil. Trans.* XVII. 619 A pretty Myrtifoliate Alnus.

Myrtiform (mə·ɹtifɔ̄ɹm), *a. Anat.* [ad. mod.L. *myrtiform-is*, f. *myrt-us* MYRT.] Of the shape of a myrtle-berry; in *myrtiform caruncle, fossa.*

1840 W. J. E. WILSON *Anat. Vade M.* (1842) 34 The myrtiform fossa is divided from the canine fossa by a perpendicular ridge. 1857 BULLOCK tr. *Cazeaux' Midwifery* 48 The myrtiform caruncles.

† **Myrtine,** *a. Obs.* [ad. late L. *myrtin-us* (in *oleum myrtinum*), f. *myrt-us* MYRT : see -INE.] Of myrtle. (Erroneously used in the first quot.)

1382 WYCLIF *Esther* ii. 12 So onli that sixe monethis thei shulde ben enoynt with myrtine oile [Vulg. *oleo myrrhino*]. 1545 RAYNOLD *Byrth Mankynde* 81 Take oyle Myrtine, oyle of rooses, of eche iiii. ounces.

† **Myrtite.** *Obs.* [ad. late L. *myrtītēs*, a. Gr. *μυρτίτης* (οἶνος).] Myrtle wine.

c 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* III. 1093 Sone in this mone ek mirtite is to make. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 49 Drunke with vineger, it is good against al venim of Serpents.. against the Lizzards with Mirtite.

Myrtle (mə·ɹt'l), *sb.* Forms: 5 **mirtille, -ylle**, 6 **mirt-, myrtel(l, -ylle**, 6–8 **mirtle**, 7 **mertle, mert-, mirt-, myrtil(l**, 6– **myrtle.** [a. OF. *mirt-, myrtille*, fem. (1) myrtle-berry, (2) bilberry, whortleberry, also *myrtil*, masc. (= It. *mirtillo* myrtle-berry), ad. popular L. **myrtilla, -us*, dim. of L. *myrta, myrtus* MYRT.]

† **1.** The fruit or berry of the myrtle tree. *Obs.*

c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 53 Poudre of mirtillis. 1526 *Gt. Herbal* cclxvii. (1529) P ij b, Mirte is a lytell tre so called, the whiche tre bereth a fruyte that is named Myrtylles. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* 462 Barley giuen with Mirtels, or wine, ..stoppeth the running of the belly. 1657 COLES *Adam in E.* lxxi. 135 Being boyled in red Wine with Pomegranat Rinds, and Myrtills, it stayeth the Lask. 1732 LEDIARD *Sethos* II. x. 426 Boxes of myrtles and oranges.

2. A plant of the genus *Myrtus* (N. O. *Myrtaceæ*), esp. *M. communis*, the Common Myrtle, a shrub growing abundantly in Southern Europe, having shiny evergreen leaves and white sweet-scented flowers, and now used chiefly in perfumery.

The myrtle was held sacred to Venus and is used as an emblem of love.

1562 TURNER *Herbal* II. 60 b, Dioscorides maketh ii. sortes of sowen or set myrtel trees...But other writers make yet mo kyndes of Myrtilles. 1590 C'TESS PEMBROKE *Antonie* 68 Since then the Baies so well thy forehead knewe To Venus mirtles yeelded haue their place. 1611 BIBLE *Isa.* xli. 19, I will plant in the wildernes..the Myrtle, and the Oyle tree. 1639 S. DU VERGER tr. *Camus' Admir. Events* 14 The palmes of my valour, and mirtles of my incomparable love. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IV. 262 The fringed Bank with Myrtle crownd. 1768 PENNANT *Brit. Zool.* II. 255 Myrtles flourish in the open air during the whole year. 1784 COWPER *Task* III. 570 The spiry myrtle with unwith'ring leaf. 1846 LINDLEY *Veget. Kingd.* 737 Even the berries of the common Myrtle are esteemed in the Greek Archipelago, especially a sort with white fruit. 1864 TENNYSON *Islet* 19 Fairily-delicate palaces shine Mixt with myrtle and clad with vine.

b. With qualifying word, applied to various species of the genus *Myrtus*, and other myrtaceous genera, and (esp. in Australasia and U.S.) to plants of other Natural Orders resembling *Myrtus*.

Crape, fringe, Jew's, peach myrtle : see these words. See also Miller *Gard. Dict.*, Morris *Austral Eng.*, and Britton & Brown *Amer. Flora*.

1578 LYTE *Dodoens* VI. xiii. 674 This herbe is called..in English, Kneeholme,..and Petigree, also we may cal it ye wilde Myrtel. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* III. lxvii. 1226 Another kinde of Myrtill, called *Myrtus minor*, or noble Myrtill. 1601 Ground-myrtle [see GROUND *sb.* 18 c]. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 132 The seede of blacke mirtle. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* Suppl. s. v. *Myrtus*, The broad-leaved Roman Myrtle. 1843 W. BAXTER *Brit. Phænog. Bot.* VI. 474 *Ruscus aculeatus*. Prickly Butcher's Broom...Wild Myrtle. Prickly Petigree. 1845–50 MRS. LINCOLN *Lect. Bot.* v. 118 *Leiophyllum..buxifolium* (sand myrtle). 1852 MUNDY *Antipodes* I. ii. 76 The South Sea myrtle, or Leptospermum. 1884 SARGENT *Rep. Forests N. Amer.* (10th Census IX) 41 *Ceanothus thyrsiflorus*...Blue Myrtle.

c. Applied to plants of the genus *Myrica*: (*a*) **bog myrtle, Dutch myrtle,** Sweet Gale, *Myrica Gale*; (*b*) CANDLEBERRY *myrtle*, WAX-*myrtle*, q. v.

1597 GERARDE *Herbal* III. lxviii. 1228 *Myrtus Brabantica*.. Gaule, sweete Willow, or Dutch Myrtle tree. *Ibid.*, Gaule or the wilde Myrtle. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XII. 573/2 Broad leaved Dutch myrtle, with spear-shaped, sharp pointed, dark-green leaves. 1826 CARRINGTON *Dartmoor* 176 Holne Chace..in swampy spots abounding with the myrica gale or Devonshire myrtle. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 770/1 *Myrica] Gale*, the Sweet Gale or Bog Myrtle,..the badge of the Campbells.

3. Short for *myrtle-green.*

1884 *Christian World* 17 Jan. 52/1 Very rich Brocaded Plush..in Myrtle. 1897 'SARAH GRAND' *Beth Bk.* xxxix, Her white silk trimmed with myrtle.

† **4.** A kind of snuff. *Obs.*

1715 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5394/4 Neat Mirtle Barcelona, at 1 s. per Ounce.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *myrtle band, bark, blossom, bough, bower, branch, bud, bush, crown, flower, grove, leaf, oil, shade, shrub, spray, sprig, twig, walk, wand, wreath*; *myrtle-leaved, -like* adjs.; **myrtle bilberry** (see quot.); **myrtle bird** (U.S.), *Dendroica* (*Silvicola*) *coronata*, which feeds on the berries of the candleberry myrtle; **myrtle-bloom,** a myrtaceous plant; **myrtle candle,** a candle of myrtle-wax; **myrtle flag, grass,** *Acorus Calamus*; **myrtle green,** a shade of green like that of myrtle leaves; **myrtle-greener,** one who is dressed in myrtle green; **myrtle sedge** = *myrtle flag*; † **myrtle spurge,** a species of spurge having leaves like those of the myrtle; † **myrtle thrush,** ? nonce-transl. of Fr. (see quot.); **myrtle wax,** wax produced by the candleberry myrtle, *Myrica cerifera*; **myrtle wine,** wine made from myrtle-berries.

1667 MILTON *P. L.* IX. 431 Them she upstaies Gently with *Myrtle band. 1864 *Chamb. Encycl.* VI. 641/2 *Myrtle bark is used for tanning in many parts of the south of Europe. 1849 *Rural Cycl.* III. 538/1 *Myrtle Bilberry,—botanically *Vaccinium Myrtillus*. 1808–13 A. WILSON *Amer. Ornith.* (1831) II. 130 Yellow-rump Warbler...As December's snows come on, they retreat to the lower countries of the southern States, where..I found them..among the myrtles, from which circumstance, they were usually called, in that quarter, *myrtle birds. 1857 THOREAU *Autumn* (1894) 137, I see many myrtle birds now about the house. 1846 LINDLEY *Veget. Kingd.* 718 To *Myrtleblooms and Melastomads they [*sc.* Myrobalans] are related through Memecylon. 1817 SHELLEY *Rev. Islam* III. xxxiv. 6 The *myrtle-blossoms starring the dim grove. 1781 COWPER *Anti-Thelyphth.* 174 His steed.. Whose bridle..Hung not far off upon a *myrtle bough. 1784 — *Task* II. 215 Ausonia's..*myrtle bow'rs. 1611 BIBLE *Neh.* viii. 15 Pine branches, and *Myrtle branches. 1846 LINDLEY *Veget. Kingd.* 737 *Myrtle buds and berries. 1555 PHAER *Æneid* III. (1558) 49 With roddes vpright & braunches thick a *myrtyl bushe ther grew. 1791 JEFFERSON in *Harper's Mag.* (1885) Mar. 535/2 *Myrtle candles of last year out. 1813 SCOTT *Trierm.* I. xvi, One wreath'd them with a *myrtle crown. 1796 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) II. 344 *Myrtle Flag. Sweet Smelling Flag, or Calamus. Sweet *Myrtle-grass. 1684 R. WALLER *Nat. Exper.* 85 *Mirtle Flower water. ?1793 COLERIDGE *Lines Autumnal Even.* 52 Love..in Joy's red nectar dips His myrtle flower. 1858 R. S. SURTEES *Ask Mamma* 134 The Major in..a *myrtle-green coat. *Ibid.* 155 While the *myrtle-greeners and others distribute themselves..here, there, and everywhere. 1592 SHAKS. *Ven. & Ad.* 865 This said, she hasteth to a *myrtle grove. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XXIII. ix, The powder of drie *Myrtle leaves. 1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* III. xii. 9 The Morne-dew on the Mertle leafe. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. xii. 437/1 The Mirtle Leaf Pen-Knife, it is a Pen-Knife with two edges, resembling a Mirtle Leaf, or rather a Javeline head. 1849 M. ARNOLD *Mod. Sappho* 49 Hast thou with myrtle-leaf crown'd him, O Pleasure? 1731 MILLER *Gard. Dict.* s.v. *Rhus*, The *Myrtle-leav'd Sumach. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* Suppl. s.v. *Thymelæa*, Hoary *myrtle-like leaves. 1859 W. S. COLEMAN *Woodlands* (1866) 141 The yellow-green leaves..give out their myrtle-like odour. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. Table, *Mirtle oyle. 1611 COTGR. s.v. *Myrtin, Huile myrtin*, Mirtle oyle; oyle extracted from Mirtle leaues. 1855 PRATT *Flower. Pl.* V. 324 Sweet Sedge ..in some country places it is called *Myrtle Sedge. 1596 B. GRIFFIN in *Pass. Pilgr.* xi, Venus with Adonis sitting by her, Vnder a *Mirtle shade. 1611 COTGR., *Meurte sauvage*, the wild Mirtle tree, or *Mirtle shrub. 1562 TURNER *Herbal* II. 154, I knowe no Englisch name for it [*sc.* Myrtites], but it may he called *myrtel spourge. 1707 *Curios. in Husb. & Gard.* 154 The Wood-Spurge, the Cipress-Spurge, and the Mirtle-Spurge. 1611 COTGR. s.v. *Meurte, Oiseau de meurte*, a *Mirtle Thrush. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XV. xxix, Rings made of *Myrtle twigs. 1802 COLERIDGE *Picture* 27 No *myrtle-walks are these. 1629 MILTON *Hymn Nativ.* iii, And waving wide her *mirtle wand. 1763 *Ann. Reg.* 54 Candles, *myrtle wax, 14 boxes. 1766 STORK *Acc. E. Florida* 48 The myrtle-wax shrub is, without doubt, the most useful of the spontaneous growth of America. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* III. lxvii. 1227 Wine is made of Myrtle berries..this is called *Vinum Myrteum*, or *Myrtites*, *Myrtle wine. 1864 *Chamb. Encycl.* VI. 641/2 A Myrtle wine, called *Myrtidanum*, is made in Tuscany. 1784 COWPER *Task* II. 229 Who sell their laurel for a *myrtle wreath, And love when they should fight.

My·rtle, *v. Obs.* or *dial.* In 5 myrtil, 9 mirtle. [f. **murt* (cf. TO-MURT in *E. E. Allit. P.* C. 150) + -LE 3.] *intr.* To fall to pieces, crumble away.

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 4301 All maumentre in myddelerthe myrtlit to peses. *Ibid.* 4312 Bothe Mawhownus & maumettes myrtlid in peces. 1828 *Craven Gloss., Mirtle*, to waste away, crumble.

My·rtle-berry. a. The fruit of the myrtle (*Myrtus*). b. The bilberry or whortleberry. (Cf. OF. *myrtille*.) c. *Myrtle-berry wax* = myrtle-wax.

1579 LANGHAM *Gard. Health* (1633) 400 Myrtle beries are very good for them that spit, vomit, or pisse bloud. 1638 RAWLEY tr. *Bacon's Life & Death* (1650) 50 Unctuous and Comfortable things are, Saffron, Mastick, Myrrhe, and Myrtle-Berries. 1660 *Act* 12 *Chas. II*, c. 4 Mertle berries the pound—*js.* 1718 QUINCY *Compl. Disp.* 100 Myrtle-Berries are very rough and astringent. 1751 *Gent. Mag.* Feb. 52/1 The plants of Skiddow are the myrtle berries, generally called black-berries, the *vitis idæa* of Dioscorides. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 459/2 Myrtle-Berry Wax is obtained from the fruit of several species of Myrica.

My·rtle-tree. = MYRTLE 2, 2 c. (Cf. next.)

1548 TURNER *Names Herbes* (E. D. S.) 54 Myrtus is called ..in english a myrtle tree, or a myrt tree. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* III. v. 40. 1611 COTGR., *Meurte de Brabant*, the sweet shrub Gaule, or sweet Willow; the Dutch Mirtle tree. 1611 BIBLE *Isa.* lv. 13 In stead of the brier shall come vp the Myrtle tree. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. i. 117 There are none of them of a size to yield any considerable timber, except the myrtle-trees which are the largest on the Island. 1849 AYTOUN *Poems, Scheik of Sinai* v, Amidst the dark-green masses Of the flowering myrtle-trees.

† **Myrt-tree.** *Obs.* Also 6 **myrtre(e.** [See MYRT.] = MYRTLE 2, 2 b.

In second quot. used erron. (cf. note s.v. MYRRH-TREE).

1382 WYCLIF 2 *Esdras* (= *Neh.*) viii. 15 The braunchis of myrt tree. 1388 — *Esther* ii. 12 So oneli that thei weren anoyntid with oile of myrt tre [*oleo myrrhino*] bi sixe monethis. *c* 1510 BARCLAY *Mirr. Gd. Manners* (1570) F iij, The Myrtree and Orange by sea bankes doth growe. 1562 TURNER *Herbal* II. 60 b, The Wild Myrte tre, which is called in Englishe bochers brome. 1580 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 364 And in this poynt they [*sc.* women] are not vnlike vnto the Mirt [*ed.* 1581 Mirre] Tree. 1616 SURFL. & MARKH. *Country Farm* 290 The Myrt-tree, which craueth the same ground..that the Myrtle-tree, as being a kind of wild Myrtle-tree.

attrib. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VI. vii. *heading*, Eneas.. fand quene Dido in the myrtre schaw.

Myrtynmes, obs. f. MARTINMAS. **Myry,** obs. f. MERRY, MIRY. **Myrytayne,** obs. f. MARITIME. **Mys, Mys-:** see MISS, MIS-. **Myscelto, -towe, -tyne,** obs. ff. MISTLETOE. **Mysch(a(u)nt(e, -chea(u)nt(e,** var. MESCHANT *Obs.*

† **Myse.** *Obs.* [Form and origin doubtful.] Applied to the 'lice' (Vulg. *sciniphes*, LXX. *σκνῖφες*) of the third plagne of Egypt.

c 1440 *York Myst.* xi. 273 Lorde, grete myses bothe morn and none Bytis vs full hittirlye. [*c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* viii. 286 Greatte mystis.]

Myse, obs. pl. MOUSE *sb.*

Mysegging, obs. form of MISSAYING.

Myself (məise·lf, mise·lf), *pron.* Forms (see also SELF) : *α.* 1 **me siolf, sylf**, 2–3 **meseolf**, 3 **me sellf** (*Ormin*), **seolfan, suluen**, 4–6 **meself**, (6 **mee-**). *β.* 3 **mi-, myseolf**, (**-ve**), **-sulf**, (**-ve**), 3–4 **miself**, 4–5 **mi-**, 4–6 **myselve(n**, (5 **-sylf, -silven, -seluon, -yn**, 6 **selfin, sellf**), 5–7 **my-selfe**, 4– **my-self.** *γ. dial.* 6 **-sell**, 8–9 **mysel', mysel, mesel, mysen**, etc. (see E. D. D.). [orig. ME *acc.-dat. pron.* + SELF (q.v.); in OE. in two distinct constructions (see notes to senses I and 5). The transition from the form *meself* to *myself* was prob. due, partly to unstressing and obscuring of the vowel of *mē* (*mēse·lf, mĕse·lf, mise·lf*), partly to the analogy of *herself*, in which *her* was felt as a possessive genitive.]

I. Emphatic uses.

1. In apposition with the subject-pronoun *I*: In my own person; for my part.

In OE. *ic me self*, where *me* is a kind of ethical dative and the uninflected *self* is in apposition with *ic*.

α. 853 in Earle *Land-charters* 343 Ealle ða ȝerihte ða ic meseolf ær ahte. *c* 1200 ORMIN 16242, I me sellf shall reȝȝsenn itt þe þridde daȝȝ off dæþe. *c* 1205 LAY. 3214 Ne bidde ich nanne maðmes, me seolf ich habben inoȝe. *a* 1225 *St. Marher.* 11 Ich me seolf smelle of þe swote ihū swottre þen euer ani þing þ is on eorðe. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 5768 'Ga forth,' he said, 'wit-vten dred, For i me-self sal þe lede.' *c* 1330 *Amis & Amil.* 850 Y seighe it meself this ich day. 1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 66, I mee selfe stoode in neede of a comforter.

β. c 1205 LAY. 8816 Ah ich mi seolf neore & mine gode cnihtes i-numen weoren ure king. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 8361 Icholle to hom..& wiþinne vif dawes mid hom be mi sulf in bataile. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 722 Mi-self knowe ich nouȝt mi ken ne mi kontre noiþer. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 43, I am miselven on of tho, Which to this Scole am underfunge. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) xx. 221 He schalle not trowe it lightly : and treuly, no more did I my self, til I saughe it. *c* 1440 *Alph. Tales* lvii. 42 Nowder of þies two did itt, I did it my selfe. 1535 COVERDALE *Jer.* xxi. 5, I my selff will fight agaynst you. 1601 SHAKS. *Jul. C.* III. i. 236, I will my selfe into the Pulpit first. 1682 DRYDEN & LEE *Dk. Guise* I. i. (1683) 5, I will my self to Court. 1776 *Trial of Nundocomar* 92/1 Mohun Persaud..knew as little of Persian as I did myself. 1887 CARROLL *Game of Logic* i. § 1. 4 If there are any : I haven't seen many, myself. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* (1891) 320 Judge Shortcharge may be right, or he may be wrong, but he decides. I go for the judge myself.

γ. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* lx. 71 Gif I he ane of thay my

sell. 1790 Mrs. Wheeler *Westmld. Dial.* 50, I dunnet mitch heed me sel. 1864 Tennyson *Northern Farmer* viii, Theer wur a boggle in it, I often 'eärd 'um mysen.

† b. *Myself one*, or *alone*: by myself. Also (rare) simply *myself*. *Obs.*

c 1275 *Wom. Samaria* 31 in *O. E. Misc.* 85, I nabbe, heo seyde, nenne were, ich am my seolf al one. *c* 1325 *Song of Merci* 21 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 119 Ful stille .i. stod my self al on. *c* 1485 *E. E. Misc.* (Warton Club) 43 Bi a forrest as I gane fare, Walkyng al myselvene alone. 1535 Coverdale *Deut.* i. 9, I am not able to beare you my self alone. [So 1611.] *c* 1540 *Pilgrymes Tale* 168 in Thynne *Animadv.* (1875) 82 For that I was my-selue, & company had non. 1600 Shaks. *A. Y. L.* III. ii. 269, I had as liefe haue beene my selfe alone.

c. In apposition with *me*. *rare*.

13.. *R. Glouc. Chron.* (1724) 30 (MS. B), Ac for me my self, ich wol soþ segge of þis dede.

2. By ellipsis of *I*, *myself* comes to be used as a nominative. a. as simple subject. Now only *poet*.

The verb in concord is usually in the 1st person sing., † but occas. in the 3rd.

c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 543 Nay! sertes my-selue schal him neuer telle. *c* 1369 Chaucer *Dethe Blaunche* 34 My-selven can not telle why The sooth. *c* 1386 — *Wife's Prol.* 175 (Harl. MS.) My self haþ [*Ellesm.* haue, *other* 5 *MSS.* hath] ben þe whippe. 1450 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 176/1 Myself hath be armed in the Kynges daies. 1588 Shaks. *Tit. A.* IV. iv. 74 My selfe hath often heard them say,..That Lucius banishment was wrongfully. 1601 — *Jul. C.* IV. iii. 171 My selfe haue Letters of the selfe-same Tenure. 1634 T. Whalley in *Ussher's Lett.* (1686) 602 My self only think it not improbable, but that he might live there some Years. 1756 Toldervy *Hist. 2 Orphans* II. 59 Myself has received singular favours from the hands of the doctors Mead and Monro! 1859 FitzGerald tr. *Omar* xxvii, Myself when young did eagerly frequent Doctor and Saint. 1864 Browning *Death in Desert* Wks. 1896 I. 591/2 Before the point was mooted, 'What is God?' No savage man inquired, 'What am myself?'

b. As part of a compound subject or predicate, and after *than*, *as*. Also as simple predicate.

Except at the beginning of an enumeration, or as simple predicate, *myself* in this use now expresses no special emphasis, being preferred in order to avoid the awkwardness of *I*.

c 1386 Chaucer *Prol.* 546 Ther was also a Reve and a Millere,..A Maunciple, and my-self. 1606 Shaks. *Ant. & Cl.* II. v. 83 These hands do lacke Nobility, that they strike A meaner then my selfe. 1748 Richardson *Clarissa* III. xxiii. 136 Enough to make a better man than myself..run into madness. 1866 *Good Words* Aug. 544/2 One of our party and myself started on an expedition.

3. Substituted for Me as the object of a verb or governed by a preposition.

The use of *myself* as the sole or the first-mentioned object of a verb is now *arch.* In an enumeration, when not occupying the first place, it does not now express any special emphasis, being in this position commonly preferred to *me*.

c 1205 Lay. 403 Mine þralles i mire þeode me suluen [*c* 1275 mi-seolue] þretiað. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 1175 þe londes þat he has he holdes of mi-selue. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl. B.* xvi. 46 *Liberum arbitrium*..þat is lientenant to loken it wel by leue of my-selue. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 13177 Two sons..of the same kynges,..sesit my self, & my sure felow. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* xxxiv. 19 Thow salbe merchand for my sell, Renunce thy God and cum to me. 1593 Shaks. *2 Hen. VI*, III. ii. 59 And for my selfe, Foe as he was to me, [etc.]. 1789 Burns *To Dr. Blacklock* ii, He tauld mysel' by word o' mouth, He'd tak' my letter. 1809 Malkin *Gil Blas* v. i. P 18 Membrilla has neither chick nor child but myself. 1812 (*title*) The History of Myself and my Friend: a Novel. 1842 Borrow *Bible in Sp.* xxxviii, Several of the ultra-popish bishops..had denounced the Bible, the Bible Society, and myself. 1856 Ruskin *Mod. Paint.* IV. v. xx. § 1 To myself, mountains are the beginning and the end of all natural scenery.

4. (passing into *sb.*) My being or personality; my own or very self. † *Another myself* [after L. *alter ego*]: a second self, said of an intimate friend (cf. I *pron.* 4 b).

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 1 b, My wytte is gross, my selfe rude, and my tonge very harbarouse. 1574 Hellowes tr. *Guevara's Fam. Ep.* (1577) 113, I bewaile the death of my friend, which is another my selfe. 1592 Shaks. *Rom. & Jul.* II. ii. 49 And for thy name which is no part of thee, Take all my selfe. 1599 B. Jonson *Cynthia's Rev.* I. iv. (1616) 194 Your sweet disposition to trauaile..hath made you another my-selfe in mine eye. 1667 Milton *P. L.* v. 95 Best Image of my self and dearer half. 1690 Locke *Hum. Und.* II. xxvi. (1695) 188 That consciousness whereby I am my self to my self. 1768–74 Tucker *Lt. Nat.* (1834) I. 302 There might have been two myselves some thousands of miles apart. 1859 FitzGerald tr. *Omar* xx, To-morrow I may be Myself with Yesterday's Sev'n thousand Years. 1864 Jean Ingelow *Poems* 23 O, let me be myself! But where, O where,..Shall the myself be found? 1871 R. W. Dale *Commandm.* vi. 156 My life is not so sacred as myself.

b. *To be myself, to feel like myself*: to be, or feel as if I were, in my normal condition of body or mind.

1777 *Johnsoniana* 51, I am not at all myself this morning. *a* 1845 Hood *Lamia* i. 82, I was not quite myself—(not what I am). 1886 Besant *Childr. Gibeon* II. xix, It gave me such a shake as I never had before; I haven't felt like myself ever since.

II. Reflexive uses.

5. As direct or indirect obj., in acc. and inf. const., or in dependence on a prep. (Orig. only emphatic refl., but now in general use, replacing the refl. *me*, which is now only *arch.*: cf. Me *pron.* 5.)

In OE. recorded only in the acc., *self* being in concord with *me*.

837 *Will* in Thorpe *Dipl. Angl.* (1865) 476 Ic wille ærist me siolfne Gode allmehtzum forzeofan to ðere stowe æt Cristes cirican. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Gen.* xxii. 16 Ic swerige þurh me sylfne, sæde se ælmihtiga. *c* 1205 Lay. 828 Iche wlle þesne king læden mid me seolfan [*c* 1275 mi seolue]. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 9285, & wanne ich am encheson of such peril ywis Verst icholle þer inne do mi sulue. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 280, I am so with miselven vrothe. 1484 Caxton *Fables of Æsop* III. ii, By cause that I..fayned my self to be a medycyn. 1535 Coverdale *Gen.* iii. 10, I hyd my self. 1551–6 R. Robinson tr. *More's Utopia* (Arb.) 13 Such spare houres as..I..cold..winne to me self. 1624 Capt. Smith *Virginia* III. viii. 76 The loue I beare you, doth cause me thus nakedly to forget my selfe. 1671 Milton *P. R.* I. 204 Myself I thought Born to that end. 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 26 P 1, I very often walk by my self in Westminster Abbey. 1759 Johnson *Idler* No. 55 P 4, I acquainted myself with the black inhabitants of metallic caverns. 1811 (*title*) Thinks I to myself: a Novel. 1825 Lamb *Elia* II. *The Superannuated Man*, I had foolishly given a handle against myself. 1855 Dickens *Let. to Leigh Hunt* in *Cornh. Mag.* May (1892) 505, I..reject all engagements, to have my time to myself. 1891 Kipling *Light that Failed* v, I'm not going to belong to anybody except myself.

Mysell, var. Measle *a.*; dial. f. Myself. **Myselry**, var. Meselry. **Myselue(n, -on**, etc., obs. ff. Myself. **Myne mase**, obs. f. Mizmaze. **Mysen**, dial. f. Myself. **Mysentery**, obs. f. Mesentery. **Mysetente**: see Mistend. **Myseuse**, obs. f. Misuse *v.* **Myshef, -evouse**, obs. ff. Mischief, Mischievous.

‖ **Mysis** (mai·sis). [mod.L. (Latreille 1802), perh. a. Gr. *μύσις* closing of lips or eyes.] The typical genus of *Mysidæ* or opossum-shrimps.

1842 *Penny Cycl.* XXIII. 80/2 The second pair of antennæ are inserted below the preceding, as in *Mysis*. 1891 *Daily News* 29 Jan. 5/2 The shrimp-like mysis.

b. Used *attrib.* to denote the stage of certain decapods in which they resemble the genus *Mysis*.

1865 *Q. Jrnl. Sci.* II. 508 This Zöea-phase afterwards gives place to one which can only be called a *Mysis*-phase. 1872 Darwin *Orig. Spec.* xiv. 390 The mysis-stage.

Myskelen, obs. f. Maslin 2. **Myskidyd**: see Misguided. **Myslary**, var. Meselry. **Myslen**, obs. f. Maslin 2. **Mysomer**, obs. f. Midsummer. **Myson**, obs. f. Mizen.

‖ **Mysophobia** (məisŏfō·biă). [mod.L., f. Gr. *μύσος* neut., uncleanness: see -phobia.] Morbid dread of dirt or defilement.

1879 W. A. Hammond & W. J. Morton *Neurol. Contrib.* No. 1. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 878.

Mysorin (məisō·rin). *Min.* [ad. F. *mysorine* (Beudant), f. *Mysore*, an Indian province.] Anhydrous ortho-carbonate of copper, found in Mysore.

1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 336. 1854 Dana *Syst. Min.* (ed. 4) II. 458 Mysorin...Color blackish-brown, when pure.

Mysose, obs. f. Misuse *v.* **Myspeak** to **Myspend**: see Mis-speak to Mis-spend. **Myspylle**, var. Mespile. **Myss**, obs. f. Miss; obs. pl. of Mouse. **Myssanger**, obs. f. Messenger. **Myssell**, obs. f. Measle. **Mysselyng**, obs. f. Mizzling. **Myssen**, etc., obs. ff. Mizen. **Myssis**, obs. f. Misease. **Myssomer**(e, obs. ff. Midsummer. **Myssour, -uyr**, obs. Sc. ff. Measure. **Myssyfe**, etc., obs. ff. Missive.

Myst (mist). [ad. L. *mysta*, *mystēs* (see Mystes). Cf. F. *myste* (Rabelais).] A priest of the mysteries; one who is initiated into mysteries.

a 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. xlviii. 385 Those Mysts and Flamens. 1849 Grote *Greece* II. lxv. (1862) V. 589 Kleokritus—herald of the Mysts or communicants in the Eleusinian mysteries. 1856 R. A. Vaughan *Mystics* (1860) I. 15 The disciple admitted to these was a philosophical myst, or mystic.

Myst, obs. f. *might* (see May *v.*1 2 b *note*); obs. f. Mist, Most; see Mybe.

Mystacal (mi·stăkăl), *a.* [f. Gr. *μυστακ-*, *μύσταξ* Mystax + -al.] = Moustachial.

1888 P. L. Sclater *Argentine Ornith.* I. 200 A mystacal stripe formed of white spots with faint black edgings.

Mystacial (mistē·ʃiăl), *a.* Also **mystachial**. [Formed as prec. + -ial.] = prec.

1782 A. Monro *Compar. Anat.* (ed. 3) 92 The mystachial [suture], which reaches..from the lower part of the *septum narium* to between the two middle *dentes incisores*. 1842 *Trnl. Asiatic Soc. Bengal* (1844) XIII. i. 68 Mystacial regions defined by black. 1888 [see Moustachial].

Mystacine (mi·stăsəin), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. mod.L. *mystacīn-us*, f. Gr. *μυστακ-*, *μύσταξ* Moustache: see -ine.] a. *adj.* Having a fringe of hairs or moustachial streak above the mouth; *spec.* belonging to the genus *Mystacina* or group *Mystacinæ* of bats. So **Mystaci·nous** *a.* b. *sb.* A bat of this genus or group.

1839 J. O. Westwood *Introd. Mod. Classif. Insects* I. Gen. Syn. 143 Mouth mystacinous. 1876 *Van Beneden's Anim. Parasites* 251 The bat..*Vespertilio mystacinus*, harbours..the *Rictularia plagiostoma*...We have never met with this nematode in the mystacines of Belgium.

Mystacocete (mi·stăkosīt). *Zool.* [ad. mod.L. *Mystacocēt-us*, f. Gr. *μυστακ(ο)-*, *μύσταξ* upper lip, moustache + *κῆτος* whale. (App. formed as a correction of the unmeaning *mysticētus* Mysticete 1.)] A cetacean of the sub-order *Mystacoceti* or whalebone whales (opposed to *Odontoceti*).

1883 W. H. Flower in *Encycl. Brit.* XV. 393/1 The Mystacocetes appear at first sight to be the most specialized and aberrant of the existing *Cetacea*.

Mystagogic (mistăgo·dʒik), *a.* [ad. late L. *mystagōgic-us*, Gr. *μυσταγωγικός*, f. *μυσταγωγός* Mystagogue.] Pertaining to a mystagogue or mystagogy; relating to instruction in mysteries.

Used chiefly in englishings of St. Cyril of Jerusalem's *μυσταγωγικαὶ κατηχήσεις*.

1631 J. Burges *Answ. Rejoined, Lawfuln. Kneeling* 90, I will adde one Testimony more out of the Mystagogick catechisme of Cyrill. 1693 W. W. tr. *Dupin's Eccl. Hist.* II. 107 There are 5 others, called Mystagogick Lectures. 1871 Tyler *Prim. Cult.* II. 387. 1900 *Dublin Rev.* Apr. 261 The Testament includes a mystagogic instruction containing a far more..explicit statement of the Christian mysteries.

Mystagogical (mistăgo·dʒikăl), *a.* [Formed as prec.: see -ical.] = prec.

1624 Bp. Mountagu *Immed. Addr.* 91 Cyril of Ierusalem, if yet hee be the Author of those Mystagogical Catechismes vnder his name. 1644 Digby *Nat. Soul* Concl. 464 The mystagogicall illuminations of the great Areopagite. 1693 W. W. tr. *Dupin's Eccl. Hist.* II. 108 The 5 Mystagogical Catechisms. 1826 G. S. Faber *Diffic. Romanism* (1853) 249. 1853 R. I. Wilberforce *Doctr. Holy Eucharist* (ed. 2) 64.

Hence **Mystago·gically** *adv.*, as a mystagogue.

1836 *Fraser's Mag.* XIII. 488 That truly wonderful poet mystagogically represents the scribes of the periodical press.

Mystagogue (mi·stăgŏg). Also 7 **mysto-, mista-**; 6-**goge**. [ad. L. *mystagōg-us*, a. Gr. *μυσταγωγός*, f. *μύστης* Mystes + *ἄγωγος* leading, *ἄγειν* to lead. Cf. F. *mystagogue* (16th c.).]

1. In Ancient Greece: One who gave preparatory instruction to candidates for initiation into the Eleusinian or other mysteries. Hence *gen.*, one who introduces to religious mysteries, a hierophant; a teacher of mystical doctrines.

a 1550 *Image Hypocr.* IV. 139 in Skelton's Wks. (1843) II. 440/2 Mockinge mystagoges. 1682 tr. *Bonet's Merc. Compit.* Ep. Ded., The Egyptians..the first Mystogogues of all the Learning and Religion of the Ancients. 1711 G. Hickes *Two Treat. Chr. Priesth.* (1847) II. 10 A mystagogue is a priest who is a teacher of mysteries. 1751 Lavington *Enthus. Meth. & Papists* III. 336 The famous Porphyry, who was more a Philosopher than a Mistagogue. 1831 Carlyle *Sart. Res.* III. x, Some..individual named Pelbam, who seems to be a Mystagogue, and leading Teacher and Preacher of the Sect. 1845 J. H. Newman *Ess. Devel. Chr. Doctr.* vi. § 2. 342 Clement speaks of heretical teachers ..becoming mystagogues of misbelief. 1856 R. A. Vaughan *Mystics* (1860) I. 94 The Church is the great Mystagogue. 1891 R. Buchanan *Coming Terror* 344 The raving mystagogues of the East.

† **2.** One who keeps church relics and shows them to strangers. *rare*—0. 1656 Blount *Glossogr.*

Mystagogy (mi·stăgŏdʒi). [ad. L. *mystagōgi-a*, a. Gr. *μυσταγωγία*, f. *μυσταγωγός* Mystagogue.] Initiation, or instruction preparatory to initiation into mysteries.

1579 Fulke *Heskins' Parl.* 399 He [*sc.* Gregory Nazianzen] calleth it [the sacrament]..a holy and heauenly mystagogie. 1660 Ingelo *Bentiv. & Ur.* II. (1682) 172 He was so bold also to institute an obscene Mystagogy. 1876 R. P. Knight *Symbolic Lang.* 11 *note*, All theology among the Greeks is the outbirth of the Orphic Mystagogy. 1882–3 *Schaff's Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* II. 1602 Mystagogy..is applied..in the Greek Church, to the sacraments.

‖ **Mystax** (mi·stæks). *Ent.* [L., a. Gr. *μύσταξ* (see Moustache).] A line of stiff hairs or bristles above the mouth-cavity, as in certain *Diptera*.

1860 F. Walker in *Linn. Soc. Jrnl.* (1861) V. 234 *Laphria replens*..mystax with a few black bristles.

Mysteir, obs. form of Mister *sb.*1

Mysteltew, obs. form of Mistletoe.

Mysterial (mistī·riăl), *a.* Now *rare*. [ad. late L. *mystēriālis* (cf. *mystēriāliter* in Vulg.), f. *mystēri-um* Mystery 1. Cf. OF. *mysterial*.] Mysterious; † mystical.

[*c* 1425: implied in the adv.] *a* 1529 Skelton *Replyc.* 366 Howe there is a spyritual, And a mysteriall, And a mysticall Effecte energiall. 1630 B. Jonson *Love's Triumph* (1641) 149 Beauty and Loue, whose story is mysteriall. 1633 W. Ames *Fresh Suit agst. Ceremonies* I. 107 Except there be some mysteriall distinction understood betwixt Canons and Lawes. 1675 O. Walker, etc. *Paraphr. St. Paul* 79 *note*, The mysterial unity of Matrimony, by which two become one flesh. 1839 J. Rogers *Antipopopr.* xiii. § 2. 289 There is something mysterial and darkly declared. 1879 'Julian Home' *Sk. Camb.* 37 Mysterial music faintly breaks.

Hence † **Myste·rially** *adv.*, mystically.

c 1425 *Found. St. Bartholomew's* (E.E.T.S.) 7 The deuyl, the whiche in Ezechiel mysterially ys callid the grete egle.

Mysteriarch (mistī·riārk). [ad. eccl. L. *mystēriarch-ēs*, a. Gr. *μυστηριάρχ-ης*, f. *μυστήρι-ον* Mystery 1 + *-άρχης* ruling, *ἄρχειν* to rule.] One who presides over mysteries.

1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Mysteriarck*. *a* 1839 Galt *Demon Destiny* III. 22 Anon she saw a veil'd mysteriarch come. 1894 *Academy* 27 Aug. 137/2 It is she who gives our Lady the rapt gaze of a Mysteriarch.

† **Mysteri·fical**, *a. Obs.*—1 [f. L. *mystērium* Mystery 1: see -fical.] 'Creating' a mystery.

1607 R. C[arew] tr. *Estienne's World of Wonders* 272 This strange, mysticall, or mysterificall manner of sacrifice.

Mysteriosophy (mistī·riŏ·sŏfi). [f. Gr. *μυστήριο-ν* Mystery 1 + *σοφία* wisdom.] A system of doctrine concerning mysteries.

1894 Buchanan tr. *Harnack's Hist. Dogma* I. App. III. 354 Philosophy in Iamblichus becomes a theurgic mysteriosophy, spiritualism. 1899 Inge *Christian Mysticism* i. 4 The Neoplatonists, who found in the existing mysteriosophy a discipline..congenial to their speculative views.

Mysterious (mistĭəˑriəs), *a.* [f. L. *mystērium* MYSTERY [1] + OUS. Cf. F. *mystérieux.*]

1. Full of or fraught with mystery; wrapt in mystery; hidden from human knowledge or understanding; impossible or difficult to explain, solve, or discover; of obscure origin, nature, or purpose.

1622 MASSINGER & DEKKER *Virgin Martyr* IV. i. H 2 b, Turne ore all the volumes Of your mysterious Æsculapian science. 1632 MILTON *Penseroso* 147 Som strange mysterious dream. 1653 WALTON *Compl. Angler* 163 And as their breeding, so are their decayes also very mysterious. 1738 GRAY *Tasso* 56 Euphrates' font, and Nile's mysterious head. 1770 *Lett. Junius* XXXVI. 171 Your conduct has been mysterious as well as contemptible. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* VI. II. 153 Patrick and Jane had been seen going in at that mysterious door which led to Chiffinch's apartments. 1853 E. K. KANE *Grinnell Exped.* I. (1856) 13 It is a mysterious sea, that has baffled for centuries the research of navigators. 1893 *Sat. Rev.* 29 July 130 Certain of the chief inhabitants of the village..are discussing at the inn the mysterious death of the Squire.

b. Of words, language.

1616 BULLOKAR *Eng. Expos., Mysterious*, darke spoken in a mystery, hard to vnderstand. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* X. 173 God at last To Satan first in sin his doom apply'd Though in mysterious terms. 1791 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Rom. Forest* II, The sound of his steps..seemed like the mysterious accents of the dead. 1797 — *Italian* XVII, A few mysterious words having been exchanged. 1816 SHELLEY *Mont Blanc* 76 The wilderness has a mysterious tongue Which teaches awful doubt.

c. Of God, religion, rites.

1624 GATAKER *Transubst.* 94 The..Mysterie, or mysterious rite, as the word there vsed properly importeth. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IV. 750 Haile wedded Love, mysterious Law. 1773 COWPER *Olney Hymns* III. XV, God moves in a mysterious way His wonders to perform. 1857 P. FREEMAN *Princ. Div. Serv.* II. 14 In almost all cases in which a mysterious truth is propounded by Almighty God for our acceptance. 1881 P. BROOKS *Candle of the Lord* XVIII. 311 To the Christian, God is mysterious because He is radiant with infinite truth.

2. Of persons: †**a.** Dealing with or versed in mysteries; using occult arts. *Obs.* **b.** Whose movements are full of mystery; delighting in mystery.

1620 J. MELTON *Astrologaster* Ded. to E. Melton, The Misterious Egyptians..would excellently with their Pensils in liuely cullors..the ful shape & portraiture of a Hart, a Lyon, Lamb, or Hare. 1634 MILTON *Comus* 130 Mysterious Dame That ne're art call'd, but when the Dragon woom Of Stygian darknes spets her thickest gloom. 1789 E. DARWIN *Bot. Gard.* II. 24 You taught mysterious Bacon to explore Metallic veins. 1842 LYTTON *Zanoni* I. V, Accompanying this mysterious Zanoni. 1874 W. BLACK *Pr. Thule* II, Sheila.. is romantic and mysterious, and believes in..dreams.

3. a. That is due to a mystery. *rare.*

1667 MILTON *P. L.* VIII. 599 Though higher of the genial Bed by far, And with mysterious reverence I deem.

b. Having a sense of mystery. *rare.*

1897 KIPLING *Capt. Cour.* I. 5 It makes me feel mysterious to pass that butler's pantry place.

4. *Comb.*: **mysterious-spoken** *a.*, having a mysterious manner of speaking.

1837 DICKENS *Pickwick* XXII, An important-looking, sharp-nosed, mysterious-spoken personage.

Mysteriously, *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY 2.] In a mysterious manner; in or as in a mystery.

1638 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (ed. 2) 171 Mahomitan Princes are terrible crafty or mysteriously politicious. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* III. 516 Each Stair mysteriously was meant. *a* 1716 SOUTH *Serm.* (1744) VIII. v. 141 The blood of that son..so mysteriously, and yet so really, conveyed to us. 1738 WARBURTON *Div. Legat.* II. iv. (1846) 200 Every thing in these rites was mysteriously conducted, and under the most solemn obligations to secrecy. 1797 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Italian* VII, What but spirit could have quitted this vault so mysteriously? 1842 S. LOVER *Handy Andy* XXI, The mysteriously-sentimental and imaginative school. 1851 HELPS *Comp. Solit.* I. 8 *note*, Physicians' prescriptions may have a better effect for being expressed mysteriously, but legal matters cannot surely be made too clear. 1861 GEO. ELIOT *Silas M.* III, The rich..accepted gout and apoplexy as things that ran mysteriously in respectable families.

Mysteriousness (mistĭəˑriəsnės). [-NESS.]

1. The quality or condition of being mysterious or a mystery; the quality of being shrouded in mystery or obscurity: applied chiefly to the mysteries of religion.

1649 ROBERTS *Clavis Bibl.* 381 The mysteriousnesse and difficulty of the Book. 1664 H. MORE *Myst. Iniq.* 212 Profound veneration, which Obscurity and Mysteriousness conciliates to all Truths. 1754 SHERLOCK *Disc.* I. I. II. 65 The Mysteriousness of the whole Proceeding arises only from hence, That our finite Minds cannot comprehend the Reasons and Limits of the divine Justice. 1834 J. H. NEWMAN *Par. Serm.* I. XVI. 242 Such being the necessary mysteriousness of Scripture doctrine. 1883 F. M. PEARD *Contrad.* I. 2 Blue and shadowy depths suggested a soft mysteriousness.

†**b.** Applied to the Eucharist. *Obs.*

1650 JER. TAYLOR *Holy Living* IV. § 10. 347 The celebration of the holy Sacrament is the great mysteriousnesse of the Christian religion. 1660 — *Worthy Communn.* I. § 5. 95 Those great appelatives with which .. the most eminent Saints of God use to..invest the great mysteriousness.

2. The behaviour or attitude of one who makes a mystery of a matter.

1784 JOHNSON in *Johnsoniana* (1836) 407 Nothing ends more fatally than mysteriousness in trifles. 1791–1823 D'ISRAELI *Cur. Lit.* (1858) III. 332 Elizabeth all her life had persevered in an obstinate mysteriousness respecting the succession. 1886 *Manch. Exam.* 13 Jan. 5/1 There is an air of constitutional mysteriousness about them.

†**Mysterize** (mĭˑstərəiz), *v. Obs.* [f. MYSTERY [1] + IZE.] **a.** *trans.* To interpret mystically.

1650 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* V. X. 212 The Cabalists, ..mysterizing their ensignes, doe make the particular ones of the twelve Tribes, accommodable unto the twelve signes in the Zodiack.

b. *intr.* To make mysteries of things.

1845 T. COOPER *Purg. Suic.* I. lxxii, To mysterize I scorn.

Hence **Myˑsterizingness.**

1817 T. FORSTER *Observ. Infl. Atmosphere* IX. 46 How prone we are to abuse the natural instincts of hope, and mysterizingness.

Mystery [1] (miˑstəri). Forms: 4 mystri, 4, 6 -y, 4–6 mist-, mysterye, 4–7 -ie, 5–9 mistery, 6 mystyry, mistirie, mistrie, mysteri, 4– mystery. [a. AF. **misterie* (OF. *mistere*, mod.F. *mystère* masc.), = It. *misterio, mistero*, Sp. *misterio*, Pg. *mysterio*, ad. L. *mystērium*, a. Gr. *μυστήριον*, f. **μῡτ-*, root of *μύειν* to close (the lips or eyes): cf. *μύστης* MYSTES.

In classical Greek *μυστήριον* occurs chiefly in plural, denoting certain secret religious ceremonies (the most famous being those of Demeter at Eleusis) which were allowed to be witnessed only by the initiated, who were sworn never to disclose their nature. (See sense 9 below.) In the LXX the word occurs only in Daniel and the Apocrypha, where it has the sense of 'secret purpose or counsel' (esp. of a king or of God). This sense is found in the N. T., where the word also means sometimes a religious truth long kept secret, but now revealed through Christ to his Church, and sometimes anything that has a symbolic significance. In later Christian Greek *μυστήριον* became equivalent to SACRAMENT (in several passages the Vulgate renders it by *sacramentum*, even when it means only 'secret'; in other passages *mysterium* is retained). In OF. and English the Christian senses of the word naturally appear earliest.]

I. Theological uses.

†**1. a.** *In* or *through his mystery*: in or by its mystical presence. **b.** *In (a) mystery*: mystically.

c 1315 SHOREHAM *Poems* I. 672 Ac one gode aryȝt hyt nomeþ, þat body ine hys mysteryе. ?14.. *Plowman's Tale* 1219 His flesh and blood, through his mystry, Is there, in the forme of brede. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (1531) 31 God hath no suche bodyly membres, as this texte [*Exodus* xxxiii. 23] to the lettre dothe pretende to shewe: but all this was done in great mistery. 1533 FRITH *Answ. More* E 4 For we do yt not actualiye in dede, but onlye in a misterie. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 118 Whiche place..is to be understande in a mistery [L. *mystice*]. 1628 *Field's Of the Church* III. App. 205 The crucified body of Christ thy sonne, which is here present in mystery, and sacrament.

2. A religious truth known only from divine revelation; usually (cf. sense 5), a doctrine of the faith involving difficulties which human reason is incapable of solving.

1382 WYCLIF *Rom.* xvi. 25 The revelacioun of mysterie holdun stille..in tymes euerlastynge; the which mysterie is now maad opyn by scripturis of prophetis. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 238 All mysteryes of the oold and newe lawe. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VI. Prol. 143 The glorius modir..Quhilk of hir natur consavit Criste, and buir Al hail the misteris of the Trinite. 1549 *Bk. Com. Prayer, Litany*, By the misteryе of thy holy incarnacion,..Good Lorde deliuer vs. *a* 1568 ASCHAM *Scholem.* I. (Arb.) 82 They counte as Fables, the holie misteries of Christian Religion. 1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* V. lii. § 1 This diuine mysterie [of the Incarnation] is more true then plaine. 1720 SWIFT *Let. to Yng. Clergyman* Wks. 1751 V. 24, I do not find, that you are any where directed in the Canons or Articles to attempt explaining the Mysteries of the Christian Religion. 1784 COWPER *Task* II. 528 'Tis revelation satisfies all doubts, Explains all mysteries, except her own. 1855 BREWSTER *Newton* II. xxiv. 359 The investigation of the sacred mysteries, while it prepared his own mind for its final destiny, was calculated to promote the spiritual interests of thousands. 1894 ILLINGWORTH *Personality* iii. 68 In the presence of a fact which..was a mystery—a thing which could be apprehended when revealed, but could neither be comprehended nor discovered.

3. A religious ordinance or rite, *esp.* a sacramental rite of the Christian religion; *spec.* (*pl.*) the Eucharist; *occas.* the consecrated elements.

1506 *Ord. Crysten Men* (W. de W.) I. iii. C 8 Many of the mysteryes afore sayd be done at the chirche dore and not within ye chirche. *c* 1532 DU WES *Introd. Fr.* in *Palsgr.* 1064 The mystery of the masse. 1549 *Bk. Com. Prayer, Matrimony*, O God, which hast consecrated the state of matrimonie, to such an excellent misterie, that in it is signified and represented the spiritual mariage & vnitie betwixte Christ and his church. *Ibid., Communion*, Wee moste hartely thanke thee, for that thou hast vouchsafed to feede vs in these holy Misteries [1552 to fede vs, whiche haue duely receiued these holy misteries]. 1662 J. DAVIES tr. *Mandelslo's Trav.* 30 His mouth and nose were covered with a linen cloth, lest the impurity of his breath should profane the mystry. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 189 But seeing there is no Mystery in that Chappel, it is left without any Lamp, nay without any cross too. 1693 W. W. tr. *Dupin's Eccl. Hist.* II. 108 *note*, Concerning the Holy Mysteries of the Altar. 1737 WESLEY in *Wks.* (1872) I. 54, I will administer to you the mysteries of God. 1850 NEALE *Hist. East. Ch.* I. 1013 In proceeding to the consideration of the three next mysteries of the Eastern Church, penance, matrimonial coronation, and the prayer-oil. 1854 MILMAN *Lat. Chr.* III. vii. (1864) II. 155 Within [the sacred edifices] were the reliques of the tutelar saint, the mysteries and the presence of the Redeemer.

4. An incident in the life of our Lord or of the Saints regarded as an object of commemoration in the Christian church or as having a mystical significance. Hence, each of the fifteen divisions of the rosary corresponding to the 'mysteries of redemption'.

1655 JER. TAYLOR *Golden Grove* 57 Meditate on the passion of our blessed Saviour and all the mysteries of our Redemption. *Ibid.* 59 Upon the Holy-days..let the matter of your meditations be according to the mystery of the day. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 195 We went in Procession through all the Sanctuaries of the great Church, where all the mysteries of the Passion were represented to the Life. 1705 NELSON *Fest. & Fasts* Prelim. Instr. 8 If we commemorate any Mystery of our Redemption. 1835 *Penny Cycl.* IV. 79/1 A chaplet..divided into three sets, white, red, and damask roses, corresponding to the joyful, sorrowful, and glorious mysteries. 1852 MRS. JAMESON *Leg. Madonna* Introd. p. lxi, Another cycle of subjects consists of the fifteen Mysteries of the Rosary.

II. Non-theological uses.

5. A hidden or secret thing; a matter unexplained or inexplicable; something beyond human knowledge or comprehension; a riddle or enigma.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 1194 To þat pryncez paye hade I ay bente..To mo of his mysterys I hade ben dryuen. 1382 WYCLIF *Dan.* ii. 27 The mysterie whiche the kyng axith, the wise men..mown not shewe to the kyng. *c* 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 44 Daniel, ouercomer of lyouns, saw misteris of priui þingis. *c* 1550 CHEKE *Matt.* xiii. 11 A mysteri is a secret and an hiden thing, which ought not to be schewed abrood. 1598 B. JONSON *Ev. Man in Hum.* II. ii, To meditate Vpon the difference of mans estate: Where is deciphered to true iudgements eye A deep, conceald, and precious misterie. 1638 JUNIUS *Paint. Ancients* 27 The great interpreter of the mysteries of Nature. 1731 BAILEY vol. II, *Mysteries* (in *Numbers*), the number 5 multiplied by 5, makes 25; and 4 multiplied by 4, makes 16; and 3 multiplied by 3, makes 9; but 9 and 16 is equal to 25. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* VII. 501 'Tis immortality decyphers man, And opens all the myst'ries of his make. 1821 BYRON *Two Fosc.* II. i, *Doge.* I am what you behold. *Mar.* And that's a mystery. 1836 MACGILLIVRAY *Trav. Humboldt* XVIII. 246 There are mysteries in the affections and hatreds of animals. 1867 DK. ARGYLL *Reign of Law* I. 15 The relation in which God stands to those rules of His government which are called 'laws', is, of course, an inscrutable mystery to us. 1869 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1875) III. xii. 85 There was a mystery about the marriage. 1870 DICKENS (*title*) The Mystery of Edwin Drood. 1892 WESTCOTT *Gospel of Life* 1 [Christianity] does not introduce fresh mysteries into the world: it meets mysteries which already exist.

†**b.** A personal secret. *Obs.*

1529 MORE *Dyalogue* I. Wks. 124/2 Let ye knowlege of the father alone therefore amonge our wifes misteryes. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* III. ii. 382 You would pluck out the heart of my Mysterie. 1604 — *Oth.* IV. ii. 30. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 13 The servant answered that the old woman was in bed and that he knew not the mystery, whether any eggs were in the house or no.

c. A political or diplomatic secret; a secret of state. *Obs.* exc. as a contextual use of the general sense. [Cf. F. *mystère d'état.*]

a 1618 RALEIGH *Maxims of State* (1642) 9 Mysteries or Sophismes of State, are certaine secret practizes, either for the avoiding of danger; or averting such effects as tend to the preservation of the present State, as it is set or founded. 1622 BACON *Hen. VII* 43 Touching the Mysterie of reannexing of the Duchy of Britainie to the Crowne of France ..the Ambassadours bare aloofe from it. 1658–9 CHALONER in *Burton's Diary* (1828) III. 130 Every secretary ought to write what is to pass a Parliament, not as he writes his mysteries. *a* 1704 T. BROWN *Praise Poverty* Wks. 1730 I. 89 Half-politicians maxims called mysteries of state. 1857 BUCKLE *Civiliz.* I. xii. 668 They heard..mysteries of state and mysteries of creed unfolded..to the popular gaze.

d. *To make a mystery of*: to treat as a secret; to keep (a thing) secret in order to make an impression. [Cf. F. *faire (un) mystère de.*]

1634 W. TIRWHYT tr. *Balzac's Lett.* III. x. 248, I cannot.. make of euery meane matter a mystery by whispering it in the eare. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 2 Making a mystery of nothing, and frankly discoursing with any man upon what Subject he proposes. 1720 OZELL tr. *Vertot's Rom. Rep.* I. IV. 196 The Consuls always made a Mystery to the People of those first Elements of their Juris-Prudence. 1834 HT. MARTINEAU *Farrers* III. 35 He made no mysteries, but told all that he was asked to tell. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 578 As manufacturers make no mystery of this matter, any person may have an opportunity of inspecting the operation. 1841 BORROW *Zincali* I. II. I. 58 Nor did he make a mystery of his knowledge, but publicly boasted of it.

¶**e.** The biblical phrase *mystery of iniquity* [Vulg. *mysterium iniquitatis*, Gr. *τὸ μυστήριον τῆς ἀνομίας*], by association with various senses of this word, has been used in many different applications.

1382 WYCLIF 2 *Thess.* II. 7 Forwhi the mysterie, or priuyte, of wickidnesse worchith now [1526 TINDALE the mistery off iniquytie]. 1545 BALE (*title*) A mysterye of inyquyte contayned within the heretycall Genealogye of Ponce Pantolabus. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 571 If I might, with the Readers patience, I would adde somewhat of their Mysterie of iniquitie, and the mysticall sense of this iniquitie. 1647 N. BACON *Disc. Govt. Eng.* VII. 24 If God had not given them over to thraldom under that mistery of iniquity, of sinful man aspiring into the place of God. 1756 BURKE *Vind. Nat. Soc.* 38 The Whole of this Mystery of Iniquity is called the Reason of State. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* XVII. IV. 52 This mystery of iniquity [*sc.* a plot against William III] has..been gradually unveiling. 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 28 Aug. 3/2 The great city [of London] is full of many mysteries—not a few of them..mysteries of iniquity.

6. In generalized sense. **a.** The condition or property of being secret or obscure; mysteriousness. Also, mysteries collectively, mysterious matter.

Phrase, *wrapped in mystery.*

1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* V. iii. 103 Platus himselfe,..Hath not in natures mysterie more science, Then I haue in this Ring. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* VII. 134 And virtue vies with hope in mystery. 1788 REID *Aristotle's Log.* IV. § 2. 74 This is the mystery contained in the vowels of those barbarous words. 1818 COLERIDGE *Friend* I. XIII. 161 The mystery and the dignity of our human nature. 1835 THIRLWALL *Greece* VI. I. 247 The origin of the Homeric poetry is wrapt in mystery.

1856 KINGSLEY *Lett.* (1878) I. 467 Everywhere, skin deep below our boasted science, we are brought up short by mystery impalpable. 1865 G. MACDONALD *A. Forbes* 18 In all the enhancing mystery of candlelight. 1883 H. DRUMMOND *Nat. Law in Spir. W.* Introd. 28 A Science without mystery is unknown; a Religion without mystery is absurd.

b. The behaviour or attitude of mind of one who makes a secret of things (often intrinsically unimportant) usually for the purpose of exercising undue power or influence.

1692 DRYDEN *St. Evremont's Ess.* 309 Questions, which should be handled with a great deal of Mystery and Secrecy. 1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* II. vii, He professed..to..despise all Mystery, Refinement, and Intrigue, either in a Prince or a Minister. 1821 BYRON *Mar. Fal.* III. ii, Israel, speak; what means this mystery? 1832 tr. *Sismondi's Ital. Rep.* ix. 218 The senate joined to this rigour the perfidy and mystery which characterise an aristocracy.

† **7.** Obscure or mysterious reason; hidden or mystic meaning. *Obs.*

14.. in *Tundale's Vis.* (1843) 134 Grete mystery is in both tweyne: The toon [turtle] comendyd for his chastite And the tother [dove]..Is symple and meke. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) III. 103 Seynte Mathewe th' Euangeliste assignethe xiiij. generaciones, for the cause of a certeyne mistery [TREVISA: som priue menynge]. 1591 HARINGTON *Orl. Fur.* Pref. P iv, The ancient Poets haue..wrapped..in their writings diuers..meanings, which they call the sences or mysteries thereof. 1598 BARRET *Theor. Warres* IV. i. 100 Is there any meaning or misterie in marching the left or right side shot before in the vantgard? 1658 SIR T. BROWNE *Hydriot.* iii. 30 Most [urns] imitate a circular figure..whether from any mystery, best duration or capacity, were but a conjecture. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 82 Nor shall I speak of their Sacerdotal Vestments, which have their Mysteries.

8. An action or practice about which there is, or is supposed to be, some secrecy; a 'secret' or highly technical operation in a trade or art. Now often *trivial*. (Cf. MYSTERY[2] 2, 2 b.)

1594 GREENE & LODGE *Looking Gl.* (1598) B 2, He was the first man that euer instructed me in the mysterie of a pot of Ale. 1607 NORDEN *Surv. Dial.* I. 6 And of whom such land is holden, the same is called the Lord of that land after a sort [etc.]..as if you be so willing as you seeme to talke of these mysteries, you shall anon perceiue. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* III. 80 They forbad the English..to dwell in Poland.. lest they should..find the mysteries of the trade. 1706 E. WARD *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 61 The Mystery of his Art and Science, consists in a long List of Fustian Words and Phrases. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. 263, I let him into the Mystery, for such it was to him, of Gunpowder and Bullet. 1808 HAN. MORE *Cœlebs* I. xxi. 305 No man is allowed to set up in an ordinary trade till he has served a long apprenticeship to its mysteries. 1827 DISRAELI *Viv. Grey* v. v, The mysteries of rouge et noir. 1837 — *Venetia* I. ix, Harassed with all the mysteries of packing.

9. Chiefly *pl.* In the religious systems of Ancient Greece, Rome, Egypt, etc., certain secret rites to which only the initiated were admitted.

1643 [see ELEUSINIAN]. 1738 WARBURTON *Div. Legat.* II. iv. (1846) 194 The first and original Mysteries, of which we have any sure account, were those of Isis and Osiris in Egypt. 1849 GROTE *Greece* II. lxiv. (1862) V. 484 Until that day of the month Boedromion (about the beginning of September) when the Eleusinian mysteries were celebrated.

b. The secrets of freemasonry.

1738 J. ANDERSON *Const. Fratern. Free Masons* 150 The G. Master shall ask his Deputy, if he..finds the Candidate Master well skill'd in the Noble Science and the Royal Art, and duly instructed in our Mysteries? 1872 C. I. PATON *Freemasonry* II. i. 50 Every candidate for initiation into the mysteries of Freemasonry.

10. Used by modern writers (after F. *mystère*, med.L. *mystērium*) as a name for the miracle-play.

A distinction has been drawn by some writers between 'mystery' and 'miracle-play' (see quot. 1875), but this is not generally accepted.

[This sense has been often erroneously referred to MYSTERY[2] on the ground of the undoubted fact that the miracle-plays were often acted by the mysteries or trade guilds.]

1744 DODSLEY *O. Pl.* I. Pref. p. xiii, The mysteries only represented in a senseless manner some miraculous History from the Old or New Testament. 1773 J. HAWKINS *Orig. Eng. Drama* Pref. p. vii, One of the first improvements on the old Mystery was the Allegorical Play, or Morality. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xvii, My wife, sir, hath played the devil ere now, in a Mystery, in Queen Mary's time. 1838 PRESCOTT *Ferd. & Is.* xx. (1846) II. 211 The sacred plays, or mysteries, so popular throughout Europe, in the middle ages. 1875 A. W. WARD *Eng. Dram. Lit.* I. 23 Properly speaking, Mysteries deal with Gospel events only...Miracle Plays, on the other hand, are concerned with incidents derived from the legends of the saints of the Church.

11. = MEDICINE *sb.* 4, 4 b. (Cf. *mystery-man.*)

1841 CATLIN *N. Amer. Indians* I. xii. 87 The whole village ..with..its medicines (or mysteries) and scalp-poles waving over my head. *Ibid.* xv. 106, I..have been regularly installed medicine or mystery.

12. In technical use. **a.** A kind of fly for salmon fishing. **b.** An alloy of platinum, tin, and copper, imitating gold. **c.** A kind of plum cake.

a. 1867 F. FRANCIS *Angling* xi. (1880) 427 No. 1 is called The Mystery. 1902 *Encycl. Brit.* XXV. 446/1 Lightly dressed flies..such as the Sun-fly and the Mystery.

b. 1885 *Standard* 8 Apr. 6/4 There was not a particle of gold in it. It was made of a composition called 'mystery', composed of platinum, tin, and copper.

c. 1889 R. WELLS *Bread & Biscuit Baker's Assist.* 58 Mystery or Cheap Plum Cake at 3*d.* per lb. 8 lbs. of common flour, 3 lbs. of brown sugar, 1 lb. of lard [etc.].

III. 13. *attrib.*, as *mystery-monger, -priest*; **mystery gold** = 11 b; **mystery-man**, one who works or has to do with 'mysteries', *esp.* a conjuror, a medicine-man; **mystery-play** = sense 10.

1887 J. HUTCHISON *Pract. Banking* III. 681 *note*, A great number of spurious sovereigns and half-sovereigns are in circulation...Those made of '*mystery gold'..stand the tests of the ordinary acids. 1841 CATLIN *N. Amer. Indians* I. vi. 39 Their physicians, who are also medicine (or *mystery) men. 1865 J. BRIGHT in *Daily Tel.* 13 July, Mr. Disraeli..is what among a tribe of Indians would be called the 'mystery man'. 1772 NUGENT *Hist. Fr. Gerund* II. 362 He was..a whisperer, and a *mystery-monger. 1885 *Expositor* I Sept. 191 We are no muttering mystery-mongers. 1852 YONGE *Cameos* IV. ix. (1877) 108 Keillar was summoned before Cardinal Beaton..for having written a *mystery-play. 1751 LAVINGTON *Enthus. Meth. & Papists* III. 385 Jannes and Jambrees, who opposed Moses..when the Jews were expelled Egypt, were Egyptian *Mystery-Priests.

Mystery[2] (mi·stəri). Forms: as in prec. Also 9 *arch.* **mistery.** [ad. med.L. *misterium*, altered form of *ministerium* (MISTER *sb.*[1]) by confusion with *mystērium* MYSTERY[1]. In senses 2–4 there was prob. confusion with *maistrie*, MASTERY.

In med.L. *mistera* was a form commonly used with senses 2 and 3.]

† **1.** Service, occupation; office, ministry. *Obs.*

c 1386 CHAUCER *Pars. T.* P 821 Preestes been aungeles, as hy the dignitee of hir misteryе. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) V. 195 Paphnucius goenge to visitte a broþer laborynge in infirmite, causede the sonne to stonde stille thro his preyer, un tille that he hade fullefillede his mistery. 1509 FISHER *Funeral Serm. C'tess Richmond* Wks. (1876) 309 [She] was borne vp in to the countre aboue with the blessyd aungelles deputed..to that holy mystery. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* K vii b, None should be taken from the misterie and office that he occupied.

† **b.** Something helpful. *Obs.*

1581 MULCASTER *Positions* xxxiv. 122 We..may not neglect so great a misterie for our owne health, as exercise is.

2. Handicraft; craft, art; (one's) trade, profession, or calling. Now *arch.*

The identity of the word in the first quot. is doubtful; cf. the variants.

a 1375 *Cursor M.* 13142 (Fairf.) Ho daunsed & sange to tumble with-al,..for ho sa wele hir mystri [*Cott.* mister, *Gött.* maistri] coupe. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* xliii. 171 (Harl. MS.) He sente messageris..to loke yf eny swiche myght be founde, þat coude make swiche a shirte, but they coude fynde noon, but that they wer..vncunnynge in the mystery. 1536 CROMWELL in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) II. 27 Brought up in some good literature occupacion or misterie. *c* 1550 *Disc. Common Weal Eng.* (1893) 128 Bristowe had a greate trade by making of poyntes, and was the cheifest misterie that was exercised in the towne. 1594 WEST *2nd Pt. Symbol.* § 220 Unto the name of the partie indicted must be vnited the addition of his estate, degree, or misterie. 1609 TOURNEUR *Funeralle Poeme* Wks. 1878 I. 179 And out of his owne morall character He might have learn'd his mysterie of warre. 1612 WOODALL *Surg. Mate* Wks. (1653) Pref. 1 That noble Science or Mystery of the healing mans body. 1647 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* IV. § 41 That great and admirable mystery, the Law. *a* 1661 FULLER *Worthies* (1662) I. xvi. 48 Seeing the whole mistery of Heraldry dwells more in the region of fancie, than judgment. 1727–52 CHAMBERS *Cycl., Additions of Mystery*, are such as scrivener, painter, mason, and the like. 1756 BURKE *Vind. Nat. Soc.* 33 The Invention of Men has been sharpening and improving the Mystery of Murder. 1800 COLERIDGE *Piccolom.* I. ii, The sum of war's whole trade and mystery. 1827 HALLAM *Const. Hist.* vi. (1876) I. 326 Those arts of management which his successors have always reckoned so essential a part of their mystery. 1872 TENNYSON *Last Tourn.* 327 Thy Paynim bard Had such a mastery of his mystery That he could harp his wife up out of hell.

b. *Art and mystery*: a formula usually employed in the indentures by which apprentices are bound to a trade; also *transf.* (Cf. MYSTERY[1] 8.)

1617 *Borough Deeds Maldon* (Essex) Bundle 148 No. 5 [To] instruct the said John Wormell in the said science nistery and trade of a woollen draper. 1660 R. MAY (*title*) The Accomplisht Cook, or the art and mystery of cookery [etc.]. 1680 COTTON (*title*) The Compleat Gamester...To which is Added, The Arts and Mysteries of Riding [etc.]. 1765 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* I. 426 This is usually done to persons of trade, in order to learn their art and mystery. 1856 BOUVIER *Law Dict.* II. 196/2 Masters..bind themselves in the indentures with their apprentices to teach them their art, trade, and mystery.

† **c.** Skill, art. *Obs.*

1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* III. vi. 68 If you thinke your mysterie in stratagem, can bring this instrument of honour againe into his natiue quarter. 1624 FORD & DEKKER *Sun's Darling* IV. i. (1656) 33 Mistery there, like to another nature, Confects the substance of the choisest fruits, In a rich candy. 1661 T. CAMPION *Setting of Mus.* in Playford *Skill Mus.* (1662) 95 We must consider whether the Bass doth rise or fall, for in that consists the mystery.

3. A trade guild or company. *arch.* or *Hist.*

14.. *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 390/2 By the sight of Men of the same Misterie. ? *a* 1500 *Chester Pt.* (E.E.T.S.) Banes 59 That by twentye fower occupations, artes, craftes or misterie, these pagente shulde be played. 1530 in S. Young *Ann. Barber-Surgeons* (1890) 579 The Maisters and Wardens of the misterie or Crafte of Barbor Surgions of the Citie of London. 1553 in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1589) 259 M. Sebastian Cabota.. gouernour of the mysterie and companie of the Marchants aduenturers. 1618 in Rymer *Fœdera* (1710) XVII. 78 The Master and Wardens of the Misterie of Stationers. 1708 J. CHAMBERLAYNE *St. Gt. Brit.* I. III. x. 29 Each Company or Mystery hath a Master annually chosen from among themselves. 1823 SCOTT *Quentin D.* xix, President of the mystery of the workers in iron.

4. *attrib.*: †**mystery-man** *nonce-wd.* (see quot.).

1626 BACON *New Atl.* (1650) 33 Wee have Three that Collect the Experiments of all Mechanicall Arts; And also of Liberall Sciences; [etc.]..These we [*sc.* the people of 'New Atlantis'] call *Mystery-men.

‖ **Mystes** (mi·stīz). [L., a. Gr. *μύστης*, agent-n. f. **μυ-*, root of *μύειν* to close (the lips or eyes): the primary sense is prob. 'one vowed to keep silence'. Cf. Gr. *μυεῖν* (*μύειν*) to initiate into mysteries.] One initiated into mysteries.

1676 GLANVILL *Ess. Philos. & Relig.* IV. 41 Abraham (as Grotius collects from Ancient History) a great Mystes in the Knowledge of the Stars. 1677 B. RIVELEY *Serm. Funeral Bp. Norwich* 26 There are few kinds of Literature but he was a *Mystes* in them. 1778 APTHORP *Lett. on Prev. Christ.* (1778) 360 After having undergone the formalities, the aspirant became a *mystes*. 1904 *Expositor* Apr. 256 The instructions were given to the *mystes* [etc.].

Mysti, obs. form of MISTY.

Mystic (mi·stik), *a.* and *sb.* Forms: 4 **mystyke, -ik,** 5 **-ike,** 4 **mistyk,** 6 **-ik,** 7 **mysticke, -ique, misticke, -ique,** 7–8 **-ick, mystick,** 4– **mystic.** [a. OF., F. *mystique* = It. *mistico*, Sp. *místico*, Pg. *mystico*, ad. L. *mysticus*, a. Gr. *μυστικός*, f. *μύστης* MYSTES.] **A.** *adj.*

1. Spiritually allegorical or symbolical; of the nature of, or characteristic of, a sacred mystery; pertaining to the mysteries of the faith. Also (more definitely) = MYSTICAL *a.* 1, but now somewhat rhetorical in tone.

1382 WYCLIF *Bible, Ep. Jerome* vii, James, Petre, Joon, Jude, seuene epistlis maden as wel mistik as redi [orig. *tam mysticas quam succinctas*]. 1490 CAXTON *Eneydos* ix. 37 To rendre theym from theyr lacyuyte, in-to pudike, mystike, and shamefaste chastyte. 1535 JOVE *Apol. Tindale* (Arb.) 36 Not in a mistik allegory. 1552 ABP. HAMILTON *Catech.* (1884) 16 The haly kirk is callit the mistike bodye and spouse of Christ. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* II. 69 b, The holy Scripture dooth teache a more hygher and mysticall [orig. *reconditam*] consyderation. 1648 J. BEAUMONT *Psyche* VII. xcii, For genuine Divinity Shall be engag'd, but in a mistick fashion, In all the bus'ness of his Generation. 1656 COWLEY *Davideis* II. 48 Thy right hand does bold The mystick Scepter of a Cross of Gold. 1827 KEBLE *Chr. Y., Tues. in Whitsun week*, The mystic Dove Hovering His gracious brow above. 1849 CASWALL *Lyra Cath.* 55 Offerings of mystic meaning!—Incense doth the God disclose [etc.]. 1879 FARRAR *St. Paul* I. 3 The mystic union of the soul with Christ.

b. *Mystic testament* [= F. *testament mystique*]: in the law of Louisiana, a sealed testament.

1856 BOUVIER *Law Dict.* II. 581/1 A mystic testament is also called a solemn testament, because it requires more formality than a nuncupative testament. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 574/1 A special form of will, borrowed from Roman law, called the mystic or sealed will.

2. Pertaining to the ancient religious mysteries or to other occult rites or practices; occult, esoteric.

1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 79 Drinke three, or three thrice told, A mysticke law of old. 1617 DRAYTON *Moone-Calfe, Bat. Agincourt*, etc. 175 When turning ouer his most mistique bookes, Into the secrets of his Art he lookes. 1643 MILTON *Divorce* II. iv. Wks. 1851 IV. 73 Their filthines was hid, but the mystick reason thereof known to their Sages. 1648 HERRICK *Hesper., His Fare-well to Sack*, 'Tis thou, alone, who with thy Mistick Fan, Work'st more then Wisdome, Art, or Nature can. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* XI. 59 And mutter'd vows, and mystick song apply'd To grisely Pluto, and his gloomy bride. 1785 BURNS *Addr. Deil* xiv, When Masons' mystic word an' grip, In storms an' tempests raise you up. 1805 SCOTT *Last Minstr.* V. xxvii, Car'd not the Ladye to betray Her mystic arts in view of day. 1835 THIRLWALL *Greece* I. iii. 65 The mystic rites of Demeter. 1875 MANSEL *Gnostic Heresies* iii. 41 Some of these..prepare a bridal chamber, and perform certain mystic rites of initiation.

† **3.** Secret, concealed. *Obs.* (Cf. MYSTICAL 4.)

a 1625 FLETCHER *Noble Gent.* IV. v. (1647) 42/2 These are but illusions to give couller To your most misticke leacherie! 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Æneid* I. 357, I have search'd the mystic rolls of Fate [L. *fatorum arcana*].

4. The distinctive epithet of that branch of theology which relates to the direct communion of the soul with God; hence, pertaining to or connected with this branch of theology. Now *rare*; cf. MYSTICAL 5.

1639 N. N. tr. *Du Bosq's Compl. Woman* II. 29 Saint Bridget hath written so well of the Mistick Theology, that even the learnedest men admire her doctrine. 1727–52 CHAMBERS *Cycl., Mystic theology* denotes a refined and sublime kind of divinity, professed by the mystics. 1765 MACLAINE tr. *Mosheim's Eccl. Hist.* Cent. xiii. II. iii. § 4 The Mystic doctors carried this visionary method of interpreting scripture to the greatest height. 1854 MILMAN *Lat. Chr.* VIII. v, The difficult and mystic work which bore the name of Dionysius the Areopagite.

5. Of hidden meaning or nature; enigmatical, mysterious. (Cf. MYSTICAL 2.)

a 1631 DONNE *Elegies* viii. Poems (1633) 55 Foole, thou didst not understand The mystique language of the eye nor hand. 1693 J. EDWARDS *Author. O. & N. Test.* I. 187 The antient Sages and Philosophers were obscure and mystick in their Stile. 1727 DE FOE *Syst. Mag.* I. iii. 66 These mystick Characters were the Original of all the Hyeroglyphick Writing. 1791 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Rom. Forest* (1820) II. 61 Her mind..rejected the mystic and turbulent promptings of imagination. 1807 tr. *Three Germans* I. 48 He sighed for the explanation to Holstein's mystic conduct. 1810 SIR A. BOSWELL *Edinb.* Poet. Wks. (1871) 53 [In the game of hopscotch] There, on the pavement, mystic forms are chalk'd. 1819 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* xxxviii, Is there no leech here who can tell us the ingredients of this mystic unguent? 1874 BLACK *Pr. Thule* iii, The room, too, in which this mystic Princess sat, was strange and wonderful.

b. In recent use: Inspiring an awed sense of mystery.

1842 TENNYSON *Morte d'Arth.* 144 An arm Clothed in white samite, mystic, wonderful. 1852 MRS. STOWE *Uncle Tom's C.*

xxxvi. 249 At midnight—strange, mystic hour, when the veil between the frail present and the eternal future grows thin. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 380 Such is the mystic voice which is always murmuring in his ears.

B. *sb.*

†**1.** Mystical meaning; mystical representation.

c 1315 SHOREHAM *Poems* I. 630 Cryst and hijs membrys, men, O body hebe ine mystyke. *Ibid.* 837 To þe folke þat torneþ al to cryst Ine þe body of mystyke. *Ibid.* 2157 Þys ylke bok þe mistyk ys Of þese sacrementis.

2. Originally, a 'mystic doctor', an exponent of mystical theology; also, one who maintains the validity and the supreme importance of mystical theology. Hence, in extended application: One who, whether Christian or non-Christian, seeks by contemplation and self-surrender to obtain union with or absorption into the Deity, or who believes in the possibility of the spiritual apprehension of truths that are inaccessible to the understanding.

1679 PENN *Addr. Prot.* II. (1692) 146 Taulerus, Thomas a Kempis, and othere Misticks in that Communion. 1714 R. FIODES *Pract. Disc.* II. 380 Those mysticks who would discard the passions of hope and fear. 1765 MACLAINE tr. *Mosheim's Eccl. Hist.* Cent. XV. I. i. § 11 The Mystics were defended against their adversaries, the Dialecticians, partly by the Platonics. 1781 COWPER *Truth* 128 An Indian mystic. 1856 VAUGHAN *Mystics* I. Pref. p. v, The way in which mystics reduced themselves to utter inactivity. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) III. 595 He is no mystic or ascetic seeking absorption in the divine nature. 1899 INGE *Chr. Mysticism* vii. 258 To the true mystic, life itself is a sacrament.

3. *occas.* One initiated into mysteries.

1859 KINGSLEY *Misc.* I. 327 A mystic—according to the Greek etymology—should signify one who is initiated into mysteries. 1871 JOWETT *Plato* I. 381 This was the meaning of the founders of the mysteries when they said, 'Many are the wand bearers but few are the mystics.'

Mystic: see MYSTICK.

Mystical (mi·stikăl), *a.* Also 5–8 misti-, 6 myste-, mysty-. [Formed as prec.: see -ICAL.]

1. Having a certain spiritual character or import by virtue of a connexion or union with God transcending human comprehension: said esp. with reference to the Church as the Body of Christ, and to sacramental ordinances. (Cf. MYSTIC *a.* 1.)

1529 MORE *Suppl. Soulys* Wks. 327/2 Christes mistical body that is his church. 1549 *Bk. Com. Prayer, Communion*, All they whyche bee of the misticall body of thy sonne. 1550 SENONOVS tr. *Godly Saiyngs* (1846) 118 The mystycal or sacramental breade. 1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* v. lxvii. § 7 A true..participation of Christ, who thereby imparteth himselfe..as a misticall head vnto euery soule that receiueth him. 1633 G. HERBERT *Temple, Ch., Superl.*, Approach, and taste The churches mysticall repast. 1660 COKE *Power & Subj.* 77 These two individual persons, by the law of God, are made one mystical person, of which the husband is head. 1845 *Encycl. Metrop.* II. 901/1 This mystical body, the Catholic Church. 1864 NEALE *Seaton. Poems* 165 They eat the mystical supper.

b. (Spiritually) allegorical or symbolical.

? *a* 1500 *Chester Pl.* (E.E.T.S.) viii. 333 Dauid..prophesied that kinges from Tharsis and Araby with misticall giftes shall come and present that Lord. 1529 MORE *Dyalogue* I. Wks. 160/2 The misticall gestures and seremonies vsed in the masse. 1530 PALSGR. Introd. p. xvi, The nombre of thre, whiche of all other is most..mystycall. 1555 SAUNDERS *Let.* in *Coverdale's Lett. Martyrs* (1564) 204 Though he stand behynd the wal and hyde himselfe (as Salomon saieth in his mystical ballade). 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* III. xi. 12 To make up the rotundity of so sacred, and mystical a number. 1690 T. BURNET *Th. Earth* III. Concl. 113 'Tis plain to me in the Apocalypse, that Mystical Babylon is to be consum'd by fire. 1861 E. GARBETT *Bible & its Critics* i. 32 The mystical horseman in the Apocalypse.

c. In the interpretation of Scripture, applied to the spiritual or allegorical sense which is held to underlie the obvious or literal meaning.

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 4 b, Leest he wolde lene all togyder to the litteral sense of scripture, and not to ye spiritual or mistical sense. 1553 WILSON *Rhet.* 62 b, Some do use after the literal sense to gather a misticall understandyng. 1662–3 SOUTH *Serm.* (1727) V. 53, I profess not myself either skilled, or delighted, in mystical Interpretations of Scripture. 1860 PUSEY *Min. Proph.* 620 S. Jerome gives here the mystical meaning.

2. Having an unseen, unknown, or mysterious origin, character, effect, or influence; of dark import, obscure meaning, or occult influence. Now *rare* or *Obs.* (Cf. MYSTIC *a.* 5.)

a 1500–34 *Coventry Corpus Chr. Plays* (1902) 12/341 Were mystecall vnto youre heryng,—Of the natevete off a kyng. 1533 ELYOT *Cast. Helthe* (1539) 33 In the serchyng out of secrete and misticall thynges, their wyttes excellyd. 1587 GOLDING *De Mornay* (1592) Ep. Ded. p. v, Least the matters which in some cases are misticall enough of themselues by reason of their owne profoundnesse, might haue ben made more obscure. 1643 J. M. *Sov. Salve* 21 While they mature.. such their mysticall and pernicious designes. 1727 SHUCKFORD *Hist. World* I. Pref. p. l, Instead of supporting them with Reason and Argument, they had them expressed in mystical Sentences. 1743 BULKELEY & CUMMINS *Voy. S. Seas* 104 [He] has not only traduc'd us, but made the whole affair so dark and mystical, that [etc.]. 1824 MISS FERRIER *Inher.* xxxiv, Struck with the mystical fragments of speech she had bestowed on him. 1829 SCOTT *Anne of G.* i, I would..we had that mystical needle which mariners talk of. 1848 LYTTON *Harold* x. i, That illness had been both preceded and followed by mystical presentiments of the evil days [etc.].

†**b.** Of a person: Obscure in speech or in style.

1471 RIPLEY *Comp. Alch.* in Ashm. (1652) 111 Though I dare not here plainly the knot unbinde, Yet in my writeing I wyll not be so Mysticall, But that [etc.]. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 18 Such mysticall Mist-all and Misse-all Interpreters. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 96 A Physitian, that would be Mysticall, prescribeth, for the Cure of the Rheume, that a Man should walk Continually upon a Camomill-alley; Meaning, that he should put Camomill within his Socks.

3. Connected with mysterious or occult rites or practices. (Cf. MYSTIC *a.* 2.)

1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* III. vi. 386/2 Their mysticall apparaile, & their sundrie offices. 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* II. (Arb.) 48 Too you for wytnesse do I cal; you mystical altars. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* v. 620 Mystical dance, which yonder starrie Sphearе Of Planets and of fixt in all her Wheeles Resembles nearest. 1740 LADY HARTFORD *Corr.* (1806) II. 10 The Court and army danced what they called a mystical dance. 1801 CAMPBELL *Lochiel's Warn.* 55 'Tis the sunset of life gives me mystical lore, And coming events cast their shadows before. 1869 F. W. NEWMAN *Misc.* 192 Their smell when burnt, and the mystical cloud of smoke, were universally esteemed.

†**4.** Secret, unavowed, concealed; = MYSTIC *a.* 3.

1611 *Second Maiden's Trag.* II. i. in Hazl. *Dodsley* X. 419 Confess, thou mystical panderess! *a* 1687 PETTY *Pol. Anat.* (1691) 38 This is the State of the External and Apparent Government of Ireland..But the Internal and Mystical Government of Ireland is thus.

5. = MYSTIC *a.* 4. Also, pertaining to or characteristic of mystics (see MYSTIC *sb.* 2); relating to, or of the nature of, mysticism.

1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 572 So many are the interpretations in their mysticall Theologie, that Truth must needs be absent, which is but One. 1647 CRESSY *Exomologesis* lxxv. 635 Mysticall Theology being nothing else in generall but certaine rules by the practise whereof a vertuous Christian might atteine to a nearer..conversation with God. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* IX. xvi. 179 His soul imployed in mysticall meditations. *c* 1710 BURNET *Autobiogr.* in *Suppl. Hist.* (1902) 473 With my ascetick course of life I joined the reading all the Misticall Authors I could find; in particular all Teresa's works. 1841 D'ISRAELI *Amen. Lit.* (1859) II. 50 The mystical Pythagoras, and the allegorising Plato. 1844 W. G. WARD *Ideal of Chr. Ch.* 326 Mystical theology is the ascetic theology of those, who are unusually advanced in the Christian course, and leading a life of unearthly and noble sanctity. 1884 *Encycl. Brit.* XVII. 129/2 The intuition or ecstasy or mystical swoon which appears alike among the Hindus, the Neo-Platonists, and the mediæval saints. 1904 ILLINGWORTH *Chr. Char.* ix. 182 Both [St. Paul and St. John] were men the basis of whose life was profoundly mystical.

Mysticality (mistikæ·lĭti). *rare.* [f. prec. + -ITY.] Mysticalness.

1834 *Fraser's Mag.* X. 425 There is a fashion of mysticality in modern writers of verse which is in very bad taste. 1902 *Daily Chron.* 1 Nov. 3 Those who care for 'mysticality'—as an American writer would say.

Mystically (mi·stikăli), *adv.* [-LY.²]

1. In a mystic manner or sense; with mystic or symbolical meaning or representation. (With reference to spiritual things.)

1552 HULOET, Misticallye, *typice*. 1579 FULKE *Heskins's Parl.* 227 Euen as we are the bodies and members of Christ, and that is spiritually and mystically. 1583 FOXE *A. & M.* II. 2001/2 *The fat priest.* I pray the what is mistically? *Wood.* I take mistically to be the fayth that is in vs, that the world seeth not, but God onely. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* 297 He..that was mystically slaine in Abel. 1671 FLAVEL *Fount. of Life* v. Wks. 1701 I. 34/1 [The union] of two distinct Natures, and Persons; by one Spirit, Mystically. *a* 1711 KEN *Preparatives* Poet. Wks. 1721 IV. 97 When Saints of all their Sins releas'd On Jesus mystically feast. 1895 SALMOND *Chr. Doctr. Immortality* v. ii. 534 In virtue of their being mystically or representatively in Christ as their Head.

†**b.** *transf.* and *gen.* Symbolically, metaphorically, figuratively. *Obs.*

1586 W. WEBBE *Eng. Poetrie* (Arb.) 23 They supposed all wisedome..to be included mystically in that diuine instinction, wherewith they thought their *Vates* to bee inspyred. *c* 1590 GREENE *Fr. Bacon* (1630) A 4 b, Why he doth speake mysticallye. 1670 PETTUS *Fodinæ Reg.* Introd., Moses in writing the History of the Creation did mystically teach the whole progress of the Metallick Art. *a* 1688 CUDWORTH *Immut. Mor.* (1731) 58 He doth not mean Mystically in this, but Physically.

2. Mysteriously, obscurely, incomprehensibly. (Often used vaguely.)

1517 WATSON tr. *Barclay's Shyp of Folys* A ij, I desyre alway and appetyteth newe inuencyons compyled mystycally. *a* 1536 TINDALE *Briefe Decl. Sacr.* (?1550) D ij, Many of the olde doctors spake so mistycallye that they seame sometymes to affirme plainly, that it is but bred and wine only..and sometyme that it is hys very body and bloud. 1589 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* IV. xxi. 89 Some such are mistically domme. 1651 CARTWRIGHT *Cert. Relig.* I. 3 Your Lordship speaks mystically, will it please you to be plain a little? 1693 CONGREVE *Old Bach.* IV. xii, Still mystically senseless and impudent. 1799 SICKELMORE *Agnes & Leonora* I. 57 They adjourned to the stable, to review the beast that had been so mystically introduced. 1884 SEELEY in *Contemp. Rev.* Oct. 494 Faust..was..as mystically, as awfully sombre as any of those plays of Calderon.

†**b.** *Eccl.* In a low or inaudible voice, secretly.

1657 SPARROW *Bk. Common Prayer* 102 The Priest should say it μυστικῶς secretly and mystically.

3. With mystic rites. *rare.*

1817 COLERIDGE *Sibyl. Leaves* (1859) 241, I have arrows mystically dipt.

Mysticalness (mi·stikălnĕs). *rare.* [-NESS.] The quality or condition of being mystical.

1608 *2nd Pt. Def. of Ministers' Reasons Refus. Subscr.* 78 Those bookes..have..as greate a promyse of blessing vpon the reading of them, notwithstanding their mysticalnes, as any other. 1614 JACKSON *Creed* III. 246 Marke the mysticalnesse of this speech. 1816 J. GILCHRIST *Philos. Etym.* p. v, Abstruseness and ingenious mysticalness.

Mysticete[1] (mi·stisīt). Formerly also in L. form. [ad. mod.L. *mysticētus*, a. Gr. μυστίκητος (in old edd. of Aristotle *Hist. Anim.* III. xii, where mod. edd. read ὁ μῦς τὸ κῆτος, 'the "mouse" (*i.e.* the whale so called)'.

The identity of the animal referred to by Aristotle has not been determined. In old Latin translations μυστίκητος was rendered *musculus piscis* and was thus associated with the animal so named by Pliny ('the whale's guide').]

1. The Arctic Right Whale, *Balæna mysticetus.*

[1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) II. 754/2 *Balæna*..1. The mysticetus, or common whale.] 1815 W. SCORESBY in *Mem. Wernerian Soc.* (1818) II. 263 The huge Mysticetus, or Whalebone Whale. 1820 — *Acc. Arctic Reg.* I. 459 The colour of the Mysticetus is velvet-black, grey,..and white, with a tinge of yellow.

1835–6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 567/2 The Mysticete, or common Whalebone-Whale. 1894 *Athenæum* 3 Nov. 599/3 The 'Old Greenland Sea', where the mysticete had formerly been slain in such prodigious numbers.

2. One of the *Mysticete* (see next); a whalebone whale or mystacocete.

1876 *Van Beneden's Anim. Parasites* 58 The singular mysticete recently distinguished by the name of *Rhachianectes glaucus.* 1885 J. G. WOOD in *Longm. Mag.* Mar. 549 The Greenland whale (*Balæna mysticetus*), the type of the Mysticetes.

‖ **Mysticete**[2] (mistisī·tī), *sb. pl.* [mod.L., a. Gr. *μυστικήτη, pl. of μυστίκητος (see prec.).] The suborder of cetaceans consisting of the whalebone whales: opposed to the *Denticete* or toothed whales. Cf. MYSTACOCETE.

(Used by Scoresby app. only as pl. of *mysticetus.*)

1820 W. SCORESBY *Acc. Arctic Reg.* II. 211 The difference of proportion existing between the heads and bodies of some mysticete. 1864 J. E. GRAY in *Proc. Zool. Soc.* 198 [Cetacea] Sub-order I. Cete..Sect. I. Mysticete..[p. 231] Sect. II. Denticete.

Mysticism (mi·stisiz'm). [f. MYSTIC + -ISM. Cf. F. *mysticisme*, G. *mysticismus.*]

1. The opinions, mental tendencies, or habits of thought and feeling, characteristic of mystics; mystical doctrines or spirit; belief in the possibility of union with the Divine nature by means of ecstatic contemplation; reliance on spiritual intuition or exalted feeling as the means of acquiring knowledge of mysteries inaccessible to intellectual apprehension.

1736 H. COVENTRY *Philemon* Conv. I. II. 59 How much nobler a Field of Exercise..are the seraphic Entertainments of Mysticism and Extasy than the mean and ordinary Practice of a mere earthly and common Virtue! 1765 MACLAINE tr. *Mosheim's Eccl. Hist.* Cent. XVII. II. i. § 51 This female apostle of Mysticism [*sc.* Madame Guyon] derived all her ideas of religion from the feelings of her own heart. 1839 HALLAM *Lit. Eur.* IV. iii. § 55 IV. 230 The scepticism of Malebranche is merely ancillary to his mysticism. 1845 S. AUSTIN *Ranke's Hist. Ref.* III. 95 He was not only susceptible of the sublimest mysticism, but his whole soul was steeped in it. 1890 *Guardian* 25 June 1030 He makes no attempt to show..that the Mysticism of Swedenborg is the only alternative to the Agnosticism of Professor Huxley. 1899 INGE *Chr. Mysticism* ii. 44 The Gospel of St. John..is the charter of Christian Mysticism.

2. As a term of reproach. **a.** From the hostile point of view, mysticism implies self-delusion or dreamy confusion of thought; hence the term is often applied loosely to any religious belief to which these evil qualities are imputed. **b.** Sometimes applied to philosophical or scientific theories alleged to involve the assumption of occult qualities or mysterious agencies of which no rational account can be given.

1763 WARBURTON *Doctr. Grace* III. ii. Wks. 1788 IV. 706 With an incredible appetite devouring the trash dropt from every species of Mysticism. 1763 WESLEY *Jrnl.* 28 Aug. (1827) III. 140 The same poison of Mysticism has..extinguished the last spark of life. 1825 COLERIDGE *Aids Refl.* 381 The grounding of any theory or belief on accidents and anomalies of individual sensations or fancies, and the use of peculiar terms invented or perverted from their ordinary significations, for the purpose of expressing these idiosyncracies, and pretended facts of interior consciousness, I name Mysticism. 1838 PRESCOTT *Ferd. & Is.* viii. (1846) I. 367 An acute and subtile perception was often clouded by mysticism and abstraction. 1855 M. PATTISON in *Oxford Ess.* 258 That deluge of crude speculation and vague mysticism which pervades the philosophical and religious literature of the day. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 120 The terrorism, revivalism, mysticism, or self-concentration which sometimes pose as religion.

Mysticist (mi·stisist). *rare*[−1]. [f. MYSTIC + -IST.] An advocate of mystical interpretation.

1860 WILLIAMS in *Ess. & Rev.* 64 The later mysticists charitably prayed for Hillel, because his expositions had been historical.

Mysticity (misti·sĭti). [f. MYSTIC + -ITY, after F. *mysticité.*] The quality of being mystic or mystical.

1760 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 108/2 [transl. French] That zeal, that *Mysticity*, those extraordinary follies, which one would think proper only for the dark and barbarous ages. 1834 MEDWIN *Angler in Wales* II. 2, I will endeavour to 'make note' of their tenets, though many of them escaped me through their mysticity. 1885 PATER *Marius* I. 115 Flavian had caught something of..the sonorous organ-music of the medieval Latin, and therewithal something of its unction and mysticity of spirit. 1891 *Temple Bar* Mar. 434 The mysticity of the place being merely Leonardesque.

Mysticize (mi·stisəiz), *v.* [f. MYSTIC *a.* + -IZE.] *trans.* To render mystical; to introduce a mystical element into, give a mystic meaning to.

1680 DODWELL *On Sanchoniathon* (1691) 66 By Mysticizing the Κοσμογονία of Moses to a sense not very distant from that received among the wisest Philosophers. 1827 G. S. FABER *Sacr. Cal. Prophecy* (1844) I. 49 They thus agree in the point of mysticising the prophetic day. 1830 S. R. MAITLAND *Twelve Hundred & Sixty Days* 46 You are obliged to get rid of the days, and to mysticise all the periods. 1903 *Frnl. Hellenic Stud.* XXIII. 313 Not even an Orphic attempted to mysticize the shovel or the fork.

Hence **My·sticizing** *ppl. a.*

1842 G. S. FABER *Prov. Lett.* (1844) II. 23 His fancifully mysticising plan of a cathedral. 1879 FARRAR *St. Paul* II. xxxvii. 227 St. Paul's methods..involve a mysticising idealisation of 1,500 years of history.

Mystic(k (mi·stik). [ad. F. *mistic, -ique*: see MISTICO.] = MISTICO.

1828 W. IRVING *Visit to Palos* in *Life & Voy. C. Columbus* (1849) III. 459 Two or three picturesque barks, called mystics, with long latine sails. *Ibid.* 460.

My·sticly, *adv. rare.* [f. MYSTIC *a.* + -LY 2.] Mystically.

c 1450 *Mirour Saluacioun* (Roxb.) 20 Of this doghtere some tyme sange Salomon mistikly. 1868 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* (1870) I. 1. 389 Nor shall he keep his man's shape more, when he First feels the iron wrought so mysticly.

My·stico-, combining form of Gr. μυστικό-s MYSTIC, denoting 'partly mystical and partly...', or 'mystically', as *mystico-religious* adj.

1846 GROTE *Greece* I. xx. II. 160 The mystico-religious poetry of Greece. 1861 *Chamb. Encycl.* II. 212/1 His *Biblia Pauperum*, or 'Poor Man's Bible', is a mystico-allegoric explanation of the plain contents of the sacred books. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 196 Psychopaths of the litigious, erotic, and jealous, mystico-religious and other types.

Mystific (misti·fik). *rare*—1. [f. after MISTIFY: see -FIC.] A mystifier; one given to mystification.

a 1849 POE *Mystification* Wks. 1864 IV. 253 In no instance before that of which I speak, have I known the habitual mystific escape the natural consequences of his manœuvres.

So **Mysti·fically** *adv.*, in a mistifying manner.

1880 Miss BROUGHTON *Second Thoughts* I. i. ii. 29 'Let us look at it, Gill', says the squire, taking the card in his turn, and also mystifically reading it.

Mystification (mi·stifikē·ʃən). [ad. F. *mystification*, n. of action of *mystifier* MYSTIFY *v.*2]

1. The action of mystifying a person, playing upon his credulity, or throwing dust in his eyes.

1815 *Paris Chit-chat* (1816) III. 163 Old recollections.. made me an excellent subject for mystification. 1826 J. GILCHRIST *Lect.* 52 Special pleading of advocates, whose main talent is quibbling and mystification. 1874 L. STEPHEN *Hours in Library* (1892) I. i. 10 He was punished for assuming a character for purposes of mystification. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 10 Apr. 5/2 The whole manifesto..was regarded by the public as a piece of grandiloquent mystification.

b. An instance of this.

1817 *Edin. Rev.* XXVIII. 382 Having amused himself with a mystification (or what is in England vulgarly called a hoax). 1823 *New Monthly Mag.* VIII. 122 Of all the mystifications with which man is acquainted, Voltaire thought life itself the greatest. 1876 BLACK *Madcap Violet* xv. 138 The sweetheart is impatient of these mystifications, and wishes her to promise to marry him.

2. The condition or fact of being mystified.

1817 SCOTT 1 Jan. in *Fam. Lett.* (1894) I. xiii. 399 The mystification of those who would see very far into the millstone is sufficiently diverting. 1836–7 DICKENS *Sk. by Boz, Tuggs's at Ramsgate*, The Tuggs's went to bed..in a state of considerable mystification and perplexity. 1884 F. M. CRAWFORD *Rom. Singer* II. i. 4 They never left Italy at all, it seems. I am rather mystified, and I hate mystification.

Mystificator (mi·stifikē·ɪtəɹ). *rare.* [ad. F. *mystificateur*, f. *mystifier* MYSTIFY 2.] A mystifier.

1823 *New Monthly Mag.* VIII. 122 Lawyers, physicians, and divines, are mystificators of the first order. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 4 Oct. 2/1 A special word or two with regard to Lockwood as a mystificator.

So **My·stificatory** *a.*, mystifying.

1830 *Westm. Rev.* XII. 270 [Coleridge's] confidences to Captain Medwin and Mr. Leigh Hunt, were..of this mystificatory class. 1830 *Fraser's Mag.* II. 492 Your verses.. say all this, only in much more mystificatory language.

Mystified (mi·stifəid), *ppl.a.* [f. MYSTIFY *v.*2]

1. Bewildered, puzzled, perplexed.

1863 *Conf. Ticket of Leave Man* 142 Having..slipped a couple of sovereigns into the hand of the bewildered and mystified Sergeant Jobson. 1902 *Munsey's Mag.* XXVI. 586/2 What have you two in your heads? asked the mystified lady.

2. Made obscure.

1869 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* III. xii. 182 The intentionally mystified language of the Biographer.

Mystifier (mi·stifəiəɹ). [f. MYSTIFY 2 + -ER 1.] One who mystifies by practical joking or otherwise. Also, one who or a thing which causes perplexity or bewilderment.

1823 *New Monthly Mag.* VIII. 116 In our own history, Oliver Cromwell shines the prince of mystifiers. 1856 FARADAY in H. B. Jones *Life* (1870) II. 366 That phrase *polarity* in its present undefined state is a great mystifier. 1859 HARE *Guesses* (ed. 5) 213 He is not a mystic, but a mystifier. 1886 *Pall Mall G.* 23 June 1/1 If Demos is mystified much longer he will vote against his mystifier.

Mystify (mi·stifəi), *v.*1 *rare.* Also 8 **mist-**. [f. MIST *sb.* or MISTY *a.* + -FY.] Only in pa. pple.: Beclouded, befogged (*lit.* and *fig.*).

a 1734 NORTH *Life Ld. Keeper North* (1742) 79 His Lordship was not so mistified, by his Amour, as not to discern these Arts. 1819 BYRON *Juan* II. xii, When gazing on them, mystified by distance, We enter on our nautical existence. 1833 R. H. FROUDE *Rem.* (1838) I. 284 As we went up, every thing was mystified and cloudy.

Mystify (mi·stifəi), *v.*2 (Also **mist-**.) [ad. F. *mystifier* (1772 in Hatz.-Darm.), irreg. f. *mystère* MYSTERY 1 or *mystique* MYSTIC: see -FY.

Often associated with Eng. *mist*: cf. prec.]

1. To bewilder or perplex intentionally; to play on the credulity of; to hoax, humbug.

1814 HAZLITT *Pol. Ess.* (1819) 73 The noble Secretary *mistified* the house, as he had himself been *mistified* by his highness of Benevento. 1816 SOUTHEY *Ess.* (1832) I. 262 He was sometimes thus wantonly imposed upon, or, to use a word which seems now to be naturalized, thus *mystified*. 1818 *Blackw. Mag.* IV. 222 To bewilder, or, in the French phrase, to *mistify* the attentive world. 1863 COWDEN CLARKE *Shaks. Char.* 200 She has a tilt at him, jeering, joking, mystifying, obfuscating him. 1873 DIXON *Two Queens* IV. vii. I. 218 Puebla was to choose his words—to hint at dark intrigues—to mystify the council.

absol. 1837 *Fraser's Mag.* XV. 339 We would not swear that she was not secretly quizzing and mystifying all the time.

2. Of impersonal agencies: To bewilder, cause perplexity to. Chiefly *pass.*

1823 *Spirit Publ. Jrnls.* (1825) 293 The poor lad seemed quite mystified with his strange adventures. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* iii, Mr. Pickwick, who was considerably mystified by this very unpolite by-play. 1876 *N. Amer. Rev.* CXXIII. 112 This view led to positive evil in the observations of the late transit by mystifying the observers.

3. To wrap up or involve in mystery; to make mystical; to interpret mystically.

1829 I. TAYLOR *Enthus.* ix. 237 The practice of mystifying the Scriptures must be named as an especial characteristic of monkish religion. 1855 W. IRVING *Wolfert's Roost* i, The fabulous age, in which vulgar fact becomes mystified, and tinted up with delectable fiction. 1855 MILMAN *Lat. Chr.* VIII. viii. V. 22 *note* d, The early life of Becket has been mystified..by the imaginative tendencies of the age immediately following his own.

4. To involve in obscurity; to obscure the meaning or character of.

1827 SOUTHEY *Let. to H. Taylor* 12 Apr., The metapoliticians have dealt with their branch of policy as the metaphysicians have with their branch of philosophy,—they have muddied and mystified it. 1828 C. WORDSW. *Chas. I*, 20 Why bring this perplexity into one of the simplest things in the world, by the only means through which it could be mystified? 1874 SPURGEON *Treas. Dav.* Ps. xcviii. 2 We abhor those who mystify it [*sc.* the gospel].

Hence **My·stifying** *sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1818 T. L. PEACOCK *Nightmare Abbey* xi, All this mystifying and blue-devilling of society. 1825 SCOTT *Diary* in Lockhart *Life* (1837) VI. 132 Another of Byron's peculiarities was the love of mystifying. *c* 1827 COLERIDGE in *Blackw. Mag.* (1882) CXXXI. 119 Such a mystifying cant of Hylozoism [etc.]. 1862 THORNBURY *Turner* I. 317 The lines may be in Dibdin—I never could find them; but such is the mystifying fun Turner was so fond of.

†**Mystill.** *Obs. rare*—1. [ad. mod.L. *mistilio*, f. *mist-us* mixed.] = MASLIN 2.

1463 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 16 To eche grome and page vj d. and peyre bedys of mystill.

Mystily, obs. f. MISTILY. **Mystiltyne,** obs. f. MASLIN 1. **Mystlyone,** obs. f. MASLIN 2. **Mystorne,** obs. f. MISTURN. **Mysz,** obs. pl. MOUSE *sb.* **Myszen,** obs. f. MIZEN. **Myt,** obs. f. MITE 2. **Mytan, -ayne,** etc., obs. ff. MITTEN. **Mytche,** obs. f. MUCH. **Myten,** etc., var. MITING; obs. ff. MITTEN. **Myter,** obs. f. METRE, MITRE.

Myth (miþ), *sb.* Also (*c* 1840–65) **mythe.** [ad. mod.L. *mȳthus*: see MYTHUS. Cf. F. *mythe.*

The pronunc. (məiþ), formerly prevalent, is still sometimes heard. The corresponding spelling *mythe* was affected by Grote and Max Müller (among others). Cf. also the following:—

1838 T. KEIGHTLEY *Mythol.* (ed. 2) 1 Mythology is the science which treats of the *mythes*..current among a people. 1846 —*Notes on Bucol. & Georg. Virg.* p. vii, From the Greek μῦθος I have made the word *mȳthe*, in which however no one has followed me, the form generally adopted being *mȳth*.]

1. A purely fictitious narrative usually involving supernatural persons, actions, or events, and embodying some popular idea concerning natural or historical phenomena.

Properly distinguished from *allegory* and from *legend* (which implies a nucleus of fact) but often used vaguely to include any narrative having fictitious elements. For the Platonic myth see quot. 1905.

1830 *Westm. Rev.* XII. 44 These two stories are very good illustrations of the origin of myths, by means of which, even the most natural sentiment is traced to its cause in the circumstances of fabulous history. 1849 Miss MULOCK *Ogilvies* II. ii. 20 There is a German fairy fable of the Elle-women, who are all fair in front, but if you walk round them hollow as a piece of stamped leather. Perhaps this is a myth of young-lady-hood. 1856 MAX MÜLLER *Chips* (1880) II. xvi. 84 Many mythes have thus been transferred to real persons, by a mere similarity of name. 1856 E. M. COPE in *Cambr. Ess.* 147 One of those myths or fables in which..Plato shadows forth the future condition of the human soul. 1866 *Edin. Rev.* CXXIII. 312 The celebrated mythe or apologue called 'The Choice of Hercules', one of the most impressive exhortations in ancient literature to a life of labour and self-denial. 1899 BARING-GOULD *Vicar of Morwenstow* VII. 195 It is chronicled in an old Armenian myth that the wise men of the East were none other than the three sons of Noe. 1905 J. A. STEWART *Myths of Plato* I The Myth is a fanciful tale, sometimes traditional, sometimes newly invented, with which Socrates or some other interlocutor interrupts or concludes the argumentative conversation in which the movement of the [Platonic] Drama mainly consists. *Ibid.* 2 The Platonic Myth is not illustrative—it is not Allegory rendering pictorially results already obtained.

b. in generalized use.

1840 W. H. MILL *Observ.* I. 118 The same non-historical region of philosophical myth. 1846 GROTE *Greece* I. i. I. 67 It is neither history nor allegory, but simple mythe or legend. 1885 CLODD *Myths & Dr.* 7 Myth was the product of man's emotion and imagination, acted upon by his surroundings.

2. A fictitious or imaginary person or object.

1849 LYTTON *Caxtons* x. iii, As for Mrs. Primmins's bones, they had been myths these twenty years. 1874 SAYCE *Compar. Philol.* iv. 165 The pronominal root is a philological myth. 1888 *Times* (weekly ed.) 3 Feb. 9/3 Parliamentary control was a myth.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *myth-creating* ppl. adj., *-maker, -making* vbl. sb. and ppl. adj.; **myth-history** (see MYTHISTORY).

1846 GROTE *Greece* I. i. I. 75 The Athenian mythe-creators. 1865 TYLOR *Early Hist. Man.* xi. 308 The myth-making power of the human mind. 1871 — *Prim. Cult.* I. 20 That the earliest myth-maker arose and flourished among more civilized nations. 1874 H. R. REYNOLDS *John Bapt.* ii. 74 The myth-creating tendencies of the age.

†**Myth,** *a. Obs.* [var. of METHE *a.*] Gentle.

c 1320 R. BRUNNE *Medit.* 156 So meke and so myþe [*Bodl. MS.* miþi] a mayster to tray. *c* 1450 HOLLAND *Howlat* 693 All war merschallit to meit meikly and myth.

†**Myth,** *v.*1 *Sc. Obs.* [a. ON. *miða.*]

1. *trans.* To show.

13.. *Guy Warw.* (1883) p. 396 Þer nis no tong may telle in tale Þe ioie Þat was at Þat bridale Wiþ menske & mirþe to miþe. *c* 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 871 Thoght he wes myghtles, his mercy can he thair myth. 1501 DOUGLAS *Pal. Hon.* I. lxvii, Gif that my spreit was blyith, The fewerous hew intill my face did myth All my male eis. 1513 — *Æneis* IX. vii. 14 The brycht helm in twynkland sterny nycht Mythis [Virgil *prodidit*] Eurilly with bemys schynand lycht.

2. To mark, notice.

c 1470 HENRY *Wallace* v. 664 Scho durst nocht weill in presens till him kyth, Full sor scho dred or Sotheron wald him myth.

†**Myth,** *v.*2 *Sc. Obs. rare.* [var. MEITH *v.*] *trans.* To measure.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VIII. Prol. 40 The myllar mythis the multur wyth a met scant.

Myth, obs. f. MIGHT, MITE 2, var. MITHE *v. Obs.*

Myther, var. MOIDER *v. dial.*

Mythic (mi·þik), *a.* [ad. late L. *mȳthic-us*, a. Gr. μῦθ-ικός, f. μῦθος MYTHUS: see -IC. Cf. F. *mythique.*] = MYTHICAL.

1669 GALE *Crt. Gentiles* I. II. i. 2 Mythic, or Fabulous, Theologie, at first broached by the Poets. 1699 BAKER *Refl. Learning* x. 110 The times before these were the Mythic Ages, and are all Fable. 1775 J. BRYANT *Mythol.* II. 97 The mythic heroes of Egypt. 1825 COLERIDGE *Lit. Rem.* (1836) II. 335 While yet poesy, in all its several species of verse, music, statuary, &c. continued mythic. 1840 W. H. MILL *Observ.* I. 7 To show..the incredibility of his mythic theory as applied to the Gospels. 1866 KINGSLEY *Herew.* xviii. 344 *note*, Langebek..tries..to rationalize the mythic pedigree of Earl Siward Digre. 1881 *Ch. Times* No. 967. 513 To reject the Gospels themselves as mythic.

Mythical (mi·þikăl), *a.* [f. late L. *mȳthicus*: see prec. and -ICAL.]

1. Of the nature of, consisting of, or based on a myth or myths.

1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* I. iv. 438 M. Terentius Varro..distinguished Three Kinds of Theology, the First Mythical or Fabulous, the Second Physical or Natural, and the Last Civil or Popular. 1830 TUFNELL & LEWIS tr. *C. O. Müller's Doric Race* p. iv, The term *mythus*, and its derivative mythical, which have been naturalized by the German writers. 1832 *Philol. Mus.* I. 108 Mythical legends. 1850 MAURICE *Mor. & Met. Philos.* (ed. 2) v. 67 The biography of Zerduscht..is altogether confused and mythical. 1878 GLADSTONE *Prim. Homer* 10 A tradition, perhaps true, perhaps mythical, grew up, of Homer's blindness.

b. *transf.* Having no foundation in fact; fictitious.

1870 DISRAELI *Lothair* XXXII. 169 Her influence is mythical. 1889 *Academy* 15 June 411 The account of pheasants being captured by poachers lighting sulphur under their roosting-trees appears very mythical.

2. Of persons or times: Belonging to a period of which the accounts handed down are of the nature of myths; existing only in myth.

1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* I. iv. 712 This is an Old opinion derived down all along from the Heroick times (or, the Mythical Age). 1835 THIRLWALL *Greece* IX. I. 347 He seems to have been a rhetorical historian, who selected this half mythical subject. 1846 GROTE *Greece* I. i. I. 1 The mythical world of the Greeks opens with the gods, anterior as well as superior to man. 1865 SEELEY *Ecce Homo* V. 43 Any theory which would represent them [*sc.* miracles] as due entirely to the imagination of his followers or of a later age..leaves Christ a personage as mythical as Hercules. 1892 J. TAIT *Mind in Matter* 308 That Jesus Christ was no creature of the imagination or mythical aftergrowth.

3. Of writers, their methods: Dealing with or involving the use of myths.

1874 H. R. REYNOLDS *John Bapt.* I. § 3. 20 If the narrative were free from all suspicion of mythical handling. 1888 *Atlantic Monthly* Aug. 211/2 The grave Thucydides, least mythical of historians.

b. Applied to theories or views which regard narratives of supernatural events as myths.

1874 ROGERS *Orig. Bible* I. 36 The theory which attempts to account for their belief [*i.e.* in miracles] on mythical principles. 1887 *Encycl. Brit.* XXII. 592/1 The mythical theory that the Christ of the Gospels..was the unintentional creation of the early Christian Messianic expectation.

Hence **My·thicalism**, attachment to or belief in myths.

1896 *Fortn. Rev.* Apr. 633 All superstition, mythicalism, other-worldism, and all that savours of obscurantism.

Mythically (mi·þikăli), *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY 2.] In a mythical manner; by means of myths.

1847–54 WEBSTER. 1875 *Encycl. Brit.* II. 57/1 Ideas mythically expressed and explained. 1877 FREEMAN *Norm. Cong.* I. App. 772 A dispute between Robert and Cnut which could be connected, even mythically, with Cnut's death and Robert's pilgrimage.

Mythicism (mi·þisiz'm). [f. MYTHIC + -ISM.] The principle of attributing a mythical character to narratives of supernatural events.

1840 W. H. MILL *Observ.* i. Pref. 8 The anti-historic mythicism of Strauss.

Hence **Mythicist** (mi·þisist), an exponent of mythicism or mythical theories.

1871 FARRAR *Witn. Hist.* ii. 74 No mythicist surely could have made what has been called the damaging admission that faith was an essential to their operation [*sc.* of miracles]. 1874 H. R. REYNOLDS *John Bapt.* v. § 3. 332 Here we encounter the stiffest antagonism of the rationalist, the materialist, and the mythicist.

Mythicize (mi·þisəiz), *v.* [f. MYTHIC + -IZE.] *trans.* To turn into myth; to interpret mythically.

1840 W. H. MILL *Observ.* i. 58 Christ's death..his resurrection..are so mythicized as to drop the substance, making them 'no individual, but a divine and eternal history'. 1863 *Sat. Rev.* 199 An English Bunsen or Strauss..may mythicize or transcendentalize either the Old Testament or the New. 1891 T. K. CHEYNE *Orig. Psalter* 323 The storm-wind (mythicized sometimes as the cherub).

Hence **My·thicized** *ppl. a.*; **My·thicizing** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.* Also **My·thicizer.**

1840 W. H. MILL *Observ.* i. 4 The prepossession..with which the recent mythicizer of the Gospel undertakes his task. *Ibid.* 24 That mythicizing process. 1871 FARRAR *Witn. Hist.* i. 25 If the Resurrection be merely a spiritual idea, or a mythicised hallucination. 1893 FAIRBAIRN *Christ in Mod. Theol.* I. ii. iii. § 4. 271 The unconsciously creative mythicizing imagination.

My·thico-, combining form of Gr. *μῦθικό-s* MYTHIC, used in the sense 'mythical and . . '.

1840 W. H. MILL *Observ.* (1861) 110 Our champion of mythico-philosophical interpretation. 1855 LEWIS *Credib. Rom. Hist.* II. 508 Mythico-historical narrative. 1895 A. NUTT in Kuno Meyer *Voy. Bran* I. 101 The mythico-romantic literature of the Irish. *Ibid.* 196 A mythico-topographical survey of Ireland.

Mythifica·tion. *rare*—1. [f. MYTH *sb.* + -(I)FICATION.] The construction of myth.

1865 tr. *Strauss's New Life of Jesus* I. Introd. 126 Most especially have I represented the Gospel of John..as the culminating point of the evangelical mythification.

Mythism (mi·þiz'm). [f. MYTH *sb.* + -ISM.] = MYTHICISM. So **My·thist** = MYTHICIST; **My·thize** *v.* = MYTHICIZE *v.*

1840 CARLYLE *Heroes* i. (1858) 204 He is careful not to insinuate that the old Greek Mythists had any notion of lecturing about the 'Philosophy of Criticism!' 1840 W. H. MILL *Observ.* (1861) 172 On the system of the mythists, these purely Jewish circumstances of the Nativity should have been told by the Hebrew Gospel. 1848 BROWNSON *Wks.* (1884) V. 256 The pure Evangelicism promised you has degenerated into pietism, mythism, rationalism. 1851 G. S. FABER *Many Mansions* 329 Some would parabolise, or rather indeed (to use the more proper term) mythise, the..statements in the Book of Job.

Mythistory. *rare*—0. [ad. late L. *mȳthistŏria*, a. Gr. *μῦθιστορία*, f. *μῦθος* MYTH *sb.* + *ἱστορία* HISTORY.] (See quot.)

1731 BAILEY vol. II, *Mythistory*, an history mingled with false fables and tales. [Hence as *myth-history* in Worcester 1846 and subsequent Dicts.]

Mytho- (məi·þo, mi·þo, miþɒ·), combining f. Gr. *μῦθος* MYTH, as in MYTHOLOGY, etc. A few compounds of occasional occurrence are placed here: **My·thoclast** [Gr. *-κλαστης* breaker], one who destroys or casts discredit upon myths; hence **Mytho·cla·stic** *a.* **Mythoge·nesis**, the production of myths. **Mytho·gony** [Gr. *-γονία* creation], the study of the origin of myths; hence **Mythogo·nic** *a.* **My·thohero·ic** *a.*, concerned with mythical heroes. **My·tho-histo·ric** *a.*, involving a mixture of myth and history. **Mythoma·niac**, one who is 'mad on' myths. **Mytho·meter**, a standard by which myths are judged. **Mythopa·storal** *a.*, combining mythic and pastoral elements. † **My·thoplasm**, the fabrication of myths.

1890 *Sat. Rev.* 4 Oct. 392 To give the *mythoclast his due. 1881 *Spectator* 15 Oct. 1309/2 In this *mythoklastic age. 1887 *Mind* XII. 623 The cause of the extraordinary development in man of '*mythogenesis'. 1889 *N. & Q.* Ser. VII. VII. Advt. p. iv, The *mythogonic hypothesis presented by Professor Max Müller and other philologists. *Ibid.*, The author draws a sharp distinction between *mythogony and mythology. 1841 *Fraser's Mag.* XXIV. 129 In the *mythoheroic poems, the great Heraclide family enjoyed all that fame which mythic poetry can give. 1878 T. SINCLAIR *Mount* vii. 167 Æschylus..is almost wholly epical or mythoheroic. 1838 T. KEIGHTLEY *Mythol.* (ed. 2) 304 Grecian history—of which the..*mytho-historic portion commences with the Dorian migration. 1857 *Fraser's Mag.* LVI. 88 *note*, When it is the fashion to insist that almost every one and everything bygone is a myth..we would humbly remind the *mythomaniacs that [etc.]. 1890 *Sat. Rev.* 4 Oct. 392 Even Elia's dissertation on the origin of the crackling is gravely brought under the..*mythometer of this degree of positive critic. 1838 *Blackw. Mag.* XXXIV. 716 The *mythopastoral class of Sanscrit plays. 1731 BAILEY vol. II, **Mythoplasm*, a fabulous narration of history.

Mythograph (mi·þŏgraf). [See next.] = next.

1891 tr. *De la Saussaye's Man. Sci. of Relig.* XXV. 207 The saying of an anonymous mythograph.

Mythographer (miþɒ·grăfəɹ). [f. Gr. *μῦθογράφ-os*: see MYTH *sb.* and -GRAPHER.] A writer or narrator of myths.

1660 STANLEY *Hist. Philos.* IX. XV. (1687) 502/2 Those Mythographers, who..feigned three Women who made use of one Eye amongst them. 1669 GALE *Crt. Gentiles* I. III. vi. 72 Many of the first Mythographers confound the Universal Deluge, with that particular Floud of Deucalion. 1778 WARTON *Hist. Poetry* II. Emend. E 3, Fulgentius, Boccacio's favorite mythographer. 1846 GROTE *Greece* I. vi. I. 208 The genealogy just given of Œneus..seems to have been followed generally by the mythographers. 1891 R. ELLIS in *Class. Rev.* V. 457/2 Apollodorus (the Mythographer).

Mythographist (miþɒ·grăfist). [f. next + -IST.] One who practises mythography.

1890 *Sat. Rev.* 12 Apr. 454 The limited space afforded by coins and gems is, from one point of view, an advantage to the mythographist.

Mythography (miþɒ·grăfi). [ad. Gr. *μῦθογραφί-α*: see MYTHO- and -GRAPHY.] Representation or expression of myths in plastic art.

1851 NEWTON in Ruskin *Stones Venice* I. 401 In the language of Greek mythography, the wave pattern and the Mæander are sometimes used singly for the idea of water. 1881 *Academy* 12 Nov. 359/2 One essential condition of mythography has been almost wholly neglected,—we mean the dualistic aspect of every myth in its relations to art and literature respectively.

Mythologer (miþɒ·lŏdʒəɹ). [f. L. *mȳtholog-us*, a. Gr. *μῦθολόγ-os*: see MYTHO- and -LOGER.] A mythologist.

1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 207 If it be true as Mythologers [*marg.* Expounders of Morall Tales] affirme, that there was neuer any Hercules. 1680 DODWELL *On Sanchoniathon* (1691) 167 The most Antient and most Popular Opinions are most likely to have been intended by the Mythologers. 1835 THIRLWALL *Greece* ii. I. 39 Later mythologers attributed a more numerous offspring to Lycaon. 1874 MAHAFFY *Soc. Life Greece* xi. 323 The popular views of the comparative mythologers.

Mythologian (miþɒlō·ʊdʒiăn). *rare.* [Formed as prec. + -IAN.] A mythologist.

1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 568 Typhon neuer hewd Osiris into so many pieces as these vaine Theologians and Mythologians haue done. *a* 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. li. 411 Our ablest Mythologians. 1863 MAX MÜLLER *Sci. Lang.* Ser. II. (1864) xi. 519 Quite opposed to this, the solar theory, is that proposed by Professor Kuhn, and adopted by the most eminent mythologians of Germany, which may be called the meteorological theory.

Mythologic (miþɒlɒ·dʒik), *a.* and *sb.* [Formed as next: see -IC.] **A.** *adj.* = MYTHOLOGICAL.

1664 BUTLER *Hud.* II. i. 444 Though Love be all the worlds pretence, Mony's the Mythologic fence, The real substance of the shadow. 1669 GALE *Crt. of Gentiles* I. I. ii. 8 Mythologick Traditions of the first chap: of Genesis. 1728 SHUCKFORD *Hist. World* IV. 214 Such Schemes and Representations [*sc.* of the Deities] could not be made, until the Mythologic Times. 1784 COWPER *Tiroc.* 197 Taught at schools much mythologic stuff, But sound religion sparingly enough. 1847–8 DE QUINCEY *Protestantism* Wks. 1858 VIII. 163 The gay mythologic religion of Greece. 1871 TYLOR *Prim. Cult.* I. 84 So thoroughly does riddle-making belong to the mythologic stage of thought, that [etc.]. 1878 GLADSTONE *Prim. Homer* vi. 77 A great mythologic drama.

† **B.** *sb.* A mythological personage or narrative.

a 1631 DONNE *Paradoxes* (1652) 52 So is she [*sc.* Venus] joyned in Commission with all Mythologicks, with Juno [etc.]. 1669 GALE *Crt. Gentiles* I. II. iii. 31 Not only the stories of Moses, but of others also, lie hid in the Mythologics of Bacchus.

Hence † **Mytholo·gicly** *adv.* (*rare*—0.)

1611 COTGR., *Mithologiquement*, mithologikely; by a morall exposition of fables.

Mythological (miþɒlɒ·dʒikăl), *a.* Also 7 **muth-.** [f. late L. *mȳthologic-us*, a. Gr. *μῦθολογικ-ός*, f. *μῦθολογία* MYTHOLOGY: see -ICAL.] Of or belonging to mythology; based upon or of the nature of mythology or mythical narrative; having reference to a myth or myths.

1614 RALEIGH *Hist. World* II. xvi. 474 The Mythologicall interpretation of these I purposely omit, as..no lesse perplexed than the labours [of Hercules] themselues. 1696 WHISTON *Th. Earth* 2 Asserting it [*sc. Genesis*] to be a meer Popular, Parabolick, or Mythological relation. 1794 SULLIVAN *View Nat.* V. 182 This mythological dogma of the Scandinavians. 1837 WHEWELL *Hist. Induct. Sci.* (1857) II. 181 The mythological nomenclature of planets. 1856 MAX MÜLLER *Chips* (1867) II. 10 A kind of Eocene period, commonly called the Mythological or Mythopœic Age. 1858 GLADSTONE *Homer* II. 265 The mythological absorption of the Sun in Apollo.

b. Applied to writers of myths.

a 1656 USSHER *Ann.* (1658) 21 This Rameses..is by Mythological writers surnamed Neptunus.

c. Treated of or celebrated in mythology.

1807 G. CHALMERS *Caledonia* I. I. i. 9 Sesostris is another mythological conqueror. 1876 BESANT & RICE *Gold. Butterfly* I. iii. 66 Cornelius began to regret his allusion to the mythological maid, for his classical memory failed.

Mytholo·gically, *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY 2.] In a mythological manner; in relation to or according to mythology; by means of myths.

1659 B. JONES (*title*) Hermælogium: or an essay at the rationality of the Art of Speaking. As a supplement to Lillie's Grammar. Philosophically, mythologically, and emblematically offered by B. J. 1693 *Phil. Trans.* XVII. 803 So that plain Writing was before Mythologick; and 'tis probable those that have it Mythologically, had it before pure. 1776 BURNEY *Hist. Mus.* I. 255 *note*, Etymologies; which, like fungous excrescences, spring up from old Hebrew roots, mythologically cultivated. 1858 GLADSTONE *Homer* II. 137 The whole conception of Apollo and Minerva, if it be viewed mythologically, is full of inexplicable anomaly. 1873 SYMONDS *Grk. Poets* vii. 193 In the Prometheus the fundamental moral law of Nemesis..is expressed mythologically, as abstract and ideal.

Mythologist (miþɒ·lŏdʒist). [f. L. *mȳthologus*, Gr. *μῦθολόγ-os* (f. *μῦθο-s* MYTHUS + *-λόγος*: see -LOGUE) + -IST.]

1. A writer of myths.

1642 A. ROSSE *Mel Heliconium* 104 Other Mythologists have other conceits. 1645 BP. HALL *Three Tract., Peacemaker* § 26 It is no marvell that (as our Mythologists tell us of old) Discord took it ill that she was not called to the banquet of the Celestiall powers. 1662 STILLINGFL. *Orig. Sacræ* I. iv. § 2 This Orpheus by Mythologists is usually called the son of Calliope. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 49 ▸ 3 The Figures which the ancient Mythologists and Poets put upon Love. 1794 G. ADAMS *Nat. & Exp. Philos.* III. XXV. 55 This invisible and formless being..was by ancient poets and mythologists pourtrayed by Saturn. 18.. LAMB *Spec. from Fuller* 538 *note*, That Fabulous Natural History, where poets and mythologists found the Phœnix and the Unicorn. 1830 TUFNELL & LEWIS tr. *C. O. Müller's Doric Race* p. vi, The imagination of the mythologist was 'a chartered libertine'.

2. One who is versed in myths or mythology.

Comparative mythologist: an expert in comparative mythology.

1631 HEVLIN *St. George* II. viii. 310 *Omnis fabula* (as the Mythologists affirme) *fundatur in Historia.* 1693 J. EDWARDS *Author. O. & N. Test.* I. 206 Vossius, or Bochart, or any other Mythologist. *a* 1704 T. BROWN *Comm.-pl. Bk.* Wks. 1709 III. II. 129 Mythologists..are mighty Unravellers of the Fables of the old Ethnicks. 1844 EMERSON *Ess.* Ser. II. i. 12 In the old mythology, mythologists observe, defects are ascribed to divine natures. 1856 MAX MÜLLER *Chips* (1880) II. xvi. 85 The first duty of the mythologist is..to reduce each myth to its primitive unsystematic form. 1865 TYLOR *Early Hist. Man.* i. 3 The new school of Comparative Mythologists in Germany and England.

Mythologize (miþɒ·lŏdʒəiz), *v.* [ad. F. *mythologiser*, f. *mythologie* MYTHOLOGY: see -IZE.]

† **1.** *trans.* To interpret (a story, fable) with regard to its mythological features; to expound the symbolism of. *Obs.*

1603 FLORIO *Montaigne* II. x. (1632) 227 Most of Æsopes fables have divers senses...Those which Mythologize them, chuse some kinde of colour well-suting with the fable. 1632 SANDYS (*title*) Ovid's Metamorphosis Englished, Mythologiz'd, and Represented in Figures. 1649 OGILBY tr. *Virg. Æn.* I. 46 *note*, [Pallas], Goddess of Wisdom, born of Jove's Brain; by Macrobius..mythologiz'd, the Vertue of the Sun deriv'd from the highest part of the Sky. 1704 SWIFT *T. Tub*, Pref. Wks. 1751 I. 11 This Parable was immediately mythologised. The Whale was interpreted to be Hobbes's *Leviathan* [etc.]. 1727 WARBURTON *Tracts* (1789) 108 How one of their own Fables is here mythologized and explained.

2. *intr.* To relate a myth or myths; to construct a mythology. Also const. clause.

1609 HOLLAND *Amm. Marcell.* d 2, Natalis Comes of this fabulous narration doth mythologize in this maner. 1669 GALE *Crt. Gentiles* I. II. i. 10 Noah his three sons divided the world; so did Saturnes...Thus they mythologised. 1718 *Freethinker* No. 88 ▸ 13 While the Writer thus gravely mythologizes on so odd an Adventure. 1753 SHUCKFORD *Hist. World, Creation* Pref. (1810) II. 324 They mythologized that five gods were now born, Osiris, Orus, Typho, Isis, and Nepthe. 1848 MARIOTTI *Italy* II. iv. 118 What can the poet hope by mythologising on well-defined historical events? 1883 *Sat. Rev.* 10 Nov. 607 As to Mr. Brown's examination of the character and legend of Circe, we are contrained to say that with all his industry, he is..mythologizing on a mistaken method.

b *trans.* To relate (something fictitious). *rare.*

1851 *Fraser's Mag.* XLIII. 410/1 That Hunter had been mythologizing..something to Benson's discredit.

3. To represent or express mythologically. *rare.*

1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* I. II. § 20. 83 What the Poets fable of Tantalus in Hell..is nothing to that true fear which men have of a Deity..in this life, which indeed was the very thing mythologized in it. 1902 *Q. Rev.* Oct. 481 The whirling wind..has been mythologised into a demon.

4. *trans.* To make mythical; to convert into myth or mythology; to mythicize.

1847 J. W. DONALDSON *Vind. Protest. Princ.* 67 The task which he [*sc.* Strauss] undertook, of mythologizing the evangelical history. 1878 EMERSON *Misc. Papers, Sov. Ethics* Wks. (Bohn) III. 381 Our religion..respects and mythologizes some one time and place, and person.

Hence **Mytho·logizing** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1778 POTTER *Æschylus*, To Mrs. Montague (1808) p. xxvi, They [*sc.* the Greek writers] were indeed enough acquainted with Egypt to acquire from thence a turn for mythologizing. 1858 MAX MÜLLER *Chips* (1867) II. xvii. 154 Crime itself was called, in the later mythologizing language, the daughter of Night. 1873 SYMONDS *Grk. Poets* Ser. II. v. (1876) 132 The polytheistic and mythologising instincts of the race. 1880 *Encycl. Brit.* XIII. 399/1 Barren mythologizings.

Mythologizer (miþɒ·lŏdʒəizəɹ). *rare.* Also 7 **mith-.** [f. prec. + -ER 1.] One who or something which mythologizes.

1641 *Relation Answ. Earl of Strafford* 89 The 100 handed Gyant Briareus (whom the Mithologizers of Poems use as a Type of the Multitude). 1870 LOWELL *Among my Bks., Witchcraft* 83 Imagination, has always been, and still is.. the great mythologizer.

My·thologue. *rare*—1. [app. f. Gr. *μῦθο-s* MYTHUS + *λόγος*: see -LOGUE.] A mythical story.

1792 GEDDES *Bible* I. Pref. p. xi, May we not..consider his history of the Fall as an excellent mythologue, to account for the origin of human evil.

Mythology (miþǫ·lŏdʒi). Also 5 meth-, 7 muth-, mythio-, mith-. [a. F. *mythologie* or ad. late L. *mȳthologia*, a. Gr. *μῦθολογία*: see MYTHO- and -LOGY.]

†**1.** The exposition of myths; the interpretation of a fable. *Obs.*

1412–20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* II. 2487 Þis god..Schewed hym silf in his apparence, Liche as he is discrined in Fulgence, In þe book of his methologies. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Mythologie*, a declaration of fables, an expounding or moralizing upon a tale.

†**b.** Symbolical meaning (of a fable, etc.). *Obs.*

1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 1302 The Muthology of this fable..accordeth covertly, with the trueth of Nature. 1680 W. DE BRITAINE *Hum. Prud.* § 27. 89 A Country Man in Spain coming to an Image enshrined,..You need not (quoth he) be so proud, for we have known you from a Plumb-Tree: Have a care you do not find the Mythology in your self. *a* 1704 BROWN *New Maxims Conv.* Wks. 1711 IV. 11 It has been an old Remark..that *Opinio* is of the Feminine Gender...The Grammatical Observation is not worth a Farthing, but a wholesome Mythology's couched under it. *a* 1734 NORTH *Lives*, *Sir Dudley North* (1742) 152 Those [sc. *Whig* and *Tory*] were the Appellatives; but the Mythology was Seditious and Loyal.

2. A mythical story. *rare.* †Formerly in wider use: A parable, allegory.

1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* Explan. Words, *Mythologie*, a fabulous Narration: or the delivery of matters by way of fables and tales. 1610 — *Camden's Brit.* II. 220 By which prety fable..is covertly couched by a Mythiology that there lie hidden in these Ilands, veines or mines of Mettals. 1640 BP. REYNOLDS *Passions* iv. 21 Wee finde some roome in the holy Scriptures for Mythologies; as that of the Vine, the Fig-tree, and the Bramble. 1654 VILVAIN *Epit. Ess.* v. 88 Any Poetasters may make the like Mythologies from Esops Fables. 1664 MORE *Myst. Iniq.* Apol. x. 566 Such as Allegorize away the History of Christ into an heartless Mythology. 1873 SYMONDS *Grk. Poets* i. 2 We call Mythologies those poems of pure thought and fancy, cadenced not in words, but in living imagery,..mirrors of the mind of nascent nations.

b. In generalized use, without article.

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* I. viii. 30 All which [sc. the relations of Sir J. Maundeville] may..afforde commendable mythologie, but..containeth impossibilities, and things inconsistent with truth. 1692 BENTLEY *Boyle Lect.* ii. 37 The Modesty of Mythology deserves to be commended... 'Tis once upon a time, in the Days of Vore, and in the Land of Utopia. 1727 SWIFT *Wonder of Wonders* Wks. 1751 V. 80 The Heathen Religion is mostly couched under Mythology. 1843 PRESCOTT *Mexico* I. iii. (1850) I. 45 Mythology may be regarded as the poetry of religion,—or rather as the poetic development of the religious principle in a primitive age. 1845 S. AUSTIN *Ranke's Hist. Ref.* I. 291 Erasmus adopted the idea of the Italians,—that the sciences were to be learned from the ancients.., mythology from Ovid [etc.].

3. A body of myths, esp. that relating to a particular person, or belonging to the religious literature or tradition of a country or people.

1781 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xxviii. III. 101 The monarchy of heaven, already clouded by metaphysical subtleties, was degraded by the introduction of a popular mythology. 1830 H. N. COLERIDGE *Grk. Poets* 74 The Mythology..of the Iliad, purely pagan as it is. 1856 EMERSON *Eng. Traits*, *Race*, The songs of Merlin, and the tender and delicious mythology of Arthur. 1880 H. PHILLIPS *Worship of Sun* 5 In the Indian mythology the worship of Surya is the same as that of Helios or Here.

transf. 1821 LAMB *Elia* I. *Old Benchers Inner T.*, Fantastic forms..who made up to me—to my childish eyes—the mythology of the Temple.

4. That department of knowledge which deals with myths.

1836 SMART, *Mythology*,..the science of those fables which constitute the religious system and the poetical machinery of the ancient Greeks and Romans. 1864 *Chamb. Encycl.* VI. 646/2 The science of comparative mythology.

Mythopœic (miþǫpī·ik), *a.* [f. Gr. *μῦθοποι-ός* (f. *μῦθο-ς* MYTHUS + *ποιεῖν* to make) + -IC.] Myth-making; productive of myths; pertaining to the creation of myths.

1846 GROTE *Greece* I. i. I. 84 The commanding functions of the Supreme God..was a potent stimulus to the mythopœic activity. *Ibid.* xvi. 472 The mythopœic fertility of the Greeks. 1874 SAYCE *Compar. Philol.* ix. 376 The mythopœic age is the period of primitive unconscious childhood and barbarism. 1898 A. LANG *Making of Relig.* App. 367 The romantic and 'marvellous 'circumstances are mythopœic accretions due to Dr. Janet's own memory or fancy.

So **Mythopœ·ism**, the making of myths; **Mythopœ·ist**, a myth-maker.

1873 SYMONDS *Grk. Poets* i. 2 Decayed, disintegrated, dilapidated phrases, the meaning of which had been lost to the first mythopoeists. 1899 *Eng. Hist. Rev.* Apr. 226 The spirit of mythopœism is always active.

Mythopoem (mi·þǫpōuĕm). [f. MYTHO- + POEM, after prec. words.] A mythical poem. So **My·thopoe·sis**, the making or construction of myths. **My·thopoet**, a poetical writer of myths. **My·thopoe·tic** *a.* = MYTHOPŒIC. **Mythopo·etize** *v.*, *intr.* to produce myths. **My·thopoetry**, mythological poetry.

1882 *Fraser's Mag.* XXVI. 376 Here, for me at least, the *mythopoem of the lagoons was humanised; the spirit of the salt-water lakes bad appeared to me. 1882 KEARY *Outl. Prim. Belief* 320 *note* 3 It is in keeping with the principles of *mythopoesis that Calypso's land..should be in the midst of the sea. 1873 SYMONDS *Grk. Poets* Ser. II. vi. (1876) 158 There is nothing dead, devoid of soul, in the world of this arch-*mythopoet [Æschylus]. 1880 *Academy* 26 June 470 The *mythopoetic faculty has already been busy with the name of one whose actual life was more strange than fiction itself. 1893 *Pall Mall Mag.* II. 346 If we watch the process of *mythopoetising in our daily life. 1869 *Contemp. Rev.* XII. 67 This costume..becomes his dominant token in subsequent *mythopoetry. 1878 SYMONDS *Shelley* v. 122 The strife is now removed into the region of abstractions, vivified by mythopoetry.

‖ **Mythos** (məi·þŏs). In 8 *pl.* mythoi. [late L., a. Gr. *μῦθος*.] = MYTHUS.

1753 SHUCKFORD *Hist. World*, *Creation* Pref. (1810) II. 327 Of this sort we generally find the *mythoi* told of them. 1803 G. S. FABER *Cabiri* I. 324, I cannot but be persuaded that the poem of Homer at least is a mere mythos. 1865 MILL *Comte* 27 A God concerning whom no mythos..had yet been invented. 1876 *Contemp. Rev.* June 113 The.. mythos of Demeter and Persephoné.

Mythra, obs. form of MITHRAS, MITRA.

‖ **Mythus** (məi·þŏs). [mod.L. = late L. *mȳthos* (see prec.).] = MYTH *sb.* 1.

1825 COLERIDGE *Lit. Rem.* (1836) II. 335 This the most venerable, and perhaps most ancient of the Grecian *mythi*, is a philosopheme. 1831 CARLYLE *Misc.* (1840) III. 229 The rudest heart quails with awe at the wild mythus of *Faust*. 1841 R. C. TRENCH *Parables* 4 The Parable is different from the Mythus, inasmuch as in the Mythus, the truth and that which is only the vehicle of the truth are wholly blended together. 1850 THACKERAY *Pendennis* II. xxiii. 237 Conscience! What is conscience?..What is public or private faith? Mythuses alike enveloped in enormous tradition. 1892 *Athenæum* 24 Sept. 410/3 They consist of mythus and tradition intermingled and intertangled.

Mytilacean (mitilē·ʃăn), *a.* and *sb. Zool.* [f. mod.L. *Mytilācea* (-æ), f. *mȳtil-us*: see MYTILUS and -ACEAN.] **a.** *adj.* Belonging to the family *Mytilaceæ*. **b.** *sb.* A member of this family; a mussel-like animal.

1839 *Penny Cycl.* XIV. 318/1 Family of Mytilaceans. So **Mytila·ceous** *a.* = prec. a.

1856 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.* 1891 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

Mytiliform (məiti·lifōm), *a.* [f. MYTILUS: see -FORM.] Mussel-shaped; mytiloid.

1854 WOODWARD *Mollusca* 265 Shell equivalve, mytili-form.

Mytilite (mi·tiləit). *Geol.* Also 8 mytul-. [f. MYTIL-US: see -ITE.] A fossil mussel-shell.

1794 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) I. 81 Compact Limestone ..frequently abounds with..pectinites, gryphites, mytulites, &c. 1811 PINKERTON *Petral.* I. 254 In a specimen [of argillite] from Hessia, mytilites occur.

†**My·tilod.** *Obs.* [ad. mod.L. *mȳtilōdēs*, f. MYTIL-US: see -ODE.]

1708 *Phil. Trans.* XXVI. 79 Mytiloides, The Mytilod, or Sea Muscle-stone.

Mytiloid (mi·tiloid), *a.* and *sb.* [f. MYTIL-US + -OID.] **a.** *adj.* Mussel-like; belonging to the family *Mytilidæ*. **b.** *sb.* A member of this family; a mussel.

1847 TULK tr. *Oken's Physiophilos.* 594 Fam. 4. Mytiloid, Locust-Crabs. 1882 OGILVIE, *Mytiloid*, a term applied to shells resembling in character that of the mussel.

Mytilotoxine (mi·tilǫ·ksin). *Chem.* [f. *mytilo-*, MYTILUS + TOXIN(E.)] A leucomaine found in the common mussel, isolated by Brieger.

1887 A. M. BROWN *Anim. Alkaloids* 104.

‖ **Mytilus** (mi·tilŏs). [mod.L. *mȳtilus*, after L. *mȳtilus*, *mītulus*, *mūtulus* (whence late Gr. *μυτίλος*) sea-mussel.] A genus of bivalves, now comprising the marine mussels.

1817 J. BRADBURY *Trav. Amer.* 257 It has exactly the appearance of marine rocks, perforated by *Mytilus*, or *Rugosus*. 1843 OWEN *Lect. Comp. Anat. Invertebrates* I. 284 *note*, The nervous system of the Mytilus. 1878 BELL tr. *Gegenbaur's Comp. Anat.* 329 Pecten, Lima,..Mytilus have an organ of this kind.

‖ **Myxa** (mi·ksă). [L. (fem. sing.).] The Indian tree *Cordia Myxa*, having a mucilaginous and emollient fruit; also, the fruit of this tree, the sebesten. (Cf. MYXE.)

[1706 PHILLIPS (ed. 6), *Myxa*,..a sort of Prunes or Plums, like Damsins.] 1865 J. H. INGRAHAM *Pillar of Fire* (1872) 122 In this garden there was also the wine-giving myxa. 1891 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Myxæ*, the fruits of *Cordia myxa*.

Myxcion, obs. form of MIXTION.

†**Myxe.** *Obs.* Also **mixe.** [ad. late L. *myxa* neut. pl. (Palladius) = late Gr. *μύξα*.] A kind of damson or plum. (Cf. MYXA.)

c 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* III. 1032 Now curneles of mixe [*v. r.* myxe] hit is to keste In molde in sum vessell.

‖ **Myxine** (miksəi·ni). [mod.L. *Myxīnē* (Linnæus), app. alteration of Gr. *μυξῖνος* slime-fish, f. *μύξα* slime.] A genus of cyclostomous fishes having very slimy eel-shaped bodies, which are frequently found in the bodies of other fishes (e. g. cod); a fish of this genus, a hag-fish or borer.

1836 YARRELL *Brit. Fishes* II. 463 As a British fish, the Myxine occurs most frequently on the eastern coast. 1882 TENISON-WOODS *Fish & Fisheries N. S. Wales* 3 *Cyclostomata*, or Lampreys and Myxines.

Myxinoid (mi·ksinoid), *a.* and *sb. Ichthyol.* [f. MYXINE + -OID.] **a.** *adj.* Pertaining to or having the characters of the family *Myxinidæ* (typical genus MYXINE) of cyclostomous fishes. **b.** A fish of this family.

1846 OWEN *Lect. Anat. Vertebrate Anim.* I. *Fishes* 46 In 1837, I separated the Lampreys, Myxinoids, and Lancelets, under the name *Dermopteri*. *Ibid.* 51 The Myxinoid fishes. *Ibid.* 72 A complex system of peculiarly Myxinoid cartilages. 1871 HUXLEY *Anat. Vert.* 73 In the Myxinoid fishes there are no motor nerves of the eyeball.

Myxne, obs. form of MIXEN.

Myxo- (mi·kso), also before a vowel **myx-**, combining form of Gr. *μύξα* slime, mucus, occurring in a number of scientific terms. ‖ **Myxo-amœ·ba** (also **myxam-**), one of the cells which form the plasmodium of Myxomycetes. ‖ **Myxœde·ma**, a disease characterized by the conversion of the connective tissue into a gelatinous substance and destruction of the thyroid gland; hence **Myxœde·matous, -œde·mic** *adjs.* ‖ **Myxofibro·ma**: see quot.; hence **Myxofibro·matous** *a.* ‖ **Myxogastres** (-gæ·strīz), [Gr. *γαστήρ* belly], an earlier name of the Myxomycetes; hence **Myxoga·strous** *a.* ‖ **Myxoglio·ma**: see quot. **Myxomyce·tal, -myce·tan** *adjs.*, pertaining to or characteristic of the Myxomycetes. **My·xomyce·te**, one of the Myxomycetes. ‖ **My·xomyce·tes** *sb. pl.*, the slime-moulds or slime-fungi, a group of organisms usually referred to the Mycetozoa; hence **Myxomyce·tous** *a.* **My·xopod** [Gr. *ποδ-*, *πούς* foot], a protozoan possessing pseudopodia; also as adj. = **Myxo·podous** (*Cent. Dict.* 1890). ‖ **Myxosarco·ma**, a tumour composed of myxomatous and sarcomatous tissue; hence **Myxosarco·matous** *a.* **My·xospore, Myxo·sporous** *a.* (see quot.).

1875 BENNETT & DYER tr. *Sachs' Bot.* 10 In the Myxomycetes the swarm-spores (*Myxo-amœbæ)..coalesce gradually in great numbers. 1888 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* 908 *Myxamœba*. 1877 ORD in *Med.-Chirurg. Trans.* (1878) LXI. 71, I propose to give the name of *Myxœdema to the affection. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 319 The effects of myxœdema..can be removed by the administration of thyroid extract. 1887 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 19 Mar. 632/2 The *myxœdematous and other undoubtedly metaplastic processes. 1898 J. HUTCHINSON *Archives of Surg.* IX. 351 Her own description of her *myxœdemic symptoms is that she became yellow or creamy looking with habitually bluish lips. 1856 MAYNE *Expos. Lex*, *Myxofibroma*, a non-malignant tumour consisting of delicate myxomatous connective tissue, intermixed with which are coarser bundles of fibrous tissue. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 713 A large *myxo-fibromatous polypus. 1838 M. J. BERKELEY in *Ann. Nat. Hist.* I. 97 The group *Myxogastres, as Fries remarks, differ in their singular vegetation from all other Fungi. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* II. 774/2 *Myxogastrous Fungi. 1878 tr. *von Ziemssen's Cycl. Pract. Med.* XIII. 750 **Myxoglioma*..is to be regarded as a variety of glioma. It is a bright red, translucent, viscid tumor. 1902 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 19 July 223 *Myxomycetal spores. 1880 SAVILLE KENT *Infusoria* I. App. 470 The developmental phenomena of several *Myxomycetan types. 1877 HUXLEY *Anat. Inv. Anim.* 5 Another *Myxomycete, *Æthalium septicum*. *Ibid.* 44 Zoospores of **Myxomycetes*. 1882 OGILVIE, **Myxomycetous*, pertaining to the Myxomycetæ. 1875 HUXLEY in *Encycl. Brit.* II. 50/1 In one state, each of these *Monera* is a **myxopod*, that is, is provided with longer or shorter pseudopodia as locomotive organs. 1877 — *Anat. Inv. Anim.* ii. 81 After swimming about for a while, these mastigopods draw in their flagella, and become creeping myxopods. 1872 T. BRYANT *Pract. Surg.* 747 They [sc. the round-celled kinds of sarcoma] are common in *myxo- or glio- or lympho-sarcoma. 1897 *Trans. Amer. Pediatric Soc.* IX. 156 Congenital sarcomata of the skin..are mostly spindle-shaped, or *myxosarcomatous. 1854 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 8) V. 147/1 The organs of reproduction of Fungi are spores...When spores are produced..in the midst of a gelatinous mass, without any evident organization, they are called *Myxospores.., the plants being *myxosporous.

‖ **Myxoma** (miksō·mă). *Path.* Pl. **myxo·mata.** [mod.L., f. Gr. *μύξα* mucus, after *sarcōma*.] A tumour consisting of mucous or gelatinous tissue.

1870 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* II. July to Dec., Index. 1872 T. BRYANT *Pract. Surg.* 748 Many myxomata show opaque spots composed of true adipose tissue.

attrib. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV. 688 Although I have examined some hundreds of specimens [of nasal polypus] I have never succeeded in finding a true myxoma cell.

Hence **Myxomatous** (miksō·mătəs) *a.*, pertaining to or affected with myxoma.

1872 T. BRYANT *Pract. Surg.* 713 A fibro-cellular, myxomatous, fibro-nucleated, or fibro-plastic tumour. 1875 tr. *von Ziemssen's Cycl. Med.* X. 226 Myxomatous degeneration.

Myxson, obs. f. MIXEN. **Myxte**, var. MIXT *v.* **Myxtioun, myxyon**, obs. ff. MIXTION.

Myyld, obs. f. MILD *a.* **Myys**, obs. pl. MOUSE.

Myzont (məi·zǫnt), *a.* and *sb. Zool.* [ad. Gr. *μυζοντ-*, pres. ppl. stem of *μύζειν* to suck.] = MARSIPOBRANCH, MARSIPOBRANCHIATE *a.* and *sb.*

1882 T. GILL in *Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus.* V. 516 The Myzonts or Marsipobranchiates. 1891– (in recent Dicts.).

‖ **Myzostoma** (məizǫ·stŏmă). *Zool.* Also (anglicized) **my·zostome.** [f. Gr. *μύζειν* to suck + *στόμα* mouth.] One of an order (*Myzostomata* or *Myzostomida*) of small worms parasitic on crinoids, having disc-like bodies provided with suckers. So **Myzo·stomid**; also **Myzosto·matous, Myzo·stomous** *adjs.*, belonging to this order (in recent Dicts.).

1876 *Van Beneden's Anim. Parasites* 42 One of the most curious of these worms is the *Myzostoma*...These myzostomes resemble trematode worms. 1885 *Nature* 5 Nov. 8/2, I have found *Myzostoma*-cysts or other modifications of the pinnule-joints on individuals from Torquay [etc]. 1902 *Encycl. Brit.* XXXIII. 885/2 Full-grown Myzostomids are hermaphrodite.

N

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PREFACE TO THE LETTER N.

THIS concluding portion of Volume VI, containing the words which begin with N, includes 3484 Main words, 440 Special Combinations explained under these, 2298 Subordinate entries, and 1570 Obvious Combinations; in all 7792 words. Of the Main words, 1079 are marked † as obsolete, and 147 are marked ‖ as alien or not fully naturalized.*

N is one of the smaller letters in respect of the number of words beginning with it, and occupies only about half the space of L, and one-third that of M. Although including a considerable number of words in very common use, it does not comprise any which require very extensive treatment; the longer articles rarely exceed four or five columns, and a large number are comparatively short. In most cases the words have a very definite sense or senses, so that difficulties of arrangement or definition are few. On the etymological side, also, N is not a difficult letter; the great majority of the words being either native English, with clear cognates in the other Teutonic tongues, or Latin, adopted directly or through French. Those to which more or less obscurity attaches are chiefly short words of a colloquial type, as *nag* (horse), *nap* (to seize), *nape*, *nasty*, *natty*, *nib*, *nibble*, *nick*, *nip*, *nipple*, *nob*, *nobble*, *nod*, *noddle*, *noddy*, *nog*, *noggin*, *noodle*, *nugget*, etc. The origin of words of this class is very often obscure, and the absence of similar forms in the cognate languages makes it probable that they are mainly of native origin, though their history cannot be clearly traced.

The number of native words in N is considerably increased by the coalescence of the OE. negative *ne* with the following word. Hence the forms *naught*, *neither*, *never* (*ne'er*), *no*, *none*, *nor*, *not*, *nothing*, *nought*, and the dialect or obsolete *na*, *nat*, *nather*, *nauther*, *nother*, *nouther*. (The distinction in form between *naught* and *nought* goes back to OE., and has not hitherto been clearly exhibited.) Formerly also this *ne* was prefixed to certain verbs, of which the only surviving representative is *nill*; illustrations of the others are given under *nabbe*, *nad*, *nave*; *nam*, *nas*, *nis*, *nys*; *nist*, *not(e*, etc.

Another addition to the words beginning with N is made by the cases in which the final letter of *an* or more rarely *then* (dative) has been transferred to the following word. In ME. this might occur with any word beginning with a vowel (see N 3), but the tendency towards the transference was more persistent in some cases than in others, as exemplified by *nall*, *naul* (awl), *nain*, *nown* (own), *naunt* and *nuncle*; in *nickname* and *nonce* the wrong division has become permanent.

Although no original prefix, either English or Latin, begins with N, the place of one has been taken by the Latin *non*, first introduced in a few Anglo-French words, and gradually extended in use until its application is practically unlimited. In this respect it resembles the real prefixes *re-* and *un-*, the full illustration of which in any dictionary is impossible.

The material originally collected for the letter N was subedited by various hands, viz. *Na-* and *Nicher—Niggot* by the Rev. A. P. Fayers, Yeadon, Leeds; *Ne-* by Mr. A. Hailstone, Manchester; *Ni-* to *Niched* by Prof. F. E. Bumby, Nottingham; *Nigh—Nizy* by Mr. H. A. Nesbit, Hampstead; *No—Nonyl* by Mrs. G. H. Pope, Clifton (now Oxford); *Noodle—Nozzle* by Mr. E. L. Brandreth, London; and *Nu-* to the end of the letter by Mr. R. F. Green, Liverpool. Since this work was done, much fresh material had accumulated, often of great value in helping toward the real history of the various words.

Among those to whom acknowledgements are due for assistance in dealing with special words are Prof. I. Bywater of Oxford; Prof. W. W. Skeat of Cambridge; Mr. James Platt, Jr., who has supplied definite information regarding words from various American, African, and Asiatic languages; Dr. Alex. McKenzie, who specially revised the chemical terms connected with *nitre*; Dr. D. Hay Fleming, Edinburgh; and Mr. J. Maitland Anderson of the University Library, St. Andrews. Mr. E. L. Brandreth has helped by verification, in the British Museum Library, of references to books not accessible in Oxford.

* The following figures show how the present work compares with certain other Dictionaries :—

	Johnson.	Cassell's 'Encyclopædic'.	'Century' Dict.	Funk's 'Standard'.	Here
Words recorded	663	3419	3622	3557	7792
Words illustrated by quotations	516	1106	1261	373	6693
Number of quotations	1745	1712	3362	511	36859

The number of quotations in this portion of Richardson's Dictionary is 1431.

PREFACE TO THE LETTER N.

The proofs have been regularly read by Lord Aldenham, Mr. A. Caland, of Wageningen, Holland (who has done great service in verifying references and in other respects), Mr. H. Chichester Hart (who has supplied many quotations from Elizabethan literature), the Rev. J. A. Milne of Lyne, Peeblesshire, and latterly by the Rev. Canon Fowler, of Durham.

Those who have more immediately assisted in the preparation of N have been Mr. J. M. Ramsay, M.A. (in the earlier part), Mr. L. F. Powell, Miss E. R. Steane, Mr. F. R. Ray, Mr. J. H. Smithwhite, B.A., and (since the beginning of the present year) Mr. G. Watson. The article on NON-, and all the words beginning with this prefix, together with NONCE, were independently prepared by Mr. C. T. Onions, M.A.

W. A. CRAIGIE.

OXFORD, *August*, 1907.

N

N (en), the fourteenth letter of the modern, and thirteenth of the ancient Roman alphabet, represents historically the Greek *nῦ* and the Semitic *nun*. The earlier Greek forms were Ν and Ͱ, corresponding to the Phœnician 𐤍. The sound usually denoted by the letter is a voiced nasal consonant with front closure (the point of the tongue touching the teeth or the fore part of the palate). It is, however, also capable of being used as a sonant or vowel, here denoted by ('n), as in *bidden* (bi·d'n), *bitten* (bi·t'n), *slacken* (slæ·k'n). With one or other of these values the letter is very frequent in English, and is silent only in a few cases at the end of syllables after *l* and *m*, as *kiln, damn, condemn, contemn, limn, hymn, solemn, column*.

Before the sounds (g) and (k) the letter *n* is also employed in English to denote a nasal with back tongue-closnre, in this dictionary distinguished as (ŋ), as in *finger* (fi·ŋgəɹ), *think* (þiŋk). When not followed by these sounds, this back-nasal is expressed by the digraph *ng*, as in *hang* (hæŋ), *sing, song*. (On the difference in pronunciation between *finger* and *singer*, etc., see the note to the letter G.)

In Scottish texts of the 15–16th centuries the change of Latin and French *gn* to *ng* is frequently represented in the spelling of such words as *sing* sign, *ring, reng* reign, and *ngn* is common between vowels, as *resingnit* resigned, *mangnitude*, etc.

2. In OE. *n* is very frequent as the terminal letter of inflectional syllables, as in the *-an* of the infinitive and the oblique cases of weak nouns. In southern texts this *n* is always retained, but in the north it appears to have been generally dropped by the middle of the 10th century. In ME. the retention or dropping of the letter varied in the different midland and southern dialects. On the other hand, the *-en* of strong past pples., which became *-ē* in southern dialects, was retained in the north as in modern English.

In inflectional syllables (as in *reading, writing*, etc.) *-ng* has in many dialects been reduced to *n*, and this pronunciation (usually called 'dropping one's *g*'s') may sometimes be heard even from educated speakers.

3. In ME. the *n* of the indefinite article *an* is frequently transferred to a following word beginning with a vowel (while a converse process has given such forms as *adder, apron*, and *auger*). The forms thus produced occasionally alliterate with words properly beginning with *n*, and in one or two cases (as *newt* and *nickname*) have finally established themselves in the language. The following are examples of the practice from ME. and early modern texts.

c 1220 *Bestiary* 503 in *O. E. Misc.* 16 Tu wuldes seien .. ðat it were a neilond. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 1066 Alexander ..him a narawe hent. *c* 1420 *Anturs Arth.* 349 (Irel. MS.) This is a nayre and a knyȝt. *c* 1420 *Avowe. Arth.* xv, As he neghet bi a noke. *c* 1420 J. Page *Siege Rouen* (Camden) 18 A negge at ix*d*. a nappyle at x*d*. 1448 *Paston Lett.* I. 74 On ..smot hym on the hede with a nege [=edge] tole. 1519 *Knaresborough Wills* (Surtees) I. 8 To Richard Hardestie .. a nox. 1532 in Marsden *Sel. Pleas Crt. Adm.* (Selden) 37 It shall be lefull for the said master to take in a nable lodysman. 1573 Tusser *Husb.* (1878) 36 An ax and a nads. 1609 *MS. Acc. St. John's Hosp., Canterb.*, For sending a letter to Lonndon and the retorning of a nanser.

b. A similar transference also takes place with the *n* of *myn*, mine, and *þīn, thyn*, thine. (See also Own *a.* I 6, Nain, Naunt, Neam, Nuncle.)

c 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 921 Mark, mi nem, to se. *Ibid.* 2150 Mark, þi nem. *Ibid.* 2135 Sweet ysonde, þi nare! 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 2467 þerfore I ebe þe..to com to þy naunt. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 1356 (D.), I vndertake it..tyre is þi nawne. *c* 1420 *Sir Amadace* (Camden) liii, I haue a doȝtur, that my nayre ho isse. 1439 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 118 My Noych with my Baleys. *c* 1530 Redforde *Wit & Science* (1848) 21 Foorth shal I bete thy narse, now. 1545 *Test. Ebor.* VI. 225, I give to my nawnte..the graie horse.

c. More rarely the *n* is derived from the old dative of the def. article: see Ale 2 and Nonce.

a 1330 *Rowland & V.* 389 At þe nende of þritti niȝt. *Ibid.* 581 When it com to þe neue.

I. 1. The letter used to represent the sound.

c 1000 Ælfric *Gram.* (Z.) 6 Semivocales syndon seofan, *f, l, m, n, r, s, x*. 1530 Palsgr. *Introd.* p. xix, M, N, and R..never lese theyr sounde,..excepte only N, whan he commeth in the thyrde parson plurell of verbes after E. *c* 1620 A. Hume *Brit. Tongue* 12 The top of the tongue stryking on the inward teeth formes d, l, n, r, s, t, and z. 1668 Wilkins *Real Char.* III. xii. 367 The reason why this Letter N, and L, and R, are for the most part, both in Greek and Latin immutable. 1710 Steele & Addison *Tatler* No. 260 ¶ 5 Which would..pronounce the Letters M. or N. and in short, do all the Functions of a Genuine and Natural Nose. 1727–38 Chambers *Cycl.* N, In the French the *n* is frequently a mere nasal vowel. 1841 Latham *Eng. Lang.* 108 Of the Liquids it may be predicated..that *n* is allied to the Series *t*. 1886 K. Oliphant *New English* I. 257 The *n* is prefixed, as in *neke name* for *eke name*.

b. In *Printing* used as a unit of measnrement (freq. *en*: cf. Em); also *n-quadrat*.

1683 Moxon *Mech. Exerc., Printing* xiii. ¶ 1 Some [types] are n thick; that is to say, n Quadrat thick, viz. half so thick as the Body is high. 1824 J. Johnson *Typogr.* II. 65 The use of the n-quadrat in spacing must be guided by circumstances. *Ibid.* 138 We always indent an m and an n, or even two m's. 1892 *Academy* 3 Sept. 199/3, 49,000 American ems (equal to 98,000 English ens).

c. Used with reference to its shape.

1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 810 The loops being..made to assume the outline of the letter N. *Ibid.*, In one case where N-like bends were produced.

2. Used to indicate that the name of a person is to be inserted by the reader or speaker. †Also put instead of a particular day.

c 1000 *Oratio Poetica* 1 in *Be Domes Dæge* 36 Thænne gemiltsað þe N...ðeoda þrym-Cyninge. 14.. *Eng. Fragm. Med. Service-Bks.* 6, I. N. take the N. to myn wedded wyf. *c* 1440 Myrc *Festial* 260 Such a day N. ȝe schull haue Seynt Lukes day. 1552 *Bk. Com. Prayer, Priv. Baptism*, Yf thou be not baptysed already, N, I baptyse thee in the name of the Father [etc.]. 1574 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* II. 402, I, N, now electit Provest (or Baillie) of the Burgh.

3. Used as a distinguishing letter, to denote one of a series of things, a point in a diagram, etc.

1677 Moxon *Mech. Exerc.* 28 Fasten these staples as at NN to the Main-plate. 1733 Tull *Horse-Hoeing Husb.* xxi. (Dubl.) 301 The Plow-Tail consists of the Beam N; the Coulter O [etc.]. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XI. 723/1 At N is a dove-tailed piece of brass. 1873 Skeat *Piers Plowman* Pref. p. xlvii, I had intended to collate it, denoting it by the letter N. 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 14 Aug. 10/1 The two policemen connected with the N division.

4. In *Math.* used to indicate an indefinite number. *To the n*th (*power*), to any required power; hence *fig.* to any extent, to the utmost.

1852 Smedley *L. Arundel* xxiii, Minerva was great upon the occasion; starched to the *n*th. 1885 *Pall Mall G.* 21 Mar. 1/2 It is the *n*th power of man. 1897 *Edin. Rev.* July 4 The Neapolitan..is an Italian to the *n*th degree.

5. *N-declension*, the 'weak' declension of Teutonic nouns and adjectives, in which the stem ends in *n*; so *n-stem, n-plural*.

1843 *Proc. Philol. Soc.* I. 73 The *n* declension..makes its appearance in many of the Indo-European languages, besides the Gothic. 1866 Morris *Ayenb. Inwyt* p. xxxv, They are remnants of the *n* declension. 1886 T. M. Douse *Introd. Gothic* p. x, Consonant Declensions; *n*-stems. 1894 V. Henry *Comp. Gram. Engl. & Germ.* 236 The *n*-plural requires no explanation.

6. *N-rays* (originally *n-rays*), a form of radiation discovered in 1903 by R. Blondlot of the University of Nancy, from the initial letter of which the name is derived. *N*1*-rays* (originally *n*1*-rays*), another form of radiation, having, in some respects, the opposite effects.

1903 *Nature* LXVIII. 119/2 The name *n*-rays is suggested for these radiations. *Ibid.* 578/1 Several papers on the so-called N rays discovered by M. Blondlot are printed in the *Journal de Physique* for August. 1904 — LXIX. 455/2 The *n*1-rays, described in the previous note, have exactly the opposite effect.

II. 1. Abbreviations. N. = various proper names, as Nathaniel, Nicholas, Noah, etc.; N (*Chem.*) = Nitrogen; N. = Nationalist; n. (*Gram.*) = nonn, neuter; N.A. = National Academician (*U.S.*); *n.d.* = no date; N.F. = Norman French; N.l. = North latitude; N.O. = Natural Order; N.P. = Notary Public; N.S. = New Style; (*Banking*) not sufficient; N.T. = New Testament, etc.

1698 Prior *Let. Earl Halifax*, Paris, the 9th Aug: NS. 1709 Steele *Tatler* No. 4 ¶ 5 They write from Saxony of the 13th Instant, N. S. 1789 J. Brown *Sel. Rem.* (1807) 155 It is neither N. nor F. nor P. that I either fear or trust. 1866 tr. *Viner's Gramm. N. T. Dict.* (ed. 6) 14 The idiom of the N. T. is..a variety of the Greek language. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Nov. 843/2 He enjoys..the unusual distinction of being an N.A. and an A.R.A. 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 30 June 9/3 It is generally sufficient..that the bank has not returned cheques unpaid with the mystical letters 'N.S.' (not sufficient) in the corner.

b. N. = North; also N.E., NE. = North-east, etc.; N.B. = North Britain (Scotland).

1615 Capt. Adams *Jrnl. Voy. Siam* 21 May, From 4 to 8, 1 l[eague] n. 1708 *Loud. Gaz.* No. 4418/3 The Wind was this Morning..at six, at N., at eight at N.E. 1720 De Foe *Capt. Singleton* vii. (1840) 131 As the course of the other rivers were N. by E. or N.N.E. the course of this lay N.N.W. 1769 Falconer *Dict. Mar.* s.v. *Sailing*, The former [ship] steering E. *b* N. 1855 Maury *Phys. Geog.* (ed. 2) 258 The wind is reported as prevailing..from N. 3 times.

2. N.B. = Lat. *Nota bene*, 'note well'.

1673 Ray *Journ. Low C.* 163 NB. One of these Electors may nominate himself to any office. 1710 Addison *Tatler* No. 224 ¶ 5 Of late Years, the N.B. has been much in Fashion. 1755 Hervey *Theron & Aspasio* I. xi. 415 'Behold.' He sets his N.B. on the passage. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XI. 722/1 N.B. At the end of the tube G there is a lens for increasing the density of the rays. 1800 *Asiat. Ann. Reg.* II. 95/1 He..ingeniously added a N. B. at the foot of the whole.

N-, in OE. and ME., the negative particle *ne* in combination with a word beginning with a vowel, *h*, or *w*, as *nam*, am not, *nis* is not, *nadde* had not, *nas* was not. See Ne and Nabbe, Nad, etc.

'n, *Lanc. dial.*, reduced form of *han* 'have'.

1864 R. A. Arnold *Hist. Cotton Famine* 302 That's o at we 'n getten. *Ibid.* 304 Yo'n bin far enough to-day.

'n, -n, *dial.*, reduced enclitic form of the negative particle *not, no*, or *na*.

c 1750 in J. F. Palmer *Dev. Dial.* (1837) 6, I did'n care. *Ibid.*, I coud'n abide her vather. 1864 Tennyson *North. Farmer* I. xvii, What atta stannin' theer fur, an' doesn bring ma the aäle?

†**Na,** *adv.*[1] and *conj.*[1] *Obs.* [OE. *ná*, f. *ne* Ne + *á* ever (see A *adv.* and O *adv.*), giving normally *nā* in northern ME. and Sc., and *nō* (see No *adv.*) in midland and southern dialects. But the *na* which actually appears in northern and Sc. texts seems rather to be an alteration of *ne* than a genuine survival of the old form.]

1. *adv.* Not, in no way, by no means.

Frequently used along with another negative, as *ne*.

Beowulf 1536 Swa sceal man don, þonne he..na ymb his lif cearað. *c* 888 K. Ælfred *Boeth.* vii. § 3 ȝif þæt þine aȝne welan wæron .. ne meahtest þu hi na forleosan. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 33 Nolde he him na andswerian huton mid monþwærnesse. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. vii. 25 þær bleowun windas..on þæt hus & hyt na ne feoll. *a* 1121 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1083 Hi..wolden hiȝ utdragan, þaða hiȝ ne dorsten na utgan. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 123 Ne nom he na alle þa þe þer inne weren. *c* 1205 Lay. 9294 Þer he na ne come ȝif hit nere for swikedome. *c* 1350 *Will. Paterne* 1172, I na gult him neuer, to gif him enchesonn [etc.].

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 12847 Baptis þe na dar i noght. 13.. — 16948 (Gött.), If i ȝu lije na [*Colt.* ne] sall. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* IX. 71 (Edinb. MS.), And that him sair repent sall he ..May fall, quhen he it mend na may. 1423 Jas. I *Kingis Q.* lxvii, Tho began myn axis and turment, To sene hir part, and folowe I na myght. 15.. in *Dunbar's Poems* (S. T. S.) 321, I dar noght speke, For I na dare, my hert it is so sare.

b. *Na war* (*it*), were it not, had it not been, but for (the fact *that*), etc.

1375 Barbour *Bruce* III. 642 He had bene tane but dout, Na war it that he [etc.]. *Ibid.* VI. 345, VII. 218, etc. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* Prol. 98 Ȝet vald I,..na var eld & falt of sycht, Of þe twelf appostolis spek now. *Ibid.* I. 528, etc.

c. *conj.* That..not, but that. Also *Deil na* = 'May' (with negative following).

1375 Barbour *Bruce* V. 372 Of thretty was levit nane, Na thai war slane ilkane, or tane. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxxii. (*Justin*) 82 þat wes nocht sa priuely na it wes persawit in hy. 1456 Sir G. Haye *Law Arms* (S. T. S.) 221 Quhat war he that had sa hard a hert na he wald have merci of thame..? 1533 Gau *Richt Vay* 12 Thay quhilk .. trowis noth na he wirkis al the guid warkis in thayme. 1786 Burns *Earnest Cry* xvi, Deil na they never mair do guid, Play'd her that pliskie.

2. *conj.* Nor. Also, neither (only in early ME.).

c 1000 *O. E. Chron.* (Cant. MS.) an. 995 Naþer na of þam cinge na of þam folce. *c* 1131 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1131 Þær man him held þæt he ne mihte na east na west. *c* 1205 Lay. 13344 Nis nan kine-lond na swa hrad næ swa long. *Ibid.* 14165 Ah nulle ich castel na burh nane þe bi-techen.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 1962 Ete o..nakin worme þat es made, Na o fouxul [*Gött.* Na foul] þat refes his liuelade. *Ibid.* 5780 þis es mi nam, na mar na less [*Gött.* more ne less]. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* I. 318 He wyst nocht quhat to do na say. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xv. (*Barnabas*) 22 He was nocht dwelland with criste, na in þis warld vakand, na hard nothire, na saw his ded. 1456 Sir G. Haye *Law Arms* (S. T. S.) 167 [They] nouthir had were to him, na he to thame. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* I. 105 To thar men without thai mycht nocht wyn, Na thai to thaim. 1508 Dunbar *Tua Mariit Wemen* 299 We na fallowis wer..In fredome, na furth bering, na fairnes of persoune. 1535 Stewart *Cron. Scot.* II. 439 Quhilk hes no strenth..Na dow to weild ane wapin with thair hand. 1786 Burns *Twa Dogs* 16 Tho' he was o' high degree, The fient a pride na pride had he.

b. Used with another negative following.

1375 Barbour *Bruce* I. 230 A noble hart may haiff nane es, Na ellys nocht that may him ples, Gyff fredome failȝhe.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* i. (*Peter*) 6 þis petir .. vald neuir bow for aduersite, na for na perele þat mycht be. 1456 Sir G. Haye *Law Arms* (S. T. S.) 26 He..schewe in dede that he lufit it nocht na nane that delt with it. 1535 Stewart *Cron. Scot.* II. 205 For clerk or preist,..Na for na bischop that wes in Britane.

c. With omission of preceding negative.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxx. (*Theodora*) 631 For loy na solace bot tbru þe, Na lykine in my hert ma be. 1456 Sir G. Haye *Law Arms* (S. T. S.) 219 We may undo na gayn-say the commoun lawe.

Na (nā), *adv.*[2] *Sc.* and *north. dial.* [repr. OE. *ná* (see prec.), and corresponding to the mid-land and southern No. The pron. (nā) for (nē) has parallels in *twā*, *whā*.] No, used in answer to a question, to express dissent, etc.

1228 in *Mem. Ripon* (Surtees) I. 53 Per suum *na* vel suum *ya*. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxix. (*Placidas*) 600 Þane cane þai at hym hertly spere..gyf he wist quhare he was ..he sad: 'na'. *c* 1375 *Cursor M.* 766 (Fairf.), And wate þou quar-fore? na [*Cott.* nai, *Gött.* nayl, ho sayde. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilȝear* 79 Na, thank me not ouir airlie, for dreid that we threip. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* VII. vi. 32 Hes nocht Troy all infyrit ȝit thame brynt? Na: all sic laboure is for nocht and tynt. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* VIII. 75 Na; nocht sa: bot he quhen pleises him selfe wil cum. 1725 Ramsay *Gentle Sheph.* I. i, Na, Patie, na! I'm nae sic churlish beast. 1786 Burns *To a Louse* iv, Na faith ye yet! ye'll no be right Till ye've got on it. 1816 Scott *Old Mort.* vii, Na, my leddy, it's no that. 1827 J. Wilson *Noct. Ambr.* Wks. 1855 I. 354 Na Sir—I canna say that I should. 1894 *Northumbld. Gloss.* s.v., 'Are ye gan win us?' 'Na'.

b. Doubled for the sake of emphasis.

1513 Douglas *Æneis* I. Prol. 24 Na, na, nocht sna, bot knele quhen I thame heir. 1594 A. Hume *Treat. Conscience* iv. Wks. (S. T. S.) 104 Na, na, thy intention sall be na releuant defence vnto thee. 1682 Peden *Lord's Trumpet* 20 Na, na, sirs, love to God goes beyond all that. 1786 Burns *Answ. Tailor* x, 'Na, na', quo' I, 'I'm no' for that'. 1815 Scott *Guy M.* xxiii, 'Had we not better..dismount?' 'Na, na,..we maun cross Dumple at no rate'. 1891 'H. Haliburton' *Ochil Hills* 51 Na, na, my lad!

†**Na,** *conj.*[2] *Sc. Obs.* [Of obscure origin: cf. Nor in the same sense. Examples of Ne in this use are very rare.] Than.

1375 Barbour *Bruce* VI. 538 The lest party of thame twa Wes starkar fer na he. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* iii. (*Andrew*) 1103 Þe fend wes away in hy, sonare na ony man cuth thynke. 1456 Sir G. Haye *Law Arms* (S. T. S.) 53 [He] slewe of his menȝe ma na fourty thousand. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* v. 388, I meyn fer mar the tynsell off my men, Na for my selff. 1508 Dunbar *Tua Maryit Wemen* 295 Mar with wylis I wan na wichtnes of handis. 1535 Stewart *Cron. Scot.* I. 271 Tha wald erar de Na with the Romanis to subdewit be.

b. Than if. *rare*—[1].

1456 Sir G. Haye *Law Arms* (S. T. S.) 303 Quhen he cummys furthwart on thre festuale days, .. all the peple .. presse the mare to se him na he rade every day.

Na (nā), *adv.*[3] *Sc.* and *north. dial.* Also -na. [Enclitic form of No *adv.* 'not', with obscuration of vowel owing to the absence of stress.] Not. Chiefly used with auxiliary verbs, as *canna, maunna, dinna, hasna*, etc.

1714 Ramsay *John Cowper* 29 'Tis an ill wind that dis na blaw Some body good. 1725 — *Gentle Sheph.* I. i, I needna mak sic speed. 1786 Burns *Holy Fair* xiv, They canna sit for anger. 1793 — *Wilt thou be my dearie?* If it winna, canna be. 1816 Scott *Old Mort.* i, Them that shame na to take upon themsells the persecuting name of..tories. *a* 1828 Bewick *The Howdy* (1850) 13 [Thou] dis na leuk vara pleasd.

Na, obs. variant of Nay.

Naa, dial. variant of No *a.* and *adv.*

Naagoree, obs. form of Nagari.

Naam (nām), *sb. Hist. Law.* Also **nam.** [OE. *naam, nám*, a.ON. *nám*, Goth. *-nêm* (in *andanêm*), related by ablant to the vb. *niman* to take, Nim. Hence med.L. *namium, namum.* The ONF. *namps, nampt*, and med.L. *namptum, namtum, nantum* (see Du Cange), are prob. of Scand. origin.] The act of taking another's goods by way of distraint; goods or chattels taken in this way. (Cf. Withernam.)

a 1035 *Laws Cnut* in Thorpe I. 386 Be naame. Ne nime nan man nane name, ne innan scire ne ut of scire, ær man hæbbe þriwa on hundrede his ribtes ȝebeden. *a* 1087 *Laws William I* in Du Cange s.v. *Namium*, Ne prenge hum Nam ni l'en Conté, ne defors, dici qu'il eit tres fois demanded dreit, el Uadred, ù el Conté. *c* 1290 Britton (1865) I. 173 Naam si est un general noun a avers et a chateus et a totes choses moebles qe hom put prendre en noun de destresce. 13.. Horne *Mirror of Justices* (Selden) xxvi. 69 Une accioun mixte..qest appelle de naam. *Ibid.*, Naam nest autre chose qe renable destresce. 1611 Cotgr., *Nampt*, a distresse, a beast or mouable distrained;..a distraining (in which sence our common Lawyers vse Naam). 1641 *Termes de la Ley* 208 Lawfull Naam is nothing else but a reasonable distresse. 1727–38 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v. *Namium*, Prohibited Naam, is an unjust taking the cattle of another, or driving them to an unlawful place. 1785 in *Hist. York* II. 43 At the County Court .. shall be holden Pleas of Naam, that are called *Replegiarum*. 1837 *Penny Cycl.* IX. 29/1 The modern distress is the 'naam', restricted to the taking of personal chattels. 1895 Whittaker tr. *Horne's Mirror of Justices* (Selden) xxvi. 70 A mixed action..which is called an action of naam.

Hence **Naam** *v.* [AF. *naamer*], to distrain, to make distraint.

1895 Whittaker tr. *Horne's Mirror of Justices* (Selden) xxvi. 72 If any one be wrongfully naamed, you must distinguish whether this be done by those who are entitled to naam or by others.

Naape, obs. form of Nape.

Nab (næb), *sb.*[1] Chiefly *north.* and *Sc.* Also 5, 9 **nabb,** 9 **knab.** [a. ON. *nabbr* and *nabbi*, a projecting peak or knoll: cf. Norw. dial. *nabb* and *nabbe*, 'nab' of a rock or hill, knag, pin, (tether-) peg, Sw. *nabb* (dial. *nabbe*), nab, promontory, prominence (MSw. *skogsnabb*, point of a wood).]

1. A projecting or jutting out part of a hill or rock; a peak or promontory; a rocky or out-standing hill, a summit, etc.

a 1400–50 *Alexander* 5494 He stekis þam vp with þar stoures in a straite lawe, And..in þe nabb speris [=5496 in þe roche stoppis]. 1688 Hickes *Dict. Island.* 108 *Gnypa*, summitas rupis vel montis. *A. Bor.* a nabb. [Hence in Ray, 1691.] *a* 1800 *Old rhyme* in *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* (1837) I. v. 149 St. Abb's upon the nabs, St. Helen's on the lea. 1828 G. Young *Geol. Surv. Yorks.* 98 At Clayton point and other nabs to the south of Scarborough. 1843 Cooper *Sussex Gloss.*, *Nab*, the summit of a hill. 1855 Robinson *Whitby Gloss.*, *Nab*, a rocky projection from the land into the sea, as Saltwick Nab. 1877 Dixon *Diana, Lady Lyle* II. VII. i. 173 This nose of land starts up into a nab or peak, on which stands a feudal edifice.

attrib. 1891 Atkinson *Moorland* 42 Soaring hill and deepening dale, abrupt nab-end and craggy wood.

b. A projecting tuft or clump.

1848 E. Brontë *Wuthering Heights* xxi, Will you just turn this nab of heath, and walk into my house?

2. A projection or spur on the bolt of a lock (see first quot.). Also *attrib.*

1677 Moxon *Mech. Exerc.* 27 The Toe, or Nab of the Bolt, which rises..above the Straight on the Top of the Bolt: The Office of this Nab, is to receive the Bottom of the Bit of the Key, when in turning it about, it shoots the Bolt backward or forwards. *Ibid.* 28 The Nab end. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) X. 111/2 To the main plate [of a lock] belong the key-hole,..bolt-toe or bolt-knab. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Nab*, the bolt-toe, or cock of a gun-lock.

b. The keeper of a door lock.

1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1505/1.

†**Nab,** *sb.*[2] *Obs. slang.* [Of uncertain origin: cf. the later Nob and Knob in sense 1.]

1. The head. Also *Comb.*

1567 Harman *Caveat* 86, I tower that bene bouse makes nase nabes. I se that good drinke makes a dronken head. 1608 Dekker *Lanth. & Candle Lt.* C iij b, The Ruffin cly the nab of the Harman beck. 1622 Fletcher *Beggar's Bush* III. iv, I crown thy nab with a gage of benebowse. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Nab-girder*, a Bridle.

b. The head of a stick. *rare*—[1].

1616 Dekker *Lanth. & Candle Lt.* (ed. 2) P, He carries a short staffe..having in the Nab or head of it a Ferme (that is to say, a hole).

2. A hat.

1673 R. Head *Canting Acad.* 33 Cast our Nabs [*Fletcher* caps] and Cares away, This is beggars Holiday. 1688 Shadwell *Sqr. Alsatia* II. Wks. 1720 IV. 47 Here's a Nabb! you never saw such a one in your Life. .. A rum Nabb: It is a Beaver of 5*l.* *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Pentice Nab*, a very broad-brim'd Hat. 1729 Fielding *Pleas. Town* Wks. 1775 I. 223, I was..enquiring after you, when your boy brought your nab (Oh,..that the son of a King should pawn a hat!). 1754 — *J. Wild* II. vi, There were ..those who preferred the nab, or trencher hat, with the brim flapping over their eyes.

3. 'A coxcomb' (*a* 1700 B.E. *Dict. Cant. Crew*).

Nab (næb), *sb.*[3] *rare.* [f. Nab *v.*[1]]

1. *slang.* One who 'nabs'; a police officer.

1813 *British Press* 29 July 178 A nab stepp'd in and show'd his writ. 1852 Judson *Myst. New York* IV. (Farmer), I don't know..about no persuits, 'cept the nab's persuits.

2. A snatch, bite.

1867 F. H. Ludlow *Little Brother* 47 And then [the dog] turned to see if there wasn't a chance of getting a nab at his plump little calves.

Nab, *sb.*[4] Sc. var. of Nob, a person of note. Also written *knab*: see Jamieson and *Eng. Dial. Dict.*

Nab (næb), *v.*[1] *slang* or *colloq.* Also 9 **knab.** [Of obscure origin: cf. Nap *v.*[3] in the same sense.]

1. *trans.* To catch (a person) and take into custody; to apprehend or arrest; to catch, seize, or pounce upon (one) in wrong-doing.

1686 F. Spence tr. *Varillas' Ho. Medicis* 407 Verselli was nabb'd playing at dice. 1688 Shadwell *Sqr. Alsatia* III. Wks. 1720 IV. 56 Our Suffolk Heir is nabb'd, for a small Business: and I must find him some Sham-bail. 1694 Motteux *Rabelais* IV. xii, He sends to him one of these Catchpoles or Apparitors who nabs, or at least cites him, serves a Writ or Warrant upon him. 1748 Smollett *Rod. Rand.* xxiii, They embraced the prisoner..and asked how long she had been nabb'd. 1768 Goldsm. *Good-n. Man* III, Ay, but if so be a man's nabbed, you know. 1818 Scott *Hrt. Midl.* xxix, Don't keep chattering till some travellers come up to nab us. 1838 Dickens *O. Twist* xliv, 'It..reminds you of being nabbed, does it?' said the Jew...'Reminds me of being nabbed by the devil', returned Sikes. 1886 G. R. Sims *Ring o' Bells* II. vi, Jack's in prison... Must have been nabbed while I was abroad.

b. To catch, in other applications.

a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew* s.v., *I'll Nab ye*, I'll have your Hat or Cap. 1742 Richardson *Pamela* III. 335 Let's see, what have I said?—Ay, by my Soul, you have nabbed me cleverly. 1821 Clare *Vill. Minstr.* I. 168 If Puss can't nab ye by the nose, I'll find a scheme..To save my bread.

2. To snatch or seize (a thing); to steal.

1814 *Sporting Mag.* XLIV. 47 All was lost, Save what was nabb'd to pay the cost. 1831 Trelawny *Adv. Younger Son* II. 68 As surly..as a bull-dog with his bone, when an impudent cur offers to knab it. 1851 Mayhew *Lond. Lab.* I. 51/2 Mr. —— nabs the chance of putting his customers awake.

b. *intr.* To snatch *at* a thing.

1803 'Christopher Caustic' [Fessenden] *Terrible Tract.* I. (ed. 2) 43, I learnt these from as nice a rabbit As naturalist could wish to nab at.

3. *To nab the rust*: (see quots. and cf. *Eng. Dial. Dict.* s.v. *Nab*).

1801 *Sporting Mag.* XVIII. 101 To nab the rust; a jockey term for a horse that is restive. 1881 *Isle of Wight Gloss.*, *Nab the rust*, to be angry or sulky.

†4. 'To cog a die' (Phillips 1706). *Obs.*—[0]

Nab (næb), *v.*[2] *dial.* [var. of Knab *v.*]

1. *trans.* and *intr.* To bite gently, to nibble.

1678 Butler *Hud.* III. ii. 1457 To nab the itches of their sects, As jades do one another's necks. 1750 Ellis *Sheph. Guide* 232 The sheep may nab and eat. 1775 Ash, *Nab*, to bite, to bite with repeated quick but gentle motion. 1891 *Hartland Gloss.*, *Nab*, to nibble or bite gently.

2. To speak affectedly. *rare*—[1]. (Cf. Gnap *v.*, Knap *v.*[1] 4.)

1895 Sarah Tytler *Macdonald Lass* iv, I would as soon face one of the cutters' captains, nabbing his English.

Nab, in phr. *hab* (*or*) *nab*, etc.: see Hab.

Nabal (nē·băl). [From the Hebrew proper name נבל *Nābāl* in 1 Sam. xxv. 3, etc.] A churlish or miserly person. Also *attrib.*

1604 G. Powel *Catholike's Supplic.* 127 The greedy Nabals & hold-fast Labans of the world. 1617 Higgon *Wks.* II. 397 Many a carnall man, many a Nabal, hath these temporall things in a large measure. 1825 Scott in Lockhart *Life* (1839) VII. 367 Nicol is certainly going to sell Faldonside, the Nabal asks £40,000—at least £5000 too much. 1871 W. Alexander *Johnny Gibb* (1873) 192 'Nabal vratch', soliloquised Dawvid Hadden within himself.

Hence **Na·balism,** † **Na·balite; †Nabali·tic** *a.*

1645 Pagitt *Heresiogr.* (1661) 60 Ignorant Idiots, noddy Nabalites. 1659 Gauden *Tears Ch.* 35 It is a sin arguing a Nabalitick and vile heart. 1886 W. D. Macray *Pref. Chron. Abbat. Rameseiensis* p. xxix, The churlishness of the second abbot..is condemned not so much for its own Nabalism as for its shortsightedness.

Nabal, variant of Nable *Obs.*

†**Nabbe,** have not, **Nabbeð, -eth,** has not: see Ne and Have *v.* A. 9. *Obs.*

Beowulf 1850 Þæt þe Sæ-ȝeatas selran næbben cyning ænigne. *c* 888 K. Ælfred *Boeth.* xvi. § 3 Heora selfra nanne anwald nabbað. *Ibid.* xxxix. § 5 Ic..ȝet næbbe þis ȝedon. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 131 Ne mæȝ þæt ne beon þæt þa bearn.. langunga nabban. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 31 Nabbe ic nawiht þer-of. *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* 9 As gentille wimmen ..þat nabbeð hwerwið buggen ham brudgume. *a* 1300 *Vox & Wolf* 39, I nabbe don her nout bote goed.

Nabber (næ·bəɹ). *slang.* [f. Nab *v.*[1] + -er [1].] One who 'nabs'; hence (*a*) a bailiff or constable; (*b*) a thief.

1810 *Splendid Follies* III. 118 Oxford, where..he might elude the pursuit of nabbers till daddy's heart relented. 1880 *Jamieson's Sc. Dict.*, *Nabber*, a pilferer, a thief.

Nabby, Sc. variant of Nobby *a.*

†**Nab-cheat.** *Obs. Cant.* Also 6 **-chet, nob-chete.** [f. Nab *sb.*[2] + Cheat *sb.*[1] 3.] A hat or cap.

c 1530 Copland *Hye Wey to Spyttel Hous* in Hazl. *E. P. P.* IV. 69 His watch shall feng a prounces nobchete. 1567 Harman *Caveat* 85, I towre the strummel trine vpon thy nabchet and Togman. 1622 Fletcher *Beggar's Bush* II. i, Thus we throw up our nab-cheats first for joy, And then our filches.

†**Na·ble.** *Obs. rare.* Also 6 **nabal.** [ad. L. *nablum* (Vulg.; *nablium*, Ovid), ad. Gr. *νάβλα*, prob. of Phœnician origin, and so identical with Heb. *nēbel* which it is used to translate.] A Jewish instrument of music: see Nebel.

1382 Wyclif 1 *Macc.* xiii. 51 With preisyng, and braunchis of palmes, and instrumentis of musik, and cymbalis, and nablis. 1546 Langley tr. *Pol. Verg. de Invent.* I. xii. 23 b, The Prophet Dauid founde diuerse instrumentes as regals and Nabals. 1609 Bible (Douay) 1 *Chron.* xv. 16 Singing men on musical instruments, to witte, on nables, and harpes, and cymbals. 1609 Heywood *Brit. Troy* VII. iv, Nables and Regals holy Dauid found.

Nablock, obs. form of Niblick.

†**Na·bman.** *Obs. slang.* [f. Nab *v.*[2]] A police officer; a constable. (Cf. Nab *sb.*[3] 1.)

1823 in *Spirit Pub. Jrnls.* 201 For never were hearts, if the nabmen would let them, More formed to be jovial and light than our's.

Nabob (nē·bŏb). Also 7 **nawbob, nobob**(b, **nabab**; 8 **navob.** [=F. and Sp. *nabab*, Pg. *nababo*, ad. Urdū *nawwāb* deputy governor: see Nawab and Naib.]

1. The title of certain Mohammedan officials, who acted as deputy governors of provinces or districts in the Mogul Empire; an official thus designated; a governor of a town or district in India.

1612 R. Coverte *Voy.* 36 An Earle is called a Nawbob, and they [*sc.* noblemen] are the chiefe men that attend on him. 1625 Purchas *Pilgrims* I. IV. 467 The Nabob, with fiftie or sixtie thousand people in his campe. 1687 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2270/6 They took after that a great Ship belonging to the Nabob of Decca, in the River's mouth. 1764 Churchill *Candidate* Poems II. 22 Nabobs themselves, allur'd by thy renowa, Shall pay due homage to the English Crown. 1771 Goldsm. *Hist. Eng.* IV. 375 The nabob whom the English supported, was reinstated in the government. 1817 Jas. Mill *Brit. India* I. III. iv. 621 *note*, The term Nabob, as equivalent to Subahdar, is very modern in Hindustan; and is said to have begun with Sujah Dowlah. 1858 J. B. Norton *Topics* 34 The proclamation of Khan Bahadoor Khan.., who set himself up as nabob of that place, was put in evidence.

2. *transf.* A person of (†high rank or) great

wealth; *spec.* one who has returned from India with a large fortune acquired there; a very rich and luxurious person.

1764 H. Walpole *Lett.* (1857) IV. 222 Mogul Pitt and Nabob Bute. 1773 Foote *Nabob* II, But, after all, Master Touchit, I am not so over-fond of these nabobs. 1796 Steoman *Surinam* II. 54 The customs and manner of living of these West-India nabobs. 1818 Lady Morgan *Autobiog.* (1859) 35 Lady Cork..took us to dine at Sir George Cockerell's, the richest nabob in London. 1830 Macaulay *Ess., Southey's Colloq.* (1851) I. 103 The glorified spirit of a great statesman and philosopher dawdling, like a bilious old nabob at a watering place. 1869 *Echo* 6 Feb., India may have ceased to grow nabobs as yellow as the gold mohurs they were wont to amass.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *nabob fortune, -hunting, -maker, -plunderer*; *Nabob-land* (= India).

1764 H. Walpole *Lett.* (1891) IV. 180 There is the devil to pay in Nabob-land, but I understand Indian histories no better than stocks. 1771 *Ann. Reg.* 91 This project may not be quite so noble as that of Nabob-hunting, but is certainly more commercial. 1775 Mortimer *Ev. Man own Broker* 14 *note*, As to the nabob plunderers, these build palaces. 1795 Burns *Heron Election Ball.* II. ii, As to his fine Nabob fortune, We'll e'en let this subject alane. 1862 Beveridge *Hist. India* I. III. xii. 682 On these presents the nabob-makers of Calcutta were far more intent than on the interests of their employers.

†**4.** *U.S.* (See quot.) *Obs. rare* $^{-1}$.

1806 Fessenden *Orig. Poems* 36 Misses, squires, and gentlefolks, Call for Nabobs, hats, and cloaks. *Note.* Nabobs were a kind of outside garment formerly worn by the dashing belles of America.

Hence **Nabo·bery**, (*a*) a place frequented by nabobs; (*b*) the essential qualities of a nabob or nabobs; **Nabo·bical** *a.*, pertaining to a nabob; **Na·bo·bish** *a.*, of the nature of a nabob; **Na·bo·bishly** *adv.*, after the manner of a nabob; **Na·bobism**, great wealth and luxury; **Na·bobry**, the class of nabobs.

1834 *New Monthly Mag.* XL. 375 Such is the *nabobery into which Harley-street, Wimpole-street, and Gloucester-place, daily empty their precious stores of bilious humanity. 1852 W. M. Savage *R. Medlicott* II. x, He reminds me of a nabob. Nabobbery itself. 1763 H. Walpole *Lett.* (1891) IV. 154 Not paying Lord Clive the three thousand pounds, which the Ministry had promised him in lieu of his *Nabobical annuity. 1865 *Fortn. Rev.* II. 31 There arose what were known in England as Indian families. These it is true were ridiculed as upstart, *nabobish, and so forth. 1894 *Forum* Aug. 739 He [*sc.* the Englishman] is *nabobishly extravagant in his expenditures upon horse-racing and hunting. 1884 *Homil. Monthly* Aug. 649 The banquets of *nabobism. 1777 M. Morgann *Ess. Falstaff* 112 At a time when the whole body of the *Nabobry demands and requires defence.

Nabobess (nē'·bɒbes). [f. prec. + -ess [1].] A female nabob; the wife of a nabob.

1767 Sterne *Lett.* lxxxiii. § 1 He hopes..to see her eclipse all other Nabobesses..in wealth. 1779 Burgoyne *Maid of the Oaks* IV. i, I will have no nabobs nor nabobesses in my family. 1807 in *Spirit Pub. Jrnls.* XI. 6, I wonder why that old Nabobess, Mrs. Hargrave, left him her immense fortune. 1847 *Mirror* June 354/2 Let me hope the nabobess will give me due notice.

Nabobical, -ish(ly, -ism, -ry: see Nabob.

Nabobship (nē'·bɒbʃip). [f. Nabob + -ship.]

1. The office or rank of a nabob; the position of being a nabob.

1753 *Lond. Mag.* in *Scots Mag.* Apr. 197/2 Mahomet was restored to the nabobship of Arcot. 1780 Orme *Hist. Indostan* I. 367 A Moorish dress distinguished likewise with ornaments peculiar to the Nabobship. 1808 *Edin. Rev.* XI. 463 The nabobship of the Carnatic has been vested in the present family for more than a half a century. 1876 Grant *Hist. India* I. xxxii. 168/1 The latter..now succeeded to the nabobship of Oude.

2. The territory over which a nabob exercises jurisdiction; a district governed by a nabob.

1761 *Lond. Mag.* XXX. 183 Every nabob [has] the appointment of all the polygars in his nabobship. 1798 Pennant *Hindoostan* II. 12 These provinces are now annexed to the great nabobship of the Carnatic. 1862 Beveridge *Hist. India* I. III. ii. 412 Pondicherry..belonged nominally to the nabobship of Arcot.

Nabs (næbz). *slang.* Also 9 **knabs**. [Of obscure origin: cf. Nibs.] A term used with possessive pronouns as a slang or jocular designation of a person; *my nabs* = 'my gentleman', †myself. Also as *pl.*

a 1790 Potter *New Dict. Cant, Nabs*, a person of either sex. 1812 J. H. Vaux *Flash Dict., His-nabs*, him, or himself, *Mynabs*, me, myself. 1823 in *Spirit Pub. Jrnls.* 248 Sought out the road where Toley's turnpike lay, And came upon his nabs just as he rose. 1851 Mayhew *Lond. Labour* III. 149 (Hoppe), Your nabs sparkle my nabs a drop of bevare. 1895 Emerson *Birds*, etc. 203, I do a bit of stuffing, and as sure as I get gutting a bird, in come my nabs and steal some.

Nabut, obs. form of Nobbut.

Nacarat (næ·kăræt). [F. *nacarat*, supposed to be ad. Sp. and Pg. *nacarado*, f. *nacar* nacre.

If this etym. is correct, the reference is to that species of pinna which is distinguished by its red colour; but the word has also a striking resemblance to Arab. *nakaṣat*, a red flower used in dyeing.]

1. A bright orange-red colour.

1727–38 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v. *Dying*, Nacarat, or bright orange-red, is given with weld, and goats hair, boiled with pot-ashes. 1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 874. 1853 C. Bronte *Villette* xxix, A small box I had bought for its brilliancy, made of some tropic shell of the colour called 'nacarat'. 1854 R. H. Patterson *Ess. Hist. & Art* (1862) 33 We can never ally mahogany to vivid reds,..and more particularly to orange-reds, such as scarlet, nacarat, and aurora.

2. (See quot.)

1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 874 The nacarat of Portugal or Bezetta is a crape or fine linen fabric, dyed fugitively of the above tint. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1505/1.

†**Nacarine,** *a. Obs. rare* $^{-1}$. [f. *nacar-at* (see prec.) + -ine [1].] Red, reddish.

c 1643 Ld. Herbert *Autobiog.* (1886) 165 Every bout tied with a small ribbon of a naccarine, or the colour that the Knigbts of the Bath wear.

Nace, variant of Nais *a.*, Nase, nose.

†**Nacelle.** *Obs. rare* $^{-1}$. [a. F. *nacelle* :—late L. *nāvicella* (*naucella*), dim. of *nāvis* a ship.] A small boat.

1483 Caxton *Gold. Leg.* 141/1 The quene of thys contree wente for to playe on the ryuage of the see and byheld thys lytyl nacelle and the chyld therein.

Naceoun, obs. form of Nation.

Nach, nâch, variants of Nautch.

Nache (nāʧ). ? *Obs.* Also 7 nach, natch. [a. OF. *nache* :—pop. L. **natica*, f. *natis* buttock. Cf. Nage.] The point of the rump in an ox or cow; the rump. Also *nache-bone* = Natchbone.

1523 Fitzherb. *Husb.* § 57 If thou shalte bye fatte oxen..se that they be soft..vpon the hucbone, and the nache by the tayle. 1614 Markham *Cheap Husb.* (1623) 89 Soft huckell bones, and a bigge nach [1668 natch], round and knotty. 1798 A. Young *Ann. Agric.* XXX. 198 (Britten), [The catch or point of the rump is called] The nache in some writers; also the tail points by others. 1799 *View Agric. Lincoln* 299 Breadth of nache, eight inches below the tail setting on, 1 ft. 6 in. 1828 *Craven Gloss., Nache-bone*, rump bone.

Nacht, obs. form of Night, Naught.

Nacio(u)n, obs. forms of Nation.

†**Nack,** obs. variant of Knack *sb.*[2]

1676 Lady Fanshawe *Memoirs* (1829) 192 He sent me a very rich present of perfumes, skins, gloves, and purses embroidered, with other nacks of the same kind. 1747 Richardson *Clarissa* (1811) I. 40 If he gets a nack of visiting her there. 1789 in Hatfield *Notices Doncaster* (1866) I. 82 Corruptors of youth who attend such places with gaming tables, dice, nacks, and other instruments.

†**Nack,** obs. variant of Knack *v.*

1570 Foxe *A. & M.* (ed. 2) 129 In hodkyn wise at him they nacke, They laugh to see him skippe.

Nack, obs. variant of Nock *v.*

Na·cket, *sb.*[1] *Sc.* [app. ad. F. *naquet* 'the boy that serues, or stops the ball .. at Tennis; a .. Tennis Court-keeper's boy' (Cotgr.).] †**a.** (See etym. note.) *Obs.* **b.** A pert, forward, smart boy.

1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* xiv. 67 Sa mony rakkettis, sa mony ketche-pillaris, Sic ballis, sic nackettis, and sic tutivillaris. 1833 Sanos *Poems* 121 (E. D. D.), In there comes a little nackit. 1890 'H. Haliburton' *In Scottish Fields* 135 He would rest content with..referring to him as a 'nacket'.

Na·cket, *sb.*[2] *Sc.* [var. of *nocket*, of obscure origin, current in Sc. and Northumb.: see *Eng. Dial. Dict.*] A snack or lunch: a slight repast.

1789 Davidson *Seasons* 78 (Jam.). 1821 Scott *Pirate* xi, She could not but say, that the young gentleman's nacket looked very good.

Na·cky, variant of Knacky *a.*

1803 Mary Charlton *Wife & Mistress* III. 57 They're so nacky at winning folk's money. 1824 Miss Ferrier *Inher.* xv, Have you no nice, nacky, little handy work that you could be doing at?

Nacoda(r, obs. forms of Nakhoda.

†**Nacorne,** var. of Naker. So †**Nacorner,** nakerer. *Obs. rare* $^{-0}$.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 350/1 Nacorne, ynstrument of mynstralsye, *nabulum*. *Ibid.*, Nacornere, *nabularius*.

Nacre (nē'·kəɪ). Also 6 **nackre**, 7 **nacker, nakre**, 7–9 **naker**. [a. F. *nacre*, †*nacle* (1416; cf. med.L. *nacrum*, 1347 in Du Cange) = Sp. and Pg. *nacar*, It. *nacchera*, †*naccara*, med.L. *nacchara, nacara* (1295 in Du Cange), of uncertain, but prob. Oriental, origin.]

1. The pinna or sea-pen, or other shell-fish yielding mother-of-pearl.

1598 Florio, *Naccare*...Also the shell-fish which some call a nackre. 1601 Holland *Pliny* IX. xlii. I. 261 The Nacre also called Pinnæ, is of the kind of Shell-fishes. It is.. never without a companion, .. which beareth the Nacre companie. 1658 Hoole tr. *Comenius' Orb. Sensual.* (ed. 12) 46 The Oyster affordeth sweet meat,..the Naker, pearls. 1687 A. Lovell tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* II. 162 Every one of these Barks hath Men for Diving to the bottom of the Sea and picking up the Shell-fish or Nacres. 1727 *Philip Quarll* 188 Polishing the Rest of his Shells, some, as fine as tho' they had been Nakers of Pearl. 1777 Pennant *Brit. Zool.* IV. 97 *Pinna*, nacre; its animal a Slug. 1834 Gooo *Bk. Nature* II. 17 Among the more elegant of this division is the nacre, pinna, or sea-pen.

attrib. 1605 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. iii. III. (*Lawe*) 699 Tis a Valley paved (else) With golden sands, with Pearle, and Nacre-shels.

2. A smooth, shining, iridescent substance forming the inner layer in many shells; mother-of-pearl.

1718 Ozell tr. *Tournefort's Voy.* I. 178 It is a shining Naker within. 1755 *Gentl. Mag.* XXV. 32 Orient, the fine naker, or mother of pearle colour, which is seen on some shells. 1799 Hatchett in *Phil. Trans.* LXXXIX. 316 Of the shells composed of nacre or mother of pearl, I selected the oyster. 1811 Pinkerton *Petral.* I. 414 These exquisite colours arise from the laminar naker, or what is commonly called mother-of-pearl, of a kind of nautilus. 1862 Ansted *Channel Isl.* IV. xxii. 510 The iridescent nacre of the shell was used in this way. 1888 *Contemp. Rev.* May 690 A fine pearl is worth from one to eight pounds sterling a grain according to size, colour, and 'nacre'.

attrib. 1895 C. Holland *Jap. Wife* 61 A flat shell, with lovely mother-of-pearl tints on its nacre hollow.

Hence **Na·cred** *a.*, faced with, having the hues of, nacre; **Na·creness**, the qualities of nacre.

1755 *Gentl. Mag.* XXV. 82 This shell..is finely nakered within. 1845 Macgillivray *Conchol. Text-bk.* 224 *Nacred*, pearly, perlaceous. 1862 F. Hall *Hindu Philos. Syst.* 169 Cognizing nacreness as the abstract nature of the thing beheld.

Nacreous (nē'·krɪəs), *a.* [f. Nacre + -ous.]

1. Consisting of or resembling nacre in substance.

1836–41 Brande *Chem.* 791 When heated, these crystals fuse,..and, at a red heat, sublime, yielding nacreous scales. 1851 Woodward *Mollusca* iv. 38 The nacreous shells are formed by alternate layers of very thin membrane and carbonate of lime. 1875 Blake *Zool.* 242 The internal or nacreous stratum of a fossil bivalve shell.

2. Exhibiting the iridescent hues of nacre.

1854 Murchison *Siluria* ix. 196 The nacreous lustre of its interior. 1877 *Athenæum* 3 Nov. 572/2 A youth reclining on a cliff, contemplating a fan-like, nacreous mass of cloud. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 558 The nacreous aspect is preserved, and the affected area may look brilliantly white.

Nacrine (nē'·krəin), *sb.* and *a.* [f. Nacre + -ine [1] and [4].] **a.** *sb.* The hue of nacre. **b.** *adj.* Of the nature of, belonging to, nacre.

1839–52 Bailey *Festus* 508 Alternating with azure and all gems—Or as in nacrine blent in one soft blaze. 1862 F. Hall *Hindu Philos. Syst.* 246 Nacrine silver, which is nothing but nacre under the appearance of silver.

Nacrite (nē'·krəit). *Min.* [f. Nacre + -ite [1] 2: named by A. Brongniart, 1807.] A mineral occurring in pearly scales.

Thomson's *nacrite* is not the same as Brongniart's.

1808 Allan *Mineral Nomencl.* (ed. 2) s.v. 1816 Jameson *Min.* (ed. 2) I. 524. 1836 T. Thomson *Min., Geol.*, etc. I. 245 This mineral occurs usually in mica slate, taking the place of the mica; so that the rock..constitutes a mixture of nacrite and quartz. 1876 Harley *Mat. Med.* (ed. 6) 127 Potash is found in most of the alkaline-earthy minerals, as mica, felspar, leucite, and nacrite.

Nacrous (nē'·krəs), *a.* [-ous.] Nacreous.

1835–6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 547/1 The shell is white, lined with a nacrous layer within. 1854 Badham *Halieutics* 212 The shot lustrous surface of the belly and sides is certainly nacrous.

So **Nacry** (nē'·kri), *a. rare.*

1859 Richardson *Varrell's Brit. Fishes* II. 234 The scales are small.. The cheeks nacry and scaleless. *Ibid.* 296 The sands..were covered with its delicate nacry scales.

Nacyon(e, obs. forms of Nation.

†**Nad, nadde, nade,** had not: see Ne and Have *v.* A. 9. *Obs.*

The forms are common from *c* 1300 to *c* 1430.

c 1275 Lay. 8013 Wei þat ich nadde bi war. *Ibid.* 19948 Nade Arður nanne cok þat he nas kempe god. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 3281 He nadde rested but a prowe. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 724 Nade he ben dusty .. he hade ben ded. ? *a* 1366 Chaucer *Rom. Rose* 458 She nadde on but a streit old sak. *c* 1400 *Beryn* 3902 Nad Geffrey & his wit ibe, wee had be distroyed. 1440 in *Wars Eng. in France* (Rolls) II. 450 It nad ben possible..but by such moyens. 1480 Caxton *Chron. Eng.* ccxlii. 282 They wold haue done moche harme ..nadde the maire..seced hem with fayre wordes.

Nadder, Naddre, etc., obs. forms of Adder.

Nadir (nē'·dəɪ). *Astron.* Also 5 **naddyr**, 7 **nadyr.** [= F., Sp., Pg., and It. *nadir*, ad. Arab. نظير *naḍīr* opposite to, over against (also used as *sb.*). In sense 2 used ellipt. for *naḍīr es-semt* 'opposite to the zenith'.]

†**1.** A point in the heavens diametrically opposite to some other point, esp. to the sun. Const. *of* and *to*. (See also quot. 1727–38.) *Obs.*

c 1391 Chaucer *Astrol.* II. § 6 The nadir of the sonne is thilke degree þat is opposit to the degree of the sonne, in the 7 signe, as thus, euery degree of aries bi ordre is nadir to euery degree of libra by ordre. *Ibid.* § 36 Þe bygynnyng of the 7 hows is nadir of the Assendent, & the bygynnyng of the 8 hows is nadir of the 2. 1598 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. ii. IV. *Columnes* 644 In what bright starry Signe, th' Almighty dread Daye's Princely Planet's dayly billeted; In which his Nadir is. 1727–38 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v., *Sun's Nadir* is the axis of the cone projected by the shadow of the earth; thus called, in regard that the axis being prolonged, gives a point in the ecliptic diametrically opposite to the sun.

2. The point of the heavens diametrically opposite to the zenith; the point directly under the observer. Also *attrib.*

c 1495 *The Epitaffe*, etc. in Skelton's Wks. 1843 II. 393 Creatures more maddyr In erthe none wandreth atweene senit and naddyr. 1559 W. Cunningham *Cosmogr. Glasse* 40 Nadir [under the figure of the globe]. 1593 Fale *Art Dial.* 6 Above C. let Zenith be written, beneath D. Nadir. 1604 R. Cawdrey *Table Alph.* (1613), *Nadir*, the point directly vnder vs opposite to the Zenith. 1625 N. Carpenter *Geog. Del.* I. v. 103 If the earth .. bee placed neere the Nadir or midnight point, they will appeare greater in the East or West. 1727–38 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v. *Zenith*, The nadir is the zenith to our antipodes, as our zenith is the nadir to them. 1815 J. Smith *Panorama Sc. & Art* I. 516 All circles drawn through the zenith and nadir, are perpendicular to the horizon. *a* 1821 Keats *Hyperion* I. 276 From the nadir deep Up to the zenith. 1859 Tennyson *Merlin & V.* 347 May this hard earth cleave to the Nadir hell.

fig. *a* 1631 Donne *Select.* (1840) 172, I can see him in the nadir, in the lowest dejection, and see how he works upon Joseph in the prison. 1675 Traherne *Chr. Ethics* 408

[Humility] hath a nadir beneath it, a lower point in another heaven. 1693 CONGREVE *Double-Dealer* I. ii, You shall command me from the zenith to the nadir.

† b. *Nadir to*, directly under. *Obs. rare.*

1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 5 Note, that only then, when wee are Nadyr to the Sunne, we have no shadow. *Ibid.* 43 Muskat is a Citie..almost Nadyr to the crabbed Tropique.

3. *transf.* The lowest point (*of* anything); the place or time of greatest depression or degradation.

1793 H. WALPOLE *Let. to H. More* Wks. 1846 VI. 496 The nadir of contempt. 1837 HALLAM *Hist. Lit.* I. i. § 4 *note*, The seventh century is the *nadir* of the human mind in Europe. 1865 W. G. PALGRAVE *Arabia* I. 361 The land, then at its very nadir in every respect. 1882 FARRAR *Early Chr.* II. 221 The Jewish and the heathen world, each at the nadir of their degradation and impiety.

attrib. 1814 *Sortes Horatianæ* 63 The black-letter of antiquity..has now, I think, reached its nadir point. 1858 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* III. xvi. (1872) I. 239 This..is about the nadir-point of the Brandenburg-Hohenzollern History.

Hence **Na·diral** *a. rare*⁻¹. [F. *nadiral.*]

1891 T. HARDY *Tess* xxv, Its transcendental aspirations.. based on the geocentric view of things, a zenithal paradise, a nadiral hell.

Nadorite (næ·dŏrəit). *Min.* [Named in 1870 from its locality, Djebel *Nador*, in Algeria: see -ITE¹ 2.] A brown chlorantimonate of lead, occurring in orthorhombic crystals.

1872 DANA *Min.* App. I. 11 Nadorite [occurs]..in flattened tabular crystals. 1893 CHAPMAN *Blowpipe Practice* 160 Nadorite...Hitherto found only in calamine deposits.

Nadrylle: see ADRYLLE *v.*

† **Næ**, occas. ME. variant of NA *conj.*¹ *Obs.*

c 1205 LAY. 9680 Swa..nulle ich nauere mare..næ nauere mare heom senden gauel. *Ibid.* 9686.

Nae, Sc. and north. var. of NA or NO, not.

1725 RAMSAY *Gentle Sheph.* I. i, Weel I kend she meant nae as she spak. 1755 R. FORBES *Ajax, Shop-bill* vi, We'll gar him say, he's nae outwitted. 1816 SCOTT *Old Mort.* vii, I see nae sae muckle difference atween the twa ways o't. 1838 HOWITT *Rur. Life* I. 312 I'll nae gie it thee.

Nae, Sc. variant of NO *a.* and *adv.*

Naebody, Sc. form of NOBODY.

Nae-the-less, Sc. form of NATHELESS.

Naething, Sc. form of NOTHING.

† **Næve.** *Obs.* [ad. L. *nævu-us* NÆVUS: cf. obs. F. *neve* (Cotgr.).] A spot or blemish.

1619 SCLATER *Exp. 1 Thess.* (1630) 229 The Image of God ..perhaps in them hath more næues and blemishes. 1649 DRYDEN *Elegy Ld. Hastings* 55 Was there no milder way but the small-pox,..So many spots, like næves, our Venus soil? *a* 1697 AUBREY *Lives* (1898) II. 182 He was a tall, handsome, and bold man: but his naeve was that he was damnable proud.

Nævoid (nī·void), *a. Path.* [f. NÆV-US + -OID.] Of the nature of a nævus.

1876 *Trans. Clinical Soc.* IX. 53 The vascular appearance of the tumour..tended to confirm the belief that it was nævoid in character. 1899 J. HUTCHINSON in *Archives Surg.* X. 130 There probably existed somewhere in the vesiculæ a little nævoid or papillary growth.

Nævo·se, *a. rare*⁻⁰. [f. as prec. + -OSE¹.] 'Spotted, freckled' (Webster 1847). So **Næ·vous** *a.* (*Cent. Dict.* 1890).

‖ **Nævus** (nī·vŭs). *Path.* Pl. **nævi** (nī·vəi). [L.] A hypertrophied state of the blood-vessels of the skin, forming spots or elevations of a red or purplish colour, usually congenital; a mother's mark, a mole. *Nævus needle*, a surgical needle for removing a nævus (Knight 1884).

[1693 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Nævi*, Moles, certain native Spots, and are Two-fold, either plain, or protuberant. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Nævus*, a Mole, a natural Mark or Spot in the Body.] 1835-6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 242/2 If the common mole be admitted under this class of nævi. *Ibid.* 243/1 The..characteristic of the third form of nævus. 1876 DUHRING *Dis. Skin* 41 Permanent vascular growths in the skin, as nævi. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 826 A nævus is a new growth consisting of a congeries of dilated freely communicating vessels, held together by connective tissue.

Naf, have not: see HAVE *v.* A. 9.

Naf(e, Naff(e, obs. or dial. forms of NAVE.

† **Naff**(e. *Obs. rare*⁻⁰. [Of obscure origin.] Some water-bird.

1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 9/17 A Naffe, a birde, *vria.* 1678 LITTLETON *Lat.-Eng. Dict.*, *Vria*, a bird called a naff. Naff, *mergus cirrhatus.*

Nafre, obs. form of NEVER.

Nag (næg), *sb.*¹ Forms: α. 5-7 **nagge,** 6-8 **nagg,** 5- **nag.** β. *north.* and *Sc.* 5-7 **nage,** 6- **naig** (nēg). γ. **neg.** [Of obscure origin: the corresponding Du. *neg* or *negge* has not been found earlier than Kilian, who gives 'Negghe *Holl. Fris.* Mannus, equus pumilus. *Ang.* nagghe'.]

1. A small riding horse or pony.

α. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 7727 He neyt as a nagge, at his nose thrilles. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 350/1 Nagge, or lytylle beest, *bestula, equillus.* *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* v. 133 He wente to Kyng Yons courte vpon a lytyll nagge. 1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* XXXII. (Percy Soc.) 157 Thus Correction, with her whyp did dryve The litle nagge. 1535 *Act* 27 *Hen. VIII*, c. 6 § 1 Horses and nagges of small stature and value. 1598 BARRET *Theor. Warres* v. ii. 143 A pretie light horse, such as be our Northerne nagges. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 56 They have very little horses in these parts to draw the Waggons, like to the galloway nags of Scotland. 1641 BROME *Joviall Crew* IV. i, I prethee, good Friend, let our Nags be set up. 1709 PRIOR *Let. to Sir T. Hanmer* 4 Aug., If at Rischam fair any pretty nagg..presented himself. 1732 BOLINGBROKE *Let. to Swift* 18 July, Get on Pegasus..or mount the white nag in the Revelation. 1810 *Sporting Mag.* XXXVI. 232 The unequalled goodness of the English nag. 1840 DICKENS *Barn. Rudge* I, His nag gone lame in riding out here. 1879 BROWNING *Martin Relph* 130 Lend to a King's friend here your nag!

fig. *a* 1764 LLOYD *Fam. Ep.* Poet. Wks. 1774 II. 58 As a plain nag, in homely phrase, I'll..make a trot in easy rhime.

β. 1464 *Mann. & Housch. Exp.* (Roxb.) 195 Reynold Morgan on a hay nage of myn. 1471 *Paston Lett.* III. 12 That the horse may be kept well,..and that Jakys nage have mete i-now also. 1532 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) VI. 34 Unto my moder a bay nage. 1572 *Satir. Poems Reform.* XXXII. 18 With our Naiggis to gane [=go] to Edinburgh. 1648 *Hamilton Papers* (Camden) 150 That litell nage that I was bringinge for the Prince. *a* 1774 FERGUSSON *Plainstanes & Cawsey* Poems (1845) 47 Whinstanes houkit frae the Craigs May thole the prancin feet o' naigs. 1785 BURNS *Ep. to J. Lapraik* II. ii, Dealing thro' amang the naigs Their ten-hours bite. 1814 SCOTT *Wav.* XXX, The casualties whilk may befall the puir naig while in your honour's service. 1887 SERVICE *Life Dr. Duguid* 260 Saddling his naig he sallied oot to seek her.

γ. *a* 1734 NORTH *Lives* (1826) I. 288 They [in Northumberland] were a comical sort of people, riding upon negs, as they call their small horses.

† b. *transf.* as a term of abuse. *Obs.*

1598 MARSTON *Sco. Villanie* B 2 Hence lewd nags away, Goe read each poast,..Then to Priapus gardens. *Ibid.* E vii b, The witlesse sence Of these odde naggs, whose pates circumference Is fild with froth! 1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* III. x. 10 Yon ribaudred Nagge of Egypt.. Hoists Sailes, and flyes.

2. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *nag-bell, -colt, horse, -tail*; also *nag-tailed* adj.

1619 in Ferguson & Nanson *Munic. Rec. Carlisle* (1887) 277 Mr. Maior..shall call for..the horse and nage bells with all expedytion. 1710 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4701/4 Stoln or stray'd.., a brown Bay Nag-Colt. 1769 *Stratford Jubilee* I. i. 8 With relays of your nag-tailed bays. 1791 GILPIN *Forest Scenery* II. 256 The short dock everywhere disappeared...The nag-tail however still continued in use. *Ibid.*, The nag-tail is still seen in all genteel carriages. 1816 *Sporting Mag.* XLVIII. 239 A fall of 50*l.* per cent. has taken place in nag and hack horses.

Nag, *sb.*², occas. variant of KNAG *sb.*¹

a 1775 *Jock o' the Side* viii. in Child *Ballads* III. 481 They cut a tree with fifty nags [*v.r.* snags] upo' each side For to clim Newcastle wall.

Nag (næg), *sb.*³ [f. next.] The act of nagging; irritating language.

1894 *Westm. Gaz.* 26 Nov. 2/1 Its correspondent..quotes in support a counter piece of nag in some German *Standard.* 1895 *Daily News* 14 Mar. 5/2 There is not a trace of 'nag' in their rejoinders.

Nag (næg), *v.* Also **nagg, knag, gnag.** [Orig. a dialect word, and prob. of Scand. origin: cf. Norw. and Sw. *nagga* (obs. Da. *nagge*) to gnaw, bite, nibble; to vex, irritate; to be painful (Færöese *nagga* to rub; obs. Icel. *nagga*, ?to complain), with the related sb. *nagg* (Da. *nag*) gnawing, remorse, rancour, pain, etc.

A LG. *naggen* in the sense 'to irritate, provoke, etc.' is also recorded in the 15th c. (in *Teuthonista*), and appears (along with *gnaggen*) to be still in use. In some northern Eng. dialects a variant *naig* (*knaig, gnaig*), recorded from 1781 onwards, occurs in the same senses as *nag.*]

1. *dial.* a. *trans.* and *intr.* To gnaw, to nibble.

1825 BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss.*, *Nag*, to gnaw at anything hard. 1854 MISS BAKER *Northampt. Gloss.* s.v., The child likes to gnag at a crust. 1869 *Lonsdale Gloss.*, *Nag*, to natter or nibble as a mouse. 1876 *Mid-Yorksh. Gloss.* s.v., Give t' dog a bone to nag.

b. *intr.* To keep up a dull gnawing pain; to ache persistently.

1836 [see NAGGING *ppl. a.* 1]. 1879 [see 4]. 1886 *Cheshire Gloss.* s.v., 'How's your face, now?' 'Well, it nags a bit'.

2. To be persistently worrying or irritating by continued fault-finding, scolding, or urging.

1828 *Craven Gloss.*, *Knag*, to wrangle, to quarrel, to raise peevish objections. 1859 B. JERROLD *Life Jerrold* 216 The servant writes..to know whether Mrs. Squaw nags. 1863 *Sat. Rev.* 3 Oct., Man was formed to bully, as woman was formed to nag. 1880 SPURGEON *Ploughm. Pict.* 112 If they are always nagging and grumbling they will lose their hold of their children.

b. Const. *at* a person, etc.

1857 SIR F. PALGRAVE *Norm. & Eng.* II. 706 He was constantly..knagging at Richard's power and prosperity. 1865 TROLLOPE *Belton Est.* xvii. 203 It's no good my mother nagging at me. 1894 BIRRELL *Ess.* xviii. 208 Authors and critics cannot help nagging at one another.

3. *trans.* To assail or annoy (a person) with persistent fault-finding or provocation; to irritate with continuous urging to something.

1840 SPURDENS *Suppl. Forby* s.v., They tew mawthers are ollost nagging one another. 1849 ALB. SMITH *Pottleton Legacy* xxii, Not having anybody to abuse directly, they began to knag their brother. 1861 DIXON *Bacon* x. § 9 When she again goes home to Westwood Park she nags and frets Sir John. 1874 LISLE CARR *Jud. Gwynne* I. iii. 75 In spite of his heroic stolidity and equanimity even when being nagged to desperation.

b. To wear *out* by nagging.

1870 VERNEY *L. Lisle* xxvii, To have a tongue to nagg folk's lives out.

4. Used with repetition of the stem-syllable to express the persistency of the action.

1860 THACKERAY *Lovel* iii. 88 Is it pleasing to..have your wife nagnagging you because she has not been invited..? 1879 MISS JACKSON *Shropsh. Word-bk.* s.v., The tuth-ache ..kep' nag, nag, naggin'..till about four o'clock.

Nagare, -ere, obs. forms of AUGER.

‖ **Nagari** (nä·gări), *a.* Also 8 **nagree, naagoree,** 9 **nagaree, naguree.** = DEVANAGARI (q.v.).

1776 *Trial of Nundocomar* 9/1, I have likewise..a Nagree letter of attorney. 1786 SIR W. JONES *Let.* 27 Feb. *Mem.* (1835) II. 55 The characters..are little more than the *nagari* letters inverted and rounded. 1846 J. T. THOMSON *Hindee Dict.* Pref. p. iii, A delay in preparing the Naguree types prevented its publication. 1872 MONIER-WILLIAMS *Sanskrit Dict.* Pref. 18 *note*, The present form of Nāgarī is thought to be little older than the tenth or eleventh century. 1891 *Jrnl. Asiatic Soc. Bengal* LIX. I. 81 Two very distinct classes of the ancient Nágarí alphabet.

Na-gat, obs. Sc. form of NO-GATE.

† **Nage.** *Obs. rare*⁻¹. [a. OF. *nage*, var. *nache*: see NACHE.] The buttock.

c 1320 LANGTOFT *Chron.* (Rolls) II. 248 The fote folk Put the Scottes in the polk And nackened thair nages.

Nagger (næ·gəɹ). [-ER¹.] One who nags.

1881 *Spectator* 22 Jan. 109 The Irish are naggers. 1895 *Daily Tel.* 17 Jan. 5/3 Naggers always labour under imaginary grievances.

Naggin, variant of NOGGIN.

Nagging (næ·giŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. NAG *v.* + -ING¹.] The action of the verb; persistent annoyance, irritation, or fault-finding.

1855 SMEDLEY *H. Coverdale* lix, A process termed in the patois of..kitchens..'nagging'. 1864 MISS YONGE *Trial* vii, His grumbling remarks..too often..were that sort of censure that is expressively called knagging. 1896 HARE *Story of my Life* I. ii. 167 Fits of naughtiness..caused by the incessant 'nagging' I received.

Nagging (næ·giŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. NAG *v.* + -ING².]

1. Of pain: Gnawing, aching persistently.

1836 MRS. SHERWOOD *Henry Milner* III. iv, A person enduring a nagging tooth-ache. 1847 HALLIWELL, *Naggingpain*, a slight but constant pain, as the toothache.

2. Persistently annoying by petty fault-finding or irritation.

1869 MRS. HEATON *Dürer* I. iii. (1881) 61 A nagging tongue in a woman is not of such rare occurrence. 1874 LISLE CARR *Jud. Gwynne* I. i. 15 No nagging wife,..no chance of visitors. 1894 J. KNIGHT *Garrick* xiv. 274 Her letters are..those of a jealous, conceited, nagging woman.

b. Of the nature or character of nagging.

1883 *Congregationalist* Dec. 1036 A..disposition to a nagging criticism. 1884 SHARMAN *Hist. Swearing* iii. 41 They may place nagging obstacles in the way of its career.

Hence **Na·ggingness.**

1898 *Daily News* 9 Nov. 8/4 Your remarks..are not a whit too strong, as her naggingness is becoming unbearable.

Na·ggish, *a.* Also **kn-.** [f. NAG *v.* + -ISH.] Of a nagging character or type.

1885 J. W. EBSWORTH *Roxb. Ball.* V. 323 A knaggish persistence, as of a scolding but coquettish vixen.

Naggle (næ·g'l), *sb.* [f. the vb.] Pettiness.

1865 *Pall Mall G.* 8 Apr. 7 In these days of niggle and naggle, its force is apt to be miscalled coarseness by critics of a particular school.

Naggle (næ·g'l), *v.* Also *dial.* **gn-.** [Frequentative of NAG *v.*] *intr.* To gnaw; to nag, quarrel, haggle, etc. Hence **Na·ggling** *vbl. sb.*

1869 *Lonsdale Gloss.*, *Naggle*, to gnaw. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 28 May 5/7 When..Lord Salisbury began to naggle about days [etc.]. 1884 HAWLEY *Wit, Wisdom & Philos. Richter* 114 Frivolous, giddy man needs some powerful shock to counteract his tendency to continual petty naggling. 1897 *Daily News* 5 July 3/4 They seemed to have been quarrelling and naggling a great deal.

† **Na·ggon.** *Obs. rare*⁻¹. = NAG *sb.*¹

1630 J. TAYLOR (Water-P.) *Wks.* (N.), Wert thou George with thy naggon, That foughtst with the draggon.

Naggy (næ·gi), *sb.* Also *Sc.* 8-9 **naigie** (nē·gi), 8 **nagie.** [dimin. of NAG *sb.*¹: see -IE, -Y.] A small nag, a pony. (See also *Shank's naggy.*)

1784 *Dick o' the Cow* lxii. in Child *Ballads* III. 468 Here is a white-footed nagie. 1793 BURNS *Bonnie Jean* ii, He had owsen, sheep, and kye, And wanton naigies nine or ten. 1828 *Sporting Mag.* XXI. 286 A black naggy, with a tail much longer than his height. 1894 BLACKMORE *Perlycross* 64 Then the naggie put his foot down.

Naggy (næ·gi), *a.* Also **kn-.** [f. NAG *v.* + -Y¹.] Given to nagging; also *dial.* ill-natured, bad-tempered.

1697 CLELAND *Collect. Poems* 96 Their knaggie talking did up barme him, Their sharp reflections did much warm him. 1825 BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss.*, *Knaggy*, testy, ill-humoured. *Ibid.*, *Naggy*, irritable. 1855 A. MANNING *O. Chelsea Bunho.* xx. 326, I..wondered what on earth could have made me so knaggy and upsettish. 1887 *S. Cheshire Gloss.* s.v., That woman..is so naggy wi' everybody as gos near her.

Nagher(e, var. NAWER, nowhere. *Obs.*

Naght, Na3t(e, obs. ff. NAUGHT, NIGHT *sb.*

Naghtertale, obs. form of NIGHTERTALE.

Nagnail, dial. variant of AGNAIL.

Nagor (nē·gɔɹ). [Arbitrarily named by Buffon (1764 *Hist. Nat.* XII. 326): see quot. 1780.] The Senegal antelope, *Cervicapra redunca*, having short horns with a forward curve.

1780 SMELLIE tr. *Buffon's Nat. Hist.* (1785) VII. 38 We have found, in the cabinet of M. Adanson,..a stuffed animal, which we called Nagor, on account of the resemblance of its horns to those of the nanguer. 1801 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* II. II. 361 The Nagor is chiefly found in that part of Senegal nearest the isle of Goree. 1834 *Penny Cycl.* II. 80/1 The Nagor, known only from the description of Adanson and the figure of Buffon. 1904 P. C. MITCHELL *Guide Zool. Gardens* 43 The Reed-Buck, the Nagor, and Roi Rhébok are different species of Cervicapra.

Nagre, obs. variant of AUGER.

Nagree, obs. form of NAGARI.

Nag's-head. [? f. NAG *sb.*1] (See quots.)

1855 HOPKINS *Organ* xv. § 283 The 'nag's-head swell', as the above early kind of swell was called, was not well designed. *Ibid.*, The nag's-head swell continued in use for upwards of half a century. 1881 *Grove's Dict. Mus.* III. 489/1 The original organ swell was the 'nagshead', a mere shutter, invented by Abraham Jordan in 1712.

Na·gster. *rare*—1. [f. NAG *v.* + -STER.] A nagging female.

1873 BESANT & RICE *Little Girl* I. II. iv. 150 When she was in a bad temper, which was often, she was a Nagster.

Na·gualism. [f. Central American *nagual*, a guardian spirit, esp. some beast or bird, supposed to be inseparably attached to a person.] A system of superstition and mysticism practised by a secret sect or society formerly existing in Central America.

1883 BRINTON in *Folk-Lore Jrnl.* I. VIII. 249 The learned Abbé..is not entirely satisfied that animal magnetism, ventriloquism, and such trickery, can explain the mysteries of nagualism, as the Central American system of the black arts is termed. 1896 JEVONS *Introd. Hist. Relig.* xvi. 207 Nagualism is one of the ancient forms of worship, and consists in choosing an animal as the tutelary divinity of a child.

So **Na·gualist**, an adherent of nagualism.

1894 *Science* 9 Mar. 136/2 The Nagualists were also adepts in occult art.

Naguree, variant of NAGARI.

Na·gus. *north.* and *Sc. rare.* Also 9 **nagas.** [Of obscure origin.] A miserly person.

1508 DUNBAR *Flyting* 177 Nyse nagus, nipcaik, with thy schulderis narrow. 1882 *Lancs. Gloss., Nagas*, a greedy, stingy person.

Nagyagite (nædʒăgəit, nægyăgəit). *Min.* [f. *Nagyag* in Hungary, its locality; named by Haidinger in 1845.] Black telluride of lead.

1849 NICOL *Min.* 476 Nagyagite..in the open tube emits sulphurous acid. 1882 DANA *Min.* (ed. 4) 149 Nagyagite, or Foliated tellurium, is..foliated like graphite.

Nah, ought not; **Nahte**, had not; see OWE *v.* 5.

Naht, obs. form of NAUGHT.

Nai, obs. form of NAY *adv.*

Naia, variant of NAJA.

Naiad (nē'·ăd, nəi·ăd). *Myth.* Also 7 nay-. [f. L. *Nāïad-*, Gr. Νάϊαδ-, stem of *Νάϊας Νάϊάς*, related to *νάειν* to flow, *ναμα* running water, river, etc.] One of a number of beautiful young nymphs imagined as living in, and being the tutelary spirits of, rivers and springs; a river-nymph.

1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* IV. i. 128 You Nimphs cald Nayades of y° windring brooks. 1622 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* XX. 125 The boughs for garlands..Which the clear Naiads make them anadems withal. 1728–46 THOMSON *Seasons, Spring* 400 Down to the river, in whose ample wave Their little Naiads love to sport at large. 1784 COWPER *Task* I. 328 Between them weeps A little Naiad her impov'rish'd urn. *a* 1821 KEATS *Hyperion* I. 13 The Naiad 'mid her reeds Press'd her cold finger closer to her lips. 1850 LEITCH tr. *C. O. Müller's Anc. Art* § 403 (ed. 2) 538 To the Nereids of the sea correspond the Naiads of the land. 1880 'OUIDA' *Moths* I. 101 What nymph or Naiad have you found?

transf. 1876 R. F. BURTON *Gorilla L.* II. 256 A bubbling brook, a true naiad of the hills.

attrib. and *Comb.* 1820 SHELLEY *Sensit. Pl.* I. 21 The Naiad-like lily of the vale. 1865 MISS YONGE *Clever Wom.* viii, The naiad performances they shared together on the smooth bit of sandy shore.

‖ **Naiades** (nē'·ădīz, nəi·ădīz). *Myth.* Also 7 nay-. [L. *Nāïadēs*, Gr. Νάϊάδες, pl. of *Νάϊας, Νάϊάς*: see prec.] Naiads, river-nymphs.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 172 And for the wodes in demeynes To kepe, tho ben Driades; Of freisshe welles Naiades. 1591 SPENSER *Virg. Gnat* 26 Ye Sisters, which the glorie hee Of the Pierian streames, fayre Naiades. 1613–16 W. BROWNE *Brit. Past.* II. iv, With all the Nayades that fish and swim. 1634 MILTON *Comus* 254 The Sirens three, Amid'st the flowry-kirtl'd Naiades. 1671 — *P. R.* II. 355 Nymphs of Diana's train, and Naiades. 1791 COWPER *Odyss.* XIII. 121 A pleasant cave Umbrageous, to the nymphs devoted named The Naiades. 1820 SHELLEY *Witch Atl.* xxiii, The fountains where the Naiades bedew Their shining hair.

Naiant (nē'·ănt), *a. Her.* Also 6 **nayaunt, -ante.** [a. AF. **naiant, -aunt*, = OF. *noiant* (*noant, nouant*), pres. pple. of *noier, nouer, noer* :— L. *natāre* to swim.] Swimming. (See quots.)

1562 LEIGH *Armorie* (1597) 99 b, If he [a dolphin] were in Fesse, then you should saye, nayaunt. 1572 BOSSEWELL *Armorie* II. 65 The fielde is verte, a whale nayante Argente, pellettee Sable. 1610 GUILLIM *Heraldry* III. xxii. 167 All Fishes being borne Transuerse the Escocheon must in blazon be termed Naiant. 1661 MORGAN *Sph. Gentry* III. v. 51 Three Sea-horses naiant argent. 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Naiant*, or *Natant* (i. e. Swimming) is the proper Term in Heraldry, to Blazon Fishes in an Escutcheon, when they are drawn in an Horizontal Posture, Fess-wise, or Transversly across the Escutcheon. 1858 E. J. MILLINGTON *Heraldry* 346 The hase water, therein a Salmon naiant. 1864 BOUTELL *Her. Hist. & Pop.* xiv. (ed. 3) 149 Another shield, azure, charged with three herrings naiant in pale arg.

‖ **Naib** (nā·ib, nē'·ib). Also 7 **neip**, 8 **niab**, 9 **naybe.** [Arab. نائب *nā'ib* a deputy: cf. NABOB and NAWAB.] A deputy governor; a deputy.

1682 HEDGES *Diary* 11 Oct., Before the expiration of this time we were overtaken by y° Caddie's Neip, y° Meerbar's deputy. 1765 HOLWELL *Hist. Events Bengal* I. 53 This person was appointed Niab, or deputy governor of Orissa. 1773 *Gentl. Mag.* XLIII. 89 One Kissindas (Duan and Naib of Decca) had embarked himself. 1813 J. FORBES *Oriental Mem.* I. 259 The naib or vizier..met the chief in the inner court and conducted him to the hall of audience. 1865 *Sat. Rev.* 18 Feb. 201 Many such letters from his naïbs or deputies..have passed through our hands. 1882 FLOYER *Unexpl. Baluchistan* 191 He answered that..if I were a naib, or perhaps a sultan, we should be brothers.

Naic(k, variants of NAIK.

Naïd (nē'·id). *Myth.* [f. L. *Nāïd-*, Gr. Νάϊδ-, stem of *Νάϊς Νάϊς*, var. of *Νάϊάς*: see NAIAD.]

†1. A naiad. *Obs. rare.*

1617 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Forth Feasting* A 3 b, O Naïd's deare, (said they) Napæas faire,..Nymphes which on Hills repaire. 1717 FENTON *Poems* 147 To this dear Solitude the Naïds bring Their faithful Urns to form a silver Spring.

2. *Zool.* A river-mussel. *rare.*

1851 WOODWARD *Manual of the Mollusca* 273 Like other fresh-water shells the Naïds are often extensively eroded by the carbonic acid dissolved in the water they inhabit.

Naie, obs. form of NAY.

‖ **Naïf** (naĭf), *a.* Also **naif**, (6–7 **naife**). [F. *naïf*:—L. *nātīv-um* : see NAIVE.]

1. Natural, artless, naïve.

1598 GALLOWAY in M. Napier *Mem. J. Napier* viii. (1834) 296 Not affectat, bot naturall and naife. [1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Naif* (Fr.), lively, quick, natural.] 1784 MME. D'ARBLAY *Diary* 15 Jan., I was half ready to laugh,—there was something so *naïf* in the complaint. 1807 SYD. SMITH *Wks.* (1850) 84 The naïf manner in which he speaks of the vestiges of ecclesiastical history. 1846 MILL *Diss. & Disc.* (1859) II. 298 The European mind had returned to something like the *naïf* unsuspecting faith of primitive times. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 18 Feb. 3/2 Had these delightfully *naïf* sentences been written a century ago.

†2. (See quots.) *Obs. rare.*

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* s.v., Jewellers..when they speak of a Diamond that is perfect in all its properties, as in the water, shape, cleanness, &c...say tis a Naif Stone; others, account a Naif Stone, to be one that is found growing naturally in such perfection, as if it had been artificially cut. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 213 Uncut Stones [diamonds] are distinguished in two sorts, Thick or Pointed, which are called Naife-Stones, and Flat Stones.

Hence **Naï·fly** *adv. rare.*

c 1655 SIDNEY in *19th Cent.* (1884) Jan. 64 Having noe other intention but to ease my troubled thoughts..by setting downe naifely the true state of my mind. 1887 *Sat. Rev.* 1 Oct. 443 The naïf and naïfly expressed vexation of the Irish Nationalist papers.

Naif, variant of NEIF; obs. form of NIEVE.

Naig, Sc. and north. variant of NAG *sb.*1

Naigie, Sc. variant of NAGGY *sb.*

‖ **Naik** (nā·ik, nē'·ik). Forms: 6 **nayque**, 8, 9 **naigue**, 7, 9 **naig**; 6, 9 **naic**, 9 **naick**; 7– **naik.** [ad. Urdū *nā'ik*, Hindī *nāyak* leader, guide, chief, overseer, officer, etc. :—Skr. *nāyaka* leader.]

1. An Indian title of nobility or authority; a person so styled; a lord, prince, or governor.

1588 HICKOCK tr. *C. Frederick's Voy.* 16 b, The Naic, that is to saye the Lord of the Citie sent..to demand of them certaine Arabian horses. 1598 W. PHILLIP tr. *Linschoten's Voy.* 51 When they will honor a man .. They giue him the title of Nayque, which signifieth a Capitaine. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* III. 105 There are many Naiques to the South of St. Thomas, who are Sovereigns. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 38 The true Possessors of it are the English, instated therein by one of their Naiks, or Prince of the Gentues. 1809 VISCT. VALENTIA *Voy.* I. 398 All I could learn was that it was built by a Naig of the place. 1862 BEVERIDGE *Hist. India* I. II. iii. 271 The naik or governor of the district volunteering to build a fort.

2. A military officer; in later use, a corporal of native infantry.

1787 SIR A. CAMPBELL *Regul. Troops* 6 (Yule), A Troop of Native Cavalry on the present Establishment consists of 1 European subaltern,..4 Naigues,..and 68 Privates. 1816 'QUIZ' *Grand Master* IV. 78 Jemadars, Havildars, Naiks, and Subadars. 1849 EASTWICK *Dry Leaves* 51 A naik and three (a corporal's party). 1895 *Westm. Gaz.* 14 Dec. 7/1 A gunner squad of one naik and fourteen gunners.

Nail (nēl), *sb.* Forms: 1 **nægel, nægl**, 2 **nayȝel**, 3 **neil(e**, 3–7 **nayle, naile**, 4–5 **nayll(e, naill(e**, 4–6 **nale**, (6–7 **neale**, 6 **neayle**), 4–7 **nayl**, 4– **nail.** [OE. *nægel, nægl* = OFris. *neil* (*nil*), OS. *nagal* (Du. *nagel*), OHG. *nagal, -el, -il* (MHG. *nagel, nail, neil*, G. *nagel*), ON. *nagl* (Sw. *nagel*, Da. *negl*, Icel. *nögl*), Goth. **nagls*, from a root **nag-* found also in Lith. *nâgas* nail, *nagà* hoof, OSl. *nogŭtĭ* (Russ. *nógotĭ*) nail, *noga* foot, and obscurely represented in L. *unguis*, OIr. *ingen*, Gr. ὄνυξ, ὄνυχος, OPers. *nāxun*, Skr. *nakhás.*

In the West Germ. languages the same form of the word is used in senses I and II, but in ON. the nail for fastening has the derivative form *nagle, nagli*, whence also Da. *nagle* (but Sw. *nagel*).]

I. 1. A hard, oval-shaped, protective covering of modified epidermis, formed upon the upper surface of the last phalanges of the fingers and toes in Man and the Quadrumana, and answering to the claws or hoofs of other animals and birds.

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) U. 260 *Unguana*, nægl. *c* 1000 *Læws Æthelbirht* in Thorpe I. 16 gif þuman nægl of weorðeð, iii. scill. ȝebete. *Ibid.*, Æt þam neglum ȝehwylcun scilling. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* II. 432 His feax weox swa swa wimmana, and his næglas swa swa earnes clawa. *c* 1055 *Byrhtferth's Handboc* in *Anglia* VIII. 326 Læt gan þæt ȝetæl..þæt þu cume to þæs læstan fingres nægle. *c* 1205 LAY. 21880 [They set] nailes to heore nebbe, þat æfter hit bledde. *a* 1225 *St. Marher.* 19 [They] bunden hire the tet [=that the] blod barst ut et te neiles. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 2163 His fet he kisten an hundred sybes, þe tos, þe nayles, and þe lithes. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. VII. 56 He caste on his..Cokeres and his Coffus for Colde of his nayles. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Staus Puer* 49 Fro blaknes kepe weel þi nailis. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* IX. 1924 His handis..Off manlik mak, with nales gret and cler. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VI* 182 b, A scoldyng woman, whose weapon is onely her toungue and her nayles. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* III. ii. 298, I am not yet so low But that my nailes can reach vnto thine eyes. *a* 1631 DONNE *Poems* (1650) 139 She is all faire, but yet hath foule long nayles. 1682 DRYDEN *Mac-Fl.* 44 The lute still trembling underneath thy nail. 1707 J. STEVENS tr. *Quevedo's Com. Wks.* (1709) 350 Do not bite your Nails. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) II. 285 The nails still continued perfect; and all the marks of the joints..remained perfectly visible. 1814 BYRON *Lara* II. vi, The bitter print of each convulsive nail. 1873 MIVART *Elem. Anat.* vii. 238 Our hair and nails are epidermal parts of the exoskeleton.

b. A similar growth on the toes of beasts and birds; a claw or talon. (See also quot. 1841.)

a 1100 *Eadwine's Cant. Psalt.* lxviii. 32 Ceælf ȝeong..hornæs forðledende & nœglæs *vel* clawa. *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* lxviii. 36 þe new kalf, forth bryngand hornes & nayles. *c* 1384 CHAUCER *H. Fame* II. 34 This Egle..Withyn hys sharpe nayles longe Me fleynge in a swappe he hente. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVIII. i. (Bodl. MS.), Nailles beþ nedefulle to kepe þe vttermoste parties and also for defence of many manere beestes. 1579 GOSSON *Sch. Abuse* (Arb.) 54 Lyons folde vp their nailes when they are in their dennes. 1661 LOVELL *Hist. Anim. & Min.* Isagoge b 1 b, The nailes are in all that have toes; but the ape's are imbricate, those of the rapacious aduncate: in others they are straight; as in doggs. 1727–38 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Animals*, Having the foot divided into Two parts or toes, having two nails, as the camel-kind. 1797 BEWICK *Brit. Birds* (1847) I. 373 The middle toe, including the nail, is about seven eighths of an inch. 1841 WATERHOUSE *Marsup.* 202 A tuft of long black hairs which conceal a nail, with which the tip of the tail is furnished. 1859 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* V. 477/2 In the dog and cat..a bony plate extends from the last phalanx into the posterior fold of the nail. 1893 NEWTON *Dict. Birds* 89 The toes of most birds are protected by claws or flat nails, only in the Ostrich the outer toe has no nail.

2. Something resembling a nail in shape or colour: †a. A growth in the eye; a haw. *Obs.*

c 1410 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) xii, Sometyme commeth to þe houndes sekenes in hir eyenn, for þer commeth a webbe..into þi one syde of þe eye and is cleped an nayle. 1600 SURFLET *Countrie Farme* I. XXVIII. 182 The naile in the eie shall be lifted vp with a little small needle of Iuorie, and then cut quite away with cisers. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 83 Pain and blindness in the eye, by reason of any skins, webs, or nails. 1656 RIDGLEY *Pract. Physick* 120 A Haw in the Eye is a little nail; it is a nervous membrane.

b. (See quot. 1578.) Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1562 TURNER *Herbal* II. 116 b, The iuyce oughte to be pressed out of the tender roses, after that whiche is named the nayle, be cut awaye. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* 655 The nayles, that is to say, the white endes of the leaues whereby they are fastened to the knappes..is called in Latine, *Vngues Rosarum*. 1611 COTGR., *Ongle d'une rose*, the nayle, root, or white bottome of the flower of a Rose. 1657 W. COLES *Adam in Eden* xix. 38 There be six parts in a Rose..as 1. The Leaves. 2. The Nails. [1821 tr. *Decandolle & Sprengel's Philos. Plants* I. iii. 63 In a polypetalous corolla, the smaller part of the petals, which often resembles a stalk, is called the nail (*unguis*), and the expanded part is called *lamina.*]

c. A nail-like excrescence, situated on the upper mandible of certain soft-billed birds.

1769 E. BANCROFT *Guiana* 171 The upper mandible being augmented with a nail. 1840 *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 263 The bill is larger..with always a white terminal nail to the upper mandible. *Ibid.*, Bill, generally blackish, with..a black nail.

3. In allusive expressions or phrases:

a. *A nail* or *nail's breadth* (cf. L. *transversum unguem*), the smallest amount. Chiefly in negative expressions.

1538 BALE *Thre Lawes* 261 The see doth ebbe and flowe And varyeth not a nayle. 1637 GILLESPIE *Eng. Pop. Cerem.* II. i. 9 The position..which we maintaine.., and from which we will not departe the breadth of one naile, is this. 1639 S. DU VERGER tr. *Camus' Admir. Events* To Rdr. a 2 He may not swerve a nailes breadth. 1754 SMOLLETT *Quix.* (1803) IV. 45, I have a greater regard for a nail's breadth of my soul, than my whole body.

b. With verbs, as *to bite, blow, pare one's nails.*

1577 *F. de Lisle's Legendarie* I viij b, This caused the Cardinal and the rest of his brethren to bite their nailes. 1579 TOMSON *Calvin's Serm. Tim.* 229/1 God must needes paire the nailes, as well of vs men as women, and vse violence against vs. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* XLI. XXXIV. 938 It is nothing so good,..to take downe the Ætolians and pare their nailes, as to looke unto Philip that he wax not too great. 1663 SOUTH *Serm.* 5 Nov. (1727) V. 221 So that the King, for any thing that he has to do in these Matters, may sit and blow his Nails; for use them otherwise, he cannot. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* VII. XV, To pare his nails the closer, I had gone into the market, and informed myself of the prices. 1883 STEVENSON *Treas. Isl.* IV. xix, A man who has been three years biting his nails on a desert island..can't expect to appear as sane as you or me.

c. *From the tender nail* (tr. L. *de tenero ungui*, Hor. *Odes* III. vi. 24), from early youth. *To the* or *a nail* (tr. L. *ad unguem*, Hor. *Sat.* I. v. 32), to a nicety, to perfection.

1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 4 Loving them inwardly, and (as the proverbe saith) from their tender nailes. *c* 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* XXIII. 581 A tall huge man, that to the nail knew that rude sport of hand. *a* 1834 COLERIDGE *Notes Horace, Epist.* II. XV, Maenius is capital. The swell-feast

buffoon to a nail. 1891 S. Mostyn *Curatica* 43 My peroration was never extempore, but always prepared beforehand, and polished to the nail.

d. *Naked, nice, as my nail*: see the adjs.

e. *Tooth and nail*: see Tooth.

II. 4. A small spike or piece of metal of varying length and thickness (generally furnished with a point and a broadened head, so as to be easily driven in by a hammer), used to fix one thing firmly to another, or as a peg from which something may be suspended, occasionally also as an ornament; rarely, a wooden peg (cf. *tree-nail*).

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) P. 107 *Paxillum, palum*, næ3l. *c* 893 K. Ælfred *Oros.* IV. i. 158 Hie namon treowu, & slozon on oþerne ende monige scearpe isene næglas. *c* 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* III. xvii, Se liz þurhæt ða næglas..ðe heo to ðam waxe mid gefæstnod wæs. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* III. 212 Nægelas ʒeseon anxsumnysse ʒetacnað. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 2151 [He] het..þurhdriuen hire tittes wiþ irnene neiles. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 712 Þer-inne wantede nouth a nayl, þat euere he sholde þer-inne do. 1340 Hampole *Pr. Consc.* 7709 Als nayles er in a whele with-out, þat with þe whele er turned obout. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 603 Ryche golde nayles þat al glytered & glent as glem of þe sunne. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 350/2 Nayl of metalle, *clavus*. Nayle of tymbyr, *cavilla*. *c* 1483 Caxton *Dialogues* 21 Gyrdellis with nayles of silver. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 223 b, As a nayle, the moo knockes it hath the more sure it is fixed. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 283 b, That they should dryve in Iron nayles into the Canons and other great pieces. 1626 Bacon *Sylva* § 14 For handsomness sake,..it were good you hang the upper Glass upon a Nail. 1687 A. Lovell tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 219 Our Rudder broke, which being quickly mended again with some Nails, we sailed only with a fore-sail. 1769 Falconer *Dict. Marine* (1780) s.v., In the same sense our seamen say, every nail in her bottom is an anchor. 1813 Shelley *Q. Mab* V. 142 To mould a pin, or fabricate a nail! 1876 Voyle & Stevenson *Milit. Dict.* 268/2 Iron nails are either wrought, cast, or cut out of sheet-iron.

collect. 1430 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* (1904) 72 Also for a c blak nayll vjd. Also for iije & half white nayll..ij s xjd. 1573 Tusser *Husb.* (1878) 36 A hatchet and bil, with hamer and englishe naile, sorted with skil.

b. In *transf.* and *fig.* senses.

a 1340 Hampole *Psalter* ix. 15 [Thai] ere festid in ded of synn, with nailes of ill delite. *Ibid.* xii. 1 With þe naile of luf festid..in Jesu crist. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Reeve's Prol.* 23 For in oure wit ther stiketh ever a nayl. 1436 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 182 The nayle of thys conclusioun. 1586 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* I. (1594) 26 The soule,..being filled with infinite perturbations, fastened in the midst of it with the naile of pleasure and griefe. 1649 E. Reynolos *Hosea* i. 33 Take..this nayle..out of my heart. 1684 *Contempl. St. Man* I. x. (1699) 108 Let him..fix his Memory with a Thousand Nails. 1822 Lamb *Elia* Ser. II. *Confess. Drunkard*, The countless nails that rivet the chains of habit. 1893 Selous *Trav. S. E. Africa* 474, I set to work to do a trade with Lo Magondi, but found him a terribly hard nail.

c. Prov. *One nail drives out another*, etc.

For purely figurative uses see 7 c.

1586 B. Young *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* IV. 191 One danger is expelled by an other, As one nayle is driuen out by an other. 1591 Shaks. *Two Gent.* II. iv. 193 Euen as one heate, another heate expels, Or as one naile, by strength driues out another. 1607 — *Cor.* IV. vii. 54 One fire driues out one fire; one Naile, one Naile. 1630 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Siege Jerusalem* Wks. 13/1 Thus as one nayle another out doth drive The Persians the Assyrians did deprive. 1900 *Athenæum* 27 Oct. 547/2 Nail drives out nail.

†d. Used as a mark to show the depth to which a coal-keel might be loaded. (Cf. Nail *v.* 2 c.)

1651 *Rec. Comp. Hostmen Newcastle* (Surtees) 95 The Court was informed by Mr Raph Gray..that they see two keeles of Coles of Mr —— Claverings, who had the Tweelve chalder nailes drowned. 1679 *Ibid.* 139 Custome-house officers threatens to seize the keiles that are measured by Stoke nales. 1695 *Act* 6 & 7 *Will. III*, c. 10 § 7.

e. *Mining.* A blasting-needle.

1839 Ure *Dict. Arts.* 836 When the hole is dry, and the charge of powder introduced, the nail, a small taper rod of copper, is inserted so as to reach the bottom of the hole.

5. In passages relating or alluding to the Crucifixion of Christ.

This is one of the most frequent contexts in which the word occurs in OE. and early ME.

a 900 Cynewulf *Crist* 1109 Swa him mid næglum þurhdrifan..þa hwitan honda. — *Elene* 1109 Þær þa æðelestan..hydde wæron..næglas on eorðan. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 91 He eac æteowde þa wunda & þara nægla dolh. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* John xx. 25 Ne ʒelyfe ic buton..ic do minne finger on ðære nægela [*Hatton* nayʒelene] stede. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 114 Godes honden weren ineiled oðe rode. Þurh þeo ilke neiles ich halse ou ancren [etc.]. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 16/503 Þe swete nayles al-so And þe swete burþene of godes sone. *c* 1325 *Chron. Eng.* 629 in Ritson *Metr. Rom.* II. 296 Therinne wes closed a nail gret Tbat ede thurh godes fet. *c* 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) x. 39 Þe foure nayles þat Criste was nayled with. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* lxxii. 107 Croce and nalis scharp, scurge, and lance. 1580 Hay *Demandes* in *Cath. Tract.* (S.T.S.) 58 He hes nocht the markes of his blissid fyve woundes, maid..in his handes and feit be the nales. 1649 E. Reynolds *Hosea* i. 31 They felt the nails wherewith they had crucified Christ, sticking fast in their own hearts. 1756–7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) I. 430 The faithful..elevate their minds to Christ's passion, of which the nail is a memorial. 1869 Lecky *Europ. Mor.* iv. (1877) II. 250 The nails of the Cross..were converted by the emperor into a helmet.

†b. Hence, probably, in oaths and forms of asseveration, as (*by*) *nails*, (*by*) *God's nails, his nails, 's nails. Obs.*

These expressions, however, might also belong to (or may sometimes have been taken in) sense 1: see God *sb.* 14 a.

c 1386 Chaucer *Doctor-Pardoner Link* 2 (C. 288) Ou Hoste gan to swere as he were wood, 'Harrow!' quod he, 'by nayles and by blood!' *c* 1460 [see Goo *sb.* 14 a]. *c* 1530 Copland *HyeWey to Spyttel Hous* 362 in Hazl. *E. P. P* IV. 43 With horyble otbes sweryngе as they were wod, Armes, nayles, woundes. 1573 *New Custom* II. iii, His nails, I would plague them one way or another. 1604 Dekker *Honest Whore* I. vii, Nailes, I think so, for thou telst me. *Ibid.* Sneales eate the foole. 1631 Chettle *Hoffmann* C, Well, and you were not my father,—s'nailes and I would not draw rather then put vp the foole.

6. *transf.* a. A defect in a stone. ? *Obs.*

1655 Stanley *Hist. Philos.* II. (1701) 61/2 That the Stars are of a fiery Substance, invisible, Earthly Bodies intermixt with them; that they are inherent, as nails in Chrystal. 1727–38 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v. *Marble*, There are two defects frequent in marbles..; the one, what they sometimes call nails, answering to the knots in wood.

†b. *Med.* (See quots.) *Obs.*

1600 Surflet *Countrie Farme* I. xii. 78 To ripen a naile, otherwise called a fellon or Cats-haire. 1634 T. Johnson *Parey's Chirurg.* XXII. xxxii. (1678) 516 Some call it [a carbuncle] a Nail, because it inferreth like pain as a Nail driven into the flesh. 1685 J. Cooke *Mellif. Chirurg.* IV. II. i. (ed. 4) 194 When it becomes so hard, and the Cornea round about being brawny, presseth it down, 'tis called *Elos*, *Clavus*, i.e. the Nail, being like a Nail-Head.

c. = Backing *vbl. sb.* 11.

1797 *Statist. Acc. Scotl.* XIX. 207 The waft was chiefly spun by old women, and that only from backings or nails, as they were not able to card the wool.

d. (See quot. 1812.)

1812 J. H. Vaux *Flash Dict.* s.v., A person of an overreaching, imposing disposition, is called a nail, a dead nail, a nailing rascal. 1874 S. Beauchamp *Grantley Grange* I. 121 Murby is the 'deadest nail' in all the country.

7. In allusive phrases (chiefly with verbs):

a. *To hit the* (*right*) *nail on the head*, to aim aright, to come at the very point of the matter, to say or do exactly the right thing.

a 1529 Skelton *Col. Cloute* 34 And yf that he hyt The nayle on the hede, It standeth in no stede. 1559 W. Cuningham *Cosmogr. Glasse* 19 You hit the naile on the head (as the saying is). 1599 H. Buttes *Dyets Drie Dinner* E vj, His chiefe pride resteth in hitting the nayle on the head with a quainte Epithite. 1654 Whitlock *Zootomia* 75 If in giving their judgments, forsooth, they have not hit the naile on the head. 1700 S. L. tr. *Fryke's Voy. E. Ind.* 327 At last they ignorantly hit the nail on the head, saying that the Devil was in him. 1760 Murphy *Way to keep Him* II. ii, You have not hit the right nail on the head. 1809 Malkin *Gil Blas* I. v. P 5 He hit the right nail on the head: for he let me do what I pleased. 1838 Dickens *O. Twist* xlii, You've hit the right nail on the head, and are as safe here as you could be.

b. *To drive the nail* (*up*) *to the head* (or *home*), to push a matter to a conclusion.

1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 278 b, Let hym have a respect to him selfe and his children .. and dryve not the nayle to the head. 1604 Hieron *Wks.* I. 536 He will be sure to driue the nailes of his exhortations to the head. 1650 Trapp *Comm. Deut.* ix. 7 One knock after another, drives this naile home to the head. 1690 *Def. Dr. Walker* 6 But to drive the Nail home, take the Testimonial of Gervase Squire, Esq. 1897 F. Barrett *Harding Scandal* xiv, He must drive the nail right home,..by leaving no doubt in the minds of Denise and Thrale.

c. In miscellaneous phrases, esp. various applications of *to drive* (or *clinch*) *a nail.*

1548 Udall *Erasm. Par. Luke* xii. 113 Leat therefore one nayle driue out anotber nayle. [Cf. 4 c.] 1581 Pettie tr. *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* II. (1586) 96 That fellow could not be without a reply to beate backe the nayle againe. 1623 F. Ryves in *Ussher's Lett.* (1686) 301 After a while, that Negotiation was hung up upon the Nail, in expectance of the Princes return. 1677 W. Hughes *Man of Sin* II. iii. 53 To clinch the Nail, (for 'tis all one) in Prose this fashion [etc.]. 1687 R. L'Estrange *Answ. Dissenter* 30 So he sets himself to the Driving of Another Naile. 1698 Fryer *Acc. E. India & P.* 357 They rather sought by one Nail to drive out another, than openly to denounce War against them. 1728 Vanbr. & Cib. *Prov. Husb.* IV. i. 87 O she's mad for the Masquerade! it drives like a Nail, we want nothing now but a Parson, to clinch it. 1768–74 Tucker *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 14 To gain any success, we must proceed with discretion..; driving the nail tbat will go. 1809 Malkin *Gil Blas* XI. xiii. P 4 A mischievous wind from the wrong quarter..drives a nail into the very head of the expedition. [Cf. *Judges* iv. 21–22.] 1830 Galt *Lawrie T.* II. ii. (1849) 46 He was..brisk at a bargain, so the nail was soon driven.

d. *A nail in one's coffin*, something that hastens or contributes to the end of the person or thing referred to. Freq. used with ref. to drinking. (Cf. Coffin *sb.* 3 d.)

1792 Wolcot (P. Pindar) *Expost. Odes* xv, Care to our coffin adds a nail, no doubt. 1824 Scott *Redgauntlet* ch. xvi, Every minute he lies here is a nail in his coffin. 1884 *Illustr. Lond. News* 29 Nov. 526/3 'The Candidate'..is one more nail in the coffin of slow acting.

8. *On the nail.* a. On the spot, at once, without the least delay. Chiefly used of making money payments.

The origin of the phrase is obscure, and it is not even certain that it belongs to this sense of *nail*. Though different in meaning, it may correspond to F. *sur l'ongle*, 'precisely, exactly' (cf. Du. *op den nagel*, G. *auf den nagel* in the same sense). The explanations associating it with certain pillars at the Exchange of Limerick or Bristol are too late to be of any authority in deciding the question.

1596 Nashe *Saffron Walden* Wks. (Grosart) III. 59 Tell me, haue you a minde to anie thing in the Doctors Booke! speake the word, and I will help you to it vpon the naile. 1600 Holland *Livy* VI. xiv. 225 [He] paid the whole debt downe right on the naile, unto the creditour. 1632 Massinger *City Madam* I. i, A payment on the nail for a manor Late purchased by my master. 1668 R. Steele *Husbandm. Calling* v. (1672) 127 Not I'le do it at my leisure, but upon the nail I restore him fourfold. 1694 Echard *Plautus* 90 I've occasion for a hundred Pounds down o' the Nail. 1720 Swift *Run on Bankers* Wks. 1755 IV. I. 22 We want our money on the nail. 1764 *Oxf. Sausage* 74, I on the Nail my Battels paid. 1804 Mar. Edgeworth *Pop. T., Will* ii, The bonnet's all I want, which I'll pay for on the nail. 1839 Carleton *Fardorougha* (ed. 2) 424 Answer me that on the nail! 1887 A. Birrell *Obiter Dicta* Ser. II. 165 He..paid for him on the nail with other people's money.

b. (Precise meaning not clear.)

1679 tr. *M. Mancini's Apol.* 96 While my Caleche..ran all on the Nayl [F. *veloit*] by the Road, and I endeavour'd by travelling all night to repair my loss of time. 1750 W. Ellis *Mod. Husbandm.* VI. I. 73 It is in their Power to forbear such Work till dry Weather favours their Design; and then Carts are drawn, as we call it on the Nail, without damaging their arable Lands.

c. In a fix or trap; neatly caught.

1810 Jane Porter *Sc. Chiefs* xxx, 'We shall have the rogue on the nail yet', cried he.

d. In readiness.

1846 Lanoor *Exam. Shaks.* Wks. II. 276 He sighed too ..and had ne'er a word on the nail.

e. 'On the carpet', under discussion.

1886 W. T. Stead in *Contemp. Rev.* May 666 The enormous advantage of being up to date, of discussing subjects that are, in the slang phrase, 'on the nail'. 1891 *Pall Mall G.* 18 Nov. 2/1 We must leave Spiritualism..for Theosophy, a subject at present very much 'on the nail'.

9. *Sc.* a. *To go* (or *be*) *off at the nail*, to behave strangely, go (*or* be) off one's head.

1721 Kelly *Scot. Prov.* 173 He is gone off at the Nail'.. means that he is gone out of all bounds of Reason. 1822 Galt *Sir A. Wylie* xlvii, I see ye're terrified, and think I'm going off at the nail. 1824 Miss Ferrier *Inher.* lix, They [*sc.* servants] are really going off at the nail. 1897 Beatty *Secretar* xlix, That woman's aff at the nail.

b. *Off the nail*, not quite sober.

1822 Galt *Steamboat* 300, I was what you would call a thought aff the nail, by the which my sleep wasna just what it should have been.

10. In comparisons, as *deaf as a nail, hard as nails, right as nails.*

a 1845 Hood *Tale Trump.* viii, She was deaf as a nail—that you cannot hammer A meaning into, for all your clamour. 1862 Horlock *Country Gentl.* v, Hard as nails in condition. 1889 Jessopp *Coming of Friars* v. 229 The old stewards of manors..as a class..were hard as nails. 1894 Astley 50 *Years Life* I. 225, I really believe, in a fortnight I shall be as right as nails.

III. 11. A measure of weight for wool, beef, etc., usually equal to eight pounds = Clove *sb.*3; †also, a measure of land. Now only *south. dial.* (So MDu. and MHG. *nagel.*)

1429 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 352 A nail of Lambeswolle, is at the value of ixd. 1442 *Ibid.* V. 59/1 Half a pek and a nayle of Londe, Pasture and Hethe. 1455 *Ibid.* 335/2, m.ccxxvi sakkes and half sakke and xi naylis of Woll. *c* 1500 in Arnolde *Chron.* (1811) 101 And it conteyne more than xij naile than sbal the Sheref take therfore as miche as of a sac of iij weis. 1530 Palsgr. 247/1 Nayle of woll. 1618 *Sussex Arch. Coll.* (1851) IV. 24 Paid 7*s.* to the hemp-dresser, for 14 nail of hemp-dressing. 1674 Jeake *Arith.* (1696) 80 Beef, in 1 Nail, 8 Pounds of common use. 1681 Worlidge *Syst. Agric.* (ed. 2) 329 A Naile, in some places eight pound, in some seven pound, being [?a sixteenth] of a Hundred. 1836 Cooper *Sussex Gloss.*, *Nail*, eight pounds of beef or cheese.

12. A measure of length for cloth; 2¼ inches, or the sixteenth part of a yard. † Abbrev. *nai.*

The precise origin of this sense is not clear. The use of *the nail* in early examples suggests that one sixteenth from the end of the yard-stick may have been marked by a nail.

1465 *Paston Lett.* II. 235 By me a quarter and the nayle therof for colers. 1480 *Wardr. Acc. Edw. IV* (1830) 117, ij yerds di' and a naille corse of blue silk. 1481–90 *Howard Househ. Bks.* (Roxb.) 417 Item .v. yardys mynus the nayle, welwet blake. 1536 *Act* 28 *Hen. VIII*, c. 4 § 1 Euery..halfe piece of lockerams to be in bredth a hole yarde, lackyng a nayle of the yarde. 1562 Leigh *Armorie* (1597) 77 A tippet of three nailes breadth. 1592 Lyly *Midas* v. ii, They be halfe a yeard broad, and a nayle. 1611 Cotgr., *Vn sezieme d'aulne*, three ynches, and (as one Neale of the yard) the least diuision of the French ell. 1630 Wingate *Arith.* 365, 205¾ yards or Ells, and 2 nai. 1681 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1665/4 A parcel of Grey Searge, Yard and Nail broad. 1732 *Acc. Workhouses* 60 An ell and half of three quarters and nail wide linnen. 1822 Beddoes *Bride's Trag.* I. ii, I've.. written twenty yards, two nails, An inch and a quarter, cloth-measure, of sonnets.

IV. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

13. In the names of articles used for the care of the nails, as *nail-brush, -knife,* †*-sax, -scissors*; *nail-parer, -picker, -scraper.*

c 1000 Ælfric *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 142/23 *Nouacula*, nægelsex. *c* 1205 Lay. 30578 He igrap a nail sax felliche kene and wel iwhæt. *a* 1225 *Juliana* 56 Irnene gadien, kene te keoruen al þat ba rineð to as neil cniues. 1683 Wilding in *Collect.* (O. H. S.) I. 257 For a nail-pearer. 1807 J. Beresford *Mis. Hum. Life* 245 Using a nail-brush that would serve for a wool-comb. 1810 *Splendid Follies* I. 10 Away too went combs and raror..; the wasb-ball, the nail-scraper. *Ibid.* 125 Tooth-brush, nail-picker, tongue-scraper. 1860 *All Year Round* No. 52. 35, Combs and brushes, tweezers and nail-scissors. 1893 *Times* 14 Dec. 8/2 A plentiful supply of hot and cold water, soap, nail brushes, and towels.

b. In various attributive uses, as *nail-clippings, -joint, -parings,* † *-reach, -score.*

Also freq. in recent medical works in such combs. as *nail-bed, -cell, -fold, -follicle, -groove, -matrix, -plate, -root, -substance, -surface, -tissue, -wall*, etc.

a 1652 Brome *New Acad.* I. i, Let him take heed, he comes not in my Nayl-reach. 1834 *Penny Cycl.* II. 149/1

The index and middle fingers..being connected together as far as the nail-joint. 1859 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* V. 477/1 They are enclosed within raised ridges of the whole integuments, the nail walls. 1875 ANDERSON *Norse Mythol.* 455 A mythical ship made of nail-parings. 1893 NEWTON *Dict. Birds* 89 A thickening of the Malpighian layer, which forms the 'nailbed' out of which the corneous cells grow. 1896 A. MORRISON *Child Jago* 45 Nail-scores, wide as the finger, striped her back. 1897 MARY KINGSLEY *W. Africa* 444 A bundle of finger, or other bones, nail-clippings, eyes, brains, &c.

c. Miscellaneous combs., as *nail-biter, -biting, -cutting*, etc.; *nail-bearing, -like* adjs.; **nail-tailed** *a.*, having a nail or spur on the tip of the tail, the distinctive epithet of a genus of wallabies.

1840 *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 261 The corneous portion is restricted to the nail-like extremity. 1841 WATERHOUSE *Marsup.* 201 Nail-bearing kangaroo, *Macropus unguifer*. 1863 GOULD *Mamm. Austr.* II. 52 *Onychogalea unguifer*, Nail-tailed Kangaroo. 1893 *Daily News* 5 July 5/5 Directing his attention..to the study of nail-biting. *Ibid.*, Eleven ..were confirmed nail-biters. 1896 LYDEKKER *Marsupials* 49 The three species of Nail-tailed Wallabies, which are confined to Australia..form a well-marked group. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 8/2 The question whether nail-cutting is a surgical operation.

14. In sense **4. a.** Attributive, as *nail-apparatus*, †*-chapman, -hammer, -length, -machine, -print, -shank, -shop, -smith, -trade*; † **nail-ball** (see quots.); **nail-blank**, an unfinished nail; †**nail-board** *Naut.* (meaning uncertain); **nail-kag** or **-keg**, a small barrel containing nails; also (*U.S.*) a hat of a similar shape; **nail-money** (see quot.); **nail-plate, -strip**, a piece of iron from which nails are cut; **nail-tumbler**, a part of the lock mechanism of a rifle. See also NAIL-HEAD, -HOLE, -ROD, -TOOL, etc.

1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 875 The first *nail apparatus to which I shall particularly advert is due to Dr. Church. 1853 STOCQUELER *Mil. Encycl.*, **Nail Balls*, a missile, consisting of a strong nail, with a ball thereto attached while in the act of casting. 1864 WEBSTER (citing Scott), *Nail-ball*, a round projectile with an iron pin protruding from it, to prevent its turning in the bore of the piece. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 1509/1 The cutter enclosed in the box..forming the *nail-blank. 1630 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Fight at Sea* Wks. III. 34/1 They stayed some halfe an houre..tearing vp our *naile-bords vpon the Poope and the trap-hatch. 1685 DANGERFIELD *Mem.* 17 [Received] of a *Nail-Chapman 10*s*. 1872 'MARK TWAIN' *Innoc. Abr.* XXVI. 194 They wear a cylindrical hat termed a '*nail-kag'. 1889 — *Yankee Crt. K. Arthur* (1900) 6 A helmet on his head the size of a nail-keg with slits in it. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 876 The shears which cut the rod into *nail-lengths. 1853 *Ibid.* (ed. 4) II. 255 The *nail machine consists essentially of a pair of cutting chisels or edges [etc.]. 1801 STRUTT *Sports & Past.* III. i. 124 They also claimed every one of them six crowns as *nail money, for affixing the blazon of arms to the pavilions. 1810 in URE *Dict. Arts* (1839) 875 The principal business of rolling and slitting-mills, is rolling *nail plates. 1890 W. H. ST. J. HOPE in *Archaeol.* LII. 687 The left arm, with open hand, showing the *nail-print, is extended downwards. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 877 The *nail shank being still firmly held in the jaws of the vice. 1847 H. MILLER *First Impress. Eng.* viii. 146 Little brick houses, with a *nail-shop in each. 1611 COTGR., *Cloutier*, a nayler, a *nayle-smith. 1762 tr. *Busching's Syst. Geog.* IV. 388 It also contains many nail-smiths or nailers. 1869 *Echo* 22 Sept. 1/4 The nailsmith, like Othello, will 'find his occupation gone'. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 1505/2 The *nail-strips are heated by being placed on their edges on red-hot coals. 1727 BOYER *Dict. Royal* II. s.v., The *Nail-trade, ..*commerce de Clous*. 1844 *Regul. & Ord. Army* 101 For *Nail-tumbler, new..3*d*.

b. Objective and obj. gen., in names of persons, as *nail-bearer, -manufacturer, -minder, -tacker, -tinner, -weigher, -worker*; or of apparatus, as *nail-clincher, -cutter, -driver, -extractor, -passer, -piercer, -puller, -selector*, etc.

1871 RUSKIN *Fors Clav.* 1 Feb. 5 Fors, the *Nail-bearer, means the strength of Lycurgus, or of Law. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 1506/1 **Nail-clincher*, a blacksmith's tool for clinching the point end of a nail ..against the hoof. *Ibid.* 1505/2 The American *nail-cutter was the first to cut the nails and swage the heads at one operation. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 875 Mr. Edward Hancorne, ..*nail manufacturer, obtained a patent in October, 1828. 1884 *B'ham Daily Post* 24 Jan. 3/4 A small factory..wants a practical *Nail-minder. 1839 *Hereford Gloss.*, *Nail piercer*, or Nail percer, and corruptly, *Nail passer, a gimlet. 1890 BUCKMAN *Darke's Sojourn* xviii. 170 Nails, nail-passers and such-like, were poked in between the beams and the boards of the floor above. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 295 This goeth under several names, as a Gimblet, a *Nail Piercer. 1713 CHESELDEN *Anat.* I. ii. (1726) 25 The passage .. may be made .. with a carpenters nail-piercer or gimblet. 1880 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 9) XI. 439/2 A very powerful modification..has lately been introduced into use under the name of the *nail-puller. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl. 626/2 **Nail Selector*, a machine, or an attachment to a nail-machine, to pick out perfect nails from headless and ill-formed nails. 1885 *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 284/1 The outer sole is applied by a '*nail-tacker'. 1819 *P. O. Lond. Direct.* 382 *Nail-tinners, and Manufacturers of Chain Hooks. 1832 *Lincoln Herald* 11 Sept. 2/4 An extraordinary affidavit of a *nail-weigher of Dudley. 1882 *Standard* 26 Dec. 2/3 He supplies ..the *nail-workers with their sixty-pound bundles of iron.

c. Instrumental, as *nail-bestudded, -pierced, -studded*; and similative, as *nail-like, -shaped*.

a 1777 FAWKES *Song of Deborah*, Low at her feet he bow'd his nail-pierc'd head. 1836–9 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* II. 490/1 The secreting canals are..nail-shaped. 1844 MRS. BROWNING *Drama of Exile* Poems 1889 I. 99 Look out, O Jehovah, to this I bring before Thee, With a hand nail-pierced. 1855 GARROD *Mat. Med.* 152 The clove is a small, tapering, nail-like body. 1862 W. BARNES *Hwomely Rhymes* I. 185 The nail-bestudded woaken door. 1900 BARING-GOULD *Bk. Dartmoor* 229 A mediæval dwelling,..with its oak, nail-studded door and its panelled walls.

Nail (nēl), *v.* Forms: 1 (3e)nægl**an**, 3 na33l-enn, neilen, 3–6 naylle(n), 4–7 nayle (5 naylyn); 3–4 naill(e, 3–7 naile, (5 nale), 4– nail. [OE. *nægl*an* = OS. *neglian*, MDu. *naghelen, neghelen* (Du. *nagelen*), OHG. *nagalen, negilen* (MHG. *nagelen, negelen*, G. *nagelen*), ON. *negla* (*nagla*; Sw. *nagla*, Da. *nagle*), Goth. (*ga*)*nagljan*, f. *nagl-* NAIL *sb.*]

I. 1. *trans.* To fix or fasten (a person or thing) with nails *on* or *to* something else.

Early examples usually relate to the Crucifixion.

a. Const. *an* or *upan*.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xxvii. 22 Cuoedon alle, 'sie ahoen *vel* fæste 3enæ3lad on rode'. *c* 975 *Rushw. Gosp.* Matt. xxvii. 23 Heo swiðor cleopadun..'Siæ nægled on rode'. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 114 Godes honden weren ineiled oðe rode. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 14900 Til he was naild on þat tre. 1340 *Ayenb.* 263 Iesu Crist..ynayled a rode. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 183 His skyn was schape al meete, And nayled on the same seete. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* VII. 1153 On charnaill bandis [he] nald it full fast and sone. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* IV. xiii. 126 b, Two winges nayled vpon the target with two great yron nailes. 1679 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* IX. 161 Instead of Nailing the Hindges upon the Door, they Rivet them on. 1828 D'ISRAELI *Chas. I*, I. vi. 157 The royal anathema was nailed on the Episcopal gate at London. 1847 TENNYSON *Princ.* II. 188 Take my life, And nail me like a weasel on a grange For warning.

b. Const. *to*.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 21 His holie lichame was tospred on þe holie rode, and nailed þarto his fet and his honden. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 206/215 To grounde harde heo him caste..and to þe eorþe naileden him faste. *Ibid.* 222/96 Wiþ bole-huden stronge ynou ynailed þerto faste. *a* 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* xxviii. 84 He was nailed to the tre. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. clxviii. (Bodl. MS.), The laþe is..nailed þwarte ouer to the rafters. 1430–40 LYDG. *Bochas* I. (1558) fol. 30 It is meryer a man to go at large, Than with yrons to be nailed to a blocke. 1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 3 The fenbrede is a thyn borde pynned or nayled moste commonly to the lyft syde of the shethe. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 62 What dyd he, when he was nayled to the Crosse. 1665 BOYLE *Occas. Reft., Disc.* IV. iii. 63 By cutting off several of the parts of the Tree, and by Nailing many of the rest to the Wall. 1781 COWPER *Expost.* 220 They..Seized fast his hand,..and nailed it to the tree. 1819 SHELLEY *Prometh. Unb.* I. 20 Hung [I] not here Nailed to this wall of eagle-baffling mountain. 1884 *Law Times Rep.* LI. 161/2 An iron bracket nailed to the corner of the chimney.

refl. 1829 GEN. P. THOMPSON *Exerc.* (1842) I. 39 Glory and success nailed themselves to the republican standards.

c. Used in similes denoting extreme fixity.

1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 72 They .. sit as close as if they were nailed to the Horse. 1832 LYTTON *Eugene A.* I. ii, As steady on his seat as if he were nailed to it. 1866 MEREDITH *Vittoria* xi, He called to his coachman to drive away, next to wait as if nailed to the spot.

d. In allusive phrases, as *to nail one's colours to the mast*, to adopt an unyielding attitude; *to nail to the counter*, to expose as false or spurious (in allusion to the shopkeepers' practice of dealing thus with bad coins); *to nail to the barn-door*, to exhibit after the manner of dead vermin.

1842 O. W. HOLMES *Med. Ess.* Wks. 1891 IX. 67 A few familiar facts..have been suffered to pass current so long that it is time they should be nailed to the counter. 1844 [see COLOUR *sb.* 7 d]. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* v, Mrs. Chick had nailed her colours to the mast, and repeated 'I know it isn't'. 1890 *Spectator* 9 Aug., It was a good deed to nail all this to the counter. 1894 *N. & Q.* 8th Ser. V. 130/2 There are two other uses of the word *level* which should be nailed to 'N. & Q.'s' barn door.

2. a. To pierce or drive through with a nail or nails. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

c 1000 *Lambeth Ps.* xxi. 17 Hi dulfon *vel* nægledun handa mine and fet mine. *a* 1300 *Fall & Passion* 67 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 14 Hi nailed him in hond an fete as 3e mow al i-se. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xxvi. 416 Thrugh feete and handys nalyd was he. 1537 WRIOTHESLEY *Chron.* (1875) II. 100 John Daye..had one of his eares nayled, for seditious wordes speakinge of the Quenes Highnes. 1615 W. HULL *Mirrour* 87 Christ dyed being nayled hand and foote. 1671 MILTON *Samson* 990 Jael, who with inhospitable guile Smote Sisera sleeping through the Temples nail'd.

b. To fix or fasten with nails. Also with *about, in, together*, etc.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 564 Þhre hundred elne was it long, Naild and sperd, ðig and strong. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 8242 A-boute þat tre a siluer cercle son naild he. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Knt.'s T.* 1645 And eek squyeres Nailinge the speres, and helmes bokelinge. *c* 1386 — *Clerk's Prol.* 29 He is now deed, and nayled in his chest. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 3376 If any Naue to it neȝe þat naylid is with iryn, þen cleuys it ay to þe clife carryg & othyre. 14.. *MS. Linc.* A. 1. 17 f. 38 (Halliw.), At the nether ende of the pavisse he gart nayle a burde. 1495 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 155 For a c grete spykes of Iron for to nayle & fasteyn the seid plankes .. at the dokke hedde. 1530 PALSGR. 643/1 Nayle this same with thre or foure nayles and than it is sure. *Ibid.*, I nayle in a thynge, *je encloue*. 1660 F. BROOKE tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 355 They built a little Bark, nailed with wooden pinnes. 1782 COWPER *Colubriad* 1 Close by the threshold of a door nailed fast Three kittens sat. 1836 THIRLWALL *Greece* xii. II. 112 Casting metal statues, which before had been formed of pieces wrought with the hammer, and nailed together. 1855 DELAMER *Kitch. Gard.* (1861) 175 Nail fig-tree branches in their places on the wall. 1890 BUCKMAN *Darke's Sojourn* 68 The draught [was] prevented by a small tarpaulin nailed across the opening.

c. To stud with (or as with) nails; to mark by driving in a nail. *rare.*

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.t.* 599 A sadel, þat glemed ful gayly.. Ay quere naylet ful nwe. *c* 1483 CAXTON *Dialogues* 31 A gyrdle nayled With silver weyeng xl pens. 1648 R. FANSHAW tr. *Past. Fido* III. ii. 91 Those Stars which nail Heav'ns pavement! 1695 *Act 6 & 7 Will. III*, c. 10 § 3 The ..Commissioners shall..cause the said Keils and Boats so admeasured to be marked or nailed on each Side.

†d. *Mil.* (cf. 3 c). To render (a cannon) useless by driving a nail into the vent; to spike. *Obs.*

1598 BARRET *Theor. Wars* v. iv. 138 That the Ordinance be not nayled, nor the munition fiered. 1643 *True Informer* E 1 b, Some of their Ordnance were nailed by the Kings Troopes the next morning after. 1690 J. MACKENZIE *Siege London-Derry* 17/1 The rest attending the Lord Kingston till they had broke the Trunnions, and nailed the heavier Guns. 1705 tr. *Bosman's Guinea* 28 Attempting to Fire upon the Enemy with our Cannon, I found them all nailed. 1759 ROBERTSON *Hist. Scot.* III. Wks. 1813 I. 175 The French ..broke their troops, nailed part of their cannon [etc.]. 1781 [see NAILING *vbl. sb.*].

e. *intr.* To work as a carpenter. (*U. S.*)

1885 WHITMAN in *N. Amer. Rev.* CXLI. 434 'What did you do before you was a snatcher?'.. 'Nailed'.

3. *Nail up*: **a.** To render fast, to close up firmly, by fixing with nails.

1530 PALSGR. 643/1 You muste seke some other waye, for this doore is nayled up. 1615 W. LAWSON *Country Housew. Gard.* (1626) 12 Take heede of a doore or window..of any other mans into your Orchard: yea, though it be nailed vp. 1629 WADSWORTH *Pilgr.* iv. 34 The Vice Admirall..prepared himselfe for to fight,..nailing vp his decks. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 110 ▸ 5 The Door of one of his Chambers was nailed up. 1835 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Mr. Watkins Tottle* i, He..actually nailed up the board, and locked the door on the outside. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. xxvii. 199 The hotel .. was nailed up and forsaken.

fig. 1604 T. M. *Black Book* Moral, That heauen is..made so fast, nayldе vp with many a Starre.

b. To fasten up or affix at some elevation by means of nails; to fasten with nails to a wall, etc.

1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 192 Who, if he have sacrificed an Oxe, useth to naile up the head and hornes at his gate. 1867 SMILES *Huguenots Eng.* iv. 83 This document was found nailed up on the Bishop of London's door. 1878 T. HARDY *Ret. Native* v. vi. (1890) 347 He had spent the time in..nailing up creepers.

†c. *Mil.* = 2 d. *Obs.*

1654 EARL MONM. tr. *Bentivoglio's Wars Flanders* 385 Coming to their Batteries, they unhorst some of their Peeces, they nail'd up some others. 1690 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) II. 37 They had also..burnt the town, took the fort and nailed up the guns. 1745 P. THOMAS *Jrnl. Anson's Voy.* 294 He ordered to nail up such of the Cannon as could he fought. 1763 SCRAFTON *Indostan* iii. (1770) 65 The plan of operations was, to nail up the cannon, and push at the head quarters. 1781 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 2) s. v. *Nailing*, Vimercalus..made use of his invention first in nailing up the artillery of Sigismund Malatesta.

4. *Nail down* (cf. 7), to fix down with nails; to fasten down the lid of (a box) in this way.

1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* v. xii. 64 They nail down Quoyners to the Fore-Trucks of heavy Guns. 1679 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* IX. 156 Nail it firmly down with two Brads into every Joyst. 1834 MARRYAT *P. Simple* xlv, The trunks, which had been left open, were nailed down.

II. 5. To fix, fasten, make fast, as by means of nails; to secure. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

c 1386 CHAUCER *Clerk's T.* 1128 O noble wyves, ful of heigh prudence, Let noon humilitie your tonge naille. *c* 1407 LYDG. *Reson & Sens.* 6266 And kan nat speke a worde ageyn; Meknes hath so her tonge nayled. 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* III. (Arb.) 71, I am named syr Polydor; with darts fel nayled heer vnder I lodge. 1622 J. BUROUGH in *Lett. Lit. Men* (Camden) 130 Wherein if I finde any thinge worth your Jewell house I will..make means to nayle them untill you may take further order. 1697 CONGREVE *Mourn. Bride* II. vi, Rivet and nail me where I stand, ye Pow'rs. 1794 GALLOWAY *Poems* II. 47 For behold the whole city was nailed fast asleep.

b. To clench, prove. *rare* —1.

1785 BURNS *Death & Dr. Hornbook* i, Ev'n Ministers they hae been kenn'd .. Great lies and nonsense baith to vend, And nail't wi' Scripture.

6. To fix (a person or thing) firmly *to* something; *esp.* to pin (one) *to* or *on* the ground, etc., with a weapon. Also in *fig.* contexts.

1590 *Pasquil's Apol.* I. A iij b, Their attempt is still to nayle our best men to the wall with the speare of slaunder. 1602 MARSTON *Antonio's Rev.* Prol., A breast Nail'd to the earth with griefe. 1622 FLETCHER *Sea-Voy.* III. i, Take you arrows, And nail these monsters to the earth! 1691 HARTCLIFFE *Virtues* 101 To whose Fingers their Money is as it were glued and nailed. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneid* IX. 787 The second Shaft..pierc'd his Hand, and nail'd it to his side. 1835 LYTTON *Rienzi* I. i, Nailing him on the very sod where he had sate..not an hour ago. 1889 J. M. DUNCAN *Clin. Lect. Dis. Wom.* XXVIII. (ed. 4) 228 Concave hardness is felt fixing or nailing the womb..to the region between the plane of the left ischium [etc.].

b. To fix, or keep (one) fixed, *to* or in a certain place, position or occupation, so that there is no possibility of leaving it.

c 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* XV. 140 This threat even nail'd him to his throne. 1624 DONNE *Devot.* 48 How shall they come to thee, whom thou hast nayled to their bedd? 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 92 ▸ 6 Coquettila begs me not to think of nailing Women upon their Knees with Manuals of Devotion. 1784 COWPER *Task* I. 500 Those Whose headaches nail them to a noonday bed. 1791 BENTHAM *Panopt.* 55 Supposing no sage regulations made by any body to nail them to this or that sort of work. 1828 *Lights & Shades* II. 147 He is a shopman, and nailed all day behind the counter.

1861 J. Ruffini *Dr. Antonio* xxi, Found poor Sir John nailed fast by a fit of the gout.

c. To fix or fasten (the eyes, mind, etc.) *to* or *on* the object of one's attention.

1591 Lyly *Wks.* (1902) I. 424, I sawe an Oke, whose statelines nayled mine eies to the branches. 1760–72 H. Brooke *Fool of Qual.* (1809) IV. 120 He nailed his eyes, as it were, on the face of Mr. Clinton. 1792 Wolcot (P. Pindar) *Captive* Wks. III. 227 Where the pale pond'ring wretch, in thought profound, Nails to the murky floor his haggard eye. 1829 Scott in *Lockhart* (1839) IX. 304, I cannot nail my mind to one subject of contemplation. 1860 Emerson *Cond. Life* vi. Wks. (Bohn) II. 407 The man whose eyes are nailed not on the nature of his act, but on the wages.

†d. To pin (one's faith) *to* something. *Obs.*—1

1594 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* II. Ep. Rdr., They are cleane voyde of brayne, wit, and common sense, that nayle all their beliefe so fast to the sight of their bodily eyes.

7. To fix or pin (one) *down* to something.

1615 Z. Boyd *Let.* in *Zion's Flowers* (1855) Introd. 30 The Gentlemen of Saumure have at last nailed me down to them, and resolved..that I shall..be their property. 1707 Norris *Treat. Humility* iii. 104 Our bodies are as much nailed down to the earth by their own weight [etc.]. 1796 H. Hunter tr. *St.-Pierre's Stud. Nat.* (1799) II. 58 Wherefore has not gravity nailed them down to the surface of the Earth? 1880 Meredith *Tragic Com.* (1881) 182 You see plainly she was nailed down to write the thing. 1893 G. Allen *Scallywag* i. 3 Isabel meant..to nail her down at once to the matter on hand.

refl. 1864 Burton *Scot Abr.* II. i. 122 Johnson nailed himself down to the hexameter and pentameter.

b. *intr.* To bind oneself *down*. *rare*—1.

1859 Longf. in *Life* (1891) II. 386 George comes on Wednesdays; but..I cannot nail down to that day.

8. *slang.* a. To secure; to succeed in catching or getting hold of (a person or thing); to steal.

1760 Foote *Minor* II. Wks. 1799 I. 260 Some bidders are shy, and only advance with a nod; but I nail them. 1764 — *Patron* i. ibid. I. 334 *Bev.* Fix the old fellow so that she may not be miss'd. *Sir Pet.* I'll nail him, I warrant. 1805 *Europ. Mag.* XLVII. 355, I had learnt..to plume myself upon nailing a job. 1812 J. H. Vaux *Flash Dict.* s.v., I nail'd the swell's montra in the push. 1847 Thackeray *Brighton in* 1847 i. Wks. 1886 XXIV. 134 [He] insisted on nailing me for dinner before he would leave me. 1883 Stevenson *Treas. Isl.* iii, Lubbers as..want to nail what is another's. 1889 D. C. Murray *Dang. Catspaw* 245 We shall have to wait and nail them, sir, when we've proved complicity.

b. To catch (one) in some fix or difficulty.

1766 Goldsm. *Vic. W.* xii, When they came to talk of places in town, you saw at once how I nailed them. 1810 J. Creevey in *C. Papers* (1904) I. vi. 125 So now the Ministers are nail'd. 1845 Ld. Campbell *Chancellors* xcv. (1857) IV. 309 The King and all the councillors were much tickled to see the wily chief Justice thus nailed.

†c. To cheat, get the better of (one). *Obs.*

1811 J. H. Vaux *Flash Dict.*, *Nail*, to nail a person is to over-reach or take advantage of him in the course of trade or traffic. 1819 *Sporting Mag.* IV. 209 He would undertake to 'blind', or 'nail' any keeper in the kingdom.

d. To succeed in hitting (a person).

1886 Dowden *Shelley* I. i. 24 To surround 'Mad Shelley' and 'nail' him with a ball..was a favourite pastime.

Nai·lage. *rare*—1. [f. Nail *v.* + -age.] The charge made by the Customs for nailing up a package of tobacco opened for inspection.

1766 W. Goroon *Gen. Counting-house* 204 Tobacco .. at 2*d.* per lb...deducing nailage at 4 lb. per hhd.

Nailbourne: see Eylebourn.

Nailed (nēⁱld), *ppl. a.* [f. Nail *v.* + -ed 1.]

1. Fastened, studded, or constructed with nails; having the form of nails (quot. 1853).

Beowulf 2023 Hio nægled sinc hæleðum sealde. *c* 960 *O. E. Chron.* (Parker MS.) an. 937 gewitan him þa Norþmen nægled cnearrum. *a* 1000 *Cædmon's Gen.* 1433 (Gr.), Hwonne hie of nearwe ofer nægled bord..stæppan mosten. 1607 Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 390 By touching the stick she bringeth down the pikes and sharp nailed boards upon her own body and back. 1657 G. Thornley *Daphnis & Chloe* 38 The Theeves had their Swords on, with their scaled and nailed Corslets. 1823 in Cobbett *Rur. Rides* (1885) I. 291 The parson could not attempt to begin, till the rattling of their nailed shoes ceased. 1853 Humphreys *Coin-coll. Man.* xviii. 231 The letters termed by numismatists nailed letters. ..They have the addition of a small knob at the extremities. [1885 J. B. Davidson in *Athenæum* 3 Oct. 435/2 The Northmen fled in their nailed barks over the roaring sea back to Dublin and Ireland.]

b. With advbs., as *nailed-on*; also *nailed-up*, an epithet recently applied to dramas of loose construction without literary or artistic value.

1683 Moxon *Mech. Exerc.*, *Printing* xxiv. P 19 He.. doubles the loose half of the Leather over the remaining Nail'd-on half. 1894 *Westm. Gaz.* 24 Apr. 2/1 One of the most inept 'nailed up' dramas..that ever faced the footlights. 1895 *Times* (weekly ed.) 312/3 A sample of what the Americans call the 'nailed-up' drama.

2. Provided with (finger or toe) nails.

a 1300 *Body & Soul* in *Map's Poems* (Camden) 338 Scharpe clauwes, long nayled. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 350/2 Nayled, as fyngers, or toos [*P.* nayled on fyngers], *unguatus*. 1611 Cotgr., *Onglé*, nayled; hoofed. 1828 *Lights & Shades* II. 192 Hands white, long-fingered, acorn-nailed. 1894 Mrs. Dyan *All in Man's Keeping* (1899) 87 The long-nailed black hand of his..dusky attendant.

Nailer (nēⁱ·lər). Forms: 5–7 nayler, 6–7 -or, 8–9 nailor, nailer. [f. Nail *v.* + -er 1.]

1. One who makes nails; a nail-maker.

c 1440 *York Myst.* xix. (*title*) The Gyrdillers and Naylers. 1538 Leland *Itin.* (1769) IV. 114 There be many Smithes in the Towne..and a great many Naylors. 1611 Cotgr., *Cloutier*, a nayler, a nayle-smith; a seller or maker of nayles. 1665 D. Dudley *Mettall. Martis* (1854) 39 Twenty thousand Smiths or Naylors at the least dwelling near these parts. 1723 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 6163/3 Edward Cooke,..by Trade a Nailor. 1776 Adam Smith *W. N.* I. i. I. 10 A smith..whose..business has not been that of a nailer can seldom..make more than eight hundred or a thousand nails in a day. 1831 J. Holland *Manuf. Metal* I. 170 The nailors in general furnish them both better and cheaper than the smiths can make them. 1871 Napheys *Prev. & Cure Dis.* I. viii. 224 Nailers' consumption, a form of chronic pneumonia.

appos. 1847 H. Miller *First Impr. Eng.* viii. 145 The nailer-lads were frequently refused..permission.

b. In phrases *like*, or *as busy as, a nailer*.

1857 Holland *Bay Path* x. 120 Ves, he did and he stuck to it like a nailer. 1899 *Harper's Mag.* Sept. 510 Thady..bein' kept as busy as a nailer.

2. One who drives in nails.

1803 *Naval Chron.* IX. 73 The Tonnant..was coppered by several gangs of punchers and nailers.

3. *slang.* A marvellously good thing, animal, or person; an exceptionally good hand *at* something.

a 1818 Macneill *Poems* (1844) 50 A vet'ran Scot spoiled Egypt's plot; Ah, pangs,—that was a nailer. 1884 Mrs. E. Kennard *Right Sort* v. 48 That young roan mare who carried you so brilliantly through the run..She's a nailer! 1897 W. Rye *Norfolk Songs* 133 Edward, Lord Suffield was a nailer at sprint running.

Hence **Nai·leress**, a female nail-maker. *rare.*

1847 H. Miller *First Impr. Eng.* viii. 147 The two young naileresses were really very pretty.

Nailery (nēⁱ·ləri). [f. Nailer: see -ery.] A place or workshop where nails are made.

a 1798 Pennant (T.), Near the bridge is a large almshouse, and a vast nailery. 1802 Jefferson in *Harper's Mag.* (1885) Mar. 539/1 Profits of nailery. 1847 H. Miller *First Impr. Eng.* viii. (1857) 132 The sole workers in the nailery were two fresh-coloured, good-looking young girls. 1895 *Edin. Rev.* July 223 The naileries, the shipping and the shopkeeping of his native town.

†**Nailfast**, *a. Obs. rare.* [f. Nail *sb.* + Fast *a.* Cf. MDu. *nagelvast*, MLG. *naelvast*, G. *nagelfest*, ON. *nagl(a)fastr* (Sw. *nagelfast*, Dan. *naglefast*).] Fastened with nails.

1428 *Will W. Ward* (Somerset Ho.), Ita quod nichil dict. rotefast vel naylefast inde capiat. 1640 *Will Cowper* ibid., All goods nailfast in the said house.

Nai·l-head. [f. Nail *sb.* + Head *sb.*]

1. The head of a nail.

1683 Moxon *Mech. Exerc.*, *Printing* x. P 9 The Plate.. with the extuberancies of Nail-heads would hinder the free sliding of the Quoins. 1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 876 Compressing the metal into the shape of a nail-head.

2. An ornament shaped like the head of a nail.

1836 Parker *Gloss. Archit.* (1850) II. 47 The nail-head being an ornament easily cut, was much used in almost all periods of Norman work. 1892 *Daily News* 24 Oct. 3/2 A red cloth dress was bordered with gold braid with nail-heads of jet an inch or so apart.

b. *attrib.*, with *moulding, ornament, pattern.*

1845 Freeman in *Proc. Archæol. Instit., Winchester* 5 Their rim is ornamented with the nail-head moulding. 1848 Rickman *Styles Archit. Eng.* App. 54 The nail-head, and toothed ornaments, though found in France, are by no means so abundant as in England. 1877 J. C. Cox *Ch. Derbysh.* III. 319 The archway..resting on corbels having the nail-head pattern.

3. *Min.* **nail-head spar**, a variety of calc-spar in which the crystals resemble nail-heads.

1851 *Amer. Jrnl. Sci.* Ser. II. XII. 396 Calcspar..variety called Nail-head Spar. 1892 Dana *Min.* 266 Nail-head spar, a composite variety having its name from its form.

Nai·l-headed, *a.* [Cf. prec. and -ed 2.] Having a head like that of a nail; formed like a nail-head.

1801 Hager *Babylon. Inscr.* 41 The nail-headed characters to be met with in Persia. *Ibid.* 43 An upright line with a nail-headed top. 1834 *Penny Cycl.* II. 397/2 The Babylonian characters, on account of their rude shape, are often called nail-headed. 1842 Gwilt *Archit.* 1007 Nail-headed Moulding..so called from being formed by a series of projections resembling the heads of nails or square knobs.

Nai·l-hole. [f. Nail *sb.* + Hole *sb.*] A hole made to receive a nail; a hole caused by the removal of a nail.

1679 Moxon *Mech. Exerc.* IX. 161 The Nail-holes of the Hindge. 1691 T. H[ale] *Acc. New Invent.* p. xxii, The great Nail-holes, which they use to spile up at stripping. 1725 Bradley *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Shoeing*, Our Smiths..make ..their Nails of a great Shouldering, by driving them over hard upon the Nail-hole. 1825 J. Nicholson *Operat. Mechanic* 640 All the nail-holes or other irregularities on the surface must be carefully stopped. 1851 Mayne Reid *Scalp Hunt.* xxvi. 190 We had stripped the shoes off the horses, filling the nail-holes with clay. 1875 *Carpentry & Join.* 79 The nail holes are subsequently filled with putty.

Nai·ling, *vbl. sb.* [f. Nail *v.* + -ing 1.] The action of the verb in various senses; nail-making; the nails with which a thing is fastened.

a 1400 *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* 625/466 Spere & spounge and sharp nayling. 1494–5 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* (1904) 215 For nailyng & storyng of the beme. 1570 Foxe *A. & M.* (ed. 2) 2280/1 He did hynd this Ieffrey prentise vnto the craft of nayling. 1704 J. Harris *Lex. Techn.* I, *Nailing of Cannon*, is the driving of a Nail, or Iron Spike, by force into the Touchhole of a Piece of Artillery, so as to render it useless to the Enemy. 1781 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 2) s.v., One Gasper Vimercalus was the first who invented the nailing of cannon. *c* 1850 *Rudim. Navig.* (Weale) 135 Lead nails are small round-headed nails, for nailing of lead. 1880 L. Wallace *Ben-Hur* VI. iv, All he could do was to wrench the board from its nailing.

Comb. 1543 *Richmond Wills* (Surtees) 43 Item ij nalyng hamers ij^{d}. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1506/2 *Nailing-machine*.., a machine which acts automatically to drive the nails into shoe-soles.

b. *slang.* (See Nail *v.* 8.)

1819 *Sporting Mag.* IV. 208 Snaring of hares, packing of game and 'nailing' of keepers. 1820 *Ibid.* VI. 79 Those lads..care not for the expences of the tip provided there is no nailing.

Nai·ling, *ppl. a.* [f. Nail *v.* + -ing 2.]

1. Fixing like a nail.

1887 T. A. Trollope *What I remember* II. vii. 119 Dickens said, with nailing forefinger levelled at me, 'Give us that for *Household Words*'.

2. *slang.* †a. (See Nail *sb.* 6 d.) *Obs.* b. Excellent, splendid. Also in adv. use, as *nailing good.*

1883 *Pall Mall G.* 29 Mar. 4/1 He was a well-tried old dog, and we can have another nailing run out of him another day.' 1884 Mrs. E. Kennard *Right Sort* x. 113 What a nailing good fencer to be sure!

Nailing, obs. form of Nealing *vbl. sb.*

Nailless (nēⁱ·lˌlés), *a.* [f. Nail *sb.* + -less.] Destitute of nails; not provided with, or protected by, nails.

1847 *National Encycl.* I. 884 The thumbs were nailless. 1896 *Daily News* 24 Oct. 8/3 A pattern of the nailless horseshoe now under trial in..the German Army.

Nai·l-maker. [f. Nail *sb.* + Maker *sb.*] One who makes nails.

1530 Palsgr. 186 *Clovtier*, a nayle maker. 1755 Johnson, *Nailer*, one whose trade is to forge nails; a nail-maker. 1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 877 The same sorts of operations..as are usually performed by the hands of a nail-maker. 1884 W. H. Greenwood *Steel & Iron* x. 210 Nail rods are the square bars used by nail-makers.

Nai·l-making, *vbl. sb.* [f. Nail *sb.* + Making *vbl. sb.*] The process of making nails. Also *attrib.*

c 1835 *Encycl. Metrop.* VIII. 688/1 Various patented inventions for nail-making machinery. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1508/2 Machinery for splitting rods for nail-making was first introduced in Sweden. 1887 P. McNeill *Blawearie* 153 Right and left at it we went as hard as nail-making.

Nai·l-rod. Also **nail rod, nailrod.** [f. Nail *sb.* + Rod *sb.*]

1. A strip or rod of iron from which nails are cut.

1761 Kinnersley in *Phil. Trans.* LIII. 95 The conductor ..consisted of square iron nail rods. 1810 in Ure *Dict. Arts* (1839) 875 Rolling and slitting-mills..also serve to make nail rods. 1876 Voyle & Stevenson *Milit. Dict.* 268/2 Plates rolled for the purpose, and then slit by means of slitting rollers into nail rods. 1887 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 22 May 12/1 Rolled bar iron, and..nail rods.

fig. 1858 Carlyle *Fredk. Gt.* VII. ix. (1872) II. 342 The thread-paper Duchess of Kendal.., poor old anatomy or lean human nailrod.

b. Without article, as a material.

1892 *Daily News* 15 Feb. 7/3 There is a good demand for nailrod. 1900 *Ibid.* 24 Sept. 8/7 Nail-rod and rivet-iron.

2. *transf.* in Australasian use: Coarse dark tobacco in the form of a thin roll or stick.

1886 *N. Zealand Herald* 8 Nov. 7/3 Nailrod and 1lb bars ..with a full assortment of Havana..Cigars. 1896 H. Lawson *While the Billy boils* 118 'You can give me half-a-pound of nailrod', he said, in a quiet tone.

Nai·l-sick, *a. Naut.* [f. Nail *sb.* + Sick *a.*] Leaky at the nail-holes. (Cf. Iron-sick.)

1865 Thoreau *Cape Cod* viii. 145 Much smaller waves soon make a boat 'nail-sick', as the phrase is. 1879 T. Warden *Crossford* II. 73 As the little craft was old and nailsick, she made a good deal of water in the ordinary way.

†**Nai·l-tool.** *Obs.* [f. Nail *sb.* + Tool *sb.*] An instrument used in making nails.

1338 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 376 Item j magnus Nailtoll. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 248/1 A Nayle tulle, *clavatorium*. 1584 *Knaresborough Wills* (Surtees) I. 145 All my naile tooles and all my hammers. 1637 *Ibid.* II. 160 One stiddie, one great naile toole, my hammers.

†**Nai·l-wort.** *Obs.* [f. Nail *sb.* + Wort *sb.*] A name suggested by Gerarde for *Draba verna* and *Saxifraga tridactylites*, and by Colgrave applied to *Paronychia*, with reference to their supposed efficacy in affections of the finger nails.

1597 Gerarde *Herbal* VI. iv. 500 There is another sort of Whitlow grasse or Naile woort, that is likewise a low or base herb, hauing a small tough roote. *Ibid.*, We may call them in English Naile woort, and Whitlowe grasse. 1611 Cotgr., *Paronychie*, Whitlo-grasse, Nayle-wort (a weed).

Naily (nēⁱ·li), *a. rare.* [f. Nail *sb.* + -y 1.] Studded with nails.

1604 T. M. *Black Bk.* Moral, How they grate with their hard nayly soales The stones in Fleet-streete. 1800 Hurdis *Fav. Village* 108 Lest..It drown his instep, and his naily shoe Drench with the chilling element below. 1865 *Englishman's Mag.* Oct. 290, I should recommend everything of the..nailiest in the way of boots.

Naimcouth, Sc. var. Namecouth *a. Obs.*

Nain (nēn), *a. Sc.* Also 5 nan, 6, 8 nane. [See etym. note to Own *a.*] (One's) own.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xliii. (*Cecilia*) 155 Þar is na thing sa suet, think me, as my nan brothire. 1509 in *Munim. Univ. Glasguensis* (Maitland) 45 Mes of the Requiem .. for my faderes saule..and myne nane saule. 1755 R. Forbes *Ajax, Shop Bill* vii, Fare may be had, for their nain wear, The starkest hose. 1816 Scott *Antiq.* xxix, A cusin o' his nain—Miss Eveline Neville. 1871 W. Alexander *Johnny Gibb* ii, Ilka ane had their nain.

Hence **Nainse·l', -se·ll,** (one's) own self; *her nainsel'*, a phrase attributed to Highlanders in place of the first personal pronoun, and hence used as a designation for a Highlander.

c 1700 in Maidment *Pasquils* (1868) 314 Should..Heaven or Hell Make a man such a fool as forget him nain-sell? 1716 *Wodrow Corr.* (1843) II. 139 It's ower sheap; her nainsel no sell it so sheap. 1786 *Har'st Rig* lxxxix, Now dances Niel wi' little Nell, And canty Kate with hur nanesell. 1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* xxxiii, Her nainsell will never bid thee less, come by them how she can.

‖ **Nainsook** (nē·nsuk). [Urdū (Hindī) *nainsukh*, f. *nain* the eye + *sukh* pleasure.] A cotton fabric, a kind of muslin or jaconet, of Indian origin; a garment made of this. Also *attrib.*

1804 in *Spirit Pub. Jrnls.* VII. 59 Nor could I find a man in the whole parish who understood any thing about nainsooks and bandannoes. 1885 *Yng. Ladies' Jrnl.* 1 July 59/2 The embroidery may be worked on silk, nainsook muslin, or fine linen. 1892 *Monthly Packet* Dec. 636 Our whitest, coolest nainsooks..seemed best to suit the day.

Naip(e)rie, obs. forms of NAPERY.

‖ **Nair** (nā·ir, nēə·i). Forms: *α.* 6-8 nayre, naire, 7- nair, 8-9 naïr. *β.* 6-7 nayro, 7 nairo. [a. Sp. and Pg. *nayre, naire,* ad. Urdū (Hindī) *nāyar* or *nāyaṛ*. The source of the forms in *-o* is not clear.] A member of the noble and military caste in Malabar. Also *attrib.*

α. 1582 N. LICHEFIELD tr. *Castanheda's Conq. E. Ind.* I. xiv. 34 The house of the Nayres, which amongest the Malabars are Gentlemen. 1603 R. JOHNSON *Kingd. & Commw.* 174 Many of the Malaber princes..lay all their hopes and fortunes on the Nairs. 1660 F. BROOKE tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 56 The third part of them are Naires, or Gentlemen. 1796 H. HUNTER tr. *St.-Pierre's Stud. Nat.* (1799) I. 339 Their military is formed of the Nobility, called Nairs, who possess the second rank in the State. 1845 STOCQUELER *Handbk. Brit. India* (1854) 299 The Nairs have great faith in their superhuman knowledge. 1888 G. SMITH *Stephen Hislop* iv. (1889) 98 A European officer of the Nair brigade felt aggrieved.

transf. 1791 BURKE *Fr. Rev.* (1824) 188 Did the privileged nobility..deserve to be looked on as the Nayres or Mamelukes of this age..?

β. 1598 W. PHILIP tr. *Linschoten* (1885) I. 279 Noblemen called Nayros, which are souldiers that doe onely weare and handle arms. 1638 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (ed. 2) 301 The Nayroes are his Lords; a sort of Mamaluck. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 51 Each State having a Representative ..to act according to the Votes of the Nairos Gentry.

‖ **Naïs** (nē·is). Pl. naïdes (nē·idīz). [L. *Nāïs*, Gr. *Nāïs*: see NAÏD and NAIAD.]

1. *Mythol.* A river-nymph.

1697 DRYDEN *Æneid* XII. 215 King Turnus Sister..by the grateful God, Now made the Nais of the neighb'ring Flood. 1697 — *Virg. Past.* VI. 33 Ægle..The fairest Nais of the neighbouring Flood. 1838 KEIGHTLEY *Mythol.* 238 Many a warrior who fought before Troy could boast descent from a Naïs or Nereis.

2. *Zool.* A small fresh-water worm allied to the earthworm.

1835-6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 172/2 A naïs or an earthworm cut in two..will continue to live. 1870 NICHOLSON *Man. Zool.* xxix. (1875) 217 In this process the Naïs throws out a bud between two rings, at a point generally near the middle of the body.

Nais, *a. rare.* Also 9 *Sc.* nace. [a. ON. *neiss*, related to *neisa* (Sw. *nesa*) shame.] Covered with shame; destitute.

Only in connexion with *naked*, as in ON. *nǫktan ok neisan* (acc.), *neiss er nǫkkviðr halr.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 989 (Cott.) Adam was out don nais and naked, In to þe land quar he was maked. *c* 1325 *Metr. Hom.* 52 For ef this thef mai us met..He bes ful redi..To..mak us bathe nakid and nais. 1871 W. ALEXANDER *Johnny Gibb* xxi. 159 A peer [=poor] nace nyaukit beggar creatur.

Naish, dial. var. of NESH *a.*, soft.

† **Nai·ssance.** *Obs. rare*⁻¹. [a. F. *naissance*: see next and -ANCE.] Origin, birth.

1490 CAXTON *Eneydos* 27 She wolde..goo vnto the Royame of fenyce, the countrey of her nayssaunce and byrthe.

Naissant (nē·sănt), *a.* Also 6-7 nay-. [a. F. *naissant*, pres. pple. of *naître*:—Rom. **nascĕre*, L. *nascī* to be born: cf. NASCENT.]

1. *Her.* Of animals: Issuing from the middle of the fess or other ordinary.

1572 BOSSEWELL *Armorie* II. 29 b, Gules and Sables parted per Fesse enuecked, thre lyons nayssant argente, crowned. 1610 GUILLIM *Heraldry* III. xv. 142 This Lion is said to be Naissant, because he seemeth to issue out of the wombe of the Fesse. 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I. 1727-38 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v., Naissant differs from issuant, in that the animal in the former case issues out at the middle, and in the latter at the bottom, of the shield, or charge. 1838 *Penny Cycl.* XII. 143/2 Beasts of prey are, according to their attitude, blazoned..couchant, dormant, naissant [etc.]. 1864 BOUTELL *Her. Hist. & Pop.* x. (ed. 3) 60 A Lion Naissant is now borne upon a chief by the Baron Dormer.

2. That is in the act of springing up, coming into existence, or being produced. *rare.*

1885 LOWE *Bismarck* I. 184 A navy which should defend the naissant Empire's coasts. 1887 A. M. BROWN *Anim. Alkal.* 79 Naissant hydrogen reduces it to the state of hypoxanthine.

† **Nait,** *sb. north.* and *Sc. Obs. rare.* Also 4 naite, 6 nate. [a. ON. *neyte, neyti* (Norw. *nöyte*, MSw. *-nöte*) use, etc.: related to *neyta* NAIT *v.*1] **a.** Use, profit, advantage. **b.** Use, end, purpose.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 22883 Agh we þer-on to seke resun Hu he dos alkin thing to nait. *Ibid.* 24746 Þof mans wijt [=wit] be neuer sa strait, Sco mai well bring it vnto nait. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilȝear* 61, I defend that we fall in any fechtine; I bad mekill mair nait sum freindschip to find. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* IV. xii. 10 Furth scho drew the Troiane swerd, fute hait, A wappin was neuir wrocht for sic a nate.

† **Nait,** *a. north.* and *Sc. Obs. rare.* Also 5 nayet. [a. ON. *neyt-r* fit for use, good: related to prec. and next.] Useful, good at need.

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1038 Nestor, a noble man, naitest in werre. *Ibid.* 3878 Non was so noble, ne of nait strenght, As Ector. [Also 8211, etc.] 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* XII. vii. 47 This Iapis sage..wyth his nait handis tway Begouth for till exem, and till assay The wond.

† **Nait,** *v.*1 *Obs.* Also 4-5 naite, nayt(e, 5 (7, 9 *dial.*) nate. [a. ON. *neyta* (Norw. *nöyta*, Sw. *nöta*) :—**nautjan*, f. **naut-* (cf. *naut* cattle, NOWT, *nautr* gift, companion), -ablaut var. of **neut-*, whence Goth. *niutan*, ON. *njóta* (Sw. *njuta*), OE. *néotan* to enjoy.]

1. *trans.* To make use of, to use.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 531 Vche fowle [took] to þe flyht þat fyþerez myȝt serue, Vche fysch to þe flod þat fynne couþe nayte. *a* 1400 *Sir Perc.* 185 Other gudez would scho nonne nayte; But with hir tuke a tryppe of gayte. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 6031 All necessaries for þe night, þat þai naite shuld. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xxiii. 62 Loke that we haue that we shuld nate, For to hald this shrew strate. 1677 NICOLSON *Gloss.* in *Trans. R. Soc. Lit.* (1870) IX. 316 *Nate*, to use. 1807 STAGG *Poems* 48 Then brouce about nor tek sec preesin, To nate your awn.

b. To go over, recite, repeat. *rare.*

13.. *S. Erkenwolde* 119 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 268 Ser Erkenwolde..welneghe al þe ny3t hade naityd [*MS.* nattyd] his houres. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 65 Loude crye was þer kest of clerkez & oþer, Nowel nayted o-newe, neuened ful ofte.

2. *refl.* To exert oneself. *rare.*

a 1400-50 *Alexander* 2518 For Alexander all-ways..Naytis him-selfe in ilke nede, & so his name rysis. *Ibid.* 2968 [He] naytis him to ryse, Buskis him vp at a braide.

† **Nait,** *v.*2 *Obs. rare.* [a. ON. *neita*, f. *nei* NAY *adv.*] *trans.* To refuse, deny.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* I. met. i. 1 (Camb. MS.), With how deef an Ere deth cruwel torneth a-wey fro wrecches and nayteth to closyn wepynge eyen. *c* 1386 — *Pars. T.* 939 Ne he shal nat nayte ne denye his synne. *c* 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 77 As it schal be ȝeuen to him that is callid.., so it schal be naytid him þat offreþ himsilf. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 351/1 Naytyn, or denyyn, *nego, abnego, denego.*

Naithless(e, obs. forms of NATHELESS.

† **Nai·tly,** *adv. Obs.* Forms: 4-6 naytly, 5 naytely, naitly, -li, nately. [f. NAIT *a.* + -LY 2.] To some purpose; properly; thoroughly.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 480 Ho hittez on þe euentyde & on þe ark sittez, Noe nymmez hir anon & naytly hir stauez. *a* 1400-50 *Alexander* 2896 Þis reuere..on niȝtis so naytely it fresys, Till any powere to pas or preke on with stedis. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 2427 Than naknet anon full naitly were all, And broght to me bare. [Also 2746, 6628, etc.] *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xiii. 158 Bot nately Both oure dame and oure syre..can nyp at oure hyre. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VIII. vii. 99 Scbe..hyr puir damysellis, as scho ma, Naytly exersis for to werk the lyne.

Naïve (naı̆ē·v), *a.* Also naive. [a. F. *naïve*, fem. of *naïf* (see NAÏF and NEYF):—L. *nātīv-um* NATIVE *a.*] Natural, unaffected, simple, artless.

The word being only imperfectly naturalized, the pronunciation is somewhat unsettled: the chief variations given in the leading Dicts. are (naı̆ē·v), (nā·iv), and (nē·ı̆ē·v).

1654 DOROTHY OSBORNE *Lett.* (1903) 234 Though he makes his people say fine handsome things to one another, yet they are not easy and *naïve* like the French. 1673 DRYDEN *Marr. à la Mode* III. i, *Naive!* as how? *Phil.* Speaking of a thing that was naturally said; it was so *naive*. 1762 LLOYD *Poet. Wks.* (1774) II. 11 And *naïve* both (allow the phrase Which no one English word conveys). 1797 MME. D'ARBLAY *Diary* (1846) VI. 150 She related..her arguments to dissuade him, and his *naïve* manner of combating them. 1817 LADY GRANVILLE *Lett.* (1894) I. 117 Her manner is..delightful, she is very naïve. 1859 JEPHSON *Brittany* viii. 109 The naïve details which the popular ballad-maker delighted in. 1885 CLODD *Myths & Dr.* I. iii. 39 As belief in causality spread, men were not content to rest in the naïve explanations of an uncritical age.

Naïvely (naı̆ē·vli), *adv.* [f. as prec. + -LY 2, after F. *naïvement.*]

† **1.** Naturally, true to nature. *Obs. rare.*

1640 SIR W. MURE *Counterbuff* 300 They'le surely trust these men, So Naive-lie represented by thy pen.

2. In a naïve manner; artlessly.

1705 POPE *Lett.* Wks. 1751 VII. 116 She helped Gay to the head, me to the middle,..and cried very naively, I'll be content with my own tail. 1849 RUSKIN *Sev. Lamps* p. vi, The text..sometimes naïvely describes as sublime or beautiful, features which the plate represents by a blot. 1874 L. STEPHEN *Hours Libr.* I. iv. 159 He..enjoys his playthings too naïvely for the pleasure not to be a little contagious.

‖ **Naïveté** (naı̆vte). [F.: see NAÏVE and -TY.]

1. An instance or case of artlessness; an artless action, remark, etc.

1673 DRYDEN *Marr. à la Mode* III. i, Such an innocent piece of simplicity; 'twas such a *naïveté*. 1756 H. WALPOLE *Let. to Mann* 18 Mar., I have nothing more to tell but a *naïveté* of my Lady Coventry. 1780 T. DAVIES *Life Garrick* I. x. 91 A kind of droll farce, full of ridiculous incidents, and certain bon mots, called naivetès. 1873 SYMONDS *Grk. Poets* xi. 390 The affection of the Greeks for the grasshopper is one of their most charming naïvetés.

2. The quality of being naïve; artlessness; absence of pretence or conventionality.

1725 LADY M. W. MONTAGU *Lett.* (1893) I. 482, I,..with great naïveté, desired to explain with her on the subject. 1794 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Myst. Udolpho* xviii, Sometimes she was compelled to smile at the naïveté of Annette. 1814 SCOTT *Wav.* xxxii, He had a sort of naïveté and openness of demeanour. 1848 MRS. JAMESON *Sacr. & Leg. Art* (1850) 8 We have frequent examples of this naïveté of sentiment in the old mosaics. 1870 EMERSON *Soc. & Sol.* xii. 253 The naïveté of his eager preference of Cicero's opinions to King David's.

Naïvety (naı̆·vti). [Anglicized form of prec.] = NAÏVETÉ.

1708 tr. *Petronius Arbiter* Pref., The Simplicity and Naivety is not to be imitated. 1742 HUME *Ess., Simplicity in Writing* (1748) 260 The absurd Naivety of Sancho Pancho is represented in such inimitable Colours by Cervantes. [*Note*, Naivety, a Word which I have borrow'd from the French, and which is wanted in our Language.] 1798 W. TAYLOR in *Monthly Mag.* VI. 345 Three volumes..display occasionally, a grace and a naivety seldom surpassed. 1841 CARLYLE *Misc.* (1857) IV. 232 Shrewd simplicities, naiveties, blundering ingenuities. 1898 *Expositor* Dec. 424 The.. simplicity or naivety of the language of that Gospel.

‖ **Naja** (nē·ıˑdʒă, nē·ıˑyă). Also naia. [mod.L., f. Hindī *nāg* snake.] A genus of highly venomous snakes, comprising the species *N. tripudians* of India and *N. haje* of Africa; the Indian or African cobra; a snake belonging to either of these species.

1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* App., *Naia*, in zoology, the name of a species of Coluber. 1770 PENNANT *Ind. Zool.* 9 You dread the spring of the Tiger, or the mortal bite of the Naja. 1788 GRAY in *Phil. Trans.* LXXIX. 25, I need only mention the Naja, a species well known to be very venomous. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVI. 63/1 A gigantic hooded serpent..which, he remarked, was not a *Naja*. 1888 *Riverside Nat. Hist.* III. 377 The fangs of the Naja are long and grooved.

Nakare: see NAKER 2.

† **Nake,** *a. Obs. rare.* Also naken. [ME. *nake(n)* = OFris. and MLG. *naken*: see the note to NAKED *a.*] Naked.

c 1320 *Cast. Love* 1655 When I was nake ȝe ȝeve me clothyng. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 2744 Þe Sarasyns dude his helm a-down, & maked his hed al nake. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl. C.* XXI. 51 [Þey] nailede hym with þre nayles naked [*v.r.* naken] on þe rode. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 7214 Kyng Thoas herte be-gan to qwake, He wende to be hanged al nake.

Nake, *v. Obs.* (exc. *Sc.*) [Originally, and most commonly, in ppl. and pret. form *naked*, based directly on the adj., the *-ed* being apprehended as a verbal ending.] *trans.* To make naked, in various *lit.* and *fig.* senses; to bare, lay bare, strip, unsheathe, etc.

Benacian occurs once in OE., but *nacian* in Bosw.-Toller rests upon an erroneous reading (cf. *O.E. Martyrol.* 18).

c 1320 LANGTOFT *Chron.* (Rolls) II. 248 The fote folk Put the Scottes in the polk, And nackened [*Ib.* nakid] thair nages. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* IV. met. vii. (1868) 148 O nice men whi nake ȝe ȝoure bakkes as who seiþ. 1402a HOCCLEVE *Let. Cupid* 353 Oure first moder..made al mankynde lese his lyberte, and naked yt of loye. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* lxix. 313 (Harl. MS.), Thenne he nakid hire evene to þe smok. 1502 DOUGLAS *Pal. Hon.* I. i, Write thir frenesyis Quhilks of thy sempill cunning nakit the. 1606 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* XV. xciv. 376 Thus he nakt to her his heart. 1607 TOURNEUR *Rev. Trag.* V. i, Come, be ready: nake your swords; thinke of your wrongs! 1614 T. ADAMS *Sinner's Passing Bell* Wks. 1861 I. 339 Sickness hath..naked him of his silks. 1887 SERVICE *Life Dr. Duguid* 258 He naked his swurd, an' swure he would thole't nae langer.

refl. c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* i. (*Peter*) 31 He bad nocht, bot hym nakyt swith. *c* 1412 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 3290 He nakid hym, and schewed hym as blyue. *c* 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* I. v. (1869) 3 Eche wight onclothed him and naked him at the entringe. 1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* I. xi. (S.T.S.) I. 65 Ane parte þareof schamefully nakit þame self of þare wapynnys. *Ibid.* III. xix. II. 27 He nakit him of his abulȝementis.

Naked (nē·kèd), *a.* and *sb.*1 Forms: 1 naecad, nacod, -ud, naced, 2 næcod, nakod, 2- naked, (3 -edd, 3-5 -ede, 4 -ide, 4-6 -id, -yd), 6 nakt, 7 nak't; 4-6 naket, *Sc.* nakit, (6 nakkit), nakyt, 6 *Sc.* naiket, -it, -yt, -att, nakyt. [OE. *nacod, næcad*, = OFris. *naked, naket*, MDu. *naket, naect* (Du. *naakt*), MLG. *naket*, OHG. *nakot, naccot, nachot, nahhut*, etc. (MHG. *naket, nachet*, G. *nackt*), ON. *nǫkkviðr, neycquiðr* (also *nǫkð-, nǫkt-*, etc.; MSw. *nakudher, naqvidher*), Goth. *naqaþs, naqad-*, a participial derivative from the stem **naq-*:—pre-Teut. **nog*^{ti}-, which is also represented in OSl. *nagŭ* (Russ. *nagói*), Lith. *nūgas*, Skr. *nagnás*, L. *nūdus* (:—**nog*^{ti}*edos*), OIr. *nocht.*

The West Germ. languages have also forms ending in *-n, -nd*, or *-nt*, as OFris. *naken*, MDu. *nakent* (Du. dial. *nakend*), MLG. *naken(t*, MHG. *nackent, nachent* (G. *nackend*), ME. *nake(n*: the explanation of these is not clear. In Icel. *nakinn* (Norw. and Sw. *naken*, Da. *nögen*) the ending has been altered from *-iðr* on the analogy of such participles as *vakiðr, vakðr, vaktr*: *vakinn.*]

A. *adj.* **I. 1.** Unclothed, having no clothing upon the body, stripped to the skin, nude. † Also *occas.* having only an under-garment on.

c 850 *O. E. Martyrol.* (Herzfeld) 26 Þa het he hi nacode lædan to sumum scandbuse. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Mark xiv. 52 He miððy forwarp [sindonem, &] nacod foreflæh from ðæm. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gen.* iii. 7 Hiȝ oncneowon þa, þæt hiȝ nacode wæron. *Ibid.* 10. *c* 1205 LAY. 6273 Nakede heo weoren and naðing ne rohten. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 27/45 Men vrne nakede al a-boute and wummen al-so. *c* 1369 CHAUCER *Dethe Blaunche* 125 Hyr women kaught hir vp anoon, And broghten hir in bed al naked. 1439 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 116 My Image to be made all naked, and nothyng on my hede but myn here cast bakwardys. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* I. 49 It is rayson that we take of oure goode gownes, and goo to the kynge naked. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 43 Then he is torned naked and decked againe with a laymans apparell. 1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II*, I. iii. 298 Who can..Wallow naked in December

snow by thinking on fantasticke summers heate? 1608 Armin *Nest Ninn.* (1842) 24 To bed he goes; and Jemy euer used to lye naked, as is the use of a number. 1673 [R. Leigh] *Transp. Reh.* II Innocence..is no less a stranger to the use of swords and guns then the naked Indian. 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* II. (Globe) 498 We advanced a little Way farther, and behold, to our Astonishment, three Women naked..come flying. 1761 *Brit. Mag.* II. 445 The streets were..filled with naked people, some with shirts and shifts on only, and numbers without either. 1822 Lamb *Elia* Ser. I. *Decay of Beggars*, To be naked is to be so much nearer to the being a man, than to go in livery. 1870 Morris *Earthly Par.* III. IV. 17 Three damsels stood, naked from head to feet Save for the glory of their hair.

absol. *c* 1220 *Bestiary* 219 He fleð fro ðe so neddre fro de nakede. 1663 Gerbier *Counsel* d 6 b, The Inhabitants.. affecting no other livery then that of the first naked.

fig. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 59 b, Where they nowe appeare in theyr likenes, and are beholden naked with the eies of all men. 1579 W. Wilkinson *Confut. Familye of Love* 7 Christ commeth not bare or naked, but clothed and accompanied with all his mercies.

† b. In comparisons, as *naked as a needle, a worm, one's nail. Obs.*

1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. XII. 162 Take two stronge men, and in themese caste hem, And bothe naked as a nedle. *a* 1467 *Gregory's Chron.* (Camden) 211 The Lorde Schalys ..was slayne at Synt Mary Overeyes.., and laye there dyspoyly nakyd as a worme. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* XI. i. 572 There syr launcelot toke the fayrest lady by the hand.. and she was naked as a nedel. 1559 *Mirr. Mag.* (1562) Bb vij, We..Were led in prysoners naked as my nayle. 1633 Heywood *Eng. Trav.* II. i. C iij b, He..did..so Plucke them and Pull them till hee left them as naked as my Naile.

c. In the plant-names *Naked Lady* or *Ladies*, and *Naked Boys*, popular appellations of the Meadow Saffron (*Colchicum autumnale*).

1668 Wilkins *Real Char.* II. iv. 74 Having naked flowers without any stem;..Medow Saffron, Naked Lady. *a* 1691 Aubrey *Nat. Hist. Wilts* (1847) 51 Naked-boys (q. if not wild saffron) about Stocton. 1760 J. Lee *Introd. Bot.* App. 320 Naked Ladies, *Colchicum*. 1853 Tyas *Pop. Flowers* Ser. III. 2 The Autumnal Crocus, or Meadow Saffron.. bears also the name of Naked Lady, from the fact of its pretty flowers presenting themselves without leaves. 1857 *N. & Q.* 2nd Ser. III. 254 In Herefordshire..and in Norfolk, the autumnal crocus..is called commonly..Naked-boys.

d. Of a horse or ass: Without harness or trappings; unsaddled, bare-backed.

c 1000 Ælfric *Hom.* I. 210 He nolde on nacedum assan ridan. 1607 Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 244 Bucephalus, ..so long as he was naked and without furniture, ..would suffer any man to come on his back. 1833 Darwin *Jrnl. Voy. Beagle* viii. (1839) 143 A naked man on a naked horse is a fine spectacle.

2. a. Of parts of the body: Not covered or protected by clothing; bare, exposed.

1340 *Ayenb.* 244 Wyþ-oute none nakede uisage onwrije. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* ii. (*Paul*) 918 Strakis one his nakit flesche with a swerd. 1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 15 It lay in his nakede arm. 1601 Shaks. *Jul. C.* IV. iii. 101 There is my Dagger, And heere my naked Breast. 1667 Milton *P. L.* IV. 772 On thir naked limbs the flourie roof Showrd Roses. 1805 Scott *Last Minstr.* V. xxiii, His naked foot was dyed with red. 1856 Kane *Arct. Expl.* II. i. 24 He was..scratching his naked skin.

b. *Naked bed*, orig. used with reference to the custom of sleeping entirely naked; in later use denoting the removal of the ordinary wearing apparel. Now *arch.*

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 13803 As Vlixes the lorde lay for to slepe..on a night in his naked bed. 1503 Hawes *Examp. Virt.* I. vii, As I in my naked bedde was leyd. 1592a Kyd *Sp. Trag.* II. v. 1 What out-cries pluck me from my naked bed..? 1617 Moryson *Itin.* I. 242, I had never lien in naked bed since I came from Venice,..having alwaies slept..in my doublet, with linnen breeches and stockings. 1666 Pepys *Diary* 7 Sept., I went the first time into a naked bed, only my drawers on; and did sleep pretty well. 1699 R. L'Estrange *Erasm. Colloq.* (1725) 190 He would sit in a Chair, but very rarely came into his naked bed. 1756 Amory *Buncle* (1770) I. 94 This young lady went into naked bed in her cabbin. 1870 Mas. Gordon *Life Brewster* 297 Sir David exclaimed in horror 'What! go to your naked bed in the middle of the ocean?'

c. In *fig.* context, of things personified, of unembodied spirits, etc.

1599 Shaks. *Hen. V*, v. ii. 34 Why that the naked, poore, and mangled Peace..Should not in this..Our fertile France, put vp her louely Visage? 1628 Milton *Vac. Exerc.* 23, I have some naked thoughts that rove about. 1678 Cudworth *Intell. Syst.* 346 Pan being used not so much for the naked and abstract Deity, as the Deity as it were embodied in this Visible Corporeal World. 1722a Wollaston *Relig. Nat.* IX. 212 When the soul shall be disengaged from the gross matter..and..become naked spirit. 1816 Shelley *Daemon* II. 242 Before the naked powers that thro' the world Wander like winds have found a human home. 1833 Tennyson *Two Voices* 374 If first I floated free, As naked essence must I be Incompetent of memory.

d. *transf.* Applied to qualities, actions, etc. in which nakedness is involved.

1667 Milton *P. L.* IV. 290 With native Honour clad In naked Majestie [they] seemd Lords of all. 1728 Pope *Dunc.* II. 283 In naked majesty Oldmixon stands. 1788 Gibbon *Decl. & F.* XL IV. 53 The naked scenes which Theodora was not ashamed to exhibit in the theatre. 1821 Shelley *Adonais* XXXI, He..Had gazed on Nature's naked loveliness. 1897 *Manch. Guard.* 9 Aug. 10/4 Say whether this is naked weight or weight in cycling costume.

3. Destitute of clothing (implying poverty and wretchedness). Also *occas.* of animals: Stripped of the usual warm covering.

c 850 *O. E. Martyrol.* (Herzfeld) 204 Him com ongean an þearfende man nacod on cealdum wyntra. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. XXV. 36 Ic wæs nacud & ge me scryddon. *c* 1200 Ormin 6164 Þe birrþ clabenn nakedd mann. 1340 Hampole *Pr. Consc.* 508 Naked we come hider, and bare And pure. 1362 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. VII. 212 Alle manere of Men þat þou mayst aspye, þat neodi ben, or naket. *c* 1480 Henryson *Mor. Fab.* 1257 (*Sheep & Dog*), The Scheip..sauld the woll, he bure vpoun his bak;..Nakit and bair syne to the feild couth pas. 1551 Crowley *Pleas. & Pain* 29 Naked and bare, hauynge no clothes my fleshe to hyde. 1605 Shaks. *Lear* III. iv. 28 Poore naked wretches..That bide the pelting of this pittilesse storme. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* III. 679 Short of their Wool, and naked from the Sheer.

absol. *a* 900 Cynewulf *Crist* 1354 Þonne ge..him hleoð gefon hingrendum hlaf & hrægl nacedum. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 213 He wolde..hingrigendum mete syllan, & nacode scrydan. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 102 Ha..spende al þet oðer in neodfule & in nakede. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 20121 Naked and hungri sco cled & fede. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (Verse) 582 Cleth þe naked þat hase nede. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* IX. 29, [I have not] Harbreit the wolsome, nor naikit cled att all. 1535 Coverdale *Job* XXII. 6 Thou hast..robbed the naked of their clothinge. 1692 Dryden *Eleanora* 47 The afflicted came, The hunger-starved, the naked and the lame.

b. Bare or destitute of means. *rare.*

a 1625 Fletcher *Hum. Lieut.* III. v, I am a poor man, naked, Yet something for remembrance,..gentlemen. 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* II. (Globe) 507, I had been stripp'd naked, in a remote Country, and nothing to help myself. 1722 — *Col. Jack* (1840) 165 Thus a naked planter has credit at his beginning. 1893 Stevenson *Catriona* V, In the meanwhile I am held naked in my prison.

†4. Without weapons (or armour); unarmed.

1375 Barbour *Bruce* X. 431 He wes armyt and wes vycht, The tothir nakyt wes,..And had nocht for till stynt no strak. 1489 *Paston Lett.* III. 359 My seid Lord of Northumberland heryng..that they wer but naked men, addressed hym self towardes theym withoute eny harneys. 1553 T. Wilson *Rhet.* (1580) 95 This vilaine was armed, and the other man naked. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* III. 186 Baith the parties war vnarmet, or as we vse to speik, naked men. 1644 *Prerog. Anatomized* 4 It's hard usage,..because in time of peace, I walke unarm'd, to put me naked in the front of a Battell. 1727 De Foe *Hist. Appar.* VIII. 143, I scorn to take up a sword against a naked man. 1787 *Minor* III. IX. 186, I could not endure the idea of killing a naked man.

fig. 1693 Wood *Life* (O.H.S.) IV. 49 He disarmes the author, then fights with him naked.

b. Without defence or protection; defenceless, unprotected; open or exposed *to* assault or injury.

1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 265 If they should leave their owne countrey naked,..others would take possession. 1603 R. Johnson *Kingd. & Commw.* 61 He is forced to keepe the greater part of those troupes at home, vnless he should lay naked his estates to infinite casualties. 1688 Penton *Guard. Instr.* (1897) 18 Left naked to infinite temptations of doing nothing, or worse. 1751 Johnson *Rambler* No. 180 P 3 As a small garrison must leave one part of an extensive fortress naked when an alarm calls them to another. 1822 Shelley *When the lamp is shattered* iv, Thine eagle home [will] Leave thee naked to laughter. 1863 Cowden Clarke *Shaks. Char.* XV. 373 Gaunt suddenly fell away from him..and left him naked to the tender mercies of his priestly enemies.

II. 5. Of a sword or other weapon: Not covered by a sheath; unsheathed.

Beowulf 539 Hæfdon swurd nacod..heard on handa. *c* 888 K. Ælfred *Boeth.* XXIX. § 1 Him ealne weg..hangað nacod sweord ofer ðæm heafde se smale þræde. *c* 1205 Lay. 686 Bi þone toppe he hine nom..& his nakede sweord leide on his necke. 13.. *Sir Beues* (A.) 3648 Þai..bete hire wiþ swerdes naked. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 287 He..tok him..A naked sword to bere on honde. *c* 1450 *Merlin* 409 The Ban and the kynge Bohors com on with swerdes naked in her handes. 1535 Coverdale *Micah* V. 6 These shal subdue.. the londe of Nymrod with their naked weapens. 1599 Shaks. *Hen. V*, IV. ii. 21 Scarce blood enough .. To giue each naked Curtleax a stayne. 1634 Peacham *Gentl. Exerc.* II. v. 118 In her right hand a naked poniard. 1714 Pope *Epil. Rowe's J. Shore* 44 Many an honest man may copy Cato, Who ne'er saw naked sword. 1802 *Naval Chron.* VII. 83 Was not your sword naked? 1887 Bowen *Virg. Æneid* II. 334 Naked steel and glittering blade Ready, and ranged for slaughter.

†b. Of the tongue: Thrust out, exposed. *Obs.*—1

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) E 499 *Exserta lingua*, naecad tunge.

6. Free from concealment or reserve; plain, straightforward; outspoken, free. Now *rare.*

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 316 Schrift 3et schal beon naked, þet is, nakedliche imaked. *Ibid.*, Þis nis nout naked schrift. *c* 1391 Chaucer *Astrol.* Prol., This tretis..wole I shewe the under ful lihte rewles & naked wordes in englissh. 1602 *2nd Pt. Return fr. Parnass.* I. ii. 281 What cares he for modest close coucht termes..Giue him plaine naked words stript from their shirts. 1652 Cotterell tr. *Calprenède's Cassandra* III. IV. (1676) 296 By this naked confession of my life. 1788 Gibbon *Decl. & F.* XL IV. 53 *note*, A fragment of the Anecdotes, somewhat too naked, was suppressed by Alemannus. *c* 1789 — *Mem.* (1857) 122 The most naked tale in my history is told by the Rev. Mr. Joseph Warton.

b. *The naked truth*, the plain truth, without concealment or addition.

a 1585 Montgomerie *Cherry & Slae* 1141, I..trewly tald the naikit truth To men that melld with me. 1663 Butler *Hud.* I. ii. 36 We shall tell The naked Truth of what befel. 1709 Berkeley *Th. Vision* § 120 It is scarce possible to deliver the naked and precise truth. 1843 R. J. Graves *Syst. Clin. Med.* XIV. 181, I have not deviated in the slightest degree from the strict and naked truth. 1889 Jessopp *Coming of Friars* V. 242 An unmarried woman was a chattel. ..That is the naked truth.

7. Exposed to view or examination; uncovered, stripped of all disguise or concealment.

1382 Wyclif *Job* XXVI. 6 Nakid is helle before hym. *a* 1535 Fisher *Serm.* Wks. (1876) 401 All thinges be naked and open before his eyes. 1579 Fulke *Heskins' Parl.* 129 With a naked soule, and pure minde you beholde those thinges that are in heauen. 1611 Bible *Micah* I. 11 Passe yee away thou inhabitant of Saphir, hauing thy shame naked. 1672 Marvell *Reh. Transp.* I. 96, I shall without Art write down his own Words..as they ly naked to the view of every Reader. 1703 Rowe *Ulyss.* II. i, My Friends, who view my naked Soul. 1781 Cowper *Expost.* 339 Darkness itself before His eye is light, And hell's close mischief naked in His sight. 1819 Lady Charleville in Lady Morgan *Autobiog.* (1859) 272, I show you this to read my naked heart. 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 11 Should we not ask him to show us his soul, naked and undisguised?

b. Plain, obvious, clear.

1589 T. Cooper *Admon.* 192 That considering the proofe to be naked in it selfe, thou mayest the better iudge of the strength thereof. 1855 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* XX. IV. 496 Chamberlayne laid his plan, in all its naked absurdity, before the Commons. 1884 *St. James's Gaz.* 12 Aug. 3/1 People..shut their eyes in the face of staring, naked, palpable facts.

III. 8. a. Bare, destitute, or devoid *of* something. †Also const. *from.*

c 897 K. Ælfred *Gregory's Past C.* lvi. 431 Se lyteza feond swa micle ieðlicor ðæt mod gewundað swa he hit ongiet nacodre ðære byrnan wærscipes. *c* 1220 *Bestiary* 144 Danne ðe neddre is of his hid naked. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* III. 299 But þou3 bere children ben nakid fro virtues in soule, þei chargen no þing. 1533 Bellenden *Livy* I. xi. (S. T. S.) I. 64 Mecius..was als nakit of manhede and curage as he was of faith. 1581 J. Bell *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 149 Freewill is made naked of all maner merite. 1632 Lithgow *Trav.* VIII. 361 The maritime Townes..being left halfe naked of defence. 1665–6 Pepys *Diary* 19 Jan., It is a remarkable thing how infinitely naked..Covent Garden is ..of people. 1709 Steele *Tatler* No. 2 P 3 They thought fit to leave him naked of the proper Means to make those Excellencies useful. 1788 Gibbon *Decl. & F.* Ixxvii. VI. 629 The monuments of antiquity had been left naked of their precious ornaments.

b. Bare, lacking, or defective in some respect.

c 1386 Chaucer *Sec. Nun's T.* 486 If thou speke of moo, Thow liest; for thy power is full naked. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* Prol. 16 To condamp and repreif this raggit naykyt tracteit. 1622 Bacon *Hen. VII* (1876) 37 Concerning which battle the relations that are left unto us are so naked and negligent [etc.]. 1692 Dryden *St. Euremont's Ess.* 340 The Pleasures of the Senses sometimes render despicable the Satisfactions of the Mind, as too dry, and too naked. 1817 Coleridge *Biog. Lit.* (Bohn) 210 The poem..is..written in language as unraised and naked as any perhaps in the two volumes.

c. Clean, clear, unfilled, unoccupied.

1643 Prynne *Sov. Power Parlt.* App. 205 Moreover, he hath sold..very many naked and unwritten Parchments. *c* 1660 South *Serm. John* vii. 17 (1715) I. 231 It finds the Mind naked, and unprepossessed with any former Notions. 1822 Syd. Smith *Wks.* (1859) II. 1/1 It is a great point in any question to clear away encumbrances, and to make a naked circle about the object in dispute.

9. a. Devoid of trees or other vegetation; bare, barren, waste. †Of water: Having no weeds.

[*c* 1385 Chaucer *L. G. W.* Prol. 126 Forgeten had the erthe his pore estat Of winter, that him naked made and mat.] 1549 *Compl. Scot.* xi. 92 3e sal be compellit to laubir the naikyt feildis vith 3our auen handis to there proffet. 1615 G. Sandys *Trav.* 227 So was I left alone on a naked promontorie right against the Citie. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* III. 716 We see the naked Alps, and thin Remains Of scatter'd Cotts. 1721 Bradley *Philos. Acc. Wks. Nat.* 180 They are better fed Fish, and much larger in such Ponds, than where they have only a naked Water. 1784 Cowper *Task* III. 773 Those naked acres. 1793 — *A Tale* V, Sea-beaten rocks and naked shores. 1839 Alison *Hist. Europe* (1849–50) VIII. liii. § 3. 398 No forests clothe their sides; naked, they present their arid fronts to the shivering blasts. 1879 Farrar *St. Paul* (1883) 206 The corruption which the ebbing tide..had left upon the naked sands.

b. Bare of leaves or foliage; leafless.

1591 Spenser *Daphn.* xlviii, Let birds be silent on the naked spray. 1602 Marston *Antonio's Rev.* Prol., Wks. 1856 I. 71 Snarling gusts nibble the juyceles leaves, From the nak't shuddring branch. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* II. 562 When Storms have shed From Vines the hairy Honours of their Head;..Ev'n then the naked Vine he persecutes. 1784 Cowper *Task* VI. 141 These naked shoots, Barren as lances, among which the wind Makes wintry music. 1841 Browning *Pippa* i, How these tall Naked geraniums straggle! 1882a *Garden* 25 Feb. 135/2 Laurels and Hollies that have got naked at bottom should now be headed down.

c. Of ground, rock, etc.: Devoid of any covering or overlying matter; exposed.

1693 Evelyn *De la Quint. Compl. Gard.* II. 146 Some plants which our Climate is not capable naturally of producing in the naked Ground. 1759 Martin *Nat. Hist.* I. 15 The lower Parts, or Basis of the Rock lie intirely naked. 1776 G. Semple *Building in Water* 3 The Workmen..built Part of the Piers..on Part of the Foundation..and the rest of them on the naked Bed of the River. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) II. 248/1 Whether we take this method or begin upon the naked floor [of the foundation]. 1855 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* XVIII. IV. 191 Huge precipices of naked stone frown on both sides. 1887 W. Phillips *Brit. Disconyc.* 70 [It grows] on the naked ground in damp and shady woods.

d. *Naked fallow*, a 'hare' fallow, one on which no crop at all is grown (cf. Fallow *sb.*2). So *naked fallowing.*

1805 R. W. Dickson *Pract. Agric.* I. 364 Such soils as may ..require the aid of naked or summer fallowing. 1808 J. C. Curwen *Hints Feeding Stock* 234 Though no friend to naked fallows, I was obliged [etc.]. 1840 J. Buel *Farmer's Companion* 169 On substituting fallow crops for naked fallows. 1889 [see Fallow *sb.* 2].

e. *transf.* of the wind: Bleak, cold.

1821 Shelley *Hellas* 293 A flock Of wild swans struggling with the naked storm. 1834 R. Mudie *Feathered Tribes* (1841) I. 49 The black cock has the shelter of the bush when the naked wind blows.

10. a. Destitute of sails or tackle. *rare.*

1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 183 [He] hath ordeined..A nakid Schip withoute stiere. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 3701 All þere takyll was tynt, tylude ouer borde, The nauy wex nakit; noy was on honde. 1819 SHELLEY *Cyclops* 18, I myself stood on the beaked prow And fixed the naked mast.

b. Destitute of carpets, hangings, or similar furnishings; unfurnished.

1528 GARDINER in Burnet *Hist. Ref.* (ed. Pocock) I. 89 We pass three chambers all naked and unhanged. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* v. ii. 805 Go with speed To some forlorne and naked Hermitage. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* 386 The spirits of many long before that time will finde but naked habitations. 1704 POPE *Windsor For.* 68 The hollow winds thro' naked temples roar. 1788 MME. D'ARBLAY *Diary* 1 Dec., He longed, he said, to cover all the naked, cold boards, to render them [the rooms] more habitable. 1822 GALT *Steamboat* iv. 74 To cover the naked walls they had brought carpets from home. *a* 1834 COLERIDGE in *Rem.* (1836) II. 77 The stage in Shakspeare's time was a naked room with a blanket for a curtain.

c. *Naked flooring*, the timbers which support the flooring boards.

1823 in CRABB *Technol. Dict.* 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 569 Naked flooring, for ball-rooms, should be framed very strong. 1847 SMEATON *Builder's Man.* 74 There are three kinds of naked flooring: single, double, and framed.

d. Devoid of ornament or facing of any kind; plain and bare.

1850 INKERSLEY *Styles Archit. France* 313 The enormous projection of the naked buttresses. 1879 STEVENSON *Trav. Donkey* 48 Here and there a few naked cottages and bleak fields. 1892 T. B. F. EMINSON *Epid. Pneumonia at Scotter* 12, Cesspools of naked brick.

11. Uncovered, unprotected, exposed.

1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 389 Moles want their sight, because they have not their eyes open and naked as other Beasts. 1771 BURKE *Corr.* (1844) I. 280, I always felt it on the naked nerve, and with the quickest, sorest sensibility. 1852 MRS. STOWE *Uncle Tom's C.* xi. 94 It seemed as if every blow cut into my naked heart. 1861 J. R. GREENE *Man. Anim. Kingd., Cœlent.* 94 In some *Plumulariæ* the gonophores appear to be naked. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 325 These changes are described as occurring..in the ultimate naked fibrils.

b. Not placed within a case or receptacle; esp. *naked light.*

a 1626 MIDDLETON *Mayor Queenb.* I. ii, Yes, sir, in lanterns; but I'll never trust candle naked again. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 1079 As the naked cage of Davy often gets red-hot with flame [etc.]. 1842 PARNELL *Chem. Anal.* (1845) 13 The crucible..should never be introduced naked into the fire. 1865 *Morn. Star* 3 Nov., The Use of Naked Lights in a Fiery Mine. 1886 *S. W. Lincolnsh. Gloss.* s. v., We don't reckon to take a nak'd light into the yard.

c. *Naked fire*, an open fire, one not closed in by any contrivance. ? *Obs.*

1673 GREW *Philos. Hist. Plants* (1682) 19 The strongest heat which a naked fire in that Furnace would produce. 1756 C. LUCAS *Ess. Waters* III. 68 It requires a naked fire to fuse it. 1800 tr. *Lagrange's Chem.* II. 189 Place the retort on a sand-bath, or a naked fire.

12. *Bot.* **a.** Of seeds: Not enclosed in a case or ovary; having no pericarp.

1578 LYTE *Dodoens* IV. viii. 461 The grayne..is naked, bare, and cleane. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Naked Seeds*..,such Seeds of Plants, as are not included in any Pod or Case. 1776–96 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* II. 179 Flowers of 1 petal, beneath, and 4 naked seeds. 1846–50 A. WOOD *Class-bk. Bot.* 52 Truly naked seeds are found in few plants. 1875 BENNETT & DYER tr. *Sachs' Bot.* 433 The cases are, however, not rare in which the seeds remain quite naked from first to last.

b. Of stalks, etc.: Destitute of leaves. Of leaves, etc.: Free from hairs; smooth, glabrous.

1721 BRADLEY *Philos. Acc. Wks. Nat.* 34 Plants, whose.. whole Foliate or naked Roots put forth every Spring their fresh Flower-Stalks. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* s.v. *Leaf*, Naked Leaf expresses a leaf whose surface is smooth and equal, without any particular marks. *Ibid.* s.v. *Stalk*, Naked stalk, one that has no leaves. 1776–96 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* II. 320 The barren branches naked and bent backwards. 1860 A. GRAY *Man. Bot.* 281 Flowers perfect, solitary or long naked scapes or peduncles.

c. In the specific names of varieties of grain having naked seeds, as *naked barley* and *naked oats*, or of plants with naked stems, as *naked broom-rape.*

1578 LYTE *Dodoens* IV. viii. 461 The naked or hulled Barley groweth in some places of Fraunce. 1678 SALMON *Pharm. Lond.* I. iv. 117 *Zeopyrum*, Naked Barley. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* (1721) I. 136 In Staffordshire..is a sort of red or naked Oats. 1764 *Museum Rust.* III. 151 The naked oat.. I am told is very much cultivated in Cornwall. 1808 J. WALKER *Econ. Hist. Hebrides* I. 229 The naked oat..is so called, because the grain..falls naked from the head, like a grain of wheat. 1835 *Penny Cycl.* III. 166/2 The naked oat.. is found wild in many parts of Europe. 1838 *Ibid.* XII. 291/1 Naked Barley, a species but little cultivated now, is of unknown origin. 1860 A. GRAY *Man. Bot.* 281 *Aphyllon*, Naked Broom-rape.

13. *Zool.* Destitute of hair or scales; not defended by a shell.

1769 E. BANCROFT *Guiana* 134 A long tail, which is almost naked towards the end. 1828 STARK *Elem. Nat. Hist.* I. 364 Skin naked, with longitudinal folds. 1844 CARPENTER *Zool.* § 573 The Cod tribe..have a long body..covered with soft scales,—the head, however, being naked. 1897 H. O. FORBES *Hand-bk. Primates* II. 199 The front, top, and sides of the head and face are nearly naked.

b. As the distinctive epithet of classes of animals (see quots.).

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XXIX. vi. II. 365 Naked snailes (I meane those that bee found without shells.) 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) VII. 112 Klein gives them a class.. under the name of Naked Quadrupedes. 1828 STARK *Elem. Nat. Hist.* I. 364 Family III. Naked Serpents. 1834 MCMURTRIE *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 270 The naked Acephala are not numerous. 1840 tr. *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 336 We call those Mollusca *naked* in which the cloak is simply membranous or fleshy. 1851 WOODWARD *Mollusca* 1. 62 The rest are termed 'naked cephalopods', because the shell is internal.

IV. 14. Left without any addition; not strengthened or increased in any way; bare, mere; † absolute.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *On New Test.* (Grein) 21 Nu miht þu wel witan, þæt weorc sprecan swiðor, þonne þa nacodon word. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 35 Whi schulde curatis pronounsen here breþeren a cursed for nakid lettris of syche coueitous prelatis. 1523 SKELTON *Garl. Laurel* 1205 Harde to make ought of that is nakid nought. 1552 ABP. HAMILTON *Catech.* (1884) 48 Thai that presumis owyr mekil of thair awin nakit frewill & gud deedis. *a* 1652 J. SMITH *Sel. Disc.* iv. 103 A naked perception of sensible impressions, without any work of reason. 1700 C. NESSE *Antid. Armin.* (1827) 17 Some grant..to the non-elect only a prescience or naked foresight. 1785 BURKE *Sp. Nabob Arcot* Wks. 1842 I. 319/2 On these principles he chooses to suppose..a naked possibility. 1837 T. JONES *Christian Warrior* III. xv. 77 He would make him believe that a naked Christ and a naked faith is quite enough. 1876 STAINER & BARRETT *Dict. Mus. Terms, Naked fourth*, the interval of a fourth without the addition of any other interval.

b. Not accompanied by, or overlaid with, remarks or comments; expressed in plain unadorned language.

c 1400 *Cato's Mor.* 345 in *Cursor M.* 1673 Þou wondris in þi witte þat I wrate þis writte in twa versis nakid. 1450–1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* 3 In many places where the nakyd letter..ys not easy for symple soulles to vnderstonde; I expounde yt.. more openly. 1594 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* II. vii. § 1 To draw all things unto the determination of bare and naked Scripture. 1655 S. ASHE *Funeral Serm. Gataker* 25 This I enlarge not by specifying instances, because the naked quotations may be sufficient. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 39 ₱ 6 The naked Thought of every Speech.. divested of all its Tragick Ornaments. 1768 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* III. 377 Herein they state the naked facts, as they find them to be proved. 1835 THIRLWALL *Greece* iii. I. 65 This is the naked abstract of the tradition. 1878 O. W. HOLMES *Motley* xxiv. 226 One who felt himself wronged must not be expected to reason in naked syllogisms.

c. Not otherwise supported, assured, or confirmed. (Chiefly in legal use.)

c 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 420 Sith þei supposen þat hor naked graunte is als myche worthe as graunte wiþ hor lettres. *c* 1555 HARPSFIELD *Divorce Hen. VIII* (Camden) 45 If the parties make but a naked and bare promise of affiance. 1616 T. GODWYN *Moses & Aaron* (1641) 257 The making of peace was a naked stipulation..for the laying aside of all hostile affections. 1681 STAIR *Inst. Law Scot.* 116 Whether it be a naked Paction or Promise, or a Mutual Contract. 1766 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* II. 195 The lowest and most imperfect degree of title consists in the mere naked possession, or actual occupation of the estate. 1818 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) II. 455 Suppose a naked right, or a contingent remainder had descended. 1823 CRABB *Technol. Dict., Nude contract*, a bare naked contract, without a consideration, which is void in law. 1871 DE VERE *Americanisms* 509 *Naked possessor*, is the odd title by which, in Texas and the Southwestern States, the occupant of a farm is known, who can show no title to his land. 1877 TENNYSON *Harold* II. ii, Thou art perfect in all honour! Thy naked word thy bond!

d. Not supported by proof or evidence.

1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 43 b, Unlesse you suppose, that with your naked clamorous affirmatives ye may expell them out of the Church. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* x. 457 Onely for a naked suspition, mistaking the honorable intention of the English. 1673 CAVE *Prim. Chr.* I. iv. 81 None were ever greater Enemies to a naked profession. 1817 JAS. MILL *Brit. India* II. v. vii. 603 For the evidence of these designs, Mr. Hastings presents his own naked assertion.

15. *Naked eye*, the eye itself, unassisted by the microscope, telescope, or other aid to vision. So *naked sight.*

1664 POWER *Exp. Philos.* I. 17 Smaller than the smallest hair our naked eyes can discover. 1672 GREW *Anat. Veget.* iii. 77 As the Tract of these Pores appears to the naked Eye. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 121 ₱ 9 Such [creatures] as are bulky enough for the naked Eye to take hold of. 1789 MME. D'ARBLAY *Diary* 18 Jan., With my glass..I can see just as other people see with the naked eye. 1812 WOODHOUSE *Astron.* xxiii. 240 To the naked sight, or to unassisted vision. 1875 MANNING *Mission H. Ghost* xiii. 359 The naked eye cannot perceive them, but the power of the microscope reveals them.

b. *attrib.* Visible to the naked eye.

1876 *Trans. Clinical Soc.* IX. 138 The naked-eye characters being..characteristic. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 963 There was no naked-eye damage to the cord.

16. Undiluted, neat. *rare* $^{-1}$.

1824 SCOTT *Redgauntlet* let. xiii, I am drinking naked spirits, I think.

17. *Comb.*, as *naked-armed, -bladed, -eyed, -flowered, -flowering, -seeded, -tailed* adjs. Also **naked-beard grass**, an American grass having an abortive flower; † **naked-tail** (see quot.).

1891 T. HARDY *Tess* xxix, Tess had come out..*naked-armed and jacketless. 1860 GRAY *Man. Bot.* 553 *Gymnopogon.* *Naked-beard Grass. 1856 MRS. BROWNING *Aur. Leigh* I. 330 And with two grey-steel *naked-bladed eyes Searched through my face. 1848 E. FORBES (*title*) A Monograph of the British *naked-eyed Medusæ. *Ibid.* 3 In the naked-eyed species. 1870 NICHOLSON *Man. Zool.* x. (1875) 119 The 'naked-eyed' Medusæ.. are exceedingly elegant..when examined in a living condition. 1853 TYAS *Pop. Flowers* Ser. III. 2 The *Naked-flowered Crocus (*C. *nudiflorus*) adorns the meadows..in the fall of the year. 1885 *Globe* 31 Jan. 1/5 Of the shrubs,..none is more kindly than the yellow naked-flowered jasmine. 1841 MACGILLIVRAY *Withering's Brit. Plants* 63 *C. nudiflorus*, *naked-flowering Crocus. 1855 MISS PRATT *Flower. Pl.* V. 233 Naked-flowering Saffron. 1776 LEE *Botany* 415 (Jod.) *Gymnospermia*, *naked-seeded. 1845 *Encycl. Metrop.* XIV. 495/1 In Guaiana is found the rabo pelado, or *naked-tail, a ravenous animal, of the vulpine species. 1841 WATERHOUSE *Marsup.* 94 *Naked-tailed opossum, *Didelphys nudicaudata.*

B. *sb.*[1]

1. *The naked*: † **a.** The naked skin. *Obs. rare.*

a 1400–50 *Alexander* 4182 Quare it neȝes on þe nakid it noyis for euire. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 6403 He shot þrough the shild & the shene maile,..Hit neghit to þe nakid.

† **b.** *Art.* The nude. *Obs.*

1735 POPE *Ep. Lady* 188 Artists! who can paint or write, To draw the Naked is your true delight. 1753 HOGARTH *Anat. Beauty* xi. 91 The drapery..helps to satisfy the eye, ..without depriving the beholder of any part of the beauties of the naked.

c. The face or plain surface of a wall, etc.

1726 LEONI *Alberti's Archit.* I. 66 Angles jutting out from the naked of the Wall. 1776 G. SEMPLE *Building in Water* 13 The Cutwaters..extend 12 Feet each beyond the naked of the Bridge. 1823 P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Builder* 339 *Naked of a Wall*, the vertical or battering surface, whence all projectures arise. 1842 GWILT *Archit.* 1007.

† **2.** *Art.* A nude figure. *Obs.*

1622 PEACHAM *Compl. Gent.* II. xiii. (1634) 148 Hee excelled in Perspective, and above all other masters laboured in Nakeds. 1675 A. BROWNE *App. Art of Limning* 21 To understand how to make choice of a good Naked, and to draw it well.

† **Naked,** *sb.*[2] *Obs. rare.* [f. prec.] Nakedness.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Dent.* xxviii. 48 Drihten aseat hungor on eow and þurst and nacede. *c* 1470 HENRYSON *Orph. & Eur.* 529 For this dispyte quhen he was deid anon Was dampnyt..To suffer hunger, thrist, nakit and cald.

† **Na·kedhead.** *Obs.* In 4 nakedhed(e, nakidhe(e)d. [f. NAKED *a.* + -HEAD: cf. MDu. *naket-, naecteit* (Du. *naaktheid*), G. *nacktheit*, Sw. *nakenhet*, Da. *nögenhed.*] Nakedness.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 23089 O naked-hed quen i drogh [h]arme, Yee gaf me clething. 13.. *K. Alis.* 7056 Ther is none..for the nakedhed aschamed. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 47 Of þe caitifte of helle, of þe nakidheed fro al solace. 1382 — *Jer.* ii. 25 Forfende thi foot fro nakidhed.

Na·kedish, *a. rare.* [-ISH.] Somewhat naked.

1806 GALPINE *Brit. Bot.* 26 *Alopecurus*..Glumes nakedish, united at their base.

Na·kedize, *v.* [f. NAKED *a.* + -IZE.] **a.** *intr.* To go naked. **b.** *trans.* To make naked.

1858 HOGG *Shelley* II. 289 It was most manifest that the children liked to nakedize—such was the term of art—exceedingly. 1885 J. C. JEAFFRESON *Real Shelley* II. 192 The troop of nakedized children rushed downstairs.

Nakedly (nē·kédli), *adv.* Also 3 -liche, 5 -lye; 4 nakyd-, 5 nakidly. [f. NAKED *a.* + -LY[2]: cf. MDu. *naectelike, -lic*(*k.*]

1. a. Without concealment or reserve; plainly, openly. (Common in 17th c.)

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 316 Schrift ȝet schal þeon naked, þet is, nakedliche imaked, and nout.. hendeliche ismoked. 1340 *Ayenb.* 174 He ssel zigge his zennes clyerliche and nakedliche. 1561 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 173 In sa fer as is allegit naketlie, that I ressavit..and disponit the gudis. 1603 *Lismore Papers* Ser. II. (1887) I. 56 Laying nakedlie and feelinglie before his eies the danger of the action. 1643 *Myst. Iniq.* 43 The Catholike cause (which the King..is induced to serve either nakedly, or cloathed with this pretence). 1682 SIR T. BROWNE *Chr. Mor.* (1716) 23 The Judge of all knoweth all, and every man will nakedly know himself. 1818 HALLAM *Mid. Ages* (1872) I. 402 Quarrels of private families..sometimes.. were more nakedly conspicuous. 1846 GROTE *Greece* II. iv. (1862) II. 88 This supremacy was not claimed directly and nakedly.

b. Without addition or amplification; simply, barely.

1534 MORE *Comf. Trib.* II. Wks. 1205/1 Hard is it..in many maner thinges, to..affirme or denye, reproue or allow, a mater nakedlye proponed & put furth. 1560 BECON *New Catech.* Wks. 1564 I. 427 If we had ben without bodies, Christ wold haue geuen vnto vs those spirituall gifts, nakedly & simply. 1651 SAUNDERS *Flen. Poss.* 7 His meaning is.. nakedly what the words expresse. 1710 *Brit. Apollo* No. 40. 1/2 Our Church has Nakedly proposed them but left the Sense of them undetermined. 1741–3 WESLEY *Extr. Jrnl.* (1749) 22, I desired five or six to go with him to Justice Copeland, to whom they nakedly related the fact. 1809–10 COLERIDGE *Friend* (1865) 111 To state it nakedly is to confute it satisfactorily.

2. Without reference to, apart from, other things or circumstances. (Common in 17th c.)

c 1380 WYCLIF *Serm.* Sel. Wks. II. 231 Þus shulde stiwardis of þe Chirche juge not nakydly bi þer wille, but sikerly aftir Goddis lawe. 1549 LATIMER *7th Serm. bef. Edw. VI* (Arb.) 207 Not the bare death, consideryng it so nakedly by it selfe. 1646 J. WHITAKER *Uzziah* 7 The acts of the unregenerate in themselves nakedly considered, some of them may he right. 1724 SWIFT *Drapier's Lett.* Wks. 1755 V. II. 67 Let us take the whole matter nakedly,..without the refinements of some people. 1756 BURKE *Vind. Nat. Soc.* Wks. 1842 I. 8/2 When it is nakedly considered, and those matters which are apt to divert our attention from it..are not taken into the account. 1873 *Speaker's Comm.* Ps. cxxxviii. 1 It is doubtful if the Hebrew word Elohim, used nakedly.., can have this meaning. 1884 LD. SELBORNE in *Law Rep.* 9 App. Cases 611 The question, therefore, is nakedly raised by this appeal.

3. In a naked, unclothed, or exposed manner; nudely. Also *fig.*

a 1440 *Found. St. Bartholomew's* (E.E.T.S.) 40 All thyng worldly [he] hadde forsake for the loue of criste, nakidly askapynge the wrake of this worlde. 1595 DANIEL *Civ. Wars* I. lxxx, This..dazeleth all their clearest sighted eies, That they see not how nakedly they lie. *a* 1619 FLETCHER *Mad Lover* I. i, How have you borne yourself, how nakedly Laid your soul open. 1684 R. WALLER *Nat. Exper.* Pref. Truth, through the fine Web..sometimes seems so plain and lively, that some might conclude, She was Nakedly Discovered. 1755 BURKE *Vind. Nat. Soc.* Wks. I. 71 Things which we pass by in their common dress, yet which shock us when they are nakedly represented. 1896 *Daily News* 5 Nov. 9/2 A..man of about 30 years of age was indicted for nakedly exposing himself in a public place.

† **b.** Without means of defence. *Obs. rare.*

1562 PILKINGTON *Expos. Nehemiah* (1585) 64 Good men may also learne here not..to goe nakedlie without weapon, to yeald them selues into their enemies hands. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* VIII. 362 Rash fellowes..who will nakedly hazard themselues in knowne perils, without Ordonance.

4. Barely, poorly, imperfectly; slightly. ? *Obs.*

1589 COOPER *Admon.* 120 They..haue handled them so coldely, nakedly, and vnperfectly, that many haue bene grieued to heare them. 1634-5 BRERETON *Trav.* (Chetham Soc.) 156 My Lord of Kildare, who passed through them nakedly attended. *a* 1682 SIR T. BROWNE *Tracts* (1683) 6 The Reader, unacquainted with such Vegetables, or but nakedly knowing their natures.

Nakedness (nē'·kèdnès). [f. NAKED *a.* + -NESS.]

1. The state or condition of being unclothed or destitute of clothing. Also *transf.* a naked person.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* I. 392 On hungre & on ðurste,..on cyle, & on nacednysse. — *Gen.* ix. 23 Swa þæt hiȝ ne ȝesawon heora fæder nacednisse. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Clerk's T.* 810 To yow broghte I noght elles..But feyth and nakednesse and maydenhede. *a* 1425 *Cursor M.* 23089 (Trin.), Bi nakudnes whenne I toke harm wiþ cloþiug ȝe made me warm. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 8 Where shall be no syckues, no necessite nor nakednes. 1573 L. LLOYD *Marrow of Hist.* (1653) 39 The women.., lifting up their cloaths, shewing their nakedness. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* III. 172 A black vaile,..through which the nakednesse of their shoulders..may be seene. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* X. 217 As Father of his Familie he clad Thir nakedness with Skins of Beasts. *c* 1718 PRIOR *Pallas & Venus* 16 Thou to be strong must put off every dress; Thy only armour is thy nakedness. 1788 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xliv. IV. 347 He concealed his nakedness with a linen towel. 1855 TENNYSON *Maud* I. x. i, Grimy nakedness dragging his trucks And laying his trams in a poison'd gloom. 1885 *Pall Mall G.* 20 May 3/1 The fair nakednesses who look down unabashed upon the well-dressed crowd.

b. Absence of cover or concealment; the state of a thing when not cloaked or disguised in any way; a feature requiring to be kept concealed.

1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* IV. i. 177 Why seek'st thou then to couer with excuse, That which appeares in proper nakednesse? 1661 MARVELL *Corr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 66, I would not tell you any tales, because there are nakednesses which it becomes us to cover if it be possible. 1768 STERNE *Sent. Journ., Passport*, I could wish..to spy the nakedness of their hearts. 1820 SHELLEY *Liberty* xvi, Till in the nakedness of false and true They stand before their Lord. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 30 Dec. 5/3 None of us have as yet gone to the length of avowing this design in all its nakedness.

c. Openness to attack; weakness. *rare.*

a 1591 H. SMITH *Serm.* (1866) II. 40 It grieves me..to discover the nakedness of my countrymen. 1611 BIBLE *Gen.* xlii. 9 To see the nakednes of the land you are come.

2. Destitution; bareness, poverty.

1570-6 LAMBARDE *Peramb. Kent* (1826) 133 By decay of the haven..it was brought in manner to miserable nakednesse and decay. 1631 WEEVER *Anc. Funeral Mon.* 315 This penury, nakednesse, and abiection. 1642 MILTON *Apol. Smect.* Wks. 1851 III. 310 The lofty nakednesse of your Latinizing Barbarian. 1742 FIELDING *J. Andrews* II. ii, He..discovered the nakedness of his pockets. 1754 PITT *Lett. to Nephew* iv. 22 Exposing the nakedness and emptiness of the mind. 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* xxix. (1856) 251 It is this nakedness of resources..that makes our position one of hitterness. 1873 HAMERTON *Intell. Life* III. iv. 95 The result would be simple intellectual nakedness.

b. Bareness due to absence of vegetation, ornament, or other accessories.

1750 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 80 P 4 The nakedness and asperity of the wintry world. 1821 SHELLEY *Adonais* xlix, Where..fragrant copses dress The bones of Desolation's nakedness. 1859 JEPHSON *Brittany* viii. 107 The broken arches..and desolate nakedness of the cathedral.

3. Freedom from unnecessary ornament or refinement; simplicity. *rare.*

1617 MORYSON *Itin.* IV. iv. iii. 379 No people of Europe..vseth lesse Ceremonyes,..doing all such thinges without any ostentation, yea with great simplicity and nakednes. 1711 HEARNE *Collect.* (O.H.S.) III. 173 Much admiring the Simplicity and Nakedness of ye Style. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 85 P 4 Nature in her Simplicity and Nakedness.

4. Absence of hairs or scales.

1851 CARPENTER *Man. Phys.* (ed.2) 397 This order..is further distinguished..by the softness and nakedness of the skin. 1873 MIVART *Elem. Anat.* vii. 243 In Batrachians..we find a nakedness of skin greater even than in man.

† **Na·ken,** *v. Obs.* Forms: 3 nacn(en), 4-5 nakn(en); 4 nacken, -in, nakkin, nakin, 4-5 nakyn, naken. [app. f. *naken* NAKE *a.* + -EN 6.]

1. *trans.* To strip (a person) naked; to divest of clothing (or armour); to lay (part of the body) bare. Also *refl.*

a 1240 *Wohunge* in *O.E. Hom.* I. 283 A nu nacnes mon mi lef. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 4173 þai hent ioseph..And nackend him and kest him dun. *a* 1350 *S. Anastasia* 140 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 27 Þe Emperoure..Gert nakkin þam al foure in fere. 1382 WYCLIF 1 *Chron.* x. 9 Whanne thei haden spuylid hym..and nakenyd fro armys. *c* 1440 *Alph. Tales* 84 He nakend þe tane of his legis. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* lxiv. 277 (Harl. MS.), Do of and nakyn þe of all þi Clothing. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 248/1 To Nakyn, *nudare.*

b. To strip or deprive one *of* something.

c 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* I. xli. (1869) 25 Therfore j haue wrethe in myn herte whan ye..nakeuen me of my right.

2. To lay bare; to reveal or disclose.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 27099 Alle þis werld..es nackind forwit cristis ei. 1382 WYCLIF *Ecclus.* xix. 8 If ther is to thee gilte, wile thou not nakeuen. — *Isa.* xxii. 6 And Elam toc an arewe caas,..and the target nakuide the wal.

Hence † **Na·kening** *vbl. sb. Obs.*

1382 WYCLIF *Ecclus.* xi. 29 In the ende of a man [there is] ful nakeuyng of the werkis of hym. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 248/2 A Nakynynge, *nudacio.*

Naker (nē'·kəɹ), *sb.*[1] Now only *Hist.* Also 4-5 nakere, *gen.pl.* nak(e)ryn, 5 nakyr, 9 nakir. Cf. NACORNE and NAQUAIRE. [a. OF. *nacre, naquere, nakaire, nacaire*, etc. = It. *nacchera*, med.L. *nach-, nacara, nacaria*, med.Gr. *ἀνάκαρα*, ad. Arab. نقارة, Pers. نقاره, *naqāra(h).* In English the word seems to have had real currency only in the 14th cent.] A kettle-drum.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1413 Ay þe nakeryn noyse, notes of pipes, Tymbres & tabornes tulket among. *a* 1352 MINOT *Poems* iv. 80 Þe princes..Gert nakers strike and trumpes blaw. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Knight's T.* 1653 Pypes, trompes, nakers, and clariounes. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xxxi. 138 Þer es herd noyse as it ware of trumppes and tawburnez and nakers. *a* 1440 *Sir Degrev.* 1085 With trompe and with nakere And the scalmuse clere.

1819 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* xxx, A flourish of the Norman trumpets..mingled with the deep and hollow clang of the nakers. 1891 *Cornh. Mag.* May 450 Every road..resounded with nakir and trumpet.

Hence † **Na·ker** *v. intr.*, to beat upon nakers.

c 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 4699 Thei nakered, piped and blew, Vnto that the Cokkes crew.

† **Naker,** *sb.*[2] *Obs. rare* —°. [f. NAKE *v.* + -ER[1].] One who makes naked.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 351/1 Nakare, or he þat spoylythe men of clothys, *denudator.*

Naker, obs. form of NACRE.

† **Na·kerer.** *Obs.* Also 4 nakarer. [f. NAKER *sb.*[1] + -ER[1].] A performer upon the naker.

1310-11 *MS. Cott. Nero C.* viii. lf. 87 *b*, Rogerole Troumpour, Janino le Nakerer, Menestrallis Regis. *a* 1377 in *Housch. Ord.* (1790) 4 Mynstrelles—Nakerers. *c* 1400 *Siege Jerusalem* 852 (E.E.T.S.) With dynnyng of pipis, & þe nakerer' noyse.

† **Nake·tte.** *Obs. rare.* [Of obscure origin.] Some precious stone.

c 1460 *Emare* 94 Of crapowtes and nakette As thykke ar they sette. *Ibid.* 142 Wyth crapawtes and nakette, Thykke of stones ar they sette.

‖ **Nakhoda** (nā·kȯdā). Forms: 7 nocheda, nockhoda, nohuda, nucquedah, nokayday, nockado; necoda, nahoda, nacoda, 9 nacodah, nakouda, nakhoda, nakhuda. [a. Urdū (Persian) ناخدا *nākhodā, nākhudā*, f. ناو *nāw* boat, ship + خدا *khudā* master.] The captain or master of an Indian boat or vessel.

1605 SARIS in Purchas *Pilgrims* I. iv. 385 The Nockhoda of the Iuncke alledged many rich parcells taken. 1611 MIDDLETON *ibid.* I. iii. 263 The Nohudas and Merchants in great feare of losse of their ship and goods. 1663 H. COGAN tr. *Pinto's Trav.* xiii. 42 The three Necodas of the Junks, so are the commanders of them called in that country. 1802 JAMES *Milit. Dict., Nakouda.* 1834 A. PRINSEP *Baboo* II. xii. 249 (Stf.), He laughed and told me I should see the Nakhoda in the evening. 1887 Mrs. D. Dale *S. Australia* 244 The proas are owned by Malays, each one commanded by a head man or nacodah.

Nakin, -kyn, variants of NO-KIN.

† **Na·king,** *vbl. sb. Obs. rare* —°. [f. NAKE *v.* + -ING[1].] The action of making naked.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 351/1 Nakynge, or nakydnesse (or stryppyng), *nudacio, denudacio.*

Nakquayre: see NAQUAIRE.

Nakre, obs. form of NACRE.

Nal, obs. form of AWL.

Nald(e, would not: see NILL *v.*

Nale, in phr. *at* (*the*) or *atte nale*: see ALE 2.

† **Nall(e,** obs. forms of AWL.

14.. *Metr. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 628 Baryngsexe, sole, nalle (*subula*), corduane. 1432-50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 249 Prikkede thro alle the body with nalles, neldes, and pynnes. 1496 *Fysshynge w. Angle* (1883) 14 Shomakers nalles in especyall the beste for grete fysshe. 1530 PALSGR. 247/1 Nall for a souter, *alesne.* 1564 [see AWL]. 1573 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 36 Hole bridle and saddle, whit lether and nall. 1632 [see AWL].

attrib. and *Comb.* 1530 PALSGR. 247/1 Nall maker, *faisevr dalesnes.* 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XI. XXXVII. I. 331 Like a shomakers Nall blade.

† **Nam,** am not: see NE and BE *v.* A. **I. 1.** 1.

c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* cxviii. 60 ȝcaru ic eam & neam ȝedroefed. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. iii. 11 His ȝesceoe nam [*Rushw.* næm] ic wyrðe beara. *c* 1200 OAMIN 10281 Namm I nohht Godess sune. *c* 1205 LAY. 14136 Næm [*c* 1275 nam] ich næuere hute care. *a* 1240 *Ureisun* in *O.E. Hom.* I. 185 Hwi nam ich in þin earmes. *c* 1305 *Edmund Conf.* 61 in *E.E.P.* (1862) 72 Nam ic þi felawe, quaþ þis child. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 67 Seie I noght That I nam somdel for to wyte. *c* 1450 LOVELICH *Grail* XXXVIII. 472 In non wyse nam I not so. 1575 GASCOIGNE *Flowers* Wks. 64, I nam.. the wisest wight of all. 1576 — *Steele Gl.* (Arb.) 50, I n'am a man, as some do thinke I am.

† **Nam,** variant of MNAM, mina. *Obs.*

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. VI. 241 Matbew..mouthed thise wordes, That *seruus nequam* had a nam.

Nam, pledge: see NAAM.

Nam, pa. t. of NIM *v. Obs.*

Namable, variant of NAMEABLE *a.*

Naman, -mon, variants of NO-MAN, no one.

† **Na·mandly,** *adv.* In 4 nom-. [Cf. MDu. *namende-, namondelike*, G. *namentlich.*] Namely.

c 1375 *Cursor M.* 27282 (Fairf.) In spiring prest loke þou be sleye..in þakin þingis nomandeli [*Cott.* namly] þat is gaine kind in leccheri.

Nama·tion. *rare*—°. [ad. med.L. *namation-em*, f. *namare*, f. OE. *nám* NAAM.] (See quot.)

1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Namation*, (Law-Term) a distraining, or taking a Distress: In Scotland, it is taken for impounding. [Hence in later Dicts.]

Namaycush (næ·mėkʊʃ). Also 8 naym-, 9 namacush. [American Indian; in Cree *numākoos*, Ojibway *namēgoss.*] The great lake trout (*Salvelinus namaycush*) of N. America.

1785 PENNANT *Arct. Zool.* II. Suppl. 139 Naymacush. Inhabits the lakes of Hudson's Bay. 1829 RICHARDSON *Fauna Bor. Amer.* III. 179 The namaycush is the tyrant of the lakes. 1888 G. B. GOODE *Amer. Fish* 468 The amateur is likely to confound the namaycush with the Siscowet. 1892 SHIELD *Amer. Game Fishes* 238 The namaycush reaches its greatest perfection in the Northern parts of Lakes Huron and Michigan.

Namby-pamby (næ·mbi,pæ·mbi), *a.* and *sb.* [A fanciful formation on the name of *Ambrose* Philips (died 1749), author of pastorals ridiculed by Carey and Pope.

1726 CAREY (*title*) Namby Pamby. *Ibid.* 29 So the Nurses get by Heart Namby Pamby's Little Rhimes. 1733 POPE *Dunc.* III. 319 Beneath his reign shall .. Namby Pamby [*ed.* 1, A—e P—s] be prefer'd for Wit.]

A. *adj.* **1.** Of style, compositions, actions, etc.: Weakly sentimental, insipidly pretty, affectedly or childishly simple.

1745 W. AYRE *Mem. Pope* II. 90 He us'd to write Verses on Infants, in a strange Stile, which Dean Swift calls the Namby Pamby Stile. 1791 BOSWELL *Johnson* I. 97 At a very advanced age he condescended to trifle in namby pamby rhymes. 1793 W. ROBERTS *Looker-on* No. 84 (1794) III. 351 Sweet smirking troops, In coats of green, and namby pamby pride. 1823 *Edin. Rev.* XXXIX. 73 Too many of these namby-pamby lyrics have still been allowed to remain. 1844 THACKERAY *Little Trav.* I. Wks. 1869 XXII. 181 Keyser has dwindled down into namby-pamby prettiness. 1882 MISS BRADDON *Mt. Royal* III. x. 191 He had just that small namby-pamby air which would suit Pauline's faint-hearted lover.

absol. 1874 L. STEPHEN *Hours in Library* (1892) II. ii. 64 That unlucky taste for the namby-pamby by which Wordsworth annoyed his contemporaries.

2. Of persons: Inclined to weak sentimentality, affected daintiness, or childish simplicity; of a weak or trifling character.

1774 *Westm. Mag.* II. 145 A namby-pamby Duke. 1774 T. DAVIES in *J. Granger's Lett.* (1805) 60 Certain namby-pamby people were never to be satisfied. 1840 THACKERAY *Paris Sk.-bk.* (1869) 47 The namby-pamby mystical German school [of painters]. 1848 — *Van. Fair* xlii, She was a namby-pamby milk-and-water affected creature. 1883 *Fortn. Rev.* 1 Sept. 384 An amount of curious facts which namby-pamby travellers hesitate to tell.

B. *sb.* **1.** That which is marked by affected prettiness and feeble sentimentality; a composition of this kind.

a 1764 LLOYD *Cobbler of Cripplegate*, While namby-pamby thus you scribble. 1801 in *Spirit Pub. Jrnls.* V. 284 An ode which he has just composed in praise of Inanity, or Namby Pamby. 1814 T. L. PEACOCK *Wks.* (1875) III. 129 Mr. W. R. Spenser, a writer of fantastical namby-pambies. 1838 MACAULAY *Sir W. Temple* Ess. (ed. Montague) II. 260 Passages in which raillery and tenderness are mixed in a very engaging namby-pamby. 1894 SALA *Things I have seen* II. xiv. 135 The words in the songs..were not always sickly namby-pamby.

2. A namby-pamby person.

1885 *Athenæum* 17 Oct. 498/1 He is excellent..on Haydon *passim*; about the namby-pambies of the time he writes as becomes the author of the 'Book of Snobs'.

Hence **Na·mby-pa·mbical** *a.*, of a namby-pamby nature; **Na·mby-pa·mbics,** namby-pamby writing; **Na·mby-pa·mbiness,** weak sentimentality; **Na·mby-pa·mby** *v.*, to talk namby-pamby to (one); **Na·mby-pa·mbyish** *a.*, somewhat namby-pamby.

1757 Mrs. GRIFFITH *Lett. Henry & Frances* (1767) III. 130, I had never written Namby Pambicks in my Life. 1761 WESLEY *Wks.* (1872) XII. 122 Omit one or two [hymns]... They are namby-pambycal. 1809-12 MISS EDGEWORTH *Absentee* xvi, A lady of quality..sends me..her waiting gentlewoman to namby-pamby me. 1832 *Examiner* 517/1 The words .. are namby-pambyish. 1890 SAINTSBURY *Hist. Elizab. Lit.* iv. 138 The sweetness without namby-pambyness which Daniel had at constant command.

Na·mby-pa·mbyism. [f. prec. + -ISM.] Weak or insipid sentimentality; an instance of this.

1834 *Tait's Mag.* I. 206/2 The namby-pambyisms of the 'Book of Beauty'. 1842 Mrs. BROWNING *Grk. Chr. Poets* (1863) 187 The concentrate essence of namby-pambyism. 1867 HATTON *Tallants of Barton* iii, I hate to see such namby-pambyism.

Name (nēm), *sb.* Forms: *α.* 1 nama, 2-name, (5 *Sc.* nayme), 2-5 nam, (5 naam). *β.* 1 noma, 2 nome. [OE. *nama, nama* masc. =

OFris. *nama*, *noma*, OS. *namo* (MDu. *name*, *naem*, Du. *naam*), OHG. *namo* (MHG. and G. *name*), Goth. *namô*; the original gender and the final *n* of the stem (see NEMN *v.*) is retained in ON. *nafn*, *namn* neut. (Sw. *namn*, Da. *navn*). Cognate forms occur in all the other Indo-European languages, as Skr. *nāman*, Gr. ὄνομα, L. *nōmen*, Olr. *ainm* (pl. *anmann*), OSl. *imę* (Russ. *imya*), etc.]

I. 1. The particular combination of sounds employed as the individual designation of a single person, animal, place, or thing.

a. Beowulf 78 [He] scop him Heort naman. *Ibid.* 343 Beowulf is min nama. 862 *Charter* 29 in *O. E. Texts* 439 Brocces ham ðes dennes nama. ðes oðres dennes nama sænget hryg. *a* 1000 *O. E. Chron.* an. 975 Eorla ealdor þæm wæs Eadweard nama. *a* 1122 *Ibid.* (Laud MS.) an. 1118 Iohan of Gaitan..þam wæs oðer nama Gelasius. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 91 þat mai ech man understonden þe wot wat bitocneð þese tweie names betfage and ierusalem. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 232 Name he gaf hire..; Issa was hire firste name. *c* 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 1216 Marchaund ich haue ben ay, Mi nam is tramtris. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 191 The kinges Moder there lay, Whos rihte name was Domilde. *c* 1450 MYRC 138 Then may the fader..Crysten the chylde and 3eue hyt name. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 24 Marke therin the citees names & other places in his mynde. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 406 A sonne named Henry ..the seventh of that name. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* I. iv. 14 Peter Simple, you say your name is? 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* III. xxxiv. 213 God needeth not to distinguish his Celestiall servants by names. 1710 POPE *Windsor For.* 339 The fam'd authors of his ancient name, The winding Isis, and the fruitful Thame. 1776 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* vi. I. 156 The name of Antoninus..had been communicated by adoption to the dissolute Verus. 1818 SHELLEY *Julian* 584 The name Of Venice, and its aspect, was the same. 1897 H. PORTER in *Century Mag.* July 357 He would call them sometimes by their last names.

β. c 850 *Martyrol.* in *O. E. Texts* 177 His noma wæs Maximus. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 161 Þæs noma wæs Zacharias. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 83 Þenne ne mihte noht hire sune habbe þene nome þet him wes iȝefen. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 444 Nat ich nowðer þi nome ne ich ne cnawe þi cun. *a* 1300 *K. Horn* (Harl. MS.) 214 Wel brouc þou þy nome ȝyng. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. III. 3 The kyng clepet a clerke (I know not his nome). *c* 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 687 Now wolly telle ȝow forther—more þe nomes of þe founders euerychon.

b. In Oxford and Cambridge use, in phrases denoting that the person continues, or ceases, to be an actual member of a college or hall.

1779–81 JOHNSON *L. P., Shenstone*, He continued his name in the book ten years, though he took no degree. 1858 *Ordinances Univ. Cambr.* (1904) 257 His name not having been kept on the boards of his College. 1860 *Oxford Univ. Cal.* 140 Provided they have kept their name on the Books of some College or Hall..for twenty-six Terms. 1860 HUGHES *Tom Brown at Oxf.* xxiv, Drysdale, anticipating his fate, took his name off before they sent for him.

2. The particular word or words used to denote any object of thought not considered in, or not possessed of, a purely individual character. *To call names*: see CALL *v.* 17 c.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gen.* ii. 19 Ælc libbende nyten, swa swa Adam hit gecigde, swa ys hys nama. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 115 De king bið icoren to þan þe him cuð his noma. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 222 Ilc kinnes beste of erðe boren,..ðor gaf adam ilc here is name. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* III. pr. vi. (1868) 78 If þe name of gentilesse be referred to renoun and clernesse of linage. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 13 For pride of thilke astat To bere a name of a prelat. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* VIII. 472 Nayme off rewill on him be wald tak nayne. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* D iij, Now foloys the naamys of all maner of hawkys. 1527 TINDALE *Doctr. Treat.* 116 That which is deserved is called (if thou wilt give him his right name) hire or wages. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 82 b, This is in dede ye first original of the name of Protestauntes. 1590 SIR J. SMYTH *Disc. Weapons* 2 b, Their Ensignes also they will not call by that name, but by the name of Colours. 1615 W. LAWSON *Country Housew. Gard.* (1626) 18 It is hardly possible to misse in graffing so often, if your Gardiner be worth his name. 1634 MILTON *Comus* 628 He..would..shew me simples of a thousand names. 1667 — *P. L.* VI. 174 Unjustly thou depravst it with the name Of Servitude. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 374 P 1 There is a Fault, which, tho' common, wants a Name. 1781 COWPER *Retirement* 723 Flowers by that name promiscuously we call. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* cxi, Thus he bore without abuse The grand old name of gentleman. 1873 *Act* 36 & 37 *Vict.* c. 88 § 22 The offence, by whatever name called, which if committed in England would be perjury.

† **b.** A title of rank or dignity. *Obs. rare.*

a 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. V* 75 b, Deprived of all honores, names, dignities and preheminences whiche he then had.

† **c.** *Gram.* A noun. *Obs.*

1563–7 BUCHANAN *Reform. St. Andros* Wks. (S.T.S.) 8 The lawast class is for thayme that suld declin the namis, and the verbes actives, passives and anomales.

† **d.** *Arith.* Denomination. *Obs. rare.*

1714 CUNN *Treat. Fractions* 51 The Quote is that part of the Answer that is of that Name; then reduce the Remainder to the next inferior Name.

II. In pregnant senses, chiefly originating in Biblical uses based upon Hebrew modes of expression.

3. The name (sense 1) of God or Christ, with implication of divine nature and power inherent in it.

c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* viii. 2 Dryhten ur, hu wundurlic is noma ðin. *a* 850 *Lorica Prayer* in *O. E. Texts* 174 Daelniomende ..alra ðeara goda ðe æniȝ moan for his noman ȝedoeð. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 103 His noman we sceolan weorþian mid wordum & mid dædum. *c* 1200 ORMIN 5342 Þa shallt tu þurrh þe name off Crist Ben borrȝhenn att tin ende. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3497 Tac ðu nogt in idel min name. 1382 WYCLIF *Acts* xxvi. 9 Aȝens the name of Jhesu Nazarene, for to..do manye contrarie thingis. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 237 Condigne laude nor comendaciour, Youe to this name ther can no tonge telle. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 219 b, Thy holy name is inuocate & named vpon vs. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 43 They gave thankes to God yt they should suffer for the glorie of his name. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* III. 412 Hail Son of God,.. thy Name Shall be the copious matter of my Song. 1738 WESLEY *Hymn, Thee we adore* i. Thee we adore Eternal Name. 1781 COWPER *Truth* 556 His own glorious rightsshe would disclaim, And man might safely trifle with his name. 1817 SHELLEY *Rev. Islam* x. xxvii, Our secret pride Has scorned thee, and thy worship, and thy name. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* xxxvi, We yield all blessing to the name Of Him that made them current coin.

4. a. The name of a person († or thing) with implication of the individual denoted by it.

1382 WYCLIF *Rev.* iii. 4 Thou hast a fewe names in Sardis, the whiche defouleden not her clothes. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 993 Þare is na region ne rewme..bot it sall my name loute. 1467–8 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 574/2 Eny Acte made for the corporation or name of the Duchie of Lancastre. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, II. iv. 56 By the hand Of that black Name, Edward, black Prince of Wales. 1662 STILLINGFL. *Orig. Sacræ* I. iv. § 11 Unless this might be any plea for his ignorance,..that he had so many great names after him guilty of the same. 1700 DRYDEN *Pal. & Arc.* II. 504 There Samson was, with wiser Solomon, And all the mighty names by love undone. 1781 COWPER *Conversat.* 828 Echo learns politely to repeat The praise of names for ages obsolete. 1849–50 ALISON *Hist. Eur.* V. xxix. 208 Names since immortalised in the rolls of fame were..assembled..at the Tuileries.

b. The name (sense 1) of a person or group of persons, with implication of all the individuals bearing, or comprehended under, it; those having a certain name; hence, a family, clan, people.

1382 WYCLIF *Isa.* lxvi. 22 As newe heuenus and newe erthe ..so stonde shal ȝoure sed, and ȝoure name. 1559 in Froude *Hist. Eng.* (1863) VIII. 3 Whose blood they once shed, they lightly never cease killing all that name. 1588 SHAKS. *Tit. A.* II. iii. 183 Ah beastly creature, The blot and enemy to our generall name. 1601 — *All's Well* I. iii. 162, I am from humble, he from honored name. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IX. 142 Since I in one Night freed .. welnigh half Th' Angelic Name. 1690 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2575/3 Three of the Heads of Clans, or Chiefs of a Name, are come in and submitted to him. 1781 COWPER *Expost.* 170 The favours poured upon the Jewish name. 1817 SHELLEY *Pr. Athan.* I. 30 Of an ancestral name the orphan chief. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* v. I. 547 All the clans hostile to the name of Campbell were set in motion.

5. The name (sense 1) of a person as mentioned by others with admiration or commendation; hence, the fame or reputation involved in a well-known name. *To have one's name up*, to be much spoken of.

c 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 22 Of a knist is þat y mene, His name it sprong wel wide. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xl. (*Ninian*) 479 Of þe bischope þe nam ran sa in al þe land to and fra. *a* 1425 *Cursor M.* 12633 (Trin.), Fro þenne of ihesu sprong þe nome. 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* II. iv. 155 My vnsoild name, th' austeerenesse of my life. 1784 COWPER *Task* VI. 101 Some to the fascination of a name Surrender judgment hoodwinked. 1789 *Loiterer* No. 43. 4 The ill effects of possessing an extensive reputation, or as an old English Phrase expresses it, having one's name up. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* VIII. X. P 1 When once my name was up for a man after the Duke of Lerma's own heart, I had very soon my court about me. 1859 TENNYSON *Vivien* 681 If they find Some stain or blemish in a name of note.

b. *Of no name, without* (*a*) *name*, implying obscurity and unimportance.

1611 BIBLE *Job* xxx. 8 They were children of fooles, yea children of base men [*marg.* men of no name]. 1671 MILTON *Samson* 677 Nor do I name of men the common rout,.. Heads without name no more remembered. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneid* VI. 1055 These shall then be Towns of mighty Fame; Tho' now they lye obscure; and Lands without a Name. 1821 SHELLEY *False Laurel & True* 7 One of the crowd thou art without a name.

c. A famous or notorious person; one whose name is well known.

1611 BIBLE *Ezek.* xxiii. 10 She became famous [*marg.* a name] among women. 1826 DISRAELI *Viv. Grey* III. vii, Dr. Spix is a most excellent man, a most accurate traveller, quite a name. 1842 TENNYSON *Ulysses* 11, I am become a name; For always roaming..Much have I seen and known.

6. The reputation *of* some character or attribute. † Also const. with *inf.*, and *ellipt.* (quot. 1727).

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 17472 Of men þai wan schenschip and schame, And of þar leute tint þe name. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 6842 Of large almes men ȝaue bym name. *c* 1418 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 245 If hym lust to have a name Of pelour under ipocrasie. 1456 *Paston Lett.* I. 383 Consideryng the goode nome and fame of trouth..the which I here of you. *c* 1530 LD. BERNERS *Arth. Lyt. Brit.* 283 Ye have the name to be the..gentyllest of hearte of any lady now lyvynge. 1581 PETTIE tr. *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* I. (1586) 42 b, There are diuerse which thinke to get the name of pleasant conceited fellowes. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* x. li. I. 297 He would have the name to eat the resemblers of mans voice. 1625 BACON *Ess., Simulation* P 2 The ablest Men.. haue had..a name of Certainty, and Veracity. 1727 A. HAMILTON *New Acc. E. Ind.* II. xxxiii. 16 The Name that it got .. stuck so fast to it, that none of it would go off at any Price. 1814 NICHOLSON *Country Lass* I. Wks. (1897) 41 Sic beauty, and the name o' siller, Gart wooers flock. 1894 *Law Times* XCVII. 384/1 No profession will lightly earn for itself the name of a profession of hireling subornees of perjury.

b. With *a* and *adj.* A fame or reputation of a specified kind.

1382 WYCLIF 2 *Sam.* vii. 9, I made to thee a greet name. 1382 — *Prov.* xxii. 1 Better is a good name, than manye richessis. *c* 1430 *Babees Bk.* 42 *note*, A good name menny folde ys more worthe then golde. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* lxxxii. 70 Keip ordour..That ȝe may gett ane bettir name. 1546 [see ILL *a.* 1 c]. 1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* III. i. 98 He hath an excellent good name. 1625 BACON *Ess., Riches* (Arb.) 237 A good Name, for good and faire dealing. *a* 1674 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* VIII. (J.), The king's army..had left no good name behind. 1738 SWIFT *Let. to Pope* 8 Aug., I have an ill name in the Post-office of both Kingdoms. 1784 COWPER *Task* II. 759 Such expense..buys the boy a name, That sits a stigma on his father's house. 1818 [see DOG *sb.* 15 h]. 1845 S. AUSTIN *Ranke's Hist. Ref.* III. 473 If he were victorious, he would..bequeath a great name to posterity.

c. (Usually in phr. *to get* or *make* (*oneself*) *a name*.) A distinguished name; a reputation.

1382 WYCLIF 2 *Sam.* viii. 13 Forsothe Dauid made to hym a name, whanne he turnyde aȝen. *c* 1407 LYDGATE *Reas. & Sens.* 5832 This mayde..Had a name and dyde excelle To pleyen at this noble play. 1509 BARCLAY *Shyp of Folys* (1874) II. 101 By cruell delynge he must hym get a name. 1535 COVERDALE *Zeph.* iii. 20, I wil get you a name..amonge all people of the earth. 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* I. ii. 173 This new Gouernor..for a name Now puts the..Act Freshly on me: 'tis surely for a name. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* XII. 45 They cast to build A Citie..And get themselves a name. 1853 LYTTON *My Novel* VI. xviii, Tell her that I am nameless, and will yet make a name. 1884 W. C. SMITH *Kildrostan* 48 When you make yourself a name, As I am sure you will do.

† **d.** *To bear* or *carry the name*, to have a reputation. *Obs.*

1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* XII. ix. 605 There is none that bereth the name now but ye and syr Tristram. 1572 *Schole-house Wom.* in Hazl. *E. P. P.* IV. 138 So they may be trimmed and fed of the best, They haue no remorce who beareth the name. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* IX. xvii. I. 245 Our auncestours set more store by the Sturgeon, and it carried the name above all other fishes.

7. Without article: Repute, reputation, fame, distinction. Now *rare*.

c 1375 *Leg. Rood* 124 [He] euill angerd was þat þis cristen king had name More þan he. 1382 WYCLIF *Zeph.* iii. 20 Y shal ȝeue ȝou in to name, and in to herying to alle peplis of erthe. *c* 1430 *How Gd. Wif* 75 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* I. 185 Gode name is golde worthe, my leue childe. *c* 1477 CAXTON *Jason* 33 My desir restith in two singuler thinges; that one is for to conquere name in armes. 1530 PALSGR. 247/2 Name, *renom.* 1597 MORLEY *Introd. Mus.* Pref., Not so much seeking thereby any name or glorie. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 419 Yea, and after that, the Falern wines were in name and called for. 1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* II. xxiii. § 5 Senators that had name and opinion for general wise men. 1859 TENNYSON *Vivien* 63 He lay as dead And lost to life and use and name and fame.

b. *Of* (*great*, etc.) *name*, noted, distinguished, famous. Now usually with adj.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 2 The firste two [sects] weren grete men of name and hauynge. 1415 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 126 Lordes of name an hunderde and mo Bitterly that bargayn bowght. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VII* 23 b, The cytie..conteyned an hundred and fifty thousand houses of name. 1577–87 HOLINSHED *Chron.* I. 152/1 Of the English side, there died two dukes..with sundrie other men of name. 1625 BACON *Ess., Travel* (Arb.) 523 Eminent Persons..which are of great Name abroad. 1699 T. BAKER *Refl. Learning* xiii. 160 In this kind Bartolus is of great name; whose Authority is..valu'd..amongst the Modern Lawyers. 1782 COWPER *Friendship* 85 Hence authors of illustrious name..Are sadly prone to quarrel. 1816 KEATINGE *Trav.* (1817) I. 33 Although the military architect may be one of high name. 1857 CHURCH *Misc. Writ.* (1891) I. 16 It would be difficult, perhaps, to mention a writer of name who has more [faults].

8. One's repute or reputation, etc.; esp. *one's* (*good*) *name*.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 28165 For his..welth, his wytt, and his god name. *c* 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 1811 *Lucrece*, Thus thou shalt be ded & also lese Thyn name. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 102 Gyfe he did, he lost his name. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* liv. 22 Quhai in felde receawes schame, And tynis thair his knychtlie name. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 103 b, Defame hym, that is to saye, take his good name from hym. 1596 SHAKS. *1 Hen. IV*, v. iv. 70 Would to heauen, Thy name in Armes, were now as great as mine. 1665 BOYLE *Occas. Refl.* 5 Companies, where sometimes he may lose his good Name. 1705 tr. *Bosman's Guinea* 17 If the same Care was taken..Guinea would soon lose its dreadful mortal Name. 1781 COWPER *Charity* 453 Flavia, most tender of her own good name. 1834 MEUWIN *Angler in Wales* II. 297 Daily, hourly came Fresh followers, lured by his success and name. 1859–64 TENNYSON *Grandmother* 50, I love you so well that your good name is mine. 1874 MANNING *Ess.* Ser. III. 26 For the fair name of England, they are being blotted out of our history.

9. The mere appellation in contrast or opposition to the actual person or thing; reputation without correspondence in fact. † Also *at name*, nominally, professedly.

1382 WYCLIF *Ecclus.* xxxvii. 1 Ther is a frend, bi only name a frend. — *Rev.* iii. 1 Thou hast name, that thou lyuest, and thou art deed. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 197/1 The holy vyrgyne..wente to the sayne for to goo fetche at name somme vytaylles. 1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* V. iii. 309 Tis but the shadow of a wife you see, The name, and not the thing. 1666–7 STILLINGFL. *Serm.* Prov. xiv. 9 (1673) 29 Religion becomes but a meer name. 1727 GAY *Fables, Hare & Many Friends*, Friendship, like love, is but a name, Unless to one you stint the flame. 1784 COWPER *Tiroc.* 421 Well he plays his part, Christian in name, and infidel in heart. 1817 JAS. MILL *Brit. India* II. v. viii. 661 He well knew, that in the circumstances,..a pension..little or nothing differed from a name. 1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* I. 385 It has the name of being eighteen yards. 1867 E. QUINCY in *Life Josiah Quincy* 481 The Law School, though in existence..had but a name to live. 1888 *Green's Short*

Hist. viii. § 8. 571 The expulsion of the majority of the existing House reduced the Commons to a name.

III. In prepositional phrases.

10. By name: a. Used with verbs of naming or calling, or (in later use) simply added to the proper appellation of a person, etc.

a 900 CYNEWULF *Elene* 755 Syndon tu on þam..þe man Seraphin be naman bateð. *a* 1000 *O. E. Chron.* an. 975 Pone..hatað wide cometa be naman cræftgleawe men. *c* 1200 ORMIN 1828 Summ we findenn o þe boc Enngell bi name nemmnedd. *c* 1220 *Bestiary* 38 Dat defte meiden, Marie bi name. 1382 WYCLIF 1 *Sam.* xvii. 23 That bastard man, Goliath bi name. *a* 1425 *Cursor M.* 7370 (Trin.), Dauid he hette bi his name. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* v. i. 157 It doth befall, That I, one Snowt (by name) present a wall. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VII. 536 Wherever thus created, for no place Is yet distinct by name. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 98 ¶ 3 A famous Monk, Thomas Conecte by Name. *a* 1832 SCOTT in Lockhart *Life* (1900) I. 240 The last of my chargers..was a high-spirited..one, by name Daisy.

b. With verbs of calling upon, summoning, enumerating, or mentioning; or in enumeration of individuals.

c 900 *Judith* 81 Heo..ongan ða swezles Weard he naman nemnan. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* John x. 3 Þa sceap ȝehyrað his stefne, & he nemð his agene sceap be naman. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 656 Det wæron be nam Ithamar biscop of Rofecestre [etc.]. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 7388 His suns sex,..All he did þam call be nam. *Ibid.* 12211 Of ilk a letter for to ask, Resune of ilkan bi name. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. II. 4 A loueliche lady.. Cam down fro þat castel and calde me by name. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 37 Amonge þat menye,—to myn hym be nome, —Homer was holden haithill of dedis. 1431 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 276 First, ye Aldirman schal clepene vpe ij. men be name. 1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* I. ii. 199 Ile tel you them all by their names. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* X. 649 The Creator calling forth by name His mightie Angels gave them several charge. 1738 POPE *Epil. Sat.* II. 10 None but you by Name the guilty lash. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xlii, She forgot to send any message of kindness to Lady O'Dowd.., and did not mention Glorvina by name.

†**c.** Used to direct special attention to something mentioned; hence, especially, particularly. *Obs.* Cf. NAMELY *adv.* I.

1583 BABINGTON *Commandm.* (1590) 370 Wee will neuer, I feare, see the mischiefe of playing, and by name of Dicing. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 666 It is strange..that Dust helpeth the fruitfulness of Trees, and of Vines by name. 1660 SHARROCK *Vegetables* 27 The seeds of divers Sowbreads, by name the Roman,..doe the like.

d. With *know.* (*a*) Individually. (*b*) By repute only; not personally or actually.

1382 WYCLIF *Exod.* xxxiii. 17 Thi silf Y haue knowe bi name. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* XII. 577 Though all the Starrs Thou knewst by name. 1795–1814 WORDSW. *Excurs.* IV. 1226 Abhorrence and contempt are things He only knows by name. 1864 *Cornh. Mag.* X. 175 Sovereigns whom their subjects scarcely knew save by name.

11. In one's name, in the name of one:

a. In phrases expressing invocation of, reliance upon, or devotion to, the persons of the Godhead.

a 900 CYNEWULF *Christ* 413 Þu ȝebletsad leofa, þe in Dryhtnes noman duzeþum cwome. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xxviii. 19 Fuluande hia in noma fadores & sunu & halzes gastes. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 141 Hie on þinum noman wunnon. *c* 1200 ORMIN 16813 He ne wass nohht ȝet O Cristess name fullhtnedd. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1442 Feole.. þoleden anan deað i þe nome of drihtin. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 266 Now o þis proloug wil we blin In crist nam our bok begin. *c* 1315 SHOREHAM I. 248 Ich cristni þe ine þe uader name, And sone, and holy gostes. 1382 WYCLIF *Matt.* xviii. 20 Where two or three shulen be gedrid in my name. 1413 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 21 In the name of god, Amen. ..I, Richard ȝonge [etc.]. 1534 MORE *Comf. agst. Trib.* I. Wks. 1164/1 That in the name of Jesus euery knee bee bowed. 1596 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. IV*, III. ii. 153 This, in the Name of Heauen, I promise here. 1738 WESLEY *Ps.* VI. v, Or in the Name of Jesus, chase My Troublers all away.

b. In adjurations, orig. by solemn reference to God, Christ, or the saints, but latterly with various substitutions for the names of these, the phrase freq. becoming a mere ejaculation.

For examples of *A God's name*, see A *prep.*[1] 10.

c 831 *Charter* 39 in *O. E. Texts* 446 Ic..bebiade eadwealde ..an godes naman & an ealra his haligra ðet [etc.]. *a* 900 *Durham Admon.* Ibid. 176 Ic eow halsize on fæder naman & on suna naman. *c* 1205 LAY. 10136 Luces þe king..beð hine on godes nomen þat him god uðe. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 11915 Vnto your kyth, on godds nam, I bidd yow þat yee nu wend ham. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. I. 71, [I] halsede hire in heize nome er heo theonne ȝeode, What heo weore witerly. *c* 1440 *Alph. Tales* 264 In þe Name, speke, þou yong childe, & tell if þis dekyn did þis trispas! 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* VII. viii. 224 In the deuyls name sayd the damoysel that suche a bawdy kechen knaue [etc.]. 1595 SHAKS. *John* II. i. 106 In the name of God How comes it then that thou art call'd a King? 1611 — *Wint. T.* III. iii. 105 Name of mercy, when was this, boy? 1626 MASSINGER *Roman Actor* IV. ii, In the name of wonder, What's Cæsar's purpose? 1642 [see GOODNESS 5]. 1722 DE FOE *Plague* (1884) 85 'Name of God go in. 1740 J. CLARKE *Educ. Youth* (ed. 3) 16 In the Name of Wisdom, what is the Meaning? 1819 SHELLEY *Cenci* IV. i. 128 Earth, in the name of God, let her food be poison. 1861 HUGHES *Tom Brown at Oxf.* ix, What in the name of fortune have they been doing to you? 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 212 What, in the name of goodness, do you come hither to teach?

c. Denoting the use of another's name to give authority or countenance to one's acts; or implying that the action is done on account or on behalf of some other person or persons. Hence, by contrast to this, *in one's own name.*

1383 WYCLIF 1 *Kings* xxi. 8 Therefor sche wroot lettris in the name of Achab. 1405 *Rolls of Parlt.* III. 605/2 To fulfill all maner accordez..made..be..our Attournees, or be twa of them in oure name. 1444 *Ibid.* V. 108/2 To sue an Action of dette in his owne name. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. 745 Ther was a cry made, in the kynges name, on payne of dethe [etc.]. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII* 64 b, Sir Thomas More made a brief oracion in the name of the citee. 1631 GOUGE *God's Arrows* v. Ded. 406 You who in the name of the rest were Solliciters in this business. 1686 tr. *Chardin's Trav. Persia* 13 The Envoy, baving the Grand Vizier's word in the Name of his Highness, return'd to Genoa. 1754 SHERLOCK *Disc.* (1759) I. i. 2 St. Peter, in the Name of all made answer, Lord, to whom shall we go? 1818 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) II. 397 That the plaintiff could have no remedy at law, either in his own name, or in the names of the trustees. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* vi. II. 17 A speech which the Bishop of Valence, in the name of the Gallican clergy, addressed..to Lewis the Fourteenth. 1891 *Law Times Rep.* LXIII. 765/1 The defendants were liable as principals, as they had contracted in their own names.

d. = Under the character or designation of (some person or thing). Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1382 WYCLIF *Matt.* x. 41 He that resceyueth a prophete in the name of a prophete. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) xv. 170 Thei brennen his Body in name of Penance. 1464 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 560/1 [They] shall pay..c.s in name of a payne. 1467–8 *Ibid.* 581/2 To have to hir for terme of hir life, in name of her Dower. 1548 HOOPER *Declar. Commandm.* ix. Wks. (1843) 372 To lose bis head, in the name of a pain. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* III. v. 101 To carry mee in the name of foule Cloathes to Datchet-lane. 1611 — *Wint. T.* III. ii. 61 Which comes to me in name of Fault. 1642 tr. *Perkins' Prof. Bk.* iii. § 209. 64 To deliver..the deed unto the feoffee in the name of seisin of the same land. 1796 SOUTHEY *Lett. fr. Spain* (1799) 418 These men lay the people under contribution in the name of alms.

e. Indicating the assigned ownership of a thing.

1850 *Punch* XVIII. 91 If a box of cigars has not been left here in the name of Adam Simpleton? 1888 *Law Times* LXXXV. 120/2 A sum of consols standing in the name of J. K.,..deceased.

†**12.** *In name with*, mentioned in connexion with (one of the other sex). *Obs. rare.*

1565–73 *Durham Depos.* (Surtees) 256 Being at borde at the said Agnes house, then wedoo, and was in name with hir. 1575–6 *Ibid.* 284 She was then in name with one Francis Castell.

13. By the name of, called or known by, having, the name of. Now *colloq.* and *U. S.*

1676 *Life Father Sarpi* in *Brent's Counc. Trent* 42 A Nephew of his by the name of Maestro Santo. 1725 BERKELEY *Proposal* Wks. 1871 III. 230 A Charter for erecting a College by the name of St. Paul's College in Bermuda. 1841 THACKERAY *Sec. Funeral Napoleon* 3 A grocer living there by the name of Greenacre. 1883 CABLE *Old Creole Days* 35 A palish handsome woman, by the name—or going by the name—of Madame John. 1884 J. QUINCY *Figures of Past* 130 There was a captain by the name of Clark.

b. So *of the name of.*

1727–8 POPE *Let. to Swift* 23 Mar., A member of their Parliament, of the name of Jonathan Gulliver. 1843 *Richardson's Borderer's Table-bk.* Leg. Div. I. 116 A little crouse, chantin chieldie o' the name o' Tom Fenwick.

14. *To one's name*, belonging to one.

1876 WHYTE MELVILLE *Katerfelto* vii, I have not a horse to my name.

IV. 15. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *name-fancy, -sound; name-calling,* † *-cleping, -giving; name-giver, -maker; name-worthy* adj.; 'bearing a name', as *name-board, -card, -plate, -ring, -ticket*; 'containing or intended for names', as *name-book, -scroll*; 'named after, or giving a name to, one', as *name-daughter, -father, -mamma, -saint, -sire* (cf. NAME-CHILD, -SON); **name-bar** (see quot.); † **name-device**, a rebus; **name-part**, the part in a play from which it takes its name; † **name-wizard**, one skilled in the mystical meaning of names.

1884 F. J. BRITTEN *Watch & Clockm.* 180 **Name Bar*,.. the bar carrying the upper end of a watch barrel arbor. 1846 YOUNG *Naut. Dict.* s.v. *Arch-board*, On this, or more commonly on a board called the *name-board, fitted above it, the ship's name is painted. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* 491 **Name-Book*, a mustering list. *c* 1886 KIPLING *Departm. Ditties*, etc. (1899) 101 He keeps the Name Book. 1891 *Tablet* 10 Jan. 63 The most hopeless of all is that of *name-calling. 1798 MME. D'ARBLAY *Diary* VI. 202 Captain Dickenson, as his *name-card says. 1828 P. CUNNINGHAM *N. S. Wales* (ed. 3) II. 112 The name-cards are elegantly printed by our colonial press. 1387–8 T. USK *Test. Love* III. i. (Skeat) I. 102 In that denominacion I wol me acorde to other mens tonges, in that *name-cleping. 1809 GRANT *Lett. fr. Mountains* III. 212 My eldest girl is now staying here, and your *name-daughter with Duncan at the Fort. 1631 WEEVER *Anc. Funeral Mon.* 277 An vsual fashion in former times..which they call rebus, or *name-deuises. 1865 LUBBOCK *Preh. Times* 471 In some tribes these *name-fancies take a different form. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* IV. 5 Knowest thou not, that I am a great *name-father? 1894 HALL CAINE *Manxman* VI. iv, Go to your god-father. He'd have been your name-father too if [etc.]. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 7 Why the Britains should so much sticke unto their Brutus, as the *name-giuer of their Iland. 1881 A. J. EVANS in *Macm. Mag.* XLIII. 219 A great city,..the namegiver of this whole inland sea. 1863 A. B. GROSART *Small Sins* (ed. 2) 74 The insidious *name-giving to any sins of 'small sins'. 1864 MAX MÜLLER *Sci. Lang.* Ser. II. viii. (1868) 336 Locke never seems to have realised the intricacies of the names-giving process. 1875 WHITNEY *Life Lang.* viii. 136 The claims of rival *name-makers are very sharply discussed. 1893 STEVENSON *Catriona* 370 That very fine great lady that is Barbara's *name-mamma. 1894 *Westm. Gaz.* 11 Sept. 3/3 It had been intended..that Miss Letty Lind should take the *name part. 1882 OGILVIE, **Nameplate*, a metal plate bearing a person's name [etc.].

1896 *Brit. & For. Bible Soc. Rep.* 156 Family Bible. ..With autograph and name-plate. 1877 W. JONES *Finger-ring* 416 *Name rings are common in France. 1870 RUSKIN *Lect. Art* (1875) 148 His Christian name was John Baptist: he is here painting his *name-Saint. 1861 LYTTON & FANE *Tannhäuser* 37 Four pages..That held the *name-scrolls of the listed bards. 1852 *N. Brit. Rev.* Nov. 69 The Life of their *Name-sire, sent forth by the Cavendish Society. 1863 MELVILLE BELL *Princ. Speech* 148 The alphabetic or *name-sound of the letter O. 1826 MISS MITFORD *Village* Ser. II. (1863) 428 That identical black bag, with its *name-tickets. 1605 CAMOEN *Rem.* 35 An Onomanticall or *Name-wisard Iew. 1598 R. HAYDOCKE tr. *Lomazzo* To Rdr., All the *name-worthy writers of the Arte of Painting. 1879 A. W. WARD *Chaucer* 190 Occleve, the only name-worthy poetical writer of the reign of Henry IV.

Name (nēm), *v.*[1] Forms: 1 (ȝe)namian, 2– name, 6 nayme, *Sc.* neame; 4–5 nome. *Pa. pple.* 4 y-namyd, 5 inamed, 4 *Sc.* nammyt, 6 namen. [OE. (*ȝe*)*namian* = OFris. *nama, noma, -ia*, OS. *namôn*, MDu., MHG. *namen*, f. *nama* NAME *sb.* The usual verb in OE. and ME. is *nemnan, nemnen* NEMN.]

I. 1. *trans.* To give a name or names to (persons, places, things, etc.); to call by some name.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gen.* ii. 20 Adam þa ȝenamode ealle nytenu heora namum. 1382 WYCLIF *Eph.* iii. 15 The fadir of oure Lord Jhesu Crist, of whom ech fadirheed in heuenes and in erthe is named. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 351/1 Namyn, *nomino, denomino, cognomino.* 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 248/2 To Name; *appellare, baptizare.* 1535 COVERDALE *Luke* ii. 21 His name was called Iesus, which was named of ye angell, before he was conceaued. 1548–9 *Bk. Com. Prayer, Baptism* 5 b, Then one of them shal name the childe, and dippe him in the water. 1608 SHAKS. *Per.* III. iii. 13 My gentle babe Marina, Whom, for she was borne at sea, I haue named so. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* XII. 326 Of the Royal Stock Of David (so I name this King). 1735 POPE *Donne Sat.* IV. 25 Behold! there came A thing which Adam had been pos'd to name. 1819 SHELLEY *Cyclops* 701 My father named me so. 1872 RUSKIN *Eagle's Nest* § 66 The stars already named and numbered are as many as we require to hear of.

b. Const. *after, from, for* (now only *U. S.*), *to* (dial.), † *of.*

c 1450 LOVELICH *Merlin* 991 (Kölbing), They..bad..that it named scholde ihe Aftyr his grant-fadyr. 1535 COVERDALE 2 *Chron.* vii. 13 To humble my people, which is named after my name. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* II. 579 Cocytus, nam'd of lamentation loud Heard on the rueful stream. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneid* III. 28 Enos, nam'd from me, the City [I] call. 1800 HELENA WELLS *Const. Neville* I. 7 Louisa, who had been named for the mother of Mr. Hayman. 1826– [see FOR *prep.* 7 c]. 1842 R. I. WILBERFORCE *Rutilius & Lucius* 97 Porphyry,..whom, I suppose, you have named after the great philosopher. 1875 LOWELL *Under Old Elm* VII, Virginia, fitly named from England's manly queen!

c. With the name as complement.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 17 And thus Iphis Thei namede him. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 1 The cause why we name this treatyse the pilgrymage of perfeccion. 1582 N. LICHEFIELD tr. *Castanheda's Conq. E. Ind.* I. ii. 6 Afterward they named it the Iland of Sancta Hælena. 1634 MILTON *Comus* 58 A Son..Whom..she brought up and Comus nam'd. 1742 POPE *Dunc.* IV. 409, I rear'd this Flow'r, ..Then thron'd in glass, and named it Caroline. 1781 COWPER *Charity* 3 Whether we name thee Charity or Love. 1839 KEIGHTLEY *Hist. Eng.* I. 52 The province was named Normandy from the Northmen. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 441 There is a virtue, Simmias, which is named courage.

d. In *pa. pple.*

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 7305 A lyuely yong knight,..nomet Boethes. 1490 CAXTON *Eneydos* vi. 25 His sone, named pygmaleon, succeded hym. 1530 PALSGR. 643/2 Howe is he named more than Johan? 1605 SHAKS. *Lear* I. i. 274, I..am most loth to call Your faults as they are named. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* I. 80 One..Long after known in Palestine, and nam'd Beëlzebub. 1704 POPE *Windsor For.* 172 A rural nymph..the fair Lodona nam'd. 1781 COWPER *Charity* 550 That monument of ancient power, Named with emphatic dignity, the Tower. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xii. III. 151 Another brother, named Richard, had, in foreign service, gained some military experience.

2. To call by some title or epithet.

c 900 in Bouterwek *Screadunga* 18 Hwi namode Crist on his godspelle Abel rihtwisne toforan oþrum? *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* i. (*Peter*) 550 Of þe blame, þat lytil befor tbolit he Of thame namyt of galele. 1382 WYCLIF 1 *Macc.* x. 1 Alisaundre, son of Antiochus, that is named [*vir.* y-namyd] noble. *c* 1477 CAXTON *Jason* 6 Fro tbenne forthon he named him his broder. 1535 COVERDALE *Isa.* lxi. 6 Ye shalbe named the prestes of the Lorde. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* I. ii. 18 As an appertinent title to your olde time, which we may name tough. 1631 CHETTLE *Hoffman* B 3 What thougb for this..he was nam'd A prescript outlaw. 1732 POPE *Ess. Man* I. 282 Cease then, nor Order Imperfection name. 1818 SHELLEY *Silence* 2 Silence! Oh, well are Death and Sleep and Thou Three brethren named. 1869 LYNCH *Church & State* 17 Name them bishops, or name them not bishops, you will still have chief men.

†**b.** In *pass.* To have a (good or bad) name; to be (well or ill) spoken of. *Obs. rare.*

1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 333 Sche, that hath evere he wel named. *Ibid.* III. 268 That in hir lif sche were schamed And I therof were evele named. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) G b, My sonne in lawe is greatly desyred, loued and wel named amonge the common people.

†**c.** To give (one) the name (of being something); to allege or declare (a person or thing) *to be* something. *Obs.*

1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* x. xlvi. 488 Corsabryn noysed her and named her that she was oute of her mynde. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 342 Sir John Froyssart nameth one John Ball to be a chiefe Captaine. 1591 *Durham Depos.* (Surtees) 332 [He] did then jussell upon a stranger naymed to be a Duke. 1647 N. BACON *Disc. Govt. Eng.* I. v. (1739)

13 Other obedience than this I do not know to be due to him whom you name to be Pope.

† **d.** In *pass.* To be said *to be*, etc. *Obs. rare*—¹.

1551 Recorde *Pathw. Knowl.* I. xxvii, The circle is not named to be drawen in a triangle, because it doth not touche the sides of the triangle.

3. To call (a person or thing) by the right name. In *Sc.* use freq. with negative, implying that one has forgotten the name.

c 1450 *Merlin* 319 Gentill sir, cometh forth, for I can not yet yow namen. 1610 Shaks. *Temp.* I. ii. 335 Thou.. wouldst..teach me how To name the bigger Light and how the lesse. 1611 — *Wint. T.* I. ii. 386 There is a sicknesse, Which puts some of vs in distemper, but I cannot name the Disease. 1786 Burns *Holy Fair* iv, I'm sure I've seen that bonie face, But yet I canna name ye. 1846 Keble *Lyra Innoc.* 24 Easier each hour the task will grow To name the unfolding flower.

II. 4. To nominate, designate, assign, or appoint (a person) to some office, duty, or position.

a 1000 *Laws Edw.* in Thorpe I. 158 gif he .. ne mehte, þonne namede him man six men. *a* 1000 *Laws Æthelst.* ibid. 240 Beforan .. his witum þe se cyng silf namode. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Hom.* II. 500 [Hi] wurdon ȝenamode to þam ylcan ȝewinne þe heora fæderas on wæron. 1430–40 Lydg. *Bochas* ix. xix. (1554) 27 How Robert duke of Normandy..was named to the crowne of Jerusalem. 1496–7 *Act* 12 *Hen. VII*, c. 13 § 1 The seid orderours and assessours ..shall name Collectours for the levye of the same aide. 1542–3 *Act* 34 & 35 *Hen. VIII*, c. 27 § 56 Such persons, as shalbe named to be iustices of peace. 1552 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 130 Gif the Lord neames his tennent and chargis to mak him in reddiness to compeir. 1605 Shaks. *Macb.* II. iv. 31 He is already nam'd, and gone to Scone To be inuested. 1687 A. Lovell tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 81 Hisouf Basha..was declared Mansoul, and Kaidar Zada named in his place. 1726 Wodrow *Corr.* (1843) III. 240 The Assembly came to the choice of the new Moderator, and Mr. Mitchell .. was named by the Commissioner. 1799 Jefferson *Writ.* (ed. Ford) VII. 362 In the meantime, a consul general is named to St. Domingo. 1831 *Examiner* 563/1 A malignant Ministry..names him to a Bishopric. 1874 Green *Short Hist.* viii. § 10. 568 Though the members of the Council were originally named by him, each member was irremovable save by consent of the rest.

† **b.** To assign (an honour, etc.) *to* a person.

1523 Q. Margaret in Mrs. Wood *Lett. Illustr. Ladies* I. 301 The cause of this is about the benefices, for the governor hath named them to sundry persons, but he.. holdeth them in his hands.

† **c.** *intr.* To vote. *Obs. rare*—¹.

1566 in Fowler *Hist. C.C.C.* (O.H.S.) 111 He hath lost his right of the Colledge for refusinge to name diffinitivelye in Mr. Belly's matter.

5. To mention, speak of, or specify (a person or persons, etc.) by name. †Also *absol.*

c 1000 Ælfric *Saints' Lives* viii. 165 Quintianus cwæð.. 'ȝit þu namast Crist?' *Ibid.* ix. 37 Nu hidde ic þe..þæt þu nanne bryd-guman næfre me ne namige. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 156 The knyht also, if I schal name, Danz Petro hihte. *a* 1425 *Cursor M.* 5162 (Trin.), Whenne iacob in bed þat lay herde Ioseph named þat day. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilȝear* 503 He namit na mair the, Nor ane vther man to me. 1535 Coverdale 1 *Sam.* xxviii. 8 Bringe me him vp whom I shal name vnto thee. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 44 b, Herin he named no nation. 1590 Shaks. *Mids. N.* I. ii. 41 Now name the rest of the Players. 1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* A 2 b, Some of our owne have beene more ingenuous, to name him when they quote him: and thats faire play. 1711 Steele *Spect.* No. 254 ₱ 5, I..never hear him named but with Pleasure and Emotion. 1791 Mrs. Radcliffe *Rom. Forest* viii, Theodore was not once named. 1817 W. Selwyn *Law Nisi Prius* (ed. 4) II. 949 If two ports of discharge are named in the policy [etc]. 1855 Tennyson *Brook* 130 He took Her blind and shuddering puppies, naming each. 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 296 Tell me to whom among the Athenians he should go. Whom would you name?

transf. 1850 Tennyson *In Mem.* ii, Old Yew, which graspest at the stones That name the under-lying dead.

b. *refl.* To announce one's own name.

1597 Shaks. 2 *Hen. IV*, II. ii. 120 Iohn Falstaffe Knight: (Euery man must know that, as oft as hee hath occasion to name himselfe). 1607 — *Cor.* IV. v. 63 Necessitie commands me to name my selfe.

c. *To name on* (or *in*) *the same day* (or † *of a day*), to bring into comparison or connexion. Only in negative and interrogative sentences.

c 1606 B. Jonson *Epigr.* cxxxi, They were not to be named on the same day. *a* 1641 Bp. Mountagu *Acts & Mon.* (1642) 37 But nor he (Abraham) nor he (David) to be named in the same day with our Saviour. 1694 Congreve *Double-Dealer* III. ii, *Sir Paul*..You may talk of my Lady Froth! *Care.* O, fy! fy! not to be named of a day. 1839 Lockhart *Scott* (1900) I. 275 That Scott..was not to be named as a table-companion in the same day with this or that master of..dissertation.

d. Of the Speaker of the House of Commons: To indicate (a member) by name as guilty of disorderly conduct or disobedience to the chair.

1792 *Hansard's Parl. Hist.* XXX. 113 The Speaker.. stated that..he was now compelled to name the member that had given this interruption. 1810 *Sporting Mag.* XXXV. 302 The Speaker..felt very sorry that it would become his duty to name him. 1881 *Hansard's Parl. Deb.* CCLVIII. 68 *Mr. Speaker*, In the terms of the standing order, I Name you..as wilfully disregarding the authority of the Chair.

e. *Name!* Used in Parliamentary practice, or in imitation of this, to demand that a member be named, or that the name of some person alluded to by a speaker shall be given.

1817 *Parl. Deb.* 279 Loud cries of hear, hear, name, name, order. 1859 Reade *Love me Little* II. 244 Who told you that, aunt? Name; as they say in the House. 1866 Dickens *Mugby Junc.* iii, Miss Piff, trembling with indignation, called out; 'Name!'

6. To mention, speak of, or specify (a thing) by its name or usual designation.

1382 Wyclif *Eph.* v. 3 Fornycacioun..and al vnclennesse, or auarice, be not named in ȝou. 1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 84 Quikselver..the which..Is ferst of thilke fowre named. 1535 Coverdale 1 *Cor.* v. 1 Soch whordome, as is not once named amonge the Heythen. 1591 Shaks. 1 *Hen. VI*, I. i. 41 Name not Religion, for thou lou'st the Flesh. 1608 — *Per.* v. iii. 33 Did you not name a tempest, A birth and death? 1671 Milton *Samson* 674 Nor do I name of men the common rout. 1732 Pope *Ess. Man* II. 193 Nor Virtue, male or female, can we name, But what will grow on Pride, or grow on Shame. 1781 Cowper *Conversat.* 496 The woes that fear or shame..forbade them once to name. 1819 Shelley *Cenci* IV. iv. 128 The crimes which mortal tongue dare never name. 1860 Pusey *Min. Proph.* 582 To name evil is a temptation to evil.

transf. 1599 Shaks. *Hen. V*, IV. Prol. 16 The Clocks doe towle And the third howre of drowsie Morning name.

b. To make mention of, to speak about (a fact, circumstance, etc.). † Also const. *on.*

1542 Udall *Erasm. Apoph.* 196 b, The same is named on diverse others aswell as on Alexander. 1599 Shaks. *Hen. V*, IV. iii. 42 He.. Will stand a tip-toe when this day is named. 1617 Moryson *Itin.* I. 228, I was troubled with loosenesse of body, whereof I made good use, as I shall hereafter shew, which makes me name it. 1669 Sturmy *Mariner's Mag.* IV. viii. 218 This Rule will not be impertinent to this Place, being not named before. 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* II. (Globe) 511 My Fellow-Traveller and I had different Notions. I do not name this to insist upon my own. 1729 Pope *Let. to Swift* 28 Nov., I was once displeas'd before at you, for complaining to Mr. * of my not having a pension, and am so again at your naming it to a certain Lord. 1874 Green *Short Hist.* ii. § 8. 106 The measures we have named were only part of Henry's legislation.

c. To mention or cite as an instance.

1594 Shaks. *Rich. III*, IV. iv. 173 What comfortable houre canst thou name, That euer grac'd me with thy company? 1690 Locke *Hum. Und.* I. ii. § 23, I would gladly have any one name that proposition whose terms or ideas were either of them innate.

d. To state, give particulars of.

1605 Shaks. *Lear* I. i. 73, I finde she names my very deede of loue: Onely she comes too short. 1735 Pope *Donne Sat.* IV. 162 He names the price for ev'ry office paid. 1850 Tennyson *In Mem.* xciii, Hear The wish too strong for words to name. 1864 — *En. Ard.* 215 Annie, the ship I sail in passes here (He named the day).

7. With cognate object: **a.** To utter or mention (the name of a person or thing).

1382 Wyclif 2 *Tim.* ii. 19 Ech man that nameth the name of the Lord. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 219 b, Thy holy name is inuocate & named vpon vs. 1588 Shaks. *L. L. L.* III. i. 167 When tongues speak sweetly, then they name her name. 1715 De Foe *Fam. Instruct.* I. i. (1841) I. 24 It is a..profane thing to name his name on slight occasions. 1820 Shelley *Hymn Merc.* x, Still scoffing at the scandal, And naming his own name. 1864 Tennyson *Aylmer's F.* 581 That night, that moment, when she named his name.

† **b.** To utter (a word); to say. *Obs.*

1588 Shaks. *L. L. L.* v. ii. 239 *Du.* Will you vouchsafe with me to change a word? *Mar.* Name it. — *Tit. A.* III. ii. 33 As if we should forget we had no hands, If Marcus did not name the word of hands. 1593 — 3 *Hen. VI*, v. v. 58 What's worse then Murtherer, that I may name it?

8. To mention or specify as something desired, suggested, or decided upon; to appoint or fix (a sum, time, etc.). *To name the day*, of a woman, to fix her wedding day.

1593 Shaks. *Rich. II*, IV. i. 304 *Rich.* Ile heg one Boone.. Shall I obtaine it? *Bull.* Name it, faire Cousin. 1594 — *Rich. III*, III. iv. 19 But you, my Honorable Lords, may name the time. 1611 Bible *Gen.* xxiii. 16 Abraham weighed to Ephron the siluer, which he had named. 1638 Earl Manch. in *Buccleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 278 To name 24*l.* a month..is so poor and mean an offer. 1778 Miss Burney *Evelina* lxxxi, If there is any thing I can name which he can do for me. 1835 Dickens *Sk. Boz, Mr. Watkins Tottle* ii, I am quite sure that I never could ..name the day to my future husband. 1863 Reade *Hard Cash* xxxiv, Then he made hot love to her, and pressed her hard to name the day.

† **Name,** *v.*², obscure var. of Nim *v.*, to take.

c 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 310 þat a childe in his kyngdome Now late borne he myght him name.

Name, pa. t. of Nim *v. Obs.*

Nameable (nē'·măb'l), *a.* Also namable. [f. Name *v.*¹ + -able.]

1. That admits of being named, or being called by a certain name.

1840 Carlyle *Heroes* (1858) 299 This is the Heavenly Ideal (well named in Knox's time, and namable in all times, a revealed 'Will of God'). 1843 Mill *Logic* I. iii. § 2 We shall commence with Feelings, the simplest class of nameable things. 1886 Stevenson *Dr. Jekyll* 25 He gave an impression of deformity without any nameable malformation.

2. Worthy of being named; memorable.

1858 Carlyle *Fredk. Gt.* III. xiv. I. 311 Donauwörth. .. A Town nameable in History ever since. 1865 *Ibid.* XVIII. x. V. 253 Möllendorf, nameable from that day forward.

Hence **Nameabi·lity.**

1882 W. Hoey tr. *Oldenberg's Buddha* 230 The bases on which all nameability and all existence..rest.

Na·me-child. [f. Name *sb.* 15 + Child.] One called after, or named out of regard for, another.

1845 Miss Strickland *Queens of Eng.* VIII. 3 She was the darling of her..father, being the child of his old age, his name-child. 1876 Swinburne *Erechtheus* 877 The namechild of the lords of under earth.

transf. 1872 *Daily News* 12 Aug., The Bellerophon..the massive name-child of the old historic fighting ship.

† **Namecouth,** *a. Obs.* Forms: 1 namecūð, 3–4 namecouth, (4 -coþ, -kouþ, 6 *Sc.* -kouth), 4–5 namecouthe, (4 -kowþe), 6 naamkouth, *Sc.* naimcouth; 1–3 nomecuðe, 4–5 -kowthe. [OE. *namcūð*, *nomecūð*: see Name *sb.* and Couth *a.*] Known by name, well known, famous.

a 1000 *Laws Ethelred* ix. 37 in Thorpe I. 348 On þam ȝemotan, þeah rædlice wurðan on namcuðan stowan. *c* 1000 Ælfric in Assmann *Ags. Hom.* (1889) 85 Da beoð heahfæderas, nomecuðe wæras. *Ibid.* 92 Sum rice cyning namcuð on worulde. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 537 Wittiest..& mest nomecuðe icud of alle clergies. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 467/181 To Marcile þe wynd heom drof, a gret name couth cite. 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 823 þe aþel king alexandre,.. þat noble is & name-kouþ. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) I. 43 Al þe worlde aboute haþ name kowthe sees þritty. 1413 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton) v. i. (1859) 70 One of the seuene name couthe planetes, that ben cleped of clerkes sterres erratiks. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* VI. i. 59 The naiincouth hous, that Laborinthus hait. [1557 Grimalde in *Tottel's Misc.* (Arb.) 102 As in the famous woork, that Eneids hight The naamkouth Virgil hath set forth in sight.]

Hence † **Namecouthhead.** *Obs. rare.*

1340 *Ayenb.* 25 Huanne he wilneþ and zekþ and porchaceþ los and namecouþhede.

† **Namecund,** *a. Obs. rare*—¹. [Cf. Namecouth and MDu. *name-, naemcond-.*] Famous.

c 1200 Ormin 6863 þiss illke Balaam was an Full namecund prophete Onn alde daȝhess.

Named (nēmd), *ppl. a.* [f. Name *v.*¹ + -ed¹.] **a.** Mentioned by name. (Usu. with *above-, before-, first-, last-*, etc.) **b.** Famous, distinguished, (highly) spoken of. *rare.* †**c.** Called by a certain name; so-called. *Obs.*

1467– [see Before E. 1]. 1490– [see Fore-named]. 1530 Palsgr. 319/2 Noysed named or bruted, *fameux*. *c* 1530 L. Cox *Rhet.* (1899) 54 The excellent and moste hyghly named philosopher Plato. 1567 Rastell (*title*) A brief Shew of the false wares packed together in the named *Apology of the Church of England*. 1592 West 1*st Pt. Symbol.* I. § 12 a, Named contracts, be those which have a cause by law defined, and they are called by proper names. 1603– [see Afore D. 1 b]. 1837 Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* III. i. ii, The famed and named go; the nameless, if they have an accuser. 1847 *Infantry Man.* (1854) 89 The named file moves..on.

Hence † **Na·medly** *adv.*, by name. *Obs. rare*—¹.

a 1641 Bp. Mountagu *Acts & Mon.* (1642) 221 Cicero speaks namedly of the Acrostichis.

Name-day (nēm·dē). Also **name's-day.** [f. Name *sb.* + Day; in sense 1, after Du. *naamdag*, Da. *navndag*, or G. *namenstag*, Sw. *namnsdag.*]

1. The day sacred to the saint whose name one bears. (Used chiefly with reference to continental sovereigns.)

α. 1721 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5980/2 Yesterday being the King of Sweden's Name-Day. 1777 Robertson *Hist. Amer.* II. 433 Presents made to him on the anniversary of his Name-day (which is always observed as an high festival). 1812 Ld. Cathcart in *Examiner* 12 Oct. 649/1 The accounts of the battle..reached the Emperor early on the morning of his name-day. 1865 *Pall Mall G.* 21 Sept. 9/1 Several promotions..were made at St. Petersburg on the occasion of the Emperor's name-day.

β. 1799 W. Tooke *View Russian Emp.* I. 372 No one neglects to keep his birth and name's day, and those of his family. 1842 Motley *Corr.* (1889) I. iv. 98 The day of the Emperor's fête (or day distinguished..as the name's-day of the Czar..). 1881 *Scribner's Mag.* Oct. 886/1 On the 5th of December, the name's-day of the Empress.

2. The day on which a child is named.

1880 Muirhead *Ulpian* XV. § 2 *note*, The name-day was the ninth for boys and the eighth for girls.

† **Na·mefy,** *v. nonce-wd.* [f. Name *sb.* + -fy.] *trans.* To mention by name.

1589 Lyly *Pappe w. Hatchet* Wks. 1902 III. 406 Name me? Mary, he and his shall bee namefied, that's it I thirst after, that name to name.

† **Namel,** obs. aphet. form of Enamel.

1426 Lydg. *Pilgr. Life Man* 6686 Loo, her,.. Off the sylver bellys clere, And off the namel ek yfere.

Namele, obs. form of Namely *adv.*

Nameless (nēm·lès), *a.* Also 4–7 nameles, 6–7 -lesse. [ME. *namelēs* = MDu. *name-, naemloos* (Du. *name-, naamloos*), MHG. *namelōs* (G. *namenlos, namlos*), Da. *navnlös*, Sw. *namnlös*: see Name *sb.* and -less.]

1. Not possessed of a (distinguished) name; devoid of name or fame; unknown by name; obscure, inglorious.

c 1311 *Pol. Songs* (Camden) 254 For fiht is fliht, the lond is nameles. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Boeth.* IV. pr. v. (1868) 131 Exiled pore and nedy and nameles. 1582 Stanyhurst *Æneis* II. (Arb.) 61 Prince Priamus..In shoare now nameslesse dooth ly lyke a truncheon al headlesse. *a* 1616 Beaum. & Fl. *Bonduca* II. 1, When one is smother'd with a multitude, And crowded in amongst a nameless press. 1658 Sir T. Browne *Hydriot.* V. 75 To be namelesse in worthy deeds exceeds an infamous history. 1728 Pope *Dunc.* III. 157 Each Songster, Riddler, ev'ry nameless name. 1813 Scott *Rokeby* III. xviii, Maiden! a nameless life I lead, A nameless death I'll die. 1855 Tennyson *Maud* I. IV. iii, I am nameless and poor. 1887 Bowen *Virg. Æneid* VI. 505 Thou hadst laid thee to die on a heap of the nameless dead.

b. Not mentioned by name; left in obscurity.

a 1535 More *Rich. III*, Wks. 57 The other two were somwhat greter personages, & natheles of their humilite content to be nameles. 1667 Milton *P. L.* VI. 380 Nameless in dark oblivion let them dwell. 1868 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* (1877) II. App. 545 The lands had been held by a nameless freeman.

2. Not specified by name, left unnamed, in order to avoid giving offence, or for some other reason.

c 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 31 Thou tolde me, ..That thou kneuhest one, nameles of me as nowhe. *a* 1529 SKELTON *Ware Hauke* 38 He shall be as now nameles, But he shall not be blameles. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* III. 194 A great Prince of Germany (for good respect namelesse). 1653 WALTON *Angler* ii. 46 Another of the company that shall be nameless. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 91 ¶ 1 The Loves of a Family in Town, which shall be nameless. 1800 MRS. HERVEY *Mourtray Fam.* II. 38 A certain person, who shall be nameless, is now engaged on Tower duty. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 489 On the authority of one who shall be nameless.

†**3.** Of a book, letter, etc.: Having no name attached to it, anonymous. *Obs.*

1529 MORE *Dyalogue* III. Wks. 223/1 For yᵉ boke is put forth namelesse, & was in the beginning rekened to be made by Tindal. 1643 PRYNNE in P. & Walker *Fiennes' Trial* 5, I received a Note..with a datelesse, namelesse Paper inclosed. 1667 SIR R. MORAY in *Lauderdale Papers* (Camden) II. 88 There is a Damned book come hither..called Naphtali, or the Wrestlings of the Church of Scotland, &c. nameless. 1786 WESLEY *Wks.* (1872) IV. 339 One of the hearers wrote me a nameless letter upon it. 1822 GALT *Provost* xxx, I received a twenty-pound note in a nameless letter.

4. Whose name is not, or has not been, divulged; anonymous, unknown. Also const. *to*.

1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* II. i. 111, I haue writ your Letter Vnto the secret, nameles friend of yours. 1624 GATAKER *Transubst.* 36 On the false report of another namelesse author like to himselfe. 1697 STILLINGFL. *Disc. Trinity* 173 A certain nameless Socinian was the Author of them. *a* 1735 ATTERBURY *Serm.* (J.), Little credit is due to accusations of this kind, when they come from suspected, that is, from nameless pens. 1807 CRABBE *Hall of Just.* I. 33 Yet nameless let me plead—my name Would only wake the cry of scorn. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xv. III. 576 The two nameless executioners who had done their office..on the scaffold. 1856 DE QUINCEY *Confess.* Wks. I. 226 A gang of Vandals (nameless, I thank heaven, to me).

absol. 1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* I. xxxi. (Arb.) 74 After whom followed Iohn Lydgate.., and that nameles, who wrote the Satyre called Piers Plowman.

5. a. Bearing no legitimate name.

1593 SHAKS. *Lucr.* 522 Thy issue blur'd with namelesse bastardie. 1693 DRYDEN *Juvenal* (1697) 157 And into Noble Families advance A Nameless Issue, the blind work of Chance. 1732 POPE *Ep. Cobham* 233 A rev'rend sire, whom want of grace Has made the father of a nameless race.

b. Having no name; unnamed.

1638 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (ed. 2) 333 Iles for the greatest part namelesse and numberlesse. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* II. (Globe) 581 We began..to enter upon the vast nameless Desart. 1792 S. ROGERS *Pleas. Mem.* II. 209 A thousand nameless rills that shun the light. 1819 SHELLEY *Prometh. Unb.* I. 205 All the gods Are there, and all the powers of nameless worlds.

6. Of altars, tombs, etc.: Bearing no name or inscription.

1655 STANLEY *Hist. Philos.* I. (1701) 57/2 Nameless Altars, Monuments of that Expiation. *c* 1718 POPE *Epit. Rowe*, Beneath a rude and nameless stone he lies. 1859 MISS PROCTER *Legends & Lyr.* Ser. I. 104 Over a nameless grave.

7. That cannot be definitely named or described; inexpressible, indefinable.

1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* III. i. 319 She hath many namelesse vertues. 1593 — *Rich. II*, II. ii. 40 What I cannot name, 'tis namelesse woe I wot. 1709 POPE *Ess. Crit.* 144 Music resembles Poetry, in each Are nameless graces which no methods teach. 1780 COWPER *Progr. Err.* 244 Are all the nameless sweets of friendship fled? 1817 SHELLEY *Rev. Islam* III. iv, When suddenly was blended With our repose a nameless sense of fear. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* iv, Such clouds of nameless trouble cross All night below the darken'd eyes. 1887 RUSKIN *Præterita* II. 256 The nameless ailing of overwearied flesh.

8. That one shrinks from naming; unutterable; horrible, abominable.

1611 BIBLE *Wisd.* xiv. 27 Worshipping of idoles not to be named [*marg.* namelesse], is the beginning, the cause, and the end of all euill. *a* 1704 T. BROWN *Satire Woman* Wks. 1730 I. 56 Of impotent, still varying desires; And of ten thousand nameless vices more Is this vile idol made, which men adore. 1819 SHELLEY *Cenci* v. i. 44 Avenging such a nameless wrong As turns black parricide to piety. 1866 LIDDON *Bampton Lect.* vi. (1875) 308 Paganism allowed man to sink beneath a flood of nameless sensualities.

†**b.** *Nameless finger*, the middle finger. *Obs.*—¹

After L. *digitus impudicus* or *infamis*.

1584 R. SCOT *Discov. Witches.* XII. xviii. (1886) 223 Put thy nameles finger in the wound.

Hence **Na·melessly** *adv.*, **Na·melessness.**

1847 WEBSTER, *Namelessly.* 1861 MEREDITH *Evan Harrington* III. xi. 179 A bunch of the best flowers that could be got were..sent namelessly. 1866 DICKENS *Mugby Junc.* I. A youth with a bitter sense of his namelessness. 1885 *Spectator* 10 Jan. 51/1 The very namelessness helps to deepen the impression of remoteness.

Nameli(ch, etc., obs. forms of NAMELY *adv.*

†**Na·meling.** *Obs. rare*—¹. [f. NAME *sb.* + -LING.] *pl.* Persons bearing the same name.

1706 DE FOE *Jure Divino* II. 4 The Namelings fight, because the Clan commands.

Namely (nēˈ·mli), *a.* Now only *Sc.* [f. NAME *sb.* + -LY¹; in Sc. use probably after Gael. *ainmeil* from *ainm* name.] Distinguished, famous, notable (*for* a thing).

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 351/1 Namely, or singulere, *precipuus.* 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 248/2 Namely.., *precipuus, excipuus.* 1815 [MRS. JOHNSTONE] *Clan Albin* xiv, 'Nay, for that matter', said Moome, 'Skye was always namely for witches'. 1896 N. MUNRO *Lost Pibroch* (1902) 9, I will take you to one of your own trade, who is namely for music.

Namely (nēˈ·mli), *adv.* Forms: *α.* 2–4 nomeliche, 4–5 nom(e)ly. *β.* 3–4 nameliche, 4–5 -lich, 5 -lych; 4 namlich(e; 4 namelike, namlik(e, -lic. *γ.* 4–6 namly, (4 -li, -le, nammeli); 4 namele, 4–5 -li, 6 -lye, 6–7 -lie, 4– namely. [ME. *name-, nomeliche* = OFris. *nam-, nomlik*, MDu. *name-, naemlike, -lijc, -lic* (Du. *namelijk*), MLG. *nemelike(n, -lik* (hence Sw. *nemligen*, Da. *nemlig*), MHG. *nam(e)-, nem(e)liche*, etc. (G. *nämlich*), ON. *nafnliga*, Icel. *nefnilega*: see NAME *sb.* and -LY².]

†**1.** Particularly, especially, above all. (Usually with preceding *and*.) *Obs.*

α. c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 139 Sunnedei ah efri cristenne Mon nomeliche to chirche cume. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 21 Him weox weorre on euch halne, & nomeliche in an lond Ylirie hatte. *c* 1325 *Chron. Eng.* 75 in Ritson *Metr. Rom.* II. 273 Al thyn honour were leid adoun, And nomeliche to thy lemmon. *c* 1375 *Lay-Folks Mass-Bk.* (MS. B.) 615, I thonk God of his godnesse, And nomely now of þis messe. *c* 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 4496 Williham was a fulle spntusmon..And nomely bokke hunters in his tyme nad no rest.

β. c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 51 Hie..folgeden here lichames wille, nameliche on two þigges, þat on was muðes mede, þat oðer hordom. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 14478 Oft þai on him soght to scam, And namlikest for þat resun, þat he vp-raised lazarum. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 295 A greet pestilence of reþeren destroyed wel nygh al Europa, and namliche Britayne. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* I. xviii. 110 A perilose thing is it forto appeire vntreuly a mannys name and namelich a prelatis name.

γ. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 4442 Þus can godd help man in nede, Namli þat wil him luue and dred. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* II. 115 Fauel..had Gyle go to and 3yue gold aboute, And namely to this notaries. *c* 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* II. 131 Rude erthe and namly wodlond best is hold For pastynyng. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* iii. 72 Whan reynawde vnderstode the good wyll of his folke, & namly of his brethern [etc.]. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 26 To bee pronounced by a philosophier and namely but such a philosophier as Socrates. 1608 TOPSELL *Serpents* (1658) 681, I finde some difference about the nature of this living creature, and namely whether it be a Serpent or a Fish. 1700 *New Hampsh. Prov. Papers* (1868) III. 327 Returning thanks..for many blessings and favors..And, namely, for the enjoyment of the Gospel.

†**b.** Carefully, precisely. *Obs. rare.*

a 1400–50 *Alexander* 293 For any cas þat is to com to knaw if þe likis, I sall as namely 3ow neuyn as it ware nowe done. *Ibid.* 582 Latt him..norisch him as namely as he myne awyn warre.

†**c.** By name, individually. *Obs. rare.*

1551 ROBINSON *More's Utop.* II. (1895) 143 Wher to be present they onlye be constreined that be namelye chosen and appoynted to learnynge. 1588 J. UDALL *Demonstr. Disc.* (Arb.) 13 Neyther are the offices and officers, namely, and particularly expressed in the Scriptures.

†**2.** At least, at any rate. *Obs. rare.*

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) V. 407 Assenteþ to me, nameliche, in þre þinges, 3if 3e willeþ nou3t assente to me and [*v.r.* in] þe obere. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* v. v. 511 A mannys fader and modir ben to him grettist benefetouris, or namelich lien in grettist wil forto be benefetouris to him.

3. To wit; that is to say; videlicet.

c 1450 *Merlin* 8 In that the feende repaireth moste, bothe in man and woman, namly, when they be in grete ire. 1535 COVERDALE 1 *Kings* iii. 13 That thou hast not prayed for, hane I geuen the also, namely, ryches, and honoure. 1574 tr. *Marlorat's Apocalips* 28 That is to wit, whiche are already past: namely my passion and resurrection. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 242 My Host told me a strange thing, namely that in Alexandria of Ægypt..there was a Dovecote. 1682 NORRIS *Hierocles* 5 Namely, to consider what is meant by the Law and the Order of it. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 123 ¶ 4 They both agreed upon an Exchange of Children, namely that the Boy should be bred up with Leontine as his Son [etc.]. 1798 WASHINGTON *Lett.* Writ. 1893 XIV. 99 It would then have been understood as it is at present, namely, that the gentlemen would rank in the order they are named. 1875 HELPS *Soc. Press.* iii. 48 The worst and most disheartening point..is this namely,—that the course of modern thought and modern life is set against these improvements.

†**b.** With *as*. For example. *Obs.*

1583 STUBBES *Anat. Abus.* II. (1882) 49 Almost all things, as namelie butter, cheese, fagots. 1600 J. PORY tr. *Leo's Africa* VIII. 307 There is most excellent outlandish linnen cloth to be sold, as namely fine cloth of cotton brought from Balabach. 1653 WALTON *Angler* vi. 141 There is more than one sort of them [*sc.* Salmon], as namely a Tecon.

Namen, obs. pa. pple. of NAME *v.*, pa. t. pl. of NIM *v.*, to take.

Namer (nēˈ·mə1). [f. NAME *v.*¹ + -ER¹.] One who, or that which, gives a name or names.

1627 DRAYTON *Agincourt* lxv, Skilfull Merlin, namer of that Towne [Caermarthen]. 1627 SPEED *England* xxxi. § 8 Thirtie one Market-Townes..whereof Lincolne the Counties namer is chiefe. *a* 1853 ROBERTSON *Lect.* ii. (1858) 161 The poet has been called as the name imports, creator, namer, maker. 1869 BROWNING *Ring & Bk.* IX. 1371 Gaetano.. newest namer for a thing so new.

Namesake (nēˈ·msēk), *sb.* [f. NAME *sb.* The use of *sake* is peculiar, but the comb. may have originated in two persons or things being mentioned or coupled together 'for the *name's sake*': for examples of *name-sake* in this sense, see SAKE.] A person or thing having the same name as another.

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* 170 Nor [does] the Dogfish at sea much more make out the Dog of the land, then that his cognominall or name-sake in the heavens. 1657 J. WATTS *Vindic. Church Eng.* 89, I shall here dehort you from being of Iohn and Iames, (though you are the name-sake of the one). 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 482 ¶ 2 Another .. subscribes herself Xantippe, and tells me, that she follows the Example of her Name-sake. 1797 MME. D'ARBLAY *Let.* June, It was a very sweet thought to make my little namesake write to me. 1826 SCOTT 26 Mar. in *Croker Papers* (1884) I. 319, I enclose a letter for your funny namesake and kinsman. 1867 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1877) I. iv. 182 The unhappy descendant and namesake of the great Emperor.

attrib. 1650 FULLER *Pisgah* II. 64 Looking southward behold the City of Nebo, at the foot of its namesake mountain. 1860 FORSTER *Gr. Remonstr.* 26 Postponing Luke to lucre; and setting more store by a handful of marks than by all the doctrines of their namesake saint.

Hence **Na·mesake** *v.*, to call by the same name; to name *after* one. *nonce-wd.*

1651 CLEVELAND *Poems* 5 Their name-sak'd signs in their strange character. 1836 HALIBURTON *Clockm.* (1838) p. ix, Here's a Book they've namesaked arter me.

Na·me-son. *Sc.* [f. NAME *sb.* 15 + SON *sb.*] A name-child of the male sex.

1760–1 SMOLLETT *Sir L. Greaves* xii, God for ever bless your honour: I am your name-son sure enough. 1824 MISS FERRIER *Inher.* xxvi, The Major was .. flattered by the interest expressed for this little name-son. 1894 A. WHYTE *S. Rutherford* xi. 88 It is with the name-son..of this sturdy old saint that we have chiefly to do.

Naming (nēˈ·miŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. NAME *v.*¹ + -ING¹.] The action of the vb., in various senses, or the result of this.

a 1300 *K. Horn* (Laud MS.) 216 (220) 'Horn child', qwad þe kiag, 'Wel brouke þou þi naming'. 1482 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 204/2 Other Benefices of Cherchys, and namyng to the same. 1504–5 in Brand *Newcastle* (1789) I. 641 [A priest] to have the same service, the same namyng, appointment and assignment..as is above expressed. 1579 E. K. *Gloss. Spenser's Sheph. Cal.* Apr. 123 Neptune and Minerua strone for the naming of the citie of Athens. 1665 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (1677) 249 An infamous strumpet; not worth a naming the second time. 1766 ENTICK *London* IV. 52 They having had all along the naming of the weigh-master. 1831 CARLYLE *Sart. Res.* II. i, Poetry itself is no other, if thou consider it, than a right Naming. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) IV. 276 Even in the infant the latent power of naming is almost immediately observable.

attrib. 1825 *Greenhouse Comp.* I. 204 Each being distinguished by its name written on a small naming-stick.

Na·mingly, *adv.* 'By name' (Webster 1847).

Namle, -li, etc., obs. forms of NAMELY *adv.*

Nammet (næˈ·mĕt). *dial.* Also -it, -ut. Var. of NUMMET, luncheon, slight meal. Also *attrib.*

1847 HALLIWELL. 1863 WISE *New Forest* 193 The labourer still..feels himself lear..before he eats his nammit. 1878 T. HARDY *Ret. Native* I. iii, I haven't seen the colour of drink since nammet-time to-day.

Nammo(re, Na-mo(re, obs. ff. NO MORE.

Na-mon, obs. form of NO MAN.

Nampkyn, obs. form of NAPKIN.

†**Nan.** *Obs. rare* —⁰. [f. the female name *Nan*, familiar form of *Ann(e.*] A serving-maid.

c 1700 *Street Robberies Consider'd, Nan*, a maid of the house. 1725 *New Cant. Dict., Nan*, a Maid-servant.

Nan, aphetic form of ANAN *int.*

1748 FOOTE *Knights* I. Wks. 1799 I. 67 Nan? what do you say? *Ibid.*, Nan? what? 1825 BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss.* 1836 COOPER *Sussex Gloss.* 1875 MISS JACKSON *Shropsh. Word-bk.* s.v., *Nan* is very seldom used now; only a few of the aged folk seem to retain it.

Nan, obs. f. NONE; obs. f. NAIN *Sc.*

Nanberry, -bury, dial. varr. of ANBURY.

1707 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4325/4 A dark brown Gelding.., full aged, a Nanberry on the inside of the near Leg.

Nancy (næˈnsi). Also **ananci, hanancy.** [ad. Tshi (Ashantee, etc.) *ananse* spider; *ananse-sem* spider-story.] *Nancy-story, -tale*, a folk- or fairy-tale of a type current among the negroes of the Gold Coast and the West Indies.

[1705 tr. *Bosman's Guinea* xvii. 332 The Negroes call this spider Ananse, and believe that the first Men were made by that Creature.]

a 1818 M. G. LEWIS *Jrnl. W. Ind.* (1834) 253 The Negroes are very fond of what they call Nancy stories, part of which is related, and part sung. *Ibid.* 307 It seems to be an indispensable requisite for a Nancy-story, that it should contain a witch, or a duppy. 1891 HARTLAND *Sci. Fairy Tales* xi. 294 An ananci tale in which the heroine and her two sisters are changed into black cats. 1894 ALICE SPINNER *Study in Colour* IX. 80 She told her nancy stories.

Nancy, narcissus: see SWEET NANCY.

Nancy-pretty. [Also called *None-so-pretty*: the one name is no doubt a corruption of the other.] A popular name in various districts for the plant London Pride.

1828–92 in various dial. glossaries (Northumb., Yks., Lanc., Som., Devon).

Nandine (næˈndin). *Zool.* [app. a native name.] A West African viverroid animal (*Nandinia binotata*), having rows of spots on the sides.

1843 J. E. GRAY *Mammalia* 54. 1860 WOOD *Illustr. Nat. Hist.* I. 245 We arrive at the pretty little creature which is known by the name of Nandine.

Nandu (næˈndu). *Ornith.* Also **nandou.** [ad. Brazilian (Tupi-Guarani) *nhandú, ñandú.*] A variety of ostrich (*Rhea Americana*) peculiar to South America.

1840 *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 233 The Nandou..or Ostrich of America, is about half the size of the African Ostrich. 1866 *Chambers's Encycl.* VI. 656/2 The Nandu is shy and wary, but is successfully hunted by the Indians.

Nane, Sc. and north. f. NONE, obs. f. NAIN *Sc.*

Nanes, obs. form of NONCE.

Nangat(is, variants of NO-GATE(S *adv.*

† Na·nger, *v. Obs. rare.* [f. ANGER *v.*, after NANGRY *a.*] *trans.* To make angry.

1675 WYCHERLEY *Country Wife* II. i, Why dost thou look so fropish? Who has nangered thee? *c* 1681 HICKERINGILL *Trimmer* ii. Wks. 1716 I. 368 Who, then has nanger'd thee? dear heart!

Nangnail, dial. variant of *angnail* AGNAIL.

† Na·ngry, *a. Obs. rare.* [f. ANGRY *a.* with prothetic *n*: see N 3.] Angry.

1681 T. FLATMAN *Heraclitus Ridens* No. 39 (1713) I. 256 Oh, 'tis the featest little nangry Fool. *Ibid.* 261 Since the Maggot is so nangry, it shall be a Warning to Harry.

Na·nguer. *Zool.* [See first quot.] A species of antelope formerly accepted by zoologists on the authority of Buffon.

1780 SMELLIE tr. *Buffon's Nat. Hist.* (1785) VI. 409 The ninth antilope is an animal, which, according to M. Adanson, is called *nangueur* or *nanguer* in Senegal. 1801 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* II. II. 360 The Red Antelope, or Nagor, is much allied to the Nanguer or Dama. 1835 E. T. BENNETT in *Trans. Zool. Soc.* I. 2 Pallas adopted the idea in his Monograph of the genus Antilope.., in which the Nanguer was introduced under the name of Antilope Dama, which it has ever since retained. 1868 *Nat. Encycl.* I. 809 To this group belongs the Mhorr Antelope.., the Nanguer (*A. dama*) of Senegal; and the Addra.

Nanis, obs. Sc. and north. form of NONCE.

Nanism (nē·niz'm). [ad. F. *nanisme* (Littré), f. L. *nān-us* (Gr. *νᾶν-ος*) dwarf + *-isme* -ISM.] The condition of being dwarfed; tendency to become stunted or dwarfed; an instance of this.

1896 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.* 1899 *Q. Rev.* July 277 Nanism is a feature common to all animals and plants in great altitudes and high latitudes.

So **Na·nity.** (See quot.) *nonce-wd.*

1892 JESSOPP in *Illustr. Lond. News* 26 Nov. 667/1 By nanity I understand the condition of those who labour under any abnormal deficiency.

Nanization (nē·nəizē·ʃən). [f. **nanize*, ad. F. *naniser* (1875 in Littré *Suppl.*): see NANISM.] The process of artificially dwarfing trees or plants.

1889 REIN *Industries Japan* 265 Dwarfing or Nanisation is the name which we give to the various operations for producing dwarfed forms.

Nankeen (nænkī·n), *sb.* (and *a.*) Also 8 nankein, 9 -kin, -quin. [f. *Nankin* or *Nanking*, 'southern capital', the name of the chief city of the province of Kiangsu in China. Cf. F. and Du. *nankin*, G. *nanking*.]

1. A kind of cotton cloth, originally made at Nanking from a yellow variety of cotton, but now extensively manufactured from ordinary cotton and dyed yellow. Also *attrib.* with *cloth*.

1755 *Songs & Poems on Costume* (Percy Soc.) 239 Make his breeches of nankein, Most like nature, most like skin. 1801 *Encycl. Brit.* Suppl. II. 292/1 The colour of nankeen is natural, the down of which it is made being of the same yellow tinge with the cloth. 1826 J. F. COOPER *Last Mohic.* i, His nether garment was of yellow nankeen. 1878 J. H. GRAY *China* III. xxiii. 143 The cloth called nankin, generally written nankeen, is of the greatest durability.

attrib. *c* 1809 F. BUCHANAN in *Eastern India* III. 144 (Yule), Wool having the colour of nankeen cloth. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 877 Nankin cloth has been long imitated in perfection by our own manufacturers.

b. With *pl.* A kind or variety of this cloth.

1781 ABIGAIL ADAMS in *Fam. Lett.* (1876) 402 There are some articles, which come from India,..Bengals, nankeens, Persian silk. 1797 STAUNTON *Acc. Macartney's Embassy China* II. 425 The land in this neighbourhood..produces the cloth usually called Nankeens in Europe. 1842 BRANDE *Dict. Sci.*, etc. s.v., They are sometimes bleached, and then are called white nankeens. Imitation nankeens are manufactured at Manchester. 1858 HOMANS *Cycl. Commerce* 1387/2 The broad pieces called 'the Company's nankeens' are generally of a better quality than the narrow ones.

2. *attrib.* (passing into *adj.*) Made of nankeen.

1774 in Grosley *Obs. England* II. 142 His nankeen small-clothes were tied with 16 strings at each knee. 1795 ANDERSON *Narr. Embassy China* 70 The uniform of the soldiers consists of a large pair of loose, black nankeen trowsers. 1823 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 70/1 The female preacher had on a nankeen dress. 1885 J. PAYN *Talk of Town* I. 26 A dark blue coat with a short light waistcoat;.. and nankeen breeches.

b. *pl.* Trousers made of nankeen.

1806–7 J. BERESFORD *Mis. Hum. Life* (1826) II. xi, Pushing through the very narrow path of a very long field of very high corn immediately after a very heavy rain:—nankeens. 1853 LYTTON *My Novel* I. ii, If you had my nankeens on.., and had fallen into a thicket of thistles.

3. A yellow or pale buff; the colour of nankeen.

1775 SHERIDAN *Duenna* II. iii, As for the dimity skin you told me of, I swear, 'tis a thorough nankeen as ever I saw! 1838 T. THOMSON *Chem. Org. Bodies* 934 This lichen, with soda, yields a yellow; with lime..a nankeen. 1882 *Garden* 18 Mar. 189/3 The colour is a beautiful nankeen.

4. *attrib.* or as *adj.*, denoting a yellow colour like that of nankeen.

1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 877 The following is the process for dyeing calico a nankin colour. 1868 *Chambers's Encycl.* VI. 656/2 Another..nankeen dye is produced by boiling annatto in a strong solution of pearl ashes. 1882 *Garden* 25 Nov. 469/3 The..petals being of a nankeen-yellow.

b. In the names of some Australian birds, as the *nankeen bird, crane,* or *night-hawk,* and the *nankeen hawk.* Also *nankeen gum,* a species of eucalyptus, *E. populifolia.*

1804 CALEY in *Trans. Linn. Soc.* XV. 184, I saw no Nankeen Hawks this autumn. 1838 J. H. JAMES *Six Months S. Austral.* 202 Shooting one or two beautiful nankeen birds. 1872 C. H. EDEN *My wife and I in Queensland* 121 The nankeen crane (*Nycticorax caledonicus*), a very handsome, bright nankeen-coloured bird. 1889 MAIDEN *Native Plants* 506 This tree is..called 'Nankeen Gum' in Northern Australia, from the peculiar light-brown colour of the bark.

5. *Nankeen cotton,* the variety of cotton from which nankeen cloth was originally made.

1797 STAUNTON *Acc. Macartney's Embassy China* II. 425 It is asserted, that the seeds of the nankeen cotton degenerate..when transplanted to another province. 1865 *N. & Q.* 3rd Ser. VII. 474/2 A new species of cotton, called Nankeen, of a bright yellow colour and fine texture, is now raised in the United States.

6. A kind of Chinese porcelain. Also *attrib.*

1781 *Lionel & Clarissa* 7 Half-a-dozen plates, four Nankeen beakers, and a couple of shaking Mandarins. 1782 WEDGWOOD in *Phil. Trans.* LXXII. 322 The Dresden porcelain is more refractory than the common Chinese, but not equally so with the stone Nankeen. 1796 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) I. 52 Nankeen indeed even resists this heat. 1845 *Encycl. Metrop.* Index, Nankin porcelain.

Hence **Nankee·ning; Nankine·tt.**

1805 *Ann. Reg.* 682 Muslins, piquées, dimities, and nankinetts. *a* 1845 HOOD *To Lady on Dep. India* vi, Go to the land of muslin and nankeening.

Nankin(s, variants of NO-KIN *Obs.*

Nanman, obs. form of NO MAN.

Nanmo(re, obs. forms of NO MORE.

† Na·nnicock. *Obs. rare* $^{-1}$. (Sense obscure.)

1600 N. BRETON *Pasquils Fools-cap* C 4 b, Hee that doth wonder at a Weathercocke..And is in loue with euery Nannicocke.

Na·nny, ellipt. for NANNY-GOAT.

1890 'R. BOLOREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* xxviii. 417 He did consider the nanny question and calculated whether a steamer load of those miniature milchers would not pay decently.

Nanny-goat (næ·nigōut). [f. the feminine name *Nanny*: cf. BILLY-GOAT.] A she-goat.

1788 T. DAY *Hist. Little Jack* (1820) 55 Telling me that my father was a beggar man and my mother a nanny-goat. 1857 DUFFERIN *Lett. High Lat.* (ed. 3) 250 We have purchased an ancient goat—a nanny-goat—so that we may be able to go a-milking upon occasion. 1888 FREEMAN in Stephens *Life* (1895) II. 388 A nanny-goat that I had.

Na·nny-house. *rare.* [? f. the name *Nanny.*] (See quots.) Also *nanny-shop.*

a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Nanny-house,* a Bawdy-house. 1825 BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss., Nanny-house, -shop,* a brothel. 1836 M. SCOTT *Cruise Midge* xix, A narrow turning to the right..that led amongst a nest of nanny houses, as they are called, inhabited by brown free people.

Nanoid (nē·noid), *a. rare* $^{-0}$. [f. L. *nān-us* dwarf + -OID.] Resembling a dwarf, dwarf-like.

1856 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*

Nantes, obs. form of NANTZ.

Nantokite (næ·ntǒkəit). *Min.* Also nantoquite. [f. *Nantoco* in Chili + -ITE 2 b.] A white chloride of copper found in granular masses.

1872 DANA *Min.* App. i. 11 Nantokite...Occurs in a copper vein with atacamite. 1893 CHAPMAN *Blowpipe Pract.* 188 Nantokite..often greenish externally.

Nantz (nænts), *sb.* (and *a.*) Now only *arch.* Also 7 nantes, 7–9 nants. [From the place of manufacture, *Nantes* on the Loire in France.] Brandy. Also freq. *right Nantz.*

1684 J. HAYNES *Epil. Lacy's Sir H. Buffoon,* There's one's for a Cup of Nants. 1693 *Humours Town* 29 A Tost and Ale, or perhaps, a Cup of cool Nants. 1706 E. WARD *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 99 His Superiors, whom nothing will go down with, under right Nantz or Rum. 1822 SCOTT *Pirate* i, The devout opinion that a cup of Geneva or Nantz was specific against all cares. 1831 TRELAWNY *Adv. Younger Son* III. 330 It..didn't make a man's inside waterproof, which good Nantz would. 1889 DOYLE *Micah Clarke* 50 Let us..have a drop of the right Nants before we go.

attrib. 1696 VANBRUGH *Relapse* Pref., Drinking his mistress's health in Nantes brandy.

† Na·ny, *a. Obs.* [OE. *nǽnig,* f. *ne* NE + *ǽnig* ANY *a.*] Not any, no.

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) N 198 *Nullo negotio,* nænge earbeðe. 805 *Charter* 34 in *O.E. Texts* 442 [Pæt] nænig mon..on nænge oðre halfe oncærrende sie. *a* 900 CYNEWULF *Crist* 39 Nænig efenlic þam..in worlde ʒeweard wifes ʒeeacnung. *c* 1000 *Boeth. Metr.* x. 53 Nat nænig mon hwær hi nu sindon. *c* 1200 ORMIN 59 Ne mihhte nanig mann..Utbressten off þe deofless band.

Nanys(e, obs. forms of NONCE.

Naological (nē$_{1}$ǒl^{ǫ}dʒikăl), *a.* [f. next + -ICAL.] Pertaining to, connected with, naology.

1846 *Ecclesiologist* VI. 65 The pursuit of Naological studies..had afforded much amusement to a long and happy life. 1849 FREEMAN *Archit.* 57 They are for the most part rather 'naological' than architectural.

Naology (nē$_{1}$^{ǫ}·lŏdʒi). [f. Gr. *νᾱό-s* temple + -LOGY.] The study of sacred buildings.

1846 DUDLEY (*title*) Naology. 1846 *Ecclesiologist* VI. 65 The part with which we are not concerned..is far superior to that with which we are—Christian Naology.

Nao·metry. *rare* $^{-1}$. [f. as prec. + -METRY.] (See quot.)

1626 B. JONSON *Staple of N.* III. ii, To calculate a time and halfe a time, and the whole time, according to Naõmetry. *P. Iv.* What's that? *Tho.* The measuring o' the Temple.

‖ **Naos** (nē·ǫs). [a. Gr. *νᾱός* temple.] A temple; the inner cell or sanctuary of a temple.

1775 R. CHANDLER *Trav. Asia M.* 256 Over the entrance of the Naos was a vast stone. 1858 BIRCH *Anc. Pottery* I. 166 Sometimes the whole of a *naos,* or chapel, was constructed of tiles. 1895 SAYCE *Egypt* 208 Fragments of red granite from some gigantic naos.

† Nap, *sb.*[1] *Obs.* Forms: 1 hnæp(p, 2–3 nep, 2–4 nap. [OE. *hnæp(p,* = OS. *nap* (MDu. and Du. *nap*), OHG. (*h*)*napf* (G. *napf*), of obscure origin. An OLG. **hnap* is the source of OF. *hanap* (see HANAP), and It. *nappo* may also be an adoption from Teutonic.] A drinking-cup or bowl.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 123 *Ciatus,* hnæp. *Anthlia,* hnæp. *c* 1050 *Vocab.* ibid. 283 *Patera,* hnæpp. *c* 1070 in Earle *Land Charters,* etc. 250, vi mæssene sceala, & ii ʒebonede hnæppas. *a* 1100 in Napier *O. E. Glosses* I. 1847 *Poculi, i. calicis,* steapes, hnæppes. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 163 Hire nap [is] of mazere. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 344 Ibroken nep oðer disch. *c* 1250 *Death* 107 in *O. E. Misc.* 174 Hwer beoð þine dihsches?..Hwer beoþ þine nappes? *c* 1350 *Body & Soul* (Camden) 343, I nam nouther furst ne last That schal drynken of that nap.

Nap (næp), *sb.*[2] Also 4–7 nappe, (7 knap, 8 napp). [f. NAP *v.*[1]] A short or light sleep, *esp.* one taken during the day; a doze.

13.. *Cursor M.* 7201 (Gött.), Bot sampson wakind of his nap, Of handis he lete himseluen scap. *c* 1412 HOCCLEVE *Min. Poems* 63 It me reueth many a sleep & nap. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 7435 Þan I wakynd of my nappe. 1530 PALSGR. 247/2 Nappe a lytell slepe, *repos.* 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* IV. v. 42 If by fortune any little nap Upon his heavie eye-lids chaunst to fall [etc.]. 1628 FORD *Lover's Mel.* II. ii, In his naps he never looks in a glass. 1680 OTWAY *Caius Marius* IV. i, I'll swear it wak'd me out of a sweet Nap. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 112 ₱ 3 If by chance he has been surprized into a short Nap at Sermon. 1787 MME. D'ARBLAY *Diary* 16 Aug., I sat up all night,..not daring to trust to a nap for myself. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* xxiii, He refreshed his mind with a nap. 1863 'OUIDA' *Held in Bondage* (1870) 3 A suspicious appearance of having just tumbled out of a nap.

b. In verbal phrases, esp. *to take a nap.*

c 1400 *Rom. Rose* 4005 He slombred, & a nappe he toke. 1548 UDALL *Erasm. Par. Mark* xiii. 88 Although the people doe sumtymes take a nappe. 1606 HOLLAND *Sueton.* 171 Otherwhiles he would catch a nap in the day time, as he sat to minister iustice. 1653 *Nissena* 28 He slept but a little.. though but for a very smal space he stole a nap. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 52 ₱ 4 [He] seems to take a Nap with his Eyes open. 1787 JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1859) II. 246 The genius of invention and improvement in Europe seems to be absolutely taking a nap. 1863 GEO. ELIOT *Romola* i, You'll know better than to take your nap in street corners.

Nap (næp), *sb.*[3] Also 5–6 noppe, 7 nappe, 8–9 knap. [a. MDu. or MLG. *noppe* (mod.G. and Da. *noppe*; Du. *nop,* Sw. *nopp,* Norw. *napp*; also Walloon *nope,* † *noppe*), sb. related to *noppen* NAP *v.*[2] There is no evidence for the OE. *hnoppa* given by Somner.]

1. Originally, the rough layer of projecting threads or fibres on the surface of a woollen or other textile fabric, requiring to be smoothed by shearing; in later use, a special surface given to cloth of various kinds by artificial raising of the short fibres, with subsequent cutting and smoothing; the pile.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 358/1 Noppe of a clothe, *villus, tomentum.* 1495 *Act* 11 *Hen. VII*, c. 27 They pull of both the noppe and the coton of the same Fustians. 1526 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 453 Whan the noppe is rughe, it wolde be shorne. 1589 FLEMING *Virg. Georg.* IV. 69 They bring towels with nap shorne off (The floow or roughness shorne away for feare to hurt his handes). 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* III. 165 The nap of the cloth (and that somewhat course) being worne off, the ground plainely appeares. 1710 SWIFT *Tatler* No. 238 ₱ 5 His only Coat, where Dust confus'd with Rain Roughen the Nap, and leave a mingled Stain. 1727–38 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Teazel,* To card, or draw out the wool or knap from the thread or ground of several kinds of cloths. 1805 J. LUCCOCK *Nat. Wool* 124 The principal object is to procure a long and well formed knap. 1841 BORROW *Zincali* I. v. 1. 90 It is very old, torn, and threadbare, with no nap upon it. 1882 SALA *Amer. Revis.* (1885) 232 To destroy the nap on gentlemen's coats.

attrib. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 1511/2 *Nap-warp,..*in fustian weaving, the upper warp covering the main warp or nap.

fig. 1591 LYLY *Endym.* v. ii, You haue worne the nappe of your witte quite off, and made it thredbare. 1593 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. VI*, IV. ii. 7 To dresse the Common-wealth, and turne it, and set a new nap vpon it. 1627 E. F. *Hist. Edw. II* (1686) 91 When the nap of this Project was fallen off. 1682 *Lenten Prol.* 1 in *3rd Collect. Poems* (1689) 26/1 Our Prologue-Wit grows flat: the Naps worn off.

b. The woolly substance removed from the surface of cloth by the process of shearing.

1780 A. YOUNG *Tour Irel.* I. 181 Large quantities of knap are constantly taken out of the machine.

c. With *pl.* A cloth having a nap on it.

1771 *Pennsylv. Gaz.* 26 Sept. 3/1 The Sale of a large Assortment of coarse and fine Broadcloths, Bearskins, Coatings, Naps. 1888 *Daily News* 3 Dec. 2/7 Some fair orders are being placed for the cheaper makes of tweeds, serges, naps, pilots, and curls.

2. *transf.* A surface, esp. of a soft or downy nature, resembling the nap of cloth.

1591 SPENSER *Muiopot.* 333 The velvet nap which on his wings doth lie. 1638 FORD *Fancies* v. ii, Frizzle or powder their hair, plain their eye-brows, set a nap on their cheeks. 1668 CULPEPPER & COLE *Barthol. Anat.* I. xiv. 33 The Liver in its hollow side, cloathed with its Coat and ragged Nap. 1776–96 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* IV. 165 In the young and unexpanded plants or buttons the pileus is covered with

a knap or frize of a brown glutinous wool. 1856 KANE *Arct. Expl.* I. xxvii. 358 Feathers of young frosting gave a plush-like nap to its surface. 1891 T. HARDY *Tess* xliii, Every twig was covered with a white nap as of fur grown from the rind during the night.

3. The smooth and glossy surface of a beaver, felt, or silk hat.

1727-38 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Hat*, The hat..is..rubbed with pumice, to take off the coarser knap; then rubbed over afresh with seel-skin, to lay the knap still finer. 1838 DICKENS *Nich. Nick.* xxix, Mr. Folair twirled his old hat round upon his hand, and affected the extremest agony lest any of the nap should have been knocked off. 1862 THORNBURY *Turner* II. 319 A hat with the nap carefully brushed the wrong way.

† **Nap,** *sb.*[4] *Obs. rare* —[1]. [Of obscure origin: cf. Norw. *napp*, a little tug or pull.] A draught.

14.. *Songs & Carols 15th C.* (Warton Club) 48 He tok that maydyn be the pap, And tok thereof a ryȝt god nap.

Nap (næp), *sb.*[5] [abbrev. of *Napoleon.*]

1. A twenty-franc piece; = NAPOLEON 1.

1820 MOORE *Mem.* (1853) III. 99 Got forty pounds at the banker's and gave Mr. Lake his remaining three Naps. 1862 H. MARRYAT *Year in Sweden* II. 283 English sovereigns and French naps as common as halfpence.

2. A card game, in which each player receives five cards, and calls the number of tricks he expects to win; one who calls five is said to *go Nap*, and to *make his Nap* if he succeeds in winning them all. Cf. NAPOLEON 4.

The game is often called *half-penny, six-penny*, etc. *Nap*, according to the amount paid for each 'point' staked.

1879 MISS BRADDON *Vixen* III. 194 The younger members of the house party played Nap. 1887 BLACK *Sabina Zembra* xxi, It was sixpenny 'Nap' they were going to play. 1894 MASKELYNE *Sharps & Flats* 24 The dupe..being rendered suspicious by the eagerness of those about him to wager that he would not make his Nap.

b. Hence in phr. *to go nap*, to stake all one can, to speculate heavily.

c 1884 GLOVER *Racing Life* 38 Look here, you go nap—now hear that? nap!—on Royal Angus. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 12 Feb. 6/1 The market is going nap on the British Tea Table.

† **Nap,** *sb.*[6] *slang.* [f. NAP *v.*[3]] (See quots.)

a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Napper of Napps*, a Sheep-stealer. *c* 1700 *Street Robberies Consider'd, Nap*, an arrest.

Nap (næp), *sb.*[7] *Theatr. slang.* [? variant of KNAP *sb.*[2] 1.] A pretended blow; esp. in phr. *to give* or *take the nap.*

1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* III. 139 (Hoppe), Then Pantaloon comes up.., and I give him the 'nap', and knock him on his back. 1877 *Era Almanack* 40, I don't think, though, I shall be able to take the nap much longer.

Nap, *sb.*[8], variant of KNAP *sb.*[1] 1.

1702 TONKIN in *Carew's Cornwall* (1811) 343 *note*, A large level piece of ground, which is higher than any other part of this fortification, it being the nap of the hill.

Nap, *sb.*[9] *Sc.* [var. of *knap* KNOP *sb.*[1] 3.] A shin of beef.

1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 169 The nap or sbin is analogous to the hough of the hind leg.

Nap, *sb.*[10] *Sc.*, var. of *knap* KNOP, a tub.

1824 MACTAGGART *Gallovid. Encycl.* 78.

Nap (næp), *v.*[1] Forms: 1 hnapp-, hnæppian, (h)neap(p)-, 2-6 nappe, (3 nappi, 5 nappyn), (5) 6- nap, (8 knap). [OE. *hnappian, hnæppian*, app. related to OHG. *(h)naffez-, naphez-, naffizan* 'dormitare'.] *intr.* To sleep lightly or for a brief time; to take a short sleep.

Formerly in more dignified use than at present, being frequently employed in renderings of Biblical passages.

c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* iii. 6 Ic hneappade & slepan ongon. *c* 897 K. ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* xxviii. 192 Ne slapige no ðin eagan, ne ne hnappigen ðine bræwas. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xxv. 5 Ða se brydguma ylde, þa hnappudon hiȝ ealle & slepun. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 201 Sume men slapeð faste, and sume nappeð. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 324 Þe þet nappeð upon helle brerde, he torpleð ofte al in er he lest wene. *c* 1275 LAY. 1219 So he gon nappi [*c* 1205 slomnen], þar after to slepe. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* C. 465 Quen bit neȝed to naȝt nappe hym bihoued. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. v. 393, 'I most sitte', seyde the segge 'or elles shulde I nappe'. 1423 JAS. I *Kingis Q.* lx, Gif I hald my pes, than will sche nap. 1519 HORMAN *Vulg.* 88, I can not but nappe whyle he precheth. 1598 MARSTON *Pygmal.* v. 160 The boy did nap, Whereby bright Phœbus did great Mars intrap. 1647 TRAPP *Comm. Matt.* xxv. 5 They slept but half-asleep, they napped and nodded. 1719 D'URFEY *Pills* (1872) III. 103 On whose fair Hills..The God of Love lay knapping. 1767 J. PENN *Sleepy Serm.* 23 It would, we think, be better for them to be found rather watching, than napping. 1819 SHELLEY *Peter Bell 3rd* II. iv, He..On every side did perk and peer Till he saw Peter dead or napping. 1881 M. C. HAY *Missing* III. 118 Aunt Charlotte will nap a little.

fig. *a* 1050 *Liber Scintill.* (1889) 2 Hi hnappiað on ȝewilnungum & ȝelustfullungum flæsces. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 303 To þise sectis ceessiþ not þe iugement þat is now & bifore tymes, & here leesing nappiþ not. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* v. i. 478 Doom .. cesith not, and the perdicioun .. nappith not.

b. Phr. *To take* or *catch* (*one*) *napping*, to find (one) asleep; also *fig.* to take unawares or off one's guard, to surprise (a person).

1562 PILKINGTON *Expos. Neh.* (1585) 65 Our mortall enemie..hopeth to speede at length, and take thee napping. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* II. 54 The most watchfull may sometimes bee taken napping. *a* 1659 BP. BROWNRIG *Serm.* (1674) II. vi. 62 How much more unbecoming is it, that the Sun of righteousness should take us napping? 1743 BULKELEY & CUMMINS *Voy. S. Seas* 92 The Captain said, Very well, Gentlemen, you have caught me Napping. 1844 DISRAELI *Coningsby* VIII. iii, The Tory party is organised now; they will not catch us napping again. 1884 *Leeds Merc.* 30 Apr. 4/6 The truth is that the Government whips were caught napping, as they too often are.

c. *Nap-at-noon*, a popular name for plants of the goat's-beard family (*Tragopogon*), the flowers of which close during the morning.

1865 *Cornh. Mag.* July 34 The peasant christens his flowers after their habits. In the Midland counties the common goatsbeard is his 'nap-at-noon'.

Nap (næp), *v.*[2] Also 5-6 noppe, 8 knap. [a. MDu. or MLG. *noppen* (Du. and G. *noppen*, Da. *noppe*, Sw. *noppa*, Norw. *nappa*; also Walloon *noper*, † *nopper*), of uncertain origin.]

† 1. *trans.* To trim (cloth) by shearing the nap.

c 1483 CAXTON *Dialogues* 33 Clarisse the nopster can well her craft..cloth for to noppe. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 256/1 To Noppe; *detuberare.* 1582 BENTLEY *Mon. Matrones* 72 They have so shorne, nopped and turned Christ's garment.

2. To furnish with a nap; to raise a nap on.

1620 SHELTON *Quix.* III. xxxviii. 264 Had the Bayz been napp'd, every Grain of it would have been as big as your biggest Peas. 1685 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2009/8 For Beautifying of Cloth,..by Napping and Freezing the same without Honey, Mollosse, or any Moisture. 1727-38 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Cloth*, The cloth thus woven, scoured, knapped, and shorn, is sent to the dyer. 1852 MORFIT *Tanning & Currying* (1853) 534 To soften the fibres, and nap the surface without cutting the flesh off.

Nap (næp), *v.*[3] *Cant* and *slang.* Also 7, 9 knap. [Cf. Sw. and Norw. *nappa*, Da. *nappe*, to snatch, snap, etc. The precise source and relationship to NAB *v.*[1] are not clear.]

1. *trans.* To seize, catch, or lay hold of (a person or thing); to take into custody; to nab, steal.

1673 in R. Head *Canting Acad.* 11 If the Cully naps us, And the Lurries from us take. *Ibid.* 192 Though he tip them the piks, they nap him agen. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Nap the Wiper*, to Steal the Handkerchief. 1719 D'URFEY *Pills* (1872) IV. 320 But nap'd them in the Streets, By Dozens and Scores. 1812 J. H. VAUX *Flash Dict.* s.v. *Knap*, To *knap a clout*, is to steal a pocket-handkerchief. 1863 E. FARMER *Scrap Book* (ed. 3) 53 Hunting after sweets we nap some sours.

b. *To nap it*, to 'catch it', to receive severe punishment, esp. in a boxing-match.

a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew* s.v., *You have Napt it*, you are Clapt, Sir. *Ibid.* s.v. *Nask, He Napt it at the Nask*, he was Lasht at Bridewell. 1820 *Blackw. Mag.* VIII. 81 Some entered the ring in a very bad condition..and knapped it every round. 1821 *Sporting Mag.* VII. 274 Josh as usual napt it in the first part of the round.

† 2. (See latest quots.) *Obs. rare* —[0].

1673 [see NAPPING *vbl. sb.*[3]]. 1680 HEAD & KIRKMAN *Eng. Rogue* IV. 210 Nothing could perswade him but that he was cheated of his Money, that he napt on him, and I know not what. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. xvi. (Roxb.) 64/2 Nap or Knap, or cog a die is the slurring it out of ones fingers. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Nap*, by Cheating with the Dice to secure one Chance.

Nap, variant of KNAP *v.*[1]

Nap (in *hap or nap*): see HAB *adv.* 2.

Napæa (năpī·ă). *rare.* Also 7 -ea. [a. L. *Napæa*, ad. Gr. Ναπαία, fem. of ναπαῖος, f. νάπη a wooded dell.] A nymph haunting wooded dells.

1612 SHELTON *Quix.* I. III. xi, O ye Napeas and Driades, which do wontedly inhabite the Thickets and Groues. 1617 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Forth Feasting* A 3 b, O Naid's deare, (said they,) Napæas fair, O Nymphes of trees, Nymphes which on Hills repaire!

So **Napæ·ad** (after *Naiad* or *Dryad*).

1818 L. HUNT *Foliage, The Nymphs* p. xi, And there are the Napeads—names till now Scarce known.

Napæan (năpī·ăn), *a. rare* —[1]. [f. prec. + -AN.] Consisting of the Napæas.

1697 DAVDEN *Virg. Georg.* IV. 777 The soft Napæan race will soon repent Their Anger, and remit the Punishment.

Nape (nēⁱp), *sb.*[1] Also 4 naape, 6 naupe, nawpe. [Of obscure origin. The entire absence of forms with initial *k* makes it difficult to connect the word with the app. synonymous OFris. (*hals*) *knap.* The variants *naupe, nawpe* also present difficulties; it is not clear whether they have any connexion with mod. north. dial. (*k*)*naup*, (*k*)*nope* the head or top of the head, a lump or swelling, a hillock.]

1. The back of the neck; that part of the body in man or animals which contains the first cervical vertebræ. (Now usually as in b.)

In early examples sometimes translating L. *vertex.*

13.. *K. Alis.* 1347 Felip was..Dedly woundid thorugh the nape. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 211 Þe maufesours (were) ateynt, and cursed ouer þe nape. *a* 1400 *Prymer* (1891) 77 In to his naape his wickednesse schal falle down. *c* 1460 RUSSELL *Bk. Nurture* 455 Furst kit owte þe nape in þe nek þe shuldurs before. 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* II. (Arb.) 66, I twisted a wallet On my broad shoulders, my nape dyd I settle eke vnder. 1656 RIDGLEY *Pract. Physick* 256 Every morning rub hard the hinder part of the Head and Nape. 1762 HOOLE tr. *Tasso* XI. 317 In his right eye the fatal arrow drove,..And issu'd at his nape. 1808 *Med. Jrnl.* XIX. 446 These emunctories are put on the nape or occipital region. 1851 C. L. SMITH tr. *Tasso* III. xliv, On the nape and back he struck them dead.

attrib. 1883 *Fisheries Exhib. Catal.* 200 Apparatus used in the preparation of boneless fish, including mitre boxes, knives, .. nape-hooks. 1888 O. THOMAS *Catal. Marsup.* 7 Nape-hairs directed backwards.

b. Esp. in phr. *the nape of the neck* († or *head*).

a. [*c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 351/1 Nape of an hedde, *occiput, cervix, vertex.*] 1530 PALSGR. 247/1 Nape of the necke, *fossette de la teste.* 1540 MORYSINE tr. *Vives' Introd. Wisd.* C vij, Kepe the nape of thy necke from colde. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 119 It helpeth al the infirmities incident to the nape of the neck. 1649 BULWER *Pathomyot.* II. i. 44 If we put the index of our Hand about the pit of the hinder part of the head, or nape of the neck. 1768-74 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) I. 447 As one catches up a dog by the nape of his neck. 1839 THIRLWALL *Greece* lii. VI. 287 A..stone which fell on the nape of his neck. 1872 BAKER *Nile Trib.* xiii. 230 The barpoon was sticking in the nape of the neck.

β. 1530 PALSGR. 247/2 Naupe of the heed, *canneau de col, la fossette de la teste.* 1541 R. COPLAND *Guydon's Quest. Chirurg.* N iij b, They are applyed in the nawpe of the necke, and kepeth the place of the cephalyke bledynge.

2. a. The fleshy part left projecting from the end of a fish's back after the head is removed. ? *Obs.*

1482 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 222/1 That the napes of the seid barelled fissh, shuld be no longer than the litell bone that sitteth upon the grete fyne.

b. The part of a fish next the head. *rare* —[1].

1656 SIR J. MENNES & SMITH *Musarum Deliciæ* (ed. 2) 86 Then to a Nape of Ling he would invite Some Rascall Tapster.

† **Nape,** *sb.*[2] *Obs. rare* —[1]. [a. OF. *nape*, var. of *nappe*:—L. *mappa*: see NAPKIN.] A table-cloth.

c 1450 *Bk. Curtasye* 656 in *Babees Bk.* 299 Þo ouer nape schalle dowbulle be layde.

† **Nape,** *sb.*[3] *Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *nāpus*: cf. NEEP.] The name suggested by Turner, and used by some later writers, for the yellow turnip.

1562 TURNER *Herbal* II. (1568) 61 Napus is named in Greke βουνιας... It may be called a Nape or a yelow rape vntill we fynde out the olde Englishe name for it. 1600 SURFLET *Countrie Farme* II. xxxii. 240 Napes and nauets..are two diuers sorts..: the napes are greater and drawing toward a yellow colour..: nauets are lesse, white, and a great deale more sauorie. 1657 TOMLINSON *Renou's Disp.* 308 There are three differences of Napes or Rapes.

Nape, *sb.*[4] *dial.* [perh. for *knape*: see KNAP *sb.*[1] 1, quot. 1538.] (See quot.)

1837 J. F. PALMER *Dialogue Devonsh. Dial.* Gloss., Where a rising ground falls off on either side, so as to form an ascending ridge, that ridge is called the nape.

Nape, obs. variant of NEAP *dial.*

† **Nape,** *v.*[1] *Obs.* Also 5 *inf.* napyn, 6 nawpe. [f. NAPE *sb.*[1] It is not clear whether the north. dial. (*k*)*naup*, (*k*)*nope*, to strike on the head, has any connexion with Palsgrave's *nawpe.*]

1. *trans.* To strike (a person) on the back of the neck. Also *transf.*

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 351/2 Napyn, or slen þe the nape, *occipito.* 1530 PALSGR. 643/2, I nawpe one in the necke, I stryke one in the necke, *je accollette* and *je frappe au col.* 1549 LATIMER *3rd Serm. bef. Edw. VI* (Arb.) 76 He was taken and naped in ye beak wyth the title of an beretique.

2. ? To cut (a fish) through the nape.

c 1450 *Two Cookery-bks.* 102 Take a troute, and nape him. *Ibid.* 105 Take a tenche, and nape him. 1482 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 222/2 Every Barell of fissh, which berafter shall be founde..medelled, naped, leyd double, or not boned nor splatted, accordyng to this Acte.

Hence † **Na·ping** *vbl. sb. Obs.*

1495 *Act* 11 *Hen. VII*, c. 23 That every suche Gauger Packer and Sercher take no more for..his labour for bonyng napyng and packyng of a barell fisshe..[than] jd.

† **Nape,** *v.*[2] *Obs.* —[1] (Precise sense obscure.)

c 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xxx. 575 Gederand and gredy, sore napand and nedy youre godys forto spare.

Napea(d: see NAPÆA.

Na·pe-crest. *Ornith.* [f. NAPE *sb.*[1] + CREST *sb.*] *pl.* An African genus of scansorial birds.

1840 *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 220 A third genus consists of the Nape-crests (*Chizæris*, Swainson), which have a rounded beak approaching that of some Trogons.

† **Na·pell,** *Obs. rare.* [a. F. *napel* (16th c., Paré), or ad. med.L. *napellus.*] = next.

1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. i. III. *Furies* 179 Dead-laughing Apium, weeping Aconite,..Hot Napell, making lips and tongues to swell. *a* 1649 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Poems* (1656) 135 The Nightshade, Henbane, Napell, Aconite.

‖ **Napellus.** *Bot.* [med.L. *napellus* (13-14th c. in Diefenbach), f. *nāpus* turnip.] The common aconite; monk's-hood, wolf's-bane.

1626 BACON *Sylva* § 499 There is an old Tradition of a Maiden that was fed with Napellus (which is counted the Strongest poyson of all Vegetables). 1727-38 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Aconite*, The *Napellus*, thus called *a napo*, because its root resembled the turnep kind. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) I. 77/1 The napellus bears large blue flowers, which appear in August.

† **Napelo.** *Obs. rare* —[1]. [a. It. *napelo, nap-(p)ello*, ad. med.L. *napellus.*] = prec.

1580 FRAMPTON *Monardes' Two Med. agst. Venome* 124 The Bezaar stone is .. of great efficacie agaynst Napelo, the strongest of all venomes.

Naperer (nēⁱ·pərəɹ). *Obs.* exc. *Hist.* [f. NAPER-Y + -ER[1].] The person having charge of the royal table linen.

1494 FABYAN *Chron.* VII. 586 The lorde Gray Ruthyn, or Ryffyn, naperer. 1611 SPEED *Hist. Gt. Brit.* IX. xiii. § 2. 712/2 Anne, late wife of Iohn de Hastings Earle of Pembroke..was admitted..to vse the office of Naperer. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 42/2 Naperer, or Keeper of the Table Linnen. 1865 *Edin. Rev.* Apr. 339 Their..ancestors having held the same honourable office of royal naperer.

Naperian, variant of NAPIERIAN.

Naperon, obs. form of APRON.

Napery (nē¹·pəri). Forms: 4-6 naprye, 5-6 -ry, 6-7 -rie, (5 nappre, 6 napre, 6-7 *Sc.* naipr-ie); 4-7 naperie, (7 napp-, *Sc.* naipp-), 5-7 -rye, (6 naparie, 7 -ry), 5- napery. [a. obs. F. *naperie* (*napperie*, 1400 in Godef.), f. *nape* (*nappe*) NAPE *sb.*² + -ERY.]

1. Linen used for various household purposes, esp. table linen. Now *rare* exc. *Sc.*

c 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 434 Dizschis & coupis of siluer & oper vessel, & costly naprye. 1418 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 32 All my beddynge & naperie. *c* 1460 J. RUSSELL *Bk. Nurture* 238 The surnape ye shulle make..with a clothe vndir a dowble of riȝt feire napry. 1530 PALSGR. 457/1 Gyve me leave to bleche my naperye in your garden. 1578 T. N. tr. *Conq. W. India* 176 His Table clothes, napkins, and towels, were made of Cotten wooll, verie white and newe, for he was never served but once with that naperie. 1656 HEYLIN *Surv. France* 15 The napperie of the Table was.. so foul and dirty, that I durst not conceive it had been washed above once. 1799 J. ROBERTSON *Agric. Perth* 382 Some weaving napery for the warehouses at Dunfermline. 1822 GALT *Provost* xxxviii, All the best of her sheets and napery. 1870 ROCK *Text. Fabr.* Introd. 75 Venetian linens, for fine towelling and napery in general.

attrib. and *Comb.* 1532 HERVET tr. *Xenophon's Househ.* (1768) 38 Shetes, towels, and all naprye ware by them selfes. 1615 BRATHWAIT *Strappado* (1878) 6 But this's not all He doe: Bacchus shall knowe His naprie-drawers shall not end it so. 1631 — *Whimzies, Ruffian* 133 A kicke, I meane, from some surly Naprie groome, which serves in full discharge of his Commons. 1865 *Caledon. Merc.* 5 Sept., The officers then seized..two napery presses, a chest of drawers.

† **b.** Personal linen. *Obs.*

1598 E. GUILPIN *Skial.* A vij, [The] goodly show Of thyne apparraile and thy naperie. 1602 DEKKER *Honest Wh.* Wks. 1873 II. 41 Prithee put me into wholesome naperie.

2. † **a.** The charge or custody of the royal linen; the office of naperer. *Obs.*

a 1483 *Liber Niger* in *Househ. Ord.* (1790) 56 The steward takethe.. for his napery at the iiii principall festes of the yere..in prises of lynyn clothe. 1601 F. TATE *Housch. Ord. Edw. II* (Chaucer Soc.) 27 A lawendere of the Naperie, who shal wash all manner of linnen cloth, appertaining to the office of the Naperie. 1628 COKE *On Litt.* 107 *b*, To perform the office of the napery at his coronation.

b. A store-room for linen.

1819 HALLAM *Mid. Ages* II. ix. III. 427 *note*, The house consisted of a hall, parlour, ..a napery, or linen room [etc.].

† **3.** The making up or manufacture of personal or household linen. *Obs. rare.*

1630 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Praise Clean Linen* Wks. II. 169/1 What were the function of the Linnen Drapery Or Sempsters admirable skill in Naperye? 1650 FULLER *Pisgah* IV. vi. § 4 Kings Merchants.. brought in linen-yarn .., Solomon so setting up Napery, and the manufacture of weaving.

† **4.** (See quot.) *Obs. rare* —°.

1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 148/1 Napery—the working of Linnen in Painting according to the Foldings thereof.

† **Napet.** *Obs.* —° [f. NAPE *sb.*² + -ET.] Napkin.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 351/2 Napet, or napekyn, *napella, manupiarium.*

† **Naphe.** *Obs. rare* —¹. [a. F. *naphe, naffe* = Sp. *nafa, nefa*, It. *nanfa, lanfa*, ad. Arab. *nafḥa(h)* fragrance, perfume.] Orange-flower water.

1600 SURFLET *Countrie Farme* I. xii. 53 The water of Naphe drunke to the quantitie of sixe ounces, causeth the malignitie of the plague to breake foorth by sweates.

Naphew, obs. form of NAVEW.

Naphtha (næ·fθă, næ·pθă). Forms: 6 napta, 7 neptha, nephta, 6-7, 9 naphta, (9 nafta), 6- naptha, naphtha. See also NAPHTHE and NEFT(E. [a. L. *naphtha*, a. Gr. *νάφθα* (also *νάφθας*), possibly of Oriental origin (but Arab. and Pers. ﻧﻔﺖ *naft* is prob. from Greek); hence also It. and Sp. *nafta*, Pg. *naphta*, F. *naphte*.] A name originally applied to an inflammable volatile liquid (a constituent of asphalt and bitumen) issuing from the earth in certain localities; now extended to most of the inflammable oils obtained by dry distillation of organic substances, esp. coal, shale, and petrolenm.

1572 J. JONES *Bathes* II. 13 As plenty of Naphta gathered in the aforesaid place doth shewe. 1577 FRAMPTON *Joyfull Newes* 84 Fountaines..of Petroleo, of Napta, of Sulphur. 1605 DANIEL *Queen's Arcadia* II. iv, Like Neptha that takes fire by sight of Fire. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 333 From about Thirty Mountains near the same place..springs the famous Naphtha. 1753 HANWAY *Trav.* (1762) I. IV. lvii. 264 There is also a white naptha on the peninsula of Apcheron, of a much thinner consistency. 1788 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* lii. V. 402 The principal ingredient of the Greek fire was the naptha, or liquid bitumen. 1838 T. THOMSON *Chem. Org. Bodies* 719 Persian naphtha, as it is collected on the spot, is very nearly, but not quite colourless. 1876 HARLEY *Mat. Med.* 99 Naphtha, whether obtained artificially or as a product of nature, is sometimes used medicinally.

fig. 1847 EMERSON *Poems, Dæmonic Love* Wks. (Bohn) I. 460 Deep..loving eyes, Flowed with naphtha fiery sweet.

b. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *naphtha-fire, -fuel, -gas, -lamp, -ship, -spring, -vapour*; **naphtha-brown** (see quot. 1874).

1753 HANWAY *Trav.* (1762) I. IV. lvii. 264 Near this place ..naptha-springs are found. 1825 T. THOMSON *1st Princ. Chem.* I. 153 To take care that the whole of it is consumed, and that none escapes under the form of naphtha vapour. 1831 CARLYLE *Sart. Res.* II. v, Women, in whose placid veins circulates too little naphtha-fire. 1874 CROOKES *Handbk. Dyeing* 208 The so-called naphtha-brown is merely the crude melt from the manufacture of magenta. 1888 *Daily News* 28 Nov. 3/6 The Destruction of a Naphtha Ship. 1895 — 25 Apr. 7/2 The annual consumption of naphtha fuel in Russia. 1899 'Q' (QUILLER COUCH) *Ship of Stars* ii, Even the boy grew tired of the naphtha-lamps.

Naphtha·lamide. *Chem.* [f. NAPHTHAL-IN + AMIDE.] A former name of PHTHALIMIDE.

1838 T. THOMSON *Chem. Org. Bodies* 30 Naphthalamide.. may be obtained by heating naphthalate of ammonia in a retort. Water and ammonia are disengaged, and naphthalamide sublimes.

Naphtha·lamine. *Chem.* [f. as prec. + AMINE.] (See quot.)

1875 *Ure's Dict. Arts* III. 394 Naphthalamine, which is the base corresponding to aniline, is now manufactured in the same way as that body is from benzole. It yields beautiful commercial dyes.

Na·phthalate. *Chem.* [f. as NAPHTHAL-IC + -ATE 4.] A salt of naphthalic acid. Now called PHTHALATE.

1838 T. THOMSON *Chem. Org. Bodies* 29 The alkaline naphthalates are very soluble in water.

Naphthalene (næ·fθălīn). *Chem.* [See NAPHTHALINE and -ENE.] = NAPHTHALINE.

1866 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* IV. 5 Naphthalene when pure consists of brilliant white scaly crystals. 1891 *Syd. Soc. Lex.* s.v. *Naphthalinum*, Naphthalene, in powder, obtained by dissolving the scaly crystals in alcohol.

attrib. 1872 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* 1st Suppl., Naphthalene Alcohol. 1890 THORPE *Dict. Appl. Chem.* I. 233/2 This..is the saffranine of the naphthalene series.

Naphthalic (næfθæ·lik), *a. Chem.* [f. as NAPHTHAL-INE + -IC.] Pertaining to, or derived from, naphthaline; esp. *naphthalic acid* = *phthalic acid*: see PHTHALIC *a.*

1838 T. THOMSON *Chem. Org. Bodies* 27 Naphthalic acid was discovered and described by M. Laurent. 1859 *Chamb. Jrnl.* XI. 211 An abominable naphthalic fluid, which is to blind and suffocate the enemy.

Naphtha·lidine. *Chem.* [f. as prec. + -ID + -INE 5.] = NAPHTHYLAMINE.

1848 FOWNES *Elem. Chem.* (ed. 2) 503 Naphthalidam, perhaps better called naphthalidine, forms numerous crystallizable salts. 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem., Org.* 574 Each compound yields an azotised base; naphthalidine, or naphthylamine..being that furnished from nitro-naphthalin.

Naphthaline (næ·fθălin). *Chem.* Also -in. [f. NAPHTHA + *-l-* + -INE 5: named by Kidd.] A white crystalline substance, having a peculiar smell and pungent taste, usually obtained as a product in the distillation of coal-tar.

First noticed in 1819 by Garden (*Annals Phil.* XV. 74-5) and Brande (*Q. Jrnl. Sci.*, etc. VIII. 287).

α. 1821 KIDD in *Phil. Trans.* CXI. 209 Observations on Naphthaline, a peculiar substance resembling a concrete essential oil. 1857 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex.* 619 When Coal-tar is subjected to distillation, naphthaline passes over after coal naphtha. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 742 Naphthaline is another useful intestinal disinfectant.

β. 1836-41 BRANDE *Chem.* (ed. 5) 553 When chlorine is passed over naphthalin, heat is evolved. 1889 *Lancet* 28 Sept. 659/2 Naphthalin finely powdered and well spread ..has its disinfecting power increased.

b. *attrib.*, esp. with names of colours.

1874 tr. *Lommel's Light* 189 In Naphthalin red..there are rays of low refrangibility. 1891 *Syd. Soc. Lex.* s.v. *Naphthalene*, This dye, together with naphthalin rose and naphthalin scarlet, are known as varieties of Magdala red.

Naphthalize (næ·fθălaiz), *v.* [f. as NAPHTHAL-INE + -IZE.] *trans.* To mingle, saturate, or impregnate with naphtha. Hence **Na·phthalized** *ppl. a.*, **Na·phthalizing** *vbl. sb.*

1842 *Mech. Mag.* XXXVI. 392 Naphthalizing Coal Gas. 1844 *Illustr. Lond. News* 30 Nov. 346/1 The advantages of naphthalised gas. *c* 1865 LETHEBY in *Orr's Circ. Sci.* I. 107/2 The other constituents of coal-naphtha..are not so fit for the purpose of naphthalising.

So **Naphthaliza·tion.**

c 1865 LETHEBY in *Orr's Circ. Sci.* I. 125/2 The intensity of the light may be brought up to any degree by the usual process of naphthalisation.

Na·phthalol. *Chem.* [-OL.] (See quot. 1897.)

1891 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 742, *β* Naphthol and its compound with salicylic acid, called naphthalol or betol.

Naphtha·mein(e. *Chem.* [Cf. *Naphthylamine.*] Naphthaline violet; a coal-tar colour, in the form of a light amorphous powder, obtained from naphthylamine. 1891 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

† **Na·phthe.** *Obs.* In 4 napte, 7 napthe, naphte. [Cf. F. *naphte.*] Naphtha.

1382 WYCLIF *Dan.* iii. 46 To tende the fourneis with napte, herdis of hemp, and pitche. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* III. ii. II. i, His eyes are like a balance.., his affection tinder or napthe itself. 1662 J. DAVIES tr. *Olearius' Voy. Ambass.* 237 In these Fire-works, the Persians make use of white Naphte, which is a kind of Petreolum.

Naphthene (næ·fθīn). *Chem.* [f. NAPHTH-A + -ENE.] A liquid hydrocarbon contained in naphtha.

1849 CRAIG s.v. *Naphtha*, Native naphtha is composed of three liquids, namely—naphtha.., naphthene.., and napthole [*sic*]. 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem., Org.* 581.

Naphthol (næ·fθol). *Chem.* [f. NAPHTH-A + -OL.] One of two phenols of naphthaline, distinguished as *α* (*or* alpha) naphthol and *β* (*or* beta) naphthol; the latter is employed in the cure of skin-diseases and for other medical purposes. Also *attrib.*

1849 [see NAPHTHENE]. 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem., Org.* 581. 1869 ROSCOE *Elem. Chem.* 422 On heating the aqueous solution of this body, a substance called naphthol, analogous to phenol is formed. 1881 *Athenæum* 10 Dec. 782/3 The action of cold sulphuric acid on *β* naphthol. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 611 A slight friction..with a 5 per cent naphthol ointment.

Na·phthous, *a.* [f. NAPHTH-A + -OUS.] Of the nature of naphtha.

a 1883 CHRISTISON *Life* (1885) I. 395 A naphthous fluid, which Gregory afterwards found to present a great resemblance to native naphtha. 1885 *Harper's Mag.* Feb. 494/2 Naphthous or petroleum mixtures.

Na·phthyl. *Chem.* [f. NAPHTH-A + -YL.] The monatomic radical of naphthylamine. Also *Comb.*

1866 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* 1887 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 9 Apr. 800/1 Naphthyl-sulphite of soda is found in the urine of rabbits to which naphthalene has been administered.

Naphthy·lamine. *Chem.* Also -in. [f. as prec. + AMINE.] A crystalline substance produced by the action of ammonium sulphide, or acetic acid, on an alcoholic solution of nitro-naphthaline.

1857 [see NAPHTHALIDINE]. 1863 FOWNES *Chem.* (ed. 9) 643 Naphthylamine forms numerous crystallizable salts. 1884 *Athenæum* 26 Mar. 433/1 Some sulphanilic acid with some hydrochlorate of naphthylamin [is] added.

Naphthylic (næfθi·lik), *a. Chem.* [f. as prec. + -IC.] Of or containing naphthyl, as in *naphthylic alcohol* = NAPHTHOL.

1883 *Times* 9 Mar., The two isomeric modifications of naphthylic alcohol known as alpha naphthol and beta naphthol.

Na·pier. *rare.* [f. NAP-ERY + -IER: cf. OF. *napier* (Godef.).] = NAPERER.

1880 BURTON *Reign Q. Anne* I. i. 39 The office of napier being attached to a manor held in grand sergeantry by a noble house.

Napierian (nēpī·ĕriăn), *a.* Also **Naperian.** [f. the name of John *Napier* (see next) + -IAN.] Invented by Napier (see LOGARITHM).

1816 tr. *Lacroix's Diff. & Int. Calculus* 26 A system of logarithms, which we shall call Naperian, from the name of Naper their inventor. *c* 1865 *Orr's Circ. Sci.* I. 517/1 This number *e*..is called the base of the Napierian Logarithms.

Napier's bones. Also Nepier's, Naper's. [See def.] Narrow slips of bone, ivory, wood, or other material, divided into compartments marked with certain digits, and used to facilitate the operations of multiplication and division according to a method invented by John Napier of Merchiston (1550-1617). Also occas. called *Napier's rods.*

The method was described by Napier in his book *Rabdologiæ seu Numerationis per Virgulas libri duo* (1615).

a 1658 CLEVELAND *On Ugly Woman* 15 Who would suppose..That crookt *et-cætera's* were Wrinkles, and Five Napiers Bones glew'd to a Wrist, an Hand. 1664 BUTLER *Hud.* II. iii. 1095 A moon-dial, with Napier's bones, And sev'ral constellation stones. 1678 PHILLIPS, *Nepiers Bones* or *Rods.* 1727-38 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Neper's.* 1834 *Edin. Rev.* LIX. 320 The method of calculation invented by Baron Napier,..since called Napier's bones. 1866 *Chambers's Encycl.* VI. 662/2 The contemporaneous invention of logarithms..caused Napier's bones to be overlooked, and they are now scarcely ever used.

Napifo·lious, *a. rare* —°. [f. L. *nāpus* turnip + *folium* leaf.] 'Having leaves like the turnip; turnip-leaved'. 1856 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*

Napiform (nē¹·pifōm), *a.* [f. L. *nāpus* turnip + -FORM.] Having the form, shape, or appearance of a turnip; esp. *Bot.* of roots.

1846-50 A. WOOD *Class-bk. Bot.* 64 The napiform (turnip-shaped) root is another variety of the fusiform. 1882 *Jrnl. Microsc. Sci.* Jan. 8 This *Teleutospore* is a very remarkable body..; when fully formed it is napiform. 1891 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, Napiform cancer.

Naping, *vbl. sb.*: see NAPE *v.*¹

Napkin (næ·pkin), *sb.* Also 5-6 **napkyn,** 5 **namp-, nap(p)ekyn,** 6-7 **napking,** 9 *Sc.* **naipkin**; 6 *Sc.* **neap-, neipkyn,** 9 **neepkin.** [app. f. F. *nappe* NAPE *sb.*² + -KIN. There appears to be no trace of the form in MDu. or Flemish.]

1. A square piece of linen, used at meals to wipe the fingers or lips and to protect one's garments, or to serve certain dishes on; a table-napkin, serviette.

To take sheet and napkin, to sleep and eat (with one). *To stick a napkin under one's chin*, to partake of a meal.

1420 *Inventory* in *Lincoln Chapter Acc. Bk.* A. 2. 30. f. 69, 2 nappekynnes 20 *d.* *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 351/2 Napet, or napekyn, *napella.* *a* 1483 *Liber Niger* in *Househ. Ord.* (1790) 83 All the basyns, ewears, cuppes & napkins. 1513 *Bk. Keruynge* in *Babees Bk.* (1868) 155 Laye your knyues, & set your brede,..your spones, and your napkyns fayre folden besyde your brede. 1555 WATREMAN *Fardle Facions* II. x. 215 Thei [Tartars] neither vse .. table clothe ne napkin. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* III. 116 The Hostesse .. is tied to dresse his meate and give him napkins with like necessaries. 1653 MEWE in Hartlib *Common-w. Bees* (1655) 42 If you please to take a sheet and napkin with me for some time, we shall discourse of this. 1760 FOOTE *Minor* I. Wks. 1799 I. 237 There is not a buck or a turtle devoured within the bills of mortality, but there I may, if I please, stick a napkin under my chin. 1792 A. YOUNG *Trav. France* 277 The idea of dining without a napkin seems ridiculous to a Frenchman. 1841 LANE *Arab. Nts.* I. 123 Each person who is to partake of the repast receives a napkin. 1881 BESANT & RICE *Chapl. of Fleet* I. 149 These she laid on a plate, with bread and salt, and put the whole upon a napkin.

b. A similar piece of linen or other cloth used for other purposes; a small towel.

1687 A. Lovell tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 31 They spread you out a large napkin..upon the said benches, where you sit down. 1810 Clarke *Trav. Russia* (1839) 102/1 They.. present him with a basin, water, and a clean napkin, to wash his hands. 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) III. 656 Like a napkin, always..at hand to clean the mirror.

2. A (pocket-) handkerchief. Now only *Sc.* and *north. dial.*

1530 Palsgr. 247/2 Napkyn for the nose, *mouchoyer.* 1575 Laneham *Let.* (1871) 38 Out of hiz bozome drawne foorth a lappet of his napkin, edged with a blu lace. 1604 Shaks. *Oth.* III. iii. 290, I am glad I haue found this Napkin: This was her first remembrance from the Moore. 1674 Ray *N. C. Words* 34 *Napkin*, a Pocket Hand-Kerchief, so called about Sheffield in Yorkshire. 1755 Forbes *Ajax, Shop Bill* 40 Napkins, as guid's in a' the land, to dight your nib. 1822 Galt *Sir A. Wylie* xiii, A ne'er-do-weel pocket-picker whuppet the napkin out of my pouch. 1884 D. Grant *Lays* 87 She startit, wi' her napkin Pressed to lovely nose an 'een.

fig. 1648 Gage *West Ind.* 1 What judicious eye, that will not be blinded with the napkin of ignorance [etc.].

Phr. 1570 Foxe *A. & M.* (ed. 2) 951/2 It maye well bee a Napkin for my Nose, but I will neuer be ashamed of it.

b. Used to render Gr. σουδάριον (L. *sūdārium*).

1526 Tindale *Luke* xix. 20 Beholde here thy pounde, which I have kepte in a napkyn. — *John* xi. 44 His face was bounde with a napkyn. *Ibid.* xx. 7.

c. Hence in phrases *To hide, lay up, wrap up*, etc. *in a napkin*, in allusion to Luke xix. 20.

1598 R. C. *Household Gov.* Ep. Ded. 2 Or to hide my tallent in a napking. 1698 Fryer *Acc. E. India & P.* 112 This humour of laying up their Talent in a Napkin. 1768–74 Tucker *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 101 We had best..wrap up our bibles as well as our talent of reason in a napkin. 1856 Emerson *Eng. Traits, Wealth* Wks. (Bohn) II. 70 The headlong bias to utility will let no talent lie in a napkin. 1872 Morley *Voltaire* (1886) 7 He never counted truth a treasure to be discreetly hidden in a napkin.

3. *Sc.* A kerchief or neckerchief.

1787 Beattie *Scoticisms* 60 She had a red silk napkin on her head. 1845 Still *Cottar's Sunday* 22 His napkin white she ties wi' cantie care.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as †**napkin-cap**, a small linen cap (*obs.*); **napkin-cheese**, cheese made by straining cream through a bag made of a napkin; †**napkin nook**, the corner of a handkerchief (*obs.*); **napkin-ring**, a ring placed on a table-napkin when rolled up; **napkin-snatching** (see quot. 1823).

1583 *Leg. Bp. St. Androis* 819 Ten pundis stirling furth he tuike, And knit it in a neapkyn nucke. 1746 H. Walpole *Lett.* (1846) II. 154 He then took off his bag, coat, and waistcoat,.. and after some trouble, put on a napkin-cap. 1823 Egan *Grose's Dict. Vulg. Tongue, Napkin-snatching* or Fogle-hunting. Sneaking pocket-handkerchiefs. 1839 *Workwoman's Guide* 275 Checked Napkin Rings. 1865 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 22 May 4 Pastry, preserves, and napkincheeses of their own making.

†**Na·pkin**, *v. Obs.* [f. prec. 2 c.] *trans.* To wrap *up* or hide in or as in a napkin.

1621 Sanderson *Serm.* I. 191 Let every man beware of napkining up the talent, which was delivered him to trade withal. 1657 Owen *Communion Father*, etc. II. x. Wks. 1851 II. 215 When others napkin their talents, as having to do with an austere master. *a* 1680 Charnock *Attrib. God* (1834) II. 693 To napkin up a gift he hath bestowed..is to apply it to a wrong use.

Napkined (næ·pkind), *ppl. a.* [f. Napkin *sb.* and *v.*] Wrapped up in, or covered with, a napkin; provided with, or served on, a napkin, etc. Also *transf.*

1756 Richardson *Corr.* (1804) II. 92 The geniusses,..who studiously in many inexplicable plaits, wrap up their napkin'd talents. 1799 in *Spirit Pub. Jrnls.* III. 103 Or busy waiter ply his napkin'd care. 1822 *Blackw. Mag.* XI. 161 And napkin'd Aldermen May grudge the goût with which the bits descend. 1842 J. Aiton *Domest. Econ.* (1857) 94 Who really enjoys the hot peppered soup, the cold napkined fish..? 1894 Blackmore *Perlycross* 155 Mrs. Gilham appearing with a napkin'd tray.

Na·pkining. Now *rare* or *Obs.* [f. Napkin *sb.* + -ing 1.] Material for napkins.

1640 in Entick *Lond.* (1767) II. 167 Damask for towelling and napkenning. 1696 J. F. *Merchant's Wareho.* 10 If you agree for the Napkenning, the Tabling is three times the bredth, and three times the price. 1714 *French Book Rates* 190 The Pieces of Napkining shall contain 4 Dozen each. 1812 J. Smyth *Pract. of Customs* (1821) 131 Diaper Towelling and Napkining of the manufacture of Silesia.

Naple, obs. form of Apple.

Naple, variant of Navel *sb. Obs.*

Naples (nē·'p'lz). The name of a city in Southern Italy, used to designate various things in some way connected or associated with it.

1. †a. As an epithet of certain diseases: (see Neapolitan *a.*). *Obs.*

1507 *Extr. Aberd. Reg.* (1844) I. 437 Item, that diligent inquisitioun be takin of ale infect personis with this strange seiknes of Nappillis. 1596 Barrough *Meth. Physick* (ed. 3) 361 The frenchmen at that siege got the buttons of Naples (as we terme them) which doth much annoy them at this day. 1656 *Roxb. Ball.* (1899) IX. c*, A Brewer may gett a Naples face.

b. *Fustian of Naples*: see Fustian A. 1 c.

c. *Naples biscuit* or *cake.* ? *Obs.*

1699 Evelyn *Acetaria* (1729) 53 Make them into Cakes or Loaves cut long-wise, in shape of Naples-Biscuit. 1760–72 H. Brooke *Fool of Qual.* (1809) I. 131, I broke some Naples biscuit into a cup. *Ibid.* II. 6 He ordered up a bottle of sack and some Naples cakes. 1769 Mrs. Raffald *Eng. House-kpr.* (1778) 261 A nutmeg and two Naples biscuits.

d. *Star of Naples*, the Star of Bethlehem. *Naples radish* (see quot.). *Naples spider*, the Tarantula.

1760 J. Lee *Introd. Bot.* App. 320 Naples, Star of, *Ornithogalum.* 1763 Mills *Pract. Husb.* IV. 38 The Naples radish, which has a very white, round, small, and sweet root. 1840 Hood *Kilmansegg, Birth* xvii, Even some old ones appear'd to have had A bite from the Naples Spider.

2. **Naples yellow**, a yellow pigment in the form of a fine powder, prepared from antimony, and originally manufactured at Naples; also, the colour produced by this.

1738 tr. *Lairesse & Fritsch's Art Painting* 159 With purple or Violet agrees Naples-yellow. 1774 in Willis & Clark *Cambr.* (1886) II. 42 To wash the plain parts of the Cieling and Walls in the Chapel a Naples yellow. 1801 *Encycl. Brit.* Suppl. II. 292/2 About the nature of the substance called Naples yellow there has been much diversity of opinion. 1839 T. H. Fielding *Painting in Oil & Water Col.* 114 Naples Yellow is in great use at the present day.

Napless (næ·plĕs), *a.* [f. Nap *sb.*3 + -less.] Having no nap, worn, thread-bare.

1596 Nashe *Saffron Walden* T 2 b, Those two [authors] he hath wrought reasonably vpon, hauing worne the first.. naplesse. 1607 Shaks. *Cor.* II. i. 250 Neuer would he Appear i' th' Market place, nor on him put The Naples Vesture of Humilitie. *a* 1763 Shenstone *Econ.* iii. Wks. 1764 I. 304 His only coat,..napless, as an heath..by fleecy myriads graz'd. 1812 Colman *Br. Grins, Two Parsons* lxxx, Brushed against his sleeve his napless hat. 1841 J. T. Hewlett *Parish Clerk* II. 268 An old black coat, napless, not from frequent brushing, but continual wear.

Hence **Na·plessness.**

1880 Mrs. C. Reade *Brown Hand* I. i. 41 She looks down at the carpet—not to sigh over its naplessness.

Napoleon (năpōu·lĭ̆ŏn). [a. F. *napoléon*, f. the Christian name of certain Emperors of the French, esp. *Napoleon I* (1769–1821).]

1. A gold coin issued by Napoleon I, of the value of twenty francs; a twenty-franc piece. *Double napoleon*, a forty-franc piece.

1814 Shelley in Dowden *Life* (1886) I. 445, I sold my watch, chain, etc., which brought eight napoleons, five francs. 1815 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 104 The French generals and children gave him a double Napoleon each. 1823 Byron *Juan* xv. vii, Bright as a new Napoleon from its mintage. 1887 Ruskin *Præterita* II. 251 The little gems of picture cost a napoleon each.

2. A particular make of top-boot. Also *attrib.*

1860 *All Year Round* No. 64. 331 A very excellent dress for mounted soldiers, is the ordinary hunting 'Napoleon' boot, pulled over trousers [etc.]. 1860 Whyte Melville *Mkt. Harb.* (1861) 58 They..caused one of his intimate friends who particularly piqued himself on 'boots', to..relapse into 'Napoleons' in disgust.

3. *U. S.* A particular kind of cannon.

1863 *Life Stonewall Jackson* 120 Pelham was sent forward with two guns, a Blakely and a Napoleon.

4. A card-game. See Nap *sb.*6 2.

1876 'Capt. Crawley' *Card Player's Man.* 242 If..he declare five..he is said to go the Napoleon, whether he win or lose. 1887 *All Year Round* 5 Feb. 68 Euchre, finding its way back to Paris, was simplified..into Napoleon.

Hence also **Napoleo·nic** *a.*, pertaining or relating to, connected with, characteristic of, Napoleon; **Napoleo·nically** *adv.*, after the manner of Napoleon; **Napo·leonism**, (*a*) the methods of government practised by Napoleon; (*b*) attachment to the policy or dynasty of the Napoleons; **Napo·leonist**, *sb.* an adherent of Napoleon or the Napoleonic dynasty; *a.* pertaining or attached to Napoleon; **Napoleoni·stic** *a.*, Napoleonic; **Napo·leonize** *v.*, to govern in the style of Napoleon.

1863 Dicey *Federal St.* II. 23 With that affectation of the *Napoleonic style he was so partial to. 1886 Swinburne *Misc.* 122 Tyrants of a type devoid even of Napoleonic pretention to glory. 1865 Sala in *Reader* 337/2 A moustache quite *Napoleonically spiked. 1892 *National Observer* 10 Dec. 80/2 His methods were Napoleonically simple. 1831 Arnold *Let.* in Stanley *Life* (1844) I. 266 To strangle in the birth the first symptoms of *Napoleonism. 1865 *Sat. Rev.* 14 Jan. 35/2 Napoleonism will be..at least an intermittent fever with the French. 1842 Brande *Dict. Sci.*, etc. 805/2 The unparalleled flatteries of the *Napoleonists. 1861 M. Arnold *Educ. France* 36 Disliked as a Napoleonist creation by the Bourbons. 1877 M. M. Grant *Sun Maid* ii, His features were of the type *Napoleonistic. 1822 *Examiner* 355/1 France must again be *Napoleonized, that is to say, made once more essentially military. 1877 Owen *Wellesley's Desp.* p. xxii, The complex..antagonism of England and revolutionary and Napoleonized France.

Napo·leonite. *Min.* [f. as prec. + -ite 1.] A variety of feldspar, orthoclase.

1836 T. Thomson *Min., Geol.* etc. I. 291 Felspar..: moonstone, napoleonite, necronite. 1866 Watts *Dict. Chem.* IV.

Nappe, obs. form of Nap.

Napped (næpt), *ppl. a.* Also 5 **noppyd**, 7 **nap'd, napp'd**, 7, 9 **napt**. [f. Nap *v.*2 Cf. Da. *noppet*, Norw. *nappad.*] Of cloth: Having a nap.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 358/1 Noppyd, *villosus.* 1676 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1137/4 One Sute of gray cloaths, the Coat nap'd. 1760–72 H. Brooke *Fool of Qual.* (1809) II. 34 He..was dressed in a plain napped coat. 1848 Buckley *Iliad* 295 A chest filled with garments, and napped tapestry.

transf. 1869 Blackmore *Lorna D.* (1891) 230 A branching stick, napped with moss all around the sides.

Nappekyn, obs. form of Napkin *sb.*

Napper1 (næ·pəɹ). *rare.* [f. Nap *v.*1 + -er 1.] One who naps or takes a nap.

c 1400 *Rowland & O.* 288 Chenalrye es fro hym gone, A nolde nappere als he were. 1728–31 *Lett. fr. Fog's Jrnl.* (1732) II. 103 These are all very moderate Nappers, compared to the famous Seven Sleepers.

Napper2 (næ·pəɹ). *rare.* [f. Nap *v.*2 + -er 1.] One who raises the nap on cloth; a machine for this purpose.

1769 *Dubl. Mercury* 16 Sept. 2/2 The several cotteners and nappers in the city of Dublin. 1884 Knight *Dict. Mech.* Suppl. 627/1 *Napper*, a machine for cleaning, napping, and surfacing hosiery goods.

†**Na·pper**3. *Obs. slang.* [f. Nap *v.*3 + -er 1.] (See quots.)

1653 (*title*) A total Rout of a Pack of Knaves and Drabs, intituled..Nappers, Mobs and Spanners. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Napper*, a Cheat, or Thief.

Napper4 (næ·pəɹ). *dial.* and *slang.* [Of obscure formation.] The head.

1785 Grose *Dict. Vulgar T.* 1800 in *Spirit Pub. Jrnls.* IV. 274 By my soul your napper shall be broke. 1821 *Sporting Mag.* VIII. 233 He..run his napper against a stone wall. 1899 *Speaker* 9 Dec. 253/2 Wooly went off his napper.

Nappern, Napperone, obs. or dial. ff. Apron.

Nappie: see Nappy *sb.* and *a.*

Nappill, -yll, obs. forms of Apple.

Na·ppiness. *rare*−0. [f. Nappy *a.*1 + -ness.] The quality of being nappy; shagginess.

1611 Cotgr., *Veleure*, shag, hairinesse, nappinesse.

Napping (næ·pĭŋ), *vbl. sb.*1 [f. Nap *v.*1 + -ing 1.] The action of sleeping or taking a nap.

c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* cxxxi. 4 ȝif ic sellu slep eȝum minum oððe breȝum minum hneappunge. *a* 1380 *St. Aug.* 486 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1878) 70 Þou seist i schal slep and take napping sone. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xxix. 84 Warne all wightis to be in pees, For I am late layde vnto napping. 1549 Latimer *6th Serm. bef. Edw. VI* (Arb.) 166, I had rather ye should go a napping to the sermons, than not to go at al. 1846 Landor *Imag. Conv., Southey & Landor* Wks. II. 69 This really is no napping; it is heavy snoring.

Na·pping, *vbl. sb.*2 [f. Nap *v.*2] The action of raising a nap on cloth (also *attrib.*); the nap itself; the material employed for the nap of hats.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 358/1 Noppynge, *villositas, villatura.* 1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 635 The first cover of beaver or napping..is strewed equably over the body, and patted on with a brush. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1510/2 *Napping*, a sheet of partially felted fur...It becomes the nap of the hat. *Ibid.*, *Napping-machine*, a machine for raising the nap or pile on woollen and cotton fabrics.

Na·pping, *vbl. sb.*3 [f. Nap *v.*3: see also Knapping *vbl. sb.*] Cheating. Also *attrib.*

1673 R. Head *Canting Acad.* 97 What chance of the Dye is soonest thrown, in topping, slurring, palming, napping. 1700 T. Brown tr. *Fresny's Amusem.* Wks. 1709 III. 71 Assisting the Frail square Dye with high and low Fullums, and other Napping Tricks.

Napping, variant of Knapping *vbl. sb.*

Napping (næ·pĭŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. Nap *v.*1 + -ing 2.] Taking a nap.

a 1650 in *Westm. Gaz.* (1901) 16 May 2/3 How can that Ship but dash on ev'ry shelf, Whose napping Pilot cannot guide himself? 1868 Geo. Eliot *Sp. Gipsy* 243 Nay, I endure nought worse than napping sheep, When nimble birds uproot a fleecy lock To line their nest.

Na·pping, *a. rare*−1. = Nappy *a.*2

c 1685 *Debtford Plumb Cake* in *Bagford Ball.* (1876) 71 With each some Plumb Cake in her hand and Cup of good napping Ale.

Na·ppishness. *rare*−1. [f. Nap *sb.*2 + -ish + -ness.] Sleepiness.

1851 H. Melville *Whale* II. 59 What little nappishness remained in us altogether departed.

Na·ppist. *nonce-wd.* [f. Nap *sb.*5 2 + -ist.] One who is in the habit of playing nap.

1894 Maskelyne *Sharps & Flats* 123 As all 'Nappists' will admit.

Nappy (næ·pi), *sb.*1 Also 9 **nappie**. [sb. use of Nappy *a.*2] Ale; liquor.

1743 *Lond. & Country Brew.* IV. (ed. 2) 283 A regaling Refreshment of good Nappy. 1753 G. Burton in *Mem. Stukeley* (Surtees) I. 407 Nothing can fix his thoughts..but a bottle of old nog or nappy. 1820 Clare *Rural Life* (ed. 3) 90 And while I've sixpence left I'll spend it In cheering nappy. 1882 J. Walker *Auld Reekie* 78 Yonder toon, whase nappy broon Has won the proudest laurels.

Nappy (næ·pi), *sb.*2 *U. S.* [Of obscure origin.] An earthenware or glass dish with sloping sides.

1873 Mrs. Whitney *Other Girls* xxxiii, Kate..producing some nice little stone-ware nappies hot from the hot closet, transferred the food from the china to these.

Nappy (næ·pi), *a.*1 Now *rare.* Also 5–6 **noppy**, 7 **nappie**, 8 **knappy**. [ad. MDu. *noppigh* (Du. *noppig*), or MLG. *noppich*, f. *noppe* Nap *sb.*3] Having a nap; villous, downy, shaggy.

1499 *Promp. Parv.* 358/1 (P.) Noppy or wully, *villosus.* 1530 Palsgr. 319/2 Noppy as clothe is that hath a grosse woffe, *gros.* 1611 Cotgr., *Velu*, hairie, shag, nappie, or of a high nap. 1625 K. Long tr. *Barclay's Argenis* III. iii. 155 The first troupe was of children, in white nappy garments. 1675 Hobbes *Odyssey* (1677) 36 Clothed with soft nappy cloak and coat. 1727 De Foe *Eng. Tradesm.* (1732) II. i. iv. 123 The French wore nappy [1745 knappy] and coarse [cloth]. 1776–96 Withering *Brit. Plants* IV. 197 Pileus rather conical, knappy, yellow. 1823 in *Spirit Pub. Jrnls.* 513 Neither its owner nor itself are any longer nappy. 1904 *Westm. Gaz.* 10 Nov. 4/2 The cloth was slightly nappy.

Nappy (næ·pi), *a.*[2] Also 6 **noppy**, 6–7 **nappie**. [prob. a transferred use of prec.]

1. Of intoxicating liquors, chiefly ale: Having a head, foaming; heady, strong.

α. *a* 1529 Skelton *E. Rummyng* 102 She breweth noppy ale. *Ibid.* 557 This ale, sayde she, is noppy. 1568 Fulwell *Like will to Like* C ij, Heer is a pot of noppy good ale. *β.* 1564 Bullevn *Dial. agst. Pest.* (1573) 108 She had very good nappie ale. 1586 A. Day *Eng. Secretary* I. (1625) 110 His peculiar skill in discerning the nappie taste by the nut-brown colour of Seller-Ale on a frosty morning. 1630 Westcote *Devonshire* 393 It is famous to have..the nappiest ale that can be drunk. 1686 *Loyal Garland* (ed. 5) B 2 b, Let..nappy Ale be ever free To strangers that do come and go. 1714 Gay *Sheph. Week* II. 56 With nappy Beer I to the Barn repair'd. 1807 Crabbe *Par. Reg.* III. 869 Thy coat is thin.., It's worn to th' thread! but I have nappy beer. 1868 Lowell *To J. Bartlett* ix, May Horace send him Massic wine, And Burns Scotch drink, the nappiest.

fig. 1582 Stanyhurst *Æneis* Ded. (Arb.) 4 Such leauinges as wee haue of Ennius his ragged verses..sauoure soomwhat nappy of thee spigget. 1592 Nashe *Four Lett. Confut.* 27 Plucking Elderton out of the ashes of his Ale, and not letting him inioy his nappie muse of ballad making.

b. Applied to a bottle or cup.

c 1700 in Maidment *Pasquils* (1868) 409 A bottle that is both whyte and nappie. 1789 Shirrefs *Poems* (1790) 214 [They] ca'd abont the nappy cup, To keep their wanton spirits up.

2. Slightly intoxicated or exhilarated by drink.

1721 Amherst *Terræ Filius* No. 41. 216 So many Traitors we drank, it made my cranium nappy. 1776 *Patie's Wedding* in Herd *Coll. Songs* II. 191 When that the carles grew nappy, They danc'd as weel as they dow'd. 1825 in Brockett *N. C. Gloss.* 188a in *Lancs Gloss.*

Naprie, -y, etc., obs. forms of Napery.

Napron(ne, -oun, -un(e, obs. ff. Apron.

Napta, obs. form of Naphtha.

† Nap-taking, *a.* *Obs. rare* —[1]. [irreg. f. Nap *v.*[1]] That takes one napping; unexpected.

1602 Carew *Cornwall* 158 b, Besides such nap-taking assaults, spoylings, and firings haue in our forefathers daies, between vs and Fraunce, beene very common.

Napte, Napthe: see Naphthe.

Naptha, variant of Naphtha.

Napu (nā·pu). [a. Malay نڤو *nāpu*.] The musk-deer of Java and Sumatra.

1820 Raffles in *Trans. Linn. Soc.* (1822) XIII. 261 *Moschus.* The Malays distinguish three species or varieties of this genus, viz. the Napu,..the Kanchil..,and the Pelandok. 1870 Nicholson *Man. Zool.* (1875) 614 The musk-gland is wanting in the Napu (*Moschus Javanicus*) of Java.

† Naquaire. *Obs. rare.* In 6 **nak-, nauquayre**. [a. F. *naquaire*, obs. var. of *nacaire*: see Naker *sb.*[1]] A naker, kettledrum.

1523 Ld. Berners *Froiss.* I. cxlvii. 176 The kyng..entred into the towne with trumpets, tabours, nakquayres & hornyes. 1530 Palsgr. 247/2 Nanquayre a kynde of instrument, *naquair*.

Na-quar, -quhare, obs. forms of Nowhere.

Na-quil(e, variants of Nowhile *Obs.*

Na-quiper, obs. form of Nowhither.

Nar, *a.* *Obs.* exc. *north. dial.* Forms: 1 **nearra, neorra, nerra, nærra**, 3–5 **nerre**, 4 **nerr**, 4, 6 **ner**; 6–7 **narre**, 7 **narr**, 6, 9 **nar**. Also *compar.* 4 **nerrer**, 6 (9) **narer**, 9 *dial.* **narder**; *superl.* 4–6 **nerrest**, (6 **-ast**), 6–7 **narrest**. [OE. *néarra* etc., comparative of *néah* Nigh; but in ME. perh. partly from ON. *nærre, nærri* adj. (see next). The ME. compar. *nerrer* and superl. *nerrest* have been formed on *nerre* as if it were a positive form.] Nearer, nigher.

1. In attributive use. († In OE. also = later.) In mod. dial. only in *nar horse, leg, side*, and occas. in other senses of the positive *near*.

c 893 K. Ælfred *Oros.* I. i, On hire westhealfe is seo us nearre Ægyptus. *c* 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* II. xv, His ða nerran [*v.r.* nearran, neorran] tide wæron wyrsan þam ærran. *c* 975 *Rushw. Gosp.* Matt. xxi. 31 Se æftera *vel* nærra [L. *novissimus*]. *c* 1200 Ormin 15691 For þatt te33 wærenn off hiss kinn & tærþurrh nerre breþre. *c* 1305 in *Pop. Treat. Sci.* 133 So that the sonne..schyneth on the nerre half in thulke that ner him is. 1429 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 342/2 Paied ..atte a rather and nerre day. 1565 Cooper *Thesaurus* s.v. *Propius, Gradu sanguinis propior*, Nerre kinne. 1607 Markham *Caval.* II. (1617) 5 The farre fore-foote, and the narre hinder foot. *Ibid.* IV. 9 You shall linke together his [the horse's] left legges, which we call his narre legges. 1659 *Indenture, Goosnargh, Lancs*, 2 closes..called narr or nearer croft and the further croft. 1736 —, *Sheffield*, The narr stubbed piece,..the far stubbed piece. 1863 Atkinson *Prov. Danby, Nar-side*, the lefthand side (of a horse or team). 1871 E. Peacock *Ralf Skirl.* II. 108 A hos..brok' his nar fore-leg in two places. 1899 Dickinson & Prevost *Cumbld. Gloss.* s.v., The left-hand or nar horse walks on the land, when ploughing two abreast.

b. In superlative. Nearest.

c 1470 Henry *Wallace* IX. 421 Eftir he gaiff stayt to his nerrest ayr. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* xxxiii. 25 In Scotland than, the narrest way, He come. 1563 Winȝet *Four Scoir Thre Quest.* Wks. (S.T.S.) I. 96 Ysurping (as..hir Grace's nerrest freindis thocht) hir Hienes auctorite. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* Prol. 7 To the vse of thair nychtbours and nerrest natiouns. 1609 Skene *Reg. Maj.* 33 Some are narrest heires, some are farther.

2. In predicative use. Occas. const. *to*.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 233 Ho was me nerre þen aunte or nece. 1362 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. XI. 250 ȝet am I neuere þe ner, for nou3t I haue walkid. 1382 Wyclif *Ruth* iii. 12 Ne I denye me to be ny3, but there is another nerre than Y. 1413 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton 1483) I. iii. 4 It semyd me moche more nerre than it was byfore. 1461 *Paston Lett.* I. 542 He answered ageyn in these wordes, 'Nere is my kyrtyl but nerre is my smok'. *a* 1542 Wyatt in *Tottel's Misc.* (Arb.) 58 Your sighes yow fet from farre,..Yet ar ye nere the narre. 1579 Spenser *Sheph. Cal.* July 97 To Kerke the narre, to God more farre, has bene an old sayd sawe. 1868 Brierley *Irkdale* xiii. 198 (Lancs Gloss.), Letten somb'dy else be nar to him nor me.

b. In forms *nerrer*, etc. and in superlative.

c 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 10626 His neuew he ys,..Of blod ys non nerrer þan he. 1340 Hampole *Pr. Consc.* 9237 Alle þas..When þai com þar sal be hym nerrest. Þe nerrer þat þai sal hym be [etc.]. 1570 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xii. 181 Feche Leuenox hame, ȝe haif nane narer nor he. 1869 Gibson *Folk-speech Cumbld.* 31 Mebbe I wad be narder t' truth.

Nar, *adv.* (and *prep.*) *Obs.* exc. *north. dial.* and *Sc.* Forms: 4–5 **nerre**, 4–6 **nerr**, 5–6 **ner**; 4–7 **narre**, 5–6 **nare**, 5–6, 9 **nar**, 9 *dial.* **naar, naur**. Also *compar.* 4 **nerrer**, (5 **-ere**), **nerþere**, 5 **narrere**. [ME. *nerre*, ad. ON. *nærre, nærri* adv., 'nearer, near', compar. of *ná-* 'nigh', used only in combs. as *ná-búi* neighbour.]

1. Nearer, nigher, closer. (Cf. Near *adv.*[1])

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 12366 Þe folk stod and behild o-ferr, For leons durst þai cum na nerr. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* C. 85 At alle peryles, quoth þe prophete I aproche bit no nerre. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 314 This Flete..The bryghte fyres sih a ferr, And thei hem drowen nerr and nerr. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* ix. 62 Telle hym I wol come no narre. 1470–85 Maloay *Arthur* xx. xxii. 838 Thenne Syr Launcelot stode nerre syr Gauwayn, and..doubled hys strokes. 1562 Cooper *Answ. Def. Truth* (1850) 52 That he might press upon you somewhat narre than other before had used. 1591 Harington *Orl. Fur.* II. xlii, Still, as I approcht a little narre, More wonderfull the building doth appeare. 1703 Thoresby *Let. to Ray, Nar*, nearer. 1857 J. Scholes *Jaunt* 19 (Lancs Gloss.), Aw hardly know iv aw awt to ventur ony narr.

b. In forms *nerrer, narrer*, etc.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xvi. (*Magdalene*) 932 Þe bischape for rednes Durste cum na narrere. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Serm.* Sel. Wks. I. 63 Þei shulden sue Crist in poverte, nerrer þan oþir comounes. *Ibid.* II. 101 Ech man shulde sue him or ferþere or nerþere. *c* 1400 Maunoev. (1839) iv. 30 Whoso wil..come nerrer to Jerusalem. *c* 1450 Lovelich *Grail* xlvi. 243 He dressed hym to haven a syhte, Nerrere than he scholde han do.

2. Near, nigh, close (to).

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 4551 þan cald þe king ioseph nerr. *Ibid.* 17288 + 387 Als þai come narre þe castelle. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 9610 He somounde firste þo til his werre, þat deyned nought for Lot come nerre. *a* 1352 Minot *Poems* (ed. Hall) x. 15 Wight men of þe west neghed þam nerr. *c* 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 1017 Thair with the nobill in neid nyghit hym ner. 1519 Horman *Vulg.* 27 Sume se but narre. 1560 Rolland *Crt. Venus* I. 516 Sclander and schame euer to it drawis nar. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* Prol. 40 Sche..cumis nevir ner thame. 1647 H. More *Song of Soul* II. App. lxxxii, Besides that firie flame that was so narre The Planets self. *a* 1833 R. Anderson *Cumbld. Ball.* (*c* 1850) 93 Lads aw nar us are weyld fops an fuils. 1867 Waugh *Owd Blanket* iv. 95 They begun a-drawin' nar to th' heawse.

b. Nearly, almost. *rare.*

13.. *Cursor M.* 7012 (Gött.), Fourti thousand of Israele, Of beniamyn nerr [*Cott.* negh] als fele. 1859 A. Whitehead *Leg. Westmld.* 6 (E.D.D. s.v. *Near*), An flay'd poor Brittons nar to death. 1871 Alexander *Johnny Gibb* xviii. 136 A chap or twa, naar grippit braid i' the crood.

† **Nar**, are not: see Ne and Be *v.* *Obs.*

c 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 7656 In al Saxonye nar [*v.r.* ere] non þem lyk. *Ibid.* 16501 þat we nar [*v.r.* ne are] worþy a-geyn be cald To penaunce. *c* 1330 *Amis & Amil.* 597 Kinges sones..Nar non to gode to the.

† **Nar**, were not, variant of Nere. *Obs.*

c 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 2464 So bliþe al bi dene Nar þai neuer are. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 6137 (Kölbing), Þo nar þo wiþ king Arthour Bot to & fourti. *c* 1440 Lydg. *Hors, Shepe & G.* 112 The hesi Marchant..Nar [*v.r.* Ner] shippis & hors coude make no cariage.

† **Nar**, in *nar nar*, an imitation of the growling of a dog (cf. Narr *v.*). *Obs. rare* —[1].

1509 Barclay *Shyp of Folys* (1570) 69 Though all be well, yet he none aunswere hath Saue the dogges letter, glowming with nar nar.

Nar, variant of Ner, nor. *Obs.*

Narawe, obs. variant of Arrow.

Narceia (nɑɹsī·ă). *Chem.* [f. Gr. *νάρκη* numbness + -ia[1]: cf. next.] = Narceine.

1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVI. 87/2 The stronger and concentrated acids decompose narceia. 1857 Miller *Elem. Chem., Org.* 277 The formula of narceia..differs from that of ordinary narcotine, in containing four equivalents more of water. 1874 Garrod & Baxter *Mat. Med.* 201 Narceia is very insoluble, and irritates the skin at the point of injection.

Narceine (nā·ɹsĭin, -ɔin). *Chem.* Also **-in**. [a. F. *narcéine* (Pelletier, 1832), f. Gr. *νάρκη* numbness, deadness: see -ine[6].] A bitter crystalline alkaloid obtained from opium, sometimes used in medicine as a substitute for morphia.

1834 *Cycl. Pract. Med.* III. 152/2 The active principles, the meconate of morphia, the narceine, and narcotina. 1864 *Syd. Soc. Year-bk. Med. for* 1863, 430 Codein, narceine and thebaine produce violent and even tetanic spasms. 1875 H. C. Wood *Therap.* (1879) 229 Decidedly larger doses of narcein than of morphia are required to obtain any action.

Narciss (nɑɹsi·s). Also 6 **-cyss**, 6–9 **-cisse**. [ad. L. *Narciss-us* or a. F. *Narcisse*.] = Narcissus.

1586 W. Webbe *Eng. Poetrie* (Arb.) 78 White violets sweete Nais plucks and bloomes fro the Poppies, Narcysse, and dyll flowres most sweete. 1597 Gerarde *Herbal* I. lxxxvi. 137 The mountain Rush leaved Narcisse with an indented or curled cup. 1660 Sharrock *Vegetables* 80 Narcisses and Crocuses are commonly taken up first. 1825 Hone *Every-day Bk.* I. 18 Apr., Musk Narcisse, *Narcissus moschatus*. 1838 *Blackw. Mag.* XLIII. 255 Sappho's scant but blooming rose—the rich narciss of Melanippides. 1880 S. Hibberd in *N. & Q.* 6th Ser. I. 412/2 In other sections of the narciss family, yellow is the predominant colour. *Ibid.* 423/1 This term is never applied to a narciss.

Narci·ssine, *a.* *rare*—[0]. [ad. L. *narcissin-us* (Pliny), ad. Gr. *ναρκίσσινος*.] Of or pertaining to the plant Narcissus.

1656 Blount *Glossogr.* [hence in later Dicts.].

Narcissus (nɑɹsi·sŭs). *Bot.* Pl. **narcissi** (and **narcissuses**). [a. L. *narcissus* (Virgil, etc.), ad. Gr. *νάρκισσος*, acc. to Pliny and Plutarch f. *νάρκη* numbness, in reference to the heavy or narcotic effects produced by it.] A genus of the order *Amaryllidaceæ*, containing many species; a plant of this genus; now esp. *Narcissus poeticus*, a bulbous plant, flowering in spring and bearing a heavily scented single white flower with an undivided corona edged with crimson and yellow.

1548 Turner *Names Herbes* (E. D. S.) 55 Narcissus is of diuerse sortes. 1562 — *Herbal* II. 62 Narcissus hath a narrow lefe, many together and fat. 1578 Lyte *Dodoens* 209 There are two very faire and beautifull kindes of Narcissus. 1596 Nashe *Saffron Walden* 73 Like the doure Narcissus, hauing flowres onely at the roote. 1613 Davors *Secrets of Angling* I. xxxvii, Red Hyacinth, and yealow Daffadill, Purple Narcissus, like the morning rayes. 1638 Milton *Lycidas* 148 Wks. (ed. Todd) V. 58 *note*, Next, adde Narcissus that still weeps in vaine. *c* 1709 Prior *2nd Hymn Callimachus* 99 The yellow crocus there, and fair narcissus. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XII. 635/1 The..poetic daffodil, or common white narcissus, is well known. 1820 Shelley *Sensit. Pl.* I. 18 Narcissi, the fairest among them all. 1829 Landor *Imag. Conv., Epicurus*, etc. Wks. 1853 I. 503/1 Laden with hyacinths and narcissuses, anemones and jonquils. 1873 'Ouida' *Pascarel* I. 22 At every step they trampled a bright narcissus under foot.

Comb. 1885 *Cassell's Encycl. Dict.*, Narcissus-flowered Anemone, *Anemone narcissiflora*.

Narcolepsy (nā·ɹkŏlepsi). *Path.* Also **-lepsia**. [f. *narco-* as comb. form of Gr. *νάρκη* numbness + *-lepsy* as in Epilepsy.] A nervous disease characterized by short and frequently recurring attacks of somnolence; also, the somnolent state which often precedes an attack of epilepsy.

1888 *Lancet* 28 Jan. 188/2 Narcolepsia consists in sudden attacks of deep sleep lasting some minutes. 1894 *Ibid.* 3 Nov. 1065/1 A case of narcolepsy, the subject being a soldier who suffered daily from sudden attacks of somnolence. 1898 *Pop. Sci. Monthly* LII. 558 Among rarer forms of pathological sleep the author discusses narcolepsy.

Narcomania (nā·ɹkŏmē·niă). *Path.* [f. as prec. + -mania.] An uncontrollable craving for narcotic drugs.

1888 N. Kerr *Inebriety* 34, I propose to call this abnormal state, especially in its marked maniacal forms, by the comprehensive name—Narcomania. 1896 *Daily News* 19 June 6/3 No man is better acquainted with all developments of narcomania than Dr. Norman Kerr.

Hence **Narcoma·niac**, one who suffers from narcomania; **Narcoma·niacal** *a.*

1888 N. Kerr *Inebriety* Index, Narcomaniacs often driven against will. 1889 *Ibid.* (ed. 2) 74 Narcomaniacal untruth.

Narcosis (nɑɹkō·sis). *Path.* [a. Gr. *νάρκωσις*, f. *ναρκοῦν* to benumb.] The production of a narcotic state († or the quality of producing this); the operation or effects of narcotics upon the system; a state of insensibility.

1693 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Narcosis*, a privation of Sense as in a Palsie, or in taking of Opium, &c. 1697 *Phil. Trans.* XIX. 383 The Narcosis of Opium, for Example, is gone or separated, because the dryed juice.. smells not so strong. 1753 Chambers *Cycl. Supp.*, *Narcosis*, a stupefaction or insensible state, whether brought on by medicines, or happening from natural causes. 1863 *Macm. Mag.* Oct. 461 By Narcosis I..mean exclusively the action of large doses of the substances called Narcotics upon the organism. 1872 Hamilton *Nervous Dis.* 72 This follows profound narcosis by alcohol or opium.

Narcotia (nɑɹkō·ʃiă). [f. Narcot-ic *a.* + -ia.] = Narcotine.

1876 Harley *Mat. Med.* (ed. 6) 765 Opium contains from 6 to 8 per cent. of Narcotia or Narcotine.

Narcotic (nɑɹkɒ·tik), *sb. Med.* Also 4 **ner-**, 4–5 **-ike**, (**-yke**), 7–8 **-ick**. [ad. F. *narcotique* (14th c.), or med.L. *narcōtic-um*, Gr. *ναρκωτικ-όν*, neut. of *ναρκωτικός*: see next.] A substance which when swallowed, inhaled, or injected into the system induces drowsiness, sleep, stupefaction, or insensibility, according to its strength and the amount taken.

c 1385 Chaucer *L. G. W.* 2670 *Hypermnestra*, He shal slepe as longe as euere the leste, The narcotykis & opijs ben so stronge. *c* 1386 — *Knt.'s T.* 614 With narcotikes and opie of Thebes fyn. 1412–20 Lydg. *Chron. Troy* II. x. Narcotikes that cause men to slepe. 1655 Culpepper, etc. *Riverius* I. ii. 10 A sleeping Disease is got by the too frequent use of Medicines called Narcoticks, that do produce sleep. 1677 Plot *Oxfordsh.* 60 Boetius holds it to be a good narcotick, and that it safely may be given to procure sleep. 1702 J. Purcell *Cholick* (1714) 123 The Pain may be eas'd ..by Anodins and Narcoticks. 1834 *Cycl. Pract. Med.* III. 149/2 The nerves most particularly affected by narcotics are the respiratory. 1846 J. Baxter *Libr. Pract. Agric.* (ed. 4) I. 405 The hop is a useful narcotic, and the smell of its flowers soporific. 1878 M. L. Holbrook *Hygiene Brain* 62 Take no narcotics to make you sleep.

Narcotic (nɑɪkɒ'tik), *a.* Also 7-8 -ick(e, 8 -ique. [ad. med.L. *narcōtic-us* or Gr. *ναρκωτικ-ός*, f. *ναρκοῦν* to benumb, stupefy: see NARCOSIS and -OTIC. Hence also F. *narcotique*.]

1. Of substances or their qualities: Having the effect of inducing stupor, sleep, or insensibility.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 103 This later Daffodil..stuffeth the head, for which narcoticke qualitie..it took the name in Greek Narcissus. *Ibid., Explan. Words Art*, Narcoticke medicines be those that benum and stupifie with their coldnesse. 1651 FRENCH *Distill.* v. 116 Three parts of four of them are an insipid Narcotick flegme. *a* 1668 DAVENANT *Masque* Wks. (1673) 364 Injunctions are gone out ..for the purging of the heavenly Beverage of a narcotique weed. 1742 *London & Country Brew.* I. (ed. 4) 47 The stupifying narcotic Qualities of the Yeast. 1799 *Med. Jrnl.* I. 161 The narcotic principle is contained chiefly in those vegetables which..have a direct tendency to induce sleep. 1804 *Ibid.* XII. 38 Hyosciamus, cicuta, and other narcotic and acrimonious plants. 1865 KINGSLEY *Herew.* iii, Stupid with mead made from narcotic heather honey.

b. *transf.* of persons, actions, qualities, etc.: Producing sleep or dullness.

1751 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 89 ? 8 He that finds the frigid and narcotick infection beginning to seize him. *a* 1763 SHENSTONE *Economy* III. 95 Pale, meagre, muse-rid wight! who reads in vain Narcotic volumes o'er. 1791 BOSWELL *Johnson* (1816) II. 109 That it endeavoured to infuse a narcotick indifference..into the minds of the people..is but too evident. 1855 MOTLEY *Dutch Rep.* v. iv. (1866) 729 He..habitually fell asleep at that horrible council-board,..while the other murderers had found their work less narcotic. 1888 LANCIANI *Anc. Rome* 113 To lose hours upon hours in listening to silly and narcotic lecturers.

2. Of the nature of narcosis.

1661 LOVELL *Hist. Anim. & Min.* 335 It's cured..if malignant, venenate, and narcotick, by alexipharmicks, and roborants. 1834 *Cycl. Pract. Med.* III. 160/2 It is not the repetition of sound, but of the same sound, which produces the narcotic effect. 1863 M. HOWITT tr. *Bremer's Greece* II. xii. 52 The want of animation and movement..exercises a slumberous, narcotic effect on the mind.

Narcotical (nɑɪkɒ'tikăl), *a.* Now *rare.* [f. prec. + -AL.] Of a narcotic nature; soporific.

1587 HARMER tr. *Beza's Serm.* 421 Medicines which they call narcotical, that is to say such as benowme and ded the diseased. 1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 49 b/2, We must endevoure to mitigate the payne with Narcoticall thinges. 1657 TOMLINSON *Renou's Disp.* 113 Soft confections,..purging or narcoticall. 1695 WESTMACOTT *Script. Herb.* 25 The Chymical Oyl of Box-wood [is]..look'd upon to be highly Narcotical. 1831 *Fraser's Mag.* III. 770 [He] drugged the readers..with narcotical essays upon currency.

Hence **Narco'tically** *adv.*; **Narco'ticalness** (Ogilvie, 1850).

1654 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 222 As those things do, that passe for narcotically cold. 1811 BYRON *Hints fr. Hor.* 733 Hark to those notes, narcotically soft! The cobbler-laureats sing. 1890 *Blackw. Mag.* CLXVIII. 22/1 The oppressive atmosphere of a narcotically perfumed boudoir.

Narco'ticism. *rare.* [f. NARCOTIC *a.* + -ISM.] Narcotism.

1822 *Monthly Mag.* LIII. 199/2 Those who eat them to excess were affected..with a kind of stupor and narcoticism. 1899 *Two Worlds* 6 Jan. 1/2 Souls who, in their earth life, allowed narcoticism to control them.

Narco'ticness. *rare* −1. [f. NARCOTIC *a.* + -NESS.] Narcoticalness.

1651 R. CHILD in *Hartlib's Legacy* (1655) 137 It taketh away the appetite, not by real satiating, but by its Narcotickness deluding nature. 1727 BAILEY vol. II. (hence in later Dicts.), *Narcotickness*, stupifying..Quality.

Narco'tico-a'crid, *a.* and *sb. Med.* [f. *narcotico-* as combining form of NARCOTIC *a.* + ACRID *a.* Cf. F. *narcotico-âcre.*]

A. *adj.* Possessing both narcotic and acrid or irritant properties.

1835 *Cycl. Pract. Med.* IV. 230/1 The symptoms which characterize the narcotico-acrid poisons generally. 1854 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 8) V. 180/2 They have narcotico-acrid properties and are usually more or less poisonous. 1861 BENTLEY *Man. Bot.* 582 The plants of the order should be regarded with suspicion,..some act as narcotico-acrid poisons.

B. *sb.* An irritant narcotic poison.

1829 CHRISTISON *Treat. Poisons* (1832) 592 Some varieties of poisoning with the vegetable narcotico-acrids. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVI. 88/2 Many natural compounds have an acrid principle combined with the narcotic, and hence are termed narcotico-acrids.

So **Narco·tico-i'rritant** *a.* (Ogilvie, 1882.)

Na'rcotina. *Chem. ? Obs.* [f. as next + -INA.] = NARCOTINE.

1834 *Cycl. Pract. Med.* III. 152/2 Separating..the meconate of morphia, the narceine and narcotina. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVI. 87/2 A brilliant crystalline substance is left, which is the narcotina of the opium.

Narcotine (nā'ɹkŏtin, -əin). *Chem.* [f. NARCOT-IC *a.* + -INE 6, or a. F. *narcotine.*] A bitter crystalline alkaloid derived from opium (discovered by Derosne in 1803), sometimes used in medicine.

1823 HADEN tr. *Majendie's Formulary* 28 If a grain of narcotine, dissolved in oil, be given to dogs, it produces a state of stupor. 1876 HARLEY *Mat. Med.* (ed. 6) 762 A solution of narcotine and hydrochlorate of papaverine.

Narcotism (nā'ɹkŏtiz'm). *Path.* [f. as prec. + -ISM, or ad. F. *narcotisme.*]

1. The condition produced by narcotics; a state of stupor, somnolence, or insensibility.

1832 DAVIES *Mat. Med.* 296 During narcotism, the circulation is sometimes slightly accelerated, at others it is slower. 1859 R. F. BURTON *Centr. Africa* in *Jrnl. Geog. Soc.* XXIX. 367 It affects the head, and produces an agreeable narcotism, followed by sound sleep. 1875 H. C. WOOD *Therap.* (1879) 225 Whenever it is desired to produce very decided narcotism by..opium, the drug should always be given in liquid form.

b. The method of producing insensibility by narcotics.

1843 R. J. GRAVES *Syst. Clin. Med.* v. 69 You have lately seen an infusion of green tea useful in .. narcotism. 1855 RAMSBOTHAM *Obstet. Med.* 184 Siebold makes the same remark in reference to two forceps cases, in which he employed narcotism.

2. A morbid inclination to sleep.

1843 R. J. GRAVES *Syst. Clin. Med.* viii. 91 That tendency to narcotism..which is observed in every case of genuine typhus. 1897 *Trans. Amer. Pediatric Soc.* IX. 118 Pronounced narcotism and headache are..the most characteristic symptoms of his lithæmic attacks.

3. *transf.* The narcotic influence *of* something.

1867 LOWELL *Wks.* (1890) II. 317 Lapped in waking dreams by the narcotism of an age of science. 1876 J. OLLIVE *Wooing of Até* III. xvi. 271 His musings were..softened by the genial narcotism of tobacco.

Narcotist (nā'ɹkŏtist). [f. as prec. + -IST.] One addicted to the use of narcotics.

1860 *All Year Round* No. 53. 61 There, though opium-eating is now unusual,..I have seen the miserable narcotist lying staring at nothing. 1881 *Sat. Rev.* 5 Mar. 288 The narcotist who..finds himself unable to sleep without morphia or chloral.

Narcotiza'tion. [f. next + -ATION.] The action of narcotizing; the state induced by narcotic poisoning.

1864 *Lond. Rev.* 6 Aug. 154/1 The irregularity of the circulation was like that described in M. Decaisne's cases of narcotization as produced by ordinary smoking. 1876 tr. *Wagner's Gen. Pathol.* 163 After narcotization of animals, there always arises dilatation of vessels.

Narcotize (nā'ɹkŏtəiz), *v.* [f. NARCOT-IC *a.*]

1. *trans.* To drug or render insensible with a narcotic.

1843 R. J. GRAVES *Syst. Clin. Med.* xiv. 151 He was evidently deeply narcotised. 1859 R. F. BURTON *Centr. Africa* in *Jrnl. Geog. Soc.* XXIX. 243 Near the coast the people narcotise fish with the juice of certain plants. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 823 Giving morphia by hypodermic injection in such large doses as to keep the patient deeply narcotised.

refl. 1865 *Reader* 1 Apr. 374/3 They narcotize, but do not nicotinize themselves.

2. *transf.* To dull or deaden. Also *absol.*

1864 E. SARGENT *Peculiar* II. 189 What wonder that he should narcotize his moral sense with the aroma of these social fascinations. 1876 LOWELL *Among my Bks.* Ser. II. 248 They rather narcotize than fortify. 1894 Du MAURIER *Trilby* II. 252 He longed for his old brain-disease to come back and narcotise his trouble.

Hence **Na'rcotized** *ppl. a.*, **Na'rcotizing** *ppl. a.*

1851 H. MAVO *Pop. Superst.* (ed. 2) 138 The narcotising agent recommended by Mr. Jackson. 1863 B. TAYLOR *H. Thurston* xiv. 183 It surrounded each fair face with a nimbus, to the narcotized vision of youth. 1878 O. W. HOLMES *Motley* 226 How much better is the restlessness of a noble ambition than the narcotized stupor of club-life.

Nard (nāɹd), *sb.* Also 4-6 **narde.** [=OF. *narde* (mod.F. *nard*), ad. L. *nardus* (see NARDUS), ad. Gr. *νάρδος*, of Oriental origin: cf. Heb. נֵרְד *nēr'd'* (pl. *n'rādīm*), Arab. and Pers. ناردين *nārdīn*, Skr. *narada, nalada.*]

1. An aromatic balsam or ointment used by the ancients, derived from the plant of the same name (see sense 2, and cf. SPIKENARD).

Chiefly in poetic use, or in echoes of N. T. passages.

1382 WYCLIF *John* xii. 3 Marie took a pound of oynement spikenard, or trewe narde, precious. 1388 — *Song Sol.* i. 11 Whanne the kyng was in his restyng place, my narde 3af his odour. *c* 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* IV. 143 Her seed yf me reclyne In baume, or narde, or opi, daies thre. 1477 NORTON *Ord. Alch.* v. in Ashm. (1652) 70 Amber, Narde, and Mirrhe. 1526 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 2373 Your wordes be more sweter than ony precyous narde. 1554 PHILPOT *Exam. & Writ.* (Parker Soc.) 233 You have plentifully poured upon me your precious nard. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XII. xii. I. 364 The good..and true Nard is known by the lightnes, red colour, sweet smell, and the tast especially. 1647 JER. TAYLOR *Lib. Proph.* Ep. Ded. 3 Whose lessons were softer than Nard, or the Juice of the Candian Olive. 1708 J. PHILIPS *Cyder* II. 53 Steams, than Myrrh or Nard more grateful. 1775 R. CHANDLER *Trav. Asia M.* (1825) I. 165 Mutianus..had many holes filled with nard to nourish and moisten it. 1835 BROWNING *Paracelsus* IV. 192 Heap cassia, sandal-buds and stripes Of labdanum, and aloe-balls, Smeared with dull nard. 1866 BRANDE & COX *Dict. Sci.* etc. II. 635/1 The Nard of the ancients..is now believed to have been the produce of a dwarf Valerianaceous herb. *Comb.* 1696 PHILLIPS, *Nard-Plant*, that grows in the Indies,..sweet, and smelling like Galingale.

2. An aromatic plant, esp. that yielding the ointment used by the ancients (now usually supposed to be *Nardostachys Jatamansi*; cf. SPIKENARD).

1591 PERCIVALL *Sp. Dict.*, *Asarabacar*, a kinde of Narde, a kinde of foale foote. 1598 FLORIO, *Nigella*, the herbe Pepper-woort, narde or Coriander of Rome. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 616 There is a Kinde of Nard, in Creet,..that hath a Root hairy, like a Rough-footed-Doves foot. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* v. 293 He..now is come Into the blissful field, through Groves of Myrrhe And flouring Odours, Cassia, Nard, and Balme. 1855 SINGLETON *Virgil* I. 33 As much as lowly nard To beds of crimson roses,—in our mind So much Amyntas yieldeth unto thee.

3. With defining terms, as *Celtic, French, Indian, Italian, mountain, rustic nard*; also †*nard savage.*

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 88 As for the plant Saliunca or Nard Celtick [etc.]. *Ibid.* 104 Some haue taken rustick-Nard to be the root of Bacchar, and so named it: the which hath put me in mind of French Nard. 1611 FLORIO, *Nardo salnatico*, nard-sauage. 1678 SALMON *Pharm. Lond.* I. iv. 60 The male is the broad Italian Nard, (which is the sweeter) and is called Lavender. 1768 CROKER *Compl. Dict.* II. s.v., The Indian Nard..was formerly employed in the same intentions as the Celtic. 1799 G. SMITH *Laboratory* I. 432 The following drugs, viz. liquorish and celtic-nard. 1801 *Encycl. Brit.* Suppl. II. 293/2 The Protean plant Valerian, a sister of the Mountain and Celtic Nard. 1842 *Penny Cycl.* XXII. 347/2 It is curious that the Celtic and mountain nards are also Valerians.

4. Mat-grass (*Nardus stricta*). *rare* −1.

1866 *Treas. Bot.* 777/2 The common Nard, or Matgrass.. is a worthless grass for agricultural purposes.

Hence **Nard** *v. trans.*, to anoint with nard.

1828 TENNYSON *Lover's Tale* I. 671 She took the body of my past delight, Narded..and balm'd it for herself.

Nardi'ferous, *a. rare* −1. [f. L. *nardifer* + -OUS.] Bearing or producing nard.

1657 TOMLINSON *Renou's Disp.* 461 Bizantian Blatta..is long and strict, found in nardiferous lakes.

Na'rdine, *a. rare.* [ad. obs. F. *nardin* (Godef.), or L. *nardinus*, Gr. *νάρδινος*, f. *νάρδος* NARD.] Of or pertaining to nard; having the qualities of nard. † *Oil nardine*, oil of nard.

c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 104 Anoynte his nolle & his necke wiþ hoote oynementis as wiþ oile of nardine. 1545 RAYNOLD *Byrth Mankynde* 78 Take oyle nardine, oyle of whyte lyllies, of ecbe an ounce and an halfe. 1828–32 WEBSTER cites *Asiatic Res.*

Nardoo (nɑɹdū', nā'ɹdū). Also **nardu.** [Native Australian; also given as *ngárdū* and *ardoo.*]

1. The sporocarp of the plant *Marsilea quadrifolia*, used as food by the Australian aborigines; the flour made from this. Also *attrib.*

1861 H. J. WILLS in W. Howitt *Discov. Austral.* (1865) II. 248 Starvation on nardoo is by no means very unpleasant. 1861 KING *Ibid.* 252 The natives .. gave in return some chewed pitchery and nardoo balls. 1862 KENDALL *Poems* 110 Lest unfriendly hands Should rob him of his hoard of wild nardoo. 1874 *Dusk Twilight Hour* 134 They fished and hunted for their food, And gathered nardoo.

2. The plant *Marsilea quadrifolia*, also called *clover-fern.*

1864 *Chambers's Encycl.* VI. 670/2 *Nardoo*, a plant of the acotyledonous natural order *Marsileaceæ*. 1889 LUMHOLTZ *Cannibals* 41 On the banks of the Thompson river I observed the well-known nardu (*Marsilea*).

attrib. 1865 W. HOWITT *Discov. Austral.* II. 247 They now began to inquire of the nardoo seed, imagining it the produce of a tree. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 777/1 Nardoo fields, probably swampy places in which it abounds.

‖ **Nardus** (nā'ɹdŭs). Now *rare.* [L. *nardus*: see NARD *sb.*] Nard, spikenard (the ointment and plant). Also *attrib.* and *fig.*

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 73 Pær wæron þreo þa betstan [wyrta], ele, & nardus, & spica. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. cx. (1495) 672 Nardus is a lytyll herbe wyth pryckes and smellyth wel .. and therof is treble manere kynde, Indica, Celtica, and Sirica. 1526 TINDALE *John* xii. 3 A pounde of oyntment called nardus. 1535 COVERDALE *Mark* xiv. 3 There came a woman which had a boxe of pure and costly Nardus oyntement. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* 307 It is good to be poured into the eares with oyle of roses, or Nardus. 1600 FAIRFAX *Tasso* XVIII. xv, Vpon his brest and forehead gently blew The aire, that balme and nardus breath'd vnseene. 1720 STRYPE *Stow's Surv.* (1754) II. VI. ii. 597/2 Edward is dead,..A King, or fragrant Nardus hight, a gracious princely Peer. 1797 HOLCROFT tr. *Stolberg's Trav.* (ed. 2) III. lxxix. 217 They..scattered this valuable water of the nardus. 1842 *Penny Cycl.* XXII. 347/1 The first kind being called nardus, and distinguished into the Syrian and Indian varieties.

Nare (nēəɹ), *sb.* Now only *arch.* [ad. L. *nāris* (usu. in pl. *nārēs*: see NARES). Cf. OF. *nairre* (Godef.).]

† **1.** A nostril. *Obs.* (chiefly in 17th c. verse).

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. cxii. (Bodl. MS.), Veynes & nares & þe pawme of the hondes..be bawned þerwiþ. *a* 1616 B. JONSON *Epigr., On famous Voy.* 133 For, yet, no nare was tainted, Nor thumb, nor finger, to the stop acquainted. 1663 BUTLER *Hud.* I. i. 742 There is a Machiavilian plot, (Tho' ev'ry nare olfact it not).

2. *spec.* A nostril of a hawk.

1486 *Bk. St. Albans* a v, With a penne put it in the hawkis nares Ones or twyes. *Ibid.* c vij, Thorogh her Nostrellis or hir nares. *c* 1575 *Perf. Bk. Sparhawkes* (1886) 6 Seare fayre: nares wyde; stalke short and bygg. 1614 LATHAM *Falconry* (1633) 131, I was inforced first to slit her with a knife, from her eare vnto her nare. 1614 MARKHAM *Cheap Husb.* II. VIII. xiii. 142 The Rheume is a continuall running or dropping at the Hawkes Nares. 1727 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Aposthume*, When the Nares of the Hawk are stuffed up..put some Drops thereof upon her Nares. 1840 BROWNING *Sordello* IV. 59 Who bade him bloody the spent osprey's nare? 1860 H. AINSWORTH *Ovingdean Grange* 61 Its keen-bent beak,..wide nares, and full black eye.

Comb. c 1450 *Bk. Hawking* (Harl. MS. 2340) 14 a, Coold ..makith flume fall oute of þe brayne, [and] but if it have hastely help it wol stop his nare þrolles.

† **Nare,** *a. Obs.* Forms: 1 **neara, neare,** 2 **nara,** 3–4 **nare.** [OE. *neara*, var. of *nearo* NARROW *a.*] Narrow.

In the collocation *narewei, nare wey*, which occurs in the *Moral Ode* 347 (Egerton text) and R. Glouc. *Chron.* 3312, the form may be due to elision of the *w* (in *narew*) before that of the word following.

c 888 K. ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xix, Behealde he..hu neara þære eorðan stede is, þeah heo us rum þince. *a* 900 *Kentish Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 80 *Puteus angustus*, neare pyt. *c* 1000 *Ags.*

Gosp. Matt. vii. 14 Eala hu neara [*Hatton* nara] & hu angsum is þæt ȝeat. *c* 1290 *S. E. Leg.* I. 304/157 Þe hul..is sumdel nare [=163 narv]. *Ibid.* 320/724 It lith..ibouwed ase an hare..for is In is sumdel nare. *c* 1315 SHOREHAM I. 1383 He a-uangeþ a crowet eke, And a towaylle nare.

† **Nare,** were not: cf. NE and NERE. *Obs.*

a 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 223 Nare hio blinde ȝescapene. *c* 1200 *Moral Ode* 201 (Trin. Coll. MS.), Alle unhalðe þurh deað cam in þis middeneard..Nare noman elles dead. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* I. pr. iii. (1868) 10 Certis it nar[e] not leueful ne sittyng to philosophie [etc.].

† **Narel(l.** *Obs. rare.* [a. OF. **narel* (later *nareau*): see NARE *sb.* and -EL 2.] A nostril.

1486 *Bk. St. Albans* c vj b, Brynne the Narellis thourogh owte. 1611 COTGR., *Canolles*, a haukes Narell; one of the little holes whereat she draws in, and lets out, her breath. *Ibid.*, *Nareau*, a narell, or nosethrill.

Narer, nearer: see NAR *a.*

‖ **Nares** (nē·rīz). *Anat.* [L. *nārēs*, pl. of *nāris*, NARE *sb.*, related to NASE *sb.*, nose.] *pl.* The nostrils or nasal passages.

1693 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Nares*, the Nostrils. 1727–38 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Nose*. Divided in the middle by a third [bone]..into two partitions, called the *nares* or nostrils. 1753 —*Cycl. Supp.* s.v., The *nares* of fish differ also in proportion. 1808–10 *Mem. Wernerian Soc.* I. viii. 140 The blowholes or nares were united at the posterior part into one tube. 1833 *Cycl. Pract. Med.* II. 104/1 The introduction of a cylindrical plug of lint through the anterior nares. 1873 MIVART *Elem. Anat.* 76 These openings are the hinder nostrils, or posterior nares.

Nare-throlle: see NARE *sb.* 2.

Nareu, -ewe, obs. ff. NARROW *a.* (and *v.*).

Narf: see NARVE.

Narghile, nargileh (nā·ɪgile). Also **-ghileh, -ghyle, -ghille, -gilé, -guilè.** *β.* **narghilly, -gilly** (naɪgi·li). [= F. *narghileh, narguilé*, ad. Pers. (or Turk.) ناركيله *nārgīleh*, f. Pers. ناركيل *nārgīl*, cocoa-nut, of which the receptacle for the tobacco was originally made.] An Oriental tobacco-pipe in which the smoke passes through water before reaching the mouth: a HOOKAH.

α. 1839 Miss PARDOE *Beauties of Bosph.* 35 The *narghilè*, or water pipe,..which greatly resembles the hookâh of Hindostan, is always filled with Shiraz tobacco. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* li, A Turkish officer..making believe to puff at a narghile. 1877 A. B. EDWARDS *Up Nile* xxi. 667 Gorgeous..narghilehs with long flexible tubes. 1897 GUNTER *Susan Turnbull* ii. 14 He enjoys his nargileh pipe. *β.* 1847 DISRAELI *Tancred* III. ii, Inhaling through rose-water the..artificial flavour of the nargilly. 1871 M. COLLINS *Mrg. & Merch.* II. vii. 184 He is smoking his narghilly.

Narȝwe, obs. form of NARROW *v.*

Narhwal, obs. form of NARWHAL.

Narial (nē·ɔriăl), *a. Anat.* [f. L. *nāri-s* nostril (see NARES) + -AL.] Belonging to the nares.

1870 FLOWER *Osteol. Mamm.* xi. 171 The edges of these greatly expanded narial apertures. 1881 OWEN in *Nature* XXIV. 499/2 The entry to the narial passage, or respiratory mouth as it may be called.

So **Nasric** *a.* (*Cent. Dict.* 1890).

Naricorn (nē·rikɒ̄rn). *Ornith.* [f. L. *nāri-s* nostril + *corn-ū* horn.] A horny covering protecting the nostrils in certain birds.

1866 COUES in *Proc. Philad. Acad. Nat. Sci.* 176 The 'naricorn' or rhinotheca is an irregularly convoluted little scroll, very thin and delicate in texture. *Ibid.*, When the naricorns are *in situ* the outer of these divisions..forms the most conspicuous part.

Nariform (nē·rifɒ̄rm), *a.* [f. as prec. + -FORM.] (See quots.)

1846 DANA *Zoöph.* (1848) 432 *Nariform*, a compressed calicle, resembling in shape a nose inverted. 1847 WEBSTER, *Nariform*, formed like the nose.

Narine (nē·rəin), *a.* [f. as prec. + -INE.] 'Of or belonging to the nostrils' (Ogilvie, 1882).

Nark (nāɪk), *sb. Cant.* [Romany *nāk* nose.] (See quot. 1894.)

1865 *Slang Dict.* (ed. 2). 1894 A. MORRISON *Mean Streets* 260 He resolved to .. become a nark—a copper's nark—which is a police spy or informer.

Hence **Nark** *v.*, *trans.* to watch, look after; *intr.* to act as an informer.

1865 *Slang Dict.* (ed. 2). 1894 A. MORRISON *Mean Streets* 260 Hardly had he begun his narking when some of the.. mob dropped on him. 1896 — *Child Jago* 55 It was the sole commandment that ran there: 'Thou shalt not nark'.

Narow(e), -hede, -ly, -ness, obs. ff. NARROW *a.*, NARROWHEAD, etc.

Narr (nāɪ), *v.* Now only *dial.* [Onomatopœic: cf. NAR and GNAR *v.*] *intr.* Of a dog: To snarl, growl. Also *transf.*

1509 BARCLAY *Shyp of Folys* (1570) 69 Narring with thy selfe, like as a dogge doth barke. 1530 PALSGR. 643/2, I narre, as a dogge dothe whan he is angred, *je rechine*. 1573 BARET *Alv.* s.v. *Grinne*, A grinning, or scornefull opening of ye mouth, as when a dog narreth. 1585 FETHERSTONE tr. *Calvin on Acts* xvii. 3. 409 The worship of the law, whereat the Jewes narre at this day like dogs.

1875 PARISH *Sussex Dial.*, *Narre*, to growl like a dog. 1894 *Northumbld. Gloss.*, *Narr*, to snarl, to find fault in a growling manner.

Narr, obs. variant of NAR *a.*, nearer.

Narra, dial. variant of NE'ER A.

Na·rrable, *a. rare*—°. (See quot.)

1623 COCKERAM I, *Narrable*, that which may be declared.

Narracion, -cyon, obs. forms of NARRATION.

Narratable (nărē·tăb'l), *a.* [f. next + -ABLE.] That can be narrated.

1852 DICKENS *Let. to J. White* 22 Nov., If you should think of any other idea narratable by an old man.

Narrate (nărē·t), *v.* [f. L. *narrāt-*, ppl. stem of *narrāre* to relate, recount, supposed to be for **gnārrāre*, related to *gnārus* knowing, skilled, and thus ultimately allied to KNOW *v.*]

The earliest examples (1656) are prob. translations of Sp. *narrar*. Otherwise the word comes into English use only after 1750; Richardson and Johnson call it Scottish:—

1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1811) VI. 223 When I have least to narrate, to speak in the Scottish phrase, I am most diverting. 1755 JOHNSON, *Narrate*, to relate, to tell; a word only used in Scotland. 1813 *Q. Rev.* July 433 The style [of M^c^Crie's *Knox*] is..free from all modern affectation, excepting the abominable verb 'narrate', which must absolutely be proscribed in all good writing.

1. *trans.* To relate, recount, give an account of.

1656 S. HOLLAND tr. *Zara* (1719) 11 His Excellency..narrates his several Encounters. *Ibid.* 136 It were needless to narrate what flouting..there was amongst the bundle of Knights. 1754 CAMBRIDGE in *World* No. 56 II. 192, I have listened to the tales..of senators who narrated the eloquence they never spoke! 1755 AMORY *Mem.* (1769) I. 299 Were I to give you the particulars of all these things, it would take up days to narrate. 1788 ANNA SEWARD *Lett.* (1811) I. 92 In narrating interesting facts, his comments.. often fatigue by their plenitude. 1804 SOUTHEY in *Ann. Rev.* II. 17 The discovery of Madeira is narrated with all the exaggerations of romance. 1823 BENTHAM *Not Paul* 308 On this occasion three principal events are narrated. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 399 The tale of the last hours of Socrates is narrated to Echecrates.

2. *absol.* To give an account, make a relation.

1795 tr. *Mercier's Fragm. Pol. & Hist.* II. 439 They ought merely to narrate, to prove, and to conclude by a short recapitulation. 1830 CARLYLE *Misc.* (1857) II. 168 Most men..speak only to narrate. 1843 MARRYAT *M. Violet* xxxiii, Any one on hearing him narrate would say the same.

Hence **Narra·ted** *ppl. a.*, **Narra·ting** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.* Also **Narra·ter,** narrator. *rare.*

1758 Mrs. LENNOX *Henrietta* II. vii. (1761) I. 159 Here miss Woodby broke in upon the fair narrater. 1802 Mrs. E. PARSONS *Myst. Visit* IV. 149, I cannot be so exact in the repetition as he was in the narrating. 1802–12 BENTHAM *Ration. Judic. Evid.* (1827) I. 57 The narrating witness in question speaks of some other person and not of himself. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) IV. 121 Like the Protagoras..it is a narrated dialogue.

Narration (nărē·ʃən). Also 5–6 **-cion,** 6 **-cyon, -tioun,** 6 *Sc.* **nerr-.** [a. F. *narration* (12–13th c.), or ad. L. *narrātiōn-em*, noun of action f. *narrāre* to NARRATE: see -ATION.]

1. The action of relating or recounting, or the fact of being recounted; an instance of this. † In early use esp. in phr. *to make narration.*

1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) II. 175 The ordre of the narracion of stories requirethe that the gestes of the worlde scholde be describede also. 1481 CAXTON *Myrr.* III. xix. 176 It behoueth ouer longe narracion that of alle them wolde descryue the gretenes. 1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* XXIV. (Percy Soc.) 108 Fantasy, and estymacyon trnely, And memory, as I make narracyon, Eche upon other hath occupacyon. 1573 G. HARVEY *Letter-bk.* (Camden) 44 The short time I have wil scars suffice to make a simple and bare narration of things. 1594 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* II. 389 Our meaning is not to make any long particular narration. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneid* Ded. a j b, Narration, doubtless, preceded Acting, and gave Laws to it. 1823 BYRON *Juan* XIV. vii, This narrative is not meant for narration, But a mere airy and fantastic basis. 1844 Miss MITFORD in L'Estrange *Life* (1870) III. x. 189 Mr. Dickens wants the earnest good-faith in narration which makes Balzac so enchanting. 1870 LOWELL *Study Wind.* (1871) 191 [Dante] the great master of laconic narration.

b. That which is narrated or recounted; a story, narrative, account.

1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) II. 429 Whiche thynge was provede to haue bene after his narracion. 1482 *Monk of Evesham* (Arb.) 65 Let vs turne ageyne thys narracyon to thoes thynges the whyche we haue lefte oute. 1528 ROY *Rede me* (Arb.) 73 Olde wyves tales..Which they call holy narracions. 1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 255 Vppon vrgent necessitie, wee must..leuen our Orations with historical narrations. 1624 CAPT. SMITH *Virginia* Ep. Ded. 2 Your Gratious hand..hath given birth to the publication of this Narration. 1662 STILLINGFL. *Orig. Sacræ* III. i. § 1 A Divine revelation then must be faithful and true in all its narrations. 1710 STEELE *Tatler* No. 20 ₱ 1 The following Narration is a sufficient Testimony of the Truth of this Observation. 1794 J. R. SULLIVAN *View Nat.* II. 214 It is a narration suited to the capacity of the people. 1859 BLACKWELL *Mallet's North. Antiq.* 76 That kind of narrations, in which truth is designedly blended with fable.

2. a. *Rhet.* That part of an oration in which the facts of the matter are stated (see quots.).

1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* x. (Percy Soc.) 34 Dysposicion, the true seconde parte Of rethorike, doth evermore dyrecte The maters..As from a fayre parfit narracion. 1553 T. WILSON *Rhet.* 4 The narracion is a plain and manifest poynctyng of the matter, and an evident settyng furthe of all thynges that belong unto the same. 1586 A. DAY *Eng. Secretary* I. (1625) 23 The force hereof besides the Exordium comprehendeth chiefly a Narration. 1612 BRINSLEY *Lud. Lit.* xiii. (1627) 180 In their Narration, to the end the Auditors may fully understand the matter. 1727–38 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v., The narration, according to the writers of rhetoric, makes the second part of a just speech, or harangue; viz. that immediately following the exordium. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVI. 468/2 Under disposition the various parts of an oration are discussed, viz. the exordium, narration [etc.].

b. The story related in a poem; the narrative part of a poem; a narrative passage in a drama.

1586 W. WEBBE *Eng. Poetrie* (Arb.) 88 The proposition or narration let it not be far fetched or vnlikely. 1668 DRYDEN *Dram. Poesy* Ess. (ed. Ker) I. 62 Not that I commend narrations in general,—but there are two sorts of them. One, of those things which are antecedent to the play [etc.]. 1727–38 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v., In the drama, the narration is the whole of the piece; in the epopœia, it is only a part, though in effect it is the principal part, and the main body of the poem. 1783 BLAIR *Lect.* xlii. II. 425 In the narration of the Poet..it is not material, whether he relate the whole story in his own character, or introduce some of his personages to relate any part of the action.

Hence **Narra·tional** *a.*

1866 *Reader* 29 Sept. 823 These indications of his opinions are anachronisms from a narrational point of view. 1867 *Art Jrnl.* XXIX. 95/3 It is neither absolutely scientific, nor descriptive, nor narrational.

Narrative (næ·rătiv), *sb.* [f. as next: cf. obs. F. *narratif, -ive* in same sense.]

1. *Sc. Law.* That part of a deed or document which contains a statement of the relevant or essential facts (cf. quot. 1838).

1561 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 189 Ordanis the wordis (at the lest) to be haldin pro deleto in the said summondis sa oft as the samyn is thairin, viz. in the narrative and conclusion. 1574 *Ibid.* II. 382 The haill narrative of the said supplicatioun [being] verefeit and understand to thair Lordships. 1681 STAIR *Instit.* I. x. § 63. 148 He who craves regress had right when he changed any further then by the Narrative of the Excambion. *a* 1768 ERSKINE *Inst. Law Scot.* II. iii. § 22 (1773) 189 After the name and designation of the granter, follows that clause in the charter called the narrative, or recital. 1838 W. BELL *Dict. Law Scot.* 669 The narrative describes the granter and the person in whose favour the deed is granted, and states the cause of granting.

2. An account or narration; a history, tale, story, recital (of facts, etc.).

1566–7 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 496 He..wes fred and relevit..upoun celerat and wrangus narrative without satisfactioun. 1622 BACON *Hen. VII* 53 Therefore by this Narratiue you now vnderstand the state of the Question. 1660 R. COKE *Power & Subj.* 36 Diodorus Siculus..gives a narrative of the original government of the Egyptians. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* x. 537 Gushing tears the narrative confound. 1769 *Junius Lett.* xxx. (1788) 160 He shall find me ready to maintain the truth of my narrative. 1837 W. IRVING *Capt. Bonneville* I. 22 We shall now state a few particulars..to prepare him for the circumstances of our narrative. 1895 J. H. ROUND in *Bookman* Oct. 25/2 This history..is..a straightforward, readable narrative.

3. (Without article.) The practice or act of narrating; something to narrate.

1748 CHESTERF. *Lett.* CXXXIV. (1872) I. 246 To have frequent recourse to narrative betrays great want of imagination. 1778 Miss BURNEY *Evelina* IX, What have I to write? Narrative does not offer, nor does a lively imagination supply the deficiency. 1781 COWPER *Conversat.* 217 The path of narrative with care pursue.

Narrative (næ·rătiv), *a.* [ad. L. *narrātīv-us, -a, -um*, f. *narrāt-*: see NARRATE *v.* and -IVE, and cf. F. *narratif, -ive* (15th c.).]

1. That narrates or recounts; occupied or concerned with, having the character of, narration.

1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* II. iv. § 3 The division of poesy which is aptest in the propriety thereof..is into poesy narrative, representative, and allusive. *a* 1652 J. SMITH *Sel. Disc.* VI. 195 The representation of divine things by some sensible images or some narrative voice must needs be in them both. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 297 ₱ 6 The *Paradise Lost* is an Epic or a Narrative Poem. 1752 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 188 ₱ 5 No style of conversation is more extensively acceptable than the narrative. 1844 L. HUNT *Imag. & Fancy* 20 The greatest of all narrative writers. 1864 BRYCE *Holy Rom. Emp.* Pref., A narrative history of the countries included in the Romano-Germanic Empire.

2. Given to narration; garrulous, talkative.

1681 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) I. 111 Mr. John Smith (called Narrative Smith). 1693 DRYDEN *Disc. Sat.* Ess. (ed. Ker) II. 30 The tattling quality of age, which, as Sir William D'Avenant says, is always narrative. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* III. 80 The Banquet done, the narrative old Man, Thus mild, the pleasing Conference began. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* VIII. 109 Man is the tale of narrative old Time. 1826 J. J. CONYBEARE *Illustr. Anglo-Sax. Poetry* 68 The narrative old monarch proceeds to state that..Heribald was accidentally killed.

fig. 1882 *Fraser's Mag.* XXVI. 503 There are the decayed taverns..where stone and wood and lime are narrative of hoary antiquity.

Hence **Na·rratively** *adv.*, in a narrative manner; also, considered as a narrative.

1651 J. F[REAKE] *Agrippa's Occ. Philos.* To Rdr., I have writ many things, rather narratively then affirmatively. 1726 AYLIFFE *Parergon* 28 The words of all Judicial Acts are written Narratively. 1791 BURKE *App. Whigs* Wks. 1842 I. 518/2 Not in the way of argument, but narratively. 1863 P. DAVIDSON *Pentateuch Vind.* v. 154 The name Jehovah occurs in the first way or narratively, one hundred and sixteen times. 1883 *Ch. Times* XXI. 905/3 The details are historically valuable, but narratively dry.

Narrator (nărē·tǝr). [a. L. *narrātor*, agent-n. f. *narrāre* to NARRATE. Cf. F. *narrateur* (1552).] One who narrates.

1611 COTGR., *Narrateur*, a Narrator, relater, declarer. 1625 BP. MOUNTAGU *App. Cæsar* 5 Hee is but a Narrator of other mens opinions. 1725 WATTS *Logic* (ed. 2) 268 Consider whether the Narrator be honest and faithful, as well as skilful. 1797 Mrs. RADCLIFFE *Italian* IX, 'I tell you', replied the narrator [etc.]. 1803 W. TAYLOR in *Ann. Rev.* I. 301 Of such a narrator the very hostility is not oppressive. 1874 L. STEPHEN *Hours in Library* (1892) I. i. 43 He was simply a narrator of plain facts.

Narratory (nærătŏri), *a.* [ad. L. type **narrātōri-us*: see NARRATE *v.* and -ORY[1], and cf. It. *narratorio*, obs. F. *narratoire*.] Characterized by, inclined to, narration; of a narrative nature.

1586 A. DAY *Eng. Secretary* II. (1625) 59 The first whereof appeareth to be Narratory and Nunciatorie. 1649 ROBERTS *Clavis Bibl.* 540 The narratory description of the famine in brief. 1803 MME. D'ARBLAY *Let.* 23 Mar., I had hoped some return in some of your narratory letters in which I so delight. *a* 1853 W. JAY *Autobiogr.* (1855) i. 13 Such a work is devotional rather than narratory. 1887 J. HATTON *Old Ho. at Sandwich* III. xiv, By what may be called a forward narratory movement.

Narratress (nărē·trĕs). [f. NARRATE *v.* + -RESS.] A female narrator.

1798 SOTHEBY tr. *Wieland's Oberon* (1826) I. 142 Herself the proud narratress of the tale. 1855 BAGEHOT *Lit. Stud.* (1879) I. 301 The animated narratress of that not intrinsically melancholy legend.

So **Narra·trix.**

1809 R. SURTEES in *Scott's Fam. Lett.* (1894) I. 151 My narratrix is Elizabeth Cockburn, an old wife of Offerton. 1886 *Pall Mall G.* 16 Oct. 5 'But' says the narratrix, 'it was impossible for that lady to keep her Grace supplied with a new work each time she went to the..library.'

Narre, obs. variant of NAR *a.*, nearer.

Narrest, nearest; see NAR *a.*

Narrow (nærou), *a.* and *sb.* Forms: 1 nearu, -o, -uo, naru(u), neruu, 2 nareu, 3–4 naru, (3 narv), 4 narw, narou; 3 neruh, 4 narouȝ, nargh, 5 narevh, narwh, narough; 4–6 narow(e, narrowe, 6 *Sc.* narraw, 4– narrow. *Inflected.* 1 nearwe, naarwe, 3 narrwe, 3–4 narwe, 4 narȝwe; 1 nearewe, -uwe, 1, 3 nearowe, 2 nærewe, 2–3 narewe, 3 nerewe, -uwe. [OE. *nearu, nearo* (also *neara*: see NARE *a.*) = OS. *naru* narrow, MDu. *nare, naer* (Du. *naar*) unpleasant, dismal, sad, distressed, etc., Fris. *nâr* narrow. Not found in the other Teutonic languages, and of doubtful etymology.]

A. *adj.*

1. Having little breadth or width in comparison with the length; wanting in breadth; constricted.

Beowulf 1409 Ofereode þa æþelinga bearn..stige nearwe, enge anpaðas. *c* 893 K. ÆLFRED *Oros.* I. i. § 32 Se sæ þe æzðer is ze nearo ze hreoh. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xvi. 5 Mið ðy zecwomun ðeznas his ofer luh *vel* nearo sæ. 1154 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1137 Sume hi diden..in an cæste þat was scort & nareu & undep. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 199 [The adder] cumeð to ane þurlede ston, and criepeð nedlinge þureh nerewe hole. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 430 He.. went þe neruwe ende of þe horne to his owune muðe, & utward þene wide. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 212/424 Þis brugge..was so narovȝ þat onneþe ani-þing miȝte þare-oppe sette ani fot. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 819 Þe lefte eghe ..semes les, And narower þan þe right eghe es. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 98 Ther was no grace in the visage, Hir front was nargh, hir lockes hore. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) v. 45 Egypt is a long Contree; but it is streyt, that is to seye narow. 1463 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 23 A long narevh table. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 145 Her sekynge in ye narowe lanes betokeneth [etc.]. 1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* II. iv. 88 Oh here's a wit..that stretches from an ynch narrow, to an ell broad. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* I. 22 Italy.. growing narrower, and narrower, till it shut out it selfe in two hornes. 1696 BP. PATRICK *Comm. Exod.* xxxix. (1697) 710 Then they cut off lesser, and narrower Wires. 1723 CHAMBERS tr. *Le Clerc's Treat. Archit.* I. 91 Make the lower Arch .. narrower than usual. 1756–7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) II. 70 The streets are for the most part narrow and winding. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* I. 292 The narrower the base..the more easily may the body be overthrown. 1866 G. MACDONALD *Ann. Q. Neighb.* ix. (1878) 140 Up a straight, steep, narrow stair.

b. In fig. contexts, esp. *narrow way*, etc. (in ref. to Matt. vii. 14).

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt., Contents 17/14 Ðerh brad woeg monize, ðerh nerun *vel* narum hwon..iungae ȝetrymes. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. vii. 14 Gangaþ inn þurh þæt nearwe ȝeat. *c* 1200 ORMIN 6208 Þa follȝhe ȝitt tatt narrwe stih þatt ledeþþ ȝunnc till heoffne. 12.. *Moral Ode* 339 (Egerton MS.), Laete we þe brode strete..Go we þene narewe wei. *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* cxviii. 35 Þis strete is þe narw way till heuen. 1382 WYCLIF *Matt.* vii. 14 How streit is the ȝate, and narowe the weye, that ledith to lijf. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 18 In the strayte and narowe poynt of deth they descende to hell. 1551 ROBINSON tr. *More's Utop.* (1895) 10 An other is so narrow in [1556 betwene] the sholders, that he can beare no iestes nor tawntes. 1597 J. KING *On Jonas* (1618) 142 There is but a narrow path betwixt fire and water, as Esdras speaketh. 1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* III. iii. 154 Honour trauels in a straight so narrow, Where one but goes a breast. 1682 SIR T. BROWNE *Chr. Mor.* I. § 1 Tread softly and circumspectly in this..narrow Path of Goodness. 1742 POPE *Dunc.* IV. 152 When Reason doubtful..Points him two ways, the narrower is the better. 1780 COWPER *Progr. Err.* 118 Himself a wanderer from the narrow way.

c. In special applications, as *narrow cloth*, cloth under 52 inches wide; *narrow front* (see quot. 1802); *narrow goods*, braid, ribbons, and similar woven articles; †*narrow land*, one of the narrow strips into which open fields were divided; *narrow trade*, the trade in narrow goods; *narrow wares*, narrow goods; *narrow weaver*, a weaver of narrow cloth or goods; *narrow work* (see quot. 1851). See also NARROW GAUGE, SEAS.

1647 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* VI. § 183 The Wealthy Manufacture there of Kerseys, and *narrow Cloaths. 1727 DE FOE *Eng. Tradesman* xxvi. (1841) I. 258 The narrow-cloths, in Yorkshire and Staffordshire. 1802 JAMES *Milit. Dict.*, *Narrow Front*, a battalion, &c. is said to assume a *narrow front, when it goes from line into column. 1876 VOYLE & STEVENSON *Milit. Dict.* s.v. *Column*, The formation of troops..in deep files and narrow front. 1888 *Daily News* 29 Oct. 2/7 There is a slight revival in cords, braids, and *narrow goods. 1640 *Conveyance of land, Lincolnsh.* (MS.), Et vnam selionem terre (anglice one *Narrowland) in Scunthorpe. 1826 *Hist. Eur.* in *Ann. Reg.* 59/1 The *narrow-trade or that which consisted in the manufacture of ribbands. *c* 1645 in *Archaeologia* LII. 135 A hosyer & whole saleman for *narrow wares. 1767 *Ann. Reg.* 152/1 The engine weavers were supposed to be ruinous to the *narrow weavers. 1851 GREENWELL *Coal-trade Terms Northumb. & Durh.* 37 **Narrow Work*, excavations, 3 yards in width and under. 1875 J. H. COLLINS *Metal Mining* 52 In deeper workings it is desirable..to lessen the proportions of 'narrow work', as the headings are called.

d. Of vowels, in contrast to *broad* or *wide*.

1844 *Proc. Philol. Soc.* I. 283 The Greek substituted a long and broad vowel for the short and narrow vowel of the nominative. 1890 SWEET *Prim. Spoken Engl.* 4 Each of the vowels..is either *narrow* or *wide*, according as the tongue and uvula are tense..or relaxed.

2. Of no great extent; small, limited in size; confined. *Narrow house*, the grave.

c 888 K. ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xix, He hine ne mæȝ furðum tobrædan Ofer þa nearwan eorðan ane [= *Metr.* x. 16 Ofer ðas nearowan..eorðan sceatas]. *c* 1200 ORMIN 3687 Þatt illke child, tatt tær wass leȝȝd Inn an full naru cribbe. *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* 42 Hwel he bið et hame, alle þine wide wanes þuncheð þe to nearewe. 1535 COVERDALE 2 *Kings* vi. 1 The place where we dwell..is to narow for vs. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron.*, *Hen. VIII* 102 b, Certain Welshemen were lodged at a poore village named Cause, because in Caleys was verye narow lodgyng. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 204 The place being so narrow as shee could onely stand. 1663 BOYLE *Usef. Exp. Nat. Philos.* I. ii. 40 Consider how.. delicate a Workmanship must he employ'd to contrive into so narrow a compass the several Parts. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* IV. 124 With mighty Souls in narrow Bodies prest. 1752 HUME *Pol. Disc.* X. 197 What an astonishing multitude in so narrow a country as antient Greece. 1810 JANE PORTER *Scot. Chiefs* xi, Wallace's camp or the narrow house must be our prize. 1864 TENNYSON *En. Ard.* 177 His careful hand,—The space was narrow,—having order'd all.

b. Lying or pressing close; confining.

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 103 [Hie] wilnodan þæt he hie of þæm nearwan þeostrum alesde. *c* 1000 *Riddles* liii. 3 Þa wæron ȝenumne nearwum bendum, ȝefeterade fæste togædre. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 4299 Þe brutons gonne to fle, Ac þo hii come among narwe begges hii stode aȝen anon. 1633 MAY *Hen. II*, VI. 508 He drawes his martiall forces vp, to presse With narrow siege the Towne of Limoges. *a* 1770 JORTIN *Serm.* (1771) II. xiv. 276 Our knowledge of God is confined in narrow bounds. 1793 COWPER *On Bill Mortality* iii, Life, within a narrow ring Of giddy joys comprised. 1821–2 SHELLEY *Chas. I*, IV. 45 A low dark roof, a damp and narrow wall. 1871 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1876) IV. xvii. 72 The immediate and permanent authority of both was confined within very narrow bounds.

3. Limited in range or scope; restricted.

1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 4 It is so narowe a point to know, that it is harde to make a man to vnderstande it by wrytynge. 1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* v. lxvii. § 2 The question is yet driuen to a narrower issue. 1625 BACON *Ess., Viciss. Things* (Arb.) 569 As for the great Burnings by Lightnings, which are often in the West Indies, they are but narrow. 1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* IV. xi. § 10 How foolish..a thing it is for a Man of a narrow Knowledge..to expect Demonstration..in things not capable of it. 1709 POPE *Ess. Crit.* 61 One science only will one genius fit; So vast is art, so narrow human wit. 1771 *Junius Lett.* l. (1788) 271 His plan, I think, is too narrow. *a* 1806 H. K. WHITE *Poems* (1837) 36 Can the voice of narrow Fame repay The loss of health? 1871 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1876) IV. xiii. 234 The earldom of Northumberland in the narrower sense of the name was vacant.

b. Limited in amount; very small or poor.

1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* III. iv. 8 Most narrow measure [he] lent me. 1668 R. STEELE *Husbandm. Calling* ix. (1672) 239 Let me rather have a narrow estate and wide soul. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 108 ₱ 7 We find several Citizens that were launched into the World with narrow Fortunes. 1734 tr. *Rollin's Anc. Hist.* (1827) II. II. 112 His circumstances were very narrow. 1814 JANE AUSTEN *Lady Susan* iii. (1879) 208 In narrow circumstances it was proper to render her pecuniary assistance. 1819 SHELLEY *Cenci* II. ii. 12 He has wide wants, and narrow powers. 1846 MCCULLOCH *Acc. Brit. Empire* (1854) II. 677 The court overruled the objection, but only by the narrowest majority.

c. Of time: Short, brief. *rare.*

1611 CORYAT *Crudities* (1776) I. 144 Had I not beene brought into such a narrow compasse of time. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* III. vi. 117 From this narrow time of gestation [may] ensue a..smalnesse in the exclusion. 1819 SHELLEY *Cenci* V. iv. 100 Upon the giddy, sharp and narrow hour Tottering beneath us.

†d. (See quot.) *Obs. rare*—[0].

a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew* s.v., '*Tis all narrow, said by the Butchers one to another when their Meat proves not so good as expected.

4. Sparing, close, parsimonious, mean. Now *dial.*

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 430 Beoð large touward ham, þauh ȝe þe neruwure heon and te herdure to ou sulnen. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* II. (1613) 156 To narrow breasts he comes all wrapt in gaine. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* IX. 261 Nouther..ouer skairs, narraw, or gredie. 1659 A. HAY *Diary* (S.H.S.) 220 It was not expedient to me to buy from them becaus they are somquhat narrow. 1773 JOHNSON in *Boswell*, Archibald..was narrow in his ordinary expenses. 1796 *Hist. Ned Evans* I. 146 He was..so extremely narrow as to allow himself little more than the bare necessaries of life. 1821 GALT *Ann. Parish* iii, He was a narrow ailing man. 1897 J. GORDON *Vill. & Doctor* 72 It ain't as I was a narrer man.., I bain't mean.

b. Lacking in breadth of view or sympathy; narrow-souled, narrow-minded, illiberal, prejudiced, bigoted.

1664 POWER *Exp. Philos.* Pref. 6 They are but narrow Souls, and not worthy the name of Philosophers. 1724 A. COLLINS *Gr. Chr. Relig.* 9 Some Jews being so narrow as to think Circumcision..necessary. 1760 FOOTE *Minor* I. Wks. 1799 I. 231 People who have their attention eternally fixed upon one object, can't help being a little narrow in their notions. 1825 MACAULAY *Ess., Milton* (1851) I. 22 The days of cold hearts and narrow minds. 1874 BLACKIE *Self-Cult.* 30 The merely professional man is always a narrow man.

c. So of actions, views, disposition, etc.

1657 in *Burton's Diary* (1828) II. 248 It is very narrow not to let it extend to the protestants elsewhere, as those in Munster. 1664 POWER *Exp. Philos.* I. 61 We have not those narrow conceptions of these subtle Spirits. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 126 ₱ 9, I daily find more Instances of this narrow Party-Humour. 1781 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* XXX. III. 177 The events..have undoubtedly been diminished by the narrow and imperfect view of the historians of the times. 1813 SHELLEY *Q. Mab* V. 163 Blunting the keenness of his spiritual sense With narrow schemings and unworthy cares. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* viii. § 1. 452 There was nothing narrow or illiberal in his early training.

d. Exclusive.

1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xviii. IV. 143 In no danger of falling under the dominion either of a despot or of a narrow oligarchy. 1871 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1876) IV. xviii. 208 An oligarchy not less proud and even more narrow than their brethren of Bern and Venice.

5. Strict, close, precise, careful.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 144 Þe sterke dom of domesdei—& so neruh mid alle. *Ibid.* 156 Hwo se wule ivinden et te neruwe domesmon merci & ore. 1552 in *Liturg. Serv. Q. Eliz.* (1847) 246 If thou shouldest enter into thy narrow judgment with me,..I were never able to suffer it. 1579 FULKE *Confut. Sanders* 692 You are..a narrowe vewer of such idle pictures. 1607 NORDEN *Surv. Dial.* I. 4 Millions..are now dayly troubled with your so narrow looking thereinto. 1671 MILTON *P. R.* IV. 515 Thenceforth I thought thee worth my nearer view And narrower Scrutiny. 1710 ADDISON *Tatler* No. 162 ₱ 2, I have made a narrow Search into the Nature of the old Roman Censors. 1751 SMOLLETT *Per. Pic.* XXX, Seeking to make a narrower inquiry.

b. *transf.* of the eyes, etc. (Partly in sense 1.)

1577 HARRISON *England* II. vi. (1877) I. 160 They sit still, pinking with their narrow eies. 1592 R. D. *Hypnerotomachia* 55 b, An extreame delight and desired nourishment unto a narrowe looke and greedie eye. 1611 BEAUM. & FL. *Philaster* III. i, I..plac'd thee there To pry with narrow eyes into her deeds. 1876 GEO. ELIOT *Dan. Der.* XXIX, Looking into her eyes with his narrow gaze.

6. Near, close. † a. Coming near the truth. *Obs.*

1551 T. WILSON *Logike* (1580) 37 Thei haue a narrowe gesse by all likelihoode, that the Hare was there a little before. 1679 EVELYN *Sylva* (ed. 3) 4 What some upon an accurate and narrow guess have not feared to pronounce.

† b. Of friendship: Close, intimate. *Obs. rare.*

1556 *Aurelio & Isab.* (1608) A iv, Remembring them bothe of their narrowe frendshippe. 1574 HELLOWES *Guevara's Fam. Ep.* (1584) 158 The Judge cannot holde narrow friendship with any man.

c. Of an escape: Barely effected.

1581 RICH *Farew.* E j b, She ioyed nothyng so muche in the narrowe escape she had made with life. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* VIII. ix. *heading*, The lucky and narrow escape of Partridge. 1814 SCOTT *Wav.* XXX, He had made a narrow escape, however; the bullet had grazed his head. 1860 SALA *Baddington Peerage* XX, What's a narrow squeak, a close shave, to such as I am? 1874 STUBBS *Const. Hist.* I. viii. 223 The escape was a narrow one.

d. *Bowls.* (See quot.)

a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew*, *Narrow*, when the Biass of the Bowl holds too much. 1882 [see NARROW *adv.* 3].

7. *Comb.*, as *narrow-backed, -bladed, -bottomed, -brained, -brimmed, -cast, -celled, -chested,* †*-clothed, -compassed, -ended, -grated, -heeled, -holed, -laced, -limited, -listed, -meshed, -muzzled, -nosed, -quartered, -shared, -shouldered, -sighted, -snouted, -sterned, -streeted, -throated, -toned, -topped, -verged, -visioned, -waisted, -wheeled.* Also NARROW-EYED, -HEARTED, -MINDED, -NECKED, -SOULED, etc.

1847 YOUATT *Pig* 58 *Narrow-backed, flat-sided..animals. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 465 Modelling it.., with a sharp *narrow-bladed knife. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* (1721) I. 4 In a *narrow-bottom'd Ditch, if Cattle get into it, they cannot stand to turn themselves. 1777 WATSON in *Phil. Trans.* LXVIII. 876 Put it into a narrow-bottomed ale glass. 1860 EMERSON *Cond. Life, Consid.* Wks. (Bohn) II. 414 No shovel-handed, *narrow-brained..stockingers. 1686 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2145/4 A little *narrow-brim'd black Hat. 1778 [W. MARSHALL] *Minutes Agric.* 26 Mar. 1776, In these flutes sowed the seed *narrow-cast. 1884 BOWER & SCOTT *De Bary's Phaner.* 376 The periphery of the cylinder is occupied by a meristematic *narrow-celled ring. 1873 *Routledge's Yng. Gentlm. Mag.* 178/1 [He] made everybody else in the field look *narrow-chested. *c* 1412 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 540 If a wight vertuous, but *narwe clothid, To lordes curtes now of dayes go. 1647 H. MORE *Song of Soul* II. App. ciii, Within his *narrow-compast brains. 1877 HUXLEY & MARTIN *Elem. Biol.* 195 *Narrow-ended and broad-ended papillæ. 1791 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Rom. Forest* (1820) III. 280 Its heavy black walls, and *narrow-grated windows. 1615 MARKHAM *Country Contentm.* I. xix. 82 That Cock is said to be sharp heel'd or *narrow heel'd, which every time he riseth hitteth, and draweth blood of his adversary. 1531 ELYOT *Gov.* II. xiv, In a *narowe holed seeue they will stille abide with the good corne. 1882 MASSON in *Macm. Mag.* XLV. 251 Jeffrey's more *narrow-laced clientage of the blue-and-yellow. 1690 CHILD *Disc. Trade* Pref. (1698) 21 These trades..the Dutch interest of three per cent. and *narrow-limited companies in England, have beat us out of. 1603 *Burford Reg.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.), Various Collect. I. 72 Confecit .. duos pannos laneos vocatos *narowe listed whites. 1884 BOWER & SCOTT

De Bary's Phaner. 325 Bands of tissue, appearing irregularly *narrow-meshed in cross-section. 1869 Tozer *Highl. Turkey* II. 204 Lean-jawed, *narrow-muzzled animals. 1846 Brittan tr. *Malgaigne's Man. Oper. Surg.* 269 A little osseous projection..in *narrow-nosed people. 1884 J. Tait *Mind in Matter* (1892) 61 Discussions about narrow-nosed apes. *a* 1618 Raleigh *Royal Navy* 13 So will all *narrow quartered ships sinck after the Tayle. 1765 *Univ. Mag.* XXXVII. 33/2 He plowed them up with a *narrow-shared wheel-plow. 1649 G. Daniel *Trinarch., Rich. II*, ccxcvii, Soe may the *Narrow-should'red Pigmey heave Mount Caucasus. 1708 Bp. Berkeley *Serm.* Wks. 1871 IV. 601 We *narrow-sighted mortals. 1897 Günther in Mary Kingsley *W. Africa* 708 Both the *narrow-snouted form..and the broad-snouted. 1755 Johnson, *Pink*,..a kind of heavy *narrow-sterned ship. 1858 Hawthorne *Fr. & It. Note-bks.* (1872) I. 41 A commercial city.., *narrow-streeted and sometimes pestilential. 1674 Hickman *Quinquart. Hist.* (ed. 2) 48, I see not what there is in these passages, which the most strait, *narrow-throated Calvinist may not swallow. 1865 M. Arnold *Ess. Crit.* Pref. 14 That powerful, but at present somewhat *narrow-toned organ, the modern Englishman. 1769 Mrs. Raffald *Eng. Housekpr.* (1778) 355 When they are cold put them into *narrow-topped jars. *a* 1678 Marvell *Garden* i, Some single herb or tree, Whose short and *narrow-verged shade Does prudently their toils upbraid. 1868 Croom Robertson in *Fortn. Rev.* Dec. 635 We are taunted with being a *narrow-visioned people. 1688 Holme *Armoury* III. v. 237/2 The Gowns were broad-Shouldered, *narrow-Wasted. 1881 *Daily Tel.* 5 July 2/1 A great narrow-waisted yawl, almost on her beam ends. 1758 *Ann. Reg.* I. 112/2 A *narrow wheeled waggon.

B. *sb.*

1. A narrow part, place, or thing; the narrow part of something. Also *fig.* Now *rare.*

13.. *Guy Warw.* (A.) 3493 Into þe narwe hij come, hem to lett. 1535 Coverdale 2 *Esdras* vii. 5 Yf he wente not thorow the narow, how might he come in to the brode? 1642 Rogers *Naaman* 37 We cannot speed, because we still keep a breadth in his narrow, and in our afflictions are light-hearted. 1702 C. Mather *Magn. Chr.* III. i. App. (1852) 339 When it came to the narrow of any question he would still profess himself conquered by Mr. Hooker's reason. 1742 Richardson *De Foe's Tour Gt. Brit.* II. 270 We might also mention another Narrow; that is, the Minds of the Generality of its People.

2. *spec.* (Chiefly in *pl.*) **a.** A narrow part of a sonnd, strait, or river.

1633 T. James *Voy.* 106 We were in the narrow of the Straight. 1665 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5/4 Three or four Privateers are crusing in the Narrow. 1702 *Ibid.* No. 3844/4 In the Narrow off of Winterton. 1743 Bulkeley & Cummins *Voy. S. Seas* 145 At Four this Morning weighed, and steered E.N.E. for the Narrows. 1840 Marryat *Poor Jack* li, We should have been taken possession of by a privateer in the very narrows. 1883 Stevenson *Silverado Sq.* 4 Through the narrows the tide bubbles, muddy like a river.

b. A narrow part of a pass or valley; a narrow way between mountains. (Chiefly *U.S.*)

1716 B. Church *Hist. Philip's War* (1865) I. 23 They Marched until they came to the narrow of the Neck. 1768 C. Beatty *Jrnl.* 16 We travelled up Juniata river,..through a bad road, to a place called the Narrows. 1788 M. Cutler in *Life*, etc. (1888) I. 403 We passed the narrows or gaps of two ranges of high mountains. 1808 Pike *Sources Mississ.* (1810) 175 A fine creek, which we followed through narrows in the mountains for about six miles.

c. A narrow part of a street.

1772 C. Hutton *Bridges* 2 Streets..without narrows or crooked windings. 1866 Conington *Æneid* 49 Some block the narrows of the street. 1882a *Daily News* 18 Aug. 3/1 Lives there the elderly man..who has not been sorely frightened by the risks encountered in those terrible narrows?

d. *Mining.* A narrow gallery.

1850 Ansted *Elem. Geol.* § 1106 These galleries are of different dimensions, the larger ones..are called broads, and they are intersected by other galleries at right-angles to them whose dimensions are not quite so large, and which are called narrows. 1883 Gresley *Gloss. Coal-mining* 173.

Na·rrow, *adv.* Now *rare.* Forms: 1 **nearwe,** 3 **neruwe,** 3–4 **nar(e)we,** 4–5 **narow,** (5 -oo), 6–8 **narrow.** [OE. *nearwe,* f. *nearu* Narrow *a.*]

†1. Closely, straitly, strictly. *Obs.*

Beowulf 976 Hyne sar hafað in nydgripe nearwe befongen. *a* 1000 *Boeth. Metr.* xxi. 5 Se ðe..sie nearwe gehefted mid þisses mæran middangeardes..lufe. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 268 3if þu wult þet heo drede þe, hold hire neruwe. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 68 Alle ho the driveth honne,..And wel narewe the bi-ledet. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron.*(1810) 16 þe kyng was narow holden, his folk alle to dryuen. *c* 1385 Chaucer *L. G. W.* 600 *Cleopatra,* Loue badde..hym so narwe boundyn In his las. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xiii. 436 Thay will nyp vs fulle naroo. [1667 Milton *P. L.* VII. 21 Narrower bound Within the visible Diurnal Sphear.]

†2. Closely, carefully, keenly. *Obs.*

a 900 Cynewulf *Elene* 1158 þeodcwen ongan..secan nearwe geneahhe, to hwan hio þa næglas..gedon meahte. *c* 1290 *Beket* 1745 in *S. E. Leg.* I. 156 Wel narewe þe king him gan bi-þenche to derne is luþere þoust. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 5954 He biþozte him wel narwe 3if þer mizte be eny red. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Merch. T.* 744 How excellent franchise In women is whan they bem narwe avise. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 15264 Many a way that lady soght And wel narwe sche hir be-thoght. 1412–20 Lydg. *Chron. Troy* III. xxii, To Hector he marked hath so narowe That he smote him euen amid the face. *a* 1592 Greene *Wks.* (Rtldg.) 317/1 Looking more narrow by the fire's flame, I spied his quiver.

Comb. 1596 Shaks. *Tam. Shr.* III. ii. 148 Wee'll ouerreach..The narrow prying father.

3. Narrowly, in various senses; in a narrow or close manner.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 213 þe sullere doð narewere þane he sholde, and te biggere rumluker þan he sholde. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. XIII. 371 3if I 3ede to the plow I pynched so narwe, That a fote-londe or a forwe fecchen I wolde. 1697 Dryden *Æneid* v. 675 Mnestheus..miss'd the Dove. Yet miss'd so narrow, that he cut the Cord. 1765 A. Dickson *Treat. Agric.* (ed. 2) 274 If this kind of grass-ground is plowed..shallow and narrow. 1882 T. Hardy *Two on Tower* xxvii, 'I am not skilful', she said, 'I always bowl narrow'.

b. *To fall narrow,* to fall short. *To go narrow,* to keep the legs too close together. ? *Obs.*

1648 Crashaw *Delights of Muses* Wks. (1904) 129 [He] ne're suffred yet his little arrow, Of Heavens high'st archies to fall narrow. 1697 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3289/4 Lost..a Bayish dun Horse about 15 hands,..goes narrow. 1727 Bailey, vol. II. s.v., A Horse is said to go narrow, when he does not take Ground enough, that does not bear far enough out, to the one Hand or to the other.

Narrow (næ·rou), *v.* Forms: 1 **nearwian,** 4 **narwe, narewe, nerewe,** 5, 7– **narrow.** [OE. *nearwian,* f. *nearw-, nearu* Narrow *a.*; but in later use prob. a new formation directly from the adj. OE. had also *nyrwan* (= **nigrwan*) and *genyrwan* to compress, constrain, afflict, etc.]

1. *intr.* To become narrower, to decrease in width or breadth; to diminish, lessen, contract.

a 1000 *Gen.* 1570 Sefa nearwode. *a* 1000 *Riming Poem* 37 Sinc searwade, sib nearwade. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 4577 Brod & þykke þe gynnynge was, & euere hit nareweþ [*v.r.* nereweþ] rysande on heyght. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) I. 57 þenne he narweþ to þe narwenesse of sex hondred paas. 1746 in *Acc. Fr. Settlem. N. Amer.* 20 Above that isle it narrows so, that before Quebec it is not above a mile wide. 1773 Mrs. Grant *Lett. fr. Mountains* (1813) I. xiii. 113 The glen..instead of narrowing,..grows broader as it retires. 1821 Byron *Foscari* III. i. 410 The time narrows, signor. 1847 Tennyson *Princ.* III. 180 Following up The river as it narrow'd to the hills. 1897 H. Drummond *Ideal Life* 101 Have you ever noticed, how Christ's life narrowed?

2. *trans.* To make narrower; to reduce the breadth of (a thing); †also *fig.* to constrict, constrain, oppress.

a 1000 *Riddles* xxvi. 10 Feleþ sona mines ȝemotes, seo þe mec nearwað, wif wundenlocc. *a* 1300 *E. E. Psalter* xxxiv. 5 þai be als dust ogain wind..And louerdes aungel narwand þam. 1429 *Coventry Leet Bk.* (E.E.T.S.) 118 The meyre shuld go be all the brooke, & se where hit is narowed..or stopped. 1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* 64 At the straits of Magellan, where the land is narrowed. 1768 *Conn. Col. Rec.* (1885) XIII. 52 By encroachments said road is so narrowed that it is rendered almost useless. 1796 Morse *Amer. Geog.* I. 75 A northeast wind narrows the stream. 1834 McMurtrie *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 321 Abdomen nearly square, posteriorly narrowed. 1860 O. W. Holmes *Elsie V.* (1887) 84 She narrowed her lids slightly. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 835 The sweat-pores were obviously narrowed by pressure.

b. To limit or restrict; to make less or smaller; to contract; to reduce.

1674 *Govt. Tongue* 168 We see in all things how desuetude do's contract and narrow our faculties. 1706 Stanhope *Paraphr.* III. 428 Subtle Glosses have narrowed the just extent of this Word. 1769 Burke *Obs. Late St. Nation* Wks. II. 115 He has here pretty well narrowed the field of taxation. 1817 W. Selwyn *Law Nisi Prius* (ed. 4) II. 1083 A by-law,..if it narrow the number of those out of whom the election is to be made, is void. 1859 J. Martineau *Ess.* (1866) I. 91 It greatly narrows the ground of difference. 1893 Sir R. Ball *Story of Sun* 282 This consideration narrows the search for the body.

c. To drive or press closer.

1814 Scott *Wav.* lxv, Eager to distress and narrow the posts of the enemy. 1864 Tennyson *Boadicea* 39 Tho' the gathering enemy narrow thee.

Narrow, dial. f. Ne'er a *adj. phr.*

Narrowed (næ·roud), *ppl. a.* [f. Narrow *v.*] Contracted, lessened in breadth (*lit.* and *fig.*).

1599 Daniel *Let. Octavia* Wks. 1717 I. 75 Yet oft our narrow'd Thoughts look more direct Than your loose Wisdoms. 1611 Bible 1 *Kings* vi. 6 In the wall of the house hee made narrowed rests round about. 1798 Atwood in *Phil. Trans.* LXXXVIII. 204 It would be giving that term too narrowed a meaning. 1805–17 R. Jameson *Char. Min.* (ed. 3) 199 Narrowed heavy-spar..is an oblique four-sided table. 1887 Meredith *Ballads & P.* 84 With a narrowed eye he peered.

Narrower (næ·rouəɹ). [f. as prec. + -er 1.] One who, or that which, narrows or contracts.

1753 Richardson *Grandison* III. xxi. 192, I do aver..that Love is a narrower of the heart. 1790 G. Walker *Serm.* II. xxxi. 419 Half-taught philosophers..may reprobate it as the narrower of a christian's heart.

Narrow-eyed, *a.* [Narrow *a.* 1 and 5.]

†1. Observing closely. *Obs. rare* —1.

1599 B. Jonson *Ev. Man out of Hum.* II. vi. These narrow-ey'd decypherers..that will extort strange and abstruse meanings out of any subject.

2. Having narrow eyes. Also *fig.*

1607 Middleton *Phœnix* II. iii. 147 They blind him with beer, and make him so narrow-eyed, that he winks naturally at all their knaveries. 1687 Wood *Life* 5 Sept. (O. H. S.) III. 236 All the Chineses, Tartars, and all that part of the world was narrow-eyed. 1703 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3942/4 A black slight Limb'd Mare,..narrow Ey'd. 1893 F. Adams *New Egypt* 160 The..obstinate, narrow-eyed, restless man!

Narrow gauge. The smaller distance from each other at which the two rails are laid on some railways, involving a corresponding narrowness of carriage. Freq. *attrib.* See Gauge *sb.* 3.

Formerly applied to what is now the British standard gauge of 4 ft. 8½ in., as opposed to the Broad gauge; now confined to gauges less than this, or than some corresponding standard.

1841 *Penny Cycl.* XIX. 256/1 Many who admit the inconvenience of the narrow gauge consider seven feet to be beyond the most advantageous width. 1844 Sir D. Gooch *Diaries* 53 It became a fight between the broad-gauge companies and the narrow-gauge companies. 1889 G. Findlay *Eng. Railway* 117 A notable feature in the life of the Crewe works is the narrow-gauge railway...The gauge of this railway is 18 inches.

†Na·rrowhead. *Obs.* [-head.] Narrowness.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 351/2 Narowhede, *strictura.*

Narrow-hearted, *a.* [Narrow *a.* 4.] Mean, ungenerous, ignoble.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 29 To þe narewe herted man on his þonke he seið..cune sume meðe þenne þu almesse makest. 1648 Gage *West Ind.* Ded., See what wealth and honor they have lost by one of their narrow hearted Princes. *a* 1680 Charnock *Attrib. God* (1834) II. 282 To fancy a God without it, is to fancy a miserable,..narrow-hearted..God. 1775 Adair *Amer. Ind.* 139 The Indians..ridicule the white people, as a tribe of narrow-hearted and dull-constitutioned animals.

Hence **Narrow-hea·rtedness.**

1858 J. Martineau *Stud. Chr.* 239 The false and dangerous position into which their churches have been brought by narrow-heartedness and insincerity. 1878 Spurgeon *Treas. Dav.* Ps. cviii. 5 David had none of..the narrow-heartedness of some nominal Christians.

Narrowing (næ·rouiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. Narrow *v.*] The action of the vb., in various senses; the result of this; a narrowed place or part.

1611 Bible 1 *Kings* vi. 6 Hee made narrowed rests [*marg.* Heb. narrowings, or, rebatements] round about. 1664 E. Bushnell *Compl. Shipwright* 13 At the Narrowing of the Floare, or other Circular lines. 1711 W. Sutherland *Shipbuild. Assist.* 80 Narrowings or tapering Parallels of the lower part. 1769 Falconer *Dict. Marine* (1780), *Facons,* the narrowing of a ship's floor afore and abaft. 1851 Mayne Reid *Scalp Hunt.* xli. 317 We placed ourselves to defend the..second narrowing of the channel. 1871 Blackie *Four Phases Mor.* i. 107 *note,* Such a narrowing of the idea of religious duty..is most unphilosophical.

Na·rrowing, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec.] That narrows or contracts, in *trans.* and *intr.* senses.

1664 E. Bushnell *Compl. Shipwright* 13 The narrowing lines Abaft. 1827 Keble *Chr. Y. 22nd S. after Trin.,* Of his narrowing heart each year Heaven less and less will fill. 1843 Pusey *Holy Euch.* 26 It will then seem..too refined and narrowing a distinction. 1879 Farrar *St. Paul* (1883) 259 The narrowing valleys through which the rivers descend.

Hence **Na·rrowingness.**

1883 'Vernon Lee' in *Academy* 29 Dec. 426 Its tragic and sordid narrowingness.

Narrowish (næ·rouiʃ), *a.* [f. Narrow *a.* + -ish.] Somewhat narrow.

1823 R. H. Froude in *Rem.* (1838) I. 164 The parsonage is situated in a steep and narrowish glen. 1867 Carlyle *Remin.* (1881) II. 334 Pope's partial failure I was prepared for; less for the narrowish limits visible in Milton and others. 1897 Mary Kingsley *W. Africa* 594 At the head of a rock ridge in a narrowish depression.

Narrow-leaved, *a.* Also 7 leafed. That has narrow leaves. Chiefly in plant-names (see quots.).

1629 Parkinson *Parad.* 182 It may fitly bee called a narrow leafed Flowerdeluce. 1658 Sir T. Browne *Gard. Cyrus* Wks. (Bohn) II. 548 Why coniferous trees are tenuifolious or narrow-leafed? 1754 Catesby *Nat. Hist. Car.* I. 69 The narrow-leaved Candle-berry Myrtle. 1766 *Compl. Farmer* s.v. *Lavender,* There are two sorts, distinguished by the names of lavender spike, and common narrow leaved lavender. 1768 Pennant *Brit. Zool.* (1776) I. 13 The narrow-leaved Plantane is greedily eat by horses and cows. 1833 in *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* I. i. 29 Narrow-leaved Everlasting Pea. 1859 Miss Pratt *Brit. Grasses* 22 Narrow-leaved Cotton-grass. 1879 Lubbock *Sci. Lect.* ii. 46 Caterpillars which live on or among narrow-leaved plants.

Narrowly (næ·roli), *adv.* Forms: 1 **nearo-, næro-, nearu-,** 2 **nearwelice,** 3 **neruhlic(h)e, narruliche;** 5–6 **naroly,** (5 *Sc.* narro-, 6 -lye), **narowly,** (6 -lye, -lie, **narrouly,** -lie), 6–7 **narrowlie,** 5– **narrowly,** (6 -owe-). [OE. *nearolice,* f. *nearo* Narrow *a.* + *-lice,* -ly 2, but in later use a new formation on the adj.]

1. Carefully, closely, with close attention.

c 897 K. Ælfred tr. *Gregory's Past. C.* xxi. 153 Manegu dizlu ðing sindon nearolice to smeageanne. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1085 Swa swyðe nearwelice he hit let ut aspyrian, þæt næs an ælpig hide..þæt næs ȝesæt on his ȝewrite. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 334 He seið, þet he nule nout so neruhliche demen ase ȝe siggeð. 1529 S. Fish *Supplic. Beggars* (1871) 2 They loke so narowly vppon theyre prouffittes, that the poore wyues must be countable to theym of euery tenth eg. 1581 Sidney *Apol. Poetrie* (Arb.) 43, I.. more narrowly will examine his parts. 1617 Moryson *Itin.* I. 186 Thinking that I had never a penny left, whom he had seen so narrowly searched. 1688 Holme *Armoury* III. 348/1 If they be but narrowly looked into,..there will be but little difference found. 1709 Addison & Steele *Tatler* No. 103 ¶ 11, I watched him narrowly for Six and Thirty Years. 1745 P. Thomas *Jrnl. Anson's Voy.* 120 You must search narrowly to discover it. 1806 A. Duncan *Nelson* 123 For the purpose of observing the enemy's motions more narrowly. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 21 May 5/3 We are not concerned to inquire too narrowly which of the two parties is to blame.

† b. Deeply, firmly. *Obs. rare* —1.

1494 Fabyan *Chron.* VI. cxcv. 200 Enprynted so naroly [are] thyse verses in ye boke of theyr conscyence.

2. In a contracted or confined manner.

c 1000 Ælfric *Gen.* Prol. (Gr.) 24 Nu ys seo foresæde boc on manegum stowum swiðe nærolice ȝesett & þeah swiðe deoplice. *c* 1532 Du Wes *Introd. Fr.* in *Palsgr.* 940 To reduce narowly, *coartér.* 1563 Winȝet tr. *Vincent. Lirin.* Wks. (S.T.S.) II. 45 Thai thingis..for strenthin of oure memorie, lat ws schortliar and mair narroulie reherse. 1582 Stanyhurst *Æneis* I. (Arb.) 20 Rush do the winds forward

through perst chinck narrolye whizling. 1847 W. E. Steele *Field Bot.* 197 Leaves narrowly linear. 1887 W. Phillips *Brit. Discomyc.* 140 Sporidia..narrowly fusiform or linear.

†3. Sparingly, parsimoniously. *Obs. rare.*

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 414 Heo schal libben bi elmesse ase neruhliche ase heo euer mei. *a* 1275 *Prov. Ælfred* 519 in *O. E. Misc.* 133 Ne þeng þu neuere þi lif to narruliche leden. 1647 Clarendon *Hist. Reb.* VI. § 409 He gave over any pursuit in Court, and liv'd narrowly in the Country.

†4. Barely, scarcely. *Obs. rare.*

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* i. (*Peter*) 480 Narowly cuth he purchase Audience till he had sad his will. *Ibid.* xlvi. (*Anastas.*) 36 Publy strat kepyn til hir mad, Sa þat narroly fud scho had. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 1370 Þat he fiches & firmes sa fast to þe wall, So nere vnethes at ane eld [=a needle] miȝt narowly betwene.

b. Only by a (very) little; only just.

1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 185 [He] escaped drowning verye narrowely. 1639 Fuller *Holy War* I. vi. (1840) 9 Tyrius mentioneth one memorable massacre, which they narrowly escaped. 1687 A. Lovell tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 75 They very narrowly missed being taken by the Christians. 1726 Swift *Gulliver* I. ii, One [arrow] very narrowly missed my left eye. 1774 *Misc. Ess.* in *Ann. Reg.* 159/2 She..very narrowly escaped being drowned. 1837 De Quincey *Coleridge* Wks. 1862 II. 111 He will see how narrowly Dr. Watson missed this elevation. 1884 *Law Times Rep.* L. 113/2 He narrowly escaped falling into one of the ditches. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 13 July 5/5 The match in the end was very narrowly won by Harrow.

†5. Closely, straitly. *Obs.*

1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 132 b, Nowe was the citie on every syde so narrowly and straightlye besieged. 1584 Powel *Lloyd's Cambria* 86 The Northwales men.. pursued Run so narrowlie, that all his Scottish shifts could not saue his life. 1642 Rogers *Naaman* 31 The prodigall ..was faine to be pursued so narrowly by the hand of God. 1707 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4295/2 Which Place is..narrowly beset by the Troops.

6. Illiberally; strictly.

1708 Swift *Sent. Ch. Eng. Man* II. Wks. 1751 II. 83 He does not think the Church of England so narrowly calculated, that it cannot fall in with any regular species of Government. 1876 Bancroft *Hist. U. S.* VI. lviii. 483 The narrowly selfish colonial policy. 1885 *Law Times* LXXX. 113/1 The Court held that the language of the Act is not to be read so narrowly.

Narrow-minded, *a.* [Narrow *a.* 4.] Lacking in breadth of mind; incapable of broad views; illiberal, bigoted, prejudiced. Also *absol.*

1625 B. Jonson *Staple of News* v. i, A narrow minded man! my thoughts doe dwell All in a Lane, or line indeed. 1636 — *Discov.* Wks. (Rtldg.) 743/2 He is a narrow-minded man, that affects a triumph in any glorious study. 1768–74 Tucker *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 658 The rigorous and narrow-minded throw so many difficulties in the way of salvation. 1777 Robertson *Hist. Amer.* (1783) II. 271 Where a narrow-minded bigotry appears in such close union with oppression and cruelty. 1830 Herschel *Stud. Nat. Phil.* 7 The objection which has been taken .. by persons, well meaning perhaps, certainly narrow-minded. 1874 L. Stephen *Hours in Library* (1892) I. vii. 266 He shows to the full their narrow-minded hatred of the preceding century.

Hence **Narrow-mi·ndedly** *adv.*

1827 Hare *Guesses* (1859) 276 Historians are apt to write ..presumptuously and narrowmindedly. 1884 *Q. Rev.* Apr. 328 The Chinaman shows himself less narrow-mindedly conservative.

Narrow-mi·ndedness. [-ness.] The fact or quality of being narrow-minded.

1646 Boyle *Wks.* (1772) I. p. xxxiv, Persons that endeavour to put narrow-mindedness out of countenance, by the practice of so extensive a charity. 1748 Hartley *Observ. Man* II. ii. § 33. 164 The Jews..being led thereto by the same Narrow-mindedness. 1768–74 Tucker *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 114 The sources of narrow-mindedness, considered as a fault of the will. 1835 Arnold in Stanley *Life* (1844) II. viii. 16 The narrow-mindedness of every sect plays out its own play. 1889 G. Findlay *Eng. Railway* 6 Every weapon that the prejudice and narrow-mindedness of the many.. could devise.

Narrow-mouthed, *a.* [Narrow *a.* I.]

1. Of vessels: Having a small mouth or opening.

1600 Shaks. *A. Y. L.* III. ii. 211 As Wine comes out of a narrow-mouth'd bottle. 1629 Gaule *Pract. The.* 33 Because our Vessels are narrow mouthed, and take it in but by drops. 1754–64 Smellie *Midwifery* I. Introd. 8 This assertion he illustrates by the example of an olive in a narrow-mouthed jar. 1844 *Mem. Babylon. Princ.* II. 191, I seized one of the narrow-mouthed vessels used for drinking.

b. Denoting a form of spade.

1830 *Cumbld. Farm Rep.* 65 in *Lib. Usef. Kn., Husb.* III, A narrow-mouthed spade (technically called a spit).

†2. Of languages: (See quot.) *Obs. rare* —1.

1667 *Phil. Trans.* II. 603 Those [languages] that are narrow-mouthed, and require but very slight Motions of the Lips and the other Organs of Speech.

Narrow-necked, *a.* [Narrow *a.* I.] Of vessels: Having a narrow neck.

1605 Timme *Quersit.* III. 192 The end of a narrowe necked glasse. 1611 Cotgr., *Vrne*, a narrow-necked pot..to.. keepe water in. 1727 Pope *Thoughts* Swift's Wks. 1751 V. 251 It is with narrow-souled People as with narrow-necked Bottles. 1815 J. Smith *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 212 A ready method of coating narrow necked jars. 1899 *Daily News* 6 Oct. 5/2 There have been found several long narrow-necked jars.

Narrowness (næ·roonés). Also 6 narownes(se. [f. Narrow *a.* Cf. OE. *nearo-*, *nearunes*, narrowness, constraint, distress, etc.] The fact or quality of being narrow, in various senses.

1. Smallness from side to side; lack of breadth.

1530 Palsgr. 247/2 Narownesse, *estreissevr.* 1553 Eden *Treat. Newe Ind.* (Arb.) 7 There is none other passage oute of the narownesse of the readde sea. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* Prol. 32 Farther beyonde lorne, the lande..is driuen to a strait and gret narownes. 1627 Capt. Smith *Seaman's Gram.* ii. 4 According there to her breadth or narrownesse, we say she hath a narrow or broad buttocke. 1652 Needham tr. *Selden's Mare Cl.* 132 There may som difference bee alleged onely from the largeness of the one and the narrowness of the other. 1722 De Foe *Plague* Wks. (Bohn) V. 20 As many people as the narrowness of the place would permit to stop. 1803 *Med. Jrnl.* IX. 76 Cases ..in which the narrowness or distortion of the pelvis was.. considerable. 1883 Wace *Gospel & Witn.* iv. 86 There would be something terrible..in the narrowness and straitness of the path which it marks out.

b. Small size or capacity of a place, etc.

1571 Golding *Calvin on Ps.* lxv. 5 Our narownesse is a let untoo us, that God cannot replenish us [etc.]. 1624 T. Goowin *Moses & Aaron* I. (1641) 22 All Israel could not stand by, for the narrownesse of the place. *a* 1676 Hale *Prim. Orig. Man.* II. ix. (1677) 212 Which was considerable then, considering the narrowness of the City in those days. 1795 in *Ld. Auckland's Corr.* (1862) III. 296 The narrowness of my library alone..would hinder me from placing a collection of the 'Moniteur' in it.

2. Scantiness, limited amount *of* a thing.

1647–8 Cotterell *Davila's Hist. Fr.* (1678) 11 Finding the narrowness of his fortune could not maintain the greatness of his birth. 1699 Wanley in *Lett. Lit. Men* (Camden) 293 The narrowness of my time and paper will not permit me to trouble you much further. 1751 Earl Orrery *Remarks Swift* (1752) 73 The narrowness of her income. 1824 W. Irving *T. Trav.* I. 328 My father made me a tolerable allowance, notwithstanding the narrowness of his income.

b. Restricted range *of* an immaterial thing.

1641 Milton *Ch. Govt.* I. i, To come within the narrownesse of household government, observation will shew us [etc.]. 1697 Dryden *Æneid* Ded. a 2 Those more amply treated, than the narrowness of the Drama can admit. 1741 Warburton *Div. Legat.* II. 146 The Pleonasm evidently arose from the Narrowness of a simple Language. 1818 Macaulay in Trevelyan *Life* (1876) I. ii. 96 It was attributed to the narrowness of his reading. 1877 Mrs. Oliphant *Makers Flor.* iii. 79 The narrowness of my opportunities.. compels me to give up this.

3. Limited or small capacity *of* mind, understanding, etc.

1553 Eden *Treat. Newe Ind.* (Arb.) 11 Suche as by the narownes of theyr vnderstandinge are not of capacitie to conceaue the causes and natures of thynges. 1626 Bacon *Sylva* § 290 To enlarge their Mindes to the Amplitude of the World; And not reduce the World to the Narrowness of their Mindes. 1647 Clarendon *Hist. Reb.* II. § 85 Every man..by the narrowness of his understanding..contracted all his other affections to that one of Revenge. 1699 Burnet 39 *Art.* i. 32 The only difficulty..in apprehending this, has arisen from the Narrowness of Mens Minds. 1786 W. Thomson *Watson's Philip III* (1839) 281 Whose thirst of vengeance was in proportion to the narrowness of his capacity. 1851 Gallenga *Italy* 357 Even men of..rigid morality were..scarcely less dangerous, from the narrowness of their understanding. 1882 'Ouida' *Maremma* I. 200 It is this narrowness of the peasant mind which philosophers never fairly understand.

4. Deficiency in breadth or largeness *of* soul, mind, view, etc.

1645 Howell *Twelve Treat.* (1661) 352 The sense of poverty ..brings along with it a narrownesse of soul. *a* 1665 J. Goodwin *Filled w. the Spirit* (1867) 247 It will relieve you against the natural scantness and narrowness of your hearts. 1705 Stanhope *Paraphr.* I. 12 The same Narrowness of Spirit, which tempts us not to satisfie all others. 1759 Dilworth *Pope* 70 He hated a narrowness of soul in any party. 1793 Smeaton *Edystone L.* § 296 The amazing narrowness of mind of some persons. 1830 D'Israeli *Chas. I*, III. iv. 57 If we are struck by the comprehension of his understanding, we may equally be so at the narrowness of his views. 1873 Hamerton *Intell. Life* v. iii. 189 The narrowness of men's ideas in direct proportion to their parsimony in expenditure.

b. Without const., in same sense. Also *pl.*

1697 Sir T. P. Blount *Ess.* 74 Which sort of narrowness I find many are subject to. 1734 Berkeley *Analyst* Wks. 1871 III. 297 That prevailing narrowness and bigotry among many who pass for men of science. 1817 Jas. Mill *Brit. India* II. v. vi. 565 The narrowness which the mind contracts by habitual application to the practice of English law. 1889 Ruskin *Præterita* III. 96 Norton saw all my weaknesses, measured all my narrownesses.

5. In miscellaneous uses of the adj.

1651 *Fuller's Abel Rediv., Luther* 52 Then complained he againe of the narrownesse of his breast. 1783 Johnson in *Boswell*, I was occasionally troubled with a fit of narrowness. 1871 Blackie *Four Phases Mor.* i. 98 The narrowness of the view which the inspection of a watch necessitates. 1884 *Truth* 13 Mar. 369/2 Considering the narrowness of the defeat..the tie should certainly be replayed.

Narrow seas. Also 5 sea. [Narrow *a.* I.]

1. The channels separating Great Britain from the adjacent continent and from Ireland.

14.. *Sailing Directions* (Hakl. Soc.) 21 And yif..ye be bounde into the narowe see..go your cours north est. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Rich. III* 49 b, He called home againe his shippes of warre whiche he had apoynted to kepe the narowe sees. 1562–3 *Royal Proclam.* 8 Feb., All marchauntes of all other nations, passynge through her narrowe Seas with theyr shippes and vessels. 1593 Shaks. 3 *Hen. VI*, I. i. 239 Sterne Falconbridge commands the Narrow Seas. 1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 198 In 88. upon short warning they rigged to the narrow seas 100. good men of warre. 1690 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2574/1 Your Majesties Dominion of the Narrow Seas. 1721 Perry *Daggenh. Breach* 22 Such cruising Ships.., who are appointed..to have their Station in the narrow Seas, between England and Ireland. 1754 *Ess. Manning Fleet* 45 As soon as they arrive within the Narrow Seas. 1807 *Edin. Rev.* XI. 17 Great Britain has the sovereignty of what are called the narrow seas. 1847 Tennyson *Princ.* Concl. 70 God bless the narrow seas!

2. In other applications. *rare.*

1615 W. Bedwell *Arab. Trudg., Giebel*, The mouth of the narrow seas..is after the Arabicke name vulgarly.. called *Estrecho de Gibraltar.* 1627 Capt. Smith *Seaman's Gram.* x. 48 It may bee bee meant in some narrow Seas.

Narrow-souled, *a.* [Narrow *a.* 4.] Lacking in breadth of view or feeling; ungenerous.

1641 Milton *Animadv. Remonstr. Def.* I. Wks. 1851 III. 186 The shallow surview..of some mercenary, narrow souled, and illiterate chaplain. 1691 T. H[ale] *Acc. New Invent.* p. iii, A peevish endeavour of some narrow-soul'd Men. 1766 Fordyce *Serm. Yng. Wom.* (1767) II. xii. 201 She was none of those narrow-souled women.

absol. 1700 Dryden *Cymon & Iph.* 35 Love..To lib'ral Acts inlarg'd the narrow-Soul'd. 1768–74 Tucker *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 545 Discovering daily new sources of solacement ..which the selfish and narrow-souled never can discern.

b. Mean, stingy. *north. dial.*

a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew* s. v. *Narrow, A Narrow-soul'd Fellow*, poor or Mean-spirited, stingy. 1828 *Craven Gloss., Narrow-souled*, parsimonious, ungenerous.

Narrow-spirited, *a.* [Narrow *a.* 4.] Mean-spirited, wanting in generous or liberal feelings.

1679 *Trial Langhorn* 14 He said he was a narrow Spirited, and a narrow Soul'd Physician. 1703 *Moderation a Virtue* 10 But the narrow-spirited Zealots prevailed. 1705 Stanhope *Paraphr.* II. 275 Neither the Peevish,..nor the Selfish and Narrow-Spirited .. are any of them charitable. 1768–74 Tucker *Lt. Nat.* (1834) I. 357 We .. shall find subjects to rejoice at which the selfish and narrow-spirited never know. 1818 Scott *Rob Roy* x, Qualities..modified by a narrow-spirited, but yet ardent patriotism.

Hence **Narrow-spi·ritedness.**

1709 Chandler *Effort agst. Bigotry* Ded. A 2 b, That narrow Spiritedness that is more or less the Fault of all Parties. *a* 1714 M. Henry *Wks.* (ed. Fullarton) II. 356 That narrow spiritedness which confines religion and the church to our way and party.

†**Na·rrowth.** *Obs. rare* —1. In 3 **neruhðe.** [f. Narrow *a.* + -th.] Narrowness, constraint.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 378 Þeos two þinges limpeð to ancre, neruhðe & bitternesse.

Na·rrowy, *a. rare* —1. [-y 1.] Narrowish.

1858 O. W. Holmes *Aut. Breakf.-t.* (1883) 234 Some narrowy crapes of China silk.

Narruliche, obs. form of Narrowly.

†**Nart,** art not: see Ne and Be *v.* A. 1. 2. *Obs.*

c 893 K. Ælfred *Boeth.* viii, Þonne neart ðu þeah ungesæliz. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* John xix. 12 Narð ðæs cæsares friond. *c* 1200 Ormin 4676 Loc nu ȝiff þatt tu narrt rihht wod. *c* 1205 Lay. 13633 Nert þu na wimman swa sære to wepen. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 7498 (Kölbing), A, Mahoun! ..Þou nart no god worþ a slo. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Boeth.* I. pr. v. (1868) 23 Þou nart nat put out of it. 1413 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton 1483) IV. xx. 65 Why nart thou here?

Narthecal (nɑɪþī·kăl), *a. Eccl.* [f. *narthec-*, Narthex + -al.] Of the nature of a narthex.

1866 *Ecclesiologist* XXVII. 32 The plan shows a western narthecal mass with central vestibule.

Narthex (nā·ɹpeks). *Archæol.* [a. Gr. *νάρθηξ*, properly the name of a tall umbelliferous plant with a hollow stalk; also, a small case or casket for unguents, etc.; and in later use applied as in def. The synonymous L. *ferula* was used in the same sense (Du Cange).] A vestibule or portico stretching across the western end of some early Christian churches or basilicas, divided from the nave by a wall, screen, or railing, and set apart for the use of women, catechumens, penitents or other persons; an ante-nave.

1673 Cave *Prim. Chr.* I. vi. 123 The Narthex .. was that part of the church that lay next to the great door. 1723 Bingham *Antiq. Ch.* (1838) II. 401 This [πρόναος] in the modern Greek rituals is always called the Narthex, and is peculiarly allotted to the monks or women [etc.]. 1788 Gibbon *Decl. & F.* xl. IV. 93 From the sanctuary in the east to the nine western doors..and from thence into the *narthex* or exterior portico. 1846 R. Hart *Eccl. Rec.* (ed. 2) 225 In the primitive church there was also a *Narthex* or ante-nave to the west. 1869 Tozer *Highl. Turkey* I. 79 These narthexes ..seem originally to have been intended for catechumens and penitents. 1894 Baring-Gould *Deserts S. France* I. 251 A church that consists of a narthex or vestibule, and a nave with three aisles.

Naruȝ, Narw(e, obs. forms of Narrow.

†**Narve.** *Obs. rare.* Also narfe. [perh. a variant of Nerve *sb.*] (See quots.)

1688 Holme *Armoury* III. 92/2 *Narve*, sinews pulled to Threads, and glewed on the [saddle-] Tree to hold the Tree from cracking or breaking. *Ibid.* 345/1 The Narfe.. is the sinews glewed on the Tree to strengthen it.

Narwhal (nā·ɹhwăl). Forms: α. 7 narh-, 8– narwhale. β. 8 narhwal, -hual, 8–9 narwal, -whal. γ. 8 narv(h)al. [= mod.Du. and G. *narwal*, mod.F. *narval* (1690), ad. Da. or Sw. *narhval* (f. *hval* Whale), the relationship of which to ON. *náhvalr* is obscure. The latter appears to be formed on *ná-r*, corpse, and is usually supposed to refer to the colour of the skin.] A delphinoid cetacean (*Monodon monoceros*) inhabiting the Arctic seas, and remarkable as being without teeth except two in the upper mandible, one (sometimes both) of which develops into a spirally-twisted straight horn; the sea-unicorn.

α. 1658 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* III. xxiii. (ed. 4) 205 Those long horns preserved..in many places, are but the teeth of Narh whales. 1747 *Gentl. Mag.* XVII. 174 They

having..seen the skull of the Narwhale armed with two horns. 1787 HUNTER in *Phil. Trans.* LXXVII. 373 The .. Spermaceti Whale, and the Monodon Monoceros, or Narwhale, have also fallen under my inspection. 1833 TENNYSON *Lotos Eaters* 152 (ed. 1), Where..the monstrous narwhale swalloweth His foamfountains in the sea. *c* 1865 LETHEBY in *Orr's Circ. Sci.* I. 103/2 Even the Monodons or narwhales may be made to yield train-oil.

β. 1752 J. HILL *Hist. Anim.* 314 *Monodon*, the Unicorn-fish, or Nar-wal. 1762 tr. *Busching's Syst. Geog.* I. 490 The horn of the whale called Narwhal has been found in the earth. 1799 W. TOOKE *View Russian Emp.* III. 105 The Frozen Ocean, likewise, teems with the narhwal. 1820 W. SCORESBY *Acc. Arctic Reg.* I. 494 Narwals are quick, active, inoffensive animals. 1873 *Spectator* 23 Aug. 1067/2 The men sit in dead silence..watching for the narwhal, which are blowing near.

attrib. 1813 BINGLEY *Zool.* II. 1 Of the Narwal Tribe. 1866 KINGSLEY *Herew.* i. I. 79 The handle was..curiously bound with silver, and butted with narwhal ivory. 1875 F. T. BUCKLAND *Log-bk.* 286 Some suppose that the ivory bits..were made of walrus or narwhal tusks.

γ. 1723 *Pres. St. Russia* II. 386 Who slit their Cheeks, and put the Bones of the Fish Narval into the Wound. 1728 SLOANE in *Phil. Trans.* XXXV. 460 The Tooth of a Sort of Whale in the Northern Seas called Narvhal.

Nary (nēə·ri), *a. U.S.* and *dial.* [var. of NE'ER A. The form is typically U.S., but app. occurs in some Eng. dialects, and is occas. used imitatively by English writers.] Neither; no; not a.

1836 HALIBURTON *Clockm.* (1862) 113, I guess there ain't much to brag on nary way, damage done on both sides. 1848 LOWELL *Biglow P.* Ser. I. i, Slavery ain't o' nary color. *Ibid.* Ser. II. ii, Nary sounds but watch-dogs' false alarms. 1863 RUSSELL *Diary North & South* I. 168 Another..replied to the demand for so many thousand soldiers, 'Nary one'. 1893 MCCARTHY *Red Diamonds* I. 65 We hadn't nary cent to work it with.

†**Nas,** was not: see NE and BE *v.* A. 6. *Obs.*

c 893 K. ÆLFRED *Boeth.* v. § 1 He..næs nauht zedrefed. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gen.* ii. 5 Man næs, þe þa eorðan worhte. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 81 In þisse world nas na laȝe. *c* 1250 *Lutel soth Serm.* 16 in *O. E. Misc.* 186 So reusful dede idon neuer non nas. *c* 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 161 Nas neuer non fairer fedde. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* I. pr. vi. (1868) 27, I nas nat deceiued quod sche. *c* 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 416 Heyre of Westsex non other þere nasse. *c* 1450 *Merlin* 220 Ther nas noon that was wounded to deth. *c* 1570 *Pride & Lowt.* (1841) 8 So paynted and so coloured..Nas Floras land.

†**Nas,** has not: see NE and HAVE *v. Obs.*

1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* May 61 For pittied is mishappe that nas remedie.

Nasal (nē·zăl), *sb.* Also 7 **nazal.** [In sense 1, a. OF. *nasal*, var. *nasel* NASEL; in sense 2, ad. med.L. *nāsāle*; otherwise a subst. use of next.]

1. A nose-piece on a helmet. Cf. NASEL.

1480 CAXTON *Ovid's Met.* XII. xiv, Hector toke hym thenne by the nasal and drewe the helme over hys heed. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Nazal*, the Nose-piece of a Helmet. 1828-41 TYTLER *Hist. Scot.* (1864) I. 320 The head, which is protected with a conical steel cap and a nasal. 1834 PLANCHÉ *Brit. Costume* 46 The Danish helmet, like the Saxon, had the nasal. 1869 BOUTELL *Arms & Armour* ix. 161 Iron hats ..broad-brimmed and provided with a nasal.

†**2.** = ERRHINE 1 and 2. *Obs. rare.*

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* Explan. Words, *Nasals* be Nose-tents. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* II. v. I. iv, Sneezing, masticatories, and nasals are generally received. 1632 tr. *Bruel's Praxis Med.* 7 A nasal or errhine of..Pepper-wort.

3. A nasal letter or sound.

1669 HOLDER *Elem. Speech* 59 In attempting to pronounce these two Consonants, as likewise the Nasals, and some of the vowels. 1773 KENRICK *Dict., Gram.* ii. 4 All the mute consonants which are silent before a vowel, and gutturals, nasals or palatines after it. *a* 1794 SIR W. JONES *Orthogr. Asiat. Words* Wks. 1799 I. 185 The liquid nasal follows these, being formed by the tongue and roots of the teeth, with..assistance from the other organ. 1844 *Proc. Philol. Soc.* I. 287 Although the Dutch rejects the nasal in the nominative. 1867 ELLIS *E. E. Pronunc.* I. iii. 67 We know how the present English stumble over the French nasals.

4. *Anat.* A nasal bone.

1854 OWEN in *Orr's Circ. Sci.* II. 53/1 The neural spine is usually single, sometimes cleft along the middle; it is the 'nasal'. 1873 MIVART *Elem. Anat.* 85 The nasals are small bones placed side by side above the nares.

Nasal (nē·zăl), *a.* Also 8 **nazal.** [ad. med.L. **nāsāl-is* (cf. It. *nasale*, Sp. *nasál*, F. *nasal*), f. *nās-us* nose: see -AL.]

1. Of, belonging or pertaining to, the nose.

Freq. in a large number of anatomical terms, as *nasal artery, bone, cartilage, duct*, etc.

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* s.v. *Vein, Nasal vein*, the nose vein, seated between the nostrils. 1726 MONRO *Anat. Bones* 89 Its nasal Process is connected to the nasal *Lamella ossis ethmoidis. Ibid.* 134 The nasal Bones are firm and solid. 1768 PARSONS in *Phil. Trans.* LVIII. 194 There does not appear any passage..but the mouth and nasal holes. 1826 S. COOPER *First Lines Surg.* (ed. 5) 319 Whenever the tears cannot pass freely through the nasal duct into the nose. 1855 HOLDEN *Hum. Osteol.* (1878) 131 The nasal fossæ open widely to the air in front through the nostrils. 1893 ALLEN *Handbk. Local Therap.* 113 The use of this agent, in the treatment of chronic nasal catarrh.

b. Of appliances: Used in connexion with the nose (see quots.).

1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 1512/2 *Nasal Irrigator*, a syringe for nasal douches. *Ibid.*, *Nasal Speculum*, an instrument for distending the nostrils to expose the mucous membrane of the nose. 1895 *Arnold's Surg. Instr. Catal.* 214 Nasal Truss..for correcting deformities of the Nose.

2. Of speech-sounds: Produced, to a greater or less degree, by means of the nose.

1669 HOLDER *Elem. Speech* 45 There are but 3 Nasal Letters commonly in use. 1727-38 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *N*, The N is a nasal consonant. 1776 BURNEY *Hist. Mus.* (1789) II. iv. 309 Why the French language should have so many nazal endings. 1855 D. FORBES *Hindust. Gram.* 6 At the end of a word..it generally has a nasal sound, like the French *n*. 1888 KING & COOKSON *Sounds & Inflexions* 105 The existence of nasal sonants is therefore a matter of hypothesis. 1890 H. SWEET *Primer Spoken Eng.* 1 In nasal sounds, such as *m*, the passage into the nose is left open.

b. Characterized by the presence, to an unusual or disagreeable extent, of sounds produced by means of the nose.

1669 HOLDER *Elem. Speech* 59 Some Nations may be found to have a peculiar Guttural or Nasal smatch in their Language. 1784 COWPER *Task* II. 436 Odious as a nasal twang Heard at conventicle. 1805 N. NICHOLLS in *Corr. w. Gray* (1843) 40 Mason replied instantly, in a surly, nasal tone. 1869 TOZER *Highl. Turkey* II. 253 The nasal character of the ecclesiastical music of that period. 1883 G. W. CURTIS in *Harper's Mag.* Dec. 13/2 They..worshipped God in ice-cold barns and with endless nasal prayers.

Comb. 1804 SOUTHEY in *Ann. Rev.* II. 528 The shibboleth of our nasal-twanged neighbour. 1894 'MAX O'RELL' *J. Bull & Co.* 37 Half a dozen Samoans were joining in with their cracked nasal-sounding voices.

c. Used with reference to snoring.

1824 W. IRVING *T. Trav.* I. 8 The nasal communications of two or three..who, having been silent while awake, were ..indemnifying the company in their sleep. 1884 PAE *Enstace* 105 Certain vigorous nasal sounds gave token that he was in a deep slumber.

3. Received through the nose.

1832 G. DOWNES *Lett. Cont. Countries* I. 363, I had no nasal perception of any mephitic exhalation.

4. Provided with a nose-piece.

1824 MEYRICK *Anc. Armour* I. 26 He wears a nasal helmet, and a hauberk with tight sleeves.

Hence **Na·salism** = next. *rare* $^{-1}$.

1883 OSCAR WILDE in *South. Times* 6 Oct. 4/2 The nasalism of the modern American had been retained from the Puritan Fathers.

Nasality (nēˌzæ·lĭti). [f. NASAL *a.* + -ITY: cf. F. *nasalité* (1767).] The quality of being nasal, *spec.* of utterance; an instance of this.

1776 J. COLLIER *Mus. Trav.* 25 A Clerk of the parish, who ..has the finest nasality, or nose-intonation, that ever was given to Psalm tune. *a* 1794 SIR W. JONES *Orthogr. Asiat. Words* Wks. 1807 III. 284 The Indian sound differs only in the greater nasality of the first letter. 1815 BYRON *Let. to Moore* 8 Mar., Why do you always twit me with his vile Ebrew nasalities? 1859 TROLLOPE *West Indies* xiii. (1860) 197 A nasal twang..quite distinct from the nasality of a Yankee. 1872 O. W. HOLMES *Poet Breakf.-t.* i. (1885) 18, I can reproduce phonetically its vibrating nasalities.

Nasalization (nēˌzăləizēi·ʃən). [f. next + -ATION; cf. F. *nasalisation*.] The action of nazalizing; the effect of this.

1855 tr. *Lepsius' Stand. Alph.* (1863) 58 The clear vowels are further capable of a peculiar alteration, that of nasalisation. 1856 *Trans. Philol. Soc.* 51 On the Nasalization of Initial Mutes in Welsh. 1879 WHITNEY *Sanskr. Gram.* 58 The nasalization of the alterant vowel.

Nasalize (nēˌzăləiz), *v.* [f. NASAL *a.* + -IZE: cf. F. *nasaliser*.] **a.** *intr.* To speak nasally or throngh the nose. **b.** *trans.* To render nasal in pronunciation; to utter with a nasal sound. Hence **Na·salized** *ppl. a.*, **Na·salizing** *ppl. a.* and *vbl. sb.*

1846 in WORCESTER. 1859 R. F. BURTON in *Jrnl. Geog. Soc.* XXIX. 337 Some such strongly-nasalized sound. 1868 G. STEPHENS *Runic Mon.* I. 257 The .. slurring and nasalizing and falling-away of the N in the later Scandinavian dialects. 1888 H. SWEET *Eng. Sounds* 38 Nothing is more common than the nasalizing influence of a nasal on a preceding vowel.

Nasally (nēˌzăli), *adv.* [f. NASAL *a.* + LY 2.] In a nasal tone.

1847 in WEBSTER. 1888 P. FITZGERALD *Fatal Zero* ix. 51 The lady added, very nasally, that what annoyed her was the English saying that the Americans talked through their noses.

Na-say, dial. variant of NAY-SAY.

†**Nascal.** *Obs. rare.* [ad. med.L. *nascale*, of obscure origin.] A pessary or suppository.

The med.L. term also appears as *nascare, nastare, nascaplere, nastaplare*: see *Alphita* (Anecd. Oxon.) 123.

1640 FERRAND *Melanch.* 355 Women,..who may make use of..a Nascall or Pessary, composed of Castoreum mixed with Rue. 1661 LOVELL *Hist. Anim. & Min.* 399 It is cured, in the paroxysme, by..nascals, discutients, rue [etc.].

Na·scence. *rare.* [See next and -ENCE.] Birth.

1570 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xvii. 191 Our King..Quha our defence, in his nascence, Tuik haill in gouerning. 1892 *Echo* 28 Jan. 1/5 The renascence, or should we say nascence, of British sculpture is the joy of the artistic hour.

Nascency (næ·sĕnsi). [ad. L. *nascentia*: see next and -ENCY.] The process or fact of being born or brought into existence; birth.

1682 H. MORE *Annot. Glanvill's Lux O.* 90 A Spirit of Nature..to which belongs the Nascency or Generation of things. 1871 EARLE *Philol. Eng. Tongue* iii. 167 In the nascency of geological ideas, a controversy flourished upon this question. 1873 B. STEWART *Conserv. Force* vii. 197 Under certain physical or chemical conditions, such as light, nascency [etc.].

Nascent (næ·sĕnt), *a.* [ad. L. *nascent-*, *nascens*, pres. pple. of *nascī* to be born.]

1. In the act of being born or brought forth.

a 1624 R. CRACKENTHORP *Vigil. Dormitans* 188 In the first the Pope was but Antichrist nascent, in the second Antichrist crescent. 1679 C. NESSE *Antichrist* 64 Antichrist was nascent when Rome usurp'd authority first ouer all the churches. 1722 WOLLASTON *Relig. Nat.* v. 91 Formed at once in the first article of the nascent animalculum. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) VIII. 113 Some are found to place their eggs within the aurelia of some nascent insect. 1816 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* (1843) II. 349 Ensuring a due supply of food for the nascent larvæ. 1839-48 BAILEY *Festus* xxxiv. 360 To seize the nascent souls Of men as they rerose from death to life. 1878 GLADSTONE *Prim. Homer* 100 The population, over whom the nascent babe was to reign.

2. *transf.* In the act or condition of coming into existence; just beginning to be; commencing to form, grow, or develop, etc.

a. of mathematical quantities.

1706 W. JONES *Syn. Palmar. Matheseos* 226 These Fluxions..are in the First Ratio of their Nascent Augments. 1766 AMORY *Buncle* (1770) IV. 38 An adequate notion of a nascent or evanescent quantity. 1801 YOUNG in *Phil. Trans.* XCII. 25 A partial undulation, filling up the nascent angle between the radii and the surface. 1821 PARR *Let.* Wks. 1828 VIII. 352 Your project of publishing sermons resembles a nascent arc.

b. of practices, institutions, qualities, or other abstract concepts.

In very frequent use in the 19th c., in a great variety of contexts.

1741 WARBURTON *Div. Legat.* II. 218 To support nascent Hero-worship. 1749 BERKELEY *Let.* Wks. 1871 IV. 323, I recommended this nascent seminary to an English bishop. 1763 GRAY *Let.* Poems (1775) 301 Imagination..reigns in all nascent societies of men. 1803 SYD. SMITH *Wks.* (1850) 15 These symptoms of returning, or perhaps nascent purity in the mind of Mr. Lewis. 1818 G. S. FABER *Horæ Mosaicæ* I. 297 A person who was perplexed with a nascent infidelity. 1847 R. W. HAMILTON *Rewards & Punishm.* v. (1853) 205 The nascent emotion acquires vigour. 1875 MAINE *Hist. Inst.* ix. 278 Two alternative expedients were adopted by nascent law.

c. of material things or substances. (Common in scientific use, esp. in *Chem.* and *Zool.*)

1802 PALEY *Nat. Theol.* (1817) 60 That cartilage in truth is only nascent or imperfect bone. 1832 *Planting* 91 in *Lib. Usef. Kn., Husb.* III, *Nascent stem.*—The development of the stem of a seedling plant, just previous to the exhibition of the first leaves. 1849 NOAD *Electricity* (ed. 3) 157 The oxides of copper and zinc reduced by the nascent hydrogen. 1862 DARWIN *Orchids* vi. 268 These protuberances may be provisionally considered as nascent antennæ. 1877 THOMSON *Voy. Challenger* I. ii. 141 They seem to thrive best among the elements of nascent limestones.

3. *Nascent state*, the state of coming into existence, beginning to form, develop, etc. So *nascent condition.*

1796 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) I. 206 Inflammable air, in its nascent state. 1819 G. S. FABER *Dispensations* (1823) II. 213 Idolatry is plainly enough described as being only in a nascent state. 1830 LYELL *Princ. Geol.* I. ix. (1837) I. 230 Endeavouring to connect the phenomena..with a nascent condition of organic life. 1859 DARWIN *Orig. Spec.* xiv. (1873) 398 It may..represent the nascent state of the wing. 1880 CLEMINSHAW *Wurtz' Atom. The.* 208 The peculiar activity of hydrogen and oxygen when in the nascent state.

4. *Nascent green*, a light green, like that of a young plant.

1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 420 Yellow with blue [produces] green of a variety of shades; such as nascent green.

Nasche, obs. form of NESH *a.*, soft.

†**Nase,** *sb. Obs.* Also 5 **uace, nasse.** [OE. *nasu* = MDu. *nase*, OHG. *nasa* fem., nose (MHG. *nase, nas*, G. *nase*), ON. *nps* (:-**nasu*) nostril (pl. *nasar*), related to Lith. *nósis*, OSl. *nosŭ* (Russ. НОСЪ), Skr. *nas-*, and with difference in vowel-grade to L. *nāsus* nose, *nārēs* nostrils, Skr. *nāsā* nose. The relationship to OE. *nosu* NOSE is obscure; see also NESE.] The nose.

a 1000 *Laws Ethelb.* in Thorpe *Laws* I. 14 ȝif nasu þyrel weorð. *Ibid.* 16 ȝif man oðerne mid fyste in naso slæhþ. *c* 1050 *Vocab.* in Wr.-Wülcker 264 *Columpna*, eall seo nasu. *Pirula*, forewerd nasu. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 202 His nase of and his lippes bothe He kutte. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 7031 The noble kyng in the nase hade an euyll wound. *c* 1407 LYDG. *Reson & Sens.* 3553 Huge boolys of metal, With flavme..Which yssed out at nasse and mouthe. *c* 1440 CAPGRAVE *Life St. Kath.* II. 1321 To ȝeue mankynd bothe nase, eye & tothe. [1886 *Rochdale Gloss.*, *Nase* (old), the nose.]

†**Nase,** *a. Obs. Cant.* [Of obscure etym. Cf. NAZY.] Drunken, intoxicated; intoxicating (liquor).

a 1550 *Hye Way to Spittel Hous* in Hazl. *E. P. P.* IV. 69 With bousy cove maimed nace. *Ibid.*, For my watch it is nace gere. 1567 HARMAN *Caveat* (1869) 86 Now I tower that bene bouse makes nase nabes.

†**Nase,** *adv. Obs. rare.* [f. NA *adv.*^{1} + *-se*, as in OE. *nese* no, *gese* yes.] Not, by no means.

c 1315 SHOREHAM I. 1862 Ne forþe þe moder þet hyt beer, Ne woldest þou nase y-faȝe. *Ibid.* 1873, 1890.

Nase, variant of NAZE, headland.

Naseberry (nēi·zbĕri). Also 7 **-bury, 9 knees-.** [ad. Sp. or Pg. *néspera* medlar (Sp. *níspero* medlar-tree): see etym. note to MEDLE *sb.*] A West Indian tree (*Sapota Achras*) which yields an edible fruit called the Sapodilla plum. Also *attrib.*

1698 *Phil. Trans.* XIX. 435 The *Chrysodendros Americana*, or Star-apple, the Nasebury Tree. 1725 SLOANE *Jamaica* II. 171 Naseberry. This tree riseth up with a streight trunc .. about thirty foot high. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* App., *Naseberry tree*, the English name of a distinct genus of plants, called by botanists Cainito, or Chrysophyllum. 1760 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* App. 320 Naseberry-tree, *Sloanea*. 1849 BALFOUR *Man. Bot.* § 937 *Achras Sapota*, and other species, furnish the Sappodilla Plum and Naseberry, well-known West Indian fruits. 1892 M. NORTH *Recoll. Happy Life* I. 99 The Sapodilla or kneesberry whose fruit is about the size of an apple and tastes like a medlar.

†**Nasee'**, *a. Obs. rare*—[1]. [ad. OF. *nasé*:—Romanic **nāsālu-s*, f. L. *nāsus* nose.] Having a mutilated nose.

c 1330 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 168 His nese..he carfe at misaventoure...þei caled him þis toname, Statin þe nasee.

†**Na·sel.** *Obs.* Also 5 **nasell.** [a. OF. *nasel* (11th c.):—late L. **nāsāle*: cf. Nasal *sb.* 1.] A part of the helmet serving as a guard for the nose.

c 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 10043 A riche corounal wiþ perre,..þe nasel & bendeles of gold ful bryght. 13.. *Guy Warw.* (A.) 2288 His hauberk was al to-tore & his nasel avaled hifore. *c* 1400 *Rowland & O.* 465 Rowlande..hittes hym on þe helme thanne, þat þe Nasell floghe full hye. *c* 1450 *Merlin* 329 The kynge Aroans helde hervy..by the nasell of the helme.

Nash, dial. variant of Nesh *a.*, soft.

Nash, *v. slang.* [Etym. obscure.] (See quots.)

1812 J. H. Vaux *Flash Dict., Nash*, to go away from, or quit, any place or company; speaking of a person who is gone, they say, he is nash'd. 1832 *Lincoln Herald* 18 Sept. 2/4 You had better nash (go away) unless you want to be nippered (taken into custody).

†**Nash-cloth,** an ash-cloth. *Obs. rare*—[0]

1611 Cotgr., *Charrié*, a Bucking-cloth, or Nash-cloth.

Nash-gab, -gob. *Sc.* and *north. dial.* [f. dial. *nash* impertinence (cf. *snash*) + Gab *sb.*] Impertinent talk; a pert or gossiping person.

1816 Scott *Old Mort.* viii, The Philistines .. are gaun to whirry awa' Mr. Henry, and a' wi' your nash-gab. 1818 — *Rob Roy* xxvi, They hae coost up my kindred to Rob to me already—set up their nashgabs! 1843 *Richardson's Borderer's Table-bk., Leg. Div.* I. 116 The nashgob of a creature, Tom Fenwick, wins the haggis.

†**Nasico·rnous,** *a. Obs. rare*—[1]. [f. L. *nāsus* nose + *cornū* horn.] Having a horn on the nose.

1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* 166 Some Unicornes wee will allow even among insects, as those foure kinds of nasicornous Beetles described by Muffetus.

Nasiform (nē·zifōm), *a. rare.* [f. as prec. + -form.] Having the form of a nose.

1752 J. Hill *Hist. Anim.* 211 The Cyprinus, with a nasiform snout. 1826 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* III. xxxi. 253 In the pupa of *Morpho Menelaus* .. this nasiform prominence of the prothorax is extended into a long arched horn.

Nasik (nā·sik). [See def.] The name of a town in the presidency of Bombay (where the inventor, A. H. Frost, resided), used *attrib.* to designate certain elaborate 'magic' squares and cubes. Hence **Na·sikal, Na·sical** *a.*; **-ally** *adv.*

1866 P. Frost in *Q. Jrnl. Math.* VII. 94 To distinguish the squares..from the ordinary magic squares, I shall call them Nasik Squares, and his cubes Nasik Cubes. *Ibid.* 98 The squares about the same diagonals may be turned through any number of right angles .. without destroying the Nasikal properties.

Nasillate (nē·zile·t), *v. rare.* [f. F. *nasill-er* (f. L. *nāsus* nose) + -ate.] *intr.* To speak through the nose. So **Nasilla·tion,** nasal utterance.

1859 W. White *Northumbld. & Border* 464, I sang Yankee Doodle with appropriate nasillation. 1863 — *Jrnl.* 5 Oct. (1898) 186 Maury..does not nasillate in speaking.

†**Nask(in.** *Obs. Cant.* (See quots.)

1686 Higden *Juvenal Sat.* x. 38 Each beir by dice, drink, whores, or masking, Or Stistead brought into the Naskin [*note.* The cant word for a Prison]. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Nask*, or *Naskin*, a Prison or Bridewell.

†**Na·sky,** *a.* app. a var. of Nasty. *Obs. rare*—[0].

1611 Cotgr., *Maulavé*, ill washed; ..naskie, nastie.

Naso- (nē·zo), modern combining form of L. *nāsus* nose, employed in a large number of anatomical or pathological terms relating to the nose in conjunction with some other part, as *naso-ethmoidal, -frontal, -labial, -lachrymal, -malar, -maxillary, -oral, -palatal, -palatine, -pharyngeal, -turbinal* adjs. Also *naso-antritis, -pharyngitis, -pharynx.*

Many other combs. of the same character, as *naso-aural, -basal, -buccal*, etc. are given in the *Syd. Soc. Lex.* (1891).

1891 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, **Naso-antritis*, inflammation of the mucous lining of the antrum and of the nose. 1883 Martin & Moale *Vertebr. Dissect.* 108 This is the *naso-ethmoidal cartilage. 1839–47 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* III. 734/1 The.. *naso-frontal process [is regarded] as the basis for the lachrymal bone. 1876 Flower *Osteol. Mammalia* (ed. 2) 168 A rounded depression over the naso-frontal suture. 1836–9 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* II. 223/1 The second [set], or *naso-labial fibres, are elevators of the upper lip. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV. 716 The naso-labial fold is more or less obliterated. 1836–9 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* II. 209/1 The lower aperture of the *naso-lachrymal canal. 1885 *Athenæum* 31 Jan. 156/1 A new index, the '*naso-malar index', was proposed. 1836–9 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* II. 209/1 The anterior or *naso-maxillary border. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 55 The *naso-oral muzzle must never be used. 1854 Owen in *Orr's Circ. Sci.* II. 66/2 The prepalatal or *naso-palatal aperture. 1836–9 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* II. 208/2 The.. *naso-palatine surface is divided..by an horizontal plate of bone. 1881 Mivart *Cat* 74 The anterior termination of the anterior palatine canal transmitting the naso-palatine nerve. 1872 Cohen *Dis. Throat* 97 A pseudo-membranous deposit in the pharyngeal and *naso-pharyngeal region. 1884 M. Mackenzie *Dis. Throat & Nose* II. 251 This method of enlarging the naso-pharyngeal space. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 334 Chronic *naso-pharyngitis .. requires likewise alkaline muriated or saline waters. 1877 Burnett *Ear* 185 The arrival of the beak of the catheter in the *nasopharynx. 1876 Flower *Osteol. Mammalia* (ed. 2) 110 It is sometimes distinguished under the name of *nasoturbinal.

†**2.** Used in terms denoting nasal sounds, as *naso-guttural, -spirital, -vocal. Obs.*

1669 Holder *Elem. Speech* 59 Thus out of .. 36, casting out as useless .. 9 Naso-Spiritals, 6 Naso-Vocals, and 2 Spiritals, there remain 19 Consonants. *Ibid.* 75 Some may be found to take in some Letters, as the Ore-spirital L' R' and Naso-spirital M' N' Ng'. 1748 *Phil. Trans.* XLV. 406 The Power or Force..of the Naso-guttural *N.*

3. *Naso-ductility*, capacity of being led by the nose. *nonce-wd.*

1820 Coleridge in *Lit. Rem.* (1839) IV. 125 Let the reproach be shared between the Breath's fetid conscience and the nostrils' nasoductility.

Nasology (nēzɒ·lŏdʒi). [f. as prec. + -logy.] The study of the nose or of noses. So **Nasolo·gical** *a.*; **Naso·logist.**

a 1854 S. Phillips *Ess. fr. Times* (1871) II. 336 Mr. Dickens is as deep in nasology as the learned Slawkenbergius. 1858 Lytton *What will He do* I. i, Characters.. graphically portrayed, with a nasological illustration. 1899 *Daily News* 17 Feb. 4/7 What is your favourite perfume? asks the nasologist of his patient.

Nason (nē·sŏn). [Of obscure etym.] (See quot. 1855.)

1690 *Specification* in Grove *Dict. Mus.* (1880) II. 594/2 Choir Organ .. Flute, of metal. Nason, of metal. 1694 *Ibid.*, Echoes of halfe stops; .. Principal. Nason. 1855 Hopkins *Organ* II. 118 Nason. This name is sometimes found applied in old organs to a wood-stopped Flute of 4-feet pitch on the Great Manual...It is generally a very quiet and sweet-toned Stop.

Nass(e, variants of Nas, was not. *Obs.*

Nasse, obs. variant of Ass, Nase.

Nass-fish. [Of obscure origin.] = Angler[1] 2.

1880–4 Day *Fishes Gt. Brit.* I. 64.

Nassh(e, obs. variants of Nesh *a.*, soft.

Nast (nast). *dial.* [Back-formation from Nasty *a.*] Dirt, filth, foulness.

1789 Marshall *Rural Econ. Glouc.* I. 330 *Nast*, foulness; weeds in a fallow. 1839 *Hereford Gloss., Nast*, dirt, nastiness. 1882– in dial. glossaries (Lanc., Chesh., Warw., Worc., Glouc.). 1885 Westall *Old Factory* xxiv, I don't care about rooting and pottering among nast.

†**Nast,** hast not: see Ne and Have *v.* A. 9. *Obs.*

c 1290 *Beket* 760 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 228 On me nast þu power non swych destresse for-to do. *a* 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* xxxvii. 102 Nast thou nothyng bote fyht, Whil thou art a lyve.

Nast, knowest not: see Not *v.*

Nastell: see Astel.

Na·stify, *v. nonce-wd.* [f. Nasty *a.* + -fy.] *trans.* To make nasty.

1873 M. Collins *Miranda* II. 237 The makers will glaze, varnish, nastify paper to such an extent that writing on it is a perfect nuisance.

Nastily (nɑ·stili), *adv.* [f. Nasty *a.* + -ly [2].] In a nasty manner or state; filthily; disagreeably, unpleasantly.

1611 Cotgr., *Sordidement*, filthily, nastily, naughtily. 1616 Surfl. & Markh. *Country Farme* VII. xxxviii. 701 The Badger.., finding his lodging so nastily beraied, presently .. forsakes the place. 1663 *Aron-bimn.* 68 The Houses of God could not be suffered to lie so Nastily.. were the true worship of God observed in them. 1741 Richardson *Pamela* I. 239, I vexed her yesterday, because she talk'd nastily. 1775 Mrs. J. Harris *Lett.* I. 302 He feeds nastily and ferociously, and eats quantities most unthankfully. 1858 Hawthorne *Fr. & It. Note-bks.* (1872) I. 52 Streets narrow..and smelling nastily.

Nastiness (nɑ·stinĕs). [f. Nasty *a.* + -ness.]

1. Filthiness or foulness of persons, places, or things; disagreeable dirtiness or want of cleanliness; an instance of this, a filthy act or habit.

1611 Cotgr., *Souillarderie*, slnttishnesse, nastinesse, greasinesse. 1621 Burton *Anat. Mel.* I. ii. II. v. (1651) 83 Through their own nastiness, and sluttishness,..suffer their air to putrifie. 1679 Penn *Addr. Prot.* II. (1692) 201 The.. Tedious Imprisonments, even to Death it self, through nastiness of Dungeons. 1719 J. T. Philipps tr. *Thirty-four Confer.* 324 Spitting in your Houses, and some other daily Nastinesses committed by you. 1737 L. Clarke *Hist. Bible* (1740) I. 1. 104 That which increased his Misery was the Nastiness of his Distemper, which rendered him..loathsome to others. 1794 S. Williams *Hist. Vermont* 154 Nothing can exceed the nastiness that appears in their food. 1803 Malthus *Popul.* I. iv. (1817) I. 68 All voyagers agree with respect to the filth of the habitations, and the personal nastiness of the people.

b. That which is nasty; dirt, filth.

1611 Cotgr., *Souillure*, soyle, filth, nastinesse. *c* 1645 Howell *Lett.* (1650) II. ii. 8 Here one shall see nor dog, nor cat, nor cage, to cause any nastines within the body of the House. 1687 A. Lovell tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 30 They are not subject to that filth and nastiness which breed among our Hair, if we be not carefnl to comb it well. 1703 Maundrell *Journ. Jerus.* (1721) 9 The Houses were all fill'd with Dirt and Nastiness. 1769 E. Bancroft *Guiana* 219 When the Snake is killed, it must first be washed clean, and freed from all filth and nastiness. 1808 *Med. Jrnl.* XIX. 570 Where nastiness of every description, and putridity in its most loathsome forms, are to be found.

c. A filthy, disgusting, or repulsive thing.

1859 Hughes *Scour. White Horse* vi. 124 Haven't you made me ill often enough with your nastinesses fifteen years ago? 1859 Sala *Tw. round Clock* (1861) 43 Snowy lump-sugar has been refined by means of unutterable nastinesses of a sanguineous nature. 1871 Miss Mulock *Fair France* ii. 52 No greasy nastinesses of stews.

2. Moral foulness or impurity; grossness, obscenity; talk or writing of this kind.

1700 Dryden *Pref. Fables* Wks. (Globe) 507 The nastiness of Plautus and Aristophanes. 1785 Reid *Intell. Powers* VIII. i. 491 By bad habits men may acquire a relish for nastiness. 1870 Lowell *Among my Bks.* Ser. I. (1873) 45 The common quality..of all Dryden's comedies is their nastiness.

3. Unpleasantness of flavour.

1868 *Atlantic Monthly* Mar. 264 That quality of unmitigated nastiness which so familiarly attests the genuineness of our Western doses. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 627 Such sense of taste as remains is only capable of perceiving a bitter nastiness.

†**Nastu·rce.** *Obs. rare.* [a. F. *nasturce*, ad. L. *nasturtium.*] = Nasturtium 2.

1693 [see Caper *sb.*[1] 3]. 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Nasturces* or Capucin Capers, a kind of French Bean that gets up upon Branches, or Poles, which are near it. 1707 Mortimer *Husb.* (1721) II. 154 Nasturces, commonly called Capuchin Capers, are multiply'd only by the Seed.

Nastu·rtian. Also 8 **nastert-, 9 -ion.** [Corrupt form of next.] = Nasturtium 2.

1740–1 Mrs. Delany *Life & Corr.* (1861) II. 147 Nastertians, ivy, honeysuckles..., and all sorts of twining flowers. 1769 Mas. Raffald *Eng. Housekpr.* (1778) 351 Gather the nasturtian berries soon after the blossoms are gone off. 1845–50 Mrs. Lincoln *Lect. Bot.* 50 Orbicular, or the round leaf; the Nasturtion affords an example of this kind. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* July 167/2 Boxes of nasturtions and mignonette stand on the sills.

Nasturtium (næstə·ɹʃŏm). Also 6–8 **-cium.** [a. L. *nasturtium*, so named, acc. to Pliny, from its pungency ('nomen accepit a narium tormento'): cf. F. *nasitort.*]

1. A genus of cruciferous plants having a pungent taste, of which the best-known representative is the Watercress (*N. officinale*); also, a plant belonging to this genus. Now only *Bot.*

1570 Foxe *A. & M.* 1156/2 This was some mery deuill, or els had eaten with his teeth some Nasturcium before. 1602 R. T. *Five Godlie Serm.* 101 The Nasturcium of the Persians..I take to be a more precious and soueraigne plant than our common Cresses, although it be vulgarly deemed the same. 1664 Evelyn *Kal. Hort.* (1729) 195 Sow also.. Cabbages, Cresses, Nasturtium, Fennel [etc.]. 1696 Phillips (ed. 5), *Nasturtium*, the name of a Plant, otherwise called Nosesmart, or Cresses. 1753 Chambers *Cycl. Supp.* s.v., The leaves of the nasturtiums are divided and cut into segments. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVII. 513/1 The nasturtium grows on the brinks of rivulets and water ditches. 1837 Wheelwright tr. *Aristophanes* II. 261 What prat'st thou of nasturtiums?

†**b.** *Sweet Nasturtium*: (see quot.). *Obs.*—[1]

1712 tr. *Pomet's Hist. Drugs* I. 21 It is call'd Cardamome, or sweet Nasturtium, because it has a smell much like the Nasturtium.

2. A trailing plant of the S. American genus *Tropæolum*, commonly cultivated in gardens for its showy orange-coloured flowers; Indian Cress.

Now usually denoting the larger species *Tropæolum majus*, introduced from Peru in 1686, but at first applied to *T. minus* (also from Peru), known in this country from 1596, and at first called *Nasturtium Indicum.*

[1629 Parkinson *Parad.* v. 281 *Nasturtium Indicum*, by which name it is now generally..called. 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Nasturtium Indicum*, Indian Cresses, the Flowers of which smell, and look very pleasantly. 1741 *Compl. Fam.-Piece* II. iii. 369 Sow some Seeds of the *Nasturtium Indicum* upon Hot-beds.]

1704 Gardiner tr. *Rapin's Gardens* I. 34 The arm'd Nasturcium through each teeming Bed, With Trefoil intermingling Leaves, is spread. 1725 Bradley *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Sallet*, The dry'd seeds of the Indian Nasturtium reduced to powder, finely bolted, and mix'd with a little leaven. 1789 Barker in *Phil. Trans.* LXXIX. 164 The nasturtiums were not cut off till after the middle of November. 1845–50 Mrs. Lincoln *Lect. Bot.* II. 78 The pollen of the Nasturtium. 1872 Oliver *Elem. Bot.* II. 154 Indian Cress, ..called Garden Nasturtium.

attrib. 1747–96 Mrs. Glasse *Cookery* vi. 98 A few nasturtium flowers stuck here and there, look pretty. 1881 T. Hardy *Laodicean* VI. iii, The same nasturtium leaves that presented their faces to the passers without.

b. *Comb.* with names of colours, as *nasturtium-red, -yellow.* Also *ellipt.* as the name of a colour.

1845 *Encycl. Metrop.* VIII. 465/1 Nasturtium.—Chrome yellow 24, flux 76. 1892 *Pall Mall G.* 19 May 1/3 The Eton jacket..opened over a blouse of nasturtium-yellow silk. 1896 *Daily News* 18 July 6/3 An oblong yoke of bright nasturtium-red velvet.

Nasty (nɑ·sti), *a.* Also 5 **naxty, -te,** 6, 8 (9 *Sc.*) **nesty,** 7 **gnastie, naustie.** [Of obscure origin: cf. Du. *nestig* (?MDu. *nistich*) foul, dirty, the history of which is also obscure. The early form *naxty* and Cotgrave's *nasky* may indicate a stem *nasc-*, which also appears in Sw. dial. *naskug, nasket* (Rietz) dirty, nasty, but the ultimate relationship of the forms is not clear.]

The original force of the word, denoting what is disgustingly dirty or foul, has been greatly toned down or altered in English use (see senses 3–5), but is retained in the United States, where *nasty* is not commonly used by polite speakers: cf. De Vere *Americanisms* (1871) 509 and R. G. White *England Without & Within* (1881) xvi. 386.

1. Foul, filthy, dirty, unclean, esp. to a disgusting degree; offensive through filth or dirt; characterized by the presence of, or contact with, filth or uncleanness.

In quot. 1477 prob. *transf.* and = Filthy *a.* 4.

a 1400 *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* 252 Nasty, sory, vnmisty. *c* 1420 *Anturs of Arth.* xv, Thus in dawngere and dole I downe and I duelle, Nasty [*v. rr.* naxty, naxte] and nedfulle, and nakede one nyghte. 1477 in Leadam *Sel. Cases Star Chamb.* (Selden Soc.) 2 The seid mysdoers..accompaigneth theym with many evyll disposed and nasty persones. 1548 Patten *Exped. Scotl.* D vij, A very slouuen saynt & belyke a nesty. 1576 Fleming *Panopl. Epist.* 356

Let vs spring out of our nastie nestes of sluggishnesse. 1587 — *Contn. Holinshed* III. 1547/2 *marg.*, The mischiefe of nastie apparell. 1617 Moryson *Itin.* III. 162 The nastie filthinesse of the nation in generall. 1663 Boyle *Usef. Exp. Nat. Philos.* II. v. 152 Not to meddle with such nasty things as the grosser sort of humane Excrements. 1696 Bp. Patrick *Comm. Exod.* i. 14 In carrying Dung..into the Field, and such like nasty Services. 1710 Swift *Medit. Broomstick* Wks. 1755 II. i. 181 Destined to make other things clean and be nasty itself. 1745 P. Thomas *Jrnl. Anson's Voy.* 31 The ship..was in a very nasty condition. 1800 *Med. Jrnl.* IV. 110 Garments..often grow rotten and infectious as they grow nasty. 1841 W. Spalding *Italy & It. Isl.* III. 168 Streets which are narrow, steep, and exceedingly nasty.

b. Morally filthy; indecent, obscene.

a 1601 ? Marston *Pasquil & Kath.* II. 311 You forget your selfe to vse such jests, Such nastie ribauldrie, vpon my daughter. *c* 1648–50 Brathwait *Barnabees Jrnl.* II. 14 A curmudgeon rich but nasty [*perobscænum*]. 1666 Bp. S. Parker *Free & Impart. Censure* (1667) 52 An intemperate sensuality is nasty. *a* 1731 Atterbury (J.), The greatest heap of nasty language that perhaps ever was put together. 1809 Malkin *Gil Blas* II. vii. P 16 What an exhibition before my comrades! It was surrendering myself to all their nasty witticisms. 1873 E. E. Hale *Ups & Downs* x. 96 He hated it as a gentleman hates to hear a nasty story.

2. Offensive to smell or taste; nauseous.

a 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VI* 135 The Lady Margaret..was of suche nasty complexion and euill sauored breathe, that he abhorred her company. 1601 Weever *Mirr. Mart.* C j b, The aire's a gnastie old mans breath ill smelling. 1835 Marryat *Jac. Faithf.* xxii, For one good smell by the river's side, there be ten nasty ones. 1853 Kane *Grinnell Exp.* xxxiv. (1856) 306 Began using the remnant of our fetid hear's meat: nasty physic, but we will try it. 1885 *Law Times* LXXIX. 74/2 There was a nasty smell about the premises.

3. Of weather: Foul, dirty, wet, disagreeable.

1634 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* 216 We..had little other or better weather then high stormes, nastie raines and lowd thunders. 1744 Fielding *Tumble-down Dick* Wks. 1784 III. 405 It is a cursed nasty morning. I wish we have not wet weather. 1776 S. J. Pratt *Pupil of Pleas.* (1777) I. 33 It's a nasty evening and not fit for walking. 1814 Jane Austen *Lett.* (1884) II. 222 It is a nasty day for everybody, ..here is nothing but thickness and sleet. 1838 Dickens *Nich. Nick.* xiv, 'A nasty night, Mr. Noggs', said the man. 1892 *Daily Weather Rep.* 20 Dec., Variable breezes,..dull, nasty, probably some rain.

4. Offensive in some respect; disagreeable, unpleasant, objectionable, annoying.

In common use as a general epithet expressing dislike or annoyance.

1705 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4106/4 Rob. Thomkins,..pale Faced, has nasty rough Hair. 1732 Fielding *Lottery* Wks. 1784 II. 131 Does not the nasty red colour go down out of my face? 1782 Mme. D'Arblay *Lett. & Diary* (1842) II. 191 How disagreeable these sacques are! I am so incommoded with these nasty ruffles! 1837 Landor *Pentameron* iii. Wks. 1853 II. 329/1 An Italian, a poet, write in French! What human ear can tolerate its nasty nasalities? 1844 Willis *Lady Jane* I. 259 My creditors They send their nasty bills in, once a year. 1888 *Poor Nellie* 280 They..had nasty little tricks of whispering unpalatable truths.

absol. 1884 Rae *Contemp. Socialism* 105 The taste of the *bourgeoisie* for the cheap and nasty.

b. Applied to persons (passing into 5).

1711 Swift *Lett* (1767) III. 153 The little nasty lawyer that came up to me so sternly at the Castle the day I left Ireland. 1838 Dickens *Nich. Nick.* ix, 'He's a nasty stuck-up monkey',..said Mrs. Squeers. 1862 Trollope *Orley F.* I. 306 'Nasty, sly girl', said Lady Staveley to herself. 1865 Dickens *Mut. Fr.* I. iv, That nasty Lightwood feels it his duty [etc.].

c. Difficult to deal with; dangerous, bad.

1828 *Sporting Mag.* XXIII. 33 Mr. Russel hunts here, and I learnt that he is a nasty one to get away from. 1875 W. S. Hayward *Love agst. World* II This is a nasty ditch we are coming to. 1884 *Sat. Rev.* 14 June 783/2 There was outside of Harwich harbour a nasty sea.

d. Having unpleasant results; rather serious.

1880 'Ouida' *Moths* xxiii, It would be very funny if she gets a few 'nasty ones', as the boys say, herself. 1883 *Standard* 16 May 2/7 Mr. Grace..received a nasty blow on the finger. 1894 *Daily Tel.* 4 Jan. 5/4 Laid up..,owing to a nasty fall, sustained while hunting.

5. Ill-natured, ill-tempered, disagreeable (*to* another).

1825 Brockett *N. C. Gloss., Nasty*, ill-natured, impatient, saucy. 1848 A. B. Evans *Leicestersh. Words, Nasty*, ill-tempered, cross, vexed. 'She got quite nasty'. 1858 S. Wilberforce *Sp. Missions* (1874) 78 The absence of toleration confines itself to a few nasty articles in newspapers. 1871 M. Collins *Mrq. & Merch.* I. ii. 83 He will take delight in being..nasty to a neighbour. 1874 Lisle Cara *Jud. Gwynne* I. iii. 71 Lest the headstrong William might turn nasty.

6. *Nasty man*, the one in a gang of garrotters who actually does the work.

1863 Trevelyan *Compet. Wallah* 20 Scheming to avoid, as best they can, The fell embraces of 'the nasty man'.

Na·sty, *v. Obs.* exc. *dial.* [f. prec.]

1. *trans.* (and *refl.*) To make nasty or dirty.

1728 T. Boston *Wks.* (1855) VI. 563 As willing to be washed as ever child ashamed of his nastying himself is. 1770 *Phil. Trans.* LX. 186 Salt is by no means to be used.. as it always will drop and nasty the plumage.

2. *intr.* To commit a nuisance.

1749 in Cramond *Church of Keith* 55 (E. D. D.), If any person shall be convicted..of nastying within the walls of the churchyard.

† Nasute, *a. Obs.* Also 7 nasut. [ad. L. *nāsūt-us*, f. *nāsus* nose.]

1. *fig.* Keen-scented, sagacious.

1653 Gauden *Hierasp.* 303 The names then of Clergy and Laity, in which the Nasuter Criticks of this age, sent something of pride. 1660 H. More *Myst. Godl.* VII. x. 320 Our modern Atheists, especially the more nasute sort of them. 1697 Evelyn *Numism.* vi. 212 If there be some so Nasute ..as to undertake the discrimination of..Medals. 1707 T. Bray *Bibl. Paroch.* (ed. 2) 34 *note*, This is a piece of Knowledge extremely slighted by such as would be accounted Nasute, Critical and Sagacious.

2. Having a strong sense of smell. *rare* $^{-1}$.

1699 Evelyn *Acetaria* (1729) 132 They are commonly discovered, scented and rooted out by a nasute greedy Swine purposely brought up.

Hence † **Nasuteness,** the quality of being nasute; sagacity. *Obs.*

1660 H. More *Myst. Godl.* VIII. ii. 365 Any man that has but a moderate nasuteness. 1685 — *Curs. Refl. Baxter* Pref. A 2 An Ostentation of his singular Nasuteness.

Nat, *sb.* Now *north. dial.* Also 4–5 natte, 6–8 natt, 7 knat. [a. F. *natte*: see etym. note to Mat *sb.*^{1}] **a.** A mat. (Freq. in church-accounts.) **b.** *dial.* A straw mattress.

1361–2 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 385 Cum factura del nattes in coro. 1399 *Fabric Rolls York Minster* (Surtees) 17 In nattes emptis de Iohanne de Francia, 8*d.* 1426 Lydg. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 11264 Olde nattys ageyn he made. 1430–40 — *Bochas* III. i. (1554) 69 A brode hat, rent out of nattes olde. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 249/1 To make Nattes, *storiare*. 1597 *Vestry Bks.* (Surtees) 43 For makinge a natt for the wyves to knele on when they come to be churched. 1682 *Ibid.* 206 To George Newton for nats for the church, 3 *s.* 1730 *Finghall Churchw. Acc.* (MS.), For two Nats, 7*d.* 1744 *Ibid.*, Paid for a Natt 11*d.* 1788 W. Marshall *Yorksh.* Gloss., *Nat*, a straw mattrass. 1876 in *Whitby Gloss.* 1877 in *N. W. Linc. Gloss.*

Comb. 1426 Lydg. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 11282 The natte-makere answerde ageyn. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 249/1 A Natte maker, *storiator*. 1530 Palsgr. 247/2 Nat maker, *natier*.

Hence † **Na·tting,** matting. *Obs. rare* $^{-1}$.

1669 *Fabric Rolls York Minster* (Surtees) 348 For covering the seates with natting in the Dean's closet 15.

† **Nat,** *adv. Obs.* Also 6 natt. [Reduced form of *nazt* Naught *adv.*] = Not *adv.*

c 1385 Chaucer *L. G. W.* Prol. 12 Men schal nat wenyn euery thyng a lye [etc.]. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl. C.* III. 18 Layn nat yf ȝe knowen. *Ibid.* XIX. 251 Ich with-sat nat hus heste. 1402 Hoccleve *Let. Cupid* 46 That men shulde nat for her sake dey. *c* 1420 Lydg. *Assembly of Gods* 453 Yef she be examynyd she woll hit nat deny. *a* 1485 Fortescue *Wks.* (1869) 486 The fyle wereth, and after that is laide asyde as a thyng nat profitable. 1513 Bradshaw *St. Werburge* II. 27 The notable actes of our fathers..(yf litterature were nat) myght nat nowe be tolde. 1536 *Lett. Suppress. Monast.* (Camden) 147, I colde natt then name them to you. 1575 *Gamm. Gurton* I. ii. 30 Nay; but ich saw such a wonder as ich saw nat this vii yere.

Nat, variant of Not *v.*, wot not. *Obs.*

Nat, obs. form of Not *a.*, hornless.

Natabi·lity. [f. L. *natābil-is*, f. *natāre* to swim + -ity.] Capacity of floating.

1796 H. Hunter tr. *St.-Pierre's Stud. Nat.* (1799) II. 153 The natability of aquatic seeds is, undoubtedly, proportioned to the length of the voyages which they have to perform.

Natal (nē·tăl), *a.*^{1} and *sb.* Also 4–7 natall, 5 natale. [ad. L. *nātāl-is* adj. and sb., f. *nāt-*, ppl. stem of *nascī* to be born, + *-ālis*: see -al. Cf. F. *natal* adj. and sb. (15th c.).]

A. *adj.* **†1.** Presiding over birthdays or nativities.

c 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* III. 150 Now nece myn, by natal Ioves fest, Were I a god, ye sholde sterve as yerne.

2. Of places: Native. Chiefly *poet.*

c 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* XI. 130 And as for seed, in natal soil hit feede. 1436 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 167 The duke knewe that the townes thre Shulde have loste all hys natale cuntree. *c* 1480 Henryson *Mor. Fab., Lion & Mouse* 51 My natall land is Rome withouttin nay. 1605 Camden *Rem.* 108 Children tooke names from their natall places. 1632 Lithgow *Trav.* X. 498 Where thence, (O natall place) my soule did coyle. 1725 Pope *Odyss.* I. 8 Safe with his friends to gain his natal shore. 1762 Kames *Elem. Crit.* xix. (1833) 349 After a long voyage it was customary among the ancients to salute the natal soil. 1820 Shelley *Hymn Merc.* xxiv, He sought his natal mountain-peaks divine. 1855 Tennyson *Daisy* 18 How young Columbus seem'd to rove, Yet present in his natal grove.

3. Of or pertaining to (one's) birth; connected with, or dating from, one's birth.

1447 Bokenham *Seyntys* (Roxb.) 9 The tytyl of hyr natal dygnyte In her yung age she dede forsake. 1589 Puttenham *Eng. Poesie* I. xxiii. (Arb.) 61 Others for magnificence at the natiuities of Princes children..are called songs natall or *Genethliaca*. 1663 Sanders *Palmistry* II. 31 Thy Natal Stars (meaning the Radical Position of the Heavens at thy Birth) promise thee happy success. 1817 Shelley *Rev. Islam* Ded. i, Ere my fame become A star among the stars.., If it indeed may cleave its natal gloom. 1866 G. Macdonald *Ann. Q. Neighb.* XXXI. (1878) 533 A belief that the circumstances of one's natal position are not to be rudely handled. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 733 The pre-natal and natal affections are readily distinguished from this disease.

fig. 1848 R. I. Wilberforce *Doctr. Incarnation* xiv, (1852) 383 In God only is Holiness...From this natal source does the principle of holiness extend itself through the creation. 1872 Blackie *Lays Highl.* 39 From the scriptured rock at ease I spell Creation's natal chapter.

b. *Natal hour* or *day*, the hour or day of one's birth; birthday. Also *fig.*

1704 Paioa *Prol., Her Majesty's Birthday* 6 Thou, propitious star, whose sacred power Presided o'er the monarch's natal hour. 1729 T. Cooke *Tales*, etc. 55 O! Youth..on whom the kindest Ray Has shed an Influence from your natal Day. 1781 Cowper *Anti-Thelyphth.* 92 Hypothesis (for with such magic power Fancy endued her in her natal hour). 1853 Kane *Grinnell Exp.* XXV. (1856) 206 The natal day of the prince consort. 1875 Whitney *Life Lang.* viii. 135 The saint to whom his natal or christening day is sacred.

c. *Natal games, ring* (see quots.).

1727–38 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v. *Natalis*, Natal Games were games introduced on the anniversaries of the birth-days of great men. *Ibid.*, Natal Ring..was a ring only worn on the birth-day. 1877 W. Jones *Finger-ring* 46 Perseus alludes to the natal ring in his first Satire.

d. Connected with one from birth.

1811 W. R. Spencer *Poems* 97 My natal angel round my heart. 1879 Long *Æneid* IX. 333 Who am all lost, if back Come not my Sire, by our great natal Gods.

B. *sb.* **†1.** [obs. F. *natal.*] A birthday-feast.

1484 Caxton *Fables of Æsop* IV. xi, He would haue celebrated and holden a natall or a grete feste.

† 2. *pl.* [L. *nātālēs.*] Birthday celebrations. *Obs.*

1597 Bp. Hall *Sat.* III. iv, Were yesterday Polemon's natals kept? 1636 Fitz-Geffrey *Blessed Birthday* (1881) 119 Why should not we with ioy resound and sing, The blessed Natals of our heauenly King?

Natal (nē·tăl), *a.*^{2} [f. L. *nat-is* (see Nates) + -al.] Of or pertaining to the nates or buttocks.

1870 H. A. Nicholson *Man. Zool.* lxxxiii. 556 The natal callosities are generally large and conspicuous.

† Natali·tial, *a.* and *sb. Obs.* [f. L. *nātāl-iti-us* (f. *nātālis* Natal *a.*^{1}) + -al.]

a. *adj.* Belonging to or connected with one's birth or birthday.

1611 Coryat *Crudities* 74 The Parish of Odcombe, my deare natalitiall place. 1641 J. Jackson *True Evang. T.* III. 175 His natalitiall hymne was sung..by a Chore of Angels. 1679 Evelyn *Sylva* (1776) 630 We read in the life of Virgil how far his natalitial Poplar had outstripped the rest of its Contemporaries.

b. *sb.* [L. *nātālītia.*] A birthday celebration.

1652 Sparke *Prim. Devot.* (1663) 84 Our funerals border on our natalitials.

† Natali·tious, *a. Obs.* [f. as prec. + -ous.]

1. = Natalitial *a.*

1646 Buck *Rich. III* 78 It importeth no reason why those early and natalitious teeth should presage such horrour.. to his birth. 1669 Baddeley *Life Bp. Morton* 1 The natalicious and Birth-places of most Noble..Princes.

2. Concerned with one's children. *rare* $^{-1}$.

Not from the L. text, which has only *bellum internecivum*.

1654 R. Codrington tr. *Justine* XXVI. 353 The Gauls.. made a natalitious and an intrinsick war with..their children.

Natality (nătæ·lĭti). [f. Natal *a.*^{1} + -ity. In recent use ad. F. *natalité.*]

1. Birth. *rare.*

1483 Caxton *Gold. Leg.* 245/1 The passyng out of thys world of sayntes is not sayd deth of sayntes but natalyte. 1830 J. Badcock *Ess. Foote* in Foote's Wks. p. lxxvii, I should doubt whether Samuel Foote visited Truro more than once since the natality of Mr. Polwhele was proclaimed to his kindred.

2. Birth-rate; ratio of births to the population.

1888 Myers *Sci. & Fut. Life* (1893) 104 The natality or rate of increase of different provinces of France. 1899 *Pop. Sci. Monthly* Sept. 673 The revival of religious ideas.. might have some effect on natality.

Natant (nē·tănt), *a.* [ad. L. *natant-em*, pres. pple. of *natāre*, freq. form of *nāre* to swim, float.] **a.** Swimming, floating. **†b.** Of the pulse: Buoyant. *Obs.*

1707 Floyer *Physic. Pulse-Watch* 407 In a Disease from Water, if the Pulse he natant and great, 'tis a sign of Life. 1753 Chambers *Cycl. Supp.* s.v. *Leaf*, Natant Leaf, one which floats upon the surface of the water. 1831 *Crayons fr. Commons* 63 He who natant still delights to lave His pliant members in the limpid wave.

Hence **Na·tantly** *adv.*, 'swimmingly, floatingly' (Webster 1847).

† Natatile, *a. Obs. rare* $^{-1}$. [ad. L. *natātilis* (Tertullian), f. *natāt-*, ppl. stem of *natāre* to swim, + *-ilis*: see -ile.] Able to swim.

1721 Bailey. 1725 — *Erasm. Colloq.* (1878) II. 147 A Natatile Beet do you say?..Who ever heard of, or ever read the Name of a Swimming Beet?

Natation (nătē·ʃən). Also 6 nawtacyon. [ad. L. *natātiōn-em*, n. of action f. *natāre* to swim. Cf. F. *natation.*] The action or art of swimming; also, † that which swims or floats.

1542 Booroe *Dyetary* xiii. (1870) 265 Euery thyng that is vnctious..doth swymme aboue in the brynkes of the stomacke:..the excesse of suche nawtacyon or superfyce will ascend to the oryse [*v.r.* orifice] of the stomacke. 1623 Cockeram I, *Natation*, a swimming. 1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* 193 Other animalls..need no other way of motion, for natation in the water, then for progression upon the land. 1793 *Charac.* in *Ann. Reg.* 252/1 Had I remained in England and opened a school of natation. 1834 McMurtrie *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 276 Here, as among the Vertebrata, we find the walk, the run, the leap, natation and flight. 1865 Weld *Last Wint. in Rome* 111 No Roman bathes in the Tiber now, and as for feats of natation [etc.].

Hence **Nata·tional** *a.*, relating to swimming; **Nata·tionist,** a swimmer.

1883 *Field* 22 Dec. 853 To take an active lead in matters natational. 1891 *Daily News* 17 Feb. 3/8 The question of supremacy between the natationists could be settled.

‖ **Natatores** (nē·tătō·rēz). *Ornith.* [L., pl. of *natātor*, f. *natāre* to swim.] *pl.* An order of birds adapted for swimming, including ducks, geese, swans, pelicans, etc. (Named by Illiger, 1811.)

1823 Vigors in *Trans. Linn. Soc.* XIV. 405 Five great primary divisions..of birds..: Natatores, or Webfooted Birds. 1855 Dallas *Syst. Nat. Hist.* II. 156 The most striking character of the *Natatores*, or Swimming Birds

is derived from the structure of the feet. 1870 GILLMORE tr. *Figuier's Reptiles & Birds* i. 210 The Natatores are obviously devoted, by their organisation, to an aquatic life. 1881 *Nature* XXIII. 365 The wading-birds and natatores.

Natatorial (nēi·tătōe·rĭăl), *a.* [f. as NATATORY *a.* + -AL.]

1. Of or belonging to swimming.

1816 T. L. PEACOCK *Headlong Hall* viii, Mr. Cranium, being utterly destitute of natatorial skill, was in imminent danger of final submersion. 1890 *Boston* (Mass.) *Jrnl.* 26 Mar. 2/4 One of the animals..came off victorious on account of superior natatorial powers.

b. Of organs: Adapted for swimming.

1823 VIGORS in *Trans. Linn. Soc.* XIV. 405 *note*, Podiceps has a true natatorial foot. 1870 H. A. NICHOLSON *Man. Zool.* 74 The gonocalyx..now serves as a natatorial organ. 1871 T. R. JONES *Anim. Kingd.* (ed. 4) 459 It .. swims freely about by means of two natatorial feet.

2. Characterized by swimming; *esp.* in *Ornith.* of the order of birds called *Natatores*.

a. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XIII. 334/2 The circle of the *Laridæ*, no less than that of the natatorial order, has now been traced. 1854 OWEN in *Orr's Circ. Sci.* II. 75/1 Natatorial birds sometimes need very extended flight. 1872 H. A. NICHOLSON *Palæont.* 387 In many cases—especially amongst the Natatorial birds [etc.].

b. 1870 H. A. NICHOLSON *Man. Zool.* xxxii. 190 In the Natatorial Isopoda..the last pair of abdominal legs are expanded. 1892 *Working Men's Coll. Jrnl.* Oct. 126 When stocking an aquarium with natatorial insects, give these a separate department.

So **Natato·rious** *a.* [-IOUS.]

1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* III. xxx. 171 The larva of *Agrion*, which in its tapering body and anal natatorious laminæ represents a shrimp.

Natatory (nēi·tătōri), *sb.* [In sense 1, ad. late L. *natātōrium* sb., neut. of *natātōrius*: see next.]

†1. A swimming-bath, pool. *Obs.*

c 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) viii. 93 Also streghte from Natatorie Siloe, is an Ymage of Ston. 1653 URQUHART *Rabelais* I. lv, On the out-side were placed the tilt-yard, .. the theater.., and Natatorie or place to swim in.

2. An organ used in swimming.

1852 DANA *Crust.* II. 878 The abdominal natatories are very small.

Natatory (nēi·tătōri), *a.* [ad. late L. *natātōrius*: see NATATION and -ORY.]

1. Of organs: Adapted for or used in swimming or floating.

1799 *Brit. Critic* XIII. 212 When they feel the necessity of sleep, their natatory bladder is much inflated. 1835 KIRBY *Hab. & Inst. Anim.* I. vi. 197 It is said that they can render themselves heavy or light at pleasure, which some effect by means of a natatory vesicle. 1859 DARWIN *Orig. Spec.* xiv. (1873) 389 They have six pairs of beautifully constructed natatory legs. 1878 BELL *Gegenbaur's Comp. Anat.* 416 The natatory membrane of many Reptiles.

2. Of or belonging to swimming.

1836 E. HOWARD *R. Reefer* xix, I perfected my natatory studies (affected phraseology is the fashion). 1863 G. KEARLEY *Links in Chain* vii. 154 They are enabled to perform a sort of natatory movement. 1885 *Graphic* 24 Jan. 90/3 He had confidence in his own natatory skill.

3. Characterized by swimming.

1887 E. D. COPE *Orig. Fittest* 278 There is little doubt that the natatory Sirenian order was derived from it by a process of degradation. 1895 'Q.' (QUILLER COUCH) *Wandering Heath* 95 Nereus..With his natatory daughters.

Natch (nætʃ), *sb.* Now *dial.* Forms: 6 **natche**, 7 **nach**, 9 **natch**. [? var. of NOTCH.] A notch. Hence **Natch** *v.*, to cut notches in; **Natched**, notched, indented.

1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 38/7 A Natche, *incisura*. *Ibid.* 14 To Natche, *incidere*. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* 43 Brounewurte hath..leaues natched or dented rounde about. 1659 *New Haven Col. Rec.* (1858) II. 276 A gray mare .. branded on y^e^ neare shoulder with ao S, wth a nach on y^e^ further eare. 1878– in dial. glossaries, etc. (see *Eng. Dial. Dict.*).

Natch, variant of NAUTCH.

Natch-bone. *rare.* [f. *natch*, var. of NACHE.] = AITCH-BONE.

1613 MARKHAM *Eng. Husbandman* II. II. vii. (1635) 81 His natch-bones which are on both sides the seting on of his taile. 1828 KITCHINER *Cook's Oracle* 151 We have also heard it called Natch-Bone. 1855 in OGILVIE *Suppl.*

†**Na·ted,** *a. Obs. rare*⁻¹. (See quots.)

1628 FELTHAM *Resolves* II. xii. 31 How like a nated Sop, spunged, even to the cracking of a skinne? 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* (citing Feltham), *Nated*, born, bred, brought forth, framed of nature.

Nate(ly, obs. forms of NAIT(LY.

†**Naterelle,** variant of HATTREL *Obs.*

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 351/2 Naterelle, *idem quod* nape.

Nates (nēi·tīz), *sb. pl. Anat.* and *Med.* [a. L. *natēs*, pl. of *natis* rump, buttock.]

1. The buttocks, haunches.

1706 in PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey). 1754–64 SMELLIE *Midwifery* III. 101, I had several cases in which the nates presented. 1804 ABERNETHY *Surg. Obs.* 29 An adipose tumour growing beneath the skin of the nates. 1876 GROSS *Dis. Bladder*, etc. 261 A piece of oil-cloth, placed under the nates, will more effectually secure this object.

2. The anterior and larger pair of the optic lobes (*corpora quadrigemina*) of the brain.

1681 tr. *Willis' Rem. Med. Wks.* Vocab., *Nates*, two prominences in the brain, so called because in the form of buttocks. 1713 DERHAM *Phys.-Theol.* VI. ii. 361 The different magnitude of the Nates, and some other Parts of the Brain, in Beasts. 1756 *Gentl. Mag.* XXVI. 517/1 The nates too were very large and broad, and near two inches in length. 1840 G. V. ELLIS *Anat.* 47 The anterior pair,—the nates, larger than the posterior. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 345 The anterior tubercles or nates are connected with the optic tracts.

3. The umbones of a bivalve shell (*Cent. Dict.*).

†**Nath,** has not: see NE and HAVE *v.* A. 9. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Sinz bef. Judgm.* 102 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 10 Þe þing þat bodi no flesse naþ non. *a* 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* xii. 42 Why, nath nout uch mon his? *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 9214 (Kölbing), He naþ non heued, þat nil it defende. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* VI. 42 He with-halt non hyne his huire that he hit nath at euen. 1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 158 Of ydylnesse ne of folye he nath not to do.

Nathe (nēið). *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Also 6–7, 9 **nath** (næþ). [var. of NAVE (and *naff*): cf. the similar variation between RATHE *sb.*[2] and RAVE *sb.*[2]] The nave of a wheel.

1382 WYCLIF *Ecclus.* xxxiii. 5 The entrailes of a fool as the whel of a carre, and as a turnende ful axtre [*MS. C* nathe] the thenkingus of hym. *c* 1449 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 222 The Carte nathe is spokeles, For the counseille that he gaffe. 1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 5 The wheles..be made of nathes, spokes, fellyes, and dowles. 1649 BLITHE *Eng. Improv. Impr.* (1652) 167 Nathes or Hubs: *Ibid.* 200 Six spokes .. fastned into a little short Hub or Nath. 1655 *Phillis of Scyros* (N.), The restlesse spokes, and whirling nathes, Of my eternal chariot. 1778 *Eng. Gazetteer* (ed. 2) s.v. *Field*, There were 80 pair of nathes for wheels cut out of it first. 1796 W. MARSHALL *Midl. Counties* Gloss. 1880– in dial. glossaries (Northumb., Lanc., Sheffield, Staff., etc.).

Natheless, nathless (nēi·þlĕs, næ·þlĕs), *adv.* (and *prep.*) Now only *arch.* Forms: *α.* 1 **na þe læs, naðe læs**, 3 **naðelas**, 4–5 **naþeles**, (4 -lese), 4–6 **natheles**, (4 -lees), 6– **natheless**, (6 -lesse, also 6 **naithe-, naythelesse**, 7 **nay-theless**). *β.* 4–7 **nathles**, (4 **naples**), 6–7 **nathlesse**, (6 **naith-**), 7 **nathless**. [f. OE. *ná* NA *adv.*[1] + *þe* (= *þý*) THE + *læs* LESS *adv.* Cf. NETHELESS and NOTHELESS.] Nevertheless, notwithstanding.

α. c 900 in Bouterwek *Screadunga* (1858) 22 Þa na þe læs beseah Lothes wif underbæc. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1011 Naðe læs for eallum þisum griðe .. hi ferdon æghwider folc mælum. *c* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 27 Ac naðelas ic wille, a godes half, ðat tu bie ȝewarned. *c* 1290 *Beket* 414 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 118 Ake naþeles is heorte bar euere to Thomas þer. ? *a* 1366 CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 403 But natheles I trowe that she Was faire sumtyme, and fresh to se. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* xlviii. 208 (Harl. MS.), Naþeles hit shall be don as thow wolt have hit. 1533 MORE *Apol.* 131 This Calanius beynge a senator, and natheles lenyng all vnto the people. 1596 SPENSER *Hymn Beauty* 159 Nathelesse the soule is faire and beauteous still. 1622 WITHER *Philarete* M 4 Yet I, poore I; must perish nay-thelesse. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1768) II. 348 But she comes on very well nathelesse. 1816 SCOTT *Old Mort.* Introd., If it be..pretended that my information..is, natheless, incompetent to the task. 1867 MORRIS *Jason* IX. 228 Somewhat they doubted, natheless forth they passed.

β. c 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 4 þowe he be his seruaunt of dette & oblischinge, naples he is not his seruaunt in filling of werk. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* XXIV. xix. 521 The enterprise, being a service of small consequence, and nath'lesse very dangerous. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* I. 299 The torrid Clime Smote on him sore ..; Nathless he so endur'd. 1748 THOMSON *Cast. Indol.* II. xli, Nathless with feigned respect he bade give back The rabble rout. 1790 COLERIDGE *Devonshire Roads*, Nathless Revenge and Ire the Poet goad. 1814 SCOTT *Wav.* xxx, 'Indubitably', answered Mr. Cruickshanks; .. 'Nathless, if your honour —'. 1868 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* (1870) I. II. 554 Nathless by some few fathers old These tales about the place were told.

b. *prep.* In spite of, notwithstanding. *rare.*

1567 DRANT *Horace, Ep.* Ded., Wheras, nathles the wyt of the one and the port of the other, all theyre wyde fames hadd long ere this time bene drenched in the dust. 1802 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Gaston de Blondeville* Posth. Wks. 1826 III. 39 Yet could he not endure to behold him, nathless the expectations of most in the court. 1882 O'DONOVAN *Merv Oasis* I. 327 Nathless the dread which I had of these creatures, I was obliged to make a halt.

†**Nathemo(re,** *adv. Obs.* Forms: *α.* 2 **naþema, naðemo**, 3 **na þe ma**, 4 **naþemo**. *β.* 2 **naðemore**, 6 **nathemore**. [f. as prec. + MO or MORE.] Never the more.

α. c 1127 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1127 Hit ofþuhte naþema ealle Frencisc & Englisc. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 83 Þis wiðerfulle mannisshe .. seð mine wunderliche deden and naðemo me ne leueð. *c* 1205 LAY. 4627 Nu we nuten na þe ma þat we ne speken wit ure ifæn. 1297 R. GLOUC. *Chron.* (Rolls) 5154 Ac souþsex ne laste noȝt longe, ne est sex naþemo. 1340 *Ayenb.* 41 Of þise zennes ne byeþ naȝt kuytte..þo naþemo þet benimeþ oþer of hyaldeþ mid wrong. *a* 1400 *Song of Joy* (MS. Laud 622) 41 Ne aungel nys naþemo bot his messagere.

β. c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 79 Þe man..[that] ne wile seche after wreche & naðemore haten him þe him agilteð. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. viii. 13 But nathemore would that corageous swayne To her yeeld passage. 1596 — *Hymn Beauty* 158 Yet nathemore is that faire beauties blame.

†**Nather,** *conj. Obs.* [OE. *náðer, náðor*, var. of *nauðer, nawðer*: see NAUTHER.] Neither.

c 893 K. ÆLFRED *Oros.* III. i, Hie naþer næfdon siþþan ne heora nanon ne heora anweald. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC in Assmann *Ags. Hom.* (1889) 70 Næron hi..naðor ne godes scep ne godes bearn þa ȝyt. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1110 Naþer ne leoht .. ne nan þing mid ealle of him wæs ȝesæwen. *c* 1200 *Moral Ode* 325 (Trin. Coll. MS.), Ne muȝe we werien naðer ne wið þurst ne wið hunger. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 11679 In þis wildernes es [water] nan, Naþer for vs ne for vr fee.

Nather, -ir, obs. (chiefly Sc.) varr. of NEITHER.

Nathing, obs. Sc. form of NOTHING.

Nathir, obs. Sc. form of NETHER.

Naþur-quar: see NOTHER-WHERE.

‖**Natica** (næ·tikă). *Zool.* [mod.L., perh. from med.L. *natica* buttock, f. L. *natis*: see NATES.] A genus of carnivorous sea-snails; a snail belonging to this genus.

1840 *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 360 A broad notch or sinus.. distinguishes it from Natica and Nerita. 1851 WOODWARD *Mollusca* I. 47 The red spots on the naticas and nerites are commonly preserved in tertiary and oolitic fossils. 1874 WOOD *Nat. Hist.* 637 Our first example of this family is the Natica.

Na·ticide. *rare*⁻¹. [f. L. *nāt-us* or *nāt-a* child + -CIDE I.] One who kills his or her child.

1855 *Fraser's Mag.* LI. 255 The symptoms..indicating 'head disease' in the Esher adulteress and naticide.

Naticoid (næ·tikoid), *a. Zool.* [f. NATICA + -OID.] Resembling (that of) Natica.

1851 WOODWARD *Mollusca* I. 135 Shell trochiform or naticoid. *Ibid.* 138 Shell naticoid, often eroded.

Natif(e, -iff, obs. forms of NATIVE *sb.* and *a.*

Natiform (nēi·tifōm), *a.* [f. L. *nat-is* (see NATES) + -(I)FORM.] Resembling or having the form of buttocks.

1681 tr. *Willis' Rem. Med. Wks.* Vocab., *Natiform*, in the form of a buttock. 1839–47 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* III. 384/1 The natiform protuberances are unusually large. 1898 DAWSON WILLIAMS *Med. Dis. Inf.* 262 The skull assumes a peculiar and characteristic shape, to which the term natiform has been applied.

Nation (nēi·ʃən), *sb.*[1] Forms: 4 **naciun(e, -cioun**, 4–6 **nacion**, (4 **-one**), **-cyon**, (5 **-one**), 6 **natyon**, *Sc.* **natioun, naceoun**, 4– **nation**. [a. F. *nation*, † *nacion*, etc., ad. L. *natiōn-em* breed, stock, race, nation, f. *nāt-*, ppl. stem of *nascī* to be born. Cf. Sp. *nacion*, It. *nazione*.]

I. 1. An extensive aggregate of persons, so closely associated with each other by common descent, language, or history, as to form a distinct race or people, usually organized as a separate political state and occupying a definite territory.

In early examples the racial idea is usually stronger than the political; in recent use the notion of political unity and independence is more prominent.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 241 Of ingland the nacion Es Inglis-man þar in commun. ‖ *Ibid.* 8225 All naciun and lede aght vr lauerd for to drede. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 393 Þo gospels of Crist written in Englische, to moost lernyng of our nacioun. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Man of Law's T.* 183 Allas! un-to the Barbre naciown I moste anon. *c* 1460 FORTESCUE *Abs. & Lim. Mon.* iii. (1885) 115 The said kynge is compellid to make his armeys .. of straungers, as Scottes, Spaynardes, .. and of oþer nacions. 1494 FABYAN *Chron.* clxxxviii. 190 With a great boost of Danys, and other straunge nacyons. 1538 STARKEY *England* I. iv. 106 To defend thys custume long vsyd in our reame and natyon. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* I. ii. 49 He hates our sacred Nation. 1625 N. CARPENTER *Geog. Del.* II. iii. (1635) 53 Wee shall obserue..a multitude of miserable and wretched nations. 1682 G. VERNON *Life Heylin* 74 In almost all Nations Christened, the sam Law has continued to this very time. 1753 FOOTE *Eng. in Paris* Epil., Wks. 1799 I. 31 Not a Buck, nor a Blood, through the whole English nation, But his roughness she'll soften. 1793 BURKE *Corr.* (1844) IV. 159 Every thing we have done is in the style of hostility to France, as a nation. 1852 TENNYSON *Ode Wellington* 4 Let us bury the Great Duke To the noise of the mourning of a mighty nation. 1872 FREEMAN *Gen. Sk. Europ. Hist.* xvii. § 1 (1874) 349 In Switzerland four languages are spoken; yet the Swiss certainly make one nation. 1878 SEELEY *Stein* II. 20 When the state fell to pieces, the nation held together.

Comb. 1817–8 COBBETT *Resid. U.S.* (1822) 333 What should they run rambling about a nation-making for? 1878 GLADSTONE *Prim. Homer* vi. 77 His..was..a nation-making office. 1888 W. D. LIGHTHALL *Yng. Seigneur* 10 The people are the true nation-makers.

transf. 1658 SIR T. BROWNE *Hydriot.* v. 71 What time the persons of these Ossuaries entred the famous Nations of the dead. 1708 POPE *Ode St. Cecilia* 52 Love, strong as Death, the Poet led To the pale nations of the dead. 1725 — *Odyss.* x. 627 To all the phantom nations of the dead.

b. A number of persons belonging to a particular nation; representatives of any nation.

1572 BOSSEWELL *Armorie* II. 23 Whiche heauenly signe so seene on bothe Nations, they of the Frenche [etc.]. 1725 DE FOE *Voy. round World* (1840) 190 It being express in his orders not to permit any nation..to come on shore and stay there. 1818 SHELLEY *Eugan. Hills* 261 Once remotest nations came To adore that sacred flame.

c. In the mediæval universities, a body of students belonging to a particular district, country, or group of countries, who formed a more or less independent community; still retained in the universities of Glasgow and Aberdeen, in connexion with the election of the Rector.

See Rashdall *Univ. Mid. Ages* (1895) I. 157, II. 367, etc. [*c* 1411 *St. Andrews Univ. Statute* (MS.), Item..statutum fuit ut omnino essent quatuor nationes. 1453 in *Munim. Univ. Glasg.* (Maitland) I. 6 Rectores.., decanos, procuratores nacionum, regentes, magistros et scolares. 1482 *Statutes* ibid. II. 6 Divisio Suppositorum per quatuor Naciones. 1593 in *Fasti Acad. Aberd.* (1889) I. 57 [Rector] eligatur per omnes Academiæ Suppositos divisos in quatuor Nationes.]

1664 in *Fasti Acad. Aberd.* (1898) II. 11 The colledge being fullie conveened and divided in four nationes..did.. nominat.. procurators for electing of ane Rector. 1723 *ibid.* 14 [The Principal, etc.] did..cause the whole students of the College divide themselves into the four Nations of Mar, Buchan, Murray, and Angus. 1735 *St. Andrews Univ. Records* (MS.), The Alban Nation met on Munday the 24th March. 1806 FORSYTH *Beauties Scott.* IV. 92 [In St.

Andrews] masters and students are divided, according to the place of their birth, into four nations. 1859 *Scottish Univ. Comm., Glasgow* Ord. 3 *Parl. Papers* (1863) XVI. 386 That in the Election of Rector.., the matriculated students shall vote, as at present, in four nations.

†**d.** A country, kingdom. *Obs. rare.*

1663 Marvell *Corr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 88 Courts of Merchants to be erected in some few of the considerablest ports of the nation. 1668 Walton *Angler* I. xvii. (ed. 2) 226 There be divers kinds of Cadis or Case-worms, that are to be found in this Nation in several distinct Counties.

2. *The nations.* **a.** In and after Biblical use: The heathen nations, the Gentiles.

a 1340 Hampole *Psalter* xvii. 53 Þarfore i sall shrife til þe in nacyons lord. 1382 Wyclif *Deut.* iv. 27 Ȝe shulen dwelle fewe in the nacioun. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* III. v, Isider sayeþ þat anima, þe soule, haþ þe name by settynge of nationis. 1593 G. Harvey *Pierce's Super.* 81 S. Paule..was..omnisufficiently furnished to be a Doctour of the Nations. 1611 Bible *Deut.* iv. 27 And the Lord shall scatter you among the nations. 1656 Manasseh Ben Israel *Vind. Jud.* iii. § 12 The holy Prophets made Prayers and Supplications for all Men, as well for the Nations as the Israelites.

b. The peoples of the earth; the population of the earth collectively.

1667 Milton *P. L.* I. 598 As when the Sun..In dim Eclips disastrous twilight sheds On half the Nations. 1742 Pope *Dunc.* IV. 626 O sing, and hush the Nations with thy Song! 1796 H. Hunter tr. *St.-Pierre's Stud. Nat.* (1799) III. 397 Egypt has attained a degree of power..which renders her the centre of the Nations. 1820 Shelley *Liberty* x, The trance In which, as in a tomb, the nations lay. 1842 Tennyson *Locksley Hall* 124 There rain'd a ghastly dew From the nations' airy navies grappling in the central blue.

c. *Law of nations* : see Law *sb.*[1] 4 c.

†**3.** Without article: Nationality. In phr. *of English*, etc. *nation*; *of* or *by nation. Obs.*

1375 Barbour *Bruce* I. 193 Schyrreffys and bailȝheys.. He maid off Inglis nation. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xiv. (*Luke*) 2 Sancte lucas as of nacion cyrus [=Syrian] was. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* viii. 29 And namelie we of Scottis natioun, .. Forȝett we nevir into our orisoun To pray for him. 1579 Fenton *Guicciard.* V (1618) 186 Brandano Constable of the Florentines, of nation a Lucquoys. 1641 Earl Monm. tr. *Biondi's Civil Wars* IV. 53 Though he were a Fleming by Nation, yet was hee not separated from the interest of France

4. *The nation*, the whole people of a country, freq. in contrast to some smaller or narrower body within it.

1602 Shaks. *Ham.* II. ii. 370 The Nation holds it no sinne, to tarre them to Controuersie. 1661 Dryden *On Coronation* 35 Loud shouts the nation's happiness proclaim 1709 Pope *Ess. Crit.* 546 Then unbelieving priests reform'd the nation. 1796 H. Hunter tr. *St.-Pierre's Stud. Nat.* (1799) III. 509 Wishes for the Nation. *c* 1812 Jane Austen *Mansf. Park* (1851) 60 You are speaking of London, I am speaking of the nation at large. 1858 Bright *Sp. B'ham* in *Times* 30 Oct. 9/5 The nation in every country dwells in the cottage. 1892 Gladstone in *Daily News* 12 July 3/7 Now..the nation votes and the nation rules.

II. 5. †**a.** A family, kindred. *Obs. rare.*

c 1386 Chaucer *Wife's T.* 212 Allas! that any of my naciour Sholde ever so foule disparaged be! 1508 Kennedie *Flyting w. Dunbar* 411 Homage to Edward Langschankis maid thy kyn, In Dunbar thai ressauit him, the false nacione.

†**b.** The native population *of* a town or city.

1523 Lo. Berners *Froiss.* I. ccxx. 284 Mo than sixscore, all yong men of the nacyon of yᵉ towne. *Ibid.* ccliv. 377 They of the nacion of the towne were taken to mercy.

†**c.** An Irish clan. *Obs.*

1584 in O'Flaherty *West Connaught* (1846) 390 He is, by her Majesties apointment, capten and chief both of his countrey and nacion.

d. A tribe of North American Indians.

1763 in C. Gist's *Jrnls.* (1893) 196 Negocieatory maters with a number of Indian nations. 1775 in *Collect. Mass. Hist. Soc.* 3rd Ser. V. 75 The sachems and warriors of the Six Nations. 1836 W. Irving *Astoria* III. 24 There were white men residing with some of their nation. 1867 Parkman *Jesuits N. Amer.* xxxii. (1879) 426 That portion [of the Hurons] called the Tobacco Nation.

†**6.** A particular class, kind, or race of persons. Also *man's nation*, human kind. *Obs.*

1382 Wyclif *Phil.* ii. 15 In the myddel of a schrewid nacioun and weyward. 1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 50 Among the gentil nacion Love is an occupacion. *Ibid.* I. 55 Out of mannes nacion Fro kynde thei be so miswent, That to the liknesse of Serpent Thei were bore. 1535 Coverdale 1 *Pet.* ii. 9 But ye are..that kyngly presthode, that holy nacion. *a* 1568 Ascham *Scholem.* II. (Arb.) 137 The worst of all, as Questionistes, and all the barbarous nation of scholemen. 1605 B. Jonson *Sejanus* I. ii, You are a subtile nation, you physicians! 1670–98 Lassels *Voy. Italy* I. 14 Civil education..makes even schoolboyes (an insolent Nation any where else) most respectfull to one another. *a* 1734 North *Exam.* Pref. (1740) 11 These are what the Compilers, a most useful Nation, hunt after.

†**b.** So of animals. *Obs.*

1590 Spenser *F. Q.* II. xii. 36 All the nation of unfortunate And fatall birds about them flocked were. 1594 — *Astrophel* 98 There his welwoven toyles..He laid the brutish nation to enwrap. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* III. 806 The scaly Nations of the Sea profound. 1733 Pope *Ess. Man* III. 99 The nations of the field and wood. 1781 Cowper *Hope* 353 The screaming nations, hovering in mid air.

†**7.** *Astrol.* Nativity; nature. *Obs. rare* −[1].

1375 Barbour *Bruce* IV. 719 Gif thai men, that will study In the craft of astrology, Knaw all mennis nacioune.

8. A great number, a host *of* persons or things.

1762 Sterne *Tr. Shandy* V. xxi, The French had..a nation of hedges and copses..to cover them. 1765 *Ibid.* VII. xxi, What a nation of herbs he had procured.

Nation (nēi·ʃən), *adv.*, *a.*, and *sb.*[2] *dial.* and *U. S.* Also 'nation, naation. [A euphemistic abbreviation of Damnation. Cf. *tarnation.*]

A. *adv.* Very, extremely, etc.

1785 Grose *Dict. Vulgar T., Nation*,..a vulgar term used in Kent, Sussex, and the adjacent countries, for very..; a nation long way. 1799 R. Warner *Walk. West. Counties* (1800) 105 My guide .. had informed me I was to expect 'a nation strange road'. 1824 in *Spirit Pub. Jrnls.* (1825) 478 They takes 'nation good care to be set down at the turnpike. 1825 Brockett *N. C. Gloss.* [and in many later dial. glossaries]. 1859 Dickens *T. Two Cities* I. ii, 'I hope there ain't, but I can't make so nation sure of that', said the guard. 1873 J. Spilling *Molly Miggs*, etc. (1903) 69, I can't tell no one how naation riled I felt.

B. *adj.* Very large, very great, etc.

1828 *Craven Gloss.* s. v., There wor a nation seet o folk at kirk. 1836 Haliburton *Clockm.* (1862) 303 Niagara fall; what a nation sight of machinery that would carry. 1877 Banks *Glory* vii, I might not have been in such a nation hurry to jump from my cart.

C. *sb.* In imprecations. Also *Comb.*

1842 Pulman *Rustic Sk.* 31 Your [horse] is naation seyzid tall. 1881 T. Hardy *Laodicean* VI. iv, O nation!..if I were a man. 1886 Elworthy *W. Som. Word-bk.* s.v. *Nation-seize*, Nation-seize thee! where's a bin bidin about to?

National (næ·ʃənăl), *a.* and *sb.* [a. F. *national* (16th c.), f. *nation* Nation *sb.*[1] + *-al* -al. Cf. It. *nazionale*, Sp. *nacional.*]

A. *adj.* **1.** Of or belonging to a (*or* the) nation; affecting, or shared by, the nation as a whole.

1597 Howson *Serm.* 24 Dec. 24 The Ciuill and Nationall lawes of anie Countrey. 1643 Caryl *Sacr. Cov.* 26 That which promotes personall holinesse, must needs promote Nationall holinesse. 1678 Marvell *Growth Popery* 39 This was a National Business if ever any were. 1730–1 Bolingbroke *Let. to Swift* Jan., National corruption must be purged by national calamities. 1790 Burke *Fr. Rev.* (1898) 31 The spirit of caution which predominated in the national councils. 1835 Thirlwall *Greece* vii. I. 253 The national festival of the *Pambœotia* was celebrated with games. 1856 Froude *Hist. Eng.* I. ii. 161 Their angry jealousy refused to tolerate longer a national dishonour. 1871 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* (1876) IV. xvii. 72 In the end national unity and national freedom appeared again in more perfect shapes.

b. Of troops, etc.: Maintained by a nation. (See also quot. 1802.)

1802 James *Milit. Dict.*, *National troops*, are those born in our own dominions, in opposition to foreigners. 1842 Borrow *Bible in Spain* xxxvi, The bookseller..was an officer in the national cavalry. 1876 Voyle & Stevenson *Milit. Dict.* 269/1 The national defences of a country consist, besides her armies and reserves, of the navy [etc.].

c. Of or belonging to the French Government during the time of the first Republic.

1793 Nelson in Nicolas *Disp.* (1845) I. 308 We..have taken nothing but a miserable National brig of eight guns. 1837 Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* III. vi. i, Most chopfallen, blue, enters the National Agent this Limbo whither he has sent so many.

2. Peculiar to the people of a particular country, characteristic or distinctive of a nation. †Also const. *unto.*

1625 Carpenter *Geog. Del.* II. xiv. (1635) 219 Who obserues not in all Nations certaine naturall or nationall vertues or vices. 1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* 201 That an unsavoury odour is gentilitious or national unto the Jews. 1650 Bulwer *Anthropomet.* 81 In Perviana also, a great Nose is in request and National. 1778 Hamilton *Wks.* (1886) VII. 542 It is of great consequence to preserve a national character. 1796 H. Hunter tr. *St.-Pierre's Stud. Nat.* (1799) III. 236 They abjured the national prejudices which had rendered them..the enemies of other men. 1822 B. W. Procter *Diego de Montilla* xlv. 7 The dances I have named are national. 1858 Max Müller *Chips* (1880) III. i. 38 Truly national poetry exists only where there is a truly national life.

†**3.** **a.** Belonging to the same nation as oneself; compatriotic. *Obs. rare* −[1].

1632 Lithgow *Trav.* I. 20 In these parts a man can finde no worser enimie than his nationall supposed friend.

†**b.** Gentile; belonging to 'the nations', as opposed to the Jews. *Obs. rare* −[1].

1662 Pagitt *Heresiogr.* (ed. 6) 180 A National Saint, or a Saint of the Gentiles.

4. Patriotic; strongly upholding one's own nation.

1711 *Fingall MSS.* in 10*th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. V. 159 It showes in them an ingratitude to so national a man. 1797 Mrs. A. M. Bennett *Beggar Girl* (1813) II. 61 The fine old palace, the chamber,.. were .. severally explained by the national major. 1810 S. Green *Reformist* I. 243 Amongst other prejudices natural to a national Scotchman, he bore an inveterate hatred to the Irish. 1871 *Daily News* 7 Sept., He is intensely national..He believes that the Scots are the finest race in the world.

b. Devoted to the interests of the nation as a whole. Also *Comb.*

1801 J. Adams *Wks.* (1854) IX. 585 Too strongly infected with the spirit of party, to give much encouragement to men who are merely national. 1889 *Spectator* 9 Nov. 625/2 This signal encouragement to the national-minded Radicals of the United Kingdom.

5. In special collocations: *National convention, council, debt, synod* (see the sbs.); **national anthem**, the hymn 'God save the King'; also, the words or music sung or played on similar occasions in other countries; **National Assembly**, an assembly consisting of representatives of a nation; spec. †(*a*) = *General Assembly* (see Assembly 5 b); (*b*) a synod of the Church in a particular nation; (*c*) the first of the revolutionary assemblies of France, in session 1789–91; also applied at various later dates to the popular assembly, and now to the two houses, the Senate and the Chamber of Deputies, when in joint session; **national bank**, a bank associated with the national finances; *U. S.*, a bank whose circulating notes are secured by United States bonds deposited with the government; **national church**, (*a*) a church consisting of a nation; (*b*) a church established by law in a particular nation; **national guard**, an armed force existing in France at various times between 1789 and 1871; a member of this force; **National Republicans**, *U. S.*, an early name for the Whig party; **national school**, (*a*) a school conducted and supported to a greater or less extent by the state; (*b*) one of the schools established by the **National Society**, founded in 1811 to promote the education of the poor.

1819 Shelley (*title*) A New *National Anthem. 1837 Lockhart *Scott* (1839) I. 305 Drowning the National Anthem in howls and hootings. 1876 Voyle & Stevenson *Milit. Dict.* 269/1 The playing of the national anthem is only due to those personages who are entitled, under the regulations, to a royal salute. 1621 *1st & 2nd Bk. Discipl. Ch. Scot.* 89 The 'Nationall Assemblies of the Countrey, called commonly the Generall Assemblies. 1647 Clarendon *Hist. Reb.* II. § 8 That National or General Assemblies should be called only by the King's Authority. 1660 R. Coke *Power & Subj.* 219 The Emperors and Kings did convoke..Provincial and National Assemblies and Synods. 1790 Burke *Fr. Rev.* (1898) 47 This..would appear perfectly unaccountable, if we did not consider the composition of the National Assembly. 1839 [see Assembly 5 b]. 1858 Homans *Cycl. Comm.* 131/2 The directors of the *National Bank proposed to the State banks a resumption of specie payments on the 21st February, 1817. 1896 *Daily News* 27 July 7/5 Mr. Sewall..being a national banker..while they bitterly denounce national banks. 1651 Baxter *Inf. Bapt.* 31 The Jews were a *Nationall Church. 1716 M. Davies *Athen. Brit.* II. 335 He is Low-Church..; such a one is a poor begging Convert from Popery or Presbytery to the National Church. 1832 Arnold in Stanley *Life* (1844) I. vi. 274, I cannot understand what is the good of a national Church if it be not to Christianize the nation. 1633 Prynne *1st Pt. Histriom.* 570, 54 ancient and moderne, generall, *nationall, provinciall Councels and Synodes. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVI. 158/1 The citizens .. enrolling themselves as a militia for general defence, under the appellation of the *national guard. 1814 Wellington in Gurw. *Desp.* (1838) XI. 490 Captain Pierre Penne of the French National guards, who was taken prisoner on the frontier. 1848 W. H. Kelly tr. *L. Blanc's Hist. Ten Y.* I. 182 He set out in the uniform of a national guard. 1831 H. Clay *Priv. Corr.* 308 By division between the Antis and the *National Republicans, the Jackson party may succeed. 1888 Bryce *Amer. Commw.* II. III. liii. 333 The National Republican, ultimately the Whig party, represented many of the views of the former Federalists. 1819 *Gentl. Mag.* LXXXIX. II. 85 In 1812 there were 52 *National Schools. 1880 Miss Braddon *Just as I am* II, My looks won't matter when I am a national school teacher. 1848 Br. Wilberforce in *Life* (1881) II. i. 11 A most stormy meeting at the *National Society. 1861 V. Lushington in *Working Men's Coll. Mag.* 144 The National Society..planted elementary schools here and there in the land.

B. *sb.* †**1.** A representative of a nation. *Obs.*

1653 H. Cogan *Scarlet Gown* 100 The Pope .. did at one and the same time promote both Mazzarino, and Montalto, as declared Nationals, and nominated by France and Spain.

†**2.** One who supports national interests as opposed to those of parties. *Obs. rare.*

1766 *Public Advertiser* 10 Feb. 2/2 A noble Union of .. Nationals in the true Sense of that Word, in contradistinction to any vile Combination of Party. 1768 *Woman of Honor* III. 150 Some truly nationals, men of real worth.

3. A member of a national guard. *rare* −[1].

1843 Borrow *Bible in Spain* x, The national entered with the passport in his hand.

4. *pl.* In recent diplomatic use (after F. *nationaux*): Persons belonging to the same nation; (one's) fellow-countrymen.

1887 *Pall Mall G.* 30 May 1 Each of these Consuls or Ministers has extensive powers over his own nationals. 1894 *Westm. Gaz.* 31 July 2/1 The Chinese Resident .. has a considerable number of his nationals to look after.

Nationalism (næ·ʃənăliz'm). [f. National *a.* + -ism.]

1. *Theol.* The doctrine that certain nations (as contrasted with individuals) are the object of divine election.

1836 G. S. Faber *Prim. Doctr. Election* (1842) 189 The several doctrinal systems, usually denominated Arminianism and Nationalism and Calvinism.

2. Devotion to one's nation; national aspiration; a policy of national independence.

1844 *Fraser's Mag.* XXX. 418/1 Nationalism is another word for egotism. 1853 J. H. Newman *Hist. Sk.* (1873) II. I. iv. 203 Mahometanism is essentially a consecration of the principle of nationalism. 1880 F. G. Lee *Ch. under Q. Eliz.* I. 164 It was only by persecution .. that the new system of nationalism in religion could be maintained.

b. *spec.* The political programme of the Irish Nationalist party.

1885 *Sat. Rev.* 11 Apr. 463/1 It is to them that the portentous development of American-Irish Nationalism is due. 1899 *Daily News* 25 Jan. 4/6 Each of these Councils will become a centre of Nationalism.

3. A form of socialism, based on the nationalizing of all industry.

1892 E. Bellamy in *N. Amer. Rev.* CLIV. 749 The full programme of Nationalism, involving the entire substitution of public for private conduct of all business, for the equal benefit of all, is not indeed advocated by any considerable number of economists.

4. 'A national idiom or phrase'.

1846 Worcester (citing Hamilton).

Nationalist (næ·ʃənălist). [f. as prec. + -ist.]

1. One characterized by national tendencies or sympathies; an adherent or supporter of nationalism; an advocate of national rights, etc.

1715 M. Davies *Athen. Brit.* I. Contents, A Low Nationalist of the Calvinistical Establishment. 1716 *Ibid.* II. 335 Mutual upbraiding.., which appears the more Melancholy because the less Curable; especially amongst our Nationalists and Toleratists. 1873 *Spectator* 23 Aug. 1059/1 Prince Bismarck also observed that concession would encourage the Polish nationalists. 1877 J. F. Bright *Hist. Eng.* (1878) III. 933 Those nationalists who regarded as righteous any act of antagonism to England. 1891 J. Rae *Contemp. Socialism* ii. (ed. 2) 79 The Nationalists have quite recently issued an organ, *The New Nation*, which announces its programme to be [etc.].

b. *spec.* One who advocates the claims of Ireland to be an independent nation.

1869 *Daily News* 20 May, He rejoices in the Bill for the Disestablishment of the Church, .. he thinks it will make Protestants real nationalists. 1893 *Times* 26 Apr. 9/4 The Nationalists, in short, are to call the tune and the people of this country are to pay the piper.

attrib. 1899 *Daily News* 25 Jan. 4/6 The Irish people.. returning Nationalist Town and District Councils.

2. *Theol.* A believer in nationalism.

1846 in Worcester (citing *Q. Rev.*).

3. One belonging to a particular nation. *rare*—1.

1817 J. Evans *Excurs. Windsor*, etc. 49 A question was debated, which nationalist of Europe had the greatest ingenuity. . Heidegger claimed that character for the Swiss.

Hence **Nationali·stic** *a.*

1866 Visct. Strangford *Selection fr. Writ.* (1869) I. 98 She ..seeks to conciliate the nationalistic sympathies and projects of her South-Slavonic or Illyro-Servian populations. 1899 R. H. Charles *Eschatology* iii. 84 This popular conception..was unethical and nationalistic.

Nationality (næʃənæ·lĭti). [f. as prec. + -ity: cf. F. *nationalité*.]

1. National quality or character.

1691 T. H[ale] *Acc. New Invent.* 37 The Ingredients employed..are of Forreign growth; which we make use of not so much for the sake of the Nationality of its Argument [etc.]. 1830 J. Wilson in *Blackw. Mag.* XXVIII. 847 We must again enter our protest against the Nationality of a library conducted on such principles. 1845 Graves *Rom. Law* in *Encycl. Metrop.* II. 741/1 Those peculiar institutions which coloured all their nationality. *a* 1854 H. Reeo *Lect. Eng. Hist.* iv. 121 Ancient British nationality received into itself a Roman nationality.

b. In literature, art, etc., the quality of being distinctively national.

1827 Carlyle *Misc.* (1857) I. 24 All true nationality vanished from its literature. 1840 *New Monthly Mag.* LIX. 369 That peculiar wildness and eccentricity, or, if we may so term it, nationality, by which the primitive melodies of the Scotch, Welsh, and Irish, are.. distinguished. 1876 Lowell *Among my Bks.* Ser. II. 129, I have little faith in that quality in literature which is commonly called nationality.

c. With *pl.* A national trait, characteristic, or peculiarity. *rare.*

1797 W. Taylor in *Monthly Rev.* XXII. 248 They remember with pleasure those nationalities which civilization is effacing. 1823 *Ibid.* CII. 420 He described our everyday nationalities.

2. Nationalism; attachment to one's country or nation; national feeling,

1772 *Junius Lett.* Pref. (1788) 23 The characteristic prudence, the selfish nationality, the indefatigable smile. 1785 Boswell *Tour Hebrides* 11 He could not but see in them that nationality which I should think no liberal minded Scotsman will deny. 1831 *Blackw. Mag.* XXX. 665 Nationality is not patriotism, or it would admire the nationality of other nations. 1858 Gladstone *Homer* II. iii. 192 Her strong and profound Greek nationality. 1878 Lecky *Eng. 18th C.* II. vii. 436 A spirit of nationality had arisen.

3. The fact of belonging to a particular nation.

1828 D'Israeli *Chas. I*, I. v. 95 [He] had wisely cast off his nationality when it could only occasion pain. 1865 Maffei *Brigand Life* II. 139 The safety which his nationality was likely to afford. 1878 Miss Braddon *Eleanor's Victory* ii. 13 Every article of furniture..bore the impress of its nationality. 1893 *Law Rep.* Prob. Div. 209 The ship.. was of French nationality.

b. With *pl.* denoting identity or difference of nation among individuals.

1846 H. W. Torrens *Rem. Milit. Hist.* 50 The confused usage of military terms among the Greeks arising from their differences of dialect and separate nationalities. 1864 Dasent *Jest & Earnest* (1873) I. 140 Curious it was to see how nationalities herded together over their food. 1880 'Vernon Lee' *Italy* III. iii. 122 The town of Italy where men of all nationalities had most met.

4. Separate or complete existence as a nation; national independence or consolidation.

1832 *Examiner* 488/1 If the nationality of any of the smaller German states were extinguished. 1850 Ht. Martineau *Hist. Peace* iv. xiii. (1877) III. 128 The Poles had been fighting—for nationality it is true—but not for national freedom. 1883 Froude *Short Stud.* IV. iii. 269 So far as force could do it, they annihilated the Jewish nationality.

attrib. 1878 Seeley *Stein* II. 26 Now he ripens at once into a great nationality statesman.

5. A nation; freq., a people potentially but not actually a nation.

1832 *Examiner* 488/1 It leaves the various existing nationalities of Germany unimpaired. 1856 Dasent *Jest & Earnest* (1873) I. 311 Welded by time and trouble into a distinct nationality. 1874 Stubbs *Const. Hist.* I. iv. 59 The Saxons in Germany were still a pure nationality.

6. = Nationalty. *rare.*

1830 Colerioge *Church & State* 37 The sum total of these heritable portions..I beg leave to name the Propriety; and to call the reserve above mentioned the Nationality.

Nationalization (næ:ʃənălaizē·ʃən). [f. next + -ation.]

1. The action of rendering national in character.

1801 W. Taylor in Robberds *Mem.* (1843) I. 383 Does not this forebode the nationalization of liberty-politics at home? 1882 H. von Holst *J. C. Calhoun* (1884) 239 The official proclamation of the 'nationalization' of slavery.

2. The action of forming into a nation or nations; the process of becoming a nation.

1813 Sir R. Wilson *Priv. Diary* (1861) I. 274 The Poles are hostile to the Russians as enemies to their freedom and nationalization. 1853 Lieber *Civ. Liberty* iv. 33 There is a distinct period in the history of our race, which may be aptly called the period of nationalization. 1890 *Times* 15 Dec. 5/4 Count Taaffe's Cabinet will make no further concessions to Bohemian nationalization.

b. Inclusion or absorption into a nation.

1896 *Nation* (N. Y.) 16 July 54/1 The nationalization of the Jew—that is, his absorption by this or that nation.

3. The action of bringing land, property, industries, etc., under the control of the nation.

1874 Fawcett *Pol. Econ.* II. i. (1876) 107 Nationalization of the land means that all the land in the country should be bought by the State. 1881–3 (*title*) Report of the Land Nationalization Society. 1894 E. Bellamy in *Forum* (U. S.) Mar. 85 This plan is called Nationalism because it proceeds by the nationalization of industries.

Nationalize (næ·ʃənălaiz), *v.* Also -ise. [f. National *a.* + -ize, or ad. F. *nationaliser* (1794 in Hatz.-Darm.).]

1. *trans.* To invest with a national character; to make distinctively national.

1800 *Hist. Eur.* in *Ann. Reg.* 35/2 We wish to nationalize the republic, they to establish only their own party. 1843 *Blackw. Mag.* LIV. 26 'Rule Britannia', .. now become a national song... Long before it was nationalized—if one may use such a word—by Englishmen [etc.]. 1851 Gallenga *Italy* 59 The very government of the Lombardo-Venetian kingdom might be..nationalized. 1870 Lowell *Among my Bks.* Ser. I. (1873) 226 He took what may be called cosmopolitan traditions, .. and nationalized them.

b. To make into a separate nation; to invest with the character of a nation.

1801 F. Ames *Wks.* (1809) 142 New-England..of all colonies that ever were founded the largest, the most assimilated, and, to use the modern jargon, nationalized.

2. To naturalize; to admit into, or make part of, a nation. Also *refl.*

1809 Pinkney *Trav. France* 41 There are many resident English, who have been nationalized by express edict. 1861 M. Pattison *Ess.* (1889) I. 32 Only Jutes, Angles, Saxons, and Danes .. have succeeded in nationalizing themselves here.

b. *intr.* To become naturalized.

1891 *Sat. Rev.* 4 July 1/2 The curious plan of keeping Russia for the Russians by forcing all foreign 'colonists' to nationalize or quit.

3. To bring under the control of, to convert into the property of, the nation.

1869 *Daily News* 21 Oct., It was 'Bosh' to talk of nationalising the land to starving thousands. 1874 Fawcett *Pol. Econ.* II. xi. (1876) 299 After the land and the other instruments of production have been nationalised. 1881 Brodrick *Eng. Land & Landlords* 105 It is a perfectly intelligible proposition that all the land in the kingdom ought to be 'nationalized'.

Hence **Na·tionalized, Na·tionalizing** *ppl. adjs.*

1836 G. S. Faber *Prim. Doctr. Election* (1842) 189 That Neither the Arminian System, nor the Nationalising System, nor the Calvinistic System, exhibits the mind of the sincere Gospel. 1856 Max Müller *Chips* (1880) II. xvi. 13 An age .. exhibiting to us the earliest traces of nationalised language. 1874 Fawcett *Pol. Econ.* II. xi. (1876) 286 Is not a reduction in rent the chief advantage which the advocates of this nationalising policy hope to secure? 1885 J. Rogson *Disestablishment* 16 So too .. it would be in the Nationalised Church of Scotland.

Nationalizer (næ·ʃənălaizəɹ). [f. prec. + -er1.] One who advocates the nationalization of land, etc. Freq. in *land-nationalizer.*

1883 *Pall Mall G.* 6 Feb. 2/1 Will some of the 'nationalizers' .. employ a..real property lawyer to draft a bill for carrying out their purposes? 1883 *Chr. World* 29 Nov. 839 Warred upon by the land nationaliser and socialist.

Nationally (næ·ʃənăli), *adv.* [f. National *a.* + -ly 2.] In a national manner or way; as a nation; with regard to the nation as a whole.

1649 *Bounds & Bonds Obed.* 44 There was no change of Government here, till the Covenant was Nationally broke .. by the Scots. 1681 *Whole Duty Nations* 21 That they should have Nationally dedicated themselves to the true Jehovah. 1720 De Foe *Capt. Singleton* iv. (1840) 68 Take them nationally or personally, .. they will behave well. 1791 W. Maxwell in Boswell *Johnson* (1831) I. 380 He considered the Scotch, nationally, as a crafty designing people. 1824 *Examiner* 53/1 One of the most effective .. and nationally honourable State Papers that ever was issued. 1870 Anderson *Missions Amer. Bd.* II. xxi. 169 Whether the people of the Sandwich Islands might be represented as nationally Christianized.

Comb. 1822 *New Monthly Mag.* IV. 17 The nationally-charged arrogance of self-opinion.

Nationalness (næ·ʃənălnės). *rare.* [f. as prec. + -ness.] The character or quality of being national.

1681 *Whole Duty Nations* 22 So far therefore as Nationalness, and Publiqueness agree, so far the thing is undeniable. 1727 in Bailey, vol. II. 1889 J. M. Robertson *Ess. Crit. Method* 151 Englishmen will hardly think of charging such an artist with deficiency in nationalness.

Nationalty (næ·ʃənălti). [f. as prec. + -ty, after *personalty, realty.*] National property.

1812–29 Coleridge in *Lit. Rem.* (1838) III. 119 Their tithes and glebes belong to them as officers and functionaries of the nationalty. 1845 J. Martineau *Ess.* (1891) II. 23 The other constituted a nationalty or inalienable reserve for perpetual income conditional on the performance of certain official services.

Nationhood (nē·ʃənhud). [f. Nation *sb.*1 + -hood.] The state or fact of being a nation.

1850 Carlyle *Latter-d. Pamph.* i. 23 New elements of polity or nationhood. 1865 Lecky *Ration.* II. 32 A bond of unity that is superior to the divisions of nationhood. 1885 Parnell in *Times* 2 Sept. 6/3 Our right to nationhood to-day is practically undisputed.

†**Na·tionist.** *Obs. rare*—1. [f. as prec. + -ist.] A representative of a nation.

1670 G. H. *Hist. Cardinals* III. III. 312 The Cardinals of the Crowns ought rather to be call'd Nationists than Factionists.

Nationless (nē·ʃənlės), *a. rare.* [f. as prec. + -less.] Belonging to no nation.

1819 Shelley *Prometh. Unb.* III. iv. 195 Man Equal, unclassed, tribeless, and nationless.

†**Nati·tial.** *Obs. rare*—1. [? Error for Natalitial.] Nativity, birth.

1612 Sylvester tr. *Matthieu's Tropheis Hen. IV* 39 Th' happy planet, which presaged his worth Predominant in his natitial.

Native (nē·tiv), *sb.* Forms: 5 **natif,** 6 **natyve,** 6– **native.** [ad. med.L. *nativus*, sb. use of L. *nātīvus* adj. (see next). In later use sometimes directly from the adj. Cf. F. *natif.*]

1. One born in bondage; a born thrall. Now only *Hist.* Cf. Neif.

c 1450 *Godstow Reg.* (E.E.T.S.) 559 The forsaid bondmen or natifs with all ther catallis sutis or sequelys. 1609 Skene *Reg. Maj.* 90 b, Some are born bond-men, or natines of their gudsher, and grandsher, quhom the Lord may challenge to be his naturall natines. 1651 G. W. tr. *Cowel's Inst.* 8 At this day, the Issue which is begotten by a Free man of a Native, is free. 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey) s. v. *Nativus*, There being three sorts of Servants, viz. Natives, Bondmen, and Villains. 1878 Stubbs *Const. Hist.* (1896) III. 625 It is obvious that..the native so emancipated laboured under other disqualifications.

2. *Astrol.* One born under the particular planet or sign mentioned; the subject of a nativity or horoscope.

1509 Hawes *Past. Pleas.* x. (Percy Soc.) 34 Mercury, through his preeminence, Hys natives endeth wyth famous eloquence. 1632 Massinger *City Madam* II. ii, Saturn..and Venus.., the disposers of marriage in the radix of the native in feminine figures. 1679 Moxon *Math. Dict.* 95 Nebulous Stars..are found by Experience, being joyn'd with the Luminaries to afflict a Native with blindness or dimness. 1792 Sibly *Occult Sci.* I. 96 When the moon, or lord of the ascendant, is posited..in any of the Signs we term hot, the native will be manly. 1815 Scott *Guy M.* iv, Mars having dignity in the cusp of the twelfth house, threatened captivity or sudden and violent death to the native.

†b. *transf.* One born with a particular mark.

1653 R. Sanders *Physiogn., Moles* 31 A Mole in the lower part of the right Cheek..indicts to the native some kindes of strife.

3. One born in a place; one connected with a place by birth, whether subsequently resident there or not. Usu. const. *of.*

Legally, a person is a native of the place or country where the parents have their domicile, which may or may not be the place of actual birth.

1535 Coverdale *Isa.* xxiii. 7 Is not that the glorious cite, .. whose natyues dwellinge farre of, commende her so greatly? 1617 Moryson *Itin.* II. 212 The Army .. was encountred and almost distressed by the onely Natives of that Countrie. 1675 *Essex Papers* (Camden) I. 315 Great disputes are likely to arise betweene ye present Inhabitants & auntient Natives of severall of ye Corporacions. *a* 1700 Dryden *Death of Amyntas* 77 His passport is his innocence and grace, Well known to all the natives of the place. 1716 Pope *Iliad* VI. 70 Well hast thou known proud Troy's perfidious land, And well her natives merit at thy hand! 1756–7 *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) III. 406 T. Livy, a native of Padua. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) II. 218 Those manners, which even a native of Canada can think more barbarous than his own. 1825 Lytton *Zicci* I. i, He speaks English like a native. 1841 Borrow *Zincali* I. ii. I. 58 If being born in a country, and being bred there, constitute a right to be considered a native of that country.

fig. 1700 Rowe *Amb. Step-Moth.* v. i, Let Joy the Native of your Soul return. 1703 — *Fair Penit.* III. i, That Sorrow which..Is the sad Native of Calista's Breast. 1742 Young *Nt. Th.* II. 58 And sport we like the natives of the bough, When vernal suns inspire?

b. Applied disparagingly to local residents belonging to a place.

1800 Mrs. Hervey *Mourtray Fam.* I. 173 The girl.. was..really much superior to the rest of the odious natives in their neighbourhood.

c. In Australia, a white person born in the country, as distinguished from an immigrant and from an 'aboriginal' or black.

1861 Mrs. Meredith *Over Straits* v. 161 Three Sydney natives ('currency' not aboriginal) were in the coach, bound for Melbourne.

4. One of the original or usual inhabitants of a country, as distinguished from strangers or foreigners; now *esp.* one belonging to a non-European and imperfectly civilized or savage race.

1603 R. JOHNSON *Kingd. & Commw.* 153 He committed no lesse an error in suffering the Natiues to keepe their possessions and to inhabit all their townes. 1652-62 HEYLIN *Cosmogr.* iv. (1673) 94 Inhabited by the Natives only, though the Portugals did sometimes endeavour a Plantation in it. 1695 TEMPLE *Hist. Eng.* (1699) 5 The North-East part of Scotland was by the Natives called *Cal Dun*. 1725 DE FOE *Voy. round World* (1840) 2 The stories of their engagements when they have had any scuffle either with natives or European enemies. 1777 ROBERTSON *Hist. Amer.* II. (1778) I. 98 Columbus..continued to interrogate all the natives. 1817 O'HARA *Hist. N. S. Wales* 123 Some convicts, who destroyed the canoe of a young native. 1852 MUNDY *Antipodes* (1857) 104 The brutal drunkenness and reckless debauchery of the Pakehas actually 'astonished the natives'. 1897 MARY KINGSLEY *W. Africa* 74 Her knowledge of the native, his language, his ways of thought, his diseases,..is extraordinary.

b. A coloured person; a 'black'.

1848 DICKENS *Dombey* x, The Major..went one Saturday growling down to Brighton, with the native behind him.

5. An animal or plant († or mineral) indigenous, or peculiar to a country or locality; one not imported or acclimatized.

1690 CHILD *Disc. Trade* Pref. (1698) 29 Our lead and tin, by which we carry on much of those trades, are natives with us. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) IV. 38 The marmout is chiefly a native of the Alps. 1799 *Med. Jrnl.* II. 490 To such species as are doubtful natives, a note of interrogation is affixed. 1849 BALFOUR *Man. Bot.* § 921 The plants are principally natives of marshy places in New Holland. 1874 LYELL *Elem. Geol.* x. 124 The pine has never been a 'native' of Denmark in historical times.

b. An oyster altogether or partially reared in British waters; now *spec.* applied to those (whether of home or foreign origin) reared in artificial beds, or loosely used to denote an oyster of a superior quality. Also *attrib.*

1818 KITCHINER *Cook's Oracle* (ed. 2) 259 The Milton, or as they are commonly called, the melting Natives do not come in till the beginning of October. 1836-7 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Mr. J. Dounce*, A newly-opened oyster-shop, .. with natives laid one deep in circular marble basins in the windows. 1854 WOODWARD *Mollusca* II. 254 The oysters..are..removed to artificial grounds, or tanks, where the water is very shallow. They are then called 'natives'. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 154 In the London market oysters are divided into two great classes—'natives' and 'commons'. 1889 A. T. PARK *Eyes Thames* 56 The native beds, not so many years ago, could be had almost for the asking. 1891 *Pall Mall G.* 6 Oct. 2/1 Such a thing as putting seconds on native shells is not entirely unknown.

c. A native cow, horse, etc.

1856 OLMSTED *Slave States* (1861) 6 A few imported Ayrshires and Alderneys, and some small black 'natives'. 1895 A. B. PATERSON *Man fr. Snowy River* (1896) 43 [The horses] were long and wiry natives from the rugged mountain side.

†6. *pl.* Fellow-countrymen, compatriots. *Obs.*

1589 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* VI. xxxiii, Henrie..did arriue to right his Natiues wrong. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* III. 90 After short acquaintance with his natiues, .. he imparted these words. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* III. xiii. § 33 The King (distrusting his Natives) imployed so many French Forrainers in places of power and profit.

7. Native place (or country). Now only *dial.*

1604 R. CAWDREY *Table Alph., Native*, Naturall: place where one was borne. 1615 CHAPMAN *Odyss.* IX. 66 Though roofs far richer we far off possess, Yet, from our native, all our more is less. 1820 AMELIA OPIE *Tales of Heart* IV. 328 He asked me some questions about Keswick.., for that's my native, sir. 1828 MOIR *Mansie Wauch* vi, Wearying.. to be home again to Lauder, which she said was her native. 1900 *Cornh. Mag.* June 815 When he come back to his native at Yarmouth he knew no one.

8. a. *ellipt.* = Native liquor, native language.

1828 SOUTHEY *Ess.* (1832) II. 336 Not as much money left as would..get him a drop of the native at Killala. 1893 STEVENSON *Island Nights' Entertainm.* 70 He turned and spoke to his crew in the native.

b. (See quot.)

1880 *Rep. Comm. Fishing N. S. Wales* 11 At a still greater age the Schnapper..becomes what is known as the 'Native' and 'Rock Native', a solitary and sometimes enormously large fish.

9. *Comb.*, as *native-built, -fashion, -owned.*

1837 *Lett. fr. Madras* (1843) 132 He sent us, besides, all his own messes, native-fashion. 1863 M. L. WHATELY *Ragged Life Egypt* xiv. 135 The chinks, so numerous in a native-built house. 1895 SWETTENHAM *Malay Sk.* 262 No native-owned boat in the country was white.

Native (nē'tiv), *a.* Forms: 4, 6 **natyf**, 5 *Sc.* **natyff**, 5-6 **natyfe**, 5 **natif**, 5-6 **natife**, 5 *Sc.*, 6 **natiff**; 6 **natyve**, 5- **native**. [a. F. *natif* (14th c.; OF. also *naif*: see NAÏVE *a.*), or ad. L. *nātīvus* produced by birth, innate, natural, f. *nāt-*, ppl. stem of *nascī* to be born + *-īvus* -IVE.]

I. 1. Belonging to, or connected with, a person or thing by nature or natural constitution, in contrast to what is acquired or superadded; *esp.* of qualities which are inherent or innate in the person or thing.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* I. 102 So angelik was her natyf beute, That lyke thing immortal seemyd she. 1551 ROBINSON tr. *More's Utop.* (1895) 20 Not doubting that you, for your natiue goodnes and gentelnes, will accept in good parte this poore gift. 1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 144 b, The Scriptures..expressing our natures in their most lively and native colours. 1592 J. DAVIES *Immort. Soul* I. ii, A Star, whose Beams do not proceed From any Sun, but from a Native Light. 1613 HEYWOOD *Brazen Age* II. ii, How can I hate,..Or practise ought against my native power? 1660 STANLEY *Hist. Philos.* XI. (1701) 462/2 [Atoms] having neither native whiteness, nor blackness,..nor heat, nor cold, nor any other quality. *a* 1680 BUTLER *Rem.* (1759) I. 91 When Puss, wrapt warm in his own native Furs, Dreamt soundly. 1709 ROSCOMMON *Ess. Verse* 194 No cloudy Doubts obscure her Native Light. 1758 S. HAYWARD *Serm.* xvii. 538 How wonderful that the stones break not their native silence. 1782 COWPER *Poet, Oyster, & Sensit. Plant* 6 Ah, hapless wretch! condemned to dwell For ever in my native shell. 1817 J. SCOTT *Paris Revisit.* (ed. 4) 375 Study may be either the sign or the substitute of native feeling. 1854 BREWSTER *More Worlds* x. 166 Every single star, shining by its own native light. 1875 WHITNEY *Life Lang.* ii. 10 A mere native impulse to the exertion of all his native powers.

b. Natural *to* a person or thing.

1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* III. vi. (S.T.S.) I. 268 It was native to him..to persew þe pepill with all humanite & kyndenes he mycht. 1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* II. i. 218 Base men being in Loue, haue then a Nobilitie in their Natures, more then is native to them. 1834 DISRAELI *Rev. Epick* I. XLII. 16 To the rose Its fragrance not more native than to states A class thus rising. 1879 M. ARNOLD *Mixed Ess., Irish Cathol.* 116 If there is a thing specially native to religion, it is peace and union.

c. Natural, according to nature; naturally resulting. Now *rare.*

1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* XLI. (Percy Soc.) 204, I must nedes dye, it is my native kinde. 1543 *Wills & Inv. N. C.* (Surtees 1835) 121, I gyue and bequeathe to my brother.. fowre poundes by yeare..during his life natiue. *a* 1653 BINNING *Serm.* (1845) 144 O How would it be a pleasant and native thing to walk in his way, as a stone goeth downward. 1677 GALE *Crt. Gentiles* IV. Proem 5 We shal content our selves with this curt, yet apparently more native and distinct distribution of Beings. 1723 WODROW *Corr.* (1843) III. 9 It were hard to say this is a native consequence of any particular set of men's way. 1867 D. DUNCAN *Discourses* 292 To leave us to the native consequences of our folly and impiety.

†d. *Native notes*, birth-marks. *Obs. rare*$^{-1}$.

1658 SIR T. BROWNE *Gard. Cyrus* Wks. (Bohn) II. 536 That Augustus had native notes on his body..after the order and number in the stars of Charles' wain.

2. Left or remaining in a natural state; *esp.* free from, or untouched by, art; unadorned, simple, plain, unaffected.

1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 426 The doctrine..is the very natiue and auncient Religion. 1587 GOLDING *De Mornay* xxxiv. (1592) 541 If we haue an eie to the stile, it is natiue, simple, plaine. 1632 MILTON *L'Allegro* 134 If.. sweetest Shakespear..Warble his native Wood-notes wilde. 1660 DRYDEN *Ep. Sir R. Howard* 5 In your verse a native sweetness dwells, Which shames composure, and its art excels. 1710 STEELE *Tatler* No. 212 ¶ 4 She has the greatest Simplicity of Manners of any of her Sex. This makes every Thing look native about her. 1750 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 166 ¶ 1 It has long been observed that native beauty has little power to charm without the ornaments which fortune bestows. 1790 BURKE *Fr. Rev.* 128 We preserve the whole of our feelings still native and entire, unsophisticated by pedantry and infidelity. 1868 MARRIOTT *Vestiar. Chr.* p. xxiv, Sober colours there were, or, as commonly they were called, natural or native colours. 1871 BROWNING *Balaustion* 1899 He shall not say the man was vile Whom he befriended,—native noble heart!

b. Naturally implied or involved; not wrested or forced in any way.

1579 FULKE *Heskins' Parl.* 141 This he dare auouch, to be the natiue and true vnderstanding of this scripture. 1625 GILL *Sacr. Philos.* iv. 61, I hold that this is not the native meaning of this place. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 45 ¶ 2 Mere Words,..used only as they serve to betray those who understand them in their native Sense. 1741 W. WILSON *Contin. Def. Ref. Princ. Ch. Scot.* (1769) I. 344, I have drawn such inferences and conclusions from them as I thought just and native. 1875 E. WHITE *Life in Christ* III. xxi. 319 The Septuagint translators .. well knew the native meaning of both words.

3. Pertaining to, or connected with, one by the fact of one having been born there; that was the place or scene of one's birth. Also const. *to.*

Native country occurs frequently in the 16th cent.

1500-20 DUNBAR *Poems* xxii. 24 Kynd natyve nest dois clek bot owlis. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* II. iv. 75 O native cuntre [*Surrey* land], and ryall realme of Troy! 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 491 He would cause the Scottes..to returne againe into their conntrie and natiue region. 1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* I. i. 30 Say in briefe the cause Why thou departedst from thy natiue home? 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VI. 226 Disturb, though not destroy, thir happie Native seat. 1671 — *P. R.* IV. 241 Athens,.. Mother of Arts And Eloquence, native to famous wits Or hospitable. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 17 [I shall] With Foreign Spoils adorn my native Place. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* I. 15 At their native realms the Greeks arrived. 1778 MISS BURNEY *Evelina* LXXIX, We should first pass a month at my native Berry Hill. 1842 BISCHOFF *Woollen Manuf.* II. 422 The Flemish manufacturers, driven from their native country by the cruelty of the Duke of Alva. 1856 SIR B. BRODIE *Psychol. Inq.* I. i. 2 As boys, we had wandered together through our native woods.

transf. 1833 I. TAYLOR *Fanat.* vi. 167 Some congenial torrid climate—native to abjectness and slavery.

b. Forming the source or origin of a thing or person; original, parent.

1590 GREENE *Orl. Fur.* (1599) 58 All of finest silke, Fetcht from the natiue loomes of labouring wormes. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* V. xi. 11 Like fruitlesse braunches, which the hatchets slight Hath pruned from the native tree. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* XI. 463 Is this the way I must return to native dust? 1728 POPE *Dunc.* I. 176 And, lest we err by Wit's wild dancing light, Secure us kindly in our native night. 1813 SHELLEY *Q. Mab* IX. 121 Heaps of broken stone That mingled slowly with their native earth.

4. Belonging to, or natural to, one by reason of the place or country of one's birth, or of the nation to which one belongs.

1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* XXXIV. (Percy Soc.) 111 In my natyf language I wyl not opres More of her werke. 1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II*, I. iii. 160 The Language I haue learn'd these forty yeares (My natiue English) now I must forgo. *Ibid.* 173 Thy sentence .. robs my tongue from breathing natiue breath. 1638 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (ed. 2) 37 They have a native language of their owne, but the Persian tongue is understood by most. *c* 1700 POPE *Ode Solitude* i, Content to breathe his native air In his own ground. 1780 HARRIS *Philol. Enq.* Wks. (1841) 529 Greek..was still (with a few corruptions) their native language. 1817 SHELLEY *Rev. Islam* I. xix, To the Snake those accents sweet were known His native tongue and hers. 1841 CATLIN *N. Amer. Ind.* (1844) I. 6 Their habits, as we can see them transacted, are native. 1877 M. M. GRANT *Sun-Maid* viii, They were dressed in their native costumes.

Comb. 1876 A. PLUMMER tr. *Döllinger's Hippolytus* II. 87 His name has been metamorphosed in Syria and Egypt into the more native-sounding Abulides.

†5. *Native day*, natal day, birthday. *Obs.*

1546 LANGLEY tr. *Pol. Verg. de Invent.* V. i. 99 Which honored the day of consecrating their religions.., callinge it ye natiue daye of their sacred personages. 1566 DRANT *Horace, Sat.* II. ii. F iij b, If he dyd feast his frende at home, or kepe his natiue daye.

6. Belonging or appertaining to one as a possession or right by virtue of one's birth.

1570-6 LAMBARDE *Peramb. Kent* (1826) 453 Whereas all Nobilitie and Gentrie is either Native or Dative. 1593 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI*, III. iii. 190 Did I put Henry from his Natiue Right? 1660 *Trial Regic.* 29, I am very unwilling to deprive myself of my Native Right. 1681 DRYDEN *Abs. & Achit.* 760 Can People give away, Both for themselves and Sons, their native Sway? 1784 COWPER *Task* V. 436 That man should thus..Abridge him of his just and native rights. 1801 STRUTT *Sports & Past.* Introd. 2 A bold, active, and warlike people, tenacious of their native liberty.

II. †7. Born in a state of villeinage. *Obs.*

1432-50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 39 Somme men say this pope was the native man of thabbot of Seynte Alban in Vnglonde. *Ibid.* 457 He scholde make alle men fre .., so that þere scholde not be eny native man after that tyme.

8. Connected with one by birth or race; closely related. Also const. †*to* and *with*. Now *rare.*

c 1470 HENRY *Wallace* VIII. 241 Byschope Beik full sodeynly thai se; And Robert Bruce, contrar his natiff men. *Ibid.* X. 169 Thai men, was natyff till Stwait..tuk hardement. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* III. v. 125 Neir he approchit ..And his awne native freindis knew in hy. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 390 His awin natiue cousing and freind. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* I. ii. 47 The Head is not more Natiue to the Heart .. Then is the Throne of Denmark to thy Father. 1865 SWINBURNE *Atalanta* 504 Old men honourable, Who have .. filled with gracious and memorial fame..alien lips and native with their own.

†b. = NATURAL *a.* 13. *Obs. rare.*

1567 MAPLET *Gr. Forest* 97 b, So soone as those yong can heare but their owne and Natiue Dams note, they leaue their Stepmother. *c* 1600 *Gentleman in Thracia* in Child *Ballads* VIII. 162 There is but one amongst the foure That is my native sonne.

†9. Entitled to a certain position by birth; natural, proper, rightful. *Obs.*

1564 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 304 The said David is in the rowme of him the auld kyndlie native possesour thairof. *c* 1580 SIDNEY *Ps.* VIII. viii, The fish, of sea the native heire. 1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II*, III. ii. 25 This Earth shall haue a feeling..ere her Natiue King Shall falter vnder foule Rebellious Armes.

10. Of metals and other minerals: Occurring naturally in a pure state or uncombined with other substances; also used to describe a mineral occurring in nature, in distinction from the corresponding substance formed artificially. So *native rock.*

Native amalgam: see AMALGAM *sb.* 1.

1695 WOODWARD *Nat. Hist. Earth* (1723) 19 Flint, Native-Vitriol, Spar. 1728 — *Catal. For. Fossils* 22 Native Sulphur of a lemon color. 1760 WESLEY *Jrnl.* 10 Sept. (1827) III. 16 One end..was native rock. 1796 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) II. 156 The existence of Native Iron seems now placed beyond the reach of doubt. 1807 T. THOMSON *Chem.* (ed. 3) II. 531 As it is found native in abundance, it is seldom formed artificially. 1836-41 BRANDE *Chem.* (ed. 5) 953 Native Silver has the general characters of the pure metal. 1874 GARROD & BAXTER *Mat. Med.* 54 Aluminum..does not exist native, but is formed artificially from certain of its compounds.

b. *transf.* Applied to the state or form of such substances.

1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* s. v. *Natrum*, An alkali,.. fermenting very violently .. in its native dry state. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) I. 74 The variety of substances ..found in the bowels of the earth, in their native state. 1818 W. PHILLIPS *Outl. Min. & Geol.* (ed. 3) 40 Silver occurs in the metallic or native state. 1878 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* 81 In its purest native form [carbon] crystallizes as the diamond.

†11. Having a birth or natal origin; coming into existence by being born. *Obs. rare.*

After L. *nātīvus* in Cicero *De Nat. Deorum* I. x. 25.

1655 STANLEY *Hist. Philos.* II. (1701) 61/1 His Opinion .. was, that the Gods are native (having a beginning). 1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* 209 A Multitude of such Deities, which yet they conceived to be all (as well as Men) Native and Mortal.

III. 12. Born in a particular place or country; belonging to a particular race, district, etc., by birth. In mod. use *spec.* with connotation of non-European (cf. NATIVE *sb.* 4).

c 1470 HENRY *Wallace* VIII. 545 Be cans I am a natyff Scottis man. 1494 FABYAN *Chron.* VI. CCV. 216 They before tyme were sworne to Edmunde .., and also were natyfe Englysscmen. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 426 b, Straungers being commaunded to departe, & the native countrie men there caste in pryson. 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* II. i. 23 The poore dapled fooles Being natiue Burgers of this desert City. 1665 BOYLE *Occas. Reft.* V. x. (1848) 335 She is ever a Natural, though no Native, Persian. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 59 The native Turks are honest People, and love honest People. 1716 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* III. *Diss. Drama* 27 England seems to have been always the least concern'd for the Encouragement of poor Native Proselyts to the Protestant Communion. 1782 R. CUMBERLAND *Anecd. Painters* I. 94 Spain at that brilliant æra was in possession of many native painters. 1802 JAMES *Milit. Dict.* s. v., Each regiment of native cavalry and native infantry. 1839 MALCOM *Trav.* (1840) II/1 Having received endowments from a native gentleman, yielding annually 100,000 rupees. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 17 May 5/1 The tolls..were intended to be a protection to the native handicraftsmen in gold and silver.

b. In predicative use or placed after the sb. Also const. †*of* and *to*.

1558 KNOX *First Blast* (Arb.) 33 A man natiue amongest them selues. 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* III. ii. 356 Are you natiue of this place? 1602 — *Ham.* IV. vii. 180 Like a creature Natiue, and indued Vnto that Element. 1671 MILTON *P. R.* II. 313 That Prophet bold Native of Thebez wandring here was fed. 1821 SHELLEY *Epipsych.* 426 This land would have remained a solitude But for some pastoral people native there. 1847 TENNYSON *Princ.* VII. 304 No Angel, but a dearer being, all dipt In Angel instincts,..Who look'd all native to her place.

13. Produced in or belonging to a certain country; of indigenous origin, production, or growth, as opposed to what is foreign or exotic.

1555 EDEN *Decades W. Ind.* 38 Images..very artificiously made of golde...The golde wherof they are made is natiue. 1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* I. iii. 152 'Tis often seene .. choise breedes A natiue slip to vs from forraine seedes. 1616 R. C. *Times' Whistle* V. 2197 Tobacco.., Which being far fetcht only doth exceed In vertue all our native hearbes. 1670 R. COKE *Disc. Trade* 1 Trade is twofold, viz. Native, and Forein. *Ibid.* 28 So our Native Commodities are not valuable as if Trade were free. 1817 O'HARA *Hist. N. S. Wales* 242 Of native fruits, a cherry, insipid in comparison of the European sorts, was found. 1845 *Florist's Jrnl.* 143 Even now, when such numbers of our native flowers ought to be in full perfection, they are scarcely to be found. 1894 'J. S. WINTER' *Red Coats* 118 Some biscuits, a tin of preserved chicken, some native cakes.

b. Of oysters. (See NATIVE *sb.* 5 b.)

1736 *English Oyster Fisheries* (1737) 22 They import none, and yet have, every Winter, very considerable Crops of Laid, as well as Native Oysters. 1855 DALLAS *Syst. Nat. Hist.* I. 428 The 'native' oysters are obtained from artificial oyster banks. 1865 *Pall Mall G.* 5 Dec. 5 It is rather a difficult matter to define what is a native oyster.

c. In names of Australian animals and birds, as *native bear* (see BEAR *sb.*[1] 4), *bustard, cat, dog* (= DINGO), *hen, rabbit, turkey*. Also *native companion*, a kind of crane (*Grus australasianus*).

1820 J. OXLEY *Jrnls. Exped. Australia* 33 That large species of bittern, known on the east-coast by the local name of Native Companions. 1820 W. C. WENTWORTH *Descr. N. S. Wales* 62 The native dog..which is a species of the wolf. 1826 J. ATKINSON *Agric. N. S. Wales* 23 The rat, or native rabbit, has all the habits of the domestic rat of Europe. 1827 P. CUNNINGHAM *N. S. Wales* I. 317 Our *coola* (sloth or native bear) is about the size of an ordinary poodle dog. 1847 LEICHHARDT *Overland Exped.* 260 Several native bustards (*Otis Novæ-Hollandiæ*) were shot. 1848 GOULD *Birds Australia* VI. pl. 4 Australian Bustard; ..Native Turkey. *Ibid.* pl. 71 *Tribonyx Mortierii*, Native Hen, of the Colonists. 1880 MRS. MEREDITH *Tasman. Friends & Foes* 67 The native cat is similar [to the tiger cat], but smaller, and its fur is an ashy-grey.

d. In names of Australian plants, fruits, etc., as *native borage, box, carrot, cherry, fuchsia, indigo*, etc. Also *native bread*: see BREAD *sb.* 2 e.

1830 R. DAWSON *Pres. State Australia* 411 The shrub which is called the native cherry-tree, appears like a species of cypress. 1847 LEICHHARDT *Overland Exped.* 64 The native carrot .. was here withered and in seed. *Ibid.* 124 The native Borage (*Trichodesma zeylanica*). 1860 G. BENNETT *Naturalist in Australia* 372 The *Correa virens*, with its pretty pendulous blossoms (from which it has been named the 'Native Fuchsia'). 1889 MAIDEN *Useful Native Pl.* 121 'Native Box'..is greedily eaten by sheep.

14. Belonging to, used by, characteristic of, the natives of a particular place.

1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* I. 471 The native right to half this territory was extinguished by a treaty. 1854 G. H. HAYDON *Austral. Emigrant* 126 *note*, *Carbora*, the native name of an animal of the sloth species. 1897 MARY KINGSLEY *W. Africa* 74 Living in the native houses while she built..her present house.

Native-born, *a.* [f. prec. + BORN *ppl. a.*] †**a.** *Sc.* Having a certain position or status by birth. *Obs.* **b.** Belonging to a particular place or country by birth; sometimes *spec.* applied to persons of immigrant race born in a colony.

1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* lx. 45 And he is maister natiwe borne, And all his eldaris him beforne. 1524 *Aberdeen Reg.* (1844) I. 109 All begaris excep tham that ar natif borne within this tovne. 1572–3 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* II. 207 Strangearis and native borne subjectis of the same. 1849 LYELL *2nd Visit U. S.* II. 115 The word creole is used in Louisiana to express a native-born American, whether black or white, descended from old world parents. 1865 J. H. INGRAHAM *Pillar of Fire* (1872) 55 The hieroglyphic form of writing is difficult to be understood, save by a native-born Egyptian. 1894 H. PARRY *Stud. Gt. Composers, Palestrina* 8 The first musical work that was ever published and dedicated to a pope by a native-born Italian. *absol.* 1896 KIPLING *Seven Seas, The Native-born.*

Natively (nē·tivli), *adv.* [f. NATIVE *a.* + -LY [2].] In a native manner.

1. †**a.** Naturally, without disguise, plainly, straightforwardly. *Obs.*

a 1564 BECON *Nosegay* Wks. 1564 I. 119 That ye myghte natiuely & vnfayndlye on this sorte loue youre neyghbour. 1626 T. H[AWKINS] tr. *Caussin's Holy Crt.* 110 To represent so natiuely to vs the blindnesse of the great, and rich of this world. 1677 GALE *Crt. Gentiles* IV. 191 To speak natively and distinctly. *Ibid.* 300 This is more natively and clearly laid down in Sacred Philosophie.

b. In the way natural to one; without art or artifice. *rare.*

1639 N. N. tr. *Du Bosq's Compl. Woman* II. 53 In lieu of expressing their thoughts natively, they are troubled and confounded. *Ibid.* 59 There is nothing even or natively done in their behaviours. 1856 EMERSON *Eng. Traits, Manners*, They will let you break all the commandments, if you do it natively, and with spirit.

†**c.** Without forcing or wresting. *Obs.*

1671 [R. MACWARD] *True Nonconf.* 374 Though it arise most natively from the words, and be clearly verifiable. *a* 1732 T. BOSTON *Crook in Lot* (1805) 50 This natively follows on that desire. 1745 WESLEY *Wks.* (1830) I. 496, I often thought since I was favoured with this letter how far it natively and clearly went.

2. Innately, originally, naturally; by virtue of birth, origin, or inherent qualities.

1609 TOURNEUR *Sir F. Vere* 43 Labour increas'd what natively was bred. 1631 R. BYFIELD *Doctr. Sabb.* 79, I cannot tell how any thing should bee evill natively. 1658 SIR T. BROWNE *Gard. Cyrus* Wks. (Bohn) II. 509 How they [spiders] are natively provided with a stock sufficient for such texture. 1710 STEELE *Tatler* No. 211 ¶ 4 There is something so natively great and good in a Person that is truly devout. 1804 EUGENIA DE ACTON *Tale without Title* III. 211 One of the most natively lovely figures of the sex. 1815 MME. D'ARBLAY *Diary* (1876) IV. lxiv. 307 M. D'Arblay again joined me, revived by his natively martial spirit. 1850 M'COSH *Div. Govt.* III. i. (1874) 290 Virtue or moral good is not natively known by the mind as an abstract or general idea. 1881 J. CAIRNS in *Chr. World Pulpit* XIX. 315 That which is not natively great cannot be truly or pre-eminently great.

†**b.** As the native language. *Obs. rare*[−1].

1612 BREREWOOD *Lang. & Relig.* i. 8 These were the places, where the Greek tongue was natively and vulgarly spoken, either originally or by reason of colonies.

†**c.** In respect of origin; indigenously. *Obs.*

1629 LIGHTFOOT *Misc.* 118, I take two names giuen to Christ .. to be natiuely Chaldee words. 1730 A. GORDON *Maffei's Amphith.* 226 The Tuscan Order..is peculiarly and natively our own.

†**3.** By natural structure or growth; not artificially. *Obs.*

1672 in Heath *Grocer's Comp.* (1869) 496 A grass green Mountain natively crowned with a steep rock. 1737 SAVAGE *Public Spirit* 66 Rank above rank here shapely greens ascend, There others natively grotesque depend.

Nativeness (nē·tivnés). [f. as prec. + -NESS.] The fact or quality of being native; naturalness.

1639 N. N. tr. *Du Bosq's Compl. Woman* II. 53 As a forcednesse displeaseth in the fairest actions, a certain nativenesse takes and pleaseth in the least. *Ibid.* 55. 1727 in BAILEY vol. II. 1817 COLERIDGE *Biog. Lit.* (Bohn) 3 The truth and nativeness botb of their thoughts and diction. *a* 1821 KEATS *Sonn.* Wks. (1884) 363 Ocean .. never can Subside, if not to dark blue nativeness. 1853 G. JOHNSTON *Nat. Hist. E. Bord.* I. 32 Its nativeness is unquestioned.

Nativism (nē·tivi'm). [f. as prec. + -ISM: in sense 2 perh. ad. F. *nativisme*.]

1. (Chiefly *U. S.*) Prejudice in favour of natives against strangers; the practice or policy of protecting the interests of the native residents against those of immigrants.

1856 *N. & Q.* 2nd Ser. I. 9/2 In a kind of feud now existing between American-born and foreign-born citizens, the former are said to profess Nativism. 1864 NICOLS 40 *Years Amer. Life* II. 90 These necessities destroyed nativism and the political Anti-Catholic party. 1890 S. J. DUNCAN *Social Departure* 230 Graphic fervour, wherein his nativism showed like the cloven foot.

2. *Philos.* The doctrine of innate ideas.

1887 *Mind* XII. 628 The Stoics,.. he holds, combined the truth that is in sensationalism with the truth that is in nativism. 1901 *Chambers's Encycl.* VIII. 476/1 The opposed views of Nativism and Empiricism.

b. (See quot.)

1892 *Monist* II. 316 By Nativism, Marty understands the theory that certain involuntary articulate sounds are associated with certain ideas.

Nativist (nē·tivist). [f. as prec. + -IST.]

1. *U. S. Pol.* One who favours or advocates a policy of nativism. Also *attrib.*

1864 NICOLS 40 *Years Amer. Life* II. 78 The nativist party, with its secret organization. 1885 LALOR tr. *Von Holst's Const. Hist. U. S.* V. ix. 436 Fillmore..was chosen by the Nativists of Philadelphia as their standard-bearer. 1894 *Forum* July 534 [The South] was full of nativist feeling in its best form.

2. *Philos.* One who holds the doctrine of innate ideas. Also *attrib.*

1881 *Nation* (N. Y.) XXXII. 191 The Intellectualists and the Sensationalists in vision, or, as Helmholtz prefers to call them, the Empiricists and the Nativists. 1901 *Chambers's Encycl.* VIII. 475/2 The Intuitive or Nativist theory, according to which space is an innate idea.

Hence **Nativi'stic** *a.*

1880 *Nation* (N. Y.) 22 Apr., The nativistic tendencies of the Whig party. 1881 LE CONTE *Sight* 103 The one is called the nativistic, the other the empiristic theory.

Nativity (nătiv·vĭti). Forms: (2 natiuitēð), 4–5 natyvyte, -tie, 4–6 nativyte, -vite, (4 -tee), 6–7 nativitie, -tye, 6– nativity. [In ME. a. F. *nativité* (12th c.), ad. L. *nātīvitāt-em*: see NATIVE *a.* and -ITY. The late OE. *nativitēð* represents the older F. form *nativited*.

a 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1102 On þisum geare to Natiuitēð wæs se cyng Heanriz on Westmynstre.]

1. The birth of Christ, of the Virgin, or of St. John Baptist.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 11383 Þis kinges thre þar wai þai tok A tuelmoth ar þe natiuite. *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* Cant. 507 Lord þis natiuite of þe maydyn is þi werk. 1382 WYCLIF *Mark* Prol., Mark .. tellith not the natiuite of Crist bi fleissche. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xi. 43 Þare schewed þe aungell þe natiuitee of sayn Iohn Baptist. 1450–1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* 212 How men oughte to worshyp her natyuyte in erthe. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 25 b, To do honour and homage to his grace in his blessed natiuite. 1575–85 ABP. SANDYS *Serm.* (Parker Soc.) 286 At the time of his nativity ..there was peace amongst all nations. 1656 VAUGHAN *Thalia Rediv., Nativity*, Poor Galile, thou canst not be The place for His nativity. 1756–7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) III. 96 The basso-relievo representing the nativity of Christ. 1844 *Mem. Babylon. P'cess* II. 101 The house .. in which St. John the Baptist was born. The place of his nativity is ornamented with magnificent bas reliefs.

b. A picture representing the Nativity.

1644 EVELYN *Diary* 10 Nov., Two famous pieces of Bassano, the one a Vulcan, the other a Nativity! 1876 *Encycl. Brit.* IV. 653/2 Among his .. pieces is a Nativity, representing the angels around the infant Christ.

2. The church festival commemorating the birth of Christ, observed on the 25th of December; Christmas. Also, the festivals of the birth of the Virgin, Sept. 8, and of St. John Baptist, June 24.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 13186 Men mai yeitt se sum sted in france Wod men at his [*sc.* St. John Baptist's] natiuite To kirk be draun. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 41 And faste þei fro þe feste of alle hawen til þe natyuyte of crist. 1389 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 14 þe sunday aftir þe natiuite of oure lady. 1465 *Mann. & Househ. Exp.* (Roxb.) 302 The Munday next affter our Lady day the Natyvyte. 1495 *Act 11 Hen. VII*, *c.* 25 § 6 At the fest of the Nativyte of oure Lord. 1556 W. TOWERSON in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1589) 104 The 25. day being the day of the natiuitie of Christ. 1642 C. VERNON *Consid. Exch.* 83 Those to bee paid at the Feast of the Nativity of our Lord God. 1659 H. L'ESTRANGE *Alliance Div. Off.* 136 The Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ was now at hand. 1727–38 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v., When we say absolutely the nativity, it is understood of that of Jesus Christ, or the feast of Christmas. 1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XV. 592/2 The Nativity of Mary .. was appointed to be observed by the Synod of Salzburg in 800.

3. Birth, in ordinary contexts.

1382 WYCLIF *Ezek.* xxix. 14, Y shal sette hem to gydre.. in to the loond of her natiuyte. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 77 He which hath the child begete..The time of his nativite.. Awaiteth. *c* 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* VII. 207 Se where is the kingis natinite. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 14 In þe first part sall ȝe se His nation and hes natyuyte. 1535 COVERDALE *Ecclus.* xxiii. 14 Lest thou..wyshe not to haue bene borne, and so curse the daye of thy natinite. 1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* IV. iv. 32, I haue serued him from the houre of my Natiuitie to this instant. 1612 T. TAYLOR *Comm. Titus* iii. 5 Many euen old men,..who know no nativity but one of Adam and Eve. 1672 SIR T. BROWNE *Let. Friend* § 5 If it could be made ont that such who have easie nativities have commonly hard deaths. 1712 M. HENRY *Reformat. Serm.* Wks. 1853 II. 489/1 Hearty well-wishers to the land of their nativity. 1771 *Antiq. Sarisb.* 235 William Horman had his nativity in Newstreet, Sarum. 1820 SHELLEY *Fiordispina* 14 Which could not be But by dissevering their nativity.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1535 COVERDALE *Wisd.* vi. 22 As for wyszdome,..I..wil seke her out from yᵉ begynnynge of the natinyte. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* III. ii. 125 Looke when I vow I weepe; and vowes so borne, In their natiuity all truth appeares. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* I. vi. (1686) 17 Plagiary had not its Nativity with Printing. 1652 FRENCH *Yorksh. Spa* vi. 56 For the better illustration of this nativity of salts. 1684 T. BURNET *Th. Earth* III. 40 Here you see the birth and nativity of the sea, or of Oceanus, describ'd. 1831 LAMA *Elia* Ser. II. *Newspapers* 35 *Yrs. Ago*, The jealous waters..reluctant to have the humble spot of their nativity revealed. 1886 RUSKIN *Præterita* I. iv. 124 The native architectural instinct is instantly developed in these,—highly notable for any one who cares to note such nativities.

†**c.** *Of one's nativity*, belonging to one by birth, natural. *Obs. rare.*

After *vultus nativitatis* in the Vulgate (Jas. i. 23).

1582 N. T. (Rhem.) *Jas.* i. 23 A man beholding the countenance of his nativitie in a glasse. 1660 N. INGELO *Bentiv. & Ur.* I. (1682) 121, I see the face of my nativity.

4. Birth considered astrologically; a horoscope.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 55 Bot upon here nativite Such was the constellacion [etc.]. *c* 1391 CHAUCER *Astrol.* II. § 4 Yit is the planete *in horoscopo*, be it in natiuite or in electioun. 1508 DUNBAR *Poems* vii. 74 Hie furius Mars..Rong in the hevin at thyne natinite. 1563 *Mirr. Mag., Somerset* vii, A straunge natiuitie in calculation. 1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 15 Those who have Mars Lord in their Nativities, become either Souldiers or Trades-men. 1660 PEPYS *Diary* 24 Oct., Mr. Booker..did tell me a great many fooleries which may be done by nativities. 1708 SWIFT *Predict. for* 1708, Wks. 1755 II. i. 150, I have consulted the star of his nativity by my own rules. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* iii, I will calculate his nativity according to the rule of the Triplicities. *c* 1850 *Arab. Nts.* (Rtldg.) 448 The king called an assembly of all the astrologers.., and ordered them to calculate the nativity of his child.

5. a. Birth as determining nationality.

1592 WEST *1st Pt. Symbol.* § 461, Natural capacitie by birth, which euerie liege subject being borne within her Maiesties dominions hath by his natiuitie. 1785 PALEY *Mor. Philos.* (1818) II. 133 The circumstance of nativity, that is of claiming and treating as subjects all those who are born within the confines of their dominions. 1821–30 LD. COCKBURN *Mem.* (1856) 296 He owed this to his Scotch nativity and education. 1870 ANDERSON *Missions Amer. Bd.* II. xx. 161 His Irish nativity, and consequent right to receive British protection.

† b. Birth with reference to descent or breeding. *c* 1550 H. RHODES *Bk. Nurture* 678 in *Babees Bk.* (1868) 101 A Gentleman should mercy vse to set forth his natiuitye. 1587 GOLDING *De Mornay* xxiv. (1592) 363 Thereby they were certified of their original natiuitie.

† 6. The condition of being born a serf. *Obs. rare.* 1609 SKENE *Reg. Maj.* 91 The third kinde of nativitie, or bondage. *Ibid.*, Gif he .. flees away fra his maister, or denyes to him his nativitie.

7. Indigenousness. 1871 *Trans. New Zealand Inst.* IV. 238 On the Nativity in New Zealand of *Polygonum aviculare*.

8. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *nativity-caster, -ceremony, -day, -song, -waler*; † **nativity-broth**, (?); † **nativity-pie**, ? a Christmas pie. 1584 R. SCOT *Discov. Witchcr.* XI. xxiii. (1886) 172 Who shall obtaine everlasting live by meanes of constellations, as nativitie-casters affirme. 1605 B. JONSON *Volpone* I. i, A precise illuminate brother .. will drop you forth a libel, or a sanctified lie, Betwixt every spoonful of a nativity-pie. 1614 — *Barth. Fair* I. ii, My mother has had her natiuity-water cast lately by the Cunning men in Cow-lane. 1654 H. L'ESTRANGE *Chas. I* (1655) 156 This Warre was the Epoche, the Nativity day from whence all the series of this Kings troubles are to be compiled. 1665 WITHER *Lord's Prayer* 31 A Complement more Magnificent then the Nativity-Ceremonies, of all other Kings put together. *Ibid.*, A Celestial Army celebrated his Birth, with a Nativity-Song. 1674 T. FLATMAN *Belly God* 107 There is your French Pottage, Nativity broth, Yet that of Fetter lane exceeds them both.

Natomy, dial. form of ANATOMY.

Natour, obs. form of NATURE *sb.*

† **Na·tre**, anglicized form of NATRON. *Obs. rare.* 1756 P. BROWNE *Jamaica* (1789) 38 The Egyptian Natre, and Tartarian Natre.

Natrium (nē·ˈtriŏm, næˈtriŏm). *Chem. rare.* [f. NATR-ON + -IUM.] Sodium. 1842 FRANCIS *Dict. Arts & Sci., Natrium*, the name given by the German chemists to sodium, the metallic base of soda. 1870 GARROD *Mat. Med.* (ed. 3) 131 Sodium .. called also Natrium, is contained in the soda salts, but does not exist native.

Natrolite (næˈtrŏlɛit, nē·ˈtro-). *Min.* [f. NATRO-N + -LITE; named by Klaproth, 1803.] A hydrous silicate of aluminium and sodium, usually occurring in white, transparent, acicular crystals. 1805 JAMESON *Syst. Min.* II. 541. 1811 SMITHSON in *Phil. Trans.* CI. 171 The natrolite has been lately met with under a regular crystalline form. 1836 T. THOMSON *Min., Geol.*, etc. I. 317 Perhaps this mineral [mesolite] should..be considered as a variety of natrolite. 1850 DANA *Geol.* iv. 298 The basalt..contains minute cavities which are filled, apparently, with natrolite. 1879 RUTLEY *Stud. Rocks* x. 159 A meshwork of little prisms of natrolite, in some instances, almost completely filling the crystal.

Natron (nē·ˈtrŏn, næˈtrŏn). [a. F. *natron* (1665), a. Sp. *natron*, ad. Arab. نطرون *naṭrūn, niṭrūn*, ad. Gr. *νίτρον* NITRE. Cf. ANATRON.] Native sesquicarbonate of soda, occurring in solution or as a deposit (mixed with other substances) in various parts of the world. 1684 LEIGH in *Phil. Trans.* XIV. 610 The Natron..is an Alkaly Salt perforated like a Sponge, and of a lixivial tast. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Anatron* or *Natron*, a kind of Salt drawn from the Water of the River Nile in Egypt. 1760 *Gentl. Mag.* XXX. 315 The saltness of the dew in that country..is oweing to the natron,..which is in plenty on the surface of the earth. 1803 *Med. Jrnl.* IX. 514 The stomachic affections were subdued by natron. 1863 BAKER *Albert N'yanza* i. (1866) I. 64 Found quantities of natron on the marshy ground bordering the river. 1872 — *Nile Trib.* xvii. 304 The water is impregnated with natron.

b. *attrib.* in **natron lake**, a lake from which natron is obtained. 1821 R. JAMESON *Man. Min.* 6 It abounds..in the famous natron lakes in Northern Africa. 1876 HAALEY *Mat. Med.* (ed. 6) 149 The natron lakes of Egypt were known to the ancients.

Natrophilite (nătrǫfiləit). *Chem.* [f. NATRIUM + Gr. *φίλ-ος* friendly + -ITE.] A yellow resinous phosphate of manganese and sodium. 1890 BRUSH & DANA in *Amer. Jrnl. Sci.* Ser. III. XXXIX. 204 Another new member of the triphylite group, a sodium-manganese phosphate, which we shall call natrophilite. *Ibid.* 205–6.

† **Natrum.** *Obs. rare.* [a. F. *natrum*, var. of *natron*.] = NATRON. 1748 J. HILL *Hist. Fossils* 387 The Natrum, or Nitrum of the Ancients, is a native Fossile substance. *Ibid.* 389 This native Alkaline Salt, which I have ventured to call the Natrum or true Nitre of the earliest ages. 1795 NICHOLSON *Dict. Chem.* II. 514.

Natter (næˈtəɹ), *v. dial.* [var. of GNATTER *v.*] 1. *intr.* To grumble; to fret. Hence **Na·ttering** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*; also **Na·ttered** *ppl. a.*, peevish, complaining; hence **Na·tteredness**. 1829 BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Natter*, to scold, to speak in a querulous or peevish manner. 1853 MRS. GASKELL *Ruth* xxix, She believed she grew more 'nattered' as she grew older; but that she was conscious of her 'natteredness' was a new thing. 1859 GEO. ELIOT *A. Bede* I. iv, Lisbeth, whose motherly feeling now got the better of her 'nattering' habit. 1866 E. PEACOCK *Notes to Myrc* 73 She is always a nattering.

2. To gnaw, to nag. 1871 E. PEACOCK *Ralf Skirl.* II. 48 It can't hurt me..let alone a bit o' natterin' pain.

Natterjack (næˈtəɹdʒæk). [Of obscure formation.] A somewhat rare British species of toad (*Bufo calamita*), having a light yellow stripe down the back, and distinguished from the ordinary toad by its superior agility. Also *attrib.* with *toad*. 1769 PENNANT *Brit. Zool.* III. 12 This species .. is found on Putney Common, and also near Revesby Abby, Lincolnshire, where it is called the Natter Jack. 1831 DARWIN in *Life* (1887) I. 187 To Galinghay, to see the wild lily of the valley, and to catch on the heath the rare natter-jack. 1863 *Intell. Observer* Oct. 228 The natterjack is very abundant in South Lancashire in all the ditches in those parts near the coast. 1870 H. A. NICHOLSON *Man. Zool.* (1875) 458 The Natter-jack Toad is the only other British species.

Nattily (næˈtili), *adv.* [f. NATTY *a.* + -LY 2.] In a natty manner; neatly, smartly. 1849 C. BRONTE *Shirley* xv, Putting it gallantly and nattily into his button-hole. 1860 *All Year Round* No. 42. 365 See how nattily the men bind the tubes with fine wire. 1865 LE FANU *Guy Dev.* I. xvii. 225 Lady Alice's nattily-kept gravel inclosure.

Nattiness (næˈtinės). [f. as prec. + -NESS.] The quality of being natty; neatness, trimness. 1861 GEO. ELIOT *S. Marner* xi, Everything belonging to Miss Nancy was of delicate purity and nattiness. 1870 HELE *Notes Aldeburgh* 139 Success depends more than anything upon the 'nattiness' with which the boat itself is handled. 1884 *Cassell's Fam. Mag.* Apr. 269/1 The pretty nattiness of the mob-cap and apron.

Natting: see NAT *sb.*

Nattle (næˈt'l), *v. north. dial.* [Imitative.] *intr.* To make a light rattling, crackling, or tapping noise. Hence **Na·ttling** *vbl. sb.* 1825 BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss.* 1851 GREENWELL *Coal-trade Terms, Northumb. & Durh.* 37. 1855 ROBINSON *Whitby Gloss.* s. v., Hark, how it nattles! 1866 MRS. LYNN LINTON *L. Lorton* II. 9 A ghostly 'nattling' or tapping at the door.

Natty (næˈti), *a.* (*adv.* and *sb.*) [Of obscure origin; at first app. a slang word.]

1. Neatly smart; spruce, trim; exhibiting dainty tidiness, taste or skill: a. of persons. 1785 GROSE *Dict. Vulgar T., Natty lads*, young thieves or pickpockets. 1806 SURR *Winter in Lond.* I. 15 Tommy was what at that period was termed a natty spark of eighteen. 1812 SHELLEY *Juvenilia, Devil's Walk* ii, As natty a beau, As Bond Street ever saw. 1860 MRS. DE WINTON *Valley Hundred Fires* 176 Being exquisitely clean and natty, he luxuriated in clean shirts.

b. of things. 1801 WOLCOT (P. Pindar) *Tears & Smiles* Wks. 1812 V. 74, I recollect .. Full well thy natty boh. 1806 *Simple Narrative* I. 110, I shall keep a smart natty little gig. 1834 M. SCOTT *Cruise Midge* iv. I. 112 An enormously broad-brimmed straw hat, with a black ribbon round it, in rather a natty bow. 1855 THACKERAY *Newcomes* xliv, His uncle used to .. arrange the natty curl on his forehead. 1894 SALA *Things I have seen* II. x. 45 He wore the nattiest little black kid gloves imaginable.

2. quasi-*adv.* Nattily. 1810 *Splendid Follies* II. 111 How she had tied her neckcloth so natty, was quite a string of perplexities.

3. *absol.* as *sb.* A natty person. 1818 MOORE *Fudge Fam. Paris* viii. 42 As long as .. we Natties May have our full fling at their salmis and pâtés.

Natural (see next), *sb.* [Subst. use of next, in earlier senses after F. *naturel*, L. *nātūrāl-is, -e*, etc.]

I. † 1. A native of a place or country. *Obs.* (very common *c* 1580–1650). 1509 in *Mem. Hen. VII* (Rolls) 436 He schuld send hys commandement unto al the naturalys of the reame of Castyl. 1598 BARRET *Theor. Warres* II. i. 28 Therby do rise.. tumults amongst the naturals of the country. 1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 258 The more seuere that these are to the naturals, the greater their repute with the Spaniard. 1657 S. PURCHAS *Pol. Flying-Ins.* 128 The naturals who are acquainted with their manners, presently follow them, to get the honey.

2. One naturally deficient in intellect; a half-witted person. Cf. NATURAL *a.* 14 a. 1533 MORE *Debell. Salem* Wks. 934/1 It could never be done more naturally, not thovgh he that wrote it were even a very naturall in dede. *a* 1569 KINGESMYLL *Godly Advise* (1580) 10 If hee bee but meane in that respecte, then yet he is no foole, no naturall. 1623 T. SCOT *Highw. God* 44 Nature cannot bee so blinde as to suffer any but naturals to beleeve this their doctrine. *c* 1680 BEVERIDGE *Serm.* (1729) II. 530 We are still mere naturals, no better than fools and madmen. 1722 STEELE *Consc. Lovers* II. i, I own the Man is not a Natural; he has a very quick Sense, though very slow Understanding. 1777 MME. D'ARBLAY *Early Diary* July, She..is not quite a natural, that is, not an absolute idiot. 1840 DICKENS *Barn. Rudge* x, The person who'd go quickest, is a sort of natural, as one may say, sir. 1878 C. GIBBON *For the King* iv, The man shuffled and bowed low, with the vacant grin of a natural.

3. † a. One who is morally in a state of nature. *Obs.* † b. A naturalist. *Obs.* † c. A mistress. *Obs.* d. A poet of nature. *rare.* 1643 TRAPP *Comm. Gen.* i. 24 So it is here with the man that is no more then a meer naturall. But he that is spirituall discerneth all things. *a* 1682 SIR T. BROWNE *Tracts* (1684) 107 By Zoographers and Naturals the same is named *Ispida*. 1688 SHADWELL *Sqr. Alsatia* I, You..took a pretty wench a Gentleman's natural away by force. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Natural*, a Mistress, a Wench. *a* 1849 H. COLERIDGE *Ess.* (1851) II. 117 The superiority of Pope to the naturals.

II. † 4. *pl.* a. The mental or (rarely) physical endowments of a person; natural gifts or powers of mind (or body). *Obs.* (common in 17th c.). 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 124 Bycause his vnderstandynge and other naturalles be hole in hym. 1586 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* Ep. Ded., The Author thereof was a meere heathen man, and directed onely by his pure Naturals when he wrote it. 1627 SANDERSON *Serm.* I. 264 So much, if he had not been wanting to himself in the use of his naturals, he might have known. 1650 B. *Discollimitium* 46 For my naturalls, I am a proper man, foure foot, twelve inches and an halfe high. 1678 GALE *Crt. Gentiles* IV. III. iv. 144 A person of excellent naturals, and those wel improved by acquired literature.

† b. Natural products. *Obs. rare.* 1599 HAKLUYT *Voy.* II. i. 162 Of them which bee the Naturals of this Realme, and in what part of the Realme they are to be had. 1637 P. VINCENT *Late Battell New Eng.* 19, I speake not of the naturals of the countrey, fish, fowle, &c. which are more than plentifull.

† c. Natural appendages. *Obs. rare* —1. *a* 1619 FOTHERBY *Atheom.* I. xvi. § 1 (1622) 164 Their Temples, their Altars, their Sacrifices, and other such like naturalls of Religion.

† 5. *In* one's *pure naturals* (after med.L. *in puris naturalibus*): in a purely natural condition, not altered or improved in any way; also, in a perfectly naked state. *Obs.* (common in 17th c.). 1579 J. STUBBES *Gaping Gulf* D iv, Yf they..remained but in theyr pure naturalles, they would neuer so speake for a faultor prince of Rome. 1607 R. C[AREW] tr. *Estienne's World of Wonders* 58 A Frenchman taken in his pure naturals. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* IX. v. § 8 Exhibiting the inclinations of their Authors in pure Naturalls without any adulterated addition. 1704 NORRIS *Ideal World* II. iii. 257 If we could take them..in their undress, and see them as they are in their pure naturals. 1737 L. CLARKE *Hist. Bible* (1740) II. XII. 721 He has laid himself open, even in his pure naturals, for the veriest brute.

† b. So (more rarely) *In* one's *naturals*. *Obs.* 1637 P. VINCENT *Late Battell New Eng.* 3 This part (though in its naturals) nourished many natives. 1650 *Bounds Public Obed.* (ed. 2) 26 The Common-wealth were dead, and each man were left in his naturals, to submit of himself. 1704 SWIFT *T. Tub* Bkseller to Rdr., I thought it fairer Dealing to offer the whole Work in its Naturals.

† 6. *pl.* Natural things or objects; matters having their basis in the natural world or in the usual course of nature. *Obs.* 1541 R. COPLAND *Guydon's Quest. Chirurg.* A iv b, Than come vnto the naturalles, and after to the vnnaturalles. 1593 G. HARVEY *Pierce's Super.* 193 The abiectest naturalls haue their specificall properties. 1621 BP. MOUNTAGU *Diatribæ* 521 Alway in Naturalls: sometime in Politicalls. 1650 T. VAUGHAN *Anthroposophia* 24 It answers to the Holy Ghost, for amongst Naturalls it is the onely Agent, and Artificer. *a* 1680 J. CORBET *Non-conf. Plea* (1683) 29 As in Naturals, the inferior subordinate causes have no power of acting against the efficacy of the Superior; so in Morals [etc.]. 1705 *Char. Sneaker* in *Harl. Misc.* (Malh.) XI. 29 This is the Aristotelian principle in naturals; but the sneaker adapts it to politicks. 1727–38 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v., These are called naturals, natural things, or things according to nature..in contradistinction to non-naturals.

† b. The genital parts. [L. *naturalia*.] *Obs.*—1 1650 BULWER *Anthropomet.* 209 They button up the naturals of Mares.

7. *Mus.* a. A note in a natural scale. 1609 J. DOWLAND *Ornithop. Microl.* 81 But set..a Flat against a Flat, or at least against a naturall. For the Naturals are doubtfull [etc.]. 1818 BUSBY *Gram. Mus.* 224 Any natural, flat, or sharp, proper to the key. 1880 in Grove *Dict. Mus.* II. 52/1 The normal key, which happens .. to begin on C, is constructed of what are called Naturals.

b. The sign ♮ used to cancel a preceding sharp or flat, and give a note its 'natural' value. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XII. 544 This inconvenience may be avoided..by marking the note *sol* with a natural. 1806 CALLCOTT *Mus. Gram.* v. 57 The Natural must be always considered as representing a Sharp or a Flat. 1838 *Penny Cycl.* X. 305/2 In antient music, before the character of the Natural was introduced, the Flat was employed to reduce any note..to its natural state. 1880 in Grove *Dict. Mus.* II. 448/1 Naturals do not occur in the signatures of keys, except when it is necessary to cancel all or part of a previous signature.

c. One of the white keys on a pianoforte or similar instrument. 1880 in Grove *Dict. Mus.* II. 53/1 Each natural is covered as far as it is visible with ivory.

† 8. A natural wig. *Obs. rare.* 1724 in *N. & Q.* 3rd Ser. VIII. 307 All sorts of Perukes, as ..Minister's Bobs, Naturalls, Half-Naturals.

9. a. In the card-game of vingt-et-un. (See quots. 1830 and 1897.) [1830 'EIDRAN TREBOR' *Hoyle made Fam.* 78 If 21 is dealt in the first instance, that is, in the first two cards, it is styled a natural vingt-un.] 1849 ALB. SMITH *Pottleton Legacy* (1854) 249 The first natural came in Mr. Flitter's division. 1866 ANNA L. SPENCER *Scenes Sub. Life* 16 Her cards..she now and then forgot altogether, though excessively pleased when informed that she had had a natural. 1897 FOSTER *Hoyle* 475 The dealer first examines his hand. If he has exactly 21, an Ace and a tenth card, which is called a natural, he shows it at once.

b. (See quot.) 1897 FOSTER *Hoyle* 568 *Crap Shooting*, If the total of the two dice on the first throw is seven or eleven, it is called a nick, or natural, and the caster immediately wins the stakes.

III. † 10. Natural disposition, inclination, or character. *Obs.*

1564 in Robertson *Hist. Scot.* (1759) II. App. 17 Of her own natural, her Majesty has a certain inclination to pity the decay of noble houses. 1595 DANIEL *Civ. Wars* IV. xlii, He was not bloody, in his Naturall. 1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 188 The same naturall of lightnesse and inconstancie still remaines in the French. *Ibid.* 193 Where you shall see the French naturall, very lively..described.

†b. Natural form or condition. *Obs.*

1633 J. DONE *Hist. Septuagint* 68 All was most resplendant in their naturall. 1658 EVELYN *Fr. Gard.* (1675) 261 To show you how the fruits of the garden are to be conserved in their naturall. 1684 — *Mem.* (1857) III. 273 To preserve fruit and flowers in their natural.

11. *The natural.* †a. The real thing or person; the life. *Obs.*

1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* III. xxv. (Arb.) 310 Painting ..represents the naturall by light colour and shadow in the superficiall or flat. 1659 LEAK *Waterworks.* 31 The Paper was not large enough to draw it so large as the Natural. *a* 1691 SIR D. NORTH in North *Lives* (1826) II. 349, I saw many artificial grots and rocks.., in which the natural of this [petrifaction] was perfectly imitated.

b. That which is natural or according to the ordinary course of things.

1841 MYERS *Cath. Th.* III. § 15. 57 To study the Supernatural as the Philosopher studies the Natural. *a* 1854 H. REED *Lect. Brit. Poets* xii. (1857) 275 Blending together the natural and supernatural.

†12. Native language. *Obs. rare* —¹.

1665 G. HAVERS *P. della Valle's Trav. E. India* 50 Tartars..of Samarcand, where the Persian Tongue is the natural of the Country.

Natural (næ·tiŭrăl, næ·tʃŭrăl), *a.* Also 4 -ale, 4 7 -all, 5 -alle. [a. OF. *natural*, or ad. L. *nātūrāl-is*, f. *nātūra* NATURE *sb.* + -AL. The variant OF. form *naturel* was also in use in ME.: see NATUREL. Most of the leading senses exist in French and Latin.]

I. 1. Of law or justice: Based upon the innate moral feeling of mankind; instinctively felt to be right and fair, though not prescribed by any enactment or formal compact.

13.. *Cursor M.* 9449 (Gött.), Pe lawis bath he gan for-lete, Bath naturale and positiue. ?*a* 1400 *Creation* 119 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 350 In paradys Adam had two lawys.., The naturall & þe posytyfe. The naturall law was skyll & ryght. 1538 STARKEY *England* I. i. 17 Man, yf he be brought vp in corrupt opynyon, hath no perceyueance of thys natural law. *a* 1614 DONNE *Biathanatos* (1644) 45 That we be not mislead, with the ambiguity of the word Naturall Law, and the perplex'd variety thereof in Authors. 1651 G. W. tr. *Cowel's Inst.* 2 The naturall Law is that which nature, or rather God, hath instilled into all Creatures. 1688 *Mem. Prince Orange* in Somers *Tracts* (1748) II. 300 Your Highness is not obliged, either by our Laws or natural Justice, to have Witnesses to prove the pretended Prince of Wales to be an Imposture. 1727–38 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Law*, Natural law may be divided into that natural law of men, which..is called the Law of nature.., and the natural law of countries. 1765 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* I. Introd. 42 Undoubtedly the revealed law is (humanly speaking) of infinitely more authority than what we generally call the natural law. 1845 JEBB in *Encycl. Metrop.* II. 687/1 The term natural law, however, is ambiguous, the same writers frequently using it in different senses. 1883 SIR W. B. BRETT in *Law Times Rep.* XLIX. 769/1 Natural justice required that the loss..should be recouped by the other party.

2. Constituted by nature; having a basis in the normal constitution of things. a. Of periods of time, esp. *natural day*, *year* (see quots.).

c 1391 CHAUCER *Astrol.* II. § 7 The day natural, þat is to seyn 24 houris. 1558 WARDE tr. *Alexis' Secretes* IV. 67 By the space of twoo naturall dayes. 1581 MULCASTER *Positions* xxxii. (1887) 115 The naturall time generally construed is ment by the spring, the summer, the haruest and the wynter. 1594 BLUNDEVIL *Exerc.* III. I. xlviii. (1636) 363 The Astronomers reckon their natural day from noonetide to noonetide. 1679 MOXON *Math. Dict.* 95 *Natural Year*, one Revolution of the Sun by his proper motion, or 365 days and almost 6 hours. 1715 tr. *Gregory's Astron.* (1726) I. 237 A Natural Day is the duration of an entire apparent revolution of the Sun about the Earth. *Ibid.*, The Natural Day is either the Astronomical or Civil. 1727–38 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Year*, Tropical, or Natural Year, is the time which the sun employs in passing through the Zodiac.

b. Of quantities, numbers, measures, etc.

Natural logarithm (see HYPERBOLIC *a.* 2 b). *Natural number*, one without fractions; also, an actual number as distinguished from a logarithm. *Natural sine*, etc., one taken in an arc whose radius is 1.

1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* I. Add. 48, I have joyned the Chord proper to it, which is the Natural Sine of half the Arch doubled. 1743 EMERSON *Fluxions* 55 A Circle whose Radius is 1, and natural Tangent [etc.]. 1763 — *Meth. Increments* 113 To find the product of all natural numbers from 1 to 100. 1816 tr. *Lacroix' Diff. & Int. Calc.* 26 *note*, These logarithms were known under the very improper name of natural or hyperbolic logarithms. 1821 J. Q. ADAMS in C. Davies *Metric Syst.* III. (1871) 129 As it respects the natural standard it has only been a change from the weight of a kernel of wheat to the length of a kernel of barley. 1864 *Chambers's Encycl.* VI. 172/1 The logarithms .. increased along with their corresponding natural numbers.

c. *Mus.* Of notes, keys, harmony, etc.

1727–38 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v., Natural harmony is that produced by the natural and essential chords of the mode. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XII. 544 You may see that there are [here] at the same time both a *sol* natural and a *sol* sharp. 1818 BUSBY *Gram. Mus.* 30 The natural keys were originally so called in contradistinction to the sharps and flats. *Ibid.* 49 The scales of C major and A minor..are called natural scales. 1880 in Grove *Dict. Mus.* II. 447/2 The scale of C major..was called 'the natural scale' because it has no accidentals.

d. Of sciences, or methods of combination, arrangement, classification, etc.

1630 WINGATE (*title*) Arithmetique Made easie, In Two Bookes. The former, of Naturall Arithmetique..; The other of Artificiall Arithmetique. 1668 WILKINS *Real Char.* 297 Natural Grammar (which may likewise be stiled Philosophical, Rational, and Universal). 1859 J. R. GREENE *Protozoa* Introd. 24 True classification is contradistinguished by the term natural. 1864 BOWEN *Logic* v. 141 Natural, or regular, or direct predication they held to be that in which the genus is predicated of the species.

e. *Bot.* Applied spec. to the arrangement of plants originated by Jussieu, in contrast to the sexual system of Linnæus, and to the orders, families, etc. resulting from this division.

[1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) III. 457/2 Linnæus and most other botanists are of opinion, that there is a natural method, or nature's system.] 1803 R. A. SALISBURY in *Trans. Linn. Soc.* (1807) VIII. 7 All the Natural Orders. *Ibid.* 15 Melastoma in the Eighth Order perhaps alone constitutes a Natural Family. 1809 R. BROWN *ibid.* (1811) X. 15 The Linnæan system of botany..has..laid a more solid foundation for the establishment of a natural arrangement. 1830 LINDLEY *Nat. Syst. Bot.* Introd. 11 The notion of classing species according to the likeness they bear to each other, which is the foundation of the Natural System. 1863 SOWERBY *Eng. Bot.* (ed. 3) title-p., English Botany... Third edition.., re-arranged according to the Natural Orders.

3. a. *Natural magic.* (See note to MAGIC *sb.* 1.)

1477 [see MAGIC *sb.* 1 b]. 1593 G. HARVEY *Pierce's Super.* 29 Who such monarches for Phisique.., Palmastry, naturall and supernaturall Magique .. as some of these arrant Impostours? 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* III. ii. 270 Thy naturall Magicke, and dire propertie, On wholsome life, vsurpe immediately. 1633 *Costlie Whore* III. iii. in Bullen *O. Pl.* IV, Naturall Magique you have brought with you, And such an exorcisme in your name. 1831 BREWSTER *Nat. Magic* i. (1833) 2 The subject of Natural Magic is one of great extent as well as of deep interest. 1841 LANE *Arab. Nts.* I. 69 Natural Magic..is regarded by most persons of the more enlightened classes..as altogether a deceptive art.

b. Taking place in conformity with the ordinary course of nature; not unusual, marvellous, or miraculous.

1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 320/2 It was no naturall eclypse. 1595 SHAKS. *John* III. iv. 153 No naturall exhalation in the skie.., But they will plucke away his naturall cause, And call them Meteors, prodigies, and signes. 1610 — *Temp.* v. 227 These are not naturall euents, they strengthen From strange to stranger. 1663 H. COGAN tr. *Pinto's Trav.* xii. 39 It seemed to be rather a miracle than any natural work. 1698 KEILL *Exam. Th. Earth* (1734) 37 The Land..is raised higher than the Sea..without the help of Natural and Mechanical causes.

c. Having a usual or normal character (†or constitution); not exceptional in any way.

1522 MORE *De quat. Noviss.* Wks. 101 Abusing ye part & office of a natural man and reasonable creature. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S. T. S.) 145 We haif in Jesse found the rod, God and man naturall. 1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* III. ix. 146 We were come into a more convenient and naturall temperature. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* v. xii. 74 The natural or perpendicular motion. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* 492 *Natural Motion*, a term applied to the descending parabolic curve of a shot or shell in falling.

d. Of death: Happening in the course of nature, as the result of age or disease, as opposed to one brought about by accident, violence, poison, etc.

1576 NEWTON *Lemnie's Complex.* (1633) 106 So likewise yong men .. die by naturall death as well as old men doe. 1766 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* II. 121 The grant is usually made 'for the term of a man's natural life'; which can only determine by his natural death. 1796 H. HUNTER tr. *St.-Pierre's Stud. Nat.* (1799) III. 350 If there arises the slightest suspicion that his death was not natural, they put his wife to the torture.

transf. 1837 LOCKHART *Scott* (1839) VII. 189 The conversation so far as it tended that way died a natural death.

4. a. In a state of nature, without spiritual enlightenment; unenlightened, unregenerate.

1526 TINDALE 1 *Cor.* ii. 14 For the naturall man perceaveth not the thyngs off the sprete off god. — *Jas.* iii. 15 This wisdom descendeth not from above: but is erthy, and naturall, and divlysshe. 1609 DOWNAM *Chr. Liberty* 36 Let naturall or vnconnerted men apply this to themselues. 1631 GOUGE *God's Arrows* IV. § 3. 378 Naturall men are as wolves, tigres, devils one to another. 1675 R. BARCLAY *Apol. Quakers* ii. § 1. 19 Many carnal and natural Christians will oppose this Proposition. 1850 ROBERTSON *Serm.* Ser. III. iv. (1872) 48 The heathen—manifestly natural men—had 'the work of the law written in their hearts'.

b. *Natural religion.* (See quot. 1725.)

1675 WILKINS *Nat. Relig.* 39, I call that Natural Religion, which men might know..by the meer principles of Reason, .. without the help of Revelation. 1711 M. HENRY *Faith in Christ* Wks. 1853 II. 283/2 The Christian religion..is consonant to and perfective of natural religion. 1725 WATTS *Logic* II. v. § 3 The Things knowable concerning God, and our Duty by the Light of Nature are called natural Religion. 1802 PALEY *Nat. Theol.* Ded., The public have now before them the evidences of Natural Religion. *a* 1835 M'CULLOCH *Attributes* (1843) I. 3 This is The Proof from Natural Religion. 1870 J. H. NEWMAN *Gram. Assent* II. x. 479 Revelation begins when Natural Religion fails.

c. *Natural theology*, a religious system based upon human speculation, apart from revelation. Hence *Natural theologian.*

1677 GALE *Crt. Gentiles* III. 102 The Philosophers,..assuming a new Divinitie or Religion of their own inventing, called .. Natural Theologie. 1802 PALEY *Nat. Theol.* Concl., These points being assured to us by Natural Theology, we may well leave to Revelation the disclosure of many particulars. 1840 MACAULAY *Ess., Ranke's Hist.* (1851) I. 129 Enigmas which perplex the natural theologian. 1877 E. R. CONDER *Bas. Faith* I. 16 If natural theology be regarded as based on natural religion [etc.].

d. Having only the wisdom given by nature; not educated by study. *rare.*

1791 NEWTE *Tour Eng. & Scot.* 425 If this had been realized..the natural man would have outdone the philosopher. *a* 1871 GROTE *Eth. Fragm.* v. (1876) 132 The ἀρχαί of the wise man (σόφος) and the natural man (φυσικὸς) are derived from experience.

5. Having a real or physical existence, as opposed to what is spiritual, intellectual, fictitious, etc.

1526 TINDALE 1 *Cor.* xv. 44 Hit is sowne a naturall body, and ryseth a spretuall body. 1579 FULKE *Heskins' Parl.* 177 If Christes body be a naturall body vpon earth, speaketh he of all naturall bodies of the earth? 1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* v. 333 Which is the naturall man, And which the spirit? 1618 T. ADAMS *Wks.* (1862) III. 66 In a natural man at such an affrightment, all the blood runs to the heart. 1691 HARTCLIFFE *Virtues* 403 They will produce .. Spiritual effects with a power much above what natural Agents can exert. 1710 BERKELEY *Princ. Hum. Knowl.* I. § 4 That sensible objects have an existence natural or real, distinct from their being perceived. 1712 — *Pass. Obed.* § 14 If from the moral we turn our eyes on the natural world. 1818 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) IV. 335 In all feoffments and grants to natural persons..no word but the word heirs..will create an estate in fee simple. 1882 *National Bank Act* (U.S.) 8 Associations for carrying on the business of banking .. may be formed by any number of natural persons.

b. Pertaining to, operating or taking place in, the physical (as opposed to the spiritual) world.

1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 141 b, Will, beyng straighted w'in ye same limittes and boundes of naturall causes, hath no power..to atchieve those spirituall good things. 1639 ROUSE *Heav. Univ.* viii. (1702) 103 As in natural marriages two are one flesh. 1872 LIDDON *Elem. Relig.* (ed. 2) Pref. 10 'Scientific objectors' to prayer on the ground of a supposed invariability of natural law, are not, generally speaking, Theists at all. 1883 H. DRUMMOND *Nat. Law in Spir. W.* (ed. 2) 5 In its true sense Natural Law predicates nothing of causes.

†c. (See quot.) *Obs. rare* —¹.

1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* 514 The..Division of Pagan Gods .. into Animal and Natural (by Natural being meant Inanimate) is utterly to be rejected.

6. Existing in, or formed by, nature; consisting of objects of this kind; not artificially made, formed, or constructed.

1568 TURNER *Natures of Baths* title-p., All sycke persones that can not be healed without the helpe of natural bathes. 1587 GOLDING *De Mornay* Pref. (1592) 9 Professors of the knowledge of nature and naturall things. 1601 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* v. 224 A natural Perspective, that is, and is not. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* VI. 279 We saw also a naturall rocke in the high way. 1668 EVELYN *Diary* 23 July, Divers *glossa petra's* and other natural curiosities found in digging. 1755 B. MARTIN *Mag. Arts & Sci.* 7 You promised me a regular Account of natural Things, and said we should begin with the Heavens. 1781 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xix. II. 155 A fertile plain, watered by the natural and artificial channels of the Tigris. *a* 1821 KEATS *Hyperion* I. 86 Like natural sculpture in cathedral cavern. 1853 MAURICE *Proph. & Kings* xx. 351 To make them acquainted with natural scenery. 1870 YEATS *Nat. Hist. Comm.* I In the earth, with its oceans of water and of air, we find those natural resources.

b. Of substances or articles: Not made, manufactured, or obtained by artificial processes. Also sometimes applied to simple products in contrast to those requiring more elaborate preparation.

1600 J. PORY tr. *Leo's Africa* IX. 355 Of pitch there are two kindes, the one being naturall, and taken out of certain stones. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* (1650) 174 There being .. in every thing we eat, a naturall and concealed salt. 1799 G. SMITH *Laboratory* I. 5 In some measure like natural camphor. 1831 J. HOLLAND *Manuf. Metal* I. 264 That species obtained directly from fused iron, which is termed natural steel. 1835 SIR J. ROSS *N.-W. Pass.* xiii. 563 The first natural water we had obtained. 1878 JEFFERIES *Gamekeeper at H.* 134 Just at present 'natural' sticks—that is, those cut from the stem with the bark on—are rather popular.

c. Of things in some way or other connected with persons. Also *natural wig*, one made of human hair.

1598 FLORIO, *Neo*, a naturall marke or mole..vpon the skin. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, IV. ii. 13 Wil you haue them weep our Horses blood? How shall we then behold their naturall teares? 1639 N. N. tr. *Du Bosq's Compl. Wom.* I. C 2 They wonld consider their naturall beauty much more, if they had not so much borrowed beauty with them. 1708 *Lond. Gas.* No. 4399/4 The Party wore .. a Suit of black Cloath, and a light brown Natural Wig. 1768 GOLDSM. *Good-n. Man* I. i, As her natural face decays, her skill improves in making the artificial one. 1803 *Med. Jrnl.* IX. 193 Abont 2,500 were afterwards proved to be secure from the Natural Small-Pox. 1863 *Chambers's Encycl.* V. 191/2 The wig, the front, and other imitations of the natural covering of the human head.

d. Of vegetation: Growing of itself; self-sown or planted; not introduced artificially. Also of land: Not cultivated.

1526 TINDALE *Rom.* xi. 24 Yf thou wast cut out of a naturall wilde olive tree. 1657 W. COLES *Adam in Eden* cclix, There groweth up sometimes under the Cistus where it is naturall, a certain Excrescence. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* (1721) I. 95 It opens the Land, and makes it much more fruitful, especially in natural Grass. 1762 MILLS *Syst. Pract. Husb.* I. 151 It was as full of natural white clover .. as any field generally is in twice that time. 1799 J. ROBERTSON *Agric. Perth* 236 There was a considerable tract of natural fir several years ago near Tyndrom. 1828 P. CUNNINGHAM *N. S. Wales* (ed. 3) II. 147 The natural lands in this colony have never yet been valued at more than 5*s.* per acre. 1834 *Brit. Husb.* I. 326 Peas, potatoes, and barley,

besides natural grass. 1864 Lowell *Fireside Trav.* 108 Orchards, commonly of natural fruit, added to the pleasant home-look.

7. Closely imitating nature; life-like, exact.

1581 Pettie tr. *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* I. (1586) 30 b, The most naturall resemblant picture of a Gentleman with two hornes on his forehead. 1585 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* III. iii. 74 b, Of the Ianissaries going to the warres yee may see the naturall draught by the figure following. 1821 Scott *Kenilw.* vi, How beautiful are these hangings! How natural these paintings, which seem to contend with life! 1851 Ruskin *Stones Ven.* I. App. xxi. 399 By natural representation is here meant as just and perfect an imitation of nature as the technical means of art will allow.

b. Having the ease or simplicity of nature; free from affectation, artificiality, or constraint; simple, unaffected, easy.

1607 Shaks. *Timon* v. i. 88 Thy Verse swels with stuffe so fine and smooth, That thou art euen Naturall in thine Art. 1638 Baker tr. *Balzac's Lett.* (vol. II.) 17 My zeale, which is naturall and honest. 1706 Walsh *Let. to Pope* 20 July, In all the common subjects of Poetry, the thoughts are so obvious (at least if they are natural). 1727–38 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v. *Marotic*, A peculiarly gay, pleasant, yet simple and natural manner of writing. 1774 Goldsm. *Retal.* 101 On the stage he was natural, simple, affecting; 'Twas only that, when he was off, he was acting. 1848 Clough *Amours de Voy.* II. ix, 'Tis an excellent race..and .. E'en under Pope and Priest, a nice and natural people. 1863 Eliz. Sewell *Glimpse of World* 199 Just put all thought of yourself aside and be natural. 1877 W. Bruce *Comm. Revel.* 73 Revealed truth as expressed in natural language.

Comb. 1828 Moore *Mem.* (1854) V. 320 A handsome and natural mannered young fellow.

c. Having the normal form; not disfigured or disguised in any way.

1800 *Med. Jrnl.* IV. 97 Her feet are now as natural and well-shaped as any other child's of the same age. 1863 *Chambers's Encycl.* V. 192/1 The people .. returning to natural and unpowdered hair.

d. Acting in accordance with one's real character; free from disguise.

1825 J. Neal *Bro. Jonathan* I. 73 At home it is..that we show the natural-man. 1889 *Spectator* 12 Oct., [If he] said to every guest precisely what arose in his mind to say, he would be a more 'natural' man.

e. *U. S.* Wild, savage.

1849 J. P. Kennedy *Swallow Barn* xxxvi, Ned Hazard's a pretty hard horse to ride, too; only look at his eye,—how natural it is!

II. 8. Implanted, existing, or present, by nature; inherent in the very constitution of a person or thing; innate; not acquired or assumed.

c 1420 Lydg. *Assembly of Gods* 1622 Now I apply thy naturall reson Vnto my wordys. *c* 1430 — *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 46 By ther natural hevenly influence. 1447 Bokenham *Seyntys* (Roxb.) 14 In hyr face .. of natural yiftys plente was I-now. 1483 in *Lett. Rich. III & Hen. VII* (Rolls) I. 32 Hur naturall kinde and disposicion. 1509 Fisher *Funeral Serm. C'tess Richmond* Wks. (1876) 303 A natural desyre and appetyte to be knytte & ioyned with them agayne. 1551 T. Wilson *Logike* (1580) 10 If either of these twoo would seeke to followe their Naturall aptnesse, it were moste like thei should excell. 1625 N. Carpenter *Geog. Del.* II. xiv. (1635) 226 Our naturall heat is far more vigorous in Winter then in Summer. 1668 Culpepper & Cole *Barthol. Anat.* I. ix. 18 That it may by Natural Instinct shut up the mouth of the Stomach. 1726 Swift *Gulliver* III. i, The natural love of life gave me some inward motions of joy. 1777 Sheridan *Sch. Scandal* III. iii, Wine does but draw forth a man's natural qualities. 1824 Bentham *Bk. Fallacies* Wks. 1843 II. 393/2 He is thus ignorant, if natural talent does not fail him, because he is so idle. 1871 Mozley *Univ. Serm.* v. (1876) 99 The soul has natural feelings and affections for it to feed upon.

b. *Natural parts*, native ability, apart from learning. ? *Obs.*

1655 *Culpepper's Riverius* Printer to Rdr., If they be men of good Natural Parts. *c* 1665 Mrs. Hutchinson *Mem. Col. Hutchinson* (1846) 27 He very well understood his own advantages, natural parts, gifts and acquirements. 1710 [see Part *sb.* 12]. 1762–71 H. Walpole *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1786) IV. 125 A rough man, with good natural parts.

9. Normally or essentially connected with, or pertaining to, a person or thing; consonant with the nature or character of the person or thing.

c 1420 Lydg. *Assembly of Gods* 114 He hath me dryuen ayen myn entent And contrary to my course naturall. 1456 Sir G. Haye *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 75 The thingis that ar corporale in this erde..movis nocht with the moving of it.. bot 3it have thai othir naturale movementis. 1526 Tindale *Rom.* i. 27 The men lefte the naturall vse of the woman. 1551 Robinson tr. *More's Utop.* II. (1895) 150 Thyes clookes .. be all of one colonre, and that is the naturall colour of the wul. 1579 Langham *Gard. Health* (1633) 1 Acatia.. setteth the loose matrix in the naturall place. 1667 Milton *P. L.* x. 740 All from mee .. Shall .. on mee redound, On mee as on thir natural center light. 1710 Addison *Whig Examiner* No. 5 ¶ 9 The doctrine has a natural tendency to make a good king a bad one. 1776 J. Adams in *Fam. Lett.* (1876) 148 We have this week lost a very valuable friend..by the smallpox in the natural way. 1815 J. Smith *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 268 That portion of electricity, which every body is supposed to contain, is called its natural share. 1850 McCosh *Div. Govt.* II. ii. (1874) 192 The natural recoil of superstition is scepticism. 1885 Sir E. Fry in *Law Rep.* 29 Chanc. Div. 484 The natural inference from the facts.

b. *Natural life*, used chiefly (and now only) with reference to the duration of this.

1483 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 238/2 To have and to perceyve yearly the said subsidie of Poundage, .. duryng youre Life naturall. 1492 in *Lett. Rich. III & Hen. VII* (Rolls) II. 290 Duryng thayr lifes naturalles. 1555 in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1599) I. 268 To haue and enioy the said office of Gouernour, to him the said Sebastian Cabota during his naturall life. 1568 Grafton *Chron.* II. 701 Till eyther he had lost his awne naturall lyfe, or vtterly..put vnder hys foes. 1766 [see 3 d above]. 1818 Cruise *Digest* (ed. 2) VI. 317 H. Cook devised a messuage to R. Cook for the term only of his natural life. 1836–7 Dickens *Sk. Boz, Our Parish* iv, For the remainder of the old woman's natural life.

c. Naturally pertaining or attached *to* a person or thing; coming easily or spontaneously *to* one. Hence *To come natural to*, to be a natural action for (one).

1589 Puttenham *Eng. Poesie* III. v. (Arb.) 160 A certaine contriued forme and qualitie, many times naturall to the writer. 1634 W. Tirwhyt *Balzac's Lett.* 181, I will never believe, that..you will lose those perfections so proper, and naturall vnto you. 1678 Cudworth *Intell. Syst.* I. v. 800 If this were most natural to the Humane soul and most perfective of it. 1732 Berkeley *Alciphr.* I. § 14 For a thing to be natural .. to the mind of man, it must appear originally therein. 1856 Froude *Hist. Eng.* ii. (1858) I. 140 He acted throughout in a manner natural to a timid amiable man. 1881 Jowett *Thucyd.* I. 121 The hope, natural to poverty, that a man though poor, may one day become rich. 1890 *Temple Bar* July 383 It comes quite natural to a poor woman to sit up the night with a sick neighbour.

†**d.** Naturally adapted *for*, or applicable *to*, something. *Obs. rare.*

1603 R. Johnson *Kingd. & Commw.* 12 The gentlenesse of the aire, with the fertilitie of the ground,..is so propitious and naturall for the increase of fruite. *a* 1614 Donne *Biathanatos* (1644) 139 But the most naturall to our present purpose is this. 1639 S. Du Verger tr. *Camus' Admir. Events* A 4 It is a wonder how so many graces and beauties..increased in him, as in a soyle naturall for eloquence.

e. Naturally arising or resulting from, fully consonant with, the circumstances of the case.

1667 Milton *P. L.* XII. 645 Som natural tears they drop'd, but wip'd them soon. 1678 Dryden *Ess.* (ed. Ker) I. 193, I judged it both natural and probable, that Octavia..would search out Cleopatra to triumph over her. 1750 Johnson *Rambler* No. 25 ¶ 12 It is natural for those who have raised a reputation..to exalt themselves. 1855 Brewster *Newton* II. xx. 219 It was a very natural wish on the part of physical astronomers. 1891 Helen B. Harris *Apol. Aristides* i. 5 It was natural that defences should be written.

10. Standing in a specified relationship to another person or thing by reason of the nature of things or force of circumstances.

1516 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) VI. 1 My naturall enemy death. 1816 J. Scott *Vis. Paris* (ed. 5) 185 Justice and establishment have not their natural protectors in that country. 1834 L. Ritchie *Wand. by Seine* 46 In 1440, [Harfleur] again fell into the hands of the 'natural enemies' of France. 1880 L. Stephen *Pope* v. 118 He came forward as the champion of Wit..against its natural antithesis, Dulness.

†**b.** Having a certain relative status by birth; natural-born. *Obs.*

1524 *Act* 14 & 15 *Hen. VIII*, c. 1 *Preamble*, To brynge the Kynges naturall subiectes from occupacion to idelnes. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VII* 3 b, The Englishe nacion his naturall countrey men. *Ibid.* 116 Suche was the malicious hartburnynge of the Scottes against their naturall lord. 1593 Shaks. 3 *Hen. VI*, I. i. 82 Whom should hee follow, but his naturall King? 1615 G. Sandys *Trav.* 15 The Bassa of Aleppo, and naturall Lord of the rich vally of Achillis. 1656 Blount *Glossogr., Naturalize*, to make a natural Subject; to admit into the number of natural Subjects.

†**11.** Native (country or language). *Obs.*

1508 Fisher 7 *Penit. Ps.* cii. Wks. (1876) 143 A certayne woman of canane came ferre from her natural countre. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. IV* 13 The most pernicious and venemus enemy to..his owne naturall countrey. 1585 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* IV. xxix. 150 The naturall countrie of Castor and Pollux. 1617 Moryson *Itin.* I. 256 All the Candians speaking Italian as well as their naturall Greeke tongue. 1657–61 Heylin *Hist. Ref.* I. ii. § 4. 36 The Sclavonians..made suit unto the Pope to have the publick Service in their natural Tongue.

†**12. a.** *Natural spirit*, ? that which gives the individual his special nature. *Obs. rare.*

1533 Elyot *Cast. Helth* (1541) 10 b, Spirit naturall taketh his beginninge of the lyver, and by the vaynes. 1543 Traheron *Vigo's Chirurg.* Interpr. Words *Vital Spirits*, The physitions teache that there ben thre kindes of spirites, animal, vital, and natnrall.

†**b.** *Natural parts* or *places*, the genitals, the privy members. *Obs.*

1569 Androis tr. *Alexis' Secrctes* IV. i. 14 To cause the naturall places of women to purge. 1601 Holland *Pliny* II. 181 It is good for the natnrall parts of women to sit ouer the decoction of it. 1698 Fryer *Acc. E. India & P.* III The strength of their Backs exert themselves into their Natural Parts. *a* 1754 Mead *Wks.* (1775) 480 A flux of blood from the natural parts.

†**c.** *Natural line*, in palmistry. (See quots.)

1653 R. Sanders *Physiogn.* 92 The Natural line joyned to the Line of Life, denotes the person exactly studions. 1663 — *Palmistry* 37 The midle natural line ought to begin at..the Thenar part of the hand.., and to extend it quite cross the hand.

III. †13. Of children: Actually begotten by one (in contrast to adopted, etc.), and especially in lawful wedlock; hence freq. = legitimate. *Obs.*

1412–20 Lydg. *Chron. Troy* II. x, This noble Kynge also Hadde thirty sonnes.., That called were his sonnes naturall. 1503 in *Lett. Rich. III & Hen. VII* (Rolls) I. 195 Ye had.. as good mynde towards h[ym] as ye cowd have to your naturall son. 1526 Tindale 1 *Tim.* i. 2 Unto Timothe hys naturall Sonne in the fayth. 1556 J. Heywood *Spider & F.* lxvii. 10 What naturall father can se..His naturall childerne in dread quake and start, Without his hart smarting? 1599 *Life More* in Wordsworth *Eccl. Biog.* (1853) II. 122 Not one of his naturall children, yet brought up with his other children. *c* 1611 Chapman *Iliad* XIII. 166 He was lodg'd with Priam, who held dear His natural sons no more than him. 1654 O. Sedgwick *Funeral Serm.* 17 A Father doth not more love his Natural child, then the faithful Minister doth those whom he hath begotten unto Christ. 1741 T. Robinson *Gavelkind* I. ii. 11 By the Law of the Twelve Tables the Descent..was without Distinction of Primogeniture to all the Children, whether Male or Female, natural or adopted.

†**b.** Similarly of other relationships (esp. *natural father* or *brother*) in which there is actual consanguinity or kinship by descent. *Obs.*

c 1400 *Destr. Troy.* 6509 Þen Synabor..Neghit to þe note, —his naturall brother. 1540 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. II. 157 Wher it hath pleased Allmyghty Godde to call my naturall father to his fatall end. 1585 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* III. ii. 71 The great Turke being there a natural vncle of the late Rostan. 1611 Shaks. *Cymb.* III. iii. 107 My selfe..They take for Naturall Father. 1641 Hinde *J. Bruen* lii. 174 If he saw naturall brethren likely to fall out he would..wisely admonish them for peace.

c. In later use denoting a mere blood-kinship not legally recognized; hence, illegitimate, bastard.

1586 Ferne *Blaz. Gentrie* 90 He hath smoothed vp the matter with a fine terme, in calling him a sonne naturall, a prety word. 1632 Massinger *Maid of Hon.* I. i, He in the Malta habit Is the natural brother of the King—a by-blow. 1662 J. Davies tr. *Mandelslo's Trav.* 112 Mara Ragu..had three sons legitimate, and one natural. 1726 Arbuthnot *It cannot rain*, etc., Swift's Wks. 1755 III. I. 133 It has been commonly thought that he is Ulrick's natural brother, because of some resemblance of manners. 1773 Johnson in Boswell *Hebrides* (1785) 502 Supposing me to be her son,.. I must have been her natural son. 1817 J. Evans *Excurs. Windsor* 38 He was never married, but had natural daughters, who enjoyed his property. 1864 Burton *Scot Abr.* I. iii. 135 To pass off one of his natural children as a legitimate daughter of the house of Castile.

14. a. *Natural fool*: one who is by nature deficient in intelligence; a fool or simpleton by birth. †So *Natural idiot*. (Cf. Natural *sb.* 2.)

c 1430 Lydg. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 187 'Thou were', quod she, 'a very naturall fole, To suffre me departe'. *c* 1440 *Alph. Tales* 236 Socrates .. provid hym bod a wriche & a naturall fule. 1540 *Act* 32 *Hen. VIII*, c. 46 Ideottes and fooles naturall, now remayning..in his graces custodye. 1590 Sir J. Smyth *Disc. Weapons* Ded. 10 b, As though their Soldiors had bene either such naturall fooles or children. 1634 Earl Cork *Diary* in *Lismore Papers* Ser. I. (1886) IV. 22 To have the custody of her eldest son.., a naturall Iddeott. *c* 1670 Hobbes *Dial. Com. Laws* (1681) 98 Saying the King was a Natural Fool, and unfit to govern. 1748 Chesterfield *Lett.* (1792) II. cxliv. 14 Which makes those, who do not know him, take him at first for a natural fool. 1825 J. Neal *Bro. Jonathan* I. 119 Imposed upon by one whom you have thought a natural fool.

b. Having a specified character by nature.

1596 Shaks. 1 *Hen. IV*, II. iv, 542 Thou [art] a naturall Coward, without instinct. 1645 Ussher *Body Divin.* (1647) 45 Was this saving wisdome of God known to the Philosophers and naturall wise men of the world? 1674 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 907/4 A Flea bitten Mare,..a natural pacer. 1713 Steele *Englishm.* No. 7. 43 A Natural Critick looks upon a Regular as a Dunce. 1776 *New Jersey Arch.* Ser. II. I. 103 A Horse,..a natural pacer, but can trot. 1858 Hawthorne *Fr. & It. Note-bks.* II. 85 He..would have made a natural doctor of mighty potency.

†**15.** Native to a country; native-born. *Obs.*

a 1533 Ld. Berners *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) B viij b, Vertue maketh a stranger natural. 1570–6 Lambarde *Peramb. Kent* (1826) 193, I wote not how the naturall and auncient inhabitants will beare it. 1582 N. Lichefield tr. *Castanheda's Conq. E. Ind.* I. x. 27 The naturall people of that Countrie are blacke. 1602 Warner *Alb. Eng.* Epit. 359 Welch-men.., Amongst whom was a succession of Naturall Kings. 1665 J. Webb *Stone-Heng* (1725) 76 The Romans..conquered our Britain; reduced the natural Inhabitants from their Barbarism.

†**b.** Freq. with national names, as *natural Englishmen*, etc. Also of words. *Obs.*

1556 [Ponet] (*title*) A shorte treatise of politike power, .. with an Exhortacion to all true naturall Englishemen. 1572 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* II. 159 Thai ar all..of ane cuntry and naturall Scottismen. 1579 E. K. *Ded. to Spenser's Sheph. Cal.* § 1 Good and naturall English words. 1624 Massinger *Renegado* II. iv, Thou an Italian,—Nay, more.. a natural Venetian. 1670–98 Lassels *Voy. Italy* II. 281 These three castles are guarded by natural Spaniards. 1728 Morgan *Algiers* I. iii. 49 Twelve Colonies could not do very much towards civilizing a People so prone to Unpoliteness as were the natural Africans.

†**c.** Const. *of* a place. *Obs.*

1574 Hellowes *Gueuara's Fam. Ep.* (1577) 8 God commaunded that the Kings shoulde be naturall of the Kingdome. 1588 Parke tr. *Mendoza's Hist. China* 64 Commonly the captaines be naturall of those prouinces. 1622 Bacon *Hen. VII* (1876) 201 Till Philip were by continuance in Spain made as natural of Spain.

16. Feeling or exhibiting natural kindliness, affection, † or gratitnde; having natural feeling. Now *rare.*

1523 Fitzherb. *Husb.* § 160 Nature byndeth a man to.. kepe them, or els he is not a natnrall man, remembrynge what god hath done for the. *c* 1530 C'tess Salisbury in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. II. 107, I pray you to be a good and naturall modre unto hyr. 1589 Greene *Menaphon* (1616) 66 Doron, to shew himselfe a naturall yong man, gaue her a few kind kisses to comfort her. 1603 Shaks. *Meas. for M.* III. i. 229 A noble..brother, in his loue toward her, euer most kinde and naturall. 1605 — *Lear* II. i. 86 Loyall and naturall Boy. 1608 D. T. *Ess. Pol. & Mor.* 10 b, Which are founde in euery well-disposed naturall man. *a* 1640 Massinger, etc. *Old Law* II. i, *Ant.* Away, unnatural! *Sim.*..To be natural at such a time Were a fool's part. 1843 Dickens *Chr. Carol* iv, A wicked old screw.., why wasn't he natural in his lifetime?

Comb. a 1600 Hooker *Serm. agst. Sorrow* § 7 Those

men that would gladly haue their friends and brethrens dayes prolonged on earth, (as there is no naturall-hearted man but gladly would).

†b. Const. *to* or *towards* a person, etc. *Obs.*

1537 CROMWELL in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) II. 89 If yow wer either naturall towardes your countrey or your famylie, you wolde not thus shame all your kynne. 1561 *Wills & Inv. N. C.* (Surtees 1835) 193 As the said John will haive my blessing, to be naturall to the rest of his brether and sisters. 1611 B. JONSON *Catiline* III. ii, No child can be too natural to his parent.

†17. *Sc.* Possessed of natural ability. *Obs. rare.*

a 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 284 The lord Home beand ane wyse and naturall man. *Ibid.* II. 120 Quein regent beand ane vyse and naturall woman.

IV. 18. Dealing or concerned with, relating to, nature as an object of study or research; now usual only in *natural science*. †*Natural story* = NATURAL HISTORY.

c 1425 *Orolog. Sapient.* iv. in *Anglia* X. 357/29 Þe forseide brobere..lefte þe scoles of natural science and worldely wisdome. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) V. 11 Plinius..made ..xxxvij^ti bookes of the story naturalle. 1551 RECORDE *Pathw. Knowl.* Pref., He was a wittie man in naturall knowlege, and obserued well the change of wethers. 1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 215 The natural secrets, in the understanding and knowledge of which I haue..beene instructed. 1622 GATAKER *Spir. Watch* (ed. 2) 23 If we may beleeue those that write the naturall story. 1655 STANLEY *Hist. Philos.* I. (1687) 2/1 Thales..first introduc'd Natural and Mathematical Learning into Greece. 1684 *R. Waller's Nat. Exper.* Fly-leaf, The Royal Society for Improving Natural Knowledge. 1707 *Phil. Trans.* XXV. No. 310. 2418 Some Natural Observations made..in Shropshire. 1812 Sir H. DAVY *Chem. Philos.* 5 The School of Aristotle gave a transient attention to the objects of Natural Science. 1840 *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 14 The modes of procedure employed in the three branches of the Natural Sciences.

b. *Natural Philosophy*, the study of natural bodies as such and of the phenomena connected with them; physical science, physics.

1456 Sir G. HAVE *Law Arms* (S.T.S) 75 Be all clerkis of naturale philosophy..it is impossible that the hevin be still bot moving. 1471 [see PHILOSOPHY 3]. 1519 *Interl. Four Elem.* Prol., A few conclusyouns..And poyntes of phylosophy naturall. 1581 MULCASTER *Positions* XXXV. (1887) 129 Naturall philosophy, the ground mistresse to Physik. 1649 FULLER *Just Man's Funeral* 5 He..was skil'd in natural Philosophie from the Cedar to the Shrub. 1678 HOBBES *Decam.* i. 6 That sublunary Physiques, which is commonly called Natural Philosophy. *a* 1734 NORTH *Life Ld. Keeper North* (1742) 332 He was adept in natural Philosophy and Mechanicks. 1803 WOOD *Mechanics* i. 10 The business of natural philosophy is not to find out what might have been the constitution of nature. 1865 *Chambers's Encycl.* VII. 521/2 Physics..in its narrower sense..is equivalent to Natural Philosophy, which, until of late years, was the term more commonly used in Great Britain.

attrib. 1721 AMHERST *Terræ Fil.* No. 42 (1726) 221 The place appointed for these examinations is the natural-philosophy school (one of the most public places in the university).

c. Given to the study of natural science; esp. *Natural philosopher*, one devoted to, or skilled in, natural philosophy.

c 1520 L. ANDREW *Noble Lyfe* a ij, The naturall maister Aristotell saith [etc.]. 1541 R. COPLAND *Guydon's Quest. Chirurg.* C j b, A physycyen and Cyrurgyen ought for to knowe ye complexion of the membres, as natural Phylosophers. 1579 FULKE *Heskins' Parl.* 172 The eternitie of the worlde, which is held by some naturall philosophers. 1629 DONNE *Serm.* xxxi. 307 Naturall men will write of Lands of Pygmies. 1657 TRAPP *Comm. Job* XXXVIII. 38 The large Discourses of the natural Philosophers concerning that Subject. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XIV. 653/2 Whether matter is acted on.., or whether it acts of itself.., makes no difference to the natural philosopher. 1888 R. HUNT in *Dict. Nat. Biog.* XIV. 187/1 Davy, Sir Humphry.., natural philosopher, was born at Penzance.

Na·tural-born, *a.* [f. prec. + BORN *ppl. a.* Cf. NATIVE-BORN.] Having a specified position or character by birth; used esp. with *subject*.

1583 *Exec. for Treason* (1675) 43 D. Sanders a natural born Subject but an unnatural worn Priest. 1598 W. PHILLIP tr. *Linschoten* (Hakl.) I. 184 The children of Mestiços are of colour and fashion like the naturall borne Countrimen. 1625 in H. L'Estrange *Chas. I* (1655) 21 Divers of the naturall-born subjects of this Kingdome..do..claim precedency of the Peers of this Realm. 1709 *Act 7 Anne* c. 5 § 3 The Children of all natural-born Subjects, born out of the Ligeance of her Majesty.. shall be deemed..to be natural-born Subjects of this Kingdom. 1765 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* I. 370 The prince is always under a constant tie to protect his natural-born subjects. 1833 *Penny Cycl.* I. 338/2 It is not true that every person, born out of the dominion of the crown, is therefore an alien; nor is a person born within them necessarily a natural-born subject. 1876 BANCROFT *Hist. U.S.* VI. xxvi. 27 Every one who first saw the light on the American soil was a natural-born American citizen. 1897 MARY KINGSLEY *W. Africa* 137 The chief being a natural-born idiot, came with two of his head men.

Naturale·sque, *a.* and *sb.* [f. NATURAL *a.*]

A. *adj.* Having the characteristics of nature or natural objects.

1880 MRS. COMPTON READE *Brown Hand & White* II. iv. 102 Flung to the lowest depths of despair by the very naturalesque loveliness of Nereide. 1895 *Archæol. Oxon.* VI. 310 The spandrels are filled with foliage, much of which from its naturalesque character is almost unique.

B. *sb.* Imitation of, adherence to, nature.

1888 *Star* 12 Dec. 3/2 Morris..was generally in his designs puzzled between 'naturalesque' and 'conventionalism'.

Na·tural Hi·story. [HISTORY *sb.* 5.]

1. A work dealing with the properties of natural objects, plants, or animals; a scientific account *of* any subject written on similar lines.

1567 [see HISTORY *sb.* 5]. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* II. x. 43 b, Plinie in his naturall history writeth [etc.]. 1604 E. G[IMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* III. i. 117 Every naturall Historie is of it selfe pleasing, and very profitable. 1626 BACON *New Atl.* (1658) 16 That Natural History, which be wrote of all plants. 1693 *Phil. Trans.* XVII. No. 198. 667 [Mr. Bannister] was most likely to have given us a very good Natural History of that place. 1831 RENNIE *Montagu's Ornith. Dict.* p. xxxi, Nobody.. could ever dream of designating any of these [works]..a Natural History. 1855 BAIN *Senses & Int.* II. i. § 8 If a Natural History of the human feelings is at all possible.

2. The aggregate of facts relating to the natural objects, etc., *of* a place, or the characteristics *of* a class of persons or things. Also *transf.* the details *of* any subject treated in a similar manner.

Freq. in the titles of works, and so tending to pass into 1.

1593 G. HARVEY *Pierce's Super.* 163 Let him read the naturall histories of the Asse, and the Sheepe, in Aristotle, Pliny, or Gesner. 1677 PLOT (*title*) The Natural History of Oxford-shire, Being an Essay toward the Natural History of England. 1766 SWINTON in *Phil. Trans.* LVII. 111 The natural history of these..insects is sufficiently known. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XIV. 645/1 A short sketch of what may be called the natural history of the physical sciences. 1805 WEAVER tr. *Werner's Fossils* 1 Mineralogy or the natural history of fossils. 1897 MARY KINGSLEY *W. Africa* 621, I.. got a good deal of material for a work on the Natural History of Governors which I do not intend to publish.

3. Originally, the systematic study of all natural objects, animal, vegetable, and mineral; now restricted to the study of animal life, and freq. implying a popular rather than a strictly scientific treatment of the subject.

1662 J. DAVIES tr. *Olearius' Voy. Ambass.* 47 Many other stories were told us..relating more to natural History than Travels. 1682 GREW *Anat. Plants* Pref., Without shewing any purpose of managing this Part of Natural History. 1766 FORDYCE *Serm. Yng. Wm.* (1767) I. vii. 284 Of Natural Philosophy I consider Natural History as a part. 1816 KEATINGE *Trav.* (1817) I. 109 Another incident in natural history..is..Toads eat larks! 1855 KINGSLEY *Glaucus* (1878) 11 It is a question whether Natural History would have ever attained its present honours, had not Geology arisen. 1893 NEWTON *Dict. Birds* p. vii, Persons indifferent to the pleasures of Natural History, except when highly-coloured pictures are presented to them by popular writers. *attrib.* 1851 *Lit. Gaz.* 12 July 483/1 The Natural History Section of the British Association. 1877 *Nature* 21 June 137/1 The organisation of natural history museums.

†b. In concrete use. (See quot.) *Obs. rare*—^1^.

1749 *Phil. Trans.* XLVI. No. 491. 6 An Account of Glasses .. for preserving Pieces of Anatomy or Natural History in spirituous Liquors.

Hence **Na·tural histo·rian,** a writer or authority on Natural History; **Na·tural-histo·rical** *a.*, belonging to Natural History.

1665 HOOKE *Microgr.* 27 There are many examples found in Natural Historians, of Springs that do ebb and flow. 1780 J. ADAMS in *Fam. Lett.* (1876) 379 There is a handsome statue of M. Buffon, the great natural historian. 1825 BEDDOES *Let.* in *Poems* (1851) p. xlvii, Blumenbach.. is, I fancy, of the first rank as mineralogist, physiologian, geologist, botanist, natural-historian, and physician. *a* 1850 ROSSETTI *Dante & Circ.* II. (1874) 267 Works..whose subjects are genealogical, historical, natural-historical, and even theological. 1884 *Daily News* 28 Aug. 2/2 A natural-historian who told us all about the height of Lundy Island.

Naturalism (næ·tiŭrăliz'm). [f. NATURAL *a.* + -ISM. Cf. F. *naturalisme*.]

1. Action arising from, or based on, natural instincts, without spiritual guidance (†also with *pl.*); a system of morality or religion having a purely natural basis.

a 1641 BP. MOUNTAGU *Acts & Mon.* (1642) 211 Atheists or men..who will admit of nothing but Morality, but Naturalismes, and humane reason. 1753 tr. *Frey's Acc. Moravians* 34 The Naturalism and lawless Priviledges of the first Class. 1866 LIDDON *Bampton Lect.* vi. (1875) 308 Pagans yield to those instincts of creature-worship which mere naturalism is ever prone to indulge. 1884 SYMONDS *Shaks. Predec.* iii. 96 A spirit survived from the old heathen past,..which we may describe as naturalism. 1894 *Thinker* V. 346 A mythological system, with innumerable gods grafted upon the original element of naturalism.

2. *Philos.* A view of the world, and of man's relation to it, in which only the operation of natural (as opposed to supernatural or spiritual) laws and forces is admitted or assumed.

1750 WARBURTON *Julian* 42 *note*, [Ammianus] being..a religious Theist, and untainted with the Naturalism of Tacitus. 1794 HURD *Life Warburton* 72 Lord Bolingbroke..was of that sect, which, to avoid a more odious name, chuses to distinguish itself by that of Naturalism. 1816 R. HALL *Let.* Wks. 1832 V. 502 Their system is naturalism, not the evangelical system. 1858 SEARS *Athan.* 4 By the word 'Naturalism' we describe a belief in nature alone. 1874 W. WALLACE *Hegel's Logic* § 60. 100 Materialism or Naturalism, therefore, is the only consistent and thorough-going system of Empiricism.

3. A style or method characterized by close adherence to, and faithful representation of, nature or reality: a. in literature.

a 1850 ROSSETTI *Dante & Circ.* I. (1874) 21 The earliest prominent example of a naturalism without afterthought in the whole of Italian poetry. 1859 KINGSLEY *Misc.* II. 136 That Naturalism which threatened to end in sheer brutality. 1881 *Daily News* 13 June 4/4 That unnecessarily faithful portrayal of offensive incidents for which M. Zola has found the new name of 'Naturalism'.

b. in art.

1852 MRS. JAMESON *Leg. Madonna* Introd. 37 The mannerism of the Italians, and the naturalism of the Flemish painters. 1853 RUSKIN *Stones Ven.* III. i. § 11 The Gothic naturalism advancing gradually from the Byzantine severity. 1884 *Bazaar* 26 Dec. 681/3 Foregrounds of rush and wild flower he paints with extraordinary facility and naturalism.

4. Adherence or attachment to what is natural.

1865 M. ARNOLD *Ess. Crit.* v. 186 Goethe's profound, imperturbable naturalism is absolutely fatal to all routine thinking. 1884 SEELEY in *Contemp. Rev.* Oct. 502 His naturalism, his enjoyment of the world as it is.

Naturalist (næ·tiŭrălist). [ad. F. *naturaliste* (1527), = It. and Sp. *naturalista*; or f. NATURAL *a.* + -IST.]

1. One who studies natural, in contrast to spiritual, things; one who regards natural causes as a sufficient explanation of the world and its phenomena; an adherent of, or believer in, naturalism.

1587 GOLDING *De Mornay* Pref. (1592) 9 Against the false naturalists (that is to say professors of the knowledge of nature and naturall things) I wil alledge nature it selfe. 1612 R. CARPENTER *Soul's Sent.* 76 Those blasphemous truth-opposing Heretikes, and Atheisticall naturalists. 1677 GILPIN *Demonol.* (1867) 132 The Naturalists explode Christ and Scriptures at last as unnecessary. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 191 Let the Naturalists explain these Things [the aspirations of the soul]. 1824 SOUTHEY *Sir T. More* (1831) I. 5 The religious Naturalist in his turn despises the feeble mind of the Socinian. 1864 *Q. Jrnl. Sci.* I. 554 The small semi-educated sect of men calling themselves 'Naturalists', or 'Secularists'.

b. One who follows the light of nature, as contrasted with revelation.

1608 BP. HALL *Epist.* III. iii, Let me but know what action Popery requires of any of hir followers, which a meere Naturalist hath not done, can not do? 1628 FELTHAM *Resolves* II. xcii. 269 For the Manner how God would bee worshipped, no Naturalist could euer find it out, till hee himselfe gaue directions from his sacred Scripture. 1825 COLERIDGE *Aids Refl.* (1848) I. 288, I am here speaking in the assumed character of a mere naturalist, to whom no light of revelation had been vouchsafed.

†2. A natural man; one with natural instincts.

1635 J. HAYWARD tr. *Biondi's Banish'd Virg.* 34 Feredo was in one respect a naturalist, desirous of posterity.

3. One who studies, or is versed in, natural science; a natural philosopher, a physicist. Now *rare* or *Obs.* (very common in 17th c.).

1587 GREENE *Euphues Cens. Philautus* Wks. (Grosart) VI. 172 Your phisicall reasons bewraies a good naturalist. 1605 TIMME *Quersit.* I. xvii. 89 Diligent physitians or naturalists..wil put the same to any kind of metall. 1654 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 227 That Inke hath Poyson in it, the Historian, as well as Naturalist will confesse. 1686 PLOT *Staffordsh.* 8 Because the Lightening first affects the Sense, I give it the precedence, as is usual amongst Naturalists. 1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* III. iii, For the highest clouds cannot rise above two miles, as naturalists agree. 1752 HUME *Ess. & Treat.* (1777) I. 330 All water..remains always at a level. Ask naturalists the reason. 1795 J. HUTTON *Th. Earth* I. 201 Some part of the Theory of the Earth.. which will probably give offence to naturalists who have espoused an opposite opinion. 1813 MACKINTOSH *De L'Allemagne* Wks. 1846 II. 537 The naturalist gives no picture of scenery by the most accurate catalogue of mineral and vegetable produce.

b. (In early use only contextual, now specific.) One who is interested in, or makes a special study of, animals or plants. (A less precise term than *zoologist*, *botanist*, etc.)

1600 SUTTON *Disce Mori* vi. (1846) 57 A lion; of whom the naturalist writeth, that he is of such courage [etc.]. 1658 T. WALL *Charact. Enemies Ch.* 30 The great Naturalist observes it of this beast, the Leopard [etc.]. 1733 SWIFT *On Poetry* Wks. 1755 IV. I. 194 So, nat'ralists observe, a flea Hath smaller fleas that on him prey. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* VII. 27 The sea snail, of which naturalists have ..mentioned fifteen kinds. 1808 PIKE *Sources Mississ.* III. 210 This father was a great naturalist, or rather florist; he had large collections of flowers, plants [etc.]. 1859 DARWIN *Orig. Spec.* ii. (1873) 33 Every naturalist knows vaguely what he means when he speaks of a species. 1870 YEATS *Nat. Hist. Comm.* 7 The structure of a bone enables naturalists to build up the animal of which it is a part.

†4. One 'natural' to a country; a native. *Obs.*—^1^

1631 HEYWOOD *Eng. Elis.* (1641) 160 If they aimed at the life of a naturalist, being their..Sovereignes sister.

†5. One who lacks technical training. *Obs.*—^1^

1707 Sir W. HOPE *New Method Fencing* (1714) 255 A vigorous and stout ignorant or naturalist, with a swinging irregular pursute, will put any of you from off all your orderly postures of defence.

6. One who aims at reproducing or adhering closely to nature; a representative of naturalism:

a. in art.

1784 J. BARRY *Lect. Art* iii. (1848) 124 The cavils of the ignorant,—or the Naturalists, as they choose to call themselves. 1856 RUSKIN *Mod. Paint.* III. IV. vi. § 2 Others received both good and evil together (thence properly called Naturalists). 1873 PATER *Renaissance* 42 Botticelli lived in a generation of naturalists, and he might have been a naturalist among them.

b. in literature.

1883 LOWELL *Wks.* (1890) VI. 62 Fielding was a naturalist in the sense that he was an instinctive and careful observer. 1888 H. JAMES *Partial Portr.* 124 [Trollope] tells us, on the whole, more about life than the 'naturalists' in our sister republic.

B. *adj.* Naturalistic.

1830 PUSEY *Hist. Enq.* II. 366 Its naturalist tendencies.. received their highest power to hurt from corresponding

points in the state of theology. 1860 RUSKIN *Mod. Paint.* V. IX. ii. § 4 That naturalist art..denied at last the spiritual nature of man. 1893 COLLINGWOOD *Life Ruskin* I. 192 The Naturalist-landscape school, a group of painters who threw overboard the traditions of Turner.

Naturalistic (nætiŭrăli·stik), *a.* [f. prec. + -IC.]

1. In accordance with the doctrine of naturalism.

1840 W. H. MILL *Observ.* I. 130 The historical and naturalistic explanations of Paulus and his school. 1858 SEARS *Athan.* 8 Naturalistic tendencies leading to doubts of immortality. 1884 FARRAR in *Contemp. Rev.* Mar. 446 The naturalistic explanation of miracles was exploded finally by Strauss himself.

b. Of the nature of, characterized by, naturalism in various senses.

1860 MILL *Repr. Govt.* (1861) 9 The supporters of what may be termed the naturalistic theory of politics. 1871 FARRAR *Witn. Hist.* iii. 101 For the old humanistic worship ..it substituted a naturalistic cult. 1891 T. HARDY *Tess* XXVI, Its obvious unreality amid beliefs essentially naturalistic.

2. Aiming at a close reproduction of nature; realistic: a. in art.

1849 *Fraser's Mag.* XXXIX. 295 They think it a sufficient condemnation of a picture to call it naturalistic. 1862 HAMERTON *Painter's Camp* I. 8 Our modern school of naturalistic landscape painters. 1886 SYMONDS *Renaiss. It., Cath. React.* (1898) VII. xiii. 223 A manner..more naturalistic than that of the Caracci.

b. in literature.

1876 L. STEPHEN *Eng. Th. 18th C.* II. 426 The romantic and the naturalistic school adopted different modes of satisfying the yearning thus excited. 1889 *Harper's Mag.* Nov. 963/1 The perusal of a naturalistic book.

3. Of or belonging to natural history.

1859 G. WILSON *Life E. Forbes* v. (1861) 151 The almost exclusive preference which he showed to the scientific, and especially the naturalistic, over the professional branches of medicine. 1890 *Blackw. Mag.* CXLVII. 149/2 We wish no better guide on a naturalistic ramble.

4. Based on nature; relating to the natural order of things, as opposed to a logical order.

1867 ATWATER *Logic* 53 In a Logical sense, quadrupeds, reptiles, birds, fishes, are species of the genus animal. In the Naturalistic sense, though they include species, they are not themselves species at all.

Hence **Naturali·stically** *adv.*

1864 *Realm* 2 Mar. 7 His solidly imagined and naturalistically presented groundwork of an autobiography. 1885 J. E. HARRISON *Stud. in Gk. Art* iii. 139 It is usually a natural scene, naturalistically treated.

Naturality (nætiŭræ·lĭti). Now *rare.* [a. F. *naturalité* (14th c.), ad. late L. *nātūrālitāt-em* (Tertullian): see NATURAL *a.* and -ITY.]

†1. Natural character or quality. *Obs.*

a 1533 LD. BERNERS *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* Prol. A j b, Contrary in their opinions, as dyuers in their naturalities. *Ibid.* let. x. 131 b, The goddis by their naturalyte and power close vp the furies, and gouerne the steres. 1651 N. BIGGS *New Disp.* P 174 To arraigne and examine the naturalities of the other universal main pillars of curing. 1659 TORRIANO, *Spécie*, kind.., quality, or naturality.

†2. a. A state of nature, as opposed to morality.

1619 SIR J. SEMPIL *Sacrilege Handled* App. 47 They haue even lost the common Principles with Brutish Naturalitie, which..will euen vse a kinde of Commutatiue Iustice, and retribution. 1653 BAXTER *Saints' R.* II. Pref. (1662) 169 As all Morality presupposeth Naturality.

† b. Natural unmodified state. *Obs. rare*$^{-1}$.

1649 BULWER *Pathomyot.* II. i. 96 Which expression is seen in its pure naturality in Boyes.

†3. a. Naturalness; the fact of being in accordance with nature. *Obs.*

1643 SIR T. BROWNE *Relig. Med.* I. § 19 The villany of that Spirit..by demonstrating a naturality in one way, makes us mistrust a miracle in another. 1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* Pref., Answering the Objection, against the Naturality of the Idea of God, from the Pagan Polytheism.

† b. Closeness to nature. *Obs. rare* $^{-1}$.

1651 G. DANIEL *Let.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 206 You may iudge Draughts sometimes in Cole-Works, to hit the Naturalitie of Lines Studied by finer Pencills.

4. Natural (†modesty,) feeling or conduct. In later use *Sc.*

1628 F. GREVILLE *Life Sidney* x. (1652) 123 Greater resolution..than the naturality, diffidence, and quiet complexion of the Princes then reigning could well bear. 1822 GALT *Sir A. Wylie* xcix, I was vexed when I thought he was dead, and that I should have so little naturality. 1847 MRS CARLYLE *Early Lett.* (1889) 173 To rouse lethargic friends into naturality.

5. An illustration drawn from natural things.

1649 MILTON *Eikon.* xxi. Wks. 1851 III. 484 They..are in his naturalities no better then Spiders. *a* 1849 H. COLERIDGE *Ess.* (1851) II. 41 Any sort of illustrations..are better than stale common-place naturalities, which show no acquaintance with actual nature.

†6. The position or rights of a natural-born subject. *Obs. rare.*

1558 *Acts Parlt. Scot.* (1814) II. 507 The maist cristine king of france hes grantit ane lettre of Naturalitie for him and his successouris. 1614 W. BARCLAY *Nepenthes* A 4 b, The Spaniards, who haue giuen it the right of naturalitie in their soyle terme it Tabacco.

†Naturalizant. *Obs. rare* $^{-1}$. [a. pres. pple. of F. *naturaliser* to NATURALIZE.] A natural citizen or inhabitant.

1653 A. WILSON *Jas. I* 35 We are all fellow-Citizens and Naturalizants of the Heavenly Jerusalem.

Naturalization (næ·tiŭrălaizē^{i}·ʃən). [f. NATURALIZE *v.* + -ATION; cf. F. *naturalisation.*]

1. The action of admitting an alien to the position and privileges of a native-born subject or citizen; the fact of being so admitted.

1578 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* II. 693 All respettis, remissionis, tutoreis datives and naturalizationis. 1603 R. JOHNSON *Kingd. & Commw.* 190 Certaine Iesuits .. obtayning the fauour of certaine gouernors, obtained a priuiledge of naturalization. 1622 MALYNES *Anc. Law-Merch.* 442 Those of Flanders..are not bound to take Letters of Naturalization to dwell in this Kingdome. *a* 1676 HALE *Prim. Orig. Man.* II. x. (1677) 234 Many Scotch..either by Naturalizations or Transmigrations have increased the Inhabitants of this Island. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 13 P 4 Our late act of naturalization hath had so great an effect in foreign parts [etc.]. 1769 *Junius Lett.* iv. (1788) 52 Such depopulation can only be repaired..by some sensible bill of naturalization. *a* 1832 MACKINTOSH *Rev.* 1688, Wks. 1846 II. 49 They resumed the consideration of a bill for the naturalisation of French Protestants. 1867 SMILES *Huguenots Eng.* xviii. (1880) 319 They claimed and obtained letters of naturalisation.

fig. 1795 MASON *Ch. Mus.* II. 120 Our English Cathedral Music has gained..much from this naturalisation, as it may be called, of Italian Masters.

b. *attrib.*

1711 SWIFT *Examiner* No. 44 Enemies, taking Advantage of the general Naturalization Act, had invited over..Foreigners of all Religions. 1747 *Gentl. Mag.* 232/2 Tho' the naturalization bill was drop'd, no other was brought in to answer the same good purposes. 1833 *Penny Cycl.* I. 339/1 The most effectual method of naturalizing an alien is by Act of Parliament, called a Naturalization Bill. 1874 BANCROFT *Footpr. Time* xix. 609 A naturalization law was organized.

2. a. The admission or adoption of foreign words, beliefs, arts, practices, etc. into general use or favour.

1747 JOHNSON *Plan Dict.* Wks. 1787 IX. 169 This naturalization is produced..by admission into common speech, in some metaphorical signification. 1843 *Proc. Philol. Soc.* I. 125 They are also accompanied by many compounds and derivatives, which is commonly regarded as a proof of long naturalization. 1876 L. STEPHEN *Eng. Th. 18th C.* I. ii. 33 The Cartesian philosophy failed to find complete naturalization. 1878 LECKY *Eng. 18th C.* I. iv. 538 The naturalisation of the opera in England.

b. The introduction of plants or animals to places where they are not indigenous, but thrive freely under ordinary conditions.

1859 DARWIN *Orig. Spec.* iv. (1873) 89 The naturalisation of plants through man's agency in foreign lands. 1870 W. ROBINSON (*title*) The Wild Garden, or Our Groves and Shrubberies made beautiful by the Naturalization of Hardy Exotic Plants. 1895 *Oracle Encycl.* I. 528/1 [He] laboured successfully for the naturalisation of British salmon in Colonial waters.

3. The action of making natural.

1897 FAIRBAIRN *Catholicism* (1899) 423 He did not describe the process with Harnack as the Secularization of the Church, or with Sohm as its Naturalization.

Naturalize (næ·tiŭrălaiz), *v.* [ad. F. *naturaliser* (16th c.): see NATURAL *a.* and -IZE, and cf. It. *naturalizzare* (Florio).]

I. 1. *trans.* To admit (an alien) to the position and rights of citizenship; to invest with the privileges of a native-born subject.

1605 VERSTEGAN *Dec. Intell.* viii. (1628) 263 A name of Naturalizing or making the bearer thereof a free Denizen. 1667 SPRAT *Hist. R. Soc.* 64 By their naturalizing Men of all Countries, they have laid the beginnings of many great advantages. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 13 P 2 All the French Refugees in those dominions [Holland] are to be naturalized. 1753 *Scots Mag.* June 269/1 The King..had a power to naturalize any foreigner. 1792 J. BARLOW *Constit.* 1791, 37 Many of your citizens have been naturalized. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* III. I. i, We, by act of Assembly, 'naturalise' the chief Foreign Friends of Humanity. 1891 J. WINSOR *Columbus* xx. 479 She..naturalized his brother Diego to fit him for ecclesiastical preferment.

fig. 1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* IV. xx. 348 Valour naturalizing a brave spirit through the Universe. *a* 1653 GOUGE *Comm. Heb.* xi. 21 The children of Joseph..are.. naturalized by Jacob, and made free Denisons of the Church. 1766 CUNNINGHAM *Prol. Merch. Ven.* 18 This Shylock, the Jew,..Was naturaliz'd oft by your fathers before ye. 1825 LAMB *Elia* Ser. II. *Stage Illusion*, We love in comedy to see an audience naturalised behind the scenes.

absol. 1625 BACON *Ess., Greatness Kingd.* P 6 They haue not had that vsage, to Naturalize liberally.

b. Const. *into, to.* Chiefly in *fig.* uses.

1606 DEKKER *Sev. Sins* VII. (Arb.) 46 Remember..that your Seruants are your adopted Children, they are naturalized into your bloud. 1622 DONNE *Serm.* cliv. Wks. 1839 VI. 145 Persons..not naturalized by conversion..from another religion to this. 1667 WATERHOUSE *Fire Lond.* 107 Whose Credit ..lewred Strangers out of their Countrys to reside in it, and kept them here, and naturalized them to it. 1713 STEELE *Guardian* No. 5 P 1 My obligations of it are such as might well naturalize me into the interests of it. 1813 CROKER in *Examiner* 22 Feb. 118/2 We naturalized foreign seamen into our service.

2. To introduce or adopt (a word, practice, thing, etc.) into a country or into common use; to put on a level with what is native.

1593 PEELE *Hon. Garter* 42 Harington,..That hath so purely naturalized Strange words, and made them all free denizens. 1612 SELDEN *Illustr. Drayton's Poly-olb.* i. 40, I have like liberty to naturalize that word [transanimation], as Lipsius had to make it a Roman. *a* 1674 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* XI. § 161 This Proposition..seemed to naturalize Rebellion, and to make it current in the Kingdom. 1702 S. PARKER tr. *Cicero's De Finibus* I. 1 When I first attempted to naturalize the Notions and Arguments, which the Grecian Philosophers have. 1756 NUGENT *Montesquieu's Spir. Laws* XXII. XXI, These continual changes.. naturalized usury at Rome. 1801 *Med. Jrnl.* V. 556 To carry back the vaccine virus into his department, with a view to propagate and naturalize it. 1866 ROGERS *Agric. & Prices* I. xxii. 571 The yard was naturalized as an English measure.

fig. 1633 G. HERBERT *Temple, Ch. Porch* lxi, Keep all thy native good, and naturalize All forrain of that name.

3. To introduce (animals or plants) to places where they are not indigenous, but in which they may flourish under the same conditions as those which are native. (Chiefly const. *in.*)

c 1708 (*title*) Canary Birds Naturalized in Utopia. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 69 P 5 Our Melons, our Peaches..are Strangers among us,..naturalized in our English Gardens. 1763 *Nat. Hist.* in *Ann. Reg.* 68/2 A great variety of African plants have, as it were, been naturalised in the American settlements. 1842 BISCHOFF *Woollen Manuf.* II. 342 An essay on the means and advantages of naturalizing the alpaca in this country. 1845 DARWIN *Voy. Nat.* VI. (1852) 120 No doubt many plants besides the cardoon and fennel are naturalized.

4. *refl.* To become fully settled or established in a place or in new surroundings.

1646 J. HALL *Horæ Vac.* 96 Customs insensibly Naturalize themselves. 1824 SOUTHEY *Sir T. More* (1831) I. 53 An endemic malady..has naturalized itself among your American brethren. 1827 STEUART *Planter's G.* (1828) 296 From the singular steadfastness of the stem, they soon naturalize themselves to the spot. 1853 J. H. NEWMAN *Hist. Sk.* (1873) II. I. ii. 74 They were brought into it by the Roman Government.., but they never naturalized themselves there.

5. *intr.* To become naturalized; to settle down in a natural manner.

1660 F. BROOKE tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 398 Divers of ours being taken, have naturalized amongst them. 1821 JEFFREY *Let. to C. Wilkes* 15 Apr., We do not allow ourselves .. to naturalise in London. 1877 M. M. GRANT *Sun-Maid* viii, How did you get them all to naturalise here?

II. †6. *trans.* a. To familiarize or accustom (one) *in* or *to* a thing. *Obs. rare.*

1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* I. i. 223, I will returne perfect Courtier, in the which my instruction shall serue to naturalize thee. 1651 HARTLIB *Clavis Apocal.* Ded., An employment wherevnto..God hath naturalized my affections.

† b. To convert *to* or *into* (something) by custom; to make (a thing) natural or familiar (*to* a person). *Obs. rare.*

1606 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* XVI. ci. 401 Prescription doth naturalize in Court Some Errors to a habit. *a* 1667 SOUTH *Serm.* (1697) I. 30 Custom has naturalized his Labour to him. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* IX. 41 Conscience, deadened by repeated strokes, Has into manners naturaliz'd our crimes.

7. a. To bring into conformity with nature; to free from conventionality.

1603 FLORIO *Montaigne* III. v. (1632) 491 Were I of the trade I would naturalize Arte, as much as they Artize nature. 1789 SMYTH tr. *Aldrich's Archit.* (1818) 12 Masaccio, the first painter who naturalized the stiff manner of Giotto. 1867 BARRY *Life Sir C. Barry* IV. 127 A style thoroughly naturalized.

b. To reduce to a purely natural basis; to free from the supernatural or miraculous.

1647 M. HUDSON *Div. Right Govt.* II. x. 158 The inward satisfaction of conscience..is that alone which doth naturalize these supernaturall duties. 1652 *Persuasive* 5 It shall not be the project of this Discourse, either to naturalize, or make invalid the Lines of Princes. 1823 BENTHAM *Not Paul* 305 Willing to contradict the falsity, and thus naturalize the miracle. 1858 SEARS *Athan.* 7 The Divine Being himself is naturalized and brought down to the plane of these conceptions. *a* 1882 T. H. GREEN *Proleg. Ethics* Introd. (1883) 9 To stand in the way of the scientific impulse to naturalise the moral man.

† 8. *intr.* To adopt methods in conformity with, or indicated by, nature. *Obs. rare.*$^{-1}$

1628 WITHER *Brit. Rememb.* II. 271 Some did a little further nat'rallize, And these unto the Ayre would sacrifize ..pure Frankincense or Myrrhe..They hoped these might purge ill ayres.

9. To pursue the studies of a naturalist.

1787 MME. D'ARBLAY *Diary* 27 Feb., The mountains of Wales, where both had been naturalizing thirteen years ago. 1840 E. FORBES in Wilson & Geikie *Life* ix. (1861) 269 Going to naturalize in the Mediterranean for a couple of years. 1861 WILSON & GEIKIE *Ibid.* 250 Forbes returned to the Isle of Man, where he remained two months, naturalizing, as was his wont.

Naturalized (næ·tiŭrălaizd), *ppl. a.* [-ED 1.]

1. Of persons: Admitted to the rights or privileges of a native citizen or subject. In looser sense, practically made into a native by residence.

a. In predicative use. † Also const. *to.*

1559 in KNOX *Hist. Ref.* Wks. 1846 I. 440 Frenche men could nott be justlie called strangearis, seeing that thei war naturalized. 1623 tr. *Favine's Theat. Hon.* III. vii. 392 Except they be naturalized, and inhabitants of our owne kingdome. *c* 1677 in Marvell *Growth Popery* 62 The other half, and the whole of the Lading, belonging to Simon Francia, who is naturalized. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 182, I was..naturaliz'd to the Place, and to the Manner of Living. 1775 in F. Chase *Hist. Dartmouth Coll.* (1891) I. 332 Mr. Dean .. was early naturalized among the Indians, well understands their customs. 1818 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) III. 339 They must be..natural-born subjects, or naturalized, or made denizens. 1867 SMILES *Huguenots Eng.* xviii. (1880) 319 Many .. Flemings had no sooner settled .. and become naturalised, than they..assumed English [names].

transf. and *fig.* 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* III. xli. 263 The Godly .. as naturalized in that heavenly Kingdome. 1788 SIR J. REYNOLDS *Disc.* xiv. Wks. 1797 I. 305 A mind thrown back two thousand years, and as it were naturalized in antiquity. 1875 BEDFORD *Sailor's Pocket Bk.* v. (ed. 2) 189 It is ..advisable..that they [chronometers] should be received on board at an earlier period, so that they may become naturalized in their new position.

b. Attributively. (Sometimes qualifying the original, and sometimes the acqnired, designation.)

1698 Fryer *Acc. E. India & P.* 69 The Country People and naturalized Portugals live to a good Old Age. 1753 *Scots Mag.* June 270/2 Naturalized Jews claiming the privileges of Englishmen. 1775 Warton *Hist. Eng. Poetry* I. 112 Spain having learned the art..from their naturalised guests the Arabians. 1822 J. Flint *Lett. Amer.* 171 He is a naturalized citizen of the United States, but a native of England. *a* 1859 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xxiv. V. 141 The names of Sir Joseph Williamson .., a born Englishman, and of Portland, a naturalised Englishman. 1873 Smiles *Huguenots France* II. i. (1881) 313 The disposition of the naturalised Huguenots to adopt names of an Englisb sound.

transf. 1817 Keats *Lett.* Wks. (1889) III. 74 We sometimes skim into a bed of rushes, and there become naturalized river-folks.

c. Closely attached *to* one. *rare* —1.

1809 Malkin *Gil Blas* XI. ix. P 6, I am too much naturalized to you on the side of obligation, not to take a permanent interest in all your pleasures and disappointments.

2. Of things, languages, words, practices, etc. (See Naturalize *v.* 2.)

1625 in K. Long tr. *Barclay's Argenis* p. iv, Thy Argenis .. by thy paine Is naturalized, and doth in English reigne. 1671 Clarendon *Dial.* Tracts (1727) 338 Since the Latin hath ceased to be a language, .. the French is almost naturalized through Europe. 1703 T. N. *City & C. Purchaser* 224 The word amongst Artificers is almost naturaliz'd. 1855 Milman *Lat. Chr.* xiv. vi. (1864) IX. 213 The native language, or rather the naturalised Latin reasserted its independence. 1878 Gladstone *Prim. Homer* 52 Homer never directly assigns to a foreign origin anything that has become naturalised in Greece.

†b. Firmly rooted or fixed. *Obs. rare.*

1665 Needham *Med. Medicinæ* 296 Most mysterious Maladies are naturalised within our Vitals. 1698 Norris *Pract. Disc.* (1707) IV. 148 'Tis late, if ever, that we discover out so confirm'd and so Naturalized Mistake.

3. Of animals and plants. (See the vb. 3.)

1796 Withering *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) II. 336 See E. bot. 63, where it is first adopted as a naturalized plant. 1811 *1st Rep. Merino Soc.* 52 This kind cannot be perfectly produced but by naturalized sheep of the pure race. 1859 Darwin *Orig. Spec.* iv. (1873) 89 These naturalised plants are of a highly diversified nature. 1875 Wallace in *Encycl. Brit.* I. 84/1 A naturalised animal or plant..must be able to withstand all the vicissitudes of the seasons in its new home.

4. Affected by naturalism; reduced to the level of natural things; made natural.

1858 Sears *Athan.* 6 Naturalized faith preserves the scattered dust to be combined anew. *Ibid.* III. vi. 305 Natural men in all ages .. attain only to a belief in a naturalized spirit-world. 1880 in Grove *Dict. Mus.* II. 448/1 A naturalised note is always a white key on the pianoforte or organ, unless it be combined with a sharp or flat.

Naturalizer (næ·tiŭrăləizəɹ). [f. as prec. + -er 1.] One who naturalizes.

1826 *Blackw. Mag.* XX. 846 The two-fold character borne by the naturalizer of German novels. 1885 *Athenæum* 17 Oct. 510/1 Upon the naturalizers of this and other noxious species..we cannot waste much pity.

Naturalizing (næ·tiŭrăləiziŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. as prec. + -ing 1.] The action of the vb. Naturalize.

a. In sense 1 of the vb. Also *attrib.*

1636 Featly *Clavis Myst.* iv. 45 The naturalizing (if I may so speak) of the Gentiles into the spirituall Commonwealth. 1690 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2554/4 An Act for the Naturalizing of David le Grand, and others. 1753 *Scots Mag.* Aug. 379/1, I am against this naturalizing bill. 1770 Langhorne *Plutarch* (1879) I. 106/1 The wisdom of the law concerning the naturalizing of foreigners.

b. In sense 9 of the vb. Also *attrib.*

1840 E. Forbes in Wilson & Geikie *Life* ix. (1861) 269 It would be the acme of naturalizing happiness. 1860 Tristram *Gt. Sahara* xiii. 231 Naturalizing was a task of some little difficulty, the place being in so unsettled a condition.

So **Na·turalizing** *ppl. a.*

1854 E. Forbes in Wilson & Geikie *Life* xv. (1861) 555 We shall turn out a fine set of naturalizing youths by and by. 1865 Mozley *Mirac.* (ed. 2) Pref. 11 Here, then, are three naturalizing rationales of miracles.

Naturally (næ·tiŭrăli), *adv.* Also 6 -allye, 6–7 -allie. [f. Natural *a.* + -ly 2. The earlier ME. form was Naturelly.]

I. 1. By natural or inherent instinct, impulse, feeling or tendency.

c 1430 Lydg. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 79 The lark also ful naturally, Cristes ascencioune .. Commendyd. *c* 1460 Fortescue *Abs. & Lim. Mon.* ix. (1885) 128 Manis corage is so noble, þat naturally he aspirith to high thinges. 1538 Starkey *England* II. i. 159 Euery man naturally ys gyuen to folow plesure, quietnes, and ease. 1560 Daus tr. *Steidane's Comm.* 5 b, He whiche is a Germain him selfe wil naturally for the countrie sake .. be helpfull to an other Germaine. 1638 Junius *Paint. Ancients* 212 All of us naturally are too much in love with our owne workes. 1651 Hobbes *Leviath.* II. xvii. 85 Men (who naturally love Liberty, and Dominion over others). 1711 Budgell *Spect.* No. 77 P 1, I have naturally an Aversion to much Speaking. 1766 Goldsm. *Vic. W.* xix, I naturally hate the face of a tyrant. 1797–1803 Foster in *Life & Corr.* (1846) I. xliii. 246 The sympathy which we naturally feel for our kind. 1876 L. Stephen *Eng. Th. 18th C.* II. xii. viii. 448 An antiquarian is naturally a conservative.

b. Immediately qualifying an adj. or pple. denoting personal character. (Passing into next.)

1611 Shaks. *Wint. T.* IV. iv. 732 Though I am not naturally honest, I am so sometimes by chance. 1632 Lithgow *Trav.* III. 90 They are naturally inclined to singing. *a* 1687 Petty *Pol. Arith.* Pref. (1690) a 3 b, That many are naturally querulous and envious, is an Evil as old as the World. 1777 Watson *Philip II* (1839) 437 Philip was not naturally either bold or rash. 1877 E. R. Conder *Bas. Faith* i. 16 If a youth learn to sing and play easily and with pleasure, .. we say he is naturally musical.

2. In respect of natural constitution, character, or condition.

1526 Tindale 2 *Pet.* ii. 12 As brute beastes naturally made to be taken and destroyed. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 407 The chiefest castell .. is situated .. upon an hyghe hyll, naturally strong. 1615 W. Lawson *Country Housew. Gard.* (1626) 5 High grounds are not naturally fat. 1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* IV. x. 201 That Jews stinck naturally, ..is a received opinion. 1683 Rav *Corr.* (1848) 131 Whether the Chondrilla .. have naturally a full or double flower..? 1711 Steele *Spect.* No. 155 P 4 A Woman is naturally more helpless than the other Sex. 1766 Goldsm. *Vic. W.* xix, We have all naturally an equal right to the throne. 1815 Elphinstone *Acc. Caubul* (1842) I. 163 It is naturally fertile, and well watered. 1847 C. Bronte *J. Eyre* vii, Her face, naturally pale as marble.

3. By natural endowment; by means of, or in virtue of, inherent knowledge or capacity; without special teaching or training. *To come naturally to* (one): see Natural *a.* 9 c.

1525 Ld. Berners *Froiss.* II. 312/2 The grayhounde hath this knowledge naturallye, therfore take hym to you. 1551 T. Wilson *Logike* (1580) 2 Euery man can geue a reason naturallie, and without Arte. 1660 F. Badoke tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 100 Some have no religion, yet they hold naturally the immortality of the soul. 1691 Hartcliffe *Virtues* 357 For Men have naturally the Notions of good and evil within them. 1710 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4764/4 [A horse] sets Head and Tail naturally well. 1878 *Scribner's Mag.* XV. 112/2 Statesmanship came so naturally to him. 1889 Mas. Riddell *P'cess Sunshine* I. v. 87 It came naturally to him to bear and forbear.

4. Spontaneously; by natural growth, etc.; without the aid of art or cultivation.

1563 Hyll *Art Garden.* (1593) 6 That ground .. which naturally bringeth forth of his own accord, both elms and wilde young springs. 1567 Maplet *Gr. Forest* 98 A Collar or Chaine naturally wrought like to Sinople or Uermelon. 1617 Moryson *Itin.* II. 45 The crown of his head was in his latter dayes somthing bald, as the forepart naturally curled. *a* 1661 Fuller *Worthies* (1840) III. 87, I have placed woad .. in this county, because, as I am informed, it groweth naturally therein. 1687 A. Lovell tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 201 There is naturally upon a Marble Stone, a figure in red Colour of a Virgin on her Knees. 1721 Bradley *Philos. Acc. Wks. Nat.* 92 Where Elephants are naturally placed, they are of great Use after they are tamed. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVIII. 581/1 Where it grows naturally is not known, but it is cultivated in Germany. 1847 C. Bronte *J. Eyre* vii, Julia's hair curls naturally.

b. Without affectation, with ease.

1840 H. Rogers *Ess.* (1874) II. v. 259 Some men talk as if to speak naturally were to speak like a natural. 1863 Kinglake *Crimea* (1877) II. vi. 55 The Czar called his Empress so naturally by her dear homely title of wife.

II. 5. In accordance with, by the operation of, natural laws or canses.

1456 Sir G. Have *Law Arms* (S. T. S.) 78 Sen naturaly thir unresonable bestis has sik contrarietee amang thame. 1509 Hawes *Past. Pleas.* xxxv. (Percy Soc.) 112 Nature made the bodyes above,..That aboute the worlde naturallye do move. 1546 Langley tr. *Pol. Verg. de Invent.* II. i. 35 We perceive in all kindes of liuing creatures naturally a certaine familiaritie of male and female. 1615 W. Lawson *Country Housew. Gard.* (1626) A 3 As when good ground naturally brings forth thistles. 1707 Floyer *Physic. Pulse-Watch* 385 The salt Limpha mixes naturally with the Blood. 1830 R. Knox *Béclard's Anat.* 301 The muscular actions which take place naturally in the body may be divided into two classes. 1869 Tozer *Highl. Turkey* II. 305 The changes which are naturally wrought by time.

b. In the natural manner; through age or disease as opposed to violence, etc.

1552 Lyndesay *Monarche* 5136 Thocht sum de Naturally, throuch aige, Fer mo deis raiffand in one raige. 1576 Fleming *Panopl. Epist.* 199 *marg.*, Tyrants..verie sildome or neuer are so blessed as to dye naturally. 1660 F. Brooke tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 348 Widows, if their husbands died naturally, marry not again. 1797 Mrs. Radcliffe *Italian* iii, She did not seem to die naturally.

c. As a natural result or consequence; as might be expected from the circnmstances.

1641 J. Jackson *True Evang. T.* II. 101 To gather that observation, or conclusion, which most naturally buddeth out of it. 1712 Addison *Spect.* No. 465 P 2 Faith and Morality naturally produce each other. 1760–2 Goldsm. *Cit. W.* xxvii, Poverty naturally begets dependence. 1796 H. Hunter tr. *St.-Pierre's Stud. Nat.* (1799) II. 5 Those eyes whose balls are blue are naturally the softest. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* ii. I. 182 His situation naturally developes in him .. a peculiar class of abilities. 1892 Gardiner *Stud. Hist. Eng.* 14 He naturally chose the latter alternative.

†d. Simply, easily. *Obs. rare* —1.

1655 Mrq. Worcester *Cent. Invent.* c, A Childs force bringeth up..an incredible quantity of water..so naturally, that the work will not be heard even in the next Room.

†**6.** In the natural course of things. *Obs.*

1473 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 100/1 Vf the seid Countes were nowe naturally dede. 1495 *Act* 11 *Hen. VII*, c. 30 § 5 If he so longe hadde naturally lyved. 1589 *Act* 31 *Eliz.* c. 6 § 1 As yf the saide person .. then were naturallie deade. 1607 *Statutes* in *Hist. Wakefield Gram. Sch.* (1892) 60 As tho he were naturallie deade.

†b. Normally, regularly. *Obs. rare* —1.

1526 *Galway Arch.* in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. V. 401 No carpenter nor masson shall not have for his byre ..but ii.*d.* naturallie every daye, with meate and drincke.

†**7.** a. With *born.* (Cf. Natural-born *a.*) *Obs.*

1523 *Act* 14 & 15 *Hen. VIII*, c. 4 § 1 Persons being the kinges subiectes naturally borne within this his realme. 1588 Parke tr. *Mendoza's Hist. China* 383 A man naturally borne in this kingdome.

†b. In respect of birthplace or nationality. *Obs.*

a 1533 Ld. Berners *Gold. Bk. M. Auret.* I. i. A iv b, This excellent baron was naturally of Rome borne in the mounte Celie. 1615 G. Sandys *Trav.* 76 About whom there runne fortie Peichi (so called in that they are naturally Persians).

†**8.** By natural generation. *Obs.*

1568 Grafton *Chron.* II. 695 He was lineally descended, and naturally procreated of the noble stocke and familie of Lancaster. 1620 T. Granger *Div. Logike* 31 So man begetteth man naturallie. 1786 J. Erskine *Hist. Redemption* (1812) 90 He was both Legally and Naturally descended from David.

†**9.** Physically, materially. *Obs.*

1546 Coverdale *Calvin's Sacr.* Pref., Wks. (Parker Soc.) I. 427 The great blindness of them, that knowing .. the immensurable nature of God, would have him really and naturally contained in so small a thing. 1579 Fulke *Heskins' Part.* 220 The wine is yt which was shed out of his side, yt is sacramentally, but not naturally. 1597 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* v. lv. § 5 In that hee is naturally man hee himselfe is created of God.

10. In a realistic or life-like manner.

a 1568 Ascham *Scholem.* II. (Arb.) 155 He doth not expresse the matter liuely and naturally with common speach .., but it is caried and driuen forth artificiallie. 1598 Chapman *Iliad* II. 45 His form did passing naturally Resemble Nestor. 1666 Dryden *Pref. Ann. Mirab.* Wks. (Globe) 40 He describes his Dido well and naturally, in the violence of her passions. 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) IV. 122 The character of Antiphon..is very naturally described.

Naturalness (næ·tiŭrălnés). [-ness.]

†**1.** Natural instinct, affection, or sympathy. *Obs.*

1553 Grimalde *Cicero's Offices* III. (1558) 131 Thys man forgot both godlinesse and naturalnesse that he might obteine the thynge that semed profitable. 1612 Drayton *Poly-olb.* ix. 349 Our naturalness therein be greatly did approve. *a* 1665 Goodwin *Filled w. the Spirit* (1867) 466 There is a kind of naturalness..between the ear of God and the prayers..of such a righteous man.

2. The condition or fact of being natural or in accordance with nature.

1660 Ingelo *Bentiv. & Ur.* II. (1682) 212 This is no argument against the Immortality of the Soul, or the Naturalness of those Desires which we have of it. 1699 Bentley *Phalaris* 140 The very facility and naturalness of every correction will be next to a Demonstration. 1816 Coleridge *Lay Serm.* (Bohn) 372 The naturalness of doing as others do. 1873 Spencer *Stud. Sociol.* vi. (1877) 133 Those connexions..are not necessary, and often have no particular naturalness.

b. Close resemblance *of* a picture, etc. to the object represented.

1669 A. Browne *Ars Pict.* 18 The like Disgrace happened to Zeuxes by the Naturalness of his Grapes. 1695 Dryden *Parall. Poetry & Paint.* Ess. (ed. Ker) II. 123 In the naturalness (if I may so call it) of the eyebrows.

c. The quality of possessing the distinctive features of external natnre.

1841 L. Hunt *Seer* II. (1864) 61 Not that he omitted to expatiate on the extreme naturalness of the scene. *a* 1876 Ht. Martineau *Autobiog.* (1877) I. 184 Except the vine on its back gable there is not an element of naturalness or poetry about it.

3. The quality of being natural in conduct or bearing; unaffectedness.

1656 W. Montague *Accompl. Woman* 111 Naturalnesse has so gentle charms, as none resists, because they arise from innocence. 1824 Miss Mitford *Village* Ser. I. (1863) 85 Her own naturalness of character and simplicity of taste. 1836 T. Hook *G. Gurney* III. 90 There seemed such a perfect naturalness—if I may use the word—about him. 1872 M. Pattison *Ess.* (1889) II. 372 He had room in his affections for the naturalness of the Elizabethan writers, and for the artificial epigram of the French school.

b. With reference to thought, language, etc.

1702 Addison *Dial. Medals* (1726) 84 The naturalness of the thought, and the beauty of the expression. 1815 W. Taylor in *Monthly Rev.* LXXVI. 415 An appropriate talk, a living naturalness, (if we may make such a word,) that give them all a hold on the memory. 1873 Hameraton *Intell. Life* III. ix. 116 The perfect ease and naturalness of his diction.

†**4.** Genuineness, legitimacy. *Obs. rare* —1.

1656 Trapp *Comm.* 2 *Cor.* viii. 8 The germanity, the naturalness, legitimateness opposed to bastardliness.

5. One's natural condition or character.

1850 Lynch *Theoph. Trinal* v. 74 The more hearty and varied our naturalness, the completer do we become. 1893 J. Orr *Chr. View God* v. 205 Sin is the first step of man out of his naturalness.

†**Na·turalty.** *Sc. Obs. rare.* [f. Natural *a.* + -ty.] = Naturality 4.

a 1665 Guthrie in *Wodrow Soc. Sel. Biog.* (1847) II. 73 Tho' there be that..naturalty in us to pity both.

†**Na·turant,** *a. Obs. rare* —1. [ad. med.L. *nātūrant-em*, pres. pple. of *nātūrāre* to create, give existence or specific nature to (used chiefly in the scholastic phrases *natura naturans* and *natura naturata*): see Nature *v.* 2.] Creative, generating.

1635 Heywood *Hierarchy* II. 78 Before our Mindes Eyes let us place..What this great Nature Naturant may be.

†**Na·turate,** *a. Obs. rare.* [ad. med.L. *nātūrāt-us*, pa. pple. of *nātūrāre*: see prec.] Created, endowed with a specific nature. Hence †**Na·turated** *ppl. a.*; †**Na·turately** *adv.*, by creation.

1509 Hawes *Past. Pleas.* xxv. (Percy Soc.) 113 Man upon them hath his dysposycyon, By the naturate power of constellacyon. *Ibid.* xliv. 216 Nature..whyche naturynge hath tought Naturately right naturate to make. 1519 *Interl. Four Elem.* in Hazl. *Dodsley* I. 11 He.. hath ordained and created Me here His minister, called Nature Naturate. 1605 Timme *Quersit.* I. iii. 9 It resteth that somewhat be spoken of nature naturated.

Nature (nēi·tiŭ, nēi·tʃəɹ), *sb.* Also 4–5, 6 *Sc.* natur, 5, 6–7 *Sc.* natour, 6 *Sc.* nateur, natuir. [a. F. *nature* (12th c.), ad. L. *nātūra* birth, constitution, character, course of things, etc., f. *nāt-*, ppl. stem of *nascī* to be born. The native English word is KIND *sb.*]

I. 1. The essential qualities or properties of a thing; the inherent and inseparable combination of properties essentially pertaining to anything and giving it its fundamental character.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 22147 O thinges sere þair naturs [he shall cause] turnd to be in sere figurs. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 19 If I schal more seie Upon the nature of the vice. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 20 The bitter herbe is sa felloun bitter of his nature. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 282 b, Aristotel,..Plinie, and suche other like, haue wrytten of the nature of Plantes, Herbes, Beastes, Metalles and Precious stones. 1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* II. i. 82 The knowledge..depends of the well understanding the nature of the Equinoctiall. *a* 1674 CLARENDON *Surv. Leviath.* (1676) 27 Describing the nature of foul weather. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 62 ¶ 5 The Passion of Love in its Nature has been thought to resemble Fire. 1780 BENTHAM *Princ. Legisl.* xvii. § 15 This influence will depend upon the nature of the motive. 1832 HT. MARTINEAU *Hill & Valley* ix. 136 You have twice had warning of the fleeting nature of riches. 1878 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* 76 The nature of this absorbed matter may be determined by a simple experiment.

† **b.** Degree (of wrong-doing). *Obs. rare* −1.

1642 J. M[ARSH] *Argt. conc. Militia* 22 Delinquents in a high nature against Parliament.

c. Texture as indicative of quality.

1865 J. T. F. TURNER *Slate Quarries* 17 Near the surface it [slate] is softer, looser, and of a red tinge .., but deeper the 'nature' improves.

2. The inherent and innate disposition or character of a person (or animal).

See also GOOD NATURE, ILL NATURE, and SECOND.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 21888 Ilk creatur Efter þe state of his natur, Better his maker knaus þan man. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 205 A wolf he was.., The whos nature prively He hadde in his condicion. *c* 1420 LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 1693 They ..callyd hem goddes .. for the streyngthe & myght of her nature. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xiv. 42 Sic brallaris and bosteris, degenerat fra thair naturis. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 615 The Englishe men (whose natures are not to be faynt hearted, euen at the very ieopardie of death). 1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 227 Choosing rather to vndergo all hazards,..then so long a voyage by sea, to my nature so irksome. 1680 OTWAY *Orphan* II. iv, I must .. Wound his soft Nature, though my own Heart akes for it. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 93 ¶ 4 Men may change their Climate, but they cannot their Nature. 1781 COWPER *Charity* 153 He..Puts off his generous nature; and..puts on the brute. 1833 HT. MARTINEAU *Loom & Lugger* II. ii. 34 My brother has it not in his nature to feel jealousy. 1860 MOZLEY *Univ. Serm.* vii. (1877) 155 Some persons appear to have a nature richer in good than others.

b. The general inherent character or disposition of mankind. Also in phr. *human nature.*

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 140 b, Though ye fall neuer so ofte by impacyency, through ye fraylte of nature. 1551 ROBINSON tr. *More's Utop.* II. (1895) 190 Hereto..our nature is allured and drawen. 1668 DRYDEN *Dram. Poesy* Ess. (ed. Ker) I. 36 A just and lively image of human nature. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 53 ¶ 7 It was not in Nature to command ones Eyes from this Object. 1768 STEARNE *Sent. Journ., Act of Charity*, Nature is shy, and hates to act before spectators. 1835 BROWNING *Paracelsus* IV. 87 One can ne'er keep down Our foolish nature's weakness. 1872 MORLEY *Voltaire* (1886) 3 Human nature, happily for us, ever presses against this system or that.

c. With adjectives, in reference to the different elements of human character.

a 1676 HALE *Prim. Orig. Man.* IV. v. (1677) 332 So much of that in Man that concerns his Animal Nature. 1870 J. H. NEWMAN *Gram. Assent* II. ix. 339 This consciousness, reflection, and action we call our own rational nature. 1878 R. W. DALE *Lect. Preach.* viii. 252 Men have a physical as well as a spiritual nature.

† **d.** Character, capacity; function. *Obs. rare.*

1601 B. JONSON *Ev. Man in Hum.* v. i. 272 (Q.), Which.. I do thus first of all vncase, & appeare in mine owne proper nature, seruant to this gentleman. 1645 *King's Cabinet Opened* in *Sel. Harl. Misc.* (1793) 355 For the French, it was impossible for them to serve her in that nature.

3. With *a* and *pl.* An individual character, disposition, etc., considered as a kind of entity in itself; hence, a thing or person of a particular quality or character.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* V. pr. ii. (1868) 152 Ne þer ne was neuer no nature of resoun þat it ne hadde liberte of fre wille. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 88 The god commandeth the natures That thei to him obeien alle. *c* 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* I. 354 Grauellis dolue in iij naturis varye: In red, & hoor, & blak vnvariable. 1533 ELYOT *Cast. Helthe* (1539) 39 b, The natures hotte & moyst, be leste indamaged. 1587 GOLDING *De Mornay* ii. (1592) 22 Making and creating are referred to natures or substances, and all natures and substances are good. *Ibid.*, Euill is neither a nature nor a substance. 1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* 284 In euery Nature there must be a Patient correspondent and answerable to the agent. 1668 TEMPLE *Let.* Wks. 1720 II. 119 There are some Natures in the World who never can proceed sincerely in Business. 1784 COWPER *Task* V. 481 Roughness in the grain Of British natures. 1817 SHELLEY *Rev. Islam* X. vi, So there Strange natures made a brotherhood of ill. 1879 FARRAR *St. Paul* (1883) 172 The unquestioning truthfulness of a sunny nature.

collect. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* V. 834 Dost thou count .. all Angelic Nature joined in one, Equal to him begotten Son.

b. *Artillery.* A class or size of guns or shot.

1813 LD. CATHCART in *Examiner* 31 May 342/2 He had an immense quantity of ordnance, of twelve-pounders, and larger natures. 1828 J. M. SPEARMAN *Brit. Gunner* (ed. 2) 130 One Hundred of each Nature of Case-Shot. 1884 *Mil. Engin.* I. II. 61 Lubricators, secured outside for 40-prs., and choked inside the cartridges for lower natures.

4. In various phrases: **a.** *Of* (a certain) *nature.*

In first quot. perhaps in sense of 'origin'.

c 1440 *Generydes* 2656 'We are broderen', quod he, 'of on nature'. *c* 1450 tr. *De Imitatione* II. vii. 47 Thy beloued is of suche nature þat he wol admitte no straunger. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 204 b, He was a man of verey milde nature. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* v. ii. 377 Your capacitie Is of that nature, that to your huge stoore, Wise things seeme foolish. 1625 BURGES *Pers. Tithes* 29 Sacriledge, and many other sinnes of a high nature. 1662 STILLINGFL. *Orig. Sacræ* III. iv. § 10 Who may in a matter of this nature ..be the more credited. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 1 ¶ 1 With other Particulars of the like Nature. 1765 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* I. i. 21 A plan of this nature. 1845 M. PATTISON *Ess.* (1889) I. 23 To bring a charge .. of such a nature as should fall within this penalty. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) V. 189 The most barren logical abstraction is of a higher nature than number and figure.

b. *Of* or *in the nature of.*

1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV*, IV. ii. 89 A Peace is of the nature of a Conquest. 1669 R. MONTAGU in *Bucclench MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 457 A rich gold campane, which is in the nature of a fringe. 1736 BUTLER *Anal.* Introd., Wks. 1874 I. 1 That the slightest possible presumption is of the nature of a probability, appears from hence. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* Ded., Your desires are to me in the nature of commands. 1817 W. SELWYN *Law Nisi Prius* (ed. 4) II. 1085 A *Quo warranto* being in the nature of a writ of right. 1880 GEIKIE *Phys. Geog.* iv. 217 The earthquake is really of the nature of a wave.

† **c.** Similarly *in nature of. Obs.*

1614 SELDEN *Titles Hon.* II. iv. 225 The Heriot was, what the Eorle or Thane paid his Lord..in nature of a Relief. 1665 MANLEY *Grotius' Low C. Wars* 497 A Maid, living .. with her Sisters, to whom she was in nature of a Servant.

d. *In the nature of things, of the case.*

1584 R. SCOT *Discov. Witches.* III. xix. (1886) 56 It were follie to staie overlong in the confutation of that, which is not in the nature of things. 1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* 523 There are in the nature of things certaine Sympathies and Antipathies. 1790 PALEY *Horæ Paul.* Rom. ii. 13 It is, in the nature of the case, probable that [etc.]. 1854 MACAULAY *Biog.* (1860) 138 It was not in the nature of things that popularity such as he..enjoyed should be permanent.

5. *By* (earlier † *of*, † *on*) *nature*, in virtue of the very character or essence of the thing or person.

In some cases with suggestion of senses 9 and 11.

c 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 14 For wyne of nature makithe hertes lyghte. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xlix. 36 Eftir respyt To wirk dispyt Moir appetyt He hes of natour. 1526 TINDALE *Gal.* ii. 15 We which are Jewes by nature and not synners off the gentyls. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* IV. xxix. 152 The gulfe Saxonique of nature beset and enuironed with high mountaines. 1615 W. LAWSON *Country Housew. Gard.* (1626) 34 The Oke by nature broad. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* V. 527 He .. ordaind thy will By nature free, not over-rul'd by Fate. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* IV. 417 In a Place, by Nature close, they build A narrow Flooring. 1766 GOLDSM. *Vic. W.* I, I was, by nature, an admirer of happy human faces. 1823 BYRON *Juan* XV. lii, Adeline was liberal by nature. 1853 J. H. NEWMAN *Hist. Sk.* (1873) II. I. iii. 116 Asia Minor .. was by nature one of the most beautiful..of countries.

II. 6. The vital or physical powers *of* man; (a person's) physical strength or constitution (*obs.*); the strength or substance *of* a thing.

c 1250 *Kent. Serm.* in *O.E. Misc.* 35 Þe nature of Man is of greater strengþe and of greater hete ine þo age. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S. T. S.) 282 Medicinaris and philosophouris gevis the gold..in medicyne to folk that are debilitez in thair nature. 1508 DUNBAR *Tua Mariit Wemen* 174 He has bene lychour so lang qubill lost is his natur. 1592 WEST 1*st Pt. Symbol.* § 102 b, Any such corrasiue, sharpe or eager medicine..as the said H. shal think his nature is vnable to suffer. 1886 *Chesh. Gloss.* s.v., Anything which is beginning to deteriorate is said to have lost its nature. 1890 *Nature* 11 Dec. 129 The fungus .. as it goes destroys the 'nature' of the wood.

b. With *some, no*, etc. Common in *dial.* use.

1597 BACON *Ess.* Ep. Ded., There mought be as great a vanitie in..withdrawing mens conceites (except they bee of some nature) from the world. 1879 MISS JACKSON *Shropsh. Word-bk.* s.v., [The meat] was 'so overdone, there seemed to be no nature left in it'. 1886 *Chesh. Gloss.* s.v., Land which has become impoverished has no nature in it. 1889 *Reports Provinc.* (E. D. D.), 'Her'd got no natur in her', speaking of a girl who was very weak.

† **7. a.** Semen. **b.** The menses. *Obs.*

c 1386 CHAUCER *Pars. T.* ¶ 503 Vnkyndely synne, by which man or womman shedeth her nature. 1527 ANDREW *Brunswyke's Distyll. Waters* I vj, Yf a person weneth that his nature wyl fall betwene the flesshe and the skynne. 1575 TURBERV. *Venerie* lxvi. 186 Cut out hir gutte whiche holdeth hir spreame or nature. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 236 The true sign of conception is, when their nature (that is) the fluent humour out of their secrets ceaseth for a moneth, or two, or three.

† **8.** The female pudendum, esp. that of a mare.

1481 CAXTON *Myrr.* III. xiii. 162 No persone myght haue none, but yf he wente and fette it at the nature of a woman. 1569 R. ANDROSE tr. *Alexis' Secr.* IV. III. 46 Take the nature of a female Hare made into pouder. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 235 Therewithal touch the nature of the mare in her purgation. 1622 T. SCOTT *News fr. Parnassus* 33 If that great Lady had not made a vow of perpetuall chastity and her nature..had not been stytched up. 1750 ELLIS *Mod. Husb.* III. 175 (E. D. S.).

III. 9. The inherent dominating power or impulse (in men or animals) by which action or character is determined, directed, or controlled. (Sometimes personified.)

c 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 11 And smale fowles maken melodye, .. (So priketh hem nature in hir corages). *a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* (1868) 4 Alle faders and moders after good nature aught to teche her children to leue alle wrong and euelle waies. 1484 CAXTON *Fables of Æsop* I. vii, No man is chaunged by nature, but of an euyll man maye wel yssue and come a wers than hymself. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xlvi. 52 To luve eik natur gaif thame inclynnyng. 1551 ROBINSON tr. *More's Utop.* II. (1895) 238 As though nature had not set sufficient loue betwene man and man. 1614 LATHAM *Falconry* (1633) 80 Those phisicall appliments, by which, that skilfull Faulconer (Dame Nature) hath taught her to worke her owne welfare. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VIII. 506 Nature her self .. Wrought in her so, that seeing me, she turn'd. 1729 BUTLER *Serm.* Wks. 1874 II. 22 By nature is often meant no more than some principle in man. 1793 COWPER *Beau's Reply* ii, 'Twas Nature, sir, whose strong behest Impelled me to the deed. 1823 BYRON *Juan* XV. lii, But nature's nature, and has more caprices Than I have time, or will, to take to pieces. 1864 LOWELL *Fireside Trav.* 261 The driving-wheels of all powerful nature are in the back of the head.

b. Contrasted with *grace.*

c 1450 tr. *De Imitatione* III. lix. 138 Nature sekiþ to haue curiose þinges & feire þinges, .. but grace delitiþ in simple þinges. 1685 BAXTER *Paraphr. N. T.* Matt. v. 46–8 So far as any thing of God is in them, whether it be Nature or Grace. *a* 1696 P. HENRY in *M. Henry's Wks.* (1853) II. 737/2 Nature is contented with little, grace with less. 1779 J. DUCHÉ *Disc.* (1790) II. i. 14 We must first feel the poverty of nature before we can desire the riches of Grace.

c. *Law of Nature*: (see LAW *sb.*1 9 c). *Light of Nature*: (see LIGHT *sb.* 6 b).

d. *Against nature*, contrary to what nature prompts, unnatural, immoral, vicious. ? *Obs.*

1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* ix. 50 Off syn als aganis the Haly Spreit, .. and syn aganis nateur. 1611 BIBLE *Rom.* i. 26 Euen their women did change the naturall vse into that which is against nature. *a* 1614 DONNE *Biathanatos* (1644) 39 Al sinne is very truely said to be against nature...S. Augustine sayes, Every vice, as it is vice, is against nature. 1662 J. DAVIES tr. *Olearius' Voy. Ambass.* 81 They are wholly given up to all licentiousness, even to sins against Nature.

e. Natural feeling or affection. Now *dial.*

1605 SHAKS. *Mach.* I. v. 46 Stop vp th' accesse, and passage to Remorse, That no compunctious visitings of Nature Shake my fell purpose. 1703 POPE *Thebais* 332 Have we not seen..The murd'ring son..Thro' violated nature force his way..? *a* 1718 PENN *Maxims* Wks. 1726 I. 827, I shew little Duty or Nature to my Parents. *a* 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia* s.v., A simple old woman, as a reason for loving one of her daughters more than the others, said 'she had more nature in her'. 1841 C. H. HARTSHORNE *Salopia Antiqua* 514 There's often more nature in people of that sort, than in..their betters.

f. A natural action or proceeding. *rare.*

1817 CHALMERS *Astron. Disc.* v. (1852) 126 It was nature in the shepherd to leave the ninety and nine of his flock.. alone in the wilderness.

10. The inherent power or force by which the physical and mental activities of man are sustained. (Sometimes personified.)

c 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) xxix. 293 The most part of hem dyen with outen Syknesse, whan nature faylethe hem for elde. 1541 R. COPLAND *Guydon's Quest. Chirurg.* M ij b, For [by blood-letting] nature dyspensed ouer all the body is lyghtned. 1602 SHAKS *Ham.* I. iii. 11 For nature cressant does not grow alone, In thewes and Bulke. 1685 BOYLE *Eng. Notion Nat.* 28 As when Physicians say, that Nature is strong, or weak, or spent. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* I. 1 Tir'd nature's sweet restorer, balmy sleep! 1836 A. COMBE *Physiol. Digest.* (1842) 238 Nature is more willing to do her part than we are to do ours.

b. The vital functions as requiring to be supported by nourishment.

c 1460 FORTESCUE *Abs. & Lim. Mon.* iii. (1885) 115 Thai bith welthe, and haue all thinges nescessarie to the sustenance of nature. *a* 1658 WALLER *Panegyric to Protector* xiii, Our little world..Of her own growth hath all that nature craves. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* V. 452 When with meats & drinks they had suffic'd Not burd'nd Nature. 1743 BULKELEY & CUMMINS *Voy. S. Seas* 169 We have now nothing but a little water to support Nature. 1807 PIKE *Sources Mississ.* (1810) II. 182, I returned hungry..and had only snow to supply the calls of nature. 1819 SHELLEY *Cenci* II. ii. 16 If you..were reduced at once..To that which nature doth indeed require? 1842 BORROW *Bible in Spain* xl, The prison allowance will not support nature.

c. With reference to other physical requirements.

a 1540 BARNES *Wks.* (1573) 345/2 The night beefore..was hee compelled by nature to goe to the preuy. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 123 His servant..diverted a little out of the way to perform the work of nature. 1701 W. WOTTON *Hist. Rome* 328 He withdrew from the Company to ease Nature. 1747 CHESTERF. *Lett.* cxxxiii. (1792) I. 359 That small portion of [time], which the calls of nature obliged him to pass in the necessary-house.

IV. 11. The creative and regulative physical power which is conceived of as operating in the material world and as the immediate cause of all its phenomena.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 748 Quo formed þe þy fayre fygure?..Þy beaute com neuer of nature. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 4010 Polexena..was..Alse noble for þe nonest as natur cold deuyse. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* IX. 10 Zepherus ..comfort has, be wyrking off natour, All fructuous thing in till the erd. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 234 b, Of all the membres of the body, nature hath made the eye moost monable. 1551 T. WILSON *Logike* (1580) 5 This Table sheweth the order of euery substance and kind, as thei are appointed by Nature. 1594 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* II. 557 That common saying, that God and Nature the minister of God doe nothing without cause. 1603 R. JOHNSON *Kingd. & Commw.* 30 All the Ilands which nature hath scatred in these seas. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 231 Where Nature shall provide Green Grass, and fat'ning

Clover for their Fare. 1738 SWIFT *Pol. Conversat.* 51 Oh! the wonderful Works of Nature; That a black Hen should have a white Egg! 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) VI. 260 The weapon with which Nature has armed this animal. 1832 AUSTIN *Jurispr.* (1879) I. v. 213 He attributes the uniformity of succession and coexistence to laws set by nature. 1856 OLMSTED *Slave States* 69 To take advantage of nature's engineering.

b. More or less definitely personified as a female being. (Usu. with capital.)

c 1374 CHAUCER *Anel. & Arc.* 80 Nature had grete ioy her to behelde. 1412–20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* I. v, Both two in one So ioyned..By the emperesse that called is Nature. *c* 1450 HOLLAND *Howlat* 32 Thir sanoruss seidis War nurist be dame Natur. 1481 CAXTON *Myrr.* I. xiv. 43 Without nature may nothinge growe, and by her haue alle thinges created lyf. 1545 RAYNOLDE *Birth Mankynde* (1564) 27 Wherefore prudent Lady nature full wisely hath prouided ..a continuall course and resort of blood. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 14 Flowres which only Dame Nature trauels with. 1718 WATTS *Hymn* i, Nature with open volume stands, To spread her Maker's praise abroad. 1784 COWPER *Task* III. 600 Some note of Nature's music from his lips. 1838 *Penny Cycl.* X. 252/2 Nature with her burning sun, her stilled and pent-up wind. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. xxvii. 205 In the application of her own principles, Nature often transcends the human imagination.

c. Contrasted with medical skill or treatment in the cure of wounds or diseases.

1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 8/2 We recommende such thinges vnto Nature, and followe her instructions. 1658 A. FOX *Würtz' Surg.* I. viii. 33 If Wounds in the dressing be abused..what can be expected, but Natures unwillingness and refractoriness. 1725 N. ROBINSON *Th. Physick* 193 The Physician is Nature's profess'd Servant. 1795 BURKE *Corr.* (1844) IV. 290 Nature, in desperate diseases, frequently does most when she is left entirely to herself.

d. Contrasted with *art*: (see ART *sb.* 2). Also, fidelity or close adherence to nature; naturalness.

1704 POPE *Disc. Past. Poetry* § 8 Theocritus excels all others in nature and simplicity. 1762–71 H. WALPOLE *Vertue's Anecd. Painting* (1786) I. 226 The colouring of the heads clear, and with great nature. 1779–81 JOHNSON *L. P., Pope* Wks. IV. 142 Nature being, in this sense, only the best effect of art. 1826 SCOTT *Woodst.* xxxii, They will do it with more nature and effect, if they believe they are swearing truth.

12. In various phrases:

a. *Against*, or *contrary to, nature.*

c 1420 LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 100 Thys Eolus hath oft, Made me to retourne my course agayn nature. *c* 1440 *Alph. Tales* 157 Nero said vnto þaim; 'Make ye me to be with childe'..And þai answerd agayn & said þat it was not possible, þat was contrarie vnto natur. 1508 KENNEDIE *Flyting w. Dunbar* 305 It war aganis bayth natur and gud ressoun, That Dewlbeiris bairnis were trew. 1526 TINDALE *Rom.* xi. 24 Yf thou waste..graffed contrary to nature in a true olyve tree. 1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* II. iv. 88 It finally in the time of Summer overfloweth Egypt, which seemeth against nature.

b. *Debt of nature*, etc.: (see DEBT *sb.* 4 b).

c. *Course of nature*: (see COURSE *sb.* 19).

c 1511 *1st Eng. Bk. Amer.* (Arb.) Introd. 34/1 There is nomore than one in all ye cours of nature. 1581 MULCASTER *Positions* vi. (1887) 44 Olde age, which though it come by course, and commaundement of nature [etc.]. 1613 SALKELD *Treat. Angels* 89 A miracle..being out of the common course of nature, beyond or above it, doth cause admiration. *a* 1676 HALE *Prim. Orig. Man.* (1677) 305 Touching the production of Animals,..they are in the ordinary course of Nature of two kinds. 1736 BUTLER *Anal.* I. ii. Wks. 1874 I. 40 The whole course of nature is a present instance of his exercising that government over us. 1771 SMOLLETT *Humph. Cl.* (1815) 219 He cannot be supposed to live much longer, according to the course of nature. 1826 WHATELY *Logic* (1836) 351 According to him, there is no such thing as a Course of Nature.

d. *Law(s) of Nature*: (see LAW *sb.*[1] 17).

e. *In nature*, in the actual basis of things, in real fact.

1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* II. xxiii. § 49 There are in Nature certain Fountains of Justice, whence all ciuile Lawes are derived but as streams. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VI. 442 [To] eqnal what between us made the odds, In Nature none. 1672 PETTY *Pol. Anat.* (1691) 61 What other Foundation of Truth it had in Nature, I know not. 1873 HAMERTON *Intell. Life* VIII. ii. 288 There is really, in nature, such a thing as high life.

13. The material world, or its collective objects and phenomena, esp. those with which man is most directly in contact; freq. the features and products of the earth itself, as contrasted with those of human civilization.

1662 STILLINGFL. *Orig. Sacræ* III. ii. § 17 According to the Atomicall principles, no rationall account can be given of those effects which are seen in nature. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VIII. 153 Such vast room in Nature unpossest By living Soule. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 450 Surveying Nature with too nice a view. 1781 COWPER *Hope* 245 To enjoy cool nature in a country seat. *Ibid.* 740 Unconscious nature,.. Rocks, groves, and streams. 1820 W. IRVING *Sketch Bk.* II. 32 We derive a great portion of our pleasures from the mere beauties of nature. 1840 DICKENS *Barn. Rudge* iv, Nature was not so far removed or hard to get at, as in these days. 1888 BRYCE *Amer. Commw.* III. civ. 497 They lead a solitary life in the midst of a vast nature.

b. In wider sense: (see quots.).

1862 *Edin. Rev.* CXVI. 381 'Nature' is being used in the narrow sense of physical nature... But these selves of ours do belong to 'Nature'. 1873 DAWSON *Earth & Man* xiv. 343 Holding nature to represent the whole cosmos, and to include both the physical and the spiritual.

c. *In nature*, anywhere; at all. (Used as an intensive with superlatives and negatives.)

1661 WOOD *Life* 3 May, All seniors..did look upon him, as the most impudent fellow in nature. 1673 DRYDEN *Marr. à la Mode* I, With all this, she's the greatest gossip in Nature. 1721 CIBBER *Lady's Last Stake* IV, And what Effect had that? O! none in Nature! 1770 FOOTE *Lame Lover* I. Wks. 1799 II. 63 An engagement that can't in nature be missed. 1848 LOWELL *Biglow P.* Ser. I. ii, It.. is one of the curusest things in nater.

14. *The* or *a state of nature*: (*a*) the moral state natural to man, as opposed to a state of grace; (*b*) the condition of man before the foundation of organized society; (*c*) an uncultivated or undomesticated condition; (*d*) physical nakedness.

a 1667 SOUTH *Serm.* (1697) I. 9 The Difference between a state of Nature, and a state of Grace. 1689 LOCKE *Govt.* II. ii. P 6 The state of Nature has a Law of Nature to govern it. 1722 WOLLASTON *Relig. Nat.* vii. 152 He who is a member of a society in other respects retains his natural liberty, is still as it were in a state of nature. 1738 SWIFT *Pol. Conversat.* Introd. 58 Quadrille in particular bears some Resemblance to a State of Nature. 1817 J. BRADBURY *Trav. Amer.* 326 It will perhaps be found that all countries in a state of nature are liable to this disease. 1833 *Penny Cycl.* I. 184/1 The true civet..is found in a state of nature in most parts of Africa. 1864 PUSEY *Lect. Daniel* ix. 561 It is man's own fault, if..he remain in, or apostatise into, a state of nature.

†**b.** *In nature*, in a natural condition; unmanufactured. *Obs. rare*[−1].

1719 W. WOOD *Surv. Trade* 237 Draw-backs upon Goods Exported, in nature as Imported.

c. A malleable state (of iron).

1791 BEDDOES in *Phil. Trans.* LXXXI. 174 It [the pig iron] approaches more and more towards nature [malleable iron]. 1895 PINNOCK *Black Country Ann.* (E. D. D.), My iron's just comin' to natur'.

V. 15. *attrib.* and *Comb.* **a.** Attrib., chiefly in sense 'of, belonging or relating to nature', as *nature-cure, -force, -kingdom, -myth, -mythology, -philosophy, -power, -religion, -worship*; **nature-god**, one of the powers or phenomena of nature personified as a god; so **nature-being, -deity**; **nature-people**, people in a low or primitive stage of culture; **nature-spirit**, a spirit supposed to reside in some natural element or object.

1877 tr. *Tiele's Hist. Relig.* 23 All the spirits which they worship..are *nature-beings of more or less might. 1876 LOWELL *Among my Bks.* Ser. II. 249 His system of a *nature-cure, first professed by Dr. Jean Jaques and continued by Cowper. 1875 *Encycl. Brit.* II. 56/2 One of the great *nature-deities, such as Heaven or Sun, is raised to this royal pre-eminence. 1876 GLADSTONE *Homeric Synch.* 214 His ideas..separate so broadly between human beings and the *Nature-forces. 1871 TYLOR *Prim. Cult.* (1903) II. 255 The great *Nature-gods are huge in strength and far-reaching in influence. 1865 *Fam. Treas.* 412 In the spiritual kingdom, as in the great *nature-kingdoms. 1871 TYLOR *Prim. Cult.* (1903) I. 284 Those most beautiful of poetic fictions, to which may be given the title of *Nature-Myths. 1895 A. NUTT in *K. Meyer's Voy. Bran* I. 179 During the sway of the organised *nature-mythology. 1877 tr. *Tiele's Hist. Relig.* 24 The worship of spirits..and the doctrine of immortality are not developed any further among the Finns than among the *Nature-peoples. 1855 BRIMLEY *Ess.* 23 A sentimental *nature-philosophy and a pantheistical worship. 1865 GLADSTONE *Farew. Addr. Edinb. Univ.* 22 The absorption of Deity into mere *nature-power. 1877 tr. *Tiele's Hist. Relig.* 6 A description of the so-called *nature-religions..is excluded from our design. 1871 TYLOR *Prim. Cult.* (1903) II. 205 Here we must seek to realize to the utmost the definition of the *Nature-Spirits. 1869 J. MARTINEAU *Ess.* II. 197 The sublime neutrality of our modern *nature-worship. 1878 MACLEAR *Celts* ii. 28 Nature-worship, including the adoration of fountains and streams.

b. *Sc.* Attrib., passing into adj. = 'natural'; in later use only with reference to natural products, or to land producing these naturally (see Jamieson 1825, s.v.).

1568 SKEYNE *The Pest* (1860) 14 Quhilk..testifeis strenthe of nature helth. 1645 RUTHERFORD *Tryal & Tri. Faith* (1845) 178 Blood-bonds, nature-relations are mighty. 1762 BP. FORBES *Jrnl.* (1886) 145 The rapid Spey forms a pleasant Bottom, rich with Corns and nature-Grass. ?1811 W. AITON *Agric. Surv. Ayrsh.* 291 (Jam.), When they see a field carpeted with rich grasses, or those that grow luxuriant, they say that field produces nature grasses.

c. Instrumental, as *nature-favoured, -graced, -hidden, -taught*; objective, as *nature-drowning, -painting, -shaking*; parasynthetic, as *nature-hearted*; similative, as *nature-like, -true.*

1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. i. *Eden* 197 The wreakfull *nature-drowning Flood Spar'd not this beauteous place. 1885 *Fortn. Waggonette* 78 Two such *nature-favoured sons of Adam. *a* 1618 SYLVESTER *Maiden's Blush* 73 Joseph.., Whome, *Nature-grac't, the Graces nurtur'd fine In liberall Arts. 1839–48 BAILEY *Festus* XX. 234 Kind *nature-hearted bards. 1891 ATKINSON *Last of Giant-Killers* 224 Such a self concealing as well as *nature-hidden place. 1530 PALSGR. 319/1 *Naturlyke, *naif, genial, naturel.* 1748 THOMSON *Cast. Indol.* I. lvii, Of the fine stores he nothing would impart, Which or boon nature gave, or *nature-painting art. 1882 GROSART *Spenser's Wks.* III. p. liii, This..widens..the Nature-painting poetry of our language. 1606 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iv. I. *Trophies* 674 Whose Hell-raking, *Nature-shaking Spell. 1591 *Ibid.* I. iii. 379 O learned (*Nature-taught) Arithmetician! 1850 MRS. BROWNING *Poems* I. 321 Even like my blossoms, if as *nature-true, Though not as precious.

†**Na·ture,** *v.*[1] *Obs.* [ad. OF. *naturer* (Godef.), or med.L. *nātūrāre*, f. *nātūra* NATURE *sb.*]

1. *trans.* To invest with a particular natnre.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 97 He which natureth every kinde, The myhti god.

2. *intr.* in pres. pple. or ppl. a. *naturing* [after med.L. *natura naturans*]: Creative, and giving to each thing its specific nature.

1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* XXXIX. (Percy Soc.) 201 Tyll that dame Nature naturing had made All thinge to grow to theyr fortitude. 1519 *Interl. Four Elem.* in Hazl. *Dodsley* I. 11 The Perfection and First Cause of every thing, I mean that only high Nature naturing. 1605 TIMME *Quersit.* I. ii. 5 Aristotle himselfe..calleth it *naturam naturantem*, naturing nature. 1694 R. BURTHOGGE *Reason* 118 The unwary Expression of some.. Theologizing Philosophers, who Denominated God Nature Naturing.

Na·ture, *v.*[2] *rare.* [f. NATURE *sb.*] *trans.* **a.** To endow with a (new) nature. **b.** To fix in one's nature, to make natural.

1857 J. PULSFORD *Quiet Hours* Ser. I. 39 It is granted to us fallen men, to be born and natured anew, from the Eternal Word. 1890 J. H. STIRLING *Gifford Lect.* V. 89 The patrimonial use and wont, and established manners, so to speak, natured in them.

Natured (nē·tiŭd), *ppl. a.* [f. NATURE *sb.* + -ED[2].] Having a nature or disposition (of a specified kind).

Chiefly used in compounds, as GOOD-, ILL-NATURED, etc.

1577 [see GOOD-NATURED]. 1589 R. ROBINSON *Gold. Mirr.* (1851) 53 With hounied months, yet natur'd like the waspe. 1605 ROWLANDS *Hell's Broke Loose* 27 What is it from the Cocatrice doth passe, But such a natur'd Serpent as him selfe? 1649 BLITHE *Eng. Improv. Impr.* (1653) 36 To all sorts of such natured Lands, thou mayst apply them. 1720 *Humourist* 16 As good a natur'd civil Person as I am, the Spleen is now and then too hard for me. 1836 *Tait's Mag.* III. 163 [Your heart] is natured somewhat after the fashion of the lava that flows from an old mountain. 1879 SPENCER *Data Ethics* xiv. 256 Others, similarly natured, will not permit him in any large measure to do this.

‖ **Naturel** (natiŭrę̇l), *sb.* [F., sb. use of the adj.: see next.] Natural character or disposition.

1856 EMERSON *Eng. Traits, Result*, The contumacious sharp-tongued energy of English *naturel*. 1870 — *Soc. & Sol.* VI. 126 What possesses interest for us is the *naturel* of each, his constitutional excellence.

†**Naturel,** *a. Obs.* Also 4–5 **-ell**, 5 **-ele**, **-elle**, **-eel**, **-ile**, **-ill**. [a. F. *naturel* (12th c.), ad. L. *nātūrāl-is* NATURAL *a.*] = NATURAL *a.*, in various senses. (Common in Chaucer, Gower, and Caxton.)

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 9449 Þe laghes bath he þan for-lete Bath naturel and positif. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Compl. Mars* 122 A naturel day in derk I let her duel. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) III. 65 Þis naturel philosofer and dyuynour serchede kynde and vertues of þynges. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 6770 All the nobill anon,—þo naturill brether,—Wonderfully wroght with wepyn in hond. *c* 1400 tr. *Secreta Secret., Gov. Lordsh.* 66 To perfitly knowe alle manere of Naturels þinges. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* IX. xl. 406 Ye haue done to vs but as a naturel Knyghte ought to doo. 1497 BP. ALCOCK *Mons Perfect.* E ij, Our moost naturell Souerayne lorde Henry the seuenth.

†**Na·tureless,** *a. Obs. rare.* [f. NATURE *sb.* + -LESS.] **a.** Not having a vital nature. **b.** Not in accordance with nature; unnatural.

1548 GESTE *Pr. Masse* B iv, What semblance..is ther betwyxte the natureles bread and wyne, and christes body and bloud? 1644 MILTON *Bucer on Div.* Wks. 1851 IV. 294 Under a hondage not of Gods constraining with a natureles constraint..but laid upon us imperiously.

†**Naturelly,** *adv. Obs.* Also 3 **nature(l)liche**, 4 **naturely**. [f. NATUREL *a.* + -LY[2], after OF. *naturelment.*]

1. Naturally; by nature.

c 1250 *Kent. Serm.* in *O. E. Misc.* 30 Þet wyn þat is naturelliche hot ine him-selue. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* V. pr. ii. (1868) 152 Euery þing þat may naturely vsen resoun. *c* 1386 — *Frankl. T.* 324 Right so the see desireth naturelly To folwen hire. 1413 *Pilgr. Sowle* (CAXTON 1483) V. xiv. 107 Euery thyng that werketh naturelly enduceth the fourme of it selues. 1482 *Monk of Evesham* 59 Wemen..naturelly schuld be more schamfull thenne other.

2. Carnally. *rare*[−1].

1484 CAXTON *Fables of Æsop* VI. iv, Thow arte an inceste & lechour For thow knowest naturelly both thy moder and thy doughter.

†**Na·turely,** *a. Obs. rare*[−1]. Natural.

c 1511 *1st Eng. Bk. Amer.* (Arb.) 33 They saye yat mans fleyshe is good & naturly to ete rawe.

Nature-printing. [Cf. G. *natur(selbst)-druck.*] The method or process of producing a print of a natnral object, *esp.* a leaf, by means of the mark made by the object itself, under pressure, on a prepared plate. So **Nature-print** *v.* (also in *transf.* use); **Nature-printed** *ppl. a.*; **Nature-print** *sb.*, an impression obtained in this way.

1855 BRADBURY in *Proc. Roy. Inst. Gt. Brit.* II. 106 The Art of Nature-Printing is a method of producing impressions of plants and other natural objects, in a manner so truthful that only a close inspection reveals the fact of their being copies. 1855 T. MOORE (*title*) The Ferns of Great Britain...Nature printed by Henry Bradbury. 1859 JOHNSTONE & CROALL (*title*) Nature-Printed British Seaweeds. 1883 H. DRUMMOND *Nat. Law in Spir. W.* (1884) 259 As if the actual reeds of its native jungle had nature-printed themselves on its hide.

†**Na·turer.** *Obs. rare*[−1]. [f. NATURE *v.*[1] + -ER[1].] One who gives a thing its nature.

1587 GOLDING *De Mornay* XIV. (1617) 227 Man can skill to discerne the mortall naturer from the immortall.

†**Naturesse.** *Obs.* [a. OF. *naturesse* (Godef.): see NATURE *sb.* and -ESS[2].] Natural affection or feeling; a generous act.

?*a* 1412 LYDGATE *Two Merch.* 771 His herte was meevyd

of oolde naturesse To save his freend. 1439 in *Ep. Acad. Oxon.* (1898) I. 184 Your naturesses and benevolence shold enjoy with us of the fortheraunce of the sayde Universite. *c* 1470 HARDING *Chron.* XXXI. vi, With wordes peteous, and mothers naturesse.

†**Natu·rian.** *Obs.* [f. NATURE *sb.* + -IAN, or ad. obs. F. *naturien* (Godef.).] A student of nature, a natural philosopher; also, a believer in nature as contrasted with divine providence.

1600 W. WATSON *Decacordon* (1602) 358 Amongst Philosophers Aristotle was wise, profound; Plato humane, diuine; Pythagoras hot, precise; and all sound exquisite naturians. *Ibid.* 341. 1621 S. WARD *Life of Faith* 83 Great ..aduantages hath a Christian by virtue of his Faith, aboue any Naturian or Politique by all his reason. 1633 T. ADAMS *Exp. 2 Peter* ii. 5 There is no judgment comes, but naturians will find out other causes for it than God.

So †**Natu·rien.** *Obs. rare.*

1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 46 Riht so of the Naturiens Upon the Sterres from above His weie he secheth unto love. *Ibid.* 106 And thus seith the naturien Which is an Astronomien.

Naturile, -ill, variants of NATUREL *a. Obs.*

Naturism (nē·tiŭriz'm). [f. NATURE *sb.* + -ISM, or ad. F. *naturisme.*]

1. Naturalism in regard to religion.

1847 O. BROWNSON *Wks.* V. 531 The rejection of.. grace, and the assertion, if the word may be permitted us, of mere naturism. *Ibid.* 534 Infidelity, irreligion, naturism.

2. Nature-worship.

1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XX. 367/1 According to Pfleiderer the original religion must have been a kind of indistinct, chaotic naturism. 1891 tr. *De la Saussaye's Man. Sci. Relig.* xiii. 103 Better with Reville to separate worship of nature (which he calls naturism) from animism.

3. *Med.* The attribution of everything to the workings of nature.

a 1890 DUNGLISON *Med. Dict.*

Naturist (nē·tiŭrist). [f. NATURE *sb.* + -IST; cf. F. *naturiste.*] An adherent or follower of, or believer in, nature, in various applications.

1685 BOYLE *Enq. Notion Nat.* 34 Those that admit and applaud the Vulgar Notion of Nature: whom .. I shall hereafter many times call Naturists. 1851 DUNGLISON *Med. Dict., Naturist,* a physician who scrupulously investigates, interprets and follows the indications presented by nature in the treatment of disease. 1892 *Harper's Mag.* LXXXIV. 803/1 Words that must have gone hard sometimes with the 'naturist' he happened to be praising. 1900 *Nation* (N. Y.) 19 July 52/3 Hence, realists, naturalists, and 'naturists', and decadents,..and a host of other ephemeridae.

Natura·stic, *a. rare.* [f. prec. + -IC.] Pertaining to, or connected with, nature. Hence **Natura·stically** *adv.,* in a way that is suggestive of nature.

1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XX. 366/2 Ethical religions do not exclude the naturistic elements altogether. 1895 *Pall Mall Mag.* Dec. 650/1 If Mrs. Patrick Campbell wants to talk naturally (not to say naturistically) on the stage.

†**Natu·rity.** *Obs. rare* —1. [irreg. f. NATURE + -ITY.] The creative power underlying nature.

1646 Sir T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* 239 Which .. cannot be allowed, except we impute that unto the first cause, which we impose not on the second; or what we deny unto nature, we impute unto Naturity it self.

Naturize (nē·tiŭrəiz), *v. rare.* [f. NATURE *sb.* + -IZE. Cf. NATURE *v.*] *trans.* To invest with a specific nature. Hence **Na·turized** *ppl. a.*

1607 J. DAVIES *Summa Totalis* A 4[b], Which call God, Nature, naturizing all. 1610 B. JONSON *Alch.* II. i, 'Tis the secret Of nature naturiz'd 'gainst all infections. 1880 *Trans. R. Hist. Soc.* VIII. 347 Motion, rest, will, and reason were thus 'naturized nature' (*natura naturata*).

Natyf, -yfe, -yff, -yve, obs. ff. NATIVE.

Natyvyte, -tie, obs. forms of NATIVITY.

†**Nau·cify,** *v. Obs.* —[o] [ad. L. *nauci facĕre* (Plautus), f. *naucum* a trifling thing.] (See quot.)

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr., Naucifie,* to set nought by, to disesteem.

Nau·crar: see next (quot. 1847).

Naucrary (nǫ·krări). Also nauk-. *Greek Antiq.* [ad. Gr. *ναυκρᾱρία,* f. *ναύκρᾱρος* (in Hesychius *ναύκλᾱρος*), usually supposed to be a var. of *ναύκληρος,* but the etym. and original meaning are doubtful.] One of the smaller political divisions of the Athenian people.

1836 THIRLWALL *Greece* xi. II. 52 Solon..appears to have laid the foundation of the Attic navy, by charging the forty-eight sections, called *naucraries,* into which the tribes had been divided for financial purposes, each with the equipment of a galley, as well as with the mounting of two horsemen. 1847 GROTE *Greece* III. 71 The Naukrary is a local circumscription, composed of the Naukrars or principal householders (so the etymology seems to indicate). *Ibid.* 72 The forty-eight naukraries are thus a systematic subdivision of the four tribes.

Naue, obs. form of NAVY.

Naue, have not: see NAVE *v.*

Nauen, variant of NAVIN, navy. *Obs.*

†**Nau·fragate,** *v. Obs. rare* —1. [ad. ppl. stem of L. *naufragāre* to suffer shipwreck: see next.] *trans.* To wreck.

1686 CLENCHE *Peter's Suprem.* 123 Peter signifies .. a Foundation,..an inexpugnable rock..A Rock able to..naufragate all the lurid designs of empoisoned Hereticks.

†**Nau·frage.** *Obs.* Also 5 naw-. [a. F. *naufrage* (1461), ad. L. *naufragium* for **nāvi-fragium,* f. *nāvi-s* ship + *frag-, frangĕre* to break.] Shipwreck: **a.** in figurative uses.

1480 CAXTON *Ovid's Met.* XI. xxi, To gyve her entresignes, by whych she may see appertly the nawfrage and peryll of her husbonde. *c* 1577 BUCHANAN *Let.* Wks. (S.T.S.) 57 Ye being anis escapit the tempestuous stormes and naufrage of mariage. 1628 Sir W. MURE *Fancies Farew.* Wks. (S.T.S.) I. 195 That impetuous streame, Where fynest wits haue frequent naufrage made. 1652 NEEDHAM tr. *Selden's Mare Cl.* 469 To the hazard of their State which hath lately scaped Naufrage. 1715 JANE BARKER *Exilius* (1736) Pref., To avoid such dangerous Naufrages, and fix their Affections where Duty and Merit require.

b. in literal sense. (Chiefly *Law.*)

1623 COCKERAM I, *Naufrage,* shipwracke. 1635 J. HAYWARD tr. *Biondi's Banish'd Virg.* 1 Thus then being certaine of naufrage. 1681 STAIR *Instit.* I. x. § 24. 132 In no case is the borrower obliged for any Accident, as Death, Naufrage, Burning, unless he hath undertaken that hazard. 1755 MAGENS *Insurances* II. 416 No Abandoning can be made, but in Case of Capture, Naufrage, Bulging, Stranding, Embargo..or an entire loss of the Thing insured.

†**Nau·fraged,** *ppl. a. Obs. rare.* [ad. F. *naufragé* (14th c.), ad. L. *naufragātus*: see NAUFRAGATE *v.*] Shipwrecked.

1490 CAXTON *Eneydos* xviii. 66 That tyme that thou come firste to me as a man exyled and naufraged. *Ibid.* xx. 72 Naufraged vpon the ryuage of the see.

†**Naufra·geous,** *a. Obs. rare* —1. [ad. F. *naufrageux*: see NAUFRAGE and -OUS.] In danger of shipwreck.

1694 MOTTEUX *Rabelais* v. (1737) 232 Our State's naufrageous and periclitating.

†**Nau·fragie.** *Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *naufragium.*] = NAUFRAGE a.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Serm.* Sel. Wks. II. 149 But siþen þes [suffragies] ben nawfragies, wel is him þat bieþ not. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* I. lxv. 293 (Harl. MS.), þerfor seiyth Jerome, ..Penaunce is the secunde table after naufragie.

†**Nau·fragous,** *a. Obs. rare.* [f. NAUFRAG-E + -OUS: cf. It. *naufragoso.*] Causing shipwreck.

1615 T. ADAMS *Spir. Navig.* 36 It is the most dangerous shipwrack that this naufragous world can give us, the shipwrack of faith. 1656 *Artif. Handsom.* 33 That tempestuous and (oft) naufragous Sea, wherein youth and handsomenesse are commonly tossed.

†**Nau·frague.** *Obs. rare.* [ad. Sp. *naufrago,* L. *naufragus.*] A shipwrecked person.

1681 RYCAUT tr. *Gracian's Critick* 4 The grateful Naufrague repeated the expressions of his thanks. *Ibid.* 5.

Nauger, obs. form of AUGER.

Naught (nǫt), *sb., a.,* and *adv.* Forms: *α.* 1 náwuht, 1, 3–4 -wiht, (3 -wihht), 4 -wight; 3–4 nawit, (4 -wete). *β.* 1 nawht, 1–3 nauht, naht, (3 nah), 2–3 nacht, 3–4 naȝt, (4 naght; 3 naþt, 5 natht), 4–5 nauȝt(e, 4 nawȝt), 4–naught, (6 naugh). *γ.* 1–3 nawt, 3, 6 naut, 6 nawtt, nawlt. [OE. *náwuht, -wiht,* f. *ná* NA *adv.*[1] + *wuht, wiht* WIGHT *sb.*; cf. OFris. *nawet, nauwet, nauet, naut.* In northern ME. texts the full form *nawight* may represent OE. *náwiht* rather than *náwiht.* For the history of the forms belonging to the OE. variant *náwiht* see NOUGHT.]

A. *sb.* **1.** Nothing, nought. (Now *arch.*)

a. c 897 K. ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* xliv. 328 (Hatton) Me hyngrede, & ȝe me nawuht [*Cotton* nauht] ne sealdun etan. *c* 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* II. x. [xiii.] (1890) 134 Eallinga nawiht mæȝenes ne nyttnesse hafað sio æfæstnes. *c* 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Th.) xiv. 5 Se þe þone awyrȝdan for nawuht hæfð. *a* 1240 *Saules Warde* in *O. E. Hom.* I. 255 Hwet se beo of heardes, ne drede ich nawiht nesches.

β. c 888 K. ÆLFRED *Boeth.* iii. § 2 Dis Mod .. nauht elles nat butan gnornunga. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 53 Þa halȝan..þe on þyssum life naht ne sohton. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1072 He þær naht ne funde þæs þe him þe bet wære. 1340 *Ayenb.* 131 Þanne yefþ him god iuele þet mannes miȝte ne is naȝt and þet he ne may naȝt. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 756 Boold of his speche, and wys and wel ytaught, And of manhood him lakked right naught [*v.rr.* noȝt, nouht]. *c* 1450 *Merlin* 18 Leet my moder be in pese that natht knoweth of that thow puttest on hir. 1535 COVERDALE 2 *Macc.* vii. 28 God made them and mans generacion of naught. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 113 The Pope had the more hate vnto him, for that he had brought him vp of naught. 1629 MILTON *Hymn Nativ.* xxiv, Naught but profoundest Hell can be his shroud. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* IV. 572 Unconstrain'd he nothing tells for naught. 1738 SWIFT *Pol. Conversat.* 46 You have the old Proverb on your Side, Naught's ne'er in Danger. 1797 COLERIDGE *Christabel* I, Naught was green upon the oak, But moss and rarest mistletoe. 1885–94 R. BRIDGES *Eros & Psyche* July viii, Till seeing nothing lack'd and naught was theirs, Their happiness fell from them unawares.

b. In phr. *to bring,* †*do, come, go to naught.*

c 888 K. ÆLFRED *Boeth.* x, Ne eart þu no eallunga to nauhte ȝedon. *c* 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Th.) lix. 11 He sona mæȝ ure fynd ȝedon fracoþe to nahte [=cvii. 12 to nawihte]. *a* 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 223 Forði is se man beter .. þanne oðre ȝesceafte..for þan þe hi alle ȝewrðeð to nachte. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 9421 Hii asailede þe verste ost & broȝte almest to naȝte. 1535 COVERDALE 2 *Esdras* I. 11 In y[e] east haue I brought two landes and people to naught. 1611 COTGR., *Perir,* .. to come to ruine, or to naught. 1668–9 PEPYS *Diary* 6 Mar., He joins with me in his fears that all will go to naught, as matters are now managed.

c. *To set at naught, set naught by:* see SET *v.*

†**d.** *To call* (rarely *to speak*) *all to naught,* to abuse or decry vehemently. *Obs.*

Originally perh. = *all too naught,* altogether too bad.

1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* Table, Dionysius would call Aristippus foole and all to naught. 1559–1592 [see ALL *adv.* 12]. 1655 GURNALL *Chr. in Arm.* verse 14. xviii. § 1 (1669) 68/2 His enemies from this take advantage to speak him all to naught. 1705 HICKERINGILL *Priest-cr.* III. Wks. 1716 III. 151 Queen Elizabeth .. reigned..above 30 Years after the Pope had call'd her all to naught.

†**e.** *To be naught,* to efface oneself, to keep quiet or withdraw. Usually in imperative. *Obs.*

1593 PEELE *Edw. I* E 2 b, Let go and be naught I say. 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* I. i. 39 Be better employed, and be naught a while. 1606 CHAPMAN *Gentl. Usher* Plays 1873 I. 289 Kisse her; yfaith you must; get you togither and be naughts awhile, get you together. *a* 1625 FLETCHER *Hum. Lieutenant* v. iii, So, get ye together, and be naught!

†**2.** Wickedness, evil, moral wrong, mischief. *Obs.* (In later use chiefly *to do naught.*)

c 897 K. ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* xxxv. 241 Donne mon onȝiet mid hwelcum stæpum dæt nawht [L. *nequitia*] wæs ðurhtogen. *c* 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Th.) lviii. 2 genere me fram niþe naht [L. *iniquitatem*] fremmendra.

1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 61 The Magistrate doeth naught [L. *inique facit*], but you doe muche worse. 1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III,* I. i. 99, I tell thee Fellow, he that doth naught with her (excepting one) were best to do it secretly alone. 1649 LOVELACE *Poems* 72 Naught [shall] be ignote not so much out of Feare Of being punisht, as offending Her. 1656 SANDERSON *Serm.* (1689) 207 From doing nothing proceed to doing naught.

†**b.** That which is wrong or faulty in method.

1557 TUSSER 100 *Points Husb.* xxxii, All soules that be thursty, bid threshe out for mawlt: well handled and tended, or els thou dost nawlt. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* 38 Ignorant Apothecaries do dayly use it in steede of the right Cotyledon, wherein they do naught, and commit manifest errour. 1658 A. FOX *Würtz' Surg.* I. ii. 4 Naught will be naught, and never good, though it had been practised a thousand years.

3. With *a* and *pl.*

†**a.** A thing of no worth or value. *Obs. rare.*

Only in *pl.* as adjectival predicate, prob. not derived from the similar OE. use of *náhtas* or *náhtes.*

a 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII* 186 The bokes are erronious and naughtes. 1552 LATIMER *Serm. Gosp.* xii. 219 These studies .. and such other vayne desires are naughtes and foolishe.

†**b.** *pl.* Nothing, nought. *Obs. rare.*

1559 *Mirr. Mag., Dk. Suffolk* vii, To which I gaue nigh fiue times fyue assaultes, Tyl at the last they yelded it for naughtes. 1586 KYD *Wks.* (1901) 340 Thy crop of corne is tares auailing naughts.

c. *Arith.* A cipher, a nought.

1649 MILTON *Eikon.* xxvii. Wks. 1851 III. 513 After all thir paines and travell to be dissolv'd, and cast away like so many Naughts in Arithmetick. 1825 M. E. (*title*) Airy Nothings: or Scraps and Naughts, and Odd-cum-Shorts. 1879 MEREDITH *Egoist* xix, 'There is a figure naught', said he.

†**d.** An evil or wicked thing. (Cf. 2.) *Obs.* —1

a 1639 W. WHATELEY *Prototypes* II. xxix. (1640) 182 Here is revenge, filthinesse and fraud, and a number of naughts put together to make each other worse.

e. (From B. 2.) One who is bad.

1657 TRAPP *Comm. Esther* vii. 7 Unlesse it be *Haraug,* that naughtiest of all naughts. 1854 MRS. GASKELL *North & S.* xviii, 'The law expenses would have been more than the hands themselves were worth—a set of ungrateful naughts!' said his mother.

B. *adj.* [Orig. the *sb.* in predicative use. Freq. in the strengthened form *stark naught*: see STARK.]

1. Of no worth or value; good for nothing; worthless, useless, bad, poor.

c 888 K. ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxxvi. § 7 Ic secȝe sie unmehtiȝ & eac ealles nauht. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* II. 232 ȝif ic me sylfne wuldriȝe, þonne bið min wuldor naht. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* (Cott.) 1480 Oþer þe lanerd is wel aht, Oþer aswunde & nis naht. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. XVIII. 74 Of muche moneye the metal is ryght naught. 1503 *Act* 19 *Hen. VII,* c. 6 The said Persons..mix good Metal and bad together, and make it naught. 1551 T. WILSON *Logike* (1580) 3 Logike of it self is good, when Sophistrie on the other side is naught. 1625 PURCHAS *Pilgrims* II. 1715 Their armour and weapons are very naught and weake, as well the one as the other. 1693 EVELYN *De la Quint. Compl. Gard.* II. 2 By Branches that are naught, I mean those that are of false Wood. 1738 SWIFT *Pol. Conversat.* 18 Tom sings well; but his Luck's naught. 1784 COWPER *Ep. J. Hill* 53 The punishment importing this, no doubt, That all was naught within. 1819 BYRON *Let. to Murray* 12 Aug., The poem will be naught. 1832 AUSTIN *Jurispr.* (1879) II. 692 Codes and codification are manifestly naught.

†**b.** Of no legal value; invalid. *Obs.*

c 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* IV. iii. 430 And therfore God forbede that ech dede and ech gouernaunce schulde be holde nauȝt and badde. 1540 *Act* 32 *Hen. VIII,* c. 5 The said pretended mariage, which is of it selfe naught and of no force. 1632 SANDERSON *Serm.* 62 The election is *de jure nulla,* naught and voide. 1660 *Trial Regic.* 53 Your Plea is naught, illegal, and wicked, and ought not to be allowed.

c. Bad in condition or quality; not good for eating or drinking. ? *Obs.*

1588 KYD *Househ. Phil.* Wks. (1901) 271 Things, which.. wold become both hard and naught to eate without some kinde of liquor or conserues. 1609 BIBLE (Douay) *Jer.* xxiv. 3 The good figges, exceeding good, and the naughtie figges exceeding naught: which can not be eaten because they are naught. 1661 PEPYS *Diary* 29 Oct., We .. should have been merry, but their wine was so naught .. that we were not so. 1720 BP. HUTCHINSON *Witchcraft* xv. (ed. 2) 267 Which after the first taste he refused,..but said it was naught. 1813 C. MARSHALL *Garden.* xvii. (ed. 5) 288 The raspberry is quite naught [1798 very bad] when stale.

†**d.** Bad or wrong in method. *Obs. rare* —1.

1597 MORLEY *Introd. Mus.* 80 It is verie naught, to ascend or descend in that manner.

†**2.** Morally bad; wicked; naughty. *Obs.*

1536 R. BEERLEY in *Four C. Eng. Lett.* (1880) 35 And mayck me wych am now nawtt to cum unto grace [and] goodnes. 1582 N. T. (Rhem.) *Matt.* vi. 23 But if thine eye be naught: thy whole body shal be darksome. 1603 DRAY-

TON *Bar. Wars* III. iii, A Man, as subtill, so corrupt and naught. 1656 SANDERSON *Serm.* (1689) 487 Where the Gods are naught, who can imagine the Religion should be good. 1706-7 FARQUHAR *Beaux' Strat.* II. i, Stay, stay, Brother, you shan't get off so; You were very naught last Night. 1740 RICHARDSON *Pamela* II. 253 There was no pleasing her; and I was a Creature, and Wench, and all that was naught.

†b. Immoral, vicious. *Obs.*

1550 ELYOT, *Aquariolus*,..a wyttall, that suffreth his wife to be naught. 1594 LYLY *Moth. Bomb.* I. i, Doest thou imagine thy mistres naught of her bodie? 1617 MIDDLETON & ROWLEY *Fair Quarrel* v. i, I say she is naught... Your intended bride is a whore. 1693 CONGREVE *Old Bach.* III. iv, I'll never see you again, 'cause you'd have me be naught.

†c. Const. *with* (one of the other sex). *Obs.*

1552 LATIMER *Serm. & Rem.* (Parker Soc.) 30 His mistress, perceiving his beauty,.. would have him to be naught with her. 1606 HOLLAND *Sueton.* 3 But her afterward hee divorced, suspecting that she had beene naught with Mariamne. 1699 T. C[OCKMAN] *Tully's Offices* (1706) 305 Upon a false Suspicion, that he had been naught with his Mother-in-law.

†3. Injurious, hurtful; unlucky. *Obs.*

1596 *Edward III*, I. i, In great affairs 'tis naught to use delay. 1620 MELTON *Astrolog.* 46 It is naught for any man to giue a paire of knines to his sweet heart. 1658 A. Fox *Würtz' Surg.* II. iii. 52 That [diet] which is good for man proveth very naught to a woman.

†4. Lost, ruined. *Obs.*

1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* III. i. 231 Goe, get you to [y]our House; be gone, away, All will be naught else. 1624 FLETCHER *Rule a Wife* v. i, My cause was naught, for 'twas about your honour; And he that wrongs the innocent nere prospers. [1826 SCOTT *Woodst.* iii, All's naught, girl—and our evil days are come at last.]

C. *adv.*

†1. [Orig. the accusative of the *sb.* used adverbially: cf. AUGHT *sb.*[2] C.] Not. See also NAT *adv.*

a. c 897 K. ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* xliii. 314 (Hatton) Ne fæste ȝe ðæs nawuht me. *c* 1200 ORMIN 15551 Pær hilæf þe Laferrd .. acc nawihht lannge. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 474 For þi þet te lare..ne helpeð nawiht eche lif to habben, ne ȝelpe ich nawiht þrof. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 654 Yhon tre cum þou nawight to. 13.. *Ibid.* 24626 (Edinb.), Fra me wald þai nawit twin.

β. c 888 K. ÆLFRED *Boeth.* v. § 3 Nu ðu ne þearft þe nauht ondrædan. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* II. 18 Þæt fyr ne derede naht þam ðrim cnihtum. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1095 Naht be anan oððe twam. *c* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 35 Ón ðare oðre woreld and naht hier. *c* 1250 *Kent. Serm.* in *O. E. Misc.* 28 Nacht on-lepiliche to day, ac alle þo daies i þo yere. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 185 Þe gret evel ne comeþ na3t þer þat me clupeþ þat holi fur. 1340 *Ayenb.* 103 Ane man of huum me ne kan na3t his name. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 254 Medea, which foryat him naght, Was redy there.

γ. c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 63 God..3ife us..þet we ne fallen naut ine sunne. *a* 1240 *Sawles Warde* in *O. E. Hom.* I. 257 Þah ha ne trust nawt on hire ahne wepnen.

†2. [From B.] Badly; wrongly. *Obs.*

1549 COVERDALE, etc. *Erasm. Par. Phil.* 8, I rushe not here awaye and there awaye rashely I care not whither, for he loseth his game, that runneth naught. 1552 LATIMER *Serm.* (1562) 139 They that are so vsed to swearing, do very naught. 1625 B. JONSON *Staple of N.* I. Interm. i, How doe's the Play please you? *Censure.* Very scuruily, me thinks, and sufficiently naught.

Hence †**Naught** *v.*, *trans.* to destroy. *Obs.*—[1]

1340 *Ayenb.* 9 Þer by some bronches þet ne byeþ na3t dyadlich zenne,.. and þo me ssell na3ti and wyþdra3e ase moche ase me may.

Naughtily (nɔ̄·tili), *adv.* [f. NAUGHTY *a.*]

1. †a. Wickedly, viciously. *Obs.*

1552 LATIMER *Serm. & Rem.* (Parker Soc.) 38 They that.. burned their children, they did naughtily. 1577 NORTHBROOKE *Dicing* (1843) 10 They would not liue thus ydlely and naughtily as they do. 1611 COTGR., *Mauvaisement*,.. lewdly, naughtily. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* x. 434 Their deserts are naught, and the fruite thereof as naughtily spent.

†b. Wrongfully, dishonestly. *Obs. rare.*

1622 FLETCHER *Beggars' Bush* IV. i, How cam'st thou by this mighty sum? If naughtily, I must not take it of thee.

†2. Badly, poorly. *Obs.*

1574 R. SCOT *Hop Gard.* To Rdr., It grieueth me dailye to see tyme yll spent,.. good grounde naughtily applyed. 1600 HAKLUYT *Voy.* (1810) III. 509 Maiz and a roll of the same naughtily grinded. 1666 PEPYS *Diary* 26 Dec., Gosnell not singing, but a new wench that sings naughtily. *a* 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. xvii. 137 That straw-thatch'd Cottage, scurvily built, naughtily movabled.

Naughtiness (nɔ̄·tinĕs). [f. NAUGHTY *a.*]

1. †a. Wickedness, viciousness, depravity. *Obs.*

1541 WYATT *Def.* Wks. (1861) p. xxxiv, That made me not hold my peace, when I might .. improve his naughtiness. 1579 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 152 Neither haue we a short life by Nature, but we make it shorter by naughtynesse. 1646 J. HALL *Horæ Vac.* 119 'Tis..dangerous to act any naughtinesse before children. 1677 W. HUBBARD *Narrative* 11 He was..forced to acknowledge that it was the naughtiness of his own heart, that put him upon that Rebellion.

b. Waywardness, disobedience.

1740-1 RICHARDSON *Pamela* (1742) 456 There was a sad End of all the Four ungracious Children,..and God punished their Naughtiness. 1833 *Mem. Departed Friend* 55 Not to fret over every little childish fit of naughtiness she has. 1871 M. COLLINS *Mrq. & Merch.* II. iv. 90 What would Miss Pinnock say, if she confessed her naughtiness to her?

c. A naughty act or trait.

1882 SERJT. BALLANTINE *Exper.* xiv. I. 174 Homburg... Its beauties and its naughtinesses have been often described.

†2. The state or condition of being bad, faulty, or defective in some respect. *Obs.*

1550 HARVEL in Froude *Hist. Eng.* (1881) IV. 511 [Huge bales of English goods were lying unsold upon the wharves] through the naughtiness of the making. 1579 FULKE *Refut. Rastel* 740 But to aunswere the naughtinesse of the argument, I say [etc.]. 1600 SURFLET *Countrie Farme* III. xxxiv. 500 Many times.. the fruit is spoiled and lost, by the naughtines of the ground. 1658 A. Fox *Würtz' Surg.* III. iii. 225 A Wound that looks well,..yet the Patient.. groweth weaker, it intimates the naughtinesse of the medicine. 1709-29 V. MANDEY *Syst. Math. Statics* 756 To find out the naughtiness of deceitful Beams.

†**Nau·ghtly,** *adv. Obs.* Also naughtely. [f. NAUGHT *a.* + -LY[2].] = NAUGHTILY.

1530 PALSGR. 839/2 Naugthely, *mallement.* 1563 *Mirr. Mag., Glendour* ix, Thus did I for want of better wit, Because my parents naughtly brought me vp. 1575 CHURCHYARD *Chippes* (1817) 134 Before diuers Skotishmen had naughtly discharged certayne shot at him. 1609 BIBLE (Douay) *Susanna* i. 61 They did to them as they had dealt naughtely against their neighbour.

Naughty (nɔ̄·ti), *a.* Also 4 nau3ty. [f. NAUGHT *sb.* + -Y[1].]

†1. Having or possessing naught; poor, needy.

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. VI. 226 Alle maner of men..That nedy ben and nau3ty, helpe hem with þi godis. *Ibid.* VII. 72 He wolde ȝiue þat an other, þat were more nedy þan he [*R.* nedyer and nau3tier].

2. †a. Of persons: Morally bad, wicked. *Obs.*

1529 MORE *Dyalogue* I. Wks. 155/2 Origene..neither was a naughty man nor vnlerned in scripture. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* II. (1629) 129 A Prince of great courage and beauty, but fostered vp in blond by his naughtie father. *a* 1677 BARROW *Serm.* Wks. 1716 I. 96 A most vile flagitious man, a sorry and naughty governor as could be. 1699 T. C[OCKMAN] *Tully's Offices* (1706) 257 'Tis a villainous Error of some naughty Men.

absol. c 1580 SIDNEY *Ps.* XXXVII. xiv, The naughty borrowes, payeng not.

b. Of children: Wayward, disobedient, given to doing wrong. Also playfully applied to older persons in mild reproach or disapproval.

a 1633 G. HERBERT *Jacula Prudentum* Wks. (1857) 309 A naughty child is better sick than whole. 1711 SWIFT *Lett.* (1767) III. 147 Go, get you gone, naughty girl, you are well enough. 1778 MME. D'ARBLAY *Diary* Sept., My sweet, naughty Mrs. Thrale looked delighted for me. 1812 H. & J. SMITH *Rej. Addr., Baby's Debut* v, O naughty Nancy Lake, Thus to distress your aunt..! 1865 KINGSLEY *Herew.* xix, They were the naughty young housecarles of his own troop. 1889 *Sat. Rev.* 23 Feb. 210/2 When a champion of Home Rule behaves like a very naughty child.

†c. Of an animal: Vicious. *Obs. rare*—[1].

1586 A. DAY *Eng. Secretary* I. (1625) 130 An Ox of mine, being a naughty beast, through the default of mine owne fence, hath goared a Cow of your Worship's.

3. Of actions, conduct, places, things, etc.: Characterized by moral badness or wickedness; bad, wrong, blameworthy, improper. In mod. use as a term of mild or playful censure (cf. 2 b).

1536 CROMWELL in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) II. 38 Half of that whiche hath hen there rather spoyled from hym by naughty meanes. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 27 Naughtie and Pestilent bokes should be burned. 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* II. i. 77 It is a naughty house. 1620 *Form Ordaining Min.* in *Misc. Wodrow Soc.* (1844) 600 This naughtie world. *a* 1674 CLARENDON *Surv. Leviath.* (1676) 207 This naughty and impious discourse. 1715 DE FOE *Fam. Instruct.* I. i. (1841) I. 31 I'm sure she would not do a naughty thing. 1740 W. SEWARD *Jrnl.* 3 To prepare us for going abroad into a naughty World. 1792 BURNS *Rights of Woman*, A time, when rough rude man had naughty ways. 1861 FINLAY *Hist. Gk. Rev.* I. I. iii. 74 Euphrosyne..had neglected the study of the lives of the saints, and turned her attention to the naughty reading in the Greek classics. 1871 M. COLLINS *Mrq. & Merch.* II. iv. 90 It was very naughty of her, she felt aware. 1884 *World* 20 Aug. 5/2 Democracy is a naughty word.

Comb. 1581 PETTIE tr. *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* I. (1586) 28 Certaine naughtie tongued fellowes vnder the maske of modestie saie they will not name him whom they reprehend. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* IV. (1629) 432 For the naughty minded wretches.

†4. Bad, inferior, not up to the proper or usual standard or quality. *Obs.* (common *c* 1540–1650, in various applications.)

In quot. 1799 used in place of Sc. *nochty*, NOUGHTY.

1526 TINDALE *Wks.* (Parker Soc.) I. 510 As this is a naughty argument, so is the other. 1542–3 *Act* 34 & 35 *Hen. VIII*, c. 10 § 2 Putting the same naughtie ware to sale secretely. 1583 STUBBES *Anat. Abus.* II. (1882) 24 Some put in naughty wool, and cause it to be spun and drawne into a very small thred. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* III. i. 1. ii. (1651) 412 Thou wilt not have had coin, bad soil, a naughty tree, but all good. 1683 MOXON *Mech. Exerc., Printing* XXIV. ¶ 19 If he meets with naughty Sheets..as torn, or stain'd, &c. he Prints them not. *Ibid.* 383 The Compositer will bow the Letter, and pop it into a Waste Box in the Case, where he puts all naughty Letters. 1799 J. ROBERTSON *Agric. Perth* 245 There may happen to be a piece of naughty land,.. whose barren appearance is an eyesore.

Comb. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* IV. (1586) 169 The vnfruitfull and naughtie coloured, and the otherwise faultie, ought cheefely to be fatted.

b. Of articles of food or drink: Of bad quality, in bad condition. Now *rare.*

1535 COVERDALE *Jer.* XXIV. 2 In the other maunds were very naughtie figes, which might not be eaten. 1584 COGAN *Haven Health* lii. (1636) 68 Garlick..is good for them that travaile..if they happen to drinke naughty corrupt water. 1639 T. DE GRAY *Compl. Horsem.* 103 Peccant humours.. doe proceed of naughty meat. 1685 J. CHAMBERLAYNE *Coffee, Tea & Choc.* 43, I perceive, that it [tea] is commonly very old and naughty. 1896 A. D. COLERIDGE *Eton in Forties* 209 The bigaroon cherries..were fraudulent, sour, and naughty throughout.

†c. Bad *for* something. *Obs. rare*—[1].

1573 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 120 Ground grauellie, sandie, and mixed with clay, is naughtie for hops.

†5. Of weather: Bad, nasty. *Obs. rare.*

1541 WYATT *Def.* Wks. (1861) p. xxiii, Coming in a boat from Aquas-Mortes, both in hazard of the Moors and naughty weather. 1605 SHAKS. *Lear* III. iv. 116 Prithee Nunckle be contented, 'tis a naughtie night to swimme in.

†6. Bad in respect of health; unhealthy; connected with ill health. *Obs.*

1572 ABP. PARKER *Corr.* (Parker Soc.) 412 In better health than I in a naughty body feel. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* 56 The juyce .. draweth downe from the head phlegmatike and naughtie humors. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* I. lxxxvi. 138 It heateth the bodie, ingendreth naughtie blood. 1656 RIDGLEY *Pract. Physick* 12 Then followeth a Feaver, and a Troup of most naughty symptoms.

†b. Applied to bodily ailments, etc. *Obs.*

1578 LYTE *Dodoens* I. xiii. 21 Butter Burre..cureth all naughty Vlcers. 1643 J. STEER tr. *Exp. Chyrurg.* iv. 9 They..do cause a rotten ulcer and naughty Scar. 1657 W. COLES *Adam in Eden* cclxxxiii, Being mixed with Tar it cureth the naughty scurfe of the Head.

†7. Unpleasant, disagreeable. *Obs. rare.*

1578 LYTE *Dodoens* II. xxv. 176 Both in their leaves and floures of a naughtie, strong, and unpleasant savour. 1600 SURFLET *Countrie Farme* II. l. 324 Boxe in as much as it is of a naughtie smell,..is to be left of and not dealt withall.

†8. Inherently bad or faulty. *Obs.*

1554 PHILPOT *Exam. & Writ.* (Parker Soc.) 402 As with the good corn naughty cockle and barren weeds do spring together. 1580 BARET *Alv.* H 417 Naughtie poison [*impia venena*] is hid with sweete honie, or Sugar. 1658 A. Fox *Würtz' Surg.* II. xxiii. 142 Touching the Saltpeter.., its naughty humidity is to be taken from it.

9. (For Sc. *nochty.*) Unsubstantial; insignificant.

1696 in Aubrey *Misc.* (1721) 211 A shadowy Substance, or such naughty, and Imperceptible thing, as can..scarcely be discerned by the Eye. 1806 FORSYTH *Beauties Scotl.* IV. 521 The tenants..have a very few sheep of an inferior naughty size.

Naughty pack. *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Also 6-7 naughtipack(e, naughtie-, etc. [f. NAUGHTY *a.*: cf. PACK *sb.*[1] 4. The adj. is freq. hyphened to, or written as one with, the noun.]

†1. A woman of bad character. *Obs.*

1530 PALSGR. 632/1 The counsayle of one naughtypacke [F. *une ribaulde*] may make a wenche to bolde. 1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* (1592) 868 Will not all men crie out that shee is a naughtipacke and an adulteresse? 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* XXVI. xii. 592 A Capuan wench..,a naughtie-pack and an harlot. 1638 FORD *Fancies* III. ii, 'Tis scarce possible To distinguish one of these same naughty packs From true and arrant ladies. 1738 SWIFT *Pol. Conversat.* 106, I never heard she was a naughty Pack. 1743 in Howell *State Trials* (1813) XVII. 1159 Until my lord had mentioned she was his wife, he took her to be a naughty pack.

†2. A wicked or dissolute man. *Obs.*

1549 COVERDALE, etc. *Erasm. Par. Titus* 28 Wherfore rebuke such naughtypackes earnestly, that they may ones waxe good. 1571 GOLDING *Calvin on Ps.* xii. 9 The naughtipacks or the ofskowrings of men. 1618 *Barnevelt's Apol.* c 3 This base, impudent, and vaine-glorious fellow, this periur'd and adulterous naughty-packe. 1677 W. HUGHES *Man of Sin* III. ii. 31 Monk Ailsi (like a naughty-pack as he was) would never show that respect unto it.

3. *dial.* A naughty child or person.

1828 *Craven Gloss.* 1869 *Lonsdale Gloss.*

Naukrar(y: see NAUCRAR(Y.

†**Naul,** anglicized form of NAULUM. *Obs. rare*—[1].

1724 STUKELEY *Itin. Curiosum* 94 When we had..paid our naul to the inexorable ferryman.

†**Naul(e, naull,** obs. variants of AWL.

1530 TINDALE *Exod.* xxi. 6 Then let his master..bore his eare thorow with a naule. 1575 *Gamm. Gurton* III. i. 6 Hays lent me here his naull to set the gyb forward. 1607 S. COLLINS *Serm.* (1608) 20 The Naule was vsed..to borethrough the eare of him [etc.].

Naule, obs. form of NAVEL.

†**Naulizament.** *Obs. rare.* [ad. med.L. **naulizament-um* (= F. *nolisement*, It. *noleggiamento*), f. *naulizare, -sare, -giare* (= F. *noliser*, † *nauliser*, It. *noleggiare*), f. *naul-um* (see next).] Freighting of a vessel.

1533 in R. G. Marsden *Sel. Pl. Crt. Adm.* (1894) I. 93 Their to dyscharge hur burden accordyng to the fforme of her contracte of naulyzament. *Ibid.* 94 Naulizamentt.

‖ **Nau·lum.** *Obs.* [L. *naulum* (also *naulon*), ad. Gr. *ναῦλον* (also *ναῦλος*), f. *ναῦς* ship.] Passage-money, fare.

1596 NASHE *Saffron Walden* F j b, I hearing the fellow so forlorne.., gaue him his Charons *Naulum* or ferry three half pence. 1636 HEYWOOD *Love's Mistress* v. i, My sop, hast thou thy naulum Ferryman? 1677 T. KIRK in *Thoresby's Corr.* (1832) II. App. 403 At Newsam Ferry we drunk a naulum with Charon.

‖ **Naumachia** (nɔ̄mē·kiă). *Rom. Antiq.* Pl. -iæ, †-ias. [L. *naumachia*, a. Gr. *ναυμαχία*, f. *ναῦς* ship + *μάχη* fight.]

1. A mimic representation of a sea-fight.

1596 HARINGTON *Metam. Ajax* E iij, All the pastime he & his friends should haue had at a Naumachia or sea-game. 1709 MRS. MANLEY *Secret Mem.* (1720) IV. 272 Those noble Appearances, Naumachias, the Circus, Assemblies! Glories of former Reigns. 1748 H. WALPOLE *Let. to Conway* 6 Oct., The superiority that his firework will have over the Roman naumachia. 1814 SIR R. WILSON *Priv. Diary* (1861) II. 368 An immense oblong building in the interior of which there is space for horse-races and naumachia or sea-fights. 1840 *Penny Cyc.* XVI. 107/2 Claudius exhibited a naumachia on the lake Fucinus.

2. A place specially constructed for the exhibi-

tion of mock sea-fights; esp. a building enclosing an artificial piece of water for this purpose.

1617 Morvson *Itin.* I. 132 Under the Church..is the Naumachia of Nero, that is a place to represent Navall fights. 1689 Evelyn *Let. to Pepys* 12 Aug., Their famous temples,.. circuses, naumachias, bridges. 1727–38 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v., There were several naumachias at Rome...Nero's naumachia served for the reverse of his medals. 1774 Wraxall *Tour North. Europe* (1775) 3 The venerable remains of amphitheatres, temples and naumachiae. 1841 W. Spalding *Italy & It. Isl.* I. 390 After his accession we hear of no more real fights in the naumachiæ.

†Nau·machy. *Obs.* Also 7 -ie. [Anglicized form of prec., or ad. F. *naumachie* (1550).]

1. = Naumachia 1. Also *fig.*

1606 Holland *Sueton.* 17 To set out the Naumachie or naval battaile, there was a place digged for a great poole. *a* 1658 Lovelace *Luc. Posth.* (1659) 43 And now the Naumachie Begins, Close to the surface. 1681 Cotton *Wonders of Peake* 84 A Pacifick Sea expanded lies A liquid Theater for Naumachies.

2. = Naumachia 2.

1600 Holland *Livy* 1397 In which place before-time likely it is, that Augustus had his Naumachie. 1621 Burton *Anat. Mel.* II. ii. iv. (1651) 273 The Romans had their feasts, Playes, Naumachies, places for Sea fights.

Naumannite (nɑ̄·-, nau·mănəit). *Min.* [Named 1845 after Prof. *Naumann.*] (See quot. 1882.)

1849 Nicol *Min.* 471 Naumannite... Easily solvable in concentrated nitric acid. 1882 Dana *Min. & Lith.* (ed. 4) 118 Naumannite, a selenide of silver and lead in iron-black cubes and massive.

†Naundiren, obs. form of Andiron.

1408 *Durham Acc. Roll* in *Eng. Hist. Rev.* XIV. 518 In iii towirens, iii porres alias naundirens.

Naunt (nānt). Now *dial.* or *arch.* [var. of Aunt, with *n* transferred from *myn* 'mine': see N 3 b for earlier examples.] Aunt.

1621 Fletcher *Pilgrim* IV. i, Pr'ythee, keep on thy way, good naunt. 1632 Heywood *2nd Pt. Iron Age* IV. i, If shee doe but take After mine old Naunt Hellen. 1679 Dryden *Limberham* I. i, The easiest fool I ever knew, next my naunt of fairies in the Alchemist. 1737–42 Shenstone *Schoolmistress* vii, Goody, good woman, gossip, n'aunt,..Or dame, the sole additions she did hear. 1823 Scott *Peveril* xxvi, Naunt and she will soon bend bows on each other.

Nau·ntle, *v. dial.* [Of obscure origin.] a. *trans.* To raise, rear. b. *intr.* To rise up, strut.

For other uses, see the *Eng. Dial. Dict.* s.v. *Nantle.*

1820 Clare *Rur. Life* (ed. 3) 189 The daisy nauntles up its head. 1821 — *Vill. Minstr.* I. 210 The steeple's taper stretch.., nauntling high and proud.

Hence **Nau·ntly** *a.*, strutting.

1827 Clare *Sheph. Cal.* 29 Not far behind them struts the nauntly crow.

†Naupe·gical, *a. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. Gr. *ναυπηγικ-ός* + -al.] Pertaining to ship-building.

1678 Cudworth *Intell. Syst.* 155 If the Naupegical Art [*τὴ ναυπηγικὴ*], that is the Art of the Shipwright, were in the Timber it self.

†Naupegy. *Obs. rare.* [ad. Gr. *ναυπηγία*, f. *ναῦς* ship + *πηγνύειν* to fix.] Ship-building.

1570 J. Dee *Math. Pref.* d iiij b, Three principall, necessary Mechanicall Artes. Namely Howsing, Fortification, and Naupegie.

Nauplial (nɑ̄·pliăl), *a. Zool.* [f. Naupli-us + -al.] Characteristic of a nauplius.

1877 Woodward in *Encycl. Brit.* VI. 652/2 The immature Crustacean, in passing through its nauplial and zoëal stages, may moult its skin six or seven times.

Nau·pliiform, *a. Zool.* [f. Naupli-us + -(i)form.] Having the form of a nauplius.

1869 W. S. Dallas tr. *F. Müller's Facts for Darwin* 17 Early Naupliiform stages of the higher Crustacea. 1870 H. A. Nicholson *Man. Zool.* (1875) 236 The larvæ are 'Naupliiform', with an ovate unsegmented body.

‖Nauplius (nɑ̄·pliŭs). *Zool.* Pl. **nauplii** (nɑ̄·pliəi). [L. *nauplius* a kind of shellfish, or *Nauplius*, a. Gr. Ναύπλιος, a son of Poseidon.]

†a. O. F. Müller's name for a supposed genus of crustaceans. *Obs.* b. A larval stage of development in some of the lower crustaceans, characterized by an unsegmented body with a dorsal shield, an unpaired median eye, and three pairs of legs.

1836 *Penny Cycl.* V. 340/2 Some time afterwards..they acquire another pair of feet; they are then the genus *Nauplius* of the same author [Müller]. 1869 W. S. Dallas tr. *F. Müller's Facts for Darwin* 62 The Nauplii of the Cirripedia have to undergo several moults whilst in that form. 1877 Huxley *Anat. Inv. Anim.* vi. 290 The *Pectostraca*..leave the egg as a *Nauplius*, provided with three pairs of limb-like appendages.

attrib. 1869 W. S. Dallas tr. *F. Müller's Facts for Darwin* 84 The Cyclopes of our fresh waters were excluded in the Nauplius-form. *Ibid.* 88 Beneath this Nauplius-skin a very different larva lies ready prepared. 1888 Rolleston & Jackson *Anim. Life* 538 A Nauplius-stage. *Ibid.*, An azygos Nauplius-eye.

Nauquayre: see Naquaire.

Naure-quare: see Nawer.

Nau·scopy. *rare*⁻°. [ad. F. *nauscopie*, f. Gr. *ναῦ-s* ship: see -scopy.] (See quot.)

1797 *Encycl. Brit.* XII. 776/1 *Nauscopy*, the art of discovering the approach of ships or the neighbourhood of land at a considerable distance. This pretended art was invented by a M. Bottineau .. from the year 1782 to 1784. [1847 in Webster and later Dicts.]

Nausea (nɔ̄·ʃiă, nɔ̄·siă). [a. L. *nausea, nausia*, a. Gr. *ναυσία, ναυτία*, f. *ναῦς* ship.]

1. A feeling of sickness, with loathing of food and inclination to vomit.

1569 R. Androse tr. *Alexis' Secr.* IV. I. 14 The disease called Nausea. 1590 Barrough *Meth. Physick* (1596) 374 A certaine .. disposition to vomit, called of the Latines Nausea. 1693 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Nausea*, Loathing. 1719 Quincy *Phys. Dict.* (1722) 41 The most grievous Nausea's and Vomitings. 1763 Mackenzie in *Phil. Trans.* LIV. 74 This cold fit is soon accompanied with a loathing nausea and desire of vomiting. 1842 Combe *Digestion* 32 Abstinence was again enforced and tartar emetic given to excite nausea. 1876 Bristowe *Th. & Pract. Med.* (1878) 752 Nausea and sickness, again, are frequent symptoms of dyspepsia.

b. Sea-sickness. (The original sense.)

1771 Smollett *Humph. Cl.* 8 Aug., Most of the passengers were seized with a nausea. 1795 *Montford Castle* II. 101 The dispiriting nausea which attends a first voyage. 1861 *All Year Round* 13 July 372 Many of the kidnapped men were in agonies of nausea.

2. *transf.* A strong feeling of disgust, loathing, or aversion.

1619 W. Sclater *Exp.* 1 *Thess.* To Rdr., The Nausea of some at home, whom no sermon pleaseth longer then it is in hearing. 1663 J. Spencer *Prodigies* (1665) 58 That nausea which the tedious repetition of things present and familiar creates in the Soul of man. 1782 Cowper *Flatting Mill* 24 For truth is unwelcome..And unless you adorn it, a nausea follows. 1828 Carlyle *Misc.* (1857) I. 161 Sated to nausea as we have been with the doctrines of Sentimentality. 1866 Crump *Banking* ix. 208 The winds of heaven unable to blow over them without nausea and loathing.

3. That which causes sickness or loathing.

1654 Gayton *Pleas. Notes* 82 Stifled with the fumes and Nauseæ of his filthy Caldron. 1885 *Harper's Mag.* Mar. 520/2 To escape at once a painful monotony and a nausea of gewgaws.

Nau·seant, *sb.* and *a. Med.* [ad. L. *nauseant-*, pres. pple. of *nauseāre* to Nauseate.]

A. *sb.* A substance which produces nausea.

1846 in Worcester. 1851 Dunglison *Med. Dict.* s.v., Nauseants are .. valuable remedies in diseases of excitement. 1875 H. C. Wood *Therap.* (1879) 434 As a nauseant the dose is from two to five grains.

B. *adj.* Producing nausea.

1864 *Syd. Soc. Year-bk. Med.* 442 Agents which are .. nauseant and emetic when given in large quantities. 1876 Bartholow *Mat. Med.* (1879) 455 Poke is nauseant and emetic.

†Nau·seate, *sb. Obs. Med.* [ad. L. *nauseāt-um*, neut. pa. pple. of *nauseāre*: see next.] = Nauseant *sb.* Also *fig.*

1660 tr. *Paracelsus' Archidoxis* I. IV. 57 What need is there of many Writings, to stir up a nauseate, both to our selves and Readers. 1683 Tryon *Way to Health* 544 Certain Syrups, Epidemick Water, and other like Slops, which are all great Nauseates to Nature, even in the Healthiest state.

Nauseate (nɔ̄·ʃi,ēt, nɔ̄·si,ēt), *v.* Also 7 nawseate, nautiate. [f. L. *nauseāt-*, ppl. stem of L. *nauseāre*, f. *nausea*, after Gr. *ναυσιᾶν, ναυτιᾶν.*]

1. *trans.* To reject (food, etc.) with loathing or a feeling of nausea.

1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* III. xxv. (1686) 137 Many [dishes] are commended..in one age, which are..nauseated in another. 1685 Boyle *Enq. Notion Nat.* v. 166 'Tis.. profitable for man, that his stomach should nauseate or reject things that have a loathsome taste or smell. *a* 1703 Burkitt *On N. T.* Matt. xiii. 52 Lest the household by always feeding upon the same dish, do nauseate it. 1790 Morris in Sparks *Life & Writ.* (1832) II. 46 It is more the taste of the medicine which they nauseate than the quantity of the dose. 1811 A. T. Thomson *Lond. Disp.* (1818) 119 Many stomachs are apt to nauseate it at that time. 1859 I. Taylor *Logic in Theol.* 134 Nauseating the sumptuous dainties of royal banquets.

b. *fig.* To loathe, abhor, feel a strong aversion to (something).

1654 H. L'Estrange *Chas. I* (1655) 3 The Prince began to nauseate the match, and to meditate all honourable evasions. 1699 Burnet 39 *Art.* iv. 62 The Herd among the Gentiles..must have nauseated the Christian Simplicity. 1755 Young *Centaur* vi. Wks. 1757 IV. 250 The grave reader, who nauseates it, sacrifices .. the substance of what is right. 1795 MacKnight *Apost. Epist.* (1820) III. 274 The people nauseated the wholesome doctrines of true piety. 1874 Pusey *Lent. Serm.* 274 Men nauseate..the love of God, because they know it not.

2. To affect with nausea or aversion; to create a loathing in.

1654 Earl Monm. tr. *Bentivoglio's Wars Flanders* 230 Which we thought good to touch upon here only, not to nawseate the Reader. 1692 Washington tr. *Milton's Def. People* M.'s Wks. 1851 VIII. 194 Which Book will nauseate a great many Readers to death. 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* II. (Globe) 368 It nauseated their very Stomachs, made them sick when they thought of it. 1774 T. Percival *Ess.* (1776) III. 144 Lime water often nauseates the patient. 1821–30 Ld. Cockburn *Mem.* ii. (1874) 107 [He] had long nauseated the civil court by his burgh politics. 1875 H. C. Wood *Therap.* (1879) 456 Castor oil is very repulsive to the palate, so much so as to nauseate..some susceptible individuals.

absol. 1812 *Examiner* 24 Aug. 542/2 A single..drop from the cup of egotism was apt to nauseate. 1875 H. C. Wood *Therap.* (1879) 54 These are the simple bitters. In overdoses they nauseate.

3. *intr.* To become affected with nausea, to feel sick (*at* something).

1640 Bp. Reynolds *Passions* xxxix, We are apt to nauseate at very good meat, when we know that an ill Cook did dresse it. 1735 Pope *Donne Sat.* IV. 153 As one of Woodward's patients,..I puke, I nauseate. 1740 Bavnard *Health* (ed. 6) 6 When as your Stomach nauseates and kecks at Smell or Sight of Meats. 1816 Scott *Antiq.* xxii, The old-fashioned civility that presses food upon you after you have eaten till you nauseate.

b. *fig.* (Compare 1 b.)

1657 J. Sergeant *Schism Dispach't* 6 He cannot but hate that in himself, which he nauseates at in another. 1741 Watts *Improv. Mind* I. xiv. (1801) 111 Do not overfatigue the spirits..lest the mind be seized with a lassitude, and thereby be tempted to nauseate. 1886 Col. Maurice *Lett. Donegal* 6 The hard-fisted Orangemen..are beginning to nauseate under this sort of treatment.

Hence **Nau·seated** *ppl. a.*

1659 *Gentl. Calling* (1696) 163 Forsaking all the unsatisfying nauseated pleasures of Luxury. 1673 *Lady's Calling* I. i. § 3 To entertain new scholars only with the cast or nauseated learning of the old.

Nau·seating, *vbl. sb.* [f. prec. + -ing 1.] The fact of being affected with nausea; an instance of this.

1651 French *Distill.* v. 144 It..is taken without any nauseating. 1668 Clarendon *Ess.* Tracts (1727) 90 The very nauseating and aversion that nature hath to surfeits. 1705 Stanhope *Paraphr.* II. 58 One part of the Body submits..to Nauseatings or Gripings. 1744 Berkeley *Siris* § 12 All unctuous and oily medicines, create a nauseating in the stomach. 1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) II. 538 Vomiting is here to be preferred to nauseating.

Nau·seating, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ing 2.] That nauseates; sickening.

1645 Bp. Hall *Remedy Discontent* 44 To compare it with their own delicate and nauseating superfluities. 1661 K. W. *Conf. Charac., Hording Hagg* (1860) 90 The asse-fœtida..(by its nauseating odour). 1725 Bradley *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Radish*, They are hard of digestion, causing nauseating eructations. 1809 *Med. Jrnl.* XXI. 119 Administered in nauseating doses. 1865 Livingstone *Zambesi* xxix. 594 We again allude to the nauseating subject because it is of importance.

Hence **Nau·seatingly** *adv.*

1883 L. Wingfield *Abigel Rowe* I. iv. 72 All birds and trees and cows are nauseatingly alike.

Nausea·tion. [f. Nauseate *v.*: see -ation.] The action of nauseating, or the state of being nauseated; sickness.

1628 Bp. Hall *Old Relig.* Ded., Let not their palates be humour'd in this wanton nauseation. 1652 — *Invis. World* I. § 9 The angels look upon our natural infirmities..without any offence or nauseation. 1847 in Webster. 1885 *Science* VI. 154/1 There is no nauseation.

†Nau·seative, *a. Obs.* [ad. med.L. **nauseātīv-us*: see Nauseate *v.* and -ative. So obs. F. *nauseatif, -ive* (1495).] Inclined to nausea.

1620 Venner *Via Recta* iii. 48 That flesh which is ouerfat is hurtfull to the stomacke, by causing a nauseatiue disposition. 1657 B. W. tr. *Bauderon's Expert Phisic.* 111 If the sick bee nauseative, give a vomit.

†Nauseity. *Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. Nause-ous + -ity.] A nauseous medicine.

1683 Tryon *Way to Health* 536 Let no man have Faith.. in such adulterated confused Nauseities.

Nauseous (nɔ̄·ʃəs, nɔ̄·siəs), *a.* Also 7 naus-, nauc-, 8 nautious. [f. Nause-a + -ous, or ad. L. *nauseōs-us* (Pliny); cf. F. *nauséeux.*]

†1. Inclined to nausea; fastidious. *Obs. rare.*

1604 R. Cawdrey *Table Alph.* (1613), *Nauseous*, loathing or disposed to vomit. 1651 French *Distill.* v. 144 It may be given..to children or those that are of a nauseous stomack. 1678 Ray *Prov.* (ed. 2) Pref., I have..so veiled them, that I hope they will not turn the stomach of the most nauseous.

2. Causing nausea or squeamishness; in later use also, highly unpleasant to the taste or smell.

1612 Woodall *Surg. Mate* Wks. (1653) 308 To expel nauseous distempers. 1647 Ward *Simp. Cobler* 27, I have no heart to the voyage, least their nauseous shapes and the Sea, should work too sorely upon my stomach. 1744 Berkeley *Siris* § 1 This method produceth tar-water of a nauseous kind. 1781 Cowper *Hope* 509 The full-gorged savage, at his nauseous feast Spent half the darkness. 1840 Dickens *Barn. Rudge* vii, Cured by remedies in themselves very nauseous and unpalatable. 1875 Helps *Soc. Press.* vi. 80, I used to eat the nauseous bits first.

absol. 1793 W. Roberts *Looker-on* No. 53 (1794) II. 287 To imitate our fashionable physicians in mixing up together ..the nauseous and the nice.

b. Of tastes or smells: Nasty, unpleasant.

1727 *Philip Quarll* 217 More offensive than the most nautious Odour of an old Sepulchre. 1789 W. Buchan *Dom. Med.* (1790) 155 This both improves the medicine, and takes off the nauseous taste. 1828 Sir J. E. Smith *Eng. Flowers* II. 15 A strong, permanent, nauseous odour, like stale salt-fish. 1868 W. S. O. *Figuier's Ocean World* I. 17 A peculiar flavour, slightly acrid and bitter, and a little nauseous.

3. *fig.* Loathsome, disgusting; highly offensive.

1663 Cowley *Verses & Ess.* (1669) 21 To those..The good does nauseous or insipid grow. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* Ded., Greatness they said was nauseous, and a Crowd was troublesome. 1751 Butler *Serm.* Wks. 1874 II. 337 All affectation of talking piously is quite nauseous. 1771 *Junius Lett.* liv. (1788) 299, I will not insist upon the nauseous detail. 1817 Byron *Beppo* lxxxvi, A deal of swearing, And nauseous words past mentioning or bearing. 1852 Gladstone *Glean.* (1879) IV. 120 A piece of nauseous affectation. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 30 Mar. 5/2 He had persecuted her .. with his nauseous attentions.

Nau·seously, *adv.* [f. prec. + -ly 2.] In a nauseous manner; to a nauseous extent, etc. (In *lit.* and *fig.* senses.)

1668 H. More *Div. Dial.* II. xviii. (1713) 146 So may the exercise of the Animal Functions or Passions..become very nauseously evil. *a* 1721 Sheffield (Dk. Buckhm.) *Wks.* (1753) I. 97 That silly thing..With which our age so nauseously is cloy'd. 1750 Rutty in *Phil. Trans.* LI. 470 It is of a subacid taste, and very nauseously vitriolic. 1867

BUSHNELL in *Hours at Home* Nov. 2 This..nauseously absurd way of criticism.

Nau·seousness. [f. as prec. + -NESS.]

†**1.** A feeling of nausea; squeamishness. *Obs.* (common in 17th c.)

1612 WOODALL *Surg. Mate* Wks. (1653) 306 Accompanied with crude nauseousnesse of the stomach. 1651 J. F[REAKE] *Agrippa's Occ. Philos.* 143 The seeing of any filthy thing causeth nauseousness. 1725 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Malt liquor*, Nauseousness at the stomach.

† b. *fig.* Also const. *of* (the thing disliked). *Obs.*

1622 MABBE tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* II. 9 If thou shalt..tell me, that..I cause nauciousnesse in this my Discourse. 1673 O. WALKER *Educ.* (1677) 298 To man alone.. hath nature given a nauseousness of the present. 1693 SHADWELL *Volunteers* I. i, Affected to nauseousness.

2. The quality of being nauseous.

c 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* (1892) II. 662 They use to stir the humours so violently by their nauseousness. 1687 SETTLE *Refl. Dryden* 6 Which.., besides the nauseousness of the Simile, is no true Position. 1745 P. THOMAS *Jrnl. Anson's Voy.* 148 The Dirt, Nauseousness, and Stench almost every where intolerable. 1821–30 LD. COCKBURN *Mem.* i. (1856) 38 A faint conception of their nauseousness may be formed from the following examples. 1882 'OUIDA' *Maremma* I. 177 The nauseousness of the atmosphere of the seashore in Maremma.

† **Nau·siness.** *Obs. rare* −°. = NAUSEOUSNESS 1.

1598 FLORIO, *Nausea*, nausines,..lothing..of things.

† **Nau·sity.** *Obs. rare.* [f. NAUS-EA + -ITY.] a. Nauseous procedure. b. Nausea.

1654 VILVAIN *Theorem. Theol.* i. 25 'Tis nausity to serv forth twise sod Coleworts. 1685 COTTON tr. *Montaigne* xcvii. (1869) 681 It has in truth given me a kind of nausity to meaner conversations.

Naut, obs. f. NAUGHT; obs. var. NOWT.

Nautch (nǭtʃ), *sb.* Also **nach, nách, nâch, natch.** [a. Urdū (Hindī) *nāch*, Prakrit *nachcha*, Skr. *nṛitya*, dancing, acting, f. *nṛit-* to dance.]

1. An East Indian exhibition of dancing, performed by professional dancing-girls.

a. 1809 BROUGHTON *Lett. Mahratta Camp* xvi. (1892) 142 You Europeans are apt to picture to yourselves a *Nach* as a most attractive spectacle. 1849 EASTWICK *Dry Leaves* 174, I pass over the usual festivities of a native marriage, and the Nách given me by Fazal.

β. c 1813 MRS. SHERWOOD *Ayah & Lady* iv. 24, I thought of nothing but..going out to great dinners and nautches. 1862 BEVERIDGE *Hist. India* II. VI. viii. 781 Holkar was said to have had a grand nautch. 1864 TREVELYAN *Compet. Wallah* 126, I could not have believed in the existence of an entertainment so extravagantly dull as a Nautch.

b. A nautch girl.

1872 BROWNING *Fifine* xxxi, The Pariah of the North, the European Nautch!

2. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *nautch dance, dancer, girl, woman.*

1858 W. H. RUSSELL *Diary in India* II. 275, I don't think the *nautch dance calculated to improve their minds. 1879 E. ARNOLD *Lt. Asia* VI. iv, A band of tinselled girls, the *nautch dancers Of Indra's temple. 1809 BROUGHTON *Lett. Mahratta Camp* xi. (1892) 93 Two sets of *Nach girls. 1879 E. ARNOLD *Lt. Asia* I. iv, The nautch girls in their spangled skirts and bells. 1825 HEBER *Journey* (1828) II. 136 The *Nâch women were, as usual, ugly.

Hence **Nautch** *v. intr.*, to dance at or as at a nautch. Also **Nau·tching** *vbl. sb.*

1851 R. F. BURTON *Goa* 125 When mere children they are initiated in the mysteries of nautching. 1859 — *Centr. Afr.* in *Jrnl. Geog. Soc.* XXIX. 266 They will fly to their drums, rush about, jump, and nautch, as if hung on wires.

† **Nautheless,** *adv. Obs. rare.* Also **naw-.** [app. f. *naut, nawt* NAUGHT.] = NATHELESS.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 877 Nauþelez þa3 hit schowted scharpe. *Ibid.* 950 Of motes two to carpe clene & Ierusalem hy3t boþe nawþeles.

Nauther (nǭ·ðəɹ), *pron.* and *conj. Obs.* exc. *dial.* Forms: 1 **nawðer,** 1, 4 **nawþer,** 5, 9 **nawther,** 5 **nawder**; 1 **nauðer** (-ær), 4 **nauþer,** 4–5 **nauthir,** (5 **-yr**), 4–5 (9) **nauther.** [OE. *nawðer, nauðer* (= OFris. *nauder*), contracted form of *náhwæðer* (OFris. *nahwedder*), f. *ná* NA *adv.*1 + *hwæðer* WHETHER. See also NATHER, NOTHER, and NOUTHER.]

A. *pron.* Neither (of two persons or things).

c 888 K. ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xvi. § 4 Hi ȝecyðað on heora endunge..þæt hie nauðer ne bioð. *Ibid.* xxix. § 3 Swa hwæðer swa hi dydon, ne dohte him ða nawðer. *c* 1375 *Cursor M.* 5831 (Fairf.), If þai trow nauþer of þa. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 2837 Nawther company by course hade Kennyng of other. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* ii. 252 Na, nawder of thise ij will I leife.

B. *conj.* Neither (.. nor).

c 888 K. ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xvi. § 4 Nawðer ne se wela ne se anweald..ne beoð to wenanne [etc.]. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 45 Hi þonne ne mihtan nawþer ne him sylfum, ne þære heorde ..nænige gode beon. 13.. *Cursor M.* 23134 (Edinb.) Þat lufe to knaw, þat nauthir..wil for luf ne au [etc.]. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 203 Whe3er hade he no helme ne hawbergh nauþer. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 4329 Nauther law ne belefe lenton hom to. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xxvi. 153 To neuen this note nomore vs nedys, nawder euen nor morne. 1828 *Craven Gloss.* 1877 *North-W. Linc. Gloss.* 1883 *Almondbury Gloss.*

Nautic (nǭ·tik), *a.* and *sb.* Also 7 **nautike, -tick.** [ad. F. *nautique* (*c* 1500) or L. *nautic-us*, ad. Gr. *ναυτικός*, f. *ναύτης* sailor, *ναῦς* ship.]

A. *adj.* Nautical. (Chiefly in poetic or dignified use.) *Nautic mile*: see MILE.

1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1864) 46 Cutting off the Mogols Nautike hands in hindring the mutuall Traffike of their Subiects. 1669 GALE *Crt. Gentiles* I. II. vi. 75 Neptune .. was made to be the God of Nautic Science. 1762 FALCONER *To Dk. of York* 201 The incense of a nautic Muse! 1779 FORREST *Voy. N. Guinea* 305 Orators, as well as poets, celebrate the nautic song. 1813 SOUTHEY *Nelson* II. 85 Part of them were drafted into the different regiments, and the remainder formed into a corps, called the nautic legion. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* Introd. 10 The most general nautic dishes and refections. 1867 J. B. ROSE tr. *Virgil's Æneid* 122 The nautic clamour echoes on the shores.

B. *sb. pl.* The art or science of navigation.

1793 W. TAYLOR in *Monthly Rev.* XI. 564 After..1600, all the branches of nautics came to be generally studied.

Nautical (nǭ·tikăl), *a.* Also 6 **nawtical,** 6–7 **nauticall.** [f. prec. + -AL.]

1. Pertaining to seamen or to the art of navigation; naval, marine, maritime.

1552– [see below]. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Nautical*, belonging to ships or Marriners. 1796 H. HUNTER tr. *St.-Pierre's Stud. Nat.* (1799) III. 25 The fifth nautical proof of the elevation of the Poles above the Horizon. 1800 COLQUHOUN *Comm. Thames* Pref., Those..concerned in Navigation and Commerce, and who follow Nautical Pursuits. 1834 M. SCOTT *Cruise Midge* (1859) 325 My nautical enthusiasm fairly got the better of me. 1856 KANE *Arct. Expl.* I. xxvi. 349 As to nautical rules, they do not fit the circumstances.

b. In special applications, as *nautical almanac, angle, astronomy, card, compass, day, distance, ephemeris, indicator, mile, planisphere, stars, tables*, etc. (see quots. and the various sbs.).

1552– [see below]. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Nautical*, belonging to ships or Marriners. 1796 H. HUNTER tr. *St.-Pierre's Stud. Nat.* (1799) III. 25 The fifth nautical proof of the elevation of the Poles above the Horizon. 1800 COLQUHOUN *Comm. Thames* Pref., Those..concerned in Navigation and Commerce, and who follow Nautical Pursuits. 1834 M. SCOTT *Cruise Midge* (1859) 325 My nautical enthusiasm fairly got the better of me. 1856 KANE *Arct. Expl.* I. xxvi. 349 As to nautical rules, they do not fit the circumstances.

1765 in *Naut. Almanac* (1767) p. i, That it .. may be lawful to and for the said Commissioners to cause such *Nautical Almanacks..to be constructed. 1796 HUTTON *Math. Dict.* s.v. *Ephemeris*, The Nautical Almanac,..published in England by the Board of Longitude. 1854 MOSELEY *Astron.* lxxxviii. (ed. 4) 232 The Nautical Almanac for 1835 contained ephemerides of two of them. 1823 CRABB *Technol. Dict.*, **Nautical angle*, an instrument by which a ship's departure, meridional difference, etc. are obtained from inspection. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* 492 **Nautical Astronomy*, that part of the celestial science which .. relates to the purposes of navigation. 1700 MOXON *Math. Dict.* 103 **Nautical Card*, for Multiplication, Division and Extraction of Roots with much ease. 1552 HULOET B iiij b, Anaximander..inuented the *Nauticall..compasse. 1605 CAMDEN *Rem., Impresses* 172 He elegantly shewed by whom he was drawne, which depainted the Nauticall compasse [etc.]. 1668 MOXON *Mech. Dyalling* 8 A Card of the Nautical Compass. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* 492 **Nautical Day*. This day commences at noon, twelve hours before the civil day. 1855 OGILVIE *Suppl.* s.v., The rhumb-line intercepted between any two places through which it passes, is called their *nautical distance. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* I. 558 The exact times at which the eclipses of Jupiter's satellites will occur..are given..in the *nautical ephemeris. 1850 OGILVIE, **Nautical indicator*, an instrument for finding the latitude, longitude, and variation of the compass at sea. 1599 E. WRIGHT *Errors Navig.* ii. C 3 To shew by what kinde of proiection..the *nautical planisphere may..be conceiued to bee geometrically made. 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Nautical Planisphere*, is a Description of the Terrestrial Globe upon a Plane, for the Use of Mariners. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* 492 **Nautical Stars*, about 72 of the brightest, which have been selected for determining the latitude or the longitude. *Ibid.*, **Nautical Tables*, those especially computed for resolution of matters dependent on nautical astronomy, and navigation generally.

2. *absol.* A nautical person or writer.

1840 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. I. *Mr. Peters's Story* ix, Sir E. Lytton Bulwer, who brought up the rear of the 'Nauticals'. 1842 *Ibid.* Ser. II. *Dead Drummer* xiii, [He] Began 'spinning' what nàuticals term a 'tough yarn'.

Hence **Nautica·lity,** the quality of being nautical; **Nau·tically** *adv.*, in a nautical fashion.

1835 MARRYAT *Jac. Faithf.* xliv, You are very nautically poetical. 1887 THEO. GIFT *Victims* I. i. 5 [Dress] almost Parisian in its dainty nauticality.

Nautilian (nǭti·liăn), *a.* [f. NAUTIL-US + -IAN.] Pertaining to the nautili.

1883 *Proc. Boston* (U.S.) *Soc. Nat. Hist.* 297 The species of this family have the typical nautilian whorls.

Nauti·liform, *a.* [f. NAUTIL-US + -(I)FORM.] Having the form of a nautilus.

1896 *Naturalist* 291 A large nautiliform cephalopod.

Nautilite (nǭ·tilăit). *Palæont.* Also **-ites.** [f. as prec. + -ITE 1.] A fossil nautilus.

1748 *Phil. Trans.* (1750) XLV. 320 A beautiful Nautilites, shewn to the Royal Society by the Rev. Charles Lyttleton. 1794 SULLIVAN *View Nat.* II. 175 Those of the testaceous class, as Nautilites. 1799 KIRWAN *Geol. Ess.* 247 A red argillite, which is secondary; for a petrified nautilite was found in it. 1822 G. YOUNG *Geol. Yorksh. Coast* 255 Polished sections of nautilites or ammonites.

Nautiloid (nǭ·tiloid), *a.* and *sb.* [-OID.]

A. *adj.* Resembling the nautilus in form.

1847 in WEBSTER. 1851 RICHARDSON *Geol.* (ed. 2) viii. 222 The..structure of their shell, many of which resemble those of the nautiloid molluscs. 1870 H. A. NICHOLSON *Man. Zool.* (1875) 62 In the true nautiloid shell the convolutions of the spiral lie in a single plane.

B. *sb.* A nautiloid mollusc.

1847 in WEBSTER. 1883 *Proc. Boston* (U.S.) *Soc. Nat. Hist.* 297 This is..applicable to all the families of Nautiloids in which the annular lobes appear.

Nautilus (nǭ·tilŭs). Pl. **nautili** (nǭ·tilăi); also **-uses.** [a. L. *nautilus*, ad. Gr. *ναυτίλος* sailor, nautilus, f. *ναύτης* seaman, *ναῦς* ship. Cf. F. *nautile* (16th c.).]

1. The Paper or Pearly Nautilus (see 2), or one of the many fossil species related to the latter.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* IX. xxix. I. 250 Of the Calamarie, Cuttles, Polypes, and Boat-fishes called Nautili. 1661 LOVELL *Hist. Anim. & Min.* Isagoge a 7 b, Fishes, which are ..involute, as the Nautilus. 1733 POPE *Ess. Man* III. 178 Learn of the little Nautilus to sail, Spread the thin oar, and catch the driving gale. 1755 *Gentl. Mag.* XXV. 128 The fourth Tribe called Nautiluses. *Ibid.*, The particular species of the Nautilus, as shells, are the paperaceous, the eared, and the umbilical. 1824 W. N. BLANS *Excurs.* 7 The nautili, if in danger of being run over, will, as the sailors term it, capsize. 1860 MAURY *Phys. Geog. Sea* xviii. § 740 The tiny little Nautilus, one of the oldest families in the sea. 1893 SIR R. BALL *Story of Sun* 294 Ammonites, which are allied to the nautilus of our present seas.

attrib. 1692 RAY *Disc.* II. iv. (1693) 148 There are no Nautili .. comparable in bigness to that Nautilus stone of twenty eight pound found by Mr. Waller. *Ibid.* 150 Mr. Waller..writes, That he..making a search after the *Cornua Ammonis*, found one of the true Nautilus shape. 1746 DA COSTA in *Phil. Trans.* XLIV. 398 A shell related to the Nautilus kind. 1831 SCOTT in Lockhart *Life* (1839) X. 130 A fairy cup made out of a Nautilus shell. 1851 WOODWARD *Mollusca* I. 48 The nautilus shell corresponds to that of the gasteropod.

2. a. *Paper* (or †*paper-shellea*) *Nautilus*, the argonaut, a small dibranchiate cephalopod, the female of which is protected by a very thin, single-chambered, detached shell, and has webbed dorsal arms which it was formerly believed to use as sails.

1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* s.v., The polypus is by no means to be confounded with the paper-shelled *nautilus*. ? 1792 SHAW *Naturalist's Misc.* III. pl. 101 The Argonaut, or Paper Nautilus. 1854 AGNES CATLOW *Pop. Conchol.* (ed. 2) 28 The curious and beautiful shells of the *Argonauta Argo*, or Paper Nautilus, are found in the seas of warm latitudes. 1870 H. A. NICHOLSON *Man. Zool.* li. (1875) 363 In the former of these [families] there is only the single genus *Argonauta* (the Paper Sailor, or the Paper Nautilus).

b. *Pearly Nautilus*, a tetrabranchiate cephalopod (*N. pompilius*) found in the Indian and Pacific Oceans, having a beautiful chambered shell with nacreous septa.

1776 [see PEARLY *a.* 2 b]. *c* 1800 SHAW *Naturalist's Misc.* XIII. pl. 515 The great pearly Nautilus. 1829 BENNETT in Owen *Pearly Nautilus* (1832) 7 In the evening a Pearly Nautilus..was seen in Marekini Bay. 1870 H. A. NICHOLSON *Man. Zool.* li. (1875) 370 The structure of the shell in the *Ammonitidæ* is exactly that of the Pearly Nautilus.

3. A form of diving-bell. (Knight *Dict. Mech.*)

Naval (nē·lvăl), *a.* (and *sb.*) Also 7 **navale, -all.** [ad. L. *nāvālis*, f. *nāvis* ship: see -AL. Cf. F. *naval*, *-ale* (13–14th c.).]

1. *Naval crown*, etc., the crown or garland given by the Romans to one who had gained a victory, or shown special bravery, in a sea-fight.

1593 PEELE *Edw. I*, A 3 b, Welcome manly followers, That .. on your war drums carry crownes as kings, Crowne Murall, Nauall. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XXII. iii. II. 115 The Navall garlands given to admirals and generals at sea, for obtaining victorie in that kind of service. *Ibid.* Index, Naval chaplets. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* s.v., The Naval Crown was given to him, who first entred the enemies ship in a Battle at Sea. 1727–38 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v., Though A. Gellius..says the naval crown was adorned with prows of ships, Lipsius distinguishes two kinds of naval crowns.

2. Of or pertaining to, connected with, characteristic of, used in, the navy († or shipping in general).

1602 DOLMAN *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* (1618) III. 793 Of the oldest Pines is pitch made, which is called Naual, by reason that it is very good to pitch Ships. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 54 Our Master, according to the navall discipline, not to put to sea with one anchor, returned backe to the harbour. *Ibid.* 272 Depford, the Navall storehouse. 1665 MANLEY *Grotius' Low C. Wars* 173 The Commands of the Sea was betrayed, by the exhausting the Navall Revenues. *Ibid.* 193 To order and settle all Navall matters. 1710 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* II, *Naval Architecture.* 1756–7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) III. 2 One .. from the naval ornaments carved on it, is thought to have belonged to a sea-officer. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* I. 160 At the northern extremity of the Town, is the king's naval yard. 1813 BYRON *Corsair* I. xvii, He..unfolds his plan .. and spreads the chart, And all that speaks and aids the naval art. 1837 W. IRVING *Capt. Bonneville* III. 81 This favoured port combines advantages which..fit it for a grand naval depôt. 1878 BESANT & RICE *Celia's Arb.* ix, A tall and good-looking young sailor, in his naval rig.

b. *Naval stores*, all those articles or materials made use of in shipping or in the navy. Also *spec.* (see quot. 1896).

1678 MARVELL *Growth Popery* 34 It was alleged..That we had not Naval Stores and Ammunition, &c. sufficient for such a Purpose. 1699 DRYDEN *Ep. J. Driden* 148 Be then the naval stores the nation's care. 1753 HANWAY *Trav.* I. VI. LXXXV. 392 The prices this nation might pay for naval stores. 1812 *Examiner* 12 Oct. 648/2 The other, a bombard, laden with naval stores, got aground. 1896 *Pop. Sci. Monthly* Feb. 472 The different resinous products of trade, which go under the name of 'naval stores'.

† c. Of the nature of a ship. *Obs. rare* −1.

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* IV. v. 192 The Ark or navall edifice of Noah.

3. Fought, gained, sustained, carried out, etc., by means of ships or a navy.

1606 HOLLAND *Sueton.* 17 To set out the Naumachie or naval battaile, there was a place digged for a great poole. 1660 R. COKE *Power & Subj.* 71 Lest .. the Seamen should be forgetful and unfitting for naval warfare. 1700 PRIOR *Carm. Sec.* 327 Beaks of ships in naval triumph borne. 1750 BEAWES *Lex Mercat.* (1752) 244 His Sicilian Expedition, so fatal to his Arms in their naval Conflict with Sir George Byng. 1802 JAMES *Milit. Dict.*, *Naval engagement* implies, in general, either a sea-fight between single ships, or whole fleets of men of war, or gallies, &c. 1849–50 ALISON

Hist. Eur. VII. xliii. § 41. 123 He never again ventured on naval enterprises.

b. Consisting of ships of war.

1617 Morvson *Itin.* I. 2 The Hamburgers had in vaine attempted by Nauall forces to forbid the arriuall of the English at Stode. 1720 Strype *Stow's Surv.* I. I. xxvii. 215 The Naval Strength of this Realm. 1769 Burke *Late St. Nat.* Wks. 1842 I. 98 What naval force .. [is] necessary to keep our marine in a condition commensurate to its great ends. 1836 Thirlwall *Greece* xv. (1839) II. 259 After the naval armament had coasted the intervening bays. 1887 Ld. Brassey in T. H. Ward *Reign Q. Vict.* 237 The wide expansion of naval force which has been demanded by the altered circumstances of the times.

c. Distinguished by, resting or based on, the possession of war-ships.

1678 Marvell *Growth Popery* Wks. (Grosart) IV. 294 So that the two great naval powers of Europe being crushed together, he might remain sole arbitrator of the ocean. 1738 Warburton *Div. Legat.* II. iv. Wks. 1788 I. 233 The great advantages of cultivating a naval power. 1813 Wellington in Gurw. *Desp.* (1838) X. 592 Since Great Britain has been a naval power n British army has never been left in such a situation. 1869 Rawlinson *Anc. Hist.* 78 The naval power of Carthage.

4. Of persons: Belonging to, connected with, or serving in, the navy.

1667 Pepys *Diary* 4 Sept., [Sir W. Coventry] told me that he must now take leave of me as a naval man. 1745 *Observ. cone. Navy* 21 Not only Naval Seamen should have Tickets, but likewise all other Seamen. 1769 Falconer *Dict. Marine* (1780), *Garde de la marine*, a midshipman, or naval cadet. 1807 *Med. Jrnl.* XVII. 158, I should..be led to conclude he is a naval practitioner. 1839 W. Chambers *Tour Holland* 33/1 Monuments to Dutch naval commanders. 1863 P. Barry *Dockyard Econ.* 141 Naval Lords of the Admiralty..have only to talk him over, and he is the servant of those Naval Lords.

b. *Naval officer*: (see quots. and Officer *sb.* 4).

1769 Falconer *Dict. Marine* (1780) s.v. *Naval.* 1802 James *Milit. Dict.*, *Naval officers* are admirals, captains, lieutenants, masters, boatswains, midshipmen, gunners, &c. 1846 Young *Naut. Dict.* s.v. *Naval*, The various subjects connected with the duties of naval officers. 1871 De Vere *Americanisms* 264 Another such office is that of Naval Officer, whose duty it is to receive copies of all manifests and entries in the Custom-House.

c. (*Royal*) *Naval Reserve*: (see Reserve *sb.* 2 b).

1863 Young *Naut. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Royal Naval Reserve*, an establishment of volunteers, consisting of able merchant seamen who .. agree to serve on board of ships of war in case of need. 1876 Ham *Revenue Vade-m.* 392 Her Majesty may accept offers of persons recommended by the Admiralty to serve as officers of the Royal Naval Reserve. 1885 *Pall Mall G.* 16 June 1/2 These seamen are usually called Royal Naval Reserve men.

5. *sb. pl.* †**a.** Naval achievements. *Obs. rare*$^{-1}$.

a 1674 Clarendon *Life* (1759) II. 507 The Action..surpassed all that was done in Cromwell's Time, whose Navals were much greater than had ever been in any Age.

b. Naval men. *rare.*

1836 Haliburton *Clockm.* Ser. I. xii. (1837) 99, I guess it's natural for you to say so of the buttons of our navals.

Navalism (nē'·vălizm). [f. prec. + -ism.] The domination of naval interests.

1892 *Nation* (N. Y.) 21 Jan. 44/2 Mr. Blaine..co-operated with Mr. Tracy in..handing the foreign policy of the Government over to navalism. 1896 *Daily News* 4 Dec. 7/3 His party would not vote a man..for navalism.

Navally (nē'·vălі), *adv.* [f. Naval *a.* + -ly 2.] In a naval manner; from a naval point of view. Also *navally crowned* (see Naval *a.* 1).

1816 in J. B. Paul *Ord. Sc. Arms* (1893) 159/2 Or, a lion rampant gu., navally crowned az. 1836 Cobden *Russia* Pol. Writ. (1878) 120 Russia even at Constantinople would.. commercially and navally speaking be three times as distant as New York from Great Britain. 1898 *Daily News* 8 Aug. 5/5 China cannot compete navally with any of the three Powers either singly or combined.

Navarch (nē'·vaɪk). *Gr. Antiq. rare.* [ad. Gr. *ναύαρχος* (L. *nau-*, *navarchus*), f. *ναῦς* ship + *ἀρχός* leader.] The commander of a fleet; an admiral.

1828–32 Webster cites Mitford. 1836 Thirlwall *Greece* xx. III. 149 Cnemus, the Spartan navarch, or high admiral.

Navarchy (nē'·vaɪkı). [ad. Gr. *ναυαρχία* (late L. *navarchia*): see prec. and -y 1.]

†**1.** App. misused for 'ship-building'. *Obs.*$^{-1}$

1648 W. Petty *Advice to Hartlib* 6 That all Children .. be taught some gentile Manufacture, such as are Navarchy and making Modells for building and rigging of Ships.

2. The office of a navarch; the period during which such office is exercised.

1850 Grote *Greece* II. lxiv. VIII. 187 *note*, The commencement of Lysander's navarchy or year of maritime command appears to me established for this winter.

†**Nava·tion.** *Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. [f. L. *nāv-āre* to do zealously, perform diligently, etc. + -ation.] A contrivance, scheme, plan.

1628 Feltham *Resolves* II. xii. 34 Euery good man .. must be wise and circumspect, to vaine the sleeke nauations of those that would undoe him.

Nave (nēiv), *sb.*1 Forms: *α.* 1 nabæ, nafa, nafu, 4–5 nafe, 4–7 naue, (5 nawe), 4– nave. *β.* 4 naf, 4, 9 naff, (9 knaff), 5–7 naffe. [OE. *nafu* fem., *nafa* masc. = MDu. *nave* (*naef*, *naf*; Du. *naaf*), MLG. *nave*, OHG. *naba*, *napa* (G. *nabe*), ON. *naf-*, *npf* (Sw. *naf*, Da. *nav*):—Comm. Teut. **naƀō*, related to Lett. *naba* navel, OPruss. *nabis*, Skr. *nābhi*, *nābha* nave and navel.]

1. The central part or block of a wheel, into which the end of the axle-tree is inserted, and from which the spokes radiate; a hub.

α. *c* 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) M 256 *Modioli*, habæ [*for* nabæ; *Epinal* nabæ, *Erfurt* nebæ]. *c* 888 K. Ælfred *Boeth.* xxxix. § 7 Þæt hweol hwerfð ymbutan & sio nafu next þære eaxe. *Ibid.*, Þa spacan..bioð þeah fæste on ðære nafe, & se nafa on ðære eaxe. 1382 Wyclif 1 *Kings* vii. 33 The spokys, and the felijs, and the naue, alle ȝoten. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Sompn. T.* 562 Than shal this cherl..sette him on the wheel right of this cart, Upon the nave. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 351/2 Nave of a qwele, *modius*, *et modiolus*. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron.*, *Rich. III* 25 b, Blew velues embroudered with the naues of Cartes hurnyng of gold. 1598 Chapman *Iliad* v. 734 The naves, in which the spokes were driven, were all with silver bound. 1679 Cocks *Forest & Fruit-Trees* a 2 Eighty pair of Naves were made out of it. 1720 Pope *Iliad* xxiii. 412 The wheel's round naves appear to brush the goal. *a* 1774 Goldsm. *Surv. Exp. Philos.* (1776) I. 282 Such as in the nave of a wheel, in the axle of a pulley, and such like. 1803 Wellington in Gurw. *Desp.* (1837) I. 434 Four carriages, for 6 pounders, with brass naves, are preparing. 1838 *Civ. Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* I. 384/2 The naves of the paddles are of wrought iron. 1877 W. Jones *Fingering* 22 The cart-wheels sank up to their naves.

β. 1388–9 *Durham Acc. Rolls* 391 In factura unius par. rotarum cum ij par. de naffs. 1393–4 *Ibid.* 392 Pro rotis, nafs, et alia husbanderia. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 248/1 A Naffe of a qwele, *meditulium*, *modiolus*. 1593 R. Barnes *Parthen.* in Arb. *Garner* V. 403 An orient jet which did not move, To Cupid's chariot wheel, made for the naffe, Was fixed. 1653 G. Daniel *Idyll* iii. 56 Whip vp and downe The grateing Orbes; all in a tracke, t'enflame Their Naffes drye-worne. 1796 W. Marshall *Yorksh.* (ed. 2) II. 334. 1824 in *Cumbld. Gloss.* (1899) 221/1 Wheels with nafls (naves), spokes and felloes. 1855 Robinson *Whitby Gloss.* 1873– in north. dial. glossaries (Northumb., Cumb., Yks.).

b. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *nave-band*, *-box*, *-deep*, *-hole*, *-hoop*, *-shaped*, *-stock.*

1388 Wyclif 1 *Kings* vii. 33 The extrees, and the naue stockis [*v. r.* nauelstockis], and the spokis .. were ȝotun. 1753 Chambers *Cycl. Supp.* s.v., It is bound at each end with hoops of iron, called the nave-bands. 1802 James *Milit. Dict.*, *Nave-boxes* were formerly made of brass. *Ibid.*, *Nave-hoops* are flat iron rings to bind the nave. 1839 Lindley *Bot.* (ed. 3) 454 Nave-shaped. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.* 493 *Nave-hole*, the hole in the centre of a gun-truck for receiving the end of the axle-tree. 1876 Voyle & Stevenson *Milit. Dict.* 269/1 The nave-box is made of gun-metal. 1882 E. Arnold *Pearls of Faith* xxiii. (1883) 84 Through foeman's blood nave-deep he drave his wheel.

†**2.** ? The navel. *Obs. rare*$^{-1}$.

1605 Shaks. *Mach.* I. ii. 22 Braue Macbeth..neu'r shooke hands, nor bad farwell to him, Till he vnseam'd him from the Naue to th' Chops.

Nave (nēiv), *sb.*2 [= Sp. and It. *nave*, ad. L. *nāvem*, acc. of *nāvis* ship: see also Nef.] The main part or body of a church, extending from the inner door to the choir or chancel, and usually separated from the aisle on each side by pillars.

1673 Ray *Journ. Low C.* 261 A double isle on each side of the Nave. 1682 N. O. *Boileau's Lutrin* III. 63 With equal pace the Temples Nave they measure! 1726 Ayliffe *Parergon* 169 It comprehends the whole Church, viz. the Nave or Body of the Church together with the Chancel. 1791 Mrs. Radcliffe *Rom. Forest* ii, From this chapel he passed into the nave of the great Church. 1823 Byron *Island* iv. vii, The fretted pinnacle, the aisle, the nave, Were there. 1859 Jephson *Brittany* ii. 15 The massive pillars of the nave have a solemn and grand effect. *a* 1878 Sir G. Scott *Lect. Archit.* (1879) I. 52 Let us suppose it applied to the nave of a basilica in place of the timber roof.

attrib. and *Comb.* 1850 Inkersley *Styles Archit. France* 311 The windows opened in the nave-aisle walls. 1883 Farrar in *Pall Mall G.* 27 Dec. 2/2 The nave services of all our great cathedrals are the results of this experiment.

Hence **Nave** *v.*, *trans.* to make like a nave.

1820 Shelley in Medwin *Convers. Byron* (1824) I. 19 Follow the graceful curve of the palaces on the Lung' Arno till the arch is naved by the massy dungeon-tower.

†**Nave,** have not: see Ne and Have *v.* A. 9. *Obs.* See also Nabbe, Nad, Nas.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* John iv. 17 Uel ðu cuede þætte nafu [ic] wer. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 31 He nænize mehte wið us nafað. *a* 1000 *Andreas* 311 (Gr.), Nafast þe to frofre..hlafes wiste? *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 29 Nauest þu nefre milce of heofenlic drihten. *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* 5 Ha naueð nawt freo of hire seluen. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 8223 V naue no wyt To open þe knottes þat Merlyn knyt. 1362 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. I. 157 Ȝe naue no more merit in masse ne in houres. *c* 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* st. 288 Y naue nouther wytte ny space All here godenesse forto wryte.

Nave, obs. f. Navy, obs. or dial. f. Nieve, fist.

Navee, obs. form of Navy.

Navegar, -gor, obs. (early ME.) ff. Auger.

Navel (nē'·v'l), *sb.* Forms: *α.* 1 nabula, nafela, navela, nafla, 3–4 nauele, (4 nav-), 4–7 nauel, -ell, (5–7 -il, -ill, -yl, -yle, -yll, 5 nawelle, -ylle, etc.), 5–7 navell, (6 -yll, 6–7 -il; 5 nable, 6–7 navle, 7 naple), 5– navel; 4 naule, nawle, 6 nale, 9 *dial.* nawl. *β.* 3 noule, 4 nouel, 5 nowele, -yl, novyl(l, 9 *Sc.* nuil. [OE. *nafela*, masc. = OFris. *navla*, *naula*, MDu. *navel(e*, *naffel(e*, etc. (Du. *navel*), MLG. *navel*, *naffel*, OHG. *nabalo*, *napalo*, etc. (MHG. *nabele*, G. *nabel*), ON. *nafle* (Sw. *nafle*, *nafvel*, Da. *navle*):—Comm. Teut. **naƀalan-*, related to Skr. *nābhīla*, and more obscurely to Gr. *ὀμφαλός*, L. *umbilicus*, and Olr. *imbliu* (Gael. *imleag*, *iomlag*). The various forms appear to be derivatives of the stem of Nave *sb.*1]

1. A rounded depression, with a more or less raised or protuberant centre, situated on the abdomen at the point where the umbilical cord was originally attached; the umbilicus.

α. *c* 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) U 243 *Umbilicus*, nabula. *a* 850 *Kentish Glosses* in Wr.-Wülcker 56/15 *Umbilico tuo*, þinum nafelan. *c* 893 K. Ælfred *Oros.* IV. i. § 5 He ȝenedde under ænne elpent þæt he hiene on þone nafelan ofstang. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 82 ȝif men innan wyrmas eȝlen..nim ða sylfan wyrte [*sc.* waybread], ȝecnuca, leȝe on þone naflan. *a* 1290 *Pains of Hell* (MS. Digby 86) 104 Þe flod to heere nauele takeþ. *c* 1315 Shoreham I. 1197 Me schel þe mannes lenden anelye, þe nauele of þe femele. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 459 Al arn we membrez of ihesu kryst, As heued & arme & legg & naule. 1382 Wyclif *Prov.* iii. 8 Helthe forsothe shal ben in thi nauele [1388 nawle]. *c* 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) vii. 24 It had þe schappe of a man fra þe nauel dunward. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* VI. xi. 199 Launcelot..smote hym on the sholder and clafe hym to the nauel. 1523 Fitzherb. *Husb.* § 57 Se the oxe haue a greate codde, and the cowe great nauyll. 1592 J. Davies *Immort. Soul* xxxii. xxxv, Children, while within the Womb they live, Feed by the Navil. 1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* 239 The use of the Navell is to continue the infant unto the Mother. 1695 *New Light Chirurg. put out* 37 Run into the Belly about two Inches above the Navel. 1727 A. Hamilton *New Acc. E. Ind.* I. xxiv. 295 They were all naked above the Navel. 1774 J. Bryant *Mythol.* I. 245 The Deity was worshipped under the form of a navel. 1805 *Med. Jrnl.* XIV. 361 It likewise reached ..almost to the navel. 1873 Lowell *Oriental Apol.* v, [He] lifted not His eyes from off his navel's mystic knot.

fig. 1607 Shaks. *Cor.* III. i. 123 Euen when the Nauell of the State was touch'd, They would not thred the Gates.

transf. 1755 *Gentl. Mag.* XXV. 32 *Navel*, .. an aperture in the base of a shell near the center. 1766 *Compl. Farmer* s.v. *Service-tree*, Roundish berries, .. which have a depressed navel on the top.

β. *c* 1220 *Bestiary* 561 Fro ðe noule niðerward ne is ge [*sc.* the mermaid] no man like. *a* 1400 *Stockh. Medical MS.* i. 175 in *Anglia* XVIII. 299 Bynde it on þe nowele in a clout. *Ibid.* i. 485 Hoot on his nowyl ȝif it be bounde. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 95 þe neþer part of here body fro þe nouyll downward. *Ibid.*, Fro þe novyll vpward. 1860 Robson *Song Sol.* vii. 2 Thy nuil is like til a roond goblet.

†**b.** The junction of a leaf with a stem. *Obs. rare.*

a 1400 *Stockh. Medical MS.* ii. 761 in *Anglia* XVIII. 326 In euery nowele sche beryth here flowris. 1693 Evelyn *De la Quint. Compl. Gard.* II. 63 From the Navel of every Leaf a Fig will infallibly grow.

†**c.** *Lady's navel*: (see Lady 17 b). *Obs.*

d. *ellipt.* A navel orange (see 4).

1888 *U. S. Dept. Agric., Pomology* 68 These trees .. were called .. the 'Washington' or 'Riverside' Navel, to distinguish the variety from the Australian Navel.

2. The centre or central point of a country, sea, forest, etc.

1382 Wyclif *Judges* ix. 37 The puple fro the nouel of the erthe cometh doun. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) II. 41 Þe þridde ilond..stondeþ .. as it were in þe nauel of þe see. 1481 Caxton *Godfrey* clxxi. 253 This Cyte standeth as it were in the nauyll of the londe of Byheste. 1571 Golding *Calvin on Ps.* lxxiv. 12 Situate as it were in the navle of the world. 1586 J. Hooker *Hist. Irel.* in *Holinshed* II. 27/1 Some thinke this to be the middle part or nauill of that prouince. 1634 Milton *Comus* 520 Within the navil of this hideous Wood .. a Sorcerer dwels. 1695 Kennett *Par. Antiq.* i. 2 Whether any Indigence kept always here in the navel of the land, as Cesar reports. 1746 Collins *Ode Liberty* 90 'Midst the green navel of our isle. 1796 Morse *Amer. Geog.* II. 19 That dreadful vortex, or whirlpool, called by navigators the navel of the sea. 1834 J. Wilson in *Blackw. Mag.* XXXVI. 17 On the green navel of the lake. 1878 K. Oliphant *Old & Mid. Eng.* iii. 212 Derby may be called the philological navel of England.

b. The central or middle point of anything.

1603 B. Jonson *K. Jas.'s Entertain.* Wks. (Rtldg.) 530/2 May thousand branches .. style this land the navel of their peace. 1607 Middleton *Five Gallants* IV. vi, 'Tis now about the navel of the day. 1664 Evelyn tr. *Freart's Archit.* 140 Admitting the light at the top Center or Navil only, without any Lantern. 1895 Rider Haggard *Heart of World* xi, The very navel of this ancient .. civilisation.

†**c.** The middle point of a horse's back. *Obs.* (Cf. Navel-gall.)

1684 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1937/4 A new sore caused by a Pillion on the navle of his back. 1697 *Ibid.* 3337/4 Having on the Naple of the Back a place that looks as if it was formerly burnt. 1713 *Ibid.* 4880/4 A little swell'd on the Navel with an old Saddle Gall.

†**3.** The nave of a wheel. *Obs. rare.*

Cf. Kilian's *navel van 't rad* i. *nave.*

1388 [see Nave *sb.*1 1 b]. 1535 Coverdale 1 *Kings* vii. 33 Their axeltrees, spokes, nales [1537 Matthew nauelles] & shaftes were all molten. 1624 Massinger *Parlt. Love* II. iii, His body be the navel to the wheel In which your rapiers, like so many spokes, Shall meet and fix themselves!

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *navel-contemplator*, *-fibre*, *-knot*, *-rupture*, †*-stead*, *-vein*; *navel-burst*, **-high*, *-like*, *-shaped* adjs.; **navel-fallen,** a disease in pigeons (see quot.); **navel-hole** (see quot.); **navel-ill,** a disease in calves and lambs, marked by inflammation about the navel; **navel orange,** a large variety of orange, having a navel-like formation at the top; **navel-point** *Her.* (see quot.). See also Navel-string, -wort.

1589 J. Rider *Bibl. Schol.*, That is *navell-burst, *exomphalus.* 1856 R. A. Vaughan *Mystics* (1860) I. 272 They call these devotees *Navel-contemplators. 1765 *Treat. Dom. Pigeons* 37 The next distemper is what the fancy calls *navel-fallen; in this case, there is a kind of a bag hanging down near the vent. 1671 Grew *Anat. Plants* I. vii. (1682) 49 From thence .. the *Navel-Fibres shoot. 1663 Wood *Life* (O. H. S.) I. 479 Railed in with a rayl *navel high. 1828 Carr *Craven Gloss.*, **Navel-Hole*, the hole in the centre of a mill-stone, into which the grain is cast by the hopper. 1834 Youatt *Cattle* 558 The *navel-ill is a far more serious

business than some imagine. 1888 W. Williams *Pract. Vet. Med.* (ed. 5) 306 From the fact that the umbilicus is often involved in the tumefaction, the disease has been called 'navel-ill'. 1766 *Compl. Farmer* s. v. *Vegetation*, Between the roots and ascending stem, the trunk of the plant is knit by the *navel knot to the flower-leaf. 1849–52 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* IV. 1013/2 A *navel-like aperture on the anterior surface of the tumour. 1888 *U. S. Dept. Agric., Pomology* 68 The varieties of the *Navel orange, their origin, manner of introduction, etc. *c* 1828 Berry *Encycl. Herald.* I. *Nombril*, or *Navel Point, is the next below the fesse point, or the very centre of the escocheon. 1698 Fryer *Acc. E. India & P.* 21 Their Children .. are much troubled with the *Navel-Rupture. 1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) IV. 497 *note*, They are not *navel-shaped, like those of small-pox. *c* 1611 Chapman *Iliad* XXI. 173 Full in the *navel-stead He ripp'd his belly up. 1615 Crooke *Body of Man* 81 Issuing out at the nauill-stead. 1634 T. Johnson *Parey's Wks.* (1649) 595 The umbilical vein, or *navel-vein, entering into the bodie of the childe.

Navel (nē'ĭ·v'l), *v. rare*. [f. prec.]

1. In *pa. pple*. Situated in the middle.

1818 Byron *Ch. Har.* IV. clxxiii, Lo, Nemi! navell'd in the woody hills. 1819 Wiffen *Aonian Hours* 102 Within the shade a ruined temple stands .., navelled in the pines.

2. *intr.* To come to a centre.

1855 Bailey *Mystic* 52 Radial avenues of rocks All navelling in the sanctuary divine.

Navel- (nē'ĭ·v'l). *Naut.* Also 8–9 naval, nave-. [Of obscure origin and meaning, occurring only as the first element in certain combs. There is no obvious connexion with Navel *sb.*, and the form *naval* is a late alteration.]

† **a.** *Navel timbers*, the first futtocks. *Obs. rare.*

1626 Capt. Smith *Accid. Yng. Seamen* 8 First lay the Keele..; then lay all the Flore timbers... Next your Nauell timbers. 1627 — *Seaman's Gram.* ii. 2 The Sweepe or Mould of the Foot-hookes and Nauell timbers.

b. *Navel* or *nave-line*: (see quots.).

1711 W. Sutherland *Shipbuild. Assist.* 143 Nave-line as big as the Cat-harpings, and as long. 1750 Blanckley *Nav. Expos.* 111 *Naveline* is a Rope reeved through a Block made fast to the middle Rib, and another Block made fast to the Mast-head. 1769 Falconer *Dict. Marine* (1780), *Nave-line* [1789 *Naval Line*], a sort of small tackle, depending from the head of the main-mast and fore-mast,..used to keep the pairel directly opposite to the yard. 1848 G. Biddlecombe *Art of Rigging* 22 Nave-line is a tackle from the masthead to the trusses [etc.]. 1863 A. Young *Naut. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Naval Lines*, a name given to the lines which hold up the truss-pendants parallel to their parts round the centre of a lower yard. 1882 Nares *Seamanship* (ed. 6) 125 The reef or naval line is then middled.

c. *Navel hoods*: (see quots.).

1750 Blanckley *Nav. Expos.* 110 Navel Hoods are large Pieces of Stuff fayd against the Hawse Holes, and fills out to the outer Edge of the Cheeks, to keep the Cable from wearing them. 1769 Falconer *Dict. Marine* (1780) s.v. *Building*, The navel-hoods [are] fayed on the hawse-holes. 1841 R. H. Dana *Seaman's Man.* 116 *Naval Hoods*, or *Hawse Bolsters*, plank above and below the hawse-holes. *c* 1850 *Rudim. Navig.* (Weale) 135 *Navel hoods*, broad pieces of oak, from 6 to 10 inches thick .. worked afore the hawse-holes on the outside of the ship, and likewise above and below them in those ships which have no cheeks to support a bolster.

d. *Navel-pipe*: (see quot.).

1882 Nares *Seamanship* (ed. 6) 4 *Chain or Naval-pipes.*—For leading the cable through, as it passes up from one deck to another, from the chain-lockers.

Na·vel-gall. ? *Obs.* Also 6 nauyl-, 7 nauill, navil(l, naple, etc. [Cf. Navel *sb.* 2 c.] A gall or bruise in the middle of a horse's back.

1523 Fitzherb. *Husb.* § 105 Nauylgalt is a soraunce, hurte with a saddle, or with a buckle..in the myddes of the backe. 1600–9 Rowlands *Knaue of Clubbes* 44 The Lampasse, crest-fall, withers greife, The nauill-gall. 1631 Brathwait *Whimzies, Postmaster* 120 His Stable is a very shop of all diseases; .. Ringbones, Windgalls, Navelgalls. 1678 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1348/4 Her navil gall hath formerly been hurt. 1702 *Ibid.* 3813/4 A lean bay Gelding..., a large Bunch or Navel-Gall on his Back. 1855 W. Percivall *Hippopathology* (ed. 2) I. 199 Saddle-Galls, Navel-Galls, Warbles, Sitfasts.

Hence † **Navel-galled** *a.*; † **Navel-galling.**

1703 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3967/4 A strong punch grey Nag,.. a sore Back, being Navelgall'd. 1691 J. Wilson *Belphegor* III. iv, A mere rag of a jade; I wonder thou durst venture on her, for fear of navel-galling.

Navel-hoods, *Naut.*: see Navel-.

Nave-line, *Naut.*: see Navel-.

Navell, obs. variant of Nevel *v.*

Navelled (nē'ĭ·v'ld), *a. rare* —1. [f. Navel *sb.* + -ed 2.] Knobbed; bull's-eyed.

c 1817 Hogg *Tales & Sk.* II. 204 A few panes of thick blue, navelled glass.

Na·vel-string. [f. Navel *sb.*; cf. Du. *navelstreng*, Da. *navlestreng*, Sw. *nafvelsträng*.] The organic structure connecting the fœtus with the placenta; the umbilical cord.

1587 Golding *De Mornay* xiv. (1592) 223 As if they should say, .. he cannot liue when he is come out of her womb, if his nauilstrings be cut off. 1634 T. Johnson *Parey's Wks.* 604 The navel-string must bee tied with a double thred. 1671 Grew *Anat. Plants* I. vii. (1682) 48 Two slender Fibres, like two Navel-strings. 1754–64 Smellie *Midwifery* I. 232 Tie the navel-string about two fingers breadth from the belly of the child. 1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) IV. 155 The navel-string hangs down below the head. 1846 J. Baxter *Libr. Pract. Agric.* (ed. 4) II. 269 Inflammation of the navel-string, occurring a few days after a lamb is dropped.

Navel-timbers, *Naut.*: see Navel-.

Na·vel-wort. [f. Navel *sb.*; cf. G. *nabelwurz*, Da. *navleurt*.] A name given to various plants, esp. *Colyledon umbilicus* (see Pennywort 1).

14.. *Vocab.* in Wr.-Wülcker 567 *Belberici marini*,..navel wort. *Ibid.* 620 *Vmbilicus*, Nauelworte. 1597 Gerarde *Herbal* II. cxliii. 423 The great Nauelwoort hath round and thicke leaues. *Ibid.* cliii. 529 There is a kind of Nauelwoorte that groweth in waterie places. 1629 Parkinson *Parad.* xxxii. 232 Wee doe call them Nauelworts in English rather than Houseleekes. 1671 Salmon *Syn. Med.* III. xxii. 441 Navel wort. That of the water helps the Sciatica, Gout and Kings-evil. 1718 Quincy *Compl. Disp.* 209 Wall Navel-wort. This is not known of late in Medicine. 1760 J. Lee *Introd. Bot.* App. 320 Navel-wort, Bastard, *Crassula. Ibid.*, Navel-wort, Venus's, *Cynoglossum. Ibid.*, Navel-wort, Water, *Hydrocotyle*. 1862 Ansted *Channel Isl.* II. viii. 175 The pretty, round, fresh leaf of the navel-wort (*cotyledon umbilicus*) is seen on every wall. 1865 Gosse *Land & Sea* (1874) 183 The fleshy coin-like leaves of the pretty navel-wort.

† **Naverage**, erron. form of Naufrage.

a 1656 Ussher *Ann.* (1658) 376 Himself coming on shoar ..took up his standing to recover what might be saued out of the naverage.

Navet [1]. Now only as *Fr.* Also 6 nauet(te, naued. [a. F. *navet* (13th c.) ultimately f. L. *nāp-um* (*nāpus*) Nape *sb.*3, or F. *navelle* (1323) of similar origin. Cf. Navew.] A variety of rape (*Brassica napus*), a cruciferous plant with a fleshy fusiform root of a sweet taste. Also *attrib.*

F. *navet* is applied to the esculent, *navette* to the oleiferous, variety of rape. Cotgrave defines *navet* as 'the small Navew gentle, the least (and daintiest) kind of French Navew'.

1530 Palsgr. 247/2 Navet rote, *nauette*. 1548 Turner *Names Herbs* (E. D. S.) 55, I haue hearde sume cal it in englishe a turnepe, and other some a naued or nanet, it maye be called also longe Rape or nauet gentle. 1583 Stocker *Civ. Warres Lowe C.* III. 96 b, Bread made of nauettes and of chanure seede. 1600 [see Nape *sb.*3].

1861 Mrs. Beeton *Bk. Househ. Managem.* 601 The French Navet..is a variety of the turnip; but, instead of being globular, has more the shape of the carrot.

† **Navet** [2]. *Obs. rare.* Also 5 navitt. [a. F. *navette* († *navete*, 13th c.; cf. med.L. *naveta*), properly 'little boat', f. L. *nāvis*.] = Naviculа.

1467 *Will of Dryland* (Somerset Ho.), Thre sensures of siluer with iiij navitte therto. 1540 in V. Green *Worcester* (1796) II. App. p. v, Item a navett with a spone all gylt. 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Navet*, part of an Incense-pan, or Censer-box.

Navew (nē'ĭ·viu). Now *rare*. Also 6–7 nauew(e, 6 naueu, 8 naphew. [a. F. **naveu*, obs. var. of *naveau* (now only dial.), OF. *navel*, *-iel*:—**nāpellum*, f. L. *nāp-um* (*nāpus*) Nape *sb.*3 Cf. Navet [1].] The rape (*Brassica napus*) or coleseed (*B. campestris*); a plant of this kind.

1533 Elyot *Cast. Helthe* (1541) 28 b, Navews do not nouryshe so moche as rapes, but they be even as wyndye. 1563 Hyll *Art Garden.* (1593) 144 And the propertie of the place doth change the Nauew into a Rape [=turnip], and the rape contrariwise into a Nauew. 1620 Venner *Via Recta* vii. 136, I suppose the Nauewe to be a little dryer then the Turnep. 1678 Salmon *Pharm. Lond.* I. vii. 149 Of sweet Navew. The Seed is Alexipharmick. 1733 Miller *Gard. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Napus*, the Navew or French Turnip. 1796 Withering *Brit. Plants* III. 591 *B. Napus*, Wild Navew. 1865 Gosse *Land & Sea* 7 The navew, loose and sprawling, but bright in hue.

attrib. 1611 Florio, *Nauone*, a kind of rape, a Nauew roote. 1658 Rowland tr. *Moufet's Theat. Ins.* 1090 They are much delighted with Navew seeds. 1766 *Museum Rust.* VI. 273 Sown in common with rape-seed, or more properly, wild navew-seed.

† **b.** *Navew gentle*, the cultivated variety of rape. *Obs.*

1578 Lyte *Dodoens* 595 Some do also cal it .. in English, Nauet, and Nanew gentle. 1607 Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 102 Likewise Navew-gentil and Oleander, kill the Hart. 1655 Moufet & Bennet *Health's Improv.* (1746) 322 Navews, especially *Napus Sativus*, called in English Navew Gentle. 1736 Ainsworth *Lat. Dict.*, *Napus* .., navew [1783 naphew] gentle, or long rapes.

† **Navey.** *Obs.* Also 4–5 naueye. [a. ONF. *navey*, *navei* (*c* 1300 in Godef.), = OF. *navoy*, *navoi*:—Lat. type **nāvēt-um*, f. *nāvis* ship.] **a.** Ships, shipping. **b.** A navy.

c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 2719 A gret number of naueye to þat hauen longed. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) I. 343 In a naueye of þre score schippes and tweie. *Ibid.* VII. 167 Kyng Edward gedred a strong navey. 1436 *Libel Eng. Policy* in *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 177, I wolde wete why nowe owre navey fayleth. *c* 1460 Fortescue *Abs. & Lim. Mon.* vi. (1885) 123 With owt thaym all the kyngs navey shallnot suffice to borde with carrikkes and oþer grete vessailles. 1535 Boorde *Let.* in *Introd. Knowl.* (1870) 53 A greatt army and navey ys preparyd.

‖ **Navicula** (nāvi·kiŭlă). *Eccl.* [L., dim. of *nāvis* a ship. Cf. Navet [2].] An incense-holder in the form of a boat.

1853 J. D. H. Dale *Cerem. Rom. Rite* 8 He .. presents the navicula (or incense-boat) to the Master of Ceremonies. 1884 *Nonconf. & Indep.* 14 Feb. 162/2 There was a procession through the new clergy-house, with crosses, candles, thurible and navicula.

Navicular (nāvi·kiŭlăr), *a.* and *sb.* Also 6 -uler. [ad. late L. *nāviculāris*: see prec. and -ar. Hence also F. *naviculaire* (16th c., Paré).]

A. *adj.* **1.** *Navicular bone*, the scaphoid bone of the hand (*rare*), or the corresponding bone in the foot lying between the astragalus and cuneiform bones. (Freq. in veterinary works as the seat of a disease in the feet of horses.)

1541 R. Copland *Guydon's Quest. Chirurg.* L j, The bone called Nanyculer, that is a synew concaued on eche syde. 1696 Phillips, *Navicular-Bone*, the third Bone in each Foot in that part of it which immediately succeeds the Leg. 1755 in Johnson. 1816 Blaine *Veter. Art* (ed. 2) 98 The navicular bone would have been too much pressed upon. 1836–9 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* II. 343/1 The scaphoid or navicular bone is articulated with the three cuneiform. 1870 Flower *Osteol. Mamm.* xix. (1876) 309 The navicular bone is interposed between the proximal and distal row on the inner or tibial side of the foot.

b. *Farriery.* Connected with the navicular bone of a horse's foot, esp. *navicular joint, disease.*

1828 J. Turner in *Veterinarian* (1829) II. 53 The College Museum .. contained but a solitary specimen of the navicular disease. *Ibid.* 58 By articulating with the bone, [it] forms the navicular joint. 1845 Spooner *Veter. Art* (1851) 86 It is this joint capsule which is the seat of the navicular disease. *Ibid.*, Its posterior and lower surface forms the navicular-joint capsule.

† **2.** Pertaining to, connected with, boats. *Obs.*

1656 in Blount *Glossogr.* *a* 1704 T. Brown *Thames* Wks. 1720 III. 325 'Rare Game, Master,' cries our Navicular Spokesman. 1721 in Bailey (and hence in some later Dicts.).

3. Having the form of a (small) boat.

a. Of shrines, etc. Also *transf.* of the deities associated with these.

1774 J. Bryant *Mythol.* II. 219 The name of this, and of all the navicular shrines was Baris. 1818 G. S. Faber *Horæ Mosaicæ* I. 133 The navicular goddess of Egypt was called Isis. 1819 *Blackw. Mag.* V. 584 We may still behold the figure of that animal standing in that holy navicular coffin.

b. *Bot.* Of the parts of plants.

1806 Galpine *Brit. Bot.* 23 Glumes navicular, entire. 1845 Lindley *Sch. Bot.* iv. (1858) 33 Valves navicular, apterous. 1881 Spence in *Jrnl. Bot.* X. 99 With the two lateral lobes complicate into a navicular sheath embracing the stem.

c. *Ent.* Of the bodies or parts of insects.

1826 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* IV. xlvi. 268 Navicular,..when two sides meet and form an angle like the outer bottom of a boat. 1828 Stark *Elem. Nat. Hist.* II. 277 Body navicular, narrowed and pointed at both ends.

4. *Navicular fossa*, (*a*) the depression between the helix and anthelix of the ear; (*b*) the anterior portion of the urethra.

1816 Blaine *Veter. Art* (ed. 2) 256 When the labia are separated, the internal cavity is called the navicular or scaphoid fossa. 1836–9 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* II. 550/2. 1849–52 *Ibid.* IV. 1248/2.

B. *ellipt.* passing into *sb.*

1. = Navicular bone (see A. 1).

1816 Blaine *Veter. Art* (ed. 2) 98 The coronary bone partakes of the form of the pastern, .. resting more on the coffin, and less on the navicular than in the front. 1836–9 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* II. 505/2 The navicular or scaphoid is the largest of the upper row [in the hand]. 1870 Flower *Osteol. Mamm.* xix. (1876) 318 The navicular and the external cuneiform are very broad and flat.

2. = Navicular disease (see A. 1 b).

1888 *Pall Mall G.* 4 July 5/2 Not one shows symptoms of navicular by pointing his toes to ease the pain.

† **Navie**, obs. variant of Navet or Navew.

1553 Eden *Treat. New Ind.* (Arb.) 29 The inhabitantes.. vse in ye stede of bread, certayne rotes like vnto nauie rotes. 1555 — *Decades* (Arb.) 131 The skyn is sumwhat towgher then eyther of nauies or mussheroms. 1575 Turberv. *Venerie* 151 They lyve and feede upon..all sortes of rootes also unlesse it be rapes and navie rootes.

Navie, obs. form of Navy.

Navifau·na. *nonce-word.* [f. L. *nāvi-s* ship.] The fauna peculiar to a ship.

1879 Moseley *Notes Nat. Challenger* 594 Centipedes of two kinds at least were also amongst the navifauna.

Na·viform, *a. rare.* [f. L. *nāvi-s* + -form.] Boat-shaped; navicular.

1816 G. S. Faber *Orig. Pagan Idol.* II. 280 The naviform leaf of the Indian fig-tree. 1817 — *Eight Dissert.* (1845) II. 199 In the sphere, the Moon or Naviform Lunar Crescent was the astronomical representative of the Ark.

Navigability (nævigăbi·lĭti). [f. next + -ity.] The fact or quality of being navigable.

1846 in Worcester. 1865 *Reader* 15 Apr. 415/2 It was said that the navigability of the Thames would be injuriously affected. 1889 *Law Times* LXXXVII. 290/1 This excludes the notion of navigability.

Navigable (næ·vigăb'l), *a.* [a. F. *navigable* (14th c.), or ad. L. *nāvigābilis*, f. *nāvigāre*: see Navigate *v.*]

1. Admitting of being navigated, affording passage for ships or boats: **a.** of the sea.

1527 R. Thorne in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1589) 257 To attempt, if our Seas Northwarde be Nanigable to the Pole or no. 1553 Eden *Treat. New Ind.* (Arb.) 9 Vf the North sea were not nanigable by reason of extreme cold and Ise. 1603 Holland *Plutarch's Mor.* 151 The sea [yieldeth itself] navigable to everie one that will. 1716 Pope *Iliad* VIII. 66 Thence his broad Eye..surveys The Town, and Tents, and navigable Seas.

b. of rivers and other water-ways. (The usual sense.) Also const. *for*.

1530 Palsgr. 319/1 Navygable, a water able to be sayled or rowed in, *nauigable*. 1555 Eden *Decades* (Arb.) 284 They determyned to brynge a nauigable trench vnto the ryuer of Nilus. 1593 Norden *Spec. Brit., Cornwall* (1728) 98 The towne seateth nere the nauigable Tamar. 1634–5 Brereton *Trav.* (Chetham Soc.) 6 A fair navigable river which will carry as great a ship as can sail. 1680 Morden *Geog. Rect., Germany* (1685) 120 Here the Danube begins first to be

Navigable. 1735 BERKELEY *Querist* § 381 The use of slaves in repairing high roads, making rivers navigable. 1776 ADAM SMITH *W. N.* I. iii. I. 24 The plantations have constantly followed either the sea coast or the banks of the navigable rivers. 1835 *Penny Cycl.* III. 176/2 The Avon..is navigable from Stratford for vessels of about 40 tons burden. 1878 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* 3 At Lechlade..the Thames ceases to be navigable.

†c. Of passage from one place to another. *Obs.*

1570 J. DEE *Math. Pref.* d iv b, Betwene any two places (in passage Nauigable,) assigned. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* II. 60 In this meane while of our nauigable passage, the Captaine..espied a Saile comming from Sea.

2. Of ships: Capable of navigation; fit for sailing; seaworthy. *rare.*

1535 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. II. 74 His Navy was not navigable thowgh he wold have departid thens. 1627 HAKEWILL *Apol.* (1630) 131 For the better supporting of navigable vessells. 1809 PINKNEY *Trav. France* 31 Two or three ships..sound, and in the best navigable condition.

b. Of balloons: That may be steered; dirigible.

1903 *Edin. Rev.* Apr. 334 The first serious attempt to build a navigable balloon was that of Henry Giffard, in 1852.

3. Of places: Admitting the approach or passage of vessels; surrounded by water in which a ship can sail. ? *Obs.*

1573 L. LLOYD *Marrow of Hist.* (1653) 53 Mount Athos was made of Xerxes navigable, even unto the sea. 1625 N. CARPENTER *Geog. Del.* II. vii. (1635) 122 An incomparable great iland.., nauigable round about. 1649 *Alcoran* 413 In Navigation we must know, not only what places are Navigable, but also what are not.

†4. Nautical. *Obs. rare.*

1597 J. PAYNE *Royal Exch.* 33 In wch. navigable arte I spent the pryme of myne yeres. 1724 WELTON 18 *Disc.* 397 The particular engagements which those of the navigable profession lay under.

†5. Maritime; naval. *Obs. rare.*

1642 HOWELL *For. Trav.* (Arb.) 60 It will be a wonderfull thing to see what a .. huge Navigable power that State is come too. *c* 1645 — *Lett.* (1650) I. 300 What a mighty navigable power the Hollander is come to.

Na·vigableness. [-NESS.] Navigability.

1720 STRYPE *Stow's Surv.* II. v. xxx. 437/2 Touching the River, and the Navigableness and Fishing thereof. 1805 W. TAYLOR in *Ann. Rev.* III. 14 A commerce co-extensive with the navigableness of the Mississippi. 1865 LIVINGSTONE *Zambesi* ii. 60 To solve the problem of the navigableness of the Kebrabasa.

Na·vigably, *adv.* [f. as prec. + -LY 2.] In a navigable manner. (Webster, 1847.)

†**Na·vigal,** *a. Obs. rare* −1. =NAVIGABLE.

c 1470 HARDING *Chron.* CCXL. (Harl. MS.), The water navigall rynneth thedir for vessels of fourty tonne tight.

†**Navigant,** *sb. Obs. rare.* [a. F. *navigant*, sb. use of pres. pple. of *naviguer*: see NAVIGATE *v.*] A navigator or voyager.

1527 R. THORNE in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1599) I. 213 Which thing is a great commoditie for the nauigants. 1553 *Ibid.* (1886) III. 19 To be obtained..by humble and heartie praier of the Nauigants. 1594 BLUNDEVIL *Exerc.* v. (1636) 571 This Land is new Guinea, so called of the Navigants and Pilots.

Na·vigant, *a. rare.* [ad. L. *nāvigant-em*, pres. pple. of *nāvigāre*: see next.] Voyaging.

c 1680 in *Pepys' Life, Jrnl.*, etc. (1841) II. 203 The Church of England is worthy of your best services, and..needs them. It has been too long navigant in a valley of tears. 1781 H. WALPOLE *Let. to Cole* 7 July, The church navigant would be an extension of its power.

Navigate (næ·vigeıt), *v.* Also 7 **navigat.** [f. L. *nāvigāt-*, ppl. stem of *nāvigāre* to sail, sail over, f. *nāvis* ship + *agĕre* to drive, guide, etc.]

1. *intr.* a. To go from one place to another in a ship or ships, to sail.

1588 PARKE tr. *Mendoza's Hist. China* 302 They beganne to set sayle to nauigate towardes the port. 1614 SIR R. DUDLEY in *Fortescue Papers* (Camden) 10 Thoughe they maye be able..to navigat to the West Indies. 1705 ARBUTHNOT *Coins*, etc. (1727) 218 The Phoenicians..navigated into the Ocean by the Straits of Gibraltar, established many Colonies. 1749 CHESTERF. *Lett.* (1792) II. cciii. 272 In the Summer you may navigate as you please. 1821 SOUTHEY *Exped. Orsua* 176 We navigated eleven months, till we reached the mouth of the river.

b. To sail a ship.

1894 *Daily Chron.* 4 Aug. 3/5, I was the only one on board who could navigate.

2. *trans.* To sail over, on, or through (the sea, a river, etc.).

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* 314 The River Oregliana ..hath beene navigated 6000 miles. 1705 ARBUTHNOT *Coins*, etc. (1727) 272 Drusus..was the first who navigated the Northern Ocean. 1791 COWPER *Odyss.* x. 97 Six days we navigated, day and night, The briny flood. 1836 W. IRVING *Astoria* II. 179 To send exploring parties on each side of the river, to ascertain whether it was possible to navigate it further. 1872 YEATS *Techn. Hist. Comm.* 21 The seas were navigated and islands visited by the aid of the earliest canoes. *fig.* 1845 STOCQUELER *Hand-bk. Brit. India* (1854) 130 The number of vehicles..which navigate the streets. 1898 *Daily Chron.* 15 Oct. 6/4 Can they navigate the Redistribution shallows?

3. To sail, direct, or manage (a ship).

1670 R. COKE *Disc. Trade* 26 Nor must any English man navigate any English built ship .. unless she be sailed by ¾ English at least. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* I. iii. (ed. 4) 38 Their great difficulty was to procure a sufficient number of hands to navigate her. 1758 J. BLAKE *Plan Mar. Syst.* 43 Want of hands to navigate his ships. 1813 WELLINGTON in Gurw. *Desp.* (1838) X. 600 The harbour boats at Passages being..all navigated by women. 1887 MISS BRADDON *Like & Unlike* iii, I know something about navigating a yacht.

4. Of vessels: a. *intr.* To sail; to ply.

1758 GOLDSM. *Mem. Protestant* (1895) II. 185 Four half Galleys..were to be sent to Antwerp to navigate on the River Scheld. 1795 PHILLIPS *Hist. Inland Nav.* Add. 114 Every boat which shall navigate only between Stainforth Lock and Hangman Hill. 1849-50 ALISON *Hist. Europe* V. xxxiii. § 4. 481 The superior power..can..make prize of all neutral vessels navigating to any of its harbours.

b. *trans.* To sail on or over (the sea, etc.).

1858 HAWTHORNE *Fr. & It. Note-bks.* (1872) I. 2 An..irregular motion, such as the British Channel generally communicates to the craft that navigate it. 1878 MARKHAM *Gt. Frozen Sea* i. 4 Ships destined to navigate the icy seas.

5. *trans.* To convey (goods) by water. Also *intr.* of goods.

1795 PHILLIPS *Hist. Inland Nav.* Add. 6 For all coal navigated between Milton Cross and Kington, six-pence per ton per mile. *Ibid.* 23 Coals, &c. passing this canal, and navigating on the Birmingham canal.

Hence **Na·vigated** *ppl. a.*, **Na·vigating** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1739 C. LABELYE *Short Acc. Piers* 72 Water enough for the working and navigating of Boats. 1751 H. WALPOLE *Lett.* (1846) II. 398 The prospect is as fine as one destitute of a navigated river can be. 1860 MAURY *Phys. Geog. Sea* xv. § 624 The best navigated steam-ships do not sail closer than this. 1871 *Daily News* 1 Sept., While professional..critics are discussing whether the special class of navigating officers should be retained or abolished.

Navigation (nævigē·ʃən). [a. F. *navigation* (14th c.), or ad. L. *nāvigātiōn-em*, n. of action f. *nāvigāre* to NAVIGATE.]

1. The action of navigating; the action or practice of passing on water, csp. the sea, in ships or other vessels; sailing; †rowing. Also const. *of.*

1533 ELYOT *Cast. Helthe* (1539) 52 Navigation or rowyng nigh to the lande, in a calme water is expedient for them that haue dropsies. 1547 BOORDE *Brev. Health* xxii, I can not away with water, nor waters by nauigacion. 1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* I. xii. (Arb.) 44 The Gentiles prayed ..for safe nauigation to Neptune. 1612 T. TAYLOR *Comm. Titus* iii. 3 The Earth was made for man and beast to liue vpon, the sea for fish and nauigation. 1673 MARVELL *Reh. Transp.* II. Wks. 1776 II. 368 If there were a dead calm always ..there would be no navigation. 1724 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 6300/1 The Wind proving contrary.., [she] was forced to return.. after about an Hour's Navigation. 1727-46 THOMSON *Summer* 1767 The heaven-conducted prow Of navigation bold, that fearless braves The burning line. 1813 WELLINGTON in Gurw. *Desp.* (1838) XI. 3 From what I have heard of the navigation of the river. 1835 THIRLWALL *Greece* vi. I. 219 The approach of winter put a stop to all ordinary navigation. 1842 *Penny Cycl.* XXIV. 280/2 The navigation of the Thames .. is kept up by locks and wears.

b. *Inland navigation*, communication by means of canals and navigable rivers.

1727 DE FOE *Eng. Tradesman* (1732) II. II. iv. 123 Madrid ..has neither Sea-port or Inland Navigation, no Navigable River being near it. 1791 MYLNE *1st Rep. Thames Nav.*, The Thames is..very capable of an improved inland navigation. 1861 *Chambers's Encycl.* II. 551/2 Shewing how canals might be .. used for inland navigation, in countries whose surface was irregular.

†c. A piece of seamanship. *Obs. rare* −1.

1817 JAS. MILL *Brit. India* II. iv. iii. 101 He returned.. by a very able navigation against a contrary monsoon.

2. The art or science of directing the movements of ships on the sea, including more especially the methods of determining a ship's position and course by the principles of geometry and nautical astronomy; seamanship.

1559 W. CUNNINGHAM *Cosmogr. Glasse* 3 They be wryters of Cosmographie, Geographie, Hydrographie, or Nauigation. 1588 GREENE *Pandosto* (1607) 7 Franion..bauing some small skill in Nauigation, was well acquainted with the Ports. 1642 HOWELL *For. Trav.* (Arb.) 80 The most materiall and usefull parts of the Mathematiques, as the Art of Navigation and Fortification. 1696 WHISTON *Th. Earth* III. (1722) 267 'Tis evident and will be allow'd by Persons skill'd in Navigation. 1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* I. i, My Father now and then sending me small Sums of Money, I laid them out in learning Navigation. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1780) s.v., Every sea-officer is presumed to be furnished with books of navigation. 1836 MARRYAT *Midsh. Easy* xiv, A cruise at sea without knowledge of navigation was a more nervous thing than he had contemplated. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) III. 215 Safety at sea is the good of navigation.

3. A voyage; an expedition or journey by sea or water. Now *rare.*

1527 R. THORNE in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1599) I. 214 In this nauigation .. was discouered, that these Islands nothing set by golde. 1553 EDEN *Treat. New Ind.* (Arb.) 7 Such thinges as are spoken of in the nauigacions wherof this boke entreateth. 1599 HAKLUYT *Voy.* II. II. 101 Our nauigation growing so long that it drew neere to seuen moneths. 1632 J. HAYWARD tr. *Biondi's Eromena* 160 Their Navigation was short, and favoured with gentle windes. 1673 *Phil. Trans.* VIII. 6114 Those Countreys that are addicted to long Navigations. *a* 1715 BURNET *Own Time* IV. (1724) I. 629 The other was a long navigation, and subject to great accidents. 1752 CARTE *Hist. Eng.* III. 560 The Queen .. encouraged her subjects to the like adventures and navigations. 1807 SOUTHEY *Espriella's Lett.* II. 172 Our last navigation had ended by transferring us to a coach.

b. *transf.* with reference to fishes.

1822-34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) IV. 5 Many other marine fishes seek out a fresh-water stream for this purpose; and their navigations are often of very considerable length.

4. *concr.* The means of navigation, vessels collectively; shipping. In later use *U. S.* ? *Obs.*

1605 SHAKS. *Macb.* IV. i. 54 Though the yesty Waues Confound and swallow Nauigation vp. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* III. vii. (ed. 4) 480 The Centurion alone was capable of destroying the whole of the navigation of the port of Canton. 1772 C. HUTTON *Bridges* 86 This will leave more free passage for the water and navigation. 1809 KENDALL *Trav.* I. xxxiii. 321 The word navigation is used in New England for shipping. 1850 SCORESBY *Cheever's Whalem. Adv.* i. (1859) 9 Nearly one-tenth of the navigation of the Union.

†**5.** Shipping business; trade or intercourse carried on by sea or water. *Obs.*

1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 21 This Navigation is very necessary that the lower Oestreich being fertill, may supply the upper ..with wine and corne. 1679 *Establ. Test* 50 Nor will they make any Scruple..to..weaken us..in our Trade and Navigation. 1720 STRYPE *Stow's Surv.* I. I. xxvii. 215/2 The Trade, Navigation, and Naval Strength of this Realm.

†b. Export. *Obs. rare* −1.

c 1630 RISDON *Surv. Devon* (1810) 7 Corn we have plentiful.., as well for navigation as for..sustenance.

†**6.** That which one sails on; a passage or course by which one may sail. *Obs. rare.*

1633 G. HERBERT *Temple, Man* vii, Waters united are our navigation; Distinguished, our habitation. 1654 EARL MONM. tr. *Bentivoglio's Wars Flanders* 312 The divulging of a memorable Navigation..which the Hollanders and Zealanders had that year found out.

7. a. †A natural inland channel. *Obs.* b. A canal or other artificial waterway. Now *dial.*

1720 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5885/3 A Stock of Money..in the Navigation of Wakefield. 1761 *Ann. Reg.* I. 146 A navigation being compleated from Lynn to Northampton. 1794 WHITWORTH & MYLNE *Rep. Lond. Canal* 6 It is by far the best part of the navigation between London and Lechlade. 1821 SOUTHEY *Exped. Orsua* 89 *note*, There is some obscurity here in Pedro Simon's narrative, as if he were taking Aguirre by some cross navigation. 1861 *Chambers's Encycl.* II. 551/2 *note*, These combinations of drain and canal are commonly called navigations.

8. *attrib.*, as *navigation branch, channel, deck, limit, season*; **navigation act** or **law**, a legal enactment regulating navigation or shipping; **navigation coal**, steam-coal; **navigation spade** *dial.* (see quot. and NAVIGATOR 2 b.)

1765 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* I. 405 The navigation-acts. 1778 *Eng. Gazetteer* (ed. 2) s.v. *Avon*, The river forms an island, the navigation branch going on one side. 1830 *Cumb. Farm Rep.* 65 in *Lib. Usef. Kn., Husb.* III, The round-mouthed spades used in forming canals, etc., called here navigation spades. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVI. 117/1 Navigation laws. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk., Navigation Acts*, various statutes by which the legislature of Great Britain has in a certain degree restricted the intercourse of foreign vessels with her own ports. 1891 *Daily News* 28 Oct. 2/8 The navigation season is now nearing its end. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 5 Sept. 8/1 She has a navigation deck placed above the promenade deck. 1900 *Daily Express* 3 Aug. 5/4 A splendid seam of smokeless navigation coal.

Hence **Naviga·tional** *a.*

1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl. 631/1 Navigational Sounding Machine. 1902 MAHAN *Types Naval Officers, Howe* 290 A navigational problem complicated by uncertain winds.

Navigator (næ·vigeıtəɹ). Also 7 **-our.** [a. L. *nāvigātor*, agent-n. f. *nāvigāre*: see NAVIGATE *v.* and -OR. Cf. F. *navigateur* (15th c.).]

1. One who navigates; a sailor or seaman, especially one skilled and experienced in the art of navigation; one who conducts explorations by sea.

1590 GREENE *Never too late* (1600) 43 He that at euery gust puts to the Lee, shall neuer be good Nauigator. 1625 N. CARPENTER *Geog. Del.* I. xi. (1635) 234 Our times haue brought forth the most excellent Nauigators of all ages. *a* 1687 PETTY *Pol. Arith.* (1690) 17 Every Seaman of industry and ingenuity, is not only a Navigator, but a Merchant. 1725 DE FOE *Voy. round World* (1840) 2 The several navigators whose Voyages round the World have been published. 1776 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* I. I. 17 The enterprising spirit which had prompted the navigators of Tyre. 1829 MARRYAT *F. Mildmay* iv, I soon became an expert navigator and a good practical seaman. 1860 MAURY *Phys. Geog.* xv. § 622 When a navigator undertakes a voyage now, he does it with the lights of experience to guide him.

transf. 1803 *Pic Nic* No. 5 (1806) I. 177 Putting it into the hands of our tonish navigators and curricleers. 1825 in Hone *Every-day Bk.* I. 442 Mr. Graham, another aërial navigator, let off another balloon.

2. A labourer employed in the work of excavating and constructing a canal (cf. NAVIGATION 7 b), or, in later use, in any similar kind of earthwork. Now usually contracted to NAVVY.

1775 in Earwaker *Sandbach* (1890) 284 Above forty of the Navigators, now working near Hassal. 1800 *Gentl. Mag.* Dec. 1130/2 Some foundations of buildings were also discovered [in making a canal]..; but Navigators are not very curious in these matters. 1819 SOUTHEY in *Q. Rev.* XXI. 396 Seven old navigators (as canal-men are called in the midland counties). 1846 LD. STANLEY in *Croker Papers* (1884) III. 86, I was assured..that the railway navigators.. consume on an average two pounds of meat daily. 1890 STIRLING *Gifford Lect.* xiv. 276 What a strong healthy fellow is the navigator on the line.

b. *dial.* (See quot. and *navigation spade.*)

1879 JEFFERIES *Amateur Poacher* xi. 197 A 'navigator' or draining-tool. This is a narrow spade of specially stout make; the blade..resembles an exaggerated gouge.

Hence †**Navigatory** *a.*, nautical. *Obs. rare* −1.

1650 CHARLETON *Paradoxes* 86 A needle..placed at free range in the navigatory Compasse.

†**Navi·gerous,** *a. Obs. rare* −0. [f. L. *nāviger* navigable + -OUS.] 'That will bear a vessell or ship' (Blount *Glossogr.* 1656).

†**Navin.** *Sc. Obs.* Forms: 4-5 **nawine, -yn,** 6 **navin(e, -ing, -en.** [var. of NAVY: the origin of the suffix is obscure.] Shipping, fleet, navy.

1375 Barbour *Bruce* III. 393 Schyr Nele Cambel befor send he, For to get him nawyn and meite. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxxviii. (*Adrian*) 603 A gret wynd rase..& scalit his nawine to & fra. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* IX. 278 The rede nawyn in to the hawyn thai socht. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* IV. vi. 18 He..bad thai suld..graith his schippis and navine secretly. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* xi. 91 Ane grit nauen of schipis.

† **Navire.** *Obs. rare.* In 5 navir, -ier. [a. F. *navire* ship.] Ship; shipping.

1442 T. Beckington *Corr.* (Rolls) II. 213 From hens.. went never passage; nor unto this tyme was no maner of navir for to passe inne. 1455 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 279/1 The kynges Enemies been purveied of grete Armies and Navier.

Na-vis, obs. Sc. form of No-wise.

† **Na·vity.** *Obs. rare* −°. [ad. L. (*g*)*nāvit-as*, f. (*g*)*nāvus* busy, active: see -ity.] (See quots.)

1623 Cockeram *Nauitie*, diligence, speed. 1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Navitie*, diligence, stirring, quickness.

Navvy (næ·vi), *sb.* Also **navvie,** *pl.* **navies.** [Abbrev. of Navigator 2. In north. dial. also used for *navigation* = canal.]

1. A labourer employed in the excavation and construction of earth-works, such as canals, railways, embankments, drains, etc.

1832–4 De Quincey *Cæsars* i. Wks. 1862 IX. 51 If navvies had been wanted in those days. 1839 Lecount *B'ham Railw.* 27 These banditti, known in some parts of England by the name of 'Navies', or 'Navigators', and in others by that of 'Bankers'. 1862 Smiles *Engineers* III. 321 During the railway-making period the navvy wandered about from one public work to another. 1888 Bryce *Amer. Commonw.* III. 408 The navvies of the two companies fought with shovels and pickaxes.

attrib. 1858 R. S. Surtees *Ask Mamma* lxi. 279 The navvie boots that laced his great bulging calves into globes.

2. A machine for excavating earth. Usually called a *steam navvy.*

1877 *Sci. Amer.* XXXVI. 399 The navvy illustrated is capable of excavating..at the rate of 60 cubic yards per hour. 1884 *Standard* 11 Jan. 3/2 The cranes and mechanical navvy in the excavations.

Hence **Na·vvy** *v.*, *intr.* to work as a navvy; *trans.* to excavate.

1897 Bartram *People of Clopton* 75, I staarted navvyin' me waay arter 'em—navvyin' an' traampin'. 1897 Mary Kingsley *W. Africa* 138 They are at present..navvying a stiff clay bank.

Navy[1] (nē·vi). Forms: 4–5 **nauye, navye,** 4–7 **nauie, navie,** 5–7 **nauy,** 5– **navy**; 4–5 **nauee, navee,** 5–6 **naue, nave.** [a. OF. *navie* fleet:—Romanic **navia*, f. L. *nāvis* ship: see -y 3.]

† 1. (Without article.) Number of ships; ships or shipping. *Obs.*

c 1330 R. Baunne *Chron.* (1810) 24 A duke..aryued on þis lond with fulle grete nauie. *c* 1385 Chaucer *L. G. W.* 960 *Dido*, In libie onethe aryuede he With schepis vij & with no more nauye. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 4789 In his tyme come ouer þe se A paynyme kyng with grete naue. 1473 Waakw. *Chron.* (Camden) 17 Quene Marget .. hade nauy to brynge them to Englonde.

† b. *By navy*, by ship. (Cf. OF. *par navie.*) *Obs.*

c 1400 Maundev. (1839) xxvii. 273 No man may passe that See be Navye, ne be no maner of craft. 1412–20 Lydg. *Chron. Troy* Prol., How they come by lande or by nauy, .. Of this Cornelie maketh no menciowne.

2. A fleet; a nnmber of ships collected together, esp. for pnrposes of war. Now *poet.* and *rhet.*

c 1330 R. Baunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 2152 A gret nauye he dide hym dight. 1382 Wyclif 1 *Kings* x. 11 The nauee of Yram, the which bare gold of Oofer. *c* 1450 *Merlin* 378 Gawein made..take shippes and assembled a grete navie. 1483 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. I. 158 The king shuld have a Navie upon the see, to shewe himself as a king. *a* 1533 Ld. Berners *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) K v, A great nauy of warre, to the numbre of c. and .xxx. ships. *a* 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* ii. (1613) 123 The trayterous Sea began to swell in pride against the afflicted Navie. 1627 Capt. Smith *Seaman's Gram.* xiii. 63 Betweene two Navies they vse often..to fill old Barkes with pitch, tar [etc.]. 1659 in *England's Conf.* 8 No person shall have..any Command.. in any of the Armies or Navyes of England. 1725 Pope *Odyss.* VIII. 550 From the shores the winged navy flies. 1777 Burke *Let. to Rockingham* Wks. IX. 167 We set our faces against great armies..and navies, who have tasted of civil spoil. 1817 Shelley *Rev. Islam* x. iv, The sea shook with their Navies' sound. 1858 Mrs. Oliphant *Laird of Norlaw* I. 279 The masts were in forests, the ships in navies.

† b. In phr. *A navy of ships*, etc. *Obs.*

1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 197 Wher that a gret Navye lay Of Schipes. *c* 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) xxii. 104 In þe whilk citee es a grete nauee of schippez. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 249/1 A Navy of schyppis, *classis*, *navigium*. 1535 Coverdale *Dan.* xi. 40 With a greate nauy of shippes. 1584 Powel *Lloyd's Cambria* 38 Alfred lost a great Nauie of Ships. 1617 Morvson *Itin.* I. 97 The Roman Navie of Gallies.

† c. A single ship. *Obs. rare.*

a 1400–50 *Alexander* 3376 If any Naue to it neȝe .. þen cleuys it ay to þe clife, carryg & othyre. *c* 1400 *Siege Jerusalem* 58 Nethannys naue a-non on norþ dryueþ.

† d. A naval force. *Obs. rare*−1.

c 1450 *Merlin* 644 Than was the navie appereiled and entred in to shippes.

3. The whole of the ships of war belonging to a nation or ruler considered collectively, with all the organization necessary for their command and maintenance; a regularly organized and maintained naval force. Freq. *the king's* (*queen's*) *navy*, *Royal Navy*, † *navy royal.*

1540 *Act* 32 *Hen. VIII*, c. 14 The nauy .. is .. a great defence and surete of this realme in tyme of warre, as well to offende as defende. 1568 Grafton *Chron.* II. 639 They tooke the principall ships of the kings nauy then lying at the Port. 1592 Morvson *Let.* in *Itin.* (1617) I. 37 What we call warre at sea, and the royall Navy. 1601 R. Johnson *Kingd. & Commw.* (1603) 24 As touching their sea forces (besides the Nauie Royall). 1698 Savery *Navig. Impr.* 8, I shew'd a Draught..to the Lords of the Admiralty...I was referred from them to the Commissioners of the Navy. 1719 W. Wood *Surv. Trade* 55 The Tonnage of our Navy-Royal. 1765 Blackstone *Comm.* I. 408 The executive power, which is limited so properly with regard to the navy. 1769 Falconer *Dict. Marine* (1780) s.v. *Midshipman*, In merchant-ships, or in the royal navy. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVI. 117/1 Alfred the Great was the founder of the English navy. 1884 Pae *Eustace* 23 At bis own wish he entered the Navy.

b. The officers (and men) serving in, or composing the crews of, the navy.

1648 *Hamilton Papers* (Camden) 188 This is certaine that all the Nauy is discontented and wauering. 1769 Falconer *Dict. Marine* (1780), *Navy* is also the collective body of officers employed in his majesty's sea-service. 1814 *Navy List* 15 List of the Royal Navy. 1845 Stocqueler *Handbk. Brit. India* (1854) 59 The Indian navy now consists of 150 officers.

† 4. The dominion of the sea. *Obs. rare.*

1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 151 For hym myght not Suffice tbe brede of the worlde, tbe nauy of the See, of all to be lorde. 1610 J. Healey tr. *St. Aug. Citie of God* (1620) 157 Ioue got the East, resembling heauen...Neptune had the nauy.

5. *elliptic.* a. = *navy blue.* Also *attrib.*

1884 *Chr. World* 17 Jan. 52/1 Brocaded Plush to match in Navy. 1896 *Westm. Gaz.* 2 July 4/3 A green fabric with white foulard figured in navy, and navy ribbon velvet.

b. ? = navy sword.

1777 Wayne in *St. Clair Papers* (1882) I. 388 Lieutenant Henry defended himself with great bravery.., dangerously wounding two of the Indians with his navy.

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *navy book*, *debt*, † *fleet*, *man*, *revolver*, *surgeon*, *wall*, † *washing mill*; **navy agent,** one who manages the business affairs of naval officers; also formerly, a disbursing agent in the U. S. navy; **navy bill,** a bill issned by the Admiralty in place of ready-money payment, or drawn by a naval officer on the Admiralty; **navy blue,** a dark blue, the colour of the British naval uniform (also *attrib.*); **Navy Board,** a former title of the Admiralty; **Navy Department,** *U. S.*, the government department controlling the navy; **Navy League,** a body recently founded with the object of arousing national interest in the Navy; hence *navy-leaguer*; **Navy List,** an official publication containing a list of the officers of the Navy and other nautical information; **Navy Office,** a former name for the Admiralty building; **navy register,** *U.S.* = *Navy List*; navy yard, a government dockyard (now *U.S.*).

1814 *Navy List* 106 List of Licensed *Navy Agents. 1841 Maarvat *Poacher* xxxvii, [He] was .. a navy agent —that is to say, he was a general provider of the officers..of his Majesty's service. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.* 494 *Navy Agents*, selected mercantile houses, .. who manage the affairs of officers' pay, prizes, &c. 1679–88 *Secr. Serv. Money Chas. & Jas.* (Camden) 28 To compleat 1,477li 2s on a *Navy bill due to him and owners of the shipp Leister. 1708 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4496/4 Lost or Mislaid, .. two Navy Bills. 1809 R. Langford *Introd. Trade* 130 *Bills navy*, bills issued by the navy board for stores, bearing interest till due and paid. 1840 Maarvat *Poor Jack* xxx, [He] was dressed in *navy blue. 1888 *Lady* 25 Oct. 378/2 Wearing a navy-blue serge. 1695 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3045/4 A Person unknown hath sent a Letter to the *Navy-Board. 1777 J. Adams *Wks.* (1854) IX. 464, I had the boldness to make a motion that a navy board should be established at Boston. 1802 James *Milit. Dict.*, *Navy-board*..consists of a lord high admiral, or lords commissioners for executing this office [etc.]. 1758 *M.P.'s Let. on R. N.* 7 Such Payment being requisite to be made .. by Clerks possessed of the proper *Navy-Books. 1769 Burke *Late St. Nat.* Wks. II. 49 Only..the exchequer bills, and part of the *navy debt, carried any interest. 1824 *Amer. St. Papers, Naval Affairs* (1860) II. 98 Respecting the concerns of the *Navy Department. 1693 Luttrell *Brief Rel.* (1857) III. 53 Most of the seamen .. are taken out to serve on board the *navy fleet. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 31 Jan. 4/2 An account ..which will stir the blood of *navy-leaguers. 1809 Ld. Mulgrave in G. Rose *Diaries* (1860) II. 357 Tbe senior officers .. on the *Navy List. 1818 Byron *To Murray* v, And then thou hast the 'Navy List'. 1679 Pepys *Corr.* (1879) V. 301 As old a *Navyman as I am. 1746 W. Thompson *R. N. Advoc.* (1757) 38 The..barbarous..lavishing away the Lives of the poor Navy Men. 1660 Pepys *Diary* 9 July, To the *Navy-office, where in the afternoon we met and sat. 1758 *M.P.'s Let. on R. N.* 41 Remitting their Wages to themselves there, from the Navy-Office at London. 1799 *Med. Jrnl.* I. 94 A fact, which may be seen by the ship's books in the Navy-office. 1890 'R. Boldrewood' *Col. Reformer* (1891) 298 A '*navy' revolver hung at each man's belt. *a* 1776 James *Diss. Fevers* (1778) 42 For the sake .. of the *navy-surgeons, and those committed to their care. 1717 Pope *Iliad* x. 145 [They] prepare to meet us near the *navy-wall. 1799 *Hull Advert.* 15 June 2/4 Mr. Beetham's patent *Navy Washing Mills. 1771 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 113/1 She had on board some stores..for Halifax *navy-yard. 1828 *Amer. St. Papers, Naval Affairs* (1860) III. 275 On the expediency of establishing a navy yard.

Hence **Na·vyless** *a.*, having no navy.

1884 Sir L. Griffin in *Fortn. Rev.* Jan. 55 The too fortunate Vankee, navyless and armyless.

† **Navy**[2], obs. var. of Nave *sb.*[2]

1501 in *Letters & Papers Rich. III & Hen. VII* (Rolls) I. 413. App. A, And as for the haulte place, it is devised to be set in the navy and body of the churche.

Na-vyis, Na-vyse, obs. Sc. ff. No-wise.

Naw, north. dial. variant of Know, No.

‖ **Nawab** (năwŏ·b). Also 9 nawaub, -ob, nuwab, -aub. [Urdū *nawwāb*, var. of *nuwwāb*, pl. of *nā'ib* Naib: cf. Nabob.]

1. A native governor or nobleman in India; = Nabob 1.

1758 in Jas. Mill *Brit. India* (1817) III. 276 'My Lord Nawab' answered the Mirza getting up. 1809 Viscr. Valentia *Voy. & Trav. India* I. 381, I was surprised that I had heard nothing from the Nawaub of the Carnatic. 1835 Burnes *Trav. Bokhara* (ed. 2) I. 65 He left us .. to take..charge of tbe Shikarpoor district during the absence of his brother, the Nawab. 1878 *N. Amer. Rev.* CXXVII. 139 Native rajahs and powerful nawobs.

2. A wealthy retired Anglo-Indian; = Nabob 2.

1825–9 Mrs. Sherwood *Lady of Manor* III. xix. 136 A certain Nawaub or old Civilian from the East Indies, who was reported to have more rupees than wit. 1878 G. Smith *J. Wilson* i. (1879) 20 The previous generation had seen ..burgbs bought and sold by Anglo-Indian nawabs.

Hence **Nawa·bship.**

1890 Tout *Hist. Eng. fr.* 1689, 65 The nawabship of the Karnátik.

Na-way(is, -ways, obs. Sc. forms of No-way(s.

Nawder, variant of Nauther *conj.*

† **Nawer,** *adv. Obs.* Forms: 1, 3 **nawer,** 3–4 **naur(e,** 4–5 **nawre;** 4 **nagher(e.** [OE. *nâwer*, reduced form of *nâhwær*: see Na *adv.*[1] and Where, and cf. Nower *adv.*] = Nowhere.

c 888 K. Ælfred *Boeth.* xviii. § 1 Ealle netenu ne notiȝað nawer neah feorðan dæles þisses eorðan. *c* 918 *O. E. Chron.* (Parker MS.) an. 918 Hi ne dorstan þæt land nawer ȝesecan on þa healfe. *c* 1205 Lay. 753 Nis nawer nan so wis mon þat me ne mai bi-swiken. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 1753 He wolde..deliueri þis lond..þat so fre lond as þis ne ssolde be naur non. *c* 1375 *Cursor M.* 4764 (Fairf.), þai miȝt naure finde to by ham brede. 1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 336 Upon the spring of freisshe welles Sche schop to duelle and nagher elles. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xxvi. 582 In fayth I haue hym soght, Bot nawre he will fond be.

b. In the combs. *nawer-where*, *-whither.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 14862 We find writen naur-quar þat vr crist suld be born þar. *c* 1375 *Ibid.* 3495 (Fairf.), For-þi was he nawre-quare sent. *Ibid.* 4959 For naure-quidder may we stere, þaire wille be-bouis vs suffre here.

Nawher(e, obs. ff. Nowhere. **Na-whon:** see Whone *Obs.* **Na-wight, -wiht,** obs. ff. Naught. **Na-wise,** obs. Sc. f. No-wise.

† **Nawle,** obs. form of Awl.

1565 Cooper *Thesaurus*, *Desubulo*, to pearse: properly wyth a nawle or bodken. *a* 1619 Fotherby *Atheom.* I. xi. § 5 (1622) 120 To bore tbeir eares through, with a Nawle.

Nawle, obs. f. Navel. **Nawne,** obs. var. *awn*, Own *a.* **Nawnte,** obs. var. Aunt. **Nawob,** var. of Nawab. **Nawt,** obs. f. Naught. **Nawtheles:** see Nautheless. **Nawther,** var. of Nauther, neither. **Nawyn,** var. of Navin *Obs.* **Na-wyse,** obs. Sc. f. No-wise. **Naxte, naxty,** obs. ff. Nasty.

Nay (nē[1]), *v. Obs.* exc. *arch.* [a. OF. *neier*, var. *noier*, *nier*:—L. *negāre* (see Deny and Renay), or, in later use, f. Nay *adv.*]

1. † a. To refuse (to do something). *Obs. rare.*

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1836 He nay[ed] þat he nolde neghe in no wyse, Nauþer golde ne garysoun. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 65 An oþer nayed also & nurned þis cawse. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Boeth.* I. met. i. (1868) 4 Wiþ how deef an eere deeþ cruel tourneþ awey fro wrecches and naieþ to closen wepyng eyen. *c* 1440 *Generydes* 5248 Now must ye goo Furth in to perse, and this may not be nayde.

† b. *trans.* To refuse (a thing) to one. *Obs. rare.*

1440 in *Wars Eng. in France* (Rolls) II. 441 The state of cardinal, which was nayed and denyed hym. *c* 1560 Roland *Seven Sages* 286 Gif I had nayit to him battall.

c. To give a refusal to (a person).

a 1592 Greene *Shepherd's Ode* 86 The swain did woo; she was nice, Following fashion, nay'd him twice. 1839–48 Bailey *Festus* xxi. 269 Come, nay me not.

† 2. a. To deny (a matter). *Obs.*

c 1400 *Beryn* 2829 It myȝt nat be I-nayid, But Geffrey had..falsly hem betrayed. *a* 1425 *Cursor M.* 19180 (Trin.), We may not nay hit: so is hit kid. *a* 1529 Skelton *Now sing we* 4 The crosses mistry can not be nayd. 1560 Roland *Crt. Venus* II. 719 The quhilk ȝe can not nay.

† b. *intr.* (or with *it*). To make denial; to say nay. Hence **Nay·ing** *vbl. sb. Obs. rare.*

1387–8 T. Usk *Test. Love* I. vii. (Skeat) I. 7 Yea, quod she, but what if they hadden nayed? Howe woldest thou have maynteyned it? 1657 J. Goodwin *Triers Tried* 6 [They] refuse to grant the indulgence .. but unto such as will .. yea it, and nay it, with them from one end of their faith unto the other. 1680 J. C. *Vind. Oaths* (ed. 2) 30 If you will have every thing sinful which is above simple yea-ing and nay-ing.

Nay (nē[1]), *adv.*[1] and *sb.* Forms: 2 **nei,** 3 **næi,** 2–4 **nai,** (3 **naȝ**), 4–6 (9) **naye,** 6 **naie, na,** 3– **nay.** [a. ON. *nei* (Sw. and Da. *nei*), f. *ne* Ne + *ei* ever = OE. *á*: cf. Na *adv.*[1] and *adv.*[2]]

A. *adv.* **1.** A word used to express negation, dissent, denial, or refusal, in answer to some statement, question, command, etc. Now *arch.* or *dial.*

In older usage *nay* (like *yea*) was usually employed when the preceding statement, etc., had no negative word in it; when a negative was expressed, the usual answer was *no* (or *yes*). This distinction is clearly stated by Sir T. More in his *Confutation of Tindale* Wks. (1557) 448/1.

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 27 He .. weneð þat hit wulle him

helpen. Nei, soðliche, nawiht. *c* 1200 ORMIN 10658 [John] se33de: na33, lef Laferrd, na33, Ne darr i þe nohht fullhtnenn. *c* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 464 Hwanne myn erende is ido, Scholde ich bileue? Nay; hwar to? *c* 1315 SHOREHAM VII. 670 3ef we þer-of ete, We scholde deye... Nay, quaþ þe fend, ac 3e ne scholde. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* VI. 47 'Ye, leue Pers', quod this palmers...' Nai, bi the peril of my soule', quod Pers. *c* 1420 LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 151 'Nay in dede', they seyde, 'we kepe noon in store'. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* I. iii–v. 41 Found ye ony knyȝtes..seid sir ector. Nay said Arthur. 1553 T. WILSON *Rhet.* (1580) 211 Shall I goe to her? Naie I will not. 1593 G. HARVEY *Pierce's Super.* 154 Ganging weeke? Na, a ganging day, I trow, is a large allowance. 1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* v. xii. 406 When Jesuites unto us answer Nay, They do not English speak, 't is Greek they say. 1819 SHELLEY *Prometh. Unb.* III. iv. 95 Nay, mother, while my sister trims her lamp, 'Tis hard I should go darkling. 1840 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. I. *Lay St. Nicholas* ii, Now naye, in sooth it may hardly be. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 10 Jan. 2/1 The channel..between the Scylla of Aye and the Charybdis of Nay.

b. Doubled for the sake of emphasis.

c 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 9 Ne swerizeð, naiðer ne be henene ne be ierðe ne hie nan oðer ðing, bute ia, ia, næi, nai. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 3729 'Was þou not at me right now?'..'I?' he said, 'nai, nai, goddote'. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Wife's T.* 242 'Amended?' quod this knight, 'allas! nay, nay!' 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* I. vi. 42 Nay nay..I was neuer your fader. 1528 ROY *Rede me* (Arb.) 61 Thynkest that with theym it is scant, Naye naye man, I the warant. 1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* xxix, 'What, turn glover at last, Conachar?' said Simon; .. 'Nay, nay, your hand was not framed for that'. 1841 LANE *Arab. Nts.* I. 84 The Efreet exclaimed, Nay, Nay!—to which the fisherman answered, Yea.

c. In proverbs and phrases.

To nick (one) *nay* or *with nay*: see NICK *v.*

1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 130 He that will not when he may, When he would he shall haue nay. 1573 BARET *Alv.* s.v. *Flatter*, To praise to the intent to get fauer, to hold vp one with yea and nay. 1637 RUTHERFORD *Lett.* CXXXVIII. (1862) I. 330 With whom Scribes and Pharisees were at yea and nay and sharp contradiction. 1827 COLERIDGE *Improvisatore, Answ.* 17 Then came a restless state, 'twixt yea and nay.

d. Occas. used as an introductory word, without any direct negation.

c 1460 *Play Sacram.* 586 *Master Brundyche.* I haue gyven hyr a drynke made full well..*Colle.* Nay than she ys fulle saue. 1610 B. JONSON *Alch.* II. iii, Well said, father! Nay, if he take you in hand, sir, [etc.].

2. *To say nay*: **a.** To make denial, prohibition, or refusal (*to* a thing or person).

c 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 624 A ring he raust him tite; Þe porter seyd nou3t nay. *c* 1369 CHAUCER *Dethe Blaunche* 1243 This was the grete Of hir answere. She sayde nay Alle outerly. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 4230 Some bad þe bolnyng cutt away, Some þai saide þarto nay. 1500 in Leadam *Star Chamb. Cases* (Selden Soc.) 110 They wold reteyne theym wo so euer wold sey nay. *a* 1542 WYATT in *Tottel's Misc.* (Arb.) 63 Fortune semed at the last, That to her promise she said nay. 1771 LADY A. LINDSAY *Auld Robin Gray*, My heart it said nay. 1779 J. LOVELL in *J. Adams' Wks.* (1854) IX. 481 Could I say nay to Deane..?

b. To deny or refuse (one); to forbid, prohibit. Also, to refuse (a thing) *to* one.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 281, I..preie hire of som good ansuere:..Sche seieth me nay. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* xix. 433 Noo thing shall be sayd nay to you. 1535 COVERDALE 1 *Kings* xx. 7 He sent vnto me..for syluer & golde, & I haue not sayde him naye. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 94 b, The Ambassadours of the Cities, .. requyryng a Copye, were sayde naye. 1648 CRASHAW *Poems* (1858) 208 What dangers can there be dare say me nay? 1692 R. L'ESTRANGE *Fables* xxxi, The Fox made Several Excuses,..but the Stork..would not be said Nay. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 105 ¶ 3 He would not say her nay in any Thing. 1842 TENNYSON *Will Waterproof* 92 Long and largely we carouse As who shall say me nay. 1878 BOSW. SMITH *Carthage* 299 On he went through Latium.., no one daring to say him nay, till he pitched his camp upon the Arno.

†**c.** To express dissent or contradiction. *Obs.*

c 1325 *Song of Yesterday* 171 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 137 Sum men seiþ þat deþ is a þef..And .i. say nay. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Can. Yeom. Prol. & T.* 786 Mighte no man saye nay But that they were as hem oughte be. 1480 CAXTON *Chron. Eng.* CCXLIV. 305 He was examyned of certayne poyntes that were put vpon hym and he sayd not nay. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 772, I say not nay, but that it were very conuenient.

†**3.** *Without nay*, beyond doubt or dispute, assuredly, certainly. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 1283 Seth went him forth wit-outen nai To paradis. ?*a* 1400 *Arthur* 401 Þat name wyþoute nay Hyt bereþ 3ut in-to þis day. *c* 1480 HENRYSON *Mor. Fab., Lion & Mouse* 51 My natall land is Rome withouttin nay. 1509 BARCLAY *Shyp of Folys* (1570) 237 Vnder foote of fooles without nay, Philosophie lieth oppressed. 1563 MAN *Musculus' Commonpl.* 31 We do al declare without nay..that this law is wryten within us.

†**b.** So *without any* (or *all*) *nay*. (Cf. B. 2.)

c 1460 *Play Sacram.* 93 In all maner of londis wʒout ony naye My merchandyse renneth. 1563 MAN *Musculus' Commonpl.* 286 We be without any naye..sealed up unto the fayth of the holye Trinitie. 1581 MARBECK *Bk. of Notes* 759 Without al nay (sayth Musculus) it conteyneth the prophesie of the proud King of Babylon. 1621 BP. MONTAGU *Diatribæ* 156 Without all nay, the Church of England is of his minde.

†**4.** In elliptical uses, sometimes passing into the sense of 'not'. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 10441 Ne wat þou noght, it semes nai, Quat a fest it es to dai? 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* VIII. 135 Bote Catoun construweþ hit nay An[d] Canonistres boþe. 1428 in *Surtees Misc.* (1890) 2 Had noght Thomas Bracebrygg counseld hym nay and lettid hym. 1480 *Robt. Devyll* 860 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* I. 252 Robert poynted as naye; And woulde have them to beare the bed awaye. 1525 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* II. 378 Every thyng consydred they thought it best naye.

†**b.** *Or nay*, or not, or no. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 8432 He sal be king, qua wil or nai. *Ibid.* 13451, I dar noght sai quere þis was þat ilk or nai. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 20 b, Demaunded of hym .. whether he was in purgatory or nay. 1583 RICH *Phylotus* (1835) 20 Let me aske you this question, dooe you knowe my father, or naie. 1709 J. JOHNSON *Clergym. Vade M.* II. p. lx, By any other means to force and drive People, whether they will or nay, into Compliance.

5. Used to introduce a more correct, precise, or emphatic statement than the one first made.

1585–6 EARL LEICESTER *Corr.* (Camden) 380 We haue but a litle monie, only so much, na, skant so much, as shall bringe vs together. 1634 FORD *Perk. Warbeck* I. i, What folly, nay, what madness 'twere to lift A finger up. 1662 STILLINGFL. *Orig. Sacræ* III. ii. § 14 Nay, Epicurus himself takes away any center of that motion of Atoms. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 93 ¶ 2 Several Hours of the Day hang upon our Hands, nay we wish away whole Years. 1778 MISS BURNEY *Evelina* ii, I have weighty, nay unanswerable reasons. 1817 JAS. MILL *Brit. India* II. v. vii. 623 The terms of this agreement, the gentlemen .. arraigned as inadequate, nay humiliating. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* v. I. 598 He would see Bristol burned down, he said, nay, he would burn it down himself, rather than [etc.]. 1884 tr. *Lotze's Metaph.* 262 Nay if we go further and make the provisional admission that [etc.].

b. *Nay even.* (More emphatic than *even* alone.)

1709 STANHOPE *Paraphr.* IV. 4 Can the Jews in particular pretend Ignorance Nay even of this Dispensation..? 1868 MISS YONGE *Cameos* Ser. I. XXIII. 171 Such alliances as might obtain a still wider power for them; nay, even the kingdom of France. 1884 J. GILMOUR *Mongols* XVII. 205 He is surprised to find that a..teacher of Christianity may kill vermin, eat flesh, nay even marry a wife.

B. *sb.* **1.** An utterance of the word 'nay'; a negative reply or vote; a denial, refusal, or prohibition.

13.. *Cursor M.* 19773 (Edinb.), Petir nickid þaim na nai. 13.. *Cristene-mon & Jew* (Vernon MS.) 125 Oþer a nay, or a 3a? Soone tel þou me swa! 1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* XVI. (Percy Soc.) 63 A nay of you myght cause my herte to breke. 1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 29 Ye maie ..mend three naies with one yee. 1583 STOCKER *Civ. Warres Lowe C.* III. 75 For the tenth penny which the Duke woulde haue no nay of. 1613 RADCLIFFE *Lett.* 26 Mar. (T.), There is a faire hedde there also, which she determineth to sell, and would have you to have the first nay of it. 1643 TRAPP *Comm. Gen.* XXXII. 26 He would have no nay at Gods hands. 1812 JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1830) IV. 178 It is a notification to the factionaries that their nay is the yea of truth. 1844 MRS. BROWNING *Lost Bower* x, A straight walk, unadvised by The least mischief worth a nay. 1896 *Omaha Bee* 18 Feb. 3/5 The members had taken the alarm and numerous 'nays' came back in response to the roll call.

†**2.** *It (this, that, there) is no nay*: **a.** = 'It cannot be denied'. Also simply *no nay. Obs.*

c 1386 CHAUCER *Clerk's T.* 1083 This world is nat so strong, it is no nay, As it hath been in olde tymes yore. *c* 1400 *Gamelyn* 429, I wot wel for sothe that this is no nay. *c* 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* II. 38 For no nay is That snaylis rather latte hem for to growe. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilȝear* 691 Heir is Ryaltie, .. With all nobilnes anournit, and that is na nay. 1526 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 2457 Without fayle, syr, that is no nay. ?1554 COVERDALE *Hope of Faithfvll* Pref., The Lord, no nay, shall grant our request. 1627 W. SCLATER *Exp. 2 Thess.* (1629) 141 No nay, but Rome must be the Church, against which the gates of hell preuaile not.

†**b.** = 'No refusal was possible'. *Obs. rare*$^{-1}$.

a 1643 W. BROWNE (T.), There was no nay, but I must in.

†**Nay,** *adv.*^{2} *Obs.* [f. NE + AY *adv.*] Never.

c 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* II. cix. (1869) 116 But nay of his song he ne rouhte. *a* 1547 SURREY *Poems, Descr. Restless State* 184 Thus shall my heart nay part her fro. 1575 GASCOIGNE *Fruits of War* CCV, I beare it well in minde And shall it nay forget whiles lyfe doth last.

†**Nay,** variant of NA *conj.*^{2} than. *Obs.*

1533 GAU *Richt Vay* 94 Remember that thy marcie and grace is..greittar nay al our sinnis. *Ibid.* 103.

Nay, obs. Sc. variant of *na*, No *a.*

Nayad, Nayaunt, obs. ff. NAIAD, NAIANT.

Naybe, obs. form of NAIB.

Nayborly, obs. form of NEIGHBOURLY.

†**Nayct,** var. ME. *eiht* property: see AUGHT *sb.*^{1}

c 1310 in *Rel. Ant.* I. 146 Hi sal gef the of my nayct.

†**Nayed,** *a. Obs. rare*$^{-0}$. (See quot.)

1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. xvii. (Roxb.) 119/1 He beareth Argent a Forked club Azure..This is termed also a Giants forked or Nayed club.

Nayghеing, naying, obs. ff. NEIGHING.

Naygue, obs. f. NAIK. **Naying** *vbl. sb.*: see NAY *v.* **Nayl(e,** obs. f. NAIL *sb.* and *v.* **Nayled,** obs. f. NEALED.

†**Nay·less,** *a. Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. [f. NAY *sb.* + -LESS.] Accepting no refusal.

a 1618 SYLVESTER *Maiden's Blush* 991 Like a nay-lesse wooer, Holding his cloak, shee puls him hard unto her.

Nayne, obs. Sc. form of NONE.

Nayque, obs. form of NAIK.

Nayre, obs. variant of HEIR, NAIR.

Nay-say, *sb.* Also **naysay.** [f. NAY *adv.* + SAY *sb.*] Refusal, denial.

1631 R. H. *Arraignm. Whole Creature* v. 39 Hee will have no nay say. *a* 1666 BLAIR *Autobiog.* vi. (1848) 84 They would take no naysay. 1721 RAMSAY *Ode to the Ph—* xiii. (1877) II. 144 Nineteen nay says are ba'f a grant. 1762 STERNE *Let. to Mrs. Sterne* 14 June, Whoever buys the fifth and sixth volumes of Shandy's must have the nay-say of the seventh and eighth. 1816 SCOTT *Bl. Dwarf* v, That ..depends entirely on the manner in which the nay-says are said. 1857 SIR F. PALGRAVE *Norm. & Eng.* II. 44 Not Cromwell's faltering nay-say, nor Cæsar's affected disdain.

So **Nay-say** *v.*, to refuse (one). *dial.* and *arch.* More freq. in dial. forms *na-* or *nae-say.*

1773 FERGUSSON *Election* ix. Poet. Wks. (1800) 138 The foul ane durst him na-say. *a* 1800 *James Hadley* VII. in Child *Ballads* IV. 371/1 If it should be my hole estate, Naesaid, naesaid, it shall not be. 1864 LATTO *Tam. Bodkin* xv, The evidence..was ower strong an' conclusive to be nae said. 1890 MORRIS *Glittering Plain* xix, He naysaid them because he was fain of his work.

Nay-sayer. *rare*$^{-1}$. [Cf. next.] A refuser.

1721 KELLY *Scot. Prov.* 21 A sturdy Beggar should have a stout Naysayer.

Nay-saying. [f. NAY *adv.* + SAYING *vbl. sb.*] Denial, contradiction.

1535 COVERDALE *Heb.* VII. 7 Now is it so without all naysayenge that the lesse receaueth blessynge of ye greater. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 272 A straunge facion of puttyng awaye feare, not by naye saiyng, ne [etc.].

Naysch, obs. f. NESH *a.* **Nayssant,** obs. f. NAISSANT. **Nayt,** e, varr. of NAIT *v.*^{1} and *v.*^{2} **Naytheless,** e, obs. ff. NATHELESS. **Naythir,** obs. Sc. f. NEITHER. **Naytly,** var. of NAITLY.

Nay·ward. *rare*$^{-1}$. [f. NAY *sb.* + -WARD.] *To the nay-ward*, towards denial or disbelief.

1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* II. i. 64 He be sworne you would beleeue my saying, How e're you leane to th' Nay-ward.

Nayword^{1} (nēi·wə̄rd). Also 7 **ay-.** [Of obscure formation; there is no obvious connexion with either NAY or AY.]

1. A watchword or catchword. *rare.*

1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* II. ii. 131 In any case haue a nayword, that you may know one anothers minde. *Ibid.* v. ii. 5 We haue a nay-word, how to know one another. I come to her in white, and cry Mum; she cries Budget. 1828 MRS. BRAY *Protestant* VIII. (1884) 73 A rosary. A priest's treasury—his fortune, his nayword, his mask, through the mumming of this goodly farce, called the world. 1837 GEN. P. THOMPSON *Exerc.* (1842) IV. 285 A persuasion that the first of the sounds 'Victoria Regina' was the proper nay-word for gentlemen to know when to take off their hats.

2. A byword, a proverb. ? *Obs.*

1601 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* II. iii. 146 If I do not gull him into an ayword, and make him a common recreation. 1664 COTTON *Scarron.* 14 And with a Gibing kind of Nayword, Quoth he [etc.]. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew* s.v. *Tandry*, It grew into a Nay-word, upon any thing very Gawdy. 1777 *Gentl. Mag.* XLVII. 321 A Nayword .. is a common expression for a by-word and is probably a crasis of an Aye-word.

Nayword^{2}. *rare*$^{-1}$. [f. NAY *adv.*^{1}] Refusal.

1898 *Blackw. Mag.* Apr. 565 There will be no hasty nayword from me.

Nazal, obs. form of NASAL *sb.*

Na·zarate. *rare*$^{-1}$. = NAZARITESHIP.

1833 *Bagster's Treasury Bible* Num. VI, His subjection to God through all the peculiarities of his Nazarate.

Nazardly: see NAZZARD.

Nazarean (næzărī·ăn). [ad. F. *Nazaréen* or f. L. *Nazarē-us*, var. of *Nazaræ-us*, ad. Gr. Ναζωραῖος: cf. next.] = NAZARENE *sb.* 2.

1577 HANMER *Anc. Eccl. Hist., Chron.* (1585) 558 The Nazareans were such as vsed no liuing creatures. 1727–38 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v., S. Epiphanius tells us, the Nazareans were the same with the Jews in everything relating to the doctrine and ceremonies of the Old Testament. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XII. 781/2 These Nazareans preserved this first gospel in its primitive purity. 1874 J. H. BLUNT *Dict. Sects.*

Nazarene (næzărī·n), *a.* and *sb.* Also 3–4 **-en,** 5 **-yen.** [ad. L. *Nazarēn-us*, ad. Gr. Ναζαρηνός (Mark i. 24), f. Ναζαρέτ Nazareth.]

A. *adj.* **1.** Of or belonging to Nazareth. *rare.*

c 1275 *Passion our Lord* 183 in *O. E. Misc.* 42 He to heom seyde, hwam ye seche here? Heo hym onswerede, ihesum nazaren. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 19622, I hatt iesus nazaren. 1855 BROWNING *Ep. Karshish* 100 That he was dead and then restored to life By a Nazarene physician.

2. Belonging to the sect of the Nazarenes.

1689 tr. *Simon's Crit. Hist. N. T.* 51 These Nazarene Sectaries. *a* 1724 J. JONES *Meth. N. T.* (1726) I. 387 Having never seen the Nazarene Gospel, for ought he knew, it might he the very same with that of the Ebionites. 1765 MACLAINE tr. *Mosheim's Eccl. Hist.* (1768) I. 174 *note*, He.. alledges that the Ebionites had only made some small additions to the old Nazarene system.

†**3.** (See quot.) *Obs. rare*$^{-0}$.

1796 *Grose's Dict. Vulgar T.* (ed. 3), *Nazarene Forelop*, the foretop of a wig made in imitation of Christ's head of hair, as represented by the painters and sculptors.

B. *sb.* **1.** A native of Nazareth.

1611 BIBLE *Matt.* ii. 23 He shalbe called a Nazarene. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XII. 781/1 We find no particular place in the prophets in which it is said that the Messiah should be called a Nazarene. 1881 A. O'SHAUGHNESSY *Songs of Worker* 11 Great folk no whit ashamed now to beseech That Nazarene to come and be their king.

b. A follower of Jesus of Nazareth; a Christian. (So called esp. by Jews and Mohammedans.)

1382 WYCLIF *Acts* XXIV. 5 Auctour of seduciour of the secte of Nazarens. 1481 CAXTON *Godfrey* LXXXV. 134 Thenne was establysshed that they shold be called crysten men of crist; ffor byfore they were called nazaryens. 1685 BAXTER *Paraphr. N. T.* Acts XXIV. 5 Calling the Christians Nazarenes in scorn. 1704 J. PITTS *Acc. Moham.* IV. 24, I never saw a Nazarene (i.e. a Christian) before. 1813 BYRON *Giaour* XXXV, The very name of Nazarene Was wormwood to his Paynim spleen. 1889 HUXLEY *Sci. & Chr. Trad.* (1895) 301 On the whole..the Nazarenes were but little troubled for the first twenty years of their existence.

2. *pl.* An early Jewish-Christian sect, allied to the Ebionites.

1689 tr. *Simon's Crit. Hist. N. T.* 51 Epiphanius..observes .., that these ancient Nazarenes..were descended from the Primitive Christians of the same Name. *a* 1724 J. JONES *Meth. N. T.* (1726) I. 385 The Nazarenes..differ'd only from the Jews, in that they profess'd the Name of Christ [etc.]. 1765 MACLAINE tr. *Mosheim's Eccl. Hist.* (1768) I. 173 This body of judaizing Christians .. was afterwards divided into two sects .. distinguished by the names of Nazarenes and Ebionites. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVI. 125/1 The early fathers do not appear to have regarded the Nazarenes as heretics. 1876 L. STEPHEN *Eng. Th.* 18*th C.* I. III. ii. 103 The doctrine afterwards maintained by Priestley that the Jewish sects, the Nazarenes and Ebionites..were the genuine Christians.

3. A member of a sect of Christian reformers in Hungary.

1886 W. J. TUCKER *E. Europe* 155 No Nazarene may take up a weapon to attack his brother-man, not even in self-defence.

† **Na·zarism.** *Obs. rare*⁻¹. = NAZARITISM.

1638 MEDE *Diatribæ* ii. Wks. (1672) 7 The Law given Numbers 6. concerning the Vow of Nazarisme.

† **Nazaritan.** *Obs. rare.* [f. next + -AN.] A Christian.

1625 PURCHAS *Pilgrims* IX. vi. II. 1482 The..Corrector of the things of all the Nations of the Nazaritanes. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* 192 The most part of the inhabited villages [of Libanus] are Christians, called Amaronites, or Nostranes, *quasi* Nazaritans, and are governed by their owne Patriarke.

Nazarite [1] (næ·zărəit). Also 6 **-ete.** [f. L. *Nazar-æus* (see NAZAREAN) + -ITE [1].]

1. A native or inhabitant of Nazareth.

1535 COVERDALE *Matt.* ii. 23 He shalbe called a Nazarite. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* I. iii. 35 The habitation which your Prophet the Nazarite conjured the dinell into. 1685 BAXTER *Paraphr. N. T.* Matt. ii. 23 The Jews called Christ a Nazarite, from that place of his dwelling. 1903 H. BLACK *Work* i. 10 The Jews sneered at the Nazarite and the Nazarites sneered at the Carpenter.

† b. = NAZARENE *sb.* 1 b. *Obs. rare.*

1535 COVERDALE *Aets* xxiv. 5 A maynteyner of the secte of the Nazaretes. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* s.v., The Disciples were first called Nazarites..from Jesus of Nazareth.

† **2.** = NAZARENE *sb.* 2. *Obs. rare*⁻⁰.

1661 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* (ed. 2), *Nazarite*, .. also certain Heretics so called.

Nazarite [2] (næ·zărəit). Also 9 **nazirite.** [f. L. *Nazar-æus* (cf. prec.), repr. Hebr. נָזִיר *nāzīr*, f. *nāzar* to separate or consecrate oneself, to refrain from anything.] The name given among the Hebrews to one who had taken certain vows of abstinence (see Numbers vi.).

In the Wyclif Bible the earlier version uses the form *Nazare*, the later *Nazarei* or *-ey*. Coverdale has *Nazaree* in Judges xiii. 5, 7.

1560 BIBLE (Genev.) *Num.* vi. 2 When a man or woman doeth separate them selues to vowe a vowe of a Nazarite. *c* 1585 R. BROWNE *Answ. Cartwright* 64 To drinke wine .. was a pollution both of the Nazarites and Priestes. 1671 MILTON *Samson* 1386 Nothing to do..that may dishonour Our Law, or stain my vow of Nazarite. 1706 A. BEDFORD *Temple Mus.* iv. 78 Samuel was .. a Nazarite (which consisted only in a Vow of Abstinence). 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XII. 781/2 The priest or some other shaved the head of the Nazarite at the door of the tabernacle. 1831 E. BURTON *Eccl. Hist.* viii. 248 There were always persons in Jerusalem .. who took upon them the vow of a Nazarite. 1882 FARRAR *Early Chr.* I. 520 There are traces in Scripture that the Nazarites were regarded with peculiar pride.

attrib. 1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* 23 With Nazarite-tresses, to my Crosse will I bind her crossing frowardness and contaminations. 18.. *Bible Helps* (Bagster) 88/2 Various interpretations have been given of the Nazarite vow.

Hence **Na·zariteship; Nazarit·ic** *a.*; **Na·zaritish** *a.*; **Na·zaritism.**

1611 BIBLE *Num.* vi. 4 All the days of his separation [*marg.* *Nazariteship] shall he eat nothing that is made of the vine. 1650 TRAPP *Comm. Num.* vi. 14 He must come with his sin-offering .. before he could be released of his Nazarite-ship. 1738 CRUDEN *Concord.* s.v. *Nazarite*, When the time of their Nazaritship was accomplished. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XII. 781/2 They began again the whole ceremony of their consecration and Nazariteship. 1864 WEBSTER, **Nazaritic*, pertaining to a Nazarite, or to Nazarites. 1874 H. R. REYNOLDS *John Baptist* iii. § 2. 161 Those who had put themselves for different periods under the Nazaritic vow. 1675 BROOKS *Gold. Key* Wks. 1867 V. 295 God's departing from him when he lost his *Nazaritish hair by Delilah. 1854 J. BRUCE *Biog. Samson* i. 15 The Nazaritish vow had preceded the birth of both. 1692 J. EDWARDS *Inq. Remark. Texts N. T.* 47 The law of *Nazaritism concerning long and uncut hair. *a* 1762 D. JENNINGS *Jewish Antiq.* (1808) I. 422 The institution of Nazaritism was no doubt partly religious. 1882 FARRAR *Early Chr.* I. 520 The Nazaritism of St. James is a circumstance of great moment in the explanation of his life and character.

Naze (nēⁱz). Also 8 **nase.** [app. inferred from place-names such as *the Naze* in Essex or that at the southern extremity of Norway (*Lindesnæs*).] A promontory or headland, a ness.

1774 T. WEST *Antiq. Furness* 93 Furness being a kind of peninsula, or nase or ness of land, as its name imports. 1826 EWING *Geog.* (ed. 7) 23 *note*, Naze, ness, and mull, are also used to signify remarkable portions of land stretching out into the water. 1837 MACDOUGALL tr. *Graah's E. Coast Greenland* 24 Hiding..the whole actual shore, except here and there some inconsiderable naze.

‖ **Nazir** (nā·zir). Also 7 **-ar, -er.** [a. Pers. or Urdū (from Arab.) ناظر *nāẓir* superintendent, inspector, etc., f. *naẓar* sight, vision.] The title of various officials in Mohammedan countries; a native official in Anglo-Indian courts.

1678 J. PHILLIPS *Tavernier's Trav.* I. i. 42 The King advanc'd him to the Office of Nazar, or Grand Master of the House. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* II. 97 He commanded the Nazer .. to be exposed naked to the Sun; and the Nazer is one of the chief Officers of that Court. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XII. 782/1 In this sense Joseph was the Nazir of the court of Pharaoh. 1840 J. B. FRASER *Koordistan* I. ii. 30 He addressed .. his *Nāzir*, or steward, and told him to go to certain of his guests. 1878 GRANT *Hist. India* I. lxxxi. 431/1 The rajah had few privileges beyond those of the Nāzirs, or nobles.

Nazirite, variant of NAZARITE.

Nazold. Also 9 *dial.* **nazzald, nazzle.** [Of obscure origin: cf. NAZZARD.] A silly or weak-minded person.

1607 WALKINGTON *Opt. Glass* 83, I know some selfe-conceited nazold, and some jaundice-fac'd idiot, that uses to deprave and detract from mens worthines. 18.. (see *Eng. Dial. Dict.* s.v. *Azzald*).

Na·zy, *a. slang* or *dial.* Also 9 **nazzy.** [Cf. NASE *a.*] Drunken.

a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Nazie*, drunken. 1855 ROBINSON *Whitby Gloss., Nazzy*, stupified, intoxicated.

Na·zzard. *Obs.* exc. *dial.* [Of obscure origin: cf. NAZOLD.] An insignificant or feeble person.

1619 H. HUTTON *Follie's Anat.* (Percy Soc.) 36 Women by nature doe a nazzard spight, Because he's a light-horse-man and wants weight. 1882 in *E. D. D.* s.v. *Azzard.*

Hence **Na·zzardly** *a.*, poor, ill-thriven.

1675 COTTON *Scoffer Scoft* 68 Such a nazardly Pigwiggin, A little Hang-strings in a Biggin.

† **Ne,** *sb. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [ad. OF. **nie*, acc. of *nies*:—L. *nepos*: see NEPHEW.] A nephew.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) II. 273 His successour and ne was Octauianus Augustus.

† **Ne,** *v. Sc. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [ad. OF. *neer*, var. of *neier, nier*: see DENY *v.*] To deny.

c 1400 *Sc. Trojan War* (Horstm.) I. 578 It syt no cristyne mane [to] Ne, gode of myght baith may & kane [etc.].

Ne (nē), *adv.* and *conj.*[1] Now only *arch.* Also 1 **ni,** 4–5 **ny.** [OE. *ne, ni* = OFris. and OS. *ne, ni* (MDu. *ne*), OHG. *ni* (*ne*), ON. *né* (for *ne*), Goth. *ni* = Lith. *nè*, OSl. *ne-*, L. *ne-* (in *nefās, nequeo*, etc.), Skr. *na*, related by ablaut to Goth. *nē*, Lat. *nē*, Gr. *νη-*, Skr. *nā*.]

A. *adv.* = NOT. **1.** As simple negative.

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) N 199 *Numquid*, ne huru is. *c* 825 *Vesp. Psalter* iii. 7 Ne ondredu ic ðusend folces ymsellendes me. *a* 900 *Leiden Riddle* 3 in *O. E. Texts* 150 Ni nuat ic mec biuorth[n]æ wullan fliusum. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 7 Ne ondræd þu þe, Maria. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gen.* iii. 1 Hwi forbead god eow, þæt ge ne æton of ælcum treowe. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1086 Hwam ne mæg earmian swylcere tide? *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1390 Hwi ne hihe we for to beon i-fulhet. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 47 West thu that ich ne cunne singe ..? *c* 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 1749 Þan doute we for no þing þat we ne may han our wille. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxx. (*Theodora*) 73 He trawalyt sa þat he ne mycht rest nycht na day. *a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* 39 The lady..asked whi he ne wolde with her speke. 1485 CAXTON *Chas. Gt.* 39, I ne entende but onely to reduce thauncient ryme in to prose. 1559 *Mirr. Mag., Cambridge* iii, He ne had, nor could encrease his line. *a* 1592 GREENE *Looking-gl.* Wks. (Rtldg.) 144/2 Twenty thousand infants that ne wot The right hand from the left. 1812 BYRON *Ch. Har.* I. ii, A youth Who ne in virtue's ways did take delight.

† **b.** In the conditional clauses *ne were, ne had .. been*, were it not, had it not been (for). Also with omission of verb. *Obs.*

c 1050 *O. E. Chron.* (MS. D.) an. 943 He hy ȝewyldan meahte, nære þæt hi on niht ut ne æt burston of þære byriȝ. 13.. *Sir Beues* (A.) 2005 Ne wer is douȝter Iosiane, Sertes, ich wolde ben is bane! 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* II. 424 He.. haid till erd gane fullyly, Ne war he bynt him by his sted. *c* 1482 in *Cal. Proc. Chanc. Q. Eliz.* (1830) II. Pref. 64 The same Thomas .. was in grete juperdie of life, ne only the grace of God. 1494 FABYAN *Chron.* VI. ccxii. 228 Alfrede shulde haue holpen me, ne hadde erle Goodwyn ben. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* XI. xvii. 97 Ne war, as than, the rosy Phebus red Hys wery stedis had dowkyt our the hed.

† **c.** *Ne-for-thi*, nevertheless. *Obs. rare.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 11621 Maria and ioseph ne for-þi For the child war ful dreri. 13.. *Ibid.* 7628 (Gött.), Bot saule he dred him ne for-þi.

† **2. a.** With another negative following. *Obs.*

Also occas. doubled, esp. when combined with the verb.

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 13 Ne herede heo hine no mid wordum anum, ac mid ealre heortan. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xxv. 43 Ic wæs cuma and ge me ne in ne gelaðodun. 1154 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1137 Þe erthe ne bar nan corn. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 21 He ne hadde bim selue nane. *c* 1275 *Passion our Lord* 17 in *O. E. Misc.* 37 Ne þerfþ þer non adrede. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Serm.* Sel. Wks. II. 306 Lo, ne ben not al þes þat speken of þe cuntre of Galile? 1411 *Rolls of Parlt.* III. 650/2 He knoweth wel that..he ne hath noght born hym as he sholde hav doon. 1485 CAXTON *Chas. Gt.* 95 Ne doubte ye not for I shal rendre you anone al hole.

† **b.** With another negative preceding. *Obs.*

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 21 Þæt leoht on nanre tide ne ablinneþ. 1154 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1140 Hi nan helpe ne hæfden of þe kinge. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 905 Þu neauer ne singst in Irlonde. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 4493 Vor þer nas vnneþe non Prynce in al þe world, þat ne moste be þere. 1450–1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* 2 Ye wote well that no man ne may well shewe the worthynes..therof. 1480 CAXTON *Chron. Eng.* xxii. 20 It was not long after that brenne ne come ageyne with a grete nauye.

† **3. a.** As *n-* in combination with a verb. *Obs.*

Even in OE. *ne* was reduced to *n-* before certain common words, as in *nā, nán, næfre, nænig* and the verbal forms *nabban, neom, nys, næs, nyllan, nytan*, etc. In ME. various parts of the verbs *be, have, will*, and *wit* occur frequently with this prefixed *n-* (for illustrations see NABBE, NAD, NAVE; NAM, NAS, NIS; NILL, NOTE, etc.), and the same phenomenon is not unusual with other verbs.

c 1200 *Moral Ode* 102 (Trin. Coll. MS.), Þeih we bes ne niseien bie waren ure iferen. *c* 1275 *Passion our Lord* 611 in *O. E. Misc.* 54 Yet heo bit nyleuede þe more ne þe lesse. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 6576 Þeym nauaillede mast ne roþer. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 40 That time schal noght overpasse, That I naproche hir ladihede. *c* 1407 LYDG. *Reson & Sens.* 5553 They nentende nyght nor day But vnto merthe. 1425 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 267/2 My Lord Mareschall naleyeth no possession nor continuance hadde.

† **b.** Suffixed (as *-n*) to the preceding word. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 17223 Quin suld i, iesu, do þi will? 13.. *Ibid.* 1108 (Gött.), His dede .. had euer ben bid, warn iesu him-self had it kid. 13.. *Ibid.* 23362 (Edinb.), Þain sal wit naþing of site. *c* 1375 *Ibid.* 6130 (Fairf.), Was na hous..attyn þer was dedemon in liggande.

B. *conj.*

1. = NOR. **a.** Following a negative clause, or a word with negative force. *Ne..ne* (sometimes) = neither..nor. Now only *arch.*

In ME. occas. prefixed to the following word, as in A. 3 a.

c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* v. 6 Ne eardað neb ðe awerzed ne ðorhwuniað ða unrehtwisan [etc.]. *a* 900 *Leiden Riddle* 5 in *O. E. Texts* 151 Uundnae me ni biað ueflæ, ni ic narp hefæ. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 25 Nis þær æniȝ sar gemeted, ne adl, ne ece. 1154 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1137, I ne can ne i ne mai tellen alle þe wunder ne alle þe pines. *c* 1205 LAY. 10260 Ne bi-læfde be..suster ne broðer Ne quene ne næh cun. *c* 1275 *Passion our Lord* 3 in *O. E. Misc.* 37 Nis hit nouht of karlemeyne ne of þe Duzeper. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 9906 Þey nadde neyþer drede naffray. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Serm.* Sel. Wks. I. 41 Neiþir in noumbre ne in cloþing, ne in mete ne in housynge. 1426 AUDELAY *Poems* 1 Thai schuld never be schamyd ne chent, ne lost here lyfe, ne lond, ne rent. *c* 1500 *Melusine* 28 He ne wyst where he was, ne whither he went. 1537 CRANMER *Let.* in *Misc. Writ.* (Parker Soc.) II. 336 He cannot in that diocese be accepted ne allowed. 1581 MARBECK *Bk. of Notes* 666 They ne could ne would help the afflicted. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* XLV. XXXV. 1225 No doubt was made at all of the triumph of Anicius, ne yet of Octavius. *a* 1648 LD. HERBERT *Hen. VIII* (1683) 257 They could not, ne did say that they had. 1742 SHENSTONE *Schoolmistr.* (ed. 1) viii, Ne did she e'er complain, ne deem it rough. 1798 COLERIDGE *Anc. Mar.* III. iii, Ne could we laugh, ne wail.

† **b.** Used with a negative following. *Obs.*

1154 [see above]. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Knt.'s T.* 488 Arcite is exiled .., Ne nevere mo he schal his lady see. *c* 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 1723 He myȝt not challange þat heritage, Ny nomore ryȝt badde þerto. 1452 *Anc. Cal. Rec. Dublin* (1889) I. 275 Ne they shulde not go in to the contre to byge corne.

† **c.** With omission of preceding negative (sometimes expressed in what follows). *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 4146 For man þat fiuand es, ne wijf, Ne sal he scappus wit þe lijf. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 14995 Swilk men..þat dide ne seide to noman ille. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Knt.'s T.* 767 Love ne lordschipe Wol not, his thonkes, have no felaschipe. 1435 MISYN *Fire of Love* 1 The whilk boke in sentence ne substance I þink to chaunge. 1484 in *Surtees Misc.* (1890) 42 Thay ne noon of theim were nevere privey to ye sealing. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 21 They would receive ne take not a scholare without a great fee. 1618 *Kalender of Sheph.* XXXV, Thus orison riseth ne resconceth. Meridian also riseth not ne resconseth.

† **d.** = Nor, and .. not, neither. *Obs. rare.*

1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* III. iv. 56 That doest all thinges deface, ne lettest see The beautie of his worke. 1599 HAKLUYT *Voy.* II. II. 76 These boates are so many that it seemeth wonderfull, ne serue they for other then to take small fish.

† **2.** = OR. *Obs. rare.*

c 1500 *Melusine* 144 The moost strong and fell folke that euer I sawe ne herde speke of. 1548 CRANMER in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* (1721) II. App. AA. 97 There be but few matters more necessary ne more expedyent for kynges..to loke upon.

† **Ne,** *conj.*[2], variant of NA *conj.*[2] than. *Obs.*

c 1400 *Sc. Trojan War* (Horstm.) I. 399 That nane was wisser vndre the hewene Ne Medea ine hyr dais. 1508 DUNBAR *Tua Mariit Wemen* 377 Ȝing lusty gallandis, that I held more in daynte,..Ne him that dressit me so dink.

Ne, obs. f. NEIGH, NIGH. **Nea,** north. and Sc. var. of NO. **Nead(e, Neadle, Neady,** obs. ff. NEED, NEEDLE, NEEDY. **Neaf(ful),** obs. ff. NIEVE(FUL).

† **Neagues, neakes,** variants of *nigs* in *God's nigs*: see GOD 14 b. *Obs. rare.*

1602 MARSTON *Ant. & Mel.* III. ii, Gods neakes, they would have shone like my mystresse browe. *Ibid.* IV. i, Gods neakes, pronde elfe,.. give the Duke reverence. 1619 FLETCHER, etc. *Knt. Malta* V. i, I'll .. goe up and downe drinking small beere and swearing 'odds neagues.

Neakit, obs. Sc. form of NAKED *a.*

† **Neal,** *a. Obs.* In 6 **neall,** 7 **neale(d).** [repr. OE. *nēol, nīol*, var. *neowol, niwol* deep, profound.] Of water: Deep. Also *neal(ed) to* (see quots.).

1574 W. BOURNE *Regiment for Sea* XXII. (1577) 61 Those be neall or deepe harde unto the sandes or daungers. 1626 CAPT. SMITH *Accid. Yng. Seamen* 30 Come to an Anchor vnder the Ley of the weather shore, the Ley shore, nealed too, looke to your stoppers. 1627 — *Seaman's Gram.* IX. 44 If it be Nealed to, that is, deepe water close aboord the shore. 1644 MAINWAYRING *Sea-Man's Dict., Neale-too.* [Also in PHILLIPS (1658) and CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* (1753).]

Neal (nīl), *v. Obs.* exc. *dial.* Also 6–7 **nele,** 7 **neil(l)e, neale,** 9 **neeal, nale.** [Aphetic form of ANNEAL *v.*]

1. *trans.* To fire or bake (earthenware, etc.), esp. so as to glaze it. = ANNEAL *v.* 2. ? *Obs.*

1538 [implied in NEALED *ppl. a.*]. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 425 The wine-vessels..must be nealed with pitch, presently

vpon the rising of the dog-star. 1615 G. Sandys *Trav.* 31 Divers..make the particles of clay, gilt, and coloured before they be neiled by the fire. 1683 Pettus *Fleta Min.* I. (1686) 9 Plaster it all over the inside of the Furnace, let it dry well.. that it may be neald. 1799 G. Smith *Laboratory* I. 9 Blood stone, which has been nealed and beaten to a..powder.

b. *fig.* To burn. Also with *into*.

1673 O. Walker *Educ.* 209 Yet are they not to be neglected, but to be neal'd into youth, that they may not through defect of them, miscarry in their age. 1829 Hogg *Shepherd's Cal.* ii, Till that hard and cruel heart o' yours be nealed to an izle.

2. To temper, to soften or toughen (metal or glass), by the action of fire or heat, *esp.* by a process of heating and slow cooling. = Anneal *v.* 4.

1558 Phaer *Æneid* VII. U iij b, Swordes and glaiues in furneis neale they tough. 1611 Markham *Countr. Content.* I. x. (1668) 56 Strong wier.., being nealed and allaid in the fire, you may bend and bow at your pleasure. 1665 Hooke *Microgr.* 42 By a leisurely heating and cooling, the parts are nealed into another posture. 1685 Boyle *Effects of Motion* viii. 93 A Glass that seemed to have been well-baked or nealed (as they call it). 1745 *Phil. Trans.* XLIII. 506 Those Drops or *Lachrymæ* of Glass, which, instead of being nealed, had been immediately quenched in Water. 1763 W. Lewis *Phil. Comm. Arts* 5 The wire is softened and made pliable by nealing or heating it on live coals. 1881 *I. Wight Gloss., Neeal*, to temper by fire. 1894 *S. E. Worc. Gloss., Nale*, to anneal; to soften or toughen iron.

†**3.** *intr.* To undergo the process of annealing.

c 1626 Mevерel *Answ. Bacon Touching Metals* B.'s Wks. 1857 III. 817 Reduction is chiefly effected by fire, wherein if they stand and nele, the imperfect metals vapour away. 1684 Boyle *Porousn. Anim. & Solid Bod.* viii. 137 We laid this Glass..warily upon a few Quick-coals, and having suffered it to neal awhile [etc.].

Nealed, *ppl. a.* [f. prec. + -ED 1.] Annealed; having undergone the process of annealing.

1538 Leland *Itin.* (1769) VI. 72 Pottes exceeding finely nelyd and florishid. 1576 Baker *Jewell of Health* 193 b, Poure a fourth parte of it into a newe and stronge nealed potte. 1615 Crooke *Body of Man* 110 On the inside [they are] lined with slime, and as it were nealed like earthen pots. 1658 A. Fox *Würtz' Surg.* I. iv. 13 The stenching of blood must be effected onely with nealed Irons and other burning meanes. 1684 R. Waller *Nat. Exper.* 111 A Leaden Plummet being fastened to a nealed Brass-Wire. *a* 1734 Noath *Exam.* I. ii. § 46 (1740) 52 The Patent for the Invention of nealed Cannon.

Neal-fire, *nonce-wd.* Annealing fire.

1813 Hogg *Queen's Wake, Young Kennedy* iii, His soul was the neal-fire, inhaled from his den.

Nealing (nī·liŋ), *vbl. sb.* (and *ppl. a.*) [f. Neal *v.*] The action of the verb, in various senses; the process of annealing or tempering.

1622 Malynes *Anc. Law-Merch.* 284 By the working, hammering, often nealing and blaunching, which alwaies in base moneys is verie great. 1678 *Phil. Trans.* XII. 955 Neither was it altogether free from Copper; because, upon Nealing, it always turned black on the surface. 1727–38 Chambers *Cycl., Nealing of glass* is the baking of glass, to dry, harden, and give it the due consistence, after it has been blown. 1799 G. Smith *Laboratory* I. 71 Heat soon restores its ductility, which is termed nealing or annealing. 1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 47 *Annealing* or *Nealing*, a process by which glass is rendered less frangible, and metals .. are again rendered malleable.

b. *attrib.* or *ppl. a.*

1644 Digby *Nat. Bodies* viii. (1658) 69 To let it [glass] cool by degrees in such relentings of fire, as they call their nealing heats. 1666 Boyle *Orig. Formes & Qual.* 169 To deprive it of its spring it needs the violent agitation of a nealing fire. 1722 De Foe *Col. Jack* (1840) 8 We got into the ash-holes, and nealing-arches in the glass-house. 1745 *Phil. Trans.* XLIII. 508 Set to cool gradually in what is called the nealing Furnace.

Neam(e, variants of Eme (see N 3 b).

1589 *Pappe w. Hatchet* (1844) 25 The babie comes in with Nunka, Neame, and Dad. *a* 1652 Brome *Queenes Exch.* III. Wks. 1873 III. 501 *King.* Pull the fool off me. *Jeff.* O but they shall not, neam, 'tis more than they can do. 1684– in dialect use (Warw., Staff., Derby, Yks., Lancs), chiefly *my neam* (see *Eng. Dial. Dict.*).

Neamble, obs. form of Nimble *a.*

Nean(e, north. dial. forms of None.

Neanderthaloid (nɪæ̆ndəɹtā·loid), *a.* [See def. and -oid.] Having the characteristics of a prehistoric skull of very low type found at Neanderthal in Rhenish Prussia in 1857; characterized by this type of skull.

1887 W. H. Flower in *Jrnl. Anthrop. Insl.* XVI. 377 A type which has received the name 'Neanderthaloid'. 1890 Huxley in *19th Cent.* Nov. 776 Skulls do approach the Neanderthaloid type, among both the brunet and the blond long-head races.

Neap (nīp), *sb.*1 *north. dial.* and *U. S.* Also 6, 9 nepe, 7 neep, nape. [perh. of Scand. origin: cf. Norw. dial. *neip* a forked pole, a wooden stay (Aasen), Icel. *neip* the space between two fingers.]

1. The pole or tongue of a cart. (Now *U. S.*) Also *attrib.* in † *nepe-yoke.*

1553 *Inventory* in *Midl. Counties Hist. Collector* (1855) I. 233 Itm iij waynes, iij dongcarts..iij nepe yoks. 1659 Hoole *Comenius' Vis. World* (1672) 173 The parts of a Wagon are, the Neep (or draught-tree) [etc.]. 1877 C. D. Warner *Being a Boy* i, When I rode on the neap of the cart, and drove the oxen. 1884 *Harper's Mag.* Sept. 613/1 They had..perched themselves on a cart neap.

2. (See quots.)

1691 Ray *N. C. Words* (ed. 2) 51 A *Nape* or *Neap*; a piece of Wood, that hath two or three feet, with which they bear up the fore-part of a laded Wain. 1876 *Mid-Yorksh. Gloss., Neap*, ..a three-legged rest, constructed of natural branches, and used to support the shaft of a vehicle.

Neap (nīp), *a.* and *sb.*2 Forms: 1 nép-, 5–8 neep, (6 -e), 6–8 nepe, (6 nep, neb, 7 nape), 7–8 neipe, (8 niepe, nip), 6– neap, (6–7 -e). [OE. *nép* in *néppflód*, of obscure etym. and meaning, otherwise found only in *Exod.* 469 in the phrase *forðganges nép*, app. = 'without power of advancing'. Da. *niptid* is prob. from English.]

1. *Neap tide*, a tide occurring shortly after the first and third quarters of the moon, in which the high-water level stands at its lowest point. †Orig. *neap-flood*, and occas. with other sbs. as *stream*. Also *neap season*, the time of neap tide.

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) Int. 196 *Ledo*, nep flod. *c* 850 *O. E. Martyrol.* 40 Se fylleðflod hiδ nemned on leden *malina*, & se nepflod *ledo*. *c* 1050 *Suppl. Ælfric's Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 182 *Ledona*, nepflod *vel* ebba.

1479 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 425 That they leue resonable stuff upon the bak fro spryng to spryng, to serue the pouere people..in the neep sesons. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VIII* 131 Thre horsemen..whiche wel knewe the hauen of Calice, came at a nepe tide. 1561 Eden *Arte Navig.* II. xviii, Whiche the Mariners call nepe tydes, lowe ebbes, lowe waters, dead waters, or lowe fluddes. 1622 Hawkins *Voy. S. Sea* (1847) 155 Our shippe..in the neap streames comming a-ground in the sterne. 1694 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3025/3 The great Ships..wanted Water to come over the Flatts..by reason of the Neep Tides. 1720 Strype *Stow's Surv.* (1754) I. I. vi. 34/2 The Tides were then at the Neapest. 1794 Sullivan *View Nat.* I. 390 The spring tides will be greater.. and the neap tides on that account will be less. 1860 *All Year Round* No. 69. 449 The tides are weak, or neap; the oscillation of the sea is less. 1870 Proctor *Other Worlds* iii. 73 We have tides ranging between the highest spring tides..and the lowest neap tides.

fig. 1645 Quarles *Sol. Recant.* XII. 73 When ebbing bloods neap-tides shall strike thy lims With trembling Palsies. 1875 Tennyson *Q. Mary* I. v, The realm is poor, The exchequer at neap-tide [*ed.* 1, neap-ebb].

2. *absol.* as *sb.* A neap tide.

1584 in J. J. Cartwright *Chapt. Hist. Yorks* (1872) 268 We say that there ryseth at the sprynge 18 foott water, and at the nepe eleaven foot water. 1661 J. Childrey *Brit. Baconica* 91 So do the Neaps too after the Quarters. 1679 Salmon *Horæ Math.* IV. xvii. 405 The Neaps and lowest Tides at her..quarters. 1727–38 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v., The lowest of the neap is four days before the full or change—on which occasion the seamen say, that it is deep neep. 1776 Cook in *Phil. Trans.* LXVI. 448 During the neep, the tide was very inconsiderable. 1849 H. Miller *Footpr. Creat.* xiii. (1874) 233 A zone still less deeply covered by water, and which even the lower neaps expose. 1875 Bedford *Sailor's Pocket Bk.* v. (ed. 2) 146 For both springs and neaps give the height of high water.

b. In phr. *dead neap*: see Dead *a.* 27.

1589 Greene *Tullie's Love* C 3 The lowest ebbe may haue his flow, and the deaddest neape his full tide. 1627 Hakewill *Apol.* (1630) 131 High springs and dead Neapes. *a* 1641 [see Dead *a.* 27]. 1751 *Anc. St. Navig. Lyn*, etc. 24 Ships of considerable Burden could..come up to the Townside at Low-water, and even at dead Niepe. 1882 *White's Lincolnsh. Direct.* 750 Ships of over 500 tons register can come to Sutton Bridge at dead neap.

Neap (nīp), *v.* Forms: 7 nepe, 8 neep, neip, 8– neap. [f. Neap *sb.*2]

1. *intr.* a. Of tides: To become lower, to tend towards the neap. Also *pass.*

1652–62 Heylin *Cosmogr.* Introd. (1682) 23 From the first quarter to the full it [the sea] is said to spring: from the full to the last quarter it is said to nepe. 1854 G. B. Richardson *Univ. Code* v. (ed. 12) 3270 The tides are neaped. 1866 *Even. Star* 24 Mar., The tides are now neaping.

b. To reach the highest point of neap tide.

1805 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 410/2 At 40 minutes past 2 the tide had neaped and fell above 3 inches.

2. *To be neaped*, of a vessel: (see quots.).

1704 J. Harris *Lex. Techn.* I. s.v. *Neipe*, When a Ship wants Water, so that she cannot get out of a Harbour, off from the Ground, or out of the Dock, the Seamen say she is Neiped. 1769 Falconer *Dict. Marine* (1780), *Neaped*, the situation of a ship which is left aground on the heighth of a spring-tide. 1835 Sir J. Ross *Narr. 2nd Voy.* XXXIII. 467 The tides were now diminishing, while we could not run the risk of being neaped in this manner. 1865 *Pall Mall G.* 21 Nov. 6 Owing to a sudden change in the river.., the *Mooltan* is neaped, and cannot leave here until the 14th inst. 1891 *Law Times* XC. 248/2 Inasmuch as she could load 'always afloat' in the dock, she was not entitled to leave it in order to avoid being neaped.

b. *trans.* with personal agent. *rare*−1.

1770 in Hawkesworth *Voy.* (1773) III. 559, I hauled her bow close ashore; but kept her stern afloat, because I was afraid of neiping her.

Neapil, neaple, obs. forms of Nipple.

Neapkyn, obs. Sc. form of Napkin.

†**Nea·pness.** *Obs. rare*−1. [f. Neap *a.* + -ness.] The condition of being at the neap.

1720 Strype *Stow's Surv.* (1754) I. I. vi. 33/2 The Tides were very slack and in a manner at the very Neapness.

Neapolitan (nɪăpɒ·lităn), *a.* and *sb.* Also 6–7 Neo-. [ad. L. *Neāpolītān-us*, f. *Neāpolītēs* (see -ite), f. *Neāpolis* (Gr. Νεάπολις, new town), Naples.]

A. *adj.* Belonging or native to, distinctive or characteristic of, connected with, Naples.

1596 Shaks. *Merch. V.* I. ii. 43 First there is the Neopolitane Prince. 1617 Moryson *Itin.* III. 133 English Coursers, bred of the Neapolitan Horses and English Mares. 1664 Evelyn *Kal. Hort.* (1729) 234 Medlars. The Great Dutch, Neopolitan and One without Stones. 1705 Addison *Italy* 203 The Lybian Port is but the Neapolitan Bay in little. 1797 Mrs. Radcliffe *Italian* xii, The strangers of distinction, dressed in the splendid Neapolitan habit. 1830 Lyell *Princ. Geol.* I. vi. (1837) I. 141 Recent shells procured..from the Neapolitan seas. 1862 Burgon *Lett. fr. Rome* xxii. 276 There seemed in fact a marked change of race on getting into the Neapolitan States.

b. In special uses. †*Neapolitan disease* (also euphem. *consolation, favour*), a form of syphilis (cf. Naples 1 a). *Neapolitan maple* (see quots.). *Neapolitan ointment*, a mercurial ointment used for syphilis. †*Neapolitan scab*, = N. disease. *Neapolitan sixth* (see quots.). *Neapolitan violet*, a double sweet-scented variety of viola. *Neapolitan yellow*, Naples yellow.

a 1704 T. Brown *Lett. to Gent. & Ladies* Wks. 1709 III. II. 47 Had'st thou administered a little *Neapolitan Consolation to thy Hibernian. 1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Neopolitan disease. *a* 1704 T. Brown *Pleasant Lett. to Gent.* Wks. 1709 III. II. 7 That which we call the Neapolitan Disease. 1777 Robertson *America* (1783) II. 76 This distemper..has been sometimes called the Neapolitan and sometimes the French disease. 1592 Greene *Conny Catch.* Wks. (Grosart) X. 44 They..find nothing but a *Neapolitan favour for their labour. 1833 *Penny Cycl.* I. 77/1 *Acer obtusatum*, the *Neapolitan maple. 1882 *Garden* 18 Nov. 459/2 The Neapolitan Maple, with its reddish purple branches, is a handsome tree. 1753 Chambers *Cycl. Supp.* s.v., *Neapolitan ointment..is a mixture of quicksilver, and other things into an ointment. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 469 He has several times seen E. iris to follow a friction with Neapolitan ointment. 1671 H. M. tr. *Erasm. Colloq.* 531 The New Leprosie, which some..do call the *Neapolitan scab. 1871 Stainer *Harmony* xii. § 138 A chord consisting of the sub-dominant and its minor third and minor sixth is used in the major or minor mode. It is called the *Neapolitan Sixth. 1889 E. Prout *Harmony* (ed. 10) xii. § 276 The first inversion of this chord is generally known as the 'Neapolitan sixth', a name for which it is difficult to give a satisfactory reason. 1836 Loudon *Encycl. Plants* 187 *Viola odorata* is a favorite flower...The double purple and the *Neapolitan are the most esteemed varieties. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVI. 344/1 Some of them have double flowers, which is the case in the variety known as the Neapolitan violet. 1891 Thorpe *Dict. Applied Chem.* II. 692/2 *Neapolitan Yellow.

B. *sb.* An inhabitant or native of the kingdom or city of Naples.

1412–20 Lydg. *Chron. Troy* I. (MS. Digby 230) lf. 34 Cecile, ..To wiche fal many Neapolitan longith this day. 1593 Shaks. 2 *Hen. VI*, V. i. 117 A blood-bespotted Neopolitan, Out-cast of Naples. 1610 — *Temp.* II. ii. 117 O Stephano, two Neapolitanes scap'd. 1670 G. H. *Hist. Cardinals* I. I. 8 The poor Neapolitan..was not slow to take his leave. 1756–7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) II. 227 Cardinal Gieronimo Casanata, a Neapolitan. 1822 W. Robinson in J. A. Heraud *Life Midshipm.* v. (1837) 81 Genoese, French, Sards, and Neapolitans. 1862 Burgon *Lett. fr. Rome* xxii. 278 Two Neapolitans..soon entered into conversation with me.

†**b.** (See quot.) *Obs. rare*−1.

1597 Morley *Introd. Mus.* 180 The Neapolitans or *Canzone a la Napolitana*, different from them [*sc.* canzonets] in nothing sauing in name.

†**c.** The Neapolitan disease. *Obs. rare*−1.

1631 T. Powell *Tom of All Trades* 28 Their best benefactor [is] the Neapolitan.

Near (nī·əɹ), *adv.*1 (and *prep.*) *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Forms: 1 néar, néor, nér, níor, nýr, 3–4 neor, ner, nier, 4–5 neer, 4–7 nere, (7 neere), 5–6 *Sc.* neir, 6– near. [OE. *nēar*, etc., comparative of *nēah* Nigh *adv.*, = OFris. *nīar, nīer, nyer* etc., OS. *nâhor* (MDu. *naer*), MLG. (*nāger*), *nāer, nār*, OHG. *nâhor* (MHG. *nâher, nār*, G. *näher*), ON. *nær* (see Near *adv.*2), Goth. *nêhwis*. Cf. Nar *a.* and *adv.*]

I. In purely adverbial (or prepositional) use.

†**1.** With verbs of motion. Nearer or closer (to a place, point, or person). Freq. governing a noun in the dative. *Obs.*

Beowulf 745 Forð near ætstop, nam þa mid handa .. rinc on ræste. *c* 888 K. Ælfred *Boeth.* iii. § 1 Ða eode se Wisdom near..minum breowsiendum gecþohte. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 179 Gang me near hider. *c* 1205 Lay. 8884 Pæne kæisere he eode neor. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 4920 + 132 Cadwal .. Aryuede bysyde toteneys [and] come somdel ner. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 2442 But ofte thou faylest of thy desyre, Er thou maiest come her any nere. 1533 J. Heywood *Mery Play* 653 Stand stylle, drab, I say, and come no nere. 1596 *Edw. III*, I. ii, Pardon me,..I will come no near.

†**b.** *Near and near*, nearer and nearer. *Obs.*

13.. *K. Alis.* 599 He schal wende of londe feor..and comen neor and neor. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 350 þe knyȝt him neȝeþ ner & ner. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* VI. vii. 193 Euer as they came nere and nere, syre launcelot thouȝt he shold knowe hym. *a* 1557 *Diurn. Occurr.* 45 Then the rest fled, and the Scottis drew neir and neir. *c* 1611 Chapman *Iliad* xxiii. 206 Still creeping near and near the heap.

c. *Naut.* in *No near!* (or *near!*), a command to the helmsman to come no closer to the wind.

c 1450 *Pilgrims' Sea-voy.* 29 Go to the helm!..no nere! 1627 Capt. Smith *Seaman's Gram.* ix. 37 No neere, ease the Helme, or beare vp, is to let her fall to Lee-ward. 1669 Stuarny *Mariner's Mag.* I. ii. 18 No near, keep her full. 1710 *Pol. Ballads* (1860) II. 80 Avast, cried out the Admiral, No-near, you rogues, no-near. 1769 Falconer *Dict. Marine* (1780) s.v. *No nearer*, It is often abbreviated into *no near*, and sometimes into *near*; and is generally applied when the sails shake in the wind. 1841 Dana *Seaman's Man.* 116 'Near I' the order to the helmsman when he is too near the wind. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.*

†**2.** At a nearer distance, with a less interval.

a 1000 in Cockayne *Narrat.* (1861) 22 Mid þy ic þa wolde near geseon. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 4549 þe traytour.. fley atte laste To cornwaile.., he ne dorste no ner abyde. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* XVI. 258 The king and all that with

him war Raid..neir to-giddir than ere did thai. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 409 Men wolen not be euene wiþ crist ne go hifore hym..hut sue crist neer or ferrere.

† **b.** In phrases equivalent in meaning to *far and near* (see NEAR *adv.*[2] 1 b), but properly meaning 'farther (off) and nearer (at hand)'. *Obs.*

a 1000 *Institt. Polity* in Thorpe *Laws* II. 332 Hit ȝebyreð eow þa ȝe nie ȝearwe heon, swa fyr swa nyr. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 137 Hereword to habbene & beon iwurðeȝede fir & neor [=*Trin. Hom.* 157 fer & ner]. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 923 East & west, feor & neor, I do wel faire mi meoster. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 21/72 Men speken muche of his guodnesse, wel wide feor and ner.

† **c.** More closely or intimately. *Obs. rare.*

c 1200 OAMIN 15688 Þatt lott off menn..þatt was till Crist ȝet ner bitahht þan hise posstless wærenn. 1572 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xxxviii. 18 I[n] greis neir to Ganzelon nor grit Charlie Mane.

II. In predicative use after the subst. verb. (Freq. with dative or *to*.)

3. Nearer in space or time; nearer at hand.

c 850 *O. E. Martyrol.* 44 Swa he bið þære sunnan near swa bið his leoht læsse. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* II. 370 Swa near ende þyssere worulde swa mare ehtnys þæs deofles. *c* 1200 ORMIN 15235 [The] oþerr [bench] wass abufen þatt & summ del ner þa waȝhe. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1260 Nis heom þer fore harem no þe ner. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 9243 þe nere þe cherche, þe fyrþer fro God. 1382 WYCLIF *Rom.* xiii. 11 Sothli now oure heelthe is neer, than whanne we bileueden. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* VIII. ii, Þe nere euerich beny lyne is to oþer lynes..the more strong he is. 1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 17 The nere to the churche, the ferther from God.

† **4.** Nearer in kinship or relationship. *Obs.*

831 *Charter* in *O. E. Texts* 445 Nis Eðelmode eniz mez-hond neor ðes cynnes ðanne Eadwald. 1340 *Ayenb.* 234 Vor manie þer byeþ..þet more byeþ nier god þanne manye maydines. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 69 Watir is neer hevene in kynde þan is erþe. *a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* (1868) 18 Y saide, she was bothe good and faire, but she shulde be to me no nere than she was. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. xxxii. 46 That the duke of Brabant wold be redy for his part, sayeng, yᵗ he was nere than they. 1605 SHAKS. *Mach.* II. iii. 146 The neere in blood, the neerer bloody.

5. Nearer to one's end or purpose. Only in negative and interrogative clauses, esp. *never the near* (common 1560–1625). Now only *dial.*

1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. XI. 250 ȝet am I neuere the ner .. To wyte what is Do-wel. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Can. Yeom. Prol. & T.* 168 With this chanoun I duelled have seven yer, And of his science am I never the ner. *a* 1533 FRITH *Answ. More* (1548) K 2 b, Then is he neuer the nere hys purpose, but much the further from it. 1558 G. CAVENDISH *Poems* (1825) II. 97 For all my conquests and my royal powers,.. what ame I the nere? 1624 BP. MOUNTAGU *Gagg* 54 He may call his heart out .. and not the neere. 1657 R. LIGON *Barbadoes* (1673) 121 If it be not under lock and key, they are never the neer. 1854 MISS BAKER *Northampton Gloss.* s.v. *Nivver*, I've worked all day, and am nivver the near.

b. With impersonal subject.

c 1590 GREENE *Fr. Bacon* vi, You're early up, pray God it be the near. *a* 1592 — *Jas. IV* 80 There I kept a great house with smal cheer, but all was nere the neere. 1811 *Ora & Juliet* IV. 93 As for staying with them there French rascals, it was never the near. 1886 ELWORTHY *W. Som. Word-bk.* s.v., What's the near to tell up such stuff 's that?

Near (nīəɹ), *adv.*[2] (and *prep.*). Forms: 2–6 ner, 4–7 nere, neer(e; *north.* and *Sc.* neir, (5 neyre, 7 neire); 6 nyer, 7 nier; 6–7 neare, 6– near. [a. ON. *nær* (Da. *nær*, Sw. *när*), properly the comparative of *nâ-* = OE. *néah* NIGH, but also used as a positive: cf. NAR *adv.*

The transition from the comparative to the positive sense in ON. probably originated in such expressions as *koma* or *ganga nær* 'to come *or* go nearer' (to a person or place), which readily passes into the sense of going absolutely 'close' or 'near'. The positive sense having thus attached itself to the word, *nær* could be employed with other verbs than those of motion, as *standa* or *vera* (to be). A similar development has taken place in MDu. *naer* near (whence mod. Du. *naar*, to, for, after, etc.). Even in English some difference is felt in the sense of *near* according as it goes with a verb of motion or not, and in predicative use after the verb *to be* (expressed or implied) the adverbial sense tends to pass into a purely adjectival one.

ON. *nær* (like OE. *néar*) might be used either absolutely or governing a noun in the dative case. Both usages were adopted in ME., and a further construction introduced by the use of *to* before the noun. When the noun directly depends on *near*, this acquires practically the force of a preposition, but differs from real prepositions in having comparative and superlative forms.]

I. Used absolutely (without *to* or dependent sb.).

**Denoting proximity.*

1. To, within, or at, a short distance; to, or in, close proximity.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2611 Egipte wimmen comen ner. 1352 MINOT in *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) I. 67 When he herd..That king Edward was nere tharby. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Sqr.'s Prol.* 1 Squier, come ner, if it youre wille be. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* IX. 272 He gaiff commaund na schip suld ner apper. 1508 DUNBAR *Tua Mariit Wemen* 161 To speik .. I sall nought spar; ther is no spy neir. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 698 Two of the chiefest Aldermen .. earnestly admonished him .. to come not one foote nerer. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* VI. vi. 19 The salvage man did take his steede And in some stable neare did set him up to feede. 1642 H. MORE *Song of Soul* II. ii. II. iii, Things near seem further off; farst off, the nearst at hand. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Past.* I. 35 Like Shrubs, when lofty Cypresses are near. 1726 LEONI *Alberti's Archit.* I. 16/1 They ought..not..to stand nearer or more remote than Use and Necessity requires. 1794 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Myst. Udolpho* xviii, Now they come nearer. 1807 CRABBE *Par. Reg.* I. 379 Where noisy sparrows, perched on penthouse near. 1855 TENNYSON *Maud* I. XVIII. viii, I have climb'd nearer out of lonely Hell. 1876 T. HARDY *Ethelberta* (1890) 347 Come away there:.. what need have ye for going so near?

Phr. 1610 B. JONSON *Alch.* III. v, Though to Fortvne neere be her petticote, Yet, neerer is her smock. 1890 CAINE *Bondman* II. x, Near is my shirt, but nearer is my skin!

fig. 1852 MRS. STOWE *Uncle Tom's C.* XXVI. 249 'Did Miss Eva say she felt more unwell than usual to night?' 'No; but she telled me this morning she was coming nearer'.

b. *Far and near*: (see FAR *adv.* 1 b, and cf. NEAR *adv.*[1] 2 b). [So MDu. *verre ende naer.*]

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 3521 Bath on fer and ner [*v.r.* nere] he soght. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xix. (*Christopher*) 152 Crystofore..passyt one fere and neyre, sekand cryst. *c* 1430 [see FAR *adv.* 1 b]. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 16 b, The Churche of Christe was spreade abroade farre and nere. 1638 BAKER tr. *Balzac's Lett.* (vol. III.) 86 The happiness which I have from you .. spreads itself both farre and neere. *a* 1704–97 [see FAR *adv.* 1 b].

c. In phrases *Near about(s)*, *at hand*, † *-away*.

13.. *Cursor M.* 15709 (Gött.), He es comand nere at hand. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) vi. 20 Þe fairest maydens of þe cuntree nere aboute. 1530 PALSGR. 821/1 Nere at hande, *bien pres.* *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* (1622) 96 She drew thither neare-away. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 133 Neere abouts was that great and terrible combat. 1670–98 LASSELS *Voy. Italy* II. 25, I once saw it near at hand. 1820 [see HAND *sb.* 25 b]. 1891 *Daily News* 31 Oct. 2/8 Near at hand parcels are being sold in considerable quantities.

d. *Naut.* Close to the wind. (Cf. *adv.*[1] 1 c.)

1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 25 The ship could lie no neerer then South-east. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* I. ii. 17 Keep her as near as she will lie. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1780), *No Nearer!* the command given..to the helmsman, to steer the ship no nigher to..the wind than the sails will operate. 1846 YOUNG *Naut. Dict.* 218.

2. Of time: Close at hand.

13.. *Cursor M.* 18023 (Gött.), Þe time es nu comand nere. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* I. (*Petrus*) 328 As linus sais, his dede wes nere. 1415 SIR T. GREY in *43rd Rep. Dep. Kpr. Rec.* 584 Skrop said þer was but iij. wais, þe tyme was so nere. 1535 COVERDALE *Rom.* xiii. 11 For now is oure saluacion nearer, then whan we beleued. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 232 Thende of his lyfe drewe nere. *c* 1600 SHAKS. *Sonn.* cxl, Testie sick-men, when their deaths be neere. 1724 RAMSAY *Vision* xvi, How neir's that happie tyme? 1816 J. WILSON *City of Plague* I. ii. 114, I trust my hour is near. 1866 MRS. CARLYLE *Lett.* III. 312 My heart failed me as the time drew near. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 497 Now the hour of sunset was near.

b. *Near upon*, close upon a particular time.

1681 tr. *Belon's Myst. Physick* 4 A Physitian at Bruxells, did near-upon that time write against the use of that Remedy. 1814 CARY *Dante, Par.* XXI. 115 Near upon my close Of mortal life. 1880 MEREDITH *Tragic Com.* XV, Near upon morning he roused with his tender fit strong on him.

3. Closely connected with one by kinship or intimacy; esp. *near akin* or *of kin* (see AKIN *adv.* and KIN *sb.*[1] 8 b). Also *near and dear* (cf. 13).

14.. in *Tundale's Vis.* (1843) 102 His son schall .. bys place to occupye Or ellis won that wer ner next of alye. 1491 *Act 7 Hen. VII*, c. 22 *Preamble*, They be ner of kyn. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* xliv. 147 How nere akyn art thou to the admyrall..? 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 420 He was so neere of the bloud of king Richard. 1621 HAKEWILL *David's Vow* 265 Though he were .. never so neare and deare,..away hee must. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 55 The Turks never Marry their Kinswomen, if they be nearer than eight Generations inclusively. 1767–8 [see KIN *sb.* 8 b]. 1826 in Hone *Every-day Bk.* II. 1155 In company with one 'near and dear'. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* XII. III. 230 Many of them near in blood and affection to the defenders of Londonderry. 1878 [see AKIN A. 2].

4. In elliptical uses. † **a.** *To drive* (one) *near*, to force into some strait or extremity. *Obs.*

1594 MARLOWE & NASHE *Dido* I. i, See, what strange arts necessity finds out! How near, my sweet Æneas, art thou driven!

† **b.** *The nearer*, closer to one's end or purpose. (Cf. NEAR *adv.*[1] 5.) *Obs.*

1594 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* IV. xiii. § 8 We are not a whit the nearer for that they have hitherto said. 1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 88 A hungry belly may call for more meat, and be never the neerer.

c. *To lie near*, to be natural or reasonable.

1846 TRENCH *Mirac.* XV. (1862) 257 It lies near to suppose that he was there, returning thanks for the signal mercy.

** *Denoting approximation in degree or amount.*

5. Within a (very) little, all but, almost. (Freq. intensified by *very*, † *well*, or † *full*, or with *about* added. Now usually expressed by NEARLY.)

a. In general use, esp. with pa. ppples. or verbs to denote that an action is all but completed or accomplished.

c 1200 ORMIN 9638 All þe Judewisshe follc Well ner wass all forrworrpenn. *Ibid.* 15517. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 4760 þan iacob and his suns warn For defaut wel ner forfarn. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. VI. 180 He bette hem so bothe, he barste nere here guttes. *c* 1430 *Syr Tryam.* 1568 Thy gode dayes are nere done, Thy power ys nere paste! 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* III. xiii. 116 Her arme was sore bryused and nere she swouned for payne. 1559 AYLMER *Harborowe* I 3 b, I mighte neare gather an equall authoritie betwixte the wife and the husbande. 1595 DANIEL *Civ. Wars* V. viii, If what we do shall perish neere as soone as it is donne. 1662 *Irish Act* 14 & 15 *Chas. II*, c. 2 § 31 That that near ruined kingdom will be restored to peace and plenty. 1696 WHISTON *Th. Earth* III. (1722) 246 They appear to have been pretty near of an Age. 1733 TULL *Horse-Hoeing Husb.* iii. 26 One would serve to keep Plants fix'd and steady, very near, if not quite as well as the other. 1770 FOOTE *Lame Lover* III. Wks. 1799 II. 91 The knight is.. very near drunk. 1836 HALIBURTON *Clockm.* Ser. I. xii. 99 It's near about the prettiest sight I know of. 1851 MACLAGAN *Poems* 65 The laft near comes doon. 1891 BARRIE *Little Minister* iii, He prays near like one giving orders.

b. With terms of number, quantity, extent, etc. † Also *elliptically* = nearly all.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 3155 He welk þat fell ner dais thre. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxii. (*Laurence*) 165, I spendyt hafe nere al þe tresoure, þat þu me gafe. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) v. 14 Fra Rodes to Cypre es nere vᶜ myle. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* I. 208 A sone he had ner xxtʸ ȝer of age. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. ccvii. 246 His men were ner slayne or taken, but fewe that were saued. *a* 1553 UDALL *Royster D.* I. ii. (Arb.) 16 Hir Thousande pounde..Is muche neere about two hundred and fiftie. 1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* I. ii. 5, I have sayled neere 70 degrees from North to South. 1673 RAY *Journ. Low C.* 8 At near an hundred foot depth they met with a Bed or Floor of Sand. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 231 It cost us near a Fortnight's Time. 1796 C. MARSHALL *Garden.* xiv. (1813) 201 There should be near four feet distance between each set of plants. 1876 GLADSTONE *Homeric Synch.* 21 The discussion..has continued for near a century. *a* 1878 AINSLIE *Land Burns* (1892) 357 A towmond nearabout has run.

c. So *near upon* (chiefly as in b).

1658–9 *Burton's Diary* (1828) III. 335 They did near upon represent half the property of the nation. 1706 HEARNE *Collect.* (O. H. S.) I. 222 He said near upon as big as Mr. Dodwell's Book. 1829 LANDOR *Imag. Conv., Lucian & Timotheus* Wks. 1853 II. 18/1, I am near upon eighty years of age. 1865 *Athenæum* No. 1944. 121/3 Near upon thirty servants.

6. With negatives: (Not) by a great deal or a long way, (not) anything like, (not) nearly. Usu. followed by *so*.

1447 BOKENHAM *Seyntys* (Roxb.) 3 The forme of procedyng artificyal Is in no wyse ner poetycal. 1638 JUNIUS *Paint. Ancients* 120 He is nothing neere so much delighted. 1669 R. MONTAGU in *Buccleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 465 The King gave me fifteen hundred pound.., which did not near serve. 1734 tr. *Rollin's Anc. Hist.* (1827) II. II. ii. 5 His army was not near so numerous as when he left Spain. 1827 SOUTHEY *Penins. War* II. 14 They are not near so fine a people now as they were then.

7. Closely, in various senses, esp. in respect of pressure or touching, of resemblance, connexion, scrutiny, etc. (See quots.) Now *rare*.

a. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S. T. S.) 204 His inymyes..pressit him sa nere that outhir him behufit to be slayne or ellis to leve the barne. *c* 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 1177 It tuichis myne honour sa neir. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* lxvi. 227 He that hath besynes that toucheth hym nere ought not to slepe. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. ii. 23 But he.. suffred not their blowes to byte him nere. 1619 W. SCLATER *Exp. 2 Thess.* (1629) 254 In this, which toucheth neerest clamourous plaintiues. 1647 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* I. § 42 His Majesty had another Exception against the Duke, which touched him as near. 1710 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4674/8 The near Foot before pared very near towards the Heel.

b. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 27 No religyon is founded hytherto yᵗ so nere representeth yᵉ primityue chirche of Chryst. 1586 A. DAY *Eng. Secretary* I. (1625) 21 We will see how neere in writing they concurre. 1660 F. BROOKE tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 46 Elephants..are animals approaching very near to reason. 1726 SHELVOCKE *Voy. round World* 401 They are in shape and higness the nearest like our green grasshoppers. 1756 BURKE *Subl. & B.* I. XV, The nearer it [tragedy] approaches the reality,..the more perfect is its power.

c. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 254 b, He is allied so nere that he may haply claime som ryght. 1591 SHAKS. *1 Hen. VI*, V. i. 17 The Earle of Arminacke, neere knit to Charles. 1671 MILTON *P. R.* I. 400 Long since with wo Nearer acquainted.

d. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 17 Thinges, which beynge nerer looked to, conteyne ofte tymes great errours. 1673 MARVELL *Corr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 412 If it be thought fit to enter nearer and further into the matter.

8. In phr. *as near as* (one can, etc.).

1538 STARKEY *England* II. i. 145 We wyl take nature for our exampul, and, as nere as we can, folow hyr steppys. 1615 W. LAWSON *Country Housew. Gard.* (1626) 27 A plaine without a knot, or as neere as you can without a knot. 1635 R. N. tr. *Camden's Hist. Eliz.* I. 16, I will..take such a husband as neere as may be. 1680 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* (1703) 209 Work that Molding as near as you can with the Hook.

† **9.** Narrowly, only by a little. *Obs. rare.*

1590 GREENE *Orl. Fur.* (1599) 17 The Foxe is scapte:..I mist him neere, t'was time for him to trudge. 1592 MARLOWE *Massacre Paris* I. vii, See where my soldier shot him through the arm; He miss'd him near. 1819 W. TENNANT *Papistry Storm'd* (1827) 67 Acquentin' him..How near he 'scap't frae hein' stabbit.

*** *Denoting manner.*

10. Thriftily; parsimoniously, meanly.

a 1625 FLETCHER *Woman's Prize* III. i, If thou canst love so neer [as] to keep thy making, Yet thou wilt lose thy language. 1723 DE FOE *Col. Jack* (1840) 58, I had lived so near and so close that in a whole year I had not spent the 15*s.* which I had saved. 1871 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* 240, I and my wife may have to live a little nearer for the next month or two.

11. With the legs close together.

1710 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4785/4 Goes near before. 1737 BRACKEN *Farriery Impr.* (1757) II. 40 A Horse that goes wide before, and near behind. *Ibid.* 63 He should stand pretty wide behind, and near before.

II. Followed by *to* († or *unto*).

12. Close *to* a place, thing, or person, in respect of space, or *to* a point in time.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1395 Laban cam to ðat welle ner. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 12647 Ai to iesu was cummen neir Vn-to þe eild of thritte yeir. 1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* III. (Percy Soc.) 15, I..sawe a craggy roche Farre in the west, neare to the element. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Rich. III* 49 b, The custome ..nere to yᵉ see is..on every hill or high place to erect a

beckon. 1600 J. Pory tr. *Leo's Africa* III. 171 Neere vnto the said plaine are diuers woods and forrests. *a* 1628 Preston *Breastpl. Faith* (1630) 107 The neerer we draw to God in this life, the more pleasure we have. 1700 Dryden *Pal. & Arc.* I. 609 To Theseus' person he was ever near. *a* 1774 Harte *Eulogius* 19 Whether they nearer lived to the blest times [etc.]. 1816 Byron *Siege Corinth* iii, Nearest to the wall..Was Alp, the Adrian renegade! 1852 Mrs. Stowe *Uncle Tom's C.* xix. 199 Eva had come gradually nearer and nearer to her father. 1868 Lockyer *Elem. Astron.* iii. § 16 (1879) 89 As the Moon's orbit is elliptical, she is sometimes nearer to us than at others.

fig. 1710 Berkeley *Princ. Hum. Knowl.* I. § 6 Some truths there are so near and obvious to the mind that [etc.].

†**b.** *To come* or *go near to*, to touch closely. *Obs.*

1600 Holland *Livy* XLII. xiv. 1123 In this last speech he came neere vnto the LL. of the Senat, and touched them to the quick. 1692 L'Estrange *Josephus, Antiq.* IV. viii. (1733) 92 Nothing went nearer to them than the Memory of their Outrages against Moses in the Desart.

13. Closely related *to* one by kinship or some other connexion, esp. in *near and dear*.

c 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 7510 He was þe first seculere þat was bischop to cuthbert nere. 1548 Udall, etc. *Erasm. Par. Matt.* xii. 57 He is moste neere and moste deere vnto me. 1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 61 In this dangerous age, since every man is neerest, and onely neere unto himselfe. 1660 Gauden *Brownrig* 241 Our inward garment, that should be nearer and dearer to us than our skins. 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 126 ₱ 2 With the Hazard of all that is near and dear to us. 1746 Eliza Heywood *Female Spect.* No. 22 (1748) IV. 197 Those persons so near and dear to him. 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) III. 347 They are all of one opinion about what is near and dear to them.

14. Close *to* something in respect of resemblance or correspondence.

1548 Udall *Erasm. Par. Luke* x. 93 b, He came verai nere to man, bothe seeyng and beeyng seen. 1601 J. Manningham in Ingleby *Shaks. Cent. Praise* (1879) 45 Most like and neere to that in Italian called Inganni. 1651 Hobbes *Leviath.* I. viii. 38 Which is very neere to direct Atheisme. 1751 Chatham *Lett. Nephew* I. 2, I have.. altered the..lines, in order to bring them nearer to the Latin. 1758 *Handmaid to Arts* 382 The hollow parts must be covered with a colour the nearest in appearance to gold. 1820 *Examiner* No. 654. 686/1 She comes near again to the excellence of her first performance. 1868 Browning *Ring & Bk.* VI. 88 Fool that's near To knave. 1895 North in *Law Times Rep.* LXXIII. 23/1 The case which comes nearest to this of those I have seen.

15. *To go near to* (with inf.), to be on the point of, almost to succeed in (doing something).

1593 Shaks. 2 *Hen. VI*, I. ii. 102 If you take not heed, you shall goe neere To call them both a payre of craftie Knaues. 1660 Sharrock *Vegetables* 16 If a sharp spring chance to follow it may goe near to spoile all .. the seed. 1699 Luttrell *Brief Rel.* (1857) IV. 482 It's thought that about 8 of the members will goe near to be expelled. 1742 Richardson *Pamela* III. 223 Such another Example..would go near.. to ruin the Devils Kingdom in Bedfordshire. 1781 Earl Malmesbury *Diaries & Corr.* I. 405 She goes near to think herself infallible. 1858 Masson *Milton* I. 602 The panegyrics themselves went near to prove it. 1889 F. Barrett *Under Strange Mask* II. xii. 34 It would go near to break her heart.

b. Const. with gerund. (Also *come near to.*)

1862 Gladstone *Glean.* (1879) I. 1 They droop and come near to dying. 1890 *Temple Bar* June 282 This final stroke went near to overcoming her.

III. Governing a sb. (passing into *prep.*).

16. Close to, within a short distance of (a place, thing or person) in space.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 3348 Sco..rade til þai come ner þe stedd. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 404 Meke arn alle þat wonez hym nere. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 8075 The derf kyng Diamede drughe the lady ner. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilzear* 91 Into sic talk fell thay Quhill thay war neir hame. 1577 B. Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* II. (1586) 94 The Almonde is graffed not neere the top of the stocke, but about the middest. 1631 Jorden *Nat. Bathes* iii. (1669) 22 Although neer the Coasts it be depressed and lower than the Shore. 1682 T. Flatman *Heraclitus Ridens* No. 52 (1713) II. 76, I have seen many a lusty Cur troubled .. when they have come near the Gallows. 1711 Steele *Spect.* No. 49 ₱ 2 Our Coffee-house is near one of the Inns of Court. 1776 *Trial of Nundocomar* 47/1, I who am a Bramin will not go near a Mussulman that is dead. 1839 G. Bird *Nat. Philos.* 209 Those portions of the atmosphere nearest the earth. 1863 Geo. Eliot *Romola* xx, He lost no time in speaking as soon as she came near him.

fig. 1592 Lyly *Gallathea* III. i, I thinke we came neere you when wee saide you loned. 1620 Middleton *Chaste Maid* I. 4, You'le steale away some Mans Daughter; am I nere you? 1685 Baxter *Paraphr. N. T.* Matt. xi. 11 John .. being nearest the Kingdom of the Messiah. *a* 1704 Locke (J.), He is not one jot nearer the end of such addition than at first setting out. 1889 Barrie *Window in Thrums* xx, If you would cease to dislike a man, try to get nearer his heart.

b. *To lie, come* or *go near* (one, the heart, etc.), to touch or affect deeply. Now *rare.*

c 1420 *Sir Amadace* (Camden) xxvii, To serue the pore folke he was fulle bowne, For thay lay his hert nere. 1591 Shaks. *Two Gent.* IV. iii. 19 No griefe did ever come so neere thy heart. 1611–12 in *Crt. & Times Jas. I* (1848) I. 162 This went so near him, that it drove him into these diseases. 1722 De Foe *Plague* (1754) 133 Private Safety lay so near them, that they had no Room to pity the Distress of others. 1849 Aytoun *Poems, Heart of Bruce* vi, There is a freit lies near my soul, I fain would tell to thee.

17. Close upon or to (a point in time).

13.. *Cursor M.* 1393 (Gött.), It sal be nere þe worldes end. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* II. xiii. 115 So that ye wille lodge with me, for it is nere nyghte. 1662 Stillingfl. *Orig. Sacræ* II. i. § 4 Persons who have lived nearest those times when the things were done. 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 127 ₱ 6 Walking abroad when she was so near her Time. 1833 Ht. Martineau *Brooke Farm* ii. 18 Setting out the table for dinner; for it was near one o'clock. 1850 Tennyson *In Mem.* civ, The time draws near the birth of Christ.

b. Close upon, almost at (a state or condition).

1635 A. Stafford *Fem. Glory* (1869) 60 The House of David..was neere utter extinction. 1661 Boyle *Spring of Air* To Rdr., Which is really so near a readiness, that part of it has lain at the Press these six months. 1780 H. Walpole *Let. to Sir D. Dalrymple* 11 Dec., He .. took much notice of me when I was near man. 1823 F. Clissold *Ascent Mt. Blanc* 22 The sun being now near his setting. 1902 J. Buchan *Watcher by Threshold* 142 The hope was near fulfilment.

c. With gerund. Close to (*doing* something).

1762–71 H. Walpole *Vertue's Anecd. Painting* (1782) I. vii. 218 The comeliness of whose person was very near raising him to that throne. 1825 *New Monthly Mag.* XIV. 205, I must have gone very near convincing him. 1877 *Scribner's Mag.* XV. 259/1 One instance came very near having a serious result. 1895 *Bookman* Oct. 23/1 He was perilously near showing his whole hand to the other side.

†**18.** Closely related to, intimate with (onc). *Obs.*

c 1470 Henry *Wallace* v. 919 Off kyn he was, and Wallace modyr ner. 1597 Shaks. 2 *Hen. IV*, v. i. 81, I would humour his men, with the imputation of beeing neere their Mayster. 1660 T. Hall *Funebr. Flor.* G 2 Under Heavens Cope, There's none as I so near the Pope.

19. Close to (a thing or person) in point of similarity or achievement.

1585 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* IV. x. 122 b, The people..are of complection neerer the blacke then white. 1632 Lithgow *Trav.* IX. 387 Their language..is nearer the Latine, then the Italian. 1687 A. Lovell tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* d b, There are but few in the Western Parts who come near him in that. 1815 W. H. Ireland *Scribbleomania* 250 Those .. Approximate nearest the Great Judge of all. 1845 M. Pattison *Ess.* (1889) I. 8 Which of the more recent historians..have come near them in the vigour and truth which they threw into that history?

IV. In combs.

20. a. In the sense of 'closely' or 'close at hand', as *near-acquainted, -adjoining, -bordering, -coming, -fighting, -following, -guessed, -resembling, -smiling, -stored, -threatening, -touching, -ushering.*

1639 Fuller *Holy War* I. xiii. (1647) 21 Denmark and Norway *near-acquainted with the Arctick Pole. 1625 K. Long tr. *Barclay's Argenis* I. viii. 21 The King..walked in a *neere-adjoyning valley. 1630 Drayton *Moses* Wks. 1753 IV. 1604 The *near-bord'ring envious Amalek. 1600 Fairfax *Tasso* I. lxvi, Each soldier, longing for *neere comming glorie. 1598 Chapman *Iliad* II. 529 The bold *near-fighting men, who did in Phæneus live. 1625 K. Long tr. *Barclay's Argenis* II. iv. 75 Prodigies, by which the *neere-following miseries were affirmed. 1683 Moxon *Mech. Exerc., Printing* xxiv. ₱ 7 That with a *near-guess'd strength in the tossing it up it may just Stand. 1739 G. Ogle *Gualtherus & Griselda* 96 The lovely Maid and *near-resembling Boy. 1820 Keats *Lamia* I. 125 Swift was seen ..the guarded nymph *near-smiling on the green. 1729 Savage *Wanderer* II. 27 Tho' dress, *near-stor'd, its vanity supplies. *a* 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* (1622) 295 The vnpitifulnesse of his owne *neare-threatning death. 1615 *Marr. & Wiving* vii. in *Hart. Misc.* (Malh.) III. 267 These blood *near-touching witcheries and inducements. 1634 Milton *Comus* 279 Could that divide you from *neer-ushering guides?

†**b.** *Near-coloured*, of much the same colour. *Obs.*

1606 in Nichols *Progr. Jas. I* (1828) II. 67 Themselves not farre unlike, and their horses neere-couloured and suited.

c. *Sc. Near-(be)going* or *-(be)gawn*, niggardly. [So Da. *nærgaaende.*] Also *near-goingness.*

a 1774 Fergusson *Poems* (1789) II. 105 A niggard, near-gawn elf. *Ibid.* 158 A hard, near-be-gawn miser. 1821 Galt *Ann. Parish* vii. 76 The near-begoing Major and his sister. 1854 H. Miller *Sch. & Schm.* (1858) 238 After a' his near-goingness wi' them. 1900 S. MacManus in *Century Mag.* Feb. 607/2 Without .. bein' either niggardly or near-goin'.

†**21.** 'Almost', as *near-sinking, -wretched*; *near-isle*, a peninsula; *nearlike* adv. *Obs.*

1598 Florio, *Quasi*, almost,..veri-neere,..neerelike. 1611 B. Jonson *Catiline* III. ii, O neere-wretched Rome, When both thy Senate and thy gods doe Sleepe. 1625 K. Long tr. *Barclay's Argenis* I. i, 3 Whom..The now neere-sinking Mariner invokes. 1625 Lisle *Du Bartas' Noe* 124 There lies higher a neere-isle, betwixt Cuba and Mexico.

Near (nīəɹ), *a.* Forms: 4–5 ner, 5–6 nere, 6–7 neere, (7 neer; 6 *Sc.* neir, 7 neire), neare, 7– near. [f. Near *adv.*²]

1. Closely related by blood or kinship.

13.. *Cursor M.* 20068 (Gött.), Sant iohan þat was his sibe ner kines-man. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* I. 54 He thair king suld be That wes in alsner degre. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* III. xii. 114 [He] sayd she was his cosyn nere. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 471 b, It shall styre up fyre also amonges the nere of bloud. 1611 Bible *Lev.* xviii. 17 They are her neere kinsewomen. 1651 Hobbes *Leviath.* II. xix. 101 A man receives .. the most honour from the greatnesse of his neerest kindred. 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 23 ₱ 1 To raise Uneasiness among near Relations. 1760 T. Hutchinson *Hist. Mass.* ii. 258 A near kinswoman of Sir William Bird. 1840 Arnold *Hist. Rome* II. xxxi. 218 The sons or near relations of the most influential members of the senate. 1867 Tennyson *Victim* i, Were it our nearest, Were it our dearest,..We give you his life.

2. Of persons: Closely attached to, very intimate or familiar with, another.

1523 Cromwell in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) I. 35 By the mowthe of hys most nere and cheffest Counsaylour. 1576 Fleming *Panopl. Epist.* 22 Your neere friends and familiar companions. 1629 Wadsworth *Pilgr.* vi. 51 Hee had a brother a neere retainer to his Highnesse of Wales. 1654 Loveday tr. *Calprenède's Cleopatra* II. 124 The nearest and dearest friends I had. 1887 Bowen *Virg. Æneid* II. 85, I was his comrade near and companion.

b. Of friendship, etc.: Close, intimate, familiar.

1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 249 b, For a nerer frendship, the lady Elenore .. was promised freely to my eldest sonne. *c* 1616 Fletcher & Mass. *Thierry & Theod.* II. i, Princely Son; And in this, worthy of a near[er] name. 1652 Needham *Selden's Mare Cl.* Ep. Ded. 16 All overtures of Amitie and nearest alliance. 1702 Rowe *Tamerl.* I. i, A Slave, of near Attendance on his Person.

3. With reference to animals or vehicles: Left (as opposed to *far, off*, or right).

This use is based on the fact that horses and cattle are commonly mounted, led, or approached, from the left side, which is consequently the one *near* to the person dealing with them. It is possible that the adj. here had originally a comparative force (from Near *adv.*1).

a. of parts of animals, esp. horses.

1559 *Will J. Hilde* (Somerset Ho.), A filly..with a white nere foote behinde. 1578 in W. H. Turner *Select. Rec. Oxford* (1880) 396 One grey .. mare, .. the neare ie walled. 1610 Guillim *Heraldry* III. xxvi. (1611) 184 A Horse .. spanceled on both legs of the nearer side. 1641 Best *Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 12 To runne the edge of the botte downe the neare liske. 1707 *Loud. Gaz.* No. 4325/4 A Nanberry on the inside of the near Leg. 1766 *Compl. Farmer* s.v. *Walk*, Just as he is setting down his far fore-foot, he lifts up his near hind-foot. 1844 H. Stephens *Bk. Farm* II. 456 We are accustomed to approach all the larger domesticated animals by what we call the near side—that is, the animal's left side. 1884 E. L. Anderson *Mod. Horsemanship* I. ii. 7 To mount without stirrups the rider should stand facing the near shoulder of the horse.

b. of horses in a team, cart-wheels, etc.

c 1611 Chapman *Iliad* XXIII. 325 Thy near horse..yet..gave thy skill the prize. 1756 [F. Greville] *Maxims, Char.*, etc. 22 The poor boy..whipped up the off instead of the near horse. 1764 [see Off *a.* 2]. 1840 Dickens *Barn. Rudge* lix, One..who sat postilion-wise upon the near horse. 1842 *Act* 5 & 6 *Vict.* c. 79 § 17 The track of the left or near wheel. 1890 'R. Boldrewood' *Col. Reformer* (1891) 188 The near leader dashed round the back of the coach.

Comb. a 1840 in J. Buel *Farmer's Comp.* 129 In this operation, the left-hand or near-side horse walks on the ground not yet ploughed. 1889 H. F. Wood *Rue Cain* iv, The carman was patching up the near-side wheels.

4. Close at hand; not distant.

1565 Stapleton tr. *Bede's Hist. Ch. Eng.* 68 For that was the next nere water, which he could conueniently use for baptism. 1600 J. Pory tr. *Leo's Africa* Introd. 27 Wilde Negros, who .. utterly misliked their so neere neighbourhood. 1667 Milton *P. L.* I. 192 Satan talking to his neerest Mate. 1709 Berkeley *Th. Vision* § 16 When we look at a near object with both eyes. 1752 Gersaint *Catal. Rembrandt's Etch.* 115 On the Near-Ground, at the Bottom of the Print is a Globe. 1820 Keats *Ode to Nightingale* 76 Thy plaintive anthem fades Past the near meadows. 1833 Ht. Martineau *Loom & Lugger* II. ii. 19 Those whose near residence tempted to an acquaintance. 1865 Dickens *Mut. Fr.* I. xiv, I'll find the nearest of our men to come and take charge of him.

Comb. 1641 Best *Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 9 To have a care that they bee not too neare-stoned, or eare-marked. 1834 M. Scott *Cruise Midge* (1859) 479 The outline indeed [was] dangerously distinct and near like.

b. *Near point*: (See quots.). *Near work*, work involving proximity of the eye to the object.

1876 Bernstein *Five Senses* 70 This point, which is at a distance from the eye of about 4 or 5 inches, is called the near-point of the eye. 1880 *Sat. Rev.* 15 May 637/2 For every eye there is a point within which clear vision is no longer possible without optical assistance; and this .. is called the near-point. 1895 Swanzy *Diseases Eye* (ed. 5) iv. 89 The use of the eyes for near work without spectacles when the condition..requires them.

c. With reference to time.

1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* v. I. 617 The near prospect of reward animated the zeal of the troops. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 15 May 5/7 A thing of the near future.

5. Of a road: Short, direct. (Chiefly in *compar.* and *superl.* See also Cut *sb.*¹ 15.)

1579 Spenser *Sheph. Cal.* July 96 Yet nearer wayes I knowe. 1662 Hickeringill *Apol. Distressed Innoc.* Wks. 1716 I. 292 By pretending .. a nearer cut than going up to Hierusalem. 1702 Addison *Dial. Medals* I. (1726) 17 It is a pity indeed there is not a nearer way of coming at it. 1801 tr. *Gabrielli's Myst. Husb.* II. 116, I presume .. the road we came is a nearer cut. 1885 *Act* 48 & 49 *Vict.* c. 54 § 14 Within four miles of one another by the nearest road.

6. Close, narrow, in various applications.

1548 Udall, etc. *Erasm. Par. Matt.* i. 3 b, In this nere & narowe poynt betwene semitute & libertie. 1568 Grafton *Chron.* II. 9 He then had a neerer eye to the Lordes.. and kept them a little strayter. 1662 J. Davies tr. *Mandelslo's Trav.* 146 Having weighed one parcel, so as they may have a near guess at the rest. 1685 Dryden *Sylvæ* Pref., Ess. (ed. Ker) I. 256 The nearest, the most poetical..of any translation of the Æneids. 1856 Whyte Melville *K. Coventry* i, It was a near race. 1860 Russell *Diary India* II. 396 Long chases and near escapes.

7. Closely affecting or touching one.

1605 Shaks. *Macb.* III. i. 118 Enery minute of his being thrusts Against my neer'st of Life. 1642 J. M[arsh] *Argt. conc. Militia* 2 It is a more neare and immediate offence against the King. 1701 Norris *Ideal World* I. vi. 378 It was of nearer consequence to Archimedes. 1775 Johnson *Tax. no Tyr.* 9 Eagerness for the nearest good.

8. Niggardly, stingy, mean.

1616 R. Carpenter *Christ's Larumbell* 49 Cold comfort, a neere hand, a needy reward. *a* 1656 Hales *Gold. Rem.* III. (1673) 20 A near and hard and trucking chapman shall never buy good flesh. 1712 Steele *Spect.* No. 402 ₱ 4, I always thought he lived in a near Manner. 1753 Mrs. Delany *Life & Corr.* (1861) III. 208 A good-natured man, but reckoned near. 1824 Mrs. Sherwood *Waste Not* I. 11 She is mighty near, and there is but one fire and candle between them. 1874 T. Hardy *Far fr. Mad. Crowd* xlix, Some were beginning to consider Oak a near man.

Near (nīəɹ), *v.* Also 6 (8) nere, 6 *Sc.* neire, 6–7 neere, 7 neare. [f. NEAR *adv.*[2] or *a.*]

1. *intr.* To draw or come near, to approach (in place or time).

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* XII. xii. 147 The swipir Tuscan hund assais And nerys fast. 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* III. (Arb.) 86 Wee sayle bye Ceraunia swiftly. Wheare .. a cantel of Italye neereth. 1613 HEYWOOD *Braz. Age* II. ii, Their sports I'le neere to marre. 1798 COLERIDGE *Anc. Mar.* III. ii, Still it ner'd and ner'd. 1844 MRS. BROWNING *Poems* II. 242 Nay, keep smiling, little child, Ere the sorrow neareth. 1860 PUSEY *Min. Proph.* 379 As the time of the birth of our Lord neared.

2. *trans.* To draw near to, to approach (a person, place, etc.). †Also, to be near.

1610 HEYWOOD *Gold. Age* I. i, Keep off, I charge thee neere me not. 1637 — *Royal King* II. ii, Give up your Key Vnto that Lord that neares you. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. v. 177 We must by this means unavoidably near her. 1808 SCOTT *Marm.* II. xi, Soon as they neared his turrets strong. 1874 T. N. HARPER *Peace through Truth* Ser. II. I. 90 The quotation..does not even near the point in debate.

3. To bring near to (one). *rare*—[1].

1849 RUSKIN *Sev. Lamps* vi. § 10. 171 [To] separate man from man, and near him to his Maker.

Hence **Nea·ring** *ppl. a.*

1863 W. LANCASTER *Fracterita* 44, I feign some nearing issue.., On which I wait. 1871 MORLEY *Condorcet* in *Crit. Misc.* Ser. I. (1878) 49 The nearing dawn after a long night.

Near by, *adv.*, *prep.*, and *a.* Also near-by, nearby, and 5 (9) *Sc.* ner, 5–6 nere, 6 *Sc.* neir. [NEAR *adv.*[2] and BY *adv.*]

A. *adv.* **1.** Close by, close at hand. Now chiefly *dial.* and *U. S.*

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* v. (*John*) 101 Sancte Iohne, þat þan erand had ner by, and herd quhat wes done. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* I. 378 Ridand thar come, ner by quhar Wallace was, The lorde Persye. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* lviii. 197 Galaffer was nere by, and herd what Huon sayd. 1728 P. WALKER *Life Peden* Pref. (1827) 30 The Preaching was near-by, for we heard the Psalms sweetly sung. 1868 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* I. 145 Nearby is my asses' stall. 1888 E. L. WILSON in *Century Mag.* July 328/1 The ruins of an old temple near by bear the cartouches of Rameses II.

2. Nearly, almost; thereabouts. Chiefly *Sc.*

1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 169 [He] distroyit and slew nereby all the kingis of the warld. 1509 in *Mem. Hen. VII* (Rolls) 439 Hyt ys nere by an hole yere tbat a servant of hys hathe byn yn themperows corte. 1558 KENNEDY *Compend. Tract.* in *Wodrow Soc. Misc.* (1844) 166 Neirby ane thousand 3eir or Augustine was borne. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* v. 262 Al passage of Treffik..Was neirby cuttit away fra Britannie. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* xlv, After a trot o' sixty mile, or near by.

B. *prep.* **1.** Close to (a place, etc.). Now *dial.*

1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 43 The citee of Hostrye..is nereby Rome. 1814 NICHOLSON *Country Lass* iii, Near by the poet's houseless head. 1889 *N. W. Linc. Gloss.* s.v., He lives near by th' Calvin capil.

†**2.** *Sc.* Nearly in accordance with. *Obs. rare*—[1].

1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* I. 231 Judges he maid neirby the vse of Rome.

C. *adj.* Close at hand, neighbouring; not far off. Chiefly *U. S.*

1858 G. MACDONALD *Phantastes* vii. (1878) 120 The cows in a near-by field were eating. 1862 *Independent* (N. Y.) 1 May (Cent.), The near-by trade and Western dealers are buying moderately. 1878 *N. Amer. Rev.* CXXVII. 361 Great problems in the near-by future. 1887 *Times* 31 Aug. 4/3 Many people..are housed..in near-by towns [U. S.].

Nearctic (niˌāːɹktik), *a. Zool.* [f. Gr. *νέ-ος* NEO- + ARCTIC *a.*] Comprising, or pertaining to, the temperate and arctic parts of N. America, in respect of the distribution of birds, etc.

1858 SCLATER in *Proc. Linn. Soc., Zool.* II. 136 The northern, or Nearctic region, extending down the centre of the table-land of Mexico. 1877 LE CONTE *Elem. Geol.* IV. (1879) 161 The Nearctic [region] has been subdivided into four provinces. 1882 *American* V. 188 The opinion already expressed, that the 'Nearctic' fauna..could not be considered as a fauna. 1893 NEWTON *Dict. Birds* 329 The total of peculiar and characteristic Nearctic genera being..51.

Neare, obs. form of NE'ER.

Near hand, *adv.*, *prep.*, and *a.* Now only *Sc.* and *dial.* Also near-hand, nearhand; nerand 6 *Sc.* neirand. [NEAR *adv.*[2] and HAND *sb.*]

A. *adv.* **1.** Close at hand, close by.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 2844 Al þe land þat our a-boute þam lai ner hand. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XVI. 538 Men of the cost of Yngland, That duelt on Hummyr or neirhand. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 222 A larger house was made nerehande. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* I. 13 Of nychtbour men that duelt than neirand by. 1582 N. LICHEFIELD tr. *Castanheda's Conq. E. Ind.* 157 *note*, They met with spices better cheap, and nerer hand then at Grangalor. 1635 SWAN *Spec. M.* (1670) 103 Which..makes the black seem to be far off, and the white near hand. 1653 HOLCROFT *Procopius, Vandal Wars* II. 31 Uliaris..fled into the Church of a Village near hand. 1795 *Montford Castle* II. 146 One ran before to a cottage, near hand, to order a bed. 1858 MRS. CARLYLE *Lett.* II. 373 There is no other place nearer hand where I could get any good.

b. Close *to* a place or person.

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* IX. 129 Till the Slevach thai com neirhand. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 1999 As he..nerehande to þe house leend. 1645 RUTHERFORD *Tryal & Tri. Faith* (1845) 62 It is good to border with Christ, and to be near-hand to him. 1836 HALIBURTON *Clockm.* Ser. I. xii. (1837) 106 A lady that had a plantation near hand to hisn.

†**c.** At close quarters; closely. *Obs. rare.*

a 1548 HALL *Chron., Edw. IV* 218 This battaill was fought so nere hande, that kyng Edwarde was constrained to fight his awne person. 1670 LASSELS *Voy. Italy* II. 45, I arrived at the great terras .. and there saw the thirteen statutes of our Saviour and the twelve Apostles near hand, which seem below little taller than the statue of our tallest men.

†**d.** *To go near hand*: To be economical. *Obs.*—[1]

a 1626 ANDREWES *Serm.* Wks. 1843 V. 546 This is that that makes the devil so good a husband and thrifty, and to go near hand.

2. Nearly, almost. (Common *c* 1300–1600.)

13.. *Cursor M.* 989 (Gött.), Adam was put vte nerehand nakid. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl. B.* XIII. 1, I awaked there-with witles nerehande. 14.. *Sir Beues* (O.) 3560 He had Beuys nerehande slayne. *c* 1471 FORTESCUE *Wks.* (1869) 468 Lords and Officers, had nerehand as many matters of their own.. as had the Kyng. 1530 PALSGR. 718/1 He syghed tyll his herte dyd nerehande bruste. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* XXVIII. v. 671 He destroid all the standing corne, which now was neere-hand ripe. 1677 CARY *Chronol.* 267 This makes near hand a Years difference. 1730 RAMSAY *Fables, Two Cats & Ch.* 42 Thus he went on, Till baith the haves were near-hand done. 1785 BURNS *Death & Dr. Hornbook* xiii, Sax thousand years are near hand fled. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* xxix, His race is near-hand run. 1865 G. MACDONALD *A. Forbes* xii, We're a' keepit in..and nearhan' hungert.

B. *prep.* Near to, close to (a place, person, point of time, or action).

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 758 þe nedder nerhand hir gun draw. *c* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* lxx. 12 God is nerehand his lufers. 1418 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 43 Nerhande holichyrche. *a* 1450 *Le Morte Arth.* 2898 Whan it was nyghed nere hand none. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xxii. 79, I say nocht, schir, 30w to repreif; Bot doutles, I ga rycht neir hand it. 1577–8 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* II. 666 The said Alexander..wes not present at tbe doing thairof nor neir hand the samyn. 1633 RUTHERFORD *Lett.* xxix. (1862) I. 104 Your winter-night is near spent, it is near hand the dawning. 1792 *New Year's Morning* 13 (E. D. D.), They filled it near han' the brim. 1868 G. MACDONALD *R. Falconer* xxiii, We war near-han' the hoose. 1877 *N. W. Linc. Gloss.* s.v., Don't thou go near-hand Ned.

C. *adj.* Near. (See also *Eng. Dial. Dict.*)

1835 CLARE *Rustic Muse* 158 The near-hand stubble-field ..Showed the dimmed blaze of poppies.

So † **Near hands** *adv.*, almost. *Obs. rare*—[1].

c 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xiii. 11 In fayth we are nere handys outt of the doore.

Nea·rish, *a.* [f. NEAR *a.*] Somewhat near.

1853 G. J. CAYLEY *Las Alforjas* I. 141, I had a nearish escape—look at the rim of my hat. 1881 'RITA' *My Lady Coquette* xxxix, He had a nearish shave of his life.

Near-legged, *a. rare*—[1]. [f. NEAR *adv.*[2] II.] Going near with the (fore) legs.

1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* III. ii. 57 His horse..Waid in the backe, and shoulder-shotten, neere leg'd before.

Nearly (nīəɹli), *adv.* Also 6–7 ner(e)ly, neer(e)ly, 6 -li(e. [f. NEAR *a.* + -LY[2].]

1. With close inspection or scrutiny; carefully, narrowly. Now *rare.*

1540 MORYSINE *Vives' Introd. Wysd.* B vj, If a man woll more nerelyer behold this thinge. 1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* II. xi. 106 Whoso woulde neerely consider the causes and generall reasons before mentioned. 1669 in Sturmy *Mariner's Mag.* a 4 b, If you neerly mark him, and his End. 1751 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 155 ¶ 4 If its operation be nearly examined. 1797 BURKE *Regic. Peace* iii. (1892) 209 Inspect the thing more nearly. 1825 SCOTT *Talism.* xvi, His liveries, his cognizance, his feats of arms..were nearly watched.

†**b.** With close attention or great care. *Obs.*

1554–9 *Songs & Ball. Phil. & Mary* (Roxb.) 4 He shall.. the fyne flowr from the bran nerly syfft. *a* 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. xl. 332 Narrowly, precisely, and nearly garbelled.

c. Parsimoniously; frugally. *rare.*

1592 GREENE *Conny Catch.* 9 Hauing some xx. markes in his purse, long in gathering, and neerelie kept. 1673 RAY *Journ. Low C.* 396 They had rather live nearly than take much pains.

2. With close kinship, relationship, or connexion; in close intimacy.

1561 T. NORTON *Calvin's Inst.* I. 11 Vs, whom it pleased him more nereli and more familiarly to draw together to himself. 1646 MAYNE *Serm. Unity* 27 The most united, happyest, neerliest allyed people in the world. 1689 POPPLE tr. *Locke's 1st Let. Toleration* L.'s Wks. 1727 I. 240 Which things are nearlier related to the Government of the Magistrate than the other. 1753 JOHNSON *Adventurer* No. 84 ¶ 2 To be nearly acquainted with the people of different countries can happen to very few. 1845 TRENCH *Huls. Lect.* Ser. I. i. 1 Discourses which should more or less nearly have to do with the .. vindicating that Truth. 1874 CARPENTER *Ment. Phys.* I. iv. (1879) 167 A lady nearly connected with the writer.

3. In a special degree or manner; particularly.

1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 177 Spide in a freende it toucheth him neerely. 1605 SHAKS. *Lear* I. i. 287 It is not little I haue to say, Of what most neerely appertaines to vs both. 1642 CHAS. I *Answ. 19 Propos.* 24 Those Treaties in which We are neerlyest concerned. 1729 SWIFT *Let. to Pope* 31 Oct., This..I only mention, because it so nearly touches myself. 1788 PRIESTLEY *Lect. Hist., Ess. Educ.* p. xxxi, Every man is nearly interested in the conduct of his superiors. 1833 HT. MARTINEAU *Brooke Farm* i. 5 A piece of news which nearly concerned the interests of our village.

4. At, within, or from, a short distance; closely in respect of place or position.

1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* IV. (1586) 174 b, And neighbour like their houses nearely stand. 1605 SHAKS. *Macb.* IV. ii. 67, I doubt some danger do's approach you neerely. 1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 39 The Sea, ..a Soveraigne .. bulwarke to that Nation that is neerliest situated unto it. 1773–83 HOOLE *Orl. Fur.* VI. 417 When now more nearly to the walls he drew,..He left the plain and beaten path. 1827 SOUTHEY *Penins. War* II. 769 Three days elapsed before the invaders again approached the works of the allies so nearly. 1853 FELTON *Fam. Lett.* x. (1865) 95, I was well pleased with such an opportunity of seeing him more nearly.

fig. 1620 T. GRANGER *Div. Logike* 49 The former doth more neerely, or immediately cause the effect. *a* 1731 ATTERBURY (J.), They are diligent to observe whatever may nearly or remotely blemish it.

†**b.** Closely (upon one); straitly. *Obs.*

1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 98 They pursuyng the French men, in their flight did so nerely folow them into their holde [etc.]. 1587 R. HOVENDEN in *Collect.* (O.H.S.) I. 221 Expences..which pinch us very neerlye. 1627 MAY *Lucan* IX. (1631) 129 Neerely hugging woe She feedes on teares.

5. Closely in respect of agreement or similarity.

1594 O. B. *Quest. Profit. Concern.* 7 That which shall neereliest agree with that I said before. 1638 JUNIUS *Paint. Ancients* 343 Making a new difference between two neerely resembling brothers. 1656 SANDERSON *Serm.* (1689) 377 He is best pleased with those that nearliest resemble him. 1863 LYELL *Antiq. Man* 10 The age of iron corresponded more nearly with that of the beech tree. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 183 The *Euthydemus* is..that in which he approaches most nearly to the comic poet.

6. With close approximation or near approach (to some state or condition, etc.)

1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* II. ii. 91 As neerely as I may, Ile play the penitent to you. *a* 1615 DONNE *Ess.* (1651) 95 God, which cannot be known by his own Name, may nearlyest by the names and prosperity of his. 1827 KEBLE *Chr. Y., Morning* xvi, To live more nearly as we pray. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xvi. III. 718 As nearly prime minister as any English subject could be under a prince of William's character.

b. Within a (very) little; almost, all but.

1683 SALMON *Doron Med.* I. 92 Made neerly stiff enough. *Ibid.* 107 Till the Water is neerly consumed. 1750 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 4 ¶ 2 This kind of writing..is to be conducted nearly by the rules of comic poetry. 1766 GOLDSM. *Vic. W.* xviii, I languished here for nearly three weeks. 1800 FOSTER in *Life & Corr.* (1846) I. 125 Years nearly lost to my own happiness. 1823 F. CLISSOLD *Ascent Mt. Blanc* 21 It was nearly six o'clock. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 54, I.. was very nearly making a blunder.

c. *Not .. nearly*, nothing like.

1811 COLERIDGE in Southey *Life Andrew Bell* (1844) II. 646, I have not received nearly one-half of the subscriptions. 1884 M. MACKENZIE *Dis. Throat & Nose* II. 261, I do not employ irrigation nearly so frequently as formerly.

Nea·rmost, *a. dial.* [f. NEAR *a.*] Nearest.

1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 176/15 Nermost, *proximus.* 1876 *Mid-Yorksh. Gloss.* s.v. *Neander*, When contact in person is implied, then the superlatives are *Nearmost* [etc.].

Nearness (nīəɹnés). Also 5–6 nerenes(se, 6–7 nearenesse, neere- neer-. [f. NEAR *a.* + -NESS.] The state, fact, or quality of being near.

1. Close kinship or relationship.

1444 *Reg. Mag. Sig.* (1882) 63/2 For naturale affection [and] nerness of kyn and blude. 1539 CROMWELL in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) II. 187 The mater cannot be concluded without the Bishop of Romes despensacion for nerenes of blod. 1605 VERSTEGAN *Dec. Intell.* ii. (1628) 29 Betweene that and this, here is no neerenesse of affinitie at all. 1660 SHARROCK *Vegetables* 66 To tell what neernesse in every kind is enough, is matter of great art. 1732 BERKELEY *Alciphr.* V. § 17 No regard being had to merit..or nearness of blood. 1786 BURKE *Art. agst. W. Hastings* Wks. 1842 II. 131/2 From proximity of situation and nearness of connexion, [he] was likely to have any intelligence concerning his female relations from the best authority. *a* 1859 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xxiii. V. 99 If nearness of blood alone were to be regarded. 1878 J. P. HOPPS *Rel. & Mor. Lect.* xix. 61 His nearness to God as a son was a nearness we also might enjoy.

b. Close intimacy or friendship.

1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II*, II. ii. 127 Besides our neerenesse to the King in loue, Is neere the hate of those loue not the King. 1647–8 COTTERELL *Davila's Hist. France* (1678) 9 The king received him into the same nearness as before. 1681–6 J. SCOTT *Chr. Life* (1747) III. 105 In that Nearness and Intimacy, he could not but have a most perfect Knowledge of him. 1703 ROWE *Ulyss.* I. i, He still has held him In more especial Nearness to his Heart. 1871 PALGRAVE *Lyr. Poems* 73 But has love with knowledge grown, does nearness bind more nearly?

2. Proximity in space. Also *fig.*

1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 399 b, This countrie was linked unto them in great amitie,..for the nerenes therof. 1635 SWAN *Spec. M.* (1670) 37 The nearness to it, gives motion, heat, and lightness. 1756 BURKE *Subl. & B.* IV. iii, In proportion to the nearness of the cause, and the weakness of the subject. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 771 Their nearness to each other must be increased or diminished according to..the shade required. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* cxvii, That out of distance might ensue Desire of nearness. 1887 RUSKIN *Præterita* II. 264 The house itself had every good in it, except nearness to a stream.

3. Close resemblance or similarity.

1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* III. (1586) 152 Hogs flesh ..hath such a nearenesse and agrement with our bodies. 1624 BEDELL *Lett.* i. 39 The neernesse of my name to one Master William Bidulph. 1681 *Whole Duty Nations* 14 United by nearness of Manners, Customs, and Disposition. 1864 PUSEY *Lect. Daniel* (1876) 131 Media was allied to Persia..by nearness of language.

b. Close approximation (to accuracy).

1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* V. xii. 73 To come to a necessary nearness at first, [is] far surer than by uncertain guessing. 1838 DE MORGAN *Ess. Probab.* 178 Pointing out, with great nearness, the law which regulates the mortality of large masses of people.

4. Parsimony, niggardliness; frugality.

1584 LODGE *Alarum agst. Usurers* (Shaks. Soc.) 77 Some terme it thriftinesse, some neernesse, but in plaine tearmes, it is usurie. 1601 R. JOHNSON *Kingd. & Commw.* (1603) 238 He being so percimonious and sparing in his expences, that from this his nearenesse [etc.]. 1677 *Govt. Venice* 188 The

Greeks..eat Fish for Luxury, whereas the Venetian does it for Nearness. 1856 in Thornbury *Turner* (1862) II. 180 It was..the nearness that is capable of life-long self-sacrifice.

† 5. Importance, consequence. *Obs. rare*⁻¹.

1679 *Establ. Test* 2 In a Concern of so common and universal Nearness.

Near-sighted, *a.* [f. NEAR *a.* + SIGHT *sb.* Cf. Icel. *nærsýnn*, Da. *nærsynet*, Sw. *närsynt*.]

1. Having distinct vision only of near objects; unable to see clearly at a distance; short-sighted.

1686 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2103/4 He is about 17 years old,.. near sighted. 1723 *Pres. St. Russia* II. 63 Being lame, near-sighted, pitted with the Small-Pox. 1775 MME. D'ARBLAY *Early Diary* 3 Apr., He is so near-sighted, that he peers in every body's face a minute or two before he knows them. 1833 J. RENNIE *Alph. Angling* 17 The form of the eye in fishes proves that they are all very near-sighted. 1890 F. W. ROBINSON *Very Strange Fam.* 146 Lewis.. peered at me in his old near-sighted way.

fig. 1856 R. A. VAUGHAN *Mystics* (1860) II. 42 He had a near-sighted mind. 1864 DASENT *Jest & Earnest* (1873) II. 41 Let our philology..rather be near-sighted than far-fetched. 1877 MORLEY *Crit. Misc.* Ser II. 349 Learn not to be near-sighted in history.

2. Close, careful.

1828 MOIR *Mansie Wauch* vi, I found myself..well instructed in the tailoring trade, to which I had paid a near-sighted attention.

Hence **Near-sightedness.**

1811 *Malone's Boswell* I. 360 Alluding, no doubt, to his nearsightedness. 1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) III. 155 He was informed that nearsightedness was almost unknown among them. 1884 E. P. ROE *Nat. Ser. Story* ix, The result of near-sightedness.

Nease, obs. variant of NESE, nose.

Neashness, obs. form of NESHNESS.

Neast(e, dial. variants of *neist*, NEXT.

Neast(ling, obs. forms of NEST(LING.

Neat (nīt), *sb.* Forms: 1 néat (næt, 2 niatt), 1, 3–4 net, 3–6 neet, 3–7 nete (4 nett, 5 nette, 6 neette, neyte), 6–7 neate, 6– neat. [OE. *néat* neut. = OFris. *nât*, *nael*, OS. **nôt* (MDu. *noot*), OHG. *nôz* (obs. or dial. Germ. *nosz*, *nos*), ON. *naut* NOWT (Norw. *naut*, Sw. *nöt*, Da. *nöd*):—OTeut. **nauto*ᵐ, f. *naut-* ablaut-variant of *neut-* to enjoy or possess, OE. *néotan*: cf. NAIT *sb.* and *v.*¹]

1. *sing.* An animal of the ox-kind; an ox or bullock, a cow or heifer. Now *rare.*

c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* lxxii. 23 Swe swe neat geworden ic eam. *c* 897 K. ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past C.* xiv, 80 Ða hreost ðæs neates. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 940 A net, and a got, and a sep. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XIX. 261 Iohan most gentil of alle, The prys nete of Piers plow. *c* 1400 *Ywaine & Gaw.* 252 His hevyd..was als grete Als of a rowncy or a nete. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 354/2 Neet, beest, *bos.* 1573 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 77 [He] may well kill a neate and a sheepe of his owne. *a* 1661 FULLER *Worthies* (1840) III. 203 In the concave of a horse or neat's footing. 1669 WORLIDGE *Syst. Agric.* (1681) 329 *Neat*, a Heifer, or any of the kind of Beeves. 1895 MORRIS in Macnail *Life* (1899) II. 318 A savage Bull.., he was a gallant-looking neat.

2. († *pl.* or) *collect.* Cattle.

c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* xxxv. 7 Men & neat hale ðu does dryhten. *c* 1000 *Boeth. Metr.* xx. 249 Se þas foldan gesceop, & hi gefylde þa..neata cynnum. *c* 1131 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1131 Micel orfcwalm .. on næt & on swin. *c* 1205 LAY. 369 Children & hinen þa ure nete sculen gemen. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3712 De lond is god, ful of erf and of netes brod. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 3019 His fadir slow bath schep and net. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 172 Prestis also..bien schep and neet. 1461 *Paston Lett.* II. 55 He..toke there xxxvj. heede of nete. 1535 *Goodly Primer, Matins* Ps. viii, As flocks of sheep, all herds of neat. 1573 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 110 Be suer thy neat haue water and meat. 1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* I. ii. 125 The Steere, the Heyefer, and the Calfe, Are all call'd Neat. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 329 Their Neat, though small are sleek and well-liking. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* (J.), Set it in rich mould, with neats dung and lime. 1802 W. FORSYTH *Fruit Trees* xxiii. (1824) 331 Rotten neats-dung is the best dressing that you can give it. 1867 MORRIS *Jason* I. 241 The herdsmen drave Full oft to Cheiron woolly sheep, and neat.

Comb. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 354/2 Neet Dryvare, *armentarius.* 1894 ATKINSON *Old Whitby* 21 The unromantic homeliness of the neat-stalls.

b. Used appositively, in *neat cattle.*

1677 W. HUBBARD *Narrative* 60 Two hundred sheep and fifty head of Neat Cattle. 1753 *Scots Mag.* Nov. 540/2 Drawn by oxen or neat cattle. 1805 R. W. DICKSON *Pract. Agric.* I. 378 Sheep, horses, and even every kind of neat cattle. 1872 YEATS *Growth Comm.* 339 Neat cattle were sent to France in large numbers.

Neat (nīt), *a.* and *adv.* Also 6–7 neate, nete. [ad. AF. *neit*, *net*, F. *net* = Prov. *net*, *ned*, Sp. *nelo*, It. *netto*, for **net'do*:—L. *nitid-um* (cf. Pg. *nedeo*), f. *nitēre* to shine.]

In 17th c. examples the precise sense intended is not always clear.

A. *adj.* I. † 1. Clean; free from dirt or impurities. Also const. *from. Obs.*

1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* (1877) 62 His mainor place being in euery corner verie neat and clene. 1579 TOMSON *Calvin's Serm. Tim.* 244/2 [They] must shewe them selues neate and cleane from the faultes which S. Paule condemneth here. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 46 Mince the two Capons. .. Put them into a large neat Boulter. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* V. 184 Linnen cloth, that will not burne being cast into the fire, but serveth to make it neate and white.

† b. Denoting freedom from disease. *Obs. rare*⁻¹.

1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 226 Euery ship had a neat Patent to shew that those places from whence they came were free from the infection.

† 2. Clear, bright. *Obs.*

1591 SPENSER *Virg. Gnat* 119 Fresh springing wells, as christall neate. 1668 CULPEPPER & COLE *Barthol. Anat.* III. xi. 154 A Membrane..wherewith it is covered, and shines with a neat color. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 133 This stone is very hard, looks like a kind of Porphyrie, and is very neat when polished. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) VII. 764/1 The sand..was peculiarly adapted to the making of glass, as being neat and glittering.

3. Of liquors: Pure, unadulterated; *spec.* not mixed with water, undiluted.

1579 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 191 The Wine that runneth on the lees, is not therefore to be accompted neate bicause it was drawne of the same peece. 1649 ROBERTS *Clavis Bibl.* 80 Thou didst drink wine both pure and neate. 1686 tr. *Chardin's Trav. Persia* 124 She saw me mix water with my wine,..she and her women drank it neat. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 264 ¶ 5 The Hogsheads of Neat Port came safe. 1762 LLOYD *Poet. Wks.* (1774) II. 6 Will you pour out to English swine, Neat as imported, old Greek wine? 1815 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 68 Accustomed to drink neat spirits. 1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* I. 359/2, I was obliged to drink rum; it wouldn't ha done to ha drunk the water neat. 1876 BESANT & RICE *Gold. Butterfly* i, I should take a small glass of brandy neat.

fig. 1860 O. W. HOLMES *Prof. Breakf.-t.* vi, A remark .. is not .. to be taken 'neat', but watered with the ideas of common sense. 1887 *Brit. Weekly* 5 Aug. 219/2 They could take the truth neat, so to speak.

b. So of other substances. *rare.*

1651 R. CHILD in *Hartlib's Legacy* (1655) 53 If one take pure neat Honey, and ingeniously clarifie and scum and boyl it. 1660 F. BROOKE tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 385 Grains of gold, absolute gold, pure and neat. 1885 W. L. CARPENTER *Soap & Candles* 174 The soap .. may..be put in the 'neat' state direct into the cooling-boxes.

† c. Of a language: Pure. *Obs. rare*⁻¹.

1686 tr. *Chardin's Trav. Persia* 378 They speak Persian, more or less neat, as the people are more or less at a distance from Shiras.

4. Free from any reductions; clear, net.

1599 HAKLUYT *Voy.* II. 200, 600,000 ducates of golde neat and free of all charges. 1670 PETTUS *Fodinæ Reg.* 19 Paying the King the eighth part neat. 1685 SIR W. PETTY *Will* p. vii, I have of neat profits out of the lands .. 1100*l.* per ann. 1714 STEELE *Lover* No. 24 (1727) 142 The Brother's Estate..when cleared would not be a neat Thousand a Year. 1747 W. HORSLEY *Fool* (1748) II. 150 The Commander has ..Two-Eighths of the neat Produce of every Prize. *a* 1790 ADAM SMITH *W. N.* I. ix. (1869) I. 101 It is this surplus only which is neat or clear profit. 1817 JAS. MILL *Brit. India* II. v. iv. 457 He offered to give a neat sum, to cover all expenses. 1887 *Daily News* 28 June 2/5 Sheep trade improved and prices higher, especially for prime neat weights.

† b. Unbroken, complete. *Obs. rare*⁻¹.

1715 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5360/9 All the..French Wines are neat and entire parcels.

c. Exact, precise. Now *dial.*

1682 SCARLETT *Exchanges* 58 If the Endorser cannot meet with a Remitter, for the Neat and precise Sum. 1755 MAGENS *Insurances* I. 69 This is the sum whereon the Repartition ought to be made; all the particular Goods bearing their neat Proportion. 1875 PARISH *Sussex Dict.*, 'Tis ten rod neat, no more and no less. 1894 'IAN MACLAREN' *Brier Bush* 201 It cam tae the hundred neat.

II. † 5. Of persons: Inclined to refinement or elegance; finely or elegantly dressed; trim or smart in apparel. *Obs.*

1546 HEYWOOD *Proverbs* (1874) 140 Like one of fond fancie so fine and so neate, That would have better bread than is made of wheate. 1579 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 118 Be not curious to curle thy haire, nor carefull to be neat in thine apparel. 1609 B. JONSON *Sil. Wom.* I. i, Still to be neat, still to be drest, As you were going to a feast. 1655 VAUGHAN *Silex Scint.* II. *Providence* iii. (1858) 167, I, like flowers, shall still go neat As if I knew no month but May.

† b. Of dress: Elegant, trim. *Obs. rare.*

1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 191 Deckt in neat attire. 1695 KENNETT *Paroch. Antiq.* Gloss. s.v. *Garba*, A neat or handsome garb.

† 6. Of women: Trim, smart. *Obs.*

Possibly with more or less implication of sense 5.

1559 *Mirr. Mag., Dk. Clarence* xliv, Matched with a mayden nete. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 354 This your neat Bride is one of the *Empusæ* called *Lamiæ.* 1656 R. FLETCHER tr. *Martial* v. ii, Ye Matrons, Boyes, and Virgins neat, To you my Page I dedicate.

7. Characterized by elegance of form or arrangement, with freedom from all unnecessary additions or embellishments; of agreeable but simple appearance; nicely made or proportioned.

In early use the handsomeness of the thing appears to be the more prominent idea.

a. of towns, buildings, etc.

1549–62 STERNHOLD & H. *Ps.* cxxii. 3 O thou Jerusalem full faire;..much like a Citie neat. 1601 B. JONSON *Poetaster* III. i, Here's a most neate fine street, is't not? 1630 M. GODWYN tr. *Bp. Hereford's Ann. Eng.* (1675) 65 Hampton Court, the neatest pile of all the King's houses. *a* 1661 FULLER *Worthies* (1840) I. 112 Many neat houses and pleasant seats there be in this county. 1717 BERKELEY *Jrnl. Tour Italy* Wks. 1871 IV. 522 The gardens are neat, spacious, and kept in good order. 1773 JOHNSON *Let. to Mrs. Thrale* 25 Aug., We lay at Montrose, a neat place. 1806 *Gazetteer Scotl.* 302/1 A neat and commodious mansion-house. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* I. xv, It was made neater by there really being two halls in the house.

b. in general use.

1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 393 When I thinke vpon thy neate proportion. 1601 R. CHESTER *Love's Mart., Compl.* (1876) 6 Her Feete..Are neat and litle to delight the eye. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* II. ii. 53 You must have .. Sets of Steel Letters.., with a neat Hammer to use with them. 1710 HEARNE *Collect.* (O. H. S.) III. 43 Mr. Aubrey..writ a neat Hand. 1781 COWPER *Conversat.* 239 In a focus round and neat, Let all your rays of information meet. 1833 J. HOLLAND *Manuf. Metal* II. 244 An agate style, ground and polished to a smooth neat point. 1858 MRS. CARLYLE *Lett.* II. 393 What our livery-stable keepers call a neat fly. 1888 MISS BRADDON *Fatal Three* I. ii, The furniture was neat.

absol. 1871 LOWELL *Pope* Prose Wks. 1890 IV. 48 It seems to me that Pope had a sense of the neat rather than of the beautiful.

c. *spec.* of wool: (see quot.).

1884 W. S. B. MCLAREN *Spinning* 19 Fine [wool] from the shoulders; neat, from the middle of the sides and back.

8. a. Of language or style: Well selected or expressed; *esp.* brief, clear, and to the point; cleverly or smartly put or phrased.

1586 A. DAY *Eng. Secretary* I. (1625) 2 Aptnesse of words and sentences respecting that they be neate and choicely picked. 1621 in *Crt. & Times of Jas. I* (1848) II. 277, I have heard extraordinary commendation made of a neat speech by one Pym. 1687 EVELYN *Diary* 27 Feb., A very quaint neate discourse of moral righteousnesse. 1706 HEARNE *Collect.* (O. H. S.) I. 165 A neat Answer made to his Paper. 1784 COWPER *Task* III. 278 Though the stile be neat, The method clear, the argument exact. 1830 MACAULAY *Let.* in Trevelyan *Life* (1876) I. 196 A clear and neat statement of the points in controversy. 1865 TYLOR *Early Hist. Man.* I. II, I am not sure that the simpler Hottentot version is not the neater of the two.

b. Of preparations, esp. in cookery: Dainty, elegant, tasteful.

1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* IV. ii. 48 *Arui.* How Angell-like he sings? *Gui.* But his neate Cookerie? 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 51 A very neat and curious Banquet. 1668–9 PEPYS *Diary* 26 Feb., Had a mighty neat dish of custards and tarts. *a* 1682 SIR T. BROWNE *Misc. Tracts* (1684) 10 The Camphyre that we use is a neat preparation of the same. 1731 BOLINGBROKE in *Swift's Lett.* (1766) II. 127 You keep servants and horses, and frequently give little neat dinners. 1799 UNDERWOOD *Diseases Children* (ed. 4) I. 55 A few grains of magnesia..forms a much neater medicine. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 248 The male [fowls] making the best roast, and the female the neatest boil.

c. Cleverly contrived or executed; involving special accuracy or precision.

1598 MARSTON *Sco. Villanie* x. H iij b, The Orbes celestiall Will daunce Kemps Iigge. They'le revel with neate iumps. 1625 MASSINGER *New Way* v. i, Was it not a rare trick..to make the deed nothing? I can do twenty neater. 1675 A. BROWNE *App. Art Limning* 10 Rather make choice of a good Free and Bold Following of Nature, then to affect an extreme Neat way. 1846 GREENER *Sci. Gunnery* 150 The neatest part of the process consists in the joining of the points of the two rods. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xi. III. 90 A neater specimen of legislative workmanship. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* I. iv, This was a neat and happy turn to give the subject.

9. a. Of persons (and animals): Inclined to cleanliness or tidiness.

1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* (1592) 154 Let euery young man be neate, not nastie. 1596 SHAKS. *1 Hen. IV*, II. iv. 502 Wherein is he..neat and cleanly, but to carue a Capon, and eat it? 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* II. 46 He was very neat, loving clenlinesse both in apparrell and diet. 1670 BROOKS *Wks.* (1867) VI. 441 The neatest person may sometimes slip into a slough. 1758 JOHNSON *Idler* No. 16 ¶ 2 He was remarkably neat in his dress. 1802 PALEY *Nat. Theol.* XV. (1817) 132 Inhabiting dirt, it is, of all animals, the neatest. 1885 MISS BRADDON *Wyllard's Weird* I. i. 14 He was neat and methodical in all small matters. 1898 *Cable* 9 Apr. 231/1 A neat farmer is easily distinguished by his fences.

transf. 1650 BULWER *Anthropomet.* 121 Finding one haire in a platter of meat, they will not touch it...So strict are they in their neat Superstition.

b. Exhibiting skill and precision in action or expression.

1612 SELDEN *Illustr. Drayton's Poly-olb.* iv. 215 Your more neat judgements..rather make it symbolicall than truely proper. *a* 1623 FLETCHER *Wife for Month* I. ii. *Men.* To be a villain is no such rude matter. *Cant.* No, if he be a neat one. 1684 tr. *Agrippa's Van. Arts* liv. 148 In Discourse, the Italians are grave,..the Spaniards neat,..the French quick and ready. 1806 WOLCOT (P. Pindar) *Tristia* Wks. 1812 V. 337 You paint so sweetly Love's alarms The neat Historian of their charms.

10. Put or kept in good order, tidy.

1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* IV. i. 117 Now my spruce companions, is all readie, and all things neate? 1718 LADY M. W. MONTAGU *Let. to C'tess Bristol* 10 Apr., The exchanges are all noble buildings .. and kept wonderfully neat. 1745 *De Foe's Eng. Tradesman* I. xxxi. 311 A tradesman's books should always be kept clean and neat. 1794 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Myst. Udolpho* V, They met with simple but neat accommodation. 1865 MISS YONGE *Clever Woman* I. 296 The hair and dress, though always neat, and still as simply arranged as possible. 1884 F. M. CRAWFORD *Rom. Singer* I. 14 Everything is very neat about him and very quiet.

11. *slang.* In ironical use: Rare, fine.

1827 T. CREEVEY in *C. Papers* (1904) II. 138 So much for my new friend! Is he not a neat one? 1828 *Ibid.* 186 His wife seems to have been quite as neat an article as his sister.

12. *Comb.*, as *neat-faced, -fingered, -footed, -limbed*; also NEAT-HANDED.

1641 MILTON *Animadv.* Wks. 1851 III. 200 Doubtlesse the neat finger'd Artist will answer yes. 1747 *Mem. Nutrebian Crt.* II. 252 The neat-limbed Nugmeg suckling the infant. 1823 LAMB *Elia* Ser. II. *Old Margate Hoy*, Thy neat-fingered practice in the culinary vocation. 1844 LD. HOUGHTON *Palm Leaves* 109 That bright-eyed and neat-limbed boy. 1870 BRYANT *Iliad* I. IX. 293 For the sake Of his neat-footed bride. 1876 GEO. ELIOT *Dan. Der.* xlii, The pale, neat-faced copying clerk.

B. *adv.* Neatly.

1665 HOOKE *Microgr.* 195 Its head was much bigger and neater shap'd. 1755 J. SHEBBEARE *Lydia* (1769) II. 53 She was dressed extremely neat, without show or ostentation. 1784 COWPER *Task* III. 423 The rest .. he disposes neat At

measured distances. 1822 J. Platts *Bk. Curiosities* 752 To lay their colour or ink neater on the paper. 1840 Dickens *Old C. Shop* xvi, I think I could do it neater than you.

b. *Comb.*, as *neat-bound, -cut, -dressed, -polished.*

1729 Savage *Wanderer* v. 43 Neat polish'd mansions rise in prospect gay. 1757 Dyer *Fleece* III. Poems (1761) 138 The neat-dress'd housewives .. Come tripping on. 1782 Pennant *Journ. Chest. to Lond.* 127 Moxhull hall, the neat-dressed seat of Mr. Hacket. 1822 Lamb *Elia* Ser. II. *Thoughts on Books*, To be strong-backed and neat-bound is the desideratum of a volume. *a* 1852 Moore *Case of Libel* x, A cloven hoof, Through a neat-cut Hoby smoking out.

Neat, *v.* Now *rare* or *Obs.* [f. prec.]

1. *trans.* (and *intr.*) To make neat; † to clean.

1574 Hellowes *Gueuara's Fam. Ep.* (1577) 356 It shall be more expedient, to neate and purge the snuffers, than to snuffe the candels. ? 1579 Montgomerie *Misc. Poems* xlviii. 101 Our bottismen our geir perfytlie neits. 1581 Mulcaster *Positions* xl. (1887) 231 The houres before learning ..are to be hestowed, vpon either neating of the bodie, or solacing of the minde. *a* 1658 Durham *Exp. Revelation* vi. (1680) 32 A girdle..was used for neating the long robe. 1736 Pegge *Alph. Kenticisms* s.v., 'She neats about', i.e. she goes about the house, making things neat and clean.

2. *trans.* To clear, net (a sum).

1788 W. Marshall *Yorksh.* I. 246 It would have neated only *2d* a foot. 1803 *Trans. Soc. Arts* XXI. 120 These have..neated fully eighteen pounds ten shillings an acre.

Neate, obs. form of Neat *sb.*

Neaten (nī·t'n), *v.* [-en 5.] To make neat.

1898 *Sun* 23 Apr. 4/1 The neck is neatened with a collar-band and tabbed collar.

† **Nea·tery.** *Obs.* [f. Neat *sb.* + -ery.] A place for cattle.

1647 Haward *Crown Rev.* 30 The Neatery. ..Seven Yeomen Purveyor of Oxen, Mutton, Veale, Lambe, &c.

Neath (nīþ), *prep. dial.* and *poet.* Also **'neath.** [Aphetic for Aneath.] Beneath.

1787 Taylor *Poems* 25 (E. D. D.), Grannie's crown fu' weil he claw'd, An' 'neath her kirtle. 1824 Mactaggart *Gallovid. Encycl.* 352 Tykes wad bask..neath the auld arm-chair. 1871 Palgrave *Lyr. Poems* 54 Had I seen 'neath a face of mercy Hell's particular malice mask'd. 1887 P. M'Neill *Blawearie* 177 One of the pair caught him by the feet, the other neath the armpits.

Neat-handed, *a.* [Neat *a.*] Having a neat or deft manner of handling things; dexterous.

1632 Milton *L'Allegro* 86 Their savory dinner .. Which the neat-handed Phillis dresses. 1832 Ht. Martineau *Homes Abroad* I. 4 A neat-handed dairy-maid. 1845 *Peter Parley's Ann.* VI. 195 Bracelets for the neatest-handed of her nymphs. 1877 Mrs. Forrester *Mignon* I. 5 Neat-handed Phillis and a coadjutor served tea and coffee.

Hence **Neat-ha·ndedness.**

1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 218 The French with all their ingenuity and neat-handedness. 1865 *Cornh. Mag.* Nov. 533 The French doctor had praised her skill and neat-handedness.

Neather, obs. Sc. f. Neither, obs. f. Nether.

Neatherd (nī·tɨhɜɪd). Also 4–5 neet-, 4. 6 net-, 6 nete-. [f. Neat *sb.* + Herd *sb.*[2]] One who has the care of neat cattle, a cowherd.

1382 Wyclif *Amos* vii. 14 Y am not a prophete,..but a neet heerde Y am. 1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 161 The loresman of the Schepherdes, And ek of hem that ben netherdes. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 354/2 Neet Hyrde, *bubulcus*. *a* 1540 Barnes *Wks.* (1573) 190/1 Hee..went to the kinges Neteherdes house, and there desired lodginge. 1577–87 Holinshed *Chron.* III. 1045/1 The sheepe will obeie the shepheard, and the neat be ruled by the neatheard. 1603 R. Johnson *Kingd. & Commw.* 233 Vpon the mountains dwell neat-herds and sheapheards. 1668 H. More *Div. Dial.* III. xxix. (1713) 253 More like to the blowing of a Neatherd's or Swineherd's Horn than to the sound of a Trumpet. 1725 Bradley *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Scabbed heels*, If the Disease returns,..apply the Neatherds Ointment. 1761 Hume *Hist. Eng.* I. ii. 44 A neatherd, who had been entrusted with the care of some of his cows. 1823 Scott *Quentin D.* xxxv, A bull..compelled by the neat-herd from the road which he wishes to go. 1878 Addy *Mem. Beauchief Abbey* 53 *note*, These may have been ..huts for the neatherds.

fig. 1581 Marbeck *Bk. of Notes* 842 The Pope, who is his Neatheard heere vpon earth.

Hence **Nea·therdess,** a female neatherd.

1648 Herrick *Hesper., Neatherds*, Hark how can I now expresse My love unto my Neatherdesse. 1885 A. Dobson *Sign of Lyre* 203 Whither away, fair Neat-herdess?

Nea·thmost, *a. Sc.* Also neith-, neth-. [f. Neath + -most; cf. Nethemest.] Lowest.

1790 Morison *Poems* 27 (E. D. D.), Garter height the neith'most clout Is banged wi' awfu force. 1850 Blackie *Æschylus* I. 93 How? Thou who sittest on the neathmost hench, Speak'st thus to me? 1871 W. Alexander *Johnny Gibb* xiv. 106 The vera nethmost shall o' the lamp's dry.

Neat-house. Also neats'. [f. Neat *sb.* Cf. Da. dial. *nöds* for *nödhus.*]

1. A house or shed in which cattle are kept.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 354/2 Neet howse, *boscar.* 1600 Surflet *Countrie Farme* iv. iii. 634 The best and purest dung that you can find in your neathouse. 1615 Manwood *Lawes Forest* xxiv. 242 Any Swine-house, Neat-house, or Sheepe-house. 1806 Bloomfield *Wild Flowers* 43 Sue round the Neathouse squalling ran. 1825 *Let it alone*, etc. in *Houlston Tracts* (Brit. Mus.) I. xiv. 5, I must not put off ..building a neat-house.

2. A locality near Chelsea Bridge, where there was a celebrated market-garden. Also *pl.*

1632 Massinger *City Madam* III. i, The neat-house for musk-melons, and the gardens Where we traffic for asparagus. 1663 *Clarke Papers* (Camden) IV. 305 In a garden by the neats' howse. 1696 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3162/4 A Messuage and 14 Acres of Garden ground at the Neathouses, Westminster. 1721 Bradley *Philos. Acc. Wks. Nat.* 184 The first, which are Kitchen Gardens,..are those at the Neat-Houses near Tuttle-fields, Westminster. 1761 *Lond. & Environs* V. 24. 1804 Earl Lauderdale *Public Wealth* iii. 132 *note*, The produce of the soil at the Neat-houses before mentioned.

attrib. 1727 S. Switzer *Pract. Gard.* Pref. 11 The practice of our Neathouse-men and Gardiners.

Neatify (nī·tifəi), *v.* Now *rare* or *Obs.* Also 6 netify, 7 -fie. [f. Neat *a.* + -(i)fy.] *trans.* To make neat, to purify. Hence **Nea·tifying.**

1601 Holland *Pliny* II. 11 With Wines delaied, neatified, and guelded, as it were, by passing thorow an Ipocras bag. *c* 1611 Chapman *Iliad* II. *Comm.* 34 That which he addeth is onelie the worke of a woman, to netifie and polish. 1684 Baxter *One Thing Nec.* Pract. Wks. 1830 X. 424 Did Christ or his apostles spend their time .. neatifying their bodies, or such like? 1826 Polwhele *Trad. & Recoll.* I. v. 161 The internal decoration, or rather neatifying of the Church, was at length accomplished.

† **Nea·tish,** *a. Obs. rare*[−1]. In 3 netisse. [f. Neat *sb.* + -ish [1].] Resembling cattle.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 37 Þe shepisse and þe netisse men beð under cristes þralshipe.

† **Neat-land.** *Obs. rare*[−0]. [For OE. *genéatland*; see Geneat.] (See quot.)

1672 Blount *Law Dict.*, Neatland, land let or granted out to the Veomanry.

Neatly (nī·tli), *adv.* [f. Neat *a.* + -ly [2].] In a neat manner or style.

1. So as to present a neat appearance; in a nicely finished way.

1577 B. Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* iv. (1586) 187 If their woorkmanship bee neately, and equally wrought. 1660 F. Brooke tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 75 They wear .. pumps very neatly made. 1712–4 Pope *Rape Lock* II. 38 Twelve vast French Romances, neatly gilt. 1784 Cowper *Task* II. 587 There closely braced And neatly fitted, it .. binds the shoulders flat. 1819 Shelley *Peter Bell 3rd* VII. viii, A genteel drive..With sifted gravel neatly laid. 1860 Mrs. Carlyle *Lett.* III. 61 My clothes folded neatly up.

2. With neatness or tidiness (in dress, etc.).

1581 Pettie tr. *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* III. (1586) 172 b, Neither take we anie great care to be serued bonourablie, neatelie, and reuerentlie. 1601 Shaks. *All's Well* IV. iii. 168, I will neuer trust a man againe, for keeping his sword cleane, nor .. wearing his apparrell neatly. 1656 Stanley *Hist. Philos.* VI. (1701) 235/1 Seeing a young man very neatly dress'd. 1735 Berkeley *Querist* § 60 Whether there be any instance of a state wherein the people, living neatly and plentifully, did not aspire to wealth?

3. With brevity, clearness, and point.

1570 *Marriage Wit & Sci.* II. iii. in Hazl. *Dodsley* II. 346 Ah flattering quean, how neatly she can talk! 1585 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* Ep. Ded., In a matter nothing doubtfull to vse needlesse proofes, as Tullie neatly saith. 1638 Junius *Paint. Ancients* 54 Simonides expounded this point somewhat neatlier. 1664 Power *Exp. Philos.* I. 10 How neatly Sir Theodore Mayhern delivers his Observation of this Animal. 1724 Webster *Wks.* (1787) 378 Of Hyperboles .. those are the best which are the neatliest couched. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 24 Nov. 6/1 It may be doubted whether a ticklish point was ever put more neatly.

4. Cleverly, dexterously.

1603 Knolles *Hist. Turks* (1638) 252 To haue a boy.. neatly placed behind him vnder his large robes. 1665 Manley *Grotius' Low C. Wars* 341 Averring, that he onely counterfeited a face of modesty, the more neatly to hide the cruelty of his heart. 1698 Fryer *Acc. E. India & P.* 88 A notable Skirmish..wherein they were neatly intrapp'd. 1860 Motley *Netherl.* ix. (1868) II. 35 The plan was neatly carried out. 1890 Baker *Wild Beasts* I. 131 You naturally wish to kill your animal neatly.

5. *Comb.* as *neatly-finished, -made*, etc.

1599 B. Jonson *Cynthia's Rev.* IV. v, I am the neatlyest-made gallant i' the companie. 1681 Chetnam *Angler's Vade-m.* xxxvii. § 2 (1689) 233 The very best and neatliest spun Hemp yarn. 1836–9 Dickens *Sk. Boz, Parish* vii, There was a neatly-written bill in the parlour window. 1859 W. Collins *Q. of Hearts* ii, Little neatly-gloved hands. 1860 Geo. Eliot *Mill on Fl.* II. ii, With the neatliest finished border.

Neatness (nī·tnés). [f. Neat *a.* + -ness.]

1. The quality or condition of being neat, in various applications of the adj.

1555 Eden *Decades* 138 It was so named for the neatenesse and bewtifulnes therof. 1593 Norden *Spec. Brit., Cornwall* (1728) 63 Ther is not a towne .. more comendable for neatnes of buyldinges. 1638 Junius *Paint. Ancients* 120 There is a wonderfull great difference between pure neatnesse and curious affectation. 1682 Norris *Hierocles* 97 Too much Neatness will slide into Luxury and softness. 1741 Richardson *Pamela* II. 359, I was much plens'd with the Neatness of the Good Woman. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) VII. 171 There is much geometrical neatness in the disposal of the serpent's scales. *c* 1850 *Arab. Nts.* (Rtldg.) 584 She had even neglected that neatness and cleanliness so becoming to persons of her sex. 1867 A. Duncan *Mem. W. Duncan* 28 It was quite a model in respect of order and neatness and freeness from weeds.

pl. 1834 H. Miller *Scenes & Leg.* xx, She retained a few of the mechanical neatnesses of her earlier years. 1859 Meredith *R. Feverel* xlii, Looking to their neatnesses.

b. In reference to language or style.

1548 Patten *Exped. Scotl.* Pref. a v, For the neatnes of making and fynenes of sense. 1576 Fleming tr. *Caius' Dogs* To Rdr., The elegantnes and neatnesse of his Latine phrase. *c* 1645 Howell *Lett.* (1650) I. 407, I find .. such a gallantry and neatness in your lines, that you may give the law of lettering to all the world. 1685 Cotton tr. *Montaigne* (1711) I. xxxix. 354 Neatness of stile is no manly Ornament. 1824 L. Murray *Eng. Gram.* (ed. 5) I. 313 There is a peculiar neatness in a sentence beginning with the conjunctive form of a verb. 1859 Helps *Friends in C.* Ser. II. II. xii. 311 Neither does neatness of expression affect us much.

2. Dexterity, smartness.

1862a Stanley *Jew. Ch.* (1877) I. xvi. 313 The neatness with which the Philistine watchmen are outdone.

† **Nea·tress.** *Obs.* [irreg. f. Neat *sb.* + *-ress* as in *actress*, etc.] A female neatherd.

1586 Warner *Alb. Eng.* IV. xx. (1612) 96 The Neatresse, longing for the rest, Did egge him on to tell [etc.]. 1621 Lady M. Wroth *Urania* 485 She was a Neatresse, and in truth an neate one.

Neat's foot. [f. Neat *sb.*] The foot of an ox, used as an article of food.

[1589 ? Lyly *Pappe w. Hatchet* B iv, Why shuld I feare him that walkes on his neats-feete?] 1595 *Eng. Tripe-wife* (1881) 149 Thy tripes were yong, thy neates feete fat and faire. 1620 Venner *Via Recta* iii. 70 The feete of a Bullocke or Heifer, which we commonly call Neats feete. 1652 French *Yorksh. Spa* xiii. 101, I forbid all flesh that is very salt, and fat, Bacon, Pork, Neats-feet, Tripes. 1720 Strype *Stow's Surv.* I. II. v. 89/2 Such as sell Tripe, Neats Feet, Sheep's Trotters, &c. 1846 Mrs. Birch *Mrs. Rundell's Dom. Cookery* 108 Boil a pair of neat's feet very tender. 1862 Draper *Intell. Devel. Europe* v. (1865) 111 His death was in consequence of devouring a neat's foot raw.

b. *attrib.* in **neat's-foot oil** († *neat-foot, neat's-feet*), an oil obtained from the feet of neat cattle.

1579 Langham *Gard. Health* (1633) 445 Three spoonfull of Neatefoot oyle. *c* 1720 W. Gibson *Farrier's Dispens.* xiv. (1734) 273 It has a proportion of Neets-feet oil in it's composition. 1787 Hunter in *Phil. Trans.* LXXVII. 389 Either hard fat or marrow, or fluid fat called Neat's-foot oil. 1825 J. Nicholson *Operat. Mechanic* 734 The neatsfoot oil prevents the varnish from being sticky. 1875 *Ure's Dict. Arts* III. 450 The feet of oxen..yield, when boiled with water, a peculiar fatty matter, which is known under the name of neat's foot oil.

Neat's leather. [f. Neat *sb.*] Leather made of the hides of neat cattle.

1530 Palsgr. 248/1 Neates ledder, *cordovayn.* 1558 Warde tr. *Alexis' Secr.* (1568) 88 If you wil die Nettes leather or Spanishe skinnes. 1601 Shaks. *Jul. C.* I. i. 29 As proper men as euer trod vpon Neats Leather. 1664 Butler *Hud.* II. i. 224 Some have been..kicked until they can feel whether A Shoe be Spanish or Neat's Leather. 1794 W. Felton *Carriages* (1801) I. 215 The best leatber is the Ox bide, called Neat's leather. 1821 Scott *Kenilw.* viii, Exchanging a sheath of neat's leather for one of flesh and blood.

attrib. 1675 Hobbes *Odyssey* (1677) 113 A tough and strong neats-leather sack. 1701 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3694/4 A strong Neats-leather Saddle and Bridle.

Neat's tongue. [f. Neat *sb.*] An ox-tongue, used as an article of food.

1596 Shaks. *Merch. V.* I. i. 112 Silence is onely commendable In a neats tongue dri'd. 1626 Bacon *Sylva* § 350 Smoake preserveth Flesh; As we see in Bacon and Neats-Tongues. 1676 D'Urfey *Mme. Fickle* II. i, Bid him get a Bottle of Claret, and a Neat's Tongue rendy. 1747–96 Mrs. Glasse *Cookery* xviii. 289 Take a neat's tongue and boil it till tender. 1820 Scott *Abbot* xix, The remains of a cold capon and a neat's tongue. 1846 Mrs. Birch *Mrs. Rundell's Dom. Cookery* 80 Some people like neat's tongues cured with the root.

Neauer, neaver, obs. forms of Never.

Neave, obs. form of Nieve.

Neavil, variant of Nevel *v. dial.*

† **Nea·ving.** *Obs.* (See quot. and Newing.)

1669 Worlidge *Syst. Agric.* Dict. Rust., *Neaving* Yeast or Barm. [Hence in Phillips (1706) and Bailey.]

Neay, obs. form of Neigh *v.*

Neb (neb), *sb.* Now chiefly *north.* and *Sc.* Also 1, 5–7 nebb, 2–7 nebbe. [OE. *nębb* (:–**nęfj-*) nent. = ON. *nef* (stem *nefj-*; Norw. *nev, næv*, Sw. *näf*) nent., related to MDu. *nebbe* fem. and masc. (Du. *nebbe, neb* fem.), MLG. *nebbe* fem. (hence Da. *næb* neut., Sw. *näbb*, Norw. *nebb* masc.). It is not clear whether the root **naf-* is the same as that of Nave *sb.*[1]]

I. 1. The beak or hill of a bird. Also *transf.*

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) R 204 *Rostrum*, neb *uel* scipes caeli [*Epinal* celae]. *a* 1000 *Phœnix* 299 Sindon þa fiþru bwit..& þæt nebb lixeð swa glæs oþþe gim. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxviii. (*Margaret*) 598 Þane com a dou of hewin fleand,..& in þe neb brocht a cron. *c* 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) viii. 31 Ilk ane of þam bringes in þaire nebbe..a braunche of olyue. *c* 1450 Holland *Howlat* 57 My neb is netberit as a nok, I am bot ane Owle. 1535 Coverdale *Gen.* viii. 11 She had broken of a leaf of an olyue tre, & bare it in hir nebb. 1567 Golding *Ovid's Met.* VIII. (1593) 199 Diana ..Makes wings to stretch along their sides, and borned nebs to stand Upon their mouthes. 1641 Best *Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 123 The right side of the nebbe [of a swan]. 1745 tr. *Egede's Descr. Greenland* vi. 80 Fishes..with long Nebs or Bills like Birds. *a* 1813 A. Wilson *Disconsolate Wren* Poet. Wks. (1846) 98 Through the glen we took our flight, And soon my neb I filled. 1831 Jas. Wilson *Let.* in J. Hamilton *Mem.* iv. (1859) 135 The mother..sits with her neb generally open. 1885 W. K. Parker *Mammalian Descent* ii. 45 The thin horny layer still shows the 'neb' for breaking the egg-shells.

fig. 1721 Kelly *Scot. Prov.* 390 You may dight your Neb and flie up. ..You have ruined and undone your Business, and now you may give over. 1828 Moir *Mansie Wauch* ii. 25 Imagining that nothing remained for them, but to dight their nebs and flee up. 1830 Galt *Lawrie T.* v. ix. (1849) 235 If be were to throw a sheep's eye at you, and ye had a neb in your heart to pick it up.

b. The mouth (of a person).

1611 Shaks. *Wint. T.* I. ii. 183 How she holds vp the Neb, the Byll to him! 1640 Brome *Sparagus Gard.* III. ix, How kindly he kisses her! and how feately she holds up the neb to him! 1867 Waugh *Home Life* vii. 62 A little, light-haired lass, holding up her rosy neb to the soup-master. 1894 Crockett *Raiders* 391 Then Rab would come oot, dichting his neb frae the byre.

2. The nose; the snout of an animal.

c 1000 *Laws Ælfred* in Thorpe *Laws* I. 94 gif mon oðrum þæt neb of aslea, ȝebete him mid lx scill. *a* 1100 *Voc.* in Wr.-

Wülcker 290 *Nasu*, nosu... *Internasum*, neb. *a* 1529 Skelton *Sp. Parrot* 418 The nebbis of a lyon they make to trete and trembyll. 1583 Golding *Calvin on Deut.* cc. 1245 He will not deceiue vs in his promises, nor holde vs downe with our nebbes in the Water as they say. 1737 Ramsay *Sc. Prov.* (1750) 114 Ye breed of Saughton swine, your neb's ne'er out of an ill turn. 1793 T. Scott *Three Auld Men* Poems 323 The snell frost-win' made nebs an' een To rin right sair. 1834 M. Scott *Cruise Midge* (1863) 177 Your eyes are blinded ..and your neb peeled like an ill scraped radish. 1893 Kipling *Many Invent.* 233 He..laid his finger to his nose—his dishonourable, carnelian neb.

3. The point or nib of a pen (or pencil).

1599 Middleton *Micro-cynicon* Wks. (Bullen) VIII. 114 My pen's two nebs shall turn into a fork. 1610 Holland *Camden's Brit.* I. 517 He had sharpned the neb of his pen against the Popes authority. *a* 1661 Fuller *Worthies, Hereford* II. (1662) 36, I have so worne out the Neb of my Pen in my Church-History. 1688 Holme *Armoury* III. xv. (Roxb.) 20/2 In the pen there is the nick or slip or slit, called the neb. 1798 Crawford *Poems* 48 (E. D. D.), The words just at the pen-neb hung. 1825 J. Wilson *Noct. Ambr.* Wks. 1855 I. 11 With the neb of my keelivine pen.

b. Any projecting part or point; a peak, tip, toe, spout, etc.; the extremity of anything ending in a point or narrowed part.

1611 Cotgr., *Penneton d'un clef*, the bit, or neb of a key. 1626 Bacon *Sylva* I. § 14 Take a Glasse with a Belly and a long Nebb. 1673 Ray *Journ. Low C.* 456 They melt the wax again ..and run it..through the neb of a tin pot into water. 1698 *Providence Rec.* (1894) VI. 211 A stubb sithe with sneaths, nebbs and Rings. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) II. 590/2 Raise or depress the tube of the level by twisting the neb of the screw. 1807 Vancouver *Agric. Devon* (1813) 117 The light Dorset swing-plough..has a well-curved iron breast, one foot ten inches long from the neb to the end of the wrest. 1825 *Ann. Reg.* 268* Improvements in producing..a neb or slot in the roller..used in the printing of calico. 1881 Butterworth *Cotton* 62 Each line of rollers ought to be movable by separate stand slides and cap nebs.

†**c.** The embryo or radicle of a seed. *Obs. rare.*

1646 Sir T. Baowne *Pseud. Ep.* III. xxvii. (1686) 146 To destroy the little nebbe or principle of germination. 1660 Sharrock *Vegetables* 36 All seeds that I know have within their covers actually a Neb, which answers to a roote.

II. †4. The face. *Obs.*

c 897 K. Ælfred *Gregory's Past. C.* v. 42 Donne hræce hio him on ðæt neb foran. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Hom.* II. 102 Se ðe awent his neb fram clypigendum ðearfan. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 43 Alle heore teres beoð berninde gleden glidende ouer heore aȝene nebbe. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 98 Scheau to me þi leoue neb & ti lufsume leor. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 468/203 Op heo stod with wordes bolde, With briȝht neb and glade chere. 13.. *Guy Warw.* (A.) lxxv. 7 Wiþ a long berd his neb was growe. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 3940 Of sum þai nyppid fra þe nebb þe nose be þe eȝen.

†**b.** *Neb to* or *with neb*, face to face. *Obs.*

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 61 Cristes wille bo us bitwon, neb wið neb for him to son. *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* 17 Secheð erst upon hire, nebbe to nebbe. *c* 1330 *Florice & Bl.* 615 He..find thar twai neb to neb, Neb to neb an mouth to mouth.

Hence **Neb,** *v.* **a.** *intr.* to kiss or bill; **b.** *trans.* to adapt the point of (a pen) for writing.

1609 Armin *Maids of More-Cl.* (1880) 90 Shall not busse knight, shall not neb? *a* 1819 in Hogg *Jacobite Relics* I. 241 These two drakes may neb, go hand in hand. 1880 Goroon *Chron. Keith* 69 (E. D. D.), Caught nebbing the pen on the desk, and not on the thumb.

Nebbed (nebd), *a.* Also nebed, neb'd, *Sc.* nebbit. [f. Neb *sb.* + -ed 2.] Having a neb, esp. of a specified kind, as *black-, blue-, red-, sharp-nebbed*, and esp. *long-nebbed* (see Long *a.*1 18).

?17.. in Herd *Scot. Songs* (1776) II. 143 My daddie left me gear enough,..A nebbed staff [etc.]. 1720 [see Long *a.*1 18]. 1808 R. Anderson *Cumbld. Ball.* 79 Blue-nebb'd Wat. 1824 Mactaggart *Gallovid. Encycl.* 29 The mavis and the yellow-nebed blackburd. 1871 S. S. Jones *Northumbld.* 204 (E. D. D.), No long neb'd shoes or bootes. 1882 Strathesk *Elinkbonny* 148 A brood o' chickens, lang-leggit, sharp-nebbit things.

‖ **Ne·bbuk, ne·bek.** Also nebeck, nebk. [Arab. نبق *nebq, nebeq, nebiq*, the fruit of the lote-tree, or the tree itself.] A thorny shrub of the genus *Zizyphus*, common in Palestine. Also *attrib.* with *tree*.

1850 W. Irving *Mahomet* I. 107 Here grew .. the nebeck-tree producing the lotus. 1850 Gosse *Sacred Streams* (1878) 189 The groves of plane-trees and nebeks that line its banks. 1891 E. Arnold *Lt. of World* ii. 48 Where knot-grass with its spikes, .. and nebbuk-thorns Bind..the marble wrecks.

‖ **Nebel** (nē·bĕl). [Heb. נבל *nebel* or *nēbel*: see Nable.] A Hebrew instrument of music, usually supposed to have been a kind of harp.

1753 Chambers *Cycl. Supp., Nebel*, in the Jewish antiquities, a kind of musical instrument. 1845 *Kitto's Cycl. Bibl. Lit.* II. 372 The *nebel* was an instrument of a principal species, the name of which was applied to the whole genus. 1864 Engel *Mus. Anc. Nat.* 281 Some writers on Hebrew music consider the *nebel* to have been a kind of dulcimer. 1879 Stainer *Music of Bible* 24 Certain writers .. have believed the *nebel* to be of that simple form of harps, describing a mere Δ shape.

Hence **Ne·belist,** a player on the nebel.

1845 *Kitto's Cycl. Bibl. Lit.* II. 371 Asaph..was only the overseer of the nebelists.

†**Neber,** variant of Eber, manifest. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 13041 Sco cried and mad ful mikel dole, Als sco þat was a neber fole.

Neble, obs. form of Nipple.

Neb-mark, *sb.* [f. Neb *sb.*] A mark of ownership on the beak of a swan. Hence **Neb-mark** *v.*

1641 Best *Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 123 The kinges swanner hayth all the markes, both nebbe-markes and foote-markes, sette downe in his booke. *Ibid.*, If wee doe not intende soe nebbe-marke them..then wee putte them up to feedinge soe soone as they come hoame.

‖ **Neb-neb.** [? African.] (See quots.)

1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 82 The rind or shell which surrounds the fruit of the *mimosa cinereria* .. comes from the East Indies, as also from Senegal, under the name of Neb-neb. 1875 *Encycl. Brit.* I. 68/2 The pods of *Acacia nilotica*, under the name of neb-neb, are used by tanners.

Neborate, variant of Neighboured. *Obs.*

‖ **Nebris** (ne·bris). *Archæol.* [L. *nebris*, a. Gr. *νεβρίς* fawn-skin, f. *νεβρός* fawn.] A fawn-skin, worn by Dionysus and his votaries.

1776 J. Bryant *Mythol.* III. 196 They also at their sacrifices wore the nebris, or spotted skin, like the Bacchanalians in the west. 1850 Leitch tr. *C. O. Müller's Anc. Art* § 127 (ed. 2) 100 A beautiful youth crowned with ivy, engirt with a nebris, resting his lyre on the thyrsus. 1872 Ruskin *Eagle's N.* § 225 The nebris of Dionusos and leopard-skin of the priests of Egypt relate to astronomy.

†**Nebshaft.** *Obs.* In 3–4 -schaft, 3 -scheft, 4 -sseft. [f. Neb *sb.* + *-shaft*, repr. OE. *-sceaft*, f. the root of *scieppan*, to Shape.]

1. Countenance, face.

a 1225 *St. Marher.* 4 Nim ȝeme of þi ȝuheðe, ant of þi semli schape, ant of þi schene nebschaft. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 94 ȝe schulen habben, þer uppe, þe brihte sihðe of Godes nebscheft. *a* 1400 *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* 127/259 Blessed beo, ladi, thi brihte neb-schaft.

2. Likeness, image.

1340 *Ayenb.* 265 Do we to worke godes nebsseft ine ssrifte and ine zalmes.

Neb-tide, var. *nep-, neap-tide*: see Neap *a.*

‖ **Nebula** (ne·biŭlă). Pl. nebulæ (*-ī*). [L. *nebula* mist, vapour, related to Gr. *νεφέλη*, OHG. *nebul* (G. *nebel*).]

1. a. A film upon, or covering, the eye; *spec.* a clouded speck or spot on the cornea causing defective vision.

1661 Lovell *Hist. Anim. & Min.* Isagoge b 5 The Raie hath a long and rough taile, the eye is covered with a nebula. 1719 Quincy *Phys. Dict.* (1722), *Nebula* .. is figuratively applied to Appearances..in the human Body, as to Films upon the Eyes. 1836–9 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* II. 177/2 Slight opacities, or *nebulæ*, as they are called, if confined to the conjunctival covering of the cornea. 1844 H. Stephens *Bk. Farm* II. 229 Farm-horses..being liable to accidents, the effects of inflammation,—nebulæ, or specks,—do sometimes occur. 1895 Swanzy *Diseases Eye* (ed. 5) 150 The opacity..is called a nebula.

b. A cloudy or flocculent appearance.

1805 S. Weston *Werneria* 70 Quartz is distinguishable from glass by the nebulæ, or appearance of clouds in its transparency. 1846 Day tr. *Simon's Anim. Chem.* II. 184 When the temperature is sufficiently elevated, the coagulation begins to occur in the form of small white nebulæ.

2. *fig.* A misty or obscure affair. *rare*—1.

a 1734 North *Exam.* II. iv. § 147 (1740) 310 He, that could pass over the Items of the Grand Plot without Notice, will not amuse the Reader with these *Nebulæ*.

3. *Astron.* An indistinct cloud-like cluster of distant stars, or a luminous patch of supposed gaseous or stellar matter lying beyond the limits of the solar system.

1727–38 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v. *Stars*, Nebulous stars, being such as only appear faintly, in clusters, in the form of little lucid nebulæ or clouds. 1781 *Gentl. Mag.* LI. 526 This .. nebula was discovered March 23, 1779. 1802 Herschel in *Phil. Trans.* XCII. 499 A stellar nebula .. may be a real cluster of stars. *Ibid.* 523 It is of a middle species, between the planetary nebulæ and nebulous stars. 1841 Brewster *Mart. Sci.* ii. 31 Upon directing his telescope to nebulæ and clusters of stars. 1873 Dawson *Earth & Man* i. 8 The spectroscope has .. shown that some nebulæ are actually gaseous.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1817 J. Adams *Wks.* (1856) X. 245 Hutchinson and all his nebula of stars and satellites. 1856 Miss Mulock *J. Halifax* xii, The world of existence to him seemed to have lazily melted down into a mere nebula. 1880 Disraeli *Endym.* xxix, The present was too hard for him, and his future was only a chaotic nebula.

c. *attrib.*, as *nebula hypothesis, line, photography*, etc. Also in *pl.* as *nebulæ spectrum*.

1877 *Nature* XVI. 401/2 The brightest line of the nebulæ spectrum. *Ibid.* 414/1 If we accept the bright line..to be veritably the chief nebula line. *a* 1891 *Anthony's Photogr. Bull.* IV. 363 His primary object was to use it for nebula photography. 1892 A. Taylor in *Photogr. Ann.* II. 116 The central nucleus .. demanded by Laplace's nebula hypothesis.

4. Fog, mist.

1894 W. C. Lev *Cloudland* 33 The spherules of water which constitute nebula vary greatly in diameter. *Ibid.* 35 Nebula must not..be regarded as in all cases a very local phenomenon.

Nebular (ne·biŭlăr), *a.* *Astron.* [f. prec. + -ar 1; cf. F. *nébulaire*.]

1. *Nebular hypothesis* or *theory*, the theory, propounded by Kant and elaborated by Herschel and Laplace, which supposes a nebula to be the first state of the solar and stellar systems.

1837 Whewell *Hist. Induct. Sci.* (1857) II. 229 The Nebular Hypothesis, which has been propounded by Laplace. 1871 Tyndall *Fragm. Sci.* (1879) II. x. 211, I hold the nebular theory, as it was held by Kant. 1877 Lockyer in *Nature* XVI. 414/1 The nebular hypothesis..remains untouched by these observations.

2. Consisting of, concerned with, or relating to a nebula, or to nebulæ.

1856 Page *Adv. Text-bk. Geol.* ii. 21 Such hypotheses, then, as nebular condensation. 1878 Newcomb *Pop. Astron.* iv. ii. 480 On each side of the galactic and stellar region we have a nebular region. 1892 A. Taylor in *Photogr. Ann.* II. 117 Nebular, lunar, and planetary photography.

† **Ne·bulate,** *v. Obs. rare*—1. [f. the ppl. stem of med.L. *nebulāre* to cloud: cf. Nebula 1 b.] *intr.* To become cloudy or turbid.

1753 N. Torriano *Gangr. Sore Throat* 118 The Water nebulated, and tended to deposit a laudable Hypostasis.

Ne·bulated, *ppl. a. rare.* [cf. prec.]

†**1.** *Her.* = Nebulé 1. *Obs.*

1486 *Bk. St. Albans, Her.* d iij b, Ther is also a partyng of ij. colowris clowdit or nebulatit. *Ibid.* d iiij b, Off armys partyt aft the long way clowdy or nebulatyd.

2. Clouded, dimmed.

1874 Coues *Birds of N. W.* 608 On the head and neck the light rufous decidedly predominates, and seems indistinctly but thickly nebulated with dusky.

Nebule 1 (ne·biul). [Anglicized f. Nebula.]

1. A cloud; a mist or fog. Also *fig.*

c 1420 Lydg. *Commend. Our Lady* 53 O..Light withoute nebule, shyning in thy spere.

1869 Blackmore *Lorna D.* iii, The Baroness will not touch unless a nebule be formed outside the glass. 1877 — *Cripps* (1887) 175 Nebules of logic, dialectic fogs, and thunderstorms of enthymem.

2. *Astron.* A nebula. Also *fig.*

1830 W. Taylor *Hist. Surv. Germ. Poetry* I. 179 The nebule of returning culture in Germany first became visible to the naked eye at Zurich and Leipzig. 1837 Goodrich *Sun, Moon & Stars* xxxii. (ed. 2) 185 Small luminous spots, of a cloudy appearance, which we thence call *nebulæ* or *nebules*.

Nebule 2 (ne·biul). *Arch.* [app. a misapprehension of Nebulé.] A moulding of a wavy or serpentine form (see next).

1823 P. Nicholson *Pract. Build.* 589 Nebule; a zigzag ornament, but without angles, frequently found in the remains of Saxon architecture. 1836 H. G. Knight *Archit. Tour Normandy* 199 The most common mouldings are the billet,..hatchet, nebule, star, rope.

attrib. 1848 B. Webb *Cont. Ecclesiol.* 45 The nave and aisles and west transept have a nebule corbel-tabling. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1515/2 *Nebule-molding.*

transf. 1849 Rock *Ch. of Fathers* II. 251 *note*, The stocking is of silver tissue, worked with gold birds..and a peculiar ornament—a nebule, white and blue, with yellow rays shooting from its edge.

Nebulé (ne·biule), **nebuly** (ne·biuli), *a.* Also 7 -ee, 9 -ée. [a. F. *nébulé*, ad. med.L. *nebulāt-us*: see Nebulate *v.*]

1. *Her.* Of a wavy or serpentine form, like the edges given to conventional representations of clouds; represented in the form of a cloud.

a 1550 in Baring-Gould & Twigge *W. Armory* (1898) 5 Blount: Barry nebule or and sables. 1562 Leigh *Armorie* 135 He beareth party per Pale, Nebule Ermines and Ermin. 1610 Guillim *Heraldry* II. iii. (1660) 54 Of these [lines] some are Nebulee. 1661 Blount *Glossogr.* (ed. 2) s.v., Nebule of six pieces, Or and Sable is the Blounts Arms. 1725 *Lond. Gaz.* 6363/3 The Coat a Fess Nebule between six Flowers-de-Lis. 1838 *Penny Cycl.* XII. 141/2 Of crooked lines there are eight recognised by English heralds, namely:—1. Engrailed. .. 5. Nebuly. 1864 Boutell *Her. Hist. & Pop.* xv. (ed. 3) 217 Two bendlets nebulée sa. 1893 Cussans *Heraldry* (ed. 4) 47 The lines by which a shield is divided .. may assume any of the following forms: Engrailed. .. Nebulé.

2. *Arch.* Of mouldings: (see Nebule 2).

1842 Gwilt *Archit.* 1008 *Nebuly Moulding*, an ornament in Norman architecture, whose edge forms an undulating or wavy line. 1861 Neale *Notes Dalmatia* vi. 99 A nebuly moulding running round the cornice.

Nebuli·ferous, *a. rare*—0. [f. Nebula + -iferous.] 'Having nebulous spots, as the *Vorticella nebulifera*' (Mayne 1856).

Ne·bulist. *rare.* [f. Nebula + -ist.]

1. An artist whose work is marked by indistinctness of outline.

1836 *New Monthly Mag.* XLVII. 99 We would rather not have been told .. that our celebrated landscape-painter is too much a nebulist.

2. One who maintains the nebular hypothesis.

1890 *Cent. Dict.* cites Page.

Nebu·lium. [f. Nebul-a + -ium: orig. called *nebulum*.] An element distinguished by a green line it produces in the spectrum of gaseous nebulæ, but as yet not otherwise known.

1898 Sir W. Crookes *Addr. Brit. Assoc.* 19 Still awaiting discovery by the fortunate spectroscopist are the unknown celestial elements Aurorium..and Nebulum. 1899 *Atlantic Monthly* Apr. 469 It is an impressive fact that hydrogen and nebulium are the only elements recognized in the nebulae.

Nebulize (ne·biŭlaiz), *v. rare.* [f. Nebula.]

1. *trans.* To reduce to a mist or spray. Hence **Ne·bulized** *ppl. a.*

1872 Cohen *Dis. Throat* 24 The nebulized spray of a solution of tannin.

2. *intr.* To become nebulous or indefinite.

1891 *Inquirer* 26 Sept. 624/2 We know the faculty of the human mind to .. trim and nebulize in its statements concerning religious belief.

Nebulizer (ne·biŭlaizəɹ). [f. prec. + -er 1.] An instrument for converting a liquid into a fine spray, esp. for medical purposes.

1874 Roosa *Dis. Ear* 301 One of the nebulizers that are now so largely employed in the treatment of the throat. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 82 The finest sub-division is obtained—as in Oppenheimer's 'nebuliser'—by combining strong pressure with smallness of orifice.

Ne·bulo-chao·tic, *a. nonce-wd.* [f. NEBULA.] Hazily confused.

1881 G. MACDONALD *Mary Marston* I. x. 178 The altogether nebulochaotic condition of her mind.

†**Ne·bulon.** *Obs. rare*⁻¹. [a. obs. F. *nebulon* (Cotgr.), or ad. L. *nebulōn-, nebulo.*] A worthless fellow.

1578 SIDNEY *May Lady* in *Arcadia* (1605) 574 Why, you brute Nebulons,..cannot [you] yet tell how to edefie an argument?

Nebulose (nebiŭlōu·s), *a.* [ad. L. *nebulōs-us*, f. *nebula*: see NEBULA and -OSE.]

1. † a. Resembling a cloud or mist; inclined to be foggy or misty. *Obs. rare.*

c 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* IX. 114 Vf smoke ascende Al faaty, weet, and cloudy nebulose. *Ibid.* XII. 21 Sad lond wol the bene Indwelle, and hatith nebulose and lene.

b. *fig.* Cloudy, misty, indistinct.

1799 in *Spirit Pub. Jrnls.* II. 322 The nebulose or obumbratory style. 1855 *Fraser's Mag.* LI. 548 Illustrious professor of nebulose hypotheses and nonsense.

c. Clouded; cloud-like in appearance.

1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* IV. xlvi. 288 *Nebulose*, painted with colour irregularly darker and lighter, so as to exhibit some resemblance of clouds. 1849–52 *Todd's Cyc. Anat.* IV. 1221/2 There then appears on the surface of the vitellus a nebulose spot of pale yellow.

† 2. (See quot. and cf. *Nebulé.*) *Obs. rare*⁻⁰.

1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Nebulose*, a Term in Heraldry, when the out-line of any Bordure, Ordinary, &c. is .. something of the Figure of Clouds.

3. Of the nature of nebulæ. *rare*⁻¹.

1714 DERHAM *Astro-Theol.* (1769) 7 The last thing I shall mention is the Nebulose, which are those glaring whitish appearances, seen with our telescopes.

Nebulosity (nebiŭlo·siti). [a. F. *nébulosité* or ad. late L. *nebulōsitāt-em*; see next and -ITY.]

1. Nebulous or indistinctly luminous appearance; a faintly luminous patch or mass.

1761 *Phil. Trans.* LII. 398 Mr. Hirst .. affirms, that such nebulosity was seen by them. 1789 HERSCHEL *ibid.* LXXIX. 221 It is among these that we find the largest assemblages of stars, and most diffusive nebulosities. 1802 *Ibid.* XCII. 499 The great milky nebulosity of Orion. 1837 GORING & PRITCHARD *Microgr.* 105 A slight fog of the diffused kind.., or a penumbra or nebulosity encircling numerous points. 1878 NEWCOMB *Pop. Astron.* III. v. 380 A very faint nebulosity, about 3′ in diameter.

b. Nebulous state or form; matter in a nebulous condition.

1833 HERSCHEL *Astron.* xii. 407 A phænomenon which seems to indicate the existence of some slight degree of nebulosity about the sun itself. 1865 BRISTOW tr. *Figuier's World bef. Deluge* xix. (1869) 464 We have seen the globe floating in space in a state of gaseous nebulosity. 1898 *Pop. Sci. Monthly* LIII. 410 The molecules of which the primitive nebulosity of the universe was composed.

fig. 1881 T. HARDY *Laodicean* III. i, He had been a mere nebulosity whom she had never distinctly outlined.

2. Cloudiness; indistinctness.

1809 JEBB *Corr. w. Knox* (1834) I. 522 Eternal misconceptions, misrepresentations, nebulosities and logomachies. 1848 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* IX. II. 326 Delicate appreciation of degrees of nebulosity. 1876 *Trans Vict. Inst.* 30 That dim nebulosity in which they are too often enveloped.

Nebulous (ne·biŭləs), *a.* Also 4 -us. [ad. L. *nebulōs-us*, f. *nebula*: see NEBULA and -OUS, and cf. F. *nébuleux* (1509).]

1. Cloudy, foggy, misty, dank. *rare.*

Almanack for 1386, 8 A thyk tyme, þat es for to say nebulus and cloudy. 1597 LOWE *Chirurg.* (1634) 40 Evill Ayre..is that which is..nebulous and commeth from stinking breaths. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Nebulosous* [1658 Phillips, *Nebulous*], cloudy, misty, foggy; full of clouds.

2. *Astron.* a. *Nebulous star*, a small cluster of indistinct stars, or a star which is surrounded by a luminous haze.

1679 MOXON *Math. Dict.* 95 Nebulous..Stars, are certain Fixed Stars of a dull, pale, and obscurish Light. 1682 SIR T. BROWNE *Chr. Mor.* III. § 24 Like lacteous or nebulous stars, little taken notice of, or dim in their generations. 1727–38 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v. *Stars*, Those not reduced to classes or magnitudes are called nebulous stars. 1775 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 116/2 A meteor, representing a nebulous star, appeared just above the moon. 1801 *Encycl. Brit.* Suppl. II. 297/1 Through a moderate telescope, these nebulous stars plainly appear to be congeries or clusters of several little stars. 1854 BREWSTER *More Worlds* xi. 173 Nebulous stars, or luminous points, surrounded with an immense visible atmosphere. 1892 A. TAYLOR in *Photogr. Ann.* II. 116 Mr. Roberts in a photograph of this region .. has failed to find any nebulosity or nebulous star.

b. Of the nature of a nebula or nebulæ; consisting of, abounding in, nebulæ.

1784 HERSCHEL in *Phil. Trans.* LXXIV. 438 The interior construction of the heavens, and its various nebulous and sidereal strata. 1826 GOOD *Bk. Nat.* (1834) I. 101 The nebulosity will be broken into different nebulæ, or smaller nebulous clouds. 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* XXXV. (1856) 318 A floating, waving band of nebulous illumination. 1876 P. E. CHASE in *Philos. Mag.* Ser. v. I. 316 The position of Saturn.., its low density, and its nebulous rings.

Comb. 1869 DUNKIN *Midn. Sky* 136 A small nebulous-looking object in the Crab's body.

c. = NEBULAR *a.* 1. *rare*⁻¹.

1860 LD. LYTTON *Lucile* II. ii. § 1. 134 Some mention Of the nebulous theory demands your attention; And so on.

3. Cloud-like; resembling a cloud or clouds.

1805 WEAVER tr. *Werner's Fossils* 71 Nebulous—Large and irregular spots, forming with the ground colour mixed colours, resembling clouds. 1838 *Economy of Vegetation* 155 Some lichens..display concentric circles, and others exhibit nebulous images. 1857 LONGF. *Sandalphon* viii, Sandalphon the angel, expanding His pinions in nebulous bars.

b. *fig.* Hazy, vague, indistinct, formless.

1831 CARLYLE *Sart. Res.* II. ix, Nebulous disquisitions on Religion. 1860 MOTLEY *Netherl.* (1868) I. 24 The new-risen republic remained for a season nebulous. 1872 BLACK *Adv. Phaeton* xi. 150 A sort of nebulous faith in the Crown and Constitution.

4. Clouded in colour; turbid.

1820 W. SCORESBY *Acc. Arctic Reg.* I. 177 A little of this snow, dissolved in a wine glass, appeared perfectly nebulous. 1869 G. LAWSON *Dis. Eye* (1874) 37 There are two forms of superficial ulcers of the cornea: the nebulous and the transparent ulcer.

Hence **Ne·bulously** *adv.*

1882 BERESF. HOPE *Brandreths* III. xlii. 147 The ladies were nebulously suspecting a coming match.

Ne·bulousness. [-NESS.] The state of being nebulous; cloudiness, mistiness. Also *fig.*

1653 GAUDEN *Hierasp.* 525 Many spots in the brightest Moones, and much nebulousnesse in the fairest Stars. 1727 in BAILEY, vol. II. 1878 T. HARDY *Ret. Native* IV. iii, Her outdoor attire..always had a sort of nebulousness about it, devoid of harsh edges anywhere.

Nebuly: see NEBULÉ.

†**Nebus,** *v. Obs. rare*⁻¹. (See quot.)

1712 ARBUTHNOT *J. Bull* IV. Pref., Let not Posterity a thousand years hence look for truth in the voluminous annals of Pedants...If they do, let me tell them they will be nebused! [*Note in ed.* 1727. Another cant word, signifying deceiv'd.]

Nebylle, obs. form of NIBBLE.

Nec, obs. form of NECK.

†**Neca·tion.** *Obs. rare*⁻⁰. [ad. L. **necātiōn-em*, f. *necāre* to kill.] 'A killing' (Bailey 1721).

Necclygency, obs. form of NEGLIGENCY.

Nece, var. NESE, nose; obs. form of NIECE.

†**Nece·ss,** *sb. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [a. L. *necesse*: cf. next.] Necessity.

a 1460 *Play Sacram.* 772 Thow woldyst preve thy powr me to oppresse, but now I consydre thy necesse.

†**Nece·ss,** *a. Obs. rare.* Also 5 **nesesse.** [a. L. *necesse* neut. adj.] Necessary.

1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Armes* (S. T. S.) 89 Quhat thingis may ger move bataill necesse. *c* 1460 *Macro Plays* II. 442 Be in þe worlde! vse thyngis nesesse!

†**Nece·ss,** *v. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [ad. late L. *necessāre* to render necessary, f. *necesse*: see prec.] *trans.* To compel.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* III. met. ix. (1868) 87 Ne forein causes necesseden þe neuer to compoune werke of floteryngе mater.

†**Necessaire,** *a. Obs. rare.* [a. F. *nécessaire* (13th c.), ad. L. *necessārius.*] Necessary.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* IV. 1021 Al seme it not ther-by That prescience put falling necessaire To thing to come. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 135 Which is a thing full necessaire To contrepeise the balance.

Necessar (ne·sĕsăr), *a.* and *sb. Sc.* Forms: 5–6 necessare, 5–6 necessair, (6 -e), 6 necesser, necesare, neccessare, 6–7, 9 necessar. [ad. L. *necessār-ius* NECESSARY.] A. *adj.* Necessary.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxvii. (*Machor*) 691 Bukis, þat ware necessare to hyme to prech godis lare. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Armes* (S.T.S.) 67 It is necessair that ane be as prince, and all the lave be obeysant till it. 1533 GAU *Richt Vay* 32 Ye licht of grace is necesser to scheyne in the..blyndnes of natur. 1561 WINJET *First Tract.* Wks. (S.T.S.) I. 5 The trew Word of God necessar to al manis salvation. 1633 W. STRUTHER *True Happiness* 23 The necessity is great, because it is about this greatest necessar one thing. 1656 in *Boyd's Zion's Flowers* (1855) App. 35/1 Necessar materialls..to the buildings. *c* 1714 in Maidment *Ballads* (1844) 69 All things are provided that necessar be. 1821 LIDDLE *Poems* 50 (E. D. D.), Adversity is necessar If it's not too severe. 1882 G. MACDONALD *Castle Warlock* xxix, Some said he had sellt himself, but I'm tbinkin' it was na necessar'.

B. *sb.* in *pl.* Necessaries. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* x. 419 A gret sum of siluer, als vtheris necesares to sustein the weiris. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* VI. 269 Each furnisher..giueth warning to his friends, to come receiue their necessars. 1699 R. SINCLAIR in *Leisure Hour* (1883) 205/1 Item for keeping of the house in fresh meat and other necessars. 1725 in Peterkin *Notes* (1822) 221 The carpenter having neglected to take some necessars with him for the boat's reparation.

Necessarian (nesĕsē·riăn), *sb.* and *a.* [f. NECESSAR-Y + -IAN; cf. F. *nécessarien* sb.] A believer in necessity; a necessitarian.

1777 PRIESTLEY *Doctr. Philos. Necessity* 111, I cannot, as a necessarian, hate any man. 1790 CATH. GRAHAM *Lett. Educ.* 464 The free-willers agree with the necessarians in the opinion, that the mind perceives the difference of things. 1822 HAZLITT *Table-t.* Ser. II. iv. (1869) 87 The precise knowledge of antecedents and consequents makes men practical as well as philosophical Necessarians. 1872 LITTLEDALE in *Contemp. Rev.* XX. 445 Here is the dilemma for Necessarians who plead God's changelessness.

b. *attrib.* or as *adj.*

1795 W. TAYLOR in *Monthly Rev.* XVIII. 127 Being fostered hy the necessarian philosophy, it is likely to become a prevailing passion. 1831 BLAKEY *Free-will* Pref. 10 One of those epitomes of the necessarian hypothesis. 1878 MORLEY *Diderot* II. 199 The establishment in men's minds of a Necessarian theory.

Necessa·rianism. [f. prec. + -ISM.] = NECESSITARIANISM.

1840 HARE *Vict. Faith* 45 Such a doctrine .. implies the barest rankest necessarianism. 1886 A. WEIR *Hist. Basis Mod. Europe* (1889) 498 His materialism and necessarianism ..resulted from his observations on man's 'frame'.

Necessarily (ne·sĕsărili), *adv.* [-LY 2.]

1. (Senses now merged in 3.)

† a. By force of necessity; unavoidably. *Obs.*

1488–9 *Act 4 Hen. VII*, c. 1 By which Commyssions..meny greate hurtes and inconvenyences .. were necessarily redressed. *a* 1540 BARNES *Wks.* (1573) 315/1 These things no man is able to make indifferent, but they must needes bee necessarily done. 1607 *Statutes* in *Hist. Wakefield Gram. Sch.* (1892) 72 Their tymes of being abrode necessarilie may be drawne to other times of the yeare. 1663 H. COGAN tr. *Pinto's Trav.* lx. 246 He was necessarily to be assistant at this funeral pomp. 1710 PRIDEAUX *Orig. Tithes* iii. 143 The Tithes which were necessarily due.

† b. As a necessary aid or concomitant; indispensably. *Obs.*

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 152 Of all vertues mercy is moost necessaryly requyred to this myserable worlde. 1577 M. HANMER *Anc. Eccl. Hist.* 66 All thinges necessarily required for the execution. 1627 in Rushw. *Hist. Coll.* (1659) I. 476 There never was a time in which this duty was more necessarily required. 1748 HARTLEY *Observ. Man* II. ii. § 27. 140 Animal Diet .. requires Art and Preparation necessarily.

† c. By a necessary connexion. *Obs. rare.*

1551 T. WILSON *Logike* (1580) 34 Neither is the consequent good, when woordes that agree not necessarily are ioyned together. 1655 T. BROWN in Hartlib *Ref. Commw. Bees* 5 Of such a fashion, as doth naturally and necessarily agree with..this design.

† d. In accordance with a necessary law or operative principle. *Obs.*

1664 H. MORE *Myst. Iniq.* 215 By necessarily determining what is more naturally left loose to play of itself. 1705 STANHOPE *Paraphr.* I. 43 Moral persuasions cannot act mechanically and necessarily. 1748 HARTLEY *Observ. Man* I. iv. Concl. 504 The Moral Sense is generated necessarily and mechanically.

2. As a necessary result or consequence.

1509 FISHER *Funeral Serm. C'tess Richmond* Wks. (1876) 307 It must necessaryly folowe, that .. her soule is in that ioyous lyfe. 1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* II. iii. 201 If hee doe feare God, a must necessarilie keepe peace. 1655 STANLEY *Hist. Philos.* II. (1701) 63/2 It follows necessarily, that they be made of things that are. 1710 STEELE *Tatler* No. 201 ¶ 7 If the Actor is well possessed of the Nature of his Part, a proper Action will necessarily follow. *a* 1790 ADAM SMITH *W. N.* I. v. (1869) I. 31 The mere possession of that fortune does not necessarily convey to him either [civil or military power]. 1825 MCCULLOCH *Pol. Econ.* I. 29 These opinions necessarily led to the celebrated doctrine of the Balance of Trade. 1862 SPENCER *First Princ.* I. ii. § 11 (1875) 35 If the non-existence of space is absolutely inconceivable, then, necessarily, its creation is absolutely inconceivable.

3. Of necessity; inevitably.

1562 *Act* 5 *Eliz.* c. 4 § 15 The Plenty or Scarcity of the Time and other Circumstances necessarily to be considered. 1612 T. TAYLOR *Comm. Titus* i. 6 He expoundeth the same precept necessarily to be meant litterally. 1682 NORRIS *Hierocles* 9 All which is necessarily verified in an intelligent and purifi'd nature. *c* 1775 BURKE *Addr. Colonists N. Amer.* Wks. IX. 204 A very large proportion of the wealth and power of every Empire must necessarily be thrown upon the presiding State. 1840 DICKENS *Barn. Rudge* ii, In handing up the lantern, the man necessarily cast its rays full on the speaker's face. 1896 *Law Times* C. 552/1 In quality of probative force direct evidence necessarily has an inherent advantage.

Necessariness (ne·sĕsărinĕs). Now *rare.* [f. as prec. + -NESS.] The fact or quality of being necessary; indispensability, necessity.

1551 T. WILSON *Logike* (1580) 38 b, The necessarinesse of this place. 1584 LODGE *Alarum* (Shaks. Soc.) 68 They conclude..that their necessarinesse in this world makes them unnecessary for God. 1622 MALYNES *Anc. Law-Merch.* 468 Which sheweth the necessarinesse of the Office of Prior and Consulls. 1679 PEPYS *Let. to Dk. York* 6 May, Some opinion they have of the necessaryness of my service to them. 1818 BENTHAM *Ch. Eng.* Pref. 24 Their necessariness to salvation. 1829 — *Justice & Cod. Petit., Abr. Petit. Justice* 6 The supposed necessariness..of these same instruments.

†**Necessarious,** *a. Obs. rare.* [f. as NECESSARY + -OUS.] Necessary.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Melib.* ¶ 287 In so gret..a neede it hadde be necessarious mo counseilours and more deliberacioun to performe youre emprise. 14.. *Gesta Rom.* XXXVI. 140 (Cambr. MS.). Also that thou norissh my grehoundys, as it is necessarious for hem.

Ne·cessarily, *adv. Sc.* ? *Obs.* [f. NECESSAR *a.* + -LY 2.] Necessarily.

1566 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 446 Quhilk .. necessarlie mon be caireit and transportit. 1609 SKENE *Reg. Maj.* To Rdr. A iv b, These reasons .. proves necessarlie, that all the statuts..were authentick. 1639 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Hist. Jas. IV* Wks. (1711) 66 What comes from Heaven he should bear necessarily.

Necessary (ne·sĕsări), *a.* and *sb.* Forms: 4–7 necessarie (5 -ari, 6 -arye, nessarre, nessesary, 7 nesesary), 4– necessary. [ad. L. *necessārius*, f. *necesse* needful: see -ARY. Cf. It. *necessario*, Sp. *necesario*, F. *nécessaire* (13th c.). See also NECESSAIRE *a.*, NECESSAR *a.* In early use the pl. form of the adj. sometimes occurs.]

A. *adj.*

I. 1. Indispensable, requisite, essential, needful; that cannot be done without. Also const. *to* or *for* (a person or thing) and with *inf.*

In 16th and early 17th c. use freq. approaching the sense of 'useful' without being absolutely indispensable.

1382 WYCLIF *Eccl.* xxxix. 31 The hygynnyng of necessarie thing to the lif of men. 1387–8 T. USK *Test. Love* III. iii. (Skeat) I. 42 Bicause this matter is good and necessary to declare. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 125 Þen takis to him tresour ..And obire necessari notis as nedis to his craftis. 1461 *Paston Lett.* II. 16 Remembryng divers maters..necessary for the wele of his sowle. 1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 1 Than is

the ploughe the most necessaryest instrumente that an husbande can occupye. 1583 GOLDING *Calvin on Deut.* cxxvi. 775 Were there no greater and necessarier things to speak of than young birdes? 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 174, I prepared all things necessary for my journey. *c* 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* (1650) I. 329 They advance trade wheresoever they come, .. and so are permitted as necessary evils. 1671 MILTON *Samson* 90 Since light so necessary is to life. 1704 SWIFT *T. Tub* ii, Obedience was absolutely necessary, and yet Shoulder-Knots appeared extremely requisite. 1750 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 24 ¶ 2 What more can be necessary to the regulation of life..? 1832 HT. MARTINEAU *Life in Wilds* iv. 47 Food is the most necessary of all things. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) IV. 12 Change and alternation are necessary for the mind as well as for the body.

b. *It is necessary that* or with *inf.* Also *ellipt.* with omission of the complement.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Manciple's Prol.* 95 It is necessarie..good drink we with us carie. *c* 1460 FORTESCUE *Abs. & Lim. Mon.* iv. (1885) 118 Trewly it is veray necessarie that thay be alwey grete. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* lxxxiv. 264 It is not necessarye to requyre me of this. 1582 N. LICHEFIELD tr. *Castanheda's Conq. E. Ind.* I. lxv. 133 We fought in open fielde, where it was necessarie there should be many. 1649 BP. REYNOLDS *Hosea* vi. 91 It is necessarie for us to draw nigh unto God. *a* 1699 LADY HALKETT *Autobiog.* (Camden) 2 Wch. I have hy mee to produce if itt were nesesary. 1747 WESLEY *Prim. Physick* (1762) p. xvii, It was necessary to have a variety. 1776 *Trial of Nundocomar* 27/2 Is it necessary that such a writing as this he confirmed by witness? 1841 LANE *Arab. Nts.* I. 86 When he had continued this exercise as long as was necessary.

† **c.** Commodious, convenient. *Obs. rare.*

1540–1 ELYOT *Image Gov.* 40 b, He caused..the houses to be not onely clensed, but also made more ornate and necessary. 1547–8 in E. Green *Somerset Chantries* (1888) 25 The same Scolehowse .. no doubte is [the] most bewtyfull and most necessarie place of all that shire.

2. Of persons, esp. servants: Rendering (certain) necessary or useful services; in later use only *necessary woman* (now *arch.*).

1425 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 306/1 Clerks necessaries beyng in ye service of ye Prince 1501 in *Letters Rich. III & Hen. VII* (Rolls) I. App. A. VII, That no persone.., except he be a necessary officier, ride befor out of the company of the said princesse. 1599 NASHE *Lenten Stuffe* (1871) 60 Those that be his stewards, or necessariest men about him. 1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* II. i. 91 You are well vnderstood to bee a perfecter gyber for the Table, then a necessary Bencher in the Capitoll. 1679–88 *Secr. Serv. Money Chas. & Jas.* (Camden) 194 Late necessary woman to King Charles the Second. 1711 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 9 Nov., I want a necessary woman strangely; I am as helpless as an elephant. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* II. (Globe) 325 A most necessary handy Fellow as could be desir'd. 1762 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 98/2 Attendants on .. the prince of Wales, .. Wet nurse, .. Dry nurse,..Necessary woman. 1899 *Tit-Bits* 1 Apr. 10/2 The most interesting member of all the [Queen's] kitchen staff is, perhaps, the 'necessary woman'.

3. *Necessary house*, a privy. So *necessary place, stool, vault.* Now *dial.*

1609 N. FIELD *Woman is Weathercock* IV. i, She shew'd me to a necessarie vault. 1611 — *Amends for Ladies* II. iv, I met her in the necessary house. 1667 PRIMATT *City & C. Build.* 93 The digging of Vaults for the Necessary-house. 1697 *C'tess D Aunoy's Trav.* (1706) 232 There being no necessary places in their Houses. 1761 NICHOLLS in *Phil. Trans.* LII. 267 He appeared to have just come from his necessary-stool. 1789 BRAND *Newcastle* I. 176 In the wall of the western front have been several necessary-houses. 1828 BENTHAM *Mem. & Corr.* Wks. 1843 X. 582 Written pleadings are of no more use in a court than they would be in a necessary-house.

4. Of actions: Requiring or needful to be done.

1601 SHAKS. *Jul. C.* II. i. 178 This shall make Our purpose Necessary, and not Enuious. 1655 S. ASHE *Funeral Serm. Gataker* 49 Constant retirement..made the choice..a necessary act of prudence. 1716 JEFFERY *Pref. Sir T. Browne's Chr. Mor.*, Where an Oversight had made the Addition or Transposition of some words necessary. 1771 *Junius Lett.* lxiv. (1788) 336 In this sense the levy of ship-money..was not necessary. 1819 SHELLEY *Cenci* III. ii. 8 Still doubting if that deed Be just which is most necessary. 1858 GREENER *Gunnery* 156 We never saw it done, .. but the Doctor describes it as a necessary proceeding.

II. 5. Inevitably determined or fixed by predestination or the operation of natural laws; happening or existing by an inherent necessity.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* v. pr. iv. (1868) 164 Þilke þinges þat ne han non endes and bytidynges necessaryes. 1387–8 T. USK *Test. Love* III. iv. (Skeat) I. 40 God than..al these thinges, as they arne spontanye or necessarie, seetb. 1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV*, III. i. 87 By the necessarie forme of this, King Richard might create a perfect guesse. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* II. ii. III. (1651) 258 Columbus did not find out America by chance:..it was contingent to him, but necessary to God. *a* 1676 HALE *Prim. Orig. Man.* (1677) 37 Otherwise we must of necessity make all successes in the World purely natural and necessary. 1720 WATERLAND *Eight Serm.* Pref. 20 We are not indeed to expect the Word *necessary existence* (a School Term, and none of the most proper). 1784 COWPER *Task* II. 192 Of causes, how they work By necessary laws their sure effects. 1826 WHATELY *Logic* 290 It is 'mathematically Necessary' that two sides of a triangle should be greater than the third. 1875 E. WHITE *Life in Christ* III. xxiii. (1878) 339 The identification..of the Necessary Being with the vanishing phantasmal shadow.

b. Of mental concepts or processes: Inevitably resulting from the constitution of things or of the mind itself.

1551 T. WILSON *Logike* (1580) 31 b, The other called infallible reasons, or rather necessarie argumentes, must by all reason be euermore true. 1628 T. SPENCER *Logick* 157 A necessary axiome, is when it is alwayes true, and cannot be false. 1656 STANLEY *Hist. Philos.* V. (1701) 180/1 Syllogism [is divided] into the Apodeictick, which concerneth necessary ratiocination [etc.]. 1705 STANHOPE *Paraphr.* II. 264 The Connexion..is not so close and necessary, as will warrant us from the Former certainly to infer the Latter. 1856 FERRIER *Inst. Metaph.* 20 A necessary truth or law of reason is a truth the opposite of which is inconceivable. 1878 J. COOK *Transcendentalism* i. 19 The ideas of space and time are called in philosophy necessary ideas.

c. Inevitably determined or produced by a previous condition of things.

1860 WESTCOTT *Introd. Study Gosp.* i. (ed. 5) 78 Active speculation followed as a necessary result. 1872 J. L. SANFORD *Estim. Eng. Kings* 336 He was quite as incapable ..of perceiving its necessary issues.

6. Of actions: **a.** Determined by force of nature or circumstances.

1387–8 T. USK *Test. Love* III. iv. (Skeat) I. 27 If a man wol sinne, it is necessarye him to sinne. 1706 STANHOPE *Paraphr.* III. 529 The first Motions of Anger seem to be mechanical and necessary. 1855 ABP. THOMSON *Laws Th.* § 122 The necessary action, where all the motives are on one side.

b. Enforced by another; compulsory.

1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* IX. vi. § 51 In the following words, he taketh away all necessary Oaths (and leaveth none but voluntary). 1677 W. HUGHES *Man of Sin* II. vii. 115 Such Penance, were it voluntary, deserveth greatly to be admired at; but when 'tis necessary, and upon a Prince, is worthy of utmost detestation.

7. Of agents: **a.** Impelled by the natural force of circumstances upon the will; having no independent volition.

1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* II. xxi. § 13 Agents that have no Thought, no Volition at all, are in every thing necessary Agents. 1774 WESLEY *Wks.* (1872) X. 462 They all agree, that man is not a free but a necessary agent. 1871 R. H. HUTTON *Ess.* (1877) I. 53 That a necessary being should give birth to a being with any amount, however limited, of moral freedom.

b. Compelled by practical necessity, or by some law or regulation.

1724 SWIFT *Drapier's Lett.* iii. Wks. 1751 VIII. 337 The Necessary Receivers [of Wood's halfpence] will be Losers of two Thirds in their Salaries or Pay. *a* 1768 ERSKINE *Inst. Sc. Law* (1773) 146 Servants are..either necessary or voluntary. Those may be called necessary whom the law obliges to work. 1880 MUIRHEAD *Gaius* II. 153 A necessary heir is a slave instituted with gift of freedom; so called because in every case, whether he will or not, he straightway on the testator's death becomes free and heir. 1893 FOWLER *Hist. C.C.C.* (O. H. S.) 42 The 'necessary regents' among the Masters, that is, those Masters of Arts who had not yet completed two years from the date of that degree.

III. † **8.** [After L. use.] Closely related or connected; intimate. *Obs. rare.*

1382 WYCLIF *Job* vi. 13 There is not helpe to me in me; also my necessarie men [L. *necessarii*] wenten awei fro me. 1655 STANLEY *Hist. Philos.* III. (1701) 81/2 Such as seek after Sordid Gain, and neglect their necessary Friends.

B. *sb.*

1. That which is indispensable; an essential or requisite: **a.** in *pl.*

a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* xxxiii. 9 God..hight til his lufers þaire necessaris. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. xx. 248 Ȝe shal haue bred and clothes, And other necessaries i-nowe. 1415 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 23, I woll that .. my wyfe haue all the necessaries. 1489 CAXTON *Faytes of A.* I. xii. 31 Shot and all other deffensable necessaryes. 1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 19 To cary wodde and other necessaryes. 1592 GREENE *Conny Catch.* III. 28 He came vp to London to prouide himselfe of such necessaries as the Cuntry is not vsually stored withall. 1663 GERBIER *Counsel* 25 The materials, and all necessarys as they are brought in. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 114 ¶ 5 The Care of Superfluities is a Vice no less extravagant, than the Neglect of Necessaries. 1788 PRIESTLEY *Lect. Hist.* III. xv. 124 The articles of their expence must be the necessaries of life. 1818 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) VI. 345 If a man devises lands..to provide his children with necessaries. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) III. 348 The money to buy the necessaries of their household.

b. in *sing.*

1516 *Galway Arch.* in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. V. 397 No man..shall not lende galley, botte, nor barque.., nor no furnitors or necessary to them appertayninge. 1663 GERBIER *Counsel* e 3 b, From the least that lives to the greatest Building is a main necessary. 1682 MRS. BEHN *City Heiress* II. i, That damn'd Necessary call'd Ready Money. 1724 SWIFT *Drapier's Lett.* i, Your Bread and Clothing, and every common Necessary of Life. 1771 MME. D'ARBLAY *Early Diary* (1889) I. 135 She denied herself every necessary. 1833 HT. MARTINEAU *Loom & Lugger* I. iv. 60 A foreign article, be it a necessary or a luxury. 1884 *American* VII. 339 The cost of this necessary [salt] since the duty was imposed upon it.

c. *attrib.*, as *necessaries-man*, one who supplies necessaries to a vessel to enable her to continue the voyage; *necessary money* (see quot. 1867).

1866 *Law Rep., Adm. & Eccl.* I. 305 A necessaries-man has until institution of suit no claim upon a Vessel. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* 495 *Necessary Money* .. formerly allowed to pursers for the coals, wood, turnery-ware, candles, and other necessaries provided by them.

† **2.** A near friend or kinsman. *Obs. rare* $^{-1}$.

1382 WYCLIF 2 *Macc.* iv. 3 By summe necessaries (or niȝ freendis) of Symount man-sleayngus weren don.

† **3. a.** *pl.* Necessary expenses. *Obs. rare* $^{-1}$.

c 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* III. xi. 347 Her endewing so myche schranke..that it was aftirward ouer litle to supporte her necessaries.

† **b.** A necessary action. *Obs. rare.*

1596 HARINGTON *Metam. Ajax* D 5 b, There is no obscenitie..in words concerning our necessaries: but now for the place where these necessaries are to be done.

4. A necessary house. (See A. 3.)

1756 *Connoisseur* No. 120 ¶ 6 The Connoisseurs in Architecture, who build..necessaries according to Palladio. 1805 R. W. DICKSON *Pract. Agric.* I. 223 Strewing them in the bottoms of poultry and pigeon houses, dung heaps, and necessaries. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 412 A necessary might easily be constructed in connection with the liquid manure tank. 1877– in various dial. glossaries.

5. With *the.* **a.** That which is needful; *spec.* the necessary funds or money.

1772 C. HUTTON *Bridges* 84 To make the convenient give place to the necessary when their interests are opposite. 1897 *Daily News* 6 Sept. 3/6 A fund..for the purpose of providing the 'necessary' in order to bring test cases.

b. That which is necessarily determined.

1809–10 COLERIDGE *Friend* (1865) 97 So far as..we possess the ideas of the necessary and the universal.

Necesser, obs. form of NECESSAR *a. Sc.*

† **Nece·ssiated,** *ppl. a. Obs.* [erron. for *necessitated.*] **a.** Necessitous. **b.** Necessitated *to* do something.

1727 *Philip Quarll* 182 Necessiated and destitute. 1738 [G. SMITH] *Cur. Relat.* II. 410 They train'd up such persons as they knew were necessiated, yet of a daring and resolute Spirit. 1741 WARBURTON *Div. Legat.* II. 352 Necessiated to comply with the Passions of the People.

Necessism (ne·sĕsiz'm). [f. L. *necess-e* (see NECESSARY) + -ISM.] Necessitarianism.

1872 LITTLEDALE in *Contemp. Rev.* XX. 433 To Necessism there are some fatal objections. 1892 HOULT *Dial. Effic. Prayer* 79 But this is sheer necessism!

So **Ne·cessist** *sb.* and *a.*, necessitarian.

1873 W. G. WARD *Ess. Philos. Theism* (1884) I. 149 He has here assumed very solid ground against necessists. *Ibid.* 177 He takes refuge in a .. reproduction of that very necessist theory, which he so energetically repudiates.

† **Nece·ssitable,** *a. Obs. rare* $^{-1}$. [See NECESSITATE *v.* and -ABLE.] Subject to necessity.

1673 O. WALKER *Educ.* 210 Those Instruments .. not inanimate or necessitable, but spontaneous and free.

Necessitarian (nĭse·sitē·riăn), *sb.* and *a.* [f. NECESSITY + *-arian*: cf. NECESSARIAN.] One who maintains that all human action is necessarily determined by the law of causation, as opposed to one who believes in the doctrine of free will.

1798 COWPER *Let. to Lady Hesketh* 8 Dec., He is a wretch indeed who is a necessitarian by experience. *a* 1806 HORSLEY (L.), These necessitarians maintain the certain influence of moral motives as the .. means whereby human actions..are brought into the continued chain of causes and effects. 1817 COLERIDGE *Biog. Lit.* (Bohn) 135 Hume, Priestley, and the French fatalists or necessitarians. 1855 MANSEL *Lett., Lect.*, etc. (1873) 145 The Necessitarian ..concludes that I am a determined effect. 1874 W. WALLACE *Hegel's Logic* § 52. 93 This experience in consciousness is at once met by all that the Necessitarian produces from contrary experience.

b. *attrib.* or as *adj.*

1810 BENTHAM *Packing* (1821) 185 According to this learned gentleman's necessitarian theory. 1825 COLERIDGE *Aids Refl.* (1848) I. 120 It was in strict consistency, therefore, that these writers supported the Necessitarian scheme. 1872 CALDERWOOD *Handbk. Mor. Philos.* (1878) 194 The necessitarian doctrine in denying freedom of will, does not altogether refuse a place to freedom.

Necessitarianism. [f. prec. + -ISM.] The theory or doctrine that action is necessarily determined by antecedent causes.

1854 FROUDE *Short Stud., Spinoza* (1867) II. 43 The fallacy of all common arguments against necessitarianism lies in the assumption that it leaves no room for self-direction. 1885 R. H. HUTTON in *Contemp. Rev.* Mar. 376 Whose crude rationalistic necessitarianism .. reconciled him to a confident expectation of annihilation.

Nece·ssitate, *pa. pple.* Now *rare.* [ad. med.L. *necessitāt-us*: see next.] Necessitated.

1640 *Remonstr. Dres. Troubles Est. Scot.* 24 Albeit we be not diffident of God's assistance whensoever we shall be necessitate to our own defence. *a* 1699 LADY HALKETT *Autobiog.* (Camden) 60 Beeing necesitate to leave London. 1710 W. BLACK in W. S. Perry *Hist. Coll. Amer. Col. Ch.* I. 186, I shall be necessitate to return for Great Britain. 1839–52 BAILEY *Festus* 397 They are necessitate in kind, As change in nature, or as shade to light.

Necessitate (nĭse·sitēt), *v.* Also 7 *Sc.* necessitat. [f. ppl. stem of med.L. *necessitāre*, f. *necessitas* NECESSITY: cf. It. *necessitare*, Sp. *necesitar*, F. *nécessiter* (14th c.).]

1. *trans.* To bring (a person) under some necessity; to compel, oblige, or force. (Chiefly in *passive.*) **a.** Const. with *inf.* (Very common in 17th and 18th c.; now chiefly Amer. or Sc.)

1628 LE GRYS *Barclay's Argenis* 290 Not necessitated to holde out till the ruine of his party. 1646 H. LAWRENCE *Comm. Angells* 72 For hee may necessitate a man to feele temptation, but not to consent to it. 1697 DAMPIER *Voy.* I. 272 He had no mind to this Voyage; but was necessitated to engage in it or starve. 1736 BUTLER *Anal.* I. iii. 50 He has directed and necessitated us to preserve our Lives by Food. 1779 J. MOORE *View Soc. Fr.* (1789) I. xxxi. 271 Each boy is necessitated to decide and act for himself. 1834 MARRYAT *P. Simple* (1863) 305 If any one, by doing wrong, necessitated another to do wrong to circumvent him. 1854 EMERSON *Lett. & Soc. Aims* i. (1875) 22 All that is wondrous in Swedenborg is..his extraordinary perception; that he was necessitated so to see.

b. Const. *to*, † *in*, † *into*. Now *rare* (freq. in 17th c.).

1628 EARLE *Microcosm., Poor Man* (Arb.) 101 No man is necessitated to more ill, yet no mans ill is lesse excus'd. 1631 LD. DORCHESTER in *Lismore Papers* (1888) Ser. II. III. 177 Ordinances might be raysed to necessitate the Irish in a more industrious course of life. *a* 1661 FULLER

Worthies (1840) III. 2 Deer are daily diminished in England, since the gentry are necessitated into thrift. 1700 C. Nesse *Antid. Armin.* (1827) 103 Man .. in a .. state of creation .. had free-will either to good or evil, but was necessitated to neither. 1888 Pater in *Pall Mall G.* 25 Aug. 1/2 Necessitated by weak health to the regularity and the quiet of a monk.

c. Without const. Now *rare*.

1640 in Rushw. *Hist. Coll.* III. (1692) I. 97 Some Occasions of his own necessitating him. *a* 1666 Spurstowe *Spir. Chym.* (1668) 7 God is no way necessitated, or limited by the disposition .. of the matter. 1700 Dryden *Pal. & Arc.* II. 221 They .. by foresight necessitate the will. 1869 J. Martineau *Ess.* II. 279 Causation [is] a power necessitating but not necessitated.

absol. 1654 Owen *Saints' Perseverance* Wks. 1853 XI. 446 Where one necessitates and another only persuades, they cannot be said to cooperate.

2. To render necessary; *esp.* to demand, require, or involve as a necessary condition, accompaniment, or result.

1628 Wither *Brit. Rememb.* II. 977 Or thinke, because our sinne he doth permit That therefore he necessitateth it. 1655 Fuller *Ch. Hist.* III. i. § 11 As if .. the elevation of the one necessitated the depression of the other. 1700 C. Nesse *Antid. Armin.* (1827) 31 Such a decree .. without any obligation to necessitate the passing thereof. 1726 Pope *Odyss.* Postscr. V. 301 This renders his Poems more animated, but .. necessitates the frequent use of a lower style. 1843 Lytton *Last Bar.* I. v, They necessitated a still more various knowledge. 1873 M. Arnold *Lit. & Dogma* Pref. 13 A string of other unverifiable assumptions..such as the received theology necessitates.

†3. To reduce (a person) to want or necessity. Also *refl.* *Obs.*

1641 Earl Monm. tr. *Biondi's Civil Wars* IV. 67 They there made Forts and Trenches for their owne safties, and to necessitate the besieged. 1649 *Alcoran* 22 The father and mother shall not necessitate themselves for their children.

†b. In *pass.* Also const. *in, for.* *Obs.*

1647 Lilly *Chr Astrol.* cxiv. 553 The Native shall attain a very great Estate, ..and be necessitated in nothing. 1684 *Contempl. St. Man* II. ii. (1699) 148 That he was not Poor who wanted, but he who was necessitated. 1700 Tyrrell *Hist. Eng.* II. 973 The King..being necessitated for Money.

Hence **Nece·ssitating** *vbl. sb.*

1649 C. Walker *Hist. Independ.* II. 78 The necessitating of the Prince to cast himself into the Arms of forreign Popish Princes.

Necessitated (nĭse·sitēitĕd), *ppl. a.* [-ED 1.]

1. Rendered necessary or unavoidable; necessarily fixed, determined, or appointed. Now *rare* (common in 17th c.).

a 1635 Naunton *Fragm. Reg.* (Arh.) 18 With very many pressing reasons, and as the state of her Kingdome then stood, ..necessitated Arguments. 1650 Boyle *Wks.* (1772) I. p. xlvi, The necessitated fault of returning..so short and so hasty an answer. 1676 *Doctrine of Devils* 83 To the (necessitated) injustice of the judicial proceedings. 1790 Pennant *London* (1813) 282 The necessitated use of bad and unwholesome diet. 1893 [see Necessitating *ppl. a.*].

absol 1898 Meredith *Odes Fr. Hist.* 22 To weld the nation in a name of dread, The Necessitated came.

†2. Of persons or their condition: Reduced to necessity or want. *Obs.*

1646 J. Benbrigge *Vsura Accom.* 9 These poore and necessitated borrowers. 1656 Duchess of Newcastle *True Relation* in *Life* (1886) 306 His loyalty is proved .. by his necessitated condition. 1706 J. Sergeant *Acc. Chapter Ep. Chalcedon* (1853) 117 Relief for superannuated or other necessitated priests. 1781 R. King *Mod. Lond. Spy* 79 [He] put a piece of gold into his necessitated friend's hand.

Hence **Nece·ssitatedly** *adv.*, in a necessitated manner; necessarily.

1864 Whedon *Freedom of Will* I. ii. 37 Is he at liberty to be controlled by it necessitatedly, as the nine-pin is by its predecessor?

Nece·ssitater. *rare* −1. [f. Necessitate *v.* + -er 1.] One who necessitates.

1654 Vilvain *Theorem Theol.* ii. 71 b, For the Necessitater is Commander.., but the Wil a servil instrument.

Nece·ssitating, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ing 2.] That necessitates or compels.

1652 Gaule *Magastrom.* 2 Magesterial, fatale, necessitating Signes. 1704 M. Henry *Nat. Schism* Wks. 1853 II. 254 They prophesied by a necessitating and irresistible impulse. 1739–56 Doddridge *Fam. Expositor* clxx. (1799) II. 419 In consequence of his volition, without any necessitating agency. 1825 Coleridge *Aids Refl.* (1848) I. 248, I now proceed .. from the necessitating occasion of the Christian dispensation to Christianity itself. 1893 Fairbairn *Chr. Mod. Theol.* I. viii. § 4. 171 Necessitating action on the one side and necessitated on the other.

Hence **Nece·ssitatingly** *adv.*

1654 Owen *Saints' Perseverance* Wks. 1853 XI. 445 It impresseth..the will..persuadingly, not ravishingly or necessitatingly. *a* 1665 J. Goodwin *Filled w. the Spirit* (1867) 256 To work, either compulsively or necessitatingly, upon the hearts and wills of men.

Necessitation (nĭsesitē·ĭ·ʃən). [f. Necessitate *v.* : see -ation.] The action of necessitating, of rendering necessary or subjecting to necessity; the result of this.

1652 Gaule *Magastrom.* 154 Now, what fatation or fatall necessitation to man, among all these? 1654 Owen *Saints' Perseverance* Wks. 1853 XI. 194 God's working in them ..is very far from any compulsion or necessitation. *a* 1703 Burkitt *On N. T.* John XL 44 Souls go not to heaven by necessitation, as the fire naturally and necessarily ascends upwards. 1807 W. Taylor in *Ann. Rev.* V. 182/2 In human conduct..there is much of necessitation; that is of behaviour resulting from local transient circumstance. 1856 Dove *Logic Chr. Faith* V. i. § 2. 266 Conceding no compromise .. to a necessitation of nature. 1886 Momerie *Personality* 132 Our necessitation is .. compatible with a certain ability to control the forces of nature.

Nece·ssitative, *a.* [f. Necessitate *v.* + -ive.] Tending to necessitate.

1864 Whedon *Freedom of Will* I. ii. 37 To subject the Will to a previous necessitative causation which is itself necessitated, is the annihilation of alternativity.

†**Necessite,** *v.* *Obs.* [? ad. F. *nécessiter*: see Necessitate *v.*] *trans.* To necessitate.

1600 Sir W. Cornwallis *Ess.* viii. F 4 The earth stands necessited because it cannot go. 1630 B. Jonson *New Inn* IV. iii, Who were he now necessited to beg, Would ask an alms, like Conde Olivares. 1644 Maxwell *Prerog. Chr. Kings* Ep. Ded. 12 The love and zeale which have necessited me to take recourse to Your Honours patrocine.

Hence **Necessited** *ppl. a.*; **Necessiting** *vbl. sb.*

a 1615 Donne *Ess.* (1631) 178 That must either imply a necessiting therof from God, or else Pelagianisme. 1635 Nabbes *Hannibal & Scipio* III. ii, All From a necessited and innate temperance Would be as you are.

†**Nece·ssitied,** *ppl. a.* *Obs. rare* −1. [? error for prec.] Brought into necessity.

1601 Shaks. *All's Well* V. iii. 85, I bad her if her fortunes euer stoode Necessitied to helpe, that by this token I would releeue her.

†**Nece·ssitively,** *adv.* *Obs. rare* −1. [irreg. f. Necessite *v.*] By or of necessity.

1647 J. Lilburne *Jonah's Cry* 10 Cost it what it will, I valew it not, being necessitively compelled .. to remove every stone that lyes in my way.

Necessitous (nĭse·sitəs), *a.* [ad. F. *nécessiteux*, or f. Necessit-y + -ous.]

1. Placed or living in a condition of necessity or poverty; having little or nothing to support oneself by; poor, needy; hard-up.

1611 Cotgr., *Necessiteux*, necessitous, needie, poore, indigent. 1660 Jer. Taylor *Duct. Dubit.* III. v. rule 3 § 5 The necessitous father may put the duty actually upon the son. 1727 A. Hamilton *New Acc. E. Ind.* I. iv. 39 He exhausts all his Revenues, and is always necessitous. 1780 Burke *Œcon. Reform* Wks. III. 252 It holds out a shadow of present gain to a greedy and necessitous publick. 1826 Disraeli *Viv. Grey* III. ii, The wants of their necessitous neighbours. 1877 Miss Yonge *Cameos* Ser. III. iii. 22 His niggardly or necessitous master had only advanced one thousand francs.

absol. 1693 *Humours Town* 95 What they can in any way screw out of the necessitous. 1742 Chesterf. *Lett.* (1792) II. clxiii. 90 The ambitious hoped for kingdoms; the greedy and the necessitous for plunder. 1786 Horsley *Serm.* (1816) III. 103 It may be proper that the law should do something for the protection of the necessitous. 1866 Felton *Anc. & Mod. Gr.* I. II. xi. 482 The very wealthy.. on the one hand, and, on the other, the necessitous.

†b. In need *of* a thing. *Obs. rare* −1.

1650 Gentilis *Consid.* 213 The German Legions cry up Vitellius for Emperour, they see him necessitous of money.

†c. Standing in need of aid. *Obs. rare.*

1711 M. Henry *Forgiv. Sin* Wks. 1853 II. 318/2 Our natures are necessitous, and continually depending upon the divine providence. 1754 Edwards *Freed. Will* IV. viii. (1762) 251 Being more sinful, and so more miserable and necessitous than others.

2. Characterized by necessity or poverty.

1639 Massinger *Unnat. Combat* Dedic., Divers whose Necessitous fortunes made it [poetry] their profession. 1654 *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) II. 75 He .. was in a most necessitus condicion. 1726 Shelvocke *Voy. round World* 417 By means of our necessitous misfortunes. 1791 Cowper *Iliad* XVI. 1021 That I may turn from them that evil hour Necessitous. 1885 *Act* 48 & 49 *Vict.* c. 40 *Preamble*, Relations of the said testator .. in necessitous circumstances.

†b. Caused by want or necessity. *Obs. rare* −1.

1716 M. Davies *Athen. Brit.* II. 341 The incurring of necessitous Debts, by reason of the Penurious straightness of his Fortune.

†3. Enforced, obligatory. *Obs. rare* −1.

1631 Massinger *Emperor East* IV. iv, If sick with the excess of heat or cold, Caused by necessitous labour.

†4. Necessary, requisite. Also const. *for.* *Obs.* (In quot. 1742 attributed to an illiterate speaker.)

1742 Fielding *J. Andrews* I. iii, [Mrs. Slipslop] proceeded: 'And why is Latin more necessitous for a footman than a gentleman?' 1793 J. Williams *Calm Exam.* 59 Drawing the line of necessitous propriety between what the people require, and their leaders would enforce.

Hence **Nece·ssitously** *adv.*; **Nece·ssitousness.**

1637 Heywood *Lond. Spec.* Wks. 1874 IV. 307 One thing more is necessitously to be added. *a* 1668 Davenant *Fair Favorite* Wks. (1673) 96 Patience, which Before was but necessitously kind, is grown Most willingly devout. 1682 Sir T. Browne *Chr. Mor.* (1716) 6 Though sometimes necessitousness be dumb,..yet true Charity is sagacious. 1776 Paine *Com. Sense* 10 Tho' avarice will preserve a man from being necessitously poor.

Necessitude (nĭse·sitiūd). Now *rare.* [ad. L. *necessitūdo*, f. *necesse* necessary: see -tude.]

†1. A relation or connexion between persons. *Obs.*

1612 T. Taylor *Comm. Titus* I. 7 There are many necessitudes and occasions between the Minister and people. 1649 Jer. Taylor *Gt. Exemp.* Ad Sect. ix. § 1 Breaking .. the great relations and necessitudes of the world. 1653 — *Serm. for Year* I. iii. 34 Between Parents and their children there is so great a necessitude.

†b. The connexion of one thing *with* another.

1637 Mede *Wks.* (1672) 869 Fundamental Truths, measured by the necessitude they have with those Acts which are required to Salvation.

†2. A necessity *of* something. *Obs. rare* −1.

1677 Gale *Crt. Gentiles* IV. 140 Radicated [evil] customes produce a necessitude of sin and servitude.

3. Need, necessity. *rare* −1.

1839 J. Rogers *Antipapopr.* xi. § 3. 267 All their moral merit, they require for their own, their private, their individual necessitude.

Necessitudina·rian, *a.* *rare* −1. [f. stem of L. *necessitūdo* (see prec.).] Necessitarian.

1834 *New Monthly Mag.* XLI. 358 [He] advocates necessitudinarian doctrines with the warmth of an enthusiast.

†**Necessitu·dinary,** *a.* *Obs. rare* −0. [f. as prec. + -ary 1.] 'Belonging to Friendship, Relation, &c.' (Bailey 1721).

Necessity (nĭse·sĭti), *sb.* Forms: 4–6 necessite, (5 nessesite), 5–6 necessitee, -yte(e, (5 -ytie), 6–7 necessitie, -itye, 6– necessity. [a. F. *nécessité* (12th c.), ad. L. *necessitāt-em*, f. *necesse* needful, necessary: see -ity.]

†1. a. The fact of being inevitably fixed or determined. *Obs.*

c 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* IV. 1012 Whether that the prescience of God is The certaine cause of the necessite Of thinges that to comen be. 1387–8 T. Usk *Test. Love* III. iii. (Skeat) I. 16 Liberte of arbitrement, thorow whiche thou believest many thinges to he without necessite. 1534 More *Treat. Passion* Wks. 1286/1 Not onely the necessitye of temporal deathe. 1568 Grafton *Chron.* II. 619 The necessitie of destinie cannot by any mans deuise, be eyther letted or interrupted.

†b. The constraining power *of* something. *Obs.*

1529 More *Dyalogue* IV. Wks. 261/2 Those that wrechedly lai al the weyght and blame of our sinne to the necessite and constraynt of goddes ordinaunce. 1533 Bellenden *Livy* I. xvii. (S. T. S.) I. 93 ȝit he could nocht brek he witt and engyne of man þe necessite and violence of fortoun.

2. Constraint or compulsion having its basis in the natural constitution of things; *esp.* such constraint conceived as a law prevailing throughout the material universe and within the sphere of human action.

1423 Jas. I *Kingis Q.* cxlvi, So that the diuersitee Off thaire wirking suld cause necessitee. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* I. v. 25 Who can turne the stream of destinee, Or breake the chayne of strong necessitee? 1603 Holland *Plutarch's Mor.* 816 Thales saith, that Necessitie is most potent and forcible, for it is that which ruleth the whole world. 1667 Milton *P. L.* V. 258 He..ordaind thy will By nature free, not over-rul'd by Fate Inextricable, or strict necessity. 1754 Edwards *Freed. Will* I. iii. (1762) 13 The common Notion of Necessity and Impossibility implies something that frustrates Endeavour or Desire. 1803 Malthus *Popul.* I. i. (1806) I. 3 Necessity, that imperious, all-pervading law of nature. 1884 F. Temple *Relig. & Sci.* iii. (1885) 84 When we turn from abstract arguments to facts, the doctrine of necessity is unquestionably unproven.

b. With defining terms, as *absolute, conditional, logical, moral, natural, philosophical, physical.*

1587 Golding *De Mornay* ix. (1592) 131 Of the necessitie that is conditional, and not of the necessitie that is absolute as they terme it. 1620 T. Granger *Div. Logike* 36 Euen God effecting by absolute necessitie [etc.]. 1697 tr. *Burgersdicius' Logic* I. 60 By natural necessity we understand not only that by which inanimate things act, as plants [etc.]. *a* 1740 Waterland *Diss. Argument* Wks. 1823 IV. 432 Connection of mental or verbal propositions..makes up the idea of logical necessity. Connection of end and means makes up the idea of moral necessity. Connection of causes and effects is physical..necessity. 1777 Priestley *Philos. Necess.* Pref. 26 Mr. Hobbes was the first who understood .. the proper doctrine of philosophical necessity. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVI. 127/2 Physical necessity has its origin in the established order and laws of the material universe. 1862 Spencer *First Princ.* II. iv. § 53 (1875) 174 The consciousness of logical necessity.

3. The constraining power of circumstances; a condition or state of things compelling to a certain course of action. (Sometimes with implication of sense 10.)

1382 Wyclif *Wisd.* XIV. 4 Ther ladde them to that ende wrthi necessite. 1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 157 To helpe..his oghne lond Behoveth every man his hond To sette upon necessite. 1509 Fisher *Funeral Serm. C'tess Richmond* Wks. (1876) 296 Compelled by necessyte to seche helpe & socoure in theyr cause. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 108 Necessitie requyred to make all the power againste hym that myght be gathered. 1617 Moryson *Itin.* I. 218, I would rather admit (if necessitie require) any figurative speech. 1665 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* (1677) 26 They are justly suspected, and seldome traffiqued with, but in case of necessity. 1690 Locke *Hum. Und.* II. xxi. § 9. 118 Every one pities him, as acting by Necessity and Constraint. 1735 Bolingbroke *On Parties* 100 Necessity and Self-Preservation are the great Laws of Nature. 1781 Burke *Corr.* (1844) II. 423, I know the rigour of political necessity; but I see here, as little of necessity .. as of propriety. 1824 Mackintosh *Sp. Ho. Comm.* Wks. 1846 III. 407 Its introduction can be justified only by necessity; its continuance requires precisely the same justification of necessity. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.* 495 If a ship be compelled by necessity to change the order of the places to which she is insured.

b. *Work of necessity,* something which cannot possibly or naturally be left undone.

a 1600 W. Perkins *Wks.* (1617) II. 110 Workes..of present necessity..such as cannot be done before or after the Sabbath. 1647 [see Mercy *sb.* 7]. 1684 Spelman *Law Terms* 67 For saving that which otherwise would perish: A work of Necessity. 1824 [see Mercy *sb.* 7].

4. *Of necessity*: a. Necessarily, inevitably, unavoidably.

1387–8 T. Usk *Test. Love* III. ii. (Skeat) I. 125 And of necessite of suche justice..was free choice..graunted to resonable creatures. 1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 142 Of verray necessite The Philosophre him hath betake Fyf pointz. *c* 1440 *Generydes* 2552 Thenne of necessite They them with-

drewe. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 13 We must all dye of necessite for original synne. 1577 B. Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* IV. (1586) 168 At such time as the ground is covered with snowe,..you must of necessitie helpe them with a little meat. 1611 Bible *Luke* xxiii. 17 Of necessitie hee must release one vnto them at the Feast. 1662 Stillingfl. *Orig. Sacræ* III. iv. § 5 For supposing a production of the world, several things must of necessity be supposed in it. 1756 Burke *Subl. & B.* Introd., Wks. I. 105 A little attention will convince us that this must of necessity be the case. 1814 Cary *Dante, Par.* IV. 10 Of necessity It happen'd. 1866 Herschel *Fam. Lect. Sci.* 209 Those [stars] to which every observer of necessity resorts to test the stability of his instruments.

† **b.** Necessary, indispensable. *Obs. rare.*

a 1533 Ld. Berners *Huon* lviii. 202 It is of necessyte that ye goo to kynge Inoryn..and pray hym to haue mercy of you. 1581 Fulke in *Confer.* II. (1584) M iij b, It is not of necessitie by Christes commandement.

5. In phrases and proverbs.

c 1386 Chaucer *Knt.'s T.* 2184 Than is it wisdom..To maken vertu of necessite. *c* 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* I. 176 Necessite nath neuere halyday. *a* 1555 [see Law *sb.*1 3 a]. 1581 Pettie tr. *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* I. (1586) 5 Therefore wee must force our will,..whereof followeth a vertue of necessitie. 1614–16 R. C. *Times' Whistle* IV. 1379 Signior Necessity, that hath no law. 1658 R. Franck *North. Mem.* (1694) 44 Art imitates Nature, and Necessity is the Mother of Invention. *a* 1708 Beveridge *Thes. Theol.* (1711) III. 59 By patience you make a vertue of necessity. 1758 J. Blake *Plan Mar. Syst.* 60 Necessity has no law. 1837 Marryat *Perc. Keene* xxi, One must always make a virtue of necessity. 1885 *Times* (weekly ed.) 17 Apr. 9/1 Necessity is the mother of inventions. 1897 *Pall Mall Mag.* June 228 It may seem cool, but necessity has no law.

† **6.** A necessary piece of business; a necessary act. *Obs.* (Cf. Need *sb.* 12.)

c 1450 *Merlin* 64 He toke leve, and yede thourgh the courte in his othir necessitees. *c* 1532 Du Wes *Introd. Fr.* in *Palsgr.* 1037 In all her necessities and busenes. 1613 Shaks. *Hen. VIII*, v. i. 2 These should be houres for necessities, Not for delights. 1662 J. Davies tr. *Mandelslo's Trav.* 268 They never do their necessities, but they lay a stick cross a pit, upon which they sit for their greater ease. 1676 Hale *Contempl.* I. *Gt. Audit* 85 That is not a Necessity which may be forborn to be done..until the Morrow.

† **b.** Necessary duty. *Obs. rare.*

1546 *Mem. Ripon* (Surtees) III. 17 In the sayde Church the necessitie is to pray and to ayde dyvyne service. 1546 *Yorksh. Chantry Surv.* (Surtees) II. 213 The necessitie thereof is to do dyvine servyce.

† **c.** Something unavoidable. *Obs. rare.*

1597 Shaks. 2 *Hen. IV*, III. i. 92 Are these things then Necessities? Then let vs meete them like Necessities. 1611 — *Wint. T.* IV. iv. 38 One of these two must be necessities, Which then will speake.

7. a. An unavoidable compulsion or obligation *of* doing something. Also with *inf.* Now *rare.*

1630 Prynne *Anti-Armin.* 123 Who haue a necessity of sinning since his fall. 1686 tr. *Chardin's Trav. Persia* 182 There was a necessity for us to let our Horses rest. 1727 De Foe *Syst. Magic* I. iv. (1840) 99 Bringing them to a necessity of laying it aside, before they had carried it on too far. 1747 Wesley *Prim. Physick* (1762) p. xxv, Honest Men are under no Necessity of touching them. 1817 Jas. Mill *Brit. India* II. v. v. 498 It was in such distress for want of provisions, as to find a necessity of applying to the Bengal Government for aid.

b. An imperative need *for* or † *of* something.

1673 *True Worship* 27 If any argue..a necessity of a Sermon; he must..conclude [etc.]. 1707 Freind *Peterborow's Cond. Sp.* 185 God be praised we are not in a Necessity of a Victory. 1751 Johnson *Rambler* No. 170 ¶ 10 He..compelled me to repose on him as my only support, and produced a necessity of private conversation. 1785 *Liberal Amer.* II. 99 She thinks there will be a necessity for it. 1817 Jas. Mill *Brit. India* II. v. viii. 678 The strongest necessity existed for rendering the resources of the country available to its defence. 1875 Whitney *Life Lang.* iii. 40 They were..recent additions to the language. The introduction of Christianity had created a necessity for them.

8. The fact of being indispensable; the indispensableness *of* some act or thing.

1597 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* V. l. § 3 Vpon their force their necessitie dependeth. 1707 Addison *Pres. St. War* Misc. Wks. 1766 III. 271 We see the necessity of an augmentation if we intend to bring the enemy to reason. 1751 Johnson *Rambler* No. 170 ¶ 9, I had seen mankind enough to know the necessity of outward cheerfulness. 1813 Wellington in Gurw. *Desp.* (1838) XI. 22 If you will point out to them the necessity of adopting some measures to subsist their armies. 1835 I. Taylor *Spir. Despot.* III. 66 Whatever may enhance our ideas of the necessity and sovereignty of divine grace. 1891 *Speaker* 2 May 532/2 Modern Socialists ..have not overlooked the necessity of protecting individual freedom.

II. 9. † **a.** What is necessarily required; necessaries. *Obs.*

137 Barbour *Bruce* VI. 29 His men fra him sua scalit war, Till purchess thame necessite. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 6740 Thanne may he begge til that he Have geten his necessite. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* II. xciv. 424 (Addit. MS.), Man was not made to so grete superfluyte, but to necessite of nature. 1483 Caxton *Gold. Leg.* 381 b/2 He had the poure peple wryton by name..for to gyue to theym theyr necessyte. 1650 T. B[aylev] *Worcester's Apoph.* 37 You have the prittiest peece of necessity yonder, at the side Table.

b. An indispensable or necessary thing.

1481 Caxton *Godfrey* clvi. 231 For to..bye theyr necessytees at the shippes. 1563 Shute *Archit.* B iij, Many other necessities therunto belonging. 1799 E. Du Bois *Piece Family Biog.* I. 19 Sufficient for many things more than the necessities of life. 1842 Miss Mitford in L'Estrange *Life* (1870) III. ix. 154 Trees and fresh air are necessities to my constitution. 1876 E. Mellor *Priesthood* ii. 65 That which rendered the gospel a necessity.

10. The condition of being in difficulties or straits, esp. through lack of means; want, poverty.

c 1475 *Partenay* 3818 Off me shall ye haue both ayde and comfort In all your nedes of necessite. 1514 Barclay *Cyt. & Uplondyshm.* (Percy Soc.) 5 Wynter declareth harde nede & poverte, Than men it feleth whiche have necessyte. 1550 Coverdale *Spir. Perle* xi. Wks. (Parker Soc.) I. 128 When he was in extreme anguish and necessity, he made his humble prayer. 1605 Shaks. *Lear* II. iv. 214 Necessities sharpe pinch. 1639 S. Du Verger tr. *Camus' Admir. Events* 7 This came in good time to keepe this poore family from necessity. 1728 Morgan *Algiers* II. ii. 231 As those People had a very indifferent Harvest, they underwent great Necessity. 1768 in *Priv. Lett. Ld. Malmesbury* (1870) I. 166 The people are labouring under the greatest necessity, garden-stuff and bread..being raised in price one third.

b. With possessive pron. or genitive.

1447 Bokenham *Seyntys* (Roxb.) 37 Al that longyth to thy necessyte Shal be provydyd by God and me. *c* 1511 *1st Eng. Bk. Amer.* (Arb.) Introd. 32/1 We shall gyue theym gold & syluer to th[e]yr necessitie. 1596 Shaks. *Merch. V.* I. iii. 157 You shall not seale to such a bond for me, Ile rather dwell in my necessitie. 1617 Moryson *Itin.* II. 153 The necessity of the Spanish forces already in Ireland being more then was expected. 1651 Hobbes *Leviath.* II. xx. 106 They will not ask whether his necessity be a sufficient title. 1859 Hawthorne *Marb. Faun* v, All of whom find such..saloons..as their necessity can pay for.

c. Bad, illicit spirit.

1796 Marshall *West of Eng.* I. 236 [The liquor] is drank in a recent state, under the appropriate name of 'necessity'. 1886 Elworthy *W. Som. Word-bk.* s. v. *Still-waters*, I too have often tasted 'necessity', as it was sometimes called.

11. A situation of hardship or difficulty; a pressing need or want. (Chiefly in *pl.*)

c 1450 tr. *De Imitatione* III. l. 120 Seldom is founden a trusty frende, þat is penseuerant in all þe necessites of his frende. 1494 Fabyan *Chron.* 7 Comforte to suche as calle To the for helpe in eche necessyte. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 152 This mortall lyfe, whiche for synne is full of necessytees and myseryes. 1585 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* II. xviii. 51 b, To succour and supply the instant necessities which might happen. 1611 Bible *Transl. Pref.* ¶ 4 Whereby all our necessities may be prouided for. 1667 J. Corbet *Disc. Relig. Eng.* 24 Many of them live in Necessities, and most of them upon the kindness of others. 1704 Hearne *Duct. Hist.* (1714) I. 410 He attended little to his Art and wrought at it only so far as Necessities obliged him. 1775 *Hist. Eur.* in *Ann. Reg.* 59/2 The necessities of the mother country. 1794 Coleridge *Relig. Musings* 218 Their keen necessities To ceaseless action goading human thought. 1876 Mozley *Univ. Serm.* xv. (ed. 2) 261 We must aim at a habit of gratitude, which has no relation to present necessities.

† **12.** Want *of* a thing. *Obs.*

c 1460 Fortescue *Abs. & Lim. Mon.* iii. (1885) 114 For gret necessite wich the French kynge hade of goode. 1558 in Strype *Ann. Ref.* (1824) I. App. iv. 396 By this means.. her majesty's necessity of money may be .. relieved. 1675 Earl Essex *Lett.* (1770) 352 Several of the foot companies in Ireland are in great necessity of clothing. 1754 Shebbeare *Matrimony* (1766) I. 173 You .. are in Necessity of many things.

† **13.** A bond or tie *between* persons. *Obs. rare*−1.

1595 in Spottiswood *Hist. Ch. Scot.* VI. (1677) 411 The necessity between Prince and subject is reciproque.

Hence **Nece·ssity** *v.*, to necessitate. *rare*−1.

1827 I. Taylor *Trans. Anc. Bks.* xii. (1875) 132 One climate .. necessities a much greater degree of permanency in the habits of the people than another.

Nech(e, obs. Sc. variants of Nigh *v.*

Neche, obs. form of Nesh.

Necht, obs. Sc. variant of Nigh *v.*

Nechyr, obs. form of Neicher, to neigh. *Sc.*

† **Ne·cial,** *a. Obs.*−1 [ad. L. type **nectiālis*, f. *nex, necis* death + *-ālis* -al.] Funeral, sepulchral.

1606 Birnie *Kirk-Buriall* (1833) 23 Mens nuptial festivities ar ofttimes exceeded by their necial folies in making their burials..a mont to show worldly glory.

Neck (nek), *sb.*1 Forms: *α.* 1 hnecca, 4–6 nekke, 4–7 nek, (5–6 neke, 6 neeke), 3–7 necke, 4– neck. *β.* 4 nycke, nhicke, nihcke; nak. [OE. *hnecca* wk. masc. = OFris. *hnecka, necke*, MDu. *necke* (Du. *nek*), MHG. *nacke* (G. *nacken*), ON. *hnakki* (Da. *nakke*, Sw. *nacke*); a strong masc. form appears in MDu. *nac, nack-*, OHG. *hnacch*, (*h*)*nach* (MHG. *nac*). The word has app. no cognates outside of the Teutonic languages. In OE. it is comparatively rare, the more general sense of 'neck' being expressed by the words *heals* Hals and *swira* Swire. It is not clear how the ME. variants *nicke* and *nak* are related to *nekke*.]

I. 1. The back part of that portion of the body lying between the head and shoulders; also, by extension, the whole of this portion, the narrow part below or behind the head.

The wider sense is now the usual one, the original meaning being commonly expressed by *the back*, or *the nape, of the neck* (see Nape *sb.*1 1 b).

a. c 897 K. Ælfred *Gregory's Past. C.* xix. 142 Wa ðæm þe willað under ælcne elnbogan leczean pyle & bolster under ælcne hneccan. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Deut.* xxviii. 35 Þæt þu næbbe nan þing hales fram þam fotwolmum oð þone hneccan [L. *ad verticem*]. *a* 1225 *St. Marher.* 12 Þis milde meiden..sette hire fote uppon his ruhe necke. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 37/117 Ane Rop he dude a-boute is necke. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 13031 Beof by þe nekke Petron hent. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 99 Hire Necke is schort, hir schuldres courbe. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilȝear* 123 He tyt the King be the nek, twa part in tene. 1559 *Mirr. Mag., Dk. Suffolk* xxv, My necke in two he smoat. 1600 J. Pory tr. *Leo's Africa* 20 Sometimes they lay their legs acrosse vpon the camels neck. 1667 Milton *P. L.* VII. 438 The Swan with Arched neck Between her white wings. 1711 Steele *Spect.* No. 76 ¶ 3 He would .. make two Fellows who hated, embrace and fall upon each other's Neck. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) V. 283 The green parakeet, with a red neck. *a* 1821 Keats *Hyperion* III. 132 His golden tresses famed Kept undulation round his eager neck. 1897 H. O. Forbes *Hand-bk. Primates* I. 171 The Orangs are ..heavy in build, with the head set on a very thick neck.

β. a 1300 *K. Horn* (Harl. MS.) 1328 Hue comen in wel sone..Y-armed swiþ þicke From fote to þe nycke. 1340 *Ayenb.* 216 Þe fole wyfmen þet guoþ mid stondinde nihcke ase hert ine launde. 1382 Wyclif *Gen.* xxvii. 16 She forcoueride the nakid of the nak [1388 necke].

† **b.** As the part of the body on which burdens or other articles are carried. *Obs.*

a 1225 *Ancr. K.* 322 Ich chulle .. trussen al þi schendfulnesse o þine owune necke. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 5523 Apon þer neckes sal þai bere Hott wit stan and wit morter. 1340 *Ayenb.* 138 Huet ssel þe ilke paye þat nazt ne helþ bote þane nhicke y-carked mid zenne. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Monk's T.* 120 He..bar the heven on his nekke longe. *c* 1450 Lovelich *Grail* xlv. 434 The Enemy hym there took vpe Anon In hys Nekke. 1561 Norton & Sack. *Gorboduc* I. Dumb Show, Of whom the first bare in his necke a Fagot of smal stickes.

c. The cervical vertebræ. Chiefly in phr. *to break the neck.*

a 1250 *Owl & Night.* 122 Werp hit vt myd þe vyrste, þet his nekke him toberste. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 7709 Richard, is o neueu, brec þere is nekke. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 21 þat nyse abbot werþe wood, .. and brak his nekke and deide. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* x. li. 496 One of them his neck was nyghe broken in tweyn. 1562 J. Heywood *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 33 In that house..A man shall as soone breake his necke as his fast. 1600 Shaks. *A. Y. L.* I. i. 153, I had as liefe thou didst breake his necke as his finger. 1643 [see 5 b]. 1712 Steele *Spect.* No. 474 ¶ 2 The President must necessarily have broken his Neck. 1803 *Med. Jrnl.* IX. 406 Turning it round, whereby the neck was dislocated. 1893 Earl Dunmore *Pamirs* I. 67 One and all rode like demons, without the slightest regard for the safety of their own necks.

† **d.** Inexactly used for 'head'. *Obs. rare.*

1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 431 She .. offered to the hangeman her necke to be striken of. 1611 Bible *Deut.* xxi. 4 The Elders..shall strike off the heifers necke there. 1647 Hexham s. v., To chop or cutt off ones Necke.

2. a. The skin from the neck of an animal. *rare*−1.

1552 *Act* 5 & 6 *Edw. VI*, c. 15 § 3 Every Girdler..may.. sell..Necks, Wombs and Shreds of tanned Leather.

b. The flesh of the neck of an animal, esp. of beef or mutton.

1603 Dekker & Chettle *Grissil* (Shaks. Soc.) 9 Eight to a neck of mutton—is not that your commons? 1632 Massinger *City Madam* I. i, His family fed on roots and livers, And necks of beef on Sundays. 1753 *Scots Mag.* Apr. 191/1 A neck, a loin, or leg of veal. 1813 *Examiner* 31 May 351/2 He .. should like to have a neck of mutton. 1861 Mrs. Beeton *Bk. Househ. Managem.* xxv. 328 The Sheep.. Fore quarter: No. 3, the shoulder; 4 and 5 the neck.

c. That part of a garment which covers, or lies next to, the neck.

1530 Palsgr. 247/2 Necke of a cappe, *rebras dung bonnet.* 1577–87 Holinshed *Chron.* III. 921/1 His pillion of fine scarlet, with a necke set in the inner side with blacke veluet. 1687 A. Lovell tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* II. 91 Their shirts have no necks but onely a hem like Womens Smocks. 1752 Berkeley *Tar-water* Wks. 1871 III. 500 Unbuttoning the neck and wristbands of his shirt. *c* 1817 Hogg *Tales & Sk.* III. 158 With a scarlet neck in his coat. 1866 [see Low *a.* 1 c].

II. 3. In various figurative or allusive expressions: **a.** Implying subjugation (or deliverance).

Usu. in connexion with the fig. use of Yoke.

1382 Wyclif *Jer.* xxx. 8 Y shal to-brose his 3oc fro thi necke. 1388 — *Acts* xv. 10 To putte a 3ok on the necke of the disciplis. *a* 1400 *Chron. R. Glouc.* (Rolls) 2804 þe saxons nekken vnder is fet to trede. 1591 Shaks. 1 *Hen. VI*, II. iii. 64 These are his..armes, and strength, With which he yoaketh your rebellious Neckes. 1601 — *Twel. N.* II. v. 206 Wilt thou set thy foot o' my necke? 1649 Owen *Serm.* Wks. 1851 IX. 217 Our necks are yet kept from the yoke of lawless lust. 1847 Tennyson *Princ.* II. 127 To .. Disyoke their necks from custom. *Ibid.* VI. 150 See, your foot is on our necks, We vanquish'd.

b. Implying submission, resistance, or obstinacy.

c 1386 Chaucer *Clerk's T.* 57 Boweth your nekke under that blisful yok Of soveraynte. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (Prose) 38 [She may not] þe life of þe reule fle, ne caste it fra hir nek. 1535 Coverdale 2 *Kings* xvii. 14 They .. herdened their neckes, acordinge to the hardneck of their fathers. 1593 Shaks. *Rich. II*, III. i. 19 My selfe .. haue stoopt my neck vnder your iniuries. 1671 Milton *P. R.* IV. 418 Sturdiest Oaks Bow'd thir Stiff necks. 1757 Burke *Abridgm. Eng. Hist.* III. iv, The barbarians..had at length submitted their necks to the Gospel.

† **c.** Denoting the setting-on of an assailant, the imposition of some burden, or the laying of a charge, upon a person. *Obs.* (freq. in 16th c. use).

1536 *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, II. 356 They princypally delyte to put oon of us Inglishmen in an others necke. 1551 Robinson tr. *More's Utop.* I. (1895) 103 The wyckednes and folysshenes of others shalbe imputed to hym, and layde in hys necke. 1596 Spenser *State Irel.* Wks. (Globe) 664/1 The countrey [n]ever should dare to mutinie, having still the souldiours on theyr necke. 1604 Shaks. *Oth.* V. ii. 170 You haue done well, That men must lay their Murthers on your necke.

d. With allusion to hanging or beheading.

1496 *Fysshynge w. Angle* (1883) 36 Theuys & brybours ..whyche are punysshed for theyr euyll dedes by the necke. 1599 Shaks. *Hen. V*, IV. viii. 45 Let his Neck answere for it, if there is any Marshall Law in the World. 1646 *Hamil*

ton Papers (Camden) 118 To this litle purpose hath the King's commands put his necke to a new hazard. 1685 Evelyn *Diary* 24 Dec., West, who .. had reveal'd the accomplices to save his owne neck. 1809 Malkin *Gil Blas* II. vii. P 27 [I] rejoiced at getting my neck out of an halter.

e. In miscellaneous uses.

c 1489 [see Long *a.*[1] 1 c]. 1535 Coverdale *Neh.* iii. 5 Their greate men put not their neckes to ye seruyce of their lorde. 1579 Tomson *Calvin's Serm. Tim.* 261/1 God layeth the bridle in their neckes as it were. 1599, 1676 [see Heel *sb.*[2] 24 b]. 1797 Mrs. M. Robinson *Walsingham* II. 173 The constable of the night, making a long neck to examine the bribe. 1856 Lever *Martins of Cro' M.* 288 You'll go from this place to the Lodge, where you'll be fed 'to the neck'. 1862 Carlyle *Fredk. Gt.* XII. ix. (1872) IV. 196 The vacant edifices .. are filled to the neck with meal and corn.

4. *In, on,* or *upon the neck of,* on the top of, immediately upon or after; esp. (*one*) *in* or *on the neck of another.* Now only *dial.* (very common in 16–17th c.).

1525 Ld. Berners *Froiss.* II. clx. [clvi.] 442 One tayle coude nat be payde but y^t^ another was redy on ye necke therof. 1545 Ascham *Toxoph.* I. (Arb.) 56 Heaping othes upon othes, one in a nothers necke. 1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* (1592) 50 Vpon the necke of this againe, he argueth this. 1605 Willet *Hexapla Gen.* 357 One temptation followed in the neck of an other. 1683 Temple *Mem.* Wks. 1720 I. 376 This Offer coming upon the Neck of the Parliament's Advice to his Majesty. 1700 Dryden *Fables* Pref., Ess. (ed. Ker) II. 256 A dozen more of such expressions, poured on the neck of one another. 1877 *N. W. Linc. Gloss.* s.v., One bad job alus falls on th' neck of another.

5. *To break the neck of*: † **a.** To destroy, finish, bring to an end. *Obs.*

1576 Fleming *Panopl. Epist.* 32 These foule mischeefs which haue almoste broken the necke of the Common wealth. 1624 Jas. I *Declar.* in Rushw. *Hist. Coll.* (1659) I. 140 Though I have broken the Necks of three Parliaments.

b. To counteract or annul the chief force or main effect of; to finish the main part of.

1643 *Plain English* 9 The neck of this designe will scarce be broken, till the necks of some of the .. authors .. he. 1674 R. Godfrey *Inj. & Ab. Physic* 131 The Doctor .. gave him Medicines to fortifie his Stomach, and break the neck of the Fever. *a* 1734 North *Lives* (1742) I. 201 To break the Neck of those wicked Delays used there. 1755 Johnson s.v., To break the neck of an affair; to hinder any thing being done; or, to do more than half. 1837 Lockhart *Scott* (1869) II. xiv. 263 He had done enough (in his own language) 'to break the neck of the day's work'. 1886 Mrs. Lynn Linton *Paston Carew* xlii, The neck of the winter was broken, and the day was bright and clear.

6. † **a.** *Neck over head,* headlong. *Obs. rare*[−1].

1579 Tomson *Calvin's Serm. Tim.* 247/1 Matters goe so necke ouer head, and men crye out, All is naught.

b. *Neck and heels,* = neck and crop. Now *dial.*

a 1734 North *Exam.* (1740) 72 The Liberty of the Subject is brought in Neck and Heels, as they say. 1778 Miss Burney *Evelina* XXV, To take and pull him neck and heels out. 1818 M. G. Lewis *Jrnl. W. Ind.* (1834) 137 The first thing that we now did was to turn him out of the sick-house, neck and heels. 1890 *Glouc. Gloss.* s.v., If there be another 'lection, they ll be obligated to go out neck and heels.

c. *Neck and crop,* bodily, completely, altogether.

1816 in Hone *Every-day Bk.* (1825) I. 461 Explain the terms .. neck and crop—bang up—and—prime. 1833 M. Scott *Tom Cringle* xvi, Chuck them neck and crop .. down a dark staircase. 1865 Dickens *Mut. Fr.* I. xv, We're going in neck and crop for fashion.

7. *To tie* (or † *lay*) *neck and heels,* to confine or bind securely.

1643 Chillenden *Inhumanity King's Prison-kpr.* 2 He swore he would lay me neck and heels in Irons. 1678 Butler *Hud.* III. ii. 1092 Insolences, That to your own imperions wills Laid Law and Gospel neck and heels. 1701 Cibber *Love makes Man* IV. ii, Take this Fool, let him be gagg'd, ty'd Neck and Heels, and lock'd into a Garret.

8. *Neck or nothing* (occas. *nought*), a phrase expressing determination and readiness to venture everything or to take all risks.

1715 M. Davies *Athen. Brit.* I. 321 Worth venturing Neck or Nothing for. 1738 Swift *Pol. Conversat.* 99 Neck or nothing; come down, or I'll fetch you down. 1782 Cowper *Gilpin* 89 Away went Gilpin, neck or nought. 1810 Clarke *Trav. Russia* 333 She rides, to use the language of English sportsmen, 'neck or nothing'. 1836–7 Dickens *Sk. Boz, Scenes* vii, Cabs are all very well in cases of expedition, when it's a matter of neck or nothing. 1895 W. C. Hazlitt *4 Generations* II. 357, I launched my scheme neck or naught.

b. *attrib.* of persons or actions: Headlong, reckless.

1814 Scott *Let. to Morritt* 30 Apr. in *Lockhart,* A neck-or-nothing London bookseller. 1835 W. Irving *Tour Prairies* 235 Crashing along with neck-or-nothing fury, where it would have been madness to follow him. 1840 Dickens *Barn. Rudge* XXXV, Three great neck-or-nothing chaps, that could keep on running over us.

9. *Neck and neck,* of horses, etc.: Keeping abreast, neither falling behind nor getting ahead of each other. Also freq. in fig. use.

1837 T. Hook *Jack Brag* iii, They .. entered the winning-field nearly neck-and-neck. 1890 'R. Boldrewood' *Col. Reformer* (1891) 222 Having forced an immense black bullock out of the camp, [he] was racing neck-and-neck with him.

fig. c 1812 Croker in *C. Papers* (1884) I. 40 In the House of Commons .. where the parties were, if I may use the expression, neck and neck. 1877 Green *Lett.* (1901) 456 To keep neck and neck with the printers .. would be a daily pressure.

b. *attrib.* Close, near.

1859 Farrar *J. Home* XXXI, Our lots in life, since at Harton we ran a neck and neck race, have been widely different. 1871 M. Collins *Mrq. & Merch.* II. iii. 71 It's late in the day, and a neck and neck thing.

c. As *sb.* Exact coincidence.

1858 De Quincey *Secr. Societies* Wks. VII. 245 The birth and the death .. synchronise by a metaphysical nicety of neck-and-neck.

III. In transferred uses, applied to such parts of things as have some resemblance to the neck.

10. The narrow part *of* some passage, cavity, or vessel, *esp.* the part of a bottle next the mouth.

c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 175 þe necke of þe maris is fleischi, .. & in þe necke of þe maris ben veynes. 1460–70 *Bk. Quintessence* 5 Putte it into a glas clepid amphora, with a long necke. 1611 Cotgr., *Goulet,* .. the mouth, or necke of a Violl, Bottle, or other long, and narrow-neckt vessell. 1660 Boyle *New Exp. Phys. Mech.* 12 The glass neck of the Receiver .. was thrust into this Cement. 1710 J. Clarke tr. *Rohault's Nat. Philos.* (1729) I. xxii. 145 A Bottle .. which has a very streight Neck. 1797 M. Baillie *Morb. Anat.* (1807) 293 The portion which is most frequently inflamed is that near the neck of the bladder. 1844 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* V. I. 9 These necks, as they are termed, to the main drain or leaders are cut into the open ditch. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV. 438 It is here that a narrowing exists which has been called the upper neck of the ureter.

b. A pass between hills or mountains; the narrow part *of* a mountain pass.

1707 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4359/2 Monsieur Medavi .. was to advance towards the Neck of the Mountains at Ceurs. 1850 R. G. Cumming *Hunter's Life S. Afr.* (1856) I. 122 Their vast legions continued streaming through the neck in the hills in one unbroken phalanx. 1890 L. C. D'Oyle *Notches* 133 They went by way of the pass, and as they entered the 'neck' the wind was blowing hard.

c. A narrow channel or inlet; the narrow part *of* a sound, etc.

1719 De Foe *Crusoe* I. 59, I .. found a Neck or Inlet of Water between me and the Boat. 1736 Wesley *Wks.* (1872) I. 39 As we were crossing the neck of St. Helena's Sound. 1894 Hall Caine *Manxman* v. iii. 288 The neck of the harbour was narrow.

d. *Fortif.* The narrow part *of* a bastion or embrasure.

1668 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 252/4 One Bastion onely being reserved upon the Petition of the Jesuites, whose Church is situated upon the neck of it. 1669 Staynred *Fortif.* 8 You may as you see occasion widen the Necks of the Gorges. 1859 F. A. Griffiths *Artil. Man.* (1862) 248 The neck of the embrazure is the inward, or narrowest part of it.

11. A narrow piece of land with water on each side; an isthmus or narrow promontory.

1555 Eden *Decades* 352 Vppon the innermoste necke to the landewarde is a tufte of trees. 1601 Holland *Pliny* I. 73 From whence proceedeth and beareth forth the necke or cape of Peloponnesus. 1677 W. Hubbard *Narrative* 13 Mount-Hope, Pocasset and several other Necks of the best land in the Colony. 1767 *Hull Navig. Act* 1061 In case the said Commissioners shall become possessed of any necks of land. 1831 Sir J. Sinclair *Corr.* II. 220 They are planning canals .. to let small vessels through, across a neck of land. 1872 Black *Adv. Phaeton* xviii. 247 The long neck of land lying between .. the Dee and the Mersey.

b. A narrow stretch of wood, ice, etc. Also (U. S.) *neck of the woods* (see quot. 1871).

1780 Young *Tour Irel.* I. 266 You see three other necks of wood, .. generally giving a deep shade. 1857 Dufferin *Lett. High Lat.* (ed. 3) 296 The little schooner .. pushed her way through the intervening neck of ice. 1871 S. De Vere *Americanisms* 178 He will .. find his neighborhood designated as a neck of the woods, that being the name applied to any settlement made in the well-wooded parts of the Southwest especially.

c. *Geol.* (See quot. 1876.)

1876 A. H. Green *Phys. Geol.* 246 The columns of cooled lava which fill up an old volcanic chimney are known as Necks. 1882 Geikie *Text-bk. Geol.* IV. 558 Necks of agglomerate and fine tuff abound among the .. volcanic regions of Scotland.

12. A narrow or constricted part in any implement, instrument, or other manufactured article; a connecting part between two portions of a thing.

For various technical applications see Knight *Dict. Mech.*

1598 Hakluyt *Voy.* I. 62 Some of them vpon the necke of their launce haue an hooke. 1607 Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 370 Acmon signifieth an Eagle, or else an Instrument with a short neck. 1683 Moxon *Mech. Exerc., Printing* 385 So much of the Punch as is Sunk into the Matrice is called the Neck. 1733 Tull *Horse-Hoeing Husb.* xxi. (Dubl.) 304 Its [the share's] under Side at c, which is its Neck, should be a little hollow from the Ground. 1799 G. Smith *Laboratory* I. 7 The necks of rockets may be formed in various ways. 1825 J. Nicholson *Operat. Mechanic* 366 The bearings on which the necks .. of the spindle are supported. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.* 495 *Neck,* the elbow or part connecting the blade and socket of a bayonet. 1876 Preece & Sivewright *Telegraphy* 35 A copper wire .. is attached to a neck cast in the zinc plate.

b. The part of a violin, or similar musical instrument, connecting the head and the body.

1611 Cotgr., *Manche,* .. the necke of a musicall Instrument. 1662 Playford *Skill Mus.* II. (1674) 93 Seven Frets on the Neck of the Viol. 1727–38 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v. *Lute,* The lute consists of four principal parts: the table; the body .. ; the neck, .. and the head or cross. 1811 Busby *Dict. Music* (ed. 3) s.v. *Viol,* The frets with which the neck was furnished. 1879 Stainer *Music of Bible* 28 The 'necks', .. twice or three times the length of the body or resonance-box.

c. *Arch.* The lower part of a capital, lying immediately above the astragal terminating the shaft of the column.

1727–38 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v. *Capital,* The gorge, or neck, terminates in an astragal, or fillet, belonging to the fust, or shaft. *Ibid.,* In the Trajan column there is no neck. 1837 *Penny Cycl.* VII. 384/1 Beneath this baluster and [above] the astragal surmounting the top of the shaft of the column is the neck of the capital. 1850 Leitch tr. *C. O. Müller's Anc. Art* § 80 (ed. 2) 46 The columns .. have a contracted neck.

d. In cannon, (*a*) the narrow part connecting the cascabel with the breech; (*b*) the part immediately behind the swell of the muzzle.

(*a*) 1753 Chambers *Cycl. Supp.* 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) VIII. 230/2 Diameter of the button [= cascabel] .. Diameter of its neck. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.* 495.

(*b*) 1753 Chambers *Cycl. Supp.* s.v., Neck of a gun is that part between the muzzle mouldings, and the Cornish ring. *c* 1860 H. Stuart *Seaman's Catech.* 5 Name the mouldings, &c. Neck—notch—chock [etc.]. 1876 Voyle & Stevenson *Milit. Dict.* 270/1.

13. a. *Bot.* A neck-like part. Applied *spec.* to certain parts in plants (see quots.).

1672–3 Grew *Anat. Roots* i. § 15 The saide Buds .. are at length formed into so many Necks, of three .. or more Inches long. 1823 Crabb *Technol. Dict., Neck,* the upper part of the tube in a corolla of one petal. 1832 Lindley *Introd. Bot.* 188 The *cauliculus* or neck [in the embryo]. 1849 Balfour *Man. Bot.* § 119 The part where the stem and root unite is the collum or neck. 1852 Henslow *Dict. Bot. Terms* 113 *Neck,* .. the point at which the limb separates from the sheathing petiole of certain leaves. 1875 Bennett & Dyer tr. *Sachs' Bot.* 290 This piece of the envelope .. De Bary calls the Neck.

b. Excessive elongation of stem or stalk.

1882 *Garden* 5 Aug. 114/3 Instead of Onions of monstrous size we want varieties .. that will not .. run into 'neck'.

14. *Anat.* **a.** Of a tooth: (see quot. 1732).

1732 Monro *Anat. Bones* (ed. 2) 165 At the Place where the Base [of the tooth] ends, and the Roots begin, there is generally a small circular Depression, which some call the Neck or Collar. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) I. 684/2. 1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) I. 65 The gums are detached from their respective necks. 1885 Burdett *Helps to Health* iii. 72 The chief causes of decay in the teeth are an accumulation of tartar about their necks [etc.].

b. A constricted part in certain bones.

1726 Monro *Anat. Bones* 231 The Neck of the *Femur* must have struck upon them. 1847–9 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* IV. 573/1 A slight constriction, the neck of the scapula. *Ibid.* 1026/1 The head of the rib is supported by a narrow round part, .. the neck. 1881 Mivart *Cat* 77 The piece of bone which .. supports the condyle is termed the neck.

IV. 15. *attrib.* and *Comb.* **a.** Intended for placing or wearing on or ronnd the neck, as *neck-bond, -bow, -chain, -cross, -guard, -gyve, -habil, -iron, -ring, -ruff, -scarf, -shawl, -snaffle, -stock(s), -strap, -swing, -yoke.* **b.** Lying on or in the neck, as *neck-feather, -fin, -furrow, -hackles, -joint, -lappet, -pit, -skin, -wool.* **c.** Miscellaneous, as *neck-fixings, -opening, -part, -plate; neck-stroke.* **d.** Objective, as *neck-cracking; neck-comforter, -warmer;* † *neck-venturer.* **e.** With adjs., as *neck-deep, -fast, -high, -like, -stiff, -strong;* also *neck-twined.*

1864 Burton *Scot Abr.* I. i. 9 These were *neck-bonds, of which two or three men had enough to bear one. 1607 J. Carpenter *Plaine Mans Plough* 222 Their soules, which are as the *neck-bowes of this yoke. 1648 Gage *West Ind.* xii. 56 She will be in fashion with her *Neck-chain and Bracelets of Pearls. 1835 *Court Mag.* VI. p. xiii/1 Neck-chain of enamelled gold. 1858 *Zoologist* XVI. 5858 Little children call their warm *neck-comforters by the name of 'pussies'. *c* 1613 Middleton *No Wit like Woman's* I. iii, I'll not die guilty of a lover's *neck-cracking. 1849 Rock *Ch. of Fathers* II. vi. 178 The *neck-cross .. of St. Elphege is particularly noticed. *a* 1814 *Gonzanga* II. i. in *New Brit. Theatre* III. 113 To .. tell her I'm *neck-deep in love. 1876 A. Arnold in *Contemp. Rev.* June 27 Fixing them neck-deep in cylinders of brickwork. 1722 Ramsay *Three Bonnets* III. 143 Put in slav'ry *neck-fast. 1849 D. J. Browne *Amer. Poultry Yd.* (1855) 22 *Neck feathers with dark edges. 1726 G. Roberts *4 Years' Voy.* 111, I .. jamm'd the Noose close, before the *Neck Fins were got through. 1864 Atkinson *Stanton Grange* 80 A .. trial of the toughness of their *neck-fixings. 1872 Nicholson *Palaeont.* 161 A third groove, which is termed the '*neck-furrow'. 1869 Boutell *Arms & Armour* iii. 45 The prevailing arrangement is for the prolonged crest to be carried from the visor to the *neck-guard. 1573 *Nottingham Rec.* IV. 152 A boulte for the *neckegyves. 1656 Heylin *Surv. France* 24 [The stole] is a *neck habit .. made much after the manner of a tippet. 1872 Darwin *Emotions* iv. 97 Two cocks, .. preparing to fight, with erected *neck-hackles. 1660 Bonde *Scut. Reg.* 16 Yet foodfull Tellus .. *Neck-high advanceth her all-bearing head. 1723 Dr. Wharton *True Briton* No. 58 II. 503 Immerging Neck-high in Ordure. 1864 Anne Manning *Interrupted Wedding* I. 3 Hung with handcuffs, leg-chains and *neck-iron. 1647 Ward *Simp. Cobler* 65 When a kingdome is broken just in the *neck joynt. 1849 J. A. Carlyle tr. *Dante's Inf.* XXX, Fixed its tusks on his neck-joint. 1851 Woodward *Mollusca* I. 34 In the plant-eating sea-snails .. one of the '*neck-lappets' is sometimes curled up. 1847–9 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* IV. 13/1 Its body is unprovided with a *neck-like prolongation. 1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) IV. 502 A commodious box with a *neck-opening for his head. 1894 *Season* X. 113/1 The .. neck-opening filled in with shirt-front. 1623 Middleton *More Dissemblers* IV. ii, The ruin Of your *neck-part, or some nine years' imprisonment. *c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 41 Vndir þe arme holis & in þe *necke pitt. 1674 N. Fairfax *Bulk & Selv.* 122 The aforesaid thread of sand .. posting through the *neck-plate of the hour-glass. 1841 Lane *Arab. Nts.* I. 118 Sometimes to Emeers [were given] *neck-rings, or collars. 1868 G. Stephens *Runic Mon.* II. 572 This Runic ornament is apparently a neck-ring. 1611 Cotgr., *Collerette de femme,* a small *necke-ruffe. 1895 *Daily News* 6 Dec. 6/5 Neck ruffs made of violets. 1859 Lang *Wand. India* 7 The bonnet is bought; likewise a *neck-scarf. 1892 E. Reeves *Homeward Bound* 247 Having red and gold neck-scarves. 1870 Dickens *E. Drood* xi, He took off his greatcoat and *neck-shawl. 1769 Mrs. Raffald *Eng. Housekpr.* (1778) 54 When they are half roasted, cut the *neck skin. 1885 A. Campbell *Rec. Argyll* 256 A purse made of neck-skin of a sea-bird. 1697 Bradley *Houghton's Husb.* (1727) III. 234 Both snaffles and bits, such as the wheel and jointed-snaffle, the *neck-snaffle [etc.]. 1570

Levins *Manip.* 117/37 *Neckstiff, *pernicax.* 1681 T. Flatman *Heraclitus Ridens* No. 8 (1713) I. 47 He should..have the Honour to attend him to the *Neck-Stocks. 1732 *Acc. Workhouses* 10 Hats, caps, neckstocks, conts. 1844 H. Stephens *Bk. Farm* II. 693 The cheek-reins .. which pass below the *neck-strap of the martingale. *c* 1489 Caxton *Blanchardyn* v. 24 The knyght..gaaf him þe *necstroke of knighthode. *c* 1530 Ld. Berners *Arth. Lyt. Bryt.* (1814) 422 He didde giue them the neck strokes of knighthode. *a* 1618 Sylvester *Wks.* (Grosart) II. 339 Our neck the *neck-strong Bull doth sway. 1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) III. 246 Steel crutches, spiked-collars, *neck-swings. *a* 1881 Rossetti *House of Life* c, O'er the book of Nature mixed their breath With *neck-twined arms. 1617 Moryson *Itin.* I. 21 He that rides on the horse neerest the Barke, is called Wage-halse, that is, *Necke venturer. 1852 C. W. H[oskins] *Talpa* 129 The mouth that had spoken dropped into the *neck-warmer again. 1726 Ayliffe *Parergon* [507] *Neck-Wool shorn from the Neck of the Sheep. 1886 C. Scott *Sheep-farming* 138 The other twists a rope out of the neck-wool. 1688 Holme *Armoury* III. xxi. (Roxb.) 253/2 Carrying water .. by a *neck yoke, which compasseth a mans neck, and so lyeth on both shoulders. 1891 C. Roberts *Adrift Amer.* 200 Picking up an old buggy neck yoke, I laid him out with it.

16. Special combs.: **neck-about**, -barrow (see quots.); **neck-cell** *Bot.*, a cell forming (part of) the neck in the archegonium of ferns or bryophytes; **neck-defeat**, a defeat by a neck in racing (so *neck-victory*); **neck-fillet**, in cannon, a fillet on the breech, next to the neck of the cascabel; † **neck-herring**, a blow on the neck; † **neck-hoop**, the hoop round the neck of a cask; **neck-mould(ing)** *Archit.*, a moulding on the neck of a capital; † **neck-question**, a test question, one endangering one's neck; † **neck-stamper** (see quot.); † **neck-stropiat**, of spurs, damaged at the neck; **neck-towel**, a small towel (formerly carried on the neck by attendants at table) for wiping dishes (now *dial.*); **neck-twines** (see quot.); **neck-twister**, *U. S. slang*, a kind of drink; **neck-word**, a word on which one's neck depends (cf. *neck-verse*). See also Neck-band, -bone, etc.

1674 Ray *N. C. Words* 35 A *Neckabout*: any womans neck linnen. Sheffield. 1825 Brockett *N. C. Gloss.*, *Neck-about*, a woman's neck-handkerchief. 1847 Halliwell, *Neck-barrow*, a..shrine on which relics or images were carried..in processions. 1877 Huxley & Martin *Elem. Biol.* 69 A large nucleated granular basal cell, with two or three smaller granular cells (*neck-cells) above it. 1886 *Pall Mall G.* 9 Nov. 11/1 He suffered a *neck defeat .. in the Newmarket Handicap. 1859 F. A. Griffiths *Artil. Man.* (1862) Plate 50 *Neck Fillet. 1876 Vovle & Stevenson *Milit. Diet.* 270/1 That portion of metal .. contained between the neck fillet and the button astragal. *c* 1470 Henryson *Mor. Fab.* IX. (*Wolf & Fox*) xx, Thus can the cadgear say, 'Abyde, and thow ane *nekhering sall haif'. *Ibid.* xxxi, Euer vpoun the nekhering he thinkis. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 251/2 A Nekherynge; *colaphus*. 1641 S. Smith *Herring Buss Trade* 26 Between the third hoope and the *necke-hoope. 1851 Turner *Dom. Archit.* II. ii. 45 The capitals consist only of an abacus and *neck-mould. 1836 Parker *Gloss. Archit.* (1850) I. 324 *Neck-Moulding*, the ring-like moulding which separates the capital from the shaft. 1655 Fuller *Ch. Hist.* VIII. xvi. II. § 26 This *neck-question..the most dull and duncicall Commissioner was able to aske. 1676 Coles, *Neck-stamper*, a pot-boy. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew.* 1632 Lithgow *Trav.* IX. 395 The French man hangeth in the stirrop, at the full reach of his great toe.., pricking his horse with *neck-stropiat spurres. 1494 in *Househ. Ord.* (1790) 111 The King's carver and sewer and the Queene's to beare their *necke towels. 1877 *N. W. Linc. Gloss.*, *Neck towel*, a small cloth used for drying crockery. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1516/1 *Neck-twines*, in fancy weaving, small strings by which the mails are connected with the compass-board. 1859 Cornwallis *New World* I. 300 Cold punch, gum ticklers, and *neck twisters, drinks of Yankee concoction. 1650 Fuller *Pisgah* II. ii. § 20 Shiboleth is their *neck-word..; lisping of their tongues was a certain Symptome of their death.

† **Neck,** *sb.*2 *Obs.* [Of obscure origin.] In *Chess*, a move to cover check.

a 1547 Surrey in *Tottel's Misc.* (Arb.) 21 Although I had a check, To geue the mate is hard, For I haue found a neck To kepe my men in gard. 1570 Foxe *A. & M.* (ed. 2) 24/1 So would..Woulsey haue don, had not the kyng geuen him a necke to his mate by time. 1614 Saul *Chesseplaye* 21 Through all the colours of the field in such wise may he check, And also when occasion serves relieve the king with neck.

Neck, *sb.*3 [Of obscure origin.] In South-western counties, the last handful or sheaf of corn cut at harvest-time. (Cf. Kirn-baby, Mell *sb.*4)

1688 Holme *Armoury* III. 73/2 Cutting the Neck, is the last handful of standing Corn, which when it is cut down, the Reapers give a shout, and fall to Eating and Drinking. [Hence in Phillips (1706) and Bailey.] 1826 in Hone *Every-day Bk.* (1827) II. 1170 After the wheat is all cut, on most farms in the north of Devon, the harvest people have a custom of 'crying the neck'. *Ibid.* 1172 'The neck' is generally hung up in the farm-house. 1848 Mrs. Pascoe *Neck Cutting* 45 Round around first bind the neck Next with flowers and ribbons deck. 1899 'Q.' (Quiller-Couch) *Ship of Stars* xv. 143 Taffy was staring at a 'neck' of corn elaborately plaited which hung above the mantle shelf.

Neok, obs. var. Knack *sb.*2 and Nick *sb.*

Neck (nek), *v.*1 Now only *techn.* or *dial.* [f. Neck *sb.*1 Cf. Du. *nekken* to kill.]

1. *trans.* To strike on the neck, esp. so as to stun or kill; to behead; to pull the neck of (a fowl). Hence **Neo·king** *vbl. sb.*

c 1450 *Mirour Saluacioun* 3237 The buffets, reproves, neckings, blasphemes, derisionne. 1653 Chisenhale *Cath. Hist.* Ep. Ded., As if the Protestant Religion were neckt in the Sparring blowes. 1707 J. Stevens tr. *Quevedo's Com. Wks.* (1709) 164 They would have neck'd me as they do Rabbets to kill them. *c* 1712 in *Whig & Tory* iii. 33 Like thy bold Sires in Forty-Eight, Who neck'd their Prince, a worthy Fate! 1820 Keats *Cap & Bells* xxii, The next [hour] shall see him in my grasp, And the next after that shall see him neck'd. 1879 Miss Jackson *Shropsh. Word-bk.*, *Neck*, to kill fowls by pulling their necks out, or rabbits by giving them a blow on the back of the neck.

b. In *pass.* and *intr.* (See quots.)

1828 *Craven Gloss.* s. v. *Necked*, Growing corn is said to be necked when the straw is so weakened by the rain or wind, that the ears hang down, or are broken off. 1863 Young *Naut. Dict.* (ed. 2), Tree-nails are said to be necked where they are found to be cracked, nipped, or bent at their necks between the outside skin and the timbers of a vessel. 1877 *N. W. Linc. Gloss.*, Barley is said to neck when the heads fall off by being too ripe before it is cut.

† **2.** (Meaning not clear.) *Obs. rare* −1.

1514 Barclay *Cyt. & Uplondyshm.* (Percy Soc.) 26 She couthe well..necke a mesure, her smyrkynge gan her sale: She made ten sbylynge of one barell of ale!

3. To make or clear the neck of (a drain). Also with *in*.

1844 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* V. I. 9 When the drainer arrives at one of the drains that enter the leader, he commences upon it by necking it in. 1846 *Ibid.* VII. I. 53 The workman as he proceeds in his main necks each common ditch as he comes to it.

† **Neck,** *v.*2 *Obs. rare.* [f. Neck *sb.*] *trans.* and *intr.* To cover check in chess.

a 1585 Montgomerie *Cherrie & Slne* 215, I gat sik chek, Quhilk I micht nocht remuif nor nek, Bot eyther stail or mait. *a* 1618 Sylvester *Mathieu's Mem. Mort.* viii. Wks. (Grosart) II. 223 This [piece] leaps, that limps, this checks, that necks, that mates.

Neck, obs. variant of Nick *v.*

† **Neckatee.** *Obs. rare.* [Obscurely f. Neck *sb.*1] A lady's neckerchief.

1752 Fielding *Covent Gard. Jrnl.* No. 37 The manteel.. again was succeeded by the pelorine; the pelorine by the neckatee; the neckatee by the capuchine. 1825 Brockett *N. C. Gloss.*, *Neck-about*, a woman's neck-handkerchief—a neckatee.

Ne·ck-band. [f. Neck *sb.*1 Cf. Sw. *nackband* cap-string.]

1. a. A band for the neck of an animal.

1446 *Wills & Inv. N. C.* (Surtees, 1835) 95, j shole ligat' cum ferro, et xv nekbandez. 1535 Coverdale *Judg.* viii. 26 The neckbandes of their Camels. *a* 1842 A. Cunningham in *Milton's Wks.* (1853) 562 A neck-band of the red berries of the same tree was a full security to the wearer.

b. A band worn round the neck by a person.

1530 Palsgr. 247/2 Necbande, *gorgias.* Necbande for a woman, *gorgerette.* 1535 Coverdale *Song Sol.* I. 10 A neck bande of golde wil we make yᵒ with syluer bottons. 1611 Cotgr., *Collerette de femme*, a small necke-ruffe, neckercher, or neck-band, (worne by women).

2. The part of a garment encircling the neck.

1591 Percivall *Sp. Dict.*, *Cabeçon de camiça*, the necke bande of a shirt. 1705 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4161/4 A new blue Shirt, with a little piece of old blue at the Neck-band. 1884 *Girl's Own Mag.* Jan. 201/1 The neckbands of all dresses are made very wide.

Ne·ck-beef. [f. Neck *sb.*1] Beef from the necks of cattle, which is of inferior quality. Hence *transf.* of anything inferior or cheap.

1662 Petty *Taxes* 86 A little bread and cheese,..neck beef, and inwards twice a week. 1687 Sedley *Bellamira* IV. i, She is very pretty, and as cheap as neck-beef. 1707 Cibber *Double Gallant* IV. Wks. 1777 III. 59 If I had the feeding of you, I'd bring you in a fortnight to neck-beef. 1772 Foote *Nabob* II. Wks. 1799 II. 311 Dog-cheap; neck-beef; a penny loaf for a halfpenny! 1802–12 Bentham *Ration. Judic. Evid.* (1827) IV. 438 As neck-beef and sticking-pieces are provided by the butcher for those who cannot come up to the price of ribs and sirloins.

Ne·ck-bone. Also 4 nek bon, nekke boon, etc. [f. Neck *sb.*1 Cf. Mdu. *nacbeen* (Du. *nekbeen*), Da. *nakkeben* (Norw. *-bein*), Sw. *nackben.*] The bone († or nape) of the neck; a cervical vertebra.

c 1300 *Sir Tristr.* 1480 Tristrem rauȝt his brain And brak his nek bon. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Man of Law's T.* 571 A hand him smoot upon the nekke-boon. *c* 1400 *Ywaine & Gaw.* 3257 Sir Ywain with his brand was boun, And strake his nek-bane right in sonder. 1565 Cooper *Thesaurus*, *Astragalus*...In Homere, it is taken for the neckebone, where it ioygneth to the backebone. 1632 Sherwood, The neck-bone, *Los du gaujon.* 1675 Hobbes *Odyssey* (1677) 126 So to the earth he headlong fell, And broke his neck-bone. 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 32 P 2 Alexander the Great wore his Head a little over the left Shoulder; and then not a Soul stirred out 'till he had adjusted his Neck-bone. 1791 Burns *Tam o' Shanter* 92 Past the birks and meikle stane, Whare drunken Chairlie brak's neck-bane. 1831 Youatt *Horse* 154 It is the base of the column of neck-bones.

Ne·ck-break, *adv.* and *sb.* [Cf. Break-neck.]

A. *adv.* In a break-neck or headlong manner.

In dial. use also as *adj.*: see *Eng. Dial. Dict.*

1631 R. H. *Arraignm. Whole Creature* XV. § 2. 256 Venting neck-breake, (as Goates in Winter, that climbe for Ivie) over Pales, and Walles. 1705 Hickeringill *Priest-cr.* III. Wks. 1716 III. 162 That they may ride them Neck-break to both their Destructions here and hereafter. 1877 *Holderness Gloss.*, *Neck-brek*, *-brake*,..impetuously, at dangerous speed.

† **B.** *sb. Sc.* = Break-neck *sb.*

a 1665 W. Guthrie *Serm.* 14 (Jam.), Folks poring over much on the tentation is their neck-break and their snare. 1709 Bruce *Serm.* in Kirkton *Hist. Ch. Scot.* (1817) 274 Beware of Scripture, for you may be your own neck-break.

So **Neck-breaking** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1650 Fuller *Pisgah* II. ix. § 19 Soon after happned .. Eli's heart-breaking with the news, neck-breaking with his fall. 1810 *Sporting Mag.* XXXVI. 166 The Baronet begged leave to decline the neck-breaking experiment. 1852 R. S. Surtees *Sponge's Sp. Tour* (1893) 39 Fox-hunting.., though exciting and exhilarating, does not..present such conveniences for neck-breaking as people..imagine.

Ne·ckcloth. [f. Neck *sb.*1] A cloth worn round the neck; a cravat, neckerchief. Now *rare.*

1639 *Knaresb. Wills* (Surtees) II. 167 One linen apron and one neck cloth. 1699–1700 in Hedges *Diary* (Hakl. Soc.) III. 62, I made a tryall of making some neck cloths here. 1721 Amherst *Terræ Fil.* No. 13 (1726) 63 His man ..puffs out his neck-cloth with as smart an air as Mr. Anybody. 1784 Kippis *Biog. Brit.* III. Corr. & Add. s.v. *Betterton*, His countenance..turned..as pale as his neckcloth. *a* 1839 Praed *Poems* (1864) II. 65 In his neckcloth's studied fold Sat Fashion. 1888 Mrs. H. Ward *R. Elsmere* xvii, He wore an old-fashioned neckcloth.

b. *transf.* The hangman's rope.

1836 F. Mahony *Rel. Father Prout* II. 115 'Hould your tongue in that matter', says he; 'For the neckcloth I don't care a button'.

Hence **Ne·ckclothed** (-klǫþt) *a.*, provided with, wearing, a neckcloth.

1833 Lytton *Godolphin* vii, In the panoply of neckclothed silence. 1864 *Mattie, a Stray* I. 133 White neckclothed servility struggled..for the distinction of waiting on her.

Ne·ck-collar. Now *arch.* [f. Neck *sb.*1] A collar. Also *transf.*

1530 Palsgr. 247/2 Neccoller for a woman, *gorgias.* 1546 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) VI. 245 One neccoller wroght withe golde. 1549 *Rutland MSS.* (1905) IV. 570 Nekcollers for horse drought, xliij. 1821 Scott *Pirate* xxxi, Are you avised what death he died of?..for I have heard that it was of a tight neck-collar—a hempen fever, or the like. 1865 J. H. Ingraham *Pillar of Fire* (1872) 326 Many of the prisoners were confined to a long iron bar, by neck-collars.

Necked (nekt), *a.* [f. Neck *sb.*1]

1. Having a neck *like* something specified.

1486 *Bk. St. Albans* F iv b, A Grehounde shulde be heded like a Snake, and necked like a Drake. *a* 1529 Skelton *E. Rummyng* 519 She was nothynge plesant; Necked lyke an olyfant. 1601 Holland *Pliny* I. 205 The one is called of the Æthyopians, the Nabis, necked like an horse. 1824 Miss Mitford *Village* Ser. I. (1863) 128 A model of grace and symmetry, necked and crested like an Arabian.

2. In *Combs.*, as *long-*, *narrow-*, *short-*, *stiff-necked*, etc. (see the first element).

3. Having a neck.

1841 E. Newman *Hist. Insects* IV. v. 260 Necked capricorn-beetles, or Lepturites. 1864 Gosse in *Gd. Words* Dec. 891/2 Necked Barnacles, so long believed .. to be legitimately descended from..a certain species of goose.

Neckenger: see Neckinger.

Neckercher (ne·kəɹtʃəɹ). Now *dial.* [var. of next: cf. *handkercher* and Kercher.] = next.

1467 *Mann. & Househ. Exp.* (Roxb.) 390 My mastyr paid for nekchers for my lady, x. s. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron.*, *Hen. VIII* 216 Euery mantle had lettice about yᵉ necke like a neckercher. 1598 B. Jonson *Ev. Man in Hum.* III. vi, My wife ha's pawn'd her neckerchers for cleane bands for him. 1611 Cotgr., *Collerette de femme*, a small necke-ruffe, neckercher, or neck-band. 1662 *Stat. Irel.* (1765) II. 460 Neckerchers of Flanders making. 1888 'Q.' (Quiller Couch) *Troy Town* iv, Him wi' the red neckercher.

Neckerchief (ne·kəɹtʃif). Also 4 necke oouerchoue, 6 kerchef; 4 neckercheue, -chiff, 5 nekkyrchefe, -erchyff. [f. Neck *sb.*1 + Kerchief.] A kerchief worn about the neck.

1382 Wyclif *Isa.* iii. 23 Pynnes, and sheweres, and necke couercheues [*v.r.* neckercheuys], and filetes. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 251/1 A Nekkyrchefe, *anaboladium.* 1495 *Nottingham Rec.* III. 36 Unius nekkerchyff, pretii iiij d. *c* 1532 Du Wes *Introd. Fr.* in *Palsgr.* 907 The necke kerchef, *la colerette.* 1611 in Heath *Grocers' Comp.* (1869) 92 That none should wear .. any hand, neckerchief, gorget, or stomacher, but only plain. 1679 *Hist. Jetzer* 37 A Quoif and Neckerchief, and other Accoutrements to dress him up like a Countrey-woman. 1786 Mme. D'Arblay *Diary & Lett.* (1842) III. 28 Giving the gown before the hoop, and the fan before the neck-kerchief. 1824 Miss Mitford *Village* Ser. I. (1863) 39 Trying to relieve his sufferings by the removal of his neckerchief. 1881 Besant & Rice *Chapl. of Fleet* I. iv, She..pulled down the ends of her neckerchief.

So **Neck-ha·ndkerchief.**

1712 Steele *Spect.* No. 478 P 12 To buy Cravats or Neck-Handkerchiefs. 1740 Richardson *Pamela* I. 223 So what will I do, but strip off my upper Petticoat, and throw it into the Pond, with my Neck-handkerchief. 1817–18 Cobbett *Resid. U. S.* (1822) 16 Stockings..and a waistcoat and neck-handkerchief. 1853 Reade *Chr. Johnstone* 226 Their neck-handkerchiefs and hair were wet with spray.

Ne·ck-hole. [f. Neck *sb.*1 + Hole *sb.* Cf. Norw. dial. *nakke-hola* in sense 1.]

1. *dial.* The hollow in the back of the neck; the space between the back of the neck and the collar.

c 1340 *Nominale sive Verbale* (Skeat) 10 *Fossolet*, nekke-hole. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 13889 He nolpit on with his Neue in the necke hole, þat the bon alto brast. *c* 1475 *Pict. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 748 *Hec fontinella*, the nekhole. 1592 in *Vicary's Anat.* (1888) App. ix. 228 Two [veins] in the neke holes shall tbowe fynde. 1874 Waugh *Chimney Corner* (1879) 27 Vo met set potitos in her neck-hole. 1892 Mrs. H. Ward *David Grieve* I. viii, I'll put soom o' that watter down yor neckhole.

2. The hole through the neck of an hour-glass.

1674 N. Fairfax *Bulk & Selv.* 121 What a long thread of sand passes the neck-hole of an hour-glass.

3. An opening for the neck.

1886 Corbett *Fall of Asgard* I. 250 He drew on his glittering hauberk. When his head emerged again through the neck-hole, he went on [speaking].

Necking (ne·kiŋ), *sb.* [f. NECK *sb.*[1] + -ING [1].]

1. a. *Arch.* The part of a column lying between the capital and the shaft. Cf. NECK *sb.*[1] 12 c.

1804 *Europ. Mag.* XLV. 8/2 Under the necking in the brick-work are made crosses formed like the letter T. 1831 *Fraser's Mag.* IV. 281 The moulding that divides the necking from the shaft. 1880 *Archæol. Cant.* XIII. 38 The pattern occurs on the necking of a shaft.

b. *Naut.* (See quot.)

c 1850 *Rudim. Navig.* (Weale) 135 *Necking*, a small neat moulding at the foot of the taffrail over the lights.

2. A neck-like stem or stalk.

1831 T. HOPE *Ess. Origin Man* II. 110 These neckings remain so flexible that..the pressure from the air above weighs them down.

Ne·cking, *ppl. a. rare.* [f. NECK *v.*[1] 1.] Falling on the neck; stunning.

1681 T. FLATMAN *Heraclitus Ridens* No. 31 (1713) I. 204 This Scottish Parliament has given the Whigs a Necking blow. *a* 1734 NORTH *Exam.* (1740) 220 The Plot had a fatal necking Stroke at that Execution.

Necking *vbl. sb.*: see NECK *v.*[1] 1.

Neckinger (ne·kindʒəɹ). Now *dial.* Also 6 -enger. [Corrupt form of NECKERCHER.] A neckerchief.

1598 DELONEY *Jacke Newb.* ix. 107 His wife..would not.. turne her head aside for feare of hurting the set of her neckenger. *a* 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia*, *Neckinger*, a cravat or any other covering for the neck. 1866- in Yorksh. glossaries.

Neck-kerchief, obs. variant of NECKERCHIEF.

Necklace (ne·klės), *sb.* Also 7 **nycklease, necles, necklasse.** [f. NECK *sb.*[1] + LACE *sb.*]

1. An ornament of precious stones or precious metal, beads, etc. worn round the neck.

c 1590 MARLOWE *Faustus* vi, Next, like a necklace, I hang about her neck. 1600 SURFLET *Countrie Farme* I. xii. 62 Von must put about your necke a necklace of Iaspar stone. 1673 RAY *Journ. Low C.* 5 This Chain is round in form of a Bracelet, Neck-lace, or Wheel-band. 1762–71 H. WALPOLE *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1786) V. 127 Instead of the garland she has a necklace in her hand. 1814 JANE AUSTEN *Mansf. Park* II. 182 Being requested to chuse from among several gold chains and necklaces. 1877 A. B. EDWARDS *Up Nile* xiii. 350 The necklaces consist of onyx, carnelian, bone, silver, and coloured glass beads.

† b. A lace or ribbon for the neck; a neck-tie.

1697 DAMPIER *Voy.* (1729) II. I. 43 They have Band-strings or Necklaces fastened to their Hats; which coming under their Chins are there tied. 1740 RICHARDSON *Pamela* I. 50 Then I bought of a Pedlar..two Yards of black Ribband for my Shift Sleeves, and to serve as a Necklace.

2. *transf.* A noose or halter.

a 1616 BEAUM. & FL. *Bonduca* II. iii, What are these fellows? what's the crime committed, That they wear necklaces? *a* 1625 FLETCHER *Bloody Brother* III. ii, You peaching rogue, that provided us With these necklaces.

3. *Naut.* a. A chain or strop round a mast.

1860 H. STUART *Seaman's Catech.* 55 Necklaces are rove round the heel of the mainmast. 1882 NARES *Seamanship* (ed. 6) 33 The necklace .. goes round the mast-head immediately on top of the trestletrees and crosstrees.

b. A ring of wads placed round a gun.

1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* 495.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *necklace-collar*, *-maker*; *necklace-like*, *-shaped* adjs.

1769 *Public Advertiser* 14 Mar. 2/2 A Parcel of Beads, Bugles, &c., the Property of Mrs. Smith, Necklace-Maker. 1835 LINDLEY *Introd. Bot.* (1839) 450 *Necklace-shaped* .., cylindrical or terete, and contracted at regular intervals. 1849 BALFOUR *Man. Bot.* § 398 The hairs are beautifully coloured, and moniliform .. or necklace-like. 1865 J. H. INGRAHAM *Pillar of Fire* (1872) 189 The chief standard-bearer is distinguished by a gold necklace-collar.

b. Special combs., as **necklace-moss,** the lichen *Usnea barbata*; **necklace-poplar,** the cottonwood or Carolina poplar, bearing racemes of pods which resemble strings of beads; †**necklace-snake** (see quot. 1753); **necklace-tree** (see quot. 1866); **necklace-wood** (see quot. 1883).

1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* App. s.v. *Snake*, Necklace-Snake, the English name of the *natrix torquata* of zoologists. 1758 *Phil. Trans.* L. 664 The long beaded *usnea*, or necklace moss, enters into the like œconomical uses in Virginia. 1846–50 A. WOOD *Class-bk. Bot.* 507 *Populus monilifera*, Necklace Poplar. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 823/1 *Ormosia dasycarpa* is the West Indian Bead-tree or Necklace-tree, the seeds of which..are roundish, beautifully polished, and of a bright scarlet colour. 1883 MOLONEY *W. African Fisheries* (Fish. Exhib. Publ.) 34 The poison residing in the stems of the Barbasco or Necklace wood (*Jacquinia armillaris*, Linn.).

Necklace (ne·klės), *v.* [f. prec.]

1. *trans.* and *intr.* To form into a necklace.

1702 PETIVER in *Phil. Trans.* XXIII. 1251 The Roots .. are fibrous, to which lower adhere others as it were Necklaced and Strung. 1893 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* Dec. 709 The sheaves shewed a slight tendency to necklace—i.e. to hang together by the heads.

2. *trans.* To encircle or surround with, or as with, a necklace.

1763 GRAINGER *Sugar Cane* IV. 6 Quick papaw, whose top is necklac'd round With numerous rows of party-colour'd fruit. 1817 COLERIDGE *Satyrane's Lett.* ii. 215 A church .. necklaced near the top with a round of large gilt balls. 1893 *National Observer* 24 June 144/2 He necklaced a certain Dutch captain with sausages.

Hence (or from the *sb.*) **Ne·cklaced** *a.*

1731 FIELDING *Covent Gard. Trag.* II. vi, Ten thousand load of timber shall embrace Thy necklaced neck. *a* 1794 SIR W. JONES (T.), The hooded and the necklaced snake.

†**Neckland.** *Obs.* [f. NECK *sb.*[1]] A neck or narrow strip of land.

1598 HAKLUYT *Voy.* I. 572 Streights, bayes, barboroughs, necklands, creekes. 1627 HAKEWILL *Apol.* I. iii. § 2. 32 The Promontories and necklands which butt into the sea, what are they but solide creekes.

Neckless (ne·klės), *a.* [f. NECK *sb.*[1] + -LESS.] Having no neck.

1610 HEALEY *St. Aug. Citie of God* XVI. viii. (1620) 548 Those monstrous men..such as are necklesse, with the face of a man in their breasts. 1812 W. TENNANT *Anster F.* II. XXXVI, Neckless coats brush'd smooth and clean. 1833 LONGF. *Outre-Mer* Prose Wks. 1886 I. 87 Among broken crucibles, and neckless retorts. 1841 E. NEWMAN *Hist. Insects* IV. v. 260 Neckless capricorn-beetles.

Necklet (ne·klėt). [f. NECK *sb.*[1] + -LET.]

1. An ornament for wearing round the neck.

1865 *Morn. Star* 23 May, The Prince and Princess presented their god-daughter with a necklet. 1884 J. HAWTHORNE *Pr. Saroni's Wife* V. 27 Her only ornaments were the necklet and bracelets of chased silver.

b. A small fur protector for the neck.

1896 *Daily News* 3 Oct. 6/5 The sable necklet is to be as much worn as ever this winter, the whole animal being used to form it.

2. A collar or belt for the neck.

1865 M. MACKENZIE *Use Laryngoscope* (1871) 108 The necklet which the patient wears, and to which one chain of the battery is attached.

Ne·ck-piece. [f. NECK *sb.*[1]]

1. The collar, or the part next the neck, of a garment.

1611 COTGR., *Collet*, .. the necke-peece of any garment. 1653 URQUHART *Rabelais* I. ix. 45 A foxes taile should be fastened to the neck-piece [F. *collet*] of..every one that [etc.]. 1713 ADDISON *Guard.* No. 100 ¶ 1 A certain female ornament by some called a Tucker, and by others the Neck-piece, being a slip of fine linnen or muslin that used to run..round the uppermost verge of the women's stays. 1787 BEATTIE *Scoticisms* 61 The neck-piece of a coat is in Scotland called the neck, and in England the cape. 1862 *Eng. Wom. Dom. Mag.*, The neck-piece is perfectly plain.

b. A piece of armour, cloth, etc., covering or protecting the neck.

1823 CRABB *Technol. Dict.*, *Neck-Piece*, a piece formerly used to cover the breast of an officer or soldier. 1896 *Harper's Mag.* Apr. 728/2 A worsted hood .. with a neck-piece that fitted about the chin.

2. † a. The neck. *Obs. rare.*

1605 MARSTON *Dutch Courtezan* III. iii, God bless thy neck-piece, and foutra! 1648 FANSHAWE *Il Pastor Fido* 77 To try all whether's stronger And faster on, thy neckpiece or My arm.

b. Of meat: The part of the carcass between the shoulder and the head.

c 1818 *Yng. Woman's Comp.* 22 The butcher should take out the kernels in the neck-pieces. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 99 The neck-piece..is partly laid bare by the removal of the shoulder.

Ne·ck-tie. [f. NECK *sb.*[1]] A narrow band of woven or knitted material placed round the neck and tied in front, a usual part of modern costume.

1838 *Workwoman's Guide* 80 Some-times the neck-tie is of a dark-coloured silk in the middle with two coloured ends. 1861 HUGHES *Tom Brown at Oxf.* xiv, Blake had great difficulty in adjusting his necktie before the glass. 1866 *Sat. Rev.* 21 Apr. 466/1 The gentleman in a white neck-tie.

b. *attrib.* in *U.S.* use. (See quot.)

1893 *Spectator* 7 Oct. 463 A lynching is gracefully described as a neck-tie party.

Hence **Ne·cktieless** *a.*, wearing no necktie.

1890 S. J. DUNCAN *Soc. Departure* 25 A necktie-less, heavy-coated, high-booted young man.

Ne·ck-vein. [f. NECK *sb.*[1]] A large vein in the neck (esp. of a horse).

1647 HEXHAM (1660), A Necke-veine, *een-Hals-ader*. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* (1721) I. 236 If it lie in the Maw.., let Blood in the Neck-Vein. 1766 *Complete Farmer* s.v. *Gripes*, It is more eligible to take it from the neck-vein. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 164 If the shoulder-point ..is covered,..it..indicates a well-filled neck-vein.

Ne·ck-verse. [f. NECK *sb.*[1]] A Latin verse printed in black-letter (usually the beginning of the fifty-first psalm) formerly set before one claiming benefit of clergy (see CLERGY 6), by reading which he might save his neck. Now only *Hist.*

a 1450 *Mankind* (Brandl) 506 Lett ws conne well owur neke verse, þat we hane not a choke. 1528 TINDALE *Obed. Chr. Man* (1550) 81 b, They have a sanctuary for y^e, to save y^e, yee and a necverse, if thou canst but rede a litle latenli. 1578 WHETSTONE *Promos & Cass.* IV. iv, It behoues me to be secret, or else my neck verse cun. 1607 HIERON *Wks.* I. 223 It is not good to put it vpon the psalme of *Miserere*, and the neck-verse, for sometime he proones no clarke. 1681 OTWAY *Soldier's Fort.* II. i, The Rogue can't write his Name, nor read his Neck-Verse, if he had occasion. 1735 SAVAGE *Progr. Divine* 14 Four years, thro' foggy ale, yet made him see, Just his neck-verse to read, and take degree. 1805 SCOTT *Last Minstr.* I. xxiv, Letter nor line know I never a one, Wer't my neck-verse at Hairibee. 1872 SHIPLEY *Gloss. Eccl. Terms* 338 A deputy of the bishop..appointed to give malefactors their neck-verses, and judge whether they read or not.

† b. In phr. *to put* (or *bring*) *to the neck-verse.* Also in *fig.* use. *Obs.*

1567 GOLDING *Ovid's Met.* VI. (1593) 127 She purposed to put the Lydian maid Arachne to her neck-verse. 1619 in *Crt. & Times Jas. I* (1848) II. 151 He..dissuaded earnestly from the enterprise, as that which was like enough .. to bring them all to the neck-verse. 1623 MABBE tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* II. 105, I swear I will put him to his Neck-verse, and see how well or ill he will come off.

† c. In *transf.* or *fig.* uses. *Obs.*

1615 BRATHWAIT *Strappado* (1878) 113 Her humour is my neck-verse, which to sort I cannot, if I should be banged for't. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* IV. i. § 20 These words, bread and cheese, were their neck-verse or Shibboleth, to distinguish them. *a* 1659 BP. BROWNRIG *Serm.* (1674) I. xxxviii. 473 He looks upon the Scripture .. as the very Neck-verse of his Condemnation.

Ne·ckweed. [f. NECK *sb.*[1]]

† 1. The plant hemp (with ref. to the use of hempen rope for hanging persons). Also *attrib.*

1562 [see GALLOW-GRASS.] 1588 *Marprel. Epist.* (Arb.) 17 A cawdell of Hempseed, and a playster of neckweed. 1611 in *Coryat's Crudities* I. 2 b, The neck-weed-gallow-grasses sapling plant. 1620 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Praise Hempseed* Wks. (1630) III. 66/2 Some call it Neck-weed, for it hath a tricke To cure the necke that's troubled with the crick. 1681 T. FLATMAN *Heraclitus Ridens* No. 4 (1713) I. 23 Have a care your Tutors do not give you some of the *Salad de Gascon*, which we call Neck-weed [*printed* -week], for it is apt to make a Man laugh but on one side of his Mouth.

2. *U. S.* (See quots.)

1846–50 A. WOOD *Class-bk. Bot.* 406 *Veronica Agrestis.* Neckweed. Field Speedwell. 1860 W. DARLINGTON *Amer. Weeds*, etc. 227 *Veronica peregrina*,..Foreign Veronica. Purslane Speedwell. Neckweed. *Ibid.*, It was at one time supposed to possess medicinal virtues in scrofulous affections—which acquired for it the name of 'Neckweed'.

Neclect, neclekk, obs. forms of NEGLECT *v.*

Necligence, -ent, obs. ff. NEGLIGENCE, etc.

Necles, obs. form of NECKLACE *sb.*

Necro- (nekro), sometimes **necr-**, combining form of Gr. *νεκρός* dead body or person, occurring in various compounds either of Gr. origin, as *necrolatry*, *necromancy*, *necropolis*, or of more modern formation, as *necrobiosis*, *necroscopy*, etc. (see below); also **necrodialogi·stical** *a.*, consisting of dialogues of the dead (*nonce-wd.*); **necroge·nic** *a.*, arising from, produced by, contact with dead bodies; **necro·genous** *a.*, growing on dead or dying tissues or organs (Mayne 1856); **necromo·rphous** *a.*, of coleopterous pupæ, motionless like a dead body; **ne·crophile,** one affected with necrophilism; **necro·philism,** a morbid fancy for the dead, or for contact with dead bodies; **necro·philous** *a.*, of fungi or beetles, living on dead substances or carrion; **necropho·bia, -pho·by,** a horror of death or of dead bodies (Craig 1849); **necropho·bic** *a.*, of the nature of necrophobia (Mayne 1856); **ne·crophore,** a burying-beetle, one belonging to the genus *Necrophorus*; so **necro·phorous** *a.*, belonging to this genus (*Cent. Dict.* 1890); **necroto·mic(al)** *a.*, of or pertaining to necrotomy (Mayne 1856); **necro·tomist,** a dissector of dead bodies (Craig 1849); **necro·tomy,** the dissection of dead bodies (*ibid.*); the excision of dead bone or tissue; **ne·crotype,** a type formerly existing in a region and now extinct; hence **necroty·pic** *a.*

Necr(o)- is also used in a number of other scientific terms, as *necræmia*, *necrencephalus*, *necronarcema*, etc.: see Mayne *Expos. Lex.* and the *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

1715 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* I. Pref. 23 Such Infernal Pamphlets were Lucian's Dialogues of old; and the Ingenious Mr. Brown's Parallels, of the same Necrodialogistical kind. 1864 *Chambers's Encycl.* VI. 695 The most extraordinary exhibition of necrophilism. 1883 GILL in *Smithsonian Rep.* 460 It is quite improbable that any of the American Melaniiform mollusks are necrotypes of Africa. 1895 tr. *Ferri's Crim. Sociol.* 28 Again there are the necrophiles, like Sergeant Bertrand. 1898 P. MANSON *Trop. Dis.* XXVI. 421 Necrotomy for bone disease may sometimes have to be performed. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 788 The sore putting on all the character of the 'necrogenic wart'.

‖ **Necrobiosis** (nekrobəiōu·sis). *Path.* [mod.L., f. NECRO- + Gr. *βίος* life: see -OSIS. Cf. F. *nécrobiose.*] The process of decay or death in tissues of the body; the gradual degeneration and death of a part through suspended or imperfect nutrition; an instance of this.

1880 A. FLINT *Princ. Med.* II. v. iii. 717 The majority of cases of softening are..the result of suspended nutrition (necrobiosis). 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 517 A circumscribed loss of substance of one or more coats of the stomach by a process which appears to be a necrobiosis.

Necrobiotic (nekrobəip·tik), *a. Path.* [f. as prec. + -OTIC. Cf. F. *nécrobiotique.*] Of, pertaining to, or characterized by necrobiosis.

1875 PAYNE *Jones' & Siev. Pathol. Anat.* 399 A hæmorrhagic block passes through a series of necrobiotic changes ending with absorption. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 272 Necrobiotic softenings, conditioned by non-irritative vascular occlusion.

Necrographer (nekrɒ·grăfəɹ). [-GRAPHER.] One who writes an obituary notice; a necrologist.

1862 THACKERAY *Philip* xxi, Those obituary notices to which noblemen of eminence must submit from the mysterious necrographer engaged by that paper. 1866 *London Rev.* 30 June 721/1 His necrographer does not take the trouble of burying him.

Necrolatry (nekrɒ·lătri). [ad. eccl. Gr. *νεκρολατρεία* worship of the dead, f. *νεκρός* NECRO- + *λατρεία* worship.] Worship of, or excessive reverence displayed towards, the dead.

1826 G. S. Faber *Sacr. Calend. Prophecy* (1844) II. 291 The members of that Church alone can be suspected of idolatry and necrolatry. 1842 — *Prov. Lett.* (1844) II. 59 Curious specimens of the Necrolatry of the fourth century. 1882 Lyall *Asiat. Stud.* 18 The process by which other .. ideas of supernaturalism may .. have developed out of this universal necrolatry.

Necrolo·gic, *a.* ? *Obs. rare.* [f. Necrology + -ic. Cf. F. *nécrologique.*] = next.

1796 W. Taylor in *Monthly Rev.* XXI. 497 The necrologic table of the men of letters or artists whom Rome could muster. 1804 — in *Crit. Rev.* III. 559 The remarkable deaths..continue to be recorded in this necrologic almanac.

Necrological (nekrǫlǫ·dʒikăl), *a.* [f. as prec. + -ical.] Belonging to necrology; obituary.

1828–32 in Webster. 1845 *Proc. Amer. Philos. Soc.* IV. 196 A necrological notice of Judge Story. 1856 W. H. Smyth *Catal. Coins Dk. Northumbld.* 244 The truth of history has been greatly corrupted by necrological laudatory essays. 1880 *Daily Tel.* 7 Oct., The task of compiling a necrological account..was obviously a very easy one.

Hence **Necrolo·gically** *adv.*, with reference to necrology, in the fashion of an obituary notice.

1802 Southey *Letl.* (1856) I. 203 The gentleman..that will one day execute me biographically or rather necrologically dissect me. 1900 R. Buchanan in *Contemp. Rev.* Feb. 223 This, by the by, is a little necrologically mixed.

Necrologist (nekrǫ·lŏdʒist). [f. Necrology + -ist.] One who writes an obituary notice.

1803 *Naval Chron.* X. 177 The necrologist has every previous collection before him. 1894 *Review Current Hist.* (Buffalo, N. Y.) IV. 967 An attempt to describe .. might almost be spared his immediate necrologist.

Necrologue (ne·krǫlǫg). [f. Necro- + -logue.] An obituary notice.

1884 *Standard* 27 Oct. 5/4 An extremely warm necrologue of the deceased Duke. 1891 *Athenæum* 11 July 61/2 Both the necrologues and the reviews were originally printed in these columns.

Necrology (nekrǫ·lŏdʒi). [See Necro- and -logy. In sense 1, ad. med.L. *necrologium*, repr. Gr. **νεκρολόγιον* (cf. Martyrology): hence also F. *nécrologe.* Cf. F. *nécrologie* in senses 2 and 3.]

1. An ecclesiastical or monastic register containing entries of the deaths of persons connected with, or commemorated by, the church, monastery, etc.

1727–38 Chambers *Cycl.* 1817 Fosbroke *Brit. Monachism* xxxvi (ed. 2) 305 They were entered in the Necrology, selected from thence on the day of their decease, and ..suitable prayers said. 1846 Maskell *Mon. Rit.* I. p. cxlix, The Martyrology must not be confounded with a volume.. which more properly was the Necrology.

b. A list of persons who have died within a certain time; a death-roll.

1854 *Tait's Mag.* XXI. 16 The necrology of the period in question does not contain in its registers the names of many great men. 1879 *Athenæum* 6 Dec. 731 Very heavy is this year's necrology in the Royal Society.

2. An obituary notice.

1799 Southey in Robberds *Mem. W. Taylor* (1843) I. 294 If this be worth mentioning in your necrology. 1812 B. Field in *Examiner* 9 Nov. 715/1 To the Memory of Daniel Parker, Esq...upon reading his Necrology.

3. The history of the dead.

1830 Galt *Lawrie T.* III. iv, It is believed by those to whom I was formerly known, that I exist no longer. My story belongs to necrology.

Necromance. *Obs.* exc. *arch.* Forms: 4 nigromaunce, 4–5 -mance, 5 nygramance, 9 negromance. [a. OF. *nigromance, nigra-*, etc. (12th c.): see Necromancy.] Necromancy.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 22112 (Edinb.), Of enchanteors, Of nigromance and of guglurs. 1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 45 With Nigromance he wole assaile To make his incantacioun. *c* 1400 *Beryn* 2772 The wich been so perfite of Nygramance. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 255/1 Nigromance, *nigromancia.* 1836 *For. Q. Rev.* XVII. 102 He came from Toledo hence, Where he had learned negromance.

Necromancer (ne·krǫmænsəɹ). Forms: *a.* 4–6 nygro-, (5 nygra-); 4–7 (9) nigro-, (5–6 nigra-); 6–8 negro-. *β.* 6– necro-, (6 nicro-). Also 4–5 -mauncer(e, 5 -mancere, -ciere, 5–7 -mancier; 4–6 -manser, 4 -sere, 5 -sier, -syer, *Sc.* -sour, 6 -sir. [a. OF. *nigromansere*: see Necromancy and -er 1.] One who practises necromancy; one who claims to carry on communication with the dead; more generally, a wizard, magician, wonder-worker, conjurer.

a. 13.. *Cursor M.* 22112 (Gött.), Noris him sal enchanturs, Of nigromancers and of iugelurs. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* IV. 242 The erll Ferrandis moder was Ane nygramansour. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 19 Machometus, þe fals prophete and nigromancier, deceyvede the Agarenys in thys maner. *c* 1489 Caxton *Sonnes of Aymon* xi. 277 He was the subtillest nygramancer that ever was in the worlde. *a* 1540 Barnes *Wks.* (1573) 331/2 Gregory the seuenth, which was.. a great nygromancer, and very familyar with the deuill. 1580 Lyly *Euphues* (Arb.) 444 It may bee, thought I, that in this Island .. some odd Nigromancer did inhabit, who would shewe me Fayries. 1658 tr. *Bergerac's Satyr. Char.* xii. 46, I teach the Negromancers to destroy their Enemies. 1710 *Pict. of Malice* 11 The Print is .. a Talisman (bequeath'd..by a..Negromancer). 1829 W. Irving *Granada* (1850) 342 The Moorish nigromancer stood beside him.

β. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Edw. IV* 211 Her frendes on the other side, said.. her iorney [was] empeched by Sorcerers and Necromanciers. 1579 Fulke *Refut. Rastel* 728 Marcus an heretique and Necromanser, made that by enchantment, there should appeare very bloud in the chalice. 1634 Milton *Comus* 649 You may Boldly assault the necromancers hall. 1681 H. More in *Glanvill's Sadducismus* I. Postscr. (1726) 19 Necromancers; that is, those that .. do raise the Ghosts of the deceased to consult with. 1709 Swift *Vind. Bickerstaff* Wks. 1751 IV. 223 The General who was forced to kill his Enemies twice over, whom a Necromancer had raised to life. 1796 Bp. Watson *Apol. Bible* vi. 55 There were false prophets, witches, necromancers .. among the Jews. 1857 Hughes *Tom Brown* I. iii, The young necromancer declared that the same wonder would appear in all the rooms in turn. *a* 1873 Lytton *Pausanias* III. i, Does it need the Necromancer to convince us that the soul does not perish when the breath leaves the lips?

appos. 1854 Col. Wiseman *Fabiola* II. vii, She promised to prevent the nightly excursions of her necromancer slave.

†**Necromancien.** *Obs.* Forms: 4 negre-, negro-, nigromancien, nygromancyene, 5 nygromancien, 6 nigromancian. [a. OF. *negro-, nigromancien*, f. *negro-, nigromancie*, Necromancy.] A necromancer.

1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 8154 Þat sheweþ well seynt Cypryene, He was a nygromancyene. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Pars. T.* P 529 (Harl. MS.), As doon these false enchantours or nigromanciens in bacines ful of water. 1430–40 Lydg. *Bochas* I. iv. (MS. Bodl. 263) 20 Where philisophres & Nygromanciens Gan first tabounde. 1509 Barclay *Shyp of Folys* (1570) 198 Nigromancians, and false witches also Are of this sort folowing like offence.

Necromancing (ne·krǫmænsiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. Necromanc-er + -ing 1.] The art or practice of necromancy. So **Ne·cromancing** *ppl. a.*

1853 De Quincey *Autob. Sk.* vi. Wks. I. 173 The mighty necromancing witch. 1883 J. Mackenzie *Day-dawn Dark places* 65 The chief season of praying and necromancing begins when they have sown their corn.

Necromancy (ne·krǫmænsi). Forms: *a.* 4–6 nygro-, 4–7 nigro-, 5–7 negro-; 4 nygre-, nigre-, 5 negre-; 4–6 nygra-, 4 nigra-. *β.* 6 nycro-, nicro-, 6– necro-. Also 4 -maunci, 4–5 -mauncy(e; 4–6 -mancye, -manci, 4–7 -mancie; 4–5 -mansi, 6 -sie, 4–6 -mansy(e, 5 -monseye. [a. OF. *nygromancie* (more commonly *-mance*: see Necromance) = Sp. *nigromancia*, It. *nigro-, negromanzia*, med.L. *nigromantia* (1212 in Du Cange), an alteration, by association with L. *niger, nigr-*, black (cf. Black art), of L. *necromantia*, ad. Gr. *νεκρομαντεία*, f. *νεκρο-* Necro- + *μαντεία* divination, prophecy. From *c* 1550 the form *necro-* has been restored after Gr., as in F. *nécromancie.*

In *Merlin* (*c* 1450) pp. 375 and 508 the form *egramauncye* occurs; for an archaic 19th c. example see Egromancy. This dropping of the *n* appears also in the OF. form *igromancie.*]

1. The pretended art of revealing future events, etc., by means of communication with the dead; more generally, magic, enchantment, conjuration.

a. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 22112 Norijs him sal enchaunters, O nigramanci and o jugulors. 1362 Langl. *P. Pl. A.* XI. 158 Nigromancye and perimancie the pouke to rise maketh. *c* 1420 Lydg. *Assembly of Gods* 867 Nygromansy, Geomansy, Magyk and Glotony. 1496 *Dives & Paup.* (W. de W.) I. xxxvi. 77/2 He forbedeth..nygromancye, that is wytchecrafte done by deed bodyes. *c* 1530 Ld. Berners *Arth. Lyt. Bryt.* (1814) 43 A passage of the bred of a spere length made by nygramancye. 1594 ?Greene *Selimus* Wks. (Grosart) XIV. 257 He may by diuellish Negromancie Procure my death. 1627 Drayton *Agincourt*, etc. 118 This Pallace standeth in the Ayre, By Nigromancie placed there. 1660 R. Coke *Power & Subj.* 161 We do forbid feigned Willworship, Negromancy, Divinations, Witchcrafts. 1862 S. Lucas *Secularia* 121 Nigromancy took its place among the regular callings.

β. 1522 Skelton *Why not to Court* 693 It was by nycromansy, By carecles and coniuracyon. 1555 Eden *Decades* 298 The great citie of Cambalu was in maner destroyed by necromancie. 1610 B. Jonson *Alch.* I. iii, I would know.. Which way I should make my dore, by necromancie. 1672 Marvell *Reh. Transp.* I. 73 You by your Necromancy have disturb'd him, and rais'd his Ghost. 1726 Swift *Gulliver* III. vii, By his Skill in Necromancy he hath a Power of calling whom he pleaseth from the Dead. 1774 Warton *Hist. Eng. Poetry* I. Diss. i. 59 Jarl, a magician of Saxland, exhibits his feats of necromancy before Charlemagne. 1819 G. S. Faber *Dispensations* (1823) II. 94 One of the prohibited modes of divining was by necromancy. 1864 Burton *Scot Abr.* II. i. 60 A world of wandering theories..taken from necromancy, and all the imaginative sciences.

transf. 1665 Boyle *Occas. Reft., Disc. Occas. Medit.* II. ii, To be able, by an innocent kind of Necromancy, to consult the dead. 1827 Hare *Guesses* (1859) 174 Much of this world's wisdom is still acquired by necromancy,—by consulting the oracular dead. 1852 Mrs. Stowe *Uncle Tom's C.* xxxv, A dread, unhallowed necromancy of evil.

b. With *a* and *pl.*

1550 Bale *Apol.* 20 b, Neuer had the sothsayers of Egypte ..more subtile pointes of conueyaunce, wyth all their incantaciouns and necromancies. 1585 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* IV. xix. 134 All..sorts of southsayings and Nicromancies. 1612 Drayton *Poly-olb.* iv. 338 Her to the rocke hee brought In which hee oft before his Nigromancies wrought. 1831 Brewster *Nat. Magic* IV. (1833) 68 An account of a modern necromancy, which has been left us by the celebrated Benvenuto Cellini. *a* 1849 J. C. Mangan *Poems* (1859) 79 Love, with all his necromancies, fled.

2. Applied, after Gr. and L. use, to the part of the Odyssey describing Ulysses' visit to Hades.

1601 Holland *Pliny* II. 548 The Necromancie of the Poët Homer. This picture Nicias held at so high a price, that [etc.]. 1850 Mure *Lit. Greece* II. x. § 5 Nowhere, perhaps, does the contrast between the Ulysses of Homer and the Ulysses of the later fable .. appear in a more prominent light than in the 'Necromancy'.

Necroma·neous, *a. rare* −1. [irreg. f. prec. + -eous.] Necromantic.

1801 tr. *Gabrielli's Mysterious Husb.* II. 21 The priest, who by a necromaneous assistance, persuaded himself he had attained the Papal dignity.

†**Necromant.** *Obs.* In 7 nigro-, 7–8 negromant. [ad. It. *negromante*, = Sp. *nigromante*, obs. F. *négromant* (mod.F. *nécro-*), ad. Gr. *νεκρόμαντις*, f. *νεκρο-* Necro- + *μάντις* diviner: see Necromancy.] A necromancer.

1598 Florio, *Emetren*, a precious stone .. vsed of Nigromants. *a* 1626 Moryson *Itin.* IV. (1903) 268 Scotus an Italian, calling himselfe an Astrologer, .. but by others reputed a Negromant. 1755 T. H. Croker *Orl. Fur.* III. lxvi, You could not stand against this negromant.

Necromantic (ne·krǫmæntik), *a.* and *sb.* Also 6–7 nigro-, negro-; 6 nekro-, 7 nicro-. [ad. late L. *necromanticus* or med.L. *negro-*: see prec. and -mantic. Cf. obs. F. *nigromantique*, Sp. *nigro-*, It. *negromantico.*]

A. *adj.* **1.** Of persons: Given to the practice of necromancy.

1574 Hellowes *Gueuara's Fam. Ep.* (1577) 33 A Nekromantike priest did aduertise him, that hee should not dismay. 1621 Burton *Anat. Mel.* III. ii. III. v. (1651) 500 Wenches could not sleep in their beds for Necromantick Friers. 1737 Whiston *Josephus, Antiq.* VI. xiv. § 2 This sort of necromantic women, who bring up the souls of the dead. 1821 Scott *Pirate* xx, Had she really seen and conversed with a necromantic dwarf [etc.].

2. Of, belonging to, or used in necromancy or magic; performed by necromancy.

c 1590 Greene *Fr. Bacon* i, It must be nigromanticke spels, And charmes of Art that must inchaine her loue. 1638 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* (ed. 2) 232 Nicromantic studies are much applauded, as profound. 1664 Butler *Hud.* II. iii. 95 Oh! that I cou'd..find,..by necromantick art, How far the destinies take my part! 1754 Catesby *Nat. Hist. Carolina* II. p. xiv, By such necromantic delusions .. these crafty doctors .. raise their own credit. 1782–3 W. F. Martyn *Geog. Mag.* I. 687 Their bodies marked with necromantic figures. 1813 Scott *Trierm.* II. xxvii, Till, in necromantic might, Gyneth vanish'd from their sight. 1878 Spurgeon *Treas. Dav.* Ps. cvi. 28 Perhaps they assisted in necromantic rites which were intended to open a correspondence with departed spirits.

b. *transf.* Magical, wonderful.

1630 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Navy Land Ships* Wks. I. 93/1 What Necromanticke spells are Rut, Vault, Slot, Pores, and Entryes. *c* 1645 Howell *Lett.* V. 28 O powrfull Negromantic eyes. 1849 Ruskin *Sev. Lamps* II. § 12. 39 To give a delightful sense of a kind of necromantic power in the architect. 1883 *Knowledge* 15 June 357/1 The planets.. whose mysterious portals we..are seeking to enter this night with necromantic art.

B. *sb.* †**1.** A necromancer. *Obs.*

1574 Hellowes *Gueuara's Fam. Ep.* (1577) 142 Perchaunce thou art a Nekromantike, and hast enchaunted him. 1609 Sir E. Hoby *Let. to T. H*[iggons] 97 Had not Syluester been a Necromanticke..and Marcellinus an open Idolater. 1652 Gaule *Magastrom.* 221 By the stone called elitropia (or, as the nigromanticks) the Babylonian gemme.

2. *pl.* Conjuring tricks. *rare* −1.

1742 Young *Nt. Th.* VIII. 346 Two state-rooks, .. With all the necromantics of their art, Playing the game of faces on each other.

†**Necromantical,** *a. Obs.* Also 6 nigro-, 7 negro-. [f. prec. + -al.] Necromantic.

1590 Forman *Diary* (Halliw.) 21 At Al-hallontyd I entred the cirkell for nigromanticall spells. 1603 Heydon *Jud. Astrol.* xii. 309 These Necromanticall Images, fathered vpon Albertus. 1651 *Raleigh's Ghost* 180 The like Negromantical evocation to be made by Scipio, is read in Silvius. *a* 1682 Sir T. Browne *Tracts* (1683) 177 That he principally affected Poetry..seems plain from his necromantical Prophecies.

Hence †**Necromantically** *adv. Obs. rare* −1.

a 1646 J. Gregory *Posthuma, Assyr. Monarch.* (1650) 199 After som diabolical Exorcisms, Necromantically performed, the head shall proue vocal.

†**Necromantist.** *Obs. rare* −1. [f. as next + -ist.] A necromancer.

a 1608 Dee *Relat. Spir.* I. (1659) 247 A haukrupt Alchimist, a Conjurer, and Necromantist.

†**Necromanty.** *Obs. rare.* In 6–7 -tie. [ad. L. *necromantia.*] = Necromancy.

1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 340 Is it not a great shame, that thou shouldest wholy depend upon Astrology and Necromantie? 1601 Holland *Pliny* II. Table, Necromantie of Homer painted by Nicias. 1677 Gale *Crt. Gentiles* III. 68 Divinations .. from dead persons, which they called *νεκρομαντεία*, Necromantie.

Ne·cronite. *Min.* [f. Necro- + -(n)ite.] A variety of orthoclase, giving out a fetid smell when broken or struck.

1819 Hayden in *Amer. Jrnl. Sci.* (1820) I. 306 Necronite .. occurs, for the most part, in isolated masses in the blocks or slabs, both in an amorphous and crystallized state. *c* 1830 *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VI. 509/1 Necronite..appears from its cleavage, hardness, and some other characters to be felspar. 1861 Bristow *Gloss. Min.* 256/2. 1885 Ramsay *Min.* (ed. 3) 280.

Necro·phagan. *rare* −0. *Zool.* [Cf. next and -an.] A necrophagous beetle.

1842 Brande *Dict. Sci.*, etc., *Necrophagans*, the name of a family of Clavicorn beetles, comprehending those which feed on dead and decomposing animal substances. [Hence in Ogilvie *Suppl.* (1855) and later Dicts.]

Necrophagous (nekrǫ·făgəs), *a. Zool.* [ad. Gr. *νεκροφάγος*: see Necro- and -phagous. Cf. F. *nécrophage.*] Feeding on dead bodies or carrion.

1835 Kirby *Hab. & Inst. Anim.* II. xvi. 70 Necrophagous animals, or those which devour dead ones, or any other

putrescent substances. 1845 DARWIN *Voy. Nat.* iii. (1879) 56 Their vulture-like, necrophagous habits are very evident to any one. 1899 *19th Century* June 943 A part is at once assimilated by necrophagous creatures.

Necropolis (nekrɒ·pŏlis). Also **nekro-**. [a. Gr. *νεκρόπολις* city of the dead, cemetery, f. *νεκρός* corpse + *πόλις* city.] A cemetery; freq. used as the name of large cemeteries in or near cities.

1819 SOUTHEY in *Q. Rev.* XXI. 381 To rid the city of its burial places, and establish a necropolis without the walls. 1831 J. STRANG *Necropolis Glasguensis* Pref. 6 Argument for the establishment in this neighbourhood of a Necropolis. 1870–4 J. THOMSON *City Dreadf. Nt.* i. viii, In some necropolis you find Perchance one mourner to a thousand dead. *fig.* 1831 CARLYLE *Sart. Res.* III. vii, How shall we domesticate ourselves in this spectral Necropolis, or rather City both of the Dead and of the Unborn?

attrib. 1854 COL. WISEMAN *Fabiola* II. i, It was not a cemetery or necropolis company.., but rather a pious and recognised confraternity.

b. An old or prehistoric burying-place.

1850 GROTE *Greece* II. lix. (1862) V. 213 Extensive catacombs yet remain to mark the length of time during which this ancient Nekropolis served its purpose. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* i. § 1. 9 Hill and hill-slope were the necropolis of a vanished race.

c. *pl.* in various forms.

Necropoles may possibly be intended as pl. of *necropole*, after F. *nécropole*; there is, however, no example of such a form in the singular.

1864 *Chambers's Encycl.* VI. 695 The most remarkable necropolises are that of Thebes, [etc.]. 1874 LADY HERBERT tr. *Hübner's Ramble* II. vii. (1878) 380 Save these two necropoli, I have seen all the most celebrated monuments of Japan. 1885 *Century Mag.* XXXI. 2 The necropoleis of Lycian Myra. 1885 *Pall Mall G.* 13 June 4/2 Mr. Richter's researches into the early necropoles of Cyprus.

Hence **Necropo·litan** *a.*, of or belonging to a necropolis.

1892 *Spectator* 23 Jan. 115 That singular necropolitan peerage, the death-list of the *Times*.

Necropsy (nekrɒ·psi). *Surg.* [ad. Gr. type **νεκροψία*, f. *νεκρός* corpse + *ὄψις* sight. Cf. F. *nécropsie*.]

1. A post-mortem examination, an autopsy.

1856 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.* 1860 TANNER *Pregnancy* vii. 288 At the necropsy the corpus luteum was found in the right ovary. 1880 MACKENZIE *Dis. Throat & Nose* I. 99 At the necropsy of a case..ulcers were found on the lateral walls of the pharynx.

2. Surgical investigation of a dead body.

1881 *Nature* No. 615. 347 It was pathological anatomy which replaced mysticism by realism, speculation by necropsy. 1891 *Cycl. Temp. & Prohib.* 628/1 Necropsy reveals either an empty heart or black fluid.

Necroscopic (nekrɒskɒ·pik), *a. Surg.* [f. NECROSCOP-Y + -IC.] Of or belonging to necroscopy or post-mortem examinations.

1843 R. J. GRAVES *Syst. Clin. Med.* xxii. 267 An opinion which was borne out by the necroscopic phenomena. 1869 *Athenæum* 9 Oct. 464/2 A necroscopic room in which will be received all cases of doubtful death. 1895 *Forum* (U. S.) Sept. 37 The necroscopic characteristics which assimilate the European criminal to the Mongolian..type.

Hence **Necrosco·pical** *a.*

1855 in OGILVIE *Suppl.* 1859 SEMPLE *Diphtheria* 110 The results of my first observations have been confirmed by new necroscopical researches.

Necroscopy (nekrɒ·skŏpi). *Surg.* [ad. Gr. type **νεκροσκοπία*, f. *νεκρός* corpse + *σκοπεῖν* to look, examine. Cf. F. *nécroscopie*.] The examination of bodies after death.

1842 PRICHARD in Abdy *Water Cure* 173 We know sufficiently from necroscopy, that the results of inflammatory action take place. 1847 tr. *Feuchtersleben's Med. Psychol.* 259 These are the ..more constant results of psychiatric necroscopy. 1893 W. R. GOWER *Man. Dis. Nerv. Syst.* (ed. 2) II. 325 *note*, The Pathological Society received the curiosities of Metropolitan necroscopy.

Necrose (nekrōus, ne·krous), *v. Path.* [f. NECROS-IS. Cf. F. *nécroser.*] *intr.* To mortify; to become affected with necrosis.

1873 F. T. ROBERTS *Handbk. Med.* 283 The cartilages often necrose. 1898 P. MANSON *Trop. Diseases* xxxvii. 563 Lymph which subsequently and rapidly necroses.

Hence **Necrosing** *ppl. a.*

1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV. 708 The somewhat hypothetical 'necrosing ethmoidites'. *Ibid.* V. 969 Producing inflammatory or necrosing changes in the tissues.

Necrosed (nekrōust, ne·krəust), *ppl. a. Path.* [f. NECROS-IS + -ED, perh. after F. *nécrosé*.] Mortified, affected by necrosis.

1830 R. KNOX *Béclard's Anat.* 273 The specimen of necrosed scapula in the museum of Charenton. 1849–52 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* IV. 939/2 The portion of necrosed bone ..was removed many years before. 1876 *Trans. Clinical Soc.* IX. 180 The entire shaft is denuded of periosteum and necrosed.

‖ **Necrosis** (nekrōu·sis). [mod.L., a. Gr. *νέκρωσις* deadness, f. *νεκροῦν* to kill, mortify, f. *νεκρός* corpse : see -OSIS.]

1. *Path.* The death of a circumscribed piece of tissue; mortification, esp. of the bones.

1665 NEEDHAM *Med. Medicinæ* 410 Which congeled portions cause a Necrosis or inward Mortification. 1693 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Necrosis*, a black and blue Mark in any part. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Necrosis*. .. In Surgery, a perfect Mortification of the soft and hard Parts of the Body. 1799 *Med. Jrnl.* II. 382 Mr. Russell, who published, in 1794, a Practical Essay on Necrosis. 1805 *Ibid.* XIV. 300 At the first sight I suspected it to be a Necrosis. 1830 R. KNOX *Béclard's Anat.* 236 The repairing of bones when divided or affected with necrosis. 1876 BRISTOWE *Th. & Pract. Med.* (1878) 369 Cases in which the cartilages are in a state of necrosis.

b. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *necrosis-producing* adj.; **necrosis forceps**, an instrument for removing portions of diseased bone (Knight, 1884).

1891 *Daily News* 16 Jan. 2/4 Wherever tubercle bacilli.. have already impregnated their surroundings with the necrosis-producing substance.

2. *Bot.* (See quot.)

1866 *Treas. Bot.* 780/1 *Necrosis*. Canker. A drying and dying of the branch of a tree, beginning with the bark and eating gradually inwards.

† 3. (See quot. and Coloss. iii. 5.) *Obs. rare* —⁰.

1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Necrosis*, (in Divinity) a mortifying of corrupt Affections.

† **Necrosy.** *Obs. rare.* [Anglicized f. NECROSIS.] Necrosis.

1657 TOMLINSON *Renou's Disp.* 113 They bring to the parts a certain necrosy or mortification.

Necrotic (nekrɒ·tik), *a. Path.* [f. Gr. *νεκροῦν* (see NECROSIS) + -OTIC.] In a state of necrosis; characterized by, exhibiting necrosis.

1876 tr. *Wagner's Gen. Pathol.* 203 After 4 or 5 days of ligation the tongue becomes necrotic. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 340 The necrotic process extending from within outwards.

Necrotiza·tion. *Path.* [-ATION.] The process of bringing tissue into a state of necrosis.

1859 *Chamb. Jrnl.* XI. 205 Kussmaul has tried some curious experiments on what he calls the necrotisation of limbs, by injection of chloroform. 1891 *Daily News* 27 Apr. 5/3 We now only hear of tuberculin as 'an agent that can.. hasten the necrotisation of tubercle'.

Necrotize (ne·krətəiz), *v. Path.* [f. NECROT-IC + -IZE.] *intr.* To become affected with necrosis.

Hence **Ne·crotizing** *ppl. a.*

1873 T. H. GREEN *Introd. Pathol.* (ed. 2) 15 The extension of the necrotizing process to the surface. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 715 The peculiar lesions .. might be described as necrotising chillblains.

Nectar (ne·ktăı). Also 6 **-er**. [a. L. *nectar*, a. Gr. *νέκταρ*, of obscure origin.]

1. *Class. Myth.* The drink of the gods.

Sometimes incorrectly applied to the food of the gods: see AMBROSIA 2.

1555 EDEN *Decades* To Rdr. (Arb.) 49 The sweete ambrosia and nectar wherwith the goddes are fedde. 1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* Nov. 195 There lives shee with the blessed Gods in blisse, There drincks she Nectar with Ambrosia mixt. 1616 R. C. *Times' Whistle* v. 1913 He esteemes the nectar of the goddes..to come short..Of this delicious iuice. 1684 T. BURNET *The. Earth* I. 190 They would never have seen seven..hundred years go over their heads, though they had been nourisht with nectar and ambrosia. *c* 1718 PRIOR *Mercury & Cupid* 21 We'll take one cooling cup of nectar. 1819 SHELLEY *Prometh. Unb.* III. i. 30 Drink! be the nectar circling through your veins The soul of joy. 1873 HAMERTON *Intell. Life* I. iii. 21 Not the nectar of the gods..were worth the dash of a wave upon the beach.

fig. 1557 GRIMALDE in *Tottel's Misc.* (Arb.) 104 Woords, sweeter than the sugar sweet, with heauenly nectar drest. 1601 B. JONSON *Poetaster* v. i, Knowledge is the nectar, that keepes sweet A perfect soule. 1657 H. PINNELL *Philos. Ref.* 215 That..they may..drink of the everlasting Ambrosian Nectar of Eternity. 1758 JOHNSON *Idler* No. 32 ¶ 9 All..implore from Nature's hand the nectar of oblivion. 1784 COWPER *Task* VI. 244 He inspires Their balmy odours, ..And bathes their eyes with nectar.

b. Applied to the moisture on the lips.

1592 SHAKS. *Ven. & Ad.* 572 Had she then gave over, Such nectar from his lips she had not suck'd. 1631 MASSINGER *Emperor East* II, May I taste then The nectar of her lip?

2. *transf.* a. Any delicious wine or other drink.

1583 STUBBES *Anat. Abus.* M iv b, The Nippitatum, this Huf-cap (as they call it) and this nectar of lyfe. 1638 BAKER tr. *Balzac's Lett.* (vol. II.) 200 These fellowes .. call the worst wine they drink Nectar. 1662 H. STUBBE (*title*) The Indian Nectar, or a Discourse concerning Chocolate. 1718 OZELL tr. *Tournefort's Voy.* I. 283 In making Nectar, so called even to this day, they make use of another kind of grape. 1775 R. CHANDLER *Trav. Greece* (1825) II. 3 It lay opposite to the rugged tract called Arvisia, once famous for its nectar. 1800 MOORE *Anacreon* xxxviii, Grasp the bowl; in nectar sinking, Man of sorrow, drown thy thinking! 1863 MARY HOWITT tr. *F. Bremer's Greece* I. vii. 246 The Malvasia wine is an earthly nectar.

b. The sweet fluid or honey produced by plants, esp. as collected by bees.

1609 BUTLER *Fem. Mon.* i. (1623) B iij, Whereas they gather with the one Nectar, with the other Ambrosia. 1657 PURCHAS *Pol. Flying-Ins.* I. xv. 94 Thyme, which onely yeeldeth Nectar. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* IV. 240 Sweet Honey some condense,..The rest, in Cells apart, the liquid Nectar shut. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* II. 463 As bees mixt Nectar draw from fragrant flow'rs. 1796 C. MARSHALL *Garden.* ii. (1813) 22 From flowers we eventually gratify the palate by a valuable nectar. 1859 DARWIN *Orig. Spec.* iv. (1873) 74 The bees, which had flown from tree to tree in search of nectar. 1875 BENNETT & DYER tr. *Sachs' Bot.* 472 Insects ..searching for the nectar.

† c. (See quot.) *Obs. rare* —⁰.

1693 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Necta[r]*..with Physicians .. signifies rather a Medicinal Drink, but with a most delicious colour, taste and smell. [Hence in Phillips (1696) and some later Dicts.]

3. a. *attrib.*, as *nectar cup, dew, epistle, -flood, fountain, love, stream*; (sense 2 b) *nectar-chamber, -gland*; **nectar-bird**, a honey-sucker or sunbird belonging to the *Nectariniidæ*; **nectar-guides, -marks, or -spots**, coloured marks or spots on certain plants, supposed to indicate the point at which the nectar is secreted (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1892).

1842 *Penny Cycl.* XXIII. 284/2 The difference between the two structures is softened down by the intervention of the *nectar-birds. 1865 DK. ARGYLL in *Gd. Words* Mar. 231 Some of these have *nectar-chambers of most curious plan. 1847 EMERSON *Poems, To Rhea*, Who drinks of Cupid's *nectar cup Loveth downward, and not up. 1798 SOTHEBY tr. *Wieland's Oberon* (1826) I. 118 Scarce his tongue..Had from the goblet suck'd the *nectar dew. 1622 PEACHAM *Compl. Gent.* x. (1634) 92 What can be .. more sweete than that *nectar Epistle of his? 1610 G. FLETCHER *Christ's Vict.* I, To allay With dropping *nectar floods, the furie of their way. *a* 1618 RALEIGH *Rem.* (1644) 256 Over the silver Mountains, Where springs the *Nectar Fountains. 1883 *Evang. Mag.* July 310 This is the *nectar-gland, and it, with its scale, is called the Nectary. *a* 1649 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Poems* Wks. (1711) 23/1 So in the sweetness of his *nectar love .. Sowr is far better. 1602 MARSTON *Ant. & Mel.* v. Wks. 1856 I. 67 On *Nectar streams of your sweete ayres, to flote.

b. *Comb.*, as *nectar-breathing, -dropping, -like, -loving, -secreting, -seeking, -spouting, -streaming, -tongued.*

1597 *Pilgr. Parnass.* IV. 386 One touch of her sweete *nectar-breathinge mouth. 1619 DRAYTON *Wks.* (1753) IV. 1280 Where..myrrhe-breathing zephyr..Gently distills his *nectar-dropping showers. 1647 H. MORE *Cupid's Conflict* lxviii, Thy Nectar-dropping Muse, thy sugar'd song. 1839–52 BAILEY *Festus* 490 Intwined about with nectar-dropping flowers. 1598 FLORIO, *Nettareo*,..sweet, pleasant, *Nectar-like. 1897 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* Dec. 663 *Nectar-loving insects. 1880 BESSEY *Botany* § 531 Provided with *nectar-secreting glands. 1835 W. IRVING *Tour Prairies* 63 A very paradise for the *nectar-seeking bee. 1601 WEEVER *Mirr. Mart.* (Roxb.) 233 By Elysiums *Nectar-sponting fountaines. 1745 WARTON *Pleas. Melanch.* 292 Though Venus .. With her on *nectar-streaming fruitage feast. 1596 FITZ-GEFFREY *Sir F. Drake* (1881) 78 *Nectar-tongu'd Sydney, Englands Mars, and Muse.

Necta·real, *a. rare.* [-AL.] = next.

1652 CRASHAW *Carmen Deo Nostro* Wks. (1904) 197 In .. Thy Nectareall Fragrancy .. there meetes An universall Synod of All sweets. 1658 ROWLAND tr. *Mouffet's Theat. Ins.* 907 First of all we will treat of Honey, that immortal, nectareal, pleasant, wholsome juice. 1809 E. S. BARRETT *Setting Sun* III. 39 A bottle of nectareal champaigne.

Nectarean (nektē·rĭăn), *a.* [f. L. *nectare-us* (see NECTAREOUS) + -AN.] Of the nature of, or resembling, nectar.

1624 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* III. ii. III. (ed. 2) 418 Shee will adventure all her estate .. for a Nectarean, a balsome kisse alone. 1651 STANLEY *Poems* 68 The vernal violets Nectarean juice. 1695 BLACKMORE *Pr. Arth.* I. 406 Ambrosial Food, and rich Nectarean Wine. 1813 *Sporting Mag.* XLII. 218 Like Homer's Gods quite muzz'd in oceans, Or the pure nectarean potions. 1857 B. W. PROCTER *Dram. Scenes*, etc. 401 Where the streams Of Poesy refine the brain With sweet thoughts nectarean.

Nectared (ne·ktăıd), *a.* [f. NECTAR + -ED 2.] Filled, flavoured, or impregnated with nectar; deliciously sweet or fragrant. (*lit.* and *fig.*)

c 1595 SOUTHWELL *St. Peter's Complaint* 15 You Nectar'd Aumbryes of soule feeding meates. *c* 1614 SIR W. MURE *Dido & Æneas* I. 461 Her sweet ambrosiall breath and nectr'ed hair. 1634 MILTON *Comus* 476 A perpetual feast of nectar'd sweets. 1715 POPE *Iliad* I. 769 Each to his lips applied the nectar'd urn. 1772 SIR W. JONES *Laura* 79 Ye radiant tresses! and thou, nectar'd smile! 1850 MRS. HAWTHORNE in *N. Hawthorne & Wife* (1885) I. 375 The children have lived upon the blue nectared air all winter. 1888 E. C. THOMAS *Bury's Philobiblon* (1902) 3 They are repelled violently from the nectared cup of philosophy.

† **Ne·ctarel,** *adv. Obs. rare* —¹. [irreg. f. NECTAR.] Like nectar; fragrant.

1648 HERRICK *Hesper.*, *To his Mistresses* 18 For your breaths too, let them smell Ambrosia-like, or Nectarell.

Nectareous (nektē·rĭəs), *a.* [ad. L. *nectareus*, ad. Gr. *νεκτάρεος*, f. *νέκταρ* NECTAR : see -EOUS.] Of the nature of, consisting of, or resembling nectar.

1708 J. PHILIPS *Cyder* I. 32 Chear'd with her nectareous juice. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* XIV. 94 Luscious as the Bees nectareous dew. 1769 SIR W. JONES *Palace Fortune* Poems (1777) 17 From her smooth cheek nectareous dew he sips. 1832 *Fraser's Mag.* V. 120 They abandoned all..for the nectareous delicacies of Edinburgh ale. 1866 ROSE *Virg., Ecl. & Georg.* 132 With nectareous wine Libating thrice.

Hence **Necta·reously** *adv.*; **Necta·reousness.**

1847 in WEBSTER. 1858 HAWTHORNE *Fr. & It. Note-bks.* I. 149, I remembered the nectareousness of the new cider.

Necta·rial, *a. rare.* [f. NECTARY + -AL.] Of the nature of a nectary.

1808 ROXBURGH in *Asiat. Researches* VIII. 500 Pistil, germ conical..downy, surrounded with a downy nectarial ring.

Necta·rian, *a. rare.* [f. NECTAR + -IAN.] Nectarean.

1658 J. JONES *Ovid's Ibis* 2nd Ded., On Parnasse Hill rose the Nectarian Font. 1708 GAY *Wine* 138 Choicest Nectarian juice Crown'd largest Bowles. 1845 HIRST *Com. Mammoth*, etc. 39 Jewelled o'er With diamonds of nectarian dew. 1853 MOODIE *Life Clearings* 17 The impatient doctor grasped the nectarian draught.

Nectaried (ne·ktărid), *a.* [f. NECTARY.] Of flowers or plants: Provided with nectaries.

1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

Nectariferous (nektări·fĕrəs), *a. Bot.* [See -FEROUS.] Bearing or producing nectar.

1760 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* II. xxix. (1765) 145 The Adonis had been join'd to the Ranunculus, but was parted from it again, on observing that it wanted the nectariferous Pore. 1816 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* xxiii. (1818) II. 369 When they

unfold their long tongue, and wipe its sweets from any nectariferous flower. 1882 G. Allen *Colours of Flowers* ii. 56 With separate petals, .. and with a nectariferous cavity at their base.

Nectarine (nĕ·ktărin, -ēn), *sb.*[1] Forms: *α.* 7 nectarya (?), nectaren, -orin(e, 8 -arin, -arne, 7– nectarine. *β.* nectrine, 7–8 -tron. [app. a subst. use of next.] A variety of the common peach, differing from this in having a thinner and downless skin and a firmer pulp. *Native nectarine*, the native quince or emu-apple of Australia.

α. 1616 Surfl. & Markh. *Countrey Farme* iii. i. 335 The principall fruit trees which delight to be planted against a wall are peaches, abricots, nectaryas [*sic*], all sorts of sweet plumbs. 1664 Evelyn *Kal. Hort.* (1729) 195 Now also plant Peaches and Nectarines. 1676 Etheredge *Man of Mode* v. i, A strange desire I had To eat some fresh Nectaren's. 1685 Temple *Ess., Gardening* Wks. 1720 I. 183 The only good Nectorins are the Murry and the French. 1712 Arbuthnot *J. Bull* iii. ii, John had his golden Pippens, Peaches and Nectarnes. *a* 1763 Shenstone *Ess.* Wks. 1765 II. 17 On an earwig that crept into a nectarin. 1802 W. Forsyth *Fruit Trees* iii. (1824) 66, I have often heard of Peaches and Nectarines growing on the same tree. 1855 Delamer *Kitch. Gard.* (1861) 157 Although the peach is so common in France, the nectarine .. is rarer even than in England. 1889 Maiden *Usef. Nat. Pl.* 49.

attrib. and *Comb.* 1763 Mills *Syst. Pract. Husb.* IV. 249 Nectarine trees generally produce their fruit .. upon the young wood of the preceding year. 1854 M. Harland *Alone* xxxi, Black eyes, nectarine bloom and pouting rosy lips. 1856 Olmsted *Slave States* 639 Of a warmer brown, and a more nectarine-like texture of skin.

β. 1657 Austen *Fruit Trees* I. 57, I shall joyne the Nectrine with the Aprecock although another kind of fruit. 1686 Plot *Staffordsh.* 227 Where there are now growing .. 7 sorts of Nectrons and Peaches. 1715 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5360/9 Good Peaches, Nectrons and Apricock Trees.

Nectarine (nĕ·ktărin), *a.* and *sb.*[2] [f. Nectar + -ine[1].]

A. *adj.* Of the nature of, sweet as, nectar.

1611 Cotgr., *Nectarin*, Nectarine, of Nectar, diuinely sweet, as Nectar. 1633 J. Done *Hist. Septuagint* 13 To taste and relish those most nectarine..and excellent things. 1668 H. More *Div. Dial.* II. xviii. (1713) 144 The roscid Lips and nectarine Kisses of thy silver-faced Cynthia! 1854 F. Tennyson in *Fraser's Mag.* L. 646 He drank up The precious drops, bright, dewy, nectarine.

B. †*sb.* A nectarean draught. *Obs. rare* —[1].

1628 Burton *Anat. Met.* III. ii. v. iii. (ed. 3) 509 [It is] to no purpose to prescribe Narcoticks, Cordials, Nectarines, potions, Homers Nepenthes, or Helena's Bole.

Nectarious, *a. rare.* [-ious.] Nectareous.

1841 Orderson *Creoleana* iii. 29 The nectarious sweets distilled from the .. charms of this .. fair one. 1867 J. B. Rose tr. *Virgil's Æneid* 16 Some ease the fragrant load Of food nectarious.

‖ **Nectarium** (nektēə·riŭm). *Bot.* Also 8 -eum. Pl. nectaria. [mod.L.] = Nectary 2.

1753 Chambers *Cycl. Supp., Nectarium*, among botanists,..a part of the corolla, sometimes, though more rarely the whole. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) VIII. 75 As for the honey, it is extracted from that part of the flower called the nectareum. 1799 M. Riddell *Voy. Madeira* 58 The honied essences lodged in the nectaria of flowers. 1813 Sir H. Davy *Agric. Chem.* iii. (1814) 145 Saccharine matter is found in the nectarium of flowers. 1851–9 Broderip in *Man. Sci. Enq.* 399 Liquefied honey..might be placed in a little reservoir on the site of the nectarium.

Nectarize, *v. rare.* [f. Nectar + -ize.] *trans.* To sweeten. Hence **Nectarized** *ppl. a.*

1592 G. Harvey *Four Lett.* Sonn. viii, Gently assemble Delicacies all, And sweetely nectarize this bitter gall. 1593 Nashe *Christ's T.* Wks. (Grosart) IV. 170 The nectarized *Aqua celestis* of water-mingled blood, sluced from Christ's side. 1623 Cockeram I, *Nectariz'd*, sweetned.

Nectarous (nĕ·ktărəs), *a.* [f. Nectar + -ous.] Resembling nectar.

1667 Milton *P. L.* v. 306 Thirst Of nectarous draughts. *Ibid.* VI. 332 From the gash A stream of Nectarous humor issuing flow'd. 1816 Keith *Phys. Bot.* I. 183 The fluid secreted is nectarous. 1878 J. Thomson *Plenip. Key* 24 A nectarous food, a most ambrosial balm.

Nectary (nĕ·ktări). [f. Nectar, or ad. mod.L. *nectarium*: see -ary.]

†1. *fig.* ? A nectareous fluid. *Obs. rare* —[1].

1598 F. Rous *Thule* T 3, Her folded eyes, Drowning themselues in their owne Nectaries.

2. *Bot.* The organ or part of a flower or plant which secretes honey.

1759 B. Stillingfleet *Misc. Tracts* Introd. (1762) 31 The part of the flower that contains honey is called The nectary. 1796 Withering *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) I. 3 The tube of the blossom serves the purpose of a Nectary in many flowers, as in the Honey-suckle. 1811 A. T. Thomson *Lond. Disp.* (1818) 227 The corolla consists of six..petals, enclosing a tuberculated bristled nectary. 1856 R. A. Vaughan *Mystics* II. 324 Some pierced the nectaries of the flowers with their fine bills. 1874 Coues *Birds N. W.* 269 An arrangement which..facilitates the extraction of honey from the nectaries of flowers.

3. *Ent.* A wart-like tube on the body of an aphis, from which 'honey-dew' is exuded.

1890 in *Cent. Dict.* 1898 Packard *Text-bk. Entom.* 365 Busgen..observed that on reaching the air the drops issuing from the 'nectary' or 'honey' tube stiffened almost instantly into a wax-like mass.

Nectiferous, irreg. var. of Nectariferous.

1830 Lindley *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 7 In Ranunculus itself, which has a nectiferous gland at the base of the petals. 1873 E. Smith *Foods* 264 Honey is found usually at the base of the petal of the flower, and in the nectiferous glands.

Necting: see Netting.

Nectocalycine (nektŏkæ·lisəin), *a. Zool.* [See next and Calycine.] Of the nature of, resembling or pertaining to, a nectocalyx.

1859 Huxley *Oceanic Hydrozoa* 15 These nectocalycine canals are lined by a continuation of the endoderm. 1861 J. R. Greene *Man. Anim. Kingd., Calent.* 37 A continuation of the endoderm lines the 'nectocalycine canals'. 1888 Rolleston & Jackson *Anim. Life* 773 *note*, The nectocalycine section of the coenosarc.

Nectocalyx (nektŏkæ·liks). *Zool.* Pl. -calyces. [mod.L., f. Gr. *νηκτός* swimming (f. *νήχειν* to swim) + Calyx.] The swimming-bell which forms the natatory organ in many hydrozoans.

1859 Huxley *Oceanic Hydrozoa* 15 The presence of the valvular membrane at once distinguishes a nectocalyx from an umbrella. 1888 Rolleston & Jackson *Anim. Life* 773 A furrow or canal formed at the side of the distal nectocalyx.

So **Ne·ctosac,** the interior of a nectocalyx (also called *nectocyst*); **Ne·ctosome,** the upper portion of a siphonophore, bearing the natatory organs; **Ne·ctostem,** the axis of a series of nectocalyces.

1859 Huxley *Oceanic Hydrozoa* 15 The cavity of the cup, which, with its muscular wall, may be termed the nectosac. 1870 H. A. Nicholson *Man. Zool.* 85 The interior of the nectocalyx is often called the 'nectosac'. 1888 *Stand. Nat. Hist.* I. 99 Just below the float on the nectostem there is a small cluster of minute buds in which can be found nectocalices of all sizes. 1898 Sedgwick *Text-bk. Zool.* I. 139 The nectosome, to which the swimming organs (nectocalyces and pneumatophores) are attached.

Ne·ctopod. *Zool.* [f. as prec. + -pod.] A foot used as a swimming organ.

1896 tr. *Boas' Text-bk. Zool.* 105 The short thorax is provided with laminate nectopods like the limbs of the Phyllopoda, though there are only four to six pairs.

Nectorin(e, -trine, -tron, obs. ff. Nectarine.

†**Necyomancy, -manty.** *Obs. rare* —[0]. [ad. L. *necyomantīa*, Gr. *νεκυομαντεία*.] (See quots.)

1623 Cockeram I, *Necyomantie*, diuination by calling vp damned spirits. 1656 Blount *Glossogr., Necyomancie*, the same with Necromancy.

Ned, obs. form of Need *sb.* and *v.*

†**Nedde,** had not: see Ne and Have *v.* A. 9.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 69 For þat hie nedden here synnes er bet. *a* 1300 *Vox & Wolf* 99 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* I. 61 This ilke shome neddi nouthe, Nedde lust i-ben of mine mouthe. *c* 1315 Shoreham vii. 877 Elles nedde hyt be no senne. 1362 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. v. 4 Me was wo..That I nedde sadloker i-slept and i-seȝe more.

Nedder, variant of Nither *v.*

Nedder, -ir, -re, obs. ff. Adder, Nether.

Neddy (nĕ·di). [dim. of *Ned*, a familiar abbrev. of the name *Edward*: see -y[6].]

1. A donkey.

a 1790 Potter *Dict. Cant* (1795), *Neddy*, a jackass. 1794 Wolcot (P. Pindar) *Rowland for Oliver* Wks. 1816 II. 119 Thou think'st thyself on Pegasus so steady; But, Peter, thou art mounted on a Neddy. 1858 Miss Yonge *Christmas Mummers* 5 There is old Harry Spinner's grey donkey..and Mrs. Brown's handsome Neddy. 1894 Baring-Gould *Kitty Alone* III. 19 The neddy is in the stable here, and there is his cart.

transf. 1866 Blackmore *Cradock Nowell* lvii. (1883) 400 A beautiful schooner of the true American rig, which made such lagging neddies of our yachts a few years since.

2. *Cant.* A life-preserver.

1864 *Cornh. Mag.* VI. 647 The weapon is generally a 'neddy' or life-preserver. 1879 *Macm. Mag.* XL. 503/1 We shall want .. the stick (crow-bar), and bring a Neddie (life-preserver) with you.

Neddy, Neddyr, obs. ff. Needy, Adder.

Nede, obs. form of Need, Needy, Gnede *a.*

Ned(e)les, -lich, -ling(is, -ly, etc., obs. ff. Needless, etc.

Nedel(l, -ill(e, etc., obs. forms of Needle.

Neder, obs. form of Adder, Neither, Nether.

Nedes, obs. form of Needs.

Nedi, nedy, -ness, obs. forms of Needy, -ness.

Nedyl(le, Nedyr(e, obs. ff. Needle, Adder.

Nedyrcopp, obs. form of Attercop.

c 1475 *Pict. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 766 *Hec aranea*, a nedyrcopp.

Nee, obs. form of Neigh *v.*

Neece, Neech, obs. forms of Niece, Niche.

Need (nēd), *sb.* Forms: *α.* 1 néad, 2 neat. *β.* 1–4 néod, 1–5 neode, 2 neoð, neot; 2 node, 3 nod, noede. *γ.* 1–2 nied, 3 nyede; 1 nýd, 1, 3–4 nud, 5 nude. *δ.* 1–5 ned, 1–6 nede, 4–need, 4–7 neede, (6 neade, 5 neethe, 6 nide); 4–7 *Sc.* neid, 4–6 neide, (4, 6 neyd). [A Common Teutonic word, of which the normal representative in OE. is the form *nīed* (*nýd*, *néd*) = OFris. *nēd*, *nâth*, OS. *nôd* (MDu. *nood-*, *noot*, Du. *nood*), OHG. *nôt* (MHG. *nôt*, G. *noth*, *not*), ON. *nauð*, *neyð* (Sw. and Da. *nöd*), Goth. *nauþs*, fem. *i*-stem :—OTeut. **nauðī-*, **nauþi-* related to OPruss. *nauti-n* need.

Both in form and gender, however, the word exhibits curious variations in OE. The forms *nīed*, *nýd*, *néd* would be normal as representatives of a fem. *i*-stem, but in cases where the gender can be distinguished they usually appear as neuters. A form without umlaut also occurs (*néad*: cf. the ON. *nauð*), which appears to have been feminine. The very common form *néod*, which is distinctly fem., is difficult to account for; if not an independent ablaut-variant, its vowel has probably been influenced by the frequent word *néod* desire, earnestness, pleasure, etc.]

I. †**1.** Violence, force, constraint, or compulsion, exercised by or upon persons. *Obs.*

Beowulf 2454 Þonne se an hafað þurh deaðes nyd dæda gefondad. *c* 825 *Vesp. Psalter* xxxvii. 13 Ned [L. *vim*] dydun ða sohton sawle mine. *c* 888 K. Ælfred *Oros.* II. iv. § 9. Hiere anweald is ma hreosende for ealddome þonne of ænizes cyninges niede. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xi. 12 Heofena rice þolað nead, & strece nimað þæt. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 7694 Childer of his aun sede Suld be for-driuen vte wit nede [*Gött.* for nede]. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxxi. (*Eugenia*) 388 Scho was nere quhen þe monk assaiȝeit sa hyr laydy þar for ned to ta.

†**2.** *For, of,* or *on need,* of or by necessity, unavoidably. *Obs.* (in later use chiefly *Sc.*)

c 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* II. xx. 148 His sunu for neade..to Pendan þæm cyninge gebeaȝ. *Ibid.* IV. xxv. 350 Seo þearlwisnis..him ærest of nede becwom. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1016 Ða forlet he his herȝunga..& beah þa for nede. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* i. (*Peter*) 654 Quha had ben þar, of ned his hart suld have ben sar. *c* 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 332 Yow worthis on neid For to assege yone castel. ?*a* 1550 *Freiris Berwik* 97 in *Dunbar's Poems* (1893) 288 Thairfoir of verry neid we mon byd still. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 89 The peple follow man, on neid, Thir prelatis.

3. Necessity arising from the facts or circumstances of the case. Chiefly in phr. *if* (etc.) *need require, if need be* (or *were*).

c 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* I. xxvii. 86 Þa symbelnesse to mærsienne mæssesonges, ȝif þæt ned abædeþ. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 215 Swo hoh [=ought] ech chirche socne don þenne hie nede sen. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 14913 Fast it neghes to þe nede For his to suffur passion. 1389 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 8 That he haue þo torches redy to brynge hym withe to cherche ȝif nede be. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 117 Thou, which art withoute nede For lawe of londe in such a drede. 14.. *Gesta Rom.* xxxiii. 128 (Harl. MS.), I wolde for his love shede my blode, yf nede wer. 1503 in *Surtees Misc.* (1890) 30 For reparacionz, when neide requierethe. 1568 Grafton *Chron.* II. 242 Archers to comfort them that were most wearie, if neede were. 1600 J. Pory tr. *Leo's Africa* v. 254 To the end he might finde safe refuge when neede required. 1640 Brome *Sparagus Gard.* II. iii, Learne to shift for myselfe in time and need be. *a* 1687 Petty *Pol. Arith.* viii. (1691) 105 There may be about six Millions.., which (if need require) might actually Labour. 1747 Wesley *Prim. Physick* (1762) 32 Repeat this if Need be. 1808 Scott *Marm.* II. iv, To hold A chapter,..And if need were to doom to death.

b. In later use with *there is* expressed or implied. (Only with qualifying word as *what, little, no,* etc.)

a 1600 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* VIII. vi. § 11 What need was there that they should bargain with the cardinal? 1624 in *Capt. Smith's Wks.* (Arb.) 408 Little neede there was and lesse reason, the ship should stay. 1667 Milton *P. L.* VIII. 420 No need that thou Shouldst propagat, already infinite. 1724 Swift *Drapier's Lett.* iii. Wks. 1751 VIII. 312 But what need is there of disputing. 1845 F. E. Paget *Tales Village Childr.* Ser. II. 40 There was no need of you to confess it.

†**4. a.** *Need is,* or *it is need,* it is necessary or needful *that* or *to* (with inf.). Also with adjs. as *great need,* etc. *Obs.*

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xviii. 7 Ned *vel* ðarflic is..þæt hia cyme ondspyrniso. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Hom.* I. 516 Neod is þæt æswicunga cumon. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 9 Hit is muchel neot þet we þonkien ure drihten. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 116 Hit is neod forte habben þe betere warde. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 19589 [To] do penance ned es i-nogh. *Ibid.* 20225 Now is ned þat i haf o þe deuil na dred. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Serm.* Sel. Wks. I. 18 If no man hadde partid from God hi syane, it hadde be noo nede to make siche feestis. *c* 1450 Holland *Howlat* 33 All thar names to nevyn as now it nocht neid is. 1556 *Aurelio & Isab.* (1608) G vj, It is neade unto hus to abyde overcommen. 1676 Hale *Contempl.* I. 351 The best of men are visited with them, and it is but need they should.

†**b.** With dat. of the person concerned. *Obs.*

c 975 *Rushw. Gosp.* John xvi. 30 Ne ned is ðe þæte hwelc ðec ȝifregne. *c* 1055 *Byrhtferth's Handboc* in *Anglia* VIII. 317 Me ys neod þæt ic menge þæt lyden amang þissum englisce. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 37 Ne reccheð crist nane leasunge ne him nis na neoð. *c* 1220 *Bestiary* 181 Newe ðe fordi so ðe neddre doð; It is te ned. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 10852 Es þe na nede to be radd.

5. In predicative use: Necessary, needful. In early use also with adjs. Now *rare.*

In some cases (as *c* 1386) an elliptic use of 4 a.

c 1000 Ælfric *Hom.* II. 590 Þæt man underfo mare þonne his lichaman neod sy. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 11 Muchel is us þenne neod..sod scrift. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 180 To þe uttre temptaciun is neod pacience. ..To þe ire is neod wisdom & gostlich strencðe. *c* 1290 *St. Brandan* 578 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 235 Þe ston..In one weiȝe ich hyne fond þare non neode nas no ston. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Pars. T.* P 855 Crist loved holy chirche..so wel that he deyed for it; so schulde a man for his wyf, if it were neede. *c* 1400 Maundev. (1839) xxvii. 270 In the yle of Cathay, men fynden alle maner thing that is nede to man. 1450–80 tr. *Secreta Secret.* 12 It is a precious and an honurabille thing to a kyng forto .. speke but litille but if it be nede. 1535 Cranmer *Let.* in *Misc. Writ.* (Parker Soc.) II. 311 Whose labours and endeavours were never more need to be had. 1849 Trench *Sacr. Lat. Poetry* Pref. 6 Some Reformed Churches .. have .. made themselves much poorer than was need.

6. *To have need to,* to be under a necessity *to* do something, to require *to.* †Also with omission of *to,* and with *that.*

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xiv. 16 Nabbas ned .. þæt hia ȝegæ. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* ibid., Nabbað hi neode to farenne. *c* 1375 *Cursor M.* 19589 (Fairf.), Þou has nede to do penance I-nogh. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Serm.* Sel. Wks. II. 224 Al Cristene men han nede to knowe bileve of þe gospel. 1413 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton 1483) v. xi. 103 Nede hadde he none to

wesshen hym selue. 1456 *Paston Lett.* I. 375 Ye have nede fare fayre with hym, for he ys full daungerouse. 1594 1*st Pt. Contention* (1843) 50 *George*. ..They have bene up this two daies. *Nicke*. Then they had more need to go to bed now. 1611 Shaks. *Cymb.* II. iii. 67 We shall haue neede T'employ you towards this Romane. 1850 O. Winslow *Inner Life* ii. 55 The best of saints have need to be warned against the worst of sins.

b. In pret. *had need to*, would require *to*, ought *to*. (Common in 16–17th c.)

c 1380 Wyclif *Serm.* Sel. Wks. I. 26 Þei ben worse than frentikes, and so þei hadden nede to be chastised til þis passion were fro hem. 1472 *Paston Lett.* III. 34 And ye purpose to bargayn with hym, ye had need to hye yow. 1548 Udall *Erasm. Par. Luke* ix. 85 b, Therunto had we nede to haue a good summe of money. 1620 E. Blount *Horæ Subs.* 456 Women, as the weaker vessels, had need to be very careful. 1675 Cotton *Scoffer Scoft* Wks. (1725) 252 He who to determine is Of such a tickle-point as this, Had need to have his Wits about him. 1843 Carlyle *Past & Pr.* III. xii, The Unseen Powers had need to watch over such a man. 1879 Geo. Eliot *Theo. Such* 129 If the bad-tempered man wants to apologize, he had need to do it on a large public scale.

c. So with omission of *to*.

In sentences of this form *need* tends to lose its distinct substantival character and to become only a modifying element attached to the verb.

1461 *Paston Lett.* II. 13 Ye had nede send a man byfore, ..that no thing be to seke. *c* 1580 G. Harvey *Letter-bk.* (Camden) 175 It had neede be a high point of pollicie that should rob Master Machiavel of his pollicie. 1607–12 Bacon *Ess., Seditions* (Arb.) 330 Sheapardes of people had neede knowe the Kalenders of Tempestes in State. 1681 Hickeringill *Sin Man-catching* Wks. 1716 I. 191 They had need be Men of Cunning and Ability that can swear thorow-stitch and cleverly. 1753 L. M. tr. *Du Bosc's Accomplished Woman* II. 80 Morality had need employ its strongest reasonings. 1834 Beckford *Italy* II. 233 The Portuguese had need have the stomachs of ostriches. 1863 Cowden Clarke *Shaks. Char.* i. 19 Men had need bear 'charmed lives'.

7. Imperative call or demand for the presence, possession, etc., *of* something. † Also const. *to*.

a 908 in Birch *Cart. Sax.* II. 250 Þenne þæs nud bið, his men beon gearuwe ge to ripe ge to huntoðe. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Hom.* I. 140 Nis Gode nan neod ure æhta. *c* 1300 *St. Brandan* 573 In a wei ich him fond ligge, there no neod nas to ston. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 16280 O wijtnes es na nede. 1667 Milton *P. L.* IX. 311 Stronger, if need were Of outward strength. 1766 Fordyce *Serm. Ymg. Wm.* II. ix. 91 Who does not see the need of Piety? 1802 *Med. Jrnl.* VIII. 142 They were never in danger of losing any; and therefore there was no need of the new discovery. 1874 Green *Short Hist.* iv. § 5. 200 The crisis had taught the need of further securities against the royal power.

b. In phr. *To have need of* (+*to*, †*unto*) the thing required.

c 1200 Ormin 7373 Alle þa þatt hafenn ned off hellpe. *Ibid.* 11582 He wass mann..þatt haffde ned to fode. *c* 1250 *Lutel Soth Serm.* 12 in *O. E. Misc.* 186 To ȝinernesse and prude none neode he nedde. *c* 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 1722 Þer of hadde sche no nede. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) III. 445 What neode hast þou to riches? 1426 Lydg. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 815 Thow shalt me call in dede, Whan thow hast on-to me nede. 1484 Caxton *Fables of Poge* i, His hows..had grete nede of reparacion. 1523 Fitzherb. *Husb.* § 24 The teth wyll fall out whan he hath moost nede to them. 1611 Bible *Transl. Pref.* ¶ 3 A wastefull Prince, that had neede of a Guardian. 1671 Milton *P. R.* II. 253 Nature hath need of what she asks. 1753 L. M. tr. *Du Bosc's Accompl. Woman* I. 25 Innocence itself hath as much need of a mask or veil as the Face. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* ii. I. 156 Was he to be ranked with men who had no need of the royal clemency? 1853 J. H. Newman *Hist. Sk.* (1873) II. i. i. 6 The Tartars.. have in their wars no need of any commissariat at all.

†c. Const. with direct object: To need, require. *Obs.*

c 1375 *Cursor M.* 12929 (Fairf.), Þorou kinde of his manhede þat fode of body has ay nede. 1557 North *Guevara's Diall Pr.* I. xxxviii. (1568) 56 To kepe himselfe only from one evyl man, he had nede both hands, feete, and frends. 1667 Milton *P. L.* II. 413 Here he had need All circumspection. 1671 — *Samson* 1107 Thou hast need much washing to be toucht.

8. *To have need*, to be in straits or in want. (Also *ellipt.* for 7 b.) Now *rare* or *Obs.*

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Mark ii. 25 Huæt dyde David ða ned hæfde & hyngerde. *c* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 11 We sculen bliðeliche ȝinen and leanen, wið nten erðliche mede, alle ðe niede habbeð. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* III. 411 If he willefnly begge, and haves no nede, he is a schrewid begger, reproved of God. *c* 1460 Fortescue *Abs. & Lim. Mon.* iv. (1885) 116 It is a synne to gyve no mete, drynke, clothynge or other almes to hem that hane nede. *c* 1530 R. Hilles *Common-pl. Bk.* (1858) 140 He that hath nede must blowe at the cole. 1671 Milton *P. R.* II. 318 They all had need, I as thou seest have none.

9. A condition of affairs placing one in difficulty or distress; a time of difficulty, straits, or trouble; exigency, emergency.

c 1000 Ælfric *Exod.* xv. 25 Þa clypode Moises to drihtne and sæde him þæs folces neode. *c* 1205 Lay. 435 Þa lette he ..bi-ȝeoten wepnen & mete: Muchel wes þa neode. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 1763 Þe king basian hii bitraiede in is nede [*v.r.* nude]. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 23 Priue help of þe Scottes he had at his nede. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xi. 28 Þow shalt fynde fortune þe faille at þi moste nede. *a* 1450 *Le Morte Arth.* 1706 And hym ned by-stode, Many a laode wolde with hym holde. *c* 1489 Caxton *Sonnes of Aymon* xii. 286 At the nede the frende is knowen. *c* 1530 Ld. Berners *Arth. Lyt. Bryt.* (1814) 322 Whan nede is, than a frende is proued. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* VII. 17 He could, in tyme of neid, ather stap a trane or mak a trayne. 1633 G. Herbert *Temple, Collar* 31 He that forbears To suit and serve his need, Deserves his load. 1684 Bunyan *Pilgr.* II. 66, I thank you for lending me a hand at my need. 1726 Watts *Logic* (ed. 2) II. iii. III. § 4 And these Judgments .. should be treasur'd up in the Mind, that we might have Recourse to them in Hours of Need. 1826 Scott *Woodstock* iii, A short passage.., secured at time of need by two oaken doors. 1856 Froude *Hist. Eng.* I. v. 399 He fell back upon his Italian cunning, and it did not fail him in his need. 1864 Browning *Jas. Lee's Wife* II. iii, God help you, sailors, at your need!

b. In phr. *at* (also †*to*) *need*.

c 1200 Ormin 12245 ȝiff þu wære rædiȝ till To nittenn itt att nede Onn alle þa þatt haffdenn ned [etc.]. *c* 1205 Lay. 529 Brutus hefede gode Cnihtes to neode. 13.. *K. Alis.* 2406 Thai scholden come, on fresche steden, Heom to socoure at most nede. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 338 Wher-of they token hem to rede, And soghten frendes ate nede. *c* 1420 *Anturs of Arth.* xliii, Als he stode by his stede, þat was so goode at nede. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* II. 55 He drew a suerd at helpit him at neide. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 107 He sall deliuer the at neid. 1667 Milton *P. L.* IX. 260 Where each To other speedie aide might lend at need. 1805 Scott *Last Minstr.* I. xxii, Sir William of Deloraine, good at need. 1873 Browning *Red Cott. Nt.-cap* IV. 241 This power you hold for profit of myself And all the world at need.

†c. *With need*, with difficulty; not easily or readily. *Obs. rare.*

1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 152 The doloure is to me so stronge, that wyth nede y may my breth wyth-drawe. *Ibid.* 180 Any officere that he had makyd with nethe he chaungyd but yf hit were for opyn falsnys.

10. A condition marked by the lack or want of some necessary thing, or requiring some extraneous aid or addition.

c 1000 Ælfric *Hom.* II. 340 Ne lufode he woruldlice æhta for his neode ana, ac to dælenne eallum wædliendum. *c* 1050 *O. E. Chron.* (MS. C.) an. 1043 Eadsiȝe arcebisceop.. hine wel lærde & to his aȝenre neode & ealles folces wel manude. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 75 Ne na Mon nah him solue wernen, þenne Mon him for node þer to bide. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 215 Þanne prest speoð inne chirche of chirche neode. *c* 1300 *Harrow. of Hell* 38 Tho Jhesu hevide shed ys blod For oure neode upon the rod. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) III. 471 ȝif þurst and honger of golde come of kyndeliche neode. 1480 Caxton *Chron. Eng.* ccxxiv. 229 Ther folowed..honger, scarcite, meschyef, and nede of money. 1482 *Monk of Evesham* (Arb.) 88 They that vsyn scarsly to her nede the godys that they haue. 1577 *St. Aug. Manual* (Longman) 1 Thou Lorde..alwayes gathering, but not for any neede. 1667 Milton *P. L.* V. 629 We have also our Eevning and our Morn,..for change delectable, not need. 1863 Geo. Eliot *Romola* xxvii, The great need of her heart compelled her to strangle..every rising impulse of suspicion.

b. A state of want or destitution; lack of the means of subsistence or of necessary articles; extreme poverty or indigence.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 217 Nes riche non nod, ac wrecches habben michele. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 2428 Hwen se ha hit eauer doð in neode & in nowcin. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 21873 Hunger and qualm, and nede i-nogh In erth sal rise for mans wogh. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 47 ȝeveþ wyn to hem..þat þey mowe drynke and forȝete here sorwe and her nede. *c* 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 107 If ned, or pouert of þe place, axe þat þei be occupied to gedre frutis. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 19 b, So you sholde be mercyfull to your poor neyghbour in his nede. 1592 Shaks. *Rom. & Jul.* v. i. 70 Famine is in thy cheekes; Need and opression starueth in thy eyes. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* I. 203 Jove..Remov'd from Humane reach the chearful Fire.. That studious Need might useful Arts explore. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) II. 129 These, from often being in need, and as often receiving an accidental supply, pass their lives between surfeiting and repining. 1847 B. Thorpe *Yule-tide Stories* (1888) 72 They therefore lived in great poverty, and as is but too often the case, when need crept in, love walked out.

11. In proverbial phrases.

1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xx. 10 Nede ne hath no lawe, ne neure shal falle in dette. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 206 ȝif þei mowe noȝt getyn here lyflode be none of þise maners forseyde, þanne nede hath no lawe. 1480 *Robt. Devyll* 39 Alacke, thought Robert, nede hath no cure. *c* 1530 R. Hilles *Common-pl. Bk.* (1858) 140 Nede makyth the old wyffe to trotte. 1562 J. Heywood *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 20 Neede hath no lawe, neede maketh hir hither iet. 1655 *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) II. 233 Need makes trott, but contempt makes vs run on the Pikes rather then moulder away. 1712 Steele *Spect.* No. 509 ¶ 6, I think, a Speculation upon.. It is Need that makes the old Wife trot, would be very useful to the World.

II. †12. A matter requiring action to be taken; something falling necessarily to be done; a piece of necessary business. In later use chiefly *pl.* Also *good need*, good service. *Obs.*

c 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* III. iii. [v.] (1890) 160 Ne he on horses hricze cuman wolde, nemne hwilc mare nyd abædde. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Saints' Lives* vi. 290 Siððan nolde maurus of ðam mynstre faran for nanre neode. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 675 Ouðer for lauerdes neode..ouðer for hwilces sinnes oðer neod, he ne muȝe þær comen. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 388 [They] doth bi niȝte gode noede. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 8324 Þe Cristene ost..hopede do gode nede, ac bote lute worp it nas. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 12563 Þe messegers þat wente þo nedes, Horsed þem on gode stedes. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 11519 Þat erend for to wend With hym-seluyn, for-sothe, on þe same nedis. 1508 Dunbar *Twa Mariit Wemen* 467, I have ane secrete serwand.. That me supportis of sic nedis.

†b. Chiefly *pl.* One's errands or business. *Obs.*

c 1000 Ælfric *Hom.* I. 290 He wolde gan embe his neode forð. *c* 1205 Lay. 29452 Þa wes hit..þat þe pape wolde wenden..an ane of his neoden. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 24827 Quen all his nedis wele war dun þai dightid him his scipping son. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) I. 375 Owen.. dwelled al his lyf tyme afterward in þe nedes of þe abbay of Ludensis. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (Prose) 12 Lokys þat ye do wel, þat yure angel may do yure nedis to god. 1483 Caxton *Gold. Leg.* 442 b/1 In his nedes or besynesse to werke trewely and wel. ?*a* 1550 *Freiris Berwik* 463 in *Dunbar's Poems* (1893) 300, I wait nocht gif ȝe ma ay cum hidder Quhen that we want our neidis sic as this.

c. Offices of nature. Now *dial.*

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 6338 Þe king þer to com..is nede uor to do, þe luþer þef..smot him þoru þe fondement. 1573 Baret *Alv.* s.v. *Priuie*, He is gone to the priuie or to doe his needes. 1621 Burton *Anat. Mel.* III. iii. II. i. (1676) 370/2 She shall not go forth of his sight, so much as to do her needs.

13. A particular point or respect in which some necessity or want is present or is felt.

c 1000 Ælfric *Hom.* I. 272 Ealle ure neoda, ægðer ge gastlice ge lichamlice, ðæron sind belocene. *c* 1300 *Beket* 97 As hit were at a Parlement for Neodes of the londe. 1450–80 tr. *Secreta Secret.* 5 Y haue hastid me and ordeynyd me to make a book for the, the which shalle conteyne alle thi nedes. 1603 Shaks. *Meas. for M.* III. ii. 151 The very streame of his life..must, vppon a warranted neede, giue him a better proclamation. *a* 1716 Blackall *Wks.* (1723) I. 543 We ought to be content if we have now so much as will serve our present Needs. 1795–1814 Wordsw. *Excurs.* III. 796, I..promptly seized All that Abstraction furnished for my needs. 1874 Symonds *Sk. Italy & Greece* (1898) I. i. 3 Improved arts of life had freed men from servile subjection to daily needs.

†14. a. *At a need*, in an emergency or crisis.

a 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1101 Hi sume æft æt þære neode abruðon, & fram þam cynge gecyrdon. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 35 He was bope gode & wys..& right vnderstandyng, to help at alle nedis. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* II. 231 He had thar, at that ned, Full feill that war douchty off deid. *c* 1420 Lydg. *Assembly of Gods* 755 Wherfore hit behoueth to helpe at thys nede. *c* 1489 Caxton *Sonnes of Aymon* ix. 222 Bayarde, whiche shall maye bere vs all four at a nede.

†b. So *in a need*. *Obs.*

c 1250 *Kent. Serm.* in *O. E. Misc.* 32 Þet se þet sucurede hem ine þa peril;..us sucuri in ure niedes. 1340 Hampole *Pr. Consc.* 3614 Þai may in þat nede Be boght fra payn thurgh almusdede. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 2518 Alexander ..Naytis him-selfe in ilke nede & so his name rysis. *c* 1450 *Merlin* 678 In many a nede he hadde hym socoured.

†c. *For a need*, in an emergency, at a pinch.

1562 Turner *Herbal* III. (1568) 25 He maye for a nede occupye this herbe. *c* 1585 R. Browne *Answ. Cartwright* 47 For a neede, reading ministers may bee in the Churche in steade of preaching ministers. 1647 Ward *Simp. Cobler* 8 He..will for a need hang God's Bible at the Devills girdle.

15. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as †need-(be)stead *a.*, in difficulty or danger; †need-doer, trader; †need-doing, trading, traffic; †need-gates *adv.*, of necessity; need-rooted *a.*, fixed by necessity; †need-sweat, sweat of distress.

Attributive and other combs. of *nied-*, *nýd-*, etc., are numerous in OE. See also Du Cange s.v. *Nydbedripes*.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 110 So ful of anguise was þet ilke ned swot þet com of his licome. *c* 1375 *Cursor M.* 2450 (Fairf.), Þaire fee nedegates most þai flitt. 1382 Wyclif *Isa.* xxiii. 8 Tirun..whos nededueres princes, his marchaunders noble men of the erthe. *Ibid.* 18 His nede doyngus and his meedus shuln ben halewid to the Lord. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 5492 He was anes nede-stad in þe se. 1456 Sir G. Haye *Law Arms* (S. T. S.) 251 And thai war nede bestad of lyfing..I wald counsale that thai war refreschit with bathe mete and drink. 1850 Lynch *Theoph. Trinal* xii. 233 Need-rooted here on earth we are.

†Need, *v.*[1] *Obs.* Forms: 1 **nied**an, **nýd**an, **néd**an, 2 **néod**en, 2–5 **néde**(n), 4 **neede**. [OE. *niedan* etc., f. *nied* Need *sb.*, = OFris. *néda*, OS. *nôdian*, MDu. and MLG. *nôden* (Du. *nooden*), OHG. *nôtjan*, *nôten* (G. *nöten*, *nöthen*), ON. *neyða* (Sw. *nöda*, Da. *nöde*), Goth. *nauþjan*. OE. had also the form *nédian* in the same sense.]

1. *trans.* To exercise constraint or compulsion upon (one).

c 825 *Vesp. Hymn* vii. 41 Hie in hatheortnisse neddun mec. *c* 888 K. Ælfred *Boeth.* xvi. § 1 ȝif..hwelce mus wære hlaford ofer oðre mys..& nedde hie æfter gafole. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Luke xxiv. 29 [Hia] nedon hine, cuoeðendo, 'wuna usiȝ nið'. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 15 Hit is riht þet me us nede and isegge þet sceamie. *c* 1200 *Bestiary* 216 Nedeð ðe ðe deuel nogt. 1496 *Dives & Paup.* (W. de W.) I. xix. 53/1 His..werkes be not neded ne arted by the planetes.

2. To constrain, compel, or force *to* a thing.

c 888 K. Ælfred *Boeth.* xli. § 4 Ac he us ne ned no þy hraðor to þæm þæt we nede scylen good don. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 213 Þa nyddon hine hys yldran to ðæm þæt he sceolde ..wæpnum onfon. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1114 Þa neodde he him to þam biscoprice of Hrofeceastre. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 27992 If þou..nedd þe euer þar-till at force womman agayn hir will. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 265 Holy writt old & newe & cristis lif..neden hem to mekenesse & wilful traueile. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 1819 The sayes of your souerayn..Nedis me to slike notis as I had neuer etlid.

b. Const. with *inf.* (Freq. in Wyclif.)

c 1000 Ælfric *Hom.* II. 376 Far nu ȝeond weȝas & heȝas, & nyd hi ian to farenne. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 179 ȝif he net him to ȝiuene, þat beoð strengðe and refloc. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 72 Þeonne is hit ined aȝein uor to climben upward. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 16596 Him þai can to nede At tak þe tan end o þe tre. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* III. 358 Aftir þat þis prelat ordeyneþ ben sngettis nedid for to do. *c* 1449 Pecock *Repr.* III. vii. 320 Tho..whiche were nedid..forto lyue in thilk maner.

Need (nīd), *v.*[2] Forms: 1 **néodian**, 3–5 **neoden**, **neden**, (5 **-yn**), 3–6 **nede**, 4–7 **neede**, (5–7 *Sc.* **neid**, 5 **neyd**, 6 **neade**, 7 **nead**, **nied**), 4– **need**. [OE. *néodian* (rare), f. *néod* Need *sb.*

Cf. MHG. *nôten*, G. (dial.) *nothen*, *nöthen*, in the same senses.

The irregular form *need* in the 3rd pers. sing. of the present tense (in place of *needs* or *needeth*) becomes fairly common in the 16th c., and is now usual in the forms of expression mentioned in the note to sense 8.]

I. *intr.* †**1.** *It needs*, it is needful or necessary. Usu. const. with *that* or inf., and sometimes with *it* omitted. *Obs.*

c 960 Æthelwold *Rule St. Benet* (Schröer) 89 On cealdum eardum neodað, þæt þæs reafes mare sy. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 20 ȝe muwen siggen Preciosa biuoren & eftwer vhtsong anon ȝif hit so neodeð. 13.. *K. Alis.* 6525 Hit nedeth nothyng to wond. Hit is a best founde in boke. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* x. (*Matthew*) 211 It nedyt þat he suld mak a tempil. *c* 1440 *Generydes* 2893 It nedeth not to make all this arraye. *c* 1489 Caxton *Sonnes of Aymon* xvii. 490, I can well aske brede whan me nedeth. 1508 Dunbar *Tua Mariit Wemen* 264 And quhen it nedis ȝow, onone, oote baith ther stranthis.

III. †**6.** To have need *of* (also *to*) a thing. *Obs.*

c 1200 Ormin 6161 Fremmde menn, þat nedenn to þin hellpe. *a* 1450 *Fyssh̃ynge w. Angle* (1883) 1 He schall make iij thynges hys medicens or leches and he schall neuer neyd to mo. *a* 1533 Ld. Berners *Huon* ci. 329 Yf ye nede of ony ayde, take my horne and blowe it. 1598 Gbenewey *Tacitus, Ann.* xiv. xii. (1622) 213 If at any time the common-wealth should neede of counsell.

7. *trans.* To stand in need of, to require (some thing or person).

1382 Wyclif *Gen.* xxxiii. 15 This oon oonliche Y nede, that Y fynde grace in thi siȝt. *c* 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 81 Men nedyn euer be counseil of God, to led hem in al þingis. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilȝear* 546, I neid nane airar myne erand nor none of the day. 1530 Palsgr. 643/2 It is veryly the thyng that we nede. *Ibid.*, And shall we nede an habyt or a cope. 1568 Grafton *Chron.* II. 768, I trust, quod he, we shall not neede it. *a* 1628 Preston *New Covt.* (1634) 62 There is nothing that you neede, nothing that you want, but it shall be supplyed. 1667 Milton *P. L.* IV. 617 Other Creatures all day long Rove idle unimploid, and less need rest. 1741–2 Gray *Agrip.* 2 The message needs no comment. 1837 Dickens *Pickw.* vii, Pickwick needed no second invitation. 1871 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* (1876) IV. xx. 604 Such a deed needed a worse man than was needed for any of William's earlier deeds.

b. *intr.* To be in need or want.

1382 Wyclif *Ecclus.* xl. 29 Betere is to dyen, than to neden. 1387–8 T. Usk *Test. Love* II. v. (Skeat) I. 16 Thou nedest in richesse, whiche nede thou shuldest not have, if thou hem wantest. 1671 Milton *P. R.* II. 251 If Nature need not, Or God support Nature without repast Though needing. 1801 Eliz. Helme *St. Marg. Cave* IV. 283 Money was sent him .. to distribute among such of his poor neighbours as needed. 1857 Heavysege *Saul* (1869) 153 How poor thou art to him who truly needs.

8. To be under a necessity or obligation *to* do something.

In modern usage the *to* is expressed except when the clause has the forms *it (he, I*, etc.) *need not*, (*why*) *need* (*it*, etc.)*?*, or is virtually equivalent to one of these.

c 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* III. 348 More þan he nediþ for to have. *c* 1400 *Sowdone Bab.* 3216 Be ye togeder as breth-[e]rn both! No man ye nedith to drede. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xii. 163 Ye nede not to care if ye folow my sawe. *a* 1533 Ld. Berners *Huon* lxi. 212 Ye nede not to speke of any golde or syluer. 1579 Fulke *Heskins' Parl.* 333 This is as plaine as neede to be. *a* 1667 Jer. Taylor *Serm.* (1673) 54 Though Christ knew it, and therefore needed not to ask. 1732 Pope *Ess. Man* II. 218 Vice..to be hated, needs but to be seen. 1771 T. Hull *Sir W. Harrington* (1797) II. 9 My stooping need not to have disturbed you. 1827 Southey *Penins. War* II. 630 He needed not to have undertaken an ardnous march of 260 miles. 1842 R. I. Wilberforce *Rutilius & Lucius* 116 They need to be taught ..how vain are those objects. 1873 Browning *Red Cott. Nt.-cap* II. 24 Man worked here Once on a time; here needs again to work.

b. With omission of *to*.

Now regular in the cases mentioned in the note above, otherwise rare.

c 1470 Henry *Wallace* VII. 414 The woman .. Cawkit ilk ȝett, that thai neid nocht gang by. 1538 Bale *Thre Lawes* 1629 Hys selfe may do that, he nede commaunde non other. 1576 Fleming *Panopl. Epist.* 325 You neede not doubt of their vncerteintie. 1654–66 Earl Orrery *Parthen.* (1676) 688, I hope I shall not need employ them to win another. *a* 1687 Petty *Pol. Arith.* vii. (1691) 103 A Man needs spend but a twentieth part less. 1728 R. Morris *Ess. Anc. Archit.* 90 How prejudicial such Proceedings are .. need not be defin'd. 1761 Hume *Hist. Eng.* III. liii. 154 This incident..needed be no surprise to him. 1818 Bentham *Ch. Eng., Catech. Exam.* 389 The office might need be revived. 1855 Tennyson *Maud* II. II. ix, Who knows .. Whether I need have fled? 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) V. 370, I need hardly ask again.

c. With omission of complementary infinitive.

1577–87 Holinshed *Chron.* III. 917/1 Doubting that thing, that in good faith yee need not. 1665 Boyle *Occas. Refl.* II. iii. 197 We are often more unhappy than we need. 1710 Steele *Tatler* No. 137 P 1 Some use Ten Times more Words than they need.

Hence **Nee·ded** *ppl. a.*, required.

1887 *Pall Mall G.* 1 Dec. 11/1 It is to be hoped that a needed lesson will not lose force. 1891 *Daily News* 31 Oct. 6/3 When rich men..are appealed to for needed help.

† **Need,** *adv. Obs.* Forms: 1 **nīede, nȳde,** (3) **néade, néode,** 1–5 **nede,** 4 **ned,** 5–6 *Sc.* **neid,** (5 **neyd**), 5–7 **need,** (7 **neede**). [OE. *nīede, néade*, etc., orig. the instrumental case of *nīed, néad*, Need *sb.*] Of necessity, necessarily, etc. (Usually with *shall* or *must*: cf. Needs *adv.*)

c 893 K. Ælfred *Oros.* v. ii. § 7 Ic sceal eac niede þara monezena ȝewinna ȝeswiȝian. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 49 Þis sceal se mæssepreost nede bebeodan. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Gen.* xliii. 11 ȝif ȝe néade swa don sceolon, doð swa ȝe wyllon. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1006 Man nyde moste þam [here] gafol ȝyldan. *c* 1205 Lay. 1052 Heo mot nede beien þe mon þe ibunden bið. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 787 He bileuede as he nede moste vorþ mid one kniȝte. *c* 1320 *Cast. Love* 572 Then most it nede be,.. That Goddys sone shuld mon be come. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Serm.* Sel. Wks. I. 222 As þe first mot nede be good, so þe toþer mut nede be yvel. *c* 1450 *Merlin* 611 Seth yow be-hove nede for to go. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* xxx. 12 Cleith the thairin, for weir it thow most neid. 1614 Day *Festivals* xi. (1615) 307 She must need be above an Hundred. 1631 Heylin *St. George* 72 His good Horse Arundell, from whence the ancient Castel of that name, must neede be call'd so. 1732 De Foe *Eng. Tradesman* I. Suppl. 446 Perhaps they are in hurry enough, or indeed too much for any more concern than need must.

b. With *will* or *would*: see Needs *adv.*

1641 J. Trappe *Theol. Theol.* 347 Yet they will need be the only Musulmans, that is, right Beleevers. 1654 Dorothy Osborne *Lett.* (1888) 246 Jane would need make me some for them and myself.

Need-be. *rare.* [f. Need *v.*2 + Be *v.*] An essential or necessary reason; a necessity.

1728 P. Walker *Life Peden* (1827) 118 He afterwards saw a remarkable Providence in it, and a Need-be for it. 1791 Mrs. Unwin in Southey *Cowper* (1836) III. 55 There is no doubt but that there is a need-be for the manifold temptations to which they are exposed. 1838 Tupper *Proverb. Philos.* (1852) 22 Were there not a need-be of wisdom, nothing would be as it is.

Needcessity. *dial.* [Alteration of Necessity, after Need *sb.*] Necessity, need.

1818 Scott *Hrt. Midl.* xxi, 'Is this necessary?' said Jeanie. ... 'A matter of absolute needcessity', said Saddletree. 1839 W. Carleton *Fardorougha* ii, There's no needcessity for blowin' it about to every one I meet. 1871 De Vere *Americanisms* 619 *Needcessity*, a corruption of necessity, is continually heard in the South and often so written.

Needeles·se, obs. forms of Needless *a.*

Needely, variant of Needly *adv. Obs.*

Nee·der. [f. Need *v.*2 + -er 1.] One who needs.

1553 Grimalde *Cicero's Offices* II. (1558) 102 What is more prayseworthy .. than eloquence: either for the admiration of the hearers or the hope of the needers. 1601 Sir W. Cornwallis *Ess.* II. xxx. (1631) 50 Loving them that they have neede of, but never loving the needers of them. 1641 Hinde *J. Bruen* lvi. 188 Hee sent into the towne to such persons as were the greatest needers. *a* 1860 H. H. Wilson *Ess. & Lect.* (1862) I. 349 Glorification of the cherisher of all things, and the needer of none.

Nee·dfire. Also 6 *Sc.* neidfyre, 6– fire, (7 ned-). [f. Need *sb.* + Fire, prob. repr. an OE. *nīedfȳr* = OS. *nōdfȳr*, MLG. *nōtvȳr* (LG. *nood-, naadfuur*), MHG. *nōtviur* (G. *nothfeuer*), in sense 2: cf. Da. *nödild*, Sw. dial. *nödeld*, Norw. dial. *nau(d)eld* in the same sense.]

†**1.** *Sc.* Spontaneous combustion. Only in phr. *to take need-fire. Obs.*

1535 Stewart *Cron. Scot.* II. 424 That tyme his stalf, in presens of thame all, It tuik neidfyre richt thair into his hand. 1536 Bellenden *Cron. Scot.* (1821) II. 162 His staf tuk neid-fire, and micht not be slokinnit.

fig. 1669 R. Fleming *Fulfilling of Script.* (1801) I. 69 Ere ever they were aware they had taken life and needfire with a word.

2. Fire obtained from dry wood by means of violent friction, formerly credited with various magical or prophylactic virtues, esp. as a means of curing disease among cattle.

1633 Prynne *1st Pt. Histrio-m.* 21 Sacrilegious fires, called Nedfire or Bonefires, with all other Heathenish Observations, and Ceremonies. 1644 *Presb. Bk. Strathbogie* (Spalding Club) 51 It was regraited by Mr. Robert Watsone that ther vas neid fyre raysed vithin his parochin..for the curing of cattell. 1812 J. Henderson *Agric. Survey Caithness* xiv. 200 In those days [*c* 1725] when the stock of any considerable farmer was seized with the murrain, he would send for one of the charm doctors to superintend the raising of a need-fire. 1825 Brockett *N. C. Gloss.* 1864 *Chambers's Encycl.* VI. 695/2 In various parts of the Scottish Highlands, the raising of needfire was practised not long ago. 1893 Elworthy *Evil Eye* 64 It was usual to drive cattle through the needfire as a preservative against disease.

3. A beacon or bonfire. (? Due to Scott.)

1805 Scott *Last Minstr.* III. xxix, The ready page with hurried hand Awaked the need-fire's slumbering brand. 1844 Richardson *Historian's Table-bk., Leg. Div.* II. 15 The far distant need-fire or beacon light proclaimed the approach of foes. 1865 Miss Yonge *Dove in Eagle's Nest* vi, Each ..article of rubbish that had been in reserve for the needfire.

† **Need-force.** *Sc. Obs.* [f. Need *sb.* + Force *sb.*] (*On*) *need force*, perforce, on compulsion, of necessity.

1456 Sir G. Haye *Law Arms* (S. T. S.) 165 [He] behovit for his honour on nede force to geve him bataill. *Ibid.* 177 Hame agayne behufis him gang on nede fors. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* vi. 67 Quhar for on neid forse, i vas constrenȝeit to be his sodiour. 1636 Rutherford *Lett.* lxxi. (1862) I. 185 Their synagogue will need-force to cast me out.

Needful (nī·dfûl), *a.* (and *sb.*). Forms: 2–4 **néod-,** 2 **nied-,** (4 **nud-**), 3–6 **ned-,** (5 **nedde-**), 4–6 **nede-,** *Sc.* **neid**(**e-,** 4–7 **neede-,** (6 **nyd-, nide-, nead-**), 4, 6– **need-.** Also 3–5 **-fol,** 4–7 **-full**(**e,** (5 **-ffull**). [f. Need *sb.* + -ful.]

1. Of persons: Needy, necessitous. Now *rare.*

a. Used absolutely. (Chiefly as *pl.*)

a 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 217 Heo is .. mancenne hiht and hope, richt wisen strenhche, and niedfulle frouer. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 9 Gief þe nedfulle, help þe hanelease. 13.. *Cursor M.* 103 (Gött.), Lady scho is of ledes all,..To nedefull neist on to call. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Pars. T.* P 958 If þou may not visite þe needful wiþ þy persone; visite by þy message. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 252 Tyl þou forȝyue þine enemyis, & haue pyte on þe nedefull. *c* 1510 Barclay *Mirr. Gd. Manners* (1570) D ij, If he haue plentie of riches and treasour He parteth it abrode to nedefull with honour. 1535 Coverdale *Ecclus.* xxxiv. 21 The bred of the nedefull is the life of the poore.

b. In attributive or predicative use.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 12852 A nedful wrecche here am i hidd.

1387 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 1 V be-quethe x.s. to the most nedful men. *c* 1450 Myrc *Festial* (E.E.T.S.) 15 He departyd his good yn þre partyes; on to wydows.. ; anoþyr to þo þat wern pore and nedfull. 1523 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) V. 166 The most nedfull poore people in the said townnes. 1586 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* (1589) 305 After he understood that the saide Nicanor was a needfull fellow .. he sent him a rich present. 1631 Brathwait *Whimzies, Exchange-man* 38 Our nicer Dames bestow that upon trifles, which might support a needfull family. 1822 Galt *Provost* xxx, [To] distribute it in the winter to needful families.

2. a. Of circumstances, occasions, etc.: Characterized by need, necessity, or straits. Now *rare.*

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2130 And .vij. oðere [years] sulen after ben, Sori and nedful men sulen is sen. *c* 1440 *Generydes* 60 [He] his goodis is redy to purvaye For good people in euery nedefull case. *c* 1480 *Childe of Bristowe* 153 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* I. 116 Thu so sone failest me at my nedeful day. 1540 Bible (Cranmer) *Ps.* x. 1 Why .. hydest [thou] thy face in that neadefull tyme of trouble? 1585–6 Earl Leicester *Corr.* (Camden) 190 To recommend to your lordships the nedefull estate of the captains and souldiers here. 1814 Wordsw. *White Doe* III. 267 A Cause, which on a needful day Would breed us thousands brave as they.

† **b.** Standing in need *of* something, also *ellipt.*; requiring *to* do something. *Obs.*

1432 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 405/1 A place .. full nedefull of grete reparation. 1561 T. Hoby tr. *Castiglione's Courtyer* I. (1577) D j b, A manne woulde weene hee were more meete to teache, than needefull to learne. 1606 *N. Riding Rec.* I. 52 The highway to be amended and repayred in all places needfull.

3. Requisite, necessary, indispensable. Also const. *to* or *for* the person or thing concerned.

a 1340 Hampole *Psalter* iv. 8 Whet, wyne, and oile .. are mast nedful til mannys oise. 1362 Langl. *P. Pl. A.* I. 21 Heore nomes beth neodful and nempnen hem I thenke. 1452 in Gross *Gild Merch.* (1890) II. 66 Statutes nedffull & profytabille for þe sayd bretherhed. 1545 Brinklow *Compl.* xxiv. (1874) 62 We myght doo any nedeful busynesse vpon the Sunday. 1583 Golding *Calvin on Deut.* xxxix. 232 Yet is that lesson needfuller than the former. 1612 Woodall *Surg. Mate* Wks. (1653) 29 It is a needful Emplaster in the Surgeons Chest. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* III. 480 The Fleece .. Is dearly sold; but not for needful use. 1742 Young *Nt. Th.* IX. 483 The winter is as needful as the spring. 1808 Scott *Marm.* I. xxii. [He is] The needfulest among us all When time hangs heavy in the hall. 1868 E. Edwards *Ralegh* I. iii. 38 Stern retaliation of this sort was probably seen to be needful.

b. With complementary infin. clause. Now *rare.*

c 1340 Hampole *Prose Tr.* 22 Occupacion and besynes of the worlde which ar nedefulle to vsen. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. XIX. 20 Ergo is no name..so nedeful to nempne by nyȝte ne by daye. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 111 They wold take further advisement, what were than nedeful to be done. 1582 N. Lichefield tr. *Castanheda's Conq. E. Ind.* I. iii. 8 b, Other things also which were necessarye and needfull to be looked unto.

c. *It is needful that* or *to* (with inf.).

1340 Hampole *Pr. Consc.* 3168 Nedeful it es, þat sorow war als mykel and na les For ilka syn. *a* 1400 *Pistill of Susan* 266 Hit is nedful nou þi names to nempne. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* xv. 26 Nocht neidfull is men sowld be dum. 1593 Shaks. 3 *Hen. VI*, IV. vi. 53 It is more then needfull Forthwith that Edward be pronounced a Traytor. 1657 Sparrow *Bk. Com. Prayer* (1661) 33 Needful it is that the Church should call upon us for this duty. 1796 H. Hunter tr. *St.-Pierre's Stud. Nat.* (1799) III. 680 But is it needful to recur to authority when we have that of Nature? 1848 W. H. Bartlett *Egypt to Pal.* xiii. (1879) 295 It is needful to be cautious.

4. *The needful*, what is necessary or requisite.

1709 Steele *Tatler* No. 78 ₱ 7 If you want any further Particulars..let me know, and *per* first will advise the needful. 1771 Foote *Maid of B.* II. Wks. 1799 II. 224 *Lady Cath.* .. Prepare the minister and aw the rest of the tackle. ..*Flint*... I will straight set about getting the needful.

b. *colloq.* The necessary funds; money, cash.

1774 Foote *Cozeners* III. Wks. 1799 II. 187 *Mrs. Air*... You have the needful? *Air.* All but five hundred pounds. 1794 Washington in *Bulletin N. Y. Publ. Lib.* I. 209 As you had acknowledged the receipt of the needful for purchasing the Buck Wh[eat]. 1822 Scott in Lockhart *Life* (1837) V. 236, I will send the *needful* when you apprise me of the amount total. 1855 C. Bronte *Professor* vi, To live I must have 'the needful', which I can only get by working. 1891 *Daily News* 28 Oct. 5/7 A few friends supply the needful, which is about a hundred a year.

5. *sb.* A necessary thing.

1856 Mrs. H. O. Conant *Eng. Bible Transl.* ii. (1881) 14 Should the worthy friends..replenish his empty wallet with such needfuls as they could spare. 1865 Mrs. Whitney *Gayworthys* II. 127 Landy came over early with..a parcel—Say's dress for the Sunday and other needfuls.

Needfully (nī·dfŭli), *adv.* Now *rare.* [f. prec. + -ly 2.] Necessarily, upon compulsion or constraint; urgently, pressingly.

a 1340 Hampole *Psalter* ix. 22 Nedfully þou suffirs vs to be angird & tribled. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* IV. 976 (1004) For nedfully by-houeth it not to be That þilke þinges fallen in certayn That ben purueyed. 1456 Sir G. Have *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 148 [He] hapnyt to be nedefully send for to cum and se his awin place for grete caus. 1541 Paynell *Catiline* xlv. 71 To retourne ageyne, where I lefte, whan I nedefully spake of Cæsar. 1573 Tusser *Husb.* (1878) 17 To keepe no more but needfullie, and count excesse vnsauerie. 1616 B. Jonson *Epigr.* xciv, [They] must needfully, though few, Be of the best. 1646 Crashaw *Poems* (1858) 162 He [shall] more needfully and nobly prove The nations' terror now. 1861 *Macm. Mag.* IV. 135/1 The presence of one evil action .. does not always or needfully make the whole piece of action ugly.

Nee·dfulness. [f. as prec. + -ness.]

1. The state or quality of being needful; the fact of something being needful; necessity.

a 1425 *Cursor M.* 19553 (Trin.), May no mon .. Conferme but bisshopes honde. Þis nedefulnes phelip wist. 1553 T. Wilson *Rhet.* (1580) 89 The hearers maie bothe knowe the nature of praier, and the nedefulnesse of praier. 1578 Banister *Hist. Man* v. 71 Makyng the stomach to feele the needefulnes of meate and drinke. 1674 N. Fairfax *Bulk & Selv.* 59 Because [it is] needful for God to dwell in, and such needfulness cannot be spoken of nothing. 1748 G. White *Serm.* (MS.), How should we ever be made sensible of the needfulness of the Love..of God? 1856 Miss Yonge *Daisy Chain* I. xxiii, More fully aware than her father of the needfulness of the lady's-maid. 1885 *Spectator* 30 May 415/1 He..appreciates..the occasional needfulness of war.

† **2.** A condition of need; a strait. *Obs. rare.*

a 1340 Hampole *Psalter* ix. 22 Þou despisis in nedfulneses, in tribulacyon. *a* 1400 *Prymer* (1891) 80 Of myn needfulnesses delyuere me.

So † **Nee·dfulty.** *Obs. rare* −1.

1382 Wyclif *Ps.* ix. 22 [x. 1] Wherto, Lord, wentist thou awei along? Thou despisist in nedfultees, in tribulacioun.

† **Nee·dham.** *Obs.* Also 6 **needam, 7 needom**(e. Properly the name of a small town (Needham Market) near Ipswich in Suffolk, used punningly with allusion to Need *sb.*; hence, need, poverty, beggary.

1573 Tusser *Husb.* (1878) 188 Toiling much and spoiling more..Soone sets thine host at needams shore, to craue the beggers bone. 1592 Greene *Upst. Courtier* D j, Such yoong youths, when the Broker hath blest them with saint Needams cross, fall then to priuy lifts and cosenages. 1616 T. Adams *Soul's Sickness* Wks. (1629) 466 Idlenesse is the coach to bring a man to Needome, Prodigality the post-horse. *a* 1661 Fuller *Worthies, Suffolk* III. (1662) 56 They are said to be in the high way to Needham who do hasten to poverty.

Needie, obs. form of Needy *a.*

† **Nee·dihood.** *Obs. rare* −1. In 7 **needy-.** [f. Needy *a.* + -hood.] Neediness.

1648 Herrick *Hesper., Beggar to Mab*, Floure of fuz-balls, that's too good For a man in needy-hood.

Needil, obs. form of Needle.

† **Nee·dily,** *adv. Obs. rare.* [f. Needy *a.* + -ly 2.] **a.** Necessarily. **b.** In a needy fashion.

1577–87 Holinshed *Chron.* III. 506/2 It followeth, that needilie [*Fabyan* nedely] great inconuenience must fall to that people, that a child is ruler and gouernour of. 1579 Twyne *Phisicke agst. Fortune* II. cxx. 324 Which both the shortnesse of lyfe, and swyftnesse of tyme, .. needily constrayneth to be so. 1642 Milton *Apol. Smect.* Wks. 1851 III. 305 If I should make my selfe so poore, as to sollicite needily any such kinde of rich hopes as this Forturneteller dreams of.

Nee·diness. [f. Needy *a.* + -ness.] The state or condition of being needy; poverty, want, indigence.

1382 Wyclif *Lev.* xxvi. 16 Y shal visyte ȝow swiftly in nedynes, and in brennynge. *a* 1440 *Found. St. Bartholomew's* (E.E.T.S.) 54 From howe grete ricches with sodeyne case I am come yn nedynes. 1534 More *Comf. agst. Trib.* III. Wks. 1234/1 Hee lyued here in needynesse and pouertye all hys lyfe. 1565 Golding *Ovid's Met.* To Rdr., Of health and sicknesse, life and death, of needinesse and wealth. 1603 Holland *Plutarch's Mor.* 210 That penurie and neediness of the soule. 1827 Southey *Penins. War* II. 476 These measures proved the neediness of the intrusive government. 1883 *Fortn. Rev.* 1 Sept. 347 It is not from neediness, nor yet from niggardliness.

Nee·ding, *vbl. sb.* [f. Need *v.*2 + -ing 1.]

† **1.** An occasion or time of need. *Obs. rare.*

a 1300 *E. E. Psalter* ix. 10 He..made is Laverd..Helper in nedinges. *a* 1340 Hampole *Psalter* xxiv. 18 For þi delyuerd me lord of my nedynges.

† **2.** A necessary act. *Obs. rare* −1.

c 1475 *Mankind* 776 in *Macro Plays* 29, I am doynge of my nedynges; be ware how ȝe schott!

3. The fact of being in need; (a) need or want.

1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* ix. 124, I synnit als in reif and in oppressioun, .. but rewth of peure folkis neiding. *c* 1600 Shaks. *Sonn.* cxviii, To be diseased ere that there was true needing. 1674 N. Fairfax *Bulk & Selv.* 147 We see then the soul can do after the needings of its own kind. 1821 Clare *Vill. Minstr.* II. 117 The daily needings want's worst shifts require.

Nee·ding, *ppl. a.* [f. Need *v.*2 + -ing 2.] That needs; poor, indigent. Also *transf.*

1569 J. Sanford tr. *Agrippa's Van. Artes* 7 The Latine Gramer is so poore and needinge and bounde to the Greek literature. 1642 Rogers *Naaman* 133 But a poore needing soule so sees Christ offered. 1898 Bp. Moule *Colossian Stud.* vii. 139 We, in Him, derive that Fulness into our needing Souls.

† **Nee·dings,** *adv. Obs. rare.* [repr. OE. *nēadinga, -unga, nīedinga*, f. *nēad, nīed* Need *sb.*] Of necessity.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 2450 Þair fee nedings þai most flit. *Ibid.* 5926 O þis watur..Wa was þam þat it nedings dranc.

Needisly: see Needsly *adv. Obs.*

Needle (nī·d'l), *sb.* Forms: *a.* 1–2 **nǽdl, nédl,** (1 nasðl, nethl, netl), 3–6 **nedle,** 4–5 **nedel,** (5 -ele), 4–6 **nedill,** (5 -il, -ille, -yl, -ylle, 6 -yll), 5–6 **nedell, nydel,** (5 nydle), 6 **neidil, neadle**; 5–6 **needell,** 6–7 **needel,** (6 -il), 6– **needle.** *β.* 3–7 **neld**(e, 4 **neelde,** 6–9 **neeld,** 6 **neilde,** 8 **ne**(e)**ald,** 9 **nield, nild**; 6, 9 **neele,** 9 **neel, neal, nill, nail.** [OE. *nǽdl* fem. = OFris. *nedle, nidle*, OS. *nâdla, nâthla*, MLG. *nâtel*, OHG. *nâdela, nâdla, nâdal* (MHG. *nâdele, nâdel*, G. *nadel*), ON. *nál* (for **náþl*; Sw. *nål*, Da. *naal*), Goth. *nēþla* : —pre-Teut. **nētlā*, f. the root **nē-* to sew, which appears in OHG. *nâian* (G. *nähen*), MDu. *nayen* (Du. *naaien*), and prob. in L. *nēre* to spin, Gr. *νῆσις* spinning, *νῆμα* thread. The ME. metathetic form *neld*(*e* has parallels in OFris. *nelde*, MDu. *naelde* (Du. *naala*), OHG. *nalda* (MHG. *nalde*): forms representing it are still common in northern and western dialects.]

I. 1. An instrument used in sewing, usually a small and slender piece of polished steel having a fine point at one end and at the other a hole or eye (see Eye *sb.* 20 a) through which the thread is passed.

Naked, or *sharp, as a needle*: see the adjs. *Pins and needles*: see Pin *sb.* 3 d.

a. c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) A 160 *Acus*, netl. *Ibid.* P 421 *Pictus acu*, mið nethle [*Ep.* naeðlæ, *Erf.* nedlæ] asiowid. *a* 1000 *Soul & Body* 120 ȝifer hatte se wyrm, þam þe ȝeaflas beoð nædle scearpran. *a* 1000 *Colloq. Ælp. Ælfric* in Wr.-Wülcker 99/17 Hwanon fiscere ancgel oþþe sceowyrhton æl oþþe seamere nædl? *c* 1200 Ormin 6341 Wiþþutenn cnif & shæþe & camb & nedle. ?*a* 1366 Chaucer *Rom. Rose* 97 A sylvre nedle forth I drogh Out of an aguiler queynt. *c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 36 Haue a nedle þre cornerid..& þe lippis of þe wounde schal be sowid togideris. 1484 Caxton *Æsop* III. i, [The shepherd] with a nydle subtylly drewe oute of his foote the thorne. 1523 Fitzherb. *Husb.* § 142 [Have] thimble, nedle, threde, .. leste that thy gurthe breake. 1584 R. Scot *Discov. Witchcr.* XII. vii. (1886) 182 She sticketh also needels fine In livers, whereby men doo pine. 1653 Walton *Angler* v. 111 With a needle or pin divide the wing into two. 1712 Steele *Spect.* No. 430 ₱ 1 With a Needle and Thread thriftily mending his Stockings. 1751 Johnson *Rambler* No. 85 ₱ 12 A knot of misses busy at their needles. 1835 Sir J. Ross *Narr. 2nd Voy.* XXXVII. 515 Presenting the women with a needle each. 1865 Lubbock *Preh. Times* xii. 407 For needles they use bones either of birds or fishes.

fig. 1678 *Yng. Man's Call.* 156 This [sin] is..that needle, that too surely draws a thread of divine vengeance after it. 1860 Reade *Cloister & H.* LXXV, Catherine ran infinite pins and needles of speech into them. 1872 Black *Adv. Phaeton* XX. 279 Sticking another needle in her mental image of that poor monarch.

β. a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 152 A sopare, þet ne bereð buten sope & nelden. *a* 1300 *Estorie del Enangelie* 358 (Vernon MS.) in *Engl. Stud.* VIII. 258 Þat mayde won hire bred Wiþ hire nelde and hire þred. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 249 That childe was .. prikkede thro alle the body with nalles, neldes, and pynnes. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) I. 225 They made a subtile hoole vnder hit with a nelde. *a* 1557 Mrs. M. Basset tr. *More's Treat. Passion* M.'s Wks. 1365 Yf a man do but with a neldes point pricke them in yᵉ eye. 1575 *Gamm. Gurton* I. iv. 5 My fayre, longe, strayght neele, that was myne onely treasure! 1600 Fairfax *Tasso* XX. XCV, For thee fit weapons weare Thy neeld and spindle. 1701 J. White *Cy. Man's Conductor* 127/2 *Neald*, Needle. The *ea* sounded as in yea. 1775 Watson *Hist. Halifax* Vocab. 543 *Neeld*, a Needle. 1814 *Monthly Mag.* XXXVIII. 127 Needle, *neel.* 1825 Jennings *Obs. Dial. W. Eng.* 166 Whitechapel nills all sizes. 1848– in many dial. glossaries (usually in form *neeld*).

† **b.** As an object of trifling importance or value; hence, a particle. *Obs.*

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 400 Alle þeos þingis somed, aȝean mine bode, ne beoð nout wurð a nelde. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 4012 (Kölbing), Þo he þe stede was upon, He ȝaue a nedel of his fon. *c* 1400 *Plowman's Tale* in *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) I. 327 Soche willers witte is not worth a nelde. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* II. 123 When all mens corn was fayre in feld Then was myne not worth a neld. *Ibid.* XIII. 233, I ete not an nedyll Thys moneth and more.

c. Phr. *To look for*, or *seek, a needle in a meadow, haystack, bottle* (*truss* or *bundle*) *of hay*, to attempt an extremely difficult, impossible, or foolish task.

c 1530 More *Answ. Frith* Wks. 837/2 To seke out one lyne in all hys bookes wer to go looke a nedle in a medow. 1592 [see Bottle *sb.*3 1]. 1690 W. Walker *Idiomat. Anglo-Lat.* (1695) Pref., A labour much like that of seeking a needle in a Bottle of Hay. 1711 E. Ward *Vulgus Brit.* VIII. 95 Seeking we may say, A Needle in a Truss of Hay. 1742 Gray *Lett.* (1900) I. 105 A coach that seem'd to have lost its way, by looking for a needle in a bottle of hay. 1855 Kingsley *Westw. Ho!* XXX, But it's ill looking for a needle in a haystack. [1875 Lowell *Spenser* Prose Wks. 1890 IV. 268 These thin needles of wit buried in unwieldy haystacks of verse.]

d. *Needle's eye*, denoting a minute opening or space, chiefly in echoes of Matt. xix. 24, etc.

Direct citations of the N. T. passages are frequent. The rendering *the eye of a needle* goes back to Tindale (1526).

1579 Gosson *Sch. Abuse* (Arb.) 27 Euerie one of them may..daunce the wilde Morice in a Needles eye. 1593 Shaks. *Rich. II*, v. v. 17 It is as hard to come, as for a Camell To thred the posterne of a Needles eye. 1622 Fitz-Geffrey *Elisha* 46 He had learned also how to make the Camell passe through the needles eye, namely by casting off the bunch on the back. 1668 Davenant *Man's the Master* I. i, The invisible rogue threaded a lane as narrow as a needle's eye.

e. *transf.* A needlewoman. *rare.*

1834 Beckford *Italy* II. 83 Sister Francisca Salesia..is acknowledged to be one of the first needles in Christendom. 1855 Dickens *Dorrit* II. xvii, There was no favour in half-a-crown a day to such a needle as herself.

2. a. A piece of magnetized steel (orig. a needle in sense 1) used as an indicator of direction (in later use as a part of the Compass), or in connexion with magnetic or electric apparatus such as the telegraph. Also *elliptical* = needle telegraph.

1375 Barbour *Bruce* v. 23 Thai wist nocht quhar thai wer, For thai na nedill had na stane. 1436 *Libel Eng. Policy* in *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 191 Men have practised by nedle and

by stone Thider-wardes wythine a lytel whylle. 1475 *Bk. Noblesse* (Roxb.) 58 Yet the eldist man..seethe to the nedille for to gide the ship to alle costis. 1555 EDEN *Decades* Contents (Arb.) 45 Who fyrst founde the nedle of the compass and the vse thereof. 1625 N. CARPENTER *Geog. Del.* I. iii. (1635) 66 At Guinea the magneticall needle inclines to the East. 1665 GLANVILL *Scepsis Sci.* xiv. 78 As is the trembling Needle, till it find its beloved North. 1774 M. MACKENZIE *Maritime Surv.* 16 They will be less affected by any Inaccuracy in the Bearing by the Needle. 1837 WHEATSTONE & COOKE in *Repert. Pat. Invent.* (1839) XI. 9 Whenever the needle does so point upwards and downwards, it denotes that it is quiescent. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* 462 After an action at sea, the needles are often found to be useless, until re-magnetized. 1876 PREECE & SIVEWRIGHT *Telegraphy* 96 The Needle is specially adapted for railway purposes and for linking together several towns on one wire.

fig. 1679 *Establ. Test* 2, I do not pretend..to meddle with the Needle and Compass of the Publique Bottom. *a* 1700 KEN *Hymnotheo* Poet. Wks. 1721 III. 335 The Needle turn'd from God, to point at ill.

b. A small strip of gold or silver of known or standard fineness used with a touchstone in testing the purity of other pieces of those metals.

1469 in *Archaeol.* (1806) XV. 173 That ii gode stones and good nedeles for to touche be alwey ther redie..to make assaie of gold. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* s.v. *Touch-Needles*, You will be able to determine..what allay it is of, by the mark of the Needle. 1763 W. LEWIS *Phil. Comm. Arts* 119 Oblong pieces, called needles,..kept in readiness ..as standards of comparison. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 766 Assayers make a comparison upon a touch-stone, between it and certain needles composed of gold and silver,..which are called Proof Needles.

c. (See quots.)

1589 RIDER *Bibl. Schol.* 989 A needle, or tongue of a ballance or beame, *examen*. 1616–61 HOLYDAY *Persius* (1673) 301 The parts of the halance...The Needle (or Tongue) that arises from the middle of the beam [etc.]. 1789 M. MADAN tr. *Persius* (1795) 8 *note*, The tongue, needle, or beam of a balance. 1856 *Orr's Circle Sci., Mech. Phil.* 107 A needle is usually fixed to the beam..., which points vertically upwards or downwards when the beam is in a horizontal position.

3. a. A pointed instrument used in engraving or etching.

1662 EVELYN *Chalcogr.* (1769) 22 The use both of the point, needle, and etching in aquafortis. 1727–38 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Engraving*, The design..is traced through on the copper, with a point or needle. *c* 1790 IMISON *Sch. Arts* II. 32 The principal instruments for etching are needles, oil-stone [etc.]. 1837 *Penny Cycl.* IX. 441/2 Etching-points or needles are nearly similar in appearance to sewing-needles, but fixed into handles four or five inches long.

b. *Surg.* A long slender pointed instrument used in operations; the sharply pointed end of a hypodermic or other syringe; a pointed electrode used in surgical electrolysis.

1727–38 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Cataract*, Turning the needle round, they twist the cataract about its point. 1803 *Med. Jrnl.* X. 566 If the anterior part of the capsula remain,.. the needle is retracted from the lens. 1846 BRITTAN tr. *Malgaigne's Man. Oper. Surg.* 309 A silver or golden needle about three inches long...The oculist holds this needle as a pen. 1895 *Arnold & Sons' Catal. Surg. Instr.* 267 Syringe, Laryngeal, ..with needles for injecting the Larynx hypodermically. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 828 The positive needle should be held in position and the negative needle passed in various directions through the nævoid tissue.

c. In breech-loading fire-arms, a slender steel pin by the impact of which the cartridge is ignited.

1853 URE *Dict. Arts* (ed. 4) I. 727 On pulling the trigger, the interior needle, from which the musquet takes its name, is darted forward..and thus effects the ignition. 1876 VOYLE & STEVENSON *Milit. Dict.* 270/1 The spiral spring..forces the needle into the cartridge and fires the piece.

4. a. A knitting or netting pin.

1719 D'URFEY *Pills* (1872) V. 282 She let her Iv'ry Needle fall. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Suppl.* s.v. *Net*, All the tools necessary to it are wooden needles, of which there should be several of different sizes. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVII. 805/1 The method of knitting stockings by wires or needles. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVII. 180/1 In the process of knitting..polished steel needles or wires are used to link threads together into a series of loops.

b. One of a set of parallel pieces of wire forming part of the mechanism of a stocking-frame or of the Jacquard loom.

1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 660 There must be as many endless cords in this frame as needles in the weaving-loom. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVII. 178/2 Each bar or needle is a lever by which certain warp-threads are governed.

5. a. A metal pin or rod used as a fixing.

1837 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* I. 6/1 Long iron needles pass through holes in the strips of saw-plate, and pin them to the ground.

b. *Mining.* (See quot. 1883.)

1839 *Penny Cycl.* XV. 241/2 The charge having been firmly rammed down with clay..the wire or 'needle' is withdrawn. 1883 GRESLEY *Gloss. Coal-mining* 173 *Needle*, a sharp-pointed copper or brass rod with which a small hole is made through the stemming to the cartridge in blasting operations.

II. 6. a. A pillar or obelisk, usually with fanciful attribution to some historical person.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 211 Iulius his piler þat now pylgryms clepeþ Seynt Petres nedle. 1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 114 An Hieroglyphicall Obelisk of Theban marble.. called Pharos Needle. 1660 F. BROOKE tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 278 There is yet left a kind of Obeliske or Needle. *a* 1693 HUNTINGDON in Ray's *Travels* (1693) II. 153 The Franks call them Aguglia's, the English particularly Cleopatra's Needles. 1842 GWILT *Archit.* 1009 s.v. *Obelisk*, Two obelisks, one at Alexandria, vulgarly called Cleopatra's Needle.

†**b.** (See quot. 1617.) *Obs. rare.*

1617 MORYSON *Itin.* III. 143 Rippen had a most flourishing Monastery, where was the most famous needle of the Archbishop Wilfred. It was a narrow hole, by which the chastity of women was tried. 1650 T. FULLER *Pisgah* III. iii. § 17. 323 We..account the threading of Saint Wilffride's needle as a conceit..to have as much gravity and truth therein.

7. A sharp-pointed mass of rock; *esp.* in *pl.* as the name of those to the west of the Isle of Wight, or those which form the summits of many Swiss mountains.

c 1400 *Anc. Pet.* 9425 (Public Rec. Office), La terre deuaunt les nedeles del Isle de Wight. 1594 NASHE *Terrors of Night* Wks. (Grosart) III. 263 A fortunate blessed Iland, nere those pinacle rocks called the Needles. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), The *Needles*, certain Shelves in the Sea, about the Isle of Wight. 1721 *New Gen. Atlas* 146 On the Platform of the Mountain there is a natural Pyramid, whence it was called a needle. 1775 C. & F. DAVY tr. *Bourrit's Journ. Glaciers* (1776) 67 The chain..is composed of masses of rocks, which terminate in pikes, or spires called the Needles. 1820 MARIANA STARKE *Trav. Cont.* ii. 66 The *Mer de Glace* ..on its margin rise pyramidical rocks, called Needles. 1852 MITCHELL *Rev. Bachelor* 279 Far behind them..Mont Blanc and the Needles of Chamouni.

8. A beam or post of wood, *esp.* one used as a temporary support for a wall during underpinning.

1471 *Acc. Bodmin Ch.* (Camden) 25 Cariage of neldis for scafelys. 1512–13 *Rec. Nottingham* (1889) IV. 452 Item for a tree, the hewyng and sawyng in neldes v.s. 1587 FLEMING *Contn. Holinshed* III. 1541/1 What prouision of stuffe should be made..of timber,..needels, keies, beetels. 1684 I. MATHER *Remark. Provid.* (1856) 5 h, A violent flash, or rather flame of lightning, which brake and shivered one of the needles of the katted or wooden chimney. 1842 GWILT *Archit.* 1008 *Needle*, an horizontal piece of timber serving as a temporary support to some superincumbent weight. 1867 *Guardian* 24 Dec. 1383/1 One of the 'needles'—upright pieces of timber supporting the keystone of the arch—slipped from under. 1889 *Whitby Gaz.* 5 Apr. 3/7 If a plank had been placed between the needles, the stone could not have fallen upon plaintiff.

9. a. A common wild plant (*Scandix pecten*), also called *Adam's, Beggar's, Shepherd's Needle*, etc.

1793 *Trans. Soc. Arts* XI. 52 Unaccountably foul with catlock, needles, &c. 1851 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* XII. ii. 348 Weeds are very troublesome, especially the wild oat, buttercup, and 'needle'. 1877 *N. W. Linc. Gloss., Needles*, a weed, with sharp needle-like seed-pods, which grows among corn.

b. The name of a fish. (Cf. NEEDLE-FISH.) *rare.*

1589 RIDER *Bibl. Schol.* 1722 Nedelis, a kind of fish, *belone*. 1603 OWEN *Pembrokeshire* (1892) I. 123 The Erle or needle whose fynes growe forward contrarie to the nature of all fishe.

c. Some kind of shell. *rare*$^{-1}$.

1713 PETIVER *Aquat. Anim. Amboinæ* 3/2 *Strombus*..Curl girdled Needle.

10. *Chem.* and *Min.* A crystal or spicule resembling a needle in shape.

1712 tr. *Pomet's Hist. Drugs* I. 184 Benjamin being very full of volatile Particles.., the Flowers ascend in little Needles very white. 1758 REID tr. *Macquer's Chym.* I. 215 Pyrites ..being broken present a number of shining needles, all radiating, as it were, from a center. 1800 tr. *Lagrange's Chem.* II. 128 You will obtain a salt under the form of small needles. 1855 KINGSLEY *Glaucus* (1878) 87 A twisted wisp of strong flexible flint needles. 1880 COLLINS in *Mineral. Mag.* IV. 104 Some of these 'needles' [of needle-tin] are extremely fine.

11. One of the sharp slender leaves of the fir and pine trees.

1798 *Trans. Soc. Arts* XVI. 357 Its needles are longer and darker than those of the famous Weymouth Pine. 1845 *Zoologist* III. 901 A pine tree..stripped of its leaves, or needles, as the Germans more aptly term them. 1883 JEFFERIES *Nat. near Lond.* 159 His golden crest distinctly seen among the dark green needles of the fir.

12. †**a.** *slang.* A sharper. *Obs.*

a 1790 POTTER *New Dict. Cant, Needle*, a sharp fellow, a sharper, a cheat. 1821 EGAN *Life in London* 138 (Farmer), Among the needles at the West end of the town.

b. *The needle*, a fit of irritation or nervousness.

1887 *Punch* 30 July 45 It give 'im the needle..being left in the lurch this way. 1900 G. SWIFT *Somerley* 83 But when the final gun has gone and you are 'off', nervousness, 'needle', everything goes.

III. 13. *attrib.* and *Comb.* **a.** Objective, and obj. genitive, as *needle-grinder, -grinding, -maker, -making, -monger, -pointer, -polisher, -seller.*

c 1836 *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VIII. 672/2 A back elevation of a *needle-grinder's wheel. *Ibid.*, The injurious effect of needle grinding upon the health of the individuals. 1611 COTGR., *Esguillier*, a *needle-maker. 1723 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 6134/4 John Lowe,..Needle-maker. *c* 1836 *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VIII. 673/1 Measures to be taken by the larger needle-makers themselves. *Ibid.* 671/1 *Needle-making, old process. 1872 YEATS *Techn. Hist. Comm.* 343 In England needle-making has become a staple trade. 1837 WHEELWRIGHT tr. *Aristophanes* I. 13 The *needlemonger too with Pamphilus. 1835 URE *Philos. Manuf.* 402 The Sheffield dry-grinders and *needle-pointers. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 159 Flint-workers, *needle-polishers,..supply the largest contingent of pulmonary diseases. 1848 HICKIE tr. *Aristophanes* (Bohn) II. 692 And will not the *Needle-seller [suffer] along with Pamphilus?

b. Instrumental, as *needle-made, -painted, -run, -scarred, -worked* adjs.; also *needle-hole, -puncture, -puncturing.*

1847 *Nat. Encycl.* I. 851 A very minute *needle-hole made in the centre of it. 1883 *Cassell's Fam. Mag.* July 500/2 The lacet point is a *needle-made lace. 1598 CHAPMAN *Iliad* III. 386 The *needle-painted lace, with which his helm was tied Beneath his chin. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 847 Cancerous deposits may form at the sites of the *needle punctures. 1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) III. 268 Advantage has sometimes been derived from *needle-puncturing. 1894 *Westm. Gaz.* 31 May 3/3 The mingling of *needle-run..lace and broad white satin ribbon. 1854 WHYTE MELVILLE *Gen. Bounce* ix, Holding up her *needle-scarred hands to the bystanders. 1856 DICKENS in *Househ. Words* XXXIV. 130/2 Of rich oak carvings and quaint *needleworked tapestry there was none.

c. Similative, as *needle-form, -formed, -like, -shaped, -tailed* adjs.; also *needle-foliage, -leaf, -rock, -spire.*

1898 CATH. PHILLIMORE *Dante at Ravenna* 152 Through their *needle foliage passes a sweet murmur. 1807 T. THOMSON *Chem.* (ed. 3) II. 623 It may, however, be obtained in small *needleform crystals. *Ibid.* 289 Some of them lance-shaped, others *needle-formed. 1856 MISS YONGE *Daisy Chain* II. xxii. (1879) 600 The dark path, bestrewn with brown slippery *needle-leaves. 1672 JOSSELYN *New Eng. Rarities* 7 They feed upon Honey, which they suck out of Blossoms..with their *Needle-like Bills. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XI. 440/2 The smoothness and needle-like figure of the particles. 1847–9 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* IV. 66/2 In the shape of simple needle-like crystals. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* 495 In California many of the *needle rocks are of volcanic origin. 1786 AIKIN tr. *Beaumé's Man. Chem.* 94 The liquor .. furnishes *needle-shaped crystals. 1863 A. C. RAMSAY *Phys. Geog.* 22 Needle-shaped masses of rocks. 1864 *Daily Tel.* 23 Sept., Its tall brick cathedral, with the two *needle-spires. 1801 LATHAM *Syn. Birds* Suppl. II. 259 *Needle-tailed Sw[allow].

d. Attributive, as *needle-factory, -hand, -housewifery, -job, -toil, -trade, -wire.*

1747 in *Chester Misc.* (1750) 247 Jacintha employ'd in Needle-housewifry. 1822 LAMB *Elia* Ser. II. *Thoughts on Bks.*, The milliner..after her long day's needle-toil. 1836 *Going to Service* xi. 122 Several little needle jobs. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 879 The first operation .. of the needle factory. 1862 *Catal. Internat. Exhib., Brit.* II. No. 6449 The early history of the needle-trade. *Ibid.*, The distance between the two eyes in each needle-wire. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 14 Cases of break-down in the needle-hand of tailors and seamstresses.

14. Special combs., as **needle-alphabet** (*nonce-wd.*), one in which stitches are substituted for letters according to a pre-arranged code; **needle-bath**, a form of shower-bath with a very fine and strong spray; **needle-beam**, a transverse beam in the flooring of a bridge (Knight, 1875); **needle-bolt**, the bolt which carries the needle in a needle-gun; **needle-book**, a needle-case resembling a small book; **needle-bug** (see quot.); **needle-bush** (see quots.); **needle-chervil**, = NEEDLE 9 a; **needle-craft**, the art of using the needle for sewing or embroidering; **needle-dial**, a dial bearing a needle in an electrical apparatus; **needle-file** [cf. G. *nadelfeil*], a fine round file used by jewellers (Knight, 1875); †**needle-fodder**, a needle-case; **needle-furze** or **-gorse**, *Genista anglica*; **needle-girder** (cf. *needle-beam* above); **needle-grass**, a species of grass (*Aristida oligantha*), common in the south-western U.S.; **needle green-weed**, = *needle-furze*; †**needle-house** [cf. Da. *naalehus*, Sw. *nålhus*], a needle-case; **needle iron-ore** or **iron-stone**, a variety of hydrate of iron; **needle-jerker**, (*slang*) a tailor; **needle-lace**, lace made with the needle, as opposed to bobbin-lace; **needle manganese** (see quot.); **needle-musket**, one fired by means of a needle; **needle-ore** (see quots.); **needle-rifle** (cf. *needle-musket*); †**needle-screw**, ? a very fine screw; **needle-shell** (see quots.); †**needle-shuttle**, a shuttle resembling a large needle; †**needle-spar**, aragonite; **needle-spitter** (*nonce-wd.*), one who uses sharp language; **needle-syringe**, a sharp-pointed hypodermic syringe; **needle-telegraph**, a telegraph in which the needle is employed as an indicator; **needle-timber, -tin** (see quots.); **needle-tree**, a tree bearing needles, as the pine or fir; **needle-urchin** (see quot.); **needle-weed**, = NEEDLE 9 a; **needle-whin**, = *needle-furze*; **needle-worm** [G. *nadelwurm*, Du. *naaldworm*], a small worm parasitic in horses; **needle zeolite**, natrolite.

Also in a number of other technical combs., as *needle-bar, -forceps, -loom, -valve*; *needle-bearer, -holder*, etc. (see Knight *Dict. Mech.*).

1655 MRQ. WORCESTER *Cent. Invent.* Index, *A Needle-alphabet. 1887 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 11 June 1291/2 There are reclining baths;..*needle-baths; local baths; and special baths. 1868 *Rep. Govt. U. S. Munitions War* 24 The catch *h* is drawn down sufficiently to allow the *needle-bolt shoulder *a* to pass over it. 1693 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2905/4 A little Silk Bag, with a *Needle-Book and a little Key in it. 1858 MRS. GATTY *Aunt Judy's Tales* (1859) 75 The needle-book that he'd bought for me in his hand. 1896 LYDEKKER *Royal Nat. Hist.* VI. 191 *Limnobates stagnorum* .. is remarkable for its elongated slender body, whence its name of *needle bug or water gnat. 1889 MAIDEN *Usef. Native Pl.* 34 *Hakea leucoptera*, .. '*Needle-bush', 'Pin-bush'. *Ibid.* 314 *Acacia rigens*, .. 'Nealie', or 'Needle Bush'. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* 615 This herbe is called .. in Englishe, Shepheardes Needel, wilde Cheruel, and *Needel Cheruill. 1382 WYCLIF *Ex.* xxxix. 28 The girdil forsothe of bijs foldun ajen, iacynct, purpur and reed clooth, twynned with *nedle

craft. 1846 B. Barton *Select.* (1849) 41 A piece of sempstress-ship or needle-craft, forming the forepart of a waistcoat. 1868 *Rep. Govt. U. S. Munitions War* 241 A short circuit is thus made with a *needle-dial. 1382 Wyclif *Isa.* iii. 20 Combys, and ribanes,..and oynement boxes [*altered from* *needle foddris]. 1650–1738 *Needle Furze [see Furze 2]. 1785 Martyn *Rousseau's Bot.* xxv. (1794) 352 Needle Furze or Petty-Whin, which you will find wild on heaths. 1898 *Daily News* 18 Nov. 2/1 '*Needle' girders were then 'threaded' crosswise over the main girders. 1893 Turner in *Annals Andersonian Nat. Soc.* 2 On the drier banks..the *needlegorse (*Genista anglica*) is not quite unknown. 1885 H. C. McCook *Tenants Old Farm* 341 A sort of grass known as ant-rice, or *needle-grass. 1796 Withering *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) III. 625 *Genista anglica*, *Needle Greenweed. *c* 1425 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 659 *Hec acuaria*, *nedylhows. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 250/2 A Nedylle bowse, *acuarium*. 1547 Salesbury *Welsh Dict.*, *Nidws*, a needle ouse. 1885 A. Ramsay *Min.* (ed. 3) 178 *Needle-iron Ore; Onegite; Ferric Monohydrate. 1807 *Sporting Mag.* XVII. 19 His galliga-skins have been made by the same *needle-jerker. 1891 *Daily News* 13 Nov. 5/5 There is Irish lace of all kinds, and some of the *needle lace is really exquisite. 1876 Preece & Sivewright *Telegraphy* 26 The binoxide of manganese which is used is of the form known as *needle manganese. 1898 *Edin. Rev.* Apr. 350 The so-called *needle-musket of the Prussians. 1810 *Nicholson's Jrnl.* XXVII. 236 The *Needle-ore has been considered..an auriferous ore of Nickel. 1836 T. Thomson *Min., Geol.*, etc. I. 596 Needle ore of Bismuth..was first described and analyzed by Karsten and John. 1875 *Ure's Dict. Arts* (ed. 7) III. 412 *Needle-ore* or Aciculite. A native sulphide of bismuth, copper, and lead, in acicular crystals, found in Siberia. 1866 *Chambers's Encycl.* VIII. 259/2 The Prussians, meanwhile, had armed their troops with the *needle-rifle. 1655 Mrq. Worcester *Cent. Inv.* (1663) § 81 The head being opened with a *Needle-scrue drawing a Spring towards them. 1752 Hill *Hist. Anim.* 134 The slender Turbo, with ventricose spires, and a small rounded mouth. The *Needle-shell. 1863 J. G. Wood *Nat. Hist.* III. 380 The Spotted Needle-shell, or Spotted Auger, derives its name from the long and sharply pointed form of the shell. 1699 L. Wafer *Voy.* 86 The Men make Arrow-Heads of this Wood; the Women *Needle-Shuttles to weave their Cotton. 1836 T. Thomson *Min., Geol.*, etc. I. 117 Arragonite, igloite, flos ferri, *needle spar. 1805 *Sporting Mag.* XXV. 315 My landlady—a perfect *needle-spitter. 1894 *Daily News* 15 Jan. 3/2 This is inserted beneath the skin of the stomach by means of a small *needle-syringe. 1849 Noad *Electricity* (ed. 3) 375 The telegraph here patented they call their *needle telegraph. 1860 G. Prescott *Electr. Telegr.* 100 The essential part of the needle telegraph is the multiplier. 1802–3 tr. *Pallas's Trav.* (1812) I. 36 *Needle-timber, that is, resinous-trees, or such as have acuminated leaves. 1880 J. H. Collins in *Mineral. Mag.* (1882) IV. 7 F. Becke regards Wood Tin as an extreme form of the well known acicular crystals sometimes spoken of as '*Needle Tin'. 1849 Otté tr. *Humboldt's Cosmos* II. 455 In the *needle-tree we have the greatest contraction of the leaf vessels. 1868 G. Stephens *Runic Mon.* I. 209 The stuff could scarcely be of birch, or of any other leaf-tree, but rather of a needle-tree. 1713 Petiver *Aq. Anim. Amb.* 1/2 *Echinus setosus*..*Needle-Urchin. 1787 W. Marshall *Norf.* (1795) Gloss., *Needleweed, *Scandix pecten Veneris*, shepherd's needle. 1890 *Daily News* 8 Sept. 3/1 Though there is plenty of *needle-whin in places, its green spines are too tender to goad the hides of horses much. 1766 *Compl. Farmer, Ascarides*, small worms common in horses, resembling needles...They are often called *needle-worms by the farriers. 1831 Youatt *Horse* 210 A smaller, darker coloured worm, called the needle worm or *ascaris*, inhabits the large intestines. 1805 S. Weston *Werneria* 95 Scapolite is not solvable in nitric acid,..in..which it differs from the *needle-zeolite. 1836 T. Thomson *Min., Geol.*, etc. I. 314 Thomsonite.., needle zeolite of Werner in part.

Needle (nī·d'l), *v.* [f. the sb. Cf. G. *nadeln*, *nädeln*, to sew or fix with needles.]

1. *trans.* To sew or pierce with (or as with) a needle. Also with *up*.

a 1715 Burnet *Own Time* II. (1724) I. 270 Coventry had his nose so well needled up, that the scar was scarce to be discerned. 1827 H. Coleridge in *Blackw. Mag.* XXII. 43 She who gives her tawny skin to be needled and flowered as if it were an insensible garment. 1835 Hogg in *Fraser's Mag.* XI. 359 The pangs of terror now needled his soul. 1879 *St. George's Hosp. Rep.* IX. 483 The youngest had both lenses needled at the close of the year.

b. *slang.* (See quot.) Also in recent use, to annoy or irritate.

1812 J. H. Vaux *Flash Dict.* s.v., To needle a person is to haggle with him in making a bargain, and if possible take advantage of him.

c. To penetrate; to pierce or thread (one's way); to pass (a thing) through like a needle; to underpin with needle-beams, etc.

c 1820 Hogg *Connel of Dee* xxxiii, He rainbowed the hawthorn, He needled the brake. 1866 Herschel *Fam. Lect. Sci.* 159 The particles of one species of gas or vapor struggle to interpenetrate or needle, as it were, their way among those of every other. 1877 G. Fraser *Wigtown* 231 (E.D.D.), He used adroitly to needle a stick backwards and forwards between his legs. 1901 *J. Black's Carp. & Build., Scaffolding* 52 The walls..may be needled under the superimposed brickwork.

2. *intr.* a. To form acicular crystals. b. To pass through, or in and out, like a needle. c. To use the needle, to sew.

1828–32 Webster, *Needle*, to shoot in crystalization into the form of needles. 1835 D. Webster *Rhymes* 24 (E.D.D.), Sae nimbly, They needled grumphy's legs between. 1861 Thackeray *Four Georges* iii. (1862) 161 Groups of women in..tight bodies and full skirts, needling away.

Nee·dle-case. [Needle *sb.* 1.] A case in which needles are kept.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 352/1 Nedyl case, *acuarius*. 1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* lf. xvi b/2 The Needle-case, wherin we may sticke thredede Needles. 1686 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2173/4 A Silver Needle-Case with Open Work. 1706 *Ibid.* No. 4234/5 Two Scisser Cases and a Needle Case, both of Silver. 1827 in Hone *Every-day Bk.* II. 189 A needle-case, a spectacle-case. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* s.v.

Needled (nī·d'ld), *a.* [f. Needle *sb.* or *v.*] Having a needle in it; done with the needle; pointed or shaped like a needle, etc.

1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* 61 The same.. may be observed in a needled sphere of corke. 1738 H. Brooke *Tasso* II. 355 Each important toil of female hearts, The tricking ornament, and needled arts. 1786 Aikin tr. *Beaumé's Man. Chem.* 147 The solution of tin in the marine acid, set to evaporate, yields needled crystals. 1839–52 Bailey *Festus* 339 Like The needled angle of a high church spire. 1868 Nettleship *Ess. Browning* i. 38 The fairy needled moss.

Nee·dledom. [-dom.] The 'world' of sewing.

1847 *Bachelor of Albany* (1854) 74 The most industrious embroiderer in Needledom.

Nee·dle-fish. [Needle *sb.* 1. Cf. G. *nadelfisch*, Du. *naaldvisch*, Da. *naale-*, Sw. *nålfisk*.] A name given to various fishes; esp. the pipe-fish or gar-fish.

1601 Holland *Pliny* I. 266 The Horne-beakes or Needle-fishes. 1666 J. Davies *Hist. Caribby Isles* 100 There is a Fish without scales, four foot or thereabouts in length, called the Needle-Fish. 1683–4 Robinson in *Phil. Trans.* XXIX. 479 A Species of Sea Pike, a-kin to the Needle-Fishes. 1752 Hill *Hist. Anim.* 203 The Syngnathus, with the middle of the body hexangular, and the tail pinnated. The Needle-fish. 1796 Stedman *Surinam* II. xxiii. 172 A kind of needle-fish..was found here in great abundance. 1863 Bates *Nat. Amazon* ix. (1864) 279 Little troops of needle-fish, eel-like animals with excessively long and slender toothed jaws. 1880–4 F. Day *Brit. Fishes* II. 148 *Belone vulgaris*, .. horn-fish, needle-fish or long-nose.

Nee·dleful. [Needle *sb.* 1.] The amount of thread which can be conveniently nsed at one time with a needle.

1611 Cotgr., *Esguillée*, a needlefull of. 1810 *Splendid Follies* II. 124, I must beg a needleful of thread to tie up my nose. 1880 *Plain Hints Needlework* 59 You have at once ready half-yard needlefuls.

Nee·dle-gun. [Needle *sb.* 3 c.] A gun in which the cartridge is exploded by the impact of a needle. Also *attrib.*

1865 J. E. F. Skinner *Danish Heroism* 206 Loading his needle-gun like fury. 1868 *Rep. Govt. U. S. Munitions War* 18 The fulminate of the needle-gun cartridge was at one time believed to be kept a secret. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 272 The needle-gun is not at all a satisfactory arm, considered..as a breech-loader.

Nee·dleman. [Needle *sb.* 1.] A man who works with the needle, esp. a tailor.

1823 Syd. Smith *Wks.* (1867) II. 24 The nefarious needle-man writes home, that he is as comfortable as a finger in a thimble. 1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 1239 The open thimble being employed by tailors, upholsterers, and, generally speaking, by needle-men. 1876 L. Stephen *Eng. Th. 18th C.* I. 458 The 'rebellious needleman' [Paine] was an incendiary.

Nee·dle-point. [Needle *sb.* 1.]

1. The point of a needle; also *transf.*

a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew*, *Needle-point*, a Sharper. *c* 1836 *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VIII. 672/2 The dust thrown off from the needlepoints and from the grindstone. 1879 *St. George's Hosp. Rep.* IX. 502 To thrust the needle-points through.. the centre of the opacity. 1888 *Pall Mall G.* 23 Aug. 5/2 Spires, domes, and needle-points of dolomite. 1889 *Ibid.* 5 Sept. 1/3 'Needle point' is the name of the most pointed shoe.

2. Point-lace made with the needle.

1869 Mrs. Palliser *Lace* iii. 26 The first is made by the needle on a parchment pattern, and termed needle point. 1893 *Westm. Gaz.* 2 Mar. 4/1 When next time we buy a Vandyke collar of Irish lace..or..a flounce of needle-point.

Nee·dle-pointed, *a.* [Needle *sb.* 1.] Having a point like that of a needle. Chiefly *fig.*

1599 T. M[ouffet] *Silkwormes* 73 With needle-pointed tongue The Flies have bor'd a passage through their clewes. 1635 Quarles *Embl., Farewell* i, He whose gentle palmes Thy needle-pointed sinnes have nailed. 1768–74 Tucker *Lt. Nat.* (1834) I. 541 Philology!..lend me thy needle-pointed pencil, that I may trace out the hair-breadth differences of language. 1851 Mayne Reid *Scalp Hunt.* xxxv. 270 The next opening brought in view sharp needle-pointed peaks.

Needler (nī·dlər). Also 4 neldere, 4–6 nedeler. [f. Needle *sb.* + -er 1. Cf. MLG. *nâteler*, MHG. *nâdelære* (G. *nadler*).] A needle-maker; also *transf.* (see quot. 1829).

1362 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. v. 161 Hikke the hakeney mon and Hogge the neldere [B. v. 318 Hughe the nedeler]. *c* 1515 *Cocke Lorell's B.* 9 Pynners, nedelers, and glasyers. 1688 Holme *Armoury* III. 387/1 *Needler's Punch*...With this tool the Eye of the Needle is made. 1720 Strype *Stow's Surv.* II. v. xv. 241/1 Pinners and Needlers. 1829 Brockett *N. C. Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Needler*, a keen, active, thrifty person —a niggard. 1881 Duffield *Don Quixote* I. 209 Three needlers from the square of Cordova.

Needless (nī·dlės), *a.* Forms: 3 neodeles, 4 ned(de)les, -lez, 4–6 nedeles, (6 -lesse), 6–7 need(e)lesse, (6 -les, neadeles), 6– needless. [f. Need *sb.* + -less. Cf. MDu. *nodeloos* (Du. *noodeloos*), MHG. *nôtlôs* (G. *nothlos*).]

†1. In quasi-adverbial use: Without any compulsion or necessity; needlessly. *Obs.*

a 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1023 Monnes unmihte þet he neodeles nom upon him seoluen. *Ibid.* 1176. *c* 1290 *Beket* 1630 in *S. E. Leg.* I. 153 'Beth stille', he seide, '3e makiez deol neodeles noupe ech-on.' *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 28460 Neddeles oft bot for glotri Stulth o mete and drink did i. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 51 Þei gon ydel fro contre to contre.. beggynge nedles of pore men. 1475 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 136/1 For..fere of deth theruppon folowyng, which he must nedles have entred in if he had appered.

2. Not needed or wanted; unnecessary, useless, uncalled for. (Common from *c* 1570.)

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 1141 For þi nedeles wickedhede, þou sal lede euer þi lijf in nede. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* III. 274 Freris þat..robben þe pore peple bi stronge beggynge and nedles. 1475 *Bk. Noblesse* (Roxb.) 72 Many nedeles officers..reignyng and ruling over theym. 1530 Palsgr. 643/2 It is nedelesse to speake of the price. 1588 J. Udall *Demonstr. Discipline* (Arb.) 21 That office which is needles in the church is also vnlawful. 1612 Woodall *Surg. Mate* Wks. (1653) 21, I have seen men lamed by the needless use of caustick medicines. 1667 Milton *P. L.* VII. 494 Thou.. gav'st them Names, Needless to thee repeated. 1727 De Foe *Syst. Magic* I. ii. (1840) 38 The search after their names would be..needless. 1780 Bentham *Princ. Legisl.* xii. § 22 It is needless to multiply examples any further. 1855 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xix. IV. 280 The message was needless. 1880 Spurgeon *Ploughm. Pict.* 117 Beware of evil questions which raise needless doubts.

†3. Having no want; not in need or want. *Obs.*

1380 *Lay Folks Catech.* (Lamb. MS.) 666 þey don here almes more to þe nedles þan to þe verry nedy. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 152 Erthe is the most nedeles, And most men helpe it natheles. 1600 Shaks. *A. Y. L.* II. i. 46 First, for his weeping into the needlesse streame. 1668 R. Steele *Husbandm. Calling* v. (1672) 94 He considers that it's safer to relieve nine needless beggars, than to turn away one needy one.

Needlessly (nī·dlėsli), *adv.* [f. prec. + -ly 2.] In a needless or unnecessary manner; without necessity.

1388 Purvey *Prol. Bible* x, Thei sweren custumably, nedelessly, and ofte unavisily and fals. 1628 Wither *Brit. Rememb.* v. 322 They did but needlesly their fictions borrow To set it forth. 1651 Hobbes *Leviath.* III. xlii. 272 They have needlessely cast away their lives. 1710 Berkeley *Princ. Hum. Knowl.* I. § 22, I am afraid..I am needlessly prolix in handling this subject. 1784 Cowper *Task* VI. 563 The man Who needlessly sets foot upon a worm. 1816 J. Wilson *City of Plague* II. i. 21 We often..Needlessly wept when they were in their joy. 1859 Buckle in Huth *Life* (1880) II. 6, I do not see why I should needlessly charge myself with inaccuracy.

Needlessness (nī·dlėsnės). [f. as prec. + -ness.] The fact of being needless; unnecessariness.

1607 *Schol. Disc. agst. Antichr.* I. iii. 126 [134] He will wipe this suspition of a needlessnes away, and so will proue it needfull. 1699 R. L'Estrange *Erasm. Colloq.* (1725) 16 To convince the World of the vanity and needlessness of invocating saints. 1775 De Lolme *Eng. Constit.* Advt. (1784) 18 The needlessness of an armed force to support itself by. 1894 *Chicago Advance* 22 Nov. 254/2 Speaking of the needlessness of the Sunday paper.

Nee·dlestone. *Min.* [ad. G. *nadelstein*.] A name formerly given to various minerals having needle-like crystals, as natrolite and scolecite.

1820 Brooke in *Annals Philos.* XVI. 193, I shall call the Auvergne variety, Mesotype; that from Iceland and Ferro, Needlestone. 1836 T. Thomson *Min., Geol.*, etc. I. 318 Most of the needlestones found in the amygdaloidal rocks in Scotland belong to it likewise. 1843 J. E. Portlock *Geol.* 220 Implanted tufts of radiating crystals of needle-stone frequently occur. 1885 Ramsay *Mineral.* (ed. 3) 296.

Nee·dlewoman. [Needle *sb.* 1.] A woman who works with the needle; a sempstress.

1611 Middleton & Dekker *Roaring Girl* I. i, You are busied with a needle-woman. *a* 1667 Jer. Taylor *Suppl. Serm. for Year* (1678) 104 She was a good needle-woman and a good huswife. 1776 *Carlisle Mag.* 7 Sept. 143 She endeavoured to procure employment as a needle-woman. 1863 W. Phillips *Speeches* ii. 31 The crowded and starved ranks of the needlewomen. 1879 Meredith *Egoist* xiv, As a rule authoresses are not needlewomen.

Nee·dlework. Also 6 neilde-. [f. Needle *sb.* 1. Cf. G. *nadelwerk*, Du. *naaldenwerk*.]

1. Work done with the needle; sewing, embroidery, or fancy work.

1382 Wyclif *Exod.* xxvi. 1 Ten curteyns..dyuersid with nedle werk, thow shalt make. 1466–7 *Abingdon Rolls* (Camden) 134, ij paroll' de nedylworke. 1534 in Pencock *Eng. Ch. Furniture* (1866) 194 Enclosid in a purse of neilde werk. 1555 Eden *Decades* 103 A fair sherte wrought with neelde woorke. 1615 *Band, Ruffe, & Cuffe* (Halliwell) 11, I scorn to make anything of thee, Band, but needle-worke. 1697 Dryden *Æneid* XI. 1142 With Flowers of Needlework distinguished o're. 1753 Hogarth *Anal. Beauty* xii. 97 There is a sort of needle-work called Irish-stitch. 1784 Cowper *Task* I. 34 A splendid cover..of tapestry richly wrought..or needlework sublime. 1848 Lytton *Harold* I. i, The industry of the women decorated wall and furniture with needlework and hangings. 1865 Dickens *Mut. Fr.* I. iii, A girl sat engaged in needlework.

attrib. 1686 tr. *Chardin's Trav. Persia* 262 Embroider'd Handkerchers, Toylets, Needlework Night-Caps.

†b. *pl.* Different pieces or kinds of this work.

1585 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* IV. xiv. 128 Making of diuers faire needleworks vpon cloth. 1621 Burton *Anat. Mel.* II. ii. IV. (1651) 286 Women..have curious needle-works, Cut-works, spinning. 1673 *Lady's Call.* II. i. § 9 Writing, needle-works, languages, music, or the like. 1748 Richardson *Clarissa* (1811) VIII. 336 Her skill in almost all sorts of fine needle-works.

2. Wooden frame-work in house-building. *rare.*

1686 Plot *Staffordsh.* 173 Plaister for floors, seelings, and the walls of Needle-work houses. 1849 Weale *Dict. Terms.*

So **Nee·dleworker,** a worker with the needle.

1611 Bible *Exod.* xxxvi. 37 *marg.*, The work of a needle-worker, or embroiderer. 1753 Hogarth *Anal. Beauty* xii. 97 The nicest needle-workers are taught to weave it into every flower and leaf. 1865 *Chr. Remembrancer* Apr. 347 More fixity of purpose than the lower class of needle-

workers are equal to. 1898 *Woman's Signal* 23 June 387/1 Governesses, needleworkers, or secretaries.

Nee·dle-wrought, *a.* Also 6 neeld-. [f. NEEDLE *sb.*] Worked or ornamented with the needle; embroidered.

1562 PHAER *Æneid* IX. C c j b, The worthy son of Arceus duke Gay needlewrought in cloke. 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* I. (Arb.) 40 On neeld wroght carpets theese guestes were al vsshered aptly. 1643 LIGHTFOOT *Glean. Ex.* 52 A needle-wrought girdle. 1692 WASHINGTON tr. *Milton's Def. People Eng.* M.'s Wks. 1738 I. 533 You describe no true Britains, but painted ones, or rather Needle-wrought Men instead of them.

† **Nee·dling,** *sb. Obs. rare* −1. [f. NEED *sb.* + -LING 1 1.] A needy person.

1608 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iv. III. *Schism* 467 Sure, a good turn shall never guerdon want; A Gift to Needlings is not given, but lent.

Needling (nī·dlin), *vbl. sb.* [f. NEEDLE *v.*]

1. a. (See quot. 1854.) b. The operation of inserting needle-beams; the method of doing this.

1854 MISS BAKER *Gloss. Northampt., Needling*, a builder's term for perpendicular studding, to part off the acute angle of a roof. *c* 1880 *Architect. Soc. Dict.* s.v., One of the most important examples of needling was that performed at Bayeux cathedral. 1901 *J. Black's Carp. & Build., Scaffolding* 48 Fig. 3..gives needling of bottom shore and strutting to top and second rakers.

2. The action or process of using a needle of any kind; work done with a needle.

1878 SALA in *Gentl. Mag.* May 565 The last [engraving] being at least three parts of machine work to one of free-handed needling.

b. *spec.* An operation performed on the eye with a surgical needle.

1879 *St. George's Hosp. Rep.* IX. 483 Cataracts..dealt with by needling, suction, and a..capsular operation.

† **Nee·dling,** *adv. Obs.* Forms: 1 néadlunga, nýdlinga, 3 nedlunge, 3–4 -linge, 4 -ling, -lyng, nedelynge. [See NEED *sb.* and -LING 2, and cf. next.]

1. Forcibly; by force.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *St. Basil's Admon.* ix. (1849) 52 Manega ..beoð henæmede neadlunga hyra agenes. *c* 1000 *Penit. Egbert* in Thorpe *Laws* II. 186 ȝif hwa..mæden nydinga [*v.r.* nydlinga] nimð. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 199 [The adder] crieped nedlinge þureh nerewe hole, and bileued hire hude haften hire.

2. Necessarily.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 190 Nedlunge ȝe moten undernongen me. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* I. (*Catherine*) 126 All ydolis of stok & stane mone nedling rot, & wast, & wane. *c* 1380 *Lay Folks Catech.* (Lamb. MS.) 100 Þese askyngys most nedelynge be fulfyllyd.

Nee·dlings, *adv. Obs.* (exc. *north. dial.*) Forms: 4–6 ned-, nede-, (5 nedy-), 5–6 *Sc.* neid-, 6 neyd- (also with -linges, -is, -lynges, -is, etc.); 5 nedelonges. [f. NEED *sb.* + *-lings*: see prec. and -LING 2.] Necessarily; of necessity.

13.. *Cursor M.* 2450 (Gött.), Þair bestis nedlinges most þai flitt. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Serm.* Sel. Wks. I. 61 Mannis spirit.. mut nedelingis do what ony of þes vertues doiþ. *c* 1420 *Sir Amadace* (Camden) xii, Nedelonges most I sitte him hy,.. For he wasse my wedutte fere. *c* 1450 LOVELICH *Merlin* 2372 Nedylynges thedyr moste He go. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* X. viii. 76 Ane schort..terme is set Of lyfe, quhen all most neydlyngis pay that det.

Needly (nī·dli), *a. rare.* [f. NEEDLE *sb.* + -Y 1.] Resembling a needle or needles.

1671 MARTEN *Voy. Spitzbergen* in *Acc. Sev. Late Voy.* II. (1694) 52 The needly Snow is generated by Westerly and Southerly Winds. 1869 BLACKMORE *Lorna D.* (1891) 132 His..small quick eyes, and black needly heard.

† **Nee·dly,** *adv.*1 *Obs.* Forms: 1 néodlíee, 3 neod(e)liche, 4–5 ne(e)dely. [OE. *néodlíce* (= OS. *niudlîko*), f. *néod* desire, eagerness.] Zealously, carefully; earnestly.

c 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* II. xiii, Nænig þinra þegna neodlicor ..hine sylfne underþeodde. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 262 Rudan ȝeseoð on ele oððe on wine..smire þa sidan mid þy neodlice. *c* 1205 LAY. 15594 Heo arisen up & eoden neor & neodeliche ȝerden of þissere uncuðe talen. 1340–70 *Alisaunder* 748 A rink [she] sendes Anon too Nectanabus & needely hym praies, þat he cofly comme too carpen her tyll. ? *c* 1475 *Sqr. lowe Degre* 293 He bethought hym nedely, Every daye,..How he myght venged be On that lady.

† **Nee·dly,** *adv.*2 *Obs.* Forms: 4 nedlych(e, -like, 4–5 ned(e)lich(e; 4–5 nedly, 4–6 nedely, (4 -li), 6 needely, need(y)lie, -lye, 6–7 needly. [f. NEED *sb.* + -LY 2. Cf. MDu. *nodelike*, MLG. *nôtliken*, MHG. *nôt-, nœtliche.*] Necessarily; of necessity.

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 12399 Alle þo þat sey 'hem behoueþ nedely', þey acoupe God of here folye. *c* 1330 — *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 8040 Nedlike at þe y mot wyse how, Who þan gat þy sone Merlyne. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Serm.* Sel. Wks. II. 342 Ech sufficience of man mut nedeli be ȝovun of God. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 259 He muste nedely obbey the writynge of the pope. 1477 EARL RIVERS (Caxton) *Dictes* 22 Slouthe nor delay not that thou must nedely execute. 1515 BARCLAY *Egloges* I. (1570) B iij, Of a trene vesell then must thou nedely drinke. 1596 LODGE *Marg. Amer.* 38 A grove, thorow which the new married couple should needly passe. 1647 TRAPP *Comm. Rev.* xiii. 7 The Jesuites will still needly have the Roman Church to be the Catholike Church.

Nedment (nī·dmĕnt). [f. NEED *sb.* or *v.*]

1. *pl.* Things needed, necessaries; *esp.* personal requisites carried as luggage.

1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. i. 6 A dwarfe..wearied with bearing of her bag Of needments at his backe. *a* 1641 BP. MOUNTAGU *Acts & Mon.* (1642) 426 To provide apparell and other needments for them. 1748 THOMSON *Cast. Indol.* II. vi, There, up to earn the needments of the day, he found dame Poverty. 1847 WORDSW. in Chr. Wordsw. *Mem.* (1851) I. 14 Carrying each his needments tied up in a pocket handkerchief. 1862 SALA *Ship Chandler* i, Longport supplied the colonial isles and the plantations with all their needments.

2. *pl.* Needs, requirements. Now *Sc. rare.*

1603 H. CROSSE *Vertues Commw.* (1878) 94 A man should.. impart the benefite to the needments and necessitie of other. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* VI. x. 515 They haue not left the people sufficient for their needments. 1871 GILMOUR *Pen-Folk* (1873) 39 If I am set in judgment on the needments of others.

† **Need-nail,** *sb. Sc. Obs. rare* −1. [ad. LG. *neednagel* (G. *nietnagel*, Sw. *nitnagel*, Da. *netnagle*), f. (M)LG. *neden* to clinch = MDu. *nieden*, OHG. *hniotan* (G. *nieten*; Sw. *nita*, Da. *nitte*), ON. *hnjóða* (Norw. *njoda, noda*, Sw. *nåda*).] A clinched nail. In quot. *fig.*

a 1732 T. BOSTON *Crook in Lot* (1745) 111 Who will not humble themselves..will find their obstinacy a need-nail, that will keep their misery ever fast on them.

† **Need-nail,** *v. Sc. Obs.* [prob. ad. LG.**neednagelen*: see prec.] *trans.* To secure firmly by means of clinched nails. (See also quot. 1808.)

1563 WINȜET *Four Scoir Thre Quest.* Wks. (S.T.S.) I. 139 Wtheris .. hes in thare imaginatioun cloisit vp, sloit, and neidnalit the samin ȝettis of our hæretage. 1580 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* III. 337 Quhill he neid naillit and lockit the duris thairof. 1659 A. HAY *Diary* (S.H.S.) 44, I vieued also the yairds and caused neednaile the dors. 1689 in *Lauder & Lauderdale* vii. (1902) 76 Lady Lauderdale.. caused neidnail all the Church doors and windows. 1808 JAMIESON s.v., A window is said to be neidnail'd, when it is so fixed with nails in the inside, that the sasb cannot be lifted up. This is an improper sense.

Need-not (nī·dnɒt). [f. NEED *v.* + NOT.] An unnecessary thing.

1650 FULLER *Pisgah* I. iii. 8 Such glittering need-nots to humane happinesse. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* VII. xvi. ? 12, I have not laid out the veriest trifle in need-nots. 1859 W. H. GREGORY *Egypt* II. 204 Purchasing the necessaries ..and the many need-nots which one considers so indispensable, and so soon flings away.

Needom(e, variants of NEEDHAM *Obs.*

Needs (nīdz), *adv.* Forms: 1 nýdes, 1–6 nedes, 4 neodes, 4–5 nedez, 4–6 nedis, 4–7 needes, 5 neds, needis, 5–6 nedys, 7 *Sc.* neids, 4– needs. [OE. *nýdes*, *nédes*: see NEED *sb.* and -S.] Of necessity, necessarily.

a. In general use. Now *rare.*

In 14–15th c. frequently used with *behove.*

a 1000 *Laws Ælfred* xiii, Se þe hine þonne nedes ofsloge, oððe unwillum. *c* 1131 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1131 Hi scolden nedes. 13.. *Cursor M.* 5869 (Gött.), Fra þat time nedis had þai, Do tua iornays apon a day. *a* 1352 MINOT *Poems* (ed. Hall) ix. 28 At þe Neuil cros nedes bud þam knele. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. XIII. 215 [Thou] art so loth to leue that leue shalt needs. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* I. ii. 9 Perceuyng whanne an argument procedith into his conclusioun needis. 1624 BP. MOUNTAGU *Gagg* 49 [We] claim and prove a succession and therefore needes a visibilitie from the time of the apostles. 1870 ROSSETTI *Poems, Burden Nineveh* xv, And needs were years and lustres flown Ere strength of man could vanquish thee.

b. In clauses containing *must.*

c 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* III. pr. xii. (1868) 106 Nedes the wordes moten hen cosynes to þo þinges of whiche þei speken. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 261 Nedys I, & my wyif, & my chylderyn..muste lyve. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* VIII. i. 273 Depe draughtes of deth toke her, that nedes she must dye. 1583 T. WATSON *Poems* (Arb.) 60 But needes perforce I must become content To mealt in minde. 1642 ROGERS *Naaman* 346 It must be needs a very reproveable evill which causeth such a fulsomenesse. 1782 COWPER *Gilpin* 89 Stooping down as needs he must Who cannot sit upright.

c. Directly following the vb., in *must needs.*

13.. *Guy Warw.* (A.) 3668 So miche folk þer was y-slawe ..He most nedes opon men go. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Serm.* Sel. Wks. I. 218 Þes þingis moten nedis be, but ȝit is not anoon ende. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* II. iii. 149 The argument now maad muste needis haue his entent. 1529 WOLSEY in *Four C. Eng. Lett.* (1880) 10 Thes thyngs consyderyd .. must nedys make me yn agony. 1641 J. JACKSON *True Evang. T.* II. 129, I must needs begin with Ignatius. *a* 1688 CUDWORTH *Immut. Mor.* (1731) 113 The Soul must needs have the same Passions. 1741 MIDDLETON *Cicero* (1742) I. ii. 126 If every thing must needs be committed to Pompey. 1822 W. IRVING *Braceb. Hall* II. 374 The Squire must needs have something of the old ceremonies observed on the occasion. 1875 HELPS *Ess., Dom. Rule* 37 A man thinks that he must needs understand those whom he sees daily.

Prov. *c* 1420 LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 21 He must nedys go that the deuell dryves. 1532 [see DRIVE *v.* 1 b]. 1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* I. iii. 31. 1638 SANDERSON *Serm.* (1681) II. 95.

d. So *needs must.* Freq. as an elliptic phrase, esp. after *than* or *if.*

1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 291 For it is seid thus overal, That nedes mot that nede schal. 1447 BOKENHAM *Seyntys* (Roxb.) 38 For than he nedys must yeve credence. 1550 CROWLEY *Epigr.* 88 Nedes must we have places for vitayls to be solde. 1604 E. GRIMSTONE *Hist. Siege Ostend* 195 We beleeue them no more then needs must. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IV. 412 Needs must the Power That made us .. Be infinitly good. 1734 BERKELEY *Lett.* Wks. 1871 IV. 218, I shall stay no longer in Dublin than needs must. 1782 COWPER *Gilpin* 188 My head is twice as big as yours, They therefore needs must fit. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xvi, I..would have no more of these follies than needs must. 1871 BROWNING *Balaustion* 2287 She shall go, if needs must.

Prov. 1523 SKELTON *Garl. Laurel* 1434 Nedes must he rin that the deuyll dryuith. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* I. xv. 71 Needs must they goe whom the diuell drieth. *a* 1659 [see DRIVE *v.* 1 b]. 1838 DICKENS *Nich. Nick.* v, Needs must, when somebody drives. 1898 J. ARCH *Story of Life* xvi. 379 Needs must when illness drives.

e. *Will* or *would needs*, implying determination or fixity of purpose. Now *arch.*

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) V. 143 And ȝif ȝe willeþ nedes stryve, abydeth þe dome of God Almyȝty. 1534 MORE *Treat. Passion* Wks. 1274/1 She bi the diuels entisement wold nedes knowe euyll to. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* I. ii. 108 He needes will be Absolute Millaine. 1662 J. DAVIES tr. *Olearius' Voy. Ambass.* 36, I would needs..go and see the town of Wisby. 1768 STERNE *Sent. Journ., Passport (Versailles* i.), The master of my hotel..will needs have it..that I should be sent to the Bastile. 1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* XXX, Vulcan..would needs wed Venus, and our Chronicles tell us what came of it.

Hence **Nee·ds-be** *sb.*, necessity.

1881 A. W. MOMERIE *Orig. Evil* 31 Peter could discover no needs-be in the humiliation and death of Christ. 1894 *Westm. Gaz.* 27 Nov. 2/2 A penetrating insight into the needs-be of a finely touched nature.

† **Needs cost,** *adv. Obs.* [f. prec. + COST *sb.*1 1.] Necessarily, of necessity.

c 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 2697 *Hypermnestra*, Nedis cost this thyng muste haue an ende. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* III. iv. 301 Therfore needis cost it muste be grauntid, that Crist [etc.]. 1513 MORE *Rich. III* (1883) 49 If we should, nedes cost, fall in perill one way or other.

† **Nee·dsly,** *adv. Obs.* Forms: 4–5 nedesly, 5 nedysly, needisli, -ly, 6 needesly, (7 -lie), 6–7 needsly. [f. as prec. + -LY 2.] Necessarily, of necessity. (Usually with *must.*)

c 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* II. xiv. 192 The..vsing of this thing is not necessarie (that is to seie, is not needisly to be had). 1495 *Trevisa's Barth. De P. R.* XIX. vi. (W. de W.) 864 Thenne must the coloure nedesly be meane. 1593 G. HARVEY *Pierce's Super.* 139, I never longed to fight it out with flat strokes, untill I must needesly needes. 1612 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* vii. 243 By no meanes she could hold, but needsly she must showe Her liking. 1656 J. TRAPP *Comm. Heb.* II. 15 Death..must needsly therefore be terrible to those whose lives and hopes end together.

Needsome (nī·dsŭm), *a. rare.* [f. NEED *sb.* + -SOME.] † a. Necessary. *Obs.*−1 b. Needy.

c 1650 *Don Bellianis* 49 So many needsome advertisements I presume to tell you. 1870 VERNEY *Lettice Lisle* 305 I'm a needsome woman now, without e'er a one o' 'um.

† **Needways,** *adv. north.* and *Sc. Obs.* [f. NEED *sb.* + -WAYS.] By or because of necessity.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 5869 Fra þat tide ned-wais suld þai Do tua dais werkes on a dai. *Ibid.* 8712 Nede-wais it most tnix þam be part. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* V. 242 Schir, neidwais I will wend, And tak auentur that god will giff.

So † **Needway** *adv. Sc. Obs.*

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XIX. 156 The behufis neid-way.. To this thing beir say thine aviss. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* XXXII. (*Justin*) 8 He man fle nedway magre his.

Needy (nī·di), *a.* Forms: 2–4 neodi, 3–4 neody, 3–5 nedi, 4 needi, 4–5 nede, 4–6 nedy, 5 neddy, nedye, nedie, neady, *Sc.* neidy, 6–7 needie, 6– needy. [f. NEED *sb.* + -Y 1. Cf. MDu. *nodich* (Du. *noodig*), OHG. *nôtag, nôteg* (MHG. *nôtic, noetic*, G. *nöthig*), ON. *naudigr* (Sw. and Da. *nödig*).]

1. Of persons, etc.: Poor, indigent, necessitous.

a. Used absolutely. (Chiefly as *pl.*)

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 135 Delen heo þet euric neodi ðe heo biseced sum þing þer of afo. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 103 Lauedi scho es o leuedis all .., To nedi neghest on to call. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. VII. 14 The neodi and the nakede, nym ȝeeme hou thei liggen. *a* 1450 MYRC 1591 To þe nedy ȝeue þow large. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 47 b, What time the pore and nedye are releved. 1633 BP. HALL *Occas. Medit.* § 138, I am sure I want no lesse then the neediest. 1764 GOLDSM. *Trav.* 307 At gold's superior charms all freedom flies; The needy sell it, and the rich man buys. 1801 *Med. Jrnl.* V. 528 Not only to accommodate the poor and the needy, but to advance the public good. 1864 PUSEY *Lect. Daniel* (1876) 483 The sons of the needy.

b. In attributive or predicative use.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 6780 Reufol he was to nedi men, of is almes large & fre. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. VIII. 51 The pore That is innocent and neodi and no mon hath apeyret. 1439 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 130 To x of the nedyest parys-chirches yn the Cuntre by sidys. *c* 1510 MORE *Picus* Wks. 6/1 [To] releue the necessitie and misery of poore nedie people. 1576 GASCOIGNE *Steele Gl.* (Arb.) 59 But fewe regard their needy neighbours lacke. 1611 B. JONSON *Catiline* III. iii, With the old needie troops that follow'd Sylla. 1738 POPE *Epil. Sat.* II. 44 Have you less pity for the needy Cheat, The poor and friendless Villain, than the Great? 1829 J. W. CROKER in *C. Papers* 21 Aug. (1884) II. 23 Our papers are now very poorly done, by needy adventurers. 1878 LECKY *Eng. in 18th C.* I. ii. 246 For the education of his needy fellow-citizens.

transf. 1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 626 In some places it is admirable fruitfull, in other places very barren and needy. 1868 LYNCH *Rivulet* CXLVIII. ii, The sky is in its working dress, And needy earth befriends.

† c. In need *of* a thing. *Obs. rare.*

1597 HOWSON *Serm.* 31 We..are..needy of all things but hunger and feare. 1601 R. JOHNSON *Kingd. & Commw.* III They againe are needie of the waxe, honie [etc.]..which are brought thither from Prussia.

2. Of circumstances, etc.: Characterized by poverty or need.

1574 R. COX in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. III. IV. 17 In this nedy and beggerly tyme. 1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* V. i. 42 In his needie shop a Tortoyrs hung. 1638 JUNIUS *Paint. Ancients* 29 Our poor and needy life. 1674 TEMPLE *Misc.*,

To C'less Essex (1680) 173 We bring into the world with us a poor needy uncertain life.

b. Of search: Close, anxious.

1867 G. MACDONALD *Poems* 19 That neediest search will not avail To find a refuge here.

† **3.** Under a necessity *to* do something. *Obs.*—1

c 1400 LOVE *Bonavent. Mirr.* ix. (B.N.C. MS.) lf. 29 As the childe Jesu were a pure man and not god, nedy to kepe the obseruance of the lawe.

† **4.** Needful, necessary. *Obs.*

1487 *Act* 3 *Hen. VII*, *c.* 11 § 1 Fullers..that shuld lyve and obtayne their nedy sustentacion hy meane of drapery. *a* 1535 *Frere & Boye* 45 (W. de W.), Therto soone I assent, For that me thynketh moost nedy. 1608 SHAKS. *Per.* I. iv. 95 These our ships..Are stored with corn to make your needy bread.

Needyhood: see NEEDIHOOD. **Needylie**, var. of NEEDLY *adv.*² *Obs.* **Neef**, var. of NIEVE. **Neeger**, var. of NEGER. **Neeȝh**, obs. f. NIGH.

† **Neel**, obs. form of ANIL.

1583 J. NEWBERY in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1589) 209 Neel the churle, 70 ducats.

† **Neele**, obs. form of EEL.

14.. in Wr.-Wülcker 625 *Anguilla*, neele.

Neel-gaw, obs. form of NYLGHAU.

Neem (nīm). Also neemb, nim(b. [a. Hindī *nīm*, Skr. *nimba*.] An East Indian tree; the margosa. Also *neem-tree*.

1824 HEBER *Jrnl.* 1 Oct., A grove of neem-trees. 1846 [see MARGOSA]. 1885 E. ARNOLD *Secret of Death* Introd. 3 Bright with fragrant blossoms, borne By neem and hauhul.

b. *attrib.* with *oil*, *bloom*, etc.

1856 *Orr's Circ. Sci., Pract. Chem.* 453 A solid fat called Neem oil, or *Vaypum unnay*, is obtained from the ripe fruit of the margosâ tree. 1879 E. ARNOLD *Lt. Asia* IV. iii, When the foot fell as though it trod on piles Of neem-blooms.

Neemly, obs. form of NIMBLY *adv.*

Neen, north. dial. form of NINE.

Neentishe: see ANIENTISE *v.*

Neep (nīp). Forms: 1 nǽp, 1, 4–5 nep, 4–7 nepe, 5–6 neppe, *Sc.* neip, 5– neep, (9 neap). [OE. *nǽp*, ad. L. *nāpus* NAPE *sb.*³ ON. *næpa* (still in mod. Norw. and Icel.) was prob. adopted from English.]

1. A turnip. Also *attrib.*

The usual name in all Sc. dialects, and current in Northumberland and some southern counties.

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) N 40 *Napis*, naep. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 214 Healde hiue þonne..wiþ pisan, & beana, & næpas. 13.. *S. E. Leg.* (MS. Bodl. 779) in Herrig *Archiv* LXXXII. 335/68 Al his lyf to penaunce þis goodman haþ I-dyȝt; xv. nepus he et ech day. *c* 1340 *Nominale* (Skeat) 236 Man in the ȝerde pullith nepus. *c* 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* IX. 29 Now rape and neep in places drie is sowe. *c* 1470 HENRYSON *Mor. Fab.* x. (*Fox & Wolf*) xxiv, Quhite as ane neip, and round als as ane seill. 1502 ARNOLDE *Chron.* (1811) 171 Porettis, tame nepis, and parcely, and other erbis off medecyn. 1544 PHAER *Regim. Life* (1553) I iv, Nepes also and rapes and radyshe..maye bee well imoughe permitted. 1674 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* (ed. 4), *Nepe*, a turnip or navew. The word is still retein'd in Herefordshire. 1724 RAMSAY *Tea-t. Misc.* (1733) II. 167 As round as a Neep come todlen hame. 1826 J. WILSON *Noct. Ambr.* Wks. 1855 I. 207 Juicy neeps that melt in the mooth o' their ain accord. 1871 C. GIBBON *Lack of Gold* xviii, The laddies paraded the village with neep-lanterns. 1887 P. MCNEILL *Blawearie* 112 You might as well send a hungry stirk into a field among neeps, and expect it not to eat.

† **2.** *Wild neep*, (see quots. and NEP *sb.*²). Also *English neep* (?). *Obs.*

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 135 *Napa siluatica*, sperewyrt, *vel* wilde næp. *Ibid.* 136 *Diptamnus, vel bibulcos*, wilde næp. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* III. 12 To wensealfe nim .. hræmnes fot, ænglisene næp & finul. *a* 1387 *Sinon. Barthol.* (Anecd. Oxon.) 13 *Brionia*, wilde nepe. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 353/1 Nepe, herbe, *cologuintida, cucurbita*.

Neep, Neer, obs. forms of NEAP, NEAR.

Neer (nīəɹ). Now *dial.* Forms: 4–5, 9 nere, 5–6, 9 neer, 6, 9 neir(e, 9 niere; 6 neare, 8–9 near, (8 inear, 9 ear). [ME. *nēre*, perh. repr. an OE. **néora* or **néore* = MDu. *niere* fem. (*nire*, *nyre*, Du. *nier*), MLG. *nêre*, OHG. *nioro*, *niero* masc. (G. *niere* fem.), ON. *nýra* neut. (Norw. *nyra*, *nyre*, Da. *nyre*; Sw. *njure* masc.), of uncertain origin.] A kidney.

In common dial. use in the northern, north-midland, and eastern counties; the Suffolk *nire*, *nyre* is prob. from ON.

a 1300 *E. E. Psalter* lxxii. 21 Mi neres ere torned for vnquert. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxii. (*Laurence*) 12 It brakis þe stane, þat man in bledyr ore nere has tane. *c* 1420 *Liber Cocorum* (1862) 52 Þe hert of schepe, þe nere þou take. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 353/1 Neere of a beest, *ren.* 1535 COVERDALE *Isa.* xxxiv. 6 With the fatnesse of neeres of the wethers. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* vi. 67 Tansay, that is gude to purge the neiris. 1595 DUNCAN *App. Etymol.* (E.D.S.) 73 *Ren*, the neire. 1788 W. MARSHALL *Yorksh.* II. 337 *In-ear*, or *Near*, the kidney. 1828 CARR *Craven Gloss.* 1841 HAMILTON *Nugæ Lit.* 348 Will you eat a part of the niere? 1868 G. MACDONALD *R. Falconer* I. 41, I would like a dish o' your chits and nears.

b. *attrib.*, as *neer-creesh*, *-end*, *-fat*, *-strings*.

1444 *Aberdeen Regr.* (1844) I. 11 That na fleshowar .. tak oute of ony mutonne the neris or the nerecress. 1824 MACTAGGART *Gallovid. Encycl.* s. v. *Neers*, *Neer-strings*, those strings which are connected with the kidneys. 1877 *N. W. Linc. Gloss.* s.v., The near-end of a loin of veal is the part next the kidneys. 1886 *S. W. Linc. Gloss.*, *Near-fat*, the fat round the kidneys in a sheep, pig, or other animal.

Ne'er (nēəɹ), *adv.* Forms: 3–6 ner, 4–7 nere, 6–8 *Sc.* neir, 6 neare, 7 ne'r, neer(e, 7–8 ne're, 6– ne'er. [Contracted form of NEVER, as *e'er* for *ever*.]

1. Never. Chiefly *poetic.*

c 1205 LAY. 30205 He wolde aȝein wenden heom to his folke..and ner [*c* 1275 neuere] æft a-ȝen teon. *c* 1320 *Cast. Love* 427 Nere nowther speketh him good. 1387–8 T. USK *Test. Love* I. vi. (Skeat) I. 89, I nere desyred wrathe of the people ne indignacion of the worthy. *c* 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 3089 In þe ȝere of grace..A thousonde euene and ner on mo. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xxxv. 21 Thy trublit gaist sall neir moir be degest. 1589 R. HARVEY *Pl. Perc.* (1590) 25 Thou gettest such praise, As neer decaies. *a* 1631 DONNE *Poems* (1650) 57 So these extreames shall ne'r their office doe. 1680 OTWAY *Orphan* v. vii, *Mon.* We ne're must meet again... *Cast.* Ne're meet again? *Mon.* No, never. 1738 SWIFT *Pol. Conversat.* 46 You have the old Proverb on your Side, Naught's ne'er in Danger. 1795 BURNS *Dumfries Volunteers* i, We'll ne'er permit a foreign foe On British ground to rally. 1829 A. HALLAM in Lockhart *Scott* (1839) IX. 332 Those dogs that from him ne'er would rove.

† **b.** *I wot ne'er*, I know not. *Obs.*

c 1380 WYCLIF *Serm.* Sel. Wks. II. 93 Þei seiden to him, Where is he? And he seide, Y woot nere. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) xx. 219 Where [= whether] it be by Craft or be Nygromancye, I wot nere. *c* 1475 *Partenay* 5702 Wherfor it gan do, certes wote I nere. 1513 MORE *Rich. III*, Wks. 39/1, I wote nere whither any preachers woordes ought more to moue you. 1589 R. HARVEY *Pl. Perc.* (1590) 5 Nay I wot neere, but it hath left behind it a wale in my throate.

c. *Sc.* Used euphem. in place of *deil*, devil.

1814 SCOTT *Wav.* lviii, The ne'er be in me, sir, if I think you're safe. 1816 — *Antig.* ix, I was at the search ..; but ne'er-he-licket could they find that was to their purpose.

2. *Ne'er the less* = NEVERTHELESS.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 21247 Bot ner-þe-less for his liuelade, o biscop siþen he tok þe hade. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Compl. Mars* 130 But ner the lesse, for al his heuy armure, He foloweth her. 1447 BOKENHAM *Seyntys* (Roxb.) 33 Nertheles vertu of necessyte I wyl make. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 168 b, Nerethelesse many princes there bee, whiche..abuse the good menne. 1621 QUARLES *Div. Poems, Esther* Argt. viii, Yet be thy iust Petition ne'rthelesse Entirely granted. 1822 BYRON *Werner* I. i. 684 Ne'er the less I must have three.

† **b.** So *Ne'er the later* or *latter*. *Obs.*

1382 WYCLIF *Prov.* xxiii. 3 If ner the latere thou haue power in to thi soule. *c* 1400 *Beryn* 3120 Ner the lattir He held it nat al foly that Geffrey did clatir.

3. *Comb.* as *ne'er-changing*, *-dying*, *-ending*; *ne'er-seen*, *-sufficed*, *-touched*.

1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III*, II. ii. 46 His new Kingdome of nere-changing night. 1606 — *Ant. & Cl.* III. xii. 31 Want will periure The ne're touch'd Vestall. 1612 J. DAVIES *Muse's Sacrifice* Wks. (Grosart) II. 83 Like a ne'er-suffized Graue. 1647 STAPYLTON *Juvenal* 226 The white sow..That for her thirty ne're-seen paps was fam'd. 1693 CONGREVE in *Dryden's Juvenal* xi. (1697) 280 Arms, which to Man ne'er-dying Fame afford. *a* 1704 T. BROWN *Satire Woman* Wks. 1730 I. 56 A veng'ance of ne'er-ending harms.

b. *Ne'er-be-good*, *-do-good* = NE'ER-DO-WELL. So † *Ne'er-thrift*.

c 1440 *York Myst.* xxxiii. 266 Þou nerthrift [*printed* -thrist] of Nazareth, now neuend is þi name. 1675 COTTON *Burlesque upon B.* Wks. (1725) 210 'Tis that Nere-be-good, thy Son, Has made me do what I have done. *a* 1814 *Intrigues of a Day* v. i. in *New Brit. Theatre* I. 168 A couple of as arrant ne'er-he-goods as ever cheated a poor poet. 1814 SCOTT *Wav.* xxx, D'ye hear what the .. young gentleman says, ye drunken ne'er-do-good?

Ne'er a, *adj. phr.* Forms: 5–6 nere a, 7 ne're a, ne'r a, 8– ne'er a; 8 *dial.* narrow a, 9 ner a, nar a, narra, norra, etc. See also NARY. [f. prec. + A *adj.*² 1 c.] Never a, not a, no.

In common Eng. dial. use; for forms see *Eng. Dial. Dict.*

c 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* I. 622 Ryght nere a del. *Ibid.* VI. 154 Vche oon so from other That nere a sister touche nere a brother. *c* 1530 *Crt. of Love* 1197 Me thoughte, he loved her nere a dele. 1599 B. JONSON *Ev. Man out of Hum.* II. i, There's ne're a Gentleman i' the countrey has the like humors for the Hobby-horse as I haue. 1620 QUARLES *Pentelogia* ii, Could Sinners finde out ne're a one, More fit than Thee, for them to spit upon? 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* VIII. ii, There is narrow a one of all those officer fellows but looks upon himself to be as good as arrow a Squire of 500 l. a-year. 1786 BURNS *Farmer's Salut.* ix, At Brooses thou had ne'er a fellow. 1786 — *Twa Dogs* 184 The ne'er a bit they're ill to poor folk. 1816 SCOTT *Old Mort.* i, They are ne'er a hair better than them that [etc.]. 1859 THACKERAY *Virgin.* xxii, Ne'er a one of them has ever whispered her pretty little secrets to me.

Ne'er-do-well, *sb.* and *a.* Also *north.* and *Sc.* -weel. [Cf. NE'ER *adv.* 3 b.]

The word being of northern and Sc. origin, the form *-weel* is freq. employed even by southern writers.

A. *sb.* One who never does, and is never likely to do, well; a good-for-nothing, worthless, disreputable person.

1737 RAMSAY *Sc. Prov.* (1750) 87 Some ha'e a bantla fauts, ye are only a ne'er-do-well. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xlviii, Only some drunken ne'er-do-weel finding his way home. 1845 ALB. SMITH *Fort. Scatterg. Fam.* v, I went to sea,—the refuge of all the ne'er-do-wells. 1893 LELAND *Mem.* II. 76 A literary ne'er-do-weel, destined never to achieve fortune.

B. *adj.* Never doing any good; good-for-nothing, worthless.

a 1773 FERGUSSON *Hallow Fair* Wks. (1800) 109 Ne'er-do-weel horse coupers. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xviii, Our auld ne'er-do-weel deevil's-buckie o' a mither. 1857 MRS. GASKELL *C. Bronte* ii. I. 17 One of those ne'er-do-well lads who seem to have a kind of magnetic power for misfortunes. 1872 JEAFFRESON *Brides & Bridals* I. ix. 132 A saucy, tippling, ne'er-do-well fellow.

Hence **Ne'er-do-wellish** *a.*; **Ne'er-do-wellism.**

1890 JEAN MIDDLEMASS *Two False Moves* I. xiii. 199 Only the rowdyish and ne'er-do-weelish. 1891 *Pall Mall G.* 5 Aug. 3/1 Drunkenness, ne'er-do-wellism [etc.].

Neere, -ness, neerhand, obs. ff. NEAR, etc.

Nees, obs. form of NESE, NEESE; NIECE.

Neese, variant of NEEZE *v.*, NESE, nose.

Neest, variant of *neist* NEXT; obs. form of NEST.

Neet, obs. f. NEAT *sb.*, NET, NIT; dial. f. NIGHT.

Neethur, -yr, obs. forms of NEITHER.

Neeve, variant of NIEVE, fist.

Neewe, obs. form of NEW.

Neeyng, obs. form of NEIGHING.

Neeze (nīz), *v.* Now *north. dial.* and *Sc.* Forms: 4–6 nese, 6 niese, *Sc.* neys, nyse, 6–9 neese, (7 nees), 6– neeze. [ME. *nēsen*, prob. ad. ON. *hnjósa* (Norw. *njosa*, *nysa*, Sw. *nysa*, Da. *nyse*) = OHG. *niosan* (G. *niesen*), MLG. *nêsen*, *neysen*, MDu. *niesen* (Du. *niezen*), prob. of imitative origin: cf. FNESE, SNEEZE.] To sneeze.

c 1340 *Nominale* (Skeat) 172 Man cowith and nesith. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) V. 389 A man nesynge. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* c vij, When ye se yowre hawke Nesyng and Castyng wat thorogh her Nostrellis. 1544 PHAER *Regim. Life* (1553) A viij h, Ye must put in the nose of the pacient, pouder of pellitory of Spain..to make him to nese. 1586 COGAN *Haven Health* xxviii. (1636) 48 By eating of Mustard .. we are straightway .. provoked to neese. 1665 SPENCER *Vulg. Proph.* 96 When any one neezed they would venerate the noise as a kind of expression of the Deity inshrined in the head. 1725 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Neesing*, A Horse, whose Head being stopp'd..so that he cannot neeze. 1788 W. MARSHALL *Yorksh.* II. 343. 1825 BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss.* 1849– in northern dial. glossaries (also Chesh. and Shropsh.). 1870 J. NICHOLSON *Idylls* 64 A waff frae the door gars her 'neeze.

Hence **Neeze** *sb.*, a sneeze. *rare.*

1656 S. HOLLAND *Zara* (1719) 54 Circumgyring about his Weasand, [it] inforced him to a manly Neese. 1866 in *Banffsh. Gloss.* 1899 in *Cumbld. Gloss.*

† **Neeze-wort.** *Obs.* Also 6–7 nese-, (6 niese-, nise-), neese-. [ad. G. *nies(e)-wurz*(*el* or Du. *nies-wortel* (also *nieskruid*): see NEEZE *v.* and WORT.] A former book-name of HELLEBORE.

1548 TURNER *Names Herbs* (E. D. S.) 79 Veratrum..maye be called in englishe Nesewurte. *Ibid.* 80 The herbe.. which hath bene hytherto taken for blacke Nisewurt, or Veratrum nigrum. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* 347 This kinde of Hellebor is called..in English White Hellebor, Neseworte, and Lingwort. 1601 R. CHESTER *Love's Martyr* (1878) 93 First of the Nesewort, it doth driue away, And poysoneth troublesome Mice. 1629 PARKINSON *Parad.* lxxxii. 346 White Ellebor, Neesewort or Neesing roote, because the powder of the roote is vsed to procure neesing. 1668 WILKINS *Real Char.* II. iv. 78.

Neezing (nīˑziŋ), *vbl. sb.* Forms: 4, 6 nesing, (5 -ynge, 6 -yng, -inge), 6 nysynge, -ing, nies-, nising, 6–7 neesing, (6 -yng, kn-), neezing. [f. NEEZE *v.*: cf. MDn. *niesinge*, MHG. *niesunge*.] Sneezing; a sneeze.

1382 WYCLIF *Job* xli. 9 His nesing [is] shynyng of fyr, and his eȝen as eȝelidis of morutid. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) V. 389 A mervellous pestilence folowede ..., pereschynge moche peple in yoskenge or nesynge. 1530 PALSGR. 247/2 Nesyng with the nose, *esternuement*. 1543 TRAHERON *Vigo's Chirurg.* IV. 148 Nysynge also, provoked by arte, is convenient in thys case. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* 194 The same roote..put into the nose causeth Sternutation or niesing. 1609 B. JONSON *Sil. Wom.* IV. i, The spitting, the coughing, the laughter, the neesing. 1663 J. SPENCER *Prodigies* (1665) 61 That..usage of praying for a Person upon neezing. 1676 *Gentleman's Jockey* 286 There be two other excellent helps for sick Horses, as Frictions and Neesings.

fig. 1647 H. MORE *Exorcismus* Wks. (Grosart) 178 You summer neezings..That fill the air with a quick fading fire.

attrib. 1622 S. WARD *Woe to Drunkards* (1627) 45 An Epidemicall disease, such as the..Neezing sicknesse.

† **b.** *Combs.* neezing powder, a powder used to cause sneezing, esp. that prepared from hellebore [cf. Du. *niespoeder*, G. *nies(e)pulver*]; neezing root or wort = NEEZE-WORT. *Obs.*

1544 PHAER *Regim. Life* (1560) S v, After that cause hym to nese..with a litle pellitory of spain, or *nesing pouder. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 84 A neesing powder made of the gall of a black cat. *a* 1657 R. LOVEDAY *Lett.* (1663) 22 The neezing-powder I take constantly, but have much adoe to perswade it to make me neeze. 1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 43/1 Little pellets .. of the blacke *neesinge roote. 1599 — tr. *Gabelhouer's Bk. Physicke* 11/2 Whyte neesing roote. 1629 [see NEEZE-WORT]. 1591 PERCIVALL *Sp. Dict.*, *Yerua de ballestero*, *neesing-woorte, bearefoote, *Helleborus*. 1602 FULBECKE *1st. Pt. Parall.* 12 So neesingwort doth cure phrensie or madnesse.

‖ **Nef** (nef, nɛf). Also 8–9 neff. [F. *nef* ship, etc. :—L. *nāvem*: cf. NAVE *sb.*²]

† **1.** The nave of a church. Also *attrib. Obs.*

1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 187 The Church is very spacious, the Nef or Body of it is round. 1705 ADDISON *Italy* (1766) 55 The long nef consists of a row of five cupolas. 1775 JOHNSON in *Boswell* 5 Nov., We saw the cathedral... The choir splendid... The Neff very high and grand.

2. (See quots.)

1834 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Helen* II. 192 Every officer of the household making reverential obeisance as they passed to the *Nef*,—the *Nef* being..a piece of gilt plate in the shape of the hull of a ship in which the napkins for the king's table are kept. 1862 WRIGHT *Dom. Manu. & Sent. Eng. Mid. Ages* 163 Of these ornaments, one of the most remarkable was the nef or ship—a vessel generally of silver which contained the salt-cellar, towel, &c., of the prince or great lord.

3. An incense-boat. Cf. NAVETTE.

1867 LADY HERBERT *Impress. Spain* (1868) 208 In the sacristy was..a nacre *nef* and some fine heads of saints.

Nef, obs. form of NEIF.

†Nefand, *a. Obs.* Also 5 nephande. [a. OF. *neph-*, *neff-*, *nefande*, or ad. L. *nefand-us*: see next.] = NEFANDOUS.

1490 CAXTON *Eneydos* vi. 26 Ye grete, horribyle, nephande, & detestable cryme. *Ibid.* vii. 32 The nephande deth of hir sayd somtyme husbond. 1616 SHELDON *Mirac. Ch. Rome* 198 Knowing what nefand abominations are practised.

Nefandous (nĭfæ·ndəs), *a.* [f. L. *nefand-us*, f. *ne-* not + *fandus* 'to be spoken', gerundive of *fārī* to speak: see -OUS.] Not to be spoken of; unmentionable; abominable, atrocious.

1640 HOWELL *Dodona's Gr.* (1645) 150 There was a complication of many nefandous crimes. 1702 C. MATHER *Magn. Chr.* VI. vii. (1852) 449 Sometimes he.. belch'd out most nefandous blasphemies against the God of heaven. 1780 J. HOWIE *Faithful Contend.* Pref. 8 That wicked and nefandous act of Parliament. 1826 SOUTHEY *Vind. Eccl. Angl.* 108 That spirit of nefandous impiety with which it was .. carried on by the Monastic Orders. 1827 SIR H. TAYLOR *Isaac Comnenus* v. vi, 'Tis a foul offence, A most nefandous error.

Hence **Nefa·ndousness** (Bailey vol. II, 1727).

Nefarious (nĭfē·rĭəs), *a*, [f. L. *nefārius*, f. *nefas* wrong, impiety: see -OUS.] Wicked, iniquitous, villainous.

1604 R. CAWDREY *Table Alph.* (1613), *Nefarious*, wicked, detestable. 1660 F. BROOKE tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 244 A man once observed to be nefarious, is hated and avoyded by all men. 1726 AYLIFFE *Parergon* 107 But the most nefarious kind of Bastards are they whom the Law stiles Incestuous Bastards. 1790 BURKE *Fr. Rev.* Wks. V. 261 Those who, for the same nefarious purposes, have perverted every other part of learning. 1830 GEN. P. THOMPSON *Exerc.* (1842) I. 245 There wants a collection of dying speeches of nefarious governments. 1866 LIVINGSTONE *Last Jrnls.* (1873) I. i. 6 Lending their flag to slaving dhows, so that it covers that nefarious traffic.

Hence **Nefa·riously** *adv.*, in a nefarious manner; **Nefa·riousness** (Bailey vol. II, 1727).

1599 NASHE *Lenten Stuffe* Wks. (Grosart) V. 284 Nefariously..prophaning & penetrating our holy fathers nostrils. 1659 J. OWEN *Integr. Heb. & Grk. Text* Wks. 1853 XVI. 413 They have wickedly and nefariously corrupted the text. 1695 *Pol. Ballads* (1860) II. 50 The Bar, the Pulpit, and the Press Nefariously combine To cry up an usurped pow'r. 1827 SCOTT *Napoleon* xxiv, It was nefariously unjust.

Nefast (nĭfa·st), *a. rare* $^{-1}$. [ad. L. *nefast-us*, f. *nefas*: cf. prec. and F. *néfaste.*] Nefarious.

1849 LYTTON *Caxtons* xlvi, If you really take for truth and life monsters so nefast and flagitious.

So **Nefa·stous** *a.* (Bailey vol. II, 1727).

Nefe, obs. f. NIEVE, fist; var. NEVE, nephew. **Nefen**, var. of NEVEN *v.* **Nefere**, obs. f. NEVER. **Neff(e**, obs. ff. NIEVE, fist. **Neffel**, obs. f. NEVEL *v.* **Neffew(e**, obs. ff. NEPHEW. **Neffow**, dial. var. NIEVEFUL. **Nefre**, obs. f. NEVER.

†Nefresie. *Obs. rare* $^{-1}$. [a. OF. *nefresie*, ad. med.L. *nefresis* for *nephrītis.*] = NEPHRITIS.

1590 BARROUGH *Meth. Physick* VII. xvii. (1639) 406 A particular bath, which is applyed for paines of the Nefresie.

Nefretick, obs. form of NEPHRITIC.

†Nefte. *Obs.* [a. Russ. нефть *neft'* or Pers. نفت *neft*: see NAPHTHA.] Naphtha.

1598 HAKLUYT *Voy.* I. 400 This oyle is blacke, and is called Nefte. 1662 J. DAVIES tr. *Olearius' Voy. Ambass.* 402 We saw..above thirty sources of Nefte, which is a kind of Medicinal Oil. 1698 J. CRULL *Museovy* 48 Whole Rivulets of an Oily substance, by them call'd Nefte.

Neg, obs. form of NAG *sb.*[1], NIGH *a.*

†Negan(n)epant. *Obs.* Also negani-. [Of obscure etym.] Some kind of East Indian piecegoods imported in the 18th cent.

1725 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 6388/2 The following Goods, viz.. Negannepants, Tapseils,..Perpetts, Welch Plains. 1757 tr. *Guyon's Hist. East Indies* II. 145, 560 neganepants. 1788 CLARKSON *Impolicy Slave Trade* 104 In the second class may be reckoned..Chelloes, Nicamees, Neganipants.

†Ne·gant. *Obs. rare.* [f. L. *negant-*, *negans*, pres. pple. of *negāre* to NEGATE.] One who denies; a negative proposition.

c 1560 W. KINGSMILL in Strype *Cranmer* (E. H. S.) II. 38 The affirmants..were almost trehle so many as were the negants. 1654 Z. COKE *Logick* 116 The fight of Propositions both in quality and quantity, as is between an universal affirmant, and a particular negant.

Negar, negro: see NEGER. **Negarde**, obs. f. NIGGARD. **Negardchepe, negarship**, obs. ff. NIGGARDSHIP. **Negardy, -tie**, var. NIGGARDY.

Negate (nĭgē·t), *v.* [f. *negāt-*, ppl. stem of L. *negāre* to deny.] *trans.* To deny, negative; to deny the existence of; to destroy, nullify, render ineffective. (Freq. in recent use.)

[1623 COCKERAM II, To Deny, *negate.*] 1837 *Fraser's Mag.* XV. 723 Understanding..establishes its quality as a real object, by negating the board on which it is drawn. 1874 *Contemp. Rev.* XXIII. 405 When the lower life asserts itself against the higher, the higher may consciously negate it. 1891 H. JONES *Browning* 207 Evolution not only postulates unity.., but it also negates all differences.

absol. 1835 *Fraser's Mag.* XI. 642 Whatever negates is something, else no negation were possible.

Hence **Nega·ted** *ppl. a.*, **Nega·tedness**, **Nega·ting** *ppl. a.*

1876 F. H. BRADLEY *Eth. Stud.* 118 Real pain is the feeling of the negatedness of the self. *Ibid.*, Where pain comes from the negated function. 1885 W. C. COUPLAND *Spir. Goethe's Faust* ii. 53 One of..a negating class of..beings.

Negatif(e, obs. forms of NEGATIVE.

Negation (nĭgē·ʃən). [a. F. *négation* (12th c.), or ad. L. *negātiōn-em*, n. of action f. *negāre* to say no, deny. Cf. It. *negazione*, Sp. *negacion.*]

1. The action of denying or of making a statement involving the use of 'no', 'not', 'never', etc. Also const. *of.* (Sometimes passing into 2.)

1530 PALSGR. Introd. 41 In negation they use one of these thre wordes, *pas*, *point* or *mye*. 1550 BALE *Apol.* 23 b, But I founde therin no answere appoynted to be made..neyther by affyrmacion nor yet negacion. 1634 BP. HALL *Contempl., N. T.* IV. xvii, Not by way of negation, as if nothing were necessary but this; but by way of comparison. 1654 BRAMHALL *Just Vind.* vi. (1661) 159 Our Negation is only of humane controverted additions. 1713 BERKELEY *Hylas & Phil.* II. Wks. 1871 I. 315, I superadd to this general idea the negation of all those particular things, qualities, or ideas. 1790 R. MERRY *Laurel of Liberty* (ed. 2) 13 O! better were it, ever to be lost In black Negation's sea. 1851 GLADSTONE *Glean.* (1879) IV. 7 This is the negation of God erected into a system of Government. 1875 H. JAMES *R. Hudson* (1879) III. 76 She made a gesture of negation.

b. An instance of this; a negative statement, doctrine, etc.; a refusal or contradiction; a denial *of* something.

1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* III Some things there be which of custome I shake off, with a manifest negation. 1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* v. ii. 127 Why my negation hath no taste of madnesse. 1675 R. BARCLAY *Apol. Quakers* v. § 25. 183 Is a bare Negation sufficient to overturn the strength of a positive Assertion? 1726-31 TINDAL *Rapin's Hist. Eng.* (1743) VII. XVII. 127 To judge whether more credit were to be given to her bare negation than to their affirmation. 1797 BURKE *Let. Aff. Irel.* Wks. IX. 465 Our difference is only a negation of certain tenets of theirs. 1817 COLERIDGE *Biog. Lit.* (Bohn) 164 Negations involve impediments not less formidable than sophistication. 1866 ROGERS *Agric. & Prices* I. iv. 70 Villenage .. implied a negation of all rights in land and chattels.

c. As a term of Logic, opp. to AFFIRMATION 3.

1570 BILLINGSLEY *Euclid* I. vii. 17 In this proposition the conclusion is a negation. 1588 FRAUNCE *Lawiers Log.* II. i. 88 A negation dooth but deprive and take away. 1620 T. GRANGER *Div. Logike* 105 The one is a thing being, the other a negation of the being thereof. 1725 WATTS *Logic* I. ii. § 6 A negation is the absence of that which does not naturally belong to the thing we are speaking of. 1788 REID *Aristotle's Logic* i. § 4. 14 Negation is the enunciation of one thing from another. 1864 BOWEN *Logic* v. 136 Negation is only the affirmation of difference or exclusion.

2. The absence or opposite of something which is actual, positive, or affirmative.

1642 H. MORE *Song of Soul* II. iii. III. xviii, Rash man that dost inferre negation From thy dead eare, or non-experience. 1651 C. CARTWRIGHT *Cert. Relig.* I. 223 Not to will a mans salvation, is properly no act, but rather a negation of an act. 1673 KERSEY *Algebra* I. i. (1725) 6 This character—is a sign of Negation. *a* 1754 FIELDING *Remedy of Affliction* Wks. 1775 IX. 258 Death is nothing more than the negation of life. 1837 GORING & PRITCHARD *Microgr.* 79 Some compound of black (which implies a negation of colour). 1871 TYNDALL *Fragm. Sci.* (1879) I. xxi. 492 Death in this case would be simply the sudden negation of life.

3. A negative or unreal thing, a nonentity; a thing whose essence consists in the absence of something positive.

1707 *Curios. in Husb. & Gard.* Pref. 5 Meer Negations, and simple Privations, as Death, Ignorance, Blindness, and the like. 1821 LAMB *Elia* Ser. I. *Old Benchers*, Next to him was old Barton—a jolly negation. 1893 HUXLEY *Evolution & Eth.* ii. 65 Though reduced to a hypostatized negation, Brahma was not to be trusted.

Hence **Nega·tional** *a.*, negative, using or involving negation.

1865 D. W. THOMPSON *Odds & Ends* iii. 6 We can but imperfectly describe the conditions of its actuality by negational terms. 1882 C. E. TURNER in *Macm. Mag.* Apr. 484/1 Bazaroff..should profess exclusively negational and abolitionary doctrines.

Negationist (nĭgē·ʃənist). [f. prec. + -IST.] One who uses negation; esp. one who merely denies accepted beliefs without advancing anything positive in their place.

1856 DOVE *Logic Chr. Faith* 423 The German Negationist who makes thought the all. 1882 BAIN *J. S. Mill* 140 In everything characteristic of the creed of Christendom he was a thorough-going negationist.

Ne·gatism. *rare* $^{-1}$. Negativism.

1885 *American* IX. 297 She has Goethe's detestation of antagonism and negatism.

Negative (ne·gătiv), *sb.* Also 4 -ife, -yfe. [f. next, or a. F. *négative* (13th c.).]

I. †1. a. A negative command, a prohibition.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 234 O if God so scharply biddes þese negatifes.., who are more heretikes þen þese þat done hit ageynes hym? 1581 W. CHARKE in *Confer.* IV. (1584) Ee j b, Your affirmatiue is contrarie to the holy Ghostes.. negatiue, Not of workes. 1628 T. SPENCER *Logick* 177 The first, is an vniversall affirmatiue. The third, is a particular negatiue. 1658 BRAMHALL *Consecr. Bps.* vii. 155 First to accuse us of Forgery, and then to put us to prove a Negative. 1736 GRAY *Let.* in *Poems* (1775) 7 Almost all the employment of my hours may be best explained by negatives. 1771 *Junius*, *Lett.* xliv. (1788) 252 I am not bound to prove a negative. 1856 R. A. VAUGHAN *Mystics* (1860) I. 12 Almost all we are in a position to say, concerning spiritual influence, consists of negatives. 1876 TAIT *Rec. Adv. Phys. Sci.* iii. (ed. 2) 69 The consequent establishment of a definite and scientifically useful negative.

c. A negative reply or answer; †a denial or refusal. *Negative pregnant*: see PREGNANT.

1571 CAMPION *Hist. Irel.* II. ix. (1633) 113 Who was the messenger? where are the letters? convince my negative. 1634 W. WOOD *New Eng. Prosp.* (1865) 61 A false asseveration usually winneth more beleefe than two verifying negatives can resettle. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1811) I. ii. 12 Such-like consenting negatives. 1784 COWPER *Ep. J. Hill* 22 Dreading a negative, and overawed Lest he should trespass. 1802 PLAYFAIR *Illustr. Hutton. The.* 516 Appearances that give the most direct negative to the Neptunian system. 1891 T. HARDY *Tess* liii, He asked his father if she had applied for any money during his absence. His father returned a negative.

2. A negative word or particle; a negative term. *?a* 1580 in *Lyly's Wks.* (1902) III. 462 In womens mouthes in case of loue no, no negatiue will proue. 1601 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* v. i. 24 If your foure negatiues make your two affirmatiues, why then the worse for my friends. 1641 W. CARTWRIGHT *Lady-Errant* I. ii, Because two Negatives make an Affirmative. 1711 J. GREENWOOD *Eng. Gram.* 160 Two Negatives, or two Adverbs of Denying do in English affirm. 1827 *Gentl. Mag.* XCVII. I. 498 Double negatives were commonly used to strengthen the negation in the time of Shakespeare. 1844 DICKENS *Mart. Chuz.* xi, The remark was rendered somewhat obscure..by reason..of a redundancy of negatives. 1870 JEVONS *Elem. Logic* iii. 22 Negatives signify the absence of the same qualities.

3. The right to refuse consent to a proposed measure; a right of veto. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* v. xv. 445 The meanest person amongst them hauing a Negatiue in all their consultations. 1672 PETTY *Pol. Anat.* (1691) 36 The Parliament..have a Negative upon any Law that the Lord Lieutenant and Councel shall offer to the King. 1765 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* I. 156 We may apply to the royal negative..what Cicero observes of the negative of the Roman tribunes. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* I. 505 Each branch of the legislature has a negative upon the other.

†b. A negative or adverse vote. *Obs.*

1654 *Clarke Papers* (Camden) III. 11 The most part of the last weeke was spent about the qualifications of Electors ..and many negatives passed upon them. 1683 TEMPLE *Mem.* Wks. 1720 I. 462 The House of Commons pass'd another Negative upon the Debate for Money. 1708 KENNETT in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. IV. 256 A Majority of the Aldermen..put a negative upon the motion for printing his sermon. 1743 PITT in Almon *Anecd.* (1792) I. v. 131 If we put a negative upon this question, it may awaken our ministers out of their deceitful dream.

4. *The negative*: **a.** The side, position, or aspect of a question, which is opposed to the affirmative or positive.

1579 W. WILKINSON *Confut. Fam. Love* 5 b, Our Papistes, which can not abide an Argument drawen from the Negative. 1614 RALEIGH *Hist. World* II. (1634) 486 Whether Nebonassar were an Astrologer or no, I cannot tell; it is hard to mainteine the negative. 1656 EARL MONM. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* 356 The Negative to this was often broacht, and disputed. 1754 EDWARDS *Freed. Will* I. i. 3 The Positive and the Negative are set before the Mind for it's Choice, and it chuses the Negative. 1865 C. J. VAUGHAN *Plain Words* vi. (1866) 99 Let the negative have its positive.

†b. The capacity of refusal. *Obs. rare* $^{-1}$.

1632 J. HAYWARD tr. *Biondi's Eromena* 94 Full little was he as yet aware of that the negative might have place in a courteous Lady.

5. *In the negative*: **†a.** In the face *of*, in opposition to, something. *Obs. rare* $^{-1}$.

1598 MANWOOD *Lawes Forest* xxiii. § 3 (1615) 219 Although that this Statute of *Charta de Foresta* were made in the negatiue of the Law and vsage that was before.

†b. On the negative side of a question. *Obs.*

1634 RAINBOW *Labour* (1635) 7 In the Negative, the inconvenience of the Obiect must deterre us. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* I. vii. (1686) 20 A Testimony is of no illation in the Negative. 1697 DAMPIER *Voy. round World* (1699) 485 After all, I will not be peremptory in the Negative.

c. On the side of, in favour of, or with the effect of, rejecting a proposal or suggestion.

1650 R. STAPYLTON *Strada's Low C. Wars* v. 109 It was carried by most voices in the negative. 1654 *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) II. 84 There were 120 for the affirmative ..and 150 in the negative that it should not be determyned. 1711 *Fingall MSS.* in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. V. 144 The majority of votes carryed it in the negative. 1750 BEAWES *Lex Mercat.* (1752) 53 It was resolved in the Negative. 1803 WELLINGTON in Gurw. *Desp.* (1837) II. 321 If that should be determined in the negative.

d. With denial or negation; negatively; of a negative character.

1648 NETHERSOLE *Proj. for Peace* 6 To the three first I should make a short Answer in the Affirmative, to the fourth in the Negative. 1746 H. WALPOLE *Lett.* (1846) II. 137 They unanimously answered in the negative. 1756 BURKE *Vind. Nat. Soc.* Wks. I. 65 The grave doctor answers me in the affirmative; the reverent sergeant replies in the negative. 1871 H. AINSWORTH *Tower Hill* I. iv, Cromwell replied in the negative. 1875 SCRIVENER *Lect. Text N. Test.* 7 The answer might well be looked for in the negative.

†6. a. One who takes the negative side. *Obs.*

1649 *Bounds Publ. Obed.* (1650) 10 Nothing ought in this case to be concluded against the negatives, though fewer in number. 1673 *Essex Papers* (Camden) I. 160 After great contest, there were no other Negatives but these two.

†b. A negative heretic (see quot.). *Obs. rare.*

1731 CHANDLER tr. *Limborch's Hist. Inquis.* II. 295 Such as have confessed their Heresy, and are impenitent, and Negatives, viz. such who are convicted by a sufficient number of witnesses, and yet deny their Crime.

II. 7. a. The opposite or negation *of* something. *rare.*

1387–8 T. Usk *Test. Love* III. ii. (Skeat) I. 92 Badde is nothing els but absence or negative of good, as derkenesse is absence or negative of light. 1882 Spurgeon *Treas. Dav.* Ps. cxix. 19 As the one prays to see, the other deprecates the negative of seeing.

b. A negative quality or characteristic.

1647 Clarendon *Hist. Reb.* II. § 25 Which good qualifications were allayed by another negative, he did love nobody else. 1770 *Junius Lett.* xxxvi. (1788) 196 You have now added the last negative to your character.

c. *Alg.* A negative quantity.

1706 W. Jones *Syn. Palmar. Matheseos* 35 To Add a Negative, is to take away a Positive. 1753 Chambers *Cycl. Supp.* s.v. *Negative sign*, The square root of a negative implies an imaginary quantity.

d. One devoid *of* some quality. *rare* $^{-1}$.

1813 *Examiner* 1 Feb. 73/2 Those negatives of feeling and thought who..call themselves people of fashion.

e. *Austral.* A shaft yielding no gold.

1864 J. Rogers *New Rush, Miner's Melody* 56 So we'll laugh at all negatives And on high our anchor cast.

8. *Photogr.* A print made on specially prepared glass or other transparent substance by the direct action of light, in which the lights and shadows of nature are reversed, and from which positive prints are made.

1853 W. H. T. *Photogr. Manip.* (ed. 2) 14 Fifth operation. Fixing the negative. 1859 Jephson & Reeve *Brittany* 88 We were only making what were called negatives on glass. 1867 Brothers in G. F. Chambers *Astron.* 698 From the small negative a positive on glass must be made.

fig. 1892 Stevenson & L. Osbourne *Wrecker* x. 162 A negative of a street scene .. rose in my memory with not a feature blurred.

attrib. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1521/1 *Negative-bath*, the bath-holder..used to contain the nitrate of silver solution. 1884 *Ibid.* Suppl. 632/2 *Negative Rack*, a frame for holding glass negatives to drip. 1889 *Anthony's Photogr. Bull.* II. 24 A large negative closet off the studio.

9. The negative plate or metal in a voltaic battery.

1884 Knight *Dict. Mech.* Suppl. 368 Negative depolarized by jet of steam. *Ibid.* 369 Negative rotated by a crank.

Negative (ne·gătiv), *a.* Also 5 -yff, 6 -yfe, -yve. [ad. F. *négatif*, *-ive*, (13th c.), or late L. *negātīv-us* : see Negate *v.* and -ive.]

I. †1. Of persons: Making denial of something. *Obs. rare.*

c 1400 *Beryn* 2068 And he had mysseyd onys, or els I-seyd nay,..then he had been negatyff. *Ibid.* 2606 To 3ew that were negatyff, the lawe wold graunte anoon. 1611 Shaks. *Wint. T.* I. ii. 274 If thou wilt confesse, or else be impudently negatiue, To haue nor Eyes nor Eares nor Thought. 1736 Chandler *Hist. Persec.* 208 Negative hereticks are such, who being..convicted of some heresy before an Inquisitor, yet will not confess it.

2. Expressing, conveying, or implying negation or denial.

1509 Hawes *Past. Pleas.* xxxiv. (Percy Soc.) 110 By the comyn wytte to be affyrmatyve Or by decernynge to be negatyve. 1571 Golding *Calvin on Ps.* vii. 5 So must the negatyve woord (not) bee supplyed. 1579 Fulke *Heskins' Parl.* 89 Hee did..beate doune the proclaymers negatiue argumentes. 1649 *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) I. 146 There are two negative conclusions which seeme necessary. 1670 Clarendon *Dial.* Tracts (1727) 333, I long to see a good negative Catechism of religion. 1791 Burke *App. Whigs* Wks. VI. 186 Their negative declaration obliges me to have recourse to the books which contain positive doctrines. 1803 J. Marshall *Const. Opin.* (1839) 22 Affirmative words are often .. negative of other objects than those affirmed. 1850 Grote *Greece* II. lxviii. (1862) VI. 138 It is by Plato that the negative and indirect vein of Sokratês has been worked out. 1891 Lo. Coleridge in *Law Times Rep.* LXV. 581/1 The negative statement that the 6 Geo. 4, c. 129, is not now on this subject the governing statute.

b. *spec.* in *Logic*, of propositions, etc., or names.

1551 T. Wilson *Logike* (1580) 24 If one of the Propositions be particular, or negatiue, the conclusion is particular, or negatiue. 1628 T. Spencer *Logick* 92 In this Chapter .. wee must handle negatiue contraries. 1651 Hobbes *Leviath.* I. iv. 16 Names, called Negative; which are notes to signifie that a word is not the name of the thing in question. 1690 Locke *Hum. Und.* II. viii. § 5 We have negative Names, which stand not directly for positive Ideas, but for their Absence, such as *Insipid*, *Silence*, *Nihil*, etc. 1725 Watts *Logic* III. i, The Foundations of all negative Conclusions. 1846 Mill *Logic* I. ii. § 6 Negative names are employed whenever we have occasion to speak collectively of all things other than some thing or class of things. 1870 Jevons *Elem. Logic* vii. 63 A negative proposition .. asserts a difference or discrepancy.

3. a. Of commands, statutes, etc.: Prohibitory.

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 238 b, All the commaundementes of the seconde table, that be negatyue. 1596 Bacon *Max. & Use Com. Law* II. (1635) 14 But the Statute of Mag. Char. Cap. II. 5 is negative against it. *a* 1711 Ken *Divine Love* Wks. (1838) 261 Keep my love watchful .., that in thy negative precepts I may continually resist evil. 1765 Blackstone *Comm.* I. i. 137 A few negative statutes, whereby abuses, perversions, or delays of justice..are restrained.

b. Expressing refusal to do something; refusing consent to a proposal or motion.

1535 Stewart *Cron. Scot.* II. 592 Malcolme .. Wald nocht consent, .. And gaif to him ane answer negatiue. 1576 Fleming *Panopl. Epist.* 194 They .. yealded to his request, notwithstanding my negatiue voyce. 1621 T. Williamson tr. *Goulart's Wise Vieillard* 56 Hee gaue his negatiue voyce and crossed the treatie of a dishonourable peace. 1681 H. Neville *Plato Rediv.* 125 But for this point of the Negative Vote, it is possible [etc.].

c. Able to impose a veto. Now *rare.*

1648–9 *Eikon Bas.* vi. (1662) 20 Denying me any power of a Negative voice as King. 1712 Addison *Spect.* No. 287 ₱ 5, I do not find that the Consuls had ever a Negative Voice in the passing of a Law. 1775 De Lolme *Eng. Const.* II. xvii. (1784) 263 To make use, even once, of its negative voice.

d. qnasi-*adv.* Negatively, on the negative side.

1868 Maidment *Bk. Sc. Pasquils* 238 This cherub..swore negative.., much to the astonishment of Fountainhall. 1897 *Daily News* 7 May 3/2 Twenty-five of the Senators voting negative are free silver advocates.

† 4. Opposed (*to* a measure). *Obs. rare.*

1642 Sir E. Dering *Sp. on Relig.* xvi. 71, I am so fixed negative. *Ibid.* 88 That I may as negative to this bill, be poasted up [etc.].

II. 5. Characterized by the absence, instead of the presence, of distinguishing features; devoid of, or lacking in, distinctly positive attributes.

In very common use in the 19th century.

1565 T. Stapleton *Fortr. Faith* 103*, I will not labour to recite euery particular of their negatiue religion. 1642 in Clarendon *Hist. Reb.* V. § 49 His discharge was but negative. 1647 Clarendon *ibid.* II. § 25 A man who .. was thought to be made choice of only for his negative qualities. 1662 Stillingfl. *Orig. Sacræ* III. i. § 5 How ever positive we apprehend it, yet we alwaies apprehend it in a negative way. 1702 *Eng. Theophrastus* 249 No better than a negative traitor to his country. 1788 Priestley in *Phil. Trans.* LXXIX. 15 The positive evidence of actually finding a substance is always more conclusive than the negative one, of not finding it. 1801 Fuseli in *Lect. Paint.* II. (1848) 383 He contented himself with a negative colour. 1838 W. Bell *Dict. Law Scot.* 769 The negative prescription..not only presumes the debt to have been extinguished [etc.]. 1873 Spencer *Stud. Sociol.* x. 259 These negative causes of dissatisfaction are joined with the positive cause indicated.

6. In *Algebra*, denoting quantities which are to be subtracted from other quantities, or which are taken as indicating a subtraction from zero; marked by the sign −.

1673 Kersey *Algebra* I. 269 A negative Root (which Cartesius calls a false Root) expresseth a Quantity whose Denomination is opposite to an affirmative, as −5 or −20. 1727–38 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v. *Quantity*, Negative or privative quantities are those less than nothing. 1753 *Ibid.*, *Supp.* s.v., Negative powers arise from the division of any power of a quantity, by a greater power of the same quantity. 1768 Horsefall in *Phil. Trans.* LVIII. 101, $d+9=1$ cannot be; because d would be negative. 1798 Hutton *Course Math.* (1807) II. 282 The fluxion of any negative integer power of a variable quantity. 1842 Gwilt *Archit.* § 611 We immediately perceive that those powers are negative whose exponents are odd numbers. 1885 Watson & Burbury *Math. The. Electr. & Magn.* I. 25 Every possible spherical harmonic function of negative integral degree.

b. *Negative sign*, the sign — used to mark a negative quantity. Also applied to a sign used in the Sanskrit alphabet (see quot. 1851).

1704 J. Harris *Lex. Techn.* I, *Negative Quantities* in Algebra, are such as have before them the Negative Sign. 1743 Emerson *Fluxions* 164 The negative Sign only shews that the Curvature increases. 1823 Mitchell *Dict. Math. & Phys. Sci.*, *Negative index*, of a logarithm, are those which are affected with a negative sign. 1851 *Proc. Philol. Soc.* V. 86 When the word closes with a consonant, there is a peculiar negative sign to be affixed to the consonant to show that no vowel follows.

7. Applied to that form of electricity which is produced by friction upon resin, wax, gutta-percha or similar substances, as distinguished from that produced by rubbed glass, which is called *positive*.

1755 B. Martin *Mag. Arts & Sci.* 322 What they had observed of positive and negative Electricity. 1770 Priestley in *Phil. Trans.* LX. 194, I could not find that either positive or negative electricity was communicated to the insulated tube. 1860 G. Prescott *Electr. Telegr.* 11 The one of the fluids we call positive, or vitreous electricity; the other, negative, or resinous. 1873 F. Jenkin *Electr. & Magn.* I. § 8 It is found invariably that equal quantities of positive and negative electricity are produced.

transf. 1755 B. Martin *Mag. Arts & Sci.* 303 This positive and negative Doctrine of Electricity.

b. Characterized by the presence or production of negative electricity.

1799 *Med. Jrnl.* I. 55 Electricity..produces this effect particularly by what is called the negative bath. 1837 Whewell *Hist. Induct. Sci.* (1857) III. 137 An alkali was separated on the negative plates. 1860 G. Prescott *Electr. Telegr.* 22 These extremities are termed poles; the former the negative, and the latter the positive pole of the pile. 1873 F. Jenkin *Electr. & Magn.* xxii. § 3 These currents may be either positive or negative; that is to say, they may be sent from the copper or zinc pole of the battery.

c. Chemically opposed *to* something.

1882 *Rep. to Ho. Repr. Prec. Met. U. S.* 611 Iron is also negative to gold under this condition.

8. Reckoned in an opposite direction to the positive; falling on the other side of the point from which the positive is measured.

1802–12 Bentham *Ration. Judic. Evid.* (1827) IV. 61 Separated from argument, the value of such opinion will not simply be nothing, but negative. 1817 Coleridge *Biog. Lit.* (Bohn) 142 The subtraction will be the same, whether we call the capital negative debt, or the debt negative capital. 1831 Brewster *Optics* xvii. 147 The axis is called..in the second case a negative axis of double refraction. *c* 1865 J. Wylde in *Circ. Sci.* I. 79/2 The optic axes are respectively positive and negative when the extraordinary ray is bent either to or from the geometrical axis of the crystal. 1893 Sir R. Ball *Story of Sun* 170 If the Sun's axis lie to the right..then the position angle is regarded as negative.

b. Proceeding or tending in an opposite direction to that regarded as positive.

1831 Brewster *Optics* xxv. 215 The double refraction is negative in relation to the axes to which the doubly refracted ray is perpendicular. 1875 Bennett & Dyer tr. *Sachs' Bot.* 677 Both positive and negative heliotropism. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 313/1 Spherical aberration of a negative character.

9. a. *Negative crystal*, (*a*) a crystal in which the index of refraction is greater for the ordinary than the extraordinary ray; (*b*) a crystalliform cavity in a mineral mass.

1831 Brewster *Optics* xxii. 196 Those produced by the positive crystals..though to the eye they differ in no respect from those of negative crystals, yet they possess different properties. 1882 Geikie *Text-bk. Geol.* 96 Such a space defined by crystallographic contours is a negative crystal.

b. *Negative eye-piece* : (see quot. 1867).

1831 Brewster *Optics* xliii. 361 This eyepiece is called the negative eyepiece. 1867 G. F. Chambers *Astron.* 617 A negative eye-piece consists .. of 2 plano-convex lenses, the convex sides of both being..turned towards the object-glass. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1521/1 The Huyghenian, or negative eye-piece..is the usual combination of lenses at the eye-end of a telescope or microscope.

10. *Photogr.* Characterized by a reversal of the lights and shadows of the actual object, scene, etc.

1840 Herschel in *Proc. Roy. Soc.* IV. 206 In order to avoid circumlocution the author employs the terms positive and negative to express respectively pictures in which the lights and shades are the same as in nature..and in which they are opposite. 1841 Fox Talbot *Spec. Patent* No. 8842. 5 The portrait..is a negative one, and from this a positive copy may be obtained. 1853 *Fam. Herald* 3 Dec. 510/1 Having obtained negative pictures on both glass and paper. 1867 Brothers in G. F. Chambers *Astron.* 698 The negative or positive copy having been placed the wrong way.

fig. 1858 O. W. Holmes *Aut. Breakf.-t.* xi. 109 Books are the negative pictures of thought.

Negative (ne·gătiv), *v.* [f. prec.]

1. *trans.* **a.** *U. S.* To reject (a person proposed for some office).

1706 [see *Negatived* below]. 1720 S. Sewall *Diary* 26 May, The Govr. consented to the Choice of the Councillours, having Negativ'd Col. Byfield and Dr. Clarke. 1760 T. Hutchinson *Hist. Mass.* I. (1765) 10 Disputes..caused him to insist upon his right of negativing the speaker. 1876 Bancroft *Hist. U. S.* IV. xxv. 6 Negativing six of the ablest 'friends of the people' in the board.

b. *U. S.* To veto (a bill, law, etc.).

1749 *Col. Rec. Connect.* (1876) IX. 453 It would..invest the Governor..with a power to negative all acts that should be passed in our Assembly. 1834 D. Webster *Sp. in Senate* 18 Mar. 12 We passed a bill for such a recharter, through both Houses, two years ago, but it was negatived by the President. 1876 Bancroft *Hist. U. S.* II. III. i. 18 (Funk), Madison struggled to confer on the national legislature the right to negative at its discretion any state law whatever.

2. To reject, set aside (a proposal, suggestion, motion, etc.); to refuse to accept or entertain.

1778 Earl Malmesbury *Diaries & Corr.* I. 194 Having.. obtained..the outlines of a treaty, the negativing it..would not carry with it [etc.]. 1812 *Examiner* 11 May 297/1 The Resolutions..were negatived without a division. 1861 Mrs. H. Wood *East Lynne* I. ix. 120 Something was said about a fly, but Miss Carlyle negatived it. 1879 E. K. Bates *Egypt. Bonds* I. vii. 140 O'Grady negatives the idea so decidedly that there is no appeal.

b. To refuse to countenance (a claim, etc.).

1788 J. Powell *Devises* (1827) II. 89 Claim of the heir negatived in Noel *v.* Lord Henley. 1833 Coleridge *Table-t.* 16 Aug., Taxation..implies compact, and negatives any right to plunder.

3. To disprove; to show to be false.

1790 Paley *Horæ Paul.* i. 6 By ancient testimony..they are negatived and excluded. 1836–41 Brande *Chem.* (ed. 5) 158 The inference..is negatived, in regard to mercury at least, by substituting that metal for the cold water. 1853 Kane *Grinnell Exp.* xlii. (1856) 381 All our reasonings seemed to be negatived by the results. 1885 *Law Times Rep.* LII. 625/1 A plaintiff..must also negative contributory negligence in himself.

b. To deny, contradict.

1812 *Examiner* 7 Sept. 570/2 An affidavit..negativing the keeping..any horse..by Mr. Weddall. 1884 *Law Times Rep.* L. 177/2 An affidavit categorically negativing the statements in the libel.

4. To render ineffective, neutralize.

1837 Miss Pardoe *City of Sultan* (1855) 225 The next eruption may lay waste his lands, and negative his labour. 1882 *Daily Tel.* 16 Sept. (Cassell), The wash..was happily negatived by the inert hull of the..barge.

5. To take a negative photograph of. *nonce-use.*

1894 Sala *London up to Date* ii. 17, I doubt whether any male creature..would care much about being focussed, negatived, and positived in that apparel.

Hence **Ne·gatived** *ppl. a.*, **Ne·gativing** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1706 S. Sewall *Diary* 6 June, Instead of the Negativ'd were chosen B. Brown [etc.]. 1776 in F. Chase *Hist. Dartmouth Coll.* (1891) I. 657 A negativing body over those that form the laws. 1777 Mme. D'Arblay *Early Diary* (1889) II. 194 Had he persisted..I could never have consented, however pained by perpetual negativing. 1809 W. Irving *Knickerb.* (1861) 256 Your weighty men, though slow to devise, being always great at 'negativing'. 1895 Zangwill *Master* 430 He saw her as in her later guise, stern, sorrowful, negativing.

Negatively (ne·gătivli), *adv.* [f. Negative *a.* + -ly 2.] In a negative manner.

1. By way of negation or denial; in the negative; on the negative side.

c 1559 R. Hall *Life Fisher* in *F.'s Wks.* (E. E. T. S.) II. p. lxiii, Being againe negatively answered by the counsell of the queenes side, all seemed to rest vpon proof. 1570

Billingsley *Euclid* I. vii. 17 The mathematicall artes..for the most part vse to conclude affirmatiuely, and not negatiuely. 1620 Venner *Via Recta* iii. 46 Now to the question. I answer negatiuely. 1642 Fuller *Holy & Prof. St.* III. xvii. 195 We will describe Contentment first negatively. 1674 tr. *Scheffer's Lapland* vi. 15 Negatively we may pass sentence and conclude they were not Swedes. 1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* Ded., Negatively, at least, I may be allowed to say [etc.]. 1794 Burke *Sp. agst. W. Hastings* Wks. XV. 420 He has told you here indeed negatively, that he did not know [etc.]. 1812 Ld. Ellenborough in *Examiner* 28 Dec. 832/2 The annuity did not appear, negatively, in the Prince's household accounts. 1845 Stoddart *Gram.* in *Encycl. Metrop.* I. 169/1 It is..negatively asserted that virtue cannot be hurt. 1866 Rogers *Agric. & Prices* I. iv. 84, I can confirm this statement negatively, for I have seen no trace of personal servitude in the numerous accounts.

b. In a manner indicating refusal.

1804 Eugenia de Acton *Tale without Title* II. 166 Telling her she looked so negatively at that period, that he would not then attend to her decision.

†2. With incapacity of being the opposite. *Obs.*

1622 R. Harris *God's Goodness* 17 Preserving or conserving Mercy in the first sense is Negatiuely endlesse, that is, vncapable of end. 1670 R. Coke *Disc. Trade* Ded., A man negatively blind, cannot be made to perceive things which are only visible.

3. With negative electricity.

1747 Franklin *Wks.* (1840) V. 186 Hence have arisen some new terms among us; we say B is electrized positively; A, negatively. 1787 Cavallo in *Phil. Trans.* LXXVIII. 14 This plate A being now electrified negatively. 1833 *Penny Cycl.* I. 412/1 When mercury is negatively electrified in a solution of ammonia. 1849 Noad *Electricity* (ed. 3) 133 The phial..would..be charged negatively. 1881 Maxwell *Electr. & Magn.* I. 48 A negatively electrified particle.

4. In a negative manner or direction.

1789 Waring in *Phil. Trans.* LXXIX. 175 The preceding co-efficients..are to be taken negatively or affirmatively, as *s* is an even or an odd number. 1832 Macgillivray *Trav. & Res. Humboldt* ii. 37 The visibility of mountains which are only negatively perceived. 1862 Sir B. Brodie *Psychol. Inq.* II. iii. 95 The opium-taker is only negatively mischievous to society. 1876 Preece & Sivewright *Telegr.* 41 The N poles will all be 'negatively rotated', or moved to the right.

Ne·gativeness. [f. as prec. + -NESS.] The fact or quality of being negative; negativity.

1827 Hare *Guesses* (1859) 314 Self-conceit .. delights in negativeness, far more than in anything positive and real. 1876 Geo. Eliot *Dan. Der.* i, There was a certain uniform negativeness of expression which had the effect of a mask.

Negativism (ne·gătiviz'm). [f. as prec. + -ISM.] The doctrines of a negationist; doctrine characterized by denial.

1824 in *Mem. F. Perthes* (1856) II. xx. 295 The superlative of positivism is a bedlamite: of negativism a cipher. 1865 *Athenæum* No. 1949. 312/3 The negativism which Comte calls positivism. 1872 Morley *Voltaire* 208 The inundation of Europe by the literature of negativism and repudiation.

Ne·gativist. [-IST.] = NEGATIONIST.

1873 L. Stephen *Ess. Freethinking* 190 A positivist, or a negativist, or a materialist. *a* 1876 M. Collins *Th. in Garden* (1880) I. 271 The atheists and negativists of the day fondly fancy..they would produce a perfect civilisation.

Negativity (negăti·vĭti). [f. as prec. + -ITY.] The fact or quality of being negative.

1860 in Worcester (citing *Eclectic Review*). 1865 Grote *Plato* I. i. 31 The negativity or destructive interference of the universal process. 1882 *Nature* 12 Jan. 258 Sudden negativity of under surface. 1899 J. Caird *Fundam. Ideas Chr.* II. ix. 13 That universal negativity or nothingness which pertains to all finite agents alike.

Negativo-, combining form of NEGATIVE *a.*, in *negativo-affirmative, -positive.*

1726 Colson in *Phil. Trans.* XXXIV. 162 Common Numbers may be reduced to negativo-affirmative Numbers a great variety of Ways. 1899 *Month* Dec. 614 We get the idea by a negativo-positive process: or, to speak more exactly, the idea is a negativo-positive one.

Negator (nĭgē·tŏr). [a. L. *negātor*, agent-n. f. *negāre*: see NEGATE *v.*] One who denies; *spec.* a member of a sect of Russian anarchists.

1805 in *Spirit Pub. Jrnls.* VIII. 241 The grand inflictor and grand negator—one who in doing or denying stands nearly unmatched. 1888 *Science* XI. 178 One such [sect] calls itself the 'Negators', and its members keep themselves aloof from all men.

Negatory (ne·gătŏri), *a.* Also 6–7 -orie. [ad. F. *négatoire* or late L. *negātōri-us*: see NEGATE *v.* and -ORY.] Of the nature of negation.

1580 Hollyband *Treas. Fr. Tong, Negatoire, vne action negatoire*, a negatorie action. 1611 Cotgr., *Negatoire*, negatorie, inficiatorie, negatiue, denying. [Hence in Blount, Phillips, and Bailey.] 1827 Carlyle *Germ. Rom.* III. 86, I on the morrow must overcloud her arrival..by my negatory intelligence. 1850 Thackeray *Let.* in *Westm. Gaz.* (1902) 10 July 4/3 A negatory nod of his honest .. old head. 1877 Morley *Crit. Misc.* Ser. II. 362 Mere aggressive and negatory criticism.

Negatyfe, etc., obs. forms of NEGATIVE.

†**Nege,** *v. Obs. rare* —1. [ad. L. *negāre*: cf. *renege*, RENEGUE *v.*] *trans.* To deny.

1624 Bp. Mountagu *Gagg* 147 False Christians .. That neged as necessary unto salvation, workes, and observing of the law.

Negebure, obs. form of NEIGHBOUR.

Neger (nē·gəɹ). Now *north. dial.* and *Sc.* Forms: 6–7 (9) neager, 6 (9) neeger, 7 negar, 7, 9 negre, 9 negur, 7– neger. [ad. F. *nègre*, ad. Sp. *negro* NEGRO. So Du., G., Da., Sw. *neger.*]

1. A negro, a nigger.

1587 *MS. Robert Leng* (Brit. Mus.), There were also in her 400 neegers, whome they had taken to make slaves. 1599 Minsheu s.v. *Caçuela*, Vpon Moores or Neagers, and on other malefactors. 1624 Capt. Smith *Virginia* IV. 126 A dutch man of warre that sold vs twenty Negars. 1686 in *Annals of Albany* (1850) II. 92 The court have ordered ye said neger Hercules to be whipt throw ye towne. 1729 Gay *Polly* III. Wks. (1772) 197, I don't see .. why we should be commanded by a Neger. 1794 Mrs. A. M. Bennett *Ellen* I. 17 She was sure the strangers were negers. 1829 B. Hall *Trav. N. Amer.* II. 77 Entering into social intercourse with a 'negur.'

attrib. and *Comb.* 1657 R. Ligon *Barbadoes* 51 The outward medicine is a thing they call Negre-oyle, and 'tis made in Barbary. 1683 Tryon *Way to Health* 461 Sporting themselves with negre nosed Dogs. 1689 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2501/4 A Neager Boy, about 14 years old. 1831 Trelawny *Adv. Younger Son* II. 96 As to poor negur man, I saw his carcase to-day.

2. (See quot.)

1848 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* IX. II. 565 These aphides have their enemies in the..ladybird, and its progeny the neger.

Hence †**Ne·gerous** *a.*, barbarous. **Ne·gery** [ad. Du. *negerij*], a negro village or compound.

1609 Heywood *Brit. Troy* VII. lxxix, Which to prevent the Negerous Lady takes The young Absyrtes. 1814 W. Brown *Hist. Propag. Chr.* App. (1823) 708, In some of the negerys the people had still retained their idols.

Negh, obs. form of EYE *sb.*

Negh, neȝ, obs. forms of NIGH *a.* and *adv.*

Negh(e, obs. forms of NIGH *v.*

Negh(e)bur, obs. forms of NEIGHBOUR.

Neghe, obs. form of NINE.

Neghnesse, obs. form of NIGHNESS.

Neght, obs. form of NIGHT.

Negh(t)som: see NIGHSOME *a. Obs.*

Neglect (nĭgle·kt), *sb.* [ad. L. *neglect-us* (rare), f. the ppl. stem *neglect-*: see next.]

1. The fact of disregarding, slighting, or paying no attention to, a person, etc.; the fact or condition of being treated in this way; †an instance of this, a slight.

1588 Shaks. *L. L. L.* III. 204 It is a plagne That Cupid will impose for my neglect Of his almighty .. might. 1600 — *A. Y. L.* v. iv. 188 The Duke hath put on a Religious life, And throwne into neglect the pompous Court. 1665 Boyle *Occas. Refl.* 179 Unable to make him think himself happy, as long as he could not neglect a Captives neglect of him. 1670 R. Montagu in *Buccleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 466 He complained [of]..several neglects on M[onsieu]r['s] part towards him. 1711 Prior *Henry & Emma* 616 Rescue my poor remains from vile neglect. 1797 Burke *Corr.* (1844) IV. 435 Neglect, contumely, and insult, were never the ways of keeping friends.

b. Disregard *of*, or with respect to, something; †indifference.

1597 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* v. lvii. § 1 How easily neglect and careless regard of so heauenly mysteries may follow. 1709 Steele *Tatler* No. 51 ¶ 1 Orlando .. also had a Neglect whether Things became him or not. *a* 1715 Burnet *Own Time* III. (1724) I. 512 Tho' the Duke sent the offer of pardon to them..it was refused with great neglect. 1862 Spencer *First Princ.* I. iv. § 26 (1875) 90 Assuming that consciousness contains nothing but limits and conditions; to the entire neglect of that which is limited and conditioned.

2. Want of attention to what ought to be done; the fact of leaving something undone or unattended to; negligence. Also const *of.*

1591 Shaks. *Two Gent.* v. iv. 90 My master charg'd me to deliuer a ring to Madam Siluia: which (out of my neglect) was neuer done. 1634 Milton *Comus* 510 Without blame, Or ouer neglect, we lost her as we came. 1683 Temple *Mem.* Wks. 1720 I. 459 This he made good, dying with Neglect upon a Fit of the Gout. 1784 Cowper *Task* II. 456 This .. offends me more Than in a churchman slovenly neglect And rustic coarseness would. 1802 James *Milit. Dict.* s.v., Officers or soldiers convicted of neglect of duty, are punishable at the discretion of a court martial. 1821–2 Shelley *Chas. I*, II. 76 Our royal forests, Whose limits, from neglect, have been o'ergrown. 1881 Jowett *Thucyd.* I. 91 Everybody fancies that his own neglect will do no harm.

b. An instance of negligence; an omission or oversight. Now *rare.*

1638 Junius *Paint. Ancients* 316 The neglects committed in the disposition, are discovered by the lightsomenesse of the things themselves. 1698 [R. Ferguson] *View Eccles.* 34 It would be matter of Enquiring how he came in and by what neglects he escapes being cast out. 1736 Butler *Anal.* I. ii. 39 Neglects from Inconsiderateness, want of Attention, .. are often attended with Consequences .. as dreadful as any active Misbehaviour. 1845 Stocqueler *Handbk. Brit. India* (1854) 340 A province .. gradually recovering from the effects of Mahratta ravages and neglects.

c. *In neglect of*, in default of. *rare* —1.

1807 Robinson *Archæol. Græca* I. ix. 41 They forfeited double the sum, to be paid by themselves or their sureties; and, in neglect of this, they and their sureties were imprisoned.

d. (See quot.)

1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.* 495 *Neglect*, a charge not exceeding £3, from the wages of a seaman, in the Complete Book, for any part of the ship's stores lost overboard, or damaged, from his gross carelessness.

†**Negle·ct,** *pa. pple.* and *ppl. a. Obs.* [ad. L. *neglect-us*, pa. pple. of *neglegĕre*: see next.]

1. Neglected.

1530 Tindale *Answ. More* Wks. (1573) 276/2 And then because it should not be neglect or left undone, an higher officer .. came about .. at tymes conuenient. 1561 Daus tr. *Bullinger on Apoc.* Pref. (1573) 7 The Romane Empire.. laye neglecte without an Emperoure. 1586 ? Bryskett *Thestylis* 96 Her haire hung lose, neglect, about her shoulders twaine. 1724 Ramsay *Wyfe of Auchtermuchty* iv, Therefore let naithing be neglect [*rime* break].

2. Negligent. *rare.*

1603 Florio *Montaigne* I. xxv. 83 It represents a kinde of ..neglect carelesnesse of arte. 1620 tr. *Boccaccio's Decam.* 84 b, The man..knew nothing hereof, and therefore was the more neglect and carelesse.

Neglect (nĭgle·kt), *v.* Also 6 neg-, neeg-, neclecte, 6–7 neclect, (6 *Sc.* -leck, -lekk), 6– *Sc.* negleck, (6 -lec, -lek). [f. L. *neglect-*, ppl. stem of *neglegĕre, -ligĕre* (also *nec-*), f. *neg-* not + *legĕre* to pick up.]

1. *trans.* To disregard; to pay little or no respect or attention to; to slight, leave unnoticed.

1529 More *Dyaloge* IV. Wks. 257/2 Fastyng, prayer, & such other thynges, he tanght them to neglecte and set at nought as vayne & vnfrutefull ceremonies. 1581 Rich *Farew.* (1846) 160 She would never neclect that care and regarde to her honoure which all women ought to have. 1638 Junius *Paint. Ancients* 37 Every one hath within his own brest a certaine law of nature, the which he may not neglect. 1667 Milton *P. L.* III. 200 This my long sufferance .. They who neglect and scorn, shall never taste. 1712 Lady M. W. Montagu *Let. to W. Montagu* 9 or 11 Dec., If his kindness is sincere, 'tis too valuable to be neglected. 1781 Cowper *Charity* 36 Some nobler minds a law respect, That none shall with impunity neglect. 1855 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xix. IV. 354 That noble discourse had been neglected by the generation to which it was addressed. 1868 Tennyson *Spiteful Let.* 6 O little bard, is your lot so hard, If men neglect your pages?

†b. To leave out, omit, discard. *Obs. rare* —1.

1603 Owen *Pembrokeshire* (1892) I. 77 In all new buildinges these vaultes are altogether neclected.

2. To fail to bestow proper attention or care upon; to leave unattended to or uncared for.

1538 Starkey *England* I. ii. 27 Yf men knew certaynly what ys the true commyn wele.., they wold not so..neclecte hyt. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 272 b, All these thinges neglected. 1615 G. Sandys *Trav.* 216 A Ieuell naturally fertil, but now neglected. 1668 R. Steele *Husbandm. Calling* x. (1672) 272 The Philosopher could say, he had rather neglect his means, than his mind. 1756 Burke *Subl. & B.* Pref., Whilst the mind is intent on the general scheme of things, some particular parts must be neglected. 1784 Cowper *Task* III. 368, I seek to improve, At least neglect not..The mind He gave me. 1819 Shelley *Cenci* IV. iv. 120 Heaven doth interpose to do What ye neglect. 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 73 Their own education..has been neglected.

b. With personal object.

1556 Olde *Antichrist* 4 b, Neclecting them that he hathe taken charge of. 1685 Baxter *Paraphr. N. T.* Matt. vi. 26 God that made you better than they, will not neglect you. 1771 *Junius Lett.* xlix. (1788) 267 You did not neglect the magistrate while you flattered the man. 1842 Miss Mitford in L'Estrange *Life* III. ix. 137, I must so far neglect my dear father as to gain time for writing what may support us.

3. To fail to perform, render, discharge (a duty), or take (a precaution).

1533 Bellenden *Livy* I. xiii. (S. T. S.) I. 73 Þe rite and cerymonis of divine religioun was neclectit. 1548 *Galway Arch.* in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. V. 412 The said officers so neglectinge ther deuties to paye and forfait xx. li. 1667 Milton *P. L.* III. 738 In Heav'n, Where honour due and reverence none neglects. *a* 1694 J. Mason *Sel. Rem.* iv. (1828) 97 If others neglect their duty to you, be sure that you perform yours to them. 1819 Shelley *Cenci* v. ii. 103 That..I should have neglected So trivial a precaution. 1896 *Law Times Rep.* LXXIII. 615/1 There was evidence that Judges habitually performed this duty, though he sometimes neglected it.

4. a. With *inf.* To omit through carelessness, to fail through negligence, *to* do something.

1548 *Galway Arch.* in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. V. 412 If the officers neglecte to put the same person to execucion. 1563 Winjet *Four Scoir Thre Quest.* Wks. (S. T. S.) I. 90 Qvhy neclect ȝe to ministrat this haly sacrament to the seik? 1617 Morvson *Itin.* I. 95 They have neglected to preserve it. 1736 Butler *Anal.* I. ii. Wks. 1874 I. 42 Which consequences they for the most part neglect to consider..beforehand. 1786 Burke *Sp. agst. W. Hastings* Wks. XII. 208 The said Hastings..did neglect to write a formal letter to Lieutenant Anderson. 1819 Shelley *Cenci* III. i. 183 If they neglect To punish crime.

b. To omit *doing* something.

1710 Steele *Tatler* No. 203 ¶ 1, I did not neglect spending a considerable Time in the Crowd. 1729 Butler *Serm.* Wks. 1874 II. 128 It is not uncommon for persons.. entirely to neglect looking into the state of their affairs.

†5. To cause (something) to be neglected. *Obs.*

1594 Shaks. *Rich. III*, III. iv. 25, I trust, My absence doth neglect no great designe. *c* 1620 Fletcher & Mass. *Lit. Fr. Lawyer* III. ii, His fighting has neglected all our business.

Hence **Negle·cting** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1552 Huloet, Neglecting, or little regard. 1611 Bible *Col.* ii. 23 In will-worship and humilitie, and neglecting of the body. 1625 Bacon *Ess., Revenge* (Arb.) 502 Perfidious or Neglecting Friends. 1646 Jenkyn *Remora* 9 By-neglecting of his worship. 1782 Cowper *Names of little Note* 6 Those twinkling tiny lustres..Drop one by one from Fame's neglecting hand. 1888 A. T. Pierson *Evang. Wk.* 243 The neglected and neglecting masses of our city population.

Negle·ctable, *a.* [f. prec. + -ABLE.] That may be neglected or disregarded; negligible.

1884 *Proc. Roy. Soc.* XXXVIII. 42 Subsequent experiments proved that all of these are practically neglectable. 1898 *Daily News* 13 Dec. 4/5 The dangerous doctrine that Great Britain was a neglectable quantity.

Neglected (nĭgle·ktĕd), *ppl. a.* [f. NEGLECT *v.* + -ED 1.] Not attended to or cared for; not treated with proper attention; disregarded.

1600 Shaks. *A. Y. L.* III. ii. 394 A beard neglected, which you haue not. 1634 Milton *Comus* 743 Like a neglected rose It withers on the stalk. 1705 Stanhope *Paraphr.* II. 208 All the neglected Opportunities of Amendment. 1781 Cowper *Table-t.* 546 Neglected talents rust into decay.

1819 SHELLEY *Cenci* IV. i. 54 Where evil thoughts Shall grow like weeds on a neglected tomb. 1872 MORLEY *Voltaire* (1886) 10 The too neglected list of good causes lost. *Comb.* 1866 GEO. ELIOT *Felix Holt* i, He was not a neglected-looking old man.

Hence **Negle·ctedly** *adv.*; **Negle·ctedness.**

1659 HAMMOND *On Ps.* cii. 9 Make them look sadly and neglectedly. 1660 S. FORD *Loyal Subj. Exult.* 21 In warre all things are cloathed with a dismall neglectedness. 1825 *New Monthly Mag.* XIII. 141 Not leaving thee neglectedly Like things forgotten. 1865 G. MACDONALD *A. Forbes* xiv, Seeing..a girl so neglectedly attired. 1887 ABP. BENSON in *Life* (1899) II. 139 The peace and stillness and happy neglectedness, so to speak, over all.

Neglecter (nĭgle·ktəɹ). Also 6 necg-, *Sc.* -ar. [f. NEGLECT *v.* + -ER 1.] One who neglects.

1580 LUPTON *Siuquila* 74 The neglecters thereof shall dwell in Hell wyth the Divell. 1597 J. PAYNE *Royal Exch.* 27 All misspenders, abusers and voluntarie neeglecters of the tyme. 1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 103 You shall finde him a meere neglecter of us. 1697 G. BURGHOPE *Disc. Relig. Assemb.* 5 My business is..with the absenters and neglecters of the Divine Service. 1753 RICHARDSON in Mrs. Barbauld *Life* (1804) VI. 241 To make his neglecters.. feel the importance of his talents. 1820 SCOTT *Monast.* xiii, The chase..made Halbert a frequent neglecter of hours. 1887 *Spectator* 2 Apr. 463/2 There was more to be said for the Ritualists than for the neglecters of ritual.

Neglectful (nĭgle·ktfŭl), *a.* [f. NEGLECT *sb.* + -FUL.] Characterized by neglect or inattention; heedless, careless.

1644 BULWER *Chirol.* 121 The same neglectfull carriage of his Hand. 1682 *News fr. France* 35 To free themselves from the guilt of a neglectful silence. 1719 T. COOKE *Tales*, etc. 205, I shall first shew in what even our best Writers.. have been neglectful. 1788 *Gentl. Mag.* LVIII. 481 It cannot but appear grossly neglectful. 1817 JAS. MILL *Brit. India* II. v. iv. 422 A government at once insatiable and neglectful. 1872 E. PEACOCK *Mabel Heron* I. 24 Did you ever see anything in such a neglectful condition?

b. Const. *of*, or *to* with inf.

1624 MASSINGER *Renegado* I. iii, I must grant Myself neglectful of all you have taught me. 1648 MILTON *Observ. Peace Ormond* Wks. 1851 IV. 555 In neither of those ways neglectfull of our just defence. 1795 SOUTHEY *Joan of Arc* v. 285 Nor were our chieftains..neglectful to implore That heavenly aid. 1856 MERIVALE *Rom. Emp.* XXXVIII. (1865) IV. 344 Varus was not so neglectful of his own security.

Hence **Negle·ctfully** *adv.*; **Negle·ctfulness.**

1646 EARL MONM. tr. *Biondi's Civil Wars* VI. 31 A great many Gentlemen, who talked neglectfully of Edward. 1693 J. EDWARDS *Author. O. & N. Test.* 329 The looseness and neglectfulness of the stile. 1805 NELSON 29 Aug. in Nicolas *Disp.* (1846) VII. 22 The omission of their delivery wilfully or neglectfully. 1882 FARRAR *Early Chr.* I. 448 *note*, In this neglectfulness he saw the dangerous germ of apostasy.

Neglecting: see NEGLECT *v.*

†**Negle·ctingly**, *adv. Obs.* [f. NEGLECTING *ppl. a.* + -LY 2.] Negligently, neglectfully.

1596 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. IV*, I. iii. 52, I then..Answer'd (neglectingly) I know not what. 1616 BEAUM. & FL. *Scornful Lady* IV. i, See how negligently he passes by me.

†**Negle·ction.** *Obs.* [ad. L. *neglection-em*: see NEGLECT *v.* and -ION.] Negligence, neglect.

1591 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. VI*, IV. iii. 49 Sleeping neglection doth betray to losse. 1608—*Per.* III. iii. 20 If neglection Should therein make me vile. 1628 FELTHAM *Resolves* II. xxxi. 98 Who would haue beleeued, that one neglection of his counsell would haue truss'd vp Achitophel in a voluntarie Halter.

Neglective (nĭgle·ktiv), *a.* Now *rare* or *Obs.* [f. NEGLECT *v.* + -IVE.] Neglectful, inattentive. (Very common in 17th c.)

1611 SPEED *Hist. Gt. Brit.* IX. xxiv. (1623) 1179 Shee often seemed somewhat too remisse and neglectiue in the care of her selfe. 1628 FELTHAM *Resolves* II. lxxxviii. 254 A carelesse freenesse, and a kind of neglectiue easinesse. 1670 BROOKS *Wks.* (1867) VI. 55 How remiss, how neglective were many in their families. 1715 *Wodrow Corr.* (1843) II. 33 The Synod found their own Presbytery neglective. 1827 *Lincoln Cabinet* 44 While they were thus as enterprising, as Lincoln was neglective.

b. Const. *of*. (Also freq. in 17th c.)

c 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* XIV. 356 No one neglective was Of Hector's safety. 1661 H. D. *Disc. Liturgies* 8 So wofully neglective of their duty. *a* 1684 LEIGHTON *Serm.* Wks. (1868) 405 God seems neglective of his people.

Hence **Negle·ctively** *adv.*; †**Negle·ctiveness.** *Obs.*

1609 DANIEL *Civ. Wars* VIII. xlvi, And then, neglectively, Nothing at all [he offers]. 1621 LADY M. WROTH *Urania* 362 Her haire..cast into a delightfull neglectiuenes. *Ibid.* 393 Her hayre..shee onely kept cleane, and neglectiuely wore it. 1646 JENKYN *Remora* 8 Sinfull neglectiveness of the worship of God. 1876 ROBINSON *Mid.-Yorksh. Gloss.*, *Mislook*, to overlook, neglectively.

†**Negle·ctly**, *adv. Obs. rare* —1. [f. NEGLECT *ppl. a.* + -LY 2.] Negligently.

1594 KYD *Cornelia* V. 427 Let your haire that wont be wreath'd in tresses, Now hang neglectly.

Neglector (nĭgle·ktəɹ). [a. late L. *neglector*: see NEGLECT *v.* and -OR.] = NEGLECTER.

a 1619 HIERON *Wks.* I. 451 There was a peremptorie commandement that the neglector of them should bee cut off. 1645 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. III. IV. 239 Upon paine of plundering the neglectors thereof. 1822 *Examiner* 353/2 The cold-hearted neglectors of complaints and sufferings. *a* 1848 W. A. BUTLER *Serm.* (1849) I. xx. 363 The confession of this tremendous truth among its neglectors.

‖ **Négligé** (negliʒe). [F., pa. pple. of *négliger* to neglect.] Informal or unceremonious attire as worn by women when not in complete toilette.

1835 *Court Mag.* VI. p. ii/2 Those for elegant *negligé* are of velvet, with satin linings and trimmings. 1865 OUIDA *Strathmore* I. vii. 113 No toilette was so becoming as the azure negligé of softest Indian texture. 1890 *Athenæum* 4 Oct. 457/3 Lydie Vaillant comes in most compromising *négligé* from the chamber of Paul Astier.

attrib. 1859 L. OLIPHANT *China & Japan* II. v. 113 The women wore a sort of jacket above their skirt, which was however constructed upon a rather *negligé* principle.

Negligeable (ne·glidʒăb'l), *a.* [a. F. *négligeable*, f. *négliger* to neglect.] Negligible.

1882 G. H. DARWIN in *Nature* 16 Feb. 361 It appears that the amount of this acceleration may not be entirely negligeable. 1889 *Sat. Rev.* 23 Mar. 361/1 Scherer's criticism was never a negligeable quantity.

Negligee. Also 8–9 -gée, 8 neglejay. [ad. F. *négligé*: see NÉGLIGÉ. The current pron. in sense 1 was app. (neglidʒī·).]

1. A kind of loose gown worn by women in the 18th century. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.*

1756 *Connoisseur* No. 134 (1774) IV. 231, I saw several Negligees, with furbelowed aprons. 1764 T. BAYDGES *Homer Travest.* (1797) I. 315 Then bid them lay upon her knee The richest satin negligee. 1776 R. GRAVES *Euphrosyne* (1776) I. 194 Such as now-a-days one sees, In gauze and lace and negligées. 1823 R. CHAMBERS *Trad. Edinb.* (1847) 193 The negligee was a gown projecting in loose and ample folds from the back.

2. A necklace formed of irregular beads.

1841 MRS. MOZLEY *Fairy Bower* XIV. 336 My uncle had given her a very handsome long *negligée*, of Venetian beads. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Negligee*, a long necklace, usually of coral.

Negligence (ne·glidʒĕns). Forms: 4–6 neclyg-, (4 necc-, 6 necke-), neclig-, (4 necc-), 6 necleg-; 4 neeglig-, -lyg-, 5 negelig-; 4–6 neglyg-, 4– negligence. Also 4–6 -ens, 4 -ense. [a. OF. *negligence* (12th c.), or ad. L. *neg-*, *neclegentia*, *-legentia*, f. *neglĕgĕre* etc. to NEGLECT.]

1. Want of attention to what ought to be done or looked after; carelessness with regard to one's duty or business; lack of necessary or ordinary care in doing something.

a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* xlix. 8 We take not his saghe wiþ neegligens, bot wiþ besynes. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Serm.* Sel. Wks. I. 96 Bi..neclegence of prelatis is mannis lawe medlid wiþ Goddis lawe. *c* 1420 LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 1626 By hys owne neglygence takyn prysonere. 1483 CAXTON *Cato* F vij h, Lucan sayth that alle delayeng and neglygence oughte to be sette a parte. 1530 PALSGR. 181, I impute that to the neglygence or rather ignorance of the printers. 1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* (1592) 153 It is abhominable to see the negligence of maisters in teaching their schollers. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 115 The Haven of this City..by negligence is growne of no use. 1676 TEMPLE *Let.* Wks. 1720 II. 410, I believe, it may have been only Negligence. 1736 BUTLER *Anal.* I. iv. Wks. 1874 I. 80 By their own negligence and folly in their temporal affairs. 1784 COWPER *Task* II. 800 Those whose negligence or sloth Exposed their inexperience to the snare. 1834 HT. MARTINEAU *Demerara* IV. 55 Robert was slightly punished for negligence. 1884 LD. ESHER in *Law Times Rep.* LXXIII. 616/2 *note*, The deceased was also guilty of negligence or of want of reasonable care contributing to the accident.

† b. Neglect *of* something. *Obs.*

c 1340 HAMPOLE *Prose Tr.* 28 In als mekill als þou will noghte tente to thaym for neclygence of þi-selfe. 1482 *Monk of Evesham* (Arb.) 78 The..peynys that thes thre ware in, was for the neglygens of soulys the whiche they had cure of. 1638 RAWLEY tr. *Bacon's Life & Death* (1650) 11 To finde out a Rule..is very difficult, by reason of the negligence of observations. 1729 BUTLER *Serm.* Wks. 1874 II. 16 There is a manifest negligence in men of their real happiness.

c. Disregard (of a thing or person); neglect.

1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* IV. v. 134 Both the worlds I giue to negligence, Let come what comes. 1778 MISS BURNEY *Evelina* lxviii, It was impossible for negligence to be more pointed, than that of Lord Merton to me.

2. An instance of inattention or carelessness; a negligent act, omission, or feature.

c 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 537 A ful grete neccligence Was yt to the..That thou forgate hire in thi songe to sette. 1509 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 108 Prayng my ordinary to excuse my conscyens for alle necclygencys. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 133 b, O, how they wyll wayle and wepe theyr negligences. *a* 1800 BLAIR (Ogilvie), Remarking his beauties, ..I must also point out his negligences and defects. 1865 C. J. VAUGHAN *Plain Words* xi. (1866) 199, I speak not of those daily negligences which belong to another subject.

3. A careless indifference, as in appearance or costume, or in literary or artistic style; in later use esp. with suggestion of an agreeable absence of artificiality or restraint.

c 1430 *Stans Puer ad Mensam* 33 (Lamb. MS.) Drinke not bridelid for haste ne neclygence. *c* 1440 *Partonope* 2772 Grete negligence Was neuer founden in his persone. 1665 BOYLE *Occas. Refl.* Pref. (1848) 10 Most of the following Papers, being written for my own private Amusement, a good deal of Negligence in them may appear..pardonable. *a* 1680 BUTLER *Rem.* (1759) I. 149 T'affect the purest Negligences In Gestures, Gaits, and Miens. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 119 ₱ 2 Nothing is so modish as an agreeable Negligence. 1741 MIDDLETON *Cicero* II. x. 445 The coldness and negligence with which it is drawn. 1843 WHITTIER *Ego* 12 Hence my pen unfettered moves In freedom which the heart approves, The negligence which friendship loves.

So **Ne·gligency.** *rare.*

1800 WELLESLEY in Owen *Desp.* (1877) 653 The loss sustained by their negligencies or errors. 1841–4 EMERSON *Ess.* Ser. I. ix. (1876) 235 The negligency of that trust which carries God with it.

Negligent (ne·glidʒĕnt), *a.* and *sb.* Forms: 4–6 neclig-, 5–6 neclyg-, 4 necglig-, 6 neglyg-, 4– negligent. [a. OF. *negligent* (13th c.), or ad. L. *negligent-*, *negligens*, pres. pple. of *neglĭgĕre* to NEGLECT.]

A. *adj.* 1. Of persons: Inattentive to duty; not attending to, or doing, what ought to be done; neglectful. Also const. *of*.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 312 O worldly prest necligent and unkunnynge. *c* 1450 tr. *De Imitatione* I. xxv. 37 The negligent religiose & þe leuke hap tribulacion. 1485 CAXTON *Chas. Gt.* 22 Yf the kyng be neclygent the peple wote not what to doo. 1551 CROWLEY *Pleas. & Pain* 155, I found you negligent in fedynge my family. 1581 MULCASTER *Positions* XXXIX. (1887) 192 To better him if he be negligent, to be like him if he be diligent. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* I. xv. 79 The most part are too busie in getting food, and the rest too negligent to understand. 1675 EVELYN *Diary* 22 Mar., He was very negligent himselfe, and rather so of his person. 1706 E. WARD *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 103 He's nothing of a Soldier (Thanks to his negligent Officers). 1784 COWPER *Task* III. 276 The proud, uncandid, insincere, Or negligent inquirer. 1879 CABLE *Old Creole Days* V. (1883) 144 He was a great student and rather negligent of his business.

absol. 1726 LEONI *Alberti's Archit.* II. 99/1 Faults which the negligent and unadvised easily fall into.

b. Heedless, careless, indifferent. *rare.*

c 1440 *Alph. Tales* 416 He, negligent of þe said perels,.. wold hafe þis drope of honye. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 61 ₱ 4 They carry it so far, as to be negligent, whether they offend or not.

2. Of actions, conduct, etc.: Characterized by, or displaying, negligence or carelessness.

1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* ix. 118 Fals vane gloir and deidis negligent. 1538 STARKEY *England* I. i. 14 Theyr maner of lyfyng, wych they, by neclygente incontynence, suffur to be corrupt. 1591 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. VI*, IV. ii. 44 O negligent and heedlesse Discipline. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 278, I will confess my negligent omission in noting the rates of my exchanges. 1678 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* IV. 73 You might with a negligent, or unlucky knock with the Mallet, drive the edge..under the work. 1705 STANHOPE *Paraphr.* I. 12 A sordid or negligent Temper. 1781 JOHNSON in *Boswell*, Does it not suppose, that the former judgement was temerarious or negligent? 1805 SCOTT *Last Minstr.* I. x, All loose her negligent attire, All loose her golden hair. 1852 MRS. STOWE *Uncle Tom's C.* XXXIII, The person..with a haughty, negligent air, delivered her basket.

b. Due to negligence. *rare.*

1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* III. vi. 81 Till we perceiu'd both how you were wrong led, And we in negligent danger. 1660 YOUNG *Vade Mecum* (ed. 6) 95 Negligent Escape, is where one is arrested, and afterward escapes against the will of him that arrested him. 1843–56 BOUVIER *Law Dict.* (ed. 6) s.v., For a negligent escape, the sheriff or keeper of the prison is liable to punishment in a criminal case.

3. quasi-*adv.* Negligently. *rare* —1.

1738 WESLEY *Hymn, My drowsy Powers* ii, Yet we who have a Heav'n t'obtain How negligent we live!

B. *sb.* A negligent person.

1616 W. SCLATER *Serm.* 18, I know not whether I may say Recusants or Negligents. 1638 — *Serm. Experimentall* 129 Taxed here are..Negligents in this duty. 1853 WHEWELL *Grotius* II. 192 It often happens in agents or negligents of the secondary order. 1892 *Star* 14 Dec. 2/5 [A] congenial company of negligents.

Negligently (ne·glidʒĕntli), *adv.* Forms: 4 necglig-, 5 neclig-, 6 nec(t)lyg-, 5–6 neglyg-, 6– negligently. [f. prec. + -LY 2.] In a negligent manner; carelessly, heedlessly; slightingly.

1382 WYCLIF *Ezra* iv. 22 Seeth, lest necgligentli this be fulfild. 1439 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 113 Tithes..necligently for-yeten. 1482 *Monk of Evesham* (Arb.) 65 Peraventure he neglygently kepte hys ordre. 1530 PALSGR. 363 There is no graunt made lyberally, if it be demaunded neglygently. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 370 They wrote the safeconduite with a few wordes, and very negligentlye. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* To Rdr., Flowers..carelessly and negligently bound together. 1666 PEPYS *Diary* 6 Aug., I wondered at the reason of my being received so negligently. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 152 ₱ 3 A Gentleman who had the Rein of his Horse negligently under his Arm. 1781 COWPER *Expost.* 695 A spot Not quickly found, if negligently sought. 1838 DICKENS *Nich. Nick.* xxii, Graceful and grotesque thrown negligently side by side. 1885 *Law Times Rep.* LIII. 325/2 The defendant..negligently and unskilfully navigated and managed the said vessel.

Negligible (ne·glidʒib'l), *a.* [f. L. *neglig-ĕre* to neglect + -IBLE. Cf. F. *négligible* (rare).] Capable of being neglected or disregarded.

1829 HERSCHEL *Ess.* (1857) 541 Within very negligible limits of error. 1879 THOMSON & TAIT *Nat. Phil.* I. i. § 431 When their difference is too large to be negligible. 1895 *Nation* (N. Y.) 22 Aug. 137/3 Admitting such a thing as negligible quantities in a work of art.

Hence **Ne·gligibly** *adv.*

Also, in recent use, *negligibleness* and *negligibility.*

1888 *Philos. Mag.* XXVI. 160 The work wasted .. is negligibly small compared with the work done.

†**Negoce.** *Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *negōti-um*: cf. F. *négoce.*] Intercourse, commerce.

1697 BENTLEY *Phal.* 46 Could not that perpetual negoce and converse with Dorians bring his mouth .. to speak a little broader? 1699 *Ibid.* (ed. 2) Pref. 85 Negoce, Putid, and Idiom .. were in Print, before I us'd them.

So †**Nego·cy.** *Obs. rare* —1.

1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 1329 For to make it [deity] intermeddle in the negocies and affaires of men.

Negociall, -ant, -ate: see NEGOTIAL, etc.

Negon, variant of NIGON, niggard. *Obs.*

Negoos, variant of NEGUS 1.

Negotiability (nĭgōuʃiăbi·lĭti). [See next and -ITY. Cf. F. *négociabilité.*] The quality of being negotiable.

1828–32 in WEBSTER. 1856 H. BROOME *Comment. Comm. Law* II The negotiability of bills of exchange. 1885 *Law Times* LXXVIII. 378/2 Negotiability..is a good consideration for the relinquishment of the residue of the debt.

Negotiable (nĭgō·ʃiăb'l), *a.* [f. NEGOTI-ATE *v.* + -ABLE, or ad. F. *négociable* (1688).]

1. Of bills, drafts, cheques, etc.: Capable of being negotiated; transferable or assignable in the course of business from one person to another.

1758 *Monthly Rev.* 132 Bills of Exchange .. negotiable at Hispaniola. 1772 FOOTE *Nabob* II. Wks. 1799 II. 304 A masquerade ticket is more negotiable there than a note from the bank. 1809 R. LANGFORD *Introd. Trade* 20 Negotiable bills under five pounds. 1848 MILL *Pol. Econ.* III. xxiii. § 1 (1876) 386 The quoted prices of the funds and other negotiable securities. 1879 LUBBOCK in *19th Cent.* Nov. 793 These Assyrian drafts were negotiable, but from the nature of things could not pass by endorsement.

† 2. Capable of being negotiated with. *Obs. rare.*

1794 BURKE *Corr.* (1844) IV. 218 It is not said .. what state of things in France may be said to put her in a condition negotiable or not negotiable.

3. Admitting of being crossed, ascended, etc.

1880 *Daily Tel.* 25 Oct., The riders remain behind, for the wall from the road is hardly negotiable. 1895 A. G. BRADLEY *Wolfe* xi. 183 That this [path] was negotiable was very evident, from the white gleam .. of tents which proclaimed the presence of an outpost at its summit.

† **Nego·tial,** *a. Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *negōtiāl-is* (see Quintilian III. vi. 58, etc.), f. *negōtium.*] Relating to facts without consideration of persons.

c 1530 L. COX *Rhet.* (1899) 79 This state is negociall or iuridicall, whiche conteyneth the ryght or wronge of the dede. *Ibid.* 80 State negociall absolute is whan the thynge .. is absolutely defended to be laufully done.

Negotiant (nĭgō·ʃiănt). Also 8–9 negociant. [f. L. *negōtiant-*, ppl. stem of *negōtiāre* (see next), or ad. F. *négociant*, It. *negoziante.*] One who negotiates or carries on negotiations; an agent, representative; † a merchant or trader.

1611 FLORIO, *Negotiante,*..a negotiant. *a* 1618 RALEIGH *Arts Empire* xxv. (1698) 88 Ambassadors, Negotiants, and generally all other Ministers. *a* 1665 SIR K. DIGBY *Priv. Mem.* (1827) 298 You having been the only negotiant in a long treaty..between..the old King and me. 1768–74 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 542 In sympathizing with the criminal, the debtor, the necessitous, and the negotiant, we do well. 1802 MRS. E. PARSONS *Myst. Visit* III. 98 Near a week passed without seeing any persons but negociants and bankers. 1863 *Life in South* II. 65 If I must enter a College it might as well be in Alabama or Mississippi, in both of which States there were negotiants. 1884 *St. James's Gaz.* 28 Mar. 11/1 His more compliant colleague, the Solicitor-General, taking his place as negotiant.

Negotiate (nĭgō·ʃiēt), *v.* Also 7–8 negociate, -at. [f. ppl. stem of L. *negōtiāre*, f. *negōtium*, f. *neg-* not + *ōtium* ease, quiet.]

1. *intr.* To hold communication or conference (*with* another) for the purpose of arranging some matter by mutual agreement; to discuss a matter with a view to some settlement or compromise.

1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* II. i. 185 Let enerie eye negotiate for it selfe, And trust no Agent. 1601 R. JOHNSON *Kingd. & Commw.* (1603) 150 The Secretaries themselues commonly can neither write, nor answere ambassadors..when they negotiat. 1671 WOODHEAD *St. Teresa* I. xv. 93 Let the will then..know, that she is not to negotiate with God by strength of Arme. 1783 JUSTAMOND tr. *Raynal's Hist. Indies* VI. 215 The ministry negotiated, bribed and threatened. 1840 THIRLWALL *Greece* VII. 289 She was now reduced to utter despair, and sent to negotiate with the conqueror. 1856 KANE *Arct. Expl.* II. x. 103, I have authorized Hans to negotiate..for four of these, even as a loan. 1861 BUCKLE *Civiliz.* (1873) III. ii. 80 Both parties were now willing to negotiate with the view of gaining time.

† b. To do business or trade; to traffic. *Obs.*

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 117 Our Romanes were forced to provide .. interpreters, when they would negotiate and traffick with the people. 1645 EVELYN *Diary* June (Venice), Jews, Turks, Armenians, .. negotiating in this famous Emporium. 1759 JOHNSON *Rasselas* xxxvi[i], It is difficult to negociate where neither will trust.

2. *trans.* To deal with, manage, or conduct (a matter, affair, etc., requiring some skill or consideration).

1619 DRAYTON *Bar. Wars* III. xxxi, That weightie Bus'nesse to negotiate, They must find One of speciall worth and trust. 1639 FULLER *Holy War* I. viii. (1840) 12 Our Saviour himself appointed him his legate with a commission to negotiate the Christian cause. 1703 MAUNDRELL *Journ. Jerus.* (1732) 9 To negotiate this affair we sent a Turk. 1765 WILKES *Corr.* (1805) II. 215, I leave you .. to negociate all these matters. 1807 SOUTHEY *Espriella's Lett.* III. 313 They negotiate with the utmost anxiety the amours of their cows and sheep.

b. To arrange for, obtain, bring about (something) by means of negotiation.

1721 DE FOE *Mem. Cavalier* (1840) 193 That treaty .. was negotiating. 1754 H. WALPOLE *World* No. 102 III. 284 Our country squires made treaties about their game, and ladies negociated the meeting of their lap-dogs. 1794 S. WILLIAMS *Vermont* 264 Send a flag into Canada, to negociate their release or exchange. 1838 PRESCOTT *Ferd. & Is.* (1846) II. xvii. 129 It was impossible..to negotiate a sale of their effects. 1853 J. H. NEWMAN *Hist. Sk.* (1873) II. i. i. 25 He .. sent ambassadors to negotiate an equal alliance with the Chinese Empire.

c. To set right by negotiation. *rare* —[1].

1776 PAINE *Com. Sense* (1791) 44 A republican government, by being formed on more natural principles, would negociate the mistake.

3. To transfer or assign (a bill, etc.) to another in return for some equivalent in value; to convert into cash or notes; to obtain or give value for (bills, cheques, etc.) in money.

1682 SCARLETT *Exchanges* 54 None can negotiate or redraw a Bill of Exchange, except it be made payable to his order who must negotiate it. 1711 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4823/3 We cannot..perceive that any such Bills are Negotiating. 1777 COWPER *Let.* 11 Dec., I am obliged to you..for the thirty pounds, which I hope I shall be able to negociate here. 1833 HT. MARTINEAU *Vanderput & S.* iii. 49 Every bill drawn upon Amsterdam, or negotiated here. 1856 LEVER *Martins of Cro'M.* 355 When I paid it by these securities, you pledged yourself not to negotiate them. 1868 ROGERS *Pol. Econ.* xv. (1876) 208 The merchant .. imports goods, and gives bills to such countries as receive and negotiate bills.

b. To deal with, carry ont, as a business or monetary transaction.

1809 R. LANGFORD *Introd. Trade* 55 The dividend warrants of the Stock negotiated by N. M. Rothschild. 1875 STUBBS *Const. Hist.* xvii. II. 534 'Utter destruction' had been the common fate of those who .. had negotiated the king's loans.

4. (Orig. *Hunting.*) To clear (a hedge or fence); to succeed in crossing, getting over, round, or through (an obstacle, etc.) by skill or dexterity.

1862 WHYTE MELVILLE *Ins. Bar* i, The first fence I negotiated most successfully. 1866 *Daily Tel.* 25 Oct., A stiff bit of timber which his neighbours..were chesting or declining to negotiate. 1882 *Bazaar Exch. & M.* 15 Feb. 174 No sweeping curve is required to negotiate a corner, as the machine may be swung round directly.

b. To succeed in dealing with in the way desired; to get the better of.

1888 *Pall Mall G.* 14 Nov. 5/2 The difficulty of simultaneously negotiating creatures whose divergent natures demand..widely different tactics.

Hence **Nego·tiated** *ppl. a.* († engaged, busy); **Nego·tiating** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1604 DEKKER *Honest Wh.* I. Wks. 1873 II. 17 Where's .. thy Maister? Faith signior, hee's a little negotiated; he'l appeare presently. 1622 BACON *Hen. VII* 21 Certaine it is, shee was a busie negotiating woman. 1659 *Gentl. Calling* ix. § 5. 452 This surely is enough to excite men to a diligent negotiating with those talents they have received. 1713 SWIFT *Hist. Last Sess.* Wks. 1758 IX. 223 This low Talent in Business the Cardinal..used in contempt to call a spirit of Negotiating. 1870 *Daily News* 5 Dec., Some negotiating was going on. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* (1891) 253 The easily negotiated drafts of fat cattle.

Negotiation (nĭgō·ʃiē·ʃən). Also 6–9 negoci-. [ad. L. *negōtiātiōn-em*, noun of action f. *negōtiāre*: see prec. and -ATION. Cf. F. *négociation* (14th c., Oresme).]

1. † a. A matter of private occupation or business; a business transaction. *Obs.*

c 1580 G. HARVEY *Letter-bk.* (Camden) 142 If any negotiation requires advizements, None more than matrimony. *c* 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* (1650) II. 37 Falling into infirmities as he follows his worldly negotiations. 1685 PETTY *Will* p. iii, Exhorting them to improve the same [estate] by no worse negociations. *a* 1704 T. BROWN *Praise Poverty* Wks. 1730 I. 102 There is no need of money in any negotiation with me. *transf.* 1662a MORE *Philos. Writ.* Pref. Gen. (1712) 9 Which though Aristotle mainly appropriates to external Affairs, I must .. transfer also to the Negotiations of the Mind.

† b. Trading, traffic. *Obs.*

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 109 The towne..is now decayed .. and the traffique and negotiation in all affaires turned from thence. 1622 MALYNES *Anc. Law-Merch.* 2 The vse of trusting, exchanging, and trading; .. both for fishing and negociation. 1669 GALE *Crt. Gentiles* I. i. viii. 42 The Phenicians..possessed themselves of the sea coasts, the better to carry on their negotiation.

† c. Occupation, exercise. *Obs. rare* —[1].

1628 FELTHAM *Resolves* II. xlviii. 141 How bright does the Soule grow with use and negotiation!

2. A process or course of treaty with another (or others) to obtain or bring about some result, esp. in affairs of state. Freq. in *pl.*

1579 FENTON *Guicciard.* Ep. Ded., The high negociations and employments which he managed long time vnder great Princes. 1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* III. iii. 24 Their negotiations all must slacke, Wanting his mannage. 1647 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* I. § 104 He was sent .. to treat about the restitution of the Palatinate: in which Negociation he behaved himself with great Prudence. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 105 P 2 During the Negotiation for his Enlargement, I had an Opportunity of acquainting myself with his History. 1769 ROBERTSON *Chas. V*, VI. Wks. 1813 VI. 85 The pope continued his negociations for convoking a general council. 1828 D'ISRAELI *Chas. I*, I. iv. 90 The long negociation of a political marriage was terminated by a war. 1877 FROUDE *Short Stud.* (1883) IV. I. ii. 18 The archbishop..employed him afterwards in the most confidential negotiations.

3. The action or business of negotiating or making terms with others.

1614 RALEIGH *Hist. World* III. (1634) 112 Supposing, that by his great skill in subtile negotiation he should..circumvent the Greeks. 1779 JOHNSON *Wks.* IV. 546 Finding negociation thus ineffectual. 1798 WELLINGTON in Gurw. *Desp.* (1837) I. 6 The established channels of peaceable negotiation. 1836 THIRLWALL *Greece* XXV. III. 365 Phæax possessed talents well suited for negotiation. 1845 S. AUSTIN *Ranke's Hist. Ref.* II. 253 To appoint time and place for an interview for the purpose of negotiation.

b. With possessive pronouns. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1597 R. CECIL in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. I. III. 43 His negotiation tendeth to a proposition of peace. 1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turks* (1638) 62 These Embassadors had at length brought their negotiation to..good passe. 1695 CONGREVE *Love for L.* I. ii, Sir, if you don't like my negotiation, will you be pleased to answer these yourself? 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1811) V. 101 Frustrate not Captain Tomlinson's negociation. 1781 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xix. II. 152 The progress of their negociation was opposed and defeated.

4. The action of getting over or round some obstacle by skilful manœuvring.

1885 *Sat. Rev.* 28 Nov. 706 Courses which required what in some curious way has come to be called 'negotiation'. 1898 *St. James's Gaz.* 15 Nov. 6/1 They were said to attempt the negotiation of impossible obstacles, to their own imminent risk.

Negotiator (nĭgō·ʃiē·tər). Also 6–8 negoci-. [a. L. *negōtiātor*, agent-n. f. *negōtiāre* to NEGOTIATE. Cf. F. *négociateur* (14th c., Oresme).]

† 1. A trader, a business man. *Obs.*

1598 FLORIO, *Facendiere,*..a dealer in busines affaires, a negociator, an agent, a dealer. 1602 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* XII. lxx. 294 Yeat still to gratefull eares may those Negotiators sound. 1623 MABBE tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* I. III. v. 209 Those great Dealers and Negociators of Genoa.

2. One who carries on negotiations.

1610 in Birch *Crt. & Times Jas. I* (1848) I. 120 The same diligence may be expected of a new negociator. 1637–50 ROW *Hist. Kirk* (Wodrow Soc.) 149 That Bruce is a negotiator in Spaine with the King, and in the Low Countreys with the Duke of Parme. 1702 *Eng. Theophrastus* 132 The dislike we commonly have of negotiators (or arbitrators) arises from their being generally apt to sacrifice all the interest of their friends. 1742 BLAIR *Grave* 497 Here lie abash'd The great negotiators of the earth. 1791 MACKINTOSH *Vind. Gallicæ* Wks. 1846 III. 62 The lawyers of Boston, and the planters of Virginia, were transformed into ministers and negociators. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* ii. I. 254 Negotiator and courtier as he was, he never learned the art of..concealing his emotions. 1884 COURTHOPE *Addison* viii. 146 The alleged sacrifice of British interests through the incompetence or corruption of the negotiators.

fig. 1654 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 319 Hee of any deserveth it, among the Negociatours for Destruction.

3. One who negotiates bills, loans, etc.

1682 SCARLETT *Exchanges* 55 The Redrawer or the Negotiator of a Bill, does not make a new Bill, but endorseth the old. 1809 R. LANGFORD *Introd. Trade* 16 There are other persons occasionally concerned in a Bill of Exchange, such as the Seller or Negotiator. 1861 M. PATTISON *Ess.* (1889) I. 42 The Germans began to supplant the Jews and Lombards as negotiators of loans to the Crown.

Nego·tiatory, *a. rare* —[1]. [f. as NEGOTIATE *v.* + -ORY [2].] Pertaining to negotiation.

1727 in BAILEY, Vol. II. 1763 in *C. Gist's Jrnls.* (1893) 196 Before I wold attempt to undertake ye Negocietory Maters with a Number of Indian Nations.

Negotiatress (nĭgō·ʃiātres). [See next and -ESS.] A female negotiator.

1827 CARLYLE *Germ. Rom.* I. 31 By means of a negotiatress, whom he had gained, [he] had it offered to the mother for a cheap price. 1897 OUIDA *Massarenes* xxxvii, The percentage received by the fair negotiatress of the sale.

Negotiatrix (nĭgō·ʃiātriks). [a. late L. *negōtiātrix*, fem. agent-n. f. *negōtiāre* to NEGOTIATE.] A female negotiator.

1624 T. SCOTT *Votivæ Angliæ* D j b, It is a Castilian policie, to make the Archdutchesse a Negotiatrixe in..all Treaties. 1809 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Manœuvring* xv, Our fair negociatrix prepared to show the usual degree of gratitude. 1852 MISS MITFORD in L'Estrange *Life* (1870) III. xiii. 242 A most elegant young woman,..of course the negotiatrix of the forgeries.

† **Negotio·sity.** *Obs. rare.* [f. L. *negōtiōs-us* (see next) + -ITY.] Constant occupation in affairs.

1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* 81 Such infinite negotiosity would be absolutely inconsistent with a happy state.

† **Nego·tious,** *a. Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *negōtiōsus*, f. *negōtium*: see -OUS.] Involving, or given to, occupation or business.

1603 FLORIO *Montaigne* III. ix. 580 Let them not looke for any cumbersome negotious and carefull matter. 1642 ROGERS *Naaman* 128 What is so negotious and eagerly busie, as an usurping Absalon? *Ibid.* 309 Some servants.. are very nimble and negotious. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*

Hence † **Nego·tiousness.** *Obs. rare* —[1].

1642 ROGERS *Naaman* 606 God needs not our negotiousnesse, or double diligence, to bring his matters to passe.

† **Negre,** *a. Obs. rare* —[1]. In 5 neyger. [a. OF. *negre, nigre* (Godef.).] Black.

14.. in *Househ. Ord.* (1790) 440 Sause blaunk for Capons sothen...Sause neyger for Hennes or Capons.

Negremancien: see NECROMANCIEN.

Negress (nī·grĕs). [ad. F. *négresse*: see NEGRO and -ESS.] A female negro.

1786 tr. *Beckford's Vathek* (1868) 31 The Princess remained in the company of her negresses. 1799 HOME in *Phil. Trans.* LXXXIX. 163 The most remarkable instance of this kind, that has come to my knowledge, was a Negress. 1817 T. L. PEACOCK *Melincourt* I. 71 His gentleness and sweet temper winning the hearts of the negro and negress. 1891 C. ROBERTS *Adrift Amer.* 101 A fine strapping young negress came out of the house.

transf. 1801 WOLCOT (P. Pindar) *Tears & Smiles* Wks. 1812 V. 58 Now Negress Night came solemn down.

Negrillo (nĭgri·lo). [a. Sp. *negrillo*, dim. of *negro* NEGRO.] a. A little negro. b. One of a race of dwarfish negroes living in Central and Southern Africa.

1853 THACKERAY *Let.* 19 Mar., A little negrillo of five years old. 1866 LAING *Prehist. Rem. Caithn.* 8 The extreme of the elongated type is the Southern Savage—the Negro, Negrillo, and Australian. 1899 *Q. Rev.* July 271 The belief that all Negritos and all Negrillos belong to one or other of two primitive races.

†**Negrine,** *sb. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. NEGRO + -INE³.] A negress.

1703 DAMPIER *Voy.* III. i. 81 Lying..promiscuously with their Negrines and other She-slaves.

Negrine (nĭgrəin), *a. rare.* [f. NEGRO + -INE¹.] Resembling that of negroes.

1857 *Zoologist* XV. 5491 The Portuguese, who, living within the tropics, have blackened to a negrine dye.

†**Ne·grish,** *a. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. NEGRO + -ISH¹.] Used by the negroes.

1735 J. ATKINS *Voy. Guinea* 149 *Mattan*, the Negrish Word for a pair of Bellows.

Negrito (nĭgrī·to). [a. Sp. *negrito*, dim. of *negro* NEGRO.] A member of a diminutive negroid race existing in the Malayo-Polynesian region; esp. one of the Aëtas in the Philippine Islands.

1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVIII. 88/1 The Negritos were probably the aborigines of the islands. 1865 LUBBOCK *Preh. Times* xiii. (1869) 440 The Islands of the Pacific contain two very distinct races of men—the Negrito and the Polynesian. 1898 F. T. BULLEN in *Nat. Rev.* Aug. 857 The Negritos..are a diminutive black race with woolly hair, and undoubtedly of Papuan origin.

b. In attributive or predicative use.

1843 LATHAM in *Proc. Philol. Soc.* I. 37 The Languages of the Papuan or Negrito race. *Ibid.*, The Samangs of the interior are Negrito. 1864 *Chambers's Encycl.* VI. 698/2 A description of a Negrito native of Erromango.

Negro (nī·gro). Also 7–8 **negroe.** [a. Sp. or Pg. *negro* :–L. *nigrum*, *niger* black: cf. NIGRO. Hence also F. *nègre*: see NEGER and NIGGER.]

I. 1. An individual (esp. a male) belonging to the African race of mankind, which is distinguished by a black skin, black woolly hair, flat nose and thick protruding lips.

1555 EDEN *Decades* 239 They are not accustomed to eate such meates as doo the Ethiopians or Negros. 1580 FRAMPTON *Dial. Yron & Steele* 149 In all Ginea the blacke people called Negros doe use for money..certayne little snayles. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* v. xvi. 450 There is amongst them an Iland of Negro's inhabited with blacke people. 1677 W. HUBBARD *Narrative* 99 His design being strangely discovered by a Negroe. 1716 S. SEWALL *Diary* 22 June, I essay'd..to prevent Indians and Negros being Rated with Horses and Hogs. 1782 PRIESTLEY *Corrupt. Chr.* II. ix. 212 His coat of mail made his skin as black as a negroe. 1837 HT. MARTINEAU *Soc. Amer.* II. 120 No mean testimony to the intellectual and moral capabilities of negroes. 1864 C. GEIKIE *Life in Woods* xxii. (1874) 349 As he came near, I saw he was a negro.

† b. *To wash a negro*, to attempt an impossible task. *Obs. rare.*

1611 MIDDLETON & DEKKER *Roaring Girl* i. i. D.'s Wks. 1873 III. 147, I wash a Negro, Loosing both paines and cost. *a* 1677 BARROW *Serm.* (1686) III. 42 Therefore was he put to water dry sticks, and to wash Negros; that is,.. to reform a most perverse and stubborn generation.

c. *transf.* in various uses (see quots.).

1666 J. DAVIES *Hist. Caribby Isles* 100 Also a kind of fish called Negroes or Sea-Devils, which are large and have a black scale. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 53 The outward Skin was a perfect Negro, the Bones also being as black as Jet. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) VI. 432/1 A white kidney-bean..; black negroe of the same; scarlet of the same. 1816 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* xvii. (1818) II. 82 The sanguine ants at length rush upon the negroes [black ants]. 1855 MORTON *Cycl. Agric.* II. 120 *Negroes* and *Niggers*, provincial names of the caterpillars of the turnip saw-fly.

d. The English spoken by American negroes.

1884 *Trans. Amer. Philol. Assoc.* XVI. App. 32 Such parasynetic forms as *sparrer-grass* for *asparagus*.. are common enough in Negro.

2. *Comb.* (chiefly objective) as *negro-auction, -dealer, -driver, -driving, -holder, -hunter, -owned* adj., *-whipping, -worship.*

1856 OLMSTED *Slave States* 31 This must not be taken as an indication that *negro auctions are not of frequent occurrence. 1799 *Hull Advertiser* 7 Sept. 4/1 He took him to one of the *negro-dealers, who..advanced eighty pounds. 1856 OLMSTED *Slave States* 30 The negro-dealers had confidential servants always in attendance. 1771 SMOLLETT *Humph. Cl.* (1815) 67, I have known a *negro-driver, from Jamaica, pay..sixty-five guineas. 1781 J. MOORE *View Soc. It.* (1795) II. 3 The unrelenting frown of a negro-driver. 1857 GEN. P. THOMPSON *Audi Alt.* (1858) I. xvi. 55 These must be old negro-drivers. 1826 SCOTT *Diary* in *Lockhart* (1839) VIII. 223 The true *negro-driving principle of self-interest. 1817 COBBETT *Wks.* XXXII. 90 The Deputies.. of the *Negro-holders, of the Sugar-growers [etc.]. 1857 GEN. P. THOMPSON *Audi Alt.* (1858) I. xvi. 55 We are to be overwhelmed with an avalanche of *negro-hunters. 1879 SIR G. CAMPBELL *White & Black* 154 The *negro-owned lands are not now much increasing. 1845 VOUATT *Dog* v. 113 You .. find that your dogs do not want this unmerciful *negro-whipping. 1861 *Illustr. Lond. News* 17 Aug. 152/2 The damnable heresy of '*negro-worship'.

b. **negro's head,** the Ivory Palm.

1670 EVELYN *Sylva* (ed. 2) 3 Descended immediately from the Genius of the Soyls .., and (as the Negros-Heads in the Barbados) even without Seeds. 1846 LINDLEY *Veget. Kingd.* 138 The natives of Columbia call it Tagua, or Cabeza de Negro (Negro's head), in allusion, we presume, to the figure of the nut.

† c. (See quot.) *Obs. rare*⁻⁰.

1796 *Grose's Dict. Vulg. Tongue, Negroes Heads*, brown loaves delivered to the ships in ordinary.

II. *attrib.* (passing into *adj.*).

3. With names of persons: Belonging to the race of negroes; black-skinned. Also *negro minstrel* (see quots. 1864 and 1871).

1594 CAREW *Huarte's Exam. Mens Wits* 316 A negro woman. 1625 PURCHAS *Pilgrims* II. 978, I departed .. with two Negro Boyes that I had. 1665 HOOKE *Microgr.* 207 Negro Women..bringing forth..tawny hided Mulattos. 1686 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2177/4 A black Negro Man about 30 years of age. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 37, I bought me a Negro Slave. 1761 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 145 A negroe man..attacked a negroe wench..and would have killed a negroe boy. 1799 HOME in *Phil. Trans.* LXXXIX. 163 The Negro women of the Mandingo and Ibbo nations. 1837 HT. MARTINEAU *Soc. Amer.* II. 142 Does it never enter the heads of negro husbands and fathers to retaliate? 1858 ELIZ. TWINING *Short Lect. Plants* i. 10 The negro women working in the hot cotton plantations. 1864 *Chambers's Encycl.* VI. 699/1 In most cases the members of the negro minstrel troupes are only negroes in name, with faces and hands blackened. 1871 DE VERE *Americanisms* 116 The Negro-minstrel is the artist who blackens his face, adopts the black man's manner and instrument, and recites his field and plantation songs.

b. *transf.* of insects.

1816 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* xvii. (1818) II. 85 Thirty of the nufescent ants..with the addition of several negro pupæ. 1864 *Athenæum* 10 Dec. 788 A remarkable negro variety of *Abraxas grossulariata.*

4. Consisting or composed of negroes.

1652 TATHAM in *Brome's Joviall Crew* B.'s Wks. 1873 III. 348 Ingratefull Negro-kinde. 1842 PRICHARD *Nat. Hist. Man* 350 The Pelagian Negro races have been supposed to reach eastward as far as .. the Fejee Islands. 1849–52 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* IV. 1353/2 The languages of the Negro nations. 1879 FROUDE *Cæsar* iv. 33 The Negro tribes have never extended north of the Sahara.

5. Inhabited or occupied by negroes.

1720 DE FOE *Capt. Singleton* v. (1840) 88 We met with a little negro town. 1734 *New York Gaz.* 18–25 Mar. 1/1 Thomas L——d keeps at some Miles distance from his dwelling House, Negro-Quarters (as they are called). 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* II. 628 The European nations..[have] encouraged in the Negroe countries, wars, rapine, .. and murder. 1841 LANE *Arab. Nts.* I. 62 The slaves of the Arabs are mostly from Abyssinia and the Negro countries. 1849–52 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* IV. 1352/2 Here the true Negro area..is exceedingly small.

6. Of or belonging to, connected with, characteristic of, etc., a negro or negroes.

1661 HICKERINGILL *Jamaica* 31 The inclosed shell [of the cocoa-nut], whose Negro-skull is not easily broke. 1740 W. SEWARD *Jrnl.* 2 Subscriptions for a Negroe School in Pensilvania. *a* 1818 M. G. LEWIS *Jrnl. W. Ind.* (1834) 64 The hermitage-like appearance of the negro buildings. *Ibid.* 330 To be found in almost every negro garden throughout the island. 1849–52 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* IV. 1352/2 The true Negro type of conformation. *Ibid.*, The proper Negro character. 1864 *Chambers's Encycl.* VI. 699/1 The sentiment of..these negro melodies. *Ibid.*, This negro minstrelsy now comprehends a large variety of songs. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* 32 Some of the larger square-sterned negro-boats are also thus designated.

7. In special uses, as **negro ant,** a blackish ant; **negro bat,** a European and Asiatic bat (*Vesperugo maurus*) of a black or sooty-brown colour; **negro cachexy** (see quot.); **negro cloth,** cloth intended to be worn by negroes; **negro coffee,** the seeds of *Cassia occidentalis*; **negro corn** (see quot.); **negro dog,** a dog used in hunting runaway negro slaves; **negro felt** (cf. *negro cloth*); **negro fish, fly, fowl** (see quots.); **negro lethargy** (see LETHARGY *sb.* 1); **negro monkey,** a black monkey of the Malay Peninsula, Java, etc. (*Semnopithecus maurus*), also called the *negro langur*; **negro oil** (see quot.); **negro peach** (see PEACH *sb.*¹ 3 a); **negro pepper** (see PEPPER *sb.* 3); **negro pot**(?); **negro tamarin,** a tamarin monkey (*Midas ursulas*) of the lower Amazon; **negro yam,** the West India yam, *Dioscorea alata* (also called *negro-country yam*).

1816 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* xvii. (1818) II. 97, I observed the little *negro ant (*F. fusca*) engaged in the same employment upon an elder. 1855 OGILVIE *Suppl.*, **Negro-cachexy*, a propensity for eating dirt, peculiar to the natives of the West Indies and Africa. 1769 *Boston Chron.* 7–10 Aug. 250/2 *Negro cloth, commonly called white and coloured plains. 1856 OLMSTED *Slave States* 27 Many .. wore clothing of coarse gray 'negro-cloth', that appeared as if made by contract. 1887 MOLONEY *Forestry W. Afr.* 330 *Negro Coffee, *L'herbe puante*. Fedigose seeds of Tette. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, **Negro-corn*, a West Indian name for the Turkish millet or dhurra. 1856 OLMSTED *Slave States* 161, I have since seen a pack of *negro-dogs, chained in couples... They were all of a breed, and in appearance between a Scotch stag-hound and a fox-hound. 1857 GEN. P. THOMPSON *Audi Alt.* (1858) I. xvi. 55 Sending for packs of negro dogs from New Orleans. 1846 MCCULLOCH *Acc. Brit. Empire* (1854) I. 763 Wool felts..have now materially decreased, the article termed '*negro felts' being almost extinct. 1734 MORTIMER in *Phil. Trans.* XXXVIII. 316 *Perca marina puncticulata*. The *Negro Fish. 1855 OGILVIE *Suppl.*, **Negro fly*, the *Psila rosæ*, a dipterous insect, so named from its shining black colour. It is also called the *carrot-fly*. 1835–6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 270/1 The Silk or *Negro-fowl of the Cape de Verd Islands (*Gallus Morio*, Temminck). 1849 D. J. BROWNE *Amer. Poultry Yd.* (1855) 81 The 'silky' and 'negro' fowls,.. with skin, combs, and bones which are black. 1888 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Negro lethargy. 1898 P. MANSON *Trop. Diseases* xvi. 251 Negro lethargy, or the sleeping sickness of the Congo. 1830 *Edinb. Encycl.* XIII. 401/1 *Negro Monkey. Long-tailed, blackish, with .. blackish beard. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* App., **Negro-oil*, a name by which the palma of botanists is sometimes called. 1849 CRAIG s.v., **Negro* or *Ethiopean pepper*, the plant Unona Æthiopica. *a* 1818 M. G. LEWIS *Jrnl. W. Ind.* (1834) 307 They boiled a *negro-pot for him, but he was too ill to swallow a morsel. 1881 *Proc. Zool. Soc.* 1003 *Negro Tamarins. 1896 H. O. FORBES *Hand-bk. Primates* II. 149 In Para, the Negro Tamarin is often seen in a tame state. 1892 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Negro yam.

Hence **Ne·grocide,** the killing of a negro. **Ne·grodom,** the region or community of negroes. **Ne·grofy** *v. trans.*, to make into, or as black as, a negro. **Ne·grohood,** negro race or stock. **Ne·groish** *a.*, characteristic of the negro. **Ne·groite,** a negrophil. **Ne·groized** *a.*, given over to the negroes. **Negro·latry,** excessive admiration of the negro. **Ne·grolet, Ne·groling,** a little negro. **Negroma·nia,** extravagant negrophilism; hence **Negroma·niac.**

1852 MUNDY *Antipodes* v. (1855) 109 It must have been considered a case of justifiable *negrocide. 1862 HAWTHORNE in Bridge *Pers. Recollect.* (1893) 173, I ought to thank you for a shaded map of *negrodom, which you sent me a little while ago. 1864 NICHOLS *40 Years Amer. Life* I. 248 All Negrodom has put on its wonderful attire of finery. 1799 SOUTHEY *Nondescripts* iii, If no kindly cloud will parasol me,..I shall be *negrofied. 1863 RUSSELL *Diary North & S.* I. 190 The small settlement of *negro-hood, which is separated from our house by a wooden palisade. 1861 *Temple Bar* II. 201 The sentimental songs had nothing peculiarly *negroish about them. 1851 J. CAMPBELL *Negromania* 543 The *Negroites have been ignominiously driven from their strongholds. 1888 *Voice* (N. Y.) 23 Aug., The only party that stands between the people and a *negroized government. 1862 RUSSELL in *Times* 29 Jan., The Conservative masses, which lie between *negrolatry or niggerworship and Secession. 1873 LELAND *Egypt. Sketch Bk.* 230 There came up a small jet-black *negrolet, eight years of age. 1886 R. F. BURTON *Arab. Nts.* (abr. ed.) I. 71 O my darling! O my *negroling! 1851 J. CAMPBELL (*title*) *Negro-mania. 1864 R. F. BURTON *Dahome* II. 180, I foresee the..bard compulsory labour which the *negromaniac will have brought upon his African protégé.

Negro-head. Also **negrohead.**

† 1. A nest of tree-ants. *Obs. rare*⁻¹.

1781 SMEATHMAN in *Phil. Trans.* LXXI. 161 *note*, The colour of these nests .. is black, from which, and their irregular surface and orbicular shape, they have been called Negro Heads by our first writers on the Carribbee Islands.

2. A strong plug tobacco of a black colour.

1839 'J. FUME' *Paper on Tobacco* 116 A few iron nerved smokers occasionally take a pipe of negrohead. 1851 *Catal. Gt. Exhib.* I. 203 Cavendish, negro head, and other forms of tobacco. 1861 DICKENS *Gt. Expect.* xl, A handful of loose tobacco of the kind that is called Negro-head.

attrib. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Negrohead-tobacco*, tobacco softened with molasses or syrup and pressed into cakes, generally called Cavendish. 1892 W. PIKE *Barren Ground* 29 The Hudson's Bay negrohead tobacco.

3. An inferior quality of india-rubber.

1881 *Encycl. Brit.* XIII. 836/2 The scrapings from the tree..are mixed with the residues of the collecting pots.., and are made up into large rounded balls, which form the inferior commercial quality called 'negrohead.' 1896 *Daily News* 4 Apr. 2/1 The proportions of 'fine' and 'negrohead' rubbers depend on the appliances and care of the collectors.

4. *Negrohead Beech,* the Australian evergreen or myrtle beech, *Fagus Cunninghamii.*

1889 MAIDEN *Usef. Native Pl.* 534 Negro-head Beech.. is a hard richly-coloured furniture wood, and the warty protuberances on the trunk..afford a most beautiful figure.

Negroid (nī·groid), *a.* and *sb.* [f. NEGRO.]

A. *adj.* Of a negro type; resembling the negroes or having some of their characteristic features.

1859 R. F. BURTON *Centr. Afr.* in *Jrnl. Geog. Soc.* XXIX. 196 They are usually of a dark sepia brown..with negroid features. 1877 DAWSON *Orig. World* xiii. 272 Flattened lips, and certain negroid peculiarities in his limbs. 1893 SELOUS *Trav. S. E. Africa* 342 A type of man which is Asiatic or Semitic rather than negroid.

B. *sb.* A person of a negro type.

1859 R. F. BURTON *Centr. Afr.* in *Jrnl. Geog. Soc.* XXIX. 115 Free negroids from Zanzibar island or coast. 1882 SALA *Amer. Revis.* (1885) 172 At Wormley's .. the negro and negroid were seen at their very best.

Hence **Negroi·dal** *a.*

1878 H. M. STANLEY *Dark Cont.* I. v. 113 Though they were truly negruidal in hair and colour. 1881 CABLE *Mme. Delphine* ii. 5 Comely Ethiopians culled out of the less negroidal types of African live goods.

Negroism (nī·groiz'm). [f. NEGRO + -ISM.]

1. Advancement of negro interests or rights.

1851 J. CAMPBELL *Negro-mania* 549 Who dare say anything in favor of Negroism after having read them? 1861 *Sat. Rev.* 4 May 454 Originated the idea of 'free negroism' and started a crusade in favour of inferior races.

2. A negro pronunciation, expression, or idiom.

1864 *Spectator* 27 Feb. 238/2 'Hyur' for 'here'.. is .. a negroism. 1876 DOUSE *Grimm's L.* 66 The Americanism 'this child', or the negroism 'dis nigger'.

Ne·groland. [f. NEGRO + LAND.] The land or region (in Africa) inhabited by negroes.

1764 GOLDSM. *Hist. Eng. in Lett.* (1772) I. 187 The princes on the coast of Negroland. 1802–12 BENTHAM *Ration. Judic. Evid.* (1827) III. 302 In Negroland, witchcraft is even now the most common of all crimes. 1842 PRICHARD *Nat. Hist. Man* 316 The destitute savages who occupy the insulated hamlets of central Negroland. 1901 *Daily Chron.* 12 Aug. 7/5 Nothing, they declare, will place the white man in lasting possession of Negroland.

Ne·groloid, *a. rare*⁻¹. [irreg. f. NEGRO, perh. after *Mongoloid.*] Negroid.

1842 *Proc. Amer. Philos. Soc.* II. 240 Negroloid crania.

Negromancer, -mancie, etc., obs. ff. NECROMANCER, -CY.

Negrophil (nī·grofil). Also **-phile.** [f. NEGRO + -PHIL or a. F. *négrophile.*] A friend of the

negroes; one who favours the advancement of negro interests or rights.

1803 *Edin. Rev.* III. 82 Colonists who have been ruined by the revolution of the '*negrophiles*'. 1858 MACAULAY in Trevelyan *Life* (1883) I. 24 *note*, The nigger driver and the negrophile are two odious things to me. 1868 W. R. GREG *Lit. & Soc. Judgm.* 447 An enthusiastic abolitionist and negrophile. 1889 *Sat. Rev.* 18 May 620/1 Like the work of all negrophils, it is sometimes wanting in criticism.

Negrophilism (nĭgrǫ·filiz'm). [f. as prec. + -ISM.] Fondness for the negro; zealous advocacy of negro rights.

1865 *Sat. Rev.* 14 Jan. 61/2 You have got nigger-on-the-brain; you are carried away with this everlasting negrophilism. 1876 R. F. BURTON *Gorilla L.* II. 237 The year 1816 was the Augustan age of outrageous negrophilism.

Negrophilist (nĭgrǫ·filist). [f. as prec. + -IST.] A lover or friend of the negro.

1842 S. WARD in *Longfellow's Life* (1891) I. 449 When the Eastern negrophilists are prepared to pay a tax, they will have a right to dispose of the property of their Southern brethren. 1899 *Pop. Sci. Monthly* LV. 178 The most infatuated negrophilist.

Negrophobia (nīgrofōu·biă). [f. NEGRO + -PHOBIA.] Intense dislike of the negro.

1833 *Westm. Rev.* Oct. 374 The mark of cast blood, the *Negrophobia*, shows itself in three cases out of four. 1863 W. PHILLIPS *Speeches* 528 The North had a second element, negrophobia. 1898 T. J. MORGAN *Negro in Amer.* vi. 125 It would not be fair to say that they are hated, that there exists well-defined Negrophobia among us

Hence **Negropho·biac** *a.*; **Negro·phobist.**

1867 *Morn. Star* 21 Feb., It is the mere bunkum of the negrophobiac. 1878 H. M. STANLEY *Dark Cont.* I. ix. 195, I am aware that there are negrophobists who may attribute this conduct of Mtesa to..duplicity.

Negro·tic, *a. rare* $^{-1}$. [f. NEGRO, on anal. of forms in *-otic*.] Of or pertaining to the negro.

1876 R. F. BURTON *Gorilla L.* I. 34 Nothing negrotic now astonishes us.

‖ **Negus**[1] (nī·gŭs). Also 6–7 (9) neguz, 9 negoos. [Amharic *negus* or *n'gus* kinged, king.] The title of the supreme ruler of Abyssinia.

1594 BLUNDEVIL *Exerc.* v. xi. (1636) 554 Of his own subjects, he is called Acegue, and Neguz of the Abassines. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* VII. i. 549 The Great Neguz his titles comprehend thus much [etc.]. 1664 BUTLER *Hud.* II. i. 239 The Negus when some mighty lord Or potentate's to be restor'd [etc.]. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* XI. 397 Th' Empire of Negus to his utmost Port. 1805 SOUTHEY in C. C. Southey *Life* (1849) II. 314 The king, or, to give him his proper title, the Neguz. 1865 *Lit. Churchman* 25 Mar. 124/2 That strange compound of intelligence and savagery the Negus Theodore II. 1888 *Times* (weekly ed.) 6 Apr. 13/1 The Negus..is not much more than a semi-barbarous Prince.

Negus[2] (nī·gŭs). [From the name of the inventor, Colonel Francis *Negus* (died 1732).] A mixture of wine (esp. port or sherry) and hot water, sweetened with sugar and flavoured.

1743 in *Etoniana* iv. (1865) 70 Warming a little negus. 1753 H. WALPOLE *Let.* 4 Aug., He desired the water might be warm..; Montagu understood the dialect, and ordered a negus. 1783 S. CHAPMAN in *Med. Comm.* I. 285 He was directed to drink..a little weak red wine negus. 1831 T. L. PEACOCK *Crotchet Castle* xii, He wiled away the evening with making a bottle of sherry into negus. 1874 L. STEPHEN *Hours in Library* I. 373 The difference between the stiffest of nautical grogs and the negus provided by thoughtful parents for a child's evening party.

attrib. 1848 B. D. WALSH *Aristoph.* 292 *note*, Socrates then..Filches the negus-ladle.

Neh(e, obs. forms of NIGH *adv.* and *v.*

Nehebor, -bur, obs. forms of NEIGHBOUR.

† **Nehleche,** *v. Obs.* Forms: 1 néa(h)-léecan, néolécan, -lican, 2–3 neh(t)-, neih-, 3 ney(h)lechen; 2–3 neih-, neolachen, 3 nechleache. [OE. *néa(h)lǽcan*, f. *néah* NIGH *adv.* + *-lǽcan*, a common verbal suffix related to *lúcan* to move, play. In OE. the pa. t. is *-lǽhte, -léhte, -lécte*; in ME. it appears as *-lǽhte, -le(c)hte, -lepte, -leyhte* and *-lechede*.] *intr.* To approach, or draw near (*to* or *toward* a place or person).

c 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* I. xiv. [xxv.] (1890) 60 Heo ferdon & nealehton to ðære ceastre. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xxvi. 46 Heono neoleces seðe me seleð. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 39 Nu nealæceþ þæt we sceolan .. ure wæstmas gesamnian. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 3 Þe helend nehlechede to-ward ierusalem. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 60 Heo schekeð hire spere, & nehlecheð upon hire. *c* 1275 *Wom. Samaria* 6 in *O. E. Misc.* 84 He neyleyhte to one bureh þat hatte samarie.

Hence † **Nehleching, -ung,** approach. *Obs.*

c 960 ÆTHELWOLD *Rule St. Benet* (Schröer) 135 Þridde cyn is ansetlena, þe..na[n]ra manna nealæcynge na underfoþ. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* I. 88 Ðaða he gefredde his deaðes nealæcunge. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 196 Ine wildernesse beoð alle wilde bestes, & nulleð nout iðolien monnes neihlechunge.

Nei, obs. f. NAY, NIGH. **Neibour,** Sc. f. NEIGHBOUR. **Neice,** obs. f. NIECE. **Neichtbour,** obs. Sc. f. NEIGHBOUR. **Neid,** obs. Sc. f. NEED. **Neider,** obs. f. NEITHER. **Neidlingis, -lings, -lyngis,** Sc. varr. NEEDLINGS *adv. Obs.* **Neidy,** obs. Sc. f. NEEDY *a.* **Neiezbor,** obs. f. NEIGHBOUR. **Neies,** obs. var. of NESE, nose.

Neif (nīf). Now only *Hist.* Forms: *α.* 6–8 neife, (7 neiffe), 7– neif, 9 neyf; 6 nef. *β.* 6–7 nlefe, (6 nyef(e, nyeffe), 8 nief. *γ.* 7, 9 naif. [a. AF. (*c* 1300) *neyf, neif, nief* = earlier *nayf, naif* :—L. *nātīv-um* : see NAÏF and NAÏVE *a.*]

1. One born in a state of bondage or serfdom (cf. NATIVE *sb.* 1); sometimes *spec.* a female serf, a bondwoman.

α. 1547 *Act* 1 *Edw. VI*, c. 3 § 17 Persons, to whom any such Ward, Bondman, or Neife shall appertaine. 1610 W. FOLKINGHAM *Art of Survey* IV. ii. 82 Villaines & Neifes, which are alwayes saide to be Regardant to a Manour. *c* 1630 RISDON *Surv. Devon* § 206 (1810) 215 In which manor were bond men, anciently called Villains, and the women Neifs. *c* 1780 SIR W. JONES *Wks.* VII. 10 A lord in feudal times might have been convicted of murder for killing his villain or his neife. 1818 HALLAM *Mid. Ages* (1872) I. 201 Bracton..holds that the spurious issue of a neif, though by a free father, should be a villein. 1872 C. INNES *Lect. Scot. Legal Antiq.* ii. 50, I cannot pretend to distinguish with any accuracy the bondman from the neyf

β 1532 *Dial. on Laws Eng.* II. xliii. 107 If a woman be a nyef, and she maryeth a free man. 1582 STANYHURST *Æneid* III. (Arb.) 81 Me his nyefe to his seruant Helenus ful firmelye betrouthed. 1628 COKE *On Litt.* 122 A woman which is Villein, is called a Niefe. 1641 *Termes de la Ley* 263 In a writ *de Libertate probanda* may be put as many Niefes as the plaintife will.

γ. 1679 BLOUNT *Anc. Tenures* 143 Every naif or she villain that took a husband .. paid marchet, for redemption of her blood. 1865 NICHOLS *Britton* I. 195 *note*, The annotator in MS. N distinguishes between naifs, villains, and serfs.

† 2. *Writ of neif*: (see NEIFTY). *Obs.*

1625 SIR H. FINCH *Law* (1636) 259 In a mort dancestor cosinage, ayell, entry, and Writ of Niefe, from Henrie the thirds Coronation. 1651 tr. *Kitchin's Jurisd.* (1657) 328 If the Plaintiff in a writ of (Neife) be non-suited [etc.].

Neif(e, obs. forms of NIEVE, fist.

Neifful, variant of NIEVEFUL.

Nei·fty. *rare.* Also 7 niefty, 9 naifty. [a. AF. *neiftē*: see NEIF and -TY.] *Writ of neifty*, a writ by which a lord claimed a person as his neif.

1642 *Termes de la Ley* 263 In a writ of Niefty may not be put more Niefes than two onely. 1771 in Howell *State Trials* (1814) XX. 42 The only writ in the law for the recovery of a villein is..always called the..writ of Neifty. 1865 NICHOLS *Britton* I. 195 Free men .. convicted as villains by plea under our writ of Naifty.

Neigh (nēi), *sb.* Also 6 *Sc.* ne. [f. next.] The natural cry or call uttered by a horse.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* XI. x. 24 He sprentis furth, and full provd walxis he, Heich strekand vp his hed with mony a ne. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, III. vii. 29 It is the Prince of Palfrayes, his Neigh is like the bidding of a Monarch. 1635–56 COWLEY *Davideis* IV. 707 Here with sharp Neighs the warlike Horses sound. 1781 COWPER *Charity* 177 Responsive to the distant neigh, he neighs. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* vii, The neigh of horses and the baying of hounds were heard. 1879 BEERBOHM *Patagonia* v. 65 At our approach he gave a faint neigh of satisfaction.

Neigh (nēi), *v.* Forms: *α.* 1 (h)néȝan, 3–6 neye(n), 4 nay-, neȝ-, neiȝ-, 4–5 neyȝ-, neyh-, 4–6 neyghe, (4 nayghe), 4– neigh, (7 neay). *β.* 4–6 nye, 5 nyȝe, 6 nie. *γ.* 5–6 *north.* and *Sc.* ne(e. [OE. *hnégan* = MDu. *neyen* (Flem. and Du. dial. *neijen*), MHG. *nêgen*, of imitative origin: cf. also OS. (*to*)*hnechian*; MDu. *nijgen, nighen, nien, nyen*, MLG. *nigen, nihen*, MHG. *nyhen*. The vbl. sb. also appears in early OE. as *hnæggiung*, app. parallel to ON. *gneggja* (Sw. *gnägga*, Da. *gnegge*), Icel. *hneggja*, Norw. (*k*)*neggja*. Other imitative forms are NEIGHER, NICHER and NICKER.]

1. *intr.* Of a horse: To utter its characteristic sound or cry.

a. c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gram.* XXX. (Z.) 192 *Hinnio*, ic hnæȝe. *Ibid.* 129 *Equus hinnit*, hors hnæȝð [*v. r.* næȝþ]. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 9417 Þe hors neyde & lepte þat it was gret fere. 13.. *K. Alis.* 1872 Mony stede [there was] loude neyghyng. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) III. 403 Bucefal þe bors .. neyhede as it were þe rorynge of leons. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 7729 As he were a hors, he neyes and ondes. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* VI. iii. 186 They herde by them a grete hors grymly neye. 1530 PALSGR. 643/2 It is a comfortable thyng to here a horse neye whan he is on his journaye. 1601 SHAKS. *Jul. C.* II. ii. 23 The noise of Battell hurtled in the Ayre; Horsses do neigh, and dying men did grone. 1663 BUTLER *Hud.* I. ii. 138 As once in Persia, 'tis said Kings were proclaimed by a horse that neighed. 1735 SOMERVILLE *Chase* II. 92 My Courser bears their Voice,..neighing he paws the ground. 1829 LYTTON *Devereux* III. ii, I heard my horse neighing beneath the window. 1865 MAX MÜLLER *Chips* (1880) I. vi. 130 The horse of Darius neighed first.

β. 13.. *Guy Warw.* (A.) 1336 Þe stedes nyen, and togider whine. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xxxiii. 149 Þe meres herez þaire foolez nye. 1530 PALSGR. 644/1, I nye, as a horse dothe. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 102/2 To Nie as an horse.

γ. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 7727 He neyt as a nagge, at his nose thrilles. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 249/2 To Nee as a horse, *hinnire*. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* XI. xvii. 94 The dynnyng of tbar hors feit eik hard he,..and thar stedis ne. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* vi. 39 Baytht horse & meyris did fast nee, & the folis nechyr.

transf. 1382 WYCLIF *Isa.* x. 30 Neȝe with thi vois, thou doȝter of Galyn. — *Jer.* v. 8 Eche to the wif of his neȝhebore neyȝede. 1530 PALSGR. 664/1 Thou nyest for an other otes, wiche we expresse by..'thou lokest after deed mens shoes',..is an adage in the frenche tonge. *a* 1616 BEAUM. & FL. *Wit without M.* IV. i, The he your wisdom play'd withal,..neigh'd at his nakedness, And made his cold and poverty your pastime. 1676 *North's Plutarch, Add. Lives* 81 He divorced her (say some) for her barrenness, but the effect declared that he neigh'd after others. 1781 COWPER *Expost.* 39 Adultery neighing at his neighbour's door.

2. *trans.* To utter in neighing, or with a sound like neighing.

1623 MASSINGER *Bondman* IV. ii, The noble horse .. Neighed courage to his rider. 1642 MILTON *Apol. Smect.* Wks. 1851 III. 292 Who..could neigh out the remembrance of his old conversation among the Viraginian trollops. 1789 CHARLOTTE SMITH *Ethelinde* (1814) IV. 146 D'ye think one might neigh out civilities to this female Nimrod?

Neiȝ, obs. variant of *ey*, EGG.

Neighbour (nēi·bəɹ), *sb.* Forms: *α.* 1–3 néahȝe-, 1–2 néahhe, 1–3 nehȝe-, (3 nehgi-); 1–2 nehhe-, nehe-, (1 neche-, 3 nethte-, 4–5 *Sc.* neth-); 3 nege-, 3–6 negh(e-, 4–5 neȝ.e-, neght(e-, 5 neȝt-; 2 neihi-, 3–4 neiȝ(e-, 4 neieȝ-, 4– neigh-, (4 neighe-, neight-, neihe-, 5 neihȝe-, 6 neig-, *Sc.* neicht-); 4–5 neyh(e-, (4 neyhȝe-, neyȝ-), 4–6 neygh(e-, 5–6 neyg-, 1 nýhȝe-, 3 nijhge-, 5–6 *Sc.* nicht-; 4–7 *Sc.* nycht-, 5 nygh(e-, 6 *Sc.* nych-. 1–6 -bur(e, 3–7 -bore, 4–7 -boure-, (4 -boer, 4–6 *Sc.* -bowr, 5 -borgh, -burgh), 3– -bor, 4– -bour. *β.* 4 neybor, (5 -bour, 5–6 -bowre); 4 nyebore, 6 *Sc.* nibour, (9 -ber), 6 ne-, 7 neibour, (8–9 -bor, 9 -ber), 8–9 nee--bor, (9 -bour, -ber, -bir), 9 nebber; 5 neypur, 8– neiper, 8 ni-, 9 neepour. [OE. *néahgebúr, néahhe-*, etc. (f. *néah* NIGH *a.* + *gebúr* : see BOOR) = MDu. *nagebuer, -buy(e)r, -boer*, OHG. *nâhgibûr* and *-bûro* (MHG. *nâchgebûr, -bûre*); also OS. *nâbûr*, MDu. *nabuer, -bur, -ber*, MLG. *nabur, -ber, neber*, etc., MHG. *nâchbûr* (G. *nachbar*); cf. ON. *nábúe, -búi* (Sw. and Da. *nabo*).]

1. One who lives near or next to another; one who occupies a near or adjoining house, one of a number of persons living close to each other, esp. in the same street or village.

c 897 K. ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* xliv. 322 Ne laða dæito .. ðine cuðan, ne ðine welezan neahȝeburas. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Luke i. 65 Aworden wæs ondo ofer alle neheburas hiora. *c* 1000 in Assmann *Ags. Hom.* (1889) XVI. 268 Alle hyre nehheburas, æȝðer ge weras ge wyf, swyðe weopon. *c* 1055 *Byrhtferth's Handboc* in *Anglia* VIII. 322 Þon nyme he hys neahȝebur þe him ȝehendost sy. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 83 Hie gon to chirche..for to biregen nehebores speche. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 11143 To driue and to gaderi þuder god of neiȝeboles aboute. 1382 WYCLIF 2 *Kings* iv. 3 Aske by borwynge of alle thi neyȝbours. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* V. 1012 With thaim thow was a nychtbour off this toun. *a* 1500 in C. Trice-Martin *Chanc. Proc. 15th C.* (1904) 5 Your suppliaunt sent into London for his neighburghs whiche took him to bayle. 1589 R. HARVEY *Plain Perc.* (1590) 10 It wil..set the next neighbors medowes all on a floate. 1650 HUBBERT *Pill Formality* 137 Their tears ..pierce the hearts of their pittying neighbors. 1699 DRYDEN *Ep. J. Driden* 7 Contending neighbours come, From your award to wait their final doom. 1744 BERKELEY *Siris* § 72, I live in a remote corner, among poor neighbours. 1790 Gouv. MORRIS in Sparks *Life & Writ.* (1832) II. 25 Near neighbors are seldom good ones. 1847 H. MILLER *First Impr. Eng.* XX. (1857) 357 Neighbours of a class that in Scotland would be on the most intimate terms. 1871 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1876) IV. xvii. 55 The Norman landowner held his lands on the same tenure .. as his English neighbour.

Proverbs. 13.. *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* 527/83 Bettre is a neiȝebore neiȝe Then a brothur fer fro thin eiȝe. 1387–8 T. USK *Test. Love* II. ix. (Skeat) I. 144 An olde proverbe aleged by many wyse:— 'Whan bale is greetest, than is bote a nye-bore.' *c* 1450 *Merlin* 434 Men seyn an olde sawe, who hath a goode neighbour hath goode morowe. *c* 1530 LD. BERNERS *Arth. Lyf. Bryt.* (1814) 464 It is oftentymes sayd, he yt hath an yl neyghbour hath oftentymes an yll mornynge. 1539 TAVERNER *Erasm. Prov.* (1552) 49 Our Englysh prouerbe, which speketh in this wyse. A nere neyghbour is better than a farre frende. 1594 *Mirr. Policy* (1599) O iij, The common Prouerbe saith, That who so hath a good neighbor, hath a good morrow.

b. In echoes of Biblical passages (as Luke x. 27) inculcating men's duties towards each other, or in similar contexts. Hence sometimes taken in a widely extended sense.

In OE. versions expressed by *nîehsta*, etc.; see NEXT.

a 1300 *Ten Commandm.* 33 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 16 Loue þi neiȝbore as þine owe bodi: non oþer þon him wil. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 5860 Yhit sal men yhelde acount .. of ilka neghebur, þat men fals to help and to socur. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Pars. T.* P 442 In the name of thy neighebour thou schalt understonde the name of thy brother. 1426 AUDELAY *Poems* 9 3if thou love thi neȝtboure. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* ix. 109 Preysing my self, and evill my nichtbouris deming. 1570 T. NORTON tr. *Nowel's Catech.* (1853) 138 The name of neighbour containeth .. also those whom we know not, yea, and our enemies. 1729 BUTLER *Serm.* Wks. II. 140 The .. rivalship is between self-love and the love of our neighbour. 1841 TRENCH *Parables* xvii. (1877) 328 Who is a neighbour, he who shows love, or he who shows it not? 1844 LINGARD *Anglo-Sax. Ch.* (1858) II. xi. 170 The worship of God and the sanctification of his neighbour.

c. As a form of address. Now only *dial.*

? *a* 1500 *Chester Pl.* (E. E. T. S.) xiii. 82 Neighbour, if I the truth should say. 1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* III. iii. 7 Giue them their charge, neighbour Dogbery. 1607 — *Cor.* I. i. 63 Why Masters, my good Friends, mine honest Neighbours, will you vndo your selues? 1779 COWPER *Yearly Distress* 50 Come, neighbours, we must wag. 1873 in Ellis *E. E. Pronunc.* v. (1889) 7* Well, neighbour, you and he may both laugh at this news of mine.

† d. *Good neighbours*, the fairies. *Sc. Obs.*

a 1585 MONTGOMERIE *Flyting* 275 in Jas. I *Ess. Poesie* (Arb.) 68 In the hinder end of haruest vpon Alhallow ene,

Quhen our gude nichtbors rydis. 1588 [see GOOD *a.* 2 d]. 1615 *Orkney Witch Trial* in *Maitl. Cl. Misc.* II. 167 The fary folk callit of hir our guid nichbouris.

2. a. (Chiefly *pl.*) One who dwells in an adjoining or not far distant town, district, or land. Also applied to the rulers of adjacent countries.

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 201 Neapolite ða heora nehgeburas.. on hæðnum þeawum dwelgende wæron. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1117 Eall þis 3ear wunode se cyng ..on Normandi3 for þes cyninges unsehte of France & his oðra nehhebura. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 5941 From o stede til oþer he hasted; To ney neygheburs, & ferþer fro, Til alle he dide skaþe & wo. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* I. 87 Thai trowyt that he, as gud nychthur, And as freyndsome compositur, Wald hawe iugyt in lawte. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 12959 He was neghbur full negh to þe noble yle, There Agamynon the gode gouernaunce hade. 1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* I. xi. (S. T. S.) I. 66 We faucht nocht alanerlie with oure inemyis, bot als with..oure nychtbouris [*v.r.* nebouris] and freyndis. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 399 b, Nowe that he possesseth Lorayne, he shall be their nere neighbour. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 97 In speiche thay differ not far frome thair nyᵗbouris the Inglise men. 1667 SPRAT *Hist. R. Soc.* 65 This has rous'd all our neighbors to fix their eies upon England. 1674 BREVINT *Saul at Endor* 239 Being worth one thousand Years [indulgence] to the Romans, two thousand to remoter Neighbours. 1827 J. F. COOPER *Prairie* I. xv. 220 Those States, of which he had been an ignorant neighbour half his life. 1858 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* VI. ii. (1872) II. 143 A difficult huff of quarrel..had fallen-out with his neighbour of Saxony.

b. A person or thing which is in close proximity to another; one who stands or sits near or next to another on some occasion.

1567 MAPLET *Gr. Forest* 9 b, For infection of rustie.. Mineralles being nigh neighbour to them. 1593 SHAKS. *Lucr.* 1416 One man's hand lean'd on another's head, His nose being shadow'd by his neighbour's ear. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* IV. 66 Nor place them .. where the Veugh their pois'nous Neighbour grows. 1738 WESLEY *Ps.* CXLVII. v, Cedars, Neighbours to the Sky. 1820 SHELLEY *Sensit. Pl.* I. 67 Each one was interpenetrated With the light and the odour its neighbour shed. 1880 DISRAELI *Endym.* XXXVIII, 'Lady Montfort looks well to-night', said the neighbor of Myra.

fig. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* II. (1586) 60 b, Oignon, the next neighbour to the Leeke. 1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III*, IV. ii. 43 The deepe reuoluing wittie Buckingham No more shall be the neighbor to my counsailes.

c. *Sc.* A thing which makes a pair with another; a fellow, 'marrow'.

1820 [implied in NEIGHBOURLESS]. 1887 SERVICE *Life Dr. Duguid* 213 The stockins werna neebors. 1896 SETOUN *R. Urquhart* XXVII, I mind o' her gettin' the neighbour made to it in Edinburgh.

3. In predicative use. In *Sc.* used in *pl.*

1528 PAYNELL *Salerne's Regim.* F iij, Sklender and white wyne is vniuersally neighbour to water. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* Prol. 47 Nichtbouris to thame is Buquhane. 1871 W. ALEXANDER *Johnny Gibb* XV, I ance was neepours wi' a chap 't could 'a deen that.

4. In *attrib.* use, passing into *adj.* Living or situated near or close to some other person or thing. **a.** With names of persons. Now *rare.*

1530 PALSGR. 247/2 Neighbour woman, *uoisine.* 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* II. 272 The nychbour men that duelt into that steid, Tha schew to him that Convallus wes deid. 1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* I. i. 150 Our Neighbour-Shepheard's Sonne. 1687 T. BROWN *Saints in Uproar* Wks. 1730 I. 82, I can dive into a millstone as far as any of my neighbour princes. 1712 ARBUTHNOT *J. Bull* I. vii, His neighbour tradesmen began to shun his company. 1785 FORBES *Ulysses* 27 (E. D. D.), I dinna like to tell ill tales Upo' my neiper man. 1853 WATSON *Poems* 42 (E. D. D.), The lasses ..Ay botherin' at their neibor chiels.

b. Of peoples, countries, cities, etc. (Very common *c* 1580–1700.)

1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* Jan. 50, I longed the neighbour towne to see. 1587 GOLDING *De Mornay* ix. (1592) 136 Many euen of our Neighbour nations. 1616 R. C. *Times' Whistle* IV. 1594 In a neighbour land he died. 1668 SPRAT *Life Cowley* C.'s Wks. 1710 I. p. xiii, Many great Revolutions, which .. disturb'd the Peace of all our Neighbour-States. 1719 W. WOODS *Surv. Trade* 366 The Proportion they severally bear .. in our Neighbour Nations. 1797 GODWIN *Enquirer* I. xi. 97 Treat the neighbour-state as a conquered province. 1869 F. W. NEWMAN *Misc.* 288 In Rome I see a power which..drove out every neighbour people.

c. Of things, places, buildings, etc.

1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* June 52 Whose Echo made the neyghbour groues to ring. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* III. iv. 212 Ile lugge the Guts into the Neighbor roome. 1662 J. CHANDLER *Van Helmont's Oriat.* 121 Lights of Heaven, which do suit themselves to the motion of the nearest, or Neighbour-lights. 1696 WHISTON *The. Earth* (1722) 13 The Moon, our attending and Neighbour Planet. 1784 COWPER *Task* III. 665 Some..catch the neighbour shrub With clasping tendrils. 1842 TENNYSON *Gardener's Dau.* 86 The steer..Leaning his horns into the neighbour field, And lowing to his fellows. 1876 GLADSTONE *Glean.* (1879) II. 332 Saint John's, the neighbour college to Macaulay's justly loved and honoured Trinity.

d. With abstract sbs. Now *rare.*

1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II*, I. i. 119 Such neighbour-nearenesse to our sacred blood, Should nothing priuiledge him. 1643 [ANGIER] *Lanc. Vall. Achor* 11 That their lent assistance might be loosed for home and neighbour defence. 1678 DRYDEN *All for Love* Pref., To Christen an Imperfection by the Name of some neighbour Virtue.

† e. = Neighbourly. *Obs. rare.*

1619 W. SCLATER *Exp.* 1 *Thess.* (1630) 155 Perhaps also neighbour offices of kindnesse and mercy sometimes passe from them.

5. *Comb.*, as *neighbour-stained. rare.*

1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* I. i. 89 Prophaners of this Neighbor-stained Steele.

Neighbour (nē·bəɹ), *v.* [f. prec.]

I. *intr.* **1.** Of persons: To live near or close *to* a person, place, etc.; to border *upon*. Also freq. with *near*. Now *rare.*

1586 A. DAY *Eng. Secretary* I. (1625) 130 A certaine poore man, .. neighbouring neere unto one worshipful and of great account. 1615 DAY *Festivals* xii. 349 Let us, Beloved, beare affection..unto such as Neighbour at any time neere unto us. 1657 EARL MONM. tr. *Paruta's Pol. Disc.* 81 Their own Soldiers, and..their Associates, who did all neighbor neer upon them. 1805 SOUTHEY *Madoc in Azt.* i, Oh no! we neighbour nearer to the Sun.

2. Of things or places: To lie near or close (*to* or *upon* something else); to be contiguous *with.*

1592 SHAKS. *Ven. & Ad.* 259 A copse that neighbours by. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 268 Neighbouring hereunto is Odiam, glorious in these daies. 1668 CULPEPPER & COLE *Barthol. Anat.* I. 1 The upper part .. is termed Hypochondrium, neighbouring upon the lower gristles of the Ribs. 1821 CLARE *Vill. Minstr.* II. 97 Neighbouring nigh, one lonely elder-tree Is all that's left. 1850 BLACKIE *Æschylus* II. 51 The peaks That neighbour with the stars.

b. To come near *to*, almost amount *to*, something. *rare*⁻¹.

1631 MASSINGER *Believe as You List* V. ii, To have faith in him Neighbours to treason.

3. With *it.* To associate like neighbours. *rare.*

1586 BRIGHT *Melanch.* xii. 58 Neither that diverse [things] will so neighbour it together, as to dwell in one indiuiduall subiect. 1828–32 WEBSTER s.v., To neighbor it, in colloquial language, to cultivate friendly intercourse by mutual visits.

4. To be on neighbourly terms, to associate in a friendly way, *with* others. Also *transf.*

1820 SCOTT *Abbot* XXVI, The electuary..neighboured ill with the two spoonfuls of pease-porridge and the kirnmilk. 1862 BORROW *Wales* III. 79 The Welsh won't neighbour with them, or have anything to do with them, except now and then in the way of business. 1879 TOURGEE *Fool's Err.* XVI. 83 The few country-people who 'neighbored with them', as it is termed there, comprised their only society.

b. *dial.* To go visiting or gossiping among neighbours.

1854– in dial. glossaries (Lanc., Yks., Leic., Warw., etc.).

II. *trans.* **5.** To adjoin, touch, border upon, lie next or close to.

Very common *c* 1600–1660, and freq. in 19th c.

a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* (1622) 333 As they were walking alongst a Gallerie, they heard from a Chamber neighbouring the side of it, a dolorous sound. 1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 591 The principall Citie is called Paquin, neighbouring Tartary. *a* 1661 FULLER *Worthies, Bucks* I. (1662) 132 Those that in the same earth neighbour thee. 1798 COWPER *Let. to Lady Hesketh* 13 Oct., It neighbours nearly, and as nearly resembles, the scenery of Catfield. 1822 LAMB *Elia* Ser. I. *Compt. Decay Beggars*, He seemed.. to suck in fresh vigour from the soil which he neighboured. 1873 BROWNING *Red Cott. Nt.-cap* II. 308 One whose father's house upon the Quai Neighboured the very house. 1893 *Nat. Observer* 25 Nov. 41/1 The years that neighboured their departure.

b. To come near to, to approach.

1859 MEREDITH *R. Feverel* VIII, I can pretty nigh neighbour it with a guess. 1891 — *One of our Conq.* XXXV, He neighboured sagacity when he pointed that interrogation relating to Nesta's precociousness.

c. To be neighbour to (one).

1872 E. J. IRVING *Lays* 228 (E.D.D.), Twa lads that I neiboured lang syne. 1892 LUMSDEN *Sheep-head* 212 Will you neighbour us in the smoking-room?

6. In *pa. pple.* **a.** *Neighboured by* or *with*, having (some person or thing) as near neighbour or close at hand.

a 1586 SIDNEY *Astr. & Stella* Sonn. XXIX, Like some weak Lords neighbord by mightie Kings. 1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* (1637) 22 The hot water bathes, heretofore adorned, and neighboured with magnificent building. 1670 MILTON *Hist. Eng.* V. Wks. (1847) 537/2 The Danes .. not liking perhaps to be neighboured with strong towns. 1856 R. A. VAUGHAN *Mystics* (1860) II. VIII. VII. 79 Such passages..are preludes or interludes neighboured by heavy monologue. *a* 1873 LYTTON *Ken. Chillingly* II. VIII, Provided they be neighboured by water.

b. Brought or placed near *to* some person or thing; situated close together.

1594 CAREW *Huarte's Exam. Wits* V. (1596) 54 These ventricles..are so vnited and nere neighboured, that neither ..can be distinguished. 1605 SHAKS. *Lear* I. i. 121 The barbarous Scythian..shall to my bosome Be as well neighbour'd. 1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) IV. 127 That..my dust may be neighboured to your precious dust. 1803 GODWIN *Chaucer* II. XLVI. 400 To contemplate this ancient baron neighboured to a throne. 1820 KEATS *Lamia* I. 240 So neighbour'd to him, and yet so unseen She stood.

7. (Cf. prec.) **a.** To bring near *to* something. **b.** To place in conjunction *with* something.

a 1662 HEVLIN *Laud* (1668) 60 The Reversion of a Prebend in that Church; which..neighbour'd him to the Court. 1791 COWPER *Odyss.* XV. 590 But Jove Hath neighbour'd all thy evil with this good.

Hence **Nei·ghbouring** *vbl. sb.*

1651 G. W. tr. *Cowel's Inst.* 31 The building together, and neighbouring of houses, by which means we have our Cities, Borroughs, and Villiages. 1886 *S. W. Linc. Gloss.*, I was never one for so much neighbouring and newsing.

† Nei·ghbourage. *Obs. rare.* [f. NEIGHBOUR *sb.* + -AGE.] The collective surroundings and outside conveniences of a plot of land.

1610 W. FOLKINGHAM *Art of Survey* II. ii. 49 Respicient Situation hath dependance vpon Boundage and Neighbourage. *Ibid.* iii. 51 In Neighbourage it is not impertinent to particularize, how the Plot is accommodated for Tillage, Meddow, Pasture, &c. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 139/1 Neighbourage is the shewing how the Plot is accomodated with Wood, Water, Fewel [etc.].

† Nei·ghboured, *sb. Obs.* [f. NEIGHBOUR *sb.* + -RED.] = NEIGHBOURHOOD.

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 137 Swulche monne ðe he for scome wernen ne mei for neȝeburredde. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 83 Hie giuen here elmesse noht for godes luue ac for neheboreden, oðer for kinraden. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 352/2 Neyborede, *proximitas, vicinitas.* 1556 in *Archæol. Jrnl.* (1874) XXXI. 70 To beare us true amytie and to use good neighbored towards us. 1575 *Rec. Elgin* (New Spald. Cl.) I. 150 Katherein Ros .. wes decernit to keip neborat in schawing masleach.

Nei·ghboured, *ppl. a.* [f. NEIGHBOUR *sb.* or *v.* + -ED.] Provided with (a certain kind of) neighbours or surroundings.

1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 99 Few more commodious reason sees, Than is this one commoditee, Quietly neighboured to be. 1598 BACON *Ess.* Ep. Ded., I doe nowe like some that haue an Orcharde ill neighbored, that gather their fruit before it is ripe, to preuent stealing. *a* 1641 BP. MOUNTAGU *Acts & Mon.* (1642) 315 Syria was ill-neighboured, continually pillaged by Arabian theeves and robbers. 1829 *Examiner* 741/2 The low and gloomy but beautifully neighboured castle of Chillon.

Nei·ghbourer. *rare*⁻¹. [f. NEIGHBOUR *v.*] One who neighbours, a neighbour.

1612 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* I. 265 A neighbourer of this Nymphes, as high in Fortune's grace.

Nei·ghbouress. *rare.* [f. NEIGHBOUR *sb.* + -ESS.] A female neighbour.

1388 WYCLIF *Exod.* iii. 22 A womman schal axe of hir neiȝboresse and of her hoosteesse siluerne vesselis and goldun. 1535 COVERDALE *Jer.* ix. 20 That euery one maye teach hir neighbouresse to make lamentacion. 1849 THACKERAY *Gt. & Lit. Dinners* Wks. 1902 VI. 655 You may chance to get near a pleasant neighbour and neighbouress.

Nei·ghbourhead. Now *rare.* [f. NEIGHBOUR *sb.* + -HEAD.] = next.

c 1425 *Eng. Conq. Irel.* 30 The men of Watterford..waren I-ware that thay y-hadden such neghborhede ful loth. 1499 *Exch. Rolls Scotl.* XI. 395 That the balye hald foure balye courtis..for..reforming of plants of nychtbourhed and uthiris. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 399 b, He ..wyll do nothing against the maner of neighbourhead. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* X. 345 True nychtbourheid, constitute weil and maid betueine the Inglis and Scotis bordiris. 1884 G. MACDONALD *Unspoken Serm.* 220 It is the humanity that originates the claim of neighbourhead.

Neighbourhood (nē·bəɹhud). [f. NEIGHBOUR *sb.* + -HOOD.]

1. Friendly relations between neighbours; neighbourly feeling or conduct.

c 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* V. v. 512 To bere him anentis his fadir and modir more and other wise than the hiȝest degre of neiȝborehode askith. 1503 in *Surtees Misc.* (1890) 30 Accordyng to olde neghburode and gude custome. 1551 T. WILSON *Logike* (1580) 17 b, We see muche neighbourhoode, and good will to helpe the needie. 1592 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* IX. liii. (1602) 239 Exiling hence wel-neere all Troth, meet Sports, and Neighbourhood. 1650 JER. TAYLOR *Holy Living* I. § I. (1727) 7 Works of nature, recreation, charity, friendliness and neighbourhood. 1708 SWIFT *Sent. Ch. Eng. Man* Wks. 1755 II. I. 79 All the laws of charity, neighbourhood, alliance, and hospitality. 1796 BURKE *Regic. Peace* I. (1892) 82 There is a Law of Neighbourhood which does not leave a man perfect master on his own ground. 1842 CAMPBELL *Pilgrim of Glencoe* 139 He stood With neighbours on kind terms of neighbourhood. 1853–7 HAWTHORNE *Eng. Note-bks.* (1879) I. 136 A more efficient sense of neighborhood than exists among ourselves.

b. Esp. in phr. *good neighbourhood* († also in early use *evil* or *ill neighbourhood*).

1574 HELLOWES *Gueuara's Fam. Ep.* (1577) 126 The Duke of Sogorbe and the Monkes..did vse euill neighbourhoode. 1594 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* II. Ep. Rdr. a 6 What a notable lesson of good neighbourhood. 1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* VII. VIII. 515 They practised against the Mexicaines their neighbours, all the ill neighbourhood they could. 1640 BROME *Sparagus Gard.* I. iv, Whose hatred I would not lose for all the good neighbor-hood in the Parish. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 131 ₱ 8 The Country is not a Place for a Person of my Temper, who does not love Jollity, and what they call Good-Neighbourhood. 1768–74 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 305 A pattern for any who desire to fulfil the duties of good neighbourhood. 1825 E. HEWLETT *Cottage Comf.* XV. 218 Good neighbourhood does not require persons to waste their own and each other's time in idle gossipping. 1894 *Times* 6 Oct. 7/3 Such a departure from the rules of good neighbourhood..might well be left unnoticed.

2. The quality, condition, or fact of being neighbours or lying near to something; nearness.

1567 MAPLET *Gr. Forest* 11 The Jacinct is blew, and of nigh neighborhoode with the Saphire. 1570–6 LAMBARDE *Peramb. Kent* (1826) 147 To these also may be added for neighbourhoode sake..the Monasterie of white Chanons. 1615 H. CROOKE *Body of Man* 156 Where..with most ease, because of the neighbour-hoode of the heart.., the blood might be altred. 1652 NEEDHAM tr. *Selden's Mare Cl.* 35 Both by reason of their neighborhood, and the frequent convers of the Israelits among them. 1728 MORGAN *Algiers* I. iv. 279 The Turks whose Neighbourhood to Sicily, &c. he liked not. 1752 HUME *Ess. & Treat.* (1777) I. 222 The neighbourhood of the sun inflames the imagination of men. 1835 LYTTON *Rienzi* X. ix, Then the prison and the palace were in awful neighbourhood. 1871 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1876) IV. xvii. 73 The South..was through its neighbourhood and intercourse with Gaul somewhat less savage.

† b. Situation in respect of surroundings. *Obs.*⁻¹

1668 CULPEPPER & COLE *Barthol. Anat.* II. ix. 117 The

Vena arteriosa..is just like the Aorta in substance, largeness, neighbourhood, and Valves.

3. The vicinity, or near situation, *of* something.

1577 B. Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* I. (1586) 9 Some..who can not shunne the neighbourhood of the Riuer or the Sea. *c* 1630 Milton *Passion* 52 The gentle neighbourhood of grove and spring Would soon unboosom all their Echoes milde. 1708 Swift *Sacram. Test* Wks. 1755 II. I. 127, I have done all in my power..to preserve twoor three English fellows in their neighbourhood. 1745 Pococke *Descr. East* II. 242 Cutting off so many Greek villages in the neighbourhood of that city. 1813 Wellington in Gurw. *Desp.* (1838) XI. 23 To strengthen our position in front and in the neighbourhood of Irun. 1875 Manning *Mission H. Ghost* xi. 305 When two flames are brought into the neighbourhood of each other they draw to each other.

transf. 1654 Jer. Taylor *Real Pres.* 237 This comparison .. is odious up to the neighbourhood and similitude of a great impiety. 1894 Newton *Dict. Birds* 764 The curious genus *Mesites* of Madagascar, which has been referred..to the neighbourhood of the Rails.

b. *In the neighbourhood of*, somewhere about.

1857 in Bartlett *Dict. Amer.* s.v., The Catholic clergy of this city have purchased in the neighborhood of forty acres of land. 1893 *Times* (weekly ed.) 15 Dec. 1000/2 The rate of exchange with India has been maintained in the neighbourhood of 16*d*.

4. Resort or haunt of persons near one; company; neighbours.

1596 Spenser *F. Q.* VI. v. 34 A little Hermitage there lay, Far from all neighbourhood. *a* 1716 Blackall *Wks.* (1723) I. 97 A Member of a..Corporation, consisting of his Neighbourhood, and Acquaintance. 1800 Knox & Jebb *Corr.* I. 3 Immediate neighbourhood I have none, save one family. 1854 H. Miller *Sch. & Schm.* xvi. (1857) 366 They had been known, each in his own circle of neighbourhood.

† **b.** A place lying near to one. *Obs. rare* —1.

1634 Milton *Comus* 314, I know..every bosky bourn from side to side, My daily walks and ancient neighbourhood.

5. A community; a certain number of people who live close together.

1625 Bacon *Ess., Friendship* (Arb.) 165 In a great Towne ..there is not that Fellowship .. which is in lesse Neighbourhoods. 1711 Steele *Spect.* No. 49 ¶ 3 Those little Communities which we express by the Word Neighbourhoods. 1774 G. White *Selborne* xl, [Whitethroats] are shy and wild in breeding-time, avoiding neighbourhoods, and haunting lonely lanes. 1809–10 Coleridge *Friend* (1865) 126 Men remain in the domestic state and form neighbourhoods, but not governments. *a* 1882 Emerson in Hinsdale *Garfield & Educ.* II. 413 The banian of the forest, yielding shade and fruit to wide neighborhoods of men.

b. A (religious) society of neighbours.

1883 *Century Mag.* Oct. 856/2 This movement led to the establishment of a neighborhood of Friends in the streets leading from Chatham Square.

6. The people living near to a certain place or within a certain range.

1686 tr. *Chardin's Trav. Persia* 73 The Commanders of this Fortress make always Leagues with the Neighborhood. 1766 Goldsm. *Vic. W.* iv, The whole neighbourhood came out to meet their minister. 1802 Mas. E. Parsons *Myst. Visit* III. 204 The neighbourhood had scandalized [her].

b. A district or portion of a town or country, freq. considered in reference to the character or circumstances of its inhabitants.

1697 Dryden *Virg. Past.* I. 15 The raging Sword and wastful Fire Destroy the wretched Neighbourhood around. 1778 Pennant *Tour Wales* (1883) I. 24 The several sorts of founderies in the neighborhood. 1813 Wellington in Gurw. *Desp.* (1838) XI. 60 All the camps in this neighbourhood quite quiet. 1838 Dickens *O. Twist* xv, Darkness had set in; it was a low neighbourhood. 1880 Disraeli *Endym.* lvii, The back slums of his ferocious neighbourhood.

7. *attrib.*, as *neighbourhood meeting, party, -war.*

1823 S. Huntington in *Mem.* 348 The neighbourhood meeting for this quarter of the city. 1869 Mrs. Whitney *We Girls* xi. (1874) 244, I daresay Mrs. Pennington will have her neighbourhood parties again. 1888 H. C. Lea *Hist. Inquis.* I. 60 Torn with unceasing and savage neighborhood-war.

Nei·ghbouring, *ppl. a.* [f. Neighbour *v.* + -ing 2.] That neighbours, in various senses of the vb.; lying or living near, adjacent.

1601 Shaks. *All's Well* IV. i. 18 He bath a smacke of all neighbouring Languages. 1641 H. Thornoike *Govt. Churches* 66 They were made in due time by the heads of neighbouring Churches. 1712 J. James tr. *Le Blond's Gardening* 2 Paris and Versailles, whose Neighbouring Parts contain so many Wonders of this Nature. 1770 Burke *Pres. Discont.* Wks. II. 308 The scheme of bringing our court to a resemblance to the neighbouring monarchies. 1838 Dickens *Nich. Nick.* ix, Miss Squeers had been spending a few days with a neighbouring friend. 1863 Geo. Eliot *Romola* xxxvi, He stood and watched the scene from behind a neighbouring hush.

Neighbouring, *vbl. sb.*: see Neighbour *v.*

Nei·ghbourless, *a.* [f. Neighbour *sb.* + -less.] Without a neighbour; solitary.

1562 J. Heywood *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 100 For this neighbourlie quietnesse, Thou art the neighbour neighbourlesse. 1820 *Blackw. Mag.* May 163/1 The quean's as single yet as a neighbourless stocking. 1846 Prowett *Prometh. Bound* 14 Lone dweller by a neighbourless ravine. 1892 J. S. Fletcher *When Chas. was King* 4 Some homestead..so far from a village that its occupants are entirely neighbourless.

Nei·ghbour-like, *a.* and *adv.* [f. as prec. + -like.] **a.** *adv.* In a neighbourly fashion. **b.** *adj.* Neighbourly, friendly, kindly. (In later use chiefly *Sc.*)

1499 *Exch. Rolls Scotl.* XI. 395 Ane sufficient tenant and nychtbour .. abill to keip the said steid nychtbourlike. *c* 1572 Gascoigne *Fruites Warre* cxxxvii, Three dayes wee fought, as long as water serued, And came to ancor neyghbourlike yfeere. 1602 *2nd Pt. Return fr. Parnass.* III. iii. 1290 A dunce I see is a neighbourlike brute beast, a man may liue by him. 1674 *Ch. & Court of Rome* 6 The Neighbour-like Terms of the old *Regulæ Patrum*. 1790 D. Morison *Poems* 157 (E.D.D.), To gar our bed look hale and neighbour-like. 1815 Scott *Guy M.* xliv, He'll be glad to carry me through, and be neighbour-like. 1827 Miss Sedgwick *H. Leslie* (1872) II. 158 Kindness and neighbourlike conduct.

Nei·ghbourliness. [f. next + -ness.] The condition, quality or fact of being neighbourly; friendliness, kindly feeling.

1662 Pepys *Diary* 5 Nov., There was not the neighbourliness between her and my wife that was fit to be. 1685 H. More *Refl. Baxter* Pref. A 3 Neighbourliness and Goodnature washes them out of the remembrance of both. 1816 Coleridge *Lay Serm.* (Bohn) 340 It is the science of .. philanthropy without neighbourliness. 1879 *Spectator* 7 June 719 He has tried to make out how far neighbourliness, as amongst ants of the same nest, really goes.

Neighbourly (nē·ibəli), *a.* [f. Neighbour *sb.* + -ly 1.]

1. Characteristic of, or befitting, a neighbour or neighbours; friendly, kindly.

1558 *Reg. Gild Co. Chr. York* 305 *note*, A good occasion of..renewyng of amytie and neighhurghly love one with an other. 1596 Shaks. *Merch. V.* I. ii. 85 He hath a neighbourly charitie in him. 1658 *Whole Duty Man* xvii. § 1 By any neighbourly and friendly office. 1727 Swift *What passed in London* Wks. 1735 III. I. 182 He in a very neighbourly manner admonished me. 1791 Burke *Hints for Mem.* Wks. VII. 5 His majesty's benevolent and neighbourly offers. 1884 Sir J. W. Chitty in *Law Rep.* 27 Chanc. Div. 629 He considered it was not a neighbourly thing to press for payment.

b. Friendly but not cordial.

1599 Sandys *Europæ Spec.* (1632) 154 As their States, so their loves and his are but neighbourly. *a* 1628 Preston *Mt. Ebal* (1638) 39 It must be onely with a neighbourly and civill, but not with a conjugall..love.

2. Of persons: Inclined to act as neighbours; situated as neighbours.

1612 T. Taylor *Comm. Titus* i. 8 Who thinke it Christianitie enough to be harmlesse, ciuill, or neighbourly men. 1628 Wither *Brit. Rememb.* II. 513 Scarce one man would be so neighbourly, To helpe his brother in this malady. 1778 Miss Burney *Evelina* xl, Our lodgings were in Holborn, that we might be near his house, and neighbourly. 1822 Scott *Nigel* xxiii, In Alsatia, look ye, a man must be neighbourly and companionable. 1886 A. E. B. Soulby in *Law Times* LXXXI. 446/2 Farmers as a rule are neighbourly and forbearing.

Nei·ghbourly, *adv.* ?*Obs.* [f. as prec. + -ly 2.] After the manner of neighbours; in a friendly or kindly fashion.

1525 in *Vicary's Anat.* (1888) App. iii. 169 The housholders..be neybourly dryukyng to-gethers .. In loyous maner. 1578 T. N. tr. *Conq. W. India* 3 Who friendly and neighbourly graunted his desire. 1654 E. Johnson *Wonder-wrkg. Provid.* 194 It would joyn all the Towns in the same neighbourly together. 1690 Mackenzie *Siege London-Derry* 53/1 Whilst they behave themselves peaceably and neighbourly amongst us.

Nei·ghbourship. [f. as prec. + -ship.]

1. The state or fact of being a neighbour; nearness, propinquity. Also *pl.*

1456 Sir G. Haye *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 101 Nychtbourschip till evill folk gerris oft tymes the gude tak scathe. 1523 Fitzherb. *Surv.* 5 b, Commen per cause vicynage .s. neyghbourshepe. 1599 T. M[ouffet] *Silkwormes* 9 This neighbourship was formost steppe to loue. 1798 Joanna Baillie *Count Basil* v. i, Rest..each..in a hallow'd neighbourship with those, Who when alive his social converse shar'd. 1838 *Tait's Mag.* V. 113 The uneasy accommodations, foul air, and unsatisfactory neighbourships of a public theatre. 1891 *Tablet* 29 Aug. 327 The accidental neighbourship of grains of sand upon the shore.

2. Neighbourly relations or intercourse; *esp.* in phr. *good (bad, ill) neighbourship.*

1796 Morse *Amer. Geog.* II. 64 Since Denmark has no further hope of recovering its lost provinces, its true interest is a good neighbourship. 1857 Toulmin Smith *Parish* 177 Every bond of mutual sympathy or of wholesome neighbourship. 1858 Carlyle *Fredk. Gt.* v. v. I. 588 These violences and acts of ill-neighbourship. 1889 *Sat. Rev.* 2 Mar. 237/2 To keep their tendencies to bad-neighbourship in check.

Neighe, obs. form of Nigh *v.*

Neigher (nē·ər), *sb.*1 [f. Neigh *v.* + -er 1.] One that, or that which, neighs; a horse.

1649 Lovelace *Poems* 101 Amadis, Sir Guy and Topaz With his fleet Neigher shall keep no-pace. 1865 Tylor *Early Hist. Man.* iv. 63 The horse is the neigher.

Neigher (nī·χĕr), *sb.*2 *Sc.* [f. next.] A neigh; *transf.* a loud laugh.

1830 Galt *Lawrie T.* iv. iii, A sudden recollection.. would..cause his sob to change into a most irreverent neigher.

Neigher (nī·χĕr), *v. Sc.* Also 6 **neehyr,** 9 **neicher.** [Imitative: cf. Nicher and Nicker.] *intr.* To neigh; also *transf.* to laugh loudly.

1549 *Compl. Scot.* vi. 39 Baytht horse & meyris did fast nee, & the folis nechyr. 1722 Ramsay *Three Bonnets* III. 2 His lang whip gae cracks Upon his neighering coursers' backs. 1812 W. Tennant *Papistry Storm'd* (1827) 60 The very naig that he bestrides Seems neicherin' too for joy. 1826 Galt *Last of Lairds* vii, I could but look in her cleer een and neigher like Willie Gouk.

Neighing (nē·iŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. Neigh *v.* + -ing 1.] The action, on the part of a horse, of uttering its characteristic sound. Also *transf.*

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) H 124 *Hinnitus*, hnaeggiung. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Gram.* i. (Z.) 4 Hryðera ȝehlow and horsa hnæȝung. 13.. *K. Alis.* 2091 There was gret naygheing of stede. 1382 Wyclif *Jer.* xiii. 27 And aperede thi shenshepe, thi vouteries, and thi neȝingus. 1412–20 Lydg. *Chron. Troy* III. xxii, The..furious neyhing of many bastard stede. 1481 Caxton *Godfrey* cv. 161 Ther was so grete noyse..& so terryble neyhyng of horses. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Edw. IV* 217 b, What for neighyng of horses and talkyng of menne, none..could that night take any rest or quietnes. 1620 T. Granger *Div. Logike* 33 The neying of an horse caused Darius..to be made King. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* III. 150 And with shrill Neighings fill'd the Neighbouring Plain. 1736 Sheridan in *Swift's Lett.* (1768) IV. 165 The noise of guns, the neighing of the horses. 1859 Tennyson *Elaine* 298 The strong neighings of the wild white Horse.

Neighing (nē·iŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. Neigh *v.* + -ing 2.] That neighs; uttering a neigh.

1382 Wyclif *Jer.* viii. 16 Fro the vois of his neiȝende fiȝteres to-stirid is alle the lond. 1596 Shaks. *Tam. Shr.* I. ii. 207 Haue I not..heard Loud larums, neighing steeds, and trumpets clangue? 1609 B. Jonson *Sil. Wom.* IV. iii, What a neighing hobby-horse is this. 1697 Dryden *Æneid* VIII. 5 The sprightly trumpet, from afar..Had rous'd the neighing steeds to scour the fields. 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Neighing-Bird*, a little Bird that imitates the Neighing of a Horse. 1810 Clarke *Trav. Russia* (1839) 76/1 The flower of the Cossack army, in most sumptuous dresses, curbing their foaming and neighing steeds. *a* 1821 Keats *Hyperion* I. 184 Neighing steeds were heard, Not heard before by Gods or wondering men.

† **Neight,** obs. form of Ait.

1766 *Award Inclos. Comm. Lenchwick & Norton*, The osier neights in the river Avon.

Neighther, obs. f. Neither. **Neih,** obs. f. Nigh *a.* and *adv.* **Neih3ebor,** obs. f. Neighbour. **Neihleche,** var. of Nehleche *Obs.* **Neil,** obs. f. Nail, Neal. **Neip,** obs. f. Neap; var. of Neep. **Neipee,** obs. f. Niece. **Neiphew,** obs. f. Nephew. **Neipkynne,** obs. Sc. f. Napkin *sb.* **Neir,** obs. f. or var. of Near, Neer, Ne'er. **Neir(h)and,** obs. ff. Nearhand. **Neis(e,neiss,** obs. varr. Nese, nose. **Neisch(e,** etc., obs. ff. Nesh *a.* **Neischede:** see Neshhead. **Neist,** obs. f. Nest; obs. or dial. f. Next. **Neith,** obs. f. Neath.

Neither (nī·ðəɹ, nəi·ðəɹ), *adv.* (*conj.*) and *a.* (*pron.*) Forms: α. 2 **naiðer,** 5 **nayther,** 6 *Sc.* **naythir**; 4 **neyþur,** 4–5 **-der,** 5 **-þer, -þir, thir, -thyr, -dyr,** 5–7 **-thor**; 5 **neider, neiþir,** 3–5 **neiþer,** 5– **neither.** β. 4 **nethir,** (5 **-yr**), 4–5 **neþer,** 6–7 **nether,** (6 **-ar, neder**); 5 **neethur, -yr.** γ. 5–6, 7 *Sc.* **nather,** 6 *Sc.* **naþir, nathir, neather.** δ. 6–7 **nither.** [Early ME. *naiðer, neyþer,* etc., alterations of Na(u)ther, No(u)ther, on analogy of Either (q.v. for etym. and pron.).

The Sc. forms *nather, nathir,* may be survivals of the older Nather, but are placed here on the ground that *ather, athir* are the normal Sc. forms of Either.]

A. *adv.* (*conj.*) **1.** Introducing the mention of alternatives or different things, about each of which a negative statement is made.

The regular position of *neither* is immediately before the first of the alternative expressions, but it is frequently placed earlier in the sentence.

† **a.** *Neither .. ne. Obs.*

In early use *ne* is also inserted after *neither.*

c 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 9 Ne swerizeð, naiðer ne be heuene ne be ierðe. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 1660 Sal neþer liue ne fouul ne best. 13.. *Ibid.* 6941 (Gött.), His hali wandis.. gren neyder less ne mare, Bot euer befor as þai ware. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 343 To him is þis thanke propur, & neyþur to pope ne confessour. 1413 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton 1483) v. xiv. 109 The sone dependeth of the fader..neither latter ne rather than the fader. 1496 *Fysshynge w. Angle* (1883) 10 You shall not put therto neyther coporose ne vertgrees. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 2 b, Spared no labours neyther by see ne yet by lande.

b. *Neither .. nor.*

Phr. *neither here nor there*: see Here *adv.* 12.

a. 13.. *Cursor M.* 5857 (Gött.), Neyder i knou him þat ȝe say, Nor i ne wil lat þe folk away. *c* 1460 *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1866) 164 Thowe canst me neyder thank nor pleasse. *c* 1485 *Digby Myst.* (1882) I. 198 Of me thu shalt neytber haue ffee nor aduauntage. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Edw. IV* 242 b, That gain once gotten.., neither othe holdeth, nor frendship continueth. 1594 O. B. *Quest. Profit. Concern.* L 2 b, Neither God nor nature giues this value vnto all. 1630 W. Bedell in *Ussher's Lett.* (1686) 454 This Protestation having neither Latin, nor Law, nor Common Sence. 1690 Locke *Govt.* I. ix. (Rtldg.) 103 Adam..being neither monarch, nor his imaginary monarchy hereditable. 1728 Ramsay *Step-daughter* ii, She neither has lawtith nor shame. 1746 Hervey *Medit.* (1818) 259 Neither care disturbs their sleep, nor passion inflames their breast. 1784 Cowper *Task* v. 90 Neither grub nor root nor earth-nut now Repays their labour more. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* v. I. 555 Quarter was to be neither taken nor given. 1879 M. Arnold *Mixed Ess., Irish Cathol.* 120 There are neither fairies nor gnomes.

β. 1535 Coverdale *Tobit* v. 2 Nether doth he knowe me, ner I him. 1549 Ridley *Let.* in Potts *Liber Cantabr.* (1855) 245, I am assuredly persuaded that it is neder the Kinge's Majesties nor your Graces pleasor. 1622 *Dunbar's Poems* lxxix. 4 Left is nether corce nor cunȝie. 1673 Scroggs in *Hatton Corr.* (Camden) 112, I choose the rather to write when I have nether business nor newes.

γ. *c* 1560 A. Scott *Poems* (S.T.S.) iii. 23 Tho' naþir hairt nor mynd consentis. 1572 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xxxv. 52 Yit wer thay nather sauld nor slaine. 1611 Sir W. Mure *Misc. Poems* Wks. (S.T.S.) I. 11 Nather prayers could prevaile nor wisses.

c. With another negative, usually preceding. Now *rare*.

1470-85 MALORY *Arthur* xx. xii. 818 That neyder you my lord kynge Arthur nor you syre Gawayne come not in to the felde. 1535 COVERDALE *Josh.* viii. 20 They had no place to flie vnto, nether hither ner thither. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 42 Dauid king of Scottes..spoyled the Countrie,..not sparing neyther man woman nor chylde. 1606 BRYSKETT *Civ. Life* 32 Not tying himselfe absolutely to follow neither Plato nor Aristotle. 1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* 494 No part neither of Nature, nor of the World, is to Homer Godless. 1827 SOUTHEY *Penins. War* II. 131 There was now no respite neither by day nor night for this devoted city. *a* 1849 H. COLERIDGE *Ess.* (1851) II. 277 Christianity abrogated no duty..neither for Jew nor Gentile.

d. With two sing. subjects and pl. verb.

1759 JOHNSON *Idler* No. 44 ¶ 3 Neither search nor labour are necessary. 1777 COWPER *Wks.* (1837) XV. 37 Neither the Duke of Bedford nor Lord Sussex have cut yet. 1826 SOUTHEY *Vind. Eccl. Angl.* 478 Neither the Law nor the Gospel were introduced with such appalling miracles. 1874 RUSKIN *Fors Clav.* xliii. 139 Neither painting nor fighting feed men.

e. *Neither . . or.*

1530 TINDALE *Answ. More* (Parker Soc.) 64 The outward place neither helpeth or hindereth. 1566 *Pasquine in a Traunce* 111 That..we neyther tourne asyde to the right or left hande. 1621 LADY M. WROTH *Urania* 416 A..woman, neither walking, running, or staying. 1671 MILTON *P. R.* I. 268 Yet, neither thus dishearten'd or dismay'd, The time prefixt I waited. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* II. (Globe) 478, I can neither tell how many we kill'd, or how many we wounded. 1786 MRS. A. M. BENNETT *Juvenile Indiscr.* I. 70 Engaging to spare neither trouble or expence. 1830 W. TAYLOR *Hist. Surv. Germ. Poetry* III. 26 These modern antiques neither supply the interest of classical or of German poetry. 1874 DASENT *Tales fr. Fjeld* 204 Wasn't it true that he neither knew anything or could do anything?

† f. *Neither . . neither* (or *nother*). *Obs.*

a 1539 in *Archaeol.* XLVII. 54 Nither at the christening nother at the confirmacion. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 102 We..intend so to proceed in this matter, neither enclyning on the right hande, neyther yet on the left. 1620 VENNER *Via Recta* viii. 176 Neither alwaies, neither to euery one, neither of euery sort.

† g. Irregularly followed by *and* or *but*. *Obs.*

1598 GRENEWEY *Tacitus, Ann.* IV. xvi. (1622) 115 They neither gaue courage to the fearfull, but carried away themselues with like fear, ran al away for company. *Ibid.* XI. vii. 148, I will neither vtter any thing falsely, and am ashamed to tell the truth. 1673 MARVELL *Reh. Transp.* II. 200 He that chuses a just weight does neither find himself the weaker.., and reaches the length he aim'd at. 1678 BUNYAN *Pilgr.* I. (1862) 121 That neither thou, but especially I, am not made myself this example.

2. = Nor, nor yet; and not, also not. Now used only when the alternatives are expressed in clauses or sentences.

1462 *Anc. Cal. Rec. Dublin* (1889) I. 313 No bowcher nayther bowcher ys man, neethyr no nothyr man. 1513-14 *Act 5 Hen. VIII*, c. 17 § 2 That no persone that is taxed for landes..he sett or taxed for his godes..neither contrarye. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 25 b, He said it was a matter newly invented, neyther used in former time. 1615 W. BEDWELL *Arab. Trudg., Sarraceni*..are those people which otherwise..were called..Arabians. Neither were they so named of Sara, Abrahams wife. 1662 STILLINGFL. *Orig. Sacræ* III. ii. § 7 Wee cannot then, neither ought we to determine any thing concerning the particular waies of Gods bounty. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 120 But that there was no help for; neither was my Time so much Loss to me. 1784 COWPER *Task* III. 217 Such powers I boast not—neither can I rest A silent witness of the headlong rage. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 300 If there are no teachers, neither are there disciples?

3. Used to strengthen a preceding negative: = Either.

1551 T. WILSON *Logike* (1580) 81 It is euen so, and yet not true neither, that [etc.]. 1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* II. iii. 18 Nay that cannot bee so neyther. 1638 BAKER tr. *Balzac's Lett.* (vol. II) 103 Yet desire I not nither to tire my hands with writing continually to no profit. 1668 ETHEREDGE *She Wou'd if She Cou'd* III. i, Now I have thought better on 't, that is not absolutely necessary neither. 1711a STEELE *Spect.* No. 423 ¶ 2 Expressions of Rapture and Adoration will not move her neither. 1753 RICHARDSON *Grandison* (1781) I. xxxvii. 264 Perhaps I may not make it in form neither. 1790 BURKE *Fr. Rev.* Wks. V. 436, I would not exclude alteration neither. 1844 DISRAELI *Coningsby* IV. ix, There were no books neither. 1871 MEREDITH *H. Richmond* lv, Lady Edbury would never see Roy-Richmond after that, nor the old lord neither.

† b. Without preceding negative, or not in direct connexion with one. *Obs.*

1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* v. i. 94 *Ad.* Then let your seruants bring my husband forth. *Ab.* Neither: he tooke this place for sanctuary. 1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 596 The Inhabitants cannot travell but with a licence, and with that neither, but for a prefixed season. 1742 RICHARDSON *Pamela* III. 272, I can more freely speak my Mind upon the Occasion, though I am but a poor Casuist neither.

B. 1. *adj.* Not the one or the other.

Also formerly *neither nother*: see NOTHER.

c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 143 þat þei moun not wagge to neiþir side aboute þe sowynge. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 236 b, I should have but small thanke of neyther partie. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* v. ii. 312 Nothing neither way. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 53 But neither Shoar his Conquest shall confine. 1850 THACKERAY *Pendennis* xvii, Neither one of us was particularly eager about rushing into that near smoking Babylon.

2. *absol.* as *pron.* Also const. *of*.

Also formerly *never neither* (1449); *neither other* (1529); *neither nother* (see NOTHER), or following another negative.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1276 Ðor ben he boðen feren pliȝt ðat here neiðer sal don oðer un-riȝt. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* I. iii. 14 Sithen to neuer neither thei han sufficient euydence. 1529 MORE *Dyaloge* I. Wks. 163/2 What if neyther other..were likely to be trewe, but semed bothe twayne impossible. 1567 J. SANFORD *Epictetus* 27 We haue not any thing written of neither of them. 1609 BIBLE (Douay) *Deut.* xxiv. *comm.*, For no cause neither of them can marie againe, so long as the other liveth. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IX. 1188 Thus they in mutual accusation spent The fruitless hours, but neither self-condemning. 1759 JOHNSON *Rasselas* xxviii. [xxix], Neither can forbear to wish for the absence of the other. 1870 E. PEACOCK *Ralf Skirl.* III. 191 Neither of his visitors saw him. 1886 R. C. MOBERLY *Probl. & Princ.* x. (1904) 314 They are co-ordinate, .. they neither override the other.

† b. *Neither of both, of either. Obs.*

1537 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. III. 148 Prosperity and ..adversite, for nedyr off both doth tary, but brevely overpasse. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* v. ii. 459 *Qu.* Will you haue me, or your Pearle againe? *Ber.* Neither of either, I remit both twaine. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* x. xxxvi. 377 But neither of both had any stomacke to fight. 1633 ROWLEY *Match at Midn.* in Dodsley *O. Pl.* (1780) VII. 405 Troth, neither of either, so let him understand.

c. Not any one (of more than two).

1644 [H. PARKER] *Jus Populi* 14 Our adversaries boast of three Conquests in this Island, and yet neither of them all was just or totall. 1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* 164 Matter, Form, and Accidents; neither of which can be the Aristotelick Nature. 1796 SOUTHEY *Let.* in *Life* (1849) I. 263 He at last fixed upon a leg of mutton, soles and oyster sauce, and toasted cheese—to the no small amusement of those who knew he could get neither. 1846 GROVE *Corr. Phys. Forces* (1855) 15 Heat, light, electricity, magnetism, .. are all correlatives,..neither, taken abstractedly, can be said to be the essential cause of the others.

d. With plural verb.

1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* IV. ii. 253 Thersites body is as good as Aiax, When neyther are aliue. 1648 HEYLIN *Relat. & Observ.* I. 142 b, Neither of which are able to read any one Record in those Offices. 1700 DRYDEN *Pref. Fables* Ess. (ed. Ker) II. 254 Both writ with wonderful facility and clearness; neither were great inventors. 1741 C'TESS HARTFORD *Corr.* (1805) II. 245 Neither of your letters mention these disagreeable circuinstances. 1781 G. WAKEFIELD in *Mem.* (1804) I. 461 Neither of us are the proper judges. 1859 F. W. NEWMAN *Phases of Faith* 184 Neither of them declare themselves eyewitnesses of Christ's resurrection. 1875 RUSKIN *Fors Clav.* li. 62 What at present I believe neither of us know.

Neither, obs. f. NETHER *a.* **Neithless,** var. of NETHELESS. **Neiuind,** obs. var. NINTH. **Neive,** var. of NIEVE, fist. **Neiven,** var. NEVEN *v. Obs.* **Neiver,** var. of NIFFER, to exchange. **Neiwat,** var. of NICHWHAT.

‖ **Nek.** *S. African.* [Du. *nek* NECK.] A neck or saddle between two hills.

1834 PRINGLE *African Sketches* vi. 223 They had to travel along the narrow ridge (nek) in order to reach the opposite highland. 1883 T. F. CARTER *Narrative Boer War* viii. 161 The flat which lies between the camp and the Nek. *Ibid.*, The high road which runs through the Nek.

Nek, obs. form of NECK.

† **Nekard, neker.** *Obs. rare*⁻¹. [Of obscure origin.] App., an insignificant person.

Both form and sense are against identity with *niggard*.

a 1400-50 *Alexander* 1742 Slike a nekard [*v.r.* neker] as þi-selfe, a noȝt of all othire, Is bot a madding to mell with mare þan him-seluen.

Neke, obs. form of NECK *sb.*, NICK *v.*

† **Neked.** *Obs. rare.* Also **nykid.** [Perh. a. ON. *nekkvat*, something, somewhat.] A little, a small amount.

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1062 Of þat ilk nwȝere bot neked now wontez. *Ibid.* 1805 Bot to dele yow for drurye, þat dawed bot neked. *a* 1400-50 *Alexander* 3935 All at was bitten of þa best was at a brunt dede, Bot ȝit þai noyed bot a nykid to nane þat was ermed.

Neke name, obs. f. NICKNAME. **Nekropolis,** var. NECROPOLIS. **Neld(e,** obs. ff. NEEDLE. **Nele,** obs. f. EEL, NILL *v.* **Neli,** obs. f. NIGHLY.

† **Neling,** obs. variant of ANELING, anointing.

1567-8 in Swayne *Sarum Churchw. Acc.* (1896) 110 Two lytell Clothys that holdeth the neling box. *Ibid.*, The nelinge box of led.

Nell, obs. form of ELL. **Nelle,** var. of NILL *v.*

Nelly (ne·li). [Of uncertain origin; perh. merely the feminine name *Nelly*, familiar form of Helen or Eleanor.] A large sea-bird (*Ossifraga gigantea*) belonging to the petrel group.

1823 J. WEDDELL *Voy.* 59 The bird next in size found here is called by sailors a Nelly. It is of the peterel kind. 1845 DARWIN *Voy. Nat.* xiii. (1873) 289 The largest kind of petrel, *Procellaria gigantea*, or nelly. 1895 *Pall Mall G.* 16 Dec. 2/2 Arctic raven and fox..are ten thousand times worse than nelly or albatross.

Nelt(ou: see NILL *v.*

Nelumbia·ceous, *a. Bot. rare*⁻⁰. [See def.] Of or belonging to the order *Nelumbiaceæ*, or Water Beans, represented by the different species of Nelumbium. So **Nelumbo·neous** *a.*

1856 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*

‖ **Nelumbium** (nɪlʌ·mbiŏm). *Bot.* [mod.L. (of De Jussieu, 1789), f. Singhalese *nelumbu* or *nelum*.] A genus of water-beans (also called *Nelumbo*), to which the lotus of Egypt and Asia (*N. speciosum*) belongs; a plant of this genus.

1857 A. GRAY *First Less. Bot.* (1866) 59 The common Watershield, the Nelumbium, and the White Water-lily.. exhibit this sort of leaf. 1882 *Garden* 11 Nov. 421/1, I am somewhat interested in Nelumbiums. 1885 *Standard* 8 May 3/4 The [seed of] Nelumbium has been known to grow after a hundred years.

Nem, variant of NEMN *v.*, to name.

Nemaline (ne·mălɔin), *a. Min. rare.* [irreg. f. Gr. *νῆμα* thread.] Having the form of threads.

1835 SHEPARD *Min.* s.v. *Nemalite*, Nemaline atelene Picrosmine.

Nemalite (ne·mălɔit). *Min.* [f. Gr. *νῆμα* thread + -LITE: named by Nuttall, 1821.] A fibrous variety of Brucite.

1821 NUTTALL *Amer. Jrnl. Sci.* Oct. 19 Nemalite.. possesses the usual silky lustre and flexible fibrous texture [of amianthus] and is commonly of a pale blue colour. 1861 BRISTOW *Gloss. Min.* 256/2. 1882 DANA *Min.* (ed. 4) 204 The fibrous variety [of Brucite] has been called nemalite..; it occurs at Hoboken.

Nemathece (ne·măþīs). *Bot.* = NEMATHECIUM. 1889 BENNETT & MURRAY *Handbk. Cryptog. Bot.* 202 The cystocarps are enclosed in nematheces.

Nemathecial (nemăþī·ʃĭal), *a. Bot.* [f. next.] Of or belonging to the nemathecium.

1890 in *Cent. Dict.* 1899 DARBISHIRE in *Annals Bot.* XIII. 261 At first as a rule these nemathecial bodies are formed only on one side of the flattened spermaphore. *Ibid.* 262 Outer cells of nemathecial filaments.

‖ **Nemathecium** (nemăþī·ʃĭŏm). *Bot.* Pl. -ia. [mod.L. (Agardh), f. Gr. *νῆμα* thread + *θήκη* box, chest, sheath, etc.] A warty protuberance developed in some of the florideous algæ, usually containing tetraspores.

1830 GREVILLE *Algæ Brit.* 131 Dark red masses .. composed entirely of vertical moniliform filaments (nemathecia of Agardh). *Ibid.* 136 The nemathecia are very beautiful under the microscope. 1841 HARVEY *Man. Brit. Algæ* 78 Nemathecia also frequently occur on the frondlets. 1899 DARBISHIRE in *Annals Bot.* XIII. 262 The extramatrical filaments gradually form the nemathecium of the parasite. *Comb.* 1846-51 HARVEY *Phycologia Brit.* III. (Syn. 198), Mr. Dillwyn was .. the first to notice the nemathecia-fructification.

Nemathelminth (nemăþe·lminþ). *Zool.* [f. Gr. *νήματ-*, *νῆμα* thread + *ἕλμινθ-*, *ἕλμινς* worm.] A thread-worm or round-worm; one of that class of worms which includes the nematodes and related forms. Hence **Ne·mathelmi·nthic** *a.*

1890 in *Cent. Dict.* 1896 SHIPLEY in *Cambridge Nat. Hist.* II. vi. 124 In no Nemathelminth is there any closed vascular system, nor are special respiratory organs developed.

Nemato- (ne·mătɔ), combining form of Gr. *νῆμα*, *νήματος* thread, used in a number of scientific terms, as **Ne·matoblast,** *Biol.* a blastema which develops into a spermatozoon. **Ne·matoca·lycine** *a.*, pertaining to, of the nature of, a nematocalyx. **Ne·matoca·lyx,** *Zool.* a calyx containing nematocysts, occurring in some *Hydromedusæ*. **Ne·matoce·ratous** *a.*, *Entom.* having filiform antennæ (Mayne 1856); so **Nemato·cerous** *a.* **Ne·matocide,** a substance or preparation employed to kill nematode worms. **Ne·matogen,** *Biol.*, in Dicyemids, the form which produces a filiform embryo; hence **Ne·matoge·nic, Nemato·genous** *adjs.* **Ne·matognath,** *Zool.* a fish of the sub-order *Nematognathi*; a catfish; also **Ne·matogna·thous** *a.* **Ne·matoneu·rous, -neu·rose** *a.*, *Zool.* of or pertaining to the *Nematoneura*, Owen's name for a division of *Radiata* 'in which nervous filaments are always distinctly traceable'. † **Ne·matopode,** *Zool.* a cirriped; also **Nemato·podous** *a.* (Mayne 1856). **Ne·matothe·c(i)ous** *a.*, *Bot.* of or belonging to a filamentous family of gymnocarpous mushrooms (Mayne 1856). **Ne·matozo·oid,** *Zool.* one of the stinging filaments of a siphonophore considered as a zooid.

1886 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 9) XX. 413/1 A central cavity..from which the tails of the incipient spermatozoa or '*nematoblasts' project into the lumen of the duct. 1898 *Daily News* 4 Aug. 2/1 That the..antiseptic remedy thymol will be of service as a *nematocide. 1888 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* 815 The first-named [a monogenic Dicyemid] produces only vermiform embryoes, and is hence a primary *Nematogen. 1896 *Cambridge Nat. Hist.* II. 94 Other individuals which produce a more elongated larva..are called Nematogens. 1885 GEDDES in *Encycl. Brit.* XVIII. 259/1 The embryos are of two kinds, *nematogenic or vermiform, and rhombogenic or infusiform. 1877 HUXLEY *Anat. Inv. Anim.* xi. 654 The *nematogenous Dicyema gives rise by an agamogenetic process to new Dicyemas. 1888 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* 817 The Nematogenous individual varies somewhat in shape. 1835-6 OWEN in *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 47/2 The difference in the condition of the digestive system between the Acrite and *Nematoneurous classes is still more striking. 1839-47 T. R. JONES *ibid.* III. 535/1 The Bryozoa..belong to the Nematoneurose type. 1837 *Penny Cycl.* VII. 202/1 [The] Cirrhopodes of Cuvier,..*Nematopodes of De Blainville.

Nematocyst (ne·mătŏsist). *Zool.* [f. NEMATO- + CYST.] A small cell in the external layer of jelly-fishes and other cœlenterates, containing a thread capable of being ejected and of producing a stinging sensation; a lasso-cell or thread-cell.

1875 HUXLEY in *Encycl. Brit.* I. 129/1 The Actinozoa agree with the Hydrozoa .. in possessing thread cells, or nematocysts. 1877 — *Anat. Inv. Anim.* iii. 124 In its most perfect form, a nematocyst is an elastic thick-walled sac, coiled up in the interior of which is a long filament, often serrated or provided with spines. 1888 ROLLESTON &

Jackson *Anim. Life* 781 The tentacles especially are provided with nematocysts of two sizes.

Nematode (ne·mătōud), *a.* and *sb.* See Nemato- and -ode, and cf. Nematoid.]

A. *adj.* 1. Of worms: Pertaining to the class *Nematoda* or *Nematoidea*, comprising those of a slender cylindrical or thread-like form (chiefly parasitic in animals or plants), such as the common round-worm, maw-worm, Guinea-worm, etc.

1861 Hulme tr. *Moquin-Tandon* II. VII. i. 339 The embryos of the nematode worms may pass the winter in a sort of torpid state. 1876 *Beneden's Anim. Parasites* Introd. 26 The greater part .. have not lived long in captivity, before nematode and cestode worms completely disappear.

2. [Partly *attrib.* uses of the sb.] Of or pertaining to, resembling or characteristic of, worms of this class.

1866 *Standard* 19 Feb., We now proceed to look our foe in the face—if, indeed, the nematode nuisance possesses any face. 1889 Geddes & Thomson *Evol. Sex* 17 They become parasitic, and lose both activity and nematode form. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 1032 An embryo of the usual nematode character.

B. *sb.* A nematode worm.

1865 T. S. Cobbold in *Pop. Sci. Rev.* IV. 163 In various plants I have .. noticed free nematodes within their parenchyma. 1876 *Beneden's Anim. Parasites* 155 A nematode which I observed under very singular circumstances. 1888 Rolleston & Jackson *Anim. Life* 684 Three stages .. have been distinguished in the growth of a Nematode after hatching.

Comb. 1898 Sedgwick *Text-bk. Zool.* I. vii. 291 A .. vermiform body carrying a small Nematode-like worm.

Nematoid (ne·mătoid), *a.* and *sb.* [Cf. Nematode and -oid.]

A. *adj.* = Nematode *a.*

1836–9 Owen in *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* II. 134/2 A close affinity to the Nematoid type. 1836–9 T. R. Jones *ibid.* II. 407/2 Some of the Nematoid worms .. propagate by spontaneous division. 1877 Huxley *Anat. Inv. Anim.* xii. 680 The lowest known term of the Arthrozoic series is a Nematoid worm. 1882 *Pall Mall G.* 26 July 4/2 The intestines of the many diseased birds .. contain nematoid entozoa.

B. *sb.* = Nematode *sb.*

1870 Rolleston *Forms Anim. Life*, The ventral surface of the parasitic Nematoids. 1880 Bastian *Brain* v. 86.

Hence **Nematoi·dean.** (Craig 1849.)

Nematophore (ne·mătŏfōəɹ). *Zool.* Also -phor. [f. Nemato- + -phore.] A special cup-shaped process of the cœnosarc in certain hydrozoans, having nematocysts at the extremity.

1859 Huxley *Oceanic Hydrozoa* (Ray Soc.) 11 These nematophores..are cæcal processes of the cœnosarc. 1861 J. R. Greene *Man. Anim. Kingd., Cœlent.* 34 The nematophores probably serve as organs of offence. They are most numerous in the genus *Plumularia*. 1898 Sedgwick *Text-bk. Zool.* I. 126 Nematophores are probably nutritive, catching food as an Amœba does.

Comb. 1871 Allman *Gymnoblastic Hydroids* (Ray Soc.) I. 28 The nematophore-bearing genera. *Ibid.* 115 The contents of the nematophore-sheaths.

Hence **Nemato·phorous** *a.*, of the nature of a nematophore.

1878 Bell *Gegenbaur's Comp. Anat.* 102 Among the Siphonophora all the medusiform persons want the marginal filaments.. ; as for example, in the nematophorous enlargements of the protective persons.

Nemble, obs. form of Nimble.

Nem. con., an abbreviation of the L. phrase *nemine contradicente* '(with) no one contradicting'.

The full form has been in common use since at least the middle of the 17th c. ; rarely abbrev. to *nemine con.*

1588 R. Hoyenden in *Collect.* (O.H.S.) I. 232 The Coll. flatly denied to grant the Lease (*nem. con.*). 1772 *Town & Country Mag.* 19 Preparations were ordered, *nem. con.*, for the decisive day. 1822 Byron *Let. to Moore* 1 Mar., I thought that you had always been allowed to be a poet .. —a bad one, to be sure .., but still always a poet, *nem. con.* 1866 *Routledge's Mag.* July 394 A resolution was now passed, *nem. con.*, not to land on Monk's Island.

So **Nem. diss.,** abbrev. of *nemine dissentiente.*

1791 *Hist. Eur.* in *Ann. Reg.* 37/2 The lord chancellor put the question..when it was declared that the contents had it *nem. diss.*

† **Neme,** obs. variant of Eme, uncle.

c 1450 *Nominale* (Harl. MS. 1002) lf. 143 *Patrius*, a neme. 1696 Phillips (ed. 5), *Neme*, (Old English) signifying Uncle ; used by those of Staffordshire.

Neme, variant of Nim *v.*

Nemean (nĭmī·ăn, nēmī·ăn), *a.* Also 7 -ian, 7–9 -æan. [f. L. *Nemæus, Nemæus, Neme̅us*, ad. Gr. Νεμεαῖος, Νέμειος, Νέμεος, etc., f. Νεμέα, the name of a wooded district near Argos in Greece.] Of or belonging to Nemea.

1. *Nemean lion*, a lion said to have been killed by Hercules at Nemea.

1588 Shaks. *L. L. L.* IV. i. 90 Thus dost thou heare the Nemean Lion roare. 1602 — *Ham.* I. iv. 83 As hardy as the Nemian Lions nerue. 1649 Ogilby *Virg. Georg.* III. (1684) 94 *note*, As he went to kill the Nemæan Lion. 1830 *Tales of Classics* II. 156 Having covered the pile with the skin of the Nemæan Lion. 1845 Browning *Glove* 164 Had our brute been Nemean [*rime* plebeian].

2. *Nemean games* or *festival* [Gr. Νέμεα, Νέμεια], one of the great Greek festivals, held at Nemea in the second and fourth years of each Olympiad.

1656 Blount *Glossogr.* 1663 Butler *Hud.* I. i. 682 For authors do affirm it came From Isthmian or Nemæan game. 1776 Burney *Hist. Mus.* (1789) I. iv. 396. 1844 Thirlwall *Greece* VIII. 277 At the Nemean festival .., being a second time General, he exhibited his phalanx. 1864 *Chambers's Encycl.* VI. 704/2 We have eleven odes by Pindar in honour of victors in the Nemean Games.

† **Nemel,** ? obs. variant of Enamel *sb.*

a 1400–50 *Alexander* 3671 Sum was smeth smaragdyns & opire small gemmes, And new nychometis nemellus endentid.

† **Ne·mel,** *v. Obs.* [app. an alteration of Nemn *v.*] *trans.* To name.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3533 God hem bad hodes manize on.. And nemeld it beseel, And tve oðere to maken it wel. 14.. *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1866) 23 Þat [non] raton dwelle in þe place þat her namis were nemeled in. 1447 Bokenham *Seyntys* (Roxb.) 250 How darst thou..Hym nemelyn ageyn in my presence.

Nemel, -ly, obs. forms of Nimble, -ly.

Nemen, var. f. Nemn *v.* (Also occas. mis-written for *neuen* Neven *v.*)

Nemertean (nĭmə·ɹtĭăn), *sb.* and *a.* [f. mod.L. *Nemertes* (Cuvier), a. Gr. Νημερτής the name of a sea-nymph.]

A. *sb.* = Nemertine *sb.*

1861 T. R. Jones *Anim. Kingd.* vii. 156 The male Nemerteans present phenomena very similar to those just described as occurring in the female. 1880 H. A. Nicholson *Man. Zool.* xxiv. (ed. 6) 242 The Nemerteans..make a near approach to the dendrocœlous Planarians. 1888 Rolleston & Jackson *Anim. Life* 641 The larger Nemerteans feed on fixed tubicolous Chaetopoda.

B. *adj.* = Nemertine *a.*

1873 M'Intosh *Brit. Annelids* (Ray Soc.) I. p. xii, The former did much to place Nemertean anatomy on a proper basis. 1888 Rolleston & Jackson *Anim. Life* 814 This species is found in saccules..between the body-walls and digestive tract of its Nemertean host.

Nemertian (nĭmə·ɹtiăn), *a.* and *sb.* [f. as prec. + -ian.] = Nemertean.

1861 T. R. Jones *Anim. Kingd.* vii. 150 They may be divided into two families, the Planariæ and the Nemertian Worms. 1874 Darwin *Desc. Man* ix. (ed. 2) 264 Even the Nemertians..vie in beauty..with any other group in the invertebrate series. 1876 *Beneden's Anim. Parasites* 46 Among the nemertians, we may allude to the *Anoplodium parasita.*

Neme·rtid. [f. as prec. + -id.] A nemertean form. Also *attrib.* or as *adj.*

1870 Huxley in Nicholson *Man. Zool.* 150 Eventually it .. detaches itself from the *Pilidium* as a Nemertid. 1877 — *Anat. Inv. Anim.* xi. 651 The production of the Nemertid larva within its *pilidium.*

Nemertine (nĭmə·ɹtəin), *sb.* and *a.* [f. mod.L. *Nemert-es* (see Nemertean) + -ine.]

A. *adj.* Belonging to the class of flat-worms (chiefly marine) known as *Nemertina, Nemertida*, or *Nemertea*, usually characterized by an elongated, very contractile body, and often brilliantly coloured.

1851 T. Williams in *Phil. Trans.* (1852) CLXII. 620 As the Nemertine Annelida differ from all the other orders of their class. 1875 Moseley in *Ann. & Mag. Nat. Hist.* XV. 168 In other respects *Pelagonemertes* is thoroughly Nemertine in structure. 1896 Kirkaldy & Pollard tr. *Boas' Zool.* 155 Invagination of the skin, from which a great part of the final Nemertine body arises.

B. *sb.* A flat-worm of the class *Nemertina* ; a ribbon-worm.

1875 Moseley in *Ann. & Mag. Nat. Hist.* XV. 167 The outer surface of the body of the Nemertine is covered with a hyaline, very thin integument. 1896 Kirkaldy & Pollard tr. *Boas' Zool.* 153 The Nemertines are, as a rule, elongate, often even ribbon-like, animals of considerable size.

Nemesis (ne·mĭsis). [a. Gr. νέμεσις (f. νέμειν to give what is due), righteous indignation, just resentment, also personified as 'the goddess of Retribution, who brings down all immoderate good fortune, checks the presumption that attends it, .. and is the punisher of extraordinary crimes'.]

1. The goddess of retribution or vengeance ; hence, one who avenges or punishes.

1576 Gascoigne *Philomene* (Arb.) 114 She calles on Nemesis..,The Goddesse of al iust reuenge. 1591 Shaks. 1 *Hen. VI*, IV. vii. 78 Is Talbot slaine, the Frenchmens only Scourge, Your Kingdomes terror, and blacke Nemesis? 1642 H. More *Song of Soul* III. II. xiii, Thus sensuall souls do find their righteous doom which Nemesis inflicts. 1818 Byron *Ch. Har.* IV. cxxxii, Thou, who never yet of human wrong Left the unbalanced scale, great Nemesis ! 1867 Emerson *Nemesis*, In spite of Virtue and the Muse, Nemesis will have her dues.

2. Retributive justice ; an instance of this.

Divine Nemesis (sometimes personified as in sense 1) is common in the 17th cent.

1597 Bacon *Coulers Good & Evill* Ess. (Arb.) 149 Expecting..that Nemesis and retribution will take holde of the authonrs of our hurt. *a* 1652 J. Smith *Sel. Disc.* v. 161 It must..find a severe Nemesis arising out of its guilty conscience. 1664 H. More *Myst. Iniq.* xix. 72 Penalties inflicted by that Nemesis that is interwoven in the very Law of Nature thus transgressed. *Ibid. Apol.* 530 Intangling themselves in those unavoidable trains of the Divine Nemesis. 1733 W. Crawford *Infidelity* (1836) 164 Guilt naturally produces a fear of the divine Nemesis. 1859 Bucknill *Psychol. Shaks.* 21 It is a pathological Nemesis of guilt. 1867 Jebb *Sophocles' Electra* Introd. 8 The nemesis which overtook Clytaemnestra.

Nemly, obs. form of Nimbly.

† **Nemn,** *v. Obs.* Forms: *a.* 1–3 **nemnan,** 3 **nemnen,** 3–4 **nemne,** 4 **nemny.** *β.* 3–6 **nempne,** (3–4 **-pnen**), 4 **nempe** (**nymphe**), 6 *pa. pple.* **nempt,** 7 **nemp'd.** *γ.* 1–4 *pa. t.* **nemde,** 3 *pa. pple.* i-nemd ; 3–4 **nemmen,** 4–5 **nem(m)yn,** (5 **nemon**), 4–6 **nemme, nem.** [OE. *nęmnan* = OFris. *namna, namne*, OS. *nemnian*, MDu. *nennen* (usu. in forms *nande, genant*), MLG. *nennen* (rare), OHG. *nemnan, nemman, nennen* (G. *nennen*), ON. *nefna, nemna* (Sw. *nämna*, Da. *nævne*), Goth. *namnjan*, f. the stem **namn-* ; see Name *sb.*] *trans.* To name ; to call (by some name) ; to mention.

a. *c* 888 K. Ælfred *Boeth.* xxxvii. § 4 Ne meaht þu hine na mid ryhte nemnan man ac neat. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Mark vii. 26 Wæs þæt wif hæðen ðæs cynnes is nemned syro-phoenissa. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 222 Ðas wyrt mon ..lilium nemneþ. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 123 Þe mon þe bið efter criste selue cristene mon inemned. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 82 Ðes frenkis men o france moal, it nemnen 'un iur natural'. *a* 1272 *Luue Ron* 161 in *O.E. Misc.* 98 Þis ilke ston þat ich þe nemne Mayden-hod icleoped is. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 7357 When þe kyng herde hym nemne a God, He asked þenne how þey trowd. 1382 Wyclif *Isa.* lxii. 2 A newe name, that the mouth of the Lord nemnede. 1408 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 15 For hys labour more than he ys nemnyd a-fore the date of thys.

β. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 158 Þeos þet ich habbe inempned her weren of þen olde lawe. *c* 1320 *Cast. Love* 299 Good is to nempnen hem for-þi. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 3196 Gy of Borgoyne he is þer..And oþer þat huþ noȝt nempned her. *c* 1430 *Hymns Virgin* (1867) 40 Þou schalt þinke ioie to heere þe name of ihesu be nempned. 1483 Caxton *Gold. Leg.* 118 b/2 Thou art not worthy to nempne so..swete a name. 1559 *Mirr. Mag.* (1563) F ij, Than had my father ..Of laufull barnes, me and one only other, Nempt Dauy Rothsay. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* III. x. 29 Much disdeigning to be so misdempt, Or a war-monger to be basely nempt. [*a* 1643 W. Cartwright *Ordinary* in Dodsley *O. Pl.* (1780) X. 236 That were transmued into birds, nemp'd pyes.]

γ. *c* 888 K. Ælfred *Boeth.* xxxvii. § 1 Hi hi underþiodað eallum þam unþeawum þe ic þe ær nemde. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 13 Heo sylf hie þeowen nemde. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 39 Ðese fower mannisshe þe ich er inemd habbe. *Ibid.* 143 Hali boc nemmeð þes woreld sæ. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 292 Nem ofte Jesu. *c* 1275 *Passion our Lord* 577 in *O. E. Misc.* 53 Iesus þo nemde marie. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 997 As þise stonez in writ con nemme, I knew þe name after his tale. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 465 An accident, þe which þey kunnen not nemyn to men. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 153 An aunter in an yle þat I nem shall. *c* 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 664 Schir Bedwar to schir Bantellas..That baith war nemmyt in neid. 1508 Dunbar *Tua Maryit Wemen* 117 Quhen I heir nemmyt his name, than mak I nyne crocis. 1562–3 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 234 The saidis partiis.. hes nemmit Maister George Buchquhannane.

Hence † **Ne·mning** *vbl. sb. Obs. rare.*

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 290 Nim anon þene rod stef, mid nemmunge iðine muðe. 1382 Wyclif *Eccl.* xxiii. 10 The nemeyng [*v.r.* nemyng] forsothe of God be not continyuel in thi mouth.

Nemo·ceran, *a.* and *sb. Ent.* [f. as next + -an.] **a.** *adj.* = next. **b.** *sb.* An insect belonging to the *Nemocera.* 1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

Nemocerous (nĭmŏ·sĕrəs), *a. Entom.* [f. mod.L. *Nemocera* (Latreille), irreg. f. Gr. νῆμα thread + κέρας horn.] Belonging to the *Nemocera*, a family of dipterous insects with thread-like antennæ, comprising the midges, gnats, crane-flies, etc. ; nematocerous.

1856 in Mayne *Expos. Lex.* 1883 Dallas in *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* VI. 82 This last family of the Nemocerous Diptera includes a number of fly-like species.

Ne·mocyst, variant of Nematocyst.

1878 Bell *Gegenbaur's Comp. Anat.* 103 The urticating capsules (nemocysts) are special differentiations of the epithelial elements, which are found in all the Acalephæ.

Nemoglo·ssate, *a. Ent.* [f. mod.L. *Nemoglossatus* (Latreille), f. Gr. νῆμα thread + γλῶσσα tongue.] Having a filiform tongue. So **Nemoglo·ssatous** *a.*

1856 in Mayne *Expos. Lex.* 1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

Ne·molite. *rare* —0. [f. Gr. νέμος (see next) + -lite.] 'An arborized stone'.

1828–32 Webster (citing *Dict. Nat. Hist.*).

‖ **Nemophila** (nĭmŏ·filă). *Bot.* Also *erron.* -phyla, -phylla. [mod.L., f. Gr. νέμος wooded pasture, glade + φίλος loving.] A genus of ornamental herbaceous annuals (N.O. *Hydrophyllaceæ*), of N. American origin, of which the chief variety, *N. insignis*, has showy blue flowers with a white centre ; a plant of this genus.

1838 *Penny Cycl.* XII. 401/1 Many of the species, especially those of the genera Nemophila and Eutoca, are beautiful objects. 1858 Glenny *Gard. Every-day Bk.* 43/2 By hardy annuals we mean those that want no nursing.., [as] Nemophylla, Eschscholtzia, Coreopsis, Sweet Pea, Lupin. 1882 *Standard* 9 Oct. 5/3 Indian cress, the sweet pea, and nemophila, redeem the dingy walls..from their..repulsiveness. 1890 Baring-Gould *Grettir* I. 17 The blue of the nemophyla or forget-me-not.

Nemo·philist. *rare* —1. [See prec. and -ist.] One who is fond of the woods ; a forest-lover. So **Nemo·philous** *a.*, fond of, or frequenting, woods ; **Nemo·phily,** love of, fondness for, woods.

1860 *Atlantic Monthly* Jan. 26 Not as a naturalist in close patient study.., but as a nemophilist, taking simple delight in mere observation. *Ibid.* 29, I say, in the full faith of the creed of Nemophily,—Get into the woods !

Nemoral (ne·mŏrăl), *a. rare.* [ad. L. *nemorāl-is*, f. *nemor-, nemus* grove.] Of or pertaining to, living in, frequenting, groves or woods.

1656 Blount *Glossogr.* 1657 Tomlinson *Renou's Disp.*

524 All of them require nemoral snails. 1845 MACGILLIVRAY *T. Brown's Conchol. Text-bk.* 224 *Nemoral*, of or belonging to a wood. 1881 tr. *J. Verne's Tigers & Traitors* v. 87 Lions do not figure in great numbers among the nemoral beasts of India.

Nemori·vagant, *a. rare*—°. [f. L. *nemori-vag-us* (Catullus).] 'Wandering in the wood' (Blount *Glossogr.* 1656). So **Nemori·vagous** *a.* (Bailey 1721).

Nemoro·se, *a. rare*—°. [ad. L. *nemorōs-us*: see NEMORAL and -OSE.] 'Full of woods or groves' (Bailey 1721); 'growing in groves' (*Treas. Bot.* 1866). Hence **Nemoro·sity**, 'fullness of woods, woodiness' (Bailey 1721).

Nemorous (ne·mŏrəs), *a. rare.* [ad. L. *nemorōs-us*: cf. prec. and -OUS.] (See quots.)

1623 COCKERAM I, *Nemorous*, woody. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Nemorous*, full of Woods, Groves or Trees, shadowed and dark with Trees. 1679 EVELYN *Sylva* (ed. 3) 256 Paradise it self was but a kind of Nemorous Temple, or Sacred Grove, planted by God himself.

†**Nemot**, obs. form of EMMOT.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* iv. (*James*) 137 Na mycht haff we to grewe..a nemot, quhare þat þu restis þi corse.

Nemp(t: see NEMN *v.*, NIM *v.*

Nemyl(l, obs. forms of NIMBLE *a.*

†**Nen**, *conj.*[1], obs. var. NE, nor. (Cf. NYN.)

c 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 41 He brak no covenaunt nen condicioun. *Ibid.* 44 That ye your lif ne shorte nen yt appeyr.

†**Nen, non**, *conj.*[2] [Cf. NA, NE, *conj.*[2]] Than.

c 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 1584 Hurre was leuer to hir mayteynesse and masse..Nen to be duchas. *Ibid.* 1724 þey sayden þat he..nomore ryȝt hadde þerto by ony lawe Non hadde he þat nas not of þat lynage.

†**Nend**(e, obs. forms of END *sb.*

c 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 3287 þai hadde wounders ille At þe nende. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 4860 Of þis way..sone worthis him a nende. 1420 in *Surtees Misc.* (1890) 17 Als wele at the ta nende als at the other. *c* 1440 *Alph. Tales* 470 þe clerk went at all þis werld had bene at a nend.

†**Nent**(es, **nentis**, obs. aphetic forms of ANENT(S. Also mod. north. dial. **nenst**.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 25246 In þis ilk clause we prai For all es nentes domes-dai. *Ibid.* 27406 Lufand he be nent godd and man. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Serm.* Sel. Wks. I. 75 As nentis godhede, Crist was not made. 1829 BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss.* (ed. 2) s.v., The cash was paid neust his year's rent.

Nente, nenteyn, nenty, obs. ff. NINTH, NINETEEN, NINETY.

Nenuphar (ne·niuf**ā**r). Also 6–8 **-far**, 6 **-farre**, 7 **-fer** (and *erron.* **nune-, nemi-, nem-**). [a. med.L. *nenuphar, -far* (It. and Sp. *nenufar*, F. *néнufar*), ad. Arab.-Pers. نينوفر *nīnūfar*, نيلوفر *nīlūfar*, Pers. also *nīlūfal, -pal*, ad. Skr. *nīlôtpala* blue lotus, f. *nīl* blue + *utpala* lotus, water-lily.]

1. A water-lily, esp. the common white or yellow species. In early use freq. in *oil, syrup, water of nenuphar.*

1533 ELYOT *Cast. Helth* (1534) 76 Syrope of violettes, nemipher, or the wine of sweet pomegranates. 1563 T. GALE *Antidotarie* I. viii. 5 Among compoundes these are in vse, butter, oile of roses, Violettes, Nenuphar, Popye. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* II. v. I. vi. (1651) 397 To refrigerate the face, by washing it often with Rose, Violet, Nenuphar, Lettuce, Lovage waters and the like. 1612 PEACHAM *Gentl. Exerc.* III. 162 Of Flowers you haue Roses, Gilliflowers, Violets, Nenuphar, Lilly. 1725 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Syrup*, Syrup of Nenuphar, or Water-Lilly. 1759 tr. *Adanson's Voy. Senegal* in Pinkerton *Voy.* (1814) XVI. 631 The leaves of the *nenufar*, or water-lilly. 1832 LYELL *Princ. Geol.* II. vi. 98 On these green isles of the Mississippi,.. the pistia and nenuphar display their yellow flowers. 1858 O. W. HOLMES *Aut. Breakf.-t.* x. (1891) 250 The stream with ..clustering nenuphars Sprinkling its mirrored blue like golden-chaliced stars! 1874 A. O'SHAUGHNESSY *Music & Moonlight* 14 Here and there great lakes of nenuphar And lustrous lotos glimmered.

†**b.** *Petty nenuphar*, applied by Turner (apparently) to the Marsh Marigold. *Obs.*

1548 TURNER *Names Herbs* (E.D.S.) 26 It groweth in watery middowes with a leafe like a water Rose, wherefore it may be called also Petie nunefar [*sic*].

2. *Ent.* (See quot.) *rare*—[1].

1852 T. W. HARRIS *Insects New Eng.* 66 A small beetle of the weevil tribe, called *Rhynchænus Nenuphar*, the Nenuphar or plum-weevil.

Neo- (nī·o), combining form of Gr. *néos*, new (as in νεόγαμος newly married, νεογενής newborn), common in recent use as a prefix to adjs. and sbs.

1. a. In combs. denoting a new or modern form of some doctrine, belief, practice, language, etc., or designating those who advocate, adopt, or use it, as *Neo-Anglican, -Catholic, -Christian, classic(al), -critic, -Darwinian*, etc.; *Neo-Anglicanism, -barbarism, -Calvinism, -Catholicism, -Christianity*, etc. (see quots.).

The number of such formations is practically unlimited, and only some of the more prominent or typical are illustrated here. Similar forms are also current in French (as *néo-catholique, -chrétien, -grec, -latin*, etc.) and the other Romance languages.

1894 L. TOLLEMACHE in *Jrnl. Educ.* 1 Feb. 126 Matthew Arnold was a good *Neo-Anglican. 1859 KINGSLEY *Yeast* (ed. 4) Pref. 10, I have said, that *Neo-Anglicanism has proved a failure, as seventeenth-century Anglicanism did. 1892 MAHAFFY *Rambles & Stud.* 15 *Neo-barbarism means the occurrence in later times of the manners and customs which generally mark very old and primitive times. 1854 J. GUTHRIE in *Evang. Union Worthies* (1883) 322 Calvinism and *Neo-Calvinism. 1867–71 FROUDE *Short Stud.* II. 145 The *Neo-Catholics of our own day. 1876 E. MELLOR *Priesthood* viii. 393 The *Neo-Catholicism of the Church of England. 1882 SEELEY *Nat. Relig.* 116 The *Neochristian.., if he is not provoked by argument, gradually forgets his crotchet. *Ibid.* 115 A *Neochristianism must inevitably arise. 1860 F. HARRISON in *Westm. Rev.* Oct. 293 *Neo-Christianity. 1864 PUSEY *Lect. Daniel* Pref. 27 Somewhere between Genesis and Revelation, but probably, according to the neo-Christianity, to the exclusion of both. 1881 *Athenæum* 19 Feb. 270/2 The *neo-classic, if not the Italian, mood of design. 1882 PITMAN *Mission Life Greece* 42 The written [modern Greek] is a form of the ancient, called *neo-classical. 1893 *Times* 6 May 17/2 A man must be a scholar before he can make *neo-classicism even tolerable in art. 1865 W. KAY *Crisis Hupfeld.* 3 The philology of the *neo-critics is .. conjectural and arbitrary. 1895 ROMANES *Darwin* II. iii. 61 The *Neo-Darwinian doctrine of the absolute non-inheritance of acquired characters. 1867 PEARSON *Hist. Eng.* I. 80 There is other evidence for *Neo-Druidism, as it may be termed. 1878 *N. Amer. Rev.* CXXVII. 495 A *Neo-Egyptian style came into vogue. 1892 *Nation* (N. Y.) 15 Dec. 447/1 The New Gallery is not even true to the *neo-Gothic School, who were its first supporters. 1869 TOZER *Highl. Turkey* II. 116 *Neo-Hellenic, as the regenerated language of modern Greece is called to distinguish it from the vulgar Romaic. 1879 SYMONDS *Sk. Italy & Greece* 79 A genuine instance of what we may call the *Neohellenism of the Renaissance. 1895 ZANGWILL *Master* III. ii. 300 The excesses of the *Neo-Japanese school. *a* 1881 A. BARRATT *Phys. Metempiric* iv. (1883) 40 Like the *Neo-Kantians. 1888 *Pall Mall G.* 6 Aug. 11/1 The *Neo-Kantianism of English and French contemporaries. 1884 PACKARD in *Stand. Nat. Hist.* I. p. liii, In the United States a number of naturalists have advocated what may be called *neo-Lamarckian views of evolution. *Ibid.* liv, We believe in a modified and greatly extended Lamarckianism, or what may be called *neo-Lamarckianism. 1850 *Gentl. Mag.* CXX. I. 143 The *Neo-Latin or French dialect of the intruders. 1880–1 L. BONAPARTE in *Trans. Philol. Soc.* I. App. iii. *47 That the Latin neuter gender.. has almost disappeared from the greater number of the Neo-Latin dialects. 1876 FAIRBAIRN in *Contemp. Rev.* June 139 *Neo-Lutheranism..became more and more intolerant. 1885 J. BONAR *Malthus* I. i. 24 The questions associated in our own times with *Neo-Malthusianism. 1881 *Standard* 7 Feb., To Carlyle above all men in England we owe it that *Neo-materialism is not atheistic. *a* 1878 SIR G. SCOTT *Lect. Archit.* (1879) II. 229 Our revived and redeveloped *Neo-mediæval style. 1896 H. R. HAWEIS *Dead Pulpit* I. 5 The *neo-Mystic Broad Church prophet. 1899 W. R. INGE *Chr. Mysticism* vii. 262 The so-called *neo-mystical school of modern France. 1876 L. STEPHEN *Eng. Th. 18th C.* II. 437 The 'man of feeling'..would in these days be a ritualist or a *neopagan. 1877 SYMONDS *Renaiss. It.* iv. 193 The neopagan impulse of the classical revival. 1888 PALGRAVE in *19th Cent.* Sept. 346 To classicalise, to *neopaganise, his native and natural Teutonic genius. 1864 PUSEY *Lect. Daniel* viii. 541 So is *neo-Parsism doing at this day. 1647 TRAPP *Comm. 2 Tim.* iii. 17 In our controversies against Antichristians, Antinomists, *Nepelagians. 1878 *N. Amer. Rev.* CXXVII. 495 A *Neo-Phœnician style was also attempted. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 30 June 5/3 The mischievous misrepresentations of the *neo-protectionist and 'fair' trader. 1863 *Sat. Rev.* 12 Dec. 763/2 The Nought was known in the *Neo-Pythagorean schools. 1865 tr. *Strauss' New Life Jesus* I. I. XXX. 249 The artificially invented systems of *Neopythagoreanism and Neoplatonism. 1891 *Edin. Rev.* July 218 The function of *Neo-Quakerism. 1891 *Ch. Times* 28 Aug. 822/4 Whether married in the Anglo-Catholic or the *Neo-Roman Church. 1875 STEDMAN *Vict. Poets* 361 This master of the *Neo-Romantic school. 1882 *Athenæum* 27 May 660/1 The *neo-romanticism of the nineteenth [century]. *a* 1866 J. GROTE *Exam. Utilit. Phil.* I. (1870) 15 His *neo-utilitarianism, as I have called it.

b. In the designations of certain forms of chemical substances (so named when newly discovered).

1876 W. ODLING in *Philos. Mag.* XXV. 206 The subclass typified by the hydrocarbon C (CH$_3$)$_4$ may be conveniently designated as that of neo- or latest paraffins. *Ibid.* 209 Isopentane and neopentane. *Ibid.* 217 Isomerism does or may occur..among neo-acids with one another. 1876 *Encycl. Brit.* V. 557–8. 1881 ROSCOE & SCHORLEMMER *Chem.* III. I. 136 *Neoparaffins.* In these compounds one atom of carbon is connected with four other carbon atoms.

c. In geological terms (opposed to *palæo-*) denoting the later or more recent portion of a period, as *Neo-cambrian, -carboniferous, -devonian*, etc.

1888 HATCH in Teall *Petrogr.* 442 Rosenbusch..subdivides the group of volcanic rocks into paleovolcanic and neovolcanic. 1894 H. S. WILLIAMS in *Jrnl. Geol.* II. 155 Neosilurian. *Ibid.* 158 It began at the beginning of the Neodevonian. 1897 *Bull. U. S. Geol. Surv.* No. 87. 57 Carboniferous and Permian Brachiopoda, Neo-carboniferous.

d. In terms denoting scientists who study recent, in contrast to ancient, forms of plants, animals, etc., as *neo-botanist, -zoologist.*

1889 NICHOLSON & LYDEKKER *Palæont.* I. 5 The domain of the neozoologist or the neobotanist.

2. In misc. combs., as **Neoa·rctic** *a.* = NEARCTIC. **Neobla·stic** *a.*, of the nature of a new growth. **Neoca·techu** (see quot.). **Ne·ocene** *a.*, *Geol.* = *Neogene.* **Neochry·solite**, *Min.* a variety of chrysolite. **Neoco·smic** *a.* (see PALÆOCOSMIC). **Neocri·noid**, *Zool.* a crinoid of later than palæozoic date. †**Ne·octese** [Gr. κτῆσις acquisition], *Min.* (see quot.). **Neocy·anite**, *Min.* an uncertain mineral found in the fumeroles of Vesuvius. **Ne·odox** *a.*, holding new views. **Ne·odoxy**, a new doctrine or view. **Neoe·mbryo·nic** *a.* **Neogæan, -gean** (nī,ŏdʒī·ăn) *a.*, of or pertaining to the New World or western hemisphere. **Ne·ogam** [ad. Gr. νεόγαμος], a newly-married person (*nonce-wd.*); so †**Ne·ogamist** (Blount 1656). **Neogene** (nī·ŏdʒīn) *a.*, *Geol.* belonging to the later Tertiary (Miocene and Pliocene). **Neogene·tic** *a.*, *Biol.* of atavism, denoting that the abnormal part does not appear as a germ in the embryo. **Ne·ograph** *a.* (see quot.). **Neogra·phic** *a.*, of the nature of, pertaining to, a new system of writing or spelling. **Neo·graphy**, a new system or method of writing. **Neomo·rphism**, the process of change into a new form. **Neona·tal** *a.*, *Med.* relating to newly-born children. **Neontolo·gical** *a.*, pertaining or belonging to neontology. **Neonto·logist**, a student of neontology. **Neonto·logy**, the zoology or study of extant animals. **Neopho·bia**, fear or dislike of what is new. **Ne·oplase**, *Min.* an obsolete name for botryogen. **Neotei·nia, -te·nia** [Gr. τείνειν to keep], *Biol.* the retention of juvenile conditions in an individual (esp. a termite) capable of reproduction; hence **Neotei·nic** *a.* **Neote·site**, *Min.* a hydrous silicate of manganese. **Ne·otype**, *Min.* a variety of calcite containing barytes.

1868 LYELL *Princ. Geol.* (ed. 10) II. 473 Two of the great zoological regions..the *Neoarctic and Neotropical. 1854 R. D. THOMSON *Cycl. Chem.* 379/1 *Neocatechu consists of tannin 32·2, gallic acid 35·, colouring matter 18·8, fibre, &c. 12·. 1895 DANA *Man. Geol.* (ed. 4) 880 The Miocene and Pliocene are sometimes united under the name *Neocene. 1897 *Amer. Microsc. Jrnl.* Mar. 91 The same forms are to be found in the Neocene of California. 1892 DANA *Syst. Min.* (ed. 6) 455 *Neo-chrysolite...In small, black crystalline plates. 1882 CARPENTER in *Proc. Zool. Soc.* 734 The presence of three radials is such an absolutely constant character in all the five-rayed *Neocrinoids. 1854 DANA *Syst. Min.* (ed. 4) II. 419 The *Neoctese, from Brazil, is shown .. to be identical with Scorodite. 1892 *Ibid.* (ed. 6) 562 *Neocyanite...In very minute monoclinic crystals..colour blue. 1897 *Daily Chron.* 2 Sept. 4/6 The views of the *neodox Israelites. 1896 *Daily News* 3 Aug. 5 A shapeless and ever varying fancy, which I venture to describe as *neodoxy. 1887 HYATT in *Proc. Boston* (U. S.) *Soc. Nat. Hist.* 398 *Neoembryos are..so similar that they may be considered as indicating a common ancestor for the entire Animal Kingdom. 1857 SCLATER in *Proc. Linn. Soc., Zool.* II. 134 The most really characteristic region of *Neogean Ornithology. 1862 ALFORD in *Life* (1873) 357 At Lucerne our *neogams met us. 1878 LAWRENCE tr. *Cotta's Rocks Class.* 261 A Miocene or *Neogene deposit of clay in the Vienna basin. 1882 GARSON & GADOW tr. *Gegenbaur's Jrnl. Anat.* XVI. 622 The first form we propose to call 'Palæogenetic', the second '*Neogenetic' atavism. 1886 SUTTON in *Proc. Zool. Soc.* 551 My object is to shew..that Neogenetic Atavism has no existence. 1892 *Nation* (N. Y.) 23 June 474/1 The illustrations are reproduced from remarkably clear photographs by the *neograph process. 1825 (*title*) Enchiridion..by the author of the *Neographic Alphabet. *a* 1876 M. COLLINS *Th. in Garden* (1880) I. 150 *Favour* was spelt in the American fashion—*favor*. This *neographic tendency is based on ignorance. 1810 *Gentl. Mag.* LXXX. I. 136 A new system called *neography, by which the publisher ..has attempted to simplify..all the various modes of writing. 1888 GADOW in *Nature* XXXIX. 151/2 Still greater is the difficulty when the *neomorphism..takes place in the next following metamere. 1900 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 22 Mar. 721/1 Chapters on antenatal in relation to postnatal and *neonatal pathology. 1896 *Nat. Sci.* Dec. 355 Systems founded on *neontological evidence only have had their day. 1889 *Nature* XXXIX. 364/2 The *neontologist, if we may venture to call anyone by that name. *Ibid.* 364/1 The division of zoology into palæontology and *neontology..is, no doubt, logically defensible. 1886 *Pop. Sci. Monthly* XXIX. 782 In the student, curiosity takes the place of *neophobia. 1895 *Westm. Gaz.* 3 Dec. 1/3 He is particularly subject to neophobia. 1854 R. D. THOMPSON *Cycl. Chem.* 379/1 *Neoplase, a synonyme of red sulphate of iron, and also of arsenide of nickel. 1894 *Proc. Entom. Soc.* 14 Mar. p. vii, What Grassi calls *neoteinic queens, that is fertile females, that in some portions of the development of the body still retain the immature condition. 1896 *Nature* LIII. 323/2 Pædogenesis .. is an extreme form of the more general phenomenon of *neotenia. 1892 DANA *Syst. Min.* (ed. 6) 705 Klipsteinite is another hydrated manganese silicate...See also .. epigenite or *neotesite. 1854 *Ibid.* (ed. 4) II. 438 A variety [of calcite] contains barytes and has been named *neotype by Breithaupt.

Neocomian (nī,ŏkō·mĭăn), *a.* and *sb. Geol.* [ad. F. *Néocomien* (Thurmann, 1832), f. *Neocomi-um* (f. Gr. *néos* new + κώμη village), latinized form of *Neuchâtel.*]

1. Of or belonging to the series of lower cretaceous rocks found at Neuchâtel in Switzerland.

1843 R. A. C. AUSTEN in *Proc. Geol. Soc.* IV. I. 170 Argillaceous (Neocomian of Leymerie and D'Orbigny). 1863 LYELL *Antiq. Man* xvi. 335 The lower cretaceous or neocomian beds were deposited conformably on the oolitic. 1891 *Edin. Rev.* July 117 The neocomian sandstone in the Lebanon.

b. Characterized by the formation of the Neocomian rocks; belonging to the period at which these were formed.

1882 W. J. HARRISON *Geol. Counties Eng.* 76 Neocomian

or Lower Cretaceous Period. 1888 PRESTWICH *Geol.* II. 266 Strata of..Neocomian age. *Ibid.*, The early Neocomian Sea spread over a great part of central and southern Europe.

2. *absol.* as *sb.* The Neocomian series or period. 1888 PRESTWICH *Geol.* II. 267 At the close of the Lower Neocomian. 1897 F. R. C. REED *Handbk. Geol. Cambr.* 48 It is not believed to include any part of the Neocomian of D'Orbigny.

Neocorate (nīˌəˈkŏrĕt). [f. L. *neōcor-us*, ad. Gr. *νεωκόρος* the custodian of a temple: see -ATE[1], and cf. F. *néocorat*.] The office or dignity of having the custody or charge of a temple, as a distinction assumed by, or granted to, Asiatic cities under the Roman Empire.

1850 LEITCH tr. *C. O. Müller's Anc. Art* § 405 (ed. 2) 544 Cities which have the neocorate of a temple, usually hold an idol or the temple in the hand. 1889 W. M. RAMSAY in *Class. Rev.* 175 The neocorate—which was granted by formal decree of the Roman Senate to certain cities of Asia—related to local cults of Emperors and imperial families.

Neod(e, obs. forms of NEED *sb.*

Neodamode (nīˌəˈdămōud). *Gr. Antiq.* [ad. Gr. *νεοδᾱμώδης*, f. *νέος* new + *δᾶμος*, *δῆμος* people.] Among the ancient Spartans, an enfranchised Helot. Chiefly *attrib.*

1808 MITFORD *Greece* xix. § 1. II. 403 Three hundred only of those called neodamodes, newly-admitted citizens, were granted for the service. 1838 THIRLWALL *Greece* xxxix. V. 97 A Spartan who was posted near it..with a garrison of neodamode troops. 1852 GROTE *Greece* II. lxxiii. (1862) VI. 422 The cavalry being assigned to Xenoclês, the Neodamode hoplites to Skythês.

†**Neo·dful,** *a. Obs. rare.* [OE. *néodful*, f. *néod* zeal, etc.] Earnest, eager.

a 1000 *Juliana* 720 in *Exeter Bk.* 284 Bidde ic monne ȝehwone .. þæt he mec neodful bi nomon minum ȝemyne. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 400 Þus neodful he was..to ontenden his lune in his leones heorte.

Neod(e)liche, variants of NEEDLY *adv. Obs.*

Neodes, obs. form of NEEDS.

Neodi, neody, obs. forms of NEEDY *a.*

Neofe, obs. form of NIEVE.

Neolite (nīˈələit). *Min.* [See NEO- and -LITE: named by Scheerer, 1847.] Hydrous silicate of aluminium and magnesium.

1854 DANA *Syst. Min.* (ed. 4) II. 278 Neolite is a recent formation produced in mines at Arendal and Eisenach, through the agency of infiltrating waters that have passed over rocks containing magnesia. 1875 DAWSON *Dawn of Life* v. 118 *Neolite*, an alumino-magnesian silicate related to loganite and cblorite in composition. 1892 DANA *Syst. Min.* (ed. 6) 708 *Neolite*. .. In silky fibers stellately grouped .. colour green.

Neolith (nīˈəliþ). *Archæol.* [See next.]

1. A person belonging to the later stone age. 1882 G. ALLEN in *Knowledge* No. 17. 352 The neoliths were unacquainted with the use of metal, but they employed weapons and implements of stone,..carefully ground and polished. 1883 *Pall Mall G.* 3 Oct. 2/1 The tall Saxon did not..oust the shorter Celt or neolith.

2. A weapon or implement of the later stone age. 1882 *Jrnl. Anthropol. Inst.* XI. 136 *note*, As a connecting link between neoliths and palæoliths..is a large series of quartz arrow-heads. 1894 *Nat. Sci.* Apr. 266 The usual neoliths on the surface.

3. *attrib.* Neolithic. 1882 *Jrnl. Anthropol. Inst.* XI. 136 It was found associated with other neolith weapons.

Neolithic (nīˌəlĭˈþik), *a. Archæol.* [f. Gr. *νέος* new (see NEO-) + λίθος stone. Hence F. *néolithique*.] Of or belonging to the later stone age, characterized by the use of gronnd or polished stone implements and weapons.

1865 LUBBOCK *Preh. Times* i. 3 The later or polished Stone age; a period characterized by beautiful weapons and instruments made of flint and other kinds of stone... This we may call the 'Neolithic' period. 1874 DAWKINS *Cave Hunt.* vi. 189 This ancient neolithic race of men. 1880 — *Early Man in Brit.* i. 5 The lower Neolithic civilisation, characterised by the use of polished stone.

Neologian (nīˌəlōˈʊdʒiăn), *a.* and *sb.* [f. NEOLOGY + -AN.]

A. *adj.* **1.** Inclined towards, or imbued with, theological neologism.

1833 R. PINKERTON *Russia* 144 The .. neologian literati and clergy of Germany. 1865 *Daily Tel.* 12 Apr. 6 Bavaria is the head-quarters of a neologian school. 1884 D. HUNTER tr. *Reuss's Hist. Canon* xvi. 305 This truth..has never been to the taste of scholars, orthodox or neologian.

2. Of the nature of, marked by, neologism. 1831 MACAULAY in Napier *Sel. Corr.* (1879) 119 The neologian article about German divinity. 1851 BP. WILBERFORCE *Let.* in *Life* (1881) II. iii. 109, I am not blind to the threatening evils of Neologian teachiog.

B. *sb.* One who introduces or adopts new (rationalistic) views in theology; a neologist.

1846 *Brit. Quart. Rev.* III. 143 The argument .. will furnish some further employment to the critical powers of the Neologian. *a* 1857 R. A. VAUGHAN *Essays & Rem.* (1858) I. 50 The heathen philosophy of the Rationalist and the Neologian. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 316 He thinks you are a neologian.

Hence **Neolo·gianism,** neologian views. 1846 WORCESTER cites *Eclectic Rev.* 1869 *Contemp. Rev.* XII. 274 He had himself passed through every phase of opinion .., except..Romanism and neologianism.

Neolo·gic, *a. rare.* [See next.] = NEOLOGICAL. 1797 W. TAYLOR in *Monthly Rev.* XXIII. 486 Those neologic opinions which appear to require further elucidation. 1828–32 in WEBSTER.

Neological (nīˌəlɒˈdʒikăl), *a.* [ad. F. *néologique* (1726): see NEOLOGY and -ICAL.]

1. Dealing with, characterized by, new words or phrases. *rare.*

1754 CHESTERFIELD *World* No. 101 P 11 A genteel neological dictionary, containing those polite .. words and phrases, commonly used..by the *beau monde*. 1774 *Chesterfield's Lett.* (1792) III. ccxxxvii. 83 The affected, the refined, the neological, or new and fashionable style, are at present too much in vogue at Paris.

2. Of the nature of, characterized by, neologism in theological views or doctrines.

1827 *Eclectic Rev.* July 26 Disgusted..by the Neological infidelity of Protestant clergymen. 1841 D'ISRAELI *Amen. Lit.* (1867) 718 Some German systems, stripped of their deep neological disguise, have borrowed from Cudworth. 1870 ANDERSON *Missions Amer. Bd.* III. vi. 82 The advocates of the neological system.

Hence **Neolo·gically** *adv.* (Webster 1847.)

Neologism (nīˌəˈlŏdʒiz'm). [ad. F. *néologisme* (1735): see NEOLOGY and -ISM.]

1. The use of, or the practice of using, new words; innovation in language.

1800 W. TAYLOR in *Monthly Mag.* X. 318 Quaintness, the unavoidable companion of neologism, is.. hostile to grace. 1858 DE QUINCEY *Language* Wks. IX. 76 Neologism, in revolutionary times, is not an infirmity of caprice. 1895 SAINTSBURY *Ess. Eng. Lit.* Ser. II. 34 Not..alarmed at an appearance of neologism now and then.

b. A new word or expression.

1803 *Edin. Rev.* II. 104 Scotticisms, neologisms .. dance through each page. 1841 D'ISRAELI *Amen. Lit.* (1867) 361 Since that day neologisms have fertilised the barrenness of our Saxon. 1875 MAINE *Hist. Inst.* ii. 52 The class which, to use a modern neologism, 'formulates' the ideas [etc.].

2. Tendency to, adoption of, novel (rationalistic) views in theology or matters of religion.

1827 *Eclectic Rev.* July 15 Neologism, a system which is not confined to Germany, but has been zealously fostered in other countries. 1851 BP. WILBERFORCE *Let.* in *Life* (1881) II. iii. 108, I have seen for twenty-six years that Neologism was the peril which was before the English Church. 1865 *Guardian* 19 Apr. 401/2 However despicable ..the temper of modern neologism may be.

Hence **Neologi·smal** *a.* 1836 *New Monthly Mag.* XLVIII. 455 The neologismal appellatives, 'tiger', and 'tigerism'.

Neologist (nīˌəˈlŏdʒist). [= F. *néologiste*: see NEOLOGY and -IST.]

1. One who invents or uses new words or forms; one who makes innovations in language.

1785 TRUSLER *Mod. Times* I. 135 He called himself a neologist [*sic*], or a former of new words. 1814 D'ISRAELI *Quarrels Auth.* (1867) 481 The vicious neologist, who debases the purity of English diction by affecting new words or phrases. 1827 *Westm. Rev.* VIII. 395 We have an interesting anecdote .. inserted in the language of Gravina, as a hint to neologists.

2. One who adopts neologism in theology or religious matters; a rationalist.

1827 *Eclectic Rev.* July 3 They go under the denominations of Rationalists, Neologists, and Anti-supernaturalists. 1833 J. H. NEWMAN *Arians* I. iv. (1876) 104 The Neologists of the present day deny that the miracles took place in the manner related in the sacred record. 1875 MERIVALE *Gen. Hist. Rome* li. (1877) 404 In vain had Rome attempted..to ward off the attacks of the foreign neologists by pretending to interpret her own mythology and ritual.

attrib. 1827 *Eclectic Rev.* July 17 Sentiments which will..separate him from the Neologist divines. 1830 PUSEY *Let.* in Liddon *Life* (1893) I. x. 242 The Neologist..solution of miracles. 1864 — *Lect. Daniel* (1876) 185 Neologist interpreters do not hesitate to admit this.

Hence **Neologi·stic, Neologi·stical** *adjs.* 1827 *Eclectic Rev.* July 18 The most false and dangerous notions..lie at the basis of the Neologistic theory.

Neologiza·tion. *rare*—°. [f. next + -ATION.] The action of neologizing. 1846 WORCESTER cites JEFFERSON.

Neologize (nīˌəˈlŏdʒəiz), *v.* [See NEOLOGY and -IZE.]

1. *intr.* To nse new words or phrases; to make linguistic innovations. 1846 WORCESTER cites JEFFERSON. 1858 DE QUINCEY *The. Grk. Trag.* Wks. IX. 56 At every step of the introvolution (to neologise a little in a case justifying a neologism). 1895 *Westm. Gaz.* 25 Nov. 4/2 Prone to take strange liberties with the language, and to neologise.

2. To introdnce or accept new theological doctrines. *a* 1882 TULLOCH (Ogilvie), Dr. Candlish lived to neologize on his own account.

Neo·logous, *a. rare*—[1]. [See next and -OUS.] Of the nature of neology. 1812 W. TAYLOR in *Monthly Rev.* LXVII. 465 The neologous omniscience of a German student.

Neology (nīˌəˈlŏdʒi). [ad. F. *néologie* (1762), f. *néo-* NEO- + *-logie*, Gr. -λογία: see -LOGY.]

1. The use of new terms. = NEOLOGISM 1. 1797 *Monthly Mag.* III. 417 Disfigured by neology, corruption, and barbarous modes of speech. 1812 SIR H. DAVY *Chem. Philos.* Advt., Innovation will be censured .. and neology a constant reproach. 1870 M. WILLIAMS *Fuel of Sun* 38 He .. advocates the continued use of the term, in order to avoid neology.

b. A new word or term. = NEOLOGISM 1 b. 1846 GROVE *Corr. Phys. Forces* 45, I cannot avoid this without a neology, which I have not the presumption to introduce. 1877 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. Introd. 44 Neologies and corruptions of all kinds crept into the text.

2. Novel views in theology. = NEOLOGISM 2. 1834 SIR W. HAMILTON *Discuss.* (1852) 506 The dangerous neology so deprecated in the German divines. 1848 KINGSLEY *Yeast* vi, He had been taught to scent German neology in everything, as some folks are taught to scent Jesuitry.

Neomen, ME. variant of *nimen* NIM *v.*

‖ **Neomenia** (nīˌəmīˈniă). [eccl. L. *neomēnia*, a. Gr. *νεομηνία* (Attic *νουμηνία*), f. *νέος* new NEO- + *μήνη* moon.] In Greek and Jewish antiq., the time of the new moon, the beginning of the lunar month; also, the festival held at that time.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* ix. xxvii. (Bodl. MS.), Þis feste þat hatte neomenia .. was swiþe hiȝe and holy. 1534 MORE *Treat. Passion* Wks. 1308/1 Amonge the Jewes Neomenia the fyrste daye of the new mone nexte after the Equynoctiall *in vere* .. is the fyrste daye of the yere. 1655 STANLEY *Hist. Philos.* III. (1701) 75/1 The Neomenia of Hecatombæon did..never precede the Solstice. 1727–38 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v., Some say, the Jews reckoned two kinds of *Neomenia*, or new moons. 1876 BIRCH *Rede Lect. Egypt* 26 The battle of Megiddo, fought..in the neomenia of that month. 1888 tr. *Renan's Hist. Israel* I. 86 It will become the clarion of the neomenia and the trumpet of judgment.

So †**Neomeny.** *Obs.* [Cf. F. *néoménie*.] 1382 WYCLIF *Col.* ii. 16 In part of feeste day, or neomenye, or of sabotis. 1388 — *Isa.* i. 13 V schal not suffre neomenye, and sabat and othere feestis. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* v. i. 481. 1569 J. SANFORD tr. *Agrippa's Van. Artes* 84 b, Neomenies, (that is, the times of the newe Moone) perpetuall.

Neon (nīˈɒn). *Chem.* [Gr. *νέον* neut. of *νέος* new.] An atmospheric gas recently discovered. 1898 SIR W. RAMSAY & TRAVERS in *Proc. Roy. Soc.* 438 The density of this gas, which we propose to name 'neon' (new) was next determined.

Ne·onism. *rare*—°. [irreg. f. Gr. *νέον* (see prec.) new + -ISM.] Neologism. 1846 WORCESTER cites HUNTER.

Neonomian (nīˌənōˈʊmiăn), *sb.* and *a.* [f. Gr. *νέος* NEO- + *νόμος* law, after ANTINOMIAN.] **a.** *sb.* One who maintains that the Gospel is a new law entirely supplanting the old or Mosaic law. **b.** *adj.* Pertaining to the assertion of a new law. 1692 CHAUNCY *Neonomianism Unmasked* Ep. Ded., One that Asserts the Old Law is abolished .. but pleads for a New Law, and Justification by the Works of it, and therefore is a Neonomian. *Ibid.* A iv, Some of the Paradoxes contained in the Neonomian Scheme. 1693 G. FIRMIN *Rev. Mr. Davis's Vind.* ii. 20 Whither Mr. Crisp, and Mr. Davis, will charge me therefore to be a Neonomian, I cannot tell. 1882–3 SCHAFF *Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* II. 1417 Antinomian error and Neonomian heresy. *Ibid.*, Every effort was made by the Neonomians to prevent the settlement of ministers holding the Marrow doctrines.

Hence **Neono·mianism.** (See quot. 1882–3.) 1692 CHAUNCY (*title*) Neonomianism Unmask'd: or, The Ancient Gospel pleaded, against the other, called a New Law or Gospel. 1882–3 SCHAFF *Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* II. 1622 Neonomianism .., a term..applied to the views of Dr. Daniel Williams and his adherents because they defined and construed Christianity as a 'new law'.

Neophron (nīˈəfrɒn). [L. *Neophron* (a. Gr. *νεόφρων*), the name of a man transformed into a vulture in the *Metamorphoses* of Antoninus Liberalis: adopted as a generic name by Savigny.] The white Egyptian vulture, or a vulture belonging to the same genus. 1833 SELBY *Illustr. Brit. Ornith.* (ed. 2) 4 Egyptian Neophron. 1840 *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 165 The Neophrons .. have a long and slender beak. *Ibid.* 166 The White Neophron. 1848 *Zoologist* VI. 1959 A tame neophron, kept at the public slaughter-house at Malaga.

Neophyte (nīˈəfəit). Also 6–7 (9) -phite [= F. *néophyte* († *neofite*, 14th c.), ad. eccl. L. *neophytus*, ad. Gr. *νεόφυτος* (1 Tim. iii. 6), lit. 'newly planted', f. *νέος* NEO- + *φυτόν* plant, *φυτεύειν* to plant.

Not in general use before the 19th c. Its employment in the Rheims N. T., though defended by the translators, was objected to by their contemporaries:—

1582 N. T. (Rhem.) Pref. to Rdr. c iij, If Proselyte he a received word in the English bibles,..why may not we be bold to say, Neophyte? 1583 FULKE *Def. Tr. Script.* iii. (1843) 207 Except you would coin such ridiculous inkhorn terms, as you do in the New Testament, *azymes*, *prepuce*, *neophyte* .. and such like. *a* 1603 T. CARTWRIGHT *Confut. Rhem. N. T.* Pref. (1618) 35 Neophyte, to a bare Englishman is nothing at all, no more then *depositum*, *exinanited*, *exhaust*.]

1. A new convert; one newly admitted to a church or religious body. Used chiefly with ref. to the primitive Christian, or the Roman Catholic, Church; in the latter also applied to a newly ordained priest, or to a novice of a religious order. *a* 1550 *Image Hypocr.* II. in *Skelton's Wks.* (1843) II. 423/2 Of these neophites, And pevishe proselites, Springe vpp ipocrites. 1582 N. T. (Rhem.) 1 Tim. iii. 6 Not a neophyte: lest being puffed up with pride, he fall into the judgment of the devil. 1610 DONNE *Pseudo-martyr* 341 What opinion was held of our Bishoppe Grostbead..a late Neophite of your Church hath obserued. *a* 1661 FULLER *Worthies, Durham* I. (1662) 293 S. Paul forbidding such a Neophyte or Novice admission into that Office. 1760 T. HUTCHINSON *Hist. Mass.* iii. (1765) 264 To secure his neopbytes or converts to the interest of his sovereign. 1834 LYTTON *Pompeii* IV. iv, The face of the old man was as balm to the excited spirit of the neophyte. 1876 FARRAR *Marlb. Serm.* iii. 23 Nor in the inexperienced neopbyte.. do we expect the vision of the mystic.

† b. In predicative use as adj. *Obs. rare*⁻¹.

1600 HAKLUYT *Voy.* (1811) IV. 559 Being Neophyte (that is) newly come to the fayth, and not yet confirmed in our religion.

2. One who is new to a subject; a beginner, tyro, novice.

1599 B. JONSON *Ev. Man out of Hum.* v. iv, Away, neophite, do as I bid thee, bring my dear George to me. 1601 — *Poetaster* I. ii, He tells thee true, my noble Neophyte. 1648 GAGE *West Ind.* xii. 66 Better observations then myself (who am but a Neophyte) am able to deduct. 1826 SCOTT *Woodst.* ix, It was almost ludicrous to see how often the hand of the neopbyte directed itself naturally to a large black leathern jack. 1841 D'ISRAELI *Amen. Lit.* (1867) 116 These editors assuredly have scared away many a neophyte in our vernacular literature. 1874 COOKE *Fungi* 1 Such an encounter usually perplexes the neophyte at first.

attrib. 1599 B. JONSON *Cynthia's Rev.* III. i, It is with your young grammaticall courtier, as with your neophyte-player. 1860 AOLER *Prov. Poet.* xv. 310 The neophyte warrior was required to take an oath..dictated by the Church. 1883 STEVENSON *Silverado Sq.* 44 A certain neophite and girlish trepidation.

Hence **Ne·ophytic, Ne·ophytish** *adjs.*; also **Ne·ophytism**, the condition of a neophyte.

1862 *Temple Bar* IV. 476, I might plead my neophytism as an excuse. 1886 *Pall Mall G.* 6 Sept. 3/1 Rushing to this conclusion with..neophytic ardour. 1897 *Daily News* 7 July 7/3 Every limb of the law, however neophytish he might be.

Neoplasm (nī·oplæz'm). *Path.* [f. NEO- + Gr. πλάσμα formation: cf. F. *néoplasme.*] A new growth or formation of tissue in some part of the body; a tumour.

1864 W. T. FOX *Skin Dis.* 67 Hypertrophies. Atrophies. Neoplasms. 1876 GROSS *Dis. Bladder*, etc. 136 Papillary fibroma, or villous growth, is by far the most frequent of the fibrous neoplasms. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 113 *note*, Neoplasms as a class..not improbably develop as a consequence of some irritation.

So **Neopla·sma** (*pl.* -plasmata).

1876 tr. *Wagner's Gen. Pathol.* 355 Growths, neoplasmata, are, histologically speaking, homœoplastic or heteroplastic. 1876 DUHRING *Dis. Skin* 46 They are..produced in great part by the cellular neoplasmata.

Neoplastic (nī,oplæ·stik), *a. Path.* [Cf. prec. and PLASTIC.] Pertaining to, of the nature of, a neoplasm.

1890 in *Cent. Dict.* 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 113 *note*, There is evidence .. favouring this relationship between inflammation and neoplastic growth. 1899 *Ibid.* VI. 222 A neoplastic tuberculous mass.

Neoplatonic (nī,oplătɒ·nik), *a.* [f. NEO- + PLATONIC *a.*] Of or pertaining to Neoplatonism or the Neoplatonists.

1836-7 SIR W. HAMILTON *Metaph.* vi. (1859) I. 107 The Neoplatonic system, of which the last great representative is Proclus. 1877 LECKY *Europ. Mor.* (ed. 3) I. 335 The Pythagorean and Neoplatonic schools revived the feeling of religious reverence, inculcated humility.

Hence **Neoplato·nically** *adv.*

1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XXI. 429/2 The Neoplatonically conceived *Fons Vitæ* of the Jew Gebirol.

Neoplatoni·cian, *a.* and *sb. rare.* [f. as prec. + -IAN, or ad. F. *néo-platonicien.*] **a.** *adj.* Neoplatonic. **b.** *sb.* A Neoplatonist.

1831 *Fraser's Mag.* IV. 54 The Neo-platonician doctrines emanated from this school. 1842 BRANDE *Dict. Sci.*, etc., Neoplatonicians, or Neoplatonists.

Neoplatonism (nī,oplē·tŏniz'm). [f. NEO- + PLATONISM: cf. F. *néo-platonisme.*] A philosophical and religious system, chiefly consisting of a mixture of Platonic ideas with Oriental mysticism, which originated at Alexandria in the 3rd century, and is especially represented in the writings of Plotinus, Porphyry, and Proclus.

1845 LEWES *Hist. Philos.* II. 192 In losing Julian, Neo-Platonism lost its power, political and religious. 1869 LECKY *Europ. Mor.* (1877) I. 325 Neoplatonism and the philosophies that were allied to it were fundamentally pantheistic.

Neoplatonist (nī,oplē·tŏnist). [f. NEO- + PLATONIST.] One of the originators or adherents of Neoplatonism.

1837 WHEWELL *Hist. Induct. Sci.* IV. iii. I. 284 Ammonius Saccas..is looked upon as the beginner of the Neoplatonists. 1853 KINGSLEY *Hypatia* Pref. 7 The great Neo-Platonists were..persons of the most rigid and ascetic virtue. 1882 FARRAR *Early Chr.* I. 263 The dislike of the body .. which was afterwards so strongly felt by the Neoplatonists.

attrib. 1856 R. A. VAUGHAN *Mystics* (1860) II. XIII. i. 252 The ultra-Neoplatonist rodomontade he utters in praise of mathematics. 1869 LECKY *Europ. Mor.* I. 356 The Pythagorean and Neoplatonist [*ed.* 3 Neoplatonic] schools.

Neopolitan, obs. form of NEAPOLITAN.

Neore, were not: see NERE *Obs.*

Neosa, variant of NEOZA.

Neose, obs. variant of NESE, nose.

Neossine (nī,ɒ'sɔin). [f. Gr. νεοσσ-ός a young bird + -INE 5.] The substance of which the edible birds' nests of the East are made, being a mucus secreted by the salivary glands of a genus of swifts (*Collocalia*). Hence **Neo·ssidine.**

1849 tr. *Mulder's Chem. Veg. & Anim. Physiol.* 241 The mucus from the œsophagus of the swallows, which in India build their edible nests of it...The pure mucous matter, which I called neossine, consists of [etc.]. 1894 MORLEY & MUIR *Watts' Dict. Chem.* IV. 342/2 It .. is chiefly composed of a hyalogen (*neossine*), which yields as its hyalin, *neossidine.*

Neosso·logy. *Ornith.* [f. as prec. + -LOGY.] That part of ornithology which deals with the hatching and rearing of the young.

1864 NEWTON in *Zool. Record* (1865) I. 61.

Neo·ssoptile. *Ornith.* [f. as prec. + πτίλον a down-feather.] One of the soft feathers of a newly-hatched bird, as contrasted with those of a mature type (*teleoptiles*).

1893 GADOW in Newton *Dict. Birds* 243 Soft feathers.. possessing several characters which make it advisable to distinguish them by the name of 'Neossoptiles'.

Neoteric (nī,ote·rik), *a.* and *sb.* Also 7 neoterique, 6-8 neoterick (7 -e). [a. late L. *neōtericus* adj. and sb., ad. Gr. νεωτερικός, f. νεώτερος, compar. of νέος new.]

A. *adj.* Recent, new, modern:

a. of things, esp. beliefs, practices, or the like.

1596 NASHE *Saffron Walden* Wks. (Grosart) III. 18 My fancie as touching those Neoterick tongues thou professest. 1652 URQUHART *Jewel* Wks. (1834) 218 Declining from that Neoterick faith..as he waxed in experience of the world. 1676 *Phil. Trans.* II. Ded., The same hand puts a stop to the Neoteric Notions of Chymists. 1716 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* II. 340 The Title of this Neoterick Tract against Judiciary Astrology. 1816 W. TAYLOR in *Monthly Rev.* LXXXI. 118 The neoteric jargon of scholastic terms which he introduced. 1838 PUSEY *Let.* in Liddon *Life* (1893) II. xxi. 65, I said it must be said somehow 'Catholic and primitive truth' as opposed to 'Neoteric'. 1879 MEREDITH *Egoist* xviii, The neoteric fashion of spending a honeymoon on the railway.

b. of persons, esp. of authors.

1611 CORYAT *Crudities* Ep. Rdr., Celebrated partly by the ancient Roman historiographers and partly by other neotericke travellers. 1637 BASTWICK *Litany* II. 21 Both ancient and neoterick Expositors. 1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* 4 That very Fate that is maintained by some Neoterick Christians. 1716 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* III. 2 Most of the Neoterick Popish Writers. 1822-34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) III. 146 This species, the nyctalopia of neoteric authors...is said to be endemic in Poland. *a* 1876 M. COLLINS *Th. in Garden* (1880) II. 283 Such are the wise sayings of our neoteric sages.

B. *sb.* **1.** A modern; esp. a modern writer or author. (Very common in 17th c.)

1598 MERES *Palladis Tamia* 280 As these Neoterickes .. haue obtained renown. 1609 SIR E. HOBY *Let. to T. H[iggons]* 49 Is it possible, that that holy man should .. come to bee taxed by an ohscure Neoterique of malignitie? 1686 GOAD *Celest. Bodies* II. i. 122 All the great Neotericks have espoused the Copernican [system]. 1728 POPE *Dunc., M. Scriblerus* Wks. (Globe) 363 Such severe indispensable rules as are laid on all Neoterics, a strict imitation of the Ancients. 1833 LAMB *Elia* Ser. II. *Productions Mod. Art*, A landscape of a justly admired neoteric.

2. *pl.* The study of modern things.

1857 A. LEIGHTON *Wilson's Tales Borders* I. 52 She was no antiquary.., being rather given to neoterics.

Neote·rical, *a.* ? *Obs.* [-AL.] = NEOTERIC *a.*

1588 J. HARVEY *Disc. Probl.* 34 Sundrie as well ancient, as neotericall interpreters. *a* 1625 BOYS *Wks.* (1629) 3 The petition in the judgements of neotericall authors hath six branches. 1650 HOWELL *Lett.* III. 19 Whosoever cryeth it down for a new neotericall opinion [etc.].

Neo·terism. [ad. Gr. νεωτερισμός, f. νεωτερίζειν, to make innovations: cf. NEOTERIC.] The use of new words or phrases; a new term or expression. So **Neo·terist; Neoteri·stic** *a.*; **Neo·terize** *v.*

1873 F. HALL *Mod. Eng.* 19 Neoterisms we must have..to the end of time. *Ibid.* 150 If purism is ridiculous, neoterism ..may easily become nauseating. *Ibid.* 164 Neoteristic canons. *Ibid.* 192 Among writers of the first class, none are wild neoterists. *Ibid.* 193 Popularity..or even celebrity is no guarantee of skill in neoterizing.

Neopeles, Neopemest: see NETHELESS, -MEST.

Neotocite (nī,ɒ·tŏsəit). *Min.* Also -tokite. [f. Gr. νεότοκος new-born, 'alluding to its recent origin' (Chester); named by Nordenskiöld, 1849.] A hydrous silicate of manganese and iron.

1854 DANA *Syst. Min.* (ed. 4) II. 169 A related mineral [to Stratopeite] has been called Neotokite. 1861 BRISTOW *Gloss. Min.* 257/1 Neotokite. Probably an altered form of Rhodonite allied to Stratopeite. 1882 DANA *Min.* (ed. 4) 316 Neotocite (Stratopeite) and Wittingite are results of the alteration of rhodonite, and contain manganese.

Neotro·pic, *a.* [Cf. next.] = NEOTROPICAL.

1877 LE CONTE *Elem. Geol.* (1879) 161 Neotropic [region], including Central and South America.

Neotro·pical, *a.* [f. NEO- + TROPICAL *a.*] Including, belonging to, or characteristic of, Tropical and South America as a zoogeographical region.

1858 SCLATER in *Proc. Linn. Soc., Zool.* II. 134 They are all quite foreign to Neotropical (Tropical American) Ornithology. *Ibid.* 143 Neotropical or South-American Region. 1877 COUES *Fur-Bearing Anim.* i. 18 The extension of neotropical types over the nearctic region. 1881 *Nature* XXIV. 209/2 In Ungulates, like the rest of the neotropical regions, the Argentine territory is poor.

† **Neotsum,** *a. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [? f. OE. *néotan* to enjoy, have good of.] ? Profitable, thriving.

c 1205 LAY. 343 Heore nutene neotsume weren.

Neottious (nī,ɒ'tiəs), *a. Bot.* [f. mod.L. *Neottia* (Linnæus), ad. Gr. νεοττιά, νεοσσιά a nest.] Characteristic of the Bird's-nest Orchid; resembling a bird's nest.

1850 HOOKER & ARNOTT *Brit. Flora* 418 That [genus] which contains the *Nidus-Avis*, the only one having the neottious root.

Neowe, -nesse, obs. ff. NEW, NEWNESS.

‖ **Neoza** (nī,ōu·zä). Also **neosia, neosa, nioza.** [Bhutanese *neoza, nioza.*] *Neoza pine*, a Himalayan pine (*Pinus Gerardiana*), the cones of which contain edible seeds (*neoza seeds*).

1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVIII. 172/1 The Neoza Pine...A native of the coldest forests of the Himalayas, and chiefly occupying .. the Tartarian side of those mountains. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 893/1 *P. Gerardiana*, the Neosa Pine of the Himalayas, affording the Neosa or Chilgoza seeds sold as food in the bazaars of Upper India. 1886 A. H. CHURCH *Food Grains Ind.* 177 The neosia or edible pine is a moderate-sized conifer found in the arid parts of the North-West and Punjab Himálaya... The seeds are collected and stored for use. *Ibid.*, Composition of Neosia-kernels.

Neozoic (nī,ozōu·ik), *a. Geol.* [f. NEO-, after PALÆOZOIC.]

1. Belonging to the later period of geological history; post-palæozoic (comprising both Mesozoic and Cainozoic).

1854 E. FORBES in *Q. Jrnl. Geol. Soc.* X. p. lxxix, Both the palæozoic and the after—I must coin a word—neozoic mollusca. 1854 MURCHISON *Siluria* xviii. 469 In the Vertebrata, the main direction of development of generic ideas, is, he [Forbes] admits, towards the newer or Neozoic pole. 1888 FORD *Catal. Foss. Ceph.* Introd. 6 The Palæozoic epoch was of much longer duration than the Neozoic.

2. = CAINOZOIC.

1873 DAWSON *Earth & Man* x. 235 The term Neozoic was proposed by Edward Forbes for the Mesozoic and Cainozoic combined; but I use it here as a more euphonious and accurate term for the Cainozoic alone. *Ibid.* 239 Tertiary or Neozoic Time.

Nep, *sb.*¹ *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Also 5-7 neppe. β. 6-7 nepe. See also NIP *sb.*² [var. of NEPT, ad. med.L. *nepta*, L. *nepeta* (Celsius and Pliny). Cf. Du. *neppe.*] = CATMINT (*Nepeta cataria*), CATNIP.

a. c 1420 *Liber Cocorum* (1862) 48 With persoley, sauge, ysope, saveray, A litel nep. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* b vij b, Ye shall take an herbe that is called neppe. 1530 PALSGR. 247/2 Neppe, an herbe, *herbe de chat.* 1561 HOLLYBUSH *Hom. Apoth.* 18 He that hath a feruent cough, let him take Neppe, that cattes delite in. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 23 Wild Mint, Nep, Endiue, and Peniroial. 1648 BP. HALL *Select Th.* § 51 The dog when he is stomach-sick can go right to his proper grass; the cat to her nep. 1756 WATSON in *Phil. Trans.* XLIX. 837 Nep, or Cat-mint. On dry banks about hedges. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* XIII. 6/1 There are 14 species; the most remarkable is the cataria, common nep, or catmint. 1802 RANKEN *Hist. France* II. IV. ii. 292 He treats of sage, rue, ..ambrosia, nep, radish, the rose.

β. 1548 TURNER *Names Herbs* (E.D.S.) 22 The thyrde kynde is called in latin Nepeta, in english Nepe. 1591 PERCIVALL *Sp. Dict., Nebeda*, nepes, *Nepeta.* 1698 FAYEA *Acc. E. India & P.* 307 Here grow also the Black Horehound, Spurge, Catminth or Nepe, Liverwort.

† **Nep,** *sb.*² *Obs.* Also 6 neppe. [var. of NEEP, prob. through absence of stress in the comb., which is OE. (*wildnæp*).] *Wild nep*, Bryony.

c 1450 *Alphita* (Anecd. Oxon.) 5/2 Vitis alba, brionia idem. *gall.* navet, *angl.* wildnep. *Ibid.* 26/2 Brionia.., cucurbita agrestis..*gall.* brione *uel* naue sauuage, *anglice* wildenep. 1545 RAYNOLD *Byrth Mankynde* R ij, Take..of wyld neppe dried the leues. 1597 J. KING *On Jonas* (1618) 612 Some called it Bryonia, bryony or wilde nep. 1615 MARKHAM *Eng. Housew.* II. i. (1668) 32 The root of the wild Nep, which is like Woodbine.

Nep, *sb.*³ *U. S.* [Of obscure origin.] A small lump or knot upon cotton-fibres, either due to irregular growth or produced during such processes as ginning.

1881 J. BUTTERWORTH *Cotton* 23 When the saw-gin is run too quickly the tendency is to whip or string the Cotton, and thus produce neps. 1881 F. H. BOWMAN *Structure of Cotton Fibre* 27 In artificially produced neps the cluster consists of fragments of broken fibre while in the natural neps the short fibres are comparatively whole and unbroken.

Nep, *v. U. S.* [Cf. prec.] *trans.* To form knots on (cotton-fibre), esp. during ginning.

1875 *Ure's Dict. Arts* I. 961 The rough teeth of the saws do not use the fibre gently enough, but cut and 'nep' or knot it.

Nep, variant of NAP *sb.*¹ cup. *Obs.*

Nep, obs. variant of NEAP *a.*

Nepe, obs. form of NEAP, NEEP, NEP.

Nepe·nth. *Bot. rare.* [Anglicized f. NEPENTHES.] A plant of the genus *Nepenthes.*

1846 LINDLEY *Veg. Kingd.* 288 In which case Nepenths and Birthworts will be brought into contact.

‖ **Nepenthe** (nɪpe·nθi). [Alteration of NEPENTHES.]

1. A drink or drug supposed to bring forgetfulness of trouble or grief. = NEPENTHES 1.

1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* IV. iii. 42 In her other hand a cup she hild, The which was with Nepenthe to the brim upfild. ?*c* 1600 *Distr. Emperor* I. i. in Bullen *O. Pl.* (1884) III. 171 From thys lypp Puerer Nepenthe flowes. 1630 BRATHWAIT *Eng. Gentlem.* (1641) 100 Those who are ever carousing in the cup of Nepenthe, steeping their senses in the Lethe of forgetfulness. 1738 POPE *Epil. Sat.* I. 98 Lull'd with the sweet Nepenthe of a Court. 1754 CHESTERFIELD *World* No. 92 P 6 Gallons of the Nepenthe would be lost upon him. The more he drinks, the duller he grows. *a* 1822 SHELLEY *Triumph Life* 359 In her right hand she bore a crystal glass, Mantling with bright Nepenthe. 1898 T. WATTS DUNTON *Coming of Love* 45 [They] prated of some nepenthe..To quell his love as by a magic potion.

b. *Med.* A drug possessing sedative properties.

1681 tr. *Willis' Rem. Med. Wks.* Vocab., *Nepenthe*, a

drink to drive away melancholy. 1727–38 CHAMBERS *Cycl.*, *Nepenthe*, in pharmacy, is a name given to a kind of opiate. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 775 Dr. Cheadle speaks highly of nepenthe for children.

2. The plant supposed to supply the drug.

1623 COCKERAM III, *Nepenthe*, an hearb which being steeped and dranke in wine, expelleth sadnesse. 1649 JER. TAYLOR *Gt. Exemp.* III. Disc. xviii. 115 The Moly or Nepenthe of Pliny. 1819 SHELLEY *Prometh. Unb.* II. iv. 61 Folded Elysian flowers, Nepenthe, Moly, Amaranth.

Hence **Nepe·nthean** *a.*

1892 AGNES CLERKE *Fam. Stud. Homer* viii. 229 The proposal of Telemachus to retire to rest shortly after the nepenthean cup has gone round.

‖ **Nepenthes** (nĭpe·nþīz). [L. *nēpenthes* (Pliny), a. Gr. *νηπενθές* (*Odyss.* iv. 221, qualifying *φάρμακον*), neut. of *νηπενθής*, f. *νη-* not (see NE) + *πένθος* grief.]

1. A drug of Egyptian origin mentioned in the Odyssey as capable of banishing grief or trouble from the mind; hence, any drug or potion having, or conceived as having, the same power; also, occas. the plant or herb supposed to yield the drug.

1580 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 425 Where is..that herbe Nepenthes that procureth all delights? 1586 SIR E. HOBY *Cognet's Pol. Disc. Truth* xix. 81 The drougg which Homer called Nepenthes, which he said was able to keep one from smelling yll sauors. 1619 *Pasquil's Palin* (1877) 154 It is the true Nepenthes, Which makes a sad man frolike. 1653 BAXTER *Peace of Consc.* Pref., There is so much Opium in these Mountebanks Nepenthes, or Antidote of Rest. 1699 EVELYN *Acetaria* 14 Some will have it [Bugloss] the Nepenthes of Homer. 1739 *Gentl. Mag.* IX. 477 As the Herb Nepenthes gives Joy and Spirits. 1850 LEITCH tr. *C. O. Müller's Anc. Art* § 115. 84 In it the Greeks beheld Zeus face to face; to see it was a nepenthes. 1884 *Conf. Hachish Eater* 112, I have found it [hachish] to be a nepenthes, a sweet bringer of delicious oblivion.

2. A genus of plants (chiefly East Indian) in which the leaves have the form of pitchers; the Pitcher-plant.

1747 *Gentl. Mag.* XXVII. 452 The most remarkable instance of evacuations of this kind..is in the Nepenthes. 1839 LINDLEY *Introd. Bot.* (ed. 3) 141 The singular form of leaf in..Nepenthes, which has been called a pitcher. 1857 DARWIN in *Life & Lett.* (1887) II. 97 If Nepenthes consisted of one or two species..then I should have expected it to have been very variable. 1882 *Garden* 1 Apr. 214/3 The moisture-laden atmosphere required by the Nepenthes.

b. A plant belonging to this genus.

1882 *Garden* 5 Aug. 121/3 No collection of Stove plants ought to be without at least one Nepenthes.

Neper: see NAPIER'S BONES.

Nepevewe, obs. form of NEPHEW.

Nephalism (nĕ·fălĭz'm). *rare.* [ad. late Gr. *νηφαλισμός* (Suidas), f. *νηφάλιος* sober. Cf. F. *néphalisme.*] Total abstinence from intoxicating liquors, teetotalism.

1861 J. MILLER (*title*) Nephalism, the True Temperance of Scripture, Science, and Experience. 1889 *Lancet* 6 Apr. 702 Some figures had been extracted from a report on Intemperance..,and had been misunderstood as implying that nephalism was more fatal than tippling.

So **Ne·phalist,** a teetotaller.

1861 J. MILLER *Nephalism* 16 The Nephalist..possesses a comparative immunity from contagious diseases.

Nephande, obs. form of NEFAND *a.*

Nephelescope (nefĕ·lĭskōup). [f. Gr. *νεφέλη* cloud + -SCOPE.] (See quots.)

1841 *Proc. Amer. Philos. Soc.* II. 128 Mr. Espy exhibited an instrument .., which he calls the Nephelescope, intended to show the changes induced in the temperature of the air by its greater or less rarefaction. 1862 *Catal. Internat. Exhib., Brit.* II. No. 2851 Nephelescope, for viewing the upper strata of clouds.

Nepheliad (nefī·lĭăd). *rare.* [f. Gr. *νεφέλ-η* + -IAD, on the analogy of *Naiad, Dryad,* etc.] A cloud-nymph.

1818 L. HUNT *Foliage, The Nymphs* p. xxxi, Ho! We are the Nepheliads, we, Who bring the clouds from the great sea. 1821 *Blackw. Mag.* X. 268 The pretty Nepheliads were dispatched to their own quarters.

Nepheline (ne·fĕlin). *Min.* Also **-in,** *erron.* nephiline. [a. F. *néphéline* (Haüy, 1800), f. Gr. *νεφέλη* cloud, because its fragments are rendered cloudy by immersion in nitric acid.] A double silicate of aluminium and sodium, occurring chiefly in volcanic deposits in Italy.

1814 J. BLACK tr. *Berzelius' Min.* 45 Nephelin. 1852 TH. ROSS tr. *Humboldt's Trav.* I. ii. 51 We could discover neither nepheline, leucite, nor feldspar. 1877 *Nature* XV. 384/1 Mineralogists have often been troubled to distinguish with certainty between apatite and nephelin.

attrib. 1863 DANA *Man. Geol.* 89 *Nephelinite,* nephelin dolerite. 1882 GEIKIE *Text-bk. Geol.* II. 150 Nepheline Rocks. 1888 TEALL *Brit. Petrogr.* 360 The olivine-bearing rocks [of Nephelinite] are termed nepheline-basalts.

Hence **Nepheli·nic** *a.* (Cassell, 1886.)

Ne·phelinite. *Min.* [f. prec. + -ITE.] (See quots.)

1863 DANA *Man. Geol.* 89 *Nephelinite,* .. a crystalline granular volcanic rock consisting of nepheline and augite with some magnetic iron. 1888 TEALL *Brit. Petrog.* 360 Nephelinite..is applied to rocks in which nepheline takes the place of felspar.

Ne·phelite. *Min.* [-ITE.] = NEPHELINE.

1868 DANA *Min.* (ed. 5) 328 Nephelite occurs both in ancient and modern volcanic rocks.

Nephelo-, combining form of Gr. *νεφέλη,* used in a few scientific terms, as **Ne·pheloˈdometer** (see quot.). **Nephelo·gnosy,** a systematic practice of observing the clouds. **Nephelo·later** (see quot.). **Nephelolo·gical** *a.*, relative to clouds or cloudiness. **Nephelo·logy,** the scientific study of clouds (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1892). **Nephelo·meter,** an instrument to register the comparative cloudiness of the sky. **Nephelome·tric** *a.*, relating to the process of estimating the degree of cloudiness in a fluid (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*). **Ne·pheloroˈmeter** (see quot.). **Ne·phelosphere,** a cloudy envelope surrounding a planet or other heavenly body.

1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 1521/2 **Nephelodometer,* an instrument for ascertaining the distances of the clouds. 1816 BENTHAM *Chrestom.* Wks. 1843 VIII. 27/2 Of late years, *Nephelognosy..has become a candidate for existence. 1895 *Pop. Sci. Monthly* Sept. 645 All men in all lands are *nephelolaters or cloud admirers. 1881 *Arctic Cruise Corwin* 14 The *nephe[lo]logical state of the atmosphere. 1884 *Amer. Meteorol. Jrnl.* I. 4 It bears about the same relations to the *nephelometer which we should have, that the sun-dial bears to the clock. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 1521/2 **Nephelorometer,* an instrument for ascertaining the speed and direction of motion of the clouds. 1889 WINCHELL *World-life* 543 It [water mist] gathers into a vaporous envelope, constituting a true atmosphere or *nephelosphere.

Ne·pheloid, *a. rare*—°. [f. Gr. *νεφέλ-η* + -OID.] Of urine: Cloudy, nebulous. (Cassell 1886.)

Nephew (ne·vi*u*, ne·fi*u*). Forms: *α.* 3–5 neueu(e, 3–6 neuew; 4–6 nevewe, 4, 6 neveu, (4 -oeu, 5 -ue); 4 neweu, (5 -ewe); 5 nepveu, -vew, 6 -evewe, -heu(e, -hue; neffewe, -ue; 5– nephew, (7 neiphew). *β.* 4 neuu, -ou, -ow; 4–6 nevow, (4 -ou, 5 -oue). *γ.* 4–9 *Sc.* nevo, 5 neuo, newo, nepho, 6 nepuo. *δ.* 4– *Sc.* nevoy, 6 newoy, nepvoy, 7 nephoy. *ε.* 6 neuie, -ye, 6–7 nevie, 6, 9 *dial.* nevy, 9 *dial.* nevey, neffi. [a. OF. *neveu* (ONF. also *nevu, nevou, nevo*) Prov. *nebot,* It. *nepote, nipote* :—L. *nepōtem,* acc. of *nepos,* grandson, nephew, descendant, related to OE. *nefa* : see NEVE.]

1. A brother's or sister's son; also, by extension, the son of a brother- or sister-in-law.

α. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 4508 Þo was þe king arþure vol of sorwe & sore...Ac to awreke him of is luþer neueu, his herte bar alre best. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 5098 Glad he was þat his neweu so nobul was wox. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 111 He wente into Egipt..for to see his suster and his nevewes. 1454 *Paston Lett.* I. 298 To take possession and saison, in the name and to the use of our ful worshipful nepveu, th'erl of Warrewic. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Blanchardyn* xx. 63 Blanchardyn .. ranne vpon Corbodas, that neuewe was to kynge Alymodes. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. 599 Use yourselfe to him as good uncles shulde do to their nephewes. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* (1613) 169 Euardes.. had three Nephewes, sonnes to a sister of his. 1621 BP. MOUNTAGU *Diatribæ* 120 As Plinius the elder was wont to say unto his nephew. 1655 STANLEY *Hist. Philos.* I. (1701) 41/2 He reposed his Head in the Bosom of his Sisters Son; ..the Court dismist, he was found dead in his Nephew's Bosom. 1722 DE FOE *Relig. Courtsh.* I. iii. (1840) 79 What kind of a lady has my nephew got? 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* XVIII. ix, 'Mr. Jones your nephew, sir!'..'He is indeed ..my own sister's son.' 1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* xxiii, The interview between the uncle and nephew being thus concluded, the Prince retired. 1867 LADY HERBERT *Cradle L.* viii. 207 It was here that Abraham encamped with his nephew Lot.

β. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 20551 Mi moder was ful wa for me, And sua was hir neuu iohan. *c* 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 737 He kist tristrem ful skete And for his nevou toke. 1468 *Paston Lett.* II. 329 Wilbeloved nevoue, I recomaunde me to yow. 1508 DUNBAR *Flyting* 529 Nero thy nevow, Golyas thy grantsire.

γ. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XVI. 44 And specialy the erll Thomass Of Murreff, that his nevo was. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* II. 431 Welcum, neuo, welcum deir sone to me. 1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* III. xiv. (S. T. S.) I. 301 C. Claudius ..began to speik to his said nevo, erare in maner of prayer þan ony displesere. 1558 KENNEDY *Compend. Tractive* in *Wodrow Misc.* (1844) I. 97 To my derrest and best beluiffit Nepuo, Gilbert, Maister of Cassilis. 1678 ANNE KEITH in Kirkton *Ch. Hist.* (1817) 357, I have written to your nevo the tresorer of Edin. 1844 W. CROSS *Disruption* i. (E. D. D.), To tell me that my nevo is comin' doun the burn-side.

δ. 1509 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) V. 5 My son Hugh Hulley, and Sir Thomas Pilley my newoy. 1562 TURNER *Bathes* Ded., Duke of Summerset, and Protector of his Nepvoy King Edward the Sixt. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S. T. S.) I. 107 Dawid Lyndsay..quhois nevoy, sone to Johnne his brother [etc.]. 1816 SCOTT *Old Mort.* vi, Haud your peace, Alison! I was speaking to my nevoy. 1839 MOIR *Mansie Wauch* (ed. 2) xxvii. 359 A leather-cap, edged with rabbit-fur, for her little nevoy.

ε. 1530 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) V. 285 To John Bradford, my nevy. 1555 EDEN *Decades* 40 Aries Pinzonus his neuie by his brothers syde. 1607 in *Antiquary* XXXII. 242 To Symon hallyday, my nevie. 1840 HOOD *Up Rhine* 4 Nunky, Nevy and Watch go on as usual. [1848 DICKENS *Dombey* xxxii, Poor nevyless old Sol.] 1858–61 RAMSAY *Remin.* v. (1870) 117, I am real glad to find my nevy has made so good a choice.

b. Euphemistically applied to the illegitimate son of an ecclesiastic.

1587 HARRISON *England* II. ii. (1877) 48 For nephues might say in those daies; 'Father, shall I call you uncle?' And vncles also; 'Son, I must call thee nephue.' 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 104 The chiefe of these banished men was the Nephew (so they call Church-mens bastards) of the Cardinall Caietano. *a* 1848 RUXTON *Life in Far West* (1849) 218 They were probably his nieces and nephews—a class of relations often possessed in numbers by priests and monks. 1873 DIXON *Two Queens* I. III. ii. 125 More papal 'nephews' had been stalled and mitred in the English Church.

c. *Nephew-in-law,* the husband of a brother's or sister's daughter. *Nephew-elect,* one who is intended to have this relationship.

1834 *Tait's Mag.* I. 381/2 It was not his fault that I, your nephew-elect, am not a Northamptonshire Squire. 1838 DICKENS *Nich. Nick.* xv, The company added their entreaties to those of his nephew-in-law. 1870 MISS BRIDGMAN *K. Lynne* II. x. 199 The..youth who purposes being my nephew-in-law.

† **2.** A brother's or sister's daughter; a niece.

1494 FABYAN *Chron.* V. xcvii. 71 The beaute and great vertue of Clotildis, neuewe to Cundebaid. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* II. 712 To my nevoy Matildis, that hes richt Till all Ingland intill hir faderis sicht, I haif maid homage. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* IV. xxxii. 155 The Athenians were wont to marry the brother with the sister, but not the Vncle with the nephew.

† **3.** A grandson. *Obs.* (Common in 17th c.)

a. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 7709 Richard is o neueu brec þere is nekke þer to. *c* 1384 CHAUCER *H. Fame* II. 109 That thou .. Hast served so ententyfly Hys blynde nevewe Cupido. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 91 Scipio Nasica, þe greet Scipio þat beet Affricanus his nevewe. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) Cc ij, Ye had your nevewes, sonnes of your chyldren, maryed. 1591 SPENSER *Ruines of Rome* viii, Vertuous nephewes..Striving in power their grandfathers to passe. 1632 HOLLAND *Cyropædia* V. v. 115 Naturall children and nephewes [*marg.*, childrens children, as we say unproperly, Grand-children]. 1656 TRAPP *Exp.* 2 *Tim.* i. 5 The grandmothers also..love their nephews better than their own immediate children. 1699 BENTLEY *Phalaris* 43 Among the ancient Greeks the name of the Grandfather was commonly given to the Nephew.

γ. δ. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* IV. iv. 86 The 3ong Ascanyus, Nevo to King Dardane and to Venus. 1579 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* III. 140 He..as nevoy and air be progres of umquhile Andro Wod .., his guidsire. 1609 SKENE *Reg. Maj.* 34 Gif ane man deceis, haueand ane after-borne sonne, and ane Nephuy of his first-begotten sonne [etc.].

† **b.** *transf.* (after L. use). A prodigal. *Obs.*—¹

1532 MORE *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 638/1 Whyther the olde holy doctours and sayncte..be better to be beleued .., or els these yong new naughty nephewes.

† **4.** A descendant; one of remote or unspecified degree of descent; a successor. *Obs.*

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) V. 263 Engistus and Horsus ..were Woden his nevewes [L. *abnepotes*]. 1549 COVERDALE *Erasm. Par. Rom.* xi. 30 b, The Jewes..yf they this do not, then are they not his [Abraham's] neuewes. 1597 J. KING *On Jonas* (1618) 135 Thy childrens children & nephews to com. 1647 TRAPP *Comm. 2 Cor.* v. 10 On that day Adam shall see all his nephews together. 1676 GLANVILL *Seasonable Reflect.* 189 All the ancient Sages, with their Sons, and Nephews to the latest Posterity.

† **5.** A figure in geomancy. *Obs. rare.*

1591 SPARRY tr. *Cattan's Geomancie* 9 Nowe resteth it to declare the making of the Nephews, with their qualities.

† **6.** A secondary shoot. *Obs. rare* —¹.

1745 tr. *Columella's Husb.* IV. vi, From that place from which you have taken away the nephew or secondary twig [L. *nepotem*], it presently pours forth another.

Hence **Ne·phewship,** the state or position of a nephew; † nepotism.

1647 HEXHAM, *Neefschap,* nephewship. 1669 *Hist. Pope's Nephews* II. (1673) 80 If Nephewship ever did good in Rome, 'twas in the time of Pius the Fifth. 1857 BORROW *Rom. Rye* II, People..who..are disposed..to swallow the reality of the nephewship of Camillo Astalli. 1885 *Harper's Mag.* Apr. 787/1 This good sonship and good nephewship.

Nephograph: see PHOTONEPHOGRAPH.

Nephology (nefǫ·lŏdʒi). [f. Gr. *νέφο-ς* cloud + -LOGY.] The study of the clouds. Hence **Nepholoˈgical** *a.* Also **Nephoˈlogist.**

1890 in *Cent. Dict.* 1894 W. C. LEY *Cloudland* 201 The fact that there is also a science of Nephology, nascent though this science may be. 1894 *Academy* 29 Dec. 560/1 Plain people..settle questions of weather for themselves, and the most advanced nephologists can do little more.

Nephoscope (ne·fŏskōup). [f. Gr. *νέφο-ς* cloud + -SCOPE.] An instrument used to determine the altitude of clouds and the velocity and direction of their movement.

1881 *Nature* 17 Mar. 458 A full description of the nephoscope will be found in the *Zeitschrift der Oesterreich. Ges. für Meteorologie*..vol. ii. p. 337. 1889 *Times* 21 Mar. 3/3 Several new barometers, anemometers, nephoscopes, &c.

‖ **Nephralgia** (nefræ·ldʒiă). *Path.* [mod.L., f. Gr. *νεφρ-ός* kidney + *-αλγία,* f. *ἄλγος* pain.] Pain in, or neuralgia of, the kidneys.

1800 *Med. Jrnl.* III. 109 Nephralgia. 1874 VAN BUREN & KEYES *Dis. Genit. Org.* 353 The main causes of nephralgia are very acid urine, kidney-stone [etc.]. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 482 Nephralgia is perhaps the commonest of the abdominal neuroses.

Hence **Nephraˈlgic** *a.*

1811 *Monthly Rev.* LXIV. 17 In 1800 he was attacked by a violent nephralgic complaint. 1892 *Syd. Soc. Lex.* s.v., *Nephralgic crisis,* the paroxysmal pain of locomotor ataxy which is felt in the loins.

Nephrectomize (nefre·ktŏməiz), *v. Surg.* [f. next + -IZE.] *trans.* To subject to the operation of nephrectomy.

1900 *Lancet* 5 May 1299/2 The animals previously nephrectomised lived longer when kidney juice was injected into them.

Nephrectomy (nefre·ktŏmi). *Surg.* [f. Gr. *νεφρ-ός* kidney + *ἐκτομή* excision.] Excision or removal of the kidney.

1880 A. E. Barker in *Medico-Chirurg. Trans.* LXIII. 181 *note*, The term 'nephrectomy' is employed..as distinct from 'nephrotomy', or simple incision into the kidney. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV. 315 The..most marked effects are seen after partial hilateral nephrectomy.

Nephretic, obs. form of Nephritic.

Nephric (ne·frik), *a.* [f. Gr. *νεφρ-ός* + -ic.] Related to, or connected with, an excretory organ or kidney.

1887 *Amer. Naturalist* XXI. 589 The advantage of converting the nephric groove into the nephric duct.

Nephridial (nefri·diăl), *a. Zool.* [f. next + -al.] Pertaining or relating to a nephridium.

1888 Rolleston & Jackson *Anim. Life* 462 The walls of the nephridial and viscero-pericardial sacs. *Ibid.* 463 The nephridial epithelium..is..longitudinally striated.

Nephridium (nefri·diŭm). *Zool.* Pl. **nephridia.** [mod. L. (Ray Lankester), ad. Greek **νεφρίδιον*, dim. of *νεφρ-ός*; cf. *gonidium*, etc.] A primitive excretory organ in the lower invertebrates, analogous in function to the kidney, but also, in some forms of Mollusca, used in reproduction.

1877 Ray Lankester in *Q. Jrnl. Microscop. Sci.* XVII. 428 The Nephridia or segmental organs of the Entozoa. 1883 Balfour *Ibid.* XXIII. 244 It will be convenient to commence with one of the hinder nephridia.

Nephrite (ne·frəit). *Min.* [a. G. *nephrit* (Werner 1780), f. Gr. *νεφρ-ός*, in allusion to its supposed efficacy in kidney disease: cf. Jade *sb.*²] The mineral jade.

1794 Kirwan *Elem. Min.* I. 171 Jade. Nephrit of Werner. 1816 P. Cleaveland *Min.* 272 Nephrite does not receive a brilliant polish. 1865 Lubbock *Preh. Times* 132 Flint was sometimes used, and nephrite, or jade, in a few cases. 1879 Rutley *Stud. Rocks* x. 131 Nephrite or jade is in part a tough compact fine-grained tremolite.

Nephritic (nefri·tik), *a.*¹ and *sb.* Also 6-7 -ick, 6 **nefreticke,** 7 **nephretic**(k. [ad. late L. *nephrīticus* (Celsius), ad. Gr. *νεφρῑτικός*, f. *νεφρῖτις* Nephritis. Cf. F. *néphrétique* (†*nephritique*, OF. *nefretique*).]

A. *adj.* **1.** Of pains, diseases, etc.: Affecting, having their seat or origin in, the kidneys; renal.

1580 *Well of Woman Hill, Aberdeen* A iij b, It cuiris Nephritick dolouris baith of Neiris and Bladder. 1590 Barough *Meth. Physick* vii. xvii. (1639) 406 When we would in the Nefreticke disease, have the pores and passages of the body enlarged [etc.]. 1650 Baxter *Saints' R.* III. iv. (1662) 345 Epileptick, Arthritick, Nephritick pains. 1725 Bradley *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Vomiting*, This Medicine is also good against the Nephritick Cholick. 1781 J. T. Dillon *Trav. Spain* 160 A remedy for a nephritic complaint. 1822-34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) IV. 396 She was never known to have had a nephritic symptom till just before her death. 1859 R. F. Burton *Centr. Afr.* in *Jrnl. Geog. Soc.* XXIX. 389 Chronic nephritic disease, and rheumatism.

2. Of medicines or remedies: Operating on, helping to cure affections of, the kidneys. ? *Obs.*

1657 Tomlinson *Renou's Disp.* 10 The..strengthening Medicament is that which..conserves some part of our Body, as..Nephritick to the reins. 1684 tr. *Bonet's Merc. Compit.* III. 60 This is a noble and royal Nephritick liquor. 1710 *Brit. Apollo* No. 41. 2/1 Garlick is .. Nephritick. 1799 *Med. Jrnl.* II. 291 The best manner of making the nephritic alkaline waters.

† **b.** *Nephritic wood*, a wood of which the infusion (*nephritic tincture*) was formerly used as a remedy in diseases of the kidneys. *Obs.*

In earlier accounts said to come from 'New Spain' and to be the *coatli* of Hernandez; but in later use also applied to the wood of the Horse-radish Tree (*Moringa pterygosperma*).

1661 Boyle *Contn. New Exp.* II. (1682) 140, I tried the same experiment, with the infusion of Nephritick-wood. 1684-5 — *Min. Waters* 86 To destroy the blewness of the Nephritic Tincture. 1718 Quincy *Compl. Disp.* 156 Nephritick Wood. This is brought to us from New Spain; it is from a Tree reckon'd of the Ash-kind. The Wood is hard and colour'd almost like Saunders. 1753 Chambers *Cycl. Supp.* s.v. *Transmutation*, The change of colour of a decoction of the nephritic wood, according to the different lights it was viewed in. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) VIII. 176/2 The wood [of moringa] dyes a beautiful blue colour. It is the *lignum nephriticum*, or nephritic wood, of the dispensatories.

c. *Nephritic stone*, jade, nephrite. ? *Obs.*

1666 H. Stubbe *Mirac. Conformist* 10 The Nephritick and Eagle-stones..whose operation is certain and undeniable. *Ibid.* 13 The Nephritic-stone drives out gravel. 1777 G. Forster *Voy. round World* I. 161 A piece of green nephritic stone, or *jadde*. 1811 Pinkerton *Petral.* I. 346 The nephritic stone was supposed, when only worn, to cure diseases of the reins, or the lumbago.

3. Of persons: Affected with pain or disease of the kidneys. Also *absol.*

1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Nephritick*, that is troubled with a pain in the Reins of the back. 1702 Floyer *Hot & Cold Bath.* I. iv. (1709) 92 He advises the Nephritick to place their Backs against the Stream of the River. 1806 *Med. Jrnl.* XV. 36 The drops..have given great relief to many nephritic patients. 1834 *Cycl. Pract. Med.* III. 165/1 The infusion of its leaves has often given decided relief to nephritic patients.

†**B.** *sb.* A medicine for the kidneys. *Obs.*

1661 Lovell *Hist. Anim. & Min.* 453. 1671 Salmon *Syn. Med.* III. xv. 358 Renals or Nephreticks, are such Medicines as are dedicated to the Reines and Bladder. 1694 — *Bate's Dispens.* (1713) 215/1 A most admirable Nephritick.

Nephri·tic, *a.*² *rare* —¹. [f. Nephrite + -ic.] Of the nature of, related to, nephrite.

1806 *Gazetteer Scotl.* (ed. 2) 248 Marble,..nephritic asbestos, violet-coloured quartz, and porphyry.

† **Nephri·tical,** *a. Obs.* [Cf. Nephritic *a.*¹ and -al.] Nephritic, in various senses.

a. 1639 Wotton *Let.* in *Reliq.* (1672) 481 Troubled with certain Nephritical fits. 1663 Boyle *Usef. Exp. Nat. Philos.* II. ii. 104 Patients, who were wont frequently to have recourse to him in their nephritical distempers. 1702 Young in *Phil. Trans.* XXIII. 1582 Hypocondriacal Pains, and sometimes Nephritical.

b. 1661 Lovell *Anim. & Min.* 453 Nephritical wood.

c. 1684 tr. *Bonet's Merc. Compit.* I. 5 A certain Physician thinking him Nephritical, gave him many things against the Stone.

Nephritis (nefrəi·tis). *Path.* [ad. late L. *nephrītis* (Isidore), a. Gr. *νεφρῖτις*, f. *νεφρός* kidney.] Inflammation of the kidneys.

1580 Blundevil *Horsemanship* IV. 44 b, The inflamation of the kidnies, which is called of them Nephritis. 1661 Lovell *Hist. Anim. & Min.* 381 The inflammation of the reines, or nephritis, is a swelling of the same [etc.]. 1747 tr. *Astruc's Fevers* 154 Hepatitis, nephritis, dysentery. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XI. 175/2 The nephritis has the same symptoms in common with other inflammations. 1849-52 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* IV. 1291/2 In arthritic nephritis the quantity of the uric acid crystals is sometimes extremely great. 1878 T. Bryant *Pract. Surg.* (1879) II. 49 Nephritis may occur as a consequence of local injury, or as an attack upon a chronically diseased organ.

Nephro- (ne·frŏ), comb. form of Gr. *νεφρός* kidney, employed in a number of scientific terms, as **Ne·phroblast,** one of the cells from which nephridia are developed (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1892). † **Nephrocatha·rtic** *a.*, serving to cleanse the kidneys. **Ne·phrocele,** hernia of the kidney (Craig, 1849). **Nephroco·lic,** renal colic (*ibid.*). **Nephrodi·nic** *a.*, of molluscs, discharging the genital products by means of nephridia. **Nephroga·stric** *a.*, relating to the kidneys and stomach (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*). **Nephroge·nic** *a.*, arising in the kidneys (*ibid.*). **Nephrogo·naduct,** a nephridium which serves as a gonaduct. **Nephro·graphy,** the scientific description of the kidneys (Dunglison, 1842). **Nephrolithi·asis,** disease caused by the presence of renal calculi. **Nephroli·thic** *a.*, pertaining to calculi in the kidney. **Nephrolitho·tomy,** the removal by incision of a renal calculus. **Nephro·logist,** one skilled in nephrology. **Nephro·logy,** the scientific study of the kidneys and their diseases (Dunglison, 1842). **Nephro·pathy,** diseases of the kidneys. **Nephrople·gy,** paralysis of the kidney (Mayne, 1856). **Nephropto·sis,** falling of the kidney. **Nephropyeli·tis,** inflammation of the parenchyma of the kidney and adjacent parts. **Nephropyo·sis,** suppuration of the kidney (Mayne, 1856). **Nephrorrha·gia,** hæmorrhage from the kidney. **Nephro·rrhaphy,** the operation of fixing a movable kidney by sewing. **Nephro·stoma, Ne·phrostome,** a funnel-shaped ciliated aperture in a primitive kidney. **Nephroty·phoid,** a form of nephritis. **Nephrozy·mose,** a compound ferment occurring in urine.

Similar forms are employed in French, as *néphrocèle, -graphie, -lithiase, -lithique, -logie, -pyose, -rrhagie*, etc.

1661 Lovell *Hist. Anim. & Min.* 454 *Nephrocathartick [syrup] of Joubertus. 1883 Lankester in *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 682 The Porodinic group [of Cœlomate animals] is divisible into *Nephrodinic and Idiodinic, in the former the nephridium serving as a pore. *Ibid.*, The genital ducts of the Idiodinic forms may be called Idiogonaducts, as distinguished from *nephrogonaducts of nephrodinic forms. 1842 Dunglison, **Nephrolithiasis.* 1880 A. Flint *Princ. Med.* (ed. 2) 906 The treatment of nephro-lithiasis..will depend on the nature of the concretions. 1842 Dunglison *Med. Dict.*, **Nephrolithic*...This epithet has been applied to ischuria, occasioned by calculi formed in the kidneys. 1849 Craig, **Nephrolithotomy.* 1883 Holmes & Hulke *Syst. Surg.* (ed. 3) III. 179 Nephro-lithotomy: designating incisions expressly intended not only to expose a portion of the kidney, but to remove a stone therefrom. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV. 444 When anuria supervenes..nephrolithotomy is indicated. 1892 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, **Nephroptosis.* 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV. 341 The condition of mobility has been named Nephroptosis. 1876 tr. *Wagner's Gen. Pathol.* 107 Cases of hæmorrhagic *Nephro-pyelitis in various acute diseases. 1885 W. Roberts *Urin. & Renal Dis.* III. xiv. (ed. 4) 681 A much less dangerous operation, *nephroraphy, in which the kidney is stitched to the posterior abdominal walls. 1894 *Lancet* 3 Nov. 1035 The woman was referred..for nephrorrhaphy, as the case was considered to be one of movable kidney. 1878 Bell *Gegenbaur's Comp. Anat.* 605 The rudimentary ducts are always provided with functionally active *nephrostomata. 1888 Rolleston & Jackson *Anim. Life* 204 Each organ consists of a ciliated funnel or *nephrostome. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 812 Symptoms of acute nephritis (*nephrotyphoid).

Nephroid (ne·froid), *a.* [f. Gr. *νεφρό-ς* + -oid: cf. Gr. *νεφροειδής, νεφρώδης.*] Kidney-shaped.

1849 in Craig. 1882 Ogilvie s.v., A nephroid fruit; a nephroid cancer.

So † **Nephroi·deous** *a. Obs. rare* —¹.

1677 Grew *Anat. Seeds* I. § 5 Other [seeds] are Nephroideous, or as it were Hemispherick.

Nephrotomiza·tion. *Surg. rare* —¹. [Cf. next and -ation.] The operation of nephrotomy.

1825 Fosbrooke *Obs. Kidneys* 132 It occurs to me that Nephrot[om]ization was formerly tried in this country.

Nephro·tomize, *v. Surg.* [Cf. next and -ize.] *trans.* To perform nephrotomy upon. Hence **Nephro·tomized** *ppl. a.*

1825 Fosbrooke *Obs. Kidneys* 132 Five ounces of blood from a dog nephrotomised afforded more than twenty grains of urea. 1876 tr. *Wagner's Gen. Pathol.* 572 The quantity of water in the brain of nephrotomized animals.

Nephrotomy (nefro·tŏmi). *Surg.* [ad. mod.L. *nephrotomia*, f. Gr. *νεφρό-ς* kidney + *-τομία, τομή* cutting. Cf. F. *néphrotomie.*] Incision of the kidney, esp. for renal calculus.

1696 *Phil. Trans.* XIX. 333 Nephrotomy, restraining its Signification to Cutting into the Kidney for the Stone, is an Operation which hath been hitherto so little practised [etc.]. 1767 Gooch *Treat. Wounds* I. 415 The celebrated Professor..performed the operation of Nephrotomy, with success. 1836 J. M. Gully *Magendie's Formul.* (ed. 2) 160 When nephrotomy had been performed. 1874 Van Buren & Keyes *Dis. Genit. Org.* 369 Where the abscess is renal, it becomes a question of true nephrotomy.

Nephta, obs. form of Naphtha.

Nephue, obs. form of Nephew.

‖ **Ne plus ultra** (nī plŭs *v*·ltră). Also 7-8 **ne plus.** [L. '(let there) not (be) more (sailing) beyond', alleged to have been inscribed on the Pillars of Hercules. In French the phrase has the forms *nec* and *non-plus-ultra.*]

1. A command to go no further; a prohibition of further advance or action; also, an impassable obstacle or limitation.

c 1661 *Argyle's Last Will* in *Harl. Misc.* (1746) VIII. 27/1 That Bound-mark of Presbytery, its *ne plus Ultra*, Hitherto shall you go and no further. 1664 J. Worthington *Life Mede* in *M's. Wks.* (1672) p. xiii, To look upon their Resolves as if they were Hercules's Pillars with a *Ne plus ultrà* upon them. *c* 1730 Burt *Lett. N. Scotl.* (1818) I. 293 He may wander into a bog to impassable bourns or rocks, and every *ne plus ultra* oblige him to change his course. 1786 Han. More *Bas Bleu* 131 Her fancy of no limits dreams, No ne plus ultra bounds her schemes.

attrib. 1845 Ford *Hand-bk. Spain* I. 340 The *ne plus ultra* land and sea marks of jealous Phœnician monopoly.

2. The utmost limit to which one can go or has gone; the furthest point reached or capable of being reached.

1638 Sanderson *Serm.* II. 120 Here then we have our bounds set us; our *ne plus ultra*; beyond which if we pass, we transgress. 1665 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* (1677) 254 Historians some fix his *Ne plus* at the River Indus; others at the River Ganges. 1751 Eliza Heywood *Betsy Thoughtless* II. 227 Mr. Munden often found himself at his ne plus ultra, but was not in the least disconcerted at it. 1776 Mickle tr. *Camoen's Lusiad* Introd. 27 Cape Nam, as its name intimates, was then the *Ne plus ultra* of European navigation. 1805 Eugenia de Acton *Nuns of Desert* II. 182 It might be supposed that the gentry of Ivy Tower would now have found themselves at their ne plus ultra. 1835 Sir J. Ross *Narr. 2nd Voy.* xxix. 418 Victory point; being the 'ne plus ultra' of our labour.

b. *esp.* The point of highest attainment; the highest point or pitch *of* some quality, etc.; the acme or final culmination.

1696 D'Urfey *3rd Pt. Don Quix.* Ep. Ded., Whilst I with Pride fix my Fame at its *Ne plus ultra.* 1707 J. Stevens tr. *Quevedo's Com. Wks.* (1709) 145 He was the superlative Degree of Avarice, and he was the very Neplus of Want. 1736 Ld. Chesterfield *Misc. Wks.* (1777) I. 2 This example should hinder one from thinking any thing brought to its *ne plus ultra* of perfection. 1760-72 H. Brooke *Fool of Qual.* (1792) II. 81 The populace..have arrived to their *ne plus ultra* of insolence. 1823 Scott *Let. to Terry* 14 Feb. in *Lockhart*, It may be called the *ne plus ultra* of bell-ringing. 1893 *Nation* (N. Y.) 29 June 469/2 The people of Leinster ..do not vaunt Dublin as the ne-plus-ultra of cities.

attrib. 1823 Byron *Age of Bronze* xi, The all-prolific land Of *ne plus ultra* ultras. 1830 Marryat *King's Own* xlviii, By..ne-plus-ultra corkscrews.

† **3.** As *pl.* Unsurpassable persons. *Obs. rare* —¹.

1672 Clarendon *Ess.* Tracts (1727) 237 Since men have looked upon the ancients as fallible writers, and not as upon those *Ne plus ultra*, that could not be exceeded.

† **Ne·pos.** *Obs. rare.* [a. L. *nepos.*] = Nepote.

1535 Stewart *Cron. Scot.* I. 130 Nepos als he wes till Drustus King. *Ibid.* II. 374 This 3oung Alpyne, quhilk wes his nepos neir.

Nepotal (ne·pŏtăl), *a.* [f. L. *nepōt-, nepos* nephew + -al: cf. late L. *nepōtālis* prodigal.] Of the nature of, belonging or pertaining to, a nephew or nephews.

1837 Lytton *E. Maltrav.* VII. i, Provided Mrs. T. did not supersede the nepotal parasite by indigenous olive-branches. 1845 *Blackw. Mag.* LVII. 47 The Vladikas are appointed by the emperor in nepotal succession from the family of Petrovitch. 1862 Miss Mulock *Mistress & Maid* xxiv, His proper nepotal corner in Hilary's heart.

† **Nepota·tion.** *Obs. rare* —⁰. [f. L. *nepōtāt-*, ppl. stem of *nepōtāri* to squander, be prodigal.] 'Wasting or riotousness' (Blount *Glossogr.* 1656).

Nepote (nī·pout). *Sc.* Now *rare.* [ad. L. *nepōt-*, stem of *nepos*: see Nephew.]

† **1.** A grandson. *Obs. rare.*

1533 Bellenden *Livy* I. xiii. (S. T. S.) I. 73 This Ancus was nepote to Numa pompilius, gottin on his dochter. 1536 — *Cron. Scot.* (1821) I. 19 We ar faderis, ye, our sonnis; your sonnis ar our nepotis.

2. A nephew.

1533 Bellenden *Livy* III. xix. (S. T. S.) II. 26 Þe pride of

his nepote [L. *fratris filii*] Appius Claudius. 1569 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* II. 2/2 Nepote and heyre to the Erll of Montroise. 1889 R. BRYDALL *Art in Scotl.* ix. 158 Any other than a nepote of the Holy Father.

Nepo·tian. *rare.* [=F. *Népotien* (Littré), f. L. *Nēpōt-*, stem of *Nepos*: see def.] A follower of Nepos, an Egyptian bishop of the 3rd cent., who held views similar to those of the millenarians.

1641 R. BROOKE *Eng. Episc.* II. vi. 89 Novatians, Sabellians, Nepotians,..have troubled the Church from time to time.

Nepotic (nĭpɒ·tĭk), *a.* [f. L. *nepōt-*, *nepos* nephew + -IC.] **a.** Inclined to, of the nature of, nepotism. **b.** Holding the position of a nephew.

1847 *Fraser's Mag.* XXXVI. 715 The nepotic dispenser of patronage. 1854 MILMAN *Lat. Chr.* VII. VI. (1864) IV. 203 To set bounds..to the personal or nepotic ambition of the ruling pontiff. 1873 *St. Paul's Mag.* 19 Jan., Regarding this nepotic youngster with amazement.

Nepotious (nĭpō·ʃəs), *a. rare*⁻¹. [f. as prec. + -IOUS.] Excessively fond of one's nephews.

1834 SOUTHEY *Doctor* x. (1848) 29 We may use the epithet nepotions for those [uncles] who carry this fondness to the extent of doting.

Nepotism (ne·pŏtiz'm). [ad. F. *népotisme* (1653) or It. *nepotismo*, f. *nepote* nephew: see -ISM.]

†**1.** The advantages, or opportunities for advancement, pertaining to a pope's nephew. *Obs.*

1662 J. BARGRAVE *Pope Alex. VII* (1867) 95 The Pope's only nephew..married her, quitting his Cardinal's cap and nepotism.

2. The practice, on the part of the Popes or other ecclesiastics (and hence of other persons), of showing special favour to nephews or other relatives in conferring offices; unfair preferment of nephews or relatives to other qualified persons.

1670 G. H. *Hist. Cardinals* II. I. 116 Ministers that by the favour of the Nepotisme, do revive..a new Neronisme of Tyranny. 1688 *Answ. Talon's Plea* 10 His great aversion from all kind of Pride; the freest from Nepotism of any. 1705 ADDISON *Italy* 184 It is to this Humour of Nepotism that Rome owes its present Splendor. 1740 RICHARDSON *Pamela* (1824) I. xxxii. 320 His holiness declared against nepotism. 1791 BURKE *Th. French Aff.* Wks. 1842 I. 569/2 The spirit of nepotism prevails there nearly as strong as ever. 1836 E. HOWARD *R. Reefer* xxxviii. The nepotism of the treasurer of the navy. 1876 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* V. xxii. 44 This nepotism of the Bishop who made a maintenance for his kinsfolk out of the estates of the Church.

b. Fondness for one's nephews.

1818 LADY MORGAN *Autobiog.* (1859) 9, I am sure that nepotism is an organic affection in single and childless women; it is a maternal instinct gone astray.

Nepotist (ne·pŏtist). [Cf. prec. and -IST.] One given to nepotism.

1837 SYD. SMITH *Wks.* (1850) 608 To be accused of Nepotism by Nepotists, who were praising themselves indirectly by the accusation. 1898 G. SMITH *Twelve Ind. Statesmen* x. 276 The Marquess of Dalhousie was no nepotist.

Hence **Nepoti·stical** *a.*

1886 SYMONDS *Renaiss. It., Cath. React.* (1898) I. ii. 68 It was the last..and the most brilliant display of nepotistical ambition in a Pope.

Neppe, obs. variant of NEP *sb.*[1], catmint.

Nepperkin, dial. variant of NIPPERKIN.

†**Nept(e.** *Obs.* [OE. *nepte*, ad. L. *nepeta*. Cf. MDu. *nepte*, *nipte*, G. *nepte(n, nept.*] = NEP *sb.*[1]

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 208 Þas wyrte man nepitam on [leden] & oþrum naman nepte nemneþ. *Ibid.* III. 72 Neptan sæd & wuduhrofan sæd. *a* 1400–50 *Stockholm Med. MS.* 209 Nepte or cattys mynte, *nepta*. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 353/1 Nepte, herbe, *nepta*. 1523 SKELTON *Garl. Laurel* 982 The columbyne, the nepte, The ielofler well set. 1600 SURFLET *Countrie Farme* II. xlix. 320 Cats mint or nept is a kinde of calamint.

Neptha, obs. form of NAPHTHA.

Neptune (ne·ptiŭn). [a. F. *Neptune*, or ad. L. *Neptūn-us.*]

1. In Roman religion and mythology, the god of the sea, corresponding to the Greek *Poseidon*; also *transf.* the sea or ocean.

c 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 2421 *Phyllis*, The se..possith hym now vp now doun Til neptune hath of hym compassioun. 1564 *Brief Exam.* Biv b, Wyne was consecrated vnto Bacchus,..Water vnto Neptune. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* II. i. 126 Full often hath she..sat with me on Neptunes yellow sands. 1634 MILTON *Comus* 18 Neptune besides the sway Of every salt Flood, and each ebbing Stream [etc.]. 1747 *Scheme Equip. Men of War* 23 Their Tide of Learning, ..whilst under the Influence of Neptune, is always Ebb. 1820 SHELLEY *Hymn Merc.* xxxi, The sacred wood, Which ..echoes the voice of Neptune. 1873 J. GEIKIE *Gt. Ice Age* xvii. 231 Neptune, when imprisoned in such deep, narrow ocean valleys, is powerless.

b. The sailor impersonating the sea-god in the ceremony observed in crossing the Line.

1815 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 104 At the usual ceremony of passing the Line, .. Buonaparte made a present to old Neptune of one hundred Napoleons.

2. *Neptune's cup* (or *goblet*): **a.** A species of coral (see quot. 1855).

1839 MALCOM *Trav.* (1840) 28/1 One of these curious productions, a species of alcyonium, called 'Neptune's cup'. 1855 DALLAS *Syst. Nat. Hist.* I. 239 The *Alcyonium poculum*, or Neptune's cup, which is found upon the coral reefs in the eastern Archipelago. 1885 LADY BRASSEY *The Trades* 312 There were grey sponges..in shape not unlike coral Neptune's cups.

b. A kind of sponge (*Thalassema neptuni*).

1863 WOOD *Illustr. Nat. Hist.* III. 770 The extraordinary object which is called by the appropriate name of Neptune's cup is one of the most magnificent..of the sponge tribe. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* 496 *Neptune's Goblets*, the large cup-shaped sponges found in the eastern seas.

3. The most remote planet of the solar system, discovered by Galle in 1846.

1846 *Astron. Obs. Radcliffe Observ.* (1848) 284 Observed Right Ascensions and North Polar distances of the Planet Neptune. 1868 LOCKYER *Guillemin's Heavens* (ed. 3) 267 The density of the matter of which Neptune consists.

4. (See quots.)

1861 DU CHAILLU *Equat. Afr.* viii. 90 The 'neptune'—a plate of yellow copper, which has long been one of the standard articles of trade imported hither by the merchants. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* 496 *Neptunes*, large brass pans used in the Bight of Biafra for obtaining salt.

Neptu·nean, *a. rare*⁻¹. = next.

1852 TH. ROSS tr. *Humboldt's Trav.* I. i. 36 A mountain.. celebrated on account of the disputes of volcanean and neptunean geologists.

Neptunian (neptiū·niăn), *a.* and *sb.* [f. L. *Neptūni-us*, f. *Neptūnus* Neptune + -AN. Cf. F. *neptunien.*]

A. *adj.* **1.** Pertaining to the sea-god Neptune, or to the sea. *rare.*

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* 1848 G. B. CHEEVER *Wand. Pilgrim* xxxiii. 204 A social Neptunian pic-nic of this sort.

2. *Geol.* Resulting from, produced by, the action of water. (Opposed to *volcanic* or *plutonic.*)

1794 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* I. 425 Mountains of Neptunian origin are distinguished by their materials. 1805 *West's Antiq. Furness* 374 The progress of this neptunian process is very curious. 1857 DUFFERIN *Lett. High Lat.* 194 Layers of trap, alternating with Neptunian beds.

b. Based upon the view that certain geological formations are due to the action of water.

1802 *Edin. Rev.* I. 206 A destruction of the primitive mountains..is deducible from the Neptunian..hypothesis.

3. Of or belonging to the planet Neptune.

a 1849 POE *Mellonta Tauta* Wks. 1864 IV. 299 A fine view of the five Neptunian asteroids. 1885 AGNES CLERKE *Pop. Hist. Astron.* 114 No further Neptunian or Uranian satellites can be perceived.

B. *sb.* **1.** = NEPTUNIST 2.

1799 *Charac.* in *Ann. Reg.* 329/2 In general he was a Neptunian, that is to say he attributed the changes the earth has undergone to the operation of water. 1822 CLEAVELAND *Min. & Geol.* (ed. 2) II. 723 Neptunians and Vulcanists.

2. An inhabitant of the planet Neptune.

1870 PROCTOR *Other Worlds* 173 The Neptunians would be wholly unable to see Uranus.

Hence **Neptu·nianism,** belief in, or advocacy of, the Neptunian hypothesis.

1830 LYELL *Princ. Geol.* I. 69 By a singular coincidence, neptunianism and orthodoxy were now associated in the same creed.

Neptunist (ne·ptiŭnist). [f. NEPTUNE + -IST.]

†**1.** A nautical person. *Obs. rare.*

1593 G. HARVEY *Pierce's Super.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 290 Let .. fine Dædalist, skilful Neptunist, marueious Vulcanist..be respected [etc.]. 1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 'iv, The Neptunist, of windes, of stormes, and of tempest,..can talke best.

2. An asserter of the Neptunian or aqueous origin of certain geological formations.

1802 *Edin. Rev.* I. 201 Its author cannot be considered either as a Vulcanist purely, or a Neptunist. 1830 LYELL *Princ. Geol.* I. 346 The confidence with which the contending Neptunists and Vulcanists in the last century dogmatized on the igneous or aqueous origin of certain rocks. 1856 PAGE *Adv. Text-bk. Geol.* 65 The Wernerians or Neptunists contended strenuously for the aqueous origin of all the old rock-formations.

attrib. 1863 SPENCER *Ess.* II. 60 This Neptunist hypothesis..was quite untenable if analyzed.

Nepuo, -veu, -vew, -voy, obs. ff. NEPHEW.

†**Ne·quient,** *a. Obs. rare*⁻⁰. [f. pres. pple. of L. *nequīre* to be unable.] 'Not being able, disable' (Blount *Glossogr.* 1656).

†**Ner,** *conj. Obs.* Also 5–6 nere, 6 nar. [var. of NOR, perh. after NE; but cf. OFris. *ner.*] Nor.

c 1420 *Avow. Arth.* xli, Ther schalle no mon do nere say, That schalle greue the. *c* 1450 tr. *De Imitatione* I. iii. 4 No man wibouten him undirstondiþ ner demeþ rightwesly. *a* 1500 in C. Trice-Martin *Chanc. Proc. 15th C.* (1904) 2 Youre besecher never receyved of hym ner of none other tn his use the value of xij. d. 1538 *Anc. Cal. Rec. Dublin* (1889) I. 503 To hy nar sell wythe any man.

Ner, in *ner nother*: see NOTHER.

Ner, obs. var. NAR and NEAR *a.* and *adv.*

Nerand, obs. f. ERRAND, NEARHAND.

Nercotical, obs. form of NARCOTICAL.

†**Nere,** *a. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [a. OF. *ner, neir*, var. *noir*:—L. *nigr-um.*] Black.

13.. *Coer de L.* 6526 A robe i-furryd with blaun and nere.

†**Nere,** were not: see NE and BE *v.* A. 6–7.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC in Assmann *Ags. Hom.* (1889) ii. 124 Dus halzan næron næfre mid wifum besmitene. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 97 Hi neren aferede of nane licamliche pinunge. *c* 1205 LAY. 538 Þa Grickes neoren noht warre. *Ibid.* 1118 Leode nere þar nane. *a* 1300 *Seven Sins* 27 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 19 He nold þat aliue nere none so riche as he were. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 21 Nif he nere scoymus & skyg .. Hit were a mernayl. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Compl. Mars* 35 Commaundynge him that neuere in her seruise He ner so bolde. *c* 1425 *Seven Sag.* (P.) 2058 None ther nas, That thay nere al at on. 1503 HAWES *Examp. Virt.* x. 4 Vnto your grace fayne wolde I go Ner lettynge of this water blo. 1600 FAIRFAX *Tasso* XII. lxxxi, He trembled so, that nere his squires beside To hold him vp, he had sunke downe.

†**Nere,** obs. form of EAR.

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 252/2 A Nere, *auris.*

Nere, variant of NEER, kidney.

Nere, ne're, obs. variants of NE'ER, never.

Ne·read. *rare.* Also 6 pl. nereiades. [Erron. form of NEREID, after *Dryad, Oread*, etc.] A nereid; a mermaid.

1555 EDEN *Decades* 12 The fayre nimphes or fayeres of the sea (cauled Nereiades). 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Neread*, a Maremaid, or Fish, like a beautiful Woman down to the Girdle, and the rest like a Fish.

attrib. 1860 C. SANGSTER *Hesperus*, etc. 145 Verdurous headlands looking down On Neread shapes.

Nerehand(e, -hond(e, obs. ff. NEARHAND.

Nereid (nī·ə·rĭid). [ad. L. *Nērēĭd-*, *Nērēis*, a. Gr. Νηρηΐς, Νηρεΐς, f. Νηρεύς the name of an ancient sea-god.]

1. *Myth.* A daughter of Nereus; a sea-nymph.

1680 OLDHAM *Pastoral Earl Rochester* 1, Now does that lovely Nereid..The Sea, and all her fellow Nymphs forsake. 1720 POPE *Iliad* XVIII. 45 The circling Nereids with their mistress weep. 1776 PENNANT *Brit. Zool.* I. 213 These birds were equally favourites with Thetis as with the Nereids. 1819 SHELLEY *Prometh. Unb.* III. ii. 44 Behold the Nereids under the green sea. 1869 TOZER *Highl. Turkey* II. 309 The beauty of the Nereids is proverbial. 1885–94 R. BRIDGES *Eros. & Psyche* Mar. 27 The Nereids all, who live among the caves.

attrib. 1767 FAWKES *Theocritus* vii. 76 Halcyons,..Most lov'd and honour'd by the Nereid train. 1847 *Gentl. Mag.* CXVII. I. 173 This structure .. may be styled the Nereid monument.

transf. 1781 COWPER *Retirem.* 537 Nereids or Dryads, as the fashion leads, Now in the floods, now panting in the meads. 1876 GEO. ELIOT *Dan. Der.* I, The Nereid in sea-green robes and silver ornaments..was Gwendolen Harleth.

2. *Zool.* An errant annelid of the family *Nereidæ*, having an elongated body composed of a large number of similar rings, with rudimentary branchiæ; a sea-centipede.

1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVI. 147/1 The Nereids are widely spread, and some of the species are found in most seas. 1845 T. R. JONES *Nat. Hist. Anim.* I. 334 The nereids, as might be expected from their activity and erratic habits, are carnivorous animals. 1876 *Beneden's Anim. Parasites* 24 This annelid is a long worm, like all the nereids.

attrib. 1885 LADY BRASSEY *The Trades* 316 A large Nereid worm, about six or seven inches long.

Nere·idean. *Zool. rare.* [f. mod.L. *Nereideæ* (Savigny), f. L. *Nēreid-*, NEREID: see -EAN.] A nereid or similar marine annelid.

1835 KIRBY *Hab. & Inst. Anim.* I. xii. 333 His first Order he denominates Nereideans. *Ibid.* II. xvii. 128 The approach which many of the Nereideans of Savigny make to the Myriapod Condylopes. 1842 BRANDE *Dict. Sci.*, etc.

‖ **Nereides** (nĭrī·ĭdīz, nī·ə·rī,ĭdīz), *sb. pl.* [L. *Nerēides*, G. Νηρηίδες, Νηρεΐδες, pl. of Νηρηΐς, Νηρεΐς: see NEREID.] Nereids.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 172 The Greks..such a name upon hem leiden, Nereides that thei ben hote. 1579–80 NORTH *Plutarch, Antonius* (1612) 923 Apparelled like the Nimphes Nereides (which are the Myrmaides of the waters). 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 567 The Sea-nymphs or Meere-maides also called Nereides. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Nereides* are also taken for Nymphs, or Fairies of the Water.

Nerei·dian, *sb.* and *a. Zool. rare.* [f. NEREID + -IAN.] **a.** *sb.* A nereidean or nereidous annelid. **b.** *adj.* = next.

1850 in WORCESTER. 1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

Nere·idous, *a. Zool.* [f. as prec. + -OUS.] Resembling a nereid; belonging to the *Nereidæ*.

1839 DARWIN *Voy. Nat.* xiii. 305 Crawling nereidous animals of a multitude of forms. 1845 *Ibid.* (ed. 2) xx. 465 Nereidous worms, which perforate every block of dead coral.

‖ **Nereis** (nī·ə·rī,is). *Zool.* [L.; see NEREID. Formerly used as a name for several unrelated marine forms of animal life.]

†**1.** A medusid. *Obs. rare.*

1752 J. HILL *Hist. Anim.* 92 The body of the Nereis is of a cylindric figure; and the tentacula are four in number, but two of them are usually very short, often scarce perceptible. 1770 PENNANT *Brit. Zool.* IV. 38 Nereis Noctilucous. These are the animals that illuminate the sea, like glow-worms. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XIII. 8/1 The .. noctilucous nereis, which inhabits almost every sea. 1813 BINGLEY *Zool.* III. 424 The night-shining nereis.

2. The typical genus of the *Nereidæ*; the sea-centipede (see NEREID 2).

1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XIII. 8/2 *Nereis gigantæa*, or giant nereis...The three rows of small tufts..serve this nereis instead of feet. 1839–47 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* III. 538/2 In the *Nereis, Aphrodite*, and other erratic worms. 1845 T. R. JONES *Nat. Hist. Anim.* I. 334 The mouth of the dead Nereis appears to be a simple opening, quite destitute of teeth. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 184/1 The nereis, with opal tints and gleams of pearl,..resplendent with light.

†**Nereon,** obs. variant of NERIUM.

1661 LOVELL *Hist. Anim. & Min.* 115 They are hurt by aconite, nereon, prickwood,..and scorching fennel.

†**Nerf.** *Obs. rare.* Also nerfe, nerff. [a. OF. *nerf*:—L. *nerv-um*: see NERVE *sb.*] A sinew.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* II. 642 His sheld..In which men mighten meny an arwe fynd, That thrilled hath both horn, nerfe, and rynd. *c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 29 Þat þat is maad of þis nerf [*v.r.* nerff] and þis ligament is clepid a corde; þe which þat meneþ þe lymes to þe wille of þe soule.

Nerhand(e, -honde, obs. ff. NEARHAND.

‖ **Nerita** (nĕrəi·tă). *Zool.* Pl. neritæ, also -as. [L. *nērīta*, ad. Gr. *νηρίτης, νηρείτης* sea-mussel, f.

Νηρεύς: see NEREID.] A genus of gasteropod molluscs; a mollusc belonging to this genus.

The name was widely applied by Linnæus, but has recently been restricted to a group typical of the family *Neritidæ*, having a thick globular shell with a small spire and semilunate aperture.

1748 J. HILL *Hist. Fossils* 648 The *Neritæ* are not unfrequent in many parts of England. 1845 W. MACGILLIVRAY *Conchol. Text-bk.* 58 The Shore Nerita. *Ibid.* 98 The Bloody-Tooth Nerita. 1859-63 J. G. WOOD *Nat. Hist.* III. 388 The Neritas are all inhabitants of the warmer seas.

Nerite (nīˑrəit). *Zool.* Also **nerit.** [ad. L. *nērīta* NERITA.] = prec.

α. 1708 *Phil. Trans.* XXVI. 79 The Nerite, or Fossil Sea Snail. 1752 J. HILL *Hist. Anim.* 127 The black, red-streaked, and spotted Nerite. 1755 *Gentl. Mag.* XXV. 248 A very fine Nerite. 1802-3 tr. *Pallas's Trav.* (1812) I. 523 The Velanatsh forms deep marshes..and produces the small variegated nerite before mentioned. 1851 WOODWARD *Mollusca* I. 13 The bivalve may close, and the operculated nerite retire into his home. 1872 NICHOLSON *Palæont.* II. xxi. 255 The true Nerites are inhabitants of warm seas.

attrib. 1823 BUCKLAND *Relig. Diluv.* 89 Both rods and rings, as well as the nerite shells, were stained superficially with red.

β. 1713 PETIVER *Aquat. Anim. Amb.* 2/2 Red Nerit. 1835 KIRBY *Hab. & Inst. Anim.* I. ix. 274 Upon a comparison of them with the nerit, the snail, or the periwinkle. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXV. 383/2 The Nerits are very widely spread in warm climates.

Neriˑtidan. *Zool. rare.* [f. *Neritid-æ* (see NERITA) + -AN.] A mollusc of the family *Neritidæ*.

1835 KIRBY *Hab. & Inst. Anim.* I. ix. 274 Passing from this by one of the chambered-limpets, it will lead him to the neritidans, or top-shells.

Neˑritine. *Zool.* [ad. mod. L. *Neritina*: see NERITA and -INE.] A mollusc of the genus *Neritina* (family *Neritidæ*).

1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXV. 383/1 The crowned Neritines. 1874 WOOD *Nat. Hist.* 639 Several allied shells are inhabitants of the fresh instead of the salt waters, and are known as Neritines.

‖ **Nerium** (nīəˑriŭm). *Bot.* [L., ad. Gr. *νήριον*, oleander.] A plant of the genus *Nerium*, belonging to the dog's-bane family, esp. *N. oleander*, the common Oleander.

1882 *Garden* 18 Mar. 186/2 Small plants of Neriums are most useful.

Nerka (nēˑrkă). Also 8 **nar-, naerka,** 9 **nerker.** [Evidently a native name, but the precise source is obscure.] A common salmon (*Oncorhynchus nerka*) of Alaska and Kamtchatka.

1764 J. GRIEVE *Hist. Kamtschatka* 150 Another species of fish is called muikisi and is about the bigness of the narka. 1784 PENNANT *Arctic Zool.* Introd. 125 The Naerka is another species called by the Russians Krasnoya ryba. 1888 GOODE *Amer. Fish* 481 The Nerka or Blueback Salmon..known as the 'Red fish' to the English speaking inhabitants of Alaska and Kamtchatka. 1898 F. T. BULLEN *Cruise of Cachalot* xv. 185 One kind known as the 'nerker' was far better flavoured than any of the others.

Nerly, obs. form of NEARLY.

Neroic (nĭrōˑik), *a.* [f. *Nero.*] = NERONIC.

1887 *Temple Bar* Mar. 436 It is a flaming picture of almost Neroic brutality.

Neroli (nīəˑrōli). Also 7-8 **neroly.** [F. *néroli*, It. *neroli*, from the name of an Italian princess to whom its discovery is attributed.] An essential oil distilled from the flowers of the bitter orange. Also *neroli oil, oil of neroli.*

1676 SHADWELL *Virtuoso* III, I have..Neroly, Tuberose, Jessimine, and Marshal. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Neroly*, a sort of Perfume. 1727-38 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Orange*, There are various oils drawn from oranges: the oil of neroli is the produce of the flowers by distillation. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 885 In distilling water from neroli, an atoma is obtained different from that of the orange-flower. 1849 BALFOUR *Man. Bot.* § 796 The Bitter or Seville Orange, from the flowers of which an essential oil, called Neroli-oil, is procured. 1870 J. POWER *Handy Bk. about Bks.* iii. 46 Musk, with one or two drops of oil of Neroli, ..will give a powerful odour.

Neronian (nĭrōˑniăn), *a.* [ad. L. *Nerōniān-us*, f. the name of C. Claudius *Nero*, Roman Emperor 54-68 A.D.]

1. Characteristic of, resembling that (or those) of, Nero; exhibiting the tyranny, cruelty, or moral depravity of Nero.

1598 FLORIO, *Neronarie*, cruell, Neronian cruelties. 1606 *Proc. agst. Late Traitors* 370 Inforced..by this late more than Neronian attempt of endangering both their soules and bodies. 1637 GILLESPIE *Eng. Pop. Ceremn.* III. viii. 195 A certaine Amphibian brood, sprung out of the stem of Neronian tyranny. 1678 LEE *Alexander* Ep. Ded. (1776) 4 An age, whose business is senseless riot, Neronian gambols, and ridiculous debauchery. 1778 HAMILTON *Wks.* (1886) VII. 543, I abhor such Neronian maxims. 1870 ANDERSON *Missions Amer. Bd.* III. iv. 58 The very horrible Neronian doctrine, 'that it is our duty to destroy heretics'.

2. Of or pertaining to, connected with, the emperor Nero or his times.

1650 B. *Discolliminium* 20 Paul had a good intention.., so had the Neronian, Arrian, and Marian Butchers. 1802 GIFFORD tr. *Juvenal* viii. 108 The youth, whom Rumour brands as vain, And swelling—full of his Neronian strain. 1864 *Nat. Rev.* 339 If it were necessary to speak of the extent of the Neronian persecution, we should refer to Tertullian. 1880 MUIRHEAD *Ulpian* xxiv. § 11 It is confirmed by the Neronian senatusconsult. 1882 HALL CAINE *Recoll. Rossetti* 102 Defending (in sport) the vices of Neronian Rome.

b. *spec.* (See quots.)

1672 *Phil. Trans.* VII. 5106 It hath been observed to be dangerous, to have a vein opened at once in both arms, or leggs, which is here called a Neronian Venæ-section. 1892 *Syd. Soc. Lex.* s.v., *Neronian phlebotomy*, venesection when more than one vein is opened in the same day; so called because..Seneca was thus bled to death under Nero.

Neronic (nĭrŏˑnik), *a.* [f. *Nerōn-*, stem of *Nero* (see prec.) + -IC.] Neronian.

1901 *Contemp. Rev.* Jan. 19, I saw some horrible instances of this rapid growth of this Neronic cruelty. 1902 J. DENNEY *Death of Christ* v. 246 The martyrs in the Neronic persecution.

Neˑronism. *rare* −1. [f. as prec. + -ISM.] A system of government resembling that of Nero.

1670 G. H. *Hist. Cardinals* II. I. 116 Ministers that by the favour of the Nepotisme, do revive as a man may say a new Neronisme of Tyranny.

Neˑronist. *rare* −1. [f. as prec. + -IST.] One who imitates the depravity of Nero.

1593 G. HARVEY *Pierce's Super.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 91 Phy on..impure Ganimedes, Hermaphrodits, Neronists, Messalinists [etc.].

Neronize (nīəˑrŏnəiz), *v.* [f. as prec. + -IZE.] *trans.* a. To stigmatize as resembling Nero. b. To deprave on the model of Nero. c. To tyrannize over like Nero.

1673 MARVELL *Reh. Transp.* II. 179 You muster up all Christian Princes to Neronize and Caligulize them. 1675 J. SMITH *Chr. Relig. App.* I. 46 Poppæa..had so much Debauchery in her, as to Neronize Nero himself. 1889 *Voice* (N. Y.) 7 Mar., Grant was a 'drunken tyrant', who was about to Neronize the capital.

Nerr(e, obs. variants of NAR *a.*, nearer.

Nerre, variant of ARR, scar. *Obs.*

Nerrer, nearer: see NAR *a.*

Nerrest, Nerst, nearest: see NAR *a.*

Nert, art not: see NE and BE *v.* A. 1. 2.

‖ **Nerte.** *rare* −1. [F. *nerte*, ad. Pr. *nerto*, app. an alteration of *mirto.*] Myrtle.

1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* 3 b, The Ilande ..is low..full of Nerte, lentisque, and Lysardes.

Nertero·logy. *rare* −1. [f. Gr. *νέρτερος* lower, inferior, *νέρτεροι* the dead, + -OLOGY.] Learning relating to the dead or the shades.

1800 W. TAYLOR in *Monthly Mag.* VIII. 598 Works..of nerterology..and of witchcraft.

Nerthrift, nevérthrift: see NE'ER *adv.* 3 b.

† **Neˑrval,** *sb. Obs.* Forms: 4 nerwall, 5 -al, 6 nervall(e, nervell, 7 nerval. [ad. med. L. *nervāle* (Heinrich *M. E. Medizinb.* 159), neut. of *nervālis*, f. L. *nerv-us* NERVE *sb.*] Healing ointment for the sinews.

*a*1400 *Stockholm Med. MS.* 702 in *Anglia* XVIII. 313 Ewene with oþer in porsion all He goth to þe nerwall, And..is good to euery salwe. *a* 1500 *M. E. Medizinb.* (Heinrich) 159 Her is a makyng of an oyntment þat men callen neruale ant it [is] pris oyntment for synnews. [Cf. Halliwell, s.v.] 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* iii. (1586) 134 b, Take Nerualle and Hony, boyled togeather..and annoynt al the sayde places. 1577-87 HOLINSHED *Chron.* III. 1031/1 That he should annoint the other [horses] with neruall, as if they had beene lamed with trauell. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 315 If the Horse be..hurt in the hip,..take of the Oyl de-bay,..of Nerval, of Swines grease.

b. With *a* and *pl.*

1587 MASCALL *Govt. Cattle, Horses* (1627) 134 Take two penny weight of Uerdigrese, with a Smiths nerualL. 1597 LOWE *Chirurg.* (1634) 259 For Paralysie..you shall use fomentations, nervals,..and linaments.

Nerval (nəˑrvăl), *a.* [a. F. *nerval* (16th c.), or ad. L. *nervālis*: see NERVE *sb.* and -AL.] Of, relating to, or affecting the nerves; neural.

1636 DAVENANT *Platonick Lovers* II, Whether the nervall Conjugations be But seven. 1702 BAYNARD in Floyer *Hot & Cold Bath.* II. (1709) 216 A Daughter cur'd in a Nerval Case, where there was Aphonia. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Nerval Bones*, the Bones of the hinder part of the Head. 1884 GRANVILLE in *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 7 June 1084 Sometimes ..the nerval or primary nerve-stage..of fever is prolonged.

Nervate (nəˑrvĕt), *a. Bot.* [f. NERVE *sb.* + -ATE 2.] Of leaves: Having nerves or veins.

1866 *Treas. Bot.* 786/1 *Nervate*, having several ribs.

So **Neˑrvated,** *ppl. a.*

1802-3 tr. *Pallas's Trav.* (1812) I. 149, I observed a particular kind of Astragalus,..with nervated leaves.

† **Neˑrvate,** *v. Obs.* [f. L. type **nervāt-*, ppl. stem of **nervāre*, f. *nervus* NERVE *sb.*] *trans.* To nerve, support, strengthen.

1682 D'URFEY *Butler's Ghost* 64 And what if Learn'd Doctors has, To nervate and support the Cause, Rais'd doubts and fears. *a* 1737 M. GREEN *On Barclay's Apol.* 75 His art..nervates so the good design, That King Agrippa's case is mine. 1786-92 J. WILLIAMS (A. Pasquin) *Childr. Thespis* (ed. 13) 213 His bolts cannot nervate thy somnific slaves.

Nervation (nəɪvēˑʃən). [ad. L. type **nervātiōn-em*, f. **nervāre*: see prec. Cf. F. *nervation.*]

† **1.** (See quot.) *Obs. rare* −0.

1721 BAILEY, *Nervation*, a joining together, a strengthening as it were by Sinews.

2. *Bot.* The disposition of the fibro-vascular bundles in the blades of leaves, etc.

1849 BALFOUR *Man. Bot.* § 141 The distribution of the veins has been called Venation, sometimes Nervation. 1854 HOOKER *Himal. Jrnls.* I. i. 8 The outlines of the fronds of ferns and their nervation. 1884 BOWER & SCOTT *De Bary's Phaner.* 168 Those vessels..which traverse the nervation of the leaf.

3. The action of the nerves.

1851 J. W. HADDOCK (*title*) Somnolism and Psycheism; or, the Science of the Soul, and the Phenomena of Nervation, as Revealed in Vital Magnetism.

So **Neˑrvature.**

1866 DK. ARGYLL *Reign of Law* iv. 195 In the mantis the tracery..is drawn in imitation of the nervature of a leaf.

Nerve (nəɪv), *sb.* Also 6-7 **nerue,** 7 **nerv.** [ad.L. *nerv-us* sinew, tendon, bow-string, etc., app. related to the synonymous Gr. *νεῦρον*, which in later use (Galen, etc.) also has the mod. sense of 'nerve'. Hence also It. *nervo*, Sp. *nervio*, F. *nerf*; the latter is represented in ME.: see NERF.]

I. 1. A sinew or tendon. In later use only *poet.* or in phr. *to strain every nerve*, to make the utmost (physical) exertion.

1538 STARKEY *England* II. i. 158 Thys ordur, vnyte, and concord, wherby the partys of thys body are, as hyt were, wyth senewys and neruys knyt togyddur. *c* 1605 DRAYTON *Odes* xiii. 30 Vp whose steepe side who swerues, It behoues t'haue strong Nerues. 1671 MILTON *Samson* 1646 This utter'd, straining all his nerves, he bow'd. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 297 Before his tender Joints with Nerves are knit. 1736 GRAY *Statius* ii. 7 He..Brac'd all his nerves, and every sinew strung. 1784 COWPER *Task* III. 90 He that sold His country, or was slack when she required His every nerve in action and at stretch. 1818 SHELLEY *Julian* 423 Like some maniac monk, I had torn out The nerves of manhood by their bleeding root. 1871 L. STEPHEN *Playgr. Eur.* (1894) viii. 184 We strained every nerve to reach the top.

fig. 1780 JEFFERSON *Corr.* Wks. 1859 I. 251 We shall exert every nerve to assist you. 1860 SMILES *Self Help* 164 Lawrence and Montgomery..strained every nerve to keep their own province in perfect order.

† b. [After L. use.] The penis. *Obs. rare.*

1662 J. BARGRAVE *Pope Alex. VII* (1867) 138 Receiving so many blows a day with a bull's nerve until he was beaten to death. 1693 DRYDEN *Juvenal* x. 262 The limber Nerve, in vain provok'd to rise. 1693 — *Persius* iv. (1699) 462.

2. *fig.* in *pl.* Those things, parts, or elements, which constitute the main strength or vigour *of* something.

1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* I. iv. 53 Those that know the very Nerues of State. 1638 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (ed. 2) 86 Not that he wanted (the nerves of war) mony. 1683 *Argt. for Union* 20 They have the Nerves of worldly Power, that is, banks of Money. 1776 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xvi. I. 564 Prosperity had relaxed the nerves of discipline. 1832 AUSTIN *Jurispr.* (1879) I. 301 Good laws well administered are..the nerves of the common weal.

b. *sing.* in same sense. Also applied to persons.

1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* I. iii. 55 Agamemnon, Thou great Commander, Nerue, and Bone of Greece. 1682 DRYDEN & LEE *Dk. Guise* II. ii, Ordnance, munition, and the nerve of war, Sound infantry. 1726 CAVALLIER *Mem.* I. 109 Money, which is the Nerve and Sinew of War. 1878 BOSW. SMITH *Carthage* 341 Hannibal had been the nerve and soul of the war. 1894 ILLINGWORTH *Personality* iii. 65 Morality, which is the very nerve of personality.

c. *pl.* without const. Resources. *rare* −1.

1643 PRYNNE *Sov. Power Parl.* II. 2 His Revenues; (the Nerves with which he should support this unnaturall civill warre).

3. Strength, vigour, energy.

1605 CHAPMAN, etc. *Eastw. Hoe* III. i, Braue Gossip, all that I can do To my best Nerue, is wholy at your seruice. 1659 MILTON *Civ. Power* Wks. 1851 V. 336 Having herin the scripture so copious and so plane, we have all that can be properly calld true strength and nerve. 1671 — *Samson* 638 He led me on to mightiest deeds Above the nerve of mortal arm. 1760-2 GOLDSM. *Cit. W.* lxxii, Not..too near extreme wealth to slacken the nerve of labour. 1841 CATLIN *N. Amer. Ind.* lvi. (1844) II. 207 Nerve was given liberally to our paddles. 1874 STUBBS *Const. Hist.* ix. (1897) I. 269 The Normans..added nerve and force to the system with which they identified themselves.

b. *transf.* Texture (of wool).

1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 144 Too long a continuance of the wool in the yolk water, hurts its quality very much... It is said then to have lost its nerve.

c. Of cork: (see quot.).

1878 *Encycl. Brit.* VI. 402/1 In the heating operation the surface is charred, and thereby the pores are closed up, and what is termed 'nerve' is given to the material.

4. A sinew or tendon extracted from the body of an animal, esp. as used for some purpose.

1674 tr. *Scheffer's Lapland* 100 Pine or Deale boards, not fasten'd with nails, but sew'd together..commonly with Rain-deers nerves. 1802 *Brookes' Gazetteer* (ed. 12) s.v. *Lapland*, They prepare the nerves of the raindeer in such a manner as to make them serve for thread. 1865 TYLOR *Early Hist. Man.* 130 They would throw nerves or sinews into the fire.

b. *poet.* [After L. use.] A bow-string.

1719 YOUNG *Busiris* I. i, When a Persian arm Can thus with vigour its reluctance bend, And to the nerve its stubborn force subdue. 1791 COWPER *Iliad* VIII. 371 Teucer had newly fitted to the nerve An arrow keen. 1818 KEATS *Endym.* IV. 411 He tries the nerve of Phoebus' golden bow. *fig.* 1781 COWPER *Table-T.* 623 Then like a bow long forced into a curve, The mind, released from too constrained a nerve, Flew to its first position.

c. (See quot. and Du Cange, s.v. *Nervus.*)

1854 WISEMAN *Fabiola* II. xxi, Let this Lucianus be kept in the nerve (stocks) with his feet stretched to the fifth hole.

† **5.** *Sc.* A narrow band or strap of material used to ornament a garment. *Obs. rare* −1.

After French use: cf. NERVE *v.* 1.

1531 *Acc. Ld. H. Treas. Scotl.* (1905) VI. 20 For xv elnis blak satyn..to be ane goune cuttit out with tway nervis of the selff.

6. a. *Bot.* One of the ribs or fibres of vascular

matter extending through the parenchyma of a leaf; esp. the midrib.

1585 HIGINS tr. *Junius' Nomencl.* 113 *Nervus.* The nerue, sinew or string of a leafe, as in plantaine. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 474 There is an herb .. the nerve whereof in the middle is red. 1671 MARTEN in *Acc. Sev. Late Voy.* II. (1694) 68 Through the middle of it run two black Stroaks or Nerves to the Stalk. 1712 tr. *Pomet's Hist. Drugs* I. 180 The Leaves are smal and fine, growing by Couples on each Side of a Nerve or Rib. 1796 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) III. 794 The nerve or keel does not extend to the extremity of the leaves. 1835 LINDLEY *Introd. Bot.* (1839) 129 If other veins similar to the midrib pass from the base to the apex of a leaf, such veins have been named nerves. 1863 M. J. BERKELEY *Brit. Mosses* iii. 14 There is one central nerve of variable length and thickness, occasionally projecting far beyond the tip of the leaf.

b. *Ent.* = NERVURE.

1833 LYELL *Princ. Geol.* III. 277 The nerves of the wings in almost all the Diptera, are perfectly distinct.

7. *Arch.* (See quots.)

A French sense, perh. never in actual English use.

1727–38 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v., Nerves, in architecture, denote the mouldings of projecting arches of vaults. 1823 P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Build.* 589 *Nerves*, the mouldings of the groined ribs of Gothic vaults. 1850 PARKER *Gloss. Archit.* (ed. 5) 325 *Nerves*, a term sometimes applied to the ribs and mouldings on the surface of a vault, but it is not technical.

II. 8. A fibre or bundle of fibres arising from the brain, spinal cord, or other ganglionic organ, capable of stimulation by various means, and serving to convey impulses (esp. of sensation or motion) between the brain, etc., and some other part of the body.

1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* IV. viii. 21 Yet ha we A Braine that nourishes our Nerues. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 400 An Eye..thrust forth, so as it hanged a pretty distance by the Visuall Nerve. 1656 tr. *Hobbes' Elem. Philos.* (1839) 392 Certain spirits and membranes, which..involve the brain and all the nerves. 1704 F. FULLER *Med. Gymn.* (1711) 25 Cutting off a Nerve always causes the wasting of the Part to which that Nerve leads. 1744 BERKELEY *Siris* § 102 As the nerves are instruments of sensation, it follows that spasms in the nerves may produce all symptoms. 1800 *Med. Jrnl.* IV. 340 Fallopius was the first who distinguished this nerve from the proper nerve of the voice. 1868 SPENCER *Princ. Psychol.* (1872) I. II. iii. 207 A nerve is a thread of unstable nitrogenous substance..along which..there runs a wave of molecular change. 1873 MIVART *Elem. Anat.* 399 The spinal nerves arise in pairs from opposite sides of the spinal marrow.

b. In non-scientific use, with reference to feeling, courage, etc.

1601 B. JONSON *Poetaster* Introd., Light, I salute thee, but with wounded nerues. 1742 POPE *Dunc.* IV. 56 Chromatic tortures soon shall..Break all their nerves, and fritter all their sense. 1764 GOLDSM. *Trav.* 220 Those powers that ..Catch every nerve, and vibrate through the frame. 1802 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Angelina* iv, Not the fittest companion in the world for a person of your ladyship's nerves. 1842 TENNYSON *Walking to Mail* 95 What know we of the secret of a man? His nerves were wrong. 1879 BROWNING *Martin Relph* 56 We soldiers need nerves of steel!

c. *transf.* and *fig.*

1681–6 J. SCOTT *Chr. Life* (1747) III. 280 The political Nerves and Arteries, by which their several Parts .. are united to one another. 1781 COWPER *Table-T.* 487 The Muse..pours a sensibility divine Along the nerve of every feeling line. 1856 STANLEY *Sinai & Pal.* ii. (1858) 126 The nerves of the faith of Israel were not unstrung. 1898 H. H. FURNESS *Pref. Winter's Tale* 13 In feeling the pulse of that public he had as a guide the most sensitive of nerves: the pocket.

d. *pl.* A disordered nervous system; nervousness.

1890 *Spectator* 5 Apr., As to his dying of 'nerves', that is a story sure to be circulated about anybody whose life it is necessary to guard. 1892 M. NORTH *Recoll. Happy Life* I. 107 That tree..always gave me a fit of nerves.

9. Nervous fibre.

1839–47 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* III. 596/1 The influence which nerve exerts upon muscle to provoke it to contraction. 1877 HUXLEY & MARTIN *Elem. Biol.* 257 Tease out a bit of fresh nerve in..sodic chloride.

fig. 1778 MISS BURNEY *Evelina* lxiv, 'Your Ladyship's constitution..is infinitely delicate'. 'Indeed it is...I am nerve all over!' 1855 PRESCOTT *Philip II*, I. (1857) 79 Paul seemed to be always in a state of nervous tension. 'He is all nerve', the Venetian minister..writes of him.

b. An attack or fit of nervousness.

1815 JANE AUSTEN *Emma* xi, She..had many fears and many nerves.

10. Courage or coolness in exciting or dangerous circumstances; boldness, assurance.

1809 W. IRVING *Knickerb.* IV. ii. (1820) 365 He..spoke forth like a man of nerve and vigor. 1826 DISRAELI *Viv. Grey* II. xiii, You have nerve enough, you know, for anything. 1852 TENNYSON *Ode Wellington* 37 O iron nerve to true occasion true! 1873 BLACK *Pr. Thule* xxvii. 456 Do you think you have nerve to cut this hook out of my finger?

11. *attrib.* and *Comb.* **a.** Attributive, as *nerve-ache, -action, -branch, -bulb, -bundle, -chain*, etc.

The number of such combs., esp. in recent medical works, is very great; only some of the earlier or more prominent examples are illustrated here.

1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) III. 217 *Nerve-ache of the face. 1889 MIVART *Truth* 266 The other *nerve-actions, which are not felt. 1877 M. FOSTER *Physiol.* III. i. 344 The sensory nerves..can readily be traced in the mixed *nerve-branches. 1888 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* 678 The granular mass..is probably a sensory *nerve-bulb. 1876 BRISTOWE *Th. & Pract. Med.* (1878) 279 The connective tissue of the *nerve-bundles. 1888 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* 505 A ventral sinus..lodging the *nerve-chain. 1879 *St. George's Hosp. Rep.* IX. 781 Those who study *nerve diseases. 1884 tr. *Lotze's Metaph.* 456 Producing effects in the same *nerve-element. 1874 GARROD & BAXTER *Mat. Med.* 182 It is doubtful whether it affects the motor *nerve-ends. 1888 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* 498 The antennæ lodge peculiar *nerve-endings. 1855 *Q. Rev.* XCVI. 110 There is already a mind to attend to the *nerve excitation. 1879 HARLAN *Eyesight* ii. 19 The internal..layer is composed of delicate *nerve-fibrils. 1839–47 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* III. 594/1 The *nerve filaments are simply placed in juxta-position. 1870 ROLLESTON *Anim. Life* 132 The chain of *nerve ganglia. 1878 J. FISKE in *N. Amer. Rev.* CXXVI. 33 The causation of consciousness by *nerve-matter. *Ibid.* 36 The *nerve-motion, in disappearing, is simply distributed into other nerve-motions. 1879 CALDERWOOD *Mind & Br.* iii. 41 A network of controlling fibres, known as a *nerve-plexus. 1877 HUXLEY & MARTIN *Elem. Biol.* 241 Divide the *nerve-roots of the spinal cord. 1839–47 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* III. 593/1 Bound together by fibrous membrane, the *nerve-sheath. 1884 J. TAIT *Mind in Matter* (1892) 123 The unit of sensation is a *nerve-shock. 1876 BERNSTEIN *Five Senses* 23 In the healed scar the *nerve-stems are often irritated. 1876 *Trans. Clinical Soc.* IX. 101 Something like the '*nerve-storm' of migraine swept the medulla oblongata. 1888 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* 568 The..radial vessels lie beneath the corresponding *nerve structures. 1839–47 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* III. 596/1 We have no evidence of any mingling of the true *nerve-substance with the sarcous elements. 1872 HUMPHRY *Myology* 7 The arrangement does not interfere with the *nerve-supply. 1868 SPENCER *Princ. Psychol.* (1872) I. I. i. 12 Were it the sole function of *nerve-tissue to originate motion. 1839–47 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* III. 647/2 A very interesting form of *nerve-vesicle. 1878 *N. Amer. Rev.* CXXVI. 35 Heat-waves, light-waves, *nerve-waves, etc.

b. Objective, as *nerve-cutting, -destroying, -dissolving, -irritating, -rending, -shaking, -stretching, -trying*; instrumental, as *nerve-ridden, -shaken.*

1831 YOUATT *Horse* 110 The operation of neurotomy, or *nerve-cutting. 1874 J. W. LONG *Amer. Wild-fowl* 31 They must consequently have greater bone-smashing and *nerve-destroying effects. 1842 TENNYSON *Vis. Sin* 44 The *nerve-dissolving melody Flutter'd headlong from the sky. 1887 HISSEY *Holiday on Road* 162 The sounds are rather peace-giving than *nerve-irritating. 1897 *Month* Oct. 374 The next *nerve-rending sound which might occur. 1892 E. LAWLESS *Grania* II. 7 He..seemed to be even more *nerve-ridden than usual. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xiii, Men whose spirits .. are *nerve-shaken, timorous, and unenterprising. 1897 MARY KINGSLEY *W. Africa* 192 During breakfast their conduct is *nerve-shaking. 1879 *St. George's Hosp. Rep.* IX. 332 This case..was treated by *nerve-stretching. 1853 R. S. SURTEES *Sponge's Sp. Tour* (1893) 175 The more *nerve trying noise of a floundering stumble over a heap of stones.

12. Special combs., as **nerve-canal, -cavity**, the pulp-cavity of a tooth; **nerve-cell**, one of the cells composing the cellular element of nervous tissue; also *attrib.*; **nerve-centre**, a group of ganglion-cells closely connected with one another and associated in performing some function; also *fig.*; **nerve-collar** = *nerve-ring*; **nerve-cord**, a cord of nervous tissue; **nerve-deafness**, deafness due to disorder of the acoustic nerve: **nerve-fibre**, the fibrous matter composing the nervous system, or one of the thread-like units of this; **nerve-force**, the force supposed to be liberated in nerve-cells; **nerve-glue**, neuroglia; **nerve-instruments**, dentists' instruments for extracting or destroying a nerve, or for cleaning out the nerve-cavity (Knight, 1875); **nerve-knot**, a ganglion; also *fig.*; **nerve-needle**, (*a*) an æsthesiometer; (*b*) a dental instrument (see the quot. for *nerve-canal*); †**nerve-oil**, an oil for strained sinews (*obs.*); **nerve-paste**, a paste used to kill the nerve of a tooth; **nerve-plate**, a disk-like termination of a nerve; **nerve-ring**, the nerve-cords and ganglia forming a ring round the œsophagus in worms and other animals; **nerve-track**, 'the collective nerve-fibres which run through parts of the central nervous system to a distant collection of ganglion-cells' (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1892); so **nerve-tract**; **nerve-trunk**, a main stem or chief nerve; **nerve-tube** = *nerve-fibre*; so **nerve-tubule**; **nerve-tunic**, an investitnre of nervous tissue; **nerve-twig**, one of the ultimate ramifications of a nerve; **nerve-winged** *a.*, having wings marked with nerves.

1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 1521/2 *Nerve-needle*, a tool used for broaching out the *nerve-canal. *Ibid.* s.v. *Nerve Instruments*, Instruments for excavating and filling *nerve-cavities. 1873 A. FLINT *Physiol. Man* i. 18 The *nerve-cells .. are the only parts capable .. of generating the nerve-force. 1877 HUXLEY & MARTIN *Elem. Biol.* 259 The nerve-cell layer. 1868 SPENCER *Princ. Psychol.* (1872) I. I. vi. 109 The *nerve-centre which is the seat of the sensation. 1888 BRYCE *Amer. Commw.* ci. III. 418 Wall Street is the great nerve centre of all American business. 1888 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* 119 The buccal mass, the *nerve-collar and the columellar muscles. 1877 HUXLEY & MARTIN *Elem. Biol.* 150 Tease out a bit of..fresh *nerve-cord in water. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 805 Symptoms of *Nerve deafness. 1839–47 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* III. 592/1 Remak and others describe three distinct parts in the *nerve fibre. 1855 BAIN *Senses & Int.* I. ii. § 23 The conducting power of nerve fibre. 1872 HUXLEY *Physiol.* 212 Every fraction of a tone..is represented by its separate nerve-fibre. 1851 CARPENTER *Man. Phys.* (ed. 2) 38 The *nerve-force ..must be accounted..as the highest of all the forms of vital force. 1877 E. R. CONDER *Bas. Faith* ii. 83 When the nerve force ceases to act, all manifestation of the presence of mind ceases. 1879 CALDERWOOD *Mind & Br.* ii. 25 The cells are packed together in a glutinous substance, which Virchow has named *nerve-glue. 1834 *Penny Cycl.* II. 232/1 The nervous system of the arachnida is ganglionic, consisting of *nerve-knots (*ganglia*). 1886 T. HARDY *Mayor Casterbr.* I. 113 Casterbridge was..but the pole, focus, or nerve-knot of the surrounding country life. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 277 Anoint his body all over with *Nerve oil. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 187/1 Strands connecting dorsal *nerve-plate with outer wall of collar. 1878 BELL *Gegenbaur's Comp. Anat.* 110 It is clear that they represent sensory organs from their intimate connection with the *nerve-ring. 1877 M. FOSTER *Physiol.* III. i. 344 When the anterior roots are cut, the motor nerves alone degenerate, and can be similarly diagnosed in a mixed *nerve-tract. 1851 CARPENTER *Man. Phys.* (ed. 2) 463 If all the *nerve-trunks supplying the organ on one side be divided. 1893 ECCLES *Sciatica* 69 Inflammation of the nerve-trunk or its branches. 1839–47 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* III. 592/1 It is evident that the contained matter of the *nerve-tube is extremely soft. 1879 *St. George's Hosp. Rep.* IX. 803 The nerve-tubes of the white matter were natural. 1893 ECCLES *Sciatica* 31 Where there is a change in the *nerve-tubules themselves. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 184/1 An elongate animal, with a plexiform *nerve-tunic. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 20 If we find..the *nerve-twigs of the limb affected. 1884 *Leisure Hour* Dec. 742/1 The well-marked, *nerve-winged, solitary ant-lion.

Nerve (nɜːv), *v.* Also 6 **nerue, nerf.** [In sense 1, ad. F. *nerver* (Godef. *Compl.*); otherwise from the sb.]

†**1.** *trans. Sc.* To ornament with threads or narrow bands of some material. *Obs. rare.*

1501 DOUGLAS *Pal. Hon.* I. xlvii, Mony entrappit steid with silkis seir, Mony pattrell neruit with gold I tald. 1532 *Acc. Ld. H. Treas. Scott.* (1905) VI. 24 For foure elnis blak taffateis to nerve and geit them [*sc.* hose]. 1532 *Id.* in Pitcairn *Crim. Trials* I. 276* Ane pair of hoise...Item, for ij elnis taffate, to draw þame and nerf þame.

2. To give strength or vigour to (the arm, etc.).

a 1749 A. HILL (T.), Thou, last, Tremendous goddess, nerve this lifted arm! 1791 E. DARWIN *Bot. Gard.* I. 105 The mingling currents..Nerve the strong arm, and tinge the blushing cheek. *a* 1810 SHELLEY *M. Nicholson Fragm.* 3 How long will horror nerve this frame of clay? 1870 BRYANT *Iliad* II. XV. 104 He nerved their limbs With vigor ever new.

fig. 1856 EMERSON *Eng. Traits, Literature*, A good writer..makes haste to chasten and nerve his period by English monosyllables. 1887 BOWEN *Virg. Æneid* IV. 452 Further to nerve her purpose to leave this world of the sun.

3. To imbue with courage, to embolden.

1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* V. xiv, The word .. nerves my heart, it steels my sword. 1849 GROTE *Greece* II. XXXIX. (1862) III. 414 We find thus the Athenians nerved up to the pitch of resistance. 1877 BLACK *Green Past.* iii, A murmur of indignant repudiation nerved him to a further effort.

absol. 1842 LYTTON *Zanoni* I. iii, So much that warmed, and animated, and nerved. 1890 LOWELL *To C. F. Bradford*, Bracing essences that nerve To wait, to dare, to strive.

b. *refl.* (also with *mind*, etc.).

1821 BYRON *Two Fosc.* I. i, He hath nerved himself, And now defies them. 1829 LYTTON *Devereux* I. iii, I think you have been now some years nerving your mind to the exertion. 1887 R. N. CAREY *Uncle Max* xxvii. 212 His expression..was that of a man who was nerving himself to bear some great trouble.

†**4.** *intr.* To show signs of nervousness. *Obs.*–1

1801 tr. *Gabrielli's Myst. Husb.* II. 197 Bless me, how dark it is! you ought to have had lamps! Come, child, how you nerve!

Nerved (nɜːvd), *ppl. a.* [f. NERVE *sb.* + -ED 2.]

1. *Bot.* Of leaves: Having a nerve or nerves; ribbed. Also in combs., as *one-, five-nerved.*

1800 *Asiatic Ann. Reg.* 264/1 Leaves..entire, one nerved, smooth, veinless. 1835 LINDLEY *Introd. Bot.* (1839) 129 A leaf with such an arrangement of its veins has been called a nerved leaf. 1874 GARROD & BAXTER *Mat. Med.* 226 The leaf..minutely crenated five-nerved.

b. *Her.* (See quot.)

c 1828 BERRY *Encycl. Her.* I, *Nerved*.. is said of leaves and plants, the fibres of which are borne of a different tincture. 1868 CUSSANS *Her.* (1893) 104.

2. In *Comb.* Having nerves of a specified kind, as *full-, strong-, weak-nerved.*

Nerveless (nɜːvlĕs), *a.* [f. NERVE *sb.* + -LESS.]

1. Wanting in nerve, incapable of effort, weak, inert. **a.** Of persons, their wills, etc.

1742 POPE *Dunc.* IV. 41 There sunk Thalia, nerveless, cold, and dead. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* I. 687 Other concurrent causes have rendered them corrupt and nerveless. 1858 MERIVALE *Rom. Emp.* lvi. (1865) VII. 69 As an old soldier he despised the nerveless mob of the streets. 1885 *L'pool Daily Post* 7 Mar. 4/6 A nerveless diplomatist who has only to be menaced and he will yield.

b. Of the body or its parts.

1744 AKENSIDE *Pleas. Imag.* I. 519 His keen tempestuous arm Hung nerveless. 1792 S. ROGERS *Pleas. Mem.* II. 53 His high heroic spirit bleeds, And from his nerveless frame indignantly recedes. *a* 1821 KEATS *Hyperion* I. 18 His old right hand lay nerveless, listless, dead, Unsceptred. 1878 B. TAYLOR *Deukalion* I. V. 43 He seems to slumber, head on nerveless knees.

2. Of actions, conditions, etc.: Characterized by lack of vigour or energy.

1735 THOMSON *Liberty* III. 448 Sad o'er all, profound dejection sat, And nerveless fear. 1851 RUSKIN *Stones Ven.* (1874) I. I. 15 Sinking into nerveless rest.., incapable of advance or change. 1888 MRS. SPENDER *Kept Secret* III. viii. 136 A spiritless and nerveless life had been his.

b. Of style in writing, drawing, etc.

1763 WARBURTON *Doct. Grace* I. ix, The Western

Eloquence .. appeared nerveless and effeminate. 1822 *Blackw. Mag.* XII. 719/1 Lord Byron retains the same nerveless and pointless kind of blank verse. 1899 *Daily News* 20 Feb. 8/4 His nerveless drawing, his awkwardness in the grouping.

3. a. *Bot.* and *Ent.* Having no nervures.

1796 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) III. 881 Leaves nerveless, cloven, points acute. 1841 E. NEWMAN *Insects* IV. vi. 271 The fore and hind wings are alike,..generally nerveless. 1870 HOOKER *Stud. Flora* 329 *Euphorbia paralias*: ..leaves..nerveless.

b. *Anat.* and *Zool.* Having no nerves.

1862 *Syd. Soc. Year-bk.* 18 The nerveless spots of the .. muscle. 1880 BASTIAN *Brain* 9 The nerveless Amœba.

Hence **Ne·rvelessly** *adv.*

1850 HAWTHORNE *Scarlet L.* xxiii, A man .. that tottered on his path so nervelessly. 1894 MRS. DYAN *Man's Keeping* (1899) 339 Her hand..fell nervelessly to her side.

Ne·rvelessness. [f. prec. + -NESS.] A nerveless condition; want of nerve.

1857 R. TOMES *Amer. in Japan* vi. 130 He sank into a state of nervelessness and emaciation painful to look upon. 1888 *Times* 25 Sept. 9/3 He has been exonerated by them from..gross stolidity and nervelessness.

Ne·rvelet. *rare.* [f. NERVE *sb.* + -LET.] †**a.** A tendril. *Obs.* **b.** A little nerve.

1648 HERRICK *Hesper., The Vine*, Her Belly, Buttocks, and her Waste, By my soft nervlits were embrac'd. 1894 GOSSE *In Russet & Silver* 20 Every nervelet that upbraids Takes comfort from the pangs that pass.

Ne·rvid, *a. rare.* [f. NERVE *sb.* + -ID.] Nervous, strong.

1813 T. BUSBY *Lucretius* v. 1183 What earth spontaneous gave,..Careless they took, and propt their nervid powers. *Ibid.* 1549 Whose limbs so nervid not to quake, when roll The pealing thunders?

Nervifo·lious, *a. rare*—[1]. [f. L. *nerv-us* NERVE + *folium* leaf. Cf. F. *nervifolié*.] Having nerved leaves.

a 1682 SIR T. BROWNE *Misc. Tracts* (1683) 21 The learned Bauhinus hath not placed it in the Classis of Lilies, but nervifolious Plants.

Nervine (nə·ɹvəin), *a.* and *sb. Med.* [ad. mod.L. *nervīnus* relating to the sinews or nerves (in late L. 'made of sinews'): cf. F. *nervin*, It. and Sp. *nervino*.]

A. *adj.* †**1.** Used for the sinews. *Obs. rare*—[1].

1661 LOVELL *Hist. Anim. & Min.* 423 [Rickets are cured by] balsam of Tolu, the nervine ointment, aregon, and martiat.

2. Having the quality of acting on the nerves, so as to restore them to a normal state; relieving disorders of the nervous system.

1718 QUINCY *Compl. Disp.* 93 This..enters almost into all the nervine compositions of the Shops. 1822-34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) III. 446 The warm nervine stimulants as musk, camphor, valerian. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 883 One of those nervine agents which all people civilized or uncivilized..discover to soothe the nervous system.

B. *sb.* **1.** A medicine that acts upon and strengthens or soothes the nerves; a nerve-tonic.

1730 STUART in *Phil. Trans.* XXXVI. 361 Other Medicines taken from the common Class of Nervines. 1777 LIGHTFOOT *Flora Scot.* I. 85 The roots are esteem'd an excellent nervine. 1866 WARING *Trop. Res.* 222 The use of tonics..of that class termed nervines of which nux vomica is the best.

fig. 1803 BEDDOES *Hygëia* IX. 113, I know not if stories.. would not prove excellent nervines and anodynes.

2. A greasy preparation used in massage.

1887 D. MAGUIRE *Art Massage* ii. (ed. 4) 35 A masseur can use..balsam of opodeldoc, nervine, and fierveranti.

Ne·rviness. *rare*—[0]. [f. NERVY *a.* + -NESS.] Sinewiness.

1611 FLORIO, *Neruosita*, sinewinesse, neruinesse.

Nerving (nə·ɹviŋ). *Bot.* [f. NERVE *sb.* + -ING[1].] A nerve or rib of a leaf.

1861 S. THOMSON *Wild Fl.* III. (ed. 4) 215 Many of the glumes and paleæ of the grass flowers are marked by nervings or ribs.

Nervism (nə·ɹviz'm). [f. NERVE *sb.* + -ISM.] **1.** Nerve-force.

1836-9 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* II. 94/2 Is the agent discharged by the fish..identical with common nervism? *Ibid.* 95/2 Theories which make nervism identical with electricity.

2. Nervous excitement.

1887 SMILES *Life & Labour* 67 An altogether abnormal state of nervism and exaltation.

Nervo- (also †**nerveo-**), combining form of L. *nervus* NERVE, as in **Nervo-muscular** *a.*, concerned with both nerves and muscles; **Nervo-sangui·neous** *a.*, of a nervous and sanguine temperament; **Nervo-vi·tal** *a.*, concerned with the nervous and vital functions.

1822 GOOD *Study Med.* IV. 659 The learned Pereboom.. has divided palsy..into three species; a nervous, muscular and *nerveo-muscular. 1862 SPENCER *First Princ.* II. xvii. § 143 (1875) 391 The visible nervo-muscular actions. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 493 The nervo-muscular machinery seems to be poisoned by the toxins in the blood. 1884 *Harper's Mag.* Aug. 440/2 Ultra-susceptible and *nervo-sanguineous subjects. *c* 1850 in *Cosmopolitan* (1896) XX. 370/1 He will displace some of the *nervo-vital fluid from the passive brain and deposit it in his own instead.

Nervose (nəɹvō·s), *a.* [ad. L. *nervōs-us* sinewy, vigorous, etc.: see NERVE *sb.* and -OSE.]

†**1.** Affecting the sinews. *Obs. rare*—[1].

c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 99 (Add. MS.), The crampe ys a seknesse cordouse, oþere ellys nervose.

†**2.** Vigorous, energetic. *Obs. rare*—[1].

1667 *H. More's Div. Dial.* (1713) p. vi, The nervose prosecution of the main Subject of these Dialogues.

3. †**a.** Consisting of, having the nature of, nerves.

1673 RAY *Journ. Low C.* 144 The vapour of Quicksilver doth principally affect the brain and nervose parts. 1725 N. ROBINSON *Th. Physick* 46 Two Kinds of Fibres,..the one Nervose, and exquisitely quick of Sensation.

b. Pertaining to, characteristic of, the nerves; strengthening or stimulating the nerves.

1880 *Cope's Tobacco Pl.* 539/2 The grown man, in the full exercise of all the nervose functions, can use the nervose aliments with a prudent moderation.

4. *Bot.* Of leaves: Nerved.

1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* s.v. *Leaf, Nervose Leaf*, one whose vessels are simple, and extend themselves parallely from the base toward the summit, without any ramifications. 1760 MILLER *Introd. Bot.* (1775) p. xxx, A nervose leaf.. is one that has single veins [etc.]. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 786/1.

b. *Ent.* Having nervures.

1819 SAMOUELLE *Entomol. Compend.* 219 Elytra coriaceous, nervose, decussating each other.

Hence †**Nervo·sely** *adv.*, strongly, vigorously.

1678 GALE *Crt. Gentiles* IV. iii. 113 Aquinas has copiosely and nervosely defended our hypothesis.

Ne·rvosism. [a. F. *nervosisme*: see prec. and -ISM.] A state of nervous disorder.

1884 L. BRACHET *Aix-les-bains* I. 94 Nervosism may be engendered by rheumatic..diathesis.

Nervosity (nəɹvɒ·sĭti). [ad. L. *nervōsitas* strength: see NERVOSE *a.* and -ITY. Cf. F. *nervosité* (Cotgr.).]

†**1.** Strength. *Obs. rare.*

1611 COTGR., *Nervosité*, neruositie, sinewie strength. 1681 H. MORE *Exp. Dan.* Pref. 17 His Expositions are..devoid of that strength and nervosity he shews in other things.

2. The state or quality of being nervous; nervousness.

1787 HAWKINS *Life Johnson* 385 How far nervosity..will excuse a conduct so opposite to..philanthropy. 1821 *New Monthly Mag.* II. 530 A poor cracked creature, the miserable victim of nervosity. 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 11 Aug. 4/1 Andrieux's..nervosity is betrayed..in the husky and tremulous tones of his usually clear voice.

b. A fit of nervousness.

1791 I. MILNER in *Life* vi. (1842) 70 [Working] amuses, and it tends to lessen nervosities, and to dull pain.

3. *Bot.* The fact of being nerved (*Cent. Dict.*).

Nervous (nə·ɹvəs), *a.* Also 7 -vouse, 8 narvous. [ad. L. *nervōs-us*: see NERVOSE *a.* and -OUS. Cf. It., Sp., Pg. *nervoso*, F. *nerveux*.]

†**1.** Affecting the sinews. *Obs. rare*—[1].

c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 99 (Ashm. MS.), Þe crampe is a sijknes cordous eiþer neruous, in þe which..þe senewis weren drawen to her bigynnynge.

2. Sinewy, muscular; vigorous, strong. **a.** Of parts of the body. Now *rare.*

1413 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton 1483) IV. xxxii. 81 These armes ben neruous, that is to seyn wel frett with senewes. 1653 R. SANDERS *Physiogn.* 248 The arms strong and nervous, having the veins conspicuous. 1677 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (ed. 3) 26 The body of this fish is..narrow towards the tail, which is nervous. 1720 POPE *Iliad* XXII. 497 The nervous ankles bor'd, his feet he bound With thongs. 1763 SIR W. JONES *Caissa* Poems, etc. (1777) 136 Nervous limbs, where youthful ardour glow'd. *c* 1842 M. J. HIGGINS *Ess.* (1875) p. xviii, By a judicious application of his nervous tail to some prominent branch.

b. Of animals or persons. Now *rare.*

1616 J. LANE *Contn. Sqr.'s Tale* XI. 305 His nervous horse of sorrell shininge hyde. 1756 TOLDERVY *Hist.* 2 *Orphans* IV. 186 The nervous reaper had levelled the golden field. 1762-9 FALCONER *Shipwr.* I. 716 The nervous crew their sweeping oars extend. 1829 I. TAYLOR *Enthus.* viii. 202 The busy, nervous, and frigid people of the north. 1844 EMERSON *Lect., Yng. Amer.* Wks. (Bohn) II. 296 The nervous, rocky West is intruding a new and continental element into the national mind.

c. Of strength, energy, courage, etc.

1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* II, The nervous strength and weight of one of the muscular armourer's [hands]. 1870 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* XI. 491 The nervous courage which could face death without flinching.

3. Of writings, arguments, etc.: Vigorous, powerful, forcible; free from weakness and diffuseness.

1637 MEDE *Wks.* (1672) 847 A nervous, close and well-composed Discourse. 1691 T. H[ALE] *New Invent.* p. xiii, The Author hath in so nervous a Manner given..Directions. 1727 GAY *Fables* I. xxviii, When envy reads the nervous lines, She frets. 1780 COWPER *Let.* 2 July, Whatever is short should be nervous, masculine, and compact. 1828 CARLYLE *Misc.* (1857) I. 197 Mr. Lockhart's own writing is generally so good, so clear, direct and nervous. 1896 F. HARRISON in *19th Cent.* June 981 The nervous and learned works of his more glowing autumn.

b. So of speakers and writers.

1775 T. SHERIDAN *Art Reading* 140 The plain nervous orator will no longer gain attention. 1867 H. KINGSLEY *Silcote of S.* I. 225 Miss Brontë? A good and nervous tho' coarse describer of a narrow landscape.

†**4.** Sinewy, tendinous. *Obs.*

1541 R. COPLAND *Guydon's Quest. Chirurg.* D iv, It is a neruous or synewy substaunce. 1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* 777 In the originall this Muscle is broade .. & Neruous. 1661 LOVELL *Hist. Anim. & Min.* 77 Some eate the flesh which is very nervouse. 1726 LEONI *Alberti's Archit.* I. 25/2 The Oak, being hard, close, and nervous, and of the smallest Pores. 1747-96 MRS. GLASSE *Cookery* v. 81 Roast a piece of fillet of veal, cut off the skin and nervous parts.

†**b.** Resembling a sinew in texture; strong. *Obs.*

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 3 The thred it selfe that they make of their Flax..is..neruous also and strong. 1655 tr. *Sorel's Com. Hist. Francion* VII. 9 Which of all thy strings is the hardest to tune?..It is that which is the biggest and most nervous of all. 1762 FALCONER *To Dk. York* 225 To wake the lyre..And tune to war the nervous string.

†**c.** Strung with sinews. *Obs. rare*—[1].

1718 ROWE tr. *Lucan* III. 689 From nervous Cross-Bows whistling Arrows fly.

†**5.** *Bot.* Of leaves: Nerved, nervose. *Obs.*

1668 WILKINS *Real Char.* II. iv. 78 Herbs of nervous leaves. 1707 SLOANE *Jamaica* (1725) II. 52 Seven or more ribs.. going through the leaf with some transverse ones, making the leaf very nervous. 1776 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* 385 *Nervosum*, nervous, with Nerves extended from the Base to the Apex.

6. Full of nerves.

1659 PEARSON *Creed* (1741) 189 The dilaceration of those nervous parts created a most sharp and dolorous sensation. 1727 DE FOE *Eng. Tradesman* vi. (1841) I. 44 As they lessen his stock, so they wound him in the tenderest and most nervous part. 1756 BURKE *Subl. & B.* IV. ix, The retina, or last nervous part of the eye. 1855 BAIN *Senses & Int.* II. ii. § 2 The retina, or the nervous coat of the eye.

7. Of or belonging to the nerves. *Nervous system*, the complex of nerves and nerve-centres.

1665 *Phil. Trans.* I. 75 Whether there be a Nervous and Nutritious Juice? 1740 CHEYNE *Regimen* 168 Accidents that injure the arterial and nervous system. *Ibid.* 306 The extreme Tenuity of..nervous Fibre. 1830 R. KNOX *Béclard's Anat.* 226 A very ancient opinion..attributed to the pericranium the origin of all the nervous membranes. 1848 CARPENTER *Anim. Phys.* 56 The brain and spinal cord are termed the nervous centres. 1874—*Ment. Phys.* I. ii. (1879) 53 Irritating..the cut extremity of the nervous cord.

b. Affecting the nerves; characterized by a disordered state of the nerves.

1734 CHEYNE (*title*) On Nervous Diseases. 1768 WESLEY *Jrnl.* 4 Jan. (1827) III. 302 It is the most efficacious medicine in nervous disorders. 1813 L. HUNT in *Examiner* 22 Feb. 113/2 It was a disorder of what is called the nervous species. ..A nervous consumption was apprehended. 1869 CLARIDGE *Cold Water Cure* 195 A severe nervous fever ensued. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 415 In all nervous cases the determination of the dose is a matter of experiment.

c. Pertaining or relating to, occupied with, the nerves.

1804 *Gentl. Mag.* LXXIV. I. 219 You have an unequivocal proof of nervous sympathy. 1848 MILL *Pol. Econ.* I. i. § 1 (1876) 15 Labour is..either muscular or nervous. 1877 M. FOSTER *Physiol.* III. i. 342 The foundation of modern nervous physiology.

Comb. 1858 *Proc. Amer. Philos. Soc.* VI. 291 The electrical nervous-muscular sensibility of man.

8. Of medicines: Acting upon the nerves or nervous system; curative of nervous disorders.

1718 QUINCY *Compl. Disp.* 76 Nervous Simples..may be extended to take in all those Parts of the Materia Medica by which the Nerves are affected. 1790 *Med. Comm.* II. 489, I ordered..a cordial or nervous medicine to be taken. 1844 LADY G. FULLERTON *Ellen Middleton* II. xv. 169 She gave me a nervous draught.

9. Of persons: Suffering from disorder of the nerves; also, excitable, easily agitated, timid.

1740 CHEYNE *Regimen* Pref. 1 The..Consumptive, or Nervous Valetudinarian-low-livers. 1763 *Brit. Mag.* Aug. 406/1 The ladies were too narvous to venture further than the entrance of the cavern. 1783 JOHNSON *Let. to Mrs. Thrale* 24 Nov., A tender, irritable, and as it is not very properly called, a nervous constitution. 1812 J. W. CROKER in *C. Papers* (1884) I. 39 A disposition naturally anxious and nervous. 1865 TROLLOPE *Belton Est.* xi. 126 He was at that moment so nervous that he had cut himself slightly through the trembling of his hand. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 296, I usually found the stock on both sides to be a highly 'nervous' one.

Comb. 1842 COMBE *Digestion* 303 An energetic or excitable temperament, such as the bilious or nervous-bilious. 1846 LONGF. in *Life* (1891) II. 35 Let us be calm and happy, rather than excitable and nervous-minded.

10. Of feelings or actions: Characterized or accompanied by agitation of the nerves.

1797 JANE AUSTEN *Sense & Sens.* xxix, With all the eagerness of the most nervous irritability. 1844 LADY G. FULLERTON *Ellen Middleton* II. xi. 64 With a nervous attempt at a laugh. 1871 DIXON *Tower* III. i. 7 Nervous terror often makes men bold.

11. Agitating to the nerves; exciting.

1775 CRABBE *Inebriety* Wks. 1834 II. 300 The gentle fair on nervous tea relies. 1834 R. H. FROUDE *Rem.* (1838) I. 359 Really I never saw such a nervous sight. 1843 RUSKIN *Mod. Paint.* I. II. i. § 18 (1846) 337 It is a very nervous thing for an ignorant artist.

Nervously (nə·ɹvəsli), *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY[2].]

1. With strength or vigour; forcibly.

1641 J. JACKSON *True Evang. T.* II. 156 S. Augustine nervously takes from them that glorious wreath. 1709 STRYPE *Ann. Ref.* I. xlviii. 483 The Writer undertook to weigh and examine the Grounds and Reasons distinctly, .. which he doth nervously. 1756 W. DODD *Fasting* (ed. 2) 12 The true ground of fasting is very fully discovered and nervously expressed. 1800 *Naval Chron.* IV. 227 The authors..have been .. nervously concise. 1884 LAURIE *Comenius* (1887) 105 Let all things be taught from the foundation, briefly and nervously.

2. With weakness or agitation of the nerves; in a nervous or excited manner.

1838 LYTTON *Alice* I. iii, Evelyn spoke quickly and nervously, and with quivering lips. 1858 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* III. xvii. 462 Cromwell..was waiting nervously at Greenwich for the result of the experiment. 1876 HARDY *Ethelberta* (1890) 336 He paused a few moments nervously.

Nervousness (nə·ɹvəsnės). [f. as prec. + -NESS.] The state or quality of being nervous.

1. Strength, vigour, force.

1727 BAILEY, vol. II, *Nervousness*, fulness of nerves [etc.]. 1756-82 J. WARTON *Ess. Pope* II. ix. 106 If there had

been epithets joined with the other substantives, it would have weakened the nervousness of the sentence. 1795 Seward *Anecd.* II. 57 His Sermons have great energy of thinking, and a nervousness of language. 1839 Hallam *Hist. Lit.* II. v. § 94 Sometimes we find a spirit and nervousness of strength and sentiment worthy of his name. 1895 Sala in *Daily Tel.* 15 May, His artistic perception has gained..in strength and nervousness of grasp.

2. Weakness of nerves.

1798 Charlotte Smith *Yng. Philos.* I. 22 She was led away in a fit of extreme nervousness. 1813 *Examiner* 17 May 317/2 The present luxurious age is remarkable for it's nervousness. 1843 Sir C. Scudamore *Med. Visit Gräfenberg* 55 So distressing a state of nervousness, that.. he became painfully confused. 1878 Lecky *Eng. in 18th C.* II. viii. 440 His faults sprang..from extreme feebleness, inconstancy, and nervousness.

Nervule (nə·rviŭl). *Ent.* [a. F. *nervule*, or ad. L. *nervulus*, dim. of *nervus* Nerve.] A small nervure.

1889 *Athenæum* 12 Oct. 491/1 A dense mass of scales crowded together on each side of the nervules. 1897 W. F. Kirby in Mary Kingsley *W. Africa* 725 Anterior wings with three bullæ— .. one on the recurrent nervule, and the third on the cross-nervule running upwards from the extremity of the internal nervule.

Ne·rvulet. [f. as prec. + -et.] = Nervule.

1826 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* xlvi. IV. 340 *Nervulet.* A little nervure diverging obliquely from the costal into the disk of the wing towards the apex.

Nervure (nə·rviŭr). [a. F. *nervure*, f. L. *nervus* Nerve: see -ure.]

1. *Ent.* One of the slender hollow tubes forming the framework of the wings of insects.

1816 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* xxiii. (1818) II. 347 The nervures are a kind of hollow tube..which take their origin in the trunk. 1846 Dana *Zooph.* (1848) 155 The ridges of the surface constituting its nervures. 1877 Huxley *Anat. Inv. Anim.* vii. 399 The wing is strengthened by radiating thickenings, or nervures, united by delicate transverse ridges.

2. *Bot.* A principal vein of a leaf.

1842 Brande *Dict. Sci.* etc. 1848 Lindley *Introd. Bot.* (ed. 4) I. 263 In order to obvinte the inconvenience of using the word nerve, the term nervure is now often substituted. 1861 H. Macmillan *Footn. Page Nat.* 49 What is called the nervure in the membraneous or leafy species, is nothing more than the stalk itself.

Nervy (nə·rvi), *a.* [f. Nerve *sb.* + -y 1.]

1. Vigorous, sinewy, full of strength.

1607 Shaks. *Cor.* II. i. 177 Death, that darke Spirit, in's neruie Arme doth lye. 1671 Salmon *Syn. Med.* III. xvi. 361 The musculous and nervy parts of the body. 1818 Keats *Endym.* I. 174 Between His nervy knees there lay a boar-spear keen. 1871 R. Ellis tr. *Catullus* lxiii. 83 On a nervy neck he tossing that uneasy tawny mane.

transf. 1633 Wilson in *Donne's Poems* 399 Thy nimble Satyres too, and every straine (With nervy strength) that issued from thy brain.

2. Courageous, full of nerve.

1882 J. Walker *Jaunt to Auld Reekie* 221 His prentice laddie, A nervy chiel. 1893 C. King *Foes in Amb.* 46 He was one of the nerviest men in the whole troop.

b. Cool, confident, impudent.

1897 Flandrau *Harvard Episodes* 89 'Well, I call it pretty nervy', grumbled Sears.

3. Jerky, sudden.

1884 Cable *Dr. Sevier* xxviii, The nervy, unmusical waking cry of the mocking-bird. 1885 — in *Century Mag.* Apr. 918/2 The movements were quick, short, nervy.

4. Requiring nerve.

1897 *Outing* (U.S.) XXX. 481/2 It takes nerve, and lots of it, to play polo. It's the nerviest game played.

† Nes, variant of Nas, was not. *Obs.*

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 43 Elmesȝeorn nes heo nefre. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 404 Neuer er nu nes ich ful pined. *a* 1300 *Thrush & Night.* 44 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* I. 52 In the world nes non so crafti mon. *c* 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 2215 Sore him greued his vene, As it no wonder nes.

† Nes, variant of Nis, is not. *Obs.*

c 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) ix. 35 Men may noȝt make þe pitte..so depe..þat it nes at þe ȝere end full agayne.

Nes, variant of Nese, nose.

Nesch(e, obs. forms of Nesh.

Nescience (ne·ʃiĕns, nī·ʃiĕns). [ad. late L. *nescientia*, f. *nesciens*: see next.] Absence or lack of knowledge, ignorance.

1612 Woodall *Surg. Mate* Pref., Wks. (1653) 19, I can yet adde many more needfull particulars, which the Author hath in his nescience omitted. 1653 Jer. Taylor *Serm. for Year* I. viii. 92, I need not instance in the ignorance and involuntary nescience of men. 1715 A. A. Sykes *Innoc. Error* 26 If his salvation is not at stake by reason of his nescience. *a* 1761 Huggins in Boswell *Johnson* an. 1780, I will militate no longer against his nescience. 1831 Carlyle *Sart. Res.* III. iv, The miserable fraction of Science which united Mankind, in a wide Universe of Nescience, has acquired. 1883 H. Drummond *Nat. Law in Spir. W.* (ed. 2) 160 These touching, and too sincere confessions of universal nescience.

b. An instance of this. *rare.*

a 1625 Boys *Wks.* (1629) 306 According to these distinctions every nescience is not a sinne. 1652–62 Heylin *Cosmogr.* App. (1682) 157 The knowledge of them so imperfect as comes near a Nescience.

c. Const. *of* a thing.

1637 Jackson *Serm. Jer. xxvi.* 19 Wks. 1844 VI. 93 Not out of a nescience of this rule. 1691 E. Taylor *Behmen's Theos. Philos.* 107 A Nescience or Oblivion of Divine Tranquillity. *a* 1734 North *Lives* (1826) III. 351 Brutes have an advantage over human kind..in their nescience of evils to come. 1856 Ferrier *Inst. Metaph.* 414 A nescience of that which it would contradict the nature of all intelligence to know. 1875 Manning *Mission H. Ghost* i. 6 There was in Adam a nescience of many things.

Nescient (ne·ʃiĕnt, nī·ʃiĕnt), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. L. *nescient-em*, pres. pple. of *nescīre* to be ignorant, f. *ne* not and *scīre* to know.]

A. *adj.* Ignorant. Chiefly const. *of.*

1626 Jackson *Creed* VIII. xii. 118 Infinite knowledge..can neither be ignorant or nescient of anything. 1678 Cudworth *Intell. Syst.* I. iv. 198 Such a nature, as..is notwithstanding nescient of what it doth. *Ibid.* v. 899 A Blind and Nescient..Nature. 1881 Palgrave *Visions Eng.* 158 They 'neath their feet tread nescient pride and fear. 1884 Ruskin *Fors Clav.* xcv. 257 Only scientific of their..pasture, peacefully nescient of all beyond.

b. Agnostic; asserting man's necessary ignorance of the ultimate constitution of the universe.

1876 J. Martineau *Ess. & Addr.* (1891) IV. 242 A modern *savant*, whether of the Nescient or the Omniscient school.

B. *sb.* An agnostic.

1872 W. G. Ward *Ess. Philos. Theism* (1884) I. 63 A far larger number, of whom Professor Huxley may be taken as representative, are 'nescients'. 1878 Morley *Diderot* II. 212 The most eager Nescient or Denier to be found in the ranks of the assailants of theology in our own day.

† Ne·scious, *a. Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *nescius* ignorant, f. *nescīre*: see Nescient.] Ignorant.

1633 T. Adams *Exp.* 2 *Peter* iii. 5 He begins with the dunces, those..inscious, nescious, conscious, wilful ignorants. 1683 J. Gadbury in *Wharton's Wks.* Pref., So regardless and nescious are they of the very Principles that lead to a just Discovery of this..Knowledge.

Nescock: see *Nest-cock* Nest *sb.* 8.

Nese, *sb.* Now only *Sc.* Forms: *α.* 2–4 neose. *β.* 3–5 nese; 3, 6 nease, 4 neise, neyse, neies, 4–5 nes, 5 nees(e, nece; *Sc.* 5 neys, 6, 9 neis, 8 neese, 8–9 niz, 9 nizz, nis(e. [Early ME. *neose, nese,* perh. = MDu. and MLG. *nese* (hence Da. *næse,* Sw. *näsa*): the relationship to Nase and Nose is obscure.] The nose.

α. c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 127 Ure neose and ure muð and ure earan. *c* 1205 Lay. 22845 Þa wifmen þa ȝe maȝen ifinden.. kerueð of hir neose. *a* 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* ix. 34 Hire neose ys set as hit wel semeth. *a* 1400 *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* 19/18 To ofte ichaue..With neose i-smullet.

β. c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 23 His fet and his hondan and his muð and his nesa. *c* 1220 *Bestiary* 3 [If the lion] man hunten here, Oðer ðurg his nese smel Smake ðat he negge. *a* 1240 *Sawles Warde* in *O. E. Hom.* I. 251 Eiðer curseð oðer & fret of þe oðres earen & te nease alswa. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 2450 Hise nese went un-to þe crice. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 166 His nese & his ine he carfe at misauentoure. *c* 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) xxxi. 139 Oute of his mouthe and his neese commez..fyre. *c* 1440 *Alph. Tales* 152 As he kissid hym, he bate of his fadur nece. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* xiii. 16 Sum with his fallow rownis him to pleis That wald for invy byt of his neis. 1580 Hay *Demandes* in *Cath. Tract.* (S. T. S.) 64 Of the wourd ye mak ane neis of walx, thrawing it to quhat..absurditie ye list. 1590 Bruce *Serm. Sacr.* P 8 It will..conjoine thee with God, and make all thine actions to smell weill in his nease. 1718 Ramsay *Christ's Kirk Gr.* III. xxi, [He] brak the brig o' 's neese. 1798 Crawford *Poems* 86 (E. D. D.), The clout wi' whilk ane dights his niz. *a* 1800 *Rob Roy* xii. in Child *Ballads* IV. 247 Ilka ane that did him wrang, He beat him on the neis. 1884 Grant *Lays & Leg.* 44 Here her Tammie..Lies wi' broken niz an' neck.

† b. *Sc.* A ness or headland. *Obs. rare.*

1497 *Aberdeen Reg.* (1844) I. 61 It was..ordanit that ij kelis one the tovnis aventouris be brocht to the neyss. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* VI. viii. 58 Than I..Doun at the neis Rethe, by the costis law, A voyd tumb misit.

c. *Comb.* **nese-bit** *Sc.* (see quot. 1808); **† nese-blood,** the plant milfoil or yarrow; **† nese-end,** the tip of the nose; **† neselong** *adv.,* face downwards; **nese-wise** *a., Sc.* clever, sagacious [cf. Da. *næsvis,* Sw. *näsvis,* impertinent].

a 1400 *Stockholm Med. MS.* 202 Millefoly or neseblod or ȝarwe. *c* 1400 *Sir Beues* (S.) 649 He leide him neslong [*v.r.* noselyng] to þe grounde. *c* 1425 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 634 *Hic pirulus,* a nesehende. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 253/1 A Nese ende, *pirula.* 1790 Shirrefs *Poems* 138 Ye're a' nis-wise; but, ere ye sleep..Ye'll maybe see [etc.]. 1808 Jamieson, *Nisbit,* the iron that passes across the nose of a horse, and joins the branks together.

Hence **† Nese** *v. trans.,* to scent, smell. *Obs.*—1

1637 B. Jonson *Sad Shepherd* II. i, Allbe he know her, As doth the vauting hart his venting hind, Hee nere fra' hence sall neis her i' the wind To his first liking.

Nese, obs. form of Neeze *v.*; Niece.

† Nesebek. *Obs. rare.* Also 4 nyse-. [Of obscure origin.] The name of a dish in mediæval cookery.

c 1390 *Form of Cury* (1780) 77 Nysebek. Take þe þridde part of sowre Dokks and flour þerto and bete it togeder [etc.]. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* I. 45 Nese Bekys. Take Fygys & grynd hem wel [etc.].

Nesesary, obs. form of Necessary.

† Nesethirl. *Obs.* Forms: 3 neose-purle, neosturle; 4 nesethirle, 5 -thyrl(e, -tyrlle, nesthyrylle, 6 *Sc.* neis-, ney(i)sthyrl; 4 nees-, 5 nes(e)-, neasethrill, nesthryll. [ME., f. *neose,* Nese + *thürl,* Thirl: cf. OE. *næsþyrel* and *nosþyrel* Nostril.] A nostril.

c 1250 *Death* 235 in *O. E. Misc.* 182 Of bis neose þurles [*v. r.* neosturles] cumeð þe rede leie. *a* 1340 Hampole *Psalter* cxiii. 14 Nesethirles þai hafe & þai sall noght smell. 1382 Wyclif 2 *Sam.* xxii. 9 Smook stiede vp fro the neesthrillis of hym. *c* 1440 *Alph. Tales* 51 þis angell.. stoppyd his nease-thrillis. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* VII. v. 201 At thair neis thyrlis the fyir fast swermand out.

Nesewort, variant of Neezewort *Obs.*

Nesh (neʃ), *a.* (and *adv.*) Now *dial.* Forms: *α.* 1 hnesce, (hnysce, hnisce; nesc, næsc), 2 nexce, neche, 3–5 nesche, nesshe, 4 ness(ss)e, 4–5 nessche, 5–6 neshe; 4–5 nesch, ness(h, 5– nesh. *β.* 3 neys(se, 4–5 neische, -sshe, neysshe, (5 -ssche, neyshe), 4 neisch, -ssh, 5 neysch(e, naysch(e, 9 *dial.* naish. *γ.* 5 nassh(e, 6 *Sc.* nasche, 7, 9 nash, 8 gnash. [OE. *hnesce,* = Du. (16th c.) *nesch, nisch* soft (of eggs), damp, sodden, foolish, Goth. *hnasqus* soft, tender; the ultimate etym. is unknown.]

1. Soft in texture or consistency; yielding easily to pressure or force; in later use esp. tender, succulent, juicy.

α. c 888 K. Ælfred *Boeth.* xxxiii. § 5 Þæt hnesce & flowende wæter. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xi. 8 Mið hnescum [*Rushw.* næscum] ȝerelum ȝescirped. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 96 Deos wyrt..biȝ hnesceum leafum. *Ibid.* III. 134 Syle hym etan hnesce æȝere. *c* 1200 Ormin 995 Smeredd wel wiþþ elesæw & makedd fatt & nesshe. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 134 Nest is herd..wiðuten, & wiðinnen nesche & softe. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 75/141 Þe staf wende into þe marbreston, ase it were in nesche sonde. 1340 Hampole *Pr. Consc.* 614 Mar filthe es nane, hard ne nesshe, þan es þat comes fra a mans flesshe. *c* 1400 tr. *Secreta Secret., Gov. Lordsh.* 73 Eyren..nesshe to be suppyd. *c* 1460 J. Russell *Bk. Nurture* 986 Lett hym go to bed, but looke it be soote & nesche. 1546 Phaer *Bk. Childr.* (1553) R v, The sinues of a child be verye neshe and tender. 1579 Langham *Gard. Health* (1633) 529 Bake it hard, and apply it till it wax nesh. 1788 Crowe *Lewesdon Hill* 30 The darker fir, light ash, and the nesh tops Of the young hazel. 1802 Fosbrooke *Econ. Monastic Life* I. vii, Their feathery leaves where nesh Acacias spread. *a* 1834 R. Surtees in G. Taylor *Mem.* (Surtees) 301 The nesh hazles, bending in the blast. 1844 W. Barnes *Poems Rur. Life* Gloss. s.v., This meat is nesh. 1883– in various dialects (chiefly of grass or meat, but also of coal, steel, etc.).

Comb. 1864 W. Barnes in *Macm. Mag.* Oct. 477 The nesh-bleäded grass, By the young apple-trees.

β. c 1300 *Havelok* 217 The blod ran of his fleys, þat tendre was, and swiþe neys. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 429 Harde þinges beeþ bettre wiþstonde wiþ nesche [*v.r.* naysche] þinges þan with hard. *c* 1430 Lydg. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 195 Fyr..Makith hard thyng neisshe and..Neisshe thyng hard. 1893 [see γ].

Comb. 1460–70 *Bk. Quintessence* II. 23 Fleisch of a cok, neysch soden and sotilly brayed.

γ. 1495 *Trevisa's Barth. De P. R.* XIX. liii. 894 Certen moysture cometh at endes of certeyne wode.., as Colophonia and Nassh pitche. 1686 Plot *Staffordsh.* 148 The coal of the upper wallings being generally nasher; i.e. softer and more friable. *a* 1722 Lisle *Husbandry* (1757) 250 The first spring-grass, which was luscious and gnash. 1893 *Wilts Gloss., Nash, Naish,*..tender and juicy: applied to lettuce.

† b. *transf.* Not harsh or violent. *Obs. rare.*

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 192 Ȝe muwen more dreden þe nesche dole þene þe herde of þeos fondunges. 1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 231 A nesh brekynge and Plesaunte voice tokenyth a..wel y-manerit man. *c* 1440 *Partonope* 6063 That in Armys me shall teche Thought my stroke be hard or nasshe.

c. Damp, moist, wet. *rare.*

1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) I. 333 Þe lond is nesche, reyny, and wyndy. 1573 Twyne *Æneid* x. Ee j b, Whan by nighttime nesh som blasing star All bloodred sanguine shewes.

2. a. Slack, negligent; lacking in energy or diligence.

c 897 K. Ælfred tr. *Gregory's Past. C.* lx. 453 Swa he ðone hnescan ðafettere on recceleste ne ȝebrenge. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 272 Hwon Recabes sunen..ivindeð so unwaker & so nesche ȝeteward. *c* 1290 *Beket* 1589 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 152 For þat þe bischopus bifore me weren to nesche..þe studefastore i mot beo. 1382 Wyclif *Prov.* xviii. 9 Who is nesshe [*v.r.* neisch] and dissolut in his werk. 1879 Miss Jackson *Shropsh. Word-bk.* s.v., 'Er's a nesh piece, 'er dunna do above 'afe a day's work.

b. Timid; wanting in courage; faint-hearted.

1382 Wyclif *Jer.* li. 46 Lest þat auenture waxe nesshe [*v.r.* neische] ȝoure herte, and ȝee drede the heering. 1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 139 Doghty men and hardy hit makyth lyke women, neshe and feynte. *Ibid.* 226 Tho ..bene nesse of corage an lyke to women. 1841 Hamilton *Nugæ Lit.* 354 *Nesh* is applied to a cowardly, undecided person.

† 3. a. Tender, mild, gentle, kind; inclined to pity, mercy, or other tender feelings. *Obs.*

c 897 K. Ælfred tr. *Gregory's Past. C.* xvii. 126 Sie ðær eac lufu, næs ðeah to hnesce. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 99 Drihten næfre ne forsyhþ þa enþmodan heortan ne þa hnescestan. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 159 Hit melt of þe neche horte swa deð þe snaw to-ȝeines þe sunne. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 334 Ȝif þu.. holdest God to nesche uorto awreken sunne. 1340 *Ayenb.* 153 Riȝtuolnesse is..þet me deþ be dome riȝtuol and trewe, ne to nesssse ne to hard. 1382 Wyclif *Prov.* xv. 1 A nesshe answere brekiþ wrathe; an hard woord rereth woodnesse. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* XIII. xx. 641 Neuer woldest thow be maade neysshe nor by water nor by fyre. *c* 1530 *Crt. of Love* 1092 It semeth for love his harte is tender nessh.

† b. Easily yielding to temptation; inclined to lust or wantonness. *Obs.*

c 1000 Ælfric *Hom.* II. 220 Hnesce on mode to flæsclicum lustum. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1387 Wymmon is of neysse [*v.r.* nesche] fleysse, & fleysses lustes is strong to queysse. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 8986 Man for to fall in filth o fless, Thoru forme kind þat es sa nesse. 1382 Wyclif 1 *Cor.* vi. 10 Nether auouters, neither neische, neither lecchours of men.

4. Tender, delicate, weak; unable to endure fatigue or exposure; susceptible to cold.

The most prevalent sense in mod. dialect use.

a. c 1000 Ælfric *Gen.* xxxiii. 13 Ic hæbbe hnesce litlingas ..mid me. *c* 1450 *Cov. Myst.* (Shaks. Soc.) 32 Oure hap was

hard, our wytt was nesche. 1553 T. Wilson *Rhet.* (1580) 37 We are all so weake of witte..and our bodie so neshe, that it looketh euer to be cherished. 1583 Stubbes *Anat. Abus.* I. (1879) 54 This pampering of our bodies makes them weker, tenderer and nesher, than otherwyse they would be. 1607 Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 294 If the Horse be nesh and tender, and so wax lean without any apparent grief. 1639 T. de Gray *Expert Farrier* 59 These..are naturally slow, dull, heavy, and nesh or wash of their flesh. 1789 Marshall *Rur. Econ. Glouc.* I. 330 *Nesh*; the common term, for tender or washy, as spoken of a cow or horse. 1839–52 Bailey *Festus* 334 He..let All rigour do its worst, which only served To harden him, though nothing nesh at first. 1887 Hall Caine *Deemster* vi, Their own little room..,where no fire burned lest they should grow 'nesh'.

γ. 1665–6 *Phil. Trans.* I. 318 If he be (as the Phrase is among Horse-masters) a Nash or Wash-Horse. 1674 Ray *N. C. Words* 34 *Nash*: Washy, tender, weak, puling. 1825 Brockett *N. C. Gloss.* 1860 Geo. Eliot *Mill on Fl.* iv, They're nash things, them lop-eared rabbits.

b. Dainty, fastidious, squeamish.

1839– in various dialects (see *Eng. Dial. Dict.*). 1848 A. B. Evans *Leicestersh. Words, Naish*, or *Nash*,..is also used for dainty. 'A naish feeder' is said of a horse.

†**5.** *absol.* (usually in conjunction with *hard.*) **a.** That which is soft; soft ground; also *pl.* of persons (quot. *c* 1330). *Obs.*

a 1000 in Thorpe *Laws* II. 264 Æghwæt hnesces oððe heardes, wætes oððe drizes. *a* 1000 *Sal. & Sat.* 286 (Gr.) Him on hand gæð heardes & hnesces. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 8166 (Kölbing), He hadde wonder of his pruesse, þat so leyd doun hard & nesse. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 1413 Hongyr and calde it semed him aylde, Als he [had] gane thurgh harde and nesche. 1460–70 in C. Innes *Sketches Early Sc. Hist.* (1861) 506 Ascendand up..betwix the hard & the naysch ewyn sowth owr to the burn. 1584 *Reg. Mag. Sig.* 23 Dec., Keipand betuix the nasche and the hard north and northeist.

†**b.** Mild or gentle treatment. *Obs.*

c 1200 Ormin 3734 Mann mihhte himm fon & pinenn Wiþþ hat & kald, wiþþ nesshe & harrd. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 352 Þe deade nis nan more..of herd þen of nesche, vor he ne iueleð nouðer. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 606 Queþer-so-euer he dele nesch oþer harde. *c* 1375 *xi. Pains of Hell* 166 in *O. E. Misc.* 227 Þei soffred harde and noþing nessche. 1417 in Rymer *Fœdera* (1709) IX. 435/1 Thys two, my Lordys wylle abyde harde and nesche all weyes.

†**c.** *In nesh and hard*, etc., under all or any circumstances. *Obs.*

c 1200 Ormin 14828 To wurrþenn herrsumm till þin Godd Inn harrd, i nesshe, & æfre. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 2961 (Kölbing), In Nesse, in hard.., In al stedes þou him avowe. 1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 284 Lihtere is to fle the flint Than gete of him in hard or neisshe Only the value of a reysshe.

†**d.** So *For nesh or hard*, etc. *Obs.*

c 1330 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 228 A letter þis fole tok, bad him for nessh or hard þeron suld no man loke. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 17454 Holde we to-gedur for hard or nesche. *c* 1420 *Liber Cocorum* (1862) 33 Feyre hony do into hit..Too fyngurs thyke for harde or nesshe. *a* 1460 *Lybeaus Disc.* 1573 No knight for nesche ne hard,..Ne geteþ her non ostell.

†**6.** *adv.* Softly, gently, tenderly. *Obs. rare.*

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 8964 Þis gode mold..wess þe meseles vet..& wipede is nessce afterward. 13.. *Seuyn Sag.* (W.) 732 Hit had of thre norices keping;..The child was keped tendre an nessche.

Nesh (neʃ), *v.* Now *dial.* Forms: 1 hnescian, hnexian, 3–5 neschen, (5 -yn, 4 neischen, naisschen), nesshen, (4 nhessen, ness-, neyss-), 9 *dial.* nesh, naish. [OE. *hnescian*, f. *hnesce* Nesh *a.* Cf. mod. Flem. *neschen* to wet.]

†**1.** *intr.* To become soft. *Obs.*

c 897 K. Ælfred tr. *Gregory's Past. C.* xxxvii. 271 Se hearda stan..hnescaþ ongenn ðæt liðe blod. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 202 Hnescaþ se swile sone & geberstep innan. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 331/286 Huy nescheden ase doth wex aȝein þe fuyre. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xvii. clxvi. (Bodl. MS.), Thyse treen brenneþ nouȝt in fire noþer naisscheþ in water. *a* 1400 *Relig. Pieces fr. Thornton MS.* (1867) 31 Now es na herte sa herde þat it na moghte nesche.

†**2.** *trans.* To make soft. *Obs.*

c 1000 Ælfric *Gram.* (Z) 191 *Mollio*, ic hnexige. *a* 1100 *Eadwine's Canterb. Ps.* liv. 22 Hy hnescodon spreca here ofer ele. *c* 1200 Ormin 1549 Þu brekesst wel þin corn & grindesst itt & nesshesst. *a* 1300 *E. E. Psalter* liv. 22 Nesched als oyle his saghs bene. 1340 *Ayenb.* 94 God þe uader, huanne he nhesseþ þe herte and makeþ zuete and tretable. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* III. 68 Iys and leed..ben neischid aȝein by hoot. 1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 190 Loue of women..nesshyth a manes herte. 1471 Ripley *Comp. Alch.* in Ashm. (1652) 113 Nesh not your Wombe by drinking ymmoderatly.

3. *dial.* with *it.* To turn faint-hearted; to draw back; to 'funk' it.

1881– in dialect glossaries, etc. (Vks., Chesh., Derby, Staff., Leic.).

Hence **Ne·shing** *vbl. sb.*

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xix. clxvii. (1495) 907 The vertue of nesshynge nourysseth by heete and by moysture.

†**Ne·shhead.** *Obs. rare.* [f. Nesh *a.* + -head. Cf. Du. and Flem. *neschheid.*] Softness.

c 1440 *Jacob's Well* 238 In valeys..[are] moysture..,softhed & nesclihed. 1460–70 *Bk. Quintessence* 7 þanne mars schal take algate þe neischede and þe softnes of saturne.

Ne·shly, *adv.* Now *dial.* [f. Nesh *a.* + -ly 2.] Softly, gently.

c 897 K. Ælfred tr. *Gregory's Past. C.* xxi. 159 He his hieremonna yfelu to hnesclice forberan ne sceal. *Ibid.* xliii. 313 Ðonne he his wambe sua hnesclice oleco. *c* 1400 *Chron. R. Glouc.* (Rolls) 8964 (MS. B), Þys gode Mold..wess þe mysseles vet..And wypede ys nesselyche. 1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 242 Noght vpon harde erthe ne Pament, but vpon erthe nesshly y-st[r]awet or russhet. 1875 *Whitby Gloss., Neshly*, noiselessly.

Ne·shness. [f. Nesh *a.* + -ness.] Softness, weakness; † lack of courage.

c 897 K. Ælfred *Gregory's Past. C.* xxi. 159 Dære tidernesse & ðære hnescnesse ures flæsces we beoð underðiedde. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xi. 8 Ðone monno mið hnescnisum ȝeweded [L. *hominem mollibus vestitum*]. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 324 Wið innoðes astyrunge, ȝenim þyses wæstmes hnescnysse inneweardе. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 287 Som men seide þat þat myshap fel for neschenesse of Englisch men. *c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 29 Þe senewe hnþ .ij. oþere defautis: neischenesse and liȝtnesse. 1496 *Dives & Paup.* (W. de W.) x. vi. 380/1 The lacke..by his softenesse & nesshenesse softeth & feynteth all strokes that cometh there ayenst. 1553 T. Wilson *Rhet.* 7 b, To be borne a woman declares weakenes of spirite, neshenes of body, and fikilnesse of mynde. 1587 Mascall *Govt. Cattle, Sheepe* (1627) 225 When any Sheep by running out or neashnes of his dung, doe ray and defile his taile. 1610 Markham *Masterp.* I. li. 106 There is also another consumption..which proceedeth from neshnesse, tendernesse, freenesse of spirit. 1874 Hardy *Far fr. Mad. Crowd* xli, I should be inclined to think it was from general neshness of constitution.

Nesing, obs. form of Neezing.

Ness (nes), *sb.* Forms: 1 næs(s-), ness-, 5 nasse, naisse, (4) 6–7 nesse, (6 nes, nesch), 6– ness. [OE. *næs* (*nes*) masc. = ON. *nes* (Sw. *näs*, Da. *næs*) neut., LG. *nesse* fem., related to OE. *nasu* nose Nase: cf. Nese *sb.* 2. In ME. app. retained only in place-names, from which the later use is probably derived. The normal representative of the OE. form would be *nass* (cf. *glæs* glass, *græs* grass); *ness* may be due either to the unstressed position in place-names, to dialect variation, or to Scand. influence.] A promontory, headland, or cape.

Beowulf 1912 Hie ȝeatu clifu ongitan meahton, cuþe næssas. *Ibid.* 2805 Se scel..heah hlifian on Hrones næsse. 956 in Birch *Cartul. Saxon.* III. 149 Of þam wylle be ȝemære on scearpannesse. *a* 1000 *Andreas* 1710 (Gr.) Hie ða ȝebrohton æt brimes næsse..wiȝan unslawne. [*c* 1050 *O. E. Chron.* (MS. C) an. 1049 Þa oðre foron on East Seaxon to Eadolfes næsse. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 2805 Ilk del in-tyl Katenesse Held Brenne of Belyn, more ne lesse.] 14.. *Sailing Directions* (Hakl. Soc.) 12 Yif ye go oute of Orwell waynys to the Naisse ye must go southwest fro the Nasse to the merkis of the spetis. 1491 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 441/2 Within the Nasse and Haven of Orford.

1535 Stewart *Cron. Scot.* I. 38 All fra ane nes lyis far within the se. 1538 Leland *Itin.* (1769) VII. 143 Running ynto a Poynt yt standeth as an Arme, a Foreland, or a Nesse. 1587 Golding *De Mornay* viii. (1592) 108 That great Nesse which conteyneth both Brasilie and Perow. 1618 Bolton *Florus* (1636) 314 The points or nesses of the Ambracian Bay. 1674 N. Fairfax *Bulk & Selv.* 68 When we first make a Ness at Land too, it seems more a Ness than when we are less off at Sea. 1851 Woodward *Mollusca* I. iii. 13 The myriads of small shells which the sea heaps up in every sheltered 'ness'. 1868 Morris *Earthly Par.* (1870) I. Prol. 55 We stood Somewhat off shore to fetch about a ness. 1896 Kipling *Seven Seas, Coastwise Lights* ii, From reef and rock and skerry—over headland, ness, and voe.

Hence † **Ness** *v. intr.*, to form a ness. *Obs.*—1

1538 Leland *Itin.* (1769) VII. 143 The Marsch Land beginneth to nesse and arme yn to the Se.

-ness, *suffix*, representing OE. *-nes(s)*, *-nis(s)*, *-nys(s)*, fem. (inflected, and later also in nom., *-nesse*, etc.) = OFris. *-nesse*, *-nisse*, OS. *-nesse*, *-nessi*, *-nissi*, *-nussi* (also *-nissea*, *-nussea*; MDu. *-nesse*, *-nisse*, Du. *-nis*), OHG. *-nessi*, *-nassi*, *-nissi* (also *-nissa*; MHG. *-nisse*, G. *-niss*), Goth. *-nassus*; the *-n* is originally part of the stem, the real suffix being *-assus*, formed from weak verbs in *-atjan*. The variations in the vowel of the West Germanic forms have not been satisfactorily explained.

In middle and early modern English the initial of the suffix is occasionally omitted when preceded by another *n*, as in *brownesse* brownness, *clenesse* cleanness, *kenesse* keenness, *meanesse* meanness, etc. (cf. note to Finesse).

2. In OE. *-nes* is the suffix most usually attached to adjectives and past participles to form substantives expressing a state or condition, as *biternes, deorcnes, heardnes, ðbolgennes, forþryccednes*, etc. A large number of these survive in middle and modern English, and new formations of the same type have been continually made in all periods of the language, it being possible to add the suffix to any adjective or participle, whatever its form or origin may be. Formations from compound adjectives are also common, as *selfconceitedness, kindhearledness, square-toedness, watertightness, tonguetiedness*, etc.; and even from adjectival phrases, such as *used-upness, get-at-ableness, up-to-dateness, à-la-modeness, little-boyishness*; few of the latter, however, are in established or serious use, and most of them are of recent introduction. This is also the case with formations on pronouns, adverbs, etc., as *I-ness, me-ness, whatness*; *whyness, withoutness, nowness, everydayness*, etc. The following are examples of some of the more exceptional uses of the suffix by writers of the 19th century.

1804 Coleridge in *Lit. Rem.* (1836) II. 414 The exclusive Sir-Thomas-Brown-ness of all the fancies. 1853 Geo. Eliot in Cross *Life* (1885) I. 319 Dislike-to-getting-up-in the-morningness. 1859 Sala *Gas-light & D.* iv. 43 An irreproachable state of clean-shirtedness, navy blue-broadclothedness and chimney-pot-hattedness. 1891 Bax *Outlooks New Standp.* iii. 199 All nowness is the form of I-ness. *Ibid.* 201 The *in-itselfness* which Kant saw behind the sense-impression. 1893 Morris & Bax *Socialism* iii. 58 The this-worldliness.. of barbarian society.

b. Used absolutely in *pl.*

1775 S. J. Pratt *Liberal Opin.* lxxxv. (1783) III. 135 The shrewdness, acuteness,..and all other nesses that promised the man of wealth. 1888 Lowell in *Century Mag.* Feb. 515/2 Cheerfulness, kindliness, cleverness and contentedness, and all the other good nesses.

3. Uses of the suffix somewhat varying from those mentioned above occur in a few words, such as Forceness, Milkness, Wilderness, Witness.

Nessche, nesshe, obs. ff. Nesh *a.* and *v.*

Nesse, obs. form of Nese, Nesh *a.*, Ness.

Nessesary, obs. form of Necessary.

†**Nesset, -itt,** ? corrupt forms of Nest *sb.* 2 c.

1614–5 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) II. 488 Item to Thorpe about the nessetes pictures and Armes... Item to John Symes..for 3 tunn of Freestone vsed about the Nessitts.

Nessle cock, obs. variant of Nestle-cock.

Nesslerize (ne·slĕrəiz), *v. Chem.* [f. the name *Nessler* + -ize.] *intr.* To employ Nessler's reagent as a test for ammonia in water. Hence **Nesslerization** (*Cent. Dict.* 1890).

1881 *Nature* XXIII. 403 Converted into ammonia, which is estimated by nesslerising.

Nest (nest), *sb.* Also 1 nestþ, nestð, 2 nyst, 3–5 neste, 4, 6 neeste, 6–7 neast. [OE. *nest* neut. = MDu. (and Du.), OHG. (and G.) *nest* (hence obs. Da. *nest*, MSw. *näste*, *nesta*), related to OIr. *net* (mod. *nead*; W. *nyth*), L. *nīdus*, Skr. *nīḍá-*:—**nizdo-*, f. the roots *ni-* down (see Nether) and *sed-* to sit.]

1. The structure made, or the place selected, by a bird, in which to lay and incubate its eggs, and which serves as a shelter for its unfledged young. (Cf. Bird's nest 1.)

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. viii. 20 Foxas holas habbas & fleȝende heofnes nestas *vel* nesto. *a* 1000 *Phœnix* 215 Þonne on swole byrneð þurh fyres feng fuȝel mid neste. *c* 1220 *Bestiary* 801 In hole of ston ȝe [*sc.* the dove] makeð hire nest. 1297 R. Glouc. *Chron.* (Rolls) 3670 In ech roche þer is In tyme of ȝere an ernes nest, þat hii bredeþ inne. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 10202 In þo roches foules reste, & ernes brede, & make þer neste. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xi. 336 Briddes I bihelde that in buskes made nestes. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 506 Þen come þar-in a litell brid.., And þar it nestild in a noke as it a nest were. 1484 Caxton *Fables of Æsop* I. xiii, The egle and his yonge were in theyr nest. 1508 Dunbar *Gold. Targe* 6 Glading the mery foulis in thair nest. 1593 Shaks. *2 Hen. VI*, III. ii. 191 Who finds the Partridge in the Puttocks Nest, But may imagine how the Bird was dead? 1678 Vaughan *Thalia Rediv., Bee*, Birds, from the shades of night releast Look round about, then quit the neast. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* IV. 744 The Mother Nightingale..Whose Nest some prying Churl had found. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) I. 244 On these..are sometimes found, not only earth, but nests with birds eggs. 1822 Byron *Heaven & Earth* I. ii, He hovers nightly, Like a dove round and round its pillaged nest. 1879 Beerbohm *Patagonia* iv. 53, I found the nest to be of the roughest description, being simply a hole scooped in the ground.

b. In proverbial phrases. (Cf. Feather *v.* 5.)

a 1250 *Owl & Night.* 100 Dahet habbe that ilke best That fuleth his owe nest. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 83 þan fond he nest & no nei3, for nou3t nas þer leued. *c* 1400 *Gamelyn* 610 Tho fond þe sherreue nyst, but none eye. *c* 1440 Capgrave *Life St. Kath.* v. 1594 It is neyther wurshipful ne honest On-to mankeende to foule soo his nest. 1509 Barclay *Ship of Folys* (1570) 65 It is a lewde birde that fileth his own neste. 1599 Breton *Praise Vertuous Ladies* (Grosart) 57/2 The proverbe sayes, 'That it is an evill birde, will file its owne nest'. 1624 Br. Hall *Rem. Wks.* (1660) 7 Were it not for..profaneness, these men would be dull, and (as we say) dead on the nest. 1676 *North's Plutarch, Addit. Lives* 77 By this means the Spaniards found nothing in the Nest. 1823 [see File *v.*3 1 b].

c. A place or structure used by animals or insects as an abode or lair, or in which their eggs, spawn, or young are deposited.

c 1386 Chaucer *Prioress' T.* 107 The serpent Sathanas, That hath in Jewes hert his waspis nest. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 6504 It is but foly to entremete, To seke in houndes nest fat-mete. 1593 Shaks. *2 Hen. VI*, III. ii. 86 Fore-warning winde Did seeme to say, seeke not a Scorpions Nest. 1611 — *Wint. T.* IV. iv. 814 Hee has a Sonne: who shall be..set on the head of a Waspes Nest. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* III. 667 A Snake..Leaving his Nest, and his Imperfect Young. 1741 *Compl. Fam.-Piece* II. i. 303 The Does [of rabbits] prevent them by stopping or covering their Stocks or Nests with Earth or Gravel. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) IV. 77 They [dormice] inhabit woods or very thick hedges, forming their nests in the hollow of some tree. 1818 Kirby & Spence *Entomol.* xvi. II. 60 Which sent most of the ants in a fright to the nest. 1835 Kirby *Hab. & Inst. Animals* II. xxi. 384 Fishes..sometimes..prepare regular nests for their young. 1899 *19th Cent.* Sept. 400 Spring floods..wash out the nests [of salmon] by wholesale.

d. A malformation on a tree, so called from its ontward resemblance to a bird's nest.

1887 W. Phillips *Brit. Discomycetes* 404 Producing 'nests', or 'witches' besoms', on birch.

2. A place in which a person (or personified thing) finds rest or has residence; a lodging, shelter, home, bed, etc., esp. of a secluded or comfortable nature; a snug retreat.

a 1000 *Phœnix* 553 [from *Job* xxix. 18] Ic in minum neste neobed ceose, hæle hraweriz. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 134 þeos [ancren] in swuche neste muwen habben herde reste. *Ibid.* 136 Wiðine þine heorte, þet is Godes nest. *c* 1375 *Cursor M.* 22556 (Fairf.), Lorde quere salle we þan rest. quen we mai naure-quere finde a nest. 1382 WYCLIF *Hab.* ii. 9 Woo to hym that gadrith euyl coneitise to his hous, that bis nest be in hee3. 1423 JAS. I *Kingis Q.* clxxiii, That place that thou cam fro, Quhich is thy first and verray proper nest. 1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 45 Husbande, I would we were in our nest. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* IV. v. 32 A little cottage, like some poore man's nest. 1726 *Penn's Wks.* I. *Life* 194 How to raise to your selues a great Name and Estate to exalt your Nests. 1784 COWPER *Task* I. 227, I called the low-roofed lodge the Peasant's Nest. 1822 SHELLEY *To Jane, Recollection* 11 The lightest wind was in its nest, The tempest in its home. 1865 *Times* 30 Aug., In one of the third-floor rooms of my hotel,..a nest of unspotted tidiness.

b. A place in which a thing is lodged or deposited.

1589 COOPER *Admon.* 22 The excessive buildings and needelesse nestes of mens treasures. 1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* II. x. § 5 To obserue, what cauities, nestes and receptacles the humors doe finde in the parts. 1697 EVELYN *Numism.* vii. 251 Taking them [medals] out of their respective Nests and Localities. 1842 L. HUNT *Palfrey* iv. 15 Their drowsy noses droop'd alway To meet the beard's attractive nest.

† **c.** A niche. *Obs. rare* —1.

Prob. a mistranslation of F. *niche*, after the vb. *nicher* to nest. See also NESSET.

1640–1 *Wood's Life* (O.H.S.) IV. 57 To Mr. Jackson for makeing the nest of the king's picture in the Librarie, 6 *li.*

3. A place in which persons of a certain class (*esp.* thieves, robbers, or pirates) have their usual residence or resort.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Somp. Prol.* 27 Lat the frere see Wher is the nest of freres in this place! 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* lxxxii. 43 3our burgh of beggeris is ane nest. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 741 The king of Englande woulde not haue suffered the French kyng to haue buylded such a couert nest so nere his towne of Calice. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* II. 272 He had razed Hen. Ovington's Castle, and Mac Hughes Iland, which both had been neasts and starting holes for theeves. 1648 GAGE *West Ind.* 159 That Church of Rome is a wide and spatious nest. 1747 COOKE in Hanway *Trav.* (1762) I. IV. lvi. 260 This is said to have been formerly a nest of robbers. 1776 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* x. I. 285 The western and mountainous part of Cilicia, formerly the nest of those daring pyrates. 1842 BORROW *Bible in Sp.* xxiv, Were the friars still in their nest above there. 1869 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1875) III. xii. 125 The hill-fortress became a mere nest of robbers.

b. A place or quarter in which some state of things, quality, etc. (esp. of a bad kind), is fostered or is prevalent; a haunt *of* crime, vice, etc.

1576 GASCOIGNE *Steele Gl.* (Arb.) 60 Gold, which is..The neast of strife, and nourice of debate. 1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* v. iii. 151, I heare some noyse Lady, come from that nest Of death, contagion, and vnnaturall sleepe. 1642 ROGERS *Naaman* 35 Scarce one in a long time gastred out of his neast of forme or profanenesse. 1879 FARRAR *St. Paul* (1883) 130 Damascus, he had heard, was now the worst nest of this hateful delusion. 1899 F. T. BULLEN *Way Navy* 75 The ship is a very nest of rumours.

4. A number of birds, insects, or other animals, occupying the same nest or habitation; a brood, swarm, colony.

c 1470 *Hors, Shepe & G.* (Caxton 1479, Roxb. repr.) 29 An erthe of foxes: a neste of rabettis. 1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 54 There is a nest of chickens. 1589 *Pasquil's Ret.* D iv, They swell at him with enuie like a nest of foule Toades. 1642 C. VERNON *Consid. Exch.* 88 Men will be wary how they..provoke a nest of waspes. 1727-8 POPE *Let. to Swift* 63 Mar., How much that nest of Hornets are my regard, will easily appear to you. 1760 STILES in *Phil. Trans.* LII. 42 The undulating motion of a nest of caterpillars, when climbing the trunk of some vegetable. 1818 KIRBY & SPENCE *Entomol.* xvi. II. 62 A nest of ants.. discovered a closet..in which conserves were kept. 1881 CABLE *Mme. Delphine* ii. 6 Like a nest of yellow kittens.

b. A number or collection of people, esp. of the same class or frequenting a common resort.

1589? LYLY *Pappe w. Hatchet* C ij, It was one of your neast, that writt this for a loue letter. 1652 CRASHAW *Carmen Deo* Wks. (1904) 275 Asham'd that our world, now, can show Nests of new Seraphims here below. 1695 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) III. 531 This week a whole nest of clippers were discovered by one Smith in hopes to gett a pardon. 1721 AMHERST *Terræ Fil.* No. 20 (1726) 101 Should I call the whole university of Oxford a nest of fools. 1778 GEO. III in T. Hutchinson *Diary* II. 217 They [the Americans] are a sad nest. 1864 BURTON *Scot Abr.* II. i. 94 A little nest of Covenanting refugee clergy.

5. An accumulation or collection of similar objects; also *fig.* of immaterial things.

1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* v. v. 373 People found out a nest of miracles in her education. 1666 G. ALSOP *Mary Land* (1869) 107 A most horrid neast of condemned Evils. 1703 *Let. in Pepys' Diary* (1893) I. p. l, There was found in his left kidney a nest of no less than seven stones. 1845 TALFOURD *Vac. Rambles* I. 135 A small nest of low bushes. 1856 KANE *Arct. Expl.* II. xv. 161 Making..for a nest of broken hummocks. 1874 DEUTSCH *Rem.* 192 Perfect nests of arguments..stolen from the mediæval successors of those same Rabbis.

b. A number of buildings, or of narrow streets, lying in close proximity to one another.

1796 COMBE *Boydell's Thames* II. 165 Durham House was become a nest of wharfs and warehouses. 1861 T. A. TROLLOPE *La Beata* II. xvi. 157 They entered the nest of little quiet streets. 1875 HELPS *Soc. Press.* ii. 16 A little London boy, born and bred in some hideous nest of alleys.

6. A set or series of similar objects, *esp.* of such as are contained in the same receptacle, or are so made that each smaller one is enclosed in, or fits into, that which is next in size to it.

Nest of goblets was common in the 16th c., and *nest of drawers* in the first half of the 18th.

1524 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) V. 190 My nest of my goblettes. 1540 *Act* 32 *Hen. VIII*, c. 14 Item for euery nest of compters, xviii. s. 1583 *Rates of Customs* Civ b, Hampers the nest containing three iijs. iiij*d*. 1609 B. JONSON *Sil. Wom.* IV. i, Hee has got on his whole nest of night-caps. 1658 OSBORN *Adv. Son* Wks. (1673) 231 They are all contained within the compass of a just proportion (like a nest of boxes). 1686 PLOT *Staffordsh.* 335 Turned one within another, like a nest of Crucibles or Boxes. 1704 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4060/5 One Nest of Drawers. 1785 R. CUMBERLAND *Observer* No. 50 P 2 He has now gone pretty nearly through my whole nest of shelves. 1834 SOUTHEY *Doctor* II. 22 The public is like a nest of patent coffins ..., one within another. 1849 ALB. SMITH *Pottleton Legacy* (1854) 37 There are nests of flower-pots, rakes, water-pots. 1863 TYNDALL *Heat* v. § 184 (1870) 148 Here is a nest of watch glasses.

b. A connected series of cogwheels or pulleys.

1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 1521/2.

7. a. *Min.* An isolated deposit of a mineral or metal occurring in the midst of other formations.

1725 T. THOMAS in *Portland Papers* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) VI. 120 Near his house has been discovered..a considerable silver mine, or, as they call it, a nest of silver. 1796 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) I. 188 Generally found in nests or veins of rocks. 1833 LYELL *Princ. Geol.* III. 371 The secondary rocks..contain nests and small veins of..iron and copper pyrites. 1875 DAWSON *Dawn Life* ii. 13 Strata often diversified with veins and nests of crystalline minerals.

b. *Path.* A group of epithelial cells.

1871 T. H. GREEN *Introd. Pathol.* 177 These masses are the 'concentric globes', or 'epithelial nests', which are so characteristic of epithelioma. 1884 M. MACKENZIE *Dis. Throat & Nose* II. 413 The microscopic characters of lupus are..infiltration of the integument with small cells arranged in 'nests' [etc.].

8. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *nest-door, -hole, -part, -place, -plumage, -room, -tree*; *nest-builder, -maker, -robber, -wright*; *nest-building, -composing, -keeping, -making, -taking*; *nest-descrted*; † nest-cock, -cockle, -frame (see quots.); † nest-gut (?); nest-spring, -sugar (see quots.).

1883 *Harper's Mag.* Dec. 100/2 Nearly all the sun-fishes are *nest-builders. 1894 *Outing* (U.S.) XXIII. 380/2 This is the home of the *nest-building tree ants. 1895 *Daily News* 19 Dec. 2/3 A lesson from the magpie on the art of nest-building. 1674 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* (ed. 4), *Nescock* or **Nestcock*, one that never was from home, a Fondling or Wanton. 1611 COTGR., *Closcuau*, the Nestling, or *Nest-cockle; the last-hatched bird in a neast. 1601 CHESTER *Love's Mart.* clxxxii, The artificiale *nest-composing Swallow. 1856 MRS. BROWNING *Aur. Leigh* I. 43 As restless as a *nest-deserted bird. 1818 KEATS *Endym.* I. 733 Within the space Of a swallow's *nest-door. 1683 MOXON *Mech. Exerc., Printing* ii. P 1 *Nest-Frames to..hold the Cases that may lye out of present use. *a* 1653 G. DANIEL *Idyll* iv. 30 We're indeed soe Dull In the *Nest-Gutt, wee Crye fasting and full. 1893 G. D. LESLIE *Lett. Marco* XXXVIII. 256 The sand-martins' *nest-holes. 1851 *Zoologist* IX. 3123 Capturing flies among the gay petals for his *nest-keeping partner. 1611 COTGR., *Annicheur*, a nestler; a *nest-maker. 1864–5 J. G. WOOD *Homes without H.* XXVII. (1868) 514 When in a state of liberty..it is an admirable nest-maker. 1817 RAFFLES *Java* I. 51 The materials commonly employed in *nest-making. 1863 ATKINSON *Stanton Grange* (1864) 10 A favourite place, well suited for nest-making. 1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* I. 164 Close up between the *nest part and jaw of the block. 1879 E. ARNOLD *Lt. Asia* 15 Wild swans..voyaging..To their *nest-places. 1854 *Zoologist* XII. 4267 Describing the *nest plumage from a dark specimen. 1893 *Scribner's Mag.* June 769/1 He is a *nest-robber at times, and a field-robber always. 1886 P. ROBINSON *Teetotum Trees* 159 Turtle-doves recompense us by their beauty for our trifling concession of *nest-room. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl. 633/1 **Nest Spring*, a spiral spring of several concentric coils. 1890 ROSCOE & SCHORLEMMER *Treat. Chem.* III. 641 *Trehala manna*, which is obtained from the nest of a coleopterous insect;.. in Persia it is known as *nest-sugar. 1894 *Daily News* 8 Dec. 5/4 The former Act..did not forbid *nest-taking or egg-stealing in general. 1768 PENNANT *Brit. Zool.* (1776) I. 191 After the breeding season rooks forsake their *nest-trees. *a* 1793 G. WHITE *Selborne, On the Weather*, The cawing rook..haunts her tall nest-trees. 1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* 152 Apprenticeship to the craft of a *Nestwright.

Nest (nest), *v.* Also 3 næstien, 7 neast. [ME. *nest(i)en* (= MDu. and MLG. *nesten*), f. NEST *sb.*, in place of OE. *nist(i)an*, = MDu. and OHG. (also mod.G.) *nisten*, with umlaut of the stem-vowel.

c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* ciii. 17 Ðer spearwan nistað. *c* 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Spelman) ciii. 18 Þær sperwan nistiað.]

1. *intr.* Of birds, etc.: To make or have a nest or abode in a particular place. † Also, to resort to the nest, to survive (quot. *a* 1300).

c 1205 LAY. 21753 [There] is a clude hæh and strong. þer næstieð arnes & oðere græte uoȝeles. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 132 þeos..beoð eorð briddes, & nesteð o þer eorðe. *a* 1300 *Vox & Wolf* 48 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* I. 59 Thou hanest that ilke ounder the splen; Thou nestes nenere daies ten. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 92/4 To Nest, *nidulari*. 1587 HARMAR tr. *Beza* 279 This poore doue,..did shee not nest, and as it were hide her head in secret holes? 1650 FULLER *Pisgah* II. xiii. 285 Wild Bees, not civilized in hives, but nesting on the ground. 1680 OTWAY *Orphan* IV, Let's find some place where adders nest in winter. 1773 G. WHITE in *Phil. Trans.* LXIV. 200, I have..seen them nesting in the Borough. *a* 1806 H. K. WHITE *Poems* (1837) 127 Where nests the raven, sits the toad. 1827 POLLOK *Course T.* VIII, A thousand snakes..Nest there. 1873 G. C. DAVIES *Mount. & Mere* xviii. 157 The unsavoury smelling hole..where the same pair of kingfishers nested year after year.

b. To engage in nest-building.

1774 G. WHITE in *Phil. Trans.* LXV. 265 They begin nesting about the middle of May. 1863 [WHEELWRIGHT] *Spring Lapl.* 51, I observed a sparrow with a straw in his beak, evidently nesting.

2. To settle or lodge as in a nest.

1591 SPENSER *Teares Muses* 389 Sweete Love..spotles, as at first he sprong Out of th' Almighties bosome, where he nests. 1633 P. FLETCHER *Purple Isl.* XII. lxxxvi, Where better could her love then here have nested? 1655 H. VAUGHAN *Silex Scint.* I. *Dressing* ii, These dark confusions that within me nest. 1700 C. DAVENANT *Disc. Grants* iii. 109 The Flemings who had nested here in hopes of Booty. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* II. 219 To..join anew Eternity his sire; In his immutability to nest. 1876 GEO. ELIOT *Dan. Der.* lviii. This sort of passion had nested in the sweet-natured, strong Rex.

† **b.** To sit down to ease oneself. *Obs. rare* —1.

1670 *Mod. Acc. Scot.* in *Harl. Misc.* (1745) VI. 123 The most Mannerly step but to the Door, and nest upon the Stairs.

† **3.** *refl.* Of persons: To repose or rest, to domicile or settle, (oneself) in a place. *Obs.* (freq. in 17th c.)

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 22556 Quar sal we þan rest Quen nan sal wite quar þam to nest. *a* 1425 *Ibid.* 9873 (Trin.), God þat wolde so him nest, In clene stud þen most he rest. 1573 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 27 Let wood and water request thee, In good corne soile to nest thee. 1588 in Arb. *Garner* III. 37 What meaneth Love to nest him in the..eyes..Of my mistress? 1652–62 HEYLIN *Cosmogr.* IV. (1682) 37 A Rabble of Pirats nest themselves in Salla. 1705 HICKERINGILL *Priest-cr.* IV. (1721) 214 Some nest themselves, like Wasps, only to buz about and sting.

† **b.** *transf.* of things. *Obs.*

1607 *Schol. Disc. agst. Antichr.* I. iii. 151 The fift hipocrisie..neasteth it self in the affections of the heart. 1641 MILTON *Ch. Govt.* I. iii. 12 Such a ministery establish't in the Gospell, as..nests it selfe in worldly honours.

4. In *pa. pple.* Settled, established, comfortably placed, in or as in a nest.

1599 HAKLUYT *Voy.* II. 132 The Masters and mariners.. being then nested in their owne homes. 1628 FELTHAM *Resolves* II. l. 147 If we considered detraction to be..nested onely in deficient minds. 1673 TEMPLE *Obs. United Prov.* Wks. 1720 I. 61 The Flock of People that for some time had been nested there. 1754 FIELDING *Voy. Lisbon* Wks. 1784 X. 205 The wind had been long nested, as it were, in the south west. 1834 MEDWIN *Angler in Wales* I. 155 The side hills are well wooded, and nested among them are some delightful country-houses. 1883 E. ARNOLD *Ind. Idylls* 241 There perched A thousand crows,.. Some nested, some on branchlets, deep asleep.

b. Packed one inside another. (See NEST *sb.* 6.)

1870 *Eng. Mech.* 4 Mar. 596/3 [Crucibles] are sold one in the other, and are then called 'nested'. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 63/1 Glazed boxes round and square .. are supplied 'nested', consequently of various depths.

c. Used as a nest, or for making nests *in*.

1844 CHEEVER *On Bunyan's Pilgr.* IV. (1847) 108 Leaves nested with worms and overcurled. 1883 STEVENSON *Silverado Sq.* (1886) 42 Chestnuts..nested in by song birds.

5. *intr.* To go bird's-nesting.

1876 BP. HANNINGTON in *Life* x. (1887) 146, I nested in the Bishop's garden, and round the belfry tower for swifts' eggs.

6. *trans.* To provide with a nesting-place.

1896 WOOLLEY in *Advance* (Chicago) 305 Better be a vine and cling to some grand old pile..and nest its bats and owls.

Nest, obs. form of NEXT.

Ne·stage. [f. NEST *sb.*] Nesting; nests.

1865 T. TATE in *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* 223 Want of room for nestage.

† **Ne·starm,** app. for *erstarm*: see ARSE *sb.* 3.

c 1475 *Pict. Voc.* in WR.-WÜLCKER 751 *Hoc intestinum, hic colus*, nestarme.

Nest-box. [f. NEST *sb.* + BOX *sb.*²]

1. A box containing others of graduated sizes packed in a nest.

1660 *Act* 12 *Chas. II*, c. 4 *Schedule* s. v. *Boxes*, Nest boxes, the groce, containing twelve dozen nests. 1812 J. SMYTH *Pract. of Customs* (1821) *49 Nest boxes.—The gross to contain 12 dozen Nests, each Nest 8 Boxes. *Ibid.*, 1 Case, containing..2½ Gross of Nest Boxes.

2. A box provided for a domestic fowl or other bird to make its nest in.

1849 D. J. BROWNE *Amer. Poultry Yd.* (1855) 88 Every poultry house..should be provided with nest boxes.

Neste, obs. f. of NEXT; var. NIST *v. Obs.*

Ne·sted, *ppl. a.* [f. NEST *v.* + -ED¹.] That is settled in, or provided with, a nest.

1729 SAVAGE *Wanderer* IV. 67 The chatt'ring swallows leave their nested care. 1807 WORDSW. *White Doe* VII. 187 They, like a nested pair, reposed. 1876 E. HOPKINS *Rose Turquand* I. xix. 277 The tender tweet! tweet! of the nested birds in the ivy.

Ne·st-egg, *sb.* [f. NEST *sb.* + EGG *sb.*]

1. An egg, natural or artificial, left in a nest to induce the bird to continue to lay in the same place, after the other eggs have been abstracted.

1611 COTGR., *Nicheul*, a neast-egge. 1614 MARKHAM *Cheap Husb.* (1623) 139 You shall gather your Egges vp once a day, and leaue in the nest but the nest-Egge, and no more. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* III. 1197 A nest-egg should be left in every nest. 1859 *All Year Round* No. 32. 125 If you want to make a farm-yard profitable,..keep no roosters and allow no nest-eggs.

b. In figurative context.

1606 *Proc. agst. late Traitors* 207 [You] endeavoured your best and uttermost to broose the very neast-egge of this royale and hie flying ayerie. *a* 1673 G. SWINNOCK in Spurgeon *Treas. David* Ps. cxix. 104 A hypocrite ever leaves the devil some nest-egg to sit upon.

2. Something displayed, or serving, as an inducement or decoy.

1678 Butler *Hud.* III. iii. 625 Books and money laid for shew, Like nest-eggs to make clients lay. 1709 *Brit. Apollo* No. 56. 2/1 Lay Guineas carelesly oo your Table for Nest-Eggs. 1796 Washington *Lett.* Writ. 1892 XIII. 227, I should view the residence of the Commissioners..as a nest egg (pardon the expression) which will attract others. 1834 *Tait's Mag.* I. 421/1 Ye must try for grand names, sir, for nest-eggs to begin with. 1884 Snarman *Hist. Swearing* i. 7 It was by the aid of such simple nest-eggs as these that the men managed to establish reputations.

3. A sum of money laid or set by as a reserve.

a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew* s. v. *Egge, To leave a Nest-egg*, to have alwaies a Reserve to come again. 1758 J. Blake *Plan Mar. Syst.* 68 The..payments will constitute a bank, or nest egg. 1825 Scott 15 Oct. in *Fam. Lett.* (1894) II. xxiii. 359 You might..lay by the balance, which ..will make a tolerable nest-egg. 1860 Gen. P. Thompson *Audi Alt.* clxi. III. 175 They preserved a nest-egg in the shape of a duty of 8 per cent. on low stuffs. 1876 Ruskin *Fors Clav.* VI. 249 A nice little nest-egg of five hundred pounds in the bank.

attrib. 1852 R. S. Surtees *Sponge's Sp. Tour* xxxii. 194 The Mangeysterne hounds wanted that great ingredient of prosperity, a large nest-egg subscriber.

b. Something kept in reserve.

1837 Browning *Strafford* II. i, But, brother, where's your word For Strafford's other nest-egg, the Scots war? 1862 Bp. Wilberforce in *Life* (1882) III. ii. 70, I and others kept the Church as his nest-egg when he became a Whig, till it was almost addled.

4. A sum of money serving as a nucleus for the acquisition of more.

1822 Galt *Provost* xxxvii, The laird made him his man of business, and, in a manner, gave him a nest egg. 1857 Smiles *Stephenson* (1859) 51 The first guinea which he had saved..had proved the nest-egg of future guineas.

Nestel, obs. form of Nestle.

Ne·ster. *rare.* [f. Nest *v.* + -er 1.] A bird that is building, or has built, a nest.

1895 *Daily News* 20 Apr. 9/1 The preservers of our Heronry..noted a falling off in the number of nesters.

Ne·stful. [f. Nest *sb.* + -ful.] The quantity (of eggs or young) that a nest can contain.

1598 Florio, *Nidiata*, a nestfull, a couie. 1611 Cotgr., *Nyaie*, an Airie, or neastful of. 1842 Mrs. Browning *Grk. Chr. Poets* (1863) 100 The swallows had time to hatch two nestfulls in a chimney. 1885 Forbes *Nat. Wand. E. Archip.* 72, I stumbled on a nestful of six fledglings.

Nesthande, obs. variant of Nexthand.

Ne·sting, *vbl. sb.* [f. Nest *v.* + -ing 1.] The action, or manner, of constructing a nest or nests.

1767 G. White *Selborne* xii, From the colour, shape, size, and manner of nesting, I make no doubt..the species is nondescript. 1864–5 Wood *Homes without H.* xxxi. (1868) 623 The bird is gregarious in its nesting, the rocky ledges being crowded with the rude nests. 1874 Coues *Birds N. W.* 50 An..account of the nesting and eggs of this species.

b. *attrib.*, as *nesting-place, -season, -site, -song, -station, -time.*

1611 Florio, *Nidamento*, a *nesting-place. 1774 G. White in *Phil. Trans.* LXV. 270 They are fearless while haunting their nesting places. 1861 L. L. Noble *Icebergs* 180 As wild-looking as the nesting-place of sea-fowl. 1879 Jefferies *Wild Life in S. Co.* 338 In the *nesting season snakes are the terror of those birds that build in low bushes. 1888 *Zoologist* XII. 18 Not finally deciding on a *nesting-site until May 17th. 1879 E. Arnold *Lt. Asia* I. xiii, All the jungle laughed with *nesting-songs. 1882 *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* IX. 506 They..cling to their *nesting stations. 1600 Surflet *Countrie Farme* VII. xx. 836 The heron-shewes haunting the same in *nesting time, would forsake it. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Dec. 101/1 In the warm weeks of June come the sterner duties, the nesting-time.

Ne·sting, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ing 2.] Making or occupying a nest.

1658 Rowland tr. *Mouffet's Theat. Ins.* 930 The Bombylus, greatest of the nesting Insects, is bigger than either of the Sirens. 1797 Holcroft tr. *Stolberg's Trav.* (ed. 2) III. lxxxviii. 467 There is a wall, which has cavities for nesting doves. 1851 Mrs. Browning *Casa Guidi Wind.* 29 Insecure, The nesting swallows fly off. 1895 *Atlantic Monthly* July 63 The nesting-bird was one of the group.

Nestle (ne·s'l), *v.*1 [OE. *nestlian* = MDu. (mod.Du.) and MLG. *nestelen*; cf. OE. *nistl(i)an, nystlan* = late MHG. *nisteln.*

c 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Thorpe) lxxxiii. 3 Turtle nistlað, þær heo afeded fuzelas zeonge. *Ibid.* ciii. 16 On þam..spearwan nystlað (*Cant. Ps.* nistliæþ).]

I. *intr.* **1.** Of birds: To make or have a nest, esp. *in* a place. = Nest *v.* 1. Also *fig.*

c 1000 *Lamb. Psalter* ciii. 16 Dar spearwan nestliaþ. *c* 1275 Lay. 21753 A chlud swiþe strong, þar nestleþ hearnes and oþer grete foȝeles. *a* 1300 *E. E. Psalter* ciii. 17 Þar sal sparwes be nestland. 1382 Wyclif *Jer.* xxii. 22 Thou shalt be confoundyd,..that sittist in Liban, and nestlist in cedris. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 354/1 Nestlyn, *nidifico.* 1545 Joye *Exp. Dan.* iv. 48 b, The birdes nestled in hir branches. 1587 Golding *De Mornay* xiv. (1617) 233 Euery of them in their kind, do all liue, nestle, and sing after one sort. 1600 Surflet *Countrie Farme* VII. liii. 885 They nestle thrice a yeere, that is to say, in May, Iune, and August. 1629 H. Burton *Truth's Triumph* 328 Let such vncleane birds neuer nestle or roost in Christian nurceries. 1769 Pennant *Brit. Zool.* III. 20 It will prey on young birds, whether on such as nestle on the ground [etc.]. 1855 W. S. Dallas *Syst. Nat. Hist.* II. 259 They nestle in rocks and holes of trees, and lay five or six eggs.

b. To lodge or settle as in a nest.

a 1400–50 *Alexander* 506 Þar it nestild in a noke as it a nest were. 1692 R. L'Estrange *Fables* ccccxxxix, A Cock was got into a Stable, and there was he Nestling in the Straw among the Horses. 1751 *Narr. of H.M.S. Wager* 100 When they [penguins] breed,..they nestle three or four together in a Hole. 1851 Kingsley *Sonn.* Poems (1878) 222 Nightingales who nestle side by side. 1853 — *Hypatia* xii, The warblings of the tropic birds which nestled among the branches.

c. Of other living things.

1705 Addison *Italy* Wks. 1721 II. 163 The floor is strowed.. with several kinds of plants, amongst which the Snails nestle all the winter. *a* 1738 Swift *South Sea* 95 The Monsters nestle in the Deep, To seize you in your passing by. 1881 Tyndall *Floating Matter Air* 161 It was no uncommon thing to see from ten to twenty monads nestling and quivering in this 'moss'.

† **2.** To take up one's abode, to settle or squat, in a place. *Obs.*

1406 Hoccleve *La Male Regle* 288 Lest fauel yow fro wele tryce, No lenger souffre hir nestlen in your ere. 1555 W. Watreman *Fardle Facions* II. ix. 190 Thei nestled first vpon the flonde Araxis. 1610 Holland *Camden's Brit.* I. 672 Some out of Ireland, entred in by stealth into this Isle also, and nestled there. *a* 1656 Ussher *Ann.* VI. (1658) 304 Menander was coming on with a great army, which would not suffer him to nestle in Cappadocia. 1797 Burke *Corr.* (1844) IV. 422 If they can nestle in the country for any time..they cannot fail of profiting of the discontents.

3. Of persons: To settle down as in a nest, or in a snug or comfortable manner. (Freq. with implication of affection, as in next.)

1687 A. Lovell tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 30 The Turks.. think it strange that the Francks suffer their Hair to grow; for they say that the Devil nestles in it. 1821 Joanna Baillie *Metr. Leg., Lady G. Baillie* xxxii, With her in mimick war they wrestle, Beneath her twisted robe they nestle. 1832 Ht. Martineau *Ireland* 119 Begging by day, and nestling wherever they could find a hole by night. 1840 Dickens *Barn. Rudge* lxxi, She nestled..in Emma Haredale's bosom. 1883 J. Hawthorne in *Harper's Mag.* Nov. 935/1 She nestled luxuriously among the cushions.

b. To draw or press *close*, or near, *to* a thing or person, esp. in an affectionate manner.

1709 Steele *Tatler* No. 9 ₱ 3 Here Parisatis heard her Niece nestle closer to the Key-hole. 1838 Lytton *Alice* I. ii, She drew a stool to her mother's feet,..nestling to her and clasping her hand. 1863 Jeaffreson *Sir Everard's Dau.* 176 Nestling closer to him in the dark corner.

4. Of things or qualities: To lie half-hidden or embedded in some place or thing.

1788 Burke *Impeachm. W. Hastings* Wks. XIII. 17 It is feared, that partiality may lurk and nestle in the abuse of our forms of proceeding. 1849 Robertson *Serm.* Ser I. xi. (1866) 193 The beauty of the lily nestling in the grass. 1863 Cowden Clarke *Shaks. Char.* ii. 36 His cheerful morality nestles in his heart, and inspires his actions.

b. Of dwellings, etc.: To lie in a snug or sheltered manner in some situation.

1842 J. B. Fraser *Allee Neemroo* II. 320 Numerous villages..nestled in sheltered nooks among the ravines. 1850 B. Taylor *Eldorado* I. 3 The country-houses of planters..nestling in orange groves. 1884 J. Colborne *Hicks Pasha* 69 Large groves of palm trees, among which nestled small hamlets.

II. 5. a. *refl.* To settle or establish (oneself) in a place. Also with *into*. Now *rare.*

1547 J. Harrison *Exhort. Scottes* d viij, These men.. nesteled themselfes in the nighte of that ignoraunt worlde. 1577–87 Holinshed *Chron.* I. 72/1 The Picts..came and nestled themselues in Louthian. 1621 Burton *Anat. Mel.* III. iv. I. v. (1651) 681 The Socinians, that now nestle themselves about Crakowe and Rakowe in Poland. 1642 Rogers *Naaman* Table, The Creature..nestles it selfe in her ease and welfare. *a* 1716 South *Serm.* (1823) III. 106 They have seen perjury and murder nestle themselves into a throne. 1826 *Gen. Hist.* in *Ann. Reg.* 101/2 A gentleman.. who had nestled himself in an English borough.

b. *trans.* To push *in*, to press, rest, or settle (one's head, etc.) in a snug or affectionate manner.

c 1696 Prior *Love Disarmed* 7 He found a downy bed And nestled in his little head. 1798 Mme. D'Arblay *Let. Mar.*, He only nestled his little head in my neck. 1886 *Tip Cat* xix. 261 Letty, quite contented, nestled her face against Tip Cat's sleeve and dozed. 1894 Crockett *Raiders* (ed. 3) 266 She walked very close to me, as though she would nestle her shoulder against mine.

6. To place in, or as in, a nest; to set in a secure place; † to tend, nurse.

a 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VI* 185 King Henry and his faction nesteled and strengthend him and his alyes in the North regions. *c* 1611 Chapman *Iliad* xxiii. 687 This Ithacus so highly is indeared To this Minerua that..She, like his mother, nestles him. 1822 W. Irving *Braceb. Hall* (1890) 148 He..had nestled her as an eagle does its young among the rocky heights of the Sierra Morena. 1876 Geo. Eliot *Dan. Der.* xxxv, The words had nestled their venomous life within her.

b. To provide with a nesting-place.

1644 Evelyn *Diary* 17 Oct., Trees..which serve to nestle and pearch all sorts of birds. 1838 Eliza Cook *Land of Birth* iii, Where the citron-tree nestles the soft humming-bird. 1863 Cowden Clarke *Shaks. Char.* xvi. 402 Her first speech is one of those pleasant jests that nestle a gentle philosophy beneath their light wording.

c. In *pa. pple.* Nested; settled or placed as in a nest. Also with *in, away.*

1582 Stanyhurst *Æneis* III. (Arb.) 77 Where foule bird foggye Celæno And Harpy is nestled. *c* 1595 Southwell *St. Peter's Compl.* 38 My life was nestled In the summe of happinesse. 1649 G. Daniel *Trinarch., Hen. IV*, xxxviii, In Danae's Cage Wee Nestled happy are. 1824 Miss Mitford *Village* Ser. I. (1863) 80 There are lambs amongst them..nestled in by their mothers. 1860 Pusey *Min. Proph.* 235 So nestled was Petra in its rocks, that [etc.]. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Mar. 533/1 Little clusters of..trees.. told where the little villages were nestled away.

Hence **Ne·stled** *ppl. a.*

1868 Sill *Poems* 63 Odorous airs, with blessing filled From nestled blossoms round my grave.

Ne·stle, *v.*2 Now only *dial.* [Of obscure origin: identity with prec. is not clear.] *intr.* To be uneasy or restless; to fidget; to move or bustle about; to trifle. Hence **Ne·stling** *vbl. sb.*2

a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew* s.v., *What a nestling you keep*, how restless and uneasy you are. 1704 Steele *Lying Lover* III. i, Did you mind how she nestled and fumed inwardly to see your Ladyship look so well. 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), s.v., To *Nestle about*, to move here and there. 1796 Marshall *Yorksh.* (ed. 2) II. 335 To *Nessle*, or *Nestle*, to fidget. 1828 in *Craven Gloss.* 1853– in dial. glossaries (Lanc., Yks., Linc.; Hants, Surr., Suss.).

Nestle-cock. Now only *dial.* Also 7 **nessle-.** [f. Nestle *v.*1 + Cock *sb.*1: cf. *nest-cock, -cockle*, s.v. Nest *sb.* 8.] The last-hatched bird, or weakling of a brood; hence, a mother's pet; a spoilt or delicate child or youth.

1626 Middleton *Anything for Quiet Life* IV. ii, My mother was wont to call me your nestle-cock, and I love you as well as she did. 1640 Nabbes *Bride* Prol., A play Wherein a nesslecock, or youth o'th' towne..'s a gallant growne. *a* 1661 Fuller *Worthies, London* (1662) II. 196 One coaks'd or cocker'd, made a wanton or a Nestle-cock of, delicately bred and brought up. *a* 1791 in Pegge *Derbicisms* (E. D. S.) 48. 1864–83 in Lanc. and Yks. glossaries.

Nestler (ne·slər). [f. Nestle *v.*1 + -er 1; cf. G. *nist(e)ler.*] A nesting bird; a nestling; also *transf.* a little child.

1611 Cotgr., *Annicheur*, a nestler; a nest-maker. 1655 Moufet & Bennet *Health's Improv.* (1746) 183 Cuckows Flesh, whilst it is a Nestler, is by Perot highly extolled. 1827 Atherstone *Tomorrow* 149 What 'tis he sings to the soft nestler there. 1866 Alger *Solit. Nat. & Man* II. 43 The mother..missing..the darling nestler.

Nestle-tripe. Now only *dial.* Also 7 **-trett.** [f. as *nestle-cock* with obscure second element; mod. dialects also have the forms *nestle-bird, -bub, -draff, -draft, -dris*: see the *Eng. Dial. Dict.*] = Nestling *sb.* 2.

1616 J. Lane *Contn. Sqr.'s T.* v. 76, I, that am his eldest and first borne, shall have the nesteltrett sett mee beforne. *Ibid.* 139 Shees but the nesteltrett. 1823 *New Monthly Mag.* VII. 235 The little nestle-tripe we hoisted out of the brine. 1823 *Ibid.* VIII. 497 The nestletripe of the sons.

Ne·st-like, *a.* [f. Nest *sb.* + -like.] Resembling a nest.

a 1793 G. White *Selborne, Invitation*, Where nods in air the pensile, nest-like bower. 1816 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* xxi. (1818) II. 262, I once found it..in the nest-like umbel of the wild carrot. 1864 Tennyson *En. Ard.* 59 He..made a home For Annie, neat and nestlike.

Nestling (ne·stliŋ, ne·slin), *sb.* [ME. *nestling*, f. Nest *sb.* + -ling 1, or Nestle *v.*1 + -ing 3, = MDu. *nesteling*, Du. *-ling*, G. *nest-, nist(e)ling.*]

1. A young bird which is not yet old enough to leave the nest.

1399 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) I. 395 The nedy nestlingis, whan they the note herde of the hende egle. 1611 Cotgr., *Niais*, a neastling. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Nestlings*, Canary-Birds, brought up by hand. 1773 G. White *Selborne* xxxviii, These small weak birds, some of which were nestlings twelve days ago. 1801 Southey *Thalaba* v. iv, The mother-bird had moved not, But cowering o'er her nestlings, Sate. 1859 Darwin *Orig. Spec.* iii. 62 We forget how largely these songsters,..or their nestlings, are destroyed by birds and beasts of prey.

transf. *a* 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. xxxviii. 317 Nestling, ninny and youngling fool. 1860 Reade *Cloister & H.* xxxviii, 'Here is something hard lurking in this soft nest. Come forth, I say, little nestling!'..It was a gold ring.

2. The youngest child of a family.

1572 *Wills & Inv. N. C.* (Surtees 1835) 388 Bartye Andersonne..was the nestlynge of all her doughters childre. 1597 Hall *Sat.* II. ii. 43 Second brothers, and poor nestlings Whom more injurious Nature later brings Into the naked world. 1853 J. Raine *Richmond Wills* (Surtees) 160 *note*, His mother could give but a scanty portion to the nestling of her family.

3. *attrib.* with *bird, cuckoo, nightingale*, etc.

1772 Barrington in *Phil. Trans.* LXII. 325, I have taken four young ones from a hen skylark, and placed in their room five nestling nightingales. 1804 Bingley *Anim. Biog.* (1813) I. 26 The attempt of a nestling bird to sing, may be compared with the imperfect endeavour of a child to talk. 1860 *All Year Round* No. 63. 295 The nestliog cuckoo ungratefully ejects his legitimate foster-brethren out of the family nest. 1889 A. R. Wallace *Darwinism* 26 The destruction commences, and is probably most severe, with nestling birds.

Nestling (ne·slin), *vbl. sb.*1 [f. Nestle *v.*1 + -ing 1; cf. MDu. *nestelinge*, G. *nistelung.*]

1. The action of the vb. in various senses.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 354/1 Nestelynge, *nidificacio.* 1557 Tusser *Husb.* 41 Nestling of verlettes..Make[s] many a rich man, to shet vp his doores. 1625 Bacon *Ess., Gardens* (Arb.) 564 That the Birds may haue more Scope, and Natural Nestling. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1862) II. 10 Previous ..to laying, the work of nestling becomes the common care. 1816 L. Hunt *Rimini* III. 409 Places of nestling green, for poets made.

† **2.** A place of settling. *Obs. rare* −1.

1605 Bacon *Adv. Learn.* II. x. § 5 The secresies of the Passages, and the Seats or neastling of the humours.

3. *Comb.*, as *nestling-place.*

1824 W. Irving *T. Trav.* I. 268 This little nestling place of her childhood. 1854 H. Miller *Sch. & Schm.* (1858) 296 A tall inaccessible precipice..had furnished a secure nestling-place to a pair of ravens.

Nestling, *vbl. sb.*2: see Nestle *v.*2

Ne·stling, *ppl. a.* [f. NESTLE *v.*[1] + -ING [2].] That nestles, in various senses of the verb.

1839 LONGF. *Voices of Night* Prel. viii, When nestling buds unfold their wings. 1846 DICKENS *Battle of Life* i, In the nestling town among the trees. 1863 GEO. ELIOT *Romola* Introd., The rosy warmth of nestling children.

Nestor (ne·stŏr). [a. Gr. Νέστωρ.] The name of a Homeric hero famous for his age and wisdom, applied allusively to, or used as a designation of, an old man.

1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* IV. iii. 169 To see..Nestor play at push-pin with the boyes. 1614 R. TAILOR *Hog hath lost Pearl* IV. in Dodsley *O. Pl.* (1780) VI. 429 What, weep'st thou, aged Nestor? Take comfort, man. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* s. v., We take it proverbially when we use Nestor for a man of great age. 1727 GAY *Fables* I. xliii, Thus spoke the Nestor of the plain. 1817 J. BRADBURY *Trav. Amer.* 120 Some aged Nestors tottered along with the crowd. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* May 860/2 This Nestor of art is not forgotten by his old associates.

Comb. 1591 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. VI*, II. v. 6 These grey Locks, the Pursuivants of death, Nestor-like aged, in an Age of Care.

Hence **Nesto·rian** *a.*[1] *rare* —[1].

1605 TIMME *Quersit.* I. xvii. 92 It will suffice..to prolong our dayes to Nestorian yeares.

Nestorian (nestō·rĭăn), *sb.* and *a.*[2] [ad. L. *Nestorĭān-us*, f. *Nestori-us*: see next.]

A. *sb.* An adherent or follower of Nestorius: one who accepts or professes Nestorianism.

c 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* v. iii. 500 The sect of Nestorianys. 1579 FULKE *Confut. Sanders* 552 Anastasius was a fauourer of Nestorians. 1612 BREREWOOD *Lang. & Relig.* xix. 175 The Nestorians in the north part of Mesopotamia. 1681 BAXTER *Acc. Sherlock* iv. 190 The Christians, called Nestorians, .. are exceeding numerous in a great part of the East. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XIII. 11/2 The see of Seleucia, which the patriarch of the Nestorians has always filled. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVI. 155/1 The Nestorians at one time spread into Persia. 1880 *Expositor* XI. 458 The Nestorians appealed to Theodore in support of their doctrine.

B. *adj.* 1. Of persons: Accepting, professing, or adhering to, Nestorianism.

1565 JEWEL *Repl. Harding* To Rdr., The Nestorian heretics. 1602 T. FITZHERBERT *Apol.* 37 Being a magician, and a nestorian herelyk. 1665 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (1677) 32 The Epithete we give, more probably belongs to another Nestorian Prince. 1765 tr. *Mosheim's Eccl. Hist.* (1833) 471 The great Nestorian pontiffs..look with a hostile eye on this little patriarch. 1863 *Chr. Work* Dec. 644 The people among whom the Nestorian Christians are groaning.

2. Pertaining to, connected with, Nestorius or the Nestorians; of the nature of Nestorianism.

1680 BAXTER *Cath. Commun.* (1684) 14 The Nestorian Liturgy is one of the..best that I find recorded. 1724 WATERLAND *Crit. Hist. Athan. Creed* vii. 108 They also condemn'd the Nestorian tenets. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XIII. 11/2 One of the chief promoters of the Nestorian cause was Barsumas. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVI. 155/1 This doctrine..was the origin of the Nestorian schism. 1880 *Expositor* XI. 456 His writings were thought to countenance the Nestorian heresy.

So † **Nestorine.** *Obs. rare* —[1].

c 1400 *Three Kings Cologne* 132 Þe heretikes of þis yle, þe wich he cleped Nestorynes, take but litil kepe of his body.

Nesto·rianism. *Theol.* [f. NESTORIAN + -ISM.] The doctrine of Nestorius, patriarch of Constantinople (appointed in 428), by which Christ is asserted to have had distinct human and divine persons.

1612 BREREWOOD *Lang. & Relig.* xix. 172 Cosrhoes.. inforced all the Christians of the Persian empire to Nestorianism. 1659 PEARSON *Creed* II. 256 He ejected him.. under the pretence of Nestorianisme. 1727–38 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v. *Nestorians*, The Chaldee Christians, who still profess Nestorianism. 1866–7 BARING-GOULD *Myths Mid. Ages* (1894) 48 The report which reached Europe of the wonderful successes of Nestorianism in the East. 1884 *Catholic Dict.* (1897) 658/1 The writings of Theodore of Mopsuestia prepared the way for Nestorianism.

Nesto·rianize, *v.* [f. as prec. + -IZE.] *intr.* To hold Nestorianism. Hence **Nesto·rianizer.**

1888 *Guardian* 18 Apr. 570/3 Theodore of Mopsuestia,..a Nestorianizer before Nestorius. 1895 EDWARDS in *Expositor* Oct. 247 Nestorianizing tendencies in Eustathius.

Nesto·riously, *adv. rare* —[1]. [f. NESTOR.] After the manner of Nestor.

1620 T. GRANGER *Div. Logike* 318 Because hee did it *Strategicos*, that is, Imperatoriously, or Nestoriously.

Ne·storize, *v. rare.* [f. NESTOR.] *trans.* To fill (one) with the idea of being as wise as Nestor.

1612 J. DAVIES *Wks.* (Grosart) II. 89 Fauour and base flatt'ry Fooles haue spild; for with them both, we Fooles doe Nestorize.

Net (net), *sb.*[1] Forms: 1–6 nett, (1 hnett, 2 nyt), 3 neth, 5 nete, neett, 4–6 nette, (3–7 *pl.* nettes), 1– net. [Common Teut.: OE. *net(t* neut. = OS. *net*, MDu. *net* (*nette*; Du. *net*), MLG. *nette*, OHG. *nezzi*, *nezi* (MHG. *nezze*, *nelze*, G. *netz*), ON. *net* (Da. *net*, Sw. *nät*), Goth. *nati*. The existence of an ON. *nôt*, large net, appears to imply an ablaut-stem *nat-*, *nôt-*, the original sense of which is obscure.]

1. An open-work fabric made of twine or strong cord, forming meshes of a suitable size, used for the capture of fish, birds, or other living things.

Freq. also with defining terms, denoting the purpose or form of the net, or the method of using it, as *bag-*, *beach-*, *cast(ing)-*, *dip-*, *dredge-*, *drift-*, *fishing-*, *trawl-net*, etc.; *herring-*, *mackerel-*, *rabbit-*, *sparrow-net*, etc.

c 888 K. ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxxii. § 3 Hwæðer ge nu settan eower nett on þa hehstan dune, þonne ge fiscian willað? *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. iv. 18 [Peter and Andrew] ȝesendon hnett in sæ. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Colloq.* in Wr.-Wülcker 92 Ne canst þu huntian buton mid nettum? *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 209 Alse hunte drieð deor to grune oðer to nette. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 334 Þer beoð his nettes, & þer beoð his greahundes..igedered togederes. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 752 Mani god fish þer-inne he tok, Boþe with neth, and with hok. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 14679 Þe Payens wyþowte leide nettes & lynes, & sparewes toke. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 83 Jadahel, as seith the bok, Ferst made Net and fisshes tok. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 354/2 Nett, to take wythe fysche, *rete*. 1530 PALSGR. 248/1 Net to catche byrdes with, *tonnelle*. 1597 MIDDLETON *Wisd. Solomon* iv. 12 The fisher lays his bait, fowler his net. 1660 N. INGELO *Bentiv. & Ur.* I. (1682) 6 [The fish] swam voluntarily every day into their Nets. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Past.* III. 117, I hold the Nets, while you pursue the Prey. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) V. 302 By watching the seasons when our small birds begin to migrate..and by taking them with nets in their passage. 1832 G. R. PORTER *Porcelain & Gl.* 6 The men employed in fishing..frequently drew up in their nets some coarse .. earthen vessels. 1853 READE *Chr. Johnstone* 159 These nets are tied to one another, and paid out at the stern of the boat.

b. *fig.* A means of catching or securing a person; *esp.* a moral or mental snare, trap, or entanglement.

c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* cxl. 10 Fallað in nette his synfulle. *c* 1200 ORMIN 13474 To laccbenn himm wiþþ spelless nett To brinngenn himm to criste. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxxiv. (*Pelagia*) 183, I haf bene dissaweful nete, þat þe feynde sere sawlis has gert gete. 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 15192 It ys ful hard a man tescape..Fro my nettys off tresoun. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xlvi. 102, I counsall every man, that he With lufe nocht in the feindis net be tone. 1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 213 Many haue beene so insnared & intangled (as it were) in nettes of doubtfull reasons. *a* 1628 F. GREVIL *Poems* I. (1633) 38 Nets of opinion to entangle spirits. 1671 MILTON *P. R.* II. 162 Skill'd to..draw Hearts after them tangl'd in Amorous Nets. 1738 *Keill's Anim. Oecon.* Pref. (ed. 4) 24 Nature..will not suffer herself to be taken by Nets spun out of the Brain. 1780 COWPER *Progr. Err.* 313 Caught in a delicate soft silken net By some lewd earl. 1814 BYRON *Lara* I. xix, Vain was the struggle in that mental net. 1888 STEVENSON *Black Arrow* IV. vi, Not only was the town..a mere net of peril for their lives.

c. *transf.* A spider's web.

c 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Th.) xxxviii. 12 He..wyrð swa tedre swa swa gange-wifran nett. *Ibid.* lxxxix. 10. *c* 1220 *Bestiary* 479 Danne renneð ȝe [the spider] rapelike..nimeð anon to ðe net. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 274 b/2 Spyders takyng flyes by the nettes of theyr copwebbes. [1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* XII. Prol. 171 Full byssely Aragne wevand was, To knit hyr nettis.] 1658 ROWLAND tr. *Mouffet's Theat. Ins.* 1070 In Autumn amongst small Rose-boughs it extendeth an artificiall Net. 1727–38 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Web*, Attending nearly to a spider weaving a net. 1753 *Ibid. Supp.* s.v. *Spider*, The hazel spider..spins very large nets. 1840 *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 461 It constructs its net with loose and irregular meshes.

d. In proverbs and phrases.

1523– [see FISH *sb.*[1] 1 c]. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* II. 451 Tha socht the fische rycht far befoir the net. 1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 167 It is yll fyshyng before the net.

2. An open fabric of mesh-work (as in sense 1, or of other materials), used for such purposes as covering, protecting, confining, holding, etc.

a 1000 *Cædmon's Exod.* 74 (Gr.), Þær haliȝ god..hælce oferbrædde byrnendne heofon, halȝan nette hatwendne lyft. *c* 1050 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 373 *Conopio*, nette, fleoȝryfte. 1382 WYCLIF 1 *Kings* vii. 17 Seuen litil nettis.. in the ioon heed couerynge, and seuen lytil nettis in the iothir heed couerynge. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* III. (1586) 141 b, The shepeheard carrieth with him his Hardelles and his nets and other necessaries. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 836 They lie in Nets or Beddes hanging above the ground..to avoide burtfull creatures. 1632 SHERWOOD s. v., A net of wire (set afore glass windowes), *araigne*. 1721 [see *cabbage-net* s. v. CABBAGE *sb.*[1] 5]. 1784 COWPER *Task* IV. 263 Weaving nets for bird-alluring fruit. 1824 LOUDON *Encycl. Gard.* (ed. 2) § 2210 Protecting by nets is effected by throwing either straw, hay, bass, hempen, or woollen nets over standard trees. 1856 'STONEHENGE' *Brit. Rural Sports* 502 A low net divides this [tennis] court into two equal spaces. 1889 *Pauline* VIII. 24 Their wickets at the nets were as a rule very poor.

b. *To dance* (or *march*) *in a net*, to act with practically no disguise or concealment, while expecting to escape notice; in later use, to do something undetected. Now only *arch.*

1583 FULKE *Def. Tr. Script.* vi. (1843) 242 Now you haue gotten a fine net to dance naked in, that no ignorant blind buzzard can see you. 1592 KYD *Sp. Trag.* IV. iv. 118 Whose reconciled sonne Marcht in a net, and thought himselfe vnseene. 1679 DRYDEN *Limberham* II. i, I have danced in a net before my father,..retired to my chamber undiscovered. 1822 SCOTT *Nigel* xxiii, You must not think to dance in a net before old Jack Hildebrod.

3. A piece of fine mesh-work used as a part of dress, as a veil, or as a means of confining the hair (cf. HAIR-NET).

1483 RICH. III in Drake *Eboracum* I. iv. (1736) 117 Two short Gowns.., the one with Drippis and the other with Netts. 1599 T. M[OUFET] *Silkwormes* 68 Arachne that doth tinsels forme, And nets, and lawnes. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* III. 173 They weare nets and black vailes, covering therewith their faces. 1813 SCOTT *Trierm.* III. xxxviii, Her dark locks dishevell'd flow From net of pearl. 1878 *Encycl. Brit.* VI. 470/2 The hair is usually..inclosed in a net or cowl.

b. A kind of machine-made lace composed of small meshes. Also *attrib.*

1832 [see BOBBIN-NET]. 1844 G. DODD *Textile Manuf.* vii. 213 In some of these establishments various kinds of net and lace..are made. 1862 MRS. H. WOOD *Channings* xvii, Her mob-cap was of spotted net. 1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 4 Feb. 3/3 Three deep flounces on a fine net foundation.

4. Something resembling a net; a number of lines, veins, fibres, etc., arranged like the threads of a net; a reticulation or network.

1594 BLUNDEVIL *Exerc.* VI. Introd. (1636) 604 In the said Net are certaine Circles, which are Parallels to the foresaid Finitor. 1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* 466 That place where the wonderfull Net is made by those soporarie Arteries. 1845 *Encycl. Metrop.* VII. 183/2 The soft inner layers were distinguished by the name of mucous body or Malpighian net. 1884 BOWER & SCOTT *De Bary's Phaner.* 433 The nets of laticiferous tubes of the stem.

b. *Crystall.* (See quots.)

1855 *Orr's Circle Sci., Crystallogr.* 297 A drawing of the faces of a solid, arranged so that the model may be folded up from a single piece of pasteboard, is called a net. 1862 J. B. JORDAN *Const. Models Crystallogr.* 1 The term net.. has been given to a series of geometrical figures drawn on a plane, representing the faces of a crystal.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.* a. attrib. in various uses, as *net-basin*, *-cord*, *-fisher(man)*, *-fishing*, *-frame*, *-man*, *-mesh*, *-pole*, *-trade*, *-trap*, *-twine*; 'made of net', as *net cap*, *comforter*, *garter*, *purse*; b. objective or obj. genitive, as *net-bearer*, *-braider*, *-caster*, *-cutter*, *-making*, *-monger*, *-worker*; c. similative, as *net-fashion*, *-like*, *-traceried*, *-veined*, *-wise* adv.; d. special combs., as net-bag, (*a*) the pocket of a bag-net; (*b*) a bag made of net; net-ball, an American game in which a ball is thrown into a large pocket-net attached to a high pole; † net-danced (see 2 b); net-fern, a fern of the genus *Gleichenia*; net-fish, (*a*) a basket-fish; (*b*) fish taken with the net; net-masonry, a form of masonry in which the joints resemble the meshes of a net; net-passing, a form of needlework; net-pin, a pin used in net-making; net-roper, *dial.* the man in charge of a net-rope; net-sinker or -weight, a weight used to sink a net in fishing. Also NETMAKER, -WORK.

1727 *Philip Quarll* (1816) 27 Finding a fowl in the *net-bag. 1834 M. SCOTT *Cruise Midge* (1859) 244 Taking half a dozen wild sea fowl's eggs out of the net bag that he usually wore his hair in. 1900 *Daily News* 29 May 6/3 An American game called '*Net Ball' was played last evening at the Alhambra. 1883 in Goode *Fish. Indust. U.S.A.* 76 (Fish. Exhib. Publ.), Turning them from their course into *net basins which were placed there. 1647 R. STAPYLTON *Juvenal* 31 A retiarius, or *net-bearer, so named from a kind of floate net, which he carryed in his hand. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 354/2 *Neet Breydare, *reciarius*. 1599 NASHE *Lenten Stuffe* 17 Netbrayders, or those that haue no cloathes..but what they earne..by brayding of nets. 1835 MRS. CARLYLE *Lett.* I. 51, I notice she puts on a certain *net cap. 1586 J. HOOKER *Hist. Irel.* in *Holinshed* II. 27/1 The *net-caster hauing ouertbrowne the swordplaier. 1834 *Tait's Mag.* I. 59/1 A green and white *net-comforter was twisted round its chin. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 72 Stakes to ..be 3 inches above the *net-cord. 1899 *Daily News* 27 July 7/2 If any *net cutter is found which will effectually pierce these new nets,..the torpedo net will be doomed. 1602 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* XIII. lxxix. 327 Nor shall be said the *Net-danc't fals of diuers wish't more trew. 1521 *Rutland MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) IV. 264 To make engynes and calteroppes, *nette fashion for the warre. 1671 WINTHORP in *Phil. Trans.* VI. 2223 Until a fitter English name be found for it, why may it not be called..a Basket-Fish, or a *Net Fish, or a Purs-net-Fish? 1677 in *Ray's Corr.* (1848) 128 If the *net-fishers would open any considerable number. 1894 *Westm. Gaz.* 25 Sept. 2/1 The net-fishers did not..make enough to pay for their licences. 1883 SHEA *Newfoundl. Fish.* 12 (Fish. Exhib. Publ.), *Net fishing is more regular and satisfactory. 1824 LOUDON *Encycl. Gard.* (ed. 2) § 2210 Placing it over tender flowers..by means of *net frames. *a* 1613 OVERBURY *A Wife*, etc. (1638) 180 From ever having leisure to weare *net-Garters. 1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* 81 Which..doe forme a *Net-like complication. 1698 PETIVER in *Phil. Trans.* XX. 327 With the Canes split they make their Net-like Seats. 1796 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) IV. 52 Disposed..over the whole surface in a chain-like or net-like manner. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 72 All the instruments required in this sort of *net-making. 1883 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 9 Mar. 4/1 Tons of fish..are carted away by this means by the *net men. 1611 COTGR., *Macque*, a Lozenge, or *Net-mash. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), **Net-Masonry*, a particular sort of muring, or walling. 1727–38 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v. *Masonry*, Net-masonry, called by Vitruvius, *reticulatum*, from its resemblance of the mashes of a net. 1847 A. SMEATON *Builder's Man.* 107 Net masonry... Where the stones are squared and placed upon one of the angles, their joints thus forming a net-like appearance. 1630 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Jacke-a-Lent* Wks. I. 117/2 Lent might gape for Gudgeons,..were it not for these *Netmongers. 1901 DAY & BUCKLE *Art in Needlewk.* ix. (ed. 2) 86 *Net Passing..is not very differently worked from [lace huttonholing]. *a* 1652 BROME *Queen* IV. i, But I have other Arts:..The Wheel, the Frame, the *Net-pin .. are most familiar with me. 1813 *Sporting Mag.* XLII. 4 By this means manage his *net-poles with greater ease. 1840 MRS. GAUGAIN *Lady's Assist.* 169 Very pretty long Grecian *net purse for a lady. 1892 P. H. EMERSON *Son of Fens* 58 The master, mate, hawse-man, wheelman, *net-roper, and me lived aft in the cabin. 1865 TYLOR *Early Hist. Man.* viii. 192 The natural *net-sinkers, formed of chalk flints. 1896 J. F. HODGSON in *Durh. Arch. Trans.* IV. 113 The four-light *net-traceried east window. 1845 *Encycl. Metrop.* VIII. 741/2 Statistical view of the *net trade. 1768 BARRINGTON in Pennant *Brit. Zool.* II. App. iv. 560 They are caught in a *net trap. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 36 The shepherd should always be provided with *net-twine. 1861 BENTLEY *Man. Bot.* 427 Leaves *net-veined, deciduous. 1865 LUBBOCK *Prehist. Times*

81 Many of..the stones employed as *net-weights would there be lost. 1577 B. Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* II. 71 You must place them..eyther Checkerwyse or *Netwyse. 1727–38 Chambers *Cycl.* s. v. *Mail*, Coat of Mail is a piece of defensive armour, made of iron wire interwoven net-wise. 1869 Farrar *Fam. Speech* iv. (1873) 118 Nature connects organic bodies netwise rather than by organic links. 1658 Rowland *Mouffet's Theat. Ins.* 1070 Amongst the *Net-workers I saw one the greatest of all.

Net, *sb.*2 Now *rare*. Also 6 nett. [OE. *nette* fem. = OFris. *nette, nitte*, OS. *netti*, OHG. *nezzi, nezi*, ON. *netja* (Sw. dial. *nätja*, MDa. *nædhæ*), a derivative of Net *sb.*1] The omentum or caul; the mesentery.

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) O 147 *Oligia*, nettae. *a* 1100 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 293 *Disceptum i. reticulum*, nette. *Ibid.* 459 *Oligia*, nette. 1535 Coverdale *Exod.* xxix. 13 Thou shalt take all the fat that couereth the bowels and the nett vpon the leuer. 1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 16/1 In such woundes the guttes and the net come to sincke out. 1648 Hexham II. s.v. *Net*, The Net or the Cawle of the bowels or entrailes. 1722 Chamberlayne in *Phil. Trans.* XXXII. 97 The Hind-Quarter of a sucking Lamb, over which was spread what we call the Net, or Caul. 1737 Bracken *Farriery Impr.* (1756) I. 9 The Mesentery or Net (as it is called in other Creatures besides Men). 1808 in Jamieson. 1828 in *Craven Gloss.* 1844 H. Stephens *Bk. Farm* II. 93 The space between the intestines and lumbar region or loin [is] gradually filled up by the net and kidney fat.

Net, *sb.*3 *dial.* [f. Net *v.*3] A wash or rinse.

1703 Thoresby *Let. Ray* (E. D. S.), *Net*, to wash clothes, give them a net. 1841 Hamilton *Nugæ Lit.* 356 *Net*, or *netting*, a fresh water in scouring any thing.

Net (net), *a.* Also 6 nette, 6– nett. [a. F. *net, nette* (see Neat *a.*), whence also Du. and Da. *net*, G. *nett*, Sw. *nätt*.]

1. †a. Of persons: Trim, smart, or elegant, esp. in dress. *Obs. rare.*

13.. *Guy Warw.* (A.) 4084 Þer miȝt men se þat Gij was wel net. 1542 Udall *Erasm. Apoph.* (1877) 32 To soche a minion feloe as Agatho is, I maie go trim, nette, and well beseen. 1562 Bullevn *Bulwark, Sicke men* 69 Whiche Heathen are bothe comely, cleane, worldly wise, valiaunte, nette and fine.

b. Of things: Neat, smart. *rare.*

1637 Cleveland *Elegy on B. Jonson* 114 When thou in Company wert met, Thy Meat took Notes, and thy Discourse was Net. 1819 Shelley *Peter Bell 3rd* II. iii, A thief, who cometh in the night, With whole boots and net pantaloons.

†2. Clean, free from filth, etc.; bright, clear. *Obs.*

1481 Caxton *Myrr.* I. i. 6 Tofore the souerayn creatour whiche is clere net and pure. 1528 Paynell *Salerne's Regim.* D ij, He shulde eate no maner of meates, without his stomake be net, and purged of all yll humours. 1579 Tomson *Calvin's Serm. Tim.* 615/2 He is pure and net from all filthinesse, and pollution. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* III. xii. 20 Her brest all naked, as nett yvory. 1596 *Ibid.* VI. ix. 45 The priest with naked armes full net. 1609 Bible (Douay) *Prov.* v. 3 The lippes of an harlot are as a hony combe distilling, and her throte netter [Vulg. *nitidius*] then oyle.

b. Pure, unadulterated, unmixed. *rare.*

1713 *Guardian* No. 132 Advt., A Vault..for the sale of Net Natural French Wine. 1765 *Universal Mag.* XXXVII. 320/2 Refined sugar in the loaf,..being net, that is to say, of one uniform whiteness throughout. 1839 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* II. 107/1 This account he believes to be correct, except that nett cement was used instead of mortar.

3. Of amounts: Free from, or not subject to, any deduction; remaining after all necessary deductions have been made.

1520 J. Dorne in *Collect.* (O. H. S.) I. 97 Suma is net *12li. 18s. 6d.* 1588 J. Mellis *Briefe Instr.* B ij b, The remaine is the net rest, substance or capitall of the owner. 1666–7 Pepys *Diary* 21 Jan., The net profits of which .. will amount to 3000*l.* 1702 S. Sewall *Diary* 30 Dec., Weight One Hundred One Half One Quarter wanting 3 pounds, i. e. 193 pounds, Net. 1768–74 Tucker *Lt. Nat.* (1834) I. 190 The net income of real pleasures they will yield upon the balance. 1825 McCulloch *Pol. Econ.* II. iv. 186 It would give its owner the same..net profit. 1840 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* III. 89/2 The 'net effective power', or available power of an engine. 1844 H. H. Wilson *Brit. India* III. 368 A pension proportioned to the nett revenue. 1878 Huxley *Physiogr.* 186 The net result showed a permanent elevation.

b. Sold at, based upon, net prices.

1893 *Athenæum* 1 Apr. 410/3 Over 71,000 copies of net books. 1894 *Daily News* 3 Nov. 6/4 If a book..sold at 12*s.*, becomes under the net system 10*s.* net.

Net (net), *v.*1 [f. Net *sb.*1 Cf. ON. *netja*, Swed. *nätja*, Da. *nette*, G. *netzen*.]

1. *trans.* a. To cover with, or as with, a net.

1593 Nashe *Christ's T.* (1613) 146 Your morn-like cristall countenances shall be netted ouer..with crawling venemous wormes. 1758 Reid tr. *Macquer's Chym.* I. 263 The inside of the ballon begins to be netted over with a volatile salt of a singular nature. 1800 Miss Edgeworth *Belinda* xxi, To leave his favourite tree..after..netting it to keep off the birds. 1850 Tennyson *In Mem.* ii, Thy fibres net the dreamless head. 1857 Dufferin *Lett. High Lat.* (ed. 3) 196 The level sea, like a pale blue disc netted in silver lace.

b. To hem *in*, close *round*, as with a net.

1607 Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 156 They..with their tails net in and entangle his legs and feet. 1833 Mrs. Browning *Prometh. Bound* Poems 1850 I. 143 He is netted round with chains. 1877 Tennyson *Harold* II. ii, How dense a fold of danger nets him round.

c. To enclose, pen in, by means of nets.

1847 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* VIII. II. 431 Where larger breadths of turnips are sown, the wedder lambs are netted upon them in October. 1886 C. Scott *Sheep-farming* 95 A break, in size suitable to the number of sheep, should be netted or hurdled off. *Ibid.*, After that they may be netted on where the turnips grow.

2. a. *fig.* To take, catch, or captnre, as with a net; to sweep *in* in this manner.

1801 Southey *Lett.* (1856) I. 166 Losing the chance of netting you at Oswestry, I have been in hopes of hearing from you. 1863 Barry *Dockyard Econ.* 177 French navy seamen, netted in as they are from stagnant and unknown fishing hamlets. 1880 Meredith *Tragic Com.* ii, One or two of Plutarch's touches..had netted her fancy.

b. To take (fish, birds, etc.) with a net or nets.

1868 *Daily News* 15 July, The fishermen..were netting large takes of mackerel. 1870 Yeats *Nat. Hist. Comm.* 58 Shrimps are netted on most shallow shores. 1883 *Eng. Illustr. Mag.* Nov. 69/2 Netting the ruffs and reeves in the summer time.

c. To fish (a river, etc.) with a net; to set or use nets in.

1843 James *Forest Days* vii, There is somebody netting the stream. 1885 R. Buchanan *Annan Water* iii, The body had been discovered by some salmon fishers when netting the river.

3. a. *intr.* To make nets or network; to occupy oneself with netting.

Formerly used esp. of making small fancy-work articles, such as purses: cf. Netting *vbl. sb.* 1 b.

1674 N. Fairfax *Bulk & Selv.* 152 The Spider drives on the great business of catching flies, by netting in corners within doors. 1789 Anna Seward *Lett.* (1811) II. 314, I often..see you..sitting netting in your parlour. 1866 Mrs. Gaskell *Wives & Dau.* li, She was netting away as if nothing unusual had occurred.

b. *trans.* To make (a thing) by the process of producing network; to work up as a net.

1789 in *A. C. Bower's Diaries & Corr.* (1903) 58 The purse.. was very pretty and monstrously well net. *a* 1845 Hood *I'm not a single Man* iv, I had more purses netted then Than I could hope to fill. 1883 in N. Okoshi *Fisheries Japan* 33 (Fish. Exhib. Publ.), There will remain 384 meshes, which, being netted again [etc.].

c. *refl.* To form into a net.

1889 Randolph *New Eve* I. vii. 251 Circumstances had netted themselves round him with meshes of steel.

Net, *v.*2 [f. Net *a.* 3.]

1. *trans.* To gain as a net sum or as clear profit; to succeed in clearing (a certain sum).

1758 J. Adams *Diary* Wks. 1850 II. 44 He retails sugar [etc.] ..to save these articles in his family, and net a few shillings profit. 1765 *Museum Rust.* IV. 201, I..could never yet find that two pounds per cow could be netted per annum. 1815 W. H. Ireland *Scribbleomania* 141 The spells, whereby publishers sweated For profit, first paying those hundreds Ann netted. 1862 L. Weedon *Syst. Husb.* 7 If by the new plan..he can net a full profit of £4 per acre.

2. To bring in or yield as a profit or net sum.

1786 Mackenzie *Lounger* No. 78 ¶ 4 The estate indeed.. was considerably increased in its rent; 'but..it nets nothing'. 1833 W. Irving in *Life & Lett.* (1866) III. 58 We had a benefit here,..which netted nearly four thousand dollars. 1893 Kate Sanborn *Truthf. Wom. S. California* 131 These berries..netted an average of about eight cents per pound.

b. To amount to. *rare* —1.

1800 *Hull Advertiser* 16 Aug. 3/1 His share of prize-money has netted..ten thousand pounds currency per month.

Net, *v.*3 Now *dial.* [ad. OF. *nettir*, f. *net* Net *a.*; cf. F. *nettoyer*.] *trans.* To clean, to wash; to rinse *out* (clothes); †to rid *of*.

1536 *Rem. Sedition* 12 b, Even so, neyther the bodye [can be cleansed], without the mynde be firste netted. *Ibid.* 23 He hath netted his realme of ydle vacabundes. 1634–5 Brereton *Trav.* (Chetham Soc.) 106 They .. trample it with their feet (never vonchsafing a hand to nett or wash it withal). 1703 Thoresby *Let. Ray* (E. D. S.), *Net*, to wash clothes, give them a net. 1862 C. C. Robinson *Dial. Leeds* 373 After linen has been washed it generally has to undergo the 'netting-out' process.

†**Nete,** for *ne wite* to know not. *Obs. rare.*

c 1160 *Hatton Gosp.* Matt. vi. 3 Nete þin wynstre hwæt do þin swiðre. *c* 1315 Shoreham I. 1839 Wanne þou weneþ þe oþer be hol, And weddeþ þane syke Netinde.

Nete, obs. form of Neat *sb.*

Netel(l)e, obs. forms of Nettle *sb.*1 and *v.*

†**Ne·ten.** *Obs.* [OE. *néten* (also *nieten, nýten*, etc.), f. *néat* Neat *sb.*] An animal, esp. of the ox or horse kind.

c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* viii. 8 All ðu underdeodes under fotum his, scep & oxan..& netenu foldes. *c* 888 K. Ælfred *Boeth.* xxxi. § 1 Hwi nele he cweðan eac þæt ða netenu seon ȝesælȝu. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 326 Sum fyþerfette nyten is, þæt we nemnaþ..broc on englisc. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 129 Alle þa deor and alle þe nutenu þe on eorðe weren. *c* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 151 Hie lokeden wel ðat ðe tail ware on auriche netene.

Ne·tful. [f. Net *sb.*1] The fill of a net.

1855 Browning *Popularity* v, A fisher..A netful brought to land. 1898 *Pall Mall Mag.* June 219 A netful of the.. oysters.

†**Neth,** hath not: cf. Nave *v.*

c 1315 Shoreham I. 182 He þat bilefeþ hit nauȝt Riȝt wyt neþ of blisse.

Neth, -ar, obs. forms of Net, Neither.

Netheard, -heerd, -herd, obs. ff. Neatherd.

Netheist (nĭ·þĭ,ist). [f. L. *ne-*, *nē-* or Gr. *νη-* + Theist.] An atheist.

1855 *Chamb. Jrnl.* III. 307 The missionaries are met..by propagandists of another kind—by Netheists, Theists, Setheists, and Pantheists. 1862 *Westm. Rev.* Jan. 86 Several other names, such as Cosmists, Netheists, and Rational Utilitarians, that the party has tried at different times.

†**Netheless,** *adv. Obs.* Forms: 2–3 neoðe-, neoþe-, neðeles, 4 neþ(e)les, -lesse, 4–6 netheles, (4 -less, -lees), 6 -lesse, 7 ne(i)thlesse. [f. Ne, etc.: cf. Na- and Notheless.] Nevertheless.

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 137 Neoðeles he heom sulleð. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 79 He makeð lete of þoleburdnesse and neðeles ne haueð non. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3853 At ðe laste neðeles, Eft he come sone to cades. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* 9855 Netheles þey were at meschef. 1382 Wyclif *Luke* xii. 31 Nethelees seke ȝe first the kyngdom of God. *c* 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 13 Neþles it is not iust as to sopfastnes. 1480 Caxton *Chron. Eng.* cxxxi. 110 And netheles..he wold not mysdone hym. 1549 Coverdale, etc. *Erasm. Par. Rom.* Argt., They fell nethelesse into all kyndes of mischief. 1579 E. K. *Ded. to Spenser's Sheph. Cal.* § 3 Nethelesse, let them..feede on theyr owne folly. 1611 Speed *Hist. Gt. Brit.* IX. xviii. § 49. 704 The thing.. that all the world wist was true, and that neithlesse euery man laughed at.

†**Nethemest,** *a. Obs.* Forms: 1 nyðe-, niðe-, nioð-, 1–2, 4 neoþe-, 2–4 neþe-, 3 nythe-, 4 nype-; 1 -mæsta, -mesta, -mysta, 2–4 -mest(e, 4 -mast(e. [OE. *niþemest*, etc., f. the stem *niþ-* under: see Nether and -most.] Lowest, undermost, furthest down.

c 888 K. Ælfred *Boeth.* vii. § 3 þa niðemystan ic ȝebringe æt þæm hehstan, & þa hehstan æt ðæm niðemæstan. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 185 Swa swiþe he biþ bedyped on þa neoþemestan helle witu. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 117 He hið eft inipered on þan neoþemeste pinan. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 219 Þe unemeste þou is sih þe neþemeste rote. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 287/332 Ase he sat on þis laddre lowe, on þe neþemeste roungue. 13.. *Ipotis* 390 (Vernon MS.) in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 345 In to þe neoþemaste put of helle. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 3257 Þe heȝeste hiȝt launcepre, þe nyþemest was callid hagefray. *a* 1425 *Cursor M.* 9926 (Trin.), Hit..ȝueþ to þe neþemast [*v.r.* -mest] liȝt.

†**Ne·then,** *adv. Obs.* [OE. *neoðan, -on*, etc.: see Beneath *adv.*] Below; from below.

c 888 K. Ælfred *Boeth.* xxxiii. § 5 On ælcere stowe he is hire emnneah, ȝe ufan ȝe neoðon. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 211 Þæt wæter wæs sweart under þæm clife neoðan. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Hom.* II. 258 Ða tobærst þæs temples wahryft, fram ðære fyrste ufan oð ða flor neoðan. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 105 Ech idel..and inel [ȝinc cumeð] neðen uppard.

Nether (ne·ðəɹ), *a.* Forms: 1 nioðerra, niðera, nyðera, 3 nyþere; 1 neoþ(e)ra, 3 neoþere; 4 nethere, 4–5 neþer, (5 -ire), 5–6 nethir, (5 -yr, *Sc.* nathir), neder, (6 -ur, *Sc.* neddir); 4 nei-, neyþer, 6 neythter, 7 neither, 6–7 neather; 5– nether. [Common Teut.: OE. *neoþera, niþera*, etc., = OFris. *nithere, nedere*, OS. *nithiri* (MDu. *neder*, Du. *neder-* in combs.), MLG. *neder, nedder*, OHG. *nidari, -eri, -iri* (MHG. *nidere, nider*, G. *nieder*), ON. *neðri* (Sw. and Da. *nedre*), f. *niþer(e*, Nether *adv.*2 or 3. See also Netherer and Netherest.] Lower, under (in contrast to *higher, over*, or *upper*).

1. With partitive terms, esp. *part* or *end*. †Also (in OE.) *absol.* in *pl.*

c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* cxxxviii. 15 In ðæm nioðerum eorðan. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 239 Gangað on þas niðeran dælas þisse ceastre. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* x. 21 The nethir half [of the way] wes perelouss. 1382 Wyclif *Ecclus.* xxiv. 45, I shal persen alle the nethere partis of the erthe. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 3076 Fingurs full small, With nailes at the neþer endes as a nepe white. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 355/2 Nethyr part of a thynge, *inferior*. 1525 *Tale of Basyn* 40 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* III. 45 When the baly was full, [he would] lye downe and wynke, And rest his neder ende. 1570 Billingsley *Euclid* xi. xxix. 341 Lines..which ioyne together the angles of the vpper and nether bases. 1604 E. G[rimstone] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* II. xii. 108 Experience dooth teach vs, that the middle region of the ayre is colder than the neather. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Past.* VI. 108 A beautous Maid above, but Magick Arts With barking Dogs deformed her neather parts. 1798 Coleridge *Anc. Mar.* III. xiv, With one bright star Within the nether tip. 1826 Scott *Woodst.* iii, At the nether end of the hall, a huge..chimney-piece projected. 1860 Maury *Phys. Geog.* (Low) xi. § 519 Upon the nether side of the cloud-ring.

2. With terms denoting locality, esp. the proper names of countries, districts, hamlets or farms, etc.

Now usually expressed by *Lower* or *Low*, but retained in various districts in local place-names, or the names of streets (as *Nethergate*), etc. in towns.

Nether Dutch and *Nether German* have occas. been used in English in place of the usual *Low* (†*Dutch* or) *German*.

c 888 K. Ælfred *Boeth.* v. § 1 Ne onscunize ic no þæs neoþeran & þæs unclænan stowe. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) I. 127 In þe west side of þe neþer Galilea toward þe grete see. *c* 1425 Wyntoun *Cron.* I. xiii. 1198 Þir lyis in Neþir Sithia. *Ibid.* 1227 In þat Neþir Germany All Northtwaye is. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* VIII. iii. 124 Thai wester partis..Quhilkis ar bedeit wyth the neder se. 1560 Bible (Genev.) 1 *Kings* ix. 17 Salomon buylt Gezer and Bethhoron the nether. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* Prol. 17 Vnir Clydisdale .. as Iykwyse nathir Cludisdale. 1629 Rutherford *Lett.* v. (1862) I. 47 While we are lodged here, we..must be content to remove from one corner of our Lord's nether house to another. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* I. 442 The rising rivers float the nether ground. 1745 Pococke *Descr. East* II. ii. 202 We were now in the nether principality of the kingdom of Naples.

†b. *Nether House*, the House of Commons. *Obs.*

App. current only in the reign of Henry VIII.

1536 Cromwell in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) II. 47 Suche Actes as haue been in this session of that parliament passed the nether and higher houses. 1577–87 Holinshed *Chron.* III. 921/1 When the commons were assembled in the nether house, they began to commune of their griefes. 1640 Yorke *Union Hon.* 47 Certaine Lords of the upper house of parliament, came into the nether. 1687 *Assur. Abb. Lands* 180 After which the Speaker with the Commons departed to the Nether House.

3. Of lip or jaw. Now commonly expressed by *lower* or *under*.

c 1000 Ælfric *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 157 *Labrum*, niðera lippe. *c* 1050 *Voc.* ibid. 264 Neoþera welor. *c* 1300 *St. Margarete* 160 He..gan his ouere cheoke ouer hire heued do & his nyþere cheoke bynęþe at hire ho. *c* 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 1468 His neþer chauel he smot doun. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) II. 173 Tantalus stondeþ alway in a water vp anon to þe ouer brerde of þe neþer lippe. 1548 Vicary *Anat.* 40, xij Muscles..moue the nether lawe. 1648 Gage *West Ind.* 77, Pieces of gold..hanging upon their nether lips. 1657 Trapp *Comm. Job* v. 9 Who can give a naturall reason of the strength of the neather-chap? 1843 Lytton *Last Bar.* III. v, An uneasy gnawing of the nether lip. 1857–61 Buckle *Civiliz.* (1869) II. viii. 469 A nether jaw protruding so hideously that his teeth could never meet.

b. Of the legs or their clothing. Also in *nether man* (common in recent use) or *person*.

1522 Skelton *Why not to Court* 1197 Lest he..make hym lame of his neder limmes. 1667 Milton *P. L.* II. 784 All my nether shape thus grew Transform'd. 1835 J. P. Kennedy *Horse Shoe R.* xvi, His nether person was rendered conspicuous by a pair of dingy small-clothes. 1836 Marryat *Japhet i*, Long before the old porter could pull his legs through his nether garments. 1846 Mrs. Gore *Eng. Char.* (1852) 151 We found a still idler fellow..warming his nether-man on the hearth-rug.

c. *absol.* in *pl.* Lower limbs or parts. *rare*$^{-1}$.

1822 T. Mitchell *Aristoph.* II. 175 With a cloak duly tuck'd round their nethers.

4. In general use, of things. Now only *literary*.

† *Nether glove*, a greave. † *Nether vert* (see quot. 1598).

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 332 Þe neoþere [stone] þet lið stille.. bitocneð ferlac..; þe vuere ston bitocneð hope. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) II. 185 Þe planetes and þe neyþer wolkons moeueþ out of þe west in to þe est. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 4959 Nymes of 3our nethirgloue & nakens 3oure leggis. *c* 1425 *Craft Nombrynge* (E.E.T.S.) 6 Write þe first figure of þe hyer nombur euene vndir the first figure of þe nether nombur. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* VIII. xiv. 294 Syr Tristram bebled both the ouer shete and the nether. 1523 Fitzherb. *Husb.* § 5 The bodye of the wayne .., the nether rathes, the ouer rathes. 1598 Manwood *Lawes Forest* vi. 34 Neather vert, is that which the Lawiers do call South Boys, and that is properly all manner of vnderwood, and all Bushes, Thornes, Gorse, and the like. 1615 G. Sandys *Trav.* 14 The skirts flow loosely fringed below; the upper shorter then the neather. 1667 Milton *P. L.* I. 346 Twixt upper, nether, and surrounding Fires. *a* 1718 Parnell *Night-Piece on Death*, Thro' their ranks in silver pride The nether crescent seems to glide. 1850 Kingsley *Alt. Locke* xxxviii, The nether fires of doubt glaring through. 1866 Howells *Venet. Life* ii. 20 All my nether-spirit, so to speak, was dulled and jaded.

b. *Nether millstone* (or *stone*). Now only in fig. or allusive use.

1560 Bible (Genev.) *Job* xli. 14 His heart is as strong as a stone, and as hard as the nether milstone. 1647 N. Bacon *Disc. Govt. Eng.* I. xxxix. (1739) 59 The Defendant's Arms (which were accounted as the Nether-milstone, or stock of maintenance). 1760–72 H. Brooke *Fool of Qual.* (1809) III. 3 The nether millstone of my heart began to dissolve. 1869 Browning *Ring & Bk.* X. 1110 He shall make the sword To match that piece of netherstone his heart. 1877 Black *Green Past.* xxviii, I believe you have a heart as hard as the nether millstone.

† c. *Nether clerk*, under-clerk. *Obs. rare* $^{-1}$.

1567 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 614 Maister James Makgill of Rankelour, Nethir Clerk of Register.

5. Denoting the earth or things upon it, in contrast to heaven or the upper regions. (Usually with *this*.)

1590 Spenser *F. Q.* II. vii. 49 This darksom neather world her light Doth dim. 1605 Shaks. *Lear* IV. ii. 79 This shewes you are aboue, You Iustices, that these our neather crimes So speedily can venge. 1760 Fawkes tr. *Anacreon, Ode* iii. 2 The sable Night had spread around This nether World a Gloom profound. 1786 S. Rogers *Ode Superstit.* III. ii, To aspire Beyond this nether sphere. 1832 Carlyle *Misc.* (1857) III. 68 Thus do Men and Sheep play their parts in this Nether Earth. 1857 Buckle *Civiliz.* I. xi. 645 The intellect of man in this nether world.

6. Denoting what lies, or is imagined as lying, beneath the earth; esp. *nether world* or *regions*.

[*c* 825 *Vesp. Psalter* lxxxvii. 7 Settun mec in seaðe ðæm nioðerran in ðeostrum. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 89 Þu ȝeneredest mine saule of þære neoþeran helle.]

1638 Brome *Antipodes* I. vi, No Isle nor Angle in that Neather world, But I have made discovery of. 1697 Dryden *Æneid* III. 497 Must pass the Stygian Lake and view the neather Skies. 1720 Gay *Poems* (1745) I. 172 When dread Jove the son of Phœbus hurl'd .. to the nether world. 1817 Shelley *Rev. Islam* I. xxx, The hell, His reign and dwelling beneath nether skies. 1830 Lyell *Princ. Geol.* I. 397 The great reservoirs of melted matter ..in the nether regions. 1877 L. Morris *Epic Hades* I. 10 A cauldron fired With the fires of nether hell.

Comb. 1828 Carlyle *Misc.* (1857) I. 127 In this way can the nether-world Scapin sport with the perplexed beauty. 1869 Tozer *Highl. Turkey* II. 300 Besides this nether-world character.

b. *Nether-formed*, adj. = Hypogene.

1833 [see Hypogene]. 1862 Ansted *Channel Isl.* II. x. 248 It is where the old, hard, nether-formed rocks frowningly appear above the water.

† **Ne·ther,** *adv.*[1] *Obs.* Forms: 1 nioðor, niðor, nyðor, neoðor, -er, 2 neðer. [A comparative form based on the stem *niþ-*: see next.] Lower, lower down.

Beowulf 2699 Þæt he þone niðgæst nioðor hwene sloh. *c* 888 K. Ælfred *Boeth.* xxxiii. § 5 Sio eorþe..is nioðor þonne æniz oðru ȝesceaft buton þam rodore. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Saint's Lives* i. 58 Þelæs þe þæt mod sy neoðer þonne se lichoma. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 103 He beð neðer þanne he er was.

† **Ne·ther,** *adv.*[2] *Obs.* Forms: 1–3 niþer, niðer; 1 nyþer, nyðer, (3 nuðer); 2–3 neoðer, (3 neouðer); 2–3 neðer, (3 nedðer), 5 nether. [OE. *niþer* = OFris. *nither-*, *nider-*, OS. *nidar* (MDu. and Du. *neder*), MLG. *neder*, *nedder*, OHG. *nidar*, *nider* (G. *nieder*), ON. *niðr* (MSw. *nidher*, Sw. *ner*, *ned*; MDa. *nedher*, Da. *ned*), repr. an OTeut. **niþar* = Skr. *nitarām*, f. *ni-*, down, with comparative suffix.] Down, downwards.

Beowulf 1360 Ðær fyrȝenstream under næssa ȝenipu niþer ȝewiteð. *c* 888 K. Ælfred *Boeth.* xli. § 6 Þæt tacnað þæt he sceal ma þencan up þonne nyðer. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 101 Þæt flæsc afulað, & wyrmum awealleþ, & neþer afloweþ. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1012 Sloh hine þa an heora..þet he mid þam dynte niðer asah. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 111 He ferde fro þe fader, for þat he com neðer to helle. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 370 Niðful neddre, loð an liðer, sal gliden on hise brest neðer. *c* 1450 tr. *De Imitatione* II. xii. 57 Turne thiself aboue [turne þiself nether].

Comb. *c* 960 Æthelwold *Rule St. Benet* (Schröer) 23 Æȝðer ȝe upstiȝende ende ȝe niþerstiȝende. *Ibid.* Se upstiȝe and se niþerstiȝe. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* III. 246 Hi ȝefyllað twa tida mid hyra upgange oððe nyþergange. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 111 Erest he steg neoðer..: of neoðerstienge speoð dauid on þe salm boc.

† **Ne·ther,** *adv.*[3] *Obs.* In 1 niðere, niþre, 3 neoðere; also in comb. 1–3 niðer-, 3 nyþer-, neoþer-. [f. prec. = MDu. *ned(e)re*, OHG. *nidaro* (MHG. *nidere*), ON. *niðri* (MSw. *nidhre*, Sw. *nere*; MDa. *nedre*, Da. *nede*).] Down, low down.

c 888 K. Ælfred *Boeth.* xxxix. § 13 Þæt leohte fyr..up ȝewit, & sio hefiȝe eorðe sit þær niðere. *a* 900 Cynewulf *Crist* 1466 Læȝ min flæschoma in foldan bigrafen, niþre ȝehyded. *c* 1205 Lay. 1982 Þa Englisce ouercomen þe Brutuns & brouhten heom þer neoðere.

b. In *Comb.* = Nether *a.*

c 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Thorpe) cxxxviii. 13 Þeh min lichama.. on niðer-dælum eorðan wuniȝe. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 173 Hie turneð..fram þe dome to helle to þe niðer wuniȝe. *c* 1290 *St. Brandan* 527 in *S. E. Leg.* I. 234 To is chin tilde þe neoþer [*v. r.* niþer] ende.

Nether, var. of Nither *v.*; obs. f. Neither.

Net-herd, obs. form of Neatherd.

† **Ne·therer.** *Obs. rare.* [f. Nether *a.* + -er[3].] a. The lower parts. b. An inferior.

a 1340 Hampole *Psalter* cxxxviii. 14 My substaunce in neþerere of erth. *c* 1449 Pecock *Repr.* Prol. 1 Correccioun ..which longith oonli to the ouerer anentis his netherer, and not to the netherer anentis his ouerer.

† **Ne·therest,** *a. Obs.* [A superlative formed on Nether *a.*; cf. OFris. *nithereste*, *nedereste*, MDu. *nederste*, OHG. *nidirôsto* (MHG. *niderste*), MSw. *nidherst(a*, MDa. *ne(d)erste* (Sw. and Da. *nederst*).] Lowest, undermost. Also *absol.*

a 1300 *E. E. Psalter* cxxxviii. 15 Þou made..þe staþelnes of me In netherest of erthe to be. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Boeth.* I. pr. i. (1868) 5 In þe neþerest[e] hem or bordure of þese cloþes. 1417 in *Surtees Misc.* (1890) 12 Un to the netherest stake safe ane. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 281 False cristene men schul be nethirest in helle. 1558 Grimalde *Cicero's Offices* Pref., This learning teacheth, so much to graunt the vital part and the netherest.

† **Nethering,** var. *eddering*: see Edder.

1688 Holme *Armoury* II. 86/1 A Nethering is a twig or stick bent about Stakes and Poles by which fences and hedges are made secure.

Ne·therlander. [ad. Du. *Nederlander* (G. *Niederländer*), f. *Nederland*: see -er[1].] An inhabitant or native of the Netherlands or Holland (formerly including Flanders or Belgium).

1610 Holland *Camden's Brit.* I. 475 Verily much beholden it is to the Netherlanders [*Note.* Or Dutchmen of the Low countries.] 1638 Sir R. Cotton *Abstr. Rec. Tower* 5 William de Ipre, Earle of Kent, a Netherlander. 1876 Bancroft *Hist. U. S.* II. xxii. 25 Manned by a mixed crew of Netherlanders and Englishmen. 1880 W. Newton *Serm. Boys & Girls* (1881) 332 The great leader of the Netherlanders.

Ne·therlandian, *a. rare.* [f. as prec. + -ian.] = Netherlandish.

1600 W. Watson *Decacordon* (1602) 209 An alien prince, Spanyard or Burgundian, Netherlandian or the like. 1902 E. Kidd *Western Civiliz.* ix. 297 The Swabian peasants and the Netherlandian burghers.

Ne·therlandish, *a.* [ad. Du. *Nederlandsch*, (G. *Niederländisch*), or f. *Netherland* + -ish[1].] Of or pertaining to the Netherlands.

1600 J. Pory tr. *Leo's Africa* II. 61 Fower and twentie elles of Portugall or Neatherlandish cloth. 1680 *Relig. Dutch* iv. 39 All the Cities of this Netherlandish Country are full of these Mennonites. 1839 W. Chambers *Tour Holland* 41/1 The coats of arms of the old Netherlandish nobility. 1875 Whitney *Life Lang.* x. 181 Two important cultivated tongues, the Netherlandish and the English.

† **Netherless,** contracted f. Nethertheless.

c 1400 *Three Kings Cologne* 34 Neþirles sume bokes seiȝe þat in þe same day þat god was bore, were manye sunnes seiȝe. 1464 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 511/2 Yet netherles, of their mere and extreme malice [etc.]. 1498 *Promp. Parv.* 353/2 (MS. S.) Neythirlesse, *nichilominus*.

Ne·therling. *nonce-wd.* [f. Nether *a.* + -ling[1].] *pl.* Nether garments.

1852 Dickens in *Household Words* V. 565/1 The plain young woman darning the poet's netherlings.

Ne·thermore, *a.* (*sb.*) and *adv.* Also 4–5 neþer-, neder-, 5–6 nethirmare, 6 nethirmore. [f. Nether *a.* + -more: cf. MSw. *nidhirmeer*, MDa. *nedhermere*.]

A. *adj.* Nether, lower, inferior. Now *rare.*

1382 Wyclif *Dent.* xxiv. 6 Thow shalt not taak..the nethermore and ouermore grynstoon. 1382 — *Judg.* xx. 36 Whanne thei hadden seen hem self to be the nethermore, thei begunne to flee. *c* 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) xvi. 72 Liby þe neþermare begynnez at þe Spaynisch see. 1601 Holland *Pliny* II. 257 The nethermore [root], which also is the bigger. 1610 Holland *Camden's Brit.* I. 337 The upper part of the Church, and..the nethermore. 1867 Longf. tr. *Dante, Inf.* III. 41 The heavens expelled them; Nor them the nethermore abyss receives.

† **B.** *sb.* The lower parts. *Obs. rare* $^{-1}$.

1382 Wyclif *Ps.* cxxxviii. 15 My substaunce is in the nethermoris [*v. r.* -more] of the erthe.

† **C.** *adv.* Lower or further down. *Obs.*

c 1480 Henryson *Orph. & Eur.* 260 Nethirmare he went, as ye heir sall. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* VI. v. *Heading*, Tyl hellis fludis Enee socht nether mair. 1565 Golding *Cæsar* v. (1567) 116 Thone corner..is toward the East: and thother nethermore is towarde the South.

Ne·thermost, *a.* Also 4 -mast, 5 -mest, nethur-, nethern-, 6 neathermost. [f. as prec. + -most.] Lowest, undermost, furthest down.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 357 Þe neþermast es watur and erth. *Ibid.* 9248 Þat was þe nethermast step. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 3084 Hir corse [was] comly.., As nobly to þe nethur-most as nature cold shape. *c* 1468 in *Archaeol.* (1846) XXXI. 334 The nethernmost part of the said candelstikes. 1535 M. Coverdale *Ps.* lxxxvi. 13 Thou hast delyuered my soule from ye nethermost hell. 1578 Lyte *Dodoens* 340 The first and neathermost leaues are like the litle leaues of Plantayne. 1635 J. Hayward tr. *Biondi's Banish'd Virg.* 216 The fairest of them..were on the nether-most of the staires. 1669 Worlidge *Syst. Agric.* (1681) 196 You may take the most remote Box..and place it the nethermost. 1715 Leoni *Palladio's Archit.* (1742) II. 11 The middle of the upmost Wall ought to be perpendicular with the middle of the nethermost. 1814 Cary *Dante, Inf.* xxiv. 37 Toward the mouth Inclining of the nethermost abyss. 1866 J. H. Newman *Gerontius* i. 8 From the nethermost fire..Thy servant deliver.

Ne·therstock. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.* Also 6–7 neather-, 6 neither-. [f. Nether *a.* + Stock.] A stocking.

1565–6 *Roy. Proclam. Apparel* 12 Feb., Any maner of sylke neatherstockes of Hosen. 1592 Greene *Upst. Courtier* in *Harl. Misc.* (Malh.) II. 220 A plaine pair of clothbreeches..of white kersie.., the nether-stocke of the same. 1607–8 *Knaresb. Wills* (Surtees) II. 2 My best over hoose and my best netherstockes. 1671 H. M. tr. *Erasm. Colloq.* 436 Neither did they commonly wear breeches without netherstocks or slops.

1821 Scott *Kenilw.* xix, A dispute upon the preference due to the Spanish nether-stock over the black Gascoigne hose. 1863 Sala *Captain Dangerous* I. vi. 170 A plain black shag gown untrimmed, with camlet netherstocks.

transf. 1605 Shaks. *Lear* II. iv. 11 When a man [is] ouerlustie at legs, then he weares wodden nether-stocks.

So † **Nether-stocking.** *Obs. rare* $^{-1}$.

1591 Florio *2nd Frutes* 7 Foure payre of breeches, fiue of nether-stockins.

† **Nethertheless,** variant of Nevertheless.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 353/2 Nethyrtheles, *nichilominus*. *c* 1450 *Merlin* 43 Netherdeles, thei knewe wele ther cowde no man have seide thise wordes but it hadde a be Merlin.

† **Ne·therty.** *Obs. rare.* In 5 -te. [f. Nether *a.* + -ty.] Inferiority.

c 1449 Pecock *Repr.* IV. i. 416 In the clergie ben dyuerse statis and degrees of ouerte and netherte. *Ibid.* ii. 425 Poul..vsid in that ouerte upon hem, and not netherte as being vndir hem.

Ne·therward(s, *adv.* Now *rare.* Forms: 1 niþerweardes, nyþerwerd, -wyrd; 3 niðer-, neþer-, noþer-, 4–5 nethire-, 4– netherward(s. [f. Nether *adv.*[2] + -ward(s).] Downwards.

c 975 *Rushw. Gosp.* Matt. viii. 32 Ungerece..eode all siu suner..niþer-weardes in sae. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Gram.* (Z.) 238 *Deorsum versum*, nyðerwerd. *a* 1100 in Napier *O. E. Glosses* i. 3968 *In præceps*, nyþerwyrd. *c* 1220 *Bestiary* 561 Fro ðe noule niðerward ne is ȝe [= the mermaid] no man like. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 144 Þeos vle..heold hire eyen neþerward [*v. r.* noþerward]. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 5048 Moves 3ow to þe nethire-ward. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 7717 Fro the Nauell netherward he was an able horse. *c* 1630 Risdon *Surv. Devon* § 215 (1810) 224 Netherward to Great Lynd. 1656 Ridgley *Pract. Physick* 293 Chafe him from above nether-wards. 1894 Du Maurier *Trilby* i, Clad in the grey overcoat of a French infantry soldier, continued netherwards by a short striped petticoat.

† **Netheward,** *a. Obs.* [OE. *niðe-*, *nyðe-*, *neoþeweard*, etc.; cf. Nethemest.] Downward.

a 1000 *Phœnix* 299 Se hals [is] grene nioþeweard & ufeweard. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Hom.* II. 452 Fram his hnolle ufewerdan oð his ilas neoðewerde. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 165 On þe steire of fiftene stoples, fro neþewarde to uuewarde.

Nethir, obs. f. Neither. **Nethlesse,** var. of Netheless *Obs.* **Nethring:** see Nither *v.* **Nethtebure,** obs. f. Neighbour. **Nethyr,** obs. f. Neither. **Netifie, -fy,** obs. ff. Neatify. **Netinde,** unwitting: see Nete *v.* **Netle,** obs. f. Nettle. **Netling,** obs. f. Nettling.

† **Ne·tly,** *adv. Obs. rare* $^{-1}$. [f. Net *a.* + -ly[2].] Neatly, smartly.

1577–87 Holinshed *Chron.* III. 802/2 These first entred the field, in taking by and turning their horsses, netlie and freshlie.

Ne·tmaker. [f. Net *sb.*[1]] A maker of nets.

1380 in Rogers *Oxford City Docum.* (1891) 10 De Marrabilla Terre Netmaker xij *d.* 1411 *Close Roll* 12 *Hen. IV* (dorso), John Mannyng, netmaker. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 253/2 A Nette maker, *casiarius*. *c* 1515 *Cocke Lorell's B.* 11

Nette makers, and harlote takers. 1595-6 *Observ. Fishdaies* 1 Ropemakers, Net-makers, Saile-makers. 1654 Whitlock *Zootomia* 416 To be a Net-maker (in Chrysostomes sense) is better than to be a Throne-maker. 1771 Smeaton in *Phil. Trans.* LXI. 204 That particular kind called by net makers flaxen three threads laid. 1884 Knight *Dict. Mech.* Suppl. 633/2 *Netmaker's Knife.*

Ne·tsman. [f. Net *sb.*[1]] One who uses a net. 1867 F. Francis *Angling* i. (1880) 13 The netsman should never dash at the fish. 1887 D. C. Murray & Herman *Traveller Returns* iv. 52 The netsmen bore long nets of stout bark rope and thong.

‖ **Netsuke** (ne·tsukē). Also -ké. [Japanese.] A small piece of ivory, wood, or other material, carved or otherwise decorated, worn by the Japanese as a bob or button on the cord by which articles are suspended from the girdle.

1883 *Century Mag.* Sept. 743 Come in here a moment, please, and see my new netsukes. 1888 *Art Jrnl.* Dec. 374 The mark which distinguishes a netsuké from an okimono ..is the presence of two small holes, usually in the back, which admit of a cord being strung through them.

Nett(e, obs. forms of Neat *sb.*

Ne·ttable, *a.* [f. Net *v.*] Capable of being netted.

1820 *Blackw. Mag.* VII. 140 It was the annual custom.. to sweep the nettable parts of the Coquet to a large extent.

Ne·tted, *ppl. a.* [f. Net *sb.*[1] or *v.*[1]]

1. Covered with, or as with, a net.

1577 B. Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* iv. (1586) 169 b, The windowes..hauing a hole of sufficient widenesse ouer against them, well netted and tunnelled. 1833 Sir F. B. Head *Bubbles fr. Brunnen* 310 The graves were netted over with brambles. 1860 Emerson *Cond. Life, Wealth* Wks. (Bohn) II. 347 How did North America get netted with iron rails? 1895 *Atlantic Monthly* Mar. 425 The snow, barred and netted by shadows.

2. Made of net or network.

1710 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4672/4 Supposed to have robbed.. his Master of a Silver netted Purse. 1785 Miss Fielding *Ophelia* II. i, Like gold through a netted purse. 1812 Byron *Ch. Har.* II. xviii, The well-reeved guns, the netted canopy. 1866 (*title*) Abridgments of the Specifications relating to Lace and other Looped and Netted Fabrics. 1870 Rock *Text. Fabr.* v. (1876) 39 Rich textiles so figured in gold were denominated 'de fundato', or netted.

b. Arranged like, or forming a, network.

1805 Southey *Madoc in Azt.* xv, On the strong corselet and the netted mail. 1855 Tennyson *Brook* 176, I make the netted sunbeam dance Against my sandy shallows. 1884 Bower & Scott *De Bary's Phaner.* 229 At those points where the spiral or netted fibres separate.

Comb. 1825 *Greenhouse Comp.* II. 44 *Ciconium reticulatum*, netted-veined Ciconium. 1857 A. Gray *First Less. Bot.* (1866) 56 Netted-veined leaves belong to plants which have a pair of seed-leaves or cotyledons.

3. *Bot.* Having veins, fibres, etc., arranged like network; covered with a network of lines, etc.

1847 W. E. Steele *Field Bot.* 164 Seeds indefinite; testa loose, netted. 1849 Balfour *Man. Bot.* § 143 Reticulated or netted leaves, in which there is an angular net-work of vessels. 1882 *Garden* 11 Mar. 170/3 The deep crimson of the interior of the bells being finely netted and veined.

b. In names of plants, etc.: (see quots.).

1854 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 8) V. 181/1 *Anona reticulata* [yields] the netted Custard-apple. 1857 Miss Pratt *Flower. Pt.* V. 229 The plant is sometimes called Netted Crocus. 1882 *Garden* 4 Mar. 139/3 The Netted Iris (*I. reticulata*) is in full bloom.

4. Caught in a net.

1856 Mrs. Browning *Aur. Leigh* II. (1898) 81 Need you tremble and pant Like a netted lioness? 1867 Jean Ingelow *Story of Doom* VII. 19 As in the toils A netted bird.

Nettel, obs. form of Nettle.

Ne·tter. [f. Net *v.*[1] + -er [1].]

1. A netmaker. *rare* −[1].

1481-90 *Howard Househ. Bks.* (Roxb.) 192 My Lord rekened with his netter, and he had sent home to Stoke a dragge of viij. fadom.

2. One who uses a net. Also *fig.*

1591 Lyly *Wks.* (1902) I. 427 Here be the Netters, these be they that..will draw a whole pond for the market. 1838 J. E. Tyler *Mem. Hen. V*, II. 56 He was called the Netter from the expertness..with which he caught..his antagonists in argument. 1873 G. C. Davies *Mount. & Mere* xi. 86 A gang of netters sweeping the stream.

Ne·tting, *sb.*[1] *dial.* [Prob. f. Net *v.*[3], although this is not recorded till much later; but cf. also the synonymous MLG. *nette* (MDa. *nættæ*, MSw. *nätte, näcte, necte*; G. *netze*), f. *nat* wet.] Urine, *esp.* as used for washing with.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xliv. (*Lucy*) 275 Þane ves it tald þe presydent þat wischcrafte..vith nettyng [*printed* nect-; L. *lotium*] mocht be lousit sone. Þane gert he caste on hire..Of netting [*printed* nect-] a gret quantyte. *c* 1475 *Pict. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 794 *Hoc locium*, ley and nettyng. 1557 *Court Leet Rec. Manchester* (1884) I. 40 Any undecente or noysome thinge as..Nettinge or Fylthe. 1691 Ray *N. C. Words* (ed. 2) 52 *Netting*, Chamber-Lee, Urin. 1796 Pegge *Derbicisms* (E. D. S.) 48 'Old netting', old urine; so called from neat or net, as being us'd in washing. 1828–in dial. glossaries (Durham, Yks., Lanc., Linc., Leic.). 1886 *S. W. Linc. Gloss.* s.v., She killed her two swaarms of bees; she poured netting on the hives.

Ne·tting, *sb.*[2] [f. Net *sb.*[1] or *v.*[1] + -ing [1].]

1. *Naut.* A coarse network of small ropes used now or formerly for various purposes, as to prevent boarding, keep off splinters or falling spars, stow hammocks or sails in, etc.

1567 G. Fenner in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1589) 149 They had prepared their false nettings. 1582 N. Lichefield tr. *Castanheda's Conq. E. Ind.* I. xxviii. 71 Seruing in trimming the sayles, and others the nettings and foretop sayles. 1626 Capt. Smith *Accid. Yng. Seamen* 14 A grating, netting or false decke for your close fights. 1673 Dryden *Amboyna* III. i, Up with your Fights and your Nettings prepare. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* III. viii. 379 The mats, with which the galeon had stuffed her netting, took fire. 1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* I. 170 Quarter-deck netting is suspended over the officers heads, to prevent any thing falling thereon, in time of action. 1837 Marryat *Dog Fiend* x, The men.. came up with their hammocks.., which they put into the nettings. 1867 Latham *Black & White* 116 A steamer just arrived had..her nettings frozen into a solid wall.

b. *attrib.* as † *netting-deck, -sail.*

1626 Capt. Smith *Accid. Yng. Seamen* 17 A drift sayle, a crosiack, a netting sayle. 1627 — *Seaman's Gram.* vii. 32 A Netting saile is..a saile laid ouer the Netting, which is small ropes from the top of the fore castle to the Poope. 1745 P. Thomas *Jrnl. Anson's Voy.* 289 A Netting-Deck very well fitted over her Main-Deck, to hinder Boarding.

2. Nets or network used for various purposes.

1846 T. Baxter *Libr. Pract. Agric.* I. 141 It will be needful to cover the beds..with netting to keep off the birds. 1863 Trevelyan *Compet. Wallah* (1866) 27 In the netting overhead are plentiful stores of bottles of milk. 1883 Walsh *Irish Fisheries* 7 (Fish. Exhib. Publ.), Over 1200 miles of netting for the fleet;..the largest amount of netting in use in the world..at any one fishery.

Ne·tting, *vbl. sb.* [f. Net *v.*[1] + -ing [1].]

1. The process of making a net.

1872 Veats *Techn. Hist. Comm.* 279 Netting is a mode of entwining the thread so that each mesh is fastened with a knot. 1883 *Standard* 26 June 3/3 Its process consists in the looping of a thread, after the manner of netting, into circles.

b. *attrib.* as *netting-box, -pin, -weight*, etc.

1801 Mar. Edgeworth *Gd. Fr. Governess* (1831) 178 There was a pretty little netting-box upon the table. 1808 Han. More *Cœlebs* xxii. I. 324, I have known a lady.. search for her netting-pin, in the midst of Cato's soliloquy. 1813 Maa. Edgeworth *Harry & Lucy* I. 260 It..was intended to be used as a netting weight. 1854 Dickens *Hard T.* I. xi, Mrs. Sparsit, easily ambling along with her netting-needles. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1523/1 Netting-machine.

2. The action, or right, of fishing with a net or nets; an occasion of fishing with a net.

1875 F. T. Buckland *Log-Bk.* 158 Not a single one was seen or heard of during the whole of the netting. 1884 *Times* (weekly ed.) 26 Sept. 13/3 Till about twenty years ago the netting was in the hands of the Rev. Mr. Eyre.

Nettle (ne·t'l), *sb.*[1] Forms: 1 netele, (netel), 1–5 netle, 5 netel(le, netyl(le; 4–5 nettille, 4–6 -yll, 5 -yle, 5–6 -ylle, 6 -yl, -ill, -ell, 5–6 (8) nettel, 3– nettle. [Common Teut.: OE. *nctele, nelle* (and *netel*) fem. = Fris. *nettel*, MDu. *net(e)le, netel* (Du. *netel*), MLG. *net(t)ele*, OHG. *neʒ(ʒ)ila, -ela* (MHG. *neʒʒele, -el*, G. *nessel*), MDa. *næt(h)-, nædlæ, nedle* (Da. *nelde, nælde*), MSw. *netla, nätla* (Sw. dial. *nättla*), and *netsla, nesla* (Sw. *nässla, nässel-*), Norw. *netla, nesla*, etc., Icel. *netla*:—OTeut. **natilōn-*, a derivative (see -le 1) from a stem **nat-* which appears in the synonymous OHG. *nazza*, and in various Scand. forms, as Sw. dial. *nata, näta*, Norw. dial. *nata, neta, not(a)*, etc., the relationship of which to each other is obscure.]

1. A plant of the genus *Urtica*, of which the commoner species (*U. dioica*, the Common or Great Nettle, and *U. urens*, the Small Nettle) grow profusely on waste ground, waysides, etc., and are noted for the stinging property of the leaf-hairs.

The Greek, Italian, or Roman Nettle is *U. pilulifera*. With distinctive epithets the name of *nettle* is also given to a number of plants belonging to other genera, as *blind, dea-, dead, deaf, red, white nettle*; *bee-, hedge-, hemp-, wood-nettle*, which are treated under the first element or as main words.

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* 2168 in *O. E. Texts* 107 *Urticeta*, netlan. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 310 Genim þysse wyrte seaw, þe man urticam, & oðrum naman netele nemneð. *Ibid.* II. 68 Smale netelan. *Ibid.* 86 Þa greatan netlan. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 593 Among þe wede, among the netle, Þu syttest & singst. 1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 7514 With-oute hys celle þornes wore And netles grewe, þat byten sore. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 461 As þe netle groweþ somtyme next þe rose. *c* 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) xiv. 65 Humbloks and nettles and swilk oþer wedes. 1481 Caxton *Reynard* 86, I haue nothyng but thystles and nettles. 1563 *Mirr. Mag., Jane Shore* iii, In groping flowers wyth Nettels stong we are. 1578 Lyte *Dodoens* 129 The first kind is now called..in English Greek or Romayne Nettel. 1631 E. Jordan *Nat. Bathes* xi. (1669) 84 The heat of the Sun is no more apt to breed a Nettle than a Dock. 1693 Evelyn *De la Quint. Compl. Gard.* I. 18 Thistles, Nettles, and a Thousand other Plants of no Use to us. *a* 1731 Gay *Poems* (1745) I. 167 Elder's early bud With nettle's tender shoots, to cleanse the blood. 1810 Crabbe *Borough* xviii. 296 At the wall's base the fiery nettle springs. 1849 Balfour *Man. Bot.* § 1022 The young shoots of the common nettle are sometimes used like spinach or greens. 1890 *Knowledge* 1 Dec. 274/2 The common nettle occurs in two forms; the male plant which produces the pollen is quite distinct from that which bears the seeds.

transf. and *fig.* 1596 Shaks. 1 *Hen. IV*, II. iii. 10 Out of this Nettle, Danger; we plucke this Flower, Safety. 1836 *Gentl. Mag.* V. 221 When he did apply the rod, it was generally formed of nettles. 1841–4 Emerson *Ess., Friendship* Wks. (Bohn) I. 88 Better be a nettle in the side of your friend than his echo. 1870 Lowell *Study Wind.* 39 Those driving nettles of frost that sting the cheeks.

b. The Sea-nettle. (Cf. Red nettle 2.) *rare* −[1].

1601 Holland *Pliny* II. 444 The sea fish called a Nettle.

c. = Nettle-tree 2.

1889 J. H. Maiden *Usef. Native Plants* 192 *Laportea gigas*..'Giant Nettle'. The poisonous fluid secreted from the foliage is very powerful.

2. In phrases, etc.: a. *Nettle in, dock out*, see Dock *sb.*[1] 3. b. (See quot. *a* 1700.) c. *On nettles*, in fidgets, uneasy, excited.

1592 Greene *Upst. Courtier* B 3, All these women that you heare brawling..and skolding thus, haue seuerally pist on this bush of nettles. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew* s. v. *Nettled, He has pist upon a Nettle*, he is very uneasy or much out of Humor. 1828 *Craven Gloss.* s.v., 'Thou's p—d of a nettle this morning', said of a waspish, ill-tempered person. 1892 Stevenson *Across Plains* i. 56 Some of them were on nettles till they learned your name was Dickson.

3. *ellipt.* A nettle-tap moth (see 4 b). *rare* −[1].

1819 Samouelle *Etymol. Compend.* 385 *Tortrix urticana.* The barred Nettle.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.* a. Simple attrib., etc., as *nettle-bed, -blossom, -bush, -juice, -leaf, -plant, -root, -seed, -stalk, -stem, -sting, -top*; in sense 'made with nettles', as *nettle-beer, -broth, -kale, -porridge*, †*-pottage, -tea*; *nettle-leaved, -like, -rough, -stung* adjs.; † *nettle-sting* vb. (hence *-stinging*).

1894 R. Kerr *Pioneering in Morocco* 205 Such commotion about a *nettlebed. 1864 *Chambers's Encycl.* VI. 726/1 The stalks and leaves of nettles are employed..for the manufacture of a light kind of beer, called *Nettle beer. 1868 Ruskin *Pol. Econ. Art* Add. 194 The beautiful circlet of the white *nettle blossom. 1825 Jamieson, **Nettle-broth*, broth made of nettles, as a substitute for greens. 14.. *Nom.* in Wr.-Wülcker 711 *Hoc urticetum*, a *netylbushe. 1747 Wesley *Prim. Physick* (1762) 35 Take an ounce of *Nettle juice. 1846 Lindley *Veget. Kingd.* 261 The causticity of Nettle juice is owing to the presence of bicarbonate of ammonia. 1859 Brockie in J. Watson *Bards of Border* 195 The laich herd's hoose, Where I suppit *nettle kail. 1884 *Chamb. Jrnl.* 8 Mar. 147/1 The common stinging nettle..in Scotland is occasionally used for making a kind of soup termed nettle kail. 1677 Horneck *Gt. Law Consid.* ii. (1704) 18 Who would suspect such things as needles, or sharp transparent pikes in a *nettleleaf? 1789 J. Pilkington *View Derbysh.* I. 351 *Nettle-leaved Bellflower, Great Throatwort, or Canterbury Bells. 1828 Sir J. E. Smith *Eng. Flow.* II. 11 Nettle-leaved Goosefoot. 1777 Pennant *Brit. Zool.* IV. 49 Many species on being handled affect with a *nettle-like burning. 1764 *Museum Rust.* II. 159 The fibres of the *nettle plant. 1660–1 Pepys *Diary* 25 Feb., There we did eat some *nettle porridge. 1776 T. Percival *Ess.* (1776) III. 258 The children breakfasted of *nettle-pottage, that is, oatmeal gruel with fresh nettles boiled in it. 1747 Wesley *Prim. Physick* (1762) 36 Chew *Nettle root. 1850 Mas. Browning *Poems* I. 337 The thought I called a flower, grew *nettle-rough. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 355/1 *Nettyl-seede, *gnydisperma*. 1601 Holland *Pliny* II. 121 As touching Nettle seed, Nicander affirms, That it is a very counterpoison against Hemlock. 1643 J. Steer tr. *Exp. Chyrurg.* iii. 7 A sharpe and pricking pain, like as though the skin were rubbed with Nettle-seed. 1684 Ray *Phil. Lett.* (1718) 175, I wish I had Assurance.. that those Sorts of Linen..are made of *Nettle-Stalks. 1766 *Museum Rust.* VI. 429 Making cloth of Hop Binds and Nettle Stalks. 1891 T. Hardy *Tess* liv, The pale and blasted *nettle-stems of the preceding year. 1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) II. 337 Florid, itching, *nettle-sting wheals. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 30 Sept. 4/1 The dock-leaf..is useful as a remedy for nettle-sting. 1598 E. Guilpin *Skial.* (1878) 40, I applaud my selfe For *nettle-stinging thus this fayery elfe. 1666 W. Boghurst *Loimogr.* (1894) 93 Little red superficiall pimples in clusters like nettle stinging. 1891 C. James *Rom. Rigmarole* 102 The leaf of the common dock I have found efficacious, if applied ..to *nettle-stung legs. 1758 Wesley *Wks.* (1872) XII. 203 *Nettle-tea..would do you more good than any other. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVI. 62/2 'Nettle-tea' is a popular remedy for many diseases. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVIII. 693/2 *Nettle-tops in the spring are often boiled and eaten by the common people. 1836–48 B. D. Walsh *Aristoph., Knights* I. iii, Like those who 're fond of nettle-tops.

b. Special combs.: **nettle battery**, one of the stinging organs of a hydrozoon; **nettle-bird** = *nettle-creeper*; **nettle-blight**, *Æcidium urticæ*, a parasitic plant common on nettles (Ogilvie *Suppl.* 1855); **nettle-bulb** (see quot.); **nettle butterfly**, *Vanessa urticæ*, whose larvæ feed on nettles; **nettle cell**, a stinging cell; † **nettle cheese** (see quots.); **nettle-creeper**, a name applied to the Whitethroat (*Sylvia cinerea*), and the Golden Warbler (*Sylvia hortensis*) from their nesting in hedge-bottoms among nettles; **nettle-docken**, the common dock, which is used to relieve nettle-stings; **nettle-earnest** *Sc.*, downright earnest; **nettle-fever**, urticaria (*Cent. Dict.* 1890); **nettle-fish**, a stinging jelly-fish (*ibid.*); **nettle-geranium**, *Coleus fruticosus*; **nettle-grub**, a stinging caterpillar injurious to the tea-plant (*Stand. Dict.* 1895); **nettle-hemp** = *hemp-nettle* s.v. Hemp *sb.* 5; **nettle-lichen**, a skin disease (see Lichen *sb.* 3); **nettle-monger**, (*a*) the Reed Sparrow or Reed Bunting; (*b*) the Whitethroat; (*c*) the Blackcap; **nettle-spring** *dial.*, **nettle-rash**; **nettle-tap** (**moth**), a moth which frequents nettle-beds; **nettle-thread**, one of the stinging hairs of acalephs (*Cent. Dict.* 1890); **nettle-tom** *dial.*, the Whitethroat; **nettle-whip** (see quot.); **nettle-wort**, (*a*) a spurgewort of the genus *Acalypha*; (*b*) a plant of the nettle family; **nettle-yarn**, the prepared fibre of nettles.

1888 Rolleston & Jackson *Anim. Life* 770 Cnidoblasts,

from which new '*nettle batteries' are derived in growth. 1854 Miss Baker *Northampton Gloss.* Add. II. 415 **Nettle-bird*, the white-throat. 1888 Rolleston & Jackson *Anim. Life* 783 Some Rhizostome genera also possess '*nettle-bulbs', stalked processes with or without a terminal opening. 1802 Bingley *Anim. Biog.* (1813) III. 211 The *Nettle tortoise-shell butterfly. 1826 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* xxix. III. 101 The eggs of..the nettle butterfly..when laid in summer are hatched in a few days. 1902 R. W. Chambers *Maids of Paradise* xiii. 222 The scarlet-banded nettle-butterflies flitted and hovered. 1870 Nicholson *Zool.* 109 The '*nettle cells' or 'cnidæ' of the *Cœlenterata.* 1896 tr. *Boas' Text-bk. Zool.* 107 Numerous 'batteries' of nettle cells. 1615 Markham *Eng. Housew.* II. iv. 118 A very dainty *nettle Cheese, which is the finest summer Cheese which can be eaten...You shall lay [the curd] vpon fresh nettles and couer it all ouer with the same. 1694 *Ladies' Dict.* 155/1 Cheese, of which there are two kinds, Morning-Milk-Cheese, Nettle Cheese. 1817 T. Forster *Nat. Hist. Swallows* (ed. 6) 79 *Sylvia atricapilla*, Black-cap, Haychat, *Nettlecreeper, or Nettlemonger. 1845 *Encycl. Metrop.* XXV. 364/2 The White Throat..is seen ..among weeds and nettles, whence one of its provincial names is the Nettle Creeper. 1891 Miss Dowie *Girl in Karp.* 234 The common *nettle-docken, the stuff that no creature will eat. 1818 Hogg *Brownie of Bodsbeck* xiii, Ane canna speak a word but it is taen in *nettle-earnest. 1860 Piesse *Lab. Chem. Wonders* 67 Two very luxuriant *nettle-geraniums. 1597–1744 [*Nettle-hemp: see Hemp *sb.* 5]. 1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) IV. 432 The Urticose or *Nettle Lichen is, perhaps, the most distressing form of all the varieties. 1712 Mortimer *Northampt.* 428 The Reed Sparrow..is found upon Willows and Bushes by our Brook-sides, as also upon Bunches of Nettles; and is therefore called the *Nettlemonger by some. 1831 Rennie *Montagu's Ornith. Dict.* 42 The provincial names of Mock-nightingale, Nettle-creeper, Nettle-monger. 1819 Samouelle *Entomol. Compend.* 364 *Tortrix lutosa.* The early *Nettle-tap. *Ibid.* 442 *Tortrix Oxyacanthæ.* The Autumn Nettle-tap. 1845 *Encycl. Metrop.* XXIV. 597/1 Flitting with a very peculiar flight over the tops of nettles, and thence termed Nettle-taps. 1830 in W. Cobbett *Rur. Rides* (1885) II. 320 The sweet and soft voice of the white-throat or *nettle-tom. 1888 Rolleston & Jackson *Anim. Life* 783 '*Nettle-whips'..are elongated funnel-shaped openings,..beset with digitelli. 1834 *Miller's Dict. Gard.* 46 *Acalypha*..,*Nettle Wort. 1846 Lindley *Veget. Kingd.* 261 Nettleworts will then be easily known from Morads and Hempworts, which have a hooked embryo. 1885 J. S. Stallybrass tr. *Hehn's Wand. Plants & Anim.* 469 The Germans also made nets of *nettle-yarn.

Ne·ttle, *sb.*2 [f. Nettle *v.*] A state of uneasiness or impatience.

1723 Dk. Wharton *True Briton* No. 60 II. 516 Trebellius, you may be sure somewhat upon the Nettle, addresses himself to the Favourite. 1792 M. Cutler in *Life*, etc. (1888) I. 487 Congress..are extremely tedious in their debates.. and, at the same time, all in a nettle to rise and adjourn.

Ne·ttle, *sb.*3, variant of *knettle*, Knittle.

1841 Dana *Seaman's Man.* 43 Take two parts of different yarns and twist them up taut into nettles. ..Lay half the nettles down [etc.]. 1875 Bedford *Sailor's Pocket Bk.* x. (ed. 2) 360 Nettle stuff.

Nettle (ne·t'l), *v.* Forms: 5 nettil, nettyl(le, 5–7 netle, 6 nettel(l, nettyll, 6– nettle. [f. Nettle *sb.*1 Cf. MDu. *netelen* (Du. *nettelen*), G. *nesseln.*]

1. *trans.* To beat or sting (a person or animal) with nettles.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 355/1 Netlyn, *urtico.* 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 253/2 To Nettylle, *vrticare.* 1530 Palsgr. 644/1, I nettyll, *je ourtie.* If a horse he well nettelled under the tayle he wyll kycke jolyly. 1596 Shaks. 1 *Hen. IV*, I. iii. 240, I am whipt & scourg'd with rods, Netled, and stung with Pismires. 1616 Surfl. & Markh. *Country Farme* I. xv. 71 To nettle him with the strongest and most stinging Nettles that you can get. 1670 Ray in *Phil. Trans.* V. 2064 Ants, if they get into peoples clothes,..will cause a smart and tingling, as if they were netled. 1882 R. Holland in *N. & Q.* 6th Ser. VI. 54 It is customary in Cheshire to punish those who do not wear a sprig of oak by nettling them.

b. *refl.* To get (oneself, one's hands, etc.) stung by nettles.

1719 D'Urfey *Pills* II. 284 Like Boy that had nettl'd his Breech. 1869 W. Cory *Lett. & Jrnls.* (1897) 267, I worked hard at lighting a fire, nettling my hands in gathering fuel. 1902 Barnes-Grundy *Thames Camp* 111 I nettled myself badly.

c. (Also *absol.*) To sting as a nettle does.

1858 Lewes *Sea-side Stud.* 149 If the capsules are the nettling organs, why do they not nettle in those parts where they are most abundant? 1879 S. Lanier *Poems* (1884) 92 A flower That clung with pain and stung with power, Yea, nettled me, body and mind.

2. To irritate, vex, provoke, pique.

1562 J. Heywood *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 82 She nettled him. 1568 Grafton *Chron.* II. 683 The Erle of Warwicke ..toke many riche ships of the Duke of Burgoyns countries, (which sore netteled the Duke). 1601 B. Jonson *Poetaster* I. ii, I know this nettles you now, but answere me. 1668 Dryden *Even. Love* I. ii, She has nettled me; would I could be revenged on her! 1722 De Foe *Col. Jack* (1840) 211 This last discourse nettled me. 1761 Mrs. F. Sheridan *Sidney Bidulph* II. 319 This foolish woman's behaviour nettled me extremely. 1814 I. D'Israeli *Quarrels Auth.* (1867) 308 A ridiculous story..nettled Pope more than the keener remonstrances. 1859 Masson *Milton* I. 618 Cottington would now and then nettle his Grace by a jibe.

absol. 1726 Swift *To Lady* Wks. 1751 XIV. 229 But with Raillery to nettle, Sets your Thoughts upon their Mettle.

b. In *pa. pple.* Irritated, vexed, provoked, annoyed. Const. *at, by, with*, etc.

a 1400–50 *Alexander* 737 Now is ser Nicollas anoyed & nettild with ire, As wrath as a waspe. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xxx. 169 She that is most meke..can rase vp a reke if she be well nettyld. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. IV* 19 He beyng netteled with these uncurteous .. prickes & thornes. 1579 Fenton *Guicciard.* VIII. (1599) 310 Cæsar being netled by so many infamies..received. 1618 Bolton *Florus* (1636) 267 Cæsar, throughly nettled at the newes, resolved [etc.]. 1672 Marvell *Corr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 410 Sir Philip..knew not so much and is well netled. 1724 De Foe *Mem. Cavalier* (1840) 171 Essex, nettled to be both beaten in fight, and outdone in conduct, decamps. 1782 Miss Burney *Cecilia* II. iv, The haughty Baronet, extremely nettled, forced his way on. 1838 Dickens *Nich. Nick.* xiii, Not a little nettled to observe that they were enjoying the scene from a snug corner. 1853 Kingsley *Hypatia* xxvii, A little nettled by her contemptuous tone.

c. *intr.* To become irritated or annoyed. *rare.* Also *nettle up* (dial.).

1810 *Splendid Follies* II. 31 Milford..began to nettle at the fidgets of his visitor. 1875 Waugh *Owd Cronies* ii, Sally blushed and nettled up.

3. To prick or stir up; to incite, rouse.

a 1592 Greene *George a Greene* Wks. (Rtldg.) 257/2 There are few fellows in our parish so nettled with love as I have been of late. 1650 R. Stapylton *Strada's Low C. Wars* IX. 46 His Souldiers, that were..nettled with the example and danger of their General. 1841 Catlin *N. Amer. Ind.* (1844) II. lii. 150 He rode and nettled his prancing steed in front of my door.

4. To make sharp, to intensify. *rare* −1.

1821 Clare *Vill. Minstr.* II. 4 Delays so lingering dampt her joys, And expectation nettled woe.

Ne·ttle-cloth. [f. Nettle *sb.*1 Cf. Du. *neteldoek* (Da. *netteldug*, Sw. *nätteldukˊ*), G. *nesseltuch.*] a. Cloth made of nettle-fibres. b. Cotton cloth, calico. (See also quot. 1858.)

1539 *Will of E. Carleton* (Somerset Ho.), My best rayle of Nettyll cloth. 1598 Florio, *Ortichino*, a kinde of cloth we call calico or nettle cloth, or the rootes to make it. 1599 Hakluyt *Voy.* II. I. 230 Cloth of herbes, which is a kinde of silke which groweth amongst the woods without any labour of man. *marg.* This cloth we call Nettle cloth. 1626 Bacon *Sylva* § 614 Nettles, (whereof they make Nettle-Cloth).

1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade, Nettle-cloth*, a new German material, consisting of a very thick tissued cotton, which is japanned and prepared as a substitute for leather, particularly for the peaks of caps, waistbelts, &c. 1884 *Chamb. Jrnl.* 8 Mar. 147/1 At Dresden, Herr F. C. Seidel has recently established a manufactory for nettle-cloth.

Nettled (ne·t'ld), *ppl. a.* [f. Nettle *sb.*1 or *v.*]

1. Irritated, angry. (Cf. the vb. 2 b.)

1582a Stanyhurst *Poems* (Arb.) 138 They be fresh forging toe the netled Pallas an armoure. 1585 Fetherstone tr. *Calvin on Acts* xxiii. 521 Paul meant..with this excuse to mollifie their nettled minds. 1888 *Sat. Rev.* 20 Oct. 466/2 Her own rather nettled defence..of the hideous rhymes which she affected.

2. Stung by nettles. (Cf. the vb. 1.)

1671 H. Crouch *Welch Trav.* 369 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* IV. 343 He sate him down Upon a bed of nettles there..His nettled flesh did smart.

3. Full of nettles. Also in *comb.*, as *well-nettled.*

1830 *Blackw. Mag.* XXVIII. 631 Buried in some nettled nook of the kirkyard. 1834 *Tait's Mag.* I. 732/2 He lies in a well-nettled corner of St. George's burying-ground.

†**Ne·ttlefy,** *v.* = Nettle *v.* 1 (*nonce-word*).

1602 Dekker *Satirom.* L 4 You shall bee a Poet, though not Lawrefyed, yet Nettlefyed.

Ne·ttler. [f. Nettle *v.* + -er 1.] One who nettles, stings, or irritates.

1611 Cotgr., *Ortieur*, a nettler. 1641 Milton *Animadv.* Wks. 1851 III. 191 These are the nettlers, these are the blabbing Bookes that tell, though not halfe your fellows feats.

Nettle-rash. [f. Nettle *sb.*1 + Rash *sb.*3] An exanthematous eruption on the skin, appearing in patches like those produced by the sting of a nettle; essera, urticaria.

1740 C'tess Hartford in *Corr. w. C'tess Pomfret* (1805) II. 157, I then..found I had got what the doctor at Windsor calls a nettle-rash. 1799 Underwood *Diseases Children* I. 93 The Essera, or Nettle-rash, is attended perhaps, with the slightest of all fevers. 1818–20 E. Thompson tr. *Cullen's Nosol. Method.* (ed. 3) 326 Nettle Rash is not contagious. 1867 Princess Alice *Mem.* (1884) 172 Laid up with the most awful nettle-rash all over face and body. 1884 M. Mackenzie *Dis. Throat & Nose* II. 309 In some patients hay fever is accompanied by nettle rash.

attrib. 1803 *Med. Jrnl.* X. 481 Observations on the Nettle-Rash Fever.

Nettlesome (ne·t'lsŏm), *a.* [f. Nettle *sb.*1 or *v.* + -some.] Easily nettled, irritable.

1766 *Life of Quin* iv. (repr.) 24 He was a native of Wales, and was not the least nettlesome of his countrymen. 1828 *Blackw. Mag.* XXIV. 22 He..gets, if not mettlesome,.. very nettlesome indeed. 1888 *Argosy* Oct. 307 There is something highly attractive to that nettlesome insect [a wasp] in the folds of a surplice.

Ne·ttle-tree.

1. A tree of the genus *Celtis*, belonging to the natural order *Ulmaceæ*, esp. *C. australis*, the European, and *C. occidentalis*, the N. American species.

1548 Turner *Names Herbs* (E. D. S.) 24 It hath a leafe lyke a Nettel, therfore it may be called in englishe Nettel tree or Lote tree. 1611 Cotgr., *Algisié*, the Lote, or Nettle tree. 1693 *Phil. Trans.* XVIII. 620 An elegant sort of Christophoriana,..called Nettle-Tree by those of Barbados. 1741 J. Martyn *Virg. Georg.* II. 84 *note*, The nettle tree, the fruit of which is far from that delicacy which is ascribed to the Lotus of the ancients. 1817 Bradbury *Trav. Amer.* 16 The cotton wood, elm, mulberry, and nettle trees suffered the most. 1832 *Planting* 106 in *Lib. Usef. Kn., Husb.* III, The wood of the European nettle-tree is considered to be one of the hardest. 1849 Balfour *Man. Bot.* § 1022 *Celtis*, the Nettle-tree, or Sugar-berry, has a sweet drupaceous fruit. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 245/2 The North American Nettle-tree..differs from the European species in having longer leaves.

2. An Australian tree of the genus *Laportea*, esp. the Giant Nettle (*L. gigas*) and Small-leaved Nettle (*L. photiniphylla*).

1849 J. P. Townsend *Rambles in N. S. Wales* 34 In the scrubs is found a tree, commonly called 'the nettle tree' (*Urtica gigas*). 1852 Mundy *Antipodes* (1857) 198 The *Urtica gigas* or stinging nettle tree...It may be forty feet high, and the stem nine or ten feet round.

Nettling (ne·tlĭŋ), *vbl. sb.*1 [f. Nettle *v.* + -ing 1.] The application of nettles to the skin.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 355/1 Netlynge, *urticacio.* 1611 Cotgr., *Empoule*, a little wheale, .. such as comes after netling. 1664 Power *Exp. Philos.* I. 51 You may .. see the Causes, as well as you have formerly felt the Effects, of their Netling. 1884 *Folk-Lore Jrnl.* II. 382 This nettling business is only performed up to midday.

Ne·ttling, *vbl. sb.*2 [f. Nettle *sb.*3] a. The process of joining two ropes by spinning or twisting their loosened ends together. b. The action or practice of tying yarns in pairs to keep them from entangling. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1523/2.

Ne·ttling, *ppl. a.* [f. Nettle *v.* + -ing 2.]

1. Irritating, provoking.

1652 Kirkman *Clerio & Lozia* 100 Stinging words and netling speeches. 1702 C. Mather *Magn. Chr.* VII. iii. (1852) 514 This disposition in Mr. Cotton was very nettling to the sectaries. *c* 1769 *Junius Lett.* ix. (L), This latter was a nettling occurrence.

2. Stinging.

1858 Lewes *Sea-side Stud.* 149 If the capsules are the nettling organs. 1890 *Cent. Dict., Lasso cell*, a nettling cell.

Nettly (ne·tli), *a.* [f. Nettle *sb.*1 + -y 1. Cf. Du. *netelig.*]

1. Overgrown with nettles.

c 1825 Beddoes *Poems* (1851) 177 The common wild .. Dimpled twice with nettly graves. 1870 Miss Broughton *Red as Rose* 284 These drenched, nettly charnels.

2. Irritable.

1825 Jamieson *Suppl.* 1854 S. Thomson *Wild Fl.* 260 Even the most nettly of the human species seem to have some friend or other. 1888 G. M. Fenn *Man with Shadow* II. xxii. 263 I'm not cross, old fellow—only nettly.

†**Ne·tty,** *a.*1 *Obs. rare* −1. [f. Net *a.* + -y 1.] Neat, natty.

1573 Tusser *Husb.* (1878) 159 How prettie, how fine and how nettie, Good huswife should iettie.

Netty (ne·ti), *a.*2 Now *rare.* [f. Net *sb.*1 + -y 1.] Net-like; netted, made of net.

a 1628 F. Grevil *Cælica* lii, Vet Venus choose with Mars the netty bed. 1658 Sir T. Browne *Gard. Cyrus* iii. 55 In the netty fibres of the veines and vessels of life. 1891 *Daily News* 9 Feb. 6/3 An ascending salmon..is caught in a netty cul-de-sac.

Ne·twork. [f. Net *sb.*1 + Work *sb.* Cf. Du. *netwerk*, G. *netzwerk*, Da. *netværk*, Sw. *nätverk.*]

1. Work in which threads, wires, or similar materials, are arranged in the fashion of a net; *esp.* a light fabric made of netted threads.

1560 Bible (Genev.) *Exod.* xxvii. 4 Thou shalt make vnto it a grate like networke of brasse. 1575 in J. W. Clay *Clifford Fam.* (1906) 35, I do give to my said aunte one suyte of networke. 1695 Wood *Will* in *Life* (O. H. S.) III. 503 All the network, that I am now possess'd of, and which was formerly left me by my mother. 1712 Addison *Spect.* No. 275 ¶ 5 Ribbons, Lace and Embroidery, wrought together in a most curious Piece of Network. 1781 E. Darwin *Bot. Gard., Econ. Veget.* III. 556 So shoot the Spider-broods at breezy dawn, Their glittering net-work o'er the autumnal lawn. 1849 James *Woodman* ix, A light coif of network confined..the rich glossy curling hair. 1881 *Truth* 19 May 686/2 The train was of cerise satin and gold network.

transf. 1816 Shelley *Alastor* 446 The woven leaves Make net-work of the dark blue light of day. 1837 Whewell *Hist. Induct. Sci.* (1857) I. 135 A sort of band of net-work running round the middle of the sky.

2. (With *a* and *pl.*) A piece of work having the form or construction of a net; a collection or arrangement (of some thing or things) resembling a net.

1590 Spenser *Muiopot.* 368 With this so curious networke [a spider's web] to compare. 1611 Bible *Isa.* xix. 9 They that weane net-works shall be confounded. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* III. viii. 380 The galeon .. was .. provided against boarding..by a strong net-work of two inch rope. 1814 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 70/1 The fastening which secures the net-work and the valve at the top of the Balloon. 1849 Willmott *Jrnl. Summer-time* 19 July, A paper network is where a fire ought to be. 1881 *Truth* 19 May 686/2 The bodice is covered with a network of pearls.

b. *transf.* Of structures in animals or plants.

1658 Sir T. Browne *Gard. Cyrus* iii. 55 This Reticulate or Net-work was also considerable in the inward parts of man. *a* 1729 Blackmore (J.), This curious and wonderful net-work of veins. 1783 Justamond tr. *Raynal's Hist. Ind.* V. 188 A mucous substance, which forms a kind of network between the epidermis and the skin. 1830 R. Knox *Béclard's Anat.* 214 Net-works which form in a great measure the serous..membranes. 1884 Bower & Scott *De Bary's Phæner.* 250 After entering the skin they pass over into a network of bundles.

c. A complex collection or system *of* rivers, canals, railways, or the like.

1839 Thirlwall *Greece* xlvii. VI. 110 The island, or net-work of islands, formed by the Danube. 1857 Livingstone *Trav.* x. 199 The flat prairies between the net-work of waters. 1871 Freeman *Hist. Ess.* Ser. I. viii. 233 The Northmen..had surrounded their whole camp with a net-work of trenches.

d. *fig.* An interconnected chain or system of immaterial things.

1816 Coleridge *Lay Serm.* (Bohn) 373 The arterial or nerve-like net-work of property. 1856 Emerson *Eng. Traits, Ability* Wks. (Bohn) II. 43 Their law is a network of fictions. 1876 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* V. xxiv. 381 A network of feudal tenures is thus spread over the whole land.

3. Used as a name for plants (see quots.).

1841 *Penny Cycl.* XXI. 156/2 The *Dictyoleæ*, or sea-net-works,..are characterised by the beautifully reticulated texture of the integument. 1897 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* Dec. 617 One [water-weed] known locally as network or silkwort, on account of its thread-like stems.

4. *attrib.* or as *adj.* Made of network; arranged in the fashion of network.

1601 Holland *Pliny* XIX. i. II. 3 The net-worke Habergeon or Curet of Amasis. 1658 Sir T. Browne (*title*) The Garden of Cyrus, or the Quincunciall, Lozenge, or Net-work Plantations of the Ancients. 1747 Johnson (*title*) To Miss..on her giving the Authour a Gold and Silk Net-work Purse, of her own weaving. 1796 Withering *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) I. 390 Seeds entangled in..network membranes. 1898 *Daily News* 19 Oct. 5/7 One of the network racks of a first-class compartment.

† b. *fig.* Complicated, involved. *Obs. rare*$^{-1}$.

1675 Baxter *Cath. Theol.* II. i. 255 You will have more solid..truth..than..such Writers do teach you in their learned Net-work treatises.

Netyl, obs. forms of Nettle *sb.*[1]

Neu, obs. f. New. **Neuck**, dial. f. Nook. **Neue**, var. Neve; obs. f. New *a.*, Nieve *sb.* **Neueling**: see Neveling. **Neuen**, var. Neven *v.* **Neuent**, obs. var. Ninth. **Neuer(e**, obs. ff. Never. **Neueu(e, -ew(e**, obs. ff. Nephew.

† **Neuf**[1], *Her. Obs. rare.* [a. OF. *neuf*, var. of *neu*, *nou* (later *noud*, mod. *nœud*) :—L. *nod-um*, *nodus* knot.] A sword-knot.

1562 Leigh *Armorie* 160 b, He beareth Guenles iii arming Swordes argent, hiltes and pomills Or, the neufes Sable. 1586 Ferne *Blaz. Gentrie* 222 Two swordes trauersed barrewayes, Argent: hilts, pomels and neufes, Or. 1688 Holme *Armoury* III. xviii. (Roxb.) 125/2 Parts and appurtenances belonging to a sword and belt...The Neufes.

† **Neuf**[2], erron. form of *neaf*, Nieve, fist.

1601 B. Jonson *Poetaster* III. iv, Reach mee thy neufe. Do'st heare? 1625 Rowley, etc. *Witch Edmonton* III. i, Oh, sweet ningle, thy neufe once again.

† **Neuft**, obs. variant of Newt.

Cf. *ewftes* in Spenser *F. Q.* V. x. 23.

1601 B. Jonson *Poetaster* IV. iii, Sting him my little neufts: I'le give you instructions. 1614 — *Barth. Fair* II. iii, What? thou'lt poyson mee with a neuft in a bottle of Ale, will't thou?

Neuie, obs. var. Nephew. **Neuin**, var. of Neven *v.* **Neuir**, obs. f. Never. **Neuis**, obs. pl. of Nieve, fist. **Neuk**, Sc. f. Nook.

† **Ne ultra**, obs. variant of Ne plus ultra.

1646 G. Daniel *Poems* (Grosart) I. 102 As though another Hercules had plac'd Witt's great *Ne vltra*, never to be pass'd. 1676 Glanvill *Ess. Philos. & Relig.* III. 1 It is presumed that their Books are the *Ne Ultra's* of Learning.

Neulyngis, obs. form of Newlings *adv.*

‖ **Neuma** (niū·mă). *Mus.* Pl. **neu·mata, neu·mæ.** [med.L.] = Neume.

1776 Hawkins *Hist. Music* I. 345 Neuma .. signifies an aggregation of as many sounds as may be uttered in one single respiration. 1782 Burney *Hist. Music* II. 172 The Neuma or recapitulation of a chant at the end of an anthem. 1848 Müller tr. *Kiesewetter's Hist. Mus.* 281 In choral chants by Neuma is understood a melodious phrase at the end of a verse. *Ibid.* 380 The Neumata, in which the oldest Chant-books of the Latin Church now extant are noted, consist of points, little hooks, strokes, and flourishes, in different shapes and directions. 1880 *Grove's Dict. Mus.* II. 468/1 The Neumæ did..shew at a glance the general conformation of the Melody they were supposed to illustrate. 1886 Rockstro *Hist. Music* 31 Every Neuma placed upon the red line was understood to represent the note F.

attrib. 1879 Ritter *Hist. Music* (1880) 33 The oldest neumæ manuscripts do not reach farther back than the end of the 8th century.

Neuma·tic, *a. Mus.* [ad. med.L. *neumatic-us*, f. *neuma*: see prec.] Of the nature of neumes.

1890 in *Cent. Dict.* 1897 *Dublin Rev.* Oct. 335 The great difficulty which the uncertainty of the neumatic signs presented in rendering the chant.

Neu·matize, *v. Mus. rare*$^{-1}$. [ad. med.L. *neumatizāre*.] *trans.* To provide with neumes.

1776 Hawkins *Hist. Mus.* I. 345 He dictated or pointed, and actually neumatized the musical cantus both to the antiphonary and gradual.

Neume, neum (niūm). *Mus.* Also 5 newme, nevme. [a. F. *neume* (14th c.), ad. med.L. *neuma*, *neupma* (neut. and fem.), Neuma, ad. Gr. πνεῦμα breath: see Pneum, Pneuma.]

1. In plainsong, a prolonged phrase or group of notes sung to a single syllable, esp. at the end of a melody.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 354/1 Newme of a songe [*H.* nevme], *neupma*. 1879 Helmore *Plainsong* I. 3 Neumes, *i.e.* certain rhythmical expansions of the melodies, occur on the stronger accents of the poetry. 1884 *Catholic Dict.* (1897) 720/1 Sometimes these *neumes* or breathings are hung to the last syllable. *Ibid.* 721/2 The descending series of short notes, called passing notes, which bind together the different limbs of the prolonged breathings or *neumes*.

2. One of a set of signs employed in the earliest plainsong notation to indicate the melody.

1843–5 Westwood *Palæogr. Sacra* s.v. *Lombardic MSS.*, Here the simple neume consists of a short oblong dash; but sometimes it is merely a round dot. 1874 Chappell *Hist. Mus.* I. 382 Neumes did not originally designate any definite notes or pitch, because musical intervals were not required in recitation. 1897 *Dublin Rev.* Oct. 334 From the eighth to the eleventh centuries the chant was noted by means of certain signs called neums. *Ibid.* 339 The chant is written in neum-accents.

Hence **Neu·mic** *a.*, neumatic. (*Cent. Dict.* 1890.)

Neuo(u, neuow, obs. forms of Nephew.

Neur-, var. of Neuro-, employed before vowels (and *h*), as in **Neuradyna·mia**, nervous debility, neurasthenia; **Neuradyna·mic** *a.*, of or pertaining to, of the nature of, suffering from, neurasthenia (Mayne 1856). **Neura·nal** *a.*, pertaining to the neural system together with the anus or outlet. **Neurarthro·pathy**, disease of the joints in which the nerves are affected. **Neura·xial** *a.*, pertaining to the neuraxis. **Neura·xis**, the nervous axis of the body; the brain and spinal column. **Neura·xon**, a process given off from a cell-body (neuron). **Neure·ctasy**, stretching of a nerve. **Neurhypno·logy** (see Neurypnology). **Neurhy·pnotist**, one who practises neurypnology.

Also in various other pathological or anatomical terms, as *neuragmia*, *-arteria*, *-ataxia*, *-ectopy*, *-empodism*, etc.: see Mayne *Expos. Lex.* and the *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 184/1 A current of water which escaped by the *neuranal canal (as in larval *Amphioxus*). 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 73 The word *neur-arthropathy conveniently represents this class of arthritic cases. 1889 *Buck's Handbk. Med. Sci.* VIII. 108 The impossibility of determining the exact limits of these two *neuraxial regions. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 512 The..unaltered continuity of the primitive fibrils of the *neuraxon across the 'cell body'. 1883 J. Marshall (*title*) On Nerve-Stretching or *Neurectasy for the Relief of Pain. *a* 1876 M. Collins *Pen Sketches* (1879) II. 182 That peculiar idiosyncrasy which gives us our mediums, and mesmerists, and *neurhypnotists.

Neu·rad, *adv.* [f. Neur-al + *-ad*: see Dextrad.] Towards the neural axis or aspect of the body. (Opposed to *hæmad*). 1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

Neural (niū·răl), *a.* [f. Gr. *νεῦρ-ον* nerve + -al.]

1. *Anat.* Pertaining or relating to, connected with, the nerves; *spec.* pertaining to the cerebro-spinal or central nervous system of vertebrates (as opposed to *hæmal*). Freq. in *neural arch, canal, cavity, spine, tube*, etc.

1839–47 T. R. Jones in *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* III. 825/2 The caudal vertebræ of the Fish..have the neurapophyses and neural spine as well as the hæmapophyses and hæmal spine. 1849 H. Miller *Footpr. Creat.* viii. (1874) 147 The bodies of the vertebræ, with their neural and hæmal processes. 1888 Rolleston & Jackson *Anim. Life* 438 The tube represents an aperture left when the neural plate folds over in development to form the neural tube.

b. Situated on, or inclining to, that side of the body in which the central nervous axis lies.

1861 J. R. Greene *Man. Anim. Kingd., Cælent.* 18 There is no distinction between neural and hæmal regions. 1870 Rolleston *Anim. Life* p. xxxi, In Invertebrata the motor organs are developed upon the neural aspect of their bodies.

2. *Phys.* Relating to, or occurring in, the nerves as organs which convey sensation or impulse.

1864 Spencer *Princ. Biol.* 50 Neural discharges that follow the direct incidence of external forces. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 492 The more elaborate the dendritic expansions, the more elaborate the psychic or neural activity.

3. *Path.* Involving or affecting the nerve-tissues or nervous system; nervous.

1883 *Harper's Mag.* Nov. 901/2 The eminent authority on neural disorders. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 73 Neural arthritis comprises all joint diseases which are the sequel of central or peripheral nerve-lesions.

Neuralgia (niuræ·ldʒiă). *Path.* [a. mod.L. *neuralgia*, f. Gr. *νεῦρον* nerve + *ἄλγος* pain. Cf. F. *névralgie* (1801).] An affection of one or more nerves (esp. of the head or face), causing pain which is usually of an intermittent but frequently intense character; an instance of this, a neuralgic pain.

1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) III. 217 The term neuralgia has of late been employed by various nosologists to express this group of diseases. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVI. 164/2 Neuralgia..may be called a modern disease, as the first distinct description of it that we possess is that published by André, a surgeon of Versailles, in 1756. 1873 Miss Broughton *Nancy* III. 80 Mother's neuralgia is very bad, and she is sadly in want of change. 1884 H. M. Jones *Health of Senses* V. 132 The neuro-mimetic, with..fits, neuralgias, aches in every part of the body.

attrib. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV. 762 The sensory throat neuroses of the climacteric period..may be classed under two headings, 'paræsthesia' and 'neuralgia' cases.

Hence **Neura·lgiac**, one affected by, or suffering from, neuralgia.

1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 482 The risk of permitting any of these abdominal neuralgiacs themselves to get hold of opium in any of its forms.

Neuralgic (niuræ·ldʒik), *a. Path.* [f. prec. + -ic. Cf. F. *névralgique* (1801).] Of the nature of, characterized or caused by, affected with, neuralgia.

1834 *Cycl. Pract. Med.* III. 167/2 The absence of heat, swelling, redness..make it merit the epithet neuralgic. 1861 Dickens *Lett.* (1880) II. 142 Neuralgic pains in the face have troubled me a good deal. 1875 H. C. Wood *Therap.* (1879) 42 In simple neuralgic gastric pain..bismuth is often of great service.

Neurapophysial (niūræpŏfi·ziăl), *a. Anat.* [f. next + -al.] Relating, belonging to, or forming, the neurapophyses.

1856 in Mayne *Expos. Lex.* 1870 Rolleston *Anim. Life* 11 The neurapophysial processes.

Neurapophysis (niurăpǫ·fisis). *Anat.* Pl. **-physes** (-fisīz). [f. Neur- + Apophysis.]

1. (Chiefly in *pl.*) One or other of the two processes of a vertebra which form the neural arch.

1839–47 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* III. 824/2 Two superior laminæ .. to protect the great nervous cord .., which Professor Owen proposes to call Neurapophyses. 1870 H. A. Nicholson *Man. Zool.* (1875) 388 Two bony arches which are called the 'neural arches' or 'neurapophyses', because they form with the body..the 'neural canal'.

2. The spinous process arising from the junction of the bony elements which compose the neural arch; the neural spine.

1870 H. A. Nicholson *Man. Zool.* (1875) 695 Neurapophysis. The 'spinous process' of a vertebra, or the process formed at the point of junction of the neural arches. 1881 Mivart *Cat* 35 This is the spinous process, neural spine, or neurapophysis.

Neurasthenia (niūræsθī·niă). *Path.* [f. as prec. + Asthenia.] An atonic condition of the nervous system; functional nervous weakness; nervous debility.

1856 in Mayne *Expos. Lex.* 1879 Beard (*title*) The Nature and Diagnosis of Neurasthenia. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 135 Neurasthenia is indeed often the product of stresses upon the function of the mind.

Neurasthenic (niūræsθe·nik), *a.* and *sb. Path.* [f. as prec. + Asthenic.]

A. *adj.* Caused by, affected with, symptomatic or characteristic of, neurasthenia.

1876 tr. *von Ziemssen's Cycl. Med.* XI. 141 A form of headache which I shall take the liberty of calling *neurasthenic headache*. 1881 *Med. Temp. Jrnl.* XLVII. 163 The neurasthenic .. condition is first recognised by lassitude. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 135 Neurasthenic persons would ..escape even medical recognition.

B. *sb.* A person who suffers from neurasthenia.

1884 Dowse *Brain & Nerves* 26 No class of people are more anxious about the future than neurasthenics. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 897 A state that may find expression in the fibrillary trembling of neurasthenics.

Hence **Neurasthe·nical** *a.*; **Neurasthe·nically** *adv.*

1890 in *Cent. Dict.* 1899 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* No. 2001. 72 Investigations carried out..upon healthy and neurasthenical individuals.

Neura·stheny. *rare*$^{-0}$. Neurasthenia.

1849 in Craig. 1856 in Mayne *Expos. Lex.*

Neuration (niurē·ʃən). [irreg. f. Neur- + -ation, after Nervation.] The arrangement or distribution of the nervures or veins, esp. in the wings of insects, or the leaves of plants.

1826 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* XXXV. III. 610 The circumstance that most strikingly distinguishes tegmina from elytra is their neuration or veining. 1846 Dana *Zooph.* (1848) 271 The neuration of a leaf. 1859 Darwin *Orig. Spec.* v. (1873) 124 In certain genera the neuration differs in the different species. 1889 A. R. Wallace *Darwinism* 241 The very distinct neuration of the wings..can be easily seen.

Neure, obs. form of Never.

Neu·rectome. *Surg.* [cf. Neurectomy and *hysterotome*.] 'A narrow-bladed instrument used to divide and excise a portion of nerve' (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1892).

Neureoto·mic, *a.* [f. next + -ic.] 'Of or belonging to neurectomy' (Mayne *Expos. Lex.* 1856).

Neurectomy (niure·ktŏmi). *Surg.* [f. Neur- + Gr. ἐκτομή: see -tomy.] The operation of excising a nerve or a portion of a nerve.

1856 in Mayne *Expos. Lex.* 1880 Flint *Princ. & Pract. Med.* 799 Carnochan was the first to perform neurectomy beyond the spheno-palatine ganglion for the relief of persistent neuralgia. 1887 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 11 June 1280/2 Neurectomy promises to be of greater value in the painful affections of the head and face.

Neurenteric (niūrente·rik), *a. Anat.* [f. Neur- + Enteric.] Connected with the nervous and intestinal systems. *Neurenteric canal*, a prolongation of the neural canal behind the notochord into the archenteron in some vertebrate embryos.

1884 Hyatt in *Proc. Boston Soc. Nat. Hist.* XXIII. 119 The presence of a fore neurenteric canal may be assumed. 1888 Rolleston & Jackson *Anim. Life* 335 A post-anal section of the archenteron in Vertebrata which communicates by a neur-enteric canal with the neural tube.

Neu·ric, *a. rare.* [f. Gr. *νεῦρ-ον* + -ic: cf. next.] Of or pertaining to a nerve or the nerves.

1857 in Mayne *Expos. Lex.* 1886 *Proc. Soc. Psych. Res.* Oct. 173 Dr. Baréty..has attempted to show that actual 'neuric rays' are emitted by eyes and fingers.

Neu·rical, *a. rare*$^{-0}$. [f. Gr. *νευρικ-ός.*]

1623 Cockeram 1, *Newricall*, gowtie.

Neuricity (niuri·sĭti). [f. as Neurio *a.* + -ity.] The special form of activity peculiar to the nerves; nerve-force.

1866 Owen *Anat. Vertebr.* I. 318 Neuricity is convertible into myonicity and into other forms of polar force.

Neuridine (niūe·ridəin). *Chem.* Also **-in.** [f. Gr. *νεῦρ-ον* (see Neuro-) + -id + -ine.] A non-poisonous ptomaine of a gelatinous nature, chiefly occurring as a product of putrefaction.

1887 A. M. Brown *Anim. Alkaloids* 34 Neuridine $C^5H^{14}N^2$.—This base is one of the most constant products of the putrefaction of albumenoid substance. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 788 From decomposed beef and horse-flesh Brieger separated several alkaloids—neuridine, neurine, choline, and one apparently identical with muscarine.

Neurilema (niūərəilī·mă), **neurilemma** (niūərile·mă). *Anat.* Also -elema. [Orig. f. Gr. *νεῦρ-ον* nerve + *εἴλημα* covering, involucrum; subsequently taken as f. Gr. *λέμμα* husk, skin (in which case the correct form would be *neurolemma*). Cf. F. *névrilème* (Bichat, 1801).] **a.** The delicate membranous outer sheath which invests and protects a nerve (now usually called *epineurium*). **b.** The sheath of a nerve-funiculus, the perineurium.

a. 1830 R. Knox *Béclard's Anat.* 357 These filaments, as they penetrate into the ganglia, leave off their neurilema. 1846 Brittan tr. *Malgaigne's Man. Oper. Surg.* 285 The optic nerve, with the neurelema of which it appears to become continuous. 1856-8 W. Clark *Van der Hoeven's Zool.* I. 11 The nerve-stems and the bundles of which they consist, are surrounded with coats of conjunctive tissue, called neurilema.

β. 1825 Gooo *Study Med.* (ed. 2) IV. 24 Solid fibres or capillaments of a particular kind, the *neurilemma* of Bichat. 1851 Carpenter *Man. Phys.* (ed. 2) 224 When the neurilemma has been removed, and the trunk has been separated into its component fasciculi. 1888 Rolleston & Jackson *Anim. Life* 212 The giant fibres are separated from the nerve-cord by the inner neurilemma.

attrib. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 626 If the nucleus of the segmental neurilemma cell remain perfectly healthy. *Ibid.* 643 Leucocytes enter the neurilemma sheath.

Hence **Neurilem(m)atic** *a.* [F. *névrilématique*]; **Neurile·m(m)atous** *a.*

1836-9 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* II. 534/2 The expansion and interlacing of the neurilemmatic sheaths. 1839-47 *Ibid.* III. 776/1 The plaiting must be considered..independent of neurilematous investment. 1875 Payne *Jones & Siev. Path. Anat.* 310 The neurilemmatous sheath is the part mainly affected in inflammation.

Neurility (niuri·liti). [f. Neur- + -ility. Cf. F. *neurilité*.] The power of a nerve to convey or transmit impulse or sensation.

1860 Lewes *Physiol. Com. Life* II. 19 Neurility simply means the property which the nerve-fibre has, when stimulated, of exciting contraction in a muscle, secretion in a gland, and sensation in a ganglionic centre. 1879 N. Smyth *Old Faiths in New Lights* vii. (1882) 300 *note*, So long as sensibility and neurility..cannot be shown to be necessarily related and convertible.

Neurine (niūə·rəin), *sb.* and *a.* Also neurin. [f. Neur- + -ine. Cf. F. *neurine, névrine*.]

A. *sb.* **1.** *Anat.* Nerve substance or tissue; the matter contained in the nerve-tnbes.

1839-47 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* III. 593/2 It contains the elements of the true nervous tissue or neurine. 1854 Owen in *Orr's Circ. Sci., Org. Nat.* I. 161 Tubular tracts are formed, some of which become filled with 'neurine', or nervous matter. 1870 Maudsley *Body & Mind* 56 The vesicular neurine has increased in quantity and in quality.

2. *Chem.* **a.** A poisonous alkaloid or ptomaine, derived from putrefying flesh, etc.; choline. **b.** An alkaloid produced with the former, and differing very slightly from it in chemical composition, but possessing more actively poisonous properties.

1869 *Syd. Soc. Year-bk. Med.* 16 A basic substance..which he [Liebreich] has termed neurine...By slightly modifying this method neurine has been artificially formed. 1880 J. W. Legg *Bile* 52 By boiling with baryta water, lecithin is decomposed into neurin or cholin. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 496 An effect also produced by snake venom, as well as by neurine and choline.

B. *adj.* Of or relating to the nerves.

1870 J. Scoffern *Stray Leaves Sci.* 446 When he began his neurine enquiries the prevalent belief..was [etc.].

Neu·rism. *rare.* [f. Neur- + -ism.]

1. Nerve-force; neuricity.

1871 Cope *Origin of Fittest* v. (1887) 205 The Vital Forces are (nerve-force) Neurism, (growth-force) Bathmism, and (thought-force) Phrenism.

2. 'The hypothesis according to which all the phenomena of the living body are due to the action of a nervous fluid' (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1892).

Neuritic (niuri·tik), *a.* (and *sb.*) [ad. Gr. type **νευριτικ-ός*, f. *νεῦρον* nerve: see -itic, and cf. F. *névritique* (1762).]

†**1.** Good for the nerves. *Obs. rare* —1.

1725 Bradley *Fam. Dict.*, *Marjoram* .. is vulnerary, Cephalick, Hysterick, Neuritick, and proper to expel wind.

†**b.** *sb.* (See quot.) *Obs. rare* —0.

1727-38 Chambers *Cycl.*, *Neuritics*, or *nervines*,..remedies proper for diseases of the nerves and nervous parts.

2. *Path.* Relating to, of the nature of, neuritis.

1857 in Mayne *Expos. Lex.* 1887 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 1 Jan. 9/2 The main objections which have been advanced against the neuritic theory. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 751 Pompholyx is generally regarded as a neuritic inflammation or vaso-motor neurosis.

Neuritis (niurəi·tis). *Path.* [a. Gr. type **νευρῖτις*, f. *νεῦρον* nerve: see -itis.] Inflammation of a nerve or nerves.

1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVI. 166/2 In neuritis we shall find the usual attendants of inflammation. 1880 Flint *Princ. & Pract. Med.* 781 In acute neuritis the nerves are swollen, reddened, and more succulent than normal. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 44, I have seen instances of neuritis and perhaps of neuralgia of the cardiac nerves in diphtheria.

Neuro- (niū·rо), combining form of Gr. *νεῦρον* nerve, used in a number of scientific terms, chiefly *Anat.* and *Path.*, as **Neu·roblast,** an embryonic nucleated cell from which the nerve-fibres originate; hence **Neurobla·stic** *a.* **Neuro-ce·ntral** *a.*, connected with the centrum and neural arch of a vertebra, esp. in *neurocentral suture*. **Neuroce·ntrum,** one of the parts forming the neurocentral arch. **Neu·rochord,** a set of tubular fibres on the dorsal aspect of the ventral nerve-cord in annulates and crustaceans. **Neuroclo·nic** *a.*, characterized by nervous spasms. **Neu·rocœle** (-sīl), the central cavity of the cerebro-spinal system; hence **Neurocœ·lian** *a.* **Neurode·ndron** (see quot.). **Neurode·rmal** *a.*, pertaining to the epiblast. **Neuroente·ric** *a.* = Neurenteric. **Neuroepide·rmal** *a.*, pertaining to the nerves together with the epidermis (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*). **Neuroepithe·lial** *a.*, pertaining to the nerves together with the epithelium. **Neurofibro·ma** (see quot.). **Neurohypno·logy** = Neurypnology; so **Neurohypno·tic** *a.*, **-hy·pnotism.** **Neuroke·ratin,** a substance closely resembling keratin, found in certain nerve-tissues. **Neurole·mma** = Neurilemma. **Neu·romere,** a part or segment of the nervous system; hence **Neuro·merous** *a.*, characterized by a segmented nervous system. **Neurometaphy·sical** *a.*, characterized by a metaphysical view or treatment of nervous phenomena. **Neuro·meter,** a means of measuring the strength of the nerves. **Neuromime·sis,** a form of neurosis characterized by imitative actions or pathological conditions; neurotic imitation of disease; hence **Neuromime·tic** *a.* and *sb.* **Neuromu·scular** *a.*, relating or belonging to both nerve(s) and muscle(s); so **Neuromy·ic** *a.* **Neuromyo·logy,** the classification of muscles with reference to the nerves. **Neuromyosi·tis,** an affection of both nerve and muscle. **Neu·ronym,** the scientific name of a muscle. **Neuropara·lysis,** paralysis due to some affection of the nerves; so **Neuroparaly·tic** *a.* **Neurophysio·logy,** the physiology of the nervous system; hence **Neurophysiolo·gical** *a.* **Neu·ropore,** an exterior orifice in the neural canal of some embryos. **Neuropsy·chic** *a.*, pertaining to the nervous and psychic functions. **Neuropsycholo·gical** *a.*, dealing with psychology in relation to the nerves; so **Neuropsycho·logist.** **Neuropsychopa·thic** *a.*, pertaining to diseased states of the nervous and mental functions. **Neuroretini·tis,** combined inflammation of the optic nerve and retina. **Neuroto·nic,** a medicine used to brace the nerves (Ogilvie 1882). **Neuroto·xic** *a.*, acting poisonously upon the nerves; so **Neuroto·xical** *a.* (Mayne 1857). **Neuroto·xin,** a substance having a poisonous effect on the nerves. **Neurotro·phic** *a.*, pertaining to, or connected with, nourishment coming through the nerves. **Neurova·scular** *a.*, having both a nervous and vascular character.

A large number of similar compounds, the currency of many of which is doubtful, are given in Mayne's *Expos. Lex.* and the *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

1892 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, **Neuroblast*, the pear-shaped cells which arise by a process of mitosis from the germinal cells of the early embryo. 1897 *19th Cent.* July 25 The embryonal nerve-cell (neuroblast) will be simply an oval sac. 1870 Rolleston *Anim. Life* p. lxii, The *neurocentral suture is usually absent. 1873 Mivart *Elem. Anat.* 61 The line of junction of the lateral pieces with the central pieces is termed the neuro-central suture. 1884 Hyatt in *Proc. Boston Soc. Nat. Hist.* XXIII. 121 The distribution and formation of the *neurocentra..in the vertebræ of the Permian Rhachitomi. 1888 Rolleston & Jackson *Anim. Life* 212 The apparatus is hence termed '*Neurochord' by Vejdovsky.., who compares it physiologically with the notochord of Chordata. *Ibid.* 598 The so-called 'giant-fibres' or 'neurochord' are found in nearly all Oligochæta. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 898 The *neuroclonic state of the neurons of the spinal cord may appear subsequently. 1889 *Buck's Handbk. Med. Sci.* VIII. 110 The entire neuraxis is a tube, a subcylindrical mass inclosing a cavity. This cavity is the *neurocœle. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 490 From the cell-body, or from a protoplasmic extension of the cell (*neuro-dendron) the nerve process or axon is given off. 1877 E. R. Lankester in *Jrnl. Microsc. Sci.* XVII. 430 [The] epiblast and the musculo-skeletal portion of the mesoblast — or .. *neurodermal and myoskeletal moieties. 1893 Tuckey tr. *Hatschek's Amphioxus* 69 The *neuro-enteric canal which is generally typical in the development of the vertebrate animals. 1892 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, **Neurofibroma*, a fibroma arising from the neurilemma of a nerve. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 635 Multiple neurofibroma. 1842 *Fraser's Mag.* XXVI. 375 Mr. Braid having failed in obtaining a hearing for his curious discoveries in Mesmerism, or *neurohypnology, as he calls it. 1843 Braid *Neurypnol.* 7 In respect to the *Neuro-Hypnotic state. 1842 — in *Trans. Brit. Assoc.* 29 June, Practical Essay on the Curative Agency of *Neuro-Hypnotism. 1883 Klein *Elem. Histol.* § 140 Its own hyaline more or less elastic sheath, composed of *neurokeratin. 1852 Dana *Crust.* II. 1333 The nerves..are flat, fibrous cords, enclosed within a membranous envelope or *neurolemma. 1866 Owen *Anat. Vertebr.* I. 203, I would suggest.. *neuromere. 1897 *Nat. Sci.* Feb. 114 That .. branch of morphology which deals with the nerve-segments of the head (cerebral neuromeres). 1851 tr. *Unzer & Prochaska's Nervous Syst.* (Syd. Soc.) Introd. 1 He showed an early inclination to *neuro-metaphysical studies. 1818 Southey *Let.* 5 Dec. in *Life* (1850) IV. 327 The nitrous oxyde approaches nearer to the notion of a *neurometer than anything which perhaps could be devised. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 88 '*Neuro-mimesis' lays too much stress on the resemblances.., between the symptoms of hysteria and of other diseases. 1884 H. M. Jones *Health of Senses* v. 132 The *neuromimetic, with curved spine, pain in joints,..aches in every part of the body. 1877 Huxley *Anat. Inv. Anim.* 63 Kleinenberg terms those *neuro-muscular elements. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 159 The development and activity of the neuro-muscular system. 1839-47 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* III. 30/1 An argument in favour of the theory of *neuromyic action. *a* 1890 Coues & Shute in *N. Y. Med. Record* XXXII. 93 (Cent.), Neurology is the key to myology, and a *neuro-myology is practicable. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 463 *Neuromyositis, in which the primary lesion is nervous. 1897 Wilder in *Nature* 7 Jan. 224 The *neuronyms adopted by the Anatomische Gesellschaft in 1895. 1875 H. Walton *Dis. Eye* 907 *Neuroparalytic corneitis. 1878 T. Bryant *Pract. Surg.* I. 317 Cases of neuro-paralytic ophthalmia. 1862 *Syd. Soc. Year-bk. Med.* 43 *Neuro-physiological Inquiries. 1868 Spencer *Princ. Psychol.* (1872) I. I. vii. 142 The truths of *Neuro-physiology..set down in the foregoing chapters. 1884 Hyatt in *Proc. Boston Soc. Nat. Hist.* XXIII. 119 The homology of the fore and hind *neuropores with the fore and hind openings of the actinostome. 1893 Tuckey tr. *Hatschek's Amphioxus* 177 Transverse section through the anterior part of the neuropore. 1891 D. Wilson *Right Hand* 186 The centres of the *neuro-psychic factors of language. 1851 tr. *Unzer & Prochaska's Nervous Syst.* (Syd. Soc.) Introd. 2 The *neuro-psychological essays.. are frequently referred to in the present work. *Ibid.* 6 There was..another *neuro-psychologist, whose name is less known in England. 1878 A. M. Hamilton *Nerv. Dis.* 187 Loss of vision complete, *neuroretinitis of both eyes. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 707 The occurrence of attacks of neuro-retinitis in gouty subjects. 1904 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* No. 2280. 574 A strongly *neurotoxic poison such as cobra venom. 1902 *Ibid.* No. 2154. 920 Enriquet and Sicard [deal] with *neurotoxin. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 545 *Neurotrophic affections of bones and joints. 1888 Rolleston & Jackson *Anim. Life* 570 An aboral stem, generally jointed and containing a *neuro-vascular apparatus. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 609 A certain disposition to nutritive disturbance, or even neuro-vascular tension.

Neuroglia (niurǫ·gliă). *Anat.* [f. Neuro- + late Gr. *γλία* glue; named by Virchow.] The delicate connective tissue found in the great nerve-centres, and in the retina; the reticular or sustentacular tissue.

1873 T. H. Green *Introd. Pathol.* (ed. 2) 121 Round-celled sarcoma growing from the neuroglia or connective tissue of nerve. 1888 Rolleston & Jackson *Anim. Life* 52 A mass of neuroglia or *substantia reticularis* lies immediately dorsal to the central canal.

attrib. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 699 The small neuroglia corpuscles or cells. 1899 *Ibid.* VII. 172 A thick cluster of neuroglia fibres.

Hence **Neuro·gliac, -ial, -iar, -ic** *adjs.*

1890 in *Cent. Dict.* 1892 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 33 The excess of neuroglial connective tissue..The neuroglial cells with radiating processes.

Neurography (niurǫ·grăfi). [ad. mod.L. *neurographia* (Vieussens, 1684): see Neuro- and -graphy. Hence also F. *névrographie*.]

1. Scientific description of the nerves; descriptive neurology.

1727-38 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v. *Neurology*, Neurology seems to be of less extent than neurography. 1875 Sir W. Turner in *Encycl. Brit.* I. 813/2 The publication of his great work on neurography in 1684.

2. Neuration.

1880 Ruskin *Notes on Prout & Hunt* 15 In the articulation of the fly's legs, or the neurography of the bee's wings.

Neu·roid, *a.* and *sb.* [Cf. Neuro- and -oid.]

a. *adj.* Resembling a nerve or nervous substance (Mayne 1857). **b.** *sb.* One of the two elements of a neural arch; a neurapophysis.

1887 *Amer. Naturalist* Oct. 945 The two elements composing the neural arch ought to be called the 'neuroids'.

Neurolite (niū·rǫləit). *Min.* [f. Neuro- + -lite.] A variety of pinite with fibrous texture.

1836 T. Thomson *Min., Geol.*, etc. I. 355 The constitution of neurolite is 5 atoms quatersilicate of alumina [etc.]. 1850 Daubeny *Atom. The.* xii. (ed. 2) 411 The former combinations are called hydrosilicates...Example: Neurolite. 1896 Chester *Dict. Min.* 188 *Neurolite*,..a pinite-like mineral of a wax-yellow color, occurring in a large belt at Stanstead, Quebec.

Neurological (niūərǫlǫ·dʒikăl), *a.* [f. Neuro- + -logical.] Relating or belonging to, connected with, interested in, neurology.

1832 J. Thomson *Life Cullen* I. 442 The Neurological inquiries and speculations of these Authors. 1845 *Encycl. Metrop.* VII. 157/2 Neurological physiology was thus advancing, though but slowly. 1883 Romanes *Ment. Evol. Anim.* iii. 38 The most fundamental of neurological principles—reflex action.

Neurologist (niurǫ·lǫdʒist). [f. Neuro- + -logist.] One interested or versed in neurology.

1832 J. Thomson *Life Cullen* I. 443 The Neurologists, whom he terms the Solidists. 1841-44 Emerson *Ess., Nom. & Real.* Wks. (Bohn) I. 251 The..new allegations of phrenologists and neurologists are of ideal use. 1878 A. M. Hamilton *Nerv. Dis.* 113 Acute cerebral anæmia .. comes within the province of the surgeon rather than within that of the neurologist.

Neurology (niurǫ·lŏdʒi). [ad. mod.L. *neurologia*, ad. mod.Gr. *νευρολογία* (Willis 1664): see NEURO- and -LOGY. Cf. F. *névrologie*.] The scientific study or knowledge of the anatomy, functions, and diseases of the nerves and the nervous system; †the nervous system, or its operation.

1681 WILLIS *Rem. Med. Wks.* Vocab., *Neurologie*, the doctrine of the nerves. *a* 1706 EVELYN *Hist. Relig.* (1850) I. 54 The soul, as seated more conspicuously in the brain, does, by the originated neurology, give intercourse to the animal spirits. 1796 SOUTHEY *Lett. fr. Spain* (1799) 477 The three exercises for the Professor of Anatomy..shall be upon Myology, Neurology, and Splanchnology. 1830 R. KNOX *Béclard's Anat.* 327 To consider..its principal parts, referring for the detail to particular neurology. 1878 A. M. HAMILTON *Nerv. Dis.* 93 The literature of neurology is replete with examples of so-called atheotosis.

b. A scientific account of the nerves.

1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Neurology*, is an accurate Description of, or Discourse on, the Nerves of an Human Body. 1727–38 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v., Willis has given a fine neurology in his *Anatome Cerebri*. 1801 *Med. Jrnl.* V. 531 To the latter editions .. he added a Neurology, or Anatomy of the Nerves.

Neuroma (niurōu·mă). Pl. **-mata**. *Path.* [ad. Gr. type **νεύρωμα*, f. *νεῦρον* nerve.] A swelling or tumour growing upon a nerve or in nerve-tissue.

1839–47 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* III. 720 G/2 Certain gangliform tumours are formed upon nerves, to which the term neuroma has been applied. 1873 T. H. GREEN *Introd. Pathol.* (ed. 2) 128 True neuromata, however—*i. e.*, new formations of nerve-tissue—are amongst the rarest forms of new formations. 1887 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 15 Jan. 113/1 He had removed a neuroma from the wrist.

Hence **Neuro·matous** *a.*, of the nature of, resembling, a neuroma.

1857 in MAYNE *Expos. Lex.* 1875 H. WALTON *Dis. Eye* 139 It is unlike a neuromatous tumour, which is a fibrous tumour imbedded in the sheath of a nerve.

‖ **Neuron** (niū·rŏn). *Anat.* and *Biol.* [a. Gr. *νεῦρον* sinew, cord, nerve.]

1. The cerebro-spinal axis; the spinal cord and brain.

1884 WILDER in *N. Y. Med. Jrnl.* 2 Aug. 114.

2. A process of a nerve-cell.

1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 181 Golgi has shewn that every nerve-cell possesses one process, the 'neuron' which becomes the axis cylinder process of a nerve.

3. A nerve-cell with its appendages.

In recent use more commonly in the form *neurone*.

1896 PR. KROPOTKIN in *19th Cent.* Aug. 258 The microscopical units of which the nervous system is built up—the so-called 'neurons', whose protoplasmic ramifications intimately penetrate into the tissues. 1899 MACPHERSON *Mental Affections* 83 Each neuron is a distinct, separate and independent organic unit, composed of a cell body containing a nucleus and nucleolus and of several processes.

Hence **Neuro·nic** *a.*

1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 490 Diagram illustrating the Neuronic System.

Neuropath (niū·rǫpæþ). [f. NEURO- + Gr. *-παθής*, f. *πάθος* suffering.]

1. A person having an abnormal nervous sensibility; one subject to, or affected by, nervous disease.

1890 *Q. Rev.* CLXXI. 245 The Paris practitioners hold that susceptible persons are always to some extent neuropaths. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 865 The unstable condition of brain matter..is hereditary in the neuropath, and in the offspring of drunkards.

2. a. One who attributes diseases in general to the nervous system (*Cent. Dict.* 1890).

b. A neuropathist.

1896 *Voice* (N. Y.) 6 Feb. 5/5 This expert neuropath having recently made a professional visit to the United States.

Neuropathic (niū·rǫpæ·þik), *a.* [f. as prec. + -IC. Cf. F. *névropathique*.] Relating to, caused or distinguished by nervous disease or functional weakness of the nervous system.

1857 in MAYNE *Expos. Lex.* 1880 FLINT *Princ. & Pract. Med.* 770 A neuropathic paralysis depends on some cause which..prevents the action of volition. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 85 All rheumatoid atrophy represents a neuropathic or myopathic disturbance of nutrition.

So **Neuropa·thical** *a.*; **Neuropa·thically** *adv.*

1892 *Monist* II. 273 A decidedly neuropathical character.

Neuro·pathist. [Cf. prec. and -IST.] One who makes a special study of nervous diseases.

1864 W. T. FOX *Skin Dis.* 13 That the middle course of humoralist and neuropathist is the tenable one. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 7 Apr. 8/2 The celebrated neuropathist .. ordered it to be treated with systematic electrisation.

Neuropatholo·gical, *a.* [f. NEURO- + PATHOLOGICAL *a.*] Relating to, concerned with, neuropathology.

1875 PAYNE *Jones & Siev. Pathol. Anat.* 56 It is impossible to deny the neuro-pathological theory. 1897 *Daily News* 6 Sept. 5/3 A scholarship in neuro-pathological sanitary science.

Neuropatho·logy. [f. NEURO- + PATHOLOGY.]

1. The study of nervous diseases and their treatment; the pathology of the nervous system.

1853 tr. *Romberg's Man. Nerv. Dis.* (Syd. Soc.) II. 1. 402 In no other department of neuropathology is the absence of critical judgement so much felt as in the doctrine of cerebral affections. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 479 A disease which is..of considerable interest to the student of neuropathology.

2. The view that disease originates from disturbance of the nervous system.

1892 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

Neuropathy (niurǫ·păþi). [f. NEURO- + -PATHY.] Nervous disease; a case of this.

1857 in MAYNE *Expos. Lex.* 1895 *Pop. Sci. Monthly* July 388 Marriages which have been charged with being an important factor in the genesis of neuropathy. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 834 This observer..relegates that form to the category of neuropathies.

Neuropod (niū·rǫpǫd). *Zool.* [f. NEURO- + -POD.] An annulose or invertebrate animal, in which the limbs or motor organs are on the neural aspect of the body.

1856 GOODSIR in *Edinb. New Philos. Jrnl.* (1857) V. 121, I employ, as morphological designations, the term Neuropod ..for an Annulose, and Hæmapod..for a Vertebrate animal. 1870 ROLLESTON *Anim. Life* 168 Vertebrata may be spoken of as 'Hæmapods', in contradistinction to Invertebrata which are 'Neuropods'.

Neuropo·dial, *a. Zool.* [f. next: see -AL.] Relating or belonging to a neuropodium.

1877 HUXLEY *Anat. Inv. Anim.* v. 229 The neuropodial is very much longer than the notopodial aciculum. 1888 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* 595 There is usually a dorsal or notopodial cirrus, and a ventral or neuropodial.

Neuropodium (niū·rǫpō·diŏm). *Zool.* [mod.L., f. NEURO- + Gr. *πόδιον*, dim. of *πούς* a foot.] The lower, ventral, or neural branch of a parapodium.

1870 H. A. NICHOLSON *Zool.* 161 A lower process, termed the 'neuropodium' or 'ventral oar'. 1877 HUXLEY *Anat. Inv. Anim.* v. 229 The notopodium and the neuropodium carry each a single, sharp, style-like aciculum. 1888 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* 594 The parapodia of *Polychæta* are..either simple..or divided..into a dorsal notopodium and a ventral neuropodium.

Neuro·podous, *a. Zool.* [Cf. NEUROPOD.] Having the limbs on the neural aspect of the body.

1870 ROLLESTON *Anim. Life* Index, Neuropodous character of Invertebrata.

Neuro·pter. *rare. Ent.* [f. next.] A neuropterous insect.

1828–32 WEBSTER s. v., The neuropters are an order of insects having four membranous, transparent, naked wings. 1873 DAWSON *Earth & Man* vi. 137 Any modern Neuropter, a group of insects remarkable even in the present world for their large and complex organs of vision.

‖ **Neuroptera** (niurǫ·ptĕră), *sb. pl. Ent.* [mod.L., f. NEURO- + Gr. *πτέρον* wing.] An order of insects, having four naked membranous transparent wings, with reticulate neuration.

1752 J. HILL *Hist. Anim.* 69 *Tetraptera*. Insects having four wings. Class the Third, *Neuroptera*. Those which have membranaceous wings, with nerves and veins disposed in a reticulated form in them. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) IX. 253/1 The fourth class of insects (*neuroptera*) may be killed with spirit of wine. 1816 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* iii. (1818) I. 67 Neuroptera consisting of Dragon-flies, Ant-lions, Ephemeræ, &c. 1840 *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 573 In the Neuroptera these wings have their surface furnished with a very fine net-work. 1870 H. A. NICHOLSON *Man. Zool.* (1875) 302 The earliest known insects..consist of the remains of Neuroptera.

Hence **Neuro·pteral** *a.*, neuropterous (Webster 1828–32). **Neuro·pteran,** a neuropterous insect. **Neuro·pterist,** a student of the Neuroptera. **Neuro·pteroid** *a.*, resembling the Neuroptera. **Neuropterolo·gical** *a.*, pertaining to **Neuroptero·logy,** the scientific study of neuropterous insects (Mayne 1857).

1842 BRANDE *Dict. Sci.*, etc., **Neuropteran*. 1895 *Science Gossip* Apr. 49 An important article..especially to *neuropterists. 1897 *Naturalist* 115 All our present-day British neuropterists and trichopterists. 1889 NICHOLSON & LYDEKKER *Palæont.* I. 594 The *Neuropteroid section..includes a number of Palæozoic insects.

Neuro·pterous, *a. Ent.* [f. prec. + -OUS.] Belonging or relating to, consisting or representative of, the Neuroptera.

1802 BINGLEY *Anim. Biog.* (1813) I. 48 Neuropterous insects..have four membranaceous, transparent, naked wings. 1835 KIRBY *Hab. & Inst. Animals* II. xx. 351, I am speaking here of the Neuropterous Order. 1867 F. FRANCIS *Angling* vi. (1880) 239 Neuropterous flies of the genus Perlidæ.

Neurosal (niurōu·săl), *a. Path.* [f. NEUROSIS + -AL.] Having the character of a neurosis; arising from a nervous disorder.

1884 *Contemp. Rev.* May 684 Gouty neuralgia is the monitor..with those persons of a neurosal diathesis. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 824 Not only does it..cut short a neurosal paroxysm of dyspnœa or restlessness [etc.].

Neurose (niurōu·s), *a.* [ad. L. type **neurōs-us*: see NEURO- and -OSE.]

1. *Ent.* Having other than marginal nervures.

1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* xlvi. IV. 340 Neurose (*Neurosæ*). Wings that have nervures besides the marginal ones.

2. *Path.* Neurotic. 1886 *American* XII. 287.

Neurosis (niurōu·sis). Pl. **neuroses.** [ad. Gr. type **νεύρωσις*, f. *νεῦρον* nerve: see -OSIS.]

1. *Path.* A functional derangement arising from disorders of the nervous system, esp. such as are unaccompanied by organic change in the structures of the body; a nervous disease.

1776–84 W. CULLEN *First Lines Pract. Physic* § 1091, I propose to comprehend, under the title of Neuroses, all those preternatural affections of sense or motion which are without pyrexia, as a part of the primary disease. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XI. 96/2. 1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) I. 167 *note*, He considers it [lead colic] to be a neurosis. 1845 *Encycl. Metrop.* VII. 527/1 The diseases of function..embrace the neuroses, hæmorrhages, and dropsies. 1874 MAUDSLEY *Mental Dis.* i. 32 Families in which insanity, epilepsy, or some other neurosis exists. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 296 For two or three preceding generations such neurotic stocks had intermarried, and so accentuated the neuroses present.

2. *Psychol.* A change in the nerve-cells of the brain prior to, and resulting in, psychic activity.

1871 HUXLEY in *Contemp. Rev.* Nov. 462 As it is very necessary to keep up a clear distinction between these two processes, let the one be called neurosis, and the other psychosis. 1882 ROMANES in *Nature* No. 641. 335 Some intimate association between neurosis and psychosis being thus accepted as a fact by the hypothesis of automatism.

Neuroske·letal, *a. Anat.* [f. NEURO- + SKELETAL *a.*] Belonging or pertaining to the neuroskeleton.

1854 OWEN in *Orr's Circle Sci., Org. Nat.* I. 171 Outlines of the chief developments of the dermoskeleton..are added to the neuroskeletal archetype. *Ibid.* 180 The neuroskeletal bones are arranged in four segments.

Neuroske·leton. *Anat.* [f. NEURO- + SKELETON.] The bones connected with, and serving as a protection for, the cerebro-spinal axis and the nervous system; the endoskeleton.

1844 GOODSIR in *Trans. Roy. Soc. Edinb.* XV. 250 Anatomical description of the *Amphioxus*. Neuro-skeleton. 1854 OWEN in *Orr's Circle Sci., Org. Nat.* I. 168 The main part of the skeleton..consists of the neuroskeleton..The parts of the neuroskeleton are arranged in a series of segments. 1880 GÜNTHER *Study of Fishes* 85.

† **Neurospast.** *Obs.* [ad. Gr. *νευρόσπαστ-ον*, neut. of *νευρόσπαστος*, f. *νεῦρον* sinew + *σπᾶν* to draw.] A figure or puppet moved by strings.

1642 CUDWORTH *Serm. i John ii.* 3, 4 (1676) 64 They that are acted only by an outward Love are but like Neurospasts, or those little Puppets that skip nimbly up and down. 1660 INGELO *Bentiv. & Ur.* I. (1682) 91 [He] denied God power to make any other sort of creatures besides Neurospasts.

Hence † **Neurospastic** *a. Obs. rare* —1.

a 1706 EVELYN *Hist. Relig.* (1850) II. 281 To these [images] with subtile wires and neurospastic springs, they give..various motions of head, and eyes.

Neurotic (niurǫ·tik), *sb.* [See next.]

1. *Med.* A drug having a marked effect, esp. of a bracing kind, upon the nervous system.

1661 LOVELL *Hist. Anim. & Min.* 335 It's cured..by alexipharmicks, roborants, neuroticks, and fitt diet. 1694 SALMON *Bate's Dispens.* (1713) 586/1 It is a famous Cephalick, Neurotick, Stomachick, Cardiack and Uterine. 1716 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* II. 356 [Infuse] Rose-Water [upon it] for an Hypnotick or a Neurotick. 1869 J. HARLEY (*title*) The old Vegetable Neurotics.., their physiological action and therapeutical use.

2. *Path.* 'A disease having its seat in the nerves' (Webster 1847).

3. A neurotic person.

1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 475 They may be made into 'blue-stockings' or neurotics, or both together. 1897 *Ibid.* II. 851 The offspring of drunkards or neurotics.

Neurotic (niurǫ·tik), *a.* [ad. Gr. type **νευρωτικ-ός*, f. *νεῦρον* nerve: see -OTIC.]

1. Acting upon, or stimulating, the nerves.

1775 in ASH, and in later Dicts.

2. Of the nature of, marked or characterized by, neurosis or nervous disorder.

1873 F. T. ROBERTS *Handbk. Med.* 531 Angina pectoris is supposed to be a neurotic affection. 1887 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 29 Jan. 205/1 Those neurotic ailments which have hitherto taxed the skill and care of physicians.

3. Of persons: Affected by, suffering from, neurosis; having disordered nerves.

1887 *Buck's Handbk. Med. Sci.* V. 162 The neurotic woman is sensitive, zealous, managing. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 888 The cause of morphinism in persons not more neurotic than the rest of us. 1899 *Ibid.* VIII. 180 It is probable that in the neurotic the nervous system is more likely to be disturbed by general diseases.

Neu·rotome. *rare* —0. [f. NEURO-: cf. NEURECTOME.] 'A long and very narrow scalpel, having two edges' (Dunglison 1855).

Neuroto·mical, *a. rare* —0. [f. NEUROTOMY.] 'Pertaining to the anatomy or dissection of nerves' (Webster 1828–32; hence in later Dicts.).

Neuro·tomist. [See next and -IST.] One who practises or studies neurotomy. Also *fig.*, a dissector of feelings or emotions.

1726 BAILEY (ed. 3), *Neurotomist*, an Anatomist who dissects human Bodies on account of the Nerves. 1775 ASH, *Neurotomist*, one skilled in dissections of the nerves. 1866 OWEN *Anat. Vertebr.* I. 203 Sclerotomists, neurotomists, lithotomists and other classes of operating surgeons. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 13 May 3/1 As a neurotomist and student of temperament she is not convincing.

Neurotomy (niurǫ·tŏmi). *Surg.* [ad. mod.L. *neurotomia*: see NEURO- and -TOMY.] The section of a nerve, for the purpose of producing sensory paralysis. (See also early quots.)

1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Neurotomy*, is an Anatomical Section of the Nerves..; and sometimes also a pricking of the Nerves by unskilful Bleeding. 1755 JOHNSON *Neurotomy*, the anatomy of the nerves. 1831 YOUATT *Horse* 110 These are the fibres which we divide in the operation of neurotomy or nerve-cutting. 1860 *Syd. Soc. Year-bk. Med.* 179 On Facial Neuralgia, and its Cure by Neurotomy. 1887 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 15 Jan. 113/2 The rules

which had been gained by studying the effects of neurotomy in horses.

Neurypnology (niūəripnǭ·lŏdʒi). [f. NEUR- + HYPNOLOGY.] That branch of science which deals with the phenomena of hypnotism.

1843 BRAID (*title*) Neurypnology; or, The Rationale of Nervous Sleep considered in relation with Animal Magnetism. 1846 G. MOORE *Power of Soul over Body* (ed. 3) 161 Assuming all that is related of .. neurypnology to be true. 1887 *Daily News* 1 Apr. 5/2 Dr. Charcot, the famous Parisian Professor who, with Dr. Braid, has told us so much about the science of neurypnology, or nerve sleep.

Hence **Neurypnolo·gical** *a.*, having a hypnotic basis. **Neurypno·logist**, a student of neurypnology (Worcester 1846).

1893 *Athenæum* 21 Oct. 550 The neurypnological novel has many forms.

Neut, obs. form of NEWT.

Neuter (niū·tər), *a.* and *sb.* Also 5–6 neutre, 6 nuter, 6–7 newter. [a. F. *neutre* (14th c.) or L. *neuter* neither, f. *ne* not (see NE) + *uter* either (of two).]

A. *adj.* **1.** *Gram.* **a.** Of gender: Neither masculine nor feminine. Hence also, in later use, of parts of speech, etc.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XIX. CXXVIII. (1495) 933 *Cathinum*..is better sayde in the neutre gender than in the Mascul. 1530 PALSGR. Introd. 24 A latin nowne of the newter gender. 1579 FULKE *Heskins' Parl.* 101 *Aliud* in the Neuter gender put absolutely. *a* 1637 B. JONSON *Eng. Gram.* I. x, The neuter, or feigned gender: whose notion conceives neither sex. 1694 SALMON *Bate's Dispens.* (1713) 323/1 We used it as a Neutral, putting the adjective in the Neuter Gender. 1727–38 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v., In English, and other modern tongues, there is no such thing as neuter nouns. 1838 *Penny Cycl.* XI. 111/1 In the age of Shakspeare the only form for the neuter genitive was *his*. 1894 W. M. LINDSAY *Latin Lang.* 369 The confusion of masculine and neuter O-stems.

absol. 1612 BRINSLEY *Lud. Lit.* 128 In wordes of three terminations, .. the third is the Neuter. 1654 WARREN *Unbelievers* 105 Φυράματος in the Neuter. 1838 *Penny Cycl.* XI. 110/1 The neuter is employed to denote that the notion of gender is not entertained. 1896 TOYNBEE *Hist. French Gram.* 177 This suppression of the neuter..was brought about in two ways.

b. Of verbs: Neither active nor passive; intransitive.

1530 PALSGR. 107 Verbes personnalles, besydes actives, as neuters. 1668 WILKINS *Real Char.* III. i. 303 That part of speech, which..is stiled a Verb (whether Neuter, Active or Passive). 1696 PHILLIPS (ed. 5) s.v. *Verb*, The Verb Neuter, which..hath such a kind of Active Signification, as is not capable of a Passive, as *Curro*, I run. 1740 J. CLARKE *Educ. Youth* (ed. 3) 99 To teach them the Difference betwixt a Neuter and a Transitive Verb. 1824 L. MURRAY *Eng. Gram.* (ed. 5) I. 107 A Verb Neuter expresses neither action nor passion, but being. 1845 STODDART *Gram.* in *Encycl. Metrop.* I. 48/1 The neuter verb supposes an action terminating with the agent.

transf. 1658 OWEN *Temptation* i. 16 Though temptation seemes to be of a more active importance,..in the Scripture it is commonly taken in a neuter sense.

c. *Neuter passive*, having the character both of a neuter and a passive verb. Also *fig.*

In Latin grammar applied to those neuter verbs in which the perfect tense has a passive form (as *audeo, ausus sum*), in French grammar to those which form their perfect tense with *être*.

1530 PALSGR. 107 The Latins have many other sortes of verbes personnalles,..as neuters, deponentes, commons, neutre passives and suche other. 1647 TRAPP *Comm. Rev.* iii. 115 Such are our .. neuter-passive Christians. 1650 — *Num.* xxiii. 2 God abhors these luke-warme neuter-passives. 1755 JOHNSON *Gram.* b 4/1 There is another manner of conjugating neuter verbs, which, when it is used, may not improperly denote them neuter passives.

2. Taking neither one side nor the other; not declaring oneself on, or rendering assistance to, either side: **a.** of rulers, states, etc., in relation to others, esp. in time of war; also of the towns, ships, etc., of such states. Cf. NEUTRAL *a.*

1525 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* II. clx. [clvi.] 441 The Kynge of Aragon, and his father before hym was as neuter. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 427 It was a neuter town indifferent to both. 1614 RALEIGH *Hist. World* II. (1634) 417 An opinion, that the Trojans..sought for succour from David, and that hee stayed neuter in that warre. 1693 *Mem. Count Teckely* I. 74 When they had taken the Count of Serin, and knew that the Turks continued neuter. 1755 *Mem. Capt. P. Drake* I. xiv. 117 The Ship he was in (though neuter) was boarded by a French Privateer. 1771 GOLDSM. *Hist. Eng.* IV. 363 He supposed that the Russians would at least continue neuter. 1827 SOUTHEY *Penins. War* I. 582 The port would be considered neuter. 1859 JEPHSON *Brittany* xiv. 225 In the wars of Blois and Montfort the citizens flattered themselves that they could remain neuter.

b. Of individuals in relation to any matter where difference of opinion or conduct exists or is possible.

1713 STEELE *Guard.* No. 1 ¶ 3 As to these matters I shall be impartial, though I cannot be neuter. 1769 BURKE *Corr.* (1844) I. 176 When it came to the question, eleven were for it, only three against. One was neuter. 1802–12 BENTHAM *Ration. Judic. Evid.* (1827) V. 457 In some instances, interest would really be neuter. 1886 *Act* 49 *Vict.* c. 22 § 4 An answer stating whether the person so served assents, dissents, or is neuter in respect of taking such land.

c. In phr. *to stand neuter.*

a 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VII* 11 b, Helpe hym, or elles stand neuter betwene both parties. 1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* v. ii. 362 The sword of the Magistrate cannot stand neuter. 1699 BENTLEY *Phal.* xii. 343 Cicero himself ..seems to stand Neuter, and pronounces on no side. 1721 DE FOE *Mem. Cavalier* (1840) 214 Had the Scots stood neuter. *a* 1774 GOLDSM. *Hist. Greece* I. 308 Those who had stood neuter took this occasion to declare against them. 1863 KINGLAKE *Crimea* (1876) I. xiv. 221 His conscience being used to stand neuter in these mental conflicts.

3. Belonging to neither of two specified or usual categories.

a 1591 H. SMITH *Wks.* (1867) II. 444 Thou art not God, neither art thou man, but neuter, mixed of both! 1660 STANLEY *Hist. Philos.* XII. (1701) 497/2 Dialectick is the Science of things True, False and Neuter. 1668 CULPEPPER & COLE *Barthol. Anat.* Man. IV. i. 336 Obscure (which others cal neuter or doubtful Articulation). 1890 *Athenæum* 4 Jan. 24/1 Their samisens..were marked on the neck for a neuter third in one part of the octave. .. The Japanese pentatonic scale..would be minor were it not for the one indeterminate third.

4. a. *Bot.* Having neither pistils or stamens; neither male nor female; asexual.

1785 MARTYN *Rousseau's Bot.* X. (1794) 101 The fourth of these I call neuter floscules. 1849 BALFOUR *Man. Bot.* 344 Florets of the disk hemaphrodite, those of the ray neuter. 1870 HOOKER *Stud. Flora* 185 Ray-flowers female or neuter.

b. *Ent.* Sexually undeveloped, sterile.

1816 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* xvii. (1818) II. 50 That the neuter ants..are imperfectly organized females appears from the following observation. 1859 DARWIN *Orig. Spec.* vii. 239 Considering how few neuter-insects out of Europe have been examined.

B. *sb.* **I.** *Gram.* **a.** A neuter verb.

1530 PALSGR. Introd. 34 All suche verbes as be used in the latin tong, lyke neuters or deponentes. 1535 JOVE *Apol. Tindale* (Arb.) 9 Tindale..turneth..the verb passiue into a neuter. 1611 COTGR. *Brief Direct.* 4/2 Newters, whose Preterperfect tense is formed by *je suis*. 1727–38 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Verb*, Others..form their compound parts by the auxiliary *to be*;..These are called *neuters passive*. 1751 HARRIS *Hermes* I. ix. 178 Even those Verbs, called Actives, ..can drop their subsequent Accusative, and assume the Form of Neuters. 1843 *Proc. Philol. Soc.* I. 100 In both languages most of the verbs belonging to this conjugation are passives or neuters.

b. A neuter noun or adjective.

1611 BRINSLEY *Pos. Parts* (1669) 105 Give your Rule for Neuters wanting the singular. 1668 WILKINS *Real Char.* III. i. 303 Adjectives, which are also distinguishable into Neuters Active, Passive. 1755 JOHNSON *Gram.* b/1 *He* and *his* having formerly been applied to neuters in the place now supplied by *it* and *its*. 1838 *Penny Cycl.* XI. 110/1 This third class [of nouns] are called somewhat incorrectly neuters. 1896 TOYNBEE *Hist. French Gram.* 177 As a rule Latin neuters singular..became masculine in French.

2. A neutral thing. *rare.*

1522 SKELTON *Why not to Court* 902 Your cupboard that was Is turned to glasse. From gold to pewter Or els to a newter. 1547 BOORDE *Brev. Health* cxci. 67 b, I do saye al inflacions and appostumacions be nuters, for they may be as well exteryal as interial. 1574 WHITGIFT *Def. Answ.* ii. Wks. 1851 I. 252 There be other some traditions which we may call neuters.

3. One who holds himself neutral; one who takes neither side in a dispute or controversy, or favours neither of two opposed views.

1556 J. HEYWOOD *Spider & F.* lxiii. 15 These indiffrentes (or newters) that part most take, That strongest is. 1600 W. WATSON *Decacordon* (1602) 21 Thus thinke worldlings to haue a good excuse to hold out, and so be of neither side, but be as neuters or impersonals. 1646 J. WHITAKER *Uzziah* 16 He was loved of his friends, feared by his enemies, honoured by the neuters. 1699 BENTLEY *Phal.* 293 Must we stand dubious and neuters between both? 1761 HUME *Hist. Eng.* II. xxxi. 203 A certain creed was embraced by each party; few neuters were to be found. 1814 BYRON *Lara* II. vii, Which knows no neuter, owns but foes or friends. 1885 E. GOSSE *Shaks. to Pope* (1893) 86 To use his influence to collect the neuters into a body strong enough to paralyse the extreme party.

†**b.** Of rulers, states, etc. (Cf. A. 2 a and NEUTRAL *sb.* 1) *Obs.*

1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 209 The Duke of Lorayne ..had long syns couenaunted with them both, that he myght be a newter. 1636 E. DACRES tr. *Machiavel's Disc. Livy* II. 328 Their agents that were with the King, agreed with him, to stand neuters. 1665 *Surv. Aff. Netherl.* 182 The first are either shut up by neuters, or blocked by Enemies. 1747 in *Col. Rec. Pennsylv.* V. 146 They all stood Neuters except the French Praying Indians.

4. a. *Ent.* A sexually undeveloped female insect; a mature worker.

1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) VII. 348/2 The neuters or working ants which have no sexual characteristics. 1816 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* xvii. (1818) II. 33 These neuters are quite unlike those in the Hymenoptera perfect societies. 1877 HUXLEY *Anat. Inv. Anim.* 31 It depends on the nutriment supplied to the female larva of a bee whether it shall become a neuter or a sexually perfect female.

b. A castrated animal.

1900 *Daily News* 10 Jun. 6/5 A finer assembly of Blues, Siamese, Manx, and Long-haired neuters .. it would be difficult to secure.

Hence **Neu·ter** *v. trans.*, to castrate. **Neu·terdom**, the state of being (sexually) neuter. **Neu·terlike** *a.*, neutral. **Neu·terly** *adv.*, in a neuter sense. **Neu·terness**, the fact of being (grammatically) neuter.

1556 J. HEYWOOD *Spider & F.* lxiii. 96 That we all maie.. cut of clerelie All vnkindnesse of newterlike indiffrencie. 1774 BARCLAY *Eng. Dict.*, To *Emaciate*...Neuterly, to grow lean. 1894 DAVIDSON *Hebr. Syntax* 2 When 3 p. pr. is used neuterly for it. 1893 A. KENEALY *Dr. Janet* 136 With the bugbear of neuterdom before her eyes. 1899 *Amer. Jrnl. Philol.* XX. 246 The neuterness of the uncompounded neuter verbal. 1903 F. SIMPSON *Bk. Cat* xxi. 237 A cat should be kept on low plain diet..before being neutered.

†**Neuth**, *prep.* and *adv. Sc. Obs. rare.* [Obscurely related to OE. *neoðan* NETHEN.] Beneath.

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XI. 538 Beneth the Park [sa] can thai fair, Quhill neuth the kirk, in-till a rout. *c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* V. x. 3594 (Royal MS.), At þe nauil it was a mas, And outhe and neuthe [*v. r.* neythe] dyuysyd it was.

Neutral (niū·trăl), *a.* and *sb.* Also 6–7 newtrall, 7 neuterall. [a. obs. F. *neutral* (1536 in Godef.), or ad. L. *neutrāl-is* (of gender, Quintilian): see NEUTER and -AL.] **A.** *adj.*

1. Of rulers, states, etc.: Not assisting, or actively taking the side of, either party in the case of a war or disagreement between other states; remaining inactive in relation to the belligerent powers.

1549 *Compl. Scot.* xi. 88 He professit himself to be neutral bot 3it he furnest the empriour vithe sex thousand fut men. 1600 EDMONDS *Observ. Cæsar's Comm.* 101 Such other Commonweales, as before that time had remained newtrall. 1618 BOLTON *Florus* (1636) 11 Being sent as aydes..they turned neuterall in battell for their owne advantage. 1709 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4548/2 The Ships of Neutral Nations shall only be seized. *a* 1781 WATSON *Philip III* (1839) 13 The Spanish general, who..had seized on the towns of neutral powers. 1842 BRANDE *Dict. Sci.*, etc. s.v. *Neutrality*, A neutral nation has the right of furnishing to either of the contending parties all supplies which do not fall within the description of contraband of war. 1881 JOWETT *Thucyd.* I. 142 If you prefer to be neutral .. receive both sides in peace, but neither for the purposes of war.

b. Belonging to a power which remains inactive during hostilities; exempted or excluded from the sphere of warlike operations.

1711 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4989/3 The entire Cargo of a Neutral Ship. 1777 WATSON *Philip II*, III. (1793) I. 256 Some merchants whom he had sent..under neutral colours to procure intelligence. 1817 W. SELWYN *Law Nisi Prius* (ed. 4) II. 928 An insurance effected by him on goods to be delivered at a neutral or friendly port. 1855 BRIGHT *Sp., Russia* 7 June (1876) 257 With regard to making the Black Sea a neutral Sea. 1878 LUBBOCK *Addr. Pol. & Educ.* vii. 129 Neutral goods .. are not liable to capture under enemy's flag.

2. Taking neither side in a dispute, disagreement, or difference of opinions; not inclining toward either party, view, etc.; assisting neither of two contending parties or persons.

1551 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 116 That the said Provest be chosin be newtrall personis havand regard to the commoun weill of the said burghe. 1603 B. JONSON *Sejanus* I. i, Is he Drusian or Germanican? Or ours? or neutrall? 1650 STAPYLTON *Strada's Low C. Wars* v. 100 The multitude thus storming, the Lords neutrall or wavering. 1746 SMOLLETT *Reproof* 197 While sagely neutral sits thy silent friend, Alike averse to censure or commend. 1760 JOHNSON *Idler* No. 100 ¶ 3 My resolution was, to keep my passions neutral, and to marry only in compliance with my reason. 1827 COOPER *Prairie* I. vii. 108 [He] had evidently persuaded himself that it was his duty to be strictly neutral. 1876 MOZLEY *Univ. Serm.* x. (ed. 2) 208 They discard a middle and neutral relation as lukewarm.

b. Belonging to neither party or side.

1564–5 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 316 Ordaining the officiar to..collect the saidis teindis, to stak the samyn in neutrall places. 1857–61 BUCKLE *Civiliz.* (1869) II. v. 233 The neutral ground of physical science. 1873 HAMERTON *Intell. Life* VIII. i. 277 The largest and best minds..arrive at a sort of neutral region.

3. Comprised under, or belonging to, neither of two specified or implied categories; occupying a middle position with regard to two extremes.

1567 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 583 Ane newtrall and indifferent way. 1592 DAVIES *Immort. Soul* XX. ii, Some Things good, and some Things ill do seem, And neutral some, in her fantastick Eye. 1609 DOULAND *Ornith. Microl.* 13 Certain Songs, which do ascend as an Authenticall, and descend as a Plagall, and those are called Neutrall, or mixt Songs. 1675 BAXTER *Cath. Theol.* I. II. 114 Some..deny Adam to have been Holy, and suppose him only Innocent, and Neutral. 1759 WILSON in *Phil. Trans.* LI. 334 The second cause, which electrified both sides *plus* when the stone was in an intermediate (or, as Æpinus calls it, neutral) state, between the two extremes. 1845 *Encycl. Metrop.* IV. 522 Crystals at once attractive, repulsive, and neutral. 1855 BAIN *Senses & Int.* II. i. § 20 The greater number.. are indifferent or neutral, as respects our enjoyments.

b. Having no strongly marked characteristics or features; undefined, indefinite, vague.

1805 FOSTER *Ess.* IV. iii. II. 150 That uncoloured neutral vehicle of expression..which may be called the language of generality. 1876 GEO. ELIOT *Dan. Der.* iii, Miss Merry was elderly and altogether neutral in expression. *Ibid.* xli, Dissatisfied with his neutral life.

c. Having no decided colour; of a bluish or greyish appearance; esp. *neutral colour* or *tint.*

1821 CRAIG *Lect. Drawing*, etc. v. 267 The most remote distance becomes a mass of neutral colour. 1858 HAWTHORNE *Fr. & It. Note-bks.* I. 297 The pillars and walls of this Duomo are of a uniform, brownish, neutral tint. 1879 HARLAN *Eyesight* vii. 97 The best glasses, in daylight at least, are the..neutral gray.

Comb. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. xiv. 94 The dense neutral-tint masses crept along the sides of the mountains. 1869 G. LAWSON *Dis. Eye* (1874) 28 The neutral-tint glasses are far more efficient in affording relief from glare than those of a cobalt-blue colour.

d. Of sounds: Indistinct, indefinite, obscure.

1874 SAYCE *Compar. Philol.* vi. 247 The farther back we push our phonological researches, the greater becomes the number of neutral sounds.

4. a. *Chem.* Having the properties neither of an acid nor of a base; not distinguished by either acid or alkaline reaction.

1661 BOYLE *Exper. & Notes* II. iv, I was wont to give them a negative appellation, and call each of them the neutral or adiaphorous spirit of the body that affords it. 1727–38 CHAMBERS *Cycl., Neutral Salts*, among chemists, are a sort of intermediate salts between acids and alkalies; partaking of the nature of both. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) IV. 398/2 The liquor will neither have the properties of an acid nor an alkali, but will be what is called neutral. 1838 T. THOMSON *Chem. Org. Bodies* 106 The solution is neutral. 1875 *Ure's Dict. Arts* (ed. 7) III. 844 Natural or neutral fats and oils, chemically considered, are really salts.

b. *Optics.* Having or indicating none of the phenomena of polarization.

1813 BREWSTER *New Philos. Instr.* IV. iv. 336 The horizontal and vertical lines .. drawn upon the plate of mica, may be called the neutral axes of the mica. 1845 *Encycl. Metrop.* IV. 565 Every point in a certain line..will therefore be in a neutral state as to polarization, and, of course, appear black.

c. *Electr.* Neither positive nor negative. Also *neutral temperature*, that at which no current is produced by two metals arranged to exhibit thermo-electric force; *neutral point* (see quot. 1892).

1837 BREWSTER *Magnet.* 363 The decomposition of the neutral fluid will begin immediately. 1860 G. PRESCOTT *Electr. Telegr.* 15 The quantity of neutral fluid which a body contains cannot be determined. 1885 WATSON & BURBURY *Math. The. Electr. & Magn.* I. 241 In an iron and copper couple this neutral temperature is, according to Sir W. Thomson, about 280° C. 1892 G. F. BARKER *Physics* 731 The point of temperature at which a given pair of metals have the same thermo-electric power .. is called the neutral point.

d. *Mech.* Lying at the point where the forces of extension and compression meet and are in equilibrium.

1845 *Encycl. Metrop.* III. 60/2 An isosceles triangle, having its vertex in the neutral axis. 1869 SIR E. REED *Shipbuild.* v. 80 The score in the centre plate is cut very near the neutral axis of the girder.

e. Of equilibrium: (see quot. 1879).

1865 *Intell. Observ.* No. 47. 344 Equilibrium stable, unstable, and neutral. 1879 THOMSON & TAIT *Nat. Phil.* I. i. § 291 If a material system, under the influence of internal and applied forces, varying according to some definite law, is balanced by them in any position in which it may be placed, its equilibrium is said to be neutral.

5. Asexual; having no sexual characteristics.

a. *Ent.* Sexually abortive or undeveloped.

1747 GOULD *Eng. Ants* 35 The Queen Ant lays three different Sorts of Eggs, the Male, Female, and Neutral. 1802 PALEY *Nat. Theol.* xviii. (1817) 151 The grub is nurtured neither by the father nor the mother, but by the neutral bee.

b. *Bot.* Having neither pistils nor stamens.

1796 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) I. 323 Floret. Tubular, ..Neutral, containing neither stamens nor pistil. 1846–50 A. WOOD *Class-bk. Bot.* 311 Where the flowers..of the ray or margin are pistillate or neutral.

c. Belonging to the class of eunuchs.

1820 BYRON *Juan* v. xxvi, Just now a black old neutral personage Of the third sex stept up.

B. *sb.* 1. One who remains neutral between two parties or sides; a subject of a neutral state, etc.

c 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* I. xvi. 87 Summe of 30u ben clepid Doctour-mongers, and summe ben clepid Opinioun-holders, and summe ben Neutralis. 1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 289 They that tooke part with neither of them, were called Newtralles. 1601 LD. MOUNTJOY *Let.* in Moryson *Itin.* (1617) II. 173 The whole Province either is joyned with them, or stand neutrals. 1627 HAKEWILL *Apol.* IV. ii. 286 Such as are Neutralls, who may labour with the one side and with the other to compound the quarrell. 1756 *Boston News-Letter* 22 Jan. 2/2 The French Inhabitants of Nova-Scotia, commonly call'd Neutrals. 1777 J. ADAMS in *Fam. Lett.* (1876) 323 In politics they are a breed of mongrels or neutrals. 1807–8 SYD. SMITH *P. Plymley's Lett.* Wks. 1859 II. 182/1 There should be a free entry of neutrals into the enemy's ports. 1877 BROCKETT *Cross & Cr.* 26 The powers of Western Europe were either allies of Turkey or neutrals.

b. A neutral vessel.

1805 *Spirit Public Jrnls.* IX. 378 Come my lads, let's run down that merchantman; let's overhaul that neutral.

†2. A neuter word. *Obs. rare* —1.

1694 SALMON *Bate's Dispens.* (1713) 323/1 Here it signifies neither Male nor Female, but a Neutral thing without Life, and therefore we used it as a Neutral.

3. A neutral salt.

1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) II. 396 It can then be taken in larger quantity, and need not interfere with ammoniacal neutrals.

Neutralism (niū'trăliz'm). [f. prec. + -ISM.] Maintenance of neutrality.

1579 W. WILKINSON *Confut. Familye of Love* 39 b, Our owne Newtralisme, and Lukwarmenes shall .. vtterly condemne vs. 1861 M. ARNOLD *Pop. Educ. France* 221 Their neutralism will be at an end, denominationalism will have made them prisoners.

Neutralist (niū'trălist). Also 7 neuter-. [f. as prec. + -IST.] One who maintains a neutral attitude (in early use *spec.* in matters of religion). Also rarely as *adj.* (quot. 1810).

1623 T. SCOTT *Highw. God* 58 The prophane Naturalist and Neuteralist, who is of all religions, or no religion. *a* 1665 J. GOODWIN *Filled w. the Spirit* (1867) 359 Absolute neutralists in all manner of tenets and opinions in matters of religion. 1713 *Humble Plead. Gd. Old Way* App. 9 Malignants, Episcopalians, Neutralists, with many professed (tho' unsound) Presbyterians. 1797 *Hist. in Ann. Reg.* 166/1 The neutralists were at pains to explain..their principles. 1810 THIRLWALL *Lett.* (1881) I. 7, I am at present, therefore, neutralist. 1833 LYTTON *Godolphin* lv, The silent neutralist soon became regarded..as the secret foe.

Neutrality (niūtræ'lĭti). Also 5–7 newtral(l)-. [ad. F. *neutralité* (14th c.), or med.L. *neutrālitas*, f. *neutrālis* NEUTRAL *a.*: see -ITY.]

1. (With *the.*) The neutral party in any dispute or difference of opinion; the neutral powers during a war (†also *pl.*). Now only *Hist.*

1480 CAXTON *Chron. Eng.* ccxlix, The threfold governance in the chirche, that is to wete, of Eugenye, of the counseyll, and of the neutralyte. 1599 HAYWARD *1st Pt. Hen. IV* 25 The Archbishop of Canterbury, and certaine others of the neutrality,..perswaded the king to come to a treaty with the lordes. 1711 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4933/1 The Troops of the Neutrality, that were in Silesia, are separated. 1781 COWPER *Lett.* Wks. 1837 XV. 73 And as to the neutralities, I really think the Russian virago an impertinent puss for meddling with us. 1827 SCOTT *Napoleon* IV. 253 The association of the Northern States in 1780, known by the name of the armed Neutrality.

2. A neutral attitude between contending parties or powers; abstention from taking any part in a war between other states.

1494 FABYAN *Chron.* VII. 612 Some countres vphelde that one [pope], and some that other, so that there were allowyd none of theym both, and that was called the newtralytie. 1571 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* II. 88 Thinking be thair newtralitie and baklying to be welcum to quhatsumevir party beis victour. 1601 LD. MOUNTJOY *Let.* in Moryson *Itin.* (1617) II. 143 No better then neutralitie is to be expected from those that are best affected. 1672 R. MONTAGU in *Buccleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 517 The ill answers this Court has received from Spain to their proposition of a neutrality. 1710 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4669/4 The Neutrality which is to be observed by the Northern Crowns. 1831 SIR J. SINCLAIR *Corr.* II. 222 What..the country would prefer, is a war between France and England, and the advantages of a lucrative neutrality. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* vii. § 6. 405 England set aside the balanced neutrality of Elizabeth.

b. The state or condition of being on neither side or inclined neither way; absence of decided views, feeling, or expression; indifference.

1561 DAUS tr. *Bullinger on Apoc.* (1573) 58 b, The lothsomenes which God conceaueth of this newtralitie or warmnes. 1600 E. BLOUNT tr. *Conestaggio* A 2 Those Readers that can iudge of the truth of a historie and the newtrallitie of the writer. 1665 GLANVILL *Scepsis Sci.* i. 15 The grey heads of Reverend Antiquity have been content to sit down here in profest Neutrality. 1751 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 89 ¶ 9 That no part of life be spent in a state of neutrality or indifference. 1788 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xlvii. IV. 573 On a subject which engrossed the thoughts..of men, it was difficult to preserve an exact neutrality. 1871 GEO. ELIOT *Middlem.* xxiii, [He] looked before him with as complete a neutrality as if he had been a portrait by a great master.

c. The neutral character *of* a place during a war.

1745 P. THOMAS *Jrnl. Anson's Voy.* 297 Why the Neutrality of their Ports should be violated. 1808 WELLINGTON in *Gurw. Desp.* (1837) IV. 205 The Russian Admiral..would claim the neutrality of the port of Lisbon. 1833 M. SCOTT *Tom Cringle* xix, He will never venture to infract the neutrality of the waters surely.

3. An intermediate state or condition, not clearly one thing or another.

1570 J. DEE *Math. Pref.* iv b, A meruaylous newtralitie haue these thinges Mathematicall, and also a straunge participation betwene thinges supernaturall .. and thynges naturall. *a* 1631 DONNE *Anat. World* Poems (1633) 238 Physitians say that wee, At best, enjoy but a neutralitie. 1743 H. WALPOLE *Corr.* (ed. 3) I. lx. 229, I wish I could make as long a letter for you, but we are in a neutrality of news. 1843 J. MARTINEAU *Chr. Life* (1867) 154 A striking neutrality of treatment.

b. *Chem.* The fact or state of being neutral.

1880 CLEMINSHAW *Wurtz' Atomic The.* 13 The .. well-known fact of the permanence of neutrality in the double decomposition of two neutral salts. 1882 TYNDALL in *Longm. Mag.* I. 36 Its behaviour .. approaches that of elementary bodies. May it not help to explain their neutrality?

4. a. The fact of being of the neuter gender.

1659 PEARSON *Creed* II. 271 The plurality of the verb, and the neutrality of the noun, with the distinction of their persons, speak a perfect identity of their essence.

b. The condition of belonging to neither sex.

1823 BYRON *Juan* VI. cxvii, The trouble that they [*sc.* women] gave, their immorality, Which made him daily bless his own neutrality.

Neutralization (niūträlaizē'ʃən). [f. next + -ATION. Cf. F. *neutralisation* (1797).]

1. The action of neutralizing by means of something having an opposite nature or effect; an instance of this: a. *Chem.* and *Electr.*

1808 DAVY in *Phil. Trans.* XCIX. 101 A species of neutralization, by the oxide or inflammable body. 1827 FARADAY *Chem. Manip.* xii. 274 Neutralizations are best effected with the assistance of heat. 1860 G. PRESCOTT *Electr. Telegr.* 16 The neutralization of the two contrary electricities..may take place according to different modes. 1881 *Rep. Brit. Assoc.* 574 The neutralisation of a particular quantity of a given acid.

b. In general use.

1856 DOVE *Logic Chr. Faith* I. ii. § 2. 84 The cause of the neutralization or compensation of equal opposing force. 1866 AITKEN *Pract. Med.* II. 35 The principle of cure.. which has been called the method of neutralization. 1885 AGNES CLERKE *Pop. Hist. Astron.* 52 The point of neutralisation of opposing tendencies.

2. The action of making neutral in time of war.

1870 *Echo* 14 Nov., Russia had..declared that the neutralisation of the Black Sea was unsupportable. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 27 Feb. 5/3 The neutralisation of the Congo basin.

Neutralize (niū'trăləiz), *v.* [ad. F. *neutraliser* (1611), or med.L. *neutrālisāre* (Du Cange): see NEUTRAL *a.* and -IZE.]

†1. *intr.* To remain neutral. *Obs. rare* —1.

a 1665 J. GOODWIN *Filled w. the Spirit* (1867) 337 Whether it be better and safer to neutralise between these two opinions, and hang in suspense?

2. *trans.* a. *Chem.* To render neutral. Also *refl.*

1759 COLEBROOKE in *Phil. Trans.* LI. 51, I neutralized Spanish White, by fermenting it with vinegar. 1816 FARADAY *Exp. Researches* i. 2 The solution was..neutralized by sulphuric acid, and precipitated. 1836–41 BRANDE *Chem.* (ed. 5) 639 The alkali in the basin is now to be neutralized with the acid in the tube. 1883 *Hardwich's Photogr. Chem.* (ed. Taylor) 180 Nitric Acid added to such a Bath neutralizes itself and displaces Acetic Acid.

b. *Electr.* To make void of electricity; to render electrically inert.

1837 BREWSTER *Magnet.* 122 If we carry the needle, when perfectly neutralized, round the sphere. 1860 G. PRESCOTT *Electr. Telegr.* 16 The contrary electricities may be neutralized..by means of an insulated conductor. 1885 WATSON & BURBURY *Math. The. Electr. & Magn.* I. 93 If the enclosed system, together with the distribution on the inner surface, were..allowed to..neutralise each other.

3. To counterbalance; to render ineffective or void; to destroy by an opposite force or effect.

1795 BURKE *Regic. Peace* iv. Wks. IX. 13 Regicide neutralizes all the acrimony of that power, and renders it safe and social. 1820 HAZLITT *Lect. Dram. Lit.* 11, The very nature of our academic institutions..neutralizes a taste for the productions of native genius. 1875 OUSELEY *Mus. Form* ii. 18 Thus one irregularity of construction in this case neutralises the effect of the other.

4. To exempt or exclude (a place) from the sphere of warlike operations.

1856 in McCarthy *Own Times* xxviii. (1887) I. 417 The Black Sea is neutralised. 1883 *Manch. Guard.* 15 Oct. 5/4 Such an Egypt..would..be neutralised under a general European guarantee.

Hence **Neutralized** *ppl. a.*

1766 CAVENDISH in *Phil. Trans.* LVII. 100 There is still a good deal of earth remaining in it in a neutralized state. 1796 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) I. 484 The neutralized solution should then be divided into two equal portions. 1881 TYNDALL *Floating Matter of Air* 230 To send me a supply of neutralized urine. 1899 CAGNEY tr. *Jaksch's Clin. Diagn.* ii. (ed. 4) 107, 3 parts sheep's serum, one part neutralised veal bouillon.

Neutralizer. [f. prec. + -ER 1.]

†1. One who adopts a neutral attitude. *Obs.*

1628 H. BURTON *Israel's Fast* Ded. 10 A third sort of Achans are Neutralizers. 1629 — *Babel no Bethel* 64 We should have fewer Neutralizers.

2. One who, or that which, neutralizes something.

1843 *Blackw. Mag.* LIV. 53 Accrediting them as neutralizers of regular armies to an enormous amount. 1869 BROWNING *Ring & Bk.* VII. 1596 The neutralizer of all good and truth. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 175/2 Plaster of Paris is a still more powerful neutraliser of heat.

Neutralizing, *vbl. sb.* [f. as prec. + -ING 1.] † The fact of remaining neutral.

1642 BRIDGE *Serm. Norfolk Volunteers* 10 Want of courage and neutralizing in a Magistrate is worse then in others. 1657 REEVE *God's Plea* 175 Let not the Country man..blush at your neutralizing.

Neutralizing, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ING 2.].

†1. Inclined to be neutral. *Obs. rare* —1.

1643 BURROUGHES *Exp. Hosea* ii. (1652) 186, I had a neutralizing spirit, I looked which way the wind blew.

2. Rendering neutral, in various senses.

1784 WATT in *Phil. Trans.* LXXIV. 420 It acted the part of a neutralizing acid. 1849 NOAD *Electricity* (ed. 3) 369 The neutralizing needle in his instrument is attached to the principal one. 1853 W. GREGORY *Inorg. Chem.* (ed. 3) 131 The composition of which may vary..without affecting the neutralising power. 1870 *Standard* 16 Nov., We may consent to a modification of the neutralising clauses of the treaty in her favour.

Neutrally (niū'trăli), *adv.* [f. NEUTRAL *a.* + -LY 2.] In a neutral manner or sense.

1571 GOLDING *Calvin on Ps.* XX. 7 It is no new thing among the Hebrewes for woordes to be put newtrally which properly are transitive. 1585–6 EARL LEICESTER *Corr.* (Camden) 141 Some other places, also, that lyved newtraly before. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* VI. 243 Not much condemning, neither absolutely qualifying them, but shall (as it were) neutrally nominate .. those places. 1837 ARNOLD *Let.* in Stanley *Life* (1844) II. viii. 96 It was then impossible to give even physical instruction neutrally. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 24 Nov. 4/6 What may be conveniently, because neutrally, described as a 'transaction'.

Neutralness. *rare* —1. [f. as prec. + -NESS.] The condition of being of no gender.

1865 J. GROTE *Explor. Philos.* I. 50 Grammatical gender, as compared with the notion of actual sex and of neutralness or absence of personality.

Neutral-tinted, *a.* [See NEUTRAL *a.* 3 c.] Of a neutral tint; not brightly or clearly coloured.

1879 F. W. ROBINSON *Coward Consc.* II. i, Hers had been a neutral-tinted existence. 1882 J. HAWTHORNE *Fort. Fool* I. xxxi, The sober, neutral-tinted world. 1893 SIR R. BALL *Story of Sun* 211 Through a neutral-tinted dark glass.

Neutricion, obs. form of NUTRITION.

†Neutrize, *v. Obs. rare* —1. [f. NEUTER *a.* + -IZE.] *intr.* To stay neutral.

1609 HEYWOOD *Lucrece* Wks. 1874 V. 192, I can..fret with Horatius Cocles, be mad like my selfe, or neutrize with Collatine.

Neutro-, combining form of NEUTER *a.*, occurring in a few words, such as **Neutrologi·stic** *a.* (see quot. 1824). **Neutropa·ssive** *a.*, neuter passive. **Neu·trophil(e** *a.*, that can be stained with neutral solutions; *sb.*, a cell that may be so stained; so **Neutro·philous** *a.*

1530 Palsgr. Introd. 35 As for verbes neutropassyves, I fynde none in all the tong saufe onely *je nays*. 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Neutro-passive Verbs*, verbs Neuter that have their Preterperfect Tense form'd out of a Passive Participle : as *Gaudeo, gavisus sum* [etc.]. 1824 J. Gilchrist *Etym. Interpreter* 77 Mr. Bentham again divides the first division into eulogistic and dyslogistic, and thence denominates the unimpassioned class neutrologistic. 1890 *Cent. Dict.*, Neutrophile. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV. 578 These leucocytes are often called 'neutrophiles'. 1899 Cagney tr. *Jaksch's Clin. Diagn.* i. (ed. 4) 37 Neutrophil granules stain best with neutral dyes, *i. e.* those composed of a coloured base and an acid. 1900 *Pop. Sci. Monthly* Jan. 380 The most abundant .. are those called the polynuclear, neutrophilous leucocytes.

Neu·tro-sa·line, *a. Chem.* That possesses the properties of a neutral salt. Also *absol.*

1751 Stack in *Phil. Trans.* XLVII. 270 Being put on the fire, it evaporated.., and left .. a frothy neutro-saline sediment. 1806 Davy *ibid.* XCVII. 19 The smallest proportion of neutrosaline matter seemed to be acted on with energy. 1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 1142 These acids..combine with the bases, in definite proportions, to form compounds analogous to the neutro-saline.

Neuu, Neuy(e, obs. ff. Nephew. **Neuyn,** var. Neven *v. Obs.* **Neuyr,** obs. f. Never. **Nev,** obs. Sc. f. New *a.*

Nevadite (nĭvā·dəit). *Min.* [f. *Nevada*, one of the United States + -ite 1.] A variety of rhyolite, having a resemblance to granite.

1883 *Amer. Jrnl. Sci.* XXVI. 231 Baron von Richthofen ..mentions the locality as a typical one for a variety of rhyolite which he named nevadite. 1884 *Ibid.* XXVII. 462 Both nevadite and liparite possess the porphyritic structure. 1888 Teall *Brit. Petrogr.* 75 The typical nevadites, however, are not granitic, but trachytic in texture.

†**Neve** 1. *Obs.* Forms: 1 nefa, 2 neafa, nefe, 2–5 neue, 4 newe, 4–6 neve, 6 nevve, nephe. [OE. *nefa* = OFris. *neva*, OS. *nevo* (MDu. *neve, neef*, Du. *neef*), MLG. *neve*, OHG. *nevo, nefo* (MHG. *neve, nefe*, G. *neffe*), ON. *nefi* :—OTeut. **nĕvon-*, related to L. *nepōt-, nepos* grandson, Gr. *νέποδες* (pl.), offspring, Skr. *napāt-, napt-* descendant, grandson: cf. Nephew.]

1. A nephew.

Beowulf 2206 Hearde hildefrecan..niða genæzdan nefan Hererices. *c* 900 *O. E. Chron.* (Parker MS.) an. 670 Hloþhere feng to biscepdome ofer Wesseaxan, Æzelbryhtes biscopes nefa. *a* 1122 *Ibid.* (Laud MS.) an. 1114 Þone ærcediæcne Iohan þes arcebiscopes neafe. 1154 *Ibid.* an. 1137 Þar he nam..hise neues. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 724 He toc him loth on sunes stede ; He was hise neve. 13.. *Guy Warw.* (A.) 1418 Hougoun, þat was þe doukes neve Otoun. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 3418 Þe stiward had a newe but of 3ong age. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 96, I louyd my neve as weel as ony of my kyn. 1516 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) VI. 1 To Walter Percehay my neve xx s. *c* 1540 *Plumpton Corr.* (Camden) 238 You required me to helpe Tho. Compton, your nephe, to some honiest ocopation.

2. A grandson.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 355/1 Neve, sonys sone, *nepos*. 1534 Tindale 1 *Tim.* v. 4 If eny widdowes have children or neves [1525 neveus].

3. A spendthrift. *rare* —1.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 355/1 Neve, neuerthryfte, or wastour.

†**Neve** 2. *Obs. rare* —1. [a. obs. F. *neve*, or ad. L. *nævus* Nævus.] A mark on the skin.

1624 Burton *Anat. Mel.* III. ii. v. iii. (ed. 2) 442 Frechons, haires, warts, neues, inequalities.

Neve, obs. form of Nieve.

‖ **Névé** (neve). [mod.F., ad. Alpine dial. *nevé* :—Romanic type **nivāl-um*, f. L. *niv-, nix* snow : cf. late L. *nivātus* cooled with snow.]

1. The crystalline or granular snow on the upper part of a glacier, which has not yet been compressed into ice; = Firn.

1853 Kane *Grinnell Exp.* xlviii. (1856) 450 The change of the Arctic snows into *névé* or firn. 1856 — *Arct. Expl.* I. 336, I found grains of *neve* larger than a walnut. 1871 L. Stephen *Playgr. Eur.* (1894) v. 118 The steep slopes of névé above us..bulged out into huge overhanging masses. *attrib.* 1873 J. Geikie *Gt. Ice Age* (1894) 545 The névé-fields under the Schneestock. 1897 *Outing* (U. S.) XXIX. 339/1 The inland ice, beyond the glacier's 'névé' basin.

2. A field or bed of frozen snow.

1884 *Academy* 23 Aug. 113/2 His descriptions certainly point to nevés and frozen snow-beds rather than to glaciers in the exact sense. 1892 Lubbock *Beauties Nature* vii. If..we trace one of the Swiss rivers to its source we shall generally find that it begins in a snowfield or névé.

†**Nevede,** had not: see Ne and Have *v.*

a 1300 *Vox & Wolf* 98 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* I. 61 3ef ich neuede to muchel i-ete, This ilke shome neddi nouthe.

Ne·vel, *sb. Sc.* Also 6 -ell, 7 newell, 8 nevvel. [f. Nevel *v.*] A blow with the fist.

15.. *Christ's Kirk* vii, They partit manly with a nevell. 1602 in *J. Mill's Diary* (1889) 187 James Brown hes giffin Hendrie Waltersoun ane newell. 1715 Ramsay *Christ's Kirk* II. iii, Wi' nevels I'm amaist fawn faint. 1739 A. Nicol *Nature without Art*, Some wi' Nevvels had sair snouts. 1819 Tennant *Papistry Storm'd* (1827) 154 Was naething gain but knocks and nevels. 1846 tr. *Drummond's Muckomachy* 17 (E. D. D.), Gave his cheeks some dainty nevels.

Nevel (ne·v'l), *v. Sc.* and *north. dial.* Forms: 6 neffel, 7 nauell, 9 knevel, neavil, nevil, 8– nevel. [f. *neve* Nieve, fist + *-el*, -le 3 ; perh. directly from Scand., cf. Norw. dial. *nevla* to knead (Ross).] *trans.* To beat with the fists ; to pound or pummel. Hence **Ne·velling** *vbl. sb.*

a 1572 Knox *Hist. Ref.* Wks. 1846 I. 146 Frome schouldering, thei go to buffetis, and from dry blawes, by neffis and neffelling. 1603 *Philotus* cxxxiv, Thow sall beir me a beuell, For with my Neiues I sall the nauell. 1684 Meriton *Yorksh. Dialogue* 603 She'l Nawpe and Nevel them without a Cause. 1791 J. Learmont *Poems* 337 [He] nevell'd me sae sair, That for a week I could nae draw my breath. 1815 Scott *Guy M.* xxiv, Twa landloupers..got me down and knevelled me sair aneuch. 1855 Robinson *Whitby Gloss., Neavill'd* or *Nevilled*, pummelled with the fist. 'A good nevilling'. [Also in later northern glossaries.]

Nevel, variant of Nivel *sb.* and *v. Obs.*

†**Ne·veling,** *adv. Obs. rare.* [f. OE. *nifol*, var. of *neowol* prone, prostrate + -ling 2.] Face downwards.

1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) II. 193 Dede wommen kareyns .. ligge neuelynge and dounriȝt. *Ibid.* III. 401 Þere þou liest nevelynge, and schuldest telle after þese þynges of hevene.

†**Ne·ven,** *v. Obs.* Forms: 4 neiuen, neyuen, 4–5 neuyn, 5–6 nevyn, (4, 6 -yne), 4–6 neuin, nevin, neuen, (4–5 -ene), neven, (4–5 -ene); 4–5 nefen ; 4 newine, 5 -yn(e. [a. ON. *nefna* (Da. *nævne*), also *nemna* (Sw. *nämna*), f. *nafn, namn* : see Name *sb.* and Nemn *v.*

The form *nemen(e* is occas. found in MSS. where the rime-word shows that *neven* is intended.]

1. *trans.* To give as a name to (a person or thing).

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 4980 Þai war breþer elleuen at ham, Þai neuend me þe yongeist nam. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 10 Þat burȝe he biges vpon fyrst, & neuenes hit his aune nome. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 619 And so him neuyned was þe name of his next frendis Alexsandire þe athill. *Ibid.* 1119 He..comandis þaim swyþe..to make a cite, And neuens it his awen name.

b. To call (a thing) by a certain name.

a 1400–50 *Alexander* 2119 Scamandra þe skyr flode þe scripture it neue[n]s. 1412–20 Lydg. *Chron. Troy* III. xxvii, I note in sothe what I may it neuene, Outher a dream or veryly a sweuene.

2. To name (a person, etc.), to mention by name.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 2327 Þis abram þat ȝee her me neuen. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 8012 Þy fader canstow nought neuen. *c* 1384 Chaucer *H. Fame* III. 348 By hym stonden other seuene Wise and worthy for to neuene. *c* 1430 Lydg. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 214 Alle constellacioun that any man can neven. *c* 1475 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 284 Many moo londes that I can not nevene. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* VII. v. 60 The maist souerane realme, ..That..man can nevin.

b. To appoint, nominate (a person) to a position.

1442 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 60/1 Collectours therto to be nevend. *Ibid.* 60/2 Capitayns as by the Kyng shall be nevend.

3. To mention, speak of, give an account of.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 4056 Ioseph he sagh a night in sueuen, Þe quilk es worþie for to neuen. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 20 Þe date of Criste to neuen þus fele were gon. *c* 1400 tr. *Secreta Secret., Gov. Lordsh.* 102 Þe vertuz & þe maners þat y shall neuen þe. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* iii. 12 Fulle meruelus to neuen yit was ther vnkyndnes. 1509 Hawes *Past. Pleas.* III. (Percy Soc.) 19 A great gyaunt, To marveylous nowe for me to neven. *a* 1529 Skelton *Col. Clout* 826 He dare not well neuen What they do in heuen.

b. With clause as object.

c 1386 Chaucer *Can. Yeom. Prol. & T.* 920 Syn that God ..Ne wol not that the philosophres nevene, How that a man schal come unto this stoon. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 318 How he is merkid & made is mervaile to neuyn. *Ibid.* 1105, I sall þe neuen sen þou me now prays, þou sall be drechid of a drinke.

c. To tell (a story, the truth).

c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 2453 Whan it was so neiȝ niȝt, to neuen þe soþe, Þe werwolf wist wel [etc.]. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 5306 Se þi-selfe a sampill þat I þe sothe neuyn. *c* 1430 *Syr Tryam.* 6 Of a story y wylle begynne, That gracyus ys to nevyne.

d. With *as, than*, etc.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 2743 Þe word es wers þan man mai neuen. 13.. *Ibid.* 2085 (Gött.), For he liued leleli as I 3ou neuen, He ssittes wid nighti godd in heuen. *c* 1450 Holland *Howlat* 716 Thair notis anone, gif I richt newyne, War of Mary the myld. *c* 1485 *Digby Myst.* (1882) III. 315 Gold perteynyng to þe sonne, as astronomers nevyn. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* III. ii. 144 A deidlie ȝeir, fer wers than I can nevin, Fell on our membris.

4. With cognate object: To utter, mention (the name of a person or thing).

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 8913 For sco had neuend crist nam,.. þai heued þat womman. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 410 Noe þat ofte neuened þe name of oure lorde. *c* 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) xxv. 116 Þan saise þe steward of þe courte þat lord and þat lorde, and neuens þaire names. *c* 1450 Holland *Howlat* 33 Bot all thar names to nevyn as now it nocht neid is. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* lxxxv. 60 Thy name I sall ay nevyne.

5. *intr.* To tell or make mention *of* a person or thing.

a 1330 *Roland & V.* 157 For þi herodes lete me sle, þer of y the neuen. 13.. *Cursor M.* 3116* (Gött.), Of ysaac nou wil i neuen. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 4881 Of þe noblay to neuen it neyd any cristen. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* VI. 196 Quhar gret dulle is,..Newyn off it is bot ekyng off payne.

b. To say, speak.

c 1400 *Song of Roland* 1048 Then answerd olyuer with a ruffull steuyn, Angry in hert thus gan he nevyn.

Hence † **Ne·vening** *vbl. sb.*

a 1300 *K. Horn* (Camb. MS.) 220 Þanne hym spak þe gode king, 'Wel bruc þu þi neuening'.

Never (ne·vəɪ), *adv.* Forms: 1–3 næfre, (1 -ræ, -ra), 2–3 nefre, 3–4 nefere, (3 nafre, næfer, neofer) ; 3 næu(e)re, nau(e)re, (-ære, -er), neaure, -uer, neou(u)ere, 4 nouer ; 4 neure, 4–5 neuere, (5 -ire), 4–7 neuer, (4 neyuer), 5–6 neuir, (5 -yr) ; 3 newere, 3, 6–7 newir, 6–7 newer ; 4 nev(e)re, 4–6 nevir, 7 *Sc.* neaver, 4– never. See also Ne'er. [OE. *næfre*, f. *ne* Ne + *æfre* Ever.]

I. 1. At no time, on no occasion.

In former use (down to 17th c.) frequently accompanied by other negatives, esp. *ne, no*, or *none*.

Beowulf 247 Næfre ic maran ȝeseah eorla ofer eorþan. *c* 888 K. Ælfred *Boeth.* v. § 1 Of ðære næfre nan, buta he self wolde, ne wearð adrifen. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. vii. 23 Næfra [*Rushw.* næfræ] ic cuðe inih. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 39 Þonne ne hingreþ us næfre on ecnesse. *a* 1100 *Gerefa* in *Anglia* IX. 260 Ne læte he næfre his hyrmen hyne oferwealdan. 1154 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1137 Ne nnæren næure nan martyrs swa pined alse hi wæron. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 33 Ne wot no man hwat blisse þe nanre wowe ne bod. *c* 1275 *Passion our Lord* 56 in *O. E. Misc.* 39 Swich leche bi-vore hym ne com her neuer non. *c* 1315 Shoreham III. 161 Þou ne myȝt hytte nefere do. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 26 A newe [world] schal beginne, Fro which a man schal nevere twinne. *c* 1450 Lovelich *Grail* xxvii. 44 3it wolde he neuere to his God Offensse. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* IV. i. 119 To swere that he shold neuer do none enchauntement vpon her. 1525 Lo. Berners *Froiss.* II. 133 They wolde answere and saye, they trusted that sholde neuer he. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 442 b, Therfore thought they now, or els never, yt God was on theyr side. 1632 Lithgow *Trav.* VII. 327 Serpent like, .. That bowes the Grasse, but neuer makes no path. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* III. 448 Time is lost, which never will renew. 1727 Gay *Begg. Op.* I. viii, Then or never is the time to make her fortune. 1782 Miss Burney *Cecilia* V. vii. Is this lady-like tyranny then never to end? 1808 Scott *Marm.* III. xix, A braver never drew a sword ; A wiser never. 1872 Lever *Ld. Kilgobbin* xxi, I certainly shall never be rebuked for my becomingness.

Prov. 1862 Trollope *Orley F.* II. x. 77 Never is a long word. 1904 *Q. Rev.* July 152 Never, it is rightly said, is a long day.

b. With addition of limiting word, as *after, before* (†*afore*, †*tofore*), †*eft*, †*ere, since* (†*sithen*), *yet*. Also † *never-te*, never yet.

Beowulf 583 Breca næfre ȝit..swa deorlice dæd ȝefremede. *c* 900 *O. E. Chron.* (Parker MS.) an. 409 Næfre siþan Romane ne ricsodon on Bretone. *c* 1200 Ormin 750 3et wass 3ho swa bifundenn, þatt 3ho .. Ne mihhte næfrær tæmenn. *c* 1250 *Kent. Serm.* in *O. E. Misc.* 35 Hi ne hedden neuer-te i-heed prophete ne apostle. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 6836 Neuereft hii of denemarch hiderward ne come. 1340 *Ayenb.* 99 Zuyche weneþ hit wel conne..þet neuerte ne couþe bote þe rynde wyþoute. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xvi. 216 Widwe with-oute wedloke was neure 3ete yseye. *c* 1420 *Anturs of Arth.* xxxi, Sithe glee Seȝhe he neuyr are. *c* 1500 *Melusine* 360 Sayeng þat neuer tofore they herd of suche a thing. 1582 N. Lichefield tr. *Castanheda's Conq. E. Ind.* I. ii. 4 Pedro .. never after returned into Portingale. 1600 J. Pory tr. *Leo's Africa* IX. 336 Neuer did any man as yet see where Nilus taketh his originall. 1667 Milton *P. L.* IX. 504 Never since of Serpent kind Lovelier. 1766 Goldsm. *Vic. W.* XV, I never yet found one instance of their existence. 1860 Tyndall *Glac.* II. xxiv 354, I believe the fact was never before observed.

c. Repeated for the sake of emphasis.

1605 Shaks. *Lear* V. iii. 308. 1681–6 J. Scott *Chr. Life* (1747) III. 546 They are safe arrived into each others Arms, never, never to be parted more. 1768 Beattie *Minstr.* I. xxix, From the prayer of Want, .. O never, never turn away thine ear ! 1777 Pitt in Almon *Anecd.* (1792) III. xliv. 167 If I were an American..I never would lay down my arms—never—never—never. 1809–10 Coleridge *Friend* (1865) 127 To be found .. in the realities of Heaven, but never, never, in creatures of flesh and blood.

d. In emphatic denial, or as an expression of surprise.

1836–7 Dickens *Sk. Boz, Our Parish* vi, Could such things he tolerated in a Christian land? Never ! 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* i, This almost caused Jemima to faint with terror. 'Well, I never',—said she.

2. Not at all, in no way. In later use chiefly with imperatives, esp. *never* (*you*) *fear* or *mind*.

In some cases the temporal sense is not completely effaced.

1362 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. Prol. 12 A Meruelous sweuene, þat I was in a Wildernesse wuste I neuer where. *a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* (1868) 79 He..asked what that was. And his wiff saide she wost neuer. *c* 1500 *Melusine* 297 He was ryght dolaunt .. and coude neuer hold hys tonge, but he said [etc.]. *c* 1590 Marlowe *Faustus* Wks. (Rtldg.) 124/2 'Sblood, I am never able to endure these torments. 1605 Shaks. *Macb.* III. iv. 56 Neuer shake Thy goary lockes at me. 1774 Foote *Cozeners* III. Wks. 1799 II. 182, I take care, Missy, never you fear. 1825 Bentham *Offic. Apt. Maximized, Indications* (1839) 42 Never you mind that ; your business is to make sure of the fees. 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 25 Give your opinion.., never minding whether Critias or Socrates is the person refuted.

b. *Never any* or *one*, no one, none at all.

c 1205 Lay. 2593 Nefde be næfer enne of alle his monnen. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1261 Cwich ne cweð þer neuer an. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 864 Vchonez blysse is breme & beste, & neuer onez honour 3et neuer-þe-les. *c* 1400 *Ganelyn* 582 We have foomen atte gate and frendes neuer oon. *c* 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* II. cxxii. (1869) 121 And j were wel disclosed ..j sbulde of neueroon be preysed. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* lii. 6 In malice spaik I newir ane woord. 1555 in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* (1721) III. App. xliv. 125 Another thing much do I mervail at, that never one priest..did venture his life. 1669 Sturmy *Mariner's Mag.* a, Never any man living, in his writing, could please the phansie of all men.

†**c.** *Never kins*, no kind of. *Never where*, nowhere. *Never neither*, neither. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 18856 Thris he wep.., bot we find neuer quar he logh. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 2690 Godrich..also leun fares

þat neuere kines best ne spares. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) vii. 26 It growes newer whare bot þare. 1449 PECOCK *Repressor* I. x. 53 Neuer neither of the ij textis. *Ibid.* II. xx. 273 Neuer neither of hem is contrarie to other of hem.

3. Never a, not a, no . . . at all. Cf. NE'ER A.

† *Never a deal*, not a bit, not in the least: see ADEAL and DEAL *sb.*[1] 5 b. So *never a whit*: see WHIT.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 230 It ne wrocte him neuere a del. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 2685 On þe feld was neuere a polk þat it ne stod of blod so ful. 13.. *Guy Warw.* (A.) 737 Now artow þe better neuer a del. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Nonne Prestes T.* 336, I hem defye, I love hem never a del. *c* 1440 *Generydes* 3703 Of your waye ye shall fayle neuer a dele. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* iii. 102 There was never a myle but that they iusted togyder. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 99 He had never a drye threde about hym. 1581 RICH *Farew.* (1846) 220 She had never a gowne to putte on her backe but of a stale cutte. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* III. 101 There were seuenteene boats cast away.., and neuer a man saued. 1666 EVELYN *Mem.* (1857) III. 178, I must beg a copy of those papers.., having never a duplicate by me. 1722 DE FOE *Col. Jack* (1840) 39 You have never a shirt on. 1756 NUGENT *Gr. Tour, Italy* III. 141 They have never an university, but an academy of wits. 1861 A. LEIGHTON *Trad. Sc. Life* Ser. II. 153 Though the never a M'Pherson was connected with her. 1864 DASENT *Jest & Earnest* (1873) II. 263 He still said never a word about the treasure.

b. *Never a one*, not (a single) one.

1523 [COVERDALE] *Old God & New* (1534) A, Neuer a one of the pyllers of the chyrche..nede to be a shamed of it. 1579 FULKE *Heskins' Parl.* 132 Fiue hundreth propositions, that are false, and yet neuer a one expressely denied. 1645 T. HILL *Olive Branch* (1648) 16 There is never a one of you but hath a Publique Place. 1692 S. PATRICK *Answ. Touchstone* 33 Near a dozen places; in never a one of which there is any mention .. of Tradition. 1733 TULL *Horse-hoeing Husb.* 128 They have seen it produce six Crops in six Years .., and never a one of them fail.

4. Never so, in conditional clauses, denoting an unlimited degree or amount. (Cf. EVER 9 b.)

a 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1086 Nan man ne dorste slean oðerne man, næfde he næfre swa mycel yfel gedon. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 35 Ne beo he nefre swa riche, forð he scal þenne is dei cumeð. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 345 Ne beo þe song neuer so murie [etc.]. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 80 Were he neure knicth so strong [etc.]. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 321 Betere..þen preyere of any ordre.., blabere þei neuere so meche wiþ lippis. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xxxiii. 151 A man may noȝt here anoþer, crie he neuer so hie. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* a iv b, Though thow pike the flesh neuer so clene, yet thow shalte fynde thredes ther in. 1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* xcix. 1 He sytteth upon the Cherubins, he the earth neuer so vnquiete. 1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* III. xxiv. (Arb.) 296 He neuer once changed his countenance .., though the sight were neuer so full of ruth. 1611 BIBLE *Transl. Pref.* ¶ 4 Sufficient for a whole host, be it neuer so great. 1691 RAY *Creation* I. (1714) 18 Tho the Trees grow never so irregularly. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 120 ¶ 15 When the Birth appears of never so different a Bird, [the hen] will cherish it for her own. *a* 1774 GOLDSM. *Hist. Greece* I. 342 Some vigorous effort, though it carried never so much danger, ought to be made. *a* 1806 C. J. FOX *Reign Jas. II* (1808) 204 Let him be weighed never so scrupulously, ..he will not be found..wanting. 1885 SWINBURNE *Misc.* (1886) 298 Were the critic never so much in the wrong, the author will have contrived to put him..in the right.

5. Never the, followed by a comparative: None the, not at all the (better, etc.). *Never the near*: see NEAR *adv.*[1] 5.

13.. *Cursor M.* 23162 (Gött.), Bot for 3ou was i neuer þe bett. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. IX. 78 More bilongeth .. þan nempnyng of a name and he neuere þe wiser. 1508 FISHER *7 Penit. Ps.* li. Wks. (1876) 132 But Achab was neuer the better. *c* 1550 BALE *K. Johan* (Camden) 58 The Lord..call them to grace, and faver them never the worsse. 1628 HOBBES *Thucyd.* (1822) 105 In the end never the nearer to the victory. 1705 STANHOPE *Paraphr.* II. 312 The Condition of the Receiver is..never the better. 1768 GRAY in *Corr. w. Nicholls* (1843) 73, I am never the wiser, nor the more able to account for Temple's letter. 1802–12 BENTHAM *Ration. Judic. Evid.* (1827) I. 602 *note*, The conviction of the criminal..would be never the nearer. 1886 POLLOCK *Oxford Lect.* iv. (1890) 108 He who is in these ways..a better man will be never the worse lawyer.

b. *Never the less, nevertheless*, no less, not in any way less, by no means less. Now *rare* or *Obs.* exc. as in NEVERTHELESS *adv.*

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 864 Neuer onez honour [is] 3et neuer-þe-les. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Anel. & Arc.* 236 For to love him Alweye never the lesse. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 4228 And 3our lare of a leke suld neuire þe les worth. 1526 TINDALE 2 *Cor.* viii. 15 He that gaddered lytell had neverthelesse. 1549 EOW. VI in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* (1721) II. I. XXV. 213 He [the king] thought good to require him [the bishop] and nevertheless to charge him [etc.]. 1601 DENT *Pathw. Heaven* 390 When she ariseth she loueth it neuerthelesse, but dandles it. 1609 BIBLE (Douay) *Num.* xi. *comm.*, That they might have so much helpe of grace as pleased God, and Moyses have neverthelesse. 1642 ROGERS *Naaman* 173 Let us make never the lesse of it, nor be discouraged.

c. So *Never the more, neverthemore.*

a 1400–50 *Alexander* 322 If he be þus diȝt drede þe neuer þe more. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 248/2 Whan ony was made Cezar neuerthemore he was Augustus ne emperour. 1526 TINDALE 2 *Cor.* viii. 15 He that gaddered moche had never the more aboundance. 1571 GOLDING *Calvin on Ps.* xl. 6 David sinking under the burthen, ceased neverthemore to mount up. 1606 BRYSKETT *Civ. Life* 37 His law, though it be milder then the other, was neuerthemore allowable.

II. 6. In attributive phrases: **a.** With *enough* (or *too much*), followed by a pa. pple.

1604 HIERON *Wks.* I. 530 The neuer-enough reuerenced exercise of preaching. 1623 ROWLANDSON *God's Bless.* 21 O the never too much admired goodnesse of the Lord. 1710 BERKELEY *Princ. Hum. Knowl.* I. § 146 The never-enough-admired laws of pain and pleasure.

b. With *enough* (or *too much*) and *to be*, followed by a pa. pple.

1624 QUARLES *Sion's Elegies* Pref., This ancient, most true, and never enough to be lamented Desolation. 1657 W. RAND tr. *Gassendi's Life Peiresc* I. 67 That never to be enough praised Arch-bishop. 1670 EACHARD *Cont. Clergy* 50 The never-to-be-commended-enough Licosthenes. 1752 A. MURPHY *Gray's Inn. Jrnl.* No. 11 The never enough to be admired Art of Humbugging. 1802 *Noble Wanderers* I. 205 That never to be sufficiently regretted step of leaving my house. *a* 1834 COLERIDGE *Notes & Lect.* (1849) I. 49 The never to be too much valued advantage of the theatre. 1873 RUSKIN *Fors Clav.* xxxvi. 6 The never to be enough damned guilt of men.

c. With *to be*, esp. *never to be forgotten.*

1607 COLLINS *Serm.* (1618) 85 A long desired, and neuer to be disannulled conformitie. 1657 W. RAND tr. *Gassendi's Life Peiresc* I. 46 That never to be forgotten man is gone away. 1688 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2381/1 A never-to-be-shaken Loyalty to Your Majesty. 1709 SACHEVERELL *Serm.* 5 Nov. 5 This Never-to-be-forgotten Festival. 1747 *Mem. Nutrebian Crt.* I. 166 By your often-vowed, never-to-be-changed love. 1807 SOUTHEY *Ess.* (1832) II. 284 That never-to-be-forgotten massacre of the Protestants. *a* 1849 H. COLERIDGE *Ess.* (1851) I. 94 The product of his never-to-be-seen acres. 1887 FRITH *Autobiog.* I. xi. 137 We had..on one never-to-be-forgotten occasion, a speech from Turner.

d. In various phrases.

1806 *Simple Narrative* II. 48 You are such a puritanical never-do-amiss lady. 1837 S. R. MAITLAND *Six Lett. on Fox's A. & M.* 42 This 'never mind' school of history. 1841 S. C. HALL *Ireland* I. 186 That's a never-my-care sort ..as ever I met with.

7. *Comb.* **a.** With pa. pples., as *never-adone, -conquered, -contracted, -daunted, -dried*, etc.

1716 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* II. To Rdr. 11 The *never-adone Physicking and Taking of Fees. 1631 WEEVER *Anc. Funeral Mon.* 104 That *neuer-conquered Nation of Scotland. *a* 1656 BP. HALL *Rev. Unrevealed* § 11 That old and *never-contracted distinction of the Church Militant and Triumphant. 1590 GREENE *Orl. Fur.* Wks. (Rtldg.) 109 Hadst thou..[the] *never-daunted thoughts of Hercules. 1607 HIERON *Wks.* I. 198 It shall be in their bowels as a *neuer-dryed fountaine. 1859 TENNYSON *Last Tourn.* 581 Here in the *never-ended afternoon. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 828 His *neuer-filled mouth. 1594 ? GREENE *Selimus* 2493 Beating the *never-foiled Tonombey. 1600 *1st Pt. Sir J. Oldcastle* IV. ii, Oh *never-heard-of, base ingratitude! 1641 MILTON *Animadv.* Wks. 1851 III. 198 O new and never-heard of Supererogative. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* lxxxiv, I see their unborn faces shine Beside the *never-lighted fire. 1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* V. i. 35 If you refuse your ayde In this so *neuer-needed helpe. 1802–12 BENTHAM *Ration. Judic. Evid.* (1827) IV. 581 One *never-omitted portion of scandal. 1859 CORNWALLIS *New World* I. 130 The never-omitted tin pot for making their tea. 1873 HOWELLS *Chance Acquaint.* i. (1883) 12 A *never-relinquished, never-fulfilled purpose. 1562 PILKINGTON *Expos. Abdyas* 65 The .. harde-hearted *never satisfied horsleches, the lawers. 1625 K. LONG tr. *Barclay's Argenis* IV. vii. 159 He, whose never-satisfied maw Devoures poore people. 1642 H. MORE *Song of Soul* II. iii. II. xii, On *never-shaken pillars of Æternitie. 1860 PUSEY *Min. Proph.* 175 The long *never-shorn hair. 1631 WEEVER *Anc. Funeral Mon.* 460 The terrible *neuer-tamed Scot. 1818 BYRON *Ch. Har.* IV. lxxiii, I have seen the soaring Jungfrau rear Her *never-trodden snow. 1742 SHENSTONE *Song* viii. Wks. 1777 I. 156 Let their very changes prove The *never-vary'd force of love. 1812 BYRON *Ch. Har.* II. xxxvii, Her *never-wean'd, though not her favour'd child. 1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turks* (1638) 304 Vsing therin such expedition and *neuer-wearied patience. 1622 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* xxiv. 116 This justly named Saint, this never-wearied man.

b. With pres. pples., as *never-agreeing, -blushing, -changing, -erring*, etc. Also NEVER-CEASING, -DYING, -ENDING, -FADING, -FAILING.

1613 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Cypress Grove* Wks. (1711) 118 The *never agreeing bodies of the elemental brethren. 1728 POPE *Dunc.* III. 231 His *never-blushing head he turn'd aside. *c* 1615 SIR W. MURE *Sonn.* iii. Wks. (S. T. S.) I. 49 Can any crosse..Mak me to chaunge my *neuer chaunging mynd? 1685 DRYDEN *Lucretius* III. Misc. II. 77 That never changing state which all must keep. 1811 W. R. SPENCER *Poems* 44 Where never-changing Spring Rules all the halcyon year. 1679 MARG. MASON *Tickler Tickled* 4 By the Affirmative of *never-erring Scripture it self. 1697 CONGREVE *Wks.* (1730) III. 262 Our never-erring Pilot. 1821–2 SHELLEY *Chas. I*, II. 479 Stamped on the heart by never-erring love. 1867 A. BARRY *Sir C. Barry* x. 323 Its *never-flagging interest to him. 1864 MUNRO *Lucretius* I. 2 Vanquished by the *never-healing wound of love. 1594 DRAYTON *Idea* xxvi, Yet hope draws on my *never-hoping care. 1589 *Marprel. Epit.* F ij b, Thus M. D. to his *neverlasting fame, hath .. translated the greeke word *presbyteros*. 1613 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Cypress Grove* Wks. (1711) 117 Two so loving friends and *never-loathing lovers. 1860 GOSSE *Rom. Nat. Hist.* 51 Covered with deep, *never-melting snow. 1863 I. WILLIAMS *Baptistery* I. xiv. (1874) 178 Upon them clos'd the *never-opening grave! 1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II*, V. v. 109 That hand shall burne in *neuer-quenching fire. 1727–46 THOMSON *Summer* 726 The *never-resting race of men. 1851 G. BIRD *Urin. Deposits* (ed. 3) 98 The heart, a never-resting muscle. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* IX. 2285 Sun of the soul! her *never-setting sun! 1825 PRAED *Portrait* ii, Like never-setting stars. 1697 CONGREVE *Mourn. Bride* III. vi, Drink bitter draughts with *never-slaking thirst. 1661 *Don Juan Lamberto* F 4, This wall was to be guarded by *never-sleeping Dragons. 1680 OTWAY *Caius Marius* I. i, Never-sleeping Care. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* xxiii, A frown upon its *never-smiling face. 1590 T. WATSON *Poems* (Arb.) 173 Whose *neuerstooping quill can best set forth such things of state. 1871 PALGRAVE *Lyr. Poems* 78 Who treads The road with *never-swerving strength. 1835 BROWNING *Paracelsus* IV. 145 Their pet nest and their *never-tiring home. 1885 J. K. JEROME *On the Stage* 84 A quiet, never-tiring persistence. *a* 1649 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Poems* Wks. (1711) 31/1 The *never twinkling, ever wandring lights. 1814 WORDSW. *Excursion* V. 747 Of *never-varying motion. 1863 I. WILLIAMS *Baptistery* I. i. (1874) 7 Sabbath of Sabbaths, *never-waning rest. *c* 1600 COSOWARTH in Farr *S. P. Eliz.* (1845) II. 407 Thou hast clothed my soule with *never-weering gladnes. 1609 HOLLAND *Amm. Marcell.* 361 The *never-winking eye of Iustice. 1656 COWLEY *Pindar. Odes, Nemeæan* ix, Through the thick Groves of *never-withering Light. 1707 WATTS *Hymn, 'There is a land of pure delight'* ii, There everlasting spring abides And never-with'ring flowers.

c. With adjs., as *never-certain, -constant*, etc.

1594 DRAYTON *Idea* xxvi, My *never-certain joy breeds ever-certain fears. *a* 1627 SIR J. BEAUMONT *Bosworth F.*, etc. (1629) 85 The *neuer-constant Moone. 1596 SPENSER *Hymn Heav. Love* 126 In bonds..Of *never-dead yet ever-dying paine. 1694 F. BRAGGE *Disc. Parables* viii. 296 The *never-deficient grace of that good God. 1561 DAUS tr. *Bullinger on Apoc.* (1573) 209 b, A ioyfull, and *neuerlothsome fulnes. 1637 MILTON *Lycidas* 2 Ye Myrtles brown, with Ivy *never-sear. 1701 CONGREVE *Wks.* (1730) III. 252 A never ceasing, *never silent Choir. 1714 MANDEVILLE *Fab. Bees* (1723) 283 The fickle Breath of *never Stable Fortune. 1812 BYRON *Ch. Har.* I. l, The stationed bands, the *never-vacant watch.

8. Misc. combs., as † **never-being,** non-existence; **never-do-well,** a ne'er-do-well; † **Never-mass,** a date which never comes; **never-mention-ems,** unmentionables, trousers; **never-ready,** one who is never ready; **never-strike,** one who will not yield; **never-sweat,** an idle or lazy person; † **never-thrift,** a ne'er-do-well, a waster; † **never-thriving,** a thriftless pack.

1633 (*title*) The Progeny of Catholicks and Protestants, whereby..is proved the lineal Descent of Catholicks..and the *never-being of Protestants. 1856 B. W. PROCTER *Barber's Shop* xiv. (1883) 118 He was one of those *never-do-wells who lean persistently upon others. *c* 1550 *Thersites* in Hazl. *Dodsley* I. 429 That shall be at *Nevermass, Which never shall be, nor never was. 1631 R. H. *Arraignm. Whole Creature* xiv. § 2. 244 As our Country Phrase is, when Hens make Holy-water, at new-Nevermasse. 1856 T. TAYLOR in *Kingsley's Lett. & Life* (1877) I. 496 Socks, boots, and *never-mention-ems, Mrs. Owen still has dried for us. 1862 TROLLOPE *Orley F.* xlii, They are not the least happy of mankind, these *never-readies. 1855 KINGSLEY *Westw. Ho!* xvi, Yeo..returned with Drew and a score of old *never-strikes. 1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* I. 419 Flare up, my *never-sweats. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 355/1 Neve, *neuerthryfte, or wastour. 1520 WHITINTON *Vulg.* (1527) 39 b, It is more pleasure for a mayster to se foure suche neuer thryftes go out of his schole, than se one to come into it. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* f vij, A *Neuerthrinyng of Iogoleris.

9. *Never Never* (*Land* or *Country*), in Australia, the unpopulated northern part of Qneensland; the desert country of the interior.

Variously taken as implying that one may never return from it, or will never wish to go back to it. According to F. Cooper *Wild Adventures* (1857) 68 the phrase is really a corruption of the Comderoi *nievah vahs* signifying 'unoccupied land', but the explanation is not regarded as certain. (Morris.)

1884 A. W. STIRLING (*title*) The Never Never Land: a Ride in North Queensland. 1887 *Cassell's Picturesque Austral.* I. 279 In very sparsely-populated country, such as the district of Queensland, known as the 'Never Never Country'. 1900 H. LAWSON *On Track* 81, I rode back that way five years later, from the Never Never.

Never-ceasing, *a.* [NEVER 7 b.] Unceasing, ceaseless; constant, continual.

c 1602 F. DAVISON in Farr *S. P. Eliz.* (1845) II. 326, I thine aid importune With neuer-ceasing cries. 1670 *Devout Commun.* (1688) 172 Multiplied with a never-ceasing numeration. 1738 WESLEY *Ps.* VI. iv, With never-ceasing Moans I languish for Relief. 1826 MILMAN *A. Boleyn* (1827) 33 The full organ's never-ceasing sound. 1878 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* 129 There is a never-ceasing transference of solid matter from the land to the ocean.

Hence **Never-ceasingly** *adv.*

1869 J. HAIG *Symbolism* i. 1 The thoughts of each are necessarily, or never-ceasingly, confined to himself alone.

Never-dying, *a.* [NEVER 7 b.] Undying; immortal.

1596 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. IV*, III. ii. 106 What neuer-dying Honor hath he got? 1633 FORD *'Tis Pity* III. vi, Many thousand ..sorts Of never-dying deaths. 1647 TRAPP *Comm. Mark* ix. 49 Those bad humours in us that breed the never-dying worm. 1728 R. MORRIS *Ess. Anc. Archit.* 66 From never-dying Corinth it first arose. 1781 COWPER *Charity* 593 That sight imparts a never-dying flame. 1873 E. BRENNAN *Witch of Nemi* 22 Wedded to a never-dying strife.

Never-ending, *a.* [NEVER 7 b.] Unending, endless, everlasting, perpetual.

1667 MILTON *P. L.* II. 221 The never-ending flight Of future days. 1713 BERKELEY *Guardian* No. 55 ¶ 7 The expectation of never-ending happiness. 1768–74 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) I. 648 All [have] become obnoxious to her never-ending severity. 1848 R. I. WILBERFORCE *Doctr. Incarnation* V. (1852) 144 A mere Brahminical dream of never-ending forgetfulness. 1881 BESANT & RICE *Chapl. of Fleet* I. viii, Day and night there was a never-ending riot.

Never-fading, *a.* [NEVER 7 b.] Unfading, fadeless, ever fresh or new.

1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* III. ii. III. iii. (1624) 448 Virginity is..a neuer-fading flowre. 1690 TEMPLE *Ess. Heroic Virtue* Wks. 1720 I. 228 This Crown of never-fading Laurel. 1727 GAY *Fables* I. xlv, Might I supply that envy'd place With never-fading love! 1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) III. 5 A garland..of never-fading flowers. 1827 G. HIGGINS *Celtic Druids* 214 Clothed with never-fading vestures.

Never-failing, *a.* [NEVER 7 b.] Unfailing.

1622 FLETCHER *Sea-Voy.* III. i, The never-failing purchase Of lordships and of honours! 1670 EACHARD *Cont. Clergy* 92 The never-failing hen has unhappily forsaken her wonted-

nest. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 47 ¶ 3 A never-failing Medicine for the Spleen. 1770 GOLDSM. *Des. Vill.* 11 The never-failing brook, the busy mill. 1836–7 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Tales* x, Wrapt in profound reveries on this never-failing theme. 1878 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* 27 A never-failing source of supply to the shallow wells.

Hence **Never-failingly** *adv.*

1709 *Brit. Apollo* No. 44. 2/2 A Cure, Speedy,..Never-failingly sure.

† **Neverlat(t)er,** var. of NEVER THE LAT(T)ER.

c 1400 *Chron. Eng.* (Caxton) ccxxvi. 232 Neuerlater he.. come by nyght to the tour of london. *Ibid.* ccxxix. 241 The castel neuerlatter was saued.

† **Neverless,** obs. variant of NEVERTHELESS.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 11207 Ihesu crist hir barn sco bar,..and maiden neuer less. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 97 Þe parties were fulle stark, neuerlesse þorgh praiere [etc.]. *?c* 1400 *Ser J. Mandeville & Gt. Souden* 43 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* I. 156 Neverlesse we knaw they salle be above. 1450 *Paston Lett.* I. 111 Never lese I trest not to her promese. 1525 LD. BERNEAS *Froiss.* II. clxxxvi. [clxxxii.] 568 Suche as loued hym nat, thought neuerlesse [etc.].

† **Nevermo,** obs. variant of NEVERMORE.

c 1129 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1129 Se..nefra ma nan clepunge bær to na bafde mare. *c* 1250 *Prov. Alfred* 220 in *O. E. Misc.* 116 His wit ne agoþ hym neuer-mo. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 77 He schal be riched so, That it mai faile neveremo. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 6641 In such maner care, That konne wynne hem nevermo.

Nevermore, *adv.* Also *a.* 3 nauere mare, 4–5 neuer-mar, 4–6 -mare, 6 -mair. *β.* 3–4 neuer(e)-mor, etc. [f. NEVER *adv.* + MORE *adv.*] Never again, at no future time.

a. c 1205 LAY. 26845 Ne scalt þu nauere mare þi lif þenne lede. *Ibid.* 32236 Næuere seoðden mære kinges neoren here. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 484 He ne has merci neuer-mare. *Ibid.* 10055 þe welle o grace..þat fines neuermar to rin. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* I. 166 The tothir..swar That he suld have it neuir-mar. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxvii. (*Machor*) 1374 Forsuth þe lewe sall I neuirmare. 1508 DUNBAR *Gold. Targe* 222, I saw hir nevir mare. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 15 They salbe saif, and neuer mair shall dee.

β. c 1220 *Bestiary* 618 Doȝ he ðre hundred ȝer..wuneden her, bigeten he neuermor non. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1240 Wende ȝhe it coueren neuere mor. *c* 1325 *Chron. Eng.* 570 in Ritson *Metr. Rom.* II. 294 Neuermore he nolde come .. In the bed. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 203 This sorghfull king was so bestad, That he schal nevermor be glad. ?1507 *Comunyc.* (W. de W.) c iij, And than to lyue and neuermore dye. 1581 RICH *Farew.* (1846) 208, I will never more contende with thee duryng life. 1634 MILTON *Comus* 559 Silence..wish't she might..be never more Still to be so displac't. 1671 — *P. R.* IV. 610 He never more henceforth will dare set foot In Paradise. *a* 1859 DE QUINCEY *Posth. Wks.* (1891) I. 261 Nevermore will it be excited by mere court intrigue. 1871–74 J. THOMSON *City Dreadf. Nt.* XVI. vii, This chance recurreth never, nevermore.

† **Never the lat(t)er,** *adv. Obs.* Also 5–6 neuerthelat(t)er. [See NEVER 5 and LATER *adv.*, LATTER *adv.*] = NEVERTHELESS.

a. c 1330 *Spec. Guy Warw.* 832 He weneþ wasshe him wid þat water, And he is foul neuere þe later. 1387–8 T. USK *Test. Love* I. i. (Skeat) I. 19 Never-the-later yet hertly ..have mynde on thy servaunt. *c* 1450 tr. *De Imitatione* II. ix. 51 Neverþelater amonge þese he dispeirip not. 1531 TINDALE *Exp.* 1 *John* (1537) 88 Neuerthelater it were somewhat yet yf [etc.]. 1571 GOLDING *Calvin on Ps.* iii. 9 Neverthelater I have folowed that which is plainest. 1609 HOLLAND *Amm. Marcell.* 207 Never the later..[he] endevoured earnestly to prepare all things. 1652 W. SCLATER *Civ. Magistracy* (1653) 28, I must therefore, never the later, condemn you, being convicted.

β. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Conse.* 3650 Bot never-þe-latter.. Yhit may he helpe þe saules þus. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xvii. 76 If all he ware a paynymme, neuer þe latter he serued Godd full deuoutely. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 420 b/1 Neuerthelatter he shal not haue the vyctorye of me. *a* 1550 *Image Hypocr.* IV. 245 in *Skelton's Wks.* (1843) II. 442/1 Nowe never the latter I intend to clatter. 1587 GOLDING *De Mornay* xiii. (1617) 197 They which haue flatly denied the Creation, haue neuer the latter granted the Prouidence.

Nevertheless, *adv.* [See NEVER 5 (and 5b) and LESS *adv.* Earlier equivalents are NA-, NE-, and NOTHELESS.] Notwithstanding; none the less.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 79 Scho es..Moder and maiden neuer þe lesse. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 61 Neuerþeles to William he ȝeld him wele his bone. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 430 Neverþelees spek we of apostasye of prests. *c* 1420 LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 1018 Neuerthelese they seyde they wold endure tho shoures. 1484 CAXTON *Fables of Alfonce* iv, The woman wold haue resysted, Neuertheles in thende she was content. 1512 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) I. 609 Neuerthelasse hyt is agreed and couenaunted betwyn the said [etc.]. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* II. (1586) 57 b, It may be sowed neuerthelesse .. at any time of the sommer. *a* 1610 HEALEY *Cebes* (1636) 155 Then wee benefit by his reading neuerthelesse. 1696 WHISTON *The. Earth* (1722) 4 The Reader will never the less embrace the Conclusions. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) II. 323 Nevertheless .. they generally lead a life of famine and fatigue. 1841 BORROW *Zincali* II. ii. III. 54 The Gitanos.. have nevertheless found admirers in Spain. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 169 They, knowing them to be evil, nevertheless indulge in them.

† **Ne·vet,** variant of *evet* EFT *sb.*1 (Cf. NEWT.)

1565 COOPER *Thesaurus, Lacerta,* a lisarde: a neuet. 1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* 33 b, Grashopper, Worme, Neuette or Cancker. *a* 1601 J. HOOKER in Polwhele *Devon* (1797) I. 124 We have..the snake, the sloworme, and the nevet.

Neveu, -ewe, nevie, obs. forms of NEPHEW. **Nevie-:** see NIEVIE. **Nevil,** var. NEVEL *v. dial.* **Nevin,** var. NEVEN *v. Obs.* **Nevir,** obs. f. NEVER. **Nevo, nevoeu,** obs. ff. NEPHEW.

† **Nevo·sity.** *Obs. rare* —°. [ad. med. or mod.L. *nævōsitas,* f. *nævōsus*: see NÆVUS.] (See quot.)

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr., Nevosity,* speckedness, fulness of moles or freckles.

Nevou(e, -ow, -oy, variants of NEPHEW. **Nevre,** obs. form of NEVER. **Nevue, nevy,** variants of NEPHEW.

Nevve, var. NEVE *sb.*1 *Obs.*

† **Nevyn.** *Obs. rare.* Also 5 newyne. [Of obscure origin.] App. some precious stone.

1393 *Will of Brauncepeth* (Somerset Ho.), Vnum monile de auro cum tribus neuynys super illud positis et cum tribus scutis. *a* 1440 *Sir Degrev.* 630 All of pall work fyn With miche and nevyn [*Lincoln MS.* Cowchid with newyne].

Nevyn(e, varr. NEVEN *v. Obs.*

† **New,** *sb.*1 *Obs. rare.* [For *nue, nuy,* aphetic form of *anuy* ANNOY *sb.*] Trouble, sorrow.

c 1440 *York Myst.* xlv. 144 All þat are in newe or in nede. *Ibid.* xlvii. 96 Thy tyme is paste of all þi care,..Of newe schall þou witte neuere more.

New (niū), *a.* and *sb.*2 Forms: 1–3 niwe, (1 niue, 3 nywe, niewe), 1 niowe, 1–3 neowe, (3 neouwe), 1–7 newe, (3 neuwe, 5 neewe), 4 nu(we), nwe, 5 now(e, 4–6 neu, (5 nev), 4– new. [Common Teut.: OE. *niwe, niowe, néowe* = OFris. *nȳ, nī,* MDu. *nieuwe, nuwe, nie,* OS. *niwi, nigi,* OHG. *niuwi, niuui* (MHG. *niuwe, niwe, niu,* G. *neu*), ON. *nýr* (Sw. and Da. *ny*), Goth. *niujis*:—OTeut. **neujoz,* from the common Aryan stem **neu(ƒ)-*, which appears in Gr. *νέος* (Ionic *νεῖος*), Lith. *naũjas,* Skr. *návyas* and *navas,* Lat. *novus,* OSl. *novŭ* (Russ. НОВЫЙ), OIr. *nūe* (Ir. and Gael. *nuadh*).] **A.** *adj.*

I. 1. Not existing before; now made, or brought into existence, for the first time.

c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* xxxii. 3 Singað him song neowne. *a* 1000 *Exod.* 362 Niwe flodas Noe oferlað..mid his þrim sunum. *a* 1000 *Phœnix* 431 He ȝetimbreð tanum & wyrtum .. eardwic niwe, nest on bearwe. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 150/36 *Constructio,* niwe timbrung. *c* 1205 LAY. 2675 Þa ferde þe king..& ane neowe burh makede. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 5494 Nywe abbeys he made vaste þe gode abelston. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. xx. 255 God..nempned names newe and noumbred þe sterres. 1382 WYCLIF 1 *Sam.* vi. 7 Nowe thanne takith, and makith a newe weyn. 1520 *Calisto & Melib.* C j b, Well mother, to morow is a new day. 1575–85 ABP. SANDYS *Serm.* (Parker Soc.) 66 They should remember that their religion is as new as false. 1611 BIBLE *Transl. Pref.* ¶ 6 Aquila fell in hand with a new Translation. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 460 Pleas'd I am.. the way to new Discov'ries make. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) VIII. 18 A new crop of hair grows between the old skin and the new. 1852 M. ARNOLD *Empedocles* Poet. Wks. (1890) 449 So each new man strikes root into a far fore-time. 1876 DUHAING *Dis. Skin* 404 Diseases, which.. consist pathologically of a new growth in the skin. 1891 *Law Rep., Weekly Notes* 78/2 The lessor was desirous of pulling the house down and building a new one on its site.

b. Of a kind now first invented or introduced; novel.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1354 In notyng of nwe metes & of nice gettes. 1611 W. GOODARD *Satir. Dial.* E j b, Newe-fashiond cloathes I loue to weare, Newe tires, newe ruffes. 1673 *S'too him Bayes* 9 He would imagine it was a sluice, or some newer kind of engine. 1784 COWPER *Task* I. 43 A lattice-work that braced The new machine, and it became a Chair. 1818 J. C. HOBHOUSE *Hist. Illustr.* (ed. 2) 402 He composed a sort of drama, altogether new, which he called a melo-tragedy.

2. Not previously known; now known for the first time: **a.** of things spoken or heard.

Beowulf 2898 Lyt swiȝode niwra spella. *c* 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* I. xxv. (Schipper) 54/1 Fægere word þis syndon.., ac forðon hi niwe syndon & uncu e [etc.]. *a* 1000 in *Narrat. Angl. Conscr.* (1861) 3 Þas niwan spel ic ðe ealle in cartan awrite. *c* 1205 LAY. 26194 He talde þan kinge neouwe tiðende. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1286 Þo herde abraham steuene fro gode, Newe tiding. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) xxxi. 314 Men seyn alle weys, that newe thynges and newe tydynges ben plesant to here. 1638 BAKER tr. *Balzac's Lett.* (vol. II.) 30 Your part is not..to bring it forth as a New Matter. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* v. 855 Strange point and new! Doctrin which we would know whence learnt. 1687 NORRIS *Coll. Misc.* 150 How absurd..that venerable non-sense should be prefer'd before new-sense. 1751 R. PALTOCK *P. Wilkins* xliii, Another went on, till we had heard ten of them, and in every one something new. 1781 COWPER *Conversat.* 237 Tell not as new what everybody knows. 1821 SHELLEY *Hellas* 592 Prophesyings horrible and new Are heard among the crowd.

b. Of feelings, experiences, events, etc.

a 900 CYNEWULF *Elene* 869 Hæfdon neowne ȝefean mærðum ȝemeted. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 135 Him ne wæs næniȝ earfoþe þæt lichomlice ȝedal on þære neowan wyrde. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 66 His falshed brouht vs sorowe alle newe. *c* 1368 CHAUCER *Compl. Pite* 29 Yet encreseth me this wonder newe. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 1240 Neȝis þam a-nothire note as new as þe first. *c* 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 501, I suld fynd thame new notis for this ix yeir. 1551 RECORDE *Pathw. Knowl.* Ep. King, Thei again shal haue new aod new causes to pray for your maiestie. 1671 MILTON *P. R.* I. 334 Where ought we hear, and curious are to hear, What happ'ns new. 1732 LEDIARD *Sethos* II. IX. 306 The successes of war are not new. 1781 COWPER *Table-T.* 734 'Twere new indeed to see a bard all fire. 1876 J. PARKER *Paracl.* II. xviii. 295 Opposition is nothing new as applied to Christian faith. 1899 J. SMITH *Chr. Charac.* 196 The new religious consciousness of acceptance and union with God.

Comb. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* I. 34 Such new-like occurrences.

c. Of countries, etc., now first discovered.

c 1511 *1st Eng. Bk. Amer.* (Arb.) Introd. 27 Of the newe landes..founde by the messengers of the kynge of portyngale. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* V. i. 184 *Mir.* O braue new world That has such people in't. *Pro.* 'Tis new to thee. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* I. 290 To descry new Lands, Rivers or Mountains in her spotty Globe. 1725 DE FOE *Voy. round World* (1840) 280 What signifies..the people of Spain seeking new countries? 1879 MORLEY *Burke* 21 In East and West new lands were being brought under the dominion of Great Britain.

d. Of things or persons.

1626 BACON *Sylva* § 477 So you may have great Varietie of New Fruits, and Flowers yet vnknowne. 1697 BURGHOPE *Disc. Relig. Assemb.* 181 New things only are able to awake us. *a* 1734 NORTH *Lives* (1826) III. 145 This new kind of Arithmetic, which he had never heard of before. 1781 COWPER *Conversat.* 531 The new acquaintance soon became a guest. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* i, We were going quite a new road.

e. Strange, unfamiliar (*to* one).

1595 SHAKS. *John* III. i. 305 Alacke, how new Is husband in my mouth. 1638 JUNIUS *Paint. Ancients* 25 Nothing in such a case could be new vnto him. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* III. 613 Here matter new to gaze the Deuil met Vndazl'd. ?1710 LADY M. W. MONTAGU *Lett., to Mrs. Hewet* (1887) I. 28 We go next week into Wiltshire, which will be quite a new world to us. 1784 COWPER *Task* IV. 710 New to my taste, his Paradise surpassed [etc.]. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xxi. IV. 545 To English shopkeepers and farmers military extortion was happily quite new. 1859 TENNYSON *Geraint* 808 She could cast aside A splendour dear to women, new to her, And therefore dearer.

3. Coming as a resumption or repetition of some previous act or thing; starting afresh.

Beowulf 1789 Þa wæs eft swa ær. fægere ȝereorded niowan stefne. *c* 1000 *Cædmon's Gen.* 1555 Da Noe ongan niwan stefne mid hleomagum ham staðelian. *c* 1205 LAY. 27494 Heo ..neouwe ueht [*c* 1275 neuwe fiht] bi-gunnen narewe iþrungen. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 1592 For-þi in forme of iugement He thoght a neu wengaunce to sent. 1340 *Ayenb.* 107 Þet is a newe cristninge. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Franklt. T.* 287 Tho come hir othere freendes many oon, And..sodeinly bigonne revel newe. 1508 DUNBAR *Flyting* 297 Ȝit of new tressone, I can tell the tailis. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 91 Thus was he brought agayne in to a newe hope of a concorde. 1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* III. i. 1 Tullus Auffidius then had made new head. 1674 MILTON *P. L.* (ed. 2) XII. 5 The Archangel paus'd..; Then with transition sweet new Speech resumes. 1818 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) III. 471 Upon a motion for a new trial, it was urged [etc.]. 1872 RAYMOND *Statist. Mines* 209 The quartz-mining enterprises..took a new start.

b. Fresh, further, additional.

1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 17, I had rather cut off all old acquaintance with him,..then to seeke after newe friendship. 1580–1 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* III. 362 He obtenit confirmatioun of his said pensioun.., with supplement of new gift and dispositioun thairof. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* III. 468 [They] still with vain designe New Babels, had they wherewithall, would build. 1759 GOLDSM. *Bee* No. 2 Wks. (Globe) 366/1 The most calamitous events..can bring no new affliction. 1796 H. HUNTER tr. *St.-Pierre's Stud. Nat.* (1799) III. 49 This perception adds a new degree of probability. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* v. I. 531 If he gave no new cause of displeasure. *Ibid.* 580 Commissions were issued for the levying of new regiments.

c. Restored after demolition, decay, disappearance, etc.

c 1000– [see NEW MOON 1]. 1056–66 *Inscr. at Kirkdale Ch.* (Yorks), He hit let macan newan from grvnde. *c* 1375 *Cursor M.* 23399 (Fairf.), Squa has our lorde be-fore vs hiȝt þat he sal new our bodis make. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XVIII. 43 To fordone it on o day, and in thre dayes after Edefye it eft newe. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 254/1 To make Newe, *novare.* *c* 1600 SHAKS. *Sonn.* lxxvi, As the Sun is daily new and old. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 476 Till the new Ram receives th' exalted Sun. 1859 TENNYSON *Geraint* 70 The new sun Beat thro' the blindless casement of the room.

4. Other than the former or old; different from that previously existing, known, or used. Also † *New and new.*

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Mark i. 27 Huælc lar [is] ðius..niua [*c* 1000 Hwæt is þeos niwe lar]. *Ibid.* John xiii. 34 Behod niua ic selo iuh. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* I. 96 Þu bist ȝecized niwum naman. *c* 1205 LAY. 30701 Heo scupten heore laueide ænne nome neowe. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 1975 A couenand neu ic hight to þe. 1382 WYCLIF 2 *Cor.* v. 17 Oolde thingis han passid, and lo! alle thingis ben maad newe. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 150 b, He shall haue a newe knowlege in his soule by grace. 1577–87 HOLINSHED *Chron.* I. 21/2 He must turne the leafe, and take out a new lesson. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 271 From the Citie Armstat..we had a new measure of oates called Hembd. 1644 DIGBY *Nat. Bodies* v. § 1. 33 The sides of it be ioyned successiuely to new and new partes of the rare body that giueth way vnto it. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* v. 676 New Laws thou seest impos'd. 1781 COWPER *Conversat.* 724 Partakers of a new ethereal birth. 1835 THIRLWALL *Greece* I. 97 The Messenian legends of a new race of settlers. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* iii. I. 411 It was then that Ray made a new classification of birds and fishes. 1884 F. TEMPLE *Relat. Relig. & Sci.* v. (1885) 147 The New Testament contains not only a new morality, it contains also a new account of human nature.

b. Of persons occupying a certain position or relationship.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Exod.* i. 8 Ȝemang þam aras niwe cing ofer Egipta land. *c* 1200 ORMIN 7149 Þatt Kalldisskenn genge, þatt cumenn wass inntill hiss land An new king forr to sekenn. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 2137 Mi neowe leofmon, þe ich on wið luue leue. 1297 R. GLOUC. *Chron.* (Rolls) 7496 Þus, lo, þe englisse folc..come to a nywe louerd, þat more in riȝte was. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Clerk's T.* 785 Of your newe wyf, god..graunte yow wele. *c* 1400 *Solomon's Bk. Wisdom* 36 Þine olde frende þat þou fonded haste bileue þou for no newe. 1563 WINȜET tr. *Vincent. Lirin.* Wks. (S. T. S.) II. 12 The peple..entering vnhappelie to be refreschit in the cumpanie of thir neu techearis. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* I. i. 219 To seeke new friends and strange companions. 1630 CAPT. SMITH *Wks.* (Arb.) 953 New Lords, new lawes. 1665 PEPYS *Diary* 19 June, After dinner, to my little new goldsmith's. 1784 COWPER *Task* II. 110 The sylvan scene..

finds out A new possessor, and survives the change. 1863 Geo. Eliot *Romola* ix, She had beforehand felt an inward shrinking from a new guide.

c. Of places: Different from that previously inhabited or frequented.

1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) III. 287 What profiteþ newe lond þere þe flist fleeþ nou3t [thee]? 1594 Shaks. *Rich. III*, II. ii. 46 That our swift-winged Soules may..follow him, To his new Kingdome. 1637 Milton *Lycidas* 193 To morrow to fresh Woods, and Pastures new. 1667 — *P. L.* IV. 184 A prowling Wolfe, Whom hunger drives to seek new haunt for prey. 1819 Shelley *Cenci* v. i. 89 'Tis easy..for a country new..To change the honours of abandooed Rome.

d. Morally or spiritually changed.

1533 Gau *Richt Vay* 31 Faith..quhilk renwis the hart and makis ane nev man. 1552 *Bk. Com. Prayer, Communion*, Ve that do..intend to lead a new life following the Commandments of God. 1593 G. Harvey *New Letter* Wks. (Grosart) I. 274 If vnfaynedly he hath stripped-of the snakes skinne, and put-on the new man. 1677 Lady Chaworth in *12th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. V. 43 The D[uchess] of Portsmouth..they say will lead a new lyfe. *a* 1770 Jortin *Serm.* (1771) VII. i. 19 Christians upon their repentance become new creatures.

†e. Inclined to change or novelty. *Obs. rare*$^{-1}$.

1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* xlv. 13 Scho is so new of acquentance, The auld gais fra remembrance.

5. Used with *the* to distinguish the thing spoken of from something old, or already existing, of the same kind: a. Of institutions, practices, methods, etc., with implication of some change in the nature or character of these.

In a number of cases this use of *the new* has given rise to phrases with a special meaning or application; for examples see *Church, connexion, husbandry, jet* sb.^{3}, *law, learning, light, model, police, style, Testament, woman, world.*

c 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* II. iv. (Schipper) 127 Þære niwan cyricean, þe of Angelcynne gesomnad wæs. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xxvi. 28 Dis is forðon blod min ðære niua zewitnessæ. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 163 Se godspellere wæs fæstnung æzþer ze þære ealdan æ ze þære niwan. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 85 Þet boð þa twa lazen þe alde and þe nowe. *c* 1200 Ormin 15159 All Godess lare off e33þerr boc, Off þalde & off þe newe. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 12887 Þe ald testament hir-wit nu slakes, And sua þe neu bigining takes. 1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 3212 þey.. haunte alle þe newe gyse. 1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 6 Wher as I moste daunce and singe The hovedance and carolinge, Or forto go the newefot. 1523 [Coverdale] (*title*) A Worke entytled of ye Olde God and the Newe, of the old faythe and the newe, of the olde doctryne and ye newe. 1590 Sir J. Smyth *Disc. Weapons* 33 b, According to the newe fashion. 1731 Tull *Horse-Hoeing Husb.* (1733) xix. 263 Of Differences between the Old and the New Husbandry. 1799 *Med. Jrnl.* II. 214 The new inoculation was immediately introduced in London. 1833 J. Holland *Manuf. Metal* II. 12 The latter, indeed, frequently became .. victims to the new system. 1849 Grote *Greece* II. lxvii. VIII. 450 The gradual transition of..the Old Comedy into the Middle and New Comedy. 1898 Sir E. Monson in *Times* 7 Dec. 5/1 We had not [then] heard so much of what is called the 'new diplomacy'.

b. Of things, places, or persons.

c 893 K. Ælfred *Oros.* IV. vi. 176 Com Hasterbal se niwa cyning of Cartainum. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 163 Se niwa eorendel [wæs] Sanctus Iohannes. 1154 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1137 Martin abbot..hrohte heom into þe neunæ mynstre on S. Petres mæsse dæi. 1362 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. v. 171 Clement þe Cobelere caste of his cloke, And atte newe Feire he leyde hire to sulle. *c* 1400 *Chron. R. Glouc.* (Rolls) 9220 (MS. B), þe king..ladde him to þe newe worc, to a uayr castel & god. *c* 1470 *Gregory's Chron.* (Camden) 223 That fals Duke of Somersett .. stale owte of Walys .. towarde the Newecastelle. *c* 1489 Caxton *Sonnes of Aymon* iii. 89 Whan the newe tyme shall be come. 1568 Grafton *Chron.* II. 167 In this yere was..ended the newe worke of the Church of Westminster, to the ende of the Quire. 1596 Shaks. 1 *Hen. IV*, II. i. 3 Charles waine is ouer the new Chimney. 1679 Bedloe *Popish Plot* Ep. a j b, To fire the Water-Houses, and get the New River-Water stopt, if they can. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) VII. 272 The remainder of the old aliment will be seen mixing with the new. 1826 in E. H. Barker *Parriana* (1828) I. 380 It was at the time when the new jail was being built. 1848 R. I. Wilberforce *Doctr. Incarnation* iii. (1852) 48 The new Adam was ..the type and pattern of the renewed..creation.

c. In names of cities or countries. (Without *the*.)

1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* lxxxviii. 10 Citie that some tyme cleped was New Troy. 1535 Coverdale *Rev.* xxi. 2 I Ihon sawe that holy cite newe Iernsalem come downe fram God out of heauen. 1604 E. G[imstone] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* VII. ii. 498 Where now they have discovered a kingdome they call New Mexico. 1687 A. Lovell tr. *Bergerac's Com. Hist.* 8 It was in New-France. 1719 W. Wood *Surv. Trade* 280 They cannot Trade into the..South West Coast of New-Spain. 1761 *Charac.* in *Ann. Reg.* 10/1 There are a greater number of noblesse in New France than in all the other colonies put together. 1833 *Penny Cycl.* I. 438/1 These concussions, which are very common about New Madrid, are felt..from New Orleans to the mouth of the Missouri.

II. 6. Of recent origin or growth; that has not as yet existed long; † young. Also, of events or points in time: Recent, not long ago.

c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* lxviii. 32 Licað gode ofer caelf niowe. *c* 888 K. Ælfred *Boeth.* xxv, Ȝif..heo blodes onbirigð, heo forȝit sona hire niwan taman. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 292 Ȝenim þone neowran wyrttruman, delf up. *c* 1290 *St. Michael* 451 in *S. E. Leg.* I. 312 Ase man may bi þe Mone i-seo, þe ȝwyle heo is neowe riȝt. 13.. *Guy Warw.* (A.) 739 Bot on þatow [hast] newe dobing & art cleped kniȝt wiþ-outen lesing. ? *a* 1366 Chaucer *Rom. Rose* 856 She semede lyk a rose newe Of colour. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 1460 For he had nite him a nerand noȝt bot o new time. 1507 *Justes May & June* 31 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* II. 122 At the felde ende was pyght ..A pauyllyon on the grasse fresshe and nue. 1523 Ld. Berners *Froiss.* I. 587 Howe is it thus, in oure newe knyghthode, that [etc.]? 1611 Shaks. *Cymb.* II. iii. 46 The Exile of her Minion is too new, She hath not yet forgot him. 1785 Phillips *Treat. Inland Nav.* 25 Rival Nations, especially the new States of America. 1845 T. Milner *Gallery Nat.* 642 The new red sand stone and carboniferous systems in Leicestershire. 1865 Tylor *Early Hist. Man.* 17 The two-handed or French alphabet, generally used in England, is of newer date.

b. Of articles of food or drink: Freshly made, produced, or grown; not yet old or stale; belonging to the fresh crop or growth.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. ix. 17 Ne sendas win niwe in byttum aldum. 1362 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. VII. 287 Til hit to heruest hiȝede þat newe corn com to chepynge. *a* 1400 *Pistill of Susan* 99 With wardons winlich and walshe notes newe. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 360/2 Nwe ale, *celia*. *c* 1560 A. Scott *Poems* (S. T. S.) v. 31 Butter, new cheis, and heir in May. 1590 Shaks. *Mids. N.* IV. i. 49, I haue a venturous Fairy, That shall..fetch thee new Nuts. 1667 Milton *P. L.* IX. 1008 As with new Wine intoxicated both They swim in mirth. *a* 1756 Eliza Heywood *New Present* (1771) 133 Lay these into a stewpan with some new-milk. 1819 Shelley *Cyclops* 188 Is The new cheese pressed into the bulrush baskets? 1884 E. P. Roe in *Harper's Mag.* Aug. 452/2 New potatoes, dug for the first time that day.

c. Recently made; not yet used or worn; still unimpaired by use.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xxvii. 60 [He] sette ðæt in byrzenne his niwe. *Ibid.* Luke v. 36 Ne aeniȝ þæt esceapa from woedo niune onsendeð on ȝewedo ald. *c* 1205 Lay. 7394 Þeos [scipen] weoren al neowe stronge & wel itreowe. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 20214 A neu smock scho did hir on. 1382 Wyclif *Judg.* xvi. 11 If I were houndun with newe coordis, the whiche weren not ȝit in werk, I shal be feble. *c* 1462 *Wright's Chaste Wife* 117 Felowe, where hadyst þou þis hatte That ys so feyre and newe? 1538–[see Broom *sb.* 3]. 1655 Fuller *Ch. Hist.* II. v. § 39 Though they swept clean at the first, as new Besomes. 1703 Moxon *Mech. Exerc.* 242 They choose the newest, to wit, that which is newly drawn out of the Kiln. 1775 Johnson *Let. to Mrs. Thrale* 22 May, The key is the newest of those two that have the wards channelled. 1837 Dickens *Pickw.* xiv, A large bare-looking room, the furniture of which had no doubt been better when it was newer.

d. Now first used for some purpose.

1666 H. Stubbe *Mirac. Conformist* 19 The Brewers either pover the same or new in again to fill up the Barrel. 1693 Evelyn *De la Quint. Compl. Gard.* I. 27 [By] New Earth ..I mean Earth never having seen the Sun...It is certain that this New Soil possesses..all the first Salt, which was given it at..the Creation.

e. Recently inhabited or settled.

1817 J. Bradbury *Trav. Amer.* 331 In the early settlements..of new country, its progress in improvements is slow. 1823 J. F. Cooper *Pioneers* viii, It was a term in common use throughout the new parts of the state. 1871 De Vere *Americanisms* 176 If he..must go to what is called New Lands, he has to be careful in his selection.

7. Having or retaining the qualities of a fresh or recent thing; showing no sign of decline or decay. In later use esp. *ever new*.

c 1220 *Bestiary* 76 Ðer he wurðeð heil & sund, & cumeð ut al newe. *c* 1250 *Hymn to Virgin* in *Trin. Coll. Hom.* App. 257 Þi loue is euer iliche neowe. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 16557 Þis tre..þai fand..als neu and fress als it on stouen ware. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 8688 Þour mercy schal hem be newe. 1496 *Fysshynge w. Angle* (1883) 32 As longe as they ben quycke & newe they ben fyne. 1610 Shaks. *Temp.* II. ii. 28 A very ancient and fish-like smell; a kinde of not of the newest poore-Iohn. 1626 Bacon *Sylva* (J.), Men, after long emaciating diets, wax plump, fat, and almost new. 1667 Milton *P. L.* v. 19 Heav'ns last best gift, my ever new delight. 1711 Pope *Temp. Fame* 51 These ever new, nor subject to decays, Spread, and grow brighter. 1781 Cowper *Charity* 326 All ..to pursue Still prompt him, with a pleasure always new. 1877 M. Arnold *Switzerland, Parting*, To thee only God granted A heart ever new.

8. Having but recently come into a certain state, position, or relationship.

New chum: see Chum *sb.*

c 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* III. xxii. (Schipper) 295 Swa swiþe swa þa niwan cristenan ða zyt hit niman mihton. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 263 As he þat was a newe man ..and knewe nouȝt þe customs and þe usages of Engelond. 1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 180 So is hit..of new officers, that like ben to newe hungri flies. *c* 1489 Caxton *Sonnes of Aymon* ii. 65 So departed the newe knyghtes. *a* 1533 Ld. Berners *Huon* lxii. 217 The new brydes lay togyther in grete pleasure all that nyght. 1590 Sir J. Smyth *Disc. Weapons* 47 b, The shot of them..scare newe soldiors and nouices of warre. 1665 J. Webb *Stone-Heng* (1725) 63 The Evidence of our Claim shall be well attested, not by New-men, but such as..speak of their own Knowledge. 1714 Mandeville *Fable Bees* (1723) 314 If such a New-Beginner has but a little Pride..he is soon mortify'd in the Vestry. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* vi. II. 20 James's parliament contained a most unusual proportion of new members. *a* 1860 Alb. Smith *Med. Student* (1861) 14 The new man does not enter much into society.

b. Const. *to* a thing.

1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* IV. 30 New to the Pleasures of their native Spring. 1725 Pope *Odyss.* IV. 861 Twelve young mules..New to the plough, unpractis'd in the trace. 1853 'C. Bede' *Verdant Green* xi, Mr. Verdant Green was quite new to round bowling. 1884 *Times* (weekly ed.) 10 Oct. 3/3 The Government was new to office.

c. Fresh *from* some place, state, or operation.

1700 Dryden *To Duchess of Ormond* 102 Nor dare we trust so soft a messenger, New from her sickness, to that northern air. 1833 Tennyson *Dream Fair Wom.* 60 Branches fledged with clearest green, New from its silken sheath. 1896 *Pall Mall Mag.* Nov. 316 It was a Thursday and I was new from the razor.

9. That has just recently risen to distinction or notice; not belonging to a noted family.

1611 B. Jonson *Catiline* III. i, A new man, as I am styled in Rome, Whom you have dignified. 1670 G. H. *Hist. Cardinals* II. II. 156 Lorenzo Raggi..is descended of a new Family in Genoa. 1709 Swift *Adv. Relig.* Wks. 1755 II. I. 106 Nine in ten..are younger brothers, or new men. 1741 Middleton *Cicero* (1742) I. i. 4 A New Man, not that his Family was new or ignoble. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* I. I. 38 There were new men who bore the highest titles. 1890 *Spectator* 25 Jan., A family that is really 'new' is generally delighted to be mistaken for an old family.

III. 10. *Comb.* a. *New-old*, both new and old through revival, repair, or imitation. Also, † *new-new*, very new.

1592 G. Harvey *Four Lett.* iv. Wks. (Grosart) I. 233 Our new-new writers, the Loadstones of the Presse. 1662 Stillingfl. *Orig. Sacræ* I. vi. § 5 Thus Annius puts a good face on his new-old Authors. 1798 Charlotte Smith *Yng. Philos.* II. 34 Hopes were given my father that Lord and Lady Daventry would..stay a fortnight with him at his new-old castle. 1824 Miss Mitford *Village* Ser. I. (1863) 229 The same pot..with which he furbished up our new-old ponychaise. 1876 Geo. Eliot *Dan. Der.* xxxv, As for most of your new-old building [etc.].

b. With substantives, forming attributive compounds, as *new-charter man*, etc.

1684 Luttrell *Brief Rel.* (1857) I. 307 A contest between the old charter men and the *new charter men. 1683 Moxon *Mech. Exerc., Printing* 37 There are two sorts of Presses in use, viz. the old fashion and the *new fashion. 1729 Swift *Direct. Serv., Footman* Wks. 1751 XIV. 45 Learn all the new-fashion Words. 1899 S. Butler *Shaks. Sonn.* 97 A sub-didactic, *new-leaf, good-resolution tone. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 756 Bouillaud classified pericardial friction sounds as grazing, *new leather sound, and grating. 1685 Dryden *Theocritus* i. Misc. II. 358 A dainty Kid, and a large *New-milk Cheese. 1887 *Pall Mall G.* 1 Jan. 2/1 All naval Powers have provided their ships with..*new-type guns. 1847 Tennyson *Princ.* IV. 466 Clamour grew As of a *new-world Babel. 1866 Howells *Venet. Life* xi. 169, I doubt if even these would save them from the new-world pigs. 1886 W. J. Tucker *E. Europe* 141 Hair-brained, new-world notions of independence.

c. In derivatives of the type *new-æraist, new-birthite, new-schoolish*, etc.

1872 Bagehot *Physics & Pol.* (1876) 193 *New æraists, who want their new æra started forthwith. 1810 Coleridge in *Lit. Rem.* (1839) IV. 342 The very term by which the German *New-Birthites express it is enough to give one goose-flesh. 1844 T. Parker in Weiss *Life & Corr.* I. 244 Here they concoct one of the best journals in Germany. It is Hegelian and *new-schoolish of course. 1838 Jackson tr. *Krummacher's Elisha* ix. 201 Many other things are *New Testamental and remind us of the Gospel. 1851 Lowell *Lett.* I. 212 Genoa,—a very fit place for us *New-Worlders to land at. 1893 Patmore *Religio Poetæ* 206 Perhaps the unkindest hit in her book is that in which she laughs at the *New-Worldling.

B. *absol.* or as *sb.*

1. That which is new.

c 888 K. Ælfred *Boeth.* vii. § 2 Wenst þu þæt hit hwæt niwes sie..? *a* 900 Wærferth tr. *Gregory's Dial.* 4 Ȝelamp þe aht niwes [*v. r.* æniȝ þing niwes]? *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Luke v. 36 Elles þæt niwe slit, & se niwa scyp ne hylpð þam ealdan. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 250 Dis dai was forð in reste wrogt, Ilc kinde newes ear was brog[t]. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1407 [They agreed] hor cheuysaunce to chaunge, What newez so þay nome, at nazt quen þay metten.

1601 Weever *Mirr. Mart.* A 3 b, Man's memorie, with new, forgets the old; One tale is good, untill anothers told. 1819 Shelley *Peter Bell 3rd* v. ii, All things he seemed to understand, Of old or new. 1875 Whitney *Life Lang.* 266 The actual creation of the new in speech is..very rare. 1881 Jowett *Thucyd.* I. 45 As in the arts, so also in politics, the new must always prevail over the old.

b. A new thing. *rare.*

c 1470 Harding *Chron.* lxxxviii. xi, We wyll not chaunge for your doctrine ne lore, There shall no newe emong vs been ahused. 1887 Meredith *Ballads & P.* 147 An unborn New, To make the plagues afflicting us things past.

2. *The new of the moon*, the time at which the moon is new (see New moon). Now *rare.*

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* v. lviii. (Bodl. MS.), Greete scarsete þerof in þe new of þe mone. 1523 Fitzherb. *Husb.* § 68 Whether it were gette in the newe of the mone or in the olde of the mone. 1572 Bossewell *Armorie* II. 48 Apes ..are merye, and reioice at the newe of the moone. 1610 Markham *Masterp.* II. civ. 388 Shooe him in the new of the moone. 1682 *Riders Brit. Merlin* Jan., Set all kind of.. ..Fruit-trees in the New of the Moon. 1728 Pemberton *Newton's Philos.* 200 The moon would be nearer the earth at the new and full, than in the quarters. 1805 in Kittredge *Old Farmer's Almanack* (1904) 313 Apple trees..should be set out in the new of the moon.

†3. *For, of*, or *on the new*, anew, afresh. *Obs.*

c 1395 *Plowman's T.* 926 Gaye gownes, That mot be shape for the newe. 1399 Langl. *Rich. Redeles* III. 161 Vt was y-sent sone to shape of the newe. 1450 *Paston Lett.* I. 172, I pray you that the said maters may be called uppon of the new. 1535 Coverdale 2 *Sam.* xxiv. 1 The Lorde was wrothfully displeased of ye new agaynst Israel.

†b. *On the new*, something novel. *Obs. rare*$^{-1}$.

c 1485 *Digby Plays* (1882) I. 338 Thu make me a knyght, that were on the newe!

4. **Of new.** †a. Of late, recently; newly. *Obs.*

1375 Barbour *Bruce* xiv. 92 The castell wele wes stuffit then Of-new with wittale and vith men. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Clerk's T.* 882 Ther can no man..ben half so trewe As wommen been, but it be falle of-newe. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* VIII. 585 The men he tuk, that come till hym off new, Gydys to be. 1579 Fenton *Guicciard.* 736 Regiments of Italians leavyed of newe. 1609 Skene *Reg. Maj.* I. 118 b, Qvha is made of new the Kings Burges..sall sweare to be..trew to the King. 1669 R. Montagu in *Buccleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 444 The Suisses..are of new strictlier engaged, and more in the French interest than ever. 1728 [see Anew *adv.* 3].

b. Afresh, over again. Now *rare.*

Also rarely *on new*: see ANEW *adv.* 1 γ.

1413 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton) I. xvi. (1859) 17 Here ne may ther none aduocate be procured of newe. 1490 CAXTON *Eneydos* lv. 151 The chyeff capytaynes..beganne the medle and the crye of newe. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 67 By this meanes thei wer reconciled of newe. 1651 tr. *De-las-Coveras' Don Fenise* 270 He was much satisfied, and of new obliged to love me. *a* 1715 BURNET *Own Time* I. (1724) I. 6 Lasting feuds and animosities, which upon every turn are apt to ferment and to break out of new. 1752 J. LOUTHIAN *Form of Process* (ed. 2) 79 A Warrant obtained for imprisoning him of new. 1827 SCOTT *Napoleon* lxix, His attention was of new summoned. 1865 [see ANEW *adv.* 2 *a*].

†**c.** By new arrangement, appointment, etc.; with some change or alteration. *Obs.*

c 1400 *Rom. Rose* 5169 Either must I love or hate. And if I hate men of newe [etc.]. 1485 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 304/1 Suche Assignements as oure said Soveraine Lord shall of newe make and appointe. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. clxi. 197 This ordynaunce they had made of newe, that the frenchmen knewe nat of. *c* 1543-82 [see ANEW *adv.* 4]. 1658 W. BURTON *Itin. Anton.* 164 Then it was of new called Augusta.

†**d.** Shortly, soon. *Obs. rare* —1.

c 1500 *Lancelot* 955 [G]if me leif to ga To the assemble, wich sal be of new.

†**New,** *v. Obs.* Forms: 1-2 niwian, (1 neowian), 3 niwe; 4-6 newe, (4 neu, 5 neewe, nwyn, *Sc.* nev), 5-6 new. [OE. *niwian*, f. *niwe* NEW *a.*, = MDu. *nuwen* (Du. *-nieuwen*), OS. *niwian* (*nigean*), MLG. *nygen*, OHG. *niwôn* (MHG. *niuwen*, *niwen*, G. *-neuen*), ON. (*endr*)*nýja*, Goth. (*ana*)*niujan*.]

1. *trans.* To renew, to make new.

Common in 14-15th c. in a variety of contexts.

a 900 CYNEWULF *Elene* 940 (Gr.), Ne þearft ðu swa swiðe ..sar niwigan & sæce ræran. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 192 Swa þæt ðu þeah æghwylce dæg þone drenc niwie. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1064 He niwade þær Cnutes lage. *c* 1220 *Bestiary* 55 Kiðen i wille ðe ernes kinde,..wu he neweð his ȝuðhede. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 23399 He sal neu vr bodis slike, þai sal be till his aun like. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* I. 49 Al þe chirche of men and nungels is newid bi þe Incarnacioun. *a* 1450 MYRC 642 Thow moste chawnge þyn oyle also þat þey mowe be newed bo. 1503 in *Trans. Roy. Hist. Soc.* (1902) 153 The seyd Walter newed a pond of his. *a* 1555 HUTCHINSON *Three Serm.* ii. Wks. (Parker Soc.) 251 The sacraments also be newed and changed.

refl. *c* 1220 *Bestiary* 123 Neddre is te name: ðus he him neweð.

2. *intr.* To become new again, renew itself.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 20356 Now me neus al mi wa. 13.. *Propr. Sanct.* (Vernon MS.) in Herrig *Archiv* LXXXI. 83/2 But greine of whete in eorþe dye, hit schal not newe. *c* 1400 tr. *Secreta Secret., Gov. Lordsh.* 73 Veyr ys hoot and moyst,..And þerynne newys þe blood. *a* 1500 *Chaucer's Dreme* C.'s Wks. (1561) 242 Euery day her beaute newed.

b. Used of the yearly renewal of produce or increase of stock.

a 1400 *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* xxxvii. 524 [Let a man] of al þat neweþ him be ȝere do his tiþinge. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* vi. 57 Of all that newes me rightwys tend shall I gif the. 1496 *Festial* (W. de W.) Sentence General, Tythes..of al maner bestis that are newyng. *Ibid.*, Of hay also often as it newes.

c. To fall (constantly) to (one).

1399 LANGL. *Rich. Redeles* IV. 6 Ne for-feyturis fele þat felle in his daies, Ne þe nownagis þat newed him euere.

Hence †**Newed** *ppl. a. Obs. rare.*

a 1440 *Found. St. Bartholomew's* (E. E. T. S.) 31 Of them that runne to religione with an ynwarde newydde deuocyone.

New (niū), *adv.* Forms: 1 niwe, 3-6 newe, (5 neewe), 4 neu, 5- new. [OE. *niwe*, f. the adj.]

†**I.** In ordinary adverbial uses. Now *Obs.*

1. Newly, recently, lately.

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 247 Forþon þe we niwe syndon to þissum ȝeleafan ȝedon. 1307 *Elegy Edw. I*, i, Herkneth to my song, Of duel that Deth hath diht us newe. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Merch. T.* 582 His berd..sharp as brere, For he was shave al newe in his manere. *c* 1440 *Alph. Tales* 202 He saw a pope at hight Benett, att wold new be dede. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* VI. 134 'Quhy, schir', he said, 'come yhe nocht new our se?' 1562 HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1874) 92 A man from a fever recovered new His greedy appetite could not eschew. 1595 SHAKS. *John* III. i. 233 Euen before this truce, but new before.

2. Anew, afresh, over again.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 3029 Gode lawes þat were aleyd, nywe he let make. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 26921 Sin þis sinn was neuer forgiuen, nedinges most it neu be scriuen. *c* 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* Prol. 103 My bisy goost, that thursteth alwey newe To seen this flour. *c* 1430 *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 195 Þou haste slayn þi lord, And euery day þou woundist me newe. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* XI. 1224 His fatell hour I will nocht fenȝe new. 1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 126 They must nedes be dryuen newe and hardened agayne. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, IV. i. 311, I Richards body haue interred new. 1615 BEDWELL *Moham. Imposl.* I. § 18 This statute was commanded new againe.

b. *New and new*, ever anew, over and over.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* III. 116 Pandare weep .. And poked ever his nece newe and newe. *c* 1430 *Syr Gener.* (Roxb.) 638 Hir sorow encresed new and new. *a* 1529 SKELTON *P. Sparowe* 896 She florysshеth new and new In bewte and vertew. *a* 1542 WYATT *Poet. Wks.* (1858) 191 Chastisings .. that new and new begin With thousand fears the heart to strain and bind.

II. Preceding, and closely connected (in later use hyphened) with, the qualified word.

3. With pa. pples. used attributively, in the sense of 'Newly, recently, freshly'.

Common only after 1550, and esp. after Shakespeare, who has about a score of examples, as *new-crowned*, *-dated*, *-delivered*, *-enkindled*, *-healed*, etc. In later use the number of such combs. is practically unlimited; a large collection from various writers is given in Jodrell's dictionary. Those which have most frequently been employed will be found here in their alphabetical places as main words.

In OE. a few combs. of this type appear with the hare adj. stem *nīw-*, *nīg-*, *nī-*, as *nīwtyrwyd* new-tarred, *nī(w)cealct* new-chalked, *nīgbacen*, new-baked; with these compare the numerous ON. forms in *ný-*, as *nýfundinn*, *-gefinn*, *-tekinn*, etc.

a. With the pa. ppples. of trans. verbs, as *new-accepted*, *-adopted*, *-dropped*, *-engendered*, etc.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xl. (*Ninian*) 406 Caile & leikis faire ..cummyne of nev sawine seide. 1501 DOUGLAS *Pal. Hon.* Prol. vii, The purgit air with new engendrit heit. 1515 BARCLAY *Egloges* IV, Suche other newe forged Muses nine. 1570 T. NORTON tr. *Nowel's Catech.* (1853) 114 Otherwise we should daily forge ourselves new-feigned religions. 1620 VENNER *Via Recta* vii. 115 The ripe and new-gathered Mulberries. 1684 T. BURNET *The. Earth* I. 263 When he came to act upon this new-erected stage. 1726 POPE *Odyss.* XVII. 66 My new-accepted guest I haste to find. 1775 S. J. PRATT *Liberal Opin.* XXVII. (1783) I. 177 Discovering a fat new-shorn pate. 1800 WORDSW. *Brothers* 358 He had gone forth among the new-dropped lambs. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 766 A mixture of new-slaked lime with beer. 1851 H. MELVILLE *Whale* xi, Illuminated by the flame of the new-lit lamp. 1897 MARY KINGSLEY *W. Africa* 32 You can't want new-dug graves daily.

b. With the pa. ppples. of intrans. verbs, as *new-bloomed*, *-calved*, *-departed*, *-flown*, etc. Also † *new-(up)start*.

a 1548 HALL *Chron., Edw. IV*, 192 The husbandman ought first to tast of the new growen frute. 1570 FOXE *A. & M.* (ed. 2) 1/2 The lyke..reason of late renued by a certayne newe start Englysh Clarke. 1618 *Barnevelt's Apol.* Ded. A 2 The tottering and extreme ruine of the new vpstart Arminians. *a* 1649 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Poems* Wks. (1711) 2 The locks of amber Of new bloom'd sicamores. *a* 1700 KEN *Hymnotheo* Poet. Wks. 1721 III. 44 Bright Gabriel new-departed Souls collects. 1775 G. WHITE *Selborne* xliii, To make sad havock .. among the new-flown swallows. 1785 BURNS *2nd Ep. to J. Lapraik* i, Whyle new-ca'd kye rowte at the stake. 1819 SHELLEY *Prometh. Unb.* II. i. 148 The white dew on the new-bladed grass. 1846 PROWETT *Prometh. Bound* 42 To cower beneath These new-grown gods. 1884 T. SPEEDY *Sport Highl.* vii. 80 Clean, new-run sea-trout are often caught..with small fly.

4. Similarly with pa. pples. (and some adjs.) used predicatively, or placed after the noun.

Shakespeare has about a dozen examples of this use: as *new-adopted*, *-begot*, *-burned*, etc.

a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* Cant. 516 Sere errours .. new þorgh vp thorgh entysynge of þe deuyll. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xlix. (*Thecla*) 302 Pane fand scho thamyrnm nev ded. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Clerk's Prol.* 3 Ye ryde as coy and stille, as dooth a mayde Were newe spoused. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xxxi. 140 þai ware..so fresch as þai had bene enen new deed. *c* 1440 *Alph. Tales* 77 He broght þaim owder a swyne or a schepe new slayn. 1480 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 65 The colage of preestes newe bildid within the town of Bury. 1581 PETTIE tr. *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* I. (1586) 1 b, He..found him at tbe table, but new dined. 1588 J. UDALL *Diotrephes* (Arb.) 31 He is but newe gone out of the gate. 1600 FAIRFAX *Tasso* XX. xlvi, Like a man new-turn'd to marble stone. 1663 GERBIER *Counsel* 28 Stone..new taken out of the Quarry. 1684 T. BURNET *The. Earth* I. 289 Every hypothesis that is new-propos'd and untri'd. *a* 1711 KEN *Hymnarium* Wks. 1721 II. 117 Allotting Mansions ev'ry Day, For all new-stript of Clay. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* IX. 1302 As new-awak'd, I lift A more enlighten'd eye. 1791 COWPER *Iliad* II. 53 His fleecy vest New-woven he put on. 1817 KEATS *I stood tiptoe* 8 The clouds were pure and white as flocks new-shorn. 1859 TENNYSON *Geraint & Enid* 862 As sullen as a beast new-caged. 1870 BRYANT *Iliad* II. XV. 101 The horse-hair crest New-tinged with purple.

5. With pa. ppples. used predicatively in the sense of 'Anew, afresh'.

Common in, and after, Shakespeare. Cotgrave uses such forms to render a number of French pa. ppples. in *re-*, as '*reaplani*, new-levelled'.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 20215 Quen scho was schod and neu clad, To ihesu crist a bone scho badde. ?1370 *Robt. Cicyle* 54 Thy crowne schalle be newe schorne. 1470-85 MALORY *Arthur* XIII. xvii. 636 Syr Percyuale..knewe hym not, for he was newe desguysed. 1485 *Rutland Papers* (Camden) 23 The King, thus unaraied,..shalbe by the said Chamberlayn new arraied. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* XXXVI. 113 A M. horses let to be new shode. 1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 415 Such .. must be newskowred in the Popes Purgatory. 1587 GOLDING *De Mornay* xvii. (1592) 274 To be as it were newfurbished, to scoure of the great Rust. 1641 SIR E. DERING *Sp. on Relig.* xi. 38 That was revised, and new sencd by us. 1663 HEATH *Flagellum* (1672) 112 The same day..he was new proclaimed. 1706 POPE *Let. to Wycherley* 10 Apr., Some [verses]..I have entirely new express'd. 1733 P. LINDSAY *Interest Scot.* 195 They put a-shore their Nets to be repair'd and new-barkt. 1802-12 BENTHAM *Ration. Judic. Evid.* (1827) II. 351 The bill .. comes back to be new tinkered up by the same hand. 1847 MRS. CARLYLE *Lett.* I. 394 When the parlour is new-papered. 1859 LD. LYTTON *Wanderer* (ed. 2) 180 The streets are new-peopled: the morning is bright.

b. Placed after a noun or pronoun.

[1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. vi. 44 Then backe to fight againe, new breathed and entire.] 1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II*, II. i. 31 Me thinkes I am a Prophet new inspir'd. 1636 MASSINGER *Bashful Lover* v. i, Here he comes, With his officers, new-rigged. *a* 1661 FULLER *Worthies* (1840) II. 412 So many houses daily, new-dipt, assume to themselves new names. 1705 ADDISON *Italy* Wks. 1721 II. 11 A St. Bartholomew, new-flead, with his skin hanging over his shoulders. 1767 S. PATERSON *Another Trav.* I. 288 The self-same picture, new modified. 1796 BURNEY *Mem. Metastasio* II. 91 You will receive four of my first dramas, new written. 1827 KEBLE *Chr. Y., Burial Dead*, Then cheerly to your work again With hearts new-brac'd and set. 1897 W. WATSON in *Westm. Gaz.* 16 July 3/1 Behold him Rise, new-fanged.

6. With active forms of transitive verbs, in the same sense.

Also freq. in Cotgrave to render French verbs in *re-*.

1442 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 44/1 And ther with..newe edifie and bilde anothir Brigge. 1570 *Norton & Sackville's Gorboduc* Printer to Rdr., They..haue..new apparelled, trimmed and attired her. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. ii. 17 Streams of purple blond new die the verdant fields. 1633 FORD *Broken H.* v. iii, Thus I new-marry bim, whose wife I am. 1666 PEPYS *Diary* 13 June, She had new-whitened the house all below stairs. 1713 STEELE *Guard.* No. 84 ¶ 2 They will new-plait and adjust your neckcloth. 1745 P. THOMAS *Jrnl. Anson's Voy.* 299 The Commodore..sent Assistance to get her off and new-moor her. 1771 FOOTE *Maid of B.* I. Wks. 1799 II. 213 To scour and new-line the coachman and footman's old frocks. 1803 *Edin. Rev.* II. 36 The whole nation exerting itself to new-floor the Government-house. 1833 N. ARNOTT *Physics* (ed. 5) II. 119 Separating, combining, and new-modifying them to serve to him most useful purposes. *a* 1861 MRS. BROWNING *Void in Law* vii, He thinks that..he'll new-stamp the ore?

7. With pres. ppples. of intransitive verbs used attributively, as *new-appearing*, *-bleeding*, *-breaking*, *-budding*, etc. Also *new-emergent*.

1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III*, IV. iv. 10 My vnblowed Flowres, new appearing sweets. 1597 — *Lover's Compl.* 153 Experience for me many bulwarks builded Of proofs new-bleeding. 1610 DONNE *Pseudo-martyr* 327 Not vpon new emergent matter, but vpon better knowledge of the former. 1669 DRYDEN *Tyrannic Love* IV. i, We slide on the back of a new-falling star. 1726 POPE *Odyss.* XIX. 703 Down her pale cheek new-streaming sorrow flows. 1817 BYRON *Manfred* II. ii, On the swift whirl of the new-breaking wave. *a* 1861 CLOUGH *London Idyll* 37 Odours of new-budding rose. 1895 *Outing* (U.S.) XXVI. 443/1 Patches of the new-starting rushes.

8. With verbal sbs. *rare.*

1484 *Churchw. Acc. Wigtoft, Linc.* (Nichols 1797) 78 Paide for neweshotyng of the grete bell claper. 1611 COTGR., *Reedification*, a..reedifying, new-building. 1700 C. NESSE *Antid. Armin.* (1827) 106 If conversion be a new-begetting..then fallen man hath no free-will.

Newalty, variant of NEWELTY *Obs.*

New-bear, *a. dial.* Also 7, 9 new-bare, 9 -bay'd. [ad. ON. **nýbær* (MDa. and mod. Norw. *nybær*; Icel. *nýbæra*, *-bæringr* sb.), f. *ný-* new + *-bær* (cf. ON. *síð-* and *snemmbær*), f. *bera* to BEAR.] Of a cow: That has newly calved.

1615 MARKHAM *Eng. Housew.* 106 Those Kine are said to be deepest of milke, which are new bare; that is, which hane but lately calued. 1856 THOMPSON *Hist. Boston* 716. 1877 *N. W. Linc. Gloss.*, *New-bay'd cow*, a cow which has very recently had a calf. 1886 *S. W. Linc. Gloss.* s.v., 'Two newbear cows, two rearing calves'; or 'New-bare cow, two reared calves'.

New-blown, *ppl. a.* [NEW *adv.* 3.]

1. Of flowers: Just come into bloom; newly opened. Also *fig.*

a 1667 COWLEY (J.), All in that new-blown age which does inspire Warmth in themselves. *a* 1706 OTWAY *Ovid's Ep. Phædra* 142 Who would not pluck the new-blown blushing Rose? 1740 J. MILLER *Mahomet* I. ii, Converting the sweet Flow'r of new blown Hope To deadly Night-Shade. 1795-1814 WORDSW. *Excurs.* IV. 497 A hee That..thither soars, to feed On new-blown heath. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* XII. vi. ¶ 5, I put my new-blown honours in my pocket.

2. Of bubbles: Just blown.

1747 JOHNSON *Prol. at Opening Theatre Royal*, Hard is his lot, that here by Fortune plac'd Must..chase the new-blown bubbles of the day.

New-born, *ppl. a.* [NEW *adv.* 3: cf. MDu. *nie(u)boren*, OHG. *niwiboran* (MHG. *niuwe-*, *niuboren*), ON. *nýborinn*.]

1. Just born; newly brought forth.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 1342 A new born barn lay in þe croppe. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xiv. 292 He shall neuer hane myght to me, That new borne lad. 1535 COVERDALE *Matt.* ii. 2 Where is the new borne kynge of the Iues? 1570 GOOGE *Kirchmeyer's Papal Kingdom* IV. (1880) 45 The crying noise of Iupiter new borne. 1629 MILTON *Hymn Nativ.* xi, Harping in loud and solemn quire,..to Heav'ns new-born Heir. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* II. 501 The Nurseling spare, Nor exercise thy Rage on new-born Life. 1764 BURN *Poor Laws* 228 A Chinese, according to their laws, may cast his new born child into the river. 1801 *Med. Jrnl.* V. 479 The new-born animal staggers in walking and standing. 1886 A. WINCHELL *Walks Geol. Field* 316 The mother-fowl calls her new-born chicks.

b. *transf.* and *fig.* in various senses.

a 1586 SIDNEY (J.), To give the new-born letters both to death and burial. *a* 1650 CRASHAW (J.), He saw heav'n blossom with a new-born light. 1781 COWPER *Hope* 170 Nothing else can nourish and secure His newborn virtues. 1827 KEBLE *Chr. Y., Monday in Easter Week*, The new-born rill Just trickling from its mossy bed. 1878 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* 136 When rain fell upon this new-born land.

2. Born anew; *fig.* regenerated. Also *absol.*

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxxii. (*Justin*) 614 [He] mad hyme þane as to cryst a now-borne mane. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. xi. 34 So new this new-borne knight to battell new did rise. 1593 SHAKS. *Lucrece* 1190 My shame so dead, mine honour is new-born. 1620 QUARLES *Feast of Wormes* (1638) 34 Once more the voice..Came dowae from heaven to Jonah new born man, To re-baptized Jonah. 1726 POPE *Odyss.* XX. 296 These aged nerves with new-born vigour strung. 1768 WESLEY *Jrnl.* 5 May (1827) III. 310 The number of the new-born is increased.

New-broached, *ppl. a.* [NEW *adv.* 3.] Newly opened up, brought forth, etc.

1547, 1612 [see BROACHED *ppl. a.* 2]. 1645 QUARLES *Sol. Recant.* IV. 34 They shall..leave a Tang Vpon thy new-broach'd Honor. *a* 1700 CREECH *Lucretius* (1715) Pref., The very Arguments..are revived afresh, and alledg'd to justifie new-broach'd Opinions.

New-broke(n, *ppl. a.* [NEW *adv.* 3.] Newly broken (also with *-up, -in*).

1660 SHARROCK *Vegetables* 21 The flax seed is sowen upon new broken ground. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* (1721) I. 128 They commonly sow..If new-broke-up Ground, two Bushels and a Peck. 1765 *Museum Rust.* IV. xl. 178 Burnet will not do in new-broke-up land. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 217, I groomed a new-broke-in blood filly for four months.

New-built, *ppl. a.* [NEW *adv.* 3.] Freshly or recently built; rebuilt. Also *fig.*

1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* v. ii. 118 Her new built vertue and obedience. 1597 WARNER *Alb. Eng., Æneidos* 330 In a new-built Fortresse. 1630 DRAYTON *Noah's Flood* 96 Hauing sented out Noah's new-built Arke. 1715 LEONI *Palladio's Archit.* (1742) II. 100 Warming their new-built Houses. 1827 G. HIGGINS *Celtic Druids* 44 Their grand and new-built city. 1856 KINGSLEY *Heroes, Argonauts* v. 133 What is this new-built town?

New·cal(d, *ppl. a. Sc.* and *north. dial.* Also 8 nuckle, 9 neucle(d, newkeld, etc. [For *new-calved* (see NEW *adv.* 3 b), or perh. ad. ON. **nýkelfd.*] Of a cow: That has newly calved.

1719 RAMSAY *Richy & Sandy* 72 Nuckle kye stand rowting in the loans. 1725 — *Gentle Sheph.* III. iii, My faulds contain twice fifteen forrow nowt, As mony newcal in my byres rowt. 1801 W. BEATTIE *Fruits of Time Parings* (1873) 67 (E. D. D.), A new-cal' cow to fill my byre. 1829 BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Newcal-cow*, a cow newly calved. [Also in recent northern glossaries: see *Eng. Dial. Dict.*]

New-cast, *v.* [NEW *adv.* 6.] *trans.* To recast; to form or mould anew. Also *refl.*

1650 R. STAPYLTON *Strada's Low C. Wars* II. 40 He had a wit that could easily new-cast it self into any mould. 1691 T. H[ALE] *Acc. New Invent.* 97 All's returned again to be new Cast. 1753 *World* No. 10. 59 To prepare and new-cast the established rhimes for public use. 1789 *Hist. Eur. in Ann. Reg.* 81/2 To proceed in a different way; first to new-cast the office and then to declare the officer.

So **New-cast** *ppl. a.*

1642 SIR T. BROWNE *Relig. Med.* I. § 1, I am of that reformed new-cast Religion. 1785 BURKE *Nabob of Arcot's Debts* Wks. IV. 277 The only fund left..for a new-cast peace establishment.

New-coin, *v.* [NEW *adv.* 6.] To coin afresh.

1700 CONGREVE *Way of World* IV, While it passes current with me, that you endeavour not to new Coin it. 1804 *Europ. Mag.* XLV. 94 *note*, He..new-coined their words, and so made them his own.

New-coined, *ppl. a.* [NEW *adv.* 3.] Freshly coined; newly made or invented.

1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. ii. II. 489 Wits .. doe new coyn'd words inhance With current freedome. 1624 BEDELL *Lett.* ix. 120 Whose new-coyned faith .. came in peece-meale. 1684 E. CHAMBERLAYNE *Pres. St. Eng.* I. (ed. 15) 217 To scatter new-coyned two-pences in the .. places where the King passes. 1785 REID *Intell. Powers* II. x. 287 His style is disagreeable, being full of new-coined words. 1817 COLERIDGE *Biog. Lit.* (Bohn) 214 If the reader will pardon an uncouth and new-coined word.

New-come, *ppl. a.* and *sb.* [NEW *adv.* 3 b.]

A. *ppl. a.* Newly arrived; but lately come.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. x. 14 *marg.*, Biscope is forboden þæt he onfoe niwe cumenum preost & to ȝehælȝenne ferunga. *c* 1205 LAY. 8562 Cassibellaune lette..cuðen his kempen þa tiðende neow cumene. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 60 Wyle nw ȝer was so ȝep þat hit was nwe cummen. *a* 1350 *St. Barth.* 69 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 119 A new-cumen schrew, A lurdan þat hat Bertelmew. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 89 Comelynge, newcum man or woman. 1535 LYNDESAY *Satyre* 2426 Quhair traist ȝe I sall find ȝon new-cumde King? 1590 MARLOWE *Edw. II*, I. i, The sight of London..Is as Elysium to a new-come soul. 1633 FORD *'Tis Pity* II. vi, A fellow with a broad beard (they say he is a new-come doctor). 1681 HICKERINGILL *Sin Man-catching* Wks. 1716 I. 179 A New-Mode, lately Invented, and new come over from beyond Seas. 1712 E. COOKE *Voy. S. Sea* 405 The six new-come Nations liv'd friendly together. 1785 BURNS *Brigs of Ayr* 87 It chanced his new-come neebor took his e'e. 1808 SCOTT *Marm.* v. vi, While burghers, with important face, Described each new-come lord. 1873 LELAND *Egypt. Sketch Bk.* 35 They don't object to speak the language before their new-come companions.

B. *sb.* A new or recent arrival; a novice.

1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* II. (1586) 106 b, The Plane tree is but a stranger, and a newe come to Italie. 1586 FERNE *Blaz. Gentrie* I. 18 Is it reason that a new-come should disturbe him from so auncient a possession? 1633 FORD *Broken H.* II. i, Fear not, I am no new-come to 't. 1821 EGAN *Life Lond.* I. 300 There were some New-comes. [*note*, The name given to any new faces discovered among the usual visitants.] 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* 497 *Newcome*, an officer commencing his career. Any stranger or fresh hand newly arrived.

So **New-comeling.** *rare.*

1577, 1815 [see COMELING].

New·co·mer. Also **new comer, newcomer.** [f. NEW and COMER, after NEW-COME *ppl. a.*] One who has newly come to a place; a new arrival.

1592 GREENE *Groat's W. Wit* (New Sbaks. Soc.) 31 For other new commers, I leaue them to the mercie of these painted monsters. 1637 SIR H. BLOUNT *Voy. Levant* 61 A new Commer aprehends them with a judgement fresh and sincere. 1717 BERKELEY *Jrnl. Tour Italy* Wks. 1871 IV. 519 To produce a good effect on the eye of a new-comer. 1783 HERSCHEL in *Phil. Trans.* LXXIII. 259 Several of them strongly suspected to be new-comers. 1832 HT. MARTINEAU *Weal & Woe* i. 8 He..went to new comers in preference to old neighbours. 1882 BESANT *Revolt of Man* xii. (1883) 288 Drill was renewed, and the new-comers taught the first elements of marching.

So † **New-coming.** *Obs. rare* $^{-1}$.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 33 It were a wrecched schame þat a newe comynge [L. *novus advena*] schulde putte olde londesmen out of here place.

New-create, *v.* [NEW *adv.* 5, 6.] *trans.* To create anew.

1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* IV. i. 287 Or did the Letters..new-create his fault? *a* 1680 BUTLER *Rem.* (1759) I. 7 When her Orb was new created. 1720 WELTON *Suffer. Son of God* II. xxvii. 720 To..new-create the Worst of Infidels into thy faithful Servants. 1748 THOMSON *Cast. Indol.* II. lx, To high discovery..that new creates The face of earth. 1800 COLERIDGE *Lett.* (1895) 322 Every hour new-creates him. 1870 EMERSON *Soc. & Solit.* iii. 42 Language.. is not new-created by the poet for his own ends.

Hence **New-creating** *ppl. a.*

1850 MRS. BROWNING *Poems* II. 274 Prayer that would Commend thee to the new-creating God.

New-created, *ppl. a.* [NEW *adv.* 3.] Newly made or brought into existence.

1656 in *Burton's Diary* (1828) I. 280 A charter confirmed, makes it not a new-created charter. *a* 1711 KEN *Psyche* Poet. Wks. 1721 IV. 290 While I possess'd Of new-created Eve the Breast. 1782 V. KNOX *Ess.* xx. (1819) I. 122 The true origin of this new-created want. 1813 SHELLEY *Q. Mab* III. 185 A new created sense within his soul. 1863 H. COX *Instit.* I. vii. 74 An unlimited number of new-created lords.

† **New-cut,** *sb. Obs.* [f. NEW *a.* + CUT *sb.*^{2}] An old card-game.

1594–5 *Gesta Grayorum* in Nichols *Progr. Q. Eliz.* (1823) III. 301 Losses by shipwreck upon certain rocks of hazard, ..the sands of bowle-allies, the shelf of new-cut, the gulf of myne and gill [etc.]. 1600 J. LANE *Tom Tel-troth* 119 New-cut at Cards brings some to beggarie. 1607 HEYWOOD *Wom. killed w. Kindn.* E 2 b, *Fran.* You are best at New-cut, wife; you'l play at that. *Wend.* If you play at new-cut, I'me soonest hitter of any here, for a wager. 1663 TUKE *Adv.* 5 *Hours* IV. i, They are deeply engag'd At New Cut, and will not leave their Game.

New-devised, *ppl. a.* [NEW *adv.* 3.] Newly or lately contrived or invented.

1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* I. ii. 66, I would..ransome him to any French Courtier for a new deuis'd curtsie. 1637 C. DOW *Answ. H. Burton* 159 Any new-devised formes of praier. 1795 SEWARD *Anecd.* I. 147 He was..carried away with an affection of their new-devised discipline.

New-discovered, *ppl. a.* [NEW *adv.* 3.] Lately found or made known.

1654 DOROTHY OSBORNE *Lett.* (1888) 277 The new discovered plot against the Protector. 1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* III. x. § 32 In a new-discovered Country. 1776 DA COSTA *Elem. Conchol.* v. 107 A new-discovered species, genus, or family. 1816 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* xxvii. (1818) II. 520 They had resolved upon an emigration to this new-discovered country.

New-dress, *v.* [NEW *adv.* 5, 6.] *trans.* To dress afresh; to put a new dressing on. Also *absol.*

1611 COTGR., *Raccoustré*, ..new dressed or trimmed vp. 1700 WATTS *Horæ Lyr., Mourning Piece*, The wishing Muse new-dresses the fair garden. 1741 LADY POMFRET *Lett.* (1805) III. 110, I returned home to new dress. 1795 WASHINGTON *Lett.* Writ. 1892 XIII. 84 By the time it is revised and new dressed [etc.]. 1871 R. ELLIS tr. *Catullus* lxv. 16 A verse I tender of ancient Battiades, new-drest.

Newe, var. NEVE *Obs.*; obs. f. NIEVE.

Newed, *ppl. a.*: see NEW *v.*

Newel[1] (niū·ĕl). Forms: 4–5 nowell, (7 noel), 7–8 nuel, (7 nuell), newell, (9 -ill, -al), 7– newel. [a. OF. *nouel, noel, noal* (later *noiel, noial*, mod.F. *noyau*), kernel, stone, newel, etc. = Prov. *nogalh*:—Rom. **nucale*, f. L. *nuc-*, *nux* nut.]

1. *Arch.* The pillar forming the centre from which the steps of a winding stair radiate; † one of the stones forming such a pillar.

Also called *solid newel* in contrast to b.

1365 in Brayley & Britton *Houses Parlt.* (1836) 188 [Fifteen stones of Reygate, for the work called] nowells, [bought for the same stair-case]. 1416–17 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) II. 442, Pro x nowelles pro gradibus xv^{s}. 1611 COTGR., *Noyau*, the Nuell or spindle of a winding staire. 1655 MRQ. WORCESTER *Cent. Invent.* § 48 A scrued Ascent, instead of Stairs,..with Back-stairs within the Noell of it. 1679 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* 170 *Newel*, the upright Post that a pair of Winding-stairs are turned about. 1711 W. SUTHERLAND *Shipbuild. Assist.* 65 A pair of winding Stairs, having a Nuel in the Center. *a* 1734 NORTH *Lives* (1826) III. 207, I could go round between the columns and the newel. 1823 P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Build.* 184 When the ends of the steps terminate upon a vertical prism or pillar, the prism or pillar is called a newal. 1870 F. R. WILSON *Ch. Lindisf.* 59 The steps ascend round an oblong newell.

transf. 1683 *Weekly Memorial* 64 The spiral blade of the Cochlea is fastened on the one side to its Nuel.

b. *Open* or *hollow newel*, a central open space or well in a winding stair.

1625 BACON *Ess., Building* (Arb.) 550 The Staires..to the vpper Roomes, let them bee vpon a Faire open Newell. 1720 STRYPE *Stow's Surv.* (1754) I. II. ix. 501/2 To the Stairs having an open Newel, there is a rail of Iron. 1727–38 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Stair*, The one winding round a solid, the other round an open newel. 1842 GWILT *Archit.* 1008 Where the steps are pinned into the wall, and there is no central pillar, the staircase is said to have an open newel. 1851 *Dict. Archit.* IV. 68 *Hollow Newel*, a name often given as well as 'open newel', to an open well-hole staircase.

2. The post at the head or foot of a stair supporting the hand-rail.

1833 LOUDON *Encycl. Archit.* 125 Deal turned newels (posts firmly framed to which the bandrail is fixed) and moulded handrail. 1858 *Skyring's Builders' Prices* 55 Square framed newill. .. Inch square bar ballusters. 1878 W. W. FENN *Blindman's Holiday* II. 46 The carved oak balustrade, the newels, and the polished flooring.

b. In ships: (see quot.).

c 1850 *Rudim. Navig.* (Weale) 135 *Newell*, an upright piece of timber to receive the tenon of the rails that lead from the breast-work to the gangway.

3. 'A cylindrical pillar terminating the wing-wall of a bridge'.

1882 in OGILVIE and later Dicts.

4. *attrib.*, as *newel-post, -stair(s), -staircase, -step.*

1798 HUTTON *Course Math.* (1828) II. 86 Take the .. girt over its end till it meet the top of the *newel-post. 1881 OAKEY *Building Home* 71 To attain decorative effects in newel-posts and balusters. 1667 PRIMATT *City & C. Build.* 66 A pair of open *Newel-Stairs (which are Stairs with a well or light coming from the top). 1851 TURNER *Dom. Archit.* II. iii. 81 Internal communication by a newel stair at one angle of the building. 1859 JEPHSON *Brittany* v. 55 We next ascended the broad *newel staircase. 1883 SIR W. H. COPE *Bramshill* 64 A newel staircase ascending to the attics. 1883 *Archæol. Cant.* XV. 256 Some broken stone *newel-steps which were found close by.

† **Newel**[2]. *Obs. rare.* Also 6–7 **-ell.** [var. of NOVEL, after NEW *a.*] A novelty; news.

c 1475 *Songs & Carols 15th C.* (Warton Club) 64 Syns that Eve was procreat..Cowd not such newels in this lond be inventyd. 1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* May 276 He was so enamored with the newell, That nought he deemed deare for the jewell. *a* 1618 J. DAVIES *Eglogues* Wks. (Grosart) II. 20 O! bow my heart's ioy-rapt, as I had cought A Princedome to my share, of thilk newell.

Newelled (niū·ĕld), *a.* [f. NEWEL[1] + -ED[2].] Having a newel. Also *solid-* or *open-newelled.*

1677 PLOT *Oxfordsh.* 268 This stair-case seems to be a composition of 4 half-pace-open-newel'd stair-cases. 1727–38 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Stair*, Solid and open newelled fliers and winders. 1865 DIRCKS *Life Mrg. Worcester* 445 Such stairs are said to be neweled. 1884 C. ROGERS *Soc. Life Scot.* I. ii. 44 A circular newelled staircase within the walls.

† **New·elry.** *Obs. rare* $^{-1}$. [var. of NOVELRY: cf. next.] A novelty.

1575 LANEHAM *Lett.* (1871) 47 Olld hags, az fond of nuelries, az yoong girls that had neuer seen Court afore.

Newelty (niū·ĕlti). Now *dial.* Forms: 5 nwelte, 6 nueltie; 5 newelte, 6–7 neweltie, (6 -tee, -tye), 7, 9 newalty, 6– newelty. [ad. OF. *nov-, nouveleté*, etc. (mod. F. *nouveauté*) NOVELTY, after NEW *a.*]

1. Novelty, newness.

c 1410 *Sir Cleges* 214 Loo dame! here ys newelte! 1509 BARCLAY *Shyp of Folys* (1874) I. 17 The neweltye of the name was more plesant unto the first actour. 1532 MORE *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 397/2 After a little vse thereof, the pleasure of the neweltie passed. 1570 FOXE *A. & M.* (ed. 2) 783/2 Accusing the true doctrine of the word of God, for neweltie. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1768) I. 23 He had heard [that] *newelty*, that was the man's word, was everything with him. 1886 ELWORTHY *W. Som. Word-bk.*

2. A novelty; a new thing.

1435 MISYN *Fire of Love* 93 Not seand kynde qwhat besemys, bot qwbat..vayne nwelte þe feynd..may vp brynge. *c* 1500 *For to serve a Lord* in *Babees Bk.* (1868) 373 Cheryes, pepyns, and such neweltees as the tyme of the yere requereth. 1549 COVERDALE, etc. *Erasm. Par. Thess.* 4 You must not thinke it any neweltie, though these thinges happen. 1617 COLLINS *Def. Bp. Ely* I. iv. 181 One Grauius ..brought it first from Rome, and set it out as a neweltie. 1683 MRS. BEHN *Young King* v. iii, My wife loves Newalties abominationly, and I must tell her something about the King. 1854 MISS BAKER *Northampt. Gloss.* s.v., I aint had a bit of pig-meat so long, it's quite a newalty.

† **3.** Used as *adj.* Novel, new. *Obs. rare* $^{-1}$.

1590 FENNE *Frutes* To Rdr., I assure thee that the Cates themselves be as daintie and neweltie as the best.

† **New·en,** *adv. Obs.* Forms: 1 níwan(e, néowan, 3 neow-, neaw-, newene, ne(o)uwen, newenn. [OE. *niwan(e*, f. *níwe* NEW *a.*]

1. Newly, quite recently.

c 888 K. ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxxix. § 3 Se weas ȝeworden niwane. *c* 893 — *Oros.* II. vi. 86 Þone ænne consul þe hie þa niwan ȝeset hæfdon. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 177 Nu niwan ȝelamp þæt ic me sylf onfand [etc.]. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Deut.* xxiv. 5 Þonne man niwan wif nymð. *c* 1200 ORMIN 13221 He þe Laferrd Iesu Crist þa newenn haffde fundenn. *c* 1205 LAY. 3591 Buten he beo neowene icume. *Ibid.* 20683 Ænne castel ..þe wes neouwen [*c* 1275 newene] iworht.

2. Shortly, soon. *rare.*

c 1200 ORMIN 715 To kiþenn to þe folle þatt Crist þa shollde cumenn newenn.

Hence † **New·enly** *adv.*, shortly, soon. *Obs.* $^{-1}$

c 1205 LAY. 13320 Heo habbeoð me itald..þat þe king of Norewæiȝe neowenliche wule hider naren.

New Englander. [f. *New England* (so named by Captain John Smith in 1616) + -ER[1].] An inhabitant or native of New England, a part of the United States of America, comprising the six north-eastern states.

1637 HEYLIN *Antid. Lincoln.* iii. 12 Not a New-Englander of them all, could have done it better. 1681 T. FLATMAN *Heraclitus Ridens* No. 13 (1713) I. 88 For the New Englanders,..it is no matter what Religion he be of. 1768 C. BEATTY *Tour* 109 Such have been the endeavours of the New Englanders. 1825 J. NEAL *Bro. Jonathan* I. 13 This was the character of a New Englander half a century ago. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Feb. 420/1 The carrying trade was entirely monopolized by New-Englanders.

So **New-E·nglandish** *a.*, characteristic or typical of New England (hence *New-Englandishness*). **New-E·nglandism,** the tone or tendency characteristic of New England life or sentiment. **New-E·nglandize** *v.*, to imbue with a New England character. **New-E·nglandy** *a.*, suggestive of New England.

1861 F. G. TUCKERMAN in *N. Hawthorne & Wife* (1885) II. 275 For the book..I claim little, but that it is New Englandy (I hope). 1858 H. W. BEECHER *Life Th.* (1859) 27

New Englandism is but another word for Puritanism in the Independent sense. 1863 N. Hawthorne *Our Old Home* (1883) I. 35 A respectable-looking woman,..decidedly New-Englandish in figure and manners. 1887 *Chicago Advance* 17 Mar. 169/3 This grand work of New-Englandizing that Southeasternmost State of the Union. 1896 *Ibid.* 9 Jan. 51/1 There is a still more striking New Englandishness in the people themselves.

New E'nglish, *a.* [f. *New England*, after English.] Of or pertaining to New England.

1634 E. Winslow in Morton *New Engl. Canaan* (1883) 84 Two of the arrantest knaves that ever trod on New English shore. 1647 Ward *Simp. Cobler* 53 It is .. as empty as a New-English purse. 1713 S. Sewall *Diary* 16 Sept., An August Speech, Shewing the Validity and Antiquity of New English Ordinations. 1870 Lowell *Among my Bks.* Ser. I. (1873) 234 All their unconscious training by eye and ear, were New English wholly.

† b. *absol.* as *pl.* The inhabitants of New England. *Obs.*

1643 Trapp *Comm. Gen.* iv. 23 A certaine Indian comming into a house of the New-English. 1647 Ward *Simp. Cobler* 3 Such as have given or taken any unfriendly reports of us New-English, should do well to recollect themselves.

Newer, obs. variant of Ewer, Never.

Newerds eve, Newermes: see New-year.

Neweu, -ewe, -eye, obs. forms of Nephew.

New-fallen, *a.* [New *adv.* 3. Cf. ON. *nýfallinn* (Sw. *nyfallen*).]

1. Newly or recently fallen.

1592 Shaks. *Ven. & Ad.* 354 As apt as new-fall'n snow takes any dint. 1621 Quarles *Div. Poems, Esther* (1638) 91 Here lies a new-falne ranke and there a sheave. 1738 Gray *Tasso* 14 A vestment unadorn'd though white as new-fal'n snows. 1847 Tennyson *Princ.* vi. 119 Like a new-fall'n meteor on the grass. 1887 Morris *Odyss.* xi. 194 Down on the leaves new-fallen.

† 2. Newly fallen to one. *Obs. rare.*

1596 Shaks. 1 *Hen. IV*, v. i. 44 You swore to vs,..That you did..claime no further, then your new-falne right. 1600 — *A. Y. L.* v. iv. 182 Meane time, forget this new-falne dignitie, And fall into our Rusticke Reuelrie.

3. Newly dropped; new-born.

1684 Caryll in *Dryden's Misc., Virgil's Ecl.* 3 This poor Mother of a new-fall'n Pair. 1714 Gay *Sheph. Week, Monday* 16, I love thee more by half, Than..cows the new-fall'n calf. *a* 1763 Shenstone *Progr. Taste* II. 24 He wink'd at many a gross design The new-fall'n calf might countermine.

Newfangle (niūfæ·ŋg'l), *a.* and *sb.* Now *dial.* Forms: 4–5 newe-, 4– new-; 4 -fongel, 4–5 -fangel, 4–6 -fangil, (5 -ille, -yl(le, 6 -ill), 6– -fangle. [ME. *newefangel*, f. *newe-* New *a.* + *-fangel*, repr. OE. **fangol* 'inclined to take', from the stem *fang-* (infin. *fón*) to take. Cf. MDu. *nievingel(heil)*.]

A. *adj.* 1. = Newfangled 1.

c 1386 Chaucer *Sqr.'s T.* 610 So newefangel been they of hire mete, And louen nouelrie of propre kynde. 1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 273 Every newe love quemeth To him which newefongel is. *c* 1400 26 *Pol. Poems* 56 We ben newe fangyl, vnstable in dede. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* xxi. ii. 841 The moost party..helde with sire mordred, the peple were soo newe fangle. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* xiii. vi. 141 The lusty matronis newfangill of sik thyng. 1583 Babington *Commandm.* (1590) 274 He would not haue them newfangle, wanton, and phantasticall in their apparell. *a* 1649 Drumm. of Hawth. *Hist. Jas. I*, Wks. (1711) 9 The English ..with new guises daily resorted hither, and turned newfangle the court. 1724 Ramsay *Tea-t. Misc.* (1733) I. 36 A Paris edition of new-fangle Sany. *a* 1773 Fergusson *Wks.* (1800) 114 Newfangle grown wi' new got form, You soar aboon your mither worm. 1826 D. Anderson *Poems* 8 (E. D. D.), Nor are they to incomes newfangle, Until acquainted wi' their character.

2. = Newfangled 2.

1578 in *Priv. Prayers* (1851) 465 So fond are we Englishmen of strange and foreign things, so greedy of new-fangle novelties. 1614 Jackson *Creed* III. 179 Neglecting newfangle trickes or flashes of extemporary wit. 1655 Gurnall *Chr. in Arm.* verse 14. iii. (1669) 15/2 He..that vainly covets novelties, and listens after every new-fangle opinion. 1720 Ramsay *Concl.* 3 Ye're [a book] newfangle to be seen, In gilded Turkey clad, and clean.

B. *sb.* A new thing or fashion; a novelty.

c 1520 *Treat. Galaunt* (1860) 16 So hath the newe fangles our welth obscured. 1581 Rich *Farew.* (1846) 224 Men, that are busied with new fangles at the least once a daie. 1603 Florio *Montaigne* I. xxvii. (1632) 96 The changes, innovations, newfangles, and hurly burlies of his time. 1897 J. Wright *Sc. Life* 75 Like mony new-fangles, ye're brisk, New Year!

Hence **Newfa'ngle** *v.*, to make newfangled.

1530 Palsgr. 644/1, I newefangyll. *c* 1600 Shaks. *Sonn.* xci, Some glory..in their garments, though new-fangled ill. 1641 Milton *Prel. Episc.* 21 Not hereby to controule, and new fangle the Scripture. 1861 *Temple Bar* II. 539 He will new-fangle all our old-fashioned schemes.

Newfangled (niūfæ·ng'ld), *a.* Also 6 -fangulyd, -phangled. [f. Newfangle *a.*]

1. Very fond of novelty or of new things; unduly ready to take up new fashions or ideas; easily carried away by whatever is new.

a 1470 Tiptoft *Cæsar* ii. (1530) 12 He was a man new fanglyd and ambicious. *c* 1496 *Serm. Episc. Puer.* (W. de W.) b iij, Boyes of fyfty yere of age are as newe fangled as ony yonge men be. 1547 Boorde *Introd. Knowl.* iii. (1870) 132, I am not new fangled, nor neuer wyll be. 1583 Stubbes *Anat. Abus.* II. (1882) 74 Diuers new phangled felows sprong vp of late, as the Brownists. *a* 1659 Br. Brownrig *Serm.* (1674) I. xi. 155 Imputations..cast upon these new fangled Christians. 1732 Lediard *Sethos* II. vii. 103 Make these new-fangled prisoners stand upright. 1792 Gouv. Morris in Sparks *Life & Writ.* (1832) II. 163 How much dependence is to be placed on these new-fangled statesmen? 1867 Trollope *Chron. Barset* I. xvi. 142 When his time came to be made a bishop, he was not sufficiently new-fangled; and so he got passed by.

† b. Const. *of* or *with*. *Obs.*

1670 Marvell *Corr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 351 All the French curiosityes and trinkets, of which our people are so new-fangled. 1785 in *A. C. Bower's Diaries & Corr.* (1903) 23 So excessively am I new-fangled with my present.

2. New-fashioned, novel. (Used in depreciation.)

a 1533 Frith *Disput. Purgat.* (1829) 123 Let us see and examine more of this new-fangled philosophy. 1579 G. Harvey *Letter-bk.* (Camden) 68 Me thinkes I see the bite ye lipp, At queinte newfanglid vanities. 1598 Barckley *Felic. Man* III. (1603) 254 Gorgeous apparell and new fangled fashions. 1648 Gataker *Myst. Clouds* 2 Endeavouring to draw Disciples after them, by broaching of new-fangled fancies. 1726 Leoni *Designs* Pref. 1 New-fangled Proportions which give pain to the sight. 1789 Belsham *Ess.* II. xl. 496 A new-fangled and mystical state-oratory. 1830 Cunningham *Brit. Paint.* II. 11 To flaunt about, after the deliriums and new-fangled whims of fashionable people. 1876 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* V. xxiv. 440 Those new-fangled sources of income which arose out of the new-fangled feudal tenures.

Hence **Newfa'ngledism,** fondness for novelty; **Newfa'ngledly** *adv.*, in a newfangled manner.

1882 Ogilvie. 1883 J. Martin *Reminisc. Old Haddington* 42 She had a great dislike to 'newfangledism'.

Newfa'ngledness. [f. prec. + -ness.] The fact or state of being newfangled or new-fashioned; novelty, innovation.

1549 Chaloner *Erasm. on Folly* F iv, The superstition of the Chaldees, and idle newfanglednesse of the Grekes. 1575 *Brieff Disc. Troub. Franckford* (1846) 37 So sore charged with newfanglednes and singularitie. 1608 Hieron *Wks.* I. 724/2 How easilie am I ouer-caried with this humour of newfanglednesse. *a* 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. vii. 63 The Novelty and new-fangledness thereof..I dislike. 1823 *Spirit Public Jrnls.* 523 But this is the age of anomaly and newfangledness. 1877 G. Fraser *Wigtown* 361 So averse was he to titles and 'newfangledness', as he used to call it.

Newfa'nglement. [f. Newfangle *a.* + -ment.] Novelty; a novel thing.

1798 Ld. Plunket in *Edin. Rev.* (1899) Jan. 176 The novelty and newfanglement of revolutionary clubs and committees having worn off. 1895 J. S. Fletcher *Wapentake* 155 The old gentleman must ha' turned in his grave to see all these here new-fanglements.

Newfa'ngleness. Now *rare* or *Obs.* Also 4–6 -fangel-, -fangil-, (4 -ul-, 5 -yl-), etc. [f. Newfangle *a.* + -ness.] = Newfangledness.

c 1374 Chaucer *Anel. & Arc.* 141 This Fals Arcite of his nuwefangulnesse..Tooke lasse deyntee of hir stedfastnesse. *c* 1403 Lydg. *Temple Glas* 103 If þe spirit of nvfangilnes In any wise 3oure hertis would assaile. *a* 1460 *How Wise Man taught Son* 51 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* I. 171 Lat [no] newefangylnes the plese Oftyn to remewe nor to flyt. 1533–4 *Act* 25 *Hen. VIII*, c. 12 Other the kinges subiectes..inclined to newfangilnes, haue spoken with the same Elizabeth. 1604 T. Wright *Passions* iv. ii. § 6. 137 This newfanglenesse proceedeth from an inconstant mind. 1658 tr. *Ussher's Ann.* vi. 262 The old luxury of the Persians and the new fanglenes of the Macedons, 1725 Ramsay *Gentle Sheph.* I. ii, Soon as your newfangleness is gane, He'll look upon you as his tether-stake.

† **Newfa'nglist.** *Obs. rare.* [f. as prec. + -ist.] One given to novelties.

1604 Tooker *Fabrique Ch.* 90 The private spirits of these new-fanglists. 1607 *Schol. Disc. agst. Antichr.* II. ix. 120 We are Newfanglistes, hating antiquitie and delighting in noveltie.

† **Newfa'ngly,** *adv. Obs. rare.* [f. as prec. + -ly 2.] In a newfangled manner.

1529 More *Dyalogue* III. Wks. 213/2 Diuers yonge scolers such as thei founde..newfangly minded.

New-fashioned, *ppl. a.* [New *adv.* 3.] Made after a new fashion; of a new type or of recent invention.

1611 W. Goddard *Satir. Dial.* E j b, Newe-fasbiond cloathes I loue to weare. 1679 *Establ. Test* 43 What tongue is able to express..the new fashion'd garments of cruelty? 1712 Addison *Spect.* No. 271 ¶ 4 He had not given a decisive Opinion upon the new-fashioned Hoods. 1768–74 Tucker *Lt. Nat.* (1834) I. 560 When she..teazes papa for money to buy a new-fashioned silk. 1806 Surr *Winter in Lond.* I. 150 He hates every thing about that new-fashioned lord. 1872 Freeman *Gen. Sk. Europ. Hist.* xvi. § 2 (1874) 327 Departments, called in a new-fashioned way after rivers and mountains.

New-fledged, *ppl. a.* [New *adv.* 3.] Newly furnished with feathers. Also *fig.*

1682 Otway *Venice Preserved* II. ii, Those Lazy Owls, who..Sit only watchful with their heavy Wings To cuff down new fledg'd Virtues. 1770 Goldsm. *Des. Vill.* 168 As a bird each fond endearment tries To tempt its new-fledged offspring to the skies. 1807 Wordsw. *Ode Intim. Immort.* 142 With new-fledged hope still fluttering in his breast. 1817 Shelley *Rev. Islam* v. Song i, Swift and strong As new-fledged Eagles. 1881 Shairp *Asp. Poetry* xi. 334 The fresh gleam of new-fledged leaves in spring.

New-form, *v.* [New *adv.* 6.] *trans.* To form or shape anew.

1610 Shaks. *Temp.* I. ii. 83 Thy false vncle..new created The creatures that were mine,..Or els new form'd 'em. 1675 Owen *Serm.* Wks. 1851 IX. 317 Christ takes the Church and goes to new-form it and fashion it more for the glory of God. 1720 Welton *Suffer. Son of God* I. iii. 56 Do thou regulate and new-form my Desires. 1778 Miss Burney *Evelina* lxxv, You shall new-form, new-model me.

New-formed, *ppl. a.* [New *adv.* 3.] Newly formed; formed anew.

1647 Cottrell *Davila's Hist. Fr.* I. 26 Until such time as the foundation of their new formed Government were setled. 1665 Brathwait *Comment Two Tales* 196 The Bridegroom joyes in his new-formed Bride. 1777 Potter *Æschylus* (1779) I. 202 Pressing on His hurried step to learn their new-form'd measures. 1836 Buckland *Geol. & Min.* I. 505 To take first possession of new-formed land.

New-found, *a.* [New *adv.* 3.] Newly found or invented; recently discovered.

c 1496 *Serm. Episc. Puer.* (W. de W.) b iij, [We take] paynted gyrdels of Spaynardes, newe founde hattes of Romayns. 1579 Fulke *Confut. Sanders* 551 The conuersion of the Infidels..is a newe found argument. 1634–5 Ereretton *Trav.* (Chetham Soc.) 60 A couple of these perspectives, which shew the new-found motion of the stars about Jupiter. 1670 Sir J. Vaughan in *Phenix* (1721) I. 415 Which were a strange new-found Conclusion. 1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* xviii. x, Wished him heartily joy of his new-found uncle. 1781 Cowper *Expost.* 6 Can..art confer A new-found luxury not seen in her? 1856 Kingsley *Heroes, Theseus* ii. 189 Ægeus his new-found father. 1865 J. H. Ingraham *Pillar of Fire* (1872) 303 They are the first to hail the new-found calf-god.

b. Of lands, islands, etc., esp. with reference to America or certain parts of it; hence *Newfoundland* as the proper name of a large island at the mouth of the St. Lawrence.

1509 Barclay *Shyp of Folys* (1874) II. 25 Apuly, Afryke, and the newe fonde londe. 1527 R. Thorne in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1589) 253 They should come to the New founde islandes that wee discouered. 1588 T. Hariot *(title)* A Briefe and True Report of the New Found Land of Virginia. 1626 Sir W. Vaughan *Golden Fleece* title-p., The Southernmost part of the Island commonly called the Newfoundland. 1668 H. More *Div. Dial.* III. xxxiv. (1713) 270 The Salvation of them of the New-found World upon Earth, I mean those of America. 1777 Robertson *Hist. Amer.* (1783) I. 137 Various opinions and conjectures were formed concerning the new-found countries. 1807 J. Barlow *Columb.* I. 6 Who sway'd a moment..Iberia's sceptre on the new found shore.

Newfou'ndland. The name of the island (see prec. b) used attributively, esp. in *Newfoundland dog*, a large breed of dog, noted for its sagacity, good temper, strength, and swimming powers. *Newfoundland fish*, codfish.

1611 [see next 1]. 1617 Moryson *Itin.* III. 134 Great quantity of Hearrings, and new found land Fish dried. 1720 De Foe *Capt. Singleton* xi. (1840) 195 We found .. some Newfoundland fish. 1824 *Goldsmith's Nat. Hist.* II. 9 It is not certain whether the Newfoundland Dog be a distinct breed. 1838 Lytton *Alice* I. i, A splendid dog of the Newfoundland breed. 1876 Davis *Polaris Exp.* ii. 48 The ship..took on board caplins and six Newfoundland dogs.

b. *elliptl.* A Newfoundland dog.

1845 Youatt *Dog* 52 The Newfoundland is a spaniel of large size. 1864 Tennyson *Aylmer's F.* 125 He..Would care no more for Leolin's walking with her Than for his old Newfoundland's.

Newfou'ndlander. [Cf. prec. and -er 1.]

1. A native or inhabitant of Newfoundland.

1611 Cotgr., *Terreneufviers*, New-found-landers, new-found-landmen. 1817–18 Cobbett *Resid. U. S.* (1822) 154 With as much fury as the Newfoundlanders attack people who speak against the Pope. 1885 *Athenæum* 5 Sept. 301/2 The principal question which agitates the Newfoundlanders relates to the French claims.

2. A ship belonging to Newfoundland.

1801 *Naval Chron.* VI. 512 Four Newfoundlanders..went plump ashore.

3. A Newfoundland dog.

1806 *Spirit Public Jrnls.* IX. 311 Two terriers,..a Newfoundlander, and a fine tan-yard dog. 1856 Kane *Arct. Expl.* I. xi. 126, I take four of our best Newfoundlanders, now well broken, in our lightest sledge.

New-front, *v.* [New *adv.* 6.] *trans.* To put a new front on.

1748 Richardson *Clarissa* (1811) III. 245 The house where he had lodgings was new-fronting. 1811 W. Taylor in *Monthly Rev.* LXVI. 471 He new-fronted some churches in the same style. 1851 Mayhew *Lond. Labour* I. 369/1 The Wellingtons are to be new-fronted.

New-furnish, *v.* [New *adv.* 6.] *trans.* To refurnish.

1611 Cotgr., *Regarnir*, to regarnish, to new-furnish. 1713 *Guardian* No. 91 ¶ 10 We therefore new furnished the Room in all Respects proportionably to us. 1806 Surr *Winter in Lond.* II. 80 You must new furnish your wardrobe.

† **Newgar,** obs. form of Auger.

14.. *Childh. Jesus* 408 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1878) 117 He plucked hym out Euen at a newgarus hole.

Newgate (niū'geⁱt). The name of a celebrated London prison (recently pulled down), used attrib. as *Newgate fashion, term, wretch*; also **Newgate bird,** a gaol-bird; **Newgate Calendar,** a publication (first issued in 1773) containing accounts of prisoners in Newgate; **Newgate frill** or **fringe,** a fringe of beard worn under the chin; **Newgate knocker,** a lock of hair twisted back from the temple towards the ear, worn by costermongers, etc.

1596 Shaks. 1 *Hen. IV*, III. iii. 105 *Fal.* Must we all march? *Bard.* Yea, two and two, Newgate fashion. 1600 S. Nicholson *Acolastus* (1876) 15 When naught but Newgate tearmes can store ye tongue. 1607 Dekker & Wilkins *Jests* D.'s Wks. (Grosart) II. 343 Our Newgate-Bird..spreading his Dragon-like wings..beheld a thousand Synnes. 1677 Otway *Cheats of Scapin* I. i, Newgate-bird, rogue, villain. 1722 De Foe *Col. Jack* (1840) 166 Every Newgate wretch..has here a fair opportunity. 1757 Wesley *Wks.* (1872) IX. 233 What are they who steer by this rule better than a company of Newgate-birds? 1836 *Wilson's Tales Borders*

II. 5/1 That extraordinary record of human vice and suffering, 'The Newgate Calendar'. 1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* I. 36/2 As for the hair, they say it ought to be long in front, and done in 'figure-six' curls, or twisted back to the ear 'Newgate-knocker style'. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* I. xiv, I also felt that I had committed every crime in the Newgate Calendar. 1885 *Cornh. Mag.* Sept. 259 Some of them beardless, others with a fringe of hair around their faces, such as the English call a Newgate frill. 1896 GEORGIANA M. STISTED *True Life R. F. Burton* xi. 266 A man with a Newgate fringe, clad in grey homespun garments.

Hence **New·gated** *pa. pple.*, put into Newgate; **Newgatee·r**, a Newgate prisoner; **New·gatory** *a.*, belonging to Newgate (with pun on *nugatory*).

1678 *Narr. Proc. Old Bayly* 4 An old Newgateer..was convicted for stealing Silver spoons. *a* 1734 NORTH *Exam.* (1740) 258 Soon after this, he was taken up and Newgated. *a* 1845 HOOD *To Mrs. Fry* xiii, But I don't like your Newgatory teaching. 1877 RUSKIN *Fors Clav.* lxxxii. 297 The modern philanthropist of the Newgatory school.

†**New·head.** *Obs. rare.* [f. NEW *a.* + -HEAD: cf. MDu. *niewheit* (Du. *nieuwheid*), MLG. *nye-*, G. *neuheit*, Da. *nyhed*, Sw. *nyhet.*] Newness.

a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* xlii. 4 Þat gladis my 3outhed, Þat is, newhed of my saule in grace. *Ibid.* lxviii. 36 Þe figure of þis newhed. *c* 1400 HYLTON *Scala Perf.* (W. de W. 1494) II. xxxi, But be ye refourmed in newehede of felyng.

Newine, Sc. var. NEVEN *v.*, to name. *Obs.*

New·ing, *vbl. sb.* [f. NEW *v.* + -ING 1.]

†1. The action of renewing or making new. *Obs.*

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxxvii. (*Vincent*) 81 He wald nocht Þai de suld sa, but newing of gret payne. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) III. 117 He sigh visiouns and sigtes of Þe newynge of Þe temple. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 3 To mak some newing of thing till enforme 3our 3outhede of mony syndry knanlagis. *a* 1500 in Arnolde *Chron.* (1811) 42 The grauntis yeftis confirmacions newyng and ordinauncis aboue sayd.

†b. A new growth or product. *Obs. rare.*

1547 BOORDE *Introd. Knowl.* ii. (1870) 127 They wyl sell there lams..and theyr corne the whyche is not sowen, and all other newynges, a yere before that they be sure of any newynge.

2. A new thing, a novelty; *pl.* news, something new. Now *dial.*

Chiefly surviving in the N. of Ireland in the pl. form, also written *newins*, *newans*, and *newance*.

c 1410 *Sir Cleges* 372 He seyd, 'I thanke Cryst Iesu; Thys is a fayre newynge.' 1562 Q. KENNEDY *Ressoning w. J. Knox* & iij b, That was na newingis in this cuntrie. *Ibid.* D ij, Apperanlie that sould be na newingis to yow. 1633 RUTHERFORD *Lett.* xxix. (1862) I. 104 Strokes were not newings to Him, and neither are they to you. 1875 KNOX *Hist. Down* 49 Newance. 1880 *Antrim & Down Gloss.* s.v. *New-ans*, It's new-ans to see you down so early.

New·ing, *sb. dial.* (See quot. and NEAVING.)

1674 RAY *S. & E. C. Words* 73 *Newing*, yeast or Barm. Ess[ex]. [Hence in Coles (1676), Bailey (1721), Ainsworth (1736), etc.] 1863 JEPHSON in *Trans. Arch. Soc. Essex* II. 186 *Newin*, yeast.

New-invented, *ppl. a.* [NEW *adv.* 3.] Recently invented or devised.

1573 L. LLOYD *Marrow of Hist.* (1653) 280 Those new invented torments which they made for others. 1676 WORLIDGE *Cider* title-p., Description of the new-invented Ingeno or Mill. 1723–4 DK. WHARTON *True Briton* No. 65 II. 552 This new-invented Piece of Law-Artifice. 1791 BOSWELL *Johnson* I. 324 A new-invented machine which went without horses. 1818 BENTHAM *Ch. Eng.* Introd. 53 In the new-invented system of instruction.

Newir, obs. Sc. form of NEVER.

Newish (niū·iʃ), *a.* [f. NEW *a.* + -ISH 1.] Somewhat new.

1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 145/26 Newish, *recentulus*. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 46 It drinketh not newish at all. 1824 A. HEAGLEY in J. Raine *Mem. J. Hodgson* (1858) II. 27, I like everything about the place but the newish church. 1866 CARLYLE *Remin.* (1881) I. 282 We ascended..[a] narrow newish wooden staircase.

†**Newity,** obs. form of ANNUITY.

1559 *Richmond Wills* (Surtees) 131 Boithit with hys newytie and his chylds portion. *Ibid.* 132 In consyderation of his newytie geyvyne to hym by my faither.

Newk(e, obs. forms of NOOK.

New-laid, *ppl. a.* [NEW *a.* 3.] Of eggs: Newly or freshly laid.

1528 PAYNELL *Salerne's Regim.* F j b, Dyuers nouryshynge meates. The fyrst are newe layde egges. 1563 HYLL *Art Garden.* (1593) 101 Against the dropsie, take a new laid Eg. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 39 Lovely Virgins.. as white as new-lay'd Eggs. 1706 E. WARD *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 63 There's no Bolus to him comparable to a new-laid Egg. 1782 COWPER *Fable* 2 Her new-laid eggs she fondly pressed. 1881 BESANT & RICE *Chapl. of Fleet* I. v, Like fresh butter and new-laid eggs.

†**New·land.** *Obs.* [f. the name of Abraham *Newland*, chief cashier of the Bank of England from 1782 to 1807.] A Bank of England note.

1801 *Sporting Mag.* XVII. 243 The cash was likewise composed of paper commonly called young Newlands. 1823 SYD. SMITH *Wks.* (1859) II. 21/2 Forth from his bill-case this votary of Plutus drew his nitid Newlands.

New-land. [NEW *a.* + LAND *sb.*]

†1. *New-land fish*, Newfoundland fish. *Obs.*

[1550–1600 *Customs Duties* (Brit. Mus. Addit. MS. 25097), Fishe of Newland the c..xxxs.] 1580 R. HITCHCOCK *Politic Plat* c ij, They shalhe sette out to fishe for Codd and Lyng .., or els to Newfounde lande, for Newlande fishe. 1591 PERCIVALL *Sp. Dict.*, *Bacalaos*, a kinde of newlande fish.

2. *New-land hay*: (see quot.).

1894 *Northumbld. Gloss.*, *New-land-hay*, clover hay. Hay from a new-sown pasture.

New·lings, *adv. Sc.* Also 8–9 **-lins.** [f. NEW *a.* + -LINGS: cf. OE. *néowlinga* anew; MDu. *nieweling(e, -lings*, MLG. *nïlinge(s*, MHG. *niuwelingen, newe-, neuling(e)s.*]

1. Newly, recently; † immediately.

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XIV. 86 Newlyngis at thair ariwyng, In playne ficht thai discomfit thar Thar fais. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilzear* 962 Sic tythingis come .. That the Marschell of France was newlingis deid. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* IX. x. 14 His hreist and hart That newlingis of the kynryk was a part. 1785 in Shirrefs *Poems* (1790) 318 A cripple chiel,..just but newlins frae the school. 1880 J. E. WATT *Poet. Sketches* 10 The pat's but newlins on the fire.

†2. Afresh, anew. *Obs.*

c 1500 *Lancelot* 36 The scharp assay and ek the Inwart peine Of dowblit wo me neulyngis can constrein. 1522–3 *Burgh Rec. Edinb.* (1869) I. 214 And thairfore desyrit the samyne newlingis againe to be granted.

Newly (niū·li), *adv.* Forms: 1 níwlice, 3 neowe-, 4 new(e)liche, 3 newelike; 4 newli, neuli, -ly, 5 nvly, nulye, nyowely, 4–6 newelie, (5 -li), 4– newly, 6–7 newlie. [f. NEW *a.* + -LY 2: cf. MDu. *niewelike, -lijc*, MLG. *ni(g)elik(en*, MHG. *niuweltch(e, niultch(e*, G. *neulich*, ON. *nýliga* (Da. *nylig*, Sw. *nyligen*).]

1. Very recently or lately; within a very little time (before that spoken of).

Now rare except as in b and c; formerly sometimes with present tense.

c 893 K. ÆLFRED *Oros.* IV. x. 202 Romane hæfdon Þa niwlice 3esett Þæt [etc.]. *Ibid.* VI. iv. 260 Hio Þa wæs niwlice cristen. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* II. 494 Her cumað to eow niwlice twezen Ebreisce men. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 218 Hwonne a mon haueð neoweliche wif iled hom, he nimeð 3eme .. of hire maneres. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 293 Newelike he was of erðe wrogt, And to Þat mirie blisse brogt. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 67 Harald was comand, neuly was mad kyng. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) xxviii. 284 That myghte not ben, to myn avys, that so manye scholde have entred so newely. 1490 CAXTON *Eneydos* xi. 41 This man..newely hither comyn to soiourne in our countreys. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. cclv. 378 The towne of Breure, the which was newely before turned frenche. 1602 MIDDLETON *Phœnix* I. i. 141, I heard newly Of sudden travel which his grace intends. 1641 EVELYN *Diary* 8 Oct., The Infante Cardinal..being dead but newly. 1699 BENTLEY *Phal.* 95 Did he not newly say [etc.]. 1738 WESLEY *Ps.* LXXX. ix, A generous and right noble Vine When newly out of Egypt brought. 1866 HOWELLS *Venet. Life* 29 [I] being newly from a land where everything.. was in good repair.

b. With pa. pples. used predicatively.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 3653 Þou saf sai Þou ert esau, Fra Þe forest newli comen. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* IV. met. iii. (1868) 122 Þat oþer of hem is newliche chaunged in to a wolf. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) xxviii. 284 But that might not ben .., ne so manye newely slayn, with onten stynkynge. 1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 193 This ordir ys not nyowely maket. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* xlvi. 155 Than he.. toke leue of his cosyn that was newly maryed. 1581 MULCASTER *Positions* xxxiii. (1887) 120 Such as be newly recouered from sicknes. 1657 SPARROW *Bk. Com. Prayer* (1661) 22 Our Saviour's rule given to him that was newly cured.. by him. 1676 ETHEREDGE *Man of Mode* I. i, A Ladies head newly dress'd for a Ball. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 45 ¶ 6 A Woman of Quality .. newly returned from France. 1784 COWPER *Task* III. 750 A transient guest, newly arrived, And soon to be supplanted. 1818 SHELLEY *Rosal. & Helen* 800 Like some bright spirit newly born. 1886 *Act* 49 & 50 *Vict.* c. 54 § 1 Any hop ground..newly cultivated as such after the passing of this Act.

c. In *attrib.* combs. (now hyphened).

These are especially common in the 19th cent.

1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 21 He wrote an Epistle to the newlye created Emperoure. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. xi. 34 His newly-budded pineons to assay. 1615 CHAPMAN *Odyss.* XII. 137 A newly kitn'd kitlings cries. 1659 PEARSON *Creed* (1839) 443 The ancient, but newly-revived heresy of the Arians. 1711 SHAFTESB. *Charac.* (1737) II. 336 With your newly-espous'd system. 1740 RICHARDSON *Pamela* (1824) I. xx. 267 To have confirmed the poor woman in her newly-assumed penitence. 1807 WORDSW. *Ode Intim. Immort.* 92 Shaped by himself with newly-learned art. 1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* xxix. III. 57 In the newly-hatched caterpillar. 1857 DUFFERIN *Lett. High Lat.* (ed. 3) 170 A newly-stripped bullock's hide. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* (1891) 135 This newly-discovered fairyland.

†2. a. Within a little (from now); soon. *Obs.*

c 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 4648 (Kölbing), Ȝe schullen haue neweliche Hors & armes & alle þing. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 237 Now sire eorle, þu holdest Engelond, þu schalt riȝt newliche [L. *in proximo*] be kyng.

†b. Immediately or soon (after a particular time); quickly. *Obs.*

c 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 1984 (Kölbing), A chapman..seyd of Merlin openliche, He wald him telle neweliche. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* V. 122 Sic hansell to the folk gaf he,..Newly at his ariwyng. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 4740 Newly eftir þe none or nere þare-aboute. *c* 1530 LD. BERNERS *Arth. Lyf. Bryt.* (1814) 54 Yf I should mary me so newly, I should be greatly blamed.

3. Anew, afresh.

c 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Thorpe) cxliii. 10 Ic niwlice niwne cantic þam godan Gode gleawne singe.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xiii[2]. (*Mark*) 169 Þane one þe morne .. Þai drew hyme newly thru þe towne. *c* 1400 LOVE *Bonavent. Mirr.* (B. N. C. MS.) lf. 116 Þan bigan þey alle newely to wepe. 1530 PALSGR. 839/2 Newly, *de nouueau*. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 663 The lawes of the realme, in part he reformed, and in part he newely augmented. *a* 1648 LD. HERBERT *Hen. VIII* (1683) 371 Our King having gotten York-house..did newly enlarge and beautify it. 1673 OWEN *Sacram. Disc.* Wks. 1851 IX. 56 He is as it were (so the word is) newly sacrificed. 1876 DAVIS *Polaris Exp.* i. 29 She was newly planked inside and out. 1880 SWINBURNE *Stud. Shaks.* 182 We have but the eternal..figures of jealousy and innocence newly vamped and veneered.

4. In a new fashion or manner.

1553 T. WILSON *Rhet.* (1580) 137 That mirth is more worthe, which is moued by a worde newlie spoken, then if a long tale should pleasauntly bee tolde. 1562a J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 216 Talke or walke oldly or newly. 1812 SIR H. DAVY *Chem. Philos.* 184 Instances in which these elements are newly arranged, and in which their transfer and changes produce very important phænomena. 1885 CHITTY in *Law Times Rep.* LIII. 80/2 Not merely in a new word, but in a word newly or fancifully applied.

New-made, *ppl. a.* [NEW *adv.* 3.] Recently or freshly made.

c 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 6231 That saw an hardy newe-made knyȝt. *c* 1470 HENRYSON *Mor. Fab.* IV. (*Fox's Confess.*) XX, He .. of that new-maid salmond eit enewch. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xxxiii. 53 He come hame a new maid channoun. 1595 SHAKS. *John* I. i. 187 New made honor doth forget mens names. 1634 MILTON *Comus* 472 Sitting by a new made grave. 1684 T. BURNET *The. Earth* II. 132 As if new-made matter, like new clothes,.. had a better gloss. 1717 ROWE *Epil. Mrs. Centlivre's Cruel Gift*, Was that a Present for a new-made Widow? 1818 KEATS *Endym.* IV. 102 Sweet as a musk-rose upon new-made hay. 1886 A. WINCHELL *Walks Geol. Field* 52 The soil .. torn from our new-made road.

b. Of the tide: (see MAKE *v.* 72).

1808 FORSYTH *Beauties Scotl.* V. 33 The flood-tide .. according as it is new made, half run, or approaching to still water.

New-make, *v.* [NEW *adv.* 6.] *trans.* To make again or anew.

1617 HIERON *Wks.* II. 205 The great worke of new making a mans heart. 1649 MILTON *Eikon.* 57 The King can no more reject a Law than he can new make a Law. 1714 DEARHAM *Astro-Theol.* (1769) 11 When my hand was in, I new-made some part of it. 1790 J. ADAMS *Wks.* (1854) IX. 567 It would give me pleasure..to correct or new-make the whole work. 1835 *Gentl. Mag.* I. 376 He new-made the light.

Hence **New-making** *vbl. sb.*

1495 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 274 In Newmaking of takle and apparell. 1580 R. HITCHCOCK *Politic Plat* c j b, Euerie shippe..sball paie tenne shillynges (towardes the newe makyng of euery shippe so wanting). 1633 EARL MANCH. *Al Mondo* (1636) 94 Our bodies..are not cast off by death, but put to new making.

Newmanism (niū·mănizm). [f. the name of J. H. *Newman* (1801–90) + -ISM.] The views on theological and ecclesiastical matters put forward by Newman while a member of the Anglican Church; the principles involved in Newman's teaching.

1838 ARNOLD in Stanley *Life* (1844) II. 126 This restless love of paradox, is, I believe, one of the main causes of the growth of Newmanism. 1841 STANLEY in *Life* (1894) I. 302 The debatable points of Newmanism and Evangelicalism. 1893 LIDDON *Life Pusey* II. xxiv. 139 The principles reasserted by the Oxford writers had been before denounced by their Latitudinarian opponents as Newmanism.

Newmanite (niū·mănəit). [f. as prec. + -ITE.] A follower or adherent of Newman.

1837 ARNOLD in Stanley *Life* (1844) II. 89 My strong condemnations of Tories and Newmanites. 1837 LD. HOUGHTON in T. W. Reid *Life* (1891) I. 196 It is, perhaps, the confessorship of the Newmanites which makes them so interesting. 1884 OAKSEY *Mem. J. R. Hope-Scott* I. 267 The Tractarians soon began to divide off into the Moderates of various shades, and the Newmanites.

b. *attrib.* or as *adj.*

1838 ARNOLD in Stanley *Life* viii. (1844) II. 113 All the Newmanite language about baptism might be..used by the Jews .. about circumcision. 1841 *Ibid.* ix. 250 The clergy are becoming more and more Newmanite.

New·manize, *v. rare.* [f. as prec. + -IZE.]

1. *intr.* To incline to, or adopt, Newmanism.

1836 MAURICE in *Life* (1884) I. xiii. 204, I believe I shall perforce Newmanise, protesting, however, against his doctrine all the time.

2. To follow the principles of (Homeric) translation advocated by F. W. Newman.

1861 M. ARNOLD *On transl. Homer* 86 We should say, *He Newmanises*, and his diction would offend us. 1886 *Athenæum* 10 Apr. 483/1 Mr. Way, in fact, is a little inclined to 'Newmanize'...Pure English of the simple sort is amply sufficient for the translating of Homer.

Newmarket (niūmā·ɪkĕt, niūmaːɪkĕt). The name of a town (situated east of Cambridge) famous for its horse-races, used *attrib.* or *elliptically* in several applications.

1. *attrib.* with *condition, cut, tail*; also **Newmarket coat,** a close-fitting coat for men, originally worn for riding, or an outdoor coat of a similar style for women; **Newmarket greyhound,** a greyhound of a special breed (see quot. 1856).

1685 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2041/4 One light Gray Gelding with a long Newmarket Tail. 1698 *Ibid.* No. 3360/4 A long bushy Tail cut after the New-Market Cut. 1709 *Brit. Apollo* No. 19. 3/2 To reduce his Corpus..Unto a New-Market Condition. 1714 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5252/4 Both Heels white behind, and a New-Market Tayle. 1854 DICKENS *Hard T.* I. vi, He was dressed in a Newmarket coat and tight-fitting trousers. 1856 'STONEHENGE' *Brit. Rural Sports* 163/1 The Newmarket greyhound..is a racing-like, speedy animal, yet possessed of as much stontness as possible.

2. *ellipt.* A Newmarket coat.

1843 MRS. ROMER *Rhone, Darro*, etc., I. 288 His travelling cap was exchanged for a fashionable white hat; his frock-coat for a Newmarket. 1883 MISS BRADDON *Phant. Fort.* xxxvi, A brown velvet Newmarket, which completely covered her short satin gown.

3. a. A card-game in which the main object is to play the same cards as certain duplicates which are exhibited.

1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* xxxvi, Going the odd man or plain Newmarket for fruit, ginger-beer [etc.]. 1887 *All Year Round* 5 Feb. 66 Pope Joan has survived to the present day in the modified form of 'Newmarket'.

b. (See quot.)

1894 MASKELYNE *Sharps & Flats* 250 Yankee-grab or Newmarket..is played with three dice, and the object in view is to get nearest to an aggregate of eighteen pips.

New-married, *ppl. a.* [NEW *adv.* 3.] Newly married.

c 1540 COVERDALE *Ord. Ch. Denmark* Wks. (Parker Soc.) I. 481 To call these new-married folks unto holy wedlock. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, v. ii. 190 Like a new-married Wife about her Husbands Necke. *a* 1649 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Poems* Wks. (1711) 26 All-bearing earth, like a new married queen, Her beauties hightens. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 15. P 4 Talk of a new-married Couple, and you will immediately hear whether they keep their Coach and six. 1771 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 160/2 The Duke of Cumberland and his new-married Dutchess. 1824 MISS MITFORD *Village* Ser. I. (1863) 240 He foretold all happiness to the new-married pair. 1860 MRS. CARLYLE *Lett.* III. 21 There were four young new-married ladies.

Newme, variant of NEUME.

New-minted, *ppl. a.* [NEW *adv.* 3.] Newly coined or formed. Also **New-mint** *v.*

1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* (1613) 2 New mint my mind to the likeness of thy lowlines. 1598 MARSTON *Sco. Villanie* To indiciall Perusers, Some of his new-minted Epithets, (as Reall, Intrinsecate, Delphicke). 1643 TRAPP *Comm. Gen.* xli. 25 Novellists, that can abide to hear nothing but what is new-minted. 1713 *Guardian* No. 149 P 19 Horace advises, that all new minted Words should have a Greek derivation. 1781 COWPER *Charity* 513 When Scandal has new-minted an old lie, ..'Tis called a Satire.

New-model, *v.* [NEW *v.* 6.] *trans.* To re-model; to rearrange in a new way.

c 1665 MRS. HUTCHINSON *Mem. Col. Hulchinson* (1846) 231 Those in the parliament .. devised to new-model the army. 1714 R. FIDDES *Pract. Disc.* II. 193 The design of whose religion is to new-model human nature. 1769 ROBERTSON *Chas. V*, v. Wks. 1813 V. 439 Twelve persons were elected to new-model the constitution of the republic. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* viii, He new-modelled his troops, and more especially those immediately about his person. 1878 SHERMAN in *N. Amer. Rev.* CXXVI. 200 That at the commencement of hostilities there should be nothing either to new-model or to create.

Hence **New-modelling, New-modeller.**

1673 [R. LEIGH] *Transp. Reh.* 146 The new modelling of a state is somewhat beyond the oeconomy of a school. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* I. v. 48 To what causes the late new modelling of this settlement is owing. *a* 1806 C. J. FOX *Reign Jas. II* (1808) 153 From the new-modelling of the corporations. 1831 CARLYLE in *Westm. Rev.* XV. 43 Their successive re-dactors and new-modellers. 1899 BALDOCK *Cromwell as Soldier* 206 The new modelling or reorganization of its army.

†**New-modelize,** *v. Obs.* [NEW *adv.* 6.] = NEW-MODEL *v.* Hence †**New-modelizing** *vbl. sb.*

1645 *City Alarum* 26 We have new modelized our army, and ought to new modelize our excise. 1671 tr. *Palafox's Conquest China* v. 98 Victory had now new Modeliz'd his Conscience. 1716 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* II. 158 Asserius's Life of King Ælfrid .. was new-modeliz'd into English by .. Spelman. 1727 BROWNE WILLIS *Cathedrals* I. 33 He had his diocese entirely to new modelize.

New-modelled, *ppl. a.* [NEW *adv.* 3.] Newly modelled; put into a new form.

1654 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 196 Beleiving and Knowing doth so share the all of some new model'd Christians. 1711 G. HICKES *Two Treat. Chr. Priesth.* (1847) II. 389 The book itself was opposite .. to many new-modelled churches. 1757 DYER *Fleece* II. Poems (1761) 114 What nation did not seek, Of thy new modell'd wool, the curious webs? 1813 *Metrical Remarks* 10 The new-modelled Baron was acquainted with no other building. 1827 HALLAM *Const. Hist.* (1876) II. x. 219 In the new-modelled army of 1645.

New moon. [NEW *a.* 3 c + MOON *sb.*]

1. The moon when first seen as a slender crescent shortly after its conjunction with the sun.

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* III. 242 We cweðað þonne niwne monan æfter menniscum gewunnan, ac he is æfre se ylca. *c* 1055 *Byrhtferth's Handboc* in *Anglia* VIII. 309 Swa byð se niwa mona bradra gesewen. 1508 DUNBAR *Tua Mariit Wemen* 432 As the new mone, all pale, oppressit with change, Kythis quhilis her cleir face. 1598 W. PHILLIP tr. *Linschoten's Voy.* (1864) 187 They pray likewise to the New Moone,..and salute her with great Deuotion. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 86 At the appearing of enery new Moone, they goe out to worship it. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 44 They look ont at Night for the new Moon. 17.. *Sir Patrick Spens* vi, I saw the new moone ..Wi' the auld moone in hir arme. *a* 1742 STUKELY in J. Smith *Panor. Sci. & Art* (1815) I. 614 The [eclipsed] sun looked very sharp like a new moon. 1851 MEREDITH *Love in the Valley* iv, Earth to her is young as the slip of the new moon.

2. The time when the new moon appears; also *Astron.* the time at which the moon is in conjunction with the sun. b. The festival celebrated by the ancient Hebrews at the time of the new moon (cf. NEOMENIA).

c 1000 *Saxon Leechd.* III. 243 Þis ȝelimpð seldon & næfre buton on niwum monan. *c* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 27 Oðer [to think] newe mone betere ðan æld-mone in to newe huse te wænden. 1382 WYCLIF 1 *Esdras* viii. 6 In the newe mone of the fifte moneth. 1382 — *Isa.* i. 13 The newe moone, and sabot, and othere festus. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 360/2 Nwe mone, *neomenia.* 1535 COVERDALE 2 *Chron.* xxxi. 3 The burntofferynges of the Sabbath and of the newmone and of the feastes. *a* 1649 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Poems* Wks. (1711) 27 To thee give place The old new-moons, with all festival days. 1682 *Riders Brit. Merlin* Oct., Sow Wheat and Rie about the New Moon. 1727–38 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Moon*, Before the new moon the horns were turned westward. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) II. 522/1 Having completed her course..she disappears; and we say it is new moon. 1864 *Chambers's Encycl.* VI. 556/2 A few hours after 'new moon', the moon appears a little to the east of the sun as a thin crescent.

New-mould, *v.* [NEW *adv.* 6.] *trans.* To mould or form anew.

1650 BAXTER *Saints' R.* III. v. § 4 It changeth his opinion, .. but it never melted and new molded his heart. 1695 WOODWARD *Nat. Hist. Earth* II. (1723) 105 Its prime Errand was to Re-form and New-mold the Earth. 1738 WESLEY *Hymn*, 'When shall thy lovely Face' viii, Jesus.. New-moulds our Limbs of cumb'rous Clay. 1784 R. BAGE *Barham Downs* II. 286 This affliction may in some measure new mould her. 1827 HALLAM *Const. Hist.* (1876) I. i. 37 The more wily courtiers .. deemed it less obnoxious to violate than to new-mould the constitution.

New-mown, *ppl. a.* [NEW *adv.* 3 and 4.] Freshly cut, just mown.

1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* VII. xi. 228 There was a fayre medowe that semed newe mowen. *c* 1586 C'TESS PEMAROKE *Ps.* LXXII. ii, As showres thrown On meades new mown. 1725 RAMSAY *Gentle Sheph.* II. ii, Sweeter than gowany glens or new-mawn hay. 1789 J. PILKINGTON *View Derbysh.* I. 327 This..is snid by Linnæus to occasion the smell of new mown hay. 1876 J. SAUNDERS *Lion in Path* i, The scent of the new-mown hay comes through the..windows.

New-name, *v.* [NEW *adv.* 6.] *trans.* To name anew; to give a new name to. Also **New-named** *ppl. a.*; **New-namer.**

1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* III. xvii. (Arb.) 192 Onomatopeia, or the New namer. 1621 BP. MOUNTAGU *Diatribæ* 343 New-name it thus, The poore mans Tithe at home, and at Ierusalem. 1622 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* xix. 357 Hawkins.. Vpon that new-nam'd Spaine, and Guinny sought his prize. 1643 TRAPP *Comm. Gen.* xxvi. 33 Isaac therefore new names it. 1793 ANNA SEWARD *Lett.* (1811) III. 244 That consciousness would tempt me to new-name her book. *c* 1800 R. CUMBERLAND *John de Lancaster* (1809) II. 64 The giant son of Neptune, who entailed the trident of his father on his new-named Albion to all posterity.

Newness (niū-nės). Forms: 1 néow-, níwnys, niownes, 4–6 newnes, 4, 6 neunes, 6 newenes(se, 7– newness. [f. NEW *a.* + -NESS.] The state, fact, or quality of being new, in various applications of the adj.

c 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* I. vii. (1890) 40 Mid þa neowynysse swa monigra heofonlicra wundra. *c* 1000 *Saxon Leechd.* II. 240 Þæt seo niownes þara metta mæge him gode beon. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 26924 Quils þat neunes es in wonde es plaster nan mai mak it sond. *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* Prol. 4 To confourme men..til crist in newnes of lyf. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 254/2 A Newnes, *nouitas.* 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 211 [To] ryse from synne, and walke in a newnes of lyfe. *a* 1568 ASCHAM *Scholem.* II. (Arb.) 156 Neyther oldnes nor newnesse of wordes maketh the greatest difference betwixt Salust and Tullie. *a* 1613 OVERBURY *A Wife*, etc. (1638) 251 She will desire him for newnesse and variety. 1674 BREVINT *Saul at Endor* 240 Either to blind or to countenance the Newness of their Indulgences. 1729 LAW *Serious C.* xxiii. (1732) 471 It will give you such a newness of mind. 1796 H. HUNTER tr. *St.-Pierre's Stud. Nat.* (1799) II. 176 This reflection..evidently demonstrates the newness of the World. 1813 SHELLEY *Q. Mab* VI. 153 The babe, In the dim newness of its being. 1876 LOWELL *Among my Bks.* Ser. II. 243 The same startle of newness and beauty that pleased our youth.

b. With *a* and *pl. rare.*

1690 DRYDEN *Don Sebastian* Pref., Some newnesses of English, translated from the Beauties of Modern Tongues. 1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) IV. 69 She became as it were a newness of ever-rising delight. 1850 LYNCH *Theoph. Trinal* ix. 154 Many such marriages must there be before all the newnesses will be born that mankind requires.

c. *The Newness*, New England transcendentalism.

1865 LOWELL *Thoreau* Prose Wks. 1890 I. 363 There was a much nearer metaphysical relation..between Carlyle and the Apostles of the Newness, as they were called in New England, than has been commonly supposed. *c* 1870 R. CARTER in *Century Mag.* (1889) Nov. 129 Next to Brook Farm, Concord was the chief resort of the disciples of the 'Newness'.

Newo(y, obs. forms of NEPHEW.

New-raised, *ppl. a.* [NEW *adv.* 3.]

1. Of troops: Recently enlisted; newly formed.

1667 MARVELL *Corr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 213 To disband all the new-raised land forces. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* I. i. 12 New-raised marines who had never been at sea before. 1769 GOLDSM. *Hist. Rome* II. 428 The fourth legion, which consisted of new raised soldiers. 1816 A. C. HUTCHISON *Pract. Obs. Surg.* (1826) 309 An annual fluctuation of 30,000 new-raised men to supply the deficiencies.

2. Newly erected, elevated, reared, etc.

1697 POTTER *Antiq. Greece* I. ii. (1715) 7 In his new rais'd kingdom. 1735 J. PRICE *Stone-Br. Thames* 7 The new-rais'd Centers. 1777 POTTER *Æschylus* (1779) I. 15 This new-rais'd ruler of the gods. 1896 KIPLING *Seven Seas* 80 Where the new-raised tropic city sweats and roars. 1896 *Daily News* 24 Nov. 8/5 With numbers vastly increased by the addition of these new-raised broods.

Newricall, obs. variant of NEURICAL.

New-risen, *ppl. a.* [NEW *adv.* 3 and 4.] Newly, just lately, risen.

1591 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. VI*, I. iv. 102 A holy Prophetesse new risen vp. 1596 — *Tam. Shr.* IV. i. 189 As one new-risen from a dreame. 1650 BAXTER *Saints' R.* I. vii. § 1 Our new-risen Lord. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* I. 594 The Sun new ris'n Looks through the Horizontal misty Air. 1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) IV. 158 A new-risen phœnix. 1860 FORSTER *Gr. Remonstr.* 98 Eager to be shone upon by the new-risen sun.

†**New'ry.** *Obs.* [ad. Malay *nūrī.*] = LORY.

In early 17th c. translations from foreign langnages the forms *nori* and *noyra* occur: see Yule & Burnell *Anglo-Ind. Gloss.* 398 and C. P. G. Scott *Malayan Words* 84–5.

1698 J. FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 116 Here were..Cockatoos and Newries from Bantam, as also a Cassawar that digests Iron. 1698 in Wheeler *Madras in Old. Time* (1861) I. 333 Brought ashore from the 'Resolution'..a newry and four yards of broadcloth for a present for the Havildar.

News (niūz), *sb.* (*pl.*) Forms: 4–7 newes, (5 -esse), 5–6 newys, *Sc.* newis, (5 nevis), 6 neu(e)s, 7 niewse, 6–7 nues, (6 nuze, 7 nuse), 6– news. [pl. of NEW *a.*, after OF. *noveles, nuveles* (mod.F. *nouvelles*), or med.L. *nova*, pl. of *novum* a new thing.

The synonymous Du. *nieuws* probably originated in the expressions *wat nieuws, iet(s) nieuws*, in which the form is genitive singular (cf. NEW *a.* B. 1), but the evidence is against a similar origin for the English word.]

†1. New things; novelties. *Obs. rare.*

News in *Cursor M.* 26768 (Cott.) is evidently a scribal error for *treus.*

1382 WYCLIF *Ecclus.* xxiv. 35 The which fulfilleth, as Fison, wisdam; and as Tigris in the dazes of newes [L. *novorum*]. 1551 ROBINSON *More's Utop.* (1895) 7 Not for a vayne and curious desiere to see newes. 1565 T. STAPLETON *Fortr. Faith* 109* Differences..betwene the auncient faith of England and the vpstert newes of protestants.

2. Tidings; the report or account of recent events or occurrences, brought or coming to one as new information; new occurrences as a subject of report or talk.

In common use only after 1500.

1423 JAS. I *Kingis Q.* clxxix, I bring the newis glad, that blisfull ben. *c* 1485 *Digby Myst.* (1882) II. 431 Vet of late I haue hard of no newys. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. cccl. 794 He was right pensyue and sore troubled with those newes. 1581 RICH *Farew.* (1846) 58 These newes were sodainly spred throughout the citie of Cherona. 1621 LADY M. WROTH *Urania* 412 Calling his Lords..about him, to whom hee deliuered these glad newes. 1685 DRYDEN *Thren. August.* 19 The amazing news of Charles at once were spread. 1717 LADY M. W. MONTAGU *Let. to Pope* 17 June, The great gulf between you and me cools all news that come hither. 1776 JEKYLL *Corr.* (1894) 64 The ill news of your health are still worse than my late suspense. 1821 SHELLEY *Ess. & Lett.* (1852) II. 228 There are bad news from Palermo. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xviii. IV. 214 The Dutch ministers regularly reported all the Scotch news to their government. 1868 VISCT. STRANGFORD *Select.* II. 265 Courier-borne news ..can reach England as quickly by way of Peshawur.

b. Construed as *sing.*

1566 *Pasquine in Traunce* 36, I hearde speak of it, when ye newes therof was brought to Pope Iulie the seconde. 1625 B. JONSON *Staple of N.* I. v, When Newes is printed, It lennes Sir to he Newes. 1664 H. MORE *Myst. Iniq.* 339 Of such a division..there is no News nor Example in Antiquity. 1711 M. HENRY *Hope & Fear Balanced* Wks. 1853 II. 313/1 The stocks are as the news is. 1784 COWPER *Task* VI. 660 When..the news was fresh. 1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* xxvii, Was there any news in the country? 1897 MARY KINGSLEY *W. Africa* 351 The next news was that I was in the water.

c. In proverbial expressions.

1574 HELLOWES *Gueuara's Fam. Ep.* (1577) 58 Euil newes neuer come too late. *c* 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* II. xviii, I am of the Italians mind that said, *Nulla nuova, buona nuova*, no news, good news. 1685 DRYDEN *Thren. August.* 49 Ill News is wing'd with Fate, and flies apace. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xi, The truth of two old proverbs, namely, that Ill news fly fast [etc.].

†d. *No news*, no novelty, nothing new. *Obs.*

1557 N. T. (Genev.) 1 *Pet.* i. *heading*, Saluation in Christ is no newes, but a thynge prophecied of olde. 1618 BP. HALL *Serm.* Wks. 1837 V. 112 The poor and proud is the wiseman's monster, but the proud and rich are no news. 1659 HAMMOND *On Ps.* cvii. 43 'Tis no news to pass from the singulnr to the plural number, without varying the subject.

†3. A piece or item of news. *Obs.*

1574 HELLOWES *Gueuara's Fam. Ep.* (1577) 2 A case so graue, a newes so new, a victorie so seldome hearde of. 1641 EARL MONM. tr. *Biondi's Civil Wars* V. 157 At that same time there came two important nnses. *a* 1652 BROME *Eng. Moor* I. ii, Durst thou hear a news Whose mirth will hazard cracking of a rib?

†4. A news messenger. *Obs. rare* —1.

1665 PEPYS *Diary* 31 July, In the mean time there coming a News thither with his horse to go over [etc.].

5. The newspaper(s); a newspaper. Now *rare.*

1738 SWIFT *Pol. Conversat.* 183 You know his House was burnt down to the Ground. Yes; it was in the News. 1782 COWPER *Names of little Note* 10 When a child..Has burnt to tinder a stale last-year's news. 1785 CRABBE *Newspaper* 26 A daily swarm..Come flying forth, and mortals call them News: For these, unread, the noblest volumes lie. 1886 ELWORTHY *W. Som. Word-bk.* s.v., To read out the war 'pon the news.

b. *Printing.* (See quot.)

1887 SOUTHWARD *Pract. Print.* (ed. 3) 716 'Writings', 'Printings', and 'News', are kinds [of paper] whose names show the purposes for which they are made.

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.* a. With agent-nouns, as *news-bearer, -bringer*, etc.

1611 COTGR., *Rapporte-nouvelle*, a *newes-bearer, or tale-carrier. 1895 *Atlantic Monthly* Mar. 357 Citizens who had flocked as near as possible to the newsbearer. 1639 W. C. *Italian Convert* xxviii. 213 So this *newes bringer had his passe-port to be packing. 1857 HOLLAND *Bay Path* xxiv. 278 Each of the news-bringers was surrounded with his little knot of auditors. 1673 O. WALKER *Educ.* ix. 77 Breeders of all petit factions, *news-brokers. 1612 DAVIES *Why Ireland*, etc. (1747) 178 These *Newes-Carriers did.. many times raise troubles. 1788 *New London Mag.* title-p.,

Sold by all Booksellers, Stationers, and News-Carriers. 1808 Eleanor Sleath *Bristol Heiress* V. 335 The Viscountess..lived and died in the profession of a news-carrier. 1827 in Hone *Every-day Bk.* II. 1276 Those *newscriers are spoken of in the past sense. 1868 G. Duff *Pol. Surv.* 47, I wish the *news-dealers at Athens would be more scrupulous in their assertions. 1712 Addison *Spect.* No. 439 ¶ 2 They have *News-gatherers and Intelligencers distributed into their several..Quarters. 1824 Miss Mitford *Village* Ser. I. (1803) 187 By far the best news-gatherer of the country side. 1598 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. i. II. 283 Poor Woman.. Light, credulous, *news-lover. 1849 *Southey's Commonpl. Bk.* Ser. II. 412 Indian *News-Messengers. 1759 (*title*) *News-Readers Pocket-Book. *a* 1817 T. Dwight *Trav. New Eng.*, etc. (1821) II. 63 A..means of gratifying the curiosity of news-readers. 1858 T. Guthrie *Christ Inher. of Saints* (1860) 207 News such as these *news-seekers had never dreamed of. 1696 *View Crt. St. Germain* in *Sel. Harl. Misc.* (1793) 556 This gentleman .. was his weekly *news-sender, and project-drawer. *a* 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* (1622) 419 Thinking his life onely reserued to be bound to be the vnhappy *newes-teller. 1612 Davies *Why Ireland*, etc. 214 It was made pænall..to entertaine any of their Minstrels, Rimers, or Newes-tellers.

b. Miscellaneous combs., as *news-crammed*; *news-making, -seeking, -telling, -thirsting*; *news-day, -master, -office, -page, -print, -scribe, -shop, -whoop*; *news-greedy* adj.

1600 Shaks. *A. Y. L.* I. ii. 101 Then shal we be *newes-cram'd. 1746 Berkeley *Lett.* Wks. 1871 IV. 305 Regret.. which was on the following *news-day increased upon hearing the fate of your niece. *a* 1618 Sylvester *Wks.* (Grosart) II. 63 So it also fares with our *news-greedie eare. 1858 Gen. P. Thompson *Audi Alt.* I. lxi. 237 Not as a piece of gossip or *news-making. 1624 B. Jonson *Neptune's Triumph* Wks. 1641 II. 111 Grave Mr. Ambler, *Newes-master of Poules. 1625 — *Staple of N.* I. vi, Giue your worship ioy O' your new place, your Emissary-ship, I' the *Newes office. 1808 Scott *Marm.* v. Introd. 21 When wrinkled *news-page, thrice conn'd o'er, Beguiles the dreary hour no more. 1897 'Sarah Tytler' *Lady Jean's Son* 244 That the letters and *news-prints might be greedily read. 1791–1823 D'Israeli *Cur. Lit.* (1866) 341/2 All the race of *news-scribes. 1843 James *Forest Days* (1847) 171 A somewhat timid and *news-seeking gentleman. 1688 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2375/2 The Man being..hang'd before his own *News-shop. 1611 Cotgr., *Nonciation*, a ..*newes telling. 1600 *Look About You* in Hazl. *Dodsley* VII. 393 In the hollow of *news-thirsting ears. 1775 Adair *Amer. Ind.* 301 To call them, by sounding the *news-whoop, as soon as he arrived at camp.

c. Special combs., as **news-agent**, a regular dealer in newspapers and periodicals; **news-bell**, *dial.* a singing in the ears supposed to portend news; **news-boat**, a boat which puts out to passing vessels to receive and communicate news; **news-room**, a reading-room specially set apart for newspapers; **news-sheet**, a printed sheet containing the news, a simple form of newspaper; **news-stand**, a stand or stall for the sale of newspapers; **newsvendor**, a newspaper seller; **news-work**, the class of composition or printing employed in ordinary newspapers.

1851 Mayhew *Lond. Labour* I. 291/2 The regular price at a *news-agent's shop being 5*d.* 1879 *Print. Trades Jrnl.* XXIX. 43 Charged by your news-agent one shilling for a single number. 1876 T. Haroy *Far fr. Mad. Crowd* viii, I've had the *news-bell ringing in my left ear quite bad enough for a murder. 1833–5 Eliza Leslie *That Gentleman* in *Casquet Lit.* V. 25/1 We were visited by a *news-boat. 1860 *Merc. Mar. Mag.* VII. 347 Steamers bound West .. will be boarded by the News-boat, and their advices telegraphed to all parts of America. 1817 *Morning Chron.* 25 Apr. (Jod.), Every circulating library and *newsroom throughout the kingdom. 1836 *Penny Cycl.* V. 238/1 There are two subscription libraries and two news-rooms. 1841 W. Spalding *Italy & It. Isl.* III. 81 Literature in all its branches, from philosophical treatises to magazines and *news-sheets. 1894 S. Fiske *Holiday Stories* (1900) 141, I advised him .. to buy or rent a *news stand in some hotel. 1834 *Gentl. Mag.* CIV. i. 101 A public meeting of the *Newsvenders of the metropolis. 1860 W. Collins *Wom. White* III. i, The ground floor..is occupied by a small newsvendor's shop. 1890 W. J. Gordon *Foundry* 217 Illustrated work differs from ordinary *newswork in one important particular.

News (niūz), *v.* Now *dial.* [f. the sb.]

1. *trans.* To tell or spread as news.

1650 R. Stapylton *Strada's Low C. Wars* IX. 45 This being newsed about the Town, many afterwards shunned the occasion of meeting with the Prince. 1875 Parish *Sussex Gloss.* s.v., It was newsed about. 1895 *E. Anglian Gloss.* s.v., It was newsed at market yesterday.

2. *intr.* To tell news; to gossip.

1871 W. Alexander *Johnny Gibb* (1873) 188 Topics to keep himself and his cronies 'newsin' for several days. 1886 *S. W. Linc. Gloss.* s.v., There's a deal of newsing goes on in that row.

† **New's-book.** *Obs.* A small newspaper.

In common use from about 1650 to 1700.

1652 Heylin *Cosmogr.* To Rdr. A 5 The situation and affairs of each Town of War .. which are presented to him in the Weekly Newsbooks. 1680 Luttrell *Brief Rel.* (1857) I. 44 For suppressing the printing and publishing unlicens'd news books and pamphlets of news. 1719 D'Urfey *Pills* IV. 326 It is in the News-book put, There's nothing can be truer.

New's-boy. A boy who sells newspapers in the streets, or delivers them at houses.

1812 Combe *Picturesque* XXIII, Deafen'd by a news-boy's din. 1860 Thackeray *Round. Papers, Late Gt. Vict.* (1876) 34 A news-boy had stopped in his walk, and was reading aloud the journal which it was his duty to deliver. 1879 E. K. Bates *Egypt. Bonds* II. viii. 188 The news-boys are plying their morning trade with harsh, piercing shrieks,

New-set, *v.* [New *adv.* 6.] *trans.* To set afresh or in a new fashion.

1611 Cotgr., *Regoldronné*, .. new set, or starched, as a ruffe. 1719 Young *Revenge* I. i, Bid physicians talk our veins to temper, And with an argument new-set a pulse. 1792 A. Young *Trav. France* 255 A rehearsal of *l'Olympiade*, new-set by a young composer. 1796 Burney *Mem. Metastasio* I. 293 The operas which he entirely new sets.

b. *esp.* To re-set (jewels) in a new style. Also *fig.*

1709 Mrs. Manley *Secret Mem.* (1720) II. 121 Pawning her Diamond-Necklace, upon pretence of having it new-set. 1790 Mme. D'Arblay *Diary* (1842) V. 143 Our usual Windsor life, which I shall not undertake to new-set for your inspection. The old setting will amply suffice.

So **New-set** *ppl. a.* Also *New-set-up*, recently established.

a 1553 Udall *Roister D.* II. i, Now that my maister is new set on wowyng. 1607 Middleton *Fam. Love* IV. iii, I am ..of the spick and span new-set-up company of porters. *a* 1732 Gay *Araminta* Wks. 1775 II. 120 Her new-set jewels round her robe are plac'd.

New'sful, *a. rare.* [f. News *sb.* + -ful.] Full of tidings.

1639 G. Daniel *Ecclus.* XXVI. 111 The Newes-full Host to order soe his waies He may be Iustified in what he Says. 1732 Fielding *Cov. Gard. Trag.* II. x, Oh! Leathersides, what means this newsful look!

New'siness. [f. Newsy *a.* + -ness.] The quality or character of being full of news.

1892 *Lond. & Prov. Music Trades Rev.* 15 Nov. 33/3 Reading it for its brightness and its general newsiness. 1898 W. R. Nicoll in *Brit. Weekly* 18 Aug. 301/2 Its strength lies in its newsiness and in its moderation.

New'sless, *a.* [f. News *sb.* + -less.] Destitute or devoid of news.

1746 H. Walpole *Lett.* clxix. (1833) II. 191 We are in such a news-less situation, that I have been some time too without writing to you. 1754 *Ibid.* (1846) III. 83, I am as newsless as in the dead of summer. 1865 *Daily Tel.* 13 Apr. 5 The disappointed and newsless Briton. 1881 *Blackw. Mag.* CXXX. 270 His adventures were like a page from the 'Arabian Nights' after the soldier's newsless life.

Hence **New'slessness.**

1864 Sala in *Daily Tel.* 3 Sept., The earlier pangs of newslessness [being] assuaged.

New's-letter. Now only *Hist.* A letter specially written to communicate the news of the day, common in the later part of the 17th and beginning of the 18th century; also, a printed account of the news (sometimes with a blank space left for private additions).

1674 *Essex Papers* (Camden) I. 216 The last week's Packett brought over a News Lettre, wch hath bin dispersed through all ye country & read at severall coffee houses in this Citty. 1711 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4803/2 The common News Letters from Paris will not yet own the raising of the Siege of Gironne. 1724 Swift *Drapier's Lett.* ii. Wks. 1751 VIII. 288 In your News-Letter of the first Instant there is a Paragraph .. relating to Wood's Half-pence. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* iii. I. 390 People who lived at a distance ..could be kept regularly informed of what was passing there only by means of newsletters. 1893 Jessopp *Stud. Recluse* vii. 249 The newsletters of the 17th century did the work of the newspapers now.

New's-man.

1. A bearer or collector of news; a news-writer.

1596 Spenser *F. Q.* v. vi. 11 Cease, thou bad newes-man! ..The rest my selfe too readily can spell. 1650 R. Stapylton *Strada's Low C. Wars* I. 3, I dare promise to produce more Cabinet counsels, then all the Civill and military newsmen. 1693 Echard (*title*) The Gazetteer's, or Newsman's Interpreter. 1775 Sheridan *Rivals* Prol., No newsman from our session is dismiss'd. 1833 T. Hook *Love & Pride, Snowdon* viii, Having volunteered his labours as an amateur court newsman. 1878 *Hatton Corr.* (Camden) Pref. 3 Of the two principal news-men, Charles Hatton writes with some humour.

2. A man who sells or delivers newspapers.

1796 Charlotte Smith *Marchmont* IV. 31 A paper.. carried round every Saturday by an itinerant newsman. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* xv, Railway journals in the windows of its newsmen. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 26 Jan. 5/4 The newsmen..selling the latest editions at double price or more.

New'smonger. One who collects and retails news.

1596 Shaks. 1 *Hen. IV*, III. ii. 25 By smiling Pick-thankes and base Newes-mongers. 1654 Whitlock *Zootomia* 302 The Complementall visitant Athenian, Newes-monger, and Amorous Trifler. 1692 Bentley *Boyle Lect.* iv. 109 Cardan and other News-mongers from the skies. 1724 Swift *Drapier's Lett.* iv. Wks. 1751 VIII. 343 Wood prescribes to the Newsmongers in London what they are to write. 1793 Mme. D'Arblay *Let.* 22 Feb., We hear no news here, ..and see no newspapers, and not an English newsmonger. 1824 Miss Mitford *Village* Ser. I. (1863) 227 She is a gentle newsmonger, and turns her scandal on the sunny side. 1884 Courthope *Addison* v. 82 Towards the end of the sixteenth century newsmongers began to issue little pamphlets.

Hence **New'smongering**; also **New'amongery.**

1592 Nashe *Four Lett. Confut.* H 4, That .. which a scrutinie..hath concluded to be viler than newesmungrie. 1822 Hazlitt *Table-t.* Ser. II. iv. 61 The mechanical operations of the spirit of newsmongering.

† **New'some.** *Obs. rare* —^1. [f. New *sb.*^1] Noisome; grievous.

c 1440 *York Myst.* XXX. 183 Schall I trauayle þus tymely þis tyde?..Slyke note is newsome to neven.

Newspaper (niū'zpē'pəɹ). [f. News *sb.* Cf. Du. *nieuwspapier.*] A printed, now usually daily or weekly, publication containing the news, commonly with the addition of advertisements and other matters of interest.

1670 in *Westm. Gaz.* (1900) 12 Sept. 2/3, I wanted ye newes paper for Monday last past. 1688 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. IV. 130 Any foreign or domestic Newspapers besides the printed Gazette. 1730 Berkeley *Lett.* Wks. 1871 IV. 185 The newspapers of last February mentioned Dr. Clayton's being made bishop. 1789 *Bath Jrnl.* 27 July Advt., The Act inflicts a penalty of Ten Pounds on persons letting out News-papers to read for hire. 1833 Ht. Martineau *Loom & Lugger* II. i. 14 To throw down among the crowd the newspaper containing the advertisements. 1864 Bowen *Logic* x. 346 The ordinary dialect of the market, the parlor, and the newspaper.

b. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *newspaper boy, chase, controversy, correspondent*, etc.

1848 Dickens *Dombey* iv, The *newspaper boy in the oil-skin cap. 1888 Jacobi *Printers' Vocab.*, **Newspaper chases*, specially made chases to allow of the pages being laid closely together on the machine. 1860 W. G. Clark *Vac. Tour* 65 The *newspaper controversies and the theatre-riots of Naples. 1868 Holme Lee *B. Godfrey* xxvi, [He] had vagabondised .. over Europe as a *newspaper correspondent. 1821 Shelley *Hellas* Pref., The display of *newspaper erudition to which I have been reduced. 1792 W. Roberts *Looker-on* No. 28 (1794) 397 Such like inanities of *news-paper history. 1791 Burke *App. Whigs* Wks. VI. 74 *Newspaper intelligence ought always to be received with some degree of caution. 1806 Surr *Winter in Lond.* II. 70 The *newspaper-man was of course gratified. 1883 F. M. Crawford *Mr. Isaacs* vi. 105 A Yankee newspaper man. 1800 *Asiatic Ann. Reg.* II. 146/1 The suspicions.. were nothing but idle rumours and *newspaper paragraphs. 1768–74 Tucker *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 170, I should think, to use the *newspaper phrase, the thing merited confirmation. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVI. 194/1 The two principal persons.. concerned in the *newspaper press. 1834 *Tait's Mag.* I. 735/1 To the uttermost ends of the *newspaper-reading earth. 1857 W. Collins *Dead Secret* III. i, The *newspaper-slip..contained the paragraph from the *Times*. 1885 *Times* (weekly ed.) 22 May 7/2 Left King's Cross at 5 o'clock in the morning by the *newspaper train. 1849 Sir F. B. Head *Stokers & Pokers* iii. (1851) 41 The *newspaper-vendors..are indolently reclining at their stalls. 1881 H. James *Portr. Lady* xxxviii, He really must object to that *newspaper woman. 1813 Creevey in *Examiner* 24 May 336/1 Prohibited to *newspaper-writers.

Hence (chiefly *nonce-words*) **Newspapera'cious** *a.*, of the kind usual in newspapers. **New's-paperdom**, the world or sphere of newspapers. **New'spapered** *ppl. a.*, brought by, provided with, a newspaper. **Newspapere'se**, the language or style usual in newspapers. **Newspape'rial** *a.*, of or belonging to newspapers. **Newspape'rically** *adv.*, in the newspapers. **New'spapering**, journalism. **New'spaperish** *a.*, somewhat in newspaper style. **New'spaperishly** *adv.*, in a newspaper manner. **New'spaperism**, the characteristic features or style of newspapers; a newspaper phrase or expression. **New'spaperist** (see quot.). **New'spaperized** *ppl. a.*, adapted to, affected by, the usual style of newspapers. **New'spaperling**, a small newspaper. **New'spaperly** *adv.*, as regards the newspapers. **New'spapery** *a.*, in newspaper style; given to reading newspapers. **Newspapo'rial** (*U. S.*) *sb.*, an item from a newspaper; *adj.*, of or belonging to newspapers; **Newspapo'rialist**, a newspaper writer.

1843 *Fraser's Mag.* XXVII. 76 Critiques, both epistolary and *newspaperacious. 1882 *Daily News* 7 Oct. 5/7 Ludgate is in the heart of *Newspaperdom. 1703 Dr Foe *Trueborn Eng.* Pref. (ed. 2) 4 The Publisher of this has been *News-papered into Goal already for it. 1889 *Sat. Rev.* 30 Nov. 612/2 His picture..may have something of '*newspaperese' about it. 1868 *Lond. Rev.* 12 Dec. 638/1 Sensationalism..is, in the main, a '*newspaperial' product, as the name itself is newspaperial. 1768–74 Tucker *Lt. Nat.* (1834) I. 475 The vast Pacific Ocean, commonly, yea vulgarly, not to say *news-paperically,..called..the South-sea. 1862 Thackeray *Philip* vii, I've tried schoolmastering, bear-leading, *newspapering. 1892 *Academy* 10 Feb. 120/1 Some of these essays are a little too *newspaperish. 1858 Sir R. Christison *Let.* in *Life* (1886) II. iii. 22 Though not inclined to retort *newspaperishly, I would [etc.]. 1838 *Fraser's Mag.* XVII. 315 They have upon them the undeniable sin of *newspaperism. 1900 *Edin. Rev.* Jan. 77 Colloquialisms, Americanisms, or what may be called newspaperisms. 1830 *Fraser's Mag.* I. 721 You make no mistake in calling a man a *newspaperist who talks much about newspapers. 1831 *Ibid.* III. 605 To give a *newspaperized report of the proceedings. 1890 *Harper's Mag.* Apr. 807/2 The ordinary more or less newspaperized English of our day. *a* 1841 Maginn in A. A. Watts *Life Watts* (1884) II. 175 Head nurse of a hospital of rickety *newspaperlings. 1816 Polidori *Let.* in Smiles *Mem. J. Murray* (1891) I. xv. 364 Some pleasant accidents..is all we have to keep us *newspaperly alive. 1864 *Realm* 6 Apr. 8 Desiring to be in tone and language .. as little *newspapery as a newspaper may be. 1890 *Catholic Househ.* 11 Jan. 9 The modern Londoner is .. newspapery. 1787 *Mass. Centinel* 18 July 4/1 English *Newspaporials. 1794 *Columbian Centinel* (Boston) 14 May 2/4 Newspaporial rule of three. 1853 in A. E. Lee *Hist. Columbus* (Ohio) (1892) I. 474 In this day of newspaporial dearth, anything above the mud level will create a sensation. 1871 *Vermont Hist. Gazetteer* II. 721/1 One of the Editors of the 'New York World'—the popular *newspaporialist.

New-sprung, *ppl. a.* [New *adv.* 3.] Newly sprung into existence; lately sprung up.

1592 Shaks. *Ven. & Ad.* 1171 She bows her head, the new-sprung flower to smell. 1612 Massinger & Dekker *Virg. Mart.* I. i, We dare dispute against this new-sprung sect. 1667 Dryden *Dram. Poesie* Ess. (ed. Ker) I. 64 Every new-sprung passion, and turn of it, is a part of the action. 1728–46 Thomson *Spring* 606 In the freshening shade Of

new-sprung leaves. 1790 BURKE *Fr. Rev.* III Not being illuminated by a single ray of this new-sprung modern light. 1853 LYNCH *Self-Improv.* iv. 102 Words will sometimes flow snddenly like new-sprung fonntains.

New's-writer. One who writes up the news for the information of others; *esp.* in early use, a writer of news-letters.

1700 T. BROWN tr. *Fresny's Amusem.* iv. Wks. 1709 III. 46 Like our common News-writers, [they] steal from one another. 1724 SWIFT *Drapier's Lett.* iv. Wks. 1751 VIII. 348 As Wood has taught the London News-writer to express it. 1794 BURKE *Impeachm. W. Hastings* Wks. XVI. 54 Who in fact is this Hoolas Rei whom they represent .. to be nothing but a news writer? 1810 JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1830) IV. 152, I have indnlged freer views on this question, on your assurances..that they will not get into the hands of news-writers. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* iii. I. 390 The newswriter rambled from coffee room to coffee room, collecting reports. 1879 *Spectator* 13 Sept. 1148 The infallible oriental sign of brewing trouble .. was apparent to the native news-writers.

Newsy (niū'zi), *a.* [f. NEWS + -Y 1.] Full of news; given to retailing news.

1832 JEKYLL *Corr.* ix. (1894) 304 *Mille graces* for a newsy letter. 1886 FENN *Master Cerem.* I. xxvi. 248 She looks pretty shabby now, a newsy, gossiping old hag.

Newt (niūt). Forms: 5–6 neute, 5–7 newte, 6–7 nute; 5 newtt, 6–7 neut, 6– newt. [For *ewt* (with *n-* from *an*: see N 3), var. of *evet* EFT *sb.*1 The change of *v* to *w* is unnsual, and the intermediate form *euft* NEUFT is also difficult to explain.] A small tailed amphibian (*Triton*), allied to the salamander, of which two or three species are common in Britain; an eft or ask.

c 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* III. 865 For rotyng of the crop the galle is boote To towche hem with of neutes grene [L. *lacertæ viridis*]. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 355/2 Newte, or ewte, wyrme, *lacertus*. 1530 PALSGR. 248/1 Newte a worme, *lisarde*. 1584 R. SCOT *Discov. Witchcr.* XIII. viii. (1886) 246 Our newt is..like to the lizzard in shape. 1627 MAY *Lucan* IX. 826 The water-spoyling Newte, the dart-like Snakes. 1699 GARTH *Dispens.* 79 Where hatefnl Nutes and painted Lizzards sleep. 1761 STEANE *Tr. Shandy* IV. xxvii, A Newt, or an Asker, or some snch detested reptile. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) VII. 113 Though the Newt may be looked upon in this contemptible light. 1818 SHELLEY *Marenghi* xix, He had tamed every newt and snake and toad. 1870 H. A. NICHOLSON *Man. Zool.* (1875) 454 The Water-salamanders or Newts are distinguished from the terrestrial forms by being furnished with a compressed fish-like tail, and by being strictly oviparous.

Comb. 1891 *Daily News* 14 Sept. 5/4 A small newt-like creature from North America, which is known as the spotted eft.

New-take. [NEW *a.* + TAKE *sb.*] On Dartmoor, a piece of moorland newly enclosed and cultivated. Also *attrib.*

1889 PAGE *Explor. Dartmoor* ii. 25 Portions of the Moor are frequently granted by the Duchy to persons willing to farm them. These are known as 'newtakes'. 1899 BARING GOULD *Furze Bloom* 18 Tonks .. said he would finish his new-take wall by himself.

Newter, obs. form of NEUTER.

Newtonian (niūtōu'niăn), *a.* and *sb.* [f. the name of Sir Isaac *Newton* (1642–1727) + -IAN.]

A. *adj.* **1.** Devised, discovered, or suggested, by Newton; pertaining to, or arlsing from, the theory of the universe propounded by Newton.

1713 DERHAM *Phys.-Theol.* II. v. (1754) 52 The Pressure of the Atmosphere, and the Newtonian Attraction. 1778 [W. MARSHALL] *Minutes Agric., Observ.* 146 The Philosophy of the Weather may happily be rendered as obvious as the Newtonian Principles. 1830 LYELL *Princ. Geol.* I. iii. I. 40 For which reason they objected to the Newtonian theory of gravitation. *a* 1866 J. GROTE *Exam. Utilit. Phil.* xxi. (1870) 343 The grand simplicity of the Newtonian discoveries.

2. Resembling, characteristic of, accepting the views of, Newton.

1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* (1751) 338 Ye searching, ye Newtonian angels! tell, Where yonr great Master's orb? 1762–9 FALCONER *Shipwr.* I. 827 Borne on Newtonian wing, through air she flies. 1823 *Gentl. Mag.* XCIII. I. 628 From these data the Newtonian philosophers have drawn conclusions [etc.]. 1871 MORLEY *Condorcet* in *Crit. Misc.* Ser. I. (1878) 87 Men of Newtonian capacity.

3. Of telescopes, their parts, etc.: Of the kind devised by Newton.

1761 DUNN in *Phil. Trans.* LII. 184 A Newtonian reflecting telescope, six feet in length. 1794 G. ADAMS *Nat. & Exp. Philos.* II. xxii. 471 A reflecting telescope was produced to the world of the Newtonian construction. 1831 BREWSTER *Optics* xlii. 353 The Newtonian telescope, which may be regarded as an improvement upon the Gregorian one. 1872 PROCTOR *Ess. Astron.* i. 4 An excellent Newtonian reflector.

B. *sb.* **1.** A follower of Newton; one who accepts the Newtonian system.

1741 tr. *D'Argens' Chinese Lett.* xvii. 117 The Newtonian having said, That Descartes was an Ignoramus, the Disciple of that Philosopher reply'd in a Passion, You lie. 1813 SHELLEY *Q. Mab* Notes, Poet. Wks. (1891) 52/2 The consistent Newtonian is necessarily an atheist. 1833 *Tracts for Times* No. II. 5 The knowledge of which does not bind us to be Newtonians, or Aristotelians.

2. A Newtonian telescope or reflector.

1877 G. F. CHAMBERS *Astron.* (ed. 3) 661 Awkwardness of reflectors (that is to say Newtonians, which virtually are the only ones in use).

Hence **Newto'nianism,** the Newtonian system.

1890 *Athenæum* 19 July 92/2 [Mercier] declared Newtonianism to be the 'most absurd scientific extravagance that has ever issued from the human imagination'.

New'tonist. [Cf. prec.] A Newtonian.

1741 tr. *D'Argens' Chinese Lett.* xvii. 117, I was t'other Day at the hearing of a smart Dispute between a Cartesian and a Newtonist.

New'tonite. *Min.* [Named (1891) from its locality, *Newton* County, Arkansas.] A hydrous silicate of aluminium.

1891 *Amer. Jrnl. Sci.* XLII. 13 Newtonite is a pure white, soft, compact, homogeneous snbstance.

Newtral(ity, obs. forms of NEUTRAL(ITY.

New-vamp, *v.* [NEW *adv.* 6.] *trans.* To vamp up afresh; to furbish up anew.

1640 T. D. (*title*) The Knave in Grain New Vampt: a witty Comedy. 1702 *Eng. Theophrastus* 16 A Play, writ by an ancient celebrated author, new-vampt and furbish'd up. 1783 COLMAN *Prose on Sev. Occas.* (1787) III. 239 Let us new-vamp the Box, new-lay the Stage. 1817 HAZLITT *Pol. Ess.* (1818) 308 Snch is the old doctrine of Divine Right new-vamped up under the style and title of Legitimacy.

So **New-vamped** *ppl. a.*

1675 COTTON *Scoffer Scoft* A 3 This Antick new-vaump't Wit. 1707 *Reflex. upon Ridicule* II. 212 New-vamped Trades-women. 1763 *Brit. Mag.* IV. 604 Now new-vampt silks the mercer's window shews.

New-waked, *ppl. a.* [NEW *adv.* 3 and 4.] Newly awakened.

1674 MILTON *P. L.* VIII. 4 He..stood fixt to hear; Then as new wak't thus gratefnlly repli'd. 1685 BOWLES *Compl. Ariadna* in *Dryden's Misc.* II. 380 New wak'd..she flew To the dire Shoar. 1791 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Rom. Forest* V, The carols of new-waked birds saluted her as she passed. 1824 MISS FERRIER *Inher.* XXVII, A fat, sonr, new-waked-looking creatnre, sucking its finger.

New-yeaned, *ppl. a.* [NEW *adv.* 3.] Newly born or dropped.

1567 GOLDING *Ovid's Met.* VII. 85 The bleating of a new yeand Lambe. 1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. i. I. *Eden* 573 Their bodies..Of new-yeand Lambs have full the form and guise. 1649 OGILBY *Virg. Bucolicks* VII. 17 Phyllis.. might at home Shnt up my new-yean'd Lambs. *a* 1711 KEN *Sion Poet.* Wks. 1721 IV. 322 The new-yean'd Lambs he'll in his Bosom lay. 1849 C. BRONTE *Shirley* II. xi. 263 Some little new-yeaned lambs.

New-year. Also New year, Newyear; 4 nw(e) ȝer(e; *Sc.* 6, 9 newer-, 8 nur-, ne'er-. [f. NEW *a.* + YEAR. Cf. MDu. *niewejaer, nie(u)jaer* (Du. *nieuwjaar*), MLG. *niejār*, G. *neujahr*, Icel. *nýjár*, Sw. *nyår*, Da. *nytaar.*]

1. The coming year; the year about to begin or just beginning; the commencement of another year; the first few days of a year.

c 1200 [see 3 below]. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 284 Hit is ȝol & nwe ȝer. *a* 1400 *Relig. Pieces fr. Thornton MS.* 63 One þe aughtene day of thi byrthe here That þe firste day es of þe newe ȝere. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* lxxx. 12 God gine the gnid prosperitie..In hansell of this gnid new ȝeir. 1602 *2nd Pt. Ret. fr. Parnass.* v. i. 2003 At this good time of Newyeare he will he liberall. 1641 HOWELL *Vote in Lett.* (1650) II, Then let me somthing bring May hansell the New-Year to Charles my King. 1786 BURNS *Farmer's Salut.* i, A Guid New-year I wish you, Maggie. 1831 SCOTT *Diary* 1 Jan. in *Lockhart*, I cannot say the world opens pleasantly for me this New year. 1864 *Chambers's Encycl.* VI. 739/1 Complimentary visits, and mutual wishes for a Happy New Year.

† **b.** *ellipt.* A new-year address. *Obs. rare* −1.

1595 COPLEY *Wits, Fits, & Fancies* 68 A scholler presented a gratulatorie new yeer unto Sir Thomas Moore in prose.

c. *Sc.* New-year cheer. (Cf. quot. 1897 in 2.)

2. *attrib.* as *New-year day, mass, ode,* etc.

?*a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 78 On the newȝere daye, at þe none evyne. 1456 *Paston Lett.* I. 368 The god chiere that the persons ye wote off had here uppon New Yeer Day. 1588 KING *Canisius* in *Cath. Tract.* (S. T. S.) 175 Newermes quhilk is the circumcision of Christ vnder Augustus. 1728 POPE *Dunc.* I. 44 New-year Odes, and all the Grubstreet race. 1786 BURNS (*title*) The auld farmer's New-year-morning salutation to his auld mare. 1788 PICKEN *Poems* 14 To glad their sauls wi' Nnrday cheer. 1897 WRIGHT *Sc. Life* 15, I am again visiting my grannie to get my 'ne'erday', which meant..a daud of shortbread and currant-bun and a bawbee.

3. *New-year's day,* the first day of the year.

Cf. MDu. *nie(u)jaersdach* (Du. *nieuwjaarsdag*), G. *neujahrstag,* Icel. *nýjársdagr,* Sw. *nyårsdag,* Da. *nytaarsdag.*

c 1200 ORMIN 4230 Þatt daȝȝ iss New ȝeress daȝȝ Mang Ennglеþeode nemmnedd. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1968 To dele, on nw ȝerez day, þe dome of my wyrdes. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* I. iii–v. 41 Vpon newe yeersday the barons lete maake a Instes and a tournement. 1531 in *Vicary's Anat.* (1888) App. ii. 102 Rewardes geuen on Sonday, Neweyeres day at Grenewiche, as hatbe ben accnstomde. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 955 This yere Henrie..was borne at Richemond vpon Neweyers daye. 1625 GODWIN *Moses & Aaron* III. (1641) 121 According to their civill Comptation it was their first moneth, so that this feast may be termed their New-yeares day. 1701 C. WOLLEY *Jrnl. New York* (1860) 57 The English observed one anniversary custom,.. a neighbourly commerce of presents every New-Years day. 1783 BLAGDEN in *Phil. Trans.* LXXIII. 391 The following new-year's day it was sunk to — 56° at eight in the morning. 1852 R. S. SURTEES *Sponge's Sp. Tour* lxv. 363 New-Year's Day is generally a bright, bitter, sunshiny day.

fig. 1635–56 COWLEY *Davideis* II. 230 Whether by this in mystick Type we see The New-Year's Day of great Eternity.

b. So *New-year's eve* or *even* (see EVE *sb.*1 2), *morn, morrow, tide.*

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 453 To be ȝederly ȝolden on nw ȝeres morn. *Ibid.* 1669 Per þay dronken & dalten..on nwe ȝerez euen. 1482 CAXTON *Chron. Eng.* ccxlix. 319 And on newyers euen after they take harflete. *a* 1500 *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1866) 66 Iuellis pricious..to sende you, my Souerein, þis newe yeres morowe. 1586 *Chron. Gr. Friars* (Camden) 57 Item at Newyeeres tyde after was put downe the qwyne of the testornes. 1625 MASSINGER *New Way* IV. ii, Thy wife brought me, Last new year's tide, a couple of fat turkeys. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVI. 177/1 Gifts at new-year's-tide formed a charge of no small amount in the privy-purse expenses of royalty. 1864 *Chamb. Encycl.* VI. 739/1 The night of New-Year's Eve, 'St. Sylvester's Eve'.

4. *New-year's gift,* a gift made to another on, or for, New-year's day.

Cf. Du. *nieuwjaarsgift,* G. *neujahrsgabe,* etc.

1530 PALSGR. 248/1 Newe yeres gyfte, *estrayne.* *a* 1568 ASCHAM *Scholem.* Pref. (Arb.) 21, I thought to prepare some litle treatise for a New yeares gift that Christmas. 1665 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (1677) 314 To send him yearly the valne of twenty thousand Crowns as a New-years-gift. 1699 BENTLEY *Phal.* Pref. 118 He might..make the Book his worthy New-years-gift to the Scholars of his House. 1777 BRAND *Pop. Antiq.* xvi. 187 The Sending of Presents, which are termed New Year's Gifts. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVI. 177/1 An order of Tiberius, forbidding the giving or demanding of new-year's-gifts.

b. A popular name for the Winter Aconite.

1856 DELAMER *Fl. Gard.* 51 Aconite (Winter)..is commonly known as 'The New Year's Gift'.

Newyn(e, variants of NEVEN *v. Obs.*

New Yo'rker. [-ER 1.] An inhabitant or native of the state or city of New York.

1756 WASHINGTON *Lett.* Writ. 1889 I. 315 The Jerseys and New Yorkers, I do not remember what it is they give. 1798 I. ALLEN *Hist. Vermont* 43 The New Yorkers..sent warrants into that county. 1871 LONGF. in *Life* (1891) III. 181 It is a grand plan; I hope it will strike the New Yorkers.

New Zea'lander. [-ER 1.] **a.** One of the aborigines of New Zealand; a Maori. **b.** One of the European settlers in New Zealand.

a 1791 WESLEY *Serm.* lxxiv. Wks. 1811 IX. 320 A Hottentot, a New-Zealander. 1842 PRICHARD *Nat. Hist. Man* 337 The skulls of the New Zealanders differ somewhat from those of the nations already mentioned. 1864 *Chambers's Encycl.* VI. 742/1 The New Zealanders, or Maories,..are located, with the exception of a few hundreds, in North Island. 1901 ROSE-INNES *With Paget's Horse* 174 All the other New Zealanders whom I met were..well educated.

Ne'xal, *a. Rom. Law.* [f. L. *nex-us* or *nex-um,* bond, obligation + -AL.] Characterized by the imposition of servitude as a penalty on a defaulting debtor.

1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XX. 675/2 The nexal creditor's imprisonment of his defaulting debtor. *Ibid.* 681/1 The Pœtilian law of 428, abolishing the nexal contract. 1901 GREENIDGE *Rom. Public Life* 91 It is probable that in early times plebeian law recognised no debt except that created by the nexal contract.

† **Nexe.** *Obs.* [app. ad. L. *nexus* NEXUS.] ? The cohesion existing between particles of matter.

1626 BACON *Sylva* § 889 It appeareth plainly to be hut a Motion of Nexe, which they call *Ne detur vacuum*... The Motion of Nexe did so claspe the Bottome of the Basen.

Ne'xible, *a. rare* −0. [ad. late L. *nexibilis.*] 'Which may be knit' (Cockeram 1623; hence in Blount and later Dicts.).

Nexi'lity. *rare* −0. [ad. late L. *nexilitas.*] 'Fastness, pithiness, compactness of speech' (Blount 1656; hence in Bailey 1721).

Next (nekst), *a., sb.,* and *adv.* Forms: *a.* 1 néahst(a, néhst(a, next(a, nexsta, 2–6 nexte, (3 næxte, 4 nekste, 5 nextte), 3–5 nexste, 3–next, (4 nekist, neghst), 3–5 nexst, (4 nexist), 6–7 nex; 1 níehsta, nýhst(a, níhsta, nyxt(a, 4 nixte, 5–6 *Sc.* nixt, (6 nyxt). *β.* 1 nésta, (*north.* neesta, neista), 3–5 nest(e, 3 nesst, 4 neiste, neyste, 4–5 neest; *north.* and *Sc.* 4–9 neist, (4 neiest, 4–5 neyst), 8–9 niest, neisht. [OE. *néahst, nlęhst,* etc., superlative of *néah* NIGH, = OFris. *nest, neest* (mod.Fris. *nejst, neyst*), MDu. *naest* (Du. *naast*), OS. *nâhist, nâist,* MLG. *nâgest, nâst, nêgest, nêist* (hence MDa. *nægest, negst,* MSw. *nägest, -ist*); OHG. *nâhist-er* (adv. *nâhost*; MHG. *nâhest, nâst, næhest, næst*; G. *nächst*), ON. *næst-r* (Sw. *näst,* Da. *næst*). The usual forms in OE. are those of the weak decl. *néhsta, nýhsta,* etc., corresponding to OFris. *neste, -ta,* OS. *nâ(h)isto,* OHG. *nâhisto, -esto, -osto* (MHG. *nâhste, næhste*), ON. *næste, -ti.*]

A. *adj.* and *sb.*

I. In attributive use, or absolutely as *sb.*

† **1.** Lying nearest in place or position. *Obs.*

In mod. use, as in *the next house, town,* etc., the adj. no longer denotes simple proximity (which is expressed by *nearest*), but involves the idea of sense 6.

c 950 *O. E. Chron.* (Parker MS.) an. 921 Þa æfter ȝegadorode micel folc..of þam niehstum burgum. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Mark i. 38 Gæ we .. in ða neesto lond. *a* 1067 in Kemble *Cod. Dipl.* IV. 202 Þæt ðridde swnn of æneaan ðæs nextan wudes ðe liþ to kyngesbyriȝ. 1382 WYCLIF *Mark* i. 38 Go we in to the nexte townes and citees. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) iv. 30 Whoso wil..come nerrer to Jerusalem, he schal go..to the port Jaff. For that is the nexte havene to Jerusalem. *a* 1450 *Fysshynge w. Angle* (1883) 16 Þe next plume to the boke schall be ther from a large fote & more. 1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* v. xii. (S.T.S.) II. 190 Þe equis.. chasit him with grete effray & dredoure to þe nixt montanis. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* I. xii. 14 Two smal riuers, whereof the next and greatest hath a bridge of stone. 1652 NEEDHAM tr. *Selden's Mare Cl.* 497 They in debt seeking onely to serv the next Market. 1710 ADDISON *Tatler* No. 229 ₱ 3 They say, when a Fox is very much troubled with Fleas, he goes into the next Pool.

b. † *The next way*, the shortest, most convenient or direct way. *Obs.* Hence *next ways* adv.

a 1330 *Otuel* 437 He þoute þe nekste weie to ride. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Man of Law's T.* 709 This messager..Unto the castel halt the nexte way. *a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* (1868) 63 They yode over a mareys for the next waye, but thei felle in the myre. 1525 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* II. xv. 29, I wyll retourne into Englande the nexte waye. 1598 GRENEWEY *Tacitus, Ann.* XIII. ix. (1622) 191 The legions were not brought the next way,..but went ouer a farre off. 1678 BUNYAN *Pilgr.* I. (1862) 138 That comes down from our Country the next way into the way. 1767 *Cries of Blood* 10 The next way from that place to Mr. Harrison's house.

1789 COWPER *Let.* 5 Nov. in *Pearson's* 81*st Catal.* (1900) 24, I have transmitted it, as we say, next ways, to Johnson. 1809 BATCHELOR *Anal. Eng. Lang.* 139, I will go next ways home.

fig. a 1568 ASCHAM *Scholem.* I. (Arb.) 86 Thus bred vp.. to learne the next and readie way to sinne. 1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* I. iii. 63, I speake the truth the next waie. 1632 MASSINGER & FIELD *Fatal Dowry* v. i, To let you go, Were the next way.

2. Of persons: Living or dwelling nearest to one; happening to be nearest at a particular time. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

a 1000 *Daniel* 411 (Gr.), Da þæt ehtode ealdor þeode..wið þam nehstum folcgesiðum. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XIII. 373, I wolde Of my nexte neighbore nymen of his erthe. *c* 1440 *Generydes* 1894 To kynges and to princes all abought, The nexst that were marching on euery side. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 344 b, They publishe an other wryting, chiefly to the next inhabiters about them. 1598 MANWOOD *Lawes Forest* xix. § 6. 144 An outcry unto the inhabitants and next dwellers within the same forest. 1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 414 To provide..against their next Enemies the Tartars, who make often incursions upon them. 1684 *Coll. Connect. Hist. Soc.* (1897) VI. 212 The Chimney veiwers.. shall make presentment of what defects they find..to the next authority. 1771 GOLDSM. *Hist. Eng.* II. 257 He was obliged to make a short confession to the next priest that was at hand.

† b. *absol.* (One's) neighbour. *Obs.*

c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* xxvii. 3 Đa ðe spreocað sibbe mid ðone nestan. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Mark xii. 31 Lufa ðone neesta ðinne suæ ðec seolfne. *c* 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Th.) cxxi. 8 Mine þa neahstan [ic] nemne swylce. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 13 Ne spec þu agein þine nexta nane false witnesse. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3515 Ne gisce ðu nog ðin nestes ðing. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 6729 Min frend & mi nexte ney stondeþ aȝe me. 1340 *Ayenb.* 145 Hi deþ man parfitliche louie his nixte ase him-zelue.

3. Nearest in relationship or kinship. Also *absol.* in *the next of* (one's) *blood, kin,* etc. (See KIN *sb.*1 8 c, and AKIN *adv.* 1.)

a 889 K. ÆLFRED *Charter* in *O. E. Texts* 451 Ȝif heo bearn nehbe, feo ðonne an hire reht federen sio neste hond to þem londe. *a* 1000 *Penit. Egbert* in Thorpe *Laws* II. 188 Gif hwylc man wifiȝe on his nehstan magan. *c* 1205 LAY. 22837 Nimeð al his nexte cun þa ȝe maȝen iuinden. *Ibid.* 32122 [The king] inemned was Alain, Cadwalader nexte mæi. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 13598 Þe neist men of his oxspring Did þai þan be-for þam bring. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 440 Criste shulde be oure nexste fadir, & his chirche oure nexste modir. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xxvi. 124 His sonne or þe next of his blude. *c* 1477 CAXTON *Jason* 48 Ye shalle assemble youre most next parentes and frendes. 1535 COVERDALE *Ruth* iii. 9 Thou art the nexte kynsman. 1603 OWEN *Pembrokeshire* ii. (1892) 30 All his inheritaunce came to his Nephewe Kinge Henry the seventh as next haire to the said Iasper. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* IV. 374 Their Friends attend the Herse, the next Relations mourn. 1766 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* II. 501 Till process hath first issued to call in the widow, or next of kin, to contest it. 1769 GOLDSM. *Hist. Rome* (1786) I. 13 Having previously communicated his intentions to his five next of kindred. 1818 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) II. 352 Lands were devised to Robert Archer for life, afterwards to his next heir male. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) V. 91 The betrothal of the parties shall be made by the next of kin.

b. *Next friend*, nearest friend or relative. In later use spec. in *Law.*

c 897 K. ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* xlix. 377 Hwæt, hie witon, ȝif hiera nehstan frieod weorðað wældan. *c* 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Th.) lxxxvii. 18 Þu me afyrdest frynd þa nyhstan. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 17 Ȝif þin nexta freond agult wið þe.. bide hine luueliche þet he þe do riht. 13.. *Cursor M.* 11409 (Gött.), His sun for him was sett again, Or his neist frend þat was fere. 1387–8 T. USK *Test. Love* I. iv. (Skeat) I. 17 But enquyre of thy next frendes. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 619 So him neuyned was þe name of his next frendis. 1534 MORE *Comf. agst. Trib.* II. Wks. 1178/1 He maketh manye tymes oure next friendes our most foes. 1579 *Termes of the Law* 161 b, The next friende, or next of kynne to whom the lands cannot come or discende, shall haue the keepyng of the heire. 1720 T. WOOD *Instit. Laws Eng.* (1722) 13 An Infant, or Minor, shall sue by Prochein Amy (his next friend) or guardian, .. but always defend by Guardian. 1883 *Rules Supreme Court* Order xvi. III. xvi, Infants may sue as plaintiffs by their next friends.

4. † a. Most pressing or important. *Obs. rare*–1.

c 1205 LAY. 17153 Ich þe wulle ræden Of nexte þire neoden [*c* 1275 to þine nexste neode].

† b. Closest to hand, readiest, most convenient.

c 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* I. xiv. 75 The power of resoun .. is not ordeyned..to be oure next and best and surest reuler. *c* 1538 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. II. 99 The next remedys to reſourme all thies enormyties after my pore conceyte is as followith. 1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* IV. vii. 273 Extremity makes the next the best remedy. 1679 PENN *Addr. Prot.* Pref., Whose duty therefore he shows .. with the next and proper means to suppress it.

† c. Of ends, causes, etc.: Least remote, most proximate. *Obs.*

1628 T. SPENCER *Logick* 6 The remote end of Logick, is the very act it selfe of discoursing...The next end of Logick, is to prescribe a way, and rules of discoursing. 1654 Z. COKE *Logick* 56 Forms are always next causes of many faculties in subjects. 1705 STANHOPE *Paraphr.* I. 117 The Instruments and next Causes of their sufferings. 1754 EDWARDS *Freed. Will* I. i. 2 It should be considered what is the next and immediate Object of the Will, with respect to a Man's Walking, or any other external Action.

5. Of periods of time: Immediately following or succeeding. Also const. *after*, † *of* (quots. 1711).

In Sc. use, *next* is employed to designate the days of the following week; thus *next Friday*, the Friday of next week, is contrasted with *this Friday*, that of the present week. (Cf. the note to 10.)

a. a 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1086 He swealt..on þone nextan dæȝ æfter natiuitas sancte Marie. *c* 1290 *Beket* 890 in *S. Eng. Leg.*, For-to þe nexte daie we biddez furst. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XIII. 154 þe Wednesday of þe nexte wyke after. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* iv. 129 The nexste morning after they departed. 1535 COVERDALE I *Sam.* v. 3 Whan they rose vp early on the nexte morowe, they founde Dagon lyenge on his face. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 267 The Emperour..the nex daye came to Gieng. 1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* II. ii. 11 The next ensuing howre, some foule mischance Torment me for my Loues forgetfulnesse. 1653 HOLCROFT *Procopius, Goth. Wars* II. 40 The nex day .. he ordered his Army for a fight. 1692 DRYDEN *Ep. Southerne* 31 Learn, after both, to draw some just design, And the next age will learn to copy thine. 1711 *Fingall MSS.* in 10*th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. V. 136 The next morning of the skirmish at the Boyn. *Ibid.* 154 The next day of the battle. 1771 *Antiq. Sarisb.* 5 They are arbitrary, often imposed..for reasons that did not exist the next hour. 1859 HELPS *Friends in C.* Ser. II. I. Addr. to Rdr. 10 What is written on public affairs in one week may be..ohsolete..the next. 1894 HALL CAINE *Manxman* v. xxi. 344 Grannie came to Elm Cottage next morning.

β. 13.. *Cursor M.* 11377 (Gött.), Sum men sais þe neist ȝere Folnand, and sum..Sais tua ȝere efter þat þai come. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* x. 436 Not ane cannonne was schott or Lattne aff afor the neist day. 1722 RAMSAY *Elegy Ld. Carnegie* iv, Ae day gives joy, The neist our hearts mann bleed. 1794 *Piper of Peebles* 18 (E.D.D.) Niest afternoon he was inter'd. 1802 R. ANDERSON *Cumbld. Ball.* 42 A week at Gilsland ton salt try, Neist summer, if we're spar'd. 1876 C. GIBBON *Robin Gray* iv, I'll see how ye're getting on the morn or neist day.

b. Of persons, things, occasions, etc.: Coming directly after another in point of time; without anything of the same kind intervening.

?*a* 1400 *Arthur* 508 Þe kyng Maxymyan,—Þe next after Octauyan. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilȝear* 758 The nixt vacant, be ressonabill richt, That hapnis in France. 1582 N. LICHEFIELD tr. *Castanheda's Conq. E. Ind.* I. viii. 21 He well knew, that at the next flouđ the ship would be afloate againe. 1672 LADY M. BERTIE in 12*th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. V. 26, I believe next news I heare will be that you are going to hee married. 1727 GAY *Begg. Opera* I. x, Hnve him peach'd the next Sessions. 1732 BERKELEY *Alciphr.* I. § 7 Whoever escapes punishment in this life will be sure to find it in the next. 1818 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) V. 614 At the next court the surrender was presented. 1840 *P. Parley's Ann.* I. 116, I promise never to do so any more, not till the next time. 1892 H. M. STEPHENS *Albuquerque* vii. 174 More extensive powers than were exercised by Albuquerque and his next successors.

c. *elipt.* with omission of *letter, number* († or *post*).

c 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* I. xvi. 26 In my next, I shall impart unto you what State-news France affords. 1655 *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) II. 282 My seruice to my beloued Lord Gerrard, to whome I will write by the next. 1733 BERKELEY *Let.* Wks. 1871 IV. 207 In your next let me know your thoughts on this and the whole affair. 1793 COWPER *Let. to Newton* 25 Apr., I..shall be obliged to you if, in your next, you will mention [etc.]. 1857 RUSKIN *Time & Tide* xxii. § 145 To reserve suggestions of answer for my next. 1893 MCCARTHY *Red Diamonds* III. 172 Some serial story which stopped at an exciting point with the words—To be continued in our next.

6. Immediately succeeding or preceding in respect of position, order, arrangement, value, etc.

Precedence is denoted by the addition of *before*, etc., except in the second quot. from Wyclif.

c 1055 *Byrhtferth's Handboc* in *Anglia* VIII. 327 On þam circule fiftyne niht hiȝ onfoð on þære nextan linan. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 26877 Thinges thre þe quhilk i tald þe..In þe neist formast questiun. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* II. 4 þis gospel telliþ, as þe nexte bifore, how Joon made redy þe weye to Crist. *Ibid.* 318 As it is seid in þe nexte [=last] Sermon, of þis lore ben many gabbingis. *a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* (1868) 13 The good man that shroue the woman in the nexst tale afore. 1577 FULKE *Confut. Purg.* 363 When he him selfe in the next leafe before, affirmeth [etc.]. 1693 *Humours Town* 52 By that time one has done with his Intrigues, the next has fresh Adventures to impart. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* II. 688 My next Desire is, void of Care and Strife, To lead a soft, secure, inglorious Life 1712 BUDGELL *Spect.* No. 425 ¶ 1 Such a Tranquility of Mind, as is I believe the next Happiness to that of hereafter. *a* 1756 ELIZA HEYWOOD *New Present* (1771) 254 In the next place, the chairs should be dusted. 1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* xl, I dinna mind the neist verse weel—my memory's failed. 1852 MRS. STOWE *Uncle Tom's C.* xvii. 167 The first one of you that comes..is a dead man, and the next, and the next. 1875 JEVONS *Money* (1878) 257 The organization of the Clearing House will be described in the next chapter.

b. Of persons in respect of position, birth, etc.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 461 þe pope is holdun moost & nexst viker of iesu crist. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 265 In good espeir To ben himself the develes heir, As he which is his nexte liche. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 15 The inheritaunce..came unto Jane the next syster. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IV. 781 When Gabriel to his next in power thus spake. 1891 T. HARDY *Tess* iii, There was an interval of four years and more between Tess and the next of the family.

absol. 1607 TOURNEUR *Rev. Trag.* II. i, The Next of Italy commends him to you.

c. *Next best*, second-best.

a 1674 CLARENDON (J.), If the king himself had stayed at London, or, which had been the next best, kept his court at York. 1700 WALLIS in *Collect.* (O.H.S.) I. 318 Who did.. out-leap..the next-best leaper..by seven inches. 1824 SCOTT *St. Ronan* ii, The Blue room is the best—and they that get neist best are no ill aff. 1870 LOWELL *Among my Bks.* Ser. I. (1873) 79 In poetry, to be next-best is, in one sense, to be nothing.

† 7. a. *On next, at* (*the*) *next*, in the next place, directly after or succeeding. *Obs. rare.*

a 1400–50 *Alexander* 2795 Þen to Nostandn on next þus notis he a lettir. ?*a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 2422 A-bowte the cete tha seuene they soughte at the nexttе, To seke theme a sekyre place. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* II. vii. 177 Immediatli at next to the now bifore alleggid text of Peter this proces folewith.

† b. *At the next*, directly at hand. *Obs. rare.*

c 1425 *Orolog. Sapient.* v. in *Anglia* X. 363/4, I see & know þat I maye no lenger lyue and þat deth is atte þe nexte. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* II. xx. 271 What a man mai not haue.. at the next and immediatli, he wole be..weel plesid for to haue it mediatli.

† 8. (OE. only.) Last. *Obs.*

c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* lxxii. 17 Oððæt ic ingae in godes haliȝ portic & ongete ða nestan þeara [L. *novissima eorum*]. *c* 900 *Judith* 73 Wiȝȝend stopon ut of ðam inne..þe ðone wærloȝan..læddon to bedde nehstan siðe. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 21 Ne biþ he godes leof on þæm nehstan dæȝe.

† b. *At next*, at (the) last. *Obs.*

c 825 *Vesp. Hymns* vii. in *O. E. Texts* 411 [Ic] oteawu hwet bið him ot nestan. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xxvi. 60 Æt nesta ða cuomon twoege leaso..ȝewitneso. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* II. 572 Ða æt nextan comon ða stuntan mædenu. *a* 1122 *O.E.Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1086 Æt nextan he ne sparode his ageenne broðor.

II. In predicative use or following the sb.

Also const. *to, about*, etc., and sometimes in quasi-adverbial use with *adjoining, ensuing*, etc.

9. Nearest in place or position.

c 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* II. xvi. (Schipper) 177 (MS. B) Seo mæȝð nyhst on suðhealfe Humbre streames. *c* 900 *O. E. Chron.* (Parker MS.) an. 878 Ælfred..was winnende wiþ þone here, & Sumur sætna dæl se þær niehst wæs. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 1692 In þe ouermast stage [of the ark] þi self sal be, þe founules alþernest be þe. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) I. 293 Ȝif þe water of þat welle is..i-helte vppon a stoon þat is next to þe welle. 1515 in *Vicary's Anat.* (1888) App. iii. 148 A Forge next to the Hertysborn in Westsmythfeld. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VII* 13 Then were his continuall enemyes next to the gate of his realme. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* Prol. 49 Than agane Marr lyes on the coastsyde neist. 1631 GOUGE *God's Arrowe* IV. § 15. 396 This with-drawing chamber was next to his bed-chamber. 1662 STANLEY *Hist. Philos., Chaldaick* (1701) 141/1 From the places next about the Moon. 1765 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* I. 113 Wastes ..when improved..are..to be assessed to all parochial rates in the parish next adjoining.

† b. *transf.* of help, accidents, attainment, etc.

a 1250 *Owl & Night.* 688 Hwenne þe bale is alre hekst, þenne is þe bote alre nest. *c* 1290 *Beket* 1534 in *S. Eng. Leg.*, Ȝwane a man is In mest soruwe and teone, þanne is ore louerdes grace next. 13.. *Cursor M.* 62 (Gött.), He þat wenis stiffest to stand, War him hijs fal is neist at hand. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 108 For whanne I wende next have be,..Thanne was I furthest ate laste. 1551 T. WILSON *Logike* (1580) 35 b, This rule boldeth in causes that are next adjoynyng. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 839 When he is ..next to his mischaunce for his offences and crimes.

c. As complement with verbs of rest or motion.

c 1420 LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 1502 But nat in comparyson to Glose that sat next. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 164 Deide to vs approachis neist. 1579 G. HARVEY *Letter-bk.* (Camden) 153 He put his hand into his pockit and pullid owt .. sutch moony .. as cam next to hande. 1676 HOBBES *Iliad* I. 387 Up you fetch'd Briareus..And set him next to Jove. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 2 ¶ 4 Next to Sir Andrew in the Club-Room sits Captain Sentry. 1782 MISS BURNEY *Cecilia* VIII. vi, [She] drew a chair next to her.

10. Of days, etc.: Immediately following; coming directly after (the time in question).

In Sc. use, as applied to the days of the week, *next* (as in *Friday next*) is contrasted with *first*: see FIRST *a.* 1 h, and cf. the note to 5 above.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3791 For al ðis, oðer day ðor was nest, Agenes moyses and is prest Gan al ðis folc wið wreðe gon. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 19135 Þe toþer dai þat folud neist [*Fairf.* atte was neiste]. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Shipman's T.* 307 The sonday next the marchaund was agoon. 1525 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* II. viii. 18 To morowe next we shall haue a great assaute. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* VI. iii. 11 The morrow next, when day gan to uplooke. 1711 BUDGELL *Spect.* No. 67 ¶ 18 The Collection of Pictures which is to be Exposed to Sale on Friday next. 1818 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) V. 466 Henry would, before the end of Michaelmas term then next, levy a fine. 1850 CARLYLE *Latter-d. Pamph.* iv. 5 We know what France suddenly became in the end of February next.

b. With *after, before, ensuing, to come.*

1386 *Rolls of Parlt.* III. 225/1 Nichol Brembre .. proposed hym the yere next after Johan Northampton Mair of the same Citee. 1424 *Paston Lett.* I. 12 The nyghte next biforne the feste. 1472–3 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 60/1 From the vi*th* day of Aprill next to come. 1474 *Ibid.* 108/2 In the Oeptas of Seint John Baptist next ensuyng the forseid xxi day of Januar'. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 270 b, Beeyng the daye nexte before his death. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) II. 296 So trewis and abstinacie was tane and proclemlt..to the first day of January nixtocum. 1588 A. KING tr. *Canisius' Catech.* G viij b, Ye sonday nixt efter ye 14 change of ye moone.

11. Immediately following (or going *before*) in order or succession.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 6948 Quen aaron was ded, þe priste, His sun eliazar was neist. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 83 And next upon that other side..yit ther is The point seconde. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 1456 Sone sall I neuen 30w þe note þat is next eftir. 1549 *Latimer's 2nd Serm. bef. Edw. VI* To Rdr. (Arb.) 46 Numa Pompilus, who was..created king [of] the Romaynes next after Romulus. 1583 STOCKER *Civ.*

Warres Lowe C. III. 746 As more at large is set downe in the booke next before. 1600 J. Pory tr. *Leo's Africa* III. 165 Next of all are the stables, wherein their horses are marvellous well tended. 1645 Gataker *God's Eye on Israel* 23 As he had spoken of in the verse next heforegoing.

b. As complement with *come* or *follow*.

c 1440 *Generydes* 1940 Nexst after come the kyng of Nicomede. 1533 Gau *Richt Vay* 9 This command followis nixt effter the iii commandis pertenand to god. 1667 Milton *P. L.* I. 446 Thammuz came next behind, Whose annual wound [etc.]. 1884 tr. *Lotze's Logic* 452 The very criterion which follows next in order.

c. *What next?* as an exclamation of surprise.

1838 Shaftesb. *Diary* 19 Oct. in *Life* (1886) I. vi. 237 As old ladies say, What next? 1858 *Punch* XXXIV. 2 Well, I'm sure! What next, I wonder!

12. Nearest in respect of kinship, intimacy, or other such relationship.

c 1307 *Elegy Edw. I*, iii, Helpeth mi sone, and crowneth him newe, For he is nest to buen ycore. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 92 William vnderstode, þat he said reson, & was next of blode. 1382 Wyclif *Numb.* xxvii. 11 The herytage shal be 3eue to hem that ben next to him. *c* 1400 tr. *Secreta Secret., Gov. Lordsh.* 96 Begynne at þe knawynge of þyn owen sawle, þat is nest to þe. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 6950 To serue þe saynt he was neste. 1620 J. Wilkinson *Coroners & Sheriffes* 44 Make your pannels your selfe of such persons as bee most next, most sufficient, and not suspect.

b. Approaching most closely (*to* a person or thing) in rank or excellence; coming immediately *after* (another) in this respect.

1535 Coverdale *Esther* x. 3 Mardocheus the Iewe was the seconde nexte [1611 was next] vnto kynge Ahasuerus. 1578 Cooper *Thesaurus* s.v. *Secundus, A rege secundus*, next in dignitie after the king. 1606 G. W[oodcocke] *Hist. Iustine* xi. 48 Promising to performe all Darius request, if he would acknowledge himselfe as next vnto him. 1628 T. Spencer *Logick* 197 That attribute bordreth next of all to mans particular essence. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Past.* v. 77 At least your lays Are next to his, and claim the second praise. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* iii. I. 335 Next to the capital, but next at an immense distance, stood Bristol. 1860 *Merc. Mar. Mag.* VII. 6 Next to an anemometric scale in value, is the Beaufort.

c. In phr. *next after* (or † *under*), *next to*, used in loose apposition to the person or thing spoken of.

1561 Winjet *First Tract.* Wks. (S.T.S.) I. 13 The weil-fair of thy Maiestie, nixt efter God to vs..maist deirbelouit in erth. 1595 *Drake's Voy.* (Hakl. Soc.) 3 That quiet peace which wee, from the hands of Her Majestie (next under God) abundently enjoy. 1633 Sir J. Burroughs *Sov. Brit. Seas* (1651) 133 Next to the English they are now become the most redoubted Nation at Sea. 1700 S. Parker *Six Philos. Ess.* 53 Physicians, of all people, gather most Money next to the Collectors of the Taxes. 1809 W. Iaving *Knickerb.* III. i. 154 They were never either heard or talked of—which, next to being universally applauded, should be the ambition of all sage magistrates and rulers. 1824 Miss Mitford *Village* Ser. I. (1863) 187 He was, next after Lucy, ..by far the best news-gatherer of the country side. 1880 C. R. Markham *Peruv. Bark* 438 The East Indian source of supply is now the most important next to Colombia.

13. Next to, the nearest approach to; very nearly, almost.

1667 Milton *P. L.* VI. 316 Together both with next to Almighty Arme, Uplifted imminent one stroke they aim'd. 1699 Bentley *Phal.* 140 The very facility and naturalness of every correction will be next to a Demonstration.., that the Observation must needs be true. 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* II. (Globe) 329 It must have been next to miraculous if they had escaped. 1753 Richardson *Grandison* (1811) II. xiii. 152 He loved his father, but next to adored his mother. 1815 W. H. Ireland *Scribbleomania* 198 It was thought next to impossible. 1828 *Life Planter Jamaica* 86 It would therefore, be next to a miracle, if he should detect a single stranger among such a host. 1887 *Times* (weekly ed.) 12 Sept. 7/4 In such circumstances..it would be next to impossible to open the eyes.

b. With following negative.

1656 Tucker in *Misc. Scott. Burgh Rec. Soc.* (1891) 5 They profered at first that which was next to nothing. 1706 E. Ward *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 18 They may cost him next to nothing in the keeping. 1828 Moir *Mansie Wauch* xi. 185 The old flute was for next to no use at all. 1849 Grote *Greece* II. xlviii. (1862) IV. 219 Ships, they had few; trained seamen, yet fewer; wealth, next to none. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 11 Nov. 5/1 In his letter he has contrived, without being defiant, to concede next to nothing.

III. Governing a substantive (orig. in dative).

14. Nearest to (a thing, place, or person) in respect of situation.

c 888 K. Ælfred *Boeth.* xxxix. § 7 Swa swa sio nafu færð neahst bære eaxe. *a* 900 Cynewulf *Crist* 398 [Hy] þringað 3eorne hwylc hyra nehst mæge ussum Nerzende fiihte lacan. *c* 1205 Lay. 24168 Her ich þe 3eue Neustrie nexste mine riche. *a* 1240 *Sawles Warde* in *O. E. Hom.* I. 247 Strengðe stont nest hire. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 7871 Handes on 3our felawes lay, On ilka Breton þat sittes 3ou nest. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xvii. 286 Innocence is nexte god and ny3te and day it crieth. *c* 1480 Henryson *Test. Cres.* 109 His chalmer was thaim neist. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 275 To invade the Emperours countrie next them. 1591 Spenser *Virg. Gnat* 385 There next the vtmost brinck doth he abide. 1615 W. Lawson *Country Housew. Gard.* (1626) 5 Euery soile hath his crust next day wherein trees and hearbs put their roots. 1687 A. Lovell tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 56 All of them..wear Drawers next their Skin. 1722 De Foe *Plague* (1754) 177 A mad Dog..will fly upon and bite any one that comes next him. 1764 Goldsm. *Hist. Eng. in Lett.* (1772) I. 23 All the trading and maritime towns next the continent. 1822 Lama *Elia* Ser. I. *Roast Pig*, Tearing up whole handfuls of the scorched skin with the flesh next it. 1891 *Law Times* XC. 395/1 Placing wooden rails on the side next the glebe land and field stakes..on the side next the plaintiff's field.

b. In phr. *Next* one's *hand*, nearest at hand. *Next* one's *heart* (see Heart *sb.* 4).

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 62 He þat stitthest wenis at stand, Warre hym, his fall is nexst his hand. *a* 1774 Goldsm. *Surv. Exp. Philos.* (1776) I. 212 Suppose I take any thing that is next my hand, a walking cane for instance.

15. Nearest to (a person or thing) in point of rank, condition, character, etc.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 9 Þe man mai he god next, þe him beð iqueme. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 3321 Þe erl aþ tueie men him next, briþthoel & Iordan. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. II. 202 Loue is leche of lyf and nexte oure lorde selue. *c* 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 5 Places ne orderis makun not vs nekist God, but oþer good meritis ioynun to gidir. 1572 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xxxviii. 20 Thy style was Treschristien, maist Cristen King, Baith hiest and friest, and neist the impyre. 1620 T. Granger *Div. Logike* 230 A vehement asseveration, which is next an oath. 1667 Milton *P. L.* I. 79 One next himself in power, and next in crime. 1750 Johnson *Rambler* No. 1 ₱ 9 A degree of solicitude next that of an author.

b. In loose apposition. = 12 c.

a 1340 Hampole *Psalter* cxxxii. 3 In thaim lightis the oynment of the halygaste, neste apostils. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxvii. (*Machor*) 461 For þu nixt god is my fadir. 14.. in *Tundale's Vis.* (1843) 123 Where neest thi son thou hast souerente. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 82 To yᵉ whiche next mekenes and obedyence..we must apply our exercyse. 1568 Grafton *Chron.* II. 287 The thing that in this worlde I loue best, next my wyfe and children. *a* 1631 Donne *Paradoxes* (1652) 86 Avarice is the greatest deadly sin next Pride.

B. *adv.*

† **1.** Last, on the last occasion. *Obs.*

a 900 Cynewulf *Crist* 535 To Hierusalem..þonan hy God nyhst upstizende eazum seʒun. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 125 Seo stow þe Drihten lichomlice nehst on stod her on middanzearde. *a* 1000 *Cædmon's Gen.* 536 (Gr.), Ic wat, hwæt he me self behead..þa ic hine nehst ʒeseah. *c* 1205 Lay. 5037 Non hit is seoue ʒer at þou nexst wer her.

2. In the next place; immediately thereupon or thereafter.

a. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 26138 To quam I sal þe tell here nexist [*Fairf.* nest] þou sal þe scriue. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 50 Bot next above alle othre schewe Of love I wol the propretes. *c* 1450 Holland *Howlat* 378 Next the souerane signe was sekirly sene..The armes of the Dowglass. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* lxxii. 41 Nixt all in purpour thai him cled. 1598 Shaks. *Merry W.* II. ii. 263, I will first make bold with your money: next, giue mee your hand; and last [etc.]. 1649 Milton *Eikon.* 90 First by his..mistrust.., Next by his hatred. 1664 Butler *Hud.* II. ii. 153 Did they not next compell the Nation To take and breake the Protestation? 1766 Goldsm. *Vic. W.* xxv, I next attended the sheriff's officers to the prison. 1828 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* xi. I. 378 She next furnishes it with a store of pollen. 1860 Tyndall *Glac.* I. xi. 76 Our way next lay up a steep incline. 1871 Jowett *Plato* I. 146 Hippias the sage spoke next.

β. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 27148 Sumquat es to sai her nest þat falles to office o preist. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* I. (*Catherine*) 939 Syne þar neste I sall gere turment þe fulfaste. 1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 121 Thanne nest He hath ek foure upon his brest. 1535 Stewart *Cron. Scot.* I. 58 Quhat hound.. bait neist and baid quhill he wes slane. 1721 Ramsay *Prospect of Plenty* 103 A meaner phantom neist..Attacks with senseless fears the weaker head. 1728 — *Archers diverting themselves* 95 Neist, Sir, you name. 1816 Scott *Antiq.* xxv, I wish we may get the light keepit in neist, wi' this fearsome wind.

† b. With *after* or *before*. *Obs.*

1511 *Guylforde's Pilgr.* (Camden) 39 Next after we come to yᵉ hous of Symyonis. 1545 Raynold *Byrth Mankynde* 69 Of ye same..strength with the other pylles spoken of here nexte before. 1562 Winjet *Third Tract.* Wks. (S.T.S.) I. 29 Can ʒe think him in ony vther gre, bot nyxt efter to speir gif Christ be borne?

3. On the first future or subsequent occasion.

1536 Cromwell in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) II. 43 When it shal fortune me next to speke with your lordship. 1542 Udall *Erasm. Apoph.* 238 When he should nexte bee in dooyng sacrifice. 1667 Milton *P. L.* VI. 439 Weapons more violent, when next we meet, May serve to better us. 1742 Richardson *Pamela* III. 60 A few other Alterations ..are to be finished against we go down next. 1782 Cowper *Gilpin* 251 When he next doth ride abroad May I be there to see. 1875 Tennyson *Q. Mary* III. v, When next there comes a missive from the Queen.

4. *Comb.*, as *next-born, -drawn*.

1612 Drayton *Poly-olb.* i. 339 The Oracles gaue out, that next horne Brute should hee His parents onelie death. 1898 Meredith *Odes Fr. Hist.* 10 Such enemies of her next-drawn breath she had.

Next door. [Next *a.* 1.]

1. The (door of the) nearest or adjoining house. Also in *fig.* uses, and sometimes with omission of *the* (cf. 2).

c 1485 *Digby Myst.* (1882) II. 95 Yf on loke yow in the face that neuer se yow ere, Wold thynk ye were at the next dore by. 1548 Udall, etc. *Erasm. Par. Mark* I. 9 A sinner whiche..is at the next door to saluacion. 1628 Earle *Microcosm., Good old man* (Arb.) 89 The next doore of death sads him not, but hee expects it calmely as his turne in Nature. 1634 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* 151 When they goe but to the next doore they doe it riding. 1643 Trapp *Comm. Gen.* xix. 11 As if they were ambitious of destruction, which now was at next door by. 1760–72 H. Brooke *Fool of Qual.* (1809) II. 137 The sweet babies at the next door! 1843 Dickens *Chr. Carol* ii. 59 Trying to hide himself behind the girl from next door but one.

2. In adverbial use († rarely with *the*). a. Very close or near *to* (a state, condition, etc.); almost amounting *to* (something). † Also const. *by*.

1529 More *Dyaloge* 22 b/1 Those vyagys bene but .. the nexte dore to Idoletry. 1542 Udall *Erasm. Apoph.* (1877) 41 He meaneth .. to make a good beginnyng not to bee a little, but to be nexte doore by a little, or nexte cousin to a little. 1628 T. Spencer *Logick* 115 Such a one is next dore to salvation. 1656 [? J. Sergeant] tr. *T. White's Peripat. Inst.* 62 Water..makes the body flaccid and loose, and next door to dissolution. 1699 R. L'Estrange *Erasm. Colloq.* (1725) 202 This same Fawn I perceive is next door to a Fool. 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* II. (Globe) 329 To be next Door to Starving. 1793 Gouv. Morris in Sparks *Life & Writ.* (1832) II. 380 The opera girl, Saunier, who is, though very beautiful, next door to an ideot as to her intellectual gifts. 1822–56 De Quincey *Confess.* (1862) 161 Parliament had not then made it a crime next door to a felony. 1850 Gladstone *Glean.* (1879) II. 69 To speak of a thorough knowledge of Greek as being still next door to a miracle. 1878 Spurgeon *Serm.* XXIV. 713 The idea is next door to blasphemous.

b. In or at the next house (*to* a person or place).

1579 Lyly *Euphues* 131 It is an olde Prouerbe that if one dwell the next doore to a creple he will learne to hault. 1633 G. Herbert *Temple, Praise* iv, A herb destill'd, and drunk, may dwell next doore..To a brave soul. 1669 Sturmy *Mariner's Mag.* c 4 The Cross-daggers in Moor-fields, next door to the Popes Head Tavern. 1738 Swift *Pol. Conversat.* Introd. 8 At his Lodgings next Door to the Gloucester-Head. 1863 Lady Hornby *Constantinople* 107 The Armenian lady next door, to whom the house belongs.

3. *attrib.*, as *next-door neighbour(dom), town*.

1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* IV. xii, Persons who live two or three miles distance in the country are considered as next door neighbours. 1806–7 J. Beresford *Miseries Hum. Life* (1826) VII. iv, A perpetual blister;—alias, a sociable next-door-neighbour. 1859 Mrs. Carlyle *Lett.* II. 394 When he had done with our next-door neighbour. 1882 H. C. Merivale *Faucit of B.* III. II. xix. 154 The arrangements of next-door-neighbourdom were of so casual a kind. 1897 Mary Kingsley *W. Africa* 330 He never eats it himself, but the next-door town does.

† **Ne·xter,** used for Next *a.*, perh. after *yester*.

1576 Gascoigne *Philomene* (Arb.) 111 Al that day, they fede in feare,..And in the nexter night Ful many times do crie, Remembring yet the ruthful plight.

† **Nextfold,** *a. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [Cf. OE. *néahfeald* (rare).] Nearest.

a 1225 *Juliana* 32 Al mi nest falde cun me heaneð þet schulden heon mine freond.

Next hand, *adv.* and *a.* ? *Obs.* [f. Next *a.* + Hand *sb.* Cf. Near- and Nigh-hand.]

A. *adv.* **1.** Nearest or first at hand.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 26087 Grace it es be-for cumand And siþen him folus lune neist hand [*Fairf.* next hand]. 1603 Holland *Plutarch's Mor.* 226 To set our mindes and knit our affections to those that come next hand. *a* 1641 Bp. Mountagu *Acts & Mon.* (1642) 12 Some part of them onely, which came next hand, not the choyce.

2. Nearest or next to (something).

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 9982 Þe fundament þat first es laid Neist-hand þe roche. 13.. *St. Cristofer* 193 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 457 Vnto thi bedde when þou sall gaa Luk þat þou ly nexte-hand þe straa.

B. *adj.* Nearest, closest.

1642 Rogers *Naaman* 147 Wedding our selves to our next hand props of children, wealth, meanes.

Ne·xtly, *adv.* Now *rare*. [f. Next *a.* + -ly².]

1. In the next place; next.

1584 B. R. tr. *Herodotus* 53 To hym the chiefe gouernment of the army was nextly committed. 1616 J. Lane *Contn. Sq. T.* (1888) VI. 121 Nextlie, the kinge and Queene, with sadder eye then whilome wonted, viewd each mutualie. 1620 T. Granger *Div. Logike* 200 Chiefly in Arts where they are most accurately handled; and nextly in artificiall treatises. 1663 Owen *Vind. Animadv.* Wks. 1851 XIV. 444 You add nextly, as my words, 'The eye' [etc.]. 1866 *Punch's Almanack*, The cry of dogs is nextly heard.

† **2.** Most immediately or directly. *Obs.*

1674 N. Fairfax *Bulk & Selv.* Ep. Ded., The Lord of the Soyl holds nextly of the King. 1754 Edwards *Freed. Will* I. i. (1762) 2 The Thing nextly chosen or prefer'd when a man wills to walk.

† **Ne·xtmost,** *a. Obs. rare*⁻¹. = Next *a.*

1576 Gascoigne *Philomene* (Arb.) 114 Hir next most note (to note) I neede no helpe at al.

Ne·xtness. [f. Next *a.*] The fact or condition of immediate succession or proximity.

1875 McClellan *New Test.* 424 [St. Luke] promises to write 'according to nextness' in order, or consecutively. 1875 W. K. Clifford *Lect.* (1879) I. 244 These elements of feeling have relations of nextness or contiguity in space.

† **Nexure.** *Obs. rare.* [ad. med.L. *nexūra* (Du Cange), f. L. *nex-, nectĕre*: see next.] Connexion, combination.

1652 Gaule *Magastrom.* 151 The Series, order, nexure,.. disposition of second causes, &c. 1674 Petty *Disc. Dupl. Proportion* A 5 An intelligible Account of the Nexures, Mixtures, and Mobilities of all the parts of the Universe.

‖ **Nexus** (ne·ksŭs). [L. *nexus*, pl. *nexūs*, f. *nex-, nectĕre* to bind, connect.]

1. A bond or link; a means of connexion between things or parts.

1663 Boyle *Usef. Exp. Nat. Philos.* II. 241 Changing the Motion and *nexus* or Juncture of their parts. 1709 *Brit. Apollo* No. 34. 2/1 What is the Nexus of Matter? 1776 J. Adams in Sparks *Corr. Amer. Rev.* (1853) I. 113 It is the *nexus* of the northern and southern colonies. 1839 Carlyle *Chartism* vi. 149 Cash Payment had not then grown to be the universal sole nexus of man to man. 1877 E. Caird *Philos. Kant* I. 158 The nexus of cause and effect is not given in sensitive experience.

b. *Causal nexus*, the necessary connexion between cause and effect.

1836–7 Sir W. Hamilton *Metaph.* xxxix. (1859) II. 394 The phænomenon of necessity in our notion of the causal nexus. 1874 W. Wallace *Hegel's Logic* § 42. 75 The causal nexus between the two is..only evident to thought.

2. A connected group or series.

1858 Bigh *Anc. Pottery* II. 359 The letters are often united in nexus or ligatures. 1882 *N. Eng. Hist. & Gen. Reg.* XXXVI. 178 The constabulary office belongs to a nexus of court institutions..of immemorial antiquity.

Ney, variant of Noy *v.*

†**Neyard.** *Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. (See quot.)

1577 B. Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* III. (1586) 125 b, Those that are gotten betwixt a Horse and an Asse in olde time, were called Neyards.

†**Ney-beer.** *Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. (See quot.)

1574 R. Scot *Hop Gard.* (1578) 54 Experience hath taught them..to seeth them againe in the Woorte, which they call the Ney beere.

Neyce, obs. f. Niece. **Neych(e,** obs. vart. Nigh *v.* **Neyder, -dyr,** obs. ff. Neither. **Neydlingis,** var. Needlings *Obs.*

†**Neye,** obs. form of Eye. (Also *pl.* **nies.**)

1641 Brome *Joviall Crew* II. Wks. 1873 III. 390 The pretty pretty pink Of her Neyes, that half wink. 1679 Dryden *Troil. & Cress.* III. ii, Do you lear indeed at one an other! do the Neyes twinkle at him! 1704 Steele *Lying Lover* v, Till its pretty Nies be all blubber'd.

Neye, obs. f. Neigh *v.*, Nigh, Nye. **Neyen, -þe,** obs. ff. Nine, Ninth. **Neyf,** obs. f. Neif, Nieve. **Neyger:** see Negre. **Neyghe, neyȝe,** obs. ff. Neigh *v.*, Nine. **Neyghebur,** etc., obs. f. Neighbour. **Neyh(e,** obs. ff. Neigh *v.*, Nigh. **Ney(h)lechen:** see Nehleche.

†**Neyle,** *v. Obs. rare.* In 4 neȝle, neyhle, neyȝhele. [f. *neȝ-* Nigh *a.* Cf. MLG. *nâlen, nêlen* (MDa. *nâle, naale,* MSw. *nâla*).] *intr.* To come near, approach.

1340 *Ayenb.* 105 Þe zaule..more propirliche neȝleþ to his riȝte uayrhede of his kende. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl.* C xx. 58 He fleih a-syde, And wolde nat neyhle hym by nyne londes lengthe.

Neyn(e, Neynþe, obs. ff. Nine, Ninth.

†**Neypur,** obs. variant of Neighbour.

a 1500 *Ten Commandm.* in Herrig *Archiv* LXXXV. 46 Covett þow not thy neypurs good. *Ibid.,* Thow shalt not desyre thy neypurys fere.

Neys(e, obs. ff. Nese, Nesh. **Neysch(e, neyshe,** etc., obs. ff. Nesh. **Neyst,** dial. var. Next. **Neyt,** obs. f. Ait. **Neyte,** obs. f. Neat *sb.* **Neyþer,** obs. f. Neither. **Neyuen,** obs. f. Neven. **Neyuer,** obs. f. Never. **Neywat,** var. of Nighwhat. **Neȝt:** see Net *a.*^{2}

†**Ngou,** obs. variant of Gnu.

1802 *Sporting Mag.* XX. 141 The n'gou and koudou are also inhabitants of Caffraria.

Nhabbe, see Hab *adv.* 1 (quot. 1542). **Nhandu,** var. of Nandu. **Ni,** obs. var. Ne *adv.*

Niagara (nəi,æ·gărä). [The name of a N. American river, flowing from Lake Erie into Lake Ontario, on which there is a famous waterfall.]

1. A cataract, torrent, deluge.

1861 T. L. Peacock *Gryll Gr.* xiv, That Niagara of sound under which it is now the fashion to bury it. 1872 Ruskin *Fors Clav.* (1896) I. xxiv. 492 Phlegethon falls into the abyss in a Niagara of blood. 1894 *Westm. Gaz.* 13 June 3/2 There is a deluge,..a very Niagara of concerts.

2. *U. S.* (See quot.)

1864 Sala in *Daily Tel.* 10 June, One of her 'Niagaras' or 'cataract curls'—the name given to the shower of true or false ringlets the ladies are in the habit of wearing at the backs of their heads.

Hence **Niagara** *v., intr.* to pour in a deluge. (In quot. stressed *niaga·ra.*) Also **Niaga·rean, Niaga·rian** *adjs.,* resembling Niagara.

1799 Southey *St. Gualberto* xxii, The fountain streams.. Had niagara'd o'er the quadrangle. 1835 *Court Mag.* VI. 242/2 Retribution rushed upon me fiercely like a Niagarean torrent. 1839 Reynolds *Pickw. Abroad* lvi, A Niagarian fall of tears, and a Vesuvian eruption of sighs. 1882 J. G. Holyoake in *19th Cent.* July 95 The Niagarian flood of denunciation which was poured out.

Niaise, obs. form of Nyas.

‖ **Niaiserie** (ni,ēi·zĕri). Also 7 **-ery.** [F. *niaiserie,* f. *niais(e* simple, foolish.] Simplicity; foolishness; an instance of this.

1657 J. Sergeant *Schism Dispach't* To Rdr. A iv b, The one makes his advantage from *niaisery* and shyness, the other from boldness. 1697 — *Solid Philos.* a 6 Out of Niaiserie and Shamefastness. 1832 *Philol. Mus.* I. 651 As if a universal deluge of niaiserie..had whelmed the island. 1851 *Fraser's Mag.* XLIV. 632 The recollection of the little niaiseries of style in which he indulged..has vanished.

Nias(se, obs. forms of Nyas.

Niata (niā·tă). [From some S. American language.] An abnormally small variety of cattle, found in South America. Also *attrib.*

1868 Darwin *Anim. & Pl.* I. iii. 90 A niata bull and cow invariably produce niata calves. 1872 — *Orig. Spec.* vii. (ed. 6) 177 At these times the Nintas perish, if not fed by their owners. 1879 tr. *De Quatrefages' Hum. Spec.* 71 The niata will unite indifferently in both senses with the ordinary ox.

Hence **Ni·atism,** a change or tendency towards a dwarfed condition in cattle or other animals.

1895 *Funk's Stand. Dict.*

Niatt, obs. form of Neat *sb.*

Nib (nib), *sb.*^{1} Also 7–8 **nibb.** [Corresponds in form and meaning to Fris. *nib,* MDu. *nib* (*nyb*), MLG. and MDa. *nibbe,* Norw. *nibba, nibb(e,* but is perh. only a later spelling of Neb *sb.*; in Sc. dial. the vowel is indistinct and there is no real difference in pronunciation between *neb* and *nib.*]

1. The beak or bill of a bird; the proboscis of an insect; the nose of a person. =Neb *sb.* 1, 2.

For Sc. examples (18–19th cent.) see *Eng. Dial. Dict.*

1585 Higins tr. *Junius' Nomencl.* 53 *Rostrum,* the bill, beake or nib. 1658 Rowland tr. *Mouffet's Theat. Ins.* 1090 Their nib is sharper, they bite more, and tickle lesse. 1676 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1076/2 Their Claws were like those of Indian Hens, Nibs crooked like Parrots.

2. The point of a pen. =Neb 3.

1611 Middleton & Dekker *Roaring Girl* III. ii, Let not you and I be tost On Lawiers pens; they haue sharpe nibs. 1676 Moxon *Print Letters* 9 Its Nib strikes a Lean stroke. 1786 [see Pen *sb.*^{1} 4]. 1795 Wolcot (P. Pindar) *Convention Bill* Wks. 1812 III. 376 The pen That with its lever nib of brass Tries from his power to heave Dundas. 1829 Mrs. Trollope in *Friendships Miss Mitford* (1882) I. vii. 193 Had I but the tenth of an inch of the nib of your pen, what pictures I might draw. 1865 *Chambers's Encycl.* VII. 368/1 Fitting small metal or even ruby points to the nib of the quill-pen. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1656/2 A pen with a broad flat nib made for marking packages.

b. A separate pen-point, now usually made of steel, intended for fitting into a pen-holder.

1837 Whittock, etc. *Compl. Bk. Trades* (1842) 373 Steel nibs. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVII. 397/2 A few words upon the manufacture of 'quill nibs'. 1853 Ure *Dict. Arts* (ed. 4) II. 367 Another class of workers who..make it concave, if a nib, and form the barrel, if a barrel pen. 1899 *N. & Q.* 9th Ser. III. 365 Nowadays nearly all ask for 'nibs' when they require pens.

c. Each of the divisions of a pen-point.

1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVII. 398/2 Pens made of gold with a small ruby at each nib seem to be perfect. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1525/1 Pens have usually two nibs, but Perry's have three.

3. The point of anything; a peak, tip, projecting part, or pointed extremity. =Neb *sb.* 3 b.

1713 Derham *Phys.-Theol.* x. *note,* Travellers cut the Nib off it, and presently a Spout of Water runs out from it, as clear as Crystal. 1788 Smeaton in *Phil. Trans.* LXXIX. 4 Its inside surface is made to agree with that of the horizon by means of a small thin nib of brass. 1826 in Hone *Every-day Bk.* (1827) II. 691 The nib of a jockey's cap. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1525/1 *Nib,..*2 A separate adjustable limb of a permutation key. *Ibid., Nib,..*4 The point of a crow-bar. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 413/1 There will also be a little swelling on the other end of the [spoon] handle, called the 'nib'.

†**b.** =Neb *sb.* 3 c. *Obs. rare*$^{-1}$.

a 1720 Lisle *Husb.* (1752) 115 The outward part of the nib..sends forth the root.

4. *dial.* **a.** *pl.* The two short handles projecting from the shaft or sned of a scythe.

1673 *Col. Rec. Plymouth* (1856) V. 132 One gun, and one pair of old wheels, and one sythe & nibbs 01–00–00. [1703 *Providence Rec.* (1894) VI. 226 Two sithes, sneds, nebbs, & Rings.] 1843 *Rickardson's Historian's Table-bk., Leg. Div.* I. 213 A rest on the nibs, after sharping, was occasionally allowed [to the mower]. 1854– in many dial. gloss. (Yks., Nhp., Worc., Glouc., Wilts., etc.). 1894 *Northumbld. Gloss.* s.v. *Scythe,* The handles projecting from the sned are called nibs.

b. The pole or draught-tree of an ox-cart or timber-carriage.

1808 *Beverley Lighting Act* 18 If any person..shall draw any timber..through any of the aforesaid streets..without any nib or carriage. 1886 Elworthy *W. Som. Word-bk.* 509 Two very high wheels, having an arched axle between them, with the nib proper projecting at right angles to it.

5. *pl.* The small pieces into which cocoa-beans are reduced by crushing.

1842 *Penny Cycl.* XXIV. 313/2 The simplest and best form is that of the seeds roughly crushed, termed cocoa-nibs. 1862 *Chamb. Encycl.* III. 108/2 When C[ocoa] nibs are infused with water like coffee, they yield a highly palatable beverage. 1878 *Encycl. Brit.* VI. 102/1 The seeds are reduced to the form of nibs, which are separated from the shells or husks by the action of a powerful fan blast.

6. A lump or knot in wool or raw silk.

1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 378/2 Large quantities of this noil are exported to the Continent, where the.. machinery is better adapted to card and open out the small nibs which it contains. 1887 *Encycl. Brit.* XXII. 62/1 The silk..passes through a slit which is sufficiently wide to pass the filament but stops the motion when a thick lump or nib is presented.

†**Nib,** *sb.*^{2} *Obs. rare.* [See quots.]

a 1653 Gouge *Comm. Heb.* iv. 13 They who..grow not..in knowledge, may well be accounted babes, or young novices, or fresh-men (as they say in Schools), or nibs, or pages. [1886 Willis & Clark *Cambridge* III. 304 In King's College, Cambridge,..every new scholar being, on his arrival, looked after by an older one (his 'chum'), who was responsible for his 'nib's' strict observance of all college discipline.]

Nib, *sb.*^{3} *slang.* A gentleman.

1812 J. H. Vaux *Flash Dict., Nib,* a gentleman or person of the higher order. 1834 H. Ainsworth *Rookwood* III. v. (1878) 189 He's a rank nib.

Hence **Ni·blike** *a.,* **Ni·bsome** *a.*

1834 H. Ainsworth *Rookwood* III. v, All my togs were so niblike and splash. 1839 Reynolds *Pickw. Abroad* xxvi. 224 Betray his pals in a nibsome game.

Nib, *v.*^{1} *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Also 6 **knib.** [App. related to Nibble *v.*; connexion with Nib *sb.*^{1} is doubtful. Sense 4 may be a different word.]

†**1.** *trans.* To peck, pick, prick. Also *fig. Obs.*

1558 W. Forrest *Grysilde Seconde* 81 Theye nybbed Christes faithe after their pleasure. 1575 Turberv. *Faulconrie* 360 Yee shall discerne the crampgout by your hawkes holding of hir one foote upon the other, and by hir often knibbing and iobbing of hir foote with hir beake. 1645 T. Hill *Olive Branch* (1648) 20 Conscience nibs thee, follows and dogs thee from place to place.

2. *intr.* and *trans.* To nibble. Now *dial.*

1613 Dennis *Secrets Angling* I. xiv, When the Fish begins to nib and byte. 1720 *Humourist* 183, I had kept the Neat's Tongue..and every now and then I nibb'd a Bit on't. 1876 *Mid-Yorksh. Gloss., Nib,* to nibble. 1888 *Cornh. Mag.* Nov. 530 You has to let 'em [geese] nib by the road.

†**3.** *intr.* To pick or pluck, in order to loosen.

1659 C. Noble *Inexpediency of Exped.* 15 That makes their fingers so busie, and to nib so about the Knot that ties up and is the very Bond of our Peace.

4. *slang.* To nab, to catch.

1775 in Farmer *Musa Pedestris* (1896) 54 For nibbing culls I always hate. 1812 J. H. Vaux *Flash Dict., Nibb'd,* taken in custody. 1870 Robson *Evangeline* 357 (E.D.D.), Up stackered Larty for a blaw, Fair on Ham's jug'lar nibb'd him.

Nib, *v.*^{2} Also 9 **knib.** [f. Nib *sb.*^{1}] *trans.* To adapt the point of (a pen) for writing; to mend the nib of.

1757 Mrs. Griffith *Lett. Henry & Frances* (1767) IV. 28 Come, spread your Paper, sharpen your Wit, nib your Pen, and away with it. 1822 Praed *Lillian* Poems 1866 I. 73, I drink my coffee and nib my quill. 1865 G. M. Craik *Winifred's Wooing* (1879) 85 [He] was..mending a pen for himself, and nibbing it with critical exactness.

transf. 1850 J. Hamilton *Mem. Lady Colquhoun* iv. 134 It would be easy for an ordinary critic to..nib into a sharper paradox the pungent aphorism. 1885 Meredith *Diana* i, The sentence wants more working to line the thought; or, if you will, the thought to nib expression.

Nibbed (nibd), *ppl. a.* [f. Nib *sb.*^{1} + -ed^{2}; cf. MDu. *genybt,* LG. *-nibbd,* MDa. *nibbet.*] Having a nib or point. Also *hard-, long-nibbed,* etc.

1677 Miège *Gt. Fr. Dict.* II. s.v., A hard nibbed pen. 1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* I. 55 *Nibbed-Hooks* are of iron, used to hang the yarn on. 1829 Hogg *Sheph. Cal.* I. 20 He had a large lang-nibbit staff in his hand. 1858 Mrs. Oliphant *Laird of Norlaw* I. 215 It was a new pen, sharply nibbed, such as the minister loved.

Nibber (ni·bəɹ). *rare*$^{-1}$. [f. Nib *v.*^{2} + -er^{1}.] An instrument for nibbing or pointing a pen.

1886 *Athenæum* 31 July 138/2 A description [is added] of the pen or reed itself, the penknife and the nibber, the ruler, the ink, and the inkstand.

Nibble, obs. or dial. variant of Nipple.

Nibble (ni·b'l), *sb.* [f. the vb.]

1. The act or fact of nibbling; an instance of this, esp. on the part of a fish at a bait.

1658 Rowland tr. *Mouffet's Theat. Ins.* 1102 They seek for the most tender places, and will not attempt the harder places with their nibble. 1820 W. Irving *Sketch Bk.* I. 61 [To] fish all day..though he should not be encouraged by a single nibble. 1867 F. Francis *Angling* iii. (1880) 51 When you see a nibble do not be in a hurry.

fig. 1837 Ht. Martineau *Soc. Amer.* II. 114 To prevent any escape by a nibble in this circle. 1853 R. S. Surtees *Sponge's Sp. Tour* (1893) 21 The ladies, to do them justice, are never at all suspicious about men—especially men on the 'nibble'.

2. A quantity (of grass) sufficient for a nibble.

1838 Fr. A. Kemble *Resid. in Georgia* (1863) 46 The sheep perambulate also, in earnest search of a nibble of fresh herbage. 1860 Mrs. Gaskell *Sylvia's Lovers* xii, There'll niver be a nibble o' grass to be seen this two month.

b. Pasturage, grass. Cf. Bite *sb.* 2 b.

1875 Blackmore *Alice Lorraine* III. v. 67 The moss had come over the herbage, and the sweet nibble of the sheep was souring.

Nibble (ni·b'l), *v.* Also 5 **nebyll,** 6 *Sc.* **nybbill,** 6–7 **(g)nible.** [Corresponds in form and meaning to LG. *nibbelen,* also *gnibbelen, knibbelen,* =Du. *knibbelen* 'rodere, mussitare, altercari' (Kilian), app. an ablant-variant of *knabbelen,* Knabble *v.* The immediate source in Eng. is not clear.]

1. *trans.* To take little bites of (a thing), to bite away little by little.

1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* xxxiii. 93 Thay nybbillit him with noyis and cry. 1548 Elyot, *Derodo,* to gnawe or gnibble. 1591 Spenser *Virg. Gnat* 80 Some, clambring..Nibble the bushie shrubs. 1649 G. Daniel *Trinarch., Hen. IV,* ccxlviii, Like a Spring-taught Snayle, Was craluing to haue Nibbled the fresh leafe. 1712 Steele *Spect* No. 431 ¶ 3, I then nibbled all the red Wax of our last Ball-Tickets. 1756–7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) I. 68 One sees the trouts and other fish..nibbling the calves and ox livers with which they are fed. 1817 Keats *Sleep & Poetry* 254 All tenderest birds there..Nibble the little cupped flowers. 1865 Knight *Passages Work. Life* III. iii. 56, I look upon the downs where flocks are peacefully nibbling the thymy grass. 1871 Darwin *Desc. Man* I. iii. 75 Horses nibble, and cows lick, each other on any spot which itches.

transf. c 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xxx. 537 The meyn shalle ye nebyll, And I shalle syng the trebill. 1847 L. Hunt *Men, Women, & Bks.* I. ix. 162 [He] would nibble you the beginnings of half the odes of his favourite poet.

b. With complement: To strip *from,* take *off* or *away,* make *bare,* by means of little bites.

1602 Marston *Antonio's Rev.* Prol., Snarling gusts nibble the juyceles leaves From the nak't shuddring branch. 1617 Middleton & Rowley *Fair Quarrel* v. i, All my baits nibbled off, And not the fish caught. 1796 H. Hunter tr. *St.-Pierre's Stud. Nat.* (1799) I. 591 They frequently nibble away the bait without touching the book. 1867 Trollope *Chron. Barset* I. xxxvii. 321 [He] nibbled off the end of a cigar, preparatory to lighting it. 1887 T. Hardy *Woodlanders* vii, The bases of the smaller trees were nibbled bare by rabbits.

c. To bring *into* (some state or form) by this means. Also *fig.*

1837 Syd. Smith *Wks.* (1859) II. 280/2 If the Foreign Secretary were to retire, we should no longer be nibbling ourselves into disgrace on the coast of Spain. 1849 R. Cuᴢon *Monast. Levant* viii. 100 The paint brush is made by chewing the end of a reed till it is reduced to filaments and then nibbling it into a proper form.

d. In lens-making: (see Nibbling *vbl. sb.* 2).

2. *intr.* To take little bites; to eat or feed in this fashion. † Also const. *on, with.*

1582 Stanyhurst *Æneis* Ded. (Arb.) 3 Not onlye by gnibling vpon thee outward ryne of a..historie, but also by groaping thee pyth. 1643 Milton *Divorce* Introd., Wks. 1851 IV. 7 To let them play and nibble with the bait a while. 1678 Dryden *All for Love* Pref., Ess. (ed. Ker) I. 193 Sucking critics, who would fain be nibbling ere their teeth are come. 1746 Smollett *Reproof* 216 Th' unnumber'd shoals of smaller fry, That nibble round, I pity and defy. 1794 Cowper *Needless Alarm* 38 Some [sheep] with soft bosom pressed The herb as soft, while nibbling strayed the rest. 1867 F. Francis *Angling* iii. 64 He cannot make up his mind to leave it, so he nibbles, and nibbles. 1878 A. H. Marknam *Gt. Frozen Sea* ii. 28 The 'wily cod'..could not even be induced to 'nibble'.

b. Const. *at* (a thing). Also in *fig.* contexts.

1630 Dekker *2nd Pt. Honest Wh.* I. i, His teeth water to be nibbling at my gold. 1660 Pepys *Diary* 4 Nov., Mr. Mills did begin to nibble at the Common Prayer, by saying 'Glory be to the Father'. 1700 C. Nesse *Antid. Armin.* (1827) 134 The seed of the serpent may nibble at the heels of the seed of the woman. 1873 Earle *Philol. Eng. Tongue* § 359 Latin scholarship was, however, continually nibbling away at these monuments of the French reign. 1877 M. M. Grant *Sun-Maid* viii, Nibbling at the sprouting edges of the path.

c. To carp (*at* something), to make trifling objections or criticisms.

a 1591 H. Smith *Serm.* (1592) 34 She will be nibling at his praier, and at his studie, and at his meditations, till she haue tyred his deuotions. 1641 Milton *Reform.* II. Wks. 1851 III. 52, I need not say to nibble, but openly to argue against the King's Supremacie. 1699 Bentley *Phal.* 29 He will nibble at some Passages of this Section, to shew his own great Wit. 1719 J. Welwood *Pref. to Rowe's Lucan* 41 To humour the deprav'd taste of the Age, by nibbling at Scripture, or depreciating things in themselves Sacred. 1788 Cowper *Priv. Corr.* (1824) II. 143, I think I can give you an honest answer to your question, and without the least wish to nibble. 1824 Byron *Juan* XVI. v, Who nibble, scribble, quibble, be Quiets at once with 'quia impossibile'. 1857 Swinburne *Ess. & Stud.* (1875) 162 The small troubles of spirits that nibble and quibble about beliefs living or dead. 1878 E. White *Life in Christ* (ed. 3) Pref. 4 Reviewers have nibbled at phrases and special criticisms, but have avoided the principal questions.

†**3.** *intr.* To fidget or play *with* the fingers. (Also said of the fingers.) *Obs. rare.*

1570 Levins *Manip.* 113/25 To Nibble with the fingers, *gesticulari.* 1573 Baret *Alv.* s. v., To nibble with the fingers, as vnmanerly boyes do with their pointes when they are spoken to. 1577 Stanyhurst *Descr. Irel.* in *Holinshed* VI. 32 His fingers began to nibble, his teeth to grin.

b. *trans.* To fidget or play with (a thing).

1829 Hogg *Sheph. Cal.* vii, The hem of her jerkin, which she was nibbling with her hands.

4. *slang.* To catch, nab; to pilfer.

1608 Middleton *Trick to catch Old One* I. iv, The Rongue has spied me now, hee nibled me finely once, too. 1812 J. H. Vaux *Flash Dict., Nibble,* to pilfer trifling articles, not having spirit to touch any thing of consequence. 1843 Moncrieff *Scamps of London* III. i, You are spliced—nibbled at last—well, I wish you joy. 1851 D. Jerrold *St. Giles* viii, A nice job I've had to nibble him.

Nibbler (ni·blər). [f. prec. + -er 1.]

1. One who or that which nibbles, in various senses of the vb.

1598 Florio, *Rosicara,* a mouse, a rat, a nibbler. 1599 Shaks., etc. *Pass. Pilgr.* iv, The tender nibler would not touch the bait. 1674 Hickman *Quinquart. Hist.* (ed. 2) 21 There is a late nibler at this Learned Doctor. *a* 1717 Parnell *Battle of Frogs & Mice* III. 169 Then earth's inhabitants, the nibblers, shake. 1759 Warburton *Lett. to Hurd* CXXX. (1809) 286 These are nibblers at the outside. 1800 Hurdis *Fav. Village* 195 Rich furze, erewhile By the last fleecy nibbler neatly trimmed. 1812 J. H. Vaux *Flash Dict., Nibbler,* a pilferer or petty thief. 1867 F. Francis *Angling* iii. 60 Although somewhat of a nibbler,..the bream will almost always take the bait in the end.

2. *U. S.* The Blue Perch (*Ctenolabrus adspersus*).

1859 Bartlett *Dict. Amer.* s.v. *Burgall,* Other names.. are Nibbler, from its nibbling off the bait when thrown for other fishes, Blue Perch and Conner.

Nibbling (ni·blin), *vbl. sb.* [f. as prec. + -ing 1.]

1. The action of the verb, in various senses; an instance of this; a portion nibbled.

1590 Nashe *Pasquil's Apol.* I. A iv b, I tooke another nybling like a Minew about Bezaes Icones. 1672 H. More *Brief Reply* 46 There are some little nibblings and quibblings at my Transition which concludes this first Chapter. 1707 J. Stevens tr. *Quevedo's Com. Wks.* (1709) 327 All this is but nibling of Fleas. 1738 *The Briton Described* 49 All the Nibblings in the World shall never be able to devour the Immortality of a Name. 1813 Sir R. Wilson *Priv. Diary* (1862) I. 271 The promise of the Turkish nibblings being restored to Moldavia. 1893 Selous *Trav. S. E. Africa* 17 Mere surface nibblings.

2. *techn.* The gradual removal of small portions from the edge of a piece of glass, to reduce it to a circular form before it is ground for a lens.

1850 Holtzapffel *Turning* III. 1265 The process which is called shanking or nibbling is continued until the glasses are made circular.

Nibbling (ni·blin), *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ing 2.]

1. That nibbles or takes little bites.

1602 Middleton *Blurt, Master-Constable* IV. ii, The nibbling mouse is not asleep. 1624 Quarles *Sion's Elegies* iii. 18 The treach'rous Angler strikes his nibbling pray. 1713 C'tess Winchilsea *Misc. Poems* 292 When nibbling Sheep at large pursue their Food. 1762 Beattie *Pigm. & Cranes* 156 Careless of nibbling bills. 1799 Southey *Filbert,* The mouse Gnawing with nibbling tooth the shell's defence. 1819 Worosw. *Waggoner* II. 138 You might have heard a nibbling mouse. 1868 Morris *Earthly Par.* (1870) I. i. 164 Nor took [he] heed Of how the nibbling dace might feed Upon the loose ends of his bait.

transf. 1823 Lamb *Elia* Ser. II. *Old Margate Hoy,* The nibbling pickpockets of your patience.

b. (See quot.)

1889 G. Findlay *Eng. Railway* 112 An interesting feature of this shop is the 'nibbling machine', designed for cutting out the 'throws' in the cranks.

2. Carping, captious.

1696 tr. *Du Mont's Voy. Levant* Pref. 5, I cou'd easily dispatch such nibbling Criticks. 1711 Hearne *Collect.* (O. H. S.) III. 253, I say nothing about the nibling Criticks. 1887 H. Morley *Introd. T. L. Peacock's Crotchet C.* 8 The nibbling censure of the men whose wit is tainted with ill-humour.

3. Produced by nibbling.

1824 Byron *Juan* XVI. XX, A mouse Whose little nibbling rustle will embarrass Most people.

Hence **Ni·bblingly** *adv.*

1847 in Webster; hence in later Dicts.

Ni·bby, *sb. Sc.* [f. Nib *sb.*1 3.] A staff with a hook at the end. Also *nibby staff.*

1812 Glass *Cal. Parnassus* 53 (E.D.D.), By help o' their nibbies they fittet it weel. 1866 Carlyle *Remin.* (1881) II. 260 Leaning on her nibby staff (a fine hazel, cut and polished from the Drumlanrig woods). 1886 J. Russell *Remin. Yarrow* vi. 170 Two or three shepherds..had to use their nibbies unmercifully.

Ni·bby, *a. rare*−1. [f. Nib *sb.*1 6.] Of wool, etc.: Full of nibs or knots.

1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 378/2 The 'noil'..is valuable to the woollen cloth-maker.., but it is often very nibby and difficult to card.

Ni·blick. [Of obscure formation.] A golf club having a small, round, heavy head, used when some force is necessary to take the ball out of a bad lie.

1862 *Rambling Rem. Golf* 18 The Niblick, or Track-Iron, is of very important service when the ball lies in a narrow cart-rut. *Ibid.,* The faces..of the spoons, sand-iron, and niblick are hollowed or 'spooned'. 1894 Black *Highl. Cousins* I. 35, I smashed my iron niblick clean in two.

Nib-nib, variant of Neb-neb.

Nibs. *slang.* [Origin obscure.] = Nabs.

1821 D. Haggart *Life* Gloss. 172. 1903 A. Adams *Log Cowboy* xxi. 333 Just to show his royal nibs that he's been thoughtless.

‖ **Nibung** (nĭ·bʊŋ). Also nibong. [Malay نِيبُغ *nībung.*] A Malayan species of palm.

1866 *Treas. Bot.* 813/1 *O[ncosperma] filamentosa,* the Nibung or Nibong of the Malays, is a very elegant palm [etc.]. 1883 Mrs. Bishop in *Leisure Hour* 23/1 The *nibong,* a species of stemless palm, of which the poorer natives make their houses, and whose..fronds are often from twenty to twenty-two feet in length.

Nicæan (nəisĭ·ăn), *a.* and *sb.* [f. *Nicæ-a* (see Nicene) + -an.] = Nicene *a.* and *sb.*

1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Nicean* or *Nicene,* belonging to that City. 1834 *Penny Cycl.* II. 341/1 Eusebianism was .. as victorious in the east as the Nicæan Creed was .. in the west. 1860 *Chamb. Encycl.* I. 403/2 Morally the victory was leaning to the side of the Nicæans.

Nicampoop, obs. form of Ninnyhammer.

Nicaragua (nikăræ·giuă). Also 8 nicar-, nicorago, 9 -guar. [The name of a republic in Central America.] *Nicaragua wood,* a red dye-wood similar to Brazil wood, obtained from some species of *Cæsalpinia*; peach-wood.

1703 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3891/3 Nicaragua and Mohogony Wood. 1708 *Ibid.* No. 4408/4 A Parcel of Nicorago Wood. 1725 Sloane *Jamaica* II. 184 Nicaragua-Wood. This wood is almost as red, and as heavy as the true Brasile. 1756 P. Browne *Jamaica* (1789) 17 There are large quantities of logwood, nicarago, and..dry goods and bullion exported from thence. 1809 R. Langford *Introd. Trade* 138 Our returns are..nicaragua wood,..hides, &c. 1845 *Encycl. Metrop.* XIX. 789/1 Its chief products are .. turpentine, liquid amber, and Nicaragua wood. 1858 Homans *Cycl. Comm.* 1443/1 Nicaragua, or peach-woods, differ greatly in their quality as well as price.

†**Niccanee.** *Obs.* Also nica-. [Origin obscure.] Some kind of piece-goods formerly imported from India.

1712 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5051/3 Nillaes, Niccanees, Photnes. 1725 *Ibid.* No. 6388/2 The following Goods, viz...Bejutapants, Chelloes, Lemanees, Nicanees large, Nicanees small. 1727 W. Matner *Yng. Man's Comp.* 411 Coral, Callicoes, Niccanees, Clouts [etc.]. 1788 Clarkson *Impol. Slave Tr.* 104 In the second class may be reckoned..Callicoes, Cushtaes, Chintz, Chelloes, Nicamees [*sic*], Negampants.

Ni·ccolic, *a. rare.* [f. mod.L. *niccol-um* Nickel.] Of nickel (see -ic 1 b).

1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 886 The niccolic suroxide has a dirty pale green colour. 1857 Mayne *Expos. Lex.* 765/2 Double salts produced by the combination of a niccolic with an ammonic salt.

Niccoliferous, variant of Nickeliferous.

Niccolite (ni·kŏləit). *Min.* [f. mod.L. *niccol-um* Nickel + -ite 1 4.] Native arsenide of nickel; copper-nickel, nickeline.

1868 Dana *Syst. Min.* (ed. 5) 61 The name..should be written Niccoline, or better Niccolite, in place of Beudant's Nickeline. 1892 *Geol. Survey Canada* V. II. 45 R, Niccolite .., when pure, contains in one hundred parts 44·1 of nickel and 55·9 of arsenic.

Niccolo, variant of Nicolo.

Ni·ccolous, *a. rare*−1. [f. mod.L. *niccol-um* Nickel.] Of nickel (see -ous c).

1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 886 The niccolous suroxide of Berzelius is black.

Nice, obs. form of Niche, Niece.

†**Nice,** *sb. Obs. rare.* [f. next.] A foolish or simple person; a fool.

c 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 14420 After Malgo, Carice þei ches, A nyce þat louede no pes. 1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 285 That wol with ydel hand reclame His hauk, as many a nyce doth. *c* 1430 *Hymns Virgin* 42 Out of þe wey y wole him lede, And make of him boþe fool and nyce.

Nice (nəis), *a.* Forms: 3–7 nyce, (4 nycy), 4–5 nys, 4–6 (8 *Sc.*) nyse, 4–6 nise, 5 neys, 6 niece, *Sc.* nyss, 7 nics, 9 *dial.* nist(e, nyst(e, 3– nice. [a. OF. *nice, nicke* (now only dial.) = Prov. *nesci,* Catal. *neci,* Sp., Pg. *necio,* Pg., It. *nescio* :—L. *nescius*: see Nescious *a.*]

The precise development of the very divergent senses which this word has acquired in English is not altogether clear. In many examples from the 16th and 17th centuries it is difficult to say in what particular sense the writer intended it to be taken.

†**1.** Foolish, stupid, senseless. *Obs.* (Common in 14th and 15th c.) a. Of persons.

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 476/493 And bot ich þe [seide] hou heo heold mi lif, for-soþe ich were nice. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerme* 491 Now witterly ich am vn-wis & wonderliche nyce. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 23 He made þe lady so mad and so nyce þat sche worschipped hym as þe grettest prophete of God Almyȝty. *c* 1450 Lovelich *Grail* xlii. 73 They seiden he was a fool..and that they sien neuere so nise a man. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* xxxix. 35 Quha that dois deidis of petie .. Is haldin a fule, and that full nyce. *c* 1557 Abp. Parker *Ps.* xlix. 141 As well the wyse as mad and nyse to others leave theyr port.

b. Of actions, etc.

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 323 Þyn askyng is nys, & as þou foly has frayst, fynde þe be-houes. 1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 180 So is it bot a nyce Sinne Of gold to ben to covoitous. *c* 1460 J. Russell *Bk. Nurture* 508 Cookes..þat provokethe þe peple..þrouȝ nice excesse of such receytes of þe life to make an endynge. 1494 Fabyan *Chron.* VI. CCXVI. 234 A nyce folysshe couenaunte ought nat to be holdin. 1560 Rolland *Crt. Venus* I. 739 [Quha did] reheirs ane certane nyse Sermonis, [With argu]mentis, and diuers questionis.

†**2.** Wanton, loose-mannered; lascivious. *Obs.*

a. Of persons.

c 1325 *Poem temp. Edw. II* (Percy) 10 These nyse prestes That playeth her nyse game By nyȝt. *?a* 1366 Chaucer *Rom. Rose* 1285 Nyce she was, but she ne mente Noone harme ne slight in hir entente, But oonely lust & jolyte. *c* 1412 Hoccleve *De Reg. Princ.* 1473 Þou woldest han as wantonly þe gyed As doþ þe nycest of hem. *c* 1430 *Hymns Virgin* (1867) 53 Dampned soulis..Þat wolen not do weel, but euere be nyce. 1529 Rastell *Pastyme, Hist. Brit.* (1811) 153 He..put out of his court all nyce and wanton people. 1588 Shaks. *L. L. L.* III. 24 These are complements, these are humours, these betraie nice wenches that would be betraied without these.

absol. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1359 Hit is not innoghe to þe nice al noȝty þink vse Bot if all þe worlde wyt his wykked dedes. 1414 26 *Pol. Poems* 60 God ȝeue ȝow grace..To cherische þe goode, and chastyse þe nys.

b. Of conduct, etc.

c 1330 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 236 We..telle ȝow oþer tales..of þer nyce ribaudie. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 67 Þo it was i-doo wiþ foule songes and gestes and iapes and nyse menstralcie. 1423 Jas. I *Kingis Q.* cxxix, Gif thy lufe [be] sett alluterly Of nyce lust, thy trauail is in veyne. *a* 1450 Myrc 61 From nyse iapes and rybawdye Thow moste turne away þyn ye. 1529 More *Suppl. Soulys* Wks. 306/2 These nice and wanton wordes doo not verye wel wyth vs. 1587 Golding *De Mornay* Ep. Ded., Ouercome with nyce pleasures and fond vanities. 1606 Shaks. *Ant. & Cl.* III. xiii. 180 When mine houres Were nice and lucky, men did ransome liues Of me for iests.

†c. Of dress: Extravagant, flaunting. *Obs.*

c 1430 *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 205 Þou studiest aftir nyce aray, And makist greet cost in cloþing. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* xiv. 9 So nyce array, so strange to thair abbay, Within this land was nevir hard nor sene. 1563 *Homilies* II. *Idolatry* III. (1640) 72 An Image with a nice and wanton apparell and countenance.

†d. Very trim, elegant, or smart. *Obs. rare.*

1483 Caxton *Gold. Leg.* 128 b/1 She chastysed them that were nyce and queynte, sayeng that suche nycete was fylthe of the sowle. *a* 1500 *Mylner of Abynton* in Hazl. *E. P. P.* III. 117 The wenche she was full proper and nyce; Amonge all other she bare great price. 1540 Hyrde tr. *Vives' Instr. Chr. Wom.* (1592) K ij, She shal not..use hir voyce to be feat and nice.

†**3.** Strange, rare, uncommon. *Obs.*

1413 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton 1483) IV. xxiv. 70, I merueyled nought soo moche of no thyng..as I doo now of this nyce syght. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* xxxv. 41 Quhen I awoik, my dreme it was so nyce, Fra every wicht I hid it as a vyce. 1535 Coverdale *Ecclus.* xliii. 27 For there be straunge wonderous workes, dyuerse maner of nyce beestes and whall fishes. 1555 Eden *Decades* (Arb.) 143 Frome hensforth we shal neyther ennye nor reuerence the nyse frutefulnes of Stoidum, Taprobana, or the redde sea.

†**4.** Slothful, lazy, indolent. *Obs. rare*−0.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 355/2 Nyce, *iners.* 1604 R. Cawdrey *Table Alph., Nice,* slow, lazie.

†b. Effeminate, unmanly. *Obs. rare.*

1573 Baret *Alv.* s.v., Men thinke they wax nice and effeminate. 1598 Florio, *Paranimpha* .., an effeminate, nice, milkesop, puling fellow. 1681 R. L'Estrange *Tully's Offices* 64 Any thing that is Loose, Nice, and Effeminate.

† c. Not able to endure much; tender, delicate.

1562 Bulleyn *Bulwark, Sicke Men* 56 Soche be the weake, feble, nise stomackes of many. 1648 *Markham's Housew. Gard.* III. x. (1668) 80 The Bee is tender and nice, and only lives in warm weather. *a* 1674 Clarendon in *Life* I. (1842) 927/2 He..was of so nice and tender a composition, that a little rain or wind would disorder him. *c* 1710 Celia Fiennes *Diary* (1888) 26 But these are nice plants and are kept mostly under Glass's, ye aire being too rough for them.

† d. Over-refined, luxurious. *Obs.*

1621 Burton *Anat. Mel.* I. ii. iv. ii. (1651) 145 We..spoile our childrens maners, by our overmuch cockering and nice education. 1720 Ozell *Vertot's Rom. Rep.* II. xii. 221 All the Roman Youth that had..grown effeminate with nice Living, joined and favoured Catiline.

† 5. Coy, shy, (affectedly) modest, reserved. *Obs.*

14.. *Sir Beues* (S) 3199 Maydens at her first Weddyng Wel nyse al þe first ny3t. 15.. *Christ's Kirk* 15 Thay wer sa nyss quhen men them nicht, Thay squelit lyke ony gaitis. 1592 Kyd *Sol. & Pers.* I. ii, Then be not nice, Perseda, as women woont To hasty louers. 1634 Milton *Comus* 139 Ere..The nice Morn on th' Indian steep From her cabin'd loop hole peep.

† b. Shy, reluctant, unwilling. Const. *to, in, of,* or with inf. *Obs.*

c 1560 A. Scott *Poems* (S. T. S.) iv. 91 The nycest to ressave Vpoun the nynis will nip it. 16.. Bryan in Farr *S. P. Eliz.* (1845) II. 335 Straight bent to glorious deeds by kind, And to no braue acheiuements nice. 1617 Moryson *Itin.* III. 40, I found the Italians nothing nice to shew their strong forts to me and to other strangers. *c* 1665 Mrs. Hutchinson *Mem. Col. Hutchinson* (1846) 58 She is the nicest creature in the world of suffering her perfections to be known. 1668 Mrs. Behn *Oroonoko* Wks. (1718) 55 They are extreme modest and bashful, very shy, and nice of being touch'd. 1676 Dryden *Aurengz.* II. i, Virtue is nice to take what's not her own.

† 6. Phr. *To make (it) nice,* to display reserve or reluctance; to make a scruple. *Obs.*

1530 Palsgr. 624, I make it coye, or nyce as a daungerouse person doth, *je fais lestrange.* 1560 Rollano *Crt. Venus* III. 827 Raab and Ruth..War licht Ladeis, thocht ze it mak sa nice. 1595 Shaks. *John* III. iv. 138 And he that stands vpon a slipp'ry place, Makes nice of no vilde hold to stay him vp. 1606 Birnie *Kirk-Buriall* (1833) 16 Althogh they seeme to make nyce in praying for dead. 1637 Rutherford *Lett.* lxxxi. (1862) I. 205 Christ..cometh in..without ceremonies, or making it nice, to make a poor ransomed one His own. 1677 Gilpin *Demonol.* (1867) 168 They make not nice to tell him that there is no possibility of salvation but in their way.

7. Fastidious, dainty, difficult to please, esp. in respect of food or cleanliness; also in good sense, refined, having refined tastes.

1551 Robinson tr. *More's Utop.* II. (1895) 149 Anothere ys of so nyce and soo delycate a mynde that be settethe nothynge by yt. 1573 Tusser *Husb.* (1878) 191 The slouen and the careless man, the roinish nothing nice. 1600 Dekker *Fortunatus* Prol., Your nice soules, cloyd with dilicious sounds, Will loath her lowly notes. *a* 1656 Bp. Hall *Rem. Wks.* (1660) 3 Nice ears are all for variety of Doctrines, as palates of meats. 1706 E. Ward *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 99 He is not so nice as his Superiors, whom nothing will go down with, under right Nantz or Rum. 1751 Johnson *Rambler* No. 104 ¶ 9 The mind..becomes..nice and fastidious, and like a vitiated palate. 1805 R. W. Dickson *Pract. Agric.* II. 1047 It is better, as fattening animals are very nice, to let them have rather too little than too much. 1836 C. Shaw in *Mem.* (1837) II. 593, I can eat anything, and am not very nice about the cleanliness. 1856 Hawthorne *Eng. Note-bks.* (1879) II. 318 Neither is it at all nice as to what it clutches, in its necessity for support.

Phrases. 1553 T. Wilson *Rhet.* (1580) 223, I knewe a Priest as nice as a Nonnes Henne. 1581 Rich *Farew.* (1846) 139 More nice than wise. 1653 H. More *Antid. Ath.* I. ii. (1712) 11 Suppose..the other more nice than wise should reply, Nay, it may possibly be otherwise. 1782 Cowper *Mut. Forbearance* 20 Some people are more nice than wise.

b. Particular, precise, strict, careful, in regard to some special thing.

1584 R. Scot *Discov. Witcher.* IX. i. (1886) 135 Some are so nise, that they condemne generallie all sorts of diuinations. 1625 Bacon *Ess., Greatn. Kingd.* (Arb.) 479 The Spartans were a nice People in Point of Naturalization. 1661 Marvell *Corr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 59 The Parliament is alwayes very nice and curious on this point. 1724 Wodrow *Corr.* (1843) III. 141, I find them very nice that no other..be admitted to this correspondence. 1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 107 He is extremely nice in selecting his malt and hops. 1861 Ld. Brougham *Brit. Const.* viii. 99 Like the old Romans, never very nice in weighing how large a proportion of the people influenced the government.

† c. Fastidious in matters of literary taste. *Obs.*

1628 Wither *Brit. Rememb.* Premonit. 5, I had rather twenty nice Criticks should censure mee. *c* 1665 Mrs. Hutchinson *Mem. Col. Hutchinson* (1846) 23 His judgement was so nice, that he could never frame any speech beforehand to please himself. 1709 Pope *Ess. Crit.* 286 Thus Critics, of less judgment than caprice, Curious not knowing, not exact but nice, Form short Ideas. 1770 Langhorne *Plutarch* (1879) II. 735/2 Such digressions as these the nicest readers may endure, provided they are not too long.

d. Precise or strict in matters of reputation or conduct; punctilious, scrupulous, sensitive.

1647 Clarendon *Hist. Reb.* VII. § 43 So difficult a thing it is to play an after-Game of Reputation, in that nice and jealous profession. 1709 Swift *Advancem. Relig.* Wks. 1755 II. i. 99 Women of tainted reputations find the same countenance..with those of the nicest virtue. 1784 Cowper *Task* III. 85 Men too were nice in honor in those days, And judg'd offenders well. 1826 Disraeli *Viv. Grey* II. v, I am not very nice myself about these matters. 1843 Miall in *Nonconf.* III. 227 The Duke of Wellington said..'Men who have nice notions about religion have no business to be soldiers'. 1887 Baring-Gould *Red Spider* xvii, I should get it back again.., and not be too nice about the means.

e. Refined, cultured.

1603 Daniel *Def. Rhime* H 2 b, Eloquence and gay wordes are..but the garnish of a nice time, the Ornaments that doe but decke the house of a State. *a* 1792 Burns *Yon Wild Mossy Mountains* iv, Of nice education but sma' is her share. 1794 Mrs. Radcliffe *Myst. Udolpho* i, As conversation awakened the nicer emotions of her mind, that threw such a captivating grace around her. 1818 Shelley *Julian* 536 As we could guess From his nice habits and his gentleness. 1874 Geo. Eliot *Coll. Breakf.-P.* 56 'Truce, I beg!' Said Osric, with nice accent.

8. Requiring or involving great precision, accuracy, or minuteness.

1513 Douglas *Æneis* III. iv. 138 Our fallowschip exerce palestrale play.., Nakit worsling and strougling at nyse poynt. 1590 Nashe *Pasquil's Apol.* I. D ij b, The pearle of the word, must not be weighed in those scales that men commonly vse to weigh their yron, it is a nicer work. 1665 Boyle *Occas. Refl.* II. viii. (1675) 123 The Watch I use to measure the time with in nice Experiments. 1745 A. Butler *Lives Saints* (1836) I. p. xlvi, The indagation is often a task both nice and laborious. 1776 Adam Smith *W. N.* I. x. (1869) I. 108 A house carpenter seems to exercise rather a nicer and more ingenious trade than a mason. 1822 Imison *Sci. & Art* I. 35 Those who are engaged in making nice philosophical experiments. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVI. 209/2 For nice purposes the metal may be obtained in a state of purity by the following process.

9. Not obvious or readily apprehended; difficult to decide or settle; demanding close consideration or thought; † intricate.

1513 Douglas *Æneis* III. Prol. 14 Nyce laborynth, quhar Mynotaur the bull Was kepit. 1581 G. Pettie tr. *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* I. (1586) 19 The finer wit a man is of, the more he beateth it .. about nice and intricate pointes. 1649 Jer. Taylor *Gt. Exemp.* III. Sect. xiv. 51 The way to destruction is broad and plausible, the way to heaven nice and austere. 1689 Popple tr. *Locke's 1st Let. Toleration* L.'s Wks. 1727 II. 233 Opinions..about nice and intricate Matters that exceed the Capacity of ordinary Understandings. 1759 Robertson *Hist. Scot.* I. 175 It was the work but of one day to examine and to resolve this nice problem. 1789 Belsham *Ess.* I. vii. 134 It becomes a very nice and curious question indeed. 1847–9 Helps *Friends in C.* (1851) I. 21 One of the nicest problems for a man to solve. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 3 June 5/1 Whether the agreement was actually violated is a question involving several nice points.

b. Minute, subtle; also of differences, slight, small.

1561 T. Norton *Calvin's Instl.* I. xii. 29 Nowe leauyng nice suttleties, lette us wey the matter it selfe. 1612 T. James *Corrupt. Scripture* IV. 6 They seeme to mince and slice the matter into certaine nice and subtile distinctions. 1662 Stillingfl. *Orig. Sacræ* III. iii. § 4 Without perplexing our minds about those more nice and subtile speculations. 1732 Pope *Ess. Man* I. 223 Twixt that, and reason, what a nice barrier, For ever sep'rate, yet for ever near. 1784 Johnson *Let. to Mr. Sastres* 2 Sept., Your critick seems to me to be an exquisite Frenchman; his remarks are nice; they would at least have escaped me. 1855 Bain *Senses & Int.* II. i. § 22 The generality of people can appreciate far nicer differences than these. 1870 Howson *Metaph. St. Paul* ii. 41 When we desire to appreciate the nicer shades of meaning.

c. Precise, exact, fine.

1710 Addison *Whig Exam.* No. 4 ¶ 8 A very nice resemblance. 1746 Hervey *Medit.* (1818) 127 You may observe..in its gently-bending tufts, the nicest symmetry. 1802 Paley *Nat. Theol.* xii. (1819) 197 A nicer accommodation to their respective conveniency. 1841 Miall in *Nonconf.* I. 1 No words could describe with nicer accuracy the political movements of English dissenters. 1867 Dk. Argyll *Reign of Law* ii. (ed. 4) 92 The nice and perfect balance which is maintained between these two forces.

† 10. a. Slender, thin. *Obs. rare.*

1590 Spenser *F. Q.* III. ii. 6 As Ladies wont, in pleasures wanton lap To finger the fine needle and nyce thread. 1604 Shaks. *Oth.* III. iii. 15 That policie may either last so long, Or feede vpon such nice and waterish diet.

† b. Unimportant, trivial. *Obs. rare.*

1592 Shaks. *Rom. & Jul.* v. ii. 18 The Letter was not nice, but full of charge, Of deare import, and the neglecting it May do much danger. 1601 — *Jul. C.* IV. iii. 8 In such a time as this, it is not meet That euery nice offence should beare his Comment.

11. † a. Critical, doubtful, full of danger or uncertainty. *Obs.*

1596 Shaks. 1 *Hen. IV,* IV. i. 48 To set so rich a mayne On the nice hazard of one doubtfull houre, It were not good. 1608 D. T[uvil] *Ess. Pol. & Mor.* 64 b, Vnderstanding on what nice tearms the life of the Blacke-Prince..did stande. 1682 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1711/4 We bless Propitious Heaven, which..has directed Your Majesty in these Nice and Critical times. 1710 Wodrow *Corr.* (1843) I. 195 You know my itch after accounts of..the true state of things at this nice juncture.

b. Delicate, needing tactful handling.

1617 Moryson *Itin.* IV. II. iii. (1903) 184 A Treatise to be written of purpose, and with deliberation, vppon that nice Subiect. 1664 J. Wilson *Projectors* v, Things of this nature are so nice, and kickish, the least Error renders them irretrieveable. 1742 Richardson *Pamela* III. 40, I hope you had Presence of Mind to do this,—For it was a nice Part to act. 1777 Watson *Philip II,* III. (1793) I. 129 For several years in the nicest political negociations.

12. a. Entering minutely into details; attentive, close.

1589 Puttenham *Eng. Poesie* II. xii[i]. (Arb.) 126 We imputed it to a nice and scholasticall curiositie in such makers. 1617 Moryson *Itin.* III. 35 His company is like to be shunned, as of a nice observer of mens actions and manners. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* II. 358 Some Peasants, not t' omit the nicest Care, Of the same Soil their Nursery prepare. 1738 *Pref. J. Keill's Anim. Œcon.* 20 Nicer inquiries into the Structure of the Parts. 1789 G. White *Selborne* vi, Upon a nice examination..I could find nothing resinous in them. 1839 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* II. 328/2 It fluctuates..perceptibly to a nice observer. 1864 Bowen *Logic* xii. 397 The cases may be strictly parallel in every visible respect, as tested by the nicest observations.

b. Of the eye, ear, etc.: Able to distinguish or discriminate in a high degree.

a 1586 Sidney (J.), Such a man was Argalus, as hardly the nicest eye can find a spot in. 1755 J. Shebbeare *Lydia* (1769) II. 142 A nice pallate in good liquor had made my landlord a favourite companion. 1795 Wolcot (P. Pindar) *Hair Powder* Wks. 1812 III. 304 Dull though thy tympanum, her nicer ear Catches a thunder-growl from yonder sphere. 1847 H. Miller *Test. Rocks* v. (1857) 209 Gifted..with a peculiarly nice eye for detecting those analogies. 1873 Browning *Red Cott. Nt.-cap* 273 The nice eye can distinguish grade and grade.

c. Of judgement, etc.: Finely discriminative.

1697 Dryden *Virg. Past.* Pref., Wks. 1721 I. 82 Virgil..was of too nice a Judgment to introduce a God denying the Power and Providence of the Deity. 1742 Shenstone *Schoolmistr.* 237 With nice discernment see Ye quench not, too, the sparks of nobler fires. 1785 Crabbe *Newspaper* Wks. 1834 II. 126 We cannot call their morals pure, Their judgment nice, or their decisions sure. 1833 Ht. Martineau *Fr. Wines & Pol.* i. 16 No people on earth had so nice a sense of the morally graceful. 1845 S. Austin *Ranke's Hist. Ref.* I. 297 His style is not above mediocrity, nor does he evince any nice sense of elegance and form.

d. Delicate or skilful in manipulation.

1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 83 ¶ 4 One Person at Work, who was exceeding slow in his Motions, and wonderfully nice in his Touches. 1764 Reid *Inquiry* I. iii. 78 The nicest artist cannot make a feather or the leaf of a tree. 1806–7 J. Beresford *Miseries Hum. Life* (1826) II. xxxiv, Jobs that require both a nice hand and a contriving head.

13. Minutely or carefully accurate.

1599 Shaks. *Much Ado* v. i. 75 Ile proue it on his body if he dare, Despight his nice fence, and his actiue practise. 1667 Milton *P. L.* VI. 584 All at once thir Reeds Put forth, and to a narrow vent appli'd With nicest touch. 1699 Bentley *Phal.* Pref. 93 The largest and nicest knowledge of the English Language, of any man living. 1769 Sir J. Reynolds *Disc.* i. (1876) 309 That critical period of study, on the nice management of which their future turn of taste depends. 1805 Collingwood in Nicolas *Disp. Nelson* (1845) VII. 242 To pass them from the leeward..required nice steerage. 1849 Longp. *Building of Ship* 17 With nicest skill and art..a little model the Master wrought.

b. Of instruments or apparatus: Showing minute differences; finely poised or adjusted.

a 1628 Ld. Brooke *Wks.* (1633) I. 54 To pease his deeds, by her nice weights and measure. 1666 Boyle *Orig. Formes & Qual.* 397 Imploying a nice pair of Gold Scales..I found that this Powder weigh'd somewhat..more than twice so much common Water. 1704 J. Harris *Lex. Techn.* I. s.v. *Hygroscope,* You will find this plain and simple Instrument, the nicest Hygrometer of any, for it will show you very small Alterations. 1771 T. Percival *Ess.* (1776) III. 127 A watery dew..which being committed to a nice scale, may probably be found to be equal in gravity to a drop of rain. 1875 Sears *Serm. Chr. Life* 29 Weigh arguments in the nicest intellectual scales.

14. Of food; Dainty, appetizing.

1712 Arbuthnot *J. Bull* III. App. i, This was but a pretence to provide some nice bit for himself. *a* 1766 Mrs. F. Sheridan *Sidney Bidulph* V. 193 We sent her up three or four plates of the nicest things that were at table. 1799 Jane Austen *Lett.* (1884) I. 224 You must give us something very nice, for we are used to live well. 1852 Rock *Ch. of Fathers* III. 103 A banquet which usually consisted of the nicest dishes then known. 1853 Soyer *Pantroph.* 284 Some of these pastries would appear very nice to us in the present day.

absol. 1793 W. Roberts *Looker-on* No. 53 (1794) II. 287 To imitate our fashionable physicians in mixing up together..the nauseous and the nice.

15. Agreeable; that one derives pleasure or satisfaction from; delightful.

In common use from the latter part of the 18th cent. as a general epithet of approval or commendation, the precise signification varying to some extent with the nature of the substantive qualified by it.

1769 Miss Carter *Lett.* (1817) II. 34, I intend to dine with Mrs. Borgrave, and in the evening to take a nice walk. 1780 Beckford *Biog. Mem. Extr. Painters* 110 A nice pocket edition. 1796 Jane Austen *Lett.* (1884) I. 126 You scold me so much in the nice long letter which I have..received from you. 1837 Maj. Richardson *Brit. Legion* ix. (ed. 2) 220 The Commandant, whom I subsequently found to be a very nice fellow. 1860 B'ness Bunsen in Hare *Life* (1879) II. v. 270 Lilies of the valley, and I know not what nice things. 1897 Mary Kingsley *W. Africa* 654 How nice it must be to be able to get about in cars, omnibuses and railway trains again!

Phr. 1796 Mrs. M. Robinson *Angelina* I. 44 The parson's daughters are as nice as my nail and as clean as a penny!

b. *To look nice,* to have an agreeable, attractive, or pretty appearance.

1793 *Minstrel* II. 182 She was desirous of looking as nice as possible. 1836 *Going to Service* xii. 139 O, you look so nice,..any body would take you for an experienced servant. 1870 Miss Bridgman *R. Lynne* II. xii. 255 Cuthbert liked her to look nice.

c. Kind, considerate, or pleasant (to others).

1830 Moore *Mem.* (1854) VI. 152 She has, in the nicest and most delicate way, procured them. 1872 T. Hardy *Under Greenw. Tree* v. i, 'Not nice of Master Enoch', said Dick. 1887 I. R. *Lady's Ranche Life Montana* 165 When I say Van was good, I mean he was nice to me.

d. In ironical use. Also *nice and.*

1846 D. Jerrold *Mrs. Caudle* ii, You'll be nice and ill in the morning. 1851 — *St. Giles* viii, A nice job I've had to nibble him.

16. As *adv.* Nicely. *rare.*

1540 J. Heywood *Four P. P.* in Hazl. *Dodsley* I. 351 But prick them and pin them as nice as ye will. *c* 1557 Abp. Parker *Ps.* cxix. 345 Curst be they all, from thy good love

who wander wyll to nyse. *a* 1756 Eliza Heywood *New Present* (1771) 53 Take a fine piece of sturgeon, wash and clean it very nice.

17. *Comb.* as *nice-conscienced, -eared, -fingered,* etc.; *nice-becoming, -looking, -spoken*; *nice-discerning, -judging*; *nice-driven, -preserved, -spun.*

a 1727 Pattison *Crt. Venus* in *Prior's Poems* (1733) III. 106 Full in the midst, with *nice-becoming Grace, Stood Youth. 1642–4 Vicars *God in Mount* 18 These squemish and *nice-conscienced fellows. 1776 'Joel Collier' (J. L. Bicknell) *Mus. Trav.* (ed. 4) App. 26 Should his lordship's *nice-discerning eye perceive any Jacobitical expressions in his works. 1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 39 That politike and *nice-driven negotiation of the peace betwixt England and Spaine. *a* 1843 Southey *Comm.-pl. Bk.* Ser. II. (1849) 33 The chilling fastidiousness of some *nice-eared critics. 1784 Cowper *Task* I. 202 One..whose notes *Nice-finger'd Art must emulate in vain. 1818 Jamieson *Burt's Lett. N. Scotl.* I. 322 It sets ye weel to be sae *nice-gabbit. 1571 Golding *Calvin on Ps.* xxii. 2 He was not so *nyce-harted as to make a cruell yelping out for some comon harme. 1583 — *Calvin on Deut.* cxxxi. 806 Because ye people were ouertender and nycehartedly, they had need of helpe. 1728–46 Thomson *Spring* 407 There throw, *nice-judging, the delusive fly. 1807 Jane Austen *Lett.* (1884) I. 328 She is a *nice-looking woman. 1838 Dickens *O. Twist* xiv, He is a nice-looking boy, is he not? 1882 J. Hawthorne *Fort. Fool* I. xv, A portrait of a very nice-looking young lady. 1869 Miss Broughton *Not Wisely* II Miss Chester was gifted with that sort of *nice-lookingness. 1618 N. Field *Amends for Ladies* III. iii. in Hazl. *Dodsley* XI. 132 A pox of these *nice-mouthed creatures! 1683 Tryon *Way to Health* 225 Foolish *Nice-pallated People and Gluttons. 1588 Shaks. *Tit. A.* II. iii. 135 We will enioy That *nice-preserued honesty of yours. 1777 Potter *Æschylus* (1779) II. 88 This stranger seems, like the *nice-scented hound, Quick in the trace of blood. 1799 Jane Austen *Lett.* (1884) I. 209 We have two very *nice-sized rooms. 1863 Sala in *Temple Bar* VIII. 73, I suppose there is nothing immodest (even in this wonderfully *nice spoken age) in confessing [etc.]. 1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) I. 533 A few *nice-spun and chimerical speculations. 1815 Milman *Fazio* (1821) 17 Death's not *nice-stomach'd, to be cramm'd With such unsavoury offal.

† Nicebecetur. *Obs.* Also 6 nyse-, nycebecetur (-byceter), nycibecetour. [Origin obscure; perh. a fanciful formation from Nice *a.* The earliest and latest quots. appear to show different stressings of the word.] A dainty, fine, or fashionable girl or woman.

c 1520 *Bk. Mayd Emlyn* 225 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* IV. 90 To gete gownes and furs, These nysebecetus, Of men sheweth theyr pyte. *a* 1530 Heywood *Weather* (Brandl) 898 Another maner losse yf we sholde mys Then of such nycehyceters as she is. 1542 Udall *Erasm. Apoph.* 120 b, In suche did..the other nycibecetours or denty dames customably use..to bee carryed about. 1546 Heywood *Prov.* I. xi. (1874) 57 Betweene you and your Ginifinee Nycebecetur. [*a* 1553 Udall *Roister Doister* I. iv. 12.] 1584 in Cl. Robinson *Handful Pleasant Delights* (Arb.) 14 Farewel good Nicibicetur, God send you a sweeter.

So **† Nicebice.** *Obs. rare*—1.

1595 *Locrine* III. iv, No, by my troth, mistresse nicebice, how fine you can nickname me.

† Niced, *ppl. a. Obs. rare.* [f. Nice *a.*] Made foolish or delicate.

a 1440 Burgh *Cato* 601 Dreede no dremys..Thouh thei be caused of complecciouu, Or ellis of any nyced fantasie. 1577 Stanyhurst *Descr. Irel.* Ep. Ded. in *Holinshed,* If anie man his stomach shall be found so tenderlie niced, or so deintilie spiced, as that he maie not digest the grosse draffe of so base a countrie.

Niced: see Nycette.

† Ni·cefy, *v. Obs.*—° [f. Nice *a.*] (See quot.)

1611 Cotgr., *Faire la sadinette,* to mince it, nicefie it, make it dainty, to be verie squeamish.

† Nicehead. *Obs.*—° [f. Nice *a.*] (See quot.)

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 355/2 Nycehede, or nycete, *inercia.*

Niceish (nəi·siʃ), *a.* Also **nicish.** [f. Nice *a.* + -ish 1.] Somewhat or rather nice.

1835 Mrs. Carlyle *Lett.* I. 46 Talkative, niceish people. 1860 Trollope *Framley P.* xiv, He's a nicish cut of a horse. 1888 *Athenæum* 19 May 628/2 There is a niceish girl—not the mystic heroine born of fire and water.

Ni·celing. Now *rare.* [f. Nice *a.* + -ling 1.]

† 1. An effeminate, tender, or delicate person.

1549 Coverdale, etc. *Erasm. Par. Jas.* i. 26 b, That..we maye nether become tendre nycelynges through vayne pleasures, ne moued with terrible turmoylinges. 1583 Golding *Calvin on Deut.* xl. 238 There are a sorte of these nycelings which take greefe at it.

2. *arch.* A nice thing.

1884 Black *Jud. Shakes.* ii, I was showing you what nicelings and delicates my father was bringing.

Nicely (nəi·sli), *adv.* Also 4 nise-, 5 nicelicho; 4–6 nycely, (6 -lie), 5–6 nysely. [f. Nice *a.* + -ly 2, after OF. *nicement.*]

† 1. Foolishly, unwisely. *Obs.*

c 1330 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 297 Sir Hugh of Crissengham he did nycely & mys. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) I. 373 For no man schulde niseliche wende yn wiþ oute leue of þe bisshop. 1423 Jas. I *Kingis Q.* xii, Impressioun Off my thoght causith this Illusioun, That dooth me think so nycely in this wise. 1494 Fabyan *Chron.* VII. 607 Eugeny the fourth,..beyng admytted, demeaned hym so nycely in the begynnynge, yt he was put out of Rome. 1523 Ld. Berners *Froiss.* I. cclxiii. 389 They thought nat to departe nysely out of their aduantage.

† 2. Slothfully, sluggishly. *Obs. rare* —°.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 355/2 Nycely, *inerte.*

† 3. Finely, elegantly, refinedly, daintily. *Obs.*

c 1400 *Chron. Eng.* (Caxton) ccxxxiii. 6 The women more nysely yet passed the men in aray & coriousloker. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* lxxi. 388 (Add. MS.), His neghbores..seydyn 'se this man! that late was a pore man, how nysely [he] arayes his childryn!' 1530 Palsgr. 839/2 Nycely, fetly, *coyntement.* 1576 Fleming *Panopl. Epist.* 311 Let not your gowne sitt vppon your hacke too nicely, nor yet weare it too slouenly. 1601 Shaks. *Twel. N.* III. i. 17 They that dally nicely with words, may quickely make them wanton. 1690 Locke *Educ.* § 7 How..mortal a thing, taking Wet in the Feet is, to those who have been bred nicely. 1728 Young *Love of Fame* VI. 146 Aspasia's highly born, and nicely bred, Of taste refin'd, in life and manners read.

b. In an attractive, agreeable, pleasing, or pretty fashion.

1714 Mrs. Manley *Adv. Rivella* 119 A Bed nicely sheeted and strow'd with Roses, Jessamins or Orange-Flowers. 1766 Goldsm *Vic. W.* iv, The walls on the inside were nicely white-washed. 1822 Byron *Vis. Judgem.* xcix, In two octavo volumes, nicely bound. 1830 Moore in *Mem.* (1854) VI. 138 A dinner-party at my mother's;..All very nicely done. 1860 *Rutledge* 30 The tea tasted very nicely out of the thin china cup. 1881 'Rita' *My Lady Coquette* iii, How nicely you have done your hair to-night.

c. Very well, satisfactorily.

1829 Landor *Imag. Conv., Lucian & Timotheus* Wks. 1853 II. 31/2 Your flesh, properly cured, might hang up nicely against the forthcoming bean-season. 1852 Mrs. Stowe *Uncle Tom's C.* xiii, 'How is thee, Ruth?' she said... 'Nicely', said Ruth. 1880 Mrs. Forrester *Roy & Viola* I. 19 It is a great thing to have provided so nicely for yourself.

4. †**a.** With coyness or reserve; also, sparingly, grudgingly. *Obs.*

1530 Palsgr. 839/2 Nycely, straungly, *coyement, nicement.* 1579 Tomson *Calvin's Serm. Tim.* 418/2 He..gineth it, but so nicely yt men may but licke their fingers with it (as the Prouerbe is). *a* 1600 Hooker *Answ. Travers* § 13 It is not their wont to speak so nicely of things definitively set down in that council. 1695 Ld. Preston *Boeth.* II. 44 She, who nicely conceals herself to others, is wholly displayed and open to thee.

† b. Fastidiously, squeamishly. *Obs.*

1547 *Homilies* I. *Good Wks.* II. D iv, Thei wold, as it wer nicely take a fly out of their cup, and drynke doune a whole camel. 1591 Harington *Orl. Fur.* Pref. ¶ 8 Some more nicely found fault with so many two sillabled and three sillabled rimes. 1618 Latham *2nd Bk. Falconry* (1633) 36 If you doe finde her to bee tutchie or nicely addicted. 1671 Milton *P. R.* IV. 377 Thou shalt have cause To wish thou never hadst rejected thus Nicely or cautiously my offer'd aid. 1791 Boswell *Johnson* an. 1781 Such small particulars are intended for those who are nicely critical in composition.

c. Scrupulously, punctiliously, in respect of conduct. Now *rare.*

1605 Shaks. *Lear* v. iii. 144 What safe, and nicely I might well delay, By rule of Knight-hood, I disdaine and spurne. *a* 1677 Manton *Serm. Ps. cxix,* civ. Wks. 1872 VIII. 5 To stand nicely upon terms of duty is to run in harm's way. 1709 Steele *Tatler* No. 11 ¶ 4 There are Women who are not nicely Chast, and Men not severely Honest, in all Families. 1741 Middleton *Cicero* I. v. 357 Nicely tender of his reputation. 1854 H. Miller *Sch. & Schm.* i. (1857) 9 For a man who had often looked death in the face, he had remained nicely tender of human life.

† d. Cautiously, gingerly, lightly, gently. *Obs.*

1590 Nashe *Pasquil's Apol.* I. D j, He treads nicelie, as one that daunceth vpon a lyne. 1606 Bp. Hall *Medit. & Vows* II. § 12 As nettles, which if they bee nicely handled, sting and pricke. 1613 Donne *Epithal. Eliz.* 75 What mean those ladies which, as tho' They were to take a clock to pieces, go So nicely about the bride?

5. †**a.** With insistence on detail; strictly. *Obs.*

1599 Shaks. *Hen. V,* v. ii. 94 Happily a Woman's Voyce may doe some good, When Articles too nicely vrg'd, be stood on. 1659 Hammond *On Ps.* cxxxix. 13 It..is not so strictly or nicely to be taken as to denote a creation.

b. With close attention, closely, minutely.

1690 Locke *Hum. Und.* IV. vii. § 9 When we nicely reflect upon them, we shall find [etc.]. 1728 Pope *Dunc.* I. 163 Here studious I..lost blunders nicely seek. 1739 Johnson *Wks.* (1787) IV. 324 It being his custom to draw a line under any passage which he intended more nicely to consider. 1858 Froude *Hist. Eng.* III. xiv. 198 The Privy Council had been obliged to levy men without looking nicely to their antecedents. 1871 Smiles *Charac.* iv. (1876) 115 His action becomes suspended in nicely weighing the pros and cons.

c. With particular care.

1697 Vanbrugh *Æsop* v. 477 Be clean in your clothes, but nicely so in your persons. *a* 1715 Burnet *Own Time* III. (1724) I. 553 He used to pare his nails very nicely. 1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 592 Another workman is occupied in drying very nicely the surface of the glass that is to be silvered.

6. Accurately, precisely, exactly: **a.** With reference to adjustment, correspondence, etc.

1611 Shaks. *Cymb.* II. iv. 90 Two winking Cupids Of Siluer, each on one foote standing, nicely Depending on their Brands. 1697 Potter *Antiq. Greece* I. viii. (1715) 42 Amphitheaters..were not nicely Orbicular, but Oval. 1715 Arbuthnot *Let. to Pope* 9 July, A Translation nicely true to the Original. 1745 P. Thomas *Jrnl. Anson's Voy.* 236 A small portable Balance..so nicely made that..the thousandth Part of a Crown will sensibly turn the Scale. 1866 Seeley *Ecce Homo* I. ii. 17 In its strangeness it is so nicely adapted to the character of Christ. 1866 R. M. Ferguson *Electr.* (1870) 23 It consists of a needle nicely poised on a point.

b. With ref. to judgement, discernment, etc.

1638 Junius *Paint. Ancients* 123 Such as are provoked, judge more nicely. 1683 Moxon *Mech. Exerc., Printing* xiii. ¶ 4 He..Files off the Bur..that he may the better and nicelier discern how well he has begun. 1705 Stanhope *Paraphr.* I. 68 A due Recompence nicely awarded, according to the Behaviour of each Man in Particular. 1755 B. Martin *Mag. Arts & Sci.* I. xvi. 110 If I do not nicely understand your Proportion of Squares, and such Things, you must excuse me, at present. 1839 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* II. 329/2 A wire..being found suitable for enabling the eye to estimate very nicely the shade of the intercepted light. 1855 Bain *Senses & Int.* II. ii. § 3 A very feeble impression cannot be nicely discriminated.

† c. Closely. *Obs. rare*—1.

1690 Norris *Beatitudes* (1694) 73 It is not safe..to nourish a Passion which..horders so nicely upon Hatred.

† d. Slightly, very little. *Obs. rare.*

1698 Petiver in *Phil. Trans.* XX. 315 This nicely differs from the *Amaranthus Siculus spicatus*..in having rounder Leaves. 1702 *Ibid.* XXIII. 1262 This and No. 271 are nicely different, if not the same.

7. *Comb.* as *nicely-balanced, -bound, -established,* †*-gauded, -laden.*

1607 Shaks. *Cor.* II. i. 233 Our veyl'd Dames Commit the Warre of White and Damaske In their nicely gawded Cheekes to th' wanton spoyle Of Phœbus burning Kisses. 1837 Howitt *Rur. Life* II. i. (1862) 93 The iron tray of nicely laden patty-pans goes into the oven. 1855 J. R. Leifchild *Cornwall Mines* 57 The man..sent the nicely-balanced wonder of nature..banging down the crags. 1858 W. Ellis 3 *Visits Madagascar* viii. 220, I saw, amongst other nicely-bound books, 'The Women of England'. 1875 Whitney *Life Lang.* viii. 136 Under government of nicely-established rules.

Nicene (nəi·sēn, nəisī·n), *a.* (and *sb.*) Also 6 Nycene, Nicæne, Nicen. [ad. late L. *Nīcēn-us, Nīcæn-us,* f. *Nicēa, Nicæa,* Gr. *Νίκαια,* the name of a town in Bithynia.]

1. *Nicene Council,* one or other of two ecclesiastical Councils held at Nicæa, the first in the year 325 for the purpose of dealing with the Arian controversy, and the second in 787 to consider the question of images.

1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) V. 105 The legende of whom is had amonge scriptures apocriphate by the decrete of the cownesayle Nicene. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 192 b, In the Crede of Nycene counsyle. 1564 *Brief Exam.* ****j, Certayne sectaries layde to the Fathers charge of Nicæne counsell, that they tooke an order .. for keping Easter day. 1660 Jer. Taylor *Duct. Dubit.* II. ii. rule 6 § 35 As we learn from the acts of the second Nicene Council. 1727–38 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v. *Arianism,* Many..returned to the faith of the first Nicene council, and anathematized the second. 1860 *Chambers's Encycl.* I. 403/1 The doctrines of A[rius] did not essentially differ from those of the Nicene Council. 1884 *Catholic Dict.* (1897) 53/1 In opposition to this error, the first Nicene Council defined [etc.].

† b. In the erroneous form *Council of Nicene.*

1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) V. 105 He was i-martired under Dacianus þe iuge by doom of the counsaile of Nicene. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) V. 119 Whiche kepede the firste grete cownsayle of Nicene. 1563 *Homilies* II. *Sacrament* I. (1859) 445 Whereas, by the advice of the Council of Nicene, we ought to 'lift up our minds by faith'.

2. *Nicene Creed,* a formal statement of Christian belief, based upon that adopted at the first Council of Nicæa, which was designed especially to combat the Arian heresy.

1567–9 Jewel *Def. Apol.* Wks. 1848 IV. 315. 1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* (Parker Soc.) I. 12 Excellent learned men who wrote the Creed commonly called the Nicene Creed. 1674 N. Fairfax *Bulk & Selv.* 201 When we read in the Nicene Creed [etc.]. 1781 Gibbon *Decl. & F.* xxvii. III. 17 He..offered that Arian prelate the hard alternative of subscribing the Nicene creed, or of instantly resigning .. the cathedral. 1834 *Penny Cycl.* II. 340/2 A confession of faith, which seemed to be in unison with the Nicene Creed. 1884 *Catholic Dict.* (1897) 254/2 A creed .. identical with what we are accustomed to call the Nicene Creed.

3. Connected with, originating from, related to, the Nicene Council(s).

1597 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* v. xlii. § 2 They always professed love and zeal to the Nicene faith. 1719 Waterland *Vind. Christ's Div.* 210 The Nicene Fathers explain their meaning, both in the Creed it self, and in the Anathemas annex'd to it. 1781 Cowper *Hope* 394 By Athanasian nonsense, or Nicene. 1801 Ranken *Hist. France* I. ii. 195 The Nicene Christians were therefore most likely to prevail. 1884 *Catholic Dict.* (1897) 53/1 From which the whole of the Nicene definition follows by logical consequence.

4. *sb.* An adherent of the doctrine sanctioned by the first Nicene Council.

1882 *Athenæum* 9 Sept. 335/2 He has to treat of Arians, Semi-arians, Nicenes, Anomœans, Homœans,..and others.

Hence **Nice·nian, Nice·nist.**

1663 Owen *Vind. Animadv.* Wks. 1851 XIV. 434, I presume you are well pleased with these Nicenians. 1891 F. W. Newman *Cdl. Newman* 53 Unless European Metaphysics or Philosophy could go back to 'Emanations', we cannot recover the position of the Nicenists.

Niceness (nəi·snės). [f. Nice *a.* + -ness.] The quality or condition of being nice.

† 1. Folly, foolish or wanton conduct, light behaviour, wantonness. *Obs.*

c 1530 Ld. Berners *Arth. Lyt. Bryt.* (1814) 70 Though I shewe thus vnto you my nysenes, I pray you think no folye in it. 1568 Grafton *Chron.* II. 32 He banished out of his Court nicenesse and wantonnesse. 1583 Stubbes *Anat. Abus.* I. (1879) 158 Was it..to stirre vp filthie lust in them selues, or for nicenes onely, as our daunces bee.

† 2. Luxury, effeminacy, delicacy; delicate or luxurious living. *Obs.*

1540 Morysine *Vives' Introd. Wysd.* C vj b, Cleane kepinge of the bodye (delicate nisenes of meates and drinkes leyed aparte). 1596 Spenser *F. Q.* IV. viii. 27 That age despysed nicenesse vaine, Enur'd to hardnesse and to homely fare. 1615 W. Lawson *Country Housew. Gard.* (1626) 49 A man ..degenerate cleane from his naturall feeding, to effeminate nicenesse. 1650 W. Brough *Sacr. Princ.* (1659) 423 So niceness of life ends often in retchlesnesse of conversation. 1697 Collier *Ess. Mor. Subj.* I. (1709) 58 This Niceness,

though it renders them Insignificant to the great Purposes of Life, yet it polishes their Complexion.

† b. Elegance (in dress). *Obs. rare* —¹.

1693 SOUTHERNE *Maid's last Prayer* II. i, What you call handsomely, is a niceness won'd..ill become me.

† 3. Inclination to idleness. *Obs. rare* —¹.

a 1557 Mrs. M. BASSET tr. *More's Treat. Passion* M.'s Wks. 1366/1 If we growe so feble, that we wax lothe to goe foorth any further, and of slouthe and nycenesse begynne to stagger and stande styl.

† 4. Reserve, shyness, coyness. *Obs.*

1567–9 JEWEL *Def. Apol.* (1611) 167 Therefore leaue this nicenesse, M. Harding, and tell vs plainely [etc.]. 1579 LYLY *Euphues* (Arh.) 51 The Gentlewoman, whether..for nicenesse, or for niggardnesse of courtesie, gaue him..a colde welcome. 1631 *Celestina* vii. 91 What it is I will not tell you, because you make your selfe such a piece of nicenesse. *a* 1700 DRYDEN (J.), Unlike the niceness of our modern dames, Affected nymphs, with new affected names.

5. † a. Subtlety; over-refinement. *Obs.*

1592 PUCKERING in Ld. Campbell *Chancellors* xlvi. (1857) II. 304 Seek not advantages to trip one of you the other by covin or niceness. 1611 BIBLE *Transl. Pref.* ¶ 16 Nicenesse in wordes was alwayes counted the next step to trifling. 1664 EVELYN *Pomona* v. (1729) 67 The Royal Society approves more of Plainness and Usefulness than of Niceness and Curiosity.

b. Precision, accuracy, exactness.

1677 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* 34 If the Nut be not to be cast in Brass,..this niceness is not so absolutely necessary. 1696 WHISTON *The. Earth* (1722) 3, I shall wave that niceness, and set them down indifferently. 1726 LEONI *Alberti's Archit.* II. 17/1 All the lines and angles..fit one another to the greatest niceness. 1764 HARMER *Observ.* i. § 15. 38 The niceness of Russell's observations will not allow us to doubt the truth of what he says.

c. Delicacy, difficulty.

1642 in Rushw. *Hist. Coll.* III. (1692) I. 715 This is commonly the last Point in Treaties betwixt Princes, and of the greatest Niceness. 1689 POPPLE tr. *Locke's 3rd Let. Toleration* L.'s Wks. 1727 II. 408 Niceness and Difficulty there is, to hit that just Degree of Force. 1716 WODROW *Corr.* (1843) II. 193 He excused it a little from the importance of what was before us, and the niceness and tenderness of some things we had been on.

6. Fastidiousness; tendency to be over particular, susceptible, or squeamish.

1612 T. TAYLOR *Comm. Titus* iii. 1 The wisedome of godly teachers wil be not too much to yeeld vnto the nicenes of their hearers. 1650 J. COTTON *Sing. Ps.* 56 It were a sacrilegious nicenesse, to thinke it unlawfull lively to expresse all the artificiall elegancies of the Hebrew Text. 1705 BERKELEY *Cave of Dunmore* Wks. 1871 IV. 508 Neither need any one's niceness be offended on account of the bones. *a* 1791 WESLEY *Wks.* (1872) VIII. 321 Warn them all against niceness in hearing. 1851 HELPS *Comp. Solit.* vi. 113 Clerical niceness and over-sanctity.

† b. Fastidious taste or care. *Obs. rare* —¹.

1698 *Phil. Trans.* XX. 59 He remarks the Niceness of the Ancients, in having their Resemblances taken by none but exquisite Masters. 1714 J. MACKY *Journ. thro' Eng.* (1724) I. iii. 57 The late King William..hath adorn'd it [Hampton Court], with all the Niceness imaginable.

7. Agreeableness, pleasantness.

1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* x. iii. ¶ 8 The reason of its extreme niceness was that Don Cæsar..took pleasure in improving and ornamenting it. 1840 MRQ. LONDONDERRY in *New Monthly Mag.* LX. 106 Sugared cakes of peculiar niceness, sweetmeats and grapes. 1871 WHITNEY *Real Folks* xx, They are in a fair way of learning the niceness of being nice.

† **Ni·cery.** *Obs. rare.* [f. NICE *a.*] A nicety.

1626 BERNARD *Isle of Man* (1627) 53 The fourth is the Doore of Smelling: at this enter foolish niceries, perfumings, and other allurements to dalliance. 1640 GLAPTHORNE *Ladies Priveledge* II. ii, But at the minute, reason may dispense Twixt us with such a nicery.

† **Nicetery.** *Obs. rare* —¹. [ad. Gr. *νικητήριον* a prize of victory, f. *νίκη* victory.] A charm or talisman to secure victory.

1652 GAULE *Magastrom.* 192 Amulets, præfiscinals, phylacteries, niceteries, ligatures, suspensions, charmes.

Nicety (nəi·sĕti). Forms: 4–6 nyce-, 5– nice-; 4–5 nyse-, (5 *Sc.* nysse-), 5–6 nys-, 4 nise-; 5–7 nyci-, (6 nycy-), 6–8 nici-, 5 nisi-; also 4–6 -te(e, 5–7 -tie, (5 -tye). [a. OF. *nicelé*: see NICE *a.* and -TY.]

I. † 1. Folly, stupidity; a foolish action. *Obs.*

?*a* 1366 CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 12 Who so sayth, or weneth it be A jape, or elles nycete To wene that dremes after falle. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 7 Bot thanne it were a nycete To telle you hou that I fare. 1412–20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* I. vi, I might .. be .. noted eke of wilfull nycetye So folylye to voyde away my grace.

† 2. Foolish or wanton conduct; wantonness.

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 4719 Þe bysshope..seyd.. Þat he ne shulde make hys nycete Before the graces of Þe charyte. *c* 1330 — *Chron.* (1810) 123 Oþer afterward left of þer nycete. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 167 Litel sauour of holynesse.., but nycete & pleye & goynge to þe tauerne & oþere vanytes. *a* 1450 MYRC 1321 Hast thou, by malys or by nyste, I-made any mon dronke to be? *a* 1483 *Liber Niger* in *Househ. Ord.* (1790) 16 Ordinances for the household, to kepe the ministres thereof from any breche, outrage, reproche, or nicetie.

† b. Licentiousness, lust. *Obs.*

c 1386 CHAUCER *Wife's Prol.* 412 Than wold I suffre him doon his nycete. *c* 1412 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 3762 Plato..dwelte in wildernesse, For to restreyne fleschely nycete.

† 3. Reserve, shyness, coyness. Also *pl. Obs.*

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* II. 1286 Lete be your nycete, and your foly, And spekith with hym in esyng of his hert; Let nycete not do yow bothe smert. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. ii. 3 So love does loath disdainefull nicitee. 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* II. iv. 162 Lay by all nicetie, and prolixious blushes That banish what they sue for. 1678 DRYDEN *All for Love* Pref., Ess. (ed. Ker) I. 193 Nicety and affectation; which is no more but modesty depraved into a vice. 1696 in Aubrey *Misc.* (1721) 198 Nay (says the Fellow) give over these Niceties, for he will be your first Husband. 1757 Mrs. GRIFFITH *Lett. Henry & Frances* (1767) I. 200 Lady O—— was the only confidante made upon that occasion,.. on account of salving appearances to her nicety.

† 4. Sloth, idleness, indolence. *Obs. rare.*

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) I. 281 He was i-putte doun for grete nysete [L. *inertia*] and i-made a clerk. *Ibid.* V. 227 [The Romans] chargede þe Britouns to leve of unmanhede, and nysete [L. *ignavia*]. *c* 1440 [see NICEHEAD].

† 5. Excessive refinement or elegance in dress or manner of living. *Obs.*

a 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* (1868) 165, I shalle telle you..of a knightes doughter that lost her mariage bi her nisite. *c* 1520 *Treat. Galaunt* (1860) 16 The noble course of nature, nycete hath deuoured. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 87 b, The robe or cope, and the tubbe of Diogenes, did..vpbraide to the riche and welthie folkes their nycytee and their delices. 1603 B. JONSON *Wks.* (1616) 875 In his garbe he fauours Little of the nicety In the sprucer courtiery. 1652 CULPEPPER *Eng. Physic.* 76 Pride and Ignorance..preferring nicity before health.

† b. Luxuriousness. *Obs. rare.*

1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 104 b, To an ethnike philosopher it seemed nycitee..that an ethnike or gentile should haue his shooes dooen on by his servaunte. 1650 EARL MONM. tr. *Senault's Man bec. Guilty* 22 If we sleep, tis rather out of too much nicety than of necessity.

6. a. Delicacy of feeling, scrupulosity, punctiliousness.

1693 G. STEPNY in *Dryden's Juvenal* viii. 203 Nay when his Year of Honour's ended, soon He'll leave that nicety, and mount at Noon. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 97 ¶ 2 It prevail'd only among such as had a Nicety in their Sense of Honour. 1768 STERNE *Sent. Journ., Case of Delicacy*, As there was no other bed-chamber in the house, the hostess, without much nicety, led them into mine. 1816 SCOTT *Old Mort.* Introd., A fanciful nicety it was on the part of my..friend. 1850 L. HUNT *Autobiog.* iv. I. 179 He had declined taking orders, from nicety of religious scruple.

b. Fastidiousness.

1723 STEELE *Conse. Lovers* I. i, What is it all of a sudden offends your Nicety at our House? 1797 JANE AUSTEN *Sense & Sens.* (1813) I. 232 My own nicety, and the nicety of my friends, have made me..an idle, helpless being. We never could agree in our choice of a profession.

† c. Critical taste. *Obs. rare* —¹.

1780 JOHNSON in Boswell *Life* (1831) IV. 342 Sir, I beg to have your judgment, for I know your nicety.

d. Scrupulous care, particularity.

1718 LADY M. W. MONTAGU *Let. to C'tess of Mar* 10 Mar., The houses of the great Turkish ladies are kept clean with as much nicety as those in Holland.

7. Precision, exactitude, accuracy, minuteness.

1660 BARROW *Euclid* Pref., Some may have demonstrated most of these Propositions with more nicety. 1695 WOODWARD *Nat. Hist. Earth* IV. (1723) 204 With that exquisite Nicety as to express even the smallest and finest Lineaments of them. 1751 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 155 ¶ 2 Those who can distinguish with the utmost nicety the boundaries of vice and virtue. 1787 BEST *Angling* (ed. 2) 123 If it is a proper fly for the season, and you cast it with a nicety, the fish is your own. 1832 BABBAGE *Econ. Manuf.* xi. (ed. 3) 83 Some nicety will be required in these operations. 1878 BOSW. SMITH *Carthage* 92 If the sea was running high the utmost nicety in steering..would be essential.

b. A (specified) degree of precision.

1748 *Phil. Trans.* XLV. 114 They would be able to a very great Nicety to ascertain the absolute Velocity of Electricity. 1830 HERSCHEL *Stud. Nat. Phil.* 127 The pendulum affords a means of subdividing time to an almost unlimited nicety. 1866 — *Fam. Lect. Sci.* 102 We know to a great nicety, by actual measurement of the earth's circumference, that its diameter is 7912½ miles.

c. Phr. *To a nicety*, precisely, exactly, as closely or completely as possible.

1795 BURKE *Lett.* Wks. IX. 418 These things play the Jacobin game to a nicety. 1838 DICKENS *Nich. Nick.* iii, Fitting on his gloves to a nicety. 1862 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* XI. iii. III. 64 All was arranged and concerted to a nicety.

8. The quality of requiring careful consideration or management; delicacy, difficulty, subtlety.

1707 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4330/2 A Thing of too great Nicety and Difficulty to be accomplish'd in any other .. Reign. 1782 PRIESTLEY *Corrupt. Chr.* I. 103 The orthodox began to divide upon questions of great nicety. 1812 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 45 The learned judge told the jury that this was a case of great nicety. 1845 MCCULLOCH *Taxation* II. iv. (1852) 178 The question..is one of considerable nicety and difficulty. 1869 J. MARTINEAU *Ess.* II. 99 Matters of the utmost depth and nicety.

b. The point in which accuracy or precision is required or which is difficult to hit.

1727 DE FOE *Eng. Tradesman* iii. (1841) I. 19 The nicety of writing in business consists chiefly in giving every species of goods their trading names. 1827 D. JOHNSON *Ind. Field Sports* 72 The great nicety is, to fix the bow, so that the arrow may fly quite horizontally. 1833 J. HOLLAND *Manuf. Metal* II. 290 Few of the scale makers, it seems, of his day, knew in what the nicety of a balance consists.

II. 9. Something choice, elegant, or dainty; an elegance or refinement.

1436 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 172 The commodites and nycetees of Venicyans and Florentynes. 1611 RICH *Honest. Age* (Percy Soc.) 15 Some foolish nicities that were vsed amongst women in his time. 1675 A. HUYBERTS *Corner-Stone* 16 The new Nicities serve for nought but ostentation and discourse. 1719 *Free-thinker* No. 118 ¶ 8 Mr. Gibbons could not have carved his Niceties with a Hatchet. *a* 1864 HAWTHORNE *Amer. Note-bks.* (1879) I. 10 Clean linen and other niceties of apparel.

b. Something nice or dainty for eating.

1755 JOHNSON s.v., Niceties, in the plural, is generally applied to dainties or delicacies in eating. 1793 *Friendly Addr. Poor* 13 Niceties do little towards filling the bellies of a hungry family. 1825 Mrs. CAMERON *Honest Penny* (*Houlston Tracts* I. No. 10. 7) There were stuck up for sale apples, oranges, mintcakes, tarts, and many niceties of the same sort.

10. A nice or minute distinction; a subtle point or refinement in theory or practice.

1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* III. xxii. (Arb.) 258 The terme, though not greatly pertinent to the matter, yet not vnpleasant to knowe for them that delight in such niceties. 1631 *Star Chamb. Cases* (Camden) 55 The Court would not rayse nycities out of the pardon and frame a third offence. 1652 R. SAUNDERS *Balm to heal Rel. Wounds* Ep. Ded. 2 When Satan is so busie..there is no time to stick at nicities. 1706 E. WARD *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 63 There's no standing upon Niceties..with Fellows that have the Constitution of a Horse. 1788 BURKE *Impeachm. W. Hastings* Wks. XIII. 6 Not upon the niceties of a narrow jurisprudence, but upon the enlarged..principles of state morality. 1834 MACAULAY *Ess., Pitt* (1851) 295 These were niceties for which the audience cared little. 1880 T. A. SPALDING *Eliz. Demonol.* 16 Until the masses are more educated in theological niceties than they are at present.

b. A minute point or detail; a point or feature in which great precision or accuracy is involved.

1649 MILTON *Eikon.* 141 Above these twenty yeares he hath bin ruining the people about the niceties of his ruling. 1699 POMFRET *Dies Novissima* 36 'Tis not for you to ask, nor mine to say, The niceties of that tremendous day. 1754 SHERLOCK *Disc.* (1759) I. viii. 229 It will not be worth my Pains..to enter into the Niceties of this Controversy. 1775 JOHNSON *Let. to Mrs. Thrale* 17 June, Her present qualifications for the nicities of needle-work being dim eyes and lame fingers. 1839 HALLAM *Hist. Lit.* II. i. § 8 In the present state of philology there is incomparably more knowledge of grammatical niceties. 1875 *Chamb. Jrnl.* 23 Jan. 54 Young women..do not know the niceties of legal proof.

† **Nich,** contr. for *ne ich*, not I. *Obs.*

c 1160 *Hatton Gosp.* John xviii. 17 Ða cwæð he nich [*c* 1000 nicc] ne eom ich. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 266 Thar to ne segge ich nich ne nai [*v. r.* nyk no nay].

Niche (nitʃ), *sb.* Forms: 7 nice, niece, neech, 7–8 nitch, 7– nich(e. [a. F. *niche*, ad. It. *nicchia*, of doubtful origin (by Diez connected with *nicchio* mussel-shell). The Fr. form is also the source of Sp. and Pg. *nicho*, G. and Da. *nische*, Sw. *nisch*, Du. *nis*, Russ. НИША.]

1. A shallow ornamental recess or hollow formed in a wall of a building, usually for the purpose of containing a statue or other decorative object.

1611 COTGR., *Niche*, a Niche; a hollow seat, or standing for a statue, or image, made into a wall. *a* 1612 B. JONSON *Pr. Henries Barriers* Wks. (1616) 966 There Porticos were built,..The nieces filld with statues. 1624 WOTTON *Archit. in Reliq.* (1651) 292 That the Nices if they contain Figures of white Stone or Marble, be not coloured in their Concavity too black. 1670–98 LASSELS *Voy. Italy* I. Pref., Who can speak of Statues, but he must speak of Niches? 1713 STEELE *Englishm.* No. 40. 259 You have the blessed Virgin and a Child sitting in a Nitch. 1756–7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) II. 310 The niches still remaining shew, that this temple formerly contained the statues of the gods. 1820 W. IRVING *Sketch Bk.* II. 184 Just over the grave, in a niche of the wall, is a bust of Shakespeare. 1838 LYTTON *Leila* I. v, Taking up a brazen lamp that burnt in a niche. 1874 MICKLETHWAITE *Mod. Par. Churches* 3 A tall niche in the wall, holding a processional cross.

b. A recess in the face of a dial. *rare* —¹.

1822 IMISON *Sci. & Art* I. 96 The small hand B, in the nich at top goes round once in a minute.

2. A small vaulted recess or chamber made in the thickness of a wall, or in the ground.

1662 J. DAVIES tr. *Olearius' Voy. Ambass.* 184 A certain number of Neeches Vaulted, in which there were rich beds. 1695 MOTTEUX tr. *St. Olon's Morocco* 20 Some Wicker Conveniencies cover'd with Linnen-Cloth, and contriv'd like Niches or Arches. 1753 HANWAY *Trav.* (1762) I. III. xxxiii. 152 Beds were taken out of nitches made in the wall for that purpose. 1822 BYRON *Werner* III. i, It leads through winding walls..And hollow cells, and obscure niches, to I know not whither. 1848 BARTLETT *Egypt to Pal.* xx. (1879) 440 A third chamber had three connecting vaults, each with three raised niches for the dead.

b. A natural recess in a rock or hill.

1856 KANE *Arct. Expl.* I. vi. 54 We were fortunate enough to get out a whale-line to the rocks and warp into a protecting niche. 1865 W. G. PALGRAVE *Arabia* I. 153 We scramble up to a sort of niche near its summit.

3. *fig.* a. A place or position adapted to the character or capabilities, or suited to the merits, of a person or thing.

1726 SWIFT *To a Lady* Wks. 1751 XIV. 227 If I can but fill my Nitch, I attempt no higher Pitch. 1779–81 JOHNSON *L. P., Mallet* Wks. 1787 IV. 282 In the series of great men ..he should find a nich for the hero of the theatre. 1815 CHALMERS in Hanna *Mem.* (1849) I. 21 They have a niche assigned them in almost every public doing. 1869 W. M. ROSSETTI in *Q. Eliz. Acad.*, etc. II. 49 The work fills a niche of its own and is without competitor.

b. A place of retreat or retirement.

1725 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Spiders*, The way to destroy the Niches of Spiders in our Gardens. 1750 *Phil. Trans.* XLVII. 108 When the animal returns into its nich, the proboscis sinks into itself. 1860 RUSKIN *Mod. Paint.* V. VI. iii. § 3. 12 Where the leaf-stalk forms a safe niche between it and the main stem. 1863 WOOLNER *My beautiful Lady* 20, I told of gourmand thrushes, which To feast on morsels oozy rich, Cracked poor snails' curling niche.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *niche-band, -ornament, work*; *niche-like* adj.

1841 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* IV. 412/2 The centre [opening]..forms a lofty arch to the niche-like loggia. 1848 RICKMAN *Styles Archit. Eng.* 228 The buttresses.. are ornamented with various tiers of niche-work. 1851 RUSKIN *Stones Ven.* I. xxiv. § 10 This niche ornament of the north. 1867 A. BARRY *Sir C. Barry* vii. 254 The top of the niche-hand ranged with the cornice of the building. 1878 BELL *Gegenbaur's Comp. Anat.* 110 A fissure, or a niche-like depression of the edge of the disc.

Niche (nitʃ), *v.* [f. the sb., or in some senses perh. partly ad. F. *nicher* to nest, nestle, place as in a nest :—pop. Lat. **nīdicāre*, f. *nīd-us* nest.]

1. *trans.* (in *passive*). To place (an image, etc.) in a niche or similar recess. Also *fig.*

1757 J. H. GROSE *Voy. E. Indies* 326 Domestic idols.. which are niched in a conveyance that is to serve them for a triumphal car. 1798 CHARLOTTE SMITH *Yng. Philos.* IV. 66 You will never be niched with——faith, I have forgotten their names. 1838 LYTTON *Lady of L.* III. ii, No image of some marble saint, Nich'd in cathedral aisles, is hallow'd more. 1855 DICKENS *Dorrit* II. v, A family so conspicuously niched in the social temple as the family of Dorrit. 1880 'MARK TWAIN' *Tramp Abroad* I. xxi. 198 A waxen Virgin niched in a little box against the wall.

b. To form as a niche. Const. *into, in.*

1818 J. C. HOBHOUSE *Hist. Illustr.* (ed. 2) 213 Half way up an open oratory has been niched into a wall. 1820 BYRON *Juan* v. lxvi, A..cupboard niched in yonder.

2. To place in some recess or nook; to ensconce. In *passive*: **a.** of things or places.

1752 WATSON in *Phil. Trans.* XLVII. 456 In the lithophyton, the urtica, being niched in their crusts or barks, deposits a juice or liquor. 1819 MRS. JACKSON in *Sir G. Jackson's Diaries & Lett.* (1873) I. 131 Your fair divinity was a little earthly paradise niched somewhere in the mountains. 1862 T. A. TROLLOPE *Lent. Journey* iv. 57 The little solitary convent..is niched into a little, low, damp-looking meadow.

b. of persons.

1824 SCOTT *Redgauntlet* let. x, They sat cosily niched into what you might call a bunker. 1847 LYTTON *Lucretia* I. ii, Niched between two bouncing lasses, he had commenced acquaintance with them. 1876 M. COLLINS *From Midnight to Midn.* II. ii. 231 They got niched into a corner of the room.

3. *refl.* To settle or ensconce (oneself) quietly or comfortably. Also (rarely) of things.

1824 J. C. HOBHOUSE in *Athenæum* (1883) 4 Aug. 145/1 A corner or two for unobtrusive folks like ourselves to nitche themselves. 1853 RUSKIN *Stones Venice* III. ii. § 39. 60 It would not niche itself, wherever there was room for it, in the street corners. 1878 MRS. STOWE *Poganuc P.* xvi. 140 Here Dolly loved to retreat and niche herself down in a quiet corner.

4. *intr.* To nestle, settle. *rare.*

1853 MISS YONGE *Heir of Redclyffe* xliii, Charlotte generally niched into Amy's old corner by Charles. 1883 K. S. MACQUOID *Her Sailor Love* I. ii. vi. 115 Tufts of grass niching among the broken chalk.

Hence **Niched** (nitʃt), *ppl. a.*

1771 T. NUGENT tr. *Life Benv. Cellini* I. 450 My string of long slips, which I wanted to get about one of the nitched battlements. *a* 1837 CAMPBELL *Departure of Emigrants* 92 Poet. Wks. (1837) 246 Niched statues breathing golden air. 1849 RUSKIN *Sev. Lamps* i. § 7. 15 Have we no..niched statuary in our corridors? 1855 TENNYSON *Daisy* 38 Those niched shapes of noble mould.

Nichel(l, *sb.* and *v.*: see NICHIL.

Ni·cher, *sb.* [Cf. next.] A neigh; a laugh.

a 1791 *Blind Harper of Lochmaben* xv. in Child *Ballads* IV. 18/1 There she [a mare] gave mony a nicher and sneer. 1844 *Richardson's Local Historian's Table-bk., Leg. Div.* II. 137 There was sic a queer eiry nicher, as o' some hundreds o' creatures laughin'. 1894 P. H. HUNTER *J. Inwick* 249 A queer kind o' nicher o' a lauch.

Nicher (ni·χəɹ), *v. Sc.* and *north. dial.* [Imitative: cf. NEIGHER *v.* and NICKER *v.*] *intr.* (and *trans.*) To neigh; also *transf.* to laugh loudly.

a 1700 *Johnie Armstrang* in *Ever-Green* (1761) I. 192 These milk whyt Steids, That prance and nicher at a Speir. 1806 R. JAMIESON *Ld. Randal* xxvii. in *Pop. Ballads & Songs* I. 169 Lord Randal's steed he nicher'd loud. 1822 SCOTT *Nigel* xxxi, Ye needna nicher that gait.., e'en though it was a pleasing jest. 1848 C. BRONTE *Jane Eyre* (1857) 199 The old crone nichered a laugh under her bonnet and bandage. 1895 CROCKETT *Men of Moss-Hags* xiv, Above us the fitful, flying winds nichered and laughed like mocking fiends.

† Ni·chil, *sb. Obs.* Also 6 **nichel(l.** [a. med.L. *nichil*, class. L. *nihil* nothing: see NIHIL.]

1. Nothing, naught. *rare.*

1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xxii. 74 He playis with totum and I with nichell. 1584 R. SCOT *Discov. Witchcr.* XVI. vi. (1886) 406 The witches..that..give their soules to the divell..and their bodies to the hangman to be trussed on the gallows, for nichels in a bag. 1670 RAY *Prov.* 188 Nichils in nine pokes. Chesh[ire] *i.e.* Nothing at all. [Cf. NIFLE *sb.* 1.]

2. *Law.* The return made by the sheriff to the exchequer in cases where the party named in the writ had no goods upon which a levy could be made. Cf. NIHIL 2.

1585 *Act* 27 *Eliz.* c. 3 § 3 After ten Months next after such two Nichils, or Garnishment returned, the same Lands.. shall be sold. 1684–1708 [see NIHIL 2]. *a* 1726 GILBERT *Treat. Exch.* viii. (1758) 133 A Roll of Nichils, or of the Debts which the Sheriff has nichilled. 1763 *Stat. at Large* (Ruffhead) I. 354 Accompts of Nichil shall be put out of the Exchequer.

b. *Clerk of the Nichils*, a clerk of the exchequer who made a note of the Nichils returned by the sheriffs.

1642 C. VERNON *Consid. Exch.* 4 The nichelled issues are by the Clerke of the Nichells sent to the Treasurers Remembrancer. *a* 1661 FULLER *Worthies* xxiv. I. (1662) 75 The Clerk of the Nichils, who maketh a Roll of all such sums as are nichill'd by the Sheriff upon their Estreats of the Green wax. *a* 1726 GILBERT *Treat. Exch.* viii (1758) 132 The Clerk of the Estreats and the Clerk of the Nichils meet and make up two Rolls.

† Ni·chil, *v. Law. Obs.* Also nichel. [f. prec.] *trans.* Of a sheriff: To mark or designate (a debt or sum) as illeviable through the absence of any goods to be taken. Hence **Ni·chilled** *ppl. a.*

1620 J. WILKINSON *Coroners & Sheriffes* 75 Betweene the old Sherife which returned them, and the new Sherife which nichiled them, they must be payed. 1642–61 [see prec. 2 b]. *a* 1726 GILBERT *Treat. Exch.* v. (1758) 76 The Sheriff often gave Acquittances and Tallies to the Tenants and yet Nichil'd them on the Account.

† Ni·chillate, *ppl. a. Obs. rare* —1. [ad. med.L. *ni(c)hilāt-us*, pa. pple. of *nihilāre*, f. *nihil* nothing.] Annulled.

1563 *Durham Wills & Inv.* (Surtees) 5 All other former wylls by hym maide to be voyde, frustrate and nichillate.

Nicholaite, -an: see NICOLAITE, -AN.

Nicholas (ni·kŏlăs). [The name of an early Christian saint (died 326 A.D.), bishop of Myra in Lycia, regarded as the patron of scholars, esp. of schoolboys.]

† 1. *St. Nicholas' bishop*, a boy-bishop elected by choir-boys or scholars on St. Nicholas' Eve (Dec. 5).

Cf. Puttenham *Eng. Poesie* III. xxiii. (Arb.) 279; J. Gregory *Posthuma* (1650) 113–4; Brady *Clavis Calend.* (1813) II. Dec. 6; Bourne *Popular Antiq.* (ed. Brand) 362.

1501 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* II. 128 Be the Kingis command, to Sanct Nicholais beschop of Coupir in Fiff xlijs. 1505 *Ibid.* III. 175 To Sanct Nicholas beschop in Linlithqw. xlijs.

2. *St. Nicholas'(s) clerks*: **† a.** Poor scholars.

1553 T. WILSON *Rhet.* (1580) 155 Thei are no Churchemen, thei are maisterlesse men, or rather S. Nicolas clarkes that lacke liuyng. 1581 MARBECK *Bk. of Notes* 204 To receive the Pope for his supreame head.., to receive S. Nicholas Clarkes, to have his beads, and to give to the high Altar.

b. Highwaymen. Now only *arch.*

See also CLERGYMAN 2.

1570 FOXE *A. & M.* (ed. 2) 2287, I haue heard of men robbed by S. Nicolas clerkes. 1596 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. IV*, II. i. 68 If they meete not with S. Nicholas Clarks, Ile giue thee this necke. 1612 R. DABORNE *Christian turn'd Turke* 1393 S'foot we are preuented; S. Nicolas Clearkes are stept vp before vs. 1662 J. WILSON *The Cheats* I. i, Who should I meet with but our old Gang, some of St. Nicholas's Clerks. 1819 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* xii, That I might at least see any of St. Nicholas's clerks before they spring on my shoulders.

Nicht, Sc. variant of NIGHT.

Nicibicetur: see NICEBECETUR.

† Ni·cing, *ppl. a. Obs. rare* —1. [f. NICE *a.*] Disdainful, fastidious.

1581 T. HOWELL *Deuises* (1879) 233 With nising Nimphes I list not deale, Whose lookes aloft aspire.

Nicish, variant of NICEISH *a.*

Nick (nik), *sb.*[1] Also 5 **nyke**, 6 **nycke**, 6–7 **nicke**, 7 **nic**, **nike**, 8 **knick**. [Of obscure origin: appears earlier than the corresponding verb, but may be derived from it.]

I. 1. A notch, groove or slit, cut into, or present in, something; an incision or indentation.

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 255/1 A Nyke, *tenus.* 1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 4 Somme plowes haue a bende of yron..that hath thre nyckes on the farther syde. 1578 BANISTER *Hist. Man* I. 32 Departyng from this corner, or deepe nicke, ..there riseth a certaine sharpe Processe. 1609 C. BUTLER *Fem. Mon.* (1634) 118 It is best..in the edges on both sides, to cut little nicks. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* II. 68/2 The leaf 5 pointed, each cut with deep nicks, almost jagged. 1753 BARTLET *Farriery* 332 Holes must be made at certain distances in the groove,..and a nick cut to receive the billet from the strap. 1769 MRS. RAFFALD *Eng. Housekpr.* (1778) 303 Fill one nick with chopped parsley, the second with fat pork,..and so on till you have filled all your nicks. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* I. 15 A nick is made in the wood or bone, to keep the work from being carried aside by the file. 1847 LE FANU *T. O'Brien* 170 Deepening a nick with his penknife in the counter. 1888 BOTTONE *Electr. Instr. Making* § 41 With a file, a nick is cut in this steel rod.

b. In various special applications (see quots.).

1562 TURNER *Herbal* II. (1568) 166 The sede laydto..swageth the payne of the nickes or ryuinge of the fundamente. 1637 SUCKLING *Aglaura* II. i, Like the string of a watch wound up too high, and forc'd above the nicke. *a* 1680 BUTLER *Rem.* (1759) II. 260 [He] has a different Humour for every Nick his Drink rises to. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 351/1 The Notch or Nick in the Arrow for the Bowstring to go in. 1791 *Young's Annals Agric.* XVI. 567 (E.D.D.), Instead of this ridge the new Leicester sheep are now breeding to have a furrow there, which is called the knick. 1841 *Penny Cycl.* XXI. 109/1 After which the nick, or groove [in a screw-head] to receive the end of the screw-driver, is cut with a circular saw. 1842 LOWER *Eng. Surnames* (1875) II. App. 156 A nick is the mark cut in the mandible of a swan to distinguish its ownership.

c. *Printing.* A notch made on one side of the shank of a type, serving as a guide to the compositor in setting; **†** the part of the mould by which this is made.

1683 MOXON *Mech. Exerc., Printing* xv. P 8 In the upper half of the Mold..is fitted into the under side of the Body the Nick: It is made of a piece of Wyer. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) VII. 381/1 This wire, or rather half-wire, in the upper part makes the nick in the shank of the letter. 1824 J. JOHNSON *Typogr.* II. 6 The advantage to be derived from letter having a deep nick, and also that the nick should differ from other founts of that body. 1882 SOUTHWARD *Pract. Printing* 11 The nick..distinguishes between letters of an equal size but of a different description.

2. a. A notch used as a means of keeping a score; hence, **†** reckoning, account.

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 255/1 A Nyke of a tayle, *epimeridia.* 1530 PALSGR. 644/1, I make nyckes on a tayle, or on a stycke. 1587 CHURCHYARD *Worth. Wales* (1876) 86 O fathers wise, and wits beyond the nicke. 1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* IV. ii. 76 He lou'd her out of all nicke. 1611 COTGR., *Hoche*, a nicke, or notch, on a Tallie, etc. 1887 RIDER HAGGARD *Allan Quatermain* iv, A number of little nicks, each nick representing a man killed in battle. 1891 KIPLING *Light that Failed* (1900) 34 That's another nick in the score. I'll jostle you later on.

b. One of the depressions between the rings which form on the horns of cattle, and afford some indication of their age. Also *fig.*

1788 PICKEN *Poems* (1813) I. 156 (E.D.D.), May..ilka new nick on her horn Some added pleasure yield her. *c* 1810 CROMEK in *Burns' Wks.* (1838–9) 62 It was his common practice to cut the nicks or markings from the horns of cattle, to disguise their age. 1862 HISLOP *Prov. Scot.* 192 There's ower mony nicks in your horn. That is, you are too knowing or cunning for me.

3. A gap in a range of hills.

1793 *Carlop Green* (1817) 112 Ending in a swelling know, Formed by King Charlie's Nick. 1860 KAY-SHUTTLEWORTH *Scarsdale* I. 117 The drivers of strings of gals [Galloway ponies] with lime sacks o'er the nick of Pendle. 1883 STEVENSON *Silverado Sq.* 66 There in the nick just where the foothills joined the mountain..was Silverado.

4. A cut; the act of cutting.

a 1816 WOLCOT (P. Pindar) *Middlesex Election* v. v. Wks. 1816 IV. 206 Our cock hath had a nick;..His droat is cut, and there he lieth. 1885 RIDER HAGGARD *K. Solomon's Mines* xiii, The fatal 'nick' of the artery was done..swiftly and painlessly.

II. † 5. A verbal correspondence or resemblance; a pun. *Obs.* (Cf. NICK *v.*[2] 4.)

1561 T. HOBY tr. *Castiglione's Courtyer* II. (1577) K iij, The other sort of iestes..consisteth only in quicke and subtil sayings,..and in nickes. 1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* II. xvii[i]. (Arb.) 146 In these verses by reason one [word] of them doth as it were nicke another, ..it behoueth..to place them where the nicke may be more expresly discouered.

6. In the game of hazard: A throw which is either the same as the main, or has a fixed correspondence to it (see quot. 1797).

a 1635 CORBET *Poems* (1807) 128 Amongst the gamesters, where they name thee thicke At the last maine, or the last pocky nicke. *c* 1696 PRIOR *Cupid & Ganymede* 32 The usual trick: Seven, slur a six; eleven, a nick. 1778 C. JONES *Hoyle's Games Impr.* 211 The Nick of Seven is seven to two, often laid ten to three. The Nick of Six and Eight is five to one. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) VIII. 347/1 Nicks are either when the chance is the same with the main,..or six and twelve, seven and eleven, eight and twelve. 1809 BYRON *Bards & Rev.* xxxii, The jovial caster's set, and seven's the nick. 1853 WHYTE MELVILLE *Digby Grand* I. vi. 164 'Seven's the main—seven!' The dice rattled, the box fell, and a dotted eleven turned its welcome surface upward. I need not say this was what is termed a nick. 1863 *Chambers's Encycl.* V. 274/2 If his throw be not a nick, or a crab, then, if he can repeat the same throw before the main turns up, he wins.

III. 7. *The (very) nick*: **a.** The precise or exact moment or point of time when something takes place or requires to be done; the critical moment. Chiefly used in phr. *in* (**†** *at, upon*) *the nick* (common from *c* 1580).

1577 HANMER *Anc. Eccl. Hist.* VI. vi, The Romane navie ..arrived at the very pinch, or as commonly we say, in the nicke. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* XXX. XXV. 757 Thus the truce being doubtlesse broken..Lælius and Fulvius came in the verie nicke from Rome. 1622 MABBE tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* II. (1623) 336 We at last came to the Gallies, just upon the very Nicke, [etc.]. 1638 COWLEY *Love's Riddle* V. Wks. 1711 III. 136 Philistus.., just at the nick came in And parted us. 1648 EVELYN *Let.* in Wks. 1852 III. 11 Your Essex men, who (contrary to all expectations until the very nick) came in a body. 1724 SWIFT *Quiet Life* Wks. 1755 IV. i. 48 Ent'ring in the very nick, He saw virago Nell belabour .. his peaceful neighbour. 1774 FOOTE *Coxeners* III. Wks. 1799 II. 196 Married..they would have been, if I had not come just in the nick. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* IV. ii. P 4 There passed by in the very nick one of his friends. 1868 NETTLESHIP *Ess. Browning* vi. 191 But the Pope and King returning in the nick, crucified him.

† b. The exact point aimed at; the mark. *Obs.*

1602 MARSTON *Ant. & Mel.* Induction, Wks. 1856 I. 3, I will so tickle the sense..with the titillation of hyperbolicall praise, that I'le strike it in the nick, in the very nick. 1621 FLETCHER *Pilgrim* III. vi, *Schol.* Does the sea stagger ye? *Mast.* Now ye have hit the nick. 1656 E. REYNER *Rules Govt. Tongue* 29 Right words are effectual; for they hit the mark, light in the nick, and strike on the right string.

† c. *slang* or *colloq.* The 'proper thing'. *Obs.*

1788 LD. R. SEYMOUR in *Murray's Mag.* I. 472 The word Ton is quite abolished. Everything that is fashionable is now called the Nick.

8. The precise moment or time *of* some occurrence or event.

1645 RUTHERFORD *Tryal & Tri. Faith* i. (1845) 3 It is unhappy, if, in the nick of the first breaking of the morning sky, the night-watch fall fast asleep. 1670 G. H. *Hist. Cardinals* II. III. 199 Dying just in the nick of the vacancy of the See. 1713 STEELE *Guard.* No. 82 P 10 In the nick of being surprised, the lovers..escape at a trap-door. 1845 HOOD *True Story* xi, A tramper That came in danger's very nick. 1855 BROWNING *Childe Roland* xxix, In the very nick Of giving up, one time more, came a click.

† b. The essential part *of* something. *Obs.*

1577 STANYHURST *Descr. Ireland* Ep. Ded. in *Holinshed*

(1808) VI, He was so crost in the nicke of this determination that his historie..wandred through sundrie hands. 1684 *Observator* No. 129 *Trim.* What's that to the Book here before us? *Obs.* Only the very Nick of the Case.

†c. The exact amount *of* something. *Obs.* —1

1610 B. JONSON *Alch.* IV. iv, I knew, the Doctor would not leaue Till he had found the very nick of her fortune.

9. *The (very) nick of time* (or †*opportunity*) = 7 a. a. In phr. with *in* or *at*.

1612 R. CARPENTER *Soules Sent.* 40 [He] came in the nicke of opportunity to beg grace. 1643 [ANGIER] *Lanc. Vall. Achor* 19 [We] came in the nick of time to relieve the well-affected in Preston. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* II. 179 If he had not gone down at the very nick of time, the Ship could not have failed of being very quickly blown up. 1710 ADDISON *Tatler* No. 158 ¶ 1 In the very Nick of Time, in the Critical Moment. 1737 L. CLARKE *Hist. Bible* (1740) VIII. 539 Antiochus returning at the very nick of time, was unanimously declared King. 1818 HAZLITT *Eng. Poets* viii. (1870) 200 He unexpectedly appears just in the nick of time, after years of absence. 1840 DICKENS *Barn. Rudge* lxx, He..had changed sides at the very nick of time. 1888 BURGON *Lives* 12 *Gd. Men* II. vii. 118 The following note..reached the young man's hands in the very nick of time.

b. In other constructions.

1644 *Lancash. Tracts Civil War* (Chetham Soc.) 177 Something must be done, and now was the nicke and joynt of time. 1681 FLAVEL *Meth. Grace* xi. 236 The wisdom of God..hits the very nick of time for his application. 1845 MIALL in *Nonconf.* V. 253 To turn to profitable account 'the nick of time'. 1867 TROLLOPE *Chron. Barset* I. xxxv. 299 It was simply the nick of time which gave it to him.

10. (With *a* and *pl.*) A critical point or moment. Now *rare*.

1628 FELTHAM *Resolves* II. viii. 19 There are some nicks in Time, which whosoeuer findes, may promise to himselfe successe. 1664 BUTLER *Hud.* II. iii. 622 With Symbols, Signs, and Tricks, Engrav'd in Planetary Nicks. 1730 T. BOSTON *Mem.* 293 They had come forth at such a nick for sale. *a* 1845 HOOD *Forge* II. xx, With whom, at that very particular nick, There is such an unlucky crow to pick. 1879 STEVENSON *Trav. Cevennes* 106 Certainly here was a man in an interesting nick of life.

†b. So *nick of time*. Chiefly with *in* or *at*. *Obs.*

1642 *Declar. Lords & Comm. to Gen. Assembly Ch. Scot.* 12 In this nick of time. 1674 T. FLATMAN *Belly God* 8 'Tis a crime To interrupt at such a nick of time. *a* 1707 S. PATRICK *Autobiogr.* (1839) 179, I look upon it as a singular providence of God, that Dr. Harris..should come in at that nick of time. 1724 A. COLLINS *Gr. Chr. Relig.* Pref. 57 There is one season and nick of time, wherein they will allow [etc.].

†c. A point, stage, degree. *To a nick*, to a nicety. *Obs.*

1636 RUTHERFORD *Lett.* (1862) I. lxx. 183 There is a nick in Christianity, to the which whosoever cometh they see and feel more than others can do. 1649 BULWER *Pathomyot.* II. i. 90 To fit its purpose in such an intricate nick of irresolution. *a* 1680 BUTLER *Rem.* (1759) I. 108 For who could choose but err, without some Trick To take your Elevation to a Nick.

†d. A chance, opportunity. *Obs. rare*—1.

1664 J. WILSON *A. Commentus* v. i, He is so sensible of 's danger, He catches at any thing—this is our nick.

IV. †**11.** (Precise sense not clear.) *Obs. rare*—1.

1609 B. JONSON *Sil. Wom.* IV. iv, A very Sharke, he set me i' the nicke t'other night at primero.

†**12.** App., a fraudulent bottom in a beer-can, diminishing the quantity of liquor contained in it. (Cf. KICK *sb.*2 1.) Only in phr. *nick and froth. Obs.*

In quot. *a* 1700 associated with sense 2a, but compare quot. 1616 under NICK *v.*2 12.

1600–12 ROWLANDS *Four Knaves* (Percy Soc.) 48 With cannes of beere..And those they say are fil'd with nick and froth. 1630 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Trav. Twelvepence* Wks. I. 70/2 They vsed so much deceit with nick and froth. *a* 1658 CLEVELAND *Lenten Litany* ix, From the Nick and Froth of a Penny Pot-house, *Libera nos.* *c* 1665 *Nick & Froth* in *Roxb. Ball.* VI. 487 Now we'll..lay you all open to view, It's all for your Froth and your Nick (you slaves). *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Nick and Froth built the Pye at Aldgate*, sharping in the Reckonings and cheating in the Measure built that (once) Noted House.

attrib. 1741 *Poor Robin, Chron.*, She still continues the Nick and Froth Trade as usual.

V. 13. An instance of cross-breeding.

1897 *Outing* (U.S.) XXIX. 484/1 Star, a good one in the field, was bred to Druid, and Mr. Wells made a record with this nick. Most of the puppies of this cross were handsome and excellent workers.

Nick (nik), *sb.*2 [Prob. the familiar abbreviation of the name *Nicholas*, but the reason for the appellation is obscure. There is no evidence of connexion with any of the forms cited under NICKER *sb.*1] The devil. Usually *Old Nick*.

a 1643 in Ebsworth *Merry Drollery* App. (1875) 394 For Roundheads Old Nick stand up now. 1668 [see OLD *a.* 9 b]. 1694 ECHARD *Plautus* 14 Wou'd Old Nick had these bloody-minded Fellows. *a* 1743 OZELL tr. *Brantome's Sp. Rhodomont.* (1744) 25 Old Nick himself was never painted half so ugly. 1774 GOLDSM. *Retal.* 58 We wished him full ten times a day at Old Nick. 1842 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. II. *St. Medard* Moral, Unless you're too Saintly to care about Nick. 1886 BESANT *Childr. Gibeon* I. viii, When you..made us laugh with your conceit, being always conceited as Old Nick.

†**Nick,** *v.*1 *Obs.* (exc. *arch.*) Forms: 4–6 (9) nick, (4 nic, ? nickin), 4 nik(ke, nycke, 4–5 nyk(ke, 5 nek-, 7 *Sc.* neck. [Of obscure origin: perh. f. *nic* = *ne ic* not I: see NICH. Connexion with Sw. *neka*, to deny, seems unlikely.]

1. a. *intr.* To make denial, to deny. *rare*—1.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 308 Hit nis nout ine Godes kurt ase hit is iðe scbire, þer ase þe þet nickeð [L. *negat*] wel mei beon iboruwen, and þe fule þet is icnowen is idemed.

b. *trans.* To deny (a person or thing). *rare.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 21078 þat erth, þai say, vmstund Men seis vprisand fra þe grund..: þe landes folk it will noght nick. 13.. *Ibid.* 15566 (Gött.), þu sal me nickin are.

2. *trans.* To answer (one) 'nay' or (usually) *with* 'nay'. Also const. *of*.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 3917 Laban o leue þam nicked nai. [Also 6604, 19773.] *Ibid.* 4382 Has þou nicked me wit nay? *c* 1330 *Amis & Amil.* 2176 No wold thai nick him with no nay. *a* 1400 *Pistill of Susan* 148 3if I nikke hem with nai, hit helpeþ me nou3t. *c* 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 115 Lord, wendis on your way, Yone berne nykis yow with nay. 1515 *Scottish Field* in *Chetham Misc.* (1856) Introd. 13 But he nicked them with nay, and none of yt woulde. 15.. *King Estmere* xii. in Child *Ballads* II. 52/1 She nicked him of naye, And I doubt sheele do you the same. 1603 *Philotus* xxxii, Sweit sucker, neck me not with nay, Bot be content to tak him. [1820 SCOTT *Abbot* xxxviii, I have but one boon to ask, I trust you will not nick me with nay.]

b. Without personal object. *rare.*

a 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* viii. 32 Ant ever at neode y nycke nay, that y ner nemnede that heo nolde. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 4145 3if sche nickes wiþ nay & nel nou3t com sone,..I wol þat reaume ouer-ride.

Nick (nik), *v.*2 Also 6–7 nicke, 6 nycke, 7 knick. [Of obscure origin: there is no obvious connexion with similar forms in the cognate languages, as Du. *nikken*, G. *nicken*, to nod, beckon, G. *knicken* to break, snap. It is also uncertain whether all the senses really belong to the same word.]

I. 1. *trans.* To make a nick or notch in; to cut in nicks or notches; to indent.

1530 PALSGR. 644/1 It is no trewe poynte to nycke your tayle [more than mine]. 1573 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 189 Some cutteth the napkin, some trencher will nick. 1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* v. i. 175 His man with Cizers nickes him like a foole. *a* 1650 *Robin Hood & Guy of Gisborne* xlii. in Child *Ballads* III. 93/2 Robin pulled forth an Irish kniffe, And nicked Sir Guy in the face. 1681 W. ROBERTSON *Phraseol. Gen.* (1693) 918 To nick or notch. 1764 E. MOXON *Eng. Housew.* 44 Nick your beef about an inch distance. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* I. 122 Before a saw is employed.., nick the place with a paring chisel. 1856 MRS. BROWNING *Aurora Leigh* IX. 547 The falling beam Which nicked me on the forehead as I passed The gallery-door. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 117/2 Each hend came under a saw, and was nicked across the centre. *fig.* 1881 *Harper's Mag.* July 249 A stiff palm-tree..nicked the blue-blackness of the sky.

b. To record or score by means of a notch or notches made on a tally or stick. Also with *up*, *down*, and in fig. use.

1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 141 And yf he can not wryte lette hym nycke the defautes vpon a stycke. 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* I. (Arb.) 22 Bee sure, this practise wil I nick in a freendlye memento. 1598 YONG *Diana* 484 Vpon our score You should nicke vp so many merie tides. 1613 DAY *Dyall* xii. (1614) 318 So is their reasoning again as silly, who upon the word Merit in the Fathers, nick up still our owne Deserts. 1641 BEST *Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 98 With a knife wee nicke on a spell howe many cleane weathers. 1738 SWIFT *Pol. Conversat.* 5 I'll get a knife and nick it down, that Mr. Neverout came to our House. *a* 1845 HOOD *Tale of Trumpet* xiv, As for the clock the moments nicking, The Dame only gave it credit for ticking.

c. *absol.* or *intr.* To chip china.

1885 *Harper's Mag.* Feb. 477/1 As regards china..our servants are not in the least careful not to nick.

2. To cut into or through; to cut short.

1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* III. xiii. 8 The itch of his Affection should not then Haue nickt his Captain-ship at such a point. 1787 BURNS *Death & Dr. Hornbook* xii, It's e'en a lang, lang time indeed Sin' I began to nick the thread. 1789 — *Peregrin. Capt. Grose* viii, The knife that nicket Abel's craig. 1865 MRS. WHITNEY *Gayworthys* xxvi, Skylark grew to be her ordinary appellative; shortened, indeed to Skylie; the nickname nicked.

b. To fashion or mark out by cutting. Also with *out*, and in fig. use.

1605 CAMDEN *Rem., Epitaphs* 42 A Monke of Duresme busied his braine in nicking out these nice verses vpon the death of W. de La-march. 1719 HAMILTON *Epist.* II. vi. in *Ramsay's Poems*, Thy verses nice as ever nicket, Made me as canty as a cricket. 1827 CLARE *Sheph. Cal.* 180 Nicking the 'Nine-peg morris' in the grass. 1838 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* I. 326/1 The breadth of land has been nicked out upon the ground.

c. *Mining.* (See quots.)

1847 HALLIWELL, *Nick*, to cut vertical sections in a mine from the roof. *North.* 1883 GRESLEY *Gloss. Coal-mining* 174 *Nick*, to cut or shear coal after boling.

d. To fasten with a click. *rare*—1.

1856 MRS. BROWNING *Aurora Leigh* VI. 1067 The lady closed That door, and nicked the lock.

3. To make an incision at the root of (a horse's tail) in order to make him carry it higher.

1737 BRACKEN *Farriery Impr.* (1757) II. 4 Why should any Horse carry me better when his Tail is nick'd (as the Term is) than he did before? 1828 [H. BEST] *Italy as it is* 87 Most of the horses had their tails docked, nicked and cropped. 1887 HALL CAINE *Son of Hagar* I. vii, Anything from ploughing to threshing and nicking a nag's tail.

absol. 1859 MISS CARY *Country Life* (1876) 189 I'm a going to..learn to nick and dock.

b. To cut (a horse) at the root of the tail.

1753 J. BARTLET *Gentl. Farriery* 311 The art of nicking horses then chiefly consists in a transverse division of these depressing tendons of the tail. 1791 W. GILPIN *Forest Scenery* II. 268 The custom..of docking, nicking, and cropping their horses. 1815 *Sporting Mag.* XLVI. 115 Every man who nicks his horse, ought himself to be nicked elsewhere. 1896 *Daily News* 11 Feb. 9/1 Prosecuted..for 'nicking' two hackneys and a chestnut mare.

II. †**4.** To tally with, correspond to, resemble, fit, suit exactly. *Obs.*

1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* II. xvii[i]. (Arb.) 146 By reason one [word] of them doth as it were nicke another. *Ibid.* III. xix. 212 Because the one [word] seemes to answere th'other by manner of illusion, and doth, as it were, nick him, I call him the Nicknamer. 1605 CAMDEN *Rem.* 140 Words nicking and resembling one the other, are appliable to diffrent significations. 1687 T. BROWN *Lib. Consc.* in *Dk. Buckhm.'s Wks.* (1705) II. 126 To this odd-conditioned Soul was tack'd a Body that nickt it like two Exchequer Tallies. 1702 MOTTEUX *Prol. Farquhar's Inconstant* 21 An opera, like an oglio, nicks the age.

†**5.** To hit off or fit (a person or thing) *with* (or *in*) an appropriate name. *Obs.*

Perh. partly from *nicknanie*: cf. quot. 1889 in b.

1589 [? LYLY] *Pappe w. Hatchet* B iv, If anie be vnchristened, Ile nicke him with a name. 1602 CAREW *Cornwall* (1769) 88 Some of the idle disposed Cornish men nicke their townes with by words, as, the..pride of Truro, Gallants of Foy. 1605 CAMDEN *Rem.* 141 The Greekes..nicked Antiochus Epiphanes, that is, the famous, with Epimanes, that is, the furious. 1687 MONTAGU & PRIOR *Hind & P. Transv.* 24, I have so nickt his Character in a Name as will make you split. 1693 SOUTH *Serm.* 455 Take any Passion of the Soul of Man..and nick it with some lucky or unlucky Word.

b. To call by some (depreciative) name; to nickname. *Obs.* exc. as *nonce-wd.*

1605 CAMDEN *Rem.* 80 Goodith.., by which name King Henry the first was nicked in contempt. 1634 FORD *Perk. Warbeck* IV. iii, Warbeck, as you nick him, came to me. 1689 N. LEE *Princ. Cleve* II. iii, Believe me Sir, in a little time you'll be nick'd the Town-Bull.

1889 LANKESTER in *Nature* 21 Mar. 485 There is no ground for regarding the word 'Lamarckism' as a nickname. There can be no desire to 'nick' him or anyone else.

c. To criticize, censure.

1667 DRYDEN *Maiden Queen* 2nd Prol. 57 Those who write not, and yet all writers nick, Are bankrupt gamesters.

6. a. *To nick it*, to hit the mark, to make a hit; to guess rightly.

1624 MASSINGER *Parl. Love* V. i, Have I not nick'd it, tutor? 1681 HICKERINGILL *Black Non-Conf.* Concl., Wks. 1716 II. 151 Jezabel nick't it in Politicks, when..she made the Law [etc.]. 1705 VANBRUGH *Confederacy* Prol., All his decent plays, Where he so nicked it, when he writ for praise. 1740 RICHARDSON *Pamela* (1824) I. 182 So, Jackey, but we just nicked it, I find. *a* 1804 R. GRAVES tr. *Martial* II. vii, At every ball how prettily you nick it! 1823 MONCRIEFF *Tom & Jerry* I. iv, You've nicked it: the fact is this, Dicky—you must turn missionary. 1831 LAMB *Satan in search*, etc. I. xii, 'I wish my Nicky is not in love'.—'O mother, you have nicked it!'

b. To hit, arrive at with precision.

1673 [R. LEIGH] *Transp. Reh.* 6, I gad sir, and there you have nickt the present juncture of affairs. 1712 OLDISWORTH *Horace's Odes* VII. 29/1 Without doubt we have nick'd Horace's meaning. 1761 CHESTERF. *Lett.* cccix. (1792) IV. 177 All things have their bound..; and I will endeavour to nick that point. 1800 LAMB *Let. to Manning* in *Final Mem.* (1848) I. 113 You just nicked my palate. 1853 LYTTON *My Novel* II. v, He..perceived the chances for and against.., and nicked the question between wind and water. 1889 DOYLE *Micah Clarke* xxvii, Mayhap you have nicked the truth.

†c. *To nick the pin*: (see quots.). *Obs.*

a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew* s. v. *Pin, Nick the Pin*, to Drink fairly. 1708 KERSEY, *To Nick the Pin*, to drink just to the Pin plac'd about the middle of a Wooden Bowl or Cup.

†d. To break (windows) by hitting with copper coins (cf. NICKER *sb.*2 3). *Obs. rare*—1.

1717 PRIOR *Alma* III. 235 He starts up mohack; Breaks watchmen's heads, and chairmen's glasses, And thence proceeds to nicking sashes.

e. To hit *off* neatly or precisely.

a 1694 M. ROBINSON *Autobiog.* (1856) 6 His father..did admire to see how the boy would nick off the very sense of difficult passages. 1839 THACKERAY *2nd Lect. Fine Arts*, The chairs, tables, curtains, and pictures, are nicked off with extraordinary neatness and sharpness. 1856 — *Christmas Bks.* (1872) 25 He dockets his tailor's bills, and nicks off his dinner notes in diplomatic paragraphs.

7. To hit or catch exactly (the proper time, season, etc. for something).

a 1664 FRANK in Spurgeon *Treas. Dav.* Ps. lxix. 13 Come we but to him in either of these, and we have nicked the time; we are sure to be accepted. 1677 W. HUGHES *Man of Sin* II. viii. 123 You must be sure to nick the Season; 'Tis at the Masse, just between the Elevation of our Lord, and the three Agnus Dei. 1725 T. THOMAS in *Portland Papers* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) VI. 139 We nicked the time very happily. 1759 GOLDSM. *Bee* No. 3 ¶ 12 He bad, as he fancied, just nicked the time, for he came in as the cloth was laying. 1843 LE FEVRE *Life Trav. Phys.* I. i. iv. 75, I had nicked my time, and..I embarked. 1846 LANDOR *Exam. Shaks.* Wks. II. 269 Unless he nicked the time he might miss the monster.

†b. To catch, seize, take advantage of (an opportunity, etc.). *Obs.*

1634 SHIRLEY *Opportunity* v. i, Something will come on't, if he have The grace to nick this opportunity. 1672 MARVELL *Reh. Transp.* I. 4 None more ready to nick a juncture of Affairs than a malapert Chaplain. 1704 J. PITTS *Acc. Moham.* viii. 124 Had the Spaniards nick'd that opportunity.. they might have done great Execution.

c. To catch (a boat, train, etc.) just at the time of departure.

1841 LYTTON *Nt. & Morn.* II. iv, I must arrive just in time to nick the vessels. 1888 *Poor Nellie* 16 'Awfully glad we've nicked it' [*sc.* a train], said George.

8. *slang.* To catch, take unawares; to nab or nail. In mod. use *spec.* of the police.

1622 FLETCHER & MASS. *Prophetess* III. i, We must be sometimes witty, To knick a knave. 1673 *S' too him Bayes* 83 Now will I nick thee here—worse than any where in all my book. 1706 E. WARD *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 94 If he gets him dead drunk, then is the critical Minute to nick him. *a* 1734 NORTH *Lives* (1826) I. 204 There the Common Pleas thought they had nicked them. 1759 TOWNLEY *High Life below Stairs* II. i, You have just nick'd them in the very Minute. 1806 in *Spirit Pub. Jrnls.* IX. 379 He ..stands a chance of getting nicked, because he was found in bad company. 1836 MARRYAT *Japhet* lvii, He has come to get off his accomplice, and now we've just nicked them both. 1893 P. H. EMERSON *Signor Lippo* xvii, All my pals got nicked, and I chucked it.

† b. *Nick me*, as an imprecation. *Obs. rare* —1.

1760 FOOTE *Minor* I. Wks. 1799 I. 241 Nick me, but I have a great mind to tie up, and ruin the rascals.

c. To steal.

1869 *Temple Bar* July 75, I bolted in and 'nicked' a nice silver tea-pot. 1896 *Daily News* 23 Apr. 2/2 Here is a pair of boots which Eliza has 'nicked'.

III. † 9. In the game of hazard: To win against (the other players) by casting a nick. *Obs.*

a 1553 *Nice Wanton* 212 *Iniq.* Here, sirs, come on; seuen! (*They set him.*) Aleauen at all! *Ism.* Do ye nycke vs? 1668 DRYDEN *Even. Love* IV. i, My Don he sets me ten pistoles; I nick him: ten more, I sweep them too. 1673 — *Marr. à la Mode* IV. iv, This is now the second time he has barr'd the dice when we were just ready to have nicked him. 1684 OTWAY *Atheist* III. i, I ha' not been robb'd, Sir, but I have been nick'd,..and that's as bad.

† b. In fig. use. *Obs.*

c 1620 FLETCHER & MASS. *Trag. Barnavelt* v. ii, We know you have .. ministerd much Justice, Nickt many a worthie gamester. 1649 G. DANIEL *Trinarch., Hen. V*, cccx, France vnderhand pursues The Advantage of the Warre to nicke him out Ere he could prize his Chance; False Dice may doo't.

10. To make (a winning cast) at hazard; to get as a nick; to throw the nick of (a certain number).

1598 FLORIO *Legare*,..to binde, tie, or nick a cast at dice. 1611 COTGR. s. v. *Ambezatz*, hauing had that chance that no wise man would nicke. 1709 MRS. CENTLIVRE *Gamester* I. Wks. 1761 I. 140 Come, throw a Main, Sir, then I'll instruct you how to nick it. 1773 GOLDSM. *Stoops to Conq.* III, My old luck: I never nicked seven that I did not throw amesace three times following. 1815 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 289/2 A wager whether there are more ways than 6 of nicking 7 on the dice.

† b. *intr.* To make nicks; to gamble; also, to throw a nick. *Obs. rare.*

1676 WYCHERLY *Pl. Dealer* II. i, Thou art some..gaming Companion, and want'st some Widow's old Gold to nick upon. 1732 FIELDING *Lottery* Wks. 1775 I. 249 If I can but nick this time, ame's-ace I defy thee.

11. To trick, cheat; to defraud *of*, do *out of*. ? *Obs.*

1595 *Maroccus Ext.* 8 To nycoll you, or nicke you rather of an old peece of velvet hose. 1630 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Gt. Eater Kent* 8 Ale-bouses nor tapsters cannot nick this Nick [Wood] with froth: curtoll cannes..could neuer cheate him. 1727 GAY *Begg. Op.* II. She rivetted a linen draper's eyes so fast upon her, that he was nick'd of three pieces of cambrick before he could look off. 1777 *Mme. D'Arblay's Early Diary* (1889) II. 279 He nickd us entirely and never came at all. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* iii, The polite and accomplished adventurer, who nicked you out of your money at White's. 1818 — *Hrt. Midl.* xx, Three words of your mouth would give the girl the chance to nick Moll Blood [the gallows].

absol. 1733 FIELDING *Quix. in Eng.* II. xiv, The mister and the man will trick, The mistress and the maid will nick.

† 12. To provide (a beer-pot) with a nick. Also *intr.*, to employ this method of cheating. *Obs.*

1592 *Def. Conny Catching* in *Greene's Wks.* (Grosart) XI. 68 The Ale-wife unles she nicke her Pots and connycatch her guestes with stone Pottes..can hardly paye her Brewer. 1616 *Shirburn Ballads* (1906) 92 Though I be loth To nicke and to froth, That built the Pie at Algate. *c* 1665 in *Roxburghe Ballads* VI. 487 Bee't tankerd or flaggon, .. we'l trust you to Nick and to Froth.

13. *intr.* In hunting, racing, or coursing: To cut *in*. Also with *past*, *up*, etc.

1852 R. S. SURTEES *Sponge's Sp. Tour* XXII, [He is] always nicking and skirting. 1883 E. PENNELL-ELMHIRST *Cream Leicestersh.* 133 Those [horsemen] who nicked in by means of a lucky road. 1883 *Standard* 22 Feb. 3/7 Glenlivet had a good winning balance when Strawberry Girl nicked past and killed. 1898 *Daily News* 16 June 2/3 That beautiful filly..was lucky enough to nick in on the inside when the leaders ran out at the bend.

IV. 14. Of breeding stocks: To unite, couple.

1865 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* I. II. 323 Colonel Cradock liked the sort for their size and milk, and they 'nicked' well both with the Booth and the Bates blood. 1868 *Ibid.* IV. II. 349 The native Shetland ewes..have 'nicked' so effectually with rams of the breed that the produce is bought up readily by a certain class of dealers.

15. To compare or compete.

1887 BURY & HILLIER *Cycling* 227 Only one sport 'nicks' with cycling, and that is fair toe and heel walking.

Ni·ckar. [Of obscure origin: by early writers identified with NICKER, a marble, but perh. really a native name.] a. One of the hard round seeds of the Bonduc or NICKER-TREE. b. One or other of the species of Bonduc. (See quots.)

1696 SLOANE in *Phil. Trans.* XIX. 299 The Third kind of Bean .. was that kind which in Jamaica is called Ash-coloured-Nickar from its being perfectly round and very like a Nickar, such as Boys use to play withal. 1756 P. BROWNE *Jamaica* (1789) 228 The Grey Nickar...The seeds are of a gray colour, and commonly used instead of marbles by all the boys. *Ibid.*, The Yellow Nickar. The plant resembles the foregoing [the Grey Nickar] but it is not prickly. 1792 MARIA R[IDOELL] *Voy. Madeira*, The *guilandina moringa* or yellow nickar bears a berry like polished marble.

b. In comb. *Nickar-tree* = NICKER-TREE.

1760 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* App. 320 Nickar-tree, *Guilandina.* 1787 tr. *Linnæus' Fam. Plants* I. 282 *Guilandina.* Nickar-tree. 1847 HAMILTON in *Pharmac. Jrnl.* VII. 225 On the medicinal and economic properties of the *Sapindus Saponaria*, Soap Berry, or Black Nickar Tree.

Ni·ck-eared, *a.* Having the ears nicked.

1834 SIR H. TAYLOR *Artevelde* II. III. i, Hold thy peace, Thou nick-ear'd lubber; what have we to do With whys and wherefores?

Nicked (nikt), *ppl. a.* [f. NICK *v.*2 + -ED 1.] Having a nick or nicks; notched, indented, serrated. a. In predicative use.

1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 21 A paire of tonges made of wode, and in the farther ende it is nycked. 1562 TURNER *Herbal* II. 58 The roote beyng cut, nicked, or scotched. 1631 WODOWES *Nat. Philos.* 37 It hath leaves like Lawrell, nicked on the edge. 1656 W. COLES *Art of Simpling* x. 31 Saw wort is so called, for that the Leaves are nicked like a Saw. 1796 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) I. 261 Cup 2-leafed, egg-shaped, nicked at the end. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 94 The back..literally becomes nicked, as it is termed; that is, the fat is felt through the skin to be divided into two portions. 1869 BLACKMORE *Lorna D.* xvii, Like a sleeve turned up, and nicked with brown at the corners.

b. In attributive use.

1615 MARKHAM *Eng. Housew.* II. v. (1668) 133 An open and wide toothed, or nickt brake, and a close and straight toothed brake. 1745 *Daily Advertiser* No. 4666. 4/1 A few white Hairs at the Tip of her Nose, and a nick'd Tail. 1791 W. GILPIN *Forest Scenery* II. 256 The most deformed one is nicked-tail; so named from a cruel operation used in forming it. 1867 F. FRANCIS *Angling* vi. (1880) 226 Taking two or three turns over the nicked end at the tail. 1890 *Lloyd's Weekly* 14 Dec. 6/2 That suspicious sound which tells of a nicked edge.

Comb. a 1849 H. COLERIDGE *Ess.* (1851) I. 223 The nicked-bearded, huffing, hectoring, basket-hilted adventurer. 1890 W. J. GORDON *Foundry* 193 That ingenious nicked-type machine the Thorne.

Nickel (ni·k'l), *sb.* [Named by the Swedish mineralogist Axel F. von Cronstedt in 1754, by abbreviation of G. *kupfernickel*, the mining name of the copper-coloured ore (niccolite) from which the metal was first obtained by Cronstedt in 1751.

The second element in *kupfernickel* is app. G. *nickel*, dwarf, rascal, mischievous demon, the name being given to the ore because it actually yielded no copper in spite of its appearance (cf. the etym. note to COBALT). Both KUPFERNICKEL and *copper nickel* (see COPPER *sb.*1 12) have been commonly employed in English as names of this variety of nickel-ore. For an earlier abbreviation in a different sense see NICOL 1.]

1. A hard silvery-white lustrous mineral, usually occurring in combination with arsenic or sulphur and associated with cobalt; it is both malleable and ductile, and is now largely employed for various purposes, esp. in alloys.

1755 *Gentl. Mag.* XXV. 541 From the name of this mineral [*kupfernickel*] he [Cronstedt] gives the metal the name of *Nickel.* 1772 PRIESTLEY in *Phil. Trans.* LXII. 249 Bismuth and nickel are dissolved in the marine acid. 1786 *Ibid.* LXXVI. 63 There are..persons who have denied the magnetism of purified nickel. 1800 tr. *Lagrange's Chem.* I. 396 It appears that nickel was employed by the Chinese long before it was proved to be a distinct metal. 1822 IMISON *Sci. & Art* II. 118 Nickel alloys with most of the metals. 1858 HOMANS *Cycl. Comm.* 1443/1 Nickel forms twelve per cent. of the new cent authorized by Congress in 1857. 1869 ROSCOE *Elem. Chem.* (1871) 230 German silver is an alloy of zinc, nickel, and copper.

2. *U. S.* † a. A one-cent piece partly made of nickel (see quot. 1858 above). *Obs.*

1857 *N. Y. Herald* 27 May (Bartlett), 'Nary red' will soon be an obsolete phrase among the boys, and 'nary nickel' will take its place. 1858 O. W. HOLMES *Aut. Breakf.-t.* ix. (1891) 221 A picture as big as a copper, or a 'nickel', rather, at the bottom of his eye.

b. A five-cent piece (containing one part of nickel to three of copper).

1883 *Century Mag.* Nov. 83/2 Even nickels cannot be had without labor. 1890 GUNTER *Miss Nobody* I, I can't go through Yale on nothing but a fifty-dollar note and two nickels.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.* a. Simple attrib. in various senses, as *nickel anode, electrotype, metal, mineral, plate, solution*, etc.; objective, as *nickel-bearing, -worker*; instrumental, as *nickel-coated, -plate* vb., *-plater, -plating.*

1875 *Ure's Dict. Arts* (ed. 7) II. 221 The *nickel anodes are connected to the..carbon plates of the battery. 1877 RAYMOND *Statist. Mines & Mining* 283 Good *nickel-bearing pyrites. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl. 634/2 The articles to be *nickel-coated..are to be suspended in the solution. 1873 SPON *Workshop Rec.* Ser. I. 220/1 *Nickel electrotypes stand the wear and tear .. better than the ordinary copper ones. 1851 SMEE in *Ure's Dict. Arts* (1875) II. 220 The deposit..forms a great contrast to the common *nickel metal. 1874 RAYMOND *Statist. Mines & Mining* 309 This vein..contains in its ore an arsenical *nickel-mineral. 1875 *Ure's Dict. Arts* II. 223 A *nickel plate of the utmost purity. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl. 634/2 To *nickel-plate all pontys and molds for glass-making. 1875 *Ure's Dict. Arts* II. 221 The veteran *nickel-plater of the states. *Ibid.* 220 It is only within the last few years that *nickel-plating has been brought prominently into notice. 1858 HOMANS *Cycl. Comm.* 1443/2 Mineralogists, chemists, and *nickel-workers.

b. Attrib. in names of natural or artificial compounds containing nickel, as *nickel chloride, nitrate, ore, pyrites, regulus, salt, sulphate*; **nickel-bloom** = ANNABERGITE; **nickel bronze** (see quot.); **nickel glance** = GERSDORFFITE; **nickel green** = ANNABERGITE; **nickel gymnite**, a gymnite in which part of the magnesium is replaced by nickel; **nickel ochre** = ANNABERGITE; **nickel silver**, an alloy similar to German silver; **nickel steel**, an alloy of iron with nickel.

1861 BRISTOW *Gloss. Min.* 258 *Nickel-bloom. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl. 634/1 The pure metal is mixed with various proportions of copper, zinc, and tin, forming *nickel bronze. 1868 *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 10) 464 *Nickel Chloride..is easily prepared by dissolving oxide or carbonate of nickel in hydrochloric acid. 1836 T. THOMSON *Min., Geol.*, etc. I. 529 Sulpho-Arsenide of Nickel. *Nickel glance. 1837 DANA *Syst. Min.* 245 *Nickel Green. *Niccolus prasinus.* Color a fine apple-green. 1853 *Amer. Jrnl. Sci.* Ser. II. XVI. 170, I described the mineral in 1851, under the name *Nickelgymnite. 1796 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) II. 283 *Nickel Ochre and Vitriol of Nickel. 1861 BRISTOW *Gloss. Min.* 258 Nickel Ochre..occurs massive, earthy and friable. 1836 T. THOMSON *Min., Geol.*, etc., I. 523 The species of *nickel ores hitherto observed, amount only to eight. 1837 DANA *Syst. Min.* 399 Copper nickel. Prismatic *Nickel Pyrites. 1855 *Orr's Circ. Sci., Geol.*, etc. 497 Millerite. Sulphuret of Nickel. Nickel Pyrites. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XII. 133/1 There is no copper, but a *nickel regulus is produced. 1852 FOWNES *Chem.* (ed. 4) 342 The artificial ..product, called *speiss*, ..may be employed as a source of the *nickel salts. 1860 *Knight's Eng. Cycl., Arts & Sci.* V. s.v., Nickel .. is extensively used in the manufacture of the so-called *nickel-silver. 1862 *Chambers's Encycl.* IV. 713/2 Britannia metal, and nickel silver, which are used as substitutes for the true German silver. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl. 634/2 *Nickel Steel. 1895 *Daily News* 14 Nov. 6/5 The nickel-steel gun forgings made..in Pennsylvania. 1868 *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 10) 465 *Nickel Sulphate .. is the most important of the nickel salts.

Hence **Ni·ckel** *v. trans.*, to coat with nickel. **Ni·ckelic** *a.*, pertaining to, or containing, nickel. **Ni·ckeli·ferous** *a.*, containing or yielding nickel. **Ni·ckeline** *sb.* = NICCOLITE; *a.*, consisting of nickel. **Ni·ckeling**, the process of coating with nickel. **Ni·ckelite** = NICCOLITE. **Ni·ckeliza·tion**, the process of nickelizing. **Ni·ckelize** *v. trans.*, to coat with nickel. **Ni·ckelled** *ppl. a.*, coated with nickel. **Ni·ckelous** *a.*, containing nickel.

a 1875 in Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1526/1 It being far easier to gild, plate, or copper an article than to *nickel it. 1828–32 WEBSTER s. v., The *nickelic acid is a saturated combination of nickel and oxygen. 1821 R. JAMESON *Man. Min.* 327 *Nickeliferous Grey Antimony. 1851 ASHBURNER tr. *Reichenbach's Dynamics* 594 Containing a great intermixture of this metallic nickeliferous iron. 1786 AIKIN tr. *Beaumé's Man. Chem.* 122 *note*, The ingredients which are usually separated from the *nickelline ores. 1796 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) II. 444 A solution of Sal Ammoniac would take up the nickeline part and leave the Cobaltic. 1835 SHEPARD *Min.* II. 83 Nickeline (Copper-Nickel). 1888 *Min. Mag.* VIII. 200 A few pieces of copper-nickel (nickeline) were obtained. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 1526/1 *Nickeling. 1884 HIGGS *Magn. & Dyn. Electr. Machines* 203 Gilding, silvering, nickeling and tinning have become so universal. 1883 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 9) XVI. 392 *Nickelite (Copper Nickel). 1857 *Chamb. Jrnl.* VIII. 224 We have recently experimented upon the subject of *nickelisation. 1872 F. G. THOMAS *Dis. Women* (ed. 3) 349 The clamp..may be made..of *nickelized steel. 1885 *Bazaar* 30 Mar. 1272/2, 52in. [bicycle],..*nickelled, ball pedals. 1894 *Outing* (U. S.) XXIV. 132/2 Two of the nickeled hinges on my valise had been twisted off. 1880 *Libr. Univ. Knowl.* VI. 511 Using a solution of *nickelous sulphate. 1899 *Nature* 20 Apr. 595/1 Complete analyses of nickelous bromide and cobaltous bromide were undertaken.

Ni·cker, *sb.*1 *Obs.* exc. *arch.* Forms: 1 (9) **nicor**, 3–4 **niker**, 4 **nyker**, 5 **nycker**, **nykyr**, 6 **nicre**, 9 **nicer**, **nicker**. [OE. *nicor*, *nicer-*, *nic(c)r-*, = MDu. and MLG. *nicker*, *necker* (Du. *nikker*), ON. *nykr* (Icel. *nykur*, Norw. *nykk*, Da. *nök*, Sw. *neck*) masc.:—OTeut. **nikwiz-*, **nikuz-*, also represented by OHG. *nichus*, *nih(h)us* masc. (glossing 'crocodillus'; MHG. *niches*, *nickes*, G. *nix*), and *nichessa* fem. (MHG. *-nixe*, G. *nixe*): see NIX and NIXY. The root **niq-* may be identical with **nig(w-* in Gr. *νίζειν*, *νίπτειν*, Skr. *nij-* to wash.]

1. An imaginary being supposed to live in the water; a water-demon, kelpie, river-horse († hippopotamus); also in ME., a siren or mermaid.

Beowulf 422 Þær ic..on ȳðum slog niceras nihtes. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 209 Under þæm stane wæs niccra eardung. *Ibid.* 211 Þonne ȝewitan þa saula niðer..& him onfengon ða nicras. *c* 1000 in Cockayne *Narrat.* (1861) 11 Sona þæs ðe hie inna wæron swa wæron þa nicoras ȝearwe. *c* 1205 LAY. 21747 Þat water is unimete brade; nikeres þer badieð inne. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 1447 Þer fond þey Nykeres [F. *seraines*] þat myry song, Out of þe weye to turne hem wrong. 1340 *Ayenb.* 61 Þise byeþ þe tuo nykeren þet we uyndeþ in bokes of kende of bestes. Vor hy byeþ a ssewynge of þe ze, þet me klepeþ nykeren, þet habbeþ bodyes of wyfman and tayl of uisssse. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 356/2 Nykyr, *Sirene.* 1568 WITHALS *Dict.* 9 a/1 A nicre, *remora, echeneis.*

1834 *Fraser's Mag.* X. 54 The Anglo-Saxons did not cease to believe in the existence..of the elves and the nicers. 1853 KINGSLEY *Hypatia* xii, 'What is a nicor, Agilmund?' 'A sea-devil who eats sailors'. 1892 BROOKE *Early Eng. Lit.* I. iii. 59 The nickers lie there on the sloping rocks of the ness, monsters that at mid-day go out into the open sea.

† 2. [From Du. *nikker*.] A demon or devil. *Obs.*

1481 CAXTON *Reynard* (Arb.) 100 Alas me growleth of thyse fowle nyckers, come they out of helle?

Ni·cker, *sb.*[2] [f. NICK *v.*[2], in various senses.]

† 1. One who cheats at play. *Obs. rare.*

1669 (*title*) The Nicker nicked; or, the Cheats of Gaming discovered. 1714 T. LUCAS *Lives Gamesters* 203 Call'd by the Nickers and Sharpers little Dick-Fisher.

† 2. One who fits a thing neatly. *Obs. rare* —[1].

1676 MARVELL *Mr. Smirke* K b, Yet I am not neither one of the most credulous nickers or applyers of natural events to humain transactions.

3. One who hits in throwing; applied *spec.* in the early part of the 18th cent. to disorderly youths who made a practice of breaking windows by throwing coppers at them.

1716 GAY *Trivia* III. 323 His scatter'd Pence the flying Nicker flings, And with the Copper Show'r the Casement rings. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* iii. I. 361 At a later period arose the Nicker, the Hawcubite, and the yet more dreaded name of Mohawk. 1886 Miss BRADDON *Mohawks* ix, The *Flying Post* described how the Nickers had broken all Mr. Topsparkle's windows with halfpence.

4. One who, or that which, nicks or cuts.

a. One who nicks horses' tails.

1810 *Sporting Mag.* XXXV. 263 The defendant's witnesses, whom Mr. Serjeant Pell..described as croppers, dockers, nickers and trimmers.

b. That part of a centre-bit which cuts the circle of the hole made by the tool.

1846 HOLTZAPFFEL *Turning* II. 541 A thin shearing point or nicker, that cuts through the fibres like the point of a knife. 1865 *Routledge's Mag. for Boys* June 353 The nicker leads or prepares the way for the cutter throughout the entire depth of the hole.

c. *Telegr.* A recording apparatus which makes nicks in a strip of paper.

1871 *Echo* 2 Feb., Professor Morse's printing nickers and embossers.

Ni·cker, *sb.*[3] Also 7 nickar. [Perh. f. as prec., but cf. KNICKER[1].]

1. = KNICKER[1] 1. Also *pl.* as a game.

1675 DUFFETT *Mock Tempest* IV. i, Now I can't teach my Wife to play Nickers. 1696 [see NICKAR]. 1727 BOYER *Dict. Royal* II, Marbles (round fine clay Nickers for Children to play withal). 1847 HALLIWELL, *Nicker*..(2) a little ball of clay or earth baked hard and oiled over for boys to play at nickers. 1893 J. INGLIS *Oor ain Folk* xii. (1894) 94 Every boy prided himself on having a favourite nicker.

2. = KNICKER[1] 2.

1888 *Advance* (Chicago) 27 Dec., What's a nicker? 'A flat thick piece of lead..which you throw down at the buttons'. 1889 A. T. PASK *Eyes Thames* 119 The leaden 'nicker' is produced from the trousers pocket.

Ni·cker, *sb.*[4], variant of NICKAR.

1750 G. HUGHES *Barbados* 195 The Horse-Nicker is a small groveling tree, growing chiefly in a loose, marly, or sandy soil. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 556/1 The seeds..are called Nicker nuts or Bonduc nuts.

Ni·cker, *sb.*[5] *Sc.* and *north. dial.* [f. the vb.] A neigh; also, a laugh, a snigger.

a 1791 *Lochmaben Harper* xiii. in Child *Ballads* IV. 19/2 His mare's away to Lochmaben, Wi' mony a nicker and mony a sneer. 1834 in Sharp *Bishoprick Garl.* 42 Settin up a greater nicker and a whinney. 1883 CLELAND *Inchbracken* xxvi. 210 She just leugh..an' syne she gae the ither nicker.

Ni·cker, *v.* Chiefly *Sc.* and *north. dial.* [Imitative: cf. NEIGHER *v.* and NICHER *v.*]

1. *intr.* To neigh.

a 1774 FERGUSSON *Hallowfair* Poems (1821) 118 The cuissers prance and nicker, An' owre the ley-rig scud. 1820 SCOTT *Monast.* xxxiii, Mounted on nags that nicker at the clash of a sword. 1879 STEVENSON *Trav. Cevennes* (1886) 21 This other donkey..and Modestine met, nickering for joy. 1880 L. WALLACE *Ben-Hur* v. ii, One [horse]..nickered low and gladly at sight of him.

2. To laugh loudly or shrilly. Also *trans.*

1819 W. TENNANT *Papistry Storm'd* (1827) 22 He nicker't sic a lang gaffaw. 1829 HOGG *Sheph. Cal.* I. 329 She was sae glad that she fell a-nickering. 1863 in Robson *Bards of Tyne* 254 The keel-hullies nick'rd, but on Mally toddled.

Hence **Ni·ckering** *vbl. sb.*

1881 K. BLIND in *Contemp. Rev.* XL. 199 With shrill nickering..the stallion ran..towards the lake.

Nickerbocker, var. of KNICKERBOCKER.

Ni·cker-tree. [See NICKAR and NICKER *sb.*[4]] = BONDUC.

1707 SLOANE *Jamaica* (1725) II. 40 Nicker Tree. It grows among shrubs in the Savannas everywhere. 1750 G. HUGHES *Barbados* 118 The Black Nicker-Tree. This grows to be a large tree covered with a bark of a greyish white. 1838 *Econ. Veget.* 79 Some nuts and seeds are exquisitely polished, and of the most beautiful enamel, as those of..the bonduc, or nicker-tree. 1849 BALFOUR *Man. Bot.* § 851 The bark of *Guilandina Bonduc*, the Nicker-tree, is bitter, tonic, and its seeds are said to be emetic.

† **Ni·ckery.** *Obs. rare.* A nickname.

1823 'J. BEE' *Dict. Turf* s.v. *Nick*, Nickeries are the same [as nicknames] applied to actions and things. 1824 *Hist. Gambling* II. 37 This man, or this sharper, lived to a great age, little respected, under the nickery of 'Old Q.'

Ni·ckety-no·ck, *adv.* [Imitative.] With a clicking and knocking sound.

1812 H. & J. SMITH *Rej. Addr., Rebuilding* (1873) 63 His head, as he tumbled, went nickety-nock, Like a pebble in Carisbrook well.

Nickey (ni·ki). [Of obscure origin.] A kind of boat with a lug-sail, used in the Isle of Man.

1883 *Fisheries Exhib. Catal.* (ed. 4) 132 This rig is rapidly superseding the class of boat for many years used in the Isle of Man, known as 'Nickeys', or lug sail boats.

1894 HALL CAINE *Manxman* 358 A Dandie..being smaller than a Nickey, and of yawl rig.

† **Nick-fidge.** *Obs. rare*—[1]. [Of obscure origin.] App., the person taken to task.

1608 H. CLAPHAM *Errour Left Hand* A iv, As for the Male-content, I make him the Nicke-fidge here, as I did the Flyer in the former [dialogue].

† **Nick-hole,** obs. var. of HICKWALL.

Swainson gives *nickle* as a Notts form of the word.

1547 SALESBURY *Welsh Dict., Kasec yddrickhin, ederyn,* a nycke hole.

Nicking (ni·kiŋ), *vbl. sb.*[1] [f. NICK *v.*[2] + -ING[1].]

1. The action of notching or cutting.

1551 TURNER *Herbal* I. B vij b, The milky humour, that commeth out of y[e] herbe, by scotching or nyckyng. 1611 COTGR., *Crenelure*, a iagging, nicking, notching. 1828 MOIR *Mansie Wauch* xxiii, Baking and brewing—nicking of geese's craigs—hacking the necks of dead chickens. 1837 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* I. 72/1 The method of cutting this stone into sizes is by what the quarrymen call 'nicking'. A line is drawn across the stone with a chisel [etc.]. 1903 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* No. 2205. 848 The 'nicking' of the stricture was followed by a large enema.

b. spec. in *Farriery* (see NICK *v.*[2] 3).

1753 J. BARTLET *Gentl. Farriery* 309 Before we describe the operation of Nicking, it may be necessary to enquire how the effect of it..is brought about. 1815 *Sporting Mag.* XLVI. 115 His condemnation of cropping and nicking. 1896 *Daily News* 14 Feb. 5/3 Nicking is a process supplemental to what is known as 'docking'.

c. A notch or indentation; a cutting or set of cuts. (See also quot. 1881.)

1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* III. 1277 The nicking should extend all the way from the shoulder-top to the tail. 1881 RAYMOND *Mining Gloss., Nicking*, the cutting made by the hewer at the side of the face. *Nickings* is the small coal produced in making the nicking. 1898 H. G. HUTCHINSON *Golf* (ed. 6) 69 The first gutta-percha balls were made smooth, without any of the 'nicking' which we now see upon them.

† 2. The practice of fraudulently diminishing the capacity of a beer-can. *Obs. rare.*

1628 *Robin Goodfellow* (Percy Soc.) 29 There was a tapster, that with his pots smalnesse.. had got a good summe of money together. This nicking of the pots he would never leave. *c* 1636 *London Chanticleers* v, The slight of nicking and frothing he scornes as too common.

3. The action of hitting (upon) or striking.

1668 DRYDEN *Dram. Poesy* Ess. (ed. Ker) I. 92 This nicking of him who spoke before both in sound and measure is so great an happiness. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Bergerac's Com. Hist.* 4 Because of the nicking of the time so patly. 1899 *N. & Q.* 9th Ser. III. 185/1 There was 'nicking', when one player's button touched another after rebounding from the wall when 'banged.'

4. *attrib.*, as *nicking board, buddle, trunk* (for washing ores); *nicking engine, file, saw, tool* (for cutting the nick in screw-heads); *nicking knife, machine* (for horses' tails); *nicking-process.*

1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 751 Alongside of this channel there is a slightly inclined plank, called *nicking board. *Ibid.*, The *nicking buddle is analogous to the tables called *dormantes* or *jumelles* by the French miners. 1831 HOLLAND *Manuf. Metal* I. 205 The pacha of Egypt obtained from this country..six *nicking, and six cutting engines. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 1526/2 **Nicking-file.* 1816 in Blaine *Veter. Art* (ed. 2) 665 *Nicking knives, with Lines and brass Pullies. 1753 J. BARTLET *Gentl. Farriery* 331 Directions for the Application of the *Nicking Machine. 1875 LOWER *Eng. Surnames* (ed. 4) II. App. 176 A Christian name unsusceptible of the *nicking or abbreviating process. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl. 634/2 **Nicking Saw.* 1875 — *Dict. Mech.* 2067/2 The blank..is presented to the shaving tool, and then..fed to the *nicking tool. *Ibid.* 1526/2 **Nicking-trunk.*

† **Ni·cking,** *sb.*[2] *Obs.* (A doubtful form: see INKLING.)

a 1400-50 *Alexander* 2968 (D.), Þis gouernour of grece.. Harde a nyckyng [*A.* a nyngkiling] of hys name & natys hym to ryse.

Ni·cking, *ppl. a.* [f. NICK *v.*[2] + -ING[2].] That nicks, in various senses of the vb.

1598 MARSTON *Sco. Villanie* III. ix. 218 O what a tricksie lerned nicking strain Is this applauded, senselesse, modern vain! 1631 WEEVER *Anc. Funerall Mon.* 208 The same Authour in another place..hath these nicking Hexameters. *Ibid.* 622 These nicking, nice, allusive verses. 1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk. & Selv.* To Rdr., Perhaps if we slip this tide, we shall never come again at such a nicking one. *a* 1734 NORTH *Exam.* II. iv. § 40 (1740) 250 It might have proved a nicking Evidence against him.

Nick-nack, variant of KNICK-KNACK.

a 1692 POLLEXFEN *Disc. Trade* (1697) 93 Toys and Nicknacks, to a very great value. 1714-1836 (see KNICK-KNACK 2 β]. 1861 HUGHES *Tom Brown at Oxf.* xliii, There was an elegance in the arrangement of all the nick-nacks and ornaments. 1889 J. K. JEROME *Idle Thoughts* 131 All your little nick-nacks spread around you.

Nick-nackatory: see KNICK-KNACKATORY.

Nick-nacket: see KNICK-KNACKET.

1820 SCOTT *Abbot* xix, This comes of carrying Popish nicknackets about you.

Nick-nackitarian, -nacky: see KNICK-.

Nickname (ni·knēm), *sb.* Also 5 neke-, 6–7 nicke-, 6 nyck(e-, 7 nic-. [Later form of EKE-NAME: see N 3.] A name or appellation added to, or substituted for, the proper name of a person, place, etc., usually given in ridicule or pleasantry.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 352/2 Neke name, or eke name, *agnomen.* 1530 PALSGR. 248/1 Nyckename, *brocquart.* 1532 MORE *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 378, I shoulde here call Tindall by another name:..it were no nyck name at all. 1567 HARMAN *Caveat* (1869) 77 Men haue geuen all these nycke names to the places aboue sayde. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* II. 63 James Fitz-thomas..was by a nicke-name called the Suggoa Earle. 1674 R. GODFREY *Inj. & Ab. Physic* 138 Yee Independents, or yee Anabaptists, or yee Quakers, (which are all but Nick names). 1710 ADDISON *Tatler* No. 226 P 4 He unfortunately got the Nickname of the Squeaking Doctor. 1789 BRAND *Newcastle* II. 313 *note*, Very improperly called cappers, a nick-name by which they are styled in some printed poll-books. 1806–7 J. BERESFORD *Miseries Hum. Life* (1826) VI. 118 A name for a stage coach which beats..every other English nick-name out of the field. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* I. 1. 15 His own countrymen called him by a Saxon nickname. 1874 BURNAND *My Time* xxii. 201 He had an absurd nickname for every boy in the house. *Comb.* 1888 *Spectator* 18 Feb. 239/2 Disraeli, senior, is an inexhaustible nickname-maker.

b. A familiar form of a Christian name.

1605 CAMDEN *Rem.* 114 From Nicknames or Nursenames, came these..Bill for William, Clem for Clement. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xvi, A wery good name it [*sc.* Job] is; only one, I know, that ain't got a nickname to it.

Hence **Ni·cknameless** *a.*, having no nickname.

1894 J. MENZIES *Our Town* xi. 115 John O'Meara, a nicknameless native of the Emerald Isle.

Ni·ckname, *v.* [f. the sb.]

1. *trans.* To call by an incorrect or improper name; to misname.

1536 *Rem. Sedition* 2 A certayne commune welth..whiche if we baptyse righte and not nycke name it, we must nedes call a comon wo. 1580 LUPTON *Siwgila* 53 Are they called good men with you, that are stoute fighters?..Then surely they nickname them, unlesse evil be good. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* III. i. 151 You lispe, and nickname Gods creatures. 1655 GURNALL *Chr. in Arm.* I. 26 When we leave out this syllable All, we nick-name God, and call him by his creatures' name. 1680 HICKERINGILL *Curse ye Meroz* 5 It is (so) styled in this Text by the Spirit of God that Nick-names nothing. 1817 COLERIDGE *Biog. Lit.* (Bohn) 117 That compendious philosophy, which..contrives a theory of spirit by nicknaming matter. 1871 EARLE *Philol. Eng. Tongue* (1880) § 107 The French and Germans have named the vowels, but the English have nick-named them.

b. With complement. Also with *as, so.*

1548 TURNER *Names Herbes* D iij b, Isatis, in english wad, & not Ode as some corrupters of the englishe tonge do nikename it. 1599 *Broughton's Let.* vii. 23 Which..the Apostle[calls]..ψευδωνυμουγνωσιν knowledge so nicknamed. 1621 QUARLES *Div. Poems, Esther* (1638) 117 Divine directions, Which oft (unseen through dulnesse of the mind) We nick-name Chance. 1656 G. COLLIER *Answ.* 15 *Quest.* 25 Publick sacramental examination is nick-named private popish confession. 1775 ROMANS *Florida* App. 72 You will see..a watch-house (nick-named a fort). 1813 SHELLEY *Q. Mab* III. 32 The fool Whom courtiers nickname monarch. 1824 BYRON *Juan* XV. xix, With no great care for what is nicknamed glory.

† c. To mention by mistake; to assert wrongly *to be* something. *Obs. rare.*

1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* V. ii. 349 *King.* The vertue of your eie must breake my oth. *Q.* You nick-name vertue: vice you should haue spoke. 1665 MANLEY *Grotius' Low C. Wars* 548 For preventing Princes of that sort of Dominion, which is nicknamed to be Power given them by Heaven.

2. To give a nickname to (one); to call by a nickname.

1567–9 JEWEL *Def. Apol.* (1611) 20 S. Hierome..nicknameth S. Ambrose, sometimes calling him Coruus, sometimes Cornicula. 1589 R. HARVEY *Plain Perc.* (1590) 8, I will nicke-name no bodie: I am none of these tuft mockadoo mak-a-dooes. 1638 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (ed. 2) 162 The Gowers that people it; nick-nam'd from their Idolatry. 1700 ASTRY tr. *Saavedra-Faxardo* I. 116 Alphonso, who was Nick-named from his broken Hands. 1856 KANE *Arct. Expl.* I. xxix. 383 They nickaamed and adopted all of us as members of their fraternity.

b. With complement. Also with *as, so.*

1577 STANYHURST *Descr. Irel.* i. in *Holinshed* (1587) 9/2 Whoso surpasseth others either in cauilling sophistrie, or subtile philosophie, is forthwith nicke named a Duns. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 255 *marg.*, Nick-named John Lack-land. 1656 HEYLIN *Extraneus Vapulans* 227 The bitternesse of his Style against those poor men whom he so nick-nameth. 1728 MORGAN *Algiers* II. iv. 264 A notable Turkish Corsair, by the Spaniards nick-named Cacha-Diablo, i. e. Drub-Devil. 1760 WESLEY *Wks.* (1872) XIII. 388 They were soon nicknamed Methodists. 1825 BENTHAM *Ration. Reward* 41 You shall not be nicknamed projectors by the idle and the incapable. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* viii. II. 281 The satirists of the age nicknamed him Lord Allpride. 1894 J. T. FOWLER *Adamnan* Introd. 42 The Roman party nicknamed it Simon Magus's tonsure.

Hence **Ni·cknamed** *ppl. a.*, **Ni·cknaming** *vbl. sb.* Also **Ni·cknameable** *a.*, that can be nicknamed. **Nicknamee**, one to whom a nickname is given.

1618 SIR S. D'EWES *Autobiog.* (1845) I. 120 The common nick-naming and scoffing at religion. 1664 H. MORE *Myst. Iniq.* xiv. 161 The nick-naming of the true Christians by the odious Title of Hereticks. 1677 W. HUGHES *Man of Sin* II. v. 98 Come, ye.. Heathens, and learn Idolatry from those Nick-nam'd Christians. 1794 C. PIGOT *Female Jockey Club* p. xxxv, Half a dozen Irish Chairmen..drove this nicknamed heaven-born Minister before them. 1888 *Spectator* 18 Feb. 239/2 No matter how obscure the nicknamer and nicknamee may be. 1898 L. STEPHEN *Stud. Biogr.* II. iv. 144 A man who is 'nicknameable' must be a good fellow.

Nicknamer (ni·knēməɹ). [f. prec. + -ER[1].]

† 1. The rhetorical figure Prosonomasia. *Obs. rare.*

1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* III. xix. (Arb.) 212 Ye haue a figure by which ye play with a couple of words or names much resembling, and because the one seemes to answere th'other by manner of illusion, and doth, as it were, nick him, I call him the Nicknamer.

2. One who nicknames another person or thing.

1868 A. Smith *Last Leaves* 172 The nicknamed and the nicknamer sleep in the same forgetfulness. 1894 Huxley in *Life* (1900) II. xxii. 385 The nicknamer of genius called this brand of genius 'pig philosophy'.

†**Nick-ninny.** *slang. Obs.* (See quot.)

a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Nick-ninny*, an empty Fellow, a meer Cod's Head.

†**Nick-pot.** *Obs. rare.* [f. Nick *v.*[2]] **a.** An innkeeper or tapster. **b.** A fraudulent beer-pot.

1602 Rowlands *Greenes Ghost* (1860) 31 A necessarie caueat for victuallers and nickpots, how to beware of such insinuating companions. 1624 *Skelton's Ghost* 19 in S.'s Wks. 1843 II. 155 Our pots were full quarted, We were not thus thwarted With froth-canne and nick-pot.

Nick-stick. Now *rare* or *Obs.* [f. Nick *v.*] A tally, a reckoning-stick.

1695 in *Trans. Antig. Soc. Scot.* (1792) I. 558 You are to advert to keep an exact nickstick between you and the coalyier, of the number of deals of coals received in. 1816 Scott *Antiq.* xv. *note*, Each family had its own nick-stick, and for each loaf as delivered a notch was made on the stick. 1843 J. Ballantine *Gaberlunzie* (1875) 170 With her the baker required to keep no nickstick, the butcher no chalk-board.

transf. 1872 Eggleston (*title*) The Weardale Nick-Stick, containing Floods, Thunderstorms, High Winds.

†**Nick-time,** *Obs. rare* $^{-1}$. The nick of time.

1650 A. B. *Mutat. Polemo* 16 In troth not too early, for it was in the nick-time.

†**Ni·ckum.** *slang. Obs.* (See quot.)

In mod. Sc. dial. *nickum* is used in the sense of 'wag, mischievous or tricky person': see *Eng. Dial. Dict.*

a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Nickum*, a Sharper; also a Rooking Ale-house or Innkeeper,..or any Retailer.

Nickum-poop, obs. var. of Nincompoop.

Ni·cky. *dial.* Also **nickee.** (See quots.)

1854 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* XV. II. 414 The inferior [wood] going in sale faggots, bush faggots, and nickees, or small faggots used in lighting fires. 1882 W. Barnes in *Macm. Mag.* Mar. 418 When he wanted to chop up some small wood for nickies, as we call them in the West—some little bundles of wood for lighting fires.

Nicnac, Nicname, obs. ff. Knick-knack, Nickname.

†**Nicode·mical,** *a. Obs. rare* $^{-1}$. [f. the name of *Nicodemus*, the Jewish ruler who came to Jesus by night (John iii. 1, etc.).] Characteristic of Nicodemus; of a literal type (cf. John iii. 4). So †**Nicode·mically** *adv.*, in a literal sense. †**Nicode·mite,** one who resembles Nicodemus; a secret or timid adherent. †**Nicode·mize** *v.*, to act or reason like Nicodemus. *Obs.*

1642 J. Eaton *Honey-c. Free Justif.* 46 They fall a wrangling with *Nicodemicall conclusions. 1647 Trapp *Comm. Matt.* xviii. 3 How absurd was that Anabaptist Aurifaber, who understanding this text *Nicodemically.. stirreth up the people..to carry themselves childishly. 1585 Fetherston tr. *Calvin on Acts* xxi. 26 False *Nicodemites ..goe about to colour their treacherous dissimulation. 1637 Gillespie *Eng. Pop. Cerem.* Ep. A 2 b, The lapped Nicodemite, holdes it enough to yeeld some secret assent to the trueth. 1691 Baxter *Nat. Ch.* xv. 70 They will but be Nicodemites, and not venture on danger or difficulty. 1624 Darcie *Birth of Heresies* xxi. 98 Did he determin we should hereby Capernize & *Nicodemize, to enquire, or make doubt of Gods power?

†**Ni·col**[1]. *Obs. rare.* [var. of Nickel; cf. the spelling *kupffer-nicol* in J. Hill *Fossils* (1748) 625, and *copper-nicol* (1728) s.v. Copper *sb.*[1] 12.] Nickel-green, annabergite.

1753 Chambers *Cycl. Supp., Nicol*,..a word used by the miners in Germany to express a greenish crust, covering several of the species of marcasites and cobalt.

Nicol[2] (ni·kŏl). *Opt.* [The name of the inventor, William *Nicol* of Edinburgh (died 1851).] A prism of Iceland spar, so constructed as to transmit only the extraordinary ray of doubly refracted light. (Also freq. called *Nicol's prism.*)

1875 Tyndall *Heat* xv. (ed. 5) 517 The construction of the Nicol is such that it permits to pass through it vibrations which are executed in a certain determinate direction, and these only. 1878 Lockyer *Stargazing* 448 If two Nicols are used instead of two simple crystals.

Nicolaitan (nikŏlē·ĭtăn), *sb.* and *a.* Also 7 Nich-, 6, 9 **-ane.** [f. as next + -an.]

A. *sb.* A member of an early Christian party or sect mentioned in Rev. ii. 6, 15, the precise nature of which is uncertain.

1526 Tindale *Rev.* ii. 6 Butt this thou haste because thou hated the dedes off the Nicolaitans. 1546 Bale *Eng. Votaries* I. (1560) 64 b, Called there of them the heresy of Nicolaitanes. 1604 R. Cawdrey *Table Alph., Nicholaitan*, an heretike, like Nicholas, who held that wiues should bee common to all alike. 1655 Baxter *Quaker's Catech.* Pref. B j b, The Nicolaitans and the rest of the Gnosticks. 1702 Echard *Eccl. Hist.* (1710) 406 There appeared another sort of hereticks called the Nicolaitans,..a horrid brutish sect. 1831–3 E. Burton *Eccl. Hist.* xii. (1845) 274 There were some Gnostics who did not scruple to eat things sacrificed unto idols: and these men were then known by the name of Nicolaitans. 1861 Trench *Comm. Ep. Churches Asia* 83 The Nicolaitans as we have seen are the Balaamites.

B. *adj.* Held by the Nicolaitans.

1874 J. H. Blunt *Dict. Sects* 373 It may be concluded that the Nicolaitane doctrine was a doctrine of libertinism in religious rites.

Hence **Nicola·itanism.**

1882–3 Schaff *Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* II. 1655 The similarity of Nicolaitanism and the Antinomianism of Corinth.

†**Nicolaite.** *Obs. rare.* Forms: 4–5 Nychol-, 6 Nichol-. [ad. Gr. Νικολαΐτης (Rev. ii. 6), f. the personal name Νικόλαος.] = prec.

1382 Wyclif *Rev.* ii. 6 But thou hast this good thing, for thou hatedist the dedes of Nycholaytis. *c* 1449 Pecock *Repr.* v. iii. 497 Also the sect of Nycholaitis, which helden that weddid men myȝten chaunge to gidere her wyues. 1586 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* I. 463 The Nicholaites revived the same error in the primitive church.

Hence †**Nicolaitism.** *Obs. rare* $^{-1}$.

1669 H. More *Exp. 7 Epist.* iii. 42 This is allowed the Ephesine Church,..that they are free from Nicolaitism.

‖ **Ni·colo.** Also niccolo. [ad. It. *niccolo*, aphetic for **oniccolo*, a diminutive from L. *onyx*.] (See quot. 1874.)

1874 H. M. Westropp *Man. Prec. Stones* 104 The variety of onyx known as nicolo, consisting of a layer of a bluish tint over black. 1894 Church in Smiles *Life Wedgwood* xiv. 152 Antique gems cut in onyx and niccolo. 1899 *Daily News* 29 June 6/7 An antique gem representing a bust..of Omphale, cut in a double nicolo.

attrib. 1877 W. Jones *Finger-ring* 23 One very massive [ring] of silver and gold, set with intaglio on nicolo onyx. 1899 *Daily News* 29 June 6/7 A nicolo-sardonyx with a fine head of Commodius in a cameo.

Nicor, variant of Nicker *sb.*[1]

‖ **Nicotia** (nikō·ʃ[ĭ]a). [mod.L., f. *nicot-* (see Nicotiana) + -ia [1].]

1. a. Nicotianin. **b.** Nicotine.

1830 Conwall in *Silliman's Jrnl.* XVII. 369 The most diagnostic property of Nicotia, is perhaps its entering into solution with vegetable acids, without forming with them any crystalline compound. 1857 Miller *Elem. Chem., Org.* 267 Nicotia [ed. 1862 Nicotylia] appears to belong to the class of nitrile bases. 1875 H. C. Wood *Therap.* (1879) 363 When applied directly to the eye, nicotia produces a very marked contraction of the pupil.

2. *poet.* Tobacco.

1869 Lowell *Winter Evening Hymn* vii, Nicotia, dearer to the Muse Than all the grape's bewildering juice.

†**Nico·tian,** *sb.*[1] *Obs.* Also 6–7 **-ane.** [ad. F. *nicotiane* or mod.L. *nicotiana* (see below).] The tobacco-plant.

1577 Frampton *Joyful News* II. 42 Thys hearbe is called Nicotiane of the name of him that gave the first intelligence thereof unto this Realme. 1597 Lyly *Wom. in Moon* III. i, Gather me balme and cooling Violets, And of our holly hearbe Nicotian. 1607 Walkington *Opt. Glass* 105 To these I may..ioyn our adulterate Nicotian or Tobacco. 1672–3 Grew *Anat. Roots* II. § 51 The Aer-Vessels having a predominion to keep it from growing deep; as in Stramonium, Nicotian, Beet, &c.

Nicotian (nikō·ʃan), *a.* and *sb.*[2] [f. *nicot-* (see Nicotiana) + -ian.]

A. *adj.* Of, or pertaining to, tobacco; arising from the use of tobacco.

1825 Scott *Diary* in *Lockhart* (1839) VIII. 118, I.. laid aside the use of the Nicotian weed for many years. 1851 Hawthorne *Snow Image*, etc. (1879) 287 Heedless of the nicotian atmosphere. 1890 *Spectator* 7 June, Here is a fair specimen of..light nicotian humour.

B. *sb.*[2] **1.** (See quot.)

1849 *Penny Cycl.* XVI. 213/2 A tobacco-camphor, called nicotian, or nicotianin, which crystallizes, and is solid at the ordinary temperature of the air.

2. A tobacco-smoker.

1872 O. W. Holmes *Poet Breakf.-t.* v. (1885) 120, [I] have been a Nicotian..more than half my days.

‖ **Nicotiana** (nikō·ʃĭē·nă). *Bot.* [mod.L. (sc. *herba*), f. the name of Jacques *Nicot*, French ambassador at Lisbon, by whom tobacco was introduced into France in 1560.]

1. The tobacco-plant. Also personified.

1600 Surflet *Countrie Farme* II. xliv. 281 This herbe is called Nicotiana, of the name of an ambassadour which brought the first knowledge of it into this realme. 1646 G. Daniel *Poems* Wks. (Grosart) I. 51 Come my Nicotiana; weele renew Our free delights. 1688 Holme *Armoury* II. 70/1 A Tobacco flower..is called the Nicotiana or Male petum, and Holy Hearbe. 1826 Henry *Elem. Chem.* II. 329 The active properties of tobacco (nicotiana).

2. A genus of plants (chiefly American) of the nightshade family, to which the tobacco-plant (*N. Tabacum*) belongs.

1846 Lindley *Veget. Kingd.* 620 Tobacco..is the foliage of various species of Nicotiana.

Nicotianin (nikō·ʃănin). *Chem.* Also **-ine.** [f. Nicotian-a + -in [1].] (See quots.)

α. 1838 T. Thomson *Chem. Org. Bodies* 498 Of Nicotianin. This concrete oily substance exists in tobacco, and gives it its characteristic odour. 1860 *Knight's Eng. Cycl., Arts & Sci.* V. 938/1 Nicotianin, or essential oil of tobacco. 1892 *Syd. Soc. Lex., Nicotianin*, a..camphorous bitter substance, obtained from the leaf of the tobacco by distillation with alkaline solutions.

β. 1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 886 *Nicotianine* is the name of an oil recently extracted from the leaves of tobacco, which possesses the smell of tobacco smoke. 1871 Nichols *Fireside Chem.* 44 A good cigar..should contain a large proportion of nicotianine.

Nico·tiant, *ppl. a. nonce-wd.* Smoking.

1877 Huxley in *Life* (1900) I. xxxii. 479 Froude and yourself nicotiant.

Nicotic (nikǫ·tik), *a. Chem.* [f. *nicot-* (see Nicotiana) + -ic.] Of or pertaining to nicotine. *Nicotic acid*: (see quot. 1860).

1857 Mayne *Expos. Lex.* 766/2. 1860 *Knight's Eng. Cycl., Arts & Sci.* V. 938/1 *Nicotic acid*, a peculiar acid allied with oxalic acid, and said to be contained in tobacco juice. 1871 Nichols *Fireside Chem.* 42 In tobacco it is called nicotic acid.

Nico·tidin(e. *Chem.* [Cf. Nicotine and -id[4].] A substance isomeric with nicotine.

1890 Thorpe *Dict. Appl. Chem.* I. 334 The isomeric m-dipyridyl..boils at 293°, and yields on reduction with tin and hydrochloric acid nicotidine.

Nicotina (nikŏtəi·nă). *Chem.* [f. *nicot-* (see Nicotiana) + -ina.] = next.

1838 T. Thomson *Chem. Org. Bodies* 284 Nicotina obtained in this way has the consistence of honey, an acrid taste, and a brown colour. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVI. 213/2 Nicotina, an alkaloid, which..does not exist at ordinary temperatures in a solid form, but in a fluid and volatile state, having an oily appearance. 1856 Ure *Dict Arts* (ed. 4) II. 269 From this distillation a quantity of nicotina and ammonia will be obtained in the receiver.

Nicotine (ni·kŏtēn). Also nicotin. [a. F. *nicotine*: see Nicotiana and -ine[5].] A poisonous alkaloid forming the essential principle of tobacco, from which it is obtained as an oily liquid.

α. 1819 J. G. Children *Chem. Anal.* 290 Nicotin exists in the leaves of tobacco. 1826 Henry *Elem. Chem.* II. 329 Nicotin. This is the principle in which reside the active properties of tobacco (nicotiana). 1880 J. W. Legg *Bile* 176 Three drops of nicotin in 50 grammes of water..cause an immediate but short increase of the bile.

β. 1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 886 Nicotine is a peculiar principle, obtainable from the leaves and seeds of tobacco. 1855 Bain *Senses & Int.* II. ii. § 1 The volatile alkali, nicotine, the element of the snuffs. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 888 The view that nicotine has a more direct action.

attrib. 1865 *Times* 15 Aug., One safe haven where no nicotine perfume intrudes. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 888 The pallor..observed in nicotine intoxication. *Ibid.* 905 Nicotine poisoning being also excluded.

Hence **Nicoti·nean** *a.*, produced by the smoking of tobacco; **Ni·cotined** *a.*, full of tobacco-smoke; **Nicoti·nian** *a.* = Nicotian *a.*; **Nicoti·nic** *a.*, of or pertaining to nicotine; **Ni·cotinism,** a diseased condition produced by the excessive use of tobacco; **Ni·cotinize** *v. trans.*, to drug or saturate with nicotine.

1873 W. S. Mayo *Never Again* xxiv, Lapped in *nicotinean elysium, the incautious worshippers of the weed recline in fancied security. 1889 C. C. R. *Up for Season* 193 A fragrance that purely Contrasts with this *nicotined air. 1879 *Cope's Tobacco Plant* July 356/1 The man that..is not sooth'd with *Nicotinian herb. 1898 *Daily News* 20 Sept. 6/3 Thackeray..wrote and sang in nicotinian mood. 1890 Thorpe *Dict. Appl. Chem.* I. 334 The sodium salt of this acid..yields β-pyridyl cyanide, which on hydrolysis forms *nicotinic acid. 1892 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, **Nicotinism*, chronic tobacco poisoning. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 888 The less defined changes induced by alcoholism, nicotinism, and the like. 1865 *Reader* 1 Apr. 374/3 They narcotize, but do not *nicotinize, themselves. 1873 W. S. Mayo *Never Again* vi, Lanky, cadaverous,..nicotinized young men.

Ni·cotism. *rare.* = Nicotinism.

1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 747 Alcoholism and nicotism .. and Bright's disease are some of the conditions which fall under this head.

Nicotize (ni·kŏtəiz), *v.* [f. Nicot-ine + -ize.] *trans.* **a.** To bring *into* a certain state by smoking tobacco. **b.** To impregnate with nicotine.

1867 O. W. Holmes *Guardian Angel* xxi, He can take to the philosophic meerschaum, and nicotise himself..into a kind of buzzing and blurry insensibility. 1890 *Spectator* 15 Nov., To see if his body was really as salt and as nicotised as the Feejeans used to say.

Ni·cotyl. *Chem.* [f. Nicot-ine + -yl.] A hydrocarbon found in nicotine.

1860 *Knight's Eng. Cycl., Arts & Sci.* V. 938 Ammonia in which the three equivalents of hydrogen are replaced by the teratomic radical nicotyl. 1862 Miller *Elem. Chem., Org.* (ed. 2) 480 The hydrocarbon nicotyl which it [nicotylia] contains being equivalent in function to the 3 atoms of hydrogen in ammonia.

Hence **Nicoty·lia,** nicotine. *rare.*

1862 Miller *Elem. Chem., Org.* (ed. 2) 479 Nicotylia is a limpid colourless oily liquid, with an extremely irritating and powerful odour of tobacco.

Nicre, obs. f. Nicker *sb.*[1] **Nicromancer, -mancy,** obs. ff. Necromancer, -mancy.

Nictate (nikte·it), *v.* [f. L. *nictāt-*, ppl. stem of *nictāre* to wink.] *intr.* To wink. Only in *nictating membrane*: see Nictitate *v.*

1691 Ray *Creation* II. 35 The Eyes of Man..want the seventh Muscle, or the nictating Membrane. 1794 *Gentl. Mag.* LXIV. II. 648 A particular account of the Nictating Membrane in animals. 1870 Gillmore tr. *Figuier's Rept. & Birds* Introd. 193 This pupil, or nictating membrane, placed at the internal angle of the eye.

Nictation (niktē·ʃən). [ad. L. *nictātiōn-em*, n. of action f. *nictāre* to wink.] The action or an act of winking or moving the eyelids.

1623 Cockeram I, *Nictation*, the twinckling of the eye. 1650 Bulwer *Anthropomet.* 71 Much more is their use in nictation when we are awake. 1678 Cudworth *Intell. Syst.* I. iii. § 37 Our Nictations for the most part when we are awake..are performed with very little or no Consciousness. 1883 *Gd. Words* 265 As if a man should set himself to regulate or time the nictation of the eyelid.

Nictitant (ni·ktităn̄t), *a. rare.* [ad. med.L. *nictitant-em*, pres. pple. of *nictitāre*: see next.] Nictitating.

1826 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* xlvi. IV. 287 Nictitant Ocellus...When the ocellus includes a lunular spot of a different colour. 1835 Kirby *Hab. & Inst. Anim.* I. i. 34 Many reptiles..are furnished with a nictitant membrane like birds. 1857 Mayne *Expos. Lex.* 766/2.

Nictitate (nĭ·ktĭteĭt), *v.* [f. med.L. *nictitāt-*, ppl. stem of *nictitāre*, frequentative of L. *nictāre* to wink: see NICTATE *v.*] *intr.* Of the eyelids: To wink. *rare.*

1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) III. 330 In dying people, whose eyelids are become torpid and do not nictitate. *Ibid.* 395 The eyelids nictitate with a quiver that is often difficult to follow-up.

Hence **Ni·ctitating** *ppl. a.*, chiefly in *nictitating membrane*, a third or inner eyelid present in many animals, serving to protect the eye from dust, etc., and to keep it moist.

1713 DERHAM *Phys.-Theol.* IV. ii. 110 To the Eye-lids, we may add another guard afforded the Eyes, of most Quadrupeds, Birds, and Fishes, by the nictitating Membrane. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) VII. 209 The eye also [of the rattlesnake] is furnished with a nictitating membrane, that preserves it from dust. 1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) III. 16 In the elephant, oppossum, seal, cat-kind, and various other mammals, all birds and all fishes, we find a third eyelid or nictitating membrane as it is usually called. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 39 Clonic spasm of the eye-lids.., sometimes spoken of as nictitating spasm.

Nictitation (niktitē·ĭ·ʃən). [ad. L. type **nictitātiōn-em*: see NICTITATE *v.* and -ATION.] Winking; the action or habit of moving the eyelids.

1784–6 E. DARWIN *Zoon.* (1801) I. 268 Other catenations of animal motion are gradually acquired .. by disagreeable sensations, as in coughing or nictitation. 1831 *Fraser's Mag.* III. 653, I know by that satisfactory nictitation of your eye that you agree with me. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 107 There is often a nictitation of the lids.

Nid. *rare.* [Later form of NIDE, perh. after F. *nid.*] A nest (of pheasants).

1808 COBBETT in *Friends.* *Miss Mitford* (1882) I. 41 The pheasants are all well, both nids. 1884 CARNEGIE *Game Preserving* 4 When quitting the 'nide' or 'nid', as the nest is technically termed, she instinctively scratches a covering of leaves or grass over it.

Nidal (nəi·dăl), *a. rare* —¹. [See NIDUS.] Of or pertaining to a nest.

1850 *Tait's Mag.* XVII. 165/1 Like brooding halcyons calming the angry waters around their sacred nidal circle.

Nidamental (nəidămē·ntăl), *a.* [f. L. *nīdāment-um* (see NIDUS) + -AL.]

1. *Zool.* Serving as a receptacle for the ova of molluscs or other marine animals; forming a collection of ova.

1835–6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 557/1 The..oviducts have laminated glandular terminations, near to which are placed two detached nidamental glands. 1851 WOODWARD *Mollusca* I. iii. 20 The nidamental ribbon of the doris and eolis is attached to a rock. *Ibid.* iv. 50 The nidamental capsules of the cuttle-fish are clustered like grapes. 1877 HUXLEY *Anat. Inv. Anim.* viii. 534 The nidamental glands, composed of numerous vertical lamellæ, .. are situated on the posterior wall of that cavity.

2. Of the nature of, serving as, a nest or nests.

1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 123/1 Eggs, nests, nidamental structures..should be amalgamated into one series.

† **Ni·dary.** *Obs. rare* —¹. [See NIDUS and -ARY¹ B. 2.] A place for building nests.

a 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 27 Feb. 1644, In this rupellary nidary do the fowl lay eggs, and breed.

Niddecock, variant of NIDDICOCK *Obs.*

Nidder, variant of NITHER *v.*

Ni·ddering, *sb.* and *a.* Also nider-. [Erroneous form of NITHING, originating in the early printed text (1596) of William of Malmesbury, by misreading *niðing* as *nid'ing* (= nidering). The modern currency of the word is due to Scott.]

A. *sb.* A base coward or wretch. Also in predicative use, passing into *adj.*

1596 in Savile *Script. post Bedam* 68 Iubet, vt compatriotas aduocent ad obsidionem venire, nisi si qui velint sub nomine *Nidering*, quod nequam sonat, remanere. 1664 SPELMAN, *Niderling* seu *Nidering*. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Niderling*, *Nidering*,..an old English Word signifying a Coward, a sorry hen-hearted Fellow.

1819 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* xv. *note*, Threatening to stigmatize those who staid at home as *niddering*. *Ibid.* xliii, On pain of being held faithless, man-sworn, and *nidering*. 1848 LYTTON *Harold* x. iv, He who can be called niddering shall never be crowned king! 1864 KINGSLEY *Rom. & Teut.* 60 Niddering though he may have been called for coming back alive. 1864 DASENT *Jest & Earnest* (1873) I. 229 Though this was the deed of a niddering, it seems not to have raised the popular feeling against Sweyn so much as it ought. 1893 *Athenæum* 12 Aug. 226/1 It is difficult to be too severe with such a 'nidering'.

B. *adj.* Base, cowardly, vile.

1848 LYTTON *Harold* III. ii, Siward can give no niddering council to the king. 1866 BLACKMORE *Cradock Nowell* liii. (1883) 363 She learned her niddering wrong.

Hence, by further corruption, **Ni·dderling.** *rare.*

1664 [see prec.]. 1674 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* (ed. 4), *Niderling* or *Nithing* signifies an abject base-minded, false-hearted coward. 1678 PHILLIPS *Suppl.*, *Niderling*, a poor spirited, base, raskally sort of a fellow. 1887 BESANT *Kath. Regina* 218 Men who..call that man churl and nidderling and pitiful sneak and cur. 1895 CROCKETT *Men of Moss-Hags* 165 The men of the broad bonnet were neither cowards nor nidderlings.

Ni·ddick. *dial.* Also 6 nuddock, 7 niddock, 9 neddick, etc. [Of obscure origin.] The nape of the neck.

Current in south-western dialects; see *Eng. Dial. Dict.*

1558 PHAER *Æneid* VII. X j, Their nuddocks bolstred ben, and skulles of heads with barkes of corks. 1667 *Phil. Trans.* II. 480 It [a lamb] had two Eyes and as many Ears, in the usual places, and one extraordinary Eye in the Niddock. 1746 *Exmoor Courtship* (E. D. S.) 555 A Crick in ma Back and in ma Niddick. 1894 BLACKMORE *Perlycross* 376 The wick of a lamp that had dropped..on this man's collar, and burned a little hole in his niddick.

† **Ni·ddicock.** *Obs. rare.* Also nidde-. [Of obscure formation: perh. a fanciful alteration of NIDIOT.] A fool, a ninny.

1586 HOOKER *Hist. Irel.* in *Holinshed* II. 94/1 They were neuer such fond niddicockes, as to offer anie man a rod to beat their owne tailes. 1654 GAYTON *Pleas. Notes* II. vi. 61 Thou..deservedst to be stak'd..for being such a Goose, Widgeon, and Niddecock to dye for love.

So † **Ni·ddipol** = NODDIPOL. *Obs. rare* —¹.

1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* IV. (Arb.) 98 What niddipol hare brayne Would scorne this couenaunt?

Nidding, variant of NIDING.

Ni·ddle, *v. Sc.* [Imitative.] *intr.* To move quickly.

1819 W. TENNANT *Papistry Storm'd* (1827) 15 The wyres were gowden .. Wharewi' her fingers prettilie Did niddle i' their play. 1874 R. FORD in *Harp of Perthshire* (1893) 319 They whiddled aboot, they niddled aboot.

Ni·ddle-no·ddle, *a.* [A reduplicative formation on NOD *v.*: cf. NID-NOD *v.*] Having nodding heads. Also *fig.*

1761 *Brit. Mag.* II. 101 Who doats on pagods, and gives up vile man For niddle-noddle figures from Japan. 1820 COMBE *Syntax* III. i, What is said hy state physicians, And niddle-noddle politicians.

Ni·ddle-no·ddle, *v.* [Cf. prec.] *intr.* To nod unsteadily to and fro; to nod the head rapidly. Also *trans.* with the head as object.

1840 HOOD *Kilmansegg, Christening* ix, Her head niddle-noddled at every word. 1845 *Punch* VIII. 138 He continually niddle-noddles his head like a toy mandarin. 1855 A. MANNING *O. Chelsea Bun-ho.* xv. 244 The Mandarin niddle-noddles, till it makes one's head spin to look at him.

So **Ni·ddy-no·ddy** *adv.* and *v.*

1866 CARLYLE *Remin.* (1881) I. 324 The little phantasm of a creature—Sloane his name—who went niddy-noddying with his head. 1877 W. WATSON *Poems* 38 Ere we're half gate wi' our life, Our head plays niddy noddy.

Nide (nəid), *sb.* [ad. F. *nid* or L. *nīd-us*: the older F. *ni* is represented by NYE. Cf. NID.] A brood or nest of pheasants. Also *transf.* of geese.

1679 COLES *Eng.-Lat. Dict.*, A nide of pheasants, *phasianorum pullities*. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Nide*, a Term us'd in Falconry, for a Flock of Pheasants. 1790 *Loiterer* No. 57 P 5 My Father offered to conduct him to the best Nide of Pheasants on the Manor. ? 1810 A. MACKINTOSH *Driffield Angler* 294 Nide of pheasants, commonly called a Ni. 1834 *New Monthly Mag.* XLII. 119 The nides of pheasants are equally plentiful and well grown. 1896 *Blackw. Mag.* July 18 Mother Goose had brought a fine nide of eggs near to hatching on this island.

So **Nide** *v. intr.*, to nest. *rare.*

1881 R. F. BURTON tr. *Camoens' Lusiad* II. 34 Those eyne wherein Dan Cupid aye doth nide.

Nide, obs. f. NEED. **Nideote,** var. of NIDIOT¹.

Nidering, variant of NIDDERING.

Nidge (nidʒ), *v.*¹ *rare.* [Of obscure origin.] *trans.* and *intr.* To shake, quiver.

1803 JANE PORTER *Thaddeus* XXVI. (1831) 265 The coxcomb, who stood nidging his head with anger. 1831 in *Mag. Amer. Hist.* Jan. (1888) 81 The majestic object is perpetually in motion, shaking and nidging and nodding this way and that.

Nidge (nidʒ), *v.*² *Sc.* [Of obscure origin.] *trans.* To trim (stone) roughly by means of a sharp-pointed hammer. Hence **Nidged** *ppl. a.*, **Nidging** *vbl. sb.*

1842 GWILT *Archit.* 519 In Aberdeen, where the stone is very hard,..they pick the stone until the surface has nearly acquired the requisite form. This sort of work is called nidged-work, and the operation nidging. *Ibid.* 1008 *Nidged Ashlar*, a species of ashlar used in Aberdeen. It is brought to the square by means of a cavil or hammer with a sharp point. 1850 in OGILVIE.

† **Ni·dgery.** *Obs. rare* —⁰. [a. obs. F. *nigerie*, f. *niger* 'to trifle; to play the fop, or nidget'.]

1611 COTGR., *Nigeries*, nidgeries, fopperies, fooleries, trifles, nifles. [Hence in Blount *Glossogr.* (1656), etc.]

Nidget (nĭ·dʒĕt), *sb.*¹ Now only *arch.* Also 6 nigeot, 7 nigit, nigid, niget, nigget. [var. of NIDIOT: see note to IDIOT.] An idiot, a fool.

'As a modern word, if used, it signifies a trifler' (Smart).

a. 1579–80 NORTH *Plutarch* (1895) II. 50 This made men judge..that he would prove a very foole and nigeot [1595 idiote]. 1603 SIR C. HEYDON *Jud. Astrol.* xi. 244 Cleared from the imputation of [being] such a Nigit. 1621–3 MIDDLETON & ROWLEY *Changeling* III. iii, 'Tis a gentle nigget; you may play with him. 1638 HEYWOOD *Wise Wom.* II. i, I think he saith we are a company of fooles and Nigits. 1675 *Ballad* in *Luttrell Coll.* III. 107 Ridiculous Niget, to scoff at St. Bridget. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew*, *Nigit*, a Fool.

β. 1605 CAMDEN *Rem.* 27 Abject, base minded, false harted, coward, or nidget. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Nidget*, an Idiot, a Ninny, or meer Fool. 1843 JAMES *Forest Days* ii, One of those men is a nidget.

Nidget (nĭ·dʒĕt), *sb.*² Also -ett, niggett. [Of obscure origin.] A triangular horse-hoe, used in Kent and Sussex.

1789 *Trans. Soc. Arts* I. 113, I have had what we call a brake and a nidget made..to move the earth in alleys. 1805 R. W. DICKSON *Pract. Agric.* II. 747 To admit of the ground between the plants being kept clean by the harrow and nidget. 1846 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* VII. II. 590 Guano.. sown broadcast in the track made by the tines of the niggett. 1883 J. Y. STRATTON *Hops & Hop-pickers* 23 The garden is kept clear of weeds by means of a horse-hoe, or nidget.

Nidget, *sb.*³: see NINE-HOLE.

Ni·dget, *v.*¹ [f. NIDGET *sb.*²]

1. *trans.* To work (land) with a nidget.

1805 R. W. DICKSON *Pract. Agric.* II. 758 Deduct summer digging. ..Add nidgetting. 1846 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* VII. II. 590 The portion..is niggetted or stirred as much before the 1st of April..as possible. 1848 *Ibid.* IX. II. 553 It should be nidgeted and got into a fine deep tilth.

2. To work *in* (lime, etc.) with the soil by means of a nidget.

1848 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* IX. II. 548 Lime,..nidgeted in after the hops are planted,..will be of greater benefit. 1881 WHITEHEAD *Hops* 33 Rape dust is a fine manure, and is nidgetted in with nidgetts.

Nidget, *v.*² *dial.* (See quots.)

1745–60 ABOERON *Norwich Words* in Rye *E. Angl. Gloss.*, *Nigeting*, to call women to one in labour. 1764 *Low Life* 29 Poor labouring Men..are obliged to get up, put on Part of their Cloaths and go a Nigiting, i. e. fetching Midwives, Nurses and Gossips. 1895 RYE *E. Angl. Gloss.*, *Nidget*, to assist a woman in her travail.

Ni·dgetty, *a. rare* —¹. Trifling.

1798 JANE AUSTEN *Lett.* (1884) I. 177, I have been enabled to give a considerable improvement of dignity to [the] cap, which was before too nidgetty to please me.

Ni·dging, *a. rare* —¹. [Cf. NIDGE *v.*¹] Restless, troublesome.

1796 MME. D'ARBLAY *Camilla* v. iii, I'd sooner have her than any of 'em, for all she's such a nidging little thing.

Nidging, *vbl. sb.*: see NIDGE *v.*²

Nidi, pl. of NIDUS.

Nidificate (nĭ·dĭfĭkeĭt), *v.* [f. L. *nīdificāt-*, ppl. stem of *nīdificāre*, f. *nīdus* nest.] *intr.* To make a nest; to nidify.

1816 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* iv. (1818) I. 104 Getting.. between the skin and the flesh..where it nidificates and lays its eggs. 1835–6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 267/1 All the Birds of Prey..nidificate in lofty situations. 1874 E. COUES *Birds N. W.* 313 This species may be shy and reserved, and consequently nidificates in out-of-the-way situations.

Nidification (nidifikē·ĭ·ʃən). [See prec. and -ATION.] The operation of nest-building; the construction of a nest or nests; the manner in which this is done.

1658 PHILLIPS, *Nidification*, a building of a birds nest. 1659 H. MORE *Immort. Soul* (1762) 222 The Nidification of Birds, as well as their Incubation. *a* 1676 HALE *Prim. Orig. Man.* (1677) 368 In the nidification of Birds, Bees, Silkworms, and divers others. 1713 DERHAM *Phys.-Theol.* IV. xiii. 228 That Method of Nidification doth abundantly Answer the Creatures Use and Occasions. 1773 G. WHITE in *Phil. Trans.* LXIV. 196 For some time after they appear, the *hirundines* in general pay no attention to the business of nidification. 1834 MUDIE *Brit. Birds* (1841) I. 192 If the tree affords no natural hole fit for the purpose of nidification. 1874 COUES *Birds N. W.* 389 Its nidification varies greatly with circumstances, the nest being placed indifferently on the ground, bushes, or trees.

Hence **Nidifica·tional** *a.*, relating to nidification.

1888 J. T. GULICK in *Linn. Soc. Jrnl.* XX. 2262 Nidificational Segregation. Let us now consider the effects of divergent habits in regard to nest-building.

† **Nidifice.** *Obs. rare* —⁰. [ad. late L. *nidificium.*] 'A nest, such as Birds make' (Blount *Glossogr.* 1656).

Nidify (nĭ·dĭfəi), *v.* [ad. L. *nīdificāre*, f. *nīdus* nest.] *intr.* To build a nest or nests.

1656 in BLOUNT *Glossogr.* 1720–1 *Lett. Mist's Jrnl.* (1722) II. 127 Birds, by Instinct,..nidify, or make Nests after the same Manner. 1859 R. F. BURTON *Centr. Afr.* in *Jrnl. Geog. Soc.* XXIX. 396 Trees begin to bud, beasts to pair, and birds to nidify. 1880 J. COLQUHOUN *Moor & Loch* I. 249 The peregrine,..nidifying on a giddy point.

Hence **Ni·difying** *ppl. a.*

1871 DARWIN *Desc. Man* II. xv. 172 It is not necessary to suppose that each separate species had its nidifying instinct specially modified.

Ni·ding. Now *rare.* Also 9 nidding. [Inexact form of *niðing*, used by Camden in citing from William of Malmesbury: cf. NIDDERING.] = NITHING.

1605 CAMDEN *Rem.* 28 Whosoever refused to come should be reputed a Niding. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 333 Whosoever would not be reputed a Niding should repaire to recover Rochester Castle. 1642 HOWELL *For. Trav.* (Arb.) 79 He is worthy to be called a Niding, one, the pulse of whose soule beates but faintly towards Heaven. 1715 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* I. 299 (from Camden). 1866 T. BRUCE *Summer Queen* 148 To bondslave and low born knave And to the nidding too.

† **Ni·diot**¹, obs. f. IDIOT. (Cf. NIDGET *sb.*¹)

1534 MORE *Comf. agst. Trib.* III. Wks. 1250/2 These folke as are verye nydeote fooles. 1586 A. DAY *Eng. Secretary* II. (1595) 47 After all these sporting deuises, he is but a Nideote. 1613 *Dodecahedron of Fortune* 5 This doting nidiot by his foolish desart Shall of his faire love at all have no part.

† **Ni·diot**². *Obs. rare* —¹. (See quot.)

1713 DERHAM *Phys.-Theol.* 190 *note*, One of the smallest, if not the very smallest of all the Gnat kind ...Among us in Essex, they are called Nidiots, by Mouffet, Midges. [Cf. 1875 PARISH *Sussex Gloss.*, *Nidget*, a little bug.]

Nid-nod, *v.* [A reduplicative formation on NOD *v.*: cf. NIDDLE-NODDLE *v.*]

1. *intr.* To nod repeatedly.

c 1787 BURNS *We're a' noddin*, We're a' noddin, nid nid noddin,..at our house at hame. *c* 1817 HOGG *Tales & Sk.* I. 289 She sat nid-nodding. 1892 *Daily News* 18 June 3/3 A green straw hat with large roses nid-nodding from the

crown. 1903 R. N. Carey *Passage Perilous* xxiii, The two heads nid-nodded more closely.

2. *trans.* (with head as object).

1840 Hood *Kilmansegg, Fancy Ball* xxiv, Lady K. nid-nodded her head.

Hence **Nid-nodding** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1824 Miss Ferriea *Inher.* lxxix, That odd, little, nid-nodding face. 1833 Hood *China Mender* 11 Great nid-noddin' mandarins, with palsies in the head. 1896 *Blackw. Mag.* Oct. 490/2 The nid-nodding of the red rose.

Nidor (nəi·dɒɹ). Now *rare*. Also 7 **nidour**. [a. L. *nīdor*.] The smell arising from animal substances (esp. of a fat or greasy nature) when burned, roasted, or boiled; † a strong smell, odour, or exhalation of any kind.

a 1619 Fotherby *Atheom.* I. xi. § 4 (1622) 116 Who maketh .. his Caldron, his Sensor; his Nidor, his Incense; his Table, his Altar. 1662 H. Stubbe *Indian Nectar* iii. 29, I bad my smell affected with such a nidor, as issues from fat, when broiled. 1678 Cudworth *Intell. Syst.* 810 That Evil Demons or Devils, were..delighted with the Blood and Nidours of Sacrifices. 1707 Flover *Physic. Pulse-Watch* 264 In the Nidor of the Stomach there are hot Winds. 1746 James *Mouſet's Health Improv.* Introd. 43 A Nidor, or Stink, peculiar to Animal Substances in a State of Putrefaction. 1811 Syd. Smith *Wks.* (1859) I. 203/2 The nidor of a human creature roasted for faith.

† **Nidoro·se,** *a. Obs. rare.* [ad. late L. *nīdōrōs-us* : see prec. and -ose.] Of the nature of a nidor; nidorous.

1707 Flover *Physic. Pulse-Watch* 104 If the Lungs be inflam'd they are subject to Suffocations; .. if the Stomach it self, to a nidorose Crudity. 1732 Arbuthnot *Rules of Diet* in *Aliments*, etc. I. 290 Hot nidorose Belchings, foulness of the tongue and Palate.

Hence † **Nidoro·sity.** *Obs. rare* −1.

1696 Flover *On the Humours* (J.), The cure of this nidorosity is, by vomiting and purging.

Nidorous (nəi·dōrəs), *a.* Now *rare*. [ad. L. *nīdōrōs-us* (see prec.), or f. Nidor + -ous.] Of smells: Resembling that of cooked or burnt animal substances; strong and unpleasant.

1626 Bacon *Sylva* § 923 Incense, and Nidorous Smells, (such as were of Sacrifices,) were thought to Intoxicate the Braine. 1661 Evelyn *Fumifugium* Misc. Writ. (1805) II. 236 Horrid stinks, nidorous and unwholesome smells, which proceed from the tallow. 1698 Fryer *Acc. E. India & P.* 303 Stones of live Brimstone exhaling a nidorous Scent, stinking like that Water the Mariners call Bilge Water. 1757 A. Cooper *Distiller* I. xxiii. (1760) 95 It acquires an alcaline Disposition, and also a nidorous flavour.

b. Applied to stomachic crudities and eructations suggestive of such smells.

1651 Biggs *New Disp.* P 287 That an acid ructation, of a reparable ferment, superinduced upon a nidorous one, is good. 1710 T. Fuller *Pharm. Extemp.* 124 Steel Medicines thus taken..stir up..nidorous Belching. 1746 James *Mouſet's Health Improv.* Introd. 48 Nidorous Eructations, or Belches, which affect the Mouth with the Taste of putrefied Eggs. 1851 Noble tr. *Swedenborg's Heaven & Hell* (ed. 2) § 488 Such nidorous exhalations as proceed from indigested substances in the stomach.

† **Nidorulent,** *a. Obs. rare.* [f. Nidor + -ulent.] Of a nidorous nature.

1634 T. Johnson *Parey's Chirurg.* I. xiv. (1678) 20 The ventricle..is troubled by its acid and nidorulent belchings. 1687 P. Madan *Tunbridge Waters* 5 The Nidorolent Belches and Eructations after taking 'em.

Nidulant (ni·diŭlănt), *a. Bot.* [f. L. *nīdulant-*, *nīdulans*, pres. pple. of *nīdulārī*, f. *nīdus* nest.] (See quots.)

1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) III. 447/1 Nidulant, nestling; seeds dispersed through a pulpy or soft substance. 1828–32 Webster *Nidulant*, .. lying loose in pulp or cotton, within a berry or pericarp. 1857 Mayne *Expos. Lex.* 767/1 *Nidulans*, embedded: nestling, as the seeds on the surface of the strawberry: nidulant. 1866 *Treas. Bot.*, *Nidulant*, .. lying free in a cup-shaped or nest-like body; as in the genus *Nidularia*.

† **Ni·dulate,** *v. Obs. rare* −0. [See prec.]

1623 Cockeram I, *Nidulate*, to build a nest.

Nidulation (nidiŭlē·ʃən). *rare.* [f. prec.: see -ation.] Nesting, nest-making, nidification.

1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* 129 More especially remarkable in the time of their nidulation, and bringing forth their young. *a* 1682 — *Tracts* (1683) 49 They were invited by such conveniences and prepared nests to relinquish their natural places of nidulation. 1845 Sir W. Hamilton *Metaph.* I. App. 426 A convenient harbour for the nidulation, hatching, and nourishment of many parasitic animals.

‖ **Nidus** (nəi·dŏs). Pl. **nidi** (nəi·dəi) and **niduses.** [L. *nīdus* :—**nizdus* : see Nest *sb.*]

1. a. *Zool.* A nest or place in which small animals, such as insects, snails, etc., lodge or deposit their eggs.

1742 H. Baker *Microsc.* II. i. 70 The Eggs..hatch and thrive when they happen to be lodged in a proper Nidus for them. 1760–72 tr. *Juan & Ulloa's Voy.* (ed. 3) I. 66 The cavity left, by the removal of the nidus, must be immediately filled..with tobacco ashes. 1812 Sir J. Sinclair *Syst. Husb. Scot.* I. Add. 12 The insects and their nidi are.. exposed to the attacks of small birds. 1854 Hooker *Himal. Jrnls.* I. ii. 46 The many-celled nidus of the leaf-cutter bee. 1871 T. R. Jones *Anim. Kingd.* (ed. 4) 152 Cystic parasites still enclosed in the nidus in which they are found in the omentum of rabbits.

b. *Bot.* A place or substance in which spores or seeds develop.

1796 Withering *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) IV. 350 Though the fruit of such trees may be its more common nidus, I found it growing in large clusters on a rotten stick. 1859 T. Moore *Brit. Ferns* 15 The spores..would find a proper nidus for their development. 1868 Herschel in *People's Mag.* Jan. 62 Forming a sort of vegetable honeycomb, and serving..for a nidus to the spores.

c. *Phys.* and *Path.* A place of origin or development *for* some state or substance.

1804 Abernethy *Surg. Obs.* 68 The mammary gland seems to be the nidus for this diseased action. 1845 Todd & Bowman *Phys. Anat.* I. 88 In man, and the higher animals, cartilage is employed temporarily as a nidus for bone. 1879 *St. George's Hosp. Rep.* IX. 776 By purifying the cavity a fresh nidus for the disease is removed.

d. *fig.* A source or origin; a place where some quality or principle is fostered.

1807 *Edin. Rev.* IX. 415 The true *nidus* of the erroneous sentiments. 1817 Keatinge *Trav.* II. 147 The Sorbonne, formerly the nidus of pedantry. 1845 R. W. Hamilton *Pop. Educ.* i. (ed. 2) 9 It is the nidus of a new commonwealth. 1863 Geo. Eliot *Romola* xi, The order of nature, which treats all maturity as a mere nidus for youth.

2. A place in which something is formed, deposited, settled, or located.

1778 King in *Phil. Trans.* LXIX. 46 A proper nidus for the assemblage of the most valuable metals. 1846 Callaway *Dislocations* (1849) 70 The bone again nearly always slips out from its nidus. 1876 *Trans. Clinical Soc.* IX. 165 The severe vomiting and purging probably dislodged the calculus from its nidus.

3. A collection *of* eggs, tubercles, etc.

1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) II. 492 In many cases the cysts or niduses of tubercles possess so little energy of action as never to exceed the size of a small shot. 1826 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* xxix. III. 75 Reaumur had once brought to him a nidus of eggs clothed still more curiously.

Nie, obs. f. Nigh, Nine; var. of Neye.

Niece, obs. form of Nice.

Niece (nīs). Forms: 3–6 nece, 4–6 nese, (4 neese), 5–6 nees, 6–8 neece; 6 neise, neyce, neipce, 7 neice; 6 niese, niepce, nyepce, 6–niece; 4–7 nice, (4 nyce). [a. F. *nièce* (12th c.), † *nece*, *neice*, *nice*, *niepce*, etc. = Prov. *netsa*, obs. It. *nezza* :—pop. L. *neptia*, for L. *neptis* (related to Nift): cf. Prov. *nepta*, Catal. and Pg. *neta*, Sp. *nieta* :—pop. L. **nepta*.]

1. † **a.** A grand-daughter, or more remote female descendant. *Obs.* b. A daughter of one's brother (brother-in-law) or sister (sister-in-law).

In older use, down to *c* 1600, the sense of 'grand-daughter' appears to have been common, but it is often difficult or impossible to make out which relationship is expressed by the word.

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 4160 Out of þe lond of spayne [he] come & adde ynome eleyne þat was so vair þe kinges nece. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 233 Ho was me nerre þen aunte or nece. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* II. 288 Good aventure, O bele nece, have ye Ful lightly founden. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 141 þat 3ere deide Hildr, abbesse of Whitby... Sche was kyng Edwyn his nese [1432–50 doȝhter of the doȝhter of kynge Edwinus]. 1422 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 50 Ion Skydmore, my newewe. .. Also .. Iane myn nece. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* xvii. xix. 717 Kynge Pelles and Elyazar his sone the whiche were holy men and a mayde which was his nece. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* II. xii. 47, I, the nece of mychty Dardanus, And guide dochtir vnto the blissit Venus. 1542 Udall *Erasm. Apoph.* 261 b, What Augustus would saie when any mencion was made either of Julia his doughter, or Julia his nice. 1576 Gascoigne *Steele Glas* (Arb.) 71 To tire his wearie wife, His daughters and his niepces euerychone. 1614 Raleigh *Hist. World* III. (1634) 39 Taking two of Cyrus' daughters, and as many of his neeces for Wives. *c* 1657 Sir W. Mure *Hist. Ho. Rowallane* Wks. (S. T. S.) II. 254 Lord Hammiltonne who had to wife his Nice or sister daughter. 1673 Cave *Prim. Chr.* I. iii. 45 His neece by the sister's side. 1723 Gay *Let. to Swift* 3 Feb., Mr. Maxwell, who married a niece of Mr. Meredith's. 1797 Mrs. Radcliffe *Italian* i, Very cautious in her replies to his inquiries after her niece. 1847 Tennyson *Princ.* II. 257 O by the bright head of my little niece, You were that Psyche.

b. Euphemistically applied to the illegitimate daughter of an ecclesiastic. Cf. Nephew 1 b.

1858 Holmes *Aut. Breakf.-t.* vii. (1891) 161 Many a Holy Father's 'niece' Has softly smoothed the papal chair.

c. *Niece-in-law*, the wife of one's nephew. *rare.*

a 1556 Cranmer *Wks.* (Parker Soc.) II. 329 Sister and sister-in-law, aunt and aunt-in-law, niece and niece-in-law.

† **2.** A female relative. *Obs.*

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 7252 Seint edwardes nece þat of is fader kunde com. *c* 1375 *Cursor M.* 10891 (Fairf.), Thyne old nyce Elizabeth hath gon with child vj moneth. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Shipman's T.* 125 This monk bigan vp-on this wyf to stare, And seide, allas, my Nece; god forbede [etc.]. *c* 1400 *Lay le Freine* 288 Leman, he seyd, thou most lat be The abbesse thi nece, and go with me. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xi. 23 Ioachym thy fader at hame, And anna, my nese, and thi dame. 1508 Dunbar *Flyting* 540 Thy trew kynnismen, Antenor & Eneas, Throp thy nere nece, and austern Olibrius.

† b. Used as a form of address to a woman. *Obs.*

c 1470 Henry *Wallace* VII. 275 'Der nece', he said, .. 'Is my eyme dede, or hou the cace befell?'

† **3.** A nephew. *Obs. rare.*

c 1500 *Lancelot* 2200 The king..said, 'Sir gawan, nece, why dois þow so? *Ibid.* 2720 The king..of his necis lyf was in disspare. *a* 1592 Greene *Alphonsus* II. Wks. (Rtldg.) 229/1 Seeking about the troops of Aragon, For to encounter with his traitorous niece. *Ibid.* III. 236/1 Belinus, my most friendly niece.

Hence **Nie·celess** *a.*, **Nie·ceship.**

1834 Southey *Doctor* lxxii, She was a descendant of.. Japhet; she was allied to Ham, however, in another way besides this remote niece-ship. 1892 Sir E. B. Hamley *Let.* in Shand *Life* (1895) II. xxxi. 303, I then had a niece and a cat to comfort me—now I am nieceless and catless.

Niede, Nief(e, obs. ff. Need, Neif, Nieve.

Nieht, obs. form of Night.

Niel, var. of Niello. [Cf. Sp. *niel*, F. *nielle*.]

1873 Spon *Workshop Rec.* Ser. I. 219/1 The copy is hollow, and ready to receive the niel.

Niellated (ni·elēlt̬ĕd), *ppl. a.* [ad. It. *niellato*, pa. pple. of *niellare*, f. Niello.] Inlaid in niello.

1886 *Athenæum* 27 Feb. 301/3 They delineated numerous niellated works. 1901 *Chamb. Encycl.* VII. 498 The name niello is given not only to the engraved and niellated metal-work, but also to the paper proofs taken from them.

So **Nie·lled** *ppl. a.*, nielloed.

1873 Spon *Workshop Rec.* Ser. I. 218/2 Nielled Silver.—This is a kind of inlaid enamel work, and is obtained by the sulphuration of certain parts of a silver object.

Niellist (ni·elist). [f. next: see -ist.] A worker or artist in niello.

1841 *Gentl. Mag.* CXI. II. 21 The works of the Niellists did not cease on this discovery nor for some time after. 1883 C. C. Perkins *Ital. Sculp.* 310 *note*, Highly reputed as a niellist, enamellist, and goldsmith.

‖ **Niello** (ni·elo), *sb.* Pl. **nielli** and **niellos.** [It. *niello* :—pop. L. **nigellum*, neut. of L. *nigellus*, dim. of *niger* black: cf. Prov. and Sp. *niel*, OF. *neel* (mod. F. *nielle* from It.).]

1. A black composition, consisting of alloys of silver, lead, copper, and sulphur, with which engraved designs on silver or other metals are filled in, so as to produce an ornamental effect.

1816 Singer *Hist. Cards* 93 *note*, An impression from a Pax, engraved for the purpose of being filled with Niello. 1823 J. Badcock *Dom. Amusem.* 182 Enamel, called Niello. 1866 G. Stephens *Runic Mon.* I. 183 Much of the Niello has fallen away, and whole lines or parts of lines are now empty. 1877 W. Jones *Finger-ring* 55 The outer surface is engraved, and partly filled up with niello.

b. Ornamental work executed by the application of niello to engraved designs.

1842 Brande *Dict. Sci.*, etc. 399/1 It was the practice to decorate church and other plate with works in *niello*. 1845 Mrs. Jameson *Early Ital. Painters* I. 176 Maso Finiguerra..became celebrated for the artistic beauty of his designs and workmanship in *niello*.

c. *attrib.* and *Comb.* as *niello-cutting*, *-plate*, etc.

1845 Mrs. Jameson *Early Ital. Painters* I. 175 The binding exhibits some beautiful specimens of niello-work. *Ibid.* 176 The earliest known impression of a niello plate. *Ibid.* 177 Maso Finiguerra, or any other niello-worker. 1864 *Chamb. Encycl.* VI. 765 Much interest attaches to the art of niello-cutting. 1884 Knight *Dict. Mech.* Suppl. 635/1 The composition of the Russian tula or Niello silver.

2. A specimen of niello-work; an article ornamented with niello.

1840 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* III. 94/2 We see niellos upon bronze doors of Greek origin, even in Italy. 1841 *Gentl. Mag.* CXI. II. 21 They are not so fortunate as to possess a Niello in silver. 1895 *Pop. Sci. Monthly* Mar. 597 Our modern door plates are really nielli also.

3. An impression on paper of the design which is to be filled with niello.

1854 *Househ. Words* IX. 181 These impressions have in some few cases been preserved, as art-curiosities, and they, as well the plates themselves, are termed nielli. 1866 Brande & Cox *Dict. Sci.*, etc. s.v., These impressions of the early fathers of copper-plate printing still exist, and are known also as *niellos*.

Nie·llo, *v.* [f. prec.] *trans.* To inlay with niello. Hence **Nie·lloed** *ppl. a.*

1866 G. Stephens *Runic Mon.* I. 183 The whole runic inscription, and the two long lines .. are nielloed. 1877 W. Jones *Finger-ring* 58 There are various nielloed rings of the Saxon period. 1892 G. Lambert *Gold & Silversmith's Art* 45 All the gold, all the silver..stamped, carved and chased, and nielloed.

Nien(e, niend, nientene, -teþe, -ti, obs. ff. Nine, Ninth, Nineteen(th, Ninety. **Niepce,** obs. f. Niece. **Niepe,** obs. f. Neap. **Niese,** obs. f. Neeze, Niece. **Niess(e,** obs. ff. Nyas. **Niest,** dial. var. of Next. **Nieȝe,** obs. f. Ninth.

Nieve (nīv), **nief** (nīf). Now *dial.* or *arch.* Forms: *a.* 4–6 neue, (9) neve, 5–6 newe, 5 (9) neeve, 6– neive, (7 neiue), neive, 7–9 neave, (9 nee–), 8–9 nive, 9 niv, nev. (Also 9 kneave, etc.) *β.* 4–5 (9) nefe, 5 nef, 5–6 neff(e, 6 (9) neef; 6 (9) neif(e, 6 neiff, neyf, 7 (9) neiffe; 6 neafe, -ffe, 7, 9 neaf, (9 kn-), 9 neeaf; 6 nife, 7, 9 nief. *γ.* 5, 9 nave, 6 naif, 9 naive, neyv(e, knayve, etc. [ME. *neve*, *nefe*, ad. ON. *hnefi*, *nefi* (Norw. dial. *neve*, *növe*, *næva*, Sw. *näfve*, Da. *næve*). The *γ*-forms may correspond to the Norw. dial. var. *nava*, the relationship of which to *neve* is not clear. The word is not found in the other Teutonic languages.] A clenched hand; a fist.

Current in all northern and Sc. dialects; also used by Shakspere and B. Jonson (see Neup) and hence sometimes by modern writers as an archaism. For the distribution of the mod. dial. forms see the *Eng. Dial. Dict.*

a. c 1300 *Havelok* 1917 So longe haueden he but and bet With neues under hernes set. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1537 When þat bolde Baltazar blusched to þat neue, al falewed his face. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* III. 581 Newys that stalwart war & squar, That wont to spayn gret speris war. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 13889 He nolpit on with his Neue in the necke hole. 1456 Sir G. Haye *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 155 Gif he wald strike me..I strike him agayne with my neve. 1573 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xlii. 427 The teindis will not cum in

thair neuis, Sa lang as ony of vs leuis. *a* 1585 MONTGOMERIE *Cherrie & Slae* 1552 Quhois throt..Ye may stap with your neive. 1609 SKENE *Reg. Maj.* II. 2 Gif he giues ane blow with his neiue..he sall pay to the king sex kye. 1684 [MERITON] *Yorksh. Dial.* 599 She'l deal her Neaves about her, I hear tell. *a* 1758 RAMSAY *Fables* XVII. 4 A greedy Callan..Shot his wee nive into the pot. 1785 BURNS *Death & Dr. Hornbook* xxvi, An honest Wabster.., Whase wife's twa nieves were scarce weel-bred. 1830 GALT *Lawrie T.* I. ii, Her nieve was said to be worse than a battering-ram. 1895 *Chamb. Jrnl.* XII. 779/2 He stepped forward a pace, his eyes flashing, his nieves clenched.

β. c 1375 *Cursor M.* 6682 (Fairf.), If .. þe tane þe toþer smyte wiþ nefe or stane. *a* 1400 *Sir Perc.* 2087 To Percevelle a dynt he 3efe In the nekk with his nefe. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xxix. 369 Dose noddil on bym with neffes That he noght nappe. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* XII. viii. 106 Mesapus ..in hys left neif haldis all reddy Twa sowpill casting speris. 1570 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xxii. 60 Blind Hary with hir to sport and play, With fauldit neif. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* IV. i. 15 Giue me your neafe, Mounsieur Mustardseed. 1597 — 2 *Hen. IV*, II. iv. 195 Sweet Knight, I kisse thy Neaffe. 1674 RAY *N. C. Words* 35 A *Neive* or *Neiffe*: a Fist. 1825 BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss., Neif*, the fist...*Doubleneif*, the clenched fist. 1855 KINGSLEY *Westw. Ho!* (1889) 70/1 Come, give us thy neif, and let us part in peace. 1866 J. B. ROSE tr. *Ovid's Met.* 324 With clever neife And undegenerate cunning.

attrib. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 155 Gif a man wald geve me a nef strake.

γ. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XVI. 129 With ane trunsioune in [till] his nave, To schir Colyne sic dusche he gave. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* III. 518 This ilk Walter..desirit for to haif That ilk falcone he buir vpoun his naif. 1841 HAMILTON *Nugæ Lit.* 337 A violent man threatens to have [heave] his nave. 1872 HARTLEY *Yorksh. Ditties* Ser. I. 130 He struck his naive o' th' table.

Nieveful (nī·vfūl). *Sc.* and *north. dial.* Forms: 5 neful, 7 niewfulle, neiffeful; 7, 9 nief-, 8 neaf-, 9 neef-ful (9 -fu'); 8–9 nieve-, 9 neive-, niveful, -fu'; also 8 niev'ow, 8–9 neffow, 9 neffu, etc. [f. prec. + -FUL.] A handful.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxv. (*Julian*) 758 Iulyane .. his neful tuk of his blud red. 1665 SIR J. LAUDER *Jrnl.* (1900) 89 The beggar wives..piking furth in neiwfulles on all sydes. 1686 G. STUART *Foco-ser. Disc.* 4 We'll have a pock pudding; Put a nief full of prunes in and make it a gude one. 1785 BURNS *2nd Ep. to J. Lapraik* xvii, Their worthless nievefu' of a soul, May in some future carcase howl. 1839 MOIR *Mansie Wauch* (ed. 2) xxv, I swept up two nievefuls o' dominoes off the table. 1863 J. L. W. *By-gone Days* 191 The alms..generally consisted in a 'nievefou' or two of oatmeal.

Nieveling (nī·vlĭŋ), *vbl. sb. Sc.* [Cf. NIEVE.] A method of milking cows (see quot, 1844).

1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 454 Nievling [is performed] by the whole hand doubled, or *fist*, pressing the teat steadily at one place. *Ibid.* III. 839 The easiest mode of milking them while under this complaint, is that described by nievling in. 1895 *Agric. Gaz.* 17 June 539/2 Of the four methods in use .. he thought the squeezing or 'nievling' was most suitable.

Nievie (nī·vi). *Sc.* and *north. dial.* Also 6 nevie, 9 neevie, nievy, niv(v)y, etc. [f. NIEVE.] In *nievie-(nievie-)nick-nack*, a guessing game played by children in which these words are used. (See *Engl. Dial. Dict.*)

c 1585 MONTGOMERIE *Misc. Poems* xxxii. 65 Can 3e not play at 'nevie nevie nak'? 1821 *Blackw. Mag.* Aug. 37/2 Playing at nivy-nick-nack. 1824 SCOTT *St. Ronan's* XXX, I played it awa'at neevie-neevie-nick-nack. 1895 W. C. FRASER *Whaups* iii, The more advanced children .. played at 'Nievie, nievie, nick-nack'.

Niewe, obs. form of NEW *a.*

† **Nif,** for *ne if*, if not, unless. *Obs.*

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 21 Nif he nere scoymus & skyg & non scaþe louied. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 1769 Gret perile bi-twene hem stod, Nif mare of hir knyȝt mynne.

Nif, in south-western dial., for *an if.* **Nife,** obs. f. NIEVE. **Nifel,** var. of NIFLE.

Ni·ffer, *sb. Sc.* [f. the vb.] An exchange. *To put in a niffer*, to hazard.

1786 BURNS *Addr. to Unco Guid* iii, Ye see your state wi' their's compar'd, And shudder at the niffer. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xviii, I wad make the niffer,..I wad gie a' these grey hairs..for her life. *Ibid.* xx, He put his life in a niffer, to break the prison to let me out. 1888 H. WARDROP *Poems & Sk.* 158 What could they gie as a niffer—This world has naething sae fine.

Niffer (ni·fĕr, ni·fẽr), *v. Sc.* and *north. dial.* Also neifer, neiffer, -ar, neiver. [Of obscure origin, perh. f. *nief*, NIEVE.]

1. *trans.* To exchange (a thing) *for* (†*with*) another. **b.** *intr.* in passive sense: To go in exchange.

1612 in Ritchie *Churches of St. Baldred* (1880) 108 Efter that ye said cow wald not niffer. 1637 RUTHERFORD *Lett.* I. lxxviii, A market where we might barter or niffer our lazy ease with a profitable cross. 1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* xxiii, I carried it for mony a year, till I niffered it for this tin ane. 1861 RAMSAY *Remin.* II. 168 'Oh', he said with great simplicity, 'my master niffered me for a pony'.

2. To make a mulual exchange of.

1721 RAMSAY *Answ. Burchet* 24 Proud czar, I wadna niffer fame With thee. *a* 1800 *Young Hyn Horn* x. in Child *Ballads* I. 203/2 You must niffer clothes with me. 1863 J. NICHOLSON *Kilwuddie* 74 Cuffs an' kicks they freely niffer't.

3. *intr.* **a.** To make an exchange.

1785 *Ferguson's Prov.* 17 He neiffers for the better. 1828 MOIR *Mansie Wauch* xxi, There being but small difference in the value of the cloths..I caused them to niffer. 1862 HISLOP *Prov. Scot.* 85 He's fond o' barter that niffers wi' auld Nick.

b. To bargain, haggle.

1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xvi, I'll no stand niffering wi' ye. 1855 ROBINSON *Whitby Gloss., Niffering* or *Niggling*, making a bargain in a hard or haggling manner.

Hence **Ni·ffering** *vbl. sb.*

1541 *Aberd. Reg.* (Jam.), Be way of nyffering, coffing, & excamhium. 1637 RUTHERFORD *Lett.* (1862) I. xcvii. 248 God forbid it come to bartering or niffering of crosses. 1897 CROCKETT *Lad's Love* iii, Profanin' the hoose o' God..wi' your cheep-dealin' and nifferin'!

Niff-naff, *v. Sc.* and *north. dial.* [Of obscure formation: *niff-naff* as sb. in the sense of a trifling or unimportant thing is also common in north. dial. and Sc.] *intr.* To trifle.

1728 RAMSAY *There's my Thumb* iii, Dear lassie, it is but daffin To had thy wooer up ay niff naffin. *a* 1878 AINSLIE *Land of Burns* (1892) 318 Nif-naffin' at her apron strings. 1894 *Northumbld. Gloss.* s.v., He niffnaffed at the job.

So **Niff(y)-naffy** *a.*, trifling, finical.

1796 W. MARSHALL *Yorksh.* (ed. 2) Gloss., *Niffy-naffy*. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* xliv, Thae niff-naffy gentles that gae sae muckle fash wi' their fancies. 1855 ROBINSON *Whitby Gloss.* s.v., 'A niffy naffy sort of a body', a person possessed of the opposite to business habits.

Nifle (nəi·f'l). Now *dial.* Forms: 4, 7 nyfle, 5–6 nyfel, -yl, 6 -ul, nifel, 5–7 (8–9 *dial.*) nifle: 6 niffel, niffle. [Of obscure origin: perh. ad. med.L. *nichil* nothing (see NICHIL), influenced by *trifle*, with which it is often combined. There appears to be no other trace of the F. *nifle* given by Palsgrave. In mod. dialect the verb *nifle*, to trifle, is in common use (given by Ash, 1775).]

1. A trifle; a thing of little or no valne; † a trifling or fictitious tale. (Common *c* 1550–1650).

c 1386 CHAUCER *Sompn. T.* 52 He served hem with nyfles and with fablis. 1436 *Libel Eng. Policy* in *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 172 Apes, and japes, and marmusettes taylede, Nifles, trifles, that litelle have availede. 1526 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 1157, I am yet .. as full of tryfyls, Nil, nibilum, nihil, anglice nyfyls. 1533 J. HEYWOOD *A Mery Play* 434, I wolde ye had harde the tryfyls, The toys, the mokkes, the fables, and the nyfyls, That I made thy husbande to beleue and thynke. 1562 *Apol. Priv. Masse* (1850) 22 You drive men to these trifles that the world may know you hang in nifels. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 663 Might I not be thought..to catch at clouds, and fish for Nifles? 1657 J. WATTS *Baptism* 159, I..will give over spending my precious time about your nifles and trifles. 1868 WAUGH *Sneck-Bant* 89 She then took Betty's basket and crammed it with fruit, and with all sorts of sweet 'nifles'.

Phr. 1530 PALSGR. 850/2 Nyfels in a bagge, *de tout nifles.* 1622 MABBE tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* II. 160 No wise man will adventure his person for nifles in a bagge.

b. Applied to a person. *rare* —1.

1635 [GLAPTHORNE] *Lady Mother* III. ii. in Bullen *O. Pl.* II. 164 Will you goe?..What stayes this nifle for?

† **2.** Some light or flimsy article of attire. *Obs.*

c 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xxx. 323 And nell with hir nyfyls of crisp and of sylke, Tent well youre twyfyls youre nek abowte as mylke. 1463-4 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 505/2 That noo persone..selle in any parte within this Reame eny Lawne, Nyfels, Uimple, or eny other manere of Kerchiefs.

Ni·fling, *a. rare.* [See prec. Some mod. dialects use *niffling.*] Trifling, worthless.

1649 J. E[LLISTONE] tr. *Behmen's Epist.* Pref., Whosoever beares not the Stamp, and Superscription of their..Institutions, is but as Darkenesse and nifling Shaddows unto them. 1659 *Lady Alimony* II. vi. in Hazl. *Dodsley* XIV. 317 A poor nifling toy that's worse than nothing.

† **Nift.** *Obs.* Forms: 1 nift, 3, 5 nifte, 4–5 nyfte, 5 nypt(e, nyghte. [OE. *nift* = OFris. *nift*, MDu. *nifte*, *nichte* (Du. *nicht*), MLG. *nifte*, *nichte* (hence G. *nichte*), OHG. *nift*, ON. *nift*, *nipt*:—OTeut. **niptiz* = L. *neptis*, Skr. *naptis*, from the stem *nept-*: cf. the etym. note to NEVE 1.] A niece. Also *forth-nift*, grand-niece.

c 825 *Epinal Gloss.* 734 in *O. E. Texts* 84 *Privigna, filia sororis*, nift. *c* 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* III. ix. (1890) 180 [Heo] wæs nift [L. *neptem*] þæs hiġna aldres þe he sohte. 1030 *Will* in Thorpe *Diplomat.* 556 Ic an mine lauedy half marc goldes, an mine nifte ann ore wichte goldes. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1386 Of hatuel ðis maiden cam; ȝhe was forð nifte of abraham. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 11011 Neueus nyftes, sistres broþer, Ilka frend welcomede oþer. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 355/2 Nypte [*v.rr.* nifte, nyfte], *neptis. Ibid.*, Nypt [*v.r.* nyfte], broderys douter, *lectis.* 1447 BOKENHAM *Seyntys* (Roxb.) 97 Marculus a bysshop of grece..Wyth constance hys nyfte. *c* 1500 *Melusine* 179 Prayeng you right hertyly to haue me to my ryght dere & beloued nyghte your wyf to he recommanded.

Nifty (ni·fti), *a. U. S. slang.* [Of uncertain origin: see first quot.] Smart, fine, splendid.

1868 B. HARTE *Poems* 93 Smart, you bet your life 'twas that! Nifty! Short for magnificat. 1882 'MARK TWAIN' *Innoc. at Home* ii, He was always nifty himself, and so you bet his funeral ain't going to be no slouch.

† **Nig,** *sb.*1 *Obs. rare.* [Of obscure origin.

Agrees in meaning with Sw. *njugg* (dial. *nugg*, *nygg*) and with Icel. *hnöggr* (Norw. *nöggr*), but there is no obvious connexion in form or history with these. Cf. also Norw. and Sw. dial. *nigla*, to live sparingly, to NIGGLE.]

A niggardly or mean person.

a 1300 *Vision of Paul* (MS. Laud 108) in Herrig *Archiv* LII. 36 He was an hokerere,..Foul nig and hard in al is liue. *c* 1400 *Plowman's Tale* 757 Some of them been hard nigges; And some of hem been proude and gaie. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 118/39 A Nigge, *parca mulier.* 1678 PHILLIPS (ed. 4) Suppl., *Nig*, a miserly, sordid, pinch-gut fellow.

Nig, *sb.*2 *dial.* and *slang.* [Of obscnre origin.] (See qnots.)

a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Nig*, the Clippings of Money. 1853 *N. & Q.* 1st Ser. VII. 366/2 In Essex, *nig* signifies a piece.

Nig, *sb.*3, an abbreviation of NIGGER.

1864 SALA in *Daily Tel.* 12 Aug., As through the crowded Wall-street pass'd A nig who bore .. A green-back banner. 1879 MRS. A. E. JAMES *Indian Househ. Managem.* 43 Treat your servants as fellow-creatures, not as 'nigs'—a term too often applied..to the Indian natives.

† **Nig,** *v.*1 *Obs. rare* —1. [Cf. NIG *a.*] *intr.* To be mean or niggardly.

1559 AYLMER *Harborowe* M iv b, By withholding thy bande, and nigging, to make her not hable to kepe out thine ennemy.

† **Nig,** *v.*2 *Obs. slang.* To clip money.

a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Nigging*, Clipping.

Nigard, etc., obs. ff. NIGGARD, etc.

† **Nigel.** *Obs. rare* —1. Also 6 **nygelle, niggel.** [Anglicized form of NIGELLA.] = NIGELLA.

1578 LYTE *Dodoens* 275 The other wilde kinde..shall be hereafter described .. amongst the Nygelles, or Larke spurres.

Hence † **Ni·gelweed.** *Obs. rare.* (See quots.)

1578 LYTE *Dodoens* 160 Cockle or Field Nigelweede hath straight slender bearie stemmes. 1598 FLORIO, *Micancolo*, cockle, or field niggel weed.

‖ **Nigella** (nəidʒe·lă). *Bot.* [L., fem. of *nigellus*, dim. of *niger* black: hence also F. *nielle* and *nigelle.*] A genus of ranunculaceons plants, having numerous black seeds, of which the Fennel-flower (*Nigella sativa*) is a common species; also, the seeds of this used for medicinal purposes.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. lxxxi. (Bodl. MS.), Some meneþ þat þis herbe [*sc.* gith] is nigella. *Ibid.*, Nigella sleeþ if he be take in grete quantite. 1548 TURNER *Names Herbs* (E. D. S.) 40 Git is named in greeke Melanthion, in englishe herbe Git or Nigella romana. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* (1586) 53 b, Smalledge, Leekes, Nigella, that being once sowed, come up every yere. 1611 COTGR., *Alesnes*, Cockle, Corne-rose, field Nigella, wild Nigella. 1662 *Stat. Irel.* (1765) II. 402 Nigella the pound 4*d.* 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* (1721) II. 384 You may continue to sow..Nigella, Candy Tufts, Poppy, and such Annuals as are not prejudiced by Frosts. 1802 PALEY *Nat. Theol.* (1817) 169 In some cases (as in the nigella), where the shafts of the pistils or styles are disproportionably long. 1881 MRS. LYNN LINTON in Layard *Life* (1901) 206 Here there is nothing, excepting..that cottage flower (love in a mist)—the nigella.

Hence **Nige·llin,** 'a viscous substance obtained from *Nigella sativa*' (Watts *Dict. Chem.* 1866).

Nigenti, obs. form of NINETY.

† **Ni·ger.** *Obs.* [a. L. *niger.*] = NEGER, NEGRO.

1574 HELLOWES *Gueuara's Fam. Ep.* (1584) 389 The Massgets bordering upon the Indians, and the Nigers of Aethiop, bearing witnes. 1584 R. SCOT *Discov. Witcher.* VII. xv. (1886) 122 A skin like a Niger. 1676 S. SEWALL *Diary* 1 July, Jethro, his Niger, was then taken. 1698–9 *Par. Reg. Norton* (near Evesham) 6 Jan., John Langley a Niger of Jameca..was baptized. 1721 S. SEWALL *Diary* 20 Oct., Met a Niger Funeral. 1760 G. WALLACE *Princ. Law Scot.* in *Ann. Reg.* (1760) II. 265/1 Set the Nigers free, and, in a few generations, this vast and fertile continent would be crouded with inhabitants.

Nigeshe, var. of NIGGISH *a. Obs.* **Niget,** var. of NIDGET. **Niggar,** obs. form of NIGGER.

Niggard (ni·gărd), *sb.* and *a.* Forms: *a.* 4–5 **negarde,** 5–6 **negard,** 9 *dial.* **neeger, neager, niegre,** etc. *β.* 4–5 **nygard,** (4 -art), 4–6 **-arde,** (8) **nigard,** (6 **-arde**), 7 **nigatt.** *γ.* 4 **nyggard,** 5–6 **-arde,** 6– **niggard,** (6 **-arde**), 9 *dial.* **nigar(t, -er,** etc. [Of obscure etym.; an earlier synonym is NIGON, and the termination in both cases would normally indicate a French origin. The rareness of the sb. NIG makes it doubtful whether it is the base of both formations.]

A. *sb.* **1.** A mean, stingy, or parsimonious person; a miser; one who grudgingly parts with or expends anything.

a. c 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* III. 1379 So parfite joye may no negarde have. *c* 1407 LYDG. *Reson & Sens.* 1498 Dame Venus Kan make folkys covetous to spend her good.., And the Negarde to be large. *c* 1510 MORE *Picus* Wks. 18/1 The negard then saith to his money.., my god arte thou.

β. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. xv. 136 He was a nygarde that no good myȝte aspare. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 289 This Viola largesce hath take And the nygard sche hath forsake. 1483 CAXTON *Cato* E vij b, Men saye comynlye that the nygarde expendeth more than the lyberalle. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Edw. IV*, 217 b, An extreme nigard, and a covetous extorcioner. 1579 NORTHBROOKE *Dicing* To Rdr., If a man will not dice & plaie, then he is a nigarde & a miser, and no good fellowe.

γ. c 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 243 He schal be holde a nyggard. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 355/2 Nyggarde (or mugiard or nygun, or pynchar), *tenax.* 1529 MORE *Dyaloge* III. Wks. 225/2 If they kepe fewe seruauntes we call them nyggardes. 1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 291 Some are pinchpenies & notable niggards. 1606 J. CARPENTER *Solomon's Solace* xliii. 168 That nigard, who for feare of loosing his wealth would hide it. 1675 TRAHERNE *Chr. Ethics* 481 He that does brave acts abroad, but is a niggard within doors. 1720 WELTON *Suffer. Son of God* I. xi. 280 As for the stingy Niggard, He benefits none, no, not even himself. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1811) I. xiii. 88 Riches left by one niggard to another. 1830 D'ISRAELI *Chas. I*, III. viii. 163 This monarch was no niggard when he once showered the largess of his royal friendship. 1886 JESSOPP in *19th Cent.* Apr. 519 It would not be permitted to a niggard to let the parsonage fall into disrepair.

transf. 1752 YOUNG *Brothers* v. i, 'Tis impious to be

niggards in delight. 1776 PAINE *Com. Sense* (1791) 61 That narrowness of soul..which the niggards of all professions are so unwilling to part with. 1838 LYTTON *Leila* I. v, They shall not, at least, call the Jews niggards in revenge. 1878 BROWNING *La Saisiaz* 290 Praise or blame of its contriver, shown a niggard or profuse In each good or evil issue!

b. Const. *of*.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Wife's T.* 407 Old and angry nygardes of despense, God send hem sone verray pestilence. 1540–1 ELYOT *Image Gov.* (1544) 50 He was suche a nygard of tyme, that he was meruaylously greued, if he spente any day in solace. 1593 DRAYTON *Ecl.* ii. 48 Thy wasted lungs he Niggards of thy breath. 1633 P. FLETCHER *Poet. Misc.* 64 A crown of wood-nymphs..Sit round about, no niggards of their faces. 1660 F. BROOKE tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 56 They ..are not niggards of their lives in their Princes service. 1709 POPE *Ess. Crit.* 580 Be niggards of advice on no pretence, For the worst avarice is that of sense. 1772 MACKENZIE *Man World* I. v, He who never trusts, is a niggard of his soul. 1862 GOULBURN *Pers. Relig.* IV. xi. (1873) 349 So long as he thinks Him a niggard either of pardon or grace.

2. *dial.* A movable piece of iron or fire-brick placed in the side or bottom of a grate to economize fuel; a false bottom. Also *niggard iron*.

1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. xiv. (ROXB.) 9/1 The seuerall parts of a great are these...The niggatt Irons, Irons to set further or closer to gather. 1820 C. R. MATURIN *Melmoth* I. i. 17 Go down and draw the niggers of the kitchen fire closer. 1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* II. 6 Niggards, generally called niggers (*i. e.* false bottoms for grates). 1869– in north. dial. glossaries (Northumbld., Cumbld., Lancs., Chesh.).

B. *adj.* **1.** Miserly, parsimonious, mean, sparing; unwilling to give or spend anything.

? *a* 1366 CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 1172 A fulle gret fool is he, ywys, That bothe riche and nygart is. 1515 BARCLAY *Eglogues* IV. C vj b, Though thou be nigard, & nought will geue of thine. *c* 1530 H. RHODES *Bk. Nurture* 761 in *Babees Bk.* (1868) 103 A man that is a niggard churle no tyme is lyberall. 1598 BARNFIELD *Compl. Poetrie* vi, What infernall furie late hath haunted Their niggard purses? 1623 PENKETHMAN *Handf. Hon.* I. xxix, Niggard or Couetous thou shalt not seeme. 1681 DRYDEN *Abs. & Achit.* 369 Why am I scanted by a Niggard Birth? 1725 POPE *Odyss.* XIV. 242 What hy niggard Fortune was deny'd. 1794 COLERIDGE *Monody on Chatterton*, A prodigal nature and a niggard doom. 1825 BENTHAM *Ration. Reward* 35 Will they be supposed so mean as to be niggard with pence and lavish with millions? 1884 JENNINGS *Croker Papers* I. viii. 237 [He] paid off his personal grudges with no niggard hand.

b. Const. *of*.

1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* III. i. 13 Niggard of question, but of our demands Most free in his reply. 1812 BYRON *Ch. Har.* II. xlix, Here dwells the caloyer, nor rude is he, Nor niggard of his cheer. 1842 J. WILSON *Chr. North* (1857) II. 328 The heavens are niggard of their dues.

† **c.** Hard, unyielding. *Obs. rare* $^{-1}$.

1600 *Dr. Dodypoll* III. iii. in Bullen *O. Pl.* III. 131 Then thy soft feete Would be repining at these niggard stones.

2. Of actions and qualities: Niggardly, ungenerous, displaying reluctance to give anything.

1672 DRYDEN *Assignation* V. iv, To restore her to you, Is not an act of generosity, But a scant, niggard justice. 1794 SULLIVAN *View Nat.* V. 373 To pass over with niggard and reluctant mention, the illustrious virtues of those, who [etc.]. 1847 R. W. HAMILTON *Rewards & Punishm.* viii. (1853) 361 Ours are no niggard views. *a* 1860 J. A. ALEXANDER *Gospel Jesus Christ* XV. (1861) 206 [They] held fast with a niggard grasp the keys of heaven.

3. Scanty; given in a grudging way.

1751 ELIZA HEYWOOD *Betsy Thoughtless* IV. 45, I confess myself utterly unable to maintain a family, like ours, on the nigard stipend you have allotted to that purpose. 1821–2 SHELLEY *Chas. I*, I. 159 To them who earn The niggard wages of the earth. 1877 GLADSTONE *Glean.* IV. 356 She obtained..but niggard measures either of aid or justice from the Powers of Europe.

b. Of a way, space, etc.: Narrow, small.

1595 DANIEL *Civ. Wars* I. xlviii, There was A niggard narrow way for men to passe. 1813 SCOTT *Rokeby* II. vii, A flinty footpath's niggard space. 1868 SILL *Poems, Hermitage* xix, Here is no niggard gap of sky above.

C. *Comb.*, as *niggard-like, -measured* adjs.

1741 RICHARDSON *Pamela* (1824) I. 169 What is my single happiness, if I suffer it, niggard-like, to extend no farther than to myself? 1881 H. PHILLIPS tr. *Chamisso's Faust* 5 In visions passed the niggard-measured hours.

† **Ni·ggard,** *v. Obs. rare.* [f. prec.]

1. *intr.* To act in a niggardly fashion. Also with *il*.

c 1600 SHAKS. *Sonn.* i, Thou..Within thine owne bud buriest thy content, And tender chorle makst wast in niggarding. 1609 ARMIN *Ital. Taylor* (1880) 146 Now not to niggard it at all, But ioyne as partner yit.

2. *trans.* To put off *with* a small amount of something; to treat in a niggardly fashion.

1601 SHAKS. *Jul. C.* IV. iii. 229 Nature must obey Necessitie, Which we will niggard with a little rest.

† **Niggardess.** *Obs. rare* $^{-1}$. [f. NIGGARD *sb.* or *a.* + -ESS [2].] Niggardliness.

1632 SANDERSON *Serm.* 402 All base penurious nigardesse in saving their own purses.

Niggardie, variant of NIGGARDY *Obs.*

† **Ni·ggardise.** *Obs.* Forms: 6 nygardyse; 6 nigardise, 7 -ize, 8 -ice; 6–7 niggardise, -ize, 7 -ice. [f. NIGGARD *sb.* or *a.* + -ISE [2].] Niggardliness. (Common *c* 1580–1670.)

1502 *Ord. Crysten Men* (W. de W. 1506) IV. xxx. II j, For nygardyse, or also for the falsyte & decepcyon of the ware. 1579 FENTON *Guicciard.* (1618) 122 Not content with his niggardize in the expence and prouision of things necessary. 1621 BP. MOUNTAGU *Diatribæ* 238 A Patron and propugner of niggardise and wretchednesse in the seruice of God. *a* 1683 OLDHAM *Wks.* (1686) 95 There where illib'ral Nature's niggardise Has set a Tax on Vice. 1750 W. ELLIS *Mod. Husbandm.* VI. I. 28 (E. D. D.), They had a peak against him on account of his nigardice.

† **Ni·ggardish,** *a. Obs.* [f. NIGGARD *sb.* or *a.* + -ISH [1].] Niggardly.

1547–64 BAULDWIN *Mor. Philos.* (Palfr.) 161 Spend not too outragiously, nor be too niggardish. 1581 MULCASTER *Positions* v. (1887) 26 Which the most munificent God, by his no niggardishe nature, prouided for them both.

Niggardize (ni·gădeiz), *v. rare.* [f. NIGGARD *sb.* or *a.* + -IZE.] **a.** *intr.* To play the niggard. **b.** *trans.* To give in a niggardly fashion. Hence **Ni·ggardized** *ppl. a.*

a 1634 CHAPMAN *Alphonsus* Plays 1873 III. 217 Fame I accuse thee, thou did'st niggardize, And faintly sound my loves perfections. 1877 BLACKIE *Wise Men* 160 Some [say] that stinted prayer And offering niggardised have turned the smile Of gods to frowning.

Niggardliness (ni·gădlinĕs). [f. NIGGARDLY *a.* + -NESS.] The state or quality of being niggardly; stinginess; parsimony.

1578 in *Priv. Prayers* (1851) 486 Let thy goodness supply that, which our niggardliness hath plucked away. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* I. ii. III. viii. (1651) 103 'Tis a sluggish humour..to..refrain from such places..through sloth, niggardliness, fear. 1688 PENTON *Guardian's Instruction* (1897) 49 Prodigality is a little more catching than Niggardliness with young Gentlemen. 1742 RICHARDSON *Pamela* III. 97 My Charge against you..is that of Niggardliness, and no other. 1802 MME. D'ARBLAY *Diary* 5 May, The niggardliness of my admiration was occasioned by my doubt of her assertions. 1848 MILL *Pol. Econ.* I. xiii. § 2 (1876) 118 The niggardliness of nature..is the cause of the penalty attached to over population. 1868 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1877) II. vii. 62 Neither this bounty nor this niggardliness was a legal crime.

† **Ni·ggardling,** *sb.* and *a. Obs. rare.* Also -lin. [f. NIGGARD *sb.* and *a.* + -LING.] **a.** *sb.* A niggard. **b.** *adj.* Niggardly.

1654 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 81 What ever foolish and sordid Niggardlins think in these daies. 1704 N. N. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* III. 311 Your being as niggardling in denying People those Titles which they expect, as you are covetous of receiving 'em.

Niggardly (ni·gădli), *a.* Also 6 nigardly, 6 (9 *dial.*) niggerly. [f. NIGGARD *sb.* + -LY [1].]

1. Having a niggard's nature; meanly parsimonious, close-fisted, stingy; sparing.

1571 GOLDING *Calvin on Ps.* XXXV. 12 When the hande is bountifull, the heart may now and then be nigardly. 1621 T. WILLIAMSON tr. *Goulart's Wise Vieillard* 72 What a shame is it to young men..to shew themselues so pinching and niggardly in necessary beneuolences. 1666–7 PEPYS *Diary* 27 Feb., They going there..to eat his victuals, knowing him to be a niggardly fellow. 1766 GOLDSM. *Vic. W.* XXVIII, Let us not be niggardly in our exhortation, but let all our fellow-prisoners have a share. 1831 MACKINTOSH *Hist. Eng.* II. 104 This hoard..was too great to be formed by frugality, even under the penurious and niggardly Henry. 1873 M. ARNOLD *Lit. & Dogma* (1876) 86 The Israelites..were perpetually slack or niggardly in the service of Jehovah.

b. Const. *of*.

1624 BP. HALL *Art Medit.* Ep. Ded., Wks. (1625) 102, I would his humilitie had not made him niggardly of his name. 1663 H. COGAN tr. *Pinto's Trav.* ix. 28 Fortune hath been exceeding niggardly to me of her goods. 1817 MALTHUS *Popul.* (ed. 4) II. 397 If the earth had been so niggardly of her produce as to oblige all her inhabitants to labour for it. 1844 RUSKIN *Mod. Paint.* I. Pref. (ed. 2), They are niggardly of the reputation which contributes to happiness.

2. Of actions, qualities, etc.: Characteristic of, or befitting, a niggard; mean, miserly.

1561 T. NORTON *Calvin's Inst.* II. i. 4 He accused God of lying, enuye, and niggardly grudgyng. 1583 BABINGTON *Commandm.* (1590) 381 The heart..by too neere and nigardlie keeping, transgresseth against this lawe of God. 1691 HARTCLIFFE *Virtues* 87 That they do not sink into a niggardly or covetous temper. 1759 FRANKLIN *Ess.* Wks. 1840 II. 156 By the niggardly treatment of good masters they have been driven out of the school. 1861 M. ARNOLD *Pop. Educ. France* 149 Where everything..is left to be done by the parish, there is niggardly pinching. 1875 MANNING *Mission H. Ghost* iv. 114 If we treat friends in this niggardly and ungenerous manner.

Comb. 1681 W. ROBERTSON *Phraseol. Gen.* (1693) 663 To give niggardly-wise.

3. Such as a niggard would give; meanly small; scanty, closely limited.

1599 NASHE *Lenten Stuffe* Wks. (Grosart) V. 239 The niggardliest mouse of biefe will cost him sixpence. 1624 CAPT. SMITH *Virginia* VI. 214 As I gathered from their niggardly relations in a broken language. *a* 1628 PRESTON *Mt. Ebal* (1638) 42 It is not any scanty or niggardly kinde of love that hee will like of. 1696 S. PATRICK *Comm. Exod.* viii. 28 Which hath made some think this was but a niggardly Concession of Pharoah's. 1798 JANE AUSTEN *Northang. Abb.* xvi, A living..of about four hundred pounds yearly value, was to be resigned to his son; ..no niggardly assignment to one of ten children. 1859 MEREDITH *R. Feverel* xxi, A niggardly confidence. 1878 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* 295 The most niggardly computation which lies within the bounds of possibility.

Ni·ggardly, *adv.* Also 6 nyger-. [f. NIGGARD *a.* + -LY [2].] In the manner of a niggard; parsimoniously, grudgingly, sparingly.

1530 PALSGR. 839/2 Niggardly, *seichement*. 1534 MORE *Comf. agst. Trib.* III. Wks. 1226/1 Then shal he either nygerdly heape them vp together..or wastefully mysse spend theym. 1579 NORTHBROOKE *Dicing* 13 He is a couetous man that greedily & niggardly kepeth his own goods.

1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 9 The Spaniards, who in their owne Countries live most niggardly. 1703 MAUNDRELL *Journ. Jerus.* (1721) 42 Young Heirs that have been niggardly bred generally turn Prodigals. 1790 WOLCOT (P. Pindar) *Ep. Sylv. Urban* Wks. 1812 II. 261 If midst a vulgar mass his stars unkind Have placed most niggardly a pigmy mind. 1868 NETTLESHIP *Ess. Browning* vii. 253 Whose life is niggardly doled to us in twelve short pages.

Niggardness (ni·gădnĕs). Now *rare.* Also 6 *Sc.* nigar(t)-, nigirt-. [f. NIGGARD *a.* + -NESS.] Niggardliness.

1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xl. 12 Ȝe tak that nigirtness [*v.r.* nigarnes] of ȝour muder. 1535 COVERDALE *Ecclus.* Contents xl, The vnfaithfullnes and nigardnesse of the vngodly. 1562 TURNER *Baths* 6 Some for nygardnes or for povertye..eat evell and unholsome meates. 1612 *Pasquil's Night-cap* (1877) 6 A liberall man, and void of niggardnesse. 1764 *Mem. G. Psalmanazar* 182, I have seen so many instances of his nigardness. 1799 ROBERTSON *Agric. Perth* 269 What might..appear..to be a niggardness in nature, or a defect in the bounty of heaven. 1849 ROCK *Ch. of Fathers* II. 315 To hinder the niggardness of surviving relatives from cheating the dead out of the Church's services.

† **Ni·ggardous,** *a. Obs.* Also 5–6 nygardcus(e. [f. NIGGARD *sb.* + -OUS.] Niggardly.

1491 CAXTON *Vitas Patr.* (W. de W. 1495) I. xxxvii. 46b/1 Amonge the brethern there was one, whiche was merueyllously scarse and nygardouse. 1522 MORE *De quat. Noviss.* Wks. 94 This couetous gathering & nigardous keping. 1534 — *Treat. Passion* Wks. 1305/1 To disdayne theyr symple nygardous rewarde.

Niggardry: see NIGGARDY (quot. *c* 1412).

† **Ni·ggardship.** *Obs.* Forms: see NIGGARD. Also 5 negardchepe, 6 nygerdeshyppe, negar-, niggarship. [f. NIGGARD *sb.* + -SHIP.] Niggardliness. (Freq. in 16th cent.)

1430–40 LYDG. *Bochas* III. i. (1554) 70/1 Whan..couetise put away largesse,..And nigardship exileth gentlenesse. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 121 Þe thredde fote brede of wose of coueytise is nygardschippe. 1526 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 2518 Let neuer negarshyp your noblenesse affray. 1572 BOSSEWELL *Armorie* II. 85 b, Gentlemen, who..abhorre all suche anarice, churlishnesse, and niggardshippe. 1621 T. WILLIAMSON tr. *Goulart's Wise Vieillard* 73 Your rauennous niggardship, and base pinching. 1673 R. HEAD *Canting Academy* K 2 Niggardship, and covetousness.

† **Ni·ggardy.** *Obs.* Forms: 4 negardye, nigardye, nygardie, 6 nygardy, nig(g)ardie, *Sc.* negartie. [f. NIGGARD *sb.* + -Y [3].] Niggardliness.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Shipman's T.* 172 But yit me greveth most his nigardye. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 288 His fortune .. Desdeigneth alle coveitise And hateth alle nygardie. *c* 1412 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 1306 His nygardie [*Roxb.* nygardrye] Suffrith hys neghtburgh [*Roxb.* neighbore] hy hym sterue and dye. 1517 *N. Love's Bonavent. Mirr.* XXXVI. (W. de W.) K iij b, Thyne owne fals couetyse in excusacion of thy nygardy. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* I. 392 The Romanis..haittit Cneo for his negartie. 1559 AYLMER *Harborowe* P j b, Sparing of your goodes, which is niggardie.

Nigged, variant of *nidged*: see NIDGE *v.*[2]

1836 PARKER *Gloss. Archit.* (1850) I. 326 *Nigged Ashlar*, stone hewn with a pick, or pointed hammer, instead of a chisel: this kind of work is also called 'hammer-dressed'. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 1526/2.

Niggel-weed: see NIGELWEED *Obs.*

Nigger, dial. variant of NIGGARD *sb.*

Nigger (ni·gəɹ), *sb.* Also **niggar.** [Alteration of NEGER. Cf. also NIGER and NIGRE.]

1. A negro. (Colloq. and usu. contemptuous.)

1786 BURNS *Ordination* iv, How graceless Ham leugh at his Dad, Which made Canaan a nigger. 1811 BYRON in *Mem. F. Hodgson* (1878) I. 195 The rest of the world—niggers and what not. 1818 H. B. FEARON *Sk. Amer.* 46 The bad conduct and inferior nature of niggars (negroes). 1819 W. FAUX *Mem. Days Amer.* (1823) 9 Contempt of the poor blacks, or niggers, as they are there called, seems the national sin of America. *a* 1849 H. COLERIDGE *Ess.* (1851) I. 164 A similar error has turned Othello..into a rank woolly-pated, thick-lipped nigger. 1867 LATHAM *Black & White* 127 Niggers (they are not 'coloured persons' yet in the South) are most artful flatterers. 1897 *Outing* (U. S.) XXIX. 333/1 What is wanted is a genuine nigger; not a colored person.

transf. 1889 RIDER HAGGARD *Allan's Wife* 262 As for that there claim, well, she's been a good nigger to me.

b. Loosely or incorrectly applied to members of other dark-skinned races.

1857 DUFFERIN *Lett. High Lat.* 251 This relationship with Polynesian Niggers, the native genealogists would probably scout with indignation. 1865 TREVELYAN *Cawnpore* 47 In the eyes of an English planter..bazaar-porters and Rajahs ..are niggers alike one and all. 1891 *Melbourne Argus* 7 Nov. 13/5 The natives of Queensland are nearly always spoken of as 'niggers' by those who are brought most directly in contact with them.

2. a. The black caterpillar of the turnip saw-fly.

1840 *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 584 *Athalia centifoliæ* is extremely destructive to turnips, its larva being known under the name of the Nigger, or Black Jack. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* III. 774 The larvæ are known in different parts of the country by the names of black caterpillar, blacks, nigger, canker, etc. 1874 LUBBOCK *Orig. & Mel. Ins.* i. 7 To this group belongs the nigger, or black caterpillar of the turnip.

b. (See quot.)

1855 MORTON *Cycl. Agric.* II. 120 *Nigger*, the name of lady-bird larvæ in hop grounds.

c. (See quot.)

1855 OGILVIE *Suppl., Nigger*, a species of holothuria, so called by the Cornish fishermen. It is very common in deep water off the Deadmen.

3. *U. S.* a. A form of steam-engine used on ships; a steam-capstan employed in hauling river-boats over bars or snags. b. A strong spiked timber by which logs are canted in a saw-mill.

1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 1890 *Cent. Dict.*

4. a. In *Soap-making*: (see quot.).

1887 DITTMAR & PATON in *Encycl. Brit.* XXII. 203 On settling a dark-coloured 'nigger', or under-lye separates out.

b. *U. S.* An impurity in the insulating covering of an electrical conductor.

a 1890 *Sci. Amer.* LIV. 308 (Cent.), The consequence.. might be that what the workmen call a nigger would get into the armature, and burn it so as to destroy its service.

5. *Comb.*, chiefly objective, as *nigger-driver, -killer, worship(per; nigger-driving, -looking* adjs.

1861 FREEMAN in Stephens *Life* (1895) I. 270 Let the *nigger-drivers go to the devil their own way. 1891 C. ROBERTS *Adrift Amer.* 198, I never came across such a beast of a nigger driver as this fellow Cole. 1856 OLMSTED *Slave States* 108 If a man does not provide well for his slaves..he gets the name of a '*nigger killer'. 1890 *Cent. Dict.* s. v. *Grampus*, The whip-tailed scorpion,..also called mule-killer, nigger-killer. 1837 *Lett. fr. Madras* (1843) 99 He has a half-caste, dropsical wife, and a sickly *nigger-looking child. 1862 RUSSELL in *Times* 29 Jan., The Conservative masses, which lie between negrolatry or *nigger-worship and Secession. 1866 *Cornh. Mag.* Jan. 37 The contempt which they..have expressed for *nigger-worshippers during the Jamaica troubles.

6. *attrib.* (passing into *adj.*).

a. Belonging to the negro race; black-skinned. Also *nigger-minstrel*: see NEGRO 3.

1836 MARRYAT *Pirate* iv, You've been sweet upon that nigger girl. 1842 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. II. *Broth. Birch.* xlv, Their nigger inhabitants [devils] shook in their hoofs. 1872 DE VERE *Americanisms* 117 The real nigger baby is known under the name of pickaninny. 1883 BLACK *Shandon Bells* xvii, He..made sure he was about to be serenaded by a nigger-minstrel.

b. Of or belonging to, occupied by, negroes. Also *transf.*

1834 R. H. FROUDE in *Rem.* (1838) I. 380 Niggerland is a poor substitute for the *limen Apostolorum*. 1844 DICKENS *Mart. Chuz.* xxi, He has been, and is, the advocate..of Nigger emancipation. 1856 OLMSTED *Slave States* 61 You'll see some nigger-quarters. 1873 MISS BRADDON *Lucius Davoren* I. Prol. ii. 21 Perhaps you could oblige us with a nigger melody.

c. In special uses (see quots.).

1850 LOUDON *Encycl. Gard.* (ed. 2) 498 The black jack, or *nigger caterpillar, being the larva of Athalia centifoliæ. 1888 GOODE *Amer. Fishes* 321 Next in importance to the Plaice, comes the Flat Fish, *Pseudopleuronectes Americanus*. .. New York anglers call it the '*Nigger Fish'. 1852 *Smithson. Contrib. Knowl.* V. II. 41 This plant [*Polysiphonia arietina*] is common in various places in Long Island Sound..'Pooh! that's what we call "*nigger-hair"'. 1838 HALIBURTON *Clockm.* Ser. II. iii, A *nigger-jockey.. is a gentleman that trades in niggers,—buys them in one state, and sells them in another, where they arn't known. 1859 M. PATTISON *Ess.* (1889) I. 65 It is in perpetual conflict with the rules of good Latinity,..partly from the addle-headed understanding of the characters supposed to write this *nigger Latin.

Hence **Ni·ggerdom**, niggers collectively. **Ni·ggerish** *a.*, pertaining to, characteristic of, the nigger. **Ni·ggerism**, (*a*) nigger blood; (*b*) a term or expression peculiar to niggers. **Ni·ggerling**, a little nigger.

1876 BESANT & RICE *Gold. Butterfly* xxx, The modern Arabs, the gipsies, *niggerdom in general. 1866 *Atlantic Monthly* XVIII. 79 When I say 'colored', I mean one thing, respectfully; and when I say '*niggerish', I mean another, disgustedly. *Ibid.*, My Auntie's piety was not of the niggerish kind. 1844 *Fraser's Mag.* XXIX. 656 An individual tainted even in the eighth degree with *niggerism. 1883 WINTHROP *Edwin Brothertoft* II. v, [To] ventriloquize derisive niggerisms through the larynx. 1842 HOOD *Black Job* viii, All the little *Niggerlings emerge As lily white as mussels.

Nigger (ni·gəɹ), *v. U. S.* [f. prec.] *trans.* a. (See quot. 1859.) b. To burn or char *off*.

1859 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer.*, To *nigger out* land, signifies..to exhaust land by the mode of tilling without fertilization pursued in the slave States. *a* 1890 in *Cent. Dict.*, They niggered the huge logs off with fire, which was kept burning for days.

Niggera·lity. *rare*−1. [f. *nigger* NIGGARD *sb.* + -ALITY.] Niggardliness.

1823 GALT *Entail* xci, Every farthing I can extortionate frae thee..shall be pay't o'er to her.., just to wring thy heart o' niggerality.

Ni·ggerhead. Also **nigger-head, nigger head.** [f. NIGGER *sb.* + HEAD *sb.*]

1. *U. S.* (See quot. 1859.)

1859 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer., Nigger-Heads*, the tussocks or knotted masses of the roots of sedges and ferns projecting above the wet surface of a swamp. 1873 *Routledge's Young Gentlm. Mag.* Mar. 236/2 Stepping from one flax-bush or nigger-head to the other.

2. (See quots.)

1876 J. MORESBY *Discov. New Guinea* 3 A crowd of '*nigger heads', black points of coral rock, peep up in places. 1877 RAYMOND *Statist. Mines & Mining* 56 The bowlders, composed of quartz, 'nigger heads', and micaceous schists, are not large. 1886 *Ann. Rep. Smithson. Inst.* (1889) II. 523 *Nigger head.* (1) The black concretionary nodules found in granite; (2) Any hard, dark-colored rock weathering out into rounded nodules or bowlders; (3) Slaty rock associated with sandstone. 1898 MORRIS *Austral Eng., Nigger-head.* Name given in New Zealand to hard blackstones found at the Blue Spur and other mining districts.

3. = NEGRO-HEAD 2. Also *attrib.*

1893 J. A. BARRY *S. Brown's Bunyip*, etc. 24 He .. had accepted as much strong 'niggerhead' .. as would have stocked a tobacconist's shop. 1894 *Outing* (U.S.) XXIV. 355/1 Cigarettes..made of native grown tobacco or the rank cheap stuff called niggerhead twist.

4. A variety of cowrie.

1895 Mrs. F. A. STEEL *Rowans* x, Do you ever find niggerheads about here now?

5. *U. S. slang.* (See quot.)

1872 DE VERE *Americanisms* 281 They were Democrats, and retorted upon violent Union men by calling them Niggerheads.

Niggerly, obs. form of NIGGARDLY *a.*

†**Ni·ggers,** used as an oath (cf. GOD *sb.* 14 b). Also **niggers-noggers.** *Obs. rare.*

1633 ROWLEY *Match at Midn.* I. i, Niggers, and I had but dreamed of this. *Ibid.*, When we swear nothing but niggers-noggers. *Ibid.*, Niggers-noggers, I wonnot.

Ni·ggery, *sb. rare.* [ad. Du. *negerij*; cf. NEGERY.] An administrative division of the Dutch East Indies.

1800 *Asiatic Ann. Reg.* 201/2 The subordinate residents have from six to ten niggeries, or districts, under their charge. *Ibid.* 203/1 These..niggeries are likewise called Regencies.

Ni·ggery, *a.* [f. NIGGER *sb.* + -Y 1.] Of or belonging to, characteristic of, negroes.

1862 *New York Tribune* May (Cent.), The dialect of the entire population is essentially and unmistakably niggery. 1881 M. A. LEWIS *Two Pretty Girls* II. 132, I wish you had small screwed-up eyes, and a niggery mouth.

†**Ni·ggish,** *a. Obs.* Also **nig(g)eshe, niggyshe, nygyshe, nyggish, -yshe.** [f. NIG *a.* or *sb.* + -ISH.] Niggardly. (Common *c* 1550–1600.)

1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 74 Persones yᵗ dooe glorie & braggue of their niggyshe slooveny. 1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* (1592) 288 Let our wealthie pinchpence therefore.. leaue their niggish liues and insatiable couetousnesse. 1605 CAMDEN *Rem.* 196 Other maximes .. proceeding from a niggish olde wife.

Hence † **Ni·ggishly** *adv.*; † **Ni·ggishness.**

1562 TURNER *Baths* Ded., The extreme niggishness and illiberalite of sum that had most. 1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. fr. Tong., Eschancement viure*, to liue barely, to liue hardly, niggishly. 1598 GRENEWEY *Tacitus, Ann.* III. x. (1622) 78 The memory of Quirinius was nothing pleasing, by reason..of..miserable niggishness.

Niggle (ni·g'l), *sb.* [f. NIGGLE *v.*2] Small cramped handwriting.

1834 HOOD *Tylney Hall* Introd., Sometimes it is a little close niggle, as if you studied economy in stationery. 1856 MISS YONGE *Daisy Chain* I. xviii, Ethel's best writing was an upright, disjointed, niggle. *Ibid.*, A still wilder combination of scramble, niggle, scratch, and crookedness.

†**Niggle,** *v.*1 *Obs. Cant.* Also 6 **nygie, 7 nigle.** [Of obscure origin: cf. next.] *intr.* and *trans.* (See quot. 1567.)

1567 HARMAN *Caveat* (1869) 84 To nygle, to haue to do with a woman carnally. 1608 DEKKER *Lanth. & Candle Lt.* Bij b, If we niggle, or mill a bowsing Ken..If an ale-house we rob, or be tane with a whore. 1622 FLETCHER *Beggars' Bush* II. i, *Hub.* How long has she been here? *Snap.* Long enough to be..nigled, an' she ha'..good luck.

Niggle (ni·g'l), *v.*2 Also 8 **nigle.** [App. of Scandinavian origin, being current chiefly in northern dial., and corresponding both in form and meaning to Norw. *nigla* (Aasen and Ross), with the variants *nagla* and *nugla*. The precise meaning in some of the early examples is not quite clear; for the numerous variations of sense in dial. use, see *Eng. Dial. Dict.*]

1. *intr.* To work, or do anything, in a trifling, fiddling, or ineffective way; to trifle († *with* a thing); to spend work or time unnecessarily on petty details; to be over-elaborate in minor points.

a 1616 BEAUM. & FL. *Little French Lawyer* IV. v, That Little Lawyer would so..bite your honour by the nose,.. So niggle about your grave shins, lord Vertaigne. 1631 MASSINGER *Emperor East* v. iii, Take heed, daughter, You niggle not with your conscience. 1839 C. CLARK *J. Noakes* lxii, Long she'd niggle at her glass. 1854 MISS BAKER *Northampt. Gloss.* s.v., How you are niggling over your work; it is not worth the time. 1883 BLACK *Yolande* xlix, It was only to have been a sketch. And he has kept on niggling and niggling away at it. 1893 J. A. BARRY *S. Brown's Bunyip*, etc. 56 For a while they niggles away at the big butt, turn an' turn about.

b. To trot about, keep moving *along*, in a fiddling or ineffective manner.

1781 MME. D'ARBLAY *Diary* Aug., When I have nobody at all at my place but workmen;..I niggle after them up and down. 1833 SIR F. B. HEAD *Bubbles fr. Brunnen* 246 The river, as one niggles along, is seen bit by bit from the steam-boat. 1849 EASTWICK *Dry Leaves* 193 A fidgetty high-mettled steed, which dislikes a dozen of ragged galloways niggling along within a yard of its tail.

c. To get *on* in a kind of way *with* one.

1837 LADY DACRE in *Friendships Miss Mitford* (1882) II. 21, I shall try to niggle on with her; but I am too deaf and old, I fear, to scrape acquaintance with a young person.

d. To be unnecessarily critical or over-precise.

1891 BLACK *Stand Fast, Craig-R.* vi, 'Come, come, aunt', said he, 'it isn't like you to niggle about nothing'.

2. Of girls: To be restless or fidgetty from wantonness or amorous inclination. ? *Obs.*

1706 ESTCOURT *Fair Example* IV. i, Had you been one of the fluttering Fops o' the Town, she had so wrigl'd and nigl'd, and have been so glad of your Company. 1793 PEARCE *Hartford Bridge* II. i, They giggle, simper, Niggle and whimper, And try to lure wherever they go. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* IV. vii. P 13 My little pet..niggled, nudged, toyed, and romped, like a school-girl in vacation.

3. *trans.* a. To cheat, trick.

1621 FLETCHER *Pilgrim* IV. iii, I shall so niggle you, And juggle you; and fiddle you, and firk you. 1719 D'URFEY *Pills* (1872) II. 111 To purge my sins, And buy me Pins, I've nigled an old Parson.

b. To draw *out* unwillingly.

1630 DEKKER *2nd Pt. Honest Wh.* Wks. 1873 II. 133, I had but one poore penny, and that I was glad to niggle out, and buy a holly-wand.

c. To execute in a petty trifling manner.

1860 E. FITZGERALD *Lett.* (1889) I. 276 Think of the Acres of Canvas Titian or Reynolds would have covered..in the Time it has taken to niggle this Miniature!

Hence **Niggled** (ni·g'ld) *ppl. a.*, done with too much minuteness or petty detail; over-elaborated.

1884 *Century Mag.* Dec. 207 They..are niggled little drawings, carefully worked up with the point. 1888 *Art Jrnl.* II. 61/2 Its careful but not niggled workmanship. 1893 *Nation* (N.Y.) 19 Jan. 47/1 His more finished designs ..are hopelessly niggled.

†**Niggledigée,** obs. variant of NEGLIGEE.

1755 J. SHEBBEARE *Lydia* (1769) II. 29 Lady Betty Wriggle being dressed in what the tuneful part of the streets of London have distinguished in their songs by the polite term of the Niggledigée.

†**Ni·ggler** 1. *Obs. Cant.* [f. NIGGLE *v.*1 + -ER 1.] A lascivious person.

1613 MARSTON *Insatiate C'tess* II. ii, With cleanly conveyance by the nigglers our maids, they shall be translated into our bed-chambers. 1641 BROME *Joviall Crew* II. Wks. 1873 III. 392 Heart and a cup of Sack, do we look like old Beggar-niglers? 1659 *Lady Alimony* II. v. in Hazl. *Dodsley* XIV. 313 Ha, ha, ha! this was a bold-fac'd niggler.

Niggler 2 (ni·gləɹ). [f. NIGGLE *v.*2 + -ER 1.] One who niggles, *esp.* in artistic work.

1862 THORNBURY *Turner* II. 344 To the last he was rather a 'niggler' in oil. 1900 *Q. Rev.* Jan. 115 Bold effects must take the place of the niggler's pnny scroll-work.

†**Ni·ggling,** *vbl. sb.*1 *Obs. Cant.* [f. NIGGLE *v.*1 + -ING 1.] (See quots.)

1608 DEKKER *Lanth. & Candle Lt., Cant. Dict., Niggling*, company keeping with a woman [1610 ROWLANDS *Martin Mark-all* E 3, This word is not used now]. 1641 BROME *Joviall Crew* II. Wks. 1873 III. 391 The Autum-Mort finds better sport In bowsing then in nigling. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Nigling*, accompanying with a Woman.

Niggling (ni·gling), *vbl. sb.*2 [f. NIGGLE *v.*2]

1. Trifling or fiddling work; over-attention to details; mean or petty dealing.

1829 MARRYAT *F. Mildmay* viii, Cleanliness and good order are what seamen like; but niggling, polishing, scraping iron bars, and the like of that a sailor dislikes. 1840 THACKERAY *Catherine* x, The man was well fitted for the creeping and niggling of his dastardly trade. 1881 *Times* 5 Feb. 9/2 He will grant them some powers, but not all they are asking for..This of course is mere niggling.

2. Over-elaboration of detail in art.

1860 RUSKIN *Mod. Paint.* V. VI. v. § 6. 37 So long as the work is thoughtfully directed, there is no niggling. 1886 R. C. LESLIE *Sea Painter's Log* 132 No amount of niggling will atone for the want of such touches.

Ni·ggling, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ING 2.]

1. Trifling, mean, petty; deficient in force or vigour; lacking in breadth of view or feeling.

1599 NASHE *Lenten Stuffe* Wks. (Grosart) V. 203 All the King of Spaines Indies will not create me such a nigling Hexameter-sounder as he [Homer] was.

1827 SOUTHEY *Lett.* (1856) IV. 73 Neither did I like the niggling way in which they dealt with me. 1852 C. W. H[OSKINS] *Talpa* 126 Your unprofitable expense is ever peeping out in the niggling nature of your plans. 1876 STUBBS *Study Med. & Mod. Hist.* iii. (1886) 53 We do not want .. niggling articles, which enumerate the mistakes and misstatements of a book. 1891 BARING-GOULD *Hist. Oddities* Ser. II. iii. 76 This little court..played a niggling game at petty intrigue.

b. Fiddling, troublesome, finicking.

1863 DARWIN in *Life* (1887) III. 312 It is just the sort of niggling work which suits me. 1877 ERICHSEN *Surg.* (ed. 7) II. 470 It is a niggling instrument, difficult to manage in this situation.

2. Showing too great elaboration of detail; deficient in boldness of execution.

1813 *Examiner* 10 May 229/2 The little, niggling pencilling of Mr. Glover's [landscapes]. 1860 RUSKIN *Mod. Paint.* V. VI. v. § 6. 38 The whole hand [drawn] within the space of one of those 'niggling' touches of Hobbima. 1891 BARING-GOULD *In Troubadour-Land* xvii. 248 He has carried the face of his niggling little buttresses flush with the massive walls of the great towers.

b. Of handwriting: Consisting of short feeble strokes; cramped.

1854 MISS BAKER *Northampt. Gloss.* s.v., A niggling hand. 1890 *Spectator* 12 July 48/1 The most resolute person we know writes a niggling scrawl, hardly legible.

Niggon(ship, variants of NIGON(SHIP *Obs.*

Niggot, app. a misprint for INGOT.

1579–80 NORTH *Plutarch* (1595) 415 For Itanus the historiographer writeth, that there was brought a maruellous great masse of treasure in niggots of gold, of three thousand seuen hundred and thirteen pound weight.

Nigh (nəi), *adv., a.*, and *sb.* Forms: *α.* 1 **néah, (néaz-), néh,** 2 **neoh,** 3 **næh**; 2–4 **neh,** 3 **neh3, 3–4 nehi**; 3–5 **ne3,** (3 **ne3t,** 4 **ne3h, nee3h**), 4–5 **ne3e, negh(e**; 3 (5–6 *Sc.*) **ne,** 6 **nee.** *β.* 3–4 **neih,** (3 **neip,** 4 **neich**), **nei,** (4 **neie**), 3–5 **nei3,** (4 **nei3e**), 4 **neigh**(e, 6 **neight**;

3 neyh, 4–6 ney(e, 4 neythe, 5 neyhe, neygh, neyȝt. γ. 4 niȝ, nieȝ, nyeȝ, nyh(e, 4–5 nyȝ(e, 4–6 nyghe, (4 nyȝghe, 6 nygghe), 4–7 nygh, (6 nyght); 4–6 nighe, 4– nigh; 4–6 ny(e, 6–7 nie. [Common Teutonic: OE. *néah, néh* = OFris. *nei, nî*, MDu. *na, nae* (Du. *na*), OS. *nâh* (MLG. *nâge, nâ*), OHG. *nâh* adv., *nâher* adj. (MHG. *nâ, nâh-, nâch*, G. *nah*), ON. *ná-* (in combs. like *ná-búi* neighbour; Sw. and Da. *na-*), Goth. *nêhwa* (*nêhw*): the stem appears to be unrepresented outside Teutonic.

OHG. is the only one of the older languages in which a fully developed adjectival use of the word exists along with the adverbial. In OE. there are very scanty traces of adjectival inflexion, *néah* being commonly employed either as a simple adv. or with a dependent dative: in predicative use it may sometimes be taken as an adjective, but it is more probable that in such cases also it is an adverb. It is not till the 14th or 15th cent. that the attributive use becomes common.

The original comparative of *néah* as an adv. is *néar, néor*, NEAR *adv.*[1], while the adj. form *néarra* finally became *ner*, NAR *a.* The OE. superlative *néhst(a* is latterly represented by NEXT *a.* and *adv.* After phonetic changes had obscured the relationship of these forms to the positive, a new compar. and superl., *nigher* and *nighest*, were formed, and have been in common use since the 16th cent.]

= NEAR *adv.*[2] and *a.* (which in all senses has taken the place of *nigh* except in archaic or dialect use).

**Denoting proximity in place, time, etc.*

I. *adv.* With dependent dative (passing into *prep.*), or followed by *to* (see 4).

1. With verbs of motion, denoting approach to a place, thing, or person.

Beowulf 2290 He to forð ȝestop dyrnan cræfte dracan heafde neah. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xv. 29 And mið ðy oferfoerde ðona ðe hælend, cuom [he] æt *vel* neh sæ. *a* 1000 *Juliana* 635 (Gr.), Ða wæs [heo] gelæded londmearce neah. *c* 1205 LAY. 1609 Alle heo slowen þat heo neih comen. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 8041 Whenne þe kyng coom neȝe þo trees he kist hem. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 120 The more he cam the welle nyh The nerr cam sche to him ayein. 1517 TORKINGTON *Pilgr.* 30 No Cristen man ys not suffered for to come ny it. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* II. ii. 18 Neuer harme, nor spell, nor charme, Come our louely Lady nye. 1681 DRYDEN *Abs. & Achit.* 162 He..for a calm unfit, Would steer too nigh the Sands. 1777 SHERIDAN *Trip Scarb.* v. ii, I am almost ashamed to come nigh 'em.

fig. *c* 1320 *Cast. Love* 320 Hit eode hire herte swiþe neih.

2. In prepositional use.

Beowulf 2831 Se widfloga wundum stille hreas on hrusan, hordærne neah. *a* 900 *O. E. Martyrol.* 22 Aug. 150 His lichoma is bebyrȝed neah sancte Paules cirican þæs apostoles. *c* 1075 *O. E. Chron.* (Parker MS.) an. 1031 An scip flotiȝende swa neh þan lande swa hit nyxt mæȝe. *c* 1275 LAY. 27553 He..smot than eorl Beduer a-forn neȝen þan breoste. 13.. *Guy Warw.* (A.) 1508 To him he smot swiþe smert þurch þe bodi ful ney þe hert. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. IX. 298 'By seynt paul', quath peers þo, 'thou poyntest neih þe treuthe'. 1413 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton) I. xix. (1859) 19 Long tyme he had hyd hym self neyhe me. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* IV. xxvii. 156 She broughte hym there as was a turnement nyghe the marche of walys. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* I. ii. 216 *Pro.* But was not this nye shore? *Ar.* Close by, my Master. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IX. 514 A Ship.. Nigh Rivers mouth or Foreland, where the Wind Veres oft. 1770 in Picton *L'pool Munic. Rec.* (1886) II. 257 No gate shall be erected nigher Liverpoole than the four mile stone. 1826 J. F. COOPER *Mohicans* (1829) II. iii. 50 They had reached a bay, nigh the northern termination of the lake.

b. In complementary use with verbs.

c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* v. 6 Ne eardað neh ðe awerȝed. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Luke ii. 9 Engel drihtnes s[t]od neh ðæm. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1105 þa þe þam eorle Willelme of Mortoin ahwær neah wunedon. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 312 Holde we him neih us mid smelle of swete werkes. *c* 1320 *Cast. Love* 370 Ich hit seih And tolde hit to Riht þat stood me neih. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) V. 357 In his ȝowþe he was..bisмer to kynges þat wonede nyh hym. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* ii. 6 (Harl. MS.), Ofte tyme he vsid to ligge ny þe fire.

3. In predicative use with the verb *to be*, or with ellipse of this: **a.** of locality.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Luke xix. 11 Forðon [he] wære neh hierusalem. *c* 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Th.) lxxviii. 4 Eallum.. ymbsittendum, þe us ahwær neah nu ða syndon. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 95 Hit forðnimeð swa hwet him neh bið. *c* 1200 ORMIN 17918 He wass neh an casstelltun. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 1/4 Alle þe heþene men þat neiȝ him were. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 197 He ferst loke out ate porte, That noman were nyh the stede. 1551 CROWLEY *Pleas. & Pain* 242 Such men as were nygh yon dwellynge. 1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* July 89 The hilles bene nigher heven. 1734 tr. *Rollin's Anc. Hist.* XV. ix. (1827) VI. 147 The drops which were nighest the torches taking fire.

b. In various *transf.* or *fig.* senses.

c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* xxxiii. 19 Neh is dryhten ðissum ða ȝeswencedre siad on heortan. *c* 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Th.) liv. 20 Hit wæs his heortan ȝehyȝde neah. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1252 Hwanne ic iseo þat sum wrechede Is manne neyh, inouh ic grede. *c* 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 3016 Sir canados was þan Constable, þe quen ful neiȝe. 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 423 Neverepoles summe godes hen more nyghe God. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* lxxi. 388 (Addit. MS.), W[h]ere this woman was seke, and ney childe byrth. 1605 SHAKS. *Macb.* IV. ii. 72 To do worse to you were fell Cruelty, Which is too nie your person. 1875 MYERS *Poems* 63 When man's heart is nighest heaven.

c. Of time or events.

a 900 CYNEWULF *Crist* 782 Is þam dome neah. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 95 Þonne..biþ neh þæm seofoþan dæȝe. *c* 1275 *O. E. Misc.* 142/45 Þis world is neyh þan ende. *a* 1300 *K. Horn* 494 Horn tok his leue, For hit was neȝ eue. 13.. *Sir Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1922 Þenne þay helden to home, for hit was nieȝ nyȝt. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* III. xiii. 116 He..leyd hym vnder the tree and slepte tyl it was nyghe nyght.

4. With *to* or *unto*, in uses similar to above.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* John vi. 19 [Hia] ȝeseað ðone hælend geongende..neh to scipp. *a* 1300 *Christ on Cross* 19 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 21 Man þou hast þe for-lor and ful neiþ to helle ibor. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 1654 Þe Frankysch þenne cast a cry, þerfore men drowe to þeym ney. 1391 CHAUCER *Boeth.* IV. met. v. (1868) 132 Þe sterres of arctour ytourned neye to þe souereyne contre or point. *c* 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 885 Edgar rode ouȝt..In to a Forest neyȝt to his place. 1484 CAXTON *Fables of Alfonce* i, [He] wente and lodged hym withynne a Temple nyghe to a Frendes hows. 1535 COVERDALE *John* vi. 23 There came other shippes from Tiberias, nye vnto yᵉ place where they had eaten the bred. 1581 MULCASTER *Positions* xl. (1887) 224 The scholers ..be bourded at their charges somewhere verie nigh to the schoole. 1600 J. PORY tr. *Leo's Africa* v. 262 The citie of Tunis standing vpon a plaine hath no mountaines nigh vnto it. 1680 MORDEN *Geog. Rect., France* (1685) 163 Nigh to this place. 1704 *Col. Rec. Pennsylv.* II. 182 Being the neighest to their place of Abode. 1823 J. F. COOPER *Pioneers* v, The arm that was extended bent, and brought the hand nigh to his face.

transf. or *fig.* 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 785 They were good men, and true to the King and to nie to the Queene. 1611 BIBLE *Lev.* xxi. 3 His sister a virgin, that is nigh vnto him. 1826 J. F. COOPER *Mohicans* (1829) II. iii. 46 This change had brought them nigher to each other. 1896 MRS. CAFFYN *Quaker Grandmother* 183 We've crossed each other's paths these many years, for all.. we haven't come very nigh to one another.

II. *adv.* Used absolutely as complement or predicate (passing into *adj.*).

5. Of place or position: **a.** With the verb *to be* expressed or understood.

c 897 K. ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* li. 399 Her is an lytele burȝ swiðe neah. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Mark xiv. 42 Seðe mec selleð neh is. *a* 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* ix. 34 Heo hath browes bend an heh, Whyt bytuene, ant nout to neh. 1386 CHAUCER *Knt.'s T.* 668 Ful litel woot Arcite of his felawe, That was so ny. *c* 1450 tr. *De Imitatione* II. viii. 48 Whan ihesu is nye, all godenes is nye. 1501 DOUGLAS *Pal. Hon.* I. xxi, Thairby I vnderstude that scho was nie. 1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* II. i. 43 Heere comes your man, now is your husband nie. 1671 MILTON *P. R.* I. 332 We sometimes..come forth To Town or Village nigh (nighest is far). 1821 SHELLEY *Aziola* i, Methinks she must be nigh. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* CXXX, Far off thou art, but ever nigh.

b. With verbs of dwelling, standing, etc.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 189 Þe fleschliche lustes..beoð þe smeðere him to biswikende for þan þe þei nehȝie wunion. 1382 WYCLIF *Jas.* v. 9 Lo! the iustise stondith nyȝ bifore the ȝat. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* x. xiv. 5 Hys helm of steill besyde hym hang weil ne. 1567 MAPLET *Gr. Forest* 26 b, Doth not the Uine loue and embrace the Elme, & prospereth the better, the nigher one is set by another? 1750 GRAY *Elegy* 78 Some frail memorial still erected nigh. 1791 COWPER *Iliad* IX. 248 Then bespake Patroclus standing nigh. 1833 TENNYSON *To J. S.* 33, I have not look'd upon you nigh, Since that dear soul hath fall'n asleep.

c. With verbs of motion.

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 203 He ne wist it ȝolden was, tille he com so nehi. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* XII. i. 593 Come not to nyȝ for and thow doo..I will slee the. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* v. 82 So saying, he drew nigh. 1772–84 *Cook's Voy.* (1790) V. 1618 They came so nigh, that we could discern, with our glasses, the deserters fastened together. 1825 J. NEAL *Bro. Jonathan* I. 332 The..dog would not leave him; but crawled nigher. 1879 BROWNING *Ivan Ivanovitch* 92 What help, as nigher and nigher, The flames came furious?

† d. With verbs of striking, wounding, etc.

1535 COVERDALE *Bible* Prol., Euery one doth his best to be nyest the marke.., yet shuteth one nyer then another. 1590 GREENE *Palmer's Ode* Wks. (Rtldg.) 295/1 [He] with a dart that wounded nigh Pierc'd my heart as I did lie. 1671 MILTON *P. R.* IV. 489 Other harm Those terrors..did me none,..though noising loud And threatning nigh.

e. *Naut.* Close to the wind. *rare*[−1].

a 1687 VILLIERS (Dk. Buckhm.) *Cabin-Boy* Wks. 1705 II. 101 Nay he could Sail a Yatcht both nigh and large.

6. Of approaching or impending times or events.

Beowulf 1743 Bið se slæp to fæst.., bona swiðe neah. *c* 825 *Vesp. Hymns* vii. 68 Forðon neh is deȝ forlorenisse heara. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 107 Mazon we..nu ȝeseon..þæt þisses middanȝeardes ende swiþe neah is. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 14908 He þe time seis command nei. 1382 WYCLIF *Joel* ii. 1 For niȝ is the day of derknessis and myst. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 7808 The night was so nighe, þat noyet hym sore. 1535 COVERDALE *Jas.* v. 8 The commynge of the Lorde draweth nye. 1559 *Mirr. Mag.* (1563) 35 Than wo and wrack, disease, and nede be nyest. 1666 DRYDEN *Ann. Mirab.* cii, Till the fresh air proclaimed the morning nigh. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 45 Finding the Hour draw nigh, when it is lawful for them to drink and eat. 1866 NEALE *Sequences & Hymns* 130 The hour is nigh—far nigher may it be Than yet I deem.

7. Of relationship, friendship, or union. (Cf. 11.)

1382 WYCLIF *Ruth* iii. 12 Ne I denye me to be nyȝ, but there is another nerre than Y. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* II. xx. 272 More or lasse aftir that thilk ioynyng..is more or lasse nyȝer or romber. *a* 1500 *Geste R. Hood* in Child *Ballads* III. 78/2 The pryoresse of Kyrkesly, That nye was of his kynne. 1549 COVERDALE, etc. *Erasm. Par. 2 Cor.* 51 b, [He] coumpteth hym nyghest of his kynne, whiche hath in his promisses moste affiaunce. 1628 SIR W. MURE *Domesday* 534 How more sublime the Object bee, The Union inward and more nie.

8. In phrases: **† a.** *Of, in,* or *from nigh*, close, near at hand. *Obs.*

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 250 Derne uondunges, þet he scheoteð of feor, &..tentaciuns keoruinde of neih. 1382 WYCLIF *Esther* ix. 20 The Jewis that in alle the prouyncis of the king dwelten, bothe in neȝh set and afer. 14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 578/12 *Deprope*, fro ny. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* iii. 101 Charlemagne followed theym well of nyghe.

b. *Nigh at hand.* (See HAND *sb.* 25.)

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 15709 He es cumand negh at hand. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1948 Þere Nestor the noble Duke was negh at his hond. 1535 COVERDALE 2 *Esdras* ii. 34 He is nye at hande, that shal come in the ende of the worlde. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. i. 7 To seeke some covert nigh at hand. 1671 MILTON *P. R.* I. 20 The great Proclaimer.. cri'd .. Heavens Kingdom nigh at hand. 1790 PALEY *Horæ Paul.* 271 He now regards the decision of his fate as nigh at hand.

† c. *Nigh and far.* (Cf FAR *adv.* 1 b, and OE. *ȝe neah ȝe feor.*) *Obs. rare.*

1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 208 By the eyghen know we..thynges neygh and ferre, meuynge and restynge. 1599 DAVIES *Immort. Soul* ii. (1742) 14 Mine Eyes, which view all Objects nigh and far.

9. *Comb.* as *nigh-adjoinant, -coming, -dwelling*; *-dweller.* Also † *nigh-ainted*, hit by close aiming.

c 1400 tr. *Secreta Secret., Gov. Lordsh.* 97 Setyng, remuynge & neghcomyng, steryngе & rest. 1429 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 345/1 Nygh adjoynaunt to the Rever. 1553 GRIMALDE *Cicero's Offices* II. (1558) 100 Letting nye dwellynges and partie boundes, to be iust and gentle. 1591 SPENSER *M. Hubberd* 742 Now his bright armes assaying,..Now the nigh aymed ring away to beare. 1867 MUSGRAVE *Nooks & Corners Old France* II. 145 These quarrymen..would prove more troublesome nigh-dwellers than they in fact are.

III. *adj.* In attributive use.

10. Of places, persons, or things. (In later use chiefly in comparative and superlative.)

c 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* IV. i. (Ca.), On þam neahȝum mynstre [*al.* neahnuanmynstre]. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 5941 To ney neygheburs, & ferþer fro. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 175 Neyȝghe neiȝbores þat hadde riȝt to þese godes. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) I. 299 The nyer Speyne to theis costes begynnethe from the hilles Pirene. 1540–1 ELYOT *Image Gov.* (1556) 36 By the examinacion of theyr nighest neighbours. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* III. xii. 1 She heard a shrilling Trompet sound alowd, Signe of nigh battaill, or got victory. 1711 *Fingall MSS.* in 10th *Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. V. 131 They had orders to remain at the nigher end of the four mile pass. 1798 COLERIDGE *Frost at Midn.* 69 The nigh thatch Smokes in the sun-thaw. 1827 J. F. COOPER *Prairie* I. i. 23 The distance from this place to the nighest point on the main river. 1868 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* I. 96 [He] seized the nighest ship.

fig. 1598 BACON *Medit., Hypocrites* Ess. (Arb.) 117 Vnto this ordinance that other Hipocrisie is a nigh neyghbour.

b. Of ways or roads. (See NEAR *a.* 5.)

1516 *Life St. Bridget* in *Myrr. our Ladye*, etc. p. li, Thy doughter by the nyghest waye shall goo vnto the kyngdome of heuyn. 1547 *Homilies* I. *Whoredom* I. (1640) 80 Is there any nigher way to lead unto damnation? 1765 R. ROGERS *Jrnl.* (1883) 136 The General..ordered me..to proceed across the Chestnut Plain the nighest and best way I could, to Lake Champlain. 1823 SCOTT *Quentin D.* xxxii, The nigher and the safer road to Liege.

† c. Of causes: Immediate, proximate. *Obs.*

1551 T. WILSON *Logike* (1580) 44 Good heede ought to bee had,..that the nye causes and the farthest causes, be not taken al for one. 1620 T. GRANGER *Div. Logike* 49 The father is the nighest cause of the sonne.

d. = NEAR *a.* 3. Also *Comb.* as *nigh-side.*

1722 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 6063/4 A white Heel on the Nigh Leg behind. 1823 J. F. COOPER *Pioneers* v, It was only pulling hard on the nigh rein, and touching the off flank of the leader. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* I. 626 The nigh trace-chain of the nigh horse is hooked to the end..of the swing-tree. *Ibid.* II. 540 The nigh-side shaft being laid upon the side-rail.

11. Of relatives or friends. (Cf. 7.)

c 1205 LAY. 10260 Ne bi-læfde he her neouðer suster ne broðer, ne quene ne næh cun. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XII. 95 Kynde Witte is of his kyn and neighe cosynes bothe To owre lorde. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 155 The grownde scholde be taken to the nyeste of his bloode. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* III. xii. 114 This lady is my kynneswoman nygh. *c* 1538 in Archbold *Somers. Rel. Houses* (1892) 93 Doctor Tregonwell .. hath obteigned the same for a nygh frende of his. 1650 TRAPP *Comm. Num.* xviii. 22 Gods Kinsmen,..according to some translations, or his nigh-Ones.

absol. 1382 WYCLIF *Lev.* xxi. 2 Oonly in cosyns, and nyȝ [L. *propinquis*], that is, vpon faler and moder. — *Prov.* xxiii. 11 The neeȝh [L. *propinquus*]..of them is strong.

***Denoting approximation in degree, amount, etc.*

IV. *adv.* **12.** Nearly, almost, all but.

c 893 K. ÆLFRED *Oros.* I. i. 17 Þa Finnas..& þa Beormas spræcon neah an ȝeþeode. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 254 Heo hafað leafneah swylce mistel. *c* 1200 ORMIN 3206 Till þatt he waxenn wass, & neh Of þrittiȝ winnterr elde. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1234 His moder wurð neȝ dead for friȝt. *c* 1290 *St. Brendan* 714 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 239 Þou schalt sone out of þis world, þi lijf is neiȝ at þende. 1340 *Ayenb.* 76 Huerof al þe wordle ys nyeȝ begyled. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 33 This ymage is nyh overthrowe. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* xii. 40 (Harl. MS.), By chaunce I was ny dreynt in a water. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* XI. viii. 582 Thenne the quene was nyghe oute of her wytte. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. xviii. 25 They were nigh so fehle that it shulde haue ben great peyne for them to haue goon any forther. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. iii. 13 Nigh dead with feare..Shee found them both. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* X. 159 To whom sad Eve with shame nigh overwhelm'd, ..thus abasht repli'd. 1817 SHELLEY *Rev. Islam* X. XXXV, Kingly thrones, which rest on faith, nigh overturned. 1872 TENNYSON *Gareth & Lynette* 769 The wood is nigh as full of thieves as leaves.

b. With terms of quantity or number.

c 1055 *O. E. Chron.* (MS. C.) an. 1055 Ða gaderade man fyrde ȝeond eall Englaland swyðe neah. *c* 1200 ORMIN 1892 Acc Marrch was þa Neh all gan ut til ende. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 833 Neȝ ilc burȝe hadde ise louereding. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 4025 Hit is ney vif ȝer þat we abbeþ ylued in such vice. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) III. 147 He..

made fre ny fifty þowsand men. 1450–1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* 249 Nye all that knew him fleyng away from hym. 1559 *Mirr. Mag., Dk. Suffolk* vii, I gave nie five times five assaultes. 1672 Sir P. Leycester *Hist. Antiq.* II. I. iii, Ethelred..restored Caerleon,..and made it nigh such two as it was before. 1890 Bickley *Surrey Hills* i, Nigh ten mile a day. 1896 Chanter *Witch* i, Father he were huntsman.. for nigh forty year.

c. With *about* (*-but*), *on*, † *than*, *upon*.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 33 Adam..ledde after him neih þan al his ofspreng. *c* 1205 Lay. 22340 Þa Irisce men weoren nakede neh þan. 1632 Lithgow *Trav.* IV. 149 Nigh about the same time it is observued that Boniface the third begun his Empire. 1829 Landor *Imag. Conv., Chaucer*, etc. Wks. 1853 I. 405/1 Early on the second morning he was nigh upon twenty miles from home. 1854 Dickens *Hard T.* I. xi, I were one-and-twenty myseln; she were twenty nigh-but. 1870 Verney *Lettice Lisle* x, I'm nighabouts twice eighteen. 1887 Baring-Gould *Gaverocks* III. xlii. 10 It nigh on broke your dear mother's heart.

d. With negatives or *as*. (Cf. Near *adv.*[2] 6, 8.)

c 888 K. Ælfred *Boeth.* xviii. § 1 Eall moncynn & ealle netenu ne notiȝað nawer neah feorðan dæles þisse eorðan. *a* 1000 *Boeth. Metr.* xxx. 10 Ne mæȝ hio þeah ȝescinan.. ahwærzen neah ealla ȝesceafta. 1559 Morwyng *Evonym.* 141 They attain un-to a certain incorruption as nye as may be. 1567 in *Vicary's Anat.* (1888) App. iii. 154 [To] make an estymate as neight as they can, what the Charges of the doyng thereof will amount vnto. 1691 Norris *Pract. Disc.* I The thorough Fool is not nigh so great a Prodigy as the Half-wise Man.

† 13. Nearly, closely. (Denoting that little or nothing is left.) *Obs.*

c 1386 Chaucer *Prol.* 590 His berd was schave as neigh as ever he can. *c* 1399 — *Purse* 19 For I am shave as nye as is a frere. 1496 *Fysshynge w. Angle* (1883) 15 Kytte of the lynys ende & the threde as nyghe as ye maye. 1563 *Homilies* II. *Rogation Week* IV. (1640) 237 Charging the owners not to gather up their corne too nigh at barvest season..but to leave behind some eares. 1587 Mascall *Govt. Cattle, Oxen* (1627) 98 To heale the kibes, ye shall cut them forth as nie as ye can.

14. Near or close (to), in respect of attainment, resemblance, † likelihood, etc. † *Nothing nigh*, nothing like.

c 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 339 Men þat..ben full ny3 to synne a3eyne han no penaunce of her synne. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* lxxxviii. 52 No Lord of Parys, Venyce, or Floraunce In dignytie or honoure goeth to hym nye. 1565 Cooper *Thesaurus* s.v. *A*, To be in case verie nie to be a banished man. 1666 Bunyan *Grace Abound.* § 154 This [sin] came nighest to mine of any that I could find. 1743 Bulkeley & Cummins *Voy. S. Seas* 119 We answered them that the Water was smoother without, and nothing nigh the Sea that runs within. 1847 L. Hunt *Men, Women, & B.* II. x. 225 Her sarcasms and self-will..go nigh to confirm it. 1889 Theo. Gift *Not for the Night-time* 45 [He] struck down and went nigh to murder the man.

15. As *adj.* Close, near; parsimonious.

1555 W. Watreman *Fardle of Facions* App. 325 There cometh not so greate profite to the owners by the nighe gatheryng. 1856 P. Thompson *Hist. Boston* 716 *Nye*, near, stingy, mean. 1866 Brogden *Prov. Words Linc.* s.v. *Nye*, Although holding a good position in the county he is a nye man.

† b. Coming near in amount. *Obs. rare* —[1].

1557 Recorde *Whetst.* D ij b, Thei will helpe you to gesse at the nigheste rootes of nombers that he not square.

16. *Comb.*, as *nigh-destroyed, -drowned, -ebbed, -naked, -spent*.

1598 F. Rous *Thule* O 2 b, O cease (quoth they) to make an ouerflow Ouer the bounds of our ny-drowned mindes. 1649 Ogilby tr. *Virg. Georg.* II. (1684) 91 Nigh-destroyed Realms. 1768–74 Tucker *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 638 The nigh-spent hour-glass of time. 1864 Tennyson *En. Ard.* 677 On the nigh-naked tree the Robin piped. 1868 Morris *Earthly Par.* (1870) I. i. 125 The nigh-ebbed windless sea In the still evening murmured ceaselessly.

Nigh (nəi), *v.* Now *rare*. Forms: *a.* 3 neh(h)-ȝhenn, nehyen, neȝȝen, 3–5 nehe(n, neghe(n, 4 neghȝe, neȝhe, newhe, 4–5 neȝe; *Sc.* 5 nech(t, 6 nee. *β.* 3–4 neihen, 3–5 neiȝe(n, 4 neiȝhe, neiye, 4–5 (7, 9) neigh(e; 3–5 neye, (4 nay-), 4–5 neyhe, (5 -hhe), neyȝe, (4 -ȝþe), neyghe, 5 *Sc.* neych. *γ.* 4 niȝe, 4–5 nyhe, 5 nyȝhe, nyegh, 4–6 nyghe, 5 *Sc.* nycht, nicht, 5–6 *Sc.* nich, 4–7 nye, 4– nigh. [f. Nigh *adv.* Cf. MDu. *nahen* (rare), OS. *nâhian*, OHG. *nâhên* (MHG. *nâhen, nân*, G. *nahen, nahn*), ON. *nâ* (Sw. *nå*, Da. *naa*), Goth. *nêhwjan*.]

1. *trans.* To go, come, or draw near to (a person, place, etc.); to approach closely. (Common *c* 1300–1500.)

c 1200 Ormin 8077 Swa he stannc þat iwhillc mann Wass himm full laþ to nehhȝhenn. *c* 1220 *Bestiary* 147 De neddre..If be naked man se, ne wile he him noȝt neȝȝen. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 3294 Als þey ryfled landes ay whore, Rome þey neighed ay þe more. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xvii. 58 Feith..nolde nouȝt neighen hym by nyne londes lengthe. 1451 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 216/2 If eny of the said persones be compelled..to nygh youre persone. 1530 Palsgr. 644/1 Or it be nyght we shall nyghe the towne. 15.. *Christ's Kirk* 15 Thay wer sa nyss quhen men thame nicht, Thay squelit lyke ony gaitis. 1654 Gayton *Pleas. Notes* IV. xxii. 274 Not Perseus horse.. Flies like to this (if any dangers nigh him). 1766 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 190/1 Jumping upon deck, and crying out 'She nighs us! she nighs us! she is standing this way!' 1806 J. Grahame *Birds of Scot.* 80 Now she nighs the carnage-freighted keel. 1817 Scott *Harold* IV. ix, Sooner than Walwayn my sick couch should nigh, My choice were, by leach-craft unaided to die.

† b. To approach so as to touch or handle. *Obs.*

c 1200 Ormin 4491 Þatt tu nan oþerr manness wif Ne ȝeorne nohht to neh3henn Wiþþ unnclænnessess fule lusst. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 134 He is þe achate þet atter of sunne ne neihede neuere. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 2422 Þat moght naman o licherie Hir body neght wit wilanie. *Ibid.* 10877 Womman þat neuer neghed man. *c* 1420 *Avow. Arth.* liv, Lye downe preuely hur by, Butte neghe noȝte thou that lady. *c* 1440 *Anc. Cookery* in *Housek. Ord.* (1790) 433 Take a faire urthen pot, and lay hit well with splentes in the bothum, that the flessh neigh hit not. 15.. *Adam Bell* iii. 258 But Cloudesle cleste the apple in twaine, His sonne he did not nee. 1674 Ray *N. C. Words* 34 *To nigh a thing*, to touch it. I did not nigh it: *i.e.* I came not nigh it.

† c. To take or accept. *Obs. rare* —[1].

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1836 He nay[ed] þat he nolde neghe in no wyse Nauþer golde ne garysoun.

† d. To touch or concern (one) closely. *Obs. rare.*

c 1450 Holland *Howlat* 276 Sen it nechit Natur..Thai couth nocht trete but entent of the Temperale. *c* 1489 Caxton *Blanchardyn* 135 The proude pucell..reioysched her self.., by cause that this nyghed her at herte.

2. *It nighs*: † a. It draws near or close to (a certain time). *Obs.*

The *it* appears orig. to be in apposition to the noun.

c 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 121 Nimeð scrifte of ȝewer sennes, hit neiheð heuene riche. *a* 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* xxviii. 84 Me thynketh hit neȝyth domesday. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 2599 Whan it neiȝet niȝt, þei nold no lenger a-bide. *c* 1430 *Syr Gener.* (Roxb.) 6989 Whan he saw it nighed night, Oute of the forest he went a right.

b. It draws *to* or *towards* a time. † Also with *at*.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 14913 Fast it neghes to þe nede For his to suffur passion. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 929 Hit was neȝ at þe niyȝt neȝed þe tyme. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 672 Hit neght to þe night & the none past. *c* 1425 *Seven Sag.* (P.) 331 Hit neght fast toward nyght. 1821 *Blackw. Mag.* X. 124 When it nigh'd to Christmas-tide, I cut the holly's glorious bough.

3. *intr.* To draw or come near *toward* or *to* a person, place, etc.

c 1200 Ormin 12794 Loc, here neh3heþþ towarrd me..An soþ Issraelissne mann. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 11846 Moght nan for stinck negh til his bedd. *a* 1340 Hampole *Psalter* xxxi. 8 Til him þai sall noght neghe. *c* 1400 Maundev. (1839) v. 40 But it is fulle longe sithe that ony Man durste neyhe to the Tour. *c* 1450 tr. *De Imitatione* II. xii. 56 þan all þe seruauntes of þe crosse..shul nye vnto crist þe Juge wiþ gret trust. 1496 *Dives & Pauper* (W. de W.) x. ii. 373/1 Rygbt as theyr bodye by age nygheth to the erth. *a* 1821 Keats *Hyperion* II. 103 The laden heart Is persecuted more..When it is nighing to a mournful house.

transf. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 9977 [She] neghed neuer to wik dede, Bot euer sco liued in maiden-hede.

† b. To pierce *to*, to light *on*, the skin. *Obs. rare.*

a 1400–50 *Alexander* 4182 And quare it neȝes on þe nakid it noyis for euire. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 6403 He shot þrough the shild & the shene maile..; Hit neghit to þe nakid.

4. To go, come, or draw near; to approach.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 1009 Paradis is a..land..þar neuer neghes nede ne night. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 132 An oþer noyse ful newe neȝed biliue. *c* 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) I. 101 No man durste neyhe, but he were purified and i-made all clene. *c* 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* I. xxv. (1869) 16 Þan is a welle closed þer neuere oon dar neighe ne aproche. 1551 Crowley *Pleas. & Payne* 425 Your wycked soule shall neuer nye, But lyue in payne for euermore. 1630 J. Lane *Contn. Sqr.'s T.* (Chaucer Soc.) 140 Looke how fast, at first, the Rebells nyed, so fast and faster now they rann to hide. 1898 T. Harov *Wessex Poems* 71 The first battle nighed on the low Southern side.

b. Of time or events, etc.

c 1275 *O. E. Misc.* 142/42 Þis world is neyh þan ende; Þe deþ neyeþ blyue. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1754 Ny3t neȝed ry3t now with nyes fol mony. 1382 Wyclif *Matt.* iii. 2 Do ȝe penaunce, for the kyngdom of heuens shal neiȝ. 1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 175 Many dayes Passyd, the terme neyghed, and he came not. *c* 1460 *Launfal* 829 The certayn day was nyghyng. 1515 *Scottish Field* 198 in *Chetham Misc.* (1856) Then nighed the night that byde must they nedes. 1595 Spenser *Epithal.* 298 Now day is doen, and night is nighing fast.

† 5. Followed by *nigh* adv. or prep. *Obs.* (Common *c* 1300–1450.)

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 21062 Iohn..sei his ending dai him neghand nei [*Edinb.* neiȝand neich]. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 1606 Whan þemperour of grece neiyed neiȝh rome. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 4863 Þai wete not..þat we be neghit so negh. 1447 Bokenham *Seyntys* (Roxb.) 302 Whan hyr tym neyhyd ny, That ys to seyn whan she shuld deye.

† b. Similarly with *near* adv. and prep. *Obs.* (Very common *c* 1375–1450.)

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 5239 Quen iacob neghed egypte nere. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xlix. (*Thecla*) 218 Syne come a lyone fel & fere & to sla tecle nichit nere. *c* 1425 Wyntoun *Cron.* I. xiii. 1160 Thare is nane dar necht it nere. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 4395 It neghid nere þe tyme of none. 1530 *Hickscorner* 209 A knave catchpoll nyghed us nere.

Hence **Ni·ghing** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1388 Wyclif *Judith* xvi. 10 *marg.*, Bi this thing Judith schulde haue homeli neiȝing to him. 1434 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 435/2 The neghing and dayly prees of the Werre therby to your gode Toune. *c* 1449 Pecock *Repr.* II. viii. 182 A comoun place to which peple may haue her deuout neiȝing and accesse. 1596 Lodge *Marg. Amer.* 15 Midst thy pompe thy nying grave remember. 1818 Keats in *Life & Lett.* (1848) I. 236, I look with hope to the nighing time when I shall have none.

Nigh by, *adv.* (and *a.*) [f. Nigh *adv.* + By: cf. MDu. *nabi* (Du. *nabij*) and see Near by.]

† 1. *adv.* Nearly, almost. *Obs. rare.*

c 1400 Love *Bonavent. Mirr.* xxxiv. (B. N. C. MS.) lf. 83 Not only lered and lewed seculeres, but also religiouse nyh by in alle astates. 1448 Shillingford *Lett.* (Camden) 141 Whiche brigge is of the lengthe, or negh by, and of the same mason werk as London brigge.

2. Near to; near by, near at hand. Also as *adj.*

c 1500 *Melusine* 244 They came & lodged them in the medow nygh by Lucembourgh. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 3 There is a place here nye by, there y[u] shalt stande. 1823 J. F. Cooper *Pioneers* xi, Benjamin..posted himself nigh by. 1826 — *Mohicans* (1829) II. iii. 37 They found the scout awaiting their appearance nigh by. 1889 A. T. Pask *Eyes Thames* 141 The waters of the nigh-by fountain would sound like gruesome whispers.

† **Nighen**, *v. Obs. rare.* In 4 neiȝne, neyȝne. [f. Nigh *adv.* + -en[5]: cf. MHG. *næhenen* (early mod.G. *nähenen, nähnen*, etc).] To come near.

a 1400 *Prymer* (1891) 26 Ympne to alle his halwen.., to folk that neiȝneth to hym. *Ibid.* 53 Streyne thow here chekes that neyȝneth nouȝt to the.

Nigh hand, *adv.* [f. Nigh *adv.* + Hand *sb.* Cf. Near hand.]

1. Near or close at hand; close by.

a 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1100 Þa witan þe þa neh handa wæron, his broðer Heanriȝ to cynge ȝecuran. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 424 Ancre þet naneð nout neih hond hire node, beoð bisie two wummen. *c* 1275 *O. E. Misc.* 85/46 Þat schal cume þe ilke day, and nv he is neyh honde. *c* 1320 *Cast. Love* 444 Pes ne bydyth in no londe Ther as Werre is ny3h-honde. *a* 1400 *Pistill of Susan* 348 An angel is neih honde ..Wiþ a brennynge bronde. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* VII. xx. 244 His castel is here nyhe hand but two myle. 1551 Robinson tr. *More's Utop.* II. (1895) 161 They maye be welcome to good and fyne fare so nyghe hande at the hall. 1588 Parke tr. *Mendoza's Hist. China* 332 They of this towne..fled vnto the mountaines that were nighest hande. 1600 Fairfax *Tasso* VI. xli, The shocke made..woods and mountaines all nie-hand resound. 1667 Milton *P. L.* III. 566 Amongst innumerable Starrs, that shon Stars distant, but nigh hand seemd other Worlds. 1890 W. A. Wallace *Only a Sister?* 80, I shan't forget it till I die, but that's nigh hand now, I'm assured.

b. Governing a *sb.* Near, close to (a person or place).

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 12863 Ihesus to þat water yode, And sant Ihon neghand him stode. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 161 R. rode stilly neihand þe Emperour. *c* 1440 *Generydes* 951 He had them sett Nyhand the town. 1860 Reade *Cloister & H.* lv, So forward, Bon Bec, for my life is not sure nigh hand this town.

2. Almost, nearly.

c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 1494 He þan swoned for sorwe & swelt neiȝhonde. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* XV. XX, Here londe is closid all aboute ny3e honde with woodes and mounteynes. *a* 1450 *Le Morte Arth.* 1591 In poynte had he nevir bene So nyghe hande for to haue be slayne. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VIII*, 123 b, All the peisants.. nye hand to the nomber of vii. or viii. score. 1592 G. Harvey *Four Lett.* iii. 38, I had nigh-hand ouer-skipped the learned allegation in the margine. 1784 *Unfortunate Sensibility* II. 70 He said he could tell me of something that he dared say would go nigh hand to make me well. 1842 Lover *Handy Andy* ix, Wasn't it enough for you to nigh-hand kill one of my horses? 1883 Stevenson *Treas. Isl.* xvi, He came nigh-hand fainting, doctor, when he heard the cry.

So † **Nigh hands** *adv.*, nearly. *Obs. rare* —[1].

c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 438, I mase al marred for mournyng neiȝh hondes.

Nighly (nəi·li), *adv.* Also 1 **néalíce**, 4 **neli**, 6 **nyghly**. [OE. *néalíce* = MDu. *nalike, -lijc, -lic*, OHG. *nâhlîcho* (MHG. *næhlîchen*), ON. *nâligа*: see Nigh *adv.* and -ly[2].]

1. Nearly, almost.

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 207 On sumre stowe he wæs þæt man mid his handa nealice ȝeræcean mihte. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 7700 Oft þe chances sua þai fell, þat neli was þam noght e-mell. 13.. *Ibid.* 19124 (Edinb.), Þe saduceis, namlic þat lede, for þuprising walde neli wede. 1690 Locke *Hum. Und.* II. ix. § 8 A Cube and a Sphere of the same metal, and nighly of the same bigness. 1744 Mitchell in *Phil. Trans.* XLIII. 110 The Cuticle, which is separated, appears nighly of the same Colour on the Outside. 1832 L. Hunt *Sir R. Esher* (1850) 349 This old servant, old and nighly worn out. 1861 Cdl. Wiseman in *Ess. Relig. & Lit.* Ser. I. (1865) 15 Literature had apparently most nighly reached enervation.

† 2. Nearly, closely. *Obs.*

1534 Cromwell in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) I. 377 That thing whiche semed to concerne his grace and his reigne so nyghly. 1589 Cooper *Admon.* 144 Now I must come to that which toucheth bishops most nighlie. 1651 N. Bacon *Disc. Govt. Eng.* II. xxxi. (1739) 142 Especially such of them as most nighly related to Prerogative. 1691 W. Nicholls *Answ. Naked Gospel* 73 To suffer this..for being so nighly related to a wicked Soul.

† 3. Niggardly, sparingly. *Obs. rare.*

1548 Elyot *Auare*,..couetously, nyghly, nygardly. 1579 Spenser *Sheph. Cal.* July 171 Theyr weedes bene not so nighly wore; Such simplesse mought them shend.

Nighness (nəi·nės). ?*Obs.* [f. Nigh *a.* + -ness.]

1. Nearness in place (or time), proximity.

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* XI. i. (Bodl. MS.), Chaunginge of aiere comeþ of ny3enes of þe see. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) I. 159 The ny3henesse of the sonne dothe brenne. 1450–1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* 243 The nynesse of thornes lessyth not the smelle of the flory sshynge rose. 1548 Udall, etc. *Erasm. Par. John* i. 19 By reason of the nynesse of the night. 1581 Mulcaster *Positions* xl. (1887) 224 That the nighnes of his maisters house can be no great vantage. 1615 Day *Festivals* xii. 328 The Neighbourhood, and Nighnes of such as dwell in the selfsame Streete. 1691 Wood *Antiq.* II. *Fasti* 264 The nighness of her Father's house to which ..hindered any communication between them.

2. Nearness *of* kinship, blood, etc.

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* XIII. xxvi. (Bodl. MS.), Bitwene fissche & water is ny3enes to cosynage, for wiþoute water þei mowe not longe lyue. 1432 *Paston Lett.* I. 34 Suche persones as for nieghnesse of blood..owe of reson to be suffred to speke with the King. 1471 *Rolls of Parlt.*

VI. 233/2 The nighnes of blood which they be of unto hym. 1554 KNOX *Faythf. Admon.* G ij, Regardynge nothynge the affinitie nor nyghnese of bloud. 1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* II. x. 227/2 Let them be matched together, that are not seuered by .. nighnesse of affinitie. 1668a J. CHANDLER *Van Helmont's Oriat.* 161 It was not required for one to know another, or judge of the nighness of their kin, by a name.

3. Nearness *of* a possibility. *rare*⁻¹.

1425 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 270/2 Ye nyeghnesse of possibilite of the enheritaunce of ye Croune.

† Ni·ghsome, *a. Obs. rare.* In 4 negh(t)som. [f. NIGH *adv.* + -SOME, used to render L. *propitius*, etc., f. *prope* nigh.] Favourable, gracious. Hence **† Ni·ghsomeness.**

a 1300 *E. E. Psalter* lxiv. 4 Til our quednesses neghtsom saltou [L. *tu propitiaberis*]. *Ibid.* xcviii. 8 Neghsom [L. *propitius*] was tou vnto þa. *Ibid.* cxxix. 4 For at þe neghtsomnes [L. *propitiatio*] es to he.

Night (nəit), *sb.* Forms: *a.* 1 næcht, næht, neaht, 1, 4 naht, (3 nahht), 3–5 naght, (4 naȝt), 3 naught, (5 nauȝt). *β.* 1–4 nyht, 3–5 nyth, 5–6 *Sc.* nycht; 4–5 nyȝt, (4 nyȝtt, -tht), 4–6 nyght, (4 nygth); 1, 4 niht, (3 nihht, nieht), 3–6 nicht, (4 nith); 3–5 niȝt, 5 neght, 5–6 nighte, 3– night. [Common Teut.: OE. *niht, nyht*, and *neaht, næht* fem. = OFris. and MDu. *nacht*, OS. *naht* (MLG. *nacht*), OHG. *naht* (G. *nacht*), ON. *nátt, nótt* (Norw. *natt, nott*, Sw. *natt*, Da. *nat*), Goth. *nahts*. The pre-Teut. stem **nokt-* is widely represented in the cognate languages, as in L. *noct-, nox*, OIr. *nocht*, Gr. *νυκτ-, νύξ*, Skr. *nákta, nákti*, Lith. *naktis*, O.Pruss. *naktin*, OSl. *noshtĭ* (Russ. НОЧЬ). The variation in OE. between *neaht* (Anglian *næht*) and *niht* (for **nięht*) is orig. due to umlaut in some of the cases; in the later language the mutated form finally displaces the other.]

I. 1. The period of darkness which intervenes between day and day; that part of the natural day (of 24 hours) during which no light is received from the sun; the time between evening and morning.

a. c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* ciii. 20 Ðu settes ðeostru & ȝeworden ws naeht. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xiv. 25 Ðiu feorða waccen næhtes cuom [he] to him ȝeongende ofer sæ. *a* 1000 *Boeth. Metr.* xx. 229 Ealle hi scinað ðurh þa sciran neaht. *c* 1200 ORMIN 1694 Þe nahht maȝȝ ec bitacnenn nss All þatt stafflike lare Off moysæsess laȝheboc.

β. Beowulf 115 [Grendel] ȝewat ða neosian, syþan niht becom, hean huses. *c* 888 K. ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxxix. § 13 Sio sunne & se mona habbað todæled betwuht him þone dæg & þa niht. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 207 Næs hweðre nænig man þe þær æfre nihtes tidum dorste on þære ciricean cuman. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* III. 242 Seo niht hæfð seofan dælas fram þære sunnan settlunge oð hire upgang. *c* 1055 *Byrhtferth's Handboc* in *Anglia* VIII. 298 On anum dæge & þære nihte beoð feower & twentiȝ tida. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1682 For þer is a liht,..Ne niht nis ter neauer. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 404 Ihesu crist, that makede mone On þe mirke nith to shine. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 526 Sesounes schal you neuer sese; of sede, ne of heruest..; Ne þe nyȝt, ne þe day. 1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 245 Than wixen the dayes more schorte than they weryn, and the nyght more longyr. 1490 CAXTON *Eneydos* xxiv. 90 Y^e^ nyghte..gyueth triews to alle labours, and by slepyng maketh swete alle peynes and traueylles. 1548 FORREST *Pleas. Poesye* 183 in *Starkey's Eng.* p. xc, The daye in too the nyght shee can conuerte. 1566 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 447 Undir silence of nycht befoir day. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* I. v. 10, I am thy Fathers Spirit, Doom'd for a certaine terme to walke the night. 1638 JUNIUS *Paint. Ancients* 166 Images of young men..with torches in their hands, for the use of the night. 1711a BUDGELL *Spect.* No. 425 ₱ 3, I reflected..upon the sweet Vicissitudes of Night and Day. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* I. 102 Ev'n silent night proclaims my soul immortal. 1821 SHELLEY *Adonais* xxi, Evening must usher night, night urge the morrow. 1890 HALL CAINE *Bondman* II. vii, The night of the northern land had closed down.

b. In comparisons, *as black, dark*, etc., *as night.*

c 1400 *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* 151/244 Thow shalt go as derk as ny3t, And þerfore þou most haue condell ly3t. 1595 SHAKS. *John* IV. i. 15 Yong Gentlemen would be as sad as night Onely for wantonnesse. 1596 — *Merch. V.* v. i. 86 The motions of his spirit are dull as night. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* II. 308 His look Drew audience and attention still as Night. 1795 J. BENSON in *Mem.* (1892) 284 They were all as silent and serious as night. 1821 BYRON *Juan* III. lxxv, Her eyelashes, though dark as night, were tinged. 1893 EARL DUNMORE *Pamirs* I. 4 Their hair..was as black as night.

c. *poet.* Personified as a female being or deity.

1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* III. ii. 387 They..must for aye consort with blacke browd night. 1632 MILTON *Penseroso* 121 Thus night oft see me in thy pale career. 1742 POPE *Dunc.* IV. 630 The sable Throne behold Of Night primæval and of Chaos old. 1788 COLERIDGE *To Autumnal Moon*, Mild Splendour of the various-vested Night. 1820 SHELLEY *Sensit. Pl.* II. 11 Like the lamps of the air when Night walks forth. 1845 LONGF. *The Day is done* i, The darkness Falls from the wings of Night.

d. The darkness which prevails during this time; the dark.

1855 TENNYSON *Maud* I. 1. iv, I heard The shrill-edged shriek..divide the shuddering night. 1879 E. ARNOLD *Lt. Asia* IV. (1883) 102 Then, lightly treading where those sleepers lay, Into the night Siddârtha passed.

2. In fig. contexts or uses.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* John ix. 4 Cymeð næht ðonne næniȝ monne mæȝe ȝewyrca. *c* 1200 ORMIN 1904 Crist ras upp.. Forr dæþess nahht to wannsenn. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 89 For god ledde hem fro helle niȝt To paradises lene liȝt. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 3560 Þe man þat sua wit eld es dight His day es turned him to night. 1382 WYCLIF 1 *Thess.* v. 5 We ben not of nyȝt, nethir of derknessis. 1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* v. i. 314 Yet hath my night of life some memorie; My wasting lampes some fading glimmer left. 1593 — *Rich. II*, III. ii. 218 Let them bence away, From Richards Night, to Bullingbrookes faire Day. *a* 1658 LOVELACE *Poems* (1659) 9 Some Ethiopian Queen,.. Whose ugly Night seem'd masked with days Skreen. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneid* IV. 902 Dido ..clos'd her Lids at last, in endless Night. 1720 J. HUGHES *Siege Damascus* v. (1777) 68 Look how he bleeds! Let's lay him gently down; Night gathers fast upon him. 1782 PRIESTLEY *Corrupt. Chr.* I. Pref. 5 Night..has for many centuries obscured our holy religion. 1820 SHELLEY *Arethusa* 66 Where the shadowy waves Are as green as the forest's night. 1847 TENNYSON *Princ.* IV. 470 Robed in the long night of her deep hair.

3. The time at which darkness comes on; the close or end of daylight.

c 1205 LAY. 1680 Þat com to þere nihte, þat lengre heo ne mighte. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 2669 So was bi-twenen hem a fiht Fro þe morwen ner to þe niht. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 2669 At morne, when þou sese lyght, Thynk als þou sal dygh ar nyght. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 484 Hit was nyȝe at þe naȝt & Noe þen sechez. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* I. 255 Ȝhit this gud wiff held Wallace till the nycht. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* III. ii. 275 Since night you lon'd me; yet since night you left me. 1671 MILTON *P. R.* II. 260 It was the hour of night, when thus the Son Commun'd in silent walk. 1703 ROWE *Ulyss.* IV. i, Twice have I sought since Night To pass in private.

4. With *a* and *pl.* One of the intervals of darkness between two days.

a. Used with numerals to mark duration or lapse of time.

In OE. and early ME. the singular is used in place of the plural: cf. FORTNIGHT and SE'VE)NNIGHT.

a 900 CYNEWULF *Crist* 542 Bidon ealle þær..in þære torhtan byriȝ tyn niht. *c* 900 *O. E. Chron.* (Parker MS.) an. 871 Dæs ymb iii niht ridon ii eorlas up. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1004 Se here com þa to Þeodforda..& þær binnon ane niht wæron. *c* 1205 LAY. 4506 Nænede heo bute þreo nihte feorst faren þat heo scolde. *c* 1275 *Serving Christ* 3 in *O. E. Misc.* 90 Ne beo we siker of þe lif on-lepy nauht. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 12926 Iesus..fasted..fourti night and fourti dais. *c* 1325 *Chron. Eng.* 157 in Ritson *Metr. Rom.* II. 276 Ther spac an ern [a] prophecie Thre dawes and thre nyht. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* IV. 588 Ek wonder last but nine nyght nevere in towne. 1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 153 He makyd the cite of Rome afyre to sette, and Sewyn dayes and Sewyn nyghtes to brente. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* IV. xxvi. 155 Within seuen nyghtes his damoysel brought hym to an erles place. 1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* II. iii. 18 Now will he lie ten nights awake carning the fashion of a new dublet. 1634 W. TIRWHYT tr. *Balzac's Lett.* 352 One night in a bad Host-house were sufficient to finish the worke of my Death. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IX. 63 The space of seven continu'd Nights he rode. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* VI. 205 Twice ten tempestuous nights I rolled. 1817 SHELLEY *Rev. Islam* XII. xxxviii, Three days and nights we sailed. 1891 *Daily News* 3 Mar. 3/1 A man was almost always five nights in bed before being called upon to spend a night out.

b. Used to mark an occasion or point of time.

Also freq. with defining term, as *Christmas, Midsummer, ball, wedding night*, etc.; see these words.

c 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* I. xxxiii. (1890) 90 Æȝhwelce niht ofer his byrȝenne heofonlic leoht wæs æteawed. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1110 On þære fiftan nihte on Maies monðe, ætwyde se mona on æfen beorhte scinende. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3142 De tende dai it snilde ben laȝt, And hol]den in ðe tende naȝt. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 2712 Þe trinite he sagh..And gestend þam wit him þat night. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxxvi. (*Baptist*) 1168 Þare þai wak þat nicht for sancte Ihonis sak. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 1084 Þe same niȝt in his slepe Seraphis aperis. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xxvi. 1 Off Februar the fyftene nycht..I lay in till a trance. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 207 Wherefore he came on a night and declared all this to the Queene. 1653 tr. *Carmeni's Nissena* 39 Who by reason of his last nights waking..had a very sore fit of a Feaver. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 15 ₱ 7 The missing of an Opera the first Night. 1754 *Med. Obs. & Inq.* (1776) I. v. 37 The blisters which had been laid above her ancles the night before. *a* 1781 WATSON *Philip III* (1793) I. i. 79 Albert..arrived on the same night at Bruges. 1890 *Law Times Rep.* LXIII. 765/1 The defendant only intended to represent the play on two nights.

c. As a division or period of time. Also with adjs. denoting the kind of weather prevailing or other natural feature.

c 1200 ORMIN 1901 Marrchess nahhtess wannsenn a33 & Marrchess daȝhess waxenn. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 523 Hwenne nyhtes cumeþ longe & bryngeþ forstes starke & stronge. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 8684 With myche dole vppon dayes & on derke nightes Sum walt into wodenes. *a* 1568 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xlvi. 23 In moneless nichtis it is na mowis. 1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* IV. ii. 140 It hath bin the longest night That ere I watch'd. 1603 — *Meas. for M.* II. i. 139 This will last out a night in Russia When nights are longest there. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* X. 680 Else had the Spring Perpetual smiled..Equal in Days and Nights. 1715 tr. *Gregory's Astron.* (1726) I. 64 To explain the Variety of the Days and Nights, and the Seasons of the Year thence arising. 1818 BYRON *Juan* I. cxxxv, 'Twas, as the watchmen say, a cloudy night. 1866 *Chambers's Encycl.* III. 86/2 Summer and autumn nights are freest of clouds. 1897 MARY KINGSLEY *W. Africa* 102 To my taste there is nothing so fascinating as spending a night out in an African forest.

transf. 1803 *Naval Chron.* XV. 154 The extra [working-time] was divided into nights and tides:—a night consisted of five hours, and a tide of an hour and an half. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVI. 326/1 The longest night [lasts] from the 19th of November to the 26th of January, which is two months and ten days.

d. With adjectives, denoting the quality of rest obtained, or the manner in which the time is spent. (Cf. GOOD-NIGHT.)

1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III*, I. iv. 2, O I haue past a miserable night, So full of fearefull Dreames. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* v. 31 Such night till this I never pass'd. 1671 — *P. R.* II. 460 A Crown..Brings dangers, troubles, cares, and sleepless nights. 1775 *Med. Obs. & Inq.* (1784) VI. v. 38, I afterwards passed..a good night. 1887 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 12 Feb. 318/2 He had had a restless night, with intervals of sleep. 1894 *Lancet* 3 Nov. 1027 He had a very good night.

e. Phr. *To make* (or *have*) *a night of it* (or *† on't*): To spend the night in enjoyment or revelling. (Cf. MAKE *v.* 18 c.)

[1602 *Twelfth Nt. Merriment* (1893) 4 Youle make as good a night of it heere as if you had beene at all the houses in the towne.] 1693 CONGREVE *Old Bach.* IV. ix, I'm resolved to make a night on't. 1701 CIBBER *Love makes Man* I. i, Well! and didst thou make a Night on't, Boy? 1775 SHERIDAN *Duenna* III. i, I' faith, we'll have a night of it. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* IV. vi. ₱ 8 He is going to make a night of it. 1885 *Scribner's Mag.* XXX. 393/2 Friends and neighbours also made a day of it, and then also a night of it, in honour of the departed.

5. With possessive pronouns: The particular night on which a person performs some duty († receives visitors), etc. (In quot. 1838 = benefit night.) Also *night out*, the evening on which a domestic servant is free to go out.

1525 *Aberd. Burgh Rec.* (1844) 112 I'personis..to be gottin amangis the haill toun, euerie ilk man his nycht about. 1760 C. JOHNSTON *Chrysal* II. i. 7 The footman answered, that it was not his lady's night, and she was not at home. 1814 *New Brit. Theatre* I. 530 What glory might not any lady..acqnire for herself were she..to succeed in getting up a Masque..on one of her nights. 1838 DICKENS *Nich. Nick.* xxiii, Whenever the announce bills came out for her annual night.

b. The kind of night one has had, or usually has. *rare.*

1667 MILTON *P. L.* v. 93 Thus Eve her Night Related, and thus Adam answered sad. 1776 JOHNSON *Let.* 21 Oct. in *Boswell*, My nights are very restless and tiresome. 1847 C. BRONTE *J. Eyre* xxviii, My night was wretched, my rest broken.

II. In adverbial phrases.

6. a. *Night and day*, always, continually.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Mark v. 5 Symle næht & dæge in hyrȝennum & morum wæs. *c* 1200 ORMIN 4694 Beo þu ȝeornfull nihht & daȝȝ To follȝhenn Godess wille. *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* 20 Alde feond..scheoteð niht & dei his earewen. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 10421 Sco..weped and mornd night and dai. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 104 Bot nyht and day as I am now I schal alwey be such to yow. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 175 He puttis..gude wache and warde apon him nycht and day. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* E ij b, Thynke what I say, my sonne, nyght and day. 1530 *Hickscorner* 47, I ever with them went..Night and daye towarde the way of ryghtwysenes. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Ps.* I. i, He blessed is who ..night and day..calls [God's law] to marking mind. 1828 MOIR *Mansie Wauch* xxii, Maybe—..rowing night and day [he] got home in a safe skin.

b. *Night (n)or day*, by night or by day.

13.. *Cursor M.* 19715 (Gött.), Þair redis þarfor gun þai rune, ..Night or day to waite þe time. *a* 1450 LYDG. *Merita Missæ* in *Lay Folks Mass Bk.* 392 Which nyght nor day ne cesseth nought. 1707 FREIND *Peterborow's Cond. Sp.* 205 My Lord never rested night or day, till he came to Tortosa.

† c. *The night*, during the night, by night. *Obs.*

1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III*, IV. iv. 118 Forbeare to sleepe the night, and fast the day. 1597 — 2 *Hen. IV*, IV. v. 126 Haue you a Ruffian that will sweare?..Reuell the night?

7. a. *All*, or *the whole, night* (*long*), throughout the night.

c 1205 LAY. 29309 Þa burh born alle niht. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1002 Þat alle naȝt [so] much niye hade no mon in his hert. 1382 WYCLIF *Isa.* lxii. 6 Al dai and al nyȝt euermar thei shul not be stille. *c* 1450 *Bk. Curtasye* 505 in *Babees Bk.*, A morter of wax..þat alle nyȝt brennes in bassyn clere. 1535 COVERDALE *Gen.* xix. 2 Turne in.. into youre seruauntes house, and tarye all night. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* Prol. 5 The beimes of the Sone, al Scotland throuch, the hail nychte ar sein, the space of twa monethis. 1600 DYMMOK *Ireland* (1843) 41 The rebells..never ceased to disquiet our men, the whole night longe. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IV. 603 She all night long her amorons descant sung. 1754 *Med. Obs. & Inq* (1776) I. xiii. 111 He continued the whole night totally blind, and without a wink of sleep. 1802 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Moral T.* (1816) I. i. 5 He sat all night apart from the company. 1878 TENNYSON *The Revenge* viii, Ship after ship, the whole night long, their high-built galleons came.

b. So (*All*) *the long night.*

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 807 Bot stylly þer in þe strete .. þay wolde lenge þe long naȝt & logge þeroute. 1559 W. CUNNINGHAM *Cosmogr. Glasse* 36 But turne round about the pole, all the longe nyght.

III. In prepositional phrases.

8. † a. *On night*, by night. *Obs.* (Cf. A-NIGHT.)

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xxviii. 13 Cueðende cuoðað ȝie þætte ðeȝnas his on næht cuomun. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* III. 242 Steorran æteowiað swilce on nihte. *c* 1200 ORMIN 2960 þatt godess enngell comm o nihht Till Josæp þær he sleppte. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1781 Laban hem bliscede, & on niȝt wente a-ȝen-ward. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 2973 Bot godd on night com to þe king in slepe. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 243 Art þou my perle þat I haf playned, Regretted by myn one, on nyȝte? *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* ix. (*Bartholomew*) 60 A hundre syis one day kneland, & als oft one nichte prayand. *c* 1450 *Bk. Curtasye* 506 in *Babees Bk.*, To sane þo chambur on nyȝt for fyre. 1508 KENNEDIE *Flyting w. Dunbar* 298 That cumis on nycht in visionn in my sleip. 1567 *Satir. Poems Reform.* vii. 66 Bludy bouchcouris and throtcutters, on nycht.

b. *By night*, during the night, in the night-time. Also *by night and day*, always, at any time. (Cf. By *prep.* 19 b.)

c 1220 *Bestiary* 63 A welle..ðat springeð ai hoðe bi niȝt and hi dai. 13.. *Cursor M.* 6749 (Gött.), If..þe dede be don hi night, þe smyter þan sal haue na plight. 1340 *Ayenb.* 52 Þet uolk þet late louieþ to sonpi and to waki be niȝte. 1382 Wyclif *Josh.* ii. 2 Men hen goon yn hythir bi nyȝt. 1466 *Anc. Cal. Rec. Dublin* (1889) 325 For perayles that hen imynent of horsemen hy nyght. 1512 *Act* 4 *Hen. VIII*, c. 20 *Preamble*, Archbold with other xl. outlawes ..come by night to..Penreth Cotes. 1590 Shaks. *Com. Err.* IV. ii. 60 Time comes stealing on by night and day. 1667 Milton *P. L.* III. 514 Jacob..Dreaming by night under the open Skie. 1770 Goldsm. *Des. Vill.* 230 A bed by night, a chest of drawers by day. 1820 Shelley *Hymn Merc.* lxxxii, A joy by night or day—for those endowed With art and wisdom. 1885 *Law Times Rep.* LIII. 53/2 A tow which is being towed with a long scope of hawser by night.

c. *At night*, at nightfall, in the evening. Also used to designate the hours from six p.m. to midnight. (Cf. 9 b.)

13..*Sir Gaw. & Gr. Kut.* 1407 What nwez so þay nome, at nat quen þay metten. *c* 1375 *Cursor M.* 3931 (Fairf.), Iacob lay him stille atte nat. *c* 1450 *Bk. Curtasye* 487 in *Babees Bk.*, Þo lorde schalle skyft hys gowne at nyȝt. 1523 Ld. Berners *Froiss.* I. cccxix. 733 The wednisday at night that ye batayle was the next day. 1605 Shaks. *Mach.* III. i. 42 Let euery man be master of his time Till seuen at Night. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* IV. 275 They give their Bodies due Repose at Night. 17.. in Herd *Coll. Songs* (1776) II. 159 By there came twa gentlemen At twelve o'clock at night. 1838 Dickens *O. Twist* xxvii, At night, Oliver read a chapter or two from the Bible.

d. (See Overnight, To-night.)

9. † a. *On nights*, by night (habitually). Also *o'* and *in nights*. *Obs.* (Cf. A-nights.)

1127–31 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1127 Soðfeste men heom kepten on nihtes. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* VII. 506 Fra Carleill all on nychtis ryde, And in covert on dayis byde. 1388 *Wyclif's Sel. Wks.* III. 488 Men mowe say þer Pater noster mede-fully under þo cope of heven, as Crist did in þo hille in nyȝttus. 1472 in *Surtees Misc.* (1890) 24 A ryotter on nyghtes. 1597 Shaks. 2 *Hen. IV*, II. i. 83, I will ride thee o' Nights, like the Mare. *Ibid.* iv. 252 When wilt thou leaue fighting on dayes, and foyning on nights..? 1708 *Bickerstaff Detected* in *Swift's Wks.* (1751) IV. 210 A pack of Rascals that walk the Streets on Nights. [1823 Lamb *Etia* Ser. II. *Amicus Redivivus*, I have nothing but water in my head o' nights since this frightful accident.]

b. *At nights*: (cf. prec. and 8 c).

1581 Rich *Farew.* (1846) 198 At nightes she was lodged in her father's chamber. 1720 *Humourist* 9 At Nights..they had the Shelter of a Barn. 1793 Smeaton *Edystone L.* § 283 Having first established, that they should quit the work at nights. *Ibid.* § 304 Which, indeed, except at nights, would generally be the case. 1883 J. W. Sherer *At Home & in India* 6 The stout, beaming man now appears quite distinctly—coming from somewhere at nights in a post-chaise.

c. *Of nights*: (see Of 52 b).

10. *On* (*upon*), *in*, or *of the night*, by night, during the night. Now only with *in*.

c 1205 Lay. 5601 Al makeden heore faren alse ha wolden a þare niht faren. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 6196 Drightin self þam ledd þair wai..Wit firen piler on [*v.rr.* apon, vpon] þe night. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxx. (*Theodera*) 288 To þat þing has he na sycht þat thocht or don is in þe nycht. *c* 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) xxv. 117 Þis charbuncle lightnez all þe chaumbre on þe nyght. *c* 1440 *Alph. Tales* 115 He was tempid with grete ludificacions on þe nyght. *a* 1533 Ld. Berners *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) E e vij b, She eateth her nothing on the dai nor slepeth in the nyght. 1559 W. Cunningham *Cosmogr. Glasse* 162 When you will verifie your nedle.., you shall use the healpe of the Sunne (and on the night) of some fixed sterre. 1590 Shaks. *Mids. N.* III. i. 253 There sleepes Tytania, sometime of the night. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 94 Thair heid..thay neuir couered in the nycht. 1753 Chambers *Cycl. Supp.*, *Night angling*, a method of catching..shy fish in the night. 1855 Wharton *Crim. Law U. S.* 598 The breaking and entering must be in the night.

IV. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

11. a. Objective (and obj. genitive), as *night-bringing*, *-cheering*, *-dispersing*, *-slayer*, *-swaying*.

1611 Cotgr., *Nuicteux*, nightly, *night-bringing. 1824 Fenby *Lover's Good Night* vii, Softly, with *night-cheering beams, Yon moon rides thro' the cloudless sky. 1851 C. L. Smith tr. *Tasso* v. lxxxv, When the *night-dispersing dawn arose. 1839–52 Bailey *Festus* 137 Multitude of days Immortal as thy years, O *nightslayer! *c* 1600 Chalkhill *Thealma & Cl.* (1683) 19 *Night-swaying Morpheus clothes the East in black.

b. Instrumental, as *night-clad*, *-cloaked*, *-cradled*, *enshrouded*, *hid*, etc.

1839–52 Bailey *Festus* 10, I see the stars, *night-clad, all gathering In long and sad procession. 1851 H. Melville *Whale* xxix, To visit the *night-cloaked deck. 1818 Shelley *Woodman* 18 The dull ear Of the *night-cradled earth. 1859 Dickens *T. Two Cities* II. xxiii, Along the *night-enshrouded roads. 1601 *Death Earl Huntington* III. iv. in Hazl. *Dodsley* VIII. 279 This cage of *night-hid owls, light-flying birds. 1850 Lynch *Theoph. Trinal* v. 79 Her beams come to a *night-mantled home. 1849 Longf. *Lighthouse* v, It stands..the *night-o'ertaken mariner to save. 1727–46 Thomson *Summer* 1681 Whose mournful chambers hold (So *night-struck fancy dreams) the yelling ghost. 1776 Mickle tr. *Camoens' Lusiad* 330 By *night-veiled art proud Sylves falls his prey. 1881 H. Phillips tr. *Chamisso's Faust* 21 Yon night-veiled, hidden land of gloom. 1652 Benlowes *Theoph.* Pref., Let them,..being *night wildred in their Intellects, prosecute their sensuality. 1873 E. Brennan *Witch of Nemi* 118 Flames that made crimson all the *night-wrapt sky.

c. Similative, as *night-black*, *-dark*, *-haired*, *-like*, *-swift*.

a 1591 H. Smith *Serm.* (1622) 467 As if we were *night-blacke rauens. 1817 Shelley *Rev. Islam* I. lii, On night-black columns poised. 1872 Tennyson *Gareth & Lynette* 1346 High on a nightblack horse, in nightblack arms. 1879 E. Arnold *Lt. Asia* 39 The *night-dark steed. 1839–52 Bailey *Festus* 100 My *night-haired love I so sweet she was. 1821 Shelley *Adonais* (cancelled) 19 His dark and *night-like eyes. 1590 Shaks. *Mids. N.* III. ii. 379 *Night-swift Dragons cut the clouds full fast.

12. Adverbial, in sense of 'by night', 'during the night': a. With pres. pples., as *night-ambling*, *-blooming*, *-blowing*, *-contending*, etc.

1600 Fairfax *Tasso* IV. xxvii, Of their *night ambling dame the Syrians prated. 1835 Linoley *Introd. Bot.* (1839) 476 The flowers of the *night-blooming Cereus. 1866 Shuckard *Brit. Bees* 13 Our clients have nothing to do with these night-blooming flowers. 1804 Charlotte Smith *Conversations*, etc. II. 91 The..splendid Cactus Grandiflora, usually called the *night blowing Cereus. 1871 Kingsley *At Last* xvii, The Umbrella Rock, capped with..night-blowing Cereus. 1817 Shelley *Pr. Athan.* I. 71 Tempest's war Is levied by the *night-contending winds. 17.. Ramsay *Lure* 4 *Night-drinking sots [were] counting their lawin. 1714 Gay *Sheph. Week, Saturday* 57 Will a' wisp misleads *night-faring clowns O'er hills. *a* 1887 Jefferies *Field & Hedgerow* (1889) 228 There is no *night-feeding bird to feed the fern-owl's young. 1824 Symmons *Agamemnon* 33 Dewy cover of *night freezing skies. 1632 Lithgow *Trav.* I. 7 These *night-gaping foes, are trampled vnder foote. 1639 S. Du Verger tr. *Camus' Admir. Events* 270 Who like vnlucky *night-going fires lead him to precipitations. 1801 Lamb *Poems*, etc. (1884) 205 *Night-riding Incubi Troubling the fantasy. 1663 Dryden *Rival Ladies* I. iii, The lady..is seized by some *night-robbing villains. 1811 Shelley *St. Irvyne* II. i, The *night-rolling breath of the blast. *a* 1631 Donne *Holy Sonn.* iii. 9 Th' hydroptic drunkard, and *night-scouting thief. 1598 Marston *Satires* I. 61 *Night-shining Phœbe knowes what was begat—A monstrous Centaure, illegitimate. 1648 Wilkins *Math. Magic* II. xi, These *Noctilucæ* or Night-shining Bodies. 1802 Bingley *Anim. Biog.* (1813) III. 424 The night-shining Nereis. These minute creatures inhabit every sea. 1857 Holland *Bay Path* xxxiii. 414 The *night-straying cow stumbled among them. 1642 H. More *Song of Soul* II. i. II. xi, His glowing sight..all *night-trifling sprights doth chase away with fear. 1596 Shaks. 1 *Hen. IV*, I. i. 87 Some *Night-tripping-Faiery had exchanged..our children. 1667 Milton *P. L.* V. 40 Where silence yields To the *night-warbling Bird.

b. With verbal sbs., as *night-angling*, *-breaking*, *-feeding*, *-firing*, *-fishing*, etc. (Cf. 13.)

1704 *Dict. Rust.*, **Night angling*; for this Angling in the Night-time, take two great Garden-worms. *a* 1625 Sir H. Finch *Law* (1636) 217 Burglary is the *night-breaking of an house, with an intent to steale or kill. 1845 Blaine in Youatt *Dog* ii. 37 More nutriment is derived from *night-feeding than by day. 1876 Voyle & Stevenson *Milit. Dict.* 82/2 *Collimator*, an instrument for laying guns and mortars .. for *night-firing. 1653 Walton *Angler* 126 You are to know, there is *night as well as day fishing for a Trout. 1802 Daniel *Field Sports* II. 290 Night-fishing with a fly is best from May to the end of August. 1890 L. C. D'Oyle *Notches* 55 That *night-herding was becoming unpleasant work. 1862 *N. Syd. Soc. Year-bk. Med. for* 1861, 173 Some Results of *Night-nursing. 1838 W. Bell *Dict. Law Scot.*, **Night Poaching.* 1850 R. G. Cumming *Hunter's Life S. Afr.* (1902) 139/1 This wound up my elephant *night-shooting. 1559 Ascham in *Babees Bk.* (1868) 361 Beware of secrett corners and *night sitting vp, the two nurses of mischiefe. 1644 Milton *Areopag.* Wks. 1851 IV. 416 Excus'd in the genial cups of an Academick night-sitting. 1835 Longf. *Outre-Mer* (1857) 375 This *night-travelling is..far from disagreeable.

c. With ppl. adjs., as *night-born*, *-fallen*, *-folded*, *-foundered*, *-haunted*, *-scented*, *-swollen*.

1610 Nichols *England's Eliza* v, Error's *night-borne children. 1742 Young *Nt. Th.* IX. 2090 My solemn night-born adjuration hear. 1839–52 Bailey *Festus* 106 The cold pure radiance of the night-born light. 1798 Bloomfield *Farmer's Boy*, *Winter* 333 And *night-fall'n Lambs require the Shepherd's care. 1828 Moore *Ill Omens* iii, She..kiss'd off its night-fallen dew. 1820 Shelley *Prometh. Unb.* III. iii. 101 *Night-folded flowers Shall suck unwithering hues in their repose. 1634 Milton *Comus* 483 Som one like us *night-founder'd here. 1667 — *P. L.* I. 204 The Pilot of some small night-founder'd Skiff. *a* 1593 Marlowe *Edw. II* (Rtldg.) 191/2 The people..cannot brook a *night-grown mushroom. 1859 Ld. Lytton *Wanderer* (ed. 2) 224 A wild *night-haunted track. 1849 Balfour *Man. Bot.* § 687 *Hesperis tristis*, or *night-scented stock. *Ibid.*, The white flowers of *Lychnis vespertina* are also night-scented. 1818 Keats *Endym.* I. 215 Are not our lowing heifers sleeker than *Night-swollen mushrooms?

13. Attributive, in the senses 'of night', 'belonging or pertaining to the night', 'existing, prevailing, taking place, etc., during the night', as *night-air*, *-alarm*, *-attack*, *-blast*, *-brawl*, etc.

1813 W. S. Walker *Gustavus Vasa* 145 Breaking the *night-air's still repose. 1861 Flor. Nightingale *Nursing* ii. (ed. 2) 13 Another extraordinary fallacy is the dread of night air. 1606 Shaks. *Tr. & Cr.* I. iii. 171 Now play him ..Arming to answer in a *night-Alarme. 1693 Congreve in *Dryden's Juvenal* xi. (1697) 295 If you wou'd be free from Night-alarms, You must seem Fond. 1893 F. Adams *New Egypt* 242 The most difficult and dangerous operation in warfare—a *night attack. 1813 Scott *Trierm.* III. viii, The *night-blast that wildly bore Its course along the hill. *a* 1661 Holyday *Juvenal* vi. (1673) 91 And so scape *Night-brawls. 1774 Mason *Poems* 169 (Jod.), Not a *night breeze wakes to blow. 1858 J. Martineau *Stud. Chr.* 59 The night-breeze on his brow. *c* 1616 Fletcher & Mass. *Thierry & Theod.* III. ii, They sit Upon my heart like *night charms, black and heavy. 18.. Campbell *Soldier's Dream* Wks. (1837) 100 The *night-cloud had lowered. 1844 Dickens *Mart. Chuz.* xi, The *night-coach had a punctual character. 1639 Drumm. of Hawth. *Consid. to Parl.* Wks. (1711) 187 At all Assemblies, especially the *Night-conventions. *a* 1661 Holyday *Juvenal* (1673) 42 Now view *night-dangers, and the dreadful height Of our house-tops. 1645 Rutherford *Tryal & Tri. Faith* (1845) 202 This is like the expelling of *night-darkness out of the whole body of the air, by the presence of the sun. 1665 Dryden *Ind. Emp.* III. ii, Sleeping Flowers beneath the *night-dew sweat. 1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) I. 366 Sleeping in the open air.., while the serenados, or night-dews, were gathering around him. *a* 1300 *E. E. Psalter* xc. 5 (Egerton), Noght salton drede for *niht-drede. 1677 Gale *Crt. Gentiles* III. 58 The Pagan Diviners had their *night-dreams or day-visions whereby they divined things. 1894 *Daily News* 12 Sept., The first occasion on which he has done *night-duty alone. 1863 Longf. *Wayside Inn*, *Landlord's Tale* 43 Beneath, in the churchyard, lay the dead, In their *night-encampment on the hill. 1637 Rutherford *Lett.* (1862) I. lxxxviii. 226 Dreams..and *night-fancies of a miserable life of sin. 1830 Scott *Ayrshire Trag.* II. i, You..saw, perhaps, the *night-flight which began it. 1582 Stanyhurst *Æneis* IV. (Arb.) 115 Thus sayd, through *nightfog he vannisht. 1811 Scott *Don Roderick* II. ii, The river's night-fog rolling damp. 1576 Baker *Jewell of Health* 64 The water also deliuereth the *night formes of Venus in sleepe. 1816 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* xxvi. (1818) II. 462 We not unfrequently have sharp *night-frosts in summer. 1798 Sotheby tr. *Wieland's Oberon* (1826) I. 93 Where chill the *night-gale blows. 1633 Ford *'Tis Pity* v. v, Hath your new sprighthly lord Found out a trick in *night-games? 1820 Keats *Isabella* xxxvi, Hoarse *night-gusts sepulchral briars among. 1817 *Edin. Rev.* XXIX. 9 In the..*night-halts of her luxurious progress. 1821 Bryant *Ages* xiv, Like the *night-heaven, when clouds are black with rain. 1669 Sturmy *Mariner's Mag.* II. x. 77 The upper half of the Circle..is the Day-hours, and the lower .. half is the *Night-hours. 1830 Mrs. Hemans *Charmed Picture* Poems (1849) 459/1 The night-hour's haunted calm. 1849 C. Bronte *Shirley* xviii, Another disturbance broke the *night-hush. *a* 1649 Drumm. of Hawth. *Hist. Jas. III*, Wks. (1711) 41 By *Night-journeys, shifting from Place to Place. 1861 Clough *Mari Magno* 918 Swift the *night-mail conveyed his missive on. 1884 Pae *Eustace* 110 The night mail from the north reached its destination in Edinburgh. *a* 1806 Fox *Jas. II*, iii. 212 After the disastrous *night march from Killerne. 1849 Grote *Greece* II. liii. (1862) IV. 509 He advanced by a night-march to the temple. 1614 Purchas *Pilgrimage* VIII. v. (ed. 2) 760 The many faults (as they report) of Mariners in priuate truckings and *night-marts. 1870 Bryant *Iliad* II. XXIV. 407 They found the guard engaged With their *night-meal. 1662 Hibbert *Body Div.* I 252 The Protestants in their *night-meetings committed most abominable uncleanesse. 1853 Kingsley *Hypatia* xi, The..sun rose swiftly through the dim *night-mist of the desert. 1608 Shaks. *Per.* V. iii. 70 Pure Dian..! I Will offer *night-oblations to thee. 1632 Heywood *Four Prentices* I. Wks. 1874 II. 220 Making the darke *night-pathes shine bright as day. 1693 Dryden *Juvenal* i. (1697) 8 When *Night-performance holds the place of Merit. 1677 Gale *Crt. Gentiles* III. 81 Content not thy self with..dark spurious, false, *night-philosophie. 1852 Grote *Greece* II. lxx. IX. 124 Taking up their *night-post at a distance..from the Grecian position. 1654 Gayton *Pleas. Notes.* IV. xx. 268 Witches are confin'd in their *night rambles to egge shels. 1729 Law *Serious C.* xxiii. (1732) 470 It should be a constant part of his *night recollection. 1726 Pope *Odyss.* XX. 172 In vain the Queen the *night-refection prest. 1607 Shaks. *Tim.* IV. i. 17 Domesticke awe, *Night-rest and Neighbourhood. 1590 — *Mids. N.* III. ii. 5 How now mad spirit, What *night-rule now about this haunted groue? 1529 More *Dyalogue* III. Wks. 240/1 Other could we not come by, whome we mighte further examine of that *nyghte scole. 1894 S. Fiske *Holiday Stories* (1900) 136 Will you go to night-school and learn? 1650 Stapylton *Strada's Low C. Wars* III. 61 At..these *night-sermons, tumults were raised. 1594 in Nichols *Progr. Q. Eliz.* (1823) III. 284 All requisite service, be it *night-service or otherwise,..to all ladis. 1618 *Barnevelt's Apol.* G a b, Out yee Popish knaues, sonnes of darkenesse, and *night shadows. 1847 Mary Howitt *Ballads* 380 Till the night-shadows dimmed the glen. 1629 Maxwell tr. *Herodian* (1635) 302 Chariot-races, Stage-plaies, Feasts and *Night-shewes. 1865 Mrs. Whitney *Gayworthys* iii. (1879) 32 Waiting in the *night-shine at the open door. 1605 Shaks. *Mach.* V. v. 11 My sences would have cool'd To heare a *Night-shrieke. 1647 Stapylton *Juvenal* 41 Let me live where no night-shrieks terrify. 1848 Mrs. Crowe (*title*) The *Night Side of Nature. 1855 G. Brimley *Ess.*, *Tennyson* 99 The night-side of the soul. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* VIII. ix. (Bodl. MS.), Þese signes..that beþ watery and erthy beþ colde and femule and *nyȝt signes. 1790 Beatson *Nav. & Mil. Mem.* II. 409 A very gross defect or impropriety in the *night-signals at present in use. 1812 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 2 At about ten o'clock the night-signal was made to alter the course. 1869 Dunkin *Midn. Sky* 155 The summer *night-sky. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Saints' Lives* xxiii. 442 Þæt ilce geþanc..þe heom amang þam *niht-slæpe wæs on heora heortan. 1835 Lytton *Rienzi* I. i, Let us keep it for our night-sleep. 1849 Grote *Greece* II. xlix. VI. 265 The Athenian captain had really gone back to take *night-station on his own coast. 1596 Spenser *State Irel.* Wks. (Globe) 681/1 *Night stealthes which (are commonlye driven in by-wayes and by blinde foordes). 1811 Shelley *St. Irvyne* II. iii, Whilst the tide of the *night-storm is rolling. 1761 *Biogr. Dict.* II. 9 His constitution .. was weakened still more by the intemperance of his *night-studies. 1811 Shelley *St. Irvyne* II. ii, Oft have I brav'd the chill *night-tempests fury. 1742 Young (*title*) The Complaint: or, *Night-thoughts on Life, Death, and Immortality. 1831 Carlyle *Sart. Res.* I. iii, The utterance of such extraordinary Night-thoughts. 1885 R. Buchanan *Annan Water* xxiv, To pack up his things for the *night-train to Scotland. 1637 Rutherford *Lett.* (1862) I. lxxxviii. 226 Bewitched with dreams, shadows,..*night-vanities. 1671 Woodhead *St. Tereza* II. xxxiii. 220 There were frequent *Night-Vigils kept there. 1827 Clare *Sheph. Cal.* 111 The pale *Night-waggon driving through the sky. 1603 Knolles *Hist. Turks* (1638) 158 His Companions..began to lead him forth..to *night walks also. 1687 Norris *Misc.* 38 Our Wiser Ghosts thy silent Night-walks love. 13.. *Seuyn Sages* (W.) 2621 He com to the galewes, armed wel..For to make the first *night-ward.

b. With names of things (intended to be) worn or used during the night, as *night-attire*, *-bait*, *-basket*, *-bell*, etc.

1597 Drayton *Bar. Wars* VI. lv, She sat under an estate of lawn, In *night-attire. 1640 Brathwait *Lanc. Lovers* xv. (E. D. D.), She found a mammet or feature so artificially made up in her night-attire. 1716 J. S. *Compl. Fisher* title-p., Baiting of the Ground, and *Night Baits. 1814 *Sporting Mag.* XLIV. 103 You escape behind a lazarone's *night-basket. 1832 Marryat *N. Forster* xliv, A *night bell..was attached to one side of the street door. 1884 *Harper's Mag.* Mar. 562/1 You ought to break the wire of his night bell. 1811 *Ora & Juliet* I. 124 Then by her *night candle she .. began a letter. 1828 *Blackw. Mag.* XXIII. 297 The Hebrew women,who..had been accustomed to wear no *night-chemises at all. 1654 Dorothy Osborne *Lett.* (1888) 246 Going out to walk in my *night-cloak and night-gown. 1885 Warren & Cleverly *Wanderings Beetle* 69 The distant hills shaking off their *night-clothing of mist. 1578 in Nichols *Progr. Q. Eliz.* (1823) II. 78 A *night-coyf with a forehead clothe of..Spanysh worke of roses. 1855 Kingsley *Westw. Ho!* v, Lady Grenvile, putting her beautiful face in its night-coif out of an adjoining door. *a* 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* III. Wks. 1724 II. 682 The best..*night-deckings. *a* 1776 James *Diss. Fevers* (ed. 8) 113, I took..a few *nigbt draughts, to give me rest. 1821 Scott *Kenilw.* vi, Beside it stood a gold posset dish to contain the night-draught. 1731 *Gentl. Mag.* I. 167, 1 odd *Night Ear-ring, with 3 Brilliant Diamonds. 1769 Pennant *Brit. Zool.* III. 191 *note*, Neither was any body to fish from sun-setting to sun-rising, that the fish might enjoy their *night-food. 1835 Marryat *Olla Podr.* (Routl.) 271 Remove my *night-gloves. 1897 E. L. Taunton *Eng. Black Monks* I. 78 He changed his *night-habit for his day one and washed. 1647 R. Stapylton *Juvenal* 84 Th' imperiall strumpet..stole out In her *night-hoods. 1663 *Roxb. Ball.* (1890) VII. 83 He gives her rings, and..fan or muff, or night-hood. 1653 Walton *Angler* 121 This kind of fishing with a dead rod, and laying *night-hooks. 1772 Forster in *Phil. Trans.* LXIII. 153 After sunset, it is caught by a night-hook. 1821 *Sporting Mag.* IX. 69 Night-hooks for pike. 1838 Dickens *Nich. Nick.* viii, Mrs. Squeers came in, still habited in the primitive *night-jacket. 1860 Worcester, *Night Key*. 1888 A. K. Green *Behind Closed Doors* vi, I do not give night-keys to any one but the doctor. 1857 J. Raine *Mem. J. Hodgson* I. 287 Sheep-folds, or *night-lairs as they were called. *a* 1672 Sterry *Wks.* (1710) II. 261 The World is his *Night-Mantle, his Pavilion of Darkness. 1630 Drayton *Muses' Elys., Nymphal* vii, Fine *night-masks, plaster'd well within, To supple wrinkles, and to smooth the skin. 1764 *Museum Rust.* III. 286 The game is wretchedly destroyed by poachers, who take it with *night-nets. 1809 E. S. Barrett *Setting Sun* III. 145 The 'Wise Men of the East', bearing *night-pans as censers. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 433 A warmed night-pan should be used to prevent the patient getting out of bed. 1632 Massinger *Maid of Hon.* II. ii, Which of your grooms ..ministers *Night-physic to you? 1832 G. Downes *Lett. Cont. Countries* I. 271, I speculated..on what appeared to be a short cut to our *night-quarters. 1852 Grote *Greece* II. lxx. IX. 124 They could only reach their night-quarters. 1788 Holcroft *Baron Trenck* (1886) ii. 59, I took care to make a stir in my *night-table. 1871 Carlyle in *Mrs. C.'s Lett.* I. 208 The policeman's 'rattle' was a thing she actually had on her night-table. 1590 Shaks. *Mids. N.* III. i. 172 The honie-bags steale from the humble Bees, And for *night-tapers crop their waxen thighes. 1623 Featly *Fisher Catched* Ep. Ded., Those glorious night-tapours, which were set so thick together in the streets. 1844 Alb. Smith *Adv. Mr. Ledbury* (1856) I. x. 72 There are no *night-taverns, as in London. 1803 Mary Charlton *Wife & Mistress* I. 137, I stood upon the stairs with only my *night-things on. 1852 Mrs. Carlyle *Lett.* II. 166, I rendered myself at Paddington station..with my night-things in a bag. 1621 Brathwait *Nat. Embassie* (1877) 102 Put a *night-tyre on it's ivorie head. 1863 Kingsley *Water-Bab.* 31 When she had put her head out of the window, her *night-wig fell into the garden. 1582 N. Lichefield tr. *Castanheda's Conq. E. Ind.* 12 The other had a *night [w]rap of greene satten.

c. With names denoting persons or agents, esp. such as act, or are on duty or abroad, during the night, as *night-attendant*, *-brawler*, *-clerk*, etc.

1862 *N. Syd. Soc. Year-bk. Med. for* 1861, 173 Robertson requires the *night-attendants to visit all the habitually dirty patients at fixed times. 1604 Shaks. *Oth.* II. iii. 196 You..spend your rich opinion, for the name Of a *night-brawler. 1897 Howells *Landlord at Lion's Head* 85 The witness of a hotel *night-clerk. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xix. 140 [They] beden that men sholde Kepen it fro *nigt-comeres. 1857 Hughes *Tom Brown* I. ix, Hall and Brown were *night-fags last week. 1863 *Times* 16 June., That most indefatigable and restless of *night farers, the whip-poor-will. 1833 J. Rennie *Alph. Angling* 49 Most fish are peculiarly *night-feeders. 1813 Scott *Rokeby* VI. iv, All the nameless tools that aid *Night-felons in their lawless trade. *a* 1810 Shelley *M. Nicholson, Despair*, 7 Can the fierce *night-fiends rest on yonder hill? 1816 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* xxi. (1818) II. 265 The infinite hosts of moths.., with few exceptions, are all *night-fliers. 1593 Shaks. 3 *Hen. VI*, IV. iii. 22 To defend his Person from *Night-foes. 1552 Huloet, Hegges or *nyght furyes.., which do sucke the bloude of children in the nyght, *striges*. 1642 W. Mountagu in *Bucleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 302 The *night goers cause some suspicion, and presage no good. 1717 Pope *Iliad* X. 147 Between the trench and gates, Near the *night-guards, our chosen council waits. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* XII. Prol. 1 Dyonea, *nycht hyrd, and wach of day. 1891 C. Roberts *Adrift Amer.* 188 The *night herders renewed it [the fire] from time to time. 1784 G. White *Selborne* ix, The deer..are much thinned and reduced by the *night-hunters. 1810 *Sporting Mag.* XXXVI. 257 Night-Hunters or poachers..have, of late years, grown to be a very numerous body. 1865 Dickens *Mut. Fr.* I. iii, Where they found the *Night-Inspector. 1764 *Museum Rust.* III. 286 Not a single *night-netter has been on his grounds on horse back. *a* 1719 Addison tr. *Petronius Arbiter* (1736) 13 Must thou make a Noise, thou *Night-Pad? 1823 *Edin. Rev.* XXXIX. 51 *Night-poachers are transported for seven years. 1861 Dickens *Gt. Expect.* xliv, The *night-porter examined me with much attention. 1646 Trapp *Comm. John* vii. 50 Nicodemus was only a *night professor, Judas in the sight of all. 1813 Byron *Giaour* 44 Rush the *night-prowlers on the prey. 1709 Dampier *Voy.* (1729) II. I. 77 There is a pair of Stocks by every Watch-House, to secure *Night Ramblers in. 1853 James *Agnes Sorel* (1860) I. 4 A group of night-ramblers walked along. 1596 Spenser *State Irel.* Wks. (Globe) 681/1 Wherby theeves and *night robbers might be more easely pursued. 1649 Roberts *Clavis Bibl.* 556 Edom shall be wholly spoiled, more then an house by Night-robbers. 1768–74 Tucker *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 362 The hardiness of the night-robber. 1814 G. Hanger *To All Sportsmen* 96 That desperate gang of *night-shooters is totally broken up. 1611 Florio, *Ciuettini*,.. wanton or effeminate lads, *night-sneakers. 1707 J. Stevens tr. *Quevedo's Com. Wks.* (1709) 55 A Spark, who boasted he did not fear any Spirits or *Night-Specters. *a* 1591 H. Smith *Wks.* (1866) I. 269 These *night-spirits begat purgatory.., as one serpent hatcheth another. 1601 Holland *Pliny* II. 357 To sleepe securely, without any dread of night-spirits. *c* 1820 S. Rogers *Italy* (1839) 97 To be proclaimed a ruffian, a *night-stabber. 1640 Bp. Reynolds *Passions* Wks. (1679) 636 *Night-talkers, who cannot be said to be thoroughly asleep, nor perfectly awaked. 1382 Wyclif *John* x. 10 A *niȝt theef cometh not, no but that he stele, and sle, and leese. 1681 W. Robertson *Phraseol. Gen.* (1693) 1082 Night-thieves, house-breakers. 1802 Bloomfield *Rural Tales* 64 The lone *night-trav'ller's fancy. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 255/1 A *Nighte waker, *noctivagus*. 1874 W. P. Mackay *Grace & Truth* iv, He is engaged to be a *night-watchman.

d. With the names of animals, birds, etc. (sometimes in specific use), as *night-adder*, *-ape*, *-beast*, *-butterfly*, *-churr*, *-cod*, *-crake*, *-cur*, *-dog*, *-fowl*, *-gnat*, *-herring*, *-monkey*, *-monster*, *-moth*, *-swallow*, *-wale*, *-warbler*. Also *fig.*, as *night-bat*, *-hound*, *-howlet*, *-steed*, *-toad*.

1834 Pringle *Afr. Sk.* 280 There are several species of snakes which have come under my own observation, such as the *nacht-slang* (*night-adder). 1863 Bates *Nat. Amazon* xii. (1864) 396 A third interesting genus of monkeys found near Ega are the nyctipitheci, or *night-apes. 1658 tr. *Bergerac's Satyr. Charac.* xii. 47. I send..the Hob-goblins, the haggs, the *night bats. 1847 Halliwell, *Night-bat*, a ghost. *North.* 1600 Surflet *Countrie Farme* VII. xliii. 872 The flesh of *night-beastes, that is to say such as flie about in the night. 1577 B. Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* IV. (1586) 188 The *night Butterflie, that flieth about the candell. 1743 M. Catesby *Nat. Hist.* (1754) II. 84 The four-eyed Night Butterfly..(*Phalæna Luna*). 1855 *Orr's Circle Sci., Org. Nat.* III. 343 It is to this note that the bird is indebted for its name of Nightjar or *Nightchurr. 1888 Goode *Amer. Fishes* 343 Sometimes a school of Codfish will bite at night; these the fishermen call '*Night Cod'. *c* 1425 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 639/40 *Hec nicticorax*, *nyght-crake. 1576 Fleming tr. *Caius' Dogs* in Arb. *Garner* III. 241 Farmers..call this kind of dog a *Night Cur; because he hunteth in the dark. 1598 Shaks. *Merry W.* V. v. 252 When *night-dogges run, all sorts of Deere are chac'd. *c* 1616 Fletcher & Mass. *Thierry & Theod.* I. i, Let night-dogs tear me .. Ere I forsake my sphere! 1824 Symmons *Æschylus' Agamemnon* 3 Like a night-dog still Fix'd to my post. 1883 R. Groom *Great Dane* 13 He has been used as a night-dog with great success. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 142 Þe *nihtfuel ulið hi nihte, & bisit ine þeosternesse his fode. 1830 Tennyson *Mariana* 26 Waking she heard the night-fowl crow. 1530 Palsgr. 248/1 *Night gnat, *smgalle*. 1758 Binnell *Descr. Thames* 227 Fishers distinguish their Herrings into six different Sorts: As the Fat Herring,..the *Night Herring which is of a middle Size. 1673 R. Head *Canting Acad.* 30 The Constable..let loose a couple of his *Night-hounds. 1817 Scott *Rob Roy* xxxiv, O, the most egregious *night-howlets! 1871 Kingsley *At Last* xvii, A beautiful little *Night-Monkey, belonging to the Purser. 1896 O. Forbes *Hand-bk. Primates* I. 152 The Night-Monkeys are small and elegant animals covered with long hair. 1611 Bible *Isa.* xxxiv. 14 The shrichowle [*marg.* Or, *night-monster] also shall rest there. 1859 Meredith *R. Feverel* xliii, A large white *night-moth flitted through the dusk. 1895 C. Holland *Japanese Wife* 69 Huge, soft-winged night-moths which circle round the light of our lanterns. 1841 Bryant *Hunter's Serenade* Wks. (1891) 122 The *night-sparrow trills her song All night, with none to hear. 1629 Milton *Hymn Nativ.* xxvi, The yellow-skirted Fayes, Fly after the *Night-steeds, leaving their Moon-lov'd maze. 1799 Campbell *Pleas. Hope* Wks. (1837) 32 Chased on his night-steed by the star of day. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVI. 223/2 Night-Jars, the English name of those *Night-Swallows vernacularly termed Goat-suckers. 1681 Otway *Soldier's Fort.* v. i, Get ye gone, ye Dogs, ye Rogues, ye *Night Toads. 15.. *Parl. Byrdes* 161 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* III. 175 Then said the *night whale with his hed gray, He shameth us with his parlament aray. 1885 Swainson *Prov. Names Birds* 27 The name of *night warbler is also given to this bird [the reed-sparrow], because its cry may be heard at almost all hours.

e. With names of plants, as *night-jasmine*, *-primrose*, *-tree*, *-weed*, *-willow-herb*.

1866 *Treas. Bot.* 796/2 *Nyctanthes, Arbor tristis*, the *Night-Jasmine of India, is a shrub or small tree of the *Jasminaceæ*. 1881 Cable *Mme. Delphine* ix. 49 The bush of night-jasmine. 1849 Craig, **Nightprimrose*. The plant Œnothera biennis is so called, because its flowers usually open between six and seven o'clock in the evenings. 1849 *Southey's Comm.-pl. Bk.* II. 494 The Singadi, or *Night-Tree. 1796 Campbell *Scene in Argylesh.*, The *night-weed and thorn overshadowed the place. 1847 Darlington *Amer. Weeds* (1860) 136 Biennial Œnothera. Evening Primrose. *Night Willow-herb.

14. Special combs., as **night-bag**, a travelling-bag containing necessaries for the night; †**night-blain**, a chilblain; **night-blood**, blood drawn from a patient by night, for microscopical examination; **night-blue**, a recent name for various blues, esp. those which retain the colour under artificial light; **night-boat**, (*a*) a boat used by night; (*b*) a passenger-boat which crosses by night; **night-bolt**, an inside bolt serving to secure a door by night; †**night-book** (?); †**night-cape**, *fig.* a wife; **night-cart**, a cart used in removing filth by night; †**night-cat** (see quot.); **night-cloud**, the form of cloud known as *stratus*; **night-dial**, † (*a*) a transparent clock-dial or face which is lighted from behind at night; (*b*) a dial which shows the time by means of the moon's shadow (*Cent. Dict.*); **night-eater** (*nonce-wd.*), a flea; **night-eyed** *a*, capable of seeing in the night-time; † **night-farmer** = *gong-farmer*, Gong[1]; †**night-foe**, a chilblain; †**night-hooker**, one who steals by night; †**night-lying**, bed-time; †**night-magistrate**, a constable (B.E. *Dict. Cant. Crew*, *a* 1700); **night-old** *a.*, done, gathered, etc., on the previous day; †**night-runner** = Night-walker 1; **night-sight** = Nyctalopia; **night-singer**, a bird that sings by night; *spec.* the sedge-warbler; †**night-snap**, a night-thief; **night-star**, (*a*) a star when shining by night; (*b*) the evening-star; **night-stool** (see Night-chair); **night-terror**, a state of terror in which children sometimes awake during the night; †**night-trader**, a prostitute; †**night-tub**, a tub containing filth or night-soil; **night-water**, water which collects or is stored during the night; †**night-worm**, (*a*) a treacherous comrade; (*b*) a prostitute; (*c*) a glow-worm; **night-yard** (see quot.).

1667 Pepys *Diary* 13 June, They did go by the coach.., with about 1300*l.* in gold in their *night-bag. 1691 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2666/4 A White Dimity Night-Bag..in which was Linnen, and other things. 1601 Holland *Pliny* II. 37 Bloudie-falls or *night blains. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 1084, 56 slides of *night-blood from 56 cases of elephantiasis. 1891 Thorpe *Dict. Applied Chem.* II. 698 *Night-blue. 1843 S. C. Hall *Ireland* III. 276 There is also a more cumbrous vessel called a '*night-boat'. 1891 Kipling *Light that Failed* (1900) 153 They were going by the Dover night-boat. 1784 Cowper *Task* IV. 568 Ere you sleep .. drop the *nightbolt. 1862 *Catal. Internat. Exhib., Brit. Div.* II. No. 5978 Mortise balance night bolt, and an improved night-latch. 1809 *Sporting Mag.* XXXIV. 56 Suffering his name to remain upon the debtor side of a *night-book for years. 1604 Shaks. *Oth.* II. i. 316, I fear Cassio with my *Night-Cape too. 1851 Mayhew *Lond. Labour* (1865) II. 511/2 Who drive the *night-carts to and from..the cesspools. 1860 Massey *Hist. Eng.* (1865) III. 381 The prisoners were charged with having provided arms, and instruments called *night-cats, for impeding the action of cavalry in the streets. 1862 *Chambers's Encycl.* III. 86 Stratus, fall or *night-cloud, .. is a widely extended horizontal sheet. 1670–98 Lassels *Voy. Italy* I. 30 The *Night-dial shews by a lighted lamp set behind it, the hours of the night. 1626 Breton *Fantastickes* Sept., The Innes now beginto prouide for ghests, and the *night-eaters in the stable pinch the Trauailer in his bed. 1603 B. Jonson *Sejanus* IV. v, I dare tell you.. That our *night-eyed Tiberius doth not see His minion's drifts. 1620 Middleton *World Tost at Tennis* C 2 'Tis a poor living... *Sol.* 'Tis somewhat better then the *night-farmer yet. 1647 Lilly *Chr. Astrol.* cxlix. 633 He makes Night-farmers, Slaughter-men, sweepers of channels, &c. 1601 Holland *Pliny* xx. xx. II. 70 Coriander..cureth the *night-foes or chilblanes. *Ibid.* xix. iv. 12 These slie theeves and *night-hookers .. committed such fellonious outrages. 1456 *Paston Lett.* I. 369 They avaunted of it when he of Lynne came by him at *nyȝt lyeng. *c* 1000 *Laws of Ine* 73 in Thorpe *Laws* I. 148 Gif hit biþ *niht-eald þiefþ. 1362 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. VII. 296 Laborers..Deyne not to dyne a day niht-olde wortes. 14.. *Vergilius* in Thoms *E. Eng. Prose Rom.* (1858) II. 40 How the *nyght ronners, and yll doers myght be ryd out of the stretes. 1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) III. 144 Nyctalopia has necessarily been made to import day-sight instead of *night-sight. 1816 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* xxiv. (1818) II. 401 The *Fulgoræ* appear to be *night-singers. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVI. 230/1 The Nightingale, or night singer, is a migratory bird. 1885 Swainson *Prov. Names Birds* 28 Sedge Warbler,..night singer (Ireland). 1620 Fletcher *Chances* II. i, These fellows Were *night-snaps. 1811 Shelley *St. Irvyne* III. vi, Till the *night-stars shone through the cloudless air. 1823 Joanna Baillie *Poems* 48 Where sober evening's primrose pale, To greet the night-star, blows. 1838 Eliza Cook *Away from the revel* iv, It is twilight; the night-star is up. 1854 Ronalds & Richardson *Chem. Technol.* (ed. 2) I. 246 Each cell..contains a gas-burner and a *night-stool. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV. 717 Suffocative '*night-terrors' often occur. 1899 *Ibid.* VIII. 218 Many excellent monographs on night terrors have appeared. 1629 Massinger *Picture* I. ii, All kinds of females, from the *night-trader I' the street..To the great lady in her cabinet. *a* 1616 B. Jonson *Epigr., On Fam. Voy.* 64 As at the muster Of all your *night-tubs, when the carts do cluster. 1799 J. Robertson *Agric. Perth* 504 A drain half a mile long, and a reservoir for the *night-water. 1874 Raymond *Statist. Mines & Mining* 319 On the supposition that..the night-water was saved. 1430–40 Lydg. *Bochas* I. xix. (1554) 36 Suffre no *night worm within your counsell crepe. 1605 Daniel *Queen's Arcadia* I. iii, Bed-Brokers, Night-Worms and Impressitors. 1774 Mason *Poems* 222 (Jod.), Like a nest of night-worms they did glitter, Sprinkling the plain with brightness. 1851 Mayhew *Lond. Labour* II. 216 The *night-yards, or the places where the contents of the cess-pools are deposited.

Night (nəit), *v.* Forms: 4–6 nyghte, (4 nyhte, 5 ny3te, 6 nyghte-), 5–6 *Sc.* nycht, nicht, (7 nich); 7– night. [f. the sb. Cf. OHG. *nahtên* (G. *nachten*, and dial. *nächten*), ON. *nátta* (Norw. and MSw. *natta*, Da. *natte*).]

1. *intr.* To spend or pass the night; to remain or lodge for the night. Now *rare.*

1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 7730 He nyghtede yn a wasteyne, þere he sagh no stede certeyne. 1435 Misyn *Fire of Love* 46 For criste, to vs to pray, ensaumpyl gaf qwhen in prayer allon in þe hyll [he] nyghtyd. 1502 in *Antiq. Rep.* (1808) II. 256 Upon the morowe he nyghted at his castell of Wyndsore. 1632 Lithgow *Trav.* VII. 335 Leauing these Mountaynes..and passing the Townes of Antibo and Cana, to night at Furges. *a* 1670 Spalding *Troub. Chas. I* (1850) II. 6 Thay nichit for thair awin pay in the oldtoun. 1786 A. Gib *Sacr. Contempl.* I. v. i. 138 The words translated *abideth not*, strictly mean nighteth not, passeth not a night. 1818 Hogg *Tales, Brownie of Bodsbeck* (1866) 56 You and I shall never night thegither again in the same house. 1886 R. F. Burton *Arab. Nts.* (abr. ed.) I. 88 Would Heaven we had never entered this house, but had rather nighted on the mounds and heaps outside the city!

fig. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* xlvii. (Add. MS.) 205 He entrede ..the wombe of the blissede Virgyne, and there he nyghted from the tyme of his conception vnto his birthe.

† b. To cease work for the night. *Obs. rare* —1.

1529 *Burgh Rec. Stirling* (1887) I. 35 Till entyr to his werk at day lycht in the morwyng, laif at half hour to twelf at none, and nycht at ewyn.

† 2. *impers.* To turn to night; to grow dark. Also with dat. of person. *Obs.*

c 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* v. 515 Into tyme that it gan to nyghte, They speken of Cryseyde. 1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 293 A while er it began to nyhte, A povere man..Cam forth walkende. *c* 1425 Wyntoun *Cron.* VIII. xxvi. 3437 It nychtyd fast: and thai Thowcht till abyd thare to the day. *c* 1475 *Kauf Coiltear* 40 Enill lykand was the Kyng, it nichtit him sa lait. 1500-20 Dunbar *Poems* v. 15 Att ane ailhous neir [hevin], it nyghttit thaim thare.

† b. Of the night: To come down, to fall. *Obs.* —1

1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 153 Nero in ill tyme hym myght not Suffice the lordshupp of Solerne ther as the day dawyth, nethyr of galerne the baillie, ther as the nyght nyghtyth.

† 3. In *passive.* To be overtaken by night, to be benighted. *Obs.*

c 1440 *Bone Flor.* 1437 They were nyghtyd in a wode thyck. 1470-85 Malory *Arthur* IV. xxv. 153 They cam in to a depe forest, and by fortune they were nyȝted. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 133 b, Yf it fortune them to be nyghted, and the gates of the cite where they wold rest shutte. 1641 Best *Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 101 Theire desire is to buy soone, that they may be goinge betimes, for feare of beinge nighted.

Ni·ght-bird. [f. Night *sb.* + Bird.]

1. A bird of nocturnal habits; one that is chiefly (or only) heard or seen by night; *esp.* the owl or nightingale.

Also given as a local name for the Moorhen and the Manx Shearwater (Swainson).

1608 Shaks. *Per.* IV. Introd. 26 When to the lute She sung, and made the night-bird mute. 1657 Baxter *Ministry* § 11. 6 The Owl will call the Lark a night-bird. 1752 W. Mason *Elfrida* Poems 5 The night-bird's 'custom'd spray What time she pours her wild, and artless song. 1797 Coleridge *France* i, Ye Woods! that listen to the night-birds singing. 1819 Shelley *Similes* ii, As two gibbering night-birds flit From their bowers of deadly yew. 1840 *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 195 The Moth-hunters have the same light, soft plumage..that characterizes other night-birds. 1890 'R. Bolorewood' *Col. Reformer* (1891) 215 The ..sound of the night-bird broke the profound..silence.

2 *transf.* Of persons: One who goes about at night; a night-thief.

c 1546 Crowley *Confut. Shaxton* E iij b, For the daye birdes can holde theymselues contente wyth thys lyght. As for the lurkinge night byrds that fle the lyghte [etc.]. 1618 Dalton *Countr. Just.* 66 For as one saieth, such Night-walkers (or night birds) are ominous. 1646 Boyle in Birch *Life* B's. Wks. 1772 I. p. xxix, These night-birds used to exercise their charity in easing weary travellers of..money and portmanteaus. *a* 1721 Sheffield (Dk. Buckhm.) *Wks.* (1729) 122 When o'er his Cups this Night-Bird chirping sits.

Ni·ght-blindness. *Path.* [f. Night *sb.* + Blindness. Cf. Du. *nachtblindheid*, G. *-heit*, Sw. *nattblindhet*.] = Nyctalopia.

1754 *Med. Obs. & Inq.* (1776) I. 120 Galen explains the word by a night-blindness. 1814 [see Hemeralopia]. 1834 *Cycl. Pract. Med.* III. 184/1 Night-blindoess has been described as endemic in different countries. 1887 Moloney *Forestry W. Afr.* 375 In Travancore the juice from them is applied in cases of night-blindness. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 597 A man..will not show night-blindness, unless he be also exposed to very bright light.

So **Night-blind** *a.*

1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 597 Perfectly vigorous well-fed men, if exposed to sufficient glare, become night-blind.

Ni·ght-cap. [f. Night *sb.* + Cap *sb.*1]

1. A covering for the head, worn especially in bed.

c 1386 Chaucer *Merch. T.* 609 She him saugh up sittinge in his sherte, In his night-cappe, and with his nekke lene. 14.. *Rule Syon Monast.* liii. in *Collect. Topogr.* I. (1834) 31 Up on ther hedes they may have a nyghte kerchyf and a nyghte cappe. 1523 Fitzherb. *Husb.* § 142 Purse, dagger, cloke, nyght cap, kerchef. 1582 N. Lichefield tr. *Castanheda's Conq. E. Ind.* I. iii. 9 Making excbaunge of certaine red night caps with the Negroes for Bracelets of luory. 1602 *2nd Pt. Return fr. Parnass* I. v, Ther's a fellow with a night cap on his head. 1655 Culpepper, etc. *Riverius* I. i. 7 If by Fumes he find pain in his head, you may only perfume his night-caps every evening. 1711 Steele *Spect.* No. 260 P 1 That some Ladies..may be persuaded to wear warm Night-Caps this cold Season. 1791 Boswell *Johnson* (1831) I. 234 With his little black wig on the top of his head, instead of a night-cap. 1836 Marryat *Japhet* xl, His head was covered with a white nightcap. 1887 Besant *The World Went* i, His head, covered with a padded silk night-cap, was sunk deep in the pillows.

† b. *Night-cap wig*, ? a close-fitting wig resembling a night-cap. *Obs.*

1709 Steele *Tatler* No. 26 P 4 Some new Alteration in our Night-cap-Wigs and Pockets. 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 129 P 10 A Gentleman that had accontered himself in a Night-Cap Wig [etc.]. 1829 Lytton *Devereux* II. i, A tall, gaunt fellow, in a coat covered with tarnished lace, a night-cap wig [etc.].

2. In *transf.* or *fig.* applications. † *Horse('s) nightcap*, a halter.

1593, etc. [see Horse *sb.* 27]. *c* 1667 *Roxb. Ball.* (1891) VII. 360 His Wife too will scoff, when he comes lamely off, And give him a Night-cap of Horn. 1770 *Gentl. Mag.* XL. 560 To express the Condition of an Honest Fellow and no Flincher under the Effects of good Fellowship he is said to .. [have] Got his Night Cap on. 1850 Thackeray *Pendennis* xxxix, Foker..voted Erith a prig and a dullard, the nightcap of the House of Commons.

† b. A nocturnal bully. *Obs. rare.*

1623 Webster *Duchess Malfi* II. i, Be sure you are taken for one of the prime night-caps. — *Devil's Law Case* II. i, Among a shoal or swarm of reeking night-caps.

c. A cloud of mist covering a mountain-top.

1626 Bacon *Sylva* § 819 They say in Wales, When certain Hills have their Night-caps on, they mean mischief. 1817 Paulding *Letters from South* I. 160 It is a rainy morning; the mountains have all got on their nightcaps of mist.

3. An alcoholic drink taken immediately before going to bed in order to induce sleep.

1818 *The Cook's Oracle* (ed. 2) 503 A pint of table beer, (or Ale, if you make it for a 'Night-Cap') [etc.]. 1829 Marryat *F. Mildmay* xxiii, A pint of hot brandy and water ..by way of a nightcap. 1852 Sala *Accepted Addr.* 118 Drinks ..cunningly compounded .. by way of night-caps. 1887 T. A. Trollope *What I remember* II. ii. 21, I neither took, or cared to take, any wine with my dinner, and never wanted any description of 'nightcap'.

attrib. 1844 Hewlett *Parsons & W.* xlv, The only glass that a man ought to take 'solus' is..the night-cap tumbler.

Hence **Ni·ght-capped** (-kæpt) *a.*, covered with, or wearing, a night-cap or night-caps.

a 1658 Lovelace *Poems* (1864) 230 When the sick sea with turbants night-cap'd was. 1826 Pounden *France & It.* 3 A squalid night-capped set of gentlemen. 1873 Mrs. H. Wood *Master of Greylands* ix, The window..was flung open.., and Mrs. Bent's night-capped head came out.

Ni·ght-cellar. [f. Night *sb.* + Cellar *sb.*] A cellar serving as a tavern or place of resort during the night for persons of the lowest class.

a 1743 Savage *Wks.* 1775 II. 271, I generally..spend the evening with him at a night cellar in the Strand. 1796 Burke *Regic. Peace* Wks. VIII. 188 By digging a night-cellar for such thieves, murderers, and house-breakers as ever infested the world. 1840 Dickens *Barn. Rudge* xvi, Night-cellars..for the reception and entertainment of the most abandoned of both sexes. 1851 Thackeray *Eng. Hum.* v. (1858) 243 How the thief divides his booty and drinks his punch at the night-cellar.

Ni·ght-chair. [f. Night *sb.* + Chair *sb.*] A close-stool or commode for use by night.

1404 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 398, v nyght chares. 1763 C. Johnston *Reverie* II. 259 He unluckily cast his eye on the night-chair..and never considering what it was, brought it out. 1825 Good *Study Med.* (ed. 2) II. 549 Four..patients, of whom one had used the same night-chair. 1888 Fagge & Pye-Smith *Princ. & Pract. Med.* (ed. 2) I. 189 The same night-chairs were used by both sets of patients.

Ni·ght-clothes. [f. Night *sb.* + Clothes. Cf. G. *nachtkleid*, Da. *natkläder*, Sw. *nattkläder*.]

1. Such clothes as are usually put on at night immediately before going to bed.

1602 Marston *Antonio's Rev.* III. i, 'Tis not yet proud day:..the unpranked world Wears yet the night-clothes. 1674 tr. *Scheffer's Lapland* 90 Besides these garments.. they have also other which they use a nights, such as are called night-cloathes, for they have no feather beds. 1818 Scott *Br. Lamm.* xxxiv, Here they found the unfortunate girl..; her night clothes torn and dabbled with blood. 1846 Mrs. Carlyle *Let. to Carlyle* 23 Aug., Left me in total darkness,—to scramble into my night-clothes as I could. 1896 *Daily News* 17 Aug. 6/6 The bodies, which lay side by side in bed in night clothes, were in a composed attitude.

† 2. Négligé or informal dress worn in the evening. *Obs.*

1667 Pepys *Diary* 24 Dec., My Lady Castlemaine, who looked prettily in her night-clothes. 1709 Steele *Tatler* No. 2 P 2 These Nightclothes, Moll, become thee mightily. 1737 Mrs. Delaney *Life & Corr.* (1861) II. 6 The suit of night-clothes I have pitched on for you are charming: it is grounded Brussels. 1751 Smollett *Per. Pic.* lxxxi, I dressed myself in a new pink sattin gown and my best laced night-cloaths.

Ni·ght-crow. Now *arch.* [f. Night *sb.* + Crow *sb.*1] A bird supposed to croak or cry in the night and to be of evil omen; prob. an owl or nightjar. Cf. Night-raven.

c 1340 *Nominale* (Skeat) 794 Nytcrowe [F. *fresoie*] and watirfynch. 1382 Wyclif *Lev.* xi. 16 An ostriche, and a nyȝt crowe [L. *noctua*], and a coote. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 356/1 Nyghte crowe, *nict(ic)orax*. 1508 Fisher 7 *Penit. Ps.* cii. Wks. (1876) 152 The nyght crowe or the oule. 1545 Ascham *Toxoph.* (Arb.) 52 On the nighte time..nyghte crowes and poulcattes,..with all other vermine, and noysome beastes vse mooste styrringe. 1593 Shaks. 3 *Hen. VI*, v. vi. 45 The Owle shriek'd..,The Night-Crow cry'de, aboding luckelesse time. 1614 *Scourge Venus* (1876) 30 These goblins, lich-fouls, Owls, and night-crows to At murthers raile. 1631 P. Fletcher *Piscatory Eclog.* i, No shrieking owl, no night-crow lodgeth here. 1825 Scott *Talism.* v, A voice.. resembling that of the night-crow more than any sound which is heard by daylight.

b. *transf.* Applied abusively to persons.

1570 Foxe *A. & M.* (ed. 2) 174 I deede not admonish thee to smell out the blinde practises of these night crowes. *c* 1613 Rowlands *Four Knaves* (Percy Soc.) 88 Such night-crowes and owles, That lurke in bushes,.. And cowardly upon a man will set. 1658 J. Jones *Ovid's Ibis* 27 The just judgment of God upon an unmerciful father provoked by the false suggestioos of a femal night-crow.

Ni·ght-dress. [f. Night *sb.* + Dress *sb.*] A night-gown or other dress intended for wear during the night.

1712-14 Pope *Rape Lock* iv. 38 The fair ones feel such maladies as these, When each new night-dress gives a new disease. 1760-72 H. Brooke *Fool of Quat.* (1809) IV. 38 [She] put on a sumptuous bedgown, with a suitable night-dress for her head. 1836 E. Howard *R. Reefer* li, Bounding down the hill, in her night-dress. 1865 Trevelyan *Cawnpore* 9 A silk shirt and linen drawers, the universal night dress of the East. 1897 Hugnes *Medit. Fever* v. 188 The comfort of this form of garment, be it night-dress or suit, will be most evident.

So † **Ni·ght-dressing,** = Night-clothes 2. *Obs.*

1622 Mabbe tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* II. 42 The Countesse put mee into a night-dressing; and a Smocke. 1662 Pepys *Diary* 6 Jan., My wife's neglect in leaving of her scarf, waistcoat, and night-dressings in the coach.

Ni·ghted, *ppl. a.* [f. Night *v.* + -ed 1.]

1. Made dark or black as night. *rare.*

1604 Shaks. *Ham.* I. ii. (Q. 2) 68 Good Hamlet, cast thy nighted [1623 nightly] colour off. 1605 — *Lear* IV. v. 13 Edmund, I thinke, is gone In pitty of his misery, to dispatch His nighted life. [1888 *Macm. Mag.* XLVI. 334/2 To show that Romeo ever had many moments in which he could naturally throw his nighted colour off.]

† b. Pertaining to the night. *Obs. rare* —1.

1605 Drayton *Man in the Moone* 37 Now the goodly Moone Was in the Full, and at her Nighted Noone.

2. Overtaken by night, benighted. Also *fig.*

1640 Glapthorne *Wallenstein* III. iii. Wks. 1874 II. 49 Like those fire drakes, Mis-guiding nighted travellers. 1765 [E. Thompson] *Meretriciad* 39 So have I seen a brilliant Star retire, And leave the nighted lover in the mire. 1810 Scott *Lady of L.* II. xxxii, Upon the nighted pilgrim's way. 1855 Singleton *Virgil* II. 67 His reeling ship,..himself e'en steered her in the nighted waves.

† **Ni·ghten,** *v. Obs. rare.* [f. Night *sb.* + -en 5.] *intr.* To grow dark, to become night.

1561 Eden *Arte Nauig.* I. vii, To them it nyghteneth three houres soner then vnto vs in Spaine. 1570 Levins *Manip.* 61/31 To Nighten, *adnesperascere*.

Ni·ghter. [f. Night *sb.* + -er 1.] A second element in certain combs., as *all-nighter*, one who spends all the night in some occupation, etc.; *first-nighter*, one who attends the first ordinary public performance of a play.

1882 Dion Boucicault in *Daily News* 23 Nov. 6/7 Persons who call themselves 'first nighters'..who attend the production of all important plays. 1895 *Outing* (U.S.) XXVI. 436/2 An 'all-nighter' and a 'rounder', a robber of hen-roosts and nests.

† **Ni·ghterly,** *a. Obs. rare* —1. [irreg. f. Night *sb.*; cf. *easterly*, etc.] Nightly.

1559 Morwyng *Evonym.* 94 If thou make a cake of meale knod with nighterly dew of saint John.

† **Ni·ghtern,** *a. Obs. rare.* [irreg. f. Night *sb.*; cf. *eastern*, etc.] Nocturnal.

1615 Brathwait *Strappado* (1878) 279 In this silent course of nighterne race, with quick recourse he runs vnto the place. *Ibid.* 305 The Nighterne owle, that night wil cease from prey, howling by night as she did howle by day.

† **Ni·ghtertale.** *Obs.* Chiefly *north.* and *Sc.* Forms: 4 naghter-, naȝter-; niht(t)er-, nither-, nyther-, niȝt(t)er-, 4-5 nyȝter-, (4 -tur-), 5 nyght(t)er-, *Sc.* nichtir-, nychter-, (-tyr-), 4-6 nighter-, (5 -tir-); also 4-5 -tall(e, 5 (7) -taile, -tayl(l)e. [Prob. of Scand. origin, and perh. an alteration of the synonymous ON. **nahtar-*, later *náttarþel* (f. *nátt* gen. of *nátt* night + *þel* groundwork, stuff, substance, heart, bottom), by substitution of the more familiar *tale* reckoning, count, for the original second element of the compound.] Night-time, the night. Only in phrases *by, on, upon, a, with, of, (the) nightertale*, by night, during the night.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 2991 Vp ras þe king, on nighter tale. *Ibid.* 11596 Wit naghtertale he went o tun. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 2025 Hwo mithe so mani stonde ageyn, Bi nither tale, knith or swein? *c* 1386 Chaucer *Cant. T.* Prol. 97 By nightertale He sleep namore than dooth a nightingale. *c* 1412 Hoccleve *De Reg. Princ.* 3849 By nyghtertale he was slayn by kyng darie. 1455 *Anc. Cal. Rec. Dublin* (1889) 287 Hyt was ordeynyt that no maner beger..walke by nyghtertall abegyn. 1497 *North Riding Rec.* (1894) 189 [He] with Force and armz of the nyghtertall sent hys.. seruantis to the Castell. 1530 Palsgr. 803 A nyghtertale, *de nuyct.* 16.. in Calthrop *Reports* (1670) 131 That yee do provide..that the Lanthornes with Light by Nightertaile in old manner accustomed be hanged forth.

Ni·ghtfall. [f. Night *sb.* + Fall *sb.*1]

1. The coming on of night; the time of dusk.

1700 Farquhar *Constant Couple* II. iv, No man is seen to come into this house after nightfall. 1766 Goldsm. *Vic. W.* xx, Whenever I approached a peasant's house towards nightfall, I played one of my most merry tunes. 1812 L. Hunt in *Examiner* 24 Aug. 538/1 By night-fall the enemy had betaken themselves to flight. 1855 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xii. III. 342 The traveller at nightfall would have found the inn where he had expected to sup and lodge deserted. 1867 Trollope *Chron. Barset* II. lvi. 133 Had he talked on the subject till nightfall no such word would have been spoken.

2. (See quot.) So **Night-falling.** *rare* —⁰.

1611 COTGRAVE, *La grotte des fruicts*, that fruit which falls in the night; wind-falls, night-falls, night-wind-falls. 1632 SHERWOOD, The night-fallings of fruites.

Ni·ght-fire. [f. NIGHT *sb.* + FIRE *sb.*]

†1. An ignis fatuus, will o' the wisp. *Obs. rare*—¹.

1633 G. HERBERT *Temple, Dotage* i, Foolish night-fires, ..Chases in Arras, guilded emptinesse.

2. A fire kindled at, or for the, night; a fire which burns by night.

1812 BYRON *Ch. Har.* II. lxxi, On the smooth shore the night-fires brightly blazed. 1839-52 BAILEY *Festus* 18 Unsaid thoughts, Which prey upon the breast like night-fires on A heath. 1851 *Zoologist* IX. 3125 Rough notes of a day's gleanings, scrawled by the light of the hissing night-fire.

Ni·ght-flower. [f. NIGHT *sb.* + FLOWER *sb.*] A flower that opens or blooms during the night.

1731 MEDLEY *Kolben's Cape G. Hope* II. 238 The Cape Europeans call all the Sorts [of *Geranium Africanum*] Night-Flowers. 1810 M. CUTLER in *Life*, etc. (1888) II. 343 Examined the night-flower, dissected it, and brought it home to preserve. 1866 SHUCKARD *Brit. Bees* 12 Although many flowers are night-flowers, yet the very large majority expand during the day. 1874 LUBBOCK *Wild Flowers* ii, Night-flowers, moreover, are generally pale.

Ni·ght-flowering, *a.* [f. NIGHT *sb.* 12 a. + FLOWERING *ppl. a.*] Blooming by night.

1810 M. CUTLER in *Life*, etc. (1888) II. 342 Saw the cactus grandiflora, or night-flowering cereus. 1849 BALFOUR *Man. Bot.* § 883 Some of the plants are noted as night-flowering. 1855 MISS PRATT *Flower. Pl.* I. 138 The Night-flowering Stock (*Matthiola tristis*).

Ni·ght-fly. [f. NIGHT *sb.* + FLY *sb.*¹]

1. A fly which is active or frequent by night.

1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV*, III. i. 11 Why rather (Sleepe) lyest thou in smoakie Cribs,..And huisht with bussing Night-flyes to thy slumber? 1767 G. S. CAREY *Hills Hybla* 2 Chasing the night-fly and the buzzing gnat. 1824 SYMMONS *Agamemnon* 81 Scared by the night-fly's solitary buzz. 1895 RIDER HAGGARD *Heart of World* xiv, Great fish rising in pursuit of some night-fly.

2. An artificial fly used in fishing.

1799 G. SMITH *Laboratory* II. 306 White night-fly. This fly is, in my opinion, preferable to the former. 1856 'STONEHENGE' *Brit. Rural Sports* 246/1 The mealy-white night-fly. *Ibid.*, The mealy-brown night-fly.

Ni·ght-flying, *a.* [f. NIGHT *sb.* 12 a + FLYING *ppl. a.*] That flies by night.

1831 RENNIE *Montagu's Ornith. Dict.* 337 Nocturnal moths and other night-flying insects. 1835-6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 324/2 Digestion may be supposed to go on less actively in the..night-flying Owls. 1866 SHUCKARD *Brit. Bees* 13, I am not aware of a single instance of a night-flying bee.

† **Ni·ghtgale.** *Obs.* Forms: 1 necti-, nectægalæ, næctægela, nacthegelæ, næcte-, nehtæ-, næhtegale, nihtegala, 1–3 nihte-, 3–4 nyhte-, 5–6 nyght(e)-, 5 nightgale, (*Sc.* nicht-). [OE. *nęhte-, nihtegale*, etc. = OS. *nahta-, nahtigala* (MDu. *nachtegal, -gael*, Du. *-gaal*), OHG. *nahta-, nahte-, nahtigala*, etc. (MHG. *nahtegal*, G. *nachtigall*), ON. *nǽtrgali* (Da. *nattergal*, Sw. *näktergal*), f. Teut. *naht-* NIGHT *sb.* + *galan* to sing, GALE *v.*¹] The nightingale.

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) L 330 *Luscinia*, naectegale. *Ibid.* A 121 *Achalantis*.., nehtegale. *a* 1250 *Owl & Nightingale* (Jesus MS.) 4 Iherde ich holde grete tale An vle and one nyhtegale. *Ibid.* 13 Þe nihtegale bigon þo speke. *a* 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* 92 When the nyhtegale singes, the wodes waxen grene. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xxv. 117 Laneres, sagres, sperhawkes, nyghtgales syngand, and papeiays spekand. 1435 MISYN *Fire of Love* 102 It is sayd þe nyghtgale to songe & melody all nyght is gyfyn. *c* 1450 HOLLAND *Howlat* 715 Tbe blyth Lark tbat begynnis, And the Nychtgalis. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 254/2 A Nyghte gale; *filomena.*

Ni·ght-gear. [f. NIGHT *sb.* + GEAR *sb.*]

1. = NIGHT-CLOTHES. † Also *pl.*

1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 235 Havynge nothyng upon hym, but his cloke caste aboute hym, and hys nyghte gere. 1625 K. LONG tr. *Barclay's Argenis* III. viii. 179 Taking out my night-geare, he..placed mee in the Ship. *c* 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* I. v. vii, The Dutches..came in her night-geers from her Bed-Chamber. 1847 LYTTON *Lucretia* (1853) 346 She stood in her long night-gear on the floor. 1861 *All Year Round* V. 13 The young Duke haled the old Duke..Thus, in his night gear, down the turret stair.

†2. Liquor for night-drinking. *Obs. rare* —¹.

1592 NASHE *Pierce Penniless* Wks. (Grosart) II. 79 Thou that vsest to drinke nothing but scalding lead and sulphur in hell, thou are not so greedie of thy night-geare.

Ni·ght-glass. *Naut.* [f. NIGHT *sb.* + GLASS *sb.*¹] A short refracting telescope especially constructed for use during the night.

1779 NELSON 13 May in *Nicholas' Disp.* (1845) I. 28, I have lost a very fine Brig,..I am sure for want of a Night-glass. 1812 BYRON *Ch. Har.* I. xvii, The night-glass through the narrow bay Discovers where the Pacha's galleys lay. 1884 PAE *Eustace* xix. 242 Randolph stood upon the deck of bis cutter with a night-glass at his eye.

Ni·ght-gown. [f. NIGHT *sb.* + GOWN *sb.*]

1. A loose gown specially used for putting on at (or during the) night in place of the ordinary clothes; a dressing-gown. Now only *Hist.*

a 1400 *Bk. Curtasye* 483 in *Babees Bk.*, Þeo bryngis he forthe nyȝtgoun also, And spredys a tapet and qwysshens two. 1541 *Rutland MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) IV. 321 Rydyng to Hwlle, to bere my Lorde a nyght gowne, iiijs. 1546 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) VI. 240 A gowne furrid withe lambe whiche is my nyghte gowne. 1582 N. LICHEFIELD tr. *Castanheda's Conq. E. Ind.* 155 His night gowne was made of blacke Velnet, after the French use laced about, with lase of golde. 1607 DEKKER & WEBSTER *Sir T. Wyatt* Wks. 1873 III. 128 Pleaseth the Lady Iane, ile helpe her off with her night-Gowne. 1667 PEPYS *Diary* 27 Aug., She..ran out in her smock into her aviary..; and thither her woman brought her her nightgown. 1683 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1871/4 A Night-gown of striped Sattin cloth-colour and Buff, another for a man about the same colours. 1709 MRS. MANLEY *Secret Mem.* (1736) I. 177 He starts up in the Bed, feels for his Night-Gown to rise..and see what was the matter. 1749 SMOLLETT *Gil Blas* IV. x, She put on a thin night-gown which lay at the bed's feet. 1777 SHERIDAN *Trip Scarb.* I, Scene ii, a Dressing Room. Lord Foppington, in bis Night Gown. 1808 SCOTT in *Lockhart* (1839) I. 27, I found him..wrapped in a tartan night gown. 1881 BESANT & RICE *Chapl. of Fleet* II. 43 The country parson went dressed in a grey-striped calamanco nightgown. *fig.* 1728 POPE *Dunc.* II. 38 No meagre, muse-rid mope,.. In a dun night-gown of his own loose skin.

†2. A kind of gown worn by ladies in the 18th cent., originally as an evening dress. *Obs.*

1700 MRS. CENTLIVRE *Perf. Husb.* III. ii, But, Madam, what's to be done with your brocade night-gown you tore last night? 1745 in Dunbar *Social Life* (1865) 123 All plain silk night-gowns [are] worn with different coloured sattens sewed on the brest. 1756 MRS. DELANY *Life & Corr.* (1861) III. 403 Long hoods are worn close under the chin, tied behind...Nightgowns worn without hoops. 1778 *Ibid.* Ser. II. II. 380 The Queen was in a hat and an Italian night-gown of purple lutestring.

3. A light garment worn in bed, now *spec.* one worn by women and children.

a 1822 BYRON *Juan* XVI. cxi, He was undrest, Saving his night-gown. 1851 MEREDITH *Love in the Valley* xi, When from bed she rises clothed from neck to ankle In her long night gown sweet as boughs of May. 1891 HARDY *Tess* (1900) 157/2 The skirts of her dressing-gown and the embroidery of her night-gown flowed upon the floor.

Hence **Ni·ght-gowned** *a.*, dressed in a night-gown.

c 1860 MRS. SPOFFORD in *Casquet of Lit.* (1896) IV. 28 The four pattering night-gowned imps. 1899 KIPLING *Stalky* 176 A nightgowned twelve-year-old leaped from his bed.

Ni·ght-hag. Now *rare.* [f. NIGHT *sb.* + HAG *sb.*¹] A hag or female demon supposed to ride the air by night; the nightmare.

1666 DRYDEN *Ann. Mirab.* ccxlviii, Dire night-hags come from far to dance their round. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* II. 662 The Night-Hag, when call'd In secret, riding through the Air she comes Lur'd with the smell of infant blood. 1750 tr. *Leonardus' Mirror Stones* 86 A crisolete bound round with gold, and carried in the left hand, drives away night-hags. 1814 SCOTT *Wav.* xiii, When the Night-Hag wings the troubled air. 1834 L. RITCHIE *Wand. by Seine* 59 The indefinite dread, which sits like the night-hag on their Souls.

Ni·ght-hawk. [f. NIGHT *sb.* + HAWK *sb.*¹]

1. A name given to various birds; esp. a. The Nightjar or Goatsucker.

1611 BIBLE *Lev.* xi. 16 The owle, and the nighte-hauke, & the Cuckow. 1783 LATHAM *Gen. Synopsis Birds* II. 593 Dorr Hawk, Night Jarr, or Night Hawk. 1844 *Zoologist* II. 445, I had brought to me a pair of 'night-hawks', as goatsuckers are provincially termed in Kent. 1878 T. HARDY *Ret. Native* IV. vii, A night-hawk revealed his presence by whirring like the clack of a mill.

b. An American bird (*Chordiles virginianus*) related to the Nightjar.

1812 A. WILSON *Amer. Ornith.* V. 65 On the last week in April, the night hawk commonly makes its first appearance in this part of Pennsylvania. 1851 MAYNE REID *Scalp Hunt.* xxxviii. 289 The night-hawk has filled his ravenous maw. 1868 WHITTIER *Among Hills* 209 We heard the night-hawk's sullen plunge.

c. A New Zealand owl (*Spiloglaux novæzealandiæ*), also called *morepork.*

1872 DOMETT *Ranolf* XI. iv, Two loud harsh notes assail her ear, The night-hawk's.

2. *fig.* One who seeks prey by night.

1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* xxix, There are night-hawks abroad, so that I cannot give you..the meeting..whilk was my purpose. 1893 *Pall Mall G.* 3 Jan. 2/2 When Jack steps ashore with money in his pocket he is..the victim of the crimp and the night-hawk.

Ni·ght-heron. *Ornith.* [f. NIGHT *sb.* + HERON.] A heron of the genus *Nycticorax*, represented in Europe by *N. griseus* or *europæus*; the common American species is *N. nævius* or *gardeni*, the Qua-bird.

1784 PENNANT *Arct. Zool.* II. 450 Night Heron. 1813 WILSON *Amer. Ornith.* VII. 105 The food of the Night Heron, or Qua-bird, is chiefly composed of small fish. 1831 RENNIE *Montagu's Ornith. Dict.* 338. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 189/1, I have frequently found upon the breast of the night-heron a yellow oily powder.

Ni·ght-house. [f. NIGHT *sb.* + HOUSE *sb.*¹] A tavern, public-house, etc. which remains open all night.

1734 FIELDING *Univ. Gallant* III. Wks. 1882 X. 70 They have put down all night-houses, and other places of rendezvous. 1764 *Ann. Reg.* I. 151/1 They went both to a night-house, where they sat drinking together till it was light. 1823 *Blackw. Mag.* XIV. 508 The wickets of the night-houses..open only to known customers. 1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* (1865) II. 511/2 The men..send to some night-house..to purchase a small quantity [of liquor].

Nightingale¹ (nəi·tingēl). Forms: 3 niȝtin-, 4 nihtyn-, nyhtin-, 4–6 nyghtyn-, (5 -yng, nygttyn-, 6 nyghtin-), 4–5 nytyn(g)-, 5–6 *Sc.* nycht(t)in-, (6 -yn-, nichtin-), 4, 6 nightyn-, 6–nightin-, (7 nitin-); also 5–7 -gal(l, 6 *Sc.* -gaill, 7 -ghale. [Later form of *nightegale* NIGHTGALE. For the insertion of the *n*, which has no etymological reason, cf. *farthingale.*]

1. A small reddish-brown or tawny migratory bird (*Motacilla* or *Daulias luscinia*), celebrated for the melodious notes which the male utters by night as well as by day during the breeding and nesting season.

By poets frequently called PHILOMEL(A.

a 1250 *Owl & Night.* 4 (Cotton MS.) An hule and one niȝtingale. *Ibid.* 13 Þe niȝtingale bigon þe speche. *c* 1340 *Nominale* (Skeat) 788 Cote, houle, nytyngale. ? *a* 1366 CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 657 In many places were nyghtyngales, Alpes, fynches, and wodewales. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 54 He herde among the leves singe The Throstle with the nyhtingale. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 356/1 Nyghtyngale, *filomena.* 1484 CAXTON *Fables of Alfonce* vi, He herd the songe of a nyghtyngale. 1523 SKELTON *Garl. Laurel* 907 To here this nightingale..Warbelynge in the vale. 1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 66 They harde nyghtingales synge in the thycke woodes. 1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* Nov. 25 The Nightingale is sovereigne of song. 1661 WALTON *Compl. Angler* (ed. 3) I. i, The Nightingale .. breaths such sweet lowd musick out of her little instrumentall throat, that it might make mankind to think Miracles are not ceased. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 248 The Nightingal, the sweet Harbinger of the Light, is a constant Chearer of these Groves. 1770 GRAY in *Corr. w. Nicholls* (1843) 109 Trees blooming and nightingales singing all round us. 1821 SHELLEY *Adonais* xvii. 1 The lorn nightingale Mourns not her mate with such melodious pain. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVI. 230/2 In Ireland the Nightingale seems never to have been heard. 1894 NEWTON *Dict. Birds* 636 In great contrast to the Nightingale's pre-eminent voice is the inconspicuous coloration of its plumage.

b. Applied to other birds, as *Cornish, Indian, Jamaica, Swedish nightingale*, etc. (see quots.).

Mock, Thrush, Virginian nightingale: see these words.

c 1710 CELIA FIENNES *Diary* (1888) 227 The Cornish nightingales as they call them, the Cornish Chough. *a* 1818 M. G. LEWIS *Jrnl. W. Ind.* (1834) 176 Two Jamaica nightingales have established themselves on the orange tree. ..This bird is also called the mocking-bird. 1855 *Orr's Circle Sci., Org. Nat.* III. 306 The *Kittacincla macroura* .. is denominated the Indian Nightingale by some naturalists. 1884 NEWTON in *Encycl. Brit.* XVII. 499/1 The Redwing, strangely enough, has been often spoken of as the 'Swedish Nightingale'. 1885 SWAINSON *Prov. Names Birds* 28 Sedge Warbler, *Acrocephalus Phragmitis*, .. Irish nightingale, Scotch nightingale.

c. *Dutch nightingale*, a frog.

1769 PENNANT *Brit. Zool.* III. 5 The croaking of Frogs is well known, and from that in fenny countries they are stiled Dutch Nightingales or Boston Waites. 1812 SOUTHEY *Omniana* II. 33 Walton accuses the frogs of destroying them, but I cannot persuade myself to find a true bill against these poor persecuted Dutch nightingales. 1840 SPURDEN *Suppl. Forby, Dutch-Nightingale*, a frog, from its melodious note in the spring.

2. *transf.* Applied to persons, esp. to melodious singers or speakers. (See also quot. 1867.)

1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* lxxxv. 34 Aue Maria!..Haile, gentill nychttingale! *a* 1550 *Hye Way to Spittel Ho.* in Hazl. *E. P. P.* IV. 41 By my fayth, nyghtyngales of Newgate, These be they that dayly walkes and jettes. 1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* IV. viii. 18 Mine Nightingale, We haue beate them to their Beds. *a* 1618 RALEIGH in Gutch *Coll. Cur.* I. 81 Basil, whom Nyssen calls the golden Nitingale of the church. *c* 1730 FIELDING *Pleasures of Town* Wks. 1771 I. 246 Soft Italians are nightingales, Sir, And a cock-sparrow mimics a beau. 1751 EARL ORRERY *Remarks Swift* (1752) 145 His voice in common conversation was so naturally musical, that I remember honest Tom Southerne used always to call him [Pope] The little nightingale. 1821 SHELLEY *Epipsych.* 10 This song shall be thy rose: its petals pale Are dead, indeed, my adored Nightingale! 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* 643 *Spithead-Nightingales*, Boatswains and boatswains' mates, when winding their calls, especially when piping to dinner.

3. A popular or local name for certain flowers.

1862 *Monthly Pkt.* Oct. 435 Cuckoo flowers are called 'nightingales'. 1886 BRITTEN & HOLLAND 353 Nightingales, 1. *Geranium Robertianum*. 2. *Arum maculatum.* 1893 *Wilts. Gloss.* 110 Nightingale..., Greater Stitchwort.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *nightingale-catcher, -like*; **nightingale-maggot, -pipe** (see quots.).

1611 COTGR., *Rossignolesque*, Nightingale-like, harmonious. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 172 In Regals (where they have a Pipe, they call the Nightingale-Pipe, which containeth Water) the Sound hath a continuall Trembling. 1750 W. ELLIS *Country Housew. Comp.* 193 Great Heats produce the Nightingale Maggot, that turns to a black wing'd Insect, that feeds upon and corrupts the Flower. 1752 MRS. DELANY *Life & Corr.* (1861) III. 86 Donnellan is tuning her nightingale pipes. 1773 BARRINGTON in *Phil. Trans.* LXIII. 283 One should suppose..that the nightingale-catchers had heard much of the French music.

Hence **Ni·ghtingalize** *v.*, to sing like a nightingale. **Ni·ghtingaly** *a.*, suggestive of, adapted for, nightingales. (*nonce-wds.*)

1799 SOUTHEY *Eng. Ecl.* Poet. Wks. III. 78 He sings like a lark when at morn he arises, And when evening comes he nightingalizes. 1869 MRS. WHITNEY *We Girls* iii, Its expression was 'blossomy, nightingale-y', atilt with glee and grace. 1884 *Cent. Mag.* Mar. 775/2 The surrounding country..looked to me very nightingaly.

Nightingale² (nəi·tingēl). [f. the name of Miss Florence *Nightingale* (1820–).] A kind of flannel wrap used to cover the shoulders and arms of a patient while confined to bed.

1882 in OGILVIE. 1889 *Atalanta Mag.* Mar. Suppl. 1 A nightingale is such an easy thing to make: just two yards of flannel bound round and a short slit in the long side.

†Ni·ghtish, *a. Obs. rare.* [f. NIGHT *sb.* + -ISH [1].] Pertaining to the night, nocturnal.

1495 *Trevisa's Barth. De P. R.* VIII. ix. (CAXTON) 307 The sygnes of the Zodiacus..that ben watry and erthy ben colde and female and nyghtyssh sygnes. 1530 PALSGR. 319/2 Nyghtysshe or nyghty belongynge to the nyght, *nocturne.* 1567 TURBERV. *Epit.* etc. 15 b, Thou shalt be worse detested then, than is the nightish Owle.

Ni·ghtjar. [f. NIGHT *sb.* + JAR *sb.*[1]]

1. A common nocturnal bird, *Caprimulgus europæus* (see GOATSUCKER), so called from the peculiar whirring noise, something like that of a large spinning-wheel, which the male makes during the period of incubation.

Similar names are *night-churr* (cf. Norw. dial. *nattekörre, -kurre*); *eve-churr* or *-jar*; *churn-, churr-,* and *jar-owl.*

1630 MAY *Contin. Lucan* VII. 470 Ill boding Owles, Nightiarrs, and Rauens with wide-stretched throats. 1783 LATHAM *Gen. Synopsis Birds* II. 593 Dorr Hawk, Night Jarr, or Night Hawk. 1802 MONTAGU *Ornith. Dict.* (1831) 337 The Nightjar is most plentiful in the wild tracts of uncultivated land. 1859 MEREDITH *R. Feverel* xx, The night-jar spinning on the pine-branch. 1888 MRS. H. WARD *R. Elsmere* 557 Suddenly they heard the purring sound of the night-jar.

2. Applied to other birds, esp. those belonging to species of *Caprimulgus* or to related genera.

1712 MORTON *Northampt.* 424 The Butcher-Bird..breeds sometimes in Northamptonshire, and particularly in Whittlewood Forest, where 'tis called the Night-Jarr. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVI. 228/2 *Scotornis climaturus,* African Long-tailed Night-Jar. *Ibid.* 229/1 *Macrodipteryx Africanus,* Pennant-winged Night-Jar, or Long-shafted Goatsucker. 1894 NEWTON *Dict. Birds* 640 A second species of Nightjar, *C. ruficollis,*..is a summer visitant to the south-western parts of Europe. 1899 E. J. CHAPMAN *Drama Two Lives* 67 The nightjars wake their vesper note.

†Ni·ght-kerchief. *Obs.* [f. NIGHT *sb.* + KERCHIEF *sb.*] A kerchief used to cover the head during the night.

Also †*night-kercher*: see NIGHT-RAIL, quot. 1554.

14.. [see NIGHT-CAP 1]. 1561 HOLLYBUSH *Hom. Apoth.* 14 b, Take a soft night kerchef and warme it. 1578 T. N. tr. *Conq. W. India* 9 He stripped himselfe naked, and tied a nightkercheffe about his head. 1599 A. M. tr. *Gabelhouer's Bk. Physicke* 105/1 Take nightkerchifs or Taffataye, and cover therwith the Cassiam and apply this plaster on the Brest.

Ni·ght-lamp. [f. NIGHT *sb.* + LAMP *sb.*] A lamp which is kept burning during the night, esp. in a bedroom.

1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xxxii, Varney..placed a massive silver night-lamp..on a marble table which stood close by the head of the couch. 1842 TENNYSON *Locksley Hall* 80 Thou art staring at the wall, Where the dying night-lamp flickers. 1856 *Orr's Circ. Sci., Pract. Chem.* 494 The Common Floating Night-lamp..is nothing more than a small cup of metal pierced in the middle with a small glass tube.

b. Allusively, with reference to night-studies.

1895 in Anna Stoddart *J. S. Blackie* II. 234 He often warned us all against over-work and the night-lamp.

Ni·ghtless, *a.* [f. NIGHT *sb.* + -LESS.] Devoid of night, having no night.

1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 434 The Sun (whose presence they are long deprived of in the winter, which is recompensed in their night-lesse Summer). 1643 TRAPP *Comm. Gen.* xlvi. 29 Think of that glorious night-less day. 1825 HONE *Every-day Bk.* I. 772 Midsummer, or nightless days, now begin.

Hence **Ni·ghtlessness.**

1897 *Expositor* Sept. 208 All liberty is the result of nightlessness. *Ibid.* 209 The main feature of the city is the nightlessness.

Ni·ght-light. [f. NIGHT *sb.* + LIGHT *sb.* Cf. MDu. (and Du.) *nachtlicht,* MLG. *-lecht,* OHG. *nahtlioht* (G. *nachtlicht*).]

1. The faint light which is perceptible during the night.

1648 HEXHAM, *Nachtlicht,* Night light, Night-shine. 1655 GUNALL *Chr. in Arm.* (ed. 2) I. 56 This night-light of Reason may save a person from some Ditch, or Pond. 1850 MRS. BROWNING *Poems* I. 13 Ever wave the Eden trees In the nightlight and the noonlight. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* IV. xiv, By daylight, nightlight, torchlight. 1892 BRUCE *Apologetics* III. x. 496 The power to appreciate the difference between daylight and nightlight.

2. A light which burns or shines during the night. Also *fig.*

1839 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* II. 300/1 The absence of an universal system of night-lights or signals. 1895 ZANGWILL *Master* II. vii. 212 To watch .. the river, mirroring a thousand night-lights, glide on.

b. A small thick candle, or other contrivance, constructed to burn dimly for a long period, and used by night, especially in sick-rooms.

1851 *Catal. Gt. Exhib.* 197 Wax and spermaceti lights, with plaited wicks, and other candles and night lights. 1857 W. COLLINS *Dead Secret* I. i, The night-light burning by the bed-side, displayed rather than dispelled the darkness. 1887 R. N. CAREY *Uncle Max* viii. 69, I had drawn the round table to the bed, and left the night-light..beside the sick woman.

Ni·ght-line. [f. NIGHT *sb.* + LINE *sb.*[2]] A line with baited hooks set to catch fish by night.

1848 KINGSLEY *Yeast* viii, You were setting night-lines. I saw a minnow lie on the bank as I came up. 1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* II. i, His pet plans of..making night-lines and slings. 1879 JEFFERIES *Wild Life in S. Co.* 359 Night-lines..are the detestation of the true angler.

Hence **Ni·ght-line** *v.*; **Ni·ght-lining** *vbl. sb.*

1894 C. H. COOK *Thames Rights* 119 Owners have allowed their men to night-line to a large extent. *Ibid.* 121 Reserving netting and night-lining rights.

Ni·ght-long, *a.* and *adv.* [f. NIGHT *sb.* + LONG *a.* Cf. OE. *nihtlong, -lang*; MHG. *nahtlanc* (G. *nachtlang*), ON. *náttlangt* adv.]

A. *adj.* That lasts or has lasted the whole night. Also *fig.*

1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* lxxi, Thou hast forged at last A nightlong Present of the Past. 1872 HOWELLS *Wedd. Journ.* (1892) 42 Swelled the deep tide of life back from its night-long ebb. 1876 OUIDA *Winter City* vii, They returned to their night-long baccarat.

B. *adv.* All night; during the whole night.

1870 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* III. IV. 13 But night-long their ship lay..by the blossoms sweet. 1885 C. J. LYALL *Anc. Arab. Poet.* 82 Nightlong as we sat there.

†Ni·ght-long(s, *adv. Obs. rare.* [See -LONG(S.] For the space of a night.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gen.* XIX. 2 Ic bidde eow, leof, þæt ge gecirron to minum huse and þær wunion nihtlanges. *c* 1205 LAY. 15504 Þe wal þe wes swa strong ne moste nihtlonges [*c* 1275 nih longe] nauere..istonden.

Nightly (nəi·tli), *a.* Also 1, 4 nihtlic, 3 -lich, 4 ny3tly. [OE. *nihtlic* = MDu. *nachtelijc, -lic* (Du. *-lijk*), OHG. *nahtlîh* (G. *nächtlich*), ON. *náttligr* (Norw. *nattleg,* Sw. *nattlig,* Da. *natlig*): see NIGHT *sb.* and -LY [1].]

1. Coming, happening, or occurring during the night; accomplished or done by night.

c 897 K. ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* 433 Hæbbe eower ælc his sweord be his ðeo for nihtlecum eȝe. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 11 Anra ȝehwylc hæfde sweord ofer bis hype for nihtlicum eȝe. *a* 1300 *E. E. Psalter* xc. 5 (Harl.), Noght salton drede fra nihtlic radnesse. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Last Age Ch.* (1840) 24 Þat ben a ny3tly drede, an arwe fleynge in day. *a* 1542 WYATT in *Tottel's Misc.* (Arb.) 49 Neuer was there nightly fantome So farre in errour. 1633 MILTON *Arc.* 48 All my Plants I save from nightly ill Of noisom winds and..vapours chill. 1721 YOUNG *Revenge* I. i, By nightly march he purpos'd to surprize The Moorish camp. 1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) IV. 100 Killed in a nightly broil. 1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* xliii. IV. 193 The processionary caterpillars make only nightly sorties from their nests. 1856 KANE *Arctic Expl.* I. vii. 66 Its greatest nightly freezing has been three-quarters of an inch. 1894 GLADSTONE *Horace* II. xiii. 7 Such a man..shed the blood Of his own guest by nightly stroke.

b. Happening or occurring every night.

c 1705 POPE *Jan. & May* 15 This was his nightly dream, his daily care. 1794 LD. HOOD in Nicolas *Nelson Disp.* (1845) I. 400 Every boat assembled at sunset for orders, and the cheerfulness with which the Officers and Men performed this nightly duty is very much to be admired. 1812 BYRON *Ch. Har.* II. lix, Hark! from the mosque the nightly solemn sound The Muezzin's call. 1854 J. S. C. ABBOTT *Napoleon* (1855) I. ii. 52 There were daily and nightly skirmishes.

2. Belonging, pertaining, appropriate, or peculiar to the night; used by night; acting by night.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 9 Hit is riht þat we forleten and forsaken nihtliche deden, þo ben þe werkes of þiesternesse. 1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 221 So I say of nightly sleepings taken abusinely. 1588 SHAKS. *Tit. A.* II. iii. 97 Heere nothing breeds, Vnlesse the nightly Owle, or fatall Rauen. 1604 — *Oth.* IV. iii. 16 Good Æmilia, Giue me my nightly wearing, and adieu. 1617 tr. *A. de Dominis' Rom.* xiii. 12 If we be possessed with a nightly, drowsie silence in Gods businesse. 1682 DRYDEN *Rel. Laici* 8 As those nightly tapers disappear, When day's bright lord ascends our hemisphere. 1764 GOLDSM. *Trav.* 198 Some pilgrim, thither led, With many a tale repays the nightly bed. 1794 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Myst. Udolpho* iii, The voice of the shepherd calling his wandering flocks to the nightly fold. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xxxii, Am I but doomed to draw a brief and glittering train along the nightly darkness? 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) V. 109 Let the nightly hunters who lay snares and nets be everywhere prohibited.

b. Dark as, or with, night; resembling night.

1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* I. ii. 68 Good Hamlet cast thy nightly colour off. 1748 THOMSON *Cast. Indol.* xxxi. 277, I who have spent my nights and nightly days In this soul-deadening place. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* VII. iii, War-thunder mingling with the roar of the nightly main.

Nightly (nəi·tli), *adv.* Also 5 **neghtly,** 5–6 **nyghtly.** [f. NIGHT *sb.* + -LY [2]. Cf. MDu. *nachtelike,* G. *nächtlich,* Sw. *nattligen.*]

1. Every night. (Cf. DAILY *adv.*)

Some early examples might also be taken in sense 2.

1457 *Anc. Cal. Rec. Dublin* (1889) I. 296 Ther schold be viii. men ychos to wache neghtly betwen thys and Candylmas. 1496 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 170 Maryners dayly and nyghtly attendyng & awayting in keping the seid Ship in the dokke. 1540 *Act* 32 *Hen. VIII*, c. 48 Enery of the same persons shal dayly and nightlye..do his office and duety. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* II. ii. 6 Some keepe backe The clamorous Owle that nightly hoots. 1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 1 Those of the Religion daily threatned, and nightly fearing a massacre. 1708 POPE *Sappho* 100 For those might Cynthia .. bid Endymion nightly tend his sheep. 1796 BURKE *Regic. Peace* Wks. VIII. 394 The crowds that nightly flock to them. 1820 SCOTT *Abbot* XXXV, I dread the sentinel who is now planted nightly in the garden. 1862 SPENCER *First Princ.* II. iv. § 52 (1875) 173 The comet..nightly waxes larger. 1895 *19th Cent.* Aug. 337 A curious little ceremony that takes place nightly at a theatre.

2. At or by night; during the night.

1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* IV. i. 87 Chaine me with roaring Beares Or hide me nightly in a Charnell house. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 61 The other..speakes it selfe rather a Royal Carranansraw, then a Temple, though nightly a thousand Lamps adorne it. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* II. 642 They on the trading Flood..Ply stemming nightly toward the pole. 1704 SWIFT *Batt. Bks.* Misc. (1711) 260 Two Mungril Curs..join in Partnership..nightly to invade the Folds of some rich Grazier. 1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) I. 43 When morning appeared, they wondered to behold new ramparts raised, nightly erected, out of the ruins which the day had made. 1815 BYRON *Hebr. Mel., Sennacherib,* When the blue wave rolls nightly on deep Galilee.

Ni·ghtman. [f. NIGHT *sb.* + MAN *sb.* Cf. Da. *natmand,* † *nattemand* (1647).]

1. A man employed during the night to empty cesspools, etc., and to convey away the night-soil. Also *transf.*

1606 DEKKER *News fr. Hell* Wks. (Grosart) II. 121 More stinkingly musty..then the fists of night-men. 1665 *Orders of Ld. Mayor* in De Foe *Journ. Plague* (Rtldg.) 64 That no Nightman..be suffered to empty a Vault into any Garden. 1700 T. BROWN tr. *Fresny's Amusem.* (1709) 34 A Milch-Ass, to be sold at the Night-Man's in White-chapel. 1763 C. JOHNSTON *Reverie* II. 246 'We shall all want .. our vaults emptied',—said the night-man. 1813 MOORE *Post Bag* iv. 291 Who now will be The Nightman of No-Popery? 1828 P. CUNNINGHAM *N. S. Wales* (ed. 3) II. 104 An odour to which that of a nightman's museum of foul abominations is myrrh and frankincense. 1869 PARKES *Pract. Hygiene* (ed. 3) 109 Nightmen, and the collectors and sorters of dust.

2. A man who does work during the night, or on a night-shift. (Usu. as two words.)

1885 *Harper's Mag.* May 870/2 There is a day and a night man to each lock. 1887 *Pall Mall G.* 19 Feb. 8/2 The night men usually descend between half-past six and seven.

Nightmare (nəi·tmēə1), *sb.* Also 6 **nightes-mare.** [f. NIGHT *sb.* + MARE *sb.*[2] Cf. MDu. *nachtmare, -maere, -mer(i)e,* etc. (Du. *-merrie*), MLG. *nachtmar, -maer* (LG. *-moor*), MHG. *nahtmare* (G. *nachtmahr, -mähr*): some of these forms show assimilation to MARE *sb.*[1]]

1. A female spirit or monster supposed to beset people and animals by night, settling upon them when they are asleep and producing a feeling of suffocation by its weight.

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 306/228 Ofte hny oner-liggez [men]: and men cleopiet þe niȝt-mare. *c* 1340 *Nominale* (Skeat) 701 Wolf, fox, and nytmare [F. *pesarde*]. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 356/1 Nyghte Mare (or mare, or wytche), *epialtes.* 1530 PALSGR. 248/1 Nightmare, *gonblin.* 1561 *Chaucer's Miller's T.* C.'s Wks. (Speght) 13 Jesu Crist, and seint Benedight, Blisse this bouse..Fro the nightes-mare. 1608 TOPSELL *Serpents* (1658) 715 The spirits of the night, called Incubi and Succubi, or else Night-mares. 1696 AUBREY *Misc.* (1721) 147 It is to prevent the Night-Mare (viz.) the Hag, from riding their Horses. 1769 CHATTERTON *Ælla* cvi, The death-owl loud doth sing To the night-mares as they go. 1817 SHELLEY *Pr. Athan.* I. 120 Like an eyeless nightmare grief did sit Upon his being. 1842 TENNYSON *Morte d'Arth.* 177 King Arthur panted hard Like one that feels a nightmare on his bed.

fig. 1860 THACKERAY *Round. Papers, On half a loaf,* For weeks past this nightmare of war has been riding us.

b. As a term of abuse. *rare.*

1633 FORD *Broken H.* II. iii, Hold your chops, nightmare! 1824 BYRON *Def. Transf.* I. i, Out Thou incubus! Thou nightmare!

2. A feeling of suffocation or great distress felt during sleep, from which the sleeper vainly endeavours to free himself; a bad dream producing these or similar sensations.

1562 TURNER *Herbal* II. (1568) 84 A good remedy agaynst the stranglyng of the nyght mare. 1584 COGAN *Haven Health* ccxli. (1636) 274 The spirits being stopped, the night mare (as they call it) and palsie..be engendred. 1631 WODDOWES *Nat. Philos.* 53 The Night-mare is a seeming of being choked or strangled by one leaping upon him. 1675 *Machiavelli's Belphegor* Wks. 527 This was no fantastick imagination, nor fit of the Night-mare. 1711 ADDISON *Spectator* No. 117 ¶ 8 Moll had been often brought before him for..giving Maids the Night-Mare. 1748 HARTLEY *Observ. Man* I. i. § i. 52 Which seems to be the Case in the Night-mare. 1826 SCOTT *Jrnl.* 29 Nov., I had the night-mare in short, and no wonder. 1852 MRS. STOWE *Uncle Tom's C.* XXXIX, He stared at her like a man in the night-mare. 1874 L. STEPHEN *Hours in Library* (1892) I. vi. 234 He is above all things a dreamer, and his dreams resemble nightmares.

b. In *fig.* and *transf.* senses.

1831 CARLYLE *Sart. Res.* (1858) 71 Not till after long years..did the believing heart..sink into spell-bound sleep, under the nightmare, Unbelief. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* xxix, Quilp indeed was a perpetual night-mare to the child. 1872 BAKER *Nile Trib.* ix, The night-mare of her life was the possibility that her daughter should be sold.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *nightmare-dream, -sleep, -sleeper, -weight.* Also *nightmare-laden* adj.

1829 CARLYLE *Misc.* II. (1857) 116 Over our noblest faculties is spreading a nightmare sleep. 1843 — *Past & Pr.* (1858) 282 Awake, O nightmare sleepers. 1847 TENNYSON *Princ.* vi. 281 This nightmare weight of gratitude. 1856 DELAMER *Fl. Gard.* (1861) 169 You may plant in safety, without nightmare dreams of nipping frosts. 1865 *Macm. Mag.* XIII. 156 Like weird ghosts from the nightmare-laden world I had left behind me.

Ni·ghtmare, *v.* [f. the sb.]

1. *trans.* To beset as by a nightmare. Also *fig.* Hence **Ni·ghtmared** *ppl. a.*

1660 R. WILDE *Iter Boreale* 3 Hag of my Fancy,..Nightmare my soul no more. *a* 1678 MARVELL *Poems* (1870) 136 Thus the State's nightmared by this hellish rout. 1856 R. A. VAUGHAN *Mystics* (1860) II. x. i. 154 Now she sat nightmared in company, nervous, stiff, and silent, the picture of stupidity. 1893 LELAND *Mem.* I. 110 The nightmared slumber of frozen orthodoxy.

2. To imagine as in a nightmare.

1839 LADY LYTTON *Cheveley* (ed. 2) I. xii. 269 The obscene

trash and inconceivable horrors that are hourly night-mared in French garrets.

Ni·ghtmarish, *a.* [f. as prec. + -ISH 1.] Somewhat like a nightmare; apt to give one the nightmare.

1834 *Fraser's Mag.* X. 439 That wild, disjointed, night-mareish inspiration, which seems the essence of German romanticism. 1872 KING *Sierra Nevada* ix, After sleeping on the nightmarish brink of the falls. 1890 *Athenæum* 9 Aug. 189/2 The story is restrained..in tone, yet there are lurid and nightmarish touches.

Hence **Ni·ghtmarishly** *adv.*

1891 *Sat. Rev.* 4 Apr. 425/2 It is..unspeakably and nightmarishly dull.

Ni·ghtmary, *a. rare.* [f. as prec. + -Y 1.] Resembling a nightmare; nightmarish.

1851 G. H. KINGSLEY *Sp. & Trav.* (1900) 531 A very nightmarey dream it promises to be. 1890 *Pall Mall G.* 21 Mar. 6/1 How the master ever wrote anything but nightmary stories..I cannot for the life of me imagine.

Ni·ghtness. *nonce-wd.* Darkness.

1839–52 BAILEY *Festus* 37/1 He strained His eyes to work the nightness which remained.

Night-old, *a.*: see NIGHT *sb.* 14.

Ni·ght-owl. [f. NIGHT *sb.* + OWL *sb.*] An owl which flies especially by night.

1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II*, III. iii. 183 For night-Owls shrike, where mounting Larks should sing. 1601 — *Twel. N.* II. iii. 60 Shall wee rowze the night-Owle in a Catch? 1691 *Vind. Top Knots* i. in *Bagford Ball.* (1876) I. 123 Like silly Night Owls They prate, and they talk of their Top-Knots. 1743 *Pol. Ballads* (1860) II. 301 The night-owl shrieks, the raven croaks. 1796 STEDMAN *Surinam* II. xxv. 239 The *strix* or night-owl of Guiana regularly paid us his nocturnal visits. 1845 *Encycl. Metrop.* XXV. 133/1 Night Owls..are of small size, but their habits are generally nocturnal, and their motions slow and noiseless.

Ni·ght-piece. [f. NIGHT *sb.* + PIECE *sb.* Cf. Du. *nachtstuk*, G. *nachtstück.*]

1. A painting or picture representing a night-scene. Also *transf.*

1605 B. JONSON *Masque Blackness* Wks. (Rtldg.) 545/1 The scene behind seemed a vast sea .. to which was added an obscure and cloudy night-piece. 1655 VAUGHAN *Silex Scint.* 160 Some meek night-piece which day quails To candlelight unveils. 1692–3 NORRIS *Pract. Disc.* IV. 45 But I have drawn a sad, and black Night-piece of this already. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 83 ¶ 9 He had likewise hung a great Part of the Wall with Night-pieces. 1762–71 H. WALPOLE *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1786) II. 195 Excelling particularly in night-pieces and candle-lights. 1797 HOLCROFT tr. *Stolberg's Trav.* II. li, Christ before Caiaphas. A night piece. *c* 1850 tr. *Hugo's Hunchback* I. iii, Faces.. which Rembrandt has brought out so grave and so expressive from the dark ground of his night-piece.

b. Applied to an actual night-scene, or to a landscape as viewed by night.

1643 *Sober Sadness* 46 This plot was laid; and this designe in agitation (though it be a night-piece, which few have hitherto discover'd fully). 1646 J. GREGORY *Notes & Obs.* (1650) 109 So the Tradition, and so the Masters describe the Night-peice of this Nativity. 1832 DOWNES *Lett. Cont. Countries* I. 54 The solitude..illumined by the bright and steady moon—I thought it the finest night-piece I had ever witnessed.

c. As a title of literary compositions.

1648 HERRICK *Hesp.*, The Night-piece to Julia. *a* 1718 PARNELL (*title*) A Night-piece on Death.

† 2. *fig.* A mistress. *Obs. rare*−1.

1620 MIDDLETON *Chaste Maid* I. ii, Some merchants would in soul kiss hell..To deck their night-piece.

Ni·ght-rail. Now only *Hist.* or *dial.* [f. NIGHT *sb.* + RAIL *sb.*1] A loose wrap, dressing-jacket, or dressing-gown, as worn by women when in undress.

1554 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 146 Oon of my night kerchers, and oon of my night railes. 1626 MIDDLETON *Mayor of Queenb.* III. ii, To see men wear stomachers or night-rails. *c* 1640 SHIRLEY *Capt. Underwit* I. in Bullen *Old Pl.* II. 327 What paid you for this dead mans hair? Where's your night rail? 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. i. 12/2 He beareth Sable, a Set-Hood, laced, conjoyned to a Night raile...Some term this a Hooded Night-raile. 1710 STEELE *Tatler* No. 245 ¶ 2 Four striped Muslin Night-Rails very little frayed. 1753 RICHARDSON *Grandison* V. xliii, Does it not look as if she would have been an useful creature in the days of nightrail and notableness? 1793 *Regal Rambler* 24 The ragged remains of a nightrail. 1822 SCOTT *Nigel* xvii, I could wager a rose-noble..that she has clean head-gear and a soiled night-rail. 1852 THACKERAY *Esmond* I. vi, My lady sitting up in the bed, showing herself full dressed under her night-rail. 1891 T. HARDY *Tess* xxxiv, When we was packing your few traps and your Mis'ess's night-rail and dressing things.

Ni·ght-raven. Now only *poet.* [OE. *næht-, nihthræfn, -hrefn, -hremn,* etc. = MDu. *nachtraven, -rave* (Du. *-raaf*), MLG. *nachtraven*, OHG. *nachtraban, -(h)ram* (MHG. *nahtraben, -rabe*, G. *nachtrabe*), ON. *nátthrafn* (Norw. *nattramn*, Da. *natte-, natravn*): see NIGHT *sb.* and RAVEN *sb.*] A nocturnal bird, variously identified as a night-owl, night-heron, or nightjar, or imagined as a distinct species. (Cf. NIGHT-CROW.)

In early use found only as a rendering of L. *noctua* or *nycticorax.*

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) N 145 *Noctua*, naeht hraefn. *c* 825 *Vesp. Psalter* ci. 7 ꝥeworden ic eam swe swe næhthrefn [L. *nocticorax*] in husincle. *c* 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Thorpe) ci. 8 Ic ꝥenemned eam niht-hrefne ꝥelic. *a* 1300 *E. E. Psalter* ci. 7 Made am i als nighte-rauen in houseles [that] esse. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 4531 A ratland nigt ravyn is him to rent ȝolden. 1567 MAPLET *Gr. Forest* 94 (Cath. Angl.), The Nightrauen or Crowe is of the same maner of life that the Owle is. 1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* June 23 Here no night-ravenes lodge, more black then pitche. 1632 MILTON *L'Allegro* 7 Where brooding darknes spreads his jealous wings, And the night-Raven sings. 1678 RAY *Willughby's Ornith.* 279 The lesser Ash-coloured Heron, or Night Raven. 1755 tr. *Pontoppidan's Nat. Hist. Norway* II. 91 We have the Night Raven also here. 1808 SHELLEY *St. Irvyne* I. 4 Along the wild mountains night-ravens were yelling.

transf. 1673 KIRKMAN *Unlucky Citizen* 168 What good could I expect from my Father, who had such a Night-Raven as my Stepdame was?

Ni·ght-robe. [f. NIGHT *sb.* + ROBE *sb.*] A garment worn during the night; a dressing-gown or night-gown.

1553 *Rutland Papers* (Camden) 119 Therle of Oxford claymeth .. to haue the nighte robe with the which the Queene was clothed the night before. 1805 SCOTT *Last Minstr.* VI. xix, All in her night-robe loose she lay reclined. 1865 J. H. INGRAHAM *Pillar of Fire* (1872) 418 The queen came to the door hurriedly, in her night-robes, and opened it.

Comb. 1894 *Outing* XXIV. 110/1 Worthies, in white night-robe-like blouses protecting other clothing.

Hence **Ni·ght-robed** *a.*

1799 SHERIDAN *Pizarro* Prol., Where night-robed misses amble two by two.

Nights (nəits), *adv.* Now *dial.* and *U.S.* [OE. *nihtes* = OFris. *nachtes, -is*, OS. *nahtes* (MDu. *nachtes, nachts*, Du. *'s nachts*), OHG. *nahtes* (G. *nachts*), an irreg. genitive form on the analogy of *dæges, dages*, etc. (see DAY *sb.* 1 b), but in later use prob. apprehended as a plural.] During the night, by night, at night.

Beowulf 422 Ic..on ȳðum slox niceras nihtes. *a* 900 CYNEWULF *Crist* 938 Mona þæt sylfe, þe ær moncynne nihtes lyhte, niþer ꝥehreoseð. *c* 1000 *Boeth. Metr.* xiii. 59 Merecondel scyfð on ofdæle, uncuðne weg nihtes ꝥeneðeð. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1101 Se biscop Rannulf ..ut of þam ture on Lunden nihtes oðbærst. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 591 Wan ich flo nigtes after muse. *a* 1272 *Luue Ron* 60 in *O. E. Misc.* 95 If he dret þat me him stele, þenne doþ him pyne nybtes wake. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* Prol. 102 Chosine knychttis seruand hyme bath day & nychtis. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 6443 ȝe scholde sitte and wake nyghtes, As hauke on perche that sittes in mewe. 1601 WEEVER *Mirr. Mart.* E ij, Aboue all nights, nights, dayes, each hower remember, To solemnize the twenteth of Nouember.

1866 LOWELL *Biglow P.* Ser. II. Introd., So thievish they hev to take in their stone walls nights. 1899 F. J. MATHER *Chaucer's Prol.* p. vii, Chaucer..returning nights to his home in chambers over Aldgate.

Ni·ght-scene. [f. NIGHT *sb.* + SCENE *sb.*] A scene viewed, or taking place, by night; a picture, or dramatic representation, of this.

1684 T. BURNET *The. Earth* II. 103 These things will make the day dead and melancholy, but the night-scenes will have more of horrour in them: when the blazing-stars appear. 1700 ROWE *Amb. Step-Moth.* IV. iii, A night Scene of the Temple of the Sun. 1711 SHAFTESB. *Charac.* (1737) I. 317 A conversation of the same free nature as that recited by him in his night-scene. 1831 SCOTT in *Lockhart* (1839) X. 115 Garrick's acting, particularly in the night-scene, drew down universal applause.

Night-school: see NIGHT *sb.* 13.

Ni·ght-season. [f. NIGHT *sb.* + SEASON *sb.*] The night-time.

1535 COVERDALE *Luke* xxi. 37 In the night season he wente out, and abode all night vpon mount Oliuete. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 51 The Captaine of Turege had taken in the night season John Oxeline. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 93 In thir only mantilis in the nyt seasone thay rowit thame selfes, and in thame sleipet sound. 1817 COLERIDGE *Biog. Lit.* (Bohn) 299 He calls up the breeze to chase away the usurping vapours of the night-season. 1860 GOSSE *Rom. Nat. Hist.* 37 The aborigines holding their revels under the coolness of the night-season.

Nightshade1 (nəi·tʃēid). Forms: 1 niht-scada, 5 nyȝtschode, nichtheshod(e, niȝte-schede, 6 nyghte-, nighteshad(e, 6– night-shade. [OE. *nihtscada* = MDu. *nachtscade*, etc. (Du. *nachtschade*) and *nachtscadu(w)e* (Du. *-schaduwe*), MLG. *nachtschade, -schede, -scheide* (hence MSw. *natskada, -skäda, -skeda*, Da. *natskade*), OHG. *nahtscato, -schato* (MHG. *-schate*, G. *-schatte, -schatten*); ? hence Sw. *nattskatta, -skattegräs*), app. f. NIGHT *sb.* + SHADE *sb.*, perh. with allusion to the poisonous or narcotic properties of the berries. The variation of the second element in ME. and MLG. is prob. due to independent popular corruption.]

1. a. A plant of the genus *Solanum*, esp. *S. nigrum* (Black Nightshade), a herbaceous plant with ovate bluntly-toothed leaves, white flowers, and black poisonous berries, or *S. Dulcamara* (Woody Nightshade) with cordate or hastate leaves, purple flowers, and bright red berries. b. A plant of the genus *Atropa*, Deadly Nightshade or BELLADONNA.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 135/3 *Strumus*, uel *nua lupina*, nihtscada. *c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 55 Put to þis medycine þe jus of sum colde erbe: as morel, nyȝtschode, penywort. *c* 1450 *Alphita* (Anecd. Oxon.) 119 *Morella*..*anglice* nichtheschode [*v.r.* niȝteschede] *vel* houndesberie. [Also 176 *Solatrum mortale*]. 1548 TURNER *Names Herbs* (E. D. S.) 75 Solanum hortense which..is called in Englishe Nyghtshade. 1562 — *Herbal* II. (1568) 141 Nighte shad or Petemorell..is a bushy herbe, whyche is vsed to be eaten. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* 443 Nightshade hath rounde stalkes of a foote long, full of branches. 1657 S. PURCHAS *Pol. Flying-Ins.* 93 Those that are soporiferous, and Narcotick as..Night-shade. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* II. 96 2 Night-shade..in most places..is called Gold-Knape, or yellow Crace, for the golden colour fruit. 1712 tr. *Pomet's Hist. Drugs* I. 138 Some will have them to grow on a kind of Night-shade. 1784 COWPER *Task* IV. 737 Some sprigs of mournful mint, Of nightshade, or valerian. 1810 CRABBE *Borough* xviii, Here the dull nightshade hangs her deadly fruit. 1846 LINDLEY *Veget. Kingd.* 619 The most immediate affinity of Nightshades seem to be with Oliveworts and Bindweeds. 1872 MACMILLAN *True Vine* vii. 295 The purple and yellow blossom of the nightshade is constructed exactly like the flower of the cyclamen.

attrib. 1821 SHELLEY *Epipsych.* 257 One, whose voice was venomed melody, Sate by a well, under blue nightshade bowers.

fig. a 1652 J. SMITH *Sel. Disc.* i. 7 That venemous solanum, that deadly nightshade, that drives its cold poison into the understandings of men. 1850 O. WINSLOW *Inner Life* i. 15 Satan has ever sought to engraft the deadly nightshade of error upon the life-giving Rose of Sharon.

2. Used with specific names to denote species of *Solanum*, *Atropa*, or plants of other genera.

African, American, Bastard Nightshade (see quots.). † **Bindweed N.** = *Enchanter's N.* **Black N.** (see 1 a). **Climbing N.** (see quot.). **Common N.** = *Black N.* **Deadly N.** (see DEADLY *a.* 4 c). **Enchanter's N.** (see ENCHANTER 2). **Garden N.** = *Black N.* † **Mad N.** (see quot. 1578). **Malabar N.** = *Climbing N.* † **Red N.**, Alkekengi. **Sleeping** or **Sleepy N.** = *Deadly N.* **Stinking N.**, Henbane. **Three-leaved N.**, a N. American plant (*Trillium*) having simple stems with three leaves at the top. † **Tree-N.** (see quot.). **Woody N.** (see 1 a).

1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 150 The berries of the *African nightshade (*solanum guineense*) have been of late years considerably applied to silk. 1760 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* App. 320 Nightshade, *American, *Phytolacca*. *Ibid.*, Nightshade, American, *Rivinia*. *Ibid.*, Nightshade, *Bastard, *Rivinia*. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. lix. 280 It is called in Latine.. *Circea lutetiana*; in English Inchaunters Nightshade, or *Bindweede Nightshade. 1846–50 A. WOOD *Class-bk. Bot.* 448 *Solanum Nigrum*, *Black Nightshade. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Suppl.* App. s.v., *Climbing Nightshade, a name sometimes used for the Basella or Cuscuta of botanists. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* 447 This *solanum* cooleth..more strongly than the *Common Nightshade. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* (1721) II. 231 Flowers like that of the common Nightshade. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. li. 268 In English it [*Solanum hortense*] is called *Garden Nightshade; Morell, and petie Morell. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* 447 The other is called *Solanum Manicum*, that is to say *Mad or Raging Nightshade. 1600 SURFLET *Countrie Farme* II. xliv. 290 Diuers plants which haue the same vertue, as mad nightshade. 1760 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* App. 320 Nightshade, *Malabar, *Basella*. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* 444 Of *Red Nightshade, winter Cherie and Alkakengy. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. li. 271 The red winter Cherrie is called..in Latine.. *Solanum Vesicarium*:..in English red Nightshade. 1664 EVELYN *Kal. Hort.* June (1729) 208 *Shrub Night-shade. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* (1721) II. 231 Shrub Nightshade has a woody Stock and Branches, dark sad green Leaves. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* 447 One is called..*Sleeping Nightshade. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. li. 269 Dwale or sleeping Nightshade hath round blackish stalks sixe foote high. 1611 COTGR., *Morelle somnifique*, *Sleepie Nightshade. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* II. 75/2 The sleepy Night-shade hath a Sage-like leaf, with a purple Bell-flower. 1796 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) II. 252 Deadly, or sleepy Nightshade. 1760 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* App. 320 Nightshade, *Three-leaved, *Trillium*. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. lxiv. 289 This rare and pleasaunt plant [*Solanum arborescens*] called *tree Night-shade is taken of some to be a kinde of Ginnie pepper, but not rightly. 1796 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) II. 253 Bitter-sweet, *Woody Nightshade. 1849 BALFOUR *Man. Bot.* § 961 *Solanum Dulcamara*, Bitter-sweet or woody Nightshade, has slightly narcotic properties.

Ni·ght-shade2. [f. NIGHT *sb.* + SHADE *sb.*]

1. The shade or darkness of night.

1558 PHAER *Æneid* II. E iv, Through the dark night shade her self she drew from sight. 1621 BRATHWAIT *Nat. Embassie* (1877) 164 Short was our sun-shine, but our night-shade long. 1839–52 BAILEY *Festus* 237 The day hath night-shade long. 1878 HARDY *Ret. Native* VI. iv, The party drove off and vanished in the night-shades.

† 2. *fig.* A night-walker, a prostitute. *Obs. rare*−1.

1612 BEAUM. & FL. *Coxcomb* II. ii, Here comes a night-shade. A gentlewoman-whore.

Ni·ght-shift. [f. NIGHT *sb.* + SHIFT *sb.*]

1. A shift or garment worn by women at night.

1710 STEELE *Tatler* No. 245 ¶ 2 [She] carried off the following Goods.., Eight Night-Shifts. 1727 G. JACOB *Rape Smock* 7 Cœlia..slips on her Night-Shift.

2. A shift, or gang of workmen, employed during the night.

1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 992 At 11 o'clock in the forenoon the night shift of miners was relieved by the day shift. 1887 *Pall Mall G.* 19 Feb. 8/2 There was consolation .. in the fact that the whole of the night shift had not yet descended.

b. The time during which the shift lasts.

1860 SMILES *Self-Help* iv. 82 While working as an engineman during the night-shifts. 1882 *Report Precious Metals U.S.* 18 To store the *débris* loosened during the night shifts.

Ni·ght-shirt. [f. NIGHT *sb.* + SHIRT *sb.*] A shirt or loose garment worn by boys or men when in bed.

1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* I. iii, One of the ushers..caught the performer in his night-shirt. 1860 *All Year Round* No. 73. 543 The fetch or double of a man lying in his night-shirt in bed. 1891 *Spectator* 3 Jan. 3/2 One man was denuded of his night-shirt.

Hence **Ni·ght-shirted** *a.*

1893 'B. ABBOTSFORD' *But* 5 To run bang against two night-shirted little items.

Ni·ght-soil. [f. NIGHT *sb.* + SOIL *sb.*] The excrementitious matter removed by night from cesspools, etc.

1770–4 A. HUNTER *Georg. Ess.* (1804) II. 294 Night soil is found to be an excellent manure. 1844 STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 30 A crop of the large orange carrot, manured with night-soil. 1860 READE *8th Commandm.* 343 They have toiled at scurrility day by day, year by year, like vendors of night soil, not like writers.

Ni·ght-song. [f. NIGHT *sb.* + SONG *sb.*]

1. A song sung by night.

1811 MOORE *Irish Melodies* Poet. Wks. (1897) 102 The hour That awakens the night-song of mirth in your bower.

2. *Eccl.* [after OE. *niht-sang.*] The last of the seven canonical hours; compline.

1844 LINGARD *Anglo-Saxon Ch.* (1858) I. vii. 272 The time for the night-song was, strictly speaking, midnight. 1853 ROCK *Ch. Fathers* III. II. 10 Complin or night-song, which is rather a complement to, than a distinct hour by itself of, the divine office.

Ni·ght-spell. [f. NIGHT *sb.* + SPELL *sb.*]

1. A spell used as a protection against harm by night.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Miller's T.* 3480 The night-spel seyde he anon rightes, On the foure halves of the hous aboute, And on the threisshfold of the dore withoute. 1579 E. K. *Gloss. Spenser's Sheph. Cal.* Mar. 54 Spell, is a kinde of verse or charme,..as the Nightspel for theeues. 1608 TOPSELL *Serpents* (1658) 663 This is an excellent night-spell, and therefore I was loath to pretermit it. 1619 FLETCHER *Mons. Thomas* IV. vi, Have at you with a night spell then !..'St. George, St. George,..He walks by day, so does he by night' [etc.]. 1674 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* (ed. 4), *Night-spel*, was a Prayer against the Night-mar.

2. A spell used, or operating, to cause harm or trouble by night.

1589 R. HARVEY *Pl. Perc.* (1590) 19 Such a one as speakes of gospels in the day: but vseth I know not what night-spels in the darke. 1612 J. MASON *Anat. Sorc.* 86 Binding some, that they cannot use their naturall powers and faculties, as we see in night-spels. 1827 *Gentl. Mag.* XCVII. 436 When the next morning's Sun had glistened upon the little stream, and the night-spell had thus been broken, one horse drew away with ease the waggon.

attrib. ? *c* 1600 *Distr. Emperor* I. i. in Bullen *Old Pl.* III. 169, I have seene Your conference with witches, night-spell knaves, Connivynge mountebanks.

Ni·ght-sun. [f. NIGHT *sb.* + SUN *sb.*]

†1. A mock-moon, paraselene. *Obs. rare.*

1594 CONSTABLE *Diana* I. ii, Earthly vapours drawne up hy the Sunne, Comets begun, and night-sunnes in the skie. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 18 Three Moones also appeared at once,..which most men called Night Sunnes.

2. *poet.* The moon.

1842 LONGF. *Hiawatha* ix, The moon, the Night-Sun, eastward, Suddenly, starting from his ambush.

Ni·ght-sweat. [f. NIGHT *sb.* + SWEAT *sb.*] Profuse perspiration occurring during the night, symptomatic of certain diseases. Also *fig.*

a 1754 MEAD *Wks.* (1762) 487 In two months a hectick came on, attended with thirst, heat and night-sweats. 1789 *Med. Jrnl.* II. 19 The night-sweats, and other hectic symptoms, were now extreme. 1825 J. NEAL *Bro. Jonathan* II. 176 Flowers that looked as if they had never had the night-sweat in all their lives. 1876 BRISTOWE *Th. & Pract. Med.* (1878) 600 With this are necessarily associated night-sweats and other characteristic features of hectic.

Ni·ght-tide. [f. NIGHT *sb.* + TIDE *sb.* Cf. MLG. *nachttîd*, MHG. *nahtzît* (G. *nachtzeit*), MSw. *nattatidh* (Sw. & Da. *nattetid*).]

1. The time of night; night-time.

14.. *Sir Beues* (M) 3819 As Sahere slepud a nyght tide, Hym thought he sye Beues ride. 1849 POE *Annabel Lee* vi, All the night-tide, I lie down by the side Of my darling.. my bride. 1887 MORRIS *Odyss.* XII. 286 Ill too are the winds of the night-tide.

2. A tide of the sea occurring during the night.

1759 SAUNDERS in Beatson *Nav. & Milit. Mem.* (1790) II. 374 To proceed with the first fair wind and night-tide above the town of Quebec. 1776 COOK in *Phil. Trans.* LXVI. 448 A notion..that the night-tide rises higher than the day-tide. 1853 J. STEVENSON tr. *Beda's Eccl. Hist.* 575 The night-tide of the ocean had drifted in a heam of wood.

Ni·ght-time. [f. NIGHT *sb.* + TIME *sb.*] The time between evening and morning; the time of night or darkness.

c 1400 LOVE *Bonavent. Mirr.* xxvi. (B.N.C. MS.) lf. 67 [He] cometh downe allone in the nyȝt time fro that trauaillous hille. 1538 ELYOT *Dict., Larua*, a spyrite whiche appere-rethe in the nyght tyme. 1588 in *Martin Marprel. Controv.* (Arb.) 39 [Taken] out of his bed in the nyght tyme. 1632 J. HAYWARD tr. *Biondi's Eromena* 72 She assailed the enemy in the night-time unawares. 1709 *Loud. Gaz.* No. 4527/1 He came up with them and attacked them in the Night-time. 1772 *Phil. Trans.* LXII. 94 The reason of the water's appearing so white in the night-time. 1829 MARRYAT *F. Mildmay* vii, Wandering about..in the night-time. 1856 R. A. VAUGHAN *Mystics* (1860) I. 82 The night-time of the body is the day-time of the soul.

fig. 1811 MOORE *Irish Melodies* Poet. Wks. (1897) 102 Bright dreams of the past..Which come in the night-time of sorrow and care.

Ni·ght-vision. [f. NIGHT *sb.* + VISION *sb.*]

1. A vision or dream that comes during the night.

1382 WYCLIF *Isa.* xxix. 7 And shal be as a drem of a nyȝt viseoun [L. *visionis nocturnæ*]..the multitude..that fozten aȝen Ariel. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* I. 162 Night-visions may befriend .., Our waking dreams are fatal.

2. a. The faculty of seeing during the night or in the dark. b. Ability to see only by night.

1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) III. 146 Acuteness of night vision is natural to various animals that prowl in the dark. 1838 *Penny Cycl.* XII. 114/2 *Nyctalopia*, night-vision, or day-blindness, probably never occurs as a separate disease.

†**Ni·ght-wake.** *Obs.* [f. NIGHT *sb.* + WAKE *sb.* Cf. MDu. *nachtwake* (Du. *-waak*), G. *nachtwache*, ON. *náttvaka.*] The action or fact of keeping awake, or watching, during the night; an instance of this; a wake or feast held at night.

a 1000 *Seafarer* 7 (Grein) Þær mec oft bigeat nearo nihtwaco æt nacan stefnan. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 255/1 Nighte wakes, *vigelie, excubie.* 1521 *Knaresb. Wills* (Surtees) I. 13 For nyght wakes and hedemasse pennys viij d. 1587 GOLDING *De Mornay* xxi. (1592) 328 Their shamefull night-wakes and mysteries celebrated in the darke. *a* 1641 BP. MOUNTAGU *Acts & Mon.* (1642) 137 A tyrannical Prince, killed by his Satrapaes and Noblemen at that feast or drunken night-wake.

Hence **Ni·ght-waker**; **Ni·ght-waking** *ppl. a.*

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 255/1 A Nighte waker, *noctivagus.* 1593 SHAKS. *Lucr.* 554 Yet, fowle night-waking Cat, he doth but dallie, While in his hold-fast foot the weak mouse panteth.

Ni·ght-walker. [f. NIGHT *sb.* + WALKER *sb.*]

1. One who walks about by night, esp. with criminal intentions; a bully or thief. Now *rare.* (Common in 17th c.)

1467 *Nottingham Rec.* II. 264 Ricardus Colman..est communis noctivagus vocatus Anglice 'a nyghtwalker' contra formam Statuti. *c* 1500 *Virgilius* in Thoms *Prose Rom.* (1858) II. 41 The nyght walkers carede not a poynt for that crye. 1581 LAMBARDE *Eiren.* ii. vi. (1588) 196 Watches to be kept for arresting of suspected persons, and of nightwalkers. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 400 Nero Cæsar, ..vsing (as he did) to be a night-walker, .. met otherwhiles with those that would so beat him. 1671 F. PHILIPPS *Reg. Necess.* 580 To lodge the remainder of the night among the debauched or unruly sort of people, calld Rats or Night-walkers. 1732 *Lond. Mag.* I. 334 Give some share of credit to the out-lying Night-walkers, and Suburbian ghosts. 1771 E. LONG in Hone *Every-day Bk.* II. 206 He never .. hurt any body but rogues and night-walkers. 1808 *Sporting Mag.* XXX. 263 One of the night-walkers came in with his legs foremost. 1820 SCOTT *Abbot* XXXV, If he turns re-setter of idle companions and night-walkers, the place must be rid of him.

b. A street-walker, a prostitute. Now *rare.*

1670–1 *N. Riding Rec.* VI. 152 A Huby woman presented for being a common night-walker. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 8 ¶ 3, I am very well acquainted with all the Haunts and Resorts of Female Night-walkers. *c* 1730 FIELDING *Pleasures of Town* Wks. 1771 I. 246 Young virgins are scarce as rails, sir; Plenty as batts the night-walkers go. 1825 *Act* 6 *Geo. IV*, c. 97 § 3 Every common Prostitute and Night-Walker.

†c. 'A bell-man'. *Obs. rare* −⁰.

a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew.*

2. An animal that moves about by night. Also in specific uses (see quots.).

1686 PLOT *Staffordsh.* 243 Most certain it is that Eeles are such night-walkers. 1691 RAY *Creation* (1692) 131 The Tamandua, or Ant-Bear, described by Marcgrave and Piso, who saith of them, that they are Night-walkers, and seek their Food by Night. 1754 STRYPE *Stow's Surv.* (ed. 6) I. i. xx. 124/1 What the Keepers call their School of Apes, which contains two Egyptian Night-walkers, and two Apes from Turkey. *a* 1779 COOK *Voy.* III. viii. (1784) I. 152 We caught .. another [fish].., of a reddish colour with a little beard, which we called night walkers, from the greatest number being caught in the night. 1894 *Outing* XXIV. 137/2 The huge nightwalkers or bob-worms.

3. A somnambulist. *rare* −¹.

1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Suppl.* s.v. *Noctambulatio*, Those.. afflicted with it..are by some called lunatic night-walkers.

Ni·ght-walking, *vbl. sb.* [f. NIGHT *sb.* + WALKING *vbl. sb.*] The action or fact of walking or going about by night; an instance of this.

1494 FABYAN *Chron.* VII. 400 Certayne persones yᵗ thyder were commytted by Sir Iohn Bryton, then custos or gardeyn of the cytie, for nyght walkynges. 1584 R. SCOT *Discov. Witchcr.* x. ix. (1886) 149 Witches night walkings are but phantasies and dreames. 1618 DALTON *Countr. Just.* (1630) 66 Such night-walkings are unfit for honest men, and more suiting to the theefe. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* I. ii. II. vii. 118 After hard meates, it [sleep] increaseth fearefull dreames, Incubus, night-walking.

Ni·ght-walking, *ppl. a.* [Cf. prec.] That walks by night.

1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III*, I. i. 72 There is no man secure But the Queenes kindred, and night-walking Heralds. 1641 MILTON *Animadv.* Wks. 1851 III. 191 To stand to the courtesy of a night-walking cudgeller. 1658 ROWLAND tr. *Monfet's Theat. Ins.* 959 Those night-walking Butterflies hatter with their wings and destroy those that fly by day. 1709 *Rambl. Fuddle-Caps* 8 To pleasure each Sot, like a Night-walking Lady. 1822 W. IRVING *Bracebr. Hall* (1890) 384 This night-walking old fellow of the Haunted House.

Ni·ght-wanderer. [f. NIGHT *sb.* + WANDERER *sb.*] One who or that which wanders by night; one who is travelling by night.

1576 FLEMING tr. *Caius' Dogs* (1880) 25 Theefes, robbers, spoylers, and night wanderers. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* II. i. 39 You.. Misleade night-wanderers, laughing at their harme. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IX. 640 A Flame, Which oft ..Misleads th'amaz'd Night-wanderer from his way. 1844 CARPENTER *Zool.* I. 193 There are few situations in the lower part of Java where this night wanderer is not constantly observed.

Ni·ght-wandering, *ppl. a.* [Cf. prec.] That wanders by night.

1593 SHAKS. *Lucr.* 307 Night-wandring weezels shreek to see him there. 1651 CLEVELAND *Poems* 55 When night-wandring Witches put on their pattins. 1720 POPE *Iliad* XIX. 414 So to night-wandering sailors, pale with fears, Wide o'er the watery waste, a light appears.

So **Ni·ght-wandering** *vbl. sb.*

a 1649 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Hist. Jas. V*, Wks. (1711) 98 Till after much Misery and Night-wandring at Home, they were constrained..to fly into England.

Ni·ghtward, *a.* [f. NIGHT *sb.* + -WARD.] Coming, taking place, etc., towards nightfall; leading towards night.

1631 MILTON in Birch *Life* M.'s Wks. 1738 I. 4, I am the bolder to send you some of my nightward Thoughts. 1644 — *Educ.* 5 Their nightward studies wherewith they close the dayes work. 1863 MRS. WHITNEY *Faith Gartney's Girlh.* xxiii, To tread the nightward path under the old leaden sky.

So **Ni·ghtwards** *adv.*, towards the region of night, westwards.

1855 BAILEY *Mystic*, etc. 93 They scattered wide, From Hungria, to Golcond and isles Molucques, And nightwards, to Brasil.

Ni·ght-watch. [f. NIGHT *sb.* + WATCH *sb.*]

1. A watch or guard kept during the night; the time during which such a watch is kept.

c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Luke ii. 8 Hyrdas..waciende & niht wæccan healdende ofer heora heorda. 1611 COTGR., *Patrouille*, a still night-watch in warre. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IV. 780 The Cherubim..stood armd To thir night watches in warlike Parade. 1671 F. PHILIPPS *Reg. Necess.* 580 The Constables of every Parish in London..can in their Night-watches command better men than themselves to the compters or London Prisons. 1812 S. ROGERS *Voy. Columbus* v. 25 Oft in the silent night-watch. 1829 MARRYAT *F. Mildmay* vii, I..determined to have one of those great coats..to keep me warm in night-watches. 1884 J. GILMOUR *Mongols* 5 Taking my turn in the night-watch against thieves.

attrib. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* III. i. 178 A Criticke, Nay, a night-watch Constable.

2. The person or persons engaged in watching by night.

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 7352 Nightwacche for to wake, waites to blow. *c* 1400 *Siege Jerus.* 41/728 Þe nyȝt wacche to þe walle & waytes to blowe. 1530 PALSGR. 248/1 Night watche, *eschaulnetes.* 1645 RUTHERFORD *Tryal & Tri. Faith* i. (1845) 3 If..the night-watch fall fast asleep. 1850 GROTE *Greece* II. lxv. VIII. 362 A little before day break, when the night-watch had just broken up. 1883 GRESLEY *Gloss. Coal-mining* 174 *Night Watch*, a trusty old collier who keeps guard on the surface during the night.

3. One of the (three or four) watches into which the night was divided by the Jews and Romans; hence, any similar period or division of the night. Usually in *pl.*

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 39 On þis niht beð fowuer niht wecches. 1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* cxix. 148 Myne eyes preuente yᵉ night watches. 1611 BIBLE *Ps.* lxiii. 6, I..meditate on thee in the night-watches. 1634 MILTON *Comus* 347 Might we but hear The..village cock Count the night watches to his feathery Dames. 1852 MRS. STOWE *Uncle Tom's C.* xxxvi, Flashing through the chambers of his brain, came all the fearful images of the night-watches.

So **Ni·ght-watcher**; **Ni·ght-watching** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 499 To auoyde all *night watchers adioyning to Paris. 1859 MEREDITH *R. Feverel* xli, He dismissed the night-watchers from the room. 1697 DRYDEN *Virgil* Life *2 His too great abstinence and *night-watchings at his Study. *a* 1839 PRAED *Poems* (1865) I. 384 Labour must be your doom, Night-watchings, days of gloom. 1856 *Orr's Circ. Sci., Pract. Chem.* 460 The best description of candle manufactured from wax is the mortar-light, which is used .. for night-watching. 1579 NORTHBROOKE *Dicing* (1843) 46 You abused, and not vsed, your sleepe in due time and order, by reason of your ydle *night-watching playes. 1643 A. ROSS *Mel Helic.* 169 That he may not be found asleep By his night-watching enemy. 1820 SHELLEY *Hymn Merc.* ii, A night-watching and door-waylaying thief.

Ni·ght-wind. [f. NIGHT *sb.* + WIND *sb.*] A wind that blows during the night.

1812 BYRON *Ch. Har.* I. xiii. i, The night-winds sigh, the breakers roar. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xvii, The moon, and the dew, and the night-wind. 1839–52 BAILEY *Festus* 29 A changeless tone Of sadness like the nightwind's.

Ni·ght-work, *sb.* [f. NIGHT *sb.* + WORK *sb.* Cf. OE. *nihtweorc* (Beowulf 827).] Work done, or which one has to do, during the night.

1594 PLAT *Jewell-Ho.* 67 To put some in minde of their grosse night-woorkes. 1599 B. JONSON *Ev. Man out of Hum.* V. v, I marle what piece of night-work you have in hand now. 1679 C. NESSE *Antichrist* 201 A work of darkness, moon or night-work. 1835 URE *Phil. Manuf.* 374 One ingenious physician, when asked about the effects of night-work on factory children, condemned it. 1869 E. A. PARKES *Pract. Hygiene* (ed. 3) 529 Among the duties of the soldier is some amount of night-work.

So †**Ni·ght-work** *v.*; **Ni·ght-worker.**

1654 GAYTON *Pleas. Notes* III. viii. 118 And for their Landladies, to Night-worke them into silence. 1714 MANDEVILLE *Fab. Bees* (1725) I. 91 That the smell of gain was fragrant even to night-workers.

Nighty (nəi·ti), *sb.* [f. *night-* (see def.) + -Y.] A familiar (orig. nursery) name for a night-gown or night-dress; also *transf.* of a surplice.

1895 in *Funk's Stand. Dict.* 1897 FLANDRAU *Harvard Episodes* 205 A nice little boy at S. Timothy's,—piping liquidly in an angelic 'nighty' at Chapel. 1903 *Myon. Leader* 3 Dec. 7 The 'nighty' is smartened up..by being tied with narrow ribbons down the front.

†**Ni·ghty,** *a. Obs. rare.* [f. NIGHT *sb.* + -Y ¹.] Pertaining to night; nightly, nightlike.

? *c* 1400 LYDG. *Æsop's Fab.* i. 19 To chase away [þe] nyghty [*v.r.* myghty] clowdes blake. 1530 [see NIGHTISH *a.*]. 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* II. (Arb.) 55 Wee keepe thee midpath with darcknesse nighty e beneyled.

†Nighwhat, *adv. Obs. rare.* [f. NIGH *a.* + -WHAT; cf. *somewhat*, etc.] Almost, nearly.

c 1290 *Beket* 1924 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 161 Heo weren neiȝwat at þe se are þe king it wuste. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 437 Þe frensse were neiȝwat ibroȝt to gronde. *Ibid.* 1791 A louerding ..& is men nei wat alle.

†Ni·gion, variant of NIDGET. *Obs. rare*—⁰.

1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 164/9 A Nigion, *morio, ideota.*

Nigirtness, obs. Sc. form of NIGGARDNESS.

Nigiting, *vbl. sb.*: see NIDGET *v.*²

Nigle, obs. variant of NIGGLE *v.*

†Nigmenog. *Obs. rare*—⁰. (See quot.)

a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Nigmenog*, a very silly Fellow.

Nignay, -nye. *Sc.* Also 9 -noy, -naw. [Of obscure formation: cf. NICK-NACK.] A trifle; a trifling, useless thing or proceeding.

a 1689 CLELAND *Poems* (1697) 92 (Jam.), He was not for the French nignayes, But briskly to his brethern says [etc.]. 1730 RAMSAY *Fables, Cats & Cheese* 44 Poor Pousies now the daffin saw, Of gawn for nignyes to the law. 1788 PICKEN *Poems* (1813) I. 124 (E. D. D.), Naething now fills the bole or pantry, But some nignye that crams the gentry. 1835 WALKER *Rhymes* 195 (E. D. D.), Numerous Nig-naws from New Zealand. 1880 *Antrim & Down Gloss.* 73 *Nignays, Nignoys*, useless profitless doings.

Nigneti, obs. form of NINETY.

†Nigon. *Obs.* Forms: α. 4–6 negon, (5 negyn). β. 4–5 nygun, 5 nyg(g)oun, 5–6 nygon, 6 niggon. [Of obscure origin: see NIG *a.* and NIGGARD.] A niggard, miser.

α. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 6055 What seye ȝe by þese streyte negons þat se al day Goddes persones Before hem deye for mysese. 14.. *Sir Beues* (C) 1917 Þus men schal teche odur..Of mete & drynke no negyn to be. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xxx. 571 The negons thai mowchid and had no will For hart fare. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 19 b, He begynneth to spare his goodes, and waxeth a negon.

β. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 5575 Pers was..swyþe coueytous, And a nygun and auarous. *c* 1330 — *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 5721 He was neuere nygon ne nyce. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Cook's T.* 319 My brother is a nyggoun, I swer by Cristes ore. *c* 1412 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 2033 To you therof kan I be no nygon. 1520 *Caxton's Chron. Eng.* v. 64/1 He was a very nygon, and was exalted to his empire by the Grekes. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 164/8 A Niggon, *parcus.*

Hence **†Ni·gonry,** **†Ni·gonship,** niggardliness. *Obs.*

c 1400 LOVE *Bonavent. Mirr.* xxxvi. (B. N. C. MS.) lf. 87 Thyne owne false couetise in excusaciour of thyne nygunrye. *c* 1460 G. ASHBY *Dicta Philos.* 548 Be nat in youre expenses ouer large, Ne to sca[r]ce by maner of nygonship. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 110 These be yᵉ vices contrary to these vertues,..Auaryce or negonry.

Nigramancer, -mancy, obs. ff. NECRO-.

†Nigre, variant of NIGER or NIGGER. *Obs.*

c 1700 T. BROWN *Lett. fr. Dead* (1707) II. 121 A manner that discover'd he had an ascendency over the rest of the immortal Nigres.

†Nigred, a misprint for INGREDE *v.*

1657 TOMLINSON *Renou's Disp.* 325 The round [Aristolochia], which nigreds [L. *accedit ad*] the confection of Hiera Pacchii, califies and dries potently. [The *Phys. Dict.* compiled for the work gives '*Nigredes*, makes black'.]

†Nigre·dity. *Obs. rare.* [f. late L. *nigrēdo* blackness.] Blackness.

1547 BOORDE *Brev. Health* lxxiii. 24 In whose urynes any nygreditie or blackenes hath dominion. 1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 29/2 Ther remayneth somtimes a nigreditye or blacknes about the apertione.

†Nigrefaction. *Obs. rare*—⁰. [Cf. NIGRIFICATION.] 'A making black' (Phillips 1658).

Nigrefie, obs. form of NIGRIFY.

Nigremansi, obs. form of NECROMANCY.

Nigrescence (nəigre·sĕns). [f. L. *nigresc-ĕre*: see next and -ENCE.] The process of becoming black, or the blackness produced.

1856 RUSKIN *Mod. Paint.* III. IV. x. § 10 An imaginative observer may find, perhaps, more to amuse him in the erratic nigrescence than in many a laboured picture.

b. *spec.* Darkness of hair, eyes, or complexion.

1885 BEODOE *Races Britain* 5 A ready means of comparing the colours of two peoples or localities is found in the Index of Nigrescence.

Nigrescent (nəigre·sĕnt), *a.* [ad. L. *nigrescent-em*, pres. pple. of *nigrescĕre* to grow black, f. *niger* black.] Blackish, somewhat black.

1755 in JOHNSON. 1772 NUGENT *Hist. Fr. Gerund* I. 531 The nigrescent maculation of their pristine niveous candour. 1819 H. BUSK *Vestriad* I. 272 The glossy ermine,..Or scarcer sable with nigrescent locks. 1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) IV. 450 The Nigrescent Leprosy..is improperly called black, though it was so named by the Greeks. 1882 *Entom. Mag.* Mar. 223 *A. gibbera*..has black halteres, as well as nigrescent alulets and wings.

Nigre·sceous, *a. rare.* [f. as NIGRESC-ENT + -EOUS.] Blackish.

1887 W. PHILLIPS *Brit. Discomycetes* 15 Variable in colour —brown spadiceous, violaceous, nigresceous.

Nigrescite (ni·grĕsəit). *Min.* [f. L. *nigrescĕre* (see above) + -ITE¹ 2. Named 1867.] A hydrous silicate of iron and magnesium, changing by exposure from green to black.

Nigri-, combining form of L. *niger*, *nigr-*, as in *nigricaulate*, or *-cauline*, having a black stem, *nigricollate*, having a black neck, *nigricornate*, *-crural*, *-pennate*, etc.

1857 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.* 1892 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

Nigricant (ni·grikănt), *a.* [ad. L. *nigricant-em* blackish, swarthy, pres. pple. of *nigricāre* to be blackish, f. *niger* black.] Black. *Bot.* = NIGRESCENT.

1772 NUGENT *Hist. Fr. Gerund* II. 97 To dissipate the nigricant squadrons of darkness. 1887 W. PHILLIPS *Brit. Discomycetes* 182 Globose or hemispherical, nigricant.

So **†Ni·gricanting** *ppl. a.*, blackening. *Obs.*—¹

1716 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* III. Arianism 31 The better to carry on the nigricanting Art of sucking of Spiritual Venom out of Honey-suckles.

Nigri·fic, *a. nonce-wd.* [Cf. *magnific.*] Black.

1804 *Something Odd* II. 89 He don't believe there is a devil. *Apropos* of his nigrific Majesty [etc.].

Nigrifica·tion. *rare*—⁰. [f. L. *nigrificāre*; see next and -ATION.] 'The act of making black' (Johnson 1755).

Nigrify (ni·grifəi), *v.* Also 7 nigrefie. [ad. L. *nigrificāre* to blacken, f. *niger* black + *facĕre* to make.] *trans.* To blacken.

1656 in BLOUNT *Glossogr.* 1721 in BAILEY. 1800 LAMB *Lett.* v. 44 'Twould have been but giving a polish to lampblack, not nigrifying a negro primarily. 1870 *Observer* 9 Oct., Using a tar brush to nigrify the white and shining celebrities. 1893 *Scott. Leader* 27 Sept., The old part..has now become completely nigrified.

Nigrine (ni·grəin), *sb. Min.* Also nigrin. [f. L. *nigr-* black + -INE 5. Named 1800.] A black ferriferous variety of rutile.

1805 JAMESON *Min.* II. 502 The red colour..distinguishes it at once from nigrine. 1836 T. THOMSON *Min., Geol.*, etc. I. 468 Nigrin..occurs at Ohlapian, in Transylvania, and was first described and analyzed by Klaproth. 1880 *Min. Mag.* IV. 70 They are of the variety of Rutile known as Nigrine.

Nigrine (ni·grəin), *a. rare.* [f. L. *nigr-* black + -INE 1.] Black.

1885 *Glasgow Herald* 4 May 9/5 Quite as satisfactory as any of Mr. Whistler's nigrine arrangements.

†Nigrite 1. *Obs. rare.* [f. L. *nigr-* black + -ITE 1 1.] A negro.

1594 BLUNDEVIL *Exerc.* v. xii. (1636) 558 The Spaniards have not found either in Mexicana, or in Peruana any Nigrites or blacke Moores. 1597 J. KING *On Jonas* (1618) 179 The poore Nigrite their slaue.

Nigrite 2 (ni·grəit). *Chem.* [f. L. *nigr-* black + -ITE 1 4.] *Nigrite core* (see quot.).

1882 DREDGE *Electr. Illumination* I. 338 The 'Nigrite' core invented by Mr. Price .. is another combination of ozokerit and india-rubber (or gutta-percha)...Nigrite core has a high insulation resistance.

Nigritian (nigri·ʃăn), *a.* and *sb.* [f. *Nigriti-a* (see def.) + -AN.]

A. *adj.* Of or belonging to Nigritia, a region in Central Africa nearly co-extensive with the Sudan, the home of the most pronounced types of the negro race; hence, of or belonging to the negro race.

1865 J. H. INGRAHAM *Pillar of Fire* (1872) 75 Two Nigritian lion-leopards of Rhodian marble. 1869 LUBBOCK *Preh. Times* (ed. 2) xii. 377 Negroes of the true Nigritian stamp. 1881 FEATHERMAN *Soc. Hist. Mankind* V. Introd. p. x, The Nigritian stock has branched out into four distinct races.

B. *sb.* An inhabitant of Nigritia.

1881 FEATHERMAN *Soc. Hist. Mankind* V. Introd. p. x, The Takroor Nigritians represent the original type without intermixture.

Nigritic (nigri·tik), *a.* [f. L. *nigr-* black + -ITIC.] Of or pertaining to the negro race, *spec.*, the Oceanic negroes (*Cent. Dict.* 1890).

Nigritude (ni·gritiud). [ad. L. *nigritūd-o*, f. *nigr-*, *niger* black: see -TUDE.] Blackness.

1651 CULPEPPER *Astrol. Judgem. Dis.* (1658) 194 Their colour is pale, shaddowed with a little nigritude or darknesse. 1657 TOMLINSON *Renou's Disp.* 211 Nigritude deturpates [the teeth]. 1822 LAMB *Elia* Ser. I. *Praise Chimney-Sweepers*, I like to meet a sweep..—one of those tender novices blooming through their first nigritude. *a* 1849 H. COLERIDGE *Ess.* (1851) II. 33 Reflections on the rear-ward nigritude of the kettle. 1889 *Q. Rev.* CLXVIII. 372 Our aged friends can well remember when the smoke of London was not equal to one-tenth of last year's nigritude.

b. A black thing or reputation.

1869 *Echo* 2 Sept., The subtle nigritudes born of the household fires. Upon our dwellings these nigritudes fall [etc.]. 1878 *Pall Mall G.* 6 Aug. 9 [Whitewashing], to be done effectively, must be attempted on such unmistakable nigritudes as Judas Iscariot or Judge Jeffries.

Hence **Nigritu·dinous** *a.*, black.

1849 J. G. SAXE *Poems, Devil of Names* 106 To whiten his nigritudinous legs.

†Ni·gro. *Obs.* Also 6 nygro. [ad. Sp. *negro* NEGRO, after L. *nigr-*, *niger*.] A negro.

a 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII*, p. vii/1 Their faces, neckes, armes & handes, couered in fyne pleasaunce blacke..so that the same ladies semed to be nygrost [*sic*] or blacke Mores. 1582 N. LICHEFIELD tr. *Castanheda's Conq. E. Ind.* iii. 9 Our men saw certaine little Nigroes. 1618 LITHGOW *Pilgr. Farewell* C j, I know these Nigroes, of the Austriale Sunne, Haue not endur'd such heat.

Nigro-, combining form of L. *niger* black, used in *Ent.* and *Bot.* to indicate a mixture of black with some other colour, or some feature of a blackish tint.

1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* xlvi. IV. 303 When it is said of a body that it is nigro-æneous, it means that the æneous tint prevails. 1847 HARDY in *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* II. No. 5. 235 Breast nigro-pubescent. *Ibid.* 244 Legs nigro-fuscous. *Ibid.* 253 Elytra..with a thickish nigro-pubescence. 1882 *Garden* 23 Dec. 553/3 Nigro-hirsute Dendrobes with rich orange blossoms are rare.

Nigromancer, -mancy, obs. ff. NECRO-.

Nigromancian, -cien: see NECROMANCIEN.

Nigrosine (ni·grŏsin). *Chem.* Also -in. [f. L. *nigr-* black + -OSE + -INE 5.] A blue-grey or blue-black colouring matter derived from aniline hydro-chlorate.

1892 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 12 Aug. 2/3 One sample, made of nigrosine,..contained quantities of fungi. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 882 They stain well ..with hæmatoxylin, congo-red, or acid nigrosin.

Nigrous (ni·grəs), *a. Ent.* [f. L. *nigr-* black + -OUS.] Deep black.

[1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* xlvi. IV. 303 Æneo-nigrous.] 1841 E. NEWMAN *Hist. Insects* III. ii. 173 Blacks:..nigrous or niger, the colour of lamp black.

†Nigs. *Obs.* (See GOD *sb.* 14 b, and OD¹ 2.)

1640 GLAPTHORNE *Wit in Constable* v. Wks. 1874 I. 231 Precise Taylors, that..sweare cuds nigs over their wine. *a* 1643 W. CARTWRIGHT *Ordinary* iv. i, 'S nigs and well remember'd.

Nigt, obs. form of NIGHT.

‖ **Nigua** (ni·gwä). Also 9 negua. [Sp. *nigua.*] The chigoe or jigger.

1622 CAPT. SMITH *Wks.* (Arb.) 580 Then had they a little flea called Nigua, which got betweene the skinne and the flesh before they were aware, and there bred and multiplied. 1760–72 tr. *Juan & Ulloa's Voy.* (ed. 3) I. 64 The insect of Carthagena called nigua, and in Peru pique, is shaped like a flea, but almost too small for sight. 1816 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* iv. (1818) I. 103, I am speaking of the celebrated Chigoe or Jiggers, called also Nigua. 1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* (1861) III. 35 The most annoying species..being a native of the tropical latitudes, and variously named in the West Indies, chigoe, jigger, nigua, tungua, and pique. 1868 F. BOYLE *Ride across Cont.* 68 'Neguas'..better known in England by their West Indian name 'jiggers' or 'chigos'.

Nihend, Nihȝeðe, obs. forms of NINTH.

‖ **Nihil** (nəi·hil). [L. *nihil* nothing.]

1. A thing of no worth or value. *rare.*

1579 G. HARVEY *Wks.* (Grosart) I. 124 Counters, which nowe and then stande for hundreds and thousands, by and bye for odd halfpens or farthinges, are other whiles for very nihils. *c* 1610 MIDDLETON, etc. *Widow* I. i, Look you, all these are nihils; They want the punction. 1623 I. BARGRAVE *Serm.* (1624) 22 While they would be both papists and protestants, they are, indeede, newters and nihils.

2. = NICHIL *sb.* 2.

1629–30 J. MEAD in *Crt. & Times Chas. I* (1848) II. 62 A commission was directed..to inquire into his lands and goods, and to seize upon them for the king, but they returned a *nihil.* 1684 MANLEY *Cowell's Interpr., Nihil* or *Nichil*, is a word which the Sheriff answers, that is opposed concerning Debts illeviable, and that are nothing worth, by reason of the insufficiency of the Parties from whom they are due. [Hence in Phillips (1706), *Termes de la Ley* (1708).] 1818 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) V. 389 If the sheriff returned *nihil* upon the summons, an *alias* and a *pluries* issued.

Hence **†Nihila·gent,** one who does nothing.

1579–80 G. HARVEY *Lett.* Wks. (Grosart) I. 99 As if..we were borne to be the only Nonproficients and Nihilagents of the world.

†Nihila·rian. *Obs. rare*—¹. [f. L. *nihil* nothing + *-arian*, as in *unitarian*, etc.] One who deals with things of no importance.

1705 BERKELEY *Commonpl. Bk.* Wks. 1871 IV. 426 If the wit and industry of the Nihilarians were employ'd about the useful and practical mathematiques.

†Ni·hilate, *v. Obs. rare*—¹. [ad. ppl. stem of med.L. *nihilāre*, f. L. *nihil* NIHIL.] To annul.

1545 *Act* 37 *Hen. VIII*, c. 13 § 1 The said Act..[shall be] from henceforth frustrate and nihilated, and to be repealed for ever.

†Nihila·tion. *Obs. rare*—¹. [f. as prec.: see -ATION.] Nonentity.

1695 TRYON *Dreams* App. 260 He must..cease from all Motion and Action, and become an eternal Stillness, or Nihilation.

†Nihile·ity. *Obs. rare.* [ad. late L. *nihileitas* (Du Cange). Cf. NIHILITY.] Nullity.

1603 HARSNET *Popish Impost.* 110 Choosing out such shadowes and Nihileities, to controll the Principalities and powers of Darkness. 1675 WOODHEAD, etc. *Par. S. Paul* 66 There being an inanity and nihileity in the called.

†Ni·hilhood. *Obs. rare*—¹. [f. L. *nihil* nothing + -HOOD.] Nullity, negation.

1602 J. DAVIES (Heref.) *Mirum in Modum* (Grosart) 23 Ill beeing but a meere defect of Good,..Which is no more, but a meere Nibilhood.

Nihili-, combining form of L. *nihil* nothing, as *nihili-parturient*, producing nothing.

1812 SOUTHEY *Omniana* I. 314 A certain omni-pregnant, nihili-parturient genius of the editor's acquaintance.

Nihi·lianism. *Theol.* [f. L. *nihil* nothing + -IAN + -ISM.] The doctrine that in the nature of Christ there was no human, but only a divine element. Cf. NIHILISM 4.

1895 GORE *Dissertations* III. iii. 279 What has been already described as nihilianism was the current mode of conceiving the Incarnation. 1896 *The Month* Apr. 466 What Canon Gore means by Nihilianism is the false theory of the Monophysite heretics.

Nihilifica·tion. *rare.* [See next and -ATION.] The action of setting aside or slighting.

1678 PHILLIPS *Suppl., Nihilification*, a setting at nought or slighting. 1820 *Examiner* No. 656. 705/2 The *Courier's* nihilification of the Learned Gentleman reminds us of the poet's panegyric.

†**Nihilify**, *v. Obs. rare*⁻°. [f. L. *nihilī facĕre*.] 'To set nothing by, to disesteem, to make no account of' (Blount 1656).

Nihilism (nəi·hiliz'm). [f. L. *nihil* nothing + -ISM. Cf. F. *nihilisme*, Sp. *nihilismo*, It. *nichilismo*, G. *nihilismus*, Russ. НИГИЛИЗМЪ.]

1. Negative doctrines in religion or morals; total rejection of current religious beliefs or moral principles.

a 1817 T. DWIGHT *Trav. New Eng.*, etc. (1821) III. 238 Hence the transition is easy to mere Nihilism, and a total disregard of all moral obligation. 1854 BUCKNILL *Crim. Lunacy* 8 In Germany, rationalism ending in absolute nihilism has led to results of the same nature. 1881 BLACKIE *Lay Serm.* iii. (1886) 118 The hollow vacuities and negative absurdities of Atheism or Nihilism.

2. *Philos.* An extreme form of scepticism, involving the denial of all existence.

1836–7 SIR W. HAMILTON *Metaph.* xvi. (1859) I. 294 Of positive or dogmatic Nihilism there is no example in modern philosophy. 1842 — *Diss.* in *Reid's Wks.* I. 129/2 Is the acknowledged result of the Fichtean dogmatism less a nihilism than the scepticism of Hume? 1857 MAX MÜLLER *Chips* (1880) I. xi. 284 Buddhism .. cannot be freed from the charge of Nihilism. 1887 PATER *Imag. Portraits* 128 Actually proud at times of his curious, well-reasoned nihilism.

b. Nothingness, non-existence.

1856 R. A. VAUGHAN *Mystics* (1860) II. VII. ii. 15 [To] lose, in utter Nihilism, all sense of any existence separate from the Divine Substance. 1866 *Athenæum* No. 2006. 454/3 To aim at nihilism as the supreme good.

3. The doctrines or principles of the Russian Nihilists.

1868 G. DUFF *Glance over Eur.* 42 The Russian Tories .. have been assisted..by the spread among the half-educated of absurd and anti-social notions, to which the name of Nihilism has been given. 1882 *Maem. Mag.* XLV. 407 Nihilism in Russia is an explosive compound, generated by the contact of the Sclav character with Western ideas.

transf. 1880 *Fraser's Mag.* May 65 Atheism is, in many respects, the Nihilism of the intellect and conscience.

4. *Theol.* Nihilianism.

1882 3 SCHAFF *Encycl. Rel. Knowl.* II. 1656 Nihilism .. denotes in theology the view that the human nature of Christ had..no true subsistence.

Nihilist (nəi·hilist). [f. as prec. + -IST. Cf. F. *nihiliste* (1797), Sp. *nihilista*, It. *nichilista*, G. *nihilist*, Russ. НИГИЛИСТЪ.]

1. One who holds the doctrine of nihilism in philosophy or religion.

1836–7 SIR W. HAMILTON *Metaph.* xvi. (1859) I. 294 Philosophers are divided .. into Nihilists or Non-Substantialists [etc.]. 1854 tr. *Feuerbach's Ess. Chr.* 28 We must say with the oriental nihilist or pantheist. 1876 J. PARKER *Paracl.* II. xviii. 290 David Hume..has been correctly described as a nihilist; he denied everything and affirmed nothing.

2. A member of a Russian revolutionary party professing extreme principles.

1871 *Gen. Hist.* in *Ann. Reg.* 226 The 'Nihilists', as they called themselves, were an offshoot of Russian extravagance on the Socialist stock. 1880 *19th Cent.* VII. 1 It is because 'nothing' as it exists at present finds favour in their eyes that they have been called 'Nihilists'. 1887 T. A. TROLLOPE *What I remember* II. xiii. 235 He was a Nihilist of the most uncompromising type.

b. *attrib.* or as *adj.*

1880 *Standard* 22 Dec., Another Nihilist leader has been arrested. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 315/2 Nihilist proclamations have continued to be placarded.

Nihilistic (nəihili·stik), *a.* [f. prec. + -IC.] Of, relating to, characterized by, or professing, nihilism: a. in philosophy or religion.

1857 MAX MÜLLER *Chips* (1880) I. xi. 290 The more advanced views of the Nihilistic philosophers. 1871 ALABASTER *Wheel of Law* p. lii, I cannot decline to allow the term Nihilistic to be applied to it. 1873 WAGNER tr. *Teuffel's Hist. Rom. Lit.* II. 35 A kind of nihilistic resignation.

b. in Russian politics.

1868 G. DUFF *Pol. Surv.* 35 Nihilistic doctrines..contain a large proportion of sound tendencies. 1881 *Times* 11 Apr. 9/4 In Russia the outbreak of nihilistic fury has made humanitarian treatment impossible for the present. 1890 J. HATTON *By Order of Czar* 149, I thought she might have been a nihilistic spy.

Nihility (nəihi·lĭti). [ad. med.L. *nihilitas*, f. *nihil* nothing: see -ITY. Cf. F. *nihilité* (Cotgr.).] The quality or state of being nothing; non-existence, nullity.

1678 GALE *Crt. Gentiles* IV. 514 This Nihilitie or Nothingnesse of the Creature is the same with its Passive power. 1725 WATTS *Logic* I. ii. § 6 (ed. 2) 26 Not-Being is consider'd as excluding all Substance,..and this we call pure Nihility, or meer Nothing. 1794–6 E. DARWIN *Zoon.* (1801) IV. 90 Nor is there anyone..who has not at some moments felt the nihility of all things. 1831 I. TAYLOR in *Edward's Freedom of Will* Introd. v. 103 We will apply this method of resolving an illusory notion into its proper nihility. 1874 WHITNEY *Oriental & Ling. Stud.* 74 The basis .. relied upon to establish the date of Buddha's entrance upon nihility.

b. With *a* and *pl.* A mere nothing, a trifle; a non-existent thing; a nullity.

1765 *Lond. Chron.* 3 Jan. 11 After he had discharged all his nihilities, he returned with equal precipitation. 1794 MRS. PIOZZI *Synon.* II. 66 Della Crusca .. had been asserting that all past actions were nihilities. 1824 DE QUINCEY *Analects* Wks. 1860 XIV. 134 This universe—in comparison of which the positive universe would be itself a nihility. 1878 F. FERGUSON *Life Christ* II. xv. 316 Not the Son of a mere abstraction, of an infinite nihility.

Niht, obs. f. NIGHT; var. of NITH *Obs.* **Niinde**, obs. f. NINTH. **Niker**, obs. f. NICKER *sb.*¹

†**Nikin.** *Obs. rare*⁻°. (See quot.)

a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Nikin*, a Natural or very soft creature.

Nil¹. Now *rare* or *Obs.* Also 7 nill. [a. Arab. and Pers. *nīl*: see ANIL.]

1. The indigo plant; indigo dye.

1598 W. PHILLIP tr. *Linschoten* I. lxix. 117/2 Annil or Nil..hath sky coloured leaves. 1625 FINCH in Purchas *Pilgrims* I. IV. iv. 428 The first of November I was sent to buy Nill or Indico at Byana. 1640 PARKINSON *Theat. Bot.* 602 Else it was a worser kind of that Nil or Anil that grew in Turkey. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Suppl.* s.v., This is to be always understood as meaning that nil which is used in dying. 1846–50 A. WOOD *Class-Bk. Bot.* 442 Flowers .. of a clear blue color (whence its specific name, Anil or Nil, Indigo).

2. A species of convolvulus with blue flowers.

1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. cccix. 715 There be also other sorts of Bindweeds,..which no doubt may be kinds of Nil. 1640 PARKINSON *Theat. Bot.* 170 The great blew Bindweede..is taken by most to be the Nil of Avicen and Serapis. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Suppl.* s.v., It is probable that the convolvulus, or bindweed, called nil, obtained this name only from its flowers being of the same colour with the fine blue pigment obtained from the other nil, or woad.

‖ **Nil**². [L., contracted f. NIHIL.] Nothing.

1833 *Edin. Rev.* Oct. 14 Such a return from all the population..would be *nil*. 1849 KINGSLEY *Misc.* (1859) I. 404 Such attempts at it as we yet have seen, may be considered nil. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 889 The locomotor effects of the spasms is either nil or but very slight.

b. ? = NICHIL 2.

1811 in *2nd Rep. Rec. Irel.* 132 The *Originalia* of Process, called the Schedules of Nils from the Pipe. *Ibid.* 141 The Process lodged by the Sheriffs..is of no further use after the Tots and Nils are discharged.

Nil, var. NILL *sb.*; obs. f. NILL *v.* **Nild**, obs. or dial. var. NEEDLE. **Nild**(e, would not: see NILL *v.* **Nile**, obs. f. NILL *v.*

Nile-bird. *dial.* A local (Berks and Bucks) name for the Wryneck, from its cry.

1885 SWAINSON *Names Birds* 103

Nile-blue, *sb.* and *a.* [f. the river *Nile*, after F. *bleu de Nil.*] A pale greenish blue.

1884 *Christian World* 4 Nov. 760/4 Amongst the favourite colours are imperial yellow, Nile blue, tea rose and cardinal. 1892 *Daily News* 29 July 3/3 Greenish Nile-blue is discordant with sky-blue.

So **Nile-green.**

1888 *Daily News* 7 June 5/8 A knot of Nile-green ribbons.

Nileotic, variant of NILOTIC.

†**Nilescope,** obs. variant of NILOSCOPE.

1642 HOWELL *For. Trav.* (Arb.) 223 There is a Castle in the grand Caire in Ægypt, called the Nilescope, where there stands a Pillar with certaine markes to observe the height of the River of Nile. 1738 T. SHAW *Trav.* 433 In the Middle of it is placed the Mikeas or measuring Pillar, which is divided, as the ancient Nilescopes may be supposed to have been, into Cubits.

Nilgai (nĭ·lgai). Also -ghye. [a. Hindī *nīlgāī*, f. *nīl* blue + *gāī* cow.] = NYLGHAU.

1882 *Mem. Gen. W. E. Baker* 11 (Yule), Occasionally.. one intruded on the solitude of a huge nilgai. 1890 S. W. BAKER *Wild Beasts* II. 157 In India we find one variety of large size, the nilghye (*Portax picta*). 1893 LYDEKKER *Horns & Hoofs* 145 The well-known nilgai, or more correctly nilgau,..of Peninsular India.

Nilg(h)au, variant of NYLGHAU.

†**Nill,** *sb.*¹ *Obs.* Also 6 nyll(e, 6–8 nil. [ad. med.L. *nīl* (*nihil*), a rendering of G. *nichts*, taken in the usual sense of 'nothing', but in this connexion really a reduced form of *onyˑchitis*, L. *onychītis* (Pliny), Gr. *ὀνυχῖτις* (Dioscorides).] White oxide or flowers of zinc (by early chemists called *nil* or *nihil album*).

There is no evidence that the term has ever been really current in English, but from being used to render *pompholyx* and *spodium* it has found its way into the dictionaries, in which it latterly appears with a number of erroneous definitions (see quots.).

1545 ELYOT, *Pompholix* is an herbe which (as Manardus writeth) is that which the Apothecaries dooe call Nill [*ed.* 1552 *omits* is an herbe whiche]. 1558 WARDE tr. *Alexis' Secr.* I. (1559) 8 Take..of Nill a dragme. 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus*, *Pompholix*.., the sperkles or ashes that commeth of brasse tried in the furneis, and is of Apothecaries called Nyll, much vsed in medicines of the Eyes. 1585 HIGINS tr. *Junius' Nomencl.* 408/1 *Pompholyx*.., the foile that commeth of brasse, and the ore of brasse, which is so light that it flieth like a feather in the aire, and is called Nil. 1611 COTGR., *Pompholige*, Nil; the light oare, or foyle of Brasse. 1632 SHERWOOD, Nill, *les escailles d'airain*. 1656 in BLOUNT *Glossogr.* [copying Cooper. Similarly Bailey, 1721.] 1696 PHILLIPS, *Nil*, the sparkles that flie from Metals tried in a Furnace. It is called in Greek *Pompholyx*, or *Spodium*. 1736 AINSWORTH, *Nil* [the shadings of brass in trying], *æris & cadmiæ favilla*. 1755 JOHNSON, *Nill*, the shining sparks of brass in trying and melting the ore. [Hence in Webster 1828–47, and Ogilvie 1850.] 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* 497 *Nill*, scales of hot iron at the armourer's forge. Also, the stars of rockets.

†**Nill,** *sb.*² *Obs.* Forms: 6 nyll, 7 nil(l. [f. the vb.] An instance of 'nilling'; a disinclination or aversion to something.

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 293 b, Where is one wyll and one nyll in all thynges. 1579 TWYNE *Phis. agst. Fortune* I. xxvii. 36 b, Some..haue fealt..yf a man may so tearme it, a wyll and a nyll at one instant. 1656 HOBBES *Liberty, Necess. & Chance* (1841) 362 Though a man have in every long deliberation a great many wills and nills. 1677 GALE *Crt. Gentiles* IV. 262 God begins to wil or nil nothing; al his wils and nils are eternal.

Nill, dial. var. of *needle*, NEEDLE.

Nill (nil), *v.* Now *arch.* Forms: (see below). [OE. (pres. t.) *nylle, nyle, nelle, nele*, etc., = OFris. *nil, nel(e, nelle*, f. *ne* NE 3 a + *wille, wile* WILL *v.* In the Lindisf. Gosp. the more original forms *nwill, nuill* also occur.

In early use another negative freq. occurs in the sentence.]

1. *intr.* To be unwilling, not to will.

a. Const. with infinitive (without *to*). Sometimes also denoting simple futurity.

**Present tense* (*and infinitive*).

a. 1st and 3rd sing. 1 nylle, 1, 4 nyle, 1, 3–4 nile, 4–6 nil, nyl(l, 5 nylle, nille, 5– nill. *2nd sing.* 1, 4–5 nylt, 3–6 nilt (*Orm.* nillt), 6 nillest(e. *Pl.* 1 nyllaþ, -eð, 3 nilenn, 4 nylen, nill. *Inf.* 6–7 nill.

835 *Charter* in *O. E. Texts* 447 Ȝif min wiif ðonne hia nylle mid clennisse swæ ȝehaldan. *a* 900 CYNEWULF *Christ* 683 Nyle he æniȝum anum ealle ȝesyllan gæstes snyttru. *c* 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Thorpe) lxxiv. 8 Nyle he þa dærstan him don unbryce. *c* 1200 ORMIN 2091 Whase nile trowwenn þiss He slaþ hiss aȝhenn sawle. *Ibid.* 6278 Ȝiff þu nillt nohht batenn himm þatt hateþþ þe. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1806 Self his kinde nile ðat wune forȝeten. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1261 Nabuzardan nyl neuer stynt. 1388 WYCLIF *Isa.* i. 20 That if ȝe nylen,..swerd schal deuoure ȝou. *c* 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 3952 V my-self nyl not be y-buryed þere. 1447 BOKENHAM *Seyntys* (Roxb.) 71 Yf thou nylt I shal .. [thee] never more doughtir calle. 1551 *Dr. Haddon's Exhort.* in Furnivall *Ball.* I. 325 Thow arte too bownde, that wake thow nillest, for no distres. 1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* May 151 If I may rest, I nill live in sorrowe. 1616 R. C. *Times' Whistle* 120 Marriage they nill admitt by any meanes.

β. 1st and 3rd sing. 1–4 nelle, nele, 1, 3–5 nel, (3 neolle, neole, neol). *2nd sing.* 1–4 nelt. *Pl.* 1 nellaþ, 2 nelleð, 3 -eþ, 4 nelen.

Beowulf 679 Ic hine sweorde swebban nelle. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 45 Ȝif hi nellaþ healdan Godes æwe. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Exod.* v. 21 He nele þin word ȝebiran. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1086 Hi nellað lufian God & rihtwisnesse. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 41 Synfulle men þe heued-synnes don habbeð and nelleð þerof no shrift nimen. *c* 1275 *Passion our Lord* 146 in *O. E. Misc.* 41 Ic nele neuer þe vorsake. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 11518 Ȝif hit be so.. Þat þou nelt come at þy day. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XI. 22 Til þow be a lorde..leten þe I nelle. *c* 1400 26 *Pol. Poems* 18/106 Many .. nelen non othere counseil crave. 1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 157 He wille not begyle, ne bigilid he nel not be.

γ. 1st and 3rd sing. 2–3 nulle, nule, 3–4 nul, nolle, 4–5 nol. *2nd sing.* 3–4 nult, (6 *Sc.*) nolt. *Pl.* 3–4 nulleð, -eþ, -eth, nolle(þ, 7 *Sc.* noll.

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 29 He nule nefre mare eft ȝedon þeo sunnen. *c* 1205 LAY. 1447 Nawit for his forbode nulle ich hit bileuen. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 909 Hwi nultu fare to Noreweie? *Ibid.* 1764 Hwi nulleth hi nimen heom to rede? 1297 R. GLOUC. *Chron.* (Rolls) 7222 Hii nolleþ no god þing ihure ne yse. *a* 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* viii. 32 Such tiding mei tide y nul nout teme. 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 344 We nolle sclepe in no sclowþe. 1399 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) I. 363 Ther nul no stych with odur abyde. *c* 1400 *Beryn* 189, I wol hym no thing spare That I nol touch his taberd. 1633 *Orkney Witch Trial* in *Abbotsford Club Miscell.* 161 He said to yow, Away wich, carling, devill a farthing ye noll fa.

***Past tense.*

a. 1st and 3rd sing. 1–6 nolde (*Orm.* nollde, 3 nulde), 1–3 nalde, (2 naldde, 3 nælde), 4–6 nold, 6 nould, *Sc.* nald. *2nd sing.* 1 noldes, 1–3 noldest, 1, 3 naldes. *Pl.* 1 noldon, naldon, etc., 3–4 nolden, 4–5 nolde. *β.* 6 nild(e, nilled.

Beowulf 967 Ic hine ne mihte, þa metod nolde, ganges ȝetwæman. *a* 900 CYNEWULF *Christ* 1392 Ða þu lifes word læstan noldes. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Mark i. 34 Dioblas menigo he fordraf ut..& nalde leta spreca hia. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC in Assmann *Ags. Hom.* (1889) i. 229 For ðæs wintres cyle nolde se asolcena erigan. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1106 Se cyng him nolde aȝifan þæt þe he..uppon him ȝenumen hæfde. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 5 He mihte ridan ȝif he walde on riche stede..[yet] nalde be no. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 234 [He] bed ure Louerd ȝeorne þet he dude hit from him, and he nolde. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3029 Ðe wicches bidden hem for-ðan, Bi-foren pharaun nolden he ben. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 897 (Kölbing), Whi noldestow vnderstonde, Hou þi kin is brouȝt to schond? 1388 WYCLIF *Isa.* xlii. 24 Thei nolden go in hise weies. *c* 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 1593 þe bysshopus nolde turne non other-weys. 1480 *Robt. Devyll* in Thoms *E. Eng. Prose Rom.* (1858) I. 33 Robert nolde ete nor drynke. 1501 DOUGLAS *Pal. Hon.* Prol. 52 Neptunus nold within that palice hant. *c* 1570 *Pride & Lowl.* (1841) 10 Whereas..I them beheld.., But nold so much as touche them with my hand. 1590 GREENE *Wks.* (Rtldg.) 301/1 Unto the founts Diana nild repair. 1600 FAIRFAX *Tasso* v. xlvii, Thinke how I..Was wronged, yet I nould renengement take.

****Imperative* (*and subjunctive*).

Sing. 1 nyl, nelle, 4 nil, 4–5 (also *pl.*) nile, nyle. *Pl.* 1 nyllaþ, nellaþ, nyllan, nelle, 4 nilles.

Used only in renderings of L. *noli, nolite.*

c 825 *Vesp. Ps.* iv. 5 Eorsiað & nyllað syngian. *Ibid.* xxxvi. 1 Nyl ðu elnian betwih awerȝde. *c* 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Thorpe) lxi. 10 Nellað ȝe ȝewenan welan unrihte. *Ibid.* cii. 9 Nelle þu oð ende yrre habban. *a* 1300 *E. E. Ps.* lxi. 11 Nil þou hope in wickednes. *Ibid.* lxxiv. 5, I saide to wicked, Nilles do wicli. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Serm.* Sel. Wks. II. 362 Þerfore seiþ Poul aftir, Nyle ȝe ȝyve stede to þe devel. 1388 — *Prov.* iii. 27 Nil thou forbede to do wel him that

mai. *c* 1449 Pecock *Repr.* i. xviii. 109 Nile ȝe deeme and ȝe schulen not be deemed.

† **b.** With ellipse of *go*. *Obs. rare.*

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* C. 346 Nylt þou neuer to nunive bi no-kynnez wayez? 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xv. 456 With foules þat fram hym nolde, but folwed his whistellynge.

† **c.** Const. *to* with infinitive. *Obs.*

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 7585 Your self nold For mykill of þis medill erthe þat myschefe to se. 1471 Ripley *Comp. Alch.* Prol. ii. in Ashm. (1652) 117 Nylling to dwell where Syn is wrought. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* lxvi. 85 Greit abbais grayth I nill to gather. 1621 Quarles *Div. Poems, Esther* (1638) 99 The peoples patience nilling to sustaine The hard oppression. 1652 H. L'Estrange *Amer. no Jewes* 74 'Tis a learned ignorance to nill to know What our great master does not will to show.

d. In the phrases *nill he, will he*; *nilling, willing*, etc. (Cf. Will *v.*)

In these and other cases where *will* and *nill* are contrasted, the former usually precedes: for examples see Will *v.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 23728 Ded bas vs wit-sett vr strete, Nil we, wil we, we sal mete. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 301 Fleme he sall þe tobire (wife).., nyll he so will he. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* II. xxvi. 354 Nylle he wille he, he shalle put forthe his honde. 1629 *Reg. Privy Counc. Scot.* III. 5 They sould caus fourtie knaves lyke himselffe bring him out nill he wald he. 1657 J. Watts *Dipper Sprinkled* 73 To take a living from them, to the value of 100*l.* per annum, .. they nilling willing. 1787 Burns *Let. to J. Skinner* 25 Oct., Your name will be inserted among the other authors—'Nill ye, will ye'. 1806 *Gazetteer Scot.* (ed. 2) 253/2 This puts the witch into such an agony, that she comes nilling willing to the house. 1850 Struthers *Life* Poet. Wks. I. p. xli, Thoughts of this kind frequently.. forced themselves into his mind, nil he would he.

2. *trans.* Not to will (a thing); to refuse, reject; to negative, prevent from happening, etc.

c 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Thorpe) v. 3 Þu eart se ylca God þe nan unriht nelt. *c* 1205 Lay. 28103 ȝif hit weore ilimpe, swa nulle hit ure drihte [etc.]. *c* 1250 *Hymn to Virgin* ii. in *Trin. Coll. Hom.* App. 257 Þu nult noþing bote richt. *a* 1300 *Vox & Wolf* 189 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* I. 64 Noltou, quod the wolf, thin ore? *a* 1330 *Roland & V.* 94 He brouȝt..Gold & siluer, & riche stones, Ac þerof nold he nouȝt. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Can. Yeom. Prol. & T.* 910 'Nay, nay', quod Plato, 'certein, that I nille'. *a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* (1868) 17 Y chese the yongest of the .iij. doughters, for y nille none other. 1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* IV. ii. 590/2 It.. nilleth, hateth, and repelleth the euil that the Lorde hath forbidden it. 1615 Jackson *Creed* IV. vi. Wks. III. 64 Many divine truths..we evidently refuse, or nill, when we come to question about their price. 1650 Baxter *Saints' R.* IV. ix. § 1 If it appeare evil to us, then we Nill it. 1683 J. Corbet *Free Actions* I. vi. 5 Though God doth not simply Nill the Existence of sin, yet he Nills it so far, as that he hates it. *a* 1708 Beveridge *Priv. Th.* II. (1730) 94 So as to will what he wills..and to nill what he nills. 1778 *Arminian Mag.* I. 196 He commanded Abraham to offer up Isaac, yet he nilled the execution of it. 1860 Pusey *Min. Proph.* 20 When to will the same and nill the same, maketh of twain, one spirit.

† **b.** With dependent clause. *Obs.*

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 105 God nele þet we heon gredie ȝitseras. *a* 1225 *Ancren R.* 8 Þauh nullich nout þet ȝe bihoten ham ase heste to holden. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 5055 Wanne god nel nouȝt þat it be lengore in vre hond. ?*a* 1366 Chaucer *Rom. Rose* 270 She nolde..Hir owne fadir farede welle. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* I. Prol. 271, I nald ȝe trist I saide this for dispyte. 1575 Gascoigne *Weedes* Wks. 112 Heaven it nolde that there they should them teint.

† **Ni·lla.** *Obs.* Also 7 nilley. [Of obscure origin.] A kind of Indian piece-goods (see quot. 1696 and Bengal 1).

1696 J. F. *Merch. Wareho. laid open* 30 Nilleys, of which there is two sorts, strip'd and plain, by the Buyers are called Bengalls, because they come from the Bay of Bengall;..it is of much use for Gowns and Petty-Coats, but does shrink in wearing unreasonably. 1712 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5051/3 Nillaes, Niccanees, Photaes. 1725 — No. 6388/2 The following Goods, viz...Herba Taffaties, Nillaes. 1757 tr. *Guyon's New Hist. E. Indies* II. 510 Prohibited goods. 50 allejars; 2650 nillaes.

Ni·lling, *vbl. sb.* Now *arch.* [f. Nill *v.* + -ing 1.] The fact of not willing (something); rejection, aversion.

c 1374 Chaucer *Boeth.* III. pr. xi. (1868) 97 Þe beestes þat han any manere nature of willynge or of nillynge. 1586 Bright *Melanch.* xv. 79 Embraceth the same, impelled by the mindes willing, or reiecteth it..according to her nilling. 1654 Owen *Doctr. Saints' Persev.* Wks. 1853 XI. 528 The nilling of Sin was antecedent to the Sin. 1710 Norris *Chr. Prud.* v. 218 Our nilling of good has always a mixture of willing, tho' the nilling side be that which carries it. *Ibid.* vii. 323 More vehement or impetuous sorts of Willings or Nillings. 1865 Neale *Hymns Paradise* 10 One in willing, one in nilling, Unity their spirits show.

So **Ni·lling** *ppl. a.*, that nills or can nill.

1620 T. Granger *Div. Logike* 37 Nilling with willing minde or willing with nilling mynd. 1710 [see prec.].

Nilly-willy, *adv.* = Willy-nilly.

1880 'Ouida' *Moths* III. 41 You belong to me, and you must continue to belong to me, nilly-willy. 1884 'Vernon Lee' *Euphorion* II. 182 In these Italian Commonwealths, ..poets are forced, nilly-willy, to be platonic.

Nilometer (nəilɒ·mĭtəɹ). [ad. Gr. Νειλομέτριον, on the analogy of words in -meter.] A graduated pillar or other vertical surface, serving as a scale or gange to indicate the height to which the Nile rises during its annual floods.

The form *Nilometrion* is used in R. Cumberland's essay on *Jewish Measures and Weights* (1686) 13, etc.

1707 *Curios. Husbandry* 192 The Egyptians compute the Height to which the Nile rises by a Vessel which they call a Niloscope, or Nilometer. 1741–3 Pococke *Descr. East* I. 117 There was a temple to Cnuphis in this island [Elephantine], and a Nilometer to measure the rise of the Nile. 1790 Bruce *Trav. Nile* III. 689 Omar..destroyed the Grecian Nilometer from motives of religion. 1849 Curzon *Monast. Levant* 28 This Nilometer is an ancient octagon pillar of red stone in the island of Rhoda. 1887 Rawlinson & Gilman *Anc. Egypt* (ed. 2) vi. 114 Anxious eyes gaze daily on the sluggish stream, or consult the 'Nilometers'. *fig.* 1848 *Blackw. Mag.* LXIV. 118 The Pyramids are the Nilometer of antiquity. 1876 J. Martineau *Ess. & Addr.* (1891) IV. 270 A kind of Nilometer which shows the shifting levels and gathering floods of thought.

b. A small model of the above (see quots.).

1794 *Phil. Trans.* LXXXIV. 188 A mummy..in which ..idols, beetles, frogs .. nilometers, &c. were found. 1848 Cottrell tr. *Bunsen's Egypt's Place* I. vi. 382 [Phthah's] ordinary mode of representation is as a god holding before him with both hands the so-called Nilometer, or emblem of stability. *Ibid.* 416 Osiris..appears with a barbaric countenance, the Nilometer, and large feathers of Ammon on his head.

So **Ni·loscope.** [ad. Gr. Νειλοσκοπεῖον.] *rare.*

An earlier form is Nilescope.

1707 [see above]. 1727–38 Chambers *Cycl.*, *Nilometer*, or *Niloscope*. 1855 in Ogilvie *Suppl.*

Nilot (nəi·lɒt). [f. Nile + -ot 2, or ad. Gr. Νειλώτης.] A native inhabitant of the banks of the Upper Nile.

1893 F. Adams *New Egypt* viii. 105 The Nilot is very different from the Cairene and the Alexandrian..; there is even a perceptible difference between the Delta man and the true Nilot of the upper river. 1896 Hogarth in *Eng. Hist. Rev.* Jan. 8 The kings..oppressed the Nilots with these haughty janissaries.

Nilotic (nəilɒ·tĭk), *a.* Also 7 -ik, -ick, 9 Nileotic. [ad. L. *Nilōticus*, a. Gr. Νειλωτικός, f. Νεῖλος the Nile: see -otic.] Of or belonging to, peculiar to or characteristic of, the Nile, the Nile region, or its inhabitants.

1653 Gataker *Vind. Annot. Jer.* 108 This Egyptian frog, crawling out of the mire and mud of some Nilotik mear. 1662 Stillingfl. *Orig. Sacræ* Ded. i, The early felicitie of Moses, when exposed in an Ark of Nilotick papyre. 1680 Boyle *Exp. Chem. Princ.* I. 30 This Nilotick Salt was very apt to imbibe the moist aire. 1822 De Quincey *Confess.* 171 Laid..amongst reeds and Nilotic mud. 1865 J. H. Ingraham *Pillar of Fire* (1872) 147 The Egyptian or Nilotic race have a sharp and prominent face.

b. *Nilotic crocodile, monitor* (see quots.).

1840 *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 274 Two species, in Egypt, have been considered the types of separate subdivisions; the Nilotic M[onitor]..and the Ground M[onitor]. 1855 *Orr's Circle Sci., Org. Nat.* III. 132 The best known species is the Nilotic Crocodile (*Crocodilus vulgaris*), which attains a length of twenty-five or thirty feet.

Nilous (nəi·ləs), *a.* [f. Nile + -ous.] Resembling the alluvial deposit of the Nile.

1813 Sir R. Wilson *Priv. Diary* (1862) II. 448 They might live a little longer to enjoy this Nilous earth; for certainly it is more like Egypt's alluvium during the inundation than hard-set soil.

† **Nim.** *Obs. rare* —1. [f. the vb.] A thief.

1630 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Wks.* I. 71 To arrant Thieves.. To Sharkes, Stales, Nims, Lifts, Foysts, Cheats.

Nim, *v.* Now only *arch.* Forms: (see below). [A Common Teut. verb: OE. *niman, nioman*, etc. = OFris. *nima, nema* (*nam, nomen, nimen*; mod.Fris. *nimmen, nemmen*), MDu. *nemen* (*nam, namen, genomen*), OS. *niman, neman* (*nam, nâmun, ginoman* and *ginuman*), MLG. *nemen* (*nam, nêmen, genomen*), also *nomen, numen*, OHG. *neman, nemen* (*nam, nâmun, ginoman*; G. *nehmen*), ON. *nema* (*nam, námu, numinn*; MDa. *nemme, nimme*; MSw. *nima, nimma*), Goth. *niman* (*nam, nêmun, numans*); the root *nem-* is prob. identical with that of Gr. *νέμειν* to deal out, distribute, hold, possess, occupy.

In most of its applications *nim* corresponds to various senses of the later (Scandinavian) *take*, and remained in common use down to the 15th cent. During the 16th there are few traces of it, but immediately after 1600 it reappears (with weak pa. t. and pa. pple.) as a slang or colloquial word in the sense of 'to steal', and is very common in this use throughout the 17th cent.]

† **1.** *trans.* To take, in various senses of that verb.

For examples of the frequent ME. phrases *to nim gome, heed*, or *yeme*, see under the sbs.

**Infinitive, present tense, and imperative.*

Inf. 1 **nioman, niom(m)a**; 1–2 **neoman**; 1 **nyman, 4 nymen, (5 -yn), 3–5 nyme, 4 nymme, 4–5 nym**; 1–2 **niman, (1 nimon), 2–4 nimen, (2 -in), 3–4 nime, 4, 7 nim, 7 nimme**; 2 **nemen, 3–4 neme.** *Pres. Ind. 1st sing.* 1 **nime, nyme, nimo, niomu**; *2nd sing.* 2 **nimes, 2–3 nimest, 3 nymest, nimst**; *3rd sing.* 1 **nimð, 1–3 nimeð, -eþ, 1–4 nymeð, -eþ**; 1, 7 **nimmes, 4 nymmes, -ez, nymez, 7 nims**; *pl.* 1 **niomað, -as, neomaþ, nymað, nimað**, 2, 4 **nemeð, -eþ, 4 nymes.** *Subj.* 1 **nyme, 2 nime, 4 nyme, 7 nimme.** *Imper. sing.* 1–4 **nim, 4–6 nym, 5 nyme, neme**; *pl.* 1–2 **nimað, 3 nimeþ, nemeþ, 4 nym(m)eþ, nymes.**

c 825 *Vesp. Ps.* cxxxvi. 9 Eadiȝ se nimeð & ȝecnyseð ða litlan his to stane. 835 *Charter* in *O. E. Texts* 447 ȝif.. hire liofre sie oðer hemed to niomanne. *c* 888 K. Ælfred *Boeth.* xx, Þonne nimað hi hiora men mid him. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 127 Manige men þær þa moldan neomaþ on þæm lastum. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1015 Se cyng ..het nimon Sigeferðes lafe. *c* 1126 *Ibid.* an. 1126 Let se kyning nimen his broðer Rothert. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 29 Þas reueres..nemeð oðres monnes eahte. *c* 1205 Lay. 26837 Þu me woldest a-quellen, nimen mine castles alle. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2362 He had cartes and waines nimen. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 17293 Þai send sergantz for to nym both sir nichodem & him. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 7869 Nymeþ out ȝour sexes when y so say. *Ibid.* 8697 At þe Iewes ensample nymes. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xiii. 373 A fote-londe or a forwe..I wolde.. nymen of his erthe. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-Bks.* 6 Þan neme þin grwel an do þer-to. *Ibid.* 14 Nym gode Almaunde Mylke. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 4100 Felgyld next come eftir him, þe lyfe of ankyr þare to nym. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* b iiij, Go and retrive moo and she will nym plente. 1547 Boorde *Introd. Knowl.* i. (1870) 122 Iche cham a Cornyshe man,.. Nym me a quart of ale, that iche may it of sup.

***Past tense.*

α. 1*st and 3rd sing.* 1 **-noom, 1–5 nom, 3–5 nome**; *2nd sing.* 1–4 **nome**; *pl.* 1 **nomun, -an, -on, (noumuu), 2–4 nomen, 3–5 nome, 4 nom.**

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) A 900 *Auserunt*, nomun [*Erf.* noumun], hlodun. *c* 825 *Vesp. Ps.* lxxii. 24 Þu nome hond ða swiðran mine. *c* 825 *Vesp. Hymns* i, He sende engel his & nom mec of scepum feadur mines. *c* 900 *O. E. Chron.* (Parker MS.) an. 787 Her nom Beorhtric cyning Offan dohtor Eadburȝe. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Mark viii. 20 Hun moniȝ ceolas ðæra screadunga ȝie nomon? *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 3 Heo nomen þe asse and here colt. *c* 1205 Lay. 25447 Arður nom an honde fifti þusend cnihtes kene. *c* 1275 *Passion our Lord* 379 in *O. E. Misc.* 48 Þe knyhtes hyne nomen. *Ibid.* 438 Hi nome twey þeoues. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 20690 Of hir bodi mi flexs i nom. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 706 Þe quene þorow treson þey nomen. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1613 Nabuzardan hym nome & now is he here. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xx. 9 Thow nome namore than nede þe tauȝte. *c* 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 23 He was þe twolthe kynge þt in Westsex cristyndam nome. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 2056 Cuthbert to haly eland come And þe priory on him he nome. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* IX. 1812 Maxwell..On to the Sotheroun the gaynest wayis nom.

β. 1*st and 3rd sing.* 1–5 **nam, 3 namm, næm. naam, 3–5 name**; *pl.* 1 **naamun, namon, -an, -en, 4 namen, 3 name, 4 nam.**

c 825 *Epinal Gloss.* 113 *Hauserunt*, naamun. *c* 888 K. Ælfred *Boeth.* xxix. § 2 Ða hlafordas naman swa hwæt swa hi hæfden. *c* 900 *O. E. Chron.* (Parker MS.) an. 866 [Hi] winter setl namon on East Englum. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 31 Þas cyþnesse Drihten nam of þisse wisan. *Ibid.* 69 Hie naman hlowende palmtwiȝu. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1010 Þær namon [hi]..swa mycel swa hi woldon sylfe. *c* 1127 *Ibid.* an. 1127 Þa nam he þes kynges wifes swuster..to wife. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 23 He herezede helle and nam ut mid him alle [etc.]. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2840 Moyses..hise childre wið him nam. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 20105 Þan name þe apostil.. In-til his keping þat maidan. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 36 After þe Bretons þe Inglis camen, þe lordschip of þis lande þai namen. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Can. Yeom. T.* 744 With the coper he came, And this chanon it in his houdes name. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 792 Eneas it name & in note hade. 1447 Bokenham *Seyntys* (Roxb.) 32 To peter and poule his hors he nam, And unnethe that nyht to Souters cam.

γ. *Pl.* 3 **neme(n, neomen.** *Sing.* 4 **nem**; 5 **nym(e**; 7 **nempt.**

c 1275 Lay. 660 Hii neme [*c* 1205 nomen] anne herindrak þat god was to neode. *a* 1300 *K. Horn* 64 The pains come to londe And neme hit in here honde. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 505 Bot Noe of vche honest kynde nem out an odde. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 3540 Þis preste..wist what giftes he gaf or nym. *Ibid.* 7469 Grete tresure fra þe kyrke he nyme. (1630 Lane *Contn. Sqr.'s T.* (Chaucer Soc.) 116 Ducello.. killd each one that in his mowth hee nempt.]

****Past participle.*

α. 1 **ȝi-, ȝenumen (-nummen), 2–3 inumen, 3 inomen, (4 y-)**; 1–4 **numen, (4 -yn), 4–5 nummen, (4 -un, 6 -yn, 5 -yne), nomen, (-in, -yn, -yne), nommen, (-in, -yn, 5 -an).**

c 825 *Epinal Gloss.* 100 *Adempto*, ginumni. *c* 888 K. Ælfred *Boeth.* xviii. § 7 Eall þæt his fennas & moras ȝenumen habbað. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xiii. 12 Þæt [he] hæfis, ȝenummen bið from him. *c* 1127 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1127 Willelm hæfde ærror numen ðes eorles dohter of Angeow to wife. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 29 Þu eart numen in þon ilke þonke. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 42 Þeos psalmes beoð inumene efter þe uif lettres of vre lefdi nome. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2268 Wel faȝen he was of here come, for he was numen ðor to nome. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 5272 Wit il consail þau was i nummen. *Ibid.* 7059 In his time was troi nomyn. 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxvi. (*Nicholas*) 918 Quhen þe Iou ham wes cumyne, & fand his gudis a-way nummyne. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 1094 (Dubl.), So sall þi name owt of nowmbre be nomyn in-to mynde. ?*a* 1500 *Chester Pl.* (E. E. T. S.) 401 Which prophesy done shall he, when I my realm have nomman. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* II. xi. 101 Nor neuir ahak..Blent I agane, nor perfite mynd has nummyn.

β. 3 **inume, ynume**, 3–4 **inome, ynome.**

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 71 We habben him swa wel inume, þat þe saule mote to him cume. *c* 1275 *Passion our Lord* 206 in *O. E. Misc.* 43 So me doþ to þeoue þat schal heon ynume. *a* 1300 *Floris & Bl.* 20 (Cambr. MS.), To þe hauene hi beoþ icume, And þer habbeþ here in inome. 1340 *Ayenb.* 165 Huo þet heþ þane guode way ynome, hit be-houeþ [etc.]. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Cook's T.* 119 Whan that everich of hem a staf had i-nome. *a* 1450 Myrc 495 When body and soule to-geder schal come, And the gode to ioye be I-nome.

γ. 4, 6 **num**; 4 **nom, 4–5 nome, nomme.**

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 12730 We sal to heuen com Quen we o þis werld es nom [*Gött.* num]. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 10824 Whilk of þem were ouer-come, Or slayn, or wyþ force nome. *c* 1385 Chaucer *L. G. W.* 1777 *Lucretia*, Al allon hys way than hath he nome. *c* 1386 — *Cook's T.* 580 They ben swore to-gidere that we schul be nome. *c* 1450 *Bk. Hawking* in *Rel. Ant.* I. 296 In kyndely spech ye schull say that your hawke hath nome a foule, and not i-take. *c* 1450

St. Cuthberl (Surtees) 1542 My heele, my tonge, bes fra me nome. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* I. 124 At Canemor syne king Fergus has it nome. 1566 J. PARTRIDGE *Hist. Pand.* b iij b, Pandauola in her armes Her Alfyne hath up num.

† **2.** *intr.* To betake oneself, to go. *Obs.*

c 1100 *K. Ælfred's Boeth.* xvi. § 1 (Bodl.), Se is eower agen, & þonan ge noman [*Cott.* comon]. *c* 1220 *Bestiary* 93 in *O. E. Misc.* 4 Þus he neweð him ðis man, ðanne he nimeð to kirke. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 744 In-to sichem..he nam And ðeðen he nam to mirie dale. *c* 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 8164 Euery day to scole she nam [*glossed* 3ede]. *a* 1325 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1878) 144 Out of her sist oway he nam; Þai nist neuer whar he bicam. *c* 1430 *Syr Gener.* (Roxb.) 2400 The forster that with Sereyn came Rose erlie, and to hir chambre name.

3. *trans.* To steal, filch, pilfer.

1606 DAY *Ile Gulls* III. i, As I led him to his Chamber I nimde his Chayne and drew his Purse. 1630 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Wks.* III. 8/2 The thiening knaue the purse he nimbly nims. 1663 BUTLER *Hud.* I. i. 598 They'll question Mars, and by his look Detect who 'twas that nimm'd a Cloke. 1692 R. L'ESTRANGE *Fables* (1694) 218 They.. would still be nimming something or other for the very love of thieving. 1727 GAY *Begg. Op.* II. i, I expect the Gentleman about this snuff-box, that Filch nimm'd two nights ago in the Park. 1797 BRYDGES *Hom. Trav.* II. 403 A fellow that would nim a smock From off a hedge if it was loose. 1835 JAMES *Gipsy* ii, Tiny Dick..had very near been caught in nimming it off the edge of the common. 1898 HENLEY *Lond. Types, Beef-eater*, He shows that Crown the desperate Colonel nimmed.

transf. 1651 H. MORE *Enthus. Tri.* (1656) 81 Your quotation..is no new notion, but nimmed out of Philo.

† **b.** Const. with *away* or *off*. *Obs.*

1607 MIDDLETON *Five Gallants* I. i, You shall live at ease enough for nimming away jewels and favours from gentlemen. *a* 1635 CORBETT *Poems* (1807) 28 Looking in their plate He nimmes away their coyne. 1669 *Nicker Nicked* in *Harl. Misc.* (1744) II. 96 Some will nim off the Gold Buttons of your Cloke, or steal the Cloke itself.

4. *intr.* To steal, pilfer, thieve.

1622 MASSINGER & DEKKER *Virg. Mart.* II. iii, *Hir.* Spungius, y'are a picke-pocket. *Spun.* Hircius, thou bast nimb'd—..not so much money is left as will buy a louse. 1638 MAYNE *Lucian* (1664) 35 His mother sayes he stayes not in heaven by night, but that he may be nimming, goes down to hell, and pilfers there to. *a* 1763 BYROM *The Nimmers* 27 Nim? yes, yes, yes, let's nim with all my heart.

Nim(b, variants of NEEM.

Nimb (nimb). [ad. L. *nimbus* NIMBUS. Cf. F. *nimbe*.] A nimbus or halo.

1849 ROCK *Ch. of Fathers* II. 98 The nimb or circle, betokening endless, heavenly happiness, about the head of St. Dunstan. 1870 — *Text. Fabr.* I. 44 The places, now bare, in the nimb and neck were..once filled in with fine seed-pearls. 1880 *Smith's Dict. Chr. Antiq.* s.v. *Nimbus*, The aureole..may be defined as the nimh of the body.

Nimbated (ni·mbe|téd), *a.* [f. NIMB-US + -ATE[1] + -ED[1].] Furnished with a nimbus.

1901 *Archæol. Jrnl.* Sept. 284 The sun, nimbated, with flying drapery, drives a quadriga.

‖ **Nimbe.** *rare*—[1]. [Cf. NIMB.] A nimbus.

1830 *Anglo-French Coinage* 1 Surrounded by a double nimbe or glory.

Nimbed (nimd), *a.* [f. NIMB + -ED[2].] Provided with a nimb.

1849 ROCK *Ch. of Fathers* I. iii. 258 In the middle of the furthermost border [of the super-altar] stands a nimbed lamb. *Ibid.* 259 A dove, nimbed, stands upon an altar. 1865 *Reader* No. 121. 462/2 A nimbed equestrian figure. 1877 W. JONES *Finger-ring* 394 A Saint, nimbed, clad in a monastic habit.

Nimbi·ferous, *a. rare*—[0]. [f. L. *nimbifer* + -OUS.] 'That brings storms or showers' (Blount *Glossogr.* 1656).

Nimbifica·tion. *rare*—[1]. [f. L. *nimb-us* cloud.] The process of cloud-formation.

1814 MILLAR *Times Telescope* 341 The best time for viewing the progress of nimbification is by stormy weather.

Nimble (ni·mb'l), *a.* (and *adv.*). Forms: *α.* 1 *næmel*, 4 **nemel**, **-il**, 5 **nemyl**(l(e, **nemble**, 6 **neem-**, **neamble**, 9 *dial.* **neamle**. *β.* 1 **numol**, **-ul**, **numel**, 5 **nymyl**, **-el**, 6 *Sc.* **nymill**, 9 *dial.* **nimmel**, **nummle**; 5 **nymbyll**, 5–6 **nymble**, *Sc.* **nymbil**, **nimbill**, 6– **nimble**. [The *α*-forms appear to represent OE. *næmel* (found only once), f. **næm-*, ablaut-variant of the stem (**nem-*) of *niman* to take, NIM *v.* + -EL, -LE 1. The *β*-forms represent the more usual OE. *numol*, *-ul*, *-el* (cf. also *scearpnumol* efficacious), f. the ppl. stem *num-* of the same verb. The OE. evidence is, however, very scanty, and the word only becomes common after the original sense had been obscured.]

† **1.** Quick at grasping, comprehending, or learning; hence, clever, wise. *Obs.*

a. c 1000 in Napier *Contrib. O. E. Lex.* (1906) 47 He wearð þa swiðe næmel þurh þæs Halgan Gastes gife, þæt on litle firste he oferþeah his mæxester on wisdome. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 251/2 Nemylle; *cautus*; *vbi* wyse.

β. a 1000 *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 198 *Capax*, *qui multum capit*, andgetul, gripul, numul. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gram.* ix. (Z.) 69 *Capax*, numol oððe gefyndiz. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 356/2 Nymyl, *capax*.

† **2.** Quick to seize or take hold of one. *Obs.*—[1]

c 1000 in Napier *Contrib. O.E. Lex.* (1906) 49 Swa swa deaðes geferan, swa forfleoh þu þæt numele win [L. *mordax vinum*].

3. Quick and light in movement or action; agile, active, swift, rapid.

a. Of persons, animals, or things.

Nimble Lizard, the common or viviparous lizard.

a. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 21528 Of he kest al to his serk, To mak him nemel [*v.r.* nemil] til his werk. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 1065 Þar was na man so nemyll þat him bit couthe. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Order Fools* 108 in *Bk. Precedence* 83 A biche Nemyl of mouthe for to mordyr A hare. *a* 1450 *Fysshynge w. Angle* (1883) 8 Þus schall ye make yow a rode..and hyt wyl be lyȝt & nemyll [1496 nymbyll] to fysche with. *a* 1500 *Sir Beues* (M) 2252 Syr Beuys was bothe nemble and wyght And start away from his dynt. 1535 COVERDALE *Wisd.* vii. 24 For wiszdome is neembler then all neemble thinges. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 208/23 Neamble, *agilis*. 1828 *Craven Gloss.* s. v., As neamle as a cat on a haat backstone.

β. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* VIII. xxvi. 312 Sire Tristram was lyght and nymel and voyded his hors lightely. 1509 FISHER *Funeral Serm. C'tess Richmond* Wks. (1876) 304 It [the risen body] shall be more nymble .. then is any swalowe. 1529 MORE *Dyalogue* I. Wks. 153/2 As the hande is the more nymble by the vse of some feates. *a* 1547 SURREY *Æneid* II. 1057 Like nimble windes, and like the flieing dreame. 1587 FLEMING *Cont. Holinshed* III. 1544/2 These were chosen of the strongest and nimblest men. 1609 ROWLANDS *Crew Kind Gossips* 3 Swift report hath very nimble wings. 1648 BURRELL *Cordial* 3 Being nimbler then the nimblest of them, he escaped. 1670 COTTON *Espernon* II. VIII. 409 Those of his followers who were nimblest of Foot. 1725 DE FOE *Voy. round World* (1840) 72 The rogues were too nimble for him and had got to his boat before him. 1782 COWPER *Gilpin* 78 Now see him mounted once again Upon his nimble steed. 1833 HT. MARTINEAU *Charmed Sea* iv. 53 She..climbed a neighbouring pine like the nimblest of squirrels. 1857 WILLMOT *Pleas. Lit.* xv. 82 His nimble hand ranges over the keys. 1875 BUCKLAND *Log-bk.* 89, I am as nimble as most of them, and a deal nimbler.

transf. 1623 LISLE *Ælfric on O. & N. Test.* Pref. 19 Our language is..become the fairest, the nimblest, the fullest. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* IV. 807 That hour, so late, is nimble in approach. 1781 COWPER *Conversat.* 152 Their nimble nonsense takes a shorter course.

b. Of actions, motion, qualities, etc.

1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* III. xxiv. (Arb.) 303, I haue seene him runne vp a paire of staires so swift and nimble a pace. 1627 *Lisander & Cal.* III. 53 With his nimble strength ..[he] lifted them both up from the ground. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VI. 73 The passive Air upbore Thir nimble tread. 1728 POPE *Dunc.* I. 183 (Globe), As clocks to weight their nimble motion owe. 1794 COWPER *Moralizer Corrected* 20 Proceeding with his nimblest pace.

transf. 1681 *Relig. Clerici* 30, I believe the nimble Confession of Nathaniel..was better approved of by Christ, than the..deliberate advances of Judicious Nichodemus.

c. Of ships: Fast and easily handled.

1588 *Exhort. Faithful Subjects* in *Harl. Misc.* (1809) II. 100 Look to the amending and new building of ships. Make them strong, light, and nimble for the battle. 1627 CAPT. SMITH *Seaman's Gram.* ix. 43 Shee is a nimble ship that in ..tacking about will not fall to the Lee-ward of her wake. 1652 NEEDHAM tr. *Selden's Mare Cl.* 77 Antiochus should surrender his long ships..; and not have more than ten nimble Gallies. 1704 *Loud. Gaz.* No. 4001/3 The Enemy being a more nimble Sailer, got away from her. 1734 tr. *Rollin's Anc. Hist.* (1827) I. II. 376 As the Roman galleys .. were neither very nimble nor easy to work.

d. Applied to coins or sums of money, indicative of brisk circulation or return in business; chiefly in *nimble ninepence*.

1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* (1864) II. 263/1 The 'nimble ninepence' being considered 'better than the slow sbilling'. 1860 EMERSON *Cond. Life, Wealth* Wks. (Bohn) II. 351 The farmer's dollar is heavy, and the clerk's is light and nimble. 1883 C. READE in *Harper's Mag.* June 94/2 He often sold his purchase on the road, for the nimble shilling tempted him. 1894 ASTLEY 50 *Years Life* II. 68 Not a bad instance of the nimble ninepence,

4. Of the mental faculties: Quick or ready in devising, designing, etc.; acute, alert.

1589 [?LYLY] *Pappe w. Hatchet* Eij b, If thy vaine bee so pleasant, and thy witt so nimble, that all consists in glicks and girds. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* VII. xiv. 258 Having a subtle wit and nimble head. 1638 JUNIUS *Paint. Ancients* 62 Invited and drawne on by..their nimble Imaginations. 1665 BOYLE *Occas. Reft.* 31 The faculties of the mind.. grow thereby the more vigorous and nimble. 1701 W. WOTTON *Hist. Rome* 270 He was a man of very nimble and dextrous parts. 1839 LD. BROUGHAM *Statesmen Geo. III*, Ser. II. 58 A subtlety so nimble, that it materially impaired the strength of his other qualities. 1885 *Manch. Times* 7 Feb. 5/5 The less nimble wits and the less educated intellects.

b. Of persons: Quick or ready-witted.

1604 T. WRIGHT *Passions* Pref., The Italians..become very nimble in the managing all affaires. *c* 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* (1650) I. 253 There was there for the Queen, Gilpin, as nimble a man as Suderman. 1851 CARLYLE *Sterling* II. v, Every way a very human, lovable, good and nimble man. 1893 LIDDON *Life Pusey* I. 361 Whateley, indeed, was a nimble dialectician.

c. Cleverly or smartly contrived.

1602 FULBECKE *Pandects* 1 A briefe definition and verie nimble, if it be nimbly vnderstood. 1625 B. JONSON *Staple of N.* III. i, I do admire this nimble ingine, Picklock. 1751 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 95 ¶ 2, I was..initiated in a thousand low stratagems, nimble shifts, and sly concealments. 1868 KINLOCH *Ballad Bk.* 29 (E. D. D.), For the nimble trick to the Friar she play'd.

5. Quick or ready *at* or *in* (or *to* do) something.

a 1591 H. SMITH *Wks.* (1867) II. 144 Judas was nimble to betray Christ. 1628 FELTHAM *Resolves* II. XXXVIII. 117, I know, wise men are not too nimble at an injurie. 1633 FORD *Broken H.* IV. iv, Nimble in vengeance, I forgive thee. 1686 HORNECK *Crucif. Jesus* xiv. 342 Make me..nimble in religion without lightness. *a* 1703 BURKITT *On N. T.* Luke xxii. 32 Our Intercessor is full as nimble and speedy in our suit for us, as Satan is..against us.

† **b.** Of physical agents: Acting rapidly. *Obs.*

1671 SALMON *Syn. Med.* III. x. 345 You may give nimble purging Physick. 1683 ROBINSON in *Ray's Corresp.* (1848) 138 [Volatile alkalies] destroy those nimble acids. 1744 J. PATERSON *Comm. Milton's P. L.* 288 Nimble mercury or quicksilver dissolver.

† **c.** Of actions: Taking place quickly. *Obs.*—[1]

1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* (1721) II. 332 This is said..to contribute much towards the nimble Precipitation of the Fæces.

† **6.** *sb. pl. Cant.* The fingers. *Obs. rare*—[1].

1621 B. JONSON *Gipsies Metam.* Wks. (Rtldg.) 619/2 Lay by..using your nimbles In diving the pockets.

7. In special collocations, as **nimble-chaps** (or **-chops**), a talkative person (now *dial.*); so † **nimble-chop**, talkative; **nimble-come-quick** *a.*, of rapid growth; **nimble Dick**, *dial.* (see quot.); **nimble-fingers**, a juggler (*nonce-wd.*); † **nimble Jack**, an elusive person; † **nimble-tail** (see quot); **nimble-tailor**, *dial.* (see quots.); **nimble Will**, *U. S.* a slender pasture-grass, *Muhlenbergia diffusa*.

1614 J. COOKE *Greene's Tu Quoque* C, Yes, *nimble-chappes; what say you to that? 1673 WYCHERLEY *Gent. Dancing-Master* III. i, How now, Mrs. Nimblechaps? 1662 HIBBERT *Body Divinity* II. 146 All the *nimble-chop Jesuites..labour in vain to prove Peter prince of the apostles. 1863 KINGSLEY *Water-Bab.* viii, The hugest and softest *nimblecomequick turnip you ever saw. 1887 *Kentish Gloss.*, **Nimble Dick*, a species of horse-fly or gad-fly, differing somewhat from the Brims. 1781 C. JOHNSTON *Hist. J. Juniper* II. 158 Here you, master *nimble-fingers! ..let us have some of your tricks to divert us. 1682 BUNYAN *Holy War* 387 Mr. Unbelief was a *nimble Jack, him they could never lay hold of. *a* 1661 HOLYDAY *Juvenal* (1673) 69 The silurus being a vile fish,.. I render it, for defect of a proper name for it with us, a *nimble-tail. *Ibid.* 255 With half a stinking nimble-tail. 1854 MISS BAKER *Northampt. Gloss.*, **Nimble-tailor*, a field-pea. 1879 MISS JACKSON *Shropsh. Word-bk.*, *Nimble-Tailor*, the Long-tailed Titmouse. 1847 DARLINGTON *Amer. Weeds*, etc. (1860) 375 Spreading Muhlenbergia. Drop-seed Grass...It is said to be known in Kentucky by the name of '*Nimble Will'.

8. *Comb.*, as *nimble-brained*, *-eyed*, *-feathered*, *-headed*, *-heeled*, *-jointed*, *-mouthed*, *-pinioned*, *-spirited*, *-tongued*, *-toothed*, *-winged* adjs. See also NIMBLE-FINGERED, **-FOOTED**, **-WITTED**.

1836–48 WALSH *Aristoph., Clouds* I. iv, Subtile disputes with *nimble-brained men. 1628 FELTHAM *Resolves* II. xxi. 69 His malice makes him *nimble-eyed. 1624 GATAKER *Transub.* 80 This *nimble-headed Doctor wanteth not an evasion for it. 1719 D'URFEY *Pills* V. 7 Such *nimble Heel'd Witnesses never were known. 1591 SPENSER *Muiopotmos* 121 Being *nimbler joynted than the rest. 1836–48 WALSH *Aristoph.* 176 *note*, Before thy *nimble-mouthed tongue-grievousness. 1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* II. v. 7 Therefore do *nimble-Pinion'd Doues draw Loue. 1599 B. JONSON *Ev. Man. out of Hum.* II. i, These be our *nimble-spirited catsos, that..will run over a bog like your wild Irish. 1608 DEKKER *Belman of London* Wks. (Grosart) III. 79 An old *nymble-tongd beldam. 1700 T. BROWN tr. *Fresny's Amusem.* 47 A nimble-tongu'd painted Sempstress. 1836–48 B. D. WALSH *Aristoph., Clouds* I. v, Bold, nimble-tongued, impudent. 1860 WYNTER *Curios. Civilia.* 138 The grating..is eaten through by this *nimble-toothed burglar. 1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. ii. 346 [She] doth also feed th' air's *nimble-winged guests.

9. Quasi-*adv.* Nimbly.

1568 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xlviii. 44 Bayth thik and nymill gais the spwle. *c* 1600 SHAKS. *Sonn.* cxxviii, Those jacks that nimble leap To kiss the tender inward of thy hand. 1631 *Celestina* 196 That I may runne away the nimbler. 1683 MOXON *Mech. Exerc., Printing* xxiv. ¶ 6 That they may all perform their several offices the easier, lightlier, and nimbler. 1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) II. 151, I turned much nimbler back again. *Ibid.* III. 94, I turned nimble upon him. 1771 SMOLLETT *Humph. Cl.* (1815) 210 Mr. Micklewhimmen .. came running as nimble as a buck along the passage.

b. *Comb.*, as *nimble-moving*, *-shifting*, *-stepping*.

1591 SPENSER *Teares of Muses* 34 The joyous Nymphes.. Did learne to move their nimble-shifting feete. 1777 POTTER *Æschylus, Prom. Bd.* 21 With light foot now this nimble-moving seat..I leave. 1845 MRS. NORTON *Child of Islands* (1846) 158 Thou supple-limbed and nimble-stepping slave.

Ni·mble, *v.* Now *rare* or *Obs.* [f. prec.]

† **1.** *trans.* To make nimble or supple. *Obs.*

1581 MULCASTER *Positions* x. (1887) 58 Certaine preparatives for nimbling, and spreding the vocall powers. *Ibid.* xvi. 75 We thinke it [dancing] beseemeth children best, to enable, and nimble their iointes therby. 1643 TRAPP *Comm. Gen.* xlvi. 5 His joynts oyled and nimbled.

† **2.** To do hastily. With *up*. *Obs. rare*—[1].

1612 [see *Nimbling* vbl. sb. below].

3. *intr.* To move nimbly.

1598, 1640 [see *Nimbling* ppl. a.]. 1827 CLARE *Sheph. Cal.* 64 The squirrel..Who nimbles round from grain to grain.

Hence **Ni·mbling** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1598 MARSTON *Sco. Villanie* III. ii. 227 Torquatus, that nere op't his lip But in prate..Of the nimbling tumbling Angelica. 1612 T. TAYLOR *Comm. Titus* iii. 5 The priuate nimbling vp of the matter in corners by some Priest or Minister. 1640 in Fuller *Abel Rediv., Luther* (1651) 46 Conserve with care, what ever is thine owne, Mischance sure footed comes like th' nimbling Hart.

Nimble-fingered, *a.* Quick and dexterous with the fingers; light-fingered.

1621 QUARLES *Argalus & P.* (1678) 35 The nimble-fingered Lass Took the forg'd Letter. 1690 DRYDEN *Amphitryon* I. i, O, my nimble-fingered God of Theft, what make you here on Earth..? 1727 GAY *Begg. Op.* I. i, He..is as nimble-fingered as a juggler. 1773 *Gentl. Mag.* XLIII. 593 It should seem..that there are nimble-fingered ladies in all parts of the world. 1810 BENTHAM *Offic. Apt. Maximized, Extr. Const. Code* (1830) 65 *note*, Too simple to present any demand for instruction in the nimble-fingered art.

Nimble-footed, *a.* Quick and light of foot.
1598 Shaks. *Two Gent.* v. iii. 7 Being nimble footed, he hath out-run vs. 1618 *Barnevelt's Apology* F 4 Wee seldome vice so nimble-footed finde. 1735 Bracken in Burdon *Pocket Far.* 5 *note*, Choose a Horse that has never drawn, if you desire a Nimble-footed one. 1809 Malkin *Gil Blas* VII. xii, The nimble-footed messenger of Don Rodrigo. 1848 Buckley *Iliad* 252 They, mounting their nimble-footed steeds, pursued.

Nimbleness (ni·mb'lnés). [f. Nimble *a.* + -ness.] The quality of being nimble; quickness, agility; dexterity.
1535 Coverdale *Isa.* xxx. 12 Ye haue..conforted youre selues with power and nymblenesse. 1568 Grafton *Chron.* II. 868 For valiaunt courage..and strength, and nymblenesse of bodie. 1581 Mulcaster *Positions* xvi. (1887) 75 Daunsing..may be so full of nimblenesse and actiuitie. 1624 Capt. Smith *Virginia* III. i. 42 The Salvages by the nimblenesse of their heeles well escaped. 1676 Marvell *Mr. Smirke* 18 As men set their Arms on their Plate, to prevent the nimbleness of such as would alter the property. 1732 Lediard *Sethos* II. ix. 325 He presum'd to depend on..the nimbleness of his horse. 1776 Hunter in *Phil. Trans.* LXVI. 422 This operation should be performed with all possible nimbleness. 1837 Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* I. vii. vii, To retreat with accelerated nimbleness, through rank after rank. 1861 *Sat. Rev.* 20 July 63 Nimbleness in playing polkas or dancing them.

b. Of mind.
1561 T. Norton *Calvin's Inst.* I. 51 The nimblenesse of the minde of man which veweth the heauen and earth. 1597 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* v. lvi, The personall wisedome of God is ..sayd to excell in nimblenesse or agilitie. 1602 Fulbecke *Pandects* 47 Men must not onely fight by warlike instruments, but by nimblenes of witte. *a* 1652 J. Smith *Sel. Disc.* v. 147 The nimbleness and agility of our own reason. 1711 C. M. *Lett. to Curat* 50 With an Inimitable nimbleness he makes an Argument of him. 1839 Ld. Brougham *Statesmen Geo. III*, Ser. I. (ed. 2) 248 Nimbleness of mind and industry of application. 1889 *Spectator* 9 Nov., It increases nimbleness of mind, develops curiosity.

†**Nimblesbie.** *Obs. rare* −1. [f. Nimble *a.*; see -by 2.] (See quot.)
1611 Cotgr., *Passevolant*, a hireling whom a Captaine, on Muster dayes, foisteth into his companie; and generally, any such skipiacke or base nimblesbie.

†**Nimbless(e.** *Obs. rare.* [f. Nimble *a.* + -ess 2.] Nimbleness.
1596 Spenser *F. Q.* v. ix. 29 Those litle Angels..on their purpled wings Did beare the pendants through their nimblesse bold. 1610 G. Fletcher *Christ's Vict.* I. lxii, Those little sprights, through nimbless bold, The stately canopy bore on their wings. 1638 Dramm. of Hawth. *Irene* Wks. (1711) 167 Neither will your Delusions and Tricks, by the Nimbless of your Hands, pluck it up.

Nimble-witted, *a.* Quick-witted.
1613–16 W. Browne *Brit. Past.* II. v, The nimble-witted Mercury. 1687 Settle *Refl. Dryden* 84 What cannot a nimble witted Commentatour find out. 1879 Christina Rossetti *Seek & Find* 198 Many nimble-witted individuals of our lesser sex. 1899 *Q. Rev.* Apr. 459 The nimble-witted Voltaire.

Nimbly (ni·mbli), *adv.* Forms: *α.* 4 nemely, 5 -lie, neemly, nemly, 6 neembly. *β.* 6 *Sc.* nimlie, 6– nimbly. [f. Nimble *a.* + -ly 2.] In a nimble or agile manner; quickly, actively.
α. a 1350 *St. Mary Magd.* 567 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 87 He saw a childe..nemely for þe nones Playand it with precius stones. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1226 Duke Nestor anon nemly persayuit þat he was prinse of þe pepull. *c* 1440 *Alph. Tales* 448 He..put nemelie þe knyfe in hur hand. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* XII. iii. 596 Ther with the bore torned hym nemly. 1535 Coverdale *Isa.* lxiii. 1 What is he this, that..cometh in so neembly with all his strength?
β. a 1585 Montgomerie *Cherrie & Slae* 13 So trimlie and nimlie Thir birdis they flew me by. 1603 Dekker *Wonderfull Yeare* Wks. (Grosart) I. 144 The Tinker .. stript him starke naked, but first diude nimbly into his pockets. 1665 Hooke *Microgr.* 12 On a very stiff Drum-head, which is vehemently or very nimbly beaten with the Drum-sticks. 1709 Steele *Tatler* No. 93 ¶ 7, I recovered so quick, and jumped so nimbly into my Guard. 1766 Goldsm. *Vic. W.* v, We saw a stag bound nimbly by. 1840 Dickens *Old C. Shop* xix, The landlord bestirred himself nimbly. 1879 M. Arnold *Mixed Ess., Geo. Sand* 329 One alert figure..skips nimbly along at the horses' side.
Comb. 1605 Sylvester *Du Barlas* II. iii. III. *Lawe* 1146 Halfe a score of Reapers nimbly-neat.

†b. Lightly (armed). *Obs. rare* −1.
1600 Holland *Livy* XLIV. iv. 1172 The Romanes advanced forth to fight, nimbly appointed; and the enemies likewise were lightly armed.

Nimbose, *a. rare* −0. [ad. L. *nimbōs-us*, f. *nimbus* cloud.] 'Stormy, tempestuous, cloudy' (Bailey, vol. II, 1727). So **Nimbosity,** 'storminess' (Bailey 1721).

†**Nimbrocado,** variant of Imbrocado 1. *Obs.*
1597 *Return fr. Parnass.* III. i. 887 Give mee a new knight of them all, in fenc-schoole, att a Nimbrocado or at a Stocado.

Nimbus (ni·mbŏs). Pl. **nimbi** (rare). [a. L. *nimbus* cloud, etc., perh. related to *nebula, nubes.*]
1. A bright cloud, or cloudlike splendour, imagined as investing deities when they appeared on earth. Also *fig.*
1616 B. Jonson *Masques* Wks. 927 In nature of those Nimbi, wherein..the Gods are fain'd to descend. 1874 H. R. Reynolds *John Bapt.* viii. 490 The manhood was lost in the nimbus of celestial glory.

b. *transf.* A cloud, halo, or atmosphere, investing a person or thing.
1860 Motley *Netherl.* ii. (1868) I. 39 A nimbus of musk and violet-powder enveloping them as they passed before vulgar mortals. 1864 Sala *Quite Alone* i, There is the young lady herself, encompassed with a nimbus of petticoat. 1881 Hueffer *Wagner* 20 The romantic old castle surrounded by the nimbus of both history and romance.

2. *Art.* A bright or golden disk surrounding the head, esp. of a saint. Cf. Aureole 2, Halo *sb.* 2.
1727–38 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v., The nimbus is seen on the medals of Maurice, Phocas, and others, even of the upper empire. 1843–5 Westwood *Pal. Sacra* s.v. *Gk. Gospels* 2 A medallion of the bust of Christ, invested with the cruciferous nimbus and cross. 1854 Fairholt *Dict. Terms Art* 58/1 As an attached attribute of power, the nimbus is often seen attached to the heads of evil spirits. 1887 Ruskin *Præterita* II. 225 At Venice, one only knows a fisherman by his net, and a saint by his nimbus.
transf. 1863 Miss Braddon *J. Marchmont's Legacy* i, A Nimbus of golden hair shone about his..forehead.
fig. 1834 Keightley *Tales* ii. 32 The East.., imagination has always invested its front with a nimbus of splendour.

3. *Meteorol.* A rain-cloud.
1803 L. Howard *Modif. Clouds* (1830) 11 Of the Nimbus, or Cumulo-cirro-stratus. *Ibid.* 13 The nimbus, although in itself one of the least beautiful clouds [etc.] 1856 Kane *Arct. Expl.* II. xxv. 247 A rainy southwester too..was now spreading with its black nimbus over the bay. 1887 R. Abercromby *Weather* iii. 111 Every kind of cloud from which rain falls is a nimbus, and there are practically two sorts—cumulo-nimbus..; and pure nimbus.
attrib. 1897 *Daily News* 9 Nov. 6/6 The nimbus clouds of the snowstorms covered it.
fig. 1858 O. W. Holmes *Aut. Breakf.-t.* x. 241 Ah! but what if the stormy nimbus of youthful passion has blown by? 1865 Bushnell *Vicar. Sacr.* III. i. (1866) 193 Their whole internal state will be under a nimbus of confusion.

Nimbused (ni·mbŏst), *a.* [f. prec. + -ed 2.]
1. Invested with, surrounded by, a nimbus.
1852 *Art Jrnl.* 112 The Virgin .. nimbused by a coronet of stars. 1874 'Ouida' *Wooden Shoes* 44 Winged griffins and nimbused saints. 1892 A. Austin *Fortunatus* I. iv, Persistent in Appearance; when approached, A nimbused nothingness. 1898 — *Lamia's Winter-Q.* 55 Nimbused by sunlight or enwreathed in snow.

2. Formed into a nimbus.
1882 'Ouida' *Maremma* I. 74 That perfect face which hends beneath its cloud of nimbus'd hair.

Nimeny-pimeny: see Niminy-piminy.

†**Nimfadoro.** *Obs.* −1. [It.] 'An effeminate fellow, a spruce ladies courting fellow' (Florio).
1599 B. Jonson *Ev. Man out of Hum.* II. i, What briske Nimfadoro is that in the white virgin hoote there?

†**Nim-gimmer.** *Obs. rare* −0. (See quot.)
a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Nim-gimmer*, a Doctor, Surgeon, or Apothecary, or any one that cures a Clap or the Pox.

Nimiety (niməi·rĕti). [ad. late L. *nimietas*, f. *nimis* too much.] Excess, redundancy; an instance of this.
a 1564 Becon *Christmas Banquet* Wks. 1564 I. 20 Although ther ought not to be any sufficiency, much lesse any nimietie in spiritual things. 1625 Gill *Sacr. Philos., Trin.* 229 That nimietie, or excesse of goodness wherein it was created. 1657 Reeve *God's Plea* 204 Man may have his nimieties of expression, his diffluences, redundances..of speech. 1679 C. Nesse *Antid. agst. Popery* 8 Superstition, which is a nimiety and excess in religion. 1772 Nugent *Hist. Fr. Gerund* II. 252 He was not only matchless, but even reached the line of nimiety. 1834 Coleridge *Table-t.* 2 June, There is a nimiety — a too-muchness — in all Germans. 1892 *Illustr. Lond. News* 17 Dec. 776/1 A more serious blemish..with most modern poetry, is nimiety, the tendency to dilute the general effect by..repetition.

Ni·miny, *a.* Abbrev. of next. *rare* −1.
1878 Stevenson *Inland Voy.* 182, I have never forgotten that girl..To call her a young lady, with all its niminy associations, would be to offer her an insult.

Ni·miny-pi·miny, *a.* Also **nimeny pimeny, nimini pimini.** [Imitative of a mincing utterance. Cf. Miminy-piminy.] Mincing, affected, trifling, lacking in force or spirit.
1801 *Monthly Rev.* XXXV. 324 With..a smirking countenance, and 'nimeny pimeny' lisp. 1822 L. Hunt *Indicator* No. 23 I. 178 To see her proud, affected, niminy-piminy face in. 1830 J. Jekyll *Corr.* (1894) 221 She..is an exquisite, her husband a nimini pimini gentleman. 1840 Thackeray *Pict. Rhapsody* Wks. 1900 XIII. 345 But was there ever such a niminy-piminy subject treated in such a niminy-piminy way? *a* 1894 Stevenson *St. Ives* xxv. 190 A niminy-piminy creature, afraid of a petticoat and a bottle.
Hence **Ni·miny-pi·mininess; Ni·miny-pi·minyism.**
1840 *Blackw. Mag.* XLVIII. 833 Such a pitiful piece of niminy-piminyism. 1884 W. C. Hazlitt *Offspring Th.* 56 There was no Niminy-pimininess about Johnson.. He always said what he thought.

Nimious (ni·miəs), *a.* Also 5 **nemyows, nymyos.** [f. L. *nimius*, f. *nimis* too much: see -ous.] Overmuch, excessive; †exceeding. Now chiefly as a Sc. legal term.
c 1485 *Digby Myst.* (1882) III. 857 My fathyr, of nemyows charyte sent me, his son. *Ibid.* 1112 Of yower nymyos charyte. 1622 S. Ward *Christ All in All* (1627) 23 With this Prouiso, that diuine and nimious adoration be not giuen. 1673 O. Walker *Educ.* 37 In unseasonable, nimious, opprobrious chiding. 1826 Syd. Smith *Wks.* (1850) 439 He is never nimious; there is nothing in excess. 1881 *Scotsman* 6 Jan., Nimious State interference is always and necessarily an evil thing. 1883 *Edin. Evening News* 20 Dec. 2/4 The action was *ex facie* so nimious and unreasonable as to excite prejudice against it.

Nimmer (ni·mər). [f. Nim *v.* + -er 1.] A pilferer, a petty stealer, a thief.
1608 *Penniles Parl.* in *Harl. Misc.* (1745) I. 179 To the great Impoverishing of all Nimmers, Lifters, and Cutpurses.
1655 tr. *Sorel's Com. Hist. Francion* x. 23 These are the Nimmers who would rob me of all my moveables. 1686 G. Stuart *Joco-ser. Disc.* 59 This swindger at Saint Barthol's fair Where all the nimmers do repair. *a* 1763 Byrom *The Nimmers* 70 'Twixt right and wrong how many gentle trimmers Will neither steal nor filch, but will be plaguy Nimmers! 1882 Compton *Winscombe Sk.* (ed. 2) 103 The carrion crow..as a nimmer of chicken and ducklings.

Nimming (ni·miŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. Nim *v.* + -ing 1.]
†1. The action of taking; the fact of being taken. *Obs.*
c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Luke, Int. 5 Soecende of niming hera [*L. de vulsione spicarum*] in sabatum. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 38 Iðen ilke flesche þet he nom of þe nes neuer sunne, ne i ðine .. efter þe ilke nimunge. *a* 1240 *Lofsong* in *O. E. Hom.* I. 207 Ich bide þe..bi his nimunge and bindunge. 13.. *K. Alis.* 1614 With launceynge and with rydyng, With throwyng, and with nymyng.

2. The action or practice of pilfering.
1607 S. Collins *Serm.* (1608) 66 What they haue done in Schooles for payring and nimming of the Arts. 1618 *Barnevelt's Apol.* F 3 You haue .. ten times as much by nimming and iuggling. 1687 T. Brown *Saints in Uproar* Wks. 1730 I. 77 A pack of vermin, bred up to plundering of hedges, nimming of cloaks. *a* 1734 North *Exam.* II. iv. § 49 (1740) 256 His Employments..were forging,..nimming, stealing and all Sorts of Villainy.

Nimming (ni·miŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. Nim *v.* + -ing 2.]
†1. a. Consuming. b. Taking bribes. *Obs.*
c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 97 God is, swa paul cweð, þet niminde fur. *c* 1250 in *O. E. Misc.* 184 King þat is wilful And domesmon niminde [*v. r.* nymynde].

2. Thieving, pilfering, stealing.
1603 T. Millington *Narr. Entertainm. Jas. I*, E 2, His Majestie, hearing of this nimming gallant, directed a Warrant..to haue him hanged. *a* 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. xxxviii. 316 Nimming and Filching fool. 1727 Gay *Begg. Op.* I. i, 'Twas only Nimming Ned. 1804 Collins *Scripscrap* viii, Those Nimming Neds and Crook-finger'd Jacks of the typographical Tribe.

†**Nimp,** *v. Obs.* [Of obscure origin: cf. Sc. and north. *nimp*, a small piece.] To nibble, bite.
13.. *Metr. Hom.* (Vernon MS.) in Herrig's *Archiv* LVII. 283 Summe nymped wiþ feet and hondes As dogges don þat gnawen heore bondes. *Ibid.*, Þo þat nymped her fingres and hendes Are Bachyteres bitwene frendes.

Nimph, obs. form of Nymph.

Ni·mpy-pi·mpy, *a.* ? = Niminy-piminy.
1825 C. Westmacott *Eng. Spy* I. 256 Confound your nimpy-pimpy lass.

Nimrod (ni·mrɒd). Also 6 **Nemroth, -rod.** [From the name of *Nimrod* (Heb. נמרד *Nimrōd*), described in Gen. x. 8–9 as 'a mighty one in the earth' and 'a mighty hunter before the Lord'.]
†1. A tyrannical ruler; a tyrant. *Obs.*
1545 Bale *Image Both Ch.* I. Pref. A vj, The boistuous tirauntes of Sodoma with their great Nemroth Winchester, ..wyll sturre about them. 1599 Hakluyt *Voy.* II. i. 309 These mighty Nimrods fled some into holes and some into mountaines. 1607 Hieron *Wks.* I. 430 The griping Nimrods of the world reioyce in their taking men vpon aduantages. 1652 Owen *Christ's Kingdom* Wks. 1851 VIII. 373 Pouring forth sundry vials of his wrath upon great Nimrods and oppressors. 1697 Collier *Ess. Mor. Subj.* I. (1703) 55 These Nimrods, say they, grew great by the strength of their limbs and their vices.

2. A great hunter; one who is fond of, or given to, hunting.
1712 Addison *Spect.* No. 371 ¶ 9 As I look upon you to be the greatest Sportsman, or, if you please, the *Nimrod* among this Species of Writers. 1769 Blackstone *Comm.* IV. xxxiii. 409 The game laws have raised a little Nimrod in every manor. 1780 Cowper *Progr. Err.* 86 The sportsman and his train.., the Nimrod of the neighbouring lairs. 1835 W. Irving *Tour Prairies* 139 The deer started up.., and our young Nimrods dash off in pursuit. 1863 Kearley *Links in Chain* xii. 261 That modern nimrod Captain Gordon Cumming.
Hence **Ni·mrodded** *ppl. a.* (see quot.). **Nimro·dian** *a.*, resembling Nimrod, esp. as a hunter; characteristic of, or connected with, Nimrod; so **Nimro·dic(al** *a.* †**Ni·mrodize** *v. intr.*, to act like Nimrod; to play the tyrant.
1836 *Fraser's Mag.* XIII. 233 The worthy old bishop might be said to be regularly *Nimrodded, as the term for a well summered hunter now is. 1631 R. H. *Arraignm. Whole Creature* viii. 57 Like the *Nimrodian builders of Babell. *Ibid.* xix. 330 The great Nimroddian Hunter the Divell. 1825 *Engl. Life* I. 214 Any of my father's Nimrodian friends. 1857 Breen *Mod. Eng. Lit.* 138 The tally-ho, or Nimrodian style..of composition consists in starting some fresh idea at the beginning of every paragraph; in losing sight of it as soon as it is started; and in pursuing in its stead the first stray conceit that turns up. 1850 *Chamb. Jrnl.* XIV. 72 The *Nimrodic passion which haunts the mind of .. Gordon Cumming. 1877 Dawson *Orig. World* xii. 260 The more eastern remnants of the Nimrodic empire. 1796 *Mod. Gulliver* 79 Horsemen and all, in grand *nimrodical display, entered the court. 1598 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. ii. 11. 46 If..now contagion of corrupted dayes Leave any tract of *Nimrodizing there. 1614 C. Brooke *Ghost Rich. III*, Poems (Grosart) 81 For a crowne who would not Nimrodize?

†**Nin.** *Obs. rare* −0. Also **ninne.** (See quots.)
1611 Florio, *Bombo*...Also the word that children call their drinke by, as our children say Ninne or Bibbe. *Ibid.*, *Ninna*...Also children before they can speak will call drinke so, as oures say Nin.

Nin, north. dial. f. None; obs. f. Nine.

†**Nin-a-kin,** *Obs. rare* −1. ? A simpleton.
1787 *Minor* IV. v. 215 The one was Father Tady M'Carthy, a nin-a-kin.

† **Ni·ncety-fi·ncety.** *Obs.*—[1] A trifling matter.
1566 Drant *Horace, Sat.* I. x. E v, Fundanus may at his good luste, of nyncetie fynceties wryte.

Nincom, -cum, abbrev. forms of Nincompoop.
1807–8 W. Irving *Salmag.* (1824) 61 Got fuddled and d—d the Professors for nincoms. 18.. *Odd People in Odd Places* xii. 101 His behaviour is that of the most consummate 'nincom' that ever was led with an apron-string. *a* 1845 Hood *To J. Hume* iv, No one but a nincum..Would furnish such wide trousers to the Sailors. 1873 Higginson *Old-port Days* vii. 167 Tell 'em about Gerty, you nincum.

Nincompoop (ni·nkŏmpūp). Forms: *α.* 7 (8) nicompoop, nickumpoop. *β.* 8 (9) nincum-, 8– nincompoop. [Of obscure origin; prob. only a fanciful formation. Johnson's suggestion of *non compos* does not agree with the earliest forms.] A fool, blockhead, simpleton, ninny.

α. 1676 Wycherley *Pl. Dealer* II. i, Thou senseless, impertinent..Nicompoop. 1685 Crowne *Sir C. Nice* IV. Wks. 1874 IV. 322 Ay, for me, Nickumpoop. 1694 Echard *Plautus* 109 Thou..hast led me by the Nose, as if I had been the meerest Nicompoop in the World.

β. 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Nincumpoop* or *Nickumpoop*, a meer Blockhead, Sot or Dolt. 1713 *Guardian* No. 109 (1756) II. 106 An old Ninny hammer, a Dotard, a Nincompoop. 1764 Foote *Mayor of G.* I. Wks. 1799 I. 174 Trot, nincompoop. 1782 Miss Burney *Cecilia* v. i, No, Mr. Nincompoop, .. I put them on a stall. 1807 E. S. Barrett *Rising Sun* I. 93 Fashion, though a goddess, is a fool, and all her worshippers..are nincompoops. 1851 D. Jerrold *St. Giles* xii. 117 To make him feel a coward, a nobody, a nincompoop. 1890 Jessie Fothergill *March in Ranks* xxviii, I know how to behave without making too great a nincompoop of myself.

Hence **Ni·ncompoo·pery**; **Ni·ncompoo·phood**; **Ni·ncompoo·pish** *a.*
1791 H. Walpole *Let. to Miss Berry* 26 May, The nincompoophood of her Prince. 1879 Meredith *Egoist* II. i. 235 His nincompoopish idealizations..would now be annoying. 1900 *Speaker* 3 Feb. 477/1 That glorious exemplar of nincompoopery.

Nincum, variant of Nincom.

Nind, obs. form of Ninth.

Nine (nəin), *a.* and *sb.* Forms: *α.* 1 nigon, -an, -en, (*pl.* -one, -ona, nygene), 2–3 nigon, 2–4 nigen, (*Orm.* nighenn), 4 neghen, neyen, neien. *β.* 3 nige, 4 nyge, ne(y)ghe; 3 nie, 4 nye. *γ.* 1, 3 nione, 3–4 niene, nyen, 4 nien. *δ.* 4 neyne, neine, 4–5 nene, (4 nen), 5 (9 *dial.*) neen. *ε.* 4 nin, 4–7 nyne, 6–7 nyn, 4– nine. [OE. *nigon*, etc. = OFris. *nigun*, *niugun*, *-en*, *-in*, *niogen*, OS. *nigun*, *-on*, *-en*, MDu. and MLG. *negen*, *neghen*:—**nigun*, a variant of the OTent. **niwun* which is represented by OHG. *niun* (*niwan*, MHG. *niun*, *neun*, also *niwen*, *newen*, G. *neun*), Goth. *niun*, ON. *nlu* (Sw. *nio*, Da. *ni*). The Indo-Eur. stem **newn* is represented in all the cognate languages, as Skr. *náva(n)*, Gr. *ἐννέα*, L. *novem*, OIr. *nói(n)*, OPruss. *newin-*, Lith. *devynì*, OSl. *devętĭ*, etc.] The cardinal number next after eight, represented by the symbols 9 or ix.

A. *adj.* **1.** In concord with sb. expressed. (Also coupled with a higher cardinal numeral, as *nine and twenty*, etc.)

α. *c* 840 *Charter* 48 in *O. E. Texts* 454 [Ic]..sile Forðrede minum ðegne nigen higida lond in Wudotune. *c* 900 *O. E. Chron.* (Parker MS.) an. 898 Nigon nihtum ær middum sumere. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 9 He þa æfter nigan monða fæce forðeode. *c* 1055 *Byrhtferth's Handboc* in *Anglia* VIII. 300 Gif se monð ne þearf habban buton nigon & twentig nihta. *c* 1200 Ormin 1051 All ennglepeod todæledd iss O nighenn kinne þeode. *c* 1205 Lay. 5149 Mid þihen hundred scipene heo commen in to hauene. *c* 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 364 Nigen woukes and mare þe mariners flet on flod. 1340 Hampole *Pr. Consc.* 729 Neghen hundreth wynter man lyfed þan. *c* 1375 *Cursor M.* 9179 (Fairf.), Ezechias..regned xxx. 3ere and neyen. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 4810 Þus drafe þai furth..a nezen daies euen.

β. *c* 1205 Lay. 26603 To þan wuden þrungen nige þusende. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 328 Þis beoð nn nie reisuns. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 3862 Wiþinne a nye 3er al þis was ydo. *a* 1400 *Octouian* 536 The wynd gan blowe swyde schylle Neyghe dayes. *c* 1400 *Chron. R. Glouc.* (Rolls) 5413 (MS. *a*), In þe 3er of grace nyȝe hundred 3er & on.

γ. 13.. *Cursor M.* 1237 (Göttt.), Adam had passid nien hundred 3er. *c* 1400 *Ibid.* 28892 (Cott. Galba), Er þare nyen pointes to se.

δ. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 23265 And qui þar es þaa paines nene, here nu þe skil. 13.. *Ibid.* 18632 (Göttt.), His lijf was in þis werld here Neine hundreth and thritti 3ere. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 2638 My fader was..of fele yeres,—To the nowmber of nene skowre. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 251/2 Neen tymes; *novies.*

ε. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 1455 Nine hundret yeir and seuen. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 1377 Nyne syþe he 3ede aboute, & kiste þe auter. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xvii. 58 Feith..nolde nou3t neighen hym by nyne londes lengthe. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 357/1 Nyne Hundryd, *nonaginti*. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilȝear* 961 Sic tythingis come to the King within thay nyne nicht. 1535 Coverdale *Deut.* iii. 11 His yron bed is here.., nyne cubites longe. 1593 Shaks. 3 *Hen. VI*, I. i. 112 When I was crown'd, I was but nine moneths old. 1606 G. W[oodcocke] *Hist. Iustine* xi. 46 Of Alexanders host, were slaine nine footemen. 1667 Duchess Newcastle *Life Dk. of N.* (1886) II. 86 He was now able ..to buy a coach and nine horses. 1727–38 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v. *Ombre*, In ombre by three, nine cards are dealt to each party. *Ibid.*, If the ombre win all the nine tricks. 1819 Shelley *Peter Bell 3rd* VI. xv, I looked on them nine several days, And then I saw that they were bad. 1885 *New Bk. Sports* 106 In the skittles of our fathers, nine pins were used, but of different value.

† **b.** Forming a compound ordinal number. *Obs.*
c 1100 *O. E. Chron.* (MS. D.) an. 1052 Þæt wæs on þam nigon & þrittigæðan 3eare. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 160 Þe neyne & twentiþe [default]. *c* 1380 — *Last Age Ch.* (1840) 24 Þe seuynty and nyne chapitre. 1579 Fulke *Heskins's Parl.* 491 The nine and fourtieth Chapter continueth the same exposition.

2. With ellipse of sb., which may usually be supplied from the context.
c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Luke xvii. 17 Ahne teno ȝeclænsad woeron & ða nigona [*Rushw.* nione] huer sint. *c* 1205 Lay. 26502 Sone heom after weoden iwepnede kempen, þer sixe þer seouene, þer æhte þer nigene. 13.. *K. Alis.* 2422 So Alisaundre, among heore men. Sleth doun ryght by nyne and ten. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Serm.* Sel. Wks. I. 34 Where ben oþer nyne? *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 4500 Thei turned aȝeyn on ther fomen And sclow hem doun by nyne and ten. *c* 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 227 Of the nobillest be-name, noumerit of nyne. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 146 b, All the counseyles of our lorde Jesu Chryst may be reduced to these nyne. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* I. Introd. ii, Helpe then, O holy virgin! chiefe of nyne. 1611 Shaks. *Wint. T.* III. ii. 183 Fancies too weake for Boyes, too greene and idle For Girles of Nine. 1726 Swift *Gulliver* I. viii, I..fastened them..to nine of the Vessels which attended me. 1790 Mrs. Wheeler *Westmld. Dial* (1821) 65 Thear wor neen on us set off frae this side. 1828 Scott *F. M. Perth* xxxiv, Thus Eachin stood in the centre of nine of the strongest men of his band. 1868 *Chambers's Encycl.* X. 172/1 The same [holds] at long whist with players who are at nine.

b. *esp.* of the hour of the day, as *nine o'clock*, etc. Also used with ref. to the horizontal position of the hour-hand of a clock at that time.
1548 Elyot, *Nonariæ meretrices*, commune harlottes, whyche vsed at ix. (*Cooper* nyne) of the clocke..to open theyr houses. 1592 Shaks. *Rom. & Jul.* I. i. 167 But new strooke nine. 1598—*Merry W.* III. v. 47 Come to her betweene eight and nine. 1693 *Phil. Trans.* XVII. 673 Sometimes the Courses, Seams or Rakes..lie at Nine a Clock, and sometimes are perpendicular, which they call..Twelve a Clock. 1765 *Ann. Reg.* I. 135 About nine at night an extraordinary phænomenon was seen. 1842 Borrow *Bible in Spain* vii, I started at nine next morning. 1861 Pattison *Ess.* (1889) I. 47 The gates were closed at nine o'clock.
attrib. 1894 *Times* 17 July 8/1 To use a rifleman's expression, it was a '9 o'clock' wind...It blew from the left side of the rifleman.

c. *The Nine*, the nine Muses.
c 1600 Shaks. *Sonn.* xxxviii, Be thou the tenth Muse, ten times more in worth Than those old nine which rhymers invocate. 1638 Lisle *Ælfric on O. & N. Test.* (ed. 2) To Prince, Vee Nine that leaue twi-pointed Pernas hill..Into my soule your honie-dew distill. 1693 Dryden *Persius* (1697) 401, I ..claim no part in all the Mighty Nine. 1708 Pope *Ode St. Cecilia* 1 Descend, ye Nine! descend and sing. 1781 Cowper *Table-T.* 184 Nor would the Nine consent the sacred tide Should purl amidst the traffic of Cheapside. 1887 Bowen *Virgil Ecl.* IX. 32 For I, through grace of the Nine, Poet am also.

3. In special applications.
See also Cat *sb.*[1] 13 b, Order *sb.* 5, Worthy *sb.*, etc.

a. In references to the time (*nine days* or *nights*) during which a novelty is proverbially said to attract attention. (Cf. 4 b.)
c 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* IV. 588 Ek wonder last but nine nyght nevere in towne. 1546 J. Heywood *Prov.* (1867) 90 This wonder lasted nine daies. 1579 Lyly *Euphues* (Arb.) 205 The greatest wonder lasteth but nine daies. 1600 Shaks. *A. Y. L.* III. ii. 180, I was seuen of the nine daies out of the wonder, before you came. 1606 Bp. Hall *Medit. & Vows* III. § 18. 41 So those things..shall be wonders to me; and that not for nine dayes, but for euer.

† **b.** *Nine ways* (*at thrice*), asquint, askew.
1542 Udall tr. *Erasm. Apoph.* (1877) 203 Squyntyied he was, and looked nyne wayes. 1649 G. Daniel *Trinarch., Rich. II*, 326 Passion flyes Squinting, and, as wee say, Nine wayes at Thrice.

c. *Nine times* (etc.) *out of ten*, in the great majority of cases, as a rule.
1809 Malkin *Gil Blas* I. v. P 7 They..nine times out of ten flogged me for nothing. *a* 1845 Hood *The Run-over*, It would have been a quietus for nine men out of ten. 1879 Mrs. A. E. James *Ind. Househ. Managem.* 43 In nine cases out of ten you will not find your confidence misplaced.

d. *Nine points*: (see Possession).
1880 Mrs. Lynn Linton *Rebel of Family* ix, 'You have it in your possession still. 'My nine points? Rather shaky ones, I fear.'

4. Combined with sbs., forming attributive compounds, as *nine-feet*, *-foot*, *-hole*, *-hour*, *-inch*, *-knot*, *-mile*, *-pound*, *-share*, *-shillings*; also *nine-year-old* sb. and adj.
1818 P. Cunningham *N. S. Wales* (ed. 3) II. 299 A *nine-feet promenade is amply sufficient. 1897 P. Warung *Tales Old Regime* 81 The *nine-foot chain before mentioned. 1894 *Westm. Gaz.* 17 Nov. 7/1 A *nine-hole course has been laid out at Gavarnie. 1897 *Daily News* 13 July 8/5 A *nine-hour day is not so long as to be exhausting to a man. 1765 *Ann. Reg.* I. 103 All narrow wheels are to pay one-half toll more than the *nine-inch wheels. 1819 Shelley *Peter Bell 3rd* VI. xx, High trotting over nine-inch bridges. 1853 R. S. Hawker *Wks.* (1893) 28 There's a *nine-knot breeze above. 1780 *New Newgate Cal.* V. 139 Near the *nine-mile stone on the Hounslow-road. 1822–53 De Quincey *Confess.* Wks. 1853 I. 131 An easy nine-mile walk. 1711 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4906/2, I had two *Nine pound Shots through my Foremast. 1893 J. Watson *Conf. Poacher* 63 She failed to jump a stone fence, with a nine-pound hare in her mouth. 1837 *Penny Cycl.* IX. 96/1 The *nine-share plough, or scarifier, has been found very useful in the light soils. 1683 Tryon *Way to Health* 340 Let your Drink at Meals be no stronger than *nine shillings Beer. 1828 Moir *Mansie Wauch* xi. 98 We..read away like *nine-year-aulds. 1853 Miss Yonge *Heir of Redclyffe* xxxix, A long, thin, nine-year old child.

b. *Nine days' wonder*, etc., applied to an event or thing of temporary interest. (Cf. 3 a.)
1594 *Spanish Trag.* IV. in Hazl. *Dodsley* V. 97 Which as a nine-days' wonder, being o'erblown. 1602 *How a Man*, etc. IV. ii. in *Old Eng. Dram.* (1824) 75 Her timeless death Is but a nine day's talk. 1625 Massinger *New Way* IV. ii, That were but nine days' wonder. 1764 Churchill *Ghost* III. 547 He would be found..A nine days' wonder at the most. 1818 Byron *Juan* I. clxxxviii, The nine days' wonder which was brought to light. 1861 Hughes *Tom Brown at Oxf.* xlii, His escape on the night of the riot had been a nine-days' wonder.

5. In parasynthetic adjs., as *nine-circled*, *-cornered*, *-jointed*, *-lived*, *-stringed*, *-tailed*, *-voiced*.
1851 C. L. Smith tr. *Tasso* xviii. xlviii, Its grand *nine-circled stream opaque. 1809 W. Irving *Knickerb.* IV. iii, Some dozen huge, misshapen, *nine-cornered Dutch oaths. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XV. 84/2 The antennæ..are *nine-jointed. 1600 S. Nicolson *Acolastus* (1876) 46 Loue is *nine-liu'd; kill him ne're so much, The Wanton Boy reuiueth with a tutch. *a* 1649 Drumm. of Hawth. *Poems* Wks. (1711) 2/2 By the soft Touches of the *Nine-string'd Heaven. 1786 Burns *Ordination* xi, Hark, how the *nine-tail'd cat she plays! 1585 Jas. I *Ess. Poesie* (Arb.) 25 Her *nynevoced mouth resembled into sound The daunce harmonious making heauen resound.

b. In parasynthetic sbs., as *nine-pounder*.
1747 B. Robins *Prop. incr. Strength Navy* 8 Very lately the Six Pounders in some of the smaller Ships have been changed for Nine Pounders. 1834–47 J. S. Macaulay *Field Fortif.* (1851) 18 Supposing them to be armed with nine-pounders. 1876 Bancroft *Hist. U. S.* VI. xli. 242 Jones could use only three nine-pounders.

6. In special combs. (attrib. or absolute), as **nine-bark** (**spice or syringa**), an American shrub, *Spiræa opulifolia*, having many layers of loose bark; **nine-days disease** (see quot.); † **nine-double**, ninefold; **nine-men's morris**: see Morris; **nine-pegs**, ninepins; **nine-point(s) circle** (see quot. 1865); † **nine-worthiness**, valour like that of the nine worthies.
1796 Morse *Amer. Geog.* I. 576 Plum trees, *nine bark spice, and leather wood bushes. 1847 Darlington *Amer. Weeds* (1860) 120 A very showy ornamental species...Sometimes called 'Nine-Bark Syringa'. 1859 Bartlett *Dict. Amer.* (ed. 2), *Nine-bark*, a low shrub found in Maine, Canada [etc.]. Its old bark is loose, and separates in thin layers. 1799 Underwood *Diseases Children* (ed. 4) I. 159 A disorder, whose attack being within the first nine days after birth, has been denominated the *nine-days disease. 1598 Florio, *Nonoplo*, nine-fold, *nine double. 1675 Cotton *Burlesque upon B.* 56 Playing at *Nine-peggs with such heat That mighty Jupiter did sweat. 1883 *Nature* XXVII. 607 In place of the well known '*nine-point' circle ..would not 'mid-point' circle be equally expressive? 1865 Brande & Cox *Dict. Sci.*, etc. I. 461 The circle which passes through the middle points of the sides of a triangle is referred to by Continental writers as 'the *nine-points circle. 1663 Butler *Hud.* I. ii. 113 The Foe, for dread Of your *Nine-Worthiness, is fled.

B. *sb.* **1.** The abstract number nine; the figure or symbol representing this.
1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* XIX. cxxii. (1495) 922 One addyd or putte to eyghte makyth the nombre of nyne. *a* 1400 in Halliwell *Rara Mathem.* 31 The figure of nyne that hath this schape 9. 1588 Shaks. *L. L. L.* V. ii. 488 Three times thrice is nine. 1611 Florio, *Nonarie*, of nine. 1798 Hutton *Course Math.* I. 10 Add the figures..and find how many nines are contained in their sum.—Reject those nines, and set down the remainder. 1870 Sonnenschein & Nesbitt *Sci. & Art Arith.* I. xi. 132 Any number is an exact number of nines + the sum of its digits.

2. a. *Cards.* A card marked with nine pips. *Nine of diamonds*: see Curse *sb.* 4 c.
1599 Minsheu *Percival's Sp. Dict.* s. v. *Malilla*, a carde picked out and agreed vpon,..that he that hath him may make him king, queene, knaue, ace, ten, nine, &c. 1680 Cotton *Compl. Gamester* (ed. 2) 77 Suppose you have in your hand a Nine and two Sixes. 1727–38 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v. *Ombre*, The whole ombre pack being only 40, by reason the eights, nines, and tens, are thrown aside. 1868 *Chambers's Encycl.* X. 173 Dropping the nine, and holding queen and knave.

b. A set of nine persons, players, etc.
a 1860 Ala. Smith *Med. Stud.* (1861) 69 A student..assures him that..the examiners never pluck two nines running. 1860 Campbell *Tales W. Highlands* (1892) III. 375 He could kill nine nines backwards with his sword. 1871 Cutting *Stud. Life at Amherst* 113 In 1866, the College Ball Club..played against the 'Nine' of Brown University.

3. a. A shoe, or foot, of the ninth size.
1599 Minsheu *Percival's Sp. Gram.* 81 The..size of shooes, as nines, tens, &c. 1607 Tourneur *Rev. Trag.* V. i, Courtiers haue feete a' th' nines & tongues n' th' twellues.

b. A thing or person marked or distinguished by the number nine.
1888 H. Morten *Hospital Life* 30 Voices repeat the fact ..that 'Nine' is going to be sent away for a change.

4. *Long nine*: **a.** A nine-pounder gun.
1799 *Hull Advertiser* 19 Oct. 2/4 Corvette..of thirty-two guns, twenty-four long nines. 1836 Marryat *Midsh. Easy* xxxviii, A couple of long brass nines. 1883 Stevenson *Treas. Isl.* xvii, We had entirely forgotten the long nine.

b. *U.S.* A kind of cigar.
1837 Hawthorne *Twice-told T.* (1849) vi. 59 The pedler ..having sold him many a bunch of long nines, and a great deal of pig-tail, lady's twist, and fig tobacco. 1858 O. W. Holmes *Aut. Breakf.-t.* ii. (1895) 51 Stable-boys smoking long-nines.

5. *Nine point two*, a gun having a calibre of 9·2 inches.
1898 Kipling in *Morning Post* 10 Nov. 5/2 You'd need a nine point two to do that properly.

6. † **a.** *Upon the nines*, ? at once. *Obs. rare* —[1].

c 1560 A. Scott *Poems* (S.T.S.) iv. 92 The moir degest and grave, The grydiar to grip it; The nycest to ressave, Vpon the nynis will nip it.

b. (*Up*) *to the nines* (rarely *nine*), to perfection, to the highest degree or point.

1787 Burns *Answ. to Verses* v, 'Twad please me to the nine. *a* 1793 — *Past. Poetry* vii, Thou paints auld Nature to the nines. 1821 Galt *Ayrsh. Legatees* xxv, He's such a funny man, and touches off the Londoners to the nines! 1836 Haliburton *Clockm.* (1862) 61 Praisin a man's farm to the nines. 1863 Reade *Hard Cash* I. 203 Being clad in snowy cotton and japanned to the nine. 1876 T. Hardy *Ethelberta* (1890) 3 When she's dressed up to the nines for some grand party.

Nine-eyed (nəi·nˌəid), *a.* Having nine eyes.

† 1. As an opprobrious epithet. *Obs. rare.*

1694 Echard *Plautus* Pref. A 3, I'll fetch ye out..for a damnable, prying, nine-ey'd Witch. 1703 Farquhar *Inconstant* II. ii, You son of a nine-eyed whore, d'ye come to abuse me?

2. *Nine-eyed eel*, the lamprey. *Sc.*

1810 Neill *List Fishes* 30 (Jam.), Lesser Lamprey...The popular name Nine-eyed-eel arises from the spiracles being taken for eyes. 1838 Johnston in *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* I. vi. 176 Sea-Lamprey. The Nine-eyed Eel.

So **Nine-eyes.** *dial.* **a.** The lamprey. **b.** The butterfish (*Gunnellus vulgaris*).

Cf. MDu. *neghenoghe* (Du. *negenoog*), MLG. *negenoge* (hence Da. *negenøie*, Sw. *nejonöga*), OHG. *niunouga* (MHG. *-ouge*, G. *neunauge*).

(*a*) 1841 Hartshorne *Salop. Ant.* 517 Nine-eyes, the *Ammocætes branchialis* of Naturalists, so called from having a number of spiracles on each side, or branchial orifices in a lateral groove. 1880-4 [see Nine-holes 3]. 1896 tr. *Boas' Text Bk. Zool.* 382 The Nine-eyes or Lampreys..have a circular sucking mouth with horny teeth.

(*b*) 1863 Couch *Brit. Fishes* II. 236 Butterfish. Swordick, Gunnel, Nine eyes. 1879 Satchell *Gloss. Fish Names* 5 *Blennius gunnellus*, Butter-fish.., Nine-eyes.

Ninefold (nəi·nfōuld), *a.*, *sb.*, and *adv.* [f. Nine + -fold. Cf. MDu. *neghenvout* (Du. *negenvoud*), MLG. *negenwalt*, MHG. *niunvalt*.]

A. *adj.* **1.** Nine times as great or numerous.

c 1000 Ælfric *Gram.* xlix. (Z.) 285 *Nouenarius* nigonfeald. 1557 Recorde *Whetst.* B ij, *Noncupla.* 9 to 1: 18 to 2.. Ninefolde. 1598 Florio, *Nonaplo*, nine-fold, nine double. 1817 Shelley *Rev. Islam* VIII. xxi. 7 On all beside It turns with ninefold rage. *a* 1845 Hood *The United Family* xxii, A ninefold woe remains behind. 1892 *Pall Mall G.* 10 June 2/1 A ninefold fine should be exacted.

2. Consisting of nine folds or parts. Also (with sb. in *pl.*): Nine in number.

1594 Greene & Lodge *Looking Gl.* G.'s Wks. (Rtldg.) 129/2 Thy wickedness hath..pierced through nine-fold orbs of heaven. 1598 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. i. III. *Furies* 269 Th' ever-shaking nine-fold steely bars Of Stygian Bridge. 1629 Milton *Hymn Nativ.* xiii, With your ninefold harmony Make up full consort to th' Angelike symphony. 1667 — *P. L.* II. 436 This huge convex of Fire..immures us round Ninefold. 1807 Crabbe *Par. Reg.* I. 93 Who simple truth with nine-fold reasons back. 1843 Carlyle *Past & Pr.* (1858) 102 The ninefold Stygian Marshes. 1854 Whittier *To Chas. Sumner* 9 He, for whom the ninefold Muses sang. 1896 Kipling *Seven Seas, Song of the English*, Draw now the threefold knot firm on the ninefold bands.

Comb. *c* 1590 Greene *Fr. Bacon* xv, When every charmer with his magic spell Calls us from nine-fold trenched Phlegethon.

B. *sb.* **† 1.** An amount nine times as great.

1602 Fulbecke *Pandects* 80 If a thing of good value be taken awaie, they must render the nine-folde.

2. An attendant set of nine.

1605 Shaks. *Lear* III. iv. 126 He met the Night-Mare, and her nine-fold. 1814 Scott *Wav.* xiii, On Hallow-Mass Eve the Night-Hag will ride, And all her nine-fold sweeping on by her side.

C. *adv.* To nine times the number.

1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* iii. I. 286 In Lancashire the number of inhabitants appears to have increased nine-fold.

Nine-holes.

1. a. A game in which the players endeavour to roll small balls into nine holes made in the ground, each hole having a separate scoring value. **b.** A similar game played with a board having nine holes or arches.

For a detailed account of the games see Strutt *Sports & Past.* (1801) 204-5 and the *Eng. Dial. Dict.*

1573 *New Custom* I. i. in Hazl. *Dodsley* III. 9 Playing at quoits or nine-holes, or shooting at butts. 1589 Greene *Menaphon* (Arb.) 56, Boies, that fell vpon one of their fellowes, and beate him most cruelly for playing false playe at nine holes. 1612 Drayton *Poly-olb.* xiv. 22 The vnhappy wags, which let their Cattell stray, At Nine-holes on the heath whilst they together play. 1648 Herrick *Hesper., Upon Raspe*, Raspe plays at nine-holes; and t'is known he gets Many a teaster by his game, and bets. 1751 R. Paltock *P. Wilkins* xlv, One [game] like our bowls on a bowling-green, and at one somewhat like nine-holes. 1801 Strutt *Sports & Past.* III. vii. 205, I have formerly seen a pastime practised by School-boys, called nine-holes. 1854 Miss Baker *Northampt. Gloss.*, Nine-holes, or Trunks.

attrib. 1593 G. Harvey *Pierce's Super.* 73 In time he may haply learne to play at nine hole nidgets. 1688 Holme *Armoury* III. xvi. (Roxb.) 67/2 He beareth sable, a 9 Hole Board or, edged and linned of the first.

2. *Sc.* 'That piece of beef that is cut out immediately below the brisket or breast, denominated from the vacancies left by the ribs' (Jam. 1825).

1842 J. Aiton *Domest. Econ.* (1857) 98 For boiling pieces of beef, the runner, the nineholes, and the breast are the best. 1844 Stephens *Bk. Farm* II. 169 The nineholes.. consists of layers of fat and lean without any bone.

3. The lamprey.

a 1825 Forby *Voc. E. Anglia*, *Nine-holes*, a fish of the lamprey kind, not uncommon in our Fen ditches. 1880-4 Day *Fishes Gt. Brit.* II. 360 Lampern,.. nine-eyes, nine-holes, the eye and nasal orifice appear to be here counted.

Ni·ne-killer. [A transl. of Du. *negendooder* or G. *neuntödter.*] The butcher bird or shrike (*Lanius excubitor* or *L. borealis*).

[1678 Ray *Willughby's Ornith.* 87 In other parts of Germany it is called Neghen-doer, that is, Nine-killer.] 1801 *Nat. Hist.* in *Ann. Reg.* 442/2 Why is this bird of prey called the Nine-killer? 1808 A. Wilson *Amer. Ornith.* I. 77 Mr. Heckewelder..appears..to have been unacquainted that grasshoppers were, in fact, the favorite food of this Nine-killer. 1859 Bartlett *Dict. Amer.* (ed. 2), *Nine-killer*, the popular name of the Northern Butcher-bird. 1866 *Fam. Her.* 511 The bird called a nine-killer is an arithmetician.

So **† Nine-murder(er.** *Obs.* [LG. *negen-*, G. *neunmörder.*]

1544 Turner *Avium Præcip.* I 5 b, *Tyrannus*, a nyn murder. 1565 Cooper *Thesaurus* s. v. *Molliceps*, a birde of bodie no bigger then a thrush...Some thinke a shrike or nyn murder. 1598 Florio, *Regéstola*, a kind of lanaret hawke called a shreeke or nine murtherer. 1611 Cotgr., *Poul*, .. the Ninmurder, a yellowish bird, and the smallest of birds.

Ninepence (nəi·npĕns).

1. The sum of nine pence. Also in phrases, esp. *as neal*, etc., *as ninepence.*

To bring a noble to ninepence: see Noble *sb.*

1606 *Proclam.* in Ruding *Coinage* (1840) I. 364 The said Harp Shillings should have..the name and value only of twelve Pence Irish,..being in true value no more than nine Pence English. 1607 Dekker & Webster *Sir Thos. Wyatt* W.'s Wks. (Rtldg.) 197/2 Henceforth the Harpers for his sake, shall stand But for plain ninepence throughout all the land. *a* 1704 T. Brown tr. *Æneas Sylvius Lett.* lxxxii. Wks. (1709) III. II. 80 The Devil and nine Pence go with her, that's Money and Company. 1857 *Blackw. Mag.* LXXXI. 397 If I didn't see him whip a picture out of its frame, as neat as ninepence. 1865 Dickens *Mut. Fr.* I. ix, As grand as ninepence. 1881 in *Lanc. Gloss.* s. v. *Hondrunnin*, He'd feight the whole lot on 'em,..as easy as ninepence. 1890 'R. Boldrewood' *Col. Reformer* (1891) 106, I thought I was as right as ninepence.

2. A coin of the value of nine pence. *Nimble ninepence*: see Nimble *a.* 3 d.

In former English use applied to the Irish shilling, which passed current for ninepence (see quots. 1606-7 above). In the United States a name for the Spanish real.

1663 Butler *Hud.* I. I. 487 Like Commendation Nine-pence crookt With—To and from my Love—it lookt. 1679 *Exec. Bury* 6 They had an Art to make a Nine-pence or Groat just new made, look as if it had been Coined these hundred years. 1706 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4234/5 Several old Nine-Pences and old Shillings, and many Milled Pence. 1722 De Foe *Col. Jack* (1840) 46 With ninepences, and fourpence-halfpennies,..Scotch and Irish coin. 1812 Byron *Waltz* xiii. *note*, A new ninepence—a creditable coin now forthcoming, worth a pound, in paper, at the fairest calculation. 1860 O. W. Holmes *Poet Breakf.-t.* iii, Give me two fo'pencehappenies for a ninepence.

Ninepenny (nəi·npĕni), *sb.* and *a.*

A. *sb.* A coin equal in value to nine pennies.

1830 Scott *Demonol.* iv. 138, I have several pieces to show, consisting of ninepennies, thirteen-piece-halfpennies.

B. *adj.* **1.** Valued at or costing ninepence.

1894 *Outing* XXIV. 371/1 At Wrexham I passed the night in a nine-penny room. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 16 Feb. 3/1 A customer enters his shop and asks for ninepenny butter.

2. *Ninepenny marl* = Nine men's morris.

1826 Hone *Every-day Bk.* II. 983 There is an ancient game, played by the 'shepherds of Salisbury Plain,'..called 'Ninepenny Marl'.

Ninepins (nəi·npinz), *sb. pl.* [Pin *sb.*1 8.]

1. A game in which nine 'pins' are set up to be knocked down by a ball or bowl thrown at them.

1580 Hollyband *Treas. Fr. Tong*, *Quilles*, as *iouër aux quilles*, to play at nine pins. 1610 Beaum. & Fl. *Scornf. Lady* IV. i, Thy dry bones can reach at nothing now, but gords or nine-pinnes. 1647 Peacham *Worth of a Penny* 31 The most ordinary recreations of the Countrey are football, skales or nine pins, shooting at butts [etc.]. 1663 Pepys *Diary* 27 May, Afterwards to nine-pins, Creed and I playing against my Lord and Cooke. 1712 Arbuthnot *John Bull* I. iv, You Sot,..you spend your Time at Billiards, Ninepins, or Puppet-shows. 1774 *Westm. Mag.* II. 315 Swains appeared in fancy dresses, amusing themselves at the game of Ninepins. 1829 Carlyle *Misc.* (1857) II. 4 A little boy was playing nine-pins on the streets of Mentz. 1856 'Stonehenge' *Brit. Rural Sports* 511 Skittles, nine pins, and Dutch pins, are modifications of the same game.

2. The pins with which this game is played; also in *sing.* of one of these.

1664 Butler *Hud.* II. i. 488 As when Merchants break, o'erthrown Like Nine-pins, they strike others down. 1691 J. Wilson *Belphegor* IV. iv, 'Tis a wonder, no more follow him: for it is often with Merchants, as Nine-Pins. 1697 Dampier *Voy.* (1699) 165 Some of these Trees .. being big-bellied like Nine-pins. 1794 [see 3]. 1807 Crabbe *Par. Reg.* I. 661 The bowl that beats the greater number down Of tottering nine-pins. 1819 Scott *Ivanhoe* xli, When his holiness rolled on the green like a king of the nine-pins. 1864 G. Musgrave *Ten Days in Fr. Parsonage* II. iii. 108 Little urchins..tumbled about like ninepins.

b. Humorously applied to a child.

1862 Mrs. H. Wood *Channings* II. xix. 289 Little ninepins, would you like to get three-pence?

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *ninepin alley, yard*; *ninepin high, -like* adjs.; **ninepin block,** *Naut.* a block so called from its shape.

?1756 Walpole *Lett. to Bentley* Aug., The bowling-green ..contains no less than four obelisks, as look like a Brobdignag *nine-pin-ally. 1758 Johnson *Idler* No. 28. P 4 An alehouse.., with a ninepin alley. 1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* 156 **Nine-pin-blocks*. The shells .. resemble the shape of a nine-pin...They are used to lead the running ropes in a horizontal direction. 1841 Dana *Seaman's Man.* 116 *Ninepin Block*, a block in the form of a ninepin, used for a fair leader in the rail. 1710 *Brit. Apollo* No. 100. 2/2 Little dirty Brats scarce *Nine-pin high. 1704 *Phil. Trans.* XXV. 1547 The *Nine-pin like Particles. 1709 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4525/3 Bowling-Greens, and *Nine-pin Yards.

Niner (nəi·nəɹ). *rare.* [-er 1.] A criminal who is sentenced to imprisonment for nine years.

1897 Warung *Tales Old Regime* 219 Pedder was a 'sevener', Blake was a 'niner'.

Ni·nesome, *sb.* and *a.* [f. Nine *a.* + -some.]

a. *sb.* A set of nine. **b.** *adj.* Consisting of nine.

?*a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 523 Thy nedes..I notifiede myselfene, Be-fore þat noble of name and neynesome of kynges. 1887 Service *Life Dr. Duguid* 224 She had an auchtsome or a ninesome family.

Nineted (nəi·ntĕd), *a. dial.* [var. of Nointed.] Wicked, incorrigible.

a 1809 J. Palmer *Like Master* (1811) I. ii. 19 So prone to mischief, that his supposed aunt declared, 'it was beyond her to manage him—he was a nineted one'. 1841 Hartshorne *Salop. Ant.* 517 'A nineted youth', a youngster who is wicked and wilful.

Nineteen (nəintī·n, nəi·ntīn), *a.* (and *sb.*) Forms: *α.* 1 nihȝon-, niȝontyne, 3 niȝen-, nien-, 3-4 neȝen-, 5 nyentene. *β.* 3 nintene, 4 nynten, ninetene, nenteyn, 4, 6 nyn(e)tene, 6 nyne-, 7 nineteene, 7- nineteen. [OE. *nigontýne* = OFris. *niogentena*, *niugenten*, OS. *nigen-*, *nichentein*, MDu. and Du. *negentien*, OHG. *niunzehan*, *-zên* (MHG. *niunzehen*, G. *neunzehn*), ON. *nítján* (Sw. *nitton*, Da. *nitten*): see Nine and Ten.] The cardinal number composed of ten and nine, represented by 19 or xix.

1. In concord with sb. expressed.

α. *a* 1000 *Menologium* 71 Embe nihȝontyne niht þæs þe Easter monað to us cymeð. *c* 1055 *Byrhtferth's Handboc* in *Anglia* VIII. 300 He yrnð niȝontyne gear eall swa se oðer. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 2699 Kyng heruer of Goran þe vitailes hadde y-sent.. Be neȝentene vitaillers.

β. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 14824 Mayster Edmond seis,..þat þe Engle hadde nynetene sones. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxii. (*Laurence*) 220 He baptist is þene, & of his nynten best men. 1603 Shaks. *Meas. for M.* I. ii. 172 So long, that nineteene Zodiacks haue gone round. 1632 Lithgow (*title*) The Totall Discourse of the rare Adventures ..of long nineteen yeares Travayles from Scotland. 1770 Burke *Pres. Discont.* Wks. II. 310 It was not untill he had reigned nineteen years. 1861 Mill *Utilit.* ii. 22 Happiness is done without involuntarily by nineteen-twentieths of mankind. 1892 E. Reeves *Homeward Bound* 277 The nineteen doors facing the court of oranges.

Comb. 1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 13 Dec. 9/2 Nineteen-day accounts on the Stock Exchange are proverbially wearisome affairs.

2. With ellipsis of sb., which may usually be supplied from context.

c 1205 Lay. 1850 Þa niȝentene [*c* 1275 neȝentene] heo slowen. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 10646 Tuelf hundered as in ȝer of grace & nintene, ich vnderstonde. *c* 1385 Chaucer *L. G. W.* Prol. 186, I saw cominge of ladyes nyntene. 1426 Lydg. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 17730, I selle the wyke, I selle the day,.. Somtyme by twelue and by thryttene, By twenty ek, and by nyntene. *a* 1550 Wriothesley *Chron.* (Camden) I. 45 Which were nyneteene in number. 1611 Shaks. *Wint. T.* III. iii. 65 Would any but these boylde-braines of nineteene and two and twenty hunt this weather? 1799 Underwood *Diseases Children* (ed. 4) III. 121 It will prove sufficiently nourishing for nineteen out of twenty. 1827 Pusey in Liddon *Life* I. (1894) 42 An expression which I had used when nineteen. 1846 Mrs. Gore *Eng. Char.* (1852) 39 The nineteen-and-sixpence she has netted incline her to return to the card-table.

b. Phr. *To talk* (*run*) *nineteen to the dozen*: to talk, or run on, at a great rate.

1852 Reade *Peg Woff.* (1889) 50 He was talking nineteen to the dozen. 1860 Sala *Baddington Peerage* xliii, The ladies' maid's tongue was sure to run nineteen to the dozen. 1883 Stevenson in *Longman's Mag.* II. 293 A very cheerful..gentleman..who was talking away to me, nineteen to the dozen, as they say.

† 3. = Nineteenth. *Obs.*

c 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 3090 Of Etheldrede þe nyentetene ȝere & nomore. 1523 Lo. Berners *Froiss.* I. clii. 181 The nynetene day of February next after.

Nineteenth (nəintī·nþ, nəi·ntīnþ), *a.* and *sb.* Forms: *α.* 1 niȝonteoða, -þe, etc., 3 nien-, nyentepe, 5 -tethe. *β.* 4 nientend, 5 nyntende, -tenth, nintenth, 6 nyneteenth, 6- nineteenth. [OE. *nigontéoða* = OFris. *niuguntinda*, MDu. (and Du.) *negentiende*, MHG. *niunzehende* (G. *neunzehnte*), ON. *nítjándi* (Sw. *nittonde*, Da. *nittende*): see prec. and -th.] The ordinal numeral corresponding to the cardinal Nineteen.

A. *adj.* In concord with sb. expressed, or *elliptical.*

α. *a* 900 *O. E. Martyrol.* 24 On þone niȝonteoðan dæȝ þæs monðes. *Ibid.* 98 On þone nyȝenteȝðan dæg. *c* 900 *O. E. Chron.* (Parker MS.) an. 855 He ricsode niȝon teoþe healf ȝear. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 5116 þe nyentepe day of aueryl. *Ibid.* 8699 In þe nientepe ȝere of is elde. *c* 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 3820 Of kyng Knowde þe nyentethe ȝere.

β. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 133 In his nientend ȝere of his regalte. 1382 Wyclif 2 *Kings* xxv. 8 It is the nyntenthe ȝeer of the kyng of Babiloyne. 1447 Bokenham *Seyntys* (Roxb.) 95 Petyr the nyntende pope. 1579 Fulke *Heskins' Parl.* 195 The nineteenth Chapter proceedeth vpon the same text. 1790 Burke *Fr. Rev.* Wks. 1792 III. 192 In the nineteenth century. 1824 L. Murray *Eng. Gram.* (ed. 5)

I. 135 See .. the notes on the nineteenth rule of Syntax. 1836 Hood (*title*) Song for the Nineteenth. 1886 Morley *Eng. Lit.* (ed. 12) Pref., Former Editions..touched very lightly on the Literature of the Nineteenth Century.

Comb. 1879 *Temple Bar* Sept. 44 Glowering at each other in civil nineteenth-century fashion.

B. *sb.* **a.** A nineteenth part. **b.** *Mus.* The interval of two octaves and a fifth.

1597 Morley *Introd. Mus.* 71 A vnison, a fift,..a fifteenth, a nineteenth, and so forth. 1609 Douland *Ornith. Microl.* 79 A nineteenth, which is equal to a fift, and a twelfth.

Hence **Nineteenthly** *adv.*, in the nineteenth place; *sb.* the nineteenth head of a sermon.

1681 H. More *Exp. Dan.* App. III. 304 Nineteenthly, The Curious may be prone to enquire why, etc. 1815 Scott *Paul's Lett.* (1839) 287 In the Nineteenthly of an afternoon's sermon. 1851 Whittier *To Schoolmaster* 124 As the long nineteenthlies poured Downward from the sounding-board.

Nine-tenths. Nine parts ont of ten; also loosely used to denote nearly the whole of any number or amount.

1812 Southey *Let. to Y. White* 16 Feb., I apprehend that at least nine tenths of the business of B. Society relates to foreign countries. 1842 Borrow *Bible in Spain* xliv, Nine-tenths of the inhabitants had left this place. 1889 Skrine *Mem. Thring* 102 A wretched nine-tenths of the place was the property of private owners.

Nineth, obs. form of Ninth.

Ninetieth (nəi·ntiėþ), *a.* (*sb*) Forms: 2 nigenteoþa, 4 nyntithe, 6 nin(e)teth, 7– ninetieth. [f. next + *-eth* -th.] The ordinal numeral corresponding to the cardinal Ninety.

a 1100 in Napier *O. E. Glosses* i. 2521 *Usque nonagenariam*, oþ þa nigenteoþan. 1395 Purvey *Remonstr.* (1851) 90 In Decrees, in one and nyntithe distincciounn. 1548 Elyot, *Nonagesimus*, ..the nineteth. 1570 Levins *Manip.* 88/43 Y^e^ Ninteth, *nonagesimus*. 1611 Florio, *Nonagesimo*, the ninetieth in order. 1751 Johnson *Rambler* No. 112 ¶ 9 He..laughed obstreperously at the ninetieth repetition of a joke. 1825 Scott in *Lockhart* (1839) VIII. 383 My Aunt is now in her ninetieth year. 1877 Tennyson *Harold* IV. i, This is my ninetieth birthday!

ellipt. 1901 *Munsey's Mag.* XXV. 342/1 He leaped upon the parapet of his pit and cheered the Ninetieth on.

Ninety (nəi·nti), *a.* and *sb.* Forms: 1 nigon-, 2 nigentiȝ; 3 nigen-, nigne-, 4 nene-, nineti, nynte, 3 nin-, 4 nen-, nyne-, 6 nynty, nyn(e)tie, 7 ninetie, 7– ninety. [OE. *nigontig* = OFris. *nion-, niogen-, nogentich*, MDu. and MLG. *negentich* (Du. *negentig*), OHG. *niunzug, -zog* (MHG. *niunzec, -zic*, G. *neunzig*), ON. *niutigir* (Icel. *niutiu*, Norw. *nitti*, Sw. *nittio*): see Nine and -ty.]

1. The cardinal number equal to nine tens, represented by 90 or xc. Also with omission of sb., and in comb. with numbers below ten (ordinal and cardinal), as *ninety-one, ninety-first*, etc.

c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Luke xv. 7 Ma þonne ofer nigon & nigontigum [*Hatton* nigentiȝ] rihtwisra. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1027 Ȝe was nigenti winter hold. 1297 R. Glouc. *Chron.* (Rolls) 9931 In þe ȝer of grace..Endlene hundred & ninty. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 2699 His fader nineti and nine þat day. 1382 Wyclif *Gen.* v. 9 Enos forsothe lyuede nynti ȝeer. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 357/1 Nynety, *nonaginta*. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* VI. 107 Twelff hundreth ȝer, tharto nynte and sewyn. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 78 Saxhundereth nyntie and fyue. 1611 Florio, *Nonagenario*, of ninety yeeres of age. 1769 Burke *Late St. Nat.* Wks. II. 118 His subscription would be at ninety-nine per cent. discount the very first day of its opening. 1810 Southey *Kehama* VIII. i, Nine and ninety days are fled, Nine and ninety steeds have bled. 1894 Sir E. Sullivan *Woman* 13 In ninety-nine cases out of a hundred she is better.

Comb. 1852 R. S. Surtees *Sponge's Sp. Tour* (1893) 365 This was ninety-shilling sherry. 1855 J. R. Leifchild *Cornwall* 188 The great ninety-inch steam-engine on the Consolidated Mines. 1863 Prior *Pop. Names Brit. Plants* 162 *Ninety-knot*, see Knotgrass and Centinode.

2. *The nineties.* **a.** The degrees of a thermometer between ninety and a hundred. **b.** The years between ninety and a hundred in a particular century or in a person's life.

1883 Stevenson *Silverado Sq.* 21 The thermometer..had already climbed among the nineties. 1894 *Athenæum* 10 Feb. 176/1 Reinout is what Arthur Pendennis might have been in the nineties. 1897 Warung *Tales Old Regime* 207 He was an early arrival at the island away back in the 'Nineties.

Ninevite (ni·nivəit). Also 6–7 Ninivite. [ad. L. *Ninivīta*, f. *Ninive* Nineveh: see -ite.] An inhabitant of Nineveh.

1550 Lever *Serm.* (Arb.) 24 The same destruccion was tolde to the Sodomites, was tolde to the Niniuites. 1662 Stillingfl. *Orig. Sacræ* II. vi. § 11 Because the Ninivites might now suspect him to be no true Prophet. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) IX. 306/1 Jonah..was ordered to go and prophecy the destruction of the Ninevites. 1845 Kitto *Cyel. Bibl. Lit.* s.v. *Nineveh*, The Ninevites repented at the preaching of Jonah. 1888 *Academy* 7 Apr. 245/2 The Ninevites and the Babylonians, who spoke the same language, exhibit two distinct ethnical types.

Hence **Ni·nevitish** *a.*

1846 Thorpe *Ælfric's Hom.* II. 125 The old transgressions of the Ninevitish people.

Ningid: see Ninguid *Obs.*

†Ningle, *sb. Obs.* [See N 3.] = Ingle *sb.*[2] (Freq. in early 17th cent. plays.)

1598–9 B. Jonson *Case Altered* v. ii, Sirrah ningle, thou art a traveller, and I honour thee...Begin, find your tongue, ningle. 1602 Dekker *Satirom.* B 4, Horace, my sweet ningle, is alwayes in labour when I come. 1622 Massinger & Dekker *Virg. Mart.* II. i, Priapus..was the only ningle that I cared for under the moon. 1640 Brome *Sparagus Gard.* III. v, It may take your Nephew off of his Ningle, who hath affected him with Poetry already.

So **†Ningle** *v. Obs. rare* −[o] = Ingle *v.* I.

1659 Torriano *Zanzeráre*, to ningle [*Florio*, nigle] boyes, or wantonly to dally with them against nature.

†Ni·nguid, *a. Obs. rare* −[o]. [ad. L. *ninguidus*, f. *ninguis* snow.] (See quot.)

1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Ningid* or *Ninguid*, where much Snow is.

Ninihammer, obs. form of Ninny-hammer.

†Niniversity. *Obs. rare.* Also 7 ninne-. A humorous perversion of University, after Ninny.

c 1590 Greene *Fr. Bacon* vii, [I] will make a ship that shall hold all your colleges and so carry away the niniversity ..to the Bankside in Southwark. 1654 E. Johnson *Wonderwrkg. Provid.* 96 A Woman that Preaches better Gospell then any of your black-coates that have been at the Ninneversity.

Ninkling, obs. form of Inkling.

†Ni·nnery. *Obs. rare* −[1]. [f. Ninn-y + -ery.] The behaviour of a ninny.

1600 *Hospit. Incurable Fooles* A 4 Folly was their mother, Buffonerie their sister, Ninnerie their companion.

Ninny[1] (ni·ni). Forms: 6–7, 9 ninnie, 7 ninnee, 7–8 ninney, 7– ninny. [Of obscure origin: perh. an abbreviation of *innocent* with prefixed *n* (see N 3).] A simpleton; a fool.

1593 *Passionate Morrice* (New Shaks. Soc.) 83, I should be quickly rid of a neere mishap, in being prevented of matching with a nice ninnie. 1609 Armin *Ital. Taylor* (1880) 143 Not long since I discouered a nest of Ninnies in this great wombe the Worlde. 1621 Burton *Anat. Mel.* I. ii. IV. iv. (1651) 149 He thought himself to be a man of most excellent skill (who was indeed a ninnie). 1669 Penn *No Cross* ix. § 10 Being slighted of them as a Ninnee, a Fool, a Frantick. 1731 Fielding *Mod. Husband* Epil., When ev'ry ninny Might put them on and off—for half a guinea. 1778 Miss Burney *Evelina* xxxiii, You needn't trouble yourself to make a ninny of me neither. 1812 H. & J. Smith *Rej. Addr., G. Barnwell*, The weak and incurable ninny. 1842 Mrs. Gore *Fascination* 23 If my husband has been ninny enough to give your fascinating marquis credit. 1876 Geo. Eliot *Dan. Der.* xlviii, He would not have liked a wife who..was..a ninny, unable to make spirited answers.

attrib. and *Comb.*, as *ninny-minded* adj.; **†ninny-broth,** coffee.

1696 *Poor Robin, Prognostication*, How to make coffee, alias Ninny-broth. 1705 *Hudibras Redivivus* I. i, Their wounded Consciences they heal With Ninny-Broth. 1849 E. P. Gurney in Hare *Gurneys* (1895) II. 268 In this little ninny-minded world.

Hence **Ni·nnyish** *a.*, characteristic of a ninny; foolish. **Ni·nnyism,** behaviour characteristic of a ninny. **Ni·nnyship,** the fact of being a ninny.

1804 *Spirit Publ. Jrnls.* VII. 94 We shall never do well till a commission of ninnyism is grantable. 1822 *Blackw. Mag.* XII. 342 Had he been previously heard muttering sulky execrations, or ninnyish innuendoes, against the King. 1826 *Ibid.* XX. 419 Our gorge rises at the namby-pamby ninnyism. 1852 W. Jerdan *Autobiog.* I. 41, I felt the ninnyship of my ignorance and presumption.

†Ni·nny[2]. *Obs. rare* −[1]. [ad. Sp. *niño, niña.*] A child.

c 1626 *Dick of Devonsh.* I. ii. in Bullen *O. Pl.* II. 15 Nurses still'd Their little Spanish Nynnies when they cryde 'Hush I The Drake comes'.

Ni·nny-ha·mmer. Also 6–7 nini-, 7 ninni-. [app. f. Ninny[1], but the force of the second element is not clear.] A simpleton.

1592 Nashe *Four Lett. Confut.* 60 Whoreson Ninihammer, that wilt assault a man and haue no stronger weapons. 1600 *Hospit. Incurable Fooles* A 3 b, Shallow-pates and ninnie-hammers. 1622 Rowlands *Good Newes & B.* 38, I might haue beene a scholler, learn'd my Grammar, But I haue lost all like a Ninnie-hammer. 1673 *S'too him Bayes* 3 A man ought not to talk like a ninny-hammer. 1712 Arbuthnot *John Bull* I. xii, That Clod-pated, Numskull'd Ninny-hammer of yours. 1767 Sterne *Tr. Shandy* IX. xxv, Numskulls, doddypoles, dunderheads, ninny-hammers, ..and other unsavoury appellations. 1812 Miss Mitford in L'Estrange *Life* (1870) I. 198, I will be..anything now, to oppose these stupid, tasteless, ninny-hammers. 1853 *Blackw. Mag.* LXXIII. 748 The predominant feature of a ninny-hammer is the enormous development of his self-conceit.

So **†Ni·nny-whoop.** *Obs. rare* −[1].

1653 Urquhart *Rabelais* I. xxxii, They think to have to do with a ninnie-whoop to feed you thus with cakes.

Nintene, -tenth, -teth, obs. ff. Nineteen, -teenth, -tieth.

Ninth (nəi·nþ), *a.* and *sb.* Forms: *a.* 1. niȝ(e)oða, nyȝoða, 1–2 nigeþe, nygeþe, 2–3 nigeðe, (2 nihȝ-), 3 neoȝethe; 1 nioða, 2–3 nieðe, 4 nyeþe, nyþe, niþe. *β.* 1 nigend(e, 3 nigh-ennde, 4 ni(g)h-, neghend, 4 niend, nyend, neynd, neiuind, nend, nind, niinde, nynde. *γ.* 4 neghent, neuent, neynt, neent, nente; *Sc.* 5 ninte, 5–6 nynte, 5–7 nynt, 6 nint. *δ.* 2 nigonðe, 3 ninþe, 4 ney(e)nþe, nynethe, 4–5 nynþe, 4–6 -the, 4–7 nynth, 6 nienth, nineth, 6– ninth. [Various formations from the numeral Nine are represented here. The *α*-forms, OE. *nigoða*, etc., correspond to OS. *niguđo*, MLG. *negede*, and are parallel with OE. *seofoða* seventh, *eahtoða* eight. The *β*-forms correspond to OFris. *niugunda, -enda*, OS. *nigundo*, MDu. and MLG. *negende*, OHG. *niundo, niunto* (MHG. *niunde, niunte*, G. *neunte*, † *neunde*), ON. *nionde, niundi* (Sw. *nionde*, Da. *niende*), Goth. *niunda*: it is possible that they may be due to Scand. influence. The anomalous *neiuind, neuent*, may be on the analogy of *seuend, -ent*, seventh. In the δ-forms the ordinal suffix *-th* is added to the full stem, as in *sixth, seventh, eighth, tenth*. With the γ-forms compare the obs. or dial. variants, *fift, sixt*, etc.]

The ordinal numeral corresponding to the cardinal number Nine.

A. *adj.* **1.** In concord with sb. expressed or understood.

α. a 900 *O. E. Martyrol.* 9 May 80 On þone nygeðan dæȝ þæs monðes hið sumeres fruma. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. i. 3 In tal ða nioða. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 141 On þa nigoþan tid þæs dæȝes. *a* 1067 in Kemble *Cod. Dipl.* IV. 222 Þa healf nyȝoðe hundreda socne. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 115 Þe nihȝeðe unþeau is þet þe king beo unrihtwis. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 328 Þe nieðe reisun is þis. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 5406 Þe niþe ȝer of is kinedom. *c* 1300 *Beket* 617 The Neoȝethe [law] was that Peteres Pans..To the Pope nere not on isend. *a* 1400 *Minor Poems Vernon MS.* 245 Þe Niþe [article] is wiþ-outen bost: þat in god is þe holy-gost.

β. a 1066 in Kemble *Cod. Dipl.* IV. 194/11 Ða nigend half hundred socne. *c* 1200 Ormin 4488 Þe nishennde [commandment] wass sett þurrh Godd. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 26686 Þe nend point þou vnderstand. 1340 Hampole *Pr. Conse.* 4790 Þe neghend day, gret erthedyn sal be. *c* 1357 *Lay Folks Catech.* 232 The neynd [commandment] is, that we noght yerne our neghtebur house. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (Prose) 14/21 Sain benet spekis .. of þe nihend degrece o mekenes. *c* 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) v. 14 At þe nynde moneth end a voice come to him.

γ. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 16767 + 59 About þe neghent oure of þe day. *Ibid.* 29470 þe nenent [case] es for þin aun prun. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* XIX. 527 On the nynt day, The lord Dowglass hass spyit a vay. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* Title, Neynt Boke. *c* 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 1044 Na nane of the nynt degre hane noy of my name. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* XII. Prol. 268 The nynt morow of fresche temperat May. 1563 Winȝet *Four Scoir Thre Quest.* Wks. (S.T.S.) I. 129 At the nynte hour of prayar. 1588 A. King tr. *Canisius' Catech.* 12 Quhat expressis ye nynt articl?

δ. a 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 634 He rixade .ix. winter; man ȝetealde him þæt nigonðe for þan heðenscipe þe hi druȝon [etc.]. *c* 1290 *Beket* 617 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 124 Þe Ninþe [law] was þat peteres panes..þe pope nere nouȝt on i-send. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 12 Þei breken þe neynþe maundement of god. 1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 123 The nynthe Signe..Is cleped Sagittarius. 1541 Coverdale *Old Faith* F vij b, In the nynth Chapter of Esaye. 1578 Lyte *Dodoens* 89 Theophrastus in his nienth Booke. *a* 1650 Crashaw *Poems* (1858) 174 The ninth with awful horror hark'ned to those groans. 1688 R. Holme *Armoury* III. 190/1 The Knights of St. Stephen..instituted..in honor of Pope Stephen the nineth. 1774 Burke *Sp. Amer. Tax.* Wks. II. 383 The words of Governour Bernard's ninth letter. 1820 Ranken *Hist. France* VIII. I. vi. 246 He should be established in the rank of ninth elector. 1873 Mivart *Elem. Anat.* 399 The ninth nerve is called the hypoglossal.

b. The ninth day (*of* a month).

1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* VIII. 147 Quhilk feild was strukne the nynt of September. 1596 Shaks. 1 *Hen. IV*, II. iii. 29 To meete me in Armes by the ninth of the next Moneth? 1653 Walton *Angler* xiii. (repr.) 246, I shall long for the ninth of May. *a* 1845 Hood (*title*), Ode for the Ninth of November.

2. *Ninth part*, or **†** *deal*, one of the nine equal parts into which a thing may be divided.

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 53 Dæle [he] þeah his ælmessan forþ of þon nigeoþan dælon. *c* 1200 *Moral Ode* 342 (Trin. Coll. MS.), Þe brode strate..þe lat þe nieðe [*v.r.* nigeðe] dal to helle of manne. 1596 Shaks. 1 *Hen. IV*, III. i. 140 Ile canill on the ninth part of a hayre. 1831 Carlyle *Sart. Res.* III. xi, This is he, whom..the world treats with contumely, as the ninth part of a man! 1846 McCulloch *Acc. Brit. Empire* (1854) II. 309 There the adherents of the Established Church do not exceed one ninth part of the population.

3. Quasi-*adv.* In the ninth place. *rare.*

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 292 b, Nynth, they he mortifyed from all inwarde affeccyon & delectacyons.

B. *sb.* **1.** = Ninth part.

c 1275 *Moral Ode* 336 in *O. E. Misc.* 70 Þeo brode stret..þat lat þe nyeþe to helle of folke. 1557 Recorde *Whetst.* B ii b, *Sesquinona*..a nineth more. 1611 Cotgr. *Neufaine*, a ninth. 1802 James *Milit. Dict.* s.v. *Cannon*, If the fissure be 1-ninth of an inch deep. 1870 Sonnenschein & Nesbitt *Sci. & Art Arith.* II. 1 Find one ninth..of £7. 15s. 1897 Günther in Miss Kingsley *W. Africa* 702 The diameter of the eye..is two ninths of the length of the head.

2. *Mus.* The interval of an octave and a second.

1597 Morley *Introd. Mus.* 71 *Phi.* Which distances make discord..? *Ma.* All such as doe not make concords: as a second, a fourth,..a ninth. 1609 Douland *Ornith. Microl.* 21 Now a Tone with a Diapason is a perfect Ninth. 1753 Chambers *Cycl. Supp.* App. s.v., When an upper part syncopates, the second is accented and treated as a Ninth. 1837 *Penny Cycl.* VII. 114/2 The most elegant form which the chord of the Ninth and Seventh assumes. 1864 Browning *Abt Vogler* 93, I blunt it into a ninth. 1880 Parry in *Grove's Dict. Mus.* II. 459 The compound intervals called ninths exceed the octave either by a tone or a semitone; if the former the ninth is called 'major', if the latter it is called 'minor'.

3. The ninth chapter. *rare* −[1].

1671 [R. MacWard] *True Nonconf.* 244 In the Nynths of Ezrah, Nehemiah, and Daniel.

Hence **Ni·nthly** *adv.*, in the ninth place; also as *sb.* with ref. to the heads of a sermon.

c 1532 Du Wes *Introd. Fr.* in *Palsgr.* 929 Nynthly,

newnièsmement. 1579 FULKE *Refut. Rastel* 770 Ninthly, that the lay people were not forbidden. 1648 D. JENKINS *Wks.* 38 Ninthly, wee maintaine that the politick capacity is not to be sevred from the naturall. 1681 H. MORE *Expos. Dan.* App. III. 298 Ninthly, If any one will again object. 1874 ALDRICH *Prud. Palfrey* x. (1885) 164 The poor old parson's interminable ninthlies and finallies.

Ninty, obs. form of NINETY.

Niobate (nəi·ŏbēit). *Chem.* [f. NIOB-IUM + -ATE 1.] A salt of niobic acid.

1845 H. ROSE in *Chem. Gaz.* III. 36 The niobate of soda indeed is almost insoluble in an excess of a solution of soda. 1849 D. CAMPBELL *Inorg. Chem.* 277 Niobates are obtained much in the same manner as tantalates. 1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 426/2 Pyrrhite from..the Azores..is in orange-red octahedra, and is a niobate of zirconia.

Niobe (nəi·ŏbē). [a. Gr. Νιόβη.] In Greek legend, the name of the daughter of Tantalus, supposed to have been changed into stone while weeping for her children; hence applied to a woman or female comparable to her. Also *fig.*

In scientific use the name has been given to certain genera of trilobites, molluscs, and weaver-birds, and to one of the asteroids, discovered by R. Luther in 1861.

1589 GREENE *Menaphon* (Arb.) 62 A more than second Niobe, bewailing her seauen fold sorrow. 1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* v. x. 19 There is a word will Priam turne to stone; Make wels, and Niobes of the maides and wiues. 1625 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Poems* Wks. (1711) 46/1 Justice weeps out her Eyes, now truly Blind; To Niobe's the remnant Vertues turn. 1778 FOOTE *Trip Calais* II. Wks. 1799 II. 352 Indeed, the poor gentlewoman was a perfect Niobe. 1781 COWPER *Truth* 174 The streaming tears Channel her cheeks —a Niobe appears. 1818 BYRON *Ch. Har.* IV. lxxix, The Niobe of nations! there she stands, Childless and crownless, in her voiceless woe. 1842 TENNYSON *Walk. to Mail* 92 She was left alone Upon her tower, the Niobe of swine.

Hence **Niobean** (nəiŏbī·ăn), *a.*, pertaining to, resembling that of, Niobe.

1847 TENNYSON *Princ.* IV. 352 A Niobëan daughter, one arm out, Appealing to the bolts of Heaven. 1857 DUFFERIN *Lett. High Lat.* (ed. 3) 321 The last survivor of this Niobean family.

Niobic (nəiō·u·bik), *a. Chem.* [f. NIOB-IUM + -IC 1 b.] Of or pertaining to, derived from, niobium; esp. in *niobic acid* or *oxide.*

1845 H. ROSE in *Chem. Gaz.* III. 36, I have called it Niobium, and its acid niobic acid. *Ibid.*, The niobic acid remains colourless. 1848 FOWNES *Chem.* (ed. 2) 310 The American tantalite contains niobic, pelopic, and tungstic acids. 1866 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* IV. 49 It is remarkable.. that niobic oxide cannot be formed from niobous oxide by direct oxidation. 1892 MORLEY & MUIR *Watts' Dict. Chem.* III. 506/1 Niobic oxide, Nb_2O_5, reacts with alkali oxides to form salts.

Niobite (nəi·ŏbəit). [f. NIOB-IUM + -ITE 1.]

1. *Min.* = COLUMBITE.

1854 DANA *Syst. Min.* (ed. 4) II. 353 Columbite. Tantalite. Niobite. 1855 *Orr's Circle Sci., Geol.* 531. 1891 THORPE *Dict. Appl. Chem.* II. 698 Niobium occurs..in niobite from the Isegebirge.

2. *Chem.* A niobic salt.

1866 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* IV. 49 Metallic niobium is obtained..by heating niobite of sodium in hydrogen gas containing phosphorus vapour. 1885 RAMSAY *Min.* (ed. 3) x. 310 Columbite is usually regarded as a niobite of iron and manganese.

Niobium (nəiō·u·biŏm). *Chem.* [f. NIOB-E, the daughter of Tantalus, + -IUM; named in 1845 by Heinrich Rose, who rediscovered it in the tantalites of Bavaria. The earlier name is COLUMBIUM.] A metallic element, occurring in tantalite and other minerals. Symbol Nb.

1845 H. ROSE in *Chem. Gaz.* III. 36 It is the oxide of a metal which differs from all known metals. I have called it Niobium, and its acid niobic acid, from Niobe, daughter of Tantalus. 1849 D. CAMPBELL *Inorg. Chem.* 277 The white chloride is the tercbloride of niobium. 1866 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* IV. 49 Niobium occurs..in columbite, which is a compound of niobous oxide with the protoxides of iron and manganese. 1880 CLEMINSHAW *Wurtz' Atom. The.* 147 The double fluoride of niobium and potassium.

attrib. and *Comb.* 1849 D. CAMPBELL *Inorg. Chem.* 278 The niobium and tantalum sulphides. 1863 *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 9) 366 The examination of the niobium compounds. 1892 MORLEY & MUIR *Watts' Dict. Chem.* III. 505/2 The existence of three other metals in niobium-containing minerals has been asserted.

Niobous (nəiō·u·bəs), *a. Chem.* [f. NIOB-IUM + -OUS.] Derived from niobium (denoting a lower degree of oxidation than *niobic*).

1863 *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 9) 366 With oxygen niobium forms two oxides of acid character, niobous acid, NbO, and niobic acid, NbO_2. 1866 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* IV. 49 The fused mass digested in water leaves niobous oxide.

Nione, obs. form of NINE.

Nip, *sb.*1 Also 6 nyp(pe, nipp, 6–7 nippe. [f. NIP *v.*1]

I. 1. The act of compressing sharply between two surfaces, edges, or points; a pinch; a sharp bite.

1551 CRANMER *Answ. Gardiner* (1580) 85 In the last booke you geue Christ such a nippe, that of that whole satisfaction, you pinch halfe away from him. 1573 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 206 What bobbed lips, what ierks, what nips! 1615 W. LAWSON *Country Housew. Gard.* (1626) 35 Snub his top with a nip betwixt your finger and your thumb. 1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* 181 The dreadfulness of a grim nip, and a dead-doing gripe. 1790 MORISON *Poems* 190 (E.D.D.), Ye'll find it smarter than an adder's nip. 1817 KEATS *'I stood tiptoe'* 144 What amorous and fondling nips They gave each other's cheeks. 1857 W. BROOKES in *Pat. Abridgm., Spinning* (1866) 1249 When by no nip thereof taking place the fibre will remain stationary. 1889 BADEN-POWELL *Fig-sticking* 133 A judiciously applied nip of his sharp little jaws.

fig. 1846 GREENER *Sci. Gunnery* 134 This fraudulent gain ..is called in Birmingham, 'a nip—biting the yokels'.

b. *Naut.* Severe pressure exerted by ice on the sides of a vessel; the crushing effect of this.

1850 SCORESBY *Cheever's Whalem. Adv.* xiv. (1859) 203 These ships.., which are perpetually subject to heavy blows, and hard nips. 1878 A. H. MARKHAM *Gt. Frozen Sea* XXVI. 389 On the following morning we sustained a slight 'nip', caused by the ice setting rapidly in toward us. 1897 KIPLING *Capt. Cour.* v, That terrible 'nip' of '71, when twelve hundred men were made homeless on the ice.

c. *Naut.* The grip of a rope at a point where it is twisted round something; the part of a rope held fast in this way. *To freshen the nip*: see FRESHEN *v.* 3.

1841 R. H. DANA *Seaman's Man.* 116 *Nip*, a short turn in a rope. 1859 GEN. P. THOMPSON *Audi Alt.* lxviii. II. 9 There wanted what sailors call 'freshening the nip'. Let us try how the new nip will hold, before we insist too rashly on returning to the old. 1862 *Catal. Internat. Exhib.* II. No. 2659 The nip of the blocks exists only when they sustain the weight of the boat, and ceases when it reaches the water.

d. *Coal-mining.* (See quots.)

1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 965 Nips, occasioned by the gradual approximation of the roof and pavement, till not a vestige of coal is left between them. 1851 GREENWELL *Coal-trade Terms, Northumb. & Durh.* 37 *Nip.*—The effect produced upon coal pillars by creep; a crush or squeeze. Also, an approach of the roof and thill of a seam of coal towards each other. 1867 W. W. SMYTH *Coal & Coal-mining* 26 The thinning by a gradual depression of the roof till sometimes the entire coal is gone, but for a certain width only, is a kind of fault (*nip* or *want*).

2. A sharp saying, remark, or comment; a slight rebuke, reproof, or sarcasm. Now somewhat *rare* (very common *c* 1550–1620).

1549 CHALONER *Erasm. on Folly* R iv b, Herto serve the manyfolde nippes and taunts wherwith Christ in divers places .. bayteth Pharisees, Scribes and Doctours of Law. 1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* I. xxvii. (Arb.) 68 A prety fashioned poeme..in which euery mery conceited man might ..giue a prettie nip, or shew a sharpe conceit in few verses. 1604 HIERON *Wks.* I. 476 It was truly said of him,..that, amongst men, nothing can scape without a nippe. 1676 MARVELL *Mr. Smirke* Wks. (Grosart) IV. 25 Many a dry bob, close gird, and privy nip has he given him. 1738 tr. *Guazzo's Art Conversation* 56 The next kind of ill Tongues ..chop upon you with short nips. 1865 M. ARNOLD *Ess. Crit.* Pref. 13 Many a shrewd nip has he in old days given to the Philistines, this editor.

3. A severe check to vegetation caused by cold; the effect of a sharp cold upon plants or animals; the quality in wind or weather which produces this.

1614 D. DYKE *Mystery Selfe-Deceiuing* 87 The flattering of the Sunne raies often drawes forth the blossomes very earely; but afterward come colde nippes. 1631 MILTON *Ep. Marchioness Winchester* 36 So have I seen som tender slip Sav'd with care from Winters nip. 1684 STEPNEY *To Earl of Carlisle*, So hasty fruits and too ambitious flow'rs, ..find a nip untimely as their birth. 1873 MRS. WHITNEY *Other Girls* iii, Dismal mornings of waterproofs..and blue nips and shivers. 1894 MRS. H. WARD *Marcella* II. 283 The nip of the east wind was not yet out of the air.

b. *Sc.* The quality of being pungent or stinging; a hot or pungent flavour.

1825 JAMIESON s.v., Bread, and especially cheese, is said to have a *nip*, when it tastes sharp or pungent. 1889 BARRIE *Window in Thrums* v, Lads, humour's what gies the nip to speakin'. 1894 A. S. ROBERTSON *Provost o' Glendookie* 62, I dinna like whiskey wi' a nip.

†**4.** *Cricket.* A slight touch or stroke given to the ball by the batsman; a tip. *Obs.*

17.. *Laws of Cricket* in Grace *Cricket* (1891) 15 Each Umpire is ye Sole Judge of all Nips and Catches. 1755 *Game at Cricket* 9 A Stroke, or Nip over or under his Bat.

5. *Naut.* (See quot.) *rare* −1.

1803 *Man in Moon* (1804) 54 If they get to the windward of our cruizers, it must be with a Hammond's nip. *Note*, A Hammond's nip is a fine perfection in steering, by which it is possible to weather a point, or a vessel, not practicable to do by any other means.

6. *Nip and tuck* (U.S.), neck and neck, a close thing. Also *attrib.*

a 1859 in Bartlett *Dict. Amer.* s.v., It was nip and tuck between us. 1884 *Harper's Mag.* Aug. 369/1 It was nip and tuck, neither animals gaining nor losing. 1890 in *Big Game N. Amer.* 92 It was a nip-and-tuck race.

II. 7. Applied to persons. †**a.** A cutpurse or pickpocket. *Obs.*

1591 GREENE *Disc. Coosnage* To Rdr., The Nip, which the common people call a Cut-purse. 1592 — *Groat's W. Wit* Div b, He learned the legerdemaines of nips, foysts, conicatchers, crosbyters. 1630 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Wks.* III. 8/2 He.. by sleight of hand Can play the Foist, the Nip, the Stale. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Nip*, a Cheat.

b. *dial.* and *slang.* (See quots.)

1787 W. MARSHALL *E. Norf.* (1795) II. Gloss., *Nip*, a near, split-farthing house-wife. 1823 DE QUINCEY *King of Hayti* Wks. 1859 XII. 60 *note*, Passengers who are taken up on stage coaches by the collusion of the guard and coachman, without the knowledge of the proprietors, are called nips. 1853 COOPER *Sussex Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Nip*, one who is a close and sharp bargain maker, just honest and no more.

8. †**a.** (See quot.) *Obs.* *rare* −0.

a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Nipps*, the shears with which Money was won't to be Clipt.

b. In wool- or silk-combing apparatus, a piece of mechanism which catches and carries forward the material. Also *attrib.* and *Comb.*

1884 W. S. B. MCLAREN *Spinning* (ed. 2) 109 The Noble combs are supplanting the nips. *Ibid.* 91 The Nip comb ..is in two parts: the screw gill box with the nip motion [etc.]. 1887 *Encycl. Brit.* XXII. 63/2 The silk is caught and cleaned off the endless comb by pairs of endless revolving nips. *Ibid.*, These laps..are taken to the circular nip combing machine.

III. 9. A small portion, such as may be pinched off something; a fragment, little bit.

1606 CHARTERIS tr. *Rollock's Comm. 2 Thess.* 140 (Jam.), If thou hast not laboured,..looke that thou put not a nip in thy mouth. 1730 RAMSAY *Fables, Fox & Rat* 42 [He] chews the warrant a' in little nips. 1795 *Robin Hood & Beggar* xix. in Child *Ballads* III. 160/2 Think not..that I fear thee any wbit For thy curn nips of sticks. 1828 MOIR *Mansie Wauch* xxiii, Water wi' twa or three nips o' braxy floating about in't. 1865 MASSON *Rec. Brit. Philos.* iv. 292 The minutest.. animalcule has its little nip of a cosmos. 1880 MEREDITH *Tragic Com.* vii. (1892) 104, I will not fight him.., as I do not want to take his nip of life.

Nip, *sb.*2 Also 8 nyp. [app. an abbreviation of NIPPERKIN: cf. NIPPER *sb.*2] †**a.** A half-pint of ale. *Obs.* **b.** A small quantity of spirits, usually less than a glass.

1796 *Grose's Dict. Vulg. Tongue* (ed. 3), *Nyp* or *Nip*, a half pint, a nip of ale; whence the nipperkin, a small vessel. *Ibid.* s.v., *Nyp Shop*.. where Burton ale is sold in nyps. 1824 *Blackw. Mag.* XV. 441 Sit down to drink his Burton at 3*d.* the nip. 1869 TROLLOPE *He knew*, etc. xvi, A so-called nip of brandy will create hilarity, or, at least, alacrity. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* (1891) 127 I'd have been all the better for a nip.

†**Nip,** *sb.*3 *Obs. rare.* In 4 nippe, nype.

Of uncertain origin and meaning; perhaps repr. OE. *genip* gloom, darkness. Other senses suggested are 'place of piercing cold' and 'peak', 'hill-top' (Skeat *Gloss.*).

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XVIII. 162 Out of the nippe [C. XXI. 168 nype] of the north nouȝt ful fer hennes.

Nip, *sb.*4 Also 7 nipp(e. [variant of NEP *sb.*1: cf. MDu. *nippe.*]

1. Catmint, catnip. Now *dial.*

1651 FRENCH *Distill.* ii. 61 Take of the Leaves of..Nippe, Peny-royall, of each 2 handfull. 1683 TRYON *Way to Health* 562 They purge their nauseous Stomachs by eating of Grass, as Cats do theirs by eating the Herb Nipp. 1882 *Hardwicke's Science Gossip* 214/2 Suffolk Names—.. 'brakes' (bracken); 'nip' (cat-mint); 'gottridge' (gelder-rose). 1895 *E. Anglian Gloss., Nip*, the herb cat-mint, which being covered with a fine white down, has given rise to a common simile 'as white as nip'.

†**2.** Bryony. *Obs. rare* −1.

1648 HEXHAM II, *Een Alf Pape*, a white Vine, or Nippe.

†**Nip,** *sb.*5, obs. variant of NIB *sb.* 2.

1721 BAILEY, *Nib*,..the sharp Part of a Pen. 1727 W. MATHER *Yng. Man's Comp.* 74 When you have done writing, set the Nips of your Pens in Water, for the Copperas in the Ink will fret the Nips.

Nip, *v.*1 Also 4–6 nyp(pe, 6–7 nippe, 8 knip. [app. an ablant-variant of the stem *nīp-*, which appears in Du. *nijpen*, to NIPE *v.*2 The precise source of the word, and its relation to some foreign forms (as Da. *nippe* to twitch, to sip, Du. and G. *nippen* to sip, Du. *nippen* to wrangle), are uncertain. Cf. also GNIP and KNIP.]

I. *trans.* **1.** To compress or catch between two surfaces or points; to pinch, squeeze sharply, bite.

1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. VII. 104 Thenne a-waked Wratthe with to white eyen, With a nyuylynge nose nyppyng hus lyppes. ? *a* 1400 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1878) 202 Nyppyng his body withe pynsons. 1481 CAXTON *Reynard* (Arb.) 7 Ye haue byten and nypte myn vncle wyth your felle and sharp teeth. 1530 PALSGR. 644/1 He hath nypped me by the arme tyll it is blacke. 1535 COVERDALE *Eccl.* xxii. 24 He that nyppeth a mans eye, bryngeth forth teares. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* III. x. 86 They doe bite and with their teeth nip one another. 1633 SANDERSON *Serm.* II. 41 Biting, and nipping, and devouring one another. 1658 (*title*) Naps upon Parnassus: A Sleepy Muse Nipt and Pincht,..by Captain Jones and others. 1821 CLARE *Vill. Minstr.* II. 83 She..nips the portion of her snuff with tears. 1834 M. SCOTT *Cruise Midge* (1863) 178 A creature who would have thought it capital sport to have nipped you in two. 1871 TYNDALL *Fragm. Sci.* I. xxii. (1879) 501 Throwing one leg across the other I accidentally nipped a muscle. *fig. a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Edw. IV*, 224 This thyng nipped kyng Edwarde hardly at the verie stomacke. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. x. 27 And sharp Remorse his hart did prick and nip. *a* 1649 CRASHAW *Carmen Deo Nostro* Wks. (1904) 289 Those ignoble stings That nip the bosome of the world's best things.

†**b.** To close up (a glass vessel) by pressing together the heated end of the neck or tube. *Obs.*

1594 PLAT *Jewell-ho.* 91 Howe to nip or close a Glasse with a paire of hot tongues, which is commonlie called *Sigillum Hermetis.* 1610 B. JONSON *Alch.* II. iii, Put 'hem in a Bolts-head, nipp'd to digestion. 1651 FRENCH *Distill.* i. 7 The way to nip up a glasse, or seal it up Hermitically is after this manner. 1665 HOOKE *Microgr.* 36 Nip up the slender Pipe and let it cool.

c. *Naut.* (See latest quots.) Also *absol.*

1667 DAVENANT & DRYDEN *Tempest* I. i, Nip well there; quartermaster, get's more nippers. 1850 OGILVIE s.v., *To nip the cable*, in marine language, is to tie or secure it with a seizing. 1876 VOYLE & STEVENSON *Milit. Dict.* (ed. 3) 488/2 *To Nip*, to stop ropes with a gasket, or with several turns of spun yarn round each, and the ends made fast.

d. *Naut.* Of ice: To squeeze or crush (the sides of a vessel).

1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* xvi. (1856) 123 We momentarily expected it to 'nip' her sides, or bear her down with the pressure. 1886 GREELY *Arct. Service* I. p. xiv, *Nipped*, the situation of a ship when forcibly pressed or jammed by ice.

2. To sever, remove, or take *off*, by pinching.

a 1400–50 *Alexander* 3940 Of sum þai nyppid fra þe nebh þe nose be þe eȝen. *a* 1450 *Fysshynge w. Angle* (1883) 23 Take þe red wormе & nyp of þe hed. 1566 T. Stapleton *Ket. Untr. Jewel* Ep., As if he had nipped a saying of S. Gregory quite in the middest. 1617 Moryson *Itin.* II. 110 The Gardners..did themselves nip of some buds. 1665 Hooke *Microgr.* 34, I nipped off the small top. 1707 Mortimer *Husb.* (J.), The small shoots..must be nipt off. *a* 1810 Tannahill *Poems* (1846) 91 When our webs are at the close, He nips aff twa three shillings. 1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 582 An assistant nips it off from the *punto* with a pair of long iron shears. 1872 H. Macmillan *True Vine* v. 220 Many of the tendrils of the vine require to be nipped off.

b. To strip or make bare by pinching or biting; to remove small portions of (a thing), to reduce the amount of. *rare.*

a 1585 Montgomerie *Flyting* 448 They kow'd all the kytrall, the face of it before; And nippd it sa doones neir, to see it was shame. 1736 Ramsay *Sc. Prov.* (1750) 126 Ye was set aff frae the oon for nipping the pyes. 1785 Grose *Dict. Vulgar T.* s.v. *Nip-cheese*, Those gentlemen being supposed sometimes to nip, or diminish the allowance of the seamen. 1839 Moir *Mansie Wauch* (ed. 2) xxii, The milk-cows were nipping the clovery parks.

†3. *To nip by, in,* or *on the neck, head,* or *pate*: a. To overpower or overcome (a person) with, or as with, a sudden grip or pinch on these parts; to reduce to a state of helplessness. *Obs.*

c 1470 Henryson *Mor. Fab.* IX. (*Wolf & Fox*) xxxix, Deith cummis behynd, and nippis thame he the nek. 1580 Lyly *Euphues* (Arb.) 359 This question so earnestlye asked.. nipped him in the head. 1589 Greene *Menaphon* (Arb.) 38 Menaphon halfe nipte in the pate with this replie..made this aunswere. 1620 Sanderson *Serm.* I. 142 This nipped him in the head, and strook cold to his heart. 1667 Dryden & Dk. Newcastle *Sir M. Mar-all* IV. i, Lord, sir, how you stand, as you were nipped i' the head!

†b. To give a decisive or final check to (something). *Obs.*

1594 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* II. To Rdr., This monstrous brood shalbe nipped in the head so soone as euer it shall dare to shew it selfe. 1603 Shaks. *Meas. for M.* III. i. 91 This outward sainted Deputie, Whose setled visage..Nips youth i'th head, and follies doth emmew. 1642 Rogers *Naaman* 103 Ere ever Christ be truely closed with, sinne must be nipt in the necke.

†4. To check, stop, put an end to, cut short. *Obs.*

1600 Holland *Livy* v. xxx, More Tribes nipped that one law for going forward, than gave their voices to approove it. 1608 D. T. *Ess. Pol. & Mor.* 92 b, Wherewith he nipt the bloody instigations of those Parasits. 1625–8 tr. *Camden's Hist. Eliz.* III. (1688) 327 The Queen..nipped the man at unawares in his swelling Pride by this one short letter.

†b. Of the wind: To catch and delay (a ship).

1669 Sturmy *Mariner's Mag.* I. ii. 18 Look well to the Westward, if you can see any Ships that have been nipt with the last Easterly Winds.

5. To check the growth or development of (something), after the manner of pinching off the buds or shoots of a plant.

1581 Mulcaster *Positions* xxxvii. (1887) 145 It is much better to nip misorder in the verie ground. 1682 Bunyan *Holy War* 40 It should be all our wisdoms and care, to nip the head of all such rumors as shall tend to trouble our people. *a* 1716 South *Serm.* (1727) VI. 157 God's Prescription is..that we nip Sin when it begins to hud in the Thoughts. 1784 Cowper *Task* v. 439 That man should thus encroach on fellow-man,..nip his fruitfulness and use.. Moves indignation. 1817 Coleridge *Sybil. Leaves*, Some sweet girl of too too rapid growth Nipped by Consumption. 1871 R. Ellis tr. *Catullus* lxii. 52 Yet if a slender nail hath nipt his bloom to deflour it. 1880 Browning *Dram. Idyls* II. 78 Nip these foolish fronds Of hope a-sprout.

b. *To nip in the bud*: To arrest or check at the very beginning, or in a thorough fashion.

1606–7 Fletcher *Woman Hater* III. i, Yet I can frown, and Nip a passion, Even in the bud. 1639 Cokaine *Masque* Dram. Wks. (1874) 8 Dost thou approach to censure our delights, And nip them in the bud? 1677 *Govt. Venice* 307 Had not the Senat..nipt their Animosity in the Bud. 1712 Steele *Spect.* No. 526 ₱ 2 Holding it extremely requisite that you should nip him in the Bud. 1746 Hervey *Medit.* (1818) 23 He has nipped infancy in its bud. 1844 W. Irving *Life & Lett.* (1866) III. 321 Insurrections have broken out..,and Government are taking strong measures to nip them in the bud. 1861 Buckle *Civilis.* II. viii. (1873) 565 This and many other noble projects were nipped in the bud by the death of Charles III.

6. Of cold: To affect (persons, etc.) painfully or injuriously.

a 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. V*, 48 If..colde wether had not nipped them,..they would have made their progress farther. [1579 Spenser *Sheph. Cal.* Dec. 133 The carefull cold bath nypt my rugged rynde.] 1665 *Phil. Trans.* I. 48 Men dangerously nipp'd by excessive cold. 1704 Steele *Lying Lover* I. (1747) 15 To see the dear things trip, trip along, and breathe so short, nipt with the Season. 1829 Col. Hawker *Diary* (1893) II. 4 One of the coldest nights that ever nipped a nose. 1844 Dickens *Mart. Chuz.* xii, The wind blew keenly, nipping the features.

fig. 1596 Drayton *Legends* II. 601 Nipt with cold Death. 1604 Middleton *Father Hubburd's T.* Wks. (Bullen) VIII. 54 A physical frost, that nips the wicked blood a little.

b. To check or destroy the growth of (plants, blossoms, etc.). Also in fig. context.

1588 Shaks. *L. L. L.* v. ii. 812 If frosts..Nip not the gaudie blossomes of your Loue. 1615 W. Lawson *Country Housew. Gard.* (1626) 14 Roots being so weakly put, are soone nipt with drought or frost. 1671 Milton *Samson* 1577 The first-born bloom of spring Nipt with the lagging rear of winters frost. 1718 Rowe *Lucan* 128 To parch the fading Herb and nip the springing Green. 1778 Edwards 17 Apr. in Boswell *Johnson*, I am curious to see if this frost has not nipped my fruit-trees. 1814 Scott *Ld. of Isles* IV. xxx, Nipp'd by misfortune's cruel frost, The buds of fair affection lost! 1866–7 J. Thomson *Naked Goddess* 239 Storms in Spring nipped bud and sprout.

†7. To censure, reprehend, or rebuke sharply; to direct sharp remarks against (one). *Obs.* (very common *c* 1565–1600).

1548 Udall *Erasm. Par. Luke* viii. 93 He touched and nipped ye pharisees and scribes. 1576 Fleming *Panopl. Epist.* 163 Nipping your people with sharpe reprehensions. 1602 Fulbecke *2nd Pt. Parall.* 26 He was..more then nipped of Aristophanes. [1720 Strype *Stow's Surv.* (1754) I. i. xxii. 127 The boys of divers schools.., with Epigrams and Rhimes, nipping and quipping their fellows.]

8. To touch or concern (one) closely; to affect painfully, to vex. Now *rare.*

1553 Bradford *Treat. Prayer* Pref., These perilous days of necessity so nip us and provoke us to pray. 1574 tr. *Marlorat's Apocalips* 14 His hart is nipped with heauinesse. 1622 Rowlands *Good Newes & B.* 36 My wooing ouerthrowne, my horse play marr'd, As I am Gentleman, this nips me hard. 1633 Earle *Microcosm., Suspitious Man* (Arb.) 103 Not a word can bee spoke, but nips him somewhere. 1897 Beat. Harraden *H. Strafford*, etc. 199 It was just that which nipped me. I had done a wrong to her, and she had done a wrong to me.

9. To snatch, catch, seize or take smartly. Also with *away, out, up.* Chiefly *dial.* or *slang.*

c 1560 A. Scott *Poems* (S. T. S.) iv. 92 The moir degest and grave, The grydiar to grip it; The nycest to ressave Vpoun the nynis will nip it. 1601 F. Godwin *Bps. of Eng.* 123 That house..belonged vnto the Archdeaconry, but.. was long since nipped away from the same. 1677 Nicolson *Gloss.* in *Trans. R. Soc. Lit.* (1870) IX. 316 *Nip*, to..pilfer. 1768 Ross *Helenore* III. 122 Frae your ain uncles gate was nipt awa' That bonny hairn. 1870 E. Peacock *Ralf Skirl.* I. 113 'Why, if there isn't some o' them Bozzel chaps a nippin' up our rabbits.' 1880 C. B. Berry *Other Side* 105 He'd just nip out the pop-gun, and let him have it in the rear. 1894 *Columbus Disp.* 10 Sept., A business man .. from whom he nipped a $250 shirt stud.

b. *slang.* To arrest.

a 1566 R. Edwards *Damon & Pith.* in Hazl. *Dodsley* IV. 19, I go into the city some knaves to nip.., with their goods to increase the kings treasure. 1630 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Wks.* III. 10/2, I haue heard some Serieants haue beene mild, And vs'd their Prisoner like a Christians child; Nip'd him in priuate. 1851 Mayhew *Lond. Labour* III. 147 (Farmer), They'd follow you about, and keep on nipping a fellow.

c. *To nip a bung*, etc. (See quots. and Bung *sb.*[2])

1573 Harman *Caveat* (1869) 84 *To nyp a boung*, to cut a pursse. 1592 Greene *Conny Catch.* III. Wks. (Grosart) X. 157 This crew of mates..said there was no hope of nipping the boung because he held open his gowne so wide. 1621 B. Jonson *Gipsies Metam.* Wks. (Rtldg.) 619/1 Till..he be able..to nip a jaw, and cly the jark, 'tis thought fit he march in the infant's equipage. 1712 Shirley *Triumph Wit* (1724) 171 If the Cully he does meet, He nips all his Lour. 1740 *Poor Robin* (Farmer), The cut-purse in the throng, Hath a fair means to nyp a bung.

d. *Cricket.* To strike (a ball) with the edge of the bat, to tip. *rare*—[1].

17.. *Laws Cricket* in Grace *Cricket* (1891) 14 If a Ball is nipped up and he [the batter] Strikes her again Wilfully before She comes to ye Wicket, its out.

II. *intr.* 10. To give a nip or pinch; to cause or produce pinching.

c 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xiii. 161 Thay can nyp at oure hyre. *Ibid.* 290 If the flok be skard, yit shall I nyp nere. 1567 Drant *Horace, Ep.* x. E j, The lesser shoe doth hurt thy foote for pardie it will nip. 1581 Mulcaster *Positions* xx. (1887) 87 The Eastwinde is hurtefull and nippes. 1865 Tester *Poems* 9 (E.D.D.), Words that nip like plasters. 1891 Kipling *City Dreadf. Nt.* iii, Machinery that planes and shaves,..and punches and hoists and nips.

b. To ache, to smart.

1737 Ramsay *Sc. Prov.* (1750) 124 Ye're new risen and your young heart's nipping. 1806 A. Douglas *Poems* 26 (E.D.D.), O! but my heart nips for the pain, While thro' the green she wanders.

†11. *Cant.* To pick pockets, to steal. *Obs.*

1592 *Def. Conny Catch.* (1859) 4, I had consorts that could verse, nippe, and foyst. *a* 1634 Randolph *Hey for Honesty* III. i, I'll nip from Ruffmans of the Harmanbeck.

12. *slang.* To move rapidly or nimbly. Const. with *in, out, up*, etc.

1825 Brockett *N. C. Gloss., Nip up*,.. to move quickly. 1863 *Lanc. Fents* 27 So he nipt up th' tree like a cat. 1883 E. Pennell-Elmhirst *Cream Leicestersh.* 159 Pray nip out of the road as quickly as you can. 1889 D. C. Murray *Dangerous Catspaw* 147 'Nip in, sir', said the driver. 'Where do you want to go to?'

13. *Comb.* as †**nip-bud** (see quot.); †**nip-cake, -crust, -farthing**, a mean or miserly person (cf. mod. dial. *nip-currant, -screed, -skin*, etc.); **nip-nosed** *a.*, having a small pinched nose; †**nip-shred**, a tailor; †**nip-skin** *v.*, to pinch severely; **nip-waisted** *a.*, having a pinched-in waist. Also Nipcheese.

1658 Evelyn *Fr. Gard.* (1675) 101 There is also another kind of small worm, which they call the *Nip-bud. 1508 Dunbar *Flyting* 177 Nyse nagus, *nipcaik, with thy schulderis narrow. 1650 H. More *Observ.* in *Enthus. Tri.*, etc. (1656) 81 A *Nip-crust or Niggard of your precious speculations. 1566 Drant *Med. Morall* A vii, I woulde the not a *nipfarthinge Nor yet a niggarde haue. 1831 *Westm. Rev.* XIV. 424 The crow-footed, *nip-nosed spareness of thirty. 1661 K. W. *Charact. Coxcombs, Hyde-Pk. Lady* (1860) 58 Though her nimble *nipshred never medles with the garments. 1620 T. Granger *Div. Logike* 125 Finally render like for like, that may *nipskin her. 1899 *Crampton's Mag.* Jan. 113 A peevish, *nip-waisted, frizzle-fringed, flirty, flighty, governess.

Nip, *v.*[2] [f. Nip *sb.*[2] The resemblance to Du. and G. *nippen* (Da. *nippe*), to sip, is evidently quite accidental.]

1. *intr.* To take nips of liquor.

1887 Lady Bellairs *Gossips w. Girls* II. 64 A man who drinks to excess or habitually nips. 1896 Georgiana M. Stisted *True Life R. F. Burton* xi. 267 He could take his bottle after dinner with any man, but nip he could not.

2. *trans.* To take (liquor) in nips.

1897 W. H. Thornton *Reminisc. Clergym.* xi. 323 Some of our young men nip wine or spirits all day long.

†**Nip,** obs. or dial. form of Neap *v.*

1709 S. Sewall *Diary* 18 Nov., The Ship was on the Ground, and [Capt. Teat] fear'd he should be nip'd.

Nipa (nī·pă, nəi·pă). Also 6 **nypa, nyp-, niper, nipar, nipe,** 9 **nipah.** [a. Malay نِيڤَه *nīpah.* Early Portuguese writers call the wine *nipa* and the tree *nipeira*, whence app. the forms *niper, -ar*, etc.]

†1. A kind of toddy obtained from the spadix of the nipa-palm (see 2). Also *attrib. Obs.*

1588 Hickock tr. *C. Frederick's Voy.* 23 b, The greatest merchandise there is verzing, and nypa, which is an excellent Wine, which is had in the flowre of a tree called Nyper. *Ibid.*, Niper Wine is a most excellent drink. 1591 Barker in Hakl. *Voy.* (1599) II. II. 107 We found in her .. three hundred buts of Canarie wine, and Nipar wine, which is made of the palme trees. 1598 W. Phillip tr. *Linschoten's Voy.* 101/2 This *Sura*, being distilled, is called *Fula* or *Nipe*, and is as excellent *aqua vitæ* as any is made in Dort. 1616 R. Cocks *Diary* (Hakl. Soc.) I. 150 A jarr of *nipa* sent me for a present.

2. A kind of palm (*Nipa fruticans*), native to the coasts and islands of the Indian seas, having a creeping trunk with large feathery leaves, and bearing large round bunches of fruit; also, the foliage of this plant. Also *attrib.*

1839 Royle *Bot. Himalayan Mount.* 408 The Peruvian *Phytelephas*, with the Asiatic Palm-like *Nipa*. 1846 Lindley *Veget. Kingd.* 132 The juice of Nipa, as it flows from the pounded spadices, furnishes one of the inferior kinds of Palm wine. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 790/2 The foliage, called Nipah, is used as thatch, and when burnt yields a supply of salt. 1882 De Winot *Equator* 20 Its river banks lined with mangroves and nipa palms.

Nipcheese (ni·pˌtʃīz). [See Nip *v.* 13.]

†1. *slang.* A ship's purser. *Obs.*

1785 Grose *Dict. Vulgar T., Nip cheese*, a nick name for the purser of a ship. 1791–3 *Spirit Public Jrnls.* (1799) I. 21 The wonderful rise of this quondam nip-cheese has made him very proud of his own abilities. 1837 Marryat *Pere. Keene* xiii, 'That's our nipcheese.' 'Nipcheese!' 'Yes; nipcheese means purser of the ship.'

2. A mean or miserly person.

1825 Brockett *N. C. Gloss., Nip-cheese*, a contemptuous designation for a parsimonious, covetous person. 1864 Sala in *Temple Bar* Jan. 183 Small good..has the tasteless agitation of these churlish nipcheeses done them.

3. *attrib.* Mean, miserly, niggardly.

1819 *Hermit in London* I. 66 Like a nip-cheese purser of a man of war. 1860 Sala *Lady Chesterfield* v, This nip-cheese, candle-end saving, pebble-peeling .. principle.

†**Nipe,** *sb. Obs. rare*—[1]. [f. Nipe *v.*[2]] A nip.

1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 39/2 With our cutting pinsers, we may with one nipe clippe it of.

†**Nipe,** *v.*[1] *Obs.* [OE. *hnipian*, related to ON. *hnipna, hnipa.*] *intr.* To bow down, bend, droop; to descend, get low.

c 897 K. Ælfred *Gregory's Past. C.* xxxiv. 234 Ða wearð Cain swiðe ierre, & hnipode ofdune. *a* 1000 *Boeth. Metr.* xxxi. 13 Bið ðeah wuhta ȝehwylc onhnizen to hrusan, hnipað ofdune. *a* 1100 in Napier *O.E. Glosses* I. 1279 *Curva*, hnipendre, ȝehizedre. *c* 1160 *Hatton Gosp.* Matt. xxv. 5 Þa nipeden hyo ealle & slepen. *c* 1205 Lay. 31734 Þa hit wes uppen noo, Þa sunne gon to nipen.

†**Nipe,** *v.*[2] *Obs. rare.* In 5–6 **nype.** [Corresponds to MDu. and MLG. *nīpen* (Du. *nijpen*, from which quots. 1481 and 1597 are directly taken). Cf. Nip *v.*[1]] *trans.* To nip.

c 1430 Lydg. *Chorle & Birde* (Roxb.) 9 That smale birdes can nype by the hede. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 357/1 Nypyn, *premo, stringo*. 1481 Caxton *Reynard* (Arb.) 15 Bruyn the bere .. helde fast his heed and nyped both his fore feet. 1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 20 b/1 The Chirurgiane must nype in the length of all the skinne and the fleshy pannickle.

Hence †**Ni·per,** one who nips; †**Ni·ping** *vbl. sb.*

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 357/1 Nypare, *compressor, trusor. Ibid.*, Nypynge, *compressio*. 1546 Bale *Eng. Votaries* I. (1550) 75 b, Callynge them .. perjures, nypers, serpentes, deuourers, rauenours. 1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 22 b/2 Avoydinge the nipinge of the little tonges. 1647 Hexham I, A Niper, *een nyper.*

†**Ni·plet.** *Obs. rare.* [f. Nipple + -et.] A small nipple.

1648 Herrick *Hesp., How Lillies came white*, The rubie niplet of her breast. — *Upon the Nipples of Julia's Breast*, So like to this.. Is each neate Niplet of her breast.

Nipped (nipt), *ppl. a.* [f. Nip *v.*[1] + -ed [1].] That has been, or is, pinched, compressed, severely checked, etc.

1535 Lyndsay *Satyre* 150 Howbeit my coat be schort and nippit, Thankis be to God, I am weill hippit. 1615 Jackson *Creed* v. iv, Human affections like to liquors kept in close vessels or nipt glasses secretly multiply their natural strength. 1759 *Compl. Lett.-Writer* (ed. 6) 223 Jenny Rowland's nipped short waist. 1816 Byron *Ch. Har.* III. liv, In solitude Small power the nipp'd affections have to grow. 1820 Shelley *Autumn* II, The chill rain is falling,

the nipped worm is crawling. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 477 A nipped expression of face.

b. With *in* or *up*, denoting a compressed or contracted state.

1850 Ansted *Geol.* § 1158 The levels at those places where the lode is narrow, or nipped in, are very narrow and confined. 1867 Waugh *Winter Fire* iii, Th' hinder-quarter's nipt in like a greyhound whelp. 1892 Mrs. Clifford *Aunt Anne* I. 184 She said I looked nipped-up, and asked me to sit down and get warm.

† **Nipped** *a.*, obs. var. Nibbed *a.* (Cf. Nip *sb.*4)

1725 Bailey *Erasm. Colloq.* (1878) I. 103 Do you love to write with a hard-nip'd Pen or a soft?

Nipper (ni·pəɹ), *sb.*1 Also 6–8 **nypper**, 8 **knipper**. [f. Nip *v.*1 + -er 1.]

I. 1. One who nips, in senses of the verb.

Freq., down to *c* 1640, in citations or echoes of Isa. I. 5.

1535 Coverdale *Isa.* I. 5, I offre my backe vnto y^ smyters, and my chekes to the nyppers. *a* 1568 Ascham *Scholem.* I. (Arb.) 85 Ready bakbiters, sore nippers, and spitefull reporters priuilie of good men. 1611 A. Stafford *Niobe* 93 Thou nipper of mirth, thou vnpleasant toyle. 1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 6 Cold [is] the great enemie and nipper of vegetation. 1661 Jer. Taylor *Serm. Opening Parl. Ireland* 8 May, [Jesus] gave his back to the smiters and his cheeks to the nippers.

b. A close-fisted, miserly person.

1573 L. Lloyd *Marrow of Hist.* (1653) 16 Amongst so many nippers of money, he onely shewed himself bountifull and liberall. 1879 F. W. Robinson *Coward Consc.* II. xiii, That old, disagreeable nipper of a cousin of yours.

c. *U. S.* The Cunner, which nips the bait from the hooks, and the Bluefish, which nips pieces out of other fishes. (Cf. Nibbler 2.)

1888 Goode *Amer. Fishes* 297 At Salem they [the Blue Perch] are called 'Nippers', and occasionally here and elsewhere 'Bait-stealers'.

† **2.** *Cant.* A thief or pickpocket. *Obs.*

1585 Fleetwood in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. I. II. 278 He that could take a peece of sylver out of the purse without the noyse of any of the bells, he was adjudged a judiciall Nypper. *Ibid.*, Nypper is termed a Pickepurse or a Cutpurse. *c* 1600 Day *Begg. Bednall Gr.* I. iii. (1881) 21 Your nipper, your foyst, your rogue, your cheat, your pander. 1785 Grose *Dict. Vulgar T.*, *Nypper*, a cut purse, so called by one Wotton, who in the year 1585, kept an academy for the education..of pick-pockets.

3. A boy who assists a costermonger, carter, or workman.

1851 Mayhew *Lond. Labour* I. 33 Such lads..are the smallest class of costermongering youths; and are sometimes called 'cas'alty boys', or 'nippers'. 1882 *Lanc. Gloss.*, *Nipper*, a carter's assistant; a lad who accompanies a lurry or cart. 1887 *Q. Rev.* Jan. 129 Thirty two spikers with a nipper to each pair drove 63,000 spikes.

b. *slang.* A boy, a lad.

1872 *Daily News* 8 Apr. 5/4 When he was a 'nipper' the wages were 11*s.* a week, with victuals found. 1886 R. C. Leslie *Sea Painter's Log* 26 Such a boy looks down upon mudlarks very much, calling them nippers and other scornful names. 1890 Williams *Round London* (1893) 85 The mind of the East End 'nipper' is equal to most emergencies.

II. 4. *pl.* An instrument, usually made of iron or steel, having two jaws by which a thing may be firmly seized and held, or cut through, by pressure exerted upon the handles; forceps, pincers, pliers. Frequently called *a pair of nippers*.

Various forms and sizes are used for different purposes.

1541 R. Copland *Guydon's Quest. Chirurg.* A iii, A Cyrurgyen..oughte to haue .v. [irons] as Cysers, Nyppers Launcettes, Rasoures, and Nedelles. 1580 Blundevil *Horsemanship* IV. 68 b, You may pull it out with a paire of nippers. 1658 Sir T. Browne *Hydriot.* 18 Brazen nippers to pull away hair. 1688 Holme *Armoury* III. xxii. (Roxb.) 269/1 He beareth Or, a pair of Nippers, Sable. By the help of these any small peece of Tyn, corner or end, is nipt or cut off. 1752 Mrs. Delany *Life & Corr.* (1861) III. 179 They must be drawn out of their case with a pair of knippers, no fingers are small enough. 1765 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 158, 85 pair of shoemakers nippers and pincers. 1803 *Med. Jrnl.* X. 68 Two pair of nippers or small pincers for extracting filaments. 1832 Babbage *Econ. Manuf.* xi. (ed. 3) 87 The operator then pinches it between the ends of a pair of nippers. 1865 Livingstone *Zambesi* xv. 305 Its teeth are..so arranged that the edges cut a hook like nippers.

sing. 1688 Holme *Armoury* III. 309/1 A Glasiers Nipper or Grater. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1528/1 *Nipper*, a grasping tool with cutting jaws.

b. An implement used for seizing large stones in order to move them freely.

1840 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* III. 29/1 The stones..were first held fast by an implement, technically called nippers or devil's claws. 1898 *Daily News* 10 Oct. 9/3 A chain weighing several tons was being lowered down the pit shaft by means of nippers.

c. *slang.* Handcuffs.

1823 Egan *Grose's Dict. Vulgar T.*

d. *slang.* Eyeglasses, pince-nez.

1876 Lowell *Lett.* (1894) II. 183, I am writing at this moment with spectacles (not nippers, mind you ..) across my prosaic nose. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 28 Jan. 2/1 Miss Flint (slowly donning a pair of pince-nez): What's the good of nippers?

5. (Usually in *pl.*) **a.** One of the incisors, or cutting teeth, of a horse.

1696 Sir W. Hope tr. *Solleysel's Parf. Mareschal* 19 There groweth then in the place of these four Foal-teeth..four others which are called Nippers or Gatherers. 1727–38 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v. *Tooth*, *Nippers*, which are the two foremost teeth above, and as many below, which an horse first changes. *a* 1842 Sir C. Bell *Anat. Expression* (1844) ii. 53 The incisor teeth or nippers project. 1854 Owen in *Orr's Circ. Sci., Org. Nat.* I. 285 The first deciduous incisor—'centre nipper' of veterinarians—..usually cuts the gum between the third and sixth days.

b. One of the great claws or chelæ of the Crustacea.

1769 Bancroft *Guiana* 240 Five pair of legs,..each..armed at the end with a pair of red nippers. *a* 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) VI. 369 The two nippers or claws resemble the thumbs. 1848 Johns *Week at Lizard* 259 The insertion of the point of a knife into the joint of the great claws..renders the nippers powerless.

fig. 1877 Tennyson *Harold* II. ii, Our great Count crab will make his nippers meet in thine heart.

attrib. 1863 Wood *Illustr. Nat. Hist.* III. 585 The Nipper-crab (*Polybius Henslowii*) is a better swimmer than the fiddler-crab. 1863 Kearley *Links in Chain* vii. 153 Its great hairy nipper claws give it a very distinctive character.

6. a. A device to regulate the amount of tar used in tarring a rope.

1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* 55 A Nipper is formed of two steel plates, eight inches square and half an inch thick, with a semi-oval hole in each four inches wide, which, by the upper plate moving, enlarges or contracts as the tarring of the yarn requires.

b. In wool-combing machinery, a device for seizing and holding the material.

1852 Lister & Ambler in *Pat. Abridgm.* (1866) 653 A thin plate of iron is inserted between the rows of the teeth so as to act as a nipper. 1889 J. Burnley *Wool & Wool Combing* 228 The nipper consists of a leather-covered jaw and a top jaw with three flutes.

7. *Naut.* **a.** A piece of braided cordage used to prevent a cable from slipping.

1627 Capt. Smith *Seaman's Gram.* ix. 44 [The cable] surges or slips backe vnlesse they keep it close to the whelps, and then they..hold it fast with nippers. 1667 Davenant & Dryden *Tempest* I. i, Nip well there; quartermaster, get's more nippers. 1769 Falconer *Dict. Marine* (1780) s.v., These nippers are usually six or eight feet in length. 1825 H. B. Gascoigne *Naval Fame* 47 The gaining side and Cable bound in one, By pliant Nippers which the Boys hold on. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.* 498 The nipper is passed at the manger-board, the fore-end pressing itself against the cable.

attrib. 1769 Falconer *Dict. Marine* (1780) s.v. *Nipper*, The persons employed to bind the nippers about the cable and voyal, are called nipper-men. 1802 *Naval Chron.* 51 We have plenty of powder forward in the nipper-lockers.

b. (See quot.) *rare* —°.

1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Nipper*, a hammock with so little bedding as to be unfit for stowing in the nettings.

c. A thick woollen mitten or glove used by codfishers to protect their wrists and hands.

1897 Kipling *Capt. Cour.* 56 A heavy blue jersey well darned at the elbows, a pair of nippers, and a sou'wester.

Ni·pper, *sb.*2 [abbrev. of Nipperkin.] = Nip *sb.*2

1848 Lowell *Biglow Papers* Ser. I. ii, Step up and take a nipper, sir; I'm dreffle glad to see you. 1866 *Brit. Workman* XII. 78 He could not pass it without having what he termed his 'nipper', or what some of the good people of Scotland call their 'morning'.

Ni·pper, *sb.*3 [f. Nip *v.*2] One who takes nips.

1886 *Home Words* XVI. 21 The 'Nipper', says with confidence, 'the little drop which I take would hurt nobody'.

Nipper (ni·pəɹ), *v.*1 [f. Nipper *sb.*1]

1. *Naut.* To secure (a rope) by means of crossturns; to fasten with nippers.

1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* 190 The strap is nippered, with a heaver, round the block. 1841 R. H. Dana *Seaman's Man.* 43 Nippering, is fastening them [two parts of a rope] by taking turns crosswise between the parts, to jam them; and sometimes with a round turn before each cross. *c* 1860 H. Stuart *Seaman's Catech.* 34 Heaving the two parts of the lanyard close together so as to nipper them.

2. *slang.* To take into custody.

1832 *Lincoln Herald* 18 Sept. 2/4 You had better nash (go away) unless you want to be nippered (taken into custody).

Ni·pper, *v.*2 *rare* —1. [Imitative.] *intr.* To whisper, gossip.

1840 Lady C. Bury *Hist. of Flirt* xxviii, What are you and the major 'nippering' about?

Nipperkin (ni·pərkin). Now *rare*. Also 7–8 kn-, 7 niper-. [Of obscure etym. The form points to a Du. or LG. origin: cf. MDu. *nypelkin*, the name of some game.]

1. A measure or vessel of small capacity used for liquors, containing half-a-pint or less.

1694 Motteux *Rabelais* V. xxxiv. (1737) 152 Barrels, Nipperkins, Pint-Pots, Quart-Pots. 1739 R. Bull tr. *Dedekindus' Grobianus* 158 Some..puff in ev'ry Nipperkin of Ale. 1755 Shebbeare *Lydia* (1769) I. 350 The old song, which goes on with the gallon,..the pint, the half-pint, the nipperkin, and the brown bowl. 1796 [see Nip *sb.*2]. 1832 *Blackw. Mag.* XXXI. 320 The nipperkins, cups, and cans, The skillets, and kettles, and all.

2. The quantity of liquor that can be contained in such a measure; a small quantity of wine, ale or spirits. In later use chiefly *Sc.*

1671 Mrs. Behn *Amorous Prince* IV. iv, 'Tis something cold, I'le go take a Niperkin of wine. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew*, *Nipperkin*, half a Pint of Wine, and but half a Quartern of Brandy, Strong waters, &c. 1792 Burns *Let. to Cunningham* 10 Sept., I have set a nipperkin of toddy by me. 1813 Wolcot (P. Pindar) *On Style of Johnson*, Such a clatter, To force up one poor nipperkin of water. 1856 Strang *Glasgow & its Clubs* 530 Kindred spirits met to quaff their nipperkin of ale. 1890 Service *Notandums* xi. 77 We juist hae time for a nipperkin o' yuill.

Ni·ppily, *adv. rare* —1. [f. Nippy *a.* + -ly 2.] In a nippy manner; sharply.

1650 A. B. *Mutat. Polemo* 21 Let such be nippily markt and taken notice of.

Nipping (ni·piŋ), *vbl. sb.*1 [-ing 1.] The action of Nip *v.*1 in various senses.

1572 Huloet, Nippes or nippinges, *compressiones*. 1606 *Proc. agst. Late Traitors* 25 For the blasting and nipping, both of the leaves, blossomes and budds. 1626 Bacon *Sylva* § 388 In Orenges or Limons, the Nipping of their Rinde, giveth out their Smell the more. 1693 Evelyn *De la Quint. Compl. Gard.* II. 54 Pruning ..with the Pruning-Knife, when the bare Trimming or Nipping is not sufficient. 1707 Mortimer *Husb.* (1721) II. 42 It .. preserves it self the best from the nipping of Deer. 1853 Kane *Grinnell Exped.* xxviii. (1856) 231 Wherever the nipping has caught two of the floes, they have been driven with a force inconceivable one above the other.

b. *concr.* A portion nipped off.

1766 *Compl. Farmer* s.v. *Rag* 6 I 1/2 Woollen Rags, and the nippings of the pitch-marks upon sheep, are a singularly good manure.

Ni·pping, *vbl. sb.*2 [f. Nip *v.*2 + -ing 1.] The action or practice of taking nips of liquor.

1883 *Longm. Mag.* June 180 A horrible Australian habit, ..is the practice of 'nipping' on bargains. 1896 Georgiana M. Stisted *True Life R. F. Burton* xi. 267 This nipping..disagreed frightfully with Burton.

Ni·pping, *ppl. a.* (and *adv.*) [f. Nip *v.*1 + -ing 2.] That nips, in various senses of the verb.

1. Of language: Sharp, stinging, sarcastic.

1547 Latimer *Serm. & Rem.* (Parker Soc.) 426 After you had perused that my nipping and unpleasant letter. 1556 Robinson tr. *More's Utopia* (Arb.) 105 *marg.*, In this place seemethe to be a nipping taunte. 1581 J. Bell *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 497 So much rayling in such scorpionlike nipping bitternesse. 1594 Carew *Huarte's Exam. Wits* xv. (1596) 311 Hence tooke a certaine nipping prouerbe his originall. *a* 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. x. 80 Nipping Bobs, derisive Quips.

2. Of the weather, wind, etc.: Sharp, cold, biting; checking growth, blighting.

1563 B. Googe *Eglogs*, etc. (Arb.) 103 To keepe her feete from force of nyppynge colde. 1581 Mulcaster *Positions* xxxvi. (1887) 141 As there be faire blossomes, so there be nipping frostes. 1602 Shaks. *Ham.* I. iv. 2 It is a nipping and an eager ayre. 1669 Worlidge *Syst. Agric.* (1679) 134 The sharp nipping winds. 1707 Mortimer *Husb.* (1721) I. 308 Bleak Hills much exposed to high Winds and nipping Frost. 1764 Harmer *Observ.* I. § xvi. 40 Most nipping, pinching, unpleasant wind. 1828 Scott *F. M. Perth* xiii, It irks me the more to put on cold harness in this nipping weather. 1865 Dickens *Mut. Fr.* I. xii, It was..a nipping spring with an easterly wind.

3. Causing pain or distress.

c 1550 *Pryde & Abuse Wom.* 181 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* IV. 242 We wonder moche at these nyppynge plages. 1583 Stubbes *Anat. Abus.* II. (1882) 52 They applie bitter potions, nipping medicines, gnawing corrosiues. 1608 Willet *Hexapla in Exod.* 512 A biting, nipping, or deuouring vsurie. 1659 D. Pell in Spurgeon *Treas. Dav.* Ps. cvii. 28 Brought low by pinching and nipping afflictions.

† **4.** Affected, mincing. *Obs. rare* —1.

1568 *Jacob & Esau* II. ii, So nipping, so tripping, so cocking, so crowing.

5. That nips, grips, or holds. *Nipping-fork* (see quot. 1881).

1831 Youatt *Horse* 138 The colt's nipping teeth are rounded in front. 1858 Holden & Hubner in *Pat. Abridgm.* (1866) 1290 Two pairs of continuously operating and moving nipping surfaces. 1870 H. A. Nicholson *Man. Zool.* xxxvii. (1875) 269 The maxillary palpi..are converted into nipping-claws or chelæ. 1881 Raymond *Mining Gloss.*, *Nipping-fork*, a tool for supporting a column of bore-rods while raising or lowering them.

6. *adv.* Nippingly.

1840 R. H. Dana *Bef. Mast* xxix. 99 The water was nipping cold.

Nippingly (ni·piŋli), *adv.* [f. Nipping *ppl. a.* + -ly 2.] In a nipping manner, in various senses of the adj.

1542 Udall *Erasm. Apoph.* 184 b, Nippyngly did he taunte ..the foolishe ambicion of theim. 1586 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* I. (1589) 365 Stop the mouthes of such as are.. impudent,.. with a certaine meekenes and grave smiling, and somewhat nippingly. 1853 Lytton *My Novel* I. xii, Pinching her husband's arm very nippingly. 1879 'Annie Thomas' *London Season* I. 19, 'I don't see it at all', Mrs. Varney nippingly replies. 1890 *Cornh. Mag.* Sept. 257 Though the wind blow nippingly from the snow.

† **Ni·ppitate,** *sb. Obs.* Also -ato, -atum, -aty, (-ati). [Of obscure origin. The Latin and Italian endings are prob. only fanciful. The most usual form is that in *-aty.*] Good ale or other liquor of prime quality and strength.

α. 1575 Laneham *Lett.* (1871) 31 Az yet too the tast of a cup of Nippitate, his iudgement will be taken aboue the best in the parish.

β. 1576 Fulwell *Art Flattery* I. v. (1579) E iv b, The best Nippitatum in this towne, which is commonly called Huf-cap. 1583 Stubbes *Anat. Abuses* E vij b, Though it will be a corrosive to their hautie stomacks and a nippitatum to their tender brests. *Ibid.* M iv b, When this Nippitatum, this Huf cap (as they call it), and this nectar of lyfe, is set abroach, well is he that can get the soonest to it.

γ. 1593 G. Harvey *Pierce's Super.* 16 The nippitaty of the nappiest grape. *Ibid.* 63. 1600 Nashe *Summer's Last Will* in Hazl. *Dodsley* VIII. 60 Never cap of Nipitaty in London came near thy niggardly habitation! 1630 *Tincker of Turvey* Ep. Ded. 4 He loves that ale-house best, which washes his cheekes with the strongest nippitaty. *a* 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais*, *Pantagr. Prognost.* ix, 'Tis all one to me, so we have but good Bub and *Nippitati* enough.

δ. 1611 Beaum. & Fl. *Kt. Burning Pestle* IV. ii, My father oft will tell me of a drinke In England found, and Nipitato cal'd. 1620 Melton *Astrolog.* 32 They cannot put a Cup of Nippitato to their Snowts.

Hence †**Nippitate** *a.*, strong, good, prime. *Obs.*
1600 *Look About You* xxi. in Hazl. *Dodsley* VII. 445 He was here to-day, sir, And emptied two bottles of nippitate sack. 1600 *Weakest goeth to Wall* (1618) B 2 Fresh ale, prime ale, nappie ale, nippitate ale! *a* 1634 CHAPMAN *Alphonsus* Plays 1873 III. 238 'Twill make a cup of Wine taste nippitate.

Nipple (ni·p'l), *sb.* Forms: *α.* 6 neble, nible, 7 nibble. *β.* 6 neapil, neaple, nypil, 7 nipl, 6– nipple. [Of uncertain origin: there is no clear connexion with OE. *nypel*, used by Ælfric of an elephant's trunk.]

1. The small prominence, composed of vascular erectile tissue, in which the ducts of the mammary glands terminate externally in nearly all mammals of both sexes; esp. that of a woman's breast; a teat.

α. 1530 PALSGR. 247/2 Neble of a womans pappe, *bout de la mamelle.* 1598 HAVDOCKE tr. *Lomazzo* I. 30 The heades or extuberances whence the milke is sucked out, are called Nibles. 1611 COTGR., *Tetin*, the nibble or nipple of a dug. 1650 MASSEV *Glasse for Worldlings* 21 So much wormwood withall makes me nauseat the nibble. 1682 N. O. *Boileau's Lutrin* II. 114 Or Caucasus did form thee, of a Pebble, Or some fell Tigress nurs'd thee with her nibble.

β. 1538 ELYOT, *Papilla*, the nyppell or teate of a womannes breaste. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 125/26 A Nypil, *papilla. Ibid.* 209/8 A Neaple, teate, *papilla.* 1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* I. iii. 30 It did tast the Worme-wood on the nipple of my Dugge. 1598 CHAPMAN *Iliad* IV. 568 Thoas..threw a dart, that did his pile convay Above his nipple, through his lungs. 1656 RIDGLEY *Pract. Physick* 156 The child will suck, and not touch the Nipple with his Lips. 1707 *Phil. Trans.* XXV. 2216 A small portion of it, in the form of a Nipple, did intrude itself as it were under the Tongue. 1803 *Med. Jrnl.* IX. 428 A tumour appeared under his left nipple. 1835 KIRBY *Hab. & Inst. Anim.* II. xxiv. 477 The elephant..has only two pectoral nipples. 1859 LADY LYTTON *Orval* 139 A finer babe was never Put to the nipple.

fig. 1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* v. xiv. 411 He infected the Universitie, from which he suck'd no milk but poysoned her nipples.

b. *transf.* A device used to cover the nipple while a child is sucking; also, the teat of a nursing-bottle.

1661 LOVELL *Hist. Anim. & Min.* 412 The paine in sucking may be prevented by an artificial nipple, covered with that of a young heifer. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 1528/2 The nipple..has a stop-flange to keep it from passing too far into the infant's mouth.

2. Something resembling a nipple in function as well as form.

1573 BARET *Alv.* s.v., A little cocke, end, or nipple perced, ..which is put at the end of the cannelles of a fountayne, where through ye water commeth forth. 1841 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* IV. 93/2 A stop cock..so adjusted as to allow any number of drops per minute to fall from the nipple. 1873 SPON *Workshop Rec.* Ser. I. 132/2 For filling the cases nipples of various sizes are employed, made preferably of metal.

b. A prominence on the surface of the skin which resembles a nipple; esp. such as marks the outlet of any secretory gland.

1713 DERHAM *Phys.-Theol.* VII. i. *note*, Two or three larger Cells, lying under the Nipple of the Oil-bag. 1730 CHAMBERLAYNE *Relig. Philos.* I. xiv. § 3 Those little Protuberances, which they call the Papillae, or Nipples [of the tongue]. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) II. 192/2 Spiders have five tubercles or nipples at the extremity of the belly. 1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* xxx. III. 128 Between them also there is a lozenge-shaped opening, through which .. protruded a circular sort of nipple.

c. A small protuberance on glass or metal; a projection of any kind having the appearance of a nipple.

1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 582 Another workman now applies the end of a solid iron rod tipped with melted glass..to the nipple or prominence in the middle. 1863 TYNDALL *Heat* iv. § 115 (1870) 101 Whenever the hot metal comes into contact with its lead carrier, a nipple suddenly juts from the latter. 1880 *Spon's Encycl. Manuf.* II. 558 A nipple for attachment [of the button] to the garment.

d. A small rounded elevation on the summit of a hill or mountain.

1859 *Merc. Marine Mag.* (1860) VII. 106 Vessels..cannot fail..to recognize the mountain..by its..top, having several nipples. 1860 *Ibid.* 328 The western of these nipples is the higher. 1873 W. CORY *Lett. & Jrnls.* (1897) 343 The crests or nipples of the hill-line are crowned with the domes of the mosques.

3. A short perforated piece made upon, or screwed into, the breech of a muzzle-loading gun, on which the percussion cap is fixed and exploded.

1822 *Specific. S. Davis's Patent* No. 4648 My improvement consists in forming and constructing the pan and nipple of the lock. 1853 STOCQUELER *Mil. Encycl.* 126/2 A small copper capsule..which fits on the nipple of the touch-hole. 1897 F. M. CRAWFORD *Corleone* x, There was a percussion cap on the nipple of the lock.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.* **a.** In sense 1, as *nipple-chancre, -level, -line, -shield; nipple-like, -shaped.*

1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 271 A *nipple chancre..is not an infrequent result. 1893 GEE *Auscultation & Percussion* (ed. 4) I. i. 9 The maximum of difference, on the *nipple level, being an inch and a quarter. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 360 Two inches above the nipple level. 1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* xxx. III. 138 They are a mere retractile *nipple-like protuberance. 1879 *St. George's Hosp. Rep.* IX. 183 Apex beat in 5th sp. × *nipple line. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* III. 875 A small *nipple-shaped knob. 1799 UNDERWOOD *Dis. Children* III. 111 This public recommendation of the *Nipple-Shield. 1860 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Nipple shield*, a protection for the breast worn by females.

b. In sense 3, as *nipple-lump, -seat, -wrench.*

1868 *Rep. to Govt. U.S. Munitions War* 35 Holding the breech-block firmly..by means of the thumb-piece and *nipple-lump. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 1528/2 *Nipple-seat*, the hump on the side of a barrel on which the nipple is screwed. 1844 *Regul. & Ord. Army* 96 *note*, One *nipple Wrench. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 1529/1 *Nipple-wrench*, the spanner..used for screwing it to and unscrewing it from the barrel.

c. In names of plants, etc., as † *nipple cowry*, † *nipple peach*; nipple-cactus, a cactus of the genus *Mamillaria*, having nipple-like protuberances (*Cent. Dict.* 1890).

1713 PETIVER *Aquat. Anim. Amb.* 4/1 *Gibba*,..white *Nipple Coury. 1719 LONDON & WISE *Compl. Gard.* 83 These are condemn'd by the Author as the worst of Peaches. *Nipple Peach [etc.].

Hence **Nipple** *v.*, to furnish with a nipple or nipples; to cover with nipple-like protuberances.

1882 in OGILVIE. 1892 *Daily News* 14 Nov. 6/2, I returned to the place, lest some portions of convexed nippled iron should..excite curiosity.

Ni·ppleless, *a.* [f. NIPPLE *sb.*] Having no nipples. (Used *spec.* of the monotremes.)

1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

Nipplewort (ni·p'lwɔ̄rt). [f. NIPPLE *sb.*]

1. A common wayside annual (*Lapsana communis*) of the order *Cichoraceæ*.

1640 PARKINSON *Theat. Bot.* 811 It is good to heale the Vlcers of the nipples of womens breasts, and thereupon I have entituled it Nipplewort in English. 1666 MERRETT *Pinax* 69 *Lampsana*, Dock-cresses.., ordinary Niple-wort. 1711 PETIVER in *Phil. Trans.* XXVII. 381 Having .. small yellow Flowers like Nipplewort. 1796 WITHERING *Brit. Pl.* (ed. 3) III. 693 Common Nipplewort, .. Hedges, shady places, and on rubbish. 1863 MARG. PLUES *Rambles Wild Fl.* 164 The common Nipplewort..bears its small yellow flowers in panicles.

2. *Dwarf nipplewort*, the plant *Arnoseris pusilla*, sometimes placed in the genus *Lapsana.*

1866 *Treas. Bot.*

Nippy (ni·pi), *a.* [f. NIP *v.*[1] + -Y [1].]

1. Of a nipping nature or disposition; inclined to nip, in senses of the verb.

1575 TURBERV. *Faulconrie* 327 The more shee feedeth, the more greedie and nippie shee is. 1642 *View Printed Bk.* 40 Nippie reprehensions and sometimes imprisonment. 1816 SCOTT *Old Mort.* vii, His uncle, auld Nippie Milnwood has as close a grip as the deil himsell. 1898 BURLEIGH *Sirdar & Khalifa* xii. 189 Anything liquid and nippy would have been a rare treat. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 29 Dec. 3/3 The air is 'nippy', sure enough.

2. *slang.* Sharp, quick, active, nimble.

1853 R. S. SURTEES *Soapey Sponge* (1893) 131 Soapey..overtook a fine nippy, satin-stocked, dandified looking gentleman. 1894 ASTLEY 50 *Yrs. of Life* II. 70, I told him he would have to be pretty nippy. 1898 BURLEIGH *Sirdar & Khalifa* xi. 175 He..liked to see them keen and 'nippy' at every soldierly task.

†**Ni·pshot,** *adv. Obs. Sc.* [app. f. NIP *v.*[1] + SHOT *sb.*, but the force of the comb. is obscure.] Only in phr. *to shoot*, or *play, nipshot*, to miss the mark, or miss fire, in *lit.* and *fig.* use.

a 1568 *King Berdok* 12 in Laing *Anc. Poetry Scotl.* 269 Weill cowd he..hend ane aiprim bow, and nipschot schute. 1637–50 ROW *Hist. Kirk* (Wodrow Soc.) 395 Now of thir Canons, one said merrilie, that all the Bishops' cannons were poysoned, they would misgive, and shoot nipshot. 1646 R. BAILLIE *Lett. & Jrnls.* (1841) II. 362 Our great hope on earth, the City of London, has played nipshott; they are speaking of dissolving the Assemblie.

†**Nipsitate,** variant of NIPPITATE *sb. Obs.*

1639 DAVENPORT *New Trick to cheat the Devil* E, A cup of Nipsitate, briske and neate.

Nirles. *Sc.* Also nirls. [Of obscure origin.] A kind of rash or efflorescence of the skin.

a 1585 MONTGOMERIE *Flyting* 325 With parles and plurisies opprest, And nipd with nirles. 1673 WEDDERBURN *Voc.* 19 (Jam.), *Morbilli*, the nirles. 1707 J. NIMMO *Narr.* (S.H.S.) 79 My child was sick..having a flix, the nirles and kinkhost extreamly. 1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) IV. 473 Like the measles of this modification, they are denominated nirles in some parts of Scotland. 1886 STEWART *Rem. Dunfermline* 48 Children suffering from the nirles.

†**Nirt.** *Obs. rare* —[1]. [Of obscure origin: perh. related to Norw. dial. *nerta* to touch lightly.] A mark, scar, cut.

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 2498 Þe nirt in Þe nek he naked hem schewed.

‖ **Nirvana** (nəɪvā·nă). Also **Nirwana.** [a. Skr. *nirvāṇa*, blowing out, extinction, disappearance, etc., f. *nirvā* to blow.] In Buddhist theology, the extinction of individual existence and absorption into the supreme spirit, or the extinction of all desires and passions and attainment of perfect beatitude.

a. 1836 *Penny Cycl.* V. 531/1 The expression, which Bauddhas seem to be particularly fond of employing, is Nirvâna. 1864 MAX MÜLLER *Sci. Lang.* Ser. II. 346 The Nothing ..under the name of Nirvâna has become the highest goal of millions among the followers of Buddha. 1880 GOLDW. SMITH in *Atlantic Monthly* 204 In justice to Buddhism it must be remembered that there is more than one interpretation of Nirvana.

β. 1857 W. SMITH *Thorndale* IV. vii. 370 A Buddhist Saint sits motionless under his Bo tree to earn Nirwana. 1871 ALABASTER *Wheel of Law* p. xxxvii, Nirwana, the extinction of all this kind of existence, must therefore be the object of the truly wise man. 1876 M. DAVIES *Unorth. Lond.* (ed. 2) 309 Breathing such a tone of mystic devotion as suggested the Brahminical Nirwana.

b. *transf.* or *fig.*

1895 BALFOUR *Foundations Belief* 64 The very Nirvana of artistic imagination, without desire and without pain. 1902 'LINESMAN' *Words Eyewitness* 341 Universal peace!..is a Nirvana unattainable until after the death of the weary, yearning bodies who desire it.

Hence **Nirva·nic** *a.*, of the nature of Nirvana.

1893 E. F. BENSON *Six Common Things* 73 In spite of the nirvanic remoteness of its nature, it is not troubled by human emotions.

Nis, *sb.* Also nisse, nys. [a. Da. and Sw. *nisse.*] In Scandinavian folk-lore, a species of brownie or friendly goblin which frequents barns, stables, and other buildings.

1833 KEIGHTLEY *Fairy Myth.* I. 222 The Nis is the same being that is called Kobold in Germany, Brownie in Scotland. 1855 BAILEY *Mystic*, etc. 147 Nisses, Noks, Kobolds, Kelpies, Norns, and Trolls. 1865 WHITTIER *Kallundborg Church* 28 The Neck and the Nis gave no reply.

†**Nis,** is not: see NE and BE *v.* A. I. 3. *Obs.*

c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* iii. 3 Nis haelu hire in deo bire. *c* 888 K. ÆLFRED *Boeth.* v. § 3 Hit nis ziet se tima. *c* 975 *Rushw. Gosp.* Matt. xxviii. 6 Nis he her forþon þe he aras. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gram.* (Z) 227 Nis hit swa? Hit nis. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 23 Hit nis nan wunder. *c* 1200 ORMIN 6181 Inn all þatt niss nan sinne. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 282 Þer nis bot a Godd. *a* 1300 *K. Horn* 13 Fairer nis non þane he was. *c* 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 997 Nis þer non so bald. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. I. 34 Al nis not good to the gost that the bodi lyketh. 1413 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton 1483) IV. xx. 68 He and I oure herte nis but one. 1477 NORTON *Ord. Alch.* i. in Ashm. (1652) 13 This Science n'is holy in effect. 1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* June 19 Those hilles where harbrough nis to see. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* III. (1724) II. 714 Nothing can endure where order n'is. [1634 W. CARTWRIGHT *Ordinary* IV. ii, I nis not Edmond Ironside, God wot.]

† **Nisberry,** obs. variant of NASEBERRY.

1756 P. BROWNE *Jamaica* (1789) 200 The Nisberry Tree.

Nise, obs. form of NICE *a.*

Niset: see NYLET and NYSOT.

Nisewurt, variant of NEEZEWORT *Obs.*

Nisey, Nisi, varr. of NIZEY a fool. *Obs.*

‖ **Nisi** (nəi·səi). *Law.* [L. *nisi* unless.] A limiting term added to such words as *decree, order*, or *rule*, to indicate that these are not absolute or final, but are to be valid or take effect unless some cause is shown, or reason arises, to prevent this. (Cf. quots. 1860 and 1872.)

1836 SMART s.v. *Nisi prius*, A rule *nisi* is a rule *unless*, i. e. *unless* cause be shown to the contrary, as distinguished from a rule *absolute.* 1860 *Act* 23 & 24 *Vict.* c. 144 § 7 Every Decree for a Divorce shall in the first instance be a Decree Nisi, not to be made absolute till after the Expiration of such Time not less than Three Months.., as the Court shall by General or Special Order from Time to Time direct. 1872 WILL *Wharton's Law Lex., Decree Nisi*..remains imperfect for at least six months. 1877–9 SETON *Decrees* (ed. 4) I. p. xxvi, Order nisi for Claimant to appear. 1883 *Law Rep.* 11 *Q. B. Div.* 591 An order nisi was afterwards obtained for a new trial, on the ground of misdirection.

Nisinge, variant of NEEZING *vbl. sb.*

‖ **Nisi prius** (nəi·səi prəi·ŏs). *Law.* Also 8 nisi prise. [L. *nisi prius*, unless previously. The significance of the phrase is thus explained by Blackstone, *Comm.* (1768) III. 59:

'All causes commenced in the courts of Westminster-hall are by the course of the courts appointed to be there tried, on a day fixed in some Easter or Michaelmas term, by a jury returned from the county, wherein the cause of action arises; but with this proviso, *nisi prius justitiarii ad assisas capiendas venerint*; *unless before* the day prefixed the judges of assise come into the county in question.'

In the second statute of Westminster (1285) § 30, by which the system was instituted, only the word *nisi* is used. The following is an early example of the full phrase:—

1297 *Coram Rege Roll* m. 5 *dorso* (1898) 30 Ideo Vicecomes habeat corpora omnium coram Rege ad prefatum terminum &c. Nisi prius R. le Brabanzon vel G. de Roubyr' vel eorum alter si prius ad partes illas &c.]

1. A writ directed to a sheriff commanding him to provide a jury at the Court of Westminster on a certain day, unless the judges of assize previously come to the county.

[1347–48 *Rolls of Parlt.* II. 214/1 William de Thorp & ses Compaignons ne voillent granter le Nisi prius saunz garaunt de Graunt Seal. *Ibid.*, De grantier Brief de Nisi prius. 1443–44 *Durh. Acct. Rolls* 185 Quoddam breve vocatum Nisi prius.] 1495 *Act* 11 *Hen. VII* c. 24 § 4 Nisi prius shalbe graunted by discrecion of the Justices upon the distres. 1535 *Fitzherbert's Natura Brev.* (1544) 183 b, A wryt of Nisi prius... This wryt is Judycyall and lyeth in case when thenquest is panel and retourned afore the Justices of ye banke. 1596 BACON *Max. & Use Com. Law* I. (1630) 24 Of which words the writ is called a Nisi prius.

b. The clause, in such a writ, which is introduced by these words.

1543–4 *Act* 35 *Hen. VIII* c. 6 § 2 Everie firste Writte of habeas corpora or distringas with a Nysi Prius delivered of Recorde to the Sherief. 1768 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* III. 353 Therefore it was enacted by statute Westm. 2..that a clause of *nisi prius* should be inserted in all the aforesaid writs of *venire facias.*

c. The authority or commission to try causes conferred by this clause on justices of assize.

1596 BACON *Max. & Use Com. Law* I. (1630) 24 The Judges ..by their Commission of Nisi prius have authority [etc.]. 1768 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* III. 59 The..authority..of *nisi prius*, which is a consequence of the commission of assise.

2. An action tried under a writ of this kind.

[1347 *Rolls of Parlt.* II. 195/1 Sur quoy le dit Priour..ad suy plusours Nisi prius devant mons' William de Shareshull & autres Justices.] 1468 *Plumpton Corr.* (Camden) 18 As touching your *nisi prius* against Fulbaron. 1498–9 *Ibid.* 134, I understand William Babthorp will have a *nisi prius* at this next assizes. 1533 CROMWELL in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) I. 359 The tryall of the saide Nisiprius. 1596 BACON *Max. & Use Com. Law* I. (1630) 23 These Nisi Prius happen in this sort. 1607 MIDDLETON *Phœnix* II. iii. F2 b, Take heede I bring you not to a *Nisi prius*, sir. 1714 GAY *What d'ye call it* I. i, You ruined my poor Uncle at the Sizes, And made him pay nine Pounds for Nisiprises. 1748 SMOLLETT *Rod. Rand.* liv, He had suffered a *nisi prius* through the obstinacy of the defendant.

3. The trial or hearing of civil causes by the judges of assize; court-business of this kind. Hence *Cause, Court, Justice*, etc., of *Nisi Prius*.

[1347 *Rolls of Parlt.* II. 186/2 En quel suite Sire Alayn de Asch', Baron de la dit Escheqer, si ad este deux feitz per le Nisi Prius a Seint Martin graunt.] 1543–4 *Act* 35 *Hen. VIII* c. 6, An Acte concerninge thapparaunce of Jurors in the Nisi Prius. 1585 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. III. IV. 57 The Lordes Chief Justices of either Benche do twise a weeke attend upon Nisi Prius for London and Middlesex. 1596 BACON *Max. & Use Com. Law* I. (1630) 23 A Commission to take Nisi Prius directed to none but to the Judges themselues and their Clerkes of Assizes. 1679 *Trials Green*, etc. *for Murder of Sir E. Godfrey* 87 No Brother, I am to sit at Nisi prius this Afternoon, and 'tis time we broke up the Court. 1709 *London Gaz.* No. 4508/3 A Postea, or Record of Nisi Prius, between Morris, Plaintiff, and Jordan, Defendant. 1793 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 13/1 The commission for opening the assizes..for the trying of criminals, hearing causes of Nisi prius and for a general gaol delivery. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVI. 241/1 The judges of assize..when sitting alone to try causes..are said to be sitting at Nisi Prius. 1865 *Daily Tel.* 24 Aug., The learned serjeant drew an affecting picture, in the true style of nisi prius, of the happy results which would flow from the training ship. 1889 GRATTAN *Memory's Harkback* 135 Thus his legal life had been passed in Nisi Prius—he was quite a stranger to Chancery practice.

4. *attrib.* as *Nisi Prius clause, court, glory, laugh, -office* (1708), *record, sitting*.

1845 *Encycl. Metrop.* XXI. 190/1 In Trials at Bar, which are actually conducted in the Court at Westminster, the *Nisi Prius clause is omitted. *a* 1734 NORTH *Exam.* I. ii. § 118 (1740) 94 The **Nisi prius* Courts, for Civil Trials. 1867 *Hampshire Chron.* 9 Mar., This case concluded the business of the *Nisi Prius* Court. 1852 DISRAELI *Ld. G. Bentinck* 277 Scarlett himself in the days of his *nisi prius glory had never shown more adroitness. 1841 LEVER *C. O'Malley* lxviii, A cunning leer of his eye, and a certain *nisi-prius laugh. 1848 WHARTON *Law Lex.*, **Nisi prius record*, an instrument in the nature of a commission to the Judges at *nisi prius* for the trial of a cause. 1864 *Chamb. Encycl.* VI. 777/1 The *nisi prius sittings are the jury sittings.

† Ni·sket. *Obs. rare* −1. (See quot.)

1725 DUDLEY in *Phil. Trans.* XXXIII. 264 The Whale.. got the Fluke into her Nisket, or the Orifice of the Uterus.

† Nist, for *ne wist*, knew not: see NE and WIT *v.* Forms: 1, 4–5 **nyste**, 1–2, 4 **neste**, 2–5 **nuste**, 3–4 **niste**, 4–5 **nist, nyst**. *Pl.* 1 **nyston** (**-ðon**), 2 **nesten, nusten**, 2, 4 **nysten**, 4 **nisten**.

c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* lxxii. 22 Ic to nowihte zebezed eam & ic hit nyste. *c* 888 K. ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxxviii. § 1 Hi nyston nænne oðerne god on þæne timan. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 79 Næs þæt na þæt he nyste hwæt se blinda wolde. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 93 His wif..nuste hwet hire were ilumpen wes. *a* 1200 *Moral Ode* 229 (Trin. Coll. MS.), Ic wille seggen hit þo þe hit hem self nesten. *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* 59 Ha nuste hwuch wei ha come þeneward. *a* 1300 *K. Horn* 276 Þe stuard..nuste what to do. *c* 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 246 He nist it whom to wite. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XIII. 25 There I say a maistre; what man he was I neste. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 313 Thei nysten what fortune abide. 1447 BOKENHAM *Seyntys* (Roxb.) 52 She astoyned..Was that she nyst what she myght seye.

Nist(e, dial. forms of NICE *a.*

‖ Nisus (nəi·sŏs). [L., noun of action f. *nītī* to strive, endeavour.] Effort, endeavour, impulse.

1699 *Phil. Trans.* XXI. 177 This condition of motion being chang'd, there is a lesser Nisus. 1741 MONRO *Anat. Nerves* (ed. 3) 34 This *Nisus* of the Mind to free the Body. 1752 HUME *Ess. & Treat.* (1809) II. 476 No animal can put external bodies in motion without the sentiment of a nisus or endeavour. 1851 SIR F. PALGRAVE *Norm. & Eng.* I. 39 Species and their varieties seem to have been produced by an inward nisus. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 248 When the nisus of web-spinning dominates the spider, when the nisus of nest-building dominates the bird.

Nit, *sb.* Forms: *α.* 1 **hnitu**, 4 **nite**, 5 **nyte**; 4–5 **nete**, 7 **neet**. *β.* 4–6 **nytte**, 5–6 **nitte**, 6 **nyt**, 7–8 **nitt**, 8 **knit**, 6– **nit**. [OE. *hnitu* fem. = MDu. *nete, nette* (Du. *neet*), MLG. *nete, neyt, nette, nit*, OHG. *niz* (MHG. *niz, nitze*, G. *niss, nisse*): cf. ON. *gnit* (Norw. *gnit, knit*, Sw. *gnet*, Da. *gnid*, Icel. *nit*). Outside of Teutonic related forms appear in Russ. and Pol. *gnida*, Czech *knida*, and Gr. *κονιδ-, κονίς*.]

1. The egg of a louse or other insect parasitic on man or animals; the insect itself in a young state.

α. c 825 *Epinal Gloss.* 590 *Lendina*, hnitu. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 364 Hnite & wyrmas on wez to donne ðe on cildum beoð. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 651 And þou forth bringes of þi-self here Nites, lyse, and other vermyn sere. *c* 1340 *Nominale* (Skeat) 226 Woman in the seyme syketh the nete. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. xxii. (Tollem. MS.), It..amendeþ and doþ awey nites and oþer unclennesse of þe heed. *c* 1425 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 642 *Hec lens*, nyte. [So *c* 1475 *ibid.* 767.] 1481 CAXTON *Reynard* (Arb.) 79 She can wel pyke out lyce and netis [Du. *neten*] out of mens hedis. 1638 SHIRLEY *Mart. Soldier* IV. in Bullen *O. Pl.* I. 236 There sits my wife kombing her haire,.. all the Neets in't are Spiders.

β. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 255/1 A Nitte; *tinea capitis est*. 1493 *Festial* (W. de W. 1515) 174 Of trees cometh leves, floures, and fruyte, and of the lyce, nyttes, and fleen. 1547 BOORDE *Brev. Health* cclxxiii. 91 There be .iiii. kyndes, whiche be to say, head lyce, body lyce, crabbe lyce, and nits. 1573 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 58 Let season be drie when ye take them to house, for danger of nittes, or for feare of a louse. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 191 Goats are not troubled with Lice or Nits, but only with Tickes. 1664 PEPYS *Diary* 18 July, Thence to Westminster to my barber's, to have my Periwigg he lately made me cleansed of its nits. 1753 HANWAY *Trav.* (1762) I. v. lxiii. 290 Inferior silk has many nits and coarse stuff sticking to the threads. 1816 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* I. (1818) 84 Their nits or eggs are not hatched till the eighth day after they are laid. 1844 STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 152 The egg or nit is pear-shaped, and may be seen attached to the hairs. 1884 *Med. Ann.* 44/2 Dilute Acetic acid destroys the pediculi and dissolves the nits.

Comb. 1672 MARVELL *Reh. Transp.* I. 160 The scold.. stretched up her hands with her two thumb-nails in the Nit-cracking posture.

fig. 1827 HOOD *Craniology* 34 The science thus—to speak in fit Terms—having struggled from its nit.

† b. A gnat, or small fly. *Obs. rare.*

1547 BOORDE *Brev. Health* § 356 A nytte or a flye comming vnto a mannes mouth, when he doth take in his breth. 1684 OTWAY *Atheist* I. i, The Nits dance about on't like Atoms in the Sun-shine.

† 2. Applied to persons in contempt or jest. *Obs.*

1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* IV. i. 150 And his Page, ..Ah heauens, it is [a] most patheticall nit. 1596 — *Tam. Shr.* IV. iii. 110 Thou Flea, thou Nit, thou winter cricket thou. *c* 1600 DAY *Begg. Bednall Gr.* IV. iii, Strowd, y'are a Nit, a Slave and a Pessant. 1622 MASSINGER & DEKKER *Virg. Mart.* II. iii, And so, sweet nit, we crawl from thee. 1632 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* I. ii. III. xiv. (ed. 4) 121 They are..nitts and flies compared to his inexorable and supercilious, eminent and arrogant worship.

3. In phr. *as dead as a nit*.

1789 WOLCOT (P. Pindar) *Subj. for Painters* Wks. 1812 II. 191 Dead in a minute as a Nit. 1838 THACKERAY *Fash. F.* Wks. 1900 XIII. 254 Down he fell as dead as a nit. 1874 T. HARDY *Far fr. Mad. Crowd* xxi, [The sheep] will all die as dead as nits.

† Nit, *a. Obs. rare* −0. (See quot.)

a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Nit*, wine that is brisk, and pour'd quick into a Glass.

† Nit, *v. Obs. rare.* [f. NIT *sb.*]

1. *intr.* To pore carefully *over* a book.

1596 NASHE *Saffron Walden* 15, I haue here tooke the paines to nit and lonze ouer the Doctours booke. 1602 *2nd Pt. Return fr. Parnass.* I. ii. 149 Would it not grieue any good spirit to sit a whole moneth nitting over a lousie beggarly Pamphlet?

2. To deposit nits. *rare* −1.

1683 TRYON *Way to Health* 596 Bugs..harbour in Bedsteads, Holes and Hangings, Nitting and breeding as Lice do in Clothes.

Nit, obs. pa. pple. of KNIT, *v.*, pa. t. of NITE *v. Obs.*

Nitch (nitʃ), *sb. rare.* Also 8 **nich(e.** [Of obscure origin: cf. NICK *sb.* and NOTCH *sb.*] A slight break, notch, or incision.

1726 in Lowson *Y. Guidfollow* (1890) App. 282 The Deponent afterward having seen the sword..perceived a nitch in it. 1726 MONRO *Anat.* 80 Frequently a Hole is found on one Side, and a Niche [1741 Nich] on the other. 1741 *Ibid.* (ed. 3) 28 *Niches* [1782 *Nitches*] or *Notches*, small Breaches in the Bone. [1839 HOLLOWAY *Dict. Prov.* s.v. *Nichilled*, One piece..has an incision made in it, but none cut out; this is called Nitch.]

Nitch, var. of KNITCH, bundle; NICHE *sb.*

Nitch (nitʃ), *v. rare.* [Prob. for *knitch* (recorded in this sense in Scottish dial. use): see KNITCH *sb.*] *trans.* To unite or connect together; to fix together, truss.

1824 LANDOR *Imag. Conv., Abbé Delille & Landor* I. 274 One of the beauties at which Boileau aimed, was the nitching of several names together in a verse, without any other word. 1880 CARNEGIE *Pract. Trap.* 10 Bend one hind leg, and make a slit behind the bone, place through this the other leg, nitch this one at the back of the knee, and the rabbit is ham-strung.

† Nitch, obs. variant of NICHE *v.* 4.

1834 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Helen* III. iii. 35 Nicely adapted to her place in society, to nitch and notch in, and to be of no sort of value out of it.

Nitched, obs. variant of NICHED *ppl. a.*

† Nite, *sb. Obs. rare* −1. [f. the vb.] Denial.

c 1375 *Cursor M.* 23532 (Fairf.), If þou wille þou salle be tite, oe sal þer be þer-to na nite [*altered from* lite].

† Nite, *v. Obs. north.* and *Sc.* Forms: 4 **nite**, 5 **nyt**, 4–6 **nyte**, 6 **nyit**. *Pa. t.* 4 **nit, nitt(e**, 5 **nyt**. *Pa. pple.* 4–5 **nite**, 5 **nytit**. [a. ON. *nīta*, related to *neita*: see NAIT *v.*[2]]

1. *trans.* To deny (a statement, etc.).

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 883 Al þat i sai mai sco noght nite. *c* 1325 *Metr. Hom.* 50 Sain Jon him prophet nitte, And said, prophet oan am I. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* viii. (*Philip*) 66 [Ebionites] þat throw wikit heresy nyttis, þat Criste had suthfaste flesche as man. *a* 1400 *Burgh Laws* § xxxviii. (Sc. Rec. Soc.) I. 29 Gif he nytis it and the playntyfe have na wytnes, than the tothir sall clenge hym. *c* 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 899 His name and his nobillay wes noght for to nyte. *absol. c* 1450 HOLLAND *Howlat* 70 Is nane bot dame Natur, I bid nocht to nyte, Till accuss of this caise. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* I. 208 Now at this tyme, I bid nocht for to nyit, On the he lais the haill caus and the wyit.

2. To deny, abjure (a person). Also *absol.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 15997 Quen he had nite his lauerd thris, he did him-seluen knau. *Ibid.* 19093 His sun..Yee suak and nitt he-for pilate. *Ibid.* 20871 Nitand he [Peter] fell, wepand be ras. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xii. (*Mathias*) 401 Þane, for he Criste nyt wald nocht, In-to þare consale þai hyme brocht.

b. To repudiate (an obligation, etc.).

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxvi. (*Nicholas*) 807 Þane þe cristine mane vnwise..Nyt his det al wtrely.

3. To refuse (a request) to one.

c 1325 *Metr. Hom.* 137 Vef he the silc askinges nite. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxvii. (*Machor*) 1027 Fra quham he askit forgewine, & he had nytit hym his askine. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 1460 He had nite him a nerand noȝt bot o new time. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* IX. v. 164 Thy commancement ..Is sa douchty I may the nyte na thing.

b. To refuse *to* do a thing.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxii. (*Lawrence*) 319 Þane laurens cane nyt opinly Til fals godis to sacryfy.

† Niten, for *ne witen* know not: cf. NOT *v.*

c 888 K. ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xiv. § 3 Þæt is þara monna unþeaw þæt hi niton hwæt hie sen. *c* 975 *Rushw. Gosp.* Matt. xxi. 27 Þa onswarade to þæm hælende & cwædun, niton we. *a* 1200 *Moral Ode* 240 (Trin. Coll. MS.), Nabbeð hie none lisse; Niten hweðer hem doð wers.

† Ni·tency[1]. *Obs. rare.* [ad. L. type **nitentia*, f. ppl. stem of *nītī*: cf. NISUS.] Impulse.

1661 BOYLE *Spring of Air* (1682) 93 Those Zones will have a strong Nitency to flie wider open. 1693 J. BEAUMONT *On Burnet's The. Earth* II. 105 The native Nitency of the Waters..would much more strongly repel any Waters there rais'd above their level. 1768–74 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) I. 545 They talk of the tendencies and nitencies..of bodies.

Ni·tency[2]. *rare* −0. [ad. L. type **nitentia*, f. *nitent-*: see next.] 'Lustre; clear brightness.'

1755 JOHNSON [hence in later Dicts.].

† Ni·tent, *a. Obs. rare.* [f. L. *nitent-em*, pres. pple. of *nitēre* to shine.] Shining, lustrous.

1616 J. LANE *Contn. Sqr.'s T.* XII. 309 A blacke horse, nitent as the iett. 1657 TOMLINSON *Renou's Disp.* 234 Whose branches are of a nitent black colour.

Hence **† Ni·tently** *adv.*, brightly. *Obs.* −1

1657 TOMLINSON *Renou's Disp.* 409 In form of a powder very nitently red.

† Ni·ter. *Obs.* −1 [f. NITE *v.* + -ER[1].] A denier.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 20870 Petre was..luuer o lauerd, alsua niter. Nitand he fell, wepand he ras.

Niter, obs. form of NITRE.

† Ni·terated, Ni·terous, obs. varr. of NITRATED, NITROUS.

1605 TIMME *Quersit.* I. v. 19 Such salts chymists call saltniter or niterous salts. 1678 SALMON *Pharm. Lond.* VI. viii. 834 The burning a matter to Ashes..by the help of Niter, as in the making of the Niterated Salt of Tartar.

Ni·t-grass. *Bot.* [f. NIT *sb.*] A species of grass, so called from its small nit-like flowers.

1847 W. E. STEELE *Field Bot.* 184 *Gastridium*. Nit-grass. 1858 BENTHAM *Hdbk. Flora* 585 Awned Nitgrass... Britain, only in southern England.

Nith, obs. form of NIGHT.

† Nith(e, *sb. Obs.* Forms: 1–3 **nið, niþ**, 3 **nyð, nih**, 4 **nith(3)**, **nyth, niht, nigh**; 3–4 **niþe, nithe**, 3–5 **nyþe**, 4–5 **nythe**. [OE. *nið, niþ* masc. = OFris. *nīth, nyd*, OS. *nīd*, MDu. *nijd-, nijt* (Du. *nijd*), MLG. *nīd, nīt* (hence MSw. *nīidh, niith*, Da. *nid*), OHG. *nīth, nīd, nīt* (MHG. *nīd-, nīt*, G. *neid*), ON. *nīð* neut. ('satire, libel'), Goth. *neiþ* neut. The stem may be the same as that of L. *nītī* to strive.] Envy, malice, hatred.

c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* vii. 10 Sie fornumen niðes ðeara synfulra. *a* 900 CYNEWULF *Christ* 1669 Dær is..sib butan niðe halzum on ȝemonge. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 171 Þa woldan hie on ecnesse hæle & trume wið deofla niþum. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1086 Ac he [wæs] swa stið, þæt he ne rohte heora eallra nið. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 191 Swo baneð þe deuel nið and onde to men. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 417 Hit is for þine fule niþe, þat þu ne miȝt mid us bo bliþe. *c* 1275 LAY. 3934 Beine in niþe and honde wonede in þisse londe. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 1069 Vntil his broþer nith he bare. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 237 Leulyn..werred also tite on him with nyth & onde. *a* 1425 *Cursor M.* 23279 (Trin.), Þo þat euer had wraþþe & nyþe, And wiþ bacbytyng wolde kiþe.

Comb. Beowulf 194 Nydwracu niþgrim. *Ibid.* 683 Þeah ðe he rof sie niþȝeweorca. *c* 1200 ORMIN 13677 Þurrh whatt he fell off heffne dun Inntill niþ hellepine. *c* 1205 LAY. 7116 Seoððen come Normans mid heore nið crafte.

† Nithe, *v. Obs. rare.* [f. prec. Cf. MDu. *nīden, nyden*, MLG. *nīden, nīten* (hence MSw. *nidha*), OHG. *nīdôn, nīden* (G. *neiden*), ON. *nīða* (to satirize).] **a.** *trans.* To envy, hate (a person). **b.** *intr.* To feel envy.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1521 Niðede ðat folk him fel wel, And deden him flitten bise ostel. *a* 1300 *E. E. Psalter* XXXVI. 8 Blinne fra wreth, and lete breth swiþe; þat þou be liþered, nil þou niþe.

Nipe, obs. form of NINTH.

Nither (ni·ðəɹ), *v. Obs.* exc. *north. dial.* and *Sc.* Forms: *α.* 1 **niðerian, nyðerian, (h)niðrian**, 2 **nytheren** (2–3 **niþeren**, 3 **niþþrenn**), 7– *Sc.* and *north.* **nither**; 6 *Sc.* **nydder**, 8 **nidder**. *β.* 3 **neoðerien**, 5, 7 *Sc.* and *north.* **nether**, 7 *Sc.* **nedder**. [OE. *niðerian*, etc. (also *geniðerian*) = OFris. *(for)nedria*, MDu. *ned(e)ren, nideren*, MLG. *ned(d)eren*, OHG. *nideren, (gi)nidiran*, etc. (MHG. *nideren, -ern*, G. *niederen, -ern*), ON. *niðra* (Norw. *nedra*, Sw. *-nedra*, Da. *-nedre*), f. *niðer, niþer*, NETHER *adv.*[2]] *trans.* To bring or

thrust down, to bring low, abase, humble, oppress, straiten, etc. (Also, in OE., to condemn.)

a. c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* xciii. 21 [Hie] ȝeheftað in sawle ðes rehtwisan, & blod unsceðende niðeriað. *c* 900 *Judith* 113 Gæst ellor hwearf under neowelne næs & ðær ȝenyðerad wæs. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Luke xiv. 11 Eghuelc seðe hine ahebbað ȝehniðrad bið [*c* 1000 bið ȝenyþerud, *c* 1160 byð ȝenyþered]. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1100 Godes cyrcean he nyðerade. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 117 Swa he bið eft inipered on þan neoþemest pinan. *c* 1200 Ormin 8032 Þe laþe gast A33 nipþreþþ Godess genge. *c* 1205 Lay. 25235 Iniðered wurðe þe ilke mon þe þer to nule helpen. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* viii. viii. 41 On 3onder syde ar the Rutulianis rude, Nyddris our boundis. 1605 *Aberd. Reg.* (1848) II. 276 Thay find not onlie the Kingis gett to be nithered but also the aforesaid choip to he ane gryt.. preiudice to the gett. 17.. Ramsay *Genty Tibby* iii, We're obliged to nither Our spacious sauls' immense desires. 1768 Ross *Helenore* i. 46 Sair are we nidder'd, that is what ye ken. 1813 Picken in *Harp of Renfrewsh.* (1819) Pref. 71 Winter nithers a' below. 1876 *W. Yorks. Gloss.* s.v., I am nithered with cold.

β. c 1205 Lay. 5152 Heo commen in to þen lond and neoðerien þa leoden. *c* 1450 Holland *Howlat* 57 My neb is netherit as a nok, I am bot ane Owle. *Ibid.* 105, I am netherit ane Owll thus he Natur. 1603 *Prophecies* (Bann. Cl.) 28 Noroway hath neddered them and to neede brought. 1691 Ray *N. C. Words* 52 *Netherd*, starved with Cold.

Hence **Ni·thering** *vbl. sb.*

c 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* iv. xiii. [xvii] (1890) 302 He hi fram yrmþum ecre nyþerunge..generede. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Luke x. 19 Ic salde iuh mæht henisæs *vel* hniðrunges [*Rushw.* niðrunge] on-ufa nedrum. *a* 1100 in Napier *O. E. Glosses* i. 1864 *Detrimenta*, niþerunga. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* xix. 155 That on na wyss suld I Giff consaill till hys nethring. 1599 *Aberd. Reg.* (1848) II. 187 They had committit purpresture in niddering of the kingis commoun gett, and sawing of cornis theirvpon.

Nither, obs. form of Neither.

Niþer(e, niðer(e : see Nether *a.* and *adv.*

Nithertale, variant of Nightertale *Obs.*

† **Ni·thful**, *a. Obs.* Forms: 1–3 nið-, niþ-, 3 nyþ-, niht-, 4 nithful. [f. Nith(e *sb.* + -ful. Cf. G. *neidvoll.*] Envious, malicious.

c 1000 Ælfric *Hom.* I. 606 Æfre bið se niðfulla wunizende on ȝedrefednysse. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 57 Prud ne wreiere ne beo þu noht, Ne niðful in þi þoht. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 404 Þo þeo niðfule Giws offreden ure Louerde þis sure present o rode. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1917 Ðo wex her hertes niðful & bold. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 23750 Þe flexs es ai to filthes fus, Þe werld nithful and couatus. *Ibid.* 27658 Nithful man he luues lest þe quilk he wat es dughtiest.

Nithing (nəi·ðiŋ). Now only *arch.* or *Hist.* [a. ON. *níðing-r* (MSw. *nidhingr*, Norw., Sw., and Da. *niding*), f. *níð* Nith(e *sb.* Cf. MHG. *nîdinc*, G. *neiding.*]

1. A vile coward; an abject or despicable wretch; a villain of the lowest type.

See also Niddering, Nidderling, and Niding. The OE. negative form *unnīðing*, of which two examples are given below, corresponds to an ODa. *ūnþingr*, which occurs on a runic stone (of the early part of the 11th cent.) found in 1905 at Aarhus in Denmark. An *Edgarus dictus Unniþing* is also named in Dugdale's *Monast. Angl.* V. 400.

? *a* 1000 in Liebermann *Gesetze Ang.* 392 Walreaf is niðinges dæde. *c* 1050 *O. E. Chron.* (MS. C.) an. 1049 Se cing þa & eall here cwædon Swezen for niðing. *c* 1125 Will. Malmesb. *Gesta Regum* (Rolls) II. 362 Jubet, ut compatriotas advocent ad obsidionem venire, nisi si qui velint sub nomine Niðing, quod nequam sonat, remanere. Angli, qui nihil miserius putarent quam hujusce vocabuli dedecore aduri, catervatim ad regem confluunt. [Cf. *O. E. Chron.* an. 1087 Pæt ælc man þe wære unniðing sceolde cuman to him.] *c* 1205 Lay. 30389 Wurðe for niðing þe mon þe nule hine sturien. *a* 1300 *K. Horn* 196 þanne spak þe gode kyng. I-wis he nas no Niþing. [1674 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Nithing*, a Coward, Sluggard, or Out-law.] 1861 Pearson *Early Mid. Ages Eng.* 164 The rebel was now proclaimed a 'nithing'. *Ibid.* 294 All who failed to appear were branded as 'nithings' or craven, and disgraced for life. 1868 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* II. vii. (1877) 104 The king and the army publicly declared the murderer to be Nithing. 1876 *Ibid.* V. xxiii. 77 The shameful name of nithing was to be the doom of every man ..who failed to obey this summons of his lord.

† **2.** A mean or miserly person: a niggard. Also in comb. *meat-nithing* (= ON. *matníðingr*), one who gives food grudgingly. *Obs.*

a 1150 in *Archiv Stud. neu. Spr.* CXVII. 22 and 25 *Munificus (i. largus)..non parcus*, unniding.

a 1200 *Moral Ode* 234 (Trin. Coll. MS.), An helle hunger and þurst..þos pine þolieð þo þe ware meteniðinges here. *c* 1250 *Kent. Serm.* in *O.E. Misc.* 30 Ure lord..habbeþ.. maked of þo euele manne good man,..of þe lechur chaste, of þe niþinge large. 13.. *K. Alis.* 2054 The large geveth; the nythyng lourith. 1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 6723 Þat þey ne be no nythyng Of here mete, ne of here þyng. 1340 *Ayenb.* 109 Þe milde .. lovieþ an hondred ziþe more poverte þanne þe niþing deþ his richesse. 1426 Audelay *Poems* 16 He ys a nythying, a noȝt, a negard.

attrib. c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3432 He bad him chesen steresmen ..ðe soð-fastnesse lef hen, And ðe niðing giscinge flen.

† **b.** Used predicatively: Niggardly, sparing.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 28741 For quat es þat spense mai be nithing þar þe lauerd es fre [*Cott. Galba* what nede es þat þe spenser be nithing uf þat þe lord es fre.] 1450 Myrc 1285 Hast thou be hard and nythynge, To wythholden any thynge? 1674 Ray *N. C. Words* 34 *Nithing*, much valuing, sparing of, as Nithing of his pains: *i. e.* Sparing of his pains.

3. *Nithing-post*, or *stake*, a post or stake set up as a form of insult to a person.

An inexact rendering of ON. *níðstöng.*

1847 Blackwell in Percy *Mallet's North. Antiq.* 155 Setting up what was called a Nithing-post or Nithing-stake. 1863 Jane Sewell *Christian Names* II. 277 In the North such a pole was called a nithing post. 1890 W. Morris in *Eng. Illustr. Mag.* Sept. 894 His head on our hall-gable should be to us a nithing-stake, and a tree of reproach.

† **Ni·thinghead.** *Obs. rare* −1. [f. Nithing *sb.*] Niggardliness, miserliness.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 27842 O couaitise..cums..gredines and nithinghede, to be o goddes gyft to gnede.

Nithsdale (ni·þsdēil). Now only *Hist.* Also 8 Nithis-. [f. the name of the Countess of *Nithsdale*, who enabled her husband to escape from the Tower in 1716 by disguising him in a riding-hood.] A large riding-hood worn in the 18th c.

1719 D'Urfey *Pills* II. 321 'Tis call'd a *Nithisdale*, since Fame Adorn'd a Countess with that Name. Whose Wit surmounting firmly stood All creatures with a Riding-hood. 1846 Fairholt *Costume* I. 369 *note*, Such riding-hoods were thence called *Nithsdales*, and continued to be worn afterwards, but principally by elderly women.

Nitid (ni·tid), *a.* [ad. L. *nitid-us*, f. *nitēre* to shine.] Bright, shining, polished, glossy, in *lit.* or *fig.* senses.

1656 in Blount *Glossogr.* 1661 H. D. *Disc. Liturg.* 5 Such an affectation of nitid words and curious phrases. 1671 Flamsteed in Rigaud *Corr. Sci. Men* (1841) II. 114 A perfect appearance of the sun..with a most nitid periphery. 1728 Thomson *Spring* 30 The nitid Hues Which speck them o'er. 1760 Lee *Introd. Bot.* III. v. (1765) 183 *Nitid*, bright; when the smoothness of the Leaves causes them to shine. 1794 Mrs. Piozzi *Synon.* II. 320 Una resembles a pearl, loveliest in a strong and open daylight, where all her nitid beauties show most clearly. 1823 Syd. Smith *Wks.* (1850) 376 Forth from his hill-case this votary of Plutus took his nitid Newlands. 1851 *Beck's Florist* 36 The flowers..spring from a singularly nitid imbricated spike of large bracts.

Hence **Niti·dity**, 'cleanness, brightness, trimness' (Blount 1656); **Ni·tidous** *a.*, *Bot.* 'having a smooth and polished surface' (Ogilvie 1882).

† **Ni·tigram**, used for Epigram, after Nit *sb.*

1614 Rowlands *Fooles Bolt* 20 Yet theyle be busie with their make shift ryme,..And lay about with lowsie Nitigrams.

† **Ni·tor.** *Obs.* Also nitour. [ad. L. *nitor.*] Brightness, brilliance. Also *transf.*

1607 Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* 527 The Amber..getteth that nitour and shining beauty, which we finde to be in it. 1637 Pocklington *Altare Christ.* 42 Some excellent new Fucus to restore my complexion to a cleerer nitour. 1677 Gale *Crt. Gentiles* iv. 129 Virtue gives a Nitor, Lustre, Splendor, Beautie and Glorie to the Soul.

Nitracrol. *Chem.* [f. Nitre *sb.* + Acrol-ein.] (See quot.)

1848 Tilley in *Philos. Mag.* XXXIII. 82 Nitracrol. This substance was discovered by Redtenbacher among the products of the action of nitric acid on choloidinic acid... When œnanthol is distilled with nitric acid, nitracrol is found ..mixed with fatty acids and dissolved in nitric acid.

Nitragin (nəi·trădʒin). [irreg. f. Nitrate or Nitrogen.] A fertilizer consisting of a culture of bacteria which abstract nitrogen from the air and transfer it to the tissues of leguminous plants.

1896 Aikman in *Contemp. Rev.* Aug. 210 Nitragin: an important advance in the science of agriculture. 1896 *Nature* 6 Aug. 326/1 To deliver, as an article of commerce, cultivations of..bacteria under the name of Nitragin wherewith to inoculate..various leguminous crops.

† **Ni·tral**, *a. Obs. rare* −1. [f. Nitre *sb.* + -al.] Nitrous.

1742 *Lond. & Country Brew.* III. (1743) 166 Then the Pores of the Earth are unlocked, and the Aromatic Nitral Vapours set free.

Nitra·midin. *Chem.* [Amidin.] (See quot.)

1866 Watts *Dict. Chem.* IV. 58 *Nitramidin*, an explosive substance produced by the action of strong nitric acid upon starch, also called Xyloïdin.

Nitran. *Chem.* [-an 2.] (See quot.)

1866 Watts *Dict. Chem.* IV. 58 *Nitran*, Graham's name for the radicle NO_3 which must be supposed to exist in the nitrates.

Nitraniline (nəitræ·nilәin). *Chem.* [f. Nitre *sb.* + Aniline.] Nitro-aniline (see quots.).

1846 Muspratt & Hofman in *Chem. Soc. Mem.* III. 111 On Nitraniline, a new Product of Decomposition of Dinitrobenzol. 1866 Watts *Dict. Chem.* IV. 445 Mononitrophenylamine or Nitraniline,..of this base there are two isomeric modifications, the one called alpha-nitraniline,.. obtained by reducing dinitrobenzene with sulphydic acid; the other called beta-nitraniline.

Nitranisic (nəitrăni·zik), *a. Chem.* [f. Nitre *sb.* + Anisic *a.*] *Nitranisic acid*, a prodnct of anisic acid (see quots.). So **Nitra·niside, Nitrani·sidine, Nitra·nisol(e.** (Now *nitro-.*)

1852 *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 4) 597 **Nitranisic acid*, a yellowish-white, crystalline, sparingly-soluble powder. *Ibid.*, **Nitraniside*, a resinous body produced by fuming nitric acid. 1854 *Ibid.* (ed. 5) 609 Treated with sulphuretted hydrogen these substances are converted into three organic bases, anisidine..,*nitranisidine..,and binitranisidine. 1857 Miller *Elem. Chem., Org.* 492 *Nitranisole..yields a base termed anisidine.

Nitrate (nəi·trēt), *sb. Chem.* Also **nitrat.** [f. Nitre *sb.* + -ate 1 1 c, or ad. F. *nitrate* (1787).]

1. A salt produced by the combination of nitric acid with a base, or a compound formed by the interaction of nitric acid and an alcohol. **a.** With term specifying the base, as *nitrate of mercury, potash, silver*, etc.

1794 *Phil. Trans.* LXXXIV. 396 Nitrate of mercury (solution of mercury in nitrous acid) produced a whitish turbid liquid. 1799 *Med. Jrnl.* I. 223 In this [case] the nitrat of silver has proved of..singular utility. 1822 Imison *Sci. & Art* II. 89 Nitrate of lime is a very soluble salt. 1849 Balfour *Man. Bot.* § 246 Nitrates of potash and soda have been recommended..on account of the nitrogen which they contain, in the form of nitric acid. 1876 Harley *Mat. Med.* (ed. 6) 253 Nitrate of Bismuth appears to be insoluble in the animal juices.

b. In generalized use.

1800 tr. *Lagrange's Chem.* I. 227 Nitrates. The generic characters of nitrates are [etc.]. 1807 T. Thomson *Chem.* (ed. 3) II. 215 Nitric acid combines with alkalies, earths, and the oxides of metals, and forms compounds which are called nitrates. 1857 Miller *Elem. Chem., Org.* 771 In..the carbonates, and the nitrates, but a single class has been recognized for each acid. 1872 Fox *Ozone* 29 Schonbein states that Nitrites can be changed into Nitrates by Ozone only.

2. *ellipt.* Potassium nitrate or sodinm nitrate, used as a fertilizer.

1846 Baxter *Libr. Pract. Agric.* (ed. 4) I. 35 The produce of the land treated with nitrate..did not fetch so high a price. 1849 Balfour *Man. Bot.* § 246 The quantity of gluten is said to be increased by the use of nitrates. 1856 *Farmer's Mag.* Jan. 7 Guano, nitrates, and other manuring deposits.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.* as *nitrate deposit, solution*, etc.; **nitrate bath**, *Photogr.* (see quot. 1864).

1796 *Phil. Trans.* LXXXVI. 426 Concentrating by evaporation the nitrate solution. 1858 T. Sutton *Dict. Phot.* 304 Many of the failures in photographic operations ..may be traced to the nitrate bath being out of order. 1864 *Q. Rev.* Oct. 490 The solution of nitrate of silver into which he plunges his plate of iodised collodion, and which is known by the concise name of 'the Nitrate bath'. 1881 *Daily News* 22 Jan. 2/6 The nitrate deposits, which are practically inexhaustible. 1883 *Pall Mall G.* 9 July 5/2 Before long..the nitrate trade will have expanded.

Nitrate (nəi·trēt), *v. Chem.* [See Nitre *sb.* and -ate 3.] *trans.* To treat, combine, or impregnate with nitric acid.

1872 Watts *Dict. Chem.* Suppl. 661 The woody fibre thus purified is nitrated by maceration for some hours in a mixture of nitric and sulphuric acid. 1881 *Athenæum* 12 Feb. 238/1 On the Position taken by the Nitro Group on nitrating the Dibromotoluenes. 1892 Morley & Muir *Watts' Dict. Chem.* III. 523/1 Formed by nitrating acridine.

Nitrated (nəi·trēted), *ppl. a.* [Cf. prec.]

1. Chemically treated with nitric acid (†or nitre).

1694 Salmon *Bates' Dispens.* (1713) 473/2 Nitre with Tin, or, Jupiter nitrated. 1783 Priestley in *Phil. Trans.* LXXIII. 410 What I have called a nitrated calx of lead. 1805 Saunders *Min. Waters* 443 Nitrated silver immediately renders it turbid. 1855 *Merc. Mar. Mag.* (1858) V. 334 A piece of burning nitrated paper is dropped. 1894 *Daily News* 30 Jan. 2/5 A combination of nitro-glycerine and nitrated cellulose.

2. Impregnated with nitre.

1799 Kirwan *Geol. Ess.* 151 Common salt was also said to accompany the native nitre.., yet Klaproth in analysing this nitrated earth could find none.

3. Manured with nitrate of soda or potash.

1841 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* II. i. 139 The nitrated wheat was now observed to be mildewed. *Ibid.* 140 The nitrated part of the field continued tu advance in its deep luxuriant colour.

Nitratine (nəi·trătin). *Min.* [f. Nitrate *sb.* + -ine 5.] Native sodium nitrate.

1849 Nicol *Min.* 335, 150,000 quintals of the refined nitratine were shipped. 1855 *Orr's Circ. Sci., Geol.*, etc. 539, Nitratine,..found in crystals in beds several feet thick, with clay and sand, in the district of Tarapaca in Peru. 1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 396 Nitratine,..used in the arts as a substitute for nitre; but diliquesces in moist air.

Nitration (nəitrē·ʃən). [f. Nitrate *v.*] The process of forming a nitrate or nitro-compound.

1887 *Sci. Amer.* 29 Jan. 69/2 Treating..pure cellulose to a bath of mixed nitric and sulphuric acids in which it undergoes the chemical change known as 'nitration'. 1890 *Nature* 4 Sept. 442/2 The lower products of nitration of cellulose.

Nitre (nəi·tәr), *sb.* Forms: 5 **nytre**(e; 6–7, 9 **niter**, (7 **nither, nitour**); 5– **nitre.** [a. F. *nitre* (13th c.), ad. L. *nitrum*, ad. Gr. *νίτρον* (also *λίτρον*), possibly of Oriental origin: cf. Heb. נתר *nether*, which in Jer. ii. 22 is rendered by *νίτρον* in the Sept. and *nitrum* in the Vulgate. See also Natron.]

1. † **a.** Native sodium carbonate; natron. *Obs.* (cf. 2 a). **b.** Potassium nitrate; saltpetre.

c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 60 þese medicyns ben compound: vreyne of a 3onge man wiþ nitre [*v.r.* nytre]. 1491 Caxton *Vitas Patr.* (W. de W. 1495) I. i. 3b/2 The body is puryfyed and washyd by the Nytree, whyche is a spece of Salte puryfycatyff. 1560 Bible (Genev.) *Jer.* ii. 22 Though thou wash thee with nitre [*Cov., etc.* nitrus] and take thee muche sope, yet thine iniquitie is marked before me. 1563 Hyll *Art Gard.* (1593) 165 The decoction of the meat of the Gourde, with a litle honnie and Niter, and that drunke, doth loose gently the belly. 1617 Moryson *Itin.* III. 91 Bohemia abounds with..Niter, which it is death to carry out. 1626 Bacon *Sylva* § 83 Snow and Ice especially heing holpen and their cold activated by nitre. 1684 *Phil. Trans.* XIV. 615 When Nitre..is prescribed, that Nitre which is an ingredient of Gun-powder is not to be understood. 1704 F. Fuller *Med. Gymn.* (1711) 24 We know nothing in Nature that can afford Particles of..Elasticity as Nitre does. 1753 *Scots Mag.* Mar. 147/1 Small doses of nitre, and the mildest balsamics..relieved them. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) II. 269 After these precautions, they salt the body with nitre. 1831 Brewster *Optics* xxiii. 202 Nitre, or saltpetre, is an artificial substance which crystallises in six-sided prisms. 1870 Yeats *Nat. Hist. Comm.* 112 Brazil produces iron and nitre abundantly.

fig. 1633 B. Jonson *Tale Tub* I. iii, She's..all dried earth, ..not a drop of salt, Or petre in her! All her nitre is gone.

†c. A supposed nitrous element in the air or in plants. *Obs.*

1661 South *Serm.* Wks. 1823 II. 328 In the rain, it is not the bare water that fructifies, but a secret spirit or nitre descending with it. 1676 Grew *Anat. Pl., Salts Pl.* (1684) 262 An Essential Salt or Nitre of Plants. 1704 J. Harris *Lex. Techn.* I. s.v., Some are mighty fond of the Notion of a Volatile Nitre, which abounds in the Air. 1725 N. Robinson *Th. Physick* 60 Frost or Ice arises from the Nitre of the Air crystallizing the spheres of Water. 1796 H. Hunter tr. *St. Pierre's Stud. Nat.* (1799) I. 482 The nitre,.. which is diffused through the Atmosphere, is the cause of it.

2. Used allusively: a. In sense 1 a, in echoes of Jer. ii. 22, where it is used to render Heb. *nether*.

1587 in *Marprelate Controv.* (Arb.) 61 The nitre that washeth purely, the word of the Lord, must doe it. 1612 T. Taylor *Titus* i. 15 Let them take much snow and nitre, yet of themselues can they neuer be cleane. 1647 Ward *Simp. Cobler* 34 When God shall purge this Land with Soap and Nitre, Woe be to the Crowne, woe be to the Mitre.

b. In sense 1 b, with ref. to the use of saltpetre as an ingredient in gunpowder.

1649 Jer. Taylor *Gt. Exemp.* Disc. iv. § 21. 130 Great flames kindled from a little spark, fallen into a heap of prepared nitre. 1667 Milton *P. L.* II. 937 The strong rebuff of som tumultuous cloud Instinct with Fire and Nitre. *a* 1700 Dryden *Pythag. Philos.* 96 If..clouds, with nitre pregnant, burst above. 1762 Falconer *Shipwr.* II. 49 The guns were primed;..The nitre fired. 1796 Burke *Let. to Noble Lord* Wks. VIII. 60 To crystallize into true democratick explosive insurrectionary nitre.

†3. = Nitrate 1. *Obs. rare.*

1788 *Phil. Trans.* LXXVIII. 381 Nitrous acid, or cupreous nitre, mixed with iron filings. 1791 *Ibid.* LXXXI. 328 On adding to it 1/400 of a grain of nitre of mercury, the copper was rendered paler coloured.

4. *Cubic nitre*, sodium nitrate.

1782 *Phil. Trans.* LXXII. 336 Cubic nitre. 1801 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) Suppl. I. 367/1 Nitrat of soda. This salt was called formerly cubic nitre. 1875 *Ure's Dict. Arts* III. 417 Our imports of cubic nitre have been as follow.

5. *attrib.* as *nitre-ball, -bed, -crystal, -flame, -heap*, etc.; **nitre-bush**, a species of *Nitraria*, a genus of plants so named because first noticed near Siberian nitre-works.

1753 Bartlet *Gentl. Farriery* (1754) 35 The *nitre-balls or drink may be continued. 1807 Aikin *Dict. Chem. & Min.* II. 159/2 In France the *nitre-beds are composed of nitrous earth from farm-yards, stables, etc. 1839 *Nitre-bed* [see Nitriary]. 1887 Moloney *Forestry W. Afr.* 291 *Nitre Bush..Upper Guinea. 1873 Leland *Egypt. Sketch Bk.* 180 If you will take a *nitre crystal, you will see that it consists of two pyramids joined at the base. 1637 N. Whiting *Albino & Bellama* 111 Had I.. past through *Nitre-flames, that belch forth led. 1867 Bloxam *Chem.* 416 The *nitre-heaps, which consist of accumulations of animal and vegetable refuse with limestone, old mortar, ashes, etc. 1611 Florio, *Nitraria*, a Salt-peter or *Niter-house. 1873 Thorowgood *Notes Asthma* (ed. 2) 51 *Nitre paper hurnt in the patient's bedroom will prevent the asthmatic attack without awakening him. 1601 Holland *Pliny* xxxi. x. II. 420 For feare it should resolve againe and melt in the *nitre pits. 1684 *Phil. Trans.* XIV. 612 The Nitre Pits grow full of Nitre. 1727–38 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v. *Nitre*, There were nitre-pits in Egypt, as there are salt-pits among us. 1896 *Daily News* 9 Dec. 7/5 The *nitre ships commenced discharging to-day. 1877 A. B. Edwards *Up Nile* vii. 178 A series of stagnant *nitre-tanks.

Nitre (nəi·təɹ), *v. rare.* [f. the sb.] *trans.* To treat with nitric acid in the manufacture of alkali. Hence **Ni·tring** *vbl. sb.*

1880 Lomas *Alkali Trade* 52 But all these points may be guarded in solid nitreing, by careful work. *Ibid.* 54 Occasionally the chambers are steamed and nitred before the admission of burner gas.

Nitred (nəi·təɹd), *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ED 1.] Manured with nitre; nitrated.

1841 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* II. v. 121 The nitred wheat yielded less than its proportion of flour.

†**Ni·treous,** *a. Obs. rare* −1. [ad. L. *nitreus*, f. *nitrum* Nitre.] Nitrous.

1767 *Phil. Trans.* LVII. 464 Salt springs, that are impregnated with nitreous particles.

Ni·triary. *rare.* [ad. F. *nitrière* (cf. Sp. *nitreria*, L. *nitrāria*): see Nitre *sb.* and -ary 1.] An artificial nitre-bed.

1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 887 In France, Germany, Sweden, Hungary, etc., vast quantities of nitrous salts are obtained by artificial arrangements called *nitriaries*, or nitre-beds. 1892 Dana *Syst. Min.* (ed. 6) 871 Beds called *nitriaries* are arranged for this purpose..in France, Germany [etc.].

Nitric (nəi·trik), *a.* Chiefly *Chem.* [ad. F. *nitrique* (app. first in *acide nitrique*, 1787): see Nitre *sb.* and -ic.] Of or pertaining to, derived from, nitre. (In *Chem.* distinguished from Nitrous: see -ic 1 b.)

1. a. *Nitric acid*, a highly corrosive and caustic acid (HNO_3), which is usually obtained by treating potassium nitrate or sodium nitrate with sulphuric acid, and in its pure state is a clear colourless liquid with a very pungent smell and acrid taste; as used in the arts for dissolving metals, etc., it is commonly known as *aquafortis*.

1794 *Phil. Trans.* LXXXIV. 421 Nitric acid added to the solution of that substance in muriatic acid, occasioned a decomposition. 1800 tr. *Lagrange's Chem.* I. 119 This property of the nitric acid to produce so intense a cold with ice. 1851 Richardson *Geol.* vi. 135 It is easy to ascertain whether a rock be calcareous or not, by applying dilute nitric or sulphuric acid. 1881 Routledge *Science* iii. 63 Nitric acid, which is one of the most important of Geber's discoveries.

attrib. and *Comb.* 1843 Graves *Syst. Clin. Med.* xxvii. 338 After a few days we proceeded to the use of nitric acid baths. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1529/1 The nitric-acid furnace consists of a number of parallel..retorts.

b. *Nitric oxide*, a colourless gas (formerly also called *nitrous gas* or *air*) obtained by the action of nitric acid on metals, esp. copper.

1807 T. Thomson *Chem.* (ed. 3) II. 134 When nitric oxide is converted into nitrous oxide by abstracting a portion of its oxygen. 1815 J. Smith *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 446 Nitric oxide (sometimes called nitrous gas)..is composed of 44 parts of nitrogen, and 56 of oxygen by weight. 1876 *Encycl. Brit.* V. 513/1 Nitric oxide immediately combines with oxygen when mixed with it.

attrib. 1821 Ure *Dict. Chem.* s.v. *Laboratory*, The diminution produced by the addition of nitric oxide gas.

c. *Nitric ether*, a compound obtained by the interaction of ethyl alcohol and nitric acid, also called *ethyl nitrate*.

1811 A. T. Thomson *Lond. Disp.* (1818) 672 Nitrous, or rather nitric ether has a strong ethereal odour. .. Its taste is strong and peculiar; and its colour slightly yellow. 1831 Davies *Mat. Med.* 278 Nitric, or rather Nitrous Ether..results from the combination of nitrous acid with alcohol. 1862 Miller *Elem. Chem., Org.* (ed. 2) 196 Nitric ether is a colourless liquid of an agreeable odour.

2. In miscellaneous uses.

1794 *Phil. Trans.* LXXXIV. 420 A piece of paper dipped into this nitric solution. 1808 Pike *Sources Missis.* (1810) App. 5 A species of salt,..strongly impregnated with nitric qualities. 1823 J. Badcock *Dom. Amusem.* 84 Part of the nitric solution of mercury. 1871 Tyndall *Frag. Sci.* (1879) I. xiv. 386 The rays..are intercepted by the nitric gas. 1884 *Encycl. Brit.* XVII. 519 Nitric esters, *i.e.* real nitrates formed from alcohols.

Nitride (nəi·trəid). *Chem.* [f. Nitre *sb.* + -ide.] A compound of nitrogen with another element or radical.

1850 T. Graham *Chem.* (ed. 2) 114 Thus, with the other elementary bodies,..Nitrogen forms nitrides. 1858 Thudichum *Urine* 46 A solution in nitric acid of the nitride of the sub-oxyde of mercury. 1881 *Nature* 6 Oct. 542/1 The nitride of silicon .. is obtained by the direct union of nitrogen and silicon.

Nitrifa·ction. [f. *nitri-* as comb. form of L. *nitrum* Nitre *sb.* + *-faction* = -fication.] The formation of nitre.

1860 *Knight's Cycl., & Arts Sci.* V. 949/1 *Nitrifaction*, when organic matters containing nitrogen undergo decay ..a considerable quantity of the nitrogen becomes converted into a nitrate of the base.

Nitri·ferous, *a. rare.* [f. as prec. + -ferous.] Bearing or yielding nitre.

1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 886 Such caverns exist..in Ceylon, where 22 nitriferous caverns are mentioned.

Ni·trifiable, *a.* [f. Nitrify *v.* + -able.] Capable of being nitrified.

1842 T. Graham *Chem.* 456 Nitrifiable rocks are never entirely destitute of organic matter. 1884 *Nature* 30 Oct. 645/1 A solution containing a nitrifiable substance. 1892a Morley & Muir *Watts' Dict. Chem.* III. 522/1 All nitrogenous substances which yield ammonia by the action of organisms existing in fertile soils are nitrifiable.

Nitrification (nəi·trifikē·ʃən). [a. F. *nitrification* (1797): see Nitrify *v.* and -fication.]

1. The process of nitrifying; the production of nitre or nitrates.

1828–32 in Webster. 1842 T. Graham *Chem.* 456 The latest writer upon nitrification is Professor Kuhlmann. 1869 Roscoe *Elem. Chem.* 201 The process of nitrification, in which animal matter..is exposed in heaps, mixed together with wood-ashes and lime, to the action of the air. 1884 F. J. Lloyd *Sci. Agric.* 72 Nitrification causes the hydrogen to be taken away and its place supplied by oxygen.

b. *fig.* with reference to the use of nitre as an ingredient of gunpowder.

1832 *Blackw. Mag.* XXXI. 92 In this blaze of cordons, and perpetual glow of homage, what female heart, not absolutely stone, could resist a little nitrification?

2. The process of impregnating with nitric acid.

1880 *Daily News* 27 March 5/4 Practically gun-cotton and nitro-glycerine are the same thing, except that in the one case it is a liquid and in the other a solid that has been subjected to the so-called process of nitrification. 1892 Greener *Breech Loader* 162 Nitro-explosives are..made from pulped wood which after nitrification [etc.].

Nitrify (nəi·trifəi), *v.* [ad. F. *nitrifier* (1777): see Nitre *sb.* and -fy.]

1. *trans.* To convert into, impregnate with, nitre; to make nitrous.

1828–32 Webster, *Nitrify*, to convert into nitre. 1872 Fox *Ozone* 21 It may be said generally, that the direct spark passing through air nitrifies it. 1885 *Trans. Norfolk Nat. Soc.* IV. 18 The special organism which nitrifies ammonia exists in the surface soil of all fertile land.

2. *intr.* To turn to nitre; to become nitrous.

1884 *Nature* 30 Oct. 645/1 A thin layer of solution will nitrify sooner than a deep layer. 1892 Morley & Muir *Watts' Dict. Chem.* III. 521/2 A little vegetable earth which was known to nitrify easily.

Hence **Ni·trified, Ni·trifying** *ppl. adjs.*

1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 888 Upon each of the four sides the nitrifying sheds are to be erected. 1867 Bloxam *Chem.* 416 A few inches of the nitrified earth. 1882a *Nature* XXVI. 102 The..use of this nitrifying organism is thus apparent.

Nitrile (nəi·tril). *Chem.* Also -yle, -il. [f. Nitre *sb.* + -ile.] A cyanogen compound of an alcohol radical, in which the alkyl grouping is directly attached to carbon and in which the nitrogen atom may be regarded as trivalent.

1848 *Chem. Gaz.* VI. 449 On the Action of Sulphuretted Hydrogen upon the Nitryles. 1866 Onling *Anim. Chem.* 112 In addition to aldehydes and acids, certain nitriles..have been obtained by muscle oxidation. 1869 Roscoe *Elem. Chem.* 349 Hydrocyanic is the nitril of formic acid.

attrib. 1857 Miller *Elem. Chem., Org.* 267 Nicotia appears to belong to the class of nitrile bases.

†**Ni·trine,** *a.* [f. Nitre *sb.* + -ine 1.] Nitrous.

1778 [W. Marshall] *Minutes Agric., Digest* 110 Perhaps the food of Vegetables is neither principally nitrine, nor dangerously volatile.

Ni·trion. *Chem.* [f. Nitre *sb.* + -ion.] The supposed radical of nitric acid.

1868 Miller *Elem. Chem., Inorg.* (ed. 4) 95 The chlorine displaces the nitrion .. from the argentic nitrate. *Ibid.* 96 Each atom of nitrion..requires one atom of a monad metal like potassium to neutralize it.

†**Ni·trish,** *a. Obs. rare* −1. [f. Nitre *sb.* + -ish 1.] Impregnated with nitre.

1562 Turner *Herbal* II. 74 b, The Date tre groweth .. for the moste parte in a saltish or nitrishe ground.

Nitrite (nəi·trəit). *Chem.* [f. Nitre *sb.* + -ite 1 4.] A compound produced by the combination of a base or an alcohol with nitrous acid.

1800 tr. *Lagrange's Chem.* I. 129 This is the reason why chemists do not make nitrites, but only nitrates, with fixed alkalies and nitrous vapour. 1807 T. Thomson *Chem.* (ed. 3) II. 224 Nitrous acid can exist only combined with a base. The genus of salts which it forms are called nitrites. 1847 *Chem. Gaz.* V. 76 An aqueous solution of nitrite of ammonia is decomposed by heat into nitrogen and water. 1871 Tyndall *Frag. Sci.* (1879) I. iv. 113 Dry air was permitted to bubble through the liquid nitrite of butyl.

attrib. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 892 Emmerich..explained cholera as a nitrite intoxication.

Nitro- (nəi·trо), combining form of G. *νίτρον* (as in *νιτροποιός* making nitre), used esp. in a large number of chemical terms.

a. In many names of acids, denoting the combination of nitric with an organic acid, as *nitro-benzinic, -butyric, -caprylic, -cinnamic*, etc.

Only a few of these combs. are illustrated here.

1845 *Chem. Gaz.* III. 461 Researches on Azobenzide and *Nitrobenzinic Acid. 1857 Miller *Elem. Chem., Org.* 401 Nitric acid converts the butyric into *nitrobutyric acid. 1873 *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 11) 688 When boiled with nitric acid, it is converted into *nitro-caprylic acid. 1857 Miller *Elem. Chem., Org.* 477 Nitric acid converts it into *nitrocinnamic acid. 1868 *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 10) 668 Fuming nitric acid dissolves it, forming..an acid called *nitrofrangulic acid. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVI. 243/1 A new acid is formed, which is the *nitrohematic acid. 1858 Thudichum *Urine* 145 It reappears as *nitrohippuric acid in the urine. 1845 *Chem. Gaz.* III. 2 *Nitrohumic acid is tetrabasic. 1828–32 Webster, **Nitroleucic*, designating an acid obtained from leucine acted on by nitre. 1847 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* IV. 165/1 A crystalline nitroleucic acid is formed. 1850 Ogilvie, **Nitromeconic acid*, an acid formed by the action of strong nitric acid, aided by a gentle heat, on meconine. *Ibid.*, **Nitronaphthalic acid*, an acid obtained by the action of alkalies on nitro-naphthalise. 1846 *Chem. Gaz.* IV. 237 The *nitrophenesic acid was prepared by treating pure hydrate of phenyle with nitric acid. 1845 *Chem. Gaz.* III. 229 In this manner *nitrophenissic acid is obtained in six-sided prisms. 1857 Miller *Elem. Chem., Org.* 571 Carbazotic,..nitro-phenisic, or picric acid. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVI. 243/1 The protoxide of iron, separated, becomes peroxide at the expense of the *nitropicric acid. 1836–9 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* II. 405/2 A peculiar crystallisable compound,..which he calls the *nitro-saccharic acid. 1847 *Chem. Gaz.* V. 214 Salicylic acid, when treated with sulphuronitric mixture, yields at first indigotic (*nitro-salicylic) acid. 1857 Miller *Elem. Chem., Org.* 399 When valeric acid is boiled..a great part is converted into *nitrovaleric acid. 1796 Kirwan *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) II. 245 His *nitro-vitriolic acid also dissolves it.

b. In many names of chemical compounds or groupings, denoting the presence of the nitro-grouping NO_2 in place of hydrogen, as *nitro-aniline, -anisol, -benzamide, -benzoate*, etc.

1892a *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Nitro-anilin. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 952 The presence of aniline, nitro-aniline or some coloured product due to the reduction of the nitro-benzole. 1854 Fownes *Chem.* (ed. 5) 609 Three substitution-products, *nitro-, binitro-, and trinitro-anisol. 1848 *Chem. Gaz.* VI. 420 It is probably the *nitrobenzamide recently described by Field, which he obtained by heating the *nitrobenzoate of ammonia. 1844 *Ibid.* II. 185 Benzonitril is therefore isomeric with Laurent's *nitrobenzoile. 1857 Miller *Elem. Chem., Org.* 306 *Nitro-benzol and dinitro-benzol. 1847 *Chem. Gaz.* V. 215 Cumene, treated with fuming nitric acid, yields *nitrocumene and binitrocumene. 1868 *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 10) 579 Cold fuming nitric acid converts it into liquid nitrocymene. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVI. 243/1 The *nitrohematate of ammonia. *Ibid.*, The *nitroleucate of lime and of magnesia. 1849 Maule in *Q. Jrnl. Chem. Soc.* II. 116 For which I propose the name *Nitromesidine, instead of Nitromesitilidine. 1892a *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Nitromethane. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 225 Methyl-nitrite and nitromethane have the same formula. 1836 R. D. & T. Thomson *Rec. Gen. Sci.* III. 295 *Nitro-naphthalase is formed by the action of boiling nitric acid upon naphthaline. 1866 Watts *Dict. Chem.* IV. 48 *Nitronaphthalene. 1836 R. D. & T. Thomson *Rec. Gen. Sci.* III. 296 *Nitro-naphthalese may be formed by boiling the preceding [nitro-naphthalase] with nitric acid for a long time. 1857 Miller *Elem. Chem., Org.* 574 A sulphur-yellow compound, termed *nitro-naphthalin. 1892 Morley & Muir *Watts' Dict. Chem.* II. 578/1 Primary *nitro-paraffins. 1852 *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 4) 646 Nitrophenasic acid = *Nitrophenol. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVI. 243/2 *Nitrosaccharate of potash..crystallizes in needles. 1868 *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 10) 686 Very strong nitric acid .. converts sugar into *nitrosaccharose. 1857

MILLER *Elem. Chem., Org.* 288 Strychnia..yields a nitrate or a new substitution-base, *nitrostrychnia. *Ibid.* 292 Of these [products] the most remarkable are amalic acid.., and *nitro-theine or cholestrophan. **1854** *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 5) 615 Toluol..with nitric acid yields two products, *nitrotoluol..and binitrotoluol. **1857** MILLER *Elem. Chem., Org.* 628 If cold dilute nitric acid be employed, nitrate of *nitrotyrosine..is formed.

c. In certain names of minerals, as **nitrobarite** (see quot.); **nitrocalcite**, native calcium nitrate; **nitroglauberite**, a compound of sodium nitrate and sodium sulphate; **nitromagnesite**, native magnesium nitrate.

1882 *Amer. Nat.* XVI. 78 Groth describes a natural nitrate of Baryta from Chili...An appropriate..name for this mineral would be *Nitrobarite. **1835** SHEPARD *Min.* II. 84 *Nitrocalcite..is found in silky efflorescenses. **1861** BRITON *Gloss.* 260 Nitrocalcite..dissolves in one-fourth its weight of water. **1885** *Cassell's Encycl. Dict.*, *Nitroglauberite*, a mineral found in fibrous translucent masses, consisting of imperfect crystals. **1892** DANA *Min.* (ed. 6) 873 Nitroglauberite. .. From the desert of Atacama. **1835** SHEPARD *Min.* II. 85 *Nitromagnesite. Magnesian earthy-salt. **1893** CHAPMAN *Blowpipe Pract.* 194 Nitromagnesite ..closely resembles nitrocalcite.

d. In miscellaneous combs., as **nitro-a·cid**, a compound of nitric with an organic acid; †**nitro-alu·minous** *a.*, partaking of the natures of nitre and alum; †**nitro-atmosphe·rical** *a.* = NITRO-AERIAL *a.*; **nitro-ce·llulose**, a compound of nitric acid and cellulose; **nitro-co·mpound**, a compound substance resulting from the action of nitric acid; **nitro-co·tton**, cotton treated with nitric acid; **nitro-explo·sive**, an explosive prepared by means of nitric acid; **nitro-ge·latine** (see quot.); **nitro-me·tal** (see quot.); †**nitro-neutral** *a.*, forming a nitrate without free nitric acid; **nitro-pow·der**, a gunpowder prepared by means of nitric acid; **nitro-su·bstitute**, a compound in which nitrogen peroxide is substituted for hydrogen; so **nitro-substitu·tion**; †**nitro-tarta·reous** *a.*, of the nature of nitre and tartar.

1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem., Org.* 307 Many of the *nitro-acids obtained in this manner are yellow, and yield salts which have a yellow colour. **1670** W. SIMPSON *Hydrol. Ess.* 132 It consists of three ingredients, viz. the *nitro-aluminous salt. **1793** BEDDOES *Calculus*, etc. 258 Was not Mayow .. infinitely nearer the truth .. when he imputed muscular motion to the effervescence of his *nitro-atmospherical particles? **1882** ALLEN *Comm. Org. Anal.* II. 366 The various *nitro-celluloses are soluble in strong caustic soda, undergoing partial saponification with formation of cellulose and sodium nitrate. **1857** MILLER *Elem. Chem., Org.* 306 The production of *nitro-compounds corresponding to nitro-benzol and dinitro-benzol. **1892** GREENER *Breech Loader* 160 The explosive used in shot guns is either black gunpowder..or a nitro-compound (carbon base, treated with nitric and sulphuric acids). **1897** *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 957 For the 'Kieselguhr'..he substituted *nitro-cotton. **1884** KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl. 635/2 **Nitrogelatine*, an explosive agent invented by Nobel, formed by dissolving gun-cotton in nitroglycerine, with camphor added. **1895** THOMSON & BLOXAM *Chem.* 155 No. 2 is absorbed by many finely divided metals, forming compounds called **nitro-metals*. **1782** KIRWAN in *Phil. Trans.* LXXIII. 48 The decomposition of *nitro-neutral salts by the marine acid depends on the same principles. **1892** GREENER *Breech Loader* 163 *Nitro powders possess various advantages over black, the chief being the absence of smoke after the discharge. **1894** *Field* 9 June 814/3 Recent trials of nitro powders in an 8-bore gun. **1862** MILLER *Elem. Chem., Org.* (ed. 2) 942 *Nitrosubstitutes of sugar, starch, &c. **1867** BLOXAM *Chem.* 128 The spaces thus left vacant have been filled up by the nitric peroxide.., producing what is termed a *nitro-substitution compound. **1663** BOYLE *Usef. Exp. Nat. Philos.* II. v. ii. 126 By this *Nitro-Tartareous Salt .. those Vegetables, whose Juice affords it..may be discriminated from those many others, from whence it is not to..be obtained.

Nitro, abbrev. of *nitro-powder*: see NITRO- d. **1903** *Blackw. Mag.* Oct. 512/1 In most of the better brands of nitros, what used to be a positive danger has been reduced to a very occasional discomfort.

† **Nitro-ae·reous,** *a. Obs.* [ad. mod.L. *nitro-aereus* (Mayow 1674): see NITRO- d and AEREOUS *a.*] = next. **1682** GIBSON *Anat.* 117 The Nitro-aereous Particles may be carried..to the viscera. **1699** *Phil. Trans.* XXI. 236 Some will have the Menstruum to be a nitro-aëreous Spirit, that is, quick, and very penetrating.

Nitro-ae·rial, *a. Obs.* exc. *Hist.* [See prec. and AERIAL *a.*] Pertaining to, existing in, both nitre and the air. (See quots.)

1674 *Phil. Trans.* IX. 102 These Igneous particles, conceived by him [Mayow] to be common to Niter and Air, he calls Nitro-aerial, from whence the Spirit of Niter derives its caustique and corrosive nature. **1675** GREW *Anat. Pl., Tastes Pl.* iv. (1684) 287 Those Roots which are Biting, have but few..Aer-Vessels; whereby fewer parts of the nitroaereal Sap are carryed off into the Trunk. **1744** *Phil. Trans.* XLIII. 20 Those from the Brain, he says, are nitro-aerial Particles, and the true Animal Spirits. **1799** *Med. Jrnl.* I. 252 He further adds, that the nitro-aerial spirit gives the red colour to bodies in which it exists, not unlike the fuming spirit of nitre. **1812** SIR H. DAVY *Chem. Philos.* 26 Mayow of Oxford, in 1674, published his treatises on the nitro-aërial spirit, in which he advanced opinions similar to those of Boyle and Hooke. **1892** *Syd. Soc. Lex., Nitro-aerial particles*, Mayow's term for a substance indispensable to combustion, and which enters into the composition of nitre.

So **Nitro-ae·rian,** †**-ae·rious** *adjs.* **1733** TULL *Horse-Hoeing Husb.* ii. (Dubl.) 15 The Nitro-aerious Particles may there enter, to keep up the vital Ferment or Flame. **1768–74** TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) I. 23 The nitro-aerious fluid pervading them. **1881** ROUTLEDGE *Science* x. 234 The water will arise within the jar as the candle removes the 'nitro-ærian' particles.

Nitrobenzene (nəitrobe·nzīn). *Chem.* [NITRO- b.] A poisonous yellowish liquid, smelling like oil of bitter almonds, which is used in the preparation of aniline. Also *attrib.*

1868 *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 10) 572 Benzene dissolves readily in strong nitric acid, and on adding water to the solution, nitrobenzene .. separates out. **1891** THORPE *Dict. Appl. Chem.* II. 701 Nitrobenzene was first prepared by Mitscherlich in 1834 by the action of strong nitric acid upon benzene, and was termed by him 'nitrobenzide'. **1897** *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 956 It was maintained that in complete combustion of the explosive no trace of nitro-benzene derivatives are [*sic*] left.

Nitrobe·nzide. *Chem.* [NITRO- b.] = prec. **1835** R. D. & T. THOMSON *Rec. Gen. Sci.* I. 206 Nitrobenzide is the name given by Mitscherlich to the product of the action of fuming nitric acid upon benzine. **1857** MILLER *Elem. Chem., Org.* 566 Nitrobenzol or nitrobenzide. **1891** [see prec.].

Nitrobenzo·ic, *a. Chem.* [NITRO- a.] *Nitrobenzoic acid*, an acid produced by the action of nitric on benzoic acid.

1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem., Org.* 462 Fuming nitric acid converts the benzoic into nitrobenzoic acid. **1867** BLOXAM *Chem.* 622 If [nitro-hippuric] acid be boiled with hydrochloric acid, it yields nitrobenzoic acid.

Nitrobe·nzol. *Chem.* = NITROBENZENE. **1856** *Orr's Circ. Sci., Pract. Chem.* 506 A rich perfume (nitro-benzole), which has the delicious odour of the essential oil of bitter-almonds. **1868** *Q. Rev.* Apr. 345 Benzol produces with nitric acid, nitro-benzol.., which is largely employed in perfuming soap. **1899** tr. *Rudolf & Jaksch's Clin. Diag.* i. (ed. 4) 79 A typical case of nitrobenzol poisoning.

Ni·troform. *Chem.* [f. NITRO- d + -FORM.] A colourless crystallizable substance, with a bitter taste and unpleasant smell, which readily inflames and detonates.

1866 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* IV. 110 *Nitroform.* This compound discovered by Schischkoff..exhibits the relations of an acid. **1868** *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 10) 662 Nitroform, a body analogous in composition to the methenyl ethers.

Nitrogen (nəi·trŏdʒĕn). *Chem.* Also 8–9 **-gene.** [ad. F. *nitrogène* (Chaptal 1790): see NITRO- and -GEN I.] A 'permanent' gas (symbol N), without colour, taste, or smell, which forms about four-fifths of the atmosphere.

1794 PEARSON in *Phil. Trans.* LXXXIV. 391 The remainder of the gaz extinguished flame, and was concluded to be nitrogen or azotic gaz. **1806** DAVY in *Phil. Trans.* XCVII. 11 Hydrogene, during its solution in water, seems to expel nitrogene. **1825** FARADAY *Exp. Res.* xxvii. 151, I have refrained from all reasoning on the probability of the compound nature of nitrogen. **1856** *Orr's Circ. Sci., Pract. Chem.* 306 Nitrogen, carbon, and hydrogen are to be found in all living bodies. **1870** EMERSON *Soc. & Sol., Clubs*, The flame of life burns too fast in pure oxygen, and nature has tempered the air with nitrogen.

b. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 348 Nitrogen gas is most easily described by including many of its negative qualities. **1862** SPENCER *First Princ.* II. xiii. § 101 (1875) 295 These nitrogen-compounds are unusually prone to decomposition. **1869** ROSCOE *Elem. Chem.* 63 Nitric acid may be considered as a compound of nitrogen pentoxide with water. **1894** *Field* 9 June 844/2 The nitrogen-collecting power of leguminous crops.

Hence **Nitroge·neous** *a.*, **Nitroge·nic** *a.*, = NITROGENOUS. **Nitrogeni·ferous** *a.*, producing nitrogen. **Nitro·genize** *v. trans.*, to combine with nitrogen.

1836 SMART, **Nitrogeneous.* **1894** *Field* 9 June 844/2 The natural stores of nitrogeneous substances in the soil. **1889** *Nature* 25 July 312/1 The action of nitric acid on carbonic and *nitrogenic compounds. **1836–41** BRANDE *Man. Chem.* (ed. 5) 1256 An azotized or *nitrogeniferous substance. **1897** CHEYNE & BURGNARD *Man. Surg. Treat.* I. v. 97 The plan of inducing anæsthesia with nitrous oxide, and maintaining the narcosis with ether (*nitrogenizing the ether).

Nitrogenized (nəitrɒ·dʒĕnəizd), *ppl. a.* [f. prec.] Combined or furnished with nitrogen. **1846** BAXTER *Libr. Pract. Agric.* I. 20 These azotized or nitrogenized principles. **1850** DAUBENY *Atom. The.* viii. (ed. 2) 245 The absorption of a nitrogenized substance would seem to be..the starting point in the development of all living matter. **1866** ODLING *Anim. Chem.* 54 Ammoniated or nitrogenised principles are abundantly produced.

Nitrogenous (nəitrɒ·dʒĕnəs), *a.* [-OUS.] Containing, having the nature of, nitrogen. **1828–32** in WEBSTER. **1846** G. E. DAY tr. *Simon's Anim. Chem.* II. 195 The ammonia-salts, the urea, and nitrogenous extractive matters. **1880** BASTIAN *Brain* 8 Certain plants ..seem capable of discriminating nitrogenous from other substances.

Nitroglu·cose. [NITRO- b.] A compound produced by the action of nitrosulphuric acid on cane or grape sugar, used esp. in photography. **1858** T. SUTTON *Dict. Photogr.* 307 Nitro-Glucose..is made by acting on finely powdered cane sugar with nitro-sulphuric acid. **1883** HARDWICH *Photogr. Chem.* 162 Nitro-Glucose diminishes the sensitiveness of the film to weak rays of light, but increases the rapidity and intensity of the development in Negative pictures.

Nitroglycerine, -in (nəitrɒgli·sĕrin). [NITRO- d.] A violently explosive substance, having the form of a yellowish oily liquid, which is obtained by adding glycerine to a mixture of nitric and sulphuric acids.

1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem., Org.* 92 Nitroglycerin..and various other compounds may be obtained in this manner with facility. **1858** *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 7) 504. **1879** H. GEORGE *Progr. & Pov.* VII. iv. (1881) 332 The other crowned heads of Europe sit, metaphorically speaking, upon barrels of nitro-glycerine. **1884** *Encycl. Brit.* XVII. 520 Nitro-glycerin is applied medicinally..in cases of heart disease. **1898** tr. *Meyer's Hist. Chem.* 568 Nitro-glycerine had been known as a chemical preparation, discovered by Sobrero, for fifteen years before it began to find extended application in 1862, as the results of Nobel's researches.

attrib. **1881** *Times* 2 Mar., In 1869 the Nitroglycerine Act was passed. **1897** *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 958 In nitro-glycerine factories the men..do not work on Saturday.

Nitrohydrochlo·ric, *a. Chem.* [NITRO- a.] *N. acid*, a mixture of nitric and hydrochloric acids, forming a powerful solvent, also called *nitromuriatic acid* and *aqua regia.*

1836–41 BRANDE *Man. Chem.* (ed. 5) 605 Rhodium is insoluble in acids, but, when alloyed with copper or lead, the nitrohydrochloric acid dissolves it. **1869** ROSCOE *Elem. Chem.* 252 Dissolving tin in cold nitro-hydrochloric acid. **1889** RAMSDEN *Inorg. Chem.* 281 The product of the action of nitro-hydrochloric acid upon a metal is the corresponding chloride.

Nitro·leum. [f. NITRO- d + L. *oleum* oil.] = NITROGLYCERINE. **1866** *Athenæum* 18 Aug. 212/2 The relative strength of nitroleum compared with gunpowder. **1875** KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 1529/2 Nitroleum..is insoluble in and heavier than water.

Nitrolic (nəitrɒ·lik), *a. Chem.* [f. NITRE *sb.* + -OL + -IC.] *Nitrolic acids* (see quots.). **1892** MORLEY & MUIR *Watts' Dict. Chem.* III. 578/1 Nitrolic acids..are formed by the action of nitrous acid.. on the sodium derivatives of primary nitro-paraffins. **1895** THOMSON & BLOXAM *Chem.* 551 Nitrolic acids are colourless..; they are very unstable, being decomposed into nitrous oxide and a fatty acid.

Nitroma·nnite. [f. NITRO- d.] An explosive crystalline substance, obtained by treating mannite with nitric and sulphuric acids. **1857** MILLER *Elem. Chem., Org.* 91 It is insoluble in water, but is readily dissolved by boiling alcohol; the nitromannite..crystallizes in fine needles as the solution cools. **1864** SPENCER *Biol.* I. 8 Explosiveness is a property of nitro-mannite, and also of nitro-glycerine. **1868** *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 10) 670 By fuming nitric acid, or more easily by a mixture of nitric and sulphuric acids, mannite is converted into nitromannite.

Nitrometer (nəitrɒ·mĭtəɹ). [f. NITRO- d + -METER.] (See quots.) **1828–32** WEBSTER (citing URE), *Nitrometer*, an instrument for ascertaining the quality or value of niter. **1878** LUNGE in *Chem. News* 12 July 19/2, I beg to hand you a sketch of the apparatus, which I have proposed to call 'Nitrometer'. **1890** THORPE *Dict. Appl. Chem.* I. 160 The nitrometer, originally devised by Lunge for the estimation of nitrogen oxides in oil of vitriol, is capable of being applied to gas analysis and a large number of other determinations. **1898** *Rev. Brit. Pharm.* 30 Allen's nitrometer test is retained.

Nitromu·riate. *Chem.* [f. NITRO- b.] A compound (*of* a base) produced by treatment with nitromuriatic acid. **1796** PEARSON in *Phil. Trans.* LXXXVI. 421 With nitromuriate of gold..this solution only produced a slight grey precipitation. **1806** DAVY *ibid.* XCVII. 26 Analogous results were obtained with .. nitrate of lead, and nitromuriate of tin. **1836–41** BRANDE *Man. Chem.* (ed. 5) 783 These solutions are generally known under the names of nitromuriate or oxymuriate of tin. **1849** NOAD *Electr.* 167 Dilute sulphuric acid, to which a few drops of nitromuriate of platinum should be previously added.

Nitromuria·tic, *a. Chem.* [NITRO- a.] *Nitromuriatic acid*, nitrohydrochloric acid. **1795** NICHOLSON *Dict. Chem.* II. 519 *Nitro-muriatic acid*, the compound acid formed by uniting the nitrous and marine acids. **1796** *Phil. Trans.* LXXXVI. 333 The solution of cobalt in muriatic or nitro-muriatic acid, called sympathetic ink. **1847** SEYMOUR *Severe Dis.* I. 23 The nitro-muriatic acid was given internally, apparently with relief. **1873** *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 11) 429.

attrib. **1843** GRAVES *Syst. Clin. Med.* xx. 231, I ordered the nitro-muriatic acid liniment to be rubbed over his chest. **1878** T. BRYANT *Pract. Surg.* I. 78 It should be sponged with some nitro-muriatic acid lotion.

Nitropru·sside. *Chem.* [NITRO- b.] One of a series of salts obtained by the action of nitric acid upon ferrocyanides. **1849** PLAYFAIR in *Phil. Trans.* CXXXIX. 485 The nitro-prussides are salts with characters so decided, that they cannot be confounded with any known series of compounds. **1857** MILLER *Elem. Chem., Org.* 597 The nitro-prussides give a pale green precipitate with salts of copper. **1897** *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV. 313 A concentrated..solution of sodium nitro-prusside.

† **Nitrose,** *a. Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *nitrōs-us*: see NITRE *sb.* and -OSE.] Nitrous. **1695** WOODWARD *Nat. Hist. Earth* IV. (1723) 226 Nitrose Stalactitæ. *a* **1754** MEAD *Wks.* (1762) 597 (Jod.), The calcareous and nitrose salts sweat out upon their surface of a colour almost as white as snow.

† **Nitro·sity.** *Obs.* Also 6 **-yte,** 6–7 **-itie.** [Cf. prec. and -ITY. So F. *nitrosité* (16th c.).] Nitrous property or quality. **1551** TURNER *Herbal* I. F iij b, They have both .. an euell iuice, by the reason of their nitrosyte or bytter saltishnes which thei haue like vnto saltpeter. **1634** T. JOHNSON tr. *Parey's Chirurg.* XXII. XXXV. (1678) 518 The sanies..

doth by delay acquire greater acrimony and nitrosity. 1670 *Phil. Trans.* V. 2009 Without this Nitrosity the Sulphur of Seeds would lye dormant in the Earth. *a* 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. xxxii. 270 Their stinging Acrimony, rending Nitrosity.

Nitroso- (nəitrōu·sō), *Chem.*, used as a combining form to indicate the presence of nitrosyl (NO), as in *nitroso-compound, -derivative, -substitution*, and in specific names such as *nitroso-naphthaline* (*-ene*), *-phenol*, etc.

1872 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* Suppl. 874 **Nitroso-compounds.* 1885 REMSEN *Org. Chem.* (1888) 101 The product..which is derived from the original substance by the substitution of the group NO for a hydrogen atom, is called a nitroso-compound. 1890 *Anthony's Photogr. Bull.* III. 335 If ..instead of using the azo derivative of Schaeffer's acid, we employ the *nitroso-derivative of the same, the process will be materially cheapened. 1864 *Reader* 8 Oct. 450 Cerulein acid *nitrosonaphthaline. 1881 *Nature* XXIV. 293 *Nitroso-substitution compounds of what is apparent azo-ethane. 1866 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* IV. 116 *Nitroso-sulphates, commonly called Nitrosulphates. 1881 *Jrnl. Chem. Soc.* XXXIX. 40 With a view to producing by this means the *nitroso-sulphonic acids. 1890 *Anthony's Photogr. Bull.* III. 333 A nitroso-sulphonic acid of beta naphthol which..was the first known representative of the class of aromatic nitroso-sulphonic acids.

Nitrosu·lphate. *Chem.* [NITRO- b.] A compound (*of* a base) produced by the action of nitrosulphuric acid.

1827 BANCROFT in Hone *Every-day Bk.* II. 270 The result of these operations is the production of a fluid..which..I will call a nitro-sulphate of iron. 1838 T. THOMSON *Chem. Org. Bodies* 784 Nitrosulphate of potash is white, very soluble in water, insoluble in alcobol. 1891 THORPE *Dict. Appl. Chem.* II. 369/1 The iron mordant prepared by treating ferrous sulphate with nitric acid is sold as nitrosulphate or nitrate of iron, and is used in dyeing.

So **Nitrosu·lphide.**

1862 MILLER *Elem. Chem., Org.* (ed 2) 689 By boiling the liquid, nitrosulphide of iron and of the alkaline metal is obtained.

† **Nitrosulphu·reous,** *a. Obs.* [NITRO- d.] Of the nature of nitre and sulphur.

1671 R. BOHUN *Wind* 31 Especially the nitrosulphureous and other Minerall or Metallic Concretes. 1695 S. PATRICK *Comm. Gen.* (1697) 318 Some of that dreadful Shower.. falling upon her, wrapt her Body in a sheet of Nitro-Sulphureous Matter. 1708 *Brit. Apollo* No. 21. 2/1 Lightning [is] nothing else but a very subtle Nitro-sulphureous Matter enflamed.

Nitrosulphu·ric, *a. Chem.* [NITRO- a.] Formed by the mixture of nitric and sulphuric acids.

1836 R. D. & T. THOMSON *Rec. Gen. Sci.* III. 304 Nitro-sulphuric acid. M. Pelouze formed this acid by causing the deutoxide of azote to act upon a solution of sulphite of potash and potash dissolved in water. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVI. 243/2 *Nitro-sulphuric acid.* This name has been applied to a mixture of nitric and sulphuric acid first proposed by Mr. Keir as a solvent for silver. 1856 *Orr's Circ. Sci., Pract. Chem.* 229 A preliminary experiment..will speedily indicate the actual strengtb of the nitrosulphuric acid.

† **Nitrosulphu·rious,** *a. Obs. rare*⁻¹. = next.

1688 CLAYTON in *Phil. Trans.* XVII. 943, I conceive Tobacco to be a Plant abounding with Nitro-Sulphurious Particles.

† **Nitrosu·lphurous,** *a. Obs. rare.* Also 7 **-erous.** [NITRO- d.] = NITROSULPHUREOUS.

1656 S. HOLLAND *Zara* (1719) 44 Henceforth I will abjure the thought of that nefarious Nitrosulpherous Sex. *a* 1719 F. LEE *Diss.* (1752) II. 132 A sudden Induration of all the Parts of her Body..from the Abundance of the nitro-sulphurous Particles penetrating the same throughout.

Nitrosyl, -yle (nəi·trŏsil). *Chem.* [See NITROSO- and -YL.] The grouping NO.

1866 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* IV. 116 *Nitrosyl* or *Azotyl.* The name of nitric oxide in combination. 1880 CLEMINSHAW tr. *Wurtz' Atom. The.* 264 This is the case..with nitrogen dioxide or nitrosyl.

attrib. 1875 BLOXAM *Chem.* (ed. 3) 171 Nitrosyle chloride is also produced by mixing 2 volumes of nitric oxide with 1 volume of chlorine.

Nitrous (nəi·trəs), *a.* [ad. L. *nitrōsus*: see NITRE *sb.* and -OUS, and cf. F. *nitreux.*]

1. Having the nature or qualities of nitre; impregnated with nitre.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 386 Forasmuch as Date trees delight in a salt and nitrous soile. 1657 S. PURCHAS *Pol. Flying-Ins.* 142 This falls out for want of a nitrous, and thereby a nutritive quality in the grain. 1692 RAY *Disc.* 142 The Air being..as much rarified, would contain but few nitrous Particles. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* I. vi. (ed. 4) 95 The land being generally of a nitrous and saline nature. 1774 J. BRYANT *Mythol.* I. 30 Hot streams either of water or bitumen: or else salt, and nitrous pools. 1884 LADY BRASSEY in *Good Wds.* June 403/1 The temple..submerged in the nitrous waters of the river.

b. Mixed or impregnated with nitre so as to form an explosive compound. Also *fig.*

1667 MILTON *P. L.* IV. 815 As when a spark Lights on a heap of nitrous Powder. 1714 GAY *Trivia* III. 383 The nitrous Store is laid, the smutty Train With running blaze awakes the barrell'd Grain. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* IX. 202 Sudden, as the spark From smitten steel; from nitrous grain, the blaze. 1806 J. GRAHAME *Birds Scot.* III. 84 The leaden bolt Slung from the mimic lightning's nitrous wing.

† c. As an epithet applied to the air, on the supposition that it was charged with particles of nitre. (Cf. NITRE *sb.* 1 c.) *Obs.*

1670 CLARKE *Nat. Hist. Nitre* 36 The nitrous Air receiv'd into the Lungs. 1720 WELTON *Suffer. Son of God* I. xiii. 342 My Blood requires the Nitrous Air, to preserve Life by the Respiration of my Breath. 1735 SOMERVILLE *Chase* I. 165 The nitrous Air, and purifying Breeze. 1784 COWPER *Task* III. 32 The nitrous air Feeds a blue flame, and makes a cheerful hearth.

d. Performed by means of nitre.

1800 *Med. Jrnl.* III. 429 My letter to Dr. Duncan, respecting nitrous fumigation.

2. In special applications: a. *Nitrous salt*, a salt containing nitre.

1662 R. MATHEW *Unl. Alch.* 20 Thy Salt doth also consist of three sorts, a fixed Salt, and a Nitrous, and a Volatil. 1718 QUINCY *Compl. Disp.* 113 For that reason it abounds with a nitrous Salt. 1732 ARBUTHNOT *Rules Diet* in *Aliments*, etc. 277 Nitres, and those Vegetables which have nitrous Salts in them. 1814 SIR H. DAVY *Agric. Chem.* 339 The nitrous Salts are too valuable for other purposes to be used as Manures. *a* 1828 PEARSON in *Brit. Husb.* (1834) I. 245 There is considerable waste in gases and ammoniacal and nitrous salt by their putrefaction.

b. *Nitrous acid*, an acid having nitrous properties; in later use *spec.* an acid (HNO_2) which contains less oxygen than *nitric acid.*

1676 GREW *Anat. Pl., Exper. Luctation* ii. (1682) 243 Upon its solution by a Nitrous Acid. 1779 *Phil. Trans.* LXIX. 396 Nitre is composed of two different ingredients, *viz.* an acid, called..the nitrous acid, and the vegetable alkali. 1804 ABERNETHY *Surg. Obs.* 139 The administration of nitrous acid, opium, and other remedies. 1849 D. CAMPBELL *Inorg. Chem.* 24 Nitrous acid pure is a colourless liquid at a low temperature, but becomes green on a slight elevation of heat. 1867 BLOXAM *Chem.* 134 The so-called nitrous acid of commerce is really nitric acid holding in solution a large proportion of nitric peroxide. 1871 TYNDALL *Frag. Sci.* (1879) I. iv. 101 The brown fumes of nitrous acid were seen.

attrib. 1812 SIR H. DAVY *Chem. Philos.* I. i. 113 Nitrous acid gas [is composed] of 1 of azote and 4 of oxygene. 1839 LINDLEY *Introd. Bot.* 386 Nitrous acid gas is probably as deleterious as the sulphurous and hydrochloric acid gases.

† c. *Nitrous air*, = next. *Obs.*

1775 PRIESTLEY *On Air* I. 109, I happened to distinguish it by the name of Nitrous air because I had procured it by means of spirit of nitre only. 1789 *Phil. Trans.* LXXX. 70 This salt, heated in close vessels, yields dephlogisticated nitrous air in great abundance.

d. *Nitrous gas*, a mixture of oxides of nitrogen, such as is obtained when most metals are acted on by nitric acid in the presence of air.

1794 PEARSON in *Phil. Trans.* LXXXIV. 389 A fresh discharge of nitrous gaz took place on adding more nitrous acid. 1800 tr. *Lagrange's Chem.* I. 121 Tbe name of nitrous gas is given to that aeriform fluid which is disengaged by the action of iron, copper, silver, and mercury on the nitric acid. 1837 M. DONOVAN *Dom. Econ.* II. 227 Nitrous gas strongly resists putrefaction; .. and after nitrous gas, carbonic acid gas is next in preservative power. 1880 *Jrnl. Soc. Arts* 445 Nitrous gas is passed through a solution of diphenylamine in acetic acid.

e. *Nitrous oxide*, a colourless gas (nitrogen protoxide, N_2O), with a faint odour and sweetish taste, which when inhaled produces exhilaration (hence called *laughing gas*) or anæsthesia.

1800 SIR H. DAVY *Res. Nitrous Oxide* 95 The nitrous oxide may be analised, either by charcoal or hydrogene. 1836-41 BRANDE *Man. Chem.* (ed. 5) 410 Nitrous oxide supports combustion, and a taper introduced into it has its flame much augmented. 1878 MEREDITH *Teeth* 205 The ..use of nitrous oxide for certain bodily complaints.

attrib. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVI. 244/1 Nitrous oxide gas is composed of one volume of oxygen and two volumes of azote. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 1530/1 *Nitrous-oxide Apparatus.* 1892 *Syd. Soc. Lex., Nitrous oxide water*, a solution..of five volumes of nitrous oxide in one of water.

f. *Nitrous ether*, nitric ether (NITRIC 1 c).

1811 [see NITRIC 1 c]. 1860 *Knight's Eng. Cycl., Arts & Sci.* III. 980 Nitrous ether, dissolved in alcohol, is the sweet spirit of nitre of pharmacy. 1879 ALLEN *Comm. Org. Anal.* I. 153 Spirit of nitrous ether has often a great tendency to become acid. This may be due to the decomposition of nitrous ether.

† **Ni·trousness.** *Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. prec. + -NESS.] Nitrous property.

1651 FRENCH *Distill.* v. 163 Which did attract, and condense the nitrousnesse of the aire.

† **Nitro·xide.** *Obs. rare.* (See quot.)

1826 HENRY *Elem. Chem.* II. 130 This substance, commonly called red precipitate, is termed more properly the nitroxide of mercury.

Nitroxyl (nəitrǫ·xil). *Chem.* [f. NITRO- + OX-IDE + -YL.] The gronping NO_2.

1869 ROSCOE *Elem. Chem.* 68 The decomposition takes place in two stages, in the first a yellow liquid, called nitroxyl chloride, is formed. 1876 HARLEY *Mat. Med.* (ed. 6) 355 A great number of substitution products, formed as the above nitroxyl series, on the type of phenic acid.

Nitruret (nəi·truret). *Chem.* [f. NITRE *sb.*; cf. *sulphuret.*] A combination of nitrogen with a simple body.

1836-41 BRANDE *Man. Chem.* (ed. 5) 737 Nitruret of Iron...When ammonia is passed over ignited ironwire..a portion of the nitrogen is retained in permanent combination with the iron. 1854 *Orr's Circ. Sci., Chem.* 491 Nitruret of Copper.

† **Ni·try,** *a. Obs.*⁻¹ [f. NITRE *sb.*] Nitrous.

1714 GAY *Trivia* II. 197 Winter my Theme confines; whose nitry Wind Shall crust the slabby Mire.

Ni·tryl. *Chem.* [f. NITRE *sb.* + -YL.] 'Nitric peroxide in combination' (Watts 1866).

1876 *Encycl. Brit.* V. 556/1 Nitro-substitution compounds in which hydrogen is replaced by nitryl (NO_2).

Ni·tta. *Bot.* Also nutta. [Native name.] A West African tree (*Parkia africana* or *biglandula*), also found in tropical Asia and introduced into the West Indies, bearing pods which contain edible pulp and seeds. Also *nitta-tree.*

1797 MUNGO PARK *Trav.* (1799) 336 The yellow powder which is found in the pods of the nitta, so called by the natives, a species of mimosa. 1805 — *Jrnl. Mission Africa* 14 May, One of the soldiers having collected some of the fruit of the Nitta trees. 1847 *Nat. Encycl.* I. 264 In the tropical regions of Africa we meet with..the nitta or doura tree. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* s.v. *Parkia*, The African Locust tree (Nitta or Nutta of the negroes), .. attaining thirty or forty feet in height. 1887 MOLONEY *Forestry W. Africa* 339.

Nitte, obs. form of NIT *sb.*

† **Nitte, nytte,** varr. of NUTTE *v.* to use. *Obs.*

c 1200 ORMIN 5543 All hu mann birþ weorelldþing Nittenn & tohh forrwerrpenn. *Ibid.* 12279 He cunneþþ þa to lærenn þe To nittenn swiþe litell. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 941 Þe wode fro the brigge he bar; Al that euere shuldon he nytte, Al he drow, and al he citte.

Ni·tter. *rare*⁻⁰. [f. NIT *v.* + -ER 1.] 'The horse bee that deposits nits on horses' (Webster, 1828-32, citing *Med. Repos.*).

† **Ni·ttical,** *a. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. NIT *sb.*] Infested by nits.

1607 MIDDLETON *Five Gallants* IV. viii, A filthy, slimy, lousy, nittical broker.

† **Ni·ttify,** *v. Obs. rare.* [f. NIT *sb.* + -(I)FY.] a. *refl.* To make (oneself) nitty. b. *trans.* To bespatter as with nits.

In quot. 1596 the allusion is to hair-cutting.

1596 NASHE *Saffron Walden* Ep. Ded., Wks. (Grosart) III. 14 He, alas,..hath nittifide himselfe with a dish..any time this fourteene yeere to saue charges of sheep-shearing. 1647 *Maid's Petition* 5 Wyat the Prick-louse will nittifie our Corps with the small shot of reproofe.

† **Ni·ttily,** *adv. Obs.*⁻¹ [f. NITTY *a.*] Lousily.

1630 J. HAYWARD *Edw. VI* 103 Hee was a man nittily needy and therefore adventurous.

† **Ni·ttiness.** *Obs.*⁻¹ [f. NITTY *a.* 2.] The condition of being full of small air-bubbles.

1664 TAYLOR in Evelyn *Pomona* 50 It..comes into the glass..with a speedy vanishing nittiness (as the Vintners call it), which evaporates with a sparkling..noise.

† **Ni·ttings.** *Obs. rare*⁻⁰. (See quot.)

1747 HOOSON *Miner's Dict.* N 3 b, *Nittings* [is] that Ore that stays in the Seive in washing of Smitham, which is something rounder than the Smitham it self.

Nittle, variant of KNETTLE.

Ni·tty, *sb. Naut. slang.* [Etym. obscure.] A racket, disturbance.

1830 MARRYAT *King's Own* xxvi, I never seed a ship's company in such a farmant, or such a nitty kicked up 'tween decks, in my life. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* 498 *Nitty*, a troublesome noise; a squabble.

Nitty (ni·ti) *a.* Now *rare.* [f. NIT *sb.* + -Y 1.] 1. Full of, abounding or infested with, nits.

1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 112/5 Nitty, *culicosus.* 1592 GREENE *Upst. Courtier* (1871) 36 As if he meant to give a warning to all the lice in bis nitty locks. 1600 ROWLANDS *Lett. Humours Blood* v. 72 Goodly curld lockes; but surely tis great pitty, For want of kembing, they are beastly nitty. 1654 GATAKER *Disc. Apol.* 30 If..the poor Presbyter is left so needie, nittie, bare, and wors then beggerlie. 1671 MARTEN *Voy. Spitzbergen* III. xi. in *Acc. Sev. Voy.* II. (1694) 69 Here and there it hath some small knobs like nitty Hair. 1712 MRS. CENTLIVRE *Perplex. Lovers* III. iii, A nitty Son of a Whore, who does he call lousy? 1797 BRYDGES *Homer Travestie* II. 63 As easily I can ye souse As nitty tailors crack a louse.

transf. 1622 MASSINGER & DEKKER *Virg. Mart.* III. iii, Thy hungry tongue bit off these shreds of complaints, to patch up the elbows of thy nitty eloquence. 1666 J. SERGEANT *Lett. Thanks* 31, I may not trouble my Reader often with such nitty Exceptions with which your Book abounds.

† b. Used jocularly. (Cf. NIT *sb.* 1.) *Obs.*⁻¹

1598 MARSTON *Pygmal., Sat.* III. 148 O dapper, rare, compleat, sweet nittie youth!

† 2. (Cf. NITTINESS.) *Obs. rare*⁻¹.

1654 GAYTON *Pleas. Notes* III. vi. 102 Before dinner again, refresh your Lamp..with the generous oyle of Sack, nitty, roapy, and razy.

† **Niu·ell,** *sb. Obs. rare*⁻⁰. Also niw-, neu-, new-. [var. of NEWEL: cf. F. *noyau* in the same sense.] (See quots.) Hence † **Niu·ell** *v.*

1611 FLORIO, *Anima di créta*, a long bar of iron luted with clay set vpright in the mold wherein ordinance is cast, called by our gunners the Niuell or Niwell. *Tiniuella*,.. a neuell, a niuell among Gunners. *Tiniuellare*,..to boare or niuell thorow. *Tiniuellato*, a pi[e]ce niuelled or newelled. [Hence in Torriano, 1659, as *nivel*, etc.]

Nival (nəi·väl), *a. rare.* [ad. L. *nivālis*, f. *niv-, nix* snow: see -AL.] a. (See quot. 1656.) b. Growing among snow.

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr., Nival*, pertaining to Snow, white or cold like Snow, snowy. 1894 *Science* IV. 475 Monte Rosa contains the richest nival flora.

Nive, obs. form of NEW *adv.*, NIEVE.

† **Ni·vel,** *v. Obs. rare.* In 3 niuel, 4 nyuel, neuel. [Of obscure origin: cf. SNIVEL *v.*] *intr.* To look downcast; to snivel.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 212 Hu heo schulen ham sulf grennen & niuelen, & makien sur semblaunt uor þe muchele angoise, iðe pine of helle. *Ibid.* 240 Þeonne spet heo & schekeð þet heaued, & foð on uorto niuelen, & makien sure & grimme chere. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. v. 137 Now awaketh Wratthe with two whyte eyen, And nyuelynge [*v. r.* neuelynge] with the nose and his nekke hangynge.

Nivel: see NIUELL *sb.*

Nivenite (ni·vĕnəit). *Min.* [f. the name of W. *Niven* (see quot.) + -ITE.] A variety of uraninite, found in Texas.

1889 HIDDEN & MACKINTOSH in *Amer. Jrnl. Sci.* XXXVIII. 481 Nivenite, a hydrate thorium-yttrium-lead uranate. *Ibid.* 482 We have named this mineral nivenite, in recognition of the energy which Mr. Niven has displayed in this locality.

Niveous (ni·vĭəs), *a.* Also 7 niuious, nivious. [ad. L. *niveus*, f. *niv-*, *nix* snow.] Snowy, resembling snow.

1623 COCKERAM II, White as snow, *niuious*. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* 338 Cinaber becomes red..which otherwise presents a pure and niveous white. 1800 HURDIS *Fav. Village* 113 Cottage and steeple in the niveous stole of Winter trimly dressed. 1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* xlvi. IV. 278 Niveous, the pure unblended white of snow.

Nivo·sity. [ad. L. type **nivōsitas* (f. *nivōsus* snowy), suggested by F. *nivôse*, the fourth month in the Republican calendar.] Snowiness.

1877 MORLEY *Crit. Misc.* Ser. II. 110 That faculty..which had brought the forces of nature,—its pluviosity, nivosity, germinality, and vendemiarity, —under the yoke for the service of men.

Niwe, obs. form of NEW *a.*

Nix[1]. *slang.* Also 8 **nicks.** [In sense 1 a. colloquial Du. and G. *nix*, for (*nichs*) *nichts*.]

1. Nothing; nobody.

1789 G. PARKER *Life's Painter* (*c* 1800) 130 How they have brought a German word into cant I know not, but nicks means *nothing* in the cant language. 1812 J. H. VAUX *Flash Dict.*, *Nix*, or *Nix my doll*, nothing. 1824 EGAN *Boxiana* IV. 444 (F.), Men who can be backed for large stakes do seldom fight for nix (comically called 'love'). 1858 MAYHEW *Paved with Gold* III. i, Do you see all this land?..the grandfather of this here Lord Southwark got it for 'nix'. 1890 CLARK RUSSELL *Ocean Trag.* ii, She has been exhorting me to choose a companion.., but it would have to be you or nix.

b. *U. S.* In pl. *nixes*, postal matter which cannot be forwarded from its not being properly addressed. 1885 in *Cent. Dict.*

2. *Nix my dolly*, a phrase (explained as meaning 'never mind') used by Ainsworth and echoed by other writers.

1834 AINSWORTH *Rookwood* III. v, Nix my dolly, pals, fake away. 1840 HOOD *Kilmansegg, Childhood* vi, The very puppet she had to pet, A bait for the 'Nix my Dolly' set, Was a Dolly of gold—and solid! 1844 THACKERAY *Little Trav.* vi. [copying AINSWORTH].

3. A word used as a signal that some one in authority is approaching. Also *keeping nix*, keeping watch.

1869 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* 229 'Keeping nix' was, in other words, keeping a look out that no person might catch us. 1885 *Indoor Paupers* 45 So the thing goes on until some one on the watch cries, 'Nix lads, buttons!'—the warning that the taskmaster is at hand. 1887 H. S. BROWN *Autobiog.* x. 51 The word 'nix' saw every man and boy at his place.

Nix[2]. [a. G. *nix* masc., earlier *nicks*, *nichs*, MHG. *nickes*, *niches*, OHG. *nichus*: see NICKER *sb.*[1]] A water-elf. (Cf. NIXIE.)

1833 KEIGHTLEY *Fairy Mythol.* II. 71 The female Nixes frequently go to the Market to buy meat. 1854 *Old Story-Teller* Pref. 3 The ideal regions inhabited by dwarfs, and nixes, and enchanted steeds. 1865 KINGSLEY *Herew.* Prel., He begins to people the weird places of the earth with weird beings and sees nixes in the dark linns as he fishes by night. 1883 'OUIDA' *Wanda* II. 149 There are nixes in the forests.

Nixie (ni·ksi). [ad. G. *nixe* fem.: see prec.] A female water-elf; a water-nymph.

1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* xxv, All the German superstitions of nixies, oak-kings, wer-wolves. 1821 — *Pirate* xxviii, She who sits by haunted well, Is subject to the Nixie's spell. 1836 *Blackw. Mag.* XL. 146 Those Elves and Erles,..those alps and goblins, those nixies and wood-nymphs. 1892 *Daily News* 16 Nov. 5/4 To the left and right, in the form of handles, are two nixies blowing shells.

† **Ni·xious**, *a. Obs.* —[0] [f. L. *nix* snow.] Snowy.

1623 COCKERAM I, *Nixious*, white as snow.

Nixt(ɵ, obs. ff. NEXT. **Nixto-cum**, obs. Sc. spelling of *next to come*.

† **Nixu·riate**, *v. Obs.* —[0] [f. L. *nixurīre*.]

1623 COCKERAM I, *Nixuriate*, to indeuour, to attempt.

Niye, obs. form of NOY.

‖ **Nizam** (nizā·m). [Urdū and Turkish نظام *nizām*, ad. Arab. *niḍām*, order, disposition, arrangement, etc.; in sense 1 used as an abbreviation of the title *nizām-al-mulk* 'governor of the empire'.]

1. The hereditary title of the rulers of Hyderabad belonging to the dynasty founded by Asaf Jāh, Subahdar of the Deccan from 1713–48.

[1601 R. JOHNSON *Kingd. & Commw.* (1603) 45 Nizzamuluc and Idalcam (for so the Portugals call the two princes of Decon). 1753 HANWAY *Trav.* (1762) II. xiv. iii. 349 Nizam al muluch, governor of deccan,..appropriated the revennes.] 1768 *Hist.* in *Ann. Reg.* 66/1 This bold adventurer worked upon the weakness of the Nizam of the Decan. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* II. 539 The possessions of the Nizam or Sonbah of the Deccan. 1817 JAS. MILL *Brit. India* II. iv. viii. 268 It is under the title of the Nizam, that the Subahdar of Deccan is commonly known. 1840 MACAULAY *Ess.*, *Clive* (1897) 509 Some glittering puppet dignified by the title of Nabob or Nizam. 1893 *Whitaker's Almanack* 454 Hyderabad is as large as..Italy, and the Nizam enjoys a gross revenue of Rx. 3,340,000.

2. The Turkish regular army; the men, or one of the men, composing this. Also *attrib.*

1840 J. B. FRASER *Koordistan* II. xvii. 404 You see the slim figures of the Nizam flitting past you in their semi-European garb. 1845 LADY STANHOPE *Mem.* I. vii. 258 She saw a man, in a *nizâm* dress. 1856 R. F. BURTON *El-Medinah* xxxiii. (1879) 481 The Nizam, or Regulars, had not been paid for seven months. 1867 *Chamb. Encycl.* IX. 588/1 The total of the nizam is thus 156,480 men.

Hence **Niza·mate**, the Nizam's territory.

1887 *Pall Mall G.* 24 Nov. 13/2 The Nizam, or at least the taxpayers of the Nizamate, were to pay the piper.

‖ **Niza·mut.** [Urdū نظامت *nizāmat*, f. prec.] The office or authority of the Nizam.

1764 *Ann. Reg.* I. 190 The treaty which I formerly concluded .. upon my accession to the nizamut..I now confirm. 1783 BURKE *Rep. Aff. India* Wks. XI. 259 He had dismissed the old established servants of the Nizamut. 1817 JAS. MILL *Brit. India* II. v. iii. 399 The incontestable right of the Nabob to all the powers of the Nizamut.

† **Ni·zy**, *sb.* and *a. Obs.* Forms: *a.* 7–8 nisey, 7 nisi, 8 nisy. *β.* 7–8 nizey (nize-), nizy. [Of doubtful origin: perh. f. NICE *a.* 1.]

A. *sb.* A fool or simpleton.

a. c 1684–6 *Roxb. Ball.* (1888) II. 558 There's none but meer Niseys that frets. 1693 *Oxford-Act* II. 10 Thus let him like a Nisi, But we intend more to surprize ye. 1706 E. WARD *Hud. Rediv.* II. iv. 9 So Politicians form Devices And raise new Whims, to please the Niseys.

β. c 1688 *Roxb. Ball.* (1892) VII. 497 We are on the Coast of France, Taking prizes from those Nizeys. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew*, *Nizy*, a Fool, or Coxcomb. 1708 *Brit. Apollo* No. 66. 4/1 Be not such a Nizey..to wed an Old Crony. 1710 *Galloper* 1 That their Looks may deceive the more credulous Nizies. *a* 1814 *Gonzanga* II. i. in *New Brit. Theatre* III. 111 You talk just like what you are—a nizy, a noodle!

B. *adj.* Foolish.

1709 *Brit. Apollo* No. 8. 3/2 Sometimes Sage as Solon, Oft Nizey as Ben. 1710 *Ibid.* No. 100. 3/2 Here lies a wretched, Nizey Wight.

Nname, obs. variant of YAM.

No., No., an abbreviation of L. *numero*, abl. sing. of *numerus*, used in place of, and pronounced as, the word NUMBER. Also pl. *Nos.* 'numbers'. (Cf. F. *numéro*, It. and Sp. *numero*.)

In early use meaning 'in number'; now restricted to the designation of individual things or persons.

1661 LOVELL *Hist. Anim. & Min.* 129 They goe two months, & then bring forth a blind off-spring like bitches, nº. eight or nine. 1693 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2) s.v. N, Take of Jujubes Nº vi. that is, six in number. 1719 QUINCY *Phys. Dict.* (1722), *Nº.* In Prescription is often used to signify the Number of any Things, as Cariophyllorum Nº vi. is six Cloves.

1753 *Chambers' Cycl., Suppl.* s.v. *Otis*, See Tab. of Birds, Nº 28. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XI. 721/2 When the magnifiers, Nº 4, 5, or 6, are used. 1836–7 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Scenes* ii, Mrs. Macklin, of No. 4 .. opened her little street door. 1873 TRISTRAM *Moab* vii. 131 They knew the sportsmen had only No. 7 in their barrels. 1888 *Pall Mall G.* 21 Sept. 2/2 'No. 9' is, of course, world-famous.

No (nō), *a.* Forms: *a.* 2–6 (9) na, (4 nai), 8–9 naa, nae, etc.; 6, 9 nea, 7 neay, 9 neah, nee(a, ney(e, ne, etc. *β.* 4–6 noo, 5, 7, noe, 3–no. [Reduced form of *nān*, *nōn* NONE *a.*, originally used only before consonants.]

No occurs in a considerable number of common phrases as *no bones*, *no end*, *by no means*, etc., which are treated under the various sbs. In some cases, as *no doubt*, *no wonder*, etc., there is often an ellipse of the verb. For *no other* see OTHER *a.* 5 b and 6 a; also OTHERWISE A.

I. 1. Not any.

a. Accompanied by other negatives (or redundant). Now only *dial.* or illiterate.

a 1200 *Moral Ode* 80 in *O. E. Hom.* I. 165 Nis na [*c* 1250 no] lauerd swich se is crist. *c* 1205 LAY. 25311 Na [*c* 1275 no] ganel he nule bringe. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 304 Þat deol Þat made Innogen no tonge telle ne may. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 6802 For God no synne wyl Þey nat lete. 1340 *Ayenb.* 83 No solas ne no confort me ne ondervangþ bote of him. *c* 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 1749 *Lucretia*, By no crafte hire beaute was not feyned. *c* 1400 tr. *Secreta Secret., Gov. Lordsh.* 63 Ne gyf Þou no credence to no wymmen. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilȝear* 19 Thair micht na folk hald na fute on the heich fell. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Edw. IV*, 216 b, The communaltie coulde not be compelled by no commaundement to tarye at home. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S. T. S.) 144 Lat neuer na euill thing vs befall. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* v. xii. 11 Sith no redemption nigh she did nor heare, nor see. 1674 *Answ. States General* in *Phenix* (1708) I. 288 England had never no thoughts of securing this Right of the Flag by a formal Treaty. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 57, I had lost no time, nor abated no Diligence. 1871 MRS. H. WOOD *Dene Hollow* xxxi, 'Tain't no good your stopping', he..said.

b. Without other negative.

a. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 16 Wit sarazins wald Þai na saght. *c* 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 2462 Na syn Þan unrekend sal be, Þogh it war never swa prive. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* I. 371 Quhar it failȝeys, na wertu May be off price. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) Pref. 2 A flokk of schepe Þat has na schepehird. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S. T. S.) 167 Nychthouris gude that he had na clame to. 1508 KENNEDY *Flyting w. Dunbar* 444 Thare is na lorde that will in service tak the. 1583 *Leg. Bp. St. Androis* 78 in *Satir. Poems Reform.*, He had nea toung for to denye it. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 58 Another Ile, ..quhair nae kynd of cattail is fund. *Ibid.* 78 Maid abrogat, and of na effecte. 1684 [MERITON] *Yorksh. Dial.* 26 It'l git neay Cawd, it's hedded up to th' Een. 1721 RAMSAY *Prospect Plenty* 15 Nae nation in the warld. 1785 J. HUTTON *Bran New Wark* (E. D. S.) 184 Naa prawling wolf, naa cunning fox iver escap'd my eye. 1786 BURNS *Dream* vii, Let nae saving-fit Abridge your bonie Barges. 1804 GALLOWAY *Poems* 69 (E. D. D.), In argument ne papist e'er could ding him. 1827 J. WILSON *Noct. Ambr.* Wks. 1855 I. 353 There's nae kindness like kindness frae the haun o' a woman. 1833 *York Minster Screen* 60 T'other had ne'a business there.

β. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. I. 9 Of oþer heuene Þen heer holde Þei no tale. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 7 The citees knewen no debat. *c* 1412 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 32 Deth, fro which no wight lyvyng Defendyn hym may. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* I. xviii. 102 Noo bischop or archideken or doctour. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 1 b, Specyally to snche that vnderstande no latyn. 1542 UDALL in *Lett. Lit. Men* (Camden) 3 Noo sikenes, noo losse of worldly goodes, none ympresonyng, noo tormentes. 1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV*, IV. i. 97 There is no needе of any such redresse. 1615 W. LAWSON *Country Housew. Gard.* (1626) 19 There is no tree like this for soundnesse. 1667 PEPYS *Diary* 9 Aug., I perceive Sir W. Coventry does really make no difference between any man. *a* 1687 PETTY *Pol. Arith.* (1690) Pref., That there is no Trade nor Employment for the People. 1712 W. ROGERS *Voy. R. World* 419 They added, that they had no Embarkations, but one Ship. 1790 BURKE *Fr. Rev.* 42 Our constitution has made no sort of provision towards rendering him..responsible. 1815 JANE AUSTEN *Emma* xix, There is no comparison between them. 1839–52 BAILEY *Festus* 417 Thou hadst no need, no business to have loved me. 1891 *Law Times Rep.* LXIII. 691/1 There was no evidence that Nunney had authority to arrest.

c. In elliptic phrases.

For other phrases and proverbs, see the sbs.

1531 TINDALE *Expos.* 1 *John* Wks. (1573) 395/1 O Popishe forgiuenesse with whom it goeth after the common prouerbe, no peny no pardon. 1640 BAGSHAW in Rushw. (1721) III. ii. 1343 Episcopacy is inseparable to the Crown of England; and therefore it is commonly now said, No Bishop no King, no Mitre no Scepter. *c* 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* II. xviii, I am of the Italians mind that said, *Nulla nuova, buona nuova*, no news, good news. 1701 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3740/4 Deputations, commonly call'd 'No Purchase no Pay', for seizing Uncustomed and Prohibited Goods to certain Persons. 1751 J. BRIDGES (*title*) No foot, no horse. 1855 BAIN *Senses & Int.* I. ii. § 25 It seems as if we might say, no currents, no mind.

† **d.** Any. *Obs. rare*—[1].

c 1500 *Melusine* 242 The Duches is brought to bed of the most fayrest sone that euer was seen in no laud.

e. *No one*, nobody, no person. (See ONE 24.)

1601 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* II. iv. 58 My part of death no one so true did share it. *a* 1719 SMALRIDGE *Serm.* (J.), No one who doeth good to those only..can ever be fully satisfied of his own sincerity. 1829 SOUTHEY *Sir T. More* (1831) II. 421 Such transactions as no one,..half a century ago, would have been ashamed of. 1861 PYCROFT *Agony Point* (1862) 35 No one has room to do much more than jostle together.

2. Qualifying a noun and adj. in close connexion, usually implying that an adj. of an opposite meaning would be more correct or appropriate.

For examples of *no such* (*thing*, etc.), see SUCH *a.*

c 1350 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1878) 17/1 All þouh þei made no gret nois, He onswerd, as he hed herd heore vois. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 46 Sche cast on me no goodly chiere. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* IV. viii. 468 Thei be not necessarie neither thei ben in no notable degree better. *c* 1500 *Trevelyan Papers* (Camden) 98 Whiche will amounte, yf hyt be well handelyd, to no lyttle summe. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 41 It is upon no lyght consyderation omitted. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* I. ii. 3 This grasse is vnpleasant, and no wholesome food for cattell. 1641 BURGES *Serm.* 62 This is no Empiricall Dosis, but a *Probatum est*. 1671 MILTON *Samson* 650 This one prayer yet remains,..No long petition. 1715 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* I. 235 This sort of Meditation is still..in no small esteem and practice. 1772 *Ann. Reg.* I. 91 It makes no inconsiderable addition to the revenue of the crown. 1826 DISRAELI *Viv. Grey* V. vii, With no pleased air. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* V. I. 528 On this mad his party had long relied for services of no honourable kind. 1877 TENNYSON *Sir J. Franklin* 4 Thon..Art passing on thy happier voyage now Toward no earthly pole.

b. Preceded by *the* or personal pronoun. Now only with *no small* or *little*.

1559 in Strype *Ann. Ref.* (1709) I. II. App. ix. 439 Falsifinge ..the scriptures, to the no small admiration of all the learned readers. 1581 MULCASTER *Positions* v. (1887) 26 Which the most munificent God, by his no niggardishe nature, prouided for them both. 1647 COWLEY *Mistr., Request* vi, Dost thou deny onely to me The no-great privilege of Captivitie?

3. Qualifying a sb. in the predicate: Not (a).

1388 WYCLIF *Jer.* ii. 11 Certeynli thei ben no goddis. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 340 Who that is of man no king, The remenant is as no thing. *c* 1450 HOLLAND *Howlat* 239 Thir ar na fowlis of reif. *a* 1500 in C. Trice-Martin *Chanc. Proc. 15th c.* (1904) 5 Saiying that it was noo season for a man of his ordre to walke so late. 1532 MORE *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 450/1, I take Moyses for no leder of yᵉ children of Israel. 1596 HARINGTON *Metam. Ajax* Pref. (1814) 10 A stream that seems to be no stream, by corn fields that seem no fields, down a street no street. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 157 Great Personages, who otherwise are no Nymrods vpon earth. 1650 *Bounds Publ. Obed.* (ed. 2) 47 The remaining Members make no House. 1721 WODROW *Hist. Suff. Ch. Scot.* (1838) I. i. ii. 112 Mr. Dickson replied, he well knew his grace was no coward. 1749 SMOLLETT *Gil Blas* I. i, He chose a wife..who, though she was no chicken, brought me into the world ten months after her marriage. 1798 FERRIAR *Illustr. Sterne*, etc. iii. 55 Sterne was no friend to gravity. 1815 ELPHINSTONE *Acc. Caubul* (1842) I. 329 Wanton cruelty and insolence are no part of the Afghaun character. 1839–52 BAILEY *Festus* 48 Inspiration cometh from above, And is no labour. 1895 *Bookman* Oct. 22/2 He was no ruler of consummate ability.

b. Denoting approximation to nullity, as in *it is no distance*.

1891 L. FALCONER *Mlle. Ixe* vi. 165 [The mare] will get over to Carchester in no time.

4. Qualifying a verbal sb. or gerund in the predicate, denoting the impossibility of the action specified.

1560 BIBLE (Genev.) *Nahum* iii. 19 There is no healing of thy wounde. 1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* II. i. 161 *Val.* No, beleeue me. *Speed.* No beleeuing you indeed sir. 1641 SHUTE *Sarah & Hagar* (1649) 108 So the people were so impetuously set upon their lusts, that there was no speaking to them. 1650 TRAPP *Comm. Deut.* iv. 25 Thou thinkest there is no removing thee. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* II. (Globe) 345 There was no keeping Friday in the boat. 1753 *Gray's Inn Jrnl.* No. 54 There is no going any where without meeting Pretenders in this Way. 1820 W. IRVING *Sketch Bk., Little Britain*, Do what they might, there was no keeping down the butcher. 1850 THACKERAY *Pendennis* xv, There's no accounting for tastes, sir. 1895 SHANN *Life Sir E. B. Hanley* I. ii. 21 There was no mistaking the meaning of the invitation, and there was no declining it.

II. In combination with sbs. or adjs.

5. a. Denoting that the thing (or person) in question cannot properly be called by that name, owing to the absence of the specific qualities implied by it, as *no-faith*, *no-form*, *no-jest*, etc. (Very common after 1600.)

1565 T. STAPLETON *Fortr. Faith* 103* Ve see a clere difference..betwene the doctrine..of our firste auncient faith, and of this vpstert no faith. 1610 B. JONSON *Alch.* I. i, A.. thredden cloake That scarce would cover your no-buttocks. 1631 WEEVER *Anc. Funeral Mon.* 54 Inuenting..a new certaine no-forme of Liturgie to themselues. *a* 1704 T. BROWN *Praise Poverty* Wks. 1730 I. 98 Laugh immoderately at his own no-jest. 1742 FIELDING *J. Andrews* IV. vii, They ..have been thoroughly frightened with certain no-persons called ghosts. 1786 MRS. A. M. BENNETT *Juvenile Indiscr.* V. 220 Effeminacy, and these other nothings, that constitute the no-character of a modern beau. 1814 JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1830) IV. 239, I frankly confide to yourself these opinions, or rather no opinions of mine. 1850 MERIVALE *Rom. Emp.* I. (1865) VI. 182 The common story of Messalina's impudent no-marriage. 1880 CARNEGIE *Pract. Trap.* 13 A dog such as I have described, whatever be his breed or his no-breed.

b. Denoting entire absence of the thing named.

1603 FLORIO *Montaigne* II. xii. (1632) 247 To make them feele the emptinesse, vacuitie, and no worth of man. 1649 BP. HALL *Cases Conscience* III. ix. (1654) 262 Under the pain of a no-remission. 1680 DODWELL *Two Lett.* To Rdr. 18 Subjects would discover..the no-necessity of those reasons produced for their Separation. 1700 T. BROWN *Lett. fr. Dead* II. 204 Walking in the Middle Temple..to get them a Stomach to their No-dinners. 1796 MORSE *Am. Univ. Geog.* I. 214 Dobchick or Notail. 1835 *Court Mag.* VI. 9/2 His cab is the perfection of 'quiet' no-pretence. *Ibid.* 49/2 We have named its absolute no-pretension as regards the self-supposed claims of its owner. 1896 BOSCAWEN *Bible & Monum.* 166 The land of No-Return, the region of darkness. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 5 Sept. 3/3 It is the low prices which produce the 'no-profit'.

c. With derivative sbs. in various senses, as *no-poperist*, one who is for 'no popery'; *no-religionist*, one who is of no religion; etc.

1827 SYD. SMITH in Lady Holland *Mem.* (1855) II. 273 Jesuits abroad—Turks in Greece—No-Poperists in England! 1838 HAWTHORNE *Amer. Note-bks.* (1883) 169 A group of Universalists and no-religionists sat around him. 1882–3 SCHAFF *Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* III. 2167 The wave of no-sabbathism now sweeping from Europe to America. 1886 *Pall Mall G.* 28 July 3/1 The right of the Government to deal with No-Renters as with rebels.

6. In attrib. phrases:

a. Denoting objection or opposition to the thing in question, as *no-popery man*, etc.

1827 *Edin. Rev.* XLV. 437 Ready to join his No-Popery corps. 1840 DICKENS *Barn. Rudge* xxxviii, I'm a No-Popery man, and ready to be sworn in. 1855 L. HUNT *Old Crt. Suburb* I. 127 Just in his..'no-nonsense' style; what his opponents call 'heavy'. 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 10 Dec. 6/1 Stopping the supplies by adopting a No Rent manifesto. 1892 *Daily News* 11 Mar. 5/7 The no-surrender attitude which the vast majority of the men have assumed.

b. Denoting absence of the thing named, as *no-school poet*, one belonging to no school; etc.

1832 SOUTHEY in *Q. Rev.* XLVII. 95 The other of these no-school poets favoured us with some samples of his poetry. 1858 HOLMES *Aut. Breakf. T.* xii, A real, genuine, no-mistake Osiris. 1881 *Times* 6 Jan. 4/6 Similar volumes ..on the Pycnogonids or no-body crabs. 1898 *Daily News* 13 Oct. 4/4 The Cape Ministry has resigned in consequence of the No-Confidence Vote on Tuesday night.

7. With adjectives:

†**a.** With the force of *non-* or *un-*, as *no-concluding*, inconclusive; *no-certain*, uncertain. *Obs.*

1650 CROMWELL *Decl. Ld. Lieut. Irel.*, To try this no-concluding argument,..but yet well enough agreeing with your learning,—I give you this dilemma. 1658 EARL MONM. tr. *Paruta's Wars Cyprus* 15 Being allured by the no-certain promises of Princes. 1751 COVENTRY *Hist. Pompey* II. ix. (1785) 66/1 A no-thinking scribbler of magazines.

b. In parasynthetic combs., as *no-coated*, *-coloured*, *-shaped*, *-tongued*.

1836–7 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Scenes* xvii, He was a brown-whiskered, white-batted, no-coated cabman. 1875 LANIER *Symphony* 121, I speak for each no-tongued tree. 1887 MORRIS in Mackail *Life* (1899) II. 179 A queer little no-shaped slip cut off from some workshop. 1895 *Outing* XXVI. 338/1 This discolored, no-colored gown.

No (nōu), *adv.*[1] [Several forms of different origin are included here. Those placed under *a* (in sense 1) represent OE. *nó*, f. *ne* NE + *ó* always, var. of *á*: see A *adv.* and O *adv.* The second group (*β*) contains the southern or midland representatives of OE. *ná* (see NA *adv.*[1]); the later examples, however, are somewhat uncertain, and some of them may be misprints for *not*. In early northern and Scottish texts (*γ*) *no* is prob. a scribal alteration of original *na* or *ne*; but the later Scottish *no* (from *c* 1600) appears to be a reduced form of *nōth* for *nocht* NOUGHT (cf. *dōther* for *dochter*, and *mou'* for *mouth*).] = NOT.

1. In ordinary uses. Now only *Sc.*

a. c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* liii. 5 Da strongan..no foresettun god biforan ȝesihðe heara. *a* 900 CYNEWULF *Christ* 84 No ȝebrosnad wearð mæȝðhad se micla. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 13 Ne herede heo hine no mid wordum anum. *Ibid.* 17 Se þe ..bideþ þæs ecan leohtes, & no ne ȝeblinneþ. *c* 1205 LAY. 7524 He ne blakede no. *Ibid.* 31816 Oðer brohte enne; þe oðer no brohte nenne. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1963 Oðer, ȝef ha nule no, ha schal beon tohwiðeret.

β. c 1200 *Moral Ode* 77 (Trin. Coll. MS.), Nis him no þing forholen..Ne bie hit no swo derne idon. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 340 Þauh, no þe later, 'Betere is þo þene no'. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2236 Us sal ben hard If we no holden him non forward. 13.. *K. Alis.* 6925 No shaltow heorte and flesch hardye. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 5829 (Kölbing), For þai no seiȝen no socour. *Ibid.* 7224 No telle y ȝou nouȝt worþ an hawe. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 1554 Alle men vpon molde no schuld my liif saue. *a* 1450 *Fyrstknyge tr. Angle* (1883) 4 He may not gretly lose but a lyne..,so then hys loste ys no grevous. 1588 PARKE tr. *Mendoza's Hist. China* 8 They doe no leaue one foote of grounde vnsowen. 1628 DOUGHTY *Church Schismes* 22 Papistrie thwarts and cuts the very life-strings of a saning heleefe. Semi-pelagianisme no so. 1661 P. HENRY *Diaries & Lett.* (1882) 79 My Father will no cease vnlesse my Vncle acknowledge..that hee hath done him wrong. 1682 DRYDEN & LEE *Dk. Guise* II. ii, No yet, my Lord of Guise, no yet.

γ. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 7628 Awai þan drou him son daui, Bot saul dred him no for-þi. *c* 1325 *Metr. Hom.* 141 No gif thou of the selfna tale. 13..*Cursor M.* 11781 (Gött), Þis child, if he no war god of might, vr goddes alle had standen up right. 1487 *Barbour's Bruce* IX. 471 (Cambr. MS.), That him sair repent sall he..May fall, quhen he no mend it may. *a* 1510 DOUGLAS *K. Hart* II. 303 Be no wraith with me, my lady deir! 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* I. 272 At this time I no will Onto the Romanis do injure or ill. *Ibid.* II. 334 For caus that thai no wald Resist the wrang. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* II. 133 *marg.*, Be the law ȝoung and tendir of ȝeiris ar no permitted to haue the administratione of the Rep[ublic]. 1611 SIR W. MURE *Misc. Poems* Wks. (S. T. S.) I. 49 Cease, serpent, seik no to subdue And kill ane hert. 1629 *Ibid.* 218 To doe who care no, much delight to prat. 1725 RAMSAY *Gentle Sheph.* I. ii. 70 He's get his will: why no? *Ibid.* 131 The laird seeks in his rent: 'Tis no to gie. 1786 BURNS *Mount. Daisy* ii, Alas! it's no thy neebor sweet, The bonie Lark. 1799 MITCHELL *Scotticisms* 60, I have walked forty miles, and yet am no wearied. 1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* xliv, I maunna say muckle about them that's no weel and no very able. 1861 RAMSAY *Remin. Ser.* II. 182 Is it the fashion for them no to go on?

2. Expressing the negative in an alternative choice, possibility, etc. (Usu. *whether..or no.*)

In earlier ME. *non* is employed in the same way (see NONE *adv.*); this makes it probable that the use originated in sentences (such as quots. *c* 1440 and 1708) in which *no* was adjectival.

1413 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton) v. i. (1859) 71 To this hows all other ben subget, and servauntes, whether they wylle or noo. *c* 1440 *Generydes* 2588, I will, she sayde, do as ye councell me: Comforte or no. 1535 COVERDALE *Judith* ix. 20 Vf no, then go fyre out from Abimelech. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 234 b, He causeth hym to take xiii Duckates, whether he wolde or noe. 1592 GREENE *Upst. Courtier* Wks. (Grosart) XI. 247 He..asketh whether he please to be shauen or no. 1664 POWER *Exp. Philos.* I. 2 By which he tryes and feels all objects, whether they be edible or no. 1708 SWIFT *Sacram. Test* Wks. 1751 IV. 164 Many of them care not Three-pence whether there be any Church, or no. 1784 *Unfortunate Sensibility* I. 182 Whether or no, this coat shall be my favourite coat. 1813 PARR *Let. to J. C. Moore* 15 Oct., I am uncertain whether or no to notice very shortly some of his previous..exploits. 1853 WHEWELL in Todhunter *Acc. Writ.* (1876) II. 393 Whether or no there be virtue or vice in other worlds. 1892 MRS. H. WARD *David Grieve* I. vii, It was a half-baked eloquence...But half-baked or no, David rose to it greedily.

†**3.** Used in a rejoinder or retort having the form of a negative question. *Obs.*

1525 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* II. cxix. [cxv.] 342, I wyll nat entre there..,No wyll? quod Geronette. *a* 1553 UDALL *Royster D.* I. iv, *R.* This is not she. *M.* No is? *Ibid.* II. iv, *C.* What was his name? *An.* We asked not. *C.* No did? 1581 RICH *Farew.* (1846) 144 The Doctour..aunswered, that he never writte letter unto her...No have? (q, Mistres Doritie) read you then heare your owne lines. 1595 SHAKS. *John* IV. ii, *Jo.* I bad a mighty cause To wish him dead, but thou hadst none to kill him. *H.* No had (my Lord?). 1621 BP. MOUNTAGU *Diatribæ* 35 You professe your ignorance thus: *Non omnino capimus quid sibi velit.* No doe? That is marvell that you do not *capere.*

No (nōu), *adv.*[2] Also *a.* 1–6 **na**, 8–9 *Sc.* **nae**, *north.* **nea.** [OE. *ná*, identical with NA *adv.*[1] Cf. prec. 1 *β.*] With comparatives: Not any, not at all (better, etc.). See also NO LESS, NO MO(RE.

a. a 1000 *Boeth. Metr.* xxv. 29 ȝif he wyrsa ne bið, ne wene ic his na beteran. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 129 Heo weren ipult ut of paradise and ne mehten þer naleng etstonden. *c* 1200 OAMIN 13163 Þe33 nolldenn nohht tatt boc Flæsbliȝ na lenngre follȝhenn. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 12366 For leons durst þai cum na nerr. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xviii. (*Egipciane*) 226 Hayre scho had, qubyt & streke, rekand na fortbire na hir neke. *c* 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 109 Na forthir he faris, bot foundis away. 1508 DUNBAR *Tua Mariit Wemen* 200 He is at Venus werkis na war na he semys. 1580 HAY in *Catholic Tract.* (S. T. S.) 46 In the receaving of it thair is na farder profite. 1786 BURNS *Answ. Tailor's Ep.* x, Gelding's nae better than 'tis ca't. 1790 MRS. WHEELER *Westmld. Dial.* (1821) 12, I'll bide nea langer, sea gang I will.

β. a 1250 *Owl & Night.* 42 Heo [the owl] ne myhte no leng bileue. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* C. 85 At alle peryles..I aproche hit no nerre. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 4186 Thei sayde thei myght no hetre do. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 212 Þou owyst to sellyn it hym no derere þan þou mayst haue þerfore in markett. 1461 *Paston Lett.* II. 5 We send no er un to you be cause we had non certynges tyl now. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* I. vi. 4 b, A small fountaine beeing no higher set then the pavement. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. ix. 21 No lenger time So goodly workemanship should not endure. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* (1652) 151 'Tis horse-play this, and those jests..are no better then injuries. 1697 DAMPIER *Voy.* 467 Being out of hopes to find their Habitations, we searched no farther. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 80 ₱ 1 They now no longer enjoyed the Ease of Mind..in which they were formerly happy. 1790 BURKE *Fr. Rev.* Sel. Wks. II. 35 If they had been able to contrive no better remedy against arbitrary power. 1836 THIRLWALL *Greece* II. xi. 59 The two factions had no sooner accomplished the object..than they began to quarrel. 1891 L. FALCONER *Mlle. Ixe* vi. 165, I hope that unfortunate fellow is no worse.

†**b.** None (*the* fairer, etc.). *Obs. rare* (except in NOTHELESS and NOTHEMO).

a 1000 *Exod.* 399 Fyrst ferhðbana no þy fægra wæs. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 236 Hit com no þe later as he hadde iseyd.

No (nōu), *adv.*[3] and *sb.* Also 3 noa. [Southern and midland form of NA *adv.*[2]]

A. *adv.* **1.** A word used to express a negative reply to a question, request, etc., or to introduce a correction of an erroneous opinion or assumption on the part of another person.

On the distinction between *no* and *nay*, see NAY *adv.*[1]

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 222 Noa, he seiðe, [1]ne mei nout makien þeos to sunezen þuruh ȝiuernesse. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 997 Vet þu ayschest hwi ic ne vare Into oþer londe & singe þare. No; hwat scholde ich among heom do? *c* 1320 *Cast. Love* 1099 No, ac er he dilyuered be, þou most al so muche delyuere me. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 2701 No, madame, seide hire douȝter, marie þat graunt. 1382 WYCLIF *Zech.* iv. 5 Where thou wost not what hen these thingus? And Y saide, No, my lord. 1418 26 *Polit. Poems* 63 To kepe his comaundement þey say no. 1535 COVERDALE *John* i. 21 Art thou the Prophet? And he answered: No. 1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* I. iii. 91 My heart accords thereto; And yet a thousand times it answers no. 1646 CRASHAW *Steps to Temple* Poems (1858) 78 When heav'n bids come, who can say no? 1695 *Anc. Const. Eng.* 4 No sure, not at all. 1718 G. SEWELL *Procl. Cupid* 8 The Fools say, Yes; but wiser Chancer, No. 1766 GOLDSM. *Vic. W.* xiii, No, cries the Dwarf,..no, I declare off. 1817 *Parl. Deb.* 413 On the question that the bill do pass, being finally put, the cry of 'No', from the Opposition side, was very loudly pronounced. 1879 MEREDITH *Egoist* vii, He half refuses. I do not take no from him. 1884 TENNYSON *Becket* IV. i, *Eleanor.* Wilt thou love me? *Geoffrey.* No; I only love mother.

ellipt. 1857 TOULMIN SMITH *Parish* 62 The whole number present at the meeting must range themselves, aye and no, on the two opposite sides of the room. 1893 GLADSTONE in *Daily News* 14 Feb. 4/6 Then I propose the question in Parliamentary form, 'Aye or no'.

†**b.** After verbs of thinking or implying. *Obs.*

1601 BP. W. BARLOW *Defence* 7 We dullard Protestantes thinke no. 1621 BP. MOUNTAGU *Diatribæ* 388 For my part I thinke no, vnlesse he held possessions in the Land of Promise. 1634 CANNE *Necess. Separ.* (1849) 243 His words import positively no, but we are sure yes, and so will every wise man..affirm too.

c. Used interrogatively.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* II. 1162 'Trewely I nil no lettre wryte.' 'No? than wol I', quod he. *a* 1553 UDALL *Royster D.* II. iv, *T.* Yet can I not yonder craftie boy see nor meete. *C.* No? 1884 TENNYSON *Becket* v. iii, Does he breathe? No? No, Reginald, he is dead.

2. Repeated for the sake of emphasis or earnestness.

a 1500 *Assembly of Ladies* 63 The povre pensees were not disloged there; No, no! god wot, her place was everywhere! *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. V* 61 b, No, no, I wyll not so accomplishe your cloked request. 1630 DEKKER *2nd Pt. Honest Wh.* I. i, No, no, no, sir, no; I cannot abide to haue money ingender. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IX. 913 Loss of thee Would never from my heart; no no, I feel The Link of Nature draw me. 1721 DE FOE *Mem. Cavalier* (1840) 70 No, no, I took care of that. 1791 BOSWELL *Johnson* an. 1775, I answered, also smiling, 'No, no, Sir; that will not do'. 1846 DICKENS *Battle Life* i, 'There is not a truer heart than Alfred's in the world!' 'No—no,..perhaps not'.

3. Introducing a more emphatic or comprehensive statement, followed by *not*, or *nor*.

1369 CHAUCER *Dethe Blaunche* 280, I trowe no man hadde the wit To conne wel my sweven rede; No, not Ioseph. 1509 BARCLAY *Shyp of Folys* (1874) II. 304 No wylde beste: no: nat the mighty here. 1581 FULKE in *Confer.* II. (1584) L iiij b, We are not iustified by them, no nor by faith, otherwise then instrumentally. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 383 There growes nothing in it good to make ointments, no nor nothing throughout all Europe. 1636 HEYLIN *Hist. Sabbath* 57, I say there was none kept, no nor none commanded. 1721 DE FOE *Mem. Cavalier* (1840) 137 The Scots never appeared, no, not so much as their scouts. 1774 BURKE *Sp. Amer. Tax.* Sel. Wks. I. 135 He never stirred from his ground; no, not an inch. 1862 TENNYSON *Idylls of King, Ded.* 9 Who spake no slander, no, nor listened to it. 1884 — *Becket* Prol., Thou art but deacon, not yet bishop, No, nor archbishop.

b. Introducing a correction or contradiction.

1616 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Poems, Sonn.* xiii, You her words, words, no, but golden chains. 1702 DE FOE *Shortest Way w. Dissenters* (1703) 2 Now they cry out Peace, Union, Forbearance, and Charity...No, Gentlemen, the Time of Mercy is past. 1825 *Spirit Publ. Jrnls.* 342 That class of persons was composed of men—no, he could not call them men..—of individuals.

B. *sb.* †**1.** *Without no*, beyond denial, certainly. (Cf. NAY *adv.*[1] 3.) *Obs.*

c 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 118 (Kölbing), Ac Inglond was

yhoten þo Michel Breteyne, wiþ onten no. *Ibid.* 307 So þai deden, wiþ onten no.

2. An utterance of the word *no*; an instance of its use; a denial.

1588 Shaks. *L. L. L.* v. ii. 413 Henceforth my woing minde shall be exprest In russet yeas, and honest kersie noes. 1622 Mabbe tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* II. 202 It is hee that can gine you an I, or a No, whether I shall goe or stay. 1685 *Gracian's Courtier's Orac.* 15 The gracefull manner so guilds and sets off a No, as to make it more esteemed than an ill seasoned Yea. 1736 Fielding *Pasquin* I. Wks. 1882 X. 139 Let the audience know they can speak, if it were but an ay or a no. 1792 A. Young *Trav. France* 129 She determined..to go to church,..and give a solemn no instead of a yea. 1825 *Spirit Publ. Jrnls.* 183 As two noes will make a yes. 1831 Carlyle *Sart. Res.* II. vii. (*heading*), The Everlasting No. 1865 Ruskin *Ethics Dust* (1883) 97 Resolutely whispered 'No's'.

b. A negative vote or decision.

1589 *Marprel. Epit.* B iij, Here then is the puritans I, for the permanencie of this government, and M. doctors no. 1654 H. L'Estrange *Chas. I* (1655) 119 When the same parity of reasoning was urged, Bellarmines No was produced. 1886 Gladstone *Election Address*, With you..it rests to deliver the great Aye or No, on your choice.

3. †**a.** The negative side or party. *Obs. rare.*

1620 *Jrnl. Ho. Comm.* 13 Feb. I. 520 Question whether the I or Noe to go ont. The Noe yielded, before the Division of the House.

b. *pl.* Those who vote on the negative side in a division.

1657 *Burton's Diary* (1828) I. 324 A member stood up and said, that the Noes in the former question had it. 1669 Marvell *Wks.* (Grosart) II. 289 The ayes proved 138 and the noes 129. 1710 *Acc. Distemper Tom Whigg* II. 50 The No's fronting to the East, the Yea's to the West. 1796 Hatsell *Prec. Proc. Ho. Comm.* (ed. 3) II. 82 *note*, If this question for adjournment takes place before four o'clock in the afternoon, and there is a division upon it, the Yeas go forth; if after four o'clock, the Noes. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* vi. II. 26 The Ayes were one hundred and eighty-two and the Noes one hundred and eighty-three.

Hence **No** *v.*, *intr.* to say no (*to* one); *trans.* to answer (one) with no. *nonce-uses.*

1820 *Blackw. Mag.* VIII. 271 Yes-ing and No-ing to the great man's will. 1835 *Court Mag.* VI. 168/1 It is of the utmost importance..that you should No the world.

†**No,** *conj.*[1] *Obs.* [var. of Na *conj.*[1]] Nor.

c 1205 Lay. 17053 Ne recche ich noht..his seoluer no his goldes no his clades no his hors. *a* 1300 *Sarmun* xi. in *E. E. P.* (1862) 2 Silk no sendale nis þer none no bise no no meniner. 1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 6734 He..to þe pore dyd euyl yn dede No halp hym no3t yn hys nede. 1338 — *Chron.* (1810) 56 Spare it neuer a dele, Noiþer man no beste, no manere no no toun. *c* 1400 *Gamelyn* 22 Had þei no rest nother nyght no day. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* v. 779 That wood..was nothir thik no lang. 1535 Stewart *Cron. Scot.* I. 61 Stakkis no stoir into na stait ma stand.

†**No,** *conj.*[2] *Obs. Sc.* [var. of Na *conj.*[2]] Than.

1535 Stewart *Cron. Scot.* II. 346 Mekle mair..He said to him no I will tell 30w heir. *Ibid.* III. 197 Moir sicker wes in gudlie haist to fle, No to remane.

†**No·achal,** *a. Obs. rare*[−1]. [f. as next + -al.] Very ancient.

1661 K. W. *Conf. Charac., Pragm. Pulpit-filler* (1860) 85 The booksellers old obsolete and Noahcal [*sic*] sermons..are the parchments he especially takes care of.

Noachian (nōi·ē·kiăn), *a.* [f. *Noach* = *Noah* + -ian.] Of or relating to the patriarch Noah or his time, esp. *Noachian deluge*, the Flood.

1678 Cudworth *Intell. Syst.* 451 Within eight hundred years after the Noachian Flood. 1711 *Brit. Apollo* No. 153. 2/1 After this Noachian Deluge, the Air .. was changed. 1830 Lyell *Princ. Geol.* I. iii. (1837) I. 45 The universality of the Noachian cataclysm. 1876 Page *Adv. Text-bk. Geol.* vi. 113 Ascribing every phenomenon in the earth's crust to the operation of the Noachian deluge. 1879 Farrar *St. Paul* I. 427 Four restrictions, which belonged to what was called the Noachian dispensation.

b. *transf.* Very ancient or old-fashioned.

1874 Hardy *Far fr. Mad. Crowd* lii, A..grey overcoat of Noachian cut.

Noachic (nōi·ē·kik), *a.* [f. as prec. + -ic.] Of or pertaining to Noah; Noachian.

a 1773 A. Butler *Feasts & Fasts* (1852) II. 114 *note*, The Noachick precepts are reduced to abstinence from blood and unclean meats. 1835 *Brit. Mag.* VII. 413 The Noachic Creation. 1863 J. G. Murphy *Comm. Gen.* xx. 3-7 The Gentile world, who were under the Noachic covenant. 1892 J. Tait *Mind in Matter* (ed. 3) 236 There is little question now of the deluge, but the disposition that once denied doubts if it was the Noachic one.

So **Noa·chical** *a.*

1669 W. Penn in *Life* Sel. Wks. 1825 I. 11 The utmost they required from strangers..was an acknowledgment to the Noachical precepts.

Noachid (nōu·ăkid). Also **-ide.** [Cf. prec. and -id 3.] A descendant of Noah. Also *attrib.*

1856 J. Hadley *Ess.* i. (1873) 10 In the tenth chapter of the book of Genesis, in the list of Noachids. 1877 Rawlinson *Orig. Nat.* II. i. 173 The author of the Noachide genealogy.

Noah's Ark. [See *Genesis* vi. 14, etc.]

1. The ark in which Noah and his family, with many animals, were saved from the Flood.

1611 Florio, *Noale*, any place, roome, or thing that containeth varietie of things, as Noes Arke did. 1688 Holme *Armoury* III. xv. (Roxb.) 27/1 Some blazon it Noahs Arke sable. 1725 Watts *Logic* (1736) 321 All Animals were in Noah's Ark. 1777 Sheridan *Trip Scarb.* III. iii, The seat of our family looks like Noah's ark.

b. A small imitation of this, intended as a plaything for children.

1846 Dickens *Cricket on Hearth* ii, Noah's Arks, in which Birds and Beasts were an uncommonly tight fit. 1883 Ruskin *Art Eng.* 9 A Noah's Ark from the nearest toy-shop.

2. Something suggestive of the Ark in respect of size, shape, etc., *esp.* a large, cumbrous, or old-fashioned trunk or vehicle.

1829 Marryat *F. Mildmay* iv, I and my Noah's ark [=sea-chest] lay slap in the way. 1835 — *Olla Podr.* iii, There was the pouring out of the Noah's Ark. 1880 Miss Braddon *Just as I am* xxxiv, The baroushe will hold us all. It is a regular Noah's Ark. 1884 *Harper's Mag.* Feb. 339/2 You hire a sort of floating Noah's ark, and live in it.

3. A small bivalve mollusc (*Arca Noæ*).

1713 Petiver *Aquat. Anim. Amb.* 2/1 *Chama Noachina*, Noahs Ark. 1753 Chambers *Cycl.* Suppl. s.v., Another shell of this genus which..resembles the *Noah's ark*,..is the oblong bucardium, or ox heart shell, commonly called the *bastard Noah's ark.* 1823 in Crabb *Technol. Dict.* 1854 A. Catlow *Conchol.* (ed. 2) 279 The *Arca Noæ* or Noah's Ark and several other species like it in form and character. 1871 Kingsley *At Last* i, Delicate prickly Pinnæ; 'Noah's arks' in abundance.

attrib. 1753 Chambers *Cycl. Suppl.*, *Noah's ark shell*,.. the name of a kind of sea shell [etc.]. 1882 *Standard* 26 Sept. 2/2 A near ally of the mussel, the Mediterranean Noah's Ark shell.

4. A cloud-formation having some resemblance to the outline of a ship's hull.

1787 Best *Angling* (ed. 2) 145 Small black fragments of clouds like smoke, flying underneath, which some call messengers, and others Noah's Ark. 1821 Clare *Vill. Minstr.* II. 27 As oft from 'Noah's Ark' great floods descend. 1866 Blackmore *Cradock Nowell* xxxi, Daubed with lumps of vapour which mariners call 'Noah's arks'. 1889 *Anthony's Photogr. Bull.* II. 279 Halos, 'Noah's Arks' and unusual clearness of sky are all good signs of rain.

Also **Noah's Dove,** a constellation in the Southern hemisphere.

1594 Blundevil *Exerc.* IV. xix. (1636) 473 Other Images towards the South Pole, as the Crosse or Crosier, the South Triangle, Noahs Dove or Pigeon. 1665 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* (1677) 33 The Antartique constellations, some of which we took special notice of towards the Pole;..Noah's Dove, Polophylax.

Noa(h)ic (nōi·ē·ik), *a.* = Noachic *a.*

1845 A. Duncan *Disc.* Pref. 7 An exposition of the Noahic, Abrahamic, ..and Davidic covenants. 1861 J. G. Sheppard *Fall Rome* iii. 114 Even before the Noaic deluge.

Noap, variant of Nope, bullfinch.

†**Noast,** obs. variant of Oast.

1656 W. Du Gard tr. *Commenius' Gate Lat. Unl.* 107 Having laid it on a kiln, or noast, scorcheth it, and converteth it into malt.

Noat(e, obs. forms of Note.

†**Nob,** *sb.*[1] *Obs.* [Of obscure origin: cf. Flem. *nobbeling*, the coarsest flax, of which sacking is made. See also Nobbly *a.*] A knot (on thread).

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xvii. clxi. (Bodl. MS.) 230 *b*/2 Hurden..is clensing of offal of hempe oþer of flaxe..þerof is þrede sponne þat is..vneuen and ful of nobbes.

Nob (nɒb), *sb.*[2] *slang.* Also 8 **nobb.** [perh. a variant of Knob *sb.*, in various senses of which the spelling *nob* is also used (see *Eng. Dial. Dict.*). Sense 3 may be unconnected.]

1. The head. (Cf. Knob *sb.* 4.)

a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew*, *Nob*, a Head. 1733 K. O'Hara *Tom Thumb* I. iv, Do pop up your nob again, And egad I'll crack your crown. 1759 *Compl. Lett.-Writer* (ed. 6) 220 Miss Bennet had apparel'd her nob in a frightful Fanny Murry Cap. 1819 *Sporting Mag.* IV. 237 A tremendous lunging blow on his nob. *a* 1845 Hood *Public Dinner* 17 A little dark spare man, With bald shining nob. 1894 Meredith *Ld. Ormont* i, Matey's sure aim..relieving J. Masner of a foremost assailant with a spanker on the nob.

fig. 1782 G. Parker *Hum. Sk.* 155 Here no despotic power shews Oppression's haughty nob.

b. *attrib.* and *Comb.* as *nob-thatch*, hair; *nob-thatcher*, a wig-maker (Grose 1796) or hatter.

1823 Moncrieff *Tom & Jerry* I. v, Some of our dashing straw-chippers and nob-thatchers in Burlington Arcade. 1866 Yates *Land at Last* vii, You've got a paucity of nob-thatch, and what 'air you 'ave is..gray.

c. A blow on the head.

1812 *Sporting Mag.* XXXIX. 153 By flush-hits, and nobs and fibs Who crack'd the jaw and broke the ribs Of fearless Thomas Molineux.

2. In *Cribbage*, the knave of the same suit as the turn-up card, counting one to the holder; esp. in phr. *one for his nob.*

1821 Lamb *Elia* Ser. I. *Mrs. Battle's Opinions on Whist*, There was nothing silly in it, like the nob in cribbage. 1844 J. T. Hewlett *Parsons & W.* liv, Fifteen two, and a pair's four, and his nob's five. 1870 Hardy & Ware *Mod. Hoyle, Cribbage* 18 If you hold in your hand or crib a knave of the same suit as the card turned up you peg one. In the familiar phrase, you take 'one for his nob'.

†**3.** The game of prick-the-garter. *Obs.*

1753 Poulter *Discov.* (ed. 2) 9 We defrauded a young Man of..four Guineas.. at the old Nobb, or Pricking in the Belt. *Ibid.* 11.

Nob (nɒb), *sb.*[3] *slang.* Also *Sc.* 8 **knabb,** 8-9 **nab.** [Of obscure origin: the Sc. forms are against the suggestion that it is an abbreviation of *nobleman.*] A person of some wealth or social distinction.

a. 1755 R. Forbes *Ajax Sp.*, *Shop Bill* ii, Doughty geer That either knabbs or lairds may weer. 1796 Lauderdale *Poems* 75 (E.D.D.), A' the fat nabs through the countra. 1819 Thomson *Poems* 29 (E.D.D.), The nabs will say, that duddy soul Shall no sit near, nor taste our bowl.

β. 1809 *MS. Lett. of W. Fowler*, My Drawings and Engravings .. have recommended me to the notice of the first Nobbs of this Kingdom. 1825 C. Westmacott *Eng. Spy* I. 255 Nob or big wig. 1837 Disraeli *Henrietta Temple* v. xviii, The little waiter who began to think Ferdinand was not such a nob as he had imagined. 1850 Huxley in *Life* (1900) I. v. 63 [He] asked me to dine with him and meet a lot of nobs. 1872 *Punch* 3 Feb. 47/1 Why don't your nobs and swells get up poor's schools of their own?

Nob, *sb.*[4], variant of Knob *sb.*

1774 [see Knob *sb.* 1]. 1792 Hunter *Obs. Anim. Œcon.* (ed. 2) 80 The hen had nobs on her toes. 1840 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* III. 400/1 A certain article which forms.. a handsome nob for parlour and other doors. 1844 H. Stephens *Bk. Farm* III. 928 A wooden cover..with nobs for the convenience of lifting it out. *Ibid.* 936 It has a nob-handle standing upward. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1530/2 *Nob* (Artillery), the plate under the swing-bed for the head of an elevating screw.

Nob, *sb.*[5], abbrev. of Knobstick 2.

1870 J. K. Hunter *Life Studies* xix. 136 They ha'e a strong society,..and hate nobs such as me. 1886 Macleod *Clyde Distr. Dumbart.* I. 22 The 'nobs' and their protectors proceeded to the works.

Nob, *v.*[1] *Boxing slang.* [f. Nob *sb.*[1] 1.]

1. *trans.* To strike (one) on the head.

1812 *Sporting Mag.* XXXIX. 18 After Crib had again nobbed him. 1816 *Ibid.* XLVIII. 181 Ford..nobbed him severely. 1823 Moncrieff *Tom & Jerry* II. iv, I've nobb'd him on the canister.

2. *intr.* To deliver blows on the head.

1812 *Sporting Mag.* XXXIX. 153 Tom who cou'd both fib and nob. 1814 *Ibid.* XLIII. 55 Alexander kept nobbing with his left hand at the other.

Hence **No·bbing** *vbl. sb.*[1] and *ppl. a.*

1816 *Sporting Mag.* XLVIII. 87 Stephenson during these rounds..put in several nobbing hits. 1825 Jones *True Boxer* in Farmer *Musa Ped.* (1896) 92 With flipping and milling, and fobbing and nobbing.

Nob, *v.*[2] *slang.* [Of obscure origin.]

1. To collect (money).

1851 Mayhew *Lond. Labour* (1861) III. 135 We also 'nob', or gather the money. 1893 P. H. Emerson *Signor Lippo* vi, I nobbed half a sovereign from a young visitor, besides a lot of small money.

2. To make a collection from (persons).

1851 Mayhew *Lond. Labour* (1861) III. 206, I saw some men coming out of a chemical works, and we went to 'noh' them (that is get some halfpence out of them).

Hence **No·bbing** *vbl. sb.*[2] Also in concrete use.

1851 Mayhew *Lond. Labour* (1861) III. 109 We'd take.. perhaps fifteen shillings of nobbings. 1895 Morton *Adv. Arthur Roberts* 138 'Nobbing' is the professional euphuism for going round with the hat.

Nob, in *hob and nob*, etc.: see Hob-nob.

No ball, no-ball, *sb.* [f. No *a.* + Ball *sb.*]

1. The words used by an umpire at cricket to denote that the ball has not been bowled in accordance with the rules of the game.

17.. *Laws of Cricket* in Grace *Cricket* (1891) 14 If he [the bowler] delivers ye ball with his hinder foot over ye Bowling crease, ye Umpire shall call no Ball. 1787 *Laws* § 13 in Waghorn *Cricket-Scores* (1899), If the bowler's foot is not behind the bowling-crease when he delivers the ball, the umpire unasked must call 'no-ball'. 1890 *Laws of Cricket* § 10 in Murdoch *Cricket* (1893) 87 The ball must be bowled: if thrown or jerked, the umpire shall call 'No Ball'.

2. A ball not bowled according to the rules.

1884 *Lillywhite's Cricket Ann.* 48 Robertson delivered a no-ball. 1888 *Athenæum* 21 July 89/1 Why should the bowler in each instance deliver a palpable no-ball?

Hence **No-ball,** *v. trans.* **a.** To condemn as a no-ball. (In quot. *fig.*) **b.** To declare (a bowler) to have delivered a no-ball.

1878 *Sat. Rev.* 16 Nov. 617 The new destructive invention would be internationally 'no-balled'. 1883 *Standard* 8 May 3/7 It is their duty to 'no ball' any bowler as to the fairness of whose delivery they entertain any doubt. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 18 July 5/2 Mr. Jowett, bowling for Lancashire, was no-balled on the ground of throwing.

Nobbe, obs. variant of Knob *sb.*

Nobber[1] (nɒ·bəɹ). *slang.* [f. Nob *v.*[1]]

1. A blow on the head.

1818 *Sporting Mag.* II. 23 Spring langhed and gave Painter a nobber. 1828 *Ibid.* XXII. 447 Crawley was about to give the party a second edition of 'nobbers' when Harry Holt interposed.

2. A pugilist skilled in nobbing.

1821 *Sporting Mag.* VIII. 263 Nature seems to have taken particular pains in qualifying Randall for a nobber of first-rate excellence.

No·bber[2]. *slang.* [f. Nob *v.*[2]] One who 'nobs' or collects money.

1890 *Echo* 30 Oct. (Farmer), Only a nobber can know the extraordinary meanness of the British public. 1893 P. H. Emerson *Signor Lippo* vi, I have often met hononrable nobbers since.

No·bbily, *adv.* [f. Nobby *a.* + -ly 2.] In a nobby manner; showily; smartly (Ogilvie 1882).

Nobbing, *vbl. sb.*: see Nob *v.*[1] and *v.*[2]

Nobble (nɒ·b'l), *v. slang.* [Of obscure origin.]

1. *trans.* To tamper with (a horse), as by drugging or laming it, in order to prevent it from winning a race.

1847 [see Nobbling *vbl. sb.*]. 1859 Lever *D. Dunn* iv, A shadowy vision of creditors 'done', horses 'nobbled'. 1868 *Pall Mall G.* 4 May (Farmer), Buccaneer..was nobbled, *i. e.* maimed purposely, before the Two Thousand in which he was engaged. 1881 *Standard* 22 June 3/4 The libel accused the Plaintiff of being a party to 'nobbling' a horse ..with the object of raising the odds against it.

b. To secure (a person, etc.) to one's own side or interest by bribery or other underhand methods.

1865 [see NOBBLING *vbl. sb.*]. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 15 Oct. 5/5 He must be a very clumsy operator who, when he wishes to nobble a newspaper, does it by cash down. 1889 *Times* 2 May 9/5 A cool attempt to nobble the Council on the question of the licensing of music-halls.

2. To obtain by dishonest methods; to steal.

1854 THACKERAY *Newcomes* lvii, After nobbling her money for the beauty of the family. 1862 — *Philip* xvi, The old chap has nobbled the young fellow's money. 1889 D. C. MURRAY *Cat's paw* 207 A gentleman in your position might as well nobble the Griffin outside as steal them stones.

b. To swindle (one) *out of* something.

1854 THACKERAY *Newcomes* xxv, I don't know out of how much the reverend party has nobbled his poor old sister.

3. To get hold of, seize, catch.

1877 GREENWOOD *Dick Temple* I. ii. 73 There's a fiver in the puss, and nine good quid... Nobble him, lads, and share it betwixt you. 1888 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Robbery under Arms* (1890) 69 We're bound to be nobbled some day.

Hence **No·bbled** *ppl. a.*

1891 *Review of Rev.* IV. 580/2 The nobbled managers were quite cowed. 1901 MCCARTHY 5 *Yrs. Irel.* xxxiv. 513 Secure, as they fondly thought, in a nobbled hierarchy.

Nobble, variant of KNOBBLE *v.*

Nobbler[1] (nɒ·blər). [f. NOBBLE *v.* + -ER [1].]

1. One who nobbles horses.

1854 WHYTE-MELVILLE *General Bounce* vii, Nobblers and noblemen—grooms and gentlemen—..apparently all layers and no takers. 1865 *Daily Tel.* 18 Apr. 3 It is to be hoped that the son of Orlando will speedily have the pen put through his name, and thereby mar the 'little game' of the 'nobblers'. 1881 *World* 6 July 15/1 It is dangerous to hastily append the word 'nobbler' to any man.

2. (See quot.)

1876 HINDLEY *Cheap Jack* 261 A lot of people called 'Nobblers', who used to work the 'thimble and pea rig' and go 'buzzing', that is, picking pockets.

Nobbler[2] (nɒ·blər). [Of obscure origin.] A small quantity of liquor.

1859 CORNWALLIS *New World* I. 300 People would drink nobbler after nobbler of spirits all day long. 1862 POLEHAMPTON *Kangaroo Land* 95 One fellow sold execrable rum at two shillings a nobbler, *i. e.* half a wine glass. 1888 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Robbery under Arms* (1890) 16 Every one wanted to be thought a man,..so we used to make a point of drinking our nobbler.

No·bbler[3]. *rare.* [f. dial. *nobble* to strike on the head (f. NOB *sb.*[1] 1) + -ER [1].] a. A blow on the head (Ogilvie 1882). b. A short stick used for killing fish (cf. NOBBY *sb.* 1).

1888 SIR H. POTTINGER in *Fortn. Rev.* May 630 His final struggles are shortly ended with a single tap of the 'nobbler'.

Nobbler, variant of KNOBBLER.

Nobbling (nɒ·blɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. NOBBLE *v.* + -ING [1].] The action of the verb, in various senses.

1847 *Illustr. Lond. News* 6 Nov. 302/1 What is the play at a German watering-place compared with the..'nobbling' and 'hocussing' of a race course. 1865 *Pall Mall G.* 21 Aug. 11/2 Brickwood was umpire, in a London watermen's eight, and played his part well, despite various attempts at what is called nobbling. 1894 *Daily Tel.* 1 June 6/7 Cases of undoubted or suspected nobbling or attempts at nobbling. 1897 *Daily News* 25 Feb. 8/4 Filling empty sacks with small quantities of coke taken from each of the full sacks. The practice was known among coal men as 'nobbling'.

No·bbling, *a. rare*[−1]. [Cf. NOBBY *a.*] Well.

1825 *Spirit Public Jrnls.* 143, 'I hope you and your family are well', replied Sheridan. 'Ay, ay', answered the elector, 'they are pretty nobbling'.

†**No·bbly,** *a. Obs.* [f. NOB *sb.*[1]] Knotty.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. clxi. (Bodl. MS.) 230 b/2 Wib many brakingges..burden beþ departed fro [the substance of] hempe oþer of flex and is grete whan it is departed, nobly, schorte, and rowȝe.

Nobly, variant of KNOBBLY *a.*

Nobbut (nɒ·bŭt), *adv.* Now *dial.* Forms: 4 no bot, 4–5 (9) no but, 6 na but, 8–9 nobbut, 9 -at, -et, -it, etc. [f. NO *adv.*[1] + BUT *conj.* 4.]

1. Only, merely, just.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1127 No·bot wasch hir..in wyn as ho askes, Ho by kynde schal becom clerer þen are. 1388 WYCLIF 2 *Kings* xviii. 4 *marg.*, As if he seide, no thing of Godhed was in it,..no but copir was there. *c* 1425 *St. Mary of Oignies* II. x. in *Anglia* VIII. 177/45 No but elleuene tymes and in a litil quantite she toke bodily mete. 1567 DRANT *Horace, Ep.* II. ii. H j, This boy ran once for feare of whip, And na but once from me. 1787 *Borrowdale Letter*, This is nobbut like t'clock when it gis warnin to strike twelve. 1804 R. ANDERSON *Cumbld. Ball.* (*c* 1850) 19 Nobbet sit your ways still, the truth I's tell. 1855 MRS. GASKELL *North & S.* xlv, I nobbut wanted to know if they'd getten him cleared? 1890 W. A. WALLACE *Only a Sister?* 87 He's but half a man that Missie, nobbut one of oursens dressed up like.

2. Except, unless; except that.

1382 WYCLIF *Mark* v. 37 He resceyuede not ony man to sue him, no but Petre, and James. 1388 — *Gen.* xxviii. 17 Here is noon other thing no but the hows of God. 1395 PURVEY *Remonstr.* (1851) 37 [To] be deposid or degratid if he is a clerk no but be amende himsilf.

1870 E. PEACOCK *Ralf Skirl.* I. 36 This Billy hed a granfatber just sucb another man for all the warld as he is, no but he wasn't lame.

Nobby (nɒ·bi), *sb.* [Of doubtful origin.]

1. = NOBBLER 3.

1887 *All Year Round* 22 Jan. 10 The fisherman's stick or nobby, used in the salmon fishing.

2. A Manx fishing boat of the smallest class.

1899 S. GWYNN in *Blackw. Mag.* Oct. 489 The crews of forty-eight row-boats..and of eighteen nobbies and hookers. *Ibid.* 490 The nobby, a Manx type, has been largely introduced—a boat..provided with two short masts which can easily be let down without being unstepped.

Nobby (nɒ·bi), *a. slang.* Also 8 *Sc.* **knabby.** [f. NOB *sb.*[2] + -Y.] Belonging to, or characteristic of, the 'nobs'; extremely smart or elegant.

a. Of persons.

1788 PICKEN *Poems* 178 The herds o' mony a knabbie laird War trainin' for the shambles. *c* 1810 *Broadside Ballad* (Farmer), A werry nobby dog's meat man. 1847 ALB. SMITH *Nat. Hist. Gent* x. 67 He would think that he was not 'nobby' if he did not have some wretched champagne. 1884 *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 230/2 How 'nobby' the Captain used to look..in the..silk suits.

b. Of places or things.

1844 C. SELBY *Lond. by Night* II. i, *Enter Ankle Jack, extravagantly dressed.* I fancy I shall do, my togs being in keeping with this nobby place. 1852 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* liv, Respecting this unfortunate family matter, and the nobbiest way of keeping it quiet. 1862 *Punch* 29 Mar. 124/1 But..'the game's alive again', in the nobby new Westminster Pit. 1893 'Q.' (QUILLER COUCH) *Delect. Duchy* 212 An outfit..described as 'rather nobby'.

c. *The nobby,* the smart thing.

1869 E. FARMER *Scrap Book* (ed. 6) 75 He went for the nobby, he heeded not price. 1905 *Daily Chron.* 18 Dec. 4/5 We pay sixpence..in the body of the hall, and ninepence if we do the nobby and ascend to the balcony.

Nobby, variant of KNOBBY *a.*

Nobchete, variant of NABCHEAT *Obs.*

No-being. [f. NO *a.* + BEING *sb.*] Negative existence; non-existence, non-entity.

1651 tr. *Kitchin's Jurisd.* (1657) Ep. Ded., I have fixt my hopes, that Ignorance..will lose its no-being in Judiciall Performances. 1653 MORE *Antid. Ath.* I. viii. Scholia (1712) 150 A most absolute necessity of Being, by which..it is different from a No-Being. 1733 W. CRAWFORD *Infidelity* (1836) 162 Have we not more need of no-being than being? 1864 BOWEN *Logic* iv. 90, I can certainly think a difference—that is, a relation—between being and no-being.

Nobel, nobil, obs. forms of NOBLE *a.*

Nobiliary (nobi·liări), *sb.* and *a.* [ad. F. *nobiliaire,* L. type **nōbiliārius, -ium*: see NOBLE *a.* and -ARY.]

†A. *sb.* (See quot.) *Obs. rare* −°.

1727–38 CHAMBERS *Cycl., Nobiliary,* a collection, or historical account, of the noble families of a province, or nation. [Hence in Bailey, 1731, and some later Dicts., but prob. never in actual English use.]

B. *adj.* Of or pertaining to the nobility. *Nobiliary particle,* the preposition (as F. *de,* G. *von*) forming part of a noble title.

1762 tr. *Busching's Syst. Geog.* VI. 238 One is elected from among the whole body of the nobility, and one from among the nobiliary states of the canton. 1868 *Pall Mall G.* 21 Aug. 2 As for nobiliary pride, it is not known in Poland. 1871 *Member for Paris* II. 15 The law, which forbids persons to adopt nobiliary particles to which they have no right. 1889 H. D. TRAILL *Strafford* iv. 41 He was frankly proud of, frankly deferential to, nobiliary rank.

Nobilich, obs. form of NOBLY.

Nobi·litate, *pa. pple.* and *ppl. a. Sc.* Now *rare* or *Obs.* Also 6–7 -at. [ad. L. *nōbilitāt-us,* pa. pple. of *nōbilitāre*: see next.] Ennobled; distinguished, renowned.

1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* Prol. 12 Farther it is nobilitate in fyne wole and quhyt. *Ibid.* 28 Westwarde lyes monteith, nobilitat and mekle commendet throuch the name of sik cheise. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* x. 499 A fruitfull, populous, and nobilitat planure. *a* 1670 SPALDING *Troub. Chas. I* (1850) I. 105 The Lord Ogiluy..being narrest the stock..and nobilitat before him. 1689 tr. *Buchanan's De Jure Reg.* 56 [He] thought him to be Nobilitate by the Slaughter of a Tyrant. 1722 NISBET *Her.* I. 76 The Branches of the principal Family of Douglass, which were nobilitate.

Nobilitate (nobi·liteit), *v.* Now *rare* or *Obs.* [f. ppl. stem of L. *nōbilitāre,* f. *nōbilis* NOBLE.] = ENNOBLE *v.* in various senses.

1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 52 b, Sir kyng it is your pleasure .. to nobilitate this place. 1577 HELLOWES tr. *Gueuara's Chron.* 58 The greatest of Traianes exercise was, to augment and nobilitate his armie and knighthood. 1598 HAYDOCKE tr. *Lomazzo* I. 6 There are two things, which doe specially dignifie and nobilitate a man. *c* 1610 SIR C. HEYDON *Astrol. Disc.* (1650) 69 Nature hath singularly nobilitated all the Aspects in the Motions of Saturn and Jupiter. 1665 J. WEBB *Stone-Heng* (1725) 3 A glorious Shew of Statues and Inscriptions..nobilitated the Memory of famous Citizens. 1699 T. BOSTON *Art Man-fishing* (1900) 44 My heart is nobilitated and tramples on the world.

b. To raise (one) to noble rank.

1538 [see below]. 1669 in Macfarlane *Genealog. Collect.* (1900) 65 He nobilitate Kenneth, making him by Patent Lord Kintail. 1724 J. MACKY *Journ. thro. Eng.* (ed. 4) I. i. 11 The Family..was Nobilitated into two Branches by King Charles II. 1763 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 62 William, lord Borthwick, was nobilitated in the year 1424.

Hence **Nobi·litated** *ppl. a*; **Nobi·litating** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1538 LELAND *Itin.* (1769) VI. 38 The firste nobilitating of the Popbams, as it is saide, was by Matilde Emperes. 1729 E. ERSKINE *Serm.* Wks. 1871 I. 442 This law coming out of Zion is a dignifying or nobilitating law. 1753 *Scots Mag.* Nov. 530/1 The .. nobilitating of rich commoners. 1791 *State P.* in *Ann. Reg.* 188* The law..which subjects all newly-nobilitated persons to certain civil restrictions.

Nobilita·tion. Now *rare* or *Obs.* [f. prec., or ad. med.L. *nōbilitātio* (Du Cange).] The action of ennobling.

1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 175 A thing that evidently appeareth by the Patent or Instrument of Nobilitation. 1664 H. MORE *Antid. Idolatry* ii. 16 The Perfection and Nobilitation and Salvation of the Souls of men. 1775 C. JOHNSTON *Pilgrim* 86 The influence which this power of nobilitation might give him over them.

Nobility (nobi·liti). Forms: 4–6 nobylyte, 6 -ytye, -ite; 5–6 nobilite, 6 -yte, -itee, 5–7 -itie, 6–7 -itye, 6 -ity. [ad. F. *nobilité* (12th c.), or L. *nōbilitās,* f. *nōbilis* NOBLE: see -ITY.]

1. The quality of being noble in respect of excellence, value, or importance. Now *rare.*

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* v. i. (1495) 100 The nobylyte and precyousnesse of the eye. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 5651 A book, that the Golden Verses Is clepid, for the nobilite Of the honourable ditee. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* I. xix. 114 What God is in hise dignitees, nobilitees and perfecciouns. 1514 BARCLAY *Cyt. & Uplondyshm.* (Percy Soc.) 24 Now juge.. whiche of these semeth the Of most avauntage, & most nobylyte? 1535 COVERDALE *Wisd.* viii. 3 Who so hath yᵉ company of God, commendeth him nobilyte. 1567 MAPLET *Gr. Forest* 25 In Nobilitie aboue Stones and Mettals are Plants. 1578 BANISTER *Hist. Man* IV. 59 This tendon truly is of great nobilitie. 1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* v. i. 331 That other part of the worlde,..much inferiour in nobilitie. 1678 R. R[USSELL] tr. *Geber* II. i. III. ix. 77 It [silver] is a noble Body but wants of the nobility of Gold.

b. The quality of being noble in nature or character; nobleness or dignity of mind.

1595 W. JONES (*title*), Nenna's Nennio; or a Treatise of Nobility; wherein is discoursed what true Nobilitie is, with such qualities as are required in a perfect gentleman. 1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* II. i. 218 They say base men being in Loue, haue then a Nobilitie in their Natures, more then is natiue to them. 1641 J. SHUTE *Sarah & Hagar* (1649) 142 To labour for Vertue, which is true Nobility. 1687 DRYDEN *Hind & P.* III. 1220 They..named their pride nobility of soul. *a* 1711 KEN *Christophil* Poet. Wks. 1721 I. 462 He glories only in God reconcil'd, 'Tis his Nobility to be God's Child. 1851 LONGF. *Gold. Leg.* vi. *School Salerno* 266 All my divine nobility of nature By this one act is forfeited for ever. 1877 E. R. CONDER *Bas. Faith* v. 203 It is man's nobility, not his defect, that the most lofty and commanding part of him is his moral nature.

transf. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. xxv. 187 There was a nobility in this glacier scene.

2. The quality, state, or condition of being noble in respect of rank or birth.

c 1440 *Gesta Rom.* xlvii. 202 (Harl. MS.), I was some tyme a worthi knight. ..Ande so when that I thinke of my grete nobilite that I haue bene inne [etc.]. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 3 b, Suche a one as was both in nobilitie of birth and in authoritie also right famous. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 96 Of this cumis thair pryd..and bosting of thair nobilitie. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* II. iii. II. (1651) 316 This is it belike, which makes the Turkes at this day scorn nobility, and all those huffing bumbast titles. 1656 COWLEY *Pindar. Odes* Wks. 1710 I. 250 We draw a long Nobility From Hieroglyphick Proofs of Heraldry. 1705 ADDISON *Italy* (1733) 58 Their Merchants who are grown rich..buy their Nobility, and generally give over Trade. 1781 COWPER *Truth* 353 Royalty, nobility, and state Are such a dread preponderating weight. 1841 W. SPALDING *Italy & It. Isl.* III. 244 Nobles there are in abundance; but their nobility is valid only at court and in fashionable society. 1875 STUBBS *Const. Hist.* xv. II. 185 English nobility is merely the nobility of the hereditary counsellors of the crown.

transf. 1839 HALLAM *Hist. Lit.* IV. vii. § 13 *note,* To observe the comparatively recent *nobility* of many things quite established by present usage.

3. (With *the.*) The body of persons forming the noble class in any country or state.

1530 PALSGR. 889 Commodyouse and profytable vnto the nobylite of this realme. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 200 b, An especyall ornamente of the Frenche Nobilytye. 1606 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* xv. xcv. 379 The Prelacie, Nobilitie, States-men, and State betraide. 1671 MILTON *Samson* 1654 Lords, Ladies, Captains, Councellors, or Priests, Thir choice nobility and flower. 1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* II. vii, Farmers in the Country, whose Commanders are only the Nobility and Gentry. 1759 JOHNSON *Idler* No. 53 ¶ 3 A street where many of the nobility reside. 1819 SHELLEY *Cenci* I. ii. 57 All our kin, the Cenci, will be there, And all the chief nobility of Rome. 1856 EMERSON *Eng. Traits, Wealth,* The introduction of these elements .. draws the nobility into the competition.

†b. Without article. *Obs. rare.*

1581 MULCASTER *Positions* XXXVII. (1887) 147 If nobilitie and gentlemen would fall to diligence. 1596 SHAKS. I *Hen. IV,* II. iv. 429 Stand aside, Nobilitie. 1603 JAS. I in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. I. III. 64 The Country [being] so full of Nobilitie and Gentlemen of the best sort. 1650 BULWER *Anthropomet.* 3 All the Children..born of Nobility.

c. *transf.* The pieces other than pawns in chess.

1656 W. HOWARD in Clarendon *Hist. Reb.* XV. § 127. I have often observ'd that a desperate game at chess has been recovered, after the loss of the nobility, only by playing the pawns well.

4. (With *a.*) A noble class; a body of nobles.

1612 BACON *Ess., Nobility* (Arb.) 192 A great..Nobilite addeth maiesty to a Monarch, but diminisheth power. 1662 STILLINGFL. *Orig. Sacræ* II. ii. § 5 Strabo mentions no Nobility at all in Ægypt distinct from the Priests. 1735 BOLINGBROKE *On Parties* 192 The Saxons had a Nobility too, arising from personal Valour, or Wisdom. 1863 COWDEN CLARKE *Shaks. Char.* xvi. 405 The Venetians were a nobility of merchants.

b. One belonging to the noble class.

1840 CARLYLE *Heroes* vi. (1858) 342 One leaves all these Nobilities standing in their niches of honour.

Noblay, variant of NOBLEY(E *Obs.*

Noble (nōu·b'l), *a.* and *sb.*[1] Forms: 4–6 nobul, 4–5 -ulle, 6 -ull; 4–6 nobyl, 5 -ylle,

5–6 -yll; 4–6 nobil, (4 -ile), 4–7 nobill, (5 -ille); 5–6 nobel, nowble, 3– noble. [a. F. *noble* (=Sp. *noble*, It. *nobile*), ad. L. *nōbilis*, f. the stem (*g*)*nō-* to KNOW: see -BLE.]

A. *adj.* **I. 1.** Illustrious or distinguished by position, character, or exploits. (Usu. implying senses 2 and 4, and now merged in these.)

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 54 Hire ueader & bire breðren, se noble princes alse heo weren. *c* 1290 *St. Kath.* 15 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 92 Riche Aumperour þou art, swiþe noble and hende. *a* 1352 MINOT *Poems* (ed. Hall) vii. 18 Þus haue I mater for to make For a nobill prince sake. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 2 He is a noble man of armes. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 985 Lo! maisterlynges of massydon, so myghty & so noble. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilȝear* 703 Sone besyde him he gat ane sicht of the Nobill King. *c* 1530 LD. BERNERS *Arth. Lyt. Brit.* I Gawyn, and Lancelotte, and many other noble knightes. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 14 b, Syns that so noble Princes had such an opinion of him. 1600 J. PORY tr. *Leo's Africa* 47 They esteeme themselues the most noble and worthy people vnder the heauens. 1750 GRAY *Long Story* 141 God save our noble King.

b. Of actions: Illustrious, great.

c 1470 HENRY *Wallace* I. 2 We suld..hald in mynde thar nobille worthi deid. 1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* cv. 1 Who can expresse yᵉ noble actes of the Lorde, or shewe forth all his prayse? 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 427 The noble feates of Chiualrie and Martiall actes. *c* 1586 *Mourn. Muse* 186 in *Spenser's Wks.* (Globe) 565/2 [He] doth tell Thy noble acts anew. 1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* v. iii. 237 What poore an Instrument May do a Noble deede.

2. Illustrious by rank, title, or birth; belonging to that class in the community which has a titular pre-eminence over the others; *spec.* belonging to, or forming, the nobility of a country or state.

In early use not clearly distinct from sense 1.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 701 Ich þe wole marie wel..To þe nobloste bacheler. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 17169 If þou neuer sa nobul war, Quat thing moght i giue þe mare? *a* 1352 MINOT *Poems* (ed. Hall) viii. 65 þe nobill burgase and þe best Come vnto him. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) vi. 20 He gers bring before him all þe nobilest and þe fairest maydens. 1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 204 For the whyche proesses this nobill erle shold nat vayngliory haue. 1535 COVERDALE 1 *Macc.* i. 6 He called for his noble estates..& parted his kyngdome amonge them. 1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* III. iv. 21 A Thursday tell her, She shall be married to this Noble Earle. 1631 HEYWOOD *London's Jus Hon.* Wks. 1874 IV. 265 More faire and famous it is to be made, then to be borne Noble. 1648 *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) I. 89 For many other reasons, which I presume those noble persons had in their consideracions. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 274 ¶ 2 The Copy of a Letter written..to a noble Lord. 1756–7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) III. 68 The church..derives the last name from its noble founder. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* vi. II. 47 All the noblest and most opulent members of their church.., except Lord Arundell. 1893 WIGGIN *Cathed. Courtship* 58 Lady De Wolfe's husband has been noble only four months.

absol. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 481 Princes & dukis, With maisterlingis of Messadone & many obire noble.

b. Of birth, blood, family, etc.

c 1290 *St. Kath.* 1 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 92 Seinte Katerine of noble kunne cam. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* III. metr. vi. (1868) 79 þanne comen alle mortal folk of noble seed. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* xxi. 62, I slew a knyght of a noble blode. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 2 b, This Thomas comming of a noble house, gave him self wholy to learning. 1611 BIBLE 2 *Macc.* xiv. 42 Chusing rather to die manfully, then..to be abused otherwise then beseemed his noble birth. 1657 EARL MONM. tr. *Paruta's Pol. Disc.* 79 Any witty Citizen, or hopefull Young-man of noble extract. 1708 J. CHAMBERLAYNE *St. Gt. Brit.* II. III. iii. (1710) 437 The Noble Order of Knights of the Thistle..was revived by King James VII. 1808 SCOTT *Marm.* I. vii, Two gallant squires, Of noble name, and knightly sires.

c. Pertaining to, connected with, a person or persons of high rank. Also *transf.* in chess.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 155 Now amende He mai wel thurgh your noble grace. 1504 in Leadam *Sel. Cas. Crt. Requests* (Selden Soc.) 8 Your said Oratour..hadde begon to colour dyvers reed hides for your noble vse. 1534 MORE in Roper *Life* (1822) 118 The first lesson..that ever his Grace gave me at my first comming into his noble service. 1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* I. ii. 116 At your noble pleasure. 1680 COTTON *Compl. Gamester* (ed. 2) 46 When any Pawn..seats himself in any of his Noble houses, he is dignified with the..power of a Queen.

† **3.** Distinguished for genius or skill. *Obs.*

c 1400 *Cursor M.* 28846 (Cott.-Galba), Saynt Aniane, þat nobill clerk, Sais almus es goddes awin werk. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 3132 (Dubl.), He gart seke þair sarys, & þaim salue With surgers [*v.r.* surgens] noble. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* lxiii. 61 This noble cunning sort, Quhom of befoir I did report. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* Prol. 3 Thay being so noble Seymen, and sa expert in sayling.

4. Having high moral qualities or ideals; of a great or lofty character. (Also nsed ironically.)

1601 SHAKS. *Jul. C.* v. v. 68 This was the Noblest Roman of them all. 1641 BAKER *Chron.* (1653) 179 King Iohn..had the bappinesse to fall into tbe hands of a Noble enemy. 1778 MISS BURNEY *Evelina* lxxv, Tell me if he is not the noblest of men? 1829 DIGBY *Broadst. Hon.* I. *Godefridus* 223 The soldiers of Pavia were more noble than their Emperor Frederic II when they remonstrated against his barbarous execution of the Parmesan prisoners. 1871 R. ELLIS tr. *Catullus* lxvii. 29 Truly a noble father, a glorious act of affection! 1892 *19th Cent.* July 118 The life of one of the noblest of a long list of noble names.

b. Of the mind or natnre.

1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. i. 35 The noblest mind the best contentment has. 1613 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII*, III. ii. 419 Some little memory of me will stirre him (I know his Noble Nature). 1624 WOTTON *Elem. Archit.* Pref. in *Relig.* (1651) 195 Architecture can want no commendation where there are..Noble Mindes. 1700 DRYDEN *Wife of Bath's T.* 384 The nobleman is he whose noble mind Is filled with inborn worth.

5. Proceeding from, characteristic of, indicating or displaying, greatness of character.

1503 DUNBAR *Thistle & Rose* 119 [The lion] Quhois noble yre is *parcere prostratis*. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* III. i. 57 Whether 'tis Nobler in the minde to suffer The Slings and Arrowes of outragious Fortune. 1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 218, I will not omit to speake of two Noble usages of the King of Swethland towards his Souldiers. 1729 LAW *Serious C.* ii. (1732) 19 Then he will know that there is nothing noble in a Clergyman but a burning zeal for the Salvation of Souls. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) III. 218 Numberless accounts assure us that his anger is noble. 1809 WOROSW. *Sonn. Liberty* II. xix. 12 To whose all-pondering mind a noble aim, Faithfully kept, is as a noble deed. 1851 RUSKIN *Stones Ven.* (1874) I. i. 7 The noble pride which was provoked by the insolence of the emperor. 1872 MORLEY *Voltaire* (1886) 10 The too neglected list of good causes lost, and noble effort wasted.

b. Characterized by moral superiority or dignity; elevated, lofty.

1738 GRAY *Propertius* II. 53 Vou whose'young bosoms feel a nobler flame. 1774 J. BRYANT *Mythol.* II. 96 They.. carry the sciences.., instruct the natives...These are to be sure noble occurrences. 1818 BYRON *Ch. Har.* IV. cxlvii, Relic of nobler days, and noblest arts! 1831 *Society* I. 25 With a zeal worthy of a nobler cause. 1872 MORLEY *Voltaire* (1886) 4 The noblest collective tradition of free intellect which the achievements of the race could then hand down.

II. 6. Distinguished by splendour, magnificence, or stateliness of appearance; of imposing or impressive proportions or dimensions.

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 71 In þe priorie of wiricestre, þat noble hous and gret is. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 896 Romulus & remeus..Bigonne þo verst rome þat noble cite is. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 1097 Þis noble cite of ryche enpresse. *c* 1384 CHAUCER *H. Fame* I. 469 When I had seen al this syghte In this noble temple thus. *c* 1515 *Cocke Lorell's B.* 6 They wyll bylde at Colman hedge in space A nother noble mansyon. 1577 HARRISON *Descr. Brit.* xi. in *Holinshed* I. 52 Being past Rochester, this noble riuer goeth to Chatham. 1662 J. DAVIES tr. *Olearius' Voy. Amb.* 228 We cross'd..over a very fair stone bridge, containing six noble Arches. 1703 MAUNDRELL *Journ. Jerus.* (1732) 142 These noble Trees grow amongst the Snow. 1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* I. v, The rest of that noble Pile..[was] preserved from Destruction. 1779 J. MOORE *View Soc.* II. lvii. 77 The gallery which contains them is a very noble room. 1826 DISRAELI *Viv. Grey* VI. i, They ascended a noble staircase. 1842 BORROW *Bible in Spain* xxxiv, It possesses a noble quay.

absol. 1741 C'TESS POMFRET *Corr.* (1805) III. 202 Nor is this shore destitute of the noble as well as the agreeable.

b. Splendid, stately, magnificent. *rare.*

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 1503 þe oþer kinges echon Hit dude ..& in so noble fourme non. *c* 1420 LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 1159 The gret Alpha & Oo,..For that nobyll tryumphe, had hem thedyr sent. *c* 1500 *Melusine* 214 They were espoused & maryed togidre, & was the feste holden right grete & noble.

7. Having qualities or properties of a very high or admirable kind.

Freq. in the comparative and superlative, denoting superiority to other things of the same name.

c 1305 *St. Kenelm* in *E. E. P.* (1862) 55 Whan hit out of heuene com..What noblerere relik miȝte þer beo. *c* 1375 *Cursor M.* 25116 (Fairf.), Þer is na praier þat is squa noble of þe mikilnes. 1387–8 T. USK *Test. Love* II. i. (Skeat) I. 106 A final cause is noblerer, or els even as noble, as thilke thing that is finally to thilke ende. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 146 The moste noble Creature Of alle tho that God hath wroght. 1508 DUNBAR *Tua Mariit Wemen* 248 God..send me sentence to say, substantious & noble. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* III. (1586) 114 The Horse.., the noblest, the goodliest,..and the trustiest beast that we vse in our service. 1631 WIDDOWES *Nat. Philos.* 50 Sences of certaine parts are more or lesse noble. The nobler are Seeing, and Hearing. 1684 R. WALLER *Nat. Exp.* 132 In Waters generally held the lightest, purest, and noblest, the little cloud is thinner. 1725 N. ROBINSON *Th. Physick* 211 Highly dangerous is it for those, that have been us'd to the most generous Wines, suddenly to abandon those Noble Liquors. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) II. 49 So we find that the noblest animals are ever the least fruitful. 1835 *Penny Cycl.* III. 421/2 The noble race of Barbary horses which we commonly call barbs. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 16 In all bodily actions, not quietness, but the greatest agility and quickness, is noblest and best.

b. Of precious stones, metals, or minerals.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 57 He the Ston noblest of alle, The which tbat men Carbuncle calle Berth in his hed. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* xvi. xlvii. (Bodl. MS.), Precious stones..ben ifounde..in passinge grete vertue, whan þey bene noble and verrei. *Ibid.* xiv. iii, Noble metall is ymynyd oute of veynes and mountayns. 1666 BOYLE *Orig. Formes & Qual.* 360 Our Menstruum may have a particular operation upon some Noble..parts of the Gold. 1708 J. C. *Compl. Collier* (1845) 17 Was it ever heard of, or known that this Noble, this Main-Coale, was sold..for 8*s.* per Chaldron? 1796 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) II. 89 The three first [Gold, Platina, Silver] and Quicksilver commonly called Noble and Perfect metals. 1813 R. BAKEWELL *Introd. Geol.* 79 Many specimens have the characters of the precious or noble serpentine. 1842 PARNELL *Chem. Anal.* (1845) 96 Silver and palladium are the only noble metals which dissolve in melted bisulphate of potash. *Note.* Noble metals are those which do not become converted into oxides, but remain bright when heated in the air. 1855 *Orr's Circ. Sci., Geol.* 510 Noble opal, or precious opal, includes all those specimens which exhibit the play of prismatic colours.

c. Of parts of the body, *spec.* of those without which life cannot be maintained, as the heart, lungs, etc.

1632 SHERWOOD s.v., The noble parts of the body. 1656 RIDGLEY *Pract. Physick* 12 Especially if it be near a noble part. 1668 CULPEPPER & COLE *Barthol. Anat.* Introd., The Bellies are certain remarkeable Cavities of the Body, wherein some noble bowel is placed. 1721 BRADLEY *Acc. Wks. Nat.* 67 The Flounder and many others will live a long time after their Bowels and more noble parts are taken out of them. 1733 CHEYNE *Eng. Malady* II. viii. § 2 (1734) 193 Attended with no..Disease, or no noble Organ entirely spoil'd. 1843 ABOY *Water Cure* 44 A diseased function of one of the nobler organs. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 100 The overgrowth of the neuroglia tissue at the expense of the noble elements.

d. Of hawks. (See IGNOBLE *a.* 1 b.)

1614 BP. HALL *Recoll. Treat.* 161 The Soule, like unto some noble Hauke, lets passe the crowes. 1833 MUDIE *Brit. Birds* (1841) I. 79 The old division of noble and ignoble hawks. 1867 DK. ARGYLL *Reign of Law* iii. (ed. 4) 166 The Hawks have been classified as 'noble' or 'ignoble', according to the length and sharpness of their wings.

e. In some specific names, as *noble agrimony*, *liverwort* (q.v.), *orange*.

1861 BENTLEY *Man. Bot.* (1887) 501 Other varieties are sometimes imported, as the Noble or Mandarin Orange and the Tangerine Orange.

8. Splendid, admirable, surpassingly good.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 11882 (Cott.), Medicioe sal þon of vs take, A nobul bath we sal þe make. *c* 1375 *Ibid.* 3723 (Fairf.), Nobil venysonn þat I þe bringe. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 21 Bernard wroot meny nobil bookes. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xiv. 61 Þer er þerin..grete medews and noble pasture for bestez. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xxvi. 133 An oynement That nobill was and newe. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* XXI. v. 849 Than hym thought synne and shame to throwe awaye that nobyl swerde. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 5 We haue not taken theyr errours, but the noble verytees or treuthes of philosophy. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* II. (1586) 92 b, Of the Mulberie is made a verie noble medicine for the stomacke. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 401 This is a noble Experiment; for, without this help, they would bave been four times as long in coming up. 1662 J. DAVIES tr. *Mandelslo's Trav.* 99 When the president was to take leave of him, he presented him with a noble coverlet of Watte. 1759 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 61/2, I..gave him a noble dose of great guns and small arms. 1775 SHERIDAN *Duenna* III. i, See that there be a noble supper provided. 1877 DOWDEN *Shaks. Primer* vi. 77 There is noble material for tragic poetry here. 1899 BESANT *Orange Girl* I. i, He drank a great deal of port, of which he possessed a noble cellar.

† **b.** Notable, very great. *Obs. rare.*

1604 *Supplic. Masse Priests* i, As they affirme, and therein tell a most noble and remarkeable untruth. 1694 SALMON *Bate's Dispens.* (1713) 516/2 It cannot be done without a noble Diminution of some of their best parts.

9. *The noble science* (*of defence*) or *art*, the art of († fencing, or) boxing.

c 1588 in *Tarlton's Jests* (1844) p. xii, Richard Tarlton, master of the noble syence of deffence. *c* 1611 BEAUM. & FL. *Knt. Burn. Pestle* II. i, A bold defiance Shall meet him, were he of the noble science. 1620 MELTON *Astrolog.* 30 Like so many Masters of the Noble Science of Defence, they strive to breake the head of each other's reputation. 1726 in Hone *Every-day Bk.* II. 782 Professor of the Noble Science of Defence. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* III. iv, Tom was much his superior at the noble art of boxing. 1839 RADCLIFFE (*title*) The Noble Science, with a few general ideas on Fox-Hunting.

10. *Comb.*, as *noble-couraged*, *-gartered*, *-hearted* (*-ness*), *-natured*, *-spirited*, *-tempered*; *noble-ending*, *-looking*, adjs.; *noble-wise* adv.

1561 T. HOBY tr. *Castiglione's Courtyer* IV. (1577) Vj b, Wicked Tirans againste whome these *noble couraged Demigods kepte continuall..warre. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, IV. vi. 27 A Testament of *noble-ending loue. 1659 R. WILD *Poems* (1870) 16 The *noble-gartered 'Honi soit'. 1806 SURR *Winter in London* I. 227 A *noble-hearted, but unfortunate..brother. 1856 LEVEA *Martins of Cro' M.* 384 The people, the noble-hearted people, are the conquerors. 1879 L. SHEPHERD tr. *Guéranger's Liturg. Year* I. ii. 7 The *noble-heartedness of those defenders of the Law of God. 1800 MRS. HERVEY *Mourtray Fam.* I. 277 She was a tall *noble-looking woman. 1865 J. H. INGRAHAM *Pillar of Fire* (1872) 305, I regarded this noble-looking bondwoman with surprise. 1872 TENNYSON *Gareth & Lynette* 456 The boy Is *noble-natured. 1617 HIERON *Wks.* II. 403 Well fare that *noble-spirited souldier. 1848 BUCKLEY *Iliad* 303 A lion coming among a herd, tawny, noble-spirited. 1654 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 413 It hath been alwaies the Aimes of the *Noblest-temper'd Spirits. *a* 1618 SYLVESTER *St. Lewis* 576 Wks. (Grosart) II. 235 How happy is the Prince, who ..Thinks not himselfe to raign; save Noblewise.

B. *sb.*[1] **1.** A man of noble rank; a member of the nobility.

a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* cxlix. 8 To bynde..þe nobils of þaim in manykils of yryn. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 253 Ther stoden ek the nobles alle Forth with the comun of the toun. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 13813 To þat noble, onone, ho neghit agayne. *c* 1450 HOLLAND *Howlat* 437 With his estatis in the steid, and nobillis ynewe. 1471 FORTESCUE *Wks.* (1869) 539 The councell and assent of the nobles temporals of the londe. 1538 STARKEY *England* I. iv. 129 Another yl custume among the nobyllys there ys, tbat euery one of tbem wyl kepe a court lyke a prynce. 1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II*, II. i. 247 The nobles hath he finde For ancient quarrels, and quite lost their hearts. *c* 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* I. xviii, That regicide was hack'd to pieces..by the nobles. 1707 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4364/1 The Princes of the Throne..are understood to act in the Solemnity as Nobles of Rome. 1752 HUME *Ess. & Treat.* (1777) I. 221 It consists chiefly of nobles and landed gentry. 1822 BYRON *Werner* IV. i, In league with the most riotous of our young nobles. 1844 H. H. WILSON *Brit. India* I. 65 The opposition..of the turbulent nobles and officers of the court. 1861 BUCKLE *Hist. Civ.* (1903) II. 89 In France..the great nobles held their lands, not so much by grant, as by prescription.

† **b.** A noble or famous person. *Nine nobles*, the nine worthies. *Obs. rare.*

c 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 1116 Than thei nobillis at neid yeid to thair note new. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* II. 698 This Godefryde..Qubilk numberit is amang the nobillis nyne. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* 4 To be ane of the principal of al the nyne noblis.

2. A former English gold coin, first minted by Edward III, having the cnrrent value of 6*s.* 8*d.* (or 10*s.*). Also *Angel, George, Rose, Thistle noble,* for which see these words.

[The following are some of the older statements relative to the value of the noble at different periods:—

1387 TREVISA *Higden* VI. 259 A duket þat is worþy half an Englisshe noble. *c* 1450 *Chron. Eng.* (MS. Bodl. 754) lf. 132 [The] floreyne that was cleped the noble, valewe vjs. and viijd. 1469 in *Archaeol.* XV. 167 One pece therof rennyng for x.s. of sterlings, which shalbe called the noble of gold. 1542 RECORDE *Gr. Artes* (1575) 197 An olde Noble, called an Henrye, is worthe 2 Crownes,..that is 10 *s. Ibid.*, A Noble, called a George, is worth 6 *s.* 8 *d.* 1596 SPENSER *State Irel.* Wks. (Globe) 666/1, I doe put onely seaven nobles rent and composition..,that is 40*s.* for composition, and 6*s.* 8*d.* for cheiferie to her Majestie. 1685 BAXTER *Paraphr. N. T.* Mark xiv. 45 Fifty two French crowns, and a half a crown is 6*s.* 8*d.*, our Noble. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), A Noble is also a Scotch Coin worth 6⅔*d.* English, and of which three make a Pound.]

1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. III. 46 Heo tolde him a tale and tok him a noble, For to ben hire beode-mon. 1436 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 175 By iiij. pens lesse in the noble rounde, That is xij. pens in the golden pounde. 1496-7 *Act 12 Hen. VII*, c. 6 Preamble, Att whiche tyme the seid fyne was but of the value of halfe an olde noble sterling. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. clxiii. 201 He payed for his raunsome sixe thousande nobuls. 1551 T. WILSON *Logike* (1580) 8 b, A Priest bad a Noble for preachyng a funerall sermon. 1613 R. C. *Times' Whistle* IV. 1443 For a noble I'le stand thy friend, & healp thee out of trouble. 1677 YARRANTON *Eng. Impr.* 110, I would that I had met this Countrey-man Forty years ago, it had been Five hundred Nobles in my way. 1714 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5207/3 John Meeres of Gosport..was..Fined Twenty Nobles. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* iii, She may aid me to melt my nobles into groats. 1873 DIXON *Two Queens* IV. xix. i. 5 Henry heard him play, and tossed him twenty nobles.

b. In phr. *to bring one's noble to ninepence*, etc., denoting wasteful extravagance. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1568 FULWELL *Like Will to Like* D iv, Tom tospot since be went hence, Hath increased a noble iust vnto nine pence. 1660 HOWELL *Parly of Beasts* 59 You make the poor husband oftentimes to turn a noble to nine-pence. 1699 R. L'ESTRANGE *Erasm. Colloq.* (1711) 299, I have e'en brought a noble to nine-pence. 178a V. KNOX *Ess.* clxx. (1819) III. 249, I do not bring my noble to ninepence and my ninepence to nothing.

No·ble, *sb.*[2] *Sc.* [? f. prec.] (See quot.)

1808 JAMIESON, *Nobles*, the Pogge, or Armed Bullhead, a fish...This is the name at Newhaven. 1810 NEILL *List Fishes* 9 (Jam.).

† **No·ble,** *v. Obs.* [f. NOBLE *a.* Cf. ENNOBLE *v.*, and OF. *noblir* (rare).] *trans.* To make noble, to ennoble. Also † No·bled *ppl. a.*

c 1386 CHAUCER *Second Nun's T.* 40 Thow nobledest so ferforth oure nature, That no desdeyn the makere hadde [etc.]. 1430-40 LYDG. *Bochas* I. xii. (1544) 23 This town was nobled by title of other thinges. 1493 *Festivall* (W. de W. 1515) 171 Almes..is a holy thynge, for it..multyplyeth thy eres & nobleth the mynde. 1550 BALE *Eng. Votaries* I. 77 b, Onlye is it Gods true knowledge, that nobleth yow before hym. 1554 in *Harington's Nugæ Ant.* (1804) I. 58 Suffer your nobled humanitie to overcome the contrarie perswasions. 1595 W. CLARKE *Polimanteia* T, Haue you not had..a Princesse truelie nobled with all vertues. 1621 BP. MONTAGU *Diatribæ* 353 Your nobling and divining him elsewhere would not serve your turne.

† **Noble.** *Obs. rare.* Also noblee, nobullé. [a. OF. *noblée*, f. *noble* NOBLE *a.*] Nobility.

c 1400 *Brut* ix. (E. E. T. S.) 16 If it were sope þat men spoken of þe grete noblee and wisdome..of Kyng Salamon. 1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 199 Than be hym bethoght of the grete noble that he demenyd in Ierusalem. *a* 1440 *Sir Degrev.* 92 In ych place whaer he comme..They hade halowed hys name With gret nobullé.

† **No·blehead.** *Obs.* [f. NOBLE *a.* + -HEAD.] Nobleness.

1382-8 WYCLIF *Job*, 3rd Prol., Oon exsaumpler of noblehed. *c* 1425 *Cursor M.* 848 (Trin.), þat was not done al for nede But þourȝe bis owne nobel-hede. 1447 BOKENHAM *Seyntys* (Roxb.) 50 O soverayne evere lastyng majeste..Up on me rew for thy nobylhede. *c* 1475 *Partenay* 6339, I hire moche speke off hys roiall estate,..The which I hold of hug[e] noblehed.

Nobleie, variant of NOBLEY(E *Obs.*

† **No·blely,** *adv. Obs.* Also 3-4 -like, -lich(e. [f. NOBLE *a.* + -LY [2].] Nobly.

c 1300 *Havelok* 2640 An erl, that he saw priken thore, Ful noblelike upon a stede. *c* 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 1536 So noblelich he hem hiȝt. *c* 1400 *R. Glouc.'s Chron.* (Rolls) 892 (MS. *a*), Cunedag..noblelicbe þre & þritti ȝer huld þis kinedom. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 10318 And nomly in þis note, so noblely, þou sayes [etc.]. *a* 1562 G. CAVENDISH *Wolsey* (1893) 101 To foresee all thyngs touchyng our rooms, to be noblely garnyshed accordyngly. 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus, Amplifice*, noblely.

Nobleman (nō·ub'lmăn). [f. NOBLE *a.* + MAN.]

1. One of the nobility; a peer.

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 210 Lyke as a noble man yᵗ hath a iourney to do of necessite. 1580 G. HARVEY in *Spenser's Wks.* (Grosart) I. 437 Any noblemans petitory or commendatorye letters. 1624 CAPT. SMITH *Virginia* I. 3 The Noblemen [had] fiue or sixe [pendants] in an eare. 1678 BUNYAN *Pilgr.* I. (1900) 88 There is not one of these Noblemen should have any longer a being in this Town. 1700 DRYDEN *Pref. Fables* Ess. (ed. Ker) II. 246 A certain nobleman..., beginning with a dog-kennel, never lived to finish the palace he had contrived. 1797 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Italian* i, A nobleman of one of the most ancient families of the kingdom of Naples. 1831 SIR J. SINCLAIR *Corr.* II. 350 Two Prussian noblemen who came to Scotland in 1806. 1855 KINGSLEY *Westw. Ho!* x, A condescension..on the part of a nobleman of Spain.

b. Formerly, a nobleman's son as a member of the University of Oxford or Cambridge. Also *attrib.*

1682 SHADWELL *Medal* 8 At Cambridge first your scurrilous Vein began, When sawcily you traduc'd a Nobleman. *Note.* A Lords Son, and all Noblemens Sons, are called Noblemen there. 1715 HEARNE *Collect.* (O. H. S.) V. 105 Three or four Scholars of note and Distinction, one of them being a Nobleman..of Worcester Coll. *Ibid.* 118 All the Noblemen Scholars in town. *a* 1814 BP. WATSON *Anecd.* (1817) 29 Some defects in the University education, especially with respect to Noblemen and Fellow-Commoners.

2. *pl.* The superior pieces in the game of chess.

1680 COTTON *Compl. Gamester* (ed. 2) 37 The Pawns are all alike, and each Nobleman hath one of them to wait upon him. 1761 HOYLE *Games, Chess* (1778) 145, I speak now, as supposing all the Noblemen are gone; if not, they are to attend your Pawns. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) IV. 639/2 The difference of the worth of pawns is not so great as that of noblemen.

Hence **No·blemanly** *a.*

1809-12 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Absentee* ix, I would give the contents of three such bills to be sure of such noblemanly conduct as yours. 1824 HEBER *Jrnl.* I. 196 Nothing was gaudy, but all extremely respectable and noblemanly. 1832 FR. A. KEMBLE *Rec. of Girlhood* (1878) III. 167 Being written in gentlemanly (noblemanly ?) blank verse instead of turgid prose.

Noble-minded, *a.* [f. NOBLE *a.* + MIND *sb.*] Possessed of or characterized by a noble mind, magnanimous.

1586 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* I. 372 Although this beseemeth not a noble-minded man. 1601 SHAKS. *Jul. C.* I. iii. 122 Some certaine of the Noblest minded Romans. 1713 ROWE *Jane Shore* I. ii, The noble-minded Hastings..Has kindly underta'en to be my Advocate. 1783 BOSWELL *Johnson* (1791) II. 448 He is, I really believe, noble-minded, generous, and princely. 1829 MARRYAT *F. Mildmay* ii, The courage..of a noble-minded boy is..broken down by ill-usage. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xv. III. 514 The noble-minded Lady Russell.

Hence **Noblemi·ndedness.**

1583 GOLDING *Calvin on Deut.* iii. 15 Good zeale, courage, and noblemindednesse. 1840 CARLYLE *Heroes* (1858) 220 The characteristic of noblemindedness. 1863 'OUIDA' *Held in Bondage* (1870) 99 Praising me for my liberality and noble-mindedness.

Nobleness (nō·ub'lnés). Forms: 5 nobyl-, nobul-, 5-6 nobil-, 4- nobleness. Also 5-nace, 5-7 -nes, 4-7 -nesse. [f. NOBLE *a.* + -NESS.]

1. The state or quality of being noble, in various senses of the adj.; nobility.

14.., in *Tundale's Vis.* (1843) 105 To do honor to hys nobylnes With hem thei toke gold and grete ryches. 1470-85 MALORY *Arthur* XI. ix. 585 All kynges..may not fynde such a knyghte for to speke of his nobylnesse and curtosye. 1509 FISHER *Funeral Serm. C'tess Richmond* Wks. (1876) 290 This noblenes of blode they haue which descended of noble lynage. 1581 SIDNEY *Apol. Poetrie* (Arb.) 30 Wee can shewe the Poets noblenes. 1628 WITHER *Brit. Rememb.* VI. 1443 Whose vertues, and whose noblenesse, Brought honor to the seats they did possesse. 1660 SHARROCK *Vegetables* Ep. Ded., The whole piece..seems destitute of beauty, and without anything of worth, value, or nobleness. 1715 CHAPPELOW *Way to get Rich* (1717) 141 He tells you the lustre and nobleness of it, a jewel fit for the cabinet of a king. 1747 CARTE *Hist. Eng.* I. 21 Making his countrymen vye with the old Romans in the nobleness of their descent. 1775 JOHNSON in *Boswell* 1 Apr., A fighting cock has a nobleness of resolution. 1846 RUSKIN *Mod. Paint.* II. III. ii. § 2 We must prove the nobleness of the delights, and thence the nobleness of the animal. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* iv. § 3. 176 There was a nobleness in Edward's nature from which the baser influences of chivalry fell away.

† **b.** With personal pronouns as a title. *Obs.*

a 1400-50 *Alexander* 2777 Nostanday, to ȝour nobilnes þat ay my nek bowis,..my-selfe I comand. 1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 122 Y here translate to youre Soueravne nobilnes the boke of arystotle. 1528 ROY *Rede me* (Arb.) 84 As sone as my lady he dotbe se..He saluteth her noblenes. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 306 They desyred his noblenesse to haue some consideration of them. *a* 1592 GREENE *Jas. IV*, III. ii, We will attend your nobleness. 1760-72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) III. 143 So please your nobleness, I intend to leave London.

† **2.** Display, splendour; an occasion of this. *Obs.*

1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. xxxiv. 48 Ther might haue been sene great noblenesse, and baners and penons..wauyng in yᵉ wynde. 1657 HOWELL *Londinop.* 62 If any Triumph or Noblenesse were to be done,..the said Leaden-Hall is the most meet and convenient place. 1679 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1453/4 The Entertainment was great and splendid, and all things performed with great Order and Nobleness.

† **3.** A noble person; *collect.* nobility. *Obs.*

c 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* i. 16 At the which battayile..dyed greate noblenesses of kinges, princes, Dukes [etc.]. *Ibid.* 17 We have loste there ryghte greate chevalry and noblenesse. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. CCXXXV. 332 The church that day was so full of noblenesse, that a man might nat a remoued his fete.

Noblesse (*noble's*). Forms: 3-4 noblesce, 5-8 -less, 5-6, 8 -les, 5 -lisse; 4 -lesse. [a. OF. *noblece, -esce, -esse*, = Prov. *noblessa, -eza*, Sp. *nobleza*, Pg. *nobreza*, obs. It. *nobilezza*:—Rom. type **nobilitia*: see NOBLE *a.* and -ESS [2].

Common in ME. and frequent down to the 17th cent. In later use mainly, if not entirely, a direct re-adoption from F.]

1. Noble birth or condition; nobility, nobleness.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 166 Þe neorðe reisun is preone of noblesce & of largesse. ? *a* 1366 CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 1108 Upon the tresses of Richesse Was sette a cercle for noblesse. *c* 1384 — *H. Fame* I. 471 Yet sawgh I neuer suche noblesse Of ymages. *c* 1407 HENRY SCOGAN *Moral Ballad* 73 Here may ye see that vertuous noblesse Cometh not to you by way of auncestrye. 1470-85 MALORY *Arthur* IX. xxxi. 387 Whan sir Tristram beheld the noblesse of these xx Knyghtes he merueiled of their good dedes. 1538 CROMWELL in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) II. 118 The good affection whiche I bere towardes her for her vertues wisedome and noblesse. 1594 KYD *Cornelia* II. 297 True noblesse neuer doth the thing it should not. 1611 SPEED *Hist. Gt. Brit.* IX. xii. (1623) 707 It being a thing perpetuall and solemne not to fight without those signes of Noblesse. 1653 JER. TAYLOR *Serm. for Year* I. iii. 38 His arms of honour are extinguished, the noblesse of his Ancestours is forgotten. 1709 MRS. MANLEY *Secret Mem.* (1720) III. 227 Had he had a Nobless of Soul.., what might he not have done? 1887 RUSKIN *Preterita* II. 210 The noblesse of thought which makes the simplest word best.

† **b.** As a form of address. *Obs.*

1412-20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* I. vii, We praye to your hygh noblesse To our purpose for to condiscende. 1425 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 271/2 Ye protestation made by Sir Wanter Beauchamp..by your noblesse amitted and graunted.

2. The nobility; persons of noble rank.

1598 DALLINGTON *Meth. Trav.* S iv, The French Noblesse, glorying in their Armes, call themselves The Arme of their countrey. 1615 G. SANDYS *Travels* (1637) 1 The Princes of the blood discontented, the noblesse factious. 1666 DRYDEN *Ann. Mirab.* Pref., That advantage..which the noblesse of France would never suffer in their peasants. 1683 TEMPLE *Mem.* Wks. 1720 I. 405 A Scum of the mean People, that hated and spoil'd the Noblesse of the Province. 1753 *Scots Mag.* Oct. 481/1 In France one of their noblesse must not marry a *roturiere*. 1796 MICHELL *Princ. Legis.* 153 A very few years ago, the opinions..of Europe were decidedly in favour of a monarchy, a noblesse and a census. 1813 *Sporting Mag.* XLI. 243 Some of the first families of our Noblesse. 1846 GROTE *Hist. Greece* II. II. iii. (1849) 370 The abundance of corn and cattle from the neighbouring plains sustained..a proud and disorderly noblesse. 1898 BODLEY *France* I. I. iii. 170 Few of the local noblesse under the old Monarchy bore titles.

† **No·blety.** *Obs.* Forms: 4 noblete, 4-5 nobilte; 5 nobylte, nobeltee, -di; 6 nobiltie. [a. OF. *nobleté* (*-ti*): see NOBLE *a.* and -TY.] Nobility, nobleness; splendour.

1340-70 *Alex. & Dind.* 192 Þe kidde king alixandre..þat name haþ of noblete. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) I. 235 For to hiȝte þe noblete of þe citee þe Romaynes made a wommans ymage in bras. *Ibid.* VIII. 15 Nyh al þe nobilte of Cristen men deide þat tyme. 1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 179 Precious stones, riche clothis, and grete nobeldi. *Ibid.* 203 Of dyuers..necessary nobilteis of the vertu of orison. *a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* (1868) 110 The feste, where there was gret nobeltee and plente of richesses. 1500-20 DUNBAR *Poems* xxi. 26 All gentrice and nobiltie Ar passit out of he degre.

Noblewoman (nō·ub'lwumăn). [Cf. NOBLEMAN.] A woman of noble birth or rank.

1575 LANEHAM *Lett.* (1871) 59 A Noblewooman that I am..mooch boound vntoo. 1607 ROWLANDS *Hist. Earl Warw.* L 2 Who unto Pilgrims did more bounty show, Than any Noblewoman in the Land. 1641 *Lords Spiritual* 13 Then would it also follow.., That Noble-women should have no Lords to be their tryers. 1762 *Biogr. Dict.* IX. 227 A noblewoman of the county of Avignon. 1861 THACKERAY *Four Georges* i. (1862) 52 The countess was a large-sized noblewoman. 1896 ECKENSTEIN *Wom. under Monasticism* 149 The young noblewoman stayed at home.

† **Nobley(e,** *sb. Obs.* Forms: *α.* 3-4 nobleie (4 nobel-), 4-5 nobleye. *β.* 4. noblei, 4-5 nobley (5 nobeley). *γ.* 4-5 noblay (4 nobel-), nobillay. [a. F. *nobleie, -leye* fem., or *noblei, noblai* masc., f. *noble* NOBLE *a.*]

1. Nobility of nature or rank; noble quality, condition, or estate; splendour, pomp.

α. c 1290 *Beket* 245 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 113 Al-to nobleie of þe worlde his continaunce he bronȝte. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 105 Þai sayd it for pride & nobleye. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 204 Ȝif þei lynen in pride of herte for nobeleie of blood or kyn. *c* 1400 tr. *Secreta Secret., Gov. Lordsh.* 58 Þe nobleye of þy free wyl.

β. c 1300 *St. Kenelm* 284 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 55 [To] do þat wiþ gret nobley þat hi ischryned were. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 44 Wiþ mykelle nobley ageyn Eilred he nam. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Serm.* Sel. Wks. I. 257 Noblei of oure prelatis shulde not lette hem to be pore. 1425 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 268/2 Ye princely nobley of you my said Lord. 1470-85 MALORY *Arthur* VIII. xxix. 316 Anone they were rychely wedded with grete nobley. *c* 1530 *Crt. of Love* i, Me list my writing to convey, In that I can to please her high nobley.

γ. c 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 2468 (Kölbing), Par ma fay, þis is a begger of noblay. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 91 Anoþer maner meued him eke, þat he þurȝ nobelay had nomen. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* VIII. 211 As man of gret noblay He held toward the trist his vay. *a* 1400-50 *Alexander* 2716, I haue herd..Of þi noblay now o newe time a-nentes my modire. *c* 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 899 His name and his nobillay wes noght for to nyte.

2. Articles of value; valuable possessions.

a 1350 *St. Matthew* 196 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 134 Gold and siluer and precius stanes, And oþer nobillay for þe nanes. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) XXXII. 147 Mykill ricches and nobillay of tresour and precious stane. *c* 1400 *Ywaine & Gaw.* 3566 It es no man that haves So mekil tresor ne nobillay.

3. Persons of noble rank.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 110 With lordes and with gret nobleie Of lusti folk that were yonge. 1459 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 348/2 All the Lordes, Knightes and Nobley in your Host.

Hence † **Nobley** *v.*, to ennoble. *Obs. rare.*

c 1450 tr. *De Imitatione* III. lx. 141 Grace or charite, wherwiþ who þat be nobleied shal be worþy euerlastyng lif.

†Noblier, obs. compar. of NOBLE *a.*

1398 TREVISA *Earth. De P. R.* IV. ix. (1495) 93 Soo flewme is noblyer than colera or malencolia. *c* 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 106 þe patriarkis, þat were þe nobliar of þe Jewis, herdid bestis. 1602 WARNER *Albion's Eng.* Epit. 367 Likewise in euery Shire of the Noblier and of chiefe note was a yeerely choise of a Shire-Reeue.

†No·blify, *v. Obs. rare* −1. [f. NOBLE *a.* + -FY.] *trans.* To ennoble.

1600 HOLLAND *Livy* XXII. XXXIV. 453 Those who of commoners are now noblified are all..of the same profession.

†No·blish, *v. Obs. rare* −1. [Cf. ENNOBLISH *v.*] *trans.* To ennoble.

1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 99/2 The blessyd saynt Stephen was noblysshid by many myracles.

Nobly (nōu·bli), *adv.* Forms: *α.* 3 noblyche, 3–4 -liche, 4 -lich, 5 -leche; 4 nobeliche, -lyche. *β.* 4 nobely, 4–5 -illy, 5 -elly, -ully, -ylly, -yly, 6 -ily; 4– nobly. See also NOBLEY. [f. NOBLE *a.* + -LY 2.] In a noble manner.

1. With noble conrage or spirit; gallantly, bravely; in a lofty or exalted manner.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 5545 þis noble king abelston .. Nobliche & wel he fazt. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 4880 (Kölbing), No herd men neuer so fewe in lond, Noblicher so fele wipstond. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 73 þe consuls of Rome sette busshementes for hym, and he defendede hym nobeliche. *c* 1420 LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 1073 Nobully theym bare and faught myghtyly. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* VIII. iv. 278 Syr Marhaus the good knyght that was nobly preued. 1607 HARINGTON in *Nugæ Ant.* (1804) II. 243 The arch-bishop did much noblier to hazard this obliquie of some idle tongues. 1654–66 EARL ORRERY *Parthen.* (1676) 717 His Navy could not have been Noblier lost. 1692 E. WALKER tr. *Epictetus' Mor.* Introd., His rich Soul aloft did soar, And nobly left the drossy ground. 1776 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xi. I. 375 No general had more nobly deserved a triumph than Aurelian. 1784 COWPER *Task* V. 705 Patriots have toiled, and in their country's cause Bled nobly. 1856 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* (1858) I. ii. 177 His impulses, in general nobly directed, had never known contradiction. 1886 — in *Good Wds.* July 378 If we believe nobly about ourselves we have a chance of living nobly.

2. Splendidly, magnificently, finely.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 3279 þis feste was noble ynou, & nobliche ydo. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 9761 Nobliche bis court he ledde. *c* 1375 *Cursor M.* 7408 (Fairf.), Dauid cowde..nobely harpe and sing wip rote. *c* 1394 *P. Pl. Crede* 128 þi name schall noblich ben wryten & wrouȝt for the nones. *c* 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* I. CXXXIX. (1869) 72 She hadde now arayed mequeyntliche and nobleche. *c* 1450 *Mirour Saluacioun* (Roxb.) 2 The temple Salomon belded to god noblyie. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* lxxxi. 241 Thus .. kyng Charlemayn nobly accompanyed rode .. by bis iourneyes. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 247 The two Cardynals went thorough Henault at the desire of ye erle, who feasted them right nobly. 1613 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII,* IV. i. 90 The Rod, and Bird of Peace, and all such Emblemes Laid Nobly on her. 1668 PEPYS *Diary* 2 Nov., There I was stopped and dined mighty nobly at a good table. 1724 SWIFT *Drapier's Lett.* vii. Wks. 1751 IX. 93 The Painted Chamber, and Court of Requests,..are never so nobly filled, as when an Irish Appeal is under Debate. 1871 B. TAYLOR *Faust* (1875) II. iii. 185 Cheerful and brave and bold, and nobly-formed is he. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col.-Reformer* (1891) 161 A nobly proportioned..apartment.

3. In that manner which is involved in noble breeding, connexions, or descent; esp. *nobly born.*

1591 SPENSER *Teares Muses* 446 What bootes it then to come from glorious Forefathers, or to have been nobly bredd? 1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* III. v. 182 A Gentleman..Of faire Demeanes, Youthfull, and Nobly Allied. 1684 DRYDEN *Ep. Earl Roscommon* 55 Now will invention and translation tbrive, When authors nobly born will bear their part. 1719 J. T. PHILIPPS tr. *Thirty-four Confer.* 283 That our Souls are nobly and heavenly descended, I allow. 1822 BYRON *Werner* I. i, I, born nobly also, .. was taught a different lesson. 1854 RUSKIN *Arch. & Paint.* ii. 94 Thinking it better to be nobly remembered than nobly born.

4. *Comb.*, as *nobly-born, -dowered, -mannered, -minded, -peopled, -privileged, -sacred.*

1620 T. GRANGER *Div. Logike* 340 A man of noble mind begetteth noblie-minded children. 1648 J. BEAUMONT *Psyche* I. iii, By free Carrowsing in these nobly-sacred Streams. *Ibid.* VII. CXCII, O nobly-privileg'd Poverty. 1789 CHARLOTTE SMITH *Ethelinde* (1814) V. 103 The nobly-born, and nobly-minded Montgomery. 1822 BYRON *Werner* III. i, Asking after you With nobly-born impatience. 1859 TENNYSON *Guinevere* 332 These two Were the most nobly-manner'd men of all. 1870 BRYANT *Iliad* I. v. 158 Who quickly will destroy Your nobly-peopled city. *Ibid.* VI. 202 The nobly-dowered Andromache Came forth to meet him.

Nobob, variant of NABOB.

Nobody (nōu·bŏdi). [f. No *a.* + BODY *sb.* 13.] Written as two words from the 14th to the 18th c., and with hyphen in the 17th and 18th.

†1. No person; no one.

1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 183 No body bot he alone vnto þe Cristen cam. 1484 CAXTON *Fables of Alfonce* xi, I wyll wel, yf thow wilt swere that thou shalt neuer reherce it to no body. *c* 1489 — *Sonnes of Aymon* iv. 120 And thenne the foure brethern wente vp to the hall, and met wyth noo bodi. 1535 COVERDALE 2 *Kings* vii. 5 And whan they came to the vttemost ende of ye tentes, beholde, there was no body. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 268 There was no body in them, but two fayre Damoselles. 1621 S. WARD *Life Faith* 8 Hee ingrosseth the common God to himselfe, as if his and no bodies else. 1663 COWLEY *Ess., Obscurity,* In Places where they are by no body known. 1693 NORRIS *Pract. Disc.* (1698) IV. 10 That a thing that is so much every Body's Concern, should be almost no Body's Discourse. 1721 AMHERST *Terræ Fil.* No. 40. 210 The advantages..are so palpable, that, at the bare mention of it, no body can be at a loss to perceive them. 1754 SHERLOCK *Disc.* I. iii. (1759) 135 Mysteries..Things which no-body can understand. 1791 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Rom. Forest* x, Your father nor nobody else has ever sent after you. 1813 WELLINGTON in Gurw. *Desp.* (1838) XI. 136, I can send .. nobody from hence to relieve you. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. xvi. 108 Nobody knew anything of the state of the snow this year. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 6 Nov. 5/3 The effort to please everybody usually results in pleasing nobody.

Prov. 1661 WALTON *Angler* (ed. 3) ii. 52 A wise friend of mine did usually say, That which is every bodies businesse is no bodies businesse. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 18 P 1 Because a Thing is every Body's Business, it is no Body's Business.

b. Followed by *they, their,* or *them.*

1548 UDALL, etc. *Erasm. Par. Luke* 94 b, No bodye will receiue you into their house. 1628 tr. *Mathieu's Powerfull Favorite* 108 No body should dare to stretch out their arme, or present their bosome to receiue him. 1704 N. N. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* II. 13 Such Confusion, that no body knew what they were to do, or what to let alone. 1755 WARBURTON in W. & Hurd *Lett.* (1809) 201 Nobody has yet written against me, but at their own expence. 1831 WHEWELL in Todhunter *Life* II. 112 Nobody will know the origin of pliocene, &c., till you tell them. 1856 F. E. PAGET *Owlet of Owlst.* 9 Nobody likes to be turned out of quarters where they have lived snugly and comfortably for scores of years. 1874 L. STEPHEN *Hours in Library* III. 333 Nobody ever put so much of themselves into their work.

2. A person, or persons, of no importance, authority, or social position.

1581 PETTIE tr. *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* II. (1586) 58 Let them come to writing any thing, and they are no bodie. 1599 *Broughton's Let.* vii. 21 To accompt all besides themselues ..babish,..rifraffe, nobodie. 1607 HIERON *Wks.* I. 170 If another had risen by him, and come from no body to be a man of some fashion and ability. 1608 WILLET *Hexapla Exod.* Ded. 2 Others being of sound iudgement in the new Testament, are no bodie in the olde. 1778 BURNEY *Evelina* lxiv, Since I, as Mr. Lovel says, am Nobody, I seated myself quietly. 1797 GODWIN *Enquirer* I. viii. 66 A child usually feels that he is nobody. 1847 FR. A. KEMBLE *Later Life* III. 335 Miss —, being only a banker's daughter, was of course 'nobody'. 1871 BLACKIE *Phases Mor.* 6 According to our aristocratic way of talking, she was nobody.

b. Similarly with *a* and *pl.*

1583 STOCKER *Civ. Wars Low C.* IV. 6 Persones..by whom the true enheritors .. are disturbed, made no bodies, or vtterly disenherited. 1657 TRAPP *Comm. Neh.* iv. 4 We are..nullified, as a company of No-bodies. 1770 FOOTE *Lame Lover* I. Wks. 1799 II. 59 There are..in this town a great number of nobodies. 1807 *Sporting Mag.* XXIX. 239 The nobodies were never above a day behind in their imitations. 1856 MRS. BROWNING *Aur. Leigh* V. 280 Being wronged by some five hundred nobodies. 1899 *Educ. Rev.* Oct. 222 Which exasperates somebodies who feel they are treated as nobodies.

Hence **No·bodyness,** anonymity. *rare* −1.

1886 REES *Pleasures Book-Worm* v. 176 By far too many 'stabs in the dark' are inflicted under cover of editorial nobodyness.

†Nob-pitcher. *Obs. slang.* (See quot. 1812.)

1812 J. H. VAUX *Flash Dict., Nob-pitchers,* a general term for those sharpers who attend at fairs, races, &c., to take in the flats at prick in the garter, cups and balls, and other similar artifices. 1819 *Sporting Mag.* V. 123 The cup-and-ball Macers,..the Nob-Pitchers,..and the Rampers.

†Nobs. *Obs. rare.* [Of obscure origin.] A term of endearment applied to a woman; (one's) dear or darling.

a 1529 SKELTON *E. Rummyng* 225 He calleth me..His nobbes and his conny, His swetyng and his honny. *a* 1530 J. HEYWOOD *Love* (Brandl) 395 Fynde the best and next way ..And except your nobs for malous do nede ye Make brefe returne. 1567 *Trial of Treas.* E j, My mouse, my nobs, and cony swete, My hope, and ioye, my whole delight.

So **†No·bsey,** a mistress. *Obs. rare* −1.

c 1555 HARPSFIELD *Divorce Hen. VIII* (Camden) 275 Sometime [he] carried her about with him in a great chest full of boles, that bis pretty nobsey might take breath at.

Nobull(e, nobyl(e, obs. forms of NOBLE *a.*

Nocake (nōu·kēk). *U. S.* Forms: *a.* 7–9 nocake, 7, 9 nokake. *β.* 7–8 nokehick, 8 -hock, nuichicke. [American Indian: Narragansett *nokehick,* Natick *noohkik,* maize.] Indian corn parched and pounded into meal.

a. 1634 W. WOOD *New Eng. Prosp.* 68 The best of their victuals for their journey is *Nocake* (as they call it), which is nothing but Indian Corne parched in the hot ashes. *a* 1676 *New Eng. Hist. & Gen. Reg.* (1883) XXXVII. 366, 300 small baggs for each man to carry nokake,..50 bush. Indian corne parched and beaten to nokake. 1760 [see *β*]. 1859 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer., Nocake,* an Indian word still used in some parts of New England. 1875 TEMPLE & SHELDON *Hist. Northfield* 46 Corn was parched and beaten fine; and sometimes was made into balls with suet. Thus prepared it was called nokake.

β. 1643 R. WILLIAMS *Key* 11 Nókehick, parch'd meal, which is a readie very wholesome food, which they eate with a little water. 1691 C. MATHER *Life Eliot* 79 Their diet has not a greater dainty than their nokehick, that is a spoonful of their parched meal. 1760 T. HUTCHINSON *Hist. Mass.* (1765) 465 A small pouch of parched corn, ground or rather pounded into meal, and called Nuichicke, which is well enough translated Nocake. 1766 *Gazetteer* 2 Jan. 2/1 Samp, hominy, succatash, and nokehock, made of it, are so many pleasing varieties.

†No·cence. *Obs. rare* −1. [See -ENCE.] =next.

c 1620 T. ADAMS *Fatal Banquet* ii. Wks. 1861 I. 212, I would iniquity was not bolder than honesty, or that innocence might speed no worse than nocence.

†No·cency. *Obs.* [ad. L. *nocentia*: see next and -ENCY.] Guilt.

1611 FLORIO, *Nocenza,* nocency, wittingnesse, knowledge. 1650 WELDON *Crt. Jas. I,* 112 His greatnesse fortified with innocency would carry their nocencies through all dangers. 1693 G. FIRMIN *Rev. Davis's Vind.* i. 1 Offering himself to him in a State of Nocency. 1736 CARTE *Ormonde* II. 263 To make the proof of nocency so easy and general that none..might be able to escape censure.

Nocent (nōu·sĕnt), *a.* and *sb.* Now *rare.* [ad. L. *nocent-, nocens,* pres. pple. of *nocēre* to hurt.]

A. *adj.* 1. Harmful, injurious, hurtful.

c 1485 *Digby Myst.* (1882) II. 321 Infecte with venom nocent. 1568 SKEYNE *The Pest* A iij, The maist nocent Sterres to mankynd. 1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 4 b, Nothinge nocente or daungerous to the lyfe of the patient. 1618 BARET *Horsem.* I. 98 Though many things are now become nocent and hurtfull to man, which at the first was .. seruiceable to him. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IX. 186 Not yet in horrid Shade or dismal Den, Not nocent yet. 1708 J. PHILIPS *Cyder* I. 26 Whilst the warm limbec draws Salubrious waters from the nocent brood. 1746 W. HORSLEY *Fool* (1748) II. 9 A kind of Sheep only rendered terrible by their outside Apparatus, but not very nocent or hurtful.

Comb. 1641 R. BROOKE *Eng. Episc.* 90 Some can dispence with one of the three Grand Nocent-innocent ceremonies, some with another, some with neither.

2. Guilty; criminal.

a 1566 R. EDWARDS *Damon & Pithias* in Hazl. *Dodsley* IV. 48 He is not innocent, whom the king judgeth nocent. 1618 STUKELEY *Petit.* in *Harl. Misc.* (Malh.) III. 390 He was .. uncapable of another trial, by which he might bave been found as nocent as before. 1640 HABINGTON *Edw. IV,* 227 Publique mischiefes seldome happen, but that the Prince, though not actually nocent, is in some degree guiltie. *a* 1677 BARROW *Serm.* Wks. 1716 I. 340 This manner of suffering was..unworthy of a freeman, however nocent and guilty. 1866 J. B. ROSE tr. *Ovid's Met.* 168 Fed with her innocent his nocent fire.

b. *absol.* as sing. or plural.

1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 412 But now drewe on the time, the Innocent must perishe with the Nocent, and the vngiltie with the giltie. 1592 WYRLEY *Armorie* 137 Many an innocent with the nocent died. 1647 N. BACON *Disc. Govt. Eng.* I. XXV. (1739) 43 These twelve were to be sworn, neither to condemn the Innocent, nor acquit the Nocent. 1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* I. v. § 29. 877 The innocent and the nocent, the Pious and the Impious.

B. *sb.* A guilty person.

1447 BOKENHAM *Seyntys* (Roxb.) 234 He wold me Do forsakyn to ben an innocent That he me myht makyn a nocent. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. IV* (1809) 19 That an Innocent with a Nocent, a man ungilty with a gilty, was pondered in an egall balaunce. 1606 *Proc. agst. Late Traitors* 128 Taking away some Innocents with many Nocents. 1654 tr. *Martini's Cong. China* 201 Involving in the Slaughter as well the innocents as the nocents. *c* 1685 *Lett. to Jas. II,* in *N. & Q.* 6th Ser. (1882) V. 361/2 To Kil al that came in their way without discriminating nocents from Innocents.

Hence **No·centness** *adv. rare* −1.

1646 J. COOKE *Vind. Law* 21 Hadst thou rather thy husband should dye nocently than innocently.

Nocerite (nōu·sĕrəit). *Min.* [f. its locality, *Nocera* in Italy: named *nocerina* by Scacchi in 1881.] 'Oxyfluoride of calcium and magnesium, found in white, acicular crystals, in volcanic bombs' (Chester).

1883 DANA *Syst. Min.* App. III. 85 Nocerina—nocerite. Announced by Scacchi. 1892 E. S. DANA *J. G. Dana's Syst. Min.* (ed. 6) 175 The bombs of Nocera which have yielded the Nocerite.

†No·ces. *Obs. rare.* Also 3–4 neoces, 4 neces. [a. F. *noces* (OF. also *noeces, nueces,* etc.; AF. *neoces*) for *nopces*:—pop. L. **noptias,* L. *nuptias, -iæ*: see NUPTIALS.] Wedding.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 78 þe þridde time þet heo spec, þet was et te noces [*v.r.* neoces], & þer, þurh hire bone, was water iwend to wine. *c* 1320 *Cast. Love* 1263 For atte neces [*v.r.* neoces]..At þe Caane of Galylee..he torned water to wyn.

Noch, obs. Sc. var. *nocht,* NOUGHT.

†Noche, variant of *nouch,* OUCH *sb.*

[1391 *Earl Derby's Exped.* (Camden) 105/12 Cuidam homini..eo quod inuenit vnum noche domini ibidem.] 1540 *Invent.* in V. Green *Worcester* (1796) II. App. II. 5 Item, a noche, called Lyttultons noche, of gold and precious stones.

Nochell, variant of NOTCHEL *v. Obs.*

Nooht, Sc. variant of NOUGHT.

†No·cible, *a. Obs. rare* −1. [ad. med.L. *nocibilis,* f. *nocēre* to hurt: cf. NUISIBLE.] Harmful.

1490 CAXTON *Eneydos* xiii. 49 To eschew alle thynges that in this caas myghte be nocible and contrarye to her.

†Noci·ferous, *a. Obs. rare* −1. [f. L. type **nocifer,* f. *nocēre* to hurt + -OUS.] Harmful.

1702 EVELYN *Sylva* (1776) 342 Not that there are no nociferous trees as well as saniferous.

Nocin, variant of NOWCIN, need. *Obs.*

†Nocive, *a. Obs.* [ad. L. *nocīvus,* f. *nocēre* to hurt: see -IVE.] Harmful, injurious.

1538 *Abbess of Godstow* iii. 71 It is very nocive for them.. to go two mile about. *a* 1560 ROLLAND *Crt. Venus* III. 313 The man is 3it on line: And neuer had, na hes ane wound nocine. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* II. 34 All nocive things to Muses, hence repell. 1644 DIGBY *Nat. Soul* xi. § 4. 436 Ouergrowne with hidropicall and nocive humours.

So **†Noci·vous** *a. Obs. rare.*

1616 R. C. *Times' Whistle* (1871) 147 Phisitions..That know what is nocivous, and what good. 1651 BIGGS *New Disp.* P 192 Such a refrigeration becomes nocivous.

Nock (nɒk), *sb.*1 Forms: 4–7 nocke, 5–6 nokke, 6 *Sc.* (k)nok, 6– nook. [Of obscure origin, but possibly the same word as next, although the specific meaning does not appear to be recorded in MDu. or MLG.

Florio gives It. *nocca, nocchia, nocco, nocchio,* as meaning 'the nocke of a bow', but the genuineness of this is extremely douhtful. Kilian's '*Nocke, kerfken in den pijl,* crena,..incisura sagittæ quæ nerunm admittit ' is not otherwise certified, and is rendered suspicious by his citing 'Ang. *nock*'. The origin of Sw. *nock* or *nokk* in the sense of notch or incision is quite obscure.]

1. *Archery.* a. Originally, one of the small tips of horn fixed at each end of a bow and provided with a notch for holding the string (*obs.*); in later use, the notch cut in this or in the bow itself.

In the *Promp. Parv.* (quot. 1440) app. also applied to the tip of a spindle; but cf. Nock *sb.*3

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xviii. xiii. (Bodl. MS.), Of hornes beþ made tippinges and nockes for arblastes and howes and arowes. *c* 1440 Lydg. *Hors, Shepe, & G.* 380 Of the sheepe is cast a-way no thyng: His horn for nokkis, to haftis goth the bone. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 357/2 Nokke of a bowe, or a spyndylle, or other lyke, *tenorculus,..clavicula.* 1513 Douglas *Æneis* xi. xvi 60 Hir hornit bow [she] has bent,.. Syne halis vp.. Quhill that the bowand nokkis met almaist. 1530 Palsgr. 248/1 Nocke of a bowe, *oche de larc.* 1545 Ascham *Toxoph.* (Arb.) 119 Whan the strynge is .. put croked on, or shorne in sundre wyth an euell nocke. 1548 Elyot, *Tenus,* Seruius iudgeth it to be the nockes or endes of a bowe. 1625 Lisle *Du Bartas, Noe* 32 A bow that shines aloft..and bending ore the rocks Against a misly Sun i' th' Ocean dips her nocks. 1856 'Stonehenge' *Brit. Rural Sports* 505/1 In each of the tips of horn is a notch for the string, called 'the nock'.

b. A small piece of horn fixed in the butt-end of an arrow, provided with a notch for receiving the bowstring; also, the notch itself.

1530 Palsgr. 248/1 Nocke of a shafte, *oche de la flesche.* [See also Nock *v.* 2.] 1545 Ascham *Toxoph.* (Arb.) 127 The nocke of the shafte is dyuersly made, for some be greate and full, some hansome and lytle, some wyde, some narowe. *a* 1585 Montgomerie *Misc. Poems* xvii. 6 Quhais Turkie bou and quaver bleu, Quhairin appeirit noks aneu. 1612 Brinsley *Lud. Lit.* 33 His ruling pen..is to be made with a nocke in the neh or point of it, like the nocke of an arrow. 1840 Hansard *Bk. Archery* 387 The nock of English arrows, for a century past, has been a piece of taper horn glued into the wood. 1856 'Stonehenge' *Brit. Rural Sports* 507/2 The feathers..may be smoothed down by passing them through the hand from the point towards the nock. 1884 F. R. Stockton *Lady or Tiger?* etc. 69 'When you draw your bow; bring the nock of your arrow'—he was always very particular about technical terms—'well up to your ear'.

†c. The notch in a cross-bow for receiving the string when the bow is bent for shooting. *Obs.*

1535 Stewart *Cron. Scot.* II. 569 Greit corce bowis,..Fast to the knok war buklit vp in bend. *Ibid.,* The bent bowis ..Out of the nok ane gan3e wald lat go. 1620 Shelton *Quix.* II. xxxv. 237 For my soul indeed is trauersed in my throte, like the nocke [Sp. *nuez*] of a crosse-bow.

†d. In phrases, *out of nock,* out of order; *above* or *beyond the nock,* above or beyond measure. *Obs.*

15.. *Parl. Byrdes* 80 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* III. 171 Then crowed agayne the More Cocke, The Hauke bringeth much thing out of Nocke. *a* 1530 J. Heywood *Love* (Brandl) 484 Where or whan she lyst gyue a mock, She coulde and wolde do it heyonde the nock. 1530 Palsgr. 489/2 He commendeth hym by yonde the nocke, *il le prise oultre bort,* or *oultre mesure.* 1553 T. Wilson *Rhet.* (1580) 60 On now, praise we, a Gods name, the single life aboue the nocke.

†2. The cleft in the buttocks; the breech or fundament. *Obs.*

1533 J. Heywood *Play of the Wether* (Brandl) 1065 Yf hys tale he not lyckly Ye shall lycke my tayle in the nocke. 1611 Cotgr., *La raye du cul,* the nock, fould, or dint betweene the huttocks. 1668 *Cleveland's Old Gilt* ii, Her Breath smells like Lox, Or unwiped Nocks. *a* 1704 T. Brown *Imit. Satire Persius* Wks. 1730 I. 52 To have.. Your precious lines serv'd up to nocks, or pye. 1708 *Brit. Apollo* No. 17. 3/2 Victoria's thin Smock, Tho' hut down to your Nock.

Comb. 1610 Holland *Camden's Brit.* I. 186 He had unreverently plaied upon Cornishmen as if they were seated in the nocke-hole of the world. 1632 Quarles *Divine Fancies* Wks. (Grosart) II. 252 Thy nock-shorn Cloake, with a round narrow Cape. 1653 Urquhart *Rabelais* I. xiii, You will thereby feel in your nockhole a most wonderful pleasure.

†b. Used without article. *Obs. rare.*

1663 Butler *Hud.* I. i. 285 Noses, which Wou'd last as long as parent breech; But when the date of Nock was out, Off dropt the sympathetick snout. 1674 T. Flatman *Belly God* 50 The Muscle, or the Cockle will unlock Thy bodies trunck, and give a vent to nock.

Nock (nɒk), *sb.*2 *Naut.* Also 6 nok. [a. the synonymous Du., Flem., and Fris. *nok* or LG. *nokk,* whence also G. and Sw. *nock,* Da. *nok.* These words also occur in other special senses, denoting a projection, point, or tip of some kind: cf. prec.]

†1. *Sc.* The tip or extremity of a yard-arm. *Obs.*

1513 Douglas *Æneis* III. viii. 83 Anon the nokkis of our rays we writh; Doun fallis the schetis of the salis swith. *Ibid.* v. xiv. 9 Thai..Set in a fang, and threw the ra abak, Baith to and fra all did thar nokkis wry. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* vi. 41 Pul doune the nok of the ra in daggar vyise.

2. In sails: (see quot. 1794).

1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* 84 The nock and peek are lashed hy the earings. *Ibid.* 88 *Nock,* the foremost upper corner of boomsails, and of staysails cut with a square tack. 1841 Dana *Seaman's Man.* 116 *Nock,* the forward upper end of a sail that sets with a boom. 1851 Kipping *Sailm.* (ed. 2) 24 To determine the height of the nock of the sail. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.* 498.

attrib. 1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* 7 *Nock-earing,* the rope that fastens the nock of the sail. *Ibid.* 93 Mizens.. have..a nock-piece and a peek-piece. *Ibid.* 108 If the depth of the nock-seam he subtracted.

†**Nock,** *sb.*3 *Obs. rare.* Also 6 nok. [Of Scand. origin, corresp. to Icel. *hnokki,* Fær. *nokki,* Norw. and Da. *nokke,* Sw. *nocke,* with the same meaning.] A small hook fixed upon a spindle.

c 1450 Holland *Howlat* 57 My neb is netherit as a nok, I am bot ane Owle. 15.. *Wooing of Jock* 54 in Laing *Anc. Poet. Scot.* 360 Ane spindill wantand ane nok.

attrib. 1577 Gascoigne *Grief of Joy* Wks. (Grosart) II. 265 The strongest thryd y^t ever yet was sponne..Is nock-throwen yet even with ye spindles twyst.

Nock, variant of Knock *sb.*1 2, a clock.

1853 Reade *Chr. Johnstone* 294 Flucker informed her that the nock said 'half eleven'.

Nock (nɒk), *v.* [f. Nock *sb.*1]

1. *trans.* To provide (a bow or arrow) with a nock or notch. Usn. in pa. pple. *nocked.*

?*a* 1366 Chaucer *Rom. Rose* 942 Ten brode arowis hilde he there,.. they were shaven wel and dight, Nokked and fethered aright. *c* 1500 *Robyn Hode* cxxxii. in Child *Ballads* III. 62/6 Euery arowe..With pecok wel idyght, Inocked all with whyte siluer. 1545 Ascham *Toxoph.* (Arb.) 111 You must looke that youre bowe be well nocked for fere the sharpnesse of the horne shere a sunder the stryngе. 1590 Sir J. Smyth *Disc. Weapons* 46 b, Their bowes of Yeugh, long and well nocked and backed. 1611 Cotgr., *Oché,* ..nocked, notched. *Rencocher,* to nocke the second time.

2. To fit (the arrow) to the bowstring ready for shooting.

1513 Douglas *Æneis* v. ix. 44 With arrow reddy nokkit than Evritioune Plukkis wp in hy his bow. 1530 Palsgr. 644/1, I nocke an arrowe, I put the nocke in to the strynge, *je encoyche.* 1561 Brende *Q. Curtius* viii. 81 Their arrowes were so longe and heavy, that they could not nocke them within theyr bowes. 1590 Sir J. Smyth *Disc. Weapons* 20 b, To drawe their arrowes out of their cases .. to nocke them in their Bowes. ?1613 Spelman in *Capt. Smith's Wks.* (Arb.) I. p. cxiv, Till they can nocke another arrow they make the trees ther defence. 1647 Herrick *Noble Numb.* Poems (1902) 331 God..doth show No Arrow nockt, onely a stringlesse Bow. *a* 1835 Motherwell *Poems* (1847) 178 Nock a shaft and strike down that proud doe. 1856 'Stonehenge' *Brit. Rural Sports* 507/2 In shooting at the target, the first thing to be done is to nock the arrow.

absol. 1545 Ascham *Toxoph.* (Arb.) 132 As it were to gyue a man warning to nocke ryght. *Ibid.* 148 To nocke well is the easiest poynte of all. 1611 Sir W. Mure *Misc. Poems* ii. 26 Wks. (S. T. S.) I. 10 The blindit god arywed, His bow bent in his hand ready to nocke. 1875 *Encycl. Brit.* II. 377/2 Always nock on the same place.

Hence **Nocked** (nɒkt), *ppl. a.*; **No·cking** *vbl. sb. Nocking point,* the point of the bowstring to which the notch of the arrow is applied.

1545 Ascham *Toxoph.* (Arb.) 109 To haue a goose quyll splettyd and sewed againste the nockynge, betwixt the lining and the ledder. *Ibid.* 148 Vnconstante nockynge maketh a man leese hys lengthe. 1611 Florio, *Accoccatura,* a nocking. [1801 Strutt *Sports & Past.* II. i. 56 A proper attention was to be paid to the nocking, that is, the application of the notch at the bottom of the arrow to the bow-string.] 1856 'Stonehenge' *Brit. Rural Sports* 507/2 Turn the arrow.., and fix it on the nocking point of the string. 1859 R. F. Burton *Centr. Afr.* in *Jrnl. Geogr. Soc.* XXIX. 332 Flourishing his spear and agitating his bow, probably with nocked arrow.

†**Nockandro.** *Obs. rare.* [f. Nock *sb.*1 2, with obscure ending.] The breech.

1611 Cotgr., *Cul,* ..[a] tayle, nockandroe, fundament. 1653 Urquhart *Rabelais* II. xix. 139 Panurge put one finger of his left hand in his nockandrow. 1654 Gayton *Pleas. Notes* 14 Blest be Dulcinea, whose Favour..Rescu'd poore Andrew, and his Nock-Andro from breeching.

Nocket, *dial.*: see Nacket *sb.*2 **Nock-hole**: see Nock *sb.*1 2. **Nocking,** *vbl. sb.*: see Nock *v.*

†**Nock-saw.** *Obs. rare*—0. [f. Nock *sb.*1] A small saw for cutting nocks in bows or arrows.

1659 Howell *Vocab.* li, A thwitting knife, nocksaws, a rasp, a riper.

†**No·cky.** *Obs. rare*—0. 'A silly, dull fellow'. *a* 1700 in B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew.*

Noct-, combining form of L. *nox, noctis,* used in words based on L. *ambulāre* to walk, as **Nocta·mbulant** *a.*, night-walking. **Nocta·mbulation,** somnambulism; sleep-walking. **Noct·ambule** [cf. F. *noctambule*], a sleep-walker. **Nocta·mbulism** [F. *-isme*], somnambulism. **Nocta·mbulist,** a somnambulist; a night-walker. **Nocta·mbulistic** *a.*, connected with night-walking. †**Nocta·mbulo** (also *pl.* -ones), a somnambulist. **Nocta·mbulous** *a.*, given to night-walking.

1819 H. Busk *Vestriad* I. 467 *Noctambulant, aloof, Pads the patrole with solitary hoof. 1891 *Harper's Mag.* Aug. 430/2 His face is ascetic, with a large forehead, two noctambulant eyes sheltered behind spectacle glasses. 1721 Bailey, **Noctambulation,* a walking in ones Sleep. 1799 C. B. Brown *Edgar Huntly* xxv, Men have employed anxious months in search of that which, in a freak of noctambulation, was hidden by their own hands. 1825 R. P. Ward *Tremaine* III. xv. 345 He says, all are mad, foolish, dreaming, *Noctambules, fit patients for Monroe. 1860 Worcester (citing Hoblyn), **Noctambulism.* 1881 Colquhoun *Hist. of Magic* I. 55 The phenomena of the natural somnambulism or Noctambulism. 1731 Bailey (vol. II.), **Noctambulist,* a Person who walks in the Night, properly in Sleep. 1803 Beddoes *Hygëia* ix. 130 The proneness of noctambulists to loss of consciousness. 1852 Mundy *Antipodes* i. (1855) 18 If a noctambulist yourself, you may indeed encounter, towards the small hours, an occasional night-errant. 1887 T. Hardy *Woodlanders* II. xvii. 319 She decided that her fellow-noctambulist, even if a poacher, would not injure her. 1890 *Temple Bar* Jan. 116 A *noctambulistic escapade. 1624 Donne *Serm.* xlvi. 467 That our *Noctambulones, men that walke in their sleepe, will wake if they be called by their names. 1643 Sir T. Browne *Relig. Med.* 180 Those Noctambuloes and night-walkers, though in their sleep, do yet injoy the action of their senses. 1733 Arbuthnot *Air* (J.), Respiration being carried on in sleep, is no argument against its being voluntary. What shall we say of noctambulos? 1731 Bailey (vol. II), **Noctambulous,* of or pertaining to walking in the Night. 1786 *Nat. Hist.* in *Ann. Reg.* 51/2 By nature melancholy,..carnivorous and noctambulous. 1899 *Speaker* 25 Nov. 188/1 Hardy, unscoured, fraternal, noctambulous..the Bohemian is part born, part made.

Nocti-, comb. form of L. *nox, noctis,* used in certain words, as **Nocti·dial** [L. *dies* day] *a.*, comprising a night and a day. †**No·ctifer** [cf. L. *noctifer* evening star], a bringer of night or darkness. †**Nocti·ferous** *a.* (see quot.). **Nocti·flo·rous** *a.*, *Bot.* night-flowering (Cassell 1886). **Noctilu·cent** *a.*, shining by night; so **Noctilu·cid** *a.* (*Cent. Dict.*). †**Nocti·potent** *a.* (see quot.). Also Noctiluca, Noctivagant, etc.

1694 Holder *On Time* 98 The *Noctidial Day, the Lunar Periodic Month, and the Solar Year are Natural and Universal. 1884 *Punch* 1 Mar. 102 Farewell to noctidial sittings. 1667 Waterhouse *Fire Lond.* 140 Lest..he hurl you Lucifers out of the Heaven of your sinful felicity, and make you *Noctifers and Mortifers of misery and contempt. 1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, **Noctiferous*.., that betokens or brings night, the evening Star. 1678 Phillips *and Suppl.*, **Noctipotent,* powerful in the night.

Nocti·lionine, *a. Zool.* [See def. and -ine.] Of bats: Belonging to the genus *Noctilio.*

1844 A. Gray *Zool. Voy. Sulphur* I. 29 A very good character for the determination of the genera among the Noctilionine and Pteropine Bats.

‖**Noctiluca** (nɒktilū·kă). Pl. **-lucæ** (-lūsī). [ad. L. *noctilūca* moon, lantern, f. *nocti-, nox* night + *lūcēre* to shine. Cf. F. *noctiluque.*]

†1. A species of phosphorus. *Obs.*

1680 Boyle *Aerial Noctiluca* 5 This [phosphorus] by some Learned Men has been call'd, to discriminate it from the former, a Noctiluca. 1681–2 — *New Exp. Icy Noctiluca* 19 Our Icy Noctiluca or Phosphorus is manifestly heavier in Specie than common Water. 1706 Phillips, *Noctiluca,* a certain Substance, chymically prepared, such as will shine of it self in the dark. 1727–38 in Chambers *Cycl.*

2. *Zool.* A marine animalcule, of a nearly spherical shape, which produces a phosphorescent appearance in the sea.

1855 *Orr's Circ. Sci., Org. Nat.* II. 227 In some localities the Noctiluca..also plays an important part in the production of this phenomenon. 1865 *Pop. Sci. Rev.* 179 The Noctiluca, which causes the sea waves to sparkle with phosphoric light. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 182/2 A gobletful of the noctilucæ produces light sufficient to read by at a distance of two feet.

Hence † **Noctilu·cal** *a.*, phosphorescent. **Noctilu·can,** an animalcule of the genus *Noctiluca* (Cassell 1886). **Noctilu·cence,** marine phosphorescence due to noctilucæ (*Stand. Dict.* 1895). **Noctilu·cin(e** [F. *noctilucine*], the light-giving substance in phosphorescent animalcules.

1681–2 Boyle *New Exp. Icy Noctiluca* 46 A conjecture I had made about the great diffusedness of the Noctilucal Matter. 1880 *Libr. Univ. Knowl.* X. 659 Noctilucine has a syrupy consistence at ordinary temperatures.

Noctilu·cous, *a. rare.* [f. Noctiluca + -ous.] Shining at night, phosphorescent.

1681–2 Boyle *App. Aerial Noctiluca* 1 Till more Noctilucous Matter could be prepared. 1774 Pennant *Tour Scotl.* II. *Voy. Hebrides* 345 Myriads of noctilucous Nereids that inhabit the ocean..and..give a fine light. 1777 — *Brit. Zool.* (ed. 2) IV. 38 Nereis Noctilucous. These are the animals that illuminate the sea, like glow-worms. 1832 Macgillivray *Trav. Humboldt* xi. (1836) 131 The thorny bushes covered with noctilucous insects.

Noctivagant (nɒktī·văgănt), *a.* (and *sb.*). [f. Nocti- + Vagant *a.*] Wandering by night.

c 1620 T. Adams *Sinner's Passing-bell* Wks. 1861 I. 347 The lustful sparrows, noctivagant adulterers, sit chirping about our houses. 1633 — *Com. 2 Peter* i. 4 If our affections be noctivagant, night walkers, they will easily come home quick with child. 1656 in Blount *Glossogr.* 1721 in Bailey. 1819 H. Busk *Vestriad* IV. 8 What if a noble P— ..Noctivagant perambulate the street? 1860 *Macm. Mag.* II. 222 To put some check on any noctivagant propensities of their lodgers. 1881 W. Wilkins *Songs of Study* 21 The noctivagant student head-dress being rife to-night.

b. *sb.* One who wanders by night. *rare*—1.

1633 T. Adams *Com. 2 Peter* i. 19 Noctivagants are negligent in their habits.

†**Noctivagating.** *Obs. rare*—1. =next.

1633 T. Adams *Exp. 2 Peter* iii. 3 For a hypocrite to decline open..noctivagating,..and revels, it is no wonder.

†**Noctivaga·tion.** *Obs.* [f. Nocti- + Vagation.] Wandering or rambling by night, as an unlawful or prohibited practice subject to a fine.

1632 Marmion *Holland's Leaguer* IV. iii, No farther than to prison, where you shall pay But forty shillings for noctivagation. 1637 Abp. Laud *Wks.* (1853) V. 164 You shall do well to have a care of noctivagation and other disorders. 1678 Wood *Life* 25 Apr. II. 403 The townsmen acknowledge 6*s.* 8*d.* to be paid for noctivagation,..but not 40*s.*

b. In general use.

1645 Howell *Twelve Treat.* (1661) 337 Thus have you a rough account of a rambling Noctivagation up and down the world. 1654 Gayton *Pleas. Notes* IV. xv. 253 When upon the entrance of his adventures this vertigo of noctivagation, and watching his Armes, seizd him.

†**Noctivagator.** *Obs.* [f. Nocti- + *vagātor,* agent-noun f. L. *vagārī* to wander.] One who walks by night; a night-walker.

1640 FEATLY *Abbot* in *Fuller's Abel Rediv.* (1651) 544 After prayers he commanded the gates to be locked, to prevent or at least discover all noctivagators. 1654 GAYTON *Pleas. Notes* III. v. 99 Who..ask'd this noctivagator, where he had been so late. *a* 1703 in Gutch *Coll. Cur.* II. 47 To search and seize Noctivagators and other suspicious persons.

Noctivagous (nɒktɪ·văgəs), *a.* [f. NOCTI- + L. *vagus* wandering.] = NOCTIVAGANT.

1801 Col. HANGER *Life* I. 212 They became ambulatory and noctivagous. 1843 F. E. PAGET *Pageant* 144 Beasts of prey, burglars, and ladies of fashion are the only three kinds of noctivagous mammalia. 1854 *Fraser's Mag.* XLIX. 158 As she is noctivagous, that poor invalid..must have a disturbed time of it.

No·ctograph. [irreg. f. L. *noct-*, *nox* night + -GRAPH.] A writing-frame for a blind person.

1854 TICKNOR *Life Prescott* 134 This framework of wires is folded down upon a sheet of paper thoroughly impregnated with a black substance...The whole apparatus is called a noctograph.

Noctourne, obs. form of NOCTURN *sb.*

‖ **Noctua** (nɒ·ktiuă). *Entom.* [a. L. *noctua* night-owl.] A moth of the genus *Noctua.*

1840 *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 612 The palpi [are] generally nearly similar to those of the Noctuæ. 1892 *Athenæum* 15 Oct. 520/1 A curious noctua taken on the sandhills at St. Anne's-on-Sea. 1905 *Westm. Gaz.* 19 May 4/2 The Noctuas are sugar-lovers above all the others.

† **No·ctual,** *a. Obs. rare* −1. = NOCTURNAL.

1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* I. 10 A noctuall den of theenes.

† **No·ctuary.** *Obs. rare.* [f. L. *noct-*, *nox* night, *noctū* by night, after *diary.*] An account of what passes during the night.

1714 BYROM *Spect.* No. 586 ₱ 10, I have got a Parcel of Visions and other Miscellanies in my Noctuary. 1812 SOUTHEY *Omniana* II. 61 It stands thus in a diary or rather noctuary of dreams. 1829 J. MILLER *Sibyl's Leaves* II. 365 [He] might have been a profound philosopher in spite of his noctuary.

Noctuid (nɒ·ktiuɪid), *a.* and *sb. Entom.* [f. mod.L. *Noctuidæ*: see NOCTUA and -ID.] **a.** *adj.* Belonging to the family of moths named *Noctuidæ.* **b.** *sb.* A noctuid moth.

1880 *Libr. Univ. Knowl.* I. 706 The larva of a noctuid moth. 1894 *Harper's Mag.* Mar. 555 The evening primrose..hangs a golden necklace about the welcome murmuring noctuid. 1899 D. SHARP *Insects* II. 415 The majority of Noctuid larvæ have the usual number of legs.

Noctule (nɒ·ktiul). *Zool.* [a. F. *noctule* (Buffon), ad. It. *nottola*, *-olo*, bat: hence mod.L. *noctula.*] The largest British species of bat (*Vesperugo noctula*); the great bat. Also *Noctule bat.*

1771 PENNANT *Synopsis Quadrup.* 369 Noctule Bat with the nose slightly bilobated. *Ibid.* 370, I never saw but one specimen of the Noctule. 1802 BINGLEY *Anim. Biog.* (1813) I. 110 The length of the Noctule Bat is about 5½ inches to the tip of the tail. 1840 *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 70 The Noctules are allied to the true Bats (*Vespertilio*). 1863 KEARLEY *Links in Chain* xi. 244 The Noctule, or great high flying bat, is the earliest to retire, being seldom seen after July. 1896 LYDEKKER *Brit. Mammals* 32 The Noctule is spread over the greater part of temperate Europe and Asia. *Ibid.* 35 A solitary pair of Noctules.

† **Noctuolent,** *a. Obs. rare.* [f. L. *noctū* by night + pres. pple. of *olēre* to smell.] Of plants: Smelling strongest in the night-time.

1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* s.v. *Dog-rose*, The noctuolent plants, of which there are several kinds, as some of the geraniums, and of the jasmines, etc.

Nocturlabe: see NOCTURNLABE.

Nocturn (nɒ·ktɤn), *sb. Eccl.* [a. F. *nocturne*, ad. late or med.L. *nocturna* fem. sing. of *nocturnus*: see next.]

1. In the Roman Catholic Church, one of the divisions of the office of matins (see quot. 1526).

The first quot. may belong to sense 2.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 270 Seie 3et, he seið, one nocturne. *a* 1400 *Prymer* (1891) 83 Here bygynneth þe þridde nocturne. *c* 1425 *St. Elizabeth of Spalbeck* in *Anglia* VIII. 108/31 And so..she solempnyzes þe watches of the firste nocturne. *Ibid.* 109/22 Þe firste nocturne of matyns. 1482 *Monk of Evesham* (Arb.) 34 The next night after when y was at matens aboute the begynnyng of the thirde nocturne. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 248 In matyns commonly be iii orbes, otherwyse called iii nocturnes, of ye whiche euery orbe conteyneth iij psalmes, iii lessons, and iii responsories. 1671 WOODHEAD *St. Teresa* I. xxxi. 222 Being at that time in Oratory, and having recited the Nocturn, and saying those very devout prayers which are at the end thereof. 1706 in Cotes tr. *Dupin's Eccl. Hist.* (1725) II. v. 43 He says..that the Name Mattins is very improperly given to the Night-Office..; that the Night-Office is divided into three Nocturns, which are said at three different times. 1840 BROWNING *Sordello* IV. 969 Some brother spoke, Ere nocturns, of Crescentius. 1884 *Catholic Dict.* (1897) 101/2 The lections of the second nocturn which contain the history of the Saints.

† **2.** (See quots. 1546 and 1548–9.) *Obs.*

1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 435/1 He begynneth and saith a psalme that is in the thyrd nocturne of the psaulter. 1525 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* II. xxvi. 30/1 He sayd many orisons, euery daye a nocturne of the psalter, matyns of our lady. 1546 LANGLEY tr. *Pol. Verg. de Invent.* VI. ii. 114 The diuision of Dauids Psalter into vii partes called nocturnes according to the seuen daies in the weke was the worke of Hierome. 1548–9 (Mar.) *Bk. Com. Prayer* Pref., The auncient fathers had deuided the psalmes into seuen porcions: wherof euery one was called a nocturne.

† **Nocturn,** *a. Obs. rare.* [ad. F. *nocturne* or L. *nocturnus*: see next.] Nocturnal.

15.. in *Dunbar's Poems* (S.T.S.) App. xi. 26 We may nocht in this vale of bale abyd, Ourdirkit with the sable clud nocturn. 1636 BRATHWAIT *Rom. Emp.* 214 Vesuvius..covered the face of Italy..with nocturne darknesse in the day. 1677 GALE *Crt. Gentiles* III. 78 A cloudy, dark, nocturne Philosophie. 1762 C. DENIS in *St. James's Mag.* I. 133 What would be this nocturn sprite.

Nocturnal (nɒktɤ·rnăl), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. late L. *nocturnāl-is*, f. *nocturnus* (see prec.), f. *noct-*, *nox* night. Cf. obs. F. *nocturnal*, *-nel.*]

A. *adj.* **1.** Of or pertaining to the night; done, held, or occurring by night; etc. *Nocturnal arc*: (see quot. 1704 and ARC 2).

1485 CAXTON *St. Wenefryde* 20, I shold haue begonne my nocturnal offyce. 1537 LATIMER *Serm. Convocation* E j, The solempne and nocturnal bacchanals. 1599 A. M. tr. *Gabelhouer's Bk. Physicke* 4/2 When you intende to take your nocturnalle rest. 1602 MARSTON *Ant. & Mel.* III. Wks. 1856 I. 34 To see if the nocturnall court delights Could force me envie their felicitie. 1634 MILTON *Comus* 128 Hail Goddesse of Nocturnal sport Dark vaild Cotytto. *a* 1691 BOYLE *Hist. Air* (1692) 32 He observed the nocturnal air to be very damp. 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Nocturnal Ark*, is that Space in the Heavens which the Sun, Moon, or Stars, run thro' from their Rising to their Setting. 1759 JOHNSON *Idler* No. 49 ₱ 11 In this dismal gloom of nocturnal peregrination. 1792 COWPER *Let. to W. Hayley* 29 July, I have told you something of my nocturnal experiences. 1835 THIRLWALL *Hist. Greece* ix. I. 349 The victim of a nocturnal sacrifice to the powers below. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) V. 12 A nocturnal council is instituted for the preservation of the state.

2. *Zool.* a. Active during the night.

1726 POPE *Odyss.* XXIV. 10 Some rifted den, Where flock nocturnal bats, and birds obscene. 1768 PENNANT *Brit. Zool.* I. 107 The hedge hog is a nocturnal animal. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) VIII. 38 This tribe of insects has therefore been divided into Diurnal and Nocturnal Flies. 1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* XXXV. III. 639 In the Crepuscular and Nocturnal Lepidoptera this fold .. is very slight. 1849 *Sk. Nat. Hist., Mammalia* IV. 15 In their habits they are nocturnal. 1870 NICHOLSON *Man. Zool.* (1875) 548 The Nocturnal Birds of Prey, which..have the eyes directed forward.

b. Capable of vision by night.

1840 *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 62 The Douroucouli..only differ from the Sagouins by their great nocturnal eyes.

3. *Mus.* Of the nature of a nocturne.

1896 *Peterson's Mag.* Jan. 43/2 There is a nocturnal symphony between the first and second acts.

B. *sb.* †**1.** A night-piece. *Obs. rare* −1.

a 1631 DONNE (*title*), A Nocturnal upon St. Lucy's Day, being the shortest day.

2. An astronomical instrument adapted for taking observations by which to ascertain the hour of the night, etc.

1627 CAPT. SMITH *Seaman's Gram.* xiv. 65 An Astrolabe, a Nocturnal. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* II. 46 A Nocturnal so ordered, that it shall give you the Hour of the Night by the North-Star.., whereby you may take the true Declination. 1690 LEYBOURN *Curs. Math.* 617 There are several sorts of Nocturnals, of which some are Projections of the Sphere. *a* 1748 WATTS *Geogr. & Astron.* § 20 (1760) 206 The Instrument called a Nocturnal, wherein the most remarkable Stars are fixed in their proper Degrees of Declination and Right Ascension. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1780), *Alidade*, the index of a nocturnal or sea-quadrant. 1884 *Chamb. Jrnl.* 1 Nov. 695/1 Astrolabes, nocturnals, and other astronomical instruments..are largely represented.

†**3.** A night-service; a nocturn. *Obs. rare* −1.

1670 G. H. *Hist. Cardinals* I. III. 91 All the Fryeries.. say the Offices for the dead, and cause a Nocturnal to be rehearsed.

4. A night-walker; a night-hag.

1693 TATE in *Dryden's Juvenal* (1697) 32 Such vile Practices..As makes our Matrons lewd, Nocturnals chast. 1823 *Spirit Public Jrnls.* 40 Amongst a group of nocturnals, from St. Martin's watch-house. 1861 T. L. PEACOCK *Gryll G.* xxxiv, We implored the nocturnals to keep themselves to themselves, while we were returning from supper.

5. *pl.* **a.** The nocturnal birds of prey; the night-owls. **b.** The nocturnal Lepidoptera; the moths.

1842 BRANDE *Dict. Sci.*, etc.

Hence **Noctu·rnally** *adv.* (Webster 1847).

Nocturne (nɒ·ktɤn), *sb.* Also **-urn.** [a. F. *nocturne* (It. *notturno*); cf. NOCTURN *sb.* and *a.*]

1. *Mus.* A composition of a dreamy character.

'A name and form of composition the origin of which is due to John Field' (*Grove's Dict. Mus.* II. 469).

1862 T. A. TROLLOPE *Marietta* I. vii. 130 He had attempted to compose some words for his nocturn. 1874 R. TVRWHITT *Sketch Club* 300 Don't be bothered with symphonies and nocturns. 1882 MISS BRADDON *Mt. Royal* I. viii. 254 Christabel was playing slow sleepy nocturnes.

2. *Painting.* A night-piece, night-scene.

c 1880 WHISTLER *Let. to Leyland* in *Art Jrnl.* Aug. 252, I can't thank you too much for the name 'Nocturne' as the title for my moonlights. *Ibid.*, The Nocturne in blue and silver is one you don't know at all. 1882 *Cornh. Mag.* Feb. 168 One is tempted to linger over these strange dream-pictures, these nocturnes [etc.].

3. *Zool.* (See quot.)

1900 *Nature* 5 Apr. 552/2 In constant darkness, a nocturne (that is, a prawn in the nocturnal colour-phase) recovers to its diurnal colour.

Hence **No·cturne** *v. intr.*, to assume the nocturnal colour.

1900 *Nature* 5 Apr. 553/1 Blinded prawns nocturne and recover as completely as normal ones.

† **Nocturnlabe.** *Obs. rare.* [irreg. f. NOCTURN *a.*, after *Astrolabe.*] = NOCTURNAL *sb.* 2.

1594 BLUNDEVIL *Exerc.* VII. XXXIX. (1636) 717 To know by the Northstar and his guards, with the helpe of an instrument called a Nocturnlabe, the houre of the night. [1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Nocturlabe*, is an Instrument used to find how much the North Star is higher or lower than the Pole at all Hours of the Night.]

† **Noctu·rnous,** *a. Obs. rare* −0. [f. L. *nocturnus* + -OUS.] 'Pertaining to the night.'

1727 BAILEY, vol. II.

† **No·cument.** *Obs.* [ad. med.L. *nocumentum*, f. *nocēre* to hurt.] Harm, damage; evil.

1550 BALE *Image both Ch.* II. K vii, All these noyfull nocumentes are the holy frutes of the whordome of that ..churche. 1604 T. WRIGHT *Passions* v. 189 The dammage or nocument, which casually was annexed. *c* 1650 *Contemp. Hist. Irel.* (1879) I. 192 Nocuments are documents, and greate afflictions are good lecturers to reformation of life and maners. 1657 TOMLINSON *Renou's Disp.* 595 By whose quality the head will..be armed against the nocuments of Opium.

Hence † **Nocume·ntal,** † **Nocume·ntous** *adjs.*

1644 HUNTON *Vind. Treat. Monarchy* ix. 65 For it so fals out to the best physicke, where the nocumentous humours are prevailing. 1657 TOMLINSON tr. *Renou's Disp.* To Rdr., To correct their nocumental qualities.

Nocuous (nɒ·kiuɪəs), *a.* [a. L. *nocuus*, f. *nocēre* to hurt: cf. *innocuous.*] Noxious, hurtful; venomous, poisonous.

1635 SWAN *Spec. M.* IX. § 1 (1643) 480 Though this be a nocuous creature, it much magnifieth the power of God. 1656 in BLOUNT *Glossogr.* 1721 in BAILEY. 1883 *Brit. Q. Rev.* July 19 Anything of the kind which has such power is ..nocuous for constant use. 1890 LUMHOLTZ *Cannibals* 23 This change is due..to a nocuous kind of grass, namely the dreaded spear-grass.

Hence **No·cuously** *adv.*; **No·cuousness.**

1847 WEBSTER, *Nocuously.* 1894 *Westm. Gaz.* 15 Jan. 2/3 It proves neither nocuousness nor innocuousness.

Nod (nɒd), *sb.*[1] [f. the vb.]

1. A short, quick inclination of the head used as a sign, esp. to convey salutation or recognition, to express assent or approbation, or to direct attention to something.

1540–1 ELYOT *Image Gov.* 40 Notwithstandynge..they received nothing in conclusion but noddes with the head. 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus*, *Nutus*, a signe that one maketh with his eyes or head; a becke; a nodde. 1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III*, I. iii. 49 Because I cannot..Ducke with French nods, and Apish curtesie. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 40 A Doctor..commanded me to draw water for his horse, giving me no reward presently but only a nod. 1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* IV. viii. 276 The Jurie being wise men (whose apprehensions could make up an whole sentence of every nod of the Judge). 1692 LOCKE *Educ.* § 77 A Look or Nod only ought to correct them, when they do amiss. 1711 BUDGELL *Spect.* No. 77 ₱ 5 Those Nods of Approbation which I never bestow unmerited. 1782 MISS BURNEY *Cecilia* V. i, [The] smirk..was converted into a familiar nod. 1818 SHELLEY *Tasso* 14 Those nods and smiles were favours worth the zechin. 1821–30 LD. COCKBURN *Mem.* v. (1874) 241 The speculations and conjectures, and nods and winks,..were endless. 1887 RUSKIN *Præterita* II. 278 Delivering the last words of each paragraph with two or three energetic nods of his head.

fig. 1649 BULWER *Pathomyot.* I. § 6. 37 All the ready variations of his cunning fingers being done by the Nods of the Soule. 1653 H. MORE *Antid. Ath.* I. xi. § 8 To move itself and by its motions and nods to determinate the course of the Spirits.

Prov. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* II. ix. ₱ 5, I shall say no more at present, a nod is as good as a wink. 1834 MARRYAT *P. Simple* li, A nod's as good as a wink to a blind horse. 1893 M^cCARTHY *Red Diamonds* II. 28 A nod is as good as a wink to such a dark horse as you are.

b. A sign of this kind conveying an imperative command, or expressive of absolute power.

1567 MAPLET *Gr. Forest* 29 The race of this life was..eche moment at death his nod and beck. 1596 DRAYTON *Legends* iii. 471 Whose very Nod acts with a thousand Hands. 1641 MILTON *Ch. Gov.* Concl., They stood upon their own bottom, without their main dependance on the royal nod. 1684–5 SOUTH *Serm.* (1692) 395 Masaniello..with a Word, or a Nod, absolutely Commanding the whole City of Naples. 1718 PRIOR *Solomon* II. 944 Nations obey my word, and wait my nod. 1781 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xxxiv. (1787) III. 361 They watched his nod; they trembled at his frown. 1787 JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1859) II. 332 In Turkey, where the sole nod of the despot is death. 1826 E. IRVING *Babylon* II. 365 The whole western empire was at his nod. 1850 MAZZINI *Royalty & Repub.* 152 You have..multitudes of men dependent on your nod. 1870 BRYANT *Homer* I. I. 28 That thou Mayst be assured, behold, I give the nod.

†**c.** One who is nodded at. *Obs. rare* −1.

c 1586 C^TESS PEMBROKE *Ps.* CIX. xii, Alas! I am their scorn, their nod, When in their presence I me show.

d. *On the nod*, on credit.

1882– in FARMER *Slang.* 1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 11 June 5/3 We went into a..shop and wanted to be served on the nod.

2. An involuntary forward movement of the head in one who has fallen asleep or is drowsy; hence, a short sleep, a nap. Also *transf.*, a lapse.

c 1610 *Lives Wom. Saints* III She permitted her bodie to take a little nodd or sleepe. 1625 FLETCHER & SHIRLEY *Nt. Walker* IV. ii, Common-wealths men Are ever subject to the oods; sit down, Sir, A short nap is not much amiss. *a* 1704 T. BROWN *Walk round Lond.* Wks. 1709 III. II. 21 When the Spewing-fit is over, he'll sit down to take a Nod. 1793 *Regal Rambles* 69 Even Homer had his nods now and then. 1894 ANNIE RITCHIE *Chapters fr. Mem.* vi. 70 My own head..came down with a sleepy nod.

b. *The land of Nod*, sleep. [A pun on the biblical place-name, *Gen.* iv. 16.]

1731–8 SWIFT *Pol. Conversat.* 214 I'm going to the Land of Nod. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* XXX, There's queer things chanced since ye hae been in the land of Nod. 1863 READE

Hard Cash xviii, [It] had my lady into the land of Nod in half a minute. 1900 *Chamb. Jrnl.* III. 642/2 In the night-time, when human beings..are absent in the Land of Nod.

3. A forward or downward movement. *rare.*

1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III*, III. iv. 102 Like a drunken Sayler on a Mast, Readie with euery Nod to tumble downe. 1692 BENTLEY *Boyle Lect.* 257 By those surprizing nods of the pole we might be tossed backward or forward in a moment from January to June.

† **Nod,** *sb.*[2] *Obs. rare* —[1]. = NODDY *sb.*[1] 1.

c 1563 *Jack Juggler* in Hazl. *Dodsley* II. 130 For it would grieve my heart, so help me God, To run about the streets like a masterless nod. 1606 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* XIV. To Rdr. 331 [The poets] most-what but for Nods doe cense Saints, senselesse of more Recompence.

Nod, *sb.*[3] *dial.* = NODDLE *sb.*[1] 1 b.

1695 KENNETT *Par. Antiq.* s.v. *Coppire*, The knape or nape.., in Kent the Nod of the neck. 1838 HOLLOWAY *Prov. Dict.* s.v. *Niddick*, The node of the neck is the nape of the neck. *Hants.* 1875 PARISH *Sussex Gloss.* s.v., It catched me right across the nod of my neck. 1884 J. C. EGERTON *Sussex Folk & Ways* 112 A bit of hair from the 'nod'.

Nod, obs. form of NEED *sb.*

Nod (nɒd), *v.* Also 4–7 nodde. [Of obscure origin: no equivalent form with the same sense is found in any of the cognate languages. Connexion with MHG. *notten* (G. dial. *notteln*) to move about, shake, is doubtful.]

I. 1. *intr.* To make a quick inclination of the head, esp. in salutation, assent, or command.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Manciple's T.* Prol. 47 With this speche the Cook wax wrooth.., And on the Manciple he gan nodde faste For lakke of speche. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 357/2 Noddynge wythe the heed, *conquiniscio.* 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 255/2 To Nodde; *conqui[n]escere.* 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xxxiv. 39 The Dyvill luche and on him qwoth nod, Renunce thy God and cum to me. 1530 PALSGR. 644/1, I nodde with the heed, *je fais signe de la teste.* Whan I nodde upon the, than go. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* III. i. 177 Nod to him, Elues, and doe him Curtesies. 1638 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (ed. 2) 138 Young Ganimeds..went up and downe..to powre out wine to such as noded for it. 1635–56 COWLEY *Davideis* I. Note § 29 The Poets are so civil to Jupiter, as to say no less when he either Spoke, or so much as Nodded. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 12 ¶ 2 Upon which my Land-lady nods, as much as to say she takes my Meaning, and immediately obeys my Signals. 1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* vii, Some of the citizens..began to nod and look exceedingly wise upon the advocate of acquiescence. 1842 TENNYSON *Godiva* 30 And nodding, as in scorn, He parted. 1877 MRS. FORRESTER *Mignon* I. 65 Sir Tristram nods and smiles at her and goes off to the garden.

transf. 1583 GOLDING *Calvin on Deut.* clxx. 1057 Like the Asse which can well ynough nodde with his Eares.

2. To let the head fall forward with a quick, short, involuntary motion when drowsy or asleep.

1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 91, I nother nod for sleepe.., nor blisse for spirites. 1601 SHAKS. *Jul. C.* IV. iii. 271 If thou do'st nod, thou break'st thy Instrument. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 247 We not used to this watching, were so sleepy..as we could not abstaine from nodding. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* I. ii. 7 As one that noddeth in a chayre. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 112 ¶ 3 If he sees any Body else nodding, [he] either wakes them himself, or sends his Servant to them. 1783 S. CHAPMAN in *Med. Comm.* I. 303 Oppressed with inclination to sleep, he frequently nodded. 1840 DICKENS *Barn. Rudge* I, She would be seen ..to nod a little way forward, and stop with a jerk. 1870–74 J. THOMSON *City Dreadf. Nt.* IX. ii, A man sits nodding on the shaft.

fig. 1633 G. HERBERT *Temple, Divinitie* i, For fear the starres should sleep and nod, And trip at night. 1648 CRASHAW *Steps to Temple* Wks. (1904) 88 Our Harpes .. Nodding on the willowes slept.

transf. 1879 THOMSON & TAIT *Nat. Phil.* I. i. § 106 It is the case of a common spinning-top..; not sleeping upright, nor nodding, but sweeping its axis round [etc.].

† **b.** To wink *at*, overlook, a thing. *Obs. rare*—[1].

1607 TOURNEUR *Rev. Trag.* II. ii, It well becomes that Judge to nod at crimes.

c. To be momentarily inattentive or inaccurate; to make a slip or mistake. In echoes of Horace *Ars Poet.* 359 (*dormitat Homerus*).

1677 W. HUGHES *Man of Sin* I. v. 20 We see a Jesuite may sometimes nod as well as Homer. 1709 POPE *Ess. Crit.* 180 Those oft are stratagems which errors seem, Nor is it Homer nods, but we that dream. 1796 BURKE *Let. to Noble Lord* 35 Homer nods; and the duke of Bedford may dream. *a* 1876 G. DAWSON *Shaks.*, etc. (1888) 50 If Homer sometimes nods, Johnson snores. 1887 HUXLEY in *19th Cent.* Feb. 196 Scientific reason, like Homer, sometimes nods.

3. To swing or sway from the perpendicular, as if about to fall.

1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* I. (Arb.) 21 Theire ships too larboord doo nod, seas monsterus haunt them. 1631 GOUGE *God's Arrows* II. § 25. 169 Tottering to and fro, nodding and sliding much like carved pictures without life. 1681 DRYDEN *Abs. & Achit.* 801 If ancient Fabricks nod, and threat to fall. 1718 PRIOR *Solomon* II. 732 Porches and schools..Uncover'd, and with scaffolds cumber'd stood, Or nodded, threatening ruin. 1732 POPE *Essay on Man* I. 255 Heav'n's whole foundations to their centre nod. 1816 H. G. KNIGHT *East. Sketches* (ed. 3) Pref. xii, A fragment of a palace which is nodding to its fall. 1849 RUSKIN *Sev. Lamps* V. § 10. 145 The arches nodding westward and sinking into the ground.

b. In fig. context.

1752 YOUNG *Brothers* I. i, His empire shakes, And all her lofty glories nod to ruin. 1770 *Ann. Reg.* I. 7 This vast, ill-founded, and unwieldy empire seems indeed nodding to its fall. 1821 SHELLEY *Hellas* 870 A later Empire nods in its decay.

4. To bend or incline downward or forward with a swaying movement.

1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* IV. xiv. 6 A forked Mountaine ..With Trees vpon't, that nodde vnto the world. 1744 AKENSIDE *Pleas. Imag.* II. 203 The shade More horrid nodded o'er me. 1784 COWPER *Task* V. 26 The bents And coarser grass,..fledged with icy feathers, nod superb. 1805 SCOTT *Last Minstr.* I. XXV, Green hazels o'er his basnet nod. 1841 LOWELL *Rosaline*, With long black garments trailing slow, And plumes anodding to and fro.

transf. 1899 CROCKETT *Kit Kennedy* 28 The little green bank..nodding with fern and queen-of-the-meadow.

†**5.** To incline or tend *to* something. *Obs. rare* —[1].

1599 B. JONSON *Ev. Man out of Hum.* II. i, My brother, sir, for want of education, sir, somewhat nodding to the boor, the clown.

II. 6. *trans.* To incline (the head). Also *transf.*

1553 T. WILSON *Rhet.* (1580) 223 Some noddes their hedde at euery sentence. 1581 G. PETTIE tr. *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* (1586) I. 34 They nodde theyr heads, and abase their eyes. 1666 DRYDEN *Ann. Mirab.* CCXXII, He..nods at every house his threatening fire. 1695 CONGREVE *Taking of Namur* V, Craggy Cliffs .. Nod impending Terrours o'er the Plain. 1840 DICKENS *Barn. Rudge* X, John contented himself with nodding his head in the affirmative. 1898 RIDER HAGGARD *Dr. Therne* 20, I nodded my head.

7. To signify by, to say with, a nod.

1713 STEELE *Englishm.* No. 8. 50 Ay, ay, nodded the Porter; but, Sir, whom must I say I came from? 1775 SHERIDAN *Rivals* Epil., She .. Curtsies a pension here—there nods a place. 1819 SCOTT *Leg. Montrose* XVI, The general laid his hand upon his nose, and nodded intelligence. 1847 MARRYAT *Childr. N. Forest* IX, The keeper nodded adieu to Edward. 1863 GEO. ELIOT *Romola* III. XXI, He nodded assent, and Romola set out. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Apr. 741/2 The officer nodded an affirmative.

8. To invite, send, or bring, by a nod.

1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* III. vi. 66 Cleopatra Hath nodded him to her. 1647 TRAPP *Comm.* I *Pet.* v. 6 If God can..nod us to destruction. 1684 BROOK *Prec. Remedies* 266 God can speak or nod you to hell in a moment. 1742 YARROW *Love at First Sight* 74 He cries play; the Harper uncases, the Drawer is nodded out. 1821 CLARE *Vill. Minstr.* II. 82 The beckoning lover nods the maid away. 1889 F. BARRETT *Strange Mask* II. xv. 96, I nodded him out of the room.

9. To cause to bend or sway.

1818 KEATS *Endym.* I. 261 By every wind that nods the mountain pine.

Hence **No·dded** *ppl. a.*

1887 MEREDITH *Ballads & P.* 131 And thou perform The nodded part of pantaloon.

Nodal (nōʊ·dăl), *a.* [f. NODE *sb.* + -AL; cf. F. *nodal.*] Pertaining to, of the nature of, a node or nodes, in various senses, esp.

1. *Nodal line* or *point*, a line or point of absolute or comparative rest in a vibrating body or surface. Cf. NODE *sb.* 6 a.

1831 FARADAY *Exp. Res.* xlvi. 318 Neither sand nor filings could rest on the quiescent, or nodal, lines. 1838 in *Eng. Mech.* (1869) 24 Dec. 356/3 It was situated at a nodal or quiescent point during some tones. 1873 W. LEES *Acoustics* I. iii. 25 We have not only nodal points in a vibrating string, but we may have nodal lines in a vibrating plate.

2. *Bot.* and *Biol.* Pertaining to, of the nature of, a node in a vegetable or animal organism.

1842 WILLSHIRE in *Ann. Nat. Hist.* IX. 85, I have examined portions of the plant both young and old, and at all portions of the nodal places. 1875 HUXLEY & DYER in *Encycl. Brit.* III. 683/1 An inter-nodal cell, which elongates greatly,..is succeeded by a nodal cell, which elongates but little. 1882 VINES tr. *Sachs' Bot.* 191 Each nodal disk consists of the anterior half of an older segment [etc.]. 1888 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* 572 The cirri are borne ..upon certain joints of the stem, hence termed nodal.

3. *Nodal point*, a stopping- or starting-point; a centre of convergence or divergence; a point constituting a node of any kind.

1845 GROVE *Contrib. to Sci.* 298 Forming the nodal point or zero of the table. 1862 M. HOPKINS *Hawaii* 238 These nodal points [in history] determine the length of his chapters. 1863 DANA *Man. Geol.* 598 These species occupy nodal points, as they may be called, or points of divarication. 1880 LE CONTE *Sight* 29 This point of ray-crossing is called the nodal point.

4. *Astron.* Pertaining to planetary nodes.

1868 LOCKYER *Guillemin's Heavens* (ed. 3) 220 It is enough to look out for the body at one or other of these nodal passages. 1872 PROCTOR *Ess. Astron.* IX. 126 The nodal shifting of the meteor-band.

Nodated, *ppl. a.* ? *Obs.* [f. L. *nōdāt-us*, pa. pple. of *nōdāre* to knot + -ED[1].] Knotted.

1710 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* II, *Nodated Hyperbola*: so Sir Is. Newton calls a peculiar kind of Hyperbola, which by turning round decussates or crosses itself. 1783 HERSCHEL in *Phil. Trans.* LXXIII. 279 A similar curve is to be delineated in the southern hemisphere, in the nodated part of which the same appearances will take place. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) II. 483/1 All the stars in the northern hemisphere, situated within the nodated part of the conchoid, will seem to go to the north.

† **Noda·tion.** *Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *nōdātio*, f. *nōdāre*: see prec.] A knotted part; knottiness.

1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 2b/2 The nodation of the gorge or throte, or Adam's bitte. 1623 COCKERAM I, *Nodation*, Knottinesse.

† **No·dcoke.** *Obs. rare.* [Cf. NOD *sb.*[2]] A fool.

1582 BRETON *Flourish upon Fancie* Wks. (Grosart) I. 17/2 The Cooke that drest the meate: then Nodcoke naturall, Then Jacke-an-apes. *Ibid.* 22/1 So nodcoke I, that longe haue serued thee like a slaue,..Repentaunce gained haue.

Nod-crafty, *a.* [f. NOD *sb.*[1]] Able to nod with an air of great wisdom.

1608 BACON in Spedding *Life & Lett.* (1868) IV. 92 Solemne goose, stately, leastwise nodd crafty.

† **No·ddant.** *Obs. rare* —[1]. [f. NOD *v.* + -ANT[1].] One who nods.

1589 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* V. XXVII, Soothly nodds to Poets now wear largisse, and but lost, Since for the Noddant they observe no pen note worth the cost.

† **No·ddary.** *Obs. rare* —[1]. [f. NOD *sb.*[2] or NODDY *sb.*[1] 1 + -ARY[1].] A foolish action.

1647 WARD *Simp. Cobler* 49 Peoples prostrations of these things..are prophane prostitutions, ignorant ideotisms, under-naturall noddaries.

Noddee (nɒdī·). *rare.* [f. NOD *v.* + -EE[1].] †**a.** One who causes nodding or drowsiness. *Obs.* **b.** One who is nodded to.

a 1680 H. MARTYN in Aubrey *Lives* (1898) II. 46 Mr. Speaker, a motion has beene to turne out the Nodders; I desire the Noddees may also be turn'd out. 1810 *Sporting Mag.* XXXV. 250 Nodding his head at him [he] significantly added, 'I am the nodder and you are the noddee'.

† **No·dden,** *ppl. a.*, perh. for *knodden* (pa. pple. of KNEAD *v.*) in the sense of 'compact'.

1748 THOMSON *Cast. Indol.* I. x, They neither plow, nor sow; ne, fit for flail, Ere to the barn the nodden sheaves they drove.

Nodder (nɒ·dəɹ). [f. NOD *v.*] One who nods, in various senses of the verb.

1625 in *Cosin's Corr.* (Surtees) I. 54 You delt bravely with that nodder with his grave head you wrote of. 1653 H. MORE *Conject. Cabbal.* (1713) p. iii, Which those drowsie Nodders over the Letter of the Scripture have very oscitantly collected. *a* 1680 [see NODDER]. 1747 *Gentl. Mag.* 59 Even the furr'd nodders on the B—h have benefited by these young Scotch pleaders. 1848 LOWELL *Biglow P.* Poems (1890) II. 98 With a congregation of fifty thousand.., and never so much as a nodder, even, among them!

Noddie, obs. for NODDY, *sb.*[1] **Noddiepeake, -poope:** see NODDYPEAK, -POOP. **Noddil,** obs. variant of NODDLE *sb.*[1] and *v.*[1]

Nodding (nɒ·dĭŋ), *vbl. sb.* [-ING[1].] The action of the verb NOD.

1495 *Trevisa's Barth. De P. R.* XVIII. lix. 815 The harte calfe hyghte Hinnulus..& hath that name Hinnulus of.. heckynge other noddynge. 1548 ELYOT, *Nutatio*, noddynge, as a mans head dooeth, whan he sytteth slepyng. 1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 91 What thing is it..That bringeth this busy blissing and noddyng? 1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 146 They pray silently with ridiculous and continual noddings of their heads. 1649 BULWER *Pathomyot.* II. i. 56 Nodding to us is a gesture of invitation. 1668 DRYDEN *Even. Love* II. i, For all your noddings, and your mathematical grimaces. 1812 L. HUNT in *Exam.* 19 Oct. 657/1 Mr. Sheridan..assures him, with a hearty nodding of the head.., that they all drank his health. 1844 MARY HOWITT *Own Story* viii. 73 With sundry winks of his large eyes, and upward noddings of his chin. 1882 *Garden* 11 Mar. 167/1 The constant nodding of the florets, even in the calmest weather, is delightful.

b. *Comb.*, esp. *nodding acquaintance*, a slight acquaintance (*with* a person), extending no further than recognition by a nod.

1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 124 ¶ 1 The most severe Reader makes Allowances for many Rests and Nodding-places in a Voluminous Writer. 1861 HUGHES *Tom Brown at Oxf.* iv, Many with whom he had scarcely a nodding acquaintance. 1868 DICKENS *Uncomm. Trav.* XXI, I am on nodding terms with a meditative turncock. 1894 D. C. MURRAY *Making of Novelist* 140 A group of men with whom I had a nodding acquaintance.

Nodding (nɒ·dĭŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. NOD *v.* + -ING[2].]

1. That nods; esp. of plants, trees, etc.

1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* II. i. 250, I know a banke..Where Oxslips and the nodding Violet growes. 1634 MILTON *Comus* 38 This drear Wood, The nodding horror of whose shady brows Threats the forlorn..Passinger. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Past.* X. 38 A Country Crown Of Fennel, and of nodding Lillies. 1700 — *Pal. & Arc.* III. 370 At length the nodding statue clash'd his arms. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* IX. 224 Crown'd with rough thickets, and a nodding wood. 1754 GRAY *Progr. Poesy* 12 The rocks and nodding groves. 1792 R. KERR tr. *Linnæus's Anim. Kingd.* 69 Nodding Monkey. 1820 SHELLEY *Ode Liberty* IV, The nodding promontories, and blue isles, And cloud-like mountains. 1871 MEREDITH *H. Richmond* III. 197 He collapsed in speech, and became what he used to call 'one of the ordinary nodding men'.

b. Of the nature of nodding.

1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 909 Nodding movements of the head accompany these 'Salaam convulsions'.

2. a. Swaying, inclining, tottering.

1693 SOUTHERNE *Maid's last Prayer* II. ii, Sure, Granger, thou lovest a nodding wall, that will bury thee in its ruins. 1715 POPE *Iliad* II. 18 Destruction hangs o'er yon devoted wall, And nodding Ilion waits the impending fall. 1840 DICKENS *Barn. Rudge* LXVIII, The tumbling down of nodding walls and heavy blocks of wood. 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exped.* XLVIII. (1856) 452 Nodding, pendulous, stalactitic hummocks were not unfrequent.

b. Drowsy, sleepy.

1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) III. 38 So to order their lives as to have no need of a nodding justice.

3. *Bot.* (and *Entom.*) Bent or curved downward.

1776 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* 378 *Nutans*, nodding, the Top or Head bent downwards. 1796 WITHERING *Brit. Pl.* (ed. 3) II. 160 Panicle nodding. 1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* XLVI. IV. 300 Nodding horn (*Cornu nutans*). When a horn bends forwards. 1870 HOOKER *Stud. Flora* 232 *Erica*... Flowers usually nodding. 1886 A. H. CHURCH *Food Grains Ind.* 40 With..hairy leaves and a much divided nodding panicle.

b. In plant-names.

1789 J. PILKINGTON *View Derbysh.* I. 451 *Bidens cernua*, Nodding Double-tooth. 1855 MISS PRATT *Flower. Pl.* III. 256 Nodding Bur Marigold. 1857 A. GRAY *First Lessons Bot.* (1866) 193 Nodding Trillium or Wake-Robin.

Hence **No·ddingly** *adv.*

1882 in OGILVIE. 1885 CLARK RUSSELL *Strange Voy.* II.

vii. 110, I was gazing at the distant speck,..and noddingly wondering how far distant [etc.].

Noddle (nǫ·d'l), *sb.*[1] Forms: 5–6 nodle, 5 -el, -ul(le, -yl(e; 6–7 nodell, 6 -il; 6 noddel (7 -ell), *Sc.* -ill; 6– noddle, 9 *dial.* nuddle. [Of obscure origin. No similar form appears in any of the cognate languages.]

†1. a. The back *of* the head. *Obs.*

c 1425 *St. Elizabeth of Spalbeck* in *Anglia* VIII. 108/46 Sche smytes hir-selfe in þe nodel of the hede byhynde. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 357/2 Nodyl, or nodle of þe heed (or nolle), *occiput.* 1548 Vicary *Anat.* iii. (1888) 27 A bone of the hinder part of the head called the Noddel of the head. 1567 J. Maplet *Gr. Forest* 6 They rippe in sunder the noddle of his head. 1676 Hobbes *Iliad* 62 His strong sharp-pointed spear..lighting Behind upon the noddle of his head.

b. The back *of* the neck. (Cf. 2 c.) Now *dial.*

1564 P. Moore *Hope Health* I. v. 9 Memorie is placed in the hindermost parte of the braine aboue the noddle of the necke. 1567 Golding *Ovid's Met.* (1593) v. 108 To Petales he lendeth such a souse Full in the noddle of the necke. 1590 Barrough *Meth. Physick* I. xxiv. (1639) 42 After that fasten cupping glasses to the noddle of the neck. 1823 E. Moor *Suffolk Words* s.v. *Nuddle*, Cut a lock of hair from the nuddle of the neck. 1889 *Macm. Mag.* Sept. 358 Last winter I suffered terrible with the misery in my head—just in the noddle o' the neck it fared to lay.

2. *absol.* †a. The back of the head. *Obs.* b. The head or pate. (Colloq. or jocular.)

c 1425 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 633 *Hoc occipud*, A[e] nodulle. *c* 1450 *M. E. Med. Bk.* (Heinrich) 65 As ofte þou anoynte þyne heued in þe nodul be hynde wyþ hoot watur. 1509 Hawes *Past. Pleas.* xliv. (Percy Soc.) 213 On his noddle darkely flamyng Was set Saturne .. And Jupiter amiddes his foreheade. 1533 Elyot *Cast. Helthe* (1541) 10 b, Imagination in the forheed: Reason in the braine: Remembrance in the nodell. 1582 Stanyhurst *Æneis* III. (Arb.) 91 His nodil in crossewise wresting downe droups to the grownd ward. 1607 Markham *Caval.* v. (1617) 21 From the noddle or crowne of his head downward vnto his mayne. *c* 1645 Howell *Lett.* (1650) I. 360 The late Queen of Spain took off one of her chapines and clowted Olivares about the noddle with it. 1664 Butler *Hud.* II. i. 532 Quoth he, My Head's not made of brass As Friar Bacon's noddle was. 1713 Arbuthnot *John Bull* II. v, If they offered to come into the warehouse, then strait went the yard slap over their noddle. 1755 J. Shebbeare *Lydia* (1769) II. 191 Master Doctor, having thatched his noddle with his enormous periwig,..sallied forth. 1825 Scott 16 May in *Fam. Lett.* (1894) II. xxi. 267 The fine bust he cut of my poor noddle three years ago. 1864 Thackeray *D. Duval* i, Many a smart rap with the rolling-pin have I had over my noddle.

†c. The back of the neck. (Cf. 1 b.) *Obs. rare.*

1599 Breton *Will of Wit* 3, I suddenly stept to him, tooke him by the Noddle and turned him to my work. 1612 Woodall *Surg. Mate* Wks. (1653) 22 Cupping-glasses ..are used .. to set in the nodell, and on the upper part of the shoulder-blades.

3. The head as the seat of the mind or thought. (Colloq., and usually with playful or contemptuous suggestion of dullness or emptiness.)

1579 Tomson *Calvin's Serm. Tim.* 656/1 The diuell.. putteth into their braines and foolishe noddles to make great shewes. 1594 Lyly *Moth. Bomb.* II. i, Let me alone, ..there's matter in this noddle. 1611 W. Baker *Paneg. Verses* in Coryat *Crudities*, Thy worke (which is the moddell Of most the wit enskonsed in thy noddell). 1654 Vilvain *Theor. Theol.* vii. 193 He frams a new Moon-calf-model of Heaven..after his own Pythagorean Noddle. 1709 Steele *Tatler* No. 178 ₱ 2 These Reflections .. seize the Noddles of such as were not born to have Thoughts of their own. 1755 B. Martin *Mag. Arts & Sci.* 123 All the senseless Whimsies that have possessed the Noddles of the credulous Vulgar. 1793 Cowper *Let. to W. Hayley* 27 July, Laying his own noddle, and the carpenter's noddle together. 1840 Barham *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. I. *Acc. New Play*, Lady Arundel .. Perplexes her noddle with no such nice queries. 1869 Trollope *He knew*, etc. xxxvi, Slatternly girls, without an iden inside their noddles!

†b. By extension: A person. *Obs. rare.*

1705 Hickeringill *Priest-cr.* 43 John Calvin, a cunning Man, a great Scholar; and, above all, a reaching Noddle. 1711 Shaftesb. *Charac.* (1737) I. 148 If they can produce a set of Lancashire noddles, remote provincial head-pieces,.. to attest a story of a witch upon a broomstick.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as †*noddle-pate*; †**noddle-bone**, the occipital bone; †**noddle-case**, a wig; †**noddle-thatcher**, a wig-maker.

1611 Cotgr., *Os occipital*, the *noddle bone. 1615 Crooke *Body of Man* 442 The fourth is called *Os Occipitis* the Noddle or Nowle-bone. 1681 W. Robertson *Phraseol. Gen.* (1693) 271 The hind-head bone, or, the noddle-bone. 1702 T. Brown *Wks.* (1760) II. 197 Next time you have occasion for a new *noddle-case,..I'll recommend you to the honestest perriwig-maker in Christendom. 1712 Steele *Spect.* No. 518 ₱ 9 A Pinch of right and fine Barcelona.., and a Noddle-case loaden with Pulvil. 1622 Breton *Strange News* Wks. (Grosart) II. 11/1 Naturall capacities, .. such as they were, and fitted the humour of his *noddle pate. 1716–20 *Lett. fr. Mist's Jrnl.* (1722) I. 84 To deprive 20000 *Noddle-Thatchers of their Livelihood.

No·ddle, *sb.*[2] *rare.* [f. Noddle *v.*] A nodding movement of the head.

[1756 Fulke Greville *Max., Charac. & Reflections* 70 His head goes noddle noddle, like a Chinese figure.] 1765 Lady S. Lennox *Life & Lett.* (1901) I. 172 She has a noddle with her head that makes some people reckon her like me.

†**No·ddle,** *v.*[1] *Obs. rare.* [? f. Noddle *sb.*] *intr.* and *trans.* To beat, pummel (? on the head).

c 1440 *York Myst.* xxix. 369 Dose noddil on hym with nefles That he noght nappe. 1623 Webster *Devil's Law-Case* III. iii, Some women .. have long'd to beat their husbands; what if I..exercise my longing Upon my tailor that way, and noddle him soundly?

Noddle (nǫ·d'l), *v.*[2] [A frequentative of Nod *v.*: see -le, and cf. Niddle-noddle.]

1. *trans.* To nod (the head) quickly or slightly.

1733–4 in Mrs. Delany *Life & Corr.* (1861) I. 428 Who should I see at Court last night, noddling her head, but Molly Winnington? 1772 Graves *Spir. Quix.* I. 222 She noddled her head, was saucy, and said rude things to one's face. 1822 T. L. Peacock *Maid Marian* xiii, Robin struck up and played away merrily, the bishop..noddling his head, and beating time with his foot. 1865 *Routledge's Mag. for Boys* Feb. 109 What a pretty horse yours is, Sir..; he noddles his head so cheerfully.

b. To bring *into* (a state) by noddling; to beat (time) by nodding the head.

1788 Anna Seward *Lett.* (1811) II. 90 The profession of this personage is music,..his height and proportion..well enough by nature, but fidgeted and noddled into an appearance not over prepossessing. 1887 J. Ashby-Sterry *Lazy Minstrel* (1892) 201, I sit..And noddle time with languid beat.

2. *intr.* To nod or shake the head. (Now *dial.*)

a 1734 North *Lives* (1826) I. 144 He walked splay, stooping and noddling. 1737 Bracken *Farriery Impr.* (1757) II. 20 Like the Goose in the Fable, he will still waddle and noddle. 1753 Jane Collier *Art Tormenting* 160 You must noddle, and laugh, and pretend to be very merry.

Hence **No·ddling** *ppl. a.*

1790 Joanna Baillie *Fugitive Verses* (1840) 89 Up-hoisted arms and noddling head.

†**No(d)dock,** obs. var. of *nuddock*, Niddick.

Cf. also Noo *sb.*[3] and Noddle *sb.*[1] 1 b.

1594 Carew *Huarte's Exam. Wits* iii. (1596) 25 The man who hath his forehead very plaine, and his nodocke flat. *Ibid.*, A certaine masse of things, which rise from the noddocke vpward. 1650 Bulwer *Anthropomet.* Pref., Whilst the blind Nodock wants it ornament. *Ibid.* 6 When..the Nodock is made flat..the brain [bns] not wit.

Noddy (nǫ·di), *sb.*[1] Forms: 6–7 nody, -dye, 6–7 -die; 6–7 noddie, 7 -dye; 6– noddy. [Of obscure origin; perh. a sb. use of Noddy *a.*[1]]

1. A fool, simpleton, noodle.

a 1530 J. Heywood *Love* (Brandl) 798 Why, where the deuyll is this horeson nody? 1550 Bale *Apol.* 30 b, O beastly nody wythoute brayne. 1580 Lupton *Siuquila* 14 Mighte not he bee counted a verye noddy, that woulde pay suche a fine for a Farme? 1621 Burton *Anat. Mel.* I. ii. iv. iv, Soft fellows, stark noddies, and such as were foolish. 1648 Gage *West Ind.* 101 In his carriage and experience in the World a simple noddy. 1682 N. O. tr. *Boileau's Lutrin* III. 94 And there they sneaking stand like baffled Noddies. 1705 Hickeringill *Priest-cr.* II. iii. 36 The cringing old Noddies and Cathedral-Men, that adore unlighted Candles at the Altar. 1794 Wolcot (P. Pindar) *Sun & Peacock* Wks. 1812 III. 265 To credit such a tale I'm not the noddy. 1838 Dickens *Nich. Nick.* vii, To think that I should be such a noddy! 1871 B. Taylor *Faust* (1875) I. xxii. 197 A gray and wrinkled noddy.

2. A soot-coloured sea-bird (*Anous stolidus*) of tropical regions, having the figure of a tern, but with shorter wings and tail less forked.

1578 Best *Frobisher's Voy.* III. (Hakl. Soc.) 232 Certayne fowles, as wylmots, nodies, gulles, etc., which there seeme only to live by sea. 1670 Narborough *Jrnl.* in *Acc. Sev. Late Voy.* I. 16 Small Sea-Fowls, call'd Black Nodies, flying to and fro. 1697 Dampier *Voy.* (1699) 53 The Noddy is a small black Bird, about the bigness of the English Blackbird. 1707 Sloane *Jamaica* I. 31 We had also Boobies.., as well as Noddies..; they are so called by Seamen,..because they suffer themselves to be catch'd by the Hand. 1777 G. Forster *Voy. round World* I. 550 Shearwaters, terns, noddies, gannets,..appeared numerous about us. 1819 Byron *Juan* II. lxxxii, At length they caught two boobies, and a noddy. 1842 *Penny Cycl.* XXIV. 233/1 The Noddies may be distinguished from the other Sea-Swallows. Their tail is not forked. 1880 *Q. Rev.* Jan. 202 The noddies were torn in pieces and swallowed raw as they were caught.

attrib. 1703 Dampier *Voy.* III. 142 We also saw some Boobies, and Noddy-birds. 1707 Sloane *Jamaica* I. 31 The Noddy Bird was Eleven Inches long from the end of the Bill to that of the Tail.

Noddy (nǫ·di), *sb.*[2] Also 7 noddie. [Of obscure origin: connexion with prec. is not clear.]

1. A card-game resembling cribbage (see quot. 1688). Also *noddy-fifteen*. Now *rare.*

1589 [? Nashe] *Almond for Parrat* 52 Let not me take you at noddy anie more, least I present you to the parish for a gamster. 1602 Middleton *Blurt, Master-Constable* III. ii, She'll sit up till you come, because she'll have you play a game at noddy. *c* 1610 J. Day *Peregr. Schol.* (1881) 77 By plaieing to much at primeroe and noddy he lost Time and his monie to. 1688 Holme *Armoury* III. xvi. (Roxb.) 72/2 The principall games at cards .. 8. Noddy, and Cribbidge-Noddy. 2 or 4 persons may play at it, 61 being vp, Each person hath 3 cards and one turned vp to which he makes as many casts as he can. *c* 1780 in Gilpin *Pop. Poet. Cumbld.* (1875) 68 She..lost nineteen-pence at noddy. 1823 E. Moor *Suffolk Words* s.v., We have also..a game called noddy, the same, I believe, which we call niddy-noddy; another name of which is the Lord Mayor of Coventry. 1828 *Craven Gloss., Noddy-fifteen*, a game at cards. 1875 *Encycl. Brit.* VI. 575/2 Cribbage seems to be an improved form of noddy.

†2. The knave in various card games. Also *knave noddy. Obs.*

1611 *Vadianus' Paneg. Verses* in Coryat *Crudities*, Noddie turn'd up, all made, yet lose the tricke. 1680 Cotton *Compl. Gamester* (ed. 2) 76 If you have a knave of that suit which is turned up, it is knave Noddy. 1757 Foote *Author* II. Wks. 1799 I. 147 You want four, and I two, and my deal: Now, knave noddy—no, hearts be trumps. 1799 *Spirit Public Jrnls.* II. 14 A noddy, the reader will observe, has two significations—the one, a Knave at all-fours, the other a fool, or Booby.

Noddy (nǫ·di), *sb.*[3] [Possibly f. Nod *v.*]

1. A light two-wheeled hackney-carriage, formerly used in Ireland and Scotland (see quots.).

1767 Bush *Hiber.* (1769) 23 They have an odd kind of hacknies here, that is called the Noddy. 1776 R. Twiss *Tour Irel.* 28 There are many single-horse two wheeled chaises, which constantly ply in the streets in Dublin; they are called noddies. 1825 J. Weddell *Voy.* 220 A conveyance was provided such as by us is called a noddy, having but two wheels and being drawn by two horses abreast, on one of which rode the driver. 1844 W. H. Maxwell *Sports & Adv. Scotl.* ii. (1855) 31 A vehicle, which in Scotland..is called a noddy. 1889 Tait *Two Cent. of Border Ch. Life* 288 The noddy was a rather cumbrous looking box set on two wheels, entered by a door in the rear, and with a seat for the driver in front.

Comb. 1843 W. White *Jrnls.* (1898) 44 The noddy-drivers were equally noisy..in making their wants known.

2. An inverted pendulum fitted with a spring which tends to restore it to a vertical position.

1846 Mallet in *Trans. R. Irish Acad.* (1848) XXI. 107 They [instruments] have been upon the principle of the inverted pendulum or watchmaker's noddy.

†**No·ddy,** *sb.*[4] *Obs. rare*[−1]. [f. Nod *v.*; prob. suggested by Noddy *sb.*[2]] *At noddy*, nodding, napping, asleep.

1665 R. Head *Engl. Rogue* (Pearson) I. 110 In Paternoster-row we found a fellow at noddie upon a stall, with his Lanthorne and Candle by him.

†**No·ddy,** *a.*[1] *Obs. rare.* [Of obscure origin; perh. f. Nod *v.*[1] Cf. Noddy *sb.*[1]] Foolish, silly.

a 1529 Skelton *Col. Cloute* 1245 That no man shulde se Nor rede in any scrolles Of theyr dronken nolles, Nor of theyr noddy polles. 1645 Pagitt *Heresiogr.* (1661) 60 Ignorant Idiots, noddy Nabalites. 1648 *British Bellman* 6 You present us with an inane nihil, a new Directory of a noddy Synod.

No·ddy, *a.*[2] [f. Nod *v.*] Drowsy, sleepy.

a 1864 Hawthorne *S. Felton* (1883) 351 I ll..try to go to sleep. I feel very noddy all at once.

†**No·ddy,** *v. Obs. rare*[−1]. [f. Noddy *sb.*[1]] *trans.* To make a fool of.

1600 Breton *Pasquils Fooles-cappe* lxxvii, If such an Asse be noddied for the nonce,..Let him but thanke himselfe for lacke of Wit.

Noddy-board. *rare.* [f. Noddy *sb.*[2] 1.] A board for playing the game of noddy on.

1654 Gayton *Pleas. Notes* 196 Billiards, Kettle-pins, Noddy-boards, Tables, Truncks, Shovell-boards, Fox and Geese, or the like. *Ibid.* 239 Here is a Chesse-board to my Hosts Noddy-board. [1875 *Encycl. Brit.* VI. 575/2 The game was..marked with counters, occasionally by means of a noddy-board.]

†**No·ddypeak.** *Obs. rare.* Also 7 noddi(e)-. [var. of Hoddypeak (see N 3), perh. under the influence of *noddypoll.*] A fool. Also *attrib.*

1611 Cotgr., *Bauc*, a sot, asse, doult, dull-pated noddipeake. 1653 Urquhart *Rabelais* I. xxv. 116 Ninnie-hammer flycatchers, noddiepenk simpletons. 1694 Motteux *Rabelais* IV. lxvi. (1737) 271 Thou mangy Noddy-peak!

Hence †**Noddy-peaked** *a. Obs.*

1694 Motteux *Rabelais* IV. xxix. (1737) 119 A great Noddy-peak'd Youngster.

†**No·ddypoll.** *Obs. rare.* In 6 nody-, nodi-. [f. Noddy *a.*[1] + Poll *sb.*[1]] A blockhead, noodle.

a 1529 Skelton *Sp. Parrot* 319 There is none that your name woll abbrogate Then nodypollys and gramatolys of smalle intellygens. *a* 1529 — *Agst. Garnesche* iii. 88 Vt fallyth [not] for..seche a nody polle A pryste for to controlle. 1532 More *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 709/1 So foolyshe, that a verye nodypoll nydyote myght be ashamed to say it. 1598 R. Bernard tr. *Terence, Andria* III. i, I now at length hardly understand.., whorson nodipol that I am.

So †**Noddypoop** *sb.* Also †**Noddypoop** *v. trans.*, to befool. *Obs.*

1598 Florio, *Fatappi*, doltes, fooles, noddies, guls, noddie-poopes. 1640 Brome *Sparagus Gard.* II. iii, Sdaggers, if ever man that had but a mind to be a Gentleman was so noddy poopt!

Node (nōud), *sb.* [ad. L. *nōd-us* knot, Nodus.]

1. A knot or complication; an entanglement.

1572 Bossewell *Armorie* III. 4, I will not here dissolue the node, ne yet maye not, but..I will partly declare my simple iudgement therein. 1828–32 Webster, *Node*, in poetry, the knot, intrigue or plot of a piece, or the principal difficulty. 1851 C. L. Smith tr. *Tasso* IV. xxiii, To her are known all frauds with tangled node. 1872 Geo. Eliot *Middlem.* xix, There are characters which are continually creating collisions and nodes for themselves in dramas which nobody is prepared to act with them.

2. A knot, knob, or protuberance, on a root, branch, etc.

1582 Hester *Secr. Phiorav.* III. lxv. 89 If ye take those nodes or knottes that are on the rootes, and stampe them and boile them. 1611 Florio, *Nocchio*, any..nodositie, node, ..or ruggednesse in any tree or wood. 1677 Grew *Anat. Seeds* I. § 13 This Seed,..near the Radicle, hath a very small and round Node, like a Navel. 1829 J. L. Knapp *Jrnl. Nat.* 348 The alburnum or sap wood, being thus wounded, rises up in excrescences and nodes all over the branch. 1842 Selby *Brit. Forest Trees* 319 The smooth nodes upon the trunk and larger branches.

b. *Bot.* The point of a stem from which the leaves spring.

1835 Lindley *Introd. Bot.* I. ii. (ed. 2) 53 At the nodes [1832 *nodi*].., vessels are sent off horizontally into the leaf. 1849 Balfour *Man. Bot.* § 169 There are regular nodes or points on the stem..at which leaves appear. 1861 Bentley *Man. Bot.* 99 Generally the arrangement of the tissue of the stem at the nodes is somewhat different from that of the internodes. 1878 A. H. Green, etc. *Coal* iii. 75 Towards the pointed end the nodes are often closely crowded together.

3. a. *Path.* A hard tumour; a knotty swelling or concretion upon some part of the body, esp. on a joint affected by gout or rheumatism.

1610 HEALEY *Theophrastus* (1636) 68 This fellow having ulcers in his legges, nodes or hard tumors in his fingers. 1661 LOVELL *Hist. Anim. & Min.* 2 It wonderfully helpeth the swellings and nodes of the joynts,..making them plain and smooth. 1691 WOOD *Ath. Oxon.* II. 417 The node, which was almost as big as a Pullets egg, was suppurated. 1745 P. THOMAS *Jrnl. Anson's Voy.* 137 Scorbutick Symptoms, such as Blackness of the Skin, hard Nodes in the Flesh. 1779 FORREST *Voy. N. Guinea* 348 His hands and feet were..so contracted, that they grew quite crooked and full of nodes. 1804 ABERNETHY *Surg. Obs.* 145 Ulcerated sore throats, eruptions, and nodes on the bones. 1856 KANE *Arct. Expl.* II. ii. 33 Severe purpuric blotches, and nodes in limbs. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 467 Nodes select the shins especially.

Comb. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 313 The periarteritic and peribronchial granulations may occur as separate nodules of node-like foci.

fig. 1672 MARVELL *Reh. Transp.* I. 135 The Mind too hath its Nodes sometimes, and the Stile its Buboes.

b. Any knot, lump, or knotty formation.

1753 TORRIANO *Midwifery* 20 [It] has Nodes or Glands in it, which perhaps may secrete or prove Receptacles for some Humours. 1791 E. DARWIN *Bot. Gard.* I. 184 Hence dusky Iron sleeps in dark abodes, And ferny foliage nestles in the nodes. 1827 *Gentl. Mag.* XCVII. II. 499 The breaks or decorative nodes which appear in the middle of these characters. 1841 EMERSON *Lect. Conservative* Wks. (Bohn) II. 266 Each of the convolutions of the sea-shell, each node and spine marks one year of the fish's life. 1863 BARING-GOULD *Iceland* 136 A huge node of crag, which is now nearly severed from the cliff.

4. a. *Astr.* One of the two points at which the orbit of a planet intersects the ecliptic, or in which two great circles of the celestial sphere intersect each other. *Ascending* and *descending node*: (see the adjs.).

1665 *Phil. Trans.* I. 38 The said Circle inclined to..the Nodes towards the beginning of Gemini and Sagittary. 1676 *Ibid.* XI. 682 These Observations will serve to verifie the Nodes of the Orbes of the Satellites with the Orb of Jupiter. 1728 PEMBERTON *Newton's Philos.* 177 The motion of the aphelion and nodes, which continually increase, become sensible in a long series of years. 1748 *Phil. Trans.* XLV. 11, I consider'd .. the Situation of the Ascending Node of the Moon's Orbit. 1812–16 PLAYFAIR *Nat. Phil.* (1816) II. 125 The line in which the plane of the moon's orbit cuts the ecliptic, is called the Line of the Nodes. 1834 MRS. SOMERVILLE *Connex. Phys. Sci.* (1849) 12 When the planet is in the plane of the ecliptic, its latitude is zero: it is then said to be in its nodes. 1864 HERSCHEL in *Gd. Words* 58/2 Nineteen years, the period of the circulation of the nodes of the moon's orbit.

† **b.** A small ball representing a planet on the Ptolemaic sphere. *Obs. rare.*

1674 MOXON *Tutor to Astron. & Geog.* (ed. 3) App. 204 Bring each respective Node which represents each respective Planet, to those several places you find them in the Ephemeris. *Ibid.*, The little golden Node on the Suns Orb.

5. *Dialling.* (See quot. and NODUS *sb.* 2.) ? *Obs.*

1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Nodus* or *Node*, in Dyalling, is a certain Point in the Axis or Cock of the Dial, by the shadow of which, either the Hour of the Day,..or the Parallels of the Sun's Declination, his Place in the Ecliptick,..&c. are shown. [Also in Chambers *Cycl.* (1727–38), and some later Dicts.]

6. a. A point or line of absolute or comparative rest in a vibrating body. Cf. NODAL *a.* 1.

1831 BREWSTER *Nat. Magic* viii. (1833) 182 This stationary point is called a node. 1873 W. LEES *Acoustics* I. iii. 24 Ventral segments..are separated from each other by points of apparent rest, called nodes. 1879 G. PRESCOTT *Sp. Telephone* 95 There will be two equal vibrating segments and a point of rest or node at the centre.

b. A central point in any complex or system.

1869 SIR E. REED *Shipbuild.* i. 13 Knowing that with flexible ships the edge of the bulkhead was a sort of node to the flexure. 1884 HAWEIS *Musical Life* I. 83 To hit upon the lesser nodes for single harmonics was one of the recognised violin difficulties.

7. *Geom.* A point at which a curve crosses itself; a double or multiple point; also, a similar point on a surface. Also *attrib.*

1850 in OGILVIE. 1866 BRANDE & COX *Dict. Sci.*, etc. II. 675/2 In the theory of surfaces, nodes are also called conical points. 1877 *Encycl. Brit.* VI. 720/2 If the given curve has a node, the first polar passes through this node. *Ibid.* 721/1 A cusp of the second kind, or node-cusp.

† **Node,** *v. Obs. rare* $^{-0}$. [ad. It. or L. *nōdāre.*] *intr.* To form a knot.

1611 FLORIO, *Nodare*, to knot, to knit, to node, to knur.

Node, obs. form of NEED *sb.*

No·ded, *ppl. a.* [f. NODE *sb.* 6 a.] Divided into nodes.

1897 *Pop. Sci. Monthly* Nov. 138 On reflecting light from such a noded plate the proper light alone was reflected.

Noder, obs. variant of OTHER *a.*

† **No·dgecock, -comb.** *Obs. rare.* [Of obscure formation.] A ninny, simpleton.

1566 PAINTER *Pal. Pleas.* I. 211 b, This poore Nodgecock contriving the time in sweete and pleasaunt wordes with his dareling Simphorosia. 1593 NASHE *Four Lett. Confut.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 212 Confesse thy selfe a flat nodgcombe before all this congregation. 1596—*Saffron Walden* M 4 So was he counted and bad stand by for a Nodgscombe.

† **No·dhead.** *Obs. rare* $^{-1}$. [f. NOD *sb.*2] A foolish head or wit.

1652 H. BELL tr. *Luther's Colloq.* 292 They will all triumph, and show their nodheads in writing books.

Nodi-, comb. form of L. *nōd-us* knot, NODE, used in some scientific (*Bot.* and *Entom.*) terms, as **No·dicorn** [F. *nodicorne*] *a.*, having nodose antennæ (*Cent. Dict.* 1890). **Nodi·ferous** *a.*, bearing nodes. **Nodiflo·rous** [F. *nodiflore*] *a.*, having flowers springing from the nodes of the stem. **No·diform** *a.*, having the form of a node or knot (esp. of joints).

1713 PETIVER in *Phil. Trans.* XXVIII. 188 Capitated and Nodiflorus Plants. 1856–8 W. CLARK *Van der Hoeven's Zool.* I. 75 Polyps with scattered tentacles, nodiferous or globose at the tip.

Nodical (nōu·dikăl), *a. Astr.* [f. NODE *sb.* 4 a + -ICAL.] Of or pertaining to the nodes.

1839 *Penny Cycl.* XV. 373/2 The average nodical month, or from a node to a node of the same kind. 1842 BRANDE *Dict. Sci.*, etc. s.v. *Moon*, The interval from node to node is called the nodical period, and is shorter than any of the other periods. 1868 LOCKYER *Elem. Astron.* 102 One period being 27 d. 5 h. 6 m., called the nodical revolution of the Moon.

Nodie, obs. f. NODDY *sb.*1 **Nodipol,** var. of NODDYPOLL *Obs.* **Nodock:** see NOD(D)OCK.

Nodosarian (nōudŏsē·riăn), *a.* and *sb.* [f. mod.L. *Nodosaria* (see def.) + -AN.] **a.** *adj.* Belonging to a family (*Nodosaria*) of vitreous-shelled foraminifera, the individuals of which are composed of a rectilinear succession of similar chambers. **b.** *sb.* An individual of this family.

1858 W. C. WILLIAMSON *Foraminifera Gt. Britain* 16 Where a group of large and strong Nodosarian shells abound. 1865 PARKER & JONES in *Phil. Trans.* CLV. vi. 347 A higher specialization of the simple repetitive Nodosarian form. 1884 BRADY in *Challenger Rep., Zool.* IX. 492 These two drawings..illustrate..its relation to the other straight Nodosarians.

So **Nodo·sarine** *a.* and *sb.*

1862 W. B. CARPENTER *Introd. Foraminifera* 165 The Nodosarines are not so common in littoral deposits. 1865 PARKER & JONES in *Phil. Trans.* CLV. vi. 340 Several of the Nodosarine forms are well represented in the northern seas. 1884 BRADY in *Challenger Rep., Zool.* IX. 489 A mixed group, the Nodosarine members of which are now included in..Rhabdogonium.

Nodose (nōdōu·s), *a.* [ad. L. *nōdōs-us*: see NODE *sb.* and -OSE.] Knotty; knotted or knobbed; furnished with, or characterized by, knot-like swellings.

1721 BAILEY, *Nodose*, knotty, full of knots. 1752 J. HILL *Hist. Anim.* 580 The Capra, with nodose horns, bending towards the back, the Ibex. 1767 GOOCH *Treat. Wounds* I. 165 A plaster compress,..with the well adapted nodose bandage. 1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) I. 274 The head of the thread-worm is subulate, nodose and divided into three vesicles. 1846 DANA *Zooph.* (1848) 504 Branches..often irregularly inflated or nodose. 1880 V. L. CAMERON *Future Highway* II. xii. 263, I found the horn of a male [mountain sheep]..which was recurved, flattened, and nodose. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 48 The nodules may coalesce into large irregular, nodose, or flattened masses.

transf. 1880 BLACKMORE *Mary Anerley* III. iii. 38 His enemy arose slowly with grunts, and action nodose and angular, rather than flexibly graceful.

Nodosity (nōdŏ·sĭti). [ad. L. *nōdōsitas* (whence also F. *nodosité*, It. *nodosita*), f. *nōdōs-us*: see prec. and -ITY.]

1. The state or quality of being nodose or knotty.

1611 FLORIO, *Nodosita*,..knottinesse, nodosity. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Nodosity*,..knottiness, knobbiness. 1805 *Med. Jrnl.* XIV. 275 The Clinical History of the Nodosity of the Joints. 1837 CARLYLE *Mirabeau* Misc. 1869 V. 133 It is very beautiful, this mild strength,..in contrast with his brother's nodosity. 1839–47 *Todd's Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* III. 255/1 A tumour..like a shelled walnut in point of size and nodosity.

2. A knotty swelling or protuberance.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 311 The same ointment..abateth the tumors & nodosities vpon the ioints. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* v. v. 239 That tortuosity, or complicated nodosity, we usually call the Navell. 1677 PLOT *Oxfordsh.* 171 Such are the Nodosities..to be found in Ash as well as Maple. *a* 1791 BURKE in Boswell *Johnson* an. 1781, It has all the nodosities of the oak without its strength. 1828 STARK *Elem. Nat. Hist.* I. 165 A dorsal fin in some species; nodosities on the back in others. 1872 COHEN *Dis. Throat* 182 These nodosities..are softer than the rest of the substance. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 468 Tender nodosities or nodes on the shins.

fig. 1808 KNOX & JEBB *Corresp.* (1834) I. 461 There does not seem to remain in him a single doctrine nodosity. 1892 *Academy* 6 Feb. 125/1 These nodosities upon the golden thread of an otherwise fine diction.

† **Nodo·sous,** *a. Obs.* $^{-0}$ Nodose.

1623 COCKERAM 1, *Nodosous*, full of knots.

Nodous (nōu·dəs), *a.* [ad. L. *nōdōs-us*: see NODE *sb.* and -OUS.] Full of knots, knotty.

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* 183 This [finger] is seldome or last of all affected with the Gout, and when that becommeth nodous, men continue not long after. 1679 EVELYN *Sylva* xxxi. (ed. 3) 201 The nodous, and knotty part of these sort of Trees. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 36 P 4 He has not a Bone sound, but a Thousand nodous Parts for which the Anatomists have not Words. 1835–6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* I. 611/2 At the nodous parts of the tube were slight vortices in the current.

Nodre, variant of NOTHER, neither.

Nodular (nŏ·dĭulăr), *a.* [f. NODULE + -AR.]

1. *Min.* and *Geol.* Having the form of, occurring in, nodules.

1794 SULLIVAN *View Nat.* II. 6 Nor will I say, that they were originally created in nodular forms. 1796 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) II. 270 Found massive, .. very rarely specular, or Botryoidal, or nodular. 1802–3 tr. *Pallas's Trav.* (1812) II. 222 We observed..veins of red, nodular iron-ore 1863 DANA *Man. Geol.* 239 The structure of the limestone is often nodular or concretionary. 1878 RAMSAY *Phys. Geogr.* xi. 160 Layers and nodular masses of gypsum.

2. Of zoophytes: Having nodes on the stem.

1846 DANA *Zooph.* (1848) iv. 83 The germ-polyp..gives rise to the various branching and nodular zoophytes.

3. *Path.* Of the nature of, characterized by, knotty tumours.

1872 COHEN *Dis. Throat* 205 The surface of implantation at the basilary apophysis remained unequal and nodular. 1878 T. BRYANT *Pract. Surg.* I. 700 A spongy nodular feel of the mucous membrane. 1898 P. MANSON *Trop. Diseases* 394 The essential element in nodular leprosy is the leproma.

Nodulated (nŏ·dĭulētĕd), *a.* [ad. L. type **nōdulāt-us* (cf. next) + -ED 1.] Furnished with, characterized by, nodular growths.

1835–6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* I. 409/1 Among the invertebrata its surface is uneven and nodulated like that of a raspberry. 1849 BALFOUR *Man. Bot.* § 70 These tubers occasionally become nodulated, or elongated, or curved in various ways. 1876 BRISTOWE *Th. & Pract. Med.* (1878) 276 The nodulated thickening of the eyebrows and adjacent parts of the forehead.

Nodulation (nŏdiŭlē·ʃən). [f. L. type **nōdul-āre* (f. *nōdulus* NODULE) + -ATION.] The process of becoming nodulated, or the result of this.

1872 COHEN *Dis. Throat* 138 To the touch the tumor appeared but little hard, without nodulations. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 50 After the stage of nodulation has lasted for a variable period, the final stage of ulceration sets in.

Nodule (nŏ·dĭul). [ad. L. *nōdulus*, dim. of *nōdus* knot: see -ULE. Hence also F. *nodule.*]

† **1.** A small quantity of some medicinal substance tied up in a bag. *Obs.*

1600 SURFLET *Countrie Farme* II. lxx. 420 Hang in the vessell a nodule or knot full of cinnamome [etc.]. 1634 T. JOHNSON tr. *Parey's Chirurg.* (1678) XXVI. xxiii. 644 Nodules have the same use with Suppositories and are oftentimes substituted in stead of Glysters. 1694 SALMON *Bate's Dispens.* 716/2 Tie it up in a Bit of Silk, in Form of a Nodule. 1713 *Phil. Trans.* XXVIII. 229 They smell to black Cummin-seed bruised and tyed up in a Nodule. 1756 C. LUCAS *Ess. Waters* II. 65 Applied warm, in nodules or sacks, it assuages pain.

2. *Min.* and *Geol.* A small rounded lump of some mineral or earthy substance.

1695 WOODWARD *Nat. Hist. Earth* IV. (1723) 207 Strata compiled of metallick and mineral Nodules. 1766 BORLASE in *Phil. Trans.* LVI. 36 A large cake, or nodule, of tin ore, weighing about six pounds. 1794 SULLIVAN *View Nat.* I. 439 It is never found crystallized, but rather, in separate irregular nodules, scattered through other strata. 1815 BAKEWELL *Geol.* 191 In some of the beds of clay over coal detached nodules of iron-stone occur. 1880 GÜNTHER *Fishes* 196 Devonian fishes are frequently found under peculiar circumstances, enclosed in the so-called nodules.

fig. 1885 *Academy* 24 Oct. 265/1 A single point of literature, one shining nodule broken off the rock.

3. *Bot.* A small node or knot in the stem or other part of a plant.

1796 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) IV. 141 Branches very fine,..nodules of fructifications small. 1839 LINDLEY *Introd. Bot.* I. ii. (ed. 3) 79 Those nodules which are so well known in the bark of the Beech, and some other trees. 1867 J. HOGG *Microsc.* II. i. 308 These plants are produced by..minute cellular nodules called gemmæ or buds.

4. *Anat.* **a.** (See quots.)

1839–47 *Todd's Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* III. 690 The anterior extremity of the inferior vermiform process projects into the cavity of the fourth ventricle, and serves to close it at its inferior extremity. .. Reil has named it *the Nodule.* 1840 G. V. ELLIS *Anat.* 49 The apex of the uvula, which projects into the fourth ventricle, is the nodule.

b. A small knot or knotty tumour in some part of the body.

1845 BUDD *Dis. Liver* 108 By its contraction the lobular substance of the liver is drawn into round nodules. 1865 LIVINGSTONE *Zambesi* xiii. 275 The true skin next thickens and rises in nodules. 1880 BASTIAN *Brain* 27 The groups of nerve cells..are usually aggregated so as to form distinct and separate nodules known as 'ganglia'.

Hence **No·duled** *a.*, formed into nodules. Also **Noduli·ferous** *a.*, bearing or yielding nodules; **No·duliform** *a.*, having the form of a nodule.

1791 E. DARWIN *Bot. Gard.* I. 398 As you now dissect with hammers fine The granite-rock, the nodul'd flint calcine.

Nodulle, obs. form of NODDLE.

Nodulose (nŏdiŭlōu·s), *a.* [f. NODULE + -OSE.] *Bot.* and *Zool.* Having little knots or knobs.

1828 STARK *Elem. Nat. Hist.* II. 45 Shell ovate,..wrinkles nodulose. 1835 LINDLEY *Introd. Bot.* I. ii. (1839) 109 If the fibres have occasionally dilatations at short intervals, they are called nodulose. 1852 DANA *Crust.* I. 131 All joints of legs..nodulose. 1870 BENTLEY *Man. Bot.* (ed. 2) 124 In the Common Dropwort the root is nodulose.

Nodulous (nŏ·dĭuləs), *a.* [f. NODULE + -OUS: cf. F. *noduleux.*] = NODULOSE.

1841 JOHNSTON in *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* I. ix. 271 The ribs..[are] sometimes only to be traced in a nodulous line along the suture. 1850 DANA *Geol.* App. I. 728 Whorls of the spire angulated and nodulous in the middle. 1864 *Reader* 240/1 Subplicate character..inclining to nodulous.

† **No·dulus.** *Obs. rare.* = NODULE 1.

1651 CULPEPPER *Astrol. Judgem. Dis.* (1658) 222 Also you may make a Nodulus with any of these oyles. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 424/2 The Nodus, or Nodulus, is a

Bag of Ingradients..put into Beer, Ale, or Wine, the tincture whereof the Patient is to drink.

‖ **Nodus** (nōu·dŭs). Pl. **nodi.** [L. *nōdus*. Cf. F. *nodus* (16th c., Paré).]

†**1.** *Path.* A knotty swelling. = NODE *sb.* 3a. *Obs.*

c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 252 Nodus is a knotte, & þus comeþ in þe i3e liddis. 1650 J. F[RENCH] *Chym. Dict.* s.v., Nodi are hard tumours of the joints. 1672 *Phil. Trans.* VII. 4062 Not long after his landing, he found a certain Nodus or hard lump in the very place whence this stone was cut. 1706 in PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Nodus* or *Node*, ..a kind of gummy Swelling, made by the settling of a gross Humour between the Bone and the Periosteum.

†**2.** *Dialling.* (See quot. and NODE *sb.* 5.)

1668 MOXON *Mech. Dyalling* 39 The point in the middle of this Glass we will mark A, and for distinction sake call it Nodus. Through this Nodus you must draw a Meridian Line. *Ibid.* Fasten a string just on the Nodus.

3. The base of a numerical system. *rare* —[1].

1677 LOCKE 28 Aug. in Ld. King *Life & Lett.* (Bohn) 73 Monsieur Bernier told me that the heathens of Hindoostan pretend to great antiquity, ..that their nodus in their numbers is ten, as ours, and their circuit of days seven.

†**4.** (See NODULUS, quot. 1688.) *Obs.*

5. A knotty point, a difficulty or complication.

1727–38 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v., Nodus in Poetry, &c. 1763 BLAIR *Diss.* in *Ossian's Poems* (1796) II. 300 We find..a Nodus, or intrigue in the poem. 1808 *Edin. Rev.* XI. 369 Beleaguer'd and beset by what they call the nodus, or difficulty of his situation. 1828 CARLYLE *Misc.* (1857) I. 126 The whole nodus may be more of a logical cobweb, than any actual material perplexity. 1872 GEO. ELIOT *Middlem.* li, Neither the Parliamentary Candidate Society nor any other power..seeing a worthy nodus for interference.

†**No·dy**, *a. Obs.* —[0] [f. NODE *sb.*] Nodose.

1611 FLORIO, *Gropposo*, knottie, nodie, full of knots.

Nody(e, obs. ff. NODDY. **Nodylle**, obs. f. NOIDDLE. **Nodypoll**(e, obs. ff. NODDYPOLL.

‖ **Noel** (nōue·l). Also **noël.** [F. *noël*: see NOWEL.] A Christmas carol.

1811 BUSBY *Dict. Mus., Noels*, certain canticles, or songs of joy, formerly sung at Christmas in the country churches in France. 1880 *Grove's Dict. Mus.* II. 462 The French Noëls will, of course, bear no comparison with those written in Italy in point of excellence. 1903 *Speaker* 3 Jan. 324/2 The singing of noels must be heard to be really appreciated.

Noell, obs. variant of NEWEL[1].

†**Noema·tical**, *a. Obs. rare.* [f. Gr. type **νοηματικός*, f. *νόημα* thought: see -ICAL.] Originating, or existing, in thought, or in the mind alone; noetic.

Worcester (1860), and later Dicts., also give *noematic*.

1682 H. MORE *Annot. Glanvill's Lux O.* 253 If we distinguish those two Attributes in God, namely, of Wisdom and Knowledge; as if the one were Noematical, the other Dianoetical. *a* 1688 CUDWORTH *Immut. Mor.* (1731) 143 So are the Cogitations that we have of Corporeal things usually both Noematical and Phantasmatical together, the one being as it were the Soul, and the other the Body of them.

Hence †**Noema·tically** *adv.*, intellectually. *Obs.*

1659 H. MORE *Immort. Soul* I. ii. Ax. 3 By Common Notions I understand whatever is Noematically true, that is to say, true at first sight to all men in their wits, upon a clear perception of the Terms. 1661 [G. RUST] *Origen & his Opinions* in *Phœnix* (1721) I. 19 There are Moral Axioms Noematically true, as well as Geometrical. 1672 H. MORE *Brief Reply* 138 Which is an Axiome noematically true.

Noe·mics, *sb. pl.* [irreg. f. Gr. *νόημα* thought.] 'The science of the understanding; intellectual science' (Ogilvie *Suppl.* 1855).

Noesis (no$_i$·sis). [a. Gr. *νόησις*, f. *νοεῖν* to have mental perception or intelligence, f. *νόος* mind, thought.] **a.** (See quot. 1881.) **b.** An intellectual view of the moral and physical world.

1881 MIVART *Cat* 386 The sum-total of the mental action of a rational animal may be called its noesis. 1905 RAMSAY in *Expositor* Nov. 361 Jewish ritual stands to Christian spirituality in the same relation as Phrygian ritual to educated Noesis.

Noetian (no$_i$·ī·shăn), *sb.* and *a.* [ad. L. type **Noēliānus*, f. *Noētus*, a native of Smyrna and presbyter of the church in Asia Minor (*c* 230 A.D.).]

A. *sb.* A follower of Noetus in acknowledging only one person (the Father) in the Godhead. (Cf. PATRIPASSIAN and MONARCHISM.)

1585 T. ROGERS 39 *Art.* 4 Mep..which do graunte the name of three sondrie persons, and denie their persons, as did the Noëtians. 1719 WATERLAND *Vind. Christ's Div.* 334 The Noetians had so high an Opinion of the Divinity of Christ..that They had no way of solving the difficulty, but by making Father and Son one Person, and, in Consequence, were Patripassians. 1765 MACLAINE tr. *Mosheim's Eccl. Hist.* III. II. v. § 13 The Sabellians .. [were] called Patripassians..in a different sense from that in which this name was given to the Noetians. 1853 W. E. TAYLER *Hippolytus* vi. 51 The Noetians..accused the orthodox with believing in two Gods. 1876 PLUMMER tr. *Döllinger's Hippolytus & Callistus* 10 It is not true that..the Noëtians are cited as the last beresy.

B. *adj.* Of, pertaining or relating to, Noetus or Noetianism.

1719 WATERLAND *Vind. Christ's Div.* 334 He has been thought to have refined upon the Noetian Scheme. 1765 MACLAINE tr. *Mosheim's Eccl. Hist.* III. II. v. § 12 The Noetian controversy. 1876 PLUMMER tr. *Döllinger's Hippolytus & Callistus* 10 Our author..treats the Elchasaite heresy..as a short appendage to the Noëtian school. 1884 'EDNA LYALL' *We Two* xxiv, I consider that he has Noetian tendencies.

Hence **Noe·tianism**, the heresy of Noetus.

1874 J. H. BLUNT *Dict. Sects* 374/2 The derivation of Noëtianism from the doctrine of Heracleitus.

Noetic (no$_i$e·tik), *a.*[1] *rare.* [f. *Noe* (Vulgate), Noah.] Noachian, Noachic.

1695 WOODWARD *Nat. Hist. Earth* I. (1723) 126 Ever since the time of the Noetick Deluge. 1803 G. S. FABER *Cabiri* I. 131 The mutual resemblance of the Cabiri, the Titans, the Rishis, and the Noëtic family, is too striking to be the effect of mere accident.

Noetic (no$_i$e·tik), *a.*[2] and *sb.* [ad. Gr. *νοητικ-ός*, f. *νόησις* NOESIS.]

A. *adj.* **1.** Of or pertaining to the mind or intellect; characterized by, or consisting in, mental or intellectual activity.

1653 WATERHOUSE *Apol. Learning* 12 All Learning, whether Noetick or Manual, of book or hand, proceeds from God. 1677 GALE *Crt. Gentiles* III. 92 Another attribute..of Pagan Philosophie is, that it be *νοητικη*, noetic or intelligent, i.e. comprehensive of the first and highest principles. 1852 SIR W. HAMILTON *Discuss.* 4 The noetic faculty, intellect proper, or place of principles. 1872 *Contemp. Rev.* XX. 75 Noetic intuition involves some discursive thought. 1890 MASSON *Edinb. Sketches* 220 There was little in his mind of what may be called the purely *noetic* organ—that faculty which speculates, investigates [etc.].

2. Originating or existing in the mind or intellect; purely intellectual or abstract.

c 1810 COLERIDGE in *Lit. Rem.* (1838) III. 263 Reduce it to the noetic pentad, or universal form of contemplation. 1836–7 SIR W. HAMILTON *Metaph.* xxi. (1859) II. 33 That the sensible or ectypal world..stands to the noetic or archetypal world..in the same relation [etc.]. 1881 W. R. SMITH *O. Test. in Jewish Ch.* 32 Those doctrines higher than reason, those noëtic truths, as they were called, of a divine philosophy.

3. Given to intellectual speculation. (See quots.)

1882 MOZLEY *Reminis.* I. iii. 19 The new Oriel sect was declared to be Noetic, whatever that may mean. 1882 *Church Times* 6 Oct. 674 The so called 'Noetic' school at Oriel was far advanced in Rationalism before Newman became a Fellow. 1893 *Month* Dec. 563 It is the noetic school of Whately which is really responsible for this evil.

B. *sb.* **1.** A science of the intellect. Also *pl.*

1825 COLERIDGE *Aids Refl.* (1848) I. 137 The universal Noetic, in which we require terms of most comprehension and least specific import. *a* 1834 — in *Lit. Rem.* (1838) III. 416 In short, a transcendental aesthetic, logic, and noetic. 1875 T. HILL *Order Stud.* 1 Gymnastics, or care of the body; noetics, or training of the mind.

2. That which has a purely intellectual existence or basis.

1854 MAURICE *Mor. & Met. Philos.* (ed. 2) 59 To separate that in man which is capable of converse with the noetic, the essentially pure, from that which is..earthly. 1876 WILDER *R. P. Knight's Symbolic Lang.* 4 The end of which is the Knowledge of the First, the Lord, and the Noëtic.

3. A member of the noetic school (see A. 3).

1882 M. PATTISON in *Academy* 1 July 1 The old Oriel school—the Noetics—had no dogmas, and left no books. 1885 — *Mem.* 78 The Noetics knew nothing of the philosophical movement which was taking place on the continent.

Hence †**Noe·tical** *a. Obs.*

1644 BP. MAXWELL *Prerog. Chr. Kings* xiv. 137 In him who in sharpnesse of wit approacheth nearest to Angelicall and Noeticall spirits. 1661 K. W. *Conf. Charac., Pragm. Pulpit-filler* (1860) 83 Their noetical faculties devoid of philosophick irradiations. *a* 1688 CUDWORTH *Immut. Mor.* (1731) 296 Those that arise from the pure noetical Energies of the Soul it self.

†**Noforsooth**, *v. nonce-word.* (See quot.)

a 1644 QUARLES *Virg. Widow* (1649) 53 She charg'd me, that when any sued for my love, I should be coy, and say Noforsooth,..which I ha' done so long that I have almost Noforsooth'd away all my fortunes.

Nog (nŏg), *sb.*[1] Also **nogg.** [Of obscure origin.] A peg, pin, or small block of wood serving for various purposes; chiefly *techn.* in special applications (see quots.). Also, a knag, snag, or stump on a tree or branch.

1611 COTGR., *Frayoire*, the racke-staffe, or nog of a mill; the little peece of wood which rubbing against the hopper makes the corne fall from it. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III, 287/2 The Bobbin or Nogg, a piece of round Wood with an handle to begin to wind or make the Clew on. *Ibid.* 332/2 The Noggs, are the handles of the Sythe. 1711 W. SUTHERLAND *Shipbuild. Assist.* 162 *Nog*; a Trenel drove in at the Foot of each Shore, or the Props that support the Ship in the Nature of trigging the Shores. 1747 HOOSON *Miner's Dict.* G iij b, We..therein put two Nogs of Wood and these keep the Forks from being pressed inward by the side Weight. *a* 1802 *Jock o' the Syde* xi. in Scott *Minstrelsy Border* I. 158 A tree they cut, wi' fifteen nogs on each side. 1841 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* IV. 234/2 The three holding nogs or dies are attached by screws to dove-tail slide-pieces. 1842 GWILT *Archit.* 1008 *Nogs*, the same as Wood Bricks. ..The term is chiefly used in the north of England. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* III. 986 The lifting-bar *f*, which rests at each end on wooden noggs tenoned into the bars. 1856 BAINBRIDGE *Law Mines & Min.* (ed. 2) Gloss., *Nog*, square bits of wood piled to support the roof of coal mines.

attrib. 1747 HOOSON *Miner's Dict.* G iij b, We put a Sill under them,..and drive them fast up against the Head-tree, so far till the Nog-holes appear on the inside of the Forks.

Nog (nŏg), *sb.*[2] Also **nogg.** [Of obscure origin.]

1. A kind of strong beer, brewed in East Anglia.

1693 PRIDEAUX *Lett.* (Camden) 161 A bottle of old strong beer, wch in this countrey [Norfolk] they call 'nog'. 1723 SWIFT *French Dog* Wks. 1755 IV. I. 35 Walpole laid a quart of nog on't He'd either make a hog or dog on't. 1743 *Lond. & Country Brew.* III. (ed. 2) 227 In Suffolk and Norfolk they run very much upon a light brown, or deep Amber colour'd Butt-Beer, which in the latter Place is called Nogg. 1774 *Westm. Mag.* II. 319 The Sailor toasts thy charms in flip and grog; The Norwich Weaver drinks Thee deep in nog. 1847 STEPHENS in Johnston & Browne *Life* (1878) 222 Our landlady sent round some nogg a while ago. 1893 ZINCKE *Wherstead* 261 Here 'nog' is a kind of strong ale.

2. = EGG-NOG.

1896 *Harper's Mag.* XCII. 783/2 Mrs. Raker was holding a foaming glass to the sick man's lips. 'There; take another sup of the good nog', she said.

Nog, *v.* [f. NOG *sb.*[1]]

1. *trans.* To secure by nogs or pegs.

1711 W. SUTHERLAND *Shipbuild. Assist.* 26 Then nog all the Shores very secure.

2. To build with timber-framing and brick.

1805 DUNCUMB *Agric. Heref.* 30 They [cottages] are raised with stone two feet above the ground, and then carried to the roof with timber and brick in squares, or as it is here termed *nogged together*.

Hence **Nogged** (nŏgd) *ppl. a.*, consisting of a timber framework filled in with brick. (Usu. in comb. *brick-nogged*.)

1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. 457/1 A Nogged Wall, being only of a Brick breadth. 1842 GWILT *Archit.* § 2024 When the spaces between the timbers or quarters are bricked up, it is called a bricknogged partition.

Nogat, variant of NOUGAT.

No-gate, *adv. north.* and *Sc.* Forms: *α.* 4 nan-gat, nane-, none-gate. *β.* 4–5 na-, nogat, -gate, 9 nae-gate, -gait. [f. NO *a.* or NONE *a.* + GATE *sb.*[2]] **a.** Nowhere. **b.** In no way, no-wise.

a. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 1078 þe bodi moght he nan-gat hide. *c* 1325 *Metr. Hom.* 57 This sawel..Mai nangat cum til hevin blis. *a* 1400 *Harrow. Hell* 1087 (Harl. MS.), He may noght lif ogayne nanegate [*v.r.* nonegate].

β. 13.. *Cursor M.* 9794 (Gött.), Hou miht þai man of sin ma clene? Certis na gate, als i wene. *Ibid.* 12900 Bot might it nogat þe witslipp þat he self said. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xliii. (*Cecilia*) 548 Bot we, þe haly name þat wat of god, ma nyt it na-gat. *a* 1400 *Harrow. Hell* 1071 (Harl. MS.), He bad: 'no gate luke þou go hethen, Till fourty days be past'. 1489 *Barbour's Bruce* (Edin. MS.) x. 230 Swa that men mycht it spar na gat.

1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* xxxii, We turned nae gate at a', but just keepit straight forward. 1879 G. MACDONALD *Sir Gibbie* xxvii, I div not ken hoo it'll be poassible, an' you naegait 'ithin my sicht or my cry.

So †**No-gates** *adv. Obs.*

a 13.. *Cursor M.* 5054 (Gött.), No-gates miht þair bodijs ly. *a* 1400 *Sir Perc.* 2226 Be that so nere getis he, That scho myghte nangatis fle. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 612 And ye ..No gatis me begyle, ne to grem brynge, I hete you.., þat I you helpe shall.

Noger, variant of *nanger*, AUGER *sb.*

1747 HOOSON *Min. Dict.* s.v. *Boring*, First make a Place or Stope in the Stone with a Pick, to set the Noger Point in. 1802 MAWE *Min. Derbysh.* Gloss., *Noger*, or Jumper.

No·ggen, *a.* and *sb.* Now *rare* or *Obs.* [f. western dial. *nog(s)* refuse of flax or hemp + -EN[4].] **a.** *adj.* Made of coarse flax. **b.** *sb.* Coarse linen.

1492 *Will of P. Hall* (Somerset Ho.), A noggen shete. 1564 in Noake *Worc. Relics* (1877) 12, j table clothe of noggen. 1625 in Miss Jackson *Shropsh. Word-bk.* (1879) 302 Eyghtenne payre of hempten sheets and six paire of noggen sheets. 1660 SIR T. BLOUNT *Boscobel* 18 His Majesty..put on a noggen course shirt which was borrowed of Edw. Martin. *Ibid.* 41 A noggen shirt, of the coursest linnen. 1879 in Miss Jackson *Shropsh. Word-bk.*

Noggin (nŏ·gin). Also 7 **-ing**, 8 **knoggin, noggan**, 8–9 **naggin.** [Of obscure origin: Gael. *noigean*, Ir. *noigin* are no doubt from Eng.]

1. A small drinking vessel; a mug or cup.

1630 *Tincker of Turvey* Ep. Ded., Of her ale, her custome was to set before me two little noggins full. *a* 1648 DIGBY *Closet Opened* (1677) 45 You have the yeast in a large noggin with a handle. 1716 T. WARD *Eng. Ref.* 50 Plate, Candlesticks, and Silver Flaggons were turn'd to Brass and Pewter Noggins. 1753 *Stewart's Trial* 208 The noggin in which he had carried the drink to Allan Breck. 1773 *Poetry in Ann. Reg.* 234 The milky store .. Crowns the clean noggin. 1824 DODDRIDGE *Notes* 109 The settler's furniture consisted of a few pewter dishes,..wooden bowls, trenchers, and noggins. 1859 SALA *Tw. round Clock* (1861) 53 The pewter counters and the brass-work of the beer-engines, the funnels and the whisky noggins.

2. A small quantity of liquor, usually a quarter of a pint.

1693 *Humours Town* 101 The poor Curate..is the Humble Servant of ev'ry one that Treats him with a Noggin of cool Nants. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Noggin*, (of Brandy) a Quarter of a Pint. 1745 *Gentl. Mag.* 425 He drank about a quart a day, a naggin at each time. 1798 *Sporting Mag.* XI. 284 A man .. drank no less than four noggins of gin. 1810 VANDELEUR *Lett.* (1894) 14 Our army has very good rations: 1 pound of beef, 1 pound of bread, and about a naggin of rum each day. 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* xii. (1856) 94 While we were joking about his adventure over a quiet little noggin of whisky-punch. 1863 HAWTHORNE *Our Old Home* (1879) 233 No doubt many a noggin of whiskey is here quaffed.

3. *attrib.*, as *noggin-bottle, -glass, -pot, -stave.*

1663 WOOD *Life* 1 Feb., At Short's the coffee-man..in chocolate, 6*d.*, for a nogging pot, 5*d.* 1804 R. ANDERSON *Cumbld. Ball.* (*c* 1850) 68 To monie a bonnie Carel lass.. The noggin glass went roun. 1855 KINGSLEY *Westw. Ho!* xix, If the Lord had not fought for us, she'd have been beat to noggin-staves there on the beach. 1894 HALL CAINE *Manxman* VI. x. 394 With a noggin bottle of brandy in his fist.

Nogging (nǫ·gin), *sb.* and *vbl. sb.* Also noggin. [f. NOG *sb.*[1] or *v.* + -ING [1].]

1. *sb.* (Usually *brick-nogging.*) Brickwork built up between wooden quarters or framing.

1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 354 A brick wall built in pannels between timber quarters is called brick nogging. 1833 LOUDON *Encycl. Archit.* § 79 To fill in the cross partitions with four-inch brick nogging flat. 1842 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. II. *Jerry Jarvis' Wig*, A fanciful arrangement of brick and timber .. in the 'Weald' is a 'noggin'. 1857 [see BRICK *sb.*[1] 10]. 1904 A. GRIFFITHS 50 *Yrs. Public Life* xvii. 232 A wooden framework, its external sides filled in with brick 'nogging'.

b. *Nogging-pieces*, horizontal pieces of wood nailed to the quarters to strengthen the work in brick-nogging.

1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 354 The..nogging pieces being included in the measure. 1833 LOUDON *Encycl. Archit.* § 83 Nogging pieces, four by two inches.

2. *vbl. sb.* (See quots.)

c 1850 *Rudim. Navig.* (Weale) 135 *Nogging*, the act of securing the heels of the shores. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* 499 *Nogging*, ..securing the shores by tree-nails.

Nog-head. *dial.* [f. NOG *sb.*[1]] A blockhead.

c 1800 WOLCOT (P. Pindar) *Horrors Bribery* Wks. 1816 IV. 287 Zounds! what a noghead and a fool. 1893 KENNARD *Diogenes' Sandals* xiii, Wosbird and noghead were the epithets bestowed.

So **Nog-headed** *a.*, thick-headed, stupid.

1891 MISS TUTTIET *Heart Storm* I. ii, 'Matt Meade's that nog-headed', .. Cousin Jane used to say. 1893 RAYMOND *Gentl. Upcott's Daughter* 117 Muttering complaints in which..'pig-headed', 'nog-headed', constantly recurred.

Nogh(t, obs. forms of NOUGHT *sb.* and *adv.*

Noghthod: see NOUGHTIHOOD.

Nogli, obs. variant of UGLY *a.*

No-go. Also no go. [A sb. use of the phrase *no go*: see Go *sb.* 8.] An impracticable situation; an impasse; an indecisive contest, etc.

1870 LOWELL *Among my Bks.* Ser. I. (1873) 150 They have ..arrived at a happy positivism as to its structure, though at the risk of bringing it to a no-go. 1884 *Western Daily Press* 16 Apr. 7/2 The first 'fly' resulted in a 'no go'.

So **No-goism.** *nonce-word.*

1850 DICKENS *Lett.* (1880) I. 220 As to two comic articles ..out of me, that's the intensest extreme of no-goism.

Nogt, obs. form of NOUGHT.

No·how, *adv.* (and *a.*) [f. No *a.* + How *adv.*; cf. *somehow, anyhow.*]

1. In no manner, by no means; not at all.

1775 in *Priv. Lett. Ld. Malmesbury* (1870) I. 300 A course of habitual improvement which nohow else is to be acquired. 1795 *Montford Castle* II. 42 Edmund..could nohow insert the point of his sword. 1829 LANDOR *Imag. Conv., Emp. China & Tsing-Ti*, Not being his father, the misfortune could nobow be attributed to me. 1841 HERSCHEL *Ess.* (1857) 212 This is a modification of the idea of cause, which we can no-how bring ourselves to conceive. 1877 MRS. OLIPHANT *Makers Flor.* xiv. 348 Genius has strange gifts in it,..knowledge nohow conveyable by teaching of man.

b. In uneducated speech frequently used with another negative.

1851 D. JERROLD *St. Giles* x. 98 You don't call that justice, no-how, do you? 1863 READE *Hard Cash* II. 246 That don't dovetail nohow. 1884 *Harper's Mag.* Feb. 410/1 He wouldn't let it stand nohow.

2. In no particular manner or condition; with no distinctive appearance or character.

In quots. 1779 and 1853 with suggestion of b.

1779 MME. D'ARBLAY *Diary* (1842) I. 161, I could not speak a word; and I dare say I looked no-how. 1853 WHEWELL in Mrs. Douglas *Life* (1881) 430 The air has been filled..with a dense fog, which has made everything look ill, or more properly speaking, look *no-how*. 1888 FREEMAN in Stephens *Life & Lett.* (1895) II. 283 New York..is just now nohow, an uninteresting mass of houses.

b. With *all*: Out of order, out of sorts.

1852 MRS. CARLYLE *Lett.* II. 174 You were 'decidedly better', and now again 'all nohow'. 1865 DICKENS *Dr. Marigold* vii, Ain't Mr. B. so well this morning? You look all nohow.

3. *adj.* Having no distinctive character. *rare.*

1828 LADY GRANVILLE *Lett.* (1894) II. 29 She is a comfortable, no how, little, good-natured thing.

Hence **No·howish** *a.*

1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* 499, *No-Howish*, qualmy; feeling an approaching ailment without being able to describe the symptoms.

Noht, nohut, obs. forms of NOUGHT.

Noiance, variant of NOYANCE.

Noice, Noie, obs. forms of NOISE, NOY.

Noik, obs. Sc. form of NOOK *sb.*

Noil (noil). Also noyl. [Of obscure origin.] *pl.* and *sing.* The short pieces and knots of wool combed out of the long staple.

pl. 1623–4 *Act* 21 *Jas. I*, c. 18 § 3 Many ill disposed persons..have vsed to mixe and putte Flockes and Thrumes and alsoe Noiles and Haires and other deceivable thinges into ..broad Woollen Cloths. 1793 *Spec. Wright & Hawksley's Patent* No. 1956. 2 A circular brush..revolving quick to take the noils off the teeth. 1835 URE *Philos. Manuf.* 150 The noyls, or short refuse wool, which remains entangled among the teeth, being removed. 1872 *Daily News* 26 Mar., Noils and brokes are in steady demand, and prices are firm. 1884 W. S. B. MCLAREN *Spinning* (ed. 2) 94 The very short fibres of wool..fall over naturally into a box or can placed to receive them. This short wool is called 'noils'.

sing. 1805 LUCCOCK *Nat. Wool* 159 The fragments collect in the instrument and form only a noil, an article of no use in the fabrication of worsteds. 1844 G. DODD *Textile Manuf.* iv. 127 This, under the name of noyl or noil, is afterwards carded and spun into coarse woollen yarn. 1894 *Times* 12 Mar. 13/5 The machine which separates the long fibres for fine spinning from the waste or 'noil', which is used for spinning heavy numbers.

attrib. 1884 W. S. B. MCLAREN *Spinning* (ed. 2) 104 The noil knives in the small circles. *Ibid.* 109 Noil knots are dragged over the pin points.

Noint, 'noint, apbetic forms of ANOINT *v.*

13.. *Cursor M.* 7286 (Gött.), He was..þe first þat noyntid man to king. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) V. 23 That man scholde be sleyne and the body of Faustina..be noyntede with the bloode of hym. 1495 *Trevisa's Barth. De P. R.* XII. xxxix. (W. de W.) 436 The blode of a reremouse noynted [*Bodl. MS.* i-smered] vpon the lyddes suffreth not the heere to growe agayn. 1508 FISHER 7 *Penit. Ps.* li. Wks. (1876) 109 The forheed of the chylde is noynted with holy creme. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* IV. (1586) 144 The vlcerous places must be noynted with Vineger. 1611 CHAPMAN *May Day* Plays 1873 II. 339 One that noints his nose with clowted creame. 1647 R. STAPYLTON *Juvenal* 77 The oyle..which those country-men noynted with, when they bathed. 1689 N. LEE *Princess Cleve* III. i, They are.. suspected for Witches, mine noints her self ev'ry Night.

1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* vii, He would..fling him a handful of silver groats,..to 'noint the sore withal. 1822 SHELLEY *Faust* ii. 182 We are washed, we are 'nointed, stark naked are we.

Hence **Noi·nted** *ppl. a.* (see quot. 1855 and cf. NINETED *a.*); **Noi·nter,** one who anoints; **Noi·nting** *vbl. sb.*; **Noi·ntment,** ointment.

13.. *Cursor M.* 9338 (Gött.), Quen he þat haliest es comen, 3our noynting sal fra 3ou be nomen. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 159 He was confermede by hym by the noyntynge of holy creame. *c* 1485 *Digby Myst.* (1882) III. 640 Her xal mary..a-noynt hym with a precyus noy[n]ttment. 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus, Circunlitio*, .. noyntyng. 1647 R. STAPYLTON *Juvenal* 89 Their Tyrian cassocks, nointings for the field, Who knowes not, sees not? *Ibid.* 36 A rhetorician, a grammarian, A painter, nointer, augur, geometrician. 1855 ROBINSON *Whitby Gloss.* s.v., 'A nointed youth', a young man apparently destined to, or determined upon, evil courses.

Noious(e, obs. forms of NOYOUS *a.*

‖ **Noir** (nwār), *a. rare* −[1]. [F. *noir.*] Black.

1871 TENNYSON *Last Tourn.* 433 A shield Showing a shower of blood in a field noir.

Nois, obs. Sc. form of NOSE *sb.*

†**Noi·sance.** *Obs.* Forms: 5–6 noysaunce, 5, 7 -ance, 5 -aus, 6 -auns, 6– noisance; also 5 nosaunce, -awnce. [a. OF. *noisance*, var. of *nuisance* NUISANCE.]

1. Trouble, molestation, annoyance.

c 1400 tr. *Secreta Secret., Gov. Lordsh.* 112 Þe konyng þat þe sawle folowys..whenne it ys deliured of noysance. *c* 1450 LOVELICH *Merlin* 2256 To hym maden they here Shrawnce him there to bryngen with-owten Nosawnce. *c* 1450 *Merlin* 456 Vef ye take eny [men] of owres, thei shull helpe yow to oure noysaunce. *a* 1500 *Chaucer's Dreame* C.'s Wks. (1598) 357 Without sicknes or displeasaunce, Or thing that to you was noysaunce. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII*, 71 b, Those that shall bryng vitailes necessarie to the saied assembly, maie without daunger, trouble, impechement or noysaunce go and come. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* II. 63 Howbeit much noisance they have everywhere by Wolves. 1656 PRYNNE *Resol. Import. Queries* 21 A Writ is granted..for a thing done to the noysance of another.

b. In phr. *To do noisance.*

c 1412 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 810 To me this longe walke it dothe noisance. 1449 in *Wars Eng. in France* (Rolls) I. 489 Robbeurs and pirates..whiche dayly do alle the noysance thay canne. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII*, 46 b, The mayre .. declared to them the noysaunce done to the Citezens.

2. Nuisance.

1473–4 *Sarum Church-w. Accts.* (1896) 15 For the clansyng of a noysance abowte the church. 1657 HOWELL *Londinop.* 392 Any thing of noisance in the River of Thames.

†**Noi·sant,** *a. Obs. rare.* [a. OF. *noisant*, var. of *nuisant* NUISANT.] Troublesome, grievous.

a 1440 BURGH *Cato* 723 If she be noysaunt, ful of greuaunce, Constreyne hir nat to biden in thi yerde. *c* 1475 *Partenay* 1045 Iff it be, ye shall haue gretly to doo huge noisaunt pannes with aduersite.

Noise, obs. form of NOSE.

Noise (noiz), *sb.* Forms: 3–7 noyse, 4–6 noys, 5–6 noyes, *Sc.* noyis, 6 noyse; 4 nois, 6 noiz, 3– noise. Also 4 nouse, nowse, 5 nose. [a. F. *noise* (11th cent.; OF. also *noyse, nose*) = Prov. *noysa, nosa, nausa*, of uncertain origin: L. *nausea* and *noxia* have been proposed, but the sense of the word is against both suggestions.]

1. Loud outcry, clamour, or shouting; din or disturbance made by one or more persons.

In this and other senses freq. in the phrase *to make* (more rarely † *keep*) *a noise*: cf. sense 6.

a 1225 *Ancren R.* 66 Þe wreche peoddare more noise he makeð to 3eien his sope, þen a riche mercer al his deorewurðe ware. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 8167 Of trompes & of tabors þe sarazins made þere So gret noyse þat cristinemen al destourbed were. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 6535 He hard þe gret nois was þare Abute þis calf. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 11531 At þat word was noise & cry Of þe Bretons þat stoden ney. ?1370 *Robt. Cicyle* 174 (Horstm.), He gan crie and make nois, He swor þei schulde alle abye [etc.]. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 321 With this noise and with this cry, Out of a barge faste by..Men sterten out. 1455 *Paston Lett.* I. 351 They sette an hons on fyer.., and cryed and mad an noyse as though they had be sory for the fyer. 1481 CAXTON *Godfrey* v. 23 Of the noyse that sourded emonge the hethen men discordyng in theyr lawe. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* lix. 207 They all made great ioy with suche a ioyfull noyse that the paynyms without dyd here it. 1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* III. i. 61 Who is that at the doore y[t] keeps all this noise? 1622 MABBE tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* II. 42 It did mightily vexe me,..that I could not call vnto them to keepe lesse noise. 1633 G. HERBERT *Temple, Redemption* 12 At length I heard a ragged noise and mirth Of theeves and murderers. 1702 ROWE *Tamerl.* IV. i, Thou hast thy sexes Virtues, Their Affectation, Pride, Ill Nature, Noise. 1775 tr. *Scarron's Com. Rom.* I. 286 Zounds, sir, don't keep such a noise about your boots, but rather take mine, so you will but let us sleep. 1844 DICKENS *Mart. Chuz.* xxv, I wish you'd hold your noise! 1850 BROWNING *Bp. Blougram's Apol.* 19 When dinner's done, And body gets its sop and holds its noise And leaves soul free a little.

† b. *Without noise*, in a quiet manner; without any display, privately. *Obs.*

1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 100 Prively withoute noise He bringth this foule grete Coise To his Castell. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 114 b, She would be buried without any pompe or noyse. 1614 RALEIGH *Hist. World* II. 508 After this time Ezechia had rest, and spending without noyse that addition which God had made unto his life. 1662 J. DAVIES tr. *Olearius' Voy.* 110 They were married on Shrove-Sunday..but without any noyse.

† c. Strife, contention, quarrelling. *Obs.*

1484 CAXTON *Fables of Æsop* II. xii. 48 Oftyme it happeth that of a fewe wordes euyll fette, cometh a grete noyse and daunger. 1491 — *Vitas Patr.* (W. de W. 1495) I. cxix. 141/1 Neuer to haue noyse with a nother it is angels lyfe. 1530 PALSGR. 248/1 Noyse, frayeng, *castille.*

† 2. Common talk, rumour, report; also, evil report, slander, scandal. *Obs.*

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 6383 He let caste þis traitour in þe eueninge late At an fenestre in temese, noise vorto abate. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 3971 To me it is gret hevinesse, That the noyse so fer is go, And the sclaundre of us two. 1426 *Paston Lett.* I. 26 To declare aught of this matier in stoppyng of the noyse that renneth in this case. 1461 *Ibid.* II. 50 Ther is gret noyse of this revell that was don in Suffolk be Yelverton and Jeney. *c* 1478 *Plumpton Corr.* (Camden) 38 The great rumor, slaunder, & full noyse of your tenants..att they shold be untrew peopell. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. ccclv. 571 The castell..the whiche the Gauntoyse hadde brente, as the noyse ranne. *a* 1572 KNOX *Hist. Ref.* Wks. 1846 I. 92 The noyse of the death of King James divulgat,..the hartes of men begane to be disclossed. 1655 *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) II. 179 All agree in the noise of more plotts. 1683 SIR W. TEMPLE *Mem.* Wks. 1720 I. 423 The Noise that ran of the magnificent Preparations .. design'd by the Marquess. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 164 ¶ 1 The Noise of this intended Marriage soon reached Theodosius. 1734 tr. *Rollin's Anc. Hist.* (1827) VII. xvii. 223 The noise of this accident was immediately spread in all parts.

† b. Repute, reputation. *Obs.*

c 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xiii. 224 Thou has an yll noys of stelyng of shepe. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* VIII. vii. 282 By cause of that noyse and fame that thou hast. 1549–62 STERNHOLD & H. *Ps.* lxxxix. 16 Through thy righteousness have they a pleasant fame and noyce. 1556 *Aurelio & Isab.* (1608) N vj, Myn ill noise makes me worthey that all the wordes ill saide againste them be unto me attributede.

† c. Distinction, note. *Obs. rare* −[1].

1670 G. H. *Hist. Cardinals* II. iii. 201 They were persons of no great noise, but resolute, modest, courteous.

3. A loud or barsh sound of any kind; a din.

c 1290 *St. Barnabas* 51 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 28 Al þat on half daschte a-doun..of þis temple with gret noyse and soun. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 849 Þe god man glyfte with þat glam & gloped for noyse. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 216 Many an other tente mo With gret noise, as me thoghte tho, It threw to grounde. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xxxi. 138 Þer es herd noyse as it ware of trumppes. *a* 1450 *Fyssh lynge w. Angle* (1883) 5 Þe noyse of houndes & blastes of hornes. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* xxiii. 68 The water..made suche a noyse that it myght be herde .x. leges of. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VI* 95 By the noyes of a spanyell was on a night a man espied and taken. 1582 LICHEFIELD tr. *Castanheda's Conq. E. Ind.* 73 b, The tackling .., with the great force of the winde, made such a terrible noyse, and was so fearefull to heare. 1624 QUARLES *Job* xvii. 54 Who ever heard the voyce Of th' angry heavens, unfrighted at the noyse? 1653 tr. *Carmeni's Nissena* 124 By the noise of Trumpets and beating up of Drums. 1710 J. CLARKE tr. *Rohault's Nat. Philos.* (1729) I. 185 Gunpowder when it takes Fire in a Cannon..makes such a prodigious Noise. *a* 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) I. 160 This motion continued the remaining part of the day..; nor did the noise cease during the whole time. 1848 L. HUNT *Jar of Honey* ii. 23 A noise is heard like the coming of a thousand chariots. 1888 MISS BRADDON *Fatal Three* I. iv, I never heard any one make such a noise on a piano.

b. The aggregate of loud sounds arising in a busy community.

c 1450 tr. *De Imitatione* I. xx. 25 þat he wiþdrawiþ him fer fro seculer noyce. *c* 1610 *Women Saints* (1886) 44 Ill brooking secular noise, and worldlie companie of the towne. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* I. ii. 5 Obscured and made weak; as the voyce of a man is in the noyse of the day. 1676 HALE *Contempl.* I. 286 In shady Privacy, free from the Noise And busles of the World. 1730 BERKELEY *Lett.* Wks. 1871 IV. 173 Preferring quiet and solitude to the noise of a great town. 1784 COWPER *Task* III. 379 A life all turbulence and noise may seem To him that leads it, wise. 1816 SHELLEY *Dæmon* I. 28 Seek far from noise and day some western cave.

4. A sound which is not remarkably loud.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxvi. (*Nicholas*) 121 Þane of þe noys of his fet he wakoyt þane. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) III. 275 Democritus was woned to seie þat þe hestes of schrewes and þe noyse of þe wombe beeþ in oon place. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 232 b, That noise..whan a man doeth rattle or shake together a nomber of dead mens bones. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 196 We tooke some rest,.. but with such feare, as wee were ready to flie upon the least noise. 1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* I. xii. 36 Some report of sheep, that when they runne they are afraid of the noise

of their own feet. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* IV. 801 A buzzing noise of Bees his Ears alarms. 1732 ARBUTHNOT *Rules Diet in Aliments*, etc. 315 A soft Noise of Water distilling by Drops into a Bason. *a* 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) VII. 28 The noise which the snail makes in moving the water. 1833 TENNYSON *Lady of Shalott* IV. iii, Thro' the noises of the night She floated down to Camelot. 1876 BRISTOWE *Th. & Pract. Med.* (1878) 364 The noises which attend the acts of coughing.

fig. 1660 SOUTH *Serm.* (1727) IV. 31 One would think, that every Letter was wrote with a Tear, every Word was the Noise of a breaking Heart.

5. An agreeable or melodious sound. Now *rare*.

? *a* 1366 CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 79 Than doth the nyghtyngale hir myght To make noyse and syngen blythe. *Ibid.* 1416 The water, in renning, Gan make a noyse ful lyking. *c* 1403 LYDG. *Temple Glas* 1362 Þe noise and heuenli melodie Which þat þei made in her armonye. 1500-20 DUNBAR *Poems* xlvi. 25 Nevir suetar noys wes hard with levand man, Na maid this merry gentill nychtingaill. 1535 COVERD. *Ps.* xlvi. 5 God is gone vp with a mery noyse. *a* 1553 UDALL *Royster D.* I. iv. 20 Up wyth soine mery noyse, Sirs, to bring home the bride! 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* III. ix. 84 Diuers cymbals .. made a very plesant and delectable noyce. 1798 COLERIDGE *Anc. Mar.* 368-9 It ceased; yet still the sails made on A pleasant noise till noon, A noise like of a hidden brook.

† **b.** A company or band of musicians. *Obs.*

1558 in Nichols *Progr. Q. Eliz.* I. 39 Nere unto Fanchurch was erected a scaffolde richely furnished, whereon stode a noyes of instrumentes. 1594 LYLY *Moth. Bomb.* III. iv, Then I wish'd for a noyse Of crack-halter Boyes, On those hempen strings to be twanging. 1598 CHAPMAN *Blinde Beg. Alexandria* Plays 1873 I. 17 Oh that we had a noyse of musitions to play to this anticke as we goe. 1609 B. JONSON *Sil. Wom.* III. iii, The smell of the venison, going through the street, will inuite one noyse of fidlers, or other. 1636 R. GRIFFIN in *Ann. Dubrensia* (1877) 52 A Virgin-crew of matchlesse choyce, ..attended with a noyse Of musique sweet. 1668 DRYDEN *Maiden Queen* III. i, I hear him coming, and a whole noise of fiddles at his heels.

transf. 1676 WYCHERLEY *Pl. Dealer* I. i, I cou'd as soon suffer a whole Noise of Flatterers at a Great Man's Levee.

6. *To make* (or † *keep*) *a noise* (in other than literal senses): **a.** To make an outcry, to talk much or loudly, *about* a thing.

1668 Sir W. TEMPLE *Let. to Ld. Arlington* Wks. 1720 II. 163 Many Persons in England .. had made a Noise about the Marine Treaty. *c* 1680 BEVERIDGE *Serm.* (1729) I. 300 For all the great noise that is made about it, there is but little true faith in the world. 1753 *Scots Mag.* XV. 67/1 The French made a great deal of noise about advantages they had gained. 1782 A. MONRO *Compar. Anat.* (ed. 3) Introd. 9 Anatomists have made a noise about the different structures of the same part.

b. To be much talked of; to be the object of general notice and comment.

? 1618 HOWELL *Lett.* (1650) I. 5 The news that keeps greatest noise here now, is the return of Sir Walter Rawleigh. 1677 *Hist. MSS. Comm., 12th Rep.* App. V. 36 Lord Burghley's chalange sent by Sir Scroope Howe makes a great deal of noyse. 1707 ADDISON *Pres. St. War* Wks. 1766 III. 258 Blenheim was followed by a summer that makes no noise in the war. 1788 NELSON in Nicolas *Disp. & Lett.* (1845) I. 275 The capture of a Privateer makes more noise taken in the Channel, than a Frigate .. afar off. *a* 1862 BUCKLE *Civiliz.* (1869) III. ii. 107 In 1596, David Black .. delivered a sermon, which made much noise.

c. *To make a noise in the world*, to attain to general notoriety or renown.

1662 STILLINGFL. *Orig. Sacræ* II. ii. § 6 Their Hieroglyphical and mystical Learning hath made the greatest noise in the world, and hath the least of substance in it. 1685 BURNET *Let. in Trav.* (1687) II. 42 Those publick scandals that make a noise in the World. 1702 ADDISON *Dial. Medals* Misc. Wks. 1736 III. 14 Such persons as have made a noise in the world. 1751 EARL ORRERY *Remarks Swift* (1752) 191 The first of these, *The Tale of a Tub*, has made much noise in the world.

7. *Comb.*, as *noise-maker, -making*; **noise-money** (see quot. 1883).

1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 187 Thou shalte lagh wythout grynnynge, speke wyth-out cry or noyse-makynge. 1574 HOWSE in *Hist. Fam. Fortescue* (1869) II. 231 They found nobody there, for the noise-makers were gone back. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* I. i. 47 You whoreson insolent Noyse-maker. 1654 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 533 Of so much more Concernment is one suffering Saint, than all the Noise-makers in the World. 1815 MOORE *Mem.* (1853) II. 78 Among chatterers, drinkers, and all sorts of noise-makers. 1883 *Chamb. Jrnl.* 8 Dec. 770/2 So disagreeable is this fog-signalling duty .. that .. the whole crew receive what they call 'Noise-money', ..for the time the signal is actually in operation.

Noise (noiz), *v.* Also 5-7 noyse, 5 noyce, 6 noyz. [f. NOISE *sb.*, or ad. OF. *noisier, noiser*, to make a noise, to quarrel, wrangle.]

1. *trans.* To report, rumour, spread (*abroad*). Now somewhat *rare*.

a. In phr. *it is noised that*, etc.

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1173 Hit was noiset anon þat a noumbur hoge Of Grekes were gedret. 1465 *Paston Lett.* II. 206 It is noyced here that my Lord of Norffolk hathe taken partye in thes mater. 1470-85 MALORY *Arthur* VI. x. 197 Hit is noysed that ye loue quene Gueneuer. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII*, 126 The Frenche kyng .. caused it to be noysed that he would besege the toune of Valencyen. 1599 *Warn. Faire Wom.* ii. 786 Tis noysd at London, that a marchant's slain. 1684 BUNYAN *Pilgr.* II. 201 It was noised abroad that Mr. Valiant-for-truth was taken with a Summons. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* iv. I. 506 It was noised abroad that he had more real power to help and hurt than many nobles.

b. In ordinary passive use.

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 12271 The noy of þat noble was noyset thurgh the ost. 1489 CAXTON *Fayles of A.* II. v. 99 He made wordes to be noysed about. 1535 COVERDALE 1 *Chron.* xiv. 17 And Dauids name was noysed out in all londes. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 228 Rumour was noysed abrode, that Themperour shoulde secretly mynde warre. 1614 RALEIGH *Hist. World* III. 62 That of the battell against the Tarquinians .. was presently noised at Rome. 1665 MANLEY *Grotius Low-C. Wars* 431 These things, as soon as they were noysed through Brabant [etc.]. 1744 OZELL *Brantome's Sp. Rhodom.* 78 Our other Man retir'd, for the Thing began to be nois'd abroad. 1779 in *Hist. Pelham, Mass.* (1898) 138, I think its Noised by some as if it was not Desired. 1879 BUTCHER & LANG *Odyssey* 74 My true lord whose fame is noised abroad from Hellas to mid Argos.

c. In active use.

1463 *Paston Lett.* II. 134 He noyseth and seyth, ..ye have caused a mad woman to take apell a yens hym. 1470-85 MALORY *Arthur* XXI. i. 840 Where ye noyse [that] my lord Arthur is slayne & that is not so. 1555 in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* (1721) III. App. xlvi. 142 And they have noyzed and bruted abrode most shamefull sklaunders. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* II. i. 22 All-telling fame Doth noyse abroad Nauar hath made a vow. 1641 MILTON *Ch. Govt.* I. vi. Wks. 1851 III. 126 Noise it till ye be hoarse, that a rabble of Sects will come in. 1689 G. HARVEY *Curing Dis. by Expect.* vi. 37 They so highly advance the Credit of a milk Diet, by noising it to be the sole grand sweetner of the Blood. 1896 *New York Weekly Witness* 30 Dec. 13/2 The welcome cooled when we noised about the object of our visit.

† **2.** To spread rumours or a report concerning (a person, etc.); *esp.* to defame, speak ill of. *Obs.*

1424 *Paston Lett.* I. 17 The seyd Walter .. in divers other maneres hath noysed and sklaundered the seyd William. 1447-8 SHILLINGFORD *Lett.* (Camden) 87 To noyse and disslaundre the said citee. 1470-85 MALORY *Arthur* X. xlvi. 488 Euer this Corsabryn noysed her and named her that she was oute of her mynde. 1530 PALSGR. 644/2, I noyse one, I gyve hym a name or brute, good or badde, *je donne le bruit*. He is noysed to be an yvell lyver.

3. a. To disturb or fill with noise. **b.** (With *it*.) To clamour, cry out. **c.** To force *out of* by clamour. *rare*.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 102 Ther is no cok to crowe day, Ne beste non which noise may The hell. 1662 HICKERINGILL *Distr. Innoc.* Wks. 1716 I. 291 Thus did they furiously noise it against our Saviour .., Crucifie him. *a* 1734 NORTH *Lives* (1826) I. 322 He was not a little concerned to see men noised out of their lives, as the twelve priests were.

4. *intr.* **a.** To talk loudly or much *of* a thing.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* III. met. vi. (1868) 7 Thanne comen alle mortal folk of noble sede; why noisen ye or bosten of youre eldres? *c* 1475 *Partenay* 1556 The peple merily ioyng As off the good rule noysed of thaim to. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. II. II. iii. 290 A plan, much noised of in those days, ..has been devised. 1858 — *Fredk. Gt.* V. v. (1872) II. 101 Much noised of in the .. Prussian Books.

b. To make a noise or outcry.

a 1400-50 *Alexander* 4744 Vmquile he noys[is] as a nowte, as a nox quen he lawes. 1441 *Plumpton Corr.* (Camden) p. lx, Upon whom the said misdoers followed, .. noising & crying, Sley the Archbishop' Carles! *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 166 Quhen thir tydingis .. came abrode and noyssed throw the countrie. 1671 MILTON *P. R.* IV. 488, I never fear'd they could, though noising loud And threatning nigh. *a* 1814 *Forgery* I. i. in *New Brit. Theatre* I. 435 Thou hast noised as much as if thou wert Sir Robert. 1827 CLARE *Sheph. Cal.* 4 Rook, crow, and jackdaw—noising loud, Fly to and fro to dreary fen. 1857 BORROW *Rom. Rye* (1858) I. 110 What's the bird noising yonder, brother?

Hence **Noised** *ppl. a.*; **Noi·sing** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*; † **Noi·singly** *adv.*

1425 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 298/2 Thourgh which langage and noysyng, I fele my name .. emblemysshed. 1426 *Paston Lett.* I. 26, I am fonle and noysyngly vexed with hem, to my gret unease. 1453 in *Epist. Acad. Oxon.* (1898) I. 320 The first publisheris of the seide sclandirful noysyng. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 521 He declareth you a true man to hym, ..the sayde dislaunder and noysing notwithstanding. 1641 QUARLES *Enchyrid.* I. c, A victory whose noys'd renowne may fill the world with your eternall glory. 1656 *Burton's Diary* (1828) I. 103 But the great noising argument is, That we are under Gospel dispensation. 1681 H. MORE in *Glanvill's Sadducismus* I. Postscr. (1726) 1 Therefore he expected the Issue of that noised Story of the Spectre at Exeter. 1828 *Sporting Mag.* XXI. 227 Hot-headed, hot-horsed, noising, coffee-housing friends. 1864 *Good Wds.* 790/2 The latest books only, the noised books of the season. 1871 MEREDITH *H. Richmond* XXXVI, Making the low noising of the leaves an intolerable whisper of secrecy.

Noiseful (noi·zful), *a.* [f. NOISE *sb.* + -FUL.]

1. Full of noise; noisy.

1382 WYCLIF *Prov.* XX. 1 A leccherous thing [is] win, and noiseful drunkenesse. *c* 1425 *Found. St. Bartholomew's* (E. E. T. S.) 3 Amonge the noysefull prese of that tumultuous courte. 1608 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iv. IV. *Decay* 264 Either side in their seem-Rights' defence Was hot and earnest at the noise-full Bar. 1644 Sir E. DERING *Prop. Sacr.* C iij, These proud fastuous wayes of humility, this noisefull piety. 1674 DRYDEN *Epil. Univ. Oxford* 5 Content of mind; Which noiseful towns and courts can never know. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* XV. 557 From noiseful revel far remote she flies. 1858 BEECHER *Life Thoughts* (1859) 51 The forest is quiet or only so much noiseful as the insects make it.

† **2.** Full of slander or evil report. *Obs.*

1459 *Paston Lett.* I. 499 Bothen have answerid Wyndham, not aldermoste to hise plesir, becaus of his noiseful langage. 1463 *Ibid.* II. 134 With ougth evydent proffe the mater schall be but noysefull to you.

Hence **Noi·sefully** *adv. rare* —[1].

c 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* II. *Comm.*, Αιγεως .. signifieth shrillie, or noisefullie, squeaking.

Noiseless (noi·zlés), *a.* [f. as prec.[1] + -LESS.] Silent, quiet; making no stir or commotion.

1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* V. iii. 41 Th' inaudible, and noiselesse foot of time. 1605 — *Lear* IV. ii. 56 France spreads his banners in our noiseless land. *a* 1667 COWLEY *On the late Civil War* Wks. (Grosart) I. p. cxxxvii, His Treasons restless, and yet noiseless Heart. 1699 GARTH *Dispens.* II Midnight Silence guards the noiseless Doors. 1750 GRAY *Elegy* 76 They kept the noiseless tenour of their way. 1784 COWPER *Task* IV. 346 The wain .. in its sluggish pace, Noiseless, appears a moving hill of snow. 1816 BYRON *Ch. Har.* III. lxxxv, This quiet sail is as a noiseless wing To waft me from distraction. 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* (1856) xxvii. 221 It is no fun .. to sit motionless and noiseless as a statue, with a cold musket in your hands. 1875 HOWELLS *Foregone Conclusion* I The canal, where he could see the noiseless black boats meeting and passing.

Noiselessly (noi·zlésli), *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY[2].] Silently, quietly, without noise.

1835 MARRYAT *Olla Podr.* iv, We glided noiselessly .. along. 1860 MOTLEY *Netherl.* I. (1868) I. 2 A clerk or two, noiselessly opening and shutting the door.

Noiselessness (noi·zlésnés). [f. as prec. + -NESS.] The state or quality of being noiseless.

1847 in WEBSTER. 1855 J. R. LEIFCHILD *Cornwall* 50 Let us listen in perfect noiselessness for a few moments. 1893 F. F. MOORE *Gray Eye or So* II. 130 The butler .. disappeared with the noiselessness of a shadow.

† **Noi·ser.** *Obs. rare.* [f. NOISE *v.* + -ER[1].] A slanderer; a spreader of a report.

1434 MISYN *Mending Life* 118 Þi noysurs wrechidar þou sal se, & with all þi mynde to criste þou salt draw. 1460 CAPGRAVE *Chron.* (Rolls) 278 This langage sesid mech aftir tyme that a prest, on of the first noyseres, was take.

Noisette[1] (nwaze·t). [f. the name *Noisette* (see quot. 1837).] A variety of rose, being a cross between a common China rose and a musk-rose. Also in *attrib.* use.

1837 RIVERS *Rose Amateur's Guide* 80 The 'Blush Noisette' rose, was raised from seed in America, by M. Ph. Noisette, and sent by him to his brother M. Louis Noisette .. in 1817. *Ibid.* 81 Belle Antonine is a pillar Noisette. 1850 MRS. GASKELL *Moorland Cottage* i, Clustering noisettes, and fraxinellas, and sweet briar. 1857 KINGSLEY *Two Y. Ago* i. 3 The great yellow noisette swung its long canes across the window. 1892 *Daily News* 12 Sept. 3/1 Rose bushes and rose trees, tea-roses and noisette roses.

Noisette[2] (nwaze·t). [Fr.] *pl.* Small pieces of beef or mutton, with various additions, prepared as a dish.

1891 MRS. MARSHALL *Cookery Book, Extra Rec.* 150 Noisettes of Mutton à la Parisienne.

Noisily (noi·zili), *adv.* [f. NOISY *a.* + -LY[2].] In a noisy manner, with noise.

1779 JOHNSON *L. Poets, Milton* I. 158 They, who could so noisily censure it, ..could contrive what they wanted to accuse. 1856 KANE *Arctic Explor.* I. xvii. 213 When I turned in, he was still noisily disconsolate. 1870 MISS BRIDGMAN *R. Lynne* I. iii. 28 You do everything so noisily. 1897 MARY KINGSLEY *W. Africa* 504 The African is usually great at dreams, and has them very noisily.

Noisiness (noi·zinés). [f. as prec. + -NESS.] The quality of being noisy; loudness of sound.

1727 in BAILEY (vol. II). 1877 M. M. GRANT *Sun-Maid* i, Baptiste rang a huge bell with much noisiness. 1899 Sir R. TEMPLE *Ho. Comm.* iii. 55 The noisiness, restlessness, and casual conversation of the Members.

Noising, *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*, **Noisingly,** *adv.*: see NOISE *v.*

Noisome (noi·sŭm), *a.* Forms: 4 noȝesum, 5-8 noysome (6-7 -som, 6 -sum), 6-8 noisom, 6- noisome. [f. NOY *sb.* or *v.* + -SOME.]

1. Harmful, injurious, noxious.

1382 WYCLIF *Prov.* i. 22 How longe .. foolis tho thingus that ben noȝesum to them shul coueiten? 1514 BARCLAY *Cyt. & Uplondyshm.* (Percy Soc.) 9 Nought is more noysom to flocke, cotage, ne folde, Than sodayne tempeste, and unprovyed colde. 1542-3 *Act* 34 & 35 *Hen. VIII*, c. 1 Suche bookes, writinges, ..teachinges, and instructions, as be pestiferous, and noysome. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* 516 That with the red flowers groweth in moyst medowes, and is very noysome to the same. 1609 HOLLAND *Amm. Marcell.* XXII. v. 193 No savage beasts are so noisom and hurtful to men, as Christians are to themselves. 1650 VENNER *Via Recta* 98 All fat is of itself ill and noysome to the stomack. 1693 EVELYN *De la Quint. Compl. Gard.* II. 4 Those Branches which, as noisom and useless, must be taken from it. 1718 PRIOR *Solomon* III. 125 The noisome pestilence .. marches through the midday air. 1784 COWPER *Task* III. 671 The rank society of weeds, Noisome, and ever greedy to exhaust Th' impoverish'd earth. 1845 HIRST *Poems* 50 Begirt with noisome ivy vines That shrond me like a pall. 1868 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* I. i. 50 Fair streams we saw, ..But nothing noisome for a man to fear.

2. Offensive to the sense of smell; ill-smelling.

1577 *Nottingham Rec.* IV. 169 We do present the yssue .. to be vere noysum and nedefull to be scoured. 1579 W. WILKINSON *Confut. Fam. Love* 60 b, The more myer is stirred, the sauour is the noysomer. 1600 DEKKER *Gentle Craft* 19 Sweepe me these kennels that the noysome Stench offende not the nose of my neighbours. 1642 ROGERS *Naaman* 28 Held under with his filthy noysome malady. 1678 R. L'ESTRANGE *Seneca's Mor.* (1702) 324 When we are abroad, ..we can bear well enough with .. nasty streets, noisom Ditches. 1712 ARBUTHNOT *John Bull* I. xvi, Such a noisome infectious Breath, as threw all the servants, that dressed her, into consumptions. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* I. v. 58 These operations were extremely necessary for correcting the noisom stench. 1785 BURKE *Sp. Nabob of Arcot's Debts* Wks. 1842 I. 345 A bloated, putrid, noisome carcass, full of stench and poison. 1818 MRS. SHELLEY *Frankenst.* xiii. (1865) 169 His blind and aged father .. lay in a noisome dungeon, while he enjoyed the free air. 1879

H. George *Progr. & Pov.* VII. ii. (1881) 318 In squalid garrets and noisome cellars women work away their lives.

3. Disagreeable, unpleasant, offensive.

c 1440 *York Myst.* xxxii. 99 Sir, a noysomemare note newly is noysed. 1542 *Lam. & Piteous Treat.* in *Harl. Misc.* (1745) IV. 511 The Waye is altogether in a Maner noysome, croked ouertwhart, and in many Places narowe. 1573 Tusser *Husb.* (1878) 89 Where plots full of nettles be noisome to eie, Sowe therevpon hemp seed, and nettle will die. 1589 R. Harvey *Pl. Perc.* (1860) 10 Me thinks the clacke of thy mill, is somewhat noisome to the whole countrey. 1607 Topsell *Hist. of Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 511 She roareth,..and uttereth such a fearfull, noysome, and terrible clamor. 1632 J. Hayward tr. *Biondi's Eromena* 131 Seeing melancholy makes a man noysome, both to himselfe and others. 1861 J. Tulloch *Eng. Puritanism* 231 He poured forth the vials of his most noisome wrath in reply. 1899 W. James *Talks to Teachers* (1904) 58 Even such a noisome thing as a collection of postage stamps.

†4. Annoying, troublesome. *Obs. rare.*

1548 Patten *Exped. Scotl.* Pj, The churche of Annan, a strong place, and nery noysum alway vnto oure men. 1570 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xiii. 116 Ane noysum nychtbour proude in oppressioun. 1653 Moae *Antid. Ath.* III. ix. (1712) 114 One that..was often infested with the noisom occursions of that troublesome Ghost.

Hence **Noi·somely** *adv. rare.*

1589 Rider *Bibl. Schol.*, Noisomely, *infeste, perniciose.* 1633 Bp. Hall *Occas. Medit.* § 86 Now that it is stuffed thus noysomely, all helpes are too little to countervaile that sent of corruption.

Noisomeness (noi·sŏmnės), *a.* [f. prec. + -NESS.] The quality or condition of being noisome; unwholesomeness, offensiveness.

1530 Palsgr. 248/1 Noysomnesse or yrkesomnesse, *ennuy.* 1561 Daus tr. *Bullinger on Apoc.* (1573) 299 b, In heauen is founde no noysomenes, no obscure darckenes. 1591 Savile *Tacitus, Hist.* III. xxxv. 135 The ground being infected with the noysomenesse of the dead carcases. 1617 Moryson *Itin.* III. 35 All the objects of humane life, are more often accompanied with noysomenesse then pleasure. 1698 Fryer *Acc. E. India & P.* 63 Poysoned partly by the noisomeness of the Air. 1836 Thirlwall *Greece* III. 457 Their unburied corpses still adding to the ever growing noisomeness of the crowded dungeon. 1864 C. Mayo *Vac. Tour.* 391 The drainage of Washington can only be known to exist by its extreme noisomeness.

Noisy (noi·zi), *a.* [f. Noise *sb.* + -Y 1.]

1. Making, or given to making, a loud noise; clamorous, turbulent.

1693 Dryden *Epist. to Sir G. Kneller* 83 A noisy crowd, Like women's anger, impotent and loud. 1700 Rowe *Amb. Step-Moth.* I. i, Stir the simple hinds to noisie Faction. *a* 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) III. 335 It is more noisy in its pursuits even than the dog. 1838 Thirlwall *Greece* IV. 139 The noisiest advocates of the most violent measures were probably its retainers. 1869 *Daily News* 22 Dec., That noisier section of the agitators.

2. Full of, characterized by, noise.

1693 Dryden *Juvenal* iii. (1697) 43 In quiet Cumæ fixing his Repose: Where, far from noisie Rome secure he lives. 1718 Rowe tr. *Lucan* I. 61 Where thousands crowded in the noisie street. 1751 Johnson *Rambler* No. 153 ¶ 4 With little envy of the noisy happiness which my elder brother had the fortune to enjoy. 1796 H. Hunter tr. *St.-Pierre's Stud. Nat.* (1799) II. 338 Aquatic birds have shrill and piercing cries..in perfect correspondence with their noisy situations. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* iii. I. 358 In Covent Garden a filthy and noisy market was held close to the dwellings of the great. 1877 M. Arnold *Sonn., Quiet Work,* Labour, that in lasting fruit outgrows Far noisier schemes.

Comb. 1798 B. Johnson *Orig. Poems* 187 Gay Mirth, and Laughter noisy-loud.

3. *transf.* Very loud in colour.

1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 9 Aug. 3/2 The effect from the reverse of the simple serge costume was not the least noisy.

Noit, obs. Sc. form of Note *sb.* and *v.*

Noither, variant of Nother *conj.*

Nok(e, obs. forms of Nock, Nook, and Oak.

†Noker-tree. *Obs. rare* —1. [ad. MDu. *nokerboom.*] A walnut-tree.

c 1481 Caxton *Dialogues* 34 Asshe, nokertree, olyvetree.

†No·kes. *Obs. rare* —0. (See quot.)

a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Nokes,* a Ninny or Fool.

Nokhoda: see Nakhoda.

†No kin, *a. Obs.* Forms: *α. north.* and *Sc.* 4 nan(e) kin, 4–6 na kin, kyn (4 kyne, 5 kine). *β.* 4 none kunne, 5 noone kynne; 4 noe kinne, noo kyn, 4–5 no kyn(e. [f. No *a.* and Kin *sb.* 6 b. Cf. next.]

1. No kind of, not any.

α. c 1300 *Cursor M.* 3753 And es þar nakin [*Fairf.* nankin] blessing left? *Ibid.* 14664 We thoru nakin [*Göt.* nane-kin] art Mai be made in sundre part. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* v. 362 He him sparit na kyn thing. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 4583 Is þer non Instrumentis of Iren in all þat Ile founden, Ne nakin metall. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* II. 149 His kyn mycht nocht him get for na kyn thing.

β. c 1386 Chaucer *Shipman's T.* 338 (Harl.), Nought for to borwe of him no kyn monay. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl. C.* XI. 250 For no kyne catel, ne no kyne byheste Suffren hus seed seeden with Caymes seed. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* xxxiv. 132 He also had a sone passyngly wyse..and no man myght be likenid to him in no kynne sciens. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* VIII. 901 To wait yow with na ill, Be no kyn meyn.

2. In the adverbial phrases (*on* or *in*) *no kin gate, way(s), wise.*

α. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 10761 Bot stint he ne moght nan-kinwai [*Göt.* na kin way). 13.. *Ibid.* 17951 (Gött.), He mai get it nakin wais. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* v. 268 He..saw he mycht, on nakyn wiss, Warray his fais. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xvi. (*Magdalene*) 852 He mycht nakine gat cum nere þe place. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* VII. 730 Fra thine to pass he suld on nakyn wys, Quhill he had tane Stirlyng, the castell strang. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 8 Thou sall not slay, in na kin wyse.

β. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 13881 þai denyet hym onone, o no kyn wise. *c* 1425 *Seven Sag.* (P.) 203 For in noone kynne wyse, The flore ne may nou3t aryse. *c* 1475 *Babees Bk.* 5 Vnto him that brouhte yt yee hit take.., for yt in no kyn wyse Auhte comvne be.

†No kins, *a. Obs.* Forms: *α.* 2–3 nanes, 3–4 nones, 4 nou s-, no s-. *β.* 3 nane, 4 nan, na. *γ.* 3–4 none, 4 non, 4–5 no, 5 noo. Also 2–3 cunnes (4 cunes), 3–4 kunnes, 4 kunus; 2 cinnes, kinnes, 4 kines, 4–5 kins; 3 kynnys, 3–5 kynnes, 4–5 kyns. [f. as prec. For the history of the forms see the note to Kin *sb.*1 6 b.]

1. No kind of, not any.

α. a 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 675 Ne ȝeold ne feording ne nanes cinnes ðeudom. *Ibid.* Ne biscop wite ne sinað ne nanes kinnes þing. *c* 1200 Ormin 274 Nan man, Ne naness kinness shaffte. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1912 Þet ne seh Katerine nanes cunnes pine þet ha oht dredde. *c* 1275 *Passion our Lord* 446 in *O. E. Misc.* 50 Hi nolden þer-of makie nones cunnes dol. *c* 1320 *Cast. Love* 855 þat nones kunnes assaylyng Ne may derue þe tour for no þing. *c* 1384 Chaucer *H. Fame* III. 1794 These ben that wolden honour Haue, and do no skynnes labour. *a* 1400 *St. Alexius* (Vernon) 412 With non scunes [*Laud MS.* nones kynnes] ginne..miȝte he hit not out winne.

β. c 1205 Lay. 25456 Þurh nane cunnes spelle ne cuðe heom na mon telle. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 5575 Na man mai, for nankins chance, For-do þat lauerds purueance. 13.. *Ibid.* 10408 (Gött.), May nakines nede be funden þare. 13.. *Seuyn Sag.* (W.) 2882 For nankins gode thou wald him gif.

γ. c 1275 Lay. 25456 Þorh none cunnes spelle. *a* 1300 *Havelok* 860 Neyþer hosen ne shon, Ne none kines oþer wede. 13.. *Cursor M.* 1226 (Gött.), [Caym] alsua..Luued vr lauerd non kines thing. *Ibid.* 4369 Of þe haue i no kines miht. *a* 1400 *Rowland & O.* 376 Late hym noghte skape for nonkyns thynge. *a* 1400 *Launfal* (Ritson) 363 That thou make no bost of me For no kennes mede. *c* 1475 *Babees Bk.* 7 The salte also touche nat in his salere Withe nokyns mete.

2. In phrases (*by, on, in*) *no kins ways* or *wise.*

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* C. 346 Nylt þou neuer to Nunive bi no-kynnez wayez? ? *a* 1370 *Robt. Cicyle* 54 For he wende, on no kyns wyse, That mygthtfulle God cowde devyse [etc.]. *c* 1450 Hardyng *Chron.* Pref. p. vi, 3our patent cowthe I haue in nokyns wyse. 1458 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) II. 226 That thei putte not away non of the said juelles..in noo kynswise.

Nol, obs. f. Noll *sb.*, Nill *v.* **Nold**(e, would not, see Nill *v.* **Nolder,** var. of Nother *adv.*

†No·lence, no·lency. *Obs. rare.* [ad. late L. *nōlentia,* f. *nōlo, nolle*: see -ence, -ency.] Unwillingness.

1652 N. Culverwel *Lt. Nature* I. xi. (1661) 98 It makes a willingness..where there was an absolute nolency..before. *Ibid.* II. iii. 49 Grace..takes away that Nolence and Reluctancy that is in the hearts of men.

‖ Nolens volens (nō·lĕnz vō·lĕnz). [L. *nōlens* unwilling, pres. pple. of *nōlo, nolle*; and *volens* willing, pres. pple. of *volo, velle.*] Willing or unwilling, whether willing or not, willy-nilly.

1593 Peele *Edw. I*, Wks. (Rldg.) 394/2 A little serves the friar's lust, When *nolens volens* fast I must. 1612 *Proc. Virginia* in *Capt. Smith's Wks.* (Arb.) 155 Had they not beene forced nolens volens perforce to gather and prepare their victuall. 1665 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* (1677) 124 He would profer them a little money for what he liked, which if they refused, then *nolens volens* he would have it. 1727 A. Hamilton *New Acc. E. Ind.* II. xxxiii. 17 But, nolens volens, Perrin must take them, and sign Bills of Loading. 1815 Scott *Guy M.* I, Well, *nolens volens,* you must hold your tongue. 1837 Hood *Ode to Rae Wilson* 455 Tugg'd him neck and crop Just *nolens volens* thro' the open shop. 1881 Nicholson *Sword to Share* xii. 80 (Stf.), Who placed me, nolens volens,..under the wing of an ample-skirted American matron.

No less, *adv.* and *a.* [No *adv.*2 + Less *a.*] Not less, as much, in various uses.

1. Used absolutely.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 6915 Fourti winter, an nales. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* xxvi. 102 The feyndis gaif thame hait leid to laip, Thair lovery wes na less. 1559 W. Cunningham *Cosmogr. Glasse* 139, I confesse no lesse. 1655 Fuller *Ch. Hist.* IX. 192 That fatall year generally foretold that it would be wonderfull, as it proved no less. 1798 Coleridge *Anc. Mar.* VI. xvii, The rock shone bright, the kirk no less. 1818 Shelley *Eugan. Hills* 302 The dun and bladed grass no less, Pointing from this hoary tower. 1847 Mas. Carlyle *Lett.* II. 10 John had bid me take two glasses (no less) of Madeira. 1871 R. Ellis tr. *Catullus* viii. 9 Now she resigns thee; child, do thou resign no less.

2. Constr. with *than*: **a.** In reference to number.

a 1121 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 897 Þy ilcan sumera forweard no læs þonne xx. scipa mid monnum.

1596 Shaks. *Tam. Shr.* II. i. 379 No lesse Then three great Argosies, besides two Galliasses. 1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* (1614) 321 The sacred servants, which were no lesse then sixe thousand. 1709 Steele *Tatler* No. 46 ¶ 12 No less than Ten People produced the following Poem. 1801 Mar. Edgeworth *Cast. Rackrent* (*c* 1880) 20 No less than three ladies in our county talked of for his second wife. 1841 Macaulay *Warren Hastings* Ess. (*c* 1853) III. 174 Matter for no less than twenty Articles of impeachment.

b. In reference to comparison or degree.

1561 Winȝet *Cert. Tractates* Wks. (S.T.S.) I. 8 Thay ar na les than the vtheris degenerat ignorantis. 1578 Timme *Calvin on Gen.* 87 She accounted him no less than a domesticall beast. 1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* (1614) 230 The Pilot directed their journey by the Compasse..no lesse then if it had beene at Sea. 1667 Milton *P. L.* VIII. 248 Pleas'd with thy words no less then thou with mine. 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 55 ¶ 4 The Aim of each of them was no less than Universal Monarchy. 1767 Fordyce *Serm. Yng. Wom.* I. Pref. 7 Dictated by friendship no less than by conviction. 1822 Shelley tr. *Calderon's Mag. Prodig.* I. 250, I am Held no less than yourselves to know the limits Of honour and of infamy. 1882 Farrar *Early Chr.* II. 236 In the Books of Esdras, Enoch and Baruch, no less than in St. John—there are for us some necessary difficulties.

3. Directly preceding the word qualified (usually with *than* following): **a.** With verbs.

1559 W. Cunningham *Cosmogr. Glasse* 11 Plato (whiche otherwyse is a graue Philosopher) did no lesse erre then the other, imagining [etc.]. 1611 Shaks. *Wint. T.* I. ii. 392 Clerke-like experienc'd, which no lesse adornes Our Gentry, then our Parents Noble Names. 1667 Milton *P. L.* II. 848 Death Grinnd horrible a gastly smile..No less rejoyc'd His mother bad.

b. With adjectives.

1542 Udall *Erasm. Apoph.* 200 b, Auouchyng hymself to bee no lesse beholdyng to the said Aristotle then to his father. 1585 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* I. xv, A history no lesse lamentable then full of dispayre. 1605 Shaks. *Macb.* III. i. 136 Whose absence is no lesse materiall to me, Then is his fathers. 1652 Milton *Sonn.* xvi. *To Cromwell,* Peace hath her victories No less renownd then warr. 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 128 ¶ 7 The same female Levity is no less fatal to them after Mariage than before. 1766 Goldsm. *Vic. W.* v, My little ones were no less busy. 1861 Pattison *Ess.* (1889) I. 47 The export trade of the Steelyard was no less extensive than its import. 1892 N. Smyth *Chr. Eth.* I. iii. 158 A moral order no less infrustrable, and as universal in its dominion.

c. With substantives.

1711 Steele *Spect.* No. 33 ¶ 1 The Father received his Intelligence with no less Joy than Surprize. 1874 Gladstone *Glean.* (1879) II. 235 He spoke no less a number of them than twenty-three. 1882 *Nature* XXVI. 147/2 The no less fertility of ingeniously-devised experiment.

‖ Noli me tangere (nō·lī mī tæ·ndʒĕrī). Also 6 **noly.** [L., 'touch me not', occurring in the Vulgate, *John* xx. 17: cf. sense 5.]

1. *Path.* An eroding ulceration attacking the face: in later use = Lupus.

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* VII. lix. (Bodl. MS.), Noli me tangere is a cankery posteme in þe face and frete þ..lasse þanne oþer. 1527 Andrew *Brunswyke's Distyll. Waters* B iij, The same water heleth that evyll soore named noly me tangere. 1577 Frampton *Joyful News* 42 b, An vlcer ..comming of a *Noli me tangere,* which began to take roote alredy at the gristles of the Nose. 1601 Holland *Pliny* II. 200 The very ill-fauoured Polype and Noli-me-tangere in the nosthrils, the juice of this root doth cure and heale wonderfully. 1661 Lovell *Hist. Anim. & Min.* 257 The dried skinne..helps the paine of a hot cause; and any impostume or *noli me tangere.* 1674 Josselyn *Voy. New Eng.* 184 Head-aches are frequent, Palsies, Dropsies, Worms, Noli-me-tangeres. 1707 *Curios. in Husb. & Gard.* 144 A Spoonful of it..cures the *Noli me tangere,* all Shankers. 1762 R. Guy *Pract. Obs. Cancers* 114 Lydia Goldsbury came with an obstinate *Noli me tangere* on the Nose. 1834 *Cycl. Pract. Med.* III. 169/1 The terms lupus and noli me tangere are synonymous in British medicine, and have always signified the same thing since they have been used in any definite sense.

fig. 1650 B. *Discolliminium* 6 Some of his arguments are mortally sick of the *Polypus* or *Noli me tangere*; I shall not meddle with them. 1771 Smollett *Humph. Cl.* 6 May ii, She's a *noli me tangere* in my flesh, which I cannot bear to be touched or tampered with.

2. *Bot.* A species of balsam, growing in the North of England, so called from the peculiarly forcible expulsion of its ripe seeds, which occurs when it is touched. Now only as part of the full botanical name, *Impatiens Noli (me) tangere.*

1563 T. Gale *Antidot.* 35 b, And also, Noli me tangere all diseases brede of fleame and colde humours it healeth them. 1578 Lyte *Dodoens* I. 76 There is yet an other herbe founde called *Noli me tangere,* the whiche also is reduced and brought vnder the kindes of Mercury. 1704 *Collect. Voy. & Trav.* III. 824/2 There grows another Tree in Ceylon like our *Noli me tangere.* 1741 *Compl. Fam.-Piece* II. iii. 362 You may now sow, in Natural Ground, the wild spirting Cucumber, and the Noli me tangere.

3. A person or thing that must not be touched or interfered with.

a 1635 Naunton *Fragm. Reg.* (Arb.) 18 He was wont to say of them, that they were of the Tribe of Dan, and were *noli me tangere's*; implying, that they were not to be contested with. 1654 Whitlock *Zootomia* 166 Sure Learning was no such *Noli me tangere,* in the Apostles account. 1692 T. Watson *Body of Div.* (1858) 460 Herod could not brook to have his incest meddled with—that was a *noli me tangere.* 1782 Burney *Hist. Mus.* II. 15 [They] rather chuse to impoverish the melody, by making a fourth of the Key a *noli me tangere,* than admit this innovation. 1828 Lytton *Pelham* iii, Mr. Wormwood, the *noli-me-tangere* of literary lions—an author who sowed his conversation.. with..thorns.

4. A warning or prohibition against meddling or interference, etc.

1634 W. Wood *New Eng. Prosp.* (1865) 24 The Porcopine ..stands upon his guard and proclaimes a *Noli me tangere,* to man and beast. 1641 Maisterton *Serm.* 18 The forbidden fruit, upon which God hath set a *Noli me tangere.* 1792 Charlotte Smith *Desmond* II. 129 Every attempt at redress is silenced by the *noli-me-tangere,* which our constitution has been made to say. 1806 J. Beresford *Miseries Hum. Life* X. xxi. (ed. 5) I. 219 Every dish, as it is brought in, carrying a 'noli me tangere' on the face of it. 1817 Byron *Let.* 15 Nov. in Moore *Lett. & Jrnls.* (1875) 605, I used to think that *I* was a good deal of an author in *amour propre* and *noli me tangere.*

5. A painting representing the appearance of Christ to the Magdalen at the sepulchre.

1680 Evelyn *Diary* 2 Sept., The *Noli me tangere of our blessed Saviour to Mary Magdalen after his Resurrection,*

of Hans Holbein. 1722 RICHARDSON *Statues Italy* 173 *Noli me tangere*..is a Magnificent Picture. 1800 DALLAWAY *Anecd. Arts Eng.* 481 The 'noli me tangere' at All Souls College was painted by Raffaelle. 1859 HAWTHORNE *Marb. Faun* xxxvii, Half of the other pictures are Magdalens,.. Noli-me-tangeres.

6. *attrib.*, as *noli me tangere face, manner*, etc.

1822 DE QUINCEY *Confess.* 28 A sort of *noli me tangere* manner, nervously apprehensive of too familiar approach. 1842 C. WHITEHEAD *R. Savage* (1845) II. iv. 221 A sort of noli me tangere sensitiveness. 1877 READE *Wom. Hater* x, A trick of putting on *noli me tangere* faces among strangers.

Hence **Noli-me-tangereta·rian**, *nonce-word.*

1846 LANDOR *Exam. Shaks.* Wks. 1853 II. 294/1 If a dean is not on his stilts,..he stands on his own ground: he is a noli-me-tangeretarian.

†**Noli·tion.** *Obs.* [f. L. *nōlo, nolle*, to be unwilling: cf. VOLITION.] Unwillingness; absence of willing.

1653 J. TAYLOR *Serm. for Year* I. v. 65 So long as the prayer is fervent, so long the man hath a nolition, and a direct enmity against the lust. 1678 GALE *Crt. Gent.* IV. III. 18 Molina..tells us that these signs of the Divine wil signifie properly and formally some nolition or volition in God. 1683 J. CORBET *Free Actions* I. vi. 5 Between Volition and Nolition there is a middle thing, viz. Non-volition.

Noll (nōul). Now *dial.* Forms: *α.* 1 hnoll, 4–6 nolle, 4–9 noll, 4, 6–7 nol, 6 nole. *β.* 6 noule, 6–7, 9 nowle, 9 *dial.* nowl, noul. [OE. *hnoll* = MDu. *nolle*, OHG. *hnol* (MHG. *nol*) top, summit, crown of the head.]

1. The top or crown of the head; the head generally; the noddle.

In later use freq. with the epithet *drunken.*

α. *c* 825 *Vesp. Ps.* vii. 17 In hnolle his unrehtwisnis his astigeð. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* II. 452 Se deofol..sloh Iob mid þære wyrstan wunde, fram his hnolle..oð his ilas. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 92 Mowe þou not be helid fro þe sole of þe foot unto þe nolle. *c* 1400 *Turnament of Tottenham* 60 Thay set on ther nollys For to kepe ther pollys, Gode blake bollys. *a* 1529 SKELTON *Col. Cloute* 1244 That no man shulde se Nor rede in any scrolles Of theyr dronken nolles. 1559 *Mirr. Mag.* (1563) M iv, The bastard law broode, which can mollyfie All kynd of causes in theyr crafty nolles. 1577 HARRISON *England* II. vi. (1877) I. 161 He carrieth off a drie dronken noll to bed with him. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* XXXIII. xlviii. 851 When..they awoke and roused themselues, with their drunken and drousie nols. 1626 BRETON *Fantasticks* Wks. (Grosart) II. 14/2 The nappy Ale makes many a drunken Noll.

β. 1567 DRANT *Horace, Ep.* B ij, All the pothigaries stuffe can scarcely purge his nowle. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* VII. vii. 39 Then came October full of merry glee; For yet his noule was totty of the must. 1653 MIDDLETON & ROWLEY *Sp. Gipsy* III. i, Peter-see-me shall wash thy noul And malaga glasses fox thee. *a* 1657 TRAPP *Comm. Ps.* VII. vi, Priests with their drunken Nowls said Mattens. 1823– in dial. glossaries (Suff., Worc., Som., Cornw.).

† b. *transf.* A (dull, drunken, etc.) person. *Obs.*

1399 LANGL. *Rich. Redeles* I. 20 Though þis be derklich endited ffor a dull nolle, Miche nede is it not to mwse þer-on. 1566 DRANT *Horace, Sat.* I. III, B iv b, We call him goose, and disarde doulte, and fowlye fatted nowle. 1598 BARRET *Theor. Warres* I. ii. 9 Drunken nowls are apt..in their drunken pangs to haue their throates cut. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* IX. XXX. 335 Neither perceived they ought, senselesse drunckenn nols they.

† 2. The nape of the neck; the back of the head.

1382 WYCLIF *Acts* XV. 10 What tempten ȝe God, for to putte a ȝok on the nol, or necke, of disciplis? 1398 TREVISA *Barth.* V. XXV. (Bodl. MS.), If þe heed be temperatlich greete, and þe nolle of þe nekke somedele greet. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 807 Þe noll of Nicollas þe kyng he fra þe nebb partis. *c* 1550 LLOYD *Treas. Health* H 4 Aplye it to the nape of ye necke beneth the nol. 1598 HAYDOCKE tr. *Lomazzo* I. 30 The hinder parte vnder the crowne, some do call..the nape or nolle. 1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* 21 The veynes of the forehead, the nowle or backe part of the head. *c* 1720 W. GIBSON *Farrier's Guide* I. iv. (1738) 35 It is..about two inches within the Head before it passes out at the Noll.

† 3. *transf.* The extreme point. *Obs. rare* —1.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) II. 9 For þis lond lieþ vnder þe norþ nolle [L. *vertex*] of þe world.

4. *Comb.*, as † **Noll-bone**, the occiput. *Obs.*

1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* 581 The knub of the nowle-bone inarticulated or ioyned to the first rack-bone of the necke. 1683 SNAPE *Anat. Horse* IV. xiii. (1686) 167 The Muscles ascend upward as far as to the Occiput or Noll-bone. *c* 1720 GIBSON *Farrier's Guide* (1722) 62 All which [nerves] uniting together are inserted into the Noll-bone.

Hence † **Nolled** *a.*, having a noll (or peak) of a certain kind. *Obs. rare.*

1388 WYCLIF *Ecclus.* xvi. 11 If oon hadde be hard nollid, wondur if he hadde be giltles. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVIII. lxxviii. (Bodl. MS.), Onocentaurus..is a beste.. stronge nekked and nolled as a boole. 1602 MARSTON *2nd Pt. Ant. & Mel.* IV. i, A mount of mischief..As weighty as the high-noll'd Apennine.

† **Noll,** obs. variant of KNOLL *v.*

1620 T. GRANGER *Div. Logike* 170 Noll, or to noll a bell.

Nollah-nollah, variant of NULLAH NULLAH.

Nolle, *v. U. S.* Abbrev. of NOLLE PROS(S).

1896 *Watertown Republican* 18 Nov., The criminal libel suit pending against W. T. Rambusch was nolled.

‖ **Nolle prosequi** (nɒ·lĭ prɒ·sĕkwī). *Law.* Also 7–8 noli, 9 nolo. [L., 'to be unwilling to pursue'.] An entry made upon the record of a court, when the plaintiff or prosecutor abandons part, or all, of his suit or prosecution against a defendant or defendants.

1681 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) I. 70 A privy seal, commanding Mr. atturney generall to enter a nolle prosequi to the said indictment. 1700 CONGREVE *Way of World* IV. viii, My lady came in like a *noli prosequi*, and stopped the proceedings. 1712 ARBUTHNOT *John Bull* I. xi, [Fees for] Entries, Declarations, Replications, Recordats, *Nolle Prosequis*. 1809 JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1830) I. 130 Mr. Huntington..had determined to enter *nolle-prosequis*. 1811 *Hist.* in *Ann. Reg.* 28/2 The case of a *nolo prosequi* having been granted on a prosecution for libel. 1842 BRANDE *Dict. Sci.*, etc. s.v., On the defendant's demurring to one count in a declaration, the plaintiff may enter a nolle prosequi as to that count. 1884 *Encycl. Brit.* XVII. 532/2 In proceedings either by indictment or by information, a *nolle prosequi* or stay of proceedings may be entered by the attorney-general.

Hence **Nolle-pros(s)**, *v. trans.*, to abandon (a suit or indictment) by a 'nolle prosequi'. *U. S.*

1883 *N. York Even. Post* 13 May, All of the indictments were nolle-prossed late last evening.

Noll-kholl. *rare.* Also nol-kole, knolkhol. [ad. Du. *knolkool* or G. *knollenkohl*: see KNOLL *sb.*[1] 4 and note.] The turnip-cabbage; kohl-rabi.

1812 SIR J. SINCLAIR *Syst. Husb. Scot.* 261 A new plant of the turnip sort has been lately introduced into Scotland, called noll-kholl. 1886 YULE & BURNELL *Hobson-Jobson* 830/2 *Nol-kole*..is the usual Anglo-Indian name of a vegetable a good deal grown in India.

† **Nolp,** *sb. Obs. rare.* [Of obscure origin: see next.] A blow or stroke.

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 6753 Was non so bold..Forto..negh hym with noy, for nolpis of his hond. *Ibid.* 14037 Eneas also auntrid to sle..Neron the noble with a nolpe alse.

† **Nolp,** *v. Obs. rare.* [Of obscure origin.

Both sb. and vb. correspond in meaning to mod. north. dial. *nawp, nonp, nope*, but the variation of vowel in these forms normally indicates a Scand. **naup* sb., **naupa* v., which in the *Destr. Troy* would appear as **nawpe*.]

a. *trans.* To strike down. b. *intr.* To give a blow *to*, to keep *on* giving blows.

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1257 Castor the king conceyuit..That Nestor with noy was nolpit to ground. *Ibid.* 7475 Neptolemus, the noble, nolpit to Archilagon. *Ibid.* 13889 He nolpit on with his Neue in the necke hole.

Nolt (nōult, nɒlt). *Sc.* Also 6 noult. [Originally only a graphic variant of NOWT, by false analogy with *bowt* BOLT, *cowt* COLT, etc., but latterly accepted as a distinct word.]

1. Neat, cattle; oxen or cows.

c 1470 HENRY *Wallace* X. 551 Off nolt and scheip thai tuk at sufficiens. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* XXII. 73 Twa curis or thre hes vpolandis Michell,..Thocht he fra nolt had new tane leif. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* III. 218 Baith scheip and nolt, gait and all vther gair. *a* 1585 POLWART *Flyting w. Montgomerie* 182 On ruites and runches in the fielde, With nolt thou nurishde was a ȝeir. 1609 SKENE *Reg. Maj.* 155 Na maner of gudes, horse, meiris, nolt, sheip, or vther cattell. *a* 1670 SPALDING *Troub. Chas. I* (Bann. Club) 25 Ther came doun certain hielanders .. and took away threescore nolt. 1716 *Wodrow Corr.* (1843) II. 135 Nor did they spare the very nolt that were for plowing the ground. 1822 W. J. NAPIER *Pract. Store-farming* 254 Turning out a parcel of half-starved nolt upon the hill. 1865 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* V. XIII. v. 67 Who dares me..insult, Him will I serve like this fat head of nolt. 1895 CROCKETT *Men of Moss-Hags* 356 A good stock both of nolt and sheep.

2. *attrib.*, as *nolt-beast, -byre, -fold, -fool*, etc.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* XI. xv. 100 Quhen that he hes.. weryit the nolt herd on the plane. ?*a* 1550 *Freiris Berwik* 260 in *Dunbar's Poems* (1893) 294 Ane sowsit nolt fute, and scheipheid. 1581 BURNE *Disput.* in *Cath. Tract.* (S.T.S.) 138 Ve vill that thair be na difference betuix your kirkis, and als monie noult faldis. 1595 DUNCAN *App. Etym.* (E. D. S.) 67 *Bubile*, a nolte byer: *boum stabulum.* 1681 *Min. Baron Crt. Stitchill* (1905) 89 Taking out of some nolt beasts out of..his stabls. 1739 A. NICOL *Nature without Art* 85 That Station now had been much better Than Nolt-herd or a Shepherd either. *c* 1817 HOGG *Tales & Sk.* VI. 194 [That loading] was of nolt-hides; that is, of cow-hides, oxen-hides, bull-hides and all sorts of hides.

Nolt, wilt not: see NILL *v.*

Nolt(e, know not: see NOT *v.*

‖ **Nom** (nɒ̃). [F. *nom* a name.] Used in expressions denoting a pseudonym, a false or assumed name; esp.

a. *Nom de guerre* (nɒ̃ də gĕr), lit. 'war-name', a name assumed by, or assigned to, a person engaged in some action or enterprise.

1679 DRYDEN *Limberham* I. i, Mr. Woodall, you Rogue! that 's my *nom de guerre*. You know I have laid by Aldo. 1709 MRS. MANLEY *Secret Mem.* (1720) IV. 318 When they went upon private Adventures, to prevent Discovery, each had her *Nome de Guerre*. 1750 GRAY *Long Story* 35 Melissa is her *Nom-de-Guerre*. 1829 W. IRVING in *Life & Lett.* (1864) II. 369, I have adopted a *nom de guerre*, as allowing me a freer scope. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* July 236/2 Fox.. being designated Reynardo, and other..characters introduced by..*noms de guerre*.

b. *Nom de plume* (nɒ̃ də plūm), lit. 'pen-name', a name assumed by a writer.

1823 DE QUINCEY *The Incognito* Wks. 1859 XI. 1 A living author.., not known at all under that name, but under the *nom-de-plume* of Friederich Laun. 1876 TREVELYAN *Macaulay* (1883) II. 293 *note*, Sylvanus Urban was the *nom de plume* adopted by the editor of the Gentleman's Magazine. 1886 RUSKIN *Præterita* I. 413 The nom-de-plume I chose, 'According to Nature'.

‖ **Noma** (nōu·mă). *Path.* [L. *noma* (*nomē*), a. Gr. *νομή*, f. *νομ-, νέμειν* to feed.] A gangrenous ulceration of the throat, occurring mainly in young children.

1834 CARSWELL in *Cycl. Pract. Med.* III. 138/2 There is one other form of sphacelus from general debility..which has received the names of *noma; cheilocace* [etc.]. 1861 *N. Syd. Soc. Year-bk. for* 1860, 224 Dissertation on Noma. 1876 BRISTOWE *Th. & Pract. Med.* (1878) 632 More pain and discomfort than are usually associated with noma.

Nomad (nɒ·măd, nōu·măd), *sb.* and *a.* [ad. L. *Nomad-, Nomas*, a. Gr. *νομαδ-, νομάς*, f. *νομ-, νέμειν* to pasture. Cf. NOMADES.]

1. A person belonging to a race or tribe which moves from place to place to find pasture; hence, one who lives a roaming or wandering life.

1587 GOLDING *De Mornay* viii. (1592) 99 The life of the people called the Nomads or Grazyers. *c* 1618 MORYSON *Itin.* IV. II. v. 198 The people build no houses but like Nomads living in Cabins remoue from one place to an other. 1843 CARLYLE *Past & Pr.* II. (1858) 286 Wise men pestered with nomads. 1856 KANE *Arct. Expl.* I. xxviii. 372 We are absolutely nomads, so far as there can be any.. pastoral life in this region. 1873 HAMERTON *Intell. Life* XII. i. 430 The civilized English nomad is usually..a person of independent means.

2. *attrib.* or *adj.* a. Living as a nomad; leading a roaming or wandering life; nomadic.

1798 *Brit. Critic* Feb. 223 These last and most authentic observations on this Nomad tribe. 1853 NEWMAN *Hist. Sk.* (1873) II. I. ii. 54 This horde of Turks, the Chozars, was nomad and pagan. 1862 JOHNS *Brit. Birds* (1874) 235 The breeding season over, they become nomad in their habits.

b. Belonging to, characteristic of, nomads.

1835 LYTTON *Rienzi* IX. vi, As of old, from the Nomad tents was built up the stately Babylon. 1850 W. IRVING *Mahomet* II. 476 They readily amalgamated with the Arabs, having the same nomad habits. 1873 FARRAR *Fam. Speech* iv. 117 In every stage of nomad unprogressiveness.

c. *Comb.*, as *nomad-pastoral.*

1880 *Fortn. Rev.* Feb. 303 The nomad-pastoral age.

Nomade (nɒ·mēd, nōu·mēd), *sb.* and *a.* [var. of prec.; in later use prob. after F. *nomade.*]

† 1. A nomadic band. *Obs. rare* —[1].

c 1630 G. SANDYS *Ps.* lxxxiii. (1636) 136 Idumæans, who in Nomades stray, And shaggy Ismaelites, that live by prey.

2. = NOMAD 1.

1775 JOHNSON *West. Isl.* Wks. X. 357 He differed from some of the ancient nomades. 1798 W. TAYLOR in *Monthly Mag.* VI. 554 The future ruler of men now the hireling of a nomade. 1835 W. IRVING *Tour Prairies* i, The Pawnees, the Comanches, and other fierce..tribes, the nomades of the prairies. 1837 SIR F. PALGRAVE *Merch. & Friar* i. (1844) 21 The Arab yielded to a fiercer nomade. 1880 L. OLIPHANT *Land of Gilead* ii. 26 A long caravan of mules laden with tents and haggage, to tempt the needy nomade.

3. *attrib.* or *adj.* a. = NOMAD 2 a.

1817 G. S. FABER *Eight Diss.* (1845) II. 237 A warlike nomade horde of herdsmen and shepherds. 1851 D. WILSON *Preh. Ann.* I. II. i. (1863) 300 The wanderings of his nomade fathers. 1872 HARDWICK *Trad. Lanc.* 209 This outcast nomade race which wandered from forest to forest.

b. = NOMAD 2 b.

1819 G. S. FABER *Dispens.* (1823) I. 108 Cain..being doomed to a nomade state of life. 1862 MERIVALE *Rom. Emp.* lxv. (1865) VIII. 160 To close the sources of the perennial stream of nomade savagery. 1865 W. G. PALGRAVE *Arabia* I. 31 The advantages of nomade license and the insolent lawlessness of the Arab.

Nomades (nɒ·mădīz), *sb. pl.* Now *rare.* [a. L. *Nomadēs*, ad. Gr. *Νομάδες*, pl. of *νομάς*: see NOMAD.] a. The nomad tribes or peoples mentioned by ancient writers. b. Such tribes as move about from place to place.

In later use it is somewhat uncertain whether this form, or the pl. of prec., is intended.

1555 W. WATREMAN *Fardle Facions* G viij, The Arabiens named Nomades occupie much Chamelles, bothe in warre, and burden. 1578 BANISTER *Hist. Man* Pref. 11 The Scythians, named Nomades, are very corpulent, and fleshy. 1592 MORYSON *Let.* in *Itin.* (1617) I. 25 Methinks I am one of the Nomades, every day changing my dwelling. 1609 HOLLAND *Amm. Marcell.* 402 They keepe a grent way asunder, and wander like unto the Nomades. 1649 G. DANIEL *Trinarch., Rich. II*, CCXCIX, Like the Race Of Nomades, wee shift from place to place. 1662 J. DAVIES tr. *Olearius' Voy.* 67 Though the Samojedes have indeed no Cities, yet are they not Nomades. 1728 MORGAN *Algiers* I. i. 10 The Sabæan Arabs, like all other Nomades or Scenites,..ranging about with Tents, Families and Droves. 1764 HARMER *Observ.* xvi. § 16. 422 The ancient Nomades, or the present Arabs.

Noma·dian. *rare* —[0]. [f. NOMAD + -IAN.] A nomad. (Worcester, 1860, citing *N. Brit. Rev.*)

Nomadic (nɒmæ·dik), *a.* [ad. Gk. *νομαδικός*, f. *νομαδ-* NOMAD: see -IC.]

1. Characterized by, or leading, a wandering life.

1818 TODD, *Nomadick*,..having no fixed abode [etc.]. 1850 W. IRVING *Mahomet* II. 476 Persians and Copts, and nomadic Africans. 1859 MARCY *Prairie Trav.* vi. 218 The mode of life of the nomadic tribes. 1882 PITMAN *Mission Life Gr. & Palest.* 298 A large..nomadic population.

transf. 1864 LOWELL *Fireside Trav.* 97 The American is nomadic in religion, in ideas, in morals. 1869 LANDRETH *Adam Thomson* I. 64 Seceders were far from being 'nomadic' hearers.

b. Of birds or beasts.

1876 E. WHITE *Life in Christ* I. v. 45 Vast battalions of nomadic birds. 1877 J. A. ALLEN *Amer. Bison* 465 The buffalo is quite nomadic in its habits.

2. Peculiar to, distinctive of, a wandering people or manner of life.

1825 COLERIDGE in *Lit. Rem.* (1836) II. 326 Their brethren, .. who still sojourned in the nomadic state. 1835 SIR J. ROSS *Narr. 2nd Voy.* xl. 530 Our march had a very nomadic .. appearance. 1856 STANLEY *Sinai & Pal.* 125 The patriarchs could here gradually exchange the nomadic life for the pastoral. 1872 BAKER *Nile Trib.* vi, In their nomadic habits they retain the..formalities of the distant past.

3. *Path.* (See quot.)

1842 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex.* s.v. *Nomad*, The word Nomadic has been applied to spreading ulcer.

So **Noma·dical** *a.*; **Noma·dically** *adv.*

1799 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 421 A numerous nomadical nation, who derived their subsistance from their flocks of sheep. 1862 R. H. PATTERSON *Ess. Hist. & Art* 124 When Europe was thinly and nomadically peopled, and tribes migrated in mass.

Nomadism (nǫ·mădiz'm). [f. NOMAD.] The practice, fact, or state of living a wandering life.

1841 EMERSON *Ess., History*, In the early history of Asia and Africa, Nomadism and Agriculture are the two antagonist facts. 1854 LATHAM *Native Races Russ. Emp.* 74 As the former displaces the latter, agriculture encroaches on nomadism. 1872 C. KING *Sierra Nevada* xi. 242, I have felt all the pathos of nomadism, from the Aryan migration down.

transf. 1841 EMERSON *Ess., History*, This intellectual nomadism, in its excess, bankrupts the mind.

Nomadization (nǫmădəizē·ʃən). *rare.* [f. as next + -ATION.] The establishment of nomadic conditions; the abolition of a settled mode of life.

1897 W. M. RAMSAY in *Contemp. Rev.* Aug. 235 The Turks triumphed by bringing about the nomadisation of Asia Minor.

Nomadize (nǫ·mădəiz), *v.* [f. NOMAD + -IZE.] *intr.* To live, or roam about, as nomads.

1799 W. TOOKE *View Russian Emp.* II. 100 The Tunguses ..nomadize about the coasts of the Eastern-ocean. 1842 PRICHARD *Nat. Hist. Man* 203 They have occupied .. or rather nomadised over contiguous regions from immemorial times. 1873 BURNABY *Ride Khiva* xvi. 150 The tribes which nomadised on the Sam.

No man. Forms: *α.* 1 nán man (2 nan-, namman), 2 non man (1–3 mon), 4–5 none man. *β.* 2 namon, 2–4 na mon; 4–5 naman (5 *Sc.* -mane), 4, 6 *Sc.* na man, 8–9 *Sc.* nae man. *γ.* 3–5 nomon, no mon; 3–6 noman (5 -manne), 3– no man. [f. *none*, NO *a.* + MAN *sb.* In early use both words have their ordinary inflections.]

1. No one, nobody.

α. c 888 K. ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xl. § 1 Hie næfre to nanum men ne becumaþ. *Ibid.* xiii, Hi nan mon fullice habban ne mæg, ne hie nanne mon gewelegian ne maȝon. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 43 Ne for feo, ne for nanes mannes lufon. *a* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Luke x. 22 Nan man [*Hatton* namman] nat hwylc is se sunu buton se fæder. *a* 1067 in Kemble *Cod. Dipl.* IV. 228 Ic nelle nanum men geðafian ðæt him æniȝ ðara þinga ofnime ðe ic him geunnen hæbbe. *a* 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 217 ȝif non man ne þoht of Gode, non ne spece of him. *c* 1200 ORMIN 16164 Swa þatt nan mann ne þurrfte off himm, Ne nimenn gom, ne rekkenn. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 68 Ut of chirche þurle ne holde ȝe none tale mid none monne. *c* 1315 SHOREHAM III. 103 Coueyte none mannes wyf. 1482 *Monk of Evesham* (Arb.) 15 That none man shuld dowte or mystrnste of anothir life and world.

β. a 1200 *Moral Ode* 22 in *O. E. Hom.* I. 161 Ne lipnie na mon to muchel to childe ne to wiue. *c* 1205 LAY. 7000 Ne cuðe na mon swa muchel of song. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 12381 Forth in pes he bad þam ga, To noi naman ne naman þaim. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxxviii. (*Adrian*) 204 Tel me..quhy þu fled, seand na payne, na namane fichtand þe agane. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 248/2 Naman; *nemo, nullus.* 1508 DUNBAR *Flyting* 129 Commirwald crawdoun, na man comptis the ane kerse. 1567 *Satir. Poems Reform.* iii. 20 Vnto na man was he odious. 1728 RAMSAY *Monk & Miller's Wife* 66 I'll unbar my door to nae man. 1791 BURNS *Tam o' Shanter* 67 Nae man can tether time or tide. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* v, There was nae man pinned down to sic a slavish wark as a saddler's.

γ. c 1200 *Moral Ode* 119 (Trin. Coll. MS.), Drihte ne demeð noman after his biginninge. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1539 Nis nomon þat ne may ibrynge his wif amys myd suche þinge. *c* 1275 LAY. 13259 Nas þar neuere no man þat don þar mihte cristendom. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Serm.* Sel. Wks. I. 4 Þere nys no man but ȝif he longe sum weie after blise. 1426 LYDG. in *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 135 Ageins which noman may maligne. *c* 1475 *Childr. Lytil Bk.* in *Babees Bk.* (1868) 20 At the tabylle..Loke þou rownde not in nomannys ere. 1535 COVERDALE *Acts* i. 20 The habitacion be voyde & noman be dwellinge therein. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 60 b, No man ought to be judge in his owne cause. 1606 G. W[OODCOCK] *Hist. Iustine* xxiii. 85 The country became so dangerous, that no man durst hardly stir abroad. 1642 EATON *Honey-c. Free Justif.* 249 No man almost receiveth his testimonie. 1781 COWPER *Convers.* 62 Well known, or such as no man ever knew. 1854 TENNYSON *Enoch Arden* 851 His head is low, and no man cares for him.

2. *No man's land*: **a.** A piece of waste, or unowned, land; in early use as the name of a plot of grounnd, lying outside the north wall of London, and used as a place of execution.

1320 *Ann. Paul.* in *Chron. Edw. I & II* (Rolls) I. 291 Quædam domina nomine Juliana .. fuit combusta apud Nonesmanneslond extra Londonius. 1326 *Ibid.* 321 Quidam Arnoldus..a communitate ductus fuit..extra civitatem apud Nonesmanneslonde, et ibi decapitatus fuit.

1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* II. (Globe) 563 This was a kind of Border, that might be called no Man's Land. 1881 T. HUGHES *Rugby, Tennessee* 50 A small lot of noman's land in the woods. 1890 DILKE *Prob. Gt. Brit.* I. 517 The country is not a no-man's land.

fig. 1892 *Month* July 445 The objectionable no-man's-land of Haeckel is likely..to remain for some time.

b. *Naut.* (See quot.)

1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1780), *No Man's Land*, a space between the after-part of the belfrey and the fore-part of a ship's boat, when the said boat is stowed upon the booms. ..The space called No man's land is used to contain any blocks, ropes, tackles, &c. which may be necessary on the forecastle.

Nomancy. *rare.* [ad. F. *nomancie*, aphetic f. *onomancie*.] = ONOMANCY.

1727–38 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* [app. from the *Dict. de Trévoux*]. 1866 REDDING *Past Celebr.* II. 160 Have you studied astrology, Nomency,..and the long list of et ceteras once considered as attaching to the study of medicine?

Nomarch (nǫ·mark). Also 7 -ar(c)k. [ad. Gr. *νομάρχης* or *νόμαρχος*, f. *νομός* NOME *sb.*2 + *ἄρχειν* to rule: cf. *monarch*, etc.]

†**1.** A local ruler or governor. *Obs. rare* —⁰.

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Nomark*, he that hath the preheminence in the ministration of Laws, as a Major or other like Officer. 1678 PHILLIPS, *Nomarch*, the chief Administrator of the Laws in any particular City or Province.

2. The governor of an ancient Egyptian nome.

1846 GROTE *Greece* I. XX. (1862) II. 490 The Nomarch or chief of each Nome. 1875 BIRCH *Rede Lect.* (1876) 34 The nomarchs divided the country amongst themselves, like feudal barons. 1895 SAYCE *Egypt of Hebrews* 137 Before leaving Egypt Alexander appointed the nomarchs who were to govern it.

3. The governor of a modern Greek nomarchy.

1880 *Encycl. Brit.* XI. 85/2 The nomarchs are assisted in the administration of the province by a council. 1884 *Macm. Mag.* Oct. 431/2 The nomarch of the Cyclades, who superintends the course of justice in the eight Eparchies into which the islands are divided.

Nomarchy[1] (nǫ·marki). [ad. Gr. *νομαρχία*: see prec. and cf. *monarchy*.]

†**1.** (See quot.) *Obs. rare* —⁰.

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Nomarchie*, a jurisdiction or Majoralty, a Law, a County or Shire, a Territory about some City.

2. One of the provinces into which modern Greece is divided.

1863 *Chambers's Cycl.* V. 81 By the arrangements of 1852, modern Greece is divided into ten provinces or nomarchies. 1880 *Encycl. Brit.* XI. 85/2 For purposes of local government Greece is divided into 13 nomarchies, under officers called nomarchs.

No·marchy[2]. *nonce-wd.* [f. Gr. *νόμος* law.] The legal class in a state.

a 1843 SOUTHEY *Doctor* ccxli. (1848) 661 The chiefs of the Hierarchy, the Iatrarchy, the Nomarchy and the Hoplarchy,..were, like our Bishops, Peers of the realm by virtue of their station.

Nomber, -bre, obs. ff. NUMBER. **Nomble,** obs. f. NUMBLE. **Nombrary,** var. of NUMBRARY.

‖ **No·mbril.** *Her.* [F. *nombril* the navel.] That point on an escutcheon which lies midway between the true centre (or Fesse Point) and the Base Point. Sometimes vaguely alluded to as the centre of the escutcheon. Also *attrib.*

1562 LEGH *Armory* (1597) 25 The letter H. is termed the Fesse point. The letter I. is called the Nombril. For it is euen opposite to the nauel. 1610 GUILLIM *Heraldry* I. vii. 30 The Nombrill is next vnderneath the Fesse Point, answering in a like distance from the Fesse Point. 1661 MORGAN *Sph. Gentry* III. vi. 57 All meeting or centring about a round plate of the same in the Nombril of the Shield. 1727 BAILEY (vol. II.) s.v., The first of those [parts] is the *Nombril*, and the lowest the *Base*. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) VIII. 441/2, E the fess point. F the nombril point. 1868 CUSSANS *Her.* ii. 44 In English Heraldry, mention is seldom made of the Honour and Nombril points.

Nombry, obs. f. NUMBER *v.* **Nombur, -byr,** obs. ff. NUMBER *sb.* **Nome,** obs. f. NAME *sb.* and *v.*, NUMB *a.*; obs. pa. t. and pa. pple. of NIM *v.*

†**Nome,** *sb.*[1] *Obs. rare.* [Related to NIM *v.*] **a.** The act of seizing. **b.** A captive, a prisoner.

c 1220 *Bestiary* 800 In water ȝe is wis of heuekes come, & we in boke wið deules nome. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2268 Wel fazen he was of here come, for he was numen ðor to nome.

Nome (nōum), *sb.*[2] [ad. Gr. *νομός*, f. *νέμειν* to divide.] One of the thirty-six territorial divisions of Ancient Egypt.

a 1727 NEWTON *Chronol. Amended* (1728) 22 Sesac..distributes Egypt into xxxvi Nomes, and in every Nome erects a Temple. 1773 MONBODDO *Lang.* III. xiii. (1774) I. 638 They were so particular as to name the nome or district in Egypt. 1840 MILMAN *Hist. Christianity* II. 435 Seven hundred virgins of Alexandria, and of the Mareotic nome. 1869 RAWLINSON *Anc. Hist.* 234 The division of the whole country into nomes was maintained; and most of the old nomes were kept. 1895 SAYCE *Egypt of Hebrews* 188 The Egypt which lay north of the Theban nome and Lake Mœris.

Nome (nōum), *sb.*[3] [ad. Gr. *νόμος*, f. *νέμειν* to divide.] An ancient Greek form of musical composition. (Cf. quots.)

1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* s.v., Nome is also used for a kind of song, or hymn, in honour of the gods, said to have been invented by Terpander. 1776 BURNEY *Hist. Mus.* I. 359 Hyagnis..was the inventor..of the Nomes, or airs, that were sung to the mother of the Gods, to Bacchus [etc.]. 1789 *Ibid.* (ed. 2) I. ix. 152 Aristotle says that dithyrambics, nomes, tragedies, and comedies use alike number, verse, and harmony. 1847 GROTE *Greece* II. xxix. IV. 102 Olympus as well as Klonas taught many new nomes or tunes on the flute. 1850 MURE *Lit. Greece* III. 37 The term Nome appears..to have borne a more immediate reference to the music or air, than the poetry or words, of a song.

Nome, *sb.*[4] *Math.* [a. F. *nôme*, the second element in *binôme*, etc.: see BINOMY.] (See quots.)

1665 COLLINS in Rigaud *Corr. Sci. Men* II. 458 The limits of such equations as have but two nomes. 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Nome*, in Algebra, is any Quantity with a Sign prefixed to it, and by which 'tis usually connected with some other Quantity, and then the whole is called a *Binomial*, a *Trinomial*, &c. 1727–38 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v., *a*+*b* is a binomial, whose names or nomes are *a* and *b*.

†**Nome,** *v. Obs.* Also 5–6 nomme. [var. of NIM *v.*, by assimilation to the preterite forms: cf. MLG. *nomen*.] **a.** *trans.* To take. **b.** *intr.* To go or pass (quot. *c* 1390).

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 68 Bereð wurðschipe þerto, uor þe holi sacrament þet ȝe iseoð [*v.r.* nomeð] þer þurh. *c* 1315 SHOREHAM I. 1647 Two manere speches beþ iwoned þer two men for to nomene. *Ibid.* IV. 72 And þat a-combreþ swyþe fele þat none kepe nomeþ. *c* 1390 *Constit. Masonry* 546 (Halliw.), Tha3gh suche a flod a3ayne schulde come, Over the werke hyt schulde not nome. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* a viij b, If yowre hawke Nomme a fowle and the fowle breke away fro hir. [1530 PALSGR. 644/2, I nomme, I take (Lydgate), *je prens.*]

No-meaning. [f. NO *a.* + MEANING *sb.*] The absence of, or want of, meaning or purpose: unmeaningness; nonsense.

1735 POPE *Ep. Lady* 114 True No-meaning puzzles more than Wit. 1784 COWPER *Task* IV. 74 Cat'racts of declamation thunder here; There forests of no meaning spread the page. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* i, Owen..endeavoured..to explain my no-meaning, and to cover my retreat. 1834 L. RITCHIE *Wand. by Seine* 167 A little ugly, incongruous brick erection .. the nature and no-meaning of which we cannot tell. 1882 MRS. OLIPHANT *Lit. Hist. Engl.* III. 107 The quaint and delightful no-meaning of some of Shakspeare's snatches of spirit-song.

Nomecuðe, nomekowthe, varr. NAMECOUTH. **Nomeliche, -ly,** obs. forms of NAMELY *adv.*

Nomenclate (nōu·mĕnkle't), *v. rare.* [Back-formation from NOMENCLATURE.] *trans.* To assign a name or names to; to call by a certain name.

1801 CATH. M. FANSHAWE *Ep. to Ld. Harcourt*, 'Twould try Don Quixote's patience To nomenclate this mob of nations. 1868 TUCKERMAN *Collector* 127 The natural history of the doctor has not yet been written, but the classes are easily nomenclated. 1881 *Daily Tel.* 6 June 2 The institution nomenclated the Chelsea Hospital for Women.

†**Nomencla·tion.** *Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *nōmenclātiōn-em* (rare): cf. prec. and -ATION.] Name or nomenclature.

1638 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (ed. 2) 184 Buried..in oblivion, or wrapt up in other nomenclations. *Ibid.* 343, I may conferre the nomenclation upon some adventurous Cambryan. 1651 BIGGS *New Disp.* P 291 The nomenclation of a disease.

Nomenclative (nōu·mĕnkle'tiv), *a.* [f. as NOMENCLATE + -IVE.] Concerned with, or relating to, the action of naming.

1875 WHITNEY *Life Lang.* xiv. 299 The conception first, then the nomenclative act. 1884 *Field* 25 Oct. 556/1 The same poverty of nomenclative invention is a marked characteristic of the times.

Nomenclator (nōu·mĕnkle'tǫr). Also 6 *Sc.* -our. [a. L. *nōmenclātor* (also *-culātor*), f. *nōmen* name + *calāre* to call.]

†**1.** A student appointed as a kind of monitor or prefect over a certain part of his class. *Obs. rare.*

1563–7 BUCHANAN *Reform. St. Andros* Wks. (S. T. S.) 8 The nomenclatouris to haif charge to gather the lessons writtin, euery ane in hys awyne decurio, and bring thayme to the regent, and schaw hym quha has faltis. And geif the regent find falt quhairof the nomenclator has nocht advertysit hym, than he sal punyss baith the writar and the nomenclator.

†**2.** Used as the title of works containing collections or lists of words; hence, a book of this kind; a vocabulary. *Obs.*

1585 HIGINS (*title*), The Nomenclator, or Remembrancer of Adrianus Junius, Physician. ?1608 BODLEY in *Reliq. B.* (1703) 79, I have sent you, by this Carrier, three several *Nomenclators*, which I have only borrowed. 1635 JACKSON *Creed* VIII. xxxi. 363 The full importance of this word..will not be easily found in ordinary Lexicons or Nomenclators. 1698 *Phil. Trans.* XX. 355 'Tis then most natural..to furnish him ..with a Nomenclator; containing a competent number of Names. 1707 R. BROWNE (*title*), The English Expositor improv'd, a Complete Dictionary, .. also an Index and Nomenclator.

†**b.** A compiler of such a work. *Obs. rare.*

1609 [BP. W. BARLOW] *Answ. Nameless Cath.* 330 Let all the Onomastiks, and Nomenclators, or Mathematicians, or Schoolemen be searched, and 'twill not be found. 1622 FITHERBY *Atheom.* Pref. 21 Any Nomenclator, or Dictionarie maker.

3. *Rom. Antiq.* **a.** A servant or dependent whose business it was to inform his master or patron of the names of persons, esp. when engaged in canvassing for office. **b.** A steward or usher who assigned or indicated the places of guests at a banquet.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 437 A certain Nomenclator or Controller belonging to one of our prodigall and wastful spendthrifts here at Rome. 1605 CAMDEN *Rem.* 96 Do not looke that I should as the Nomenclators in olde time marshall every name according to his place. 1656 *North's Plutarch* 639 *note*, This Prompter is usually call'd Nomenclator, Monitor and Factor. 1713 ADDISON *Guardian* No. 107 P 2 When a great man stood for any publick office, ..he had always one of these Nomenclators at his elbow. 1741 MIDDLETON *Cicero* I. II. 77 The use of these Nomenclators was contrary to the laws. 1781 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xxx. (1787) III. 208 The nomenclators, who are commonly swayed by interested motives, have the address to insert in the list of invitations, the obscure names of the most worthless of mankind. 1834 LYTTON *Pompeii* IV. iii, Diomed..had appointed a nomenclator, or appointer of places, to each guest. 1839 DE QUINCEY *Lake Poets, Wordsw.* Wks. 1889

II. 235 There needed no Roman nomenclator to tell me that this *he* was Wordsworth.

4. One who announces, or imparts to another, the names of persons or guests.

1599 B. JONSON *Cynthia's Rev.* v. iii, *Cup.* Hedon thy master is next. *Mer.* What, will Cupid turn nomenclator, and cry them? 1609 — *Sil. Wom.* III. ii, *Daw.* My ladie Havghty, this my lady Centavre, mistresse Dol Mavis.. *Mor.* What nomenclator is this! 1625 K. LONG tr. *Barclay's Argenis* IV. ii. 275 Are you so forgetful of Astioristes that you need a Nomenclator? 1641 MILTON *Animadv.* Wks. 1851 III. 187 Their names are knowne to the all-knowing power above, and .. doutlesse they wreck not whether you or your Nomenclator know them or not. 1713 ADDISON *Guardian* No. 107 ₱ 2, I have with much pains .. qualified myself for a Nomenclator to this great city. 1811 L. M. HAWKINS *C'tess & Gertrude* II. 49 She began to speculate, with the great advantage of a most intelligent nomenclator. 1816 SCOTT *Old Mort.* iii, 'You forget...' said her nomenclator, 'that the young gentleman comes here to discharge suit and service in name of his uncle'. 1827 LYTTON *Pelham* xl, Let me despatch Lady Babbleton, and I'll then devote myself to being your nomenclator.

†**b.** One who reckons up or recounts. *Obs. rare.*

1628 EARLE *Microcosm.* (Arb.) 53 Hee is a great Nomenclator of Authors. 1692 WASHINGTON tr. *Milton's Def. People* viii. M.'s Wks. 1851 VIII. 191 You are become of a sudden a wonderful Nomenclator of our Statutes.

5. One who gives a name to, or invents a designation for, something: *spec.* one who classifies natural objects under appropriate designations.

1644 BULWER *Chiron.* 124 The Nomenclators seeme to have excluded the left hand from all actions of decencie and importance. 1647 COWLEY *Mistr., Her Name* v, Adam (God's Nomenclator) could not frame One that enough should signify. 1680 H. MORE *Apocal. Apoc.* 337, I will ask R. H. whether he takes himself to be a more wise and just Nomenclator than the Holy Ghost. 1785 MARTYN *Rousseau's Bot.* viii. (1794) 77 The science which distinguishes the true botanist from the mere herbarist or nomenclator. 1811 PINKERTON *Petral.* I. Introd. 18 Those who collect, and the nomenclators properly so called, do not like these doubtful sorts, which it is too difficult to arrange under the known genera. 1852 S. BAILEY *Disc. Var.* 70 Our scientific nomenclators glue long words together with little or no abridgment. 1875 WHITNEY *Life Lang.* v. 77 Reasons which were satisfactory to the nomenclators.

fig. 1708 SWIFT *Agst. Abol. Christ.* Wks. 1751 IV. 110 Are Envy, Pride, Avarice, and Ambition such ill Nomenclators, that they cannot furnish Appellations for their Owners?

Hence **No·mencla·torship.** *rare*$^{-1}$.

1695 J. EDWARDS *Perf. Script.* 184 This nomenclatorship of Adam.

Nome·nclato·rial, *a. rare*$^{-1}$. [See -ORIAL.] In connexion with, in relation to, nomenclature.

1885 NEWTON in *Encycl. Brit.* XIX. 149/2 Nomenclatorial purists, objecting to the names..as 'barbarous'.

Nome·nclatory, *a. rare*$^{-1}$. [Cf. prec. and -ORY.] Pertaining to nomenclature.

1875 WHITNEY *Life Lang.* viii. 139 Every conceptual act is so immediately followed as to seem accompanied by a nomenclatory one.

No·mencla·tress. *rare*$^{-1}$. [f. NOMENCLATOR + -ESS.] A female nomenclator.

1713 ADDISON *Guardian* No. 107 ₱ 3, I have a wife who is a Nomenclatress, and will be ready, on any occasion, to attend the Ladies.

Nomencla·tural, *a.* [f. next + -AL.] Relating to, or concerned with, nomenclature.

1803 *Edin. Rev.* III. 53 Having devised the most superlative specimen of nomenclatural absurdity. 1825 P. W. WATSON *Dendrol. Brit.* Introd. 19 Nomenclatural Conspectus. 1866 BRANDE & COX *Dict. Sci.*, etc. II. 633/2 The nomenclatural difficulties in which they are involved.

Nomenclature (nō·u·mĕnklēˈtiuɪ, *nome·nklĕ·*tiuɪ), *sb.* [ad. L. *nōmenclātūra* (Pliny): see NOMENCLATOR and -URE. Hence also It., Sp., and Pg. *nomenclatura*, F. *nomenclature.*]

1. A name, appellation, designation. Now *rare.*

1610 *Histrio-mastix* I. 142 *Scri.* Your appellations? *Post.* Your names he meanes. The man's learn'd.. *Scri.* Your nomenclature? *Post.* O stately Scrivener! That's: where dwell ye? 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 839 To say..that there wanteth a term or Nomenclature for it. 1666 G. HARVEY *Morb. Angl.* xi. 121 A moist Consumption receives its nomenclature from a moist..expectoration that attends it. 1862 E. BURTON *Bk. Hunter* (1863) 243 Societies there are..which identify themselves through their very nomenclature with misfortune and misery. 1891 *Daily News* 11 Nov. 3/3 A certain species of cactus...Its nomenclature is Stapelia gigantea.

†**2.** The act of assigning names to things. *Obs.*$^{-1}$

1622 FOTHERBY *Atheom.* II. xiii. 347 The Heathen haue reckoned this nomenclature, and imposition of names, for one of Gods owne works.

3. A list or collection of names or particulars; a catalogue, a register.

1635 HEYWOOD *Hierarchy* I. 26 He rank't in the Nomenclature of Fooles. 1641 J. JACKSON *True Evang. T.* I. 30, I cannot now give you a nomenclature or list of the particulars. 1683 DRYDEN *Life Plutarch* in *P.'s Lives* 75 The catalogue or nomenclature of Plutarch's Lifes, drawn up by his son. 1812 W. TAYLOR in *Monthly Rev.* LXVIII. 297 The nomenclature is certainly very copious, and for his materials the author must have consulted a multitude of books. 1846 ROBERTSON tr. *Schlegel's Philos. Hist.* 69 At first, indeed, it is merely a nomenclature of celebrated personages and events.

†**b.** A list or collection of words or terms, *esp.* those connected with a particular language or subject; a glossary, a vocabulary. *Obs.*

1659 HOWELL *Lex., To the tru Philologer,* The second Volume is a large Nomenclature of the peculiar and proper termes in all the fower languages belonging to severall Arts. 1672 tr. *Comenius'* (*title*), Visible World: or, A Picture and Nomenclature of all the chief Things that are in the World. 1710 ADDISON *Tatler* No. 257 ₱ 7 There was at the end of the Grammar a little nomenclature, called 'The Christian Man's Vocabulary'. 1745 *Observ. Conc. Navy* 70 A Nomenclature, Italian and English.

4. The system or set of names for things, etc., commonly employed by a person or community.

1664 H. MORE *Myst. Iniq.* 211 If therefore we will stand to the Nomenclature of the Ancients [etc.]. 1691 NORRIS *Pract. Disc.* 243 There's an unimaginable difference even in the very Nomenclature..of Earth and Heaven. 1811 *Poet. in Ann. Reg.* 609 No name so sad as your's is seen In sorrow's nomenclature. 1857 KINGSLEY *Two Y. Ago* x, He had played, to use his nomenclature, two trump cards running. 1875 LUBBOCK *Orig. Civiliz.* iv. (ed. 3) 167 No other part of the world where the nomenclature of relationships is so primitive.

b. The terminology of a science.

1789 JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1859) III. 16 The new nomenclature has..been already proved to need numerous and important reformations. 1815 BAKEWELL *Geol.* Pref. 9 The pedantic nomenclature and frivolous distinctions recently introduced into mineralogy. 1863 LYELL *Antig. Man* i. (ed. 3) 3 Some preliminary explanation of the nomenclature adopted in the following pages will be indispensable. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 833 To whom we owe the nomenclature and most of our knowledge of the disease.

c. The collective names given (or to be given) to places in a district or region.

1828 *Edin. Rev.* XLVIII. 438 The nomenclature of the frozen regions is a task which has exercised the ingenuity of all their explorers. 1856 KANE *Arct. Expl.* I. v. 44, I had no difficulty now in justifying the somewhat poetical nomenclature which Sir John Franklin applied to this locality. 1876 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* V. xxiii. 111 The local nomenclature of modern Glamorgan, with its strongly marked British, English, and French elements.

5. (Without article.) Names or designations forming a set or system.

1785 MARTYN *Rousseau's Bot.* Introd. (1794) 4 Such a chaos of nomenclature, that the Physicians and Herbarists no longer understood each other. 1810 W. TAYLOR in *Monthly Mag.* XXX. 345 That fund of nomenclature for visual ideas, which is afterwards extended to the abstract ideas. 1856 R. A. VAUGHAN *Mystics* (1860) I. 205 Are not your differences mere disputes about nomenclature? 1883 *19th Cent.* May 857 Fraudulent nomenclature is one of those fine arts in which false science is an adept.

6. (With *a* and *pl.*) A particular set or system of names or designations.

1809–10 COLERIDGE *Friend* (ed. 3) III. 134 Artificial classification for the preparatory purpose of a nomenclature. 1840 CARLYLE *Heroes* (1858) 191 Atheistic science babbles poorly of it, with scientific nomenclatures, experiments and what-not. 1872 MINTO *Eng. Prose Lit.* Introd. 28 We have as yet no nomenclature or notation for describing it technically. 1882 A. MACFARLANE *Consang.* 4 In a systematic nomenclature, it is convenient to extend the meaning of the term.

Hence **Nomenclature** *v.*, to name or designate. Also **Nomenclaturing** *vbl. sb.*

1803 *Edin. Rev.* III. 109 Nomenclaturing is likewise a new word. 1816 SCOTT *Vis. Paris* (ed. 5) 284 That the ticketing of a heap of oyster shells is carrying the system of nomenclaturing a little too far. 1824 *Examiner* 547/2 That part of the frame nomenclatured by little wits the understanding. 1826 *Sporting Mag.* XVIII. 134 The complaint was, by the old jockeys, nomenclatured 'dropping in the joints'.

Nomencla·turist. [f. prec. + -IST.] One who devises a nomenclature.

1809 *Edin. Rev.* XV. 140 His acquaintance with species ..can never entitle him to rank higher than as a nomenclaturist. 1898 *Rev. Brit. Pharm.* 40 Chemical nomenclaturists will be satisfied by the change of hydrobromates and hydrochlorates to the respective 'ides'.

Nomer, obs. form of NUMBER.

No·mial. *rare*$^{-1}$. [f. BI-NOMIAL, etc.] **a.** An algebraic expression consisting of a given number of terms. **b.** 'A single name or term in mathematics' (Webster 1828–32).

1717 *Phil. Trans.* XXX. 611 All Radical Expressions of Binomials, Trinomials, or of any other Nomial.

No·mian, *a. rare*$^{-1}$. [f. Gr. *νόμ-os* law + -IAN.] Accepting the Mosaic Law.

1800 W. TAYLOR in *Monthly Mag.* VIII. 797 Those who receive that law as of divine authority, the nomian christians, as they might be called.

Nomic (nō·mik), *a.*[1] [f. Gr. *νόμος* NOME *sb.*[3]: cf. next.] Pertaining to, having the character of, Greek musical nomes.

1727–38 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Mode*, The antients had likewise their *modi melipœiæ*, of which Aristides names these: dithyrambic, nomic and tragic. 1789 TWINING *Aristotle's Treat. Poetry* (1812) I. 210 He, particularly, mentions the Persians and the Cyclops as imitated in the Dithyrambic and Nomic Poetry of Timotheus and Philoxenus. 1850 MURE *Lit. Greece* III. 33 A wider compass and nobler character had been imparted to the nomic order of composition, through the medium of the flute or clarionet.

Nomic (nō·mik), *a.*[2] and *sb.* [ad. Gr. *νομικός*, f. *νόμος* law: cf. prec.] **a.** *adj.* Of spelling: Customary, usual. **b.** *sb.* The customary spelling.

1870 A. J. ELLIS in *Trans. Philol. Soc.* 89. 1880–1 *Ibid.* 303 Forming an introduction to nomic, and not at all.. superseding the use of nomic. *Ibid.*, Nomic spelling must always be a matter of memory.

Nominable (nō·minăb'l), *a.* [f. L. *nōmināre* NOMINATE + -ABLE: cf. med.L. *nōminābilis* (Du Cange).] Capable or worthy of being named.

1743 FIELDING *Juv.* vi. Misc. I. 101 Some smaller crimes, which seem scarce nominable. 1834 SOUTHEY *Lett.* (1856) IV. 371 Another nominable person who has not been named yet is William Bankes.

Nominal (nō·minăl), *a.* and *sb.* Also 5 **-alle,** 6–7 **-all.** [ad. L. *nōmināl-is*, f. *nōmin-*, *nōmen* name. So F. *nominal* (1521).]

A. *adj.* **1.** *Gram.* Of the nature of, pertaining to, a noun or nouns. *rare.*

c 1430 *Art Nombryng* 8 The nombre to be multipliede resceyvethe a nominalle appellacioun, as twies .5.;—5. is the nombre multipliede, and twies is the nombre to be multipliede. 1843 *Proc. Philol. Soc.* I. 27 Their scheme of terminations..is more or less applicable to every case of nominal inflexion. 1874 SAYCE *Compar. Philol.* ii. 80 Accadian seems to have nominal as well as verbal roots.

2. Belonging or pertaining to the nominalists; holding views akin to these. *rare.*

1528 TYNDALL *Obed. Christian Man* Wks. 104/1 One is reall, an other nominall. What wonderfull dreams haue they of their predicamentes, uniuersales, &c. 1663 BUTLER *Hud.* I. i. 155 Profound in all the Nominal And Real ways beyond them all. 1711 SHAFTESB. *Charac.* (1737) II. II. ii. 257 Others, one may say, are only nominal Moralists, by making Virtue nothing in itself, a Creature of Will only.

3. Of the nature of, consisting in, pertaining or relating to, a name or names (in distinction to things).

1620 T. GRANGER *Div. Logike* 158 Primortiues are either nominall and simple, or reall and compound. 1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* III. vi. § 2, I call it by a peculiar name, the nominal essence, to distinguish it from that real constitution of substances, upon which depends this nominal essence. 1727–38 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Character*, Nominal characters are those we properly call letters, which serve to express the names of things. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* I. 232 The time, however, is anticipated..that all nominal distinctions shall be lost in the general and honourable name of Americans. 1887 MAX MÜLLER *Sci. Thought* x. 595 By nominal attributes I mean those by which a name stands or falls. 1898 J. HUTCHINSON *Arch. Surg.* IX. 305, I will not venture on any diagnosis of the disease, whether nominal or essential.

b. *Nominal definition*: (see quot. 1864).

1697 tr. *Burgersdicius' Logic* II. i. 2 Nominal definition appears to be threefold. 1725 WATTS *Logic* 160 Those propositions whose predicate is a nominal or real definition of the subject. 1864 BOWEN *Logic* iv. 86 A Nominal Definition is a distinct explication of all the Marks which are connoted in the name of the Concept by general consent, as evinced in the use of language.

4. Existing in name only, in distinction to *real* or *actual*; merely named, stated, or expressed, without reference to reality or fact.

1624 LD.-KPR. WILLIAMS in *Fortescue Papers* (Camden) 203 Whereby he may be a nominall Judge of the Common Pleas, with his place in Wales, he disclayminge from all fees and profitts of the place in the Common Pleas. 1701 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3758/3 We shall at all times be most ready..to assert Your undoubted Right to these..Realms .., against the Nominal Prince of Wales. 1747 CHESTERF. *Lett.* cxix. I. (1792) 323 Thus seduced by fashion, and blindly adopting nominal pleasures, I lost real one's. 1776 ADAM SMITH *W. N.* I. v. (1869) I. 34 Labour, like commodities, may be said to have a real and nominal price. 1799 *Monthly Rev.* XXX. 128 Their Pacha..is an officer tolerated and nominal, but neither obeyed nor respected. 1833 HT. MARTINEAU *Manch. Strike* v. 57, I said the nominal amount of your wages mattered little. I said nothing about the real amount. 1883 *19th Cent.* May 890 The nominal effect of this treaty was to place Annam at the complete dependence of France.

b. With limiting words, as *mere(ly, only, but,* or with implication of these, denoting entire contrast to something real or substantial.

1799 *Sporting Mag.* XIV. 175 An action for mere nominal damages. 1817 JAS. MILL *Brit. India* II. v. vii. 592 To this, with only a nominal modification, the Council agreed. 1849–50 ALISON *Hist. Europe* I. Introd. § 23. 18 The Franks acknowledged but a nominal allegiance to their chief. 1863 D. G. MITCHELL *Sev. Stor., My Farm of Edgewood* 300, I bought a cord or two at a nominal rate. 1885 *Law Times Rep.* LIII. 484/2 Where an insolvent sues as a mere nominal plaintiff, as a mere shadow of another person, security is required.

5. a. Containing explicit mention of a name.

1788 in E. D. Dunbar *Soc. Life* (1865) I. 392 Nominal prayers for the King are to be authoritatively introduced.

b. Consisting of, containing, a set of names.

1802 JAMES *Milit. Dict., Nominal Call*, which corresponds with the French *appel nominatif*; and, in a military sense, with our roll call. 1844 *Regul. & Ordin. Army* 178 A Nominal Return of such Men as from time to time join the Depôt. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 30 Sept. 4/6 The Secretary.. has forwarded to us a nominal list..of the officers and crew of the gunboat Wasp.

c. Giving the names of persons dealt with.

1849 FRUSE *Comm. Class-bk.* 105 The nominal accounts will show, without constant reference to the Store or Warehouse books, the value of goods sold.

d. Assigned to a person by name.

1882 *Times* 8 Feb. 11/1 These shares are still nominal, and the original subscribers, as well as subsequent holders are liable on them.

e. *Nominal note*, = NOMINAL *sb.* 3.

1884 *Encycl. Brit.* XVII. 103/2 Sounds of a higher pitch than the nominal note, in fact the harmonics, of which the nominal note is the fundamental.

B. *sb.* **1.** A nominalist. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1519 HORMAN *Vulgaria* 93 The wey of the nomynallys and reals is dyuers. 1565 JEWEL *Repl. Harding* (1611) 294 He should haue remembred..That Scotus is against Thomas:..and the Nominals against the Reals. 1604 [see REAL C. 1]. 1640 GLAPTHORNE *Wit in Constable* II. Wks. 1874 I. 187 The Nominalls, the Thomists, all the sects Of old

and moderne Schoole-men. 1680 BAXTER *Answ. Stillingfl.* Pref. A 3 b, A Nominal, who contracteth all his Syllogisms into simple terms of art. 1725 WATTS *Logic* II. iii. § 4 (1892) 235 In the colleges of learning, some are for the nominals, and some for the realists. 1772 O'HALLORAN *Introd. Hist. & Antiq. Irel.* I. iv. 38 William Halloran, head of the Nominals at Oxford.

† **2.** A thing existing in name only. *Obs. rare.*

a 1625 BOYS *Wks.* (1629) 261 Deuills are not Nominals onely but Reals. *a* 1626 [see REAL C. 2]. 1661 GLANVILL *Van. Dogm.* 134 Euery Religion hath its hare Nominals.

3. *Mus.* A note giving its name to a scale.

1811 BUSBY *Dict. Mus.* (ed. 3), *C*, the nominal of one of the two natural modes. 1895 *Pall Mall Mag.* VII. 191 The tones of nominals, fundamentals, and hum-notes, seem to move, as it were in three separate spheres.

† **4.** (See quot.) *Obs. rare* −1.

a 1813 A. MURRAY *Hist. Europ. Lang.* (1823) II. 281 Nominals are verbs formed from nouns which undergo the addition of the consignatives peculiar to the future participles.

Nominalism (nɒ·mĭnăliz'm). [ad. F. *nominalisme* (1752); see NOMINAL B. 1 and -ISM.] **a.** (See quot. 1836.) **b.** The view which regards universals or abstract concepts as mere names without any corresponding reality.

1836 KEBLE *Serm.* viii. (1848) 215 The Nominalism of our days; I mean, the habit of resolving the high mysteries of the faith into mere circumstances of language. 1846 [see REALISM 1]. 1864 BURTON *Scot Abr.* II. i. 16 In some shape or other, Nominalism and Realism still divide between them the empire of thought. 1885 PATTISON *Mem.* 166 In these years Whately's Logic, or some form of nominalism, predominated in the schools.

Nominalist (nɒ·mĭnălist). [f. NOMINAL *a.* 2 + -IST. Cf. F. *nominaliste* (1752).] One who maintains or accepts the doctrine of nominalism.

1654 JER. TAYLOR *Real Pres.* 89 This was the sense of Ocham the Father of the Nominalists. *a* 1695 [see REALIST 2]. *a* 1751 BOLINGBROKE *Ess.* IV. xli. Wks. 1754 IV. 624 The dispute..between the nominalists and realists about the nature of universals. 1816 COLERIDGE *Lay Serm.* (Bohn) 356 Laodiceans in spirit, Minims in faith, and Nominalists in philosophy. 1843 MILL *Logic* I. vi. § 1 The doctrine of the extreme nominalists that it is an expression of an agreement or disagreement between the meanings of two names. 1880 HUTH *Life Buckle* I. ii. 123 Horne Tooke was a nominalist and sensationalist.

attrib. 1839 HALLAM *Hist. Lit.* III. iii. § 153 Hartley also resembles Hobbes in the extreme to which he has pushed the nominalist theory. 1885 PATTISON *Mem.* 170, I had not yet abandoned my nominalist foundations.

Nominali·stic, *a.* [f. prec. + -IC.] Of the nature of, pertaining to, nominalism.

1863 KINGSLEY *Water-Bab.* iii. 88 The one true..nominalistic, realistic .. doctrine of this wonderful fairy tale. 1870 MAX MÜLLER *Sci. Relig.* (1873) 399, I call this the nominalistic as opposed to the realistic method of comparative mythology. 1878 SYMONDS *Shelley* 35 He adopted the negative conclusions of a shallow nominalistic philosophy.

Nomina·lity. *rare* −1. [f. NOMINAL *a.* 4 b.] A merely nominal thing.

1880 MRS. WHITNEY *Odd or Even?* i, Slidden from his old-fashioned, steady, inherited business into the nominalities.

† **No·minalize,** *v. Obs. rare* −1. [f. NOMINAL *a.* 1 + -IZE.] *trans.* To convert into a noun.

1659 *Instructions Oratory* 32 Verbs .. nominalized, do admit one termination familiarly, that suffer not another.

Nominally (nɒ·mĭnăli), *adv.* [f. NOMINAL *a.*]

1. By name; as regards a name or names.

1665 MANLEY *Grotius Low C. Wars* 973 It consisted with the Honour of the Commonwealth nominally to include the House of Nassau, which had so well deserved of Liberty. 1736 LEDIARD *Life Marlborough* I. 28, I shall only recount one memorable Story..without applying it nominally to the Persons. 1783 W. F. MARTYN *Geog. Mag.* II. 325 The kings of England and of France are both nominally prayed for in the Churches of Geneva. 1822 DE QUINCEY *Confess.* Pref., He was nominally known to the public as Dean of Carlisle.

† **2.** As a noun, substantively. *Obs. rare* −1.

1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* 200 World, whether it be in the singular number or plural, may betoken plurally or indefinitely, and as much adverbially as nominally.

3. In name, as opposed to *really.*

1748 HARTLEY *Observ. Man* II. iv. Concl. 440 The nominally Christian States of these Western Parts. 1776 ADAM SMITH *W. N.* II. iv. (1869) I. 358 The profits of stock would be the same, both nominally and really. 1822 BYRON *Werner* IV. i. 50 The country (nominally now at peace) Is over-run with—God knows who. 1884 J. GILMOUR *Mongols* xxxi. 361 Many a lama who has nominally a sufficient income never receives more than half of his due.

† **No·minance.** *Obs. rare* −1. [See next and -ANCE.] Name, designation.

1642 H. MORE *Song of Soul* II. iii. III. lxv, The Medicean foure reel about Jove; Two round old Saturn without Nominance.

Nominate (nɒ·mĭne^{i}t), *pa. pple., ppl. a.,* and *sb.* Also 6 nomynate, nominat. [ad. L. *nōmināt-us,* pa. pple. of *nōmināre*: see next.]

A. *pa. pple.* † **1.** Named, called, entitled. *Obs.*

c 1485 *Digby Myst.* (1882) II. 414 By name I am nominate the god belyall. 1513 BRADSHAW *St. Werburge* 2338 The yssue..Was a noble prynce, nomynate Colrede. 1567 *Trial Treas.* (1850) 30 As I, being properly nominate Juste, Am here associate with Contentation.

† **2.** *Sc.* Mentioned by name; noted. *Obs.*

1570 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xx. 92, I pans and muse how thay excuse This murther..Quhair it is nominate. 1583 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* III. 621 The uthers persones quhilkes wer present specialie nominat in the uther tickit gevin to us. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* Prol. 56 The maist nominat amang thame is this.

† **3.** Nominated, appointed. *Obs.*

1546 *Yorks. Chantry Surv.* (Surtees) 276 Incumbent.. nominate by the mayor and bretherne. 1590 H. BARROW in *Confer.* III. 57 Your Parsons are nominat by the Patron. *a* 1648 LD. HERBERT *Hen. VIII* (1683) 370 Sir Thomas More, or the Bishop of London, to be nominate by the King.

B. *ppl. a.* **1.** † **a.** Having the character of a descriptive name. *Obs. rare* −1. **b.** Having a special name. **c.** Mentioning a particular name.

1610 W. FOLKINGHAM *Art of Surv.* III. i. 65 Vocall Propriety denotates the Properties of particulars by due Appellation, which is either Nominate or Cognominate. The first is..either Generall; as Up-land and Maritime..; or Speciall; as Wealdes, Woulds, Plaines. 1818 COLEBROOKE *Obligations* 18 Those, which have an appropriate denomination and distinctive proper name, denoting their particular effect and essential properties, are nominate or named contracts. 1838 W. BELL *Dict. Law Scot.* 674 A nominate right is a right possessing a *nomen juris*, the use of which defines its boundaries. *Ibid.*, The nominate and innominate contracts illustrate the doctrine. 1880 MUIRHEAD *Gaius* II. § 128 A nominate disherison..might either precede or follow the institution.

2. Nominated to an office. Chiefly *Sc. Law.*

1681 STAIR *Instit.* I. vi. § 5. 56 There be three kinds of Tutors. . .The first is, Tutor Testamentar, or nominate. *a* 1768 ERSKINE *Instit. Law Scot.* I. vii. § 1 (1773) 114. 1838 W. BELL *Dict. Law Scot.* 395 The executor, in the former case, being called an executor-nominate. *Ibid.* 1016 A tutor-nominate or testamentary is he whom the father .. has nominated, either in a testament, or in some other writing. 1864 *Staudard* 16 Apr., The bishop nominate.. was once a slave boy.

† **C.** *sb.* A nominee. *Obs. rare* −1.

1599 SANDYS *Europæ Spec.* (1632) 148 After two Monethes imprisonment in the Conclaue [they] were forced to relent and to choose one of his nominates.

Nominate (nɒ·mĭne^{i}t), *v.* Also 6 nomynate, 6–7 nominat. [f. L. *nōmināt-*, ppl. stem of *nōmināre* to name, f. *nōmin-, nōmen* name.]

1. *trans.* To call by the name of; to call, name, entitle, designate. Now somewhat *rare.*

1545 RAYNOLD *Byrth Mankynde* 7 The fourth be nominatyd the ouerthwart muskles. 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* I. (Arb.) 21 Theese rancks the Italian dwellers doo nominat altars. 1626 MIDDLETON *Anything for Quiet Life* I. i, She has a book, which I may truly nominate Her Black Book. 1657 J. SERGEANT *Schism Dispach't* 92 The same men who nominate us Papists for onely acknowledging the Pope's authority. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* I. x. 141 This Ocean being nominated Pacific. 1799 C. COOKE in Beddoes *Contrib. Phys. & Med. Knowl.* 393 These are all the diseases that can with propriety be nominated constitutional. 1824 SCOTT *St. Ronan's* iv, It must stand Munt-grunzie in the stamped paper, being so nominated in the ancient writs and evidents thereof. 1868 HELPS *Realmah* (1876) 90 Those animals whom we are pleased to nominate 'the lower creation'.

† **b.** To give a name or names to; to provide with a name. *Obs.*

1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* V. lxxviii. § 2 If they that first doe impose names, did alwayes vnderstand exactly the nature of that which they nominate. 1658 SIR T. BROWNE *Hydriot.* 16 The City of Norwich..was enlarged, builded, and nominated by the Saxons. 1697 J. SERGEANT *Solid Philos.* 294 We do not nominate them precisely according to what we do then actually know.

2. To mention or specify by name. (Very common *c* 1600–80; now somewhat *rare.*)

1593 G. HARVEY *Pierce's Super.* 205, I could nominate the man, that could teach the Delphical Oracle, and the Ægyptian Crocodile to play their parts. 1601 DENT *Pathw. Heaven* 141, I pray you, nominate the oathes which are so rife and common amongst vs. 1620 E. BLOUNT *Horæ Subs.* 378 There be in this towne multiplicity of Palaces.., of which I will but nominate two. 1680 COTTON *Coupl. Gamester* (ed. 2) 13 Consider how many persons have been ruined by play. I could nominate a great many.

1801 ELIZ. HELME *St. Marg. Cave* III. 185 He ordered him to hasten to an obscure part of the city which he exactly nominated. 1846 MCCULLOCH *Acc. Brit. Empire* (1854) I. 423 Leases held on the longest of two lives..expire at an average..every 64 years, if boys and girls of 4 years of age are nominated.

3. To name, fix, appoint, specify. Now *rare.*

1564 *Child-Marriages* 197 Richard..said, 'by my trouth, I will marry the bie such a Day',—& did nominate the day. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* I. iii. 150 Let the forfeite Be nominated for an equall pound Of your faire flesh. 1637 PAYNNE *Will* in *Documents* (Camden) 98 The somme of tenne pounds, to be imployed .. as my nephew .. shall nominate and directe. 1680 AUBREY *Lives* (1898) II. 143 Being the challengee it belonged to him to nominate place and weapon. 1716 WODROW *Corr.* (1843) II. 187 Their scruples of keeping the day the King nominates without a church appointment. 1751 ELIZA HEYWOOD *Betsy Thoughtless* IV. 32 Sir Ralph Trusty..had the honour of nominating the day for the celebration of their nuptials.

4. To appoint (a person) by name to hold some office or discharge some duty.

1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 366 That the king shoulde within vi monethes nominate some man to the Bishop of Rome. 1582 N. LICHEFIELD tr. *Castanheda's Conq. E. Ind.* I. lxiii. 128 b, First he would nominate him that should remaine in the Indias for Captaine generall. 1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turkes* (1621) 976 To honour him the more, [he] nominated him the Generall of his armie against the Persians. 1653 *Clarke Papers* (Camden) III. 5 They proceede in nominating persons in the severall counties to sitt as a Counsell. 1681–2 WOOD *Life* 3 Feb. (O.H.S.) III. 4 Henry Aldrich..nominated or elected Canon of Ch. Ch. by the commissioners. 1765 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* I. ix. 330 The judges could not meet there..to nominate the sheriffs. 1841 W. SPALDING *Italy & It. Isl.* I. 114 The decurions, who had nominated a magistrate, were..held bound as sureties for him. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* vii. § 1. 341 The House of Commons was crowded with members nominated by the Royal Council.

absol. 1688 *Pr. of Orange's Declar., w. Animadv.* 23 Whether before he nominate, he do not satisfy himself that his Nominê be a Man on whom he may rely. 1761 HUME *Hist. Eng.* (1806) IV. lxii. 622 They chose seven persons, who should nominate to such commands as became vacant.

b. To propose, or formally enter, (one) as a proper person or candidate for election.

1601 R. JOHNSON *Kingd. & Commw.* (1603) 101 The nomination being ended, the chiefe of the Companies demaunde of the people which of these three thus nominated, they are willing to elect. 1774 JOHNSON 21 Feb. in *Boswell*, We are thinking to augment our Club, and I am desirous of nominating you. 1828–32 WEBSTER, s.v., Any member of the assembly or meeting *nominates*, that is, proposes to the chairman the name of a person whom he desires to have elected. 1857 TOULMIN SMITH *Parish* 171 It is declared that any person nominated may send in, before the day of election, his refusal to act. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) V. 83 Any one may challenge the person nominated and start another candidate.

No·minated, *ppl. a.* [f. prec. + -ED 1.]

1. Named (for a position or office), appointed.

a 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VI*, 148 Many honorable personages..sailed into Fraunce, for the conveyaunce of the nominated Quene, into the realme of England. 1693 WOOD *Life* 25 Nov., The new nominated warden of Merton Coll. 1892 SIR H. PARKES *Sp. Vrs. Austral. Hist.* II. 264 To appoint fifteen new members to the nominated Council.

† **2.** Noted, famous. *Obs. rare.*

1642 MILTON *Apol. Smect.* 75 Such of them as were thought the chief and most nominated opposers on the other side. 1645 — *Tetrach.* 97 The most nominated Fathers of the Church.

No·minately, *adv. rare.* [f. NOMINATE *pa. pple.* + -LY 2.] † **a.** Especially, particularly. *Obs.* **b.** By name.

1630 SPELMAN *De Sepult.* 13 *Locus religiosus* is that which is assigned to some office of Religion, and nominately where the body of a dead person hath been buried. 1880 MUIRHEAD *Gaius* III. § 63 The Senate decreed that the estates..should belong..in the next place to the latter's descendants not nominately disinherited.

No·minating, *ppl. a.* [f. NOMINATE *v.* + -ING 1.] That nominates or names.

1597 MIDDLETON *Wisd. Solomon* x. 15 Shall we call her wisdom, by her name, Or new-invent a nominating style? 1677 MARVELL *Corr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 554 Some rather desiring that they might only be generall words, and not nominating. 1888 BRYCE *Amer. Commw.* III. lx. II. 422 A Nominating Convention..is a representative body composed of delegates from all the primaries within its limits, who have been chosen at those primaries for the sole purpose of ..selecting the candidates.

Nomination (nɒmine^{i}·ʃən). Also 5 nomynacioun, 6 -ion, 5–6 nominacion, 6 -atioun. [a. OF. *nominacion, -ation* (1305), or ad. L. *nōmināti̯ōn-em*, n. of action f. *nōmināre* to nominate.]

† **1.** The action of mentioning by name. *Obs.*

1425 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 269/2 To yat blode and armes was drawen ye nomination of him above all othyr Erles. *c* 1425 *Found. St. Bartholomew's* (E.E.T.S.) 21 At the nomynacioun of the glorious Apostle, the same fyre semyd to suffre violence. 1563 FOXE *A. & M.* 1357/2 To put your hand to your head, and at the nomination..of the Popes holynesse vncouer the same. 1623 AILESBURY *Serm.* 49 Christian eares would be offended at the nomination of those things that are done in secret. 1665 *Intelligencer* No. 80 in Willis & Clark *Cambr.* (1886) I. 621 That great and wise Prelate.. is so well known, that the sole nomination of the Founder is a sufficient accompt of the elegance..of the Foundation.

† **b.** The action of naming, specifying, or appointing; the fact of being appointed. *Obs. rare.*

1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III*, III. iv. 5 *Buck.* Is all things ready for the Royall time? *Derb.* It is, and wants but nomination. *Ely.* To morrow then I iudge the happie day. *c* 1710 CELIA FIENNES *Diary* (1888) 141 When plaite was in nomination to pay a tax, ye Earle..sold it all. 1753 RICHARDSON *Grandison* VI. xxx, The nomination of a day.

2. The action (or right) of appointing a person by name to some office or duty; in early use *spec.* of ecclesiastical appointments.

1454 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 253/2 Nominations of Abbays, Prioryes, Hospitals, Churches. 1491 *Act 7 Hen. VII*, c. 19 The same Griseld at the nominacion and desire of the same late Cardynall therof enfeoffed Laurence late Bisshoppe of Duram. 1539 *Act 31 Hen. VIII*, c. 13 § 2 All the.. advousons, nominacions, patronages, annuityes..and other hereditamentes whatsoeuer. 1573 G. HARVEY *Letter-bk.* (Camden) 3 After nine was the congregation for the nomination. 1601 LD. MOUNTJOY *Let.* in Moryson *Itin.* (1617) II. 122 To informe you that Sir Hen. Dockwra hath had greater favour in the nomination of Captaines then he. 1699 BENTLEY *Phal.* 377 If I might have the Nomination, it should be He. 1726 AYLIFFE *Parergon* 91 In England the King has the Nomination of an Archbishop; and after such Nomination, he sends..to the Dean and Chapter, to elect the Person thus named by him. 1758 J. S. *Le Drau's Observ. Surg.* Introd. (1771) p. v, The Honour conferred upon me by his Majesty's Nomination. 1856 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* (1858) II. vi. 3 He had absolute power over every nomination to an English benefice.

attrib. 1863 H. COX *Instit.* I. viii. 108 Mr. Pitt took the opportunity of abolishing many of the smaller nomination boroughs.

b. The action of proposing as a candidate, or as a suitable person to be elected.

1601 [see NOMINATE *v.* 4 b]. 1857 TOULMIN SMITH *Parish* 171 Otherwise, the election is at an end with the act of secret nomination. 1861 *Illustr. Lond. News* 17 Aug. 153/3 On Tuesday the nomination of a member for South

Lancashire took place at Newton. The show of hands.. was declared to be in favour of..the Conservative candidate.

3. The fact or position of being nominated. Freq. in phrase *in nomination*.

1494 FABYAN *Chron.* VII. 361 The best of the cytie gaue the nominacion vnto Aleyn Sowch, and dyuerse of ye other cryed vpon Thomas Fiz Thomas. 1612 *North's Plutarch, Cæsar Augustus* 1170 Gining order that none should be put in nomination but such as were vertuous. 1699 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) IV. 485 The commons yesterday, after they expelled Mr. Woollaston, had in nomination some others. 1768 SIR J. GRAY in *Priv. Lett. Ld. Malmesbury* (1870) I. 171 My acquaintance with Mr. Harris your father..made me readily acquiesce in your nomination. 1837 M^c^CULLOCH *Acc. Brit. Empire* II. 232 A candidate is not precluded from offering himself, because he is not put in nomination the first day. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col.-Reformer* (1891) 147 The London Club, to which he had been elected about five years after nomination.

b. A set of nominees. *rare*—[1].

a 1817 T. DWIGHT *Trav. New Eng.* etc. (1821) I. 257 At the same time, and place, they vote, also, for twenty persons as a Nomination for the Council of the ensuing year.

†4. Name, designation, denomination. *Obs.*

1502 ARNOLDE *Chron.* (1811) 283 Ye shulde leue your right, your tytle,..and nominacion of you [as] Kyng of Fraunce,..and be content only in wryting wyth Rex Anglie. 1553 *Respublica* I. iv, *Avar.* Oh, I shoulde have sayde, helpe, sir Reformacyon. *Oppr.* Yea, Marye, sir, that is my Nomynacion. 1579 FENTON *Guicciard* VI. (1599) 243 Abhorring such nomination, they had reuerenced the name of the Duke Valentinois. 1658 SIR T. BROWNE *Hydriot.* 44 Who cares to subsist..under naked nominations without deserts and noble acts. 1683 SNAPE *Anat. Horse* I. vi. (1686) 77 By these several nominations or names it goes. 1771 SMOLLETT *Humph. Cl.* (1815) 230 The North Briton..observed, that he himself had the honour of a scriptural nomination. 1794 T. TAYLOR *Pausanias's Descr. Greece* III. 251 They found themselves unable to discover the cause of their nomination; but were informed that the one was called Eros.., and the other Anteros.

5. a. Assignation of a name or names.

1552 ABP. HAMILTON *Catech.* (1884) 13 How thair is goddis be false nominatioun. 1601 R. CHESTER *Love's Mart.*, etc. (1878) 179 What shall I call this creature..? All nomination is too straight of sence. 1756 CLUBBE *Hist. Wheatfield* Misc. Tracts (1770) I. 30 From that moment, according to the capricious and licentious nomination of men and things of those times, called it Whatfield. 1863 J. G. MURPHY *Comm., Gen.* xii. 8, 9 The name, then, was not first given at the second nomination by him.

b. Designation *by* a certain name.

1865 *Cornh. Mag.* Aug. 194 The general mediæval usage of Italy, in the popular nomination of artists by their Christian names alone.

Nominatival (nɒ·mĭnătəi·văl), *a.* [f. next + -AL.] Pertaining to, connected with, the nominative case; having the character of a nominative.

1843 *Proc. Philol. Soc.* I. 73 We need not therefore feel surprise if sometimes the Old-English definite adjective takes *en* as a nominatival ending. 1876 EAOIE *Thessalonians* 234 The apposition is nominatival.

Nominative (nɒ·mĭnătiv), *a.* and *sb.* Also 4 nomen-, nominatyf, 5 nominatif(e, -iffe, 5–6 -iue, 6 -yve. [a. F. *nominatif, -ive* (13th c.), or ad. L. *nōmĭnātīv-us* (*casus*): see NOMINATE *v.* and -IVE.]

A. *adj.* 1. *Gram. Nominative case*, that case of nouns, adjectives, and pronouns, which stands as, or is connected with, the subject of a verb.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) I. 327 Þat ylond of Ynde hatte Tilis in Þe nomenatyf caas; and Þe ilond of occean hatte Tyle in Þe nominatyf caas. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* xci. 416 (Add. MS.), And so we han the nominatif case. ? 1481 in Flügel *Neuengl. Lesebuch* (1895) 297 Sum tymys they be verbys parsonallys and haue nominatiffe casys before them. 1520 WHITINTON *Vulg.* (1527) 1 The verbe shall accorde with his nominative..case. 1588 FRAUNCE *Lawiers Log.* II. i. 86 The nominative case and the verbe be placed grammatically, according to the prescription of Syntaxis. 1668 WILKINS *Real Char.* III. ix. 355 The Nominative Case before the Verb, and the Accusative after. 1751 HARRIS *Hermes* (1841) 168 Hence the reason why every verb..has in language a necessary reference to some noun for its nominative case. 1817 SELWYN *Law Nisi Prius* (ed. 4) II. 835 Doubts had been entertained whether the words *other person* in this statute should be taken to be in the nominative or in the genitive case. 1886 T. M. DOUSE *Introd. Gothic* 209 Its inflectional characteristic is the Nominative case.

b. Of the nature of, characteristic of, pertaining to, the (*or* a) nominative case.

1824 L. MURRAY *Eng. Gram.* (ed. 5) I. 219 These sentences, or clauses, thus constituting the subject of an affirmation, may be termed nominative sentences. 1872 MORRIS *Hist. Eng. Accid.* 101 The nominative ending *s*.. is connected with the demonstrative pronouns.

2. Nominated; appointed by nomination.

1660 *Trial Regic.* 124 The case is instant in Philip who was a nominative King. 1735 *Col. Rec. Pennsylv.* IV. 45 Even so this Nominative Court may pass with the learned as Justifiable. 1883 W. E. BAXTER *Winter in India* ii. 21 The municipality of Bombay is partly elective and partly nominative. 1892 *Daily News* 6 Aug. 4/8 The Second Chamber was still nominative in parts where it should have been elective.

3. Appellative, denominative. *rare*—[1].

1844 TUPPER *Heart* xi. 115 Their latest *noms de guerre* will serve all nominative purposes as well as any other.

4. Bearing the name of a person.

1872 *Daily News* 30 Sept., A nominative personal invitation from M. Vogeli to meet M. Gambetta. 1879 *Standard* 10 June, The Shares are nominative, but they can be converted into Share Warrants 'to Bearer'.

B. *sb.* 1. The nominative case.

c 1620 A. HUME *Brit. Tongue* (1865) 29 The nominative hath no other noat but the particle of determination. 1751 HARRIS *Hermes* (1786) II. iv. 281 The Nominative is that Case, without which there can be no regular and perfect Sentence. 1768 HOLDSWORTH *Virg.* 161 This is certainly used in the nominative plural. 1841 LATHAM *Eng. Lang.* 216 The Nominative Plural and the Genitive Singular are, in the present language of England, identical. 1872 MORRIS *Hist. Eng. Accid.* 101 The nominative and accusative have no formative particles to distinguish them.

2. A word in the nominative case; a form which is the nominative case of a word.

1668 WILKINS *Real Char.* 448 Some words requiring a Nominative, others a Dative, others an Accusative. 1699 BENTLEY *Phal.* 320 To put Nominatives instead of Oblique Cases. 1751 HARRIS *Hermes* (1841) 193 Hence..arises the grammatical regimen of the verb by its nominative, and of the accusative by its verb. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) VIII. 51 *note*, The preposition in this case..governs a nominative and a verb. 1843 *Proc. Philol. Soc.* 153 Other idioms.. have the indeterminate pronoun preceded by a nominative absolute. 1889 *Ibid.* 322 Brugmann explains the Nominatives *ager, ācer* as standing for **agros, *ācris*.

b. A subject (*to* a verb).

1824 L. MURRAY *Eng. Gram.* (ed. 5) I. 225 That a sentence, or part of a sentence, may be the nominative to a verb, is undoubtedly true.

Hence **No·minatively** *adv.*, 'in the manner of the nominative' (Webster 1847).

Nominator (nɒ·mĭne¹tɒ·). [ad. late L. *nōmĭnātor*, agent-noun f. *nōmĭnāre*: see -ATOR.]

1. One who nominates to office or for election.

1659 *Clarke Papers* (Camden) IV. 299 The Counceil.. agreed on 7 to be Nominators of Officers. 1714 BENTLEY *Rem. Free-thinking* II. § 52 (1717) 66 While Tiberius Gracchus was creating new Consuls; one of the Nominators suddenly fell down dead. 1772 *Ann. Reg.* 203 To oppose Lord Dysart, the first and improper nominator. 1831 *Lincoln Herald* 6 May, The radical organ of the council of nominators. 1885 *L'pool Daily Post* 30 June 4/8 Sir Richard's nominator and seconder and his election agent.

†2. *Math.* A numerator. *Obs. rare*—[1].

1674 JEAKE *Arith.* (1696) 41 This is called the Numerator, and sometime Nominator.

Hence **Nomina·trix**, a female nominator.

1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 1 April 6/3 It requires a holding of £3,000 even to be a nominator or nominatrix [of directors].

No·minature. *rare*—[1]. =NOMINATION.

1864 *Daily Tel.* 12 July, Three or four active supporters of the straight nominature.

Nominee (nɒmĭnī·). Also 7 nominê. [f. NOMIN-ATE *v.* + -EE [1].]

†1. (See quot. 1675.) *Obs.*

1664 EARL ORRERY in *State Lett.* (1743) I. 174, I..beg you that he may be in the first rank of the nominees. 1675 EARL ESSEX *Lett.* (1770) 144 By the Act of Explanation, all the rest of those thirty-eight persons who had not upon the first act been restored to their estates, together with as many more as make up in all fifty-four persons (who are commonly called Nominees) are provided for [etc.].

2. The person who is named in connexion with, or as the recipient of, an annuity, grant, etc.

1697 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3338/4 If he receives any quarterly Payment beyond the Death of the Nominee, he shall forfeit treble the value of the Money received. 1723 *Ibid.* No. 6169/3 After the Decease of the respective Nominees. 1766 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* II. xxii. 368 Upon the original surrender the nominee hath..such a possibility, as may whenever he pleases be reduced to a certainty. 1802–12 BENTHAM *Ration. Judic. Evid.* (1827) III. 294 Nominee in a life-annuity. 1844 WILLIAMS *Real Prop.* (1877) 18 The heir was thus a nominee in the original grant.

attrib. 1883 *Manch. Guard.* 17 Oct. 5/4 That nominee life policies are often effected which are altogether invalid is only too evident.

3. One who is nominated for some office.

1688 [see NOMINATE *v.* 4. *absol.*]. *a* 1768 ERSKINE *Insl. Law Scot.* I. vii. § 2 (1773) 114 Though such nominee gets the name of a tutor.., the appellation is improper. 1790 [see NOMINOR]. 1810 BENTHAM *Offic. Apt. Maximized, Def. Econ.* (1830) 22 This power of parcelling out the property of the public among the nominees of Kings and Ministers. 1878 LECKY *Eng. in 18th C.* I. iii. 433 A Parliament consisting in a very large measure of the nominees of great families.

attrib. 1865 *Sat. Rev.* 5 Aug. 160/1 A nominee member for a little market town.

Hence **Nominee·ism**, the system of nominating persons to offices or posts.

1831 *Lincoln Herald* 13 May, Opposed to nomineeism in every shape. 1892 SIR H. PARKES 30 *Yrs. Austral. Hist.* I. 302 The vicious principle of nomineeism.

†**Nomi·nion.** *Obs. rare*—[1]. =NOMINATION.

1513 BRADSHAW *St. Werburge* I. 179 The realme of Mercyens .. Thre hundreth yeres endured in auctoryte, Vnder eyghtene kynges worthy nomynyon.

† **No·minor.** *Obs. rare.* =NOMINATOR.

1765 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* I. 341 Among the Goths the twelve nominors were first elected by the people themselves. 1790 BENTHAM *Mem. & Corr.* Wks. 1843 X. 229 The terms of connexion..between a nominor and a nominee.

Nominy (nɒ·mini). *north. dial.* [perh. ad. L. *nomine* in the formula *in nomine patris*, etc.] A rhyming formula; a set or form of words in popular use; a rigmarole, long story. Also *Comb.*

1814 *Costume of Yorks.* 63 in Brand *Pop. Antiq.* (1849) II. 188 He..repeats a speech, or what they term a *nominy*, which .. is here subjoined. 1846 *M. A. Richardson's Historian's Table-bk., Leg. Div.* III. 160 It was formerly the custom, in the more remote parts of the county of Durham, to address complimentary verses to a newly married couple. ..This was called 'saying the Nominy'. *Ibid.*, Pray remember the Nominy sayer! 1889 NICHOLSON *Folk-Sp. Yorksh.* 8 Should the boy be unable to recite this rhyme, he would be told 'he didn't knaw his nominy'. 1892 NORTHALL *Folk-Rhymes* 319 Nominies or Formulas.

Nomir, obs. Sc. form of NUMBER.

Nomistic (nŏmi·stik), *a.* [f. Gr. *νόμ-ος* law + -ISTIC.] Based upon law.

1877 tr. *Tiele's Hist. Relig.* 3 Not until a later period did polytheism give place here and there to nomistic religions. 1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XX. 368 Nomistic or nomothetic communities, founded on a law or Holy Scripture. 1894 *Thinker* V. 438 Instead of the principle of faith, the nomistic principle was substituted.

Nomly, obs. var. NAMELY *adv.* **Nomme,** *v.*: see NOME *v. Obs.* **Nommen,** obs. pa. pple. of NIM *v.* **Nommer,** obs. Sc. f. NUMBER. **Nommet,** var. NUMMET *dial.*

Nomo-, ad. Gr. *νομο-*, combining form of *νόμος* law, occurring in a few words, as **No·mocanon** [med.Gr. *νομοκανών, -κάνονον*], a collection of the canons of Church councils, together with civil laws relating to ecclesiastical matters. **Nomo·cracy,** a system of government based on a legal code; the rule of law in a community. **Nomo·genist,** a believer in, or advocate of, nomogeny. **Nomo·genous** *a.*, produced by, or resulting from, the operation of natural laws. **Nomo·geny,** the origination of life as a natural (opp. to miraculous) process. **Nomo·grapher** [Gr. *νομογράφος*], (*a*) a writer of laws, a legislator; (*b*) one who is skilled in nomography. **Nomo·graphy,** (*a*) (see quot. 1731); (*b*) (see quot. 1830); (*c*) the expression of law in a written form. **Nomolo·gical** *a.*, of or pertaining to nomology. **Nomo·logist,** one who is interested or versed in nomology. **Nomo·logy** (see quots.). †**Nomote·chnic, Nomothe·ism,** †**Nomo·thesy** (see quots.).

1727–38 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v., The first **nomocanon* was made by Johannes Scholasticus in 554. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XIV. 630/2 He [Photius] wrote..the *Nomocanon* under 14 titles. 1884 *Catholic Dict.* (1897) 660/2 The Nomocanon which goes under the name of St. Wladimir, and is accepted as the basis of canon law in Russia. 1837 *Fraser's Mag.* XVI. 95 If the Hebrew commonwealth was not a theocracy, it was a *nomocracy. 1894 *Thinker* V. 439 Nomocracy, pure and simple, reigned supreme. 1868 OWEN *Comp. Anat. Vertebr.* III. 817 The *Nomogenist is reduced to enumerate the existing elements into which the simplest living jelly..is resolvable. 1869 *Student* II. 428 The terms '*nomogenous' and miraculous are only contrasted by a limited school of theologians. 1868 OWEN *Comp. Anat. Vertebr.* III. 814 *Nomogeny or Thaumatogeny? 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, **Nomographer*, a writer of the Law: a Legislator. 1716 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* II. Addenda, The Law-writers..belong to the Scotch Nomographers. 1731 BAILEY (vol. II.), **Nomography*, a Description of, or Treatise of the Laws. 1830 BENTHAM *Offic. Apt. Maximized* Pref. 26 *Nomography*..is an appellation, which presented itself as capable of being made to serve, with most convenience, for the designation of the *logic of the will.* *a* 1832 — (*title*), Nomography; or the Art of Inditing Laws. 1895 *19th Cent.* July 152 English law still remains..conspicuous for its defects of form,..and no one would pretend that the art of 'nomography' is not capable of further material development. 1845 *Nomological [see *Nomology* below]. 1886 *Westm. Rev.* July 126 It would take too long in this place to analyze in nomological terms this remarkably opaque utterance. *Ibid.* 135 Parental love is a fact which *nomologists must accept as a datum. 1845 SIR W. HAMILTON *Metaph.* vii. (1859) I. 122 If, again, we analyse the mental phænomena with the view of discovering and considering..the Laws by which our faculties are governed, .we have a science which we may call the *nomology of mind,—nomological psychology. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 792/1 *Nomology*, that part of Botany which relates to the laws which govern the variations of organs. 1886 *Westm. Rev.* July 143 Rather what may be termed nomology, or the inductive science of law. 1901 *Month* May 497 Nomology would be that which deals with the conformity of actions to rules. 1594 R. ASHLEY tr. *Loys Le Roy* 32 *Nomotechnicke for knowledge, exposition or interpretation of Lawes. 1872 BIRKS *Doctr. Creation* 185 The view may also be held along with *Nomotheism, or that modified Theism, which reckons all direct, periodic interference of God with the universe an impeachment of His perfect foresight. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* [from Cotgrave], **Nomotheste*, the making, publishing, or proclaiming a Law.

†**No mo,** *sb.* and *a. Obs.* Forms: *α.* 1 ná má, 3–4 (6 *Sc.*) na ma, 3–4 nama, 3–5 (6 *Sc.*) no ma, 6 *Sc.* na mea, 9 nae mae. *β.* 3–4, 6 na mo, 3–4 nāmo; 4–5 no moo (5 noo), nomo, 4–6 no mo, 6–7, 9 no moe. [f. *ná* No *adv.*[2] + *má* Mo *sb.* and *a.* For adverbial uses see Mo *adv.*] No more (in number).

α. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 35 Ne bið þara fæstendaga na ma þonne syx & þritiz. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gram.* xiv. (Z.) 89 Sume naman .. habbað twegen mislice casus and na ma on gewunan. *c* 1205 LAY. 91 Nefede he boten ane sune...nefede he bern no ma. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 2269 Þe first bot an was and nama [*Gott.* na ma]. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 6523 A doughter had Dianot, & no ma. *c* 1440 *Bone Flor.* 1104 Now my lorde ys fro me tane, V wyll love no ma But hym that boght me. *a* 1560 ROLLAND *Crt. Venus* II. 823 In till hir Court (quod he) is thair na ma Bot sex Ladeis! 1570 BUCHANAN *Admonit.* Wks. (S.T.S.) 31 Scho sould beir na ma childrene to debar þame fra þe croun. 1583 *Leg. Bp. St. Androis* 614 Of honest men he had na mea. 1809 T. DONALDSON *Poems* 40 Like her alake? I hae nae mae, Now Muffie's dead.

β. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 109 On [þing] is þat þe sunne is on and nāmo. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 527 Ȝwanne þe geans were alle aslawe þat þer ne bileuede na mo [*v.rr.*

nāmo, no mo]. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 1271 Strokes was þer delt na mo fram þe duk was take. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. II. 234 Saue Mede þe Mayde na mo [*v.rr.* nama, no moo] durst abide. *c* 1450 *Merlin* 56 At this counseile were no mo but Pendragon and Vter. 1485 CAXTON *Paris & V.* (1868) 35 He had but hyr onely and no moo sones ne doughters. 1535 COVERDALE *Eccl.* iv. 8 There is one man, no mo but himself alone. 1570–6 LAMBARDE *Peramb. Kent* (1826) 217 In that day, there issued no moe, but these three, out of the place of paines. 1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* III. i. 36 There is no mo such Cæsars. 1619 T. TAYLOR *Comm. Titus* i. 6 God's action in creating one man, and one woman, and no moe. 1813 HOGG *Queen's Wake* 255 My twenty men, I have no moe.

No more, *sb.*, *a.*, and *adv.* Forms: *a.* 1 nā (nó) māre, 2 nam mare, 2–4 namare (4 namar), 3–5 na mare; *Sc.* 5 nomar(e, 6 na mair, 8–9 nae mair. *β.* 2–3 (nā) nam mor, nam more, 3–4 (nā) nammore, na more, 3–5 namore (4 -moore), 4–6 nomore (4–5 -mor), 4– no more (5 mor, 6 *Sc.* moir). [f. *nā* No *adv.*[2] + MORE *sb.* etc. Cf. NO LESS.

It is possible that the forms *nam* and *nā* (the latter frequently read and printed as *nan*) properly belong to NONE *adv.* 1 a. A curious change of vowel appears in the form *nūmor* (printed *nunmor*), which occurs several times in *Gen. & Ex.*]

A. *sb.* **1.** Nothing more or further.

a. c 888 K. ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxvi. § 1 Swa weligne þæt he ȝenoȝ hæbbe & no maran ne ðyrfe. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Mark xv. 5 Da ne andswarode se hælend him na mare [*Hatton* nam mare]. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 37 Soðliche ne þerft þu bidden namare. *c* 1205 LAY. 15737 Nat ich na mare to suggen þe of mine sunne. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* iii. (*Andrew*) 67 Þai tynt þe sycht, & mycht nomare do, as for þane. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* e iij b, Of this ilke hare Speke we no mare. 1508 DUNBAR *Poems* vi. 34 Of varldis gnd I bad na mair. 1786 BURNS *Ep. to J. Smith* xxix, I shall say nae mair, But quat my sang. 1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* xii, I beg nae mair at ony single house than a meal o' meat.

β. c 1154 *O. E. Chron.* (Land MS.) an. 1132, Þa he nā mor ne mihte, þa uuolde he ðæt his nefe scnlde ben abbot in Bnrch. *Ibid.* an. 1137, Þa þe unrecce men ne hadden nā more to ȝyuen, þa ræueden hi. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 246 Nullich of bonen siggen her nam more. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 638 Me..deþ a lettre þer to & namore [*v.rr.* nāmore, no more] iwis. 1340 *Ayenb.* 270 Nammore ne is be-tuene ane manne and ane beste bote ine onderstondynge. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 158 So that ther is nomor to seie Touchende of that. 1401 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 113 Therfor, Daw, I sey nomore to the at this tyme. *c* 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 1049 Of me gettis thou na more, Doutles this day. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xxiii. 34 No moir thy paint dois fall, Bot meit, drynk, clais. 1558 CAVENDISH *Poems* (1825) II. 18 This is my last complaynt, I can say you no more. 1600 HEYWOOD *1st Pt. Edw. IV*, D ij, I can no more but gine you mine aduise. 1680 H. MORE *Apocal. Apoc.* 332 Nor has R. H. produced anything material against any part of Mr. Mede's Interpretations, no more no[r] so much as against his Synchronisms. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* II. (Globe) 328 They had no more to do then, but to get into their Boats. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* I. 27 Fate! drop the curtain; I can lose no more. 1818 COBBETT *Pol. Reg.* XXXIII. 406 There was no more of blasphemy in the publication than there was of witchcraft. 1872 MORLEY *Voltaire* (1886) 2 Who asked no more from them meanwhile than that they should prove their love.

b. *ellipt.* as a command or request.

c 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xvi. 385 Peasse now, no more! 1610 SHAKS. *Tempest* I. ii. 246 Before the time be out? no more. 1822 BYRON *Vis. Judgm.* xcii, The monarch .. exclaimed 'What! what! .. No more—no more of that!'

2. *ellipt.* (See next.)

1895 tr. *Jusserand's Eng. Ess.* 151 No more Don Japhet, no more verses..; of all these no mores, the last is the worst.

B. *adj.* Not any more; no further.

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XII. 279 Ergo salnabitur, quod he, and seyde namore Latyne. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 3237 Be wel ware to take nomore Counsel, that greveth aftir sore. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* I. 196 Eftir to Scottis that did no mor grewance. 1535 COVERDALE *Acts* xxiv. 11 There are yet nomore but twolne dayes sence I came vp to Ierusalem. 1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 70 Surely there is no more but one course of wel gouerning the common wealth. *a* 1662 HEYLIN *Laud* (1668) 157 Laud was resolved that there should be no more but one Bishop in that City. 1692 R. L'ESTRANGE *Fables* ccccxxviii. (1708) 463, I know no more Reason I have to Obey my Husband, than my Husband has to Obey me. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 176 ¶ 8 Having no more Children than one Daughter. 1829 T. L. PEACOCK *Misfort. Elphin* ii, The least honourable of the two is next in honour.., because there are no more but two. 1855 BROWNING *Bp. Blougram's Apol.* 1 No more wine? Then we'll push back chairs and talk. 1895 [see A. 2].

b. With implication of *adv.* 1.

1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 57 In the Morning when I look'd out, behold no more Ship was to be seen.

C. *adv.* **1.** No longer. (Passing into 2.)

c 1205 LAY. 1949 Þa nolde Brutus na mare [*c* 1275 na more] þat hit swa ihaten weore. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 213 Nv him ne lust namore pleye; he wile gon a rihte weye. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 1401 Quen he herd he suld liue namare, Þan he logh. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxh.) xxxii. 148 He wald na mare be called Kyng. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xxv. 96 Cum hame and dwell no moir in Striuilling. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* IV. i. 114 b, They resorted with the elders and were no more snbiect to goe vnto the warres. 1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* III. vi. 2 Hold me no more in your respect. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* IV. 671 Th' unhappy Husband, Husband now no more, Did on his tuneful Harp his Loss deplore. 1757 GRAY *Bard* III. i, No more our long-lost Arthur we bewail. 1796 MACNEILL *Waes o' War*, Up wi' frantic haste she started; Canld nor fear she felt nae mair. 1803–6 WORDSW. *Ode Intim. Immort.* 9 The things which I have seen I now can see no more. 1877 RUSKIN *Arrows of Chace* (1880) II. 216 Military distinction is no more possible by prowess.

Comb. 1820 SHELLEY *Prometheus Unb.* III. iv. 169 The ghosts of a no-more-remembered fame.

b. As predicate: No longer existent; departed, dead, gone.

1601 SHAKS. *Jul. C.* v. iii. 60 But Cassins is no more. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IX. 827 But what if God have seen And Death ensne? then I shall be no more. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 471 ¶ 4 When the Heavens and Earth shall be no more. 1795 BURKE *Corr.* (1844) IV. 296 While I was discussing the merits of a single measure of a government, the government itself was no more. 1821 CLARE *Vill. Minstr.* I. 152 Last spring he was living but now he's no more. 1871 BROWNING *Balanst.* 833 No, for I have to die:..but now, even now, I shall be reckoned among those no more.

2. Never again; nevermore.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 7823 He wep..& bihet ȝif he moste libbe þat he nolde misdo nammore. 13.. *Guy Warw.* (A.) 414 Go hepen,..& cum nam-more in mi purpris. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 2556 William ne is swete wiȝt seie hem na more. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 725 (D.), Fro he had hym þis worde sayd he wakens no more. *c* 1440 *Alph. Tales* 91 Þis old man ..bad hur be a gude womman, & temp no mor no men. 1587 *Mirr. Mag., Albanact* vi, Commaunded neuer to retourne no more. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* I. 7 How happy they who wake no more! 1820 SHELLEY *Chas. I*, II. 415 The waters..are gone, and can return no more. 1846 KEBLE *Lyra Innoc.* 235 No more to rest in sabbath shade.

3. To no greater extent; in no greater degree. (Followed by *than*.)

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 380 ȝe owen norte unnen þet no word ne kome of ou, nanmore þen of deade. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 502 Þai mai nenermar held til il, Namar þan þe wick mai to god will. 1340 *Ayenb.* 27 Þe enuious ne may ysy þet guod of oþren nāmore þanne þe onle..þe zonne. *c* 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* Prol. 190 No more than of the corne agayn the sheef. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. xxviii. 42 Eche of them..spared no thynge, no more than yf the Kynge of Englande had bene there in proper persone. 1633 BP. HALL *Occas. Medit.* (1851) 186 Thou..canst no more be absent than not be thyself. 1721 BRADLEY *Philos. Acc. Wks. Nat.* 130 These Creatures cannot bear Heat no more than the Snails. 1808 ASHE *Trav.* I. 298 We majors, colonels, and generals .. are so cheap and common here, that people don't mind us no more than nothing. 1850 THACKERAY *Pendennis* xxi, [Laura's eyes] could no more help..looking and shining than one star can help being brighter than another.

4. Just as little; neither.

c 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) xx. 221 He schalle not trowe it lightly; and treuly, no more did I my self, til I saughe it. *c* 1440 *Alph. Tales* 106 Þan þe abbott said; 'No more may þou lett þoghtis to com in þi harte & þi mynde'. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* lxxxiii. 260 He..durst speake no worde.., and no more durst none of his men. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* II. i. 7 You are not yong, no more am I. 1865 KINGSLEY *Herew.* i, 'I do not understand thee,' quoth the Abbot. And no more he did. 1870 M. ARNOLD *St. Paul & Protestantism* (1900) 63 You have not righteousness...No more have you, though you think you have.

Nomotechnic, -theism, -thesy: see NOMO-.

†Nomothete. *Obs. rare.* [ad. Gr. *νομοθέτης.*] A lawgiver or legislator.

1586 SIR E. HOBY *Polit. Disc. Truth* xi. 34 Such officers as were wont to bee in Greece, called Nomothetes. 1641 H. L'ESTRANGE *God's Sabbath* 92 The matter it self was first debated and resolved upon by the Nomothetes or Legislatours in their counsel-house.

Nomothe·tic, *a. rare.* [ad. Gr. *νομοθετικός.*] = next.

1658 MANTON *Exp. Jude* 4 Lusts cannot endure to hear of a restraint, and therefore we oppose most Christ's nomothetic power. 1816 BENTHAM *Chrestomathia* Wks. 1843 VIII. 94 Division of Internal Government and Politics, into Nomothetic..and Anennomothetic. 1883 [see NOMISTIC].

Nomothe·tical, *a.* [See prec. and -AL.] Law-giving; legislative.

1619 T. MORTON *Def. Innoc.* 3 *Cerem.* 60 Nomotheticall authority. 1637 GILLESPIE *Eng. Pop. Cerem.* III. viii. 123 It includeth no such thing as a nomotheticall power, to prescribe..such sacred..Ceremonies as he shall thinke good. 1685 RENWICK *Reply to Langton* in *Serm.* (1776) 576 Not in an authoritative and nomothetical yet in a material and principal sense. 1854 P. FAIRBAIRN *Typol. Script.* (1857) II. III. vii. 189 The nomothetical authority of the Mosaic law is abolished, but its didactical authority remains. 1880 L. OLIPHANT *Land of Gilead* xiv. 392 The latter..were obliged to adopt their nomothetical laws outwardly.

Nomparell, obs. form of NONPAREIL.

Nompere, -peyr, variants of NOUMPERE.

-nomy, a second element in compounds, representing Gr. *-νομία* (related to *νόμος* law, *νέμειν* to distribute), occurring in words either adopted from Greek, as *autonomy* *αὐτονομία*, *economy* *οἰκονομία*, *astronomy* *ἀστρονομία*, *gastronomy* *γαστρονομία*, or formed on the analogy of these, as *agronomy*, *geonomy*, *phytonomy*, *zoonomy*.

Nomyn, obs. pa. pple. of NIM *v.*

‖ Non (nɒn). [L. = not.]

1. The first word in a large number of Latin phrases, chiefly legal, some of which have been in more or less frequent use in English contexts. The most important are entered as Main words.

Many others will be found in the Law Dicts. of Cowell, Blount, Bell, Bouvier, and Wharton, and in the Stanford Dictionary of Anglicized Words and Phrases.

† 2. as *sb.* A negation or prohibition.

1551 LATIMER *Serm.* (1562) 116 Neither in chamberyng and wantonnes. Beware of S. Paules *nottes* and *Nons*. For when he saieth *Non*, we cannot make it yea.

† 3. Short for NON PLACET. Also *attrib.* in *non-party*.

1679 WOOD *Life* 24 Jan., The non partie being most, the bishop was sent for, who though he pleaded hard for his owne man.., yet the non's prevailed. 1712 HEARNE *Collect.* (O. H. S.) III. 345 There were a great many Nons, but 'twould not do.

Non, obs. form of NONE, NOON, NUN.

Non- (nɒn), *prefix* (also 4–6 noun-, noon-, 5 nom-, 5–6 nowne-, 5–7 none-, often written separate), used to express negation. The earlier formations were either directly adopted from, or modelled upon, Anglo-French compounds in *noun-* = OF. *non-*, *nom-*, *nun-*, *num-* (mod.F. *non-*) :—L. *nōn* 'not' used as a prefix; from about 1500 the predominant form of the prefix is that of the L. *nōn*. It appears first in English towards the end of the 14th c. in *non-power* (Chaucer, Langland, Wyclif), and *non-residence*, *nonsuit* (Wyclif). In the 15th and 16th c. a considerable number of compounds (chiefly nouns of action and gerunds) were in use, most of them being of a legal character. Until about the middle of the 17th c. the compounds formed with *non-* are mostly of a special or technical kind, but from that time the prefix became less restricted in its use and began to be prefixed freely to substantives, adjectives and adverbs, participles, and verbal sbs. (rarely to infinitival forms). To the political and religious movements of the 17th and 18th c. are due many new formations, some of which, as *nonconformist*, *non-juror*, *non-resistance*, have a permanent place in the language.

In the majority of the compounds of *non-* the hyphen is usually retained; but it is commonly omitted in the case of a few, such as *nonconformist*, *nonentity*, *nonsense*, in which the etymology has been to some extent lost sight of. Normally the prefix is unstressed, but in the disyllables *nonage*, *nonclaim*, *nonsense*, *nonsuit*, and in *nonchalance*, *-ant*, *nondescript*, the *non-* receives the stress. It is also liable to be stressed when the compound and the simple word are coupled togetber, as *to act or non-act*, *distribution or non-distribution*, *being and non-being*.

Formations having an independent status or a continuous history during any period are entered as Main words; a small proportion of the remainder are illustrated in this article, no attempt having been made to represent with any degree of fullness the very extensive development in the use of the prefix during the last hundred years.

1. Prefixed to nouns of action, condition, or quality, as *non-accomplishment* = failure to accomplish, *non-acquaintance* = want of acquaintance, *non-adherence* = the condition or quality of not being adherent.

c 1465 *Plumpton Corr.* (Camden) 15 Excuseing the *non accomplishment of her desire in such wis as yee can well enough. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 27 Aug. 6/3 Owing to their *non-acquaintance with the English tongue. 1752 CARTE *Hist. Eng.* III. 282 Alarming her with the evil consequences of her *non-acquiescence. 1836–41 BRANDE *Chem.* (ed. 5) 367 The *nonaction of this gas on copper-leaf. 1897 GLADSTONE *E. Crisis* 2 The concerted action, or non-action of the Powers of Europe. 1715 *Life Earl Halifax* in *Wks.* 208 The same Members could not be as much as suspected for *Non-adherence to the same Principles. 1848 LINDLEY *Introd. Bot.* (ed. 4) II. 45 This character of the aril, viz., its non-adherence to the testa. 1414 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 58/1 The forseide Priour and Chanons hav cleymed of hem ..custumes, for her singuler profyt and *non avauntage to the Kyng. 1862 ANSTED *Channel Isl.* I. i. 8 The practical difference between them amounts to little more than a *non-agreement as to their rates of decomposition. 1766 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* II. xx. 301 The feodal doctrine of *non-alienation without the consent of the heir. *a* 1797 WALPOLE *Geo. II* (1847) I. v. 138 What he had said regarded the clause of *non-amotion. 1579 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* III. 187 Finding himself be his *non-apprehensiounn disappointit of his weikit purpois. 1808 T. CHALMERS in *Mem.* (1849) V. 133, I..am much mortified by the *non-arrival of my copies. 1821 MAR. & R. L. EDGEWORTH *Mem.* I. 59 My articulation, or *nonarticulation of the letter R. 1784 R. BAGE *Barham Downs* II. 16, I got him to repeat this maxim, and then ventnred upon a little *non-assentation. 1731–8 SWIFT *Pol. Conversat.* Introd. 57 The Mind being wholly taken up, and the Consequence of *Non-attention so fatal. 1853 J. MARTINEAU *Ess.*, etc. (1891) III. 472 Infinite non-commencement and infinite *non-close are impossible to thought. 1827 SIR J. BARRINGTON *Pers. Sk.* II. 20 A snap or a *non-cock is to be considered a miss-fire. 1788 T. TAYLOR *Proclus* II. 157 Such as affirm the *non-coincidence of lines extended from angles less than two right. 1650 *Exercit. conc. Usurped Powers* 72 The people's *non-commitance of any power to their Representees. 1781 LUTWYCHE *Reports* Table of Entries, Plea of *non-commorancy. 1741 RICHARDSON *Pamela* II. 311 He was..out of Humour at her supposed *non-complaisance. *a* 1641 BP. MOUNTAGU *Acts & Mon.* (1642) 532 Her [*sc.* the Virgin's] *non-conception of humane seed. *a* 1716 SOUTH *Serm.* (1744) X. 85 It sees the *non-conclndency of those arguments, that it rested upon before. 1830 LINDLEY *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 207 The *non-connivence of their anthers. 1691 NORRIS *Pract. Disc.* 307 A *Non-consideration of his [*sc.* God's] Presence and Inspection. 1657 *North's Plutarch, Add. Lives* 52 Her very Palace was distasteful unto her, by reason of the *non consociety of her dead Lord and King. 1677 GILPIN *Demonol.*

(1867) 247 The suspicions of *non-conversion are more common, and not so dangerous. 1673 S. PARKER *Reproof Reh. Transp.* 416 Some .. protest their *non-conviction of any guilt. 1795 NELSON 17 Sept. in Nicolas *Disp.* (1846) VII. Add. 22 The *non-co-operation of the British Fleet and the Sardinian Army. 1831 SCOTT *Let.* in *Lockhart* (1839) X. 126 Our habits of *non-correspondence are so firmly established. 1864 PUSEY *Lect. Daniel* (1876) 494 They..assume.. the *non-credibility of the Gospels. *a* 1859 DE QUINCEY *Posth. Wks.* (1893) II. 154 If the *non-culture of the human race allowed them to break out into war with little or no preparation. 1698-9 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) II. 105 The great difficulties which soon arose from the *non-currency of Money. 1845 WHATELY *Logic* (1850) III. § 17 146 This *non-decision is practically the very same thing as a decision in favour of the existing state of things. 1742 GILBERT *Cases Equity* 254 The Plaintiff, by assigning a particular Breach in the *Non-delivery at any one Time, may bring the whole Matter in Question. 1835-6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 507/1 In consequence of *non-development of the pelvis. 1651 C. CARTWRIGHT *Cert. Relig.* I. 41 In vaine is their excuse, if *non-disagreement in fundamentalls. 1768-74 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 486 The *non-discernment, if owing to inability, being not a wickedness committed. 1540 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 256 A reasonable accompt of the distribucioun and *non-distribucioun thereof. 1845 WHATELY *Logic* (1850) I. § 5. 28 The fallacy.., consisting in the 'non-distribution of the middle term'. 1864 PUSEY *Lect. Daniel* iii. 103 The objection tacitly assumes the thing to be proved, the *non-Divinity of prophecy. 1663 BOYLE *Usef. Exp. Nat. Philos.* I. v. 108 The Divisibleness or *non-Divisibility of each Corporeal Substance into infinite Material Parts. 1683 J. CORBET *Free Actions* III. XXVIII. 48 Though the meer *Non-donation of more special..Grace be arbitrary with God. 1864 BOWEN *Logic* v. 139 We have an equation, or *non-equation, established between these Terms. 1790 *Phil. Trans.* LXXX. 526 The *non-equilibrium of the particles in motion. *a* 1676 HALE *Prim. Orig. Mankind* I. iv. (1677) 99 The *Non-eternity of Mankind. 1760 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 94 The *non-exercise of the mind contributes not a little to the increase of the scurvy. 1647 H. MORE *Song of Soul* II. iii. III. xviii, Rash man that doth inferre negation From tby dead ear, or *non-experience. 1740 CHEYNE *Regimen* 181 This..supposition of God's..*Non-foreknowledge of his finite free Intelligences future actions. 1658-9 in *Burton's Diary* (1828) IV. 176 All that sit on that foot of *non-freedom or non-residency. 1802-12 BENTHAM *Ration. Judic. Evid.* (1827) II. 494 The amount of damage..that might result from the *non-fulfilment of it [*sc.* a contract]. 1656 JEANES *Mixt. Schol. Div.* 15 A certaine perswasion of the *non futurition of the evill. 1657 BAXTER *Pres. Thoughts* 11 It is not the Impossibility but the *non-futurity that God decreeth. 1664 POWER *Exp. Philos.* II. 136 His third Argument is from the *Non-gravitation of the Mercurial Cylinder. 1808 *Phil. Trans.* XCIX. 36 The *non-identity of the common electricity, and that given out by the Voltaic apparatus. *a* 1703 BURKITT *On N. T.*, Mark iv. 25 He that hides his talent..is in danger of being punished severely for the *nonimprovement of it. 1677 GREW *Exper. Sol. Salts* in *Anat. Plants* (1682) 296 Whether the Solution of a smaller quantity of several Salts, doth consist with the *non-increase of the bulk of the Water? 1824 MISS MITFORD *Village* Ser. I. (1863) 151 To..leave our daughters..to Mrs. C.'s system of *non-instruction. 1646 BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* III. xxi. 157 Where we finde such Instruments, wee may with strictnesse expect their actions, and where we discover them not, wee may with safety conclude the *non-intention of their operations. 1688 NORRIS *Love* I. iv. 35 If in this Absolute *non-invincibility he will have our..Freewill to consist. *c* 1661 *Papers on Alter. Prayer-Bk.* 95 That its uncharitableness to punish any Infants for the Parents faults, and that a *non-liberation is such a punishment. 1866 ODLING *Anim. Chem.* 142 The loss, or rather non-liberation, of force resulting from the merely half-burning..of the excess of carbon. 1846 LANDOR *Imag. Conv.* Wks. 1853 II. 73/2 Johnson's remarks..on the *non-materiality or non-immateriality of Satan. 1863 DE MORGAN *Pref.* in *From Matter to Spirit* 12 The civilised man of *non-nescience—a word I take the liberty of using for science, since two negatives make an affirmative. 1741 RICHARDSON *Pamela* II. 212 Her *Non-observance of my Lessons. 1646 BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* I. ii. 6 The Pelagians..,who peremptorily maintaining they can fulfill the whole Law, will insatisfactorily condemne the *non-observation of one. *Ibid.* VII. xviii. 383 So must..the *non opposition of our reasons procure our..acquiescence in the other. *a* 1635 NAUNTON *Fragm. Reg.* (Arb.) 51 A violent indulgencie of the Queen.. towards this Lord; all which argued a *non-perpetuity. 1687 DRYDEN *Hind & P.* II. 462 No union, they pretend, but in *Non-Popery. 1674 HICKMAN *Hist. Quinquart.* (ed. 2) 38 Any who was under a *non-predestination unto effectual and infallible means of eternal life. 1808 TOLLER *Tithes* (1816) iii. 53 By *non-presentation of a vicar for a long series of years. 1879 M. PATTISON *Milton* 88 All artists have intervals of *non-productiveness. 1650 BP. HALL *Cases Consc.* Addit. i. 397 To give Testimony to the *non-prohibition of this marriage. 1842 LOVER *Handy Andy* x. 95 His..*non-pronunciation of the letter R. 1680 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1522/4 [He] was, in regard of his long Imprisonment, and *non-Prosecution, Bailed out. 1650 *Non-protection [see NON-OBEDIENCE]. 1572-3 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* II. 195 In respect of *non-publiccatioun of the said abstinence. 1495 *Act* 11 *Hen. VII*, c. 2 § 3 The penaltie lymytted..to be forfeited by any officer ..for *noun punysshement of Vagaboundes. 1571 GOLDING *Calvin on Ps.* xlv. 7 How great myscheefs bred of non-punishment and libertie. 1583 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* III. 601 Tueching the *non-persute of Alexander Lawder. 1885 *Law Times* LXXVIII. 385/1 The *non-rateability of empty houses. 1802-12 BENTHAM *Ration. Judic. Evid.* (1827) V. 656 To the account of loss, or of *non-receipt of gain. 1659 RUSHW. *Hist. Coll.* I. 537 This Message for *non-recess, was not well pleasing to the House. 1539 *Act* 31 *Hen. VIII*, c. 13 § 16 For mysrecitall or *non-recitall of leases. 1885 *Law Times Rep.* LI. 803/1 The non-recital of the Act of 1845. 1848 MILL *Pol. Econ.* III. ii. § 3 (1876) 271 The complete *non-recognition and implied denial of it. 1824 MISS MITFORD *Village* Ser. I. (1863) 119 Any little *non-resemblance may be noted afterwards. 1855 KINGSLEY *Westward Ho!* xxi, The doctor talked mere science, or *nonscience, about humours, complexions, and animal spirits. 1412-20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* IV. xxix, Their hope is fully put abake And dispeired in *nonsecurytye. 1643 MILTON *Divorce* II. iv. Wks. 1851 IV. 74 If we cannot be contented with his *non-solution. 1763 BURN *Eccles. Law* (1767) I. 409 He was suspended, and afterwards upon his *non-submission deprived. 1481 BOTONER *Oracion of Flammeus Cayus* (Caxton) e 8 They euery day put it in peryll and *nonsurete. 1833 COLERIDGE *Table-t.* 16 Feb., Wordsworth and Goethe..have this peculiarity of utter *non-sympathy with the subjects of their poetry. *a* 1641 BP. MOUNTAGU *Acts & Mon.* (1642) 82 Iudah transgressed, and the Promise failed, as not to be verified but upon Supposition of *non-transgression. 1600 W. WATSON *Decacordon* (1602) 343 The *non validity of bulles. 1683 J. CORBET *Free Actions* I. 5 Between Volition and Nolition there is a middle thing, viz. *Non-volition.

2. Prefixed to agent-nouns and designations of persons and objects, as *non-abstainer* = one who is not an abstainer or does not abstain, *non-accent* = absence or lack of accent.

1882 *Med. Temp. Jrnl.* L. 53 Any thoughtful person, whether abstainer or *non-abstainer. 1872 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* 73 'Incompetence'..takes an accent on the 'com', and a sort of sub-accent—different from a *non-accent—on the 'tence'. 1787 HAWKINS *Johnson* 166 The instruction of *non-adults in the elements of literature. 1802-12 BENTHAM *Ration. Judic. Evid.* (1827) I. 506 What the *non-advocate is hanged for, the advocate is paid for. 1632 H. SEILE *Augustus* 34 His being a *Non agent in the busines, would bring his honor off without staine. 1793 BURKE *On Policy of Allies* Wks. VII. 178 His toleration was granted to *non-catholicks—a dangerous word, which might signify any thing. *a* 1871 GROTE *Eth. Fragm.* vi. (1876) 230 Aristotle's ideas are miserably defective as regards obligation towards *non-citizens. 1638 FEATLEY *Strict. Lyndom.* I. 135 Priests ..in the institution of this Sacrament..were *non conficients. *a* 1631 DONNE *Serm.* lvii. 579 All *Non-confitents, That thinke not of confessing their sinnes at all. 1643 *Plain English* 23 The Ordinance for assessing the *Non-contributors. *a* 1680 CHARNOCK *Attrib. God* (1834) I. 527 If there were any thing..in the whole creation, or *non-creation, ..unknown to him. 1636 BRATHWAIT *Rom. Emp.* 93 Being an Infidel and *non-credent. 1868 PARDON *Card Player* 16 The *non-dealer then cuts the pack into two parts. 1884 *Bookseller* 7 Oct. 1002/1 A reproduction..so closely similar in form and appearance as to appear to *non-experts one of the originals. 1886 *Mind* Jan. 29 A non-god, a non-spirit, a non-person, a *non-form. 1622 MALYNES *Anc. Law-Merch.* 430 It is vniust to punish all promiscuously as well frauders as *non frauders. 1760 T. HUTCHINSON *Hist. Mass.* i. (1765) 147 A petition..from about five and twenty *non-freemen. 1687 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2282/1 Though of somewhat differing Persuasions in *Non-fundamentals. 1818 COBBETT *Pol. Reg.* XXXIII. 89 All Journeymen and Labourers,.. whether *non-house-holders or house-holders. 1870 *Sat. Rev.* 2 Apr. 443 All *non-infallibilists are but half-Catholics. 1828 MISS MITFORD *Village* Ser. III. (1863) 4 The grief of the children on losing this most indulgent *non-instructress. 1754 *Ess. Manning Fleet* 27 The Luxuries, or *Non-necessaries of Life. 1711 G. HICKES *Two Treat. Chr. Priesth.* (1847) I. 272 The mission..which the ministers of some Presbyterian Churches..derive from *non-presbyters or mere lay-men. 1857 R. TOMES *Amer. in Japan* ix. 210 Most of the higher classes..form a large body of indolent *non-producers. 1884 tr. *Lotze's Logic* 77 Any subject, whatever it may mean, must be either *Q* or *non-*Q*, either straight or not-straight. 1857 TROLLOPE *Barchester T.* XXXV, The quality..were to eat a breakfast, and the *non-quality were to eat a dinner. 1848 MILL *Pol. Econ.* II. ii. § 3 Collaterals have no real claims, but in cases which may be just as strong in the case of *non-relatives. 1600 W. WATSON *Decacordon* (1602) 109 A .. dissembling wilinesse, with a relation to Atheisme or a *non-religion. *a* 1653 GOUGE *Comm. Heb.* vi. 8 The opposition is..between Saints and *non-Saints. 1897 *Daily News* 28 May 8/4 The boat lost at Kingstown had been replaced by a *non-self-righter of the Southport type. 1874 HEATH *Croquet-Player* 59 The *non-striker's ball, off which the croquet is taken. 1849 D. CAMPBELL *Inorg. Chem.* 21 Nitrogen..being a *non-supporter of respiration. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* IV. v, As an out-sider and *non-sympathizer. 1648 GAGE *West. Ind.* (1655) XV. 102 They will be sure to vent out some *non-truth. 1881 *Times* 17 Jan. 6/2 Many conventional non-truths (to speak kindly) must..be excused.

3. Prefixed to adjectives, as *non-absorbable* = not absorbable, that cannot be absorbed.

Such compounds are very common in scientific use.

1808 *Phil. Trans.* XCVIII. 361 A..quantity of *non-absorbable gas. 1797 *Ibid.* LXXXVIII. 16 The only distinction of earths, till about the last half century, was into absorbent and *non-absorbent. 1883 *Law Rep.* 27 Chanc. Div. 528 Where parties have been merely *non-active. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* IV. xi. 207 The Pygmies of Paracelsus; that is, his *non-Adamicall men, or middle natures betwixt men and spirits. 1870 H. A. NICHOLSON *Man. Zool.* xxix. (1875) 218 Sometimes the tube is free and *non-adherent ..; more commonly it is attached to some submarine object. 1848 MILL *Pol. Econ.* III. vi. § 2 The *non-agricultural, or rather the non-peasant population. 1878 *Encycl. Brit.* VIII. 698/2 The Basques, the Esthonians, and the Finns, who have retained their *non-Aryan speech. 1829 LAMB *Let. to Gillman* 30 Nov., *Non-assistive to partition of natures. 1887 FARRAR, etc. (*title*), *Non-Biblical Systems of Religion. 1859 GEO. ELIOT in Cross *Life* (1885) II. 130 A genuine *non-bookish man like Captain Speke. 1765 *Phil. Trans.* LVI. 232 When the rocks below are mixed, calcary and *noncalcary. 1789 T. TAYLOR *Proclus* II. 155 A right line cutting *non-coincident right lines. 1888 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* 755 The *Hydroidea*..the second order of Craspedota, contains both *non-colonial and colonial hydroids. 1632 *Star Chamb. Cases* (Camden) 125 [He] was excepted against by Mr. Hudson for a *non-competent witnesse. 1641 SIR E. DERING *Sp. conc. Laud* iii. 11 Wee may prosecute *non concludent Arguments. 1667 PRIMATT *City & C. Builder* Pref., If the *Non-confident Author hath been any ways defective. 1846 MILL *Logic* I. ii. § 5 A *non-connotative term is one which signifies a subject only, or an attribute only. 1775 in Chase *Hist. Dartmouth Coll.* (1891) I. 350 Furious *non-constitutional men. 1863 H. Cox *Instit.* II. xi. 567 Those courts which have a voluntary or *non-contentious jurisdiction. 1861 BERESF. HOPE *Eng. Cathedr. 19th C.* 241 The *non-cruciform Llandaff Cathedral. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 948 The *non-deliquescent sulphates ..such as sulphate of soda, &c. 1871 KINGSLEY *Lett.*, etc. (1877) II. 359 Flax and hemp would be the only *non-eatable crops here. 1877 E. CAIRD *Philos. Kant* II. xiv. 514 The power of *non-empirical ideas over the human mind. 1816 J. W. MASON *Plea Cath. Comm.* (ed. 2) 206 The inconsistency of the government of England in supporting..the *non-episcopal churches abroad. *a* 1676 HALE *Prim. Orig. Man.* I. vi. (1677) 124 A limited or *non-eternal time. *a* 1674 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* X. § 131 The not having a ship ready, if it were intended, was *non-excusable. 1641 PRYNNE *Antipathy* Ep. Ded. 3 A now-*non-extant Booke, written..in King Edward the 6. his dayes. 1831 CARLYLE *Sart. Res.* II. viii, Two little visual Spectra of men..simultaneously..explode one another into Dissolution; and off-hand become Air, and Non-extant! 1879 *St. George's Hosp. Rep.* IX. 720 Medical officers of health hear of all the fatal cases of any infectious disease.., but by no means of all the *non-fatal cases. 1870 ROLLESTON *Anim. Life* 59 A point corresponding to the junction of the fimbrate with the *non-fimbriate portion of the mantle. 1731 BAILEY vol. II, **Non-floriferous* .. bearing no Flowers. 1833 DARWIN in *Life & Lett.* (1887) I. 243 The country is *non-fossiliferous. 1657 *Rec. Presb. Dingwall* (S.H.S.) 291 The *nonharmonious concurrence of the parochiners to that transplantatione. 1849 D. CAMPBELL *Inorg. Chem.* 71 *Non-inflammable gas is prepared by distilling in a retort fragments of phosphorus with a solution of potash in alcohol. 1860 WHARTON *Law Lex.* (ed. 2), **Non issuable pleas*, those upon which a decision would not determine the action upon the merits, as a plea n abatement. 1849 BALFOUR *Man. Bot.* § 921 *Non-lactescent herbs or undershrubs. 1831 BREWSTER *Optics* Introd. 1 *Non-luminous bodies are those which have not the power of discharging light of themselves. 1884 BRITTEN *Watch & Clockm. Handbk.*, *Non-Magnetizable Watch. 1869 E. A. PARKES *Pract. Hygiene* (ed. 3) 475 Its frequent occurrence in *non-malarious places. 1875 MAX MÜLLER *Chips* IV. 317, I had divided the six great religions of the world into Missionary and *non-Missionary. 1879 WHITNEY *Skr. Gram.* 50 Before another *non-nasal mute or before a sibilant. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* I. ii. IV. i, Of those remote .. necessary causes, I have sufficiently discoursed in the precedent member, the *non-necessary follow. 1873 RALFE *Phys. Chem.* p. XV, *Non-nitrogenous fatty acids. 1767 *Phil. Trans.* LVII. 435 To swallow it, digest it, and return the *non-nutritive parts back again by the same way. 1874 GARROD & BAXTER *Mat. Med.* 283 Inferior *non-officinal cinchona barks. 1835-6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 202/2 In the *non-parasitic species [of arachnids]. 1880 HAUGHTON *Phys. Geog.* vi. 266 The *non-placental Mammals contain two great subdivisions, viz., the Marsupials and the Monotremes. 1658 PHILLIPS, **Non-principiate*,..not having a beginning. 1864 BOWEN *Logic* ix. 295 The petitio principii..consists in assuming..a *non-probable principle as probable. 1802-12 BENTHAM *Ration. Judic. Evid.* (1827) II. 308 An inferior and *non-professional sort of judge called a justice of the peace. 1862 LYTTON *Strange Story* I. xxii. 156 Among readers as non-professional as myself. 1788 T. TAYLOR *Proclus* II. 181 That which is *non-rectangular, is shewn to be greater than that which is *non-rectangular. 1832 *Planting* (Libr. Usef. Knowl.) iii. 33 *Non-reproductive or resinous trees. 1868 SWINBURNE *Blake* 132 François Villon and Aphra Behn, the two most inexpressibly *non-respectable of male or female Bohemians. 1805 SAUNDERS *Min. Waters* 27 Water..that is impregnated with a *non-respirable gas. 1865 *What is Wine* vii. 9 A crude and *non-scientific treatment of the must. 1812 SOUTHEY *Omniana* II. 251 The .. opinion that animals are *non-sentient. 1822 LAMB *Elia* Ser. I. *Distant correspondents*, In the latter [*sc.* puns], I include all *non-serious subjects. 1836-9 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* II. 432/1 Reproduction may be divided into *non-sexual and sexual. 1877 CAYLEY in *Encycl. Brit.* VI. 724/1 The classification mixes together *non-singular and singular curves. 1668 WILKINS *Real Char.* 375 The *non-spiritous, or breathless Consonants, P, T, C. 1848 JOHNSTON in *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* II. vi. 301 The structure of the mouth..proves it to be a *non-suctorial insect. 1833 ARNOTT (*title*), Elements of Physics ..written..in Plain or *Non-technical Language. 1870 H. A. NICHOLSON *Man. Zool.* lxiii. (1875) 473 The *non-venomous and most typical Snakes. 1879 *Premature Death* 61 The liability to give birth to immature and *non-viable children.

4. Prefixed to a sb. (or vbl. sb.) forming a phrase used attributively.

1906 *Westm. Gaz.* 11 Apr. 10/3 Charming Semi-detached *Non-basement Houses. 1892 in Greener *Breech Loader* 285 [Greener's No. 12 choke-bore] kills on an average at least 20 yards further than a *non-choke bore. 1882 *Contemp. Rev.* Aug. 301 The wish on the part of the *non-church people to relieve themselves of all Church questions. 1879 WHITNEY *Skr. Gram.* 60 The tip of the tongue,.. reverted into the loose lingual position by the utterance of a *non-contact lingual element. 1835 URE *Philos. Manuf.* 335 The embroidery of bobbin-net, called lace-running,.. a *non-factory household work. 1654 GATAKER *Disc. Apol.* 96 And a thousand more *non-Gospel phrases. 1853 R. S. SURTEES *Soapey Sponge* (1893) 291 D—o you, sir, I'll fight you, sir, any *non-hunting day you like, sir, except Sunday. 1884 *Law Rep.* 14 Q. B. Div. 262 Persons who were doing on *non-market days that which they could only do legally on market days. *a* 1687 PETTY *Pol. Arith.* I. (1691) 26 Jews, and *Non-Papist Merchant-Strangers. 1880 *Standard* 15 Dec., Mr. Fawcett's..speech..was..almost entirely of a *non-party character. 1890 W. J. GORDON *Foundry* 26 The breech-block is linked to the body and mounted on a *non-recoil carriage. 1846 *Penny Cycl.* Suppl. II. 234/1 The *non-restraint system [in asylums]. 1893 *Times* 25 Apr. 9/3 The total produce of *non-tax revenue would be 85,000 more than last year. 1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Lab.* II. 39/2 Other small *non-thoroughfare courts, sometimes called blind alleys. 1836 PUSEY in Liddon *Life Pusey* (1893) I. xviii. 421 He argues..against the *non-transmission doctrine.

5. Prefixed to an infinitive, as *non-act* = not to act, to refuse, neglect, or omit to act.

1645 *Non-act [see NON-CONSENT]. 1818 BENTHAM *Ch. Eng. Catech. Exam.* 294 Keeping eyes shut or open at

pleasure, to *non-answer or false answer to questions. 1846 De Quincey *Wellesley* Wks. 1858 VIII. 28 A war administration, that ever feebly misapplied or lazily *non-applied the resources of a mighty empire. 1676 W. Hubbard *Happiness of a People* 40 The civill power..ought to *non-licentiate him that shall take upon him..to prescribe to the people poysonous Drugs.

6. Prefixed to ppl. adjs., as *non-articulated* = not articulated, *non-budding* = not budding, that does not bud.

Such compounds are very common in scientific use.

1861 Bentley *Man. Bot.* I. iii. § 3 When a leaf separates from the stem, it either does so by decaying upon it, when it is said to be *non-articulated ; or [etc.]. 1856 *Oxford & Camb. Mag.* Apr. 237/2 The *non-attached students no longer receiving help from the religious houses, fell away. 1836 J. M. Gully *Magendie's Formul.* (ed. 2) 186 A *non-azotized animal or vegetable substance. 1846 Dana *Zooph.* (1848) 69 The lateral *non-budding polyps of the branch. 1756 C. Lucas *Ess. Waters* III. 314, I poured off the *non-crystallised liquor. 1876 *Clinical Soc. Trans.* IX. 167 The tissue having become firm, even, and *non-discharging. 1864 Pusey *Lect. Daniel* ix. 561 A *non-enquiring acquiescence in doubt, which is the peril of this day. 1701 Norris *Ideal World* I. v. 279 The supposed exception .. according to the rule makes the affirmation hold the more strongly in the *non-excepted instances. 1849 Noad *Electricity* (ed. 3) 240 The *non-galvanized rabbit wheezed audibly, and made frequent attempts to vomit. 1693 *Oxford Act* II. 11 For Graduates, and *Non-graduated,..the Gall'ries are reserved. 1671 Flavel *Fount. Life* II. 3 The glorious condition of the *Non-incarnated Son of God. *a* 1661 Fuller *Worthies Shropshire* III. (1662) 3 They have flourished the owners thereof, by an *noninterrupted succession, from the time of King Edward the Confessor. 1861 H. Kingsley *Ravenshoe* xxxvii, A *non-marrying man, as the slang goes. 1843 Pereira *Treat. Food & Diet* 36 That *non-nitrogenised foods alone are incapable of supporting animal life. 1873 Spencer *Stud. Sociol.* iii. 61 Minute *non-nucleated portions of protoplasm. 1801 Davy in *Phil. Trans.* XCI. 399 The wire from the *non-oxidating surface. 1776 Da Costa *Elem. Conchol.* x. 187 Their shape so much resembles the Sea Ears, that most authors..call them *non-perforated Sea Ears. 1888 Rolleston & Jackson *Anim. Life* 122 The pigmented cells are widest at their inner, the *non-pigmented at their outer ends. 1826 Hood *Irish Schoolm.* ix, Below he wears the nether garb of males, Of crimson plush, but *non-plushed at the knee. 1622 in Rushw. *Hist. Coll.* (1659) I. 64 Not onely for a help for the *Non preaching, but withall for a pattern..for the Preaching Ministers. 1885 *Spectator* 10 Jan. 51/2 The cynical and unprincipled, or at least *non-principled, time of which he writes. 1761 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 101 At Malta the bailiff Marulli has just made a call of all the knights professed and *non-professed. 1797 *Monthly Mag.* III. 266 The qualifications, which entitle a person to be a candidate for the medals, wholly preclude the *non-reading men from a competition. 1824 *Gradus ad Cantabr.* 1780 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 262/2 Many..killed themselves with drinking *non-rectified spirits. 1684 E. Chamberlayne *Pres. St. Eng.* II. (ed. 15) 138 The rest of his Majesties established Forces..being *non-regimented. 1836 J. M. Gully *Magendie's Formul.* (ed. 2) 130 *Non-saturated hydrochloric acid. 1853 R. S. Surtees *Soapey Sponge* lxiii. (1893) 337 The *non-sporting inmates of Nonsuch House. 1868 Carpenter *Microscope* § 570 (ed. 4) 729 The 'smooth' or *Non-striated form of Muscular fibre. 1776 Da Costa *Elem. Conchol.* IV. 80 Univalves, in which they comprehend both the *non-turbinated and turbinated. 1864 E. Yates *Broken to Harness* xxxii, The first drops ..causing an immediate consternation..among the *non-umbrellaed spectators. 1892 J. Tait *Mind in Matter* (ed. 3) 336 Bipeds and quadrupeds, winged and *non-winged beasts.

b. Prefixed to combs. formed with ppl. adjs.

1866 Aitken *Pract. Med.* II. 43 In the *non-beer-drinking countries. 1877 Raymond *Statist. Mines & Mining* 66 The.. *non-gold-producing strata of serpentine. 1888 Bryce *Amer. Commw.* II. App. 640 The *non-office-holding delegates from the same States. 1848 Mill *Pol. Econ.* III. vi. § 3 Slave-grown will exchange for *non-slave-grown commodities [etc.]. 1837 Calhoun *Sp.* Wks. 1864 III. 118 The people now receive the notes of *non-specie-paying banks.

7. Prefixed to gerunds and vbl. sbs., as *non-accompanying* = failure or neglect to accompany.

1573 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* II. 227 For *nonaccumpaneing him to ane raid. 1657 *Burton's Diary* (1828) II. 37 The clause about the *non-alienating the revenue was read. 1657 Baxter *Pres. Thoughts* 8 The *non-apostatizing of the Elect. 1683 J. Corbet *Free Actions* III. xxxiii. 52 The *non-ascertaining of an Event doth not render it impossible. 1444 *Paston Lett.* I. 50 [He] is right sory of the matier that is cause of your *noun comyng hedir. *a* 1641 Bp. Mountagu *Acts & Mon.* (1642) 532 Her [the Virgin's] *non-conceiving of humane seed. 1564 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 304 For *non desisting of the landis of Castellwod. 1547 *Act 1 Edw. VI*, c. 14 § 34 It shall not be lefull..to enter into.. anny Landes..for the *non doing not naminge or none fyndinge of anny suche preist. 1655 Boyle *Occas. Refl.* (1848) 35, I could never suspect that the *Non-employing of their thoughts could be their Choice rather than their Punishment. 1525 *Sc. Acts Jas. V* (1814) II. 298 In caiss of *Non-finding souirtie. 1901 *Essex Herald* 9 Apr 2/4 Many of the cases are for *non-labelling margarine. 1472-3 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 49/2 Charged in defaute of *non-makyng of the said pavement. 1472-5 *Ibid.* 155/2 If any Custumer..be necligent..in *noon pakkyng of the same Clothes. 1650 Weekes *Truth's Conflict* i. 23 If everlasting life imply *non-perishing. 1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 160 Whos neclygence in *non-Punyshynge of hare nacionys and Subiectes. 1571-2 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* II. 125 For *non-putting the said Maister Allane Stewart to libertie. 1439 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 27/1 For ye *nounreceivyng of ye saide ordre. 1538 *Aberd. Reg.* XV. 651 (MS.), The *nonredding of his buycht [=booth]. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VIII* 30 The greate wronges .. quhilk we hane suffred .. in vpberyng, maynsweryng, *nounredressyng of Attemptates. *a* 1680 Charnock *Attrib. God* (1834) I. 94 By the *non-regarding of God men rush into evil. 1791 Paine *Rights of Man* (ed. 4) 15 A law not repealed continues in force..because it is not repealed ; and the *non-repealing passes for consent. 1533 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* VI. 131 Lettrez .. to be send to my lord Maxwell for *non-ryding on the bordouris. 1651 Baxter *Inf. Bapt.* Apol. 14 He had so sharply dealt with Mr. Marshall for *non-syllogizing. 1833 Chalmers in *Mem.* (1851) III. 409 We had as much talk as his *non-understanding of my dialect could admit. 1681 Wood *Life* 3 July, His dispensation for *non visiting and not circuiting.

8. Prefixed to adverbs, as *non-contentiously* = not contentiously.

1885 *Manch. Exam.* 28 Mar. 5/4 Everything is plain when it is looked at *non-contentiously. 1875 J. H. Collins *Metal Mining* 105 The steam is used *non-expansively. 1879 Thomson & Tait *Nat. Phil.* I. I. § 107 A symmetrical cup..when..set spinning *non-nutationally. 1814 Sir R. Wilson *Priv. Diary* (1862) II. 308 It is..believed to have been printed *non-officially by the connivance of government. 1822 Lamb *Elia* Ser. I. *Distant correspondents*, Subjects serious in themselves, but treated..*non-seriously. 1882 Vines tr. *Sachs' Bot.* 235 The new plants..have the power..of propagating *non-sexually by the formation of gonidia. 1873 Leland *Egypt. Sk. Bk.* 37 He shook his head *non-understandingly. 1882 Minchin *Unipl. Kinematics* 181 Energy of *non-vortically moving Liquid.

Non-abi·lity. [Non- 1.] Inability, incapacity ; *spec.* inability to commence a suit at law.

c 1477 Caxton *Jason* 27 b, Jason..thanked..the nobles.. for their goode purchase in excusing gretly him self of nonhabilite. 1531 *Dial. on Laws Eng.* II. 75 So that the title of examinacion of habilite or none habilite be nat therby taken fro the ordinaries. 1612 Davies *Why Ireland*, etc. (1787) 72 The infancy of King Edward the Sixth, and the coverture of Queen Mary (which are both non abilities in the law) did in fact disable them to accomplish the conquest of Ireland. 1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* VII. xiii. 364 Nor will it be easie to obtrude such desperate attempts unto Aristotle, upon a non ability or unsatisfaction of reason, who so often acknowledged the imbecility thereof. *a* 1697 Aubrey *Lives* (1898) I. 124 For want of management, and his non-ability, it came to nothing.

Non-abju·ror. *Hist.* [Non- 2. After *nonjuror.*] One who refused to take the oath of Abjuration imposed in 1703.

1893 *Dict. Nat. Biogr.* XXXIV. 426 In the winter of 1705 an information was sworn against him [*sc.* John McBride] as a non-abjuror.

† **Non-a·ble,** *a. Obs.* [Non- 3.] Impotent.

1552 Huloet, Nonable, *impotens.*

Non-a·bsolute, *a.* (*sb*). [Non- 3.] Not absolute ; (with *the*) that which is not absolute.

1830 Coleridge *Table-t.* 1 May, A fall of some sort or other—the creation, as it were, of the non-absolute—is a fundamental postulate of the moral history of man. 1879 Noad & Preece *Electr.* 209 The common non-absolute unit of work involving the product of a weight into a length is styled kilogramme or foot pound.

Non-acce·ptance. [Non- 1.] Neglect or refusal to accept.

1682 Scarlett *Exchanges* 35 He that hath a Bill of Exchange in Possession, which was not accepted,..and so is protested for Non-Acceptance. 1766 Blackstone *Comm.* II. xxx, The payee, or indorsee may protest it for non-acceptance. 1809 R. Langford *Introd. Trade* 22 Re-exchange means the damages incurred by non-acceptance and non-payment. 1892 J. Tait *Mind in Matter* (ed. 3) 33 Non-acceptance of the findings of perception unsettles the judgment.

So **Non-acce·ptant** *a.*, refusing to accept.

1718 *Freethinker* No. 56 ▸ 3 It forces the Non-acceptant Party of that Kingdom, zealously to espouse the Interests of the Duke Regent.

Non-accepta·tion. *rare.* [Non- 1.] = Non-acceptance.

1622 Malynes *Anc. Law-Merch.* 403 The Notarie doth make the Protest, both for the non-acceptation, and for the non-payment, reciting the Bill of Exchange *verbatim.*

Non-a·ccess. *Law.* [Non- 1.] Impossibility of access for sexual intercourse, as in the case of a husband being abroad or at sea.

1799 *Sporting Mag.* XIII. 333 A declaration of non-access within a certain time. 1857 Greenleaf *Treat. Law Evidence* I. § 28. 38 *note*, Non-access is not presumed from the fact that the wife lived in adultery with another. 1891 *Daily News* 19 Dec. 7/2 The paternity was denied by the petitioner on the ground of non-access.

Non-act, *sb.* [Non- 1.] Something which is not an act ; failure to act.

1645 Rutherford *Tryal & Tri. Faith* (1845) 288 Faith .. turneth all these acts..half to non-acts. 1726 Ayliffe *Parergon* 195 'Tis not a Non-act, which introduces a custom. 1848 Wharton *Law Lex.*, *Non-act*, a forbearance from action, the contrary to act.

† **Non-addre·ss.** *Obs.* [Non- 5.] Refusal to join in the address of Parliament to the King. So † **Non-addre·sser,** † **Non-addre·ssing** *vbl. sb.*

1657-8 in *Burton's Diary* (1828) II. 432 The Parliament, after the vote of non-addresses, did declare for a House of Lords. 1681 Luttrell *Brief Rel.* (1857) I. 100 Who agreed with the nonaddressers that the proceedings of the addressers was unwarrantable. 1681 T. Flatman *Heraclitus Ridens* No. 23 (1713) I. 155 That..the Non-Addressers [be accounted] as true Protestants as those who voted the Non-Addresses to the late King. 1687 *Reply Oxf. Clergy* in Somers *Tracts* I. (1745) 246 Is Non-addressing a Matter of Faith ; or Addressing, contrary to the Rule of good Manners?

Non-admi·ssion. [Non- 1.] Neglect or refusal to admit.

1681 Wood *Life* (O. H. S) II. 541 Mr. vice-Chancellor .. not returning.., occasion'd the D^or^'s non-admission till the day after. 1726 Ayliffe *Parergon* 65 In the Imperial Chamber this vulgar answer is not admitted. ..And the reason of this Non-admission is, because of its great uncertainty. 1802-12 Bentham *Ration. Judic. Evid.* (1827) III. 262 *note*, For the purpose of forming a pretence for non-admission.

Non-adve·rtence. [Non- 1.] Want of advertence or attention (*to*). So **Non-adve·rtency.**

1536 Bellenden *Cron. Scot.* (1821) I. 209 In aventure thay nuris sic displesour to thaimself, be thair non-advertence. *a* 1677 Manton *Serm. Ps. cxix*, liv. Wks. 1872 VII. 18 Non-advertency to heavenly doctrine is the bane of many. 1826 R. Hall *Wks.* (1832) VI. 385 In a state of disunion from God, and non-advertence to the prospect of eternity.

Nonage [1] (nōu·nĕdʒ). Forms : 4-5 nownage, 5 noun age, nounage, 5-6 nowne age, noneage, non(e) age, 6 nonai(d)ge, noon aege, nonadge, noonage, 7 nonnage, 6-8 non-age, 5- nonage. [a. AF. *nounage* = OF. *nonage*, f. *non-* (see Non-) + *age* Age *sb.*]

1. The condition of being under age ; the period of legal infancy ; minority.

In the first quot., app. a payment due to the King when an estate fell to a minor.

1399 Langl. *Rich. Redeles* IV. 6 Ne þe nownagis þat newed him euere, As marche and moubray and many mo oþer. 1424 *Plumpton Corr.* (Camden) p. l, The farme of our tenants..quilk to us petteyns because of nonage of the heire of Sir Robert Plompton. *c* 1450 *Chron. Eng.* cclii. (Caxton) 326 b, The duk of gloucestre vmfrey the kynges vncle had ben protectour of Englond alle the none age of the kyng. 1523 *Act 14 & 15 Hen. VIII*, c. 14 § 2 That the feoffees or executours..have..the Londes and Tenementes.. during the nonage of every such heir. 1633 Earl Manch. *Al Mondo* (1636) 121 Christ..went up to the Temple in his Nonage. 1690 Locke *Govt.* II. vi. § 57 To inform the Mind, and govern the Actions of their yet ignorant Nonage, till Reason shall take its Place. 1768 Blackstone *Comm.* III. 332 In case of a suit to reverse a fine for non-age of the cognizor, or to set aside a statute or recognizance entered into by an infant. 1821 Scott *Kenilw.* i, I have..permitted ..all of you to use your pleasure with the frolics of my nonage. 1877 Miss Yonge *Cameos* IV. xvii. 178 She viewed as invalid all that was done in her brother's nonage. 1892 Stevenson *Across the Plains* 179 He had passed a riotous nonage.

† **b.** Phr. *Of nonage* : minor. *At, in nonage* : in one's minority. *Obs.*

1484 *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 318 If he be a childe of none eage. 1565 Cooper *Thesaurus* s.v. *Deponere*, To committe the money of..children in none age, to the.. keping of the citee. 1638 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* (ed. 2) 109 At that time Zeifadin was King (in nonage) ruled by Atar a spitefull Eunuch. 1715 Chappelow *Way to get Rich* (1717) 171 You are like heirs at non-age. 1788 Reid *Active Powers* IV. v. 614 Children in nonage act voluntarily.

c. *transf.* of plants.

1660 Sharrock *Vegetables* 18 [Plants] able to abide the sharp winter in their nonage. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* II. 497 In their tender Nonage, while they spread Their Springing Leafs. *a* 1720 J. Hughes *Claudianus*, That folded in its tender nonage lies, A beauteous bud.

2. *fig.* The period of immaturity ; the early stage in the growth or development of anything.

1584 Lyly *Sappho* IV. ii. 39 She is in her Nonage for affections. 1586 A. Day *Eng. Secretary* I. (1625) A 2 This booke rudely digested, and then roughly delivered I did in the very nonage thereof recommend unto your patronage. 1639 Fuller *Holy War* V. xxviii. (1647) 277 The loadstone to draw their affection, (now out of non-age) must present itself necessary. *c* 1645 Howell *Lett.* II. lv. (1655) 47 In the nonage of the world, men and beasts had but one buttery which was the fountain and river. 1700 Dryden *Fables* Pref. *B 2 b, Even after Chaucer there was a Spencer, a Harrington, a Fairfax, before Waller and Denham were in being ; And our Numbers were in their Nonage till these last appear'd. 1814 Cary *Dante, Inf.* XXIV. 1 In the year's early nonage. 1820 Scott *Monast.* xx, A song, 'which.. the inimitable Astrophel, whom mortals call Philip Sidney, composed in the nonage of his muse'. 1871 Farrar *Witn. Hist.* iii. 116 Nations outgrew their spiritual nonage.

3. *attrib.*, as *nonage time, youth.*

1619 T. Taylor *Comm. Titus* ii. 11 This present world is our nonage time, wherein we must be schooled to these lessons. 1628 Wither *Brit. Rememb.* VII. 231 Those nonage Youths, to whom our Lawes deny A pow'r in things that smaller trust imply.

Nonage [2] (nōu·nĕdʒ). [ad. eccl. L. *nōnāgium*, f. *nōn-us* ninth : see -age.] (See quot.)

1848 Wharton *Law Lex.*, *Nonagium* or *Nonage*, a ninth part of moveables which was paid to the clergy on the death of persons in their parish.

† **No·naged,** *a. Obs.* [f. Nonage [1] + -ed [2]. Cf. OF. *nonaagié.*] Belonging to the period of nonage ; in one's nonage, minor. Also *fig.*

1601 *Acts Privy Council* XXXI. 241 In the behalfe of Peter de la Rocque and his nonaged bretheren. 1613 W. Browne *Brit. Past.* I. v, Here could I..tell the world, the Muses loue appeares In nonag'd youth, as in the length of yeeres. 1643 Quarles *Embl.* III. xiii, My nonag'd day already points to noon. 1645 — *New Distemper* Wks. (Grosart) I. 155/1 We might have taken an advantageous leisure and mature deliberation to ripen every Bill, and, by degrees, to rectifie every nonag'd Grievance.

Nonagenarian (nɒnădʒĭnē·rĭăn), *a.* and *sb.* [f. L. *nōnāgēnāri-us* (f. *nōnāgēnī* ninety each) : see -ian.]

A. *adj.* Ninety years old, or between ninety and a hundred. **B.** *sb.* A person of such age.

1804 [R. Graves] (*title*), The Invalid : with the obvious means of enjoying..long life. By a Nonagenarian. 1817 Byron *Let.* 9 Apr., This nonagenarian..must be one of the 'deux fils'. 1865 *Morning Star* 4 Jan., Eight nonagenarians died in the week. The oldest were two widows aged 95 and 96. 1893 *Nation* 20 July 49/3 Her nonagenarian Béarnese grandmother.

†**Nonage·nary.** *Obs. rare*⁻¹. [ad. L. *nonāgēnāri-us*: see prec.] (See quot.)

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 10 As for Mars, as he is neerer vnto the Sun, so feeleth he the Sun beames by a quadrant aspect, to wit ninetie degrees, whereupon that motion tooke the name, called the first and second Nonagenarie from both risings.

Nonagesimal (nɒnădʒe·sĭmăl), *a.* and *sb. Astr.* [f. L. *nōnāgēsim-us*, ordinal of *nōnāginta* ninety: see -AL. Cf. F. *nonagésimal.*]

A. *adj. Nonagesimal degree, point*: that point of the ecliptic which is highest above the horizon at any given time, being 90° above the point at which the ecliptic intersects the horizon.

1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Nonagessimal Degree*, is the highest Point, or 90th Degree of the Ecliptick. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) II. 522/2 Sometimes she stands, as it were, upright on her lower horn, and then such a line [*sc.* touching the points of the moon's horns] is perpendicular to the horizon: when this happens she is in what the astronomers call the nonagesimal degree. 1833 HERSCHEL *Astron.* iv. 182 The altitude of its highest point or as it is sometimes called, the nonagesimal point of the ecliptic. 1862 G. C. LEWIS *Astron. Ancients* IV. § 1 The angle of the east, which is now called the nonagesimal degree.

B. *sb.* The nonagesimal degree.

1789 *Phil. Trans.* LXXIX. 59, I have calculated them two different ways, viz. by the method of parallactic angles, and by the method of the nonagesimal. 1815 BURNEY *Falconer's Marine Dict.* s.v., The altitude of the nonagesimal is equal to the angle of the east, and, if continued, passes through the poles of the ecliptic. 1834 *Nat. Philos.* III. *Astron.* (Libr. Usef. Knowl.) xii. 252/1 What we have here called the longitude of the zenith, is often called the longitude of the nonagesimal.

†**Nonage·sime,** *a.* [ad. L. *nōnāgēsim-us*: see prec. Cf. F. *nonagésime.*] = prec. A.

1653 SHAKERLEY *Tabulæ Britan.* 73 Finde the Node ascendent, and subtract it from the Nonagesime degree. 1771 *Phil. Trans.* LXI. 438 To find the nonagesime or 90th degree of the ecliptic from the horizon.

Nonagon (nɒ·năgɒn). *Geom.* [irreg. f. L. *nōn-us* ninth, after *hexagon.* Cf. OF. *nonogone.*] A figure having nine angles; an enneagon.

1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. xvi. (Roxb.) 98/1 An Henneagon, or Enneagon or Nonagon, a fort of nyne corners. *a* 1696 SCARBURGH *Euclid* (1705) 174 Of the..Nonagon, Euclide makes no mention. 1817 COLEBROOKE *Algebra* 93 Next the proof of the side of the nonagon is shown. 1842 GWILT *Archit.* 1008.

b. Used *adj.* Nine-angled.

1754 POCOCKE *Trav.* (Camden) I. 72 They are making a nonagon building..where poultry..are to be kept.

†**No·nan,** *a. Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *nōnān-us*, f. *nōn-us* ninth: see -AN. Cf. OF. *nonain.*] Applied to a fever recurring every ninth (*i.e.* eighth) day.

1657 *Expert Physician* 123 The Quintan, Sextan, Septan, and Nonan Feavers, differ not from intermitting Feavers. 1892 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Nonane* .. Formerly applied to an erratic fever returning on the ninth day.

Nonane (nō·nen). *Chem.* [f. L. *nōn-us* ninth + -ANE 2 b.] A hydrocarbon (C_9H_{20}), being the ninth of the methane series. 1868 FOWNES *Chem.* 551.

Non-appa·rent, *a.* [NON- 3.] Not apparent. Also *absol.* with *the.*

1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1811) IV. 188 Dorcas no sooner found them, than she assembled these ready writers of the non-apparent. *a* 1835 M'CULLOCH *Attributes* (1843) II. xxxiv. 306 We do not know whether it is dormant or acting when it is non-apparent. 1880 *Contemp. Rev.* Feb. 199 Nature being at most a secondary manifestation of that which is now non-apparent and supernatural.

Non-appea·rance. [NON- 1.] Failure or neglect to appear, *esp.* in a court of law, as a party to a suit or as a witness.

1475 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 134/1 Londes..which they forfetted by their noun apperaunce. 1562 *Act* 5 *Eliz.* c. 9 § 12 The Loss..that the Party..shall sustain by reason of the Non-appearance of the said Witness. *a* 1676 HALE *Prim. Orig. Man.* (1677) 161 Arts and Sciences..have their non-appearances for some Ages, and then seem first to discover themselves where before they were not known. 1768 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* III. x. 193 Through their default or non-appearance in a possessory action, they were..without any remedy. 1846 BROWNING *Luria* i, The non-appearance of our foe's ally. 1874 STUBBS *Const. Hist.* (1897) I. iii. 60 Although it does not follow that it was unknown to them, its non-appearance is a presumptive evidence of superior simplicity of organisation.

So **Non-appea·rer,** one who fails to appear.

1755 MAGENS *Insurances* II. 145 The Proceedings..against the Non-Appearers .. shall be from three Days to three Days, for the first, second, and third Default.

Non-a·rcking, *ppl. a. Electr.* Also -arcing. [f. NON- 6 + ARC 5.] Of a metal: That does not form a voltaic arc or allow it to be formed.

1895 *Standard Dict.*, *Non-arcing.* 1899 *Min. Proc. Inst. Civil Engin.* CXXXVI. 44 Arresters of the short-gap type having a resistance in series are of more value than the non-arcking metal type.

Nonary (nō·nări), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. L. *nōnāri-us*, f. *nōn-us* ninth.] A. *adj. Arith. Nonary scale*: a scale of notation having nine as its basis.

1870 SONNENSCHEIN & NESBITT *Sci. & Art Arith.* I. 114 Add..in the nonary scale 1235, 7834 [etc.]. 1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XV. 215 The numbers..being kept in the nonary scale.

B. *sb.* 1. A group of nine.

1666 BP. S. PARKER *Free & Impart. Censure* (1667) 83 This Ternary of Hierarchies, and Nonary of Orders do Circulate about the three fold Essence of God. 1839 *Fraser's Mag.* XX. 205 The terrestrial gods and demigods will..form two ogdoads, and not a septenary and nonary, as Manetho has them.

2. A fever recurring every ninth (*i.e.* eighth) day.

1747 tr. *Astruc's Fevers* 63 A tertian may also seem to be a nonary, its paroxysms being suppressed, except those which fall on every 9th day.

Non-ascri·pt, *a.* [ad. mod.L. (*scholaris*) *non-ascriptus*, unattached student.] = NON-COLLEGIATE.

1897 ESCOTT *Social Transform. Vict. Age* xiv. 181 The formal consent to his life in lodgings of his parents..was.. required from the non-ascript undergraduate.

‖**Non assumpsit** (nɒn ăsʷmpsit). *Law.* [L. = 'he did not undertake'.] A plea in an action of assumpsit by which the defendant denies that he made any promise or undertaking.

1631 *Star Chamb. Cases* (Camden) 78 That the plaintiff had brought an action of the case against Rickby, the defendant, and upon *non assumpsit.* 1678 W. BROWN *Entring Clerk's Vade Mecum* 108 *marg.*, As to the first, second, and third promises the Defendant pleads Non assumpsit. 1768 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* II. xx. 305. 1824 STEPHEN *Pleading* 175 In Trespass on the case (in the species of *assumpsit*), the general issue is called the plea of *non assumpsit.*

Non-atte·ndance. [NON- 1.] Failure or neglect to attend.

1687 LO. HALIFAX *Cautions Choice M. P.* 5 Non-Attendance in former Parliaments ought to be a Bar against the Choice of Men who have been guilty of it. 1763 *Chron. in Ann. Reg.* 94 Penalties for non-attendance as militia men. 1824 SYD. SMITH *Wks.* (1867) II. 55 The weekly fines levied upon Catholics for non-attendance upon public worship. 1884 *Law Times Rep.* LI. 103/1 A judge should have power to commit for non-attendance as a witness.

†**Non-atte·ndancy.** *Obs.* [NON- 1.] Inattention.

a 1677 MANTON *Serm. Ps. cxix*, c. (1687) 217 Non-attendency, or inadvertency, prejudicate opinions and rooted lusts.

So †**Non-atte·ndingly** *adv.*, inattentively.

1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* I. iii. § 37. 160 We have all experience of our doing many animal actions non-attendingly, which we reflect upon afterwards.

‖**Non avenu** (nonavnü). Also *erron.* -ue. [Fr.] Not having happened.

1840 THACKERAY *Paris Sk. Bk.* I. 123 Otherwise the deed became null and non-avenue. 1887 BARON H. DE WORMS *Mem. Ct. von Beust* I. Introd. p. lvii, The incident was considered, in diplomatic language, as *non avenu.*

Non-being. [NON- 7.]

1. a. The condition of not being; non-existence.

c 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* II. xvi. 242 These men..concludiden ..that al the bodili heuen..was euer without bigynnyng of tyme, and schal euer be without corrupcion and without noon being. 1645 BALL *Sphere Gov.* 8, I conceive..power.. to consist rather in reason positive then negative, in beeing rather then in non-beeing. 1765 HARRIS *Three Treat.* Notes 267 Contingents .. were equally susceptible both of Being and Non-being. 1899 DZIEWICKI *Wyclif's De Logica* III. p. xxxv, Whether the non-being of the world preceded its being.

b. A non-existent thing.

1662 J. CHANDLER *Van Helmont's Oriat.* 25 Of a non-Being, no conception, no figure, and no understanding, doth answer. 1793 T. TAYLOR *Sallust*, etc. xvii. 83 It is impossible that any thing can be generated from non-beings.

†2. Not being present. *Obs.*

1455 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 335/2 For his nounbeyng at this your present Parlement.

Nonce (nɒns). Forms: 3 [to þan anes], *Ormin* naness, 4-5 nonis, 4-6 nones, nonys, nons, nonest (5 nownes, noones, -ys, 6 nonst(e, 6-7 nonse, 8-9 *dial.* noance; *Sc.* and *north.* 4 nanyse, 4-5 nanes, 5-6 -is), 6- nonce. [orig. in the ME. phrases *to þan ane*, **for þan ane*, *to þan anes*, **for þan anes*, the last of which was altered by wrong division (as in *a newt* for *an ewt*) to *for þe nanes, nones*, literally = for or with a view to the one (thing, occasion, etc.). The genitival form *anes* was substituted for the original dative *ane* probably by analogy with the synonymous pairs *ane* and *anes*, *ene* and *enes* = ONCE. For the forms *nonest*, *nonst*, cf. *onest*, *onst* for *ones*, ONCE, *amidst* for *amiddes.*]

1. For the nonce: a. For the particular purpose; on purpose; expressly. Often with inf. or clause expressing the object or purpose. *Obs.* exc. *dial.*

c 1200 *Ormin* 7160, & wel itt mihhte ben þatt he Wass gramm..All forr þe naness, forr þatt he Swa wollde don hiss lede To ben all þess te mare offdredd Off himm & off hiss eȝȝe. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 5795 He com & mette him in a wode & bed him abyde, & he adde uor þe nones tueye suerdes bi is syde. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 108 Steuen com for þe nons, þis lond to haf he þouht. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 381 A Cook they hadde with hem for the nones, To boille the chiknes with the mary-bones. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 173/2 For the nonys, *idcirco, ex proposito. c* 1450 *Merlin* 420 For the dredde that theire beerdes sholde growe she lete a-noynte her chynnes with certeyn oynementes made for the nones. 1533 MORE *Answ. to poysoned Bk.* Wks. 1055/1 Thys bread is bread descending from heauen for the nones that whoso may eate and be fedde of that, shall not perish by euerlasting death. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII*, 216 She withdrewe her into a litle place made for the nones on the one side of the quere. 1548 UDALL, etc. *Erasm. Par. John* ii. 5-8 Jesus deferred yᵉ myracle for the nonest, because the lacke of wyne should be the better perceiued of euery body. 1596 SHAKS. *1 Hen. IV*, I. ii. 201, I haue Cases of Buckram for the nonce, to immaske our noted outward garments. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* XXIII. xxiii. 490 Trifling out the time for the nonce and of purpose [orig. *sedulo*]. 1670 LASSELS *Voy. Italy* II. 128 They buryed her alive in a low vault made for the nonce. 1760-72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) I. 80 The least locomotive faculty, in the meanest reptile, must ..be provided with..nerves, tubes, reservoirs, levers, and pulleys, for the nonce. 1853 W. D. COOPER *Sussex Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Nonce*, purpose, intent, design. 'He did it for the nonce.' Still in frequent use in S. and Hants. 1887 *Kentish Gloss.*

b. In ME. poetry (and later, more or less archaically) used as a metrical tag or stop-gap, with no special meaning; frequently riming with *bones* and *stones.*

c 1315 SHOREHAM *Poems* v. 233 Þare he fond flesch and blod myd þe bones, An nou he gan to crye loude for þe nones: 'My lord ich abbe y-founde.' 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 844 A hoge habel for þe nonez, & of hyghe elde. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* x. 58 The folk off Lorne..tumlit on hym stanys, Richt gret and hevy for the nanys. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 102 A stille water for the nones Rennende upon the smale stones. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1502 Of hir fleturs & fairhed is ferly to telle, Alse noble for þe nonyst as nature cold deuyse. *c* 1400 *Ywaine & Gaw.* 2051 The lyon hungerd for the nanes, Ful fast he ete raw fless and banes. *c* 1440 *Generydes* 3289 His helme was wele ordeynyd for the nonys, Right wele garnysshed with perle & precious stonys. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VIII. i. 67 Eneas..hymself doun layd..for the nanis, And gave schort rest vnto his wery banis. 1557 *Tottel's Misc.* (Arb.) 169 Behold my picture here well portrayed for the nones, With hart consumed and fallyng flesshe, lo here the very bones. 1591 SPENSER *Vision Bellay* vi, I saw her litle ones In wanton dalliance the teate to crave, While she her neck wreath'd from them for the nones. *a* 1635 CORBET *Poems* (1647) 50 Here for the nonce, Came Thomas Jonce, In St. Jileses Church to lye. 1832 L. HUNT *Poems* 289 A cup of good Corsican Does it at once; Or a glass of old Spanish Is neat for the nonce.

c. For the occasion; hence (in modern use), for the time being; temporarily.

1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* II. xvi. (Arb.) 143 If your word polysillable would not sound pleasantly whole, ye should for the nonce breake him. 1672 MARVELL *Reh. Transp.* I. 98 To make a Conscience fit for the nonse, he sayes [etc.]. 1775 WESLEY *Wks.* (1872) VII. 406 Do we not continually tell lies for the nonce, without gaining thereby either profit or pleasure? 1819 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* xxvi, I fear ..there is no one here that is qualified to take upon him, for the nonce, this same character of Father Confessor. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* vi, Converting the parlour, for the nonce, into a private tyring room. 1859 JEPHSON *Brittany* iv. 42, I therefore made a virtue of necessity, and was a good Catholic for the nonce. 1888 BRYCE *Amer. Commw.* III. lvi. (1890) II. 376 They will take the often more profitable course of fusing for the nonce with one of the regular parties.

†2. *To þan ane(s, o' the nonce* = 1 a. *With the nones*: on condition (that). *Obs.*

c 1205 LAY. 17304 Þa þet word him com to þet Brutes wolden þer don, & comen to þan anes to fæchen þa stanes. *Ibid.* 21506 Mid spæren and mid græte waȝen to þan ane icoren. *c* 1384 CHAUCER *H. Fame* III. 1009 And here I wol ensuren thee With the nones that thou wolt do so, That [etc.]. *c* 1385 — *L. G. W.* 1540 *Hypsipyle*, As wolde almighty god that I had yive My blood and flesh, so that I mighte live, With the nones that he hadde o-wher a wyf For his estat. *c* 1400 *Gamelyn* 206, I wold geve ten pound,..With the nones I fand a man to handil him sore. 1665 COTTON *Poet. Wks.* (1765) 116 She kept Sichæus' Bones In a great Coffer made o' th' nonce.

†b. *In the nonce*: at that moment, at once.

c 1475 *Hunt. Hare* 266 Y wold that..In the nownes ye had me the coppe gene, For therof had Y nede.

3. †*For the very nonce*: for the express purpose. *At the very nonce*: at the very moment.

1627 J. CARTER *Plain Expos.* 55 When they fasted, .. insteed of disfiguring their lusts, they disfigured their faces, for the very nonce; affecting rather the seeming then the substance of sanctimony. 1681 HICKERINGILL *Black Non-Conf.* iii. Wks. 1716 II. 36 If they stray, thou art a good Shepherd, reduce them; thou art well kept and paid for the very nonce. 1705 — *Priest-cr.* I. ibid. III. 4 So fitted and accoutred by Providence for the very nonce. 1855 BROWNING *Childe Roland* XXX, Fool, to be dozing at the very nonce, After a life spent training for the sight!

4. *attrib.*: **nonce-word,** the term used in this Dictionary to describe a word which is apparently used only for the nonce (see vol. I, p. xx); similarly *nonce-use*, etc.

Nonce, variant of NUNCE, nuncio.

†**Non-certai·n,** *sb. Obs.* [f. NON- 1 + CERTAIN B. 2.] Uncertainty. Chiefly in phr. *in non-certain.*

1387-8 T. USK *Test. Love* III. i. (Skeat) I. 61 Opinion is whyl a thing is in non-certayn, and hid from mens very knowleging. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 348 Al the whiles that I hove In noncertein betwen the tuo. *c* 1392 CHAUCER *Compl. Venus* 46 In noun certaine we langwisshe in penaunce. 1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 176 Hit is a grete noun certayne of good renoune, that a man Putte hym of anothyr manys mouthe to be Praysid. 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 24103 Wherfore I stonde in nonecerteyn. *c* 1430 — *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 245 This sesoun Ver stant evir in nouncerteyne.

†**Non-ce·rtain,** *a. Obs.* [NON- 3.] Uncertain.

1602 FULBECKE *1st Pt. Parall.* 9 b, When a graunt is noncertaine. *Ibid.* 37 This estate is determined, and it was certaine, but a thing non-certaine was the cause of the determination of it.

†**Non-ce·rtainty.** *Obs.* [AF. *non-certeintee*: see NON- 1 and CERTAINTY.] Uncertainty.

1475 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 129/2 By cause of the noun certeynte of the lyfe of the said Galiard. 1523 FITZHERB. *Bk. Survey.* v b, The declaracyon of this statute is doubtfull, bycause of the none certentie therof.

†**Non-certi·ficate.** *Obs.* [NON- 1.] The act or fact of not certifying. Also **Non-ce·rtifying** *vbl. sb.*, in the same sense.

1455 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 334/1 To be forfette, for the non-certificate therof. 1474 *Ibid.* VI. 116/1 For their noncertifyng lymyted and sette as is aforesaid. 1503 *Act 19 Hen. VII*, c. 13 If the same Justices..have no resonable excuse for non certefying of the same.

Nonchalance (nɒ̃nʃălăns; as Fr., nonʃalɑ̃ns). [a. F. *nonchalance*, f. *nonchalant*: see next.] The condition of being nonchalant; want of warmth of feeling or enthusiasm, lack of interest; indifference, unconcern.

1678 SAVILE *Corr.* (Camden) 73 She..is at last tired with the King's nonchalance in the prosecution of it. 1758 *Case Authors Stated* 28 With the true *Non-Chalance* of the Indifferent. 1774 MME. D'ARBLAY *Early Diary* (1889) I. 306 All the sisters then poured the incense of praise upon this Ode, to which he listened with the utmost nonchalance. 1844 DISRAELI *Coningsby* III. i, All this, too, without any excitement of manner; on the contrary, with repose amounting almost to nonchalance. 1865 *Cornh. Mag.* July 29 Neglected dames were sublime in a wretched nonchalance. 1874 L. STEPHEN *Hours in Library* (1892) I. vi. 203 Allusions to his old characters are thrown in with a calculated nonchalance.

Nonchalant (nɒ̃nʃălănt; as Fr., nonʃalɑ̃), *a.* [a. F. *nonchalant*, pres. pple. of *nonchaloir*, f. *non-* + *chaloir* (:—L. *calēre*) to be warm.] Wanting in warmth of feeling; lacking in enthusiasm or interest; indifferent.

a 1734 NORTH *Exam.* II. iv. § 147 (1740) 310 To be *non chalant* and insipid in such Matters. 1813 BYRON *Let. to Moore* 8 July, The *nonchalant* deities of Lucretius. 1841 W. GRESLEY *Portr. Churchman* (ed. 6) 83 The irreverent nonchalant demeanour of many of those who form our English congregations. 1893 *Nation* 6 July 17/3 Along with this nonchalant dealing with broad generalities, goes naturally the most careless handling of specific facts.

Hence **No·nchalantly** *adv.*, with nonchalance or indifference; **No·nchalantness** *rare*, nonchalance.

1840 BROWNING *Sordello* IV. 427 You would say, 'Twas a youth nonchalantly looked away Through the embrasure. 1878 DOWDEN *Stud. Lit.* 473 There is a manner of powerful nonchalantness. 1893 VIZETELLY *Glances Back* I. xx. 398 Our artistic friend nonchalantly lighted up his cigar and smoked in the royal bed-chamber.

†Nonchaloi·r. *Obs.* In 5 none shaloyre. [a. OF. *nonchaloir* (see NONCHALANT), inf. used as sb.] Neglect, disregard.

c 1495 *Epit. Dk. Bedford* in *Skelton's Wks.* (1843) II. 392 Gewellys of late poysyd at grete valoyre, .. Stykynge on stakes as thynges of none shaloyre.

Nonchion, obs. form of NUNCHEON.

†Non-church, *v. Obs.* [NON- 5.] *trans.* To deprive of the status of a church.

a 1679 J. BROWN *Life of Faith* (1824) II. xxi. 393 We cannot understand why He should continue the gospel long with one people and remove it quickly from another, and non-church them.

No·n-claim. *Law.* [a. AF. *nounclaim*: see NON- 1 and CLAIM *sb.*] Failure or neglect to make a claim within the time limited by law.

1488-9 *Act 4 Hen. VII*, c. 25 The Kyng..considereth that fynes ought to be of..fynall ende and conclusion, and of suche effecte were taken afore a statute made of noun cleyme. 1532 *Dial. on Laws Eng.* II. l. 128 To these cases may be resembled ye case of a fine with none clayme. 1594 WEST *2nd Pt. Symbol.* § 51 Fine and nonclaime by the space of a yeere and a day was a peremptory barre to al men. 1766 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* II. 354. 1769 *Aclome Inclos. Act* 13 The non-claim or non-acceptance of any guardian. 1858 LD. ST. LEONARDS *Handy-Bk. Prop. Law* xiii. 84 The Courts would not permit any guardian entering as such, afterwards to set up a title by non-claim against his ward.

†Non-claimer. [Cf. prec. and -ER 4.] = prec.

1701 *Expedient Propos'd* 19 Unless it be..lost by disusage and nonclaimer beyond the memory of Man.

Non-coll. *colloq.* Short for NON-COLLEGIATE.

[1874 *Non-collegiate Memoranda* 16 The score was as follows: Non-coll. 1st Innings, 124...Trinity. 1st Innings, 132.] 1879 *Durham Univ. Jrnl.* 13 Dec. 13 The Cambridge 'non-colls' have had to take their boat off the river. 1902 *Non-Collegiate Stud. Mag.* II. 118, I can't see why a clergyman because he is a Non-Coll. man shouldn't get a curacy on the same terms as any one else.

Non-colle·giate, *a.* and *sb.* [NON- 2, 3.]

A. *adj.* Not belonging to a college; belonging to the body of students (in certain universities) not attached to any particular college or hall (*scholares nulli collegio vel aulæ ascripti*). Also, occas. of a university: Not having a collegiate system.

1874 *Non-collegiate Memoranda* 2 The Board for superintending Non-collegiate Students, appointed by the University [of Cambridge]. 1876 G. W. KITCHIN *Scholares non ascripti* 5 The advantages they would certainly enjoy in a non-Collegiate University. 1884 *Add. ad Corpus Stat. Univ. Oxon.* 907 Whereas it is expedient that students in the University who are not members of any College or Hall should be designated as Non-Collegiate Students.

B. *sb.* One not educated or trained in a college; one of a non-collegiate body.

1683 (*title*), A Plea for the Chymists or Non-Colegiats. 1897 ESCOTT *Soc. Transform. Vict. Age* xiv. 186 Mr. J. A. Froude's successor in the Chair of Modern History was, throughout the greater portion of his career, a non-collegiate.

Non-com. Colloquial abbreviation of *non-commissioned officer*.

[1747 *Gentl. Mag.* XVI. 336 For 15196 commission'd and non com. in Flanders.] 1883 in *Harper's Mag.* Aug. 398/2 One mess of 'non-coms' had the addition of a..dish of roast hare. 1894 SALA *London up to Date* 178 He left the army with the rank of sergeant-major; his old commanding officer ..appreciated the worth of the valiant old non-com.

Non-co·mbatant. [NON- 2.] One who is not a combatant, as a civilian in time of war; *spec.* in the army and navy, one whose duties do not include that of fighting, as a surgeon, purser, or chaplain.

1811 WELLINGTON in Gurw. *Desp.* (1838) VIII. 493 The ..pay of non-combatants and pensioners. 1813 *Ibid.* XI. 78 In former wars, a person in your situation would have been considered a non-combatant and would have been immediately released. 1897 GEN. PORTER in *Cent. Mag.* Feb. 494 Many of the non-combatants had gone away.

b. *attrib.* or as *adj.*

1868 *Rep. to Govt. U.S. Munitions War* 196 Hospital attendants..employed in the transport of wounded.., while non-combatant and solely occupied in these duties [etc.]. 1881 E. ROBERTSON in *Encycl. Brit.* XIII. 194/1 That the non-combatant portions of the two communities should remain as though they were in a state of peace.

Non-come. Taken by some to be a nonsensical abbreviation of NON-COMPOS, but perhaps intended as a substitute for NONPLUS.

1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* III. v. 67 Wee will spare for no witte I warrant you: heere's that shall driue some of them to a non-come.

†Non-commission. *Obs.* [NON- 4. See COMMISSION *sb.*[1] 13.] = next.

1693 *Royal Proclam.* 9 Feb. in *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2844/1 To the Non-Commission-Officers. 1698 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) IV. 333 Six dayes full pay to each private trooper and non commission officer of the horse and dragoons. 1764 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 100 The petty officers of the navy and non-commission officers of the army.

Non-commi·ssioned, *a.* [NON- 6.]

1. Of officers of the army († and formerly of the navy): Not holding a commission.

1703 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3906/4 The Noncommissioned Officers and private Troopers of the Honourable Lieutenant-General Lumley's Regiment of Horse. 1764 *Low Life* 72 The Non-Commissioned Officiers, and Fore-Mast Men of all the Royal Yachts moored about Greenwich. 1813 WELLINGTON in Gurw. *Desp.* (1838) X. 469 As to the non-commissioned officers,..they are as bad as the men. 1875 *Encycl. Brit.* II. 592/2 Recruiting is carried on by parties detached, or by non-commissioned officers and men on furlough.

2. Of a ship: Not put in commission.

1868 *Rep. Neutrality Law Comm.* in *Morn. Star* 2 June, Any foreign non-commissioned ship despatched from this country after having come within it.

Non-commi·ttal, *sb.* (*a.*) [NON- 1.] Refusal to commit oneself to a particular view or course of action. (orig. *U. S.*)

1836-40 HALIBURTON *Clockm.* (1862) 449 Not lettin' on as if I know'd that he was there, for there is nothin' like a non-committal. 1876 SARAH INGHAM *White Cross* iii, The youth was reticent, and the maiden remarkable for non-committal. 1885 *Daily News* 23 Jan. 5/1 Caution, .. hesitancy, non-committal—these are ..the virtues of the hour.

b. *attrib.* or *adj.* Characterized by refusal to commit oneself to a particular view or course of action; (*esp.* of words and actions) implying neither consent nor dissent.

1851 *Fraser's Mag.* Sept. 287/2 A successful politician here [New York] is..either a blind partisan, who knows nothing outside of 'the regular ticket', or a 'non-committal' man, who says everything to everybody. 1879 J. HAWTHORNE *Laughing Mill*, etc. 112 It was written in an ordinary business hand, quite characterless and non-committal. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col.-Reformer* (1891) 174 The two sailors had the ordinary non-committal expression always observable in trained seamen.

Hence **Non-commi·ttally** *adv.*, in a non-committal manner; without committing oneself.

1885 HOWELLS *Rise Silas Lapham* I. 187 'She's a pretty girl', said Corey non-committally. 1890 *Harper's Mag.* Mar. 515/2 'Oh, yes,' she said, non-committally.

Non-commi·ttalism. [f. NON-COMMITTAL + -ISM.] Non-committal action, practice, state of mind, etc. (orig. *U. S.*)

1855 OGILVIE *Suppl.*, *Non-committalism*, in American politics, the practice or doctrine of not committing or pledging one's self. 1859 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer.* (ed. 2) s.v. (citing *N. Y. Commercial Advertiser*), On many points he ..expresses his opinion with so many qualifications as to subject himself to the charge of non-committalism. 1891 *Review of Rev.* May 456/1 An agnostic non-committalism.

Non-commu·nicant, *sb.* (*a.*) [NON- 2.] One who is not a communicant or does not communicate (e. g. at a particular service); in the 17th c. often *spec.*, one who did not communicate according to the rites of the Church of England.

1602 R. T. *Five Godlie Serm.* 146 As for the common sort of them, which are contemptuous recusants and Non communicants. 1642 *Act Gen. Assemb. Ch. Scot.* (1682) 120 The Assembly would enjoin every Presbyterie to proceed against Non-communicants, whether Papists or others, according to the Act of Parliament made thereanent. 1690 NORRIS *Beatitudes* (1694) I. 115 There is such a thing as an Unworthy Non-Communicant, as well as an Unworthy Communicant. 1708 *Brit. Apollo* No. 89. 2/1 Persons, who have been hitherto Non-Communicants. 1855 SCUDAMORE *Comm. Laity* 65 The other non-communicants being dismissed by the proclamation of the deacon. 1864 (*title*), The Pastor to the Non-communicant. 1876 *Prayer-Bk. Interleaved* 169 Non-communicants then left the quire.

b. *adj.* Not communicating.

1901 *Westm. Gaz.* 6 June 8/1 The idea of a non-communicant people was a mediæval corruption.

So **Non-commu·nicating** *vbl. sb.* (also *attrib.*) and *ppl. a.*

1691 BAXTER *Nat. Ch.* xiv. 60 All the Parish Churches are to distinguish Communicating Members from Non-communicating Inhabitants. 1861 J. E. VAUX *Pres. Whole Congreg. Holy Euch.* 5 Such non-communicating attendance was agreeable to..those divines who had the chief share in the construction of the Book of Common Prayer.

†Non-commu·nion. *Obs.* [NON- 1.]

1. Lack of communion or fellowship.

1648 GAGE *West. Ind.* xii. 63 Non-communion of prayers.

2. Refusal to communicate, *esp.* according to the rites of the Church of England. Hence **†Non-commu·nionist,** one who practises such abstention.

1644 J. DURY *Epist. Disc.* 20 Except they can make clearly appear..that the Church way of Non-Communion (for I know not what else to call it) is the only true way of God. *Ibid.* 41 The scrupulosities of the Non-Communionists.

3. Exclusion from communion.

1723 in *Narr. Proc. Synods Presbyt. Irel.* (1727) 73 For prescribing a particular form of Confession to Intrants under the penalty of Non-communion.

Non-compea·rance. *Sc. Law.* Also 6 -perence, -ance, -peirance, 7 -parence. [NON- 1.] Failure to appear in a court of law.

1532 *Acc. L.d. High Treas.* VI. 62 Certane unlawis in the quhilkis he was adjugit for non-comperence in the Tolbwith of Perth. 1582-8 *Hist. & Life Jas. VI* (1825) 66 The Duc of Chattellarault, the Abbot of Kilwynning,..and Mr. Thomas Maitland, war denouncit rebellis to the King, for noncomperance before the Regent. 1619 DR. BALCANQUAL *Let.* in Hales *Gold. Rem.* (1673) II. 108 No mans charge in private can excuse him for noncompearence before a judge, when he is cited. 1693 J. WALLACE *Descr. Orkney* 82 He being..forefaulted for non compearance to the Parliament. 1774 *Scots Mag.* XXXVI. 720/1 Elizabeth Bruce..was fugitated for non-compearance. [1893 STEVENSON *Catriona* 98 The remeid is to summon the principal and put him to outlawry for the non-compearance.]

Also **†Non-compea·ring** *vbl. sb.* = prec.

1566 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 463 Put to the horne for noncompering befoir thair majesteis.

Non-compli·ance. [NON- 1.] Failure or refusal to comply.

1687 LD. HALIFAX *Let. to Dissenter* 9 You are let loose only upon Bayl; the first Act of Non-compliance, sendeth you to jayl again. 1740 RICHARDSON *Pamela* (1824) I. 203 He was so out of humour at her supposed non-compliance, that [etc.]. 1750 BEAWES *Lex Mercat.* (1752) Pref. p. viii, The Trials about Noncompliance with accepted Bills. 1884 *Law Times Rep.* LI. 79/2 As soon as there is any..non-compliance with the rules..there is an absolute forfeiture. 1885 *Law Times* LXXVIII. 166/1 The instrument was..void for non-compliance with the Act.

Also **Non-compli·ant** *a.*, in quot. used subst., one who refuses to comply; **Non-comply·ing** *vbl. sb.*, non-compliance.

1687 H. HOLDEN in *Magd. Coll.* (O.H.S.) 175 None of them, though the danger of noncomplying was intimated to them,..would comply. 1896 *Daily News* 16 Jan. 5/5 To carry out the threat of dismissing non-compliants.

Non co·mpos. Short for NON COMPOS MENTIS.

1628 COKE *On Litt.* 247 So it is of a *Non compos*, and so it is of him *qui gaudet lucidis intervallis*. 1711 *Vind. Sacheverell* 41 Any Jury..will bring him in *Non Compos*. 1771 SMOLLETT *Humph. Cl.* (1815) 176 The Templar affirmed, that the poor fellow was 'non compos'; and exhorted the justice to discharge him as a lunatic. 1814 CHALMERS *Sp.* in *Life* (1849) I. 503 They.., like a non-compos, have resigned the management of their affairs into other hands. 1817 T. L. PEACOCK *Melincourt* I. 89 Your learned mythologist appears to be non compos. 1858 O. W. HOLMES *Aut. Breakf.-t.* ii. (Rtldg.) 45 If they were not the most stupid or the most selfish of human beings, they would become *non-compotes* at once.

‖Non compos mentis (nɒn kɒ·mpɒs me·ntis). [L. = 'not master of one's mind'.] Not *compos mentis*; not in one's right mind. Also as *sb.*

1607 COWELL *Interpr.*, *Non compos mentis* is of foure sortes. 1628 COKE *On Litt.* 246 b, Here Littl. explaneth a man of no sound memory to be *Non compos mentis*. 1692 *Jacobite Conventicle* Postscr., These men are sure *Non compos mentis*, And Bedlam must be sure Enlarg'd. 1695 CONGREVE *Love for L.* IV. xii, His son is *non compos mentis*, and thereby incapable of making any conveyance in law. 1732 FIELDING *Miser* IV. ix, Heyday! sure you are non compos mentis! 1765 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* I. viii. 294 A lunatic, or *non compos mentis*, is one who hath had understanding, but by disease [etc.] hath lost the use of his reason. 1815 W. H. IRELAND *Scribbleomania* 129 Never was scribe yet so *non compos mentis*, And ranking of Bathos more sterling apprentice. 1864 NICHOLS *Forty Years Amer. Life* II. 123 A crazy man, or one decided to be *non compos mentis*, might be challenged and his vote denied.

Non-compou·nder. [NON- 2.] One who does not compound; *spec. Hist.* a member of that section of the Jacobite party shortly after the Revolution which desired the restoration of James II without imposing any conditions on him.

1651 BIGGS *New Disp.* 41 P 77 Those [herbs] who are.. listed in the bills of mortality, excepted against in the list of non-compounders with the State of our vital Œconomy [etc.]. 1827 [see COMPOUNDER 2 b]. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xx. IV. 385 The Non-compounders thought it downright Whiggery, downright rebellion, to take advantage of His Majesty's unfortunate situation for the purpose of imposing on him any condition. 1886 A. FERGUSSON *Laird of Lag* v. 103 This incorrigible offender against Whig Rule and inveterate 'non-compounder'.

Non-con[1] (nɒ·nkɒn). *colloq.* Abbreviation of NONCONFORMIST.

1681 T. FLATMAN *Heraclitus Ridens* No. 34 (1713) I. 223 I'll say that for our Non-cons, they are in as fair a way to undo themselves, as they have been this forty Years. 1710 *Last Distemper Tom Whigg* II. 17 A Tall Two-handed Squint-ey'd Non-Con waving a Banner in the Air with all

his Force. *a* 1825 PARR in Field *Mem.* (1828) I. 137 You non-cons have done well to exchange the word meeting-house for chapel. 1862 *Westm. Rev.* Jan. 89 A chapel [in Keighley] for some section of the Methodists..who were popularly known as 'Noncons'.

attrib. 1682 T. FLATMAN *Heraclitus Ridens* No. 72 (1713) II. 191 Methinks you have much of the obscurity of a Non-Con Parson in this talk. *a* 1734 NORTH *Exam.* (1740) 645 One Rosewell, a Non-Con Teacher, convict of High Treason. 1819 PARR *Lett. to Mr. Berry* 19 Dec. Wks. 1828 VIII. 481 The undisciplined curiosity of non-con sciolists.

Non-con ². Abbreviation of NON-CONTENT.

1847 WEBSTER (citing JOHN FOSTER), *Non-content*...The word is sometimes abridged into Non-Con, and applied to any one who dissents or expresses dissatisfaction.

Non-concu·r, *v. U.S.* ? *Obs.* [NON- 5.] *trans.* To refuse to concur in or agree to.

1703 S. SEWALL *Diary* 24 July, Bristol business is Non-concurr'd by the Deputies. 1760 T. HUTCHINSON *Hist. Mass.* iii. (1765) 256 Then they non-concurred the vote. 1775 — *Diary* 23 Mar., The only way for the Commons, they say, is to non-concur the Amendment.

Non-concu·rrence. [NON- 1.] A refusal to concur (*with*).

a 1691 PIERCE (L.), Bishop Sanderson's last judgement concerning God's concurrence or non-concurrence with the actions of men. 1711 G. HICKES *Two Treat. Chr. Priesth.* (1847) I. 288 The non-concurrence of the upper house of convocation with the lower.

†**Non-concu·rrency.** *Obs.* [NON- 1.] The quality of not running together in space. So †**Non-concu·rring** *ppl. a.*

a 1696 SCARBURGH *Euclid* (1705) 31 The Attribute of these Strait Lines is Nonconcurrency. *Ibid.*, The Geometrical Notion to be conceived under that name of Parellels is Nonconcurring Strait Lines.

Non-conde·nsing, *ppl. a.* [NON- 6.] Applied to a kind of steam-engine in which the steam on leaving the cylinder is not condensed in a condenser but is discharged into the atmosphere.

1841 BREES *Gloss. Civil Engin.* 122 High-Pressure, or Non-Condensing Engine, an engine in which the cylinders are worked by the elastic force of the steam alone, without the aid of a vacuum. 1856 *Orr's Circ. Sci., Mech. Philos.* 421 Non-condensing engines are generally of the form called beam-engines. 1895 *Mod. Steam Engine* 43 Chaplin's Non-condensing Vertical-Action Steam Engine.

Non-conductibi·lity. [NON- 1.] The quality or condition of being a non-conductor.

1844 LARDNER & WALKER *Electr., Magn.*, etc. II. Index, Comparative non-conductibility of individuals. 1863 TYNDALL *Heat* vii. 231 The same quality of non-conductibility manifests itself when we wrap flannel round a block of ice.

Non-conduc·ting, *ppl. a. Physics.* [NON- 6.] That does not conduct heat or electricity; that is a non-conductor.

1771 *Phil. Trans.* LXI. 650 If any body is surrounded on all sides by the air, or other non-conducting substances, it is said to be insulated. 1821 URE *Dict. Chem.* s.v. *Electricity*, The crystalline arrangement always introduces non-conducting qualities. 1835–6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 265/1 An adequate protection of the surface of the body by means of non-conducting down and imbricated feathers.

fig. 1871 MORLEY *Condorcet* in *Crit. Misc.* Ser. I. (1878) 34 If to be of this non-conducting temperament is impossible in the greatest characters.

Non-conduc·tion. *Physics.* [NON- 1.] Failure to conduct.

1828–32 WEBSTER (citing URE). 1867 GROVE *Correl. Phys. Force* (ed. 5) 134 Sonorous vibrations, which might be called conduction and non-conduction of sound.

Non-conduc·tor. *Physics.* [NON- 2.] A substance or medium that does not permit the passage of any form of energy (as heat or electricity).

1759 *Phil. Trans.* LI. 317 Wax, when it is once in good order, will continue a non-conductor for a long time. *Ibid.* 896 Wood, properly dried, till it becomes very brown, is a non-conductor of electricity. 1857 LARDNER *Anim. Phys.* § 587 Fat..is nearly a non-conductor of heat. 1890 *Nature* 16 Oct. 601 Volcanic ash..forms one of the most effective non-conductors known.

†**Non-confo·rm,** *a. Obs.* [NON- 5. See CONFORM *a.* 3.] Nonconforming.

? 1679 *Scott. Grievances Lauderdale's Ministry* 36 He plainly turns this new Indulgence, into a universal confinement, of the whole non-conform Ministers. 1680 *Spirit of Popery* 16 The Nonconform Ministers scornfully rejected them. 1784 J. BROWN *Hist. Brit. Ch.* (1820) II. 112 The Nonconform ministers..presented a Supplication for liberty to administer the Lord's supper.

Non-confo·rm, *v.* [NON- 5.] *intr.* To fail to conform (*to*).

1681 T. FLATMAN *Heraclitus Ridens* No. 45 (1713) II. 37, I can shew you one little Yelper that Nonconforms to the whole Party. 1847 HELPS *Friends in C.* Ser. I. ii, When we talk of non-conformity, it may only be that we non-conform to the immediate sect of thought or action about us. 1852 LYNCH *Orthodoxy* in *Lett. to Scattered* (1872) 273 What..liberty of soul may belong to the men who non-conform to the world.

†**Non-confo·rmable,** *a. Obs.* [NON- 3. See CONFORMABLE 3 c.] Nonconforming.

1647 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* III. 257 The non-conformable party of the kingdom. 1672 BAXTER *Bagshaw's Scand.* iii. 32 In 1640 there were not found near half so many Non conformable Ministers as are Counties in England. 1691 WOOD *Ath. Oxon.* I. 610 Afterwards shewing himself nonconformable he was deprived of his Archdeaconry.

transf. 1670 BROOKS *Wks.* (1867) VI. 417 How wonderfully did he preserve the three children, or rather the three non-conformable champions, from burning in the midst of the flames! 1673 [R. LEIGH] *Transp. Reh.* 43 Schismatick in Poetry, though nonconformable in point of Rhyme.

Comb. 1637 W. SALTONSTALL *Eusebius' Constantine* 17 Declaring that hee should bee glad to see the Church settled in peace and concord, hating those that were stubborne, refractory, and non-conformable minded.

Nonconfo·rmably, *adv.* [NON- 8.] Not in accordance *with*.

1860 I. TAYLOR *Ess.* 42 Whatever is done conformably with order and also nonconformably with order.

Non-confo·rmance. [NON- 1.] Failure to conform *to*.

1843 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* VI. 118/1 The monks,..on account of their nonconformance to the Catholic observance of Easter, were expelled the monastery.

†**Non-confo·rmer.** *Obs.* [NON- 2.] = NONCONFORMIST.

1619 [see CONFORMER]. 1676 *Pkt. Advices to Men of Shaftesbury* 35 All other Nonconformers lay no claim to a Church-National.

Nonconfo·rming, *vbl. sb.* [NON- 7.] Failure to conform; *esp.* to the rites and discipline of the Church of England.

1682 *2nd Plea Nonconformists* 14 The Original Crime is Nonconforming; the next is not taking the Oxf. Oath. 1716 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* II. 212 [He] had been turn'd out..for Non-Subscribing or Non-Conforming.

Nonconfo·rming, *ppl. a.* [NON- 6.] Not conforming to the Church of England (or any established church); pertaining to or supporting nonconformity; = NONCONFORMIST *attrib.*

1646 SALTMARSH (*title*), Groanes for Liberty: presented from the Presbyterian (formerly Non-conforming) brethren. 1682 WOOD *Life* (O.H.S.) III. 23 Mr. John Fairclough *vulgo* Featly, a non-conforming minister. 1790 BURKE *Fr. Rev.* 12 Doctor Richard Price, a non-conforming minister of eminence, preached at the dissenting meeting-house of the Old Jewry. 1876 BANCROFT *Hist. U.S.* III. iv. 355 No non-conforming Catholic could buy land, or receive it by descent, devise, or settlement. 1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XXI. 82/1 The nonconforming sects, while helping to preserve several advantageous features of Russian life, have had a powerful influence in maintaining..the old system of the Muscovite family.

Nonconfo·rmism. [f. next: see -ISM.] The system of nonconformity.

1844 *Fraser's Mag.* XXX. 687/1 The banner of Nonconformism was unfurled. 1894 *Dubl. Rev.* July 210 Anglicanism..was created, while Nonconformism was crushed.

Nonconformist (nɒnkɒnfɔ·rmist). [NON- 2.]

1. a. (Usually with capital *N.*) Orig. in the early part of the 17th century, one who, while adhering to the doctrine of the Church of England, refused to conform to its discipline and practice (chiefly in the matter of certain ceremonies). Now *Hist.* b. Later, *esp.* after the passing of the Act of Uniformity of 1662 and the consequent ejection from their livings of those ministers who refused to conform, a member of a religious body which is separated from the Church of England; in modern use, usually = Protestant Dissenter.

The term has been sometimes applied analogically to the Puritan section of the Church of England in the reigns of Edward VI and Elizabeth.

1619 T. MORTON (*title*), A Defence of The Innocencie of the three Ceremonies of the Church of England, viz. The Surplice, Crosse after Baptisme, and Kneeling at the receiuing of the blessed Sacrament. Diuided into two Parts. In the former whereof the Generall Arguments vrged by the Non-conformists .. are answered. 1634 CANNE *Necess. Separ.* To Rdr., There is not ten of an hundred which separate from the Church of England, but are moved first thereto..by the Doctrines of the Nonconformists. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* VII. xvi. § 30. 406 Three Classes of Nonconformists:..1. Antient Non-conformists, here in King Edward's daies...2. Middle Non-conformists, in the end of Queene Elizabeth and beginning of King James...3. Modern Non-conformists. 1662 PETTY *Taxes* 7 Pecuniary mulcts such as every Conscientious Non-conformist would gladly pay. 1665 *Act* 17 *Chas. II*, c. 2 (*title*), An Act for restraining Non-Conformists from inhabiting in Corporations. 1672 MARVELL *Reh. Transp.* I 125, I suppose the Nonconformists value themselves tho upon their Conscience and not their numbers. 1732 NEAL *Hist. Purit.* I. 57 The Garments were continued which soon after divided the Reformers among themselves, and gave rise to the two parties of Conformists and Non-conformists. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* vi. II. 6 That salvation might be found in the Church of Rome..was admitted by all divines of the Anglican communion and by the most illustrious Non-conformists. 1885 *Ch. Quart.* XXI. 126 Cartwright was a Nonconformist, not a Separatist; he hated schism as much as episcopacy.

c. *gen.* One who does not conform to the doctrine or discipline of an established church.

1672 MARVELL *Reh. Transp.* I. 74 Which of these two [*sc.* Guelphs and Ghibellines] were the Nonconformists in those dayes. 1769 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* IV. iv. 51 Non-conformists are of two sorts: first, such as absent themselves from the divine worship in the established church, through total irreligion. 1837 LOCKHART *Scott* I. 205 Andrew Macdonald..then officiated as minister to a small congregation of Episcopalian nonconformists. 1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XXI. 82/1 The nonconformists [in Russia] enjoying, as a rule, a greater degree of prosperity than their Orthodox neighbours.

†2. One who does not conform to a particular practice or course of action. *Obs.*

a 1677 BARROW *Serm.* (1700) III. ix. 94 Is it just .. that I should be a Non-conformist either in publick sorrow or joy? *a* 1680 BUTLER *Rem.* (1759) II. 57 They are State-Recusants, politic Nonconformists, that .. cannot comply with the present Government. 1685 CROWNE *Sir C. Nice* II. Wks. 1874 III. 277 He..comes hither hourly to perform his devotions to me, but in such a slovenly manner; 'tis such a non-conformist to all decent ceremonies.

3. *attrib.* or as *adj.* Nonconforming; pertaining to or characteristic of Nonconformists.

1641 R. BROOKE *Eng. Episc.* 90 The Church of England hath three maine Divisions: the Conformist, the Non-Conformist and the Separatist. 1669 WHITEHEAD (*title*), The Glory of Christ's Light within expelling Darkness; being the sun of the controversie between the..Quakers, and some Non-conformist Priests. 1752 CARTE *Hist. Eng.* III. 422 These non-conformist ministers were desirous to justify their conduct by the opinions of foreign divines. 1868 M. PATTISON *Academ. Org.* 2 How are the nonconformist Children to be provided for? 1890 *Let.* in *Times* 28 Nov. 8/6 The minimum demand of the great Nonconformist party is the..abdication of Mr. Parnell...Nothing less will satisfy the Nonconformist conscience now.

Hence **Nonconformi·stical** *a.*, characteristic of Nonconformists; **Nonconformi·stically** *adv.*, in the manner of Nonconformists.

1808 SOUTHEY *Lett.* (1856) II. 66 The 'Monthly Review'..notices the book with civil Non-conformistical dullness. 1891 *Sat. Rev.* 21 Mar. 343/1 It is..the most Nonconformistically conscientious thing in the world.

†**Nonconfo·rmitan.** *Obs.* [NON- 2.] = NONCONFORMIST. Also †**Nonconfo·rmitant.** Hence †**Nonconfo·rmitancy,** nonconformity.

1618 DONNE *Serm.* (1661) III. 25 Here is the true Recusant, and the true Non-conformitan. 1627 JACKSON *Chr. Obed.* vi. Wks. 1844 XII. 299 Admit then any refractory nonconformitant could..justly presume of immunity from any temporal punishment. 1647 [J. HART] *Trodden Down Strength* 117 Being a Non-conformitan in judgment .. [he] was contented..to accept of that poore Living. *a* 1670 HACKET *Abp. Williams* II. (1692) 43 It was his judgment..to allow some of the chief..among the Non-Conformitants with some of the dignities of the Church. *Ibid.* 44 Officers Ecclesiastical did prosecute Presentments, rather against Non-conformitancy of Ministers and People, than for Debaucheries.

Nonconformity (nɒnkɒnfɔ·rmiti). [NON- 1.]

1. Refusal to conform to the doctrine, discipline, or polity of an established church, orig. and now *esp.* of the Church of England; the principles or practice of Nonconformists; in modern use, usually = Protestant dissent. Also, Nonconformists as a body. (Usually with capital *N.*)

1618 DONNE *Serm.* (1661) III. 25 He confesses that he hath received good instruction, but he refuses to conform himself unto it; there's Non-conformity. 1641 R. BROOKE *Eng. Episc.* 96 In Queen Elizabeths time many good men were cut off from the Church. ..And all this for one word of their owne compounding, Non-conformity. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* VII. 401 Non-conformity in the daies of King Edward. 1663 HEATH *Flagellum* (1672) 13 Orthodox Divines, no way given to that Schisme of Non-Conformity, into which Oliver soon after fell. *a* 1731 CALAMY *Life* (1829) I. i. 65 My father, in the year 1662,..was for his nonconformity ejected from a good living. 1860 L. HARCOURT *Diaries G. Rose* II. 278 The ultimate designs of political nonconformity. 1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XXI. 82/1 Nonconformity, which formerly had no hold upon Little Russia,..has suddenly begun to make progress there in the shape of the 'Stunda', a mixture of Protestant and rationalistic teaching. 1898 *Times* 29 Oct. 13/6 The Bishop said that..neither Rome on the one hand nor Nonconformity on the other trusted their ministers as the Church confided in the priesthood of England.

2. Want of conformity or refusal to conform to a rule, practice, or requirement. Const. *to, with.*

1682 *and Plea Nonconformists* 13 Their Nonconformity to the Act of Uniformity. *a* 1720 SEWEL *Hist. Quakers* (1795) I. II. 142 Their nonconformity with the Vulgar Salutation, and their saying Thou and Thee. 1841 CATLIN *N. Amer. Ind.* lviii. (1844) II. 233 In case of non-conformity to this indispensable form. 1879 SPENCER *Data Ethics* vi. § 37. 95 The..sufferings caused by nonconformity to the laws of life.

3. Want of correspondence, agreement, or adaptability between persons or things.

1672 MARVELL *Reh. Transp.* I. 269 Never was there such Incongruity and Nonconformity in their furniture. 1763 JON. MAYHEW (*title*), Observations on the Charter and Conduct of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel..; designed to shew their nonconformity to each other. 1846 DE QUINCEY *Shelley* Wks. 1890 XI. 372 Nonconformity of tastes might easily arise between two parties, without much blame to either. 1853 G. JOHNSTON *Nat. Hist. E. Bord.* I. 240 The girl..was apt to meet his seriousness with something savouring of coquetry...But the nonconformity was more evanescent than the early dew. 1886 *Law Rep., Weekly Notes* 188/1 The nonconformity of the complete specification with the provisional specification.

†**Non-conse·nt,** *v. Obs. rare.* [NON- 5.] *intr.* To withhold consent.

1645 BALL *Sphere Gov.* 8, I conceive..power..to consist rather in..the King's power to consent, and Act, rather than in his power to non-consent and non-act.

†**Non-conse·nter.** *Obs.* [NON- 2.] One who withholds consent; a dissenter.

1661 BAXTER *Moral Prognost.* (1680) II. 46 Consent is made by Christ, the Condition of Pardon and Covenant-Benifits, which no Non-consenter hath a Title to.

So †**Non-conse·nting** *ppl. a.*, dissenting.

1680 BAXTER *Answ. Stillingfl.* xxxiv. 56 How prove you ..that the Relation of the Ejected London Ministers, and their Flocks was Dissolved, and that the Succeeders were true Pastors to the Non-consenting Flocks? 1805 EUGENIA DE ACTON *Nuns Desert* I. 280 Love, which he saw was received with smiles and curtsies, though her lips spoke a non-coasenting language.

†**Non-conse·ntient.** *Obs.* [f. NON- + CONSENTIENT used subst.] One who does not consent.

1625 BP. MOUNTAGU *App. Cæsar* 143 What Parliament,

Law.., or Edict did ever command it to be professed, or have imposed penaltie upon..non-consentients unto it?

Non-co·nsequence. [NON- 1.] Want of consequence in reasoning; also, an instance of this, a *non sequitur*.

1649 CANNE *Golden Rule* 12, I find some to frame their objection thus.. It is a great non-consequence. 1666 BP. S. PARKER *Free & Impart. Censure* (1667) 40 His Circular arguings,..contradictions, non-consequences. 1856 DOVE *Logic Chr. Faith* I. § 1. 35 We must..endeavour.. to lay bare..the non-consequence of his conclusion.

Non-consu·mption. [NON- 1.] Refusal to consume certain articles of food (in *U. S. Hist.*: cf. *non-importation*). Also *attrib.*

1774 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 215 As a non-consumption agreement..will be an effectual security for the observation of the non-importation, we..solemnly agree..that we will not purchase or use any tea imported on account of the East-India company [etc.]. 1774 J. ADAMS *Wks.* (1854) IX. 347, I believe we shall agree to non-importation, non-consumption, and non-exportation.

Non-conta·gion. *Med.* [NON- 1.] The condition or property of being non-contagious.

1808 *Med. Jrnl.* XIX. 113 The non-contagion doctrines have been familiar in America some time. 1845 *Encycl. Metrop.* Index, Non-contagion of cholera. 1864 W. T. Fox *Skin Dis.* 39 Non-contagion, hereditary transmission [etc.].

Hence **Non-conta·gionist,** one who holds the doctrine of non-contagion with regard to certain diseases.

1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) I. 232 Facts of this kind..are easily explained by the non-contagionists. 1845 *Encycl. Metrop.* VII. 817/1 Of 250 officers, comprising the medical staff in Bengal, all but one are non-contagionists.

Non-conta·gious, *a.* [NON- 3.] Not contagious or propagated by contagion. So **Non-conta·giousness** = NON-CONTAGION.

1817 W. TAYLOR in *Monthly Mag.* XLIV. 313 Certificates of non-contagiousness. 1845 R. WILLIAMS *Princ. Med.* in *Encycl. Metrop.* VII. 817/1 The evidence of the non-contagious nature of cholera.

No·n-content. [NON- 2. See CONTENT *a.* 3 c and B.] a. In the House of Lords, one who votes 'Not content'.

1778 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 181 On the chancellor's putting the question,..the non-contents were 20, and the contents only 4. 1863 H. Cox *Instit.* I. vii. 92 The equality of votes is held equivalent to a majority of non-contents.

b. One who is not content.

1860 J. BROWN *Rab, Let. to J. Cairns* (1906) 289 There was one man who held out against his 'call'. Mr. Brown meeting him.., the non-content said [etc.].

Non-contradi·ction. [NON- 1.] The absence of contradiction; in Logic, *principle* or *law of non-contradiction* = 'principle of contradiction' (see CONTRADICTION 4 c).

1836–7 [see CONTRADICTION 4 c]. 1882 ADAMSON in *Encycl. Brit.* XIV. 782/2 The stricter followers of the Kantian logical idea..recognize, as sole principles which can be said to be involved universally in the action of thought, the laws of identity, non-contradiction, and excluded middle. 1892 HUXLEY in *Pop. Sci. Monthly* XLI. 601 This non-natural sense may..be manipulated into some sort of non-contradiction of scientific truth.

Noncupative, obs. form of NUNCUPATIVE.

† Noncuple, *a.* and *sb. Obs.* [f. L. *nōnus* ninth + *-uple* as in *quadruple*, with *c* inserted on the analogy of *decuple*.] **A.** *adj.* Ninefold. *Noncuple to*: nine times as great as. **B.** *sb.* A quantity nine times as great as another.

1557 RECORDE *Whetst.* E iij b, 36 vnto 4 is a noncuple proportion. 1570 BILLINGSLEY *Euclid* XVI. prop. 30. 454 To proue that a trilater equilater Pyramis, is noncuple to a cube inscribed in it. 1674 PETTY *Disc. Dupl. Proportion* 22 A quadruple Sail is requisite to double Swiftness, and noncuple to treble. 1674 JEAKE *Arith.* (1696) 182 Both triples added together..make the proportion or amounting Ratio Noncuple, or ninefold. 1690 LEYBOURN *Curs. Math.* 181 And so on to the ninth and last [row], in which you shall find the noncuple of the number given.

Hence **†Noncuplica·tion,** multiplication by nine.

1674 JEAKE *Arith.* (1696) 25 Noncuplication, or to multiply by 9.

Noncura·ntist, *a.* [f. It. *noncurante* not caring, careless + -IST.] Marked by indifference.

1882 W. S. BLUNT *Future of Islam* 42 The faith of Mecca ..was giving place to a noncurantist infidelity.

Noncyen, obs. form of NUNCHEON.

Nonda (nɒ·nda). [Native name.] A rosaceous tree, *Parinarium Nonda*, of north-eastern Australia, yielding an edible fruit.

1847 LEICHHARDT *Jrnl.* x. 315 We called this tree the 'Nonda' from its resemblance to a tree so called by the natives in the Moreton Bay district. 1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XX. 174/1 (Queensland), The nonda..grows up to 60 feet.

Non-day. Nonce-translation of DIES NON.

1858 MERIVALE *Rom. Emp.* xlix. V. 502 His measure for curtailing the numerous non-days of the calendar.

Nondescript (nɒ·ndĭskript), *a.* and *sb.* [NON- 3.] **A.** *adj.*

† 1. *Nat. Hist.* Of a species, etc.: Not hitherto described. *Obs.*

1683 RAY *Corr.* (1848) 134 The description..is scarce sufficient to determine..whether it be a nondescript species. 1772 *Phil. Trans.* LXII. 386 This fine non-descript owl lives upon hares. 1793 JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1859) IV. 64 They agree it is a nondescript disease, and no two agree in any one part of their process of cure. 1806 T. ASHE (*title*) Memoirs of Mammoth..Bones, of Incognita or Nondescript Animals. 1812 BRACKENRIDGE *Views Louisiana* (1814) 54 Mr. Bradbury has discovered nearly one hundred and fifty non-descript plants.

transf. 1820 SOUTHEY *Wesley* II. 260 Sectarians of every kind, descript and non-descript, had been introduced in Cromwell's time.

2. Not easily described or classified; of no particular class, kind, or form; that is neither one thing nor another.

1806–7 J. BERESFORD *Miseries Hum. Life* (1826) IX. i, The dry rank remains of some non-descript cheese. *a* 1822 BYRON *Juan* VII. ii, A non-descript and ever-varying rhyme. 1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* II. 51 A cottage of wood, nondescript in shape, but pleasant in locality. 1876 C. M. DAVIES *Unorth. Lond.* (ed. 2) 77 Those nondescript animals that are neither boys nor young men.

B. *sb.*

† 1. *Nat. Hist.* A species, etc., that has not been hitherto described. *Obs.*

1693 *Phil. Trans.* XVII. 730 Some curious Plants.., amongst which are few Non-descripts, or such as have not been taken notice of by other Writers. 1783 HERSCHEL in *Phil. Trans.* LXXIII. 279 This curve, to borrow a term from natural history, is a non-descript as far as I can find at present. 1794 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* I. 107 He gives a much fuller account of this stone, which he considers as a non-descript. 1817 J. BRADBURY *Trav. Amer.* 81 A few scattered shrubs of a species of *Artemisia*, apparently a nondescript.

transf. 1790 BURKE *Fr. Rev.* 15 A valuable addition of non-descripts to the..known classes, genera and species, which.. beautify the *hortus siccus* of dissent. 1800 WEEMS *Life of Washington* i. (1877) 6 A perfect nondescript of baseness.

2. A person or thing that is not easily described, or is of no particular class or kind.

1811 SOUTHEY in *Edin. Ann. Reg.* II. i. 289 The House contains about 250 country gentlemen, 120 courtiers [etc.]. The rest are non-descripts. 1813 *Weekly Reg.* (Baltimore) IV. 149/2 The British, now, affect to consider our frigates a sort of 'terrible non-descripts'. 1836–7 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Tales* viii, A few ostlers and stable nondescripts were standing round. 1883 STEVENSON *Treas. Isl.* III. xv, I was now, it seemed, cut off upon both sides; behind me the murderers, before me this lurking nondescript [*sc.* the maroon].

Non dis. day. *Hist.* (See quot. and DIS.)

1904 C. WOROSWORTH *Anc. Kal. Oxf. Univ.* (O. H. S.) 18 A table of 'Non Dis. days', i. e. holidays on which the formal academic exercises called 'disputations' were not allowed to be held for qualifying a student for his degree.

Nondo (nɒ·ndo). A tall umbelliferous plant, *Ligusticum actæifolium*, found in North America.

1860 GRAY *Man. Bot.* 155.

Nondry, obs. form of NUNNERY.

None (nōun), *sb.* [a. F. *none* or ad. L. *nōna*: see NOON and NONES. ME. examples of the form belong to NOON *sb.*]

† 1. (See quots.) *Obs.*

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *None of the day*, is the third quarter of the day beginning at Noon and lasting till the Sun be gone half way towards setting. 1706 in Cotes tr. *Dupin's Eccl. Hist.* (1725) II. v. 43 The last [part of the day], which began at the middle of the Afternoon, i.e. at half the Time between Noon and Sun-setting, was called None, because it began at the Ninth Hour.

2. = NONES 2.

1845 LINGARD *Anglo-Sax. Ch.* I. vii. 297 *note*, The third of these hours was called..terce; the sixth, midday; and the ninth, none. 1877 J. D. CHAMBERS *Div. Worship* 129 Including also Sext and None from Septuagesima to Easter.

attrib. 1845 LINGARD *Anglo-Sax. Ch.* I. vii. 296 The prime-song,..none-song and even-song for [the service] of the day. 1853 ROCK *Ch. Our Fathers* III. 65 As soon as they hear the none-bell, they take to meat.

None (nʌn), *pron.*, *a.*, and *adv.* Forms: *a.* 1 nán (*pl.* náne), 2–4, *Sc.* 5–6 (*north.* 9) nan (2–4 *pl.* nane), 4–5, *Sc.* 6–9 nane, 8–9 *north.* naan(e; 4, *Sc.* 6 nain; *Sc.* 5 nayne, 6 naine, neyn(e, 9 neen; *north.* 7 neane, 9 neean, nin. *β.* 2–6 (9 *dial.*) non (*pl.* 2– none), 4–6 (9 *dial.*) noon, 4–5 noone, 5 noyn, 5– none; 9 *dial.* noan(e, nooan. [OE. *nán*, f. *ne* NE + *án* ONE *a.* = OFris. *nên* (*nin*, *nan*), ON. *neinn*: cf. OS. *nên*, MDu. (Du.) *neen*, OHG. (G.) *nèin*, no!

In OE. *nán* was inflected in the same way as *án* (see ONE); the forms which chiefly survive in early ME. (down to *c* 1300) are the acc. sing. masc. *nænne*, *nenne*, *nanne*, *nonne*, and the dat. sing. fem. *nare* (OE. *nánre*), *nore*.]

In early use commonly accompanied by another negative.

A. *pron.* **1.** No one, not any (one), *of* a number of persons or things. Also, neither *of* two persons or things (now *dial.*).

In later use commonly with pl. verb: cf. 2 b.

a. 835 *Charter* 41 in *O. E. Texts* 448 Ȝif þæt Ȝesele..ðæt ðer ðeara nan ne sie ðe londes weorðe sie. *c* 937 *O. E. Chron.* (Parker MS.) an. 937, Myrce ne wyrndon heardes hond-plegan hæleþa nanum. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC in Assmann *Ags. Hom.* (1889) ii. 205 Heora nan ne sealde swylce leafe næfre. *c* 1200 ORMIN 13931 Ne chæs himm nohht te Laferrd Crist Till nan off hise posstless. *c* 1205 LAY. 26589 Ne mihten heo..heore nenne [*c* 1275 none of ȝam] adun bringe. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* Prol. 104 He had þame inflammyt swa, þat nan of þaim vald part hym fra. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 4981 Nane of þair bodys on bra ne banke, Was nenir aftir sene. *c* 1560 A. SCOTT *Poems* (S.T.S.) II. 26 Thay wer sa haisty.., That nane of thame wald ȝeild. 1588 A. KING tr. *Canisius' Catech.* 86 b, Þat nain of Christs sacraments ar vsit to saluatione. 1640 *King & a poore Northerne Man* 346 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* IV. 306, I wod all may win and neane of you leese. 1721 RAMSAY *Prospect of Plenty* 115 Dare she neane of her herrings sell..? 1785 HUTTON *Bran New Wark* (E. D. S.) 142 Hes naane of ye seen a young thing, giggling and laughing? 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xviii, I want naething from nane o' ye. 1866 MRS. LYNN LINTON *Lizzie Lorton* II. 215, I mind when nin on 'us daur say bo til a guse afore my mither.

β. c 1275 [see quot. *c* 1205 above]. 1388 WYCLIF *John* xvii. 12 Thilke that thou ȝauest to me, Y kepte, and noon of hem perischide. *c* 1400 *Three Kings Cologne* (1886) 56 Þey noon of hem ȝit knewe oþir. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* IX. xi. 355 That neuer none of hem shold fyghte ageynst other. 1557 NORTH *Guevara's Diall Pr.* 4 None of these two were as yet fiftene yeares olde. 1626 W. FENNER *Hid. Treasure* (1652) 28 None of the wicked in all the world know it. 1680 DODWELL *Two Lett.* (1691) To Rdr. § 2 None of them.. ever enduring to hear of any Laical encroachments on the Calling itself. *a* 1774 GOLDSM. *Surv. Exp. Philos.* (1776) II. 42 None of these however are known to us. 1820 SOUTHEY *Wesley* I. 400 Except Whitefield, none of them had devoted themselves body and soul to the work. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* iii. I. 389 None of these was published oftener than twice a week. 1885 SWINBURNE *Misc.* (1886) 339 None of their own countrymen were so competent to control, alike by wisdom and by valour.

b. In predicative use, denoting exclusion from a certain class: Not any; not one. (Cf. 3 b.)

c 1440 *York Myst.* xlviii. 176 Ȝe weryed wightis, Ȝe flee hym froo, On his lefte hande as none of his. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 30 b, As though he sayd,.. ye were none of my seruauntes. 1551 T. WILSON *Logike* (1580) 83 He will eate his meate I warraunt you, he is none of these scrupulous consciences. 1634 W. TIRWHYT tr. *Balzac's Lett.* 143 You are none of those who will finde fault with the Ayre. 1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* III. ix. § 16 Liquor.. which, I think, too, none of the most perplex'd Names of Substances. 1722 DE FOE *Col. Jack* (1840) 79, I am none of their gang. 1823 LAMB *Ess. Elia* II. *Old Margate hoy*, He was none of your hesitating half story-tellers. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* lxxxix, Tho' their sons were none of these.

c. Followed by a superlative used absolutely.

1599 PORTER *Angry Wom. Abingd.* (Percy Soc.) 42 *M. Bar.* Canst thou read? *Nich.* Forsooth, though none of the best, yet meanly. 1609 HOLLAND *Amm. Marcell.* 125 The circuit of the citie, which was none, ywis, of the greatest. 1656 HEYLIN *Surv. France* 219 The Jesuits have divers Colledges founded for them, and they are known to be none of the poorest. 1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* IV. vii. § 9 The general Idea of a Triangle (which is..none of the most .. difficult). 1718 FELTON *Classicks* (T.), The most glaring and notorious passages are none of the finest. 1814 BYRON *Wks.* (1837) III. 105 You know, I suppose, that T..is none of the placidest. 1888 RIDER HAGGARD *Mr. Meeson's Will* ix, His understanding was none of the clearest.

2. No one, no person, nobody. Also *none other*, no other person (now *arch.*).

Now more commonly as *pl.*: see b.

a. c 960 *Rule St. Benet* (Schröer) xlii. 67 Æfter þæm nihtsange ne sy nanum alyfed, þæt he ænig word cweþe. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* John xv. 24 Ȝif ic nane weorc ne worhte on him þe nan oðer ne worhte. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1066, He dyde swa mycel to gode .. swa nefre nan oðre ne dyde toforen him. *c* 1200 ORMIN 493 Þatt nan ne shollde wurrþenn þa sett to wurrþenn prest, butt iff He prestess sune wære. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 123 Nes þer nan þet mahte neauer eanes wrenchen hire..ut of þe weie. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 1968, I bad al-sna Nain be sa bald þat oþer sla. *c* 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 899 Ayaines him stod þer nan In land. 1340 *Ayenb.* 237 Þe ilke þet is uoul ne may nenne oþrenne klensy. *a* 1400 *Pol., Rel. & L. Poems* 259 He is boþe god and man: swilc ne sawe neuere nan. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* X. 140 Thow thinkis nan her at suld thi falow be. 1533 GAU *Richt Vay* 27 Faith is sa neidful that neyne kane be saiff without it. 1588 A. KING tr. *Canisius' Catech.* App., To defende the pure mans cause, quhen thair is nan to take it in hand by him. 1725 RAMSAY *Gentle Sheph.* IV. ii, I'll wed nane else. 1788 BURNS *I Hae a Wife* i, I'll tak cuckold frae nane, I'll gie cuckold to nae-body. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* xix, Nane could ever say that o' the trades o' Glasgow.

β. a 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 217 Ȝif non of him ne spece, non hine ne lufede. Ȝif non hine ne lufode, non to him ne come. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 223 Ne was ðor non lik adam. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 9604 To him þe king truste mest, ne þer nas non so hey. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 6 To write Inglis gestes fond he non his pere. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 23 Almost noon shal be so nyse and worldly proude as þes stynkynge heretikis. 1447 BOKENHAM *Seyntys* (Roxb.) 51, I noon but the Know, lorde, that may my comfort he. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Blanchardyn* xxxix. 148 Noon was there, my self nor noon other, that myghte recomforte her. 1509 BARCLAY *Shyp of Folys* (1570) 58 Wisedome will that we should refrayne From foolishe deming, and nones death discus. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* (1622) 323 A vow .. that I would neuer marry none, but such one as was able to withstand mee in armes. 1608 HEYWOOD *Lucrece* (1638) 179 His willfull Edicts..In which nones tongue is powerfull save the Kings. 1677 LADY CHAWORTH in *12th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. V. 37 All from Court say the House will infailibly sit, but none dares warrant how long. 1766 FORDYCE *Serm. Yng. Wm.* (1767) I. ii. 74 The ladies.. would be the apes of none in dress. 1805 HARRAL *Scenes of Life* I. p. vii, Let none attempt to excuse himself. 1855 TENNYSON *Maud* I. XVIII. i, There is none like her, none. 1880 SWINBURNE *Stud. Shaks.* 209 None other..than himself alone could have mingled..such human passion.

Comb. 1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* III. ii. 108 Is't I That.. expose Those tender limbes of thine, to the event Of the none-sparing warre?

b. *pl.* No persons.

Now the commoner usage, the sing. being expressed by *no one*.

c 888 K. ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxvii. § 1 Þæt þær nane oðre an ne sæton buton þa weorðestan. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 31 Ne doð bit none swo ofte se þe hodede. *c* 1205 LAY. 766 Alle to gadere he heom nom, nane he ne lafde. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 11396 A folk fert.., Wonnand be þe est occean, þat bi-yond þam ar wonnand nan. 1357 *Lay Folks Catech.* 112 We, thas ilke, and nane othir than we er now,..sal rise up. *c* 1530 LD. BERNERS *Arth. Lyt. Bryt.* 409 He strake none but that they lost their lyves. 1582 N. LICHEFIELD tr. *Castanheda's Cong. E. Ind.* I. i. 2 b, Of which Religion wer then none other but Portingales. *a* 1641 BP. MOUNTAGU

Acts & Mon. (1642) 65 None have all; all must have some. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* Ded., None have been so greedy of Employments..as they who have least deserv'd their Stations. 1759 GOLDSM. *Bee* No. 8 P 5 None but they alone could have either skill or strength to bring the prisoners back again. 1790 BURKE *Fr. Rev.* 69 None but traitors would barter it away for their own personal advantage. 1813 SOUTHEY *Nelson* I. 37 The contagion had become so general, that there were none who could work at it. 1887 STEDMAN *Victorian Poets* (ed. 13) 37 None but sentimentalists and dilettanti confuse their prose and verse.

† c. *None other*, no other thing (or course); nothing else. *Obs.* (See OTHER B. 7.)

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 4147 Quen ruben sagh þair was nan oþer Bot algat for to sla þer broþer. 1388 WYCLIF 1 *Sam.* xxi. 9 Here is noon other outtakun that. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 735* (Dubl.), Dame, now is þar none other to do bot deme it þi seluen. 1611 BIBLE *Gen.* xxviii. 17 This is none other, but the house of God. 1645 CROMWELL *Let.* 14 June, Sir, this is none other but the hand of God.

3. *ellipt.* Not any (such thing or person as that previously or subsequently mentioned).

a. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 169 Se þe hæbbe twa tunecan, selle oðre ðam ðe nane næbbe. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 443, Brytwalas..heom fultumes bædon wiþ Peohtas, ac hi þær nefdon nænne. *Ibid.* an. 1116, Þis gear wæs swa gæsne on mæstene, swa þæt on eallon þison lande..ne gehyrde me of nanan segcean. *c* 1205 LAY. 15819 Ich habbe lim & stan, on leode nis betere nan. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* I. 173 For litill enchesone or nane, He was arestyt syne and tane. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* IV. 201 He bad him gyftis ser: Wallace wald nayne. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* lxvi. 54 Vnworthie I..Ane kirk dois craif, and nane can haif. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* Prol. 7 The grettest parte of the Ile hes sa plentiful feildes that nane mair plentiful. *c* 1620 A. HUME *Brit. Tongue* (1865) 13 This symbol can be no reason serve that sound, nor nane of that kynd. 1785 BURNS *Halloween* v, Then, straught or crooked, yird or nane, They roar.

β. c 1290 *Beket* 24 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 107 þat Amiral ane faire douȝter hadde .., none mo for-soþe he nadde. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 2447 V hadde richesse; now haue y non! *c* 1400 *Gamelyn* 165 The knight thoughte on tresoun and Gamelyn on noon. *c* 1485 *Digby Myst.* (1882) III. 501 In wynter a stomachyr, In somer non att al. 1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 131 Better an akyng eye then none. 1583 STUBBES *Anat. Abus.* II. (1882) 72, I thinke it is better to haue meane fare than none at all. 1658 BAXTER *Saving Faith* v. 34 A Belief and Love indeed he hath, but morally..it is as none. 1697 SIR T. P. BLOUNT *Ess.* 108 The Egyptians seem to have had only knowledge enough to know that their neighbours had none at all. 1718 *Freethinker* No. 22 P 101 It seems to be a much greater Affront..to have an ill opinion of him, than to have none at all. 1796 H. HUNTER tr. *St.-Pierre's Stud. Nat.* (1799) II. 250 That the cocoa-trees which have houses around their roots become much more beautiful than those where there are none. 1813 SHELLEY *Q. Mab* II. 85 None but a spirit's eye Might ken that rolling orb. 1859 FITZGERALD *Omar Khayyám* liv, Better be jocund with the fruitful Grape Than sadden after none, or bitter, Fruit.

b. In predicative use, denoting lack of the essential qualities of the thing or person mentioned. (Cf. 1 b.) † Also, null, of no effect.

c 888 K. ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxx. § 1 Forhwy þe haten dysige men mid leasre stemne wuldor, nu ðu nane neart. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Miller's T.* Prol. 54 Yet nolde I .. demen of myself that I were oon; I wol beleve wel that I am noon. 1442 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 43/2 That it be voide and non in lawe. 1551 T. WILSON *Logike* (1580) 3 Thei bee like those that goe for honest men, and are none. 1592 WEST *1st Pt. Symbol.* § 11 e, If there be any error or deceipt.., that Contract is either made altogether none, or of none effect. 1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* III. iii. 126 Men should be what they seeme, Or those that be not, would they might seeme none. 1653 WALTON *Angler* To Rdr., How to make a man that was none, an Angler by a book.

c. *None of*, not at all, not in the least.

1571 CAMPION *Hist. Irel.* (1633) 175, I am none of Henryes Deputy. 1638 FEATLY *Strict. Lyndom.* I. 81 The Church of Rome I grant is a mother,..but shee is none of our mother. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 455 P 4 This Match was none of her own choosing. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 236 It was none of my Business. 1764 FOOTE *Patron* III. Wks. 1799 I. 359, I am determined he shall be none of the man.

4. No part or amount *of* some thing, quality, etc.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 9316 O gret suetnes [*Gött.* suete grennes] þar wantes nan. 13.. *Coer de L.* 3547 Off thy golde wolde he take non. 1553 T. WILSON *Rhet.* (1580) 29 Seleucus would none of that in any wise. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 114 b, This woman wold have none of this gere done for her. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* II. i. 51 Of that there's none, or little. 1638 BAKER tr. *Balzac's Lett.* (vol. II.) 182 Beelief it cannot be without contesting, I will none of it. 1656 A. WRIGHT *Five Serm.* To Rdr., This Pulpit aye hath so much of the New light, as it hath almost none of the Old day of the Gospel. 1742 RICHARDSON *Pamela* III. 169 My Lady said, None of your reproaching Eye, Pamela. 1779 J. MOORE *View Soc. Fr.* (1789) II. xcvi. 433 No!..says John, none of your coaxing. 1872 MORLEY *Voltaire* (1886) 6 Yet we recognise that none of it was ever the dreary still-birth of a mind of hearsays.

B. *a.* 1. Not any; = No *a.* 1. Now *arch.*

In later use only before vowels and *h*, and after 1600 almost entirely supplanted by the reduced form *no*. For examples of OE. *nán man, þing*, see NO MAN, NOTHING.

a. *c* 888 K. ÆLFRED *Boeth.* iii. § 4 Þæt was þæt nan anweald nære riht butan rihtum þeawum. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 21 Þæt leoht on nanre tide ne ablinneþ. *Ibid.* 33 Ne þincþ us þæt nan wundor. *c* 1055 *Byrhtferth's Handboc* in *Anglia* VIII. 301 Þonne þæs ȝeares ne beoð nane epactas. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1013, Mycel his folces adranc on Temese, forðam hi nanre brycge ne cepton. *c* 1200 ORMIN Ded. 274 Nan wihht, nan enngell, nan man, Ne naness kinness shaffte. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 9121 Of engelond ne can ich nanne red. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* ix. (*Bartholomew*) 24 Of þare god gat þai nan answere. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) Pref. 1 He desserued neuer nane euill. *c* 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 286 Thair gat he nane homage, For all his hie parage. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VIII. i. 106 Thus I declayr the nane vncertane thing.

β. c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* II. 165 Nis nower non trewðe. *c* 1205 LAY. 5658 Ne nomen heo nonne cniht quic. *c* 1275 *Passion Our Lord* 676 in *O. E. Misc.* 56 Hi nolden þo bileue..vor nore pyne heore prechynge. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 10555 He was told of non honour Bot he had ben wyþ kyng Arthour. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Serm.* Sel. Wks. I. 169 Þis lore þat Cristis scole axiþ loveþ none gabbingis. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery Bks.* 35 3if þou wolt make it in spycery, þen putte non chykonys þer-to. 1484 CAXTON *Fables of Æsop* VI. xv, Men ought not to leue none euyll vnpunysshed. 1535 COVERDALE *Esther* (Apocr.) xvi. 17 Ye shal do well, yf ye holde them of none effecte. 1579 FULKE *Heskins' Parl.* 91 The vsage of the Church..will prooue it to bee none abuse. 1641 J. SHUTE *Sarah & Hagar* (1649) 174 You are inimicitious to those that offer you none injury. 1755 *Connoisseur* No. 98 P 7 This extravagant and ill-judged Generosity renders all her numerous excellencies of none effect. 1801 STRUTT *Sports & Past.* I. i. 10 Henry the second..endeavoured to render these grants of none effect.

b. Followed by *other*. Now *arch.* (See also NOTHER and OTHERWISE.)

c 888 K. ÆLFRED *Boeth.* v. § 1 Ne gehrohte ðe eac nan oþer man on þam gedwolan. *c* 1200 ORMIN 5714 Ne þurrh nan oþerr flæsshess lusst. *c* 1205 LAY. 12628 Nes þer nan oðer [*c* 1275 non oþer] andswere. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 5 Sorow & site he made, ther was non other rede. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 87 As be that weie..Bot trewliche in non othre thinges. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* IX. xxxvii. 399 Sire Tristram sawe none other boote but rode ageynst bym. 1535 COVERDALE 1 *Macc.* ii. 36 Neuerthelesse they gaue them none other answere. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 146 They perceyued well that there was none other meane. 1611 BIBLE *Transl. Pref.* P 2 Brought to vntimely death for none other fault, but [etc.]. 1713 SWIFT *Frenzy of J. Denny* Wks. 1755 II. i. 140, I have none other disease, than a swelling in my legs. 1827 SOUTHEY *Hist. Penins. War* II. 287 Those journalists taught..that Europe should have none other Lord but him.

c. Placed after (or separated from) the noun.

a. c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* John x. 41 Menixo..cuoedon þætte Iohannes..becon worhte nan. *a* 1000 *Phœnix* 51 Nis þær on þam londe..weatacen nan. *c* 1205 LAY. 600 Nes castel nan swa strong i þon londe of Griclond. *a* 1300 *O. E. Misc.* 200 Idel adh ne swere þu Nan. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xviii. (*Epipciane*) 999 Vthyr clathis had I nane. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xxxi. 140 Housez hafe þai nane. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 7183 [That] his monkes nane ne some..Suld fra gude leuyng skypp. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* IV. xii. 27 Geif that neuir nane At our cost had arrivit schip Troiane. 1573 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xlii. 154 Suld their pepill Preiching haue nane?

β. c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 15805 Of alle þise, heires com þer non. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Anel. & Arc.* 148 Natheles gret wondre was it noone. *c* 1400 *Gamelyn* 396 Two dayes and two nightes mete had he noon. *c* 1475 *Litt. Red Bk. Bristol* (1900) I. 141 Also right shall I none lett. 1535 COVERDALE *Acts* iii. 6 Syluer and golde haue I none. 1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 79 Fortresses they build none. 1676 HOBBES *Iliad* I. (1686) 12 Remedy was none. 1721 DE FOE *Mem. Cavalier* (1840) 296 Hay for our horses we got none. 1817 JAS. MILL *Brit. India* II. v. ix. 708 Motives to application..can be discovered none. 1845 M. PATTISON *Ess.* (1889) I. 2 Poetry we have almost none. 1885–94 R. BRIDGES *Eros & Psyche* Aug. iv, Harbour knew she none, where her distress Might comfort find.

C. *adv.* 1. With comparatives:

† a. = No *adv.*[2] *Obs. rare.*

a 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1114, Þæs ȝeares syððan he ne heold hired nan oftar. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 359/18 3if we þe habbez ou3t mis-don we ne schullen none more. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 328 For-þi es godd, als sais scripture, Nan [*Gött.* non] elder þan his creature. 1340 *Ayenb.* 262 Þeruore ich nelle non more zigge, ac hier ich wille endi mine matire. 1465 *Paston Lett.* II. 218 On Friday last and non er. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilȝear* 546, I neid nane airar myne erand. *a* 1682 SIR T. BROWNE *Tract viii* (1683) 146 Words..of common use in Norfolk, or peculiar to the East Angle Countries; as..Noneare. [Hence in Hickes (1689) and Ray (1691).]

b. With *the*: In no way, to no extent.

Common in 19th c., esp. *none the better, worse, less.*

1799 *Spirit Publ. Jrnls.* II. 134 When she found his studying politics made us none the richer. 1820 BYRON *Wks.* (1837) IV. 325 To my mind, they look none the worse for their nudity. 1841 MACAULAY *Speeches* (1853) 237 My circumstances are to be worse, and Johnson's none the better. 1875 RUSKIN *Fors Clav.* lv, The children none the less knew their love.

† 2. *Or none*, or no, or not. (Cf. No *adv.*[1] 2.) *Obs.*

This usage, which is common in Chaucer, may have originated in sentences similar to quot. *c* 1330.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 6618 O þis watur he gert ilkan Drinc, quer he wald or nan. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 14909 'Wheþer ar þei Cristen', he seide, 'or non?' 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 46 So that I may finde in this place If thou be gracious or non. 1452 *Paston Lett.* I. 229 Whethir it be thus or non I can not say.

3. By no means, not at all. Now usually followed by *so* or *too*.

1651 C. CARTWRIGHT *Cert. Relig.* I. 202 His own righteousnesse can none be justified. ?*c* 1750 in Child *Ballads* II. 129/1 All was blythe, and all was glad, But Lady Maisery she was neen. 1824 GALT *Rothelan* II. III. ii. 20 After some questioning, by which he saw that I was none informed regarding the page. 1879 *Spectator* 31 May 680 The Horse Guards are none so fond of him. 1885 *Law Times* LXXIX. 169/2 Their merits are none too liberally recognised.

b. As complement with verbs, esp. *sleep*.

1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 23 We..lay still all Night; I say still, for we slept none! 1752 *Scots Mag.* (1753) Sept. 450/1 He had slept none for two nights. 1800 ALEX. CARLYLE *Autobiogr.* (1861) 95 He seemed as torpid as George Murray..: he conversed none. 1821 SCOTT *Pirate* xviii, By my advice, you will quarrel nane with Captain Cleveland.

† **None,** *a.*[2], obs. variant of OWN.

See N 3, NAIN *a.*, and OWN *a.* 1 c.

c 1420 *Sir Amadace* (Camden) lx, Lette vs leng to-gethir here,..As alle thi none hit ware. 1549 Q. ELIZABETH in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. I. II. 156 You write that I seme to Stande in my none witte in beinge so wel assured of my none selfe. 1616 BRETON *Good & Bad, Effem. Fool* Wks. (Grosart) II. 13/1 His father's loue, and his mother's none-child. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* VI. 283 Adrian the fourth, our none Countrey-man. 1679 *Licentiousness Times* in Ebsworth *Bagford Ball.* (1878) 718 His Worship so wise,.. Is by [his] none dear Wife at home made a Fool.

None, obs. form of NOON, NUN.

† **Non-edificant.** *Obs.* [f. NON- 2 + EDIFICANT used subst.] One who does not edify.

a 1625 BOYS *Wks.* (1629) 682 Hee..that is a non-edificant, is vnworthy to bee called an Apostle [etc.].

Non-effective, *a.* and *sb.* [NON- 3.]

A. *adj.* 1. Producing no effect.

1862 SPENCER *First Princ.* II. xvii. (1875) 399 Any incident force is primarily divisible into its effective and non-effective portions. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 1532/1 *Non-condensing Steam-engine*,..in which the steam on the non-effective side of the piston is allowed to escape into the atmosphere.

2. Of soldiers and sailors: Not fit or qualified for active service.

1802 JAMES *Milit. Dict.* s.v. *Naic*, Every battalion of native infantry has two drill havildars or serjeants, and two drill-naicks, called Non-Effective, attached to it. 1811 WELLINGTON in Gurw. *Desp.* (1838) VIII. 129 That measures should be taken to replace those become non-effective on account of ill health. 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* ii. (1856) 22 Our little corps of officers numbered four for each ship, including that non-effective limb, the doctor.

3. [attrib. use of B.] Pertaining to, consisting of, connected with non-effectives or their maintenance.

1756 WASHINGTON *Lett. to Captain Hog* Writ. 1889 I. 293 *note*, I hope you will account for all the non-effective money you have received. 1833 HT. MARTINEAU *Three Ages* III. 113 The expenses of the non-effective service being considerably greater than the maintenance of the actual army. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* iii. I. 306 The non-effective charge, which is now a heavy part of our public burdens. 1901 *Daily Chron.* 20 Sept. 5/2 The men on the non-effective list.

B. *sb.* A soldier or sailor who is not fit or qualified for active service.

1800 DUNDAS in Owen *Wellesley's Desp.* (1879) 559 Whatever the establishment is, one fourth must be deducted for non-effectives. 1825 BENTHAM *Ration. of Reward* 159 In some countries the emoluments of the commanders of regiments increase in proportion to the number of non-effectives. 1859 *War Office Circular* in *Volunteer Almanac* (1861) 68 Enrolled members, consisting of Effectives, Non-Effectives, and Supernumeraries.

fig. c 1800 R. CUMBERLAND *John de Lancaster* (1809) III. 156 Those..idlers, those non-effectives in creation's roll.

† **Non-efficience.** *Obs.* [NON- 1.] Absence or want of efficient power.

1683 J. CORBET *Free Actions* III. v. 29 All sin of Omission and Commission is resolved at least into Gods Non-Volition and Non-efficience, as the prime Reason thereof.

Non-efficient, *a.* (*sb.*) [NON- 3.] Of volnnteers: Not efficient (see quot. 1876). Also *sb.*

1863 *Regul. Volunteer Force* 59 Enrolled Members are classed as Efficients or Non-Efficients. 1876 VOYLE & STEVENSON *Milit. Dict.* 456/1 Volunteers are .. classed as 'efficients' and 'non-efficients'. Efficients must have received certificates from the commanding officer and adjutant, certifying that they have acquired a knowledge of their duties and attended certain drills. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 4 Nov. 5/4 A number of the London Volunteers have been..returned as non-efficient on account of failure in their musketry practice.

Non-ego (nǫnī·go, -e·go). *Metaph.* [NON- 2.] All that is not the ego or conscious self; the object as opposed to the subject.

1829 SIR W. HAMILTON *Discuss.* (1852) 9 In every act of consciousness we distinguish a Self, or Ego, and something different from self, a Non-ego. 1869 SPENCER *Princ. Psychol.* (1872) I. II. viii. 263 External feelings are..distinguished as sequences belonging to the Non-ego. 1876 *Encycl. Brit.* V. 224/2 The determination of the Ego presupposes..the Non-Ego.

Hence **Non-egoistical** *a.*, pertaining to or concerned with the non-ego.

1842 SIR W. HAMILTON *Diss.* in *Reid's Wks.* (1846) II. 817 The scheme of Non-Egoistical Idealism, which, in all its forms, is necessarily hyperphysical. *Ibid.* 818 This cruder form of egoistical representationism substantially coincides with that finer form of the non-egoistical, which views the vicarious object as spiritual.

Non-elastic, *a.* [NON- 3.] Not elastic.

1759 SMEATON in *Phil. Trans.* LI. 130 Non-elastic bodies, when acting by their impulse or collision, communicate only a part of their original power. 1798 HUTTON *Course Math.* (1828) II. 238 [A fluid] is non-elastic, when it is not compressible or expansible, as water. 1883 DAY *Indian Fish* 44 (Intern. Fish. Exhib.), Fixed engines constructed of non-elastic substances are still more destructive to fish than are such as are made of net.

So **Non-elasticity,** inelasticity.

1848 LINDLEY *Introd. Bot.* (ed. 4) II. II. ii. 156 The non-elasticity of the flower-stalk.

Non-elect, *a.* [NON- 3.] Not elect (chiefly in the theological sense). Usually *absol.*

1674 HICKMAN *Quinquart. Hist.* (ed. 2) 38 Never did any of non-elect become elect. 1678 GALE *Crt. Gentiles* IV. III. 208 The non-elect are always permitted to fail in the performance of the condition. 1700 C. NESSE *Antid. Armin.* (1827) 17 Some grant..to the non-elect only a prescience or

naked foresight. 1820 KEATS *Lamia* II. 6 A doubtful tale from faery land Hard for the non-elect to understand.

Non-ele·ction. [NON- 1.] The state of not being elect; failure to elect or to be elected.

1651 C. CARTWRIGHT *Cert. Relig.* I. 228 That foreseene unbeliefe is not the cause of non election. 1677 GILPIN *Demonol.* (1867) 250 These suspicions of non-election prevailing, all promises and comforts are urged in vain. 1772 FLETCHER *Logica Genev.* 100 The emptiness of the pleas which some urge in favour of unconditional reprobation, or if you please non-election. 1847 WEBSTER (citing JEFFERSON).

†**Non-ele·ctric,** *a.* and *sb.* *Obs.* [NON- 3.]

A. *adj.* Not electric; incapable of developing electricity when excited by friction.

1751 FRANKLIN *Lett.* Wks. 1840 V. 260 The terms *electric per se* and *non-electric* should be laid aside as improper..; the terms *conductor* and *non-conductor* may supply their place. 1755 B. MARTIN *Mag. Arts & Sc.* 305 The electric Fluid,..ready to be dispensed in small Quantities to every Non-electric Body that shall approach it, in the Form of a Spark. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) VI. 432/2 There is a very remarkable difference between substances with regard to their non-electric or conducting power.

B. *sb.* A non-electric substance.

1739 DESAGULIERS in *Phil. Trans.* XLI. 205 An Iron Bar suspended by a silken Thread,..when an excited Electric *per se* is brought near it, will both attack and send out its Effluvia to a Non-electric held near it. 1745 [see CONDUCTOR 11]. 1752 FRANKLIN *Lett.* Wks. 1887 II. 253 New flannel, if dry and warm, will draw the electric fluid from non-electrics. *c* 1790 IMISON *Sch. Arts* I. 94 Conductors.. are also called non-electrics, because no electric powers can be excited in them by friction. 1832 *Handbk. Nat. Philos., Electr.* I. § 5. 2 (U.K.S.).

So †**Non-ele·ctrical** *a.* and *sb.*

1739 DESAGULIERS in *Phil. Trans.* XLI. 204 Electricals *per se* communicate their Virtue to any of the Non-electrical, when brought near them; in which Case the Non-electricals attract and repel like the Electricals *per se*. *Ibid.* 206 If a long Non-electrical String be fasten'd to an Electrical *per se*.

Non-ele·ctrified, *a.* [NON- 6.] Not electrified. So †**Non-ele·ctrized** *ppl. a.*

1761 *Phil. Trans.* LII. 340 He gives us his idea of non-electrised bodies electrised *plus*. 1765 CROKER *Compl. Dict.* II. F, Another non-electrified light body. 1779 *Phil. Trans.* LXX. 17 The two electricities are certainly contrary to one another; but either of them attracts a non-electrified body. 1824 J. WEBSTER *Nat. Philos.* 126 They are said to be in a non-electrified state.

†**Nonelike,** *a.* and *sb.* *Obs. rare.* [f. NONE *a.* + LIKE *a.*] A scalene (triangle).

1551 RECORDE *Pathw. Knowl.* I. Def., These [triangles] the Greekes and latine men do cal scalena and in englishe theye may be called nonelekes, for thei haue no side equall ..to ani other in the sam figur. *Ibid.* No. 2 In a nonelike triangle you must take ij. lengthes besyde the fyrste lyne.

Nonene (nǫ·nĭn). *Chem.* [f. L. *nōn-us* ninth + -ENE.] = NONYLENE. 1868 *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 10) 555.

‖**Non-ens** (nǫne·nz). *Obs.* Pl. **none·ntia** (-e·nʃiă). [mod.L., f. *nōn* not + *ēns* (see ENS).] Something which has no existence; a nonentity.

1603 J. DAVIES *Microcosm.* Wks. (Grosart) I. 69/2 Without Favoure, Loue is a non Ens; For, Favoure waites vpon Love's excellence. 1628 WITHER *Brit. Rememb.* VIII. 668 Who preach Non-sense, and oft *nonentia* too. 1650 HOWELL *Lett.* III. xxiii. 33 To waste their brains in making laws against Chymeras, against *non entia*. 1659 BAXTER *Key Cath.* II. iii. 430 A true General Council now no man can know, because it is a *non ens*. *a* 1734 NORTH *Examen* II. iv. § 81 (1740) 270 A false Fact is a *Non-Ens*, and cannot be revealed. 1762 KAMES *Elem. Crit.* ii. I. iii, Cessation of bodily pain is not of itself a pleasure, for a *non-ens* or a negative can neither give pleasure nor pain. 1803 *Gradus ad Cantabr., Non ens*, a Freshman in Embryo! one who has not been matriculated,..consequently is not considered as having any being!

Nonent (nǫ·nent). *Philos.* [ad. mod.L. *nonent-* NON-ENS.] That which is not.

1885 JACKSON in *Encycl. Brit.* XVIII. 315/2 In the truism 'the Ent is, the Nonent is not', ὂν ἔστι, μὴ ὂν οὐκ ἔστι, Parmenides breaks with his predecessors.

†**None·nted,** *ppl. a.* [f. mod.L. *nonent-* NON-ENS + -ED.] Made non-existent.

1643 R. O. *Man's Mortality* i. 3 The Resurrection restoreth this non-ented Entitie to an everlasting Being.

Nonentity (nǫne·ntĭti). [NON- 1.]

1. The quality or condition of not being or existing; non-being, non-existence.

1643 DIGBY *Observ. Relig. Med.* (1644) 34 Who understandeth the nature of contradiction, will find Non Entity in one of the termes. *a* 1652 J. SMITH *Sel. Disc.* v. 135 These black opinions of death and the non-entity of souls. 1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) I. 79 He wished to deprive them of their very existence, and laboured to persuade himself..of their non-entity. 1824 BYRON *Juan* XVI. CXX, How odd, a single bobgoblin's non-entity, Should cause more fear than a whole host's identity. 1837 LANG *New South W.* II. 30 It becomes a matter of importance to prove either the death or the nonentity of the English husband. 1899 DZIEWICKI *Wyclif's De Logica* III. p. XXV, The non-entity of the world did not precede its entity.

2. Something which does not exist; a non-existent thing; hence, a thing existing in the imagination only; a figment, a nothing.

c 1600 EDMONDS *Observ. Cæsar's Comm.* 38 Our commanders, to whom particular fortunes are esteemed non-entities, and men in seueral of no valew. 1642 SIR E. DERING *Sp. on Relig.* XVI. 81 It is a fancy, a dream, a meer non entity. 1653 WHITFIELD *Treat. Sinf. Men* iii. 7 Sin being a defect or privation, and so a kinde of none entity. 1726 DE FOE *Hist. Devil* II. ix. 347 Satan was not such a Fool as not to know that Baal was a Non Entity, a Nothing. 1838 SIR W. HAMILTON *Logic* V. (1866) I. 77 What..has no qualities, has no existence in thought,—it is a logical nonentity. 1849 C. BRONTË *Shirley* XIII, We are aware that mermaids do not exist: why speak of them as if they did? How can you find interest in speaking of a nonentity?

b. What does not exist.

1655–87 H. MORE *App. Antid.* VII. § 1 (1712) 199 Non-entity can have no affection or property. 1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* IV. X. (1695) 354 No more than I would argue with pure nothing, or endeavour to convince Non-entity, that it were something. 1892 J. TAIT *Mind in Matter* (ed 3) 17 Total unfamiliarity with entity coming out of non-entity, by mental process.

3. A person or thing of no significance, consequence, or importance.

1710 STEELE *Tatler* No. 118 ₱ 6 The Esquire of a neighbouring village, who had been a long time in the number of non-entities, is entirely recovered by them. 1751 SMOLLETT *Per. Pic.* lxxxviii. III. 104 The insignificance of lord ——, who, tho' a nominal husband, was, in fact, a mere non entity. 1827 LYTTON *Pelham* iii, He was an atom, a nonentity, a very worm, and no man. 1883 CHALMERS & HOUGH *Bankruptcy Act* p. ix, An Act was passed which very much limited their duties, and practically reduced them to nonentities.

Hence **Non-e·ntitative, Non-e·ntitive, Non-e·ntitous** *adjs.*, that is a nonentity; non-existent. Also **Non-e·ntityism.**

1831 MANNING *Let.* in Purcell *Life* (1895) I. vi. 76 My present routine of nonentitous existence. 1846 MRS. GORE *Eng. Char.* (1852) 5 Byron..characterized our century as 'the Age of Bronze'. The truth..would be far greater, were it defined as 'the age of non-entityism!' 1872 J. WALKER *Theol. Scot.* iii. 86 Dr. Chalmers has accepted the nonentitive conception of sin. 1889 *Microcosm* Sept. 146 A shadow, the non-entitative effect of light, has no existence before the light-force is applied.

†**Non-e·ntres(se.** *Sc. Law. Obs.* [NON- 1.] Failure of the heir of a deceased vassal to renew investiture. (The lands in such a case were said to be *in non-entres.*) Also, the feudal casualty due to the immediate superior upon such failure.

1494–5 *Acc. Ld. High Treas.* I. 211 Ane composicione maid wyth Thomas Kennede..for the none entress of the are of Crorswell. 1546 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 51 The said Schir Neill sall alwayis defend and keip..the saidis landis fra decrete of nonentres. 1552 *Ibid.* 130 All waird landis, terce & conjunct fie landis, and landis in nonentres. 1566 *Ibid.* 471 Giftis of eschetis, wardis, nonentressis, mariages, new infeftmentis. 1597 SKENE *De Verb. Sign.* (1681) 90.

Non-e·ntry. [NON- 1.]

1. *Sc. Law.* = prec. Also *attrib.*, as *non-entry duty, mail.* Now *Hist.*

1497 *Acc. Ld. High Treas.* I. 315, I ressauit fra Schir James of Levingstoune..of ane termez male of his landis, being in the Kingis handis for his nonentree. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 351 He fand money of the saidis landis in non entrie. 1681 STAIR *Instit.* II. xiv. § 20. 299 Non-entry taketh place whenever the Fee is void, whether it be holden Ward, Blanch or Feu. *Ibid.* § 21. 300 To pay the Non-entry Mails. *a* 1768 ERSKINE *Inst. Law Scot.* II. v. § 46 (1773) 232 A charter of Novodamus..imports a release to the vassal..of all nonentry-duties prior to the grant. 1837 SKENE *Highlanders Scot.* II. iv. 103 A gift of the nonentries of Knoydart to Cameron. 1860 C. INNES *Scot. in Middle Ages* IV. 122 The feudal casualties of ward, relief, marriage, and non-entry

2. The act or fact of not entering; no entrance.

1599 B. JONSON *Cynthia's Rev.* V. iii, You must pardon your non-entry: Husbands are not allow'd here. 1616 — *Love Restored*, I am sure he concluded all in a nonentry.

Nonery, obs. form of NUNNERY.

Nones (nōunz). Also 5 nonys. [In sense 1, a. F. *nones* (12th c.), or ad. L. *nōnæ* (acc. *nōnās*), fem. pl. of *nōnus* ninth. In sense 2, pl. of NONE *sb.*: cf. *matins, vespers.*]

1. *Rom. Antiq.* The ninth day (by inclusive reckoning) before the Ides of each month, being thus the 7th of March, May, July, and October, and the 5th of all other months.

c 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* III. 1031 Thai been ripe atte Jules nonys. [1485 CAXTON *St. Wenefryde* 12 The day of the thyrdde Nonas of Nouembre.] 1555 EDEN *Decades* 5 The daye before the nones of Aprel, he came to the courte him selfe. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 461 b, About ye nones of November..the Lantgraves daughter died. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 224 From the rising of the Dolphin starre, vnto the day before the Nones of Ianuarie. 1631 WEEVER *Anc. Funeral Mon.* 811 The day before the Nones of May, 1196. 1679 MOXON *Math. Dict.* 26 The Roman Month its several days divides By reckoning backwards, Calends, Nones, and Ides. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XIII. 173/1 The mode of fixing any particular day was by saying that it was so many days before the kalends, nones, or ides, next immediately following. 1870 *Eng. Gilds* (E. E. T. S.) 181 Given at Lincoln, on the Nones of September, A.D. 1337.

2. *Eccl.* A daily office, originally said at the ninth hour of the day (about 3 p.m.), but in later use sometimes earlier.

1709 J. JOHNSON *Clergym. Vade M.* II. 101 That the same Liturgy of prayers be used both at Nones and Vespers. [*Note.* Nones was what we call three o'clock in the afternoon.] 1805 SOUTHEY *Madoc in W.* XIII, From noon till nones The brethren sate. 1838 LONGF. *Drift-wood* Pr. Wks. 1886 I. 395 After this we sang the service of mid-day,..and slept, and got up again, and sang Nones. 1865 SWINBURNE *Poems & Ball., St. Dorothy* 282 It were good game betwixen night and nones For one to sit and hearken to such saws. 1873 DIXON *Two Queens* I. iii. I. 20 The Virgin was supposed to love and listen to their nones and vespers.

None-schenche, -shyne, obs. ff. NUNCHEON.

None shaloyre: see NONCHALOIR.

None-so-pretty.

†**1.** Some article of haberdashery. *Obs. rare.*

c 1700 in *N. & Q.* 9th Ser. X. 88/1 Webb-Cane and Leather Hooping, Gartering of all Sorts, Nonesopretties, Pins and Needles, Inkle and Spinnel. 1759 *St. Papers* in *Ann. Reg.* 201, 1 [piece] cotton romals, 4 ditto, none-so-pretties, 8 lb. coloured thread.

2. The plant London Pride. (Cf. NANCY-PRETTY.)

1731 MILLER *Gard. Dict.* s.v. *Geum*, London Pride, or None so Pretty. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* Supp. *App.*, None-so-pretty, a popular name for the Geum of botanical authors. 1760 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* App. 320 None so pretty, *Saxifraga.* 1796 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) II. 404. 1884 BLACK *Jud. Shakespeare* xii, Pansies, snapdragon, none-so-pretty.

‖**Non esse** (nǫn e·sĭ). [L. (used subst. by Wyclif, *De Logica* III. x): see NON and ESSE.] Non-being, non-existence.

1654 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 404 Passing from a *Non esse* not being, over the Stage of a Short *Est*, or Duration, to an everlasting Non-existence. *a* 1680 CHARNOCK *Immut. God* Wks. 1864 I. 416 What an unhappiness is it to have our affections set upon that which retains something of its *non esse* with its *esse*.

†**Non-e·ssence.** *Obs. rare*⁻¹. [NON- 1.] Non-existence.

a 1618 J. DAVIES *Wittes Pilgr.* Wks. (Grosart) I. 23/2 What ioy is so great but the conceipt Of falling to his Infinition (Of blacke Non-essence) will confound it streight?

Non-esse·ntial, *a.* and *sb.* [NON- 3.]

A. *adj.* Not essential (in various senses).

1751 EARL ORRERY *Remarks Swift* (1752) 71 He answered her in the non-essential modes. He talked of friendship [etc.]. 1846 MILL *Logic* I. vi. § 4 Non-essential or accidental Propositions, on the contrary, may be called Real Propositions in opposition to Verbal. 1866 LITTLEDALE *Incense* 9 The..abandonment..of a non-essential, though primitive, custom. 1875 POSTE *Gaius* I. Introd. 18 The error is held to be non-essential and does not avoid the disposition. 1883 BLACK *Shandon Bells* XXXII, I say that he is careless about what is non-essential.

B. *sb.* A thing that is not essential, absolutely necessary, or of the utmost consequence.

1806 SURR *Winter in Lond.* III. 16, I..only dissented from my amiable Rebecca in what she termed non-essentials. 1833 *Tracts for Times* No. 3. 3 Shall not we pass from non-essentials to essentials? *a* 1857 R. A. VAUGHAN *Ess. & Rem.* (1858) I. 51 He [*sc.* Schleiermacher] made manifest..the distinctions between essentials and non-essentials in religion. 1900 *Daily News* 7 May 6/6 In essentials Unity, in non-essentials Liberty, in all things Charity.

‖**Non est** (nǫn e·st). *colloq.* Short for NON EST INVENTUS.

1870 BREWER *Dict. Phr. & Fable.* 1882 OGILVIE, *Non est*, a contraction of the legal phrase *Non est inventus*.., and popularly used to signify, he was not there, he was absent.

Nonest(e, obs. forms of NONCE.

Nonestedyng: see NOONSTEADING.

‖**Non est factum** (nǫn est fæ·ktŭm). *Law.* [L. = 'it was not done'.] (See quot. 1607.)

1607 COWELL *Interpr.*, *Non est factum* is an aunswer to a declaration, whereby a man denyeth that to be his deed, whereupon he is impleaded. 1712 ARBUTHNOT *John Bull* II. xvi, Expences of the Suits,..To Esquire South's Accompt for *post Terminums*; To ditto for *Non est Factums*.

‖**Non est inventus** (nǫn est inve·ntŭs). *Law.* [L. = 'he was not found'.] The answer made by the sheriff in the return of the writ when the defendant is not to be found in his bailiwick. In 16–17th c. often allusively.

Sometimes abbreviated *non est invent.* (See also NON INVENTUS, and NON EST.)

c 1475 *Mankind* 774 in *Macro Plays* 29 ȝe must speke to þe schryne for a 'cepe coppus', Ellys ȝe must be fayn to retorn with 'non est inventus'. 1583 STUBBES *Anat. Abus.* K j, Sheriffes & officers wil returne writs with a *tarde venit*, or with a *non est inuentus*. 1590 GREENE *Never too Late* (1600) H 3 So long put he his hand into his purse, that at last the empty bottome returned him a writ of *Non est innentus*. 1662 [H. P. DE CRESSY] (*title*), A non est inventus return'd to Mr. Edward Bagshaw's Enquiry and vainly boasted discovery of weakness in the grounds of the Churches infallibility. 1688 SHADWELL *Sqr. Alsatia* I. Wks. 1720 IV. 20, I plead to all this matter *Non est inventus* upon the Pannel. 1712 ARBUTHNOT *John Bull* II. xvi, Esquire South's Quota for a Return of a *Non est invent*, and *Nulla habet bona*. 1780 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 212/1 For having returned a warrant *Non est inventus* in an action..when in fact the defendent Henwood had been arrested. 1827 DE QUINCEY *Murder* Wks. 1854 IV. 50 He inquired after the unfortunate reporter..: the answer was.. from the under-sheriff of our county—'Non est inventus'.

Nonesuch (nʌ·nsʌtʃ), *sb.* and *a.* [f. NONE *pron.* and *a.* + SUCH *a.* See also NONSUCH, which is now the usual form.]

I. †1. Without article. **a.** As a designation of persons or things, implying sense 2. *Obs. rare.*

1598 TOFTE *Alba* (1880) 68 An Ornament [*sc.* a bracelet] th' art to be seene Of her white Hand, yclept of right None-svch. *a* 1618 SYLVESTER *Urania* xlii, Therefore did Plato from his None-Such banish Base Poetasters. 1649 CANNE *Golden Rule* 24 Princes (specially of late) haue deem'd themselves to be None-such, and..unlike other men.

†**b.** As a place-name, prob. with allusion to *Nonsuch* near Epsom in Surrey. *Obs.*

1599 *Broughton's Let.* ii. 8 As if you were borne at *None-such*, you are not contented to be accompted..a great Diuine. 1645 WITHER *Vox Pacifica* 74 A spotlesse Church, or perfect Disciplines Go seek at None-such.

2. An unmatched or unrivalled thing.

1590 GREENE *Menaphon* (Arb.) 74 This Paragon, this nonesuch, this Eaw, this Mistres of our flockes. 1616 R. CARPENTER *Christ's Larumbell* 12 His love..may rightly be termed and entituled, A None-such. 1650 FULLER *Pisgah* III. viii. 425 The Scripture itself..presenteth Solomon's [temple] as a Nonesuch, or peerless structure. 1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* Ep. Ded., I know whatever is a Nonesuch, will draw enough as 'tis. 1731 MEDLEY *Kolben's Cape G. Hope* II. 39 'Tis well provided with game, and may indeed be call'd a None-such at the Cape. 1745 T. SMITH *Jrnl.* (1849) 269 This month [March] has been like February; a nonesuch; wonderful pleasant, and like April.

b. A person who has no equal; one to whom no other can be compared; a paragon.

1647 TRAPP *Expos. Matt.* i. 10 This man was (till converted) as very a nonesuch in Iudah as Ahab was in Israel. 1702 C. MATHER *Magn. Chr.* VII. App. (1852) 647 The giddy people had cried him up for a nonesuch. 1741 RICHARDSON *Pamela* (1824) I. 96 Come to bed, purity! said she; you are a nonesuch, I suppose. 1771 T. HULL *Sir W. Harrington* (1797) II. 38 His equal..I never met with before:..he is a none-such.

c. In depreciatory sense. *rare.*

1705 HICKERINGILL *Priest-cr.* II. Pref. A 2 Some quarrel with my Style, saying, It is a none-such, and like no bodies.

†3. The most eminent person or thing *of* some class, kind, place, etc. *Obs.*

c 1613 ROWLANDS *More Knaues Yet?* (Hunterian Cl.) 4 The very Nonesuch of true courtesie. 1649 ROBERTS *Clavis Bibl.* Introd. ii. 13 The None-such of all the Prophets in Israel. 1652 H. L'ESTRANGE *Amer. no Jewes* 40 His Glory and Wisdome cryed up for the None-such and wonder of the world. 1670 LASSELS *Voy. Italy* I. 27 Fontainbelleau, where I saw that Kingly house, the Nonesuch of France.

†4. *adj.* Unrivalled, unequalled, incomparable.

1641 J. TRAPPE *Theol. Theol.* viii. 326 Not like that Nonesuch Ahab, or those perverse Pharisees. 1681 HICKERINGILL *Sin Man-catching* Wks. 1716 I. 192 These are the great Plagues, the none-such Pests of all Society. 1715 in *Roxb. Ball.* (1888) VI. 620 A conjunct company, both of Scots and Dutch men..; they're almost all none-such Men.

II. *spec.* 5. The Scarlet Lychnis. ? *Obs.*

1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. cxix. 380 It is called..of some Flower of Bristowe, and Nonesuch. 1629 PARKINSON *Parad.* 11 The flower of Bristow or None-such is likewise another kinde of Campion. *Ibid.* 253 Single None-such, or Flower of Bristow, or Constantinople. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* II. 95/1 None-such, or Flower of Bristow, is a small flower of many leaves. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Suppl.* App., *None-such*, a name sometimes given to the Lychnis of botanists.

6. =NONSUCH 6 a.

1762 B. STILLINGFL. *Misc. Tracts* 315 Several plants still in flower, as..black nonesuch. 1764 *Museum Rust.* II. 359 About ten pounds per acre of nonesuch, or white Dutch clover-seed. 1847 DARLINGTON *Amer. Weeds* (1860) 100 Hop-like Medicago. Black Medick. Nonesuch.

Nonet (nōune·t). *Mus.* Also in It. form. [ad. It. *nonetto*, f. *nono* ninth: see -ET.] A composition for nine instruments or voices.

1865 tr. *Spohr's Autobiogr.* 180 A Nonet concerted for the ..Violin, Viol, Violincello and Double-Bass; and the..Flute, Oboe, Clarinet, Horn and Bassoon. 1880 ROCKSTRO in Grove *Dict. Mus.* II. 464. 1896 *Godey's Mag.* Apr. 422/2 A curious and elaborate *allegro molto*..ends the 'Nonet'.. with an abrupt major chord.

†**Nonett.** *Obs.* [a. F. *nonnette*, dim. of *nonne* NUN.] A titmouse.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. XI. XXXVII. 331 The pretie Titmouse or Nonett is filletted or coifed vpon the head. *Ibid.* 601.

Nonetyde, obs. form of NOONTIDE.

Non-Eucli·dean, -ian, *a.* [NON- 3.] Not Euclidean or in accordance with the principles of Euclid.

Non-Euclidean geometry: a system of geometry involving the study of the consequences which follow from denying (or, in a wider use, merely dispensing with) any of the assumptions on which the Euclidean system is founded. (See also METAGEOMETRY, PANGEOMETRY.) *Non-Euclidean space*: the kind of space with which this geometry deals.

1874 LEWES *Probl. Life & Mind* Ser. I. I. 59 A non-Euclidian geometry. 1878 NEWCOMB *Pop. Astron.* IV. iii. 505 Several geometrical systems have been constructed in recent times, which are included under the general appellation of the non-Euclidian Geometry. 1900 R. S. BALL *Theory Screws* 439 The..basis of the mensuration of non-Euclidian space.

Non-execu·tion. [NON- 1.] Neglect of execution; omission or failure to execute.

a 1663 SOUTH *Serm.* 5 Nov., The Non-execution of the Laws upon such Hypocrites. 1690 CHILD *Disc. Trade* (1698) 94 Much of this mischief happens by the non, or ill execution of the laws. 1758 *M.P.'s Lett. on Navy, Let. to Mayor* 6 The Non-execution of it [*sc.* an Act of Parliament] appearing to have taken Place soon after the Death of the Lord Torrington. *c* 1850 *Arab. Nts.* (Rtldg.) 317 The captain had nothing to reply to this command, the non-execution of which was to involve him..in so severe a punishment.

Non-exi·stence. [NON- 1. Cf. Fr. *non-existence.*]

1. The condition of being non-existent; non-being, nonentity.

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* I. vii. 27 The omission hereof affords some probability it was not used by the Ancients, but will not conclude the nonexistence thereof. 1662 STILLINGFL. *Orig. Sacræ* III. iii. § 3 A possibility of non-existence, or annihilation in a creature. 1728 MORGAN *Algiers* I. vi. 175 Some I never heard of; tho' that is no Argument of their Non-Existence. 1807 G. CHALMERS *Caledonia* I. I. i. 3 Empires successively arose..and sunk into non-existence.

2. A non-existent thing. Also (indefinitely), that which has no existence.

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* IV. x. 20 A method of many Writers, which much depreciates the esteeme and value of miracles, that is, therewith to salve not onely reall verities, but also non-existences. 1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* 249 They were all made ἐξ οὐκ ὄντων, from an antecedent Non-existence or Nothing brought forth into being. 1866 J. MARTINEAU *Ess.* I. 230 An existence without predicates is a non-existence. 1892 J. TAIT *Mind in Matter* (ed. 3) 74 Men are asked to believe that the whole dog and the whole pigeon..were produced from non-existence, by opportune additions to an invisible speck of living matter.

Non-exi·stent, *a.* and *sb.* [NON- 3.]

A. *adj.* Not existent or having existence.

1682 SIR T. BROWNE *Chr. Mor.* (1716) 75 What is and will be latent is little better than non-existent. 1787 HAWKINS *Life Johnson* 160 He sometimes raised subscriptions for non-existent poems. 1818-60 WHATELY *Comm.-pl. Bk.* (1864) 82 The bread which I ate a year ago and the ambrosia of Homer's Gods are both equally non-existent at this moment. 1891 HARDY *Tess* I, This sound of a non-existent coach can only be heard by one of D'Urberville blood.

absol. 1836-7 SIR W. HAMILTON *Metaph.* xvi. (1859) I. 294 Concerning Nature or the Non-Existent. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 230, I and all the world are in a difficulty about the non-existent.

B. *sb.* A person or thing that does not exist.

1658 BAXTER *Saving Faith* § 7. 53 This is no more their fault, then it is that they see not non-existents. 1734 WATTS *Relig. Juv.* (1789) 133 Confus'd ideas Of non-existents and impossibles. 1824 COLERIDGE *Aids Refl.* (1848) I. 186 The champion's challenge to all the non-existents, that ..dispute his [*sc.* a prince's] rights and royalty. 1885 MARTINEAU *Types Eth. The.* I. I. i. (1886) 27 That of which there should be no idea would be *ipso facto* a non-existent.

Non-exi·sting, *ppl. a.* [NON- 6.] =prec. A.

1797 HOLCROFT tr. *Stolberg's Trav.* (ed. 2) II. lx. 446 Non-existing phantoms..are pointed to as realities. 1826 MISS MITFORD in L'Estrange *Life* (1870) II. x. 223 Was not this a most absurd difficulty? To have written a charade upon a non-existing word! 1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 25 May 7/3 He treated evidence which was not forthcoming as non-existing.

Non-exporta·tion. [NON- 1.] Refusal to export (in *U. S. Hist.*: cf. *non-importation*).

1774 JEFFERSON *Wks.* (1853) I. 144 The heavy injury that would arise to this country from an earlier adoption of the non-exportation plan. 1774 [see NON-CONSUMPTION]. 1876 BANCROFT *Hist. U. S.* IV. v. 351 They .. proposed non-importation and, if necessary, non-exportation as means of temporary resistance.

Non-feasance (nɒnfī·zăns). *Law.* [NON- 1.] Omission of some act which ought to have been done. (Distinguished from MALFEASANCE, MISFEASANCE.)

1596 BACON *Max. Com. Law* (1630) 2 If the grantee commit trenson, wherby he is imprisoned, so that the grantor cannot have access unto him for his counsel, yet nevertheles the annuity is not determined by this non-feasance. 1622 CALLIS *Stat. of Sewers* (1824) 211 No permission, sufferance, neglect, or non-feasance, can be found to be by force, because they consist not *in agendo*. 1765 [see MALFEASANCE]. 1781, 1875 [see MISFEASANCE]. 1845 POLSON *Eng. Law* in *Encycl. Metrop.* II. 813/2 Misconduct of officers of justice, being what the law terms malfeasance, that is, wrong-doing,—or culpable non-feasance. 1891 MORLEY in *Times* 30 Oct. 7/2 If your colleague..of to-day..is to be at liberty to-morrow to turn round and reproach you with supposed misfeasances and non-feasances. *transf.* 1773 *Observ. State Poor* 27 There is one infallible way to put an end to begging,..which consists merely in a nonfeasance: give them nothing.

†**Non-fee·lingness.** *Obs.* [f. NON- 1 + FEELING *ppl. a.* + -NESS.] Absence of sensation.

1650 GENTILIS *Considerations* 212 To overcome a feigned non-feelingnesse of griefe attempts a greater mischiefe.

†**Non-fi·ance.** *Obs. rare*⁻¹. [NON- 1.] Want of confidence.

1643 BAILLIE *Lett. & Jrnls.* (1841) II. 99 Essex much suspect, at least of non-fiance and misfortoune.

†**Nongainsta·nding,** *prep. Obs.* [See NON- and GAINSTAND *v.* b.] Notwithstanding.

1456 SIR G. HAVE *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 137 Nongaynstanding thir argumentis.

Non-gre·mial. [NON- 2.] One who is not a resident member (of the university of Cambridge). Also *attrib.* or *adj.* in *non-gremial examinations*, an early name for the 'local' examinations.

1841 PEACOCK *Stat. Cambr.* App. A. 17 *note*, Non gremials ..were suspended *ab omni gradu*. 1858 *Guardian* 29 Dec. 1042/3 At Bristol last week there was a public meeting in support of the Cambridge non-gremial examinations. 1865 *Sat. Rev.* 25 Feb. 220/1 That girls as well as boys might be.. admitted to what are called the 'non-gremial' examinations.

Non-habence (nɒnhē·bĕns). *rare*⁻¹. [f. NON- 1 + **habence*, ad. L. *habēntia*, f. *habēnt-*, pres. ppl. stem of *habēre* to have.] The condition of not having a thing.

1865 J. GROTE *Moral Ideals* (1876) 27 The degrees of withoutness are (1) simple non-habence [etc.].

Non-hea·rer. *Hist.* [NON- 2.] (See quots.)

1853 J. H. BURTON *Hist. Scot.* II. 69 A portion of them [*sc.* the Cameronians]..isolated themselves as 'non-hearers'. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xvi. III. 707 The number of these zealots [*sc.* Presbyterian nonjurors] went on diminishing till..they were nowhere numerous enough to have a meeting house, and were known by the name of the Non-hearers.

Non-hu·man, *a.* [NON- 3.]

1. Not of the human race, not a human being.

1839 J. ROGERS *Antipopopr.* vi. § 2. 210 He is quite different from the whole human family, or is nonhuman.

1852 M. ARNOLD *Empedocles* I. ii, Though the non-human powers Of Nature harm us not. 1865 LUBBOCK *Preh. Times* 114 The non-human bones met with in their researches.

2. Not natural or proper to a human being.

1853 KINGSLEY *Hypatia* xxi, Celibacy and asceticism, utterly non-human as they were. 1891 HARDY *Tess* xx, At those non-human hours they could get quite close to the waterfowl.

Nonillion (nɒni·lyən). [a. F. *nonillion* (16th c.), f. L. *nōn-us* ninth, after *million.*] The ninth power of a million, denoted by 1 followed by 54 cyphers. In American use, an octillion multiplied by 1000, denoted by 1 followed by 30 cyphers. Hence **Noni·llionth** (in recent Dicts.).

1828-32 WEBSTER, *Nonillion*, the number of nine million millions. *a* 1835 MCCULLOCH *Attributes* (1843) II. xxxix. 476 Words effect less than figures; especially in the higher numbers. A Nonillion is scarcely more than a million to our conceptions.

Non-importa·tion. [NON- 1.] Neglect or refusal to import. b. *attrib.* in *non-importation agreement* or *act*, applied to various agreements or acts made by the American colonial governments (from 1768 to 1774) to prevent the importation of goods from Great Britain and her colonies.

1770 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 159 We [at Charles Town] have agreed to stop all commercial intercourse with New-York, on account of that Province breaking the Non-Importation Agreement, which we strictly adhere to. 1774 [see NON-CONSUMPTION]. 1774 (*title*) A Friendly Address to all Reasonable Americans,..in which the Necessary Consequences..of a General Non-Importation are Fairly Stated. 1833 C. REDDING *Mod. Wines* 213 The non-importation of the pure wine took place about 1815. 1849-50 ALISON *Hist. Europe* VII. xlii. § 54. 135 Congress..passed a non-importation act against the manufactures of Great Britain. 1876 BANCROFT *Hist. U. S.* IV. xxxii. 79 The certainty that the country could not as yet manufacture for itself, and consequently..that the schemes of non-importation would fail.

So **Non-impo·rting** *ppl. a.* (Webster, 1847.)

Nonino: see NONNY-NO.

Non-inte·lligence. [NON- 1.]

†1. Failure to understand. *Obs.*

a 1674 TRAHERNE *Poet. Wks.* (1903) 33 My non-intelligence of human words Ten thousand Pleasures unto me affords.

2. Want of intelligence.

1905 J. M. ROBERTSON *Chamberlain* x. 52/2 It was the apotheosis of notional non-intelligence.

Non-inte·lligent, *a.* (*sb.*) [NON- 3.] A. *adj.* Not intelligent. B. *sb.* One who is not intelligent.

1628 FELTHAM *Resolves* II. xx. 67 Mercurie himselfe may moue his tongue in vaine, if hee has none to heare him, but a Non-intelligent. 1768-74 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) I. 332 If we had declared Him non-intelligent, it would have conveyed the same idea we have of senseless matter. 1860 GEN. P. THOMPSON *Audi Alt.* CXXII. III. 70 The puerile display of non-intelligent imbecility.

Non-i·ntercourse. [NON- 1.] Want of intercourse. b. *attrib.* in *non-intercourse act*, in *U. S. Hist.*, an act of 1809 prohibiting ships from France and Great Britain from entering American ports. Also humorously allusive.

1809 JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1829) IV. 131 This view is derived from the former non-intercourse law only. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* XI. vii. P 5 You must submit to an embargo on your wit, and a non-intercourse act between you and the faculty of writing. 1826 MISS MITFORD *Village* Ser. II. (1863) 371, I intend to try the effect of non-intercourse, and to break with her outright. 1888 A. JOHNSTON in *Encycl. Brit.* XXIII. 759/1 The use of non-intercourse agreements as revolutionary weapons against Great Britain.

Non-interfe·rence. [NON- 1.] Failure or refusal to interfere, *esp.* in politics.

1830 GEN. P. THOMPSON *Exerc.* (1842) I. 284 The more cases you can produce of non-interference on the other side, the more easily you may say that non-interference cannot last for ever, and you must interfere in this. 1866 CRUMP *Banking* ii. 60 Banking, above all other professions, is that which under entire freedom and non-interference would soonest be placed in the most perfect position. 1907 *Standard* 19 Jan. 8/1 If the Downing Street people would only give us [in South Africa]..a little continuity of non-interference.

attrib. 1859 J. TAYLOR *Logic in Theol.* 227 The 'non-interference' statesmen, who rule India.

So **Non-interfe·rer,** one who favours non-interference; **Non-interfe·ring** *ppl. a.*, that does not interfere.

1860 GEN. P. THOMPSON *Audi Alt.* CXXVI. III. 83 To note the way in which the non-interferers can turn round when it suits them. 1897 MARY KINGSLEY *W. Africa* 442 A non-interfering and therefore a negligeable quantity.

Non-interve·ntion. [NON- 1. So in Fr.] Absence of intervention; in international politics, systematic non-interference by a nation in the affairs of other nations except where its own interests are directly involved.

1831 [see INTERVENTION 1]. 1835 MARRYAT *Olla Podr.* vii, The French marched an army of non-intervention down to the citadel. 1881 E. ROBERTSON in *Encycl. Brit.* XIII. 192/1 Premature recognition of a struggling rebellion would be regarded as a breach of the principle of non-intervention. 1888 MARQ. SALISBURY in *Times* 11 Apr. 12/2 That spirit of haughty and sullen isolation which has been dignified by the name of 'non-intervention'.

attrib. 1846 MRS. GORE *Eng. Char.* (1852) 85 An intervention and non-intervention war is waged between the parties. 1896 *Daily News* 17 Nov. 5/4 The renewal of Bismarck's Non-intervention Alliance.

Hence **Non-interve·ntionist,** also **Non-inter-**

ve·ntionalist (*rare*⁻¹), one who favours non-intervention. Also *attrib.*

1859 RUSKIN *Arrows of Chace* (1880) II. 13 We English non-interventionalists. 1860 *Sat. Rev.* X. 483/1 The Greek ecclesiastics are non-interventionists. 1884 *Liverpool Mercury* 14 Feb. 5/6 The non-interventionist peace party.

‖ **Non inventus** (nɒn inve·ntŭs). [L. = 'not found'.] = NON EST INVENTUS.

c 1670 HACKET *Abp. Williams* II. (1693) 88 They [*sc.* commissioners] broke up with a *Non-inventus.* 1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) II. 124 The return of *non invent*, generally made upon writs. 1880 J. PAYN *Confident. Agent* xxiii, It is rumoured that the assistant of a well-known jeweller..is *non inventus.*

Non-intru·sion. [NON- 1.] Absence of intrusion; *spec.* in the Church of Scotland, applied to the principle of resisting the intrusion by patrons of unacceptable ministers upon objecting congregations. Also *attrib.*

1840 J. ROBERTSON *Observ. Veto Act* 5 The observations now offered to the public on the non-intrusion enactment of the Assembly, 1834. 1841 DE QUINCEY in *Blackw. Mag.* Aug. 128 All those laymen who profess principles of Non-intrusion. *Ibid.*, In Edinburgh, the peace of the city was sought to be disturbed, by setting up the Non-intrusion Lord Provost against Mr. Macaulay. 1841 MACAULAY in Trevelyan *Life* (1880) II. 93 A Non-intrusion opposition has been talked of...The leading Non-intrusionists..have had a conference with me. 1879 *Encycl. Brit.* IX. 744/1 That the church..should reaffirm the principle of non-intrusion as an integral part of the constitution of the Reformed Church of Scotland.

Hence **Non-intru·sionism**, the tenets and practice of non-intrusionists; **Non-intru·sionist**, one who favours non-intrusion; also *attrib.*

1841 DE QUINCEY in *Blackw. Mag.* Aug. 128 To vote for a Non-intrusionist was a matter of divine duty. *Ibid.* 129 To such partisans..Christianity itself is scarcely more important than Non-Intrusionism. *Ibid.* 132 The sentiments and language of the Non-Intrusionist Lord-Advocate.

Nonius (nō·nĭŭs). [mod.L., being the latinized form of the name of Pedro *Nuñez*, a Portuguese mathematician (1492–1577).] A contrivance for the graduation of mathematical instruments, invented by Nuñez and described by him in his work *De Crepusculis* (1542 A.D.). Often inaccurately used for the VERNIER, which is an improved form of Nuñez' instrument.

1750 *Phil. Trans.* XLVI. 515 In this Method another Observer will be generally necessary to note the Degree cut by the Nonius. 1781 M. CUTLER in *Life*, etc. (1888) I. 86, I went to Salem to get a nonius fitted to my barometer. 1804 CT. VON RUMFORD in *Phil. Trans.* XCIV. 78 Their scales were divided with the greatest care; and, by means of a nonius, they show eighth parts of a degree very distinctly. 1881 SERPA PINTO *How I crossed Africa* II. II. iii. 160, I read in the nonius 50° 10′.

b. *attrib.*, as *nonius plate, scale, screw.*

1732 *Phil. Trans.* XXXVII. 274 The Nonius Plate moves with the Index, and subdivides each of the small Divisions of the Arch into ten equal Parts or Minutes. 1837 BREWSTER *Magn.* 350 The lever or clamp, connected with the nonius screw on one of the deflectors. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk., Nonius Scale, or Vernier.*

Non-joi·nder. *Law.* [NON- 1.] The omission to join, as a party to a suit.

1833 *Act* 3 & 4 *Will. IV*, c. 42 § 10 The..Defendants who shall have so pleaded in Abatement the Nonjoinder of such Person. 1845 STEPHEN *Comm. Laws Eng.* (1874) II. 100 Each is entitled if sued alone to object to the non-joinder of the other partners. 1887 *Law Times Rep.* LVIII. 112/1 Under the old practice..their non-joinder could have been made the subject of a plea in abatement.

† Non-ju·rable, *a. Obs.* [f. NON- 3 + **jurable*, ad. L. type **jurābilis* (f. *jurāre* to swear: see -ABLE).] That cannot be sworn, e.g. as a witness.

a 1734 NORTH *Examen* (1740) 264 If..they were brought to the View of this Fellow's Saltinbanco Tricks, they would have..pined at his being such a Nonjurable Rogue.

Non-jurancy (nɒnˌdʒū·rănsi). *Hist.* [f. NON-JURANT: see -ANCY.] The condition of being a non-juror; the principles of the non-jurors.

1715 WODROW in *Wodrow's Corr.* (1843) II. 21 To show it was neither disloyalty nor Non-jurancy hindered him, he went over..and preached at Lanark with Mr. Orr. 1720 — *Ibid.* 486 The other thing insisted on is a declaration of the reasons of our Non-jurancy. 1895 RAVEN *Hist. Suffolk* 229 Archbishop Sancroft's non-jurancy.

Non-ju·rant, *a.* and *sb. Hist.* Also 8 erron. **-and.** [f. NON-JUROR: see -ANT and cf. JURANT.]

A. *adj.* That is a non-juror; belonging to or characteristic of non-jurors.

1696 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) IV. 138 One Glascome, a nonjurant parson. 1788 in *N. & Q.* 8th Ser. VIII. 16 Nov. (1895) 385/1 Upon the 24th of April 1788 at a Meeting of the Protestant Nonjurand Bishops at Aberdeen they unanimously resolved to pray for George the Third. 1791 NEWTE *Tour Eng. & Scot.* 372 A non-jurant place of worship. 1900 J. DOWDEN in C. E. G. Wright *Gideon Guthrie* Pref. xiv, Guthrie, an Episcopal and non-jurant clergyman.

transf. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* III. I. iv. 36 Poor Abbé Sicard, with some thirty other Nonjurant Priests. 1866 *Pall Mall G.* 14 Sept. 5 The annexation of Hanover to Prussia seems likely to give rise to a class of non-jurant clergy in the former country.

B. *sb.* = NON-JUROR.

1702 *Reasons for addr. his Majesty to invite Electress* 9 Those of 'em who pretend to be Protestants are particularly stil'd High-Flyers, High-Churchmen, a few of 'em Nonjurants, and all of 'em Torys. 1703 *Moderation a Virtue* 21 These are the Nonjurants, who reserve their Allegiance for the young Gentleman at St. Germans. 1848 THOMSON *Hist. Sk. Secession Ch.* 8 The non-jurants..were supported..by the general voice of the people, who, looking upon the oath [of abjuration] as a badge of slavery [etc.]. 1881 AGNEW *Theol. Consol.* 287 The most earnest ministers..refused to swear [the oath of allegiance to William and Mary]. To distinguish them from the Episcopal Non-jurors,..they were usually called non-jurants.

transf. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* III. I. iv. 37 A poor Nonjurant, of quicker temper, smites the horny paw with his cane.

Hence **† Non-ju·rantism** = NON-JURANCY.

1706 BAYNARD *Cold Baths* II. 268 Now to reason a little why Men..should even against Conviction oppose Cold Bathing, is a Paradox, surely the reason must be the same with that of Nonjurantism.

† Non-ju·ress. *Obs. nonce-word.* [f. NON-JUROR + -ESS.] A female non-juror.

1723 DR. WHARTON *True Briton* No. 21. I. 182 So great a Reinforcement of Nonjuresses as they will now have.

Non-ju·ring, *ppl. a. Hist.* [f. NON-JUROR: see -ING 2.] Refusing the oath of allegiance; belonging to the party of non-jurors.

1691 WOOD *Life* 21 Apr. (O.H.S.) III. 359 Non-juring bishops: Sancroft [etc.]. 1747 J. OWEN (*title*) Jacobites and Nonjuring Principles freely examined. 1779 BOSWELL *Let.* 2 Feb. in *Johnson*, I..had solemn conversation with the Reverend Mr. Falconer, a nonjuring bishop. 1814 SCOTT *Wav.* xi, The nonjuring clergyman was a pensive and interesting old man, with much the air of a sufferer for conscience sake. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xiv. III. 495 Some non-juring assembly, where the service which he loved was performed without mutilation. 1882–3 SCHAFF *Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* II. 1666 Nonjuring congregations continued to exist until the death of the last bishop Boothe, in 1805.

Non-ju·rist. *Hist.* [f. NON-JUROR: see -IST.] Used *attrib.* = prec. Also **Non-juri·stical** *a.*

1723 *Poor Robin* (title-p.) The Roundheads, Fanaticks, Muggletonians, Nonjuristical and Papistical Account. 1871 FRASER *Life Berkeley* ii. 49 Non-resistance and passive obedience were..supported in Queen Anne's reign in Non-jurist tracts and pamphlets.

Non-juri·stic, *a.* [NON- 3.] Not juristic.

1875 POSTE *Gaius* IV. 508 We..find *manus injectio* spoken of by non-juristic writers as an act of self-redress.

Non-juror, nonjuror (nɒnˌdʒū·rəɹ). *Hist.* [NON- 2.] Orig., one of the beneficed clergy who refused to take the oath of allegiance in 1689 to William and Mary. Also, in wider use (see quot. 1769).

1691 WOOD *Life* 14 Oct. (O.H.S.) III. 373 To justifie his proceedings in not expelling the non-jurors or non-swearers. 1696 EVELYN *Diary* 26 Feb., A Conspiracy of about 30 Knights, [etc.]..many of them Irish and English Papists and Nonjurors or Jacobites (so call'd), to murder K. William. 1714 SWIFT *Pres. St. Aff.* Wks. 1751 IV. 276 Excepting those who are Nonjurors by profession, I have not met with above two persons who appeared to have any scruples concerning the present Limitation of the Crown. 1769 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* IV. ix. 124 Every person refusing the same [oaths of allegiance, supremacy, and abjuration] who is properly called a non-juror, shall be adjudged a popish recusant convict. 1827 HALLAM *Const. Hist.* xv. (1876) III. 109 Eight bishops,..with about four hundred clergy,..chose the more honourable course of refusing the new oaths; and thus began the schism of the nonjurors. 1852 THACKERAY *Esmond* xi, So my Lord Castlewood remained a nonjuror all his life nearly. 1879 L. STEPHEN *Hours in Library* III. 289 When Macaulay attacks an old non-juror or modern Tory.

Hence **Non-ju·rorism,** the principles of the non-jurors. 1882 in OGILVIE.

Non-jury. [NON- 4.] *attrib.* in *non-jury action, case*, an action or case not requiring a jury. Also *absol.* = non-jury case.

1897 *Daily News* 9 Mar. 8/4 Two non-jury cases from Mr. Justice Matthew's court. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 19 May 2/1 To try Special, Common, and non-juries. 1901 *Scotsman* 11 Mar. 9/2 Mr. Justice Bucknill sat to try non-jury actions.

Non-know·ledge. [NON- 1.] Want of knowledge.

1503 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 532/2 For the serche and non knowlege of their severall Tenures. 1600 W. WATSON *Decacordon* (1602) 277 A Non-knowledge, what catholiks were guiltie, and who were free. 1612 HEYWOOD *Apol. Actors* Ep. Ded. A 2 b, They have either wandred through spleene, or erred by non-knowledge. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 1 April 4/1 His non-knowledge of the customs of the country led to a very funny situation.

Non le day. *Hist.* [See NON- 2 and LE.] A day on which ordinary exercises were not read in the schools; hence, a day of rest, a holiday.

1635 HEYLIN *Sabbath* (1636) II. 114 [That] the Lords day..should be a non-lee day, a day of rest and ease unto them. 1904 WORDSWORTH *Anc. Kal. Univ. Oxf.* (O. H. S.) 181 There were in old times many holy days which intervened to stop lectures, and these were accordingly called *non Le*, or *non Dis* days (or both at once).

‖ **Non licet** (li·set). [L. = 'it is not lawful'.]

† 1. A refusal of permission. *Obs.*

1622 MABBE tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* 50, I was dismist with a *non licet.*

2. *attrib.* (hyphened). Not allowed, unlawful.

1628 PEYNNE *Brief Surv.* 80 These non-licet times of Marriage. 1637 HEYLIN *Antid. Linc.* Pref. 2 This and such like lawlesse, and non-licet Pamphlets. 1672 WOOD *Life* 9 Feb. (O.H.S.) II. 242 Dye..keeps a non-licet coach, ..notwithstanding the vicechancellor had prohibited him. 1891 WRENCH *Winchester Word-bk., Non-licet* adj., illegal: unbefitting a Wykehamist. *Ex.*—Don't sport non-licet notions.

No·n-life. [NON- 2.] Absence or negation of life.

1733 W. CRAWFORD *Infidelity* (1836) 186 Here there is a progress from a non-life to a life. 1862 J. BROWN *Rab, Mystery of Black & Tan* (1906) 59 That shudder, by which he leapt out of non-life into life. 1899 DZIEWICKI *Wyclif's De Logica* III. p. xxii, The instant of death..viewed from different standpoints: as the end of life, and the beginning of non-life.

‖ **Non liquet** (nɒn li·kwet). [L. = 'it is not clear'.] A condition of uncertainty as to whether a thing is so or not; *spec.* in *Law*, a verdict given by a jury in cases of doubt, deferring the matter to another day for trial. Also *attrib.* = uncertain as to the side to which one belongs.

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* 1679 *Trials of White, & other Jesuits* 63 It is still a Non liquet whether you were here in July or no. *c* 1700 J. WODROW in *Life* (1828) 109 The non-liquet men further those that are for the negative. [*a* 1734 NORTH *Examen* (1740) Pref. vi, Here is a Yesterday's Tale out of the best Writers, and who they are non liquet.] 1802 COLERIDGE *Unpubl. Lett. to J. P. Estlin* 86 (Stanf.), A non liquet concerning the nature and being of Christ.

Non-lo·gical, *a.* [NON- 3.] Not logical; *spec.* in *Logic* = MATERIAL *a.* 2.

1845 WHATELY *Logic* in *Encycl. Metrop.* I. 225/1 The Non-logical (or material) Fallacies. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 31 Aug. 3/3 There are many non-logical arguments..which may..be made to do a lot of good.

Non-me·mber. [NON- 2.] One who is not a member. So **Non-me·mbership.**

1650 J. COTTON *Sing. Psalms* 49 Neither doe the members of the Church..lay aside this dutie, and leave it to Non-Members. 1653 FIRMIN *Sober Reply* 37 He is under cure, but his cure is non-membership, a member cut off from the body. 1847 in WEBSTER. 1901 *Scotsman* 8 Mar. 6/7 There were forty non-members in the place. 1903 *Daily Chron.* 23 Mar. 5/4 On account of membership or non-membership of a labour union.

Non-me·tal. *Chem.* [NON- 2.] A non-metallic element.

1866 ODLING *Anim. Chem.* 14 The chlorides of the metals, like those of the non-metals, must also be divided into monochlorides. 1871 ROSCOE *Elem. Chem.* 6 The number of the metals is much larger than that of the non-metals.

Non-meta·llic, *a.* [NON- 3.] Not metallic, not consisting of metal; *Chem.*, that is not a metallic element.

1815 AIKIN *Man. Min.* (ed. 2) 55 Class I.—Non-Metallic Combustible Minerals. The substances of this class (with the exception of Diamond) are of low specific gravity. 1845 F. LUNN *Chem.* in *Encycl. Metrop.* IV. 646/2 Non-Metallic (Electronegative ?) Elements. 1856 *Orr's Circ. Sci., Mech. Philos.* 3 Silicium is sometimes regarded as a non-metallic body. 1872 SCHELLEN *Spectrum Anal.* § 23 The spectrum of any non-metallic substance.

Nonmete, variant of NOONMEAT.

Non-mo·ral, *a.* [NON- 3.] Not moral; having no moral standard; wanting in moral instinct or sense. So **Non-mora·lity.**

a 1866 J. GROTE *Exam. Utilit. Phil.* xxi. (1870) 355 Whether what we are to expect of human action is that it should be non-moral. 1886 SWINBURNE *Misc.* 66 Keats,..the most absolutely non-moral of all serious writers. 1891 LOUNSBURY *Stud. Chaucer* III. viii. 352 Those who insist that art, while it is not immoral, is non-moral. 1902 *N. & Q.* Ser. IX. IX. 79/2 The *naïveté* of their non-morality.

Nonn, obs. form of NUN.

Non-nant (nɒnˌnæ·nt). [f. NON- 6 + L. *nant-*, pres. ppl. stem of *nāre* to swim.] At Eton College: A boy who is not a swimmer. Also *attrib.*

1869 *Eton Boating Bk.* Introd. 2 No check was put upon those who belonged to the Boats, nor were they prohibited to 'Non-nants'. 1900 BRODRICK *Mem. & Impr.* 31 At the beginning of each summer half [at Eton] a 'non-nant list' was printed.

Nonnat (nɒ·næt). [a. dial.F. *nonnat, noun-(n)at.*] A name given on the Mediterranean coast of France to the young of fish of the families *Gobidæ* and *Atherinidæ.*

1868 *Mus. Nat. Hist.* II. 131. 1880 GÜNTHER *Fishes* 501.

Non-na·tural, *a.* and *sb.* [NON- 3.] **A.** *adj.*

† 1. *Non-natural things* [medical L. *res non-naturales*] = 'non-naturals' (see B). *Obs.*

1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, Non-Natural Things, or the Non-Natural Cause of Diseases, as the Physicians reckon them are six. 1727–38 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Medicine*, The fourth branch considers the remedies, and their use, whereby life may be preserved, whence it is called hygieine. Its objects are what we strictly call non-natural.

2. Not belonging to the natural order of things; not according to or dependent upon nature; deviating from the natural course or order.

1826 LAMB *Elia* Ser. II. *Sanity of true Genius*, For the super-natural, or something super-added to what we know of nature, they give you the plainly non-natural. 1839 J. ROGERS *Antipopopr.* vi. § 2. 210 Whoever comes not from or through Eve or her female posterity, is to be deemed non natural. 1862 MCCOSH *Supernatural* II. i. § 4. 150 *note*, A miracle is non-natural. 1874 M. ARNOLD in *Contemp. Rev.* Oct. 797 The God of this religion of the future will be still a magnified and non-natural man. 1887 *Challenger Rep.* XIX. IV. 1 The majority of zoologists continued for a long time to divide the Pteropoda into non-natural groups. 1898 *Green's Encycl. Law Scot.* X. 292 The duty of a proprietor making a non-natural use of his lands is extremely strict, and negligence is presumed from the fact of damage.

3. Not in accordance with the natural interpretation or meaning.

1844 W. G. WARD *Ideal Chr. Ch.* 479 Our twelfth Article

is as plain as words can make it on the 'evangelical' side... I subscribe it myself in a non-natural sense. 1864 PUSEY *Lect. Daniel* 471 When they strive so hard, in non-natural ways, to force other meanings on the words. 1884 LD. SELBORNE in *Law Rep.* 25 Chanc. Div. 688 It is not that the word 'wife' is taken in a non-natural sense.

B. *sb. pl.*

1. *Old Med.* The six things necessary to health, but liable, by abuse or accident, to become the cause of disease, *viz.* air, meat and drink, sleep and waking, motion and rest, excretion and retention, the affections of the mind.

1708 WAINEWRIGHT (*title*), A Mechanical Account of the Non-Naturals: Being a Brief Explication Of the Changes made in Humane Bodies, by Air, Diet, &c. 1725 ROBINSON *The. Physick & Dis.* 71 None of the Evacuations will be irregular, if the Air, our Aliment, or some other of the Non-naturals do not disaffect 'em. 1788 COWPER *Let.* in *Priv. Corr.* (1824) II. 144, I rather suspect that you do not allow yourself sufficient air and exercise. The physicians call them non-naturals, I suppose to deter their patients from the use of them. 1826 SCOTT *Diary* 9 June in *Lockhart*, Slept well last night. By the way, how intolerably selfish this Journal makes me seem—so much attention to one's naturals and non-naturals! 1833 *Cycl. Pract. Med.* I. 597/2 On the relations of diet to the non-naturals.

2. The department of study concerned with non-natural objects. *rare.*

1874 M. ARNOLD in *Contemp. Rev.* Oct. 818 If any science is likely to be able to demonstrate to us the magnified and non-natural man, it must be the science of non-naturals.

Hence **Non-natura·lity, Non-na·turalness**, the condition of being non-natural.

1802–12 BENTHAM *Ration. Judic. Evid.* (1827) III. 55 He denied some of the facts by which the non-naturality of the death was indicated. 1878 *N. Amer. Rev.* CXXVII. 330 The non-naturalness of the thought.

Non-na·turalism. [NON- 1.] Non-natural style; also, a non-natural feature or characteristic.

1895 SAINTSBURY in *Academy* 29 June 541/3 Non-naturalisms and over-embroideries in style. 1895 *Blackw. Mag.* Feb. 175 The..non-naturalism of 'les deux Goncourt'.

Non-na·turalist. [NON- 4.] Used *attrib.* or *adj.* Not versed in, or disposed to the study of, Natural History.

1858 DARWIN in *Life & Lett.* (1887) II. 138 Being quizzed by my non-naturalist relations. 1873 TAYLOR *Half-hours in Green Lanes* 2 The most non-naturalist of pedestrians.

Nonne, obs. form of NUN.

Non-nece·ssity. [NON- 1.] The condition of being unnecessary; absence of necessity.

1594 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* Pref. ii. § 9 Beza most truly maintaining the necessitie of excommunication, Erastus as truly the non-necessitie of lay elders to be ministers thereof. *c*1661 *Papers on Alter. Prayer-Bk.* 103 The Common-Prayer-Book plainly speaks of the non-necessity of Unction. 1802–12 BENTHAM *Ration. Judic. Evid.* (1827) III. 388 An attempt to prove supposes the necessity of proof, and assumption supposes the non-necessity of proof. 1880 BARWELL *Aneurism* 59 *note*, The non-necessity of tying soluble ligatures tight enough to cut through the outer and middle coat.

Nonnerie, -ye, obs. forms of NUNNERY.

‖ **Non nobis** (nɒn nō·bis). The first words of the psalm (cxv in the English versions, part of cxiii in the Vulgate) beginning *Non nobis, Domine, non nobis* 'Not unto us, O Lord, not unto us', used as an expression of humble gratitude or thanksgiving for mercies vouchsafed.

c 1475 *Mankind* 480 in *Macro Plays* 18 'No[n] nobis, domine; non nobis', by sent Deny! 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, IV. viii. 128 Let there be sung *Non nobis*, and *Te Deum*, The dead with charitie enclos'd in Clay. 1814 COLERIDGE *Unpubl. Lett. to J. P. Estlin* 86 (Stanf.), For ourselves we hold it sufficient to say: *Non nobis!* 1838 D. JERROLD *Men of Char., J. Applejohn* v, 'After dinner, we must have—humph!—what d'ye call it?' whispered Benjamin. '*Non nobis*', replied Oldjoe. *a* 1845 HOOD *Public Dinner* 22 Then silence is wanted, Non Nobis is chanted.

† **Nonny-no.** *Obs.* Also 6–7 **nonino, 7 nonne-, nonni-no.**

1. Used as a refrain, like NONNY-NONNY.

1593 DRAYTON *Eel.* iii. C 3 These noninos of filthie ribauldry. 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* v. iii. *song*, With a hey, and a ho, and a hey nonino. *a* 1650 *Percy Folio MS.*, Loose & Hum. Songs (1867) 58 Cupid bidds itt shold bee soe, Because all men were made for her hynonino.

2. A trifle, bagatelle.

1681 HICKERINGILL *Black Non-Conf.* Introd. (1 82) A 2, I was not so soon Thunderstrook with Excommunication for a Nonne-no, but I was sooner Absolv'd. 1682 *Ibid.* xvi. 48, I lost my time, detain'd for a Nonni-no above a Fortnight at London.

Nonny-nonny (nɒ·niˌnɒ·ni). Also 6 **noney nony.** *Obs.* exc. *arch.* A meaningless refrain, formerly often used to cover indelicate allusions.

1533 J. HEYWOOD *Play of the Wether* (Brandl) 1041 Gyue boys wether, quoth a nonny, nonny. *a* 1540, 1599 [see HEY 2]. 1553 *Respublica* III. vi, *Cantent*, Hey noney nony houghe for money. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* IV. v. 165 Hey non nony, nony, hey nony. 1605 — *Lear* III. iv. 103. *a* 1625 FLETCHER *Hum. Lieut.* IV. iv, That noble mind to melt and moulder For a hey-nonny-nonny. 1823 PRAED *Lillian* 12 Nonny Nonny!—who shall tell Where the Summer breezes dwell? 1832 L. HUNT *Poems* 182 Ah little ranting Johnny, For ever blithe and bonny, And singing nonny, nonny.

Non-obe·dience. [NON- 1.] Neglect of obedience; failnre to obey.

1582 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* III. 469 For allegit non-obedience thairof. 1650 A. A[SCHAM] *Reply to Sanderson* 10 Non-obedience can expect nothing but non-protection. 1847 WEBSTER (citing MILNER). 1884 *Law Rep.* 9 Prob. Div. 52 The petitioner asked for an attachment against the respondent for such non-obedience.

So † **Non-obei·sance,** in the same sense.

1447 *Shillingford Lett.* (Camden) 134 That for the nonn-obeisaunce therof thei be putte in no vexacon, hurt, trouble ne losse. 1567 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 577 For his non obeysance of the command.

† **Non-o·bstant,** *prep.* (*conj.*) *Obs.* [a. OF. *nonobstant* (from 14th c.), repr. L. *non obstante*: see next.] Notwithstanding.

c 1400 *Beryn* 2467 Non-obstant his drede, yet part of sapience Stremyd in-to his hert. 15.. *Aberd. Reg.* (Jam.), Non obstant that [etc.]. 1591 J. ELIOT tr. *De Loque's Disc. Warre* 7 This is to be vnderstod of the true Church, *non-obstant* the abuse vsed vnder the popish empire.

‖ **Non-obstante** (nɒnɒbstæ·ntɪ). [mod.L. = *nōn* not + *obstante* (abl. sing. of pres. pple. of *obstāre* to be in the way), orig. agreeing with a sb. in the abl. absol. const., e. g. *non obstante veredicto* 'the verdict being no hindrance', 'notwithstanding the verdict'.]

† 1. as *adv.* or *prep.* Notwithstanding. *Obs.*

Non upstant in Ben Jonson's *Gipsies Metam.* Wks. (1641) 67 is prob. intended as an ignorant corruption of this word. 1646 HAMMOND *Wks.* (1674) I. 254 That men were then saved *non obstante* this want of greater light. 1653 COLLINGES *Caveat for Prof.* 138 If..the Church did enjoyn it (possibly) it might be observed, this exception *Non obstante.*

2. as *sb.* (*Law.*) The first two words of a clause formerly used in statutes and letters patent, which conveyed a licence from the sovereign to do a thing notwithstanding any statute to the contrary (*non obstante aliquo statuto in contrarium*); hence (in full, *clause of non-obstante*), a clause of this nature. Now *Hist.*

In England this form of dispensation was first used by Henry III in his charters (see 2 b, quot. 1669); it was abolished by the Bill of Rights.

1444 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 104/2 No patent of the seide offices ..to be made, all be it yat yei be with this clause non obstante. 1601 SIR G. MOORE *Sp.* in Townsend *Hist. Collect.* (1680) 234 Admit we should make the Statute with a non Obstante; yet the Queen may grant a Patent with a non Obstante to cross this non Obstante. 1628 COKE *On Litt.* 99 a, When he [the King] licenceth expressly to alien an Abbot, &c. which is in Mortmaine, he needs not make any *non obstante* of the Statutes of Mortmaine. 1642 C. VERNON *Consid. Exch.* 62 The Non-obstantes in the Leases of Recusants lands. 1668 *Ormonde MSS.* in 10*th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. V. 65 To draw up..a pardon..and to insert therein all such clauses and *non-obstantes* as in like cases are usual. 1686 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) I. 380 The King's power of dispensing with all penall lawes by a clause of non obstante. 1688 *Act 1 Will. & Mary* c. 2 § 52 That ..after this present Session of Parlyament noe dispensation by Non obstante of or to any Statute..shall be allowed. 1744 NORTH *Life Dudley North* 184 What should hinder the great Seal from sending forth Commissions,..with *non obstante*'s in the Body of them, against the Test Laws?

attrib. 1810 A. LUDERS *Tracts* v. 334 In the next year (1251) the King..executed his design of imitating the Pope by a *nonobstante* grant. *Ibid.* 338 The *nonobstante* clause was not long confined to one statute or to one branch of the royal prerogative.

b. With reference to papal use.

1625 PURCHAS *Pilgrims* II. viii. vi. § 3. 1257 But what is this to the Popes *Non obstante*? a plenitude of power to dispense with Oathes, Vowes, and whatsoeuer Diuine or Humane, standing in the way of his Monarchie? 1669 PRYNNE *Animadv. Fourth Pt. Inst.* 132 King Henry the 3, though he at first detested..these..*Non-obstantes* in Popes Bulls..yet at last he began to imitate them. 1726–31 TINDAL tr. *Rapin's Hist. Eng.* (1743) I. 527/1 It was a mortal blow to the court of Rome, to whom the clause of *Non-obstante*, so frequently used by the Popes, became fruitless, at least with regard to the collation of benefices.

† 3. *transf.* and *gen.* a. A dispensation from or relaxation of a law or rule. Const. *on, of, to.* b. An exception to a rule. *Obs.*

1604 JAS. I in *Egerton Papers* (Camden) 397 Some warrant..wherein there may be some words inserted with a *non obstante* of this our absolute restraint. *a* 1631 DONNE *Poems* (1654) 28, I do not sue from thee to draw A Non obstante on natures law. 1678 T. JONES *Heart & its Soveraign* 498 A God devoid of all Divine Attributes..so shamefully mash'd with contradictions, and *non-obstante's.* 1720 S. PARKER *Biblioth. Bibl.* I. 264 The Rule deliver'd down to us from the Beginning with our *Non obstantes* and Notwithstandings. 1742 NORTH *Lives of Norths* 45 The Chief Justice..would not break a Law with a *Non obstante.*

† c. *With a non-obstante to*: notwithstanding.

1659 SOUTH *Serm.* (1727) I. 88 These Words import the Hindrance of the Duty enjoyned; which therefore is here purposely enforced with a *Non-obstante* to all Opposition. 1667 *Ibid.* II. 37 With a *non obstante* to all their Revels, their Profaneness, and scandalous Debaucheries of all sorts, they continue Virtuoso's still. 1710 *Chuse which you Please* 2 These Men allow of a Mental Reservation, with a *Non Obstante* to their express Oath to the contrary thereunto.

Nonoic (nonō·ik), *a. Chem.* [f. L. *nōn-us* ninth, after *octoic.*] The ninth in the series of fatty acids.

1891 THORPE *Dict. Appl. Chem.* II. 100.

† **Non-orga·nical,** *a. Old Anat.* [NON- 3.] (See quots.)

1682 GIBSON *Anat.* 4 A non-organical part is that which has only an use, and no action. 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Non-Organical Part* of an Animal,..as a Gristle, Boue, Foot, &c.

Non-paid. [NON- 6.] A letter that has not been prepaid.

1829 LAMB *Lett.* (1837) II. 236 Three two penny post non-paids in a week.

† **Non-parallel.** *nonce-wd.* Alteration of next.

1641 R. BRATHWAIT *Eng. Gentlewoman* 350 Art thou persuaded that this non-parallel thou thus affectest hath dedicated his service onely to thee?

Nonpareil (nɒnpăre·l), *a.* and *sb.* Forms: 5 **nonparaille, 6 -parreille, 6–7 -parel(e, 6–8 -pareill(e, 7 -paril, -parell, -peril(l, -perel, 7, 9 -pariel, 6– non(-)pareil.** β. 6 **nompareille, 7 -parell, numparell** (9 **numparel**). (See also B. 1 b.) [a. F. *nonpareil*, † *nompareil*: see NON- and PAREIL *a.* and *sb.*]

A. *adj.* Having no equal; unequalled, peerless.

1477 CAXTON *Jason* 32 b, O right noble and nonparaille Myrre, she is without peer. 1594 GREENE & LODGE *Looking Gl.* G.'s Wks. (Rtldg.) 117 Beauty nonpareil in excellence. 1645 TOMBES *Anthropol.* 8 Some magnified Peter, as non-paril. 1654 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 204 The most *Non-pareille* Beauty of the World, Beauteous Knowledge. 1730 (*title*) A Treatise of Buggs..By John Southall, Maker of the Non-pareil Liquor for destroying Buggs and Nits. 1818 *Amer. Monthly Mag.* III. 181/2 Now for a picture of the *non-pareil* De Courcy—this Adonis, Apollo, and Hercules of eighteen. 1834 SOUTHEY *Doctor* I. 70 A truth which..will be..elucidated in this nonpareil history. 1893 F. ADAMS *New Egypt* 211 The great and famous nonpareil champion.

B. *sb.* 1. A person or thing having no equal; something unique.

1593 NASHE *Four Lett. Confuted* Wks. (Grosart) II. 265 Enermore maist thou be canonized as the Nonparreille of impious epistlers. 1596 LAMBARDE *Peramb. Kent* 349 [Name of a ship] Non Pareille. 1599 *Broughton's Let.* VII. 24 You accompt your selfe the *Non parel* for knowledge. 1601 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* I. v. 273 Though you were crown'd The non-pareil of beautie. 1612 CAPT. SMITH *Virginia* I. Wks. (Arb.) 169 Pocahontas, Powhatans daughter..was the very Nonpareill of his kingdome, and at most not past 13 or 14 yeares of age. 1748 HARTLEY *Observ. Man* II. iii. § 4. 267 That Tendency which Every Man has to think himself a Non-pareil. 1768–74 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 615 People are apt to think their children nonpareils, the sole object deserving admiration and regard. 1817 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Ormond* xxii, Miss Annaly, who was to have been a non-pareil of an heiress in case of the brother's death, will have but a moderate fortune. 1887 STEDMAN *Vict. Poets* (ed. 13) v. 162 'The Talking Oak',..the nonpareil of sustained lyrics in quatrain verse.

b. In quasi-It. forms **nonpareillo, -parella.**

1672 VILLIERS (Dk. Buckhm.) *Rehearsal* I. (Arb.) 41, I think you'l say this is a *non pareillo*: I'm sure no body has hit upon it yet. 1673 [R. LEIGH] *Transp. Reh.* 7 To all these Reasons, our Farce-monger might have added another, which is a *non pareillo.* 1687 PRIOR & HALIFAX *Hind & P. transv.* P.'s Wks. 1892 II. 319 I'le be bold to say, the exactest piece the world ever saw, a *non pareillo*, I' faith. 1899 *Atlantic Monthly* June 728/2 A nonparella of all grace and beauty!

2. *Printing.* A size of type intermediate between emerald and ruby (in America, between minion and agate). † Also as *adj.* (following the sb.) = Printed in nonpareil. (Cf. F. *nonpareille.*)

This line is in nonpareil type.

1647 *Pref. Verses* in Lilly *Chr. Astrol.*, Heaven is his book; The Stars both great & smal Are letters Nonperill and Capitall Disperst throughout. 1683 MOXON *Mech. Exerc., Printing* ii. P 2 Letter of all Bodies..viz. Pearl, Nonpareil, Brevier. 1686 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2109/4 The Bible Nonperil, in Twelves. 1825 HANSARD *Typogr.* 382 Ruby.. was..originally a Nonpareil with short ascenders and descenders, cast on a smaller body.

attrib. 1824 J. JOHNSON *Typogr.* II. 72 Unless Nonpareil figures can be conveniently had. *Ibid.* 84 The founders.. cast one sized type upon another body: *viz.* a Nonpareil face on a Minion body, and a Minion on a Nonpareil.

3. A kind of comfit. (Cf. F. *nonpareille.*)

1697 *C'tess D'Aunoy's Trav.* (1706) 250 Certain little Comfits, which in France we call Non-pareil. 1712 tr. *Pomet's Hist. Drugs* I. 56 Nonpareille, which is nothing but Orrice-Powder cover'd with Sugar. 1747–96 MRS. GLASSE *Cookery* xxi. 328 Strew different coloured nonpareils over it. 1811 LAMB *Elia* I. *My first play*, I remember the waiting at the door..with the cry of nonpareils, an indispensable play-house accompaniment in those days...The fashionable pronunciation of the theatrical fruiteresses then was,..'Chase.. some numparels'.. —chase *pro* chuse. 1843 PEREIRA *Food & Diet* 120 Sugar constitutes the base of an almost innumerable variety of hard confectionary, sold under the names of Lozenges, Brilliants, Pipe, Rock, Comfits, Nonpareils. 1862 FRANCATELLI *Confectioner* 327.

4. A kind of apple. (Cf. F. *nonpareille.*)

1731 MILLER *Gard. Dict.* s.v. *Apple Tree*,..Nonpariel. 1761 *Phil. Trans.* LII. 73 Non-pareil apple-trees. 1783 JOHNSON in *Boswell* 18 Apr., Sir, you can no more have nonpareils than you can have grapes. 1821 MRS. SHELLEY in Dowden *Life Shelley* (1886) II. 366 He produces something as like Dante as a rotten crab-apple like a fine nonpareil. 1834 *Penny Cycl.* II. 190/1 Braddick's nonpareil. Old nonpareil. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 945/2 Scarlet Nonpareil.

attrib. 1839 LINDLEY *Introd. Bot.* II. xiii. 389 A nonpareil branch 2 feet long.

5. a. A small beautifully coloured finch of the southern United States, *Cyanospiza* (*Emberiza*) *ciris.* b. The rose parrakeet, *Platycercus eximius.* (Cf. F. *nonpareil, nonpareille.*)

1758 G. EDWARDS *Gleanings* I. 132 The Painted Finch.., more generally known to the curious in London by the name of Nonpareil and Mariposa. 1853 GOULDING *Young Marooners* xxxvi, A nonpareil, hidden in the branches, sat whistling plaintively to its mate. 1895 *Outing* XXVI. 70/2 Cane-brakes gay with cardinals and nonpareils.

6. A kind of wheat.

1805 DICKSON *Pract. Agric.* I. 540 The nonpareil is a sort said to be brought into this country from America; it has a bright straw with a brown ear; and the grain is very white.

7. A name for several beautiful moths.

1819 SAMOUELLE *Entom. Compend.* 422 The Nonpareil, *Noctua sponsa*. 1832 RENNIE *Butterfl. & Moths* 206 The Nonpareil (*Œcophora eximia*, Stephens). A most beautiful species. 1875 HOUGHTON *Brit. Insects* 88 The splendid Clifden Nonpareil (*Catocala fraxini*).

† **Non-pass.** *Backgammon.* [NON- 1.]

1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. xvi. (Roxb.) 64/1 A nonpasse, is when the adverse men are so set that you cannot passe with your man or men till he giue you liberty.

† **Non-patience.** *Obs.* [NON- 1.] Alleged term for a 'company' of wives.

1486 *Bk. St. Albans* f vj, A Noonpaciens of wyues.

Non-pay·ment. [NON- 1.] Failure or neglect to pay; the condition of not being paid.

c 1447–8 SHILLINGFORD *Lett.* (Camden) 82 The seide wronge of nonpayement of the seide dymes. 1530 RASTELL *Bk. Purgat.* III. iii, The hurte & hynderaunce that I have had for the none payment of the .c. li. 1579–80 NORTH *Plutarch* (1657) 411 This Miltiades,..being condemned by the state to pay the sum of fifty Talents, was for non-payment cast into prison. 1593 SHAKS. *Ven. & Ad.* 521. 1686 PLOT *Staffordsh.* 435 Earle Robert obliging himself upon non paiment, to forfeit all his lands. 1764 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 100 The non-payment of Canada bills by the French government. 1837 LOCKHART *Life Scott* VI. 106 That if anything should.. befall Constable, Sir Walter would suffer a heavier loss than the nonpayment of some one novel. 1901 *Scotsman* 3 Apr. 10/1 He had protested strongly against the non-payment of sums due to Americans.

So **Non-pay·ing** *vbl. sb.*, in the same sense; **Non-pay·ing** *ppl. a.*, that does not pay.

1407 *Waterf. Arch.* in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. V. 329 For the nonpaying of the Kings chief rent. 1659 *Burton's Diary* (1828) IV. 412 Their non-paying of the several debts charged upon them. 1877 RAYMOND *Mines & Mining* 347 Much time, labor, and money were thrown away upon non-paying lodes.

Non-perce·ption. [NON- 1.] Want of perception; failure to perceive.

1692 NORRIS *Curs. Reflect.* 10 Which utterly silences that argument taken from the Non-perception of them in children. 1704 — *Ideal World* II. iii. 131 The proper defect of the understanding is ignorance or non-perception. 1802–12 BENTHAM *Ration. Judic. Evid.* (1827) V. 645 Mis-conception or non-perception. 1882 B. NICHOLSON in *Trans. New Shaks. Soc.* (1880–2) 355 Such non-perception of moral responsibility is one of the clearest proofs of madness.

Non-perfo·rmance. [NON- 1.] Failure or neglect to perform or fulfil a condition, promise, etc.; the condition of not being performed.

1509–10 *Act* 1 *Hen. VIII*, c. 19 *Preamble*, For nonperfourmance of the said condicions. 1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* I. ii. 261 Fearefull To doe a thing, where I the issue doubted, Whereof the execution did cry out Against the non-performance. 1635 JACKSON *Creed* VIII. vii. 68 His non-performances of what hee often seriously intended. 1727 ARBUTHNOT *John Bull* III. xvii, Exasperated at the Non-performance of John Bull's Promise. 1751 SMOLLETT *Per. Pic.* III. xcii. 284 It would be a meritorious action to put the rascal to the proof, and then toss him in a blanket for non-performance. 1790 *Amer. State Papers* (1833) I. 124 Delay is always a kind of breach, since, as long as it lasts, it is the non-performance of stipulations. 1802–12 BENTHAM *Ration. Judic. Evid.* (1827) II. 306 The performance or non-performance of the ceremony called swearing, or taking an oath. 1845 POLSON *Eng. Law* in *Encycl. Metrop.* II. 831/1 The breach or nonperformance of lawful conditions.

Hence **Non-perfo·rmer**, one who is guilty of nonperformance; **Non-perfo·rming** *vbl. sb.*, failure to perform.

1675 WOODHEAD, etc. *Paraph. S. Paul* 22 With a curse to the non-performers. 1773 SALKELD *Cases King's Bench* III. 374 The Jury found, that the Plaintiff was damnified 10*l.* by the Defendant's Non-performing his Promise.

‖ **Non placet, non-placet** (nɒn plā·set) [L.: see NON and PLACET.] The Latin for 'it does not please' (*scil.* me, us), being the formula used in the older universities and in ecclesiastical assemblies in giving a negative vote upon a proposition; hence, as *sb.*, a negative vote in a legislative assembly of a university, etc., and † *gen.*, an expression of dissent or disapproval.

1589 GREENE *Menaphon* (Arb.) 42 When I craued a finall resolution to my fatall passions, shee filde her..eyes full of furie, turned her backe, and shooke me off with a *Non placet*. 1596 NASHE *Saffron Walden* G 2 b, Because I would cut his cloake with the Wooll, though Lilly and Nashe neuer so, cry *Non placet* thereat. 1620 BRENT tr. *Sarpi Counc. Trent* (1676) VI. 500 There were 57 who said *Non placet*. *a* 1635 SIBBES *Christian's End* (1639) v. 110 When flesh and bloud shall put up a petition,..give it a *Non placet*, deny the petition. 1880 *Daily News* 12 Nov. 2/6 There voted on grace (a)—Placets, 145; non-placets, 185. 1888 ORELLI in *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 208/1 The 'placet of the temporal power for church affairs—when it occurs—also involves in this manner in itself the veto or non placet'.

attrib. 1896 *Daily News* 11 Mar. 4/4 One of the signatories of the non-placet notice.

Hence **Non-pla·cet** *v. trans.*, to vote *non placet* upon (a proposition); to throw out (a measure).

1807 THOMASON in *Memoirs of Simeon* (1847) 239 On the whole, it seems to me that we should *non placet* the measure. 1843 WHEWELL in *Life* (1881) 287 To-day I brought in a Grace with that view: it is non-placeted. 1870 *Daily News* 25 Nov., The non-placeting of Graces without notice having been previously given.

Non-ple·vin. *Law.* [a. AF. *nounplevine.*] Failure to replevy land in due time.

[1335 *Act* 9 *Edw. III*, c. 2 Que nul ne perde sa terre desore par cause de nounplevine.] 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Non-Plevin.* 1848 WHARTON *Law Lex.*

Nonplus (nɒ·nplʌs), *sb.* and *a.* Also 8 corruptly -plush. [f. L. phr. *nōn plūs* not more, no further. Cf. obs. F. (17th c.) *mettre à nonplus* to nonplus.] **A.** *sb.*

1. A state in which no more can be said or done; inability to proceed in speech or action; a state of perplexity or puzzle. Almost always in phr. *to be at* (rarely *in*) *a nonplus* = to be nonplussed; *to put, bring, drive, reduce to a nonplus*, † *to set at a nonplus*, also occas. † *to set a nonplus on*, † *to give nonplus to* : = NONPLUS *v.*

1582 R. PARSONS *Def. of Cens.* Ep. to Charke 8 Beynge now brought to a *non plus* in argueing. 1588 *Marprel. Epist.* (Arb.) 5 If you be not set at a flat *non plus*, and quite ouerthrown. *c* 1590 GREENE *Fr. Bacon* (1630) E 3, I haue giuen *non-plus* to the Paduans. 1602 FULBECKE *2nd Pt. Parall.* 74 Though I bee in questioning at a nonplus. 1614 BEAUM. & FL. *Wit at Sev. Weapons* I. ii, Gentlemen, I have done! any man, that can, go further! I confess myself at a non-plus. 1621 QUARLES *Div. Poems, Esther* (1638) 94 Whose even poys'd valour..Had set a *Non-plus* on their doubtfull tongues. *a* 1626 BACON *Civil Convers.* Mor. & Hist. Wks. (Bohn) 198 Hasty speech..oftentimes..drives a man either to a nonplus or unseemly stammering. 1657 LIGON *Barbadoes* 85 Their often failings had put them to often stops and nonplusses in the work. 1692 SOUTH 12 *Serm.* (1697) I. 50 The Nonplus of my Reason will yield a fairer opportunity to my Faith. 1702 C. MATHER *Magn. Chr.* I. App. (1852) 96 The people found themselves plunged into a sad non-plus what way to take for a subsistence. 1745 P. THOMAS *Jrnl. Anson's Voy.* 143 The Mortality..put our scheming Doctor to a sad Nonplus. 1775 S. J. PRATT *Liberal Opin.* liv. (1783) II. 151 You put me quite to a nonplush, I am quite out of cash. 1811 W. IRVING *Life & Lett.* (1864) I. 262 Here was a non-plus enough to startle any man of less enterprising spirit. 1863 COWDEN CLARKE *Shaks. Char.* xv. 378 The manner of York reveals the old man in a nonplus and perturbation. 1889 JESSOPP *Coming of Friars* vii. 325 Prophets are never at a nonplus, and never surprised by a question.

¶ **b.** *At a nonplus*: unprepared, unawares.

1803 MAR. EDGEWORTH *To-morrow* ii, He can never find our larder at a nonplus. 1811 *Ora & Juliet* I. 9, I did think it was but a frugal sort of a dinner,..but as I took you at a non-plus, it did very well.

† **2.** Short for NON PLUS ULTRA. *Obs.*

1670 LASSELS *Italy* II. 178 A world of such rich work, which makes this bedstead the nonplus of art and magnificence.

† **B.** *adj.* [app. a shortening of *at a nonplus.*] At a nonplus; perplexed, embarrassed. *Obs.*

1589 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* VI. xxx. 132 Soone his wits were *Non plus*, for his wooing could but spell. *c* 1590 GREENE *Fr. Bacon* (1630) C, Set him but *non-plus* in his magicke spels, And make him yeeld in Mathematicke rules. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* XLIV. xxvi. 1187 When he could make no answere thereto, but was set *nonplus*. 1631 R. H. *Arraignm. Whole Creature* xvi. 289 Apollonius Rhodius imposed voluntary Exile on himselfe,..because he was Nonplus in one of his Poems.

No·nplus, *v.* [f. NONPLUS *sb.*] *trans.* To bring to a nonplus or standstill; to perplex.

1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. ii. 9 Mans Reason *nonplust* in some Accidents. 1598 *Ibid.* II. ii. 1. 290 Now *nonplust*, if to re-inforce thy Camp, Thou fly for succour to thine Ayrie Damp. 1639 FULLER *Holy War* v. x. (1840) 261, I know it will nonplus his power to work a true miracle. 1649 ROBERTS *Clavis Bibl.* 506 Expounding Nebuchadnezzars dreams, and Belshazzars vision, when all the wise men in Chaldea were non-plus'd with them. 1678 BUTLER *Hud.* III. ii. 442 In which [*sc.* wrangling] his Parts were so accomplisht, That right, or wrong, he ne'r was non-plust. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 476 ₱ 5 He has been non-plus'd on a sudden by Mr. Dry's desiring him to tell the Company what it was that he endeavoured to prove. 1738 tr. *Guazzo's Art Conversation* 11 At first,..I must own, I was a little nonplushed. 1840 E. FITZGERALD *Lett.* (1889) I. 58, I wrote a good bit of a letter to you three weeks ago: but, being non-plussed suddenly, tore it up. 1894 J. KNIGHT *Garrick* vii. 115 A continued struggle for supremacy in which the audience found itself nonplussed to decide.

b. With a thing as obj.: To render ineffective or inoperative.

1640 J. GOWER *Ovid's Festivalls* III. 64 Winds non-plus art [orig. *Vincitur ars vento*]. 1674 R. GODFREY *Inj. & Ab. Physic* 83 The Remedies being thus non-plust [etc.]. 1681 *News fr. Doctor's Commons* 5 It non-plust all reply. 1891 *Pall Mall G.* 7 Dec. 5/2 Such behaviour quite nonplusses measures of repression.

Nonplussation (nɒnplʌsē·ʃən). *rare.* [f. NONPLUS *v.* + -ATION.] The action of nonplussing; the condition of being nonplussed.

1833 M. SCOTT *Tom Cringle* I. (1842) 34 When the *voiture* stopped at the village, there seemed to be a nonplusation, to coin a word for the nonce, between my friend and his sisters. 1898 E. H. AITKEN *Tribes on my Frontier* (ed. 6) 61 They stared after it with a gape of utter nonplussation.

Nonplussed (nɒ·nplʌst), *ppl. a.* [f. NONPLUS *sb.* or *v.* + -ED.] Brought to a nonplus or standstill; at a nonplus; perplexed, embarrassed.

1606 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* XIV. lxxxix. 363 So many Incantations, lyes, feares, hopes instanced shee,..As lastly did the *non-plust* Nunne vnto her Charmes agree. 1826 J. WILSON *Noct. Ambr.* Wks. 1855 I. 140 [He] stares round the company with his vacant and nonplussed eyes. 1828 CARLYLE *Misc.* (1857) I. 137 'Blown up' by nonplussed and justly exasperated Review-reviewers! 1886 BYNNER *A. Surriage* xvii, She swept from the room, leaving the nonplussed artist to puzzle over the cause of her..behavior.

‖ **Non plus ultra** (nɒn plʌs ʊ·ltră). [L. = 'not more beyond'. So used in Fr. (from 17th c.).] = NE PLUS ULTRA 2, 2 b.

[1608 MIDDLETON *Trick to catch Old One* IV. F 3 b, Alwaies when we striue to be most politique we proue most cocskombs, *Non plus vltra*.] 1676 *Life Sarpi* in Brent tr. *Counc. Trent* p. xci, The two Pyramides which were carved and ingraven by the knife of all the judicious with a *non plus ultra*. 1727 POPE, etc. *Art of Sinking* i, The central Point, the *non plus ultra*, of true Modern Poesy. 1775 *Phil. Trans.* LXVI. 136 No trace..of Roman servitude is to be met with in this district, except the ambiguous name of one mountain,..generally thought to have been the *non plus ultra* of the Roman arms on the Italian side. 1858 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* v. vi. I. 595 Seckendorf..witnesses with unfeigned admiration the non-plus-ultra of manœuvring.

‖ **Non possumus** (nɒn pɒ·siʊmŏs). [L. = 'we can not'.] A statement or answer expressing inability to act or move in a matter.

1883 *Standard* 15 Sept. 5/1 Their answer to all applications consisting in a *non possumus*, and nothing more. 1885 LOWE *Bismarck* II. 347 To give up diplomatising, and return to a policy of *non possumus*. 1890 *Athenæum* 25 Jan. 124/3 Some time ago it was proposed to the Royal Academy to do this; the answer was a sort of 'non possumus'.

† **Non-power.** *Obs.* Also 4 noun-, nompower, 5 non-, nown-poiar. [a. AF. *nonpoair*, OF. *nonpooir*: see NON- 1 and POWER.] Lack of power; impotence.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* III. pr. v. (1868) 75 Ryȝt on þat same side nounpower entriþ vndirneþ þat makeþ hem wreches. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XVII. 310 Nouȝt of þe nounpowere of god þat he ne is myȝtful To amende al þat amys is. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Serm.* Sel. Wks. II. 374 God mai not faile on his side for noun-power or unwitt. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 17341 And ȝe ar now of nom-power, Ne vs comes no help fer ne ner. *c* 1460 FORTESCUE *Abs. & Lim. Mon.* vi. (1885) 121 All thes poiars comen of impotencie. And therfore thay mey properly by callid nown poiars. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 301 b/2, I haue herd thy commaundement and haue sene the nonpower of hym but I shal amende it.

Non-profi·cience. *rare* —¹. [NON- 1.] = next.

1709–11 KEN *Anodynes* XXVIII. Poet. Wks. 1721 III. 450 The Graces which God's Image forme survey, In each my Non-proficience to display.

Non-profi·ciency. [NON- 1.] Failure to make progress or improve.

1592 HARVEY *Pierce's Super.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 13 He shall finde a cold aduersary of him, that..might easely be induced to be the Inuectiue of his owne Nonproficiency. 1607 R. C[AREW] tr. *Estienne's World of Wonders* 30 He twits his auditors not so much for their non-proficiencie..as for their deficiency. 1666 ABP. SANCROFT *Lex Ignea* 10 Our foul and shameful Non-proficiency under so plentiful a Grace. 1671 J. WEBSTER *Metallogr.* i. 16 The reasons of the non-proficiency of the knowledge of Minerals and Metals in general. 1721 in BAILEY.

Non-profi·cient. [NON- 2.] One who fails to make progress or improve.

1579–80 [see NIHILAGENT]. 1608 DOD & CLEAVER *Expos. Prov.* 24 Reproofe of Non-proficients which are taught much and learne little. 1647 TRAPP *Comm. Matt.* xiii. 47 Christ is an incessant teacher: learn then, for shame, lest he turn us off for non-proficients. 1665 BOYLE *Occas. Reff.* IV. ix. 61 If a Sermon leave us Devouter than it found us..we may be Despondents, but are not altogether Non-proficients.

† **Non-promovent,** *a. Obs. rare* —¹. [f. NON- + L. *prōmovent-*, pres. ppl. stem of *prōmovēre* (see PRO- and MOVE *v.*).] Not moving forward.

1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* II. 65 If he make them [*sc.* axioms] not withall Circular, and Non promouent, or Incurring into themselues.

Non-pros (nɒnprɒ·s). *Law.* Abbreviation of NON PROSEQUITUR.

1675 MARVELL *Corr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 439 A clause for regulating the Atturney Generall as to his entring *Non-Pros* against Papists. *a* 1734 NORTH *Examen* II. v. § 83 (1740) 366 Exempted from the Law..by *non pros*, or Pardon *toties quoties*. 1769 BURROWS *Rep.* IV. 2418 The Plaintiff not declaring within the limited Time, the Seven Defendants signed Seven distinct Judgments of *Non-pros* against him. 1817 W. SELWYN *Law Nisi Prius* (ed. 4) II. 687 Defendant shall pay to plaintiff the costs of the non-pros.

Hence **Non-prossed** (nɒnprɒ·st) *pa. pple.* (said of the suit or of the plaintiff).

1755 MAGENS *Insurances* I. 545 *note*, The Defendant brought a Writ of Error. But, despairing of success, suffered it to be non-prossed. 1768 [see NON-PROSEQUITUR]. 1774 HALLIFAX *Anal. Rom. Law* 99 In case of omission or neglect by the Plaintiff, he loses the benefit of his Writ, and is said to be nonsuited, or nonpros'd.

Non-prosequitur (nɒnprɒsue·kwitŏɪ). *Law.* [L. = 'he does not prosecute'.] A judgement entered against a plaintiff in a suit in which he does not appear to prosecute.

1768 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* III. xx. 296 A *nonsuit*, or *non prosequitur*, is entered; and he is said to be *nonpross'd*. 1774 HALLIFAX *Anal. Rom. Law* 99 In case of omission or neglect by the Plaintiff, he loses the benefit of his Writ, and is said to be nonsuited, or nonpros'd.

Non-pro·ven, *pa. pple.* [NON- 6.] Occasional substitute for *not proven* = Not proved.

1847 FR. A. KEMBLE *Later Life* III. 242 The main question of progress .. was non-proven. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 110 It is quite possible—but 'non-proven'—that the muscular coats of the small arteries are likewise capable of self-regulation.

† **Non-reason.** *Sc. Obs.* [f. NON- 1 + REASON *sb.*] Unlawful action; = UNREASON.

1609 SKENE *Reg. Maj.* 3 They sal not hald Courts of life and limme; but onely of injuries, and non reason; that is, wrang and vnlaw.

† **Non-rega·rdance.** *Obs. rare* —¹. [NON- 1.] Failure to regard.

1601 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* v. i. 124 Since you to non-regardance cast my faith.

Non-re·gent. Now *Hist.* [NON- 2.] A master of arts whose regency has ceased.

In the Statutes of the University of Oxford the division of *magistri* into *regentes* and *non-regentes* is still retained.

1504 [see REGENT *sb.* 3 a]. 1659 RUSHW. *Hist. Coll.* I. 371 His chief strength consisted in the Doctors..and in the Non-Regents, who are Masters of Art of five years standing and upward. 1689 *Lond. Gaz.* 2496/2 *Cambridge, Octob.* 8. On Sunday last the Vice-Chancellor, the Heads of Colledges, ..with several Regents and Non-Regents,..waited upon His Majesty at Newmarket. 1841 PEACOCK *Stat. Cambr.* 15, *note.* 1845 T. MYERS in *Encycl. Metrop.* XVI. 184/2 The Senate is divided into two Houses, respectively denominated Regents and Non-Regents.

b. *attrib.* or as *adj.*

1773 *Ann. Reg.* 153 The grace for the reconsideration of the question of annual examinations in the University of Cambridge was voted in the non-regent house. 1831 SIR W. HAMILTON *Discuss.* (1852) 392 In Paris, the non-regent graduates were only assembled on rare..occasions. 1845 *Encycl. Metrop.* XVI. 184/2 A..Non-Regent Master of Arts.

Non-regula·tion. [NON- 4.] Applied to provinces of India in which the ordinary laws are not in force.

1845 STOCQUELER *Handbk. Brit. India* (1854) 122 The whole of the provinces, regulation and non-regulation, cover 325,652 square miles. 1881 SIR W. HUNTER in *Encycl. Brit.* XII. 769/1 Alike in regulation and in non-regulation territory the unit of administration is the district.

†**Non-re·plicate,** *a.* Not folded back.

1647 H. MORE *Song of Soul* II. ii. II. xviii, Forme bodily Non-replicate, extent, not setten free.

Non-re·sidence. [NON- 1.]

1. Failure of a clergyman to reside where his official duties require him to reside; systematic absence of a clergyman from his benefice or charge.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 424 He seiþ þat propring of chirchis is leeueful, & noun residense is excusid bi siche a viker þat holdiþ his stede. 1425 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 290/2 Because of noun residens of Persons of holy Chirche, upon theire Personages, mykell pepull lakkes bothe gostely fode, and bodely. 1530 *Act* 21 *Hen. VIII*, c. 13 § 17 Provyded alwais that this Acte of none resydence shall not in any wyse extende ne be prejudiciall to any such spirituall person [etc.]. 1587 in *Marprel. Controv.* (Arb.) 65 Non-residences haue cut the throte of our Church. 1653 MILTON *Hirelings* Wks. 1851 V. 385 Thir Pluralities, thir Nonresidences, thir odious Fees [etc.]. 1723 SWIFT *Argts. agst. Power of Bps.* Wks. 1751 IX. 42 As to Non-Residence, I believe there is no Christian Country upon Earth, where the Clergy have less to answer for upon that Article. 1808 SYD. SMITH *Wks.* (1867) I. 126 A law..fixing what shall be legal and sufficient causes for non-residence. 1892 J. C. BLOMFIELD *Hist. Heyford* 68 The last [century]..so sadly notorious for the pluralism and non-residence of the parochial clergy.

†b. *fig.* Departure *from. Obs.*

1615 T. ADAMS *Englands Sickness* 8, I might here inferre to your observation (without any non-residence from the Text) that the Church is called *Filia Jerusalem.*

2. *transf.* and *gen.* The fact of not residing in a particular place.

1585 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* IV. 39 The lang want of the administratioun of civile justice be non-residence of the Lords of Sessioun, quhilk hes happynnit throw occasioun of the lait plague. 1827 *Gentl. Mag.* XCVII. II. 594 The gradual decay of the castle, through neglect and the non-residence of the Earls. 1884 *Law Times Rep.* L. 177/2 The non-residence of the applicant [a foreigner] is a cogent argument against such interference.

†**Non-re·sidency.** *Obs.* [NON- 1.] = prec.

The first example may belong to prec.

1545 BRINKLOW *Compl.* 30 b, Lycence to eate flessh in lent, non-residencys, and such other. 1584 D. FENNER *Def. Ministers* (1587) 5 Your Nonresidencie, double benefices [etc.]. 1604 TOOKER *Fabrique Ch.* 57 Wilfull and continuall Non-residency from their cures. 1658–9 *Burton's Diary* (1828) III. 499 In case of non-residency of a Burgess or Knight, *lex et consuetudo parliamenti* dispenseth it. 1668 *2nd Disc. Relig. Eng.* 47 To discourage Pluralities, Nonresidencies,..and Idleness in all Sorts. 1696 in PHILLIPS.

Non-re·sident, *sb.* [NON- 2.]

1. A clergyman who does not reside where his official duties require him to reside; an absentee incumbent or church dignitary.

1583 *Acts Gen. Assemb. Ch. Scotl.* (Maitland Cl.) II. 635 That the Commissioners present give up the names of the non residents upon Munday afternoone. 1588 UDALL *Diotrephes* (Arb.) 27 See that he be such a one as hath bene a non-resident before, and let him haue diuers liuings. 1608 WILLET *Hexapla Exod.* 774 Idle pastors and secure non-residents. 1692 [see PLURALIST 1]. 1723 SWIFT *Argts. agst. Power of Bps.* Wks. 1751 IX. 42, I am confident there are not ten Clergymen in the Kingdom, who, properly speaking, can be termed Non-Residents. 1835 MARRYAT *Olla Podr.* xi, So many of our clergymen are..non-residents.

2. One who does not reside in a particular place.

1819 (*title*) A Letter to a Member of Convocation..on the present state of the Catholic Claims, by a Non-Resident. 1863 COX *Instit.* III. ix. 729 The usurpations of corporations, the extensive rights of their councils, and the interference of non-residents. 1869 TOZER *Highl. Turkey* II. 119 A few of the non-residents..took part [in the dance].

Non-re·sident, *a.* [NON- 3.]

1. Of a clergyman: Not residing where his official duties require him to reside; culpably absent from his benefice or charge.

1530 *Act* 21 *Hen. VIII*, c. 13 § 16 Yf any Person or Persons procure..any maner of lycence..to be none resydent at ther said Dygnytees, Prebende [etc.]. 1588 J. UDALL *Demonstr. Discip.* (Arb.) 27 If the priests might not dwell farre from the temple, then may not ministers be nonresident. 1642 MILTON *Apol. Smect.* Wks. 1851 III. 307 The non-resident and plurality-gaping Prelats. 1766 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* II. xx. 322 Licensed pluralists, who are allowed to demise the living, on which they are non-resident, to their curates only. 1868 J. H. BLUNT *Ref. Ch. Eng.* I. 403 Preventing the Pope from conferring English benefices on non-resident foreigners.

†b. *fig.* Divergent or deviating *from. Obs.*

1616 ADAMS *Soul's Sickness* xxv. Wks. 1861 I. 473 When as yet himself is more non-resident from his theme than a discontinuer is from his charge. 1631 W. FOSTER *Heplochrisma-spongus* 3 That Divine which takes into consideration, whether this [cure]..be not done by..witchcraft, cannot properly bee said to be Non-resident from his profession.

2. *transf.* and *gen.* Not residing at home or on one's estate; not resident in a particular place.

1540 *Act* 32 *Hen. VIII*, c. 27 Divers of the kinges subjectis ..have..obteynid..lycences for to be absent and none resident in and uppon their ordinary offices within the said townes. 1641 *Rec. Elgin* (New Spalding Cl.) I. 271 Ane non-resident burges. 1845 DISRAELI *Sybil* (1863) 54 The monks were never non-resident. They expended their revenue among those whose labour had produced it. 1846 *Penny Cycl.* Suppl. II. 235/1 In the Irish district asylums, ..the non-resident physician is the principal officer. 1869–70 *Ann. Rep. Deleg. Stud. not attached* 11 If any Student desires..to be entirely non-resident for a Term.

Non-re·sidenter. *rare.* Also 7 *Sc.* -are. [f. NON-RESIDENT + -ER 1.] A non-resident.

1637–50 ROW *Hist. Kirk* (Wodrow Soc.) 28 No beneficed persone may be a non-residentare. 1828 *Life Planter Jamaica* 197 Landed proprietors, most of whom are non-residenters in the country. 1842 J. AITON *Domest. Econ.* (1857) 71 The minister has become a non-residenter.

Non-reside·ntial, *a.* [NON- 3.] Not residential, as a college or university.

1898 *Daily News* 17 May 3/7 Non-residential Mansfield [College at Oxford]. 1906 *Westm. Gaz.* 11 May 2/1 The non-residential University of his friend.

Non-reside·ntiary, *sb.* and *a.* [NON- 2.]

A. *sb.* A church dignitary who is not residentiary. B. *adj.* Not residentiary.

c 1630 RISDON *Surv. Devon* § 107 (1810) 109 The dean,..the chanter, the chancellor, and the treasurer of the church;.. every of these being non-residentiaries, have sufficient livelihoods of themselves. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 31 Mar. 6/3 One of the non-residentiary prebends.

Non-resi·stance. [NON- 1.] The practice or principle of not resisting authority, even when it is unjustly exercised. Now only *Hist.* with reference to the *doctrine of non-resistance* as held in England in the 17th c. (Cf. *passive obedience.*)

1643 DIGGS *Unlawf. Taking up Arms* 50 Their severall exceptions and corrupt glosses by which they endeavour to avoyd this plaine obligation of non resistance. 1685 *Acc. Execution Dk. of Monmouth* 1 My Lord, if you be of the Church of England, you must acknowledge the Doctrine of Non-resistance to be True. 1687 DRYDEN *Hind & P.* III. 663 Your sons are malcontents, but yet are true, As far as non-resistance makes them so. *c* 1720 *Vicar of Bray* iii, Passive obedience was a joke, A jest was non-resistance. 1791 BURKE *App. Whigs* Wks. VI. 154 Sir John Hawles ..positively affirming the doctrine of non-resistance to government to be the general, moral, religious, and political rule for the subject. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xiv. III. 453 Ken,..in the times when nonresistance and passive obedience were the favourite themes of his brethren,..had scarcely ever alluded to politics in the pulpit. 1871 FRASER *Life Berkeley* ii. 49 Non-resistance and passive obedience were then associated with Jacobitism. 1878 GARDINER in *Encycl. Brit.* VIII. 348/2 The Five Mile Act (1665) forbade the expelled clergyman to come within five miles of a corporate borough,..unless he would swear his adhesion to the doctrine of non-resistance.

attrib. 1844 EMERSON *New Eng. Reformers* Ser. II. 169 Temperance and non-resistance principles. 1856 OLMSTED *Slave States* 225 Charles II. ordered a shipment of Quakers to Virginia... Their non-resistance principles must have added much to their value.

b. *gen.* (const. *to.*)

1821 LAMA *Elia* Ser. I. *Witches & Night Fears*, The non-resistance of witches to the constituted powers. 1824 MISS MITFORD *Village* Ser. I. (1863) 76 An operation which that sagacious quadruped endured with the most perfect passiveness, the most admirable non-resistance.

Non-resi·stant, *a.* and *sb.* [NON- 2, 3.]

A. *adj.* Not resistant; †pertaining to or involving the doctrine of non-resistance.

1702 DE FOE *Test Ch. Eng. Loyalty* 20 This Doctrine of Absolute, Passive, and Non-resistant Obedience. *a* 1735 ARBUTHNOT *State Quacks* Misc. Wks. 1751 I. 159 [To] teach Passive-Obedience and Non-Resistant Principles. 1796 COLERIDGE *Lett.* (1895) 201 It commands them never to use the arm of flesh, to be perfectly non-resistant. 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* xxxi. (1856) 272 We, so utterly helpless, hampered, and non-resistant, must await the inevitable action of the ice. 1871 SPENCER *Princ. Psychol.* II. vi. xiv. (1872) 179 The two being distinguished as resistant extension —and non-resistant extension. 1873 T. H. GREEN *Introd. Pathol.* (ed. 2) 165 The tissue..being soft and non-resistant.

B. *sb.* One who does not resist authority or force (occas. = NON-COMBATANT); one who holds or practises the doctrine of non-resistance.

c 1850 SAXE *Poems* (1874) 20 When for their dogmas Non-Resistants fight. 1863 W. PHILLIPS *Sp.* xvii. 385, I confess I am not a non-resistant. 1870 T. W. HIGGINSON *Army Life* 231 Released on parole as a non-resistant.

Non-resi·sting, *ppl. a.* [NON- 3.] = prec. A.

1712 BERKELEY *Pass. Obed.* Wks. III. (1871) 137 Absolute non-resisting obedience to government. 1715 ADDISON *Freeholder* No. 15 P 2 The Non-resisting women..think no post tenable against an army, that makes so fine an appearance. 1801 NELSON 22 Apr. in Nicolas *Disp.* (1845) IV. 346 God forbid I should destroy a non-resisting Dane. 1814 SOUTHEY *Lett.* (1856) II. 389 Scenes ensue, in the course of which Oliver drops his nonresisting principles, and cuts down the renegade with a tomahawk. 1884 SPENCER *The Man v. the State* 3 The Non-Resisting Test Bill, which proposed for legislators and officials a compulsory oath that they would in no case resist the king by arms.

Non-retu·rn. [NON- 1.] Failure or neglect to return; the condition of not being returned.

1547 *Act* 1 *Edw. VI*, c. 10 § 5 For everye suche faulte of non Retourne, everie suche Sherife..shall..forfaite Five Powndes. 1812 *Examiner* 7 Sept. 570/1 He is entitled to one moiety in case of a non-return of any taxable article. 1845 LYTTON *Night & Morn.* v. xiv, The alarm of Sarah at her non-return. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 19 Mar. 2/4 The borrowing of your cherished books and their non-return.

attrib. 1906 *Motor Boat* 12 July 18 Carburetted air drawn in through a non-return valve.

Nonrie, -y, Nons, obs. ff. NUNNERY, NONCE.

Non-sane, nonsane (nɒnsēⁱn), *a. Law.* [ad. law-French *non sane* (*memorie*), law-Latin *non sanæ* (*memoriæ*): see NON- 3, SANE *a.*, MEMORY *sb.* 2 b.] Not sane; of unsound mind.

1628 COKE *On Litt.* 247 If such a man of Non sane memorie make a Feoffement. 1766 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* II. 291 Idiots and persons of nonsane memory. 1818 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) IV. 85 All persons incapable of binding themselves by any other contract, such as persons of nonsane memory. 1855 DUNGLISON *Dict. Med. Sci.*

Hence †**Non-sa·nity,** insanity.

1675 *Act* 27 *Chas. II*, c. 1 § 2 Disability in respect of Coverture, Infancy, Non sanity of memory. *a* 1734 NORTH *Lett.* (1826) II. 128 Non-sanity of mind.

Nonsant: see NONSUNT.

†**Non-scri·ber.** *Obs.* = NON-SUBSCRIBER.

1650 (*title*) Plea for Non-Scribers, or Grounds and Reasons for many Ministers in Cheshire, Lancashire, &c. refusing the late Engagement. 1651 ELCOCK (*title*) Animadversions on a book called a Plea for Non-Scribers.

†**Non-script,** *a.* [f. NON- 6 + L. *script-us* SCRIPT.] Unwritten.

1657 J. WATTS *Dipper Sprinkled* 65 The Trine immersion is a nonscript Tradition of the Apostles.

Nonse, obs. form of NONCE.

Non-seat. *Coal-mining.* (See quot.)

1883 GRESLEY *Gloss. Coal-mining, Non-seat.* See *D Link.* [A flat iron bar attached to chains, and suspended from a hemp rope to a windlass at surface.]

Nonsenche, obs. form of NUNCHEON.

Nonsense (nɒ·nsĕns), *sb.* Also 7–8 -sence, 8 -scense. [f. NON- 2 + SENSE *sb.* Cf. F. *non-sens* (from 12–13th c.).]

1. That which is not sense; spoken or written words which make no sense or convey absurd ideas; also, absurd or senseless action.

Often used exclamatorily to express disbelief of, or surprise at, a statement.

1614 B. JONSON *Bart. Fair* IV. iv, Here they continue their game of vapours, which is Nonsense. *a* 1643 VISC. FALKLAND, etc. *Infallibility* (1646) 121 You leave out those words .. and so make non-sence of that period. *a* 1680 BUTLER *Rem.* (1759) I. 222 For learned Nonsense has a deeper Sound, Than easy Sense, and goes for more profound. 1707 LADY M. W. MONTAGUE *Lett.* II. xlvi. 33, I understand architecture so little, that I am afraid of talking nonsense in endeavouring to speak of it particularly. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 35 P 1 If they speak Nonsense, they believe they are talking Humour. 1790 BURKE *Fr. Rev.* 17 This doctrine..either is nonsense, and therefore neither true nor false, or it affirms a most..dangerous..position. 1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* xiii, Come, let us have no more of this nonsense. 1859 HAWTHORNE *Fr. & It. Note-bks.* (1871) II. 345, I am writing nonsense, but it is because no sense within my mind will answer the purpose. 1894 FENN *In Alpine Valley* I. 28 'You are not [dying], John dear. It's all stuff and nonsense,' said the little lady.

†b. In particularized use: A piece of nonsense.

a 1643 VISCT. FALKLAND, etc. *Infallibility* (1646) 98 Every new nonsense will be more acceptable..then any old sense. 1655 tr. *Sorel's Com. Hist. Francion* II. 36 He understood not French very well, nor I his Fustian Language, so our discourse was a perpetuall Nonsense.

c. *No nonsense*: no foolish or extravagant conduct; no foolery or humbug. Chiefly in phr. *stand no nonsense* (also used as adj.).

1821 *Sporting Mag.* VIII. 233 Smith would stand *no nonsense.* 1836 SIR G. STEPHEN *Search of a Horse* i. (1841) 4 There was 'no nonsense about him' [*sc.* a horse], .. but he unluckily moved like a castle! 1849 MISS MULOCK *Ogilvies* ii, Mr. Ogilvie would allow 'no nonsense' of late rising. 1904 SLADEN *Lovers Japan* xiii, Rich was the only stand-no-nonsense Englishman of the lot.

2. Absurdity, nonsensicalness.

1630 W. BEDELL in *Ussher's Lett.* (1686) 421, I shewed the false Latin, Non-sence, injustice of it. 1660 T. PIERCE *Ing. Nat. Sin* To Rdr. *marg.*, Compare the non-sense with the impiety of the expression. 1841 L. HUNT *Seer* II. 2/1 The nonsense of ill-will.

3. Unsubstantial or worthless stuff or things.

1638 COWLEY *Love's Riddle* IV. Wks. 1711 III. 113 Our Desires..are Love's Nonsence, wrapt up in thick Clouds. 1648 J. BEAUMONT *Psyche* V. i, What royal Nonsence is a Diadem Abroad, for One who's not at home supreme? 1687 NORRIS *Coll. Misc.* 24, I find This busie World is Non-sense all. 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 2 Feb. 12/1 Six dollars a week for slippers, and three more for 'ribbons and bits of chiffon nonsense'.

4. A meaning that makes no sense.

1650 WEEKES *Truth's Conflict* i. 11 This is to put a nonsense upon the place, and to destroy the savor that is in it. 1711 POPE *Lett.* (1735) I. 166 How easy it is to a Caviller to give a new Sense, or a new Nonsence to any thing.

†5. Want of feeling or physical sensation. *Obs.*

1621 in T. Bedford *The Sinne*, etc. A i b, Disquietnesse of Conscience [growes] into a numbdnesse or non-sense.

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *nonsense-proof* adj., *-talker*, *-writer*; **nonsense-book**, a book of nonsense or nonsense verses; **nonsense-name** (see quot.); **nonsense verses**, verses consisting of words and phrases arranged solely with reference to the metre and without regard to the sense; also *nonsense song*, etc.

1887 *Spectator* 17 Sept. 1251 Lear's *Nonsense Books. 1842 *Rep. Brit. Assoc.* 118 *Nonsense names.—Some authors .. have adopted the plan of coining words at random without any derivation or meaning whatever. 1778 *Love Feast* 12 Led by the Spirit to John's pantil'd Roof, Which many a vagrant Paul makes *Nonsense-Proof. 1871 E. Lear (*title*), *Nonsense Songs, Stories, Botany and Alphabets. *a* 1832 Bentham *Deontol.* ii. (1834) I. 26 The moralist..would call his enemy..hypocrite, and *nonsense-talker. 1830 Coleridge *Table-t.* 5 Oct., I did not seem much interested with a piece of Rossini's, which had just been performed. I said, it sounded to me like *nonsense verses. 1870 *Spectator* 26 Dec. 30 Mere musical sounds are no other than nonsense verses are in poetry. 1887 *Ibid.* 17 Sept. 1251 The parent of modern *nonsense-writers.

b. That is nonsense; full of nonsense; †in the 17th c. often used as *adj.* = Nonsensical.

1621 Burton *Anat. Mel.* II. iv. I. v. (1651) 375 A few simples well..understood are better than such an heap of nonsense confused compounds. 1638 Chillingw. *Relig. Prot.* I. iv. § 47. 217 Some empty unintelligible non-sense distinction. 1642 Rogers *Naaman* 191 Put case the way of washing in Jordan bee irrationall and non-sense to thy wit and reason. 1757 Foote *Author* I. (1782) 23 You are a Non-sense man, and I won't agree to any such Thing. 1858 Mrs. Oliphant *Laird of Norlaw* II. 127 This is not a nonsense letter—will you read it, mother? 1862 Palgrave in *Times* 15 May, A learned mockery, a nonsense sculpture.

Hence †**Nonsensely** *adv.*, nonsensically.

1656 Duchess Newcastle *Nature's Picture* XI. *Epistle*, Others in one discourse speak mixtly, now rational, then nonsensely.

Non-se·nsible, *a.* [Non- 3.] Not sensible.

1851 Millais in *Life* (1899) I. iv. 124 Forgive this non-sensible scribble. 1875 Whitney *Life Lang.* viii. 137 Every figurative transfer which ever made a successful designation for some non-sensible act or relation..rested upon a previous perception of analogy.

Nonsensical (nɒnse·nsikăl), *a.* and *sb.* [f. Nonsense + -ical.]

A. *adj.* That is nonsense; of the nature of, or full of, nonsense; having no sense; absurd.

1655 *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) II. 221 They haue such nonsensicall conceipts that there is some impossibility to please their humours. 1668 Pepys *Diary* 12 Oct., A ridiculous nonsensical book set out by Will. Pen for the Quakers. 1684 Wood *Life* 28 Dec. (O. H. S.) III. 120 Lord Hawley, the great bull-maker or maker of nonsensicall puns. 1742 Richardson *Pamela* IV. 11 Canst thou not forbear letting thy discerning Lord see thy nonsensical Emotions? 1816 Scott *Antiq.* xiv, The knight's a punctilious old fool, but I promise you his daughter is above all nonsensical ceremony and prejudice. 1869 Ainsworth *Hilary St. Ives* II. i, Put aside all nonsensical feeling, and accept Sir Charles. 1885 *Law Times* LXXVIII. 186/2 This sentence is certainly the worst.., and it would be hard to invent a more nonsensical one.

b. Of persons.

1682 *Enq. Elect. Sheriffs* 24 Stupid and nonsensical Fops. 1704 Swift *Batt. Bks.* Wks. 1751 I. 220 A Pack of..confounded Loggerheads and illiterate Whelps, and nonsensical Scoundrels. 1815 Miss Austen *Emma* xxvi, 'Nonsensical girl,' was his reply. 1852 Mrs. Stowe *Uncle Tom's C.* xv. 141 Come, now, Marie, what do you think of the likeness? Don't be nonsensical, now.

B. *sb.* A nonsensical, absurd, or trifling thing.

1842 *Peter Parley's Ann.* III. 246 Silks and satins..and the host of nonsensicals with which little minds pride themselves. 1856 Ferrier *Inst. Metaph.* App. I. 498 It does not..hold the mind thus circumstanced..to be a nonentity, but only a non-sensical, an absolutely inconceivable.

Hence **Nonse·nsically** *adv.*; **Nonse·nsicalness, Nonsensica·lity.**

1654 Whitlock *Zootomia* 83 If they misapply words.. never so non-sensically, they passe for fine Fellowes. 1674 R. Godfrey *Inj. & Ab. Physic* 186 Observing the non-sensicalness of the Compound, and the multitude of Simples, mixt without Reason. 1702 C. Mather *Magn. Chr.* VII. App. (1852) 644 A certain silly scribbler, the very first-born of Nonsensicality. 1754 Edwards *Freed. Will* I. iii. (1762) 15 If any Man uses these Terms in such Cases, he either uses them nonsensically, or in some new Sense. *a* 1850 Hawthorne in *Hawthorne & his Wife* (1885) I. 498 She ..keeps our little nonsensicalities from ourselves. 1850 Sir W. Hamilton *Discuss. Philos.*, etc. (1852) 624*, I admit, that had we thus spoken, we had spoken, not only ungrammatically, but nonsensically. 1891 *Spectator* 9 May 665/1 Good nonsense is very difficult to write, for it ought to express gaiety of heart even in its very nonsensicalness.

Nonse·nsify, *v.* [f. Nonsense + -ify.] *trans.* To make nonsense of. So **Nonsensifica·tion,** the production of nonsense.

1649 H. Lawrence *Some Consid.* 13 They have..nonsensifyed a Scripture with their Figures and Allegories. 1816 Scott *Antiq.* xxii, Simple suffumigation? simple nonsensification—planetary hour? planetary fiddlestick!

Non-se·nsitive, *a.* and *sb.* [Non- 3.] **a.** *adj.* Not sensitive. †**b.** *sb.* A thing without feeling.

1628 Feltham *Resolves* II. xviii. 56 Whatsoeuer we preach of Contentednesse in want; no precepts can so gaine vpon Nature, as to make her a non-sensitiue. 1836 Smart, *Non-sensitive*, wanting sensation. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 14 June 2/1 A wife of the sturdy, enduring, non-sensitive type.

So **Non-se·nsitiveness.**

1890 Sir F. A. Abel in *Nature* 4 Sept. 444/2 Comparative non-sensitiveness to explosion by friction or percussion.

‖ **Non sequitur** (nɒn se·kwitŭr). [L. = 'it does not follow'.] An inference or a conclusion which does not follow from the premisses.

1564 *Brief Exam.* ***** ij b, After this you bring in a patch of Gratians decrees. *Caus.* 21 *Quest.* 4..This is a *Non sequitur*. 1643 Prynne *Sov. Power Parl.* III. 90 The proper argument then that can be thence deduced by our Opposites, is but this *Nonsequitur*. *a* 1726 Gilbert *Cases in Law & Equity* (1760) 98 (Stanf.), The Justices need not set forth any Reason of their Judgment, therefore a *Non sequitur* will not vitiate. 1817 *Parl. Deb.* col. 1070 (Stanf.), This was so inconsequent, such a *non sequitur* in reasoning, that he left it to the noble lord, and the other logicians on the Treasury-bench, to solve the problem. 1863 Kirk *Chas. the Bold* II. 403 *note*, The delicious *non sequitur* of this conclusion need scarcely be pointed out.

transf. and *fig.* 1533 Elyot *Pasquill* A iij, Thou haste the strangest apparaile that euer I loked on...This longe estrige fether doeth wonderly wel... But this longe gowne with strayte sleues is a *non sequitur*. 1855 Geo. Eliot *Ess.* (1884) 150 His practice is in many respects an amiable *non sequitur* from his teaching.

Nonsicut. *nonce-word*, f. L. *nōn* not + *sīcut* so, after Nonesuch.

1621 Br. Mountagu *Diatribe* 28 And so be δακτυλόδεικτοι, of all passengers by, for absolute Nonsicuts in intolerable arrogancy.

Nonsien, obs. form of Nuncheon.

Non-signi·ficant. [Non- 3.] A sign, symbol, or statement that is not significant.

1605 Bacon *Adv. Learn.* II. 61 The Simple Cyphars with Changes, and intermixtures of Nulles, and Nonsignificants. 1654 Whitlock *Zootomia* 387 With many such non-significants, or mean-nothings.

So **Non-signi·ficance, Non-signi·ficative** *a.*

1633 Ames *Fresh Suit agst. Human Cerem.* 84 He shall perceave some non significative to be the speciall to the Genus of a significative cere[mony]. 1846 *Proc. Philol. Soc.* III. 9 Respecting the significance or non-significance of those elements.

†**Non-since·re,** *a. Obs. rare.* [Non- 3.] Not decided for or against a measure.

1656 Harrington *Oceana* (1700) 132 The Suffrage being gather'd and open'd before the Signory, if the red Box, or Nonsincere had above half the Suffrages [etc.]. *Ibid.* 156 Three Boxes, the Negative, the Affirmative and the Nonsincere. [Cf. p. 119 *bossolo di non sinceri*.]

Non-soci·ety. [Non- 4.] *attrib.* Not belonging to a society; *spec.* applied to a workman who is not a member of a trade-union, or to an establishment in which such men are employed.

1851 Mayhew *Lond. Labour* (1861) III. 222/2 The slop-workers of the different trades—the cheap men or non-society hands. 1886 *Pall Mall G.* 22 Oct. 10/2 The Board had paid more for printing in 'non-society' houses than in society houses. 1890 W. J. Gordon *Foundry* 192 Its [*The Times*] being a non-society office.

Non-so·lvency. [Non- 1.] Failure or inability to pay what is owing; insolvency.

1708 *Brit. Apollo* No. 83. 2/1 The Non-solvency of such a trifle. 1732 Swift *Proposal National Debt* Wks. 1751 IX. 188 Some of the Purchasers..may be content to live cheap in a worse Country, rather than be at the Charge of Exchange and Agencies; and, perhaps of Non-solvencies in Absence, if they let their Lands too high. 1734 — *Reasons agst. settling Tythe of Hemp* Ibid. 261 The Tythes..have..sunk..at least one Fourth of their former Value, exclusive of all Non-solvencies.

Non-so·lvent, *a.* (*sb.*) [Non- 3.] **A.** *adj.* Not solvent; unable to pay debts; insolvent.

1625 B. Jonson *Staple of N.* IV. Interm., *Cen.* For a decay'd wit— *Exp.* Broken— *Tat.* Non-soluent. 1644 Hevlin *Stumbling-block* Tracts (1681) 679 Unless,..being one of the Farmers of the Tolls and Taxes,..he became non-solvent, and had not cleared his accompt with the Common-wealth. 1669 Owen *Doctr. Trin. Vind.* (1851) II. 437 The debt which He took upon Himself, and discharged for us, when we were nonsolvent, in His love.

B. *sb.* One who is unable to pay his debts.

1647 Trapp *Comm. Luke* VII. xlii, We are all non-solvents, stark beggars.

Non-spe·cie. [Non- 4.] Used *attrib.*, Not payable in specie.

1697 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3345/7 The said Trustees shall pay to such Person or Persons Money for the said Bills, if they be Specie Bills; Or deliver other Bills of like value, if they be Non-Specie Bills. 1711 Luttrell *Brief Rel.* (1857) VI. 677 A supply..to enable her majestie to make all non specie exchequer bills specie.

Nonsse: see Ounce *sb.*[1] **Nonst,** obs. f. Nonce.

Non-subscri·ber. Now *Hist.* Also *Sc.* 7 **-scriver, -scryver.** [Non- 2.]

1. One who refuses to subscribe to an undertaking, a religious creed, etc.

(*a*) In Scottish Church History, one who did not subscribe to the National Covenant of 1638; (*b*) one of the section of Irish presbyterians which arose in 1720 and opposed the imposition of subscription to the Westminster Confession.

1599 (*title*), A Triall of Subscription, by way of a Preface vnto certaine Subscribers; And, Reasons for lesse rigour against non-subscribers. 1621 *1st & 2nd Bks. Discipl.* (Calderwood) II That whosoever hath borne office in the ministerie ofthe Kirke within this Realme..shall be charged ..to subscrive the heads of the discipline of the Kirk of this Realme.., under the paine of excommunication to be executed against the non-subscrivers. 1638 R. Baillie *Lett. & Jrnls.* (1841) I. 78 That day was a solemne Fast over all our Kingdome...Some of our non-subscryvers refused to joyne. 1650 (*title*), A brief Apology for all non subscribers, and looking glasse for all apostate, perjured prescribers, and subscribers of the new engagement. 1727 *Narr. Prov. Synods Presbyt. Irel.* 36 The Ministers, who in a few days after [in June, 1721] were distinguish'd by the name of Non-subscribers.

2. One who does not pay a subscription.

1713 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5131/4 Subscribers pay one Guinea, and Non-Subscribers five Guineas Entrance.

So **Non-subscri·bing** *vbl. sb.*, **Non-subscri·ption,** refusal or failure to subscribe (e.g. to a religious creed); also **Non-subscri·bing** *ppl. a.*

1662 Wood *Life* 24 Aug. (O.H.S.) I. 453 What heads of houses was turned out upon non-subscribing to the Act of Uniformity. 1716 [see Nonconforming *vbl. sb.*]. 1727 *Narr. Prov. Synods Presbyt. Irel.* 58 An anonymous Pamphlet, called, *The Mind of the Synod*, which contained many grievous Aspersions on the Non-subscribing Ministers. 1736 Chandler *Hist. Persec.* 395 The two great evils of the Church, Non-subscription and Arianism. 1747 H. Walpole *Lett.* (1846) II. 199 The non-subscribing at the time of the rebellion has been most successfully played off upon the Jacobites. 1827 *Christian Moderator* I. (*title of article*), Progress of Nonsubscription to Creeds. 1879 Witherow *Mem. Presbyt. Irel.* 166 Opening of the non-Subscription Controversy. 1895 *Daily News* 24 Oct. 3/3 Unitarians.. were..Non-Subscribing—i. e. their trust deeds did not provide that ministerial officers..should subscribe to a creed.

Non-substa·ntial, *a. Philosophy.* [Non- 3.] Not substantial. Hence **Non-substa·ntialism,** the theory that there is no substance underlying phenomena; = Nihilism 2. Also **Non-substa·ntialist,** one who holds the doctrine of non-substantialism; = Nihilist 1.

1836–7 Sir W. Hamilton *Metaph.* xvi. (1859) I. 294 Philosophers..are divided into Realists or Substantialists, and into Nihilists or Non-Substantialists. 1865 Masson *Rec. Brit. Philos.* 66 The system of Nihilism or, as it may be better called, Non-substantialism. 1875 McLaren *Serm.* Ser. II. i. 13 They are non-substantial and non-permanent.

Non-succe·ss. [Non- 1. Cf. F. *non-succès*.] Want of success.

1665 Needham *Med. Medicinae* 282 The Non Successes of the common Methods and Medicins. 1837 De Quincey *Coleridge* Wks. 1854 II. 167 It was natural to impute his non-success exclusively to his own irregular application. 1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 1 Apr. 2/1 That impatience of non-success which was often noted as a defect in his character. 1902 *Outing* June 278/1 The success or non-success of the finished picture from an artistic standpoint.

So **Non-succe·ssful** *a.*, not successful.

1867 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* Dec. 769 If non-successful, there comes a smash. 1901 *Scotsman* 13 Mar. 12/2 The publication of the non-successful estimates.

Nonsuch (nɒ·nsʊtʃ), *sb.* and *a.* [var. of Nonesuch, and now the usual form.

The change of *none-* (nōn) to *non-* would be natural in a compound of this form, but may have been partly helped by association with the prefix Non-.]

I. †**1.** = Nonesuch 1. *Obs. rare*[−1].

1620 R. N. *Sonn.* in *Sylvester's Du Bartas*, Then by right Rare Muses Non-Such shall thy Worke be hight.

2. = Nonesuch 2.

1657 S. Purchas *Pol. Flying-Ins.* 13 For every Hive, or Commonwealth, endeavours to be a Non-such, and to engross all within its own circumference. 1677 W. Hughes *Man of Sin* I. i. 2 We have therein a very Nonsuch, for the enriching that Ægypt, which it passeth through. 1710 T. Fuller *Pharm. Extemp.* 106 An Oliose Draught..is a Nonsuch for a Pleurisy. 1820 Amelia Opie *Tales of Heart* IV. 274, I have got a little pot of honey and some rob.., as 'tis reckoned a nonsuch for a cough.

b. = Nonesuch 2 b.

1655 Gurnall *Chr. in Arm.* I. (1665) 132 Was not Job the Devil's hypocrite, whom God vouch't for a non-such in holinesse. 1670 Brooks *Wks.* (1867) VI. 30 Job was a non-such in his day for holiness. 1753 Richardson *Sir C. Grandison* I. xxii. (1781) 152 Then you are, as indeed I have always thought you, a nonsuch of a woman. 1819 Keats *Let. to G. Keats* 14 Feb., A young gentleman..leaves his unfortunate Bride and follows this nonsuch. 1850 Dobell *Roman* v. Poet. Wks. (1875) 61 Nay, everybody! Write me up a nonsuch! I can beat everybody. 1895 'Sarah Tytler' *Macdonald Lass* 172 As for your Prince,.. he's not a nonsuch.

c. In depreciatory sense.

1836 *Gentl. Mag.* V. 423/2 The audience were insulted by the mis-representation of a nonsuch called the Fate of War, which caused a tremendous disturbance in the Theatre.

†**3.** = Nonesuch 3. *Obs.*

1635 Brathwait *Arcadian Princess* II. 11 He was esteemed the Non-such of his time. 1660 W. Secker *Nonsuch Prof.* 9 Beleivers in the world, they are the Non-such's of the world. 1673 Janeway *Heaven upon Earth* (1847) 212 Those brave worthies who were..the nonsuches of their age, and a pattern to future generations.

†**4.** *adj.* = Nonesuch 4. *Obs.*

1667 Waterhouse *Fire Lond.* 3 This spoil and non-such disappointment. 1711 *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. V. 186 A non-such contempt of the world in a monarch. 1728 P. Walker *Life Peden* Pref. (1827) 7 Ere that tremendous non-such stroke came upon Jerusalem.

II. *spec.* **5.** = Nonesuch 5. *? Obs.*

1760 J. Lee *Introd. Bot.* App. 320 Nonsuch, *Lychnis.*

6. a. A species of Lucern (see quot. 1844). Also called *black nonsuch.*

1668 *Phil. Trans.* III. 725 Of 7 acre of Non-such or Hopp-Clover. 1669 Worlidge *Syst. Agric.* (1681) 31 It's better to sowe three [bushels] mixt with Nonsuch. 1705 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4111/4 Broad Clover and Trefoil, alias Non-snch. 1768–74 Tucker *Lt. Nat.* (1834) I. 501 Every country fellow makes the distinction between natural grass, and clover, nonsuch, or others that are sown. 1778 *Eng. Gazetteer* (ed. 2) s.v. *Worplesdon*, A sort of grass was lately much cultivated in these parts, called Nonsuch, which is equal to St. Foin. 1844 Stephens *Bk. Farm* II. 556 *Medicago lupulina* is the hop-clover, or black nonsuch, which is..sown by some farmers amongst their grass.

attrib. 1766 *Museum Rust.* VI. 338 We find it useful, also, when we sow any saintfoin, to throw in about a gallon of nonsuch seed.

b. *White nonsuch*, rye-grass seed. *? Obs.*

1787 MARSHALL *E. Norfolk* (1795) Gloss.

7. A variety of apple († and pear). Also *attrib.*

1676 WORLIDGE *Cyder* (1691) 210 The Non-such [apple] is a long-lasting fruit, good at the table. *Ibid.* 216 The Non-such, Dionier,..are all very good winter-pears. 1846 MRS. GORE *Eng. Char.* (1852) 112 With lustrous, rosy, and whiskerless face, round as a Nonsuch apple. 1859 F. G. WHITE *Addr. Cape Town Fine Arts Exhib.* 13 No man in his senses would eat sour crabs when he could get ribstone pippins or nonsuch apples.

† Nonsue, *v. Obs.* [NON- 5.] = NONSUIT *v.*

1437 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 509/2 He woll be nonsued; and theruppon he wolle begynne a newe feyned suite. 1487 *Act* 3 *Hen. VII*, c. 10 Yf..that persone..that sueth Writte ..of errour be nonsued [AF. *nonsuez*] in the same.

† Non-suffi·cient. *Obs.* [NON- 1. Cf. INSUFFICIENT *sb.* 1.] Insufficiency.

1425 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 276/2 Knowlech of the suffisante or nonsuffisante of swiche [persones] as ye Kyng..offrid. 1477 *Ibid.* VI. 186/1 For non sufficiente of the said Gardeyn and Wyrker to answere of the forseid forfeiture.

† Nonsuing, *vbl. sb. Obs.* [NON- 7.] Failure to sue.

1620 J. WILKINSON *Coroners & Sheriffes* 51 That he shall ..discharge..the said J. H...from..all maner of troubles.. either by nonsuing, or unlawfull returning..of any precepts.

Nonsuit (nɒ·nsiūt), *sb. Law.* [a. AF. *no(u)nsuite*: see NON- 1 and SUIT *sb.*] In early use, the cessation of a suit resulting from the voluntary withdrawal of the plaintiff; in modern use, the stoppage of a suit by the judge, when, in his opinion, the plaintiff fails to make out a legal cause of action or to bring sufficient evidence. (See also quot. 1884.) † Also *fig.*

c 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 410 But ech prest may li3tly þus sue crist 3if he lette not hym silf, & þus synne excusiþ hym not þat he synne not in þis noun suyt. 1488 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 417/2 The said discontinuance, or any Nonsuyt of or in the said Atteint. 1566 PAINTER *Pal. Pleas.* (1569) I. 42 Menalippus ouer came him in law, and the noble men which were the frends of Pbalaris, would giue no sentence, but brought the matter to a nonesuite. 1606–7 *Act* 4 *Jas. I*, c. 3 (*title*), An Act to give Costes to the Defendant uppon a Nonsuite of the Plaintiffe. 1632 *Star Chamber Cases* (Camden) 128 The Kinges Bench afterwardes discharged the costes upon the nonsuit. 1741 *Act* 14 *Geo. II*, c. 17 § 1 That all Judgments given by virtue of this Act shall be of the like Force and Effect as Judgments upon Nonsuit. 1768 [see NON-PROSEQUITUR]. 1803 SYD. SMITH *Wks.* (1859) I. 50/1 A proof of non-residence might be made to operate as a nonsuit in an action for tithes. 1883 *Law Rep.* 11 *Q.B. Div.* 591 Watkin Williams, J., was of opinion that the words above mentioned were privileged..and directed a nonsuit. 1884 *Encycl. Brit.* XVII. 534/2 s.v., The matter now is of no great importance, for, although judgment of nonsuit still exists, it has, since the Judicature Acts, the same effect as a judgment on the merits, unless the court otherwise directs.

† No·nsuit, *a. Law. Obs.* [app. intended as a pa. ppl. form on the analogy of words like *execute*. AF. had *nounsuy*.] Subjected to a nonsuit; nonsuited.

c 1476 *Plumpton Corr.* (Camden) 35 Ailmer wife was like to have bene non suit in her appeale. 1531–2 *Act* 23 *Hen. VIII*, c. 2 § 4 The same partie so nonsuite or so discontynueng the said Atteynt. 1594 WEST *2nd Pt. Symbol.* § 43 When one hath bin nonsuit he may begin againe. 1660 BONDE *Scut. Reg.* 58 The King in a manner is everywhere. ..And therefore it is that he cannot be non-sute. 1720 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5868/5 The Officers become Non-suit. 1768 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* III. 376 If the plaintiff does not appear, no verdict can be given, but the plaintiff is said to be nonsuit, *non sequitur clamorem suum.* 1817 SELWYN *Law Nisi Prius* (ed. 4) II. 857 In case the plaintiff become nonsuit, or discontinue his action.

fig. 1581 MULCASTER *Positions* xxxviii. (1888) 174 They will rather retire for shame and proue to be nonsuite, then confesse themselues faulty. 1589 WARNER *Alb. England* VI. xxxi. (1612) 155 Better at first be Non-sute, than at length not to subdue.

† b. *transf.* Of a project: Interrupted, balked.

1679 'TOM TICKLEFOOT' *Obs. Trials of Wakeman*, etc. 8 The Plot is Non-suit, *Semel insanivimus omnes.*

No·nsuit, *v.* [f. NONSUIT *sb.* or *a.*] *Law. trans.* To subject to a nonsuit.

1531–2 *Act* 23 *Hen. VIII*, c. 15 (*title*), An Acte that the Defendaunt shall recover Costes ageinste the Pleyntif, if the Pleyntif be nonsuited, or if the verdicte passe ageinste him. 1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* 51 b, If bee haue but a quarter of an enemy in the Court, it [*sc.* his suit] is casheird and non suted. 1606–7 *Act* 4 *Jas. I*, c. 3 Cases where the Plaintiffe..should become Nonsuited. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 39 P 4 The University has been Nonsuited in their Action against the Booksellers for printing Clarendon in Quarto. 1768 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* III. xx. 295 Formerly they [*sc.* common pledges] were of use to answer to the king for the amercement of the plaintiff, in case he were nonsuited. 1818 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) IV. 304 Ld. Ch. Just. de Grey thought such parol evidence inadmissible, and nonsuited the plaintiff.

absol. 1818 BYRON *Juan* I. clxxxix, The pleadings Of counsel to nonsuit, or to annul.

† b. *transf.* and *fig.* (sometimes with a pun.)

1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* I. i. 16 But he.. Euades them, with a bumbast Circumstance..; Non-suites my Mediators. 1608 TOPSELL *Serpents* 99 Lest..he [*sc.* a lover] should turne Crauen .. or else be vtterly non-suited. *a* 1652 BROME *Covent Garden* II. i, [A tailor says:] I can do no lesse then take you by default and non-suit you. 1714 MANDEVILLE *Fable Bees* (1725) I. 317 Your sly sinners that..hope that it will expiate their guilt, and Satan be nonsuited by it nt a small expence.

Hence **No·n-suiting** *vbl. sb.*

1662 HIBBERT *Body Divinity* I. 92 They are sure of..the non-suting of all actions and accusations.

Non-su·mmons. *Law.* [NON- 1.] Failnre to serve a summons in due time.

1630 EARL MANCH. in *Buccleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 273 Putting in of dilatory pleas, as non-summons. 1845 E. V. WILLIAMS *Saunders' Rep. K. B.* II. 1. 45c, The summons must be served fifteen days before the day of the return of the writ, otherwise the tenant may wage his law of non-summons.

† Nonsunt. *Sc. Obs.* Also **-sount, ? -sant.** [Two words of the legend on the reverse of the coin, which runs IAM . NON . SVNT . DVO . SED . VNA . CARO . 'they are no more twain, but one flesh' (Matt. xix. 6).] The twelve-penny groat coined under Francis and Mary (1558–9).

1564 in Pitcairn *Crim. Trials* I. 440 Tressonabill cunȝeing off diuerse fals Testonis, half Testonis, Non suntis, and Lyones callit Hardheidis. 1567 *Sc. Acts Parl.* (1814) III. 43/2 It is thocht neidfull that all nonsunt be proclamit to vj d, babeis to iij d, plakis to ij d, hardheidis to half pennyis. 1584 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* III. 706 Fals and adulterat cunyie of nonsantis.

† Non-surre·ctive, *a. Obs.* [L. *surrect-*, ppl. stem of *surgĕre* to rise + -IVE.] (See quot.)

1668 WILKINS *Real Char.* 341 A Person..Unwalkative, is a Cripple; Non surrective, is Bedrid.

Nonsute, obs. form of NONSUIT.

† Non-swea·rer. *Obs.* [NON- 2.] = NON-JUROR. Also *attrib.*

1690 *Let. to Dissenting Clergyman* 10 Some of the Gentlemen..are such as have admired even the meanest of the Non-Swearers. 1691 [see NON-JUROR]. 1691 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) II. 326 One Wilcox, a nonswearer parson. 1692 *Let. to Friend* in *Harleian Misc.* (1746) VII. 296 All our Non-swearers could not hinder the late Revolution, nor can they make another. *c* 1693 *Mem. Cnt. Teckely* Pref. p. xi, The best Use of this is to be made by the Non-swearers.

So † **Non-swea·ring** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*, non-juring.

1691 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) II. 162 The other non-swearing bishops. 1692 *Let. to Friend* in *Harleian Misc.* (1746) VII. 296 Could their Non-swearing restore him to his Throne again, it would [etc.]. *a* 1704 T. BROWN *Satire upon French King* Wks. 1730 I. 59 A non-swearing parson.

Nont, dial. variant of NAUNT.

1777 *Antiq.* in *Ann. Reg.* 147. 1888 *Sheffield Gloss.*

Non-te·nure. *Old Law.* [a. AF. *nountenure*: see NON- 1 and TENURE.] 'A plea in bar to a real action, by saying that he (the defendant) held not the land in the plaintiff's count or declaration, or at least some part thereof' (Wharton).

1574 tr. *Littleton's Tenures* 128 b, If anye manne sue a Precipe quod reddat againste anye tenaunte of free hold, in whiche action..the tenaunte pledeth not nontenure. 1602 FULBECKE *2nd Pt. Parall.* 57 Seuerall tenancie, or non-tenure is no plea in a *Nuper obijt*, because of the priuitie of bloud. 1628 COKE *On Litt.* 362 b, If the Tenant pleade non-tenure or disclaime. 1652 tr. *Fitzherbert's Nat. Brev.* 256 And Nontenure hath been pleaded, and admitted a good plea divers times in an Attaint. 1865 NICHOLS *Britton* II. 84 In this plea there lies neither view, nor voucher to warranty, nor abatement of writ for non-tenure.

† Non-term. *Obs.* [NON- 1.] The time of vacation between two terms; the cessation of term; hence *gen.*, a period of inaction.

1607 COWELL *Interpr.*, *Non terme* (*non terminus*) is the time of vacation between Terme and Terme. 1648 SPARKE *Ep. Ded.* to *Shute's Sarah & Hagar* a j b, By thus improving an enforced Non-term, and over-long Vacation, in such a promulgating the best Laws. *a* 1658 CLEVELAND *For Sleep* Wks. (1687) 295 The Senses Non-Term, Life's serenest Shore. 1664 POWER *Exp. Philos.* I. 71 During this Interval and Non-tearm of Sensation (for so we may..call Sleep). 1824 *Gradus ad Cantabr.* s.v., When any Member of the Senate dies within the University during Term, on application to the Vice-chancellor, the University bell rings an hour; from which period Non Term, as to public lectures and disputations, commences for three days.

‖ Non-te·rminus. [NON- 1.] = prec.

1573 G. HARVEY *Common-pl. Bk.* (Camden) 52 It is the smalist matter of an hundrid with them, for the schollars to want a Greek lecture a fortniht or thre weeks togither besides non-termjnus. 1607 [see prec.].

Nontid(e, obs. forms of NOONTIDE.

Nontronite (nɒ·ntrŏnəit). *Min.* [ad. F. *nontronite* (Berthier 1827), f. *Nontron* (in France), its locality.] A pale-yellow variety of chloropal.

1832 SHEPARD *Min.* 246 Nontronite. .. Soft; opake: unctuous and tender. 1837 DANA *Syst. Min.* 224.

† Non ultra. *Obs.* [L. = 'not beyond'.] = NE PLUS ULTRA 2, 2 b. Also *attrib.*

Formerly the name of a 'walk' in Oxford (see Wood *Antiq. Oxford* O.H.S. I. 344, 576; III. 221).

[1589 GREENE *Tullies Loue* Ep. Ded. Wks. (Grosart) VII. 99 Suche as read *Non vltra*, on Hercules pillers. *c* 1600 *Timon* I. iv, At Gades I washt away *Non vltra* writt with Hercules owne hand.]

1672 VILLIERS (Dk. Buckhm.) *Rehearsal* IV. i, Is not that good language now? is not that elevate? It's my *non ultra*, I gad. 1682 SIR T. BROWNE *Chr. Mor.* (1716) 62 Let not the law of thy country be the *non ultra* of thy honesty. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 8 Feb. 1645, This I made the *non ultra* of my travels. 1704 NORRIS *Ideal World* II. vii. 357 Now light is at our journey's end, arrived at its *non ultra*, there being no part..disposed to transmit it any further.

Non-u·nion.

1. [NON- 1.] Failure to unite.

1892 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Non-union*, the condition of a fractured bone, or other divided tissue, the ends of which fail to unite.

2. *attrib.* [NON- 4.] Not belonging to a trade-union; also, manufactured by non-union men.

1863 FAWCETT *Pol. Econ.* II. ix. (1876) 244 A non-union man is subjected to so many petty annoyances that his life not unfrequently becomes a burden to him. 1890 *Daily News* 13 Sept. 5/5 It was affirmed that the unionists would refuse to handle non-union wool.

Hence **Non-u·nionist,** one who does not belong to a trade-union. Also used *attrib.* Also **Non-u·nionism,** the principles of non-unionists.

1861 *Illustr. Lond. News* 7 Dec. 576/3 A non-unionist workman has been employed on the premises. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 2 Sept. 4/6 The miners are now encamped near the mines in order to prevent non-unionists from working. 1895 *Standard Dict.*, *Non-unionism.* 1901 *Daily Chron.* 17 July 7/5 Strongholds of non-unionism.

Non-uni·ted, *ppl. a.* [NON- 6.] Applied to that part of the Greek Church which is not in union with Rome.

1777 *Char.* in *Ann. Reg.* 47 They [*sc.* Wallachians] confess the non-united Greek religion. 1886 W. J. TUCKER *Life in E. Europe* 199 The Church [in Hungary]..has the majority of the aristocracy..on its side,..not to mention the United and Non-united Greek Church to back it.

† Nonuparti·tion. *Obs.* [irreg. f. L. *nōnus* ninth + PARTITION.] The taking of a ninth part.

1674 JEAKE *Arith.* (1696) 34 Nonupartition, or to take the ninth part of a number.

† No·nupla. *Mus. Obs.* [mod.L., fem. of *nōnuplus*, i. *nōnus* ninth + *-plus* as in *duplus* DUPLE.] The 'time' which has nine crotchets or quavers in a bar.

1597 T. MORLEY *Introd. Mus.* I. 54 The tripla broken in the more prolation, maketh nine minimes for one stroke, which is our common Nonapla. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Nonupla*, a quick time in Musick peculiar to Gigs and such like; having nine Crotchets between Bar and Bar. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* 1811 BUSBY *Dict. Mus.*

Nonuplet (nɒ·niŭplet). *Mus.* [f. L. *nōnus* ninth + *-plet* as in *triplet*.] A group of nine notes to be performed in the time of eight or six.

1876 STAINER & BARRETT *Dict. Mus. Terms.*

Non upstant: see NON-OBSTANTE 1 *note.*

Non-u·sage. [NON- 1.] Cessation of the use of something; failure to use.

1552 HULOET, Non vsage, *dissuetudo.* *c* 1600 EDMONDS *Observ. Cæsar's Comm.* (1604) 31 As usage continueth the property of a tenure, so non-usage implieth a forfeiture. *a* 1693 URQUHART *Rabelais* III. xxvii. 221 Non-usage oftentimes destroys ones Right. 1838–42 TUPPER *Proverb. Philos.* (1853) 427 For use will mould and mark it, or non-usage dull and blunt it. 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 22 Feb. 3/2 The point of non-usage was brought forward, and..it was distinctly laid down that 'omission is not prohibition'.

Non-u·sager. *Hist.* [NON- 2.] A member of that section of non-jurors which rejected 'the usages' in the celebration of the Holy Communion.

1874 J. H. BLUNT *Dict. Sects, Heresies*, etc. 381/2 A division thus sprung up in the now small body of Nonjurors, ..the former party being called 'Non-Usagers' and the latter 'Usagers'.

† Non-u·sance. *Obs.* [NON- 1.] Non-usage.

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* IV. xiii. 232 Yet were it not reasonable to inferre..a non-usance or abolition.

Non-u·se. [NON- 1.] Failure or neglect to use.

1605 L. HUTTEN *Aunswere* 104 He doth conclude the abuse of one Ceremony by the Non vse of another. 1761 in Entick *London* (1766) IV. 369 They shall lose no privilege for non use, or even abuse. 1816 G. S. FABER *Orig. Pagan Idol.* I. 470 The .. distinction .. between .. clean and unclean animals; ..which relates..to their use or non-use in sacrifice. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 204 The wrong use of a thing is far worse than the non-use. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 20 Aug. 5/3 The discussion of the Manchester Ship Canal Bill has suggested..some reflections on the use and non-use of canals.

Non-u·ser. *Law.* Also 8 erron. **-usure.** [NON- 1.] Neglect to use a right, by which it may become void. Also *transf.*

1650 *Abridgm. Coke's Rep.* IX. 340 Admitting that he cannot make a Deputy, this *Non user* is no cause of forfeiture. 1691 T. H[ALE] *Acc. New Invent.* 89 Whose so long Non-user of their power [etc.]. 1709 J. JOHNSON *Clergym. Vade M.* II. cv, Unless they [*sc.* Canons] be antiquated by a long non-usure. 1768 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* III. xvii. 263 A writ of *quo warranto*..lies..in case of non-user or long neglect of a franchise. 1844 WILLIAMS *Real Prop.* (1877) 459 The rights above mentioned may be lost by abandonment, of which non-user for twenty years or upwards is sufficient evidence. 1862 MARSH *Lect. Eng. Lang.* viii. 179 The mere non-user of a word is not likely to be noticed until it has been so long out of currency that [etc.]. 1885 *Law Rep.* 14 Q. B. Div. 203 Such power could not be lost by mere non-user.

† Non-using, *vbl. sb.* [NON- 7.] Non-use.

1533 FAITH *Mirr. to know thyself* B, That the none vsynge of them maye be thy greater damnacyon. 1688 *Vox Cleri Pro Rege* 26 Does their non-using argue a non-Right in them of such a Power, that they may never..make use of it?

Non-va·scular, *a. Anat.* [NON- 3.] Destitute of vessels for the circulation of fluids.

1857 HOLDEN *Hum. Osteol.* 17 Bone so thin as to need no Haversian canals is called 'nonvascular' bone. 1862 SPENCER *First Princ.* II. xiii. § 104 (1875) 302 The low rate of change going on in dry non-vascular tissues, such as those

which form hairs, nails, horns, &c. 1879 *St. George's Hosp. Rep.* IX. 526 Localised non-vascular ulceration of the cornea.

†Non-will, *v. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. NON- 5 + WILL *v.*] *trans.* To will the annihilation of.

1788 *New Lond. Mag.* 434 To nonwill the existence of anything he once willed into being.

†Nonwit. *Sc. Obs. rare*⁻¹. Nonage.

1570 BUCHANAN *Admon.* (S. T. S.) 30 To be to him as curatour and gouernour during all ye tyme of his nonwit.

Non-wo·rker. [NON- 2.] One who does not work. Also **Non-wo·rking** *ppl. a.*

1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* III. 2 The Workers and Non-Workers. *Ibid.* 3 The members of every community may be divided into the..hardworking and the non-working.

Nonyl (nǫ·nil). *Chem.* [f. L. *nōn-us* ninth + -YL.] The ninth in the series of alcohol radicals of the general formula C_nH_{2n+1}. Also *attrib.*

1866 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* IV. 134 *Nonyl.* C^9H^{19}...It is also called Pelargonyl. 1868 *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 10) 632 Nonyl Alcohol, $C_9H_{20}O$. 1872 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* Suppl., *Nonane* or *Nonyl Hydride*, C^9H^{20}.

Hence **No·nylamine** [see AMINE], a compound in which one atom of the hydrogen in ammonia is replaced by nonyl; **No·nylene,** a hydrocarbon produced in the decomposition of lime soap; whence **Nonyle·nic** *a.*; **Nonylic** (nǫni·lik) *a.*, pertaining to or derived from nonyl.

1866 WATTS *Dict. Chem.*, **Nonylamine.* $C^9H^{21}N$. Obtained by the action of ammonia on chloride of nonyl. 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem., Org.* (1862) 247 *Nonylene, or Elaene ($H_{18}C_{18}$ was obtained mixed with hexylene, by Fremy, during the distillation of several fatty acids. 1889 *Watts' Dict. Chem.* II. 431 Ennenoic acid.., *Nonylenic acid. 1866 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* IV. 134 Chloride of Nonyl..when boiled with potash yields hydrate of nonyl, *nonylic or pelargonic alcohol. 1873 *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 11) 689 Nonylic acid is obtained by the action of boiling alcoholic potash on primary octyl cyanide.

Nonys, obs. form of NONCE.

Noodle (nū·d'l), *sb.*¹ [Of obscure origin.] A simpleton, a stupid or silly person.

1753 HAWKESWORTH *Adventurer* No. 25 ₱ 6 The words ninnyhammer, noodle, and numscull, are frequently bandied to and fro betwixt them. 1764 FOOTE *Mayor of G.* II. Wks. 1799 I. 184 To take up at last with such a noodle as he! 1802 *Sporting Mag.* XX. 118 The Buck, who scorns the City Puts, And thinks all rich men noodles. 1826 SCOTT *Woodst.* iii, Thou wouldst..trip, like the noodles of Hogs-Norton, when the pigs play on the organ. 1875 HELPS *Soc. Press.* viii. 113, I say he is a noodle if he has not previously determined how and when to leave off.

Hence **Noo·dle** *v.*, to fool. *rare*⁻¹.

1803 *Censor* 1 Feb. 23 To descend from my grammatical stilts in order to inform her that her mistress has completely noodled her!

Noodle, *sb.*² [a. G. *nudel*, of uncertain etymology.] A strip or ball of dough made with wheat, flour, and eggs, and served in soup. Also *attrib.* in *noodle-soup.*

1779 LADY MARY COKE *Jrnl.* Oct. (1892) III. 243 A noodle soup—this I begged to be explained and was told it was made only of veal with lumps of bread boiled in it. 1850 B'NESS TAUTPHŒUS *Initials* (1853) 139 That's the soup, and the Noodles will be all squashed if you work them up after that fashion. 1859 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer.* (ed. 2), *Noodles,* dumplings or vermicelli. They are used in Pennsylvania, and are made by rolling into very thin sheets the dough, which differs from the Italian preparation by the addition of eggs. *Ibid.*, Noodle-Soup. 1876 M. B. EDWARDS *John & I*, vii. 56 He had almost got reconciled to the frequent recurrence of sausage and noodle soup.

Noo·dledom. [f. NOODLE *sb.*¹ + -DOM.]

1. The world or aggregate of noodles; a collection of noodles.

1810 SYD. SMITH in *Edin. Rev.* XV. 305 These two phrases, the delight of Noodledom, are grown into common-places upon the subject. 1825 — *Wks.* (1859) 417 How impossible it appeared to Noodledom to repeal them! 1867 G. GILFILLAN *Night* viii. 294 A noodledom of blood now governs France. 1878 BROWNING *Poets Croisic* cvi, 'Yes,' you sneer, 'Ninnies stock Noodledom.'

2. Foolishness, stupidity; an instance of this.

1827 *Blackw. Mag.* XXI. 820 It is the most entire piece of noodledom that can be perpetrated. 1837 *Fraser's Mag.* XVI. 640 They are sufficiently bored with the solemn noodledoms of pretension. 1865 *Star* 5 Jan., The noodledom of the magistrates is the one feature of the case.

attrib. 1886 *Athenæum* 23 Jan. 138/2 Mr. Thomson's collection of noodledom stories for the Folk-lore Society.

So **Noo·dledum,** noodledom; a noodle. *rare.*

1826 *Examiner* 727/1 A piece of noodledum that was even attributed to Louis XIV. 1883 HALL CAINE *Cobwebs Crit.* v. 145 Ridiculous..squabbles among the tribes of Noodledums.

Noo·dleism. [f. NOODLE *sb.*¹ + -ISM.]

1. Silliness, stupidity.

1831 *Examiner* 562/2 Written in a congenial strain of noodleism. 1865 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* XXI. v. (1872) X. 90 Some gleams of Kingbood for us under Marlborough:—after whom Noodleism and Somnambulism.

2. A silly action or idea.

1829 *Examiner* 145/2 Lord Eldon .. rose to disavow participation in such extreme noodleisms. 1834 GEN. P. THOMPSON *Exerc.* III. 55 It is manifestly an old-wifery, a noodleism, and all the world for fifty years has held it so.

Nook (nuk), *sb.* Forms: *a.* 3–4 nok, 4–6 noke, 5–7 nooke, 6– nook; 6 noque, 4, 6–7 nouke. *β. north.* and *Sc.* 5–6 nuk, nwke, 5–7, 9 nuke, 6 nucke (9 nuck); 5 noik, 6 nwik, nuike, 6–7, 9 nuik (9 nuick); 6, 8–9 neuk (9 neuck), newk (6 newke), 9 niuk; 8–9 *north.* neak. [Of obscure origin; the early examples are northern, and the word has most dialect currency in the north, but the earliest trace of it appears in Layamon in the adj. *four-nooked.*

The forms prove a ME. *nōk*, to which the only parallel seems to be a Norw. dial. *nōk*, recorded by Aasen & Ross with the sense of 'hook, bent figure, bent or contracted person', etc.; whether this is the same word is very doubtful, although a Scand. origin seems probable. Ir. and Sc. Gaelic *niuc* is clearly from northern or Sc. *neuk, newk.*]

1. A corner of a square or angular thing (such as a piece of cloth or paper), or of a figure bounded by straight lines. Now *rare.*

a. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 19845 A nikel linnen clath four squar ..At nokes four, four listes lang. 13.. *On learning Music* in *Rel. Antiq.* I. 292 Summe notes arn shorte and somme a long noke. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 660 Vchone halched in oþer,..& fyched vpon fyue poyntez,..With-outen ende at any noke. *a* 1440 *Sir Degrev.* 165 He held the lettre by the nooke. 1551 RECORDE *Pathw. Knowl.* I. Def., A cantle.. cutte out with two lynes drawen from the centre to the circumference..if it be not parted from the reste of the circle.. is called a nooke. 1605 VERSTEGAN *Dec. Intell.* (1634) 150 A nooke or corner being in our ancient language called a kant or cantell. 1640 GLAPTHORNE *Wit in a Constable* II. Wks. 1874 I. 189 The custard with the foure and twenty Nooks At my Lord Majors feast. *a* 1795 in Child *Ballads* III. 163/1 In every hand he took a nook Of that great leathern meal[=bag]. 1824 BYRON *Juan* XVI. xxvii, Couch'd all snugly on his pillow's nook, With what he had seen his phantasy he fed. 1897 AUSTIN CLARE *Rise of River* 194 The lamb was slung in the nook of his plaid.

β. c 1520 M. NISBET *N. T.* Acts x. 11 A vessel cummand doun, as a gret schete with iiij newkis. 1583 *Leg. Bp. St. Androis* 819 in *Satir. Poems Reform.* 380 Ten pundis stirling furth he tuike, And knit it in a neapkyn nucke. *a* 1600 [see PLAID 5]. *c* 1800 *Auld Maitland* xxviii. in Scott *Minstr. Border* (1869) 155 He..caught the standard by the neuk. 1826 T. WILSON *Pitman's Pay* (1843) 10 For dishclout serves her apron nuik. 1871 W. ALEXANDER *Johnny Gibb* x. 76 A laddie wi' a tartan plaid.., an' a' 's [=all his] spare claise i' the neuk o't.

b. A corner of a thing regarded as a separate portion; a piece or fragment; a part. Now *rare.*

In early use only in *farthing('s) nook*; in later examples chiefly of a pie or pasty.

c 1300 *Havelok* 820 Al þat he þer-fore tok, With-held he nouth a ferþinges nok. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 5810. 1338 — *Chron.* (1810) 28 Siluer for Southwales not a ferþing noke; Oþer treuage he sette, a þousand kie he toke. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* X. xii. 27 A stane..Qubilk of a montane semyt a gret nuike. 1728 VANBR. & CIB. *Prov. Husb.* II. i, The Nook that's left o' th' Goose Poy. 1819 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* xvii, Thou shalt be welcome to a nook of pasty. 1887 *S. Cheshire Gloss.* s.v., A good nook o' the money was gone.

c. A corner or angular piece of land; a small triangular field; †also, in early use, a certain measure of land (see quot. *a* 1634).

[? *a* 1300 in Madox *Form. Anglic.* (1702) 424 Legavit Christinæ filiæ suæ unam Nocham terræ. 1331 in Blount *Law Dict.* (1670) s.v. *Nok*, Tradidi..Henrico Adams unum mes & unam nokam terræ. *a* 1400 in Dugdale *Monast. Angl.* (1671) II. 331 Unam virgatam terræ..et tres nocas terræ.] 1603 *Laing Charters* (Anderson) 351 Lands..of which..the other portion lies in the 'Conyflett' and is called the 'nuik'. 1606 in *Trans. Cumb. & West. Archæol. Soc.* (N. S.) III. (1903) 153 His gapp or Vaite between the Meare Stone and the Intake Nooke. *a* 1634 NOY *Compt. Lawyer* 57 You must note, that two Fardells of Land make a Nooke of Land, and two Nookes make halfe a Vard of Land. 1665 *Hist. Springfield* (1899) II. 214 There is grannted to Lawrence Bliss Some Small nookes & Strappets of Meddow & Swamp lying in the corners of his meddow. 1753 *MS. Indenture* (Mappleton, Derby), Land..called Tibdale goats nook. 1899 *Cumberld. Gloss.* s.v., A designative term for a small field or farm—Low Wood Nook, High Nook.

†d. One of the 'corners' of the earth. *Obs.*⁻¹

a 1400–50 *Alexander* 4831 3it fand he clouen þurȝe þe clynt twa crasid gatis, Ane to þe noke of þe north, a-nothire to þe est.

e. A point of land running into the sea; a headland or promontory; also, a piece of ground projecting from one division into another and terminating in a point. Now *rare.*

1487 *Barbour's Bruce* IV. 556 (Cambr. MS.), Gif he seis we land ma ta, On Turnberyis nwk [*v.r.* snuke] he may Mak a fyre. 1536 BELLENDEN *Chron., Cosmogr.* vi. (1821) I. p. xxix, Galloway rinnis with ane gret snout of craggis..in the Ireland seis. This snout is callit be the peple the Mulis Nuk. 1577 HARRISON *Descr. Scotl.* iii. in *Holinshed*, As for Galloway it selfe, it yeeldeth out a great point promontory or cape (which the Scots call a Mule or Nuke) into the Irish Sea. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 5 That syde quhilke lyes to ffrance bes twa nuikes, of quhilkes the ane lyes to Kent, the vther to the South. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 323 Britaine heere [in Kent] runneth out with a mightie nooke, or corner into the East, and I haue observed, that such a kind of nooke in Scotland is called, Cantir. 1667 PRIMATT *City & C. Build.* 106 A Platform for two Houses, the ground lying with a Nuke. *Ibid.* 163 Any Map or Plat of ground, if it hath never so many Nukes and Corners, may be reduced into Triangles. 1713 ARBUTHNOT *John Bull* II. iv, He wants my poor little Farm, because it makes a Nook in his Park-wall. 1855 ROBINSON *Whitby Gloss., Neuk*, an angle of a field.

fig. 1671 M. BRUCE *Gd. News* (1708) 48, I trow in stead of Waiting, many a one of us be come to the far nook of our Patience.

2. A corner of a house or other building, of any erection or upright object, of a street, etc. Chiefly *north.* and *Sc.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 17675 Bi nokes four þe hous up hang. *a* 1300 *E. E. Psalter* cxvii. 22 Þe stane whilk biggand forsoke, It es made in heved of þe noke. *c* 1375 *Lay Folks Mass Bk.* (MS. B) 88 þo prest..stands turnande his boke at þo south auter noke. *c* 1520 NISBET *N. T.* Matt. vi. 5 Ypocritis that luvis to pray standand in synagogis and newkis of stretis. 1579 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* III. 189 The inner barmkin of the said hous, and the tour upoun the south nuke of the samin. 1785 BURNS *Ep. W. Simpson* Postscr. v, 'Twas the auld moon turn'd a newk An' out o' sight. 1811 *Sporting Mag.* XXXVII. 131 He offered V.C. a shilling to..shoot at me as I turned a hedge nook. 1851 GREENWELL *Coal-trade Terms, Northumb. & Durh.* 37 *Nook* (*Neuk*).—One of the corners of a working place at the face; also, the corner of a pillar of coal. 1880 WATT *Poet. Sketches* 113 Roun' the first nook we gang he'll be standin'.

3. An interior angle formed by the meeting of two walls or similar boundaries; a corner in a room or other enclosed space.

See also *chimney-nook* (CHIMNEY *sb.* 11) and INGLE-NOOK.

a. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* C. 278 He lurkkes & laytes where was le best, In vche a nok of his nauel. *c* 1440 *Alph. Tales* 91 þis womman layde hur down in a noke of his cell & slepyd. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 3519 þen oute of his bedd noke Fyue vnyons þeyn he toke. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 492 The Statues..were set vp in the cornered nouke of the Comitium at Rome. 1617 FLETCHER *Mad Lover* III. ii, Not a nook of hell, Not the most horrid pit, shall harbour thee. 1725 DE FOE *Voy. round World* (1840) 59, I caused him to be set down in a nook of the cabin. 1812 H. & J. SMITH *Rej. Addr., Tale of Drury Lane,* Forth from thy nook John Horner come. 1822 GALT *Sir A. Wylie* xlix, I'll take a nook in the carriage wi' you as far as the road lies in my way. 1877 MRS. FORRESTER *Mignon* I. 4 There were so many nooks and corners in the..room.

β. c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xviii. (*Egipciane*) 609 Bot of þe ȝard in til a nuke I restyt me. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* II. 372 A rousty suerd in a noik he saw stand. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xxvi. 111 Syne ran a feynd to fecbe Makfad3ane, Far northwart in a nuke. 1575–6 *Durham Depos.* (Surtees) 267 The said Thomas laye in a newke nigh the fier. 1725 RAMSAY *Gentle Sheph.* II. i, A large ham hangs reesting in the neuk. 1787 BURNS *Holy Fair* xx, While some are cozie i' the neuk, And forming assignations. 1802 R. ANDERSON *Cumbld. Ball.* (*c* 1850) 49 My fadder started i' the nuik. 1894 R. REID *Kirkbride* vii. Poems 4 I'll wait for the comin' o' God..In a neuk o' the auld Kirkbride.

b. An out-of-the-way corner in or among buildings or similar surroundings.

a 1352 MINOT *Poems* (ed. Hall) vii. 5 3it in many priue nokes May men find of Merlin bokes. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XVII. 93 Thai..held thame in ane nwke preue, Quhill at the nycht suld passit be. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xi. 44 In a nuke of þe citee es þe bathe of oure Lord. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xx. 33 Be thow not ane roundar in the nwke. *c* 1560 A. SCOTT *Poems* (S.T.S.) iv. 3 Hant nocht in hoile or nuke, To hurt 3our womanheid. 1620 *Nottingham Rec.* IV. 369 Greatte disorder as ther is in divers places.. in nookes and hack sides. *a* 1677 BARROW *Serm.* Wks. 1716 II. 155 As if the King should cause his Edicts to be set up in the blindest and dirtiest nook of the Suburbs. 1785 COWPER *Let. to J. Hill* 25 June, I write in a nook that I call my *boudoir.* 1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* xxxii, Others dragged from some nook the stupified Bonthron. 1852 MRS. STOWE *Uncle Tom's C.* xiv. 121 He would climb to a nook among the cotton-bales of the upper deck.

c. Any small corner or recess. Also *fig.*

a 1400–50 *Alexander* 506 Fast scho flekirs about his fete ..And þar it nestild in a noke as it a nest were. 1576 NEWTON *Lemnie's Complex.* (1633) 92 They that have the nookes and cells of their braine slenderly moist. 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* IV. (Arb.) 106, I doe craue (yf toe prayers as yeet soom nouke be reserued). 1667 MILTON *P. L.* I. 705 A third..bad form'd..A various mould, and from the boyling cells..fill'd each hollow nook. 1721 RAMSAY *Lucky Spence* vi, Ryp ilka pouch frae nook to nook. 1818 SCOTT *Br. Lamm.* v, Shame be in my meal-poke,..and your hand aye in the nook of it! 1851 GOOLD in *Owen's Wks.* VI. 88 No nook of the heart is left unsearched.

d. A place or spot having the character of a recess shut in by rocks, trees, etc.; a secluded or sheltered place among natural scenery.

1555 W. WATREMAN *Fardle Facions* Zj, He vanisshed in a noque of the hille, beynge sonbdenly ouercaste with a cloude. 1581 DERRICKE *Image Irel.* D iij, So do thei [eagles] kepe in wildest Nokes. 1628 WITHER *Brit. Rememb.* II. 1635 Through Nookes, & Corners, she pursu'd the Chase. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IX. 277 As in a shadie nook I stood behind. 1794 COWPER *Needless Alarm* 40 The hasty brook, Struggling, detain'd in many a petty nook. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* I. viii, In the deep Trosachs' wildest nook His solitary refuge took. 1856 STANLEY *Sinai & Pal.* ii. (1858) 141 These trees,..secluded as they are in their retired nooks on the heights of Lebanon. 1873 HAMERTON *Intell. Life* I. v. 29 He explored the whole neighbourhood, looking into every nook and cranny of it.

e. A small or sheltered creek or inlet.

1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* I. (Arb.) 22 Theare stands far stretching a nouke vplandish: an Island..bath framed an hauen. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* I. ii. 227 Safely in harbour Is the Kings shippe, in the deepe Nooke. 1661 *Proclamation Chas. II* 1 The great plenty of Fish, wherewith the..Nooks and Lakes of our Dominions doth abound. 1725 *Portland Papers* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) VI. 116 A large nook or recess in those banks..wbich they are informed by tradition was formerly a Haven. 1884 PAE *Eustace* 8 In a sbeltered nook close under the high bank lay a boat.

4. An outlying, remote, or secluded part of a country, region, etc., or of the world.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxvii. (*Machor*) 658 Hou ma we þane þis word fulfil þat in a nuk here lyis stil. 1536 BELLENDEN *Cron. Scot.* (1821) I. 161 Ve, quhilkis ar heir in the farrest nuik of the warld. 1581 BURNE *Disput.* in *Cath. Tract.* (S.T.S.) 140 He meruellis hou tbat Scotland being bot ane nuke of the varld [etc.]. 1609 HOLLAND *Amm. Marcell.* XXXI. iii. 404 A strange and unknowne kind of people before time,..risen from out of a secret nouke. 1631 BOLTON *Comf. Afft. Consc.* vi. (1635) 37 That thou shouldest bee borne and bred and brought up, in this little neglected

nooke of the world. 1702 C. MATHER *Magn. Chr.* I. vi. (1852) 83 As genteel persons as most that ever visited these nooks of America. 1784 COWPER *Task* II. 207 While yet a nook is left Where English minds and manners may be found. 1842 TENNYSON *The Epic* 9 How all the old honour had from Christmas gone, .. or dwindled down to some odd games In some odd nooks like this. 1878 BROWNING *La Saisiaz* 12 The news of that rare nook Yet untroubled by the tourist.

fig. 1632 MILTON *Penseroso* 90 What vast Regions hold The immortal mind that hath forsook Her mansion in this fleshly nook.

5. *attrib.*, as † **nook-cantle** (see quot.); **nook-rib**, *Arch.* a rib in the corner of a vault; **nook-window**, a window in the corner of a room next the fire-place.

1551 RECORDE *Pathw. Knowl.* I. Def., Sometimes..a cantle is cutte out with two lynes drawen from the centre to the circumference,..and then maie it be called a nooke cantle. 1835 WILLIS *Archit. Middle Ages* 367 Sometimes octagon nook-ribs are used with cylindrical shafts. 1885 HALL CAINE *Shadow of a Crime* 118 They put her in a great armchair and wheeled her into her place by the neuk window.

Nook (nuk), *v. rare.* [f. the sb.] a. *intr.* To hide in a corner. b. *trans.* To chip *off*, so as to form corners. c. To set in a corner; to conceal.

1611 MIDDLETON & DEKKER *Roaring Girl* H, *Haug.* Shall the ambuscado lie in one place? *Curt.* No, nooke thou yonder. 1789 BRAND *Newcastle* II. 681 The hewer first digs as far as he can into the bottom of the stratum; then he nooks or corners off the part measured off. 1840 *Tait's Mag.* VII. 345 The elder tree, growing by the little wicket, or nooked in a corner of the garden. 1899 *Birmingham Daily Post* 29 Apr. (E.D.D.), He heard them talk about 'nooking' the boots, by which he understood they meant to hide them.

Nooked (nukt), *a.* [f. NOOK *sb.*]

1. Having (so many) corners, esp. in *four-nooked*, square, *three-nooked*, triangular. Now *dial.*

c 1205 LAY. 21999 Þer þis water wendeð, is an lutel wiht mære..Feower noked [*c* 1275 Four nokede] he is. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VII. iii. 20 Ne spair thai nocht .. Thair fatale four nukit trunschowris for to eit. 1536 [see FOUR *a.* C. 2]. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* Prol. 4 The Ile almaist is thrie nuiket. *Ibid.* I. 98 Thay far starker do make, four nuiked, of earth only. 1616 *Aberd. Burgh Reg.* (1848) II. 340 To..leave ane four nuikit hoill in the croun of the said voult. 1640 NABBES *Bride* I. iv, A Citty feast with a Ram-mutton pasty, and a twelve nookt custard. 1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* xxxvi, A three-nookit handkercher is the maist fashionable overlay. 1821 — *Kenilw.* xxix, The loss of a four-nooked bit of paper. 1857 J. STEWART *Sketches Scot. Character* 118 Thae shapeless, mony-nookit blocks.

2. Having points, peaks, or corners; angular.

1549 *Compl. Scot.* vi. 54 Sum tyme it [the moon] aperit neukyt, heffand hornis, and sum tyme it vas al rond. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 195 Preistis, cut 3our gowne, 3our nukit bonet put away. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 651 Such variety it hath of nouked bayes. 1632 GUILLIM *Heraldry* III. xx. (ed. 2) 238 By the Beake of an Hawke, is vnderstood the vpper part which is nooked. 17.. RAMSAY *Carle came o'er Croft* ii. (1877) II. 208 A siller broach..To fasten on my curtchea nooked. 17.. — *To Starrat* 13 *ibid.* 276 Lang mayst thou teach, with round and nooked lines, Substantial skill.

Noo·kery. [f. NOOK *sb.* + -ERY.] A snug nook.

1824 in L. M. Hawkins *Mem.* I. 269 In this nookery were to be found..such men as the Rev. Mr. Cracherode, Mr. Southwell [etc.]. 1835 IRVING *Life & Lett.* III. 75 My idea is to make a little nookery somewhat in the Dutch style.

Noo·king. [-ING 1.] A nook, ingle-nook. Current in north. dial. in forms *neukin, newkin, nuikin.*

1865 KNIGHT *Passages Work. Life* II. ix. 183 Cheap literature was not then, as now, to be found in every out-o'-the-way nooking.

Noo·klet. [-LET.] A little nook or corner.

1847 *Tait's Mag.* XIV. 854 Hope from out of some sweet nooklet Of the heart sends forth its lay. 1874 HOLLAND *Mistr. Manse* ii. 20 Every nooklet and retreat..Shall wear a charm.

Noo·k-shaft. *Arch.* [f. NOOK *sb.*] A shaft placed in the internal angle formed by the meeting of two contiguous faces in a compound archway.

1835 WILLIS *Archit. Middle Ages* 36 The archway..consists of three orders of square-edged banded arches, with two interposed nook-shafts. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVI. 275/2 The larger arches below..spring from nook-shafts or slender attached pillars. 1865 STAEET *Gothic Archit. Sp.* 69 There are nook-shafts at the angles.

Noo·k-shotten, *a.* Now *arch.* or *dial.* [f. NOOK *sb.*] Running out into corners or angles.

1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, III. v. 14 A slobbry and a durtie Farme In that nooke-shotten Ile of Albion. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 385/2 Querke, is a nook shoten Pane, or any Pane whose sides and top run out of a square form. *a* 1800 PEGGE *Anecd.* (1814) 391 *Nook-shotten*, spoken of a wall in a bevil, and not at right angles with another wall. [1834 DE QUINCEY *Autobiog. Sk.* Wks. 1853 I. 231 The provinces, to the very furthest nook of these 'nook-shotten' islands.] 1879 MISS JACKSON *Shropsh. Word-bk.* s.v., An old farmer cautioned a certain person against taking a short cut across some fields because the way was very 'neuk-shotten'.

Nooky (nu·ki), *a.* [f. NOOK *sb.* + -Y.] Abounding in nooks; nook-like.

1827 CLARE *Sheph. Cal.* 43 Or race around the nooky church. 1847 LYTTON *Lucretia* ii, Two windows..helped to give that irregular and nooky appearance to the apartment. 1871 MISS MULOCK *Fair France* i. 25 A nooky hollow of blue and white violets.

Noological (nōu,ǫlǫ·dʒikăl), *a.* [See NOOLOGY and -ICAL.] Pertaining to noology.

1811–31 BENTHAM *Logic* Wks. 1843 VIII. 245 The leading words of many ethical, noological, or pathological works. 1816 — *Chrestom.* ibid. 75 By imagination, the idea and practice of logical, noological, metaphysical analysis, was deduced from that of physical.

Noologist (nōu,ǫ·lŏdʒist). [See next and -IST.] One who refers the origin of certain ideas to the mind itself and not to experience.

1857 T. E. WEBB *Intellect. Locke* i. 17 When with reference to 'the origin of the pure cognitions of Reason' Kant divided philosophers into Noologists and Empiricists, he regarded Aristotle as the head of the Empiricists.

Noology (nōu,ǫ·lŏdʒi). [f. Gr. *νόο-s* mind + -LOGY.] The science of the understanding.

1811–31 BENTHAM *Logic* App. Wks. 1843 VIII. 289 The field of the corresponding branch of science may be termed the field of noology. 1816 — *Chrestom.* ibid. 88 Alego-pathematic, or say Alego-aesthetic Pneumatology has for its single-worded synonym the not unexpressive appellation Noology. 1836–7 SIR W. HAMILTON *Metaph.* vii. (1859) I. 123 We have several deservedly forgotten treatises of an older date, under the inviting name of Noologies.

Noomble, obs. form of NUMBLE.

No,o·metry. *nonce-wd.* [f. Gr. *νόο-s* mind + -METRY.] The measurement of mind.

1817 T. L. PEACOCK *Melincourt* I. 184 The same distinction is conferred on all capacities by the academical noometry not of merit but of time.

Noon (nūn), *sb.* Forms: *α.* 1 nón, 2–5 non, 4 noen, 3–6 none, 4–7 noone, 3– noon. *β. north.* and *Sc.* 4 noun(e, nown, 5 novne, nowne, noyn(e; nun, nvne, 7– nune. [OE. *nón* neut. = ON. *nón* (MSw. and Norw. *non*) neut., OS. **nôn* (*noon, nuon*), MDu. (and Du.) *noen*, obs. G. *non* fem., ad. L. *nōna* (sc. *hōra*), fem. sing. of *nōnus* ninth: cf. NONE *sb.* and NONES. A weak fem. form, more directly representing the L., appears in OS. and OHG. *nôna* (MLG. and MHG. *nône*), ON. *nóna*, MDu. *none, noene*: cf. also F. *none*, † *nonne.*]

† 1. The ninth hour of the day, reckoned from sunrise according to the Roman method, or about three o'clock in the afternoon. *Obs.*

Chiefly as a direct rendering of L. *nona* (*hora*), and in later use most frequent in accounts of the Crucifixion.

Beowulf 1600 Da com non dæges: næs ofzeafon hwate Scyldingas. *c* 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* III. v. (Schipper) 204 Þæt hi þy feorðan wicdæge & þy syxtan fæstan to nones. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 140 Sele drincan on þreo tida, on undern, on middæz, on non. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 45 Ic ham 3eue reste .. from non on saterdei a þa cume monedeis lihting. *c* 1275 *Passion our Lord* 478 in *O. E. Misc.* 50 Hit wes welneyh mydday, þo þusternesse com, In alle Middenherde fort þet hit wes non. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 988 He was wroght at vndern tide, At middai eue draun of his side,..þai war hath don out at none. 13.. *Sir Beues* 3237 Þe sonne schon, hit drouȝ to vnder,..Middai com, hit drouȝ te noune. 1382 WYCLIF *Mark* xv. 33 Derknessis ben maad ..til in to the nynthe our, that is, noon. *c* 1420 *Pol. Rcl. & L. Poems* (1866) 277 3et he was in suffryng..Tyl it was pacyd non.

† b. *Eccl.* The hour or office of NONES. *Obs.*

c 960 ÆTHELWOLD *Rule St. Benet* (Schröer 1885) 40 Eornostlice on þysum tidum we herien urne scyppend..,on middæz, on non, on æfen. *a* 1000 *Colloq. Ælfric* in Wr.-Wülcker 101 We..sungon non, *cantauimus nonam*. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 20 Siggeð non efter mete þe hwule þet sumer lested. *c* 1300 *St. Brandan* 225 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 225 Þe foweles sunge ek here matyns..& vnderne sibþe & middai & afterwardes none. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 928 Þey shuld nat werche Lengyr þan þey rong none at þe chyrche. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 41 But late lewid freris seie..for prime, tierce, vndren & noon, for eche of hem seuene pater nostris. *c* 1420 *Anturs of Arth.* xvii, Were thritty trentalles done, By-twyxene vndrone and none, My saule were saluede fulle sone. 1481 CAXTON *Reynard* (Arb.) 10, I haue yete to saye my sexte, none, and myn euensonge. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 164 b, The chirche..entendeth to honour & worshyp at vij tymes in the daye, that is to saye, in matyns,..none, euensonge & complyn. 1561 BP. PARKHURST *Injunctions*, Whether they ..vse muche iangling in festiuall daies in ringing none or curphew.

2. Twelve o'clock in the day; mid-day.

The same change in the time denoted by *noon*, probably due to anticipation of the ecclesiastical office or of a meal-hour, has taken place with Du. *noen*, and with F. *none* in older (and still in dialect) use. By the 14th cent. it appears to have been the ordinar · sense of the word in English, although in many examples there is no clear indication of the time intended. The common phrases *(be)fore noon* and *after noon* have given rise to the sbs. FORENOON and AFTERNOON. *High noon*: see HIGH *a.* 11.

a. c 1205 LAY. 14039 Þa þe non wes icumen, þa weoren Peohtes ouer-cumen..& alle dai heo fluȝen. *c* 1290 *St. Michael* 403 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 311 Þe sonne..is euene a-boue þin heued riȝt aþe nones stounde. *c* 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 890 Bitvene þe none and þe niȝt Last þe batayle. *c* 1391 CHAUCER *Astrol.* II. § 3 From .xl. of the clokke by-forn the howre of noon til on of the clok next folwyng. *c* 1410 HOCCLEVE *Compl. Virg.* 135 O sonne, with thy cleere bemes brighte, þat seest my child nakid this nones tyde. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* xx. xxi. 835 Euery day .. from vnderne tyl hyhe none hys myght encreaced tho thre houres. 1472–3 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 23 The houre of XII, comenly called the houre of none, of the seid fourty day. 1529 CROMWELL in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) I. 324 Whiche I trust shalbe to morow at nyght or wenesday by none. 1565 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 332 Fra sex houris in the morning to XI houris at none, and fra ane eftir none to sex houris at evin. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* II. (1586) 81 b, Before noone when it waxeth hotte..you must digge it. 1625 N. CARPENTER *Geogr. Del.* I. x. (1635) 232 When the one hath his Noone, the other inioyes his mid-night. 1656 HEYLIN *Surv. France* 423 It was full noon before we were under sail. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* IV. 615 'Twas Noon; the sultry Dog-star from the Sky Scorch'd Indian Swains. 1710 STEELE *Tatler* No. 232 ¶ 1 The Noons have been of late pretty warm. 1784 COWPER *Task* VI. 58 Now at noon .. The season smiles,..And has the warmth of May. 1812 WOODHOUSE *Astron.* I. 5 Noon is determined by the Sun being on the meridian. 1836–7 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Scenes* i, We come to the heat, bustle, and activity of Noon. 1863 LONGF. *Wayside Inn, Prel.* 23 But noon and night, the panting teams Stop under the great oaks.

fig. 1819 SHELLEY *Cenci* IV. i. 82 She shall stand shelterless in the broad noon Of public scorn. 1839–52 BAILEY *Festus* 160 Whose hearts have a look southwards, and are open To the whole noon of nature.

β. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XVII. 659 Apon sic maner can thai ficht Quhill it wes neir noyne of the day. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* XL. (*Ninian*) 769 Fasting..fryday fra þe novne til sonday at þe mes be done. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* IX. 81 Or noyn of the day, I dar you hyght, to bryng hym by the hand. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* VII. 611 Be ane our nowne at Bothwell ȝeit he was. 1609 SKENE *Reg. Maj.* 154 It is not lesum to pack, or peill fish, bot fra eleven houres, to twa after nune.

b. *transf.* The most important hour of the day.

1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 454 ¶ 2 The fashionable World, who have made Two a Clock the NOON of the Day. 1848 THACKERAY *Bk. Snobs* XXXV, At the noon of London time you see a light-yellow carriage. 1855 — *Newcomes* VI, It is 5 o'clock, the noon in Pall Mall.

c. The mid-day sun.

1858 SEARS *Athan.* VI. 53 The noon is blazing down upon the Syrian plain.

† 3. The mid-day meal. (Cf. NOONMEAT.) *Obs.*

a 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 231 Me..sceolde..ȝiefe him his formemete, þat him to lang ne þuhte to abiden oð se laford to þe none inn come. *c* 1205 LAY. 16595 Þa þe þridde dæi com & þat folc hafde imaked non. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. V. 378, I ..ouer-seye me at my sopere and some tyme at nones. 1393 — *P. Pl.* C. IX. 290 Let hem abyde..Til alle þyn nedy neihebores haue none ymaked. *a* 1483 *Liber Niger* in *Househ. Ord.* (1790) 56 For hys chambre brekefast, none, soupers & lyvery for all nyght vii loves.

4. The time of night corresponding to mid-day; midnight. Chiefly in phr. (*the*) *noon of night.*

1603 BEN JONSON *Sejanus* V. vi, When arrived you? About the noon of night. 1648 HERRICK *Hesper., The Hag* iii, While mischiefs, .. At noone of Night are a-working. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneid* IV. 744 Hoary simples,..With brazen sickles reap'd at noon of night. 1745 WARTON *Pleas. Melanch.* 50 Nor undelightful is the solemn noon Of night. 1796 MOSER *Hermit Caucasus* I. 21 At the noon of night their ears were assailed by the..sound of a trumpet. 1820 SHELLEY *Witch Atl.* xlvii, When the weary moon was in the wane, Or in the noon of interlunar night. 1830 TENNYSON *Poems* 123 Night hath climbed her peak of highest noon. 1867 JEAN INGELOW *Dreams that came true* xliv, For the moon Was shining in, and night was at the noon.

b. The place of the moon at midnight.

1605 DRAYTON *Man in the Moone* 37 Now the goodly Moone Was in the Full, and at her Nighted Noone. 1632 MILTON *Penseroso* 68 To behold the wandring Moon, Riding neer her highest noon. 1638 QUARLES *Elegies* xiv. Wks. (Grosart) III. 25 The Queen of light,..in her young Noone of night.

5. The culminating or highest point.

c 1600 SHAKS. *Sonn.* vii, Thou, thyself out-going in thy noon, Unlook'd on diest. 1624 DONNE *Serm.* xliii. 429 But the meridianall noone is in faith. 1671 MILTON *Samson* 683 Thou oft Amidst thir highth of noon, Changest thy countenance. 1817 SHELLEY *Rev. Islam* VIII. xxix, In the bright wisdom of youth's breathless noon. 1844 MRS. BROWNING *Drama of Exile* 1960 In the set noon of time, shall one from Heaven..Descend before a woman. 1869 MARTINEAU *Ess.* II. 229 Shadows..deaden the colors of the noon of life.

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *noon-beam, -bell*, etc.; *noon-bright*; *noon-wandering.*

1776 MICKLE tr. *Camoens' Lusiad* 407 The sultry *noon-beam shines the lovers' aid. 13.. *Sir Beues* (A.) 2250 So stod Beues in þat þring, Til *noun belle be-gan to ring. 1858 BONAR *Hymns Faith & Hope* 120 My sky was once *noon-bright. 1656 W. DU GARD tr. *Comenius' Gate Lat. Unl.* 190 Leav a breakfast, & *noon-dinner to labourers. 1468 *Medulla Gram.* in *Promp. Parv.* 361 *note, Antixenia*, a *nonemele. 1578 *Chr. Prayers* in *Priv. Prayers* (1851) 444 That sun of thine..is always at *noon-point with them, ever bright, ever shining. 1538 ELYOT, *Meridiatio*, *noone reste. 1461 *Paston Lett.* I. 540 Yowr letter was delyveryd to me the xxiii. day of Januar abowthe *none seasson. *a* 1646 J. GREGORY *Posthuma* (1650) 300 Of Oxford the Sign-Regent is Capricorn, the *Noonshadows are Heteroscian. 1807 MONTGOMERY *West Indies* IV. (1810) 63 Where the noon shadow shrinks beneath the sun. 1868 WHITTIER *Among Hills* 11 The locust by the wall Stabs the *noon-silence with his sharp alarm. 1671 MILTON *P. R.* II. 156 Many are in each Region passing fair As the *noon Skie. 1820 SHELLEY *Witch Atl.* XLVI, A *noon-wandering meteor flung to heaven.

b. Special combs., as † **noon-devil** (see MERIDIAN *a.* 1 b); **noon-flower**, a name given to plants of the genus *Mesembryanthemum*, and to the Goat's-beard (*Tragopogon pratensis*); † **noon-hall**, ? a dining-hall; **noon-hour**, *U. S.* the hour of dinner or rest in the middle of the day; **noon-line**, the line marking the hour of noon on a sun-dial; **noon-sprite** (cf. *noon-devil* above); † **noon-tender** (see quot. 1684).

1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 30 b, The Scripture warneth us, to beware of the *noone Devill, & the fliynge Arrowe. 1621 MOLLE *Camerar. Liv. Libr.* IV. ii. 265 At this day the Russians feare and reuerence the noone deuil. 1856 DELAMER *Fl. Gard.* (1861) 95 *Noon Flower.—An immense genus of succulents, mostly shrubby. 1864 PRIOR *Plant-n., Noon-flower*, or *Noon-tide*, from its closing at midday, and marking the hour of noon. 1665 PEPYS *Diary*

20 Apr., This night I am told the first play is played in White Hall *noon-hall, which is now turned to a house of playing. 1889 *Charity Organis. Rev.* Aug. 341 He asked a few men to call every day at his *noon hour at the place where he worked. 1596 Blagrave *Vran. Astrolabe* E 3 The *noone-line brought to the sunnes chief Apex. 1669 Sturmy *Mariner's Mag.* VII. iii. 4 The Gnomon..erected upon the Noon-line, or Line of 12 a Clock. 1892 Child *Ballads* IV. 440/2 The Wends have the proverbial phrase, to ask as many questions as a *noon-sprite. 1684 E. Chamberlayne *Pres. St. Eng.* II. (ed. 15) 245 Sixteen *noon-tenders, who attend the goods on the keys whilst the other officers go to dinner. 1710 J. Chamberlayne *St. Gt. Brit.* II. III. 494 Noon-tenders, at 16*l.* each *per Ann.*

Noon (nūn), *v. U. S.* [f. Noon *sb.* Cf. W. Flem. *noenen*, G. dial. *nonen*, Norw. dial. *nona*, *nöna*.] *intr.* (also with *it*.) To halt or rest at noon, or in the middle of the day; to stop for, or partake of, the mid-day meal.

1806 Lewis & Clark *Exped.* (1893) 1061 We arrived.. where we had nooned it on the 12th of Sept. last. 1850 B. Taylor *Eldorado* xix. 135 We nnoned at Sanchez' Ranche. 1880 L. Wallace *Ben-Hur* VII. v. 459 The third day of the journey the party nooned by the river Jabbok.

Noon, obs. form of None.

† **Noon,** obs. aphetic form of Anon.

1462 *Paston Lett.* II. 102 And noon upon thys same langwage, yong Debnam spake to hys fader.

Noonchine, obs. variant of Nuncheon.

Noonday (nūˑndē). [f. Noon *sb.* + Day *sb.* Cf. ONorw. *nóndagr*.]

1. The middle of the day; mid-day.

1535 Coverdale *Job* xi. 17 Then shulde thy life be as cleare as the noone daye. *c* 1586 C'tess Pembroke *Ps.* xxxvii. iv, The glory of noone day. 1660 *Trial Regic.* 53 It is as clear as the Noon-day, that this was not the House of Commons. 1706 E. Ward *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 47 It's Noon-day with them, and they look no farther. 1821 Byron *Heav. & Earth* iii. 917 The pleasant trees that o'er our noonday bent. 1893 Forbes-Mitchell *Remin. Gt. Mutiny* 26 It was clear as noonday to the meanest capacity. *fig.* 1869 Craik *Hist. Eng. Lit.* II. 1 Our national literature..had its noonday in..the last quarter of the sixteenth and the first of the seventeenth century.

b. Freq. in phr. *at* († *the*) *noonday.*

1535 Coverdale 2 *Sam.* iv. 5 He laye vpon his bed at the noone daie. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* VI. 317 As may be seine ouer all cleirer than the sone at Nune day. 1651 H. L'Estrange *Answ. Mrq. Worc.* 12 [That] we must not walk abroad at high noon-day without a Torch. 1700 T. Brown *Lett. fr. Dead* 234 My *Minor* is as plain as the Sun at Noon-day. 1780 Cowper *Progr. Err.* 451 Judgment drunk,..Winks hard, and talks of darkness at noon-day. 1850 Marsden *Early Puritans* (1853) 141 Prisons in .. which he could not see his hand at noonday. 1867 Trollope *Chron. Barset* I. iv. 31 That he was not a thief was as clear to her as the sun at noonday.

† **c.** So *At noondays. Obs.*

1537 Latimer *Serm. Convocation* A vij b, They are to be lyghted with waxe candelles,..yea at noone dayes. 1574 G. Harvey *Letter-bk.* (Camden) 66 Is it not cleerer than the sun at noondayes. 1611 Cotgr. s.v. *Midi*, He that looks for night at noone-dayes may well be tearmed mad, or blind.

2. *attrib.*, as *noonday comfort, dream, light,* etc.; † **noonday devil** (see Noon *sb.* 6 b).

1651 Jer. Taylor *Serm. for Year* II. 350 At this day some of the Russians fear the Noon-day Devil. 1656 Earl Monm. tr. *Boccalini's Advt. fr. Parnass.* 80 The noon-day comfort of a great Tree standing in his Court-yard. 1674 *Ch. & Crt. of Rome* 5 In this Noon-day Light of Christian Knowledge. 1712 Addison *Spect.* No. 441 ¶ 11 My Noon-day Walks he shall attend. 1781 Cowper *Charity* 398 Di'monds..Reflect the noon-day glory of the skies. 1791 Burke *Let. to Member Nat. Assembly* Wks. VI. 20 The then noon-day splendour of the civilized world. 1815 Shelley *Alastor* 420 The noonday sun Now shone upon the forest. 1820 — *Cloud* 4, I bear light shade for the leaves when laid In their noonday dreams. 1873 'Ouida' *Pascarèl* I. 69 They would run out..to fetch me a noonday meal of coffee..and little patties.

Noone, obs. f. None, Noon, Nun. **Noonery,** obs. f. Nunnery. **Noones,** obs. f. Nonce.

Nooning (nūˑniŋ). Also 5 noynyng. [f. Noon *sb.* + -ing[1] 1.]

1. Noontide. Now *U. S.*

c 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xxiv. 65 He has myster of nyghtys rest that nappys not in noynyng.

1880 L. Wallace *Ben-Hur* VII. iv. 379 And so to them the nooning came, and the evening.

2. A noonday meal. Now *dial.* and *U. S.*

a 1652 Brome *Mad Couple* v. ii, Seaven constant ordinaries every night, Noonings, and intermealiary Lunchings. 1695 Kennett *Par. Antiq.* Gloss. s.v. *Ad Nonam*, A great piece, enough to serve for a nooning or dinner of any common eater. 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 72 ¶ 3 If he be disposed to take a Whet, a Nooning, an Evening's Draught, or a Bottle after Midnight. 1797 R. Gurney in A. J. C. Hare *Gurneys* (1895) I. 71 Kitty would not let us go to nooning till we had finished a lesson we were about. *a* 1833 J. T. Smith *Bk. for Rainy Day* (1845) 260 At this time the servant announced Nooning. 1849 Mrs. Rundell *Dom. Cookery* Pref. p. xii, Where noonings or suppers are served, care should be taken [etc.]. 1880 'Mark Twain' *Tramp Abroad* ii. 18 A German gentleman and his two young lady daughters had been taking their nooning at the inn.

3. A rest or repose at noon. Now *U. S.*

1552 Huloet, Noonynge, or noone rest, *meridiatio.*

1850 Lowell *Lett.* I. 193, I mean to take a nooning and lie under the trees looking at the sky. 1883 Rollins *New Eng. Bygones* 94 The noonings were bright features of a haying landscape.

b. *U. S.* An interval in the middle of the day, esp. for rest or food.

1865 *Reader* 12 Aug. 172/3 In the 'nooning', as it is called in New England—that is, in the space between Sunday morning and afternoon services. 1884 *Harper's Mag.* Nov. 830/2 The workmen, during their noonings, show equal interest.

4. *attrib.*, as *nooning-meal, -place.*

1865 Mrs. Whitney *Gayworthys* v. (1879) 52 The simple nooning meal, that needed intervention of neither knife nor fork, was eaten. 1884 J. G. Bourke *Snake-Dance Moquis* viii. 77 [He] confirmed this story by telling another of a sorcerer killed near this very nooning-place.

Noo'n-light. [f. Noon *sb.* + Light.] The light of noon; the brightest or clearest light of the day. Also *fig.*

1598 Barckley *Felic. Man* v. (1603) 421 A spirit not onely of the day, but also of noone-light. 1645 Rutherford *Tryal & Tri. Faith* (1845) 269 The noon-light that is in the great body of the sun. *a* 1672 P. Sterry *Freed. Will* (1675) 205 The Noon-Light of Knowledge is the sight of things in their eternal Ideas. 1810 Montgomery *Bolehill Trees* Poems 125 Through the blue dazzling distance of noon-light. 1845 Whittier *Lines* 1 With a cold and wintry noon-light. 1861 Dora Greenwell *Poems* 64 Within the noon-light Of one illimitable Present.

† **Noonmeat.** *Obs.* Forms: 1 nónmete; 4–5 none mete (5 nun, nvne), 6 none, noone meat(e. [f. Noon *sb.* + Meat *sb.* Now represented in dial. by Nammet and Nummet.] A meal taken at noon, a luncheon.

a 1000 *Sal. & Sat.* lix, On xii monðum ða scealt sillan ðinum þeowan men vii hund hlafa, and xx hlafa, huton morgenmetum, and nonmetum. *c* 1000 *Ælfric's Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 147 *Merenda*, nonmete. *a* 1400 *Gloss.* in *Rel. Antiq.* I. 6 *Merenda*, nonemete. 1428–9 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* (1904) 71 Also payd for þe none mete on þe morwe of iij carpenters & ij plomers, a sholdere & a brist of moton. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 360/2 Nunmete, *merenda*. 1495 *Act* 11 *Hen. VII*, c. 22 § 4 Laborers .. longe sitting at ther brekfast at ther dyner and nonemete. 1548 Thomas *Ital. Gram.*, *Merenda*, breakefast, or noone meate. 1591 Percivall *Sp. Dict.*, *Mcrendar*, to take the noonemeat.

Noonshun, obs. form of Nuncheon.

Noonstead. *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Forms: 6–7 noonestead (6 -steede, 7 -sted), 6 none-, noon-steed, 6– noonstead. [f. Noon *sb.* + Stead *sb.*] The station or position of the sun at noon.

1559 *Mirr. Mag.* (1563) P iij, Pale Cinthea..was past the Noonesteede syxe degrees in sight. 1598 Drayton *Heroic. Ep.* (1695) 127 The worlds great light .. Would at our Noon-stead ever make aboad. 1612 J. Davies *Muse's Sacr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 83/2 The Sunne..stands..fixt in the Noone-stead of Eternities. 1670 Flamsteed in Rigaud *Corr. Sci. Men* (1841) II. 77 The moon was scarce an hour removed from the noonstead. 1876 *Mid Yorksh. Gloss.* s.v. *Folkstead.*

attrib. 1551 Recorde *Cast. Knowl.* (1556) 22 A circle.. whiche is called therefore the Meridiane circle, and may be named well the Noone steede cyrcle. 1601 Holland *Pliny* I. 191 In the 12 tables of Romane lawes, there is no mention at all made but of East and West; after certain yeres the noon-stead point in the South quarter also was observed.

Hence † **Noo'nsteading,** the time of coming on the meridian.

1570 Dee *Math. Pref.* 42 Foreseeing the Rising, Settyng, Nonestedyng..of certaine..fixed Sterres.

Noon-sun. [f. Noon *sb.* + Sun *sb.*] The sun at its meridian.

1601 Holland *Pliny* I. 372 By the reflection of the beames of the Noon-sun. 1626 Bacon *Sylva* § 898. 19 In Making of Vinegar, they .. set Vessels of Wine over against the Noone-sunne. 1846 Prowett *Prometh. Bound* 3 Roasted in the noon-sun's glare. 1872 Tennyson *Gareth & Lynette* 619 Morning-Star, and Noon-Sun, and Evening-Star.

Noontide (nūˑntəid). Forms: 1–2 nóntid; 4 nonetyde, 6 -tyd; 6–7 noonetide, 6 -tyd; 6– noontide. [OE. *nóntíd* = MDu. *noentijt* (*-tide*, also *noene-*, *none-*; Du. *noentijd*), MHG. *nôn(e)-zît* (G. *none-*, *nonzeit*), MSw. *nonstidh*: see Noon *sb.* and Tide *sb.*]

1. The time of noon; in later use, mid-day.

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 47 Þriddan siþe on midne dæg, feorþan siþe on nontid, fiftan siþe on æfen. *c* 1000 in Assmann *Ags. Hom.* (1889) xi. 65 Sona swa hy þæt helltacen ʒehyrað þære niʒoðan tide, þæt is seo nontid. 1154 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1140, Þer efter..þestrede þe sunne & te dæi abuton non tid dæies þa men eten. *c* 1325 *Orfeo* 457 A morewe at the none-tyde He made the quene there abyde. *a* 1440 *Sir Eglam.* 364 Ageynys the none-tyde, Yn a foreste there he can ryde. 1576 Fleming *Panopl. Epist.* 409 All noontide to solace yourself in the refreshing shadowe. *c* 1586 C'tess Pembroke *Ps.* cii. xiii, Turne not to night the noonetide of my day. 1625 N. Carpenter *Geogr. Del.* I. x. (1635) 223 The Sunne at Noonetide is alwayes on the South of those which dwell vnder the Arcticke Circle. 1675 Dryden *Epil. Crowne's Calisto*, Whose morning rays like noontide strike and shine. 1768 Beattie *Minstr.* I. xlvii, Dark even at noontide is our mortal sphere. 1796–7 Coleridge *Lines Autumnal Even.* vi, To shield my love from noontide's sultry beam. 1844 Mrs. Browning *Drama of Exile* 625 The noontide's hush and heat and shine. 1868 Miss Braddon *Dead Sea Fr.* I. 20 In the blazing July noontide.

b. *attrib.*, as *noontide sun*, etc.

1593 Shaks. 3 *Hen. VI*, I. iv. 34 Now Phaeton hath.. made an Euening at the Noone-tide Prick. 1610 — *Temp.* v. i. 42 By whose ayde..I haue bedymn'd The Noone-tide Sun. 1667 Milton *P. L.* II. 309 Still as Night, Or Summer's Noon-tide air. *Ibid.* IV. 246 Where the unpierc't shade Imbround the noontide Bowrs. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* III. 233 Mossy Caverns for their Noontide Lare. 1725 Pope *Odyss.* IV. 548 Th' enormous herd..taints the noon-tide gales. 1781 Cowper *Truth* 540 The splendour of a noon-tide ray. 1810 Scott *Lady of L.* III. vii, Of noontide hag, or goblin grim. 1865 Baring-Gould *Werewolves* viii, Some reapers lay down in the field to take their noontide sleep.

2. a. *transf.* The middle *of* night; the position *of* the moon at midnight.

c 1560 A. Scott *Poems* (S.T.S.) iv. 66 Sum monebrunt madynis myld, At nonetyd of the nicht. 1823 Byron *Juan* XII. lxiii, The noontide of the moon. 1847 De Quincey *Secr. Soc.* Wks. 1863 VI. 244 Meeting in secret chambers, at the noontide of night.

b. *fig.*, esp. the culminating point *of* something.

1578 *Chr. Prayers* in *Priv. Prayers* (1851) 506 O noontide of fervent love. 1649 T. Ford *Lusus Fort.* 78 Whose eyes, in the noone-tide of the Gospell, are wandring about in every corner. 1680 *Life Edward II* in *Select. fr. Harl. Misc.* (1793) 30 Making the noon-tide of his sovereignty full of tyrannical oppressions. 1823 Lamb *Elia* Ser. II. *Poor Relations*, A Poor Relation—is..a preposterous shadow, lengthening in the noontide of your prosperity. 1876 Morris *Sigurd* I. 2 His dawning of fair promise, and his noontide of the strife.

3. The Noon-flower or Goat's-beard. ? *Obs.*

1597 Gerarde *Herbal* (1636) 736 Goats-beard is called..in English..Noon-tide, and Go to bed at noone. 1640 Parkinson *Theat. Bot.* 413 *Tragopogon*..in English Goates beard ..or Noone tide. 1864 in Prior *Plant-names.*

Noon-time. Now *rare.* [f. Noon *sb.* + Time.] = Noontide.

1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xv. 278 Antony a dayes about none tyme, Had a bridde that brouʒte hym bred. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 563 Fra þe none tyme Till it to mydday was meten. *a* 1450 *Fysshynge w. Angle* (1883) 19 Mony poyl fysche wyl bytte beste yn none tyme.

1883 *Harper's Mag.* Aug. 371/2 At noontime all Germans had assembled.

Noop[1] (nūp). *north. dial.* Also 8 knupe, 9 knope. [Of obscure origin: cf. *knout-* Knotberry and Nub-berry.] The fruit of the Cloudberry, *Rubus Chamæmorus.* Also *attrib.*

a 1800 R. W. *Cheviot* (1817) 3 The little hills the humble knupes produce. 1843 *M. A. Richardson's Borderer's Table-bk., Leg. Div.* I. 403 (Cloudberry)—whose orange fruit is locally called 'noops'. 1859 W. White *Northumbld.* 355 The shepherds call them knout, or knope-berries.

Noop[2]. *Sc. rare*[−1]. [? Cf. Norw. dial. *knōp* knuckle, short bone.] The point of the elbow.

1818 Scott *Hrt. Midl.* xvii, A'body has a conscience...I think mine's as weel out o' the gate as maist folk's are; and yet it's just like the noop of my elbow, it whiles gets a bit dirl on a corner.

† **Noo'rie.** *Obs. rare.* Also noorrie. [var. of Nourry.] A fosterling.

1567 Turberv. *Epit.*, etc. 60 The nymph..in hir armes the naked noorie strainde; Whereat the boy began to strive a good. 1567 — *Ovid's Epist.* X iij b, Ne was I then so proude..: ne I my selfe king Priams noorie knewe.

Noorse, dial. variant of Nurse.

Nooscopic (nōʊˌskɒˑpik), *a.* and *sb.* [f. Gr. *νόο-s* mind + -scopic.] **a.** *adj.* Pertaining to the examination of the mind. **b.** *sb. pl.* = Noology.

1816 Bentham *Chrestom.* Wks. 1843 VIII. 88 Division of Pneumatology into Alegopathematic (Nooscopic) and Pathematoscopic (Pathoscopic). *Ibid.* 90 Division of Nooscopics or Noology into Plasioscopic and Cœnonesioscopic.

Noose (nūs), *sb.* Also 7–8 nooze. [Of obscure origin: in common use only since 1600. If quot. *a* 1450 belongs here, it may be a. OF. *nos, nous, nuz*, etc. (:—L. *nodus*), nom. sing. of *no, neu, nu*, etc. (:—L. *nodum*), later *noud*, mod. *nœud*. Prof. Skeat suggests that the equivalent Prov. *nous* may have been the source (*Notes Eng. Etym.* 198).]

1. A loop, formed with a running knot, which tightens as the string or rope is pulled, as in a snare, lasso, hangman's halter, etc.; a loop, a folding or doubling of a string or rope. *Running noose*: see Running *ppl. a.*

a 1450 *Fysshynge w. Angle* (1883) 8 Double the lyne & frete hyt fast yn þe top with a nose [1496 bowe] to fasten an your lyne.

1600 Holland *Livy* XXXVIII. xxix. 1001 It went..away, as sent and driven out of the noose of a stone-bow. 1610 — *Camden's Brit.* I. 293 To lay grins for birds, to set snares to allure them with nooze or pipe. 1680 Moxon *Mech. Exerc.* x. 188 On this Crook is slipt the Noose of a Leather Thong. 1735 Somerville *Chase* IV. 80 Behind he lags, doom'd to the fatal Noose. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) III. 86 The hunter..fixes a noose round the horns of the tame gazelle. *Ibid.* VII. 151 The sportsman..fastens his nooze round its neck. 1808 Pike *Sources Mississ.* (1810) App. III. 42 They will catch another horse with a noose and hair rope, when both are running full speed. 1842 Tennyson *St. Sim. Styl.* 64, I wore The rope..Twisted as tight as I could knot the noose. 1881 Jowett *Thucyd.* I. 145 The Plataeans dropped nooses over the ends of these engines and drew them up.

transf. 1812 [see Noose *v.* 1]. 1826 S. Cooper *First Lines Surg.* (ed. 5) 456 When this viscus is a noose of intestine. 1859 FitzGerald *Omar Khayyám* i, The Hunter of the East has caught The Sultán's Turret in a Noose of Light.

b. In references or allusions to hanging.

1663 Butler *Hud.* I. ii. 116 Where the Hangman does dispose To special friends the Knot of Noose. 1813 Scott *Rokeby* VI. xvii, He..looked as if the noose were tied, And I the priest who left his side.

2. *fig.* a. The marriage tie.

c 1600 *Timon* II. iv. (1842) 33 Wilt thou putte thy necke Into a marriage nooze? 1609 B. Jonson *Sil. Wom.* II. i, [They] desire that you would sooner commit your grave head to this knot, than to the wedlock nooze. 1693 Dryden *Juvenal* (1697) 118 To choose to thrust his Neck into the Marriage Noose! 1709 Steele *Tatler* No. 77 ¶ 4 Your Marriage-Haters, who rail at the Noose. 1746 Smollett

Advice 6 Divorc'd, all hell shall not re-tie the noose! 1826 T. I. Wharton in *Pa. Hist. Soc. Mem.* I. 112 They are usually married before they are 20 years of age; and when once in that noose, are for the most part a little uneasy.

b. A snare or bond.

1624 Fletcher *Rule a Wife* III. iv, Am I trickt now? Caught in mine own nooze. 1652 Tatham *Scotch Figgaries* IV. i, I fall Into the noose of taverns like a pigeon. *a* 1687 H. More in Norris *Lett.* 181 Methinks you run yourself into an unnecessary noose of Fatality. 1800 Weems *Life Washington* ix. (1877) 102 To choke the colonies by a military noose.

Noose (nūs), *v.* Also 7 nooze. [f. the sb.]

1. *trans.* To secure as by a noose; to ensnare.

?*c* 1600 *Distr. Emperor* v. i. in Bullen *O. Pl.* III. 240 Am I then noosd!..am I lymed! 1665 Manley *Grotius's Low C. Wars* 547 He endeavours by this League..to noose as many of us as he can. 1694 Crowne *Regulus* IV. 37 Pox o' your tricks, you have noos'd me. 1710 Palmer *Proverbs* 127 He, that loves at first sight, nooses himself by vows. 1765 Foote *Commissary* III. i, When once he is noos'd, let him struggle as much as he will, the cord will be drawn only the tighter. 1812 W. Taylor in *Monthly Mag.* XXXIV. 235 Her from the noose of death I freed, And noos'd her soul for aye. 1865 Carlyle *Fredk. Gt.* V. xix. vi. 557 Amherst..is diligently noosing, and tying up, the French military settlements.

b. In allusions to marriage.

1700 T. Brown tr. *Fresny's Amusem.* vii. Wks. 1709 III. 60 Those who are not Noos'd in the Snare, will thank me for giving a Comical Description of it [*sc.* marriage]. 1771 Smollett *Humph. Cl.* 18 July, I. P 5 Where there was a parson who dealt in this branch of commerce, and there they were noosed, before the Irishman ever dreamt of the matter. 1813 *Examiner* 17 May 319/1 When I was noosed, my father began to equivocate. 1821 Combe *Syntax, Wife* v, On the third or fourth day after: They were both noos'd in Hymen's garter.

2. To hang; to put to death by hanging.

1673 R. Head *Canting Acad.* 192 If they catch him horse-coursing, he's noozed. 1676 Shadwell *Libertine* IV, Oh! I am noos'd already; I feel the Knot, methinks, under my left ear. 1686 F. Spence tr. *Varillas' Ho. Medicis* 127 This unfortunate Prelate was noos'd up in the pontifical robes he happened to have on. 1809 Scott *Poacher* 16 Our huckskinn'd justices expound the law,..And for the netted partridge noose the swain.

3. To catch or capture by means of a noose; to cast or put a noose round.

1748 *Anson's Voy.* I. vi. 66 In the same manner they noose horses, and..even tygers. 1784 Cowper *Task* IV. 462 Oh for a law to noose the villain's neck Who starves his own. 1808 Pike *Sources Mississ.* (1810) II. 159 We equipped six of our fleetest coursers with riders and ropes, to noose the wild horses. 1843 Marryat *M. Violet* xxi, G. had.. noosed the animal with his lasso. 1885 Hornaday 2 *Yrs. in Jungle* xxxi. 369 Trying to noose a deer.

transf. 1823 Lockhart *Sp. Ballads, Zara's Earrings* iv, Some other lover's hand, among my tresses noosed.

4. To make a noose on (a cord); to place *round* in a noose; to arrange like a noose or loop.

1814 Scott *Ld. of Isles* V. xxv, 'He plays the mute.' 'Then noose a cord.' *a* 1860 Alb. Smith *Med. Student* (1861) 92 A piece of whipcord is then noosed round the victim's neck. 1886 *Athenæum* 27 Feb. 303/2 The sleeves are noosed and laced over the shoulder and arm.

Hence **Noosed** (nūst), *ppl. a.*; **Noo·sing** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1624 Capt. Smith *Virginia* VI. 231 Bradford was suddenly caught by the leg in a *noosed Rope. 1859 Tennent *Ceylon* II. IX. iv. 473 No arms or apparatus of any kind, except a noosed rope. 1818 Scott *Br. Lamm.* xxi, I am going to let you into a secret—a plot—a *noosing plot. 1835 W. Irving *Tour Prairies* 310 Finding it impossible to get within noosing distance. 1840 Hood *Kilmansegg, Marriage* V, There's nothing so draws a London moh As the *noosing of very rich people. 1878 Jefferies *Gamekeeper at H.* 163 Here the art of noosing lingers; the loop being..slipped over the bird's head while at roost.

Noos(e, obs. forms of Nose.

Noosel(l, variants of Nuzzle, to train.

Nooser (nū·səɹ). [f. Noose *v.*] One who uses a noosed rope, *esp.* for catching elephants.

1859 Tennent *Ceylon* II. VIII. v. 357 The headman of the 'cooroowe' or noosers crept in. 1885 Hornaday 2 *Yrs. in Jungle* xx. 222 The tame elephants and the noosers are introduced at the gate.

Noost, variant of Nost, knowest not. *Obs.*

Noo·sy, *a. rare*—1. [f. Noose *sb.* + -y 1.] Acting like a noose.

1658 Franck *Northern Mem.* (1821) 96 Yet are their rivers and rivulets replenished with trout because undisturbed with the noosy net.

Noot, var. of Not, knows not. *Obs.* **Noote**, obs. f. Note. **Nooze**, obs. f. Noose *sb.* and *v.* **Noozel**, var. of Nuzzle, to train.

†**Nop**, obs. north. and Sc. form of Nap *sb.*3 Hence **nop-bed**, **nop-sack** [= MDu. and MLG. *noppensack*], a bed or sack stuffed with nap.

a. 1465 *Acc. Rolls Durham* (Surtees) 243 Item j fedyrbed. ..Item iiij nopsekez. 1472 *Ibid.* 246, j nopseke. 1478 *Act. Audit.* (1839) 67 The ruf of a bed, þe courtingis of þe samyn, a nop sek. 1541 *Aberd. Reg.* (1844) I. 175 Ane nop seke.., quhilk scho lay vpoune.

b. 1477 *Aberd. Reg.* (1844) I. 408 Ane pair of schetis, ane nop bed, a bowster. 1541 *Ibid.* 175 Ane standand bed, ane nop bed, ane pair of scheittis.

Nopal (nōu·păl). [a. Sp. *nopal* (also Pg. and F.; It. *nopale*), ad. Mexican *nopalli* cactus.

The compound *nopalnocheztli*, given in some Dicts. as the source of *nopal* or *Nopalea*, is really the name for cochineal.]

1. An American species of cactus (*Opuntia* or *Nopalea cochinellifera*) cultivated for the support of the cochineal-insect.

1730 Rutty in *Phil. Trans.* XXXVI. 265 These Pastles are then placed upon the Plants of the Nopal, or Prickly Indian Fig. 1783 Justamond tr. *Raynal's Hist. Indies* III. 351 This shrub, which is know'n by the name of nopal, or Indian fig, is about five feet high...There are several species of nopal. 1851 Mayne Reid *Scalp-Hunt.* i. 14 It is a forest of the Mexican nopal. 1876 *Encycl. Brit.* IV. 626/2 Plantations of the nopal and the tuna, which are called nopaleries.

attrib. 1808 *Naval Chron.* XXII. 376 The Nopal Plantations in his district. 1855 Kelly tr. *Cervantes' Exempl. Novels* 241 Seated together under a nopal-tree. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 187/2 *O. cochinellifera*, the Nopal plant.

2. A plant of this kind.

1808 *Naval Chron.* XXII. 377 The Nopals being agreeably acid. 1832 MacGillivray *Trav. Humboldt* vi. 81 The negro..led them through a wood of nopals to the hut of an Indian. 1861 Hulme *Moquin-Tandon* II. III. i. 73 A certain number of nopals are planted around the houses.

Nopalry (nōu·pălri). Also -ery. [f. Nopal + -ry, after Sp. *nopalera*, F. *nopalerie*, *nopalière*.] A plantation of nopals where the cochineal-insect is bred.

a. 1783 Justamond tr. *Raynal's Hist. Indies* III. 352 A spot thus planted, and distinguished by the name of Nopalry, is usually no more than one or two acres in extent. 1789 J. Anderson *Corr. Introd. Cochineal Insects* (1791) 4 The establishment of a public Nopalry. 1861 Hulme tr. *Moquin-Tandon* II. III. i. 75 In 1853, in the province of Algiers alone, there were fourteen nopalries.

β. 1815 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* I. x. 323 They plant their nopaleries in cleared ground on the slopes of mountains or ravines. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 792/2 Plantations for rearing the cochineal insect..are called nopaleries. 1876 [see Nopal 1].

Nop-bed: see Nop.

Nope1 (nōup). Also 7 nowpe, noap. [app. a var. of Alp, Olp: see N 3.] The bullfinch.

1611 Cotgr., *Chochepierre*, a kind of Nowpe, or Bullfinch. 1612 Drayton *Poly-olb.* xiii. 74 The Red-sparrow, the Nope, the Red-breast, and the Wren. 1655 Moufet & Bennet *Health's Improv.* (1746) 185 The Nope feedeth upon Mast, Nuts, and Cherries. 1678 Ray *Willughby's Ornith.* 247 The Bullfinch, Alp or Nope. [Hence in various later works.] 1848 *Zoologist* VI. 2191 In Warwickshire, as elsewhere,..the bullfinch [is] a 'nope'. 1879– in dial. glossaries, esp. West Midland and E. Anglian.

attrib. 1668 in T. C. Smith & J. Short *Hist. Ribchester* (1890) 110 To Richard Ward for 13 Noap heades.

Nope2 (nōup). *north. dial.* Also 9 noap(e. [See note to Nolp *sb.*] A knock on the head.

1725 *New Cant. Dict., Nope*, a Blow, a Knock on the Pate. 1785 W. Hutton *Bran New Wark* 157 In some churches the sidesmen gang about with staaves, and give ivvery sleeper a good nope. 1869– in northern glossaries.

Noppe, obs. f. Knop; obs. var. of Nap *sb.*3 and *v.*2 **Nopping**, obs. f. Napping *vbl. sb.*2 **Noppy**, obs. f. Nappy *a.* **Noppyd**, obs. f. Napped *a.* **Nop-sek(e**: see Nop.

†**No·pster.** *Obs.*—1 [a. MDu. *nopster*, f. *noppen* Nap *v.*2] A woman who puts a nap on cloth.

c 1481 Caxton *Dialogues* 33 Clarisse the nopster Can well her craft..Cloth for to noppe.

Noquar, -quer, -qwer(e, obs. forms of Nowhere. **Noque**, obs. f. Nook *sb.*

Nor (nōɹ), *conj.*1 [probably a contraction of Nother, like the equivalent OFris. *noer* for *noder*.] A negative conjunction employed as follows:—

1. Continuing the force of a negative (as *not*, *never*, etc.) attached to some word in the preceding clause, and extending it to the corresponding word which follows.

13.. *Cursor M.* 7361 (Gött.), I here noght of þat iesse tel, Nor his sonis ne him i knaw. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 316 þis mysty god..is of a medill age, Noȝt of ȝouth nor of eld nor ȝerris to many. *c* 1440 *Alph. Tales* 6, I may not ete your benys nor your cale. *c* 1460 Fortescue *Abs. & Lim. Mon.* xiv. (1885) 144 The kynge shalnot be greved be importunite of suytours, nor thai shall..optayne any vnresonable desires. 1538 Starkey *England* I. iv. 126 Wherfor to pyl theyr cuntreys for thys purpos, ys not just nor resonabul. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* I. iii. 11 She could not heare, nor speake, nor understand. 1622 Wither *Philarete* (1633) 617 No others high degree, Nor beauteous looke shall change me. 1688 Holme *Armoury* III. 251/2 It is said of the French that they Speak not as they Write, nor Write as they Speak. 1740 Richardson *Pamela* I. xxv. 30 Is there no Constable nor Headborough, tho', to take me out of his House? 1766 Goldsm. *Vic. W.* i, We had no revolutions to fear, nor fatigues to undergo. 1821 Scott *Pirate* Adv., The inhabitants..not possessing arms nor means of resistance. 1870 Gladstone *Glean.* (1879) IV. 252 Not a vessel, nor a gun, nor a man, were on the ground to prevent their landing.

†b. Followed by another negative. *Obs.*

13.. *Cursor M.* 6788 (Gött.), [To] wydw, na child fadirless, Do ȝe na wrang nor na maless. *c* 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 1, I haue not ben, nor is, nor neuer schal,..to sei any þing aȝen þe general feiþ. *c* 1440 *Alph. Tales* 6, I may not eate your benys.., nor I may not drynk your thyn ale. 1509 Fisher *Funeral Serm. C'tess Richmond* Wks. (1876) 298 It is not loked for.., nor none abydynge stroke..falleth vpon them. 1568 Grafton *Chron.* II. 130 No man was called to aunswere, nor no question put vnto any person by the sayd enquest. 1598 Grenewey *Tacitus, Ann.* XIII. iv. (1622) 183 He could lay no iust cause against him, nor openly durst not commaund the murdering of his brother. 1668 Marvell *Corr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 263 Wise..he saith hath not yet bin with him, nor dares not. 1739 Chesterf. *Lett.* XXV. (1792) I. 92 It requires no rhymes nor no certain number of feet or syllables. *a* 1774 Goldsm. *Hist. Greece* I. 224 No skill could obviate, nor no remedy dispel the terrible infection.

†c. Following upon *as*...*so*. *Obs. rare.*

1548 Udall, etc. *Erasm. Par. Acts* 29 b, Lyke as the Israelites perceyued not this in Iesus, euen so nor than dyd they vnderstande that in Moyses. 1657 Mossom *Preacher's Tripartite* I. 17 As I look not upon my merit, so nor do thou look upon my demerit.

2. a. As correlative to a preceding *neither*, *nother*, or *nouther*. (For examples see these words.)

b. Introducing both alternatives. Chiefly *poet.*

1576 Gascoigne *Steele Gl.* (Arb.) 59 How many pore (which nede nor brake nor hit) Might therwith al..be fedde. 1591 Shaks. *Two Gent.* v. iv. 80 Who by Repentance is not satisfied, Is nor of heauen, nor earth. 1615 Day *Festivals* xii. 338 Nor Papists with their Miracles, nor Puritans with their Presbytery, shall ever put life into it againe. 1654–66 Earl Orrery *Parthen.* (1676) 9 Nor my weakness, nor my tongue..shall ever confess you have any advantage over me. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* III. 393 Nor Bits nor Bridles can his Rage restrain. 1725 Pope *Odyss.* XV. 478 Now let our compact made Be nor by signal nor by word betray'd. 1798 Coleridge *Anc. Mar.* I. xiv, Nor shapes of men nor beasts we ken. 1807 J. Barlow *Columb.* III. 349 But we nor fear his frown, nor trust his smile. 1839–52 Bailey *Festus* 410 Perfection To imperfection leaves nor choice nor mean.

3. With omission of *neither*.

a. With preceding or following negative.

a 1400–50 *Alexander* 46 Þer preued neuer nane his prik for passing of witt, Plato nor Piktagarus. 1484 Caxton *Fables of Æsop* V. xii, Certaynly I nor none other canne give the Jugement. *a* 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* (1613) 41 She concealed her sorrow, nor cause of her sorrow, from no body. 1791 Mrs. Radcliffe *Rom. Forest* x, Your father nor nobody else has ever sent after you.

b. Without other negative expressed.

a 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VIII* 144 [He] would sende them no woorde of his affaires,..for he ought their master, nor yet them suche service. 1594 Marlowe & Nashe *Dido* V. ii, Though thou nor he will pity me a whit. 1621 Lady M. Wroth *Urania* 532 The most ignorant proud woman liuing, caring for, nor respecting any but her selfe and hers. 1649 Lovelace *Poems* 64 Yet Servants knowing Minikin nor Base, Are still allow'd to fiddle with the Case. *c* 1750 Shenstone *Elegy* iii. 6 Pageant nor plume distinguish Alcon's bier. 1813 Byron *Br. Abydos* I. xii, A heart his words nor deeds can daunt. 1827 Jarman *Powell's Devises* II. 229 It was his will that they, nor either of them, should take any thing under his will. 1872 Tennyson *Last Tourn.* 203 Great brother, thou nor I have made the world.

†4. = Or. *Obs. rare.*

c 1489 Caxton *Blanchardyn* viii. 32 Blanchardyn..was moche abasshed how nor by what manere he sholde mowe passe hit ouer. 1615 Wadsworth in Bedell *Lett.* (1624) 7 It could neuer sinke into my braine how..members sound nor vnsound [could be] participant each of other.

5. Following upon an affirmative clause, or in continuative narration, with the force of *neither* or *and*...*not*.

1523 Ld. Berners *Froiss.* I. CXXXV. 162, I greatly desyre to se the kynge my maister, nor I wyll lye but one nyght in a place, tyll I come there. *a* 1578 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 26 To mak hir purgatione that scho was frie of all misrewlle..nor gave na counsall thairto. 1631 May tr. *Barclay's Mirr. Mindes* I. 39 The whole coast is most sweetly verdant,..nor hardly, is there ground any where more abundantly fruitfull. 1667 Milton *P. L.* III. 626 A golden tiar Circl'd his Head, nor less his Locks behind ..Lay waving round. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* III. 161 His Age and Courage weigh: Nor those alone. 1738 Johnson *London* 260 Then shall thy friend, nor thou refuse his aid,.. forsake his Cambrian shade. 1788 *Trifler* No. 22. 291 The little creature cried and laid down, nor could all our beating raise it. 1821 Byron *Heaven & Earth* iii. 673 Away! nor weep! 1871 R. Ellis tr. *Catullus* lxi. 205 Come nor tarry to greet her. 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 423 Nor among the friends of Socrates must the jailer be forgotten.

Nor, *conj.*2 *Sc.* and *dial.* [Of obscure origin: cf. Na *conj.*2] Than.

c 1400 *Sc. Troy-bk.* (Horstm.) II. 2402 Pirrus was of þat thing richt wo And mor of his grantschire in deid Nor of hime self. *c* 1475 *Ranf Coilȝear* 546, I neid nane airar myne erand nor none of the day. 1508 Dunbar *Flyting* 133 Thow..beggis mair beir and aitis Nor ony cripill in Karrik land. 1558 Kennedy *Compend. Treat.* in *Wodrow Soc. Misc.* (1844) 151 Ar nocht thaye quha sulde gyde the peple mair ignorante nor the simple pepyll self? 1573 Tyrie *Refut.* in *Cath. Tract.* (S.T.S.) 15 He apperis mair wicked nor Sathan him self. 1637 Rutherford *Lett.* (1862) I. cxliv. 342 So then I see that Christ can triumph in a weaker man nor I. *a* 1658 Durham *Comm. Revelation* (1660) i. 5 His Kingly Office extendeth no further nor his Priestly and Prophetical Office. 1792 Burns *My Tocher's the Jewel* ii, Ye'll crack your credit wi' mae nor me. 1840 Thackeray *Catherine* iv, You're no better nor a common tramper. 1859 Geo. Eliot *A. Bede* xxx, I know better nor you. 1883 W. Black *Shandon Bells* xxxii, There'll be more grey nor red in my beard by that time.

†**Nor**, *conj.*3 *Sc. Obs.* [Cf. prec. and Na *adv.*1]

a. In imprecations: = May. b. If..not.

1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* xxxiv. 32 Nor I be hangit be the nek. *Ibid.* 77 God..Nor ane stark widdy gar me gaip. 1552 Lyndesay *Monarche* 5039 It maruellis me, He, haueand sic prosperite,..Nor he had infynite plesoure.

Nor', abbrev. f. North. **Noraghe**: see Nuragh.

Norbertine (nɒ̄·ɹbəɹtin, -əin), *sb.* and *a. Eccl.* [f. *Norbert*, the founder of the order + -ine.]

A. *sb.* A member of the Premonstratensian order.

1674 Blount *Glossogr., Norbertins*, a Religious Order, otherwise called Præmonstratenses. 1727–38 Chambers *Cycl., Premonstrantes*,..a religious order of regular canons instituted in 1120 by S. Norbert; and thence also called Norbertines. 1884 *Catholic Dict.* (1897) 746/1 The habit of the Norbertines was white; hence they were commonly called in England the White Canons.

B. *adj.* Of or pertaining to this order.

1865 *Chambers's Encycl.* VII. 745/2 Premonstratensian (called also Norbertine) Order. *c* 1880 *Archit. Soc. Dict.* s.v., Norbertine monks were Premonstratensians. 1902 Miss Speakman in *Owens Coll. Hist. Ess.* 73 The Norbertine house of Whithorn in Wigtonshire.

Norce, Norcery, obs. ff. Nurse, Nursery.

Norche, variant of Norsh *v. Obs.*

Nordcaper (nɒ̄·ɹdkē̜·pəɹ). Also -kap(p)er. [ad. Du. *noordkaper* or G. *nordkaper* (f. Du. *noord-kaap*, G. *nordkap*, the North Cape), formerly used as a specific name (*Balæna Nordcaper*): hence also F. *nordcaper*.] A North Atlantic species of whale, variously identified with *Balæna mysticetus* and *B. biscayensis*. Cf. North-caper.

1822 Good *Study Med.* I. 4 The Greenlander feeds voraciously on the skin and fins of the nord-caper [*printed* -capon]. 1868 *Chambers's Encycl.* X. 152/1 The *Nordkaper* .. has by some naturalists been described as a distinct species, although it is more generally regarded as a variety of *B. mysticetus*. 1886 *Sci. Amer.* LIV. 24 The great Arctic or Greenland whale..and the Atlantic right whale, nordcaper, sletbag and sarde of the old authors.

Nordenfelt. The name of a Swedish engineer, used *attrib.* and *absol.* to designate a form of machine-gun invented by him.

1880 *Encycl. Brit.* XI. 287 Nordenfelt gun...The barrels are here placed horizontally, and have no movement. 1885 *Pall Mall G.* 23 Feb., Six of the Nordenfelts will be worked amidships, on the top of the high bulwark.

Nordhausen (nɒ̄·ɹdhauz'n). The name of a town in Prussian Saxony, used *attrib.* in designations of sulphuric acid, which is made there.

1849 D. Campbell *Inorg. Chem.* 56 Nordhausen, or fuming sulphuric acid. 1875 *Ure's Dict. Arts* (ed. 7) III. 962 Anhydrous Sulphuric Acid..is most easily obtained by subjecting the Nordhausen sulphuric acid to a gentle heat in a glass retort. 1895 Thomson & Bloxam *Chem.* 220 The Nordhausen oil of vitriol is an important article of commerce. *Ibid.*, The Nordhausen acid.

Nord-kap(p)er, varr. of Nordcaper.

Nore, variant of Ore [1], favour.

† **Nore,** obs. variant of *nor'*, North. (Cf. Nor-east, -west.)

1612 Dekker *If it be not good* Wks. 1873 III. 293 *Nat.* How blowes the winde Syr? *Leaf.* Wynde! is Nore-Nore-West. 1688 *Phil. Trans.* XVII. 784 The Nore and Nore-West are very nitrous and piercing. 1709 *Brit. Apollo* No. 73. 3/1 A Town 's erected on a Bank to th' Nore. 1718 Rowe tr. *Lucan* I. 728 *note*, Circius..is placed as a Nore-west or Nore-nore-west.

† **Noreast,** obs. form of *nor' east*, North-east.

1594 J. Davis *Seamans Secr.* (1645) D, Noreast by North raiseth a degree in sayling 24 leagues.

Nor'-easter, variant of North-easter.

1836–48 B. D. Walsh *Aristoph., Knights* I. iii, Slack your sheet. A strong nor'-easter's groaning.

Noregan, variant of Norgan *Obs.*

Norelin, variant of Sc. *norlin*, Norland.

† **Norenish,** *a. Obs.* Also Norein(n)-, Norwen-, Norn-. [f. OE. *Noren*, Norn *a.* + -ish: cf. MLG. *norrensch.*] Norwegian. Also *absol.* in *pl.*

c 1205 Lay. 12854 Peohtes inowe & Scottes vnifoh3e, Densce & Norenisce [*c* 1275 Norwenisse]. *Ibid.* 23198 Heo ..sumneden uerde, 3eond Nornisce ærde. *Ibid.* 23229 Noreinisce men þer feollen.

Nores(se, obs. forms of Nourice, Nourish.

Noreshoure, obs. form of Nourisher.

Noreture, obs. form of Nourriture.

Norfolk (nɒ̄·ɹfŏk). Also 5–7 **Northfolk.** [OE. *Norðfolc.*] The name of an English county on the East Coast, used *attrib.* to designate things peculiar to or characteristic of the district.

1407 *Nottingham Rec.* II. 52 Pro ij. volets de Northfolk-thred, *xd.* 1573 Tusser *Husb.* (1878) 209 For Norfolke wiles, so full of giles, Haue caught my toe. *c* 1600 [see Dumpling]. 1609 Dekker *Ravens Alm.* Ep., Of the nature of Dogs, & more nimble then Norfolke tumblers. 1663 Dryden *Wild Gallant* II. i, A parcel of melted flints set in gold, or Norfolk pebbles. 1728 Vanbr. & Cib. *Prov. Husb.* I. ii, Sir, here's Norfolk-nog to be had at next door. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVI. 262/1 Norfolk turkeys are well known as of peculiar size and delicacy. 1889 A. J. Ellis *Early Eng. Pron.* V. 260 Every one has heard of the Norfolk 'drant', or droning and drawling in speech.

b. In special applications, as **Norfolk capon,** a red herring (cf. Capon *sb.* 3); **Norfolk crag** (see Crag *sb.*[1] 3); **Norfolk dumpling,** a native or inhabitant of Norfolk; **Norfolk jacket,** a loosely fitting jacket having a waistband, and used chiefly in shooting, fishing, cycling, etc. **Norfolk plover,** the Stone Curlew; **Norfolk turkey,** a native or inhabitant of Norfolk.

1836 Smith *Individual* 4 (Farmer), A *Norfolk capon is jolly grub. 1880–84 Day *Fishes Gt. Brit.* II. 210 A red herring..is also known as a Norfolk capon. 1846 Buchanan *Techn. Dict.*, **Norfolk Crag*, an Englisb tertiary formation belonging to the older pliocene, and consisting of irregular beds of ferruginous sandy clay mixed with marine shells. *a* 1661 Fuller *Worthies, Norfolk* (1662) 247 *Norfolk Dumplings... This .. relates to the fare they commonly feed on. 1787 Grose *Prov. Gloss., Norfolk Dumpling*, a jeering nick-name for Norfolk-men. 1893 Earl Dunmore *Pamirs* II. 276 An English-made *Norfolk jacket. 1898 G. B. Shaw *Widowers' Houses* Plays I. 4 You have nothing but that Norfolk jacket. 1768 Pennant *Brit. Zool.* II. 378 The *Norfolk Plover. 1840 *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 235 This is the Stone Curlew, Whistling or Norfolk Plover, as it is variously designated. 1877 Newton in *Encycl. Brit.* VI. 712/1 The..Stone-Curlew—called also, by some writers, from its stronghold in this country, the Norfolk Plover. 1811 *Ora & Juliet* I. 100, I shall..shew them the difference of a highly-educated person, and the boorish manners of those *Norfolk turkeys.

c. *elliptic.* The dialect of Norfolk.

1895 W. Rye *Gloss. E. Anglia* p. vii, The following specimens of modern Norfolk have been handed to me.

Norfolk Howard (nɒ̄·ɹfŏk hau·ɹəd).

[From an advertisement in the *Times* of 26 June, 1862, professing to be a declaration by one Joshua Bug that he had assumed the name of Norfolk Howard.]

A bed-bug.

1865 in Hotten *Slang Dict.* (ed. 2). 1870 *Figaro* 19 Oct. (Farmer), Those entomological pests that are euphemistically called Norfolk Howards. 1888 Lees & Clutterbuck *B.C.* 1887, xxii, In one bag the Norfolk Howards, In one bag the fleas, the Jumpers.

† **No·rfolkize,** *v. Obs. rare* −[1]. [f. Norfolk + -ize.] *intr.* To assume a Norfolk character.

1655 Fuller *Hist. Cambr.* 46, I confess some have complained of this Matthew Parker, that, in favour to his native county, he made all this College to Norfolkize, appropriating most Fellowships thereto.

† **No·rgan,** *sb.* and *a. Obs.* Forms: 4 Nore-, Norigan(e, 4, 6 Norgano. [ad. med.L. *Noreganus*, f. ON. *Noreg-r* Norway.] = Norwegian.

1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 229 In þe mene tyme [þe] kyng of Noreganes..cam wiþ þre hondred schippes. *Ibid.* 239 þey moste have no part of þe prayes at þe bataile of þe Norganes. 1586 Warner *Alb. Eng.* III. xvi, When the Norgane Prince and Peeres were seated. *Ibid.*, The..Norgane Ladies Shippe was tossed to the Coste.

‖ **Noria** (nō·ɹriă). [Sp. *noria*, ad. Arab. ناعورة *nāʿūrah*.] A device for raising water, used in Spain and in the East, consisting of a revolving chain of pots or buckets which are filled below and discharged when they come to the top.

1792 J. Townsend *Journ. thro. Spain* I. 103 Every farm has its Noria, a species of chain-pump, which from its extreme simplicity, seems to have been the invention of the most remote antiquity. 1845 Ford *Handbk. Spain* I. 430 The common and most picturesque *noria*. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1534/1 The true Spanish noria has earthen pitchers secured between two ropes which pass over a wheel above and are submerged below.

Norice, obs. variant of Nourish *v.*

Norice, -iche, obs. variants of Nourice, nurse.

Noricerie: see Nouricery.

Norie [1] (nō·ɹri). Also 9 **Norrie, nory.** [See def.] A copy of the *Epitome of Navigation* by J. W. Norie, originally published in 1803.

1828 P. Cunningham *N. S. Wales* (ed. 3) II. 200 Having acquired a thorough knowledge of navigation by the occasional perusal of a stray Norrie. 1831 Trelawny *Adv. Younger Son* II. 282, I cursed my improvidence..in not having provided myself with a knife, a compass, a quadrant and a nory.

Norie [2], the puffin: see Tammie-norie.

1793 *Statist. Acc. Scott., Kirkwall* VII. 546 Among these we may reckon..the tyste, the pickternie, the norie [etc.].

Norimon (nɒ·ɹrimɒn). Also 7 nere-, norri-. [ad. Jap. *norimono*, f. *nori* to ride + *mono* thing: cf. Kakemono.] A kind of litter or palanquin used in Japan. Also *attrib.*

1616 R. Cocks *Diary* (Hakl. Soc.) I. 164 He kept hym selfe close in a *neremon*. 1662 J. Davies tr. *Mandelslo's Trav.* 202 After them came one and twenty other *Palanquins* of a kind, which they call *Norrimones*, varnish'd with black and gilt. 1727 tr. *Kæmpfer's Hist. Japan* v. i. 402 The *Norimon* itself is a small room, of an oblong square figure.., curiously twisted of fine thin split *Bambous*, sometimes Japan'd and finely painted, with a folding-door on each side. All these *Norimon*-men are clad in the same livery. 1780 *Phil. Trans.* LXX. App. p. vii, We were carried by men in a kind of palankins, called Norimons, covered, and provided with windows. 1863 Fortune *Yedo & Peking* 67 A norimon containing an official or person of rank.

Noris(e, -ishe, -isse, obs. varr. Nourice.

† **No·rish,** *a. Obs. rare* −[1]. [var. of Norse.] Norwegian.

a 1688 J. Wallace *Descr. Orkney* (1693) 90 An explication of some Norish words used in Orkney and Zetland.

Norishe, -ysh(e, etc., obs. forms of Nourish.

No·rite (nō·ɹrait). *Geol.* and *Min.* [f. *Nor(way)* + -ite.] A variety of gabbro or granite.

1878 tr. *Cotta's Rocks* 143 The norite of Scheerer is a compound of hypersthene or diallage, labradorite, orthoclase (containing soda), and even some quartz. 1885 Geikie *Text-bk. Geol.* (ed. 2) 154 Norite. Under this name Rosenbusch has proposed to group all the older gabbro-like rocks in which any rhombic pyroxene..is conjoined with a plagioclase felspar.

Noriture, obs. form of Nourriture.

Norland (nɒ̄·ɹlănd). Also *Sc.* 8–9 **norlan',** 9 **norlin', norelin.** [Reduced form of North-land.]

1. The north-country; the land in the north.

a 1578 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S. T. S.) I. 202 He was to ryde to the norland amangis his lordis. 1844 Mrs. Browning *Drama of Exile* 1707 As the storm-wind blows bleakly from the norland. 1880 Swinburne *Songs of Four Seasons* i, Our noisy norland.

b. *attrib.* Belonging to the north.

a 1578 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S. T. S.) I. 202 The norland lordis that favored him. *Ibid.* 205 The norland men and wastland men. 1786 Burns *Earnest Cry* xiv, Erskine, a spunkie norland billie. *c* 1792 — *Here's a health to them that's awa*, Here's a health to Tammie, the Norland laddie. 1830 Tennyson *Oriana* xi, When Norland winds pipe down the sea. 1864 *Daily Tel.* 25 Oct., In these norland woods and groves.

2. A northerner; a north-country person, esp. one from the north of Scotland.

1771 J. Macpherson *Introd. Hist. Grt. Brit. & Ircl.* 129 The appellation of Southerons and Norlands are not hitherto totally extinguished among the Scots. 1798 Crawford *Poems* 27 (E.D.D.), Kirsty was a Norlan' bred. 1817 J. Gilchrist *Intell. Patrimony* 159 The journeyman carpenter ..possessed all the quaint shrewdness which is among the Scotch implied in the word Norelin.

Hence **No·rlander** = prec. 2; **No·rlandism,** a characteristic of a northern dialect.

1716 in Maidment *Spottiswoode Misc.* (1845) II. 449 They met with a bold Norlander of Aberdeenshire. *c* 1795 Scott in Child *Ballads* (1892) IV. 387 *note*, I recollect several of them as recited in the south of Scotland divested of their Norlandisms.

Norm (nɒm). [Anglicized form of next: cf. also Norme.] A standard, model, pattern, type. (Common since *c* 1855.)

1821 Coleridge in *Blackw. Mag.* X. 257 Each after its own norm or model. 1828 Pusey *Hist. Eng.* I. 21 Every expression of his upon controverted points became a norm for the party. 1857 P. Freeman *Princ. Div. Serv.* II. 143 The norm and measure of all our eucharistic thoughts, and words, and actions. 1877 E. Caird *Philos. Kant* iv. 66 The mind must find in itself the norm or principle of unity upon which it works.

b. *Algebra.* (See quot.)

1866 Brande & Cox *Dict. Sci.*, etc. II. 228/2 The product $a^2 + b^2$ of a complex number $a + b\sqrt{-1}$, and its conjugate $a - b\sqrt{-1}$ is called its norm.

‖ **Norma** (nɒ̄·ɹmă). Also pl. **normae** (nɒ̄·ɹmī). [L. *norma*, carpenter's or mason's square; hence, pattern, rule, etc. So in Sp., Pg., and It.]

1. = Norm.

a 1676 Hale *Prim. Orig. Man.* (1677) 344 Again, will they suppose it a *Norma*, Rule, or Law of a most excellent frame and order. 1830 M. Donovan *Dom. Econ.* I. 211 He is cautious, and never willingly varies from that *norma* which he has once found successful. 1842 Grove *Corr. Phys. Forces* (1874) p. xiv, We can only understand the normæ of their action. 1881 Bridgett *Holy Eucharist* I. 47 A norma or standard to which discipline should be reformed.

2. One of the southern constellations.

1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVI. 274/2 *Norma*, the Rule, a constellation of Lacaille, situated between Scorpio and Lupus.

Normal (nɒ̄·ɹmăl), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. L. *normāl-is*, f. *norma* (see prec.): cf. F. (15th c.), Sp., It. *normal*, It. *normale*.]

A. *adj.* 1. Right (angle), rectangular. *rare.*

1650 Bulwer *Anthropomet.* 55 Those determined bounds of the hair, which are called by our Barbars the Normal Angels. 1901 Waterhouse *Conduit Wiring* 53 The angle not being suited to either a right angled (normal) or half-normal bend.

b. Standing at right angles; perpendicular.

a 1696 Scarburgh *Euclid* (1705) 15 To which therefore it is said to be a Normal Line. 1704 J. Harris *Lex. Techn.* I, *Normal*, the same with Perpendicular, or at Right Angles, and 'tis usually spoken of a Line or a Plane that Intersects another Perpendicularly. [Also in Phillips (1706), Chambers, etc.] 1879 Newcomb & Holden *Astron.* 203 The line ZN′, perpendicular to HR, and therefore normal to the earth at Q. 1882 *Engineering* 13 Jan. 24/1 These being in directions always normal to the surface of the pulsating sphere—that is to say, in lines radiating from its centre.

2. Constituting, conforming to, not deviating or differing from, the common type or standard; regular, usual. (Common since *c* 1840.)

Blount *Glossogr.* (1656) gives '*Normal*, right by rule, made by the square or Rule'.

1828 Stark *Elem. Nat. Hist.* II. 216 Two superior groups, which he denominates normal or typical. 1843 R. J. Graves *Syst. Med.* xii. 135 Temperature of the body normal. 1860 Tyndall *Glac.* I. vii. 54 The veining, whose normal direction would be transverse to the glacier. 1877 Brockett *Cross & Crescent* 28 War seemed to be its normal condition.

b. *Chem.*, in specific uses (see quots.).

1857 Miller *Elem. Chem., Org.* § 1091 Most of the monobasic acids are compounds which, in their condition of normal acids, or normal hydrates,..are bodies which contain either four or six equivalents of oxygen. 1869 Roscoe *Elem. Chem.* 189 If all the replaceable hydrogen in an acid is exchanged for metal, a normal salt is said to be formed. 1876 *Encycl. Brit.* V. 557/2 *Normal paraffins*, in which no carbon atom is combined with more than two other carbon atoms. 1892 Cooley *Cycl. Pract. Rec.* s.v., A so-called 'normal' (or 'N.') solution is one which, at a temperature of 16° C., contains per litre the hydrogen equivalent of the active reagent weighed in grammes.

3. *Normal school* [after F. *école normale* (1794)], a school for the training of teachers.

1834 *Edin. Rev.* LIX. 491 The system of Primary Schools, which the French..have..denominated Normal. 1842 Brande *Dict. Sci.*, etc. 1089/1 Normal schools form a regular part of the establishments for education in many Continental states. 1885 *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 199/2 Polly ..had been a pupil in the Normal School.

B. *sb.* † 1. A regular verb. *Obs. rare* −[1].

1530 Palsgr. 394 If the verbe in this tonge be nat a normal.

2. *Geom.* A perpendicular; a straight line at right angles to the tangent or tangent plane at any point of a curve or curved surface.

1727–38 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v. *Subnormal*, The point in the axis of a curve, where a normal or perpendicular..cuts the axis. 1797 *Phil. Trans.* LXXXVIII. 381 The lines so drawn..shall be normals to the parabolas at their intersec-

tions with the ellipse. 1816 tr. *Lacroix's Calculus* 81 It is often more convenient..to consider the tangent and the normal, by means of their equation. 1877 *Encycl. Brit.* VI. 676/1 How crystals might be represented..by their normals, that is, by lines drawn from the centre of the system vertical to the faces.

3. *Physics.* The average or mean of observed quantities.

1859 Bache *Discuss. Magn. & Meteorol. Obs.* I. 4 The last mean thus obtained for each observing hour and each month has been called 'the normal'. 1890 *Nature* 9 Oct. 603 The barometer normals fall more as we approach the Antarctic.

4. The usual state or condition.

1890 *Daily News* 11 Oct. 5/4 It does not require a very strong gale to..raise the level of the Neva three or four feet above its normal. 1896 *Current Hist.* (Buffalo) VI. 373 The importation of raw sugars last year did not reach normal, or what it was in 1892.

b. *elliptical.* Normal temperature.

1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 149 The dictum..that in fever the organism is adjusted to a higher normal.

Hence **No·rmalcy**; **No·rmalist.**

1857 Davies & Peck *Math. Dict.* 386 If we denote the co-ordinates of the point of contact, and normalcy, by x'' and y''. 1878 Bellingham tr. *Haulleville's Aspects Cath. & Protestantism* 184 The fellow-countrymen of Ovid, of Horace and of Virgil, were not all normalists. 1893 *Nation* 30 July 47/1 Believers..in the mathematical normalcy of the female mind.

Normality (nɒ̄mæ·lĭti). [f. Normal *a.* + -ity: cf. F. *normalité*, It. *-ità*, Sp. *-idad.*] The character or state of being normal.

a 1849 Poe *Eureka* Wks. 1865 II. 153 In a condition of positive normality or rightfulness. 1866 *Athenæum* 29 Dec. 873 Normality..gives us only the negative notion of the absence of defect. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 150 Those parts in which it is their business to maintain constancy, that is normality.

Normaliza·tion. [f. Normalize *v.* + -ation.] The action or process of making normal.

1882 in Ogilvie. 1892 tr. *Schäffle's Impossib. Soc. Democracy* 107 This whole process of normalization. 1894 J. R. C. Hall *A.-S. Dict.* Pref., Normalisations have..been generally avoided.

Normalize (nɒ̄·rmăləiz), *v.* [f. Normal *a.* + -ize.] *trans.* To make normal or regular.

1865 *Pall Mall G.* No. 175. 1/1 To normalize an abnormal condition. 1880 R. G. White *Every-Day Engl.* 72 A scheme for simplifying and normalizing orthography.

absol. 1892 tr. *Schäffle's Impossib. Soc. Democracy* 100 We must normalize also according to work.

Hence **No·rmalized** *ppl. a.*

1830 *Academy* 9 Oct. 256 Prose texts in a consistently normalised spelling. 1894 J. R. C. Hall *A.-S. Dict.* Pref., Prof. Toller has chosen a..normalised form.

Normally (nɒ̄·rmăli), *adv.* [f. Normal *a.* + -ly.]

†1. In a regular manner; regularly. *Obs. rare.*

1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 50/2 Thervnto are many thinges reqvired, which I heere normallye and rightlye will prosecute. 1599 — tr. *Gabelhouer's Bk. Physicke* 102/2 Applye the same on his Breste, 3 or 4 nightes normallye after other.

2. Under normal or ordinary conditions.

1853 Carpenter *Princ. Hum. Physiol.* (ed. 3) § 224 The mode in which the first production of tendons and ligaments is normally accomplished. 1861 Goschen *For. Exch.* 94 Every kind of produce, which normally..would have risen in value. 1882 Farrar *Early Chr.* I. 161 Normally, and as a whole, human law is on the side of divine order.

3. In a normal manner; in the usual way.

1871 Blackie *Four Phases Mor.* I. 70 Constant action and reaction in every normally developed human mind.

4. At right angles.

1869 Tyndall in *Fortn. Rev.* Feb. 246 When we look normally, or perpendicularly, at an incipient cloud.

Norman (nɒ̄·rmăn), *sb.*[1] and *a.* Also 4 noreman, normen, 7 Normane. [Orig. in pl., a. OF. *Normans*, *-manz* (AF. *-maunz*), pl. of *Normant* (later *-mand*) Normand, a reduced form of the Teut. or Scand. Northman, which also appears as *Norman* in OE., OFris., OHG., MDu., and MSw. (mod.G. *Normann*, Du. *Noorman*, Norw. *Norrman*). Hence med.L. *Normannus.*]

A. *sb.* 1. a. A native or inhabitant of Normandy; one belonging to, or descended from, the mixed Scandinavian and Frankish race inhabiting that part of France.

c 1205 Lay. 7116 Seoððen comen Normans mid heore nið crafte and nemneden heo Lundres. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 7498 Þus was in normannes hond þat lond ibro3t. *Ibid.* 7500 Of þe normans beþ heyemen..of engelonde. 1338 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 75 Þe Normans in þe South wer in so grete affray. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) I. 29 Þe sixte [book is] from þe Danes to þe Normans. Þe seuenþe fro Normans to oure tyme. *c* 1425 *Engl. Conq. Irel.* 140 Thay anoon..of the Normannes weren shamefully receyued. 1538 Starkey *England* I. iv. 123 Therby ys testyfyd our subiectyon to the Normannys. 1602 Shaks. *Ham.* III. ii. 36 Neyther hauing the accent of Christians, nor the gate of Christian, Pagan, or Norman. 1736 Thomson *Liberty* IV. 739 The haughty Norman seiz'd at once an isle, For which ..The Roman, Saxon, Dane had toil'd and bled. 1818 Cruise *Digest* (ed. 2) III. 157 The next name of dignity is *comes*, earl, which was also introduced here by the Normans. 1874 Stubbs *Const. Hist.* (1897) I. 270 Of the constitutional history of the Normans of Normandy we have very little information.

Comb. 1876 Tennyson *Harold* (Show-day at Battle Abbey), Here fought, here fell, our Norman-slander'd king.

†b. A Northman, a Norwegian. *Obs. rare.*

Cf. the OE. pl. *Normen* in this sense.

1605 [see Norwegian B. 1]. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) I. 570/2 A people so versed in maritime affairs, and so adventurous, as the ancient Normans were.

2. = Norman-French (see B. 3 b).

† Also in Sc. form *Normans*, after *Scots* = Scottish.

1646 Drumm. of Hawth. *Wks.* (1711) 213 The Laws of England, which William the Conqueror imposed.., mufled up in barbarous Normans. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) VI. 667/2 Our language..is now a mixture of Saxon,..Danish, Norman, and modern French. 1819 Scott *Ivanhoe* iv, I sufficiently understand Norman to follow your meaning. 1879 Walford *Londoniana* II. 98 The upper classes spoke Norman and lived as Normans.

B. *adj.* 1. Belonging or pertaining to, characteristic of, the Normans.

1589 Puttenham *Eng. Poesie* II. xii. (Arb.) 130 Scholers .., who not content with the vsuall Normane or Saxon word, would conuert the very Latine..word into vulgar French. 1640 Baker *Chron.* (1653) 38 Footsteps remaining of the Norman language in the English tongue. 1698-9 Dryden *Sigism. & Guisc.* 1 While Norman Tancred in Salerno reigned. 1736 Thomson *Liberty* IV. 773 The Barons .., Both those of English and of Norman race. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) II. 229/2 The rage of building fortified castles.. among the Norman princes. 1819 Scott *Ivanhoe* V, The fantastic fashions of Norman chivalry. 1879 Harlan *Eyesight* viii. 112 What are called Norman Capitals, in which the characteristic strokes are excessively heavy, and the others but lightly traced.

Comb. 1877 Tennyson *Harold* I. i, I say not this, as being Half Norman-blooded.

2. *Norman Conquest*, the conquest of England by the Normans under William I, which took place in 1066. (Cf. Conquest *sb.* 3.)

1605 Camden *Rem.* (1623) 144 Many approoued customes, lawes, manners,..haue the English alwayes borrowed of ..the French..by the Norman Conquest. 1708 J. Chamberlayne *Pres. St. Gt. Brit.* I. II. xiii. (1710) 100 Our Ancestors, who after the Norman Conquest, were generally skill'd in the French tongue. 1755 Johnson *Dict.*, Hist. E i/2 This change seems not to have been the effect of the Norman conquest. 1827 *Gentl. Mag.* XCVII. I. 607 The Norman-Conquest is one of the most splendid events in history. 1874 Stubbs *Const. Hist.* (1897) I. 269 The effect of the Norman Conquest on the character and constitution of the English was threefold.

3. *Norman-English* or *-Saxon*, English as spoken by the Normans, or as influenced by them. *rare.*

1589 Puttenham *Eng. Poesie* II. xii. (Arb.) 130 Our Normane English which hath growen since William the Conquerour. 1819 Scott *Ivanhoe* vii, The following [ejaculations] were distinctly heard in the Norman-English, or mixed language of the country. 1845 Stoddart *Gram.* in *Encycl. Metrop.* I. 74/2 *Strong*..seems to have been anciently adopted in the Norman-Saxon Adverbially.

b. *Norman-French*, the form of French spoken by the Normans, or the later form of this in English legal use (Law French).

1605 Camden *Rem.* (1623) 26 By setting downe their lawes in the Norman-French. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) VI. 667/2 After that the Saxon blended with the Norman French. 1865 Nichols *Britton* I. p. xlvi, The jargon..of our legal writers,..which has also been commonly termed Norman French. 1900 Toller *Hist. Eng. Lang.* 209 For some time the natural speech of the Norman was Norman-French.

4. The distinguishing epithet of a form of architecture, or its details, developed by the Normans and employed in England after the Conquest.

1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) II. 221/2 There seems to be little or no grounds for a distinction between the Saxon and Norman architecture. 1815 J. Smith *Panorama Sci. & Art* I. 134 In many small churches..the Norman door has been suffered to remain. 1828 *Gentl. Mag.* XCVIII. II. 519 The noble structures of Norman architecture, as it is called in this country. 1842 Gwilt *Archit.* § 392 That called the Norman style, which continued from 1066 to nearly 1200. 1889 Merriman *Slave of Lamp* xviii, The narrow Norman windows had been framed with unpainted wood.

5. *Norman line, shell, thrush* (see quots.).

1713 Petiver *Anat. Anim. Amb.* 4/1 *Auris marina..*, Long Sea Ear or Norman Shell. 1883 Joncas *Fish. Canada* 12 (Intern. Fish. Exhib.), The bank fishing is made with long lines which our fishermen call 'Norman lines'. 1891 *Cent. Dict.* s.v. *Thrush*, Norman thrush, the mistle-thrush.

Norman (nɒ̄·rmăn), *sb.*[2] *Naut.* [= Du. *noorman*, G. *normann*, Sw. *norman*, Da. *normand*; perh. the same word as prec., but the connexion is not clear.] (See quots.)

1769 Falconer *Dict. Marine* (1780), *Norman*, a name given to a short wooden bar, thrust into one of the holes of the windlass in a merchant-ship, whereon to fasten the cable. *c* 1850 *Rudim. Navig.* (Weale) 135 *Norman*, a square fid of oak, or short carling, fixed through the head of the rudder of East India ships, to prevent the loss of the rudder in case of its being unshipped. 1865 *Dubl. Even. Mail* 22 Sept., The bight of the chain flew over the norman (this is an iron bar that goes through the windlass to keep the chain clear when running out).

attrib. 1874 Thearle *Naval Archit.* 66 An iron forging, termed a 'spider', with a square hole or a socket in the top to receive the norman head, is let down over the..rudder.

†**Normand.** *Obs.* Also 4 -mant, 6 -mund. [a. OF. *Normand*, *-mant.*] = Norman *sb.*[1] 1 a.

1338 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 59 William þe Normant aryued vp at Douer. *Ibid.* 70 Toward þis lond þei drouh.. With Normandes inouh, of Flandres & of France. 13.. *Cursor M.* 24781 (Gött.), In-till ingland þan for to fare, Apon þe normandes [*Cott.* normanz] for to fight. *c* 1420 *Chron. R. Glouc.* (Rolls) 6701 Þeruore of Normandes with him so muche folc he bro3te. *c* 1425 Wyntoun *Chron.* I. xiv. 1371 Þe Normandeis [*v.r.* Normundis] eftyr wan Inglande.

Normanesque (nɒ̄·rmănesk), *a.* [f. Norman *sb.*[1] + -esque.] Suggestive of, similar to, the Norman style of architecture.

1844 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* VII. 125/2 The towers themselves have a Normanesque air. 1880 A. L. Ritchie *Churches of St. Baldred* 57 Two Norman or Normanesque arches.

No·rmanish, *a. rare*[−1]. [-ish.] = Norman *a.*

1586 Ferne *Blaz. Gentrie* 229 Many a name of a Normanish signification liued landles in their new habitations in Neustria.

Normanism (nɒ̄·rmănĭz'm). [f. Norman *sb.*[1] + -ism: cf. F. *normanisme*, Sp. and Pg. *normandismo.*] Prevalence of Norman rule or characteristics; tendency to favour or imitate the Normans.

1647 J. Hare (*title*), Plaine English to our wilfull Bearers with Normanisme. 1837 Skene *Highland. Scotl.* (1902) II. 261 Previous to his accession in 1124 there is not a trace of Normanism, if I may be allowed the expression, in Scotland. 1866 *Cornh. Mag.* May 547 In looking for traces of Normanism in our national genius..we do but lose our labour. 1877 Tennyson *Harold* III. i, Edward too is English now, He hath clean repented of his Normanism.

So **No·rmanist,** a favourer of the Normans.

1611 Speed *Hist. Gt. Brit.* IX. ii. § 14 Goodwin and Edmund ..fought with Adnothus (sometime Master of their Fathers horse, but now a Normanist).

Normaniza·tion. [f. next + -ation.] The process of Normanizing.

1901 J. E. Morris *Welsh Wars Edw. I*, I. 4 A group of lords marchers co-operated in the work of Normanisation on the Welsh borders.

Normanize (nɒ̄·rmănəiz), *v.* [f. Norman *sb.*[1]]

1. *intr.* To adopt the Norman tongue or manners.

1623 Lisle *Ælfric on O. & N. Test.* To Rdr. p. xiii, Hee would neuer haue borrowed so many words from abroad,.. except it were to please the Prince and Nobles, then all Normanizing. 1877 Tennyson *Harold* III. ii, This lightning before death Plays on the word,—and Normanizes too!

2. *trans.* To make Norman or like the Normans.

a 1861 Sir F. Palgrave *Norm. & Eng.* V. 3 He never strove to Normanize the English people. 1875 Lower *Eng. Surnames* (ed. 4) I. p. xxvii, The author's fault..lies in Normanizing whatever he can.

Hence **No·rmanized** *ppl. a.*; **No·rmanizer**; **No·rmanizing** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1848 Lytton *Harold* I. v, The Norman knights and youths profusely scattered amongst the Normanised Saxons. 1861 Pearson *Early & Mid. Ages Eng.* 271 Others..were Normanized Englishmen. 1868 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* (1875) II. vii. 82 If they were not Normanizers, they were at least Romanizers. 1878 *Encycl. Brit.* VIII. 289/2 Had the Normanizing schemes of the Confessor been carried out. 1885 *Dict. Nat. Biogr.* I. 260/1 A step in the direction of normanising and feudalising the civil government.

Normanly (nɒ̄·rmănli), *adv.* [-ly[2].] In the Norman manner; like the Normans.

1870 Lowell *Among my Bks.* Ser. I. (1873) 152 His impartial brain—one lobe of which seems to have been Normanly refined and the other Saxonly sagacious.

Normannic (nɒ̄rmæ·nik), *a.* [f. Norman *sb.*[1] + -ic. Cf. F. *normannique.*] Of or belonging to the Normans.

1710 Hearne *Collect.* (O. H. S.) II. 386 A sword..in the Normannic Form. 1711 Madox *Exch.* Ded. A ij b, That Imperial Crown, which from the Renowned Saxon and Normannick race rightfully descendeth to Your Majesty. *a* 1843 Southey *Comm.-pl. Bk.* (1849) I. 446 Before the conquest the popular language had been invaded by the Normannic.

Norma·nno-, comb. form of Norman *a.*, as in *Normanno-Gallican, -Saxonic.*

1724 Waterland *Athanasian Creed* v. 67 The interlinear version which Mr. Wanley calls Normanno-Gallican. 1813 *Gentl. Mag.* I. 604/2 An original poem on the Battle of Hastings, in the Normanno-Saxonic of Turgotus.

No·rmated, *ppl. a.* [f. L. *normāt-us*, f. *norma* Norm.] Conformed to a standard.

1893 Fairbairn *Christ in Mod. Theol.* I. viii. 160 The theology was primary and normative, the church secondary and normated.

Norma·tic, *a. rare*[−1]. [f. L. *norma* Norm + -atic.] Conducted according to rule.

1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 1 b/2 An artificialle and normaticke applicatione..wherwith the decayed health is restored.

Normative (nɒ̄·rmătiv), *a.* [ad. L. type **normātīv-us* (see Norma and -ative), or a. F. *normatif, -ive.*] Establishing or setting up a norm or standard.

1880 W. Wallace *Epicureanism* 136 The aim which they assigned to the legislator in his normative action on Society. 1884 D. Hunter tr. *Reuss's Hist. Canon* x. 171 The normative character of scriptures divinely inspired.

†**Norme.** *Obs. rare.* [ad. L. or It. *norma*, or a. F. *norme.*] = Norm.

1635 J. Hayward tr. *Biondi's Banish'd Virg.* 169 These conditions which serve for a norme and a patterne..to forme their lives and actions by. 1649 G. Daniel *Trinarch., Hen. IV*, xxv, There is a Line Springs from All humane Actions to informe A nearer Way then by the written Norme.

No·rmoblast. *Path.* [f. *normo-*, as comb. form of L. *norma* + -blast.] A nucleated red blood-corpuscle of a normal size.

1890 Gould *Med. Dict.* 119 Corpuscles of the blood have been distinguished, according to their size—into normoblasts (normal in size), megaloblasts of excessive size [etc.].

Hence **Normobla·stic** *a.*

1905 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 25 Feb. 401 All that I came across were of normoblastic character.

Norn (nɔ̄in), *sb.*[1] Also 8–9 erron. **Nornie**, 9 **Norne.** [a. ON. *norn* (pl. *nornir*), of obscure etym.; hence also Sw. *norna*, G., Da., F. *norne*.] One of the female Fates recognized in Scandinavian mythology. Chiefly in *pl.*

1770 PERCY tr. *Mallet's Northern Antiq.* II. 51 These [virgins] are they who dispense the ages of men; they are called Nornies, that is, Fairies or Destinies. 1855 M. ARNOLD *Balder* I. 24 He has met that doom, which long ago The Nornies, when his mother bare him, spun. 1861 F. METCALFE *Oxonian in Iceland* xix. (1867) 281 Yonder float the white swans—an Icelandic story-teller would say they are Norns, presiders over destiny. 1878 P. W. WYATT *Hardrada* 18 The thread of Fate By grey Nornes spun hung o'er the Raven's flight.

Comb. 1886 *Edin. Rev.* July 158 The norn-like daughters of Regner Lodbrok.

Norn, *a.* and *sb.*[2] *dial.* Also 7 Nourne. [a. ON. *norrænn* adj., or *norræna* sb.: see NORREN *a.*] **a.** *adj.* Norwegian. **b.** *sb.* The Norwegian dialect formerly spoken in Orkney and Shetland.

1633 *Orkney Witch Trial* in *Abbotsford Club Miscell.* 151 Scho aundit in hitt, quhilk is ane Nourne terme, and to expon it into right languag is alse mikill as, scho did blew hir breath thairin. *a* 1688 J. WALLACE *Descr. Orkney* 92 *Norn*, the Language spoken by the ancient Inhabitants of Orkney and Zetland. 1774 LOW *Tour Orkney & Schetland* (1879) 107 He spoke of three kinds of poetry used in Norn. *Ibid.* 163 One of the company all the while singing a Norn Visick. *Ibid.* 196 They speak the English language with a good deal of the Norn accent. 1888 SAXBY *Lads of Lunda* 210 Reciting some grand Norn veisic..after the manner of the ancients.

No·rna, Latinized form of NORN *sb.*[1]

1840 CARLYLE *Heroes* (1858) 199 At the foot of it, in the Death-kingdom, sit Three *Nornas*, Fates,—the Past, Present, Future; watering its roots from the Sacred Well. 1848 LYTTON *Harold* VIII. vi, Day by day from the rill The Nornas hesprinkle The ash Ygg-drasyll.

Norna·rcotine. *Chem.* (See quots.)

1869 ROSCOE *Elem. Chem.* 430 Narcotine yields nornarcotine and methyl iodide. 1892 MORLEY & MUIR *Watt's Dict. Chem.* III. 495/1 *Nornarcotine*, obtained by heating narcotine with fuming HIAq.

Norne, var. of NURN *v. Obs.* **Nornisce:** see NORENISH *a. Obs.* **Norree,** var. of NORRY *v. Obs.*

Nor'-nor'-east, abbrev. form of NORTH-NORTH-EAST. (Cf. *nore-nore-west* s.v. NORE.)

1594 J. DAVIS *Seamans Secr.* (1645) D, Nor-nor-east raiseth a degree in sayling 21 leagues and two miles. 1891 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 16 Nov. 1/2 He changed his course and steered Nor'-Nor'-East. 1891 CLARK RUSSELL *Marr. at Sea* v, 'How is the wind?' 'About nor'-nor'-east, Sir'.

† **Norreis,** *sb. pl. Obs. rare.* [a. ONF. *noreis*, usually *norois*, *norrois*, f. *nor-* north + *-eis*, *-ois*:—L. *-ensis*: cf. NORWAY[2].] Norwegians.

c 1275 LAY. 23226 Þe Norreis euere folle. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 27 Þei nomen Inglis & Danes, & þe gode Norreis. *Ibid.* 32 Upon þe fals Norreis Edmunde wan inouh.

Norreis, obs. variant of NOURICE, nurse.

† **No·rrel.** *Obs. rare*—[0]. (See quot.)

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Norrel ware*, corruptly so called in some part of England for Lorimers.

† **Norren,** *a. Obs. rare.* Also (1 **Norn-**,) 3 **Nor(r)ein.** [a. ON. *norrænn* (MSw. *noren*, *norän*, *norn-*), for **norðrænn*, f. *norðr* NORTH. Cf. NORN *a.*] Norwegian. Also *absol.* in *pl.*

c 1100 *O. E. Chron.* (MS. D) an. 1066, Olafe þæs Norna cynges suna. *a* 1122 *Ibid.* (Laud MS.), Hine ȝemette Harold se Norrena cyng. *c* 1205 LAY. 23226 Þe Norrene þer feollen. Bruttes weoren balde; þa Noreine [*c* 1275 Norreine] heo aqualden. *c* 1275 *Ibid.* 23282 Mid him he nam forþrihtes his Noreine cnihtes.

Norrie: see NORIE [1].

No·rril. *rare*—[1]. [Survival of NARELL.] *pl.* The nostrils (of a game-cock).

1832 JOHNSON *Sportsman's Cycl.* 146 They have their combs and gills taken off, and are marked in the eyes, norrils, and feet.

Norrishe, obs. f. NOURISH. **Norriture,** obs. var. of NOURITURE. **Norroway,** Sc. f. NORWAY.

Norroy (nɒ·roi). Also 5 **Norrey.** [f. AF. *nor-* NORTH + *rey*, *roy* king.] The title of the third King of Arms, whose jurisdiction lies to the north of the Trent.

1485 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 349/2 John More, otherwise called Norrey, Chief Herauld and Kyng of Armes of the North parties of this oure Realme. 1503 *Lett. & P. Rich. III & Hen. VII* (Rolls) I. 418 The said Norroy shall well note the manner and words that the said king shall use. 1631 WEEVER *Anc. Funeral Mon.* 687 Norroy, king of Armes of the north parts. 1686 ASHMOLE *Diary* (1774) 374 The Duke of Norfolk proposed to me, to give my brother Dugdale the place of Norroy. 1722 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 6084/5 His Grace's Surcoat of Arms, carried by Norroy King of Arms. 1796 BURKE *Let. to Noble Lord* Wks. VIII. 37 Prouder by far than all the Garters, and Norroys and Clarencieux, and Rouge Dragons. 1806 A. DUNCAN *Nelson's Funeral* 33 Norroy, King of Arms, (in a Mourning Coach). 1895 *Whitaker's Almanack* 171/2 Kings of Arms. Garter,.. Clarenceux,..Norroy.

† **No·rry,** *sb. Obs.* Also **norre(y.** [a. OF. *norri*, pa. pple. of *norrir*: see next and cf. NORY.] **1.** A foster-child, pupil.

a 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* I. pr. iii. (1868) 10 O quod sche my norry scholde I forsake þe now. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 79 He took his nohle norrey Beda, a childe of sevene ȝere olde, and tauȝte hym whiles he was onlyve.

2. A fosterer, nourisher.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 393 Herbert Lesang, þat..was þo bisshop of Teddeforde, was a greet norrey [*v.rr.* norry, nory: L. *fomes*] of symonye, for he hadde i-bouȝt his bisshopriche of þe kyng. *c* 1450 LOVELICH *Grail* XXVI. 55 An old vauasour..that Inne sche trosted.., For norre he was to hire sone so dere.

† **No·rry,** *v. Obs. rare.* Also **norree.** [ad. OF. *norrir*: see NOURISH *v.*] *trans.* To nurse.

c 1450 LOVELICH *Merlin* I. 907 Thus the modyr gan hym norree, tyl ten mounthes old he was, Sekerle. *Ibid.* V. 6532 Thanne took sche the cbild and leide it hire by,..& hire owne to norrye putte owt thus son.

Norryshe, obs. f. NOURISH. **Norryture,** obs. f. NOURITURE. **Nors(e,** obs. ff. NURSE.

Norse (nɔ̄ɪs), *sb.* and *a.* [prob. ad. Du. *noorsch*, variant of *noordsch*, MDu. *no(o)rdsch*, *no(o)rtsch*, f. *noord* NORTH + *-sch* -ISH: cf. OFris. *norsch*, *nordsch*, *northesk*, MLG. *norrisch*, MSw. *norsker* (1436), Icel. *norskur* (16th c.), mod. Sw., Da., and Norw. *norsk*. Cf. NORISH.]

A. *sb.* † **1. a.** A Norwegian. **b.** The Norwegian people or king. *Obs. rare.*

1598 HAKLUYT *Voy.* I. 3 The Norses haue possessed many lands and Islands of this Empire. *a* 1719 LADY WARDLAW *Hardyknute* ix, The king of Norse..Landed in fair Scotland. *Ibid.* xx, Now that Norse dois prondly boast Fair Scotland to inthrall.

2. As *pl.* (The) Norwegians.

1848 LYTTON *Harold* I. i, A simple song, that..betrayed its origin in the ballad of the Norse. 1902 A. MACBAIN in Skene *Highland. Scotl.* 396 Erp, son of Meldun, was captured by the Norse.

3. The Norwegian tongue. *Old Norse*, the language of Norway and its colonies down to the 14th cent. (sometimes loosely used to include early Swedish and Danish).

a 1688 J. WALLACE *Descr. Orkney* 33 All speak English with a good Accent, only some of the common People among themselves speak Norse or the old Gottish Language. 1703 BRAND *Descr. Orkney* 69 The Norse hath continued ever since the Norvegians had these Isles in Possession. 1763 BLAIR *Diss.* in *Ossian's Poems* (1796) II. 323 Their ancient language..is called the Norse, and is a dialect..of the Scandinavian tongue. 1809 EDMONDSTON *Zetland Isl.* I. 142 Pure Norse or Norwegian is now unknown in it [*sc.* Zetland]. 1844 LATHAM in *Proc. Philol. Soc.* I. 236 Even in the very earliest stages of the Old Norse. 1874 R. COWIE *Shetland* (ed. 2) 24 In 1774, some of the people in Foula could repeat the Lord's Prayer in Norse.

B. *adj.* Norwegian; belonging to, originating from, Norway.

1768 GRAY *Odes* vii. (*heading*), The Fatal Sisters, from the Norse Tongue. 1774 LOW *Tour Orkney & Schetland* (1879) 105 The Norse Language is much worn out here..; it was the language of the last age. 1821 SCOTT *Pirate* i, Land..in the possession of the Norse inhabitants. 1844 LATHAM in *Proc. Philol. Soc.* I. 236 The examples drawn from the oldest Norse composition. 1874 R. COWIE *Shetland* (ed. 2) 10 The first of the famous Norse jarls of Orkney and Zetland.

No·rsel, *sb. rare.* Also 7 nossel, nozzel. [Later form of NOSTEL.] (See quots.) Hence **No·rsel** *v.*, to fit with norsels.

1615 E. S. *Britain's Buss* in Arber *Garner* III. 630 Each net is to he fastened to her ropes with short pieces of cords or lines, of two feet long a piece, called Nozzels. Tbese nozzels are tied very thick...So each net takes 150 nozzels. 1641 S. SMITH *Herring Buss Trade* 4 For Norsels at 8*d.* a Net, being 130 to a Net. *Ibid.* 11 To bring the Nets to their ropes, and Norsell and Corke them. *c* 1682 J. COLLINS *Making Salt in Eng.* 112 To each of these are fastned 20 Snoods, *alias* Nossels, which are small Lines, with Hooks and Baits at them. 1883 *Fish. Exhib. Catal.* 7 Simple Machine, for making Norsels or Snoods of any length.

No·rseland. [f. NORSE *a.*] Norway.

1840 CARLYLE *Heroes* (1858) 211 Hynde Etin, and..Red Etin of Ireland, in the Scottish Ballads, these are both derived from Norseland. 1877 TENNYSON *Harold* V. i, Have we not broken Wales and Norseland?

No·rseman. [f. NORSE *a.*] A Norwegian.

1817 SCOTT *Harold* I. i, Count Witikind..roved with his Norsemen the land and the main. 1840 CARLYLE *Heroes* (1858) 205 Writing by Runes has some air of being original among the Norsemen. 1874 R. COWIE *Shetland* (ed. 2) 10 When the nautical daring..had become so much developed in the Norsemen.

Norserye, obs. form of NURSERY.

† **Norsh,** *sb.*, obs. variant of NOURISH *sb.*, nurse.

1382 WYCLIF *Ruth* iv. 16 Noemy putte the takun child in hir bosum; and vside the office of norshe. 1480 *Robt. Devyll* in Thoms *E. Eng. Prose Rom.* (1828) 8 He bote the norshes pappes.

† **Norsh,** *v. Obs.* Forms: 3–4 **norss(i, 4 norsshe, 5 norshe, 4–5 norsche, norche.** [var. of NOURISH *v.*] *trans.* To nurse or nourish.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 1450 He spac engliss vor he was at rome inorssed biuore. *Ibid.* 1567 [Nero] let hit rere a nohle court..to norssi þe ssrewe þer inne. *a* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 42 ȝif a modir norscheþ & loueþ here fleschly child. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 99 It is grete enemyte to werriours forto norsche sleuþe and leccherie. 1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 195 She was of a child I-norshit with venym. 1460 CAPGRAVE *Chron.* (Rolls) 30 So vas he ..thus norchid up onto mannes age.

Hence † **No·rshing** *vbl. sb.* Also † **No·rsher,** nourisher. † **No·rshery,** nursery.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* II. pr. v. (1868) 47 Þe fruytes of þe erþe owen to ben on þe norssinge of bestes. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 219 He was i-take to norschynge and to lore to Benet Bisshop. 1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 139 This byth the norchynges of lechurie. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 358/2 Norschynge, in manerys and condycyons.. *educacio*. *c* 1450 *Cov. Myst.* (Shaks. Soc.) 239, I am norssher of synne to the confusyon of man. *a* 1500 *Prompt. Parv.* 358/2 Norshery, where ȝong childyr hen.

Norsk, *a.* and *sb.* [a. Scand. *norsk*.] = NORSE.

1851 *Zoologist* IX. 2978 Our Norsk guide soon collected some heather. 1861 F. METCALFE *Oxonian in Iceland* (1867) 22 After the fashion of the old Norsk kings. 1875 JEVONS *Money* iv. 23 In the Norsk, Anglo-Saxon, and English, *scat* or *scot* has been specialized to denote tax or tribute.

Norsse, obs. form of NURSE.

Nort, variant of NURT *v.*, to thrust.

† **No·rtelry.** *Obs. rare*—[1]. [irreg. f. stem of ME. *norlour* NURTURE.] Education.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Reeve's T.* 47 What for hir kynreed and hir nortelrye, That sche had lerned in the nonnerye.

Norter, obs. form of NURTURE.

‖ **Nortes** (nɒ̄·utīz), *sb. pl.* [Sp. *nortes*, pl. of *norte* NORTH.] Violent gales from the north prevailing in the Gulf of Mexico from September to March. (Cf. NORTHER.)

1843 PRESCOTT *Mexico* (1850) I. 249 The island..would shelter him from the *nortes* that sweep over these seas with fatal violence in the winter, sometimes even late in the spring. 1864 G. A. SALA in *Daily Tel.* 20 July, One of those tremendous gales called 'Nortes', or 'Northers', which spring up at ten minutes' notice. 1883 R. H. SCOTT *Elem. Meteor.* xix. 383 The 'Nortes' of the Gulf of Mexico are Northerly winds, which blow with great force, and are often dangerous to shipping.

North (nɔ̄ɪþ), *adv.*, *sb.*, and *a.* Forms: 1–3 **norð,** 1–4 **norþ** (*Orm.* **norrþ**), 3– **north,** 5–6 **northe,** *Sc.* **northt.** Also *abbrev.* N. [Common Teutonic: OE. *norð*, *norþ* = OS. *nord*, OFris. *north*, *noerd*, MDu. *nort*, *noort* (Du. *noord*), MLG. *nort*, OHG. *nort*, *nord* (G. *nord*), ON. *norðr* (Sw. *nord*, *norr*, Da. *nord*): not recorded in Gothic, and of uncertain relationship. From Teutonic come F. *nord* (OF. also *nort*, *north*), It. *norte*, *nort*, *nord*, Sp. *norte*, *nord*, Pg. *norte*.

In OE. and OS. *north* appears only as an adv., in OHG. only as a sb.; in OFris., MDu., and ON. it had both functions. For the development of the adjectival use in Eng. see below. OE. had also the adv. form *norðan* 'from the north', = OHG. *nordana*, ON. *norðan* (Sw. *nordan*, Da. *norden-*), whence *be norðan*, which survived in the later language as BENORTH.]

A. *adv.* **1.** Towards, or in the direction of, that part of the earth or heavens which is most remote from the mid-day sun. Also with modifying additions, as *north by east*, etc.

a. With ref. to movement, extent, or direction.

a 900 *O. E. Chron.* (Parker MS.) an. 823, Hie Baldred þone cyning norþ ofer Temese adrifon. *a* 1000 *Boeth. Metr.* xiii. 59 Merecondel scyfð on ofdæle..norð eft & east. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1064, Fela hund manna hi namon & læddon norð mid heom. *c* 1205 LAY. 16442 Hengest is ifaren norð. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 921 Ac ich fare boþe norþ & soþ. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 1255 She lokede norþ, and ek south. *c* 1391 CHAUCER *Astrol.* II. § 17 Fro which lyne alle planetes som tyme declinen north or south. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* IV. 324 Northt so our Ern throuch out the land thai went. 1559 W. CUNNINGHAM *Cosmogr. Glasse* 80 Can they not in like maner, draw paralleles from th' Æquinoctiall Southward as they do North? 1612 CAPT. SMITH *Descr. Virg.* Wks. (Arb.) 53 There is one [river] that commeth due north. 1725 DE FOE *Voy. round World* (1840) 175, I changed my course a little, and went away north-by-east. ?1788 COWPER *Mischievous Bull* 21 Therefore go—I care not whether east or north. 1863 KINGSLEY *Water-Bab.* iv, I wandered north and north..till I met with cold icebergs. 1894 MISS STEEL *Flower Forgiveness* 79 If you will take my advice, come up north.

Comb. 1891 *Scribner's Mag.* Sept. 282/1 The traveller boards the north-bound steamer.

b. With reference to place or location. Also *north-away*, in the north.

Beowulf 858 Moniz oft gecwæð, þætte suð ne norð be sæm tweonum..oþer nænig..selra nære. *c* 893 K. ÆLFRED *Oros.* I. i. 17 Þa wæs he swa feor norþ swa þa hwæl-huntan firrest faraþ. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 209 Wæron norð of dæm stane awexene swiðe hrimize bearwas. *c* 1205 LAY. 3443 Leir þe king wende forh to is dohter [þat] wunede norð. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 278 Min fliȝt..ic wile up-taken, Min fete norð on heuene maken. *c* 1391 CHAUCER *Astrol.* I. § 17 Tak kep of thise latitudes north and sowth. *c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* I. xi. 985 Þe hil of Cawcasus,..North on til Ewrop marchande nere. *a* 1539 *Cartul. Abb. Rievalle* (Surtees) 341 The iij romys north therof seelyd round with waynscot. 1607 WALKINGTON *Opt. Glass* ii. 15 The rudenes and simplicitie of the people, that are seated far north. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IV. 569 In the Mount that lies from Eden North,.. he first lighted. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* II. (Globe) 379 They saw another Island on the Right-Hand North. 1738 — *Tour* (ed. 2) III. 337 North of the Mouth of this River is ..Cromarty Bay. 1878 W. MORRIS in Mackail *Life* (1899) I. 370 The heap of grey stones with a grey roof that we call a house north-away.

c. In phr. *north and south.*

14.. *Sailing Directions* (Hakluyt) 11 Fro Vamborugh to the poynt of the Ilond the cours lieth north and South. 1612 CAPT. SMITH *Descr. Virg.* Wks. (Arb.) 48 This Bay lieth North and South. *c* 1630 RISDON *Surv. Devon* § 249 (1810) 260 Whom though they accounted an heretick, yet buried they him in the church-yard, north and south. 1720 HEARNE *Collect.* (O. H. S.) VII. 169 A certain Chapell.. which he plac'd North and South, in opposition to all other Churches and Chapells.

attrib. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XIV. 288/1 The deviation of which from the true north-and-south line is the declination of the needle.

d. In *slang* phrases: *Too far north*, too clever, too knowing. *A little more north* (see quot. 1864).

1748 SMOLLETT *Rod. Rand.* (1780) I. 124 It shan't avail you, you shall find me too far north for you. 1797 Mrs. A. M. BENNETT *Beggar Girl* (1813) III. 28 She was what I call too far north for that. 1864 *Glasgow Her.* 9 Nov., An old salt delights to order his steward to make his grog 'a little more North', 'another point, steward'.

2. quasi-*sb.* = B. 1. In early use chiefly in *from north to south*. Also † *at north*, from the north.

c 1200 ORMIN 11258 All þiss middellærd iss ec O fowwre daless dæledd Onn Æst, o Wesst, o Suþ, o Norrþ. 13.. *Cursor M.* 22330 (Gött.), þan sal fra north a folk rijs. *c* 1391 CHAUCER *Astrol.* I. § 15 From est to West, fro sowth to north. *c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* I. ix. 553 Fra north on south þe streme it strekis. 1570 DEE *Math. Pref.* a iiij b, Of the Variacion of the Compas, from true North. 1625 PURCHAS *Pilgrims* I. II. 60 The first of March a storme took vs at North. 1743 BULKELEY & CUMMINS *Voy. S. Seas* 138 This Morning.., had a fresh Breeze at North. 1748 HUME *Ess., Nat. Characters*, Most Conquests have gone from North to South. 1821–2 SHELLEY *Chas. I*, II. 421 The rainbow hung over the city..from north to south. 1859 TENNYSON *Elaine* 525 His party, knights of utmost North and West. 1870 LOWELL *Study Wind.* Ser. I. *Good Word for Winter*, You must have plenty of north in your gale.

† **b.** *By north*, in the north, on the north side.

Perhaps representing OE. *be norðan* BENORTH.

c 1205 LAY. 21043 Arður wes bi norðe, and noht her of nuste. *c* 1305 *Oxford Student* 1 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 40 A knizt þer was in Engelond, by norþe her biside. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) I. 57 þe grete see Ponticus þat passeþ by north by Thracia. *a* 1425 *Cursor M.* 12131 Of any mon bi norþ or souþ who herde euer suche selcouþ? 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 174/1 By Northe, *Boreas*.

c. *By north*: (see BY *prep.* 9 b).

14.. *Sailing Directions* (Hakluyt) 14 Seint Mary of Cille and Uschante lien northwest and by north. 1612 CAPT. SMITH *Descr. Virg.* Wks. (Arb.) 50 The first of those rivers ..hath his course from the West and by North. 1795 COWPER *Pairing Time* 51 The wind..Now shifted east and east by north. 1848 LOWELL *Biglow P.* Ser. I. VII, This..leaves me frontin' South by North.

B. *sb.* (Usually with *the*.)

1. That one of the four cardinal points which is directly opposite to the sun at mid-day.

The *true north* and *magnetic north* correspond respectively to the north, and north magnetic, pole (see POLE *sb.*[2] 2 and 5 b).

c 1290 *St. Kenelm* 12 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 345 Abouten eizte hondret mile Engelond long is Fram þe South into þe North. *a* 1300 *E. E. Psalter* lxxxviii. 12 Þou grounded þe north to be. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 310 Out of the North they sihe a cloude. *a* 1450 *Fysshynge w. Angle* (1883) 21 Yf hyt be by the northe or north est. 1533 GAU *Richt Vay* 53 He sal..gader to gider al his cbosine barnis..fra the sutht to ye northt. 1594 BLUNDEVIL *Exerc.* III. xix. (1636) 319 How much any Mariners Compasse doth vary from the true North and South. 1625 N. CARPENTER *Geogr. Del.* I. iii. (1635) 62 The magneticall needle will vary from the true point of the North. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VI. 79 Farr in th' Horizon to the North appeer'd..a fierie Region. 1725 DE FOE *Voy. round World* (1840) 145 We were obliged to.. go away afore it to the north or north-by-west. 1786 H. TOOKE *Purley* II. iv. (1829) II. 302 Directing his view to the North rather than to the East. 1812 WOODHOUSE *Astron.* xli. 409 The Magnetic North, almost always, differs from the true. 1878 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* 6 It is a common practice to draw maps in such a position that the north is towards the top.

Comb. 1648 J. BEAUMONT *Psyche* lx. xxxix, The piercing stroke Of barbarous North-begotten Boreas. 1730–46 THOMSON *Autumn* 890 To where the north-inflated tempest foams O'er Orca's..highest peak.

2. The northern part of a country or region; *spec.* a. of England (beyond the Humber), Great Britain, Scotland, or Ireland; the North Country.

c 1205 LAY. 2134 Albanac hefde al þat norð. *c* 1275 *Ibid.* 2659 He..eode forþ, an droþ [= drew] him in to þat norþ. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 25 3it a noþer Danes kyng in þe Norþ gan aryue. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Reeve's T.* 95 Of a toun..Fer in the North, I can nat telle where. *c* 1400 *Brut* xxii. (1906) 26 Anoþere [way] fram þe Northe into þe Southe, þat was callede Ikenyle strete. 1596 SHAKS. *1 Hen. IV*, II. iv. 369 The same mad fellow of the North, Percy. 1665 SIR J. LAUDER *Jrnl.* (1900) 58 A constrainct on that house of Huntly, the Cock of the North. 1674 RAY *Coll. Words* To Rdr., Local words..in divers Counties,.. especially of the North. 1786 H. TOOKE *Purley* II. iv. (1829) II. 241 The word [scale] is still used in the North. 1855 TENNYSON *Daisy* 104, I forgot the clouded Forth,..And gray metropolis of the North.

attrib. 1828 CUNNINGHAM *N. S. Wales* (ed. 3) II. 239 The 'Cork boys', the 'Dublin boys', and the 'North boys'.

b. Of Europe: The northern lands.

1579 FULKE *Heskins's Parl.* 119 Peter acknowledged no Pagans, but such as dwell farthest in the North. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* I. 351 A multitude, like which the populous North Pour'd never from her frozen loyns. 1748 HUME *Ess., Nat. Characters*, All strong Liquors are rarer in the North, and consequently are more coveted. 1784 COWPER *Task* I. 617 Thus fare the shiv'ring natives of the north. 1838 CRICHTON *Scandinavia* I. 9 The religion, laws, and literature of the ancient Nortb. 1847 TENNYSON *Princ.* IV. 80 Dark and true and tender is the North.

c. *U. S.* The northern States, those in which there was no slave-holding, bounded on the south by Maryland, the Ohio River, and Missouri.

1835 in Ht. Martineau *Soc. Amer.* (1837) II. 132 Men of property and intelligence in the north. 1861 LD. R. MONTAGU *Mirror Amer.* 91 Between the North and South there will be feelings of implacable hatred. 1884 J. QUINCY *Figures Past* 343 Characteristic of slaveholders when upon their good behavior at the North.

3. The northern part *of* any country, etc.

c 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* I. xiii. 1183 In to þe northe of Europe is A rywere þat hat Canays. 1622 in *Capt. Smith's Wks.* (Arb.) 303 A thousand yeares agoe they were in the North of America. 1738 [see C. 1 b]. 1863 MORRIS *Hampole's Pr. Consc.* Pref. 8 In the Local-names of the North of England.

fig. 1601 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* III. ii. 28 You are now sayld into the North of my Ladies opinion.

4. The north wind. (Chiefly *poet.*)

1382 WYCLIF *Song Sol.* iv. 16 Ris, north, and cum, south; blo3 thur3 my gardyn.

1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* v. ii. 220, I will speake as liberall as the North. *c* 1648–50 BRATHWAIT *Barnabees Jrnl.* II. (1818) 45 Sure thou know'st the North's uncivill. 1766 GRAY *Kingsgate* 9 Here reign the blustering Nortb and blighting East. 1786 BURNS *Mountain Daisy* iii, Cauld blew the bitterbiting North Upon thy early, humble birth. 1817 SHELLEY *Rev. Islam* VIII. i, The north breathes steadily Beneath the stars. 1871 R. ELLIS tr. *Catullus* xxvi. 3 'Tis not sbowery south,..North's grim fury, nor east.

b. A north wind, esp. one of those northern gales which blow in the West Indies.

1699 DAMPIER *Voy.* II. III. 60 In the West Indies there are three sorts, *viz.* Norths, Souths and Hurricanes. 1707 SLOANE *Jamaica* I. p. xxxii, Hail..comes with very great Norths, which..throw down everything before them. 1775 ROMANS *Florida* App. 11 At the season when Norths are frequent. *a* 1818 M. G. LEWIS *Jrnl. W. Ind.* (1834) 113 The drying quality of these norths is still more detrimental than the want of rain. 1851 BLYTH *Rem. Mission. Wk.* v. 205 Even the norths which occasionally prevail are mild.

C. *adj.*

Developed from the OE. use of *norð-* as the first element of compounds: see examples in 1, and in the main words NORTHDEAL, -END, -HALF, etc. Similar compounds also occur in the cognate tongues, but have not given rise to a purely adjectival use of the word.

1. With proper names:

a. Denoting the northern division of a race or nation. (See also NORTHUMBER.)

Beowulf 783 Norð-denum stod atelic egesa. *c* 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* III. xxiv, Þa syndon tosceadene mid Trentan streame wið Norðmyrcum. *c* 922 *O.E. Chron.* (Parker MS.) an. 922, Þa cyningas on Norþ Wealum..hine sohton him to hlaforde. 1577–87 HOLINSHED *Chron.* I. 118/2 The countrie of the Northmercies conteined in those daies 7000 housholds. 1670 MILTON *Hist. Eng.* V, Imploring his Aid against the North-Welch. 1841 LATHAM *Eng. Lang.* 40 The situation of the North Frisians has been indicated.

b. Denoting the northern part of a country, land, or region, or the more northern of two places having the same name. Also *attrib.*

c 1205 LAY. 29923 Inne Norð Wales wes a king. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) II. 69 Caerleel is a citee in þe contre of Norþ Engelond. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 290 Half an acre in northlonglond. 1547 BOORDE *Introd. Knowl.* ii. (1870) 127 North Wales and Sowth Wales do vary in there speche. 1615 BRATHWAIT *Strappado* (1878) 110 Where he encountred a North-britaine man. 1708 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4422/7 Where-ever they should be called within North-Britain. 1738 DE FOE *Tour* (ed. 2) III. 335 That which we truly call the North of Scotland, and others the North Highlands. 1845 KEMBLE in *Proc. Philol. Soc.* II. 132 The Danish isles, and much of North Germany.

transf. 1801 *Sporting Mag.* XVIII. 101 *North Allertons*—Spurs; that place..being famous for making them.

c. With sbs. and adjs. derived from the names of countries or districts, as *North American*.

1708- [see NORTH BRITON]. 1766 FRANKLIN *Observ.* Wks. 1887 III. 501 Did ever any North-American bring his hemp to England for this bounty? 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geogr.* I. 654 The North Carolinians are mostly planters. 1845 KEMBLE in *Proc. Philol. Soc.* II. 119 On the North Anglian Dialect.

2. With ordinary nouns: Lying towards the north; situated on the side next the north.

a 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 565, Columba..com to Pyhtum..þæt sind þone wærteres be norðum morum.

1382 WYCLIF *Num.* xxxiv. 7 To the north plage [1388 at the north coost] fro the greet see teermes shulen begynne. *c* 1391 CHAUCER *Astrol.* II. § 21 Fro the pool artik vn-to the north Orisonte. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) I. 93 That cuntre of Media towchethe Parthia of the northe parte. 1486 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* (1904) 14 On the North part of the Chirch. 1513 BRADSHAW *St. Werburge* I. 452 Kynge of the North regyon. *Ibid.* 473 Penda..to the North partyes went. 1591 SHAKS. *Two Gentl.* III. i. 380 Thy Master staies for thee at the North gate. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 121 Being once past the vtmost quarter of the North-point. 1612 CAPT. SMITH *Descr. Virg.* Wks. (Arb.) 47 The degrees of 34 and 44 of the north latitude. 1726 DART *Canterb. Cathedr.* 60 In the North-Cross or Martyrdom, where are the Tombs of the Archbishops. 1837 *Penny Cycl.* VII. 146/2 A north transept..looger than the south transept.

Comb. 1862 ANSTED *Channel Isl.* I. i. 5 A north-central group, including Guernsey, Herm, Sark [etc.].

b. Facing the north. Also *Comb.*

1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* III. vii. 167 A North-window is best for Butteries and Cellars. 1706 LONDON & WISE *Retir'd Gard.* 69 Plant no more than two sorts against a North-aspected Wall. 1727–38 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Dial*, A north dial shews the hours before six in the morning, and those after six in the evening. 1796 C. MARSHALL *Gardening* iii. (1813) 29 The North wall is greatly advantaged, by having more sun.

c. Northern; of a northern type.

1820 KEATS *Isabella* xxxii, Before he dares to stray From his north cavern. 1836 F. S[YKES] *Scraps from Jrnl.* 106 The building is very neat..; it is peculiarly north.

Comb. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* II. i. xi, Considerate North-blooded Mountaineers of Jura.

3. Of the wind: Blowing from the north.

Perhaps representing OE. *norðanwind*.

c 1340 *Nominale sive Verbale* (Skeat) 565 Northwynde, Estwynde. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 256/1 þe Northe wynde; *boreas, septemtrio*. 1535 COVERDALE *Song Sol.* iv. 16 Vp thou northwynde, come thou southwynde. 1608 SHAKS. *Per.* IV. i. 52 When I was born, the wind was north. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* II. 489 The dusky clouds Ascending, while the North wind sleeps. 1712 ARBUTHNOT *John Bull* I. xvi, You might argue as well with the North wind, as with her ladyship. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XIII. 106/1 The north wind is generally accompanied with a considerable degree of cold. 1833 TENNYSON *Two Voices* 259 He will not hear the north-wind rave. 1857 EMERSON *Poems* 42 Without the baffled north-wind calls.

fig. 1656 EARL MONM. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* II. vi. (1674) 145 They should sail with the safe North-wind of *Ne-quid nimis*.

North (nɔ̄ɪþ), *v. rare.* [f. prec.]

1. *intr.* Of the wind: To begin to blow from the north; to turn or veer towards the north.

1866 in GREGOR *Banffsh. Gloss.* 1880–1 in JAMIESON.

2. *trans.* To steer to the north of (a place).

1887 MORRIS *Odyss.* III. 170 Whether northing Chios the craggy, our ships we so should lay.

North about. *Naut.* By a northerly route, *spec.* round the north of Scotland.

Cf. OE. *norþ ymbutan* in *O. E. Chron.* an. 894.

1710 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4685/3 Four Galleys from the River of Thames, bound North about to New-England. 1785 J. PHILLIPS *Treat. Inland Navig.* 48 They are now obliged to be brought..down the English Channel..; or else they must go North-about, which is a long and dangerous voyage. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geogr.* I. 139 To coast north-about in small vessels, between the great flakes of ice and the shore. 1851 *Beck's Florist* 13 Jan., Off the coast of Scotland (for we were going north about). 1858 *Merc. Marine Mag.* V. 240 It was desirable to go..north-about.

North Briton. Also 8 **Britain.** [See NORTH *a.* 1 c.] A native of Scotland; a Scot.

1708 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4409/4 Geo. Bremar, a North Britain, ..well set and fat. 1717 PRIOR *Alma* I. 216 North Britons thus have Second Sight. 1822 SCOTT *Nigel* ii, 'I see nae gude it wad do me to speak ought else but truth,' said the worthy North Briton. 1862 BORROW *Wales* xxii, A tall lathy North Briton with a keen eye and bard features.

Hence **North-Bri'tonize** *v.*

An allusion to the title of Wilkes' newspaper, *The North Briton*, published in 1762–3.

1764 H. WALPOLE *Let. to Earl Hertford* 12 April (1846) IV. 406 Mr. Wilkes would have been glad to have North-Britonised for our little Bisbop of Osnaburgh.

† **North-caper,** obs. variant of NORDCAPER.

1743 *Phil. Trans.* XLII. 611 There is another sort of Whale in these Seas, called North-Capers, which feed on Herrings. 1796 STEDMAN *Surinam* II. 384 We also saw.. above the water a large north-caper. This fish, which very much resembles the Greenland whale, is more dangerous.

North country. [NORTH *a.* 2.]

1. The northern part of any country; *spec.* of England (beyond the Humber) or Great Britain; the country or region towards the north.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 7978 Hii..barnde & destrude þe norþ contreie vaste. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 32 Men say he was fonden in þe North cuntre At Hexham now late. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) II. 163 3if þey goo þe norþ contray þey goo wiþ greet..strengþe. 1458 in Gardner *Hist. Dunwich* (1754) 149 To Will. Roper when he went to the norre Contre for the Kyngs Viage. 1535 COVERDALE *Zech.* vi. 8 These that go towarde the north, shal still my wrath in the north countre. 1577 HARRISON *England* II. v. (1877) I. 108 Here in England, especiallie in the north countrie. 1611 BIBLE *Zech.* vi. 6 The blacke horses .. goe forth into the North countrey. 1681 GLANVILL *Sadducismus* 5 It was, and sometimes yet is, as much discoursed of in the North-Countrey, as any thing. 1768 BEATTIE *Minstr.* I. xi, But he, I ween, was of the north countrie. 1840 CARLYLE *Heroes* (1858) 198 In a greater proportion along the east coast; and greatest of all, as I find, in the North Country.

2. The dialect of the north of England.

1698 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3357/4 He .. speaks broad North Country. 1706 *Ibid.* No. 4214/4 Speaks North Country.

3. *attrib.* (Frequently hyphened.)

1674 RAY *Coll. Words* (heading), North-countrey Words. 1684 SYMSON in Ramsay *Remin.* (1874) 212 Contrary to some north countrey people, they oftentimes pronounce 'w' for 'v'. 1703 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3898/4 Strong Voice, a North Country Pronunciation. 1753–4 RICHARDSON *Grandison* (1781) V. 48 Aunt Nell, who has naturally a good blowzing north country complexion. 1838 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* I. 341/2 Eleven hundred and sixty-five pounds of 'north country coals'. 1871 RUSKIN *Munera P.* Pref. (1880) 19 A quiet north country town.

b. *North-countryman*, a native of the north of England.

1706 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4252/4 Jonathan Shipton, a North-Countryman. 1711 J. GREENWOOD *Eng. Gram.* 276 A Word common with the Scotch, and our North countreymen. 1834 MARRYAT *P. Simple* (1863) 196 The master, an old north-countryman, who knows his duty. 1876 L. STEPHEN *Eng. Th. in 18th C.* vi. II. 121 Paley is a hard-headed North-countryman.

Hence **North-co'untriness.**

1888 *Pall Mall G.* 8 Mar. 3/2 There is a chill north-countriness over everything.

† **Northdeal, -dole.** *Obs.* [See NORTH *a.*, and cf. Du. *noorderdeel*, G. *nordtheil*.] The northern part *of* a place.

c 893 K. ÆLFRED *Oros.* I. x. 44 Mid firde farende on Scibbie on ða norðdælas. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* I. 10 He wolde..sittan on þam norð-dæle heofenan rices. *c* 1100 *O. E. Chron.* (MS. D) an. 926, Her oðeowdon fyrena leoman on norð dæle þære lyfte. *c* 1200 ORMIN 16412 Norrþdale off all þiss wereild iss Arrctoss bi name nemmnedd.

† **Northdown.** *Obs.*[–1] Some kind of liquor.

1670 SIR T. CULPEPER *Necess. Abating Usury* 12 Accustomed to swill in Spirits, Brandy, Sack, Metheglin, Northdown, and Mum.

North-east (nɔ̄ɪþī·st), *adv.*, *sb.*, and *a.* [f. NORTH and EAST: cf. MDu. *noortoost* (Du. *noord-*

oost), G., Sw., Da. *nordost*; also F. (13th cent.), It., and Sp. *nordest*, Sp. and Pg. *nordeste*.

OE. had also *norðanéastan*, from the north-east, = MDu. *noortoosten-*, OHG. *nord-, northostan*.]

A. *adv.* **1.** In the direction lying midway between north and east.

931 in W. de Gray Birch *Cartul. Sax.* II. 358 Swa norð east to ðære lytlan riðe. *a* **1122** *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1106, Swilce ormæte beam ȝeþuht norð east scinende. **14**.. *Sailing Directions* (Hakluyt) II It flowith on the londe of Holdernes northest. **1555** EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 348 Neyther shulde the needle make any chaunge..in saylynge northeeste. **1612** CAPT. SMITH *Descr. Virg.* Wks. (Arb.) 52 The river it selfe turneth North east. **1725** DE FOE *Voy. round World* (1840) 174 We stood away now north-east and north-east-by-north. **1762** FALCONER *Shipwr.* I. 726 North-east a league, the Isle of Standia bears. **1846** DICKENS *Cricket on Hearth* i, It's been blowing north-east, straight into the cart, the whole way home. **1872** RAYMOND *Statist. Mines & Mining* 11 The mines are situated 42 miles north east of the town of San Diego.

Comb. **1875** BEDFORD *Sailor's Pkt.-bk.* (ed. 2) § 5. 172 The north-east going stream..makes to the eastward.

2. quast-*sb.* With prepositions, as *on, from, at*.

c **1122** *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1122, Feole scipmen.. sædon þæt hi sæȝon on norð east fir micel. **1481** CAXTON *Godfrey* clxxiii. 256 Fro the yate toward northeste..vnto the tour on the corner. *c* **1500** *Lancelot* 677 Richt as he spred his bemys frome northest, The king wprass. **1599** HAKLUYT *Voy.* II. II. 329 In the 41 degrees we met with the winde at Northeast. **1725** DE FOE *Voy. round World* (1840) 146 So I ran on, having an easy gale at north-east.

B. *sb.* **1.** The direction, or point of the horizon, lying midway between north and east.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) I. 61 þe secounde [sea] is i-cleped Caspius, and entreþ toward þe norþ est. **1398** — *Barth. De P. R.* xv. ix. (Bodl. MS.), He haþ..in þe norþe este þe grickissche see. *a* **1450** [see NORTH B. 1]. **1535** COVERDALE *Ezek.* xl. 23 Ouer agaynst the dore, that was towarde yᵉ north east. **1604** E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* III. v. 134 Mestrall they call the northeast. **1725** DE FOE *Voy. round World* (1840) 302 The wind came about to the north-east and blew very hard. **1778** W. ROBERTSON *Hist. Amer.* Wks. 1851 V. 139 [He] directed his course towards the north-east. **1844** *Mem. Babylonian Princess* II. 134 On the north-east, the lake of Genesareth. **1856** BOND *Russia at Close 16th C.* (Hakluyt) Introd. 3 They despatched expeditions..in the direction of the north-east.

2. The north-east wind.

1382 WYCLIF *Acts* xxvii. 14 The wynd Tiffonyk, that is clepid north eest, or wynd of tempest.

1711 PRIOR *Henry & Emma* 368 Can they resist The parching dog-star, and the bleak north-east? **1728–46** THOMSON *Spring* 142 The North-east spends his rage. **1865** ALLINGHAM 50 *Mod. Poems, Winter Cloud*, With snow Driv'n by a sharp north-east on bough and stem.

C. *adj.*

1. Of the wind: Blowing from the north-east.

Perhaps representing OE. *norðanéastan wind*.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XL iii. (Bodl. MS.), Anoþer ..hatte chorus, þe norþe este winde. **1483** *Cath. Angl.* 256/1 þᵉ Northe est wynde, *uroaquilo*. **1581** PETTIE tr. *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* I. (1586) 17 b, I thinke the Northeast winde doth not so driue in sunder the clouds. **1667** MILTON *P. L.* IV. 161 North-East windes blow Sahean Odours from the spicie shoare. **1707** MORTIMER *Husb.* (1721) II. 112 The Eastern [aspect] is subject to the North-East Winds. **1797** *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVIII. 862/2 It appears..that the north-east wind blows much more frequently in April, May, and June ..than at any other period. **1861** F. METCALFE *Oxonian in Iceland* x. (1867) 152 A north-east wind is called a 'land-north' wind.

2. Lying or situated in or towards the north-east. Also *fig*.

1501 DOUGLAS *Pal. Hon.* I. xxvi, And sa appeirit to my fantasie, A schynand licht out of the north eist sky. **1560** *Astrol.* in *Chaucer's Wks.* 251/2 The Sterres..hen cleped Sterres of the North, for they arisen by the Northeast line. **1675** *Phil. Trans.* X. 457 A Noarth East and South West Moon. **1709** *Brit. Apollo* No. 56. 2/2 Turn the North-East Side of your Face to them and blast their Expectations. **1726** SWIFT *Gulliver* I. viii, Walking..to the North-East Coast of the Island. **1821** SCOTT *Kenilw.* xxvi, A small but strong tower, occupying the north-east angle of the building. **1900** J. V. BARTLET *Apost. Age* I. vi. 157 Rhodes, lying to the northeast corner of its fine island.

b. *North-east passage*, a passage for vessels along the northern coasts of Europe and Asia, formerly thought of as a possible course by which to make voyages to the East.

1600 HAKLUYT *Voy.* III. A 6 b, Great probabilities of a North, Northwest, or Northeast passage. *a* **1625** FLETCHER *Woman's Prize* II. ii, As many servants..as the North-East passage Has consum'd sailors. **1697** DAMPIER *Voy.* (1699) 274, I would take the same method if I was to go to discover the North East Passage. **1725** [see PASSAGE *sb.* 11]. **1885** *Encycl. Brit.* XIX. 325 The achievement of the north-east passage.

Hence **North-ea'st** *v.* Of the compass: To vary in the direction of north-east. *rare*⁻¹.

a **1646** J. GREGORY *Posthuma, Maps & Charts* (1650) 311 At the Straits of Magellan the Roundlet there saith..That the Needle North-easteth six Degrees.

North-ea'ster. [f. as prec. + -ER 1.] A wind blowing from the north-east.

1774 FITHIAN *Jrnl.* in *Amer. Hist. Rev.* V. 315 This is a true August Northeaster, as we call it in Cohansie. **1839** LONGF. *Life* (1891) I. 347 It means a storm-wind—or a north-easter, coming over the sea. **1870** KINGSLEY in *Gd. Words* 203/2 Thanks to the brave north-easter, we have gained in five days thirty degrees of heat.

North-ea'sterly, *a.* and *adv.* [f. NORTH + EASTERLY.] **A.** *adj.*

1. Of the wind: Blowing from the north-east.

1743 WOODROOFE in Hanway *Trav.* (1762) I. II. xxiii. 101 Hard gales of north easterly winds. **1806** *Med. Jrnl.* XV. 581 The north and north-easterly wind has lately prevailed in an unusual degree. **1878** *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 149/1 In the New England States..north-easterly winds are cold.

2. Lying towards the north-east.

1825 J. NEAL *Bro. Jonathan* III. 85 A ridge of hills, running quite across the island, in a north easterly direction. **1872** RAYMOND *Statist. Mines & Mining* 11 In a north-easterly direction from San Diego City.

B. *adv.* From or towards the north-east.

1739 *Encour. Seaf. People* 38 The Admiral followed them .., with small Gales NEtly. **1796** MORSE *Amer. Geogr.* I. 117 [Raleigh] coasted northeasterly as far as Chesapeak Bay. **1877** RAYMOND *Statist. Mines & Mining* 112 A branch of Buck's Creek, flowing northeasterly.

North-ea'stern, *a.* [f. NORTH + EASTERN.] Lying on the north-east side.

1841 EMERSON *Misc.* 226 Walking here on our North-eastern shores. **1861** F. METCALFE *Oxonian in Iceland* x. (1867) 148 The wild reindeer frequent mostly the north-eastern parts of the island. **1878** GLADSTONE *Homer* 59 The great northern and north-eastern mass of Europe.

†**North-ea'sting,** *vbl. sb. Obs.* [f. NORTH-EAST + -ING 1.] The variation of the compass from the true north in the direction of north-east.

1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 348 Neyther shulde the needle make anye chaunge or dyffer in northestinge. **1561** — *Arte Navig.* A iij, The maner and causes of the Northeastinge & Norwesting (commonly called the variation of the compasse). **1594** BLUNDEVIL *Exerc.* III. vii. (1636) 384 In every other place the Compasse doth vary from the true North, either by Northeasting or Northwesting. *a* **1646** J. GREGORY *Posthuma, Maps & Charts* (1650) 311 The several Degrees of Variation of the Compass in North-easting or North-westing.

North-ea'stward, *adv., a.,* and *sb.* [f. NORTH-EAST + -WARD. Cf. MDu. *noortoostwert*, G. *nordostwärts*.] **A.** *adv.* Towards the north-east; in a north-eastern direction.

1553 EDEN *Treat. Newe Ind.* (Arb.) 26 Northeastwarde to the citie of Lop. **1839** THACKERAY *Major Gahagan* i, I travelled..north-eastward. **1849** DANA *Geol.* I. (1850) 19 This chain extends northeastward from Hawaii. **1884** *Harper's Mag.* Sept. 513/1 The sand and lava..extend northeastward from the Dalles.

B. *adj.* Situated towards the north-east.

1766 ENTICK *London* IV. 60 The king's-arms [are] on the north-eastward, and the arms of London on the south-eastward pillar.

C. *sb.* The north-east quarter.

1892 *Daily News* 27 Apr. 3/5 Wind was..from the northward or north-eastward.

North-ea'stwardly, *a.* and *adv.* [-LY 1.] **A.** *adj.* Blowing from, situated or leading towards, the north-east.

1796 *Phil. Trans.* LXXXVI. 351 The north-eastwardly end of the tunnel. **1805** *Ibid.* XCV1. 245 North-eastwardly winds..were the next that prevailed. **1860** MAURY *Phys. Geogr.* ii. § 65 The isothermal lines..run off in a northeastwardly direction.

B. *adv.* Towards the north-east.

1796 MORSE *Amer. Geogr.* I. 609 Nearly parallel with the sea coast, though rather approaching it as they advance northeastwardly. **1807** VANCOUVER *Agric. Devon* (1813) 25 Returning north-eastwardly from Tiverton.

†**No'rthen,** *a. Obs.* Also 2 norðen, 5 -þen, 4 norþin, 5 *Sc.* -thyne, 6 -thin. [f. NORTH + -EN 4. Cf. MDu. *norden, noorden*.] Northern.

c **1175** in Assmann *Ags. Hom.* (1889) VII. 109 Of iaphet.. com þæt norðene mennisc. **13**.. *Cursor M.* 20063 (Edinb.), Turnid ic haue it til ur awin language of the norþin lede. **1398** TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. lxi. (Bodl. MS.), The norþen winde greueth þe fige tree more þan þe soþen winde. *c* **1450** tr. *De Imitatione* III. xxvii. 97 Sey to þe see, 'he in reste,' & to þe norþen wynde, 'blowe not'. **1513** DOUGLAS *Æneid* VII. Prol. 15 Brym blastis of the northyne art. **1588** *Marprel. Epist.* (Arb.) 25 His grace hearing this northen logicke, was mooued on the sodaine. *c* **1625** FLETCHER *Nice Valour* I. i, He has almost beate The Northen fellow blind. **1660** tr. *Amyraldus' Treat. conc. Relig.* III. i. 304 As if a man should purpose to sail from the South with a Northen Wind. **1709** H. BLUNT in Garth *Dispens.*, The People of the Northen Zone.

North-end. [OE. *norðende*, f. *norð* NORTH *adv.*; cf. MDu. *nortende*, Du. *noordeinde*, G. *nordende*. In later use f. NORTH *a.*, and properly unhyphened, except when used attributively.]

1. The northern end or extremity of anything.

c **888** K. ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxxix. § 3 Hi sint swa neah þam norðende þære eaxe þe eall þes rodor on hwerfð. **971** *Blickl. Hom.* 93 Seo eorþe on þæm norþ-ende & on þam east-ende sprecaþ him betweonum. *c* **1205** LAY. 12729 Heo habbeoð of ure londe al þene norð ende. *a* **1352** MINOT *Poems* ix. 3 þe north end of England teched him to daunce. **1641** in Nalson *Impart. Collect.* (1683) II. 399 At the North-end of the Table so standing Altar-wise. **1707** [see NORTHERMOST]. **1840** *Origines Par. Scotiae* I. 327 Near the north end of the present parish. **1861** F. METCALFE *Oxonian in Iceland* v. (1867) 81 Occupying what I believe to have been once the north end of the lake.

attrib. **1902** *Protest. Observer* Sept. 131/1 The Archbishop of Canterbury very properly took the North-end position at the Table.

b. (See quot.)

1883 GRESLEY *Gloss. Coal-mining* 175 *North End*, the rise side of the coal in North Yorkshire.

†**2.** The north of England. *Obs.*

c **1100** *O. E. Chron.* (MS. D) an. 1052, Man bead þa folce þider ut ofer ealne þisne norðende. *c* **1205** LAY. 28982 Þa wunede hi-ȝeonde þere Hunbre..in þan norð ende drenches sume sixe. *c* **1300** *Havelok* 734 In humber grim bigan to lende, In lindesaye, Rith at þe north ende. **1338** R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 32 Alle þe north ende was in his kepyng, & alle þe South ende tille Edmund þei drouh.

Northen-spell, corrupt var. of *knurr and spell*: see KNUR 3.

1801 STRUTT *Sports & Past.* II. iii. 86 Northen-spell is played with a trap, and the ball is stricken with a bat or bludgeon.

†**No'rthenwards,** *adv. Obs.* From the north.

1591 *Child-Marriages* 155 Richard Ince hath receyued into his howse diuers parcelles of Red and white harnes northenwardes within the said Citie.

†**No'rther,** *a. Obs.* [OE. *norþerra, norðra*, a comparative formed on *norþ, norð* adv. = OFris. *northera*, MDu. *nordere, noordre*, ON. *norðari*. Cf. MLG. and MHG. *norder-*, Du. *noorder-* in combs. In sense 2 perh. for *northern*.]

1. The more northerly of two places or things; situated or lying to the north.

901 in Birch *Cartul. Sax.* II. 242 Þonne andlang stedes þæt he neoðan beamwær on þone norðere sted. *c* **922** *O. E. Chron.* (Parker MS.) an. 922, Dæt folc eal ðe to ðære norþerran byrig hierde. **947** in Birch *Cartul. Sax.* II. 601 Ðone liegað ðær ða þreo hida on ðan norðran denceswurðe undælede. *c* **1290** *St. Edmund* 361 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 441 In alle halewene church-ȝerd, in þe norþure side. **1497** HEN. VII in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. I. I. 35 Whereupon Perkin and his company went to the East gate, and to the Norther gate.

2. Northern; belonging to the north.

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XVII. 846 Bot Northir men wald no-thing swa.

†**No'rther,** *adv. Obs. rare.* [Cf. prec. and ON. *norðarr*.] Further north.

c **893** K. ÆLFRED *Oros.* I. i. 18 Þæt byne land is easteweard bradost, & symle swa norðor swa smælre. *c* **1275** LAY. 2674 Þo ferde he norþer, and one neuwe horh makede.

Norther (nɔ̄·ɹþəɹ), *sb.* [f. NORTH + -ER 1.] A northerly wind; esp. a strong north wind accompanied with intense cold, which blows, during the autumn and winter months, over Texas, Florida, and the Gulf of Mexico.

1844 MRS. HOUSTON *Yacht. Voy. Texas* II. 147 During the continuance of a norther, the cold is intense. **1857** OLMSTED *Journ. Texas* 169 These northers upon the open prairies are exceedingly trying. **1891** V. STUART *Adv. Equat. For.* 132 The Northers on rare occasions carry frost even as far south as Cape Sable.

Norther (nɔ̄·ɹðəɹ), *v.* [f. NORTH *adv.* + -ER 5.] *intr.* Of the wind: To shift or veer northward. Hence **No'rthering** *ppl. a.*

1628–9 DIGBY *Voy. Medit.* (Camden) 93 It was extreme cold, and the wind northered vpon vs. **1672** *Lond. Gaz.* No. 682/4 The wind was very high, and Northering. **1889** *Daily News* 9 July 3/6 In a northering breeze the Valkyrie had just the better of the Irex. **1893** F. ADAMS *New Egypt* 86 The hills..run inland with a slight northering tendency.

No'rtherliness. *rare*⁻⁰. 'The state of being northerly' (Ogilvie *Suppl.* 1855).

No'rtherling. *rare*⁻¹. [f. NORTH; cf. EASTERLING.] A native or inhabitant of the north.

1616 *Manifest. Abp. Spalato's Motives* App. III. 1 Stooping so low, as in our owne Language to conuerse with vs..rude Northerlings.

Northerly (nɔ̄·ɹðəɹli), *a.* [f. NORTH; cf. *easterly, westerly*.]

1. Situated towards the north; northern.

1551 RECORDE *Cast. Knowl.* (1556) 263 The one sorte are called Northerlye constellations. **1577** E. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* I. (1586) 17 In colde and Northerlye Countreys. **1624** CAPT. SMITH *Virginia* V. 174 In the height of thirty degrees of Northerly latitude. **1671** J. GAILHARD *Pres. St. Italy* (ed. 2) 196 Northerly people do blame the wayes which they [Italians] use to be avenged. **1730** A. GORDON *Maffei's Amphith.* 323 The northerly Circus in Constantinople. **1776** SEMPLE *Building in Water* 39, I then stood on the northerly Part of the Bridge. **1862** J. M. LUDLOW *Hist. U. S.* 105 Faster..on the more Northerly than on the more Southerly parallels. **1880** GEIKIE *Phys. Geog.* iv. 182 The most northerly swell of the Rocky Mountains.

fig. **1599** B. JONSON *Cynthia's Rev.* II. i, A..smooth and overflowing face that Seems as it would run and pour itself into you: Somewhat a northerly face.

2. Of the wind: Blowing from the northward.

1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 382 We mette northerly wyndes and greate roostynge of tydes. **1602** SHAKS. *Ham.* V. ii. 99 Beleeue mee 'tis very cold, the winde is Northerly. **1664** EVELYN *Kal. Hort.* (1729) 197 The sharp Easterly and Northerly Winds transpierce, and dry them up. **1702** *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3835/3 The Wind proving Northerly.., they stood ..to the Westward. **1748** *Anson's Voy.* II. i. 115 The northerly winds seldom blow in that climate. **1840** MARRYAT *Olla Podr.* III. 19 All the winds which have northerly in them are coarse. **1878** MARKHAM *Gt. Frozen Sea* V. 60 We encountered a fresh northerly wind dead in our teeth.

Northerly (nɔ̄·ɹðəɹli), *adv.* [Cf. prec. and ON. *norðarliga*.] To the northward; towards the north; on the north side.

1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* Prol. 66 Vthiris mair northirlie, nocht ȝit haue bene inhabited. **1635** PAGITT *Christianogr.* 32 Scattered farre and wide.., both Northerly in Cataya, and Southerly to Indin. **1644** MILTON *Educ.* 3 We Englishmen being farre northerly. **1705** W. PENN in *Pa. Hist. Soc. Mem.* X. 15, I would have the same county to be marked northerly by stones. **1725** DE FOE *Voy. round World* (1840) 304 We weighed and stood northerly along the shore. **1812** WOODHOUSE *Astron.* xiii. 112 The star will be more northerly in the position E. **1845** STOCQUELER *Handbk. Brit. India* (1854) 18 As we proceed northerly, the climate becomes more temperate.

†**No'rthermore,** *adv.* Also 3 norður-ma. [See NORTHER *a.* and -MORE.] Further north.

c 1205 LAY. 2674 Þa ferde þe king norður ma, & ane neowe burh makede. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 77 Sit Northermore þei 3ed vntille Bethlyngton.

† No·rthermost, *a. Obs.* [Cf. *northmost* and *castermost*.] Most northerly.

1557 W. TOWRSON in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1589) 113 Betwixt the northermost two hilles. 1707 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4350/3 The Northermost Black Buoy lieth on the North End of the outer middle. 1760 T. HUTCHINSON *Hist. Mass.* i. (1765) 108 The northermost part of the..river.

Northern (nɒ̄·ɹþəɹn), *a.* and *sb.* Forms: 1–3 norþern-, 2–3 norðern-, 4–7 northerne, 6– northern; 4–5 northeren, 5 -erin, 6 -iren; 4 northrin, 6–7 -ren. [f. NORTH + -ERN: cf. OHG. *nordrôni* 'septentrio', ON. *norrœnn*.]

A. *adj.*

1. Of persons or peoples: Living in, originating from, the north, esp. of England or of Europe.

c 890 *O. E. Chron.* (Parker MS.) an. 890, Godrum se norþerna cyning forþferde. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* II. 356 Hine gelæhton ða sume þæs norðernan folces. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1064, Þa norðerne men dydan mycelne hearme abutan Hamtune. *c* 1205 LAY. 31333 He þat norðerne uolc hæuede ineoðered ful swiðe. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 20063 Our aun Langage o northrin lede. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 33 Bot þe Northeren men held him no leaute. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 652 Meaning to have..a southrene Byll, to counteruayle a Northren bastard. 1577–87 HOLINSHED *Chron.* III. 873 Divers northernmen borne. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 533 Contention betweene the Northren and Southren Students at Oxford. 1671 MILTON *P. R.* III. 338 When Agrican with all his Northern powers Besieg'd Albracca. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 415 ¶ 3 Frosts and Winters, which make the Northern Workmen lie half the Year Idle. 1773 JOHNSON 24 Feb. in *Boswell*, My northern friends have never been unkind to me. 1861 M. PATTISON *Ess* (1889) I. 34 A powerful coalition of northern princes to resist the encroachments of Rome. 1884 PENNINGTON *Wiclif* ii. 52 Wiclif, as a northernman, had made common cause with the northern party.

b. *U. S.* Belonging to the northern States.

1836 J. Q. ADAMS 10 June in Ford *Adams & Monroe Doctr.* (1902), The change of dynasty from the Tennessean Hero to the Northern Man with Southern principles. 1849 LYELL *2nd Visit U. S.* II. 35 These Northern settlers are compelled to preserve a discreet silence..when in the society of Southern slave-owners. 1890 HENTY *With Lee in Virg.* 96 In Virginia it was very seldom that the Northern generals could obtain any trustworthy information.

2. Of the wind: Blowing from the north.

a 1000 *Boeth. Metr.* vi. 14 Eac þa ruman sæ norþerne yst nede gebædeð. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 209 A norþerne wind faste bleu3. *a* 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* xvi. 51 Blow, northerne wynd, Sent thou me my suetyng. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* xi. iii. (Bodl. MS.), Borias þe norþeren winde..ariseþ vnder þe sterre þat hat polus articus. 1480 *Chron. Eng.* (Caxton) ccxxxii. 252 That northren wynde is euer redy and destinat to all euell. 1598 GRENEWEY *Tacitus, Ann.* II. xiii. (1622) 51 The northren winds droue him backe againe. 1638 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (ed. 2) 219 Another cold northern blast benummed her. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. i. 116 The northern winds are never to be apprehended. 1784 COWPER *Task* VI. 60 Where the woods fence off the northern blast. 1820 SHELLEY *Sensit. Pl.* III. 110 A northern whirlwind..Shook the boughs.

3. Of things: Belonging or pertaining to, found in, produced by, characteristic of, the north.

Northern dozens, morn(ing), whites: see the sbs.

1387 [see B. 1 a]. 1428–9 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* (1904) 70 A tonne..of northerin ston for þe new chirche porche. 1611 BIBLE *Jer.* XV. 12 Shall yron breake the Northern yron, and the steele? 1682 DRYDEN *Mac-Fl.* 170 Sir Formal..attends thy quill And does thy northern dedications fill. 1748 HUME *Ess., Nat. Characters*, The more southern [languages] are smooth and melodious, the northern harsh and untuneable. 1786 H. TOOKE *Purley* II. iv. (1829) II. 272 The Northern origin [of language] is totally out of sight. 1813 SCOTT *Trierm.* III. xxiv, Pallid beams of northern day. 1882 'OUIDA' *Maremma* I. i. 23 The old woman with the northern eyes.

b. In the specific designations of animals or plants, as *Northern diver, holy-grass, sea-cow*: see the sbs. *Northern Spy* (see quots.).

1860 HOGG *Fruit Man.* 19 Northern Spy...An American apple, which ripens well in this country. 1860 O. W. HOLMES *Elsie V.* i, A seedling apple, like the Northern Spy.

4. Lying or situated to the northward; having a position relatively north.

Northern car, crown, hemisphere: see the sbs.

1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. x. 14 Albanact had all the Northerne part. 1594 BLUNDEVIL *Exerc.* IV. xix. (1636) 466 The crowne of Ariadna..is commonly called..the Northerne Crowne. 1600 FAIRFAX *Tasso* III. lxiv, Against the northren gate his force he hent. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* I. 210 The Pleiads, Hyads, and the Northern Car. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* II. (Globe) 572 The Northern Ocean bounds the Land also on that side. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. ii. 136 We espied a sail in the northern quarter. 1818 SHELLEY *Apennines* 4 Like the sea on a northern shore. 1872 MORLEY *Voltaire* (1886) 4 The Reformation, the great revival of northern Europe.

b. *Northern star* = NORTH STAR.

1601 SHAKS. *Jul. C.* III. i. 60, I am constant as the Northerne Starre. 1700 S. L. tr. *Fryke's Voy. E. Ind.* 353 We saw again the Northern Star to our great Joy. 1748 GRAY *Alliance* 68 The influence of the northern star. 1847 TENNYSON *Princ.* I. 4 On my cradle shone the Northern star.

c. *Northern Lights*, the Aurora Borealis.

1721 *Phil. Trans.* XXXI. 215 If any enquire farther, Why the Northern Lights have of late been so unusually frequent. 1775 *Ibid.* LXVIII. 410 Northern lights to Northward. 1805 SCOTT *Last Minst.* II. viii, He knew, by the streamers that shot so bright, That spirits were riding the northern light. 1860 *Chambers's Encycl.* I. 558 The term Polar Lights would be more appropriate than Northern Lights to designate the aurora.

5. Taking place, carried on, in the north.

1589 COOPER *Admon.* 248 In the Northren rebellion. 1669 LADY CHAWORTH in *Hist. MSS. Comm.* 12th Rep. App. V. 12 They talk heere as if the King would goe a northerne progresse this summer.

6. quasi-*adv.* In the northern manner.

a 1613 OVERBURY *A Wife*, etc. (1638) 97 He speakes Northerne, what Country-man soever.

B. *sb.* **† 1. a.** Northern men. *Obs. rare.*

1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 26 Þorþ þe gode Northeren slayn wer ilkaman. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) II. 163 Men of myddel Engelond..vnderstondeþ bettre þe side langages, norþerne and souþerne, þan northerne and souþerne vnderstondeþ eiþer oþer. 1622 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* xxii. 958 He durst not trust The Northern, which so oft to him had been unjust. *Ibid.* 968 To whom by this revolt, they many Northern drew.

† b. Northern cloth. *Obs. rare* —1.

a 1592 GREENE *Jas. IV*, IV. iii, Let my doublet be white northern, five groats the yard.

2. a. A native of the north.

1774 Low *Tour Orkney & Schetl.* (1879) 107 This kind of poetry being..most fitted to the genius of the Northerns. 1813 EUSTACE *Class. Tour* (1821) III. iv. 123 In the opinion of a phlegmatic northern. 1855 KINGSLEY *Westw. Ho!* (1865) II. 73 Cold Northerns, you little dream how a Spaniard can love. 1871 *Daily News* 16 Aug., Sir Walter Scott..is our common countryman. He made us northerns and us southerns conscious of one flesh and blood.

b. A north wind.

1818 KEATS *Endym.* III. 750 He tore it into pieces small as snow That drifts unfeather'd when bleak northerns blow.

Hence **No·rthern** *v.*, to become more northern.

1757 GROSE *Voy. E. Indies* 365 As the land northerns, the continent grows broader and broader. 1830 *Blackw. Mag.* XXVIII. 131 The finer wools,..as the latitude northerns, become thicker and more plentiful.

No·rtherner. [f. NORTHERN *a.* + -ER 1.]

1. *U. S.* One belonging to the northern States.

1840 J. BUEL *Farm. Compan.* 19 Let not the Northerners take credit to themselves from this outline of old Virginia husbandry. 1890 HENTY *With Lee in Virg.* 119 The Northerners protected by the strong fortifications they had thrown up round Washington.

2. A native or inhabitant of the north, or of the northern part of any country.

1841 EMERSON *Ess.* Ser. I. *Prudence*, The northerner is perforce a householder. 1867 HATTON *Tallants of Barton* i, These northerners are a rare practical race.

No·rtherneze, *v.* [f. NORTHERN *a.* + -IZE.] *trans.* To make northern in respect of feelings, character, or form. Hence **No·rthernized** *ppl. a.*

1859 *Charleston Mercury* 21 June, Washington had, long previously to his death,..become perfectly Northernized. 1899 PLUMMER *Sax. Chron.* II. p. cxix, Before this northernised recension had extended beyond the original limits.

No·rthernly, *a.* Now *rare.* [f. NORTHERN *a.* + -LY 1.] = NORTHERLY *a.*

1574 NEWTON *Health of Mag.* 25 In winter and beginninge of the Springe, and Northernly seasons. 1594 BLUNDEVIL *Exerc.* III. II. viii. (1636) 387 By taking his said declination, because it is Northernly, out of his Meridian altitude. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* III. 94 Storme-sted with Northernely winds. 1658 W. BURTON *Itin. Anton.* 37 The frequent inrodes of the more Northernly Britains, called the Picts. 1703 J. SAVAGE *Lett. Antients* XXXIX. 101 You have travell'd from the more Northernly Nations, even to our Region. 1893 *Academy* 25 Nov. 467/2 In Yezo, a northernly island of Japan.

† No·rthernly, *adv. Obs.* [f. as prec. + -LY 2.]

1. = NORTHERLY *adv.*

1576 NEWTON *Lemnie's Complex.* (1633) 208 Among honest substantiall Traffiquers, and namely, of those that dwell Northernly. 1594 BLUNDEVIL *Exerc.* VI. XXX. 639 Every degree of any of the Southerne signes riseth Southernly, and not Northernly. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* 60 These [constellations] Northernely are seene. 1652 EARL MONM. tr. *Bentivoglio's Hist. Relat.* 87 Islands..which are seated so far Northernly. 1679 OATES *Narr. Popish Plot* 48 If the wind blew northernly.

2. In a north country dialect or accent.

1579 E. K. *Gloss. Spenser's Sheph. Cal.* May 177 *The Gate*, the Gote: Northernely spoken. 1632 BROME *North. Lass* II. i, And sings, and speaks so pretty Northernly they say.

No·rthernmost, *a.* [f. as prec. + -MOST.] Most northern or northerly; furthest north.

1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* II. (Globe) 571 The great River Tartarus, named so from the Northernmost Nations of the Mongul Tartars. 1725 — *Voy. round World* (1840) 106 The northernmost land of Grand Tartary. 1830 LYELL *Princ. Geol.* II. vi (1837) I. 392 The northernmost group of the British Islands. 1870 PROCTOR *Other Worlds* iv. 93 At its northernmost end it turns sharply westward.

No·rthernness. *rare.* [f. as prec. + -NESS.] The state of being in a northern situation.

1853 KANE *Grinnell Exped.* xix. (1856) 149 Eight hundred miles from the Polar limit of all northernness. 1856 — *Arct. Explor.* I. x. 108 This indication of our extreme northernness.

No·rthest, *a.* [Superl. of NORTH *a.*; cf. ON. *norðastr.* First quot. doubtful.] Most northerly.

c 1470 HENRY *Wallace* VII. 558 Behynd thaim cum, and in the Northast [*v.r.* North eist] raw. 1749 H. WALPOLE *Lett.* (1846) II. 300 We thought ourselves in the northest part of England.

† North-half. *Obs.* [OE. *norðhealf* (see NORTH *a.* and HALF *sb.* 1) = MDu. *nordalf*, OLG. *northalva*, OHG. *nordhalba*, ON. *norðrhálfa*.] The north side or part; the north.

c 893 K. ÆLFRED *Oros.* I. i. 12 On norþhealfe is seo sæ Euxinus. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 209 On þa norðhealfe þæs weofodes. *c* 1131 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1131, Dis gear..wæs se heouene o ðe norð half eall swilc hit wære bærnende fir. *c* 1205 LAY. 15937 Þe an is a norð half, þe oðer a suð half. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 11685 Sir Edward ..sone come þo ride To þe norþhalf of þe toun. *c* 1315 SHOREHAM VII. 395 He wolde sette hys sete ryche Of north half, and he god ylyche. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. XIX. 66 Tho that selde hauen the sonne and sittен in the north-half. *c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* I. xiii. 1214 On northe half is it rynnande syne A wattyr þat is callit Albeus.

Northing (nɒ̄·ɹþiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. NORTH + -ING 1.]

1. (Chiefly *Naut.*) Progress or deviation towards the north made in sailing or travelling; difference in latitude due to moving northwards. Freq. in phr. *to make* (so much) *northing*.

1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* IV. iii. 154 Northing, Southing, Easting, and Westing,..is the Difference of Latitude and Departure from the Meridian. 1690 LEYBOURN *Curs. Math.* 641 You shall find 15.31 Leagues, for the Northing. 1709 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4632/4 Discovering the Certainty of the Easting and Westing of the Globe, as exactly as the Northing and Southing already are. 1793 *Phil. Trans.* LXXXIII. 196 On the following day, the observation shewed two miles northing. 1807 PIKE *Sources Mississ.* (1810) I. App. 12 The head of Lake Pepin is in 44° 58′ 8″ N. and we have made very little northing since. 1857 DUFFERIN *Lett. High Lat.* (ed. 3) 204 During the whole of that afternoon..we made but little Northing at all. 1891 J. WINSOR *Columbus* App. 651 Baffin, exceeding the northing of Davis, found lying before him the great expanse of Baffin's Bay.

2. Of heavenly bodies: Apparent movement towards the north.

1808 J. WEBSTER *Nat. Philos.* 225 When the moon has northing or southing the shade is elliptical. 1883 PROCTOR *Gt. Pyramid* iii. 139 The..northing of heavenly bodies.

So **No·rthing** *ppl. a.*, moving northwards.

1859 R. F. BURTON *Cent. Afr.* in *Jrnl. Geog. Soc.* XXIX. 207 Following the northing sun,..the rains reach Western India in June.

Northland (nɒ̄·ɹþlănd). [OE. *norðland* (see NORTH *a.*) = G., Da., Sw. *nordland*, ON. *norðrland*.] The northern part of a country, etc.; also *pl.* the lands lying in the north.

c 893 K. ÆLFRED *Oros.* I. ii. 30 He..for mid miclum gefeohtum on Sciðie þa norðland. *c* 1052 *O. E. Chron.* (MS. C) an. 1052, Hi hwemdon þa mid þam scypon wið þæs norð landes. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* IX. 574 On to the se thai send Schyr Jhon Sewart, that weyll the northland kend. 1533 *Acc. Ld. High Treas.* VI. 123 To ane boy that postit nycht and day in the northland with lettrez. 1738 DE FOE *Tour* (ed. 2) III. 336 The North-land, being all the Country beyond Inverness. *Ibid.*, The third Division of Scotland, called the North-land. 1873 MORRIS *Love is enough* 48 Sure the northlands shall know of the blessings she bringeth. 1896 *Harper's Mag.* Apr. 717/1 The roughest country in all the North-land.

attrib. 1552 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 129 The hevynnis or portis of this realme, at the eist and northland seyis. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) II. 12 Vther hieland men and mony northland men in the meirnis and angus. 1738 DE FOE *Tour* (ed. 2) III. 349 Those whom I have been describing in the North-Land Division. 1840 CARLYLE *Heroes* (1858) 197 The primary characteristic of this old Northland Mythology.

Hence **No·rthlander,** one from the north.

1845 THORPE tr. *Lappenberg's A. S. Kings* II. 13 An incessant outpouring of Northlanders over the North and Baltic Seas, in quest of booty and a home.

No·rth-light. [Cf. Du. *noorderlicht*, G. *nordlicht*, ON. *norðrljós* (Da. *nordlys*).]

1. (Usu. *pl.*) The Aurora Borealis. Also *fig.*

1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *North-Light*, a wonderful Meteor, which usually appears in Greenland [etc.]. 1794 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Myst. Udolpho* vi, I stood looking up at the North-lights, which shot up the heaven to a great height. 1827 CLARE *Sheph. Cal.* 111 With shooting North-lights, 'tokening bloody wars. 1839 LOWELL *Lett.* (1894) I. 47 Two north-lights are there in the Soul that beam, Truth's steady ray and Fancy's waving gleam.

2. Light coming from the north.

1870 LOWELL *Among my Bks.* Ser. I. (1873) 346 Flashes ..of very different quality from the equable north-light of the artist.

† No·rthly, *a. Obs.* [f. NORTH + -LY 1. Cf. OE. *norðlic*, MDu. *noordelijc* (Du. *-lijk*), *noortlijc*, G. *nord-, nördlich*, Da. and Sw. *nordlig*.] Northerly, northern.

1557 RECORDE *Whetst.* a iij, The olde attempte for the Northlie Nauigations. 1573 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 62 In tempest (the wind being northly or east). 1576 TURBERV. *Trag. Tales* (1837) 143 Those warlike wights That earst from Almaine came, And other Northly parts beside. 1622 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* xix. 316 To fortie three Degrees of North'ly Latitude.

† No·rthly, *adv. Obs. rare.* [f. NORTH + -LY 2. Cf. MDu. *noortlike*, Du. *noordelijk*, G. *nord-, nördlich*, Sw. *nordligt*.] Northwards.

a 1490 BOTONER *Itin.* (Nasmith) 178 So contynewyth the seyd laane to the seyd kay northly. 1654 VILVAIN *Epit. Ess.* iii. 74 Sevn Stars stand Northly in set clusters framed.

Northman (nɒ̄·ɹþmæn). [OE. *Norðman* (see NORTH *a.*) = OFris. *North-, Nord-*, OHG. *Nort(h)-, Nordman*, ON. *Norðmaðr* (pl. *-menn*), mod.G., Da., and Sw. *Nordman*: see also NORMAN *sb.*] The history of the word in Engl. is not continuous.] (Chiefly *pl.*) An inhabitant or native of Norway or of Scandinavia.

c 893 K. ÆLFRED *Oros.* I. i. 17 Ohthere sæde..þæt he ealra Norðmonna norþmest bude. *c* 937 *O. E. Chron.* (Parker MS.) an. 937, Þær gefelemed wearð Norðmanna brezu. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Saints' Lives* XXIX. II. 180 Him onbuzon þa francan and þa fyrlenan norðmenn to þam

wynsuman ince wuldres cyningces. 1605 VERSTEGAN *Dec. Intell.* vi. 165 Their habitation was in Norway, so called for the northern situation there-of, and themselues Northmen,..vpon lyke reason. 1817 SCOTT *Harold* III. vi, O'er Eric, Inguar's son, Dane and Northman piled the stone. 1845 [see NORTHUMBRIAN A]. 1887 HAWEIS *Lt. of Ages* vii. 199 Wherever the North-man landed, he settled.

No·rthmost, *a.* Now *rare.* Also 1, 6 -mest. [See -MOST.] Most northerly, northernmost.

c 893 K. ÆLFRED *Oros.* I. vii. 40 Sciþþie þa norðmestan hæfdon unȝewunelice hæton. *a* 1000 *Boeth. Metr.* ix. 43 Oð ða norðmestan næssan on eorðan. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* II. 303 To this Eufride the northmest part tha gaif. 1564 MAITLAND *Let.* in Sir J. Melvil *Mem.* (1735) 86 Upon my Progress towards the Northmost Parts of our Realm. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* III. 109 The Northmost Ile of the Syclades. 1720 DE FOE *Capt. Singleton* (1906) 72 The great river..at the northmost part of the coast of Mozambique. 1743 BULKELEY & CUMMINS *Voy. S. Seas* 118 Bearing from the Northmost Point S. by E. about eighteen Leagues.

No·rthness. [f. NORTH + -NESS.] The quality or state of being relatively north.

1854 *Orr's Circ. Sci., Chem.* 263 Experimenters believed that either northness or southness in a magnet..might be capable each of an individual existence. 1867 HAYES *Open Polar Sea* xxxv. 345 Long lines of cackling geese.. winging their way to some more remote point of northness.

North-north-east, *adv.*, etc. [= Du. *noord-noordoost*, G. and Sw. *nordnordost*; also F. *nord-nord-est*, It. *nortnortest*, Sp. and Pg. *nornordeste.*] In the direction lying midway between north and north-east. Also as *sb.* and *adj.* (cf. NORTH-EAST).

14.. *Sailing Directions* (Hakluyt) 13 Ye must rere at a North north est moone. 1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 66 The northnortheaste wynde roughely tossed the shyppes. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* I. i. 248 It standeth North North-east and by East. 1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] tr. *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* III. v. 134 They divide amongst them the rest of the winds, ..as North-northweast, North-northeast. 1691 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2708/3 The Wind being at North-North-East. 1725 DE FOE *Voy. round World* (1840) 304 The coast running from port St. Julian north-north-east. 1849 J. D. DANA *Geol.* ix. (1850) 468 The main mountain range has in general a northeast to north-northeast course. 1870 LOWELL *Study Wind.* Ser. I. *Good Wd. for Winter*, The vast blur of a north-north-east snow storm.

North-north-west, *adv.*, etc. [= Du. *noord-noordwest*, G. *nordnordwest* (Sw. *-vest*); also F. *nord-nord-ouest*, Sp. *nornoroueste.*] In the direction lying midway between north and north-west. Also as *sb.* and *adj.*

c 1381 CHAUCER *Parl. Foules* 117 As wisly as I sawe the northe northe west When I beganne my sweuene for to write. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XV. xv. (Bodl. MS.), þis londe haþ in þe norþe norþewest side þe see Occian. *Ibid.* xxvii, Toward norþe norþeweste. 14.. *Sailing Directions* (Hakluyt) 11 The cours is North northwest and South South est. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* II. ii. 396, I am but mad North, North-West: when the Winde is Southerly, I know a Hawke from a Handsaw. 1662 J. DAVIES tr. *Mandelslo's Trav.* 259 The contrary wind forc'd us to laveering to the North-north-west. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 59 It was on the N.N.W. Side of the Hill. 1824 SCOTT *St. Ronan's* xvii, Twenty-three miles north north-west. 1877 RAYMOND *Statist. Mines & Mining* 65 A line drawn through its center would run north-northwest and south-southeast.

Hence **North-north-westward** *adv.*

1784 *Phil. Trans.* LXXIV. 203 From about 45° of elevation north-north-westward.

North-polar, *a.* [f. *north pole*: cf. POLAR *a.*] Of or pertaining to the north pole (see POLE *sb.*2).

1784 HERSCHEL in *Phil. Trans.* LXXIV. 255 The bright north-polar spot in fig. 26. 1849 NOAD *Electricity* (ed. 3) 298 A south pole at E, which either destroys or neutralizes the north-polar magnetism previously induced by N.

North Sea. [Cf. (= 1 b) MDu. *Nort-, Noortzee* (Du. *Noordzee*), G. *Nordsee*, Da. *-sö*, Sw. *-sjö.*]

1. †a. The Bristol Channel. *Obs. rare.*

c 894 *O. E. Chron.* (Parker MS.) an. 894, [Hi] ymbsæton an ȝeweorc on Defnascire be þære norþ sæ. *a* 1490 BOTONER *Itin.* (Nasmith) 123 Le north-see. Villæ principales super mare boriale sitæ. Primo Seyt Hyes.

b. The German Ocean.

c 1290 *St. Kenelm* 17 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 345 To þe North-se hombur geth. 1720 RAMSAY *Prosp. Plenty* 2 In lays immortal chant the North-sea s praise. 1753 HANWAY *Trav.* (1762) II. I. iii. 17 The mouth of the Elbe, at the north-sea, is about thirteen..miles distance. 1841 *Penny Cycl.* XXI. 147/2 The Baltic..receives so great a supply of river-water, that its level is higher than that of the North Sea. 1859 TENNYSON *Elaine* 481 A wild wave in the wide North-sea.

attrib. 1705 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4103/4 Newfoundland Bank-Fish,..equal to the North-Sea Cod. 1720 RAMSAY (*heading*), Prospect of Plenty: A Poem on the North-Sea Fishery. 1891 CLARK RUSSELL *Marr. at Sea* v, A staunch little craft..built for North Sea weather.

†2. The sea to the north of (central) Europe; the Baltic. *Obs. rare.*

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Vet. Test.* (Gr.) 4 Of Iaphet..com þæt norðerne mennisc be þære norðsæ. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* X. viii. (Bodl. MS.), þe norþe see is but litel salt. *Ibid.* XIV. ii, Londe þt is nyȝe to þe [southe] see is more [hot] and moiste þanne londe þat is nyȝe to þe norþe see.

3. *pl.* The seas of the northern hemisphere.

1601 R. JOHNSON *Kingd. & Commw.* (1603) 33 In these places they made the north and south seas their bounds. 1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* I. viii, An English Merchant-man, returning from Japan by the North and South Seas.

4. (See quot.)

1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* 500 *North Sea*, the Jamaica name for the north swell.

+North-shine. *Obs. rare* −1. [Cf. G. *nordschein*, Da. *nordskin*, Sw. *norrsken.*] The Aurora Borealis.

1738 [G. SMITH] *Cur. Relat.* II. 447 It shoots forth from the North, for which Reason it is call'd the North-Shine.

North-side. [ME. *norðsīde* (see NORTH *a.*) = MDu. *nort-, noor(t)side* (Du. *noordzijde*), OHG. *nordsīta* (G. *nordseite*), MSw. *norrsijda*, Sw. *nordsida*, Da. *-side.* In later use also simply a collocation of NORTH *a.* and SIDE *sb.*] The side lying towards the north.

c 1205 LAY. 24515, I þere chireche..bi þere norð side [sat] Wenhæiuer þa quene. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 17288 + 137 þer was our lord sepulcre, in þe northside i-wis. *c* 1305 *Edmund Conf.* 350 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 80 In alle halewe churchȝerd, in þe norþ side. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) I. 61 By twene þe norþside of India and Scythia. 1535 COVERDALE *Ezek.* xlviii. 1 The tryhes that lye vpon the northsyde. 1552 *Bk. Comm. Prayer, Communion*, The Priest standing at the north-syde of the Table, shal saye the Lordes prayer. 1612 CAPT. SMITH *Descr. Virg.* Wks. (Arb.) 50 From the North side is the river of Chickahamania. 1641 in Nalson *Impart. Collect.* (1683) II. 399 The Minister, who is by the Law to officiate at the North-side of the Table. 1754 T. GARDNER *Hist. Dunwich* 125 John Baret..on the North-Side. 1836 PARKER *Gloss. Archit.* (1850) I. 132 On the north side of the chancel is placed a chantry chapel. 1866 F. G. LEE *Direct. Angl.* 356 *North-side*, the part of the altar to the left of the Midst as the Priest stands in the front facing the east. 1887 MORRIS *Odyss.* XIII. 110 The one to the north-side facing.

North star. [ME. *north sterre* = MDu. *noirdstern*, Du. *noordster*, G. *nordstern*, Da. *-stjerne*, Sw. *-stjerna.*] The Pole-star.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* VIII. ii. (Bodl. MS.), The moste norþe sterre, the whyche norþe sterre we clepeþ schyppeman-sterre. 1530 PALSGR. 248/2 Northe starre, *pol articque.* 1559 W. CUNNINGHAM *Cosmogr. Glasse* 96 By findinge the height of the Northe starre. 1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* II. i. 258 If her breath were as terrible as [her] terminations,..she would infect to the north starre. 1625 PURCHAS *Pilgrims* I. II. ii. 34 When they had sayled past the Equinoctiall Line, they lost the sight of the North starre. 1661 BOYLE *Style of Script.* (1675) 61 The North star..doth better guide the pilot, than ev'n the moon herself. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* II. (Globe) 605 Our..Guide, who..steer'd himself by the Pole, or North Star. 1779 JOHNSON *L. P., Milton* (1868) 66 The pensive man..outwatches the North Star, to discover the habitation of separate souls. *c* 1808 SURTEES in G. Taylor *Mem. R. S.* (Surtees) 244 The witching spell..That lur'd the north star from the sky. 1848 LOWELL *Biglow P.* Ser. I. ix, He..axed ef I could pint The North Star out.

fig. 1639 S. DU VEAGER tr. *Camus' Admir. Events* 232 In such tender years they are ships without North-starre, Rudder, or anchor. 1656 EARL MONM. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* I. xxix. (1674) 32, [I] resolved to steer.. by the assured North-Star of the afore-said Sentence. 1730 FIELDING *Rape upon Rape* III. vi, A widow with fourscore thousand pounds in her pocket—There's a North star to steer by!

Northu·mber. Now *rare.* [OE. *Norðhymbre* (also *Norðan-*), f. *norð-* NORTH + *Humbre* the Humber. The ME. *a*-forms appear to represent the OE. gen. or dat. pl., but may have been taken in the sense of 'Northumberland'.] *pl.* The ancient inhabitants of Northumbria, or that part of England lying north of the Humber.

a. a 900 *O. E. Chron.* (Parker MS.) an. 601, Edwine Norðhymbra cyning. *a* 1122 *Ibid.* (Laud MS.) an. 1095, Se eorl Rodbeard of Norðhymbran. *c* 1205 LAY. 30379 Cadwaðlan gon liðe..touward Norð-humbre. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 4683 þe verste king of norþhumber. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) II. 81 þis is þe citee þat Ethelfride, kyng of Norþhumber, destroyed.

β. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) II. 163 Al þe longage of þe Norþhumbres, and specialliche at ȝork, is .. scharp, slitting, and frotynge and vnschape. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 15 While king William was thus occupied in Normandy, the Northumbers rebelled. 1601 WEEVER *Mirror Mart.* VI. i, He pierst the eie Of the Scots king, and set Northumbers free. 1631 — *Anc. Funeral Mon.* To Rdr. 4 Ceonulph, King of the Northumbers. 1705 J. TAYLOR *Journ. Edenb.* (1903) 51 Edwin, king of the Northumbers, a Pagan. 1756–9 BUTLER *Lives Saints* (1836) II. 205 The English Saxon kingdom of the Northumbers. 1854 WATERWORTH *Eng. & Rome* 182 His pions and zealous son, the King of the Northumbers.

Northumbrian (nɒ̄ɹþə·mbriăn), *a.* and *sb.* [f. prec. + -IAN.]

A. *adj.* Of or pertaining to Northumbria or Northumberland.

1622 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* xxiv. 937 The Roll of these Northumbrian Kings. *Ibid.* 1238 Of the Northumbrian Line so have we many more. 1776 SIR D. DALRYMPLE *Annals Scotl.* I. 7 Maerleswegen, Gospatrick, and other Northumbrian nobles. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* V, The monsters of heraldry, embodied by the art of some Northumbrian chisel. *Ibid.* xviii, A snug comfortable Northumbrian cottage. 1845 R. GARNETT in *Proc. Philol. Soc.* II. 78 This admixture of the Northmen in the population of the Northumbrian provinces. 1884 *Encycl. Brit.* XVII. 567/2 The management of many Northumbrian farms is excellent.

B. *sb.* 1. An inhabitant or native of ancient Northumbria or modern Northumberland.

1752 *Life Bernard Gilpin* 207 These wild Northumbrians indeed went beyond the ferocity of their ancestors. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XIII. 111/2 The Northumbrians were anciently stigmatized as a savage, barbarous people. 1828–43 TYTLER *Hist. Scot.* (1864) I. 56 The Scots..delayed their advance; and the Northumbrians..returned home. 1884 *Encycl. Brit.* XVII. 567/1 In physique the Northumbrian is stalwart and robust.

2. The northern dialect of English current in ancient Northumbria; also, the modern dialect of Northumberland.

1845 KEMBLE in *Proc. Philol. Soc.* II. 125 The most extensive monument of pure Northumbrian which we possess. 1889 SKEAT *Gospels* Introd., The other three Gospels are glossed in Old Northumbrian.

Hence **Northu·mbrianism.**

1845 R. GARNETT in *Proc. Philol. Soc.* II. 84 The Northumbrianisms *swa, gude, sall, swilke, til.*

Northupite (nɒ̄·ɹþŏpəit). *Min.* [Named after its discoverer, C. H. *Northup.*] (See quots.)

1895 *Amer. Jrnl. Sci.* L. 481 The name Northupite is proposed for this new species. 1896 CHESTER *Dict. Min., Northupite*,..chloride and carbonate of sodium and magnesium, found in regular octahedrons.

Northward (nɒ̄·ɹþwŏɹd), *adv.*, *sb.*, and *a.* Forms: 1 norðw(e)ard, 3–4 norþ-, 5 norþe-, 3– northward (6 *Sc.* -wart); 4 northe-, 5–6 northwarde. [f. NORTH + -WARD: cf. MDu. *nortwart, -wert, noort-, noordewaert.*]

A. *adv.* 1. Towards the north; in a northern direction: a. of motion or aspect.

a 1100 *O. E. Chron.* (MS. D) an. 1016, Da Uhtred ȝeahsode þis, þa forlet he his herȝunge & efste norðweard. *c* 1290 *Beket* 1119 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 138 Al North-ward he drouȝ him furst, a-wei al fram þe se. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 207 Jon Northward him sped, his lond for to visite. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) I. 57 þanne þe see schedeþ norþward, and makeþ þe see Propontides. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* I. xi. 51 He had the hoost Northward.. vnto the foreist of Bedegrayne. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 653 Making prouision to go Northwarde agaynst his aduerse faction. 1596 SHAKS. I *Hen. IV*, III. i. 79 To you The remnant Northward, lying off from Trent. 1682 DRYDEN *To Duchess of York* 10 Love..wander'd northward to the verge of day. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 93 ₱ 5 He had a better Stomach when he moved Northward. 1784 JOHNSON 12 July in *Boswell*, I am going Northward for a while. 1858 DASENT in *Oxford Ess.* 193 Its doors look northward. 1878 GLADSTONE *Homer* 61 From hence round to the Black Sea, passing east and northward.

b. of relative position.

c 1384 CHAUCER *H. Fame* III. 62 This hille, that Northewarde lay. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XV. xliii. (Bodl. MS.), Wipin þese londes esteward is rodus and norþeward Cenode. *c* 1420 *Palladius on Husb.* I. 120 Northward in placis hoot; in placis colde, Southward. 1535 COVERDALE *Ezek.* xl. 44 There stode one also, hesyde the east dore north warde. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* II. i. 4 Bring me the fairest creature North-ward borne. 1612 CAPT. SMITH *Descr. Virg.* Wks. (Arb.) 53 Thirty leagues Northward is a river not inhabited. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* VII. xvi. 25 Those that live 90 deg. from us Northward or Southward. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 9 Mar. 5/1 On the Downs northward of Brighton.

2. quasi-*sb.* = next.

1864 TENNYSON *En. Ard.* 102 Ten miles to northward of the narrow port. 1865 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* V. 546 To northward of Bautzen forty miles.

B. *sb.* That direction or part which lies to the north (*of* a place or thing).

1624 in *Capt. Smith's Wks.* (Arb.) 337 A relation of a Discovery towards the Northward of Virginia. 1644 BULWER *Chiron.* 43 The hand..leapeing back to the Northward of the Body. 1702 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3831/3 Two Men of War to the Northward of the Fleet gave him Chase. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. iii. 147 To fit up the boats..and to proceed with them to the northward. 1820 W. SCORESBY *Acc. Arctic Reg.* II. 208 Some ships have sailed to the northward of the seventy-eight degree of latitude. 1864 TENNYSON *Aylmer's F.* 415 The tall pines That darken'd all the northward of her Hall. 1880 HAUGHTON *Phys. Geogr.* iii. 126 The vapour..flows to the northward and southward.

C. *adj.* That moves or looks northward; extending or situated towards the north.

Not historically connected with OE. *norð(e)weard* or *norðanweard.*

1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV*, II. iii. 13 When your owne Percy ..Threw many a Northward looke. 1622 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* xxiv. 28 Whence Lestershire she leaves upon the Northward side. 1707 *Lond. Gaz* No. 4395/3 The Northward Part of the Goodwin Sands. 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* xxv. (1856) 200 The observations which I noted during our northward drift. 1892 LEE *Hist. Columb.* II. 222 In 1868, the northward growth of the city began to be notable.

No·rthwardly, *adv.* and *a.* [f. prec. + -LY 2.]

A. *adv.* In a northward direction.

1796 MORSE *Amer. Geogr.* I. 609 European geographers.. extended the name northwardly. 1807 VANCOUVER *Agric. Devon* (1813) 38 Proceeding northwardly through the remainder of East Allington. 1853 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* XIV. I. 18 Travelling northwardly from this..plain.

B. *adj.* That has a northern situation or direction; of the wind, blowing from the northward.

c 1682a J. COLLINS *Making Salt in Engl.* 75 The most Northwardly part is Rag-Point. 1805 *Phil. Trans.* XCVI. 251 These northwardly winds I take to have been the north-east wind in the offing. 1858 *Merc. Marine Mag.* V. 161 A slowly moving northwardly current.

Northwards, *adv.* and *sb.* [Cf. Du. *noordwaarts*, G. *nordwärts.*] Northward.

c 894 *O. E. Chron.* (Parker MS.) an. 894, þa woldon [hie] ferian norþweardes ofer Temese in on East Seaxe. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* VIII. 406 His wiage northwardis he tais. 1461 *Paston Lett.* I. 540 My Lord Fitzwater is ryden northewards. 1511 *Guylforde's Pilgr.* (Camden) 22 It marcheth..northwardes to the kyngdome of Surrey. 1574 W. BOURNE *Regiment for Sea* 31, I doe take the heigth of the Sunne vnto the Northwardes. 1624 in *Capt. Smith's Wks.* (Arb.) 337 The winds so crossed vs [that] wee fell more Northwards. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* (1645) Apr., Minding us of returning Northwards. 1806 A. DUNCAN *Nelson* 153 It stretched northwards. 1887 BOWEN *Virg.*

Æneid I. 391 Sped to a sheltering haven by winds that have northwards turned.

† **No·rthway,** obs. variant of NORWAY [2].

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) I. 287 Þan Norþways and Danes made hem cheef citees in Gallia.

North-west (nɒ̄ɹþwe·st), *adv.*, *sb.*, and *a.* [f. NORTH and WEST: cf. MDu. *noortwest* (Du. *noord-*), OHG. *nord-*, *northuuest*, G. *nordwest*, Da. and Sw. *nordvest*; also F. *nordouest* (†*north-*, *nort-*, *nor-*), Sp. *nordovest*, *norueste*, Pg. *noroeste*. OE. had also *norðanwestan*, from the north-west.]

A. *adv.* **1.** In the direction intermediate between north and west.

c 893 K. ÆLFRED *Oros.* I. i. 24 An ðæra garena lið suðwest..& se ðridda norðwest onȝean Brigantia. 931 in Birch *Cartul. Sax.* II. 358 Of ðære flodan norð west to ðære miclan apoldre. 14.. *Sailing Directions* (Hakluyt, 1889) 11 The streme settith North West and Southest. 1509 HAWES *Past. Pleasure* xiv. (Percy Soc.) 53 In the stormy pery Mercury northwest thou mayst se appere. 1594 BLUNDEVIL *Exerc.* IV. xxiii. (1636) 479, I find..that the said starre setteth Northwest and by West. 1612 CAPT. SMITH *Descr. Virg.* Wks. (Arb.) 52 The greatest [river]..is called Quiyongh and trendeth north west. 1703 MAUNDRELL *Journ. Jerus.* (1721) Add. 6 Our Course..was North West and by North. 1725 DE FOE *Voy. round World* (1840) 303 We stood northward again, and then north-west. 1809 [see the sb.]. 1880 C. R. MARKHAM *Peruv. Bark* 371 The valley runs north-west and south-east.

b. From this direction.

1870 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* II. III. 382 The south-east wind..changed, and northwest now it blew.

2. quasi-*sb.* = next.

14.. *Sailing Directions* (Hakluyt, 1889) 11 Yif..the wynde be at Northwest your cours is Southest. *Ibid.* 14 Bery land is est and by north west. 1725 DE FOE *Voy. round World* (1840) 301 A fresh gale at north-west-by-west. 1806 A. DUNCAN *Nelson* 61 The French had sailed..with a fresh gale at north-west.

B. *sb.* The direction or region lying between north and west; *spec.* the North-west Territories of Canada.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) II. 69 A citee in þe contre of Norþ Engelond toward þe norþ west. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) II. 71 A place..at the northe weste of hit. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 631 In the utmost angle.. toward the North-West. 1662 J. DAVIES tr. *Mandelslo's Trav.* 248 The wind changed, and came to the north-west. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* II. (Globe) 571 Till we came round the Pole, and consequently into the North-West. 1778 W. ROBERTSON *Hist. Amer.* (1783) I. 142 After this..he advanced towards the north-west. 1809 A. HENRY *Trav.* 239, I was now in what is technically called the north-west; that is, the country north-west of Lake Superior. 1874 *Encycl. Brit.* IV. 766/1 The vast prairie lands of the great north-west thus embraced within the Dominion.

C. *adj.* **1.** Of the wind: Blowing from the north-west.

Perhaps representing OE. *norðanwestanwind.*

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XI. iii. (Bodl. MS.), Borias ..haþ bi his sides..þe norþeweste winde. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 256/1 þ' Northe west wynde; *circius.* 1572 HULOET s.v., Ptol. calleth the Northweast wynde *Chorus.* 1612 CAPT. SMITH *Descr. Virg.* Wks. (Arb.) 48 The Northwest winde is commonly coole. 1725 DE FOE *Voy. round World* (1840) 13 We met with..a north-west blast, which carried us..a great way off to sea. 1806 A. DUNCAN *Nelson* 60 The enemy had sailed with a north-west wind.

2. *North-west Passage*, a passage for vessels along the north coast of America, formerly thought of as a possible channel for navigation between the Atlantic and the Pacific.

1600 HAKLUYT *Voy.* III. A 4, The voyage of Sebastian Cahota.., for the discouery of a Northwest passage. 1631 J. DONE *Polydoron* 152 The Philosophers Stone is like the Northwest Passage lockt up in Strechio Davies, but not so cold in Seeking. 1697 DAMPIER *Voy.* (1699) 273, I know there have been divers attempts made about a North West Passage and all unsuccessful. 1725 [see PASSAGE *sb.* 11]. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Suppl.* s.v., A north-west passage by Hudson's bay, into the pacific ocean. 1820 W. SCORESBY *Acc. Arctic Reg.* I. 17 The existence of a 'north-west passage' is not yet either proved or refuted. 1857 ARMSTRONG (*title*), A Personal Narrative of the Discovery of the North West Passage. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* 500 The north-west passage..was..solved by H.M.S. Investigator..reaching the western end of Barrow's Straits.

fig. 1670 CLARENDON *Ess.* Tracts (1727) 145 It [industry] is the North-west Passage that brings the merchant's ships.. to him. 1823 BYRON *Juan* XIII. xxxix, They are a North-West Passage Unto the glowing India of the soul. 1831 CARLYLE *Sartor Res.* II. v, That shorter North-west Passage to thy fair Spice-country of a Nowhere.

b. Hence *North-west discovery.* Also *fig.*

1600 HAKLUYT *Voy.* III. 45 Certaine Gentlemen that went with M. Frobisher in his North west discouerie. 1638 CHILLINGW. *Relig. Prot.* I. v. § 91. 292 Search your storehouse, M. Brerely, who hath travailed as farre in this Northwest discovery, as it was possible for humane industry.

3. Pertaining to the north-west; situated in the north-west part of a country, etc.

1827 *Gentl. Mag.* XCVII. II. 390 The nearly ascertained site of the North-west Magnetic pole. 1836 W. IRVING *Astoria* (1849) 120 Numbers of men of this class were scattered throughout the northwest territories. 1864 *Chambers's Encycl.* VI. 797 The area of the North-West Provinces is 116,493 square miles.

North-we·ster, *sb.* [f. prec. + -ER [1].]

1. A wind or gale blowing from the north-west.

1737 T. SMITH *Jrnl.* (1849) 267 There has been no north-westers this fall nor winter. 1751 FRANKLIN *Lett.* Wks. 1840 V. 261, I question whether the strongest north-wester would dissipate it. 1807 W. IRVING *Salmag.* (1824) 271 The brisk north-westers, which prevailed not long since. 1860 *Merc. Marine Mag.* VII. 199 There is no protection from the heavy swell setting in with a north-wester.

2. = NOR'-WESTER 2.

1830 MARRYAT *King's Own* XX, Pouring him out a north-wester.

† **North-wester,** *a. Obs.* = NORTH-WEST *a.* 1.

c 1450 tr. *Giraldus Cambrensis' Hist. Irel.* (1896) 14 Storkes & swalewes & oþer somer foules..comen, & wyth þe cold north-westre wynd þay ben awey ywent.

North-we·sterly, *a.* [f. NORTH-WEST, after WESTERLY.] a. Of the wind: Blowing from the north-west. b. Tending north-west.

1611 COTGR., *Galerneux*, north-westerlie. 1708 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4446/3 We have Tided it with the Merchant Ships ..to this Place with small Gales North-Westerly. 1778 W. ROBERTSON *Hist. Amer.* (1783) II. 9 A north-westerly wind and excessive cold are synonymous terms. 1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* xxvii, Directing his course in a northwesterly direction. 1870 LOWELL *Study Windows* Ser. I. *Good Word for Winter*, The avant-courier of a northwesterly gale.

North-we·stern, *a.* and *sb.* [Cf. WESTERN and OHG. *northuuestrôni*].

A. *adj.* Situated or extending towards the north-west.

1612 SELDEN in *Drayton's Poly-olb.* 125 Japhet..had the North-westerne Part of the World. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* III. 105 These North-westerne Ilands..are neither hot nor cold. 1846 MCCULLOCH *Brit. Empire* (1854) II. 58 Among the greater lines of railway now existing, may be specified the London and North Western. 1860 VENABLES *Isle of Wight* 338 The woodland of the north-western district.

B. *sb.* (See quot.)

1701 WOLLEY *Jrnl. New York* (1860) 23 A thick winter Coat there is commonly called a North-western.

† **North-we·sting,** *vbl. sb. Obs.* [f. NORTH-WEST + -ING [1].] The variation of the compass from the true north in the direction of north-west.

1594–1646 [see NORTH-EASTING].

North-we·stward, *adv.* and *sb.* [f. NORTH-WEST + -WARD.]

A. *adv.* In a north-westerly direction; towards the north-west.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) II. 71 A place foure score myle out of York norþwestward. 1599 HAKLUYT *Voy.* II. II. 17 We met with the winde at Northeast, and so we ran Northwestward. 1686 PLOT *Staffordsh.* 402 Which he makes Northwestward from Coventry. 1728 MORGAN *Algiers* I. iii. 70 North-Westward of Costantina..there is a Mountain. 1760 T. HUTCHINSON *Hist. Mass.* iv. (1765) 390 A line to run northwestward. 1858 H. D. ROGERS *Geol. Pennsylv.* I. 124 The Matinal shale manifestly declines in thickness as it spreads north-westward.

B. *sb.* = NORTH-WEST *sb.*

1796 MORSE *Amer. Geogr.* I. 128 To the northwestward of Hudson's Bay is an extensive chain of lakes. 1820 W. SCORESBY *Acc. Arctic Reg.* I. 76 After doubling Cape Farewell, they stood to the north-westward. 1892 *Daily News* 27 April 3/5 Wind was light..from the north-westward in the west of France.

Hence **North-we·stwardly** *a.* and *adv.*

1796 MORSE *Amer. Geogr.* I. 223 A northwestwardly course. 1863 MRS. WHITNEY *Faith Gartney's Girlh.* XXVI, Looking off, northwestwardly, across the head of the Pond.

North wind: see NORTH *a.* 3.

Nortour, -ure, obs. forms of NURTURE.

Norvegian, obs. form of NORWEGIAN.

Norward (nɒ̄·ɹwɒ̆ɹd), *adv.* and *sb.* [f. *nor'* NORTH + -WARD.]

A. *adv.* In a northern direction; northward.

a 1618 SYLVESTER *Little Bartas* 274 Wks. (Grosart) II. 87 The more that they are Nor-ward driven. 1681 VISC'TESS CAMPDEN in *Hist. MSS. Comm.* 12th Rep. App. V. 56 They do not like to come norward so late in the yeare. 1839–48 BAILEY *Festus* 68 Norward now we'll hold our course. 1865 TENNYSON *Captain* 35 Stately, lightly, went she Norward, Till she near'd the foe.

B. *sb.* The northern part or region.

a 1618 SYLVESTER *Job Triumph.* 85 Wks. (Grosart) II. 162 To the Norward, where hee worketh rife. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 22 A fair Wind soon set us once more to the Norward of the Equinoctial. 1700 GOV. NICHOLSON in W. S. Perry *Hist. Coll. Amer. Col. Ch.* I. 118 In Pennsylvania and to the Norward.

So **No·rwards** *adv.*

1855 BAILEY *Mystic* 106 And those, Hrimthursar hight, who norwards held Frore Jotunheim.

Norway [1] (nɒ̄·ɹwe͡i). [Repr. ME. *Norwey*, *-wei*, OE. *Norweg*, ad. ON. *Norvegr* (earlier **-wegr*), f. *nor-*, *norðr* NORTH + *veg-r* WAY.] The name of one of the Scandinavian countries, used *attrib.* to designate special kinds or varieties of plants or trees, animals, or things, as *Norway berry*, *birch*, *fir*, *maple*, *spruce*; *Norway crow*, *haddock*, *lobster*, *rat*; *Norway deal*, *neckcloth*, *ragstone*, *skiff*, *yawl.* (See quots. and the various sbs.)

1674 tr. *Scheffer's Lapland* 141 Berries, the chief are those which the Swedes call *Hiortron*, some Dew-berries, or the *Norway Berry. 1887 BENTLEY *Man. Bot.* 668 The common Birch yields the timber known as *Norway Birch. 1848 *Zoologist* VI. 2258 The hooded crow is the *Norway crow. 1731 MILLER *Gard. Dict.* s.v. *Abies*, The Common Firr, or Pitch Tree, sometimes called, The *Norway or Spruce Fir. 1847 CARPENTER *Zool.* § 556 The Sebastes, or *Norway Haddock, which inhabits the northern seas, and is an important article of food. 1800 SHAW *Naturalist's Misc.* XII. pl. 464 *Norway Lobster...This species is nearly equal in size to the common Lobster, and is principally found in the Northern ocean. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) I. 60/2 The platanoides, or *Norway-maple, grows naturally in Norway, Sweden, and other northern countries of Europe. 1882 *Garden* 25 Nov. 459/2 The Norway Maple is a beautiful tree. *a* 1790 POTTER *Cant. Dict.* (1795), **Norway neckcloth*, the pillory. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, **Norway Ragstone*, the coarsest variety of the bone-slates, or whetstones. 1753–9 *Norway rat [see RAT *sb.*[1] 1]. 1781 PENNANT *Hist. Quadrup.* II. 439 Norway Rat (the Brown Rat). 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* 501 **Norway Skiff*, a particularly light and buoyant boat, which is both swift and safe in the worst weather. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XIV. 762/1 The ..European spruce fir..includes the *Norway spruce and long-coned Cornish fir. 1832 *Planting* 124/1 (L.U.K.), The Norway spruce is considered to attain..one hundred and fifty feet in height. 1882 *Garden* 20 May 350/3 Dwarf varieties of the Norway Spruce. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* 501 **Norway Yawl*, this, of all small boats, is said to be the best calculated for a high sea.

† **Norway** [2]. *Obs.* Forms: *pl.* 2 Norweis, 4 -weies, -weyes, 5 -weys; 4–5 -wais, 4, 6 -wayes; *Sc.* 5 Norowais, 6 Norrowa(y)is. [Prob. ad. AF. *Norays*, ONF. *Noreis* NOREIS, with assimilation of form to prec.] *pl.* Norwegians.

a 1200 *O. E. Chron.* (MS. C) an. 1066, Harold..& hys furde..þere michel wel ȝeslogon, ȝe Norweis ȝe Flæming. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 38 þe Danes vp aryued.. Þat with Norwais Kerlion was destroied. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) I. 347 Turgesius, duke and ledere of Norweyes, hrouȝt þider Norwayes. *c* 1440 *Partonope* 1252 The Norweys are at his ledyng. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* X. 794+9 At Dunmoir, quhair first Norowais come in. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* III. 125 That tha supportit..The Norrowayis ngane thair awin king. 1596 SPENSER *State Irel.* Wks. (Globe) 678/1 The Muscovites, the Norwayes, the Gothes, ..and many others doe witness the same.

Norwegian (nɒɹwī·dʒăn), *a.* and *sb.* Also 7–8 Norvegian. [f. med.L. *Norvegia*, with assimilation to NORWAY [1]. Cf. F. *Norvégien.*]

A. *adj.* Of or pertaining to Norway; belonging to, found in, Norway.

1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 13 Of the Norvegian Monsters. 1622 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* xix. 183 Of th' huge Norwegian hills. 1644 MILTON *Areop.* (Arb.) 33 A Hunnish and Norwegian statelines. 1667 — *P. L.* I. 293 The tallest Pine Hewn on Norwegian hills. 1776 DALRYMPLE *Annals Scotl.* I. 44 *note*, He has no other authority than some Norvegian chronicles. 1781 COWPER *Expost.* 470 Rock'd by many a rough Norwegian blast. 1821 SCOTT *Pirate* xvi, Singing the achievements brave Of many an old Norwegian earl. 1874 R. COWIE *Shetland* (ed. 2) 21 Their dwellings were commodious erections of Norwegian timber.

b. In special applications (see quots. and sbs.).

1880–84 DAY *Fishes Gt. Britain* I. 43 Norway haddock and *Norwegian carp. 1792 KER tr. *Linnæus* 241 *Cuniculus norwegicus*, or *Norwegian Coney. 1883 *Leisure H.* 147/1 Tea..is ready all day long in teapots kept hot in covered baskets very thickly padded, such as are known with us as '*Norwegian Kitchens'. 1792 KER tr. *Linnæus* 241 *Mus norwegicus*, *Norwegian Mouse, or Lemming. *Ibid.* 228 *Mus norwegicus*, or *Norwegian Rat. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 1534/1 **Norwegian Stove*..consists of a square wooden box lined with a soft, non-conducting substance. 1899 *Outing* XXX. 229/1 The arrangement of the sliding-seat, the deck tiller, and the '*Norwegian' tiller. The latter is a device adapted from the Norwegian fishing boats. 1836 T. THOMSON *Min., Geol.*, etc. I. 200 *Norwegian Tremolite..in amorphous masses, having a white colour passing into bluish grey.

B. *sb.* **1.** A native of Norway.

1605 VERSTEGAN *Dec. Intell.* vi. 177 In the North parte of England the Norwegians or Normannes were ouerthrown. 1703 J. BRAND *Descr. Orkney* 71 The Norse hath continued ever since the Norvegians had these Isles in Possession. 1757 BURKE *Abridgm. Eng. Hist.* Wks. X. 286 Assisted by the Norwegians, and other people of Scandinavia. 1848 LYTTON *Harold* I. ii, Swede, Norwegian, and Dane, had one common character viewed at a distance. 1884 *Encycl. Brit.* XVII. 590/1 The director of the Danish national theatre in 1771 was a Norwegian.

2. The language of Norway.

1605 VERSTEGAN *Dec. Intell.* vii. 195 The Danish, Norwegian, and Swedish do again differ from these, and some litle each from other. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XIV. 564/2 The Swedish is more nearly related to the Icelandic than either the Danish or Norwegian. 1841 LATHAM *Eng. Lang.* 13 In Danish, Swedish, and Norwegian the form is [etc.].

3. *U.S.* A kind of fishing-boat. (See quots.)

1872–3 J. W. MILNER in *Rep. U.S. Fish Commission* (1874) 9 At Milwaukee, for a time, the most of the boats were the sloop-rigged 'Norwegians', afterwards abandoned, and the square stern adopted. *Ibid.* 14 The 'Norwegian' is a huge, unwieldy thing, with flaring bows, great sheer, high sides, and is sloop-rigged...She is only used by the Scandinavian fishermen.

So † **Norwe·gic** *a. Obs. rare* —[1].

1681 GREW *Museum* III. § i. v. 304 The Relation given at large by Wormius of the Norwegick Mouse.

Norwenisse: see NORENISH *a. Obs.*

Nor'-west, reduced form of NORTH-WEST *a.* and *sb.* Also *ellipt.* (quot. 1895).

14.. *Piers of Fullham* 14 in Hazl. *E. E. P.* II. 2 Ther comythe a noyes norweste wynde. *c* 1485 *Digby Myst.* (1882) III. 1876 Þe wynd is nor west! 1533–4 *Act* 25 *Hen. VIII*, c. 8 All cariages, caried from west and Norwest parties of the realme. 1647 WARD *Simp. Cobler* 18 A new-sprung Sect of Phrantasticks, which would perswade themselves and others, that they have discovered the Norwest passage to Heaven. 1786 BURNS *On a Sc. Bard* vi, He saw Misfortune's cauld Nor-west Lang mustering up a bitter blast. 1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* xxvi, I wad rather hail the coble half a mile aff, and the norwast wind whistling again in my teeth. 1854 P. B. ST. JOHN *Amy Moss* 141 The dark clouds from the nor'-west came bodily down. 1895 *Outing* XXVI. 30/2 There were..nineteen 'native' duck, ten 'nor'wests', five spoonbills, and three sprig.

Nor'-wester. [Reduced f. NORTH-WESTER.]

1. A wind or gale from the north-west.

1703 DAMPIER *Voy.* III. 9 These norwesters give notice of their coming. 1879 FARRAR *St. Paul* (1883) 711 Fair Havens afforded a shelter from the norwester.

2. A glass of strong liquor.

1840 MARRYAT *Olla Podr.* III 34 Jack ponred out the rum till the tumbler was half full. 'Why, Littlebrain,' said his messmate, 'that is a dose, that's what we call a regular Nor-wester'. 1884 'H. COLLINGWOOD' *Under Meteor Flag* 191 Pouring them out a stiff 'nor'-wester' each to cheer them up a little.

3. An oilskin hat worn by sailors in rough weather; a sou'wester.

1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* (1861) III. 302 The doors nearly blocked up with hammocks and 'well-oiled nor'-westers'. 1853 MOODIE *Life Clearings* 21 A leather hat like a sailor's nor'-wester, with a long peak behind.

† Norwesting, var. of NORTH-WESTING. *Obs.*

1561 [see NORTH-EASTING *vbl. sb.*].

Norwey·an, *a. rare.* [f. NORWAY + -AN.] Norwegian.

1605 SHAKS. *Macb.* I. ii. 31 But the Norweyan Lord.. Began a fresh assault. *Ibid.* iii. 95 He findes thee in the stout Norweyan Rankes. 1817 SCOTT *Harold* I. xiii, The war-songs of Danesmen, Norweyan, and Finn.

† No·ry, *sb. Obs.* Also nori(e. [a. OF. *nori*, pa. pple. of *norir*, var. of *nourrir* to nourish. Cf. NORRY *sb.*] A foster-child; a pupil.

13.. *K. Alis.* (Weber) 4730 His owen noryes to deth hym broughth. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 1511 His del þan he made, how william hire worþi nory was neiȝe atte deþe. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 379 Wolstoun gropede þe heved of oon Nichol, þat was his owne norie.

† No·ry, *v. Obs. rare* $^{-1}$. [a. OF. *norir*, var. of *nourrir* to nourish.] *trans.* To bring up.

c 1450 *Gesta Rom.* lxi. 260 (Harl. MS.), Fro that tyme I have bene norissbid, noried, norturid, and taught in the same contre.

Nory: see NEWRY and NORIE. **Noryce, -ys(e,** etc., varr. of NOURICE *Obs.* **Norysshe,** obs. f. NOURISH *v.* **Noryture,** var. of NOURITURE.

† Nos. *Obs.* [Of obscure origin.] ? An opening.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* C. 451 [Jonah's booth was] Happed vpon ayþer half a hous as hit were, A nos on þe north syde & nowhere non ellez.

Nosawnce, variant of NOISANCE *Obs.*

† No·scible, *a. Obs. rare* $^{-1}$. [ad. late Lat. *noscibilis* knowable, f. *noscĕre* to know: see -IBLE.] (See quot.)

1654 Z. COKE *Logick* 76 Noble is he which by vertue is noscible, famous or well known.

Nose, obs. form of NOISE *sb.* and *v.*

Nose (nōuz), *sb.* Forms: 1–2 nosu, 3–4 nos, 5–6 noos, 5 noose, noys(e, 6 noise, nois, noss, 3– nose. [OE. *nosu* fem. = OFris. *nosi*, *nose*, *nosa*, *nos*, MDu. *nose*, *nuese*, *neuse* (Du. *neus*), MLG. *nose*, nose; MSw., Sw., and Norw. *nos* (*nōs*) snout, muzzle. The relationship to OE. *nasu* NASE and to NESE is not clear.]

I. 1. That part (usually more or less prominent) of the head or face in men and animals which lies above the mouth and contains the nostrils. Also, the corresponding part, or some similar formation, in lower forms of animal life.

In *Saxon Leechd.* I. 88 the plural appears to be used in the sense of 'nostrils'.

c 897 K. ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* xi. 64 Ȝif he..tó micle nosu hæfde, oððe to lytle. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* I. 568 Ic ȝeslea ænne wriðan on his nosu, & ænne bridel on his weleras. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1014, Cnut.. let pær up þa gislas..& cearf of heora handa & heora nosa. *c* 1220 *Bestiary* 393 Te gandre & te gos, hi ðe necke & bi ðe nos, [the fox] haleð is to hire hole. *c* 1290 *Beket* 2177 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 169 A smal rewe þere was of blode þat ouer is nose drouȝ. *c* 1340 *Nominale* (Skeat) 152 Man snyfteriþ and nose snyt. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* v. xiii. (Bodl. MS.), þe nose is in þe myddel of þe foremest partye of þe hed. 1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 228 Tho that hane grete Noosys lyghtely bene talentid to couetise. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* IX. 1928 His lyppys round, his noys was squar and tret. 1561 HOLLYBUSH *Hom. Apoth.* 15 Fyll a fylberts shell full of it, and draw it so in through the nose. 1590 LODGE *Rosalind* (Hunt. Cl.) 38 His nose on the sodaine bled, which made him coniecture it was some friend of his. 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* II. i. 39 The big rownd teares Cours'd one another downe his [the stag's] innocent nose. 1650 BULWER *Anthropomet.* 77 Great is the ornament that the Face receiveth by the Nose. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 52 All the Figures that were carved upon her for ornament, had the noses cut off. 1760 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* III. xxxii, Pressing up the ridge of his nose with his finger and thumb. 1798 FERRIAR *Illustr. Sterne* iv. 103 The nose furnishes the principal expression of derision in the countenance. 1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* xxxiv. III. 477 To enable you to distinguish the nose of insects..it is the terminal middle part that sometimes overhangs the upper lip. 1855 TENNYSON *Maud* II. 10 The least little delicate aquiline curve in a sensitive nose. 1872 RUSKIN *Eagle's N.* § 182 Some animals have to dig with tbeir noses.

† b. Applied to an elephant's trunk. *Obs. rare.*

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 196 It will with the nose or trunke ..turn aside whatsoeuer beast commeth in his way. 1727 A. HAMILTON *New Acc. E. Ind.* II. xli. 110 He put in his Trunk at the Window, and blew his Nose on the Taylor with such a Force and Quantity of Water, that the poor Taylor and his Life-guard were blown off the Table.

c. *Parson's nose,* the rump of a fowl (see PARSON *sb.* 6); so *Recorder's nose.*

1825 C. WESTMACOTT *Eng. Spy* II. 112 Shall I send you the recorder's nose?

d. That part of a pair of spectacles or eye-glasses which crosses the nose; the bridge.

1895 *Funk's Stand. Dict.*

2. The organ of smell.

a 1400–50 *Alexander* 4380 Quare-of þe breth as of bawme blawis in oure noose. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 184 Was dulcet & swete to yᵉ mouth..& sauoured wele to the nose. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* v. ii. 569 Your nose smels no, in this most tender smelling Knight. 1601 — *All's Well* v. ii. 11 *Par.* Nay you neede not to stop your nose sir...*Clo.* Indeed sir, if your Metaphor stinke, I will stop my nose. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* IV. 67 Nor rost red Crabs t' offend the niceness of their Nose. 1735 SOMERVILLE *Chase* I. 324 His snuffling Nose, his active Tail Attest his Joy. 1784 COWPER *Task* II. 259 That no rude savour maritime invade The nose of nice nobility!

fig. 1589 *Marprel Epit.* B ij, I am sure their noses can abide no iest. 1591 LODGE (*title-p.*), Catharos, A Nettle for Nice Noses. 1792 BOSWELL *Johnson* an. 1784, 27 June, He entered upon a..discussion of the difference between intuition and sagacity;..one he observed was the *eye* of the mind, the other the *nose* of the mind.

b. The sense of smell; a (good, bad, etc.) faculty of smell or power of tracking by scent.

c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 92 Wiȝtly þe werwolf þan went bi ouene to þe herdes house. 1573 BARET *Alv.* s.v. *Smell,* He hath a very good nose: or he can smell very quickly. 1611 COTGR. s.v. *Nez,* a dog of a deepe nose, or good sent. 1711 E. WARD *Vulgus Brit.* II. 131 All tho' the Puppies have no Noses They'l with them Hunt thro' Woods and Closes. 1732 BERKELEY *Alciphr.* v. § 1 You shall often see among the dogs a loud babbler, with a bad nose, lead the unskilful part of the pack. 1856 'STONEHENGE' *Brit. Rural Sports* 28/1 The hunting power of the spaniel, its delicacy of nose [etc.]. 1897 *Outing* XXIX. 543/2 He had a wonderful nose and as much bird-sense as I have ever known one dog's head to contain.

fig. 1549 LATIMER *5th Serm. bef. Edw. VI* (Arb.) 142 He was a gentilman of a longe nose...Thys Shyryffe was a couetuouse man. 1876 E. JENKINS *Blot on Queen's Hd.* 10 Keen noses for their own interest.

c. Smell, odour, perfume.

1894 BLACKMORE *Perlycross* 61 The room was like a barn after a bad cold harvest, with a musty nose to it. 1899 HAGGARD *Farm. Year* 8 July 265 Otherwise it [the hay] would lack 'nose' and flavour.

3. As an organ by which speech-sounds may be produced or affected. Chiefly in phrases *in* or *through the nose.*

1530 PALSGR. 2 They sounde hym..a lyttell in the noose. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* III. i. 16 Sing a note,..sometime through [the] nose. 1604 — *Oth.* III. i. 4 Haue your Instruments bin in Naples, that they speake i' th' Nose thus? 1648 *Visitation Oxford* 4 Langley (the new made Yeoman Bedell of Divinity) with Paper, Spectacles, and Nose proclaimed a Convocation. 1741 A. MONRO *Anat. Nerves* (ed. 3) 86 People labouring under a *Coryza*, or stopping of the Nose from any other Cause,..are by the Vulgar..said to speak through their Nose. 1850 DICKENS *Dav. Copp.* xxii, He..pays as he speaks..—through the nose. 1888 [see NASALLY].

4. *A nose of wax,* a thing easily turned or moulded in any way desired; a person easily influenced, one of a weak character.

Very common *c* 1580–1700, esp. in allusions to wresting the Scriptures.

1532 TINDALE *Expos. Matt.* vi. 23 If the Scripture be contrary, then make it a nose of wax and wrest it this way and that way till it agree. 1589 COOPER *Admon.* (Arb.) 58 Affirming..that the Scriptures are darke.., because they may bee wrested euery way, like a nose of waxe, or like a leaden Rule. 1657 *Burton's Diary* (1828) II. 162 This Bill is not worth a second reading. It is a nose of wax. 1686 HORNECK *Crucif. Jesus* ix. 167 Oral Tradition, that nose of wax, which you may turn and set, which way you list. 1748 *Lond. Mag.* 259 Are the laws for preventing the growth of popery only a nose of wax? 1801 HUNTINGTON *God Guard. of Poor* 139 He turned his text into a nose-of-wax, in order to make it fit my face. 1821 GALT *Annals Parish* xii, Her ladyship..said that I was a nose-of-wax. 1880 DISRAELI *Endym.* III. xxx. 300 He was a nose of wax with this woman.

5. *slang.* A spy or informer; one who supplies information to the police. (See also quot. 1812.)

1812 J. H. VAUX *Flash Dict., Nose,* a thief who becomes an evidence against his accomplices;..also a spy or informer of any description. 1830 *Boston Gaz.* 26 Oct. 1 The first issue of forged notes, it is stated by a nose (an informer), amounted to 500. 1888 *Pall Mall G.* 11 Oct. 88 The co-operation of the..policeman with female 'pals' and 'noses'.

II. In phrases more or less figurative.

6. In various colloquial or allusive expressions.

To make a long nose (see LONG *a.*[1] 1 c). *To have,* or *take, pepper in the nose* (see PEPPER *sb.* 4 b).

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 2090 Maximian was supþe aslawe maugre is nose. 13.. *K. Alis.* 7812 (MS. Laud 622), þe kyng hym dude quyk dispose, Wiþ harme to his owen nose. 1338 R. BAUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 95 A Breton (daþet his nose) for Roberd þider sent. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. IV. 164 But he he knowe for a koke-wolde kut of my nose. 1526 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 835 Pryde hath plucked thé by the nose. 1577 *F. de Lisle's Legendarie* F vij b, If she [the Queen-mother] had not supported them, their noses had then kissed the ground. 1589 *Pasquil's Ret.* B ij b, They proone so ridiculous.., that I am ready to stand on my nose. 1605 *Tryall Chev.* I. iii, Tary, sir, tary, we want the length of your nose. 1632 STRAFFORD in Browning & Foster *Life* (1892) App. II. 301 The Commission of the Peace, (the instrument of terroure by which he pulled them on along with him by the noses). 1687 T. BROWN in Villiers (Dk. Buckhm.) *Wks.* 1705 II. 126 He durst hardly show his Nose over his hatch. 1734 POPE *Ess. Man* IV. 224 Onward still he goes, Yet ne'er looks forward farther than his nose. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* III. II. i, Seeing clearly to the length of its own nose, it is not paralysed. 1861 HUGHES *Tom Brown at Oxf.* vi, You've always got your nose in the manger.

Comb. 1882 FLOYER *Unexpl. Baluchistan* 245 There was a general nose-in-the-air, defiant kind of aspect.

b. *(In) spite of one's nose,* notwithstanding one's opposition or objection. Also in ME. *maugre his nose* (see prec., quot. 1297). ? *Obs.*

1570 *Satir. Poems Reform.* x. 183 Than come 3our king ..And reft him from hir in spyte of his nois. 1579 FULKE *Heskins' Parl.* 286 In spite of his nose, he must confesse al this speach to be figuratiue. 1659 HAMMOND *On Ps.* CXXXVIII. 7 Our English usual expression, in spite of the nose of mine enemies. 1664 COTTON *Scarron.* Wks. (1725) 110 He would go, spite of all their Noses. 1675 — *Burlesque upon B.* ibid. 182 Spight of your Nose, and will ye, nill ye, I will go home again, that will I.

c. In comparisons denoting that something is perfectly plain or obvious. Also ironically.

1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* II. i. 142 Oh lest vnseene: inscrutible: inuisible, As a nose on a mans face, or a Wethercocke on a steeple. 1655 H. MORE *Second Lash* 200 As plain as the nose on a mans face. 1695 CONGREVE *Love for L.* IV. viii, 'Tis as plain as the nose in one's face. 1773 GRAVES *Spir. Quix.* v. xix, The Gentleman..has made it as plain as the nose in one's face, if one did but understand him. 1821 CLARE *Vill. Minstr.* I. 157 It's as plain as the nose on your face for to see't. 1873 HARDY *Pair Blue Eyes* iii, It is as plain as the nose in your face that there's your origin.

d. *To count,* or *tell, noses,* denoting the counting of persons, esp. those on one side or party.

1657 *Leveller* in *Harl. Misc.* (1745) IV. 515 The Leveller's Designs, to make all Men's Estates to be equal, and to divide the Land by telling Noses. 1691 *New Disc. Old Intreague* xxxiv, Tells how in Common Hall he counted Noses. 1711 SHAFTESB. *Charac.* (1737) I. 148 Some modern zealots appear to have no better knowledg of truth, nor better manner of judging it, than by counting noses. *a* 1734 NORTH *Examen* III. vii. § 29 (1740) 523 As if there had been none better than Number, or telling Noses.

7. In prepositional phrases, chiefly denoting closeness or proximity to a person or thing.

a. *At one's (very) nose.* (Still *colloq.* or *dial.*)

1526 *St. Papers Hen. VIII,* VI. 543 That citie stondith in a very strong place hard at his [the Pope's] nose. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 695 Because the war was ouert at his nose, with the French kyng. 1659 B. HARRIS *Parival's Iron Age* 45 The taking of so important a place; just at the nose of so strong an Army. 1704 N. N. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* II. To Rdr., They make 'em believe, Rewards and Honours are just at their very Noses.

b. *Under one's (very) nose.*

Freq. implying that an action is done in defiance of a person, or without his perceiving it.

a 1548 HALL *Chron., K. Hen. V* 38 Why doth your grace ..covet a countrey farre from your sight, before a realme under your nose? 1577 HARRISON *England* II. i. (1877) I. 30 In some places where the kings and princes dwelled not vnder his [the Pope's] nose. 1607 NORDEN *Surv. Dial.* I. 7 You are but a meane obseruer of the course..of things passing dayly under your nose. 1670 COTTON *Espernon* I. IV. 153 They..suffer'd the Duke..to continue his work under their noses. 1707 FREIND *Peterborow's Cond. Spain* 240 His Lordship procur'd and bought near 800 Horses, under the Enemies nose. 1775 SHERIDAN *Duenna* III. vi, They continue to sin under my very nose. 1856-7 GEO. ELIOT *Sc. Clerical Life* II. i, A parson, always under your nose on your own estate.

c. † *By one's nose,* very close to one. † *To one's nose,* before one's face. † *On the nose of,* immediately before, on the eve of. *Nose to nose,* closely face to face, directly opposite.

1549 LATIMER *5th Serm. bef. Edw. VI* (Arb.) 142 She had hir landes by the Shiriffes nose. 1588 SHAKS. *Tit. A.* II. i. 94 What, hast not thou full often strucke a Doe, And borne her cleanly by the Keepers nose? 1607 — *Cor.* IV. vi. 83 To see your Wiues dishonour'd to your Noses. 1681 SIR J. LAUDER *Scot. Affairs* (Bann. Cl.) 304 That they, on the nose of a Parliament, came so near the deciding on dubious elections. 1732 *Buccleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 382 You sit down quite close as ever you can, nose to nose. 1781 COWPER *Conv.* 270 In contact inconvenient, nose to nose. 1855 THACKERAY *Newcomes* II. 283 The two parties would often meet nose to nose in the same street.

d. *Before one's nose,* right in front of one.

c 1600 *Distr. Emperor* V. iv, What a lardge passage ..Theise prynces make to come unto the way Which lyes before their nosses! 1883 STEVENSON *Treas. Isl.* xiii, I ran straight before my nose, till I could run no longer.

8. In phrases with verbs, implying something done to, or with, one's own nose:

a. *To follow one's nose,* to go straight forward; *fig.* to be guided by instinct.

1591 GREENE *Art Conny catch.* Wks. (Grosart) X. 35 Who so hath not some sinister way to help himselfe, but foloweth his nose alwaies straight forward. 1605 SHAKS. *Lear* II. iv. 70 All that follow their noses are led by their eyes, but blinde men. 1664 COTTON *Scarron.* 60 There lies your way, follow your Nose. 1692 BENTLEY *Boyle Lect.* ii. (1724) 79 The main Maxim of his [Epicurus's] Philosophy was to trust to his Senses, and follow his Nose. 1742 FIELDING *J. Andrews* II. ii, Adams asked him if he could direct him to an alehouse. The fellow..bade him follow his nose. 1822 BYRON *Juan* VIII. xxxii, Juan, following honour and his nose. [1860 LD. LYTTON *Lucile* II. i. § 1. 40 To pay through his nose just for following it.]

b. *To poke, put,* or *thrust, one's nose,* to poke or pry *into* something, esp. a matter which does not properly concern one.

1611 COTGR. s.v. *Nez, Mettre le nez par tout,* to thrust his nose into euery corner. 1648 HEXHAM, *Besnoffelen,* to See Prie, or Have his nose in every thing. 1755 JOHNSON s.v., To thrust one's Nose into the affairs of others, to be meddling with other people's matters; to be a busy body. 1809 W. IRVING *Knickerb.* (1861) 86 In those days nobody ..thrust his nose into other people's affairs. 1856 READE *Never too Late* xv, If he hadn't been a fool and put his nose

into my business. 1883 M. Pattison *Mem.* (1885) 190 A flourishing Evangelical, who poked his nose into everything.

c. *To turn up one's nose*, to show disdain.

1818 Byron *Juan* I. clix, Antonia .., turning up her nose, with looks abused Her master. 1845 Ford *Handbk. Spain* I. 28 The better classes turn up their noses at these odoriferous delicacies of the peasantry. 1879 B. Taylor *Germ. Lit.* 7 What learning there was in those days..turned up its nose at the strains of the native minstrels.

d. † *To hold up one's nose*, to be proud or haughty. † *To hang a nose*, to have an inclination or hankering. † *To fuddle one's nose* (see Fuddle *v.* 2 b). *To cut off one's nose*, etc., to do something to one's own hurt or loss.

1579 Tomson *Calvin's Serm. Tim.* 228/1 Let women bolde vppe their noses no more: for all their presumption is sufficiently beaten downe here. 1649 G. Daniel *Trinarch. Hen. V* cxxv, Chuse his Bread, And hang a Nose to Leekes, Quaile-Surfetted. 1655 tr. *Sorel's Com. Hist. Francion* VIII. 19 If there be in my kitchin any thing better than another..this Gallant wil hang a nose after it. 1796 *Grose's Dict. Vulgar Tongue* (ed. 3) s.v., He cut off his nose to be revenged of his face. Said of one who, to be revenged on his neighbour, has materially injured himself. 1867 Trollope *Chron. Barset* xxiv, I make it a rule never to cut the nose off my own face.

9. In phrases with verbs, implying something done to another person.

† a. *To cast in*, or *lay to, one's nose*, to reproach or upbraid one with. *Obs.* (Cf. Cast *v.* 65.)

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 10 He wyll obiecte it to the, and cast it in thy nose. 1579 Tomson *Calvin's Serm. Tim.* 256/1 Let euery one of us..take such heede to him selfe, that this reproch bee not laide to our noses. *a* 1600 *Flodden F.* (1664) 75 Let it never be laid unto our nose, That Scotchmen made us turn our back.

b. *To put* (or † *thrust*) *one's nose out of joint*, etc., to displace or supplant one; to spoil one's plans; to throw out or disconcert in some way.

1581 Rich *Farew. Milit. Profess.* K iv, It could bee no other then his owne manne, that had thrust his nose so farre out of ioynte. 1598 R. Bernard tr. *Terence, Eunuch* I. ii, Fearing now lest this wench..should put your nose out of ioynt. 1662 Pepys *Diary* 31 May, The King is pleased enough with her: which, I fear, will put Madam Castlemaine's nose out of joynt. 1754 Goodall *Exam. Lett. Mary Q. of Scots* 9 This method of proceeding..thrust their noses quite out of joint. 1781 J. Adams in *Fam. Lett.* (1876) 403 Burgoyne don't seem to be affronted that his [= Cornwallis's] nose is out of joint. 1840 Mrs. Trollope *Widow Married* xi, She won't put my nose out, any how. 1860 Thackeray *Lovel* vi, My dear, I guess your ladyship's nose is out of joint.

c. *To bite* or *snap one's nose off*, to answer snappishly.

Cf. Robinson tr. *More's Utopia* (Arb.) 25, and Shaks. *Much Ado* v. i. 115.

1599 Nashe *Lenten Stuffe* 47 Shee was a shrewish snappish bawd, that wold bite off a mans nose with an answere. 1709 Mrs. Centlivre *Busie Body* I. i, I..ask'd him if he was at leisure for his Chocolate,..but he snap'd my Nose off; no, I shall be busy here these two Hours.

d. *To make a bridge of one's nose* (see quots.).

a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew* s.v., *You make a Bridge of his Nose*, when you pass your next Neighbor in Drinking, or one is preferr'd over another's Head. 1731–8 Swift *Pol. Conversat.* II. Wks. 1751 XII. 242 Pray, my Lord, don't make a Bridge of my Nose. 1768 *Ray's Prov.* 180 To make a bridge of one's nose, i. e. To intercept one's trencher, cup, or the like; or to offer or pretend to do kindnesses to one, and then pass him by, and do it to another; to lay hold upon and serve himself of that which was intended for another. 1828 in *Craven Dial.* s.v.

e. † *To bite by the nose*, to treat with contempt. † *To bore one's nose*, to cheat, swindle. † *To joint one's nose of*, to trick one out of. † *To play with one's nose*, to make game of one. *To make one's nose swell*, to make one jealous or envious.

See also Grindstone 2 b, and Lead *v.*[1] 4 c.

1584 B. R. tr. *Herodotus, Euterpe* (1888) 163 Apyres was perswaded that neither god nor the diuell coulde haue ioynted his nose of the Empyre. 1590 Greene *Arcadia* (1616) 29 Pesana hearing how pleasantly Melicertus plaide with her nose, thought to giue him a great bone to gnawe vpon. 1603 Shaks. *Meas. for M.* III. i. 109 Has he affections in him, That thus can make him bite the Law by th' nose? 1611 Cotgr., *Nasarder*, to fillip; ..also, to frumpe, or breake a least on; play with the nose of. 1625 Fletcher & Shirley *Nt. Walker* II. iii, I'll take order she shall ne'er recover To bore my nose. 1642 Howell *For. Trav.* (Arb.) 44, I have known divers Dutch Gentlemen grosly guld by this cheat, and som English bor'd also through the nose this way. 1743 in Howell *St. Trials* (1813) XVII. 1187 He heard lord Altham say,..my wife has got a son, which will make my brother's nose swell.

10. In allusions to the act of wiping the nose.

1437 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 176 Thus they wold, if we will beleve, Wypen our nose with our owne sleve. 1562 J. Heywood *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 80, I may .. make you wype your nose vpon your sleeue. 1575 *Gamm. Gurton* v. i, She will..byd you seeke your remedy, and so go wype your nose. 1611 Cotgr. s.v. *Nez*, They wipe his nose with his owne sleeue, his taile with his owne shirt; they allow him meat, or meanes, out of his owne money. 1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 160 It was used in that good old world, when men wiped their nose on their sleeve (as the French man sayes).

† b. *To wipe one's nose of*, to deprive, defraud, or cheat one of (anything). *Obs.*

1598 R. Bernard tr. *Terence, Eunuch* I. i, The very destruction of our substance: who wipes our noses of all that we should have. 1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 362 Many thinke his nose will be wiped of it. 1667 Pepys *Diary* 17 July, That..the King [might] own a marriage before his contract..with the Queene, and so wipe their noses of the Crown. 1721 Ciber *Rival Fools* Wks. II. 1754 I. 29, I durst lay my Life thou wipest this foolish Knight's Nose of his Mistress at last.

11. *To pay through the nose*, to pay excessively; to be charged exorbitantly.

1672 Marvell *Reh. Transp.* I. 270 Made them pay for it most unconscionably and through the Nose. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew.* 1782 Miss Burney *Cecilia* x. vi, She knows nothing of business, and is made to pay for every thing through the nose. 1809 Malkin *Gil Blas* I. ii. P 10 But paying through the nose was not the worst of it. 1860 [see 8 a]. 1893 Baring-Gould *Cheap Jack Zita* I. 136 Something for which the public had that day paid, and paid through the nose.

III. In transferred uses.

12. † a. A socket on a candlestick, into which the lower end of the candle is inserted. *Obs.*

1431 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* (1904) 27 A kandelstyk of laton with foure nosis. 1534 More *Comf. agst. Trib.* II. Wks. 1172/1 The snuffe of a candle that burneth wt in the candlestickes nose. *Ibid.*, A flame halfe an ynch aboue the nose. 1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* III. v. (1592) 347 Christ is the shanke or shaft of the candlesticke, vpon which shanke many snuffers or noses do sticke, which holde the light vp to the Church.

b. The open end of a pipe or tube; the muzzle of a gun, the nozzle of a pair of bellows, etc.

1598 Barret *Theor. Warres* III. i. 34 Holding the nose of his peece somwhat vpward. 1625 B. Jonson *Staple of N.* II. iv, A wretched rascall, that will binde about The nose of his bellowes, lest the wind get out When hee's abroad. 1664 Evelyn *Kal. Hort.* (1729) 231 The Thermometer hanging over the Nose of the Ground-pipe, by which to govern the Heat. 1690 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2609/4 A streight Key with a Steel Nose. 1730 Chamberlayne *Relig. Philos.* II. xvii. § 21 Take a Syringe;..put the End or Nose of it in Water. 1757 A. Cooper *Distiller* I. xxi. (1760) 85 A large glass..placed under the Nose of the Worm. 1844 *Regul. & Ordin. Army* 97 A plug of wood is then to be put into the nose of the Barrel. 1890 W. J. Gordon *Foundry* 143 The gatherer dips his pipe or tube inside this ring, and with a twirl collects on the end, or 'nose', a pear-shaped lump.

c. The beak or rostrum of an alembic, retort, or still.

1651 French *Distill.* v. 146 Take a Caldron with a great and high cover having a beake or nose. 1678 R. Russell tr. *Geber* II. I. x. 107 An Alembeck with a wide nose or beak. 1758 Reid tr. *Macquer's Chym.* I. 396 Let the nose of the retort enter about half an inch into the water.

d. The neck of a globe ot glass when detached from the blow-pipe.

1844 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* VII. 35/2 The nose of the glass is heated in a furnace constructed at one side, which is called the nose-hole. 1880 *Spons' Encycl. Manuf.* I. 1064 The end of the piece which was next the now detached pipe, is called the nose.

e. = Nose-hole 2.

1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 581 The outside is built of common brick,..and the mouth or nose of Stourbridge fire-clay.

f. = Nose-pipe 2.

1874 Raymond *Statist. Mines & Mining* 306 The throat had to be kept dark, the 'noses' also dark, and about 6 inches in length.

13. The prow, bow, or stem of a ship or boat.

1538 Elyot, *Coronis*.., the nose of a shippe. 1569 Stocker tr. *Diod. Sic.* III. viii. 114 He..embarqued..great store of Shot and Engines.., planting them in the Noses of his Gallies. 1583 — *Civ. Warres Lowe C.* III. 112 b, The nose of one of them so touched vpon the shore of the Ryuer, as that she was not able well to turne her selfe about. 1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* (1864) 53 One of the Gallies lost her Nose with a shot. 1749 *Naval Chron.* III. 206 The Ship rode with a whole cable before her nose. 1853 Kane *Grinnell Exp.* xxxii. (1856) 277 The brig remains as she was—her nose burrowing in the snow. 1889 J. K. Jerome *Three Men in Boat* xviii, The nose of our boat had got fixed under the woodwork of the lock.

14. A prominent or projecting part; the point or extremity of anything.

In technical use in a number of special applications.

1592 Lyly *Gallathea* I. iv, The Lode-stone that alwaies holdeth his nose to the North. 1676 Moxon *Print Lett.* 48 The Nose of Small Letters project also 3 parts. 1688 Holme *Armoury* III. 239/2 Their Shooes do turn up at the Nose, after the manner of a hook. *Ibid.* 289/1 The Nose is either ends of the Shuttle, which are ever tipt with Iron. 1747 Hooson *Miner's Dict.* Q j, Bringing up the Earth upon the Nose or end of his Spade. 1829 *Sporting Mag.* XXIII. 388 What we call a wheel-iron, placed, as usual, on the nose of an axle-tree. 1871 L. Stephen *Playgr. Eur.* (1894) v. 118 Blue crevasses..were drawn across the protruding nose of ice.

b. A projecting part of a shell; also *spec.* of tortoise-shell (see quot. 1858).

1681 Grew *Museum* I. vi. i. 128 It is not properly the Nose or Beak of the Snail, but of its shell. 1705 *Phil. Trans.* XXIV. 1953 The Nose lies in the midst of its hinge. 1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade, Noses*, a name given to some of the smaller shell plates from the edges of the carapace of the sea-tortoise.

c. *Arch.* The projecting part or edge of a moulding, stair-tread, or mullion.

c 1815 Mar. Edgeworth *Parent's Assist.* (1854) 320 He broke off in the midst of a speech about the nose of the stairs. 1847 Smeaton *Builder's Man.* 184 All cornices and mouldings, and all works where the running mould is used, are measured from the nose of the moulding to the wall. 1876 *Encycl. Brit.* IV. 475/1 Draw lines, showing the face (or what the workmen call the *nose*) of the mullion.

d. *Bookbinding*: (see quot.).

1865 Hannett *Bibliopegia* Gloss. 399 In glueing up a volume, if the workman has not been careful to make all the sheets occupy a right line at the head, it will present a point either at the beginning or end, which point is called a nose.

15. The 'eye' of an apple, gooseberry, etc.

1718 Mrs. Eales *Receipts* 24 To preserve Green Jennitins. Cut out the Stalk and Nose, and put 'em in cold Water on a Coal-Fire 'till they peel. 1736, 1879 [implied in Nose *v.* 5 a]. 1887 *S. Cheshire Gloss., Nose*, the blossom on the ends of ripe gooseberries or currants.

16. *White nose*, a small white wave-crest.

1866 Crichton *Ramble Orcades* 110 Many a 'white nose' chequering the blueness of the more open water.

IV. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

17. General combs. a. Attributive, as *nose-bleeding, -breadth, -carbuncle, -cloth*, etc.

1578 Lyte *Dodoens* Table Nature Herbs, [To] Stanche *Nose bleeding. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 461 Nose-bleeding and other strange effects. *a* 1667 C. Hoole *School-Collog.* 98 You are deceived your *nose-breadth, for we are repeating together. 1572 Huloet, *Nose-bridge, or the particion whiche standeth between the twoo nosethrylles. 1652 Benlowes *Theoph.* I. xx. 4 When our *nose-carbuncles, like link boys blaze before 'um. 1589 Nashe *Introd. Greene's Menaph.* (Arb.) 15 Hee made his moist *nosecloth, the pausing intermedium, twixt euerie nappe. 1611 Cotgr. s.v. *Prendre*, You may take your selfe by the *nose end; viz...you are as guiltie, faultie, or farre in, as the rest. 1681 Grew *Museum* I. § ii. i. 20 Not above five Inches and ½ from his Nose end to his Buttocks. *c* 1728 Earl Ailesbury *Mem.* (1890) 573 Brave he was, but saw not his nose end. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 157 *Internasus*,..*nosegristle. 1641 Best *Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 1 The space betwixt eyebrow and the nose grissles. 1785 J. Collier *Mus. Trav.* (ed. 4) 30 The clerk of the parish..has the finest nasality, or *nose-intonation, that ever was given to a psalm-tune. 1862 M. E. Rogers *Dom. Life Palestine* 381 These *nose-nails are worn by the younger girls, and are very fashionable. 1695 J. Edwards *Perfect. Script.* 243 So much of this.. *nose-ornament. 1844 H. Stephens *Bk. Farm* II. 694 The colt..should be led out to walk..by the *nose-rein of the cavesson. 1656 *Twa Sisters* ix. in Child *Ballads* I. 126/2 What did he doe with her *nose-ridge? Unto his violl he made him a bridge. 1572 Huloet, *Nose-tippe, or the ball of the nose. 1601 Holland *Pliny* II. Index, *Nose ulcers. 1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 29/4 The sixt is the *nose vayne, in the middest of the end of the nose, betweene the two gristles or cartilages.

b. Objective, or obj. genitive, as *nose-borer, -maker, -mender*, etc.; *nose-making, -painting, -pulling*, etc.; also *nose-pulled*, † *nose-wring*.

1760–2 Goldsm. *Cit. W.* iii, Your *nose-borers, feet-swathers, tooth-stainers, eyebrow-pluckers. *a* 1879 Lawrence in *Life* (1883) I. 320 The least I could do was to summon the *nose-maker, and let him try his skill. 1829 *Gentl. Mag.* XCVII. II. 535 Taliacotius has the credit of bringing the art of *nose-making into fashion. 1760 Sterne *Tr. Shandy* III. xxxviii, This Ambrose Paræus was chief surgeon and *nose-mender to Francis the Ninth. 1807–8 W. Irving *Salmag.* (1824) 46 Agreeably painted and mottled by Mr. John Frost, *nose-painter-general. 1605 Shaks. *Macb.* II. iii. 31 What three things does Drinke especially prouoke? Marry, Sir, *Nose-painting, Sleepe, and Vrine. 1862 Thackeray *Philip* xxvii, His old comrade..whom he had insulted and *nose-pulled. 1712 J. Heywood *Spect.* No. 268 P 2 A thing that..renders the *Nose-puller odious. 1807–8 W. Irving *Salmag.* (1824) 229 They should be guaranteed from all dangers of..*nose-pulling, whipping-post, or prosecution for libels. 1682 Otway *Venice Preserved* III. (1735) 50 Common Stabbers, *Nose-slitters, Alley-lurking Villains! 1861 Mrs. Lankester *Wild Flowers* 32 Nasturtium is a name given to all these biting plants; each being a *nasus tortus*, or *nose-twitcher. 1601 Holland *Pliny* II. 29 Cresses tooke the name in Latine Nasturtium, *a narium tormento*, as a man would say, *Nose-wring, because it will make one writh and shrink vp his nosthrils. 1712 Steele *Spect.* No. 268 P 2 One of these *Nose-wringers overhearing him, pinched him by the nose.

c. Miscellaneous, as *nose-belled, -leafed*; *nose-grown, -high, -wards*, etc.

1646 G. Daniel *Poems* Wks. (Grosart) I. 60 Let vs rather Chuse Long *nose-bell'd Horses, such as Children vse. 1611 Cotgr. s.v. *Avantagé, Bien avantagé en nez*, nosed with aduantage, well *nose-growne. 1567 Drant *Horace Ep.* II. E ij, In hote August a *nosehigh fyer wil do the as much good. 1657 Thornley *Daphnis & Chloe* 110 About the Cock's crowing, made their fires nose-high. *c* 1685 in Dk. Buckhm. *Wks.* (1705) II. 48 She..made him a fire nose high. 1884 *Standard Nat. Hist.* V. 173 The Phyllostomines are those *nose-leafed bats which have a long and narrow muzzle, a tongue of moderate length. *a* 1661 Holyday *Juvenal* (1673) 79 He thinks thee *nose-led by his kitchin's smell. 1826 Scott *Woodst.* viii, I will not be thus nose-led by him. 1885 W. L. Blackley *Thrift* II. xx. 108 The members of bad Friendly Societies are nose-led by their interested officials. 1869 *Eng. Mech.* 3 Dec. 271/2 If by any means they are not drawn '*nosewards'..they take a short cut and 'well' over the eyelid. 1881 *Graphic* 5 Nov. 474/3 Her chin was drawn up nosewards.

18. Special combs.: **nose-ape**, the proboscis-monkey; **noseburn tree**, a pungent tropical American tree (*Daphnopsis tenuifolia*), belonging to the spurge-laurel family (*Treas. Bot.* 1866); **nose-cap**, a metal cap on the nose of a gun-stock; † **nose-compasses**, eye-glasses; **nose-ender**, a straight blow on the nose; **nose-fish** (see quots.); **nose-fly**, (*a*) (see quot. *a* 1793); (*b*) the bot-fly which infests the nose-passages of sheep (*Cent. Dict.*); **nose-fuse**, a fuse inserted in the nose of a shell; **nose-glasses**, eye-glasses held on the nose by a spring; † **nose-gunpowder**, snuff; † **nose-herb**, a herb for smelling at; † **nose-hold**, a device to grasp the nose; † **nose-hook**, a hook for leading an ox by the nose-ring; † **nose-horn**, a beetle having a horn on the nose (cf. *nasicornous*); **nose-leaf**, the foliaceous ap-

pendage of the nostrils in certain bats; †**nose-man** (see quot.); **nose-monkey**, the proboscis-monkey; **nose-pinch**, a pince-nez; **nose-rag**, a pocket-handkerchief (*slang*); †**nose-tent**, a medicinal plug for insertion in the nose; **nose-tube**, a tube used for feeding a patient through the nose; †**nose-wipe** *v.*, to cheat, deceive (cf. 10 b); **nose-wiper**, a pocket-handkerchief (*slang*); **nose-worm**, the larva of the sheep-bot.

1844 *Regul. & Ordin. Army* 99 For *nose-cap, when supplied by the Armourer..*6d.* **1860** *All Year Round* No. 71. 500 The stock is divided into the nose-cap, the upper, middle, and lower bands [etc.]. **1654** GAYTON *Pleas. Notes* I. v. 17 She read without Spectacles, and could..see lost pins without the help of a paire of *Nose-compasses. **1854** 'C. BEDE' *Verdant Green* II. 25, I couldn't..give a straight *nose-ender. **1828-32** WEBSTER, **Nose-Fish*, ..a fish of the leather-mouthed kind, with a broad flat snout; called also *broad-snout*. **1890** *Cent. Dict.*, *Nose-fish*, the bat-fish, *Malthe vespertilio*. *a* **1793** G. WHITE *Selborne* (1837) 472 A species of fly..which proves very tormenting to horses, trying still to enter their nostrils and ears. ..Country people call this insect the *nose fly. **1839** HOLLOWAY *Prov. Dict.*, *Nose-fly*, a very fine, delicately made fly, which gets into horses' noses, and stinging them, frequently causes them to run away. **1888** *Times* 2 Oct. 3/2 The shape of the heads [of shells] which were suitable only for a *nose fuse. **1706** BAYNARD in Floyer *Cold Baths* II. 197 A charge of *Nose Gun-Powder, Snuff 'twixt Finger and Thumb. **1601** SHAKS. *All's Well* IV. v. 20 They are not [salad] herbes you knaue, they are *nose-herbes. **1797** *Monthly Mag.* XLVI. 215 Prejudice is the *nose-hold for certain purposes, of the otherwise intractable. **1778** [W. MARSHALL] *Minutes Agric.* 4 Aug. **1775** Hoed the late-planted cabbages with one ox and the *nose-hook. **1653** ROWLAND tr. *Moufet's Theat. Ins.* 1008 We have seen four kindes of *Nose-horns, the chiefest and greatest of all lives in India, it is very black, it hath a nose on its face crooked horn'd like to the stern of a ship. **1837** *Penny Cycl.* VII. 22/1 *Nose-leaf simple, solitary. **1864** H. ALLEN *Bats N. Amer.* Introd. 15 There is some doubt whether the nose leaves hold the same relation to the olfactory sense. **1599** H. BUTTES *Dyets Drie Dinner* P 3 b, Plinies *Nosemen (mouthles men) surnam'd, Whose breathing nose supply'd Mouths absency. **1883** *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* I. 88 The newly born *Nose Monkey is a most extraordinary object. **1896** *Punch* 4 Apr. 160/2 The tall, meagre females .. in abbreviated hair and a *nose-pinch. **1838** HALIBURTON *Clockm.* (1862) 367 Tickle, tickle goes my boscis agin, and I had to stop to sarch my pocket for my *nose-rag. **1601** HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 61 Cumin reduced into the form of trochisks or *nose-tents, put vp into the nosthrils, stancheth bloud. **1899** *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 300, I.. feed the patient by the *nose-tube if she cannot be got to take enough nourishment otherwise. **1628** H. BURTON *Israel's Fast* Ded. 13 Cheated and *nosewiped euen to their face. *a* **1895** LD. C. E. PAGET *Autobiog.* (1896) i. 4 Charged with my relay of *nose-wipers, I was close to his Majesty on the steps of the throne. **1861** HULME tr. *Moquin-Tandon* II. VII. i. 326 The œstrus of the sheep.., called by Reaumur 'Fly of the *Nose-worm'.

Nose (nōz), *v.* [f. the sb.]

I. *trans.* **1.** To perceive the smell of (something); to discover or notice by the sense of smell.

1577-87 HARRISON *Descr. Scotl.* viii. in *Holinshed*, He neuer ceasseth to range till he haue nosed his footing. **1602** SHAKS. *Ham.* IV. iii. 38 You shall nose him as you go vp the staires into the Lobby. **1614** B. JONSON *Barth. Fair* I. iii, There cannot be an ancient Tripe or Trillibub i' the Towne, but thou art straight nosing it. **1795** *Sporting Mag.* V. 85 A partner in a banking-house, who lives near enough ..to nose his lordship's kitchen. **1815** SOUTHEY *Jrnl. Tour in Netherlands* (1903) 153 You might nose them [cheeses] at a considerable distance. **1861** FLOR. NIGHTINGALE *Nursing* (ed. 2) 7 Although we 'nose' the murderers in the musty, unaired, unsunned room.

b. *fig.* To find out, detect, discover, as if by means of a keen scent.

1767 S. PATERSON *Anoth. Trav.* I. 368 If a pickpocket noses a peer upon the turf. **1824** *Blackw. Mag.* XV. 335 We nosed him as the prime contributor to the New Monthly. **1893** W. A. SHEE *My Contemp.* viii. 219 The parliamentary 'busybody'..nosing a job in every Ministerial move.

c. To scent or smell *out* (in *lit.* and *fig.* uses).

c **1630** B. JONSON *Underwoods* lxi. 139 The Brethren they straight nosed it out for news. **1828** SCOTT *F. M. Perth* iii, My daughter and I could nose out either a fasting hypocrite or a full one. **1856** KANE *Arct. Expl.* I. xxix. 388 Began..to turn them over and nose out their fatness. **1877** *Scribner's Mag.* XV. 170/2, I have seen a pack..nose out the scent under an inch of light snow.

2. To confront, reproach, or upbraid (a person) *with* something. Now only *dial.*

1625 BURGES *Pers. Tithes* 60 None of the best Proctors for vs Tithing-men, but One with whom we poore Vicars are daily nosed. **1641** J. SHUTE *Sarah & Hagar* (1649) 71 This..frequent fault in the world; which is, when men haue done kindness to others, to nose them with it. **1733** *Revol. Politicks* II. 51 What is this,..but affronting and noseing the Bishops with Popery to their very Faces? **1753** JANE COLLIER *Art Torment.* 123 If he loves company,..nose him with your great love of needle-work and housewifery. **1889** *N.W. Linc. Gloss.*

b. To confront, face, or oppose (a person, etc.) in an impudent or insolent manner. (Cf. BEARD *v.* 3.)

1629 RANDOLPH *Jealous Lovers* I. iv, Y'are an arrant Coxcomb To tell me so. My daughter nos'd by a slut! **1649** QUARLES *Virgin Widow* II. i, When Pertenax..Could nose the King, and beard him to his face. **1673** BP. S. PARKER *Reproof Reh. Transp.* 157 You began to lift up your heads, and to nose your Governours. **1733** KILLIGREW in *Jrnl. R. Inst. Cornwall* IX. II. (1887), Mr. Rogers made him town sergeant and mace bearer, to nose Sir Peter and his interest. **1796** BURKE *Let. to Noble Ld.* Wks. VIII. 14 A sort of national convention..nosed parliament in the very seat of its authority. **1824** *Hist. Gaming* 16 Is not the thought appalling, that a monarch..should thus be.. nosed in his own courtly dwelling?

c. To sit opposite and close to (onc); to meet, encounter, come in one's way.

1812 COLMAN *Br. Grins, Luminous Hist.* xiii, Nosing Eudoxus, blue-eyed Agnes sat. **1831** *Blackw. Mag.* XXX. 324 The French noblesse had no grandeur. No man could be impressed reverentially by titles which nosed him in every corner of every street.

†**3.** To cheat or defraud (one) *of* something. *Obs.*

a **1652** BROME *Eng. Moor* I. ii, 'Twould anger any man to be nos'd of such a match. **1679** BRIAN *Pisse-prophet* 60, I am like to be nosed of a patient.

4. a. To utter with a nasal twang; to sing through the nose.

a **1643** W. CARTWRIGHT *Ordinary* III. v, It makes far better musick when you nose Sternold's, or Wisdom's meeter. **1748** RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1811) VI. 220 After he has nosed and mumbled over his responses.

b. To puff out through the nose. *rare* $^{-1}$.

1658 OSBORN *Adv. Son* Wks. (1673) 23, I..cannot approve nosing, or swallowing it [tobacco] down. **1693** LITTLETON *Dict.*, To nose Tobacco, *petifumum per nares efflare*.

5. a. To pick the noses off (gooseberries, etc.).

1736 BAILEY *Househ. Dict.* 309 Nose your gooseberries. **1879** MISS JACKSON *Shropsh. Word-bk.*, We nosed about eight quarts o' black curran's after milkin' time.

b. To put a nosing on (a step).

1884 HOR. SMITH *Negligence* (ed. 2) 185 *note*, Slipping on steps nosed with brass.

6. To rub with the nose; to press the nose close to, thrust the nose into (something).

1777 G. FORSTER *Voy. round World* I. 224 They immediately saluted the family of natives on board, with the usual application of noses, or as our sailors expressed it, they nosed each other. **1839-48** BAILEY *Festus* VIII. 81 Nosing each-other like a flock of sheep. **1868** TENNYSON *Lucretius* 100 Lambs are glad Nosing the mother's udder.

transf. **1876** C. D. WARNER *Mummies & Moslems* XIX. 250 It does not need our eyes to tell us when the bow of the boat noses the swift water.

b. To examine with the nose; to put the nose close to (a thing) in examining.

a **1851** MOIR *Highlander's Return* ix, Old Stumah fawning fain, First nosed him round, then licked his hand. **1873** *Routledge's Young Gentlm. Mag.* Apr. 280/2 A serious accident may repay you for nosing it too closely. **1882** STEVENSON *New Arab. Nts.* I. 91 The New-Englander nosed all the cracks..with the most passionate attention.

c. To push (one's way) with the nose.

1894 HALL CAINE *Manxman* V. iii. 288 Cranching among the boats as they nosed their way to the harbour mouth.

7. To lead *about* by the nose.

1885 HOWELLS *Silas Lapham* (1891) I. 258 As long as you live you'll have to be nosed about like..I don't know what!

II. *intr.* **8.** To apply or employ the nose in examining or smelling; to sniff, smell.

1783 WOLCOT (P. Pindar) *Ode to R.A.'s* vii, Closely nosing, o'er the Picture dwell, As if to try the goodness by the smell. **1823** *Blackw. Mag.* XIV. 530 Panting and open mouth'd and nosing. **1871** BLACKIE *Four Phases Mor.* i. 42 You expect your dog to nose well. **1891** MISS DOWIE *Girl in Karp.* 141 One of the horses woke me by nosing at my arm in a friendly way.

b. Const. with *about* or *round*.

1869 BLACKMORE *Lorna D.* iii, Our two pads..began to nose about and crop. **1898** *Daily Tel.* 22 Aug. 5/3 The whole duty of a dog is to keep other dogs from nosing round its master's garden.

fig. **1895** CABLE *John March* 259 If that fellow's still nosing round here with his gun.

c. To pry or search (*after* or *for* something). Also *to nose upon* (see quot. 1812).

1648 *Regall Apol.* 11 They go nosing and smelling after faults. **1812** J. H. VAUX *Flash Dict.*, To *nose*, is to pry into any person's proceedings in an impertinent manner. To *nose upon* any one, is to tell of any thing he has said or done with a view to injure him, or to benefit yourself. **1871** MEREDITH *H. Richmond* III. 122 What the deuce they do here nosing after my grandson! **1899** HEWLETT in *Blackw. Mag.* Feb. 326/1 Franciscans..and Dominicans..who got wind of something amiss, and began to nose for a scandal.

9. To push with the nose.

1891 MEREDITH *One of our Conq.* I. i. 12 A steamer slowly noseing round off the wharf-cranes. **1898** *Daily News* 7 May 7/5 The Morrill, which had been nosing up towards us, swung across the path of the liner.

10. Of strata or veins: To dip *in*, to run *out*.

1879 GEIKIE in *Encycl. Brit.* X. 301/1 When a fold diminishes in this way it is said to 'nose out'...Hence the anticline noses out to the north and the syncline to the south. **1883** GRESLEY *Gloss. Coal-Mining* 175 A stratum is said to nose in when it dips beneath the ground or into a hill-side in a V or nose form.

¶ Johnson's '*Nose*, v. n. To look big; to bluster', copied with variations by later Dicts., is based on the misreading *noses* for *noises* in the passage quoted by him from Shaks. *Ant. & Cl.*

Hence **No·sing** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1593 G. HARVEY *Pierce's Super.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 125, I cannot stand nosing of Candlestickes, or euphuing of Similes. **1775** ASH, *Nosing*, the act of taking by the nose. **1828** P. CUNNINGHAM *N. S. Wales* (ed. 3) II. 228 If they suspect any one of nosing [*note*, informing], they will conceal some of their own things in his bag. **1888** STEVENSON in *Scribner's Mag.* III. 768 Perpetual nosing after snobbery at least suggests the snob. **1897** KIPLING *Capt. Cour.* iii, The nosing bows slapped and scuffled with the seas.

Nosean (nōu·zĭăn). *Min.* Also **noseane, nosian(e.** [Named (*nosian*) by Klaproth, 1815, after K. W. *Nose*, a German geologist who had described it.] A silicate of aluminium and sodium, occurring in crystals in volcanic rocks. (Also called *noselite*, *nosin*, and *nosite*.)

1836 T. THOMSON *Min., Geol.*, etc. I. 257 Sodalite. Hauyne, noseane, spinellane. *Ibid.* 675 Nosiane. **1842** PARNELL *Chem. Anal.* (1845) 401 Silicates decomposable by Hydrochloric Acid. Nosian. **1879** RUTLEY *Stud. Rocks* x. 112 Sodalite, hauyne, and nosean are all silicates of alumina and soda.

No·se-bag. [f. NOSE *sb.*]

1. A bag, usually made of strong canvas and leather, which is suspended from a horse's head (the open end covering his nose) so that he may eat the provender contained in it.

1796 *Grose's Dict. Vulgar Tongue* (ed 3), *Nose Bag*, a bag fastened to the horse's head, in which the soldiers of the cavalry put the oats given to their horses: whence the saying, I see the nose bag in his face; i.e. he has been a private man, or rode private. **1844** H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 178 Every man takes his pair of nose-bags, and supplies his own horses. **1873** TRISTRAM *Moab* vi. 112 The muleteers are not scrupulous about stealing from each other's nosebags.

transf. **1889** *Pall Mall G.* 22 Jan. 6/2 It is often said that these public institutions are largely used as 'nose-bags'—that they afford a comfortable corner for persons to lunch in or otherwise shelter themselves.

b. *slang.* (See quot.)

1860 *Slang Dict.*, *Nose-Bags*, visitors at watering places, and houses of refreshment, who carry their own victuals.

2. A net placed over a horse's nose to protect it from flies.

1839 HOLLOWAY *Prov. Dict.* s.v. *Nose-fly*, Nose-bags or nets are used to protect the horses' noses.

No·se-band. [f. NOSE *sb.*] The lower band of a bridle, passing over the nose, and attached to the cheek-straps; a musrole. = NOSE-PIECE *sb.* 1 b.

1611 COTGR., *Museliere*,..the nose-band of a bridle. **1753** CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* s.v., Nose-band..is that part of the head-stall of a bridle that comes over a horse's nose. **1775** R. TWISS *Trav. Port. & Sp.* 205 The horses have no bits in their mouths, but are governed by *caveçons* or nose-bands. **1833** *Regul. & Instr. Cavalry* I. 71 The strap..should act both as a noseband and curb. **1889** BADEN-POWELL *Pig-sticking* 128 The noseband..in place of the bit, as it saves the horse's mouth from the jobbing and dragging.

No·se-bit. [f. NOSE *sb.* + BIT *sb.*^{1}]

†**1.** *Sc.* A metal nose-band for a horse. In quot. *fig.* (Cf. *nese-bit* s.v. NESE *sb.* c.) *Obs. rare* $^{-1}$.

1583 *Leg. Bp. St. Androis* 1105, I sall leave blankis for to imbrew thame, That he a nosebitt may beleive thame Whome to my buik salbe directit.

2. (See quots.)

1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* 152 *Nose-bit*, a bit similar to a gouge bit, having a cutting edge on one side of the end. **1846** HOLTZAPFFEL *Turning* II. 540 The nose-bit.., called also the slit-nose-bit, and auger-bit, is slit up a small distance near the center. **1875** *Carpentry & Join.* 31 A is a shell augur, which, if made smaller and used with a brace, goes by the name of a nose-bit.

†**Nose-bledels, -bledles.** *Obs. rare.* [f. OE. *blédan* to bleed: see -ELS.] = NOSE-BLEED.

c **1450** *M.E. Med. Bk.* (Heinrich) 232 Tak millefoyle .i. nose-bledels or yarow, stampe hyt smal. *c* **1450** *Alphita* (Anecd. Oxon.) 190/1 *Millefolium*,..nosebledles.

No·se-bleed. [f. NOSE *sb.* + stem of BLEED *v.*]

1. The plant Milfoil or Yarrow. Also *attrib.*

There is no clear evidence of the name being actually current after 1600.

14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 596 *Millefolium*, Mylleſoyle *vel* Noseblede. *c* **1450** *Alphita* (Anecd. Oxon.) 118/1 *Miriofillos siue..millifolium*,..noseblede. **1567** [see MILFOIL 1]. **1597** GERARDE *Herbal* 913 Of Yarrowe or Nose-bleede.. The leaues being put into the nose, do cause it to bleede. **1611** COTGR., *Millefueille* [sic], nose-bleed Yarrow, common Yarrow. **1657** C. BECK *Univ. Character* M 4 b, Yarrow or nose-bleed. **1731** MILLER *Gard. Dict.*, *Millefolium*, Yarrow, Milfoil, or Nose-bleed. **1753** CHAMBERS *Cycl. Suppl.* App., *Nose bleed*, in botany, a popular name for the Millefolium of botanical writers. **1855** MISS PRATT *Flower. Pl.* III. 325 Several of the old names of this plant are very significant of its former uses: Souldier's Woundwort, Knyghten Milfoil, and Nose-bleed.

2. A bleeding at the nose.

1852-6 in WRIGHT *Univ. Pron. Dict.* IV. **1890** CHILD *Ballads* IV. 117/2 The omen of nose-bleed occurs in the ballad of 'The Mother's Malison'.

Nosed (nōzd), *a.* [f. NOSE *sb.*]

Such combs. as *bottle-*, *flat-*, *hawk-*, *hook-*, *long-nosed*, are given as main words or under the first element.

1. Having a nose *like* that of some other person or animal.

1505 in *Facsimiles Nat. MSS.* (1865) I. 92 She ys myche lyke nosid vnto the quyn hir moder. **1563** B. GOOGE *Eglogs* (Arb.) 123 A myghty face..Muche nosed lyke a Turky Cocke. **1622** FLETCHER *Sea-Voy.* v. ii, The slaves are nos'd like vultures: how wild they look!

b. (Also *well-nosed.*) Keen-scented.

1604 MIDDLETON *Witch* I. ii, There's no knavery but is nosed like a dog, and can smell out a dog's meaning. **1625** tr. *Gonsalvo's Sp. Inquis.* 147 The Inquisitors well nosed like the diuell. **1709** STEELE *Tatler* No. 73 P 8 They have Dogs as well nos'd and as fleet as any.

2. Having a prominent nose.

1896 H. O. FORBES *Handbk. to Primates* I. 252 In the second Sub-family are included the Nosed-Monkeys (*Nasalis*) of Borneo.

No·se-flute. [f. NOSE *sb.*] A musical instrument blown with the nose; used in Siam, the Fiji and Society Islands, etc.

1775 *Phil. Trans.* LXV. 72, I have also examined the nose-flute of Otaheite. **1864** ENGEL *Mus. Anc. Nat.* 16

The nose-flutes of the Society and Feejee Islanders. 1882 *Macm. Mag.* XLVI. 81 The nose-flute is played in Siam.

Nosegay (nōu·zgeɪ). Also 6–7 **-gaye, -gaie.** [f. Nose *sb.* + Gay *sb.*]

1. A bunch of flowers or herbs, esp. sweet-smelling flowers; a bouquet, a posy. Also, an imitation or representation of this.

c 1420 Lydg. *Assembly of Gods* 380 A nosegay she had made full pleasauntly. 1530 Palsgr. 698/2 Assay, this nosegaye savoureth swetely. 1578 Lyte *Dodoens* 88 At the toppe..groweth small tuftes, or as it were nosegeyes of ten or xii floures or more. 1600 Surflet *Countrie Farme* II. xlvii. 301 These..flowers for nosegaies shall be set in order vpon beds and quarters. 1672 Marvell *Reh. Transp.* I. 203 'Tis a Flower of the Sun, and might alone serve both for a Staff and a Nose-gay for any Noble mans Porter. 1704 *Collect. Voy.* (Churchill) III. 690/1 Also a Nosegay of Gold to be worn by the Emperor only. 1753 Hogarth *Anal. Beauty* viii. 43 Observe the well composed nosegay, how it loses all its distinctness when it dies. 1837 Howitt *Rur. Life* (1862) 231 Almost every person..had a nosegay in hand. 1877 A. B. Edwards *Up Nile* xv. 396 The damsels ..in holiday apparel, with nosegays in their hands.

b. *fig.* or in fig. context.

1570 Dee *Math. Pref.* b j, To make this Preface, to be a little swete, pleasant Nosegaye for you, to comfort your Spirites. 1626 T. H[awkins] tr. *Caussin's Holy Crt.* 3 The Nose-gay of the Elect, called in holy Scripture *Fasciculus viventium*. 1651 C. Cartwright *Cert. Relig.* I. 103 Will you forsake the Rose of Sharon, and the Lillie of the Vallies for such a Nose-gay? 1731–8 Swift *Pol. Conversat.* Introd. Wks. 1751 XII. 160 It hath become a choice Flower in the Nosegay of Wit and Politeness. 1778 Mme. D'Arblay *Early Diary, Let. to Susan Burney* 16 June, I design to make you a present of Miss Couss's letter when we meet for your nosegay, if you think her praise worth having.

c. *transf.*, with ref. to scent or show.

1768 Goldsm. *Good-n. Man* v, I have a drop in the house of as pretty raspberry as ever was tipt over tongue..; the last couples we had here, they said it was a perfect nosegay. 1853 Dickens *Bleak Ho.* xviii, The smell of sweet herbs and all kinds of wholesome growth..made the whole air a great nosegay. 1889 W. Morris in Mackail *Life* (1899) II. 222 The country is one big nosegay, the scents wonderful.

d. A perfume or scent (*spec.* one artificially prepared; see quot. 1881); an odour, smell.

1855 Piesse *Art Perfum.* vi. 115 The formulæ for preparing the most favourite 'bouquets' and 'nosegays'. 1881 *Spons' Encycl. Manuf.* II. 1530 Nosegays or Bouquets.—By far the greatest part of the scent consumed is in this form, being as the names indicate, mixtures of a number of odoriferous extracts. 1889 Gretton *Memory's Harkback* 53 The lodgers had, to boot, the nosegay from the drains.

†**2.** A gay bunch or cluster. *Obs. rare* −1.

1592 Nashe *P. Penilesse* (ed. 2) 13 b, These aged mothers of iniquitie will..weare nosegayes of yeolow haire on their furious foreheads.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *nosegay-dance, -flowers, -garden, -like* (adj. and adv.), *-maker*; **nosegay-plant** (see quot. 1837); **nosegay-tree**, the red jasmine of Tropical America, *Plumeria rubra*, or the related species *P. alba*.

1597 Breton *Figure of Four* Wks. (Grosart) II. 7/1 Foure sweet Trades in a Citie: Sugar-men, Comfit-makers, Perfumers and Nose-gay-makers. 1600 Surflet *Countrie Farme* II. xlvii. 301 Nosegaie flowers..shall be sowen,..no otherwise then the potherbes. *Ibid.*, [This] may be called the nosegaie garden. 1611 Cotgr. s.v. *Bouquet, Bransle du bouquet*, the nosegay daunce. *Ibid.*, *Bouquetier*, of, or belonging to, nosegayes, nosgay-like. 1837 *Penny Cycl.* VII. 215/1 The French gardeners call it [the curled-leaved Bigarade] *Le Bouquetier*, or Nosegay plant. 1856 Mrs. Browning *Aur. Leigh* I. 630 All the fields are tied up fast with hedges, nosegay-like.

†**Nosegent.** *Obs. Cant.* (See quot.)

1567 Harman *Caveat* 83 *Nosegent*, a Nunne. *Ibid.* 87 There was a proude patrico and a nosegent.

Nose-high, *a.*: see Nose *sb.* 17 c.

No·se-hole. [f. Nose *sb.*]

1. A nostril. Now *dial.*

1527 Andrew *Brunswyke's Distyll. Waters* N ij b, Cotton wet in the same water and put in the nose holes is good against Polippus. 1716 *Phil. Trans.* XXIX. 519 The right Nose-hole, at the Root of the upper Beak. 1875– in many dial. glossaries.

2. In *Glass-blowing*, the open mouth of a side furnace at which the nose of a bulb of crown-glass in process of manufacture is softened by heating.

1832 G. R. Porter *Porcelain & Gl.* 158 On either side of each bocca is a smaller circular opening, sometimes called a *boccarella*, but more generally..nose-hole. 1844 [see Nose *sb.* 12 d]. 1881 *Spons' Encycl. Manuf.* III. 1064 The end of the piece [of iron]..is called the nose, and gives its name to the furnace or nose-hole.

No·se-jewel. [f. Nose *sb.*] A valuable ornament worn in or attached to the nose.

1611 Bible *Isa.* iii. 21 In that day the Lord will take away ..The rings, and nose-iewels. 1695 J. Edwards *Perfect. Script.* 241 Their frontal jewel..fastned on their foreheads ..; call'd..a nose-jewel. 1760–72 tr. *Juan & Ulloa's Voy.* (ed. 3) I. 465 Among the gold pieces are the nose-jewels. 1813 *Gentl. Mag.* LXXXIII. II. 351 Nor could even Fatima's beautiful face reconcile me to the nose jewel. 1862 M. E. Rogers *Dom. Life Palestine* 381 An artificial clove made of gold, with a pearl .. at the top, is a very favourite nose-jewel.

b. *transf.* A pig-ring.

1844 H. Stephens *Bk. Farm* II. 705 The best material for making the nose-jewels of swine is horse-shoe nails.

Nosel(l, variants of Nuzzle *v.*[1] and *v.*[2]

Noseless (nōu·zlĕs), *a.* [f. Nose *sb.*] Destitute or deprived of a nose; that has lost the nose.

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xviii. xlvii. (Bodl. MS.), Somme heþ all heedles and noseles. 1509 Barclay *Shyp of Folys* (1570) 88 For he that is sure, and to a fray will renne, May fortune come home agayne noselesse or lame. 1606 Shaks. *Tr. & Cr.* v. v. 34 His mangled Myrmidons, That noselesse, handlesse, hackt and chipt, come to him; Crying on Hector. 1646 *J. Hall's Poems* To Mr. Hall, Thou need'st no nose-lesse monuments display. 1727 Gay *Fables* I. xlvii, My shanks, sunk eyes, and noseless face Prove my pretension to the place. 1800 W. Taylor in *Monthly Mag.* VIII. 727 O'er the pale picture, and the noseless bust, Oblivion strews a soft sepulchral dust. 1862 *Temple Bar* V. 524 A noseless face would have no divinity.

Hence **No·selessly** *adv.*; **No·selessness.**

1752 Richardson *Let. to Mrs. Donnellan* 22 Feb., Amelia, even to her noselessness, is again his first wife. 1855 Thackeray *Newcomes* xxxv, Senators namelessly, noselessly, noiselessly seated. 1870 *Daily News* 6 June, The causes leading up to the..noselessness of 'the brigands' heads'.

†**No·seling(s,** *adv. Obs.* In 5 **noselyng(e, -lyng(g)ys.** [f. Nose *sb.* + -ling 2.] On the nose, face downwards.

14.. *Sir Beues* (Naples MS.) 649 He leide him noselyng on þe grounde. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 358/2 Noselynggys (*S.* noslyngys), *suppinus* (*S. resupinus*). 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* xvii. iv. 695 He was smyten with a swerd on the ryghte foote that he felle doune noselynge to the shyps bord.

No·selite. *Min.* [ad. G. *noselith* (Francke, 1890).] = Nosean. 1892 Dana *Min.* 432.

†**No·seness.** *nonce-word.* (See quot.)

1598 Florio, *Nasaggine*, a nosenes or qualitie of ones nose.

Noseo·logy. [f. Nose *sb.* + -(o)logy.] (See quot. 1819.)

1819 *Blackw. Mag.* V. 157 Noseology, a dissertation on the Intellectual Faculties, as manifested by the various configurations of the Nose. 1825 C. Westmacott *Eng. Spy* I. 295 Fancy lectures on noseology.

Hence **Noseolo·gical** *a.*, pertaining to noseology.

1819 *Blackw. Mag.* V. 159 We denounce that man as an enemy to candid noseological disquisition.

No·se-piece. [f. Nose *sb.*]

1. a. A part of a helmet or turban serving as a guard for the nose; a nasal.

1611 Cotgr., *Nazal*, the nose-peece of a helmet; the part thereof which coureth the nose. 1800 *Asiat. Ann. Reg.* 344/2 The nose-piece of the turban has several Arabic inscriptions. 1865 Kingsley *Herew.* I. x. 226 The small space on either cheek which was left bare between the nose-piece and the chain-mail.

b. A nose-band for a horse; also, a similar part of a dog's muzzle.

1865 *Routledge's Mag. for Boys* Feb. 111 However you may fancy the appearance of a nose-piece.., never use a headstall or Gaveston martingale. 1893 K. Sanborn *S. California* 178 The headstall is covered with fluted silver, with large engraved silver rosettes at the sides,..with an elaborate nose-piece with silver engraving. 1899 *Daily News* 16 Dec. 6/3 He took the nose-piece between his teeth and pulled manfully.

c. A piece of wood inserted to form the nose of a stuffed animal.

1894 *Outing* XXIII. 408/2 Make a nose-piece of pine or soft wood. Drive it up into the skull and tack it there.

2. a. (See quot.)

1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade, Nose-piece*, the nozzle of a hose or pipe.

b. *Optics.* The part of a microscope to which the objective (or object-glass) is attached.

1867 Hogg *Microsc.* I. ii. 71 Mr. Brooke's double nose-piece, or Baker's treble, is a useful piece of mechanism. 1899 tr. *Jaksch's Clin. Diagn.* (ed. 4) x. 436 The tube of the microscope is provided with a 'revolver' or 'nose-piece', to which lenses of different magnifying powers are fixed.

No·se-pipe. [f. Nose *sb.*]

1. A pipe, or piece of piping, forming a nose or terminal to another pipe, a vessel, etc.

1784–5 *Usef. Projects* in *Ann. Reg.* (1795) 55/2 By these means the branch or nose-pipe of the Engine is conveyed into the window of any room. 1853 Ure *Dict. Arts* I. 594 The nose-pipe of the worm tub terminates in, and is firmly cemented to the side of the glass globe.

2. *spec.* The blast-pipe nozzle inside the tuyère of a blast furnace.

1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 825 Each of these tubes ends in a leather pocket, and an iron nose-pipe *K*, adjusted in the tuyère of the furnace. 1854 Ronalds & Richardson *Chem. Techn.* (ed. 2) I. 314 The gas is not ignited immediately as it issues from the nose-pipes, but passes over a bridge..into the hearth of the furnace. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1534/2 The nose-pipes..vary in size with the nature of the coke and the ore.

Noser (nōu·zəɹ). [f. Nose *sb.* + -er.]

1. A blow or fall on the nose.

1851 Mayhew *Lond. Labour* I. 12/2 The winner is the man who gives the first 'noser'; a bloody nose however is required to show that the blow was veritably a noser. 1862 *Country Gentl.* II. 42 That Irish Baronet had a noser at the same place.

2. A strong head wind; a wind in one's face; *esp.* in phr. *a dead noser.*

1852 *Beck's Florist* 13 The fair wind..soon shifted into an adverse quarter, and off the coast of Scotland..it became a dead noser. 1873 W. Cory *Lett. & Jrnls.* (1897) 303 The hurricane born of Captain Rice's 'noser' came on us fourteen hours after.

No·se-ring. [f. Nose *sb.*]

1. A ring fixed in an animal's nose.

1778 [W. Marshall] *Minutes Agric., Digest* 49 Nose rings will reclaim them, be they ever so riotous.

2. A ring-shaped ornament worn in the nose.

1839 Thackeray *Major Gahagan* i, I..carried away Scindiah's nose-ring with a pistol-ball. 1864 Spencer *Illustr. Progress* 90 From nose-rings to ear-rings. 1877 A. B. Edwards *Up Nile* xix. 545 The bride..wears a gold brow-pendant and nose-ring.

No·se-smart. ? *Obs.* [f. Nose *sb.* + Smart, after L. *nasturtium.*] The plant Cress.

1589 J. Rider *Bibl. Schol.* 1749 The hearb nose smart, *Nasturtium*. 1598 Florio, *Nasturcio*, .. the hearbe wilde mint, or nose-smart. 1611 Cotgr., *Nasitort*, Nose-smart, garden Cresse. 1655 Stanley *Hist. Philos.* I. (1701) 105/2 The magnetick vertue of the Earth Would draw away the humour of my Brain, Just as we see in Nose-smart. 1755 in Johnson [hence in later Dicts.].

Nose-thirl, †nose-thrill. *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Forms: *α.* 4–6 (9) **nose-thurl,** (5 **-thurll**), 4–6 (9) **-thyrl,** 4–6 **thirl,** 4 **-therl.** (Also 5 **noos-,** 4–5 **noose-,** 6 *Sc.* **nois-.**) *β.* 4–6 **nose-thryl,** (5–6 **-thryll,** 6 **-thrylle**), 4–7 **-thrill,** (5 **-prill**), 6–7 **-thril,** 6 **-threl**(l. *γ.* 5 **nosetril,** 6 **-trel**(l; 5 **-sterl,** 6 **-strell,** 7 **-strill.** [f. Nose *sb.* + Thirl *sb.*, a new comb. in place of OE. *nospyrel* Nostril, to which the *γ*-forms show some assimilation: compare the parallel ME. formation Nese-thirl. The *β*-forms are very common from *c* 1400 to 1600.] A nostril.

α. c 1340 *Nominale* (Skeat) 20 Nose gristul and nose-thurles. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Prol.* 559 His nose-thurles blake were and wyde. 1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 234 Who-so hath the noose-thurlis moche opyn, he is strongly angry. 1480 *Caxton's Trevisa* I. xxii. (1527) 20 Sponges watred and holden at theyr nosethyrles. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S. T. S.) 110 Thair nois thirlis can nouther saner nor smell. 1856 P. Thompson *Hist. Boston* 716 *Nose-thurls*, the nostrils. 1866 Brogden *Linc. Words* s.v., He is very broad in the nose-thurles.

β. 1382 Wyclif *Num.* xi. 20 To the tyme that it come out bi 3oure noose thrillis. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 7727 He neyt as a nagge, at his nose thrilles! 1485 Caxton *Chas. Gt.* 151 His nosethrylles large & ample. 1534 Fitzherb. *Husb.* § 84 Pursy is a dysease in an horses bodye,..and appereth at his nosethrilles. 1584 R. Scot *Discov. Witcher.* XII. xx. (1886) 227 Conveied through the nosethrels and mouth. 1609 Holland *Amm. Marcell.* 13 Snuffing and drawing back their wind inwardly at their broken nose-thrils. 1656 Heylin *Surv. France* 132 Not yielding the least offence to the most curious nosethrill.

attrib. 1632 tr. *Bruel's Praxis Med.* 8 An oyntment.. wherewith anoynt the forehead & nose-thrill holes.

γ. c 1400 *Trevisa's Higden* (Rolls) I. 185 Sponges i-watred and i-holde at hir nostrilles [MS. *α*, nosetrils]. *c* 1400 tr. *Secreta Secret., Gov. Lordsh.* 115 A nose þat hauys nosesterles oft greuant, & harde openynge. 1545 Raynold *Byrth Mankynde* 132 Powre..into the chyldes nosetrelles of oyle of castorium. *a* 1569 Kingesmyll *Man's Est.* xii. (1580) 87 Wee have but borrowed breathe and that liyng in our nosetrels. *a* 1617 Bayne *Lect.* (1634) 105 Icekles hanging at his Nosestrills.

†**No·se-wise,** *a. Obs.* [f. Nose *sb.* + Wise *a.*, perh. after Du. *neuswijs*, LG. *näsewîs*, G. *nase*(*n*)*weis* (MHG. *nasewîse*): cf. *nese-wise* s.v. Nese *sb.*]

1. Conceited; clever in one's own opinion.

1566 *Pasquine in Traunce* To Rdr., But nowe me thinketh I heare some nose wise papist, make a very vnnecessarie obiection. 1598 Bp. Hall *Sat.* IV. i. 12 My rimes rellish of the Fernle still..Some nose-wise Pedant saith. 1630 J. Taylor (Water-P.) *Wks.* II. 13/2 Ther's not a Puritan, Or any nose-wise foole Precisian. 1787 W. Taylor *Scots Poems* 174 On the pride of a Nose-wise S***er.

2. Keen-scented.

1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* IV. ix. 391 One more nose-wise then the rest, smelled the sent of flesh. 1630 G. Graeme *Let.* in *Miscell.* (S. H. S.) II. 253, I think you to nosvyse that has smellid Your father's..falsety so far off.

†**No·sewort.** *Obs. rare.* Also 6 **noswort.** [f. Nose *sb.*] **a.** Neeze-wort, Hellebore. **b.** Nasturtium (cf. Nose-smart).

1563 Hyll *Art Garden.* (1593) 21 The root Hellebor, or otherwise Noswort. 1608 Topsell *Serpents* 37 Of green hogs-fennell, take the lowest branches, Of nosewort sharpe [L. *acris nasturci*], so much. 1661 Lovell *Hist. Anim. & Min.* 253 The root of centaury or hartwort, nosewort, gentian, or sesamine.

Nosey (nōu·zi), *sb.* [f. Nose *sb.* + -y.] One who has a large nose. (Used as a nickname.)

1788 Gov. Pownall in *Archaeol.* IX. 148 There is an admirable caricatura of a musician, what the vulgar of this day would call *Nosey*, playing on a violin. 1804 *Naval Chron.* XI. 100 Pye..was always called *Nozey*. 1819 *Metropolis* III. 89 The calling a noseless man, nosey, is adding insult to the injury which he has sustained. 1851 Mayhew *Lond. Labour* I. 474/1 Had heer'd of the Duke of Wellington; he was Old Nosey. 1887 Squire in *Dict. Nat. Biog.* IX. 428/2 It is said that the gallery cry, 'Play up, nosey', owes its origin to his appearance.

Nosey (nōu·zi), *a.* [f. as prec. Cf. Nosy *a.*]

1. a. Evil-smelling, emitting a bad odour.

1836 Haliburton *Clockm.* (1862) 53 It's so everlasting bad—it's near about as nosey as a slave ship of niggers. 1867 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* III. II. 620 [The corn] was left, heated a good deal, and came out clammy and 'nosey'.

b. Fragrant.

1892 Walsh *Tea* 161 Many teas that may be 'new and nosey' in the hand will be thin and flat in the cup.

2. Sensitive to bad smells.

1894 *Daily News* 17 Jan. 3/1 It is a great compliment to the management to state that the most nosey visitor has no legitimate ground for offence from organic causes.

No·sin. *Min.* ? *Obs.* = Nosean.

1825 Haidinger *Moh's Min.* III. 157 The name of Nosin has been given to it in honor of Mr. Nose. 1836 Thomson *Min., Geol.*, etc. I. 675 Nosin.

Nosing (nōu·zing). [f. NOSE *sb.* + -ING 1.]

1. The rounded edge of a bench, or of a step projecting over the riser; also, a metal shield for the same; the prominent edge of a moulding or drip.

1775 ASH, *Nosing*,..that which is put on at the end of anything resembling a nose. 1778 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 2) 618/2 The rail cannot be fixed less than one fourth part from the nosing or front of the step. 1823 P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Build.* 185 The meeting of the sides which form the external angle of the steps is called the line of nosing. 1839 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* II. 363/1 A nosing, or rebated piece of iron, is made fast to the step of wood by iron studs. 1876 *Arch. Inst. Jrnl.* XXXIII. 21 The nosing of the wall-bench..has been cut away flush with the riser.

2. The keeper of a lock, which receives the bolt.

1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl. 636/1.

Nosing, *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.* : see NOSE *v.*

Nosism (nō·siz'm). [f. L. *nos* we + -ISM.]

1. An attitude of mind in a group of persons, corresponding to egotism in the individual.

1819 *Blackw. Mag.* V. 97 The egotism or *nosism* of the other luminaries of the Lake School, is at times extravagant enough, and amusing enough withal.

2. The use of 'we' in stating one's own opinions.

1829 *Examiner* 162/1 We will be consistent according to the fashionable virtue of the day in *nos*-ism. 1864 *Edin. Rev.* July 52 It tempts a man to indulge in *Nos*-ism, where modesty..would have made him shrink from undisguised egotism.

No·site. *Min. rare.* =NOSEAN. (Dana, 1868.)

Nosle, obs. variant of NOZZLE *sb.*

Noso- (nō·sō), combining form of Gr. *νόσος* disease, used in a number of compounds, chiefly pathological, as **† No·socome** [a. F. *nosocome*, ad. L. *nosocomium*, Gr. *νοσοκομεῖον*], a hospital. *Obs.* —[1] **Nosoco·mial** [cf. prec.] *a.*, belonging or pertaining to a hospital. **† Nosognomo·nic** *a.* (see quot.). *Obs.* —[1] **Nosomathe·te** [Gr. *μαθητής*], a student of diseases. **Noso·meter** (see quot.). **Noso·nomy,** 'the doctrine of the natural laws by which diseases occur' (Mayne, 1857). **Nosopho·bia,** morbid apprehensiveness of disease. **No·sophyte** (see quot.). **Nosopoe·tic** *a.*, producing or causing disease. **Nosota·xy,** the distribution and classification of diseases (Dunglison, 1855). **Nosothe·ory,** the theory of disease (Mayne, 1857). **Nosotoxico·sis** (see quot.). **Noso·trophous** *a.*; **Noso·trophy** (see quots.).

Various other combs. of doubtful currency, such as *nosogenesis*, *-genetic*, *-geny*, *-mania*, are given in the *Syd. Soc. Lex.* and some recent Dicts.

1653 URQUHART *Rabelais* I. lii. 227 Gargantua..gave order that the wounded should be drest and had care of in his great Hospital or **Nosocome.* 1855 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex.* s.v., *Nosocomial or hospital fever. 1891 C. CREIGHTON *Hist. Epidem. Brit.* 95 The purely nosocomial part of these charities was in not a few instances for the immediate relief of the monasteries themselves. 1655 STANLEY *Hist. Philos.* (1687) 165 Medicine is of five kinds...*Nosognomonick discerns diseases. 1841 J. T. HEWLETT *Parish Clerk* I. 106 Whether the state of the stomach depends on the state of the mind, or vice versa, I am not *nosomathete enough to say. 1822-34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) I. 543 The pulse becomes a sort of *nosometer, or measurer of the violence and danger of the disease. 1665 DRAGE (*title*), A Physical *Nosonomy; or, A new and true Description of the Law of God (called Nature) in the Body of Man. 1855 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex.*, Nosonomy. 1889 *Lancet* 9 Nov. 966/1 *Nosophobia is certainly much more frequent in man, probably because women act as nurses, and consequently have no fear of infection. 1890 GOULD *Med. Dict.*, **Nosophyte*,..a term applied to any pathogenic microbe, or minute parasitic organism which produces disease. 1733 ARBUTHNOT *On Air* vi. § 23. 156, I shall make a few Observations upon the Qualities of the Air, so far as they are *Nosopoetick, that is, have a Power of producing Diseases. 1834 *Fraser's Mag.* X. 569 Least of all can we explain the nosopoetic effects of atmospherical changes. 1892 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, **Nosotoxicosis*, a condition in which morbid symptoms are exhibited, which are dependent on the presence of toxic bases in the blood [etc.]. 1857 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Nosotrophus*.., nourishing or maintaining disease: *nosotrophous. *Nosotrophia*.., the nourishment or nutrition of disease; *nosotrophy.

Nosography (nŏsp·grăfi). [f. NOSO- + -GRAPHY, or ad. mod.L. *nosographia*: cf. F. *nosographie* (1798), Sp. *nosografia*.] A (*or* the) systematic description of diseases.

1654 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 110 The Diseases of the Mindes of Patients..; to sum up which, would be a Nosography..as large as any, treating of the Bodies distemper. 1847 tr. *Feuchtersleben's Med. Psychol.* 11 The nosography which aims at exhibiting the phenomena, the natural history, and the so called system of psychosis. 1851-9 *Man. Sci. Enq.* 243 These again should lead to a more useful nosography than is generally adopted. 1861 *Sat. Rev.* XI. 431/1 Dr. Fuller's work..on the subject of rheumatism, the nosography, pathology, statistics, and treatment of which are illustrated [etc.].

So **Noso·grapher; Nosogra·phic(al** *adjs.*; **Nosogra·phically** *adv.*

1859 SEMPLE *Diphtheria* 134 To trace,..after the manner of nosographers, the specific characters of the different kinds of Angina. 1888 *Amer. Jrnl. Psychol.* I. 497 Charcot's famous three states or nosographic groups were formulated in 1882.

Nosological (nŏsolŏ·dʒikăl), *a.* [f. NOSOLOGY. Cf. F. *nosologique*, It. and Sp. *nosologico*.]

1. Of or pertaining to nosology.

1777-84 CULLEN *First Lines Physic* (1808) I. § 805 My reasons for differing from these authors, must be left to a nosological discussion. 1805 SAUNDERS *Min. Waters* 460 In acute diseases, the thirst after water..is sufficiently constant to be a basis of nosological description. 1843 R. J. GRAVES *Syst. Clin. Med.* 20 Will you from this very excellent nosological definition venture to prescribe for this case of dropsy? 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 384 He founded his nosological classification on certain cases observed by himself.

2. Dealing with nosology.

1807 *Med. & Phys. Jrnl.* XVIII. 535 A close application to the perusal of the late Nosological authors.

Hence **Nosolo·gically** *adv.*

1836 E. HOWARD *R. Reefer* liii, I don't know whether I have described this fever case..nosologically. 1859 SEMPLE *Diphtheria* 316 Speaking nosologically, Diphtherite is a phlegmasia.

Nosologist (nŏsŏ·lŏdʒist). [f. as prec. + -IST. Cf. F. *nosologiste*.] One who is occupied with, or learned in, nosology.

1777-84 CULLEN *First Lines Physic* (1808) I. § 734 The Petechia has been, by all our Nosologists, enumerated amongst the exanthemata. 1800 tr. *Cullen's Nosology* Pref. 18 The characters of former Nosologists appear to me, in general, too short and defective. 1843 R. J. GRAVES *Syst. Clin. Med.* 20 'Tell me the name of the disease' was the motto of the nosologist, 'and I will tell you the remedy'. 1884 M. MACKENZIE *Dis. Throat & Nose* II. 339 Nasal hemorrhage was classed by the nosologists of the last century as a substantive disease.

Nosology [1] (nŏsŏ·lŏdʒi). [ad. mod.L. *nosologia* (so Sp. and It.; F. *nosologie*), a. Gr. type **νοσολογία*: see NOSO- and -LOGY.]

1. A classification or arrangement of diseases.

1721 BAILEY, *Nosology*,..a Treatise concerning Diseases. 1777-84 CULLEN *First Lines Physic* (1808) Introd. § 2 To establish a Methodical Nosology, or an arrangement of diseases according to their genera and species. 1804 ABERNETHY *Surg. Obs.* 5 In Dr. Cullen's Nosology we find diseases of arteries, veins, glands, &c., brought together under one order. 1857 T. WATSON *Lect. Phys.* (ed. 4) 12 That phantom—a perfect methodical nosology. 1860 TANNER *Pregnancy* i. 7 Such an expression should hardly have a place in any scientific nosology.

transf. 1785 REID *Intell. Powers* VI. viii. 652 It were to be wished that we had also a nosology of the human understanding.

b. A collection or combination *of* diseases.

1823 DE QUINCEY *Lett. on Self-Educ.* (1860) 139 A sentence ..liable to a whole nosology of malconformations. 1851 CARLYLE *Sterling* I. i, All this fatal nosology of spiritual maladies, so rife in our day.

c. The list or catalogue of known diseases.

1839 CARLYLE *Chartism* ix, There is no disease in the Nosology but he can trace in himself some symptoms of it. 1899 *Times* 25 Aug. 8/2 [Plague] is one of the easiest of the great epidemic diseases to combat in our whole nosology.

2. Systematic or scientific classification or investigation of diseases; that branch of medical science which deals with this.

1727-38 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Medicine*, The second branch considers the diseases of the human body, their differences, causes, and effects; and is called..*nosology*, when it examines their differences. 1799 *Med. Jrnl.* I. 42 There is little hope of seeing a theory of medicine, or a System of Nosology established, which .. will .. stand the test of ages. 1827 *Lancet* 17 Nov. 252/2 Nosology is of course frequently taught without therapeutics. 1881 G. MACDONALD *M. Marston* III. xiv. 256 Nosology is a science doomed, thank God, to perish. Health alone will at last fill the earth.

transf. 1849 SIR J. STEPHEN *Eccl. Biog.* (1850) I. 345 Phenomena in the science of mental nosology. *Ibid.* II. 406 Ecclesiastical Nosology, or the Morbid Anatomy of the Church.

3. The special character *of* a particular disease, or the views current with regard to this.

1825 *Sporting Mag.* XVI. 355 A satisfactory conclusion is, to agree on the nosology of the disease. 1876 *Trans. Clinical Soc.* IX. 91 With a reference to the divided state of the nosology of leucheemia.

Noso·logy [2], variant of NOSEOLOGY.

1822 *Blackw. Mag.* XI. 427 If ever we should possess a classified nosology, my nose must be ranked in the order.. which shall comprise the pitch-delighting olfactories.

Nossel: see NOSTEL, NOZZLE *sb.*, NUZZLE *v.*[2]

† Nossen, obs. variant of NOISING *vbl. sb.*

1504 *Plumpton Corr.* (Camden) 186 And so they have ..arrest him; the which is a great nossen in the country.

† Nost, for *ne wost*, knowest not; see NOT *v.*[2]

a 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* 102 When thou shalt deȝe, ner thou nost. *c* 1384 CHAUCER *H. Fame* 2047 Nost nat thou That is betyd late or now? 1388 WYCLIF *Ecclus.* xxxiii. 33 Thou noost whom thou schalt seke. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 61 Thou nost what chance schal betyde.

Nost, obs. variant of OAST.

Nostalgia (nŏstæ·ldʒiă). *Path.* [a. mod.L. *nostalgia* (so It., Sp., Pg.; F. *nostalgie* (1802)), f. Gr. *νόστος* return home + *ἄλγος* pain.] A form of melancholia caused by prolonged absence from one's home or country; severe home-sickness.

1780 THACHER *Mil. Jrnl.* (1823) 242 Many perplexing instances of indisposition,..called by Dr. Cullen *nostalgia* or home sickness. 1786 R. HAMILTON in *Edin. Med. Comm.* XI. 343 History of a remarkable Case of Nostalgia. 1818 SYD. SMITH *Wks.* (1867) I. 250 What a dreadful disease Nostalgia must be on the banks of the Missouri! 1856 KANE *Arct. Expl.* I. xiii. 145 He looked as wretched as any lover of a milder clime. I hope I have treated his nostalgia successfully. 1877 OWEN in *Wellesley's Desp.* p. xlv, One who was to spend so much of his life in the East.. should not be hampered by ties and habits calculated..to foster nostalgia.

transf. 1842 J. WILSON *Chr. North* I. 57 That pond has.. about half-a-dozen trouts, if indeed they have not sickened and died of Nostalgia. 1861 *Times* 24 Sept., The principal object thought of appears to be the health of the trees,..that they might not suffer too much from nostalgia.

Nostalgic (nŏstæ·ldʒik), *a.* [f. prec. + -IC. Cf. F. *nostalgique*, It., Sp., and Pg. *nostalgico*.]

1. Of the nature of, characterized or caused by, nostalgia.

1806 T. ARNOLD *Insanity* (ed. 2) I. 208 A variety of pathetic insanity, to which, from nostalgia its most usual appellation, I have given the epithet nostalgic. 1894 DU MAURIER *Trilby* (1895) 331 The desire to hear it once more became nostalgic—almost an ache! 1898 *Daily News* 24 Feb. 3/1 The French songs..were invariably nostalgic.

2. Affected with nostalgia; home-sick.

1869 O. W. HOLMES *Cinders fr. Ashes* (1891) 244 We jogged soberly along,—kind parents and slightly nostalgic boys,—towards the seat of learning. 1877 BLACK *Green Past.* xl, We dragged these nostalgic persons out on to the pleasant little iron balcony.

Nosta·lgy, anglicized form of NOSTALGIA.

1846 in BUCHANAN *Technol. Dict.* 1874 O'SHAUGHNESSY *Disease of Soul, Music & Moonlight* 105 The nostalgies of dim pasts seize me. 1882 A. W. WARD *Dickens* iii. 64 Longing with a nostalgy that was specially strong upon him at periods of mental excitement.

† No·stel. *Obs.* Forms: 1 nostle, nosle, 5 nostylle, -tul. [OE. *nostle*, *nosle*, related to OFris. *nestla*, *nesla*, MDu. *nastel*, *nestel*, OHG. *nastila* fem., *nastilo* masc. (G. *nestel*), of uncertain etymology. The Teut. type **nastil-* appears in med.L. as *nastulus*, *-ula*, *-ulum*, *nastola*, *nastale*, *-ile*, and in It. as *nastro*.]

1. A band or fillet. (OE. only.)

c 897 K. ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* xiii. 76 [Hit] sceolde beon awriten..on ðæm hrægle þe mon hæt rationale, & mid nostlum [*Hatt.* noslum] ȝebunden. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 125 *Fascia*, nostle. *Ibid.* 153 *Fasciola*, nosle.

2. A short piece of cord fastened to a net; a NORSEL.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 359/1 Nostylle of nettys (*H.* nostul), *nastula*, *instita*, *nasculus*.

Hence **† No·stelling** (see quot.). *Obs.*

Cf. MDu. *nastel-*, *nestelinc*, *-ing*.

1615 E. S. *Britain's Buss* in Arb. *Garner* III. 630 Round about the head and two sides of each net, but not at the bottom, must be set a small cord, about the bigness of a bow-string, which is called [the] Head-Roping or Nostelling.

Nostoc (nŏ·stŏk). *Bot.* Also 7-8 nostoch, 8 -ock. [A name invented by Paracelsus.] A genus of unicellular *Algæ*, having the cells arranged in rows which intertwine with each other and form a gelatinous mass; *esp.* the ordinary species of this, *Nostoc commune*, formerly believed to be an emanation or deposit from the stars.

1650 CHARLTON tr. *Van Helmont's Paradoxes* Transl. Suppl. 98 Nostoch understandeth the nocturnall Pollution of some plethoricall and wanton Star, or rather excrement blown from the nostrills of some rheumatick planet,..in consistence like a gelly, and so trembling if touched. 1650 J. FRENCH *Chym. Dict.*, *Nostoch* is that which we call a falling star, a kind of gelly or slime found oftentimes in the Summer in fields, and meadowes. 1701-2 DE LA PRYME *Let.* in *Diary* (Surtees) 247 A bottle of Nostock..called Star Slough, or Star Shot Gelly,..a substance that falls from the starrs. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Suppl.*, *Nostoch*, the name of a vegetable substance which seems to differ from most of the other bodies of that kind, in several particulars. 1834 W. MACGILLIVRAY *Lives Zoologists* 208 This phlegm is a vegetable called nostoc. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVII. 805/2 The species of *Nostoc* are found on damp earth, as well as in sea and fresh water. Most of them are gelatinous,..and shrink almost to nothing in drying. 1895 VINES *Text-bk. Bot.* III. 234 Nostoc is constantly found in the tissue of certain Hepaticæ.

attrib. 1872-3 W. ARCHER in *Grevillea* I. 23 Fibres, from which break forth, through the 'Nostoc-jelly', the first root hairs. 1874-5 H. WOOD *ibid.* III. 43 The development of the distinguishing threads of the Collema out of the ordinary Nostoc-cell. 1892 *Syd. Soc. Lex.* s.v. *Nostoc commune*, Nostoc colonies occur as pseudoparasites in the intercellular spaces and cavities of other plants.

b. An individual plant of this genus.

1851 HARVEY *Nereis Boreali-Amer.* 19 Nothing can well be less star-like than a Nostoc, as it lies on the ground. 1882-4 M. C. COOKE *Brit. Fresh-Water Algæ* I. 221 Nostocs should be dried as quickly as possible after they are collected.

Hence **Nostoc(h)a·ceous, No·stochine** *adjs.*

1857 BERKELEY *Introd. Cryptogamic Bot.* 146 Sometimes ..a connecting cell is formed, as in the Nostochine genus *Sphærozyga*. 1872-3 W. ARCHER in *Grevillea* I. 25 Such nostochaceous plants as live in moist or wet habitats.

Nostoma·nia. *Path.* [mod.L.; see NOSTALGIA and -MANIA. So Sp. and Pg. *nostomania*, F. *nostomanie*.] A kind of madness, an aggravated form of nostalgia. 1855 in OGILVIE *Suppl.*

Nostrada·mic, *a.* [f. next.] Similar to that of Nostradamus.

a 1834 SURTEES in G. Taylor *Mem. R. S.* (Surtees) 263 For much of Nostradamic lore The aged dame still kept in store.

Nostradamus (nŏstrădē·mŭs). [Latinized form of the name of Michel de *Nostredame*, a French physician (1503-1566) who published a collection of prophecies in 1555.] One who professes to foretell future events; a seer comparable to Nostradamus.

1668 DRYDEN *Even. Love* II. i, There's nothing more un-

certain than the cold Prophecies of these Nostradamusses. 1810 *Q. Rev.* IV. 250 The Nostradamuses of opposition altered their tone, and began to foretel the final success of the French. 1859 Wraxall tr. *R. Houdin* v. 59, I need not a Nostradamus to predict that you will devote yourself to it some day. 1870 Brewer *Dict. Phr. & Fable* s.v., The Nostradamus of Portugal. Gonçalo Annès Bandarra.

No·strificate, *v. rare.* [ad. mod.L. *nostrificāre*, f. *nostri-*, *noster* our + *-ficāre* (see -FY).] *trans.* Of Austrian universities: To admit (foreign degrees) to the same status as the native ones. So **Nostrifica·tion.**

1885 *U. S. Cons. Rep.* No. 54. 482 (Cent.), There are no definite rules for the nostrification of foreign diplomas [in Austria]. 1889 *Lancet* II. 810 Buda Pesth—A special examination..for the purpose of 'Nostrificating' the Edinburgh M.D. held by Dr. John Brodie.

Nostril (nɒ·stril). Forms: *α.* 1 nosþyrl, -ðyrl, 5 -thirl, 6–7 -thril(l, 7 -threl. *β.* 1 nos-terl, 4–6 -trell(e, 5–7 -trel; 4, 6–7 nostrill, 6 -teril, 7– nostril. [OE. *nosþyrl*, f. stem of *nosu* Nose: cf. Nose-thirl and OFris. *nosterle.*]

1. One of the two openings in the nose in man and most vertebrate animals; an opening serving a similar purpose in other forms of animal life.

α. c 1000 Ælfric *Hom.* II. 98 Se bræþ on heora nosþyrlum. *c* 1050 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 72 (B), Do on þa nosþyrlu. *Ibid.* 352 Do on þæt nosþyrl. *c* 1500 *Yng. Childr. Bk.* in *Babees Bk.* 25 Wype not thi nose nor þi nos-thirlys. 1565 Cooper *Thesaurus*, *Naris*, the nosthrille. 1597 Beard *Theatre God's Judgem.* (1612) 150 See what a hooke the Lord put in the nosthrils of this barking dogge. 1626 Bacon *Sylva* § 63 When the Spirits, that come to the nosthrils, expell a bad Sent [etc.]. 1669 W. Simpson *Hydrol. Chym.* 95 Vapours..distill..by the nosthrils.

β. c 1000 Ælfric *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 117 *Vibrissæ*, nosterla hær. *Ibid.* 157 *Pinnulae*, uteweard nosterle. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) I. 185 Sponges i-watred and i-holde at hir nostrilles. *Ibid.* III. 11 Precious stones þat schulde ..be i-holde to þe nostrelle of men. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* c vij, Castyng wat thorogh her Nostrellis or hir nares. 1535 Coverdale *Job* xxvii. 3 As longe as the wynde..is in my nostrels. 1576 Fleming *Panopl. Epist.* ♀ iij, My nostrells [were fed] with most comfortable sauours. 1586 Marlowe *2nd Pt. Tamburl.* IV. iv. 8 And blow the morning from their nosterils. 1607 Dekker & Marston *Northw. Hoe* v. D.'s Wks. 1873 III. 67 Out of my nostrils, tapster, thou smelst like Guild-hall two daies after Simon and Jude. 1667 Milton *P. L.* x. 280 So sented the grim Feature, and turn'd His Nostril wide into the murkie Air. 1709 Steele *Tatler* No. 35 ♀ 2 To supply his weak Brain with Powder at the nearest Place of Access, viz. the Nostrils. 1777 Priestley *Matt. & Spir.* (1782) I. v. 54 Could we have had any idea..of smell without the nostrils, and the olfactory nerves? 1834 McMurtrie *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 36 His nostrils, more complicated than those of the monkey, are less so than those of all other genera. 1877 Bryant *Odyss.* v. 548 The brine gushed forth From mouth and nostrils.

transf. 1854 Brewster *More Worlds* iii. 39 The lofty peak with its cap of ice or its nostrils of fire.

b. *fig.* with reference to persons.

1644 Milton *Areop.* (Arb.) 54 An imposition which I cannot beleeve how he that..is but of a sensible nostrill should be able to endure. 1678 Bunyan *Pilgr.* I. 110 That makes Religion to stink in the nostrills of many. 1771 Burke *Middlesex Election* Wks. X. 65 Our judgments stink in the nostrils of the people. 1844 Emerson *Nature* Wks. (Bohn) II. 231 There is no end..so sacred or so large, that, if pursued for itself, will not at last become carrion and an offence to the nostril. 1887 Lowell *Democracy* 78 Its moral nostrils were of an equally masculine temper.

c. *techn.* in smelting (see quot.).

1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 825 Below this narrow part, eight holes..are perforated obliquely through the substance of the trompe, called the vent-holes or nostrils, for admitting the air, which the water carries with it in its descent.

2. *attrib.*, as † **nostril(s)-dropping** (see quot.); **nostril-piece,** a part between the nose and lip of an insect, supposed to correspond to the nostrils of quadrupeds.

1708 Kersey, *Nostrils-Dropping* [1726 Bailey, *Nostril*], a Distemper in Cattel. 1826 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* xxxiv. III. 481 A part of the nose [*sc.* of an insect]..which I have ..named the *Rhinarium* or nostril-piece.

Hence **Nostri·lity,** prominence of nostril. *rare.*

1885 J. Jacobs in *Jrnl. Anthropol. Inst.* XV. 54 It is not alone this 'nostrility' which makes a Jewish face so easily recognizable. 1899 — in *Pop. Sci. Monthly* LV. 510 Jewish 'nostrility', as I have termed it,..can not be affected by change of environment.

Nostrum (nɒ·strŏm). [ad. L. *nostrum*, neut. sing. of *noster*, our.]

1. A medicine, or medical application, prepared by the person recommending it; *esp.* a quack remedy, a patent medicine.

1602 F. Herring *Anat.* 15 Setting to sale their witlesse Nostrums. [1654 Whitlock *Zootomia* 103 He will put *Nostrum*, to *Album Græcum*.., *Pilulæ de Tribus*, or the like he wraps up in this blind *Nostrum*.] 1704 Swift *T. Tub* v, A certain curious Receipt, a Nostrum, which..I found among his Papers. 1754 *Phil. Trans.* XLVIII. 854 The kermes mineral, once altogether as much celebrated.. as any antimonial nostrum now-a-days. 1795 Wolcot (P. Pindar) *Hair Powder* Wks. 1812 III. 301 No Nostrum gives the bloom of health again. 1852 Thackeray *Esmond* I. ii, The doctors and quack-salvers..experimenting on his poor little body with every conceivable nostrum. 1883 *Law Rep.* 23 Chanc. Div. 735 The owner of a nostrum of some kind, called a patent food.

fig. 1713 *Guardian* No. 36, I look upon punning as a Nostrum, a *Medicina Gymnastica*, that throws off all the bad humours. 1787 Burns *Holy Fair* xvi, In guid time comes an antidote Against sic poosion'd nostrum.

b. A recipe. *rare* $^{-1}$.

1742 *Lond. & Country Brew.* I. (ed. 4) 67 This then is the true Nostrum of Brewing.

2. A special means or device for accomplishing something; *esp.* a pet scheme, or favourite remedy, for bringing about some social or political reform or improvement.

1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* x. Chapter iv, Containing infallible nostrums for procuring universal disesteem and hatred. 1780 Cowper *Progr. Error* 595 Swallow the two grand nostrums they dispense, That scripture lies, and blasphemy is sense. 1816 'Quiz' *Grand Master* IV. 83 The parson's holy nostrum, Must be proclaimed, from a rostrum. 1850 Kingsley *Alt. Locke* x, Another party's nostrum is, more churches, more schools, more clergymen. 1884 *Sat. Rev.* 7 June 731/2 The incurable faith of some English Liberals in the party nostrums.

3. *Comb.*, as **nostrum-monger,** one who deals in nostrums; hence **nostrum-mongership, -mongery.** Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1706 Baynard *Cold Baths* II. 203 Your *Nostrum-monger Dr. Stew-Toad. 1775 Sheridan *St. Patrick's Day* II. iv, Will you submit to be cured by a quack nostrum-monger? 1802 *Spirit Public Jrnls.* VI. 254 A bottle of his nostrum, in compliment to the greatest nostrum-monger of the age [= Pitt]. 1748 Richardson *Clarissa* (1811) III. xxi. 134 Should I be outwitted with all my sententious boasting conceit of my own *nostrum-mongership.., I should certainly hang, drown, or shoot myself. 1812 *Examiner* 30 Nov. 764/1 That pernicious system of *nostrum-mongery which is so prevalent.

Nostul, nostylle: see Nostel.

† **Nosul, nosylle,** obs. variants of Ouzel.

14.. *Lat. & Eng. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 597 *Nodosa*, a nosul, *avis est*. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 256/2 A Nosylle; *quedam Anis, merulus, merula.*

No·sy, *a. rare* $^{-1}$. [f. Nose *sb.* + -Y: cf. Nosey *a.*] Having a prominent nose.

1620 Shelton *Quix.* II. xiv. 90 The Story leaves them, to tell who was the Knight of the Glasses and his nosie Squire.

Nosyll, obs. variant of Nuzzle *v.*^{1}

Not (nɒt), *a.* and *sb.* Now *dial.* Forms: 1 hnot, 4, 6– not, 6, 9 nott, 9 knot; 6, 9 nat, 9 natt. [OE. *hnot*, of obscure origin.]

† **1.** Close-cropped, short-haired. *Obs.*

c 1000 Ælfric *Gram.* ix. (Z.) 35 *Glabrio*, calu oððe hnot. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Prol.* 109 A not-heed hadde he, with a broun visage. 1399 Langl. *Rich. Redeles* III. 46 Thanne comeþ þer..As not of his nolle, as he þe nest made, Anoþer proud partriche. 1620 B. Jonson *News fr. Moon* (Rtldg.) 616/2 Not heads and broad hats, short doublets and long points.

† **b.** *Comb.*, as *not-headed, -pated* adjs. *Obs.*

1596 Shaks. 1 *Hen. IV*, II. iv. 78 Wilt thou roh this Leatherne Ierkin, Christall button, Not-pated, Agat ring? 1611–2 Chapman *Widowes T.* Wks. 1873 III. 18 Your not-headed Countrie Gentleman. 1633 B. Jonson *Tale Tub* I. iii, The incorrigible Nott-headed beast, the clowns, or constables, Still let them gaze.

† **2.** Of a willow: Pollard. *Obs. rare* $^{-1}$.

931 in Birch *Cartul. Sax.* II. 357 Þam lange grafette suðeweardon to ðon hnottan seale on Searleaze stent.

3. Of sheep or cattle: Hornless, polled.

1587 Mascall *Gov. Cattle, Sheep* (1627) 237 Some say, that a horned ram is ill to get lambs:..therfore the nat ram is counted the better. 1596 Harington *Metam. Ajax* Prol., He massacred a whole flocke of good nott-ewes. 1601 Holland *Pliny* I. 50 They have not all of them hornes, but some are nott;..the nott she goats are more free of milk. 1787 Grose *Prov. Gloss.*, *Not*, smooth, polled or shorn. *Not-sheep*, sheep without horns. *Essex.* 1807 Vancouver *Agric. Devon* (1813) 347 The Old Devonshire dim-faced nott sheep. 1868– in southern dial. glossaries, of sheep and cows. 1891 Hardy *Tess* xvii, Why do nott cows give less milk in a year than horned?

b. *sb.* A hornless sheep.

1837 Youatt *Sheep* vii. 253 The Devonshire notts, or polled sheep, used..to be at least middle-woolled, if not short-woolled sheep. 1875 Pengelly *Verbal Prov.* 113 (E.D.D.), A cross of the new Leicester with the Bampton nott.

† **4.** Of wheat or barley: Awnless, beardless. *Obs.*

1602 Carew *Cornwall* 20 Of Wheate there are two sorts, French, which is bearded, .. and Notwheate, so termed because it is vnbearded. *c* 1680 *Enquiries* 2/2 Do you sow Aleppo wheat,..Not wheat, Pendule wheat?..Have you.. Not Barleys sown here, or any other Barleys?

† **Not,** *v.*^{1} *Obs.* Also 6 notte, nott. [f. prec.] *trans.* To clip or cut short (the hair or beard).

1530 Palsgr. 645/1, I have notted my heed nowe that sommer is come. 1565 Cooper *Thesaurus* s.v. *Tondeo*, They notted their fathers head and bearde. 1570 Foxe *A. & M.* (ed. 2) III. 1702 Now was hys head notted enil fauordly, and clypped much lyke as a man would clippe a fooles head. 1592 Stow *Ann.* (1631) 570 Hee caused..from thence forth his beard to be notted and no more shauen. 1674 Ray *Coll. Words* 73 To *Not*: and *Notted*: i. e. polled, shorn. *Essex.* [Hence in Ainsworth (1736), etc.]

b. With personal object.

1541 *Rutland MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) IV. 313 To Mr. Markham, barber, for nottyng my Lordes children, ij *s.* 1567 Golding *Ovid's Met.* x. 204 His Barbare who Was wont to nott him spyed it. 1606 Holland *Sueton.* 19 He would not onely be notted & shaven very precisely, but also have his haire plucked.

† **Not,** *v.*^{2}, **note,** for *ne wot* know(s) not: see Ne and Wit *v.* Forms: *α.* 2–3 nat. *β.* 3–7 not, 6 nott. *γ.* 4–6 note, 6 nolte. *δ.* 4, 6 noot.

For other parts of the verb *wit* with prefixed negative, see Nete, Nist, Niten, Nost, Nute(n.

α. c 888 K. Ælfred *Boeth.* v. § 3 Ic nat ful ȝeare ymb hwæt þu ȝiet tweost. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* John xii. 35 He nat hwyder he gæð. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 31 ȝif he nat to soðe þet heo beoð liues. *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* 9 Nat tah na mon bute ham self hwat ham sticheð ofte.

β. a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 178 Þis is þe ancre þet not nout hwat is fondunge. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1621 Ich not neauer to hwan þu miȝt. *c* 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 92 In to þis londes ende Y not non better knizt. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 43 He not, til that the chance falle, Wher he schal lese. 1413 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton) I. xv. (1859) 13, I not to whome I shal my seluen dresse! *c* 1480 *Paston Lett.* III. 302 For the peyne I not me wher to hold. 1552 Lyndesay *Monarche* 19, I nott quhome to thy Simpylnes to sende. 1576 Gascoigne *Philomene* (Arb.) 90 As yet I not, what proper hew it hare. 1614 J. Davies (Heref.) *Commend. Poems*, etc. Wks. (Grosart) II. 21/2, I not how I shall thriue therein.

γ. a 1300 *E. E. P.* (1862) 153 Soch an oþir an erþe i note. *c* 1425 *Seven Sag.* (P.) 126 Thay hym nome I note how mykil out of Rome. 1494 Fabyan *Chron.* VI. clviii. 147 To bryng his malycious purpose aboute, I note by what sorcery. *a* 1542 Wyatt *Ps.* li. Prol., I note whether he cries or sings. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* I. xii. 17, I note whether [to] praise or pitty more. 1600 Fairfax *Tasso* XVIII. l, But loe (from whence I nolte) a falcon came.

δ. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. XI. 207 Noot no man how neighe it is. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) III. 55, I noot ȝif þat was i-doo by his broþer wil. *a* 1425 *Cursor M.* 5265 (Trin.), What clooþ was hit..þat blody was & I noot how.

Not (nɒt), *adv.* and *sb.* Also 4–6 nott, 5 nut, 7– n't. [Abbreviated form of Nought *adv.*: cf. Nat *adv.*] The ordinary adverb of negation.

I. *adv.* **1.** Modifying a simple tense or form of an ordinary verb.

a. Following the verb. Now *arch.*

1362 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. Prol. 29 As Ancres and Hermytes.. Coueyte not in Cuntre to carien a-boute. 1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 159 So that here kinges yhe is blent And wot not hou the world is went. *c* 1489 Caxton *Sonnes of Aymon* IV. 120 They wyst not what folke they were. *Ibid.*, See ye not what folke we ben? 1530 Tindale *Answ. More* I. Wks. (1573) 276/1 As long as yᵗ signification bode, it hurted not. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* I. i. 30 With holy father sits not with such thinges to mell. 1628 Bp. Hall *Old Relig.* 104, I differ not from the iudgement of our best..Classical Diuines. 1653 Walton *Angler* IV. v, Let not your line exceed..three or four hairs at the most. *a* 1700 Dryden (J.), Let each man do as to his fancy seems; I wait not, I, 'till you have better dreams. 1789 *Triumphs Fortitude* I. 101, I doubt not but they will greatly contribute [etc.]. 1798 Coleridge *Anc. Mar.* IV. ii, Fear not, fear not, thou Wedding Guest! This body dropt not down. 1821 Byron *Sardanap.* IV. i, I seek..no pleasure but in parting not. 1870 Morris *Earthly Par.* I. I. 424 Thou shalt see the day Unharmed, if that dread box thou openest not.

b. Preceding the verb. Chiefly *poet.*

c 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 3092 Whan Troyens dede this trespas, Menelaus at home not was. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 256/2 To Nott moghe; *nequire, non posse.* 1608 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. iv. *Schisme* 617 (Saving Henoch) onely hee not-dies. 1610 Shaks. *Temp.* II. i. 121, I not doubt He came alive to Land. 1650 Gentilis *Considerations* 45, I (to not wonder at it) doe rather consider whence it proceeds. 1740 Johnson *Life Drake* Wks. IV. 419 They ..possessed the island, but not enjoyed it. 1816 Byron *Ch. Har.* III. lxv, Making a marvel that it not decays.

2. Following an auxiliary verb. Also in the reduced form *n't*, usually written as one word with the verb.

α. a 1340 Hampole *Psalter* xxxiv. 22 Þai sall not ouercum þaim. 1382 Wyclif *Luke* x. 42 The beste part, which schal not be take a wey fro hir. *c* 1450 *Merlin* 243 He nys no knyght that will not deffende his londe. 1508 Kennedie *Flyting w. Dunbar* 433 Thou may not pas Mount Barnard for wild bestis. 1577 Fulke *Answ. True Christian* 25 You can not proue that your church hath canonized the Apostles. 1632 B. Jonson *Epigr.* xxxiii, I'll not offend thee with a vain tear more. 1710 Shaftesb. *Adv. to Author* II. i, The Arts and Sciences must not be left Patron-less. 1766 Goldsm. *Vic. W.* xiv, His presence did not interrupt our conversation. 1820 Keats *Eve St. Agnes* xxxviii, Though I have found, I will not rob thy nest. 1884 tr. *Lotze's Logic* 323 The act of severance has not produced any lasting..excitement.

β. 1652 Tatham *Scotch Figgaries* IV. i, But mayn't I Bar points, being the Challenged? 1672–1774 [see Do *v.* 29]. 1674 N. Fairfax *Bulk & Selvedge* 130 They can't strike sail..in a trice. 1834 Mar. Edgeworth *Helen* III. v. 160 'No no, I can't sit, can't stay,' said Lady Cecilia. 1852 Thackeray *Esmond* III. ii, That was .. one [duty] that she wouldn't have broke her heart in trying to do. 1895 Gissing *Eve's Ransom* 110 You mustn't tell me anything.

b. *ellipt.* in replies.

1629 Massinger *Picture* I. ii, *Eubulus.* Have you ne'er read The story of Semiramis and Ninus? *Honoria.* Not as I remember. 1866 Meredith *Vittoria* xxxix, 'Carlo Ammiani will marry her, I presume,' said Lena. 'Not before he has met Captain Weisspriess [etc.].'

3. Following the substantive verb. Also as *n't.*

α. 1362 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. ix. 75 Ho..is not dronkeleuh ne deynous Dowel him foleweþ. 1475 *Paston Lett.* III. 130 Iff the markett be not goode yit, I hope it shall be better. 1596 Shaks. *Merch. V.* v. i. 35 *Mes.* I pray you is my Master yet return'd? *Loren.* He is not. 1597 — 2 *Hen. IV*, I. ii. 238 There is not a danngerous Action..but I am thrust vpon it. 1645 Milton *Colasterion* 20 These matters are not for pragmatics..to babble in. 1685 Lovell *Gen. Hist. Relig.* 8 Amongst them Laicks are not constrained to confess once a year. 1710 Steele *Tatler* No. 181 ♀ 2 At which Time I was not quite Five Years of Age. 1791 Burke *Corr.* (1844) III. 282 This is not the cause of a king, but of kings. 1821 Shelley *Epipsych.* 52, I am not thine: I am a part of thee. 1898 Illingworth *Div. Immanence* iii. (1904) 35/2 This is unquestionably not the case.

β. 1701 Farquhar *Sir H. Wildair* IV. ii, I an't to be believed. *a* 1703 Pomfret *Cruelty & Lust* (1724) 70 Since in Battle you can greater be, That over, be'nt less merciful than he. 1706– [see An't, Ain't, and In't]. 1895 Miss Montresor *Highw. & Hedges* I. vi, It isn't true.

b. With ellipse of verb, esp. after *if*, or in replies.

1399 Langl. *Rich. Redeles* III. 151 But [they] beggith and borwith..And not þe better of a bene. 1671 Milton *Samson* 971 Fame if not double-fac't is double-mouth'd. 1740 Cheyne *Regimen* 311 Body and Spirit..will eternally be *disparata*, if not contradictory. 1864–8 Browning *Y. Lee's Wife* IV. iv, No Love! not so indeed! 1883 'Annie Thomas' *Mod. Housewife* 143 'Not to be done!' Mrs. Sampson said decidedly.

4. Preceding an infinitive or gerundial clause.

c 1440 *Alph. Tales* 135 To ly in his bed & not com att matyns at mydnyght. 1469 *Anc. Cal. Rec. Dublin* (1889) 333 [That] hit be lawfull to any suche swyne to be killet, and the killers of them note to be empechit. 1582 N. Lichefield tr. *Castanheda's Conq. E. Ind.* 128 He praied him not to say him nay. 1639 Ainsworth *Pentateuch* 44 They failed in not casting out the inhabitants. 1673 Ray *Journ. Low C.* 159 It seldom happens the Council-chamber not to be full. 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* II. (Globe) 321, I knew neither what to do, or what not to do. 1751 Johnson *Rambler* No. 175 ¶ 9 It is, indeed, impossible not to hear..of wrongs and falsehoods. 1812 Byron *Ch. Har.* I. vii, It was a vast and venerable pile; So old, it seemed only not to fall. 1853 Mrs. Gaskell *Cranford* ix, Miss Pole clutched my arm, and begged me not to turn. 1872 Tennyson *Gareth & Lynette* 1207 One who came to help thee, not to harm.

5. † **a.** Used redundantly after verbs of forbidding, dissuading, or preventing. *Obs.*

c 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 106 þei forheden not vtterly þat men schulden not preche þe gospel. 1430–40 Lydg. *Bochas* (1554) 22 b, Bochas forhade husbandes..Without prefe not leve to sone their wyves. *c* 1540 *Pol. Verg. Eng. Hist.* (Camden) 118 The earle had diswadyd the king not to place his syster Margaret in maryage unto Charles. 1569 J. Sanford tr. *Agrippa's Van. Artes* 81 A lawe whiche did forbidde that they shoulde not woorshippe images. 1677 Gilpin *Demonol.* (1867) 414 Contrary to other plain scriptures prohibiting not to tempt the Lord.

b. Coupled with other negatives, or repeated. Now *dial.* or *vulgar.*

1426 Audelay *Poems* 10 Thai wold not on us have no pete. 1471 *Paston Lett.* III. 15 Take beede..that they be not in noon place wher that sykenesse is regnyng. 1503 Hawes *Examp. Virt.* I. xii, I wyll not medle with no duplycyte. 1568 Grafton *Chron.* II. 739 They should not neede no more to feare him then his shadowe. 1606 Holland *Sueton.* 105 Hee absented not himselfe in no place. 1632 Lithgow *Trav.* I. 24 Rauenna, which for antiquity will not bow her top to none in Italy. 1654 tr. *Scudery's Curia Pol.* 149 We resolve then to..render her incapable not to offend us.

6. Preceding a sentence, clause, or word.

a. In introductory phrases, as *not but* (*that*), *not that*, † *not for-thy*, etc. (See also But C. 18.)

a 1340 Hampole *Psalter* xxxiv. 22 Not forthi thai takyn with eghen, as thai lufid me. 1382 Wyclif *John* vi. 46 Not for ony man sy3 the fadir, no hut this that is of God. *Ibid.* 59 Not as 3oure fadris eeten manna, and ben deed. *c* 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* XII. 224 Yet not for thy thei may endure in colde. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* X. xxx. 463 Not for thenne they bothe lyghtely aroos. 1601 Shaks. *Jul. C.* III. ii. 23 Not that I lou'd Cæsar lesse, but that I lou'd Rome more. 1678–9 Dryden & Lee *Œdipus* IV. i, Not but you were adorned with all the riches That empire could bestow. 1766 Goldsm. *Vic. W.* i, Not but that we sometimes had those little rubs [etc.]. 1784 Cowper *Task* VI. 981 Not that he peevishly rejects a mode Because that World adopts it. 1856 F. E. Paget *Owlet of Owlst.* 52 Not but what I consider discretion to be the better part of valour. 1864 Meredith *Belloni* XXV, Not that she conceived him designedly base.

b. Placed first for the sake of emphasis.

1554 Philpot *Exam. & Writ.* (Parker Soc.) 384 Not for this we bring in a church like to thilk city of Plato. 1578 Timme *Calvin on Gen.* 180 Nevertheless..not they are called righteous, which are perfect in each point. 1667 Milton *P. L.* III. 26 Yet not the more Cease I to wander. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* III. 413 Nor cou'd his Kindred..change his fatal Course. No, not the dying Maid. 1747 P. Francis tr. *Hor. Ep.* I. xvii, Not every one shall reach the, wisht-for port. 1804 Da. Parr in *Bentham's Wks.* (1843) X. 417 Not so doth Godwin and his French followers. 1885–94 R. Bridges *Eros & Psyche* I. xiii, Not long, I wot, shall that poor girl of Crete God it in my despite.

c. In contrast with a following *but*.

1579 Spenser *Sheph. Cal.* July 115 The hylls..I reverence and adore: Not for themselfe, but for the sayncts [etc.]. 1611 Bible *John* I. 13 Which were borne, not of blood,..but of God. 1635 J. Hayward tr. *Biondi's Banish'd Virg.* 148 Discovering what it not hid but vailed. 1768 Tucker *Lt. Nat.* II. 460, I may believe myself—not a perceptivity but a perceptive spirit. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* vi. II. 104 To use their arms in defence, not of the mass book, but of the Bible. 1874 L. Stephen *Hours in Library* (1892) I. vi. 201 He has peopled not a country town but a metropolis.

d. Emphasizing a pronoun after a negative statement, or in a reply.

c 1625 Dekker, Rowley, & Ford *Witch Edmonton* IV. i, He is no Witch, not he. 1722 De Foe *Col. Jack* (1840) 218, I challenge you, sir! not I, I made no challenge. 1783 Beckford *Dreams*, etc. viii. 51 They had no notion, not they, of admiring barren crags and precipices. 1846 Dickens *Battle of Life* i, 'Did you never hear [etc.]?' 'No, father!' 'No, not you, of course; you're a woman.' 1889 J. K. Jerome *Three Men in Boat* xvii, They are not to be 'had' by a bit of worm on the end of a hook,..not they!

7. With terms of number or quantity.

c 1325 *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 343 For anger gaynez þe not a cresse. *Ibid.* 351 Þy mendez mountez not a myte. ?*a* 1366 Chaucer *Rom. Rose* 451 Povert.., That not a peny hadde in wolde. *a* 1400 *Pistill of Susan* 247, I charge hit not a pere. 1585 Jas. I *Ess. Poesie* (Arb.) 52 Sen though they stay, it harmes him not a hair. 1591 Shaks. *Two Gent.* IV. ii. 67 *Ho.* I perceiue you delight not in Musique. *Iu.* Not a whit. 1634 Milton *Comus* 585 Not a period Shall be unsaid for me. 1663 Butler *Hud.* I. i. 8 Not a man of them knew wherefore. 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* II. (Globe) 346 He spoke not a Word. *Ibid.* 496 All this while they fir'd not a Gun. 1817 C. Wolfe *Burial Sir J. Moore* i, Not a drum was heard, not a funeral note. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* x. II. 599 He solemnly assured them that not a hair of their heads should be touched.

b. *Not a little*, a good deal, considerably.

1470–85 Malory *Arthur* XVII. xvii. 714 Thenne was not he a lytel sory, for launcelot loued hym. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. IV*, 24 He not a littell mused but muche more mervailed that the duke [etc.]. 1712 Pope *Spect.* No. 408 ¶ 7 Young Men whose Passions are not a little unruly. 1838 in Trevelyan *Macaulay* (1876) II. vii. 2 His visits served not a little to enliven. 1845 McCulloch *Taxation* I. ii. (1852) 169 The policy of laying heavy taxes on necessaries is not a little questionable.

8. After *or*, *if*, or *as*, with ellipse of words expressed or implied in the preceding clause.

c 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 52 A prest weþer he be beneficid or not, he howiþ not to sett to hire his gostly warks. 1503 in *Trans. R. Hist. Soc.* (1902) 152 Ye knowe whether ye maye truste me or not. 1535 Coverdale *Gen.* xxiv. 21 Tyll he knewe whether the Lorde had prospered his iourney or not. 1611 Bible *Gen.* xviii. 21, I will goe downe now, and see whether [etc.]: and if not, I will know. 1724 De Foe *Mem. Cavalier* (1840) 125 Shall we give battle..or not? 1738 Pope *Universal Prayer* 47 Thou know'st if best bestow'd or not. 1857 M. Arnold *Rugby Chapel* 45 Conscious or not of the past. 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 290 If virtue is of such a nature, it will be taught; and if not, not. 1887 F. M. Crawford *Saracinesca* III. xxxiv. 299, I would just as soon give you up to the Holy Office as not.

9. Denoting contrast or opposition to what precedes, with or without *and*.

1471 *Litt. Red Bk. Bristol* (1900) II. 130 Punyshing the principall sturrers of rebellion ayenst vs, and not a generalte. 1552 *Bk. Com. Prayer, Communion*, They are in heauen and not here. 1621 Burton *Anat. Mel.* To Rdr. 76, I hate their vices, not their persons. 1649 Milton *Eikon.* 36 Some of thir Friends, and in the Roman not the pettifogging sense thir Clients. 1678 Shadwell *Timon* IV. ii, They govern for themselves and not the people. 1837 Newman *Par. Serm.* (ed. 2) III. x. 148 It was a respite, not a resurrection. 1892 Tennyson *Doubt & Prayer* 12 Till this.., My prison, not my fortress, fall away!

10. With adverbs or adverbial phrases.

1475 *Paston Lett.* III. 123 The Emperor hathe besegyd also, not ffer from these, a castell. *c* 1500 *Melusine* 297 And whan Raymondyn perceyued it, wete it wel that be was ryght dolaunt and sorowful & not without cause. 1559 Aylmer *Harborowe* B j, Happening therfore not long agone to rede a lytle booke. *a* 1648 Ld. Herbert *Hen. VIII* (1683) 369 Not long after which..the King sent George Bolen. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) II. 296 His method is still, and not without reason, adopted by many. 1818 Coleridge in *Lit. Rem.* (1836) I. 167 The titles of the poet..and the general not seldom formed a garland round the same head. 1852 Tennyson *Death Wellington* viii, Not once or twice..The path of duty was the way to glory.

b. Modifying adjectives or participles in agreement with a preceding substantive or pronoun.

1529 Cromwell *Will* in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) I. 63 The residue of all my goodes catalles and debttes not bequetbed. 1596 B. Griffin *Fidessa* 37 Whil'st I..doe sit in heauie plight.., Not daring rush into so rare a place. 1614 R. Tailor *Hog hath lost Pearl* in Dodsley (1780) VI. 408 Where penitency, not disturb'd may grieve. 1820 Lamb *Elia* Ser. I. *Christ's Hospital*, The remnants left at his table (not many, nor very choice fragments). 1844 Kinglake *Eothen* (1845) 186, I rose from a state of half-oblivion, not much unlike to sleep. 1889 Jerome *Idle Thoughts* 112 You have got to be regarded as not quite right in your head.

c. With negative adjectives or adverbs, implying the affirmative term.

1657 W. Rand tr. *Gassendi's Life Peiresc* I. 69 The study of antiquity was not unusefull towards the knowledge of the Lawes. 1671 H. M. tr. *Erasm. Colloq.* 85 We say well and elegantly, not ungrateful, for very grateful. 1765 Dickson *Treat. Agric.* (ed. 2) 200 The damage done by this is not inconsiderable. 1794 Earl Malmesbury *Diaries & Corr.* III. 117 Not unclever but importunate. 1824 Landor *Imag. Conv., Johnson & Tooke*, Perhaps the learned author..was not undelighted with the pleasurable vices of poetry in such company. 1900 G. C. Broderick *Mem.* 168 A certain air of dignity, not unmingled with insolence.

† **11.** *Not but*, only. = Nobbut. *Obs.*

For other forms of sentence in which *not* is followed by *but*, see But *conj.* 4 c, 7 b, c, 9, 16.

c 1374 Chaucer *Compl. Mars* 121 Not but two pases within the yate hit stode. *c* 1400 Maundev. (1839) viii. 96 Betwene that Mount and the Cytee, is not but the Vale of Josaphathe. *c* 1477 Caxton *Jason* 14 All his desir is not but for to mowe come to your goode grace. 1560 Rolland *Crt. Venus* II. 975 Quhair I gat not bot ansueir detestine.

II. *sb.* † **12.** Nought, nothing. *Obs.*

c 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 216 þe lord þat made alle þingis of not. *c* 1380 — *Serm.* Sel. Wks. I. 94 He haþ drede of þing of not. *c* 1400 Love *Bonavent. Mirr.* (1907) 92 It was nouȝt for not that they tauȝten..hem [etc.]. *a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* vi. (1868) 9 In suche wise that euer after the housholde yede to not. 1508 Kennedie *Flyting w. Dunbar* 508 Tak the a fidill,..thou art ordanyt to not ellis!

13. The word 'not'; a negation or negative.

1601 Shaks. *All's Well* III. ii. 24, I haue wedded her, not bedded her, and sworne to make the not eternall. 1608 H. Clapham *Errour Left Hand* 82 They still doe returne us a not. 1621 Lady M. Wroth *Urania* 420 Come backe to me, who neuer knew the plot To crosse your minde, or to thy will an nott. 1866 Lowell *Biglow P.*, Introd., Poems 1890 II. 201, I guess ef I was to leave the *nots* out o' some o' the c'man'ments, 't 'ould soot you full ez wall!

III. *Comb.* **14.** **a.** With verbal substantives.

1561 T. Norton *Calvin's Inst.* I. 3 b, If the notknowing of God be any where to be found. 1587 Golding *De Mornay* xvi. (1592) 262 Goodnes is not a defect or a notdooing of things. 1606 Shaks. *Tr. & Cr.* III. iii. 270 Heele answer no body: he professes not answering. 1652 Gataker *Antinom.* 25 The not drowning of the whole world again. 1695 J. Edwards *Perfect. Script.* 50 The difference of the idiom was sufficient to beget a not-understanding of one another. 1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* VIII. vi, Danger might attend the not dressing his wound. 1816 Byron *Let. to Murray* 20 Feb., You must not mistake my *not* bullying for dejection. 1858 H. W. Beecher *Life Thoughts* (1859) 130 His rests and not-doings seem even more significant than that which was overt.

† **b.** With nouns of action. *Obs.* (Common in 17th cent.; now expressed by *non-*.)

1582 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* III. 531 His dissobedience in not comperance befoir the Kingis Majestie. 1590 *Ibid.* IV. 521 For not-payment of ministeris stipendis. 1613 Shaks. *Hen. VIII*, IV. i. 30 For not Appearance, and The Kings late Scruple,..she was diuorc'd. *a* 1643 Dudley Digges *Unlawf. Armes* (1647) 102 [They] redeemed their not obedience to him, by offering up their bodies. 1675 J. Smith *Chr. Relig. App.* II. 44 They could not impute their not-recovery to their want of will, but skill.

† **c.** With agent-nouns. *Obs.* (Now *non-*.)

1596 Spenser *Hymn Love* 159 How falles it then that.. Thou doest afflict..the not-deserver? 1619 Sanderson *Serm.* I. 11 The eater despised the not-eater, and the eater judged the not-eater. 1651 *Rec. Communion* § 4 To communicate with not-discerners. 1680 H. More *Apocal. Apoc.* 213 If both the Beheaded and the Not-worshippers of the Beast were of the same kind.

d. With other types of nouns. Also Not-self.

1575 Fenton *Gold. Epist.* (1582) 85 Our merite or not merite standes not in the seruices which we do to God. 1599 Sandys *Europæ Spec.* (1632) 180 The not possibilitie of erring being..peculiar unto God. 1627 W. Sclater *Exp. 2 Thess.* (1629) 14 It's something, at least a not-nothing. 1645 Howell *Twelve Treat.* (1661) 360 Issuing rather from his not-knowledge of me, than from malice. 1740 Cheyne *Regimen* 311 It must be actually brought to be not-matter. 1818 Bentham *Ch. Eng. Catech. Exam.* 171 In case of not-guiltiness. 1860 Pusey *Min. Proph.* 452 What He attributes to idols, i.e. not-gods. 1895 *Churchman* No. 185. 251 Science..affirms that not-life can never under existing conditions produce life.

15. With adjectives or past participles.

1587 Golding *De Mornay* I. 3 Wether was first,..of Sensible or Notsensible, of Reasonable, or Notreasonable? 1599 [see next]. *a* 1643 Dudley Digges *Unlawf. Armes* (1647) 124 By the unspeakable scandal of these not-Christian courses. 1663 Boyle *Usef. Exp. Nat. Philos.* I. 15 And I have..made in that admirable Stone a not-inconsiderable Experiment. 1774 Hallifax *Anal. Rom. Law* 117 Punishments..short of Natural or Civil Death, were called Not-Capital. 1819 *Hermit in London* III. 171 Her not-stinted foot was pinched into pink satin sboes. 1874 Darwin in *Life & Lett.* (1887) III. 191 The product of a cross between not-related ants. 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) III. 376 Evil is a greater enemy to good than to the not-good.

b. With present participles.

1599 Sandys *Europæ Spec.* (1632) 115 Their not-erring and not controllable Lord of Rome. 1611 Shaks. *Cymb.* II. iv. 19 You shall heare The Legion..sooner landed In our not-fearing-Britaine. 1654 Gataker *Disc. Apol.* 48 Some not-preaching Ministers. 1675 Woodhead, etc. *Par. St. Paul* 17 It was a law then which made not-knowing infants also guilty. 1730–46 Thomson *Autumn* 1226 The village toast ..Darts not-unmeaning looks. 1762 Bp. Forbes *Jrnl.* (1886) 215 He asked me how the not-swearing clergy lived now. 1853 Markham *Skoda's Auscult.* 204 The sound produced by striking together two hard, not-ringing (*nicht-klingend*) bodies. 1863 J. Brown *Marjorie Fleming, Rab & F.* (1906) 85 A man..to give a second and not-forgetting look at.

c. With adjectival phrases.

1570 Foxe *A. & M.* (ed. 2) III. 1365 Accept my thankes, though they proceed out of a not enough circumcised heart. 1678 Vaughan *Thalia Rediv., The World* (1858) 234 The not-to-be-repented Shares Of time and business. 1831 *Society* I. 307 He was on that young lady's not-at-home list. 1863 A. C. Ramsay *Phys. Geogr.* 13 The not-long extinct volcano of the Island of Ascension. 1882 Wallace in *Nature* XXVI. 86 Close individual resemblance of not-nearly-related species of butterflies.

16. With adverbs. *rare.*

1648 Boyle *Seraph. Love* xvii. (1700) 106 The not-wilfully refusing it. 1726 S. Lowe *Lat. Gram.* 33 Interrogatives us'd not-interrogatively.

17. With infinitives after *does not*, etc. *rare.*

1626 W. Fenner *Hid. Manna* (1656) 62 A wicked man doth not, not repent, because hee cannot, but because he will not. 1656 [? J. Sergeant] tr. *T. White's Peripat. Inst.* 227 He that knows a thing exists knows that it does not not-exist. 1890 Stirling *Gifford Lect.* xvi. 318 The very thought of God is of that which is, and cannot not-be.

Not, obs. variant of Nut *sb.*

‖ **Nota,** *sb. Obs. rare.* [L. *nota.*] A mark; a stigma.

1715 *Wodrow's Corr.* (1843) II. 111 After such a nota put upon our brethren's halving of the oaths and declaration. 1800 tr. *Cullen's Nosology* Wks. 1827 I. 454 Symptoms, every particular of which, in the language of methodical writers, is a *nota* or mark.

‖ **Nota,** *v. Obs.* [L. *notā*, 2nd sing. imperative of *notāre* to mark.] Observe, take notice.

c 1391 Chaucer *Astrol.* II, § 26 And nota, þat this forseid rihte orisonte, þat is clepid *orison rectum* [etc.]. 1527 Andrew *Brunswyke's Distyll. Waters* a iij, Nota a lutynge for a glasse that ryveth upon the fyre. 1569 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* II. 50 *marg.*, Nota the Lard of Amysfeild wes chargit to present thame. 1625 Purchas *Pilgrims* I. 341 Nota, you must bring the high Church East Northeast Easterly, before you shall be cleered of the shoale.

‖ **Nota bene** (nōu·tă bī·nī). [L. *notā* (see prec.) and *bene* well. So F. *nota bene.*] Mark well, observe particularly. (Abbrev. N.B.: see N. II. 2.)

a 1721 Prior *Daphne & Apollo* 65 Next, nota bene, you shall never rove. 1758 Lady M. W. Montagu *Lett.* (1893) II. 348 *Nota bene.* You have dispossessed me of the real devils who haunted me. 1818 Moore *Fudge Fam. Paris* v, *Nota Bene.*—Papa's almost certain 'tis he. 1863 C. Reade *Hard*

Cash i. I. 35 Like an animal frequently mentioned in Scripture; but, nota bene, never once with approbation.

b. Used substantivally.

1731–8 SWIFT *Pol. Conversat.* Introd. 11 To set down.. certain Marks, Asterisks, or *Nota-bene's* (in English, Markwell's) after most Questions, and every Reply or Answer.

Notability (nōʊtăbi·lĭti). Also 4–5 -ite(e, 5 -yte, 6 -ylitie. [a. OF. *notabilité* (= It. *-ità*, Sp. *-idad*, Pg. *-idade*) or ad. med.L. **notabilitas*: see next and -ITY.]

1. †**a.** A notable fact or circumstance. *Obs.*

a 1380 *St. Augustine* 1739 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1878) 91 Hit is an old notabilite þat þreo þingus þer be þat worldliche men disiren here. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Nun's Priest's T.* 389 He in a cronycle saufly myght it wryte, As for a sovereyn notabilitee. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* IV. ix. 474 These iij. notabilitees weel considerid..is worth..a buyschel ful of gold. *c* 1470 HARDING *Chron.* Proem v, Vnto your sapience I wyll remember a notabilyte Of your elders rule and regymence.

b. A noteworthy object or feature. *rare* —1.

1858 HAWTHORNE *Fr. & It. Note-bks.* (1872) II. 41 The old sacristy, with the peculiarities or notabilities of which I am not acquainted.

c. A notable or prominent person.

1851 *Fraser's Mag.* XLIII. 257 Along with other ancient 'notabilities', Cleopatra and Mark Antony were addicted to the pastime. 1857 KINGSLEY *Two Y. Ago* I. 206 Various other little notabilities of the neighbourhood. 1897 'SARAH TYTLER' *Lady Jean's Son* 193 Another notability was the gypsy beauty.

2. The quality of being notable.

a. Housewifely industry or management.

1788 MRS. HUGHES *Henry & Isabella* IV. 93 This grand quality was, in her estimation, divided into two heads, modesty and notability. 1800 MRS. HERVEY *Mourtray Fam.* III. 141 Mrs. Mourtray, who had resumed all her former notability, bustled about her house as usual. 1842 ORDERSON *Creoleana* iii. 25 She would..send over little presents of various articles, that served also to show her own notability and domestic skill. 1866 MRS. GASKELL *Wives & Daughters* I. 530 Mary has infected me with her notability, and I'm going to work Mama a footstool.

b. Note, distinction, prominence.

1881 FROUDE *Short Stud.* (1883) IV. II. iv. 207, I need not mention names which have no historical notability.

Notable (nōʊtăb'l), *a.*, *sb.*, and *adv.* Also 4 (6 *Sc.*) -abil(e, 5 -abille, 6 -abyll; 5 -abull(e, 6 -abul; 5 -abel. [a. F. *notable* (13th c.) = Sp. *notable*, Pg. *notavel*, It. *notabile*, ad. L. *notābilis*, f. *notāre* to NOTE: see -ABLE.

Sheridan (1789) gives the pron. as (ng·tăb'l), and this is retained by Walker, Smart, Webster, and Worcester, as the correct pron. in sense 4 b.]

A. *adj.* **1.** Worthy or deserving of note for any reason, esp. on account of excellence, value, or importance; remarkable, striking, eminent.

a. Of things, actions, etc.

a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* lxv. 7 He þat lufis god, luf his neghbure, shewand til him þat is notabile for him. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Doctor's T.* 156 It is no fable, But knowen for a storial thing notable. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) V. 405 Hit was made open by the manifestacion of a notable signe. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 192/1 They..edefyed ouer thys holy corps a moche notable chyrche. 1538 STARKEY *England* II. i. 151, I thynke in few yerys the pepul schold increse to a notabul noumbur. 1571 GOLDING *Calvin on Ps.* ii. 8 David obteyned notable victories. 1612 WOODALL *Surg. Mate* Wks. (1653) 38 A notable cordial water for comforting the hend and heart. 1665 HOOKE *Microgr.* 155 Methinks Nature does seem to hint some very notable virtue or excellency in this Plant. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 508 ¶ 2 They support it by Acts of notable Oppression and Injustice. 1750 BERKELEY *Wks.* (1871) IV. 323 Learning continues to make notable advances in your College. 1775 SHERIDAN *Duenna* I. i, So! a notable hour for one of my regular disposition. 1829 LYTTON *Devereux* I. ii, He would shake his head with a notable archness. 1873 SYMONDS *Grk. Poets* i. 17 The first who achieved a notable success in the new and difficult art of Prose Writing.

Comb. 1630 DEKKER *2nd Pt. Honest Wh.* I. i. Wks. 1873 II. 97 This Lodonico is a notable tounged fellow.

b. Of persons. Also const. *at* (quot. 1677).

c 1420 LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 897 Ther were notable and famous doctours. *c* 1450 *Merlin* 27 Ther myght noon knowe the cause why, but it were notable clerkes. 1535 COVERDALE *Matt.* xxvii. 16 At the same tyme he had a notable presoner called Barrabas. 1596 SPENSER *State Irel.* Wks. (Globe) 636/2 At the execution of a notable traytour at Limmericke. *a* 1661 FULLER *Worthies* xxiv. (1662) 73 You have mingled many Unworthies among them, rather Notorious than Notable. 1677 GILPIN *Demonol.* (1867) 180 They have also a cunning of ascribing effects to wrong causes..Austin tells us the heathens were notable at this. 1711 SHAFTESB. *Charac.* I. ii. (1737) I. 62 The ablest Negotiators have been known the notablest Buffoons. 1798 W. TAYLOR in *Monthly Mag.* V. 352 You summoned a meeting of your more notable creditors, relations, and friends. 1835 THIRLWALL *Greece* (1839) I. 429 The Megarian demagogues procured the banishment of many of the notable citizens. 1851 DIXON *W. Penn* vi. (1872) 54 Fox and Loe were notable for the purity of their lives.

2. †**a.** Easily noted; attracting notice; conspicuous. *Obs.*

1533 SIR T. MORE *Debell. Salem* Wks. 945/1 The variaunce betwene priests & priests is more marked & more notable then any of yᵉ tother, because the priests go more abrod. 1580 FULKE *Stapleton Confut.* II. v. Wks. (Parker Soc.) II. 100 Their habit..Augustin in his virgins forbiddeth to be notable, or differing from other women. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* I. ii. iii. xiv. (1651) 125 To avoid such things as are more notable in themselves: as a rugged attire, hirsute head, horrid beard.

b. Capable of being noted or observed; noticeable, perceptible. Now *Chem.*

1551 RECORDE *Pathw. Knowl.* I. Defin., There is a notable and sensible angle..which euermore is made by the meetyng of two seuerall lynes. *Ibid.* No. 5 If your line be of any notable length, deuide it into fiue partes. And if it be not so long that it maie yelde fiue notable partes [etc.]. 1638–9 *Laws Maryland* in *Arch. Maryland* I. (1883) 53 Drinking with excess to the notable perturbation of any organ of sence or motion. 1662 RAY *Three Itin.* III. 171 We did not observe any notable taste in it, neither would it tincture siluer. 1698 HEARNE *Duct. Hist.* (1714) I. 2 Chronology is the Regulation of Times, shewing by notable Signs or Tokens ..the exact Time when every Action happen'd. 1818 ACCUM *Chem. Tests* 109 Suppose..we wish to know whether it contains a notable quantity of oxide of manganese. 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem., Org.* (1862) 536 The kernels of the peach, the plum, the cherry,..also yield this essence in notable quantities.

†**3.** *Notable goods*, a legal term applied to testamentary goods when of a certain amount. *Obs.*

Various opinions on the precise import of the phrase are given by Swinburne.

1590 SWINBURNE *Testaments* 222 What is ment by Notable goods, in this place, or when they are so to be tearmed, diuers authors haue bene of diuers opinions.

4. †**a.** Of men: Industrious, energetic, business-like. *Obs. rare.*

1666 SOUTH *Serm.* (1823) I. 138 That such an one is a wise and a thriving, or, in the common phrase, 'a notable man'. 1732 LAW *Serious C.* iii. (ed. 2) 37 Penitens was a busy, notable Tradesman, and very prosperous in his dealings.

b. Of women: Capable, managing, bustling; clever and industrious in household management or occupations.

In common use from *c* 1750, but now somewhat rare. On the pronunciation see note above.

1718 *Free-thinker* No. 121. 84, I remember to have heard of a notable Woman, who was thoroughly sensible of the intrinsick Value of Time. 1745 ELIZA HEYWOOD *Female Spect.* No. 10 (1748) II. 192 Supposing her an excellent œconomist, in every respect what the world calls a notable woman. 1811 L. M. HAWKINS *C'tess & Gertr.* II. 370 Notable housewives have occasional 'family rummages'. 1865 *Cornh. Mag.* Oct. 409 Lady Cuxhaven, notable from girlhood, was using the blind-man's holiday to net fruit-nets. 1874 MRS. EWING *Lob* 34 Notable people complain, very properly, of thoughtless and untidy ones.

Comb. 1866 MRS. GASKELL *Wives & Daughters* II. 242 The little notable-looking brown hands, with the wedding-ring for sole ornament.

c. Of the nature of, connected with, household management or industry.

1787 *Generous Attachment* II. 24 Engaged in every notable exercise which love and conjugal affection inspire. 1800 MRS. HERVEY *Mourtray Fam.* I. 74 She had learned to detest all needlework of the notable kind. 1835 MOTLEY *Corr.* (1889) I. iii. 60, I thought the whole scene at first too tidy, too notable, too housewifish. 1852 THACKERAY *Esmond* III. ix, Both ladies were perfect housewives,..keeping a notable superintendence over the Kitchen.

B. *sb.* **1.** A noteworthy fact or thing. *rare.*

1483 CAXTON *G. de la Tour* e j, She gaf them these two notables to thende they shold know their faute. 1653 H. WHISTLER *Upshot Inf. Baptisme* 17 Helping against you by many Notables in the very Text. 1705 ADDISON *Italy* (R.), Varro's aviary is still so famous, that it is reckoned for one of those notables, which foreign nations record.

b. A person of eminence or distinction.

1815 SOUTHEY in *Q. Rev.* XIII. 19 The notables of Egypt. 1823 SCOTT *Quentin D.* xix, The notables of the town were fast assembling. 1878 GLADSTONE *Gleanings* (1879) I. 201 The straitened philosophy of a local notable.

transf. 1892 HUDSON *La Plata* 221 Amongst the feathered notables..is the Crested Screamer from South America.

2. *pl.* A number of prominent men from the various estates of the realm of France, summoned by the king as a deliberative assembly in times of national emergency.

1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 482 All worthy nobles and estates of the same realme of Fraunce, as well spirituals as temporals, and also Cities, notables and commonalties. 1634 W. TIRWHYT tr. *Balzac's Lett.* (vol. I) 4 This is a trueth..which you so solidly confirmed at the last assembly of Notables. 1789 *Hist. Europe* in *Ann. Reg.* 201/1 Mr. Necker had at the beginning of winter summoned a new convention of Notables. 1792 A. YOUNG *Trav. France* 275 From the very commencement of the revolution, at the first meeting of the notables. 1845 *Encycl. Metrop.* XIII. 8/1 It was thought advisable to calm such feelings by summoning an assembly of Notables, who met at Ronen late in the year. 1864 KIRK *Chas. the Bold* I. vi. 317 An article..providing for the appointment of thirty-six 'notables'.

transf. 1818 J. C. HOBHOUSE *Italy* (1859) II. 360 When Bonaparte, in the year 1801, convoked at Lyons the Notables of the Cisalpine Republic. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xiv. III. 471 An extraordinary meeting of the privy council, or rather an assembly of Notables, which had been convoked at Whitehall.

†**C.** *adv.* Notably. *Obs. rare.*

1586 A. DAY *Eng. Secretary* II. (1625) 82 Here 'never die' seemeth superfluous, and yet notable well adorneth the sentence. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* 227 Some season of the year more notable hot then other.

Notableness. [f. prec. + -NESS.] The quality of being notable or remarkable.

1563 *Homilies* II. II. i. (1640) 16 The notablenesse of the place, being the very beginning of the very loving Lord's law. 1745 MRS. DELANY *Life & Corr.* (1861) II. 358, I don't at all doubt my sister's notableness. 1799 R. WARNER *Walk* (1800) 53 A perseverance and notableness..unknown amongst the fair ones of modern days. 1856 RUSKIN *Mod. Paint.* IV. v. xvi. § 6 In notableness of lateral precipice, the Matterhorn..stands..unrivalled among the Alps.

†**Notablety,** obs. variant of NOTABILITY.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Serm.* Sel. Wks. I. 99 Þan shal þe liȝt of Crist..shyne in þe toþer worlde..for notablete of Crist.

Notably (nōʊ·tăbli), *adv.* Also 4 -li, 6 -lye; 5 -ely, -ully, 6 -uly. [f. NOTABLE *a.* + -LY².] In a notable manner; remarkably, strikingly.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 343 Of þis Chirche þes wordis ben sobli seid, and notabli to mannis kynde. *c* 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 74 Notably is Sichem callid þe son of Emor, þat is interpretid an asse. 1433 LYDG. *St. Edmund* Prol. 66 By pronostyke notably souereyne. 1477 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 193/2 His lifelode and richesse notably exceded any other within his Lande. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 4 All was but fygures yᵗ god notably wrought & shewed to them. 1571 GOLDING *Calvin on Ps.* li. 8 Beinge so notablye furnished with trew understandinge. 1641 J. JACKSON *True Evang. T.* I. 43 A Prophecy ..that..the Roman Empire should notably flourish. 1680 H. MORE *Apocal. Apoc.* Pref. 6 The Excellency whereof is notably set out. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 105 ¶ 6 If you mention either of the Kings of Spain or Poland, he talks very notably. *a* 1732 T. BOSTON *Crook in Lot.* (1805) 15 Bright souls.., notably bemisted and darkened from the crazy bodies they are lodged in. 1856 RUSKIN *Mod. Paint.* IV. v. xiv. § 19 The true hard rock or precipice is notably a thing cut. 1897 MARY KINGSLEY *W. Africa* 439 They are notably deficient in all mechanical arts.

†**Nota·do.** *Obs. rare* —1. [a. Sp. *notado*, pa. pple. of *notar* to NOTE.] A mark or sign.

1647 WARD *Simp. Cobbler* 30, I am also sure Souldiers use to weare other marklets or notadoes in time of battell.

†**Notaire.** *Obs. rare.* Also **notayre.** [a. F. *notaire*. Cf. NOTAR.] = NOTARY *sb.*

1474 CAXTON *Chesse* (1883) 93 The Notayres, skynners, coryours, and cardewaners werke by skynnes and hydes. *Ibid.* 94 That aduocate or notaire that hath charge to wryte and kepe sentence.

†**Notai rely,** *adv.* *Obs. rare* —1. [ad. OF. *notairement*, f. *notaire* variant of *notoire*: see NOTORIOUS and NOTOUR.] = NOTARILY.

c 1480 CAXTON *Scipio's Oration* e ij, Their famous deedes be to theyr infynyte lawde notairely knowen of you alle.

Notal (nōʊ·tăl), *a.* [f. Gr. *νῶτ-ον* the back + -AL.] Dorsal. 1855 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex.*

‖ **Notalgia** (nōtæ·ldʒiă), *Path.* [mod.L., f. Gr. *νῶτ-ον* back + *ἄλγος* pain. Cf. F. *notalgie*.] Pain in the back without inflammatory symptoms. Hence **Nota·lgic** *a.*

1855 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex.* 1892 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

No·tamy, etc., aphetized form of *anotamy*, obs. var. of ANATOMY, skeleton. (Cf. It., Sp., and Pg. *notomia*.) Now *dial.*

1487 *Ann. Barber-Surgeons* (1890) 102, xviij men and ij women hanged; the Barber-surgeons had one of them to be a notheme at ther halle. 1577 HOLINSHED *Chron.* I. 1816/2 A man chylde..the heade, armes and legges whereof were like a notamie. 1598 TOFTE *Alba* (1880) III Who then can rid me (Notamie of Woe) From these hell plagues? 1790 *Bystander* 391 My leg was at last as thin as Tom Muggins's, the notamy in surgeon's hall. 1825 BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss.*, *Nottamy, ottamy*, a skeleton. 1889 ELWORTHY in *N. & Q. Somerset & Dorset* 27 Aug., Throughout the Western Counties the usual term for a Skeleton is *Nottomy* or *Notamy*.

‖ **Notandum** (nōtæ·ndŏm). Also pl. **notanda.** [L., gerund of *notāre* to NOTE, used to introduce a memorandum, e. g.

1605 BEN JONSON *Volpone* IV. i, What is here? *Notandum*, A rat had gnawne my spurre-lethers.]

An entry or jotting of something to be specially noted; a memorandum, observation, note.

α. 1685 SIR J. LAUDER *Chron. Notes* (1822) 53 By way of notandum, he gave himself two wounds when taken by Graeme of Dougalstoun's men. 1715 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* I. 242 The interludes are compos'd of divers notandums. 1800 *Asiatic Ann. Reg.* II. 17/1 A notandum to the account remarks, that this sum was taken from the Bengal statements. 1858 W. ARNOT *Laws fr. Heaven* II. xxiv. 197 His fellow-disciple John..adds to his name the significant notandum 'Not Iscariot'.

β. 1702 HOWE *Wks.* (1834) 63/1 (Stf.), And now for his *notanda*..by which he would conclude [etc.]. 1787 HAWKINS *Life Johnson* 266 He feigns to have dropped his paper of Notanda. *α* 1847 CHALMERS in Spurgeon *Treas. Dav.* (1874) IV. 367 Verses 11 and 12 are both most savoury and precious notanda.

No·tar. *Sc.* Now *rare.* Also 5–6 notare, 6 notair(e, 6–7, 9 noter, 7 nottar. [Sc. variant of NOTARY *sb.*: see -AR ².] A notary.

1439 in *Charters etc. Edinb.* (1871) 65 In presens of Robert Mechelson of Hyrdmanston public notare vnderwrytin. 1469 *Sc. Acts Jas. III* (1814) II. 95 His bienes may mak notaris & tabellionis. *c* 1480 HENRYSON *Mor. Fab.* VI. (*Sheep & Dog*) v, The foxe wes clerk and notare in the cause. 1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* IV. iv. (S.T.S.) II. 63 Vnder þe quhilk suld be notaris and writaris to bere þe charge of tabillis and registeris. 1546 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 46 Neill Layng, and Alexander Gibsoun, noteris publict. 1588 A. KING tr. *Canisius' Catech.* 9 Sinnes that maye be done by notaires. 1678 SIR G. MACKENZIE *Crim. Laws Scot.* II. xiii. § 2 (1699) 209 The Clerks of all other Courts must be Notars. 1708 J. CHAMBERLAYNE *St. Gt. Brit.* (1710) II. II. iv. 409 The Lord Register..has the Power of appointing Clerks for Registration of Seasines and Admissions of Nottars. *α* 1773 FERGUSSON *Will* Poems (1788) I. 101 These presents wrote are By William Blair, the public notar. 1822 HIBBERT *Desc. Shetl. Isl.* (1891) 61 Filled with all the clauses and quirks that the lawyer and noter could invent.

No·taress. *rare* —1. [f. NOTAR-Y *sb.* + -ESS.] A female notary or clerk.

1622 T. ROBINSON *Anat. Eng. Nunnery* 31 Iosepha Bingham, Portresse, Lucy Iohnson, Notaresse.

Notarial (nōtē·riăl), *a.*[1] [ad. L. type **notāriāl-is*, f. *notārius* NOTARY *sb.* So F. *notarial*.]

1. Of or belonging to a notary.

1482 in Rymer *Fœdera* (1711) XII. 165/1 We have..commaunded the said Notary to set his signe Notariall to the same. 1818 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) V. 129 A certificate..was signed by two persons, who stated themselves to be public notaries; but no notarial seal was annexed. 1866 CRUMP *Banking* v. 115 It was not allowed by the law to recover the notarial charges against the acceptor unless special damage was made in the declaration. 1888 *Century Mag.* Nov. 94 Several pairs were kept waiting by the notarial table while the commandant was served.

b. Characteristic of, peculiar to, notaries.

1828 CARLYLE *Misc.* (1857) I. 68 He examines and records with a certain notarial strictness. 1844 S. R. MAITLAND *Dark Ages* 15 A subscription..which may, at the same time, be a specimen of notarial eloquence. 1894 *19th Cent.* July 80 The odd grammar and the notarial style of this memorial present some difficulties at first sight.

2. Drawn up, framed, or executed by a notary.

1622 MALYNES *Anc. Law-Merch.* 125 Hereupon likewise passeth a Notariall Contract. 1682 SCARLETT *Exchanges* 79 It is not usual to make a formal Notarial Protest. 1726 AYLIFFE *Parergon* 305 Thro' want of a Notarial Evidence. *a* 1768 ERSKINE *Inst. Law Scot.* (1838) 615 Solemnities requisite to Notarial Instruments. 1818 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) V. 129 The notarial certificate required in the case of a fine acknowledged in a foreign country. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* II. II. v, M. de Malseigne 'takes act', due notarial protest, of such refusal. 1889 *Century Mag.* Aug. 597/1 Madame Lalaurie, we know by notarial records, was in Mandeville ten days after.

b. esp. *Notarial act* (see ACT *sb.* 6).

1752 CARTE *Hist. Eng.* III. 3 He caused him to sign a notarial act protesting against it. 1839 BROOKE *Office of Notary* 7 The expression notarial act..has a technical meaning. 1897 *Times* 16 Jan. 6/2 Sir James Parker Deane, Q.C., ..signed and sealed the customary notarial acts.

Hence **Nota·rially** *adv.*

1847 in WEBSTER. 1901 *Westm. Gaz.* 17 June 8/2 Documents..translated into English and notarially certified.

† **Nota·rial**, *a.*[2] *Obs. rare* —[1]. [Cf. prec.] Of the nature of notes.

1753 N. TORRIANO *Gangr. Sore Throat* p. ix, The little notarial Scholia I have here and there made upon it.

Nota·riate. *rare.* [=F. *notariat*, Sp. *-ato*, Pg. *-ado*, med.L. *-atus*: see NOTARY *sb.* and -ATE [1].] The profession of notary.

1888 H. C. LEA *Hist. Inquisition* I. 379 *note*, Peculiar importance attached to the notariate, and the limitations imposed on its membership are seen in the papal privileges.

† **Nota·rily**, *adv. Obs.* [f. NOTARY *a.* + -LY [2].] Notoriously; commonly (known).

1459 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 367 Such persones..ben notariely and universally thorough oute all this your Realme famed and noysed..for open Robbers. 1487 HEN. VII in *Epist. Acad. Oxon.* (1898) II. 514 Seynge, as itt ys notaryly knowen, that he cann nott be accepted as a scolare. 1697 *Phil. Trans.* XIX. 728 A poor Man of Rowdil, in the Isle Harries, notarily known by the Name of St. Clements Blind.

Notary (nōu·tări), *sb.* Also 4–7 **notarie**, 4–5 **-arye**, 5 **-ory**, **-ery**. [ad. L. *notārius* shorthand-writer, clerk, secretary, f. *notāre* to note, *nota* a note. Hence also Sp. *notario*, Pg. *notario*, *-airo*, It. *notaro*, *-aio*, F. *notaire*.]

† **1.** A clerk or secretary to a person. *Obs.*

In quot. 1474 applied to the bishop's pawn in chess.

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handlyng Synne* 5748 Pers kalled to hym hys clerk þat was hys notarye. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. xv. 32 Þanne am I conscience ycalde, goddis clerke and his notarie. 1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 212 Of Notaries...To chese the be-houeth, to writte thy Pryuyteis .., wyse men of Parfite eloquence. 1474 CAXTON *Chesse* (1883) 92 Hit is reson that the alphyn or juge haue his notarye, by whom ye processe may be wreton. 1600 J. PORY tr. *Leo's Africa* III. 160 Where the gouernor of the mint with his scribes and notaries haue their aboad. 1609 HOLLAND *Amm. Marcell.* XIV. v. 8 The principall and of greatest note was one Paulus a Notarie, borne in Spaine.

fig. 1593 SHAKS. *Lucr.* 765 O comfort-killing Night,.. Dim register and notary of shame! 1615 BRETON *Charac. Ess., Knowledge* Wks. (Grosart) II. 6/1 Knowledge..is the Notary of Time, and the tryer of Truth.

2. A person publicly authorized to draw up or attest contracts or similar documents, to protest bills of exchange, etc., and discharge other duties of a formal character.

1340 *Ayenb.* 40 Þe nalse notaryes, þet makeþ þe nalse lettres, and nalseþ þe celes. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Pars. T.* P 721 Ware yow, questemongers and notaries. 1423 *Coventry Lett.-bk.* (E.E.T.S.) 59 Whethur he be Notary impereall, or he he not; and if so be he be a Notary sworen & admyttyd [etc.]. 1480 *Caxton's Chron. Eng.* (1520) VII. 126 b, Whan they hadde thus sworne they toke theyr crosses that theyr othes were comprehended into the notaryes. 1513–4 *Act* 5 *Hen. VIII*, c. 1 Preamble, Divers officers..called Notaries..to accepte take and recorde the Knowlege of all contractes. 1592 WEST 1*st Pt. Symbol.* § 100 e, It sufficeth not our notarie to know only what Instruments and contracts he. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* To Rdr. (1651) 26 Notaries alter sentences, and for money lose their deeds. 1720 STRYPE *Stow's Surv.* (1754) II. v. xv. 328/2 There were sixteen Notaries in the Mayoralty of Sir James Haws..in 1574. 1797 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Italian* xvii, The Inquisitor merely bade the notary write down her name. 1841 ELPHINSTONE *Hist. India* I. 123 He acts as notary in drawing up deeds for them. 1871 MARKBY *Elem. Law* § 480 The resort..to a notary to draw up the documents relating to any business in hand.

b. More fully *notary public*, *public* (or † *common*) *notary*.

1494 FABYAN *Chron.* VII. 546 Thomas Feryby and Denys Lopham, notaryes publyque. 1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 204 The subscription of a common notarie therunto requyred. 1578 T. N. tr. *Conq. W. India* 5 The office of Publike notarie in Azua. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* III. 65 Made a Count Apostolick, whereby he had the Priviledges to appoint publick Notaries. 1682 SCARLETT *Exchanges* 72 Protest is ordinarily made by a Notary Publick in the presence of two credible Witnesses. 1712 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4954/4 The Employment of Advocate, Writer to the Signet, Notary Publick. 1818 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) V. 128 Authenticated by his certificate or attestation, as a notary public. 1866 CRUMP *Banking* v. 116 In the absence of a notary-public, a protest may be made by any inhabitant of the place.

† **3.** A noter or observer. *Obs.*

1589 NASHE *Anat. Absurd.* Wks. (Grosart) I. 32 You know them without my discourse,..though I be not the Notarie of their iniquitie. 1645 MILTON *Tetrach.* Wks. 1851 IV. 234 The words of Christ shall be asserted from such elementall notaries, and resolv'd by the now-only lawgiving mouth of charity. 1685 DUNTON *Lett. fr. New-Eng.* (1867) 18 All that this Starry Notary can tell her, is that the Stars prognosticate a Boy.

† **4.** A note-book. *Obs. rare* —[1].

1651 BAXTER *Inf. Bapt.* 255 You have nothing but the weakness of your memory and notaries to excuse all these palpable untruths.

† **No·tary**, *a.*[1] *Obs.* Also 5 **-arye**, 5–6 **-arie**, 6 **-eri**, **-erye**. [ad. med.L. *nōtārius* for *nōtōrius*, perh. after F. *notaire*.]

1. Notorious.

1388–9 in *Wyclif's Sel. Wks.* III. 468 If hit be knowen þat personns..lyven in notary fornicacione. 1433 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 447/1 Many murderers of men, and notarye theves. 1502 ARNOLDE *Chron.* (1811) 276 Any other Notary and open causes vpon the which ony subget, clerke, or leyman be diffamyd. 1527 in Fiddes *Wolsey* (1726) II. 171 It is also verey notarie that thei dyd lye together.

2. Well-known; notable.

1419 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. I. 87 To remembre his notarie proclamation made thorgh his Roialme. 1423 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 257 Expert persones, havyng notary conyng in the craft of Goldsmyth. 1494 FABYAN *Chron.* VII. 518 Where both hoostis thus lyinge, w^t^out notary feate of warre, a treatye of accorde was yet agayne moued.

† **No·tary**, *a.*[2] *Obs. rare* —[1]. [ad. L. type **notāri-us*, f. *nota* a mark. Cf. NOTORIOUS and NOTORY.] Dealing with marks or signs.

1584 R. SCOT *Discov. Witchcr.* XV. xlii. 393 Hereunto [to Theurgie] belongeth..the art of Paule, the art of Revelations, and the art Notarie.

No·tate, *a. Bot.* [ad. L. *notātus* pa. pple. of *notāre*: see next.] (See quot.)

1857 A. GRAY *First Less. Bot.* (1866) 223 *Notate*: marked with spots or lines of a different color.

Notation (nōtē·ʃən). [ad. L. *notātiōn-em*, n. of action, f. *notāre* to NOTE. Hence also F. *notation* (14th c.), Sp. *notacion*, It. *notazione*, Pg. *notação*.]

† **1.** The explanation or exposition of a term in accordance with its etymology; the etymological or primary sense of a word. *Obs.* (common in 17th cent.).

1570 J. DEE *Math. Pref.* b j, This Description, or Notation, is brief. 1588 FRAUNCE *Lawiers Log.* I. vi. 35 b, As for conjugates and notation,..I dare not admit them into the text. 1609 DOWNAM *Christ. Lib.* 30 This..error they seeke to iustifie by the like notation of the Latine words. *a* 1654 GATAKER *Antid. Errour* (1670) 7 If we respect the Notation or Original of the word *Justifie*, it should signifie *to make just*. 1690 *Andros Tracts* II. 32 If we may Admit that Gentleman's Notation of a Libell (a Lie because False, and a Bell because Loud).

2. A note or annotation. Now *rare.*

1584 FENNER *Def. Ministers* (1587) 96 We may lett passe the sifting of these notations altogither vnworthie to be noted. 1685 *Boston Rec.* (1881) VII. 375 Some articles.. which wee have thought fit to leave some notations or memorandum with the Selectmen about. 1706 J. SERGEANT *Chapter Bp. Chalcedon* (1853) 122 Neither was there any room for inferences, or many notations. 1762–71 H. WALPOLE *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1786) V. 150 No other notation at all concerning any designer, engraver, or publisher whatever. 1822 GALT *Provost* XXXV, Intending these notations for the instruction of posterity. 1845 R. W. HAMILTON *Pop. Educ.* i. (ed. 2) 3 The Sacred Volume has gathered up certain notations of this great study of our nature.

3. The action of taking or making note of something. *rare.*

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* I. iv. 13 Although there be no lesse then sixe, yet are there but two onely thereof worthy our notatioo. 1667 WATERHOUSE *Fire London* 43 He..would not himself have set a foot this work..upon that day..But that the Notation of the day might lesson us displeasure extraordinary. 1866 CRUMP *Banking*, etc. v. 113 A different operation from the 'notation of protest', as regards foreign bills of exchange.

† **4.** A mark or indication. *Obs. rare* —[1].

a 1661 FULLER *Worthies* (1840) I. xxi. 81, I have endeavoured..to time eminent persons by one of these notations; first, that of their morning, or nativity [etc.].

5. The process or method of representing numbers, quantities, etc., by a set or system of signs; hence, any set of symbols or characters used to denote things or relations in order to facilitate the recording or considering of them.

a. *Arith.* and *Algebra.*

1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Notation*... In Arithmetick, it is that part which shows how to express, read, or declare.. any Number written. 1730 BAILEY (folio), Notation (with Algebraists), the representing quantities by Letters of the Alphabet. 1806 HUTTON *Course Math.* (ed. 2) I. 241 Avoiding the short ways of notation, which..are..less useful to the pupil. 1847 EMERSON *Repr. Men, Uses of Gt. Men* Wks. (Bohn) I. 276 The inventor of decimal notation. 1882 MINCHIN *Unipl. Kinemat.* 93 If (*A*) denotes the area traced out by *A*, and (*X*) the area of *D*, we have, with the previous notation [etc.].

b. *Music.*

1776 BURNEY *Hist. Mus.* I. 7 As the notation of the Greeks was imagined in the infancy of the art of music. 1811 BUSBY *Dict. Mus.* s.v., The literal notation for the lute is constantly called the Tablature. 1876 STAINER & BARRETT *Dict. Mus. Terms* (1888) 309 The ecclesiastical notation of the Greek Church..is supposed to have originated in the Greek accents.

c. In miscellaneous uses.

1831 BREWSTER *Nat. Magic* xi. (1833) 293 A system of mechanical notation invented by Mr. Babbage. 1837 WHEWELL *Induct. Sci.* (1857) III. 185 The various methods of notation by which it has been proposed to represent the faces of crystals. 1855 ABP. THOMSON *Laws Th.* § 101 A mode of notation to be able to represent to the eye by figures the relation which subsists in thought between conceptions. 1871 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* IV. 136 The system of chemical notation now in use among chemists belongs exclusively to modern times.

6. *Logic.* (See CONNOTATION 2, quot. 1829.)

Hence **Nota·tional** *a.* (See quot.)

1880 *Libr. Univ. Knowl.* X. 736 All [early numerals] seem to have been once used without notational place, that is without the zero.

Notative (nōu·tătiv), *a.* [ad. L. type **notātīvus*: cf. CONNOTATIVE *a.*] (See quot. 1867.)

1842 *Penny Cycl.* XXIII. 444/1 The simplicity of notative distinctions must bear some proportion to that of the real differences they are meant to represent. 1867 ATWATER *Logic* 67 A Notative Conception..suggests its own marks (*notæ*) by its very name.

Notator (nōtē·tăɹ). *rare.* [f. L. *notāt-*, *notāre*, to note; cf. *annotator*, and Sp. *notador*, It. *notatore*.]

† **a.** An annotator. *Obs.* **b.** A noter, recorder. **c.** One skilled in musical notation.

1691–2 WOOD *Ath. Oxon.* (1820) IV. 460 The notator Dr. Potter in his epistle before it to the reader saith thus. 1830 CHAMBERS *Life Jas. I*, II. x. 273 'She is generally well-wished' says a notator of passing events. 1896 ASHBY-STERRY *Tale Thames* (1903) 98/1 You..would appear to be beyond the grasp of the most subtle of musical notators.

Not-being, *sb.* [NOT *adv.*]

1. Absence of being; non-existence.

a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* (1622) 265 A base and vilest degree of being, and next to a not-being. 1587 GOLDING *De Mornay* (1592) 13 Afore the which there went a Not-beeing. 1623 WEBSTER *Duchess Malfi* IV. ii, Did any ceremonial form of law Doom her to not-being? 1683 J. CORBET *Free Actions* I. viii. 6 No more is needful to a Not-being, than Gods not Willing and not Effecting. 1725 WATTS *Logic* (1728) 28 As being is divided into substance and mode, so we may consider not-being with regard to both these. 1850 MAURICE *Mor. & Met. Philos.* (ed. 2) 185 Being had been confounded with truth, Not-being with falsehood. 1871 TYLOR *Prim. Cult.* II. 97 He may find in utter dissolution and not-being a refuge even from heaven.

2. A non-existent thing. *rare* —[1].

1725 WATTS *Logic* (1736) 27 Then they rank them also under the general Head of Not-Beings.

So **Not-being** *a.*, non-existing. *rare* —[1].

1594 J. DICKENSON *Arisbas* (1878) 83 The extremitie of fortunes malice, which seemed to ease me with a shadow of not-being solace.

Notch (nɒtʃ), *sb.* Also 7–8 **noch**, 8 **knotch**. [app. ad. older F. *oche* (mod.F. *hoche*) of the same meaning, with *n* of the article prefixed (see N 3). There is thus no original connexion with NOCK *sb.*[1] Examples of the verb OCHE occur in the alliterative *Morte Arthur* (*c* 1400), but the sb. has app. not been recorded.]

1. A V-shaped indentation or incision made, or naturally occurring, in an edge or across a surface.

1577 HARRISON *England* II. xi. (1877) I. 227 Which being drawne vp to the top of the frame is there fastned by a woodden pin (with a notch made into the same after the manner of a Samsons post). 1597 BARLOWE *Navigators Supply* D 3 b, Prepare a little Notche or slit of equall deapth in the two sights of the sight-Ruler. 1624 CAPT. SMITH *Virginia* II. 31 To make the noch of his arrow he hath the tooth of a Beaver, set in a sticke, wherewith he grateth it by degrees. 1648 WILKINS *Math. Magic* I. ix. 60 A little wheel, with some notches in it, equivalent to teeth. 1697 DAMPIER *Voy.* (1699) 41 The other end.. is jagged with notches like a Harpoon. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 83 With much chopping..hard Wood, they were all full of Notches and dull. 1774 M. MACKENZIE *Maritime Surv.* 45 A crooked Bit of Brass, with a Notch in it. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 306 Each circle..is divided into eleven parts, and at each a rectangular notch is cut. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* III. 1276 Every year after the horn is protruded from the head, with a notch on it. 1870 BAYANT *Homer* I. IV. 110 Grasping the bowstring and the arrow's notch He drew them back.

b. In fig. uses.

1644 QUARLES *Sheph. Orac.* viii, We cut out doctrines, and from notch to notch, We fit our holy Stuffe. 1670 LASSELS *Voy. Italy* Pref., Traveling takes my yong nobleman four notches lower in his self-conceit and pride. 1790 R. TYLER *Contrast* V. i. (1887) 92 Ho, ho, ho! There the old man was even with her; he was up to the notch—ha, ha, ha! *c* 1817 HOGG *Tales & Sk.* II. 242 To bring them forward to the same notch of time. 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exped.* XXXVIII. (1856) 349 We..tumbled over, no matter how often; but we hit the ships to a notch. 1897 *Outing* XXX. 266/2 When you have girded yourself up to the last notch, so to speak.

† **c.** = NOCK *sb.*[1] 1 a. *Obs. rare* —[1].

1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* II. ii. IV. (1651) 266 This present Sultan makes notches for bows.

2. A nick made on a stick, etc., as a means of keeping a score or record. (Cf. NICK *sb.*[1] 2 a.) Also *fig.*

† *Out of all scotch and notch* : (see SCOTCH *sb.*).

1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong*, *Vne oche, vn creu*, or *creune*, a notch in a skore. 1676 MARVELL *Mr. Smirke* Wks. (Grosart) IV. 60 The Exposer..hath payed him exactly, though not in as good billet, yet in as many notches. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. 64 Upon the Sides of this square Post, I cut every Day a Notch with my Knife. 1784 COWPER *Tiroc.* 560 Th' indented stick, that loses day by day Notch after notch. 1817 J. BRADBURY *Trav. Amer.* 41 *note*, It is customary amongst the Missouri Indians to register every exploit in war, by making a notch for each on the handle of their tomahawks. 1876 GEO. ELIOT *Dan. Der.* II. xxv. 155 He felt sure that there was a notch made against him—and that somehow or other he was intended to pay.

b. A run in cricket. Now *rare.*

1737 in Waghorn *Cricket Scores* (1899) 17 Kent side went in first and got 99 notches. 1755 *Game at Cricket* 10 If in running a Notch, the Wicket is struck down by a Throw; it's out. 1812 *Sporting Mag.* XL 246 A match..which was won by Burley, ninety-seven notches against sixty-five. 1835 W. HOWITT in *Friendsh. Miss Mitford* (1882) I. xii. 293 The sudden shout..of the crowd when the last decisive notch was gained. 1881 *Sportsman's Year-bk.* 137, 1,163 notches have been placed to his credit by the scorers.

3. *U.S.* A narrow opening or defile through mountains; a deep narrow pass. (Common in local names in the New England States.)

1718 S. SEWALL *Diary* 15 Sept., About half way between the Notch of the Mountain and Hartford. 1760 *New Eng. Hist. & Gen. Reg.* (1882) XXXVI. 32 On arriving on the Lake, I took the bearing of a Notch or Break in the Mountains. 1812 MELLISH *Trav. U. S.* I. 98 There is a singular curiosity in the state [of New Hampshire] called the Notch, which is a pass through the mountains. 1838 HAWTHORNE *Amer. Note-bks.* (1883) 197 This Notch is otherwise called the Bellowspipe, being a long and narrow valley, with a steep wall on either side. 1890 J. H. WARD *White Mts.* 45 The Crawford Notch is so much in the heart of the mountains that it offers unusual facilities for seeing them.

4. An opening; a break or breach.

1789 T. WRIGHT *Meth. Watering Meadows* (1790) 20 Keep it [the water] high enough to flow through the notches, (or what we improperly call sluices). 1794 S. WILLIAMS *Hist. Vermont* I. 25 The direction of this passage is oblique, and full of stops or notches. 1804 BROWN tr. *Volney's View* 66 The gaps, whose sides..exhibit those notches occasioned by the first overflowings of the lake.

5. An act of notching or cutting.

1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm.* I. 506 Small holes made in the ground with three or four notches of the spade.

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *notch-eared, -flowered, -leaved*; **notch-block**, *Naut.* a snatch-block; **notch-board**, (*a*) a board grooved to receive the ends of the steps in a stair; (*b*) a board with notches placed as a stop in a water-channel; **notch-head**, an ornamental incision in stone; **notch-ringing, -sight, -stick, -weed** (see quots.); † **notch-wheel**, the locking- or count-wheel in a clock; **notch-wing**, a name of various moths.

1846 A. YOUNG *Naut. Dict.* 38 Snatch-Blocks (or *Notch-Blocks) which are single blocks with a notch cut in one cheek, to receive the bight of a rope. 1823 P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Build.* 189 A *notch-board is a board into which the ends of the steps are let. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* III. 1024 Notch-boards injure the edges of feeders, besides causing deep holes to be scooped beyond them by the fall of water. 1840 *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 74 *note*, *Notch-eared Bat (*V. emarginatus*).—The fur reddish-grey above, ash-coloured beneath. 1886 CASSELL, **Notch-flowered*,.. having the flowers notched at the margin. 1843 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* VI. 320/1 An ornamental parapet, with a cornice of *notch-heads, or dog-tooth, or corbels. 1822 *Hortus Anglicus* II. 468 *Alnus Serrulata*, *Notch-leaved Alder. 1884 *Australasian* 8 Nov. 875/1 In *notch-ringing, a belt of bark is not only removed, but a notch running round the tree is cut in the sap-wood about 2 in. deep. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, **Notch-sight of a gun*, a sight having a V-shaped notch, wherein the eye easily finds the lowest or central point. 1883 GERSLEY *Gloss. Coal-mining*, **Notch Sticks*, short pieces of stick notched or nicked, used by miners as records of the number of tubs of coal, &c., they send out of the pit during the day. 1736 AINSWORTH, *Notch weed, *Atriplex olida.* [Hence in Johnson, etc.] 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 793/2 Notchweed, *Chenopodium Vulvaria.* 1611 COTGR., *Rouë de compte*, a *Notch-wheele in a Clocke. 1819 SAMOUELLE *Entomol. Compend.* 435 The shallow *Notchwing...The common Notchwing. 1832 J. RENNIE *Butterfl. & Moths* 180 The Chequered Notch-Wing.

† **Notch**, obs. variant of NAUTCH *sb.*

1796 ELIZA HAMILTON *Lett. Hindoo Rajah* (1811) I. 222, I was invited by the Governor-General to a notch, or, as they express it, a ball.

Notch (nɒtʃ), *v.* Also 6 noch, 9 knotch. [f. the sb.]

† **1.** *trans.* To cut (hair) unevenly. *Obs. rare.*

Cf. Percivall *Span. Dict.* (1591) '*Trasquilones*, notches in the bair'.

1597 BP. HALL *Sat.* III. vii, All Brittish bare upon the bristled skin Close noched is his beard, both lip and chin. 1611 COTGR., *Bertauder*,..to notch, or cut the haire vneuenly. 1687 MIÉGE *Gt. Fr. Dict.* II. s.v., To notch Hair, *couper les cheveux d'une maniere ridicule.* 1747 P. FRANCIS *Horace, Epist.* I. i. 136 If some unlucky Barber notch my Hair.

2. To cut or make notches in; to cut or mark with notches.

1600 HEYWOOD *1st Pt. Edw. IV* (1613) C 2 b, Whose recreant limbs are notcht with gaping scarres. 1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* IV. v. 199 He scotcht him, and notcht him like a Carbinado. 1672 SIR W. TALBOT *Discov. J. Lederer* 25 You must not forget to notch the trees as you go along with your small Hatchet. 1737 POPE *Hor. Epist.* I. i. 84 From him whose quills stand quiver'd at his ear, To him who notches sticks at Westminster. 1766 *Compl. Farmer* s.v. *Madder* 5 I 3/1 They are seven inches broad, notched half the thickness of the stocks of the beetles. 1814 JANE AUSTEN *Mansf. Park* III. 280 Her eyes could only wander to..the table, cut and knotched by her brothers. 1862 MORRALL *Hist. Needle-m.* 2 You may see men grinding long steel bars to the necessary fineness,..then notching them at the required lengths.

fig. 1649 G. DANIEL *Trinarch., Hen. V* ccxxi, Greiv'd, that the Tallies of his Fame was Seene Notch't, with a Debt. 1871 MEREDITH *H. Richmond* xlvi, The place is notched where it occurred and for ever avoided.

transf. 1864 LOWELL *Fireside Trav.* 144 Pines, whose pointed summits notched the rosy west in an endless black *sierra*. 1878 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* xvii. 274 The eastern end is notched by the estuary of the Thames.

b. To convert *into* (some form) by the process of making notches.

1768–74 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 319 Persons..might notch a stick into something that could be fancied a human face. 1832 HT. MARTINEAU *Hill & Valley* ii. 28 Another would notch it into a saw. 1862 SCROPE *Volcanoes* 136 Notching it into..fantastically-shaped eminences.

c. *absol.* To make notches.

1848 DICKENS *Dombey* i, Remorseless twins they are for striding through their human forests, notching as they go.

3. To score, mark, record, by means of notches. Also with *up* or *down*, and in fig. contexts.

1623 MIDDLETON *More Dissemblers* v. i, I'll notch your faults up. 1645 FULLER *Good Th. in Bad T.* (1841) 43 He had no leisure to eat for notching up the men he met. 1649 G. DANIEL *Trinarch., Hen. V* cclxxxiv, Let Harrie's Fate (Notch'd sure with Time) Spin to a Softer Bed. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* vii, The umpires were stationed behind the wickets; the scorers were prepared to notch the runs. 1848 LOWELL *Biglow P.* Poet. Wks. 1890 II. 138 We notched the votes down on three sticks 1860 EMERSON *Cond. Life, Fate* Wks. (Bohn) II. 320 As children stand up against the wall..and notch their height. 1879 *Princeton Rev.* May 478 The cataract itself has notched the records of the ages of its retrocession upon the rocks by its side.

absol. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* vii, They notch in here.. it's the best place in the whole field.

b. To score, succeed in getting (a run, etc.).

1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* vii, All-Muggleton had notched some fifty-four. 1895 *Daily News* 18 Dec. 9/4 The nearest they could get to scoring was a corner, whilst their opponents notched two goals.

c. To mark *off* by effacing a notch.

1831 LANDOR *Andria of Hungary* Wks. 1846 II. 2 Notched off like schoolboy's days Anxious to see his parent.

4. To fix, secure, or insert, by means of notches.

1768 C. BEATTY *Jrnl. 72 note*, Logs of wood laid upon one another, notched at the corners into each other. 1837 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* I. 2/2 Longitudinal sleepers of timber..on which are notched down transverse bearers. 1838 *Ibid.* 104/1 Cross-ties notched on to the waling. 1857 THOREAU *Maine W.* (1894) 23 One directly above another, and notched together at the ends. 1875 *Carpentry & Join.* 62 You can notch in the corners, like E, as it cannot get out of place when the top is nailed on.

fig. 1824 SCOTT *St. Ronan's* i, The houses were notched as it were into the side of the steep bank.

b. To chop *off*, cut *out*.

1820 SCOTT *Abbot* iii, Have they hands, and figbt not for the land which bore them? They should be notched off at the elbow! 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 192 Rhombic in shape with a corner notched out.

5. To fit the arrow to the bowstring; to nock.

1635 QUARLES *Embl.* I. vii. 30 His bow is bent, and he hath notch'd his dart. 1649 G. DANIEL *Trinarch., Hen. V* clxxix, Other well-notch their Arrowes; trye their Stringes And draw their Bowes. 1720 DE FOE *Capt. Singleton* xvii. (1840) 292 Their arrows being soon notched upon their bows. 1767 *Poetry in Ann. Reg.* 230, I bent my bow,..and strait Notch'd on the nerve the messenger of fate.

6. To stop or jam (a wheel). *rare*[−1].

1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* 130 They can't strike sail, or notch the wheels,..in a trice.

7. *intr.* To become jagged or indented. *rare*[−1].

1693 EVELYN *De La Quint. Compl. Gard.* II. 15 Their matter must be of good temper'd Steel, so that the edge may neither turn, or notch easily.

Notched (nɒtʃt), *ppl. a.* [f. prec. + -ED[1].]

1. That has a notch or notches cut in it; nicked, indented; marked with a notch.

1602 MARSTON *Ant. & Mel.* I, He lookes like a maypole, or notched stick. 1683 CROWNE *City Politiques* v, Because a knigbt's notch'd in the crown, and the doctor's a little crack'd there. 1744 JOHNSON *Diary N. Wales* (1816) 74 At an iron-work I saw round bars formed by a knotched hammer and anvil. 1779 FORREST *Voy. N. Guinea* 110 They ascended with great agility, by a long notched stick. 1821 CLARE *Vill. Minstr.* I. 112 The oak-tree, gnarl'd and notch'd, Lifts its..furrow'd side. 1847 SMEATON *Builder's Man.* 163 To describe an Ellipse by Means of..a piece of notched Lath. 1887 HALL CAINE *Deemster* xxxiii, The notched door of the portcullis was open.

b. *Bot.* Coarsely dentate or serrate.

1676 GREW *Anat. Pl., Fruits* 176 The Belly'd [flowers] are also Even Edged, as in Convolvulus; or Notched, as in Trachelium. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* III. ii. 310 The leaves of this tree are..notched about the edges. 1796 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) I. 200 Petals..heart-shaped, bent inwards, and notched at the end. 1824 SIR J. E. SMITH *Eng. Fl.* (1828) II. 345 Petals 5, flat, spreading, notched. 1870 HOOKER *Stud. Flora* 51 Petals notched, and with a notched scale.

c. *Zool.* Having notches or incisions.

1713 PETIVER *Aquat. Anim. Amboinæ* 1/2 *Echinus planus*,..Double notch'd Sea Pan-cake. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) VI. 359 The two great claws..are usually notched, like a saw. 1837 *Penny Cycl.* VII. 26/1 Ears.. a little notched on their external border. 1880 GÜNTHER *Fishes* 330 Pectoral fins not notched at their origin.

Comb. 1871 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* I. 307 The Notched-eared Bat (*Vespertilio emarginatus*), found in Central and Southern Europe, and extending eastward into Persia.

† **2.** Having unevenly or closely cropped hair.

1611 COTGR., *Bertaudé*, curtalled; also, notched, or cut vneuenly. *c* 1648 DAVENANT *Vac. in London* Wks. (1673) 289 For Prentice notch'd he strait does call. 1681 DRYDEN *Span. Friar* Prol., Even as notch'd prentices whole sermons write. [1820 LAMB *Elia* Ser. I. *Oxford in the Vacation*, A votary of the desk—a notched and cropt scrivener.]

Notchel (nɒ·tʃĕl), *sb. dial.* Also 7 nochell, 9 nochil(d, knotchell, etc. [Of obscure origin. Now current only in Chesh., Lanc., and W. Yks.] *To cry* (*one*) *notchel*, to proclaim publicly that one will not be responsible for debts incurred by the person named. Also in *notchel-crying*, *-notice.*

1681 *Dial. betw. Sam. & Will.* in *Harl. Misc.* (1744) II. 101 The King's Majesty,..him they cryed Nochell. *Sam.* What, as Gaffer Block of our Town cryed his Wife? 1839 LEWIS *Gloss. Heref.*, In Lancashire, 'cry'd nochild' means a woman cried down by her husband. 1859 in *N. & Q.* 3rd Ser. (1866) X. 108 On Wednesday there was at Accrington an extraordinary instance of the disgraceful practice of 'notchel crying'. 1882 *Lanc. Gloss.* 202 To cry 'notchel' is to give notice that a certain person or persons will not pay the debts of another person. 1889 *N. & Q.* 7th Ser. VIII. 268 He is thus said to 'notchel' her, and the advertisement is termed a 'notchel' notice.

Hence **No·tchel** *v.*

1841 HAMILTON *Nugæ Lit.* 356 When a man advertises that he is not answerable for certain debts of a partner, in life or in trade, he knotchells them. 1886 *Cheshire Gloss.* 241 When a man makes public announcement that he will not pay his wife's debts, she is said to be *notchelled.*

Notcher (nɒ·tʃəɹ). [f. NOTCH *v.*] One who notches; a scorer.

c 1740 in *Daily News* 19 Oct. (1897) 7/2 The Bowler, The Striker, The Notcher [etc.]. 1895 C. SCOTT *Apple Orchards* 52 A deal table accommodated the notcher or scorer.

No·tchet. *rare*[−1]. (Of obscure meaning.)

Cf. Suff. and Essex dial. *notchet*, an insignificant thing, a small quantity.

1636 ABP. WILLIAMS *Holy Table* (1637) 53 In this imperfect time, and uneven Notchets, His house with Minum's swarm'd, his head with Crotchets.

No·tchful. [f. NOTCH *sb.*] The quantity which can be contained in a notch.

1733 TULL *Horse-Hoeing Husb.* xxii. 331 An equal Number of Notchfuls of seed will be delivered thro' the Seed Passage at each Revolution of the Wheels.

Notching (nɒ·tʃiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. NOTCH *v.*]

1. The action or process of making notches, *esp.* in carpentry as a method of joining timbers.

1611 COTGR., *Creneure*, a iagging, nicking, notching. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 564 Notching admits two pieces to be joined at from one to four angles. 1847 SMEATON *Builder's Man.* 80 The carpenter usually connects his timbers either by notching, or by mortice and tenon. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 1534/2 Halving, scarfing, and cauking are forms of notching, and form a lap-joint.

2. A notch or notch-like incision.

1842 GWILT *Encycl. Arch.* 1008 *Notching*, a hollow cut from one of the faces of a piece of timber, generally made rectangular in section. 1849 MURCHISON *Silluria* ix. 201 The galleries thus formed falling in, and producing furrow-like markings, with or without transverse notchings.

Notchy (nɒ·tʃi), *a.* [f. NOTCH *sb.* + -Y[1].] Having notches or indentations.

1850 ALLINGHAM *Poems*, *To the Cicada*, Scraping to your heart's desire Dusky sides with notchy feet. 1883 MISS BROUGHTON *Belinda* III. 152 The Langdale Pikes have just shaken the rain-clouds off their notchy crests.

Note, *sb.*[1] *Obs.* exc. *north. dial.* Forms: 1 notu, (1) 2–5, 9 note, 5 noote; 4–5 not, 4 notte, 5 nott; 5 noytt, 5, 7 noyt, 9 noit. [OE. *notu* fem. = MDu. *note* (cf. MDu. *not*, ON. *not* neut.), f. the weak grade of the series *neut-*, *naut-*, *nut-*; see NAIT *sb.* and *v.*[1], NEAT *sb.*, and NOWT.

In later ME. the word is most common in alliterative verse; in the *Wars Alex.* it occurs at least a score of times in a variety of senses. In some passages it appears to have no very definite meaning.]

1. Use, usefulness, profit, advantage.

c 893 K. ÆLFRED *Oros.* I. x. 48 Hit ær þiosan zenoz ænittiz læz.., & ze his nane note ne hæfdon. *c* 960 *Rule St. Benet* (Schröer) 11 He bið zewitnod swa swa zymeleas hyrde, zif se hyredes ealdor..to lytele note & nytwyrðnesse on his heorde anzyt. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 557 Is in þe eni oþer note, Bute þu hauest schille þrote? *c* 1290 *St. Katherine* 51 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 93 We schulle betere i-leue alle men, and more it wole beo note. 13.. *Seuyn Sag.* (W.) 992 For here bolt is sone i-schote, More to harm than to note. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 169 God gif þam grace to spede, With douhty fo, to note, whan þei com to dede. *a* 1425 *Cursor M.* 22883 (Trin.), Owe we here of to fecche resoun How he doþ alle þinge to note [*v.r.* nait]. *a* 1450 MYRC 1484 Hast þow ouer-holde corne or ote, Or oþer þynge þat come neuer to note?

b. (One's) good, benefit, or profit.

a 1240 *Ureisun* in *O. E. Hom.* I. 195 Ibesu cristes blode, þet for ure note was i-sched oðere rode. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 330 Ich do god mid mine þrote, And warni men to hore note. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 21772 Sco þat fand quar it was hid,..And til vr note nu has it broght. 1340 *Ayenb.* 159 Huanne þe man zekþ his oȝene note in al þet he deþ.

c. *To do note*, to do good.

13.. *Coer de Lion* 2651 Stones that deden never note, Grounde they never whete, no grote. *c* 1325 *Chron. Eng.* 434 in Ritson *Metr. Rom.* II. 288 Ethelwolf..dude ys lond lute note. *c* 1425 *Cast. Persev.* 2730 Þou mayst purchase þer-with bothe ponde & parke, & do þer-with mekyl note. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 197 Þin handyl is all to schort, þi schouyl is noȝt worthe. Þou doost no note.

d. *In note*, in use.

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 792 Ho raught hym a ring with a riche stone,..Eneas it name & in note hade. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xxxvi. 383 A graue..þat neuer was in noote, it is newe.

e. *dial.* The milk given by a cow; the period of giving milk; the condition of a cow when giving, or beginning to give, milk after calving.

a 1728 KENNETT in *MS. Lansd.* 1033 fol. 272 b, *Noyt*, a cow's milk for one year. W. R. Yorksh. where they hire out a cow for a summer at so much a *Noyt*. 1847 in HALLIW., *Note*,..the time during which a cow is in milk. *North.* 1875 in *Antrim & Down Gloss.* (1880) 73 A Kerry cow,...at her note in May. 1880– in dial. glossaries (Cumb., Yks., Lanc., Chesh.).

2. Office; employment, occupation, or work, as properly pertaining or assigned to a person. Also, way of acting, practice.

c 960 *Rule St. Benet* (Schröer) 63 Ne ræden gebroðru, ne ne singen..ac ða syn gecorene to ðære note. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gen.* xl. 13 Æfter þam Pharao..gesett þe to þære yldan note. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 963 Vswore..þat y wlde nat ..halewe þys day of my note. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Reeve's T.* 148 This meller goth agayn, and no word seyde, But doth his note,..Til that her corn was fair and wel i-grounde. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 8056 Þarfore prior turgote þe bischope preferd to þis note. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VI. iv. 26 Vtheris, quhilk wer ordanit for sic notis, The warme new blude keppit in coup and peis.

b. Work, as occupying one for or at a particular time; temporary occupation or employment.

c 1325 *Metr. Hom.* 61 Of thair not yet standes merk, In Babilony the tour yet standes. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1233 3et nolde neuer nabugo þis ilke note leue, Er he hade tuyred þis toun & torne hit to grounde. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 284 Mony noble for þe nonest to þe note yode,..To this Journey with Jason. *c* 1460 *How the Goode Wif* 103 Hazl. *E. P. P.* I. 187 Loke what note is moste nede for to done.

1883 *Almondbury Gloss.* 92 'What noit are ye at?' = 'What are you doing?'

c. Work of a specified kind.

c 1400 *Sege Jerus.* 800 Myche of masonus note þey marden þat tyme. 1419 *Surtees Misc.* (1890) 15 The wryght note of a gutter betwix the newe house..and the hall.

d. A piece of work.

13.. *St. Erkenwolde* 38 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 267 Þe temple..was...A noble note for þe nones & new werke hit hatte. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 921 In Iudee hit is þat noble note [*sc.* Jerusalem].

3. A matter, affair, or circumstance; a thing.

a 1350 *St. Lucy* 199 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 19 One of his men wightly 3ode To venge his lord of þis lang note. *a* 1375 *Lay Folks Mass Bk.* App. IV. 551 Hit is a nedful note to neuen. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 125 As many Besandis on his bake as he bere miȝt, And oþire necessari notis as nedis to his craftis. *c* 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 506 'Quhat nedis', said Spinagrus, 'sic notis to nevin'?

1883 *Almondbury Gloss.* 92 'We sud be at the same noit as before,' *i.e.* in the same position, or difficulty.

b. In phrase *new note(s)*.

13.. *Evang. Nicod.* 77 in Herrig *Archiv* LIII. 393 Vs noyes gretely þir notes new. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 155 Þenne nwe note me com on honde þat meued my mynde ay more & more. *c* 1400 *Rowland & O.* 49 Now come tham newe note one hande And wondirfull hasty tythande. *c* 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 501 Thoght I suld fynd thame new notis for this ix yeir.

4. The tenor or purport *of* a letter. *rare* $^{-1}$.

a 1400–50 *Alexander* 1719 Now sall I neuen vs here next þe note of his lettir.

Note (nōut), *sb.*^{2} Also 3–4 (6 *Sc.*) not (7 *Sc.* notte), 4 noot, 5 noote, *Sc.* noyt, 6 *Sc.* noit, 6–7 noate, 7 noat. [a. OF. *note* (12th c.), ad. L. *nota*, a mark. Cf. It., Sp., Pg. *nota*.]

I. 1. a. A written character or sign, expressing the pitch and duration of a musical sound.

c 1300 *Learning Music* in *Rel. Ant.* I. 292 Summe notes arn shorte and somme a long noke, Somme kroken a-weyward als a fleshoke. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 359/1 Noote, of songe yn a boke, *nota*. 1597 T. MORLEY *Introd. Mus.* 11 Euery small note of a Ligature descending being a square note is a long. 1609 DOULAND *Ornith. Microl.* 6 Now *Notes* is that by which the highnes, or lownes of a Song is expressed. 1662 PLAYFORD *Skill Mus.* I. x, This swifter Triple Time is sometimes prick'd in Black Notes, which Black Note is of the same Measure with the Minim. 1716 HEARNE *Collect.* (O. H. S.) V. 277 He hath got an old MS. with Musical Notes. 1762–71 H. WALPOLE *Vertue's Aneed. Paint.* (1786) II. 206 His own portrait done by himself with a pallet and pencils in his hand, and musical notes on a scrip of paper. 1848 RIMBAULT *Pianoforte* 11 Two notes are obtained without the assistance of ledger-lines, by merely placing one below and the other above the staff. 1893 DUFF *Early Printed Bks.* 139 Higden's *Polycronicon*, the first English book containing musical notes.

b. A key of a pianoforte or similar instrument.

1848 RIMBAULT *Pianoforte* 67 One is kept in motion by repeatedly striking the same note. 1884 F. M. CRAWFORD *Rom. Singer* I. 6 Two of the notes are dumb.

fig. 1899 J. SMITH *Chr. Charac.* 172 Instinctively we discern in others a dumb note,.. a moral insensitiveness, which awakens a sense of alarm.

2. A single tone of definite pitch, such as is produced by a musical instrument or by the human voice in singing.

c 1300 *Learning Music* in *Rel. Ant.* I. 292 Thu boldest nowt a note, by God! in ribt ton...Thu tuchest nowt the notes, thu bites hem on sonder. 1340 *Ayenb.* 105 Ine þise zonge byeþ zeue notes. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 90 Nou scharpe notes and nou softe, Nou hihe notes and nou lowe, As be the gamme a man mai knowe. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 158 Not clipping the syllables,..not chauntyng nor brekynge your notes. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* V. i. 405 First rehearse this song by roate To each word a warbling note. 1611 BIBLE *Wisd.* xix. 18 As in a Psaltery notes change the name of the tune, and yet are alwayes sounds. 1662 PLAYFORD *Skill Mus.* I. i, Those below Gam-ut are called double Notes. 1753 HOGARTH *Anal. Beauty* ii. 16 The ear is as much offended with one even continued note. 1762 FRANKLIN *Exp. Electr.* (1769) 30 It often happens that two [glasses] of the same size differ a note or half a note in tone. 1824 W. IRVING *T. Trav.* I. 47 She even hummed an air, and did not make a single false note. 1887 BOWEN *Virg. Æneid* VI. 646 Their Thracian priest..Chants them the air with the seven sweet notes of his musical scales.

fig. 1885 *Harper's Mag.* Apr. 696/2 The gardens and orchards..strike..joyous notes of color.

b. With reference to the song, or other musical utterance, of birds. (Cf. 3 b.)

1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. XI. 65 Vnder lynde in a launde lenede ich a stounde, To lithen here laies and here louelyche notes. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 157 The yelwe swan..Ageyn his dethe melodyously syngyng His fatal notys. *c* 1450 HOLLAND *Howlat* 716 Thar notis anone ..War of Mary the myld. 1570 *Satir. Poems Reform.* XV. 35 Thow luifsum Lark & gay Goldspink,.. Lat be 3our heuinly noitis. 1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* V. iv. 5 Here can I ..to the Nightingales complaining Notes Tune my distresses. 1613–16 W. BROWNE *Brit. Past.* I. iv. 72 Or to the grones, where birds..Sit sweetly tuning of their noates together. 1738 *Gentl. Mag.* VIII. 596/2 Happy Bird,..You alone her heart could move With sweetest Notes of tender Love. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) V. 324 A region where the birds excel rather in the beauty of their plumage than the sweetness of their notes. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* III. ii, In answer coo'd the cushat dove Her notes of peace, and rest, and love. 1875 NEWTON in *Encycl. Brit.* III. 770/2 The notes to which we have..hearkened with rapt admiration are changed to a guttural croak.

3. A strain of music, a melody, a tune, a song. In later use only *poet.*

c 1175 LAY. 6999 Blaþgabarat was king ihote Of alle manere note. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 7407 Dauid cuth on sere-kin note; Bath he cuth on harpe and rote. *c* 1305 *St. Dunstan* 165 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 39 Kirieleyson, christeleyson, was þe murie note and song. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 39 He song, that he the bestes wilde Made of his note tame and milde. 1493 *Festivall* (W. de W. 1515) 90 b, Two yonge men began masse wt a solempne note. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 233 He made it also in metre, & set a note to it verye consonant to the argument. 1599 B. JONSON *Cynthia's Rev.* IV. i, I made this ditty, and the note to it. 1635 PAGITT *Christianogr.* I. iii. (1636) 131 If it be some high or Festivall day: ..'We praise thee O God', is sung with a more solemne and curious note. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IV. 683 Celestial voices.. responsive each to others note Singing thir great Creator. 1750 GRAY *Elegy* 40 Through the long-drawn aisle and fretted vault The pealing anthem swells the note of praise.

b. The musical song or call of a bird. (Cf. 2 b.)

c 1330 *Amis & Amil.* 536 She herd the foules gret and smale, The swete note of the nightingale. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xxii. 17 The pyet with hir pretty cot Fenzeis to sing the nychtingalis not. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* III. i. 135 The plainsong Cuckow gray; Whose note full many a man doth marke. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* III. 40 The wakeful Bird..in shadiest Covert hid Tunes her nocturnal Note. 1742 GRAY *On Spring* i, The Attic warbler pours her throat, Responsive to the cuckoo's note. 1800–24 CAMPBELL *Poems, Field Flowers* ii, The deep mellow crush of the wood-pigeon's note. 1846 DICKENS *Cricket on Hearth* i, A Cuckoo looked out of a trap-door in the Palace, and gave note six times.

†c. In phr. *to say, sing*, etc., *by note. Obs.*

1436 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 106, xx *s'* to sey be note the dirige. *c* 1485 *Digby Myst.* (1882) III. 1223 Ower servyse be note lett vs syng. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII*, 82 b, The sayd lorde Cardinal sang an high and solempne masse by note before the two kynges and quenes. 1762 CHURCHILL *Rosciad* Poems 1767 I. 46 And, in six months, my dog shall howl by note.

4. A cry, call, or sound, *esp.* that made by a bird or fowl.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 22467 Childer in moder wamb to lij, Within þair wambs sal þai cri, Wit hei not and lude steuen. 1573 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xxxix. 144, I saw thame fane To cry 'Peccau' with the waithman noit. 1593 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. VI*, III. ii. 40 Came he right now to sing a Rauens Note, Whose dismall tune bereft my Vitall powres. *a* 1682 SIR T. BROWNE *Tracts* (1683) 105 From the proper note it is called an Hoopebird with us. 1693 WARDER *True Amazons* (1713) 63 With a piteous and discontented Note, searching for their Queen. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 53 Fowls of many Sorts,..crying every one according to his usual Note. 1782 COWPER *Jackdaw* i, There is a bird who..by the hoarseness of his note Might be suppos'd a crow. 1845 *P. Parley's Ann.* VI. 36 [The bullfinch] has a wild hooping note. 1866 HATFIELD *Notices Doncaster* I. 86 The note of the carrion crow.., a note-call of danger.

5. In transferred applications.

1483 CAXTON *G. de la Tour* (1868) 183 She wold neuer here ne understand the noote and wordes of none, sauf one tyme that a knyghte prayd her. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, IV. Prol. 14 The Armourers.., With busie Hammers closing Riuets vp, Giue dreadfull note of preparation. 1702 C. MATHER *Magn. Chr.* III. iii. (1853) I. 306 The gentry at the table were at their old notes. 1839 CARLYLE *Chartism* (1842) 49 The terror and horror they inspire is but the note of preparation for the truth they are to teach. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* iv. I. 492 Roger Lestrange..sounded the note of war in the Observator. 1877 'H. A. PAGE' *De Quincey* I. viii. 151 We can catch clearly enough the note of extreme, almost austere self-dependence.

b. *To change (one's) note*: To alter (one's) way of speaking or thinking. (Cf. F. *changer de note.*)

1633 G. HERBERT *Temple, Joseph's Coat* 3 Sorrow hath chang'd its note. 1680 *Obs. on 'Curse Ye Meroz'* 7 Do you imagine such a Fool would not think it high time to change Note and Coat? 1734 tr. *Rollin's Anc. Hist.* III. VII. 449 Finding that the more he declined the command the more they pressed him to accept it, he changed his note. 1778 SHERIDAN *Camp.* I. i, Here he comes.—Now you'll change your note. 1873 DIXON *Two Queens* XV. VI. III. 161 Tournay won, these Spanish allies had begun to change their note.

II. †6. A name or distinctive appellation. *Obs.*

1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 16 A knave child..which was after hote Paphus, of whom yit hath the note A certein yle, which Paphos Men clepe.

7. A mark, sign, token, or indication *of* some quality, condition, or fact, or from which something may be inferred; a characteristic or distinguishing feature.

Common from *c* 1575 to 1690, and again in recent use (from *c* 1865).

c 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* V. met. iii. (1868) 159 Wherfore eschaufiþ it so..to fynden þilke notes of soþe y-couered. 1547–64 BALDWIN *Mor. Philos.* (Palfr.) 111 Patience & perseuerance are two proper notes; whereby Gods children are truly known from hypocrites. *a* 1568 ASCHAM *Scholem.* (Arb.) 37 The most speciall notes of a good witte for learning in a childe [etc.]. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 435 Both kindes haue vnder their tailes a double note of passage. 1628 T. SPENCER *Logick* 288 That Axiome is probable which seemes so to all..by certaine frequent notes, and cleerenes. 1696 WHISTON *The. Earth* IV. (1722) 346 'Tis a plain Note of the Vileness of our present State. 1738 WARBURTON *Div. Legat.* I. Ded. p. xxxii, To shew how certain Notes they are of the Temper of Mind I charge upon you. 1794 PALEY *Evid.* II. vii. (1817) 185 Between the letters..of St. Paul.. and his history in the Acts of the Apostles, there exist many notes of correspondency. 1846 KEBLE *Lyra Innoc.* (1873) 12 The welcome notes of fatherhood. 1891 *Speaker* 2 May 532/2 These are the notes of the 'Neo-paganism', which began a good hundred years ago.

b. *Theol.* One of certain characteristics by which the true Church may be known; a sign or proof of genuine origin, authority, and practice.

1555 L. SAUNDERS in Coverdale *Lett. Martyrs* (1564) 187 Besydes these outward notes and tokens declaryng yt we be the true church. 1563 *Homilies* II. xvi. (1859) 462 The true Church..hath always three notes or marks whereby it is known; pure and sound doctrine, the Sacraments ministered according to Christ's holy institution, and the right use of ecclesiastical discipline. 1656 BRAMHALL *Replic.* i. 3 Other notes of the Church which did not please us so well, as Antiquity, and Universality, and Splendour. 1749 WESLEY *Wks.* (1872) X. 88 How comes subjection to the Pope to be ..an essential note of the Church? 1841 J. H. NEWMAN *Lett.* (1891) II. 354 Many persons are doubtful whether we have the notes of the true Church upon us. 1864 — *Apol.* v. 198, I do not wish it supposed, that I considered the note of Catholicity really to belong to Rome [etc.].

transf. 1871 R. H. HUTTON *Ess.* I. 337 To have a compact statement of the whole gist of Christianity is the principal 'note' of the Common-Sense Church.

8. A stigma, reproach. Const. *of.*

In common use from *c* 1570 to 1650; now *rare.*

1531 ELYOT *Gov.* (1580) 80 Augustus,..only for playing at dice,..sustaineth in hystories a note of reproche. 1570–6 LAMBARDE *Peramb. Kent* (1826) 323 Whatsoeuer note of infamie we heeretofore may have contracted. 1635 R. N. tr. *Camden's Hist. Eliz.* I. 17 Amongst all men he underwent the note of cruelty. 1669 DRYDEN *Tyrannic Love* Pref., My outward Conversation..shall never be justly tax'd with the Note of Atheism or Prophaneness.

1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* V. I. 568 A crime on which divine and human laws have justly set a peculiar note of infamy. 1865 PUSEY *Truth Eng. Ch.* 130 To leave those who disbelieved it free from the note of heresy.

b. The mark of censure used by the Roman censors.

1614 RALEIGH *Hist. World* V. iii. § 13. 422 Neither was the note of the Censors at this time (as otherwise it had used to be) hurtful onely in reputation.

†c. An object of censure. *Obs. rare* $^{-1}$.

1563 FOXE *A. & M.* 59/2 Better it were to sustaine pouerty with praise, than in greate promotions to be a common note to al men.

9. An objective sign, or visible token, which serves to identify or distinguish some person or thing, or to denote some circumstance or fact in connexion therewith.

Pretty common from *c* 1580 to 1680; now *rare.*

1577–87 HOLINSHED *Scot. Chron.* (1806) II. 148 A red lion (the peculiar note of the kingdom of Scotland). 1583 STUBBES *Anat. Abus.* II. (1882) 110 So the other notes of apparell..may make a difference, and distinguish them from others of the laitie abroad. 1618 BOLTON *Florus* I. xviii. (1636) 54 Having first cast away his ensignes or notes of a King. 1683 RAY *Corr.* (1848) 134 Those notes of having flat feet..argue it to belong to the genus of Colymbi. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 865 The 'note' of scabies is the burrow; and in this the parasite must be sought.

10. A sign or character (other than a letter) used in writing or printing; a mark *of* interrogation, etc. (Also *fig.*)

1529 MORE *Dyalogue* IV. Wks. 286/1, I haue laid you the places ready with ryshes betwene the leaues and notes marked in the margentes where the matter is touched. 1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* V. ii. 12 The changes I perceiued in the King, and Camillo, were very Notes of admiration. 1636 B. JONSON *Eng. Gram.* Wks. 1816 IX. 345 If a sentence be with an interrogation, we use this note (?). 1668 WILKINS *Real Char.* III. xi. 365 There should be some Note or Mark to express when a Vowel is to be used long. 1748 J. MASON *Elocution* 23 There are four more Notes or Distinctions of Pause, viz. a Parenthesis [etc.]. 1795 L. MURRAY *Eng. Gram.* 169 A note of interrogation is used at the end of an interrogative sentence. 1859 [see ADMIRATION 4]. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 775 Bald patches with note of exclamation hairs. *Ibid.* 856 The short hairs..are shaped like a note of exclamation (!).

†b. A mark on a flower or leaf. *Obs. rare.*

1578 LYTE *Dodoens* 206 These be not those Hyacinthes wherein the notes or mourning markes are printed. 1691 RAY *Creation* (1714) 113 The signatures of Plants or the Notes impressed upon them as indices of their vertues.

†11. A (Hebrew) particle. *Obs*, *rare*.

1607 Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 339 The Hebrew notes cannot admit such a version or exposition. *c* 1620 A. Hume *Brit. Tongue* II. v, This difference we declyne, not as doth the latines and greekes, be terminationes, but with noates, after the maner of the hebrues, quhilk they cal particles. *a* 1653 Gouge *Comm. Heb.* ii. 9 The passage may be brought in with discretive notes,..'though'..'yet'.

III. 12. *Law*. An abstract of essential particulars relating to transfer of land by process of Fine, which was engrossed and placed on record.

1483 *Act* 1 *Ric. III*, c. 7 § 1 Notes and Fines levied in the King's Courts..should be openly and solemnly read. 1581 *Act* 23 *Eliz.* c. 3 § 1 The Concord, Note and Foot of every such Fine. 1594 West *2nd Pt. Symbol.* § 58 The notes of all writs whereupon fines are to be levied. 1670 Blount *Law Dict.* s.v., Note of a fine..is a Brief of a Fine made by the Chirographer, before it be engrossed. 1766 Blackstone *Comm.* II. xxi. 351 The note of a fine: which is only ..an abstract of the writ of covenant, and the concord; naming the parties, the parcels of land, and the agreement.

b. In *Sc. Law* applied to various forms of legal records and memoranda.

1560 Rolland *Crt. Venus* iv. 292 Scho..thairupon tuik notis and Instrumentis. 1825 *Act* 6 *Geo. IV*, c. 120 § 9 A short and concise Note, drawn and signed by Counsel, of the Pleas in Law on which the Action or Defence is to be maintained. 1838 W. Bell *Dict. Law Scot.* 679 The term note is also applied to various incidental applications, the occasions for which it would be difficult to enumerate. 1868-88 [see Reclaiming *vbl. sb.* b].

13. A brief record or abstract of facts written down for the purpose of assisting the memory, or to serve as a basis for a more complete or full statement; also *transf.*, a recollection or mental impression of something. (Usually *pl.*)

1548 Patten *Exped. Scotl.* Peroration P ij b, The which indede I had not so perfitly written in my notes. 1595 Shaks. *John* v. ii. 5 That..they and we, perusing ore these notes May know wherefore we tooke the Sacrament. 1617 Moryson *Itin* I. 287, I find in my notes that at Lasagna I changed a silver crowne for eight and twenty batzen. 1695 Woodward *Nat. Hist. Earth* I. (1723) 4 And 'tis out of these Notes that my Observations are compiled. 1817 W. Selwyn *Law Nisi Prius* (ed. 4) II. 798 Where the agreement is to be performed upon a contingency,..there a note in writing is not necessary. 1854 Chr. Wordsw. *Misc.* (1879) I. 95 A brief account of my impression was published anonymously under the title of 'Notes at Paris'. 1885 *Law Rep.* 29 *Chanc. Div.* 543 There is merely a short note of what he decided.

b. In phr. *to make*, or *take*, *a note* or *notes*.

1548 Patten *Exped. Scotl.* Ded., Hauying in these last warres againste Scotlande..made notes of actes thear done. 1591 Shaks. *Two Gent.* II. vii. 84 Goe with me to my chamber To take a note of what I stand in need of. 1641 Sir S. D'Ewes in Forster *Gr. Remonstr.* 124, I drew out again my pen and ink, and took notes. 1726 Swift *Gulliver* II. vi, The King heard the whole.., frequently taking Notes of what I spoke. 1789 Burns *Capt. Grose* i, A chield's amang you taking notes. 1837 Southey *Lett.* (1856) IV. 538 He has only his memory to trust to, never having made any notes. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* xv, When found, make a note of. 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) IV. 234, I took notes.., which I afterwards filled up at leisure.

c. *To compare notes*: see Compare *v.*[1] 2 b.

d. A brief memorandum made to serve as a help in discoursing on any snbject. (Chiefly *pl.*)

1693 *Humours Town* 19 'Tis as necessary as Notes to the Parson in the Pulpit. 1719 Swift *Lett. to Young Clergym.* Wks. 1751 V. 15 My frequent hearing of Foreigners, who never make Use of Notes, may have added to my Disgust. 1796 Pegge *Anonym.* (1809) 139 They call a Clergyman's Sermon, what he preaches from, his Notes; because formerly it was written in characters, or short-hand, usually called Notes. 1872 Froude *Short Stud.* I. 2 He spoke for more than an hour without a note.

14. An explanatory or critical annotation or comment appended to a passage in a writing or book.

1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 40 b, This writing dyd Luther translate into the vulgare toungue, & set to his notes in the margente. 1618 Bolton *Florus* To Rdr., The words..are for the most part explanatory of the Authors meaning, supplying marginall notes. 1653 Milton *Hirelings* Wks. 1851 V. 369 The entire Scripture translated into English with plenty of Notes. 1714 in Wodrow *Corr.* (1843) II. 8 A new edition of Homer's Odyssey,..with Gronovius' notes. 1771 Luckombe *Hist. Printing* 260 The Parallel is another Sign which serves for a Reference, and is fit to be used either for side or bottom Notes. 1809 Lamb *Let. to Coleridge* 7 June, I found two other volumes ..,the *Arcadia*, and *Daniel*, enriched with manuscript notes. 1841– [see Foot-note]. 1878 R. Holt *Ormulum* I. p. v, In this new edition the Editor..has revised, and added somewhat to, the Notes.

†b. An observation deserving of notice or remembrance; an interesting or noteworthy remark.

1577 Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* (1586) 24 b, There is also another necessarie note, to have the seede from strange grounde, and from the woorse to the better. 1601 Shaks. *Twel. N.* III. iv. 168 A good note, that keepes you from the blow of ye Law. 1642–4 Vicars *God in Mount* 203 To give thee but one note more concerning this fight.

15. A brief statement of particnlars or of some fact; †a bill or account.

1587 *Galway Arch.* in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. V. 444 A trewe noate and bill of accompt. 1590 Shaks. *Com. Err.* IV. i. 27 Here's the note How much your Chaine weighs to the vtmost charect. 1597 — *2 Hen. IV*, v. i. 19 Heere is now the Smithes note, for Shooing, And Plough-Irons. 1602 Dekker *Satirom.* Wks. 1873 I. 188 Flash, where's the note of the guestes you have invited? 1660 F. Brooke tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 48 Then I produced the..notes, that witnessed the discharging of the excises and customes. 1715 Hearne *Collect.* (O.H.S.) V. 128 This Morning preached..Dr. Potter...Mr. Taylor of X^t^. Ch. was put in the Note, there having been a Mistake in delivering the Moneo. 1732 *Acc. Workhouses* 175 Keep the tradesmen's notes upon a file. 1895 *19th Cent.* Aug. 337 That little document is a note of the box-office receipts for the evening.

16. A short letter or written communication of an informal kind.

1594 Shaks. *Rich. III*, v. iii. 41 Giue him from me, this most needfull Note. 1603 — *Meas. for M.* IV. ii. 106 My Lord has sent you this note, And by mee this further charge. 1624 in *Cosin's Corr.* (Surtees) I. 37, I received your note from Fetherston. I thank you for your pains. 1687 A. Lovell tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. d, I shall Answer, Sir, in as few words as I can, the Note you did me the Honour to write to me. 1776 *Trial of Nundocomar* 61/2 Did you send a verbal or a written message? I wrote a note. 1796–7 Jane Austen *Pride & Prej.* xxvi. (1813) 130 Not a note, not a line did I receive in the mean time. 1846 Dickens *Battle of Life* i, He sent them on, with a pencilled note to me. 1891 A. H. Craufurd *Gen. Craufurd's Light Div.* 6 Six little notes addressed to the brothers Craufurd.

ellipt. 1892 *Phot. Ann.* II. 62 Get a piece of stiff paper (thick note does well), twist it into a sugar-loaf shape.

b. A formal diplomatic communication.

1796 Burke *Regic. Peace* i. Wks. VIII. 120 Nothing can be more proper or more manly than the state publication called a note on this proceeding. 1848 W. H. Kelly tr. *Blanc's Hist. Ten Yrs.* I. 473 M. de Talleyrand..warmly adopted the project, and promised to present a note to the British government in its favour. 1863 Kinglake *Crimea* (1876) I. iii. 50 The Porte..acknowledged the validity of the Latin claims in a formal note.

17. †a. A signed receipt or voucher. *Obs. rare.*

a 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 21 Apr. 1644, Two reasonable faire publiq Libraries whence one may borrow a booke to one's chamber, giving but a note under hand. 1722 De Foe *Col. Jack* (1840) 60 When he had paid in all the money..he..stayed..to take notes..for what he had paid. 1739 Lady M. W. Montagu *Lett.* III. 9 The Borromean library, where all strangers have..liberty, on giving a note for it, to take any printed book home with them.

b. A written promise to pay a certain sum at a specified time. (Cf. next.)

1683 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1862/8 A Note under the Hand of John Swettaple, Goldsmith,..for Ninety nine Pounds Ten Shillings, paid to Edward Callender or Bearer. 1712 Arbuthnot *John Bull* I. xvi, His Note will go farther than my Bond. 1798 W. Hutton *Life* 33, I..paid one hundred guineas down, and gave my note six months after date, for the remainder. 1806 Suar *Winter in Lond.* III. 152, I shall give her a note at a month after date for fifty or a hundred pounds. 1879 Pentecost *Vol. of Ink.* vi. (1882) 43 A man's note is only current..because the man is good.

c. More fully *note of hand*. (Cf. Promissory *a.*)

1727–38 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v. *Note*, In which sense we say, a promissory note, a note under hand,..&c. 1766 Blackstone *Comm.* II. xxx. 467 Promissory notes, or notes of hand, are a plain and direct engagement in writing, to pay a sum specified at the time therein limited to a person therein named, or sometimes to his order, or often to the hearer at large. 1809 R. Langford *Introd. Trade* 12 Notes of Hand under one pound are void. 1867 Trollope *Chron. Barset* xxxvii, She can have my note-of-hand for it all at fourteen days.

18. A bank-note, or similar promissory note passing current as money.

1696 Luttrell *Brief Rel.* (1857) IV. 79 The said bank have resolved to take for subscriptions the bank of England's notes. 1728 Swift *Intelligencer* No. 19 He gave notes instead of money (from twopence to twenty shillings) which passed current in all shops where meat or drink was sold. 1806–7 J. Beresford *Miseries Hum. Life* (1826) IV. xiii, You have involuntarily confided your..uncounted cash and notes to the care of the public. 1834 Marryat *P. Simple* ii, Change for a one-pound note. 1856 Mrs. Carlyle *Lett.* II. 302 The five-pound note I sent you.

b. *Australia* (and *Sc.*). A bank-note worth £1; the amount of a pound sterling.

1864 J. Rogers *New Rush* II. 28 A note's so very trifling, it's no sooner changed than gone; For it is but twenty shillings. 1875 Wood & Lapham *Waiting for Mail* 39 Even at half fifty notes a week You ought to have made a pile.

IV. 19. Distinction, mark, importance; reputation, fame. Esp. in phr. *of* (*good, bad*, etc.) *note*.

1538 Bale *Thre Lawes* 293 Thynges of slendre note. 1601 Shaks. *All's Well* v. iii. 14 The yong Lord Did to his Maiesty..Offence of mighty note. 1610 Holland *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 463 A towne of good note in these dayes for making of clothes. 1698 Fryer *Acc. E. India & P.* 92 Their Windows, except some few of the highest Note, are usually folding Doors. 1708 J. Chamberlayne *St. Gt. Brit.* I. I. iii. (1710) 5 It contains..12 Market-Towns: The chief in note are Reading,..Abington [etc.]. 1745 P. Thomas *Jrnl. Anson's Voy.* 5 *note*, The same..is the frequent Repast even of those of better Note. 1788 Priestley *Lect. Hist.* IV. xxi. 172 Polybius..was of the first note in his age as a soldier, statesman, and philosopher. 1838 Macaulay *Let. to Napier* 22 July, As if he were a young writer struggling into note. 1873 Dixon *Two Queens* I. ii. I. 11 Had he died at sixty years of age, he might have left behind him an obscure and blameless note.

b. *Of note*, of distinction or eminence; notable.

1588 Shaks. *L. L. L.* III. i. 25 These betraie nice wenches ..,and make them men of note. 1611 Bible *Transl. Pref.* P 2 As oft as we do any thing of note or consequence. 1667 Primatt *City & C. Build.* 94 A Platform for a House in a high Street, or Lane of Note. 1710 Steele *Tatler* No. 135 P 1 All the Philosophers of Note in Greece. 1780 Harris *Philol. Enq.* Wks. (1841) 390 Among the Romans, the first critic of note was Cicero. 1840 Dickens *Barn. Rudge* xlviii, The fluttering of a banner caught the eye, and became a circumstance of note. 1877 Mrs. Oliphant *Makers Flor.* x. 254 Five noble citizens of Florence, all men of note and weight.

20. Notice, regard, or attention.

1598 Bacon *Ess., Of Ceremonies* (Arb.) 24 Smal matters winne great commendation: because they are continually in vse and in note. *a* 1635 Naunton *Fragm. Reg.* (Arb.) 56 The factions of the Court, which were all his times strong, and in every mans note. *a* 1641 Finett *For. Ambass.* 10 The Ambassador..kept himselfe all this while quiet without..thrusting for publique Note. 1789 Cowper *Tiroc.* 641 To ..commend, With designation of the finger's end, Its various parts to his attentive note. *c* 1810 Hogg *May of Moril Glen* I, The virgin cast on him a look,..As on some things below her note. 1886 *Law Q. Rev.* Oct. 484 The manner in which these statutes were interpreted is worthy of note.

b. In phr. *to take note of*.

1596 Shaks. *Merch. Ven.* v. i. 120 Giue order to my seruants, that they take No note at all of our being absent hence. 1601 — *All's Well* I. iii. 195 My loue hath in't a bond Where of the world takes note. 1852 Thackeray *Esmond* II. xi, No one took note of me. 1863 E. V. Neale *Anal. Th. & Nat.* 15 We select from the multitude what we want.., and take no note of the rest.

c. Knowledge, information; intimation. *rare.*

1598 Bacon *Ess., Of Suitors* (Arb.) 44 If intelligence of the matter coulde not otherwise haue beene had but by him, aduantage be not taken of the note. 1606 Shaks. *Tr. & Cr.* IV. i. 43 Rouse him, and giue him note of our approach. 1610 — *Temp.* II. i. 248 She that from Naples Can haue no note, vnlesse the Sun were post.

1835 W. Irving *Tour Prairies* vii, A streaming flight of wild geese..gave note of the waning year.

V. 21. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as (sense 13) *note-gatherer, -maker, -taker, -writer, note-taking*; (sense 16) *note-sized* adj., *-wise* adv., *-writing*; (sense 18) *note-case, -issue, -palming*.

1838 Dickens *O. Twist* ix, Placing a snuff-box in one pocket of his trousers, a *note-case in the other. 1637 Dow *Answ. to Burton* 120 His *note-gatherers in the gallery. 1893 *Times* 27 Apr. 9/5 The privilege of *note issue enjoyed by the Scotch banks. 1638 Baker tr. *Balzac's Lett.* (vol. II.) 61 Erecting as it were Trophees of like passages, after the fashion of our *Note-Makers now adayes. 1738 *Gentl. Mag.* VIII. 634 Any Critick or Note-maker. 1900 Weyman *Sophia* iii, Until you are away from here I'll answer there shall be no *note palming. 1870 *Routledge's Every Boy's Ann.* June Suppl. 12 A small *note-sized envelope. 1886 T. Hardy *Mayor Casterbr.* xxviii, Henchard being no *note-taker himself. 1496–7 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* (1904) 224 Furst, paid at the *Note takyng of the Endentour of commandes, ij d. 1862 Thornbury *Turner* II. 134 That vast tenacious memory, which no note-taking habits could weaken. 1703 *Rules of Civility* 177 If we be desir'd to.. write *Notewise, that is to say, without Sir, and the great Space at the top [of the letter], we must comply. 1836–48 B. D. Walsh *Aristoph.* 394 *note*, Some of the Greek *note-writers call him a composer of tragedies. 1826 Miss Mitford *Village* Ser. II. (1863) 274 The closetings, the *note-writings, the whisperings.

†**Note**, *sb.*[3] *Obs.* (Prob. var. of Nut *sb.*, here applied to the uropygial gland.)

1486 *Bk. St. Albans* a vj, Youre hawke..fetcheth moystour like oyle at hir taill,..and strikyth the federis of hir wynges throw her beke, and it is calde the note, than as she fetchis the oyle. [Hence Guillim (1632) and Holme (1688).]

Note, obs. f. Nut; dial. variant of Nowt.

†**Note**, *a. Obs. rare.* (Meaning doubtful.)

Perh. properly an attributive use of Note *sb.*[1], employed mainly for alliteration. L. *nōtus* has also been suggested.

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 2092 Now nar 3e not fer fro þat note place. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 1227 Arystes..noyed of þare note-men at þe nete kepid. *Ibid.* 4870 Fra þens oure note men be northe nymes þaim þe way.

†**Note**, *v.*[1] *Obs.* Forms: *α.* 1 **notian**, 3 **notien**, 4 **notye**. *β.* 3 **noten**, 4 **notun** (6 *Sc.* **noyt, noit**, not), 4–5 (6 *Sc.*), **note**. [OE. *notian*, f. *notu* Note *sb.*[1] Cf. Icel. *nota*.]

1. *trans.* To use, to make use of (something).

α. *c* 888 K. Ælfred *Boeth.* xviii. § 1 Eall moncynn & ealle netenu ne notiȝað nawer neah feorðan dæles þisse eorðan. *c* 960 *Rule St. Benet* (Schröer) 52 Ȝif he furðon þurh þa ȝebedu ȝehæled ne bið, notiȝe þonne se abbod cyrfes. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 189 Hereð nu to wiche fihte we oȝen þis strengðe notien. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1033 Þar men habbeþ milde mod, Ich noti mid hom mine þrote. *c* 1315 Shoreham *Poems* I. 2198 In fourme of bred and eke of wyn, þat we hyt notye scholde. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl.* C. xviii. 101 Tyliers.. tolden here maystres By þe seed þat þei sewe what þei shoulde notye.

β. *a* 1000 *Colloq. Ælfric* in Wr.-Wülcker 100 Se treowwyrhta seȝð, hwilc eower ne notaþ cræfte minon. *c* 1200 Ormih 12228 Swa þatt tu nohht ne notesst itt At naness kinness nede. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3144 So mikil hird so it noten mai. 13.. *Cursor M.* 23763 (Gött.), If we will note on þaim vr might, Certes þai er feld in flight. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 2403 Folyly hold we þis meyne þus, þat mykel þyng al day notes. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 402 Of nygramansi ynogh to note when she liket. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 359/2 Notun, or vsyn, *utor*. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* XIII. vi. 64 The agit Drances with curage hoit Begowth the first hys toung for to noit. *c* 1560 A. Scott *Poems* (S.T.S.) i. 221 Noblest natour, nurice to nurtour, not This dull indyte.

2. *intr.* To make use *of* (something). *rare*—[1].

c 1220 *Bestiary* 612 No golsipe is hem minde, til he noten of a gres, ðe name is mandragores.

Note (nōut), *v.*[2] Also 3 **notien**, 3, 6–7 **noat**(e, 4 (6 *Sc.*) **not**, 6 **notte**, **noth** (*Sc.* **noit**). [ad. OF. *noter*, *notter*, ad. L. *notāre*, f. *nota* Note *sb.*[1]]

I. 1. *trans.* To observe or mark carefully; to give heed or attention to; to notice closely.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 158 Her beoð, in þeos wordes, two eadie wordes to noten. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxxviii. (*Adrian*) 43 Þe king..notyt wel..þe ansuere þat ilkane mad. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 5655 Now sall I neuyn 3ow þe names, note 3e þe wordis. 1483 Caxton *Cato* g j, Euery man ought to note and reteyne them in their mynde and wytte. *a* 1533 Ld.

Berners *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) L viij b, It is a thyng well to be noted, howe all good and yll heartes are applied. 1596 Drayton *Legends* ii. 400 My Paths by Spyes he diligently noted. 1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 144 Of both these Forces of horse and foot of France, you are to note this which followeth. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* iii. 162 His Age and Courage weigh: Nor those alone, But note his Father's Virtues and his own. 1774 Burke *Corr.* (1844) I. 516, I received your lordship's letter, and as the merchants say, note the contents. 1791 Mrs. Radcliffe *Rom. Forest* ii, I took special care to note how the trees stood. 1850 McCosh *Div. Govt.* II. ii. (1874) 162 This is a circumstance worthy of being noted. 1878 Huxley *Physiogr.* 79 It may be well to note the characters of the two constituents.

absol. 1605 B. Jonson *Volpone* II. i, I haue some generall notions; I do loue To note, and to obserue.

b. To take notice of; to observe, perceive.

c 1315 Shoreham I. 60 Þat he so wel yþeawed be, Þat alle men hit notepe. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Pars. T.* ℙ 336 If ther hadde be no synne in clothing, Crist wolde not so soone have notid and spoke of the clothing of thilke riche man in the gospel. *c* 1400 Love *Bonavent. Mirr.* xxxiii. (B. N. C. MS.) lf. 73 In þis processe of þe gospelle..we mowe noten and vnderstonde many faire þinges. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 11 b, In the whiche mercyfull liberalite, I note the superaboundant goodnes of god. 1582 Stanyhurst *Æneis* II. (Arb.) 68, I noted on suddeyn the goast of verye Creüsa. 1632 J. Hayward tr. *Biondi's Eromena* 19 The slave noting his master all alone, presented himselfe before him. 1658 Jer. Taylor in *12th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. V. 5 If ever you have noted or heard of any overtures of unkindnesse betweene them. 1712 Hearne *Collect.* (O. H. S.) III. 373, I told him I had noted it before. 1821–22 Shelley *Chas. I*, II. 456 Have you not noted that the Fool of late Has lost his careless mirth? 1874 Green *Short Hist.* iv. § 4. 192 Such severances as we note in the thirteenth century of the cloth-merchant from the tailor.

2. To mention separately or specially among other items or matters committed to writing.

c 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* II. 345 Poul notiþ first þis word. *Ibid.*, Poul notiþ, as trewe men shulden, ech variynge of Goddis word. 1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 172 Nereïdes that thei ben hote, The Nimphes whiche that thei note To regne upon the stremes salte. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* (1905) 273 The forsaid acre of lond, with all the mede and xviij. d. of yerely rent afore-noted. 1563 Fulke *Meteors* (1640) 16 Generally it is noted of all Historiographers, that after the appearing of Comets, most commonly follow great ..calamities. 1641 J. Jackson *True Evang. T.* iii. 185 Which thing the Evangelist notes as one of the criticall passages of his Passion. 1692 Ray *Creation* I. (1704) 150 They not being able, as I noted before, to see them at that distance. 1721 De Foe *Mem. Cavalier* (1840) 123, I shall only note this. 1873 Helps *Anim. & Mast.* i. (1875) 11, I must just note that Bastiah's censure does not apply to England as much as to France.

3. To set down in writing; to put down as a memorandum; †to write, indite.

a 1400–50 *Alexander* 2795 To Nostanda on next þus notis he a lettir. 1535 Coverdale *Isa.* xxx. 8 Write them this in their tables, and note it in a booke. 1591 Shaks. 1 *Hen. VI*, II. iv. 101 Ile note you in my Booke of Memorie. 1663 Gerbier *Counsel* 25 He ought also to note in his book the materials. 1697 *C'tess D'Anoy's Trav.* (1706) 114, I contented myself to note only on my Table-Book these Lines. 1806 Pike *Sources Mississ.* (1810) App. 51 Lieut. Wilkinson ..carries with him a..sketch of the route, noting the streams, hills, &c. that we crossed. 1834 Sir H. Taylor *Artevelde* I. I. ix, 'Twere well to note him on your list. 1868 Morris *Earthly Par.* (1870) I. i. 342 At the King's command A clerk that day did note it every whit.

b. So with *down*.

1669 Sturmy *Mariner's Mag.* iv. xvii. 205 If there be any Current, you may..allow for it, and note it down. 1695–6 T. Smith in *Lett. Lit. Men* (Camden) 239 Additions and alterations..which I have noted down. 1754 Sherlock *Disc.* (1759) I. vii. 225 Things noted down in God's Book. 1784 Cowper *Task* vi. 899 Thy prophets..noting down The features of the last degen'rate times. 1836–7 Dickens *Sk. Boz, Scenes* viii, A hard-featured old man..was intently perusing a lengthy will..and slily noting down some brief memorandum of the bequests contained in it.

†**4.** To set down as having a certain (good or bad) character. *Obs.*

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 65 Or els bycause they woide be noted outwardly religyous. 1533 Chanmer *Misc. Writ.* (Parker Soc.) 250 If I had not, or would not so have done, I might right well have been noted negligent. 1573 L. Lloyd *Marrow of Hist.* (1653) 105 In divers autheurs and places, this prince is noted a glutton and drunkard.

II. †**5.** To denote, or signify (something). *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 25204 Wit þis word 'in heuen', us es Noted sothfast buxumnes. 1399 Langl. *Rich. Redeles* iv. 54 Þan satte summe as siphre doth in awgrym, þat noteth a place and no þing availith. 1559 *Mirr. Mag.* (1563) X viij, Both sence and names do note them very nere. 1579 Lyly *Euphues* (Arb.) 38 A woman..hauing one hande in his pocket as noting hir theft. 1644 Bulwer *Chirol.* 168 The coyners of the Hieroglyphiques introduce this gesture to note Taciturnity. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* III. 442 The Shepherd knows it well; and calls by Name Hippomanes, to note the Mother's Flame. 1755 Johnson s.v. *Ling*, The termination notes commonly diminution; as Kitling [etc.].

†**b.** To point at, indicate by pointing. *Obs.*

1517 Torkington *Pilgr.* (1884) 3 The Fynger of Seynt John Baptiste whych he notyd or shewyd crist Jhu whanne he seyd Ecce Agnus Dei. 1581 J. Bell *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 249 Doth he herein not note you excellently (Osorius) and (as it were) poynt at you with the finger?

c. To indicate; †to point *out*, set or show *forth*.

1521 Warham in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. III. I. 242 My lorde of London to note out..all other suche names of writers..as they perceyve to be erroneous. 1565 Cooper *Thesaurus* Pref., I haue thought it good by examples to note vnto them, what fruit & commodity they may take therof. 1607 Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 63 The Turks use in their greatest feasts..to roast or seethe an Ox whole,..to note forth their plenty. 1646 P. Bulkeley *Gospel Covt.* iv. 337 To note out the property and nature of that faith. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* III. 252 Distinguish all betimes, with branding Fire; To note the Tribe, the Lineage, and the Sire. 1812 Woodhouse *Astron.* ix. 61 A sidereal clock will note that time. 1813 Shelley *Q. Mab* iv. 67 Black ashes note where their proud city stood.

6. a. To mark (a book, words, etc.) with a musical score. *rare.* Also *absol.*

c 1440 Lydg. *Hors, Shepe & G.* 184 Men plukke stalkes out of my weengis tweyn, Somme to portraye, somme to noote & write. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 359/2 Notun songe, *noto.* 1592 Shaks. *Rom. & Jul.* iv. v. 122, I will carie no Crochets, Ile Re you, Ile Fa you, do you note me? *Mus.* And you Re vs, and Fa vs, you Note vs. 1755 Johnson, *Note*, to set down the notes of a tune. 1850 Helmore *Accomp. Harmonies to Hymnal Noted* Pref. 2 The English Words Noted, for the use of all who sing. 1866 Rogers *Agric. & Prices* I. xv. 285 The payments made at Oxford in the year 1308 for noting an antiphonary.

†**b.** To mark; to distinguish by a mark. *Obs.*

1490 Caxton *Eneydos* vi. 24 The fenyces fonde to note wyth rede colour or ynke firste the sayd lettres. 1559 W. Cunningham *Cosmogr. Glasse* 129 Draw arkes in every of the divisions,..and note the hiest Arke next with G.H. *a* 1568 Ascham *Scholem.* (Arb.) 152 Whan Varros name ..was brought in a schedule vnto him, to be noted to death, he tooke his penne and wrote his warrant of sauegard. 1604 E. G[rimstone] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* VI. xxvi. 488 Every order of these Knightes had his lodging in the pallace noted with their markes. 1641 J. Jackson *True Evang. T.* I. 71 It is sufficient to note these things with an obeliske. 1725 Watts *Logic* (ed. 2) 75 What Remarks you find there worthy of your riper Observation, you may note them with a marginal Star.

c. *To note a bill* (see quots.).

1727–38 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v., *To note a bill*, is when a public notary goes as a witness, or takes notice, that a merchant will not accept or pay it. 1809 R. Langford *Introd. Trade* 133 Noting a bill, the customary form executed by a notary when a bill is not honoured. 1835 *Penny Cycl.* IV. 403/1 Inland bills..are merely noted for non-acceptance, which itself also is a useless form.

d. To annotate; to write notes in.

1809 Lamb *Let. to Coleridge* 7 June, I wish every book I have were so noted. 1844 Disraeli *Coningsby* iv. v, Nibbling their pens, noting their memorandum-books. 1885 *Law Times* LXXVIII. 356/1 Decided cases bearing upon the matter..have been..noted where a note seemed necessary.

†**7. a.** To affix to (one) the stigma or accusation *of* some fault, etc. *Obs.*

1412–20 Lydg. *Chron. Troy* II. vi, I might..merked be And noted eke of wilfull nycetye To folylye to voyde away my grace. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* xiii. iii. 135 Bot thai sal nocht behald the with sik lak .., Ne note the of na cowardys in thar mynd. 1579 Lyly *Euphues* (Arb.) 125 If the mother be noted of incontinencie, or the father of vice. 1653 Ashwell *Fides Apost.* 244 None have either denied the Author, or defamed the Creed, but such whom the Church hath noted of Heresy. 1680 Dryden *Ovid's Epist.* Ess. (Ker) I. 232 The Julias who were both noted of incontinency.

†**b.** To mark or brand *with* some disgrace or defect. *Obs.*

1565 Cooper *Thesaurus* s.v. *Aspergo*, To be in suspicion, and noted with infamy. 1568 Grafton *Chron.* II. 739 Lest he peraduenture should be noted with the spot of Nigardship. 1615 Walsal *Life Christ* (1622) B 2 Can wee once imagine, that Christs bodie..was euer..enfeebled with infirmitie, or noted with deformitie? 1652 Gaule *Magastrom.* 265 The children marry publikly, and by the law are noted with no reproach for it.

†**c.** To stigmatize for some reason. *Obs.*

1542 Udall *Erasm. Apoph.* 279 Notyng Sylla, that the same had purchaced ye said office by gevyng greate giftes. 1548 Udall, etc. *Erasm. Par. Matt.* v. 43 No man shall note her as an aduoutresse. 1575 Fenton *Gold. Epist.* (1582) 62 Also you note me, that in saying of service, I am very long. 1601 Shaks. *Jul. C.* iv. iii. 2 You haue condemn'd, and noted Lucius Pella For taking Bribes heere of the Sardians.

III. 8. *intr.* To produce musical notes; to practise singing (cf. Record *v.* 2). *rare.*

1430–40 Lydg. *Daunce Machabre, Bochas* (1554) 224/2 O thou minstrall that can so note and pipe Vnto folke for to done pleasaunce.

1906 *Westm. Gaz.* 27 Mar. 2/1 The thrush and the blackbird fluted in the wood, noting for their coming songs.

†**Note,** variant of *nort* Nurt *v.*

1674 Ray *N. C. Words* 34 To Note: to push, strike or goar with the horn as a Bull or Ram.

†**Note, n'ote, no'te,** 'could not', a misnse of *note* Not *v.* 'know(s) not'. *Obs.*

1590 Spenser *F. Q.* II. vii. 39 Mammon was much displeasd, yet no'te he chuse But bear the rigour. ?1630 Quarles *Hymn to God* Wks. (Grosart) II. 27 And euery minute's time ten ages were, To chaunt forth all thy praise it no'te auaile. 1642 H. More *Song of Soul* I. III. 22 The fiercest but of Ram no'te make them fall.

No'te-book. [f. Note *sb.*2 + Book.] A book reserved for or containing notes or memoranda.

1579 W. Fulke *Heskins's Parl.* 401 His note booke serued him no further. 1601 Shaks. *Jul. C.* iv. iii. 98 All his faults obseru'd, Set in a Note-booke, learn'd, and con'd by roate. 1642 H. More *Song of Soul* II. iii. II. 47 We..Make that our note-book, there our choisest notions write. 1831 Mrs. Davy in Lockhart *Scott* (1839) X. 136, I thought the day..so white a one as to mark it especially in a little note book. 1882 Peboby *Eng. Journalism* xxiii. 184 The correspondent..has returned with his note-books full of sketches and information which..may be of the highest service.

Noted (nōu·tĕd), *ppl. a.* [f. Note *v.*2 + -ed 1.]

1. That is specially noticed, observed, or marked; hence, distinguished, celebrated, famous.

a. In predicative use.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1651 So was noted þe note of nabugo-de-nozar [etc.]. 1412–20 Lydg. *Chron. Troy* I. vi, Throughout the worlde noted ouer all, In euery land spoke of in special. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* lxxvii. 5 He [=high] nottit is thy name of nobilnes. 1532–3 *Act 24 Hen. VIII*, c. 2 In times past [they] haue in al outwarde partes bene noted to haue had the most substanciall coloured wollen clothes. 1581 Mulcaster *Positions* xxxvii. (1887) 150 There be three kindes of gouernment most noted among all writers. 1607 Fletcher *Wom. Hater* II. i, We shall find out the truth more easilie, Some other way lesse noted. 1653 Walton *Angler* iv. 94 There be also of lob-worms, some called squirel-tails,..which are noted to be the best.

b. Const. *for* something.

1596 Shaks. *Tam. Shr.* III. ii. 14 He was a franticke foole, ...And to be noted for a merry man; Hee'll woo a thousand. 1622 Fletcher *Prophetess* I. iii, She is a holy Druid, A woman noted for that faith [etc.]. 1669 Pepys *Diary* 10 May, Creed..tells me he hears how fine my horses and coach are, and advises me to avoid being noted for it. 1709 *Tatler* No. 75 ℙ 5 The Butler, who was noted for round Shoulders, and a Roman nose. 1789 Burns *The Whistle* x, The board of Glenriddel.., So noted for drowning of sorrow and care. 1874 Green *Short Hist.* iii. § 7. 148 He was noted for his scant indulgence in meat, drink, or sleep.

c. In attributive use.

The superl. *notedst* is not uncommon in the 17th c.

1596 Shaks. 1 *Hen. IV*, I. ii. 202, I haue Cases of Buckram for the nonce, to immaske our noted outward garments. 1623 Cockeram I. s. v. *Clymacterical*, The most dangerous and notedst climactericall yeere. 1662 Stillingfl. *Orig. Sacræ* III. ii. § 17 To run through the noted Phænomena of the Universe. 1736 Pope *Let. to Swift* 25 Mar., He is the most noted, and most deserving man, in the whole profession of Chirurgery. 1822 Scott *Nigel* xviii, Old Trapbois, the noted usurer of Whitefriars. 1828 — *F. M. Perth* iv, He was far too noted a person to venture to go entirely unarmed. 1855 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xv. III. 605 That evening Clarendon, and several other noted Jacobites, were lodged in the Tower.

2. Provided with a musical score; having musical notation.

1849 Rock *Ch. of Fathers* II. 202 The Antiphoner—from the noted and illuminated leaves of which they were chanting. 1881 Bradshaw in Cox & Hope *Chron. All Saints, Derby* App. 231 One or more of the *Antiphonaria* were..noted Breviaries, containing the whole Breviary Service, only with musical notation to the choral parts.

Hence **No'tedness.** *rare* —1.

1661 Boyle *Style of Script.* 186 Supposing..that the Prophane Aspirer should be so Lucky..as to attain the so Criminally courted Notednesse.

No'tedly, *adv.* [f. prec. + -ly 2.] In a noted manner; markedly; especially, particularly.

1603 Shaks. *Meas. for M.* v. i. 335 *Luc.* Do you remember what you said of the Duke? *Duk.* Most notedly Sir. 1797 *Hist.* in *Ann. Reg.* 99/1 His principles were notedly republican. *a* 1835 McCulloch *Attributes* (1843) III. 25 An instinct..which compels us notedly to enquire into human plans. 1864 *Intellect. Observer* No. 34. 272 Many friends—notedly Lord Overstone. 1884 Black *Judith Shakespeare* i, She came of a quite notedly handsome family.

†**No'teful,** *a.*1 *Obs.* Also 4 notful. [f. Note *sb.*1 + -ful.] Useful, beneficial, serviceable.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 8473 Cantica [is] a noteful bok in haly writte. *a* 1340 Hampole *Psalter* i. 4 It sall be noteful lerand þe way till heuen. *c* 1391 Chaucer *Astrol.* Prol., Tables of dignetis of planetes & other noteful thingez.

Hence †**No'tefulhead,** usefulness. *Obs. rare* —1.

a 1300 *E. E. Psalter* xxix. 11 What notfulhede in mi blode es Whils I dounga in wemmednes?

No'teful, *a.*2 *rare.* [f. Note *sb.*2 or *v.*2 + -ful.]

†**a.** Worthy of note. *Obs.* **b.** Observant.

a. 1644 Digby *Nat. Bodies* xxiii. 207 Out of the remembrance of such notefull and artificiall Masterpeeces, to frame a modell in their fancies that shall reade this.

b. 1882 Miss Braddon *Mt. Royal* I. v. 134 Christabel, noteful of every change,..saw how much more healthy a tinge cheek and brow had taken.

Notefy, obs. f. Notify. **Note-hach(e, -hatch,** obs. ff. Nuthatch. **Note-herd,** var. of Nowt-herd.

No'tekin. *rare.* [f. Note *sb.*2] A little note.

1866 Carlyle *Reminis.* (1881) II. 243 Should not I collect her fine notekins and reposit them here? 1896 *Westm. Gaz.* 19 Sept. 3/2 Here is a 'notekin', eminently Carlylean.

Noteless (nōu·tlės), *a.* [f. Note *sb.*2 + -less.]

1. Devoid of note; unmarked, undistinguished, unnoticed.

a 1616 Beaum. & Fl. *Bonduca* II. i, Whose virtues..Must not be lost in mists and fogs of people, Noteless, and out of name. 1630 Dekker *2nd Pt. Honest Wh.* Wks. 1873 II. 154 Let her walke Saint-like, notelesse, and vnknowne. 1786 Burns *A Bard's Epitaph* ii, Is there a bard of rustic song, Who, noteless, steals the crouds among. 1814 Scott *Ld. Isles* III. iv, In hurry of the night, 'Scaped noteless, and without remark, Two strangers. 1878 Stanford *Symb. Christ* ix. 250 Some noteless action may be the germ of a power that shall spread through all the earth.

2. Unmusical, unharmonious; voiceless.

1721 D'Urfey *Two Queens of Brentford* I. ii, The Bagpipe with its Squeak and Drone, Or Parish-Clerk, with noteless Tone, Are Owls to us Sweet Singers. 1820 Byron *Juan* iv. lxxxvii, An ignorant, noteless, timeless, tuneless fellow. 1826 *Blackw. Mag.* XX. 405 A little brown noteless bird starts from among our feet.

Hence **No'telessly** *adv.*; **No'telessness.**

1830 R. Chambers *Life Jas. I*, II. iii. 209 Clouds..decline notelessly..beneath the horizon. *Ibid.* x. 258 His life was spent in its usual tranquillity and notelessness. 1854 *Chamb. Jrnl.* I. 305, I at least do not pass notelessly.

Notelet (nō^{u}tlĕt). [f. NOTE *sb.*^{2} + -LET.]

1. A short note or communication.

1824 LAMB *Lett., To Barton* (1837) II. 155, I am sure I cannot fill a letter,..but you expect something and shall have a notelet. 1857 *Chamb. Jrnl.* VII. 404, I want you to insinuate my notelet into her bouquet. 1884 *Stationery Trade Rev.* Sept. 213/2 As there was no space for addressing these notelets after they were folded [etc.].

attrib. 1880 DISRAELI *Endym.* II. 332 Quires of letter paper and note paper and notelet paper from despatches of state to billet-doux.

2. A short annotation or statement.

1887 *N. & Q.* 7th Ser. IV. 245/1 This notelet has been written because I know not that the fact herein narrated is generally known.

Notemeg, -muge, -mygge, obs. ff. NUTMEG.

No·te-paper. [f. NOTE *sb.*^{2} 16 + PAPER *sb.*] Paper of the various sizes and qualities now generally used for correspondence.

1849 Mrs. CARLYLE *Lett.* II. 68 A piece of black bordered note-paper. 1862 *Catal. Internat. Exhib., Brit.* II. § 5127 Mourning note papers and envelopes. 1875 HELPS *Soc. Press.* xvi. 228, I folded up the sheet of notepaper, [and] put it in an envelope.

Noter (nō^{u}tə). [f. NOTE *v.*^{2} + -ER^{1}.]

An OE. *notere* occurs as a gloss to L. *notarius* (Napier *O.E. Glosses* i. 2846).

†**1.** A writer of the musical score in MSS.

1491 in L. Toulmin Smith *York Myst.* Introd. p. xxxix, Tixt-wryters, luminers, noters, turners, and florisschers.

2. One who takes or writes notes.

1589 J. RIDER *Bibl. Schol.*, A breefe noter of the contentes of bookes, *eclogarius.* 1611 COTGR., *Remarquer*, a marker, or noter of things. 1755 JOHNSON, *Noter*, he who takes notice. 1849 *N. & Q.* 1st Ser. I. 13 John Aubrey, the most noted Querist, if not the Querist noter of all English antiquaries.

3. An annotator or commentator. *rare.*

1644 LAUD *Wks.* (1854) IV. 334 The beast is primarily the Roman empire, in the judgment of the Geneva noters. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* VII. 397 His Notes as the Noter, got perfection with His age.

4. One who notes a protested bill. *rare* —^{1}.

1849 DE QUINCEY *Eng. Mail Coach* Select. 1854 IV. 297 You are made unhappy—if noters and protesters are the sort of wretches whose..shadows darken the house of life.

†**No·terer.** *Obs. rare.* [f. L. *notār-ius*, or OF. *notier* + -ER^{1}.] A notary.

c 1380 *Antecrist* in Todd *Three Treat. Wyclif* (1851) 125 But take we heede..to þe popes noterers, parsones & vikers, & prestis, monkes [etc.]. 14.. *Nom.* in Wr.-Wülcker 681 *Hic notarius*, a noterer.

†**Noterly,** var. of NOTOURLY *adv.*

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* XII. i. 88 Now of our recent blude, as noterly kend is, The flude of Tibir waxis hait agane.

No·te-shaver. *U.S. slang.* [f. NOTE *sb.*^{2}] A promoter of bogus financial companies; a usurer.

1851 HAWTHORNE *Ho. Sev. Gables* xviii, The wrinkled note-shaver will have taken his railroad trip in vain. 1880 'OUIDA' *Moths* I. 194 His father 'd always been thought one of the biggest note-shavers in New York City.

Note-taker, -taking : see NOTE *sb.*^{2} 21.

Note-tre, obs. form of NUT-TREE.

Noteworthy (nō^{u}tw$\bar{\text{ə}}$ði), *a.* [f. NOTE *sb.*^{2} + WORTHY *a.*] Worthy of attention, observation, or notice; remarkable.

1552 in *Vicary's Anat.* (1888) App. XVI. 304 To note..the somme and content of euerye article..that shall appiere noteworthie. 1596 HARINGTON *Metam. Ajax* (1814) 60 Is it not a custom when a prince hath spoken anything noteworthy, to say he hath delivered it majestically? 1639 FULLER *Holy War* III. xii. 128 Saladine by his intelligencers was certified of every noteworthy passage in the English armie. 1855 BROWNING *One Word More* xvi, What, there's nothing in the moon note-worthy? 1878 GLADSTONE *Prim. Homer* 68 In this prayer there is a noteworthy absence of what may be termed pagan elements.

Hence **No·teworthily** *adv.*; **No·teworthiness.**

1886 *Athenæum* 23 Jan. 144/1 This fine..taste prevails in half the later drawings before us—noteworthily in the beautiful design for the Laureate's 'Edward Gray'. 1887 *Old Man's Favour* III. iii, She was aware of the noteworthiness of the apparently simple occurrence.

†**Noteye.** *Obs. rare* —^{1}. [app. f. *note* NUT.] A dish consisting of various ingredients, garnished and flavoured with nuts.

c 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 31 *Noteye*...Take smal notys & breke hem; take þe kyrnellys & make hem whyte,..plante þer-with þin mete & serue forth.

Noth, obs. Sc. variant of NOUGHT.

Nothagge, -hak, obs. forms of NUTHATCH.

†**No·thal,** *a. Obs. rare.* [f. L. *nothus*, Gr. *νόθος* spurious + -AL.] Spurious, not authentic.

1716 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* II. 372 All his other Didactick, Paræneticke and Nothal Writings. *Ibid.* III. *Diss. Physick* 33 There be likewise some nothal Tracts ascrib'd to old Melampos.

†**Nothe.** *Obs. rare.* [Of obscure origin.] *To let to nothe*, to let alone, neglect.

c 1315 SHOREHAM *Poems* I. 1799 Ac 3ef þer were ryȝt treuþyng, ..To soþe, Hy scholde aȝen to þe spousyng, And lete al þat to noþe. *Ibid.* IV. 293 For 3ef he let to noþe.., Ich segge hym wel to soþe [etc.].

Not-headed : see NOT *a.* 1 b.

†**Notheless,** *adv. Obs.* Forms: 1 no þy læs, 2–5 nopeles(s, (3 -las, 4 ? noþo-), 3 noðeles, -las, 3–4 notheles, 7 nothlesse. [f. OE. *nó* No *adv.*^{2}; in later use perh. also a variant of NATHELESS.] Nevertheless.

c 888 K. ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xvi. § 4 Ond þeah betwuh þyllecum unrihtum wæs him no þy læs underþeod eall þes middangeard. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 23 Noþeles oðerhwile þu sunezest mid summe of þisse limen ofter þenne þu scoldest. *c* 1205 LAY. 141 Þare quene hit of-þouhte; noþeles heo hit þolede. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1297 Ac noþeles heo hur vnderstod. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 97 In couenant of pes,..Bituex þam noþeles a skrite enselid & writen. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 396 And noþoles God techis to swere by hym in nede. *c* 1400 tr. *Secreta Secret., Gov. Lordsh.* 60 And noþeles of wynd comys diuers perils and lettynges. 1606 HOLLAND *Sueton.* 148 Yet might hee bee heard nothlesse of them that stoode a farre off.

Notheme, obs. variant of NOTAMY.

†**Nothemo,** *adv. Obs.* In 3 no þe mo, noþemo. [f. OE. *nó* No *adv.*^{2}: cf. NATHEMO(RE.] Never the more.

c 1275 LAY. 4627 Ne we neote no þe mo, þoh we speke wid houre fon. *c* 1290 *Beket* 61 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 108 Heo ne couþe no-þing conteini hire ne speken no þe mo. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 4145 Lucye ne wilnede noþemo no þing somoche alonde As to fiȝte mid a such kniȝt.

Nother, obs. variant of NETHER *a.*

No·ther, *pron.*^{1} and *a.*^{1} *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Also 4 noiþer, 4–5 noþer (4 -ere, 5 -ir, -ire), 5 noder, -yr, nothire, -yr(e, 5–6 *Sc.* nothir. [var. of OTHER, with *n* transferred from the article: see N 3.]

1. *A nother*, an other. (See also ANOTHER.)

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 3390 Of hir he had a sun madan And a noiþer hight madian. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 50 A noþer symple frere þat nys not so gret flaterere. *c* 1440 *Alph. Tales* 193 And a noþer tyme he had with hym a monk. *c* 1450 HOLLAND *Howlat* 36, I haue mekle matir..Of ane nothir sentence. 1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 2 In Buckynghamshyre, are plowes made of an nother maner. 1559 AYLMER *Harborowe* E 4, Of Paul I shal speak of at a nother time. 1608 D. PRICE *Chr. War* 26 To establish true religion in one kingdome, to confirme it in a nother. 1782 in *N. W. Linc. Gloss.* (1877) 181 New wheel and a nother mending.

2. *No nother*, none other, no other.

c 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 1852 Hastow no noþer þing? *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* XXXV. (*Thaddæus*) 138 Quhare þu Is, & in na nothyre place I-wyse. *c* 1440 *Alph. Tales* 245 It was no noder to giff to mynstrals bod for to offyr to fendis. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* VIII. 906 Thocht he wes best, no nothir lak we nocht. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. cccliv. 582 They shulde haue no nother trust in him, but that he wolde be their Enemy. 1557 N. T. (Genev.) *Mark* ix. 29 This kynd can by no nother meanes come forth, but by prayer.

b. *No notherways* or *-wise*, no otherwise.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* I. (*Peter*) 511 It, þat we ȝarne, sal fall ws, and na nothirwais. *c* 1440 *Alph. Tales* 482 On a tyme hym happend to tell þaim, and he cuthe no noderways tell, & he cuthe say none oder bod þus. 1465 *Paston Lett.* II. 251 They derst no notherwysse don for ferre.

3. *The notheren*, repr. OE. *ðam ðórum.*

c 1315 SHOREHAM I. 1225 Ase broþeren, For to seruy ine godes house Byfore alle þe noþeren. *Ibid.* 1227 To segge hys 'leuy' an englysch, 'Fram þe noþeren ytake'.

No·ther, *pron.*^{2} and *a.*^{2} *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Forms: 1 nóðer, 2 noðer, 3 neoðer, 4 noþer, 4–6 (9 *dial.*) nother (4 -ir, 9 *dial.* noather); 4 noiþer, noither, 5 noythere. [f. *ne* NE + *óðer*, contracted form of *ǽhwæðer*, as *áðer* is of *áhwæðer*: cf. NOUTHER.]

A. *pron.* Neither of two persons or things.

a. With genitive of pers. pron. preceding.

c 897 K. ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. Care* li. 399 Ne fornime incer noder oðer ofer wil butan geðafunge. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 4884 þat hor noþer nadde noþing, þat to oþeres wille nas. *c* 1330 *Amis & Amil.* 852 Y seighe it meself this ich day,..Your noither it may forsake. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. XI. 273 Here noþer louep oþere.

b. Followed by *of* (dial. *on*), or without const.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 165 Nis nower non trewðe for nis þe gist siker of þe husebonde, ne noðer of oðer. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 8702 Noþer of is breþerin, þo is fader was ded, Nas nei him bote he one. *c* 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 3233 Noiþer of ous nil spare Erl, baroun no kniȝt. *c* 1450 *Mirour Saluacioun* (Roxb.) 18 A prest and eft a Dekene come hy...But noythere of them myght hele this ilke sore wounded man. 1551 TURNER *Herbal* I. (1568) 93 And nother of bothe grow oute of the grounde. 1854– in *Eng. Dial. Dict.* (s.v. *Nowther*), in forms *nother, noather.*

c. Preceded by *never* (later *ner, nere*).

c 1205 LAY. 30834 For nauer neoðer nalde..þat þe king hit wusten. *c* 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* Prol. 192 (Fairf.), I nam withholden yit with never nother. 1540 MORYSINE *Vivet' Introd. to Wysd.* C v, That god alone aprove our inwarde and outwarde actis, though men alow ner nother. 1565 CALFHILL *Answ. Martiall* (1846) 73 Whereof there is nere nother commanded, but forbidden.

d. Preceded by *neither* (or *nether*).

c 1500 *Chaucer's L. G. W.* Prol. 192 (Trin.), I am wytholde yet with neyther nother. 1529 MORE *Dyalogue* I. Wks. 155/1 Of which twayne ye woulde in the beginning admit neither nother. 1589 *Marprelate Epit.* (1843) 48, I wad counsell them, if they wad be ruled hai me, to be nether nother. 1612 T. JAMES *Jesuits Downefall* 71, I could wish that all such..would consent to beleeue nether nother.

B. *adj.* Neither. (Usually *neither nother.*)

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 4561 Vor þer ne bileuede in noþer syde non heymon vnneþe. *Ibid.* 6221 Noþer partye ne miȝte þe maistrie al biȝite. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) III. 201 By neuere noþer weie I schal paye þe þat þou axest. 1530 FRITH *Disput. Purgat.* (1829) 195 Neither nother text serveth any whit for purgatory. 1533 MORE *Apol.* 180 There are fewe or none good in neyther nother parte. 1640 BROME *Sparagus Gard.* IV. v, No sir, we come with no zick intendment on neither nother zide.

No·ther, *adv.*^{1} and *conj. Obs.* exc. *dial.* Forms: *α.* 3 noðer, neoðer, 3–5 noþer (4 noþer, 5 noþire, -eir), 4–5 nothyr(e, 5–6 *Sc.* -ire, 5 -ur, 3– nother (9 *dial.* noather, nuther). *β.* 4 noiþer, noither, noyther. *γ.* 4 nodur, 5–6 *Sc.* noder (5 -ir, -yr), 6 nolder, 8 nodder. [f. as prec.: cf. NATHER *conj.* and OFris. *noder*, var. of *nouder* NOUTHER.]

†**1.** = NEITHER A. 1. (Followed by *ne, na, no, nor*, and in early use frequently with another negative.) *Obs.*

α. c 1205 LAY. 16736 Ne mihte þer na man neoðer [*c* 1275 noþer] ute no ingan. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 465 Vor he nys noþer yep ne wis. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 5857 Noþer I knau him þat yee sai, Ne i ne wil lat þe folk a-wai. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 43 Thei merveille how such a wiht..Desireth nother Mariage Ne yit the love of paramours. *c* 1450 *Merlin* 87 This childe..nys nother youre ne myn by reson. 1523 CROMWELL in Merriman *Life & Lett.* I. 34 They dare not trye hyt by the sworde, nother with us, nor with the saide Emparours Subiectes. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* VIII. 58 Bot that nother the king nor cuntrie mycht cum to skaith. 1867 WAUGH *Home Life Factory Folk* XXI. 185 Hoo's noather feyther nor mother. 1873 SPILLING *Molly Miggs' Trip* (1903) 9 But that's nuther here nor there.

β. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 7303 Yee ar to fraward wit to dele, For noiþer ar ȝe war ne wise. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XII. 209 It were noyther resoun ne riȝt to rewarde hem bothe aliche.

γ. c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* IV. (*James*) 70 Philet..mycht ster noder hand na fete. *c* 1471 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 271 The wynde, the water spareth nodyr priynce ne kyng. 1533 GAU *Richt Vay* 105 Bot alace thay wil noder prech thair self nay ȝeit suffer oders quhilk wald prech. 1574 in Littlejohn *Aberd. Sheriff Crt.* (1904) 261 Syme is noder persewar nor Moir defender in this present caus of Cognitioune.

†**b.** = NEITHER A. 2. *Obs.*

1531 TINDALE *Expos.* 1 *John* (1537) 36 We..loue you all alyke, nother loue we one more and another lesse. 1547 RECORDE *Uryne* 3 Nother is it so easy a thing..to translate well. 1561 HOLLYBUSH *Hom. Apoth.* 31 b, He is hevy and waketh much, nother can rest in one place.

†**2.** *Nother ... nother*, neither ... nor. *Obs.*

c 1275 LAY. 22853 Ne sal him noþer go vore gold noþer garisome. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVI. viii. (Bodl. MS.), Wiþout þis siluer noþer golde noþer copre maye be ouere gilte. *c* 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 50 Noiþer in biggings, noiþer in liȝts, noiþer in instruments. 1496 *Somerset Med. Wills* (1901) 340, 12 shepe nother of the best nother of the worste. 1530 RASTELL *Bk. Purgat.* II. i, Nother by exhortacyon..nother by..punysshment..nor other thynge. 1551 TURNER *Herbal* I. (1568) 84 It hath nother seedes like vnto marrishe mallowe, nother may a man make roopes of it.

†**3.** = NOR. (Usually with preceding negative.)

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. IV. 130 Bere no siluer ouer see ..., golde noither siluer. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Knt.'s T.* 512 No man couthe knowe His speche nother his vois, though men it herde. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 1372 [He] band hire..bigly to-gedire, with þat scho fliisch noþer fayle, fyue score aunkirs. 1474 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. V. 311 That no manere man nor woman procure nother take away no childe. *a* 1529 SKELTON *Ware the Hauke* 196 Nor yet dronken Bacus; Nother Olibrius, Nor Dionisyus. 1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 80 b, Nor in eating and drinking nother in chambring and wantonnesse.

4. = NEITHER A. 3.

c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 722 Mi-self knowe ich nou3t mi ken ne mi kontre noiþer. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. IX. 111 Was no pride on his apparail ne no pouert noþer. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 402 'Be noȝt a-bayste', quod þe berne, 'ne a-bleyd nothire'. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* ix. 222 'I shall never sette foote there'. 'Nor I nother', sayd Richarde. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 234 When that wolde take no place nother. 1561 HOLLYBUSH *Hom. Apoth.* 3 If ye can not have the same nother, then take [etc.].

1840 HALIBURTON *Clockm.* Ser. III. v, It don't seem to hang very well together nother. 1841 *Gaskell's Comic Songs* 48 (E. D. D.), Nay, I cannot do that nother. 1886– in dial. glossaries (Kent, Surrey, Berks, Som.), usually in form *nuther.*

†**b.** With preceding negative inferred. *Obs.* —^{1}

1508 DUNBAR *Tua Mariit Wemen* 358 Thus the scorne, and the scaith scapit he nothir.

†**No·ther,** *adv.*^{2} *Obs.* In 4–5 noþer, 5 *Sc.* nothir. [app. for NOWER *adv.*, after prec. Cf. NOUTHER *adv.*^{2}] Nowhere. Usually in comb.

†**Nother-where.**

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 3495 For-þi ne was he noþer quar sent Bot to þe huse ai tok he tent. *Ibid.* 17556 In israel er hei felles; þar es he soth and noþer elles. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xli. (*Agnes*) 63 Seknes had he nothir-quhare, bot in his hart he had sic care. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 993 (Dubl.), Thare is no region ne realm..Ne noþer-whare no nacion bot sall my name lowte.

Nothing (nv·þiŋ), *sb.* and *adv.* Forms: *α.* 1–2 nán, 1–6 na- (6–8 *Sc.* nai-, 6 nay-, 8–9 nae-), 3 naȝ-, 4 nat-. *β.* 3 none (3, 5 non), 3– no- (4–5 noo-, 6 noa-); also 1 -þinc, 4 -thinc, 5 -thynk, 7 -think; 1–5 -þing (3 -e), 3 -ðing, 4 -thinge, 4–6 -thyng(e, 5 -thyngge, -tyng; 9 *dial.* nothin', -en. [f. NO *adj.* + THING. In ME. written indifferently as one word or as two.]

A. *sb.* **I.** Not any (material or immaterial) thing; nought.

1. In ordinary uses and constructions.

In OE. and ME. frequently accompanied by another negative, as still in vulgar and dialect speech.

α. c 888 K. ÆLFRED *Boeth.* XXVI. § 1 Nis nan þing soðre þonne þæt ðu seȝst. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* John XVI. 23 On þam dæge ȝe ne hiddaþ me nanes þinges. *c* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 43 Dat he ðarof ne forleas naþing ðe godd him hadde betaht. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 225 Ne ne mei na þing wiðstonden his wille. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 560 He has it wroght..for-þi es nathing him sua dere. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xii. (*Matthias*) 343, I na-thynge spek forthire her of his lowynge. 1456 SIR G. HAVE *Law Arms* (S. T. S.)

175 He mysdois nocht in nathing. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilzear* 506 Thow fand me fechand nathing that followit to feid. 1508 KENNEDIE *Flyting w. Dunbar* 390 That successione.. has na thing ado now with the deuile. 1567 *Satir. Poems Reform.* vi. 107 Leif nathing that belangis to the Paip. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* Prol. 63 Of the fishes, how copious thair thay ar, I neid to say naything. 1725 RAMSAY *Gentle Sheph.* II. iii, Keep naithing up,—ye naithing have to fear. 1786 BURNS *Holy Fair* xxv, Lasses that hae naething!

β. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 120 No þing þet heo deð nis Gode licwurðe ne icweme. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1126 Dat water is so deades driuen, Non ðing ne mai ðor-inne liuen. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 2086 So moche poer him com to, þat him ne miȝte no þing atstonde. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 42 Freris schulle no þing aproprie to hem self, neiþer hous ne place ne ony oþer þing. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 72 Thanne out of his place he crepte So stille that sche nothing herde. *c* 1450 *Cron. Eng.* ccxv. (Caxton, 1480) 202 So they slewe hir lord that no thynge was perceyued. 1548–9 (Mar.) *Bk. Com. Prayer*, Collect 4 Trin., Without whom nothyng is strong, nothing is holy. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 118 b, Nothing escapeth their handes. 1601 R. JOHNSON *Kingd. & Commw.* (1603) 151 He..bestoweth vppon them some other reward, and many times nothing at all. 1671 MILTON *Samson* 1721 Nothing is here for tears, nothing to wail Or knock the breast. 1733 SWIFT *Corr.* Wks. 1841 II. 694 He asks nothing; and thinks, like a philosopher, that he wants nothing. 1794 PALEY *Evid.* (1825) II. 304 He..omitted nothing that was prescribed by the law. 1827 SOUTHEY *Penins. War* II. 4 Nothing which skill and expense could effect had been spared. 1864 BRYCE *Holy Rom. Emp.* vi. (1875) 85 From the Byzantine Empire.. nothing could be hoped.

b. Followed by a positive adj.

c 1205 LAY. 3014 Ah heo ne seide naþing soð, no more þenne hiire suster. 1548 GESTE *Pr. Masse* 7478 Nothing grevouse at al, nothing holy at al. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 262 Therfore did we nothing in this warre contrary to our dutie. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* I. ii. 457 Ther's nothing ill can dwell in such a Temple. 1652 SPARKE *Prim. Devot.* (1663) 442 There being in them nothing either petitory or gratulatory. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 70 Without thee nothing lofty can I sing. 1861 J. NICHOL in *Mem.* (1896) 95 Remember the proverb, 'Nothing great is easy'. 1892 *Chamb. Jrnl.* Oct. 636/2 Apsley Villa was nothing surprisingly grand.

c. In proverbs and proverbial expressions.

1546 J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* (1867) 39 Whereas nothing is, the kynge must lose his ryght. 1562 — *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 141 Where nothing is, a little thyng doth ease. Where al thyng is, nothyng can fully please. 1573 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 48 This Prouerbe.., that nothing who practiseth nothing shall haue. 1602 BRETON *Wonders* Wks. (Grosart) II. 9/2 With that the young man replyed: oh sir, nothing venter, nothing haue. 1614 COCKS in *Cal. Col. P., E. Indies* 342 As the saying is, nothing seek nothing find. 1668 SEDLEY *Mulberry Gard.* III. ii, Who ever caught any thing with a naked hook? Nothing venture, nothing win. *a* 1704 T. BROWN *To Author of Address* in *Collect. of Poems* 97 Thou know'st the Proverb: Nothing due for naught. 1885 *Cent. Mag.* XXIX. 186/2 'Nothing venture, nothing have', Betty replied saucily.

d. Denoting mental inferiority.

a 1754 FIELDING *Essay on Nothing* iii, A fellow, whom all the world knew to have Nothing in him.

e. Denoting absence of religious belief.

1855 J. H. NEWMAN *Callista* ii, There were a vast many persons who ought to be Catholics, but were heretics, or nothing at all. 1891 L. FALCONER *Mlle. Ixe* i, Foreign governesses, in my opinion,..are always either Roman Catholics or nothing.

2. With dependent genitive: No part, share, etc., *of* some thing (or person).

c 1000 in Assmann *Ags. Hom.* (1889) XVIII. 48 Þa ne ȝefredde he naþinc þæs brynes for þam miclan luste. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1096, Se wæs Papa ȝehaten þeah þe he þæs setles naþing næfde on Rome. *a* 1200 *Moral Ode* 98 in *O. E. Hom.* I. 165 Nahbeð hi naþing forȝeten of al þet ho [ere] isezen. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 2543 O prai wald abram nathing haue. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxxiv. (*Pelagia*) 23 Wantande nathing of bewte, þat in a woman suld fundyn be. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 13215 Of Nigromansy ynogh nothing hom lakked. 1540–1 ELYOT *Image Gov.* 31 Ye nothyng haue appayred of the imperyall maiesttee. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* I. vii. 6 Finding nothyng of that they sought for. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* I. ii. 399 Nothing of him that doth fade. 1671 MILTON *Samson* 374 Nothing of all these evils hath befall'n me But justly. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 43 ¶ 8 We were in nothing of the Secret. 1722 DE FOE *Col. Jack* (1840) 172, I..began..with nothing; that is to say, I had nothing of stock. 1768 GOLDSM. in *Boswell*, Johnson..has nothing of the hear but his skin. 1872 HOLMES *Poet Breakf.-t.* vi. (1906) 137 There was no atmosphere in it, nothing of the light that never was.

b. Const. *of* with adjective. Now *rare*.

Prob. after F. *rien de* (*nouveau*, etc.).

1645 CHAS. I *Wks.* (1662) 316, I..have nothing of new to direct you in. 1662 EVELYN *Chalcogr.* 11 That there might be nothing of deficient as to our Institution. *a* 1700 DRYDEN (J.), Yet had his aspect nothing of severe. 1829 LANDOR *Imag. Conv., Barrow & Newton* Wks. 1853 I. 482/2 Nothing of excellent is to be done by felicity. 1870 SWINBURNE *Ess. & Stud.* (1875) 12 Nothing of common is there, nothing of theatrical.

3. Denoting comparative insignificance or unimportance: A thing (or person) not worth reckoning, considering, or mentioning.

1382 WYCLIF *Matt.* xxiii. 16 Who euere shal swere by the temple of God, no thing is [1388 it is no thing]. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 340 For who that is of man no king, The remenant is as no thing. *c* 1500 *Melusine* 120 For if..I were taken of our enmyes, of my lyf is nothing. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., K. Hen. VIII* 230 b, Ye same night..fel a smal raine, nothyng to speak of. 1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV*, IV. iii. 123 So, that skill in the Weapon is nothing, without Sack. 1611 — *Wint. T.* IV. ii. 44 A man (they say) that from very nothing..is growne into an vnspeakable estate. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* III. 88 It was nothing to see euery day foure or fiue men killed in the streetes. 1705 STANHOPE *Paraphr.* II. 274 We..falsely imagine we are Something when in Truth we are Nothing. 1837 J. H. NEWMAN *Par. Serm.* (ed. 3) I. iii. 31 Knowledge is nothing compared with doing. 1883 HOWELLS *Woman's Reason* xii, He would be nothing without her.

† **b.** In phr. *thing, man*, etc., *of nothing*. *Obs.*

Prob. after F. *homme*, etc., *de rien*, or L. *nihili*.

1583 GOLDING *Calvin on Deut.* XV. 89 The daunger that wee bee scaped out of seemeth to be a thing of nothing. 1591 SAVILE *Tacitus, Hist.* I. 35 Vitellius, a man of nothing, ..drunck at noone-day and heauy with surfet. *a* 1628 PRESTON *Breastpl. Love, Effect. Faith* (1631) 145 Looke upon them as trifles, as matters of nothing.

4. *Arith.* That which is not any number, and possesses neither quantity nor value; the figure or character representing this; NOUGHT. Also *fig.*

c 1425 *Crafte of Nombryng* (1897) 25 Multiplye 2 be a 0, it wol be nothyng. [1605 SHAKS. *Lear* I. iv. 213 Now thou art an O without a figure, I am better then thou art now, I am a Foole, thou art nothing.] 1743 EMERSON *Fluxions* 6 Consequently *o* will be nothing, and therefore all the Terms wherein it is found will be nothing. 1812 WOODHOUSE *Astron.* xxii. 236 The equation between the two periods at which it is successively nothing. 1850 M'COSH *Div. Govt.* (1852) 486 The whole would be like multiplying nothing by nothing—the result would still be nothing.

5. That which is non-existent. Also personified.

To dance on nothing: see DANCE *v.* 3 b.

1535 COVERDALE *Job* xxvi. 7 He stretcheth out yᵉ north ouer the emptie, & hangeth yᵉ earth vpon nothinge. 1587 GOLDING *De Mornay* ii. (1592) 23 God, to shew vs that he made all of nothing, hath left a certeine inclination in his Creatures, whereby they tend naturally to nothing. 1633 G. HERBERT *Temple, Dotage* i, Embroider'd lyes, nothing between two dishes; These are the pleasures here. 1692 BENTLEY *Boyle Lect.* ii. 52 Mere nothing being never able to produce anything at all. 1701 NORRIS *Ideal World* I. ii. 74, I thought it had been a..maxim all the world over, that nothing could have no properties or relations. 1790 BURKE *Fr. Rev.* Wks. V. 332 It is here that your modern legislators have gone deep into the negative series, and sunk even below their own nothing. 1828 CARLYLE *Misc.* (1857) I. 120 An emissary of the primeval Nothing. 1862 H. SPENCER *First Princ.* II. iv. § 53 (1875) 177 Nothing cannot become an object of consciousness.

pers. 1648 J. BEAUMONT *Psyche* VII. ccxcviii, A mortal Life is but an handsom fiction Nothing well-drest, a flattering Contradiction. 1656 COWLEY *Pindar. Odes, Life & Fame* i, Oh Life, thou Nothings younger Brother! *a* 1708 BEVERIDGE *Priv. Th.* I. (1730) 73 It is as easy for Him to.. send me back into my mother Nothing.

b. Denoting extinction or destruction.

1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* V. i. 315 *Dem.* No Die, but an ace for him; for he is but one. *Lis.* Less then an ace man. For he is dead, he is nothing. 1613 — *Hen. VIII*, III. ii. 208 So lookes the chafed Lyon Vpon the daring Huntsman that has gall'd him: Then makes him nothing. 1812 BYRON *And thou art dead* ii, To me there needs no stone to tell, 'Tis Nothing that I loved so well.

c. *To nothing*, denoting the final point, stage, or state of the process of destruction, dissolution, etc.

1600 E. BLOUNT tr. *Conestaggio* 22 Which made euery man suppose that after the expence of much mony, it would vanish to nothing. 1655 M. CASAUBON *Enthus.* iii. (1656) 169 Through continuall contemplation..having reduced his body to almost nothing. 1671 MILTON *P. R.* III. 389 Much instrument of war Long in preparing, soon to nothing brought. 1731–8 SWIFT *Pol. Conversat.* Introd. 3 The Conversation falls and drops to nothing. 1774 MITFORD *Ess. Harmony Lang.* 35 The vowel-sound..is nearly of the same kind, but degenerated to almost nothing. 1875 KINGLAKE *Crimea* vi. xii. V. 248 The parapet..dwarfed down to nothing. 1887 MORRIS *Odyss.* XII. 46 Dead men rotting to nothing.

6. With *a* and *pl.*

a. A non-existent, a comparatively insignificant or worthless, thing; a trifling event.

1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* II. ii. 81 To heare my Nothings monster'd. 1644 DIGBY *Nat. Bodies* Concl. 449 Seeking for that, which if they had found, were but a nothing of a nothing in respect of true beatitude. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 181 A Bundle of Nonsensical Fortuitous Atoms conjoined into a Hodg-Podge of confused Nothings. 1723 SWIFT *Stella at Woodpark* Wks. 1751 X. 47 A Supper worthy of herself, Five Nothings in five Plates of Delph. 1782 MISS BURNEY *Cecilia* VII. ix, She then proceeded..to relate the little nothings that had passed since the winter. 1821 SHELLEY *Adonais* xxxix, 'Tis we, who..strike with our spirit's knife Invulnerable nothings. 1850 MONCKTON MILNES in *Life* (1891) I. x. 444 The little nothings of occupied life leave a man no time for his duty. 1898 HENLEY *Lond. Types, Hawker*, Hawking in either hand Some artful nothing made of twine and tin.

b. A trivial or trifling remark.

1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* II. i. 95 Thus he his speciall nothing euer prologues. 1654 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 320 Mistresses that must have each day two or three Houres spent in speaking to them Nothings. 1709 POPE *Ess. Crit.* 326 Such labour'd nothings, in so strange a style, Amaze th' unlearn'd. 1797 LAMB *Let. to Coleridge* in *Final Mem.* iii. 25 You are very good to submit to be pleased with reading my nothings. 1824 BYRON *Juan* XV. lxxviii, To his gay nothings, nothing was replied. 1894 MRS. H. WARD *Marcella* I. 181 A few nothings had passed between them as to the weather.

c. A person of no note; a nobody.

1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* III. iv. 135 That harsh, noble, simple nothing: That Cloten. 1681–4 J. SCOTT *Chr. Life* 81 In the presence of God we shall be Nothings. 17.. RAMSAY *To Duncan Forbes* x, Strutting naethings are despis'd. 1826 DISRAELI *Viv. Grey* III. iv, The nameless nothings that are always lounging about the country mansions of the great. 1879 FROUDE *Cæsar* xii. 163 Metellus and..Afranius, who had been chosen consuls for the year 60, were mere nothings.

d. *A new nothing*, a worthless novelty. Now *dial.* (see quot. 1854).

1641 WILKINS *Mercury* Pref. (1707) 5 Fresh Heresies (New-nothings) still appear. 1653 JER. TAYLOR *Serm. for Year* Ep. Ded., No man ought to be offended, that Sermons are not like curious Inquiries after New-nothings, but pursuances of Old Truths. 1820 T. L. PEACOCK *Misc.* Wks. 1875 III. 330 Commonplace, which at length becomes thoroughly wearisome, even to the most indefatigable readers of the newest new nothings. 1854 MISS BAKER *Northampt. Gloss.* II. 52 If you'll be good children, I'll bring you all a new-nothing to hang on your sleeves, *i. e.* nothing at all.

e. *No nothing*, nothing at all. *colloq.*

1884 *Harper's Mag.* Mar. 516/2 There is no store, no post-office, no sidewalked street,—no nothing.

† **7.** = NOTHINGNESS. *Obs. rare.*

1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* IV. iv. 626 No hearing, no feeling, but my Sirs Song, and admiring the Nothing of it. 1630 LENNARD tr. *Charron's Wisd.* I. xxxvii. (1670) 121 To make man feel his own evil, his infirmity, his nothing. 1682 SIR T. BROWNE *Chr. Mor.* (1756) 122 He will experimentally find the emptiness of all things, and the nothing of what is past.

II. In various collocations and phrases.

Nothing less, see LESS *a.* 7 b and *adv.* 3. *Almost nothing*, see ALMOST *adv.* 3. *Neck or nothing*, see NECK *sb.*¹ 8.

8. Followed by a limiting particle.

a. *Nothing else* (*but* or *than*): see ELSE *adv.* 1.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 13471 þis he said..To fand him and nathing elles. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 198 Sche wolde him nothing elles sein Bot of her name. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. clxix. 206 And they had neuer done nothynge els, I was bounde to rewarde theym. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 123 b, In suche also as concerned religion and nothyng els. 1653 MILTON *Ps.* iv. 12 Things false and vain and nothing else but lies? 1756 TOLDERVY *Hist. 2 Orphans* I. 123 Have you nothing else to do but cleaning the books? *a* 1774 GOLDSM. *Surv. Exp. Philos.* (1776) I. 187 The followers of Newton say, that this power is nothing else but that of attraction. 1804–6 SYD. SMITH *Mor. Philos.* (1850) 172 If I can point out the cause.., I see nothing else which I have to do. 1869 MARTINEAU *Ess.* II. 42 Sin is nothing else than moral evil.

b. *Nothing but* (or *except*): see BUT *conj.* 4 b.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* I. 94 Love we God..and drede we noo þing but hym. *c* 1400 *Sir Perc.* 714 He had nothynge to bere But his sadille and his gere. *a* 1533 FRITH *Disput. Purgat.* (1829) 102 That their words are nothing but even their own imagination. 1594 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* II. 529 Beastes thinke of nothing but that which they beholde. 1635 HEYLIN *Sabbath* I. (1636) 77 Having almost nothing but what they borrowed of the Egyptians. 1663 BOYLE *Usef. Exp. Nat. Philos.* I. i. 3 Nothing but Mens inbred fondnesse for the Object it converses with. 1711 BUDGELL *Spect.* No. 161 ¶ 7 The Prizes were generally nothing but a Crown of Cypress or Parsley. 1751 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 175 ¶ 2 Nothing but the desert or the cell can exclude it from notice. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* I. 141 It had been fruitful of nothing but disputes. 1886 FROUDE *Oceana* 140 When doing nothing except wandering in the shade of the wood.

ellipt. 1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* IV. v. 234 This peace is nothing, but to rust Iron, encrease Taylors [etc.].

c. After *did* or *done*, formerly followed by pa. t. or pa. pple., now usually by infinitive.

[*c* 1386 CHAUCER *Merch. T.* 682, I wol hym visite, Haue I no thyng but rested me a lite.] 1485 CAXTON *Paris & V.* (1868) 61 The doulphyn dyd nothyng, nyȝt ne day, but admoneshed hys doughter. 1512 *Helyas* in Thoms *Prose Rom.* (1827) 76, vi. children, to whome they did nothing but tooke away theyr chaines. 1554–5 RIDLEY *Wks.* (Parker Soc.) 14, I haue..done nothing else but digged a pit. 1671 H. M. tr. *Erasm. Collog.* 542 If I had done nothing else herein but trifled. 1686 tr. *Chardin's Trav. Persia* 165 We did nothing but ascend.

d. *One has*, or *there is, nothing for it but*, denoting absence of any alternative course. (Cf. FOR *prep.* 13 c.)

1742 RICHARDSON *Pamela* III. 78 So that between one and t'other, a poor Girl has notbing for it, but a few Weeks Courtship. 1792 *Elvina* I. 74 They were prepared to banter me, so I had nothing for it but downright impudence. 1843 F. E. PAGET *Pageant* 121 There was nothing for it but to submit with a good grace. 1875 RUSKIN *Fors Clav.* lv. 196 Hansli had nothing for it but to obey.

e. *Nothing, if not* .., above everything.

1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* II. i. 120 O, gentle Lady, do not put me too't, For I am nothing, if not Criticall. 1876 J. PARKER *Paracl.* I. ii. 175 Christianity is nothing, if not spiritual. 1881 H. JAMES *Portrait Lady* XXXV, He was never precipitate; he was nothing if not discreet.

9. *For nothing*: † **a.** By no means; on no account; for no consideration. *Obs.*

c 1275 LAY. 12419 He ne mihte for noþing Melga i-finde. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 11149 Of hir ne wald he for nathing, Lai of hordome mistruing. *c* 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 1853 *Lucrece*, Y wol not haue doo forgyft for no-thinge. *c* 1420 *Palladius on Husb.* XII. 275 They growe vnnethe in sad lond or rubrik, And for no thing the cley [they] may not vse. *c* 1450 LOVELICH *Merlin* 2562 And it be so,..thanne wolde j that ȝe hym slowen for non thing. 1581 MARBECK *Bk. Notes* 258 But there present he would not bee for nothing.

b. In vain, to no purpose.

1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 80 Leste they shoulde appeere to have commen thyther for nothyng. 1872 HOLMES *Poet Breakf.-t.* vi. (1906) 130 That old Lawgiver wasn't learned in all the wisdom of the Egyptians for nothing.

c. For no reason; causelessly.

1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* IV. iv. 130 Will you be bound for nothing? 1600 — *A. Y. L.* IV. i. 154, I will weepe for nothing, like Diana in the Fountaine. 1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* III. viii. 169 He who will be angry for any thing, will be angry for nothing.

d. Without payment or cost; free, gratuitously.

1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* III. ii. 154 A braue kingdome.., Where I shall haue my Musicke for nothing. 1662 J. DAVIES tr.

Mandelslo's Trav. 132 Provisions in these parts, are so plentiful, that the Inhabitants..sell them in a manner for nothing. 1693 DRYDEN *Disc. Satire* Ess. (ed. Ker) II. 90 To do any thing for nothing, was not his Maxim. 1742 FIELDING *J. Andrews* I. xv, Loving the public well enough to give them a sermon or a dose of physic for nothing. 1886 D. C. MURRAY *Cynic Fortune* xii, There was not a woman of them who would not have done his clear-starching for nothing.

10. *Nothing to*: **a.** Of no consequence *to* one.

1584 COGAN *Haven Health* l. (1636) 64 What Rusticks doe, or may doe without hinderance of their health, is nothing to Students. 1686 tr. *Chardin's Coronat. Solyman* 90 The Townsmen made answer, 'twas nothing to them if there were such a Famine in the City.

b. Insignificant or worthless compared *to* some other person or thing.

1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* II. iv. 165 All I can is nothing, To her, whose worth, make other worthies nothing. 1639 W. C. *Italian Convert* Ep. Ded. 3 But all this is nothing to that which they both suffered for their conscience. 1697 R. COLLIER *Ess.* I. (1703) 169 A new way of extracting the spirit of happiness; the Chymistry of a bee is nothing to it. 1793 GOUVR. MORRIS Sparks' *Life & Writ.* (1832) I. 415 Our old Congress was nothing to this Convention. 1877 SPURGEON *Serm.* XXIII. 77 Self is an unpleasant object for study. Anatomy is nothing to it.

11. *To make nothing of*: **a.** To make light of.

Usually with gerund; for the earlier const. with infinitive, see MAKE *v.*[1] 51 c.

1632 SHERWOOD, To make nothing of, *desestimer*. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 57 ? 3 She..makes nothing of leaping over a Six-bar Gate. 1821 *Examiner* 732/2 He made nothing of eating burning coals. 1838 S. PARKER *Explor. Tour* (1846) 28 The river makes nothing of washing away banks and islands. 1850 W. SCORESBY *Cheever's Whalem. Adv.* vi. (1859) 80 This forced trial of hydropathy is, indeed, so common an occurrence that whalemen make nothing of it.

b. (With *can.*) To be unable to accomplish anything; to fail to comprehend or solve.

1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 229 They hoarded her again the third time, but could make nothing on't. 1852 FROUDE *Ess., Eng. Forgotten Worthies* (1906) 67 They could make nothing..of his odd ironical answers. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* IV. xii, Bella could make nothing of it but that John was in the right.

12. *To come to nothing*, to have no effect or result; to break down, fail.

1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 233 This voyage.. came to nothing. 1625 K. LONG tr. *Barclay's Argenis* V. x. (1636) 645 Her promises came to nothing. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 203 All my Fancies and Schemes came to nothing. 1796–7 MISS AUSTEN *Pride & Prej.* V. (1813) 15 It may all come to nothing. 1814 — *Mansf. Park* (1847) 172 His falling in love with Julia had come to nothing.

13. *To have nothing to do with* (a thing or person): see DO *v.* 33 d. Also *ellipt.*

1605 SHAKS. *Lear* II. ii. 37 Away, I haue nothing to do with thee. 1715 DE FOE *Fam. Instruct.* I. iv. (1841) I. 86 I'll have nothing to do with it. 1830 *Fraser's Mag.* I. 203 It has nothing to do with the purpose. 1835 F. W. FABER *Lett.* (1869) 39 God caters for tomorrow; we have nothing to do with it. 1892 *Punch* 16 Jan. 41/2 'A Wife's Secret' (nothing to do with the old play of that name).

14. *All to nothing*, to the fullest extent.

1742 RICHARDSON *Pamela* IV. 53 And has carry'd his Point all to nothing, as the Racing Gentlemen say. 1797 MRS. A. M. BENNETT *Beggar Girl* (1813) I. 161 Why a voyage to India was all to nothing a better venture than marriage. *a* 1818 M. G. LEWIS *Jrnl. W. Ind.* (1834) 67 The most beautiful tree, or, rather, group of trees, all to nothing, is the Bamboo.

b. With *beat*. (Also simply *to nothing*.)

1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) III. 88 Christians ..beat us all to nothing in honour and humanity. 1784 R. BAGE *Barham Downs* II. 263 If the Gods had made you poetical I should have beat Swift's Sacharissa all to nothing. 1819 *Metropolis* I. 173 Our Opera..and our halls at Almack's beat them to nothing.

15. *Nothing off* (see quot. 1846). *Naut.*

1846 A. YOUNG *Naut. Dict.* s.v. *Near, Nothing off!* is an order not to let her fall off from the wind. *c* 1860 H. STUART *Seaman's Catech.* 41 What is the meaning of 'nothing off'? Keeping the ship close to the wind without shaking the sails.

III. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

16. a. Attrib., as *nothing-case, -creature, -gift.*

1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* III. vi. 86 That nothing-guift of differing Multitudes. 1647 JESSEY (*title*), The Exceeding Riches of Grace Advanced by the Spirit of Grace, in an Empty Nothing Creature. 1700 C. NESSE *Antid. Armin.* (1827) 107 Unconverted men are nothing-creatures. 1847 ALB. SMITH *Stuck-up People* (ed. 4) 22 Cups, and saucers, and miniatures; inkstands,..and *papier-mâché* nothing-cases.

b. Objective, as *nothing-do, -doing*, etc.

1629 T. ADAMS *Barren Tree* Wks. 966 What innumerable Swarmes of nothing-does beleaguer this Citie! 1633 — *Exp. 2 Peter* ii. 10. 729 Droves of beggars, profest cyphers, nothing-does that swarme about this Citie. 1667 DENHAM *Direct. Paint.* IV. iii. 2 The mad shout Of a poor nothing-understanding Rout. 1773 MRS. GRANT *Lett. fr. Mts.* (1807) I. v. 47 The incursions of these nothing-doing people. 1811 JANE AUSTEN *Lett.* (1884) II. 83 His usual nothing-meaning, harmless, heartless civility.

c. In various phrases used attributively, or as the basis of a noun or adjective.

1778 *Learning at a Loss* I. 79 That Kind of Ennuyant Nothing-to-do-ishness which is worse than all the Rest. 1794 COLERIDGE *Lett.* (1895) 72 Gloucester is a nothing-to-be-said-about town. 1812 COLMAN *Br. Grins, Two Parsons* lxxxv, These practical, nothing-so-easy jokers. 1828 *Lights & Shades* I. 210 Let him be bound apprentice to a nothing-to-do man. 1878 H. WRIGHT *Mental Trav.* 143 An abyss of commonplace or nothing-in-lifeism. 1888 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Robbery under Arms* 126 One of those nothing-particular-looking old chaps.

B. *adv.* Not at all, in no way.

1. Qualifying a verb.

a. a 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1070, Þa munecas ..beaden heom grið, ac hi na rohten na þing. *c* 1205 LAY. 22048 Þat no bið he for þan watere naðing idracched. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 12245 Na thinc can i him discreue, For sagh i neuer nan suilk mi liue. *c* 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 117 To prise hym forthir to pray, It helpis na thing. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilȝear* 561 Thow trowis nathing thir taillis that I am telland. 1567 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 573 The proffeitt quhilk na thing belangit to thame. *a* 1585 MONTGOMERIE *Cherrie & Slae* 289 Quhilk profitis nathing at the lenth.

β. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 932 Vor þing þat woneþ & noþing wexþ, sone it worþ ido. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 5154 (Kölbing), His scheld perced Gvinbating, Ac his strong hauberk no þing. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl. C.* IX. 214 Hit is no þyng for loue thei labour þus faste. *c* 1440 *Alph. Tales* 455 All way þai war nothyng lukid after. 1483 CAXTON *G. de la Tour* C ij, Hir lord her husbond was no thing plesid that she went so gladly. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Golden Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) B ij, I praise nothyng the knowlege of myne auncesters. 1597 T. MORLEY *Introd. Mus.* 95 You blamed my beginning, yet haue you altred it nothing. 1615 A. STAFFORD *Heavenly Dog* 68 Though this be the most terrible of deaths..yet it shall nothing appale me. 1666 M. M. *Solomon's Prescr.* 83 Perhaps thou art one that think'st thyself safe, and that this nothing belongs to thee. 1702 *English Theophrastus* 164 Naked lessons and precepts have nothing the force that Images and Parables have upon our minds. 1788 PRIESTLEY *Lect. Hist.* V. lxii. 307 An aristocracy however differs nothing from a despotism. 1829 LANDOR *Imag. Conv., Marvel & Ep. Parker* Wks. 1853 II. 107/1 They often infect those who ailed nothing. 1867 DK. ARGYLL *Reign of Law* ii. (1871) 58 It helps us nothing in such a difficulty, to say that [etc.].

† **b.** *To make nothing*, not to pertain or be of consequence *to*, not to tell *for* or *against* (a person or thing).

After L. *nihil facere* or F. *ne. faire rien.*

1551 ROBINSON tr. *More's Utopia* II. vi. (1895) 205 It maketh nothing to thys matter, whether yow saye that sickenes is a griefe, or that in sickenes is griefe. 1560 DAUS *Sleidane's Comm.* 424 b, That maketh nothing for the matter saith he, for he beareth witnes of him self. 1687 MIÉGE *Gt. Fr. Dict.* II. s.v., It makes nothing against me, *cela ne fait rien contre moi.* 1690 LOCKE *Hum. Underst.* I. iii. § 3 But this makes nothing for Innate Characters on the Mind. 1727 BOYER *Eng.-Fr. Dict.* s.v. *Make*, It makes nothing to me,..*Cela..ne me regarde point.*

2. Qualifying an adj. or adv. Now *arch.*

a 1050 *Wærferth's Gregory's Dial.* 114 Wyrc þin worc, & ne beo þu nan þing sari. *a* 1290 *St. Dunstan* 122 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 23 Hit ne þhouhte him no-þing long. 1315 SHOREHAM I. 891 Myd sucher sorȝe schryfte, man, Wel stylle, and no þyng loude. ? 1370 *Robt. Cicyle* 56 The crowne semyth the no thyng welle. *c* 1450 *Merlin* 18 She is nothynge gilty. *c* 1485 *Digby Myst.* (1882) III. 1981 Now of hyr goyng I am nothyng glad. 1503 HAWES *Examp. Virt.* IX. 163 For she was horned and no thynge cleere. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* I. vii. 8 [It] is nothing rough in handling. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* X. 495 The Wooll..is nothing inferiour to that of..Spaine. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IX. 1039 Her hand he seis'd, and to a shadie bank..He led her nothing loath. 1808 SCOTT *Marm.* II. iv, She loved to see her maids obey, Yet nothing stern was she in cell. 1867 MYERS *St. Paul* (1898) 21 Nothing disdainful of the Virgin's womb.

b. With adjs. or advs. preceded by *so*.

a 1466 *Paston Lett.* II. 264 For I wys she ys no thyng so sadde as I wold she wer. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 153 b, Theyr syght is duske or dymme, & nothynge so clere as is the syght of the contemplatyue persone. 1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 78 My calamities seeme nothing so many in comparison of your great miseries. 1620 E. BLOUNT *Horæ Subs.* 317 A passion that can be mastered, is nothing so dangerous as one that cannot. 1644 EVELYN *Diary* 24 Sept., Some bathes of medicinal waters,..but nothing so neately wall'd & adorn'd as ours in Som'ersetshire. 1712 HEARNE *Collect.* III. 413 He was nothing so learned and judicious a Man as he is represented to have been. 1826 E. IRVING *Babylon* III. I. 169 The insight which was given to Daniel..was nothing so minute and particular as that which was given to the apostle John.

c. Followed by *the* and a comparative.

1547 HOOPER *Declar. Christ* x. Wks. (Parker Soc.) 76 An infidel may receive the external sign of baptism and yet no Christian man nothing the rather. 1559 W. CUNNINGHAM *Cosmogr. Glasse* 116 So shall the example be the more familiar, and your paines nothing the greater. 1592 GREENE *Couny Catch.* To Young Gentl., I have eaten Spanishe Mirabolanes, and yet am nothing the more metamorphosed. *a* 1662 HEYLIN *Laud* (1671) 129 More recent were the Puritans, but nothing the less dangerous. 1829 SOUTHEY *Sir T. More* (1831) II. 18 The bird was nothing the worse for what it had undergone.

3. a. *Nothing like*, in various uses. Cf. LIKE *a.* 2.

c 1412 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 3023 Hir woys was.. nothyng lyke a mannys voise in soun. 1547 BOORDE *Introd. Knowl.* 133 Not of that effycacyte as is spoken of, nor nothing like. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 43 b, Not so much credit to be given unto them, nothing like, as to the scripture. 1782 ELIZ. BLOWER *G. Bateman* III. 111 [She sits her horse] nothing like so well as you used to do. 1815 *Zeluca* I. 194 Nothing like so excellent as your epigrammatic translation. 1868 THIRLWALL *Lett.* (1881) II. 130 Our frost..seems to have been nothing like so severe as it has been in France or Italy.

b. *Nothing near.* Cf. NEAR *adv.* 6.

1581 G. PETTIE tr. *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* (1586) I. 5 b, Your courteous good will maketh you go beyond the trueth,.. which commeth nothing neere to that you spake of. 1609 BIBLE (Douay) *Ezek.* xlviii. Comm., The terrestrial citie of Jerusalem..was nothing nere so large. 1642 ROGERS *Naaman* 59 This was no great state (nothing neere Naamans). 1712 J. JAMES tr. *Le Blond's Gardening* 25 Not much inferior to the other, but nothing near so large. *a* 1797 BURKE (Webster), The influence of reason in producing our passions is nothing near so extensive as is commonly believed.

c. *Nothing so*, in various uses.

1515 BARCLAY *Egloges* ii. (1570) B iv b/2 But many fooles thinke it is nothing so. 1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 275 As if Democritus had beneoutragious indeede: who was nothing so. 1600 J. PORY tr. *Leo's Africa* III. 139 In the springtime it is nothing so. 1642 JER. TAYLOR *God's Judgem.* I. xxiii. 91 When some replyed, That the soules of men were immortall..hee..swore, that he thought it nothing so. 1701 GREW *Cosmol. Sacra* IV. iv. 189 Some may think of Jael that..she was no better than a Trapanning Hussy. But nothing so. 1874 LOWELL *Agassiz* IV. ii, Our social monotone of level days, Might make our best seem banishment; But it was nothing so.

4. *Nothing worth*, of no value. Now *rare.*

Perh. partly an inversion of *worth nothing.*

1535 COVERDALE *Job* xxiv. 25 Who wil then reproue me as a lyar, & saye yᵗ my wordes are nothinge worth? 1587 GOLDING *De Mornay* xviii. 288 Who knoweth not that thing to be nothing worth, that is given for nought? 1619 R. WESTE *Bk. of Demeanor* 116 in *Babees Bk.* 295 To belch or bulch..Commendeth manners to be base, most foule and nothing worth. 1654 FULLER *Triana* ii. (1664) 180 Mustard is nothing worth unless it bite. 1727 MATHER *Yng. Man's Comp.* 70 Some Rich Men over-valued, tho' nothing worth. 1833 COLERIDGE *Table-t.* 16 Feb., My Devil was to be, like Goethe's, the universal humorist, who should make all things vain and nothing worth. 1833 TENNYSON *Two Voices* 331 A life of nothings, nothing-worth.

absol. 1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong, Vn pottron*, a nothing worth, a slouthfull person.

Hence **No'thing** *v.*, to reduce to nothing. **No'thingist**, a nihilist. **No'thingizing**, reduction to nothing, obliteration. **No'thingless** *a.*, insignificant; non-existent. **No'thingly** *sb.*, a cipher; *a.*, of no value or effect. **Nothingo'logy**, the study or science of nothing. **Nothingon'sian** (see quot.). **No'thingy** *a.*, of no worth or importance.

1652 BENLOWES *Theoph.* VII. xv, Their Spiritual Natures would be *nothing'd quite. 1648 W. BROWNE tr. *Le Foy's Polexander* II. 339 'Tis an abasement; (Madam) 'tis an humiliation; 'Tis such a prodigious *nothinging of your selfe. 1890 *Daily News* 17 Jan. 4/8 Thus Bazaroff becomes the first 'Nihilist' or '*Nothingist'. *c* 1830 COLERIDGE in *Blackw. Mag.* Jan. (1882) 111 It is a discontinuing in descent, and a *nothingising of the female. 1822 MRS. SHELLEY *Let.* 20 Dec., I have nothing else except my *nothingless self to talk about. 1856 DOVE *Logic Chr. Faith* v. i. 278 The solar system would sink into a nothingless relation to us. 1814 D'ARBLAY *Wanderer* I. v, That *nothingly, Ireton, has nearly shrugged his shoulders out of joint. 1833 *New Monthly Mag.* XXXVIII. 158 How vain, how nothingly is the groaning and struggling, and the Truth and the Virtue of the world! 1803 FESSENDEN *Terrible Tract.* I. (ed. 2) 18 *note*, Sublime discoveries with abstruse sciences of insect-ology, mite-ology and *nothingology. 1811 *Spirit Public Jrnls.* XV. 325 What new prospects arise for adventurers in nothingology. 1791 in Parr *Wks.* (1828) VII. 93 You are a Parousian,..and my clergy are *Nothingousians, for they have no notion at all about the matter. 1801 EARL MALMESBURY *Diaries & Corr.* IV. 36 It would be very strange if such *nothingy men were to stand in the way of so great a measure. 1834 GREVILLE *Mem.* (1875) III. xxii. 55 Parliament had opened the day before, with a long nothingy (a word I have coined) speech from the throne.

Nothinga'rian, *sb.* and *a.* [f. NOTHING *sb.*]

A. *sb.* **1.** One who holds no religious belief.

1789 MORSE *Amer. Geogr.* 206 There is a considerable number of the people who..are, as to religion, Nothingarians. 1815 J. MASON in B. P. Smith *Hist. Dartmouth Coll.* (1878) 95 This comprises..most of the Baptists and Methodists, and all the nothingarians. 1845 T. W. COIT *Puritanism* 433 The taxes of all the stragglers, nothingarians, and infidels, went there. 1880 *Echo* 20 Aug. 2/5 Are the consecrated churchyards..to be desecrated..to indulge the whim of a few nothingarians and unbelievers?

2. = NIHILIST 2. *rare*[−1].

1820 LADY GRANVILLE *Lett.* (1894) I. 171 Sir Robert Wilson..says he can bear anything but those nothingarians.

B. *adj.* Having no definite aim or purpose.

1889 *Open Court* 3 Jan. II. 1393/2 The blessed leisure of wealth was not to him the occasion of a nothingarian dilettantism, of idleness,..pleasure, or ambition.

Hence **Nothinga'rianism**, absence of any religious belief or political creed.

1872 J. GRANT *Newspaper Press* III. 282 Conservative, Independent, or Neutral, which last word is but another name for Nothingarianism. 1894 BARING GOULD *Deserts S. France* I. 102 The losses of the Catholics are into Nothingarianism.

No'thingism. [f. as prec. + -ISM.]

1. A triviality, a trifle.

1742 LADY M. W. MONTAGU *Lett.* II. 189 It is surprising what nothingisms make a figure in polite conversation. 1864 *Realm* 13 Apr. 2 The article is one of those sensational nothingisms—a sample of that sensationalism *des riens*, as the French have it.

2. = NIHILISM 1.

1809–10 COLERIDGE *Friend* (1818) I. 275 The whole groundwork of Rousseau's Philosophy ends in a mere Nothingism. 1884 *19th Cent.* Mar. 505 The attempted religion of Spiritism has lost one after another every resource of a real religion, until..it ends in a religion of Nothingism.

3. = NIHILISM 2.

1890 *Daily News* 17 Jan. 4/8 The Nihilists,..as 'nothingism' seemed of somewhat kindred meaning with destruction, simply filched from Bazaroff his good name.

No'thingness. [f. as prec. + -NESS.]

1. Non-existence; that which is non-existent.

a 1631 DONNE *Nocturnall* Poems (1654) 36 His art did expresse A quintessence even from nothingnesse. 1690 BAXTER *Kingd. Christ* ii. (1691) 30 Here we have Anihilation and Nothingness in themselves. 1797 LAMB *Let. to Coleridge* 10 Jan., My letter is full of nothingness. I talk

of nothing. 1831 Carlyle *Sart. Res.* I. i, The immeasurable circumambient realm of Nothingness and Night! 1866 Alger *Solit. Nat. & Man* IV. 251 He sees man suspended between the two abysses of infinity and nothingness. 1884 *19th Cent.* Mar. 500 Its sole dogma is the infinity of Nothingness.

b. The condition of being non-existent.

Common in 19th cent., esp. in phrases *to sink, fade*, etc., *into nothingness*.

1809 Irving *Knickerb.* VII. xiii. (1849) 449 Each has returned to its primeval nothingness. 1875 McLaren *Serm.* 2nd Ser. I. 18 It must..be done by Faith, whose rod disenchants them into their native nothingness, and then it is blessed. 1894 Jessopp *Rand. Roam.* I. 3 How beautiful plans do fade into nothingness.

c. Cessation of consciousness or of life.

1813 Byron *Giaour* iii, The first dark day of nothingness. 1816 — *Let. to Murray* 30 Sept., A sort of grey giddiness first, then nothingness. 1818 Shelley *Rosal. & Helen* 403 They themselves were weaned each one..even from the thirst Of death, and nothingness, and rest.

2. The worthlessness or vanity *of* something.

1646 H. Lawrence *Comm. Angells* 150 By the foolishnesse, that is, by the Nothingnesse, of Preaching hee saves them that beleeve. 1693 G. Firmin *Rev. Davis's Vind.* I. 10 Why should a Man look after anothers Righteousness, till he see the nothingness of his own? 1724 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 6240/3 Sensible..of the Nothingness of this World and the Vanity of its Grandeurs. 1771 Smollett *Humph. Cl.* II. ii. 14 June, A sarment upon the nothingness of good works..was preached. 1822 Bryon *Juan* VII. vi, Must I restrain me, through the fear of strife, From holding up the nothingness of life? 1867 Lewes *Hist. Philos.* (ed. 3) I. 43 Which first called men's attention to the nothingness of knowledge. 1884 W. S. Lilly in *Contemp. Rev.* Feb. 257 This self-renunciation..founded itself upon the vanity and nothingness of what was given up.

b. That which has no value; the condition of being worthless.

1654 Whitlock *Zootomia* 251 A whole Dictionary whereof would hold forth but Muchnesse of Nothingnesse. 1743 H. Walpole *Lett.* (1903) I. 376 My letters are now at their *ne plus ultra* of nothingness. 1800 Coleridge *Piccolom.* I. iv, Mere hustling nothingness, where the soul is not. 1863 Kinglake *Crimea* (1877) II. vi. 54 The political conversation between the booted Czar and the men of peace was sheer nothingness. 1880 'Ouida' *Moths* II. 384 What a confession of internal nothingness.

3. Utter insignificance or unimportance.

a 1652 J. Smith *Sel. Disc.* IX. (1821) 419 Triumphing in nothing more than in his own nothingness, and in the allness of the Divinity. *a* 1672 Sterry *Freed. Will* (1675) 142 The nothingness of the Creature prevailing in the absence of the Divine beams. 1721 R. Keith tr. *T. à Kempis, Solil. Soul* xxii. 291 Accept however the Sacrifice of my Humility, my Poverty, and my Nothingness. 1749 Lavington *Enthus. Meth. & Papists* (1820) 51 She sunk down to the centre of her own nothingness. 1821–30 Ld. Cockburn *Mem.* 80, I entered the Faculty of Advocates; and with a feeling of nothingness paced the Outer House. 1874 Symonds *Sk. Italy & Greece* (1898) I. i. 9 Many..have found a deep peace in the sense of their own nothingness.

4. A non-existent thing; a state of non-existence or worthlessness; a thing of no value, etc.

1652 Benlowes *Theoph.* II. vi, Soul, Th' Architect of Wonders blesse Whose All-creating Word embirth'd a Nothingnesse. 1660 tr. *Paracelsus' Archidoxis* I. VII. 110 A Specifical Corrosive..wholly Consumes Metals even to a nothingness. 1748 Hartley *Observ. Man* I. iv. § 3. 460 They ..afterwards fix a positive Nothingness and Worthlessness upon them. 1751 Smollett *Per. Pic.* xxxix, A nothingness of conversation which he could never attain. 1884 *Lotze's Metaph.* 235 Just as little could that which separates them and makes them diverge be a mere nothingness when compared to the space..itself.

pl. 1680 *Reft. on Late Libel* 33 Though he..speak hard Words, and new Words, or..cries Incomes, Outgoings, &c. which are indeed Nothingnesses. 1826 Southey *Lett.* (1856) IV. 1 The follies and impertinencies and nothingnesses with which I am pestered. 1879 Baring-Gould *Germany* I. 324 The professors..do not waste the hour of lecture with verbose nothingnesses.

No-thoroughfare. A way, lane, etc., from which there is no exit at one end; a cul-de-sac.

The notice *No Thoroughfare* is freq. put up at the entrance to such places; also in streets temporarily closed, or ways not open to the public.

1809 Malkin *Gil Blas* II. iii. P 1, I was on my way to No Thoroughfare. 1843 Dickens *Mart. Chuz.* ix, In the throats and maws of dark no-thoroughfares. 1870 J. H. Newman *Gram. of Assent* II. vii. 211 A host of like questions..must be deliberately put aside,..as (so to speak) no-thoroughfares, having no outlet themselves [etc.].

attrib. 1815 Simond *Tour Gt. Brit.* II. 259 One of those no-thoroughfare lanes or courts.

Nothosaurian, *a. Palæont.* [f. next + -IAN.] Resembling the Nothosaurus.

1893 *Proc. Zoological Soc.* 616 Mr. G. A. Boulenger..read a paper 'On a Nothosaurian Reptile..apparently referable to *Lariosaurus*'.

Nothosaurus (nɒθɒsɔ̄·rŭs). *Palæont.* [f. Gr. *νόθος* spurious + *σαῦρος* lizard.] A fossil saurian belonging to the Triassic epoch.

1845 R. Chambers *Vestiges Nat. Hist. Creation* (ed. 4) 99 Other reptiles there were—nothosaurus and rhynchosaurus—of lacertian or lizard-like character. 1870 Nicholson *Man. Zool.* (1875) 492 Of the other genera of the Sauropterygia, Simosaurus and Nothosaurus are from the Trias, and are chiefly characteristic of..the Muschelkalk.

Notht, obs. Sc. variant of Nought.

Notice (nōu·tis), *sb.* Also 5 notyce, 6 notize. [a. F. *notice* (14th c.), ad. L. *nōtitia* (whence also It. *notizia*, Sp. and Pg. *noticia*), f. *nōtus* known.]

1. Intimation, information, intelligence, warning. Also with *pl.*, and *transf.* (quot. 1741).

1483 *Cal. Proc. Chanc. Q. Eliz.* (1830) Pref. 72 Byfore any knowlegge or notyce therof made or yeven to..Robert Scrope. 1599 Shaks. *Hen. V*, IV. vii. 122 Bring me iust notice of the numbers dead. 1653 Walton *Angler* To Rdr. 2 Of these..I thought fit to give thee this notice. 1671 Milton *Samson* 1536 A little stay will bring some notice hither. 1710 Steele *Tatler* No. 173 P 2 His Epistles and Satires are full of proper Notices for the Conduct of Life in a Court. 1741 Richardson *Pamela* (1824) I. xxxii. 313 My lord.., being a little tender in his feet, from a gouty notice, walked very slowly. 1847 Tennyson *Princ.* vii. 234 Notice of a change in the dark world Was lispt about the acacias. 1859 — *Geraint* 149 Before him came a forester..with notice of a hart..First seen that day.

b. In phr. *to give* (and *to have*) *notice*.

1582 Stanyhurst *Æneis* III. (Arb.) 85 Shee wyl geeue notice to the streight of al Italye dwellers. 1588 Shaks. *L. L. L.* II. i. 81 Nauar had notice of your faire approach. 1617 Moryson *Itin.* I. 37 Promising rewards..to any man [who] should give them notice when any such passed. 1695 Woodward *Nat. Hist. Earth* I. (1723) 4 Wheresoever I had Notice of any considerable natural Spelunca..I forthwith had recourse thereunto. 1719–20 Swift *To Yng. Clergym.* Wks 1751 V. 5 Allow him with the utmost Freedom to give you notice of whatever he shall find amiss either in your voice or gesture. 1847 Marryat *Childr. N. Forest* XX, He knew the dogs would give notice of the approach of any one.

c. *At short notice*, with little time for action or preparation. So *at ten minutes' notice*, etc.

1784 Cowper *Task* IV. 136 Gath'ring, at short notice, in one group The family dispers'd. 1864 G. A. Sala in *Daily Tel.* 20 July, One of those tremendous gales..which spring up at ten minutes' notice. 1875 Higginson *Hist. U. S.* XXXI. 295 All these..had to be bought..at very short notice.

d. A sign, placard, etc., conveying some intimation or intelligence.

1805 Wordsw. *Waggoner* I. 81 Some shining notice will be there, Of open house and ready fare. 1822 Shelley *To Jane, Invitation* 29, I leave this notice on my door For each accustomed visitor. 1834 *West India Sketch Bk.* I. 28 At the Exchange, where thou wilt find notices of vessels.. according to the ports or places.

2. Formal intimation or warning of something.

1594 Shaks. *Rich. III*, III. v. 108 (Q.), Now will I in..to giue notice, that no manner of person..haue recourse vnto the Princes. *a* 1641 Bp. Mountagu *Acts & Mon.* (1642) 401 It was done with sound of Trumpet,..as Players with us use to give notice of a Play. 1650 *Cal. St. P., Dom. Ser.* (1876) 540 Masters of the letter packet boat, Not to carry any male passengers to France or Flanders until further notice. 1711 Swift *Lett.* (1767) III. 167 Cairnes's clerks.. said, they had received no notice of it. 1770 Langhorne *Plutarch* (1879) I. 79/2 A herald went before, who gave notice to the people to keep holiday. 1818 Cruise *Digest* (ed. 2) III. 451 Where the trust was destroyed by a conveyance to a purchaser, without notice. 1853 Mrs. Carlyle *Lett.* II. 240, I had the lease of the house, and the notice to quit lying at my disposal. 1896 *Act* 59 & 60 *Vict.* c. 36 § 2 Public notice of any order made under this Act shall be given in the manner required.

b. An intimation by one of the parties to an agreement that it is to terminate at a specified time, *esp.* with reference to quitting a house, lodgings, or employment.

1837 Dickens *Pickw.* XXVI, All I've come about, is just.. to give my governor's notice. 1844 — *Mart. Chuz.* X, All I've got to say to you, Mrs. Todgers, is,—a week's notice from next Saturday. 1887 Sims *Mary Jane's Mem.* 299 The girl was under notice.

†3. Knowledge. *Obs.*

c 1586 C'tess Pembroke *Ps.* LXXIX. iv, O kindle there thy furies flame, Where lives no notice of thy name. 1602 Marston *Antonio's Rev.* V. i, The Florence Prince (Drawne by firme notice of the Dukes black deeds) Is made a partner in conspiracie. 1631 Weever *Anc. Funeral Mon.* 382 Many Chantries, Chappels [etc.], more then I haue notice of, were erected..within the spacious vast Fabricke of this Episcopall Chaire. 1726 Shelvocke *Voy. round World* 28 Being very ready to assist me with his advice, and notice of the state of affairs.

†4. A notion or idea. *Obs.*

1654 Jer. Taylor *Real Pres.* § 11 That unreasonable thing, which all the natural and congenite notices of men cry down. 1665 Glanvill *Scepsis Sci.* Addr. p. vii, Improving the minds of Men in solid and useful notices of things. 1696 Stillingfl. *Serm.* IV. 142 The virtuous heathens,..according to those short and obscure notices which they had of God. 1784 Cowper *Tiroc.* 199 Our early notices of truth, disgrac'd, Soon lose their credit, and are all effac'd.

5. Heed, cognizance, note, attention.

1597 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* V. xlix. § 2 As farre as any dutie of ours dependeth vpon the notize of their condition. 1605 Shaks. *Lear* II. iv. 252 To no more Will I giue place or notice. 1665 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* (1677) 333 Give me leave therefore to name some Fruit may be worth the notice. 1769 Burke *Late St. Nation* Wks. II. 82 The author speaks..of her debt, as a thing scarcely worthy of notice. 1784 Cowper *Task* V. 257 They soon grow drunk With gazing, when they see an able man Step forth to notice. 1874 Geo. Eliot *Coll. Breakf.-P.* 269 If you turn away From narrow notice how the scent of gold Has guided sense of damning heresy. 1885 *Law Times Rep.* LIII. 61/2 He had no reason to give particular notice to what lights the *I. C. U.* was showing.

b. One's cognizance or observation.

1607 Shaks. *Cor.* II. iii. 166 To my poore vnworthy notice, He mock'd vs, when he begg'd our Voyces. 1679 Dryden *Limberham* I. i, For fear that Name shou'd bring me to the notice of my Father. 1742 Fielding *J. Andrews* I. xv, Nor is the meanest thief below, or the greatest hero above, thy notice. 1784 Johnson in *Boswell* 2 Aug., Wherever I turn, the dead or the dying meet my notice. 1819 Shelley *Cenci* IV. iv. 86 A gold-inwoven robe..Betrayed them to our notice. 1895 *Law Times Rep.* LXXIII. 651/1 Keeping back that which there was a duty to bring specifically to the notice of the underwriters.

†c. An act of observation. *Obs. rare* —1.

1625 Fletcher & Shirley *Nt. Walker* II. i, I saw the old Lady, ere she went to bed, Put up her plate..In a small long chest... *Lurc.* 'Twas a good notice.

†d. *For notice sake*, in order to be noticed. *Obs.*

1632 Lithgow *Trav.* I. 41 The Iewes..in Rome, weare red, and yellow hats for notice sake, to distinguish them from others.

6. *To take notice*, to give heed, bestow attention. Const. *of* the person or thing; also *that, how*.

1592 Shaks. *Ven. & Ad.* 341 Taking no notice that she is so nigh. 1597 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* V. lxxii. § 11 After notize taken how the Montanists held these additions to be supplements of the Gospell. 1638 Junius *Paint. Ancients* 24 Our mind shall never take notice of anything the eyes doe see. 1662 Stillingfl. *Orig. Sacræ* I. vi. § 2 To which purpose the Testimony of Varro in Censorinus is generally taken notice of. 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 39 P 5 Men in Ordinary Discourse very often speak Iambicks, without taking notice of it. 1779 Sheridan *Critic* II. ii, But isn't it odd they never were taken notice of, not even by the commander-in-chief? 1868 Tennyson *Lucretius* 8 Yet often.. the master took Small notice. 1895 Maartens *My Lady Nobody* 345 Somebody tried the lock. Ursula took no notice.

b. *spec.* of babies: To show signs of intelligent observation.

1846 Dickens *Cricket on Hearth* i, Two months and three da-ays!..Takes notice in a way quite won-der-ful! 1895 Maartens *My Lady Nobody* 309 'He is beginning to take notice', said Ursula..,'Don't you see how he opens and shuts his little fingers?'

†7. *To take notice to* (one), to point out, mention specially. *Obs.*

1660 Boyle *New Exp. Phys. Mech.* XXXVI. 283 The haste I was in..made me forget to take notice to you of a Problem that occurr'd to my thoughts. 1718 Lady M. W. Montagu *Lett.* II. 79, I cannot forbear taking notice to you of a mistake of Gemelli. 1765 H. Walpole *Otranto* iv, I took notice of it to Bianca, even before I saw him in armour. 1787 Earl Malmesbury *Diaries & Corr.* II. 345 He took again notice to both these Ministers. 1807 Southey *Espriella's Lett.* I. 100 He took notice to one of them, that the lad..appeared very sickly and delicate.

8. a. A brief mention in writing; *spec.* in modern use, a paragraph or article on a newly published book, a review.

1841 Arnold in *Life & Corr.* (1844) II. x. 298, I thank you very much for your *notices of my lecture. 1847 L. Hunt *Men, Wom. & Bks.* II. xi. 277 Pepys, not very consistently with some of his notices of the Doctor, complains that he did all the work. 1872 Holmes *Poet Breakf.-t.* vi. (1906) 132 Before you write that brilliant notice of some ..book of verses.

b. *pl.* Notes of astronomical observations.

1861 J. Nichol in *Mem.* (1896) 88 You are popping your kind old head in at the stand 'to take the notices'.

9. *Comb.*, as *notice-shunning, -taker, -taking, -worthy*.

1817 Coleridge *Biogr. Lit.* (Bohn) 20 In the days of our shy and *notice-shunning grandfathers! 1663 Spencer *Prodigies* (1665) 374 God's Rod hath a voice.., and it becomes us to be his *notice-takers. 1614 Jackson *Creed* III. 45 To smother their guilt, and preuent all *notice taking of their impietie. 1673 Ray *Journ. Low C.* 39 A handsome Building.., which we thought not unworthy the notice-taking. 1816 Scott *Old Mort.* XXXVIII, Though ye are no blind, ye are no sae notice-taking as I am. 1856 Froude *Hist. Eng.* (1858) II. vii. 182 An illustration, very *notice-worthy, of the temper which was working in the country.

Notice (nōu·tis), *v.* Also 5 notyse, 6 notise, 7 notize. [f. the sb.]

Not much used before the middle of the 18th cent., after which it becomes common in American use, and is also mentioned as a Scotticism:—

1787 Beattie *Scoticisms* 59 *Narrate*, and *to notice*, have of late been used by some Eng. writers; but it is better to avoid them. 1789 Franklin *Wks.* (1888) X. 177 During my late absence in France, I find that several other new words have been introduced into our parliamentary language; for example, I find a verb formed from the substantive *notice*: I should not have noticed this [etc.].

†1. *trans.* To notify, intimate. *Obs.*

c 1450 Lovelich *Merlin* 2812 The deth of the rede dragown Schal notyse ful gret Significaciown. *Ibid.* 6900 Alle the clergyse there anon thorwgh the rewm dyde notyse thus son. *c* 1525 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. III. I. 5 If it be ment that we shuld notise unto theis people where thoffence hathe bene committed. 1541 *Act* 33 *Hen. VIII*, c. 21 Some of his counsaile..ought shortly after to notice the same vnto him. 1627 Sclater *Exp.* 2 *Thess.* (1629) 305 This noticeth that we loue Gods children.., when all that are such, are entertained into our loue.

2. To make mention of; to remark upon; to refer to, speak of (something observed).

1611 T. Howard in *Harington's Nugæ Ant.* (1804) I. 396 That his eyes are fire, his tail is Berenice's locks, and a few more such fancies worthy your noticing.

1748 Miss C. Talbot in *Lett. Miss Carter & Miss Talbot* (1809) I. 296 Remember..in your answer not to notice this latter part of mine. 1766 *Lond. Chron.* 27–30 Dec. 631/3 Mr. Garrick's judicious alteration of this Play has been already noticed in a former number. 1800 *Med. Jrnl.* IV. 380 The Communications which have been received, shall be noticed as soon as possible. 1827 D. Johnson *Ind. Field Sports* 251, I hope, if properly noticed,..that the heads of Government will take it into consideration. 1838 J. H. Newman *Lett.* (1891) II. 263 His formal noticing the faults made them important.

b. To point out, make mention of, *to* one.

1627 Sclater *Exp.* 2 *Thess.* (1632) 289 Pauls noting or notizing them to the Congregation is not excommunication complete. 1718 De Foe in Lee *Life* (1869) I. Introd. 13 This..I thought myself obliged to notice to you. 1793 Jefferson *Writ.* (1859) IV. 59 It has been thought better that I should notice to you its very exceptionable nature.

1866 Mrs. Gaskell *Wives & Daughters* lviii. (1867) 559 She looked so much better that Sir Charles noticed it to Lady Harriet.

3. To take notice of; to observe, perceive. Also *absol.* (cf. Notice *sb.* 6 b).

1757 *Amer. Mag.* Dec. 118/1 Be it previously noticed that this observation is only applicable to a false taste in building. 1762 *Penusylv. Arch.* (1853) IV. 88, I was in the house.., and did not notice any of the above circumstances. 1781 Cowper *Charity* 207 The wretch that works and weeps without relief, Has one that notices his silent grief. 1818 Shelley *Rosal. & Helen* 525 Nor noticed I where joyously Sate my two younger babes at play. 1860 Tyndall *Glac.* I. xxvii. 207, I could notice a turbidity gathering in the air. 1894 *Woman at Home* II. 437 Notice a latitudinal crease in the left sleeve.

absol. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 820 A third [child] 'did not notice' for some weeks. A fourth 'did not notice at the time of head-retraction'.

4. To treat (a person) with some degree of attention, favour, or politeness; to recognize or acknowledge (one).

1746 H. Walpole *Lett.* (1891) II. 24 The Venetian ambassadress.. is the only woman he has yet noticed. 1775 *N. Eng. Hist. & Gen. Reg.* (1864) XIX. 135, I was much Oblig'd to them for their good wishes and Opinion; in short, no Person could possibly be more Notic'd than myself. *a* 1817 Jane Austen *Persuasion* i, Mr. Elliot had ..shown himself as unsolicitous of being longer noticed by the family. 1857 Mrs. Gore *Two Aristocr.* III. 245 But of course, my dear, you did not *notice* such people?

5. † a. To notify (one) *of* a thing. *Obs. rare.*

1775 Trumbull in Sparks *Corr. Amer. Rev.* (1853) I. 31 Whether these are the same ships your Excellency noticed us of, remains uncertain.

b. To serve with a notice; to give notice to.

1850 *Tait's Mag.* XVII. 561/1 The widow was regularly noticed to quit at the ensuing term. 1862 Trollope *Orley F.* i, On these fields Mr. Dockwrath expended some money .., and when noticed to give them up.., expressed himself terribly aggrieved. 1880 *Daily News* 18 Dec. 5/3 The men, about forty in number, were 'noticed' on Friday.

6. *refl.* To take (oneself) *out of* something by giving the requisite notice.

1881 Chaplin in *Daily News* 24 Mar. 2/1 The clauses of the Act of 1875 which gave power to landlords and tenants to 'notice' themselves out of it.

Hence **No·ticing** *ppl. a.*, observant, wide awake.

1843 Carlyle *Past & Pres.* I. (1858) 118 A brisk-eyed, noticing youth and novice.

Noticeabi·lity. [f. next + -ity.] That which is noticeable.

1897 *Pall Mall Mag.* Jan. 112 These little noticeabilities are just what mankind has to suffer under.

Noticeable (nōu·tisăb'l), *a.* [f. Notice *v.*]

1. Worthy or deserving of notice.

1796 Morse *Amer. Geogr.* I. 191 Many [trees] probably equally noticeable with those enumerated. 1802 Wordsw. *Stanzas Thomson's Cast. Indolence* v, A noticeable Man with large grey eyes, And a pale face. 1828 Southey *Ess.* (1832) II. 411 The concluding clause is noticeable. 1878 Grosart in *H. More's Poems* 208 It has been my aim to register every noticeable word.

2. Capable of being noticed or observed.

1849 Lytton *Caxtons* viii. iv, Traces..of a constitutional love of show..were noticeable: but one by one they disappeared. 1869 Tyndall *Notes Lect. Light* § 188 A slight extension of their images upon the retina becomes noticeable. 1882 Howells in *Longm. Mag.* I. 53 It is in the country that this waste..is most sorrowfully noticeable.

No·ticeably, *adv.* [f. prec. + -ly 2.] In a noticeable manner or degree; remarkably.

1855 Ogilvie *Suppl.* 1856 Mrs. Browning *Aur. Leigh* v. 670 Good Sir Blaise's brow is high And noticeably narrow. 1872 Minto *Eng. Prose Lit.* 6 A sentence, so constructed, as to be noticeably loose.

No·tice-board. [f. Notice *sb.*] A board bearing a notice, or on which notices are commonly fixed.

1854 Dickens *Hard T.* II. viii, They will be punished with the utmost rigor of the laws, as notice-boards observe. 1874 Micklethwaite *Mod. Par. Churches* 220 Notice boards cannot be too simple. 1887 *Spectator* 26 Mar. 415/1 We were confronted by a notice-board threatening vengeance on trespassers.

No·ticer. *rare* −1. [f. Notice *v.*] One who, or that which, gives notice or intimation.

1751 Warburton *Pope's Wks.* V. 253 So that the station of a Professor is only a kind of legal Noticer to inform us where the shattered bulk of Learning lies at anchor.

Notice-taker, -taking: see Notice *sb.*

No·tifiable, *a.* [f. Notify *v.* + -able.] That should be notified to some authority.

1889 *Lancet* II. 565/2 Diseases..differentiated into notifiable and non-notifiable. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 11 Oct. 2/3 Steps are being taken..to make consumption a notifiable disease.

† **Notificate,** *v. Obs. rare* −1. [See next and -ate.] *trans.* To denote.

1654 Z. Coke *Logick* 10 A good division should be commodious, and apt to notificate the whole.

Notification (nōu·tifikē·ʃən). Also 4 -acioun. [a. F. *notification* (13–14th c.), = It. *notificazione*, Sp. *-acion*), or ad. med.L. *nōtificātiōn-em*, f. L. *nōtificāre*: see Notify *v.* and -ation.]

1. The action of notifying or making known; an intimation, a notice.

c 1374 Chaucer *Boeth.* v. met. iii. (1868) 159 To knowen bilke notificaciouns [L. *notas*] þat ben yhidd vndir þe couertours of soþe. 1472–75 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 159/1 Within half yere after notification to hym therof to be made. 1540 *Act* 32 *Hen. VIII*, c. 48 The sayd constable shal make relacion and notification therof to the Kinges maiestie. 1627 Donne *Serm.* v. 46 The Name of God is the Notification of God. 1669 Holder *Elem. Speech* 4 Four or Five Torches..elevated or depressed out of their Order..may by agreement give great variety of Notifications. 1748 H. Walpole *Lett.* (1846) II. 224 This seems to have been a very unnecessary notification. 1791 Burke *Th. Fr. Aff.* Wks. VII. 10 The second notification was that of the king's acceptance of the new constitution. 1812 Wellington in Gurw. *Desp.* (1837) IX. 143, I have not seen any official notification of this appointment. 1866 Crump *Banking* ix. 179 A notification was published partially suspending cash payments. 1871 Markby *Elem. Law* § 5 Very rarely notifications in the form of commands are issued by the rulers of a political society.

† **2.** The action of taking notice. *Obs. rare* −1.

1659 in *Burton's Diary* (1828) IV. 333 This is a matter of that consequence, that it ought not to be passed by without your notification.

† **Notificative,** *a. Obs. rare* −1. [Cf. F. *notificatif, -ive.*] Designative.

1652 G. Collier *Vind. Sabbath* (1656) 9 The seventh.. being notificative of a particular day.

No·tified, *ppl. a.* Now *dial.* [f. Notify *v.* + -ed 1.] Celebrated, notorious, well known.

1535 Stewart *Cron. Scot.* I. 35 In all land wes notifeit his name. 1570 *Satir. Poems Reform.* x. 402 Ane false tratour, sa knawin and notifeit. 1610 Healey *St. Aug. Citie of God* xxii. viii. 831 Paul and Palladia came to vs, being notified by their miseries in many other places. 1763 *Wilkes' Corr.* (1805) II. 33 The notified John Wilkes, esq. arrived here last night. 1796 *Look before You Leap* (ed. 2) 91 These are chiefly the great body of inhabitants who at present crowd this notified place. 1855 [Robinson] *Whitby Gloss.* s.v., 'He was a notified man in his day,' renowned in his lifetime.

No·tifier. [f. next + -er 1. Cf. OF. *notifieur.*] One who or that which notifies.

1738 W. Wilson *Def. Ref. Princ.* (1769) I. i. 36 The Church ..is a public keeper and notifier of the truth. 1741 T. Morgan *Physico-Theol.* iv. § 8. 143 As if they [*sc.* words] were natural, necessary Signs of Ideas, or Notifiers of Things. 1900 *Lancet* 2 June 1634/1 Whether the case notified occurred in the course of the notifier's private practice.

Notify (nōu·tifoi), *v.* Forms: 4–7 notifie (4–5 -fye, 5 -ffie); 4–6 notefie (5–6 -fy); 5–6 notyfie (5 -fy); 6– notify. [ad. F. *notifier*, † *notefier* (13–14th c.), = Sp. and Pg. *notificar*, It. *notificare*, ad. L. *nōtificāre*, f. *nōtus* known.]

† **1.** *trans.* To take note of, observe, notice. *Obs.*

c 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* II. 1591 Herde al this thynge Criseyde wel inough, And every word gan for to notifie. *c* 1485 *Digby Myst.* (1882) II. 22 Saule ys my name, I wyll that ye notyfy. 1509 Barclay *Shyp Folys* (1570) 132 So hangeth on his shoulders his pipe continually, Whereby men may his lewdenes notifye. 1598 Shaks. *Merry W.* II. ii. 85 She giues you to notifie, that her husband will be absence from his house, betweene ten and eleuen. 1678 R. Russell tr. *Geber* III. II. I. i. 143 Therefore we will first notifie the Principles.

2. To make known, publish, proclaim; to intimate, give notice of, announce.

c 1386 Chaucer *Man of Law's T.* 158 And notefied is thurghout the toun, That every wight..Schulde preye Crist. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 254 Which notefied was be bulle To holi cherche. 1433 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 425/1 The whiche offre and agrement..[was] notified and communed to all the Lordes. 1490 Caxton *Eneydos* viii. 34 [They] notefyden vnto the quene, how the sayd kyng had requyred her in maryage. 1542 Henry VIII *Decl.* 192 We haue thought good to notify vnto the world his doinges and behauour. 1598 Barret *Theor. Warres* IV. iii. 110 The ensignes and Lieutenants to giue and notifie the orders and commandes. 1641 *Nicholas P.* (Camden) I. 5 To notify throughout their circuits his Majesties greate grace and goodnesse to his people [etc.]. 1692 Luttrell *Brief Rel.* (1857) II. 205 A memorial to the states general, notifyeing to them that the queen of Englands fleet is ready to putt to sea. 1724 A. Collins *Gr. Chr. Relig.* 10 The Assembly..order'd Letters to be written to notify the same to all concern'd. 1757 Burke *Abridgem. Eng. Hist.* Wks. X. 316 His nobility, whom he had assembled to notify this resolution to them. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* iv. I. 457 The king therefore notified to the country his intention of holding a parliament. 1863 H. Cox *Instit.* III. viii. 714 *note*, The appointment.. was merely notified to him by a letter from a Secretary of State.

refl. 1718 *Freethinker* No. 25 P 117 In paying a Visit, the Visiter was obliged to notify himself by a set Form.

absol. 1604 Shaks. *Oth.* III. i. 31 If she will stirre hither, I shall seeme to notifie vnto her. 1889 *Leeds Mercury* 15 Aug. 8/5 She was too ill to notify.

† **b.** *intr.* To give intimation *of* something. *Obs.*

1509 Hawes *Past. Pleas.* xix. (Percy Soc.) 89 All that, madame, was to me certyfyde By good dame Fame,..Whan she to me of you well notyfide. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., K. Hen. VII* 58 He sent dyuerse postes too notefie to hys grace of Kynge Philippes landynge.

† **3.** To indicate, denote. *Obs.*

c 1386 Chaucer *Pars. T.* P 356 Yet notifien they, in hir array of attire, licourousness and pride. 1542 Udall *Erasm. Apoph.* 84 Notifiyng in myne opinion, a manne to be ferre unmeete for all good occupacions. 1627 Speed *England* xl. § 7 All distinguished and notified from the rest by the wearing of purple garments. *a* 1661 Fuller *Worthies* (1840) I. xxi. 82 Some persons in our work are notified by all of these indications. *a* 1727 Newton *Chronol. Amended* ii. (1728) 240 Their design was to notify the distraction of Egypt.

4. To give notice to; to inform.

Common in American use from the end of the 17th c.

1440 in *Wars Eng. in France* (Rolls) II. 589 If any of thappointementis..be brokyn..and the king..certifiied and notifiede therof. 1652 Wadsworth tr. *Sandoval's Civ. Wars Spain* 169 The Frier..notified and commanded them ..to go with them to Tordesillas. 1697 *Boston Rec.* (1881) VII. 226 The Selectmen are to be notified thereof that they may be present. 1716 J. Winthrop in *Mass. Hist. Collect.* V. 324, I am notify'd by the County Sheriff..to answer before you to a very wrong complaint. 1781 S. Peters *Hist. Connect.* 352 All parties, who had causes depending in any court, were to be duly notified by the Governor's proclamation. 1843 Custine *Empire Czar* I. 107 Peter notified him, through his first minister, that he was to attend the ceremony. 1883 L. Oliphant *Altiora Peto* I. 66 The asphalt..resounded with the clatter of the hoofs which notified the concierge .. that Baron Grandesella's family and luggage were on the point of arrival.

5. To write notes to; to annotate. *rare* −1.

1830 Scott *Jrnl.* 27 Dec., I took up the Magnum, and began to notify the romance called *Woodstock*.

Hence **No·tifying** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1591 Percivall *Sp. Dict.*, *Notificacion*, notifying. 1611 Florio, *Notificatione*, a notifying, a publishing. 1680 Baxter *Answ. Stillingfl.* xvi. 32 Are these notifying Terms for a Definition?

† **No·ting,** *vbl. sb.*1 *Obs.* [f. Note *v.*1] Using.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1354 In notyng of nwe metes & of nice gettes, Al was þe mynde of þat man.

No·ting, *vbl. sb.*2 [f. Note *v.*2] The action of the vb., in various senses.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 359/2 Notynge, *notacio*. *c* 1500 in *Antiq. Rep* (1809) IV. 408 Thou maist be judged by a crochet of wronge notynge in thy presumcion. 1570 T. Norton in *Udall's Koyster D.* (1847) p. xli, Partly to shunne publike noting, partely for better hearkening. 1607 Hieron *Wks.* I. 302 There must be..a diligent noting how the preaching of the word fitteth the particulars of Christs fulnesse to the soules particular wants. 1645 Milton *Tetrach.* Wks. 1851 IV. 151 Many things..not ordinary, nor unworth the noting. 1817 J. Scott *Paris Revis.* (ed. 4) 311 A careful noting of indirect and circumstantial evidence. 1860 *Merc. Mar. Mag.* VII. 157 A coble has been stationed opposite the..Quay, for the bailing and noting of vessels.

attrib. 1576 Fleming *Panopl. Epist.* 257 Take into your handes againe your noting tables. 1591 Percivall *Sp. Dict.*, *Cartapacio*, a noting booke, a noting paper.

b. *spec.* (See quots. and Note *v.*2 6 c.)

1843–56 Bouvier *Law Dict.* (ed. 6) II. 246 The noting is not indispensable, it being only a part of the protest. 1849 C. G. Addison *Contracts* xxiii. (ed. 2) 1100 Noting is a minute made on the bill by the officer at the time of the refusal to accept and is the preparatory step to protest.

† **Notio·meter.** *Obs. rare* −1. [f. Gr. *νότιος* wet + -meter.] (See quot.)

1730 Chamberlayne *Relig. Philos.* II. xix. § xlvi, The making of Hygrometers or Notiometers, or those Machines by which we measure the Moisture of the Air.

Notion (nōu·ʃən). [ad. L. *nōtiōn-em*, f. *nōt-*, ppl. stem of *nōscĕre* to know: see -tion. Hence also F. *notion* (1653), It. *nozione*, Sp. *nocion*, Pg. *noçao*.]

I. 1. A general concept under which a particular thing or person is comprehended or classed; a term expressive of such a concept. Chiefly with *under*.

1567 Maplet *Gr. Forest* 8 h, We haue beene occasioned, and shall be hereafter to vse it as the generaltie or notion of the name and stock in these kindes. 1641–2 in Clarendon *Hist. Reb.* v. § 99 Neither House had Presented them [the Malignant Party] to his Majesty, under such a Notion, as he might well understand, whom they intended. 1655 Fuller *Ch. Hist.* IX. 192 No Spaniard setting foot on Englisb ground, under other notion then a prisoner. 1678 Cudworth *Intell. Syst.* 324 One and the same Deity, was worshipped under Several Names and Notions, according to its Several Powers and Vertues.

1864 Bowen *Logic* v. 138 When we bring an object under a notion, that is, when we predicate of it that it belongs to such a class.

b. *Under the notion of*, under the concept, category, designation, or name *of* something.

1655 Fuller *Ch. Hist.* IX. 52 These opposite parties,.. concurring in doctrine, under the generall notion of Protestants. 1665 Boyle *Occas. Refl.* (1848) 61 The consideration of the pruning of Trees, under the Notion of *that which wounds them*. 1704 Swift *T. Tub* Apol. § 3 Under the Notion of Prejudices, he knew to what dangerous Heights some Men have proceeded. 1764 *Mem. G. Psalmanazar* 147, I travelled several hundred leagues..under the notion of a Japanese converted to Christianity. 1836 J. Gilbert *Chr. Atonem.* i. (1852) 17 It must be some other than the rule of perfection itself under the notion of law.

† **c.** A character, relation, form, etc., in which anything is conceived, mentioned, or exists. *Obs.*

a 1631 Donne *Six Serm.* (1634) i. 26 He is received by me in the severall notions of Father, Sonne, and holy Ghost. 1650 Fuller *Pisgah* II. ii. 75 A fair City, whereof frequent mention in Scripture, but in no other notion, but only as the Eastern boundary of Canaan. *Ibid.* xiii. 274 Angels in the shape of men, Christ in the notion of an angel. 1651 Baxter *Inf. Bapt.* 47 It is the same thing in another notion.

† **2.** The connotation or meaning *of* a term. *Obs.*

a 1643 Ld. Falkland *Infallib.* (1646) 59 *Probable* being more than *credible* in the ordinary notion of the words. 1662 Stillingfl. *Orig. Sacræ* II. v. § 5 This being then the chief notion of a Prophet. 1713 Bentley *Freethinking* I. § 31. 152 For pray, what is the Notion of the word Canon?

† **3.** A phrase or term. *Obs. rare.*

The Winchester use of *notion* may be a survival of this.

1655 Vaughan *Silex Scint.* I. Pref. (1858) 3 This Kingdom hath abounded with those ingenious persons which in the late notion are termed Wits. 1657 Trapp *Comm. Ps.* iii. 2 Selah] The Greek maketh it only a Musical Notion.

II. 4. An idea or concept.

a. In philosophical use. *First* and *second*

notions (see quots. 1852 and 1864). *General notion* (see GENERAL *a.* 5 c).

1605 B. JONSON *Volpone* II. i, I haue some generall notions; I do loue To note, and to obserue. 1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* 502 This..alone maketh the differences of Images as wee call them or Abstracted Notions. 1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* III. v. § 12 Essences of the Species of mix'd Modes are by a more particular Name call'd Notions. 1725 WATTS *Logic* 246 It is very useful to have some general principles of truth settled in the mind...These may be called first notions, or fundamental principles. 1785 REID *Intell. Powers* V. v. Wks. (1846) 403 The words notion and conception, in their proper and most common sense, signify the act and operation of the mind in conceiving an object. 1852 SIR W. HAMILTON *Discuss.* 139 *note*, A first notion is the concept of a thing as it exists of itself...A second notion is the concept, not of an object as it is in reality, but of the mode under which it is thought by the mind. 1864 BOWEN *Logic* iv. 70 A second intention or notion is a Concept which denotes first intentions in their relation, not to the things denoted, but to each other.

b. In general use. Freq. const. *of*.

1643 SIR T. BROWNE *Relig. Med.* II. § 1 Charity, without which Faith is a meer notion, and of no existence. *c* 1680 BEVERIDGE *Serm.* (1729) I. 279 That you may be able to form such an idea or notion of it. 1760 JOHNSON *Idler* No. 100 ₱ 8 Her notion of a joke is not very delicate. 1781 COWPER *Truth* 424 His books well trimm'd..teach him notions splendid as themselves. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xi, Wayland Smith..had a good notion of horse diseases. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* li, 'Not a bad notion that, Sam', said Mr. Bob Sawyer approvingly. 1873 BLACK *Pr. Thule* xx. 330 The notion of my marrying her is absurd.

c. With a negative, or virtual negative.

1704-5 *Pennsylv. Hist. Soc. Mem.* IX. 365, I never had the least notion of thy mortgaging the quit-rents. 1706 E. WARD *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 106 He has no more Notion of Navigation than an African of Snow. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* II. (Globe) 346 He had no Thoughts, no Notion of its being me. 1856 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* (1858) I. iii. 221 Little notion, indeed, could the bishops have possessed of the position in which they were standing. 1878 *Masque of Poets* 181 How he first Learned of the complication, I've no notion.

d. *Notion-writing* = IDEOGRAPHY.

1863 SUMMERS *Hdbk. Chinese* Introd. p. xviii, Notion-writing..is independent of any given language and conveys its meaning to the understanding immediately through the eye.

5. † **a.** Understanding, mind, intellect. *Obs.*

1605 SHAKS. *Lear* I. iv. 245 Either his Notion weakens, his Discernings Are Lethargied. 1605—*Mach.* III. i. 83 All things else, that might To halfe a Soule, and to a Notion craz'd, Say, Thus did Banquo. 1649 J. TAYLOR *Gt. Exemp.* Sect. vii. § 5 Whether it were..by increase of notion or experience, it is certain the promotions of the holy Child were great. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VII. 179 The Acts of God..Cannot without process of speech be told, So told as earthly notion can receave.

† **b.** Conception, imagination, fancy. *Obs.*

1647 N. BACON *Disc. Govt. Eng.* Advt. (1739) p. iii, Ambition hath done much..to bring forth Absolute Monarchy out of the Womb of Notion. 1671 GLANVILL *Further Disc. Stubbe* 11, I spake of the Natural Philosophers, and their Methods, which were made up of Notion, and ministred to everlasting Disputes.

6. An idea, view, opinion, theory, or belief, held by one or more persons.

1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch* 1087 See how these Philosophers mainteine ordinary custome, and teach according to common notions. 1628 DOUGHTY *Serm. Schismes* 23 Agrippa among others his foppish notions perswades vs [etc.]. 1697 [C. LESLIE] *Snake in Grass* (ed. 2) 12 It will be very hard..to make Sense of the Quaker Notion of the Light within. 1710 NORRIS *Chr. Prud.* viii. 372 That Notion of the Schools, of Sins being an Aversion from God. 1777 BRAND *Pop. Antiq.* Gen. Pref. p. vii, Seemingly trivial Reasons assigned for the beginning..of this or that Notion or Ceremony. 1857 MAURICE *Ep. St. John* ix. 135 It is not a new notion..that the history of the world is divided into certain great periods. 1871 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1876) IV. xviii. 134 It is further remarkable as showing that the notion of succession through females was already beginning to be entertained.

Comb. 1873 M. ARNOLD *Lit. & Dogma* (1876) 333 A piece of metaphysical notion-building. *Ibid.* 360 To read between the lines of a notion-work is absurd, for it is of the essence of a notion-work not to need it.

7. An inclination, disposition, or desire, to do something specified; a fancy for something. Usu. const. *of* with gerund, or *to* with inf.

1746 H. WALPOLE *Lett.* (1857) II. 33, I have no notion of going to anybody's house, and have the servants look on the arms of the chaise to find out one's name. 1774 D. JONES *Frnl.* (1865) 100 It would have been otherwise, if I had come last fall, while they were in the notion of it. 1807 GASS *Frnl.* 225 The Indian..said he had a notion to cross the mountains with us. 1825 COBBETT *Rur. Rides* 436 The Gloucestershire people have no notion of dying with hunger. 1891 C. ROBERTS *Adrift Amer.* 207 After being here for a week, I took a notion to leave, and accordingly did so.

b. *north.* and *Sc.* A fancy or affection for one of the other sex.

1789 *Shepherd's Wedding* 14 (E. D. D.), I hae lang, altho' I didna tell, Had a strang notion o' the lass mysel'. 1824 MACTAGGART *Gallovid. Encycl.* 226 In the regular routine of a matrimonial transaction; first, taking the notion; secondly, courting. 1864 TENNYSON *Aylmer's Field* 271 The boy might get a notion into him; The girl might be entangled ere she knew.

8. A product of invention. *rare.*

a 1700 EVELYN *Diary* (1872) I. 211 Machines for flying in the air, and other wonderful notions. *a* 1765 YOUNG (Cent.), And robes, and notions framed in foreign looms.

9. *U. S.* **a.** *pl.* Articles or wares of various kinds forming a miscellaneous cargo.

1805 SOUTHEY in *Ann. Rev.* III. 31 The Americans.., finding no longer a market there for their lumber cargoes, or notions, as they call them. 1834 MARRYAT *P. Simple* (1863) 325 Her cargo consisted of what the Americans called notions; that is, in English, an assorted cargo. 1840 R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast* XXXV. 133 A cargo of fresh provisions, mules, tin bake-pans and other notions.

b. *pl.* Small wares, *esp.* cheap useful articles of some ingenious design.

Also freq. *Yankee notions*: see YANKEE *a.*

1830 GALT *Lawrie T.* III. xiv. (1849) 130 Mr. Hoskins and his wife with a great cargo of wares and other notions in their wagons, arrived. 1842 MRS. CLAVERS *Forest Life* II. 166 Can I suit ye to-day, ma'am? I've all sorts o' notions. 1876 C. D. WARNER *Winter Nile* xii. 157 The artisans work up ostrich feathers into a variety of 'notions'.

c. *attrib.*, as *notion-counter, -store, -vessel.*

1894 S. FISKE *Holiday Stories* (1900) 152, I went to the store..and recognised her..at the *notion counter. 1830 GALT *Lawrie T.* III. x. (1849) 116 A small seed and *notion store. 1861 *Macm. Mag.* Feb. 273 A Yankee grocery or a Yankee 'notion store' is an epitome of almost every thing. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* 501 A *notion-vessel on the west coast of America is a perfect bazaar.

Hence **No·tion** *v.*, to divide into several notions.

1641 J. JACKSON *True Evang. T.* i. 8, I have therefore notioned and cast the Text according to the number of the verses, into three plain and conspicuous members.

† **No·tional,** *sb. Obs. rare.* [ad. med.L. **nōtiōnāle*, neut. of *nōtiōnālis*: see next.]

1. A divine attribute. (See quot.)

a 1533 FRITH *Disput. Purgat.* (1829) 131 If he make one Notional in God greater than another, (by this word Notional, which the schoolmen use, I would you should understand the goodness, wisdom, power, justice, and mercy of God, &c.) then shall he .. imagine that one Notional subdueth another.

2. A mere supposition or idea.

1653 R. G. tr. *Bacon's Hist. Winds* 277 We shall finde ill determined notionalls, phantasms, and imaginary things, and Axioms daily to be amended. 1666 *Phil. Trans.* I. 325 Philosophy, which searches out the real Productions of Nature.., does manifest the Divine Glory more, than the Notionals of the Gentiles.

Notional (nō^{u}·ʃənăl), *a.* Also 6-7 -all. [ad. med.L. *nōtiōnālis*: see NOTION and -AL. So obs. F. *notional, -el* (Godef.), It. *notionale*, Sp. and Pg. *nocional.*]

1. Of knowledge, etc.: Purely speculative; not based upon fact or demonstration.

1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* V. lxxxi. (1611) 442 Whatsoever we may..write in our bookes through a notionall conceipt of things needfull. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 836 They are to be set aside, being but Notional, and ill Limited; and Definite Axiomes are to be drawn out of Measured Instances. 1677 GALE *Crt. Gentiles* IV. Proem. 3 Philosophie considered in its Particular Ideas, is either Notional or Real. 1680 BOYLE *Exper. Chem. Princ.* Pref. 9, I have a very differing esteem of the Notionall and of the Practicall part of Chymistry. 1730 CHAMBERLAYNE *Relig. Philos.* Pref. p. xx, People may be very well experienced in these Ideal or Notional Sciences, and yet be Masters of very little Knowledge, in Things that actually exist. 1771 WESLEY *Wks.* (1872) V. 213 It is not a barely notional or speculative faith. 1831 WHEWELL in Todhunter *Acct. Writ.* (1876) II. 115 A popular exposition of the matter applied mainly to moral, political, and other notional sciences. 1873 M. ARNOLD *Lit. & Dogma* (1876) 280 A notional work as distinguished from an experimental work.

† **b.** Of persons: Given to abstract or fanciful speculation; holding merely speculative views.

1664 POWER *Exp. Philos.* III. 193 The old Dogmatists and Notional Speculators. 1671 BOHUN *Wind* 170 The impertinence of those Notionall men, that enquire no further, but declare, That [etc.]. 1710 STEELE *Tatler* No. 125 ₱ 3, I would not be thought altogether notional in what I have to say, and pass only for a Projector in Morality. 1732 BERKELEY *Alciphr.* V. § 33 Airy, notional men, enthusiasts [etc.]. 1772 WESLEY *Frnl.* 12 Aug., I preached at Salop, and spake strong words, to the amazement of many notional believers.

2. Of things, relations, etc.: Existing only in thought; not real or actually existent; imaginary.

1629 GAULE *Holy Madn.* 138 Meere notionall is their [gems] value; which is in the Opinion, not in the Thing. 1655-87 H. MORE *App. Antid.* (1712) 199 Distance is no Physical affection of any thing, but only Notional. 1710 BERKELEY *Princ. Hum. Knowl.* § 34 All things that exist, exist only in the mind, that is, they are purely notional. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1811) II. 81 As it is founded generally upon mere notional excellencies. 1817 COLERIDGE *Biog. Lit.* I. xii. 247 No wonder, that..he..bewilders himself in the pursuit of notional phantoms. 1841 D'ISRAELI *Amen. Lit.* (1867) 639 Her Majesty seems to have remunerated empty phrases by providing notional places. 1858 BUSHNELL *Serm. New Life* 94 It is a mind dealing with notions or notional truths.

3. (See quot. 1806.)

1794 PIOZZI *Synon.* II. 5 In notional and ideal Madness, particularly the first, many symptoms are only cunningly suppressed. 1806 T. ARNOLD *Insanity* I. 56 Notional Insanity is that state of mind in which a person..perceives external objects as they really exist..; yet conceives such notions of the powers, properties [etc.], of things and persons,..as appear obviously..erroneous or unreasonable.

4. *U. S.* Of persons: **a.** Inclined to think.

1823 COOPER *Pioneers* ix, I'm glad if the Judge is pleased; but I'm notional that you'll find the sa'ce overdone.

b. Fanciful; full of fancies, whims, or caprices.

1859 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer.* (ed. 2), *Notional*, fanciful, whimsical. Applied to persons; as, 'He's a very notional man'. 1881 HOWELLS *Dr. Breen's Practice* ix, She's been a little notional, she's had her head addled by women's talk. 1894 *Outing* XXIV. 96/2 He did think he would have to get the room cleaned and whitewashed, as his wife was rather notional.

5. Of the natnre of, pertaining or relating to, a notion or idea. (See quots.)

1861 *National Rev.* Oct. 379 The various modifications of time..are expressed by the notional words themselves, not by distinct words. 1870 J. H. NEWMAN *Gram. Assent* I. i. 7 There are propositions, in which one or both of the terms are common nouns, as standing for what is abstract. ..These I shall call notional propositions, and the apprehension with which we infer or assent to them, notional. *Ibid.* iv. 72 In Notional Assent as well as in inferring, the mind contemplates its own creations instead of things.

Notionalist (nō^{u}·ʃənălist). [f. prec. + -IST.] A speculative thinker; a theorist.

a 1677 MANTON *Serm. Ps. cxix.* cvi. 100 A young practiser hath more understanding than an ancient notionalist. 1716 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* III. Diss. Physick 25 The Counterfeit Jew-Physical Notionalists be Pseudo-Salmon, Pseudo-Maria [etc.]. 1831 *Edin. Rev.* LIII. 529 No notionalist ..can be so practically insane, as to see an abstract right or wrong in any particular combination of political powers.

† **Notiona·lity.** *Obs.* [f. as prec. + -ITY.]

1. The fact, state, or condition of being notional; a notional or imaginary thing.

1653 H. MORE *Conj. Cabbal.* 58 For multifarious Notionality and Inconstancy of life and knowledge, are certain signs that a man is in the night. 1665 GLANVILL *Def. Van. Dogm.* 66 Whether the notionality and obscurity of the Aristotelian method it self do not give occasion to the endless babble. 1705 GOODMAN *Wint. Even. Conf.* III. 18 True and manly religion is..not a lukewarm notionality,..but is lively, vigorous, and sparkling.

2. A notion or category. *rare* —^{1}.

1651 BIGGS *New Disp.* ? 287 Under the notionality of *Potables* is not to be understood here, jusculous sorbitions.

No·tionally, *adv.* [f. as prec. + -LY ^{2}.] In a notional fashion; speculatively, theoretically.

1643 T. GOODWIN *Aggravation Sin* 74 They have learnt it from..observations of Gods dealings with themselves or others, and not onely from the word notionally. 1698 NORRIS *Pract. Disc.* IV. 63 When we talk of Religion we should..discourse of it not Notionally and Speculatively, ..but Cordially and Spiritually. 1752 LAW *Spirit Love* I. (1816) 9 The Schools have..shown us how to conceive them as notionally distinguished from one another. 1771 BURROW *Reports* III. 1609 In the Country, Leases at Will, in the strict legal Notion of a Lease at Will,..exist only notionally. 1868 BUSHNELL *Serm. Living Subj.* 58 Something notional or notionally affirmed.

No·tionalness. *rare* —^{0}. [f. as prec. + -NESS.] 'Imaginariness' (Bailey, 1730).

No·tionary, *a.* [f. NOTION *sb.* + -ARY.] = NOTIONAL *a.*

1646 E. F[ISHER] *Marrow Mod. Div.* 172 If our friend do content himself with a meere Gospell knowledge, in a notionary way. 1675 OGILBY *Brit.* Pref. 1 The Tracing of Notionary Roads upon imperfect Charts. 1700 ROWE *Amb. Step-Moth.* III. ii, He'll be convinc'd that only Fools would lose A Crown for notionary Principles. 1822 *Blackw. Mag.* XII. 491 It is but a notionary cause, a mere opinion.

No·tionate, *a. Sc.* and *U. S.* [f. NOTION *sb.* + -ATE ^{2}; cf. *opinionate.*] Full of notions, fanciful; also, headstrong, obstinate.

1859 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer.* (ed. 2), *Notionate*, fanciful, whimsical. 1871 W. ALEXANDER *Johnny Gibb* (1873) 197 He was a 'notionate' old fellow the elder Mains of Yawal, and would be obeyed. 1896 HOWELLS *Idyls in Drab* 119 That young woman has made you blame yourself for nothin'. You're perfectly notionate about it.

† **No·tionate,** *v. Obs. rare* —^{1}. [f. NOTION *sb.* + -ATE ^{3}.] *trans.* To devise or originate by process of thought.

1661 R. BURNEY Κέρδιστον Δῶρον 5 I take in all things, Heavenly and earthly within my breast; I form them with essence, and stamp them with existence, I notionate their seed and kernell, their quintessence and effluxes.

No·tionist. Now *rare.* [f. NOTION *sb.* + -IST.]

1. One who holds extravagant religious opinions. Esp. *high notionist.* Now *arch.*

1652 R. SANDERS *Balm* 138 A step higher then the quaintest Notionists of our times desire to be brought. 1653 G. FOX *Jrnl. Life*, etc. I. 108 The Pastor of the Baptists (being an high Notionist and a flashy Man) came to me. 1697 G. KEITH *2nd Narr. Proc. Turner's Hall* 13 In this he agrees with the Ranters and other vain Notionists. *a* 1720 SEWEL *Hist. Quakers* (1795) I. II. 103 A high notionist, and rich in words. 1869 *Contemp. Rev.* XI. 451 How the bold youth did stand up against the high notionist!

2. One who forms notions of things.

1825 LAMB *Let. to Barton* in *Final Mem.* viii. 259 The whimsies of such a half-baked notionist as I am.

No·tionless, *a.* [f. NOTION *sb.* + -LESS.] Destitute of any notion or idea.

1814 *New Brit. Theatre* I. 529 The notionless words of the intellectual masters and misses. 1825 ESTHER HEWLETT *Cottage Comf.* vi. 41 Quite helpless and notionless in common things.

No·tionless, *adv. rare* —^{1}. [f. as prec.] Not in a notional manner; with certainty.

1607 J. DAVIES *Summa Totalis* Wks. (Grosart) I. 23/1 Yet, Creatures onely know in that degree; But God knowes (Notionlesse) Essentially.

† **No·tist.** *Obs. rare* —^{1}. [f. NOTE *v.*^{2} + -IST.] A commentator or annotator.

1670 MILTON *Hist. Eng.* III. 123 Nennius or his notist avers that Artur was called Mab-Uther, that is to say, a cruel Son, for the fierseness that men saw in him of a Child.

Notitia (nō^{u}·tiˑʃă). [a. L. *nōtitia* knowledge, f. *nōtus* known.]

† **1.** Literary particulars. *Obs. rare* —¹.

1700–1 HEARNE in Wood *Life* (1848) 332 This ingenious retired and modest person helped him very much in the notitia of divers modern authors.

2. An account or list; now *spec.* a register or list of ecclesiastical sees or districts.

1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) IX. 186/1 We have also a *notitia* of all the Arabian physicians by Fabricius. 1843 C. INNES in *Reg. Episc. Glasg.* I. p. xviii, It is a memoir or *notitia*, which..is much less common with us than in the religious houses abroad. 1850 NEALE *East. Ch.* Pref. p. xiv, I procured..an official notitia of the Sees which belong to the Coptic Communion in Egypt. *Ibid.*, The modern notitia of Antioch was drawn up in 1844.

† **Noti·tion.** *Obs.* Also 5–6 noticion, -ycion, -ycyon. [a. OF. *noticion* (Godef.): cf. prec. and -ITION.] Knowledge, information, intelligence.

c 1485 *Digby Myst.* (1882) II. 12 Whoo lyst to rede the booke.., ther shall he haue the very notycyon. 1494 FABYAN *Chron.* VII. 494 Whan noticion of this great outrage and ryot came vnto the Kynge. 1513 BRADSHAW *St. Werburge* I. 2230 In presence of the pryor.., Whiche pryor of this mater had best notycyon. 1547 BOORDE *Brev. Health* cxii. 42 b, By the egestion the Physicion in sycke persons hath a great notician and knowledge of mans infirmyties.

Notkerian (nɒtkɪə·rĭăn), *a.* [See def. and -IAN.] Composed or originated by Notker Balbulus († 912), a monk of St. Gall in Switzerland.

1881 *Encycl. Brit.* XII. 583/2 Numerous examples..of the 'proses', properly so called, of the Notkerian type. 1901 *Chambers's Encycl.* VI. 46/2 Sequences, or as we now call them hymns,..known as Notkerian Sequences.

Notmugge, -myg(ge, obs. variants of NUTMEG.

Noto- (nōu·to), combining form of Gr. *νῶτον* back, employed in a certain number of scientific terms, the most usual of which are given below.

Various others, app. never actually current, are given by Mayne, as *notographous, -nectideous, -podous, -pterygious.*

Notobra·nchiate, *a.* [See prec. and BRANCHIATE *a.*] Having dorsal branchiæ or gills.

1870 H. A. NICHOLSON *Man. Zool.* (1875) 220 From the position of the branchiæ, the members of this order are often spoken of as the 'Dorsibranchiate' (or more properly 'Notobranchiate') Annelides.

So **Notobra·nchious** *a.* (Mayne, 1857.)

Notochord (nōu·tŏkɔ̄ɪd). *Biol.* [f. NOTO- + CHORD. So F. *notochorde, -corde.*] A cartilaginous band or rod forming the primitive basis of the spinal column in vertebrates. Also *Comb.*

1848 OWEN *Arch. & Homol. Vertebr. Skel.* 86 An extremely delicate fibrous band,..inclosed by a membranous sheath, is the primitive basis, called 'notochord'. 1870 ROLLESTON *Anim. Life* p. lxix, A cylindrical fibro-cartilaginous sheath surrounding the cylindrical notochord. 1879 tr. *Haeckel's Evol. Man* I. xiii. 418 The Amphioxus is enclosed in a firm membranous covering, the notochord-sheath. 1888 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* 757 A notochord-like axis of modified endoderm cells.

Notocho·rdal, *a. Biol.* [f. prec. + -AL. So F. *notocordal.*]

1. Of the nature of a notochord.

1866 OWEN *Anat. Vert.* I. 7 Endo-skeleton membrano-cartilaginous and notochordal. 1878 A. H. GREEN, etc. *Coal* IV. 121 A third point of importance..is the notochordal vertebral column.

2. Of or pertaining to the notochord.

1872 HUMPHRY *Myology* 105 The membranous septa extend from the skin down to the notochordal sheath and blend with it. 1887 E. D. COPE *Orig. Fittest* 332 It also shows that the vertebræ have passed from a notochordal state.

Notogæa (nōutŏdʒī·ă). [f. Gr. *νότος* south wind + *γαῖα* earth, land.] A large zoological region, comprising the Australian, New Zealand, and Neotropical regions.

1868 HUXLEY in *Proc. Zool. Soc.* 315 If the great frontier line is latitudinal.., and divides a north world from a south world, we must speak of *Arctogæa* and *Notogæa* rather than of Neogæa and Palæogæa as the primary distributional areæ. 1893 NEWTON *Dict. Birds* 314 Brigading, if he so please, the first three as Notogæa, and the last three as Arctogæa.

Hence **Notogæ·al, Notogæ·an, Notogæ·ic,** *adjs.*

1879 NEWTON in *Encycl. Brit.* IX. 192/1 The existence of but very few [finches] in the Notogæan hemisphere can as yet be regarded as certain. 1896 LYDEKKER *Geogr. Hist. Mammals* 28 The Notogæic realm may..be taken as the first of the three primary zoological divisions of the globe.

† **Notoire,** *a. Obs. rare.* Also 5 -oyre. [a. F. *notoire*, ad. med.L. *nōtōrius* notorious. Cf. NOTOUR *a.*] Notorious, evident.

a 1470 TIPTOFT *Tulle on Old Age* (Caxton, 1481) h iv, It is clere and notoire in what place al the other thynges goen. *c* 1477 CAXTON *Jason* 72 b, Hit is among yow euydent and notoyre that ye shall not take in pacience my correccion.

Hence † **Notoirly** *adv.*, notoriously. *Obs.*

1409–10 *Proc. Privy Council* (1834) I. 323 As it is notoirly knowen and he hym selfe as trewe knyghte may noght witheseye it. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* Pref. 1 For it is notoyrly knowen thorugh the vnyuersal world.

Notonecta (nōutŏne·klă). *Ent.* Also 7–8 as *pl.*, with *sing.* **-nectum.** [mod.L., f. NOTO- + Gr. *νήκτης* swimmer.] A species of water-beetle which swims on its back; the boat-fly.

1658 ROWLAND tr. *Mouffet's Theat. Ins.* II. XXXVIII, Of the Notonectum. *Ibid.*, We call some Insects of the water Notonecta, which do not swim upon their bellies, as the rest do. 1706 in PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Notonecta*, certain Water-Insects,..always swimming on their Backs. 1752 J. HILL *Hist. Anim.* 63 The rostrum or snout of the Notonecta is inflected. *Ibid.*, The grey Notonecta.., the little Boat-fly. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1790) VII. 359 The Common Water Fly..is by some called *Notonecta.* 1855 *Orr's Circ. Sci., Org. Nat.* II. 351 Hence the *Notonecta*..is generally known as the *boat-fly.* 1887 *Amer. Naturalist* XXI. 578 The *Notonecta* can, in an emergency, avail itself of a method of purifying its supply of air.

Notopo·dial, *a. Biol.* [f. next.] Pertaining to, of the nature of, a notopodium.

1877 HUXLEY *Anat. Inv. Anim.* v. 229 The neuropodial is very much longer than the notopodial aciculum. 1888 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* 607 Small branches ..develope a head with large eyes and long notopodial sexual setæ.

Notopo·dium. *Biol.* [mod.L., f. NOTO- + Gr. *πόδιον*, dim. of *πούς* foot.] The upper or dorsal branch of a parapodium.

1870 H. A. NICHOLSON *Man. Zool.* 160 An upper process, called the 'notopodium' or 'dorsal oar'. 1877 HUXLEY *Anat. Inv. Anim.* v. 229 In the young state of Polynöe, the notopodium is as large as the neuropodium.

† **Notorely,** var. of NOTOIRLY or NOTORILY *adv.*

1502 *Ord. Crysten Men* (W. de W. 1506) IV. xxi, Unto synners notorely knowen & open.

Notoriety (nōutōrəi·ĕti). [a. F. *notoriété* (= It. *notorietà*, Sp. *-edad*, Pg. *-edade*), or ad. med.L. *nōtōrietas*, f. *nōtōrius* NOTORIOUS *a.*; cf. *dubiety, nimiety*, etc.]

1. The state or character of being notorious; the fact of being publicly or commonly known.

1592 [cited by Nashe, *Four Lett. Confut.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 263, as one of Gabriel Harvey's words]. 1637–50 ROW *Hist. Kirk* (Wodrow Soc.) 28 Upon the notorietie of a great and haynous fact,..the transgressor to be secluded fra the communion. 1660 JER. TAYLOR *Duct. Dubit.* III. iii. rule 6 § 2 But this thing is evident by notoriety of fact. *a* 1683 OWEN *Holy Sp.* (1693) 195 The joynt Participation of the same Gift by all, and the Notoriety of the matter thereon. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* (1775) II. 5 The credit of the former [historians] is by common notoriety supported for a long time. 1771 *Junius Lett.* lxv. (1788) 338 The truth of which you dare not deny, because it is of public notoriety. 1824 W. IRVING *T. Trav.* I. 4 He has become a character of considerable notoriety in two or three country towns. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* ii. I. 237 He had been raised..to notoriety such as has for low and bad minds all the attractions of glory. 1873 FARRAR *Fam. Speech* ii. 47 It is now a matter of simple notoriety that not merely in sounds and letters [etc.].

Comb. 1891 *Spectator* 18 Apr. 534/1 Some of them may be notoriety-hunters.

† **2.** A notorious thing or fact. *Obs. rare* —¹.

1745 H. WALPOLE *Lett.* (1846) II. 52 Letters from Holland speak of it as a notoriety.

3. A well-known or celebrated person.

1837 THACKERAY *Ravenswing* ii, He knew..all the actors, all the 'notorieties' of the town. 1840 CARLYLE *Heroes* (1858) 283 We cannot but see..that it was against his will he ever became a notoriety. 1884 *Athenæum* 21 June 786/2 The Bonaparte family and the heroes or notorieties of the French Revolution.

Noto·rify, *v. nonce-wd.* [f. NOTORI-OUS *a.* + -FY.] *trans.* To make notorious.

a 1871 DE MORGAN *Budget Parad.* (1872) 32 Mr. James Smith, of Liverpool—hereinafter notorified.

† **Notorily,** *adv. Obs. rare.* [f. NOTORY *a.* + -LY 2.] Notoriously.

1455 *Paston Lett.* I. 363 The seyd Fastolf lent to the voyage.., as it is notorily knowen,..Cli. 1475 *Bk. Noblesse* (Roxb.) 8 It is notorily and openly knowen thoroughe alle Cristen Royaumes. 1512 *Helyas* in Thoms *Prose Rom.* (1828) III. 39 It is of trouthe notorily..that my wife..during hir viage hath be delivered of .vii. litle whelpes.

Notorious (nɒtō·rĭəs), *a.*[1] Also 6 **-iouse, -ius.** [ad. med.L. *nōtōrius* (cf. late L. *nōtōria* fem., *nōtōrium* neut., intelligence, information, etc.), f. *nōtus* known: see -ORY. So It., Sp., and Pg. *notorio*, F. *notoire*: cf. NOTOIR, NOTORY, NOTOUR.]

1. Of facts: Well known; commonly or generally known; forming a matter of common knowledge.

1555 EDEN *Dec. W. Ind.* (Arb.) 198 His courage was such and his factes so notorious. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Ps.* xx. iii, Lett him [God] notorious make, That in good part he did thy offrings take. 1621 BP. MOUNTAGU *Diatribæ* 567 Why were not other Examples brought into practice, as notorious as that of Abraham paying Tithes? 1686 CLAGETT 17 *Serm.* (1699) App. 15 These testimonies were too notorious and publick to be gainsaid. 1705 STANHOPE *Paraphr.* II. 407 That Every one is bound..to..keep within his own Property..is too notorious to need a Proof. 1758 JOHNSON *Idler* No. 10 ¶ 6 Men..who deny the most notorious facts. 1779 SHERIDAN *Critic* I. i, My power with the managers is pretty notorious. 1856 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* (1858) I. iii. 241 The House of Commons had stated their complaints in the form of special notorious facts. 1866 LIDDON *Bampton Lect.* vii. (1875) 391 The worship of Christ by the early Christians was a living and notorious practice.

b. In phr. *It is notorious that.*

a 1738 SWIFT *Misc.* (J.), Although it be notorious that they do not receive the third penny of the real value. 1756 LUCAS *Ess. Waters* III. 116 It is notorious that the former never parts with it's acid. 1809 W. IRVING *Knickerb.* I. v. (1849) 63 It is notorious, that the savages knew nothing of agriculture. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* vii. II. 262 It was notorious that loyal and able men had been turned out of office in England merely for being Protestants. 1883 *Manch. Exam.* 29 Oct. 5/2 That the army, at least the more active spirits within it, were discontented was notorious.

2. Of places, persons, etc.: Well or widely known (now *rare*); † famous.

1555 EDEN *Dec. W. Ind.* (Arb.) 346 A famous and notorious place amonge the Indians. 1588 *Marprel. Epist.* (Arb.) 40 Manie of you..are men verie notorious for their learning and preaching. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* Auth. to Rdr., I purposed to mention only such [towns and castles] as were most notorious. 1614 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (ed. 2) 44 Of Cham is the name Chemmis in Ægypt; and Ammon the Idoll and Oracle so notorious.

1865 GROTE *Plato* I. 136 Where was the person to be found, notorious and accessible, who could say [etc.].

b. Such as is or may be generally, openly, or publicly known. Now *rare.*

1584 D. FENNER *Def. Ministers* (1587) 125 Their liues are not put to notorious and publike examination. 1620 BACON *Hen. VII* (1876) 28 That Edward Plantagenet..should be, in the most public and notorious manner,..shewed unto the people. 1669–70 MARVELL *Corr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 308 Either by confession of the party, or oath of witnesses, or by notorious evidence. 1715 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5455/1 The Clerks of the Peace are to keep Parchment Books or Rolls at some notorious Place. 1724 *Ibid.* No. 6257/3 All.. Sheriffs..are..required to keep Parchment Books..at some notorious Place in the County. 1818 HALLAM *Mid. Ages* (1872) I. 251 This formality was by degrees..deemed essential to render them authentic and notorious. 1863 COX *Institt.* III. v. 647 The Privy Council, whom the law recognized as the sworn and notorious Councillors of the Crown.

† **3.** Conspicuous; obvious, evident. *Obs.*

1608 TOPSELL *Serpents* (1658) 639 The elder sort..very notorious and goodly to see to in regard of their gravity, boariness, and anciency. *Ibid.* 785 If it did represent any notorious and manifest colour, they would..take heed of such traps aforehand. 1609 BIBLE (Douay) *Levit.* xxvi. 1 Neither shal you erect titles, nor set a notorious stone in your land, for to adore it. *a* 1677 BARROW *Serm.* (1683) II. ii. 22 That God hath an especial regard to men will thence also become notorious. 1704 RAY *Creation* (ed. 4) II. 278 The failing in any of these would cause Irregularity in the Body..such as would be very notorious. 1770 *Amherst Rec.* (1884) 49/2 To Chose a Comittee to Visit the boundaries of the town and renew such as are Destroyed and make them Notorious.

4. Used attributively with designations of persons which imply evil or wickedness: Well known, noted (as being of this kind).

1548–9 (Mar.) *Bk. Comm. Prayer* Offices 31 Suche persones as were notorious synners. 1574 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* II. 395 Declarit tratouris and notorius rebellis. 1614 RALEIGH *Hist. World* I. (1634) 163 Ninus was the first notorious sacrificer to Idols. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* II. 23 These Arabs are notorious Robbers. 1755 YOUNG *Centaur* ii. Wks. 1757 IV. 151 This will excuse my indignation at two notorious offenders. 1785 BURKE *Wks.* IV. 312 Sending that notorious incendiary to the Court of the nabob of Arcot. 1844 H. H. WILSON *Brit. India* II. 434 His subjects, many of whom were notorious robbers. 1884 PAE *Eustace* xix, I know where some of the most notorious smugglers reside.

b. Similarly of deeds, facts, etc.

1561 WINJET *Tractates* Wks. (S. T. S.) I. 11 Preseruing.. thy bewtifull body and saule fra al spot of notorius cryme. 1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* IV. i. 84, I shall haue Law in Ephesus, To your notorious shame, I doubt it not. *a* 1631 DONNE *Serm.* viii. 82 To proceed in those pious works, which with so notorious falshood they deny. 1673 CAVE *Prim. Chr.* III. v. 359 Striking them dead upon the place for their notorious couzenage and gross hypocrisie. 1729 LAW *Serious C.* ii. (1732) 17 Do but now find the reason why the generality of men live in this notorious vice. 1807 *Med. Jrnl.* XVII. 341 His mean subterfuge renders him more contemptible than his notorious untruth. 1839 JAMES *Louis XIV*, III. 310 Charles's notorious breach of his most solemn engagement.

† **c.** Quasi-*adv.* Notoriously. *Obs. rare* —¹.

1607 *Stat.* in *Hist. Wakefield Sch.* (1892) 62 Notorious negligent in the execution of the office of a Governour.

5. Noted *for* some bad practice, quality, etc.; unfavourably known; well known on account of something which is not generally approved of or admired. **a.** Of persons.

1603 DRAYTON *Bar. Wars* v. xxix, Such Men these had, to Mischiefe wholly bent, In Villainie notorious for their skill. 1609 B. JONSON *Sil. Wom.* IV. ii, You notorious stinkardly beareward. 1693 CONGREVE in *Dryden's Juvenal* xi. (1726) 162 Rutilus is so notorious grown, That he's the Common Theme of all the Town. 1718 *Free-thinker* No. 87. 226 A Fifth may be notorious for some scandalous Practice, or vicious Habits. 1837 THIRLWALL *Greece* IV. xxxii. 270 Socrates..became one of the most conspicuous and notorious persons in Athens. 1880 W. DAY *Racehorse in Training* xvi. 156 The celebrated, or as some may be inclined to call her, the notorious, Lady Elizabeth.

b. Of actions, qualities, facts, etc.

1579 G. HARVEY *Letter-bk.* (Camden) 61 Dislikinge, murmuring,..quippinge notorious or auricular iyhinge. 1590 SIR J. SMYTH *Disc. Weapons* Ded. 12 b, To bring to passe.. such notorious and deformed effectes amongst the English Nation. 1653 VAUX tr. *Godeau's St. Paul* 45 The Emperor Tiberius succeeded Augustus, and made his Reign notorious by all .. cruelties. *a* 1721 SHEFFIELD (Dk. Buckhm.) *Wks.* (1753) I. 244 Should our mistakes be never so notorious, You'll have the joy of being more censorious. 1794 PALEY *Evidences* (1825) II. 116 These books were perfectly notorious. 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* vii. (1856) 51 Melville Bay, notorious in the annals of the whalers for its many disasters. 1877 FROUDE *Short Stud.* (1883) IV. i. v. 54 The influences by which the papal court was determined were already too grossly notorious.

† **6.** Discreditable, disgraceful *to* one. *Obs.*—¹

1666 WOOD *Life* (O. H. S.) II. 96 Wheras it [the pox] was notorious formerly to those that had it, it is now soe common..that they glory of it.

† **Noto·rious,** *a.*[2] *Obs. rare* —¹. = NOTORY *a.*[2]

1652 GAULE *Magastrom.* 191 And now (it is agreed among themselves) their art shall no more be called the notorious.

Notoriously (nɒtō·rĭəsli), *adv.* [-LY 2.]

1. In a notorious manner; as a matter of common knowledge; recognizedly, admittedly.

1512 *Act 4 Hen. VIII*, c. 19 Preamble, It ys openly and

notoryously knowen unto all persones of Cristes Religion. *c* 1555 HARPSFIELD *Divorce Hen. VIII* (Camden) 87 The first part..is by common consent of all the interpreters of Scripture notoriously true. 1650 FULLER *Pisgah* I. vii. 19 Their abode is notoriously known to have been in, and about Jebus or Jerusalem. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 220 That Promontory..being most notoriously Sandy. 1751 *Narr. of H.M.S. Wager* 126 There was a weekly Intercourse notoriously carried on over Land between the Places. 1788 BURKE *Sp. agst. W. Hastings* Wks. XII. 254 His ministers (who are notoriously known [to be] under his absolute command). 1818 COBBETT *Pol. Reg.* XXXIII. 104 Let us confine ourselves to notoriously public transactions. 1881 *Sat. Rev.* LII. 570 The notoriously cleanly living of the vegetarian inhabitants of Western Africa.

b. In unfavourable sense.

1581 PETTIE tr. *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* (1586) I. 45 The infamous, and those which are notoriouslie naught. 1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 73 He is of no bloudy disposition, nor otherwise notoriously vicious. 1677 HORNECK *Gt. Law Consid.* iv. (1704) 234 A man, that had notoriously betrayed his trust. 1729 BERKELEY *Serm.* Wks. 1871 IV. 639 Men of notoriously wicked lives. 1839 JAMES *Louis XIV*, II. 399 He was, in short, notoriously faithless and interested. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* vi. II. 47 His title had notoriously been purchased by his wife's dishonor and his own. 1877 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* II. App. 705 His only references are to Domesday and the notoriously spurious charter.

† **2.** Manifestly, evidently, obviously. *Obs.*

1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* II. xiv. (Arb.) 139 For euermore this word [alás] is accented vpon the last, and that lowdly and notoriously. 1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch Mor.* 1035 Farre is he off, from being contradictory and repugnant to himselfe so notoriously. 1645 MILTON *Colast.* Wks. 1851 IV. 345 His very first page notoriously bewraies him. 1690 BAXTER *Kingd. Christ* (1691) iii. 33 The distance between Christs Rising and his Coming to Judgment are so notoriously revealed.

Notoriousness (nǫtōˑrĭəsnĕs). [f. as prec. + -NESS.] The fact of being notorious; notoriety.

1607 *Stat.* in *Hist. Wakefield Sch.* (1892) 58 Upon the notoriousnes of the fact of misdemeanour. 1649 ROBERTS *Clavis Bibl.* 533 The notoriousnesse of their offences. 1706 in PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), and in later Dicts.

† **Notoˑrity,** obs. variant of NOTORIETY.

c 1555 HARPSFIELD *Divorce Hen. VIII* (Camden) 37 The notoritie of the manifest and open justice of our cause.

Notorly, variant of NOTOURLY *adv.*

Notornis (*nǫtɔˑr*nis). *Ornith.* [f. Gr. *νότος* south + *ὄρνις* bird.] A New Zealand bird, now rare or extinct, related to the coots and rails.

1848 OWEN in *Proc. Zool. Soc.* 8 The *Notornis* is a large modified form of the same natural family of the *Grallæ* as the *Porphyrio* and *Brachypteryx*. 1850 MANTELL *Ibid.* 209 Notice of the discovery..., in the Middle Island of New Zealand, of a living specimen of the Notornis, a bird of the Rail family. 1870 H. A. NICHOLSON *Man. Zool.* (1875) 527 The *Notornis* is much larger than the ordinary Coots, and ..the wings are so rudimentary as to be useless for flight.

† **Noˑtory,** *a.*[1] *Obs.* Also -ie, -ye. [ad. med. L. *nōtōrius* or F. *notoire.*] Notorious.

1399 *Rolls of Parlt.* III. 424/1 Hem thoght hem so trewe and so notorie and knowen. 1430 *Ibid.* V. 417/1 For many notorye and evident resons. 1490 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. V. 322 If the trespasse be not notory, the plaintif shall prove the trespasse. 1528 ROY *Rede me* (Arb.) 104 He did some faulte gretly notory. 1603 COKE in Howell *St. Trials* II. 1 [Raleigh] the notoriest Traitor that ever came to the bar.

† **Noˑtory,** *a.*[2] *Obs. rare.* = NOTARY *a.*[2]

1652 GAULE *Magastrom.* 190 Whether the art called the art notorie had even been so notorious, but for magick and astrologie? 1657 TURNER (*title*), Ars Notoria, or the Notory Art of Solomon, showing the Cabbalistical Key of Magical Operations,..and the Art of Memory.

Noˑtostome. *Biol.* [f. NOTO- + Gr. *στόμα* mouth.] A supposed 'dorsal mouth' in some early vertebrate and pre-vertebrate forms.

1887 E. D. COPE *Orig. Fittest* 323 The valve of the dorsal mouth, or notostome, is broken.

Noˑtothere. *Palæont.* [Anglicized f. mod.L. *nototherium*, f. Gr. *νότος* south + *θηρίον* beast.] An extinct marsupial of great size found in post-tertiary formations.

1881 *Times* 28 Jan. 3/4 Nototheres of the size of the ox.

Notour (nōˑtŏr), *a. Sc.* Also 6–7 notoure, 7 notor, -ure, 7–8 nottour. [ad. med.L. *nōtōrius* or F. *notoire.*] Well known, notorious. (Now only as a legal archaism in *notour bankrupt.*)

1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Armis* (S. T. S.) 173 It is notour thing that he had maid that promess throu fors and violence. 1563-4 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 272 Althocht the deid be notour and certane to the said Colene. 1571 in Spottiswood *Hist. Ch. Scot.* v. (1677) 254 For..other considerations notour to the whole Estates. 1637–50 ROW *Hist. Kirk* (Wodrow Soc.) 304 That he was a vyld filthie bellie-god beast is notoure to all. 1678 SIR G. MACKENZIE *Crim. Laws Scot.* I. xvii. § 3 (1699) 87 Our Law divides Adultery, in that which is notour Adultery, and single Adultery. 1696 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3225/3 Act declaring Nottour Bankrupt. 1711 *Country-man's Lett. to Curat* 38 Tbis is so notour a piece of History, that no Man ever denied it. 1772 *Weekly Mag.* 16 Apr. 74/2 The story of Provost Crichton of Sanquhar was also a most nottour story in that town. 1830 GALT *Lawrie T.* IV. v. (1849) 161 To scald his lips in other folks' kail was the most notour thing in the settlement. 1886 *Act* 49 & 50 *Vict.* c. 29 § 1 Any act whereby he becomes notour bankrupt.

† **Noˑtourly,** *adv. Sc. Obs.* Also 6–7 -lie, 7 -urely, -orlie. [f. prec. + -LY 2.] Notoriously or generally *known.*

1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* App. I. (S.T.S.) II. 285 The ancient gabynis..,to quham þir materis war maist notourly knawin. 1570 BUCHANAN *Chamæleon* Wks. (S.T.S.) 44 It is notourlie knawin bayth in Ingland and Scotland. 1637–50 ROW *Hist. Kirk* (Wodrow Soc.) 288 It was informed also, and noturely knowen, that whoever got of that accursed thing.. did neither thryve nor prosper. 1671 [R. MACWARD] *True Nonconf.* 66 Their frequent and continual intimations..are notourly known. 1711 *Country-man's Lett. to Curat* 5 The Famous act of the six articles in the Year, 1539, is notourly known. [1759 ROBERTSON *Hist. Scot.* VIII. Wks. 1813 II. 44 He was not notourly known during his life to be an accomplice in the crime.]

Not-out, *a. Cricket.* The phrase 'not out' (see OUT *adv.* 19 c.) used attributively to designate a batsman (his score, etc.) whose innings either are unfinished or are ended only by his side going out.

1891 *Daily News* 15 July 3/7 The professional from Oldham..increased his not-out score of 60 to 124. 1895 *Ibid.* 26 Aug. 7/1 Not only did he take all the ten wickets, but the not-out man was missed from his bowling. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 8 Sept. 7/3 His not-out innings realised 112 runs out of a total of 206.

Not-pated: see NOT *a.* 1 b.

Not-self. [f. NOT *adv.* 14d + SELF.] That which is other than self; something different from the conscious self; the non-ego.

1839 SIR W. HAMILTON *Discuss.* (1852) 192 This *not-self* or *non-ego.* 1867 LEWES *Hist. Philos.* (ed. 3) II. 154, I am conscious of all that passes within myself; but I am not conscious of what passes in not-self. 1876 GEO. ELIOT *Dan. Der.* xxxii, Our self is a not-self for whose sake we become virtuous.

† **Nott,** obs. variant of KNOT *sb.*[2]

1768 *Ann. Reg.* I. 170 The bill of fare at the king of Denmark's table was as follows:..Ortolans, Pheasants, Notts.

Nott, variant of NOT *v.*[1], *v.*[2], and *adv.*

† **Notted,** *a. Obs.* [f. NOT *v.*[1] + -ED[1].]

1. Without horns; hornless.

1591 PERCIVALL *Sp. Dict.*, *Mocha*, without hornes, notted. 1630 DRAYTON *Muses Elys.* ii. Wks. 1753 IV. 1456, I have a lamb..Of the right kind, it is notted.

2. Shaven, shorn; cut short.

1576 FLEMING tr. *Caius' Dogs* (1880) 17 The water Spaniell [is]..powlde & notted from the shoulders to the hindermost legges. 1599 *Life Sir T. More* in Wordsw. *Eccl. Biog.* (1853) II. 107 Once I thought to have gone to my death, notted, as I was wont to wear it [the beard].

transf. 1650 FULLER *Pisgah* 365 Many..cut down all top-masts from the ship of Christs Church..and make her close notted to the very keel.

3. Of wheat: Smooth; not bearded.

1603 OWEN *Pembrokeshire* (1892) I. 60 Bearded and notted wheate, as the husbands term it. *a* 1661 FULLER *Worthies, Middlesex* 189 The Mildew..., which sticketh on notted or pollard Wheat.

Notte-tree, obs. form of NUT-TREE.

Nott-head, -pated: see NOT *a.* 1 b.

Not the less, *adv.* Also *Sc.* 5–6 nochtþeles(e, 6 -theles(s. [See the separate words, and cf. NA-, NE-, NOTHELESS. The Sc. forms properly belong to NOUGHT *adv.*] Nevertheless; none the less.

a. c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* i. (*Peter*) 605 Þe quhilk petir nocht-þe-lese Conuertit. *Ibid.* xv. (*Barnabas*) 137 Debonare wes he nocht-þe-les. 1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* I. vi. (S. T. S.) I. 38 Nochtþeles, þe cumpany of horsmen..was Impediment. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* Prol. 14 Carik nocbttheless bes ane monasterie called Croce Regal.

β. 1535 COVERDALE *Dan.* v. 17 Yet not thelesse, I wil rede the wrytynge. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S. T. S.) 41 Bot not the les, Abraham this answer maid. 1637–50 ROW *Hist. Kirk* (Wodrow Soc.) 301 Nottheles, the Bishops being so preferred to bigh places [etc.]. 1639 SPOTTISWOOD *Hist. Ch. Scot.* VII. (1677) 519 Nottbeless going on in bis wonted course, he sent his base Son..into the Country.

1839 KEMBLE *Resid. Georgia* (1863) 11 They are free from the chain,..but they are not the less under a ban. *a* 1869 CONINGTON *Misc. Writ.* I. 213 It is determined, not the less, by the causes which were appointed [etc.].

† **Noˑtty,** *sb.*, obs. var. of *anotto*, ANATTA.

1707 SLOANE *Jamaica* (1725) II. 54 Notty has the same qualities with Saffron. *Ibid.*, Notty is added to chocolate to colour it.

† **Noˑtty,** *a.*, var. of *noppy* NAPPY *a.*[2]

1420–2a LYDG. *Thebes* 110 (MS. Laud 557), After soper slepe will do non ill...Stronge notti [*altered to* noppy] ale will make you to rowte.

‖ **Notum** (nōuˑtŏm). [mod.L., ad. Gr. *νῶτον* back.] The dorsal part of the thorax in insects.

1877 HUXLEY *Anat. Inv. Anim.* vii. 404 A distinct median sclerite, the sternum, may be observed; and a much larger tergal piece, the notum.

Notus (nōuˑtŏs). *rare.* [L. *Notus*, Gr. *Νότος.*] The south wind.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* II. Met. vi. (1868) 55 And eke Nero gouernede alle þe poeples þat þe violent wynde Nothus scorchiþ. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* x. 702 Notus and Afer black with thundrous Clouds from Serraliona.

† **Notwithstand,** obs. var. of next.

1596 RALEIGH *Discov. Guiana* Ep. Ded. 3 It appeareth notwithstand that I made no other brauado of going to sea. 1609 SKENE *Reg. Maj.* 60 Proces sall proceid against him, notwithstand of his minoritie.

Notwithstaˑnding, *prep.*, *adv.*, and *conj.* Also 4–5 -stonding(e, -yng(e. [f. NOT *adv.* + *withstanding*, pres. pple. of WITHSTAND *v.*]

A. *prep.* **1.** Despite, in spite of.

Properly the same construction as in 2, differing only in the order of the words.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 434 And notwiþstondynge þis, Cristis Chirche shulde live, 3if alle siche prelats wanteden þerinne. *c* 1402 LYDG. *Compl. Bl. Knt.* 333 Notwithstanding his manhood and his might, Love unto him did full great unright. *c* 1460 FORTESCUE *Abs. & Lim. Mon.* iv. (1885) 117 He dothe wronge, notwithstondynge the said lawe declared by the prophete. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 651 Notwithstandyng gentle aduertisement to them geuen,..they remayned still in one obstinate minde. 1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* IV. ii. 12 Notwithstanding all her sodaine quips. 1625 BACON *Ess., Nobility* (Arb.) 191 Wee see the Switzers last well, notwithstanding their Diuersitie of Religion. 1662 STILLINGFL. *Orig. Sacræ* I. ii. § 4 It might be the old famous Tyre still, notwithstanding what Sanchoniathon speaks. 1766 GOLDSM. *Vic. W.* XXXII, But notwithstanding this, it is impossible to describe our good humour. *a* 1806 FOX *Jas. II* (1808) 214 Thomas Archer, a clergyman..., was executed, notwithstanding many applications in his favour. 1888 BURGON *Lives* 12 *Gd. Men* II. x. 258 Notwithstanding the engrossing labours of the Hall..[he] was..a thoughtful and laborious student in Divinity.

b. *Sc.* In spite *of* something.

1639 SPOTTISWOOD *Hist. Ch. Scot.* v. (1677) 251 The Factions at home, notwithstanding of the Abstinence, were not idle. 1653 BAILLIE *Dissuas. Vind.* (1655) 16 Acts of most hearty communion, notwithstanding of some avowed differences. 1697 [C. LESLIE] *Snake in Grass* (ed. 2) 117 Notwithstanding of this high Value they put upon themselves, ..See how Jealous they are [etc.]. *c* 1817 HOGG *Tales & Sk.* III. 66 Notwithstanding of his..remonstrances. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 404 Notwithstanding of this common opinion, a loss of a small portion of time..may have a material effect upon some future operations.

2. Following *this*, *that*, or a sb., in a syntactical relation corresponding to the ablative absolute in Latin. Also † *not that withstanding.*

1490 CAXTON *Eneydos* vi. 23 This notwystondyng, alwaye they be in awayte. *c* 1500 *Melusine* 208 She was abasshed of the grete honour..,not that withstandyng she ansuerd in this manere. *c* 1555 HARPSFIELD *Divorce Hen. VIII* (Camden Soc.) 179 But, her worthiness notwithstanding, and that he had a fair daughter by her, he..was wonderfully tormented in conscience. 1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II*, II. i. 260 He bath not monie for these Irish warres: (His burthenous taxations notwithstanding). *a* 1640 MASSINGER, etc. *Old Law* III. ii, These notwithstanding, His hair and wrinkles will betray his age.

1844 *Act* 7 & 8 *Vict.* c. 32 § 26 Any other Act to the contrary notwithstanding. 1857 G. LAWRENCE *Guy Liv.* iii, Hunting three days a week, which he persisted in doing, all lectures and regulations notwithstanding.

† **b.** As a quasi-*sb. rare*—[1].

1689 *Consid. conc. Succession* 28 We may easily perceive that it binds Men to Allegiance (not indefinitely, but) with a Notwithstanding to the pretended Authority of the Pope.

B. *adv.* Nevertheless, still, yet.

c 1440 *Alph. Tales* 8 Not-with-stondyng, afor his bruther was abbott, he was a wurthie merchand. *c* 1450 *Merlin* 235 Not-with-stondinge, I sey not [etc.]. 1530 TINDALE *Doctr. Treat.* (Parker Soc.) 480 Notwithstanding yet, when Paul wrote the epistle to the Colossians, Mark was with him. 1551 T. WILSON *Logike* (1580) 88 The people of Crete are liers,..yet Epimenides maie be excepted, and be a true manne of his worde notwithstandyng. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* I. xi. 13 Borasques..proceed not out of the West, notwithstanding do often happen in Winter. 1606 G. W[OODCOCKE] *Hist. Justine* XXIX. 100 Yet notwithstanding he promised to send friendly succours. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* II. xix. 95 Their King was notwithstanding never considered as their Representative. 1736 BUTLER *Anal.* I. vii. Wks. 1874 I. 134 Were these assertions true, yet the government of the world might be just and good notwithstanding. 1769 GOLDSM. *Hist. Rome* (1786) II. 494 Julian.. was, notwithstanding, a very good and a very valiant prince. 1813 SOUTHEY *Nelson* II. 22 The father..declared he saw that it would come to pass notwithstanding. 1875 THIRLWALL *Lett.* (1881) I. 393 It can matter little that the rite is notwithstanding a real sacrament.

C. *conj.* Although.

c 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* III. xii. 355 Thei bileueden it and witnessen it, not withstonding Pope Damasis wroot the contrarie to Ierom. 1502 *Lett. Rich. III & Hen. VII* (Rolls) II. 111 Notwithstonding your gracehad commaundid us to retorne, yet we..wold be content to make here abode. 1565 STAPLETON tr. *Bede's Hist. Ch. Eng.* 155 He returned home, notwithstanding the bisshop offred him lodginge. 1596 DANETT tr. *Comines* (1614) 243 That the Duke of Lorrain bad no right thereto, notwithstanding others maintained the contrary. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 745 [He] would needes goe on shore.., notwithstanding some advised and intreated him the contrary. 1676 *Doctrine of Devils* 170 Notwithstanding they knew the Laws, Customes, and Statutes, of the Nation. 1765 GOLDSM. *Ess.* xxiv. Misc. Wks. 1837 I. 323 Notwithstanding he had set his features to the semblance of a smile, I could perceive he was out of humour. 1786 tr. *Beckford's Vathek* (1868) 16 The Caliph, notwithstanding the table had been thirty times covered, found himself incommoded by the voraciousness of his guest. 1829 WORDSW. *Prose Wks.* (1876) I. 264 Notwithstanding objections may lie against some parts of her Liturgy,..her doctrines are exclusively scriptural. 1859 LANG *Wand. India* 409 Notwithstanding it was enlivened by several exciting incidents,..I was very glad when it was over.

b. Followed by *that* with dependent clause.

1584 COGAN *Haven Health* (1636) 176 Milke, notwithstanding that it seemeth to be wholly of one substance, yet it is compact, or made of three severall substances. 1596 DANETT tr. *Comines* (1614) 125 Notwithstanding that it were once burned by the D. of Burgundie.

1820 W. IRVING *Sk. Bk.* (1821) I. 149 He [James I of Scotland] was detained prisoner by Henry IV, notwithstanding that a truce existed between the two countries. 1855 PUSEY *Doctr. Real Pres.* iii. (1859) 329 The Church has ever worshipped our Lord truly and spiritually present in the Sacrament, notwithstanding that..His Human nature is at the Right Hand of God in Heaven.

Notycyon, -yfy, obs. ff. NOTITION, NOTIFY. **Notye,** var. of NOTE *v.*[1] **Nou,** obs. f. NOW. **Nouacion, Noualty, Nouasse,** obs. ff. NOVATION, NOVELTY, NOVICE. **Nouch,** orig. form of OUCH, clasp, and var. of NUCHE *Obs.*

†Nouch. *Obs. rare.* [Of obscure origin.] A projection or projecting part.

Holme also uses *noches* in a similar sense (III. ix. 393/1).

1688 HOLME *Armoury* I. 32/1 Imbattleing stands equally proportioned on both sides, with the nouches contrary one to the other: as if they were Strong Staves put throw a peece of Timber. *Ibid.* III. xiv. (Roxb.) 8/2 The parts of a Flesh pott... The feet, three nouches on which the pot standeth.

Noucin, variant of NOWCIN, need. *Obs.*

†Nou·dy, obs. Sc. variant of NODDY *sb.*[2]

c 1700 in Maidment *Scot. Pasquils* (1868) 331 For preaching, for drinking, for playing at noudy, Bannocks of bear meal, cakes of croudy. *Ibid.*, They preach well, feast well, and play well at noudy.

‖ Noué, *a. rare*[−1]. [F. *noué*, pa. pple. of *nouer* to knot.] = NOWED *a.*

1761 *Brit. Mag.* II. 76 On a wreath, a snake noué, proper.

Noueis, Nouel, Nouell, -eltie, Nouembre, obs. ff. NOVICE, NAVEL, NOVEL(TY), NOVEMBER.

‖ Nougat (nū̆gā). Also nogat. [F. *nougat*, a. Prov. *nougat*, = Sp. and Pg. *nogada*, *nogado*:— Romanic **nucātum*, f. L. *nuc-*, *nux* nut.] A sweetmeat composed principally of sugar and almonds, or other varieties of nuts.

1827 JARRIN *Ital. Confectioner* (ed. 3) 24 Cake Nogat, This nogat may be made in moulds, or square pieces. 1846 *French Domest. Cookery* 235 When you make a nougat of large dimensions, put in the almonds a few at a time. 1853 SOYER *Pantroph.* 285 That learned and exquisite mixture now designated under the name of Nougat.

Nought (nɔ̄t), *sb.*, *a.*, and *adv.* Forms: *α.* 1–3 nowiht, 1 -wuht, 3 -wyht, -wiþt (-wist, -whit). *β.* 1–4 noht (3 *Orm.* nohht), 3–4 nohut; 3–5 (6–9 *Sc.*) nocht; 3–4 nogt, 3–6 noght (4–5 -te); 3–5 noȝt (4 noeȝt), 4–5 noȝte (4 -the); 3 nopt, 6 *Sc.* notht, 4 (6 *Sc.*) noth; 3 noh, 4 nogh, 6–7 *Sc.* noch. *γ.* 3–5 nouht, 5 nowhte, 6 (9) *Sc.* noucht; 3–6 nouȝt (4 -th), 4–5 nouȝte (4 -the), nowȝte; 3– nought (5 nougt, nough), 5–6 noughte (5 now-); 3 nouthe, 4 nouþe, 4–5 nouth, 5 nowth(e. *δ.* 3 nowit, -wyt, 2–4 (8 *dial.*) nout, 5–7 noute, 3–5 (9 *dial.*) nowt. [OE. *nōwiht*, *-wuht*, f. *ne* NE + *ōwiht*, var. of *āwiht*: see AUGHT and NAUGHT.

Parallel formations to OE. *nāwiht*, *nōwiht* appear in OS. *nēowiht*, *niowiht*, OHG. *nēowiht*, *nio-*, *niewiht*, *nieht* (G. *nicht*), and with the guttural dropped in OHG. *niewet*, *niet*, MDu. *niewet*, *nieut*, *niet*, OFris. *nawet*, *nauet*, *naut*. A simpler form occurs in OHG. *niwiht*, *-weht* (Goth. *ne waihts*, OE. *ne..wiht*).]

A. *sb.* **1.** Nothing. (Now only literary.)

a. *c* 825 *Vesp. Psalter* xxxiii. 10 Ondredað dryhten.. forðon nowiht wonn bið ðæm ondredendum hine. *c* 897 K. ÆLFRED tr. *Gregory's Past. C.* 389 Sien ða hæbbendan swelce hie nowiht hæbben. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. x. 26 Nowiht forðon [is] ȝedeȝled þæt ne se unwriȝen. *c* 1200 *Moral Ode* 152 (Trin. Coll. MS.), Þan he biðohte nn helle fur þat nowiht ne mai quenche. *c* 1275 LAY. 3182 Ich þe segge soþ riht, ne sal ȝeo habbe no wiþt.

β. *c* 888 K. ÆLFRED tr. *Boethius* vii. § 1 Þonne nis þe noht swiðor þonne ðæt þæt þu forloren hæfst þa woruldsælða. *c* 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* I. xxvii. (1890) 80 Þæm besmitenum .. noht bið clæne. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 147 Næfde heo noht on hire buton þæt an. *c* 1128 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1128, Þa hi þider comon ða ne was hit noht buton læsunge. *c* 1200 ORMIN 18749, & nohht nass wrohht wiþþutenn himm Off all þatt iss summ shaffte. *c* 1250 *Lutel soth Serm.* 6 in *O. E. Misc.* 186 Wel we witen alle þaȝ ich eou noȝt ne telle. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 520 No mon byddez vus do ryȝt noȝt. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 24 Al was in to pouldre broght, And so forth torned into noght. *c* 1440 *Generydes* 144 For his plesur trowly ther lakkyd noght. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S. T. S.) 161 [He] can nocht ellis do bot sitt on the felde. 1567 *Satir. Poems Reform.* iv. 181 In earth..sen nocht is permanent. *a* 1585 MONTGOMERIE *Cherrie & Slae* 149 Quhat gif..it coist thee nocht Bot randring it againe? 1611 SIR W. MURE *Elegie* Wks. (S. T. S.) I. 15 Nocht els bot cruell Cupid's ire my martyrdome constrainis. *c* 1650 — *Ps.* cxix. 20 Besyde Thy judgements noght, no time, contents. 1724 RAMSAY *Vision* vi, Let nocht thy hairt affray. 1791 BURNS *Lament Earl Glencairn* iii, But nocht in all revolving time Can gladness bring again to me.

γ. *c* 1300 *K. Alis.* (Weber) 3767 Tho that up the water fyghtis, Yet neotith nought of this knyghtis. 1389 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 7 ȝif any brother deye, þat haþ nouȝt of his owne to be beried withe. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl. C.* I. 210 Bote soffren and sigge nouht, and so is the beste. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 359/2 Nowhte (nowth, K)..., *nichil.* 1484 CAXTON *Fables of Alfonce* ix, I promysed to the nought at al. 1529 RASTELL *Pastyme* (1811) 52 He dyd noughte but made his kyn ryche of the goodys of the church. 1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 38 He that hath right nought, right nought shall possesse. 1600 J. PORY tr. *Leo's Africa* III. 187 Besides barly-bread the inhabitants hane nought to line on. 1665 S. PATRICK *Parab. Pilgr.* 80, I am nought, I have nought, I desire nought. 1718 HICKES & NELSON *J. Kettlewell* II. lvii. 178 The whole Course of his Ministry was nought else but an Uniform Obedience. 1781 COWPER *Anti-Thelyphth.* 182 She whisper'd still that he had nought to fear. 1836 KINGSLEY *Lett.* (1878) I. 33 She loved all living things, and nought harmed her. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* II. viii. 267 Nought remains to mark the huge moraine, but a strip of dirt. 1872 HOLLAND *Marble Prophecy* 46 Then dream that nought so real comes in dreams.

δ. *a* 1200 *Moral Ode* 292 (Egerton MS.), Heom nas nout of godes bode ne of godes hese. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. vi. 119 'No', quaþ an Apeward, 'for nout þat I knowe'. *c* 1450 *Gesta Rom.* (1879) 107 Þe drynk is nounte elles but passion. *c* 1485 *Promp. Parv.* (S) 359/2 Nowte, *nichil.*

1741–3 WESLEY *Jrnl.* (1749) 89 She cares not, if she never look in a book. She minds *nout* but play. 1827–30 T. WILSON *Pitman's Pay* (1843) 13, I want for nowt that she can gie me. 1864 TENNYSON *North. Farmer* I. i, Thourt nowt o' a noorse.

2. Nothing; nonentity. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

c 1200 ORMIN 12009 Forr I þe shop off nohht. *c* 1300 *Cursor M.* 345 He þat mad al thing o noght. 1388 WYCLIF *Ps.* xxxiii[i]. 9 He comaundide, and thingis weren maad of nouȝt. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xlvi. 44 God..That him of nocht wrocht lyk his awin figour. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S. T. S.) 131 O Lord, quhilk wrocht all thingis of nocht. 1635 SWAN *Spec. M.* i. § 1 (1643) 4 All this All did once of nought begin. 1642 H. MORE *Song Soul* II. i. III. vii, To their ancient Nought their empty selves betake. *a* 1711 KEN *Hymnarium* Poet. Wks. 1721 II. 43 The boundless Gulf betwixt Eternal Nought and Being fix'd.

b. *Arith.* = NOTHING *sb.*[4]

c 1430 *Art Nombryng* 18 Þat wel be noȝt, for a 0 is noȝt. And twyes noȝt is but noȝt. 1588 A. KING tr. *Canisius' Catech.* p. vi, Giff nocht restis, ye divisor 19. sall be it. 1788 JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1859) II. 464 The honor of their nation has been calculated at nought. 1884 tr. *Lotze's Logic* 269 The proportion $\rho\alpha : \rho\beta = b : a$ must always subsist; therefore *m* cannot be nought.

c. *To be nought*: (see NAUGHT *sb.* 1 e). *rare.*

1565 *Kyng Darius* (Brandl) 747 Come away, and be nought a whyle. 1573 *New Custom* I. ii, With all my harte and a vengeance, come up and be nought.

3. a. In phr. *to bring, come, go,* etc., *to nought.*

β. *c* 1200 ORMIN 10960 Þærafftterr warrþ itt efft to nohht. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 5466 Þe contreye folc com mid gret route & driue hom al to noȝte. 13.. *Cursor M.* 22172 (Edin.), To bring þe cristin men to nochte. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 680 So had better haf ben þen britned to noȝt. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* II. 157 The maiestie of the Romane Impire..almaist was cum to nocht. 1888 *Scot. Serm.* in *Brit. Workm.* XXXIV. 19 Sae the precious seed cam' tae nocht ava.

γ. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 1 Alle þe heþene men þat neiȝ him were, sone he dude to nouȝte. *a* 1400 HYLTON *Scala Perf.* (W. de W. 1494) II. xlv, Spoylleth hym and renteth hym all to nought. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* xx. xix. 831 They shalle by processe brynge vs alle to noughte. 1526 TINDALE 1 *Cor.* ii. 6 Wisdom of this worlde..(which goeth to nought). 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* I. (1586) 31 b, Yf it be sowed thicke, it comes to nought. 1602 CAREW *Cornwall* 84 All which..is now growne to nought or naught. *c* 1680 BEVERIDGE *Serm.* (1729) II. 301 Carried away by the next wind that blows and so comes to nought. 1781 COWPER *Conversat.* 403 Recov'ring..The faculties that seem'd reduc'd to nought. 1869 BROWNING *Ring & Bk.* VII. 902 All human plans and projects come to nought. 1871 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1876) IV. xviii. 186 Zeal and courage.. brought to nought by..cowardice.

† b. *To call to nought* (see NAUGHT *sb.* 1 d). *Obs.*

1738–9 MRS. PENDARVES *Let.* in Mrs. Delany *Life & Corr.* (1861) I. 37 The duchess of Portland..calls herself all to nought for having been so long in her debt.

4. † a. In *gen. sing.* Of no value. *Obs. rare*[−1].

c 1205 LAY. 13947 Eonre godes ne beoð nohtes, in helle heo niðer ligged.

† b. *Nought worth,* worth nothing, of no value.

a 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 343 Hwa walde ileuen þis, þet is as noht wurð. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 367 Men sey þat oþer newe ordiris and reulis ben noeȝt worth. *c* 1380 *Abbey Holy Ghost* in *Hampole's Wks.* (1896) I. 323 No werkes þat we wyrke are noghte worthe to god nor spedfull till oure sawles. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S. T. S.) 182 It passis his power, and tharfore the obligacioun is nocht worth. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 109 That neither Rome can shew any such graunt,..and if they could it were right nought worth. 1587 GOLDING *De Mornay* xviii. (1592) 288 That thing..that is giuen for nought, and by such as are nought worth. *c* 1610 BEN JONSON *Barriers* Wks. (1616) 929 Mirrors, though deckt with diamants, are nought worth, If the like formes of things they set not forth.

† c. *A thing of nought,* a mere nothing. *Obs.*

c 1425 LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 2050 Hit was but a whew, A dreme, a fantasy, and a thyng of nought. 1551 ROBINSON tr. *More's Utopia* I. (1895) 53 They be constrayned to sell it for a thyng of nought. 1587 GOLDING *De Mornay* x. (1592) 137 Seeing that a thing of nought is able to doe so much. 1611 BIBLE *Isa.* xxix. 21 That..turne aside the iust for a thing of nought. 1743 BLAIR *The Grave* 739 Shrunk to a thing of nought.

5. *For nought.* **† a.** ? Nevertheless. *Obs.*[−1]

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 1442 Þis romeins were vor noȝt onercome atte laste.

† b. In vain, to no purpose. *Obs.*

c 1290 *St. Kenelm* 101 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 348 Þo þe luþere quene þat i-sai þat hit was al for nouȝt [etc.]. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 7298 'Sir', þai said, 'þon sais for noght'. *c* 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 2206 *Ariadne*, But all for nought, his wey he is gon. 1430–40 LYDG. *Bochas* IX. xxxi. (1554) 32 b, But al for nought they were so indurate. *c* 1477 CAXTON *Jason* 58 Yet they sent unto the king..,but that was for nought. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* XI. xi. 106 For nocht scho was desyrt with mony a man, And moderis feill .. Desyrit hyr thair gude douchter, in vane. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* IV. 244 Colman & Finnan oft had admonised him, bot in vane, and al for noȝt.

† c. Without payment or recompense; gratis.

1535 COVERDALE *Gen.* xxix. 15 Because thou art my brother, shalt thou therfore serue me for nought? 1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 138 As good to play for nought, as to woorke for nought. 1671 MILTON *Samson* 1215 To thir Masters gave me up for nought. *a* 1770 JORTIN *Serm.* (1771) I. iv. 65 He would eat no man's bread for nought. 1784 COWPER *Task* I. 675 We travel far, 'tis true, but not for nought; And must he brib'd [etc.].

d. For no reason, without good cause. *rare.*

1607 NORDEN *Surv. Dial.* III. 84 It is spacious in circuit,.. and beareth not the name for nought, for the Manner is faire.

6. *To set at nought*: to despise, defy, scorn, disregard. So **†** *to put to nought*; *to give nought of* (see GIVE *v.* 9 d).

a 1340 HAMPOLE *Ps.* ix. 33 Halymen sall be despisid þan, and sett att noght. *c* 1375 *Cursor M.* 14459 (Fairf.), Alle þat ..þe iewes sette atte nouȝt. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xxxii. 144 All erthely thingez þai sette at noȝt. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* lxxxiv. 5 Setand at nocht God nor manis blame. *Ibid.* xliv. 9 Wo wirth the fruct wald put the tre to nocht. 1534 WHITINTON *Tullyes Offyces* III. (1540) 148 What shal I say of them that setteth all honest and iust thinges at nouȝt? 1634 MILTON *Comus* 444 The huntress Dian..set at nought The frivolous bolt of Cupid. *a* 1720 SEWEL *Hist. Quakers* (1795) I. IV. 247 The protector..would have given him audience, had not others set him at nought. 1850 MARSDEN *Early Purit.* (1853) 40 Had she not set at nought the wishes of such men as Jewel, Grindal, Horn, and Parker.

7. With *a* and *pl.* **a.** A thing or person of no worth or value; a mere nothing.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 16990 Again þe pine he for me drou, bot als a noght it were. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 1742 Slike a nekard as þi-selfe, a noȝt of all othire. *c* 1400 26 *Pol. Poems* 21 Þis world is a fayre nouȝt, A false leminan. *c* 1560 A. SCOTT *Poems* (S. T. S.) xxxv. 17 Sall non be so off nochtis, no! Quhilk bene of cursit kind. *c* 1590 GREENE *Fr. Bacon* iii, We..Come to buy needlesse noughts to make vs fine. 1595 SPENSER *Col. Clout* 718 Like bladders blowen up with wynd, That being prickt do vanish into noughts.

† b. *pl.* in predicative or adverbial use. *Obs. rare.*

1561 WINȝET *Tractates* Wks. (S. T. S.) I. 21 Quhilk auctoritie gene ȝe esteme as nochtis, be reasoun it wes geuin to ȝow..be ane papiste bischope. 1589 GREENE *Menaphon* (Arb.) 89 Repentant thoughts Of daies ill spent, for that which profits noughts.

c. *Arith.* A cipher. *Noughts and crosses*: see OUGHT *sb.*[3]

a 1660 HAMMOND *Serm.* Wks. 1684 IV. 379 A defect in the power of numbering, that discerns no difference between Ciphers and Millions, but only that the noughts are a little the blacker. 1718, 1801 [see CIPHER *sb.* 1]. 1839–52 BAILEY *Festus* 11 The spheres themselves are but as shining noughts Upon the mantle of the night impearled. 1889 *Spectator* 26 Oct., A majority so elected is but a series of noughts intended to elevate the power of one. 1894 K. GRAHAME *Pagan P.* 140 True, noughts-and-crosses might be indulged in.

8. a. Low estate and poverty. *rare*[−1].

c 1400 *Brut* (E. E. T. S.) 216 A Knyght þat þe Erl had brouȝt vp of nouȝt.

b. Worthless character or conduct.

c 1400 26 *Pol. Poems* 27 ȝe, þouȝ þon be of feble fame, Bere good visage, þy nouȝt aspye. 1586 A. DAY *Eng. Secretary* II. (1625) 31 To relieve such an one .. in bringing him from nought to ought. 1622 W. WHATELY *Gods Husb.* II. 136 We shall grow worse and worse, enen from ought to nought, as the Prouerbe speaketh. 1651 C. CARTWRIGHT *Cert. Relig.* I. 4 Else you'll fall from nought to worse, from thence to nothing.

† c. *To do nought,* to do wrong. *To play the nought,* to act immorally. *Obs.*

1538 STARKEY *England* I. i. 6, I wyl not yet say..that therin they dyd vtturly nought. 1565 *Child Marriages* 129 The said Thomas Grenehalgh had plaid the nought with the said Jone, in the house of the said Margaret, her mother.

9. *Comb.*, as *nought-availing, -fearing, -worth.*

1589 NASHE *Anat. Absurd.* Wks. (Grosart) I. 44 Least he ..make a nought worth peeble his Jewell. 1591 FLORIO *2nd Fruites* 127 A counterfaite, lazie, and nought-worth seruant. *a* 1591 H. SMITH *Wks.* (1867) II. 237 These nought-fearing fellows, these high-stomached men,..are brought down by danger. 1613 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Cypress Grove* Wks. (1712) 118 With unprofitable and nought-availing Stubbornness.

B. *adj.* [Cf. NAUGHT *a.*, which is the more usual form.]

† 1. Of material things: Bad in condition or in their own kind. *Obs.*

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) I. 51 As a sore membre þat is nouȝt from membres þat beeþ hole and sounde. 1402 HOCCLEVE *Lett. Cupid* 321 The soyl ys noght, ther may no trouthe growe! 1496 *Fysshynge w. Angle* (1883) 32 Whan they ben in a slongh or elles deed thenne ben they nought. *c* 1540 *Plumpton Corr.* (Camden) 239 The cofer wherin your said court rowles lieth is nought & the lock therof not worth a pene. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* I. (1586) 44 With continuall bearing of Hey, it hath growen to be mossie and nought. 1611 BIBLE 2 *Kings* ii. 19 The water is nought, and the ground barren. 1693 EVELYN *De la Quint. Compl. Gard.* I. 38 All that is nought in the Ground must of necessity be removed. 1704 SWIFT *Batt. Bks.* Misc. (1711) 237 'Tis too plain, the Materials are nought. 1728 E. SMITH *Compl. Housew.* (1750) 5 If [the egg is] muddy or cloudy, and the yolk broken, it is nought.

† b. Of actions, etc.: Bad, wicked. *Obs.*

a 1425 *Cursor M.* 14459 (Trin.), Alle þat he wib lone hem souȝt þe iewes entent was euer nouȝt. 1481 CAXTON *Myrr.* III. xxi. 181 That synne is nought, ffor as moche as it is voyde and disgarnysshed of all goodnes. 1531 ELYOT *Gov.* (1580) 180 If the purpose be noughte he can not..hope to obtain it. 1598 GRENEWEY *Tacitus, Ann.* VI. ix. (1622) 134 A people not vnderstanding what is good, nor hauing a care of that which is nought. 1607 J. DAVIES *Summa Totalis* vi. Wks. (Grosart) I. 5/2 Hate, Anger, and the like, in vs are nought, But in thee good, and iust.

† c. Immoral, vicious. *Obs.*

1388–9 in *Wyclif's Sel. Wks.* III. 488 Þo hoore-hows þat alle men knowen is nouȝt. 1513 MORE *Rich. III* (1883) 53 She was nought of her body. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 30 b, Many dyd myracles that were nought of lyuyng, as the enchauntours of Pharao. 1550 BALE *Eng. Votaries* I. (1560) 96 Callynge them all that nought was.

2. Good for nothing, worthless, useless.

c 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 28 Þat is no power, but fals pride, & presumid, & onli in name, & as to ȝend & effect is nouȝt. 1483 *Vulgaria* 33 Thow kunnest me no thanke, therfore thow art nought to do fore. *c* 1535 M. NISBET *Prol. Rom.* (S. T. S.) III. 347 That ande all lyk argumentes ar nocht. 1550 CROWLEY *Epigr.* 1410 A wryter of thynges nought and vayne. 1615 BRATHWAIT *Strappado* (1878) 132 Thou mun

not blush, nor colour change for ought, Though th' plea thou hast in hand be nere so nought. 1658 A. Fox tr. *Würtz' Surg.* II. i. 47 Experience, that great Teacher, tels us to be nought, at all times to undertake for health. 1790 *Borrowdale Lett.* (1821) 14 Hees fearful nowt I racken.

†**3.** Injurious *to*, bad *for*, a thing or person. Also without const. *Obs.*

1532 HERVET *Xenophon Œcon.* (1768) 2, I do not accompte that amonge a mans..goodes, that is nought and hurtful vnto him. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* 639 Garlyke is hurtfull and nought for cholerique people. 1658 A. FOX tr. *Würtz' Surg.* II. i. 49 A Surgeon..may easily know..what is good or nought for the Wound. 1690 CHILD *Disc. Trade* (1698) 111, I conclude..that all restrictions of trade are nought, and consequently that no company..can be for publick good.

C. *adv.* [Orig. the accusative of the *sb.*]

1. To no extent; in no way; not at all.

c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* lxxxviii. 23 Nowiht fromað se fiond in him. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 119 Hie seoþþan..him nowiht fore ne ondredon. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 2103 'Alle þine þreates ne drede ich', quoð ha, 'riht noht'. *a* 1250 *Prov. Ælfred* 284 in *O. E. Misc.* 120 Þeyh heo wel wolde, ne may heo hi nowiht welde. *c* 1275 LAY. 25632 Ne dorste þar no cniht to vuele hit teorne no wiht. 1381 in *Wyclif's Sel. Wks.* III. 500 Bodely etyng ne profites nouth to soule. 1413 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton) v. i. (1859) 68 Me semyd that wonder lytel or nought my peynes were abredged. 1503 HAWES *Examp. Virt.* ix. 168 Where I am poore and sette by nought. 1568 TILNEY *Disc. Mariage* B iv b, But vertues are laide aside, and nought accounted off. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. iv. 7 As a blindfold Bull, at randon fares, And where he hits nought knowes, and whom he hurts nought cares.

1828 *Sporting Mag.* XXI. 232 'It matters nout', as the Yorkshire men have it. 1870 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* II. iii. 127 Never complaining; resting nought, And yet scarce asking what he sought. 1887 — *Odyss.* xi. 363 Odysseus, nought do we deem thee..To be a cheat.

†**2.** = NOT *adv. Obs.*

β. *c* 825 *Vesp. Psalter* xlii. 1 Doem mec, god, & toscad intingan minne of ðeode noht haliȝre. *c* 897 K. ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* xxxi. 206 Næron ȝe noht æmettize, ðeah ȝe wel ne dyden. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 171 Ne þurfan ȝe noht heosȝian hwæt ȝe sprecan. *c* 1131 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1131, On þa tun þa wæs tenn ploges..ne belæf þær noht an. *c* 1200 ORMIN 11343 Nohht ne mazz þe mann Bi bræd all ane libbenn. *c* 1250 *Kent. Serm.* in *O. E. Misc.* 29 Ha niste nocht þe miracle, ac þo serganz wel hit wiste. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 15315 Noth fete allan, bot hefd and hand. *c* 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 605 Man when he is til worshepe broght Right understandyng has he noght. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 5903 He that wil not whan he may, When he wolde, he getis it noght. 1473 WARKW. *Chron.* (Camden) 2 Thei durst noȝt come neghe the castelle. 1533 GAU *Richt Vay* 4 Thay..suld noth be slayne. *Ibid.* 14 Thay yat bannis or wil notht heir thaime. 1571 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xxvi. 5 ȝe neid nocht for to feir The craft..of man. 1615 SIR W. MURE *Misc. Poems* xiii. Wks. (S.T.S.) I. 31 Bereft of breath, ȝit nocht from lyfe depoised. [1724 RAMSAY *Vision* xiii, It's nocht fit an mortal man Should ken all I can tell.] *Comb.* 1569 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* II. 17 The absence and noc[h]t comperance of the saidis personis.

γ. *c* 1275 *Passion our Lord* 36 in *O. E. Misc.* 38 He nuste nouht þat he wes boþe god and mon. *c* 1315 SHOREHAM I. 1835 Ine þe weddynge ne gaynet nouȝt þaȝ þon þe oþer byswyke. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 3 The cause whi it changeth so It needeth nought to specifie. 1411 *Rolls of Parlt.* III. 650/1 The sayd Robert wold nouht graunte that he had submytted hym in that mater. *c* 1470 HARDING *Chron.* Pref. p. vi, He wolde nought suffre I had such waryson.

δ. *c* 1205 LAY. 298 Þat bearn nas nowit feie. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 28 Ȝif þu ne const nout ðesne, seie sumne oðer of ðe creoiz. *a* 1300 *Vox & Wolf* 153 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* I. 63 Ne beth nout ȝet thre daies a-go. 1388–9 in *Wyclif's Sel. Wks.* III. 479 If ȝee wil nout do þis riȝtwisenes. *a* 1400 *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* 259, I am þi broþer, be nout in wer; he nout agast. 1475 *Paston Lett.* III. 123 Robard Clere..told me that he was nowt payd of the mony that..was borowd of hys modyr.

†**3.** In the phrases *nought (for) than, for thi, for that*, nevertheless. Also NOUGHTWITHSTANDING.

c 1250 *Kent. Serm.* in *O. E. Misc.* 36 Nocht for þan..ne solde no-man targi for to wende to godalmichti. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 4015 Þe king clupede noȝt uor þan is conseil sone. 13.. *Cursor M.* 8345 (Gött.), Bot noght for-þi ne tald he noght þe bod-word. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* iii. (*Andrew*) 465 Nocht-þane, bot þu consent to me,..I sal ger mene þe crucify. 1413 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton) II. lvii. (1859) 56 But nought for thy, blessid be his grace. 1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 225 And noght for that they bene moste febill of body. *Ibid.* 239 In tymes..al þe body of man is hote, and noȝth for than the stomake is colde. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S. T. S.) 107 And ȝit, nocht than thai graunt that the Emperour is temporale lord.

†**Nought,** *v. Obs. rare.* [f. prec.]

1. *trans.* To set (one) at nought.

a 1400–50 *Alexander* 753 'For þou has noȝtid me now, Nicollas', he sayd, 'I swere þe' [etc.]. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 360/1 Nowtun, or syettyn at nowhte.., *vilipendo.*

2. *refl.* To efface (oneself).

a 1400 HYLTON *Scala Perf.* II. xx. (Bodl. MS.) lf. 114 And soþeli vnto a soule kan felabli þoruȝ grace nouȝten him silf..he is not perfytli meke. *c* 1450 tr. *De Imitatione* III. xlvii. 118 Yf þou coudist parfitly nouȝt [L. *annihilare*] þiself & voide þiself from all loue of creatures.

†**Nou·ghtihood.** *Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. NOUGHTY *a.* + -HOOD.] Wickedness.

1536 *Pilgrim's T.* 303 in Thynne *Animadv.* (1875) 85 Fyndis in hell full of dissention, dothe extoll ther awn noghtihod aboue all that is called god.

†**Nou·ghtily,** *adv. Obs. rare.* [f. as prec. + -LY 2.] Badly; in a bad or evil manner.

c 1550 CHEKE *Matt.* xxi. 41 He wil destroie..yᵉᵒˢ noughti men noughtili. *a* 1569 KINGESMVLL *Confl. w. Satan* (1578) 6 They were noughtily done though they seemed never so good. 1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 55/1 A heade noughtilye formed.

†**Nou·ghtiness.** *Obs. rare.* [f. as prec. + -NESS.] **a.** Nothingness, worthlessness, vileness. **b.** Badness, wickedness.

c 1425 tr. *T. à Kempis' Consol.* III. ix, Al maner estimacion, be it neuer so litel, shal be drouned in þe valey of my nouȝtines [L. *nihileitas*]. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 270 h, The more they se theyr owne noughtynesse, and thinketh themselfe more and more vyle. 1551 TURNER *Herbal* I. (1568) 38 It may be the noughtines of the place may wonderfully minish the operation of the herbe. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* I. (1586) 15 It is very necessarie for them sometimes to recreate them selues, so that ..they geue not them selues to noughtinesse.

†**Nou·ghting,** *sb. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. NOUGHT *sb.* + -ING 3.] A worthless or insignificant person.

c 1440 MYRC *Festial* (E.E.T.S.) 201 Mony a byge and a strong I haue ouercom, and now suche a noȝtyng haþe getyn þe maystry, and putte me vndyr her fote.

†**Nou·ghting,** *vbl. sb. Obs.* [f. NOUGHT *v.* + -ING 1.] Depreciation, scorn; effacement.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 426 Hwon his blowinge ne geineð nout, þeonne bringeð he up sum luðer word, oðer sum nouhtunge hwarþuruh heo to-hurteð eiðer urommard oðer. *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* 9 [Thou shalt] se ofte beon imaket arm of an eðeliche mon..for noht oðer nohtunge. *a* 1400 HYLTON *Scala Perf.* (W. de W. 1494) II. xxvi, And casten hemself downe vnder god by noughtynge of hemself.

†**Nou·ghtly,** *adv. Obs. rare.* Also 1 nohtlice, 4 noght-, 6 noughtely. [f. NOUGHT *a.* + -LY 2.] **a.** Wickedly, wrongly. **b.** Badly, poorly.

c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* xxxvi. 8-9 Blin from eorre & forlet hatheortnisse; ne elna ðu þætte nohtlice ðu doe. Forðon ða nohtlice doð biað abreotte. *c* 1400 *Cursor M.* 27574 (Cott. Galba), Of þam we suld noghtly late, for of þaire gude werkes noght we wate. 1502 *Ord. Crysten Men* (W. de W. 1506) IV. vi, Moche better is it to examyn one or two unto saluacyon, than twenty and foure noughtelye. 1551 TURNER *Herbal* 143 It is not harde to be digested, if it be not corrupted before. And that chanceth vnto it when it is noughtely dressed. 1594 WEST *2nd Pt. Symbol.* § 163 Whereby his mind is corrupted and made worse to do or attempt anything noughtly.

†**Noughtwithstanding** (nocht-, noght-, nouȝt, etc.), obs. var. of NOTWITHSTANDING.

c 1360 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 11 Noght-withstanding þat he was ȝing, He chastyd his flesch with fasting. 1386 *Rolls of Parlt.* III. 225/1 Noughtwithstondyng the same fredam or fraunchise, Nichol Brembre..was chosen Mair. 1413 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton) I. xx. (1859) 21 Ne woldest thou neuer hyleue, nouȝtwithstandynge that I haue put al my power. 1426 *Paston Lett.* I. 25 Nought with stondyng that I herde nevere of this matier.., yet I made an appell. 1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* II. xiii. (S. T. S.) I. 179 The small pepill, nochtwithstanding þat þis valerius was create dictator [etc.]. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* Prol. 5 The are nochtwithstanding [is] sumthing thiker, and mae cloudes.

Nou·ghty, *a. Obs.* exc. *Sc.* Forms: 4 noȝt-, 5–6 nowght-, noght-, 6 *Sc.* nochth-, 7– *Sc.* nocht-, 4– noughty; also 5–6 -i, 6 -ie, -ye. [f. NOUGHT *sb.* + -Y: cf. NAUGHTY *a.*]

†**1.** Of actions, etc.: Bad, immoral, wicked. *Obs.*

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1359 Hit is not innoghe to þe nice al noȝty þink [=thing] vse, Bot if alle þe worlde wyt his wykked dedes. 1450–80 tr. *Secreta Secret.* 14 Leue þe noughti lyf of bestis that euyr lyve in filthis. 1533 MORE *Debell. Salem* i. Wks. 931/2 Of many noughti thinges I touch there but a fewe, and suche as were in no wise to be dissembled. 1541 *Act* 33 *Hen. VIII*, c. 21 § 1 A woman, whiche was priuie to hir noughtie life before. 1603 J. DAVIES (Heref.) *Microcos.* xxxv. Wks. (Grosart) I. 26/2 Sin, noughty Nothing that mak'st all things nought.

†**2.** Of persons: Abject, worthless, vile, bad.

c 1395 *Plowman's Tale* III. 1097 And they were noughty, foule, and horowe, To worship god men wolde wlate. 1461 *Paston Lett.* II. 26 Be ware howe ye ryd or go, for nowgty and evyll desposyd felacheps. 1477 EARL RIVERS (Caxton) *Dictes* 24 Yf he geue hy wil to noughty folkis..it puteth aweye the courage of his goode seruauntis. *a* 1529 SKELTON *Agst. Scottes* 56 Ye for to sende such a citacion, It shameth all your noughty nacion. 1563 GOOGE *Eglogs* vii. (Arb.) 79 Let noughtye men saye what they lyst to the[e].

Comb. 1553 T. WILSON *Rhet.* (1580) 121 It is a folie to suffer the fome of a horse, or the strikyng of his foote, and not abide any thyng that a foole doeth, or a noughtie disposed fellowe speaketh.

†**b.** *Noughty pack* = NAUGHTY PACK. *Obs.*

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 37 h, Al though they be wretched lyuers & noughty packes amonge. 1553 T. WILSON *Rhet.* (1580) 140 Euery one thinketh it a better and a meter deede, to punishe noughtie packes, then to scoffe at their euill demeanour.

3. Of things: **a.** Good for nothing; worthless or of little worth; also in mod. *Sc.*, insignificant, trifling.

1508 FISHER *7 Penit. Ps.* cii. Wks. (1876) 198 Syth he hath gyuen vnto this noughty worlde so many grete pleasures. 1551 TURNER *Herbal* 141 That whiche is..sharpe or rough or darke and full of asshes..is greuous and noughty. 1655 *Sess. Rec. Lesmahagow, Ann.* viii. (1864) 128 Ye Session taking into yᵉ consideration that Mr Thomas' school has been very nochtie. 1835 WEBSTER *Rhymes* 203 When he lifts his mole-like een, With a nochty nose between. 1882 W. ALEXANDER *Ain Folk* 101 The farmers did not wish to have a Highland cow, and the coupers who passed sneered at it as a 'nochty beastie'.

†**b.** In bad condition; of a bad kind. *Obs.*

1541 COPLAND *Guydon's Quest. Chirurg.* O ij b, They that ..be rotten, and founde in noughty waters be daungerous. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* 361 The same put into the holes of corrupt and noughtie teeth, swageth the tooth-ache. 1657 S. PURCHAS *Pol. Flying-Ins.* II. 296 They may not after build upon a rotten, noughty, or weake foundation.

Nouȝwhere, obs. f. NOWHERE. **Nouh,** ought not: see OWE *v.* **Nouice, -iciat,** obs. ff. NOVICE, -ICIATE. **Nouite(e,** obs. ff. NOVITY. **Nouke, Noul,** obs. ff. NOOK, NOLL.

†**Nould,** would not: see NILL *v. Obs.*

1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* Feb. 192 The good man noulde stay his leasure. 1596 DANETT tr. *Comines* Ep. Ded. (1614) p. iii, Would I nould I, to the presse the booke must go. 1642 H. MORE *Song Soul* I. i. xxxviii, Then they..desired, That he nould break this happy union. [1742 SHENSTONE *Schoolmistr.* xv, Simple faith..That nould on wooden image place her creed.]

Noule, Noult, obs. forms of NOLL, NOLT. **Noumber, -bre, -bur,** obs. ff. NUMBER *sb.* **Noumbles, -buls,** obs. ff. NUMBLES. **Noumbrable, -brary,** obs. ff. NUMBERABLE, -BRARY.

Noumeite (nūˈmĭəit). *Min.* Also noumeaite, numeite. [From its locality, *Noumea* in New Caledonia.] A variety of garnierite.

1874 *Sidney Herald* 29 Sept., Noumeite. 1881 *Nature* XXV. 45 Some minerals from New Caledonia, including the nickel-bearing Noumeaite. 1894 *Min. Mag.* V. 193 The Oregon nickel is found in two varieties.., Garnierite and Noumeite.

Noumenal (nauˈmĕnăl), *a.* [f. NOUMEN-ON + -AL. So F. *nouménal.*] Relating to, consisting of, noumena; that can only be apprehended by intuition; not phenomenal.

1803 *Edin. Rev.* I. 262 Himself, however, the sole exception in nature, he knows in objective nounenal reality. 1830 COLERIDGE *Lett.* (1895) 755 Some other term must be used as the antithet to phenomenal, perhaps nounenal. 1862 SPENCER *First Princ.* II. iii. § 46 (1875) 159 Contrasting it with a noumenal existence which we imagine. *a* 1881 A. BARRATT *Phys. Metempiric* (1883) 25 The extension of a noumenal fact beyond the limits of our own individual noumenon.

Hence **Noumena·lity; Nou·menalize** *v.*

1872 *Contemp. Rev.* XX. 822 He phenomenalizes the old Ding-an-sich merely to noumenalize the Concepts and the law of Contradiction. *a* 1881 BARRATT *Phys. Metempiric* (1883) 36 'Outside' losing its former meaning of externality in space and acquiring the new meaning of Noumenality.

Nou·menally, *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY 2.] In a noumenal aspect; as regards noumena.

1858 SPENCER *Ess.* I. 27 That we can comprehend such cause noumenally considered is not to be supposed. 1882 *Athenæum* 27 May 664/1 Kant had made the will phenomenally determined, but noumenally free.

Nou·menism. *nonce-word.* [f. next + -ISM.] A philosophical system dealing with, or based on, noumena.

1865 J. GROTE *Explor. Philos.* I. 182 All this is entirely different from the notion of an unknowable noumenism with which phænomenism (as I here on purpose write it) is contrasted.

Noumenon (nauˈmĕnɒn). *Metaph.* Pl. noumena. [ad. Gr. *νοούμενον*, neut. of the pres. pple. pass. of *νοεῖν* to apprehend, conceive; introduced by Kant in contrast to *phenomenon.*] In the philosophy of Kant: An object of purely intellectual intuition, devoid of all phenomenal attributes.

1798 W. TAYLOR in *Monthly Rev.* XXV. 585 The phænomena of beauty, with respect to him [*sc.* Kant], rank among the noumena. 1803 *Edin. Rev.* I. 267 We will admit to the transcendentalist his solitary noumenon and its separate functions. 1867 LEWES *Hist. Philos.* (ed. 3) II. 485 The peculiar merit of his doctrine is held to be that he distinguishes Phenomena from things in themselves, or Noumena. 1877 CAIRD *Philos. Kant* II. xiii. 498 In a negative sense, a noumenon would be an object not given in sensuous perception; in a positive sense, a noumenon would be an object given in a non-sensuous, i. e. an intellectual perception.

Noumer, obs. form of NUMBER.

Noumeracioun, obs. form of NUMERATION.

†**Noumpere.** *Obs.* Forms: 4–5 nounper, -pier; 4 noumpere, 5 nowmper(e, -powre; 4 nompere, -peyr. [a. OF. *nonper, nomper*, f. *non-* NON- + *per, pair* PEER.] The original form of UMPIRE.

1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. v. 181 Til Rohyn þe Ropere weore ..þempned for a noumpere þat no de-bat neore. *a* 1420 BIBLE (Wycl.) IV. 302 And while thei stryuen thus, the apostil putte him bitwene as a mene, distruynge alle her qwestiouns, as a good noumpere. 1424 *Paston Lett.* I. 14 The decree and jugement of a nounpier to be chosen by the same arbitrores. 1435 *Plumpton Corr.* (Camden) p. li, That the said award & ordinance of the said Nowmper be made be the feast of the Nativity. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 360 Nowmpere, or owmpere, *arbiter, sequester.*

Noun (naun). *Gram.* Forms: 4–7 nowne (7 nown), 6–7 noune, 7– noun. [a. AF. *noun*, OF. *nun, num, non, nom* :—L. *nōmen* name.]

1. A word used as the name or designation of a person or thing (cf. sense 2).

In older grammars also including the adjective (cf. sense 3) and occas. the pronoun.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* VIII. xxviii. (Bodl. MS.), Lux and lumen is liȝt in Englissche, butt in latine is difference bitwene þilke twey nownes. *c* 1430 *Art Nombryng* 19 And tweyn nombres schal be tokenyde be a nowne. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 257/1 A Nowne, *nomen.* 1530 BAYNTON in Palsgr. Introd. p. xiii, Be it nowne, verbe, adverbe, or any other parte of speche. 1586 W. WEBBE *Eng. Poetrie* (Arb.) 63 Placing the verbe out of his order, and too farre behinde the nowne. *c* 1620 A. HUME *Brit. Tongue* (1865) 27 A personal word is a noun or a verb. A noun is a word of one person with gender and case. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.*

III. xxxvi. 222 A part of Speech, such as Grammarians call a Nown. 1725 WATTS *Logic* I. vi. § 8 It would be very ridiculous..to divide a book..into nouns and pronouns. 1784 COWPER *Tiroc.* 619 No nourishment to feed his growing mind, But conjugated verbs and nouns declin'd? 1844 EMERSON *Nature, Language,* Children and savages use only nouns or names of things, which they convert into verbs. 1894 LINDSAY *Latin Lang.* 369 The proneness of nouns to take a new gender by analogy of a noun which had a similar termination.

† **b.** An adjective. *Obs. rare.*

1657 C. HOOLE *Rudim. Lat. Gram.* 99 Nouns of the Comparative and Superlative degree, being put partitively.., require a Genitive case.

c. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

1871 EARLE *Philol. Eng. Tongue* (1887) 305 All the words which we shall include in the noun-group are essentially presentive. 1875 WHITNEY *Life Lang.* vii. 123 There are noun-forming suffixes.

2. *Noun substantive* = sense 1. Cf. SUBSTANTIVE.

1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* v. (Percy Soc.) 24 A nowne substantyve Might stand wythout helpe of an adjectyve. 1530 PALSGR. *Introd.* 24 Nownes substantives have thre chefe accidentes, gender, nombre, and parson. 1612 BRINSLEY *Lud. Lit.* 133 If the childe but knowe his word to be like any of the examples of a Nown Substantiue,..he knoweth it to be a Nown Substantiue. 1696 LORIMER *Rem. Goodwin's Disc.* ix. 179 The one halfe of it, the Nown Substantive, *Law*, is expresly in Scripture. 1779 SHERIDAN *Critic* II. ii, You have trope, figure, and metaphor, as plenty as noun-substantives. 1832 MARRYAT *N. Forster* xxi, There is no talking with noun substantives only. 1843 *Proc. Philol. Soc.* I. 63 The institution of nouns substantive, would probably be one of the first steps towards the formation of language.

fig. 1705 HICKERINGILL *Priest-cr.* IV. (1721) 215 The true Church of England..is a Noun-substantive that can stand by it self. 1741 *Pol. Ballads* (1860) II. 267 So I by myself can Noun Substantive stand, Impose on my Owners, and save my own Land.

3. *Noun adjective* = ADJECTIVE B. Also *fig.*

1530 PALSGR. *Introd.* 27 Nownes adjectives have .. thre chefe accidentes, gendre, nombre. and comparation. 1608 BRETON *Div. Consid.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 18/1 Naked and feeble like a nowne adiectiue that cannot stand alone. 1668 WILKINS *Real Charact.* III. i. § 7 The true genuine sense of a Noun Adjective..imports this general notion, of Pertaining to. 1705 HICKERINGILL *Priest-cr.* I. (1721) 36 Christian Government is a Noun-Adjective, and cannot stand by it self, without such Adjutants. 1786 H. TOOKE *Purley* II. vi, What is an Adjective? I dare not call it Noun Adjective. 1876 KENNEDY *Pub. Sch. Lat. Gram.* (ed. 4) § 15.

attrib. and *Comb.* *a* 1628 F. GREVIL *Life Sidney* (1907) 107 The Nown-adjective-natured Princes, and subjects of this time. *Ibid.* 166 The Noune adjective nature of this superstitious Princesse.

Hence **Nou·ning** *vbl. sb.*, using words as nouns; **Nou·nless** *a.*, having no nouns; **Nou·nship,** status as a noun. *nonce-words.*

1757 MRS. GRIFFITH *Lett. Henry & Frances* (1767) IV. 60 As to the Nouning and Verbing, which he so heavily charged you with. 1858 J. ROBERTSON *Poems* 80 The eternal, unambiguous speech, The nounless, verbless tongue. 1890 *Cassell's Fam. Mag.* Apr. 315/2 The parent noun, *while*, whose nounship is denied by some grammarians.., can only get employment as an adverb.

Nounal (nou·năl), *a.* [f. prec. + -AL.] Of the nature or quality of a noun.

1871 EARLE *Philol. Eng. Tongue* vii. 261 When verbs are presentive, they are so precisely in proportion to the amount of nounal stuff that is mixed up in their constitution. 1883 J. W. F. ROGERS *Gram. & Logic* 65 A phrase formed of *to* and an infinitive noun may be either Nounal, Adjectival or Adverbial. *Ibid.* 67 Nounal Phrase.

So **Nou·nally** *adv.*, as a noun.

1871 EARLE *Philol. Eng. Tongue* iv. 182 The sporting world employs the word nounally.

Nounbre, Noune, obs. ff. NUMBER, OWN *a.*

Nounce, nouns, obs. varr. of OUNCE *sb.*1

† **Nouns.** *Obs.* Also 6 nownes, 7–8 nowns, 7 nounz. A perversion of *wounds* (see GOD *sb.* 14 a) used as an oath: cf. ZOUNDS. In early examples in the fuller forms *Cock's* and *Od's nouns.*

a 1553 UDALL *Royster D.* I. iv, Kock's nownes, what meanest thou man? tut, a whistle. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* IV. i. 25, I thought there had bin one Number more, because they say od's-Nownes. ?1608 *Merry Devil of Edmonton* Hazl. *Dodsley* X. 225 Nouns! there's fire i' th' tail on't. 1675 T. DUFFETT *Mock Tempest* I. i, Nounz, stir about, or I'le beat thy brains out with my Bottle. 1709 *Rambling Fuddle-Cups* 13 But, Nouns, if the Rake-hell continues thus loose [etc.]. 1790 R. TYLER *Contrast* v. i. (1887) 93, I can't laugh for the blood and nouns of the Nowns. [1822 SCOTT *Nigel* ii, Nouns, man, the Whitehall gateways were planned by the great Holbein.]

b. With punning allusion to NOUN.

1607 WILKINS *Mis. Enforced Marriage* III, But nouns, pronouns and participles! where be these rogues here?

Noup (nūp). Also noop. [a. ON. *núpr* (*gnúpr*).] A steep and lofty headland. (Occurs in Orkney and Shetland place-names.)

1822 SCOTT *Pirate* xix, By stack and by skerry by noup, and by voe.

Nour, var. of NOWER, nowhere.

Nource, -cery, obs. ff. NURSE, -SERY.

† **Nourice,** *sb. Obs.* Forms: *α.* 3, 6–7 nurice (6 -rice), 4 -yse, 5–6 -ys, 6 *Sc.* -is(s, 5 -ess, 6 *Sc.* -eis, nwreis. *β.* 3–6 norice, 4 -iche, 4–6 -yce, 4 -isse, 4–6 -ise, 4–5 -yce, 5 -ys(s(e, -e(i)s. *γ.* 4, 6– nourice, 5–6 -yce, -ysse, 6 -ise; 4 nowrise, -ys; 8 nooriss. [a. OF. *nurice, -isce, nor(r)ice, noriche, nour(r)ice,* = Prov. *noir-, nuirissa,* Catal. *nudrissa.* Sp. *nod-, nudriza*:—late L. *nūtrīcia,* fem. of *nūtrīcius,* f. *nūtrīc-em, nūtrix,* f. *nūtrīre* to nourish. L. *nūtrīcem* is represented by It. *nut-, not-, nud-, nodrice,* Sp. *nut-, nodriz.* Cf. NOURISH *sb.* and NURSE *sb.*] A nurse. Also *attrib.* in *nourice-fee, -milk.*

α. a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 82 Heo makeð of hire tunge cradel to þes deofles bearn, & rockeð hit ȝeorneliche ase nurice. *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* 37 Þah þu riche beo, & nurice habbe. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxvii. (*Machor*) 47 He tuk þe child hym til, & gat a nuryse gud in hy. *c* 1440 *Alph. Tales* 216 He tuke ane offrand hym selfe and gaff vnto þer nuress. 1515 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* V. 10 Bocht..for my lord duke's nurys, to be hir ane goune. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* II. 146 Eder..be the ingine and the industrie of his nurice was preseruet. *c* 1620 A. HUME *Brit. Tongue* (1865) 19 Nurice, from nutrix, quhilk the south calles nurse, not without a falt both in sound and symbol.

β. c 1290 *St. Lucy* 61 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 102 He wende to seinte lucies norice. 1340 *Ayenb.* 60 Þe blonderes byeþ þe dyeules noriches, þet his children yeueþ zouke. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) III. 449 Þis Clitus his suster was Alisaundre his norise. 1413 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton, 1483) v. iii. 93 That blysful lady Mary was very moder and noryce of Ihesu goddes sone. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 44/2 Thenne they lete her goo and her noryce wyth her. 1541 ELYOT *Cast. Helthe* II. xxv. 40 b, Their noryces shall perceyve what dygesteth welle. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 196 By meane of a false Norice, he was stollen out of his Cradell.

γ. c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxvi. (*Nicholas*) 40 Na one fryday bot anys wald he þe nowrys suk. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 251/2 One named Concordia Nouryce of Ypolyte answerd for them alle. 1530 PALSGR. 577/2 She is worthy to be a nouryce, she can handell a chylde dayntely. 1599 Jas. I *Basilikon Doron* (1603) 45 Drinking in with their very nouris-milke that their honor stood in committing three points of iniquitie. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* III. xlviii. 120 To enquire of her nourice the truth of this matter. 1768 Ross *Helenore* (1812) 68 Then sud she gae frae head to foot in silk; Wi' castings rare, and a gueed nooriss-fee, To nurse the king of Elfin's heir.

b. In figurative uses.

β. c 1386 CHAUCER *Pars. T.* ¶ 874 Slepyng long in grete quyete is eke a grete Norice to lecherie. *c* 1412 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 4813 Loue is norice of welþe and of gladnesse. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Edw. IV* 245b, The not deliuery of the same should be the norice and continuer of warre and hostilitie. 1550 J. COKE *Eng. & Fr. Herald.* § 1 (1877) 55 Idlenes, norise of vyces.

γ. 1502 *Ord. Crysten Men* (W. de W 1506) II. v. 92 Charyte is..moder and nouryce and yᵉ lyght of these other vertues. 1576 GASCOIGNE *Steele Gl.* (Arb.) 60 Gold, which is..The neast of strife, and nourice of debate. 1609 HOLLAND *Amm. Marcell.* xx. viii. 156 But putting aside flatterie, the very nourice of vices, set your mind upon iustice. 1612 SELDEN *Illustr. Drayton's Poly-olb.* A iij b, That most learned Nourice of Antiquitie..Mr. Camden.

Hence † **Nou·rice** *v.*, to nurse. † **Nou·riceship,** the office of a nurse. *Obs.*

1588 GREENE *Perimedes* H j b, The Syren Venus nourist in hir lap Faire Adon. 1818 SCOTT *Br. Lamm.* iii, 'What is her connection with the former proprietor's family?' 'O, it was something of a nourice-ship, I believe'.

† **Nou·ricery.** *Obs. rare.* Forms: 4 noricerie, 5 norysrye, 7 *Sc.* nouricerie. [f. *norice, norys* NOURICE *sb.* + -RY. Cf. mod.F. *nourricerie.*]

1. A nursery for children.

c 1330 *Amis & Amil.* 2258 The douke wel fast gan aspie The kays of the noricerie. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 358/2 Norysrye, where yonge chyldur arn kept.

2. A nursery for plants.

1684–9 *Glamis Bk. Record* (S.H.S.) 34 The whole bounds of the kitchen yeard and nouricerie below the house.

† **Nou·rish,** *sb. Obs.* Forms: *α.* 4 nurishe, 5 -isch(e. *β.* 4–5 nory(s)she, 5–6 -ishe, 5 -ysch, -isch(e, -yhs. *γ.* 5 nourysshe, 6 nourish. [var. of *nurice, norice* NOURICE *sb.* Cf. next.] A nurse. Also *fig.*

α. 1382 WYCLIF *Hos.* xi. 3 And Y as a nurishe..bare hem in myn armys. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* II. xii. 219 Euen as a nurisch or a modir is not bounde forto alwey and for euere fede her children. *a* 1585 MONTGOMERIE *Misc. Poems* xlviii. 47 Thair tender babis, ȝit on the nurish knee, Tane by the feet and cast into the see. 1600 BIRREL *Diary* 2 July, Her nurische was brunt at the same tyme, at 4 houres in the morneing.

attrib. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 257/2 A nurische house.

β. 1382 WYCLIF *Gen.* xxiv. 59 Thanne thei leten hir, and Debbora, hir noryshe. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (Prose) 121 Idylnesse, þe norisshe of al synnes. 1480 *Robt. Devyll* 151 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* I. 225 When that he shoulde soucke, The noryshe nypples..byte he woulde. 1559 W. CUNNINGHAM *Cosmogr. Glasse* 43 Th' Earth..is called the..norishe of lyuing creatures, the foundation of all buildinges.

γ. 1480 CAXTON *Trevisa's Higden* I. xxii. (1527) 18 b, Auctours tellen that Grece .. is lady of kyngdomes, Nourysshe of knyghthode. 1502 *Ord. Crysten Men* (W. de W. 1506) IV. xix. 218 Yf fader or moder or nourysshe, stoppe the breth of a lytell chylde. 1563 SHUTE *Archit.* B j b, A certaine maiden, after whose burial her nourishe (who lamented much her death) [etc.]. 1591 SHAKS. *1 Hen. VI*, I. i. 50 Our Ile be made a Nourish of salt Teares.

Nourish (nu·riʃ), *v.* Forms: *α.* 3 norisi, 4 -ici, -issi, -isy, -ysy; 3 norischei, 4 -ischi; 4 norice, -isse, -ysse, 6 -esse, 4–5 noris, 4 -ijs; 3 norichce, 4 -iche, 3–5 -ische, 4–5 -issche, -ysche, 5 -yasch, 5–6 -ysshe, 6 -yshe; 4–6 norisshe, 5–6 -ishe, 6–7 -ish (6 norrish). *β.* 4, 5–6 *Sc.*, nuris (*Sc.* 5 nwris, 6 nurys, nureis, nvreis), 6 nurris; 4–5 nurische, 4 (6 *Sc.*), -ishe, 5 -yche, -ysh, 6 -ys(s)ch; 5–6 nurrish(e, -ysh(e. *γ.* 5 nourysshe, -isshe, 5–6 -ysshe (6 nowr-), 6 -yshe, 6– nourish. [ad. OF. *noris(s)-, nuris(s)-,* etc., lengthened stem of *norir, nurir, nourir,* etc. (later *nourrir*), = It. *nodrire, nudrire, nutrire,* Sp. *nutrir* (*nudrir, nodrir*), Pg. *nutrir*:—L. *nūtrīre* to feed, foster, cherish, etc. See also NORSH *v.* and NURSH *v.*]

I. † **1.** *trans.* To bring up, rear, nurtnre (a child or young person). *Obs.*

α. c 1290 *St. John* 372 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 413 Þis bischop nam þis loliue man, and ladde hom to is inne, And norichcede him softe and wel. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 6997 He dide hym norice at Wynchestre, And ȝald hym monk in þat same estre. 1382 WYCLIF 1 *Tim.* v. 10 If she norische sones, if she resseyue pore men to herbore. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 2516 He norysсht me þan In Mailros mynster many ȝere. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. cccxiv. 482 He..left the yonger [daughter] styll in England, wheras she had been brought vp and norisshed. 1581 HAMILTON *Tract.* in *Cath. Tract.* (S. T. S.) 75 Hou tenderlie all his forbearis var norishit in the bosome of the Catholik kirk.

absol. c 1290 *St. Dunstan* 22 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 20 Þo þis child was i-bore,..huy leten hit do to Glastingburi, to norischci and to fede. *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* xxvi. 16 He takis me to norysch and to rewle, as fadire and modire. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Blanchardyn* 12 Blanchardyn, the chylde, was taken in to the handes of a right noble lady of the lande for to norysshe and bryngen vp.

β. c 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 4198 He sal be lered,..And nurist and mast conversand In þe cite of Bethsayda. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xiii. 55 He þis antecriste sall be nurischt in Bethsaida. 1538 STARKEY *England* I. i. 3 Syns you haue byn of your cuntrey so wel nuryschyd and brought vp. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* VIII. 111 An Inglisman..susteinit sumpteouslie, and with gret cost nurist, and brocht vp.

γ. 1483 CAXTON *G. de la Tour* F vij, One [child] that a good man..made to be nourysshed secretely. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* II. xviii. 51 b, Yong children..are there nourished, instructed, and exercised. 1611 BIBLE *Ecclus.* xvii. 18 Whom being his first borne, hee nourisheth with discipline. *a* 1618 RALEIGH *Mahomet* (1637) 88 And as his child amongst his children nourished, with whom shee lived.

† **b.** Const. *in* (some condition, pursuit, etc.).

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XIX. 164 His men ar worthyn all sa wicht For lang vsage of gret fechting, That has beyne norist in sic thing. 1456 SIR G. HAVE *Law Armes* (S.T.S.) 68 Faderis..quhilk norist thair barnis ay the mare in vicis. 1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* VI. x. 452 Men of great agilitie,..whome they did nourish in this exercise of running from their youth.

† **c.** To cherish (a person). *Obs.*

c 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 43 For ȝif a modir norscheþ & louep here fleschly child, wiþ hou mychel more diligence schal on loue & norische his gostly broþer. 1535 COVERDALE *1 Kings* i. 4 She was a very fayre damsell, and noryshed yᵉ kynge, and serued him. *c* 1560 A. SCOTT *Poems* (S. T. S.) xv. 22 My lady..Wtin myne armes I nureiss on the nycht.

† **2.** To bring up or rear (animals). *Obs.*

c 1290 *St. Michael* 267 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 307 He fierde ase doth a port-doggue, I-norischet in port-toun. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* VI. 487 Sum men sais ȝeit that the kyng As a strecour hym nwrist had. 1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 225 Amonge al bestis that bene nuryshid..by witte of man, the femalis bene moste mekyste. 1496 *Fysshynge w. Angle* (1883) 37 Ye shall besye yourselfe to nouryssh the game in all that ye maye. 1553 EDEN *Treat. Newe Ind.* (Arb.) 27 In whose honoure he nouriseth a ramme al that yeare. 1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] tr. *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* III. ix. 144 Such as nourish silkewormes, have great care to shut their windowes, whenas the South-west windes do blow.

† **3.** To grow, or allow (one's hair) to grow. *Obs.*

1382 WYCLIF 1 *Cor.* xi. 15 But if a womman norische long heer, it is glorie to hir. 1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turks* (1621) 235 Which [hair] his mother comming of the race of Sampson..willed him to nourish. 1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 3 They nourish onely a locke of haire on the crowne of their heads. 1712–4 POPE *Rape Lock* II. 20 This Nymph, to the destruction of mankind, Nourish'd two Locks, which graceful hung behind In equal curls. 1807 ROBINSON *Archæol. Græca* IV. vii. 364 The soldiers of the cavalry..were forbidden by a law to nourish their hair and to live delicately.

† **4.** To promote the growth of, to tend or cultivate (plants or trees). *Obs.*

1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 130 In many places bothe the lordes, freeholders and tenauntes at wyll, sette suche wethyes, and popelers, in marsshe grounde, to nourysshe wodde. 1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 32 They sowe and norysshe the seades of melons with greate diligence. 1669 J. WORLIDGE *Syst. Agric.* (1681) 46 Although Turneps be usually nourisht in Gardens, and be properly Garden-Plants. 1727 A. HAMILTON *New Acc. E. Ind.* II. xxxix. 82 There is little Corn or Pulse grows in this Country but what is nourisht in Gardens. 1792 BURNS *My Tocher's the Jewel* 5 It's a' for the apple he'll nourish the tree.

II. † **5. a.** Of a female: To feed (a young animal or child) with milk from the breast; to suckle; to nurse or rear in this way. *Obs.*

α 1300 *Cursor M.* 12337 Be þat water side Lai a leoness ..Norisand hir quelpes. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. xv. 459 For as þe cow þorw kynde mylke þe calf norissheth til an oxe. *c* 1450 *Merlin* 15 Therfore was the moder suffred to norishe it tell it was x monthes of age. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* I. iii–v. 39 So sir Ectors wyf nourysshed hym with her owne pappe. 1551 ROBINSON *More's Utopia* II. v. (1895) 163 The chylde that is nouryshed euer after taketh hys nource for his owne naturall mother.

absol. 1382 WYCLIF *Matt.* xxiv. 19 Forsoth wo to wymmen with childe and noryschinge in tho dayes.

b. To sustain (a person or living organism) with food or proper nutriment.

1340 *Ayenb.* 154 His bodi..huich he ssel zuo norissi. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* I. 376 Þis modir haþ conseyved

Crist, and norisiþ Crist wiþinne hir. 1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 237 Thegh the body may not alway endure, hit may endure longe tyme, yf the kynde of man be Well y-noryschid. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) III. 43 Fanstulus ..toke the ij. childer awey from that beste, noryschenge theyme in his flocke of bestes with herbes, gresse, and suche other þinges. 1538 Starkey *England* I. ii. 56 The multytude of pepul..plentuously nuryschyd wyth abundance of al thyngys. 1585 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* I. xviii. 21 Palm trees: of the fruit of which trees, the more part of the inhabitants .. are nourished. 1651 Hobbes *Leviath.* II. xxiv, Naturall Bloud..circulating, nourisheth by the way, every Member of the Body of Man. 1837 Emerson *Amer. Schol.* Wks. (Bohn) II. 179 The human body can be nourished on any food. 1871 T. R. Jones *Anim. Kingd.* (ed. 4) 709 Being hatched internally, the offspring are nourished in receptacles provided for the purpose.

fig. *c* 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 92 þat sche schuld growe to þe feiþ, norischid wiþ miraclis, as we watteren plantis til þey han hen rotid. 1548–9 (Mar.) *Bk. Com. Prayer*, Collect 7 Trinity, Increase in us true religion, norishe us with all goodnes. 1820 Shelley *Ode to Naples* 139 An hundred tribes nourished on strange religions And lawless slaveries. 1843 Prescott *Mexico* VII. ii, Men of unblemished purity of life, nourished with the learning of the cloister.

c. To supply (a thing) with whatever is necessary to promote its growth or formation, or to maintain it in proper condition.

c 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* I. 96 As wete somers nurishen siche tares. *c* 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) xvii. 79 þai [diamonds] er nurischt with dew of heuen. 1471 Ripley *Comp. Alch.* VI. xx. in Ashm. (1652) 166 Mineralls be nurryshyd by mynystracyon Of Moysture radycall, whych theyr begynnyng was. 1542 Boorde *Dyetary* x. (1870) 254 It doth reioyce all the powers of man, and doth nowrysshe them. *a* 1586 Sidney *Ps.* I. ii, Like a freshly planted tree,.. Whose braunches faile not timelie fruite to nourish. 1604 E. G[rimstone] tr. *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* III. xxi. 188 Yet this mist is wonderfull profitable to bring forth grasse, and to raise vp and nourish the seede. 1667 Milton *P. L.* v. 183 Aire, and ye Elements.., that..mix And nourish all things. 1765 Dickson *Agric.* 13 That plants are actually nourished by earth; that they are also nourished by water. 1784 Cowper *Task* VI. 36 Threat'ning at once and nourishing the plant. 1834 M'Murtrie *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 7 They also nourish the solids by the interposition of their particles. 1872 Tyndall *Forms of Water* 95 Were you to stand upon the mountain slopes which nourish the glacier [etc.].

d. *Glove-making.* = Feed *v.* 6 e.

1884 *Health Exhib. Catal.* 38 The skins .. are then put into a mixture of water, flour, yelk of eggs, alum, and salt ..to be 'nourished'. 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 16 May 4/1 After it [the kid-skin] has been unhaired, dressed, nourished, staked.

6. To provide with food or sustenance; to maintain, support. Now *rare.* **a.** Of places.

c 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) xii. 50 It bringes furth ne nurischez na qwikk thing. 1495 *Trevisa's Barth. De P. R.* XIV. liv. 487 Some dyches ben full of water and therin is fysshe nourysshyd and..wormes of dyuers kynde. 1538 Starkey *England* I. iii. 72 Wher as befor tyme hath byn nuryschyd much gud and Chrystyan pepul, now you schal fynd no thyng maynteynyd but wyld and brute bestys. 1585 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* I. xii. 14 [The country] noorisheth & pastoureth in the valley a great number of oxen. 1634 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* 23 Of these Iles Chromroe .. nourishes a people treacherous and least sociable. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* II. 208 Our Land is from the Rage of Tygers freed, Nor nourishes the Lyon's angry Seed.

transf. 1820 Shelley *Hymn Merc.* xcvi, Cattle which the mighty Mother mild Nourishes in her bosom.

b. Of persons.

1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 7 The seide kynge..was movede to leve that faste and to norische a c. poore men that day. *c* 1500 *Melusine* 111 Counseylle the pouere wydowes, nourysshe or doo to be norysshed the pouere orphenyns. 1581 G. Pettie tr. *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* (1586) II. 105 b, With one Art onely, I nourish my selfe, my wife, and children. 1611 Bible *Gen.* xlv. 11 And thou shalt dwell in the land of Goshen.., And there wil I nourish thee.

fig. *c* 1645 Howell *Lett.* II. xv, Egmont and Horn were nourish'd still with hopes, until Philip II had prepar'd an army. 1847 Veowell *Anc. Brit. Ch.* (ed. 2) v. 48 He publicly protected and nourished the church in Britain.

7. *absol.* To afford nourishment. *Obs.*

c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 210 Nyȝ þe brayn, or in ony place nyȝ þe herte, or nyȝ ony lyme þat norischeth. 1541 Elyot *Cast. Helthe* II. xi. 29 The greattest loues do norishe moste faste, for as muche as the fyre hath not exhausted the moisture of them. 1577 B. Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* III. (1586) 146 Sheepes Milke is sweeter, and nourisheth more. 1626 Bacon *Sylva* § 45 As Graines and Roots nourish more, than the Leaues. 1667 Milton *P. L.* v. 325 Save what by frugal storing firmness gains To nourish, and superfluous moist consumes.

†**8.** *intr.* To receive nourishment; to be fed.

1595 T. Edwards *Narcissus* L'Envoy v, By his toile we do nourish And by him are inlarg'd. 1626 Bacon *Sylva* § 544 By the Coldnesse of the Ground,..the Plants nourish lesse. *Ibid.* § 602 Plants doe nourish; Inanimate Bodies doe not; They have an Accretion, but no Alimentation.

III. 9. To promote or foster (a feeling, habit, condition, state of things, etc.) in or among persons.

a. *c* 1290 *Beket* 1840 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 159 In faire Manere [they] beden him..to norisi loue with is felawes. *c* 1315 Shoreham III. 275 Glotenye..norysseþ lecherye, Ase fer, þe brondes bote. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. XVI. 33 It norissheth nice sitȝtes and some tyme wordes. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) I. 165 Takenge a multitude of yonge men..and lxxx. virgynes to norysche multiplicacion. *c* 1477 Caxton *Jason* 71, I praye yow that ye norisshe pees and concorde togeder. 1529 More *Dyaloge* I. Wks. 120/1 Men reken that the clergie is glad to fauour theis waies, & to norishe this superstition. 1607 Shaks. *Cor.* III. i. 117, I say they norisht disobedience; fed the ruin of the State.

β. 1456 Sir G. Haye *Law Armis* (S. T. S.) 117 He that procuris, or artis, or nurisis discordis, rumouris, or mortall fedis. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 194 b, He did what he coulde, to nurryshe stryfe in religion. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* IV. 255 He fande out the way to nurishe peace with his nychtbouris.

γ. 1594 Kyd *Cornelia* v. 400 Their souldiers (sent to nowrish vp those warrs). 1617 Moryson *Itin.* I. 87 Here to nourish acquaintance, they spend an houre in discourses. 1665 Dryden *Ind. Emp.* I. ii, Ill does he represent the Powers above, who nourishes Debate, not preaches Love. 1837 Channing *Temperance* Wks. (1881) 128 Freedom nourishes self-respect.

b. To foster, cherish, or nurse (a feeling) in one's own heart or mind.

1560 Bible (Genev.) *Ecclus.* xxviii. 5 If he that is but flesh nourishe hatred, [and aske pardone of God,] who wil intreate for his sinnes? *a* 1586 Sidney *Ps.* xxxvii. i, [No] envy in thy bosome nourish. *a* 1639 Wotton *Relig.* (1651) 58 Whether the frenzy was norish'd in the warm brest of yong men. 1642 Rogers *Naaman* 14 That wee nourish not a cavilling heart against God in this behalfe. 1709 Prior *Despairing Sheph.* i, And wand'ring thro' the lonely Rocks, He nourish'd endless Woe. 1781 Cowper *Retirement* 603 Thus some retire to nourish hopeless woe. 1828 Scott *F. M. Perth* ii, To think that Catharine Glover nourished the private wish to retire from the world. 1879 Froude *Cæsar* xv. 242 Clodius .. nourishing an implacable hate against Cicero.

†**c.** To support, give ground for. *Obs.*

1719 De Foe *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 228, I could find nothing to nourish my Suspicion.

10. To maintain, encourage, strengthen (one's heart, mind, etc.) in or with something.

c 1374 Chaucer *Boeth.* III. met. vi. (1868) 79 Than is þer no forlyued wyȝht but ȝif he norisse his corage vnto vices. 1450–1530 *Myrr. Our Ladye* I This holy relygion, which as a mother noryssheth youre soulles in grace. 1555 Eden *Decades* (Arb.) 49 The mynde of man..is nurysshed with knowleage. 1651 Hobbes *Leviath.* I. xi. 49 It [frugality] weakeneth their Endeavour, which is to be nourished and kept in vigor by Reward. 1817 Jas. Mill *Brit. Ind.* II. v. v. 536 A man, who nourished his spirit with the contemplation of ancient heroes. 1859 Whittier *Joseph Sturge* 81 His zeal seemed nourished By failure and by fall.

†**11.** To provide for or supply (one's wants).

c 1560 A. Scott *Poems* (S. T. S.) xxvi. 57 Thay wald men nvreist all thair neidis.

†**Nou·rishable,** *a. Obs.* [f. prec. + -able. Cf. OF. *norrissable* (Godef.).]

1. Capable of affording nourishment; nutritive, nutritious. (Common in 17th c.)

1496 *Fysshynge w. Angle* (1883) 2 And yf he woll be dyetyd mesurably..he must..ete nourishable [*a* 1450 norysching] meetes and dyffyable also. 1565 Sparke *Hawkins Voy.* (Hakluyt Soc.) 57 It maketh also good beuerage sodden in water, and nourishable. 1589 Fleming *Virg. Georg.* II. 26 Then is the soile hut thin, And fitter yeeld it is for beasts and nourishable vines. 1612 T. Taylor *Comm. Titus* I. 13 Let the food be nourishable, hungry Elias stands not vpon it, whether an Angel or a rauen serue it. 1635 Swan *Spec. M.* (1670) 458 The fruits of the Earth were much more nourishable and healthful before the Flood than afterwards. 1721 Bradley *Philos. Acc. Wks. Nat.* 178 The Fall of great Rains may wash down Insects and other nourishable Matter into it.

2. Capable of being nourished; susceptive of nourishment.

1545 Raynold *Byrth Mankynde* 41 From whense agayne it is attracted into all partes nourysshable of the infant. 1654 Earl Monm. tr. *Bentivoglio's Wars Flanders* 87 He had no money to maintain it [his army], nor was it any longer nourishable by rapine. 1662 J. Chandler *Van Helmont's Oriat.* 219 There are as many stomacks, as there are members nourishable. 1701 Grew *Cosmol. Sacra* I. v. 28 Its more ready adhesion to all the nourishable Parts.

†**Nou·rishant,** *a. Obs. rare.* In 5 **norisch-, norisshaunt.** [ad. OF. *norissant* (mod.F. *nourrissant*), pres. pple. of *norir*: see Nourish *v.* and -ant.] Nourishing.

c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 76 Whanne þou art siker from apostyme & swellinge, it is good to ȝeue norischaunt [*v.r.* norysschande] metis. 1450–80 tr. *Secreta Secret.* 23 Whan the body is smalle and drie, smale metis are goode and norisshaunt.

Nourished (nʌ·rɪšt), *ppl. a.* [f. Nourish *v.*]

†**1.** *Well-nourished,* well brought-up or educated. *Obs.*

a 1330 *Syr Degarre* 275 Hit was a fair child, & a bold, Wel i-norisschet, god & hende. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Reeve's T.* 28 For Symkyn wolde no wyf, as he sayde, But sche were wel i-norissched and a mayde. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 3978 Ecuba, the onest & onerable qwene, Was..Alse sad in þe syens as semyt for a lady, Wele norisshed þerwith.

2. Provided with nutriment or nourishment. Also *well-nourished,* well-fed.

c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 81 Þis oynement is clepid litargirum nutritum;..take of bilke litarge norischid .vij. parties [etc.]. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 105 With hurklit hude ouer a weill nureist neck. 1727–46 Thomson *Summer* 1737 Hence thro' her nourish'd powers.., She springs aloft.

†**b.** *Nourished brother,* foster-brother. *Obs.*—1

1470–85 Malory *Arthur* I. iii–v. 41 Syre Ector..rode vnto the Iustes, & with hym rode syr kaynus his sone & yong Arthur that was hys nourisshed broder.

Nourisher (nʌ·rɪšəɹ). Forms: **α.** 5 **norischer, -yschere** (**-are**), **-yssher, -eshoure,** 6 **-issher, -ysher,** 6–7 **norisher.** **β.** 6 *Sc.* **nurisare, -issar, -isear.** **γ.** 6 **nouryssher,** 6– **nourisher.** [f. Nourish *v.* + -er 1. Cf. OF. *norissere, nouriseur,* etc. (mod.F. *nourrisseur*).]

1. One who or that which nourishes.

α. 1413 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton, 1483) v. xiv. 109 Good wyl is approprede to the holy ghoost as to the very norysshere and keper. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 189 For almes-dede is norysschere & makere redy þe weye to god. 1533 J. Heywood *Play of Wether* 1223 (Brandl), Of every thynge, I se, you are norysher. 1589 Cooper *Admon.* 226 Whome hee hath appointed as fosterers and norishers of his church.

β. 1561 Winȝet *First Tract.* Wks. (S. T. S.) I. 7 The inventaris, nurissaris, and simoniacall merchandis of the samyn mischeif. 1581 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* III. 384 The makers and nurissaris of trouble and disorder.

γ. 1526 R. Whytford *Martilage* (1893) 43 Saynt Ioseph was nouryssher & bringer up of our sauyour Chryst. 1586 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* I. (1594) 685 Amongst such nourishers of our miseries this proverbe is rife. 1641 J. Jackson *True Evang. T.* I. 38 The Clergy, as the fomenters and nourishers of the religion. 1667 Milton *P. L.* v. 393 These bounties which our Nourisher..hath caus'd The Earth to yeild. 1768–74 Tucker *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 553 Pleasure..is the greatest nourisher of indolence and indulgence. 1808 Lamb *Charac. Dram. Writ.* Wks. 528 The nourisher and the destroyer of hopeful wits.

2. A thing which affords nourishment; a nourishing agent. Also const. *of.*

1528 Paynell *Salerne's Regim.* F iv, Wyne that is redde ..and claret..are moche greatter nourishers than other wynes. 1577 B. Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* III. (1586) 146 The greatest nourisher is womans milke. 1651 French *Distill.* v. 110 He may finde out, how great a nourisher, and restorative Wheat is. 1676 Grew *Anat. Pl., Anat. Leaves* I. vi. § 4 Most Bodies which abound with Salt, are the greatest Nourishers of Plants. 1742 Richardson *Pamela* IV. 318 Sound Sleep is one of the greatest Nourishers in Nature. 1865 *Englishm. Mag.* Sept. 200 As a nourisher of the body, it [*sc.* water] is certainly entitled to rank as a food.

†**Nou·rishery,** obs. variant of Nursery.

1572 Huloet, Nourisherie, *gynæceum.*

†**Nourish-father.** *Obs.*—1 A foster-father.

1619 Sir J. Semple *Sacrilege Handl.* Ded., To the Most Noble, and truly sacred Prince; Defender of Christ's Faith, and Nourish-father of his Church, James.

Nourishing (nʌ·rɪšɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. Nourish *v.*]

1. The action of the verb, in various senses.

α. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 4900 Þis children were wel ȝonge ysend..to gode norrissinge. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Pars. T.* 274 Eueryech of vs hath..occasion to be tempted of þe norisshyng of synne. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* xxvi. 98 He ordeynid for fostering & noreshing of this childe iij. norisis. 1525 Lo. Berners *Froiss.* II. ciii. [xcix.] 299, I thynke they shall be skrymysshed withall, for that is the lyfe and norysshynge of men of warre and their passetyme. 1560 Bp. Pilkington *Expos. Aggeus* (1562) 91 Norishing is defined of the physicions [etc.].

β. *c* 1440 *Alph. Tales* 1 Ye spend full wele your nurysshyng ..þat of men makis bestis. 1477 *Exch. Rolls Scot.* VIII. 403 *note,* For the service..done in the nurysing of oure said derrest sone. 1538 Starkey *England* I. ii. 36 The lake of necessarys, for nuryschyng and clothyng of the body. 1609 Skene *Reg. Maj.* II. 23 b, Nvrisching of peace and love.

γ. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* I. iii–v. 38 He will put his owne child to nourisshynge to another woman. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 201 b, She wrought naturally as other mothers doth to his nourysshynge & consernacyon. 1615 G. Sandys *Trav.* 213 The people about Sidon are greatly giuen to the nourishing of cattell. 1680 Filmer *Patriarcha* II. § 4 A law..acquitted the son from nourishing of his father. 1765 Dickson *Agric.* 30 The nourishing of plants by water, is an evidence that salt and oil are parts of their food. 1855 Pusey *Doctr. Real Pres.* Note Q 260 The earliest Fathers ..speak also of the natural power of nourishing, as still existing in the consecrated elements.

†**2.** That which nourishes; nourishment, nutriment. *Obs.*

c 1290 *St. Michael* 740 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 320 Ase it were a-manere lijf þat sent norischingue To þe limes. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Boeth.* III. pr. xi. (1868) 97 They drawen alle hyr norysshynges by hyr rootes. *c* 1450 *De Imitatione* III. xxx. 100 Lo I mete, drinke, clope... Graunte me to use suche norisshinges temperatly. 1541 Elyot *Cast. Helthe* 16 Biefe of Englande to Englysshemen, whiche are in helth, bringeth stronge nouryshynge. *a* 1623 R. Hill *Pathw. Piety* I. 190 But so much of each as may give nourishing and cheering to my body.

Nourishing (nʌ·rɪšɪŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. Nourish *v.*] That nourishes, in senses of the verb; giving or affording nourishment.

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. clxix. (Bodl. MS.), In fatte londe & wele dunged growiþ fatte whete..& is more norisschinge þan is þe whete þt growiþ in lene londe. *a* 1450 *Fysshynge w. Angle* (1883) 2 He must..ete norysching metes & defyabul. 1541 Copland *Guydon's Quest.* G iij, A pyt wherin the nouryssh̃ynge blode commynge fro the liuer is dygered. 1607 Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 369 A good house-keeper, and charitable nourishing man. 1668 Steele *Husbandm. Calling* viii. (1672) 219 Covetousness is the nourishing root of all evil. 1725 De Foe *Voy. round World* (1840) 251 The grass more strengthening and nourishing for the cattle. 1793 Beddoes *Calculus,* etc. 248 Oils, fat, sugar, alcohol, and other substances, which have a great affinity to oxygene, are very nourishing. 1861 Flor. Nightingale *Nursing* (ed. 2) 52 The nourishing power of milk..is very much undervalued.

Hence **Nou·rishingly** *adv.*

1891 Meredith *One of our Conq.* III. viii. 158 His flattery of his girl..restored her broken feeling of personal value; it permeated her nourishingly.

Nourishment (nʌ·rɪšmĕnt). Forms: 5 **norysshe-, norysch-,** 6 **norish(e-;** 6 **nuryshe-, nurrish-,** 6 *Sc.* **nurish-;** 6 **nouryssh-,** 6– **nourish-.** [ad. OF. *nor-, nur-, nour(r)issement*; see Nourish *v.* and -ment.]

1. That which nourishes or sustains; aliment, sustenance, food. Also *fig.* or *transf.*

1413 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton, 1483) IV. xxxiv. 82 The wombe oweth to dispense to all the membres norysshement. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 202 Takynge refeccyon &

nourysshment of her blessed body. 1570–6 LAMBARDE *Peramb. Kent* (1826) 228 It is verie likely, that the Towne of Feversham received the chiefe nourishment of hir increase from the Religious house. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* II. xxiv. 130 Distribution of the Nourishment, to the severall Members of the Common-wealth. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* II. 590 No Dressing they require..; The Soil it self due Nourishment supplies. 1728 YOUNG *Odes to King* xxx, At his proud foot The sea..Immortal nourishment supplies. 1781 COWPER *Conversat.* 692 'Tis narrow, selfish, arrogant, and draws Its sordid nourishment from man's applause. 1850 LYNCH *Theoph. Trinal* ii. 29 He may see..the bird visiting her young with nourishment. 1886 RUSKIN *Præterita* I. 415 The Idler and Rambler did .. contain more substantial literary nourishment than could be..packed into so portable compass.

2. The action, process, or fact of nourishing.

c 1485 *Digby Myst.* (1882) II. 335 Take yow sum coumforth for your bodyes noryschment. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* VI. ix. 20 Nature, which doth litle need Of forreine helpes to lifes due nourishment. 1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* v. lxvii. § 1 No dead thing is capable of nourishment. 1790 BURKE *Fr. Rev.* Wks. V. 431 The Paris, upon whose nourishment..such immense sums..have been expended. 1819 SHELLEY *Mask Anarchy* 167 So that ye for them are made Loom, and plough, and sword,..bent To their defence and nourishment. 1872 YEATS *Growth Comm.* 293 Internal conditions necessary for the nourishment of shipping and trade.

†**3.** Nutritive quality or property. *Obs. rare*—1.

1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 104 Wylde frutes whiche they eate, beinge of muche better nooryshement then maste. 1620 VENNER *Via Recta* iii. 52 The faculties of nourishments attributed vnto Beefe.

Nou·riture. Now *rare* or *Obs.* Forms: α. 4–6 noriture (5 -tur), 5 nore-, norry-, 6 nory-, norriture. β. 6 nurry-, nurriture (-tor, -tour), 6–7 nuriture. γ. 5 nowry-, 6 noury-, 5–9 nouriture (6 -tour). δ. 6–9 nourriture. [a. OF. *norreture, noureture*, etc. (mod.F. *nourriture*): cf. late L. *nūtrītūra*, f. *nūtrīre* to nourish.]

1. Nourishment, sustenance, food.

α. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* IV. 768 How shold a plaunte, or lyves creature, Lyve withouten his kynde noriture? 1387–8 T. USK *Test. Love* I. i. (Skeat) I. 34 How shulde the ground, without kyndly noriture, bringen forth any frutes? 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 364 b/1 She sawe wel that she myght not haue .. the noreture of holy scrypture. 1565 CALFHILL *Answ. Martiall* (1846) 72 In the first proposition,..the necessity of Sacraments and of noriture, to be compared together.

β. 1548 GESTE *Pr. Masse* 75 The verye ghostely nurryture and foode bothe of our bodyes and soules. 1581 MULCASTER *Positions* vi. (1887) 47 For inward bestowing of nurriture, and maintenaunce of life. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* IV. 165 The Turkes .. consume the wealth of the people they ouercome, leauing them destitute of nuriture.

γ. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 423 b/1 They took theyr refeccion or food of nouriture dyuyne. 1561 T. NORTON *Calvin's Inst.* II. 73 To cal it a certain nouriture, that allureth..to sinne. 1581 MARBECK *Book of Notes* 1062 The whole and perfect spiritual nouritour, which we haue by the..bloud of Jesus Christ. 1607 J. NORDEN *Surv. Dial.* v. 189 So will the weedes..beginne to wither, as they are depriued of their nouriture. 1664 EVELYN *Kal. Hort.* (1729) 228 The Consumption of that inspiriting balsamick Nouriture, by reason of dry Heat. 1713 *Guardian* No. 171, I put nothing in it but what is clean and wholsom nouriture. 1743 H. WALPOLE *Lett.* (1903) I. 372, I have contracted a most religious veneration for your spiritual nouriture. 1845 T. COOPER *Purgatory Suicides* (1877) 52 Thou feddst the mind and heart with virtue's nouriture.

δ. 1581 G. PETTIE tr. *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* III. (1586) 143 If wee should make mention of this first Nourriture [etc.]. *c* 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* I. xxv, I think if you saw me, you would hardly know me, such nourriture this deep Sanguin Alicant Grape gives. 1654–66 EARL ORRERY *Parthen.* (1676) 228 Water of so excellent a quality, that its Nourriture was Iron. 1737 *Common Sense* I. 198 The gold, no doubt,..may be exchanged for convenient Necessaries, and a comfortable Nourriture. 1800 MME. D'ARBLAY *Lett.* 27 Apr., All sorts of nourriture or clothing seem to rise [in price]..without any adequate cause. [1848 BORRER *Campaign Kabylie* vi. 92 Receiving their nourriture from the hand of the Most High.]

†**2.** Nurture, upbringing. *Obs.*

c 1400 *Beryn* 841 A wyff like to his parage; For noriture & connyng, bewte, & parentyne. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* 6 Of the byrthe of kyng arthur and of his nouryture. 1527 *Inv. Wardr. Henry Fitzroy* (1855) 44 By example of good education, as well in noryture as good lernyng. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. ix. 5 He had charge my discipline to frame, And Tutors nouriture to oversee. 1647 N. BACON *Disc. Govt. Eng.* I. lxiv. (1739) 129 The Child of a King, that by good nouriture might prove a wise and just King.

Hence †**Nou·ritured** *ppl. a.*, brought up, nurtured; †**Nou·rituring** *vbl. sb.*, upbringing. *Obs.*

c 1500 *Melusine* 259 She that was wel nourrytured held her two children tofore geffray. 1555 WATREMAN *Fardle Facions* II. vii. 158 For their nourituryng and trainyng in good maners, thei haue appointed them masters.

Nourne, variant of NURN *v.* *Obs.*

Nour-quar: see NOWER.

†**Nourry,** *sb. Obs. rare*—1. [ad. F. *nourri*, pa. pple. of *nourrir* to nourish. Cf. NOORY.] A foster-child.

1526 SIR R. WINGFIELD *Let. to Wolsey* (MS. Cott. Galba B. ix. 19), [The Earl of Hochstrat] beinge oon of the lorde Scheevyrs chieff nourrys.

†**Nourry,** *v. Obs. rare*—1. [ad. F. *nourrir* to nourish. Cf. NORY *v.*] *trans.* To nonrish.

1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turks* (Nares), And nourried with the same milke of infidelitie that their prince was.

Nourse, Noursell, -ele, Noursling, obs. ff. NURSE, -SLE, -LING. **Nourt,** var. of NURT *v.* **Nourtoure, -ture,** obs. ff. NURTURE. **Nourwhare:** see NOWER. **Nouryce, -ysse,** obs. ff. NOURICE. **Nourysshe,** obs. f. NOURISH.

‖ **Nous** (naus). Also 8–9 nouse, 9 nowse. [a. Gr. *νοῦς*, Attic contracted form of *νόος* mind.]

1. *Greek Philos.* Mind, intellect.

1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* I. iv. 406 An Immovable and Standing Nous or Intellect, which was properly the Demiurgus, or Architectonick Framer of the whole World. 1768–74 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 197 They conceived of the Word as something analogous to the Nous or second Hypostasis of Plato. 1884 *Encycl. Brit.* XVII. 336/1 What Plotinus understands by the nous is the highest sphere accessible to the human mind.., and, along with that, pure thought itself.

2. *Colloq.* or *slang.* Intelligence, common sense, gumption. (Common in 19th cent.)

[Sometimes written in Greek letters:—1729 POPE *Dunc.* IV. 244 Thine is the genuine head of many a house, And much Divinity without a Νοῦς. 1797 R. POLWHELE *Old Engl. Gentl.* 87 Turning to the signs with keener νους Foretold the future fortunes of his house. 1819 BYRON *Juan* II. CXXX, Because the good old man had so much νους.]

1706 BAYNARD *Cold Baths* II. 306 A Demo-brain'd Doctor of more Note than Nous. *c* 1790 WOLCOT (P. Pindar) *Lousiad* II. Wks. 1816 I. 158 Oh! aid, as lofty Homer says, my *nouse*, To sing sublime the Monarch and the Louse! 1819 SIR G. JACKSON *Diaries & Lett.* (1873) I. 89 They would not send Oakeley. He has no nouse. 1847 FR. A. KEMBLE *Later Life* III. 282, I think his doing so exhibits considerable nous in a brute. 1884 *Graphic* 8 Nov. 494/3, I am glad that my people had the nous to show you into a room where there was a fire.

attrib. 1823 *Grose's Dict. Vulgar T.* (Egan), *Nous Box*, the head.

Hence **Nous(e,** *v.* (see quot.). *rare.*

1859 *Slang Dict.* 69 *Nouse*, to understand or comprehend.

Nousel, Nousle, varr. of NUZZLE *v.*[1] and *v.*[2] **Nout,** obs. form of NOUGHT, NOWT. **Nouþe,** variant of NOWTHE *adv.* *Obs.*

†**Noutheless,** *adv. Obs.* Also now-. [perh. for *nouȝ(t)þeles*, f. *nouȝt* NOUGHT.] Nevertheless.

1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 816 But nouþeles anon riht anied in his herte, Sone sente he again his sel & his lettrus. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 889 Nowþe-lese non was neuer so quoynt..þat of þat songe myȝt synge a poynt.

Nouther, nowther, *pron., a., adv.*[1], and *conj.* Now *dial.* Forms: α. 1, 3 nowðer, 3 *Orm.* nowwþerr, 4–5 nowþer, 4–6 nowþir (5 -ire), 5–9 nowther (5 -ere, -re, 5–6 -ir); 5 nowdyr(e, 5–6 (9) nowder, -ir. β. 3 nouþer, 2–5 nouper, 4–5 -ir, 4 -ur, 2–9 nouther, 4–6 -ir (5 -ire); 4 (9) nouder. [OE. *nowðer* (=OFris. *nouder*), contracted form of *nóhwæðer* (=OFris. *noweder*), f. *ne* NE + *ó* O *adv.* + *hwæðer* WHETHER. Cf. NAUTHER and NOTHER.]

A. †**1.** *pron.* Neither (of two persons or things). Also *nether nouther* (quot. 1401). *Obs.*

896 in Birch *Cartul. Sax.* II. 217 He næfre ne heora nowðer hine hereafian wolde ðære mæstreddene. 1154 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1140, þe king & Randolf eorl ..treuthes fæston ðæt her nouþer sculde he suiken other. *c* 1200 ORMIN 12872 þatt nowwþerr þe33re nohht ne la33 I nane depe sinness. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 52 Auh toten vt wiðuten vuel ne mei nouðer of ou. *c* 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 1842 Nouther of þam wald other forga Swa mykel lof es bytwen þam twa. 1401 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 95 As I wene the Holigost appreveth nether nouther. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 52 Nouthir of the parties had power to stryke a strake. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 256/2 Nowdyr, *neuter*. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 98 Quhen baith ar present, thay ar seine in nouther of thame to delyte mekle.

†**2.** *adj.* Neither. Also *neither nouther. Obs.*

c 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* v. metr. iii. (1868) 160 He nis in neiþer nouþir habit, for he not nat alle ne he ne haþ nat alle for-3eten. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 77 Sche which oure Eldemoder is, The Erthe, bothe that and this Receiveth and alich devoureth, That sche to nouther part favoureth.

B. *adv.*[1] and *conj.*

1. = NEITHER A. 1 (followed by *ne, na, nor*, etc.).

a. c 1200 ORMIN 3124 Forr birrþ me nowwþerr hellpenn þe To lif, ne to þe sawle. *c* 1250 *Doomsday* 33 in *O. E. Misc.* 164 Ne schulen heo nowðer fiȝte mid schelde ne mid spere. *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* (1884) 498 Whaim þou nowþer delyuers fra syn na fra hell. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 125 Ther halp him nowther sword ne scheld. *c* 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 3202 þat he myȝt nowther se ny go. 1477 *Paston Lett.* III. 211 They arn nowthir redyn nor corayd...Whyte wol not a tende hem, nowdyr for Peris ner for me. *c* 1560 A. SCOTT *Poems* (S.T.S.) XXV. 21 My hairt, tak nowdir pane nor wa. *a* 1585 MONTGOMERIE *Cherrie & Slae* 1143 For nowther rigour nor for reuth. 1684 *Yorkshire Dialogue* (E. D. S.) 448 But nowther th' Why nor Filly we will sell. 1719 HAMILTON *Epist.* I. i. in Ramsay *Poems* (1760) 96 There's nowther highlandman nor lawlan [etc.]. 1804 R. ANDERSON *Cumbld. Ball.* 79, I nowther heed house, lan, or siller. 1888 MRS. H. WARD *R. Elsmere* I. ii, I can mak' nowt o' ya', nowder back nor edge.

β. 1154 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1137, Ne for-baren hi nouther circe ne cyrce iærd. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 44 Mid him ne schule ȝe nouðer uerslen ne singen. *a* 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* XXXVII. 102 When thou shalt deȝe, ner thou nost nouther day ne nyht. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 206 For he was nouther ther ne hiere. *c* 1450 LYDG. *Secrees* 1148 With Oute moysture..Comyth nouthir flour nor greyn. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* XIX. iii. 775 Spare not thy hors.. nouther for water neyther for lond. 1530 PALSGR. 688/2 It never ceaseth nouther daye nor nyght. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 110 Thay haif a mouth can nouther say nor sing. 1724 RAMSAY *Tea-t. Misc.* (1733) I. 29 We have nouther pot nor pan. 1865 in *Eng. Dial. Dict.*

†**b.** = NOR. *Obs. rare.*

a 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1703 þe neauer ne linneð nowðer ne lesseð. 1534 CROMWELL in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) I. 375 Ye tried out nothing of her falshed, nouther..entended to do. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* IX. 260 For nowther was he ouer lang,..nouther ouer schort. *Ibid.*, Nouther was this done without cause.

2. = NEITHER A. 3.

c 1200 ORMIN 10216 Forr hellepitt niss næfre full, Ne gredi3nesse nowwþerr. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1930 We loue noght his lede, ne his land nowþer.

1826 SCOTT *Jrnl.* 4 Feb., As the boatswain said, one can't dance always *nowther*.

†**Nouther,** *adv.*[2] *Obs.* In 4 nouþer, 4–5 nouthir. [app. an alteration of NOWER *adv.*, by confusion with prec. Cf. NOTHER *adv.*[2]] Nowhere. Usually in comb. **Nouther-where.**

13.. *Cursor M.* 17556 (Götт.), þar es he soth and nouþer ellis. *Ibid.* 18604 His bodi here, his gast was þar, His goddhede wanted nouþer-quar. *Ibid.* 23819 Ouþer here or nouþer-quar ellis. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* VI. 522 The kyng ..Till thame, and nouthir ellis-quhar, Had ey. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 993 (Ashm.), þare is na region na rewme..Ne nouthire-quare na nacion [etc.].

So †**Nouther-whither,** nowhither. *Obs. rare*—1.

1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 257 We se nouþer whidere þou may haf sikerer weie.

†**Nouthe·tical,** *a. Obs. rare*—1. [f. Gr. *νουθετικ-ός.*] Monitory, warning.

a 1652 J. SMITH *Sel. Disc.* VI. iii. (1821) 199 The general difference between prophetical dreams and those that are merely nouthetical or monitory,..Philo Jud. in his Tract *περὶ τοῦ θεοπέμπτους εἶναι ὀνείρους*..hath at large laid down.

†**Nouvelles.** *Obs. rare.* [a. F. *nouvelles*, later form of *novelles*: see NOVEL *sb.* 1.] News.

c 1500 *Melusine* 166 The pucelle was so joyous of these nouuelles that she had neuer in her natural lyf so grete joye. 1548 *Compl. Scot.* 119 Danid said to the 3oung man that brocht the nouuelles.

Nouvellette, variant of NOVELETTE, after F. *nouvelle.*

1824 *Blackw. Mag.* XV. 835 As novels and nouvellettes go at present, the story is not particularly valuable. 1872 HARDWICK *Trad. Lanc.* 128 The tales might, perhaps with propriety, be termed *nouvelletes*, or little novels.

Nouzle, obs. form of NUZZLE *v.*

Nov, obs. form of NEW *a.*; **Now** *adv.*

Nov., abbreviation of NOVEMBER.

‖ **Nova** (nōu·vă). Pl. **novæ** (nōu·vī). [L. *nova*, fem. sing. of *novus* new.]

†**1.** (See quot.) *Obs. rare*—0.

1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. xxii. (Roxb.) 274/1 Sorts of Tobacco: Pig taile, is a very small wreath or roll tobacco..: Nova, the thickest wreath.

2. *Astr.* A new star or nebula.

1877 G. F. CHAMBERS *Astron.* 918 Nova; a word introduced by Sir J. Herschel to signify a star or nebula not previously recorded. 1899 *Daily News* 22 Apr. 8/6 The appearance of a Nova was recorded on the plates. ..The appearances of Novæ have given rise to many theories as to their origin.

Novaculite (novæ·kiŭləit). *Min.* [f. L. *novacula* a razor + -ITE[1] 2 b.] A hard argillaccous slate used for hones. Also *attrib.*

1796 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) I. 238 Novaculite. Turkey hone. *Ibid.* 356 Novaculite Porphyry. 1802 ACERBI *Trav.* II. 276 If the novaculite of Kirwan were meant, it should be referred to the argillaceous genus. 1863 DANA *Man. Geol.* 322 In Arkansas, the novaculite used extensively for hones..occur[s] in beds referred to this [Millstone soil] epoch. 1882 GEIKIE *Text-bk. Geol.* II. II. § 6. 122 Whet-slate, novaculite, hone-stone, an exceedingly hard fine-grained siliceous rock.

‖ **Novalia** (novē·liă). [L., pl. of *novāle*, f. *novus* new.] Lands newly brought under cultivation.

1838 W. BELL *Dict. Law Scot.* 681 By the canon law, the prescription of tithes did not extend to those of novalia, or newly improved lands. 1896 *Mem. St. Giles, Durham* (Surtees) p. xx, The tithes of all novalia.

†**Nova·lity.** *Obs. rare*—1. [a. OF. *novalité* = med.L. *novalitas*, f. *novalis* new.] Novelty.

a 1450 *Knl. de la Tour* (1868) 62 No wise woman aught to be hasty to take upon the new noualitees of array.

†**No·valty.** *Obs. rare.* [Cf. prec. and OF. *novauleté.*] Novelty.

1585 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* IV. 17 The graunting of this pretendit commissioun is ane novaltie. 1630 PRYNNE *Anti-Armin.* 258 The Articles of Lambheth contain in them no noualties.

†**Nova·ngle.** *Obs. rare*—1. [Cf. next.] A New Englander.

1652 H. L'ESTRANGE *Amer. no Jewes* 68, I like not the word *Novangles*;..the word *Novangles* in English is too prostitute and subject..to the abuse of the Author's meaning, and to be exchanged and spoken Newfangles.

Nova·nglian, *a.* and *sb.* [f. *Nov(a) Anglia*, Latinized name of New England.] **a.** *adj.* Of or pertaining to New England. **b.** *sb.* = prec.

1679 *New Eng. Hist. Reg.* (1850) IV. 130 Nov-Anglian Heroes universall call, Did Constitute him major Generall. 1752 MACSPARRAN *Amer. Dissect.* (1753) 31 The Novanglians in general, the Rhode-Islanders in particular. *Ibid.* 42 The Novanglian Clergy of our Church. 1813 J. ADAMS *Wks.* (1856) X. 49 Correspondences,..Virginian and Novanglian, English and French. 1860 B. TAYLOR *At Home & Abroad* Ser. II. (1888) 339, I must say, I rather admire this stolid self-reliance and Novanglian assumption.

†**Novantique,** *a. Obs. rare*—1. [f. L. *novus* new + ANTIQUE.] = New-old (see NEW *a.* 10 a).

a 1688 CUDWORTH *Immut. Mor.* (1731) 62 The Assertors of this Novantique Philosophy.

Novargent (novāˑɪdʒĕnt). [f. L. *nov-um* new + *argent-um* silver.] (See quot.)

1856 *Orr's Circ. Sci., Pract. Chem.* 65 A 'novargent' solution for re-silvering old plated goods.

Novate (novēˑt), *v. rare.* [f. ppl. stem of L. *novāre* to make new, etc., f. *novus* new.] *trans.* To replace by something new; *spec.* in (Roman) law, to replace by a new obligation, debt, etc.

1611 Speed *Hist. Gt. Brit.* IX. xxiv. § 55 And if that Peace doth make *nouationem*, then the forfeiture of your right.. is wiped away, nouated and cleansed by this Peace. 1875 Poste *Gaius* xv, Non-statutory actions..have no power at civil law of consuming or novating a right of action. 1880 Muirhead *Gaius* 552 It..might be employed even when the obligation novated was only a natural one.

absol. 1876 *Law Rep.* 5 Chanc. Div. 261 There can be no novation without an intention to novate on the part of the creditor.

†**Novateur.** *Obs. rare* −1. [a. F. *novateur* (16th c.).] = Novator.

1600 Hamilton in *Cath. Tract.* (S.T.S.) 225 To reid the scriptures corruptit be the fals translations of thir nouateurs.

Novatian (novēˑʃăn), *sb.* and *a.* Also 5 Nouacian. [ad. late L. *Novātiān-ī* (pl.), f. *Novātiān-us* (see def.).]

A. *sb.* A member of the sect founded by Novatianus, a Roman presbyter in the middle of the third century (see quots.). Chiefly *pl.*

'Novatian has sometimes been confounded with his contemporary Novatus, a Carthaginian presbyter, who held similar views' (*Encycl. Brit.* XVII. 604/1).

c 1449 Pecock *Repr.* v. iii. 499 The sect of Nouacianys, whiche helden that if eny man falle oonys fro the feith, that he schal neuere haue ther of forȝeunes. 1546 Hooper *Early Writ.* (Parker Soc.) 169 One Meletius..said that every sin committed was irremissible, as the Novatians and Catharenes say. 1581 Hamilton in *Cath. Tract.* (S.T.S.) 75 He socht the iugement of Agelius, albeit he vas ane Nouatian of the contrare faction. 1638 Chillingw. *Relig. Prot.* I. vi. § 49. 368 The Novatians, excepting their peculiar error, of denying reconciliation to those that fell in persecution, held other things in common with Catholiques. 1685 Stillingfl. *Orig. Brit.* iii. 94 If any among the Novatians returned to the Church,..their Ordination seems to be allowed. 1740 N. Lardner *Credib. Gosp. Hist.* II. xlvii. Wks. 1788 III. 218 The Novatians are said to have condemned second marriages as unlawful and sinful. 1788 Gibbon *Decl. & F.* xlvii. IV. 547 Cyril auspiciously opened his reign by oppressing the Novatians, the most innocent and harmless of the sectaries. 1869 Lecky *Europ. Mor.* II. 109 The Montanists and the Novatians surpassed and stimulated the private penances of the orthodox.

B. *adj.* Of or pertaining to Novatianus or the sect of Novatians.

1630 Prynne *Lame Giles* 12 The Novatian Catherist. 1651 Baxter *Inf. Bapt.* 320 The Novatian error bred such a fear in men of sinning after baptism, that at last multitudes delayed it. 1670 G. H. *Hist. Cardinals* I. III. 84 Which was the Foundation of the Novatian Schism. 1740 N. Lardner *Credib. Gosp. Hist.* II. xlvii. Wks. 1788 III. 223 There is no ground for thinking the African Novatus the first author of the Novatian rigid principle. 1875 Lightfoot *Comm. Col.* 98 [Phrygia] was the foster mother of Novatian rigorism.

Novatianism (novēˑʃăniz'm). [f. prec. + -ism.] The doctrine or tenets of the Novatians.

1574 Whitgift *Def. Aunsw.* I. Wks. 1851 I. 174 That very perfection of an outward platform..is one step to Novatianism. *a* 1656 Bp. Hall *Rem. Wks.* (1660) 303, I do not tell you that this author is wont to be impeached of Novatianisme. 1740 N. Lardner *Credib. Gosp. Hist.* II. xliii. Wks. 1788 III. 69 The same letter.., where Dionysius informs Stephen of the peace of the eastern churches with regard to Novatianism. 1854 Milman *Lat. Chr.* I. 50 Cyprian had grounds..for his fears of Novatianism.

Novatianist (novēˑʃănist). [f. as prec. + -ist.] A Novatian. Also *attrib.*

1597 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* v. lxii. § 6. 324 The Baptisme which Nouatianists gaue, stood firme. 1707 Potter *Ch. Govt.* v. (1845) 210 To encourage the Novatianists to return to the church. 1874 Robertson *Hist. Chr. Ch.* (ed. 6) I. 170 The Novatianists assumed the name of Cathari, or Puritans. 1876 Plummer tr. *Döllinger Hippolytus & Callistus* ii. 61 The Novatianist sect still existed in the poet's home in North Spain.

Novation (novēˑʃən). Also 6–7 nouation (6 -cion), 6 *Sc.* novatioun, nowation. [ad. L. *novātiōn-em*, n. of action f. *novāre*: see Novate *v.* So F. *novation*, Sp. *novacion*, It. *novazione.*]

1. The introduction of something new; a change, an innovation.

Common in Sc. use from *c* 1560 to 1650. Now *rare.*

1533 Bellenden *Livy* IV. ii. (S. T. S.) II. 54 In þe nixt petitioun we desire na novatiouns nor new materis. 1561–2 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 266 Gif ony suddane alteratioun or novatioun be preissit or attemptit. 1607 J. Norden *Surv. Dial.* I. 22, I like not nouations and new deuices that our forefathers haue not seene or done. *a* 1670 Spalding *Troub. Chas. I* (1850) 47 Their inbringing of novations within the church, such as rotchets.., the book of ordination [etc.]. 1806 W. Taylor in *Monthly Mag.* XXI. 492 These schemes of novation deserve a deliberate discussion. 1830 — *Hist. Surv. Germ. Poetry* I. 121 In all the Gothic dialects rime is a novation.

†**b.** A revolution. *Obs. rare* −1.

1607 Chapman *Bussy d'Ambois* Plays 1873 II. 134 What newes? Strange ones, and fit for a Nouation.

†**2.** Alteration, renewal. *Obs. rare.*

1549 Coverdale, etc. *Erasm. Par.* 2 *Pet.* ii. 20 Like as the mutacion chaunced, what tyme they loked not for it.., euen so shall the nouacion happen. 1635 Person *Varieties* I. 8 At the last conflagration it [the heaven] shall suffer a change and novation, but no dissolution.

3. *Law.* The substitution of a new debtor, creditor, contract, etc., in place of an old one.

1682 Scarlett *Exchanges* 341 Here is a relinquishing the first Debtor, and a taking of another in his stead, which is a Novation, which doth alwayes extinguish the first Contract. 1726 Ayliffe *Parergon* 445 When a Prescription, .. a Novation, Payment of Debt..and the like are propounded in Judgment. 1838 Bell *Dict. Law Scot.* 681 *Novation.* See *Innovation.* 1876 *Law Rep.* 5 Chanc. Div. 259 In all three cases there has been a complete novation, and a substitution of new debtors in the place of the old. 1891 *Times* 28 Feb. 8/4 There was a novation of contract as soon as the company was incorporated.

Nova·tive, *a. rare*−1. [See prec. and -ative.] Of the nature of novation.

1875 Poste *Gaius* III. 447 Gaius attributes a Novative power not only to Litis contestatio, but also to Judgment.

†**Novato.** *Obs. rare.* Some kind of fabric.

1623 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Praise Hempseed* Wks. III. 64/2 Rash, Taffata, Paropa, and Nouato, Shagge, Fillizetta, Damaske and Mockado. 1668 Kirkman *Eng. Rogue* II. (1871) II. 114 Now to hear them muster up the names of their stuffs,..there's your Parragon, Burragon,..Novato, Pinckanilly [etc.].

Novator (novēˑtəɹ). [ad. L. *novātor*, agent-n. f. *novāre*: see Novate *v.*] An innovator.

1644 Bp. Maxwell *Prerog. Chr. Kings* v. 59 He knew not these differencies these novators have coyned and forged upon the Anvell of their owne braines. 1659 T. Pecke *Parnassi Puerp.* 93 Antiquarians and Novators. [1870 Burton *Hist. Scot.* VI. lxviii. 415 Half a century afterwards the Brownist separatists or novators were a considerable body.]

Novatory, *a. rare*−1. [See Novate *v.* and -ory.] Novative.

1880 Muirhead *Gaius* III. § 176 But the rule is different if my novatory stipulation be with a slave.

‖ **Novatrix.** [L. *novātrix*: see Novator and -trix.] A female renewer.

1866 J. B. Rose tr. *Ovid's Met.* 442 Nature the novatrix remoulds the frame.

†**Novaturient,** *a. Obs. rare.* [f. *novāt-*, ppl. stem of L. *novāre* + -urient.] Desiring changes or alterations.

1679 Petty in Ld. E. Fitzmaurice *Life* (1895) 244 The novaturient world is gaping here after the like alterations for Ireland.

Novel (nɒˑvĕl), *sb.* Forms: *pl.* 5 nouellys, 5–6 -ellis, 6–7 -elles (5 -eles), -ells, 5–7 nouels; 6 *Sc.* nowellis; 5–6 novellis (6 *Sc.* -allis), 6 -elles, 7 -ells, 5–8 novels; *sing.* 6–7 nouell, 7– novel. [In senses 1 and 2, a. OF. *novelle* (*-ele, nuvele*, etc.; mod.F. *nouvelle*), = It. *novella*, fem.:—L. *novella* neut. plur. of *novellus*, f. *novus* new: see Novel *a.* The original stress was on the second syllable. In sense 3, ultimately from It. *novella*, Sp. *novela*, whence also F. *nouvelle.* In sense 4, ad. late L. *novella* (sc. *constitutio*), usually in pl. *novellæ.*]

†**1.** Something new; a novelty. *Obs.*

In early use always *pl.*, and freq. implying sense 2.

c 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xviii. 188 Whens euer this barne may be That shewys thise novels new? 1533 Bellenden *Livy* I. xix. (S. T. S.) I. 110 To be consultit with þame of certane novellis & haisty materis 1579 Spenser *Sheph. Cal.* Feb. 95 To nought more..my mind is bent Then to heare nouells of his deuise. 1591 Sylvester *Du Bartas* I. ii. 233 Who loving novels, full of affectation, Receive the Manners of each other Nation. 1613 Heywood *Brazen Age* II. ii, Do you wonder..To see this Prince lye dead? Why that's no nouell, All men must dye. 1695 Congreve *Love for L.* III. iii, Perhaps I might..have introduc'd an Amour of my own, in Conversation, by way of Novel. 1703 T. N. *City & C. Purchaser* 57 Such Men will not..be..perswaded to a more compleat way..because it is a Novel to them. 1719 J. T. Philipps tr. *Thirty-four Confer.* p. xvi, That..no ancient Indian Apostolical Monuments might remain in those Parts to reflect Reproach upon Romish Novels.

Comb. 1596 Lodge *Wits Miserie* 13 His name is Superfluous Innention, or as some tearme him Novel-monger or Fashions.

†**2.** *pl.* News, tidings. *Obs.*

c 1475 *Partenay* 45 Erle amerye..thes nouels hurd at that entreual. 1561 Awdelay *Frat. Vacab.* (1869) 14 Ready to bring his Maister Nouels and tidinges, whether they be true or false. 1635 Person *Varieties* IV. i. § 9 Saluting the Antipodes, and bringing novells from their Courts and of their caballs. 1688 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. IV. 115 An invention of them that love to feed the town with the Air of Novels. 1724 *Wodrow Corr.* (1843) III. 167 When you favour me with a line, I'll be glad to have your thoughts of it, with all your novels.

†**b.** *sing.* A piece of news. *Obs.*

1610 Heywood *Gold. Age* IV. i, Discourse the nouell, Neptune. 1636 Massinger *Gt. Dk. Florence* I. ii, You.. promise, in your clear aspect, some novel That may delight us. 1728 Fielding *Love in Several Masques* IV. iv, *Wisemore.* What novel's this? *Malvil.* Faith! it may be a pleasant one to you. 1736 Hervey *Mem. Geo. II*, I. 430 They must know very little of the nature of Courts..who flatter themselves that the disgrace of one person..would be anything more than the novel of a fortnight.

3. (Chiefly in *pl.*) One of the tales or short stories contained in such works as the *Decameron* of Boccaccio, the *Heptameron* of Marguerite of Valois, etc.; a short story of this type.

1566 Painter *Pal. Pleas.* Ded., In these histories (which by another terme I call Nouelles) he described the lines..of great princes. 1578 in *Maitland Cl. Misc.* I. (1840) 7 The first buik of the novallis of Ronsard. 1621 Burton *Anat. Mel.* IV. II. ii. (1624) 230 Such as the old womene tolde Psyche in Apuleius, Bocace Nouells, and the rest. 1674 Evelyn *Mem.* (1857) III. 245 Marguerite of Valois..whose novels are equal to those of the witty Boccaccio. 1697 Dryden *Æneid* Ded., Ess. (Ker) II. 155 The trifling novels, which Ariosto, and others, have inserted in their poems. 1700 — *Pref. Fables* ibid. 248 Boccace..wrote novels in prose, and many works in verse. [1834 Motley *Corr.* (1889) I. iii. 35 Tieck's novels (which last are a set of exquisite little tales, novels in the original meaning of the word).]

b. A fictitious prose narrative or tale of considerable length (now usually one long enough to fill one or more volumes), in which characters and actions representative of the real life of past or present times are portrayed in a plot of more or less complexity.

In 17–18th c. freq. contrasted with a *romance*, as being shorter than this, and having more relation to real life.

The older pron. *novel* was retained in Sc. till the 19th c. (See Novelle, and cf. Burns *Rob Mossgiel*, 'O leave novels, ye Mauchline belles.')

1643 Milton *Divorce* I. vi. Wks. 1851 IV. 33 This is no mere amatorious novel. 1676 Etheredge *Man of Mode* II. i, Leave your raillery, and tell us, is there any New Wit come forth, Songs or Novels? 1693 *Humours Town* 24 She seats herself, with some Novel or Play, in a very solitary posture. 1711 Steele *Spect.* No. 254 ₱ 3, I am afraid thy Brains are a little disordered with Romances and Novels. 1769 Wesley *Wks.* (1872) III. 357 Sure no Novel in the world can be more affecting, or more surprising, than this history. 1774 *Chesterfield's Lett.* I. 130 A Novel is a kind of abbreviation of a Romance. 1806–7 Beresford *Mis. Hum. Life* (1826) II. xxxi, A cargo of novels of their own choice with such titles as 'Delicate Sensibility'. 1867 Trollope *Chron. Barset* I. xxxv. 311 [He] sat down over the fire with a volume of a novel. 1889 *Cornh. Mag.* Feb. 119 It's more like a novel than real life.

c. The particular type of literature which is constituted or exemplified by this class of fiction. (Formerly without article; now with *the.*)

1757 Mrs. Griffith *Lett. Henry & Frances* (1767) I. p. iii, I never read higher love-letters in my life, without the bombast of romance, or the levity of novel. 1766 Fordyce *Serm. to Yng. Wom.* (1767) I. iv. 148 There seem to me.. very few, in the style of Novel, that you can read with safety. 1859 Masson *Brit. Novelists* I. 2 The Novel, at its highest, is a prose Epic. 1871 *Spectator* 22 April 484 England has hardly received the honour she deserves as the birthplace of the modern novel.

d. A fiction, story, invention. *rare*−1.

1762 Foote *Liar* III. Wks. 1799 I. 314 Your novels won't pass upon me.

4. *Roman Law.* A new decree or constitution, supplementary to the Codex, *esp.* one of those made by the Emperor Justinian. (Cf. Novell.)

1612 Brerewood *Lang. & Relig.* XV. 154 As appeareth in the novel of Leo Sophus, touching the order and precedence of metropolitans. 1672–5 Comber *Comp. Temple* (1702) 223 The Codes and Novels of Justinian, Theodosius, and other Emperors in the East. 1715 Bingham *Orig. Eccles.* IV. 275 The Edict which that Council refers to, was another Novel of Justinian's. 1788 Gibbon *Decl. & F.* xliv. IV. 366 The nine collations, the legal standard of modern tribunals, consist of ninety-eight Novels. 1818 Hallam *Mid. Ages* (1872) II. 149 By a novel of Valentinian III about 450. 1871 Bryce *Holy Rom. Emp.* XV. (ed. 3) 248 Edicts issued by a Franconian or Swabian sovereign were inserted as Novels in the Corpus Juris, in the latest editions of which custom still allows them a place.

transf. 1695 J. Edwards *Perfect. Script.* 415 The sacred books of the New Testament, the Evangelical Novels, the new laws. 1885 tr. *Wellhausen's Proleg. Hist. of Israel* V. I. 159 A novel of the law (Exod. XXX. 15) raised it to half a shekel.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.* (sense 3), in various uses.

1757 Mrs. Griffith *Lett. Henry & Frances* (1767) I. 174 *note*, This was her *Novel application [Ethelinda]. 1797 Colman *Br. Grins, Nightgown & Slippers* XVIII, Stomacks are so cloyed with *novel-feeding. 1883 *19th Cent.* Feb. 288 They prefer penny fiction serials to being *novel-less. 1788 Burke *Sp. agst. W. Hastings* Wks. XIII. 30 The false, idle, girlish, *novel-like morality of the world. 1797 Mrs. Robinson *Walsingham* III. 230 It was fresh from a modern *novel-mill, and strongly recommended by the reviewers. 1886 Willis & Clark *Cambridge* III. 121 The Newspaper Room, the Music Room, and the *Novel Room. 1806 Cumberland *Mem.* (1807) II. 256, I had no books but such as a circulating *novel-shop provided. 1801 Surr *Splendid Misery* I. 79 She blushed at the exposure of her *novel-sick passion. 1768–74 Tucker *Lt. Nat.* (1834) I. 596 The new-loosened school-boy and *novel-studied girl.

b. Objective and obj. genitive.

1768–74 Tucker *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 612 Our *novel-hunters learn to despise all common prudence. *a* 1810 Tannahill *Poems* (1846) 60 In these *novel-huntin' days, There's nane but bairns can act our plays. 1866 *Cornh. Mag.* Jan. 13 There is little in either of these scenes..which the ordinary *novel-maker could 'seize'. 1850 Kingsley *Alt. Locke* vii, Quickened into prurient activity by the low, *novel-mongering press. 1841 Thackeray *Men & Pictures* Wks. 1900 XIII. 377 A couple of instances from 'actual life', as the fashionable *novel-puffers say. 1775 Bp. Watson *Anecd.* (1817) 51, I hate the flimsy womanish eloquence of *novel readers. 1894 Raleigh *Eng. Novel* IX. (1903) 256 Novelists have generally been insatiable novel-readers. *c* 1810 *New Comic Songster* 20 She learnt it from *novel reading, O. 1870 Emerson *Soc. & Sol.* viii. 172 So much novel reading cannot leave the young men and maidens untouched. 1802 Mrs. E. Parsons *Myst. Visit* II. 172 Very unlike a *novel-reading Miss. 1862 Thackeray *Round. Papers, De Finibus*, Of all the *novel-spinners now extant. 1833 Macaulay in Trevelyan *Life* (1876) I. 303 Have I nothing to do but to be your *novel-taster. 1832 Carlyle *Misc.* (1857) III. 39 The distressed *Novelwright. 1873 W. S. Mayo *Never Again* xvii. 222 The chapter is the crowning mercy of novel-wrights. 1728 *Novel-writer [see Novelist 4]. 1814 Scott *Wav.* Pref.

to ed. 3, A man..to whom the reputation of being a novel-writer might be prejudicial. 1883 W. BLACK *Shandon Bells* xxxii, You would have me allow..novel-writers to review other people's novels. 1818 LADY MORGAN *Autobiogr.* (1859) 44 He [Monk Lewis] was the founder of the dramatic school of *novel-writing. 1856 DE QUINCEY *Confess.* Wks. 1859 I. 216 *note*, The deluge of *novel-writing talent..which has overflowed our literature.

Novel (*nɒ*·vĕl), *a.* Also 5–6 nouel, 5–7 -ell, 7 novell. [a. OF. *novel* (mod.F. *nouvèl, nouveau*), =Sp. and Pg. *novel*, It. *novello*:—L. *novell-um*, f. *nov-um* new: cf. prec. Not in common use till after 1600. See also NOVILE *a.*]

1. †**a.** New, young, fresh. *Obs. rare.*

c 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* I 209 A novel vyne vp gooth by diligence As fast as hit gooth doun by negligence. 1616 CHAPMAN *Homer's Hymn Hermes* 60 He strait assumed a novell voices note.

†**b.** Newly made or created. *Obs.*

c 1475 *Partenay* 694 The writyng sealled ful truly With the gret seal of thys Erle nouel. *Ibid.* 5397 For men had hym told off this strenght nouell. *c* 1650 *Don Bellianis* 22 One in a white armor like a novel knight.

†**c.** Newly acquired. *Obs. rare* —1.

1586 MARLOWE *1st Pt. Tamburl.* II. v, Then shall we send to this triumphing King, And bid him battle for his novel crown?

†**d.** Recent; of recent origin. *Obs.*

Novel disseisin: see DISSEISIN 1 b.

1641 'SMECTYMNUUS' *Answ.* (1653) 19 A Bishop..is but a Novell invention. *a* 1676 HALE *Prim. Orig. Man.* (1677) 163 But this seems to be but a novel Conceit. *a* 1727 NEWTON *Chronol. Amended* ii. (1728) 222 They..hoast their antiquity, not knowing that they are novel, and lived not above eleven hundred years ago.

2. New; of a new kind or nature; strange; hitherto unknown.

c 1475 *Partenay* 2696, I thorughly know all thes nouell tidinges Full good and fair ben vnto vs. 1567 DRANT *Horace, Ep.* I. ii. G iij, If nouel woorkes had bene of greekes accompted of so could,..where now had bene these workes, which we call oulde? 1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* 321 Let himselfe see how farre this nouell speculation of his hath transported him. 1651 BAXTER *Inf. Bapt.* 345 My present purpose is..to manifest the concent of the learned to most that seemeth novel and singular. 1718 HICKES & NELSON *J. Kettlewell* II. xxxiv. 140 The Novel Fancies and Inventions of our Modern Humorists in Religion. 1782 PRIESTLEY *Corrupt. Chr.* II. vi. 38 This opinion..was bold and novel. 1832 R. & J. LANDER *Exped. Niger* III. xix. 162 It was something quite novel to see two large parties of people bartering commodities in this manner. 1870 L'ESTRANGE *Life Miss Mitford* I. vi. 169 A style of decoration more novel than elegant.

†**b.** *Novel assignment* (see quots.). *Obs.*

1607 COWELL *Interpr., Novel assignement*, is an assignement of time, Place, or such like, otherwise then as before it was assigned. 1696 PHILLIPS, *Novel assignment*, is where a Man brings Trespass for breaking his Close, and the Defendant justifies in a Place where no Trespass was done; but the Plaintiff assigns the Place where the Trespass was done. 1727–38 CHAMBERS *Cycl., Novel assignment*, in an action of trespass, is an assignment of time, place, or the like, in a declaration, otherwise or more particularly than it was in the writ.

c. *Novel constitution*, =NOVEL *sb.* 4.

1726 AYLIFFE *Parergon* 135 By the Novel Constitutions, Burial may not be inhibited, or deny'd to any one.

†**No·velant.** *Obs.* Also nouell-, novell-ant(e, novilant. [ad. It. *novellante*, pres. pple. of *novellare* to relate news; orig. used in It. form.] A relater of current events; a newsmonger.

1602 *Archpriests' Controv.* II. 37 Which he delinered vnto the nouellantes of Rome, to be spreaded amongst them. 1610 in Birch *Crt. & Times Jas. I* (1849) I. 115 You need no better novellante than my lady, who was present at all. 1660 FULLER *Mixt Contempl.* (1841) 184, I know some who repair to such novelants on purpose to know what news is false by their reporting thereof. *a* 1661 — *Worthies, Essex* I. (1662) 335 For things past he was a Perfect Historian; for things present, a Judicious Novilant.

Noveldom (*nɒ*·vĕldəm). [f. NOVEL *sb.* 3 b + -DOM.] The world of novels; novels collectively.

1831 *Fraser's Mag.* III. 96 This being the state of Noveldom. 1854 THOREAU *Walden* iii. (1863) 114 Aspiring heroes of universal noveldom. 1887 *Pall Mall G.* 29 Sept. 3/1 The realists of noveldom.

Novele·se. [f. NOVEL *sb.* 3 b + -ESE: cf. *journalese*.] The style of language characteristic of inferior novels.

1900 *Pall Mall G.* 13 Jan. 3 The English is novelese, when it does not degenerate into sheer bad grammar.

Novele·sque, *a.* [f. as prec. + -ESQUE.] Characteristic of, in the manner of, a novel.

1883 *Academy* 15 Sept. 171/2 To look aghast at such novelesque treatment of an historical theme.

No·velet. Also novellet. [f. NOVEL *sb.* + -ET or -LET: cf. next.]

†**1.** A little new book or pamphlet. *Obs. rare* —1.

1592 G. HARVEY *Four Lett.* Wks. (Grosart) I. 215 Idle creatures, the only busy readers of such Nouellets.

2. =NOVELETTE 1.

1815 W. TAYLOR in *Monthly Rev.* LXXVII. 481 A translation from the German of some tales, or Novellets, of Pfeffel. 1844 *Camp of Refuge* Publishers' Introd., We do not offer our 'Old English Novelets' as Historical. We call them Novelets—or little novels.

Novelette (*nɒvĕle*·t). Also novellette. [f. NOVEL *sb.* 3 b + -ETTE; or ad. It. *novelletta*.]

1. A story of moderate length having the characteristics of a novel.

1820 MOORE *Mem.* (1853) III. 180 He has nearly finished a little novelette, a story, since he has been in Paris. 1847 H. MILLER *First Impr. Eng.* xiii. (1857) 221 The novelette and poem for the young lady, and the tale for the child. 1873 RUSKIN *Fors Clav.* xxx. 2 Among them were also many tiny novelettes.

2. *Music* (see quot. 1893).

1893 tr. *Riemann's Dict. Mus., Novelette*, a term probably first used by Schumann for pianoforte pieces of free form and containing a considerable number of themes. 1894 *Times* 24 Nov. 7/2 She played as her solos Schumann's novelette in E major [etc.].

Hence **Novele·ttist**, a writer of novelettes.

Also, in recent use, *Noveletter*, and *Novelettish* adj.

1883 D. C. MURRAY *Hearts* III. xxxii. 210 Novelists and novelettists, poets and poetasters, are thick about her.

No·velish, *a.* [f. NOVEL *sb.* + -ISH.] Inclined to ideas characteristic of novels; somewhat resembling, or snggestive of, a novel.

1805 SOUTHEY in Robberds *Mem. W. Taylor* (1843) II. 103, I..should be apt to think her a little too novelish (it is a better word than romantic). 1840 DE QUINCEY in *Tait's Mag.* VII. 355 The place, spite of its slipshod novelish name,..was really simple and unpretending. 1892 SLADEN *Japs at Home* xviii, 'Wounded Pride,' though not very novelish, has a very interesting subject.

Novelism (*nɒ*·vĕliz'm). Also 7 nouellisme, novellisme, novalism, 7–8 novellism. [f. NOVEL *sb.* + -ISM; cf. F. *nouvellisme*, Sp. *novel-*, Pg. *novellismo*.]

†**1.** Innovation; novelty. *Obs.* (freq. in 17th c.)

1626 T. H[AWKINS] tr. *Caussin's Holy Crt.* 143 Those, which haue obtruded Nouellisme so disasterous..to Christendome. 1657 J. WATTS *Dipper Sprinkled* 92 The new upstart and out-staring novelisms of these later Ages. 1673 CAVE *Prim. Chr.* I. ii. 21 Obliquely reflecting on the novellism of Christianity. 1703 *Secret Policy Jansenists* 27 If he were but the least suspected of Novellism.

2. Novel-writing.

1828 *Blackw. Mag.* XXIV. 469 What a host of pens and printers have been pressed into the service of romance and novelism by the appearance of the Waverley Novels. 1849 *Fraser's Mag.* XL. 691 A mass of volumes,..all equally marked with the generic and unmistakeable character of novelism. 1881 *Spectator* 29 Oct. 1372 The ordinary level of what may be called novelism.

Novelist (*nɒ*·vĕlist). Also 6 noouelist, 7–nouell-, 7–9 novell-; 7 nouelist(e. [f. NOVEL *sb.* + -IST: cf. F. *nouvelliste* (1620), It. and Pg. *novellista*, Sp. *novelista*.]

†**1.** An innovator, an introducer of something new; a favourer of novelty. *Obs.* (Very common in 17th c.)

1583 FOXE *A. & M.* (1634) III. 904 Had you rather hold with these Novelists, as with Calvin? 1589 G. HARVEY *Pierce's Super.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 208 All the grayer heads begin to be stale with these Noouellists. 1608 WILLET *Hexapla Exod.* 571 Augustine doth directly oppose himselfe to all such Dogmatistes and Nouelistes. 1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* IV. xix. (1695) 402 To have his Authority of forty years standing..over-turned by an upstart Novelist. 1725 tr. *Dupin's Eccl. Hist. 17th C.* VI. iii. 239 By this Faith he must not understand a simple Belief (with the Novelists).

†**2.** One who is inexperienced; a novice. *Obs.* —1

1630 LENNARD tr. *Charron's Wisd.* II. vii. § 18. 305 There is not any thing so easie that doth not hurt and hinder vs, if wee bee but nouelists therein.

†**3.** A newsmonger, news-carrier. *Obs.*

1706 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4207/3 The Novelist; The Tale Bearer. 1710 STEELE *Tatler* No. 178 P 2 My Contemporaries the Novelists have..a most happy Art in saying and unsaying. 1764 GOLDSM. *Hist. Eng.* (1771) III. 186 If we may credit the novelists of that time, the prince had already fixed his affections upon the French princess.

4. A writer of novels.

1728 MORGAN *Algiers* II. iii. 239 Such opportunities of gallantizing their Wives, as the French and other Novelists, I mean Novel-writers, would insinuate. 1766 FORDYCE *Serm. Yng. Wom.* (1767) I. iv. 155 With..Novelists..we may join the common herd of Play-writers. 1804 *Gentl. Mag.* LXXIV. 404 Many of our novellists..complain of the dullness of the market at home. 1849–50 ALISON *Hist. Europe* I. i. § 22. 68 The graphic novelist, with historic truth, makes Norman Richard the leader of English chivalry. 1895 TYRRELL *Latin Poet.* 220 The Greek novelists actually turned their backs on the portraiture of character.

Noveli·stic, *a.* [f. NOVEL *sb.* 3 b + -ISTIC.] Pertaining to, characteristic of, novels.

1835 *Fraser's Mag.* XI. 596 It..is wrought out with more novelistic skill. 1850 *Tait's Mag.* XVII. 636/1 Any subject, political, literary, artistical, or novelistic. 1881 CLARK RUSSELL *Ocean Free-Lance* III. v. 170 The theatrical, poetical, and novelistic fresh-water mountebank.

Hence **Noveli·stically** *adv.*

1892 *Pall Mall G.* 25 May 3/2 The methods by which a more than novelistically beautiful hero escapes.

Novelization. [f. next + -ATION.] The process of novelizing; conversion into a novel.

1876 *Copyright Comm., Parl. P.* (1878) 156 The converse case, namely novelization of a drama, appears to stand on the same footing. 1897 *Mem. Copyright Bill* 2 A similar injury can be inflicted by the novelisation of dramas.

Novelize (*nɒ*·vĕlaiz), *v.* Also 7 novellize. [f. NOVEL *sb.* + -IZE.]

1. †**a.** *trans.* To bring into a new condition; to make new or novel. *Obs.*

1642 SIR E. DERING *Sp. on Relig.* vi. 21 Affections doe stand to be novellized by the mutability of the present times. 1660 HEYLIN *Hist. Quinquart.* III. 76 These opinions ..which are now novelized by the name of Arminianism.

refl. 1631 BRATHWAIT *Whimzies* 210 If hee travaile to novellize himselfe, and not to benefit his Country.

b. *intr.* To produce something new; to introduce novelty.

1823 *Blackw. Mag.* XIV. 546 Even on beaten subjects, however, ingenuity will find means to novelize.

2. To convert into the form or style of a novel.

1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* Introd., You surely mean to novelize, or to dramatize if you will, this most singular of all tragedies? 1833 HERSCHEL *Ess.* (1857) 15 The desperate attempts to novelize history which the herd of Scott's imitators have put forth. 1890 *Athenæum* 303/1 In 'Judge Lynch' Mr. Jessop has 'novelized' a drama.

Hence **No·velized** *ppl. a.*, **No·velizing** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1625 BP. MOUNTAGU *App. Cæsar* 60, I must confesse my dissent thorough and sincere from the Faction of novellizing Puritans. 1651 W. JANE Εικων Ακλαστος 156 Antiquitie.. condemnes their fantasticall, and presumptuous novelizing. 1682 SIR T. BROWNE *Chr. Mor.* (1756) 36 For the novelizing spirit of man lives by variety, and the new faces of things. 1825 *Blackw. Mag.* XVIII. 238 Its author never will shine in novelizing. 1850 T. A. TROLLOPE *Impress. Wand.* xvii. 266 It was a novelised version, by no means ill done.

Novell, variant of NOVEL *sb.* 4.

1853 WHEWELL *Grotius* I. p. lxxv, Of the teachers of the Roman Law, there are three kinds; the first those whose works appear in the..laws called Novells. 1883 SHELDON *Rom. Law* I The period was long enough to admit of the promulgation of the Digest, the Institutes, the Code, and the Novells throughout Italy.

†**Nove·lle,** obs. variant of NOVEL *sb.* 3 b.

1830 GALT *Lawrie T.* IV. i. (1849) 142, I have seen such a journey as ours described in a novelle book.

†**No·veller.** *Obs.* [f. NOVEL *sb.* or *a.* + -ER 1.] An innovator; an introducer of new ideas. (Common in 17th c.)

1604 *Supplic. Masse Priests* § 36 We yeeld our selves to be prophane Novellers, yea Heretikes. 1647 TRAPP *Comm. Phil.* xi. 29 Horrible is the contempt that is now cast upon the Ministry by our Novellers. 1679 C. NESSE *Antid. agst. Popery* 125 They do scornfully call us Novellers.

So †**No·velling** *ppl. a.*, innovating. *Obs. rare.*

1621 BP. MOUNTAGU *Diatribæ* 19 The surest and gainest way to confound oppositions, and stop the mouth for euer of all nouelling Schismaticks. *Ibid.* 212 What is any nouelling vpstart, that he should controll..their *dictata*?

†**Novellery.** *Obs.* [a. OF. *novellerie*, var. of *novel(e)rie*, NOVELRY.] Novelty.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 259 It is a wonder thing to hiere, Bot yit for the novellerie I thenke tellen a partie. 1401 26 *Pol. Poems* II Laweles nouellerye loke 3e lete. *c* 1440 *Partonope* 3626 Thus was he falle to novellerye.

†**Novellity.** *Obs. rare.* [a. OF. *novellité*, or ad. late L. *novellitas* (Tertullian): see NOVEL *a.* and -ITY.] An unwonted act; novelty.

1456 SIR G. HAVE *Law Arms* (S. T. S.) 279 Kingis suld kepe that na man do till othir dishonour, schame, na vilany, na injure, na new nouelliteis. 1617 COLLINS *Def. Bp. Ely* I. p. viii, Peters primacie opposed to Pauls nouellitie and iunioritie in the words of S. Cyprian.

†**No·vellous,** *a.* *Obs. rare.* [f. NOVEL *sb.*] Inclined to novelty; of a novel nature or kind.

1619 SCLATER *Exp.* 1 *Thess.* (1630) 550 But why are we nouellous? 1627 — *Exp.* 2 *Thess.* (1629) 138 We..may thinke that nouellous of which may be said, *Non fuit sic ab initio.*

Novelly (*nɒ*·vĕli), *adv. rare.* [f. NOVEL *a.* + -LY 2.] In a novel manner; by a novel method.

1821 *Examiner* 429/2 Attitudes novelly chosen. 1844 FONBLANQUE *Life* (1874) 437 What has been so novelly and eloquently written. 1888 *Scribner's Mag.* IV. 744 A peculiar phase of hereditary insanity..which I had treated novelly and successfully in the East.

Novelness. 'Novelty, newness' (Bailey, 1731).

†**No·velry.** *Obs.* Forms: 4–5 nouelrye (5 -ry), -rie, 4 -erie; 4–5 novelrye, -rie (5 *Sc.* -re), 4 (5 *Sc.*) nowelry. [a. OF. *novelrie, -erie*, f. *novel* NOVEL *a.*: see -RY, and cf. NOVELLERY.]

1. Novelty.

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 3341 Gretly þey synne yn þer queyntyse þat nouelrye al day areyse. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* II. 756 Either they be ful of jelosye, Or maystreful, or lovyn novelrye. 1406 HOCCLEVE *La Male Regle* 38 Me longed aftir nouelrie.

2. A novel thing or matter.

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XIX. 394 Twa novelreis that day thai saw. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* II. 244 Siche men synnen ofte in novelryes of þe worlde. *c* 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* I. xl. (1869) 24 There ye mowe, if ye wole, make nouelries ynowe. 1491 *Act 7 Hen. VII*, c. 15 Persones of evyll..disposicions joyed in rumor and rebellious novelries.

†**No·veltiness.** *Obs. rare* —1. [f. NOVELTY + -NESS.] Novelty, newness.

1690 W. WALKER *Idiomat. Anglo-Lat.* 461 You will be taken with the noveltiness of it.

Novelty (*nɒ*·vĕlti). Forms: 4–6 nouelte(e, 5 novel-, nofeltee, 6 *Sc.* nowelte; 5–7 novel-tie (6–7 nouel-, 6 nouil-); 5 nouelty, 6- novelty. [a. OF. *novelté* (mod.F. *nouveauté*): see NOVEL *a.* and -TY.]

1. Something new or unusual; a novel thing or occurrence. Also *the novelty*, the newest thing.

1382 WYCLIF 1 *Tim.* vi. 20 Eschewinge curside noueltees of voyces. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Clerk's T.* 1004 Thay were glad right for the noveltè, To have a newe lady of her toun. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* xlvii. 197 Of al maner thinges ande noveltees that wer in baldak, and not in lumbardye. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) B, The tyme is an inuenter of nouelties. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* Ep. Ded., The general profite and pleasure of..such as delight in nouelties. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* IX. 386 They

are curious, and great louers of nouelties. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* x. 891 O why did God..create at last This noueltie on Earth? 1728 R. MORRIS *Ess. Anc. Archit.* 21 Blindly fond of every little Novelty offer'd to our view. 1793 SMEATON *Edystone L.* § 241 The level platform we had then obtained being something of a novelty. 1835 W. IRVING *Tour Prairies* xx, The sight of the wild horse had been a great novelty. 1868 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1877) II. viii. 299 Such visits as these were, in England at least, altogether novelties. 1868 HOLME LEE *B. Godfrey* vii, They're *the novelty* quite, but chancy things to sell.

† **b.** A new matter, a recent event, as a subject of report or talk. (Usually in *pl.*) *Obs.*

1447 BOKENHAM *Lyvys Seyntys* (ROXB.) 58 Whan þis miracle abowte was blowe..Ful gret ioy was of þat nouelte. 1475 *Plumpton Corr.* (Camden) 31 Thomas can enforme you of novelties in this countrie better then I can writte. 1502 ATKYNSON tr. *De Imitatione* I. xx. 169 If thou haue delyte to here nouelties thou muste somtyme therof suffer trybulacyon of herte. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VI* 183 b, The duke of Yorke.., somewhat spurred and quickened with these novelties, retired backe. 1595 *Locrine* II. i, What uncouth novelties Bring'st thou unto our royal majesty?

c. An innovation, a novel proceeding.

1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 55 The explication of causes which gaue originall to nouelties. 1678 WANLEY *Wonders Lit. World* v. ii. § 87. 473/1 Mustapha, brother to Achmet, succeeded, which was a novelty never before heard of in this Kingdom. 1876 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* V. xxiv. 385 The days of King Eadward remained the standard, every departure from which was noticed as a novelty.

2. Novel or unusual character *of* something.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) III. 67 For wonder of nouelte of þis doynge, me axede counsaille..of Appolyn. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. IV* 2 b, Somwhat unquieted for the noveltie of the thyng. 1625 USHER (*title*), An Answer to a Challenge...Wherein..the Noveltie of the now Romish doctrine [is] plainely discovered. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 46 ¶ 1 The Novelty of the History, and Manner of Life, of the Emperor Aurengezebe. 1765 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* I. 1 The novelty and the importance of the duty required. 1841 LANE *Arab. Nts.* I. 127 The novelty of these amusements interested me. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. ii. 23 The novelty of this day's experience may have rendered it inpressive.

† **b.** Newness, freshness *of* a thing. *Obs. rare.*

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XII. ix. (Bodl. MS.), In here comynge þei boodeþ noueltee of tyme. 1614 RALEIGH *Hist. World* v. i. § 4. 283 Some of the Syracusians..tooke armes against him, even in the noveltie of his Rule.

3. The quality or state of being novel; that which is novel, new, or hitherto unknown.

1484 CAXTON *Fables of Poge* iv, As by caas of nouelte he callyd the sayd yong man. *c* 1500 *Three Kings' Sons* 85 It thought them a cas of nouelte. 1581 MULCASTER *Positions* v. (1887) 29, I may..feare no note of noueltie, where nothing is but auncient. 1604 JAS. I *Counterbl. to Tobacco* (Arb.) 99 An inconsiderate and childish affectation of Noueltie. 1665 BOYLE *Occas. Refl.*, Disc. Med. II. i, That unexpectedness being the highest Degree of Novelty. 1728 R. MORRIS *Ess. Anc. Archit.* 21 Any thing which has the least appearance of Novelty. 1796 H. HUNTER tr. *St.-Pierre's Stud. Nat.* (1799) II. 16 To induce others to dive into this rich mine, with the additional value of novelty. 1824 J. H. NEWMAN *Hist. Sk.* (1873) II. II. viii. 276 Novelty in the speaker supplies the want of novelty in the matter. 1886 RUSKIN *Præterita* I. 238 Very early, indeed, I had found that novelty was soon exhausted.

personif. 1784 COWPER *Task* III. 54 Pleasure..leaning on the arm Of Novelty, her fickle frail support.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

1640 G. SANDYS *Christ's Passion* II. 246 The Novelty-affecting Multitude. 1784 *Bishopric Garland* (1810) 26 The next was Will Dunn, our painter, Who wanted a novelty-bit.

Novem- (nō·vem), the L. numeral *novem* nine, used to form combs. with adjectives in *-ate*, as *novemarticulate*, having nine joints.

1856–8 W. CLARK *Van der Hoeven's Zool.* I. 340 Antennæ novemarticulate, perfoliate. 1857 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.* 776 Novemcostate, -digitate, -lobate, -nervate.

November (novē·mbəɹ). Also 3, 5 **Nouembre**, 4–6 **Novembre**. Abbreviated **Nov.** [a. L. *November* (also *Novembris*, sc. *mensis*), f. *novem* nine. The ME. form was perh. ad. OF. *Novembre*.] The eleventh month of the year, containing 30 days.

[*c* 960 *Rule St. Benet* (Schröer) 32 Fram þan anzinne þæs monðes, þe is nouember zehaten. *a* 1000 *Menologium* 196 Þæs ofstum bringð..Blot-monað on tun,..Nouembris, niða bearnum eadiznesse.]

a 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1414 Þe þreottuðe dei Of Nouembres moneð. *c* 1290 *St. Michael* 103 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 302 Seint Miȝhel in nouembre hath ȝeot an-oþur dai. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 124 That is Novembre which I meene, Whan that the lef hath lost his greene. 1481 CAXTON *Godfrey* 312 Enprynted the xx day of nouembre the yere a forsayd. 1594 BLUNDEVIL *Exerc.* III. I. xlv. (1636) 358 Thirty daies hath November, Aprill, Iune, and September. 1672–3 GREW *Anat. Plants* II. iii. (1682) 68 The Root of Dandelion being cut in November, seems to bleed botb a Milk and a Lympha. 1784 COWPER *Task* III. 467 When now November dark Checks vegetation in the torpid plant. 1808 SCOTT *Marm.* Introd. i, November's sky is chill and drear, November's leaf is red and sear. 1897 OUIDA *Massarenes* xii, Our Aprils are considerably worse than our Novembers.

b. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *November dawn, day, mist, tide.*

1820 SCOTT *Monast.* viii, A November mist overspread the little valley. *Ibid.* ix, The November day was well spent ere the Sub-Prior resumed his journey. 1864 TENNYSON *En. Ard.* 611 The chill November dawns and dewy-glooming downs. 1866 NEALE *Sequences & Hymns* 87 It was about November-tide.

c. As a moth-name. (See quots.)

1832 RENNIE *Butterfl. & Moths* 266 November, (*Harr.*) See Feathered Thorn [*Himera pennaria*]. November, (*Haw.*) See Autumn Border [*Oporabia dilutata*]. 1874 E. NEWMAN *Brit. Moths* 109 The November Moth [*Oporabia*] appears on the wing in November, and is common everywhere in England, Scotland, and Ireland.

Hence **Nove·mberish** *a.*, **Nove·mb(e)ry** *a.*, characteristic of November; dismal, gloomy.

1792 BURNS *Let.* Wks. (Globe) 516 Here I sit, altogether Novemberish, a d—d *mélange* of fretfulness and melancholy. 1840 Miss SEDGWICK *Lett. fr. Abroad* (1841) II. 32 It is cold, Novemberish, and raining. *a* 1864 HAWTHORNE *Amer. Note-bks.* (1879) II. 52 Unpleasant, Novembery days. 1870 *Daily News* 2 Nov., Weather still 'Novembry' in the extreme.

Nove·mdial, variant of NOVENDIAL.

1624 DARCIE *Birth Heresies* xviii. 74 As the ancient Romane Idolaters had recourse likewise to the Nouemdiall Masse, vpon any monstrous prodigies. 1793 A. MURPHY *Tacitus, Ann.* VI. v. *note*, Nothing different from a novemdial, or mourning-festival.

Novemfid, *a. rare*⁻¹. [f. NOVEM-, after *bifid*, etc.] Cleft into nine divisions.

1785 MARTYN *Rousseau's Bot.* xxiv. (1794) 341 The exterior calyx..in Althæa is novemfid.

‖ **Novena** (novī·nă). [med.L. *novēna*, f. *novem* nine.] *R. C. Ch.* A devotion consisting of special prayers or services on nine successive days.

1853 FABER *All for Jesus* Ded., Every month that went by, every feast, novena, octave, triduo. 1880 LITTLEDALE *Plain Reasons* xviii. 54 Litanies and novenas take up most of the time spent in church. 1889 *Cath. News* 23 Nov. 2/5 A Novena of Masses to Mary Immaculate.

Novenary (nǫ·vĕnări), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. L. *novēnārius*, f. *novem* nine. So F. *novénaire*, It. and Sp. *novenario*.]

A. *adj.* Pertaining to, or consisting of, the number nine. *rare.*

1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch* Explan. Words, *Novenary* number, that is to say, Nine. 1609 C. BUTLER *Fem. Monar.* (1634) 31 The seven Novenary ranks from West to East. 1635 HEYWOOD *Hierarchie* IV. 208 Prime Muses of the Novenary stocke.

B. *sb.* **1.** An aggregate or set of nine.

1577–87 HOLINSHED *Chron.* I. 29/1 From Brute to the extinction of his posteritie..are 630 yeares, or 70 nouenaries. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* 215 By these numbers..he implyeth Climactericall years, that is, septenaries, and novenaries set downe by the bare observation of numbers. 1653 H. MORE *Conject. Cabbal.* (1713) 146 We are not at all concerned in the Octonary and Novenary, they having no reference to any of the Days of the Creation.

2. = NOVENA.

1818 SOUTHEY in *Q. Rev.* XVIII. 10 A novenary or service of nine days was performed for him. 1855 KELLY tr. *Cervantes' Exempl. Novels* 119 To perform a novenary in the church of our Lady of Guadalupe.

Nove·ndial, *a.* and *sb. rare.* [ad. L. *novendiālis*, f. *novem* nine + *diēs* day; cf. NOVEMDIAL.]

A. *adj.* Lasting nine days.

1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* I. xii. (S. T. S.) I. 72 The Romanis ..Institute ane new sacrifice, callit in þai dais þe sacrifice nouendiall. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* I. xxxi. 22 The Romanes..celebrated solemne publicke sacrifices for the space of nine daies, called a Novendiall. *a* 1719 ADDISON tr. *Petronius Arbiter* (1736) 129 Scissa kept a Novendial for his servant Misellus, whom he enfranchised after he was dead.

So † **Nove·ndinal** *a.*, taking place on the ninth day after the burial. *Obs. rare*⁻¹.

1598 GRENEWEY *Tacitus, Ann.* VI. i. (1622) 122 After a banket on the birth day of Augusta.., hee tearmed that a Nouendinall supper, or belonging to a mortuary.

Novene, *sb.*, anglicized form of NOVENA.

1826 SOUTHEY in *Q. Rev.* XXXIII. 379 The nuns also performed a novene for her.

Nove·ne, *a. rare*⁻¹. [ad. L. *novēn-us*, distrib. adj. f. *novem* nine.] Proceeding by nines.

1855 MILMAN *Lat. Chr.* VI. 405 The triple and novene division ran throughout, and connected..the mundane and supermundane Church.

† **Nove·nnal**, *a. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [Irreg. f. L. *novem* nine.] Consisting of nine.

1716 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* II. To Rdr. 50 Of all that Novennal Number, of those Circæan Jesuitical Muses, Caussin is by far the worst Poet.

Novennial (nove·niăl), *a.* [f. L. *novennis*, f. *novem* nine, and *annus* year.] Happening or recurring every ninth year.

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Novennial*, of nine years. 1697 POTTER *Antiq. Greece* I. ii. 10 To send a Novennial, or Septennial, or an Annual Tribute. *Ibid.* II. xx. 342 Δαφνηφορια, a novennial Festival, celebrated by the Bœotians.

Novercal (novə·ɹkăl), *a.* Also 7 **nouercall**. [ad. L. *novercālis*, f. *noverca* stepmother.] Characteristic of, or resembling, a stepmother.

1623 COCKERAM *Eng. Dict.* I., *Nouercall*, belonging to a step-mother. 1646 BUCK *Rich. III* 41 Fortune..soone cald for the Principall and Interest from this Prince, to whom she was meerly Novercall. 1661 HICKERINGILL *Jamaica* 12 The Soil is so pregnant and fertile, that nature hath stor'd it in no niggardly nor novercal benevolence. 1713 DERHAM *Phys. Theol.* VII. vi. 392 It is a wonderfull Deviation, that some few families [of birds] only should do it in a more novercal way. 1767 W. BENNET *Let. to Parr* P.'s Wks. 1828 VII. 69 A firmer basis than either novercal rapacity would have designed, or novercal malice left you. 1831 *Blackw. Mag.* XXIX. 767 In compensation of this novercal usage, fortune has given him a long purse. 1868 BROWNING *Ring & Bk.* II. 490 Guido's old lady-mother Beatrice..Was recognised of true novercal type, Dragon and devil.

† **Nove·rcant**, *a. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [ad. pres. pple. of late L. *novercārī*, f. *noverca*: see prec.] Acting like a stepmother.

1472–3 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 8/2 To kepe in remembrance ..their noble Actes, pryncipally in execution of Justice, ayenst novercant Oblivion, enneimy to memorye.

† **Nove·rint.** *Obs.* [L. *nōverint*, 3rd plur. perf. subj. of *nōscĕre* to know, occurring in the opening phrase of writs, *noverint universi* 'let all men know'.]

1. The making of writs. *rare*⁻¹.

1589 NASHE *Pref. Greene's Menaphon* (Arb.) 9 It is a common practise now a daies amongst a sort of shifting companions..to leaue the trade of *Nouerint* whereto they were borne, and busie themselues with the indeuors of Art.

2. A writ.

1592 GREENE *Groat's Worth Wit* (1617) B j b, Yet was not the Father altogether vnlettered, for hee had good experience in a Nouerint. 1621 SANDERSON *Serm.* I. 203 Why doth he not in his bills and bonds and noverints, make it known to all men by those presents that he is an usurer? 1634 FORD *Perk. Warbeck* II. iii, As no indenture but has its counterpane, no noverint but his condition or defeasance [etc.].

Comb. 1594 NASHE *Terrors Nt.* Ep. Ded., Wks. (Grosart) III. 214 Some vnskilfull pen-man or Nouerint-maker.

3. Applied to a scrivener.

1629 SHIRLEY *Wedding* III. i. 396 Sirra Nouerint.., ile set one a top of Paules to watch thee.

† **Nove·rk.** *Obs. rare*⁻¹. [ad. L. *noverca*.] A stepmother.

1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* II. 584 Edwardis bruther wes marterit of the new Be his noverk.

Novice (nǫ·vis). Forms: α. 4 nouys, 5 novys, novise, *Sc.* nowis, 6 nouise, nou-, novesse, 7 nouasse. β. 5 nouyce, 4, 6 novyce, 5–7 nouice, 6– novice. [a. OF. *novisse*, *novice*, = Sp. *novicio* masc., *novicia* fem., Pg. *noviço*, *-iça*, It. *novizio*, *-izia*, ad. L. *novīcius*, *-icia*, f. *novus* new: see -ITIOUS 1.]

1. *Eccl.* One who has entered a religious house, and is under probation or trial, before taking the required vows; a candidate for admission into a religious order; a probationer.

α. 13.. *Metr. Hom.* (Vernon MS.) in Herrig's *Archiv* LVII. 278 In þis hous Nouys was I And after Monk ȝeres moni. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* XXX. (*Theodora*) 411 Þane wes he tane & mad nowis & leryt sa. 1401 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 20 Why will ye not suffer your novises hear your councels in your chapter house? *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 360/1 Nouyce, or novys, *novisius*. 1571 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xxviii. 53 Than twa ȝeiris Noueis..ȝond in Kiluinning my prentischip I past. 1589 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* V. xxvii. (1602) 133 The Lady Prioresse Did taunt the Nouasse bitterly.

β. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 397 Freris .. hynden novycis to unknowen þing. *c* 1380 *Abbey Holy Ghost* in *Hampole's Wks.* (1895) I. 330 Honeste es maystresse of þe nouyce, and teches þam alle curtasye. 1530 PALSGR. 248/2 Novyce a newe relygious persone, *novice*. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 156 b, We thinke mete, that all yong Novices..be presently removed from thence. 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* I. iv. 19 Can you so steed me, As bring me to the sight of Isabella, A Nouice of this place? 1663 H. COGAN tr. *Pinto's Trav.* iii. 5 Above four thousand Priests, besides a great Number of Novices. 1797 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Italian* viii, She was seated among the novices. 1849 JAMES *Woodman* ii, It was very different from the veil of the nun or even of the novice. 1859 JEPHSON *Brittany* xv. 246 He then assumes the dress of the Order, a cassock and bands, and becomes a novice.

b. A newly converted person.

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 35 In them that be nouices, newly conuerted to religyon. 1611 BIBLE 1 *Tim.* iii. 6 Not a nouice, lest being lifted vp with pride, hee fall into the condemnation of the deuill. 1649 JER. TAYLOR *Gt. Exemp.* III. Disc. xvi. 53 Christ's little ones, that is such as are novices and babes in Christianity. 1879 FARRAR *St. Paul* (1883) 188 St. Paul was still a suspected novice.

2. An inexperienced person; one who is new to the circumstances in which he is placed; a beginner, tyro.

1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 61 That tyme alle the senate was but as a nouice. 1502 ATKYNSON tr. *De Imitatione* I. xxiii. 172 It were expedient that they were instructe as Nouices, begynners to growe in more perfyte vertues. 1579 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 47 Such is the Nature of these nouises, that thinke to haue learning without labour, and treasure without trauaile. 1638 JUNIUS *Paint. Ancients* 30 Small profit the Novices of these Arts receive by meere Imitation. 1699 BENTLEY *Phal.* 94 Every Novice in Geography knows they were Maritime. 1726 SHELVOCKE *Voy. round World* 102 Though they came to us under the name of Veterans, [they] proved to be ignorant Novices. 1795 BURKE *Regic. Peace* Wks. VIII. 343 You are but novices in the art of naval resources. 1856 KANE *Arct. Expl.* II. x. 100 Reflection will deceive a novice on the ice. 1873 BROWNING *Red Cott. Nt.-cap* 109 As the hascbisch-man Prepares a novice to receive his drug.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *novice life, modesty, time, way*; *novice-like* adj.

1530 PALSGR. 248/2 Novyce tyme, *nouiceria*. 1671 MILTON *P. R.* III. 241 With novice modesty. 1689 HICKERINGILL *Ceremony Monger* Concl. iii, No Mortal ever did or can discharge it, but in this Novice way. 1842 MRS. CLAVERS *Forest Life* II. 56 Seymour, novice-like, was amusingly conscious. 1888 BERNARD *Fr. World to Cloister* ii, The cell in which my novice life was to be lived.

b. Appositive, as *novice lover, thief*, etc.; also *novice hand, heart, thought*.

1605 SYLVESTER *Imposture* 338 A novice Thief. 1606 — *Du Bartas* II. iv. *Magnificence* 836 These novice Lovers at their first arrive Are bashfull both. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* I. 19, I need no information of any Romane Nouice Traueller. 1654 VILVAIN *Chronography* Title-p., To lead the wandring steps of Novice Chronologers in a right cours. 1708 OZELL tr. *Boileau's Lutrin* 20 His Artless Novice-hand he lends. 1751 *Female Foundling* I. 78 But perhaps..my Novice-heart may be deceived. 1794 COLERIDGE *Relig. Musings* I. 108, I discipline my young and novice thought. 1811 W. R. SPENCER *Poems* Ded., Whene'er my novice hand presum'd To wake the chords of grief or glee. 1888 BERNARD *Fr. World to Cloister* ii, The novitiate..had its own special door and enclosure, with its own special novice porter.

c. In sense 'of the novices'.

1850 NEWMAN *Serm.* (1881) xii. 239 He acted as novice-master to the children of St. Dominic. 1898 *Dubl. Rev.* Apr. 356 When Clara was made novice-mistress he dedicated a small book to her.

Hence **No·vicehood**, the condition of a novice.

1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1811) III. 132, I encouraged and collected every thing of this sort that I had ever had from novicehood to maturity.

† **Novicery.** *Obs. rare.* [a. OF. *novicerie, novisserie*: see NOVICE and -ERY.]

1. = NOVICIATE 3.

c 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (Prose) 142 And hir mastres sall haue hir to þe Nouycery, & infurme as religiun will.

2. = NOVICIATE 1.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 360/1 Novysrye (nouycery), *noviciatus*. *a* 1470 H. PARKER *Dives & Pauper* (Pynson, 1493) IV. xx, If the religions were bounde to obey in al thynge, his professyon were al vncertein and vnassayed in his nouycery. *Ibid.*, In the yere of hys assaye in hys nouycery.

No·viceship. Also 8 **noviship.** [f. NOVICE.]

1. = NOVICIATE 1.

1639 S. DU VERGER tr. *Camus' Admir. Events* 266 Beeing as yet but in the beginning of his Noviceship. 1677 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1247/1 Having passed his Noviceship, he celebrated High Mass on Friday last. 1763 *Brit. Mag.* IV. 467 Her year of noviceship was now expired. 1845 G. OLIVER *Biogr. Soc. Jesus* 97, I cannot discover where he made his noviceship. 1887 STANTON *Menology Eng. & Wales* 45 He ..went to St. Omers to begin his noviceship with the Jesuits.

attrib. 1716 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* III. *Diss. Dram.* 38 After..the Noviship-Exercises or Trials of the..Sincerity of his Christian Pretensions.

b. Initial stages; inexperience. *rare.*

1703 SAVAGE *Lett. Antients* ii. 10 You (yet in the very Noviceship of your Youth, tho robust and old in the Virtue of Faith). 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1811) V. 297 If giddy fellows, or giddy girls, misbehave in a first marriage..from noviceship.

2. A Jesuit college where novices are trained.

1620 E. BLOUNT *Horæ Subs.* 380 That Garden of Cardinall Bandinoes, by the Nouiceship of the Iesuites. 1629 WADSWORTH *Pilgr.* vii. 74 The Iesuites haue a Colledge at Watton,..which they call their Nouiship for the nurturing of their young Iesuites. 1889 *Pall Mall G.* 10 July 21/1 Their cadets' training homes remind me of nothing so much as our noviceships.

Noviciate, novitiate (novi·ʃiĕt). Also 7 **nouitiat.** [ad. F. *novicial*, † *novitial*, = Sp. and Pg. *noviciado*, It. *noviziato*, or med.L. *novitiatus*: see NOVICE and -ATE 1.]

1. The probationary period of a novice before finally taking religious vows.

1600 W. WATSON *Decacordon* (1602) 90 He sent him to Antwerpe to haue his Nouitiat by the Prouincial there. 1671 WOODHEAD *St. Teresa* II. vii. 50 Let them not admit them to make profession, if in the year of their Noviciate they find not [etc.]. 1757 BURKE *Abridg. Eng. Hist.* Wks. X. 188 None were admitted into this order but after a long and laborious novitiate. 1819 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* xxxvi, The aspirants after this holy Order wore during their noviciate the cast-off garments of the knights. 1884 TENNYSON *Becket* v. ii, Breaking already from thy noviciate To plunge into this bitter world again.

b. *transf.* and *fig.* The state or time of being a novice or beginner in anything; time of initiation, apprenticeship, or probation.

1610 DONNE *Pseudo-martyr* 6 But those..God doth ordinarily bring vp in a nouitiate, and Apprentisage of worldly Crosses. *a* 1716 SOUTH *Serm.* (1727) II. 179 He must have pass'd his Tyrocinium, or Novitiate, in Sinning, before he can come to this. 1723 SWIFT *Corr.* Wks. 1841 II. 565, I know no vows so solemn as those of friendship, and therefore a pretty long noviciate of acquaintance should ..precede them. 1791 BURKE *Th. French Aff.* Wks. 1842 I. 573 After they have passed the novitiate, those who take any sort of lead are placed in very lucrative offices. 1822–56 DE QUINCEY *Confess.* (1862) 189 The calamities of my novitiate in London had struck root. 1871 L. STEPHEN *Playgr. Eur.* II. iv. 319 Fix yourself for the period of your noviciate at one of the great Alpine centres of interest.

2. A novice in a religious order.

1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* IX. xvi. 92 These Colledges..dispatch their ripe Noviciats for England. 1679 PRANCE *Add. Narrative* 40 The Ecclesiasticks..yearly receive young Students or Novitiates from hence. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 164 ₱7 The Abbess had been informed..of all that had passed between her Noviciate and Father Francis. 1775 JEBB *Corr.* (1894) 24 A preparatory sermon addressed entirely to the novitiate. 1817 JAS. MILL *Brit. India* I. II. ii. 114 The noviciates to the sacerdotal office are commanded to find their subsistence by begging. 1888 BERNARD *Fr. World to Cloister* ii, Former novitiates..had to make use of the floor as a seat.

b. A beginner, tyro; one who is new to anything.

a 1734 NORTH *Examen* I. ii. § 11 (1740) 36 Scarce enough.. for a Novitiate as he was to acquire an ordinary Prattique of the cursory part of Business. 1793 J. WILLIAMS *Calm Exam.* 60 Political Novitiates rush into the Chamber of the third Estate. 1828 P. CUNNINGHAM *N. S. Wales* (ed. 3) II. 178 Such indeed as may frequently induce the desponding noviciate..to lament the hour in which he became a tiller of our untamed soils. 1849 *Escape fr. Toil* 13/1 The sincere noviciate..setting candidly and resolutely to the work will never give up, nor go back.

3. The quarters occupied by novices during their period of probation; a noviceship.

1626 L. OWEN *Spec. Jesuit.* (1629) 48 Their house of approbation or Nouiciat. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 3 The Novitiate of the Jesuites stands upon a Hill higher than any place of the Town. 1704 *Collect. Voy.* (Churchill) III. 19/1 The Jesuites have also a Novitiate. 1761 *Ann. Reg.* I. 172 In the year 1710, there were [in France] ..612 jesuits colleges,..59 noviciates. 1826 SOUTHEY *Vind. Eccl. Angl.* 449 When St. Francisco.., as Commissary for the Order in Spain, visited a noviciate. 1888 BERNARD *Fr. World to Cloister* ii, The novitiate was situated on the third floor at the top of the house.

transf. 1760–72 tr. *Juan & Ulloa's Voy.* (ed. 3) I. 223 The deserts of the mountains..were the noviciates, in which we were inured to the severe life we led.

4. *attrib.*, as *noviciate chapel, guide, habit*, etc.

1704 *Collect. Voy.* (Churchill) III. 6/2 The Founder of our Novitiat-House. 1756–7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) II. 52 The tomb..is in the novitiate chapel of the convent. 1789 *Trifler* No. 32. 408 The whole family, in which I passed my noviciate year. 1799 SHERIDAN *Pizarro* v. ii, The noviciate habit which you first beheld her in. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVI. 355/2 Persons who apply to enter the noviciate state. 1869 *Daily News* 6 Feb., The vow of poverty, as explained by the Noviciate Guide.

b. Appositive, as *noviciate candidate*, etc.

1775 SHERIDAN *Art of Reading* 39 Such..as for a long time to baffle all the efforts of the noviciate tongue. 1788 tr. *Swedenborg's Wisd. Angels* IV. § 341. 311 When they are opened a little, as is the Case when novitiate Devils enter. 1802 LAMB in *Athenæum* (1888) 4 Aug. 171/3 Now that..Mr. Cooke is no longer a novitiate candidate for public favour. 1885 H. O. FORBES *Wandr. Archip.* 468 The novitiate goldwasher..accompanies the Dato to the river.

Hence **Novi·ciateship.**

a 1670 HACKET *Abp. Williams* I. (1692) 77 It was much that in his novitiatship in that house, he durst contradict such mighty ones in so tender a cause. 1835 LYTTON *Student, New Phædo* iii, The habit of thinking, by degrees, cures the faults of its novitiateship.

Noviciation. *rare* —1. [See NOVICE and -ATION.] The admission of a novice.

1797 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Italian* xi, When this ceremony had concluded, another began, and he was told it was that of a noviciation.

† **Novicie.** *Obs. rare* —1. [f. NOVICE + -IE, -Y.] Inexperience.

1600 EDMONDS *Observ. Cæsar's Comm.* 43 How much an old experienced souldier..exceedeth the nouicie of such as are newly enrolled.

Novilant, variant of NOVELANT *Obs.*

† **Novile,** *a. Obs. rare.* [var. of NOVEL *a.*, after adjs. in -ILE.] Novel.

1586 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* I. iv. (1602) 12 This nouile Prize to gaine. 1676 WOOD *Jrnl.* in *Acc. Sev. Late Voy.* I. (1694) 145 Of late within this year or two some Novile Accidents happening [etc.].

Novilu·nar, *a. rare.* [f. late L. *novilūn-ium* (f. *novus* new + *lūna* moon), after LUNAR *a.*] Of or pertaining to the new moon.

1686 GOAD *Celest. Bodies* I. xii. 54 We shall see into the very Anatomy of the Novilunar Influence. *Ibid.* 55 The Novilunar Days in the Hyemal moiety of the year. 1710 *Brit. Apollo* No. 80. 1/2 Which Days..are supposed to be Novilunar. 1847 in WEBSTER.

† **Novilune.** *Obs. rare* —1. [ad. late L. *novilūnium* (see prec.).] The new moon.

1619 SIR J. SEMPILL *Sacrilege Handl.* 57 The Sabbaths thence deriued of seuen yeeres..: with their nouilunes.

† **No·vist.** *Obs. rare.* [f. L. *nov-us* new.]

1. A novice, beginner.

1632 J. HAYWARD tr. *Biondi's Eromena* 13 Being but a Novist in that practise.

2. One given to novel opinions; an innovator.

1660 BONDE *Scut. Reg.* 339 He would be but a poor revenger..had the people, (as our Novists feign) not he, the sole disposing of the Militia. 1672 VENN *Milit. & Mar. Discipline* Ep. Ded., It was not to raise a dispute among the Novists.

Novi·tial, *a. rare.* [f. L. *novīti-us* (see next).] Of the nature of, characteristic of, a novice.

1778 [W. MARSHALL] *Minutes Agric., Digest* 7 Nor will a few Sketches..be useless to the Novitial Agriculturist. 1812 SOUTHEY *Omniana* II. 272 Not by a novitial fervour of devotion, but by long probation in a monastical kind of life.

† **Novi·tious,** *a. Obs.* [ad. L. *novītius*, f. *novus* new: see -ITIOUS 1.]

1. Having the character of novices.

1619 SCLATER *Exp.* 1 *Thess.* (1630) 484 Saith our Sauiour, iustifying his milder inpositions on his nouitious Disciples.

2. Of recent origin.

1659 PEARSON *Creed* (1839) 501 What is now taught by the Church of Rome is..a novitious interpretation. 1669 GALE *Crt. Gentiles* I. I. xii. 79 Those Letters, which the Jews now use.., are novitious, and of late original.

No·vity. Now *rare* or *Obs.* Forms: 6 **nouite(e**, 6–7 **nouitie**, 7 **-ity**; 5 **novitee**, 6 **-ite**, 6–7 **-itie**, 7– **novity.** [a. OF. *novité*, = It. *novita*, Sp. *novedad*, Pg. *novidade*, ad. L. *novitāt-em*, f. *novus* new: see -ITY.]

† 1. An innovation; a novelty. *Obs.*

1460 *Anc. Cal. Rec. Dubl.* (1889) 307 Forasmuch as such novitees hath not be uset afor this time. 1545 JOYE *Exp. Dan.* vi. M iij b, This perillouse novite and mutacion put into his head. 1588 J. HARVEY *Disc. Probl.* 119 Two Eclipses in the space of one month, are no great strange nouities. 1654 VILVAIN *Theor. Theol.* I. 31 'Tis a witty novity, or castle in the air. 1692 S. PATRICK *Answ. Touchstone* 85 When Pope Gregory VII. adventured upon it, it was esteemed a Novity, not to say an Heresy.

2. Novelty; newness. (Common in 17th c.)

1569 J. SANFORD tr. *Agrippa's Van. Artes* 14 b, With a nouitee or straungnesse full of trifles. 1607 J. CARPENTER *Plaine Mans Plough* 105 This..is Christ, by whom we have a triple Nouitie or Newnesse. 1662 STILLINGFL. *Orig. Sacræ* III. ii. § 2 Was it not a strong presumption of the Novity of the Universe? 1699 BENTLEY *Phal.* xiii. 393, I know the novity of these Epistles from the whole body and form of the work. 1823 LAMB *Ess., Amicus Redivivus*, That unmeaning assumption of eternal novity.

Novmir, obs. form of NUMBER.

‖ **Novodamus** (nōuvōdē·mŭs). *Sc. Law.* [L. (*de*) *novo damus* 'we grant anew'.] A charter containing a clause (also called 'of *novodamus*') by which the superior grants afresh the matters described in the dispositive clause.

1838 W. BELL *Dict. Law Scot.* 681 A charter of novodamus is accounted in law an original right, which imports a discharge of all prior burdens. 1857 J. PATERSON *Regality of Musselburgh* 26 A novodamus of the nether miln of Brunstain, to be holden of the Earl.

† **No·vum.** *Obs.* [app. L. *novum*, neut. sing. of *novus* new.] An old game at dice played by five or six persons, the two principal throws being nine and five.

1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* v. ii. 547 Abate throw at Novum, and the whole world againe, Cannot pricke out fiue such. 1614 J. COOKE *Greene's Tu Quoque* D iij, Change your Game for dice, We are a full number for Nouum. 1616 J. LANE *Contn. Sqr's. T.* IV. 410 Yet these binn th'arpeies of the droopinge time, that all at novum settes, on fyve or syne. 1621 J. TAYLOR (Water-P.) *Motto* D 4, At Nouum, Mumchance, Mischance (chuse ye which).

Novyl, obs. variant of NAVEL *sb.*

Now (nau), *adv., conj., sb.*1, and *a.* Forms: 1–4 **nu**, 1 **nuu**, 2–3 **nv**, 4 **new, nw**, 9 *Sc.* **noo**; 3–6 **nou** (4–5 **-e**), 3 **no**, 3–5 **nov**, 3– **now**, 4–6 **nowe.** [OE. *nú*; the same form occurs in all the older Teutonic languages, and corresponds to Skr. *nu, nú*, Gr. *νυ, νῦν*, L. *nunc*.]

I. *adv.* 1. At the present time or moment.

Sometimes strengthened by *even, just*, or *right* (for examples see these words).

c 825 *Vesp. Ps.* xi. 6 Fore..ʒeamrunge ðearfena nu ic arisu, cwið dryhten. *c* 893 K. ÆLFRED *Oros.* II. v. 86 Þonne næron naþer gode ne þa ne nu. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 25 Wa eow þe nu hlihaþ, forþon ʒe eft wepað on ecnesse. *a* 1100 *Gerefa* in *Anglia* IX. 264 Fela ðinga ðe ic nu ʒenæmnian ne can. *c* 1200 ORMIN 2683 ʒho iss nu & æfre beoþ Hezhesst of alle shaffte. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3918 To lond moab druȝen he so, ðor nu is a burȝ, ierico. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 8094 Sir, sauued be þou nov and ai. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 24 In þe laste eelde þat now is, þat is clepid myddis of ȝeeris. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 549 Be hit knowe to them that be now and to come. 1475 *Paston Lett.* III. 130 Other labor that I have takyn on me nowe in to Fraunce warde. 1530 PALSGR. 423/2 Fyve pounde you have all redy receyved, but what is behynde nowe onpayed. 1559 W. CUNNINGHAM *Cosmogr. Glasse* 170 But now I will commit it to thy descretion and judgement. 1631 WEEVER *Anc. Funeral Mon.* 58 The.. little Island, as then called Avalon, now Glastenbury. 1671 MILTON *P. R.* III. 95 Who names not now with honour patient Job? 1712 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 26 Mar., Now they don't distinguish between a cow and a Christian. 1784 COWPER *Task* V. 90 Neither grub, nor root, nor earth-nut, now Repays their labour more. 1802 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Moral T.* (1816) I. i. 2 My master is just going to dinner, and can't see anybody now. 1852 M. ARNOLD *Empedocles* II. (1906) 109 They will be our lords, as they are now. 1896 *Law Times* C. 408/1 The salary of a Chancery taxing master is now only £1500 a year.

b. Under the present circumstances; in view of these facts.

1508 KENNEDIE *Flyting w. Dunbar* 470 Thair is na schip that wil the now ressaue. 1592 SHAKS. *Ven. & Ad.* 249 Being mad before, how doth she now for wits? *Ibid.* 253 Now which way shall she turn? what shall she say? 1710 MRS. CENTLIVRE *Bickerstaff's Burying* I. i, I warrant you think to be an Ambral now. 1796 H. HUNTER tr. *St.-Pierre's Stud. Nat.* (1796) III. 140, I now plainly perceive the reason. 1854 MRS. STOWE *Uncle Tom's C.* v, I can believe anything now; I can believe now that you could sell little Harry.

2. In the time directly following on the present moment; immediately, forthwith.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Saints' Lives* xxvi. 249 Nu ic sceall ȝeendian earmlicum deaþe. *c* 1290 *St. James* 29 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 34 'Nov,' he seide, 'we schullen i-seo ȝwat Iemes þe mai don here'. 1382 WYCLIF 1 *Sam.* ii. 16 Nay, forsothe nowe thow shalt ȝyue; ellis I shal tak bi forse. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 212 Now sall ȝe here How he kide him in þe courete. *c* 1450 HOLLAND *Howlat* 151, I sall not ȝow richt now thar names in ane. 1503 HAWES *Examp. Virtue* Prol. ii, But at auenture I wyll now wryte. 1682 [see JUST *adv.* 7 c]. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 333, I am in a hurry, and must go now. 1898 FLOR. MONTGOMERY *Tony* 11 The train would start now.

3. In the time directly preceding the present moment. Now only in *just now* or (poet.) *even now*. Also † *now* (*a*) *late, now of late*, recently.

c 888 K. ÆLFRED *Boeth.* v. § iii, Ymb þæt-ilce þu ȝiddodest nu hwene ær. *c* 1055 *Byrhtferth's Handboc* in *Anglia* VIII. 298 Heo wunað on ælcum tacne swa we nu ȝerehton. *Ibid.* 304 Þa þing þe we nu handledon. 1435 *Wars Eng. in France* (Rolls) II. 576 The king shulde take appointement offred now late unto hym at Arras. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* I. 43 þat lufly lorde..That vs thus mighty has made, þat nowe was righte noghte. 1533 CROMWELL in Merriman

Life & Lett. (1902) I. 353 Whose Auncestors of longe tyme hadd the same untill nowe of late. **1583** GOLDING *Calvin on Deut.* lxxxv. 522 If wee alleage It is not nowalate that this thing came vp. **1601** DOLMAN *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* (1618) III. 673 As wee said euen now. **1633**– [see JUST *adv.* 7 b]. **1703**, **1820** [see EVEN *adv.* 6 b]. **1881** ROSSETTI *House of Life* vi, Even now my lady's lips did play With these my lips such consonant interlude.

4. At this time; at the time spoken of or referred to.

1548 UDALL, etc. *Erasm. Par. Acts* 58 For his mother, beeing now a widow, was a lewe borne. **1592** SHAKS. *Ven. & Ad.* 349 Now was she just before him as he sat. **1611** BIBLE *Mark* iv. 37 The waues beat into the ship, so that it was now full. **1697** DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 556 Swift Rivers are with sudden Ice constrain'd;..An Hostry now for Waggons. **1758** S. HAYWARD *Serm.* xvi. 496 What season more important than the hour of death? Every thing now conspires to fill the soul with gloom. **1795** W. ROSCOE *Lorenzo de Medici* I. i. 57 Cosmo now approached the period of his mortal existence. **1845** PATTISON *Ess.* (1889) I. 25 The assurance he had at first displayed was now succeeded by an air of embarrassment. **1874** BANCROFT *Footpr. Time* viii. 201 The war was now practically concluded.

5. † **a.** *As now*, at this time, just now. *Obs.*

c **1386** [see As *adv.* 34]. **1390** GOWER *Conf.* I. 60 Of thi wittes five I wole as now nomore schryve, But only of these ilke tuo. **1456** SIR G. HAYE *Law Armis* (S. T. S.) 292 It is sufficiand ynouche to me to tell as now that [etc.]. *a* **1533** LD. BERNERS *Huon* xliii. 144 Shew me for what cause ye haue as now sent for me. **1594** MARLOWE & NASHE *Dido* I. i, Instruct us under what good heaven We breathe as now.

† **b.** *Now by dawe*, = NOW-A-DAYS. *Obs. rare.*

c **1327** *Pol. Songs* (Camden) 326 Everich man nu bi dawe may sen that thus hit is. *a* **1450** MYRC 5 So faren prestes now by dawe.

† **c.** *Now about*, about this time. *Obs. rare.*

1713 S. SEWALL *Diary* II June, Now about the Govr. procures a Letter to be written. **1721** *Ibid.* 23 Jan., Now about I gave his Excellency a Ring.

6. *Now and again, anon,* † *eft,* † *now*, at one time and another, from time to time.

c **1386** CHAUCER *Sqr.'s T.* 422 Eueremoore as she stood She swowneth now and now for lakke of blood. **1390** GOWER *Conf.* I. 246 And in the Marches now and eft,..He wroghte such knihthode there. *c* **1420** *Pallad. on Husb.* I. 570 The seed of mirte..Lete yeue hem now & now for chaunge of mete. **1470–85** MALORY *Arthur* VI. xviii. 211 Euer now and now came alle the Knyghtes home that sir Turquyn hadde prysoners. *a* **1641** BP. MOUNTAGU *Acts & Mon.* (1642) 171 God amongst the Pagans did,..now and anon, reveale the mysterie of Christ Jesus. **1884** MISS BRADDON *Ishmael* III. x. 217 Seized now and again with that terrible cough of hers.

b. *Now and* (also † *or*) *then*, occasionally, fitfully, intermittently, at intervals. † Also with *by*.

a **1533** LD. BERNERS *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) O viij, Sometyme on the daie, and nowe and than by nyght, they would walke abrode. **1576** FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 211 *marg.*, Familiar friends vse ieasting nowe and then, in their letters. **1621** I. C. in *T. Bedford's Sin unto Death* A j, The Apothecaries Glasse or Gally-pot..being emptied by now and then of a little. **1628** BYFIELD *Expos. Coloss.* II. v. 16 Tis not enough to doe good now or then, by flashes. **1663** GERBIER *Counsel* g 2 b, This manual doth both now and then proffer a word or two to cherish the Readers patience. **1711** ADDISON *Spect.* No. 130 ¶ 3 These Gypsies now and then foretold very strange things. **1761** MRS. SHERIDAN *Sidney Bidulph* I. 14 The strictness of her notions..now-and-then gave a tincture of severity to her actions. **1802** WORDSW. '*When I have borne in Memory*', What wonder, if a Poet, now and then..Felt for thee as a Lover. **1890** *Spectator* 11 Oct. 474/2 She never took up, except by moments now and then, the legitimate side.

attrib. **1762** LLOYD *St. James's Mag.* 50 Such now-and-then negligences, incidental to all poems of length. **1775** S. J. PRATT *Liberal Opin.* lxxxvii. (1783) III. 147, I have set you down as a now-and-then friend.

c. So *Every now and then* (or *again*).

1720 C'TESS COWPER *Diary* (1864) 152 The King cast so angry Look that Way every now and then. **1769** BURKE *Late St. Nation* Wks. II. 13 It is piteously doleful, nodding every now and then towards dulness. **1802** BEDDOES *Hygëia* II. 42 A sentence which we physicians are doomed, every now and then, to hear. **1865** [see AGAIN 4 b]. **1868** F. E. PAGET *Lucretia* 216 Still, except every now and then, at rare intervals, it was polished. **1883** [see EVERY 1 f].

7. *Now . . . now*, used to introduce antithetical clauses, phrases, or words.

a **1300** *Cursor M.* 24545 Nu i lig and no i stand, Bunden þus in balful band. **1390** GOWER *Conf.* I. 23 Now hier now ther, now to now fro, Now up now down, this world goth so. *c* **1400** MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xiv. 65 Riȝt sodaynely es þare chaungeyng of þe aer, nowe grete calde and now grete hete. *c* **1491** *Chast. Goddes Chyld.* 21 Her thoughtes ben full chaungable now here now there, now so, now thus, like to winde. **1535** COVERDALE 2 *Sam.* xi. 25 The swerde consumeth now one now another. **1567** MAPLET *Gr. Forest* 79 It is now abiding vpon the earth now in the waters. **1620** T. GRANGER *Div. Logike* 258 Now vsed in this sence, now in that. **1697** DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 171 The flying Chariot kindles in the Course: And now a-low; and now aloft they fly. **1741** RICHARDSON *Pamela* I. 21 In this Quandary, now considering, now crying, and not knowing what to do, I pass'd the Time. **1808** SCOTT *Marm.* VI. xxvii, Now low, now high, The pennon sunk and rose. **1883** STEVENSON *Silverado Sq.* 9 A great variety of oaks stood, now severally, now in a becoming grove.

b. So *now . . . then, now . . . and again*, etc.

1593 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI*, II. v. 10 Now, one [is] the better: then, another best. **1600** — *A. Y. L.* III. ii. 437 Now weepe for him, then spit at him. **1634** SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 5 [The weather is] so vncertaine, that now you shall haue a quiet breath and gale, and suddenly an vnexpected violent gust. **1667** MILTON *P. L.* II. 634 Now [he] shaves with level wing the Deep, then soares. **1750** JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 60 ¶ 8 His walk was now quick, and again slow.

8. In phr. *Now or never.*

1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 442 b, Therfore thought they now, or els never, yᵗ God was on theyr side. **1593** SHAKS. 2 *Hen. VI*, III. i. 331 Now Yorke, or neuer, steele thy fearfull thoughts And change misdoubt to resolution. **1648** CRASHAW *Steps to Temple* Poems (1904) 75 Now Lord, or never, they'l beleeve on thee. *a* **1658** CLEVELAND *Rustic Rampant* Wks. (1687) 459 Now or never for the Liberty of the Subject. **1709** STEELE *Tatler* No. 38 ¶ 6 Now or never is the Time. **1855** KINGSLEY *Westw. Ho!* xix, 'Come off, now or never,' cried Amyas. **1860** MOTLEY *Netherl.* IV. 170 Taking the ground that now or never was the time for driving the Spaniards..out of the Netherlands.

II. 9. In sentences expressing a command or request, with the purely temporal sense weakened or effaced. In later use also with ellipse of verb.

c **825** *Vesp. Ps.* ii. 7 And nu, cyningas, onȝeotað. *a* **900** CYNEWULF *Crist* 243 Cum nu, siȝores weard,..& þine miltse her arfæst ywe. **971** *Blickl. Hom.* 19 Cleopian we nu in eȝlum mode & inneweardre heortan. *c* **1200** *Vices & Virtues* 17 Andswere me nu, þu un-ȝesælie saule. *c* **1275** *Passion Our Lord* 1 in *O. E. Misc.* 37 I-hereþ nv one lutele tale þat ich eu wille telle. *a* **1300** *Cursor M.* 11694 Rise vp, he said, and right þe nu. *a* **1400** *Pistill of Susan* 122 Aspieþ nou specialy þe ȝates bene sperde. *c* **1500** *Melusine* 251 Fayre lordes, now lightly on borsback. **1588** SHAKS. *L. L. L.* II. i. 124 Now faire befall your maske. **1610** — *Temp.* III. i. 15 Alas, now pray you Worke not so hard..; pray now rest your selfe. **1617** FLETCHER *Mad Lover* IV. i, Now your Counsels, For I am at my wits end. **1735** BERKELEY *Free-think. Mathem.* Wks. 1871 III. 316 Now, in the name of truth, I entreat you to tell what this moment is. *a* **1814** *Intrigues of a Day* III. i. in *New Brit. Theatre* I. 116 *Mrs. H.* Oh! I insist upon hearing. *Sir J.* Nay, now, my dear cousin. **1872** O. W. HOLMES *Poet Breakf.-t.* vi, No humbug, now, about my boyhood! *Ibid.*, Come now, I don't believe [etc.]. **1893** SIR G. CHESNEY *Lesters* II. xxi, 'Now, Peter, behave yourself'; and again the threatening crop was raised.

b. So *Now then.* (Freq. in mod. use.)

c **1000** *Ags. Ps.* (Thorpe) xxxiii. 8 Fandiað nu þonne; onȝite ȝe þæt Drihten is swyðe sefte. *c* **1485** *Digby Myst.* (1882) III. 1970 Now thanne, yower puer blyssyng gravnt vs tylle! *c* **1500** *Melusine* 238 Now thenne, noble Cousyne, seace your wepyng. **1611** COTGR. s.v. *Or, Or ça*, now then, or goe to. *a* **1700** DRYDEN (J.), Now then be all thy weighty cares away. **1837** DICKENS *Pickw.* xix, 'Keep your eyes open,' said Wardle..'Now then.' **1855** KINGSLEY *Westw. Ho!* xx, 'Now, then,' said Amyas, 'to breakfast'.

10. Used to introduce an important or noteworthy point in an argument or proof, or in a series of statements. Also † *now then.*

c **897** K. ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* xlix. 376 Nu ðonne, ..nu is to onȝietonne æt hu micelre scylde ða bioð befangne. *c* **1000** ÆLFRIC *Saints' Lives* xxvi. 272 Nu cwæð se halȝa Beda, þe ðas hoc ȝedihte, þæt hit nan wundor nys. *a* **1240** *Sawles Warde* in *O. E. Hom.* I. 257 Nu is riht þenne þat we demen us seolf eauer unmihtie to werien ant to witen us. **1340** *Ayenb.* 53 Nou behoueþ to habbe tuo mesures, ane little..and anoþre guode and large. **1426** AUDELAY *Poems* 4 Nou ȝif a woman maryd schal be, Anoon sche schal be boȝt and sold. **1525** in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. III. 75 Nowe, Sir, as God hathe endued your Grace with Christen courauge [etc.]. **1597** HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* v. xix. § 2 Now the principal thing required in a witness is fidelity. **1600** SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* III. iii. 26 Now if thou wert a Poet, I might haue some hope thou didst feigne. **1715** tr. *Gregory's Astron.* (1726) I. 498 Now, the Observation may be made very commodiously, after the following..Method. **1836** DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Our Parish* vii, Now, this was bad enough, occurring as it did three times a week on the average, but this was not all. **1881** JOWETT *Thucyd.* I. 150 Now the Acharnians are famous for their skill in slinging.

b. Inserted parenthetically, or at the end of a clause, with similar force.

c **888** K. ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xviii. § 3 Þeah he nu maran wilniȝe, he ne mæg furðum þæt forðbringan. *a* **1225** *Leg. Kath.* 977 Þis is nu þe derfschipe of þi dusi onsware. *c* **1230** *Hali Meid.* 3 Hwat is nu þis lare þat tu nimest se deopliche? ȝ.. *Cursor M.* 3589 (Götl), Elde es nou a selcuth thing, For all it ȝernis þat er ȝing.

1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* v. vi, I am sure you cannot be in earnest now. **1760** SARAH FIELDING *Ophelia* II. iii, There's a wise young woman, now! **1802** MAR. EDGEWORTH *Moral T.* (1816) I. xv. 130, I should be glad now..to employ you,..but [etc.].

11. Used elliptically in various ways, esp. at the beginning of a clause.

How now?: see How *adv.* 4 b.

c **1450** *Merlin* 501 'Now trewly,' seide she, 'that lady were nothinge wise'. **1579** FULKE *Heskins' Parl.* 75 Nowe to M. Heskins Collections. **1592** LYLY *Midas* IV. i, Now Nymphes, what say you? **1606** SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* v. iii. 98 Doe you heare my Lord?..What now? **1653** WALTON *Angler* ii, Now, now, Ringwood has him. **1680** OTWAY *Orphan* II. iv, Now by my Father's Soul, the Witch was honest. **1764** FOOTE *Mayor of G.* II. i, Now for it, Sneak; the enemy's at hand. **1774** M. MACKENZIE *Maritime Surv.* 59 The Moment the Star touches the same Side of the Plumb-line as before, call out, Now. **1864** J. H. NEWMAN *Apol.* i, And now as to Dr. Whately. I owe him a great deal. **1898** DOYLE *Trag. Korosko* v, That very morning..how pleasant was life!..And now!

12. As *conj.* Since, seeing that; as . . . now.

c **888** K. ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxx. § 1 Forhwy þe haten dysiȝe men mid leasre stemne wuldor, nu ðu nane neart? **971** *Blickl. Hom.* 123 And nu þeos haliȝe tid englum þus healice ..to blisse wearþ, hwæt þonne [etc.]. **1377** LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. v. 143 And now persones han parceyued that Freres parte with hem, þise possessioneres preche and depraue freres. *c* **1400** *Gamelyn* 232 Now I am older woxe, thou schalt me finde a more [shrew]. **1594** MARLOWE & NASHE *Dido* III. i, *Æneas.* I understand, your highness sent for me. *Dido.* No; but, now thou art here, tell me. **1610** SHAKS. *Temp.* III. iii. 15 Now they are oppress'd with trauaile, they..cannot vse such vigilance As when they are fresh. **1702** DE FOE *Shortest Way w. Dissenters* 137 There are some People in the World, who now they are unpearcht, ..begin with Æsop's Cock, to preach up Peace. **1889** 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Robbery under Arms* xli, We'd as good as got a free pardon.., now the police was away.

b. So *now that.*

1530 PALSGR. 645/1, I have notted my heed nowe that sommer is come. **1595** SHAKS. *John* III. iv. 180 'Tis wonderfull, What may be wrought.., Now that their soules are topfull of offence. **1631** GOUGE *God's Arrowes* v. 406 Now that you haue brought me forth..leave me not to shift for my selfe. **1676** TOWERSON *Decalogue* 383 There is not the same reason, now that the world is peopled [etc.]. **1844** MRS. BROWNING *Drama of Exile* 30 Now that the fruit is plucked,..I hold that Eden is impregnable. **1876** *World* V. 9 Is there no new field.., now that the schoolmaster is so fearfully and wonderfully abroad?

III. 13. With preps., as *by, ere, for, or, till, unto, now.*

c **825** *Vesp. Psalter* lxx. 17 Oð nu ic forðseczu wundur ðin. *c* **1200** ORMIN 14066 And tu þe gode win till nu A33 hafesst hidd and haldenn. *a* **1300** *Cursor M.* 12800 Es þou helias halden til nu, Crist or prophet, quam to bu? *c* **1450** *Ibid.* 17785 (Laud), Ye wold nevir yt leve or now. *c* **1450** tr. *De Imitatione* I. xxiv. 35 If þou haddist lyued unto now in worshipes & lustes of þe worlde. *c* **1500** *Melusine* 121 But as for now I shall reste of hym and I shal retourne there. **1592** SHAKS. *Ven. & Ad.* 1062 Her eyes are mad that they have wept till now. **1619** FLETCHER *Mons. Thomas* I. iii, No word of visitation, as ye love me, And for now Ile leave ye. **1860** THIRLWALL *Rem.* (1877) I. 395 Without this, she would have fallen ere now under the blows. **1885–94** R. BRIDGES *Eros. & Psyche* Feb. iv, She is not hence by now six miles at most.

b. *From now* (*forth, forthward, forward*).

a **1300** *Cursor M.* 3758 In dew and gress sere o þorth Sal be þi blissing fra no forth. *Ibid.* 10976 Þou sal be dumb fra nu, Til þat he be born. *c* **1400** *Hampole's Wks.* I. 221 And þou sall lufe gastely ilk a mane, and flee fra now forthwarde to lufe fleschly. **1503** *Surtees Misc.* (1890) 30 John Mitteley & his heires frome now forthe shall wall up..the utter west syde of his swynstye. **1855** KINGSLEY *Westw. Ho!* xvi, I could live very well from now till Doomsday without [etc.]. **1890** *Spectator* 10 May 651/2 The Gladstonians could talk with ease on one line of one clause from now till Christmas.

14. As *sb.* The present time. Also *Comb.*

Gower uses *time now* in the same sense.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 32 To peise now with that beforn, The chaf is take for the corn. *Ibid.* III. 346 Ensamples thou hast many on Of now and ek of time gon. **1549** STRYPE *Eccl. Mem.* 431 The tyme is tourned: then was then and now is now. **1607** SHAKS. *Timon* II. ii. 152 Though you heare now (too late), yet nowes a time. **1631** *Celestina* vii. 97 Now is now, and then is then; when time serves, we will follow your counsell. **1655** FULLER *Serm.* 29 Now is an atome, it will puzzle the skill of an angell to divide. **1854** PATMORE *Angel in Ho.* I. II. x, Where Now and Then are no more twain. **1861** ANGUS *Serm.* 43 Base and profligate now-wasters. *Ibid.* 44 It is only a make-believe of happiness which does not dwell in now.

b. So with *the* or *this.*

1633 FORD *Broken Hrt.* IV. i, Now, uncle, now; this Now is now too late. **1685** DRYDEN *Threnodia* 28 With scarce a breathing space betwixt, This now becalmed, and perishing the next. **1713** ROWE *Jane Shore* III, This present now Some matters of the State detain our leisure. **1771** WESLEY *Wks.* (1872) V. 392 Enjoy the very, very now, by enjoying Him 'whose years fail not'. **1820** SCOTT *Monast.* xxxii, It must be done this very *now*; or it may never be done. **1851** BRIMLEY *Ess.* 183 Plant the great hereafter in the now.

15. A present point or moment of time.

1630 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Flowers of Sion* Poems (1856) 179 Still is the same thy Day and Yesterday An undivided Now. **1692** DRYDEN *Eleonora* 306 We can scarcely say she died; For hut a now did heaven and earth divide. **1751** HARRIS *Hermes* Wks. (1841) 146 If a point or now were extended, each of them would contain within itself infinite ..other nows. **1801** SOUTHEY *Thalaba* I. xxviii, Time is not here, nor days, nor months, nor years, An everlasting now of solitude! **1870** EMERSON *Soc. & Solit.* Wks. (Bohn) III. 71 An everlasting Now reigns in nature.

b. With possessive pronouns.

a **1668** SIR W. WALLER *Div. Medit.* (1839) 146 In this my day, or rather in this my now. *a* **1711** KEN *Preparatives* Poet. Wks. 1721 IV. 7, I oft made solemn vows To consecrate to God my Nows. *c* **1859** LOWELL *Ode to Happiness* 49 Man ever with his Now at strife.

IV. *attrib.* and *Comb.* **16.** In attributive or adjectival use: Present; of the present time.

Very common in the 17th cent.

1444 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 75/1 The estate and possession of the saide nowe Maistur and Brethern. **1486** in Hearne *Collect.* (O.H.S.) I. 262 Dame Kateryn my now wief. **1565** *Child-Marriages* 136 John Olton decessid, father to the nowe plaintiff. **1586** WARNER *Alb. Eng.* III. xv, Thise Irish, sometime Spanish Scotts, of whence our now-Scotts bee. **1600** W. WATSON *Decacordon* (1602) 168 Their now surcease from calling this vsurpate authority in question. **1668** WILKINS *Real Char.* 3 The Latin..(of which the now French, Spanish, and Italian are several off-springs and derivations). *a* **1715** BURNET *Own Time* (1766) I. 357 His second son, the now Earl of Rochester. **1793** BURKE *Corr.* (1844) IV. 147 The dreadful treatment of the now king. **1824** BYRON *Def. Transf.* II. iii. 41 His now escape may furnish A future miracle. **1875** HANNAH W. SMITH *Secr. Happy Life* iv. 47 He has to come to the *now* belief, and say by faith, 'My sins are now forgiven'.

17. *Comb.* **a.** With pa. pples., as *now-accumulated, -borne, -cantoned, -fallen, neglected*, etc.

1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. ii. 845 When valiant Romans warr'd Victoriously, on the (now-Canton'd) Suisses. **1601** SHAKS. *All's Well* II. iii. 186 Whose Ceremonie Shall seeme expedient on the now borne briefe. **1617** A. NEWMAN *Pleas. Vis.* 20 Where may my now-lost honours be? **1725** POPE *Odyss.* XIII. 398 Whose now-neglected altars, in thy reign, Blush'd with the blood of sheep and oxen slain. **1802–12** BENTHAM *Ration. Judic. Evid.* Wks. 1827 I. 583 The now-accumulated stock of experience. **1865** GOSSE

Land & Sea (1874) 354 The position once borne by the now-fallen fronds.

b. With pres. pples., as *now-declining, -existing, -passing, -waning*; and vbl. sbs., as *now-being*.

1612 Drayton *Poly-olb.* x. 252 Such immortall men As this now-waning world shall hardly heare agen. 1830 I. Taylor *Unitarianism* 81 The 'stolid fanaticism' of this now-passing time. 1845 Darwin *Voy. Nat.* xiv. (1873) 297 A great bed of now-existing shells. 1854 Cdl. Wiseman *Fabiola* I. x, Looking at the now-declining moon. 1876 Whitney *Sights & Ins.* vi. 69 It is full of presence..of now-being.

c. With adjs., as *now-big, -full, -Roman*, etc.

1625 [see Novelty *sb.* 2]. 1659 W. Brough *Sacred Principles* Title-p., The doctrine of the Church of England, as differing from the now-Roman. 1660 *Speech to Gen. Monk* 1 Faile not her now-bigg hopes. 1817 Keatinge *Trav.* II. 96 The brightness of the now-full moon.

Hence **Now** *v.*[1] (*nonce-use.*)

1647 Ward *Simp. Cobler* 52 Good Casuists would case it, and case it,..now it, and then it, punctually.

† **Now**, *sb.*[2], obs. Sc. variant of Nōll.

15.. *Christs Kirk* xviii. in *Bann. MS.* 287 Thair durst nocht ten cum him to tak, So nowit he thair nowis. *a* 1585 Polwart *Flyting* 551 Athort his nitty now Ilke louse lyes linkand like a large lint bow. 1721 Kelly *Sc. Prov.* 133 He had need to have a heal Pow, That calls his Neighbour Nitty Know.

† **Now**, *v.*[2] *Sc. Obs.*[−1] [Perh. a var. of *noll*: see Jam. and *E. D. D.*] *trans.* To beat, pummel.

15.. *Christs Kirk* xviii. [See prec.]

Now, obs. Sc. form of New *a.*

Now-a-day, *adv.* [f. Now *adv.* Cf. next and Aday.] = next.

1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 89 Ther ben full manye now aday, That knowen litel what thei meene. *a* 1425 *Cursor M.* 702 (Trin.), Þe sonne was þat tyme we say Seuen sibe brijtere þen now aday. 1530 *Hickscorner* in Hazl. *Dodsley* I. 174 We all may say well-a-way for sin that is now-a-day. 1799 E. Du Bois *Piece Family Biog.* II. 94 Χρυσεα χαλκειων won't do now-a-day. 1801 tr. *Gabrielli's Myst. Husb.* III. 47 To be sure great folks now-a-day look out for grand fortunes! 1837 Whittock *Bk. Trades* (1842) 411 A very humble .. branch of manufactures, receives several names, now a-day, according to the means used.

b. *attrib.*

? 1630 H. R. *Mythomystes* 13 The sore of our now-a-day Poets. 1819 W. Taylor in *Monthly Mag.* XLVII. 118 Horace addicted himself to verse-making (like our now-a-day rimesters). 1866 *Lyndesay's Monarche* (E.E.T.S.) 157 Now-a-day saints compared with those of old. 1898 Baring-Gould *Old Eng. Home* iv. 84, I do not know much about the cupboards of nowaday folk.

c. As *sb.* The present time.

1886 J. R. Rees *Divers. Bookworm* iii. 83 His delightful stand-still is refreshing if only to think of, in the bustling nowaday.

Now-a-days, *adv.* [f. Now *adv.* + Adays 2. Now freq. written without hyphens as one word.]

1. At the present day, in these times.

1362 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. xi. 37 Lecherie and losengrie..beoþ gamus nou A dayes. 1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 291 As men mai finde nou adaies. *a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* (1868) 53 Men of these maners there be now a dayes to mani. 1474 Caxton *Chesse* 30 The lawes nowadayes ben not executed but vpon the poure peple. *a* 1533 Ld. Berners *Huon* lxxxi. 252 Nnw a dayes can not be founde trew frendes as were wont to be. 1583 Stubbes *Anat. Abus.* II. (1882) 19, I cannot but lament the small preferment now adaies that learning getteth in the world. 1611 Bible 1 *Sam.* xxv. 10 There bee many seruants now a daies that breake away. 1658 A. Fox *Würtz' Surg.* II. Introd. 43 Yet have I not related all the abuses which are practised and committed now adayes. 1712 Addison *Spect.* No. 481 ¶ 4 Lacqueys were never so saucy and pragmatical, as they are now-a-days. 1766 Forbyce *Serm. Yng. Wom.* (1767) I. vi. 226 We speak of good housewifery now a days. 1833 Ht. Martineau *Berkeley the Banker* I. i. 21 Guineas are scarce now-a-days. 1893 *Law Times* XCV. 248/1 The Crown has certain privileges which appear somewhat anomalous nowadays.

b. *attrib.*

1609 J. Rawlinson *Fishermen* 32 Such indeed..is our now-adaies religion. 1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 2 Mar. 2/1 These nowadays parsons are just a set of fussing insurance agents.

c. As *sb.*

1645 Milton *Tetrach.* 26 Not partly right and partly wrong,..as Divines of now adaies dare censure them. 1647 tr. *Maloezzi's Pourtract* 94 The Phisitians of now a dayes. 1852 Hawthorne *Wonder Bk.* (1879) 121 In the orchards of nowadays.

2. In variant forms *Now o'* († *of*, or † *on*) *days*.

[1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 59 On daies nou The blinde god.. set the thinges in discord.] *c* 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) xxviii. 128 Þis myracle..schuld stirre Cristen men to be mare denote..þan þai er now on days. *c* 1440 *Alph. Tales* 16 Bod monkis er not so now o dayis. *Ibid.* 73 So it happens oft sithes now-of-dayes. 1535 Stewart *Cron. Scot.* II. 486 Men wald be..meikar als than now on dais tha ar. 1542 Udall *Erasm. Apoph.* 223 Such as our princes & noble menne have nowe of dayes. 1819 *Metropolis* III. 81 No one comes to hear the play now o' days.

So **Now-a-nights**. *rare* −[1].

1847 Fr. A. Kemble *Rec. Later Life* III. 289 Murray's Handbook..and the foreign 'Bradshaw'. These furnish my lullaby now-a-nights.

Nowar(e, variants of Nower, nowhere. *Obs.*

No·way, *adv.* Also 4 na wai, 6 *Sc.* naway, 5 no wey(e. [f. No *a.* + Way *sb.*] In no way or manner; not at all; by no means.

For the phrases *by, in, on no way*, see the sb.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 22250 Ai quils þe frankis kinges es.., o rome..þe dignite Ne mai na wai al perist he. *a* 1425 *Ibid.* 9794 (Trin.), How miȝte þei mon of synne make clene? Certis no wey as hit is sene. 1573 Tvrie *Refut.* in *Cath. Tract.* (S. T. S.) 16 Quhilk ansuer as euerie man may sie is naway to the propos. 1581 Lambarde *Eiren.* I. xi. (1588) 64 No way better shall the Discretion of a Iustice of the Peace appeare. *a* 1648 Ld. Herbert *Hen. VIII* (1683) 340 He protested he was no way faulty in his Allegiance. 1685 Boyle *Enq. Notion Nat.* 173 Divers no-way mortal excrescenses and ulcers in the throat. 1711 Shaftesb. *Charac.* (1737) II. 58 The principle of self-love .. being no-way moderated or restrain'd. 1760–2 Goldsm. *Cit. World* xxii, His learning, his virtues,..were qualifications that no way served to recommend him. 1844 Herschel *Ess.* (1857) 592 Cavendish..is therefore no way to blame for any misconception which may prevail. 1875 Tennyson *Q. Mary* II. ii, I have lived a virgin, and I noway doubt But that with God's grace, I can live so still.

No·ways, *adv.* Forms: *α.* 3 nanes, 4 nan-, 4, 6 *Sc.* na-. *β.* 3 nones, 3, 5 none, 5– no. Also 3 wei(e)s, 4, 7 waies, 5–7 wayes, 4, 6–7 wais, 6 *Sc.* wayis, 4, 6– ways. [Orig. f. gen. sing. of None *a.* and Way *sb.*; in later use only the second element retains its inflection.] = prec.

α. *c* 1205 Lay. 11216 He ne mihte nanes weies [*c* 1275 none weies] cumen to þissere kinericheː *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* 28 Him ne mai ha nanes weis..neauer mare leosen. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 26224 þat mai nanwais elles he Bot men his opin penance see. *c* 1375 *Ibid.* 8742 (Fairf.), Quar-fore me þink..þe childe be na-ways done to ded. 1563 Winȝet *Four Scoir Thre Quest.* Wks. (S. T. S.) I. 67 Quhilk contrare our conscience..we dar naways attempt. 1597 *Sc. Acts Jas. VI* (1814) 128 The samin lykwayes nawayes previt that..article of the said summondis.

β. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 212 Nonesweis ne muwen beo loken þiderward. *c* 1275 [see above]. 13.. *Cursor M.* 17951 (Arundel), Sit may he gete hit no wayes. *a* 1425 *Ibid.* 19652 (Trin.), Nouȝte he ete þo þre dayes, Ny siȝte saw he none wayes. *c* 1550 Cheke *Matt.* ii. 6 Thou art no wais ye lest among ye Princes of Juda. 1648 Gage *West Ind.* 17 No wayes fearfull of the naked Barbarians. 1656 H. Phillips *Purch. Patt.* 114, I no wayes find fault therewith. 1702 *Pennsylv. Hist. Soc. Mem.* IX. 153 They were tied up and could noways appear. 1760–2 Goldsm. *Cit. W.* lxviii, Age, however, has no ways impaired his usual health and vivacity. 1813 Southey *Nelson* I. 119 This was no ways imputable to the admiral. 1887 McNeill *Blawearie* 189 The situation..he was noways loath to accept.

Nowch(e, obs. forms of Ouch, clasp.

† **Now·cin**. *Obs.* Forms: 3 nowcin (neow-, 4 no-), 3–4 noucine. [ad. ON. *nauðsyn* need = MDu. *nootsin, noodzin.*] Hardship, distress.

a 1225 *St. Marher.* 1 His icorne þe deð dreheð for him, oðer eni nowcin. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 2395 In neode & in nowcin. *a* 1240 *Sawles Warde* in *O. E. Hom.* I. 261 Alles cunnes neowcins, ant eorðliche tintreohen. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 5372 He bas saued me and mine Fra mikel nede, and fra noucine. *Ibid.* 5802, I wil þam bring of þair nocin.

Nowd. *Sc.* Also noud, knowd. [Of obscure origin.] (See quots.)

1824 Macтaggart *Encycl., Nouds*, little fish, about the size of herring, with a horny skin, common in the Galloway seas. 1863 *Glasgow Her.* 15 Apr., The poor bird..had, in attempting to swallow a 'nowd', perished in the act. 1890 *Antrim & Down Gloss., Nowd*, the grey gurnard.

Nowder, variant of Nouther, neither.

Nowe, obs. form of New *a.*

Nowed, *a. Her.* [f. F. *noué* (see Nowy *a.*) + -ed [1].] Knotted; tied in a knot.

1572 Bossewell *Armorie* II. 42 Their tayles forked, nowed, resignante. 1610 Guillim *Heraldry* III. xviii. (1611) 153 The field is Gules, an Adder Nowed. *Ibid.* IV. iii. 195 The long strings thereof..Nowed, buttoned, and tasselled. 1661 Morgan *Sph. Gentry* I. iii. 38 An Escarbuncle of eight staves nowed and flowred Topaz. 1739 J. Reynolds *Her.* 9 Ednowain..bore Guls, three Snakes nowed, Azure. 1780 Edmondson *Heraldry* II. Gloss. s.v. *Per close*, Is that part of the garter that is buckled or nowed. 1850 W. D. Cooper *Hist. Winchelsea* 152 On the point a flying dragon ..without legs, tail nowed. 1868 Cussans *Her.* (1893) 97 Serpents may be Nowed, twisted or knotted.

Nowel [1] (nōu·el). Also 5 -elle, 5–6, 9 -ell. [a. OF. *noel, nouel* (mod.F. *noël* Noel), = Prov. *nadal, nadau*, Sp. and Pg. *natal*, It. *natale*:– L. *nātāl-em*, acc. sing. of *nātālis* Natal *a.*]

1. A word shouted or sung as an expression of joy, originally to commemorate the birth of Christ. Now only as retained in old Christmas carols.

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 65 Loude crye was þer kest of clerkez & oþer, Nowel nayted o-newe, neuened ful ofte. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Frankl. T.* 519 Biforn him stont the braun of toskid swyn, And nowel crieth every lusty man. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 13, I pray þe teche me, blessid Seynt sulpice, With þat holy virgyn Prisce, syng nowel. *c* 1450 in Halliw., Therefore let us alle syng nowelle;..And Cryst save mery Ynglond. *c* 1500 *Three Kings' Sons* 192 They cried with a high voice, 'Nowell!' clappyng their handes. *a* 1533 Ld. Berners *Huon* cli. 578 The children rynnynge in the stretes cryenge nowell for ioye.

1887 in *N. & Q.* 7th Ser. III. 168 Nowel! nowel! nowel! Born is a king in Israel. *Ibid.* 291 The first Nowell the Angel did say Was to three poor shepherds. 1894 *Daily News* 8 Feb. 5/5 The child..had been taught the well-known Christmas carol entitled 'The First Nowell'.

† **2.** The feast of Christmas; Christmastide. *Obs.*

c 1450 Lovelich *Merlin* 6870 Ȝe vndirstondyn alle ful wel that now cometh the feste of nowel, jn whiche þe goode Lord was bore. 1599 Thynne *Animadv.* (1875) 40 Placinge ther Christemas, a parte of this tyme of Nowell, for all the tyme that Nowell conteynethe.

Now·el [2], variant of Newel [1].

† **1.** = Newel 1. *Obs.*

1365 [see Newel [1]]. 1388–9 in C. Welch *Tower Bridge* (1894) 71 Twenty great pieces of hard stone from Kent, called noweles. 1416–17 [see Newel [1]]. 1443 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) I. 386 The same Thomas .. and John shall .. make .. xxxij Nowels. .. And they shal haue .. for euery pece of the same Noweles iij. *s.* 1622 *Extr. Aberd. Reg.* (1848) II. 379 Sex scoir four peice of free aisler stanes ..thairof thrie scoir sevin peice long wark for lintellis and nowellis. 1688 Holme *Armoury* III. 112/2 *Nowel*, .. the middle Pillar, or Post of a turning-stair.

2. *Founding.* (See quots. and cf. Niuel.)

1864 Webster, *Nowel*, the core or inner wall of a mold for casting large cylinders. 1879 *Encycl. Brit.* IX. 481/1 A hollow core of iron or brick.., and around it a layer of loam.., forming the 'nowel' or core.

Nowel, obs. Sc. form of Novel *sb.*

† **Nower**, *adv. Obs.* Forms: *α.* 3 neower, neouwar, noware, nowor, 3–4 nowar, 3–5 nower (5 -ere), 4 nour(e, 5 nowr(e. *β.* 3 noȝwer, 4 noȝher, 5 nougher. [Reduced form of ME. *nōhwer* Nowhere *adv.*, or repr. OE. *nāwer* Nawer.] Nowhere.

α. *a* 1050 [see Nowhere *adv.* 1 β]. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 165 *Nusquam tuta fides*..Nis nower non trewðe. *c* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1168 Þu ne myht noware [*v.r.* nowar] atrute. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 2506 Vairor womman nour aboute in none londe nas. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 5083 Þey ne mygþte nower [*v.r.* noure] about, Bot þorow hym, haue issue oute. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 415 Nowar nys founde non so wyȝt. *c* 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) xxviii. 128 Alssone come a þikke mirkness.., so þat þai myȝt nower go away.

β. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Exod.* 1271 He bad him maken siker pliȝt, ..Þat ne sulde him noȝwer deren. 1382 Wyclif *Wisd.* Prol., The booc of Wisdam anent Ebrues noȝher is. *c* 1412 Hoccleve *De Reg. Princ.* 11 No richere man was nougher in no coost.

b. Qualifying *nigh* or *near*.

a 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 2094 Ne schaltu nower neh se lihtliche etsterten. *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* 9 Nis hit nower neh gold al þat ter schineð. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 256/2 Nowre nere, *longe minus, multum citra.*

c. In the combs. **Nower-where, -whither.**

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 1082 His broiþer ded sua wend he dil, Bot he moght nourquar it bil. *Ibid.* 4959 For nour-quider mai we stere, þair will most we suffer here. *a* 1340 Hampole *Psalter* xxxi. 13 That þe enmy fynde nourwhare inlate. *c* 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) xxxii. 147 Þare growez grete plentee of baume and nowere whare elles þat I conthe here off. *c* 1425 *Seven Sag.* (P.) 755 Thay ne durst nower ware goo. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 256/2 Nowre whare, *nullicubi, nusquam, nusquam.*

Nowey, variant of Nowy *a.*

Nowgar, obs. form of Auger.

No·what, *sb.* and *adv.* [f. No *a.* + What, on analogy of *somewhat.*]

† **A.** *sb.* Nothing. *Obs. rare* −[1].

1530 Rastell *Bk. Purgat.* I. ii, There was evermore a thyng or nothyng, somwhat or nowhat.

B. *adv.* Not at all, not in the least.

1651 Fuller *Abel Rediv., Jerome* (1867) I. 31 The malice of his adversaries being no what abated in violence. 1867 Trollope *Chron. Barset* II. 99 Many kisses,..of which she had been nowhat ashamed.

No·when, *adv. rare.* [f. No *a.* + When *adv.*] At no time, never.

a 1767 Lye *A.S. Dict., Na-hwanan*, No when. *Nunquam.* 1884 *Gosp. Divine Humanity* iii. 49 When was the beginning? Nowhen as regards universal existence.

No·whence, *adv. rare.* [f. No *a.* + Whence *adv.*] From no place. (Also with *from*.)

a 1767 Lye *A.S. Dict., Na-hwanan*, No whence. *Nusquam.* 1853 Kingsley *Hypatia* xxv, The homeless Universe falling..for ever from nowhence toward nowhither. 1890 Martineau *Authority on Relig.* I. i. 20 Coming nowhence and going nowhither.

Nowhere (nōu·hwēə[1]), *adv.* Forms: *α.* 1 nahwær, -hwar, 4 naquer, -quhare; 3 nawhar, 4–5 nawher(e, 5 nay-where. *β.* 1 nohwær, 2–3 -hwer, 3 -hwere, -hwar(e; 4 noquar, -quer, 5 noqwere; 3 neowhær, 3–5 nowher, 3–4 -whar, 4– nowhere, 6 noo-, noewhere. *γ.* 3 nohwhar, noþware, 4 noghwhere; 3 nouhwar, 4 nouhewere, nouȝwher (5 -e), 3 nowhwere, *Orm.* nowwhar, 5 nowwhere. [f. No *adv.* + Where *adv.* Cf. Nawer and Nower *adv.*]

1. In or at no place; not anywhere.

α. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 59 Ealle þa ȝewitaþ swa swa wolcn, ..; & ofer þæt nahwær eft ne æteowaþ. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Gen.* xix. 17 Ne þu ne ætstande na hwar on þisum eardе. *c* 1055 *Byrhtferth's Handboc* in *Anglia* VIII. 308 Þæt we nahwar ne gan of laxe. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 16762 + 131 He miȝt not bere vp his hede, Ne nawhar it doun lay. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl.* C. III. 227 He was nawher welcome for hus meny tales. *c* 1475 *Partenay* 1924 A man no better mygbt hit employ nay-where.

β. *a* 1050 *Gregory's Dial.* (1900) 127 'Hwær æton ȝe?' Hi him andswaredon & cwædon 'nohwær' [*v.r.* 'nower']. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 113 He ne scal nohwer ortrowian hi godes fultum. *c* 1205 Lay. 8392 Nes hit nowher itald þat weore nowhar swa muchel mete [etc.]. *c* 1275 *Wom. Samaria* 44 in *O. E. Misc.* 85 No-hwere bute in þe temple. 13.. *Cursor M.* 6047 (Göttt.), Men noquar ne miht se Griss on erde, ne lef on tre. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) V. 297 He..passed nowher his fader bondes. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 12083 He denyet..þat noqwere he knew þat commly be keppet. 1490 Caxton *Eneydos* iv. 20 The..bloode..hath..yssued oute of my body, and nowher ellis. 1521 *Guylforde's Pilgr.* (Camden) 11, I trowe they haue noo where so stronge a place. 1603 Dekker *Batchelors Banquet* (1882) 193 To auoid greater charges..he rests nowhere by the way. 1651 Hobbes *Leviath.* IV. xlvi. 371 Because the Universe is All, that which is no part of it, is Nothing; and consequently no where. 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 164 ¶ 3 Theodosius..had left his Chamber about Midnight, and could no-

where be found. 1797 Mrs. Radcliffe *Italian* Prol., He was nowhere to be seen. 1822 Shelley *The Zucca* 22 Thou, whom, seen nowhere, I feel everywhere. 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 441 There only, and nowhere else, he can find wisdom in her purity.

attrib. 1589 Nashe *Anat. Absurd.* Wks. (Grosart) I. 14 Those worne out impressions of the feyned no where acts, of Arthur of the rounde table. 1889 *Advance* (Chicago) 10 Jan., Had he arrived at his hotel in Detroit, instead of at a nowhere side-hill.

γ. *c* 1200 Ormin 13073, I Crisstenndom mann findenn maȝȝ Hemm alle, & nowwhar elless. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1306 Ne funde we nowhwer nan swa deope ilearet. 1362 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. II. 193 He nas nouȝwher wel-come for his mony tales. 1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 136 And that is noghwhere elles sene Of kinde with non other beste. *c* 1450 *Cursor M.* 17556 (Laud), In Israell bene grete fellis, There is he sothe and now-wher ellis.

b. To no place.

13.. *Cursor M.* 3495 (Gött.), For-þi was he noquer sent, Bot to þe hous ay tok he tent. 1484 Caxton *Fables of Alfonce* xii, She myght not goo nowher. 1720 De Foe *Capt. Singleton* (1906) 37 We were upon a voyage and no voyage, we were bound somewhere and nowhere. 1778 Burney *Evelina* xvi, I never go nowhere without him. 1861 Mrs. Carlyle *Lett.* III. 73 Mr. C. was minded to go nowhere this summer.

2. In no part or passage of a book, etc.; in no work or author. Also *Comb.*

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 160 Nouhware ine holi write nis iwriten of hire speche. 1396–7 in *Eng. Hist. Rev.* (1907) XXII. 296 Þat is .. nowhere ensample in holi scripture. 1594 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* II. vii. § 2 Some men..have in their books and writings nowhere mentioned or taught that such things should be in the church. 1678–9 Prideaux *Lett.* (Camden) 64 The original..of the Roman Empire is noe where better treated of then in this author. 1789 Belsham *Ess.* II. xxxvi. 281 This, however, is..no-where countenanced by Aristotle. 1870 Rogers *Hist. Glean.* Ser. II. 77 This great writer..is nowhere a partisan. 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) III. 280 Sweet sauces are nowhere mentioned in Homer. 1889 R. B. Anderson tr. *Rydberg's Teut. Mythol.* 155 A new, nowhere-supported myth.

3. *Nowhere near* or † *nigh*, not nearly, not by a long way. (Cf. Near *adv.*[2] 6, Nigh *adv.* 12 d.)

1413 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton, 1483) v. xi. 101 Though the dede were nowhere nyghe soo greete, yett is hit a manere of resemblaunce. *c* 1449 Pecock *Repr.* I. viii. 42 Into the contrarie parti is not had nouȝwhere nyȝ so probable..euydencis. *Ibid.* II. xi. 208 Nowhere nyȝ alle men.

4. *Slang.* **a.** *To be nowhere*, to be badly beaten (in a race, contest, etc.); to be hopelessly distanced or ont of the running. Freq. *transf.* (In common use from *c* 1850.)

1755 *Gentl. Mag.* XXV. 153 His powerful deep rate, by which all the horses that ran against him were no-where. 1826 *Sporting Mag.* XVII. 306 Many men were nowhere at the end. 1861 *Illustr. Lond. News* 7 Dec. 569/3 The first cow..was 'nowhere' at Birmingham. 1869 Seeley *Lect. & Ess.* (1870) 22 In the Augustan age democracy was nowhere. 1895 *Athenæum* 14 Sept. 347/3 To the philologist and the student of English literature, it is Oxford first, the rest nowhere.

b. *U. S.* (See quot. 1859.)

1859 Bartlett *Dict. Amer.* (ed. 2) 297 To be nowhere is to be at sea; to be utterly at a loss; to be ignorant. 1868 in De Vere *Americanisms* (1871), When he began to ask me questions about surgery, I was just nowhere, and I can't tell, to save my life, what I said to him.

5. As *sb.* A non-existent place; absence of all place.

1831 Carlyle *Sart. Res.* II. v, How wilt thou..find that shorter North-west Passage to thy fair Spice-country of a Nowhere? 1872 Bushnell *Serm. Living Subj.* 167 It is now become as if all truth were gone out, and night and nowhere had the world.

Hence **No·whereness.** *nonce-word.*

1838 Sterling *Ess.* (1848) I. 150 A dateless no-where-ness of the facts and topics.

†No while, *adv. Obs. rare.* Also 4 na quil(e, quyle. [See While.] For no space of time.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 3124 He began to luf him sua þat he moght na quil him for-ga. 1470–85 Malory *Arth.* X. xviii. 459 There with came Elyas and badde the Kynge yelde vp the castel, for ye maye not hold it no whyle.

No whit, *adv.* Also 7 whitte, *Sc.* quhite. [See Whit *sb.*] Not at all, not the least.

1530 Palsgr. 862/1 No whyt nere done, *pas paracheué de beaucoup pres.* 1556 J. Heywood *Spider & Fly* ii, That nowhit cared I what flie did know it. 1600 J. Porv tr. *Leo's Africa* VII. 294 His son, being no whit inferiour in valour & high courage vnto his father. 1644 Digby *Nat. Bodies* xxxvii. § 3. 321 They are no whitte more extraordinary, then a fawkeners manning of a hawke. 1660 Jer. Taylor *Duct. Dubit.* IV. i. rule 5 § 16 He was very much the worse Man for it, but no whit the worse Painter.

1805 Scott *Last Minstr.* III. iv, But no whit weary did he seem. 1820 — *Monast.* xvi, Considering the bardships of this..gallant knight, no whit mentioning or weighing those we ourselves have endured.

Nowhither (nōʊ·hwiðəɹ), *adv.* Forms: 1 nahwider, 4 -quiþer; 1–3 nohwider, 2 nowider, 3 -weder (nouhwuder), 4 -whyþer, -whider, 5 -whedyr, 6– -whither. [f. No *adv.* + Whither *adv.*] To no place; nowhere.

c 888 K. Ælfred *Boeth.* xxxvi. § 6 Se bið meahtegost þe to him cuman mæg, forðæm he nohwider ofer þæt cuman ne mæg. *c* 960 *Rule St. Benet* (Schröer, 1885) 137 Hy nahwider faraþ butan þæs abbodes ræde. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 424 Nouhwuder elles ne go heo bute þider ase me sent hire. *a* 1300 *Body & Soul* 338 in *Map's Poems* (Camden), Helle houndes here I ȝelle.., ne may I noweder fro him fle. *c* 1375 *Canticum de Creatione* 54 in Hortsm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1878) 125 Wile ȝe nowhyþer gon To seken somwhat to oure fode.

1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 144 Sche ne mai nowhider gon, Ne speke a word. 1471 *Paston Lett.* III. 7 Not to go owght to watyr, nor no whedyr ellys. 1542 Udall *Erasm. Apoph.* 86 He came nowhither without bearyng his porcion of the shot for his repaste. 1611 Bible 2 *Kings* v. 25 And hee said, Thy seruant went no whither. 1681 T. Flatman *Heraclitus Ridens* No. 4 (1713) I. 19, I can go no whither about my Vocation but you hunt me dry Foot I think. 1828–9 Bentham *Offic. Apt. Maximized, Militia* (1830) 9 But from whence, henceforward, is it to come? From no whither, unless it be in a fleet of steamboats. 1853 [see Nowhence]. 1872 Swinburne *Under Microscope* 1 The human intellect must still as of old go limping and blinking on its way no-whither. 1890 [see Nowhence].

Hence † **Nowhitherward(s.** *Obs. rare.*

1154 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1137, He ne myhte nowider wardes ne sitten ne lien ne slepen. 13.. *Cursor M.* 4959 (Gött.), Naquiþer-war may we nu stire, þair will bihouis vs suffre here. 1890 [see Nowhence].

Nowise (nōʊ·wəis), *adv.* Forms: *α. Sc.* 5 na-vis, -vyse, 6 -uyse, -vyis, 5–6 -wyse, 6 -wise. *β.* 5 no-wyse (*Sc.* -wis), 7– nowise. [f. No *a.* + Wise *sb.*] In no way or manner; not at all.

α. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* VI. 594 Ryn eftir hym,..And let hym na-vis pas ȝow fra. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xli. (*Agnes*) 292 Þar bad stil amarentia, þat nawyse wald fra hyr grawe ga. 1581 Burne *Disput.* in *Cath. Tract.* (S. T. S.) 131 The benediction..is nauyse practised in your deformet kirkis. 1598 *Sc. Acts Jas. VI* (1814) 173 His hienes subjectis..sall navyis pretend ony excuiss.

β. 14.. *Tundale's Vis.* 296 Þei mey no wyse from me þe lede. 1487 *Barbour's Bruce* IV. 214 Now may I no wis forthir ga. *a* 1677 Barrow *Serm.* Wks. 1687 I. 466 Thereby no-wise to impair or obscure..the glories of his sovereign dignity. 1735 Berkeley *Free-think. Mathem.* § 24 Wks. 1871 III. 313 The smallness of the practical error nowise concerns it. 1761 Hume *Hist. Eng.* xlviii. III. 40 *note*, A prelate nowise complaisant to the court. 1818 Colebrooke *Import. Col. Corn* 154 It does nowise follow that ingenuity is unlikely to devise other means. 1884 *Law Rep.* 9 App. Cases 76 The exemption of the Crown..is nowise dependent upon the local or imperial character of the rate.

Nowk, Nowl(e, Nowlt, obs. ff. Nook, Noll, Nowt. **Nowmber, -bre, -byr,** obs. ff. Number. **Nowmel,** obs. f. Numble. **Nowmer, -yr,** obs. ff. Number. **Nowmpere, -powre,** variants of Noumpere *Obs.* **Nown(e,** obs. ff. Noun.

† **Nown(e, n'own,** obs. variants of Own *a.*, through wrong division of *myn own, thyn own*; afterwards used also with *your, her*, etc.

See also Own *a.* 1 *e*, and cf. Nain *a.*

c 1400 *Song Roland* 639 Wit it thy nown werk. 1482 *Monk of Evesham* (Arb.) 44 Helpe me that for myn nowne propyr synnys am yn desperacyon. *a* 1553 Udall *Royster D.* I. iii, Well sowed,..And een as well knitte, my nowne Annot Alyface. 1622 Breton *Strange News* Wks. (Grosart) II. 7/2 Fathers darling and mothers nowne childe. 1681 T. Flatman *Heraclitus Ridens* No. 45 (1713) II. 37 Upon further Examination, I found 'em to be the Ape's nown Poetry. 1762 *Gentl. Mag.* 288 Bussed with a smack her nown good man. 1790 R. Tyler *Contrast* I. i, Maria, like a good girl, to keep herself constant to her nown true-love, avoided company.

b. Used without preceding pron. or genitive.

1603 Breton *Packet Mad Lett.* II. lx, Nowne Loue, and kinde soule, I thanke thee. 1673 Dryden *Marr. à la Mode* III. ii, And did I wrong n'own Rhodophil, with a false suspicion? 1691 Shadwell *Scowerers* I. i, Some wise lecture from nown daddy.

† **Nowne,** obs. variant (see N. 3) of Oven.

c 1450 *Two Cookery Bks.* 73 Put hem into a Nowne til þei be a litull hard.

Now·ness. *rare.* [f. Now *adv.*] The quality of being always present.

1674 N. Fairfax *Bulk & Selv.* Contents, The Doctors objection against the Nowness of eternity answer'd.

Nowns, variant of Nouns.

Nowpe, obs. variant of Nope[1].

Nowre, obs. form of Hour; variant of Nower.

† **Nowse,** ? obs. variant of Noose *sb.*

1592 Kyd *Sp. Trag.* IV. iv, See, here's a goodly nowse will hold them all.

Nowsel, obs. form of Nuzzle *v.*[2]

Nowt (nɑʊt). *Sc.* and *north dial.* Forms: *α.* 3 *Orm.* nowwt, 5 nowyt, 6 nowit, nowlt, 5, 8–9 nowte, 5– nowt; 2, 5, 7 noute (3 neute), 6, 8–9 nout (9 knout). *β.* 5 naute, noyt, 6 noote, note. [a. ON. *naut* (Norw. *naut*, Sw. *nöt*, Da. *nöd-*), = OE. *néat* Neat *sb.* See also Nolt.]

1. *pl.* Cattle, oxen.

a. c 1200 Ormin 15558 He fand i þe temmple þær Well fele menn þatt saldenn Pærinne baþe nowwt & shep. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xl. (*Ninian*) 1121 Of nowt, schepe, hors and ky. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 3823 Camels and mules, And out of nounbre of nowte. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* VIII. 1059 Bestiall, as hors and nowt. 1533 *Acc. Ld. H. Treas. Scot.* VI. 139 To deliver certane nowit and hors agane. 1565 *Wills & Invent. N. C.* (Surtees, 1835) 237 To Isabell Lysle my nece foure kye and foure yownge nowlt. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* Prol. 7 Grene bankes,..quhilkes are verie conuenient to feid horse or nout. 1725 Ramsay *Gentle Sheph.* I. i, Nine braw nowt were smoor'd. 1786 Burns *Inventory* 37 Wee Davock hauds the nowt in fother. 1819 W. Tennant *Papistry Storm'd* (1827) 109 Tossin' our heads..Like Hannibal's fire-puttin' nowt. 1881 *Blackw. Mag.* Apr. 521 He rode to market to drive hard bargains over his 'nowt'.

β. c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* I. (*Catherine*) 37 Þe raryng & þe bere of noyt & schepe. *c* 1420 *Sir Amadace* (Camden) xxxiii, Hors and naute, shepe and sqwyne, A-way thay drafe and bare. 1525 *State P. Hen. VIII*, IV. 371 The said Erle hath also wonne thirty score noote,..and many good horses. 1544 *Ld. Hertford's Raid* (1798) 14 A great nomber of cattel, bothe note and shepe.

2. *sing.* An ox, a bullock.

a 1400–50 *Alexander* 4744 Vmquile he noys as a nowte, as a nox quen he lawes. 1595 Duncan *App. Etym.* (E.D.S.) 71 *Mugio*, to rowt like a nowt. *c* 1620 A. Hume *Brit. Tongue* (1865) 27 A horse, an hundred horse; a noute, ten noute. 1875 W. McIlwraith *Guide Wigtownsh.* 137 Every day in the year a Galloway nowt was killed. 1883 J. Martin *Old Haddington* 103 He blew through a 'nout's' horn.

b. *transf.* A stupid, coarse, or clumsy person.

1806 Black *Falls of Clyde* 195 You ugly nowt! Swithe! frae my sight, ye filthy ragged cowt! 1898 Crockett *Standard Bearer* x, A great, strong, kindly, hard-driving 'nowt' of a man.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *nowt-foot, -head, -horn*; *nowt-doctor, -man*; *nowt-beast, -market*, etc.

For further illustration see the *Eng. Dial. Dict.*

1657 in Holmes *Pontefract Bk. Entries* (1882) 54 Burroughe of Pontefract..Nautmarkett. *a* 1685 Sempill *Blythsome Wedding* vii, Callour nout-feet in a plate. 17.. *Humble Beggar* in Herd *Sc. Songs* (1776) II. 29 A meikle nowt-horn to rout on had he. 1790 Grose *Prov. Gloss.* Suppl., Nowt-foot oil. 1808 Jamieson s.v., It is used in composition for an individual of the kind, as a *nowt-beast*. 1824 Mactaggart *Encycl.* s.v. *Cammshell*, It is reduced by nowt doctors to a fine powder, and blown through the hollows of quills into cattles' eyes. 1862 *Luck of Ladysmede* I. 194 Out upon thee, nowt-head! hast no more sense than to leave the poor brutes out in a wild night like this? 1871 W. Alexander *Johnny Gibb* (1873) 120 He had first visited the 'nowt market' at the top of the brae, and cheapened several stirks. 1883 *Longman's Mag.* Apr. 646 The cattle or 'nowt' man ..receives about twelve or thirteen shillings per week.

b. *Nowt-geld*, a rent-payment in cattle, or a tax levied on cattle, formerly in use in the north of England. Cf. Cornage.

a 1180 in *Victoria Hist. Cumbld.* (1902) I. 316 *note*, Noverit paternitas vestra me dedisse..Deo..vi. vaccas in perpetuam elemosinam reddendas anno omni quo meum Noutegeld debuerit fieri. 1200 *Rotul. Chart.* (1837) 50/1 Danegeld, & neutegeld & horngeld. 1688 Hickes *Dict. Island.* s.v. *Gelld, Nowt-gelt*, tributum pro pecore solutum. 1825 Brockett *N. C. Gloss.*, Nout-geld, Neat-geld, cornage rent, originally paid in cattle–horn tax. 1872 E. W. Robertson *Hist. Ess.* 134 Nowt-geld or Cornage appears both as an obligation and as a tenure.

c. *Nowt-gowan*, (*a*) the Horse-gowan or Ox-eye Daisy; (*b*) the Corn-Marigold. *Sc.*

1844 H. Stephens *Bk. Farm* III. 943 The great white ox-eye, or nowt-gowan,..and the yellow nowt-gowan.

Nowt(h, dial. and obs. forms of Nought.

† **Now·the,** *adv. Obs.* Forms: 1 nuþa, 1–2 nuða, 2–3 nuþe, 3 nuðe, 3–4 nouþe (4 noþe), 3–5 nouthe, 3 nowþe, 5 nowthe; 3 nouþ, 4–5 nouth. [OE., f. *nú* Now, and *þá, ðá* Tho *adv.* In common use from *c* 1200 to 1400.] Now.

Beowulf 427 Ic þe nuða brego beorht-dena biddan wille ..þæt [etc.]. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Hom.* I. 182 He astah up to heofenum, and þær sitt nuða mid his balgum. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 15 Nẽ scalt þu ȝelden vuel onȝein uuel nuða. *Ibid.* 25 Ic nuþe eow tellen wulle. *c* 1205 Lay. 29863 Lusteð nuðe alle Whæt ich sugge wulle. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 4195 Þat noble mayde..Þat ichabbe nouþe riȝt here ybured. *c* 1320 *Sir Beues* 3632 Goþ and wendeþ hennes nouþe. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 227 Þe comyn fame telleþ þat he is at Durham nowþe, wiþ Seynt Cuthbert. *c* 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 537 Cudberth of Dereham, he sayde, ychame þat telle þe nowthe of þis casse.

Nowther, variant of Nouther.

Now·t,herd. [f. Nowt *sb.*] = Neatherd.

c 1330 *Newminster Cartul.* 259 Gylbertus dictus noutherd. *c* 1440 *Alph. Tales* 254 Þe kyngis nowte-hard come home with his catell. *Ibid.*, Þis nowterd & his wife. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 257/1 A Nowthyrde, *armentareus*. 1530 Palsgr. 248/2 Noetherde or bulherde, *bouvier*. 1691 Ray *N. C. Words* (ed. 2), A Note-heard; a Neat-heard. 1818 Hogg *Brownie of Bodsbeck* viii, There was wee Willy the nout-herd. 1882 J. Walker *Jaunt to Auld Reekie* 9 Across the rigs the nowtherd drags the rake.

attrib. 1641 Best *Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 119 Wee must pay noutheard-wages, and sesses, and layes; the noutheard-wages weare (for every beast) 2*d.*

Hence **Now·therdship.** *rare.*

1592 in *Northumbld. Gloss.* (1894) s.v., Paid to Mr. Marmaduke Thirlekill..for the nowtardshipp of this towne. 1596 in Welford *Hist. Newcastle* III. 96.

Nowy (nōʊ·i), *a. Her.* Also 6 -ey. [ad. OF. *noé* (mod.F. *noué*), pa. pple. of *noer, nouer*:—L. *nōdāre*, f. *nōdus* knot.]

† **1.** = Nowed *a. Obs. rare*—[1].

1562 Legh *Armory* 100 He beareth a Serpent nowey.

2. Having a small semicircular projection, *esp.* at the centre of a partition line, or (in a cross) at each of the points where the arms meet.

1562 Legh *Armory* (1597) 35 Hee beareth Geules a Crosse nowye degraded fitche Argent. 1688 Holme *Armoury* III. xv. (Roxb.) 30/2 He beareth Azure, an Anchor reuersed, the Nutt (or Nowy) in the midle of the Beame or Arme. 1868 Cussans *Her.* (1893) 48 The lines by which a shield is divided..may assume any of the following forms: Engrailed, Invected,..Nowy. *Ibid.* 62 The Cross Nowy has the angles formed by the conjunction of its limbs rounded outwards. All the varieties of the Cross may be Nowy or Quadrate.

b. *Nowy quadrate.* (See quot. 1868.)

1868 Cussans *Her.* (1893) 62 The Cross Quadrate, or Nowy-Quadrate, has its centre square, instead of round. 1894 *Parker's Gloss. Her., Cross*, Nowy quadrate .. is applied when the projections appear to form a square.

So **Now·yed** *a.*, 'a term applied to a projection not in the centre of a cross but in one of its branches' (Cassell, 1886).

† Nowyr, obs. form (see N. 3) of HOUR.

a 1450 *Fysshynge w. Angle* (1883) 9 Let hyt boyle softly halfe a nowyr.

‖ Nox [1] (nɒks). [L.] Night. (Chiefly *poet.*)

1567 TURBERV. *Ovid's Ep.* Q viij, Forging dolefull plaints that Nox hath runne her race. *a* 1593 GREENE *Alphonsus* IV, Darksome Nox had spread about the earth Her blackish mantle. 1810 SIM in *Harp of Perthshire* (1893) 95 Nox had spread his sable sark Owre the Creation. 1844 CARLYLE *Let.* in *Westm. Gaz.* (1901) 12 Aug., All books ever written upon him..belong to the realm of Nox and Erebus.

† Nox [2], obs. form (see N. 3) of OX.

a 1400–50 *Alexander* 4744 As a nox quen he lawes. *c* 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 1912 Hurre thouȝt..þat a nox went þreyȝe abouȝte alle þat. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 49/1 A Buse for a noxe.

No·xal, *a. Civil Law.* [ad. L. *noxālis*, f. *noxa* hurt, damage.] Relating to damage or injury done by a person or animal belonging to another.

Noxal action (see quots. 1775 and 1880). *Noxal surrender*, the compensatory surrender to the plaintiff of the slave, animal, etc., by which the injury was done.

1605 DANIEL *Queen's Arcadia* III i, I ouer-whelm My practise too with darknesse and strange words, With..Codicilles, Acceptilations, Actions recissorie, Noxall, and Hypothecall. 1775 HALLIFAX *Rom. Law* (1795) 94 In case of an Offence committed by a Slave, and of Damage done by a Beast, the Master of the Slave and Owner of the Beast were liable to be convened, by what was called a Noxal Action. 1880 MUIRHEAD *Gaius* IV. § 75 In respect of the wrong-doing of *filiifamilias* and slaves, as when they have committed theft say, or personal injury, noxal actions have been provided. 1903 JENKS in *Law Q. Rev.* Jan. 24 The practice of noxal surrender of animals prevailed in Flanders until the sixteenth century.

Hence **No·xally** *adv.*, by way of noxal surrender.

1880 MUIRHEAD *Gaius* I. § 141 It is not for any long time that persons are detained in this condition,..unless they have been mancipated noxally.

† No·xial, *a. Obs. rare.* In 6 -iall(e, -yall. [Irreg. f. L. *nox* + -IAL. Cf. obs. F. *noctial* (Godef.).] Nocturnal.

a 1500 *Pol., Rel., & L. Poems* (1866) 43 Whan Reste And slepe y shulde haue noxialle, As Requereth bothe nature and kynde. 1503 HAWES *Example Virtue* XII. CCXXXVII, Depryuynge the noxyall derkenes. *a* 1568 in *Dunbar's Poems* (S.T.S.) App. xi. 31 To the superne eternall regioun, Quhair noxiall skyis may mak no sogeorn.

Noxious (nɒ·kʃəs), *a.* Also 7 noctious. [ad. L. *noxius*, f. *noxa* hurt, damage.]

1. Injurious, hurtful, harmful; unwholesome.

1612 WOONALL *Surg. Mate* Wks. (1653) 387 The adjacent parts being freed from many noxious humours thereby. 1650 BULWER *Anthropomet.* 221 Many would have it an unprofitable excrement and of a noxious or hurtful quality. 1671 MILTON *P. R.* IV. 460 Being oft times noxious where they light On man, beast, plant. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 121 ¶ 1 That seeming Sagacity in Animals, which..makes them naturally avoid whatever is noxious or unwholsome. 1752 HUME *Ess. & Treat.* (1777) I. 157 The body, full of noxious humours, feels the torment. 1837 M. DONOVAN *Dom. Econ.* II. 87 The liver is always given to the dogs, and that may possibly be the noxious part. 1880 HAUGHTON *Phys. Geogr.* IV. 199 It blows over the whole island steadily, a cold noxious wind.

† 2. Guilty, criminal. *Obs. rare.*

1623 COCKERAM I, *Noxious*, guilty. 1652 GAULE *Magastrom.* 171 Whether Magicians and Astrologers be..noxious or guilty of a diabolical compact and commerce. 1656 BRAMHALL *Replic.* iii. 130 No man or Society of men can be justly punished..because they are noxious, unless they be noxious in the eye of the Law.

Hence **No·xiously** *adv.*, in a noxious manner; injuriously, perniciously.

1755 in JOHNSON. 1811 BYRON *Let. to Dallas* 21 Aug., A most decided atheist, indeed noxiously so. 1879 M. ARNOLD *Mixed Ess., Democracy* 24 That which operates noxiously in the one, may operate wholesomely in the other.

No·xiousness. [f. prec. + -NESS.] The quality or state of being noxious or injurious.

1654 H. L'ESTRANGE *Chas. I* (1655) 7 That there was any intrinsique noxiousnesse in it..I am yet to be convinced. 1691 T. H[ALE] *Acc. New Invent.* 42 This suggestion of the noxiousness of Lead to Iron-work. 1777 ROBERTSON *Hist. Amer.* VII. (1778) II. 338 The peculiar noxiousness of its climate has prevented Porto-bello from increasing in the same proportion. 1862 G. WILSON *Relig. Chem.* 29 Conferring the character of noxiousness to vegetable and animal life.

Noy, *sb. Obs.* (exc. *dial.*). Forms: *α.* 4 nuy, 4–5 nuye, 5 nue. *β.* 4 noiȝe, noyȝe, 4–5, 7 noye, 5 noie, 4–6 (9) noy. *γ.* 4 niye, 4–5 nye, 5 ney. [Aphetic form of *anuy*, *anoy* ANNOY *sb.*] Annoyance, trouble.

α. *c* 1320 *Cast. Love* 442 For pees hi-leueþ in no londe Wher þer is werre, nuy and onde. *c* 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 3538 Thurgh nuyes and angers sere. 1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 140 Afturnes and dyssesis. *a* 1450 MYRC 120 Lest afterwarde hyt do the nuye.

β. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 183 To slo doun & to stroye,..bei left for dede no noye. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* I. 4 Þis shall ever last wiþout irkyng or noye. 1436 *Libel Eng. Policy* in *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 182 Wee shulde hem destroy, As prysoners wee shulde hem brynge to noy. 1490 CAXTON *Eneydos* xiv. 50 For alle debates to accorde..and to brynge alle noyes atte an ende. 1536 BELLENDEN *Cron. Scot.* (1821) I. 138 Galdus, be noy of the woundis gottin in this last battall, was sa wery, that [etc.]. 1598 TOFTE *Alba* (1880) 27 Banisht from Mirth, and Bondslaue vnto Noy. 1611 FLORIO, *Noianza*, annoyance, noye, trouble. [1819 W. TENNANT *Papistry Storm'd* (1827) 188 Whose shadows 'tween them and the sky Forebodit noucht but noy.]

γ. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1002 Alle nazt so much niye hade no mon in his hert. *Ibid.* 1376 To neuen þe noumbre to much nye were. 14.. *Sir Beues* (C) 1965 þe patriark sawe his gret nye. *c* 1440 MYRC *Festial* (E.E.T.S.) 197 To don Thomas al þe nye and þe gref þat he cowth.

Noy, *v. Obs.* (exc. *dial.*). Forms: *α.* 4 nuiȝe, 4–5 nuye, 5 nue, nve. *β.* 4 noyȝe, noȝe, 4–7 noye, 4–6 noie, 4– noy. *γ.* 4–5 nye, 5 ney. [Aphetic form of *anuye*, *anoye* ANNOY *v.*; perhaps also partly repr. OF. *nuire*, *noire*:—pop. L. **nocĕre*, L. *nocēre* to injure.]

1. *trans.* To annoy, trouble, vex, harass; to harm or injure.

α. *c* 1300 *Beket* 198 Azen the lithere conteccours that Nuyede him of his lyve. *c* 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 1184 Many he nuyes and fon avayles. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. IV. 437 An aunter hit nuyede me, non ende wol ich make. 1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 165 Vf harme is befall to any man,..hit me touchyth and nuyth.

β. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 789 þanne fond he non þat hym noyed. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 307 þing þat moost noyeþ þis ship ben felle flodis of þis world. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 2591 Hit meuys into myand, & mekill me noyes. *c* 1470 HARDYNG *Chron.* VI. i, So stronge then was this generacion, None durst it noye. 1523 CROMWELL in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) I. 37, I ymagyn with myself whiche wayes they myght take to noy our enemyes most. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 623 The Citezens..manfully defended themselues, and sore noyed and hurt their enimies. 1602 J. DAVIES (Heref.), *Mirum in Modum* xxxiv, So violent each Sense her virtue bindes, And noyes, or ioyes the Mind in diuerse kindes.

1829 BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Noy*, to vex, to trouble—to annoy. Not now in use, Dr. Johnson says. As a Northern word it is quite common.

γ. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1603 When nabugo-de-nozar was nyed in stoundes. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn't.* 1575 With hym þen irked Alle þe burnez so bolde .. To nye hym onferum. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 771 (Dubl.), þe nowmbre of sir nicholas it neyt me to rekyn. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) I. 407 But the infortuny of flesche nyouthe theim moche.

b. Used impersonally, and const. *with* or *at*.

a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* cvi. 18 Thaim noyed with godis worde. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 6613 þe lede vppon lyue leuyt he þen, And nolpit to another, þat hym noiet at.

2. *refl.* and *intr.* To vex oneself, to grieve.

c 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 823 Noy you noght at his note, that nobill is to nevin. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* II. 498 Ilk da by da he studeit moir and noyit. 1587 GROVE *Pelops & Hipp.* (1878) 13 The case of this my child, her selfe which noyeth so.

3. *absol.* To cause annoyance or harm.

c 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 4395 þe devels þat er now bunden swa, þat þai may noght..nuye als mykel als þai walde. *c* 1400 tr. *Secreta Secret., Gov. Lordsh.* 76 Also it noyeth mekyl, to renne after mete, or ryde mekyll. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 49 Grawntynge to us the eytynge of flesche, that noyethe not. 1534 MORE *Treat. Passion* Wks. 1348/2 If nothing auaileth, but ouer that it sore noyeth and hurteth. 1573 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 19 He noieth, destroieth, and al to this drift, to strip his poore tenant.

b. Const. *to* a person.

c 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 5 If þe pope be..vnprofitable & slow in his dedis,..þat more noyeþ to him & alle oþer. *a* 1485 FORTESCUE *Wks.* (1869) 488 On the other side their inyquyte may noye to every man. 1512 *Helyas* in Thoms *Prose Rom.* (1828) III. 71 As he that had the grace of God with him to whom none may noy.

Hence **Noyed** *ppl. a.*

1587 GROVE *Pelops & Hipp.* (1878) 26 Ther was not..a wight that felt such greefe as now I feele, or had such cause to wayle his noyed life.

‖ Noyade (nwaiyad), *sb.* [F., f. *noyer*:—L. *necāre* to put to death (in late L., to drown).] The execution of persons by drowning, as practised by Carrier at Nantes in 1794.

1822 *Blackw. Mag.* XII. 13 They choked their rivers with their *noyades*. 1835 MACAULAY *Ess., Mackintosh's Hist. Revol.* (1897) 320 Then came..revolutionary tribunals, guillotinades, noyades, fusillades. 1878 SEELEY *Stein* I. 163 No guillotine was to be set up..; the Oder, Spree and Weichsel were to see no noyades.

transf. 1819 J. ADAMS *Lett.* Wks. 1850 II. 334 *note*, The Mohawks, who were concerned in the noyade of the tea in Boston harbor.

Hence **Noyade** *v.*, to put to death by drowning; also **Noyading** *vbl. sb.*

1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* III. v. vi, Sounds of fusillading and noyading. 1839 — *Chartism* v. 141 Lyons fusilladings, Nantes noyadings. 1844 TH. PARKER in Weiss *Life & Corr.* I. 225 The wretched Terrorists .. guillotined, and noyaded, and mitrailled, I know not how many.

† Noyals. *Obs. rare.* [a. F. *noyales* (pl.), from the place of manufacture, *Noyal* in the department Ille-et-Vilaine.] (See quots.)

1662 *Irish Stat.* (1765) II. 410 Noyals canvas the hundred ells. 1721 C. KING *Brit. Merch.* I. 181, 17000 Hund. of Vitry and Noyals Canvas.

† Noy·ance. *Obs.* Also 4–6 noyaunce, 6 noiance. [Aphetic form of ANNOYANCE.]

1. A source of annoyance; a nuisance.

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 3444 Longe lastede þat ilk distaunce, To þe brebere gret noyaunce. 1534 in W. H. Turner *Select. Rec. Oxford* (1880) 124 They..doe use to reforme all common noyaunces. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* IV. (1586) 179 Whereby the winde..may dry vp all Cobwebbes, or such like noiances. 1639 G. DANIEL *Ecclus.* xliii. 55 Soe, for the Summer's Sun (noyance as great) A gentle Dew falls, to allay the heat. 1670 J. SMITH *Eng. Improv. Revivʼd* 99 That the distance of them be such, that every Tree be not a noyance..to his fellows.

2. The condition or fact of being annoyed, troubled, or harmed.

c 1400 *Brut* clxi. 180 Kyng Edward dede his diligence..to amende þe noyaunce of þe commune peple. 1494 *Act* 11 *Hen. VII*, c. 13 Preamble, The Price..[is] greatly enhansed here, to the Loss and Noyance of all the King's Subjects. 1502 *Ord. Crysten Men* (W. de W. 1506) II. vii. 102 Slouthe the whiche is an beuynesse and noyaunce to doo well. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 165 Other coynes of mettall went among the people, to their great noyaunce.

3. The action of annoying or troubling; annoyance, molestation.

1431 *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 279 In disturblyng and noyaunce of the compeanye. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 193/2 She was sore aferd leste he wold do to her ony gryef or noyance ayenst her avowe. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. ccxix. 282 We shall go and do hym some noyaunce and domage. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. i. xxiii, A cloud of cumbrous gnattes doe him molest,..That from their noyance he no where can rest. [1748 THOMSON *Cast. Indol.* I. vi, Whate'er smack'd of noyance, or unrest, Was far, far off expelled.]

So **† Noy·ancy.** *Obs. rare*—[1].

1414 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 59/1 Mischiefs that mighten..turne to gret prejudice to the kyng, & noiancie to al the Reume.

† Noy·ant, *a. Obs.* [Aphetic f. OF. *anoyant*: cf. NOY *v.*] Injurious (to); causing annoyance.

c 1400 tr. *Secreta Secret., Gov. Lordsh.* 79 Drynkyng of cold water fastynge, byfore mete, ys noyant þe body. *c* 1410 ASHBY *Dicta Philos.* 699 Al suche thing noyant to your high estate Eschewe al wey. 1550 in Strype *Stow's Surv.* (1754) II. v. xxii. 421/1 Sea coal, Dust, Rushes or any other thing Noyant. 1582 in W. H. Turner *Select. Rec. Oxford* (1880) 422 Ordure, rubbysh, carreine, or any other thinge noyant.

‖ Noyau (nwaiyo). Also **noyeau.** [F., repr. earlier *noyal*, *noial*, *nuial*, etc.:—pop. L. **nucale*, f. L. *nuc-*, *nux* nut.] A liqueur made of brandy flavoured with the kernels of certain frnits.

1797 CANNING *Rovers* II. ii, This cherry-bounce, this loved noyau, My drink for ever be. 1818 MOORE *Fudge Fam. Paris* 161 Your Noyeaus, Curaçoes, and the devil knows what. 1842 ORDERSON *Creoleana* XX. 245 You will..venture to sip the noyeau. 1882 *Cornh. Mag.* Jan. 86 A glass of noyau and still more cakes.

Noych(e, obs. forms of OUCH, clasp.

† Noy·er. *Obs.*—[1] [f. NOY *v.*] = ANNOYER.

1573 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 29 The north is a noyer to grasse of all suites, The east a destroyer to herbe and all fruites.

† Noy·ful, *a. Obs.* Forms: 4 noiȝe-, 4–6 noye- (5 nuye-), noi-, 4–7 noyful; also 4–5 -fulle, 5–7 -full. [f. NOY *sb.* + -FUL.]

1. Annoying, troublesome, tiresome; also, harmful, hurtful, noxious.

1382 WYCLIF *Luke* xi. 7 Nyle thou be noyful to me. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XI. iii. (Bodl. MS.), þe norþeren winde..is noifulle to ham þat haue tesike. 1435 *Coventry Leet Bk.* (E. E. T. S.) 3 Oct., As the mater of this bille is grevous & Nuyefull to the comen pepull. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 299 b/1 Opene my woundes lest ony noyeful humour corrupte..the hyd passions. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. ccclvi. 575 It is noyfull to me to recorde it. 1584 COGAN *Haven Health* ci. (1636) 100 Declaring their noyfull qualities in appeyring of nature. *a* 1618 J. DAVIES *Commend. Poems* Wks. (Grosart) II. 20/1 To be fore-pinde..In many a noyfull stoure of willing bale.

2. Annoyed, vexed. *rare.*

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) V. 331 After sixe and twenty 3ere of Cerdicus his comyng, Arthur was wery and noyeful. *Ibid.* VI. 57 þe kyng of strange tonge was greved and noyful,..and brouȝte yn bnoþer [bishop] of his owne longage.

Hence **† Noy·fully** *adv.*; **Noy·fulness** *sb. Obs.*

1395 PURVEY *Remonstr.* (1851) 46 Settinge noiefully in thraldom that that holi scripture settith profitabli in fredom. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* VIII. xiii. (1495) 320 By nighnes of eyther sterre his noyfulnesse is tempred.

† Noy·ing, *vbl. sb. Obs.* [f. NOY *v.* + -ING [1].] Annoyance, harm, injury.

1474 CAXTON *Chesse* (1883) 144 They ought to requyre theyr passage..wyth oute noynge and contencion. 1511 *Guylforde's Pilgr.* (Camden) 54 Saffely assuryd from noyeng of any beste. 1548–77 VICARY *Anat.* v. (1888) 37 The cause why he taketh that Pannicle, is to keepe him from noying.

† Noy·ing, *ppl. a. Obs.* [-ING [2].] That annoys or vexes; vexatious; injurious.

a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* i. 3 A tre þ[t] is profitabile til many & noyand til nane. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* x. vi. (Bodl. MS.), He..streyneþ and bindeþ nuy ynge rennyng of rewmne. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* xlviii. 217 Grace of withestondynge of noynge þynges. 1505 *Berwick Reg.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) *Var. Collect.* I. 7 Defaultes..noynge and paynfull unto the Kinges lieges and all other strangers.

Noyl, variant of NOIL.

† Noy·ment. *Obs.*—[1] [f. NOY *v.*] Annoyance.

1502 ARNOLDE *Chron.* (1811) 211 So that it be not to the noyment of any neybur.

Noynyng, obs. variant of NOONING.

† Noy·ous, *a. Obs.* Forms: 4–5 noyus, 4–7 -ous, 5–6 -ouse, 5 -ows(e, -ose, *Sc.* -us, 5–6 noyes (5 -is); 5 noiose, 5–6 noious (6 -ouse); 5 nuous, nvous, 6 nuyouse. [Aphetic form of *cnoyous*, etc., ANNOYOUS *a.*] Causing annoyance; vexatious, troublesome, etc.

a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* XXXVII. 15 Here noyus wordis and 3eld not agayn. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* III. 1504 (Harl.), Lat in 3our herte no noyouse fantasie So crepe, þat it cause me to die. *c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 55 Per is no þing more noious to a wounde. 1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 212 Profitable as an hors, nuous as a mows. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* XVII. viii. 701 That yeldyng, sayd they, shal be noyous to yow. 1533 MORE *Apol.* 86 b, Suche as are..euyle, and nought, and noyouse vnto the comen well. 1576 BAKER *Jewell of Health* 10 b, Howe noyous and hurtfull such a vapour and savour is. 1634 LEVETT *Ordering of Bees* 13 Those noyous and filthy things being

taken away. 1675 Huyberts *Corner-Stone* 11 Divers medicines which at the first usage..were exclaimed against ..as noyous and hurtful to the king's subjects.

Hence † **Noy·ously** *adv. Obs.*

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 256/1 Noyovsly, *nocue*. 1641 Baker *Chron.* (1653) 359 Hounseditch..till that time, had lien very noyously to all travellers that way.

† **Noyra** : see Newry. *Obs.*

1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* v. xii. 429 As for fowles, they haue abundance of Parrots and Noyras, more pleasing in beautie, speech and other delights then tbe Parrot.

Noysance, -ant, varr. of Noisance, -ant. **Noys(e,** obs. ff. Noise, Nose. **Noysom(e, -sum,** obs. ff. Noisome.

Noyt, *v. Sc.* [Of obscure origin. In mod. use commonly written *knoit*.] To strike, rap.

15.. *Christs Kirk* xix. (Maitl. MS.), Thair durst na ten cum him to tak, Sa noytit he thair nowis.

Nozel, variant of Nuzzle *v.*[2] *Obs.*

Nozzel, obs. variant of Norsel.

Nozzle (nɒ·z'l), *sb.* [f. Nose *sb.* + -le.] Forms: *α.* 7–9 nosle, nosel, 7–8 nossel. *β.* 7–9 nozle, 7–8 nozel, 8 nozzel, 8– nozzle.

1. A socket on a candlestick or sconce, for receiving the lower end of the candle; also, a part projecting from the socket (quot. 1608). Now *rare*.

α. 1608 Willet *Hexapla Exod.* 593 Euery socket had *rostrum in vna parte*, a certaine nosle hanging out. 1657 W. Coles *Adam in Eden* cclix. In fashion like unto the Nossel of a wooden candlestick. 1714 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5282/9 A Nosel for a Candle. 1847 Halliw., The nosle of a candlestick is that part which holds the end of the candle.

β. 1682 Wheler *Journ. Greece* v. 398 A Stem, formed like a Nozel, or Socket of a Candlestick. 1741 Arbuthnot & Pope *Mem. Mart. Scriblerus* iii, A paultry old Sconce, with the nozzle broke off. *a* 1764 Lloyd *Candle & Snuffers* Poet. Wks. 1774 II. 133 A candle stuck in flaring state Within the nozel of French plate. 1791 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 8 A pair of silver snuffers and stand, and two candlestick nozzles.

2. A small spout, mouthpiece, or projecting aperture; a short terminal pipe or part of a pipe, such as the nose of a pair of bellows, the muzzle of a gun-barrel, etc.

α. 1683 Salmon *Doron Med.* II. xx. 570 The Top thereof [a stove] may be firm Tin, with a nossel or pipe in it, like that of a pair of Bellows. 1702 Savery *Miner's Friend* 44 Taking away his Thumb, he by directing the Nosle to the Fire immediately extinguishes it. 1787 *Phil. Trans.* LXXVIII. 46 Icicles, adhering to the nosel of the cock.

β. 1684 tr. *Bonet's Merc. Compit.* III. 98 A Pipe being tied to the nozle of a pair of Bellows. 1764 *Mus. Rusticum* III. lxvii. 304 At every fathom distance there should be wooden nozels. 1825 J. Nicholson *Operat. Mechanic* 261 A wooden plug may be chained to the pump, betwixt the spouts or nozles. 1844 H. Stephens *Bk. Farm* II. 208 The nozzle that leads from the steam-pipe is stopped with a wooden plug. 1894 Curzon *Probl. Far East* 246 Boards upon which are painted the nozzles of imaginary cannons.

b. Applied to various parts of a steam-engine, *esp.* the steam-port, or the part of the cylinder enclosing this, and the exhaust-pipe or the adjustable end of this.

1839 R. S. Robinson *Naut. Steam Eng.* 34 On one side of the cylinder, and cast with it, are two square projections called nosles, which enclose within them the steam ports. 1848 Alban *Steam Eng.* 257 *note*, By some mechanics these parts of the engine are called nozzles, a corruption of nose-holes. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1535/1.

attrib. 1895 *Model Steam Eng.* 84 This is regulated by the size of the aperture at the nozzle end of the boiler.

3. *slang.* The nose.

1771 Smollett *Humph. Cl.* 18 Apr., His..face was overshadowed by this tremendous nozzle. 1854 'C. Bede' *Verdant Green* II. iv. 31 That'll take the bark from your nozzle. 1863 Speke *Discov. Nile* 271 But Bombey, showing his nozzle rather flatter than usual, said 'No; I got this on account of your lies'.

4. A small nose or beak; a projecting part or end.

1850 Grote *Greece* II. lx. VII. 408 Instead of having one single beak, the Corinthian ship might be said to have three nozzles. 1874 Bedford *Sailor's Pkt.-Bk.* v. 108 Each buoy, exclusive of the nozzle, is to be divided horizontally into four, and vertically into eight equal parts.

5. Special combs., as **nozzle-block** (see quot.); **nozzle-face** (see quot.); **nozzle-man,** a man in charge of the nozzle of the hose of a fire-engine, or that of a suction- or other pipe; **nozzle-pipe** = Nozzle 2; **nozzle-plate** = *nozzle-face*; **nozzle-screw,** a nozzle having a screw-thread cut on it.

1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1535/1 *Nozzle-block, one in which two bellows-nozzles unite. 1846 A. Young *Naut. Dict.* 298 Within the casing, at the top and bottom of the cylinder, are the two *nosle-faces, which are square plates of brass raised upon the cylinder, one round each of the steam-ports, for the valve-plates to slide upon. 1885 T. A. D. *Where Chineses Drive* 139 One of the rest acted as *nozzle-man to direct the jet. 1893 *Times* 10 July 13/6 There are to each such suction pipe, when in operation, one weigher, and one nozzle-man in the ship's hold and two boys. 1816 Accum *Chem. Tests* 245 If the flame have a cavity through it, the aperture of the *nozzle-pipe is too large. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1535/1 *Nozzle-plate, a seat for a slide-valve of a steam-engine. 1839 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* IV. 195/1 The aperture through which the *nozzle-screw is to pass.

Hence **No·zzle** *v. trans.*, to fit *with* something after the manner of a nozzle. **No·zzler,** *slang,* a blow on the nose.

1866 J. B. Rose *Virg. Ecl. & Georg.* III Some to the young the mother's teats forbid, And nozzle with sharp spikes the calf and kid. 1828 *Sporting Mag.* XXII. 198 In the ninth round Bob received a nozzler drawing claret.

Nozzle, variant of Nuzzle *v.*[1]

† **Npnam,** variant of *nam* Nam *Obs.*

1362 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. VII. 226 Seruus nequam hedde npnam, and for he nolde hit vsen [etc.].

Nshiego : see Jocko.

Nu, obs. form of New *a.* and Now.

‖ **Nuance** (nūi·ā̃ns). [F. *nuance* shade of colour, etc., f. *nuer* to shade, f. *nue* cloud :—pop. L. **nuba* for classical L. *nūbēs*.]

1. A slight or delicate variation or difference in expression, feeling, opinion, etc.

1781 H. Walpole *Let. to C'tess Ossory* 4 Jan., The more expert one were at *nuances*, the more poetic one should be. 1846 H. Greville *Diary* (1883) 165 The English and French difference on the Spanish question is considered as serious by people of every political *nuance*. 1873 Symonds *Grk. Poets* VIII. 255 Much of the obscurity..arises from our having lost the finer *nuances* of Athenian feeling respecting the persons satirized in the old Comedy.

2. A shade of colour; a slight difference or variation in shade or tone.

1856–7 Geo. Eliot *Sc. Clerical Life* II. iv, Whose face Nature seemed to have coloured in a hurry, and had no time to attend to *nuances*. 1879 A. J. C. Hare *Story Life* (1900) V. xx. 160 Her rooms were draped with every possible nuance of colour which can harmonise together.

3. A delicate gradation in musical expression.

1879 Grove *Dict. Mus.* I. 171 Comparatively careless as to the right notes being played, but angry..at any failure in expression or nuance. 1885 *Athenæum* 7 Feb. 192/3 Some numbers were splendidly given..The *nuances* were also observed to a remarkable degree.

Nub (nʊb), *sb.*[1] Also 7, 9 nubb. [app. a variant of Knub *sb.*]

† 1. = Knub *sb.* 3. *Obs. rare.*

1594 *Cecil Papers* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) IV. 574 Silk nubbs, 700 *li.* 1640 in Entick *London* (1766) II. 178 Silk nubs, or husks of silk. 1759 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 182 The duties now payable upon raw short silk or capiton, and silk nubs, or husks of silk, shall..cease.

2. A knob or protubcrance; a lump.

Common in dialect use in various applications. '*Nub*, the neck' in the *Dict. Cant. Crew* (*a* 1700) may belong here, but cf. Nub *sb.*[2]

1727 Bradley *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Garden fences*, That when the Tree is quite fixed, the Nub or Bottom of the Stem, above the Division of the Roots, may be rather above the Surface then even with it. 1760 *Boston Gaz.* 5 May 4/3 Strayed away,..a black Mare..,has..two small Nubs on the near Flank. 1859 Bartlett *Dict. Amer.* (ed. 3) 297 *Nub*, a knob. 1864 Webster, *Nub*, a jag, or snag; also a knob, a protuberance. 1866 *Fortn. Rev.* Jan. 617 People..have very feeble notions of the difficulty that every nub of coal represents. 1893 G. D. Leslie *Lett. Marco* XXVIII. 191 The ground is alive with little nubs and noses poking through.

3. *U. S.* The point or gist of a story or matter.

1859 Bartlett *Dict. Amer.* (ed. 3) 297 The nub of a story is the point or gist of it. 1889 'Mark Twain' *Yankee at Crt. of K. Arthur* xvii. 176 When the nub was sprung, the assemblage let go with a horse-laugh. 1899 *Scribner's Mag.* XXV. 105/2 It's the nub of the whole matter.

† **Nub,** *sb.*[2] *Obs. Cant.* [Cf. Nub *v.*[2]] The gallows.

a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew* s.v. *Glim*, As the Cull was Glimm'd, he gangs to the Nubb, [i. e.] if the Fellow has been Burnt in the Hand, he'll be Hang'd now.

Nub, *v.*[1], var. of Knub *v.* 2. (Cf. Nubble *v.*)

c 1610 *Grobiana's Nuptialls* (MS. Bodl. 30) lf. 24 b, I tooke him a polt of the pate...I nubb'd his noddle.

† **Nub,** *v.*[2] *Obs. Cant.* [Cf. Nub *sb.*[2]] To hang (one) by the neck; to execute by banging.

1673 R. Head *Cant. Acad.* 16 Tbe other was (nub'd) hang'd, and the last (marrinated) transported. *Ibid.* 191 They are rub'd, Up to the Nubbing-Cheat, And there they're nubb'd. *a* 1754 Fielding *Jonathan Wild* IV. ii, We shall be both nubbed together. I'faith, my dear, it almost makes me amends for being nubbed myself, to have the pleasure of seeing tbee nubbed too.

Hence † **Nu·bbing** *vbl. sb.*, hanging.

a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew.*

Nub-berry. *Sc. rare.* = Noop[1].

1794 *Statist. Acc. Scotl.* XIII. 243 Upon the top of this hill, grows a small berry, commonly called the Nub Berry.

Nu·bbin. *U.S.* [f. Nub *sb.*[1]] A dwarfed or imperfect ear of maize.

1847 in Webster. 1897 Gen. H. Porter in *Cent. Mag.* Aug. 591 Well,..that's the littlest nubbin I ever did see.

Nu·bbing-cheat. *Cant.* [f. *nubbing* Nub *v.*[2] + Cheat *sb.*[1] 3.] The gallows. Now only *arch.*

1673 R. Head *Cant. Acad.* 94 Tbey are..sent to the Nubbing cheat. 1745 Fielding *Tom Jones* VIII. xii, 'I will shew you a way to empty the pocket of a queer cull, without any danger of the nubbing cheat.' 'Nubbing cheat,' cries Partridge, 'Pray, Sir, what is that?' 'Why that, Sir,' says the stranger, 'is a cant-phrase for the gallows.' 1816 Scott *Woodst.* XXXVI, We trine to the nubbing cheat to-morrow. 1834 Ainsworth *Rookwood* (1864) 313, I fear Dick will scarce cheat the Nubbing-cheat this go. 1902 *Blackw. Mag.* May 704/2 They pay the last debt at the nubbing-cheat.

So † **Nu·bbing-cove,** the hangman; † **Nu·bbing-ken,** 'the Sessions-house'.

a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew.*

Nubble (nʊ·b'l), *sb.* [dim. of Nub *sb.*[1] Cf. *knubble, knobble*.] A small knob or lump.

1818 J. Brown *Psyche* 171 Counting the nubbles and the dints That form the cornice. *a* 1845 Hood *To Henrietta* 23 That a *corne* is not the nubble that brings trouble to your toes. 1860 Piesse *Lab. Chem. Wonders* 42 A nubble of iron ..dissolves in it like sugar does in water. 1897 Kipling *Capt. Cour.* 14 A piece of dingy ticking full of lumps and nubbles.

† **Nu·bble,** variant of Knubble *v.*

1676 *Verney Fam. Mem.* (1899) VII. 223 Sr Fr. [Vincent].. beate him [Ld. Pembroke], threw him downe in ye kennell, nubbled him & dawb'd him daintily. 1715 N. Bailey *Erasm. Colloq.* 462, I..took him hold by the Hair with my left Hand, and nubbled him so well-favouredly with my Right, that you could see no Eyes he had for the Swellings.

Nu·bbling. *dial.* [f. Nub *sb.*[1] or Nubble *sb.*] A small lump of coal.

1825 Lamb *Refl. Pillory* in *Eliana* (1867) 141 Cinders are dear, gentlemen. This nubbling might have helped the pot boil. 1847 Halliw., *Nubblings*, small coal. *Worc.* 1876– in dial. glossaries (Oxf., Worc., Warw.).

Nu·bbling-chit, late var. of Nubbing-cheat.

1836 Mahony *Relig. Father Prout* ix. *Songs France* 269 When he came to the nubbling chit, He was tucked up so neat and so pretty. 1841 'Bon Gaultier' in *Tait's Edin. Mag.* VIII. 223 The faking boy to the crap has gone, At the nubbling-chit you'll find him.

Nubbly (nʊ·bli), *a.* [f. Nubble *sb.* + -y[1].]

1. Having numerous small protuberances; knobby, lumpy. (See also Knubbly.)

1829 Hood in *The Gem* 181 A large order was sent for nubbly sofas and crooked chairs. 1844 — *Mrs. Barrage* Wks. 1862 VI. 345 Her nose nubbly and red as a rosebud. 1871 L. Stephen *Playgr. Eur.* (1894) vii. 156 Four of us were packed between a couple of nubbly rocks. 1881 Blackmore *Christowell* III. iii. 49 Ungainly, nubbly fruit it was. *Comb.* 1879 F. W. Robinson *Coward Consc.* I. iv, A stout, nubbly-faced, white-haired man.

transf. 1864 *Daily Tel.* 27 Oct., By enduring the nubbly and poignant anguish of those flint-stones.

2. Having the form of small lumps.

1845 Hood *The Storm*, Quick, some coal, some nubbly pieces. 1864 *Guardian* 21 Dec., Bright black nubbly antimony. 1894 Fenn *Real Gold* 80, I hope it's going to be my luck to get just a few nubbly bits for myself.

So **Nu·bby** *a.* (In southern dial. and *U. S.*)

1876 Leveson Gower *Surrey Provinc., Nubly*, cloddy, of land that breaks up in clods or lumps.

‖ **Nubecula** (nĭubē·kĭulă). Pl. **-culae.** [L. *nūbēcula* little cloud, dark spot, dim. of *nūbēs* cloud. So F. *nubécule*.]

1. *Path.* a. A cloudy formation in urine.

1699 Woodward in *Phil. Trans.* XXI. 197 Large thin Masses, appearing like Nubeculæ, or Clouds in the Water. 1744 tr. *Boerhaave's Lect. The. Physic* III. 149 The Nubeculæ or Clouds proceed chiefly from the muriatic Salt. 1857– in Mayne *Expos. Lex.*, and later Dicts.

b. A speck or small cloud in the eye.

1727–38 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v., The nubecula seems to arise from certain gross particles detained in the pores of the cornea, or swimming in the aqueous humour. 1758 J. S. *Le Dran's Observ. Surg.* (1771) Dictionary, *Leucoma*, a Disease of the Cornea, called also Albugo, Nubecula. 1859– in Worcestea and some later Dicts.

2. *Astron.* One or other of the Magellanic Clouds.

1842 *Penny Cycl.* XXII. 449/2 There is no account of the celebrated Nubeculæ (major and minor), two very large patches of Milky Way not far from the south pole. 1855 H. J. S. Smith in *Oxford Ess.* 128 We can feel no absolutely insuperable difficulty in admitting, within the globe of Nubecula Major, of the presence of distinct stars as well as nebulae.

Nubelus, obs. form of Nubilous.

Nubia (nĭū·bĭă). [Irreg. f. L. *nūbēs* cloud.] A soft fleecy wrap for the head and neck, worn by women.

1881 *Confessions of a frivolous Girl*, Emerging therefrom, five minutes later, in my nubia and snowy wrap. 1885 Van Voorst *Without a Compass* 34 The bracelet of a lady ..became entangled in tbe nubia of Agnes.

Nubian (nĭū·bĭăn), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. med.L. *Nūbiān-us*, or f. med.L. *Nūbia*, f. L. *Nūbæ*, Gr. Νοῦβαι, the name of the people.]

A. *adj.* 1. Pertaining or belonging to the country of Nubia.

1727–46 Thomson *Summer* 819 Down the Nubian rocks.. he pours his urn. 1790 Bruce *Trav.* IV. VIII. x. 523 What figure the Nubian breed would make in point of fleetness is very doubtful. 1845 *Encycl. Metrop.* XXII. 558/1 The Nubian language..seems to bear no affinity to the Koptic or Ancient Egyptian. 1871 P. Smith *Anc. Hist. East* VII. § 12 (1881) 125 The Nubian eye, more elongated than the Egyptian, is still seen in the *Shangallas*.

2. In the specific names of certain animals.

1879 *Encycl. Brit.* X. 709/2 The Nubian Goat, which is met with in Nubia, Upper Egypt, and Abyssinia. 1881 *Trans. Zool. Soc.* II. 235 In the male Nubian Giraffes..the posterior horns..were less firmly attached to the skull than they were in the full-grown Cape Giraffes. 1896 tr. *Boas' Text-Bk. Zool.* 517 The Domestic Cat..is apparently a descendant of the Nubian Wild Cat.

B. *sb.* † 1. *pl.* An Eastern sect of Christians.

c 1400 *Three Kings Cologne* 146 þes men be noȝt holde in so grete reuerence as þe Nubyans, for þei kepe noȝt þe feith so trewlich as þei do.

2. A native of Nubia; a Nubian slave.

1788 Gibbon *Decl. & F.* xlvii. IV. 562 A wandering tribe of the Blemmyes or Nubians invaded his solitary prison. 1813 Byron *Giaour* xv, Such is the tale his Nubians tell. 1836 *Brit. Cycl. Lit., Hist.*, etc. III. 143/1 The Nubians.. have the thick lips..of the negro race. 1884 *Encycl. Brit.* XVII. 611/2 Ethnologically the modern Nubians are therefore to be considered as a very mixed people.

3. A Nubian horse.

1790 Bruce *Trav.* IV. VIII. x. 523 If beautiful and symmetrical parts, great size and strength,..can promise anything for a stallion, the Nubian is..the most eligible in the world.

4. The language spoken by the Nubians.

1855 LATHAM in *Trans. Philol. Soc.* 91 The languages spoken on the water-system of the Nile;—Coptic, Bishari, Nubian,..Amharic, &c.

5. A kind of black dress-material.

1899 *Daily News* 8 Apr. 9/1 Some of the moirettes and the new Nubian make good substitutes. The latter is, however, only in black.

Nubiferous (niūbi·fĕrəs), *a.* [f. L. *nūbifer*, f. L. *nūbēs* cloud: see -FEROUS.] Cloud-bringing.

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Nubiferous*, that brings or carries clouds, cloudy. 1829 T. HOOK *Bank to Barnes* 160 The wind blowing east-by-east, which is a most nubiferous quarter. 1862 HOLMES *Old Vol. Life* (1891) 65 But let us sit awhile with nubiferous, or, if I may coin a word, nepheligenous accompaniment.

Nu·biform, *a. rare.* [f. as prec.: see -FORM.] Having the form of a cloud; cloud-like, vague.

1874 RUSKIN *Val D'Arno* (1886) 6 The more or less spectral, hooded, imaginative, and nubiform authority of the Pope and Church.

† **Nu·bilate,** *ppl. a. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [ad. pa. pple. of L. *nūbilāre*: see next.] Clouded.

c 1510 BARCLAY *Mirr. of Gd. Manners* (1570) B v, O howe oft hath hid truth and simple veritie Lurked vnder ymage of falshood nubilate.

Nubilate (niū·bile·it), *v.* [f. ppl. stem of L. *nūbilāre*, f. *nūbila* (neut. pl.), f. *nūbēs* cloud.] *trans.* To cloud; to obscure; to render less clear or transparent.

a 1691 AUBREY *Wilts.* (MS. Royal Soc.) lf. 100 (Halliw.), About the beginning of March, 1660, I bought..a Turkey-stone ring; it was then wholly serene; toward the end of the moneth it began to be nubilated. 1730 BAILEY (folio), *To Nubilate*, to make cloudy. 1801 W. TAYLOR in *Monthly Mag.* XI. 646 Reinhard's [perspicuity], strong as it is, has been somewhat nubilated in the school of Kant.

Hence **Nubila·tion,** cloudiness. *rare*⁻¹.

1874 COUES *Birds N.W.* 613 Various degrees of this dusky nubilation approach in some specimens nearly to the uniform dusky below characterized.

Nubile (niū·bil), *a.* [ad. L. *nūbilis*, f. *nūbĕre* to marry, or a. F. *nubile* (= It. *nubile*, Sp. and Pg. *nubil*).]

1. Of females: Marriageable; of an age or condition suitable for marriage.

a 1642 EGLISHAM *Forerunner of Revenge* 12 Buckinghams Neece was not yet Nubile in yeares. 1718 PRIOR *Solomon* I. 97 The Cowslip smiles, in brighter yellow dress'd, Than that which veils the nubile Virgin's Breast. 1789 *Charact.* in *Ann. Reg.* 18 They..feed when they become nubile on a diet somewhat like forced-meat balls. 1849–52 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* IV. 1340/2 Hindoo women would gradually come to consist of such as by constitution are early nubile. 1879 W. L. LINDSAY *Mind in Lower Anim.* 468 Preference or choice in the selection of mates by the nubile females.

fig. 1873 BROWNING *Red Cott. Nt.-cap* III. 708 On the day when Spring's green girlishness Grew nubile and she trembled into May.

2. Of age: Admitting of, suitable for, marriage.

1831 *Blackw. Mag.* XXIX. 425 The female slaves were, at a nubile age, as numerous as the males. 1889 J. M. DUNCAN *Clin. Lect. Dis. Wom.* xxi. (ed. 4) 170 Twenty to twenty-five years is the best nubile age of women.

† **Nubilé,** *a. Her. Obs.* [a. obs. F. *nubilé*, pa. pple. of *nubiler*.] = NEBULÉ.

1661 MORGAN *Sph. Gentry* I. v. 54 The Martlet is the Honour point, the Nubile line is the exact Fess point, the Swan the exact Midde base.

Nubi·lity. [f. prec. + -ITY: cf. F. *nubilité* (1750), It. *nubilità*, Sp. *nubilidad*.] Capability for marriage. (Properly on the part of females.)

1813 W. TAYLOR in *Monthly Rev.* LXXI. 131 When the age of nubility approached. 1857 BULLOCK tr. *Cazeaux's Midwifery* 82 Its first appearance..constitutes one of the earliest signs of puberty or nubility. 1889 D. J. MATTHEWS *Clin. Lect. Dis. Wom.* xxi. (ed. 4) 169 The old and wisest counsels as to the nubility of men and women.

Nubilo·se, *a. rare*⁻⁰. [Cf. next.] 'Full of clouds, cloudy' (Bailey, folio, 1730).

Nubilous (niū·bilŏs), *a.* Now *rare.* Also 6 *Sc.* **nubilus, -elus.** [ad. late L. *nūbilōs-us*, or f. L. *nūbilus*, f. *nūbēs* cloud. Cf. It., Sp., and Pg. *nubiloso*, F. *nubileux*.]

1. a. Cloudy, foggy, misty. b. = NEBULOUS 2.

1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* II. 526 And all the lift baith dirk and nubelus, Perturbit wes with cloudis mervelus. 1536 BELLENDEN *Cron. Scot.* (1821) I. 139 The air was nubilus and donk. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Nubilous*, full of clouds, cloudy, stormy, tempestuous. 1671 R. BOHUN *Wind* 223 The radiant, sanguine, pallid, nubilous, or other Appearances of the Sun. 1739 E. CARTER tr. *Algarotti Newton's Theory* (1742) I. 164 Some nubilous Stars, on being viewed with a Telescope, appear to be a Cluster of innumerable other Stars. 1820 *Examiner* 634/1 A nubilous atmosphere. 1823 *Ibid.* 186/2 A blue and nubilous sky.

2. *fig.* Obscure, indefinite.

1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* III. xiv. (S. T. S.) I. 302 To mak þe mater..sa dirk and nubilus, þat na thing salbe sene clerelie in it quhat suld be done. 1817 T. L. PEACOCK *Melincourt* xxxi, Pointing out innumerable images of singularly nubilous beauty. 1861 *N. Brit. Rev.* Nov. 382 The mass of the people..entertained the most vague and nubilous notions with regard to the state of the soul after death.

Nubi·vagant, *a. rare*⁻⁰. [f. L. *nūbivagus*.] 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Nubivagant*, passing through or among clouds.

‖ **Nubk.** [var. of *nabk*, *nebk* NEBBUK.] The lote-tree (*Zizyphus Lotus*). Also *attrib.*

1873 TRISTRAM *Moab* xviii. 347 Under a thorny nubk-tree. 1874 FARRAR *Christ* II. lx. 381 *note*, The nubk..struck me ..as being the most suitable for mockery and pain, since its leaves are bright and its thorns singularly strong. 1899 *Harper's Mag.* Feb. 359 Will the nubk grow on the grounds of the Temple?

Nuca, obs. form of NUCHA.

Nucal (niū·kăl), *a.* [ad. late L. *nucālis*, f. *nuc-*, *nux* nut.] Of or pertaining to a nut.

1892 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

Nu·cament. *Bot. rare.* Also 7 *erron.* **nug-.** [ad. L. *nucāmentum* (Pliny), f. *nuc-*, *nux* nut.] An amentum, a catkin.

1633 JOHNSON *Gerarde's Herbal* III. xl. 1353 Of this sort [of pitch-tree] there is found another that..remaineth dwarfish, and it carries certaine little nugaments or catkins of the bignesse of a small nut. 1657 TOMLINSON *Renou's Disp.* 230 Leaves accuminated like nucaments. 1819 *Pantologia* VIII, *Nucament*, in botany, the same with ament.

Nu·camenta·ceous, *a. Bot.* [See prec. and -ACEOUS.] Resembling a small nut; having the hardness of a nut; also, indehiscent.

1830 LINDLEY *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 258 Fruit capsular, valvular, seldom indehiscent, somewhat nucamentaceous. 1845 — *Sch. Bot.* vi. (1858) 107 Fruit nucamentaceous, composed of two or four nucules in a state of adhesion.

So **Nucame·ntous** *a.* (Smart, 1840.)

† **Nuce,** obs. variant of NOOSE *sb.* 1.

1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 107/2 A particular Nuce of Pack-thrid. *Ibid.* xv. (Roxb.) 30/1 The nuce or eye of the cabell which holds the anchor is called the clinch.

‖ **Nucellus** (niuse·lŏs). *Bot.* [mod.L., app. intended as a dim. of *nucleus*.] The essential part of an ovule, containing the embryo-sac.

1882 VINES tr. *Sachs' Bot.* 487 That part of the ovule in which the embryo-sac arises (the nucellus) must be considered the equivalent of the macrosporangium. 1887 BENTLEY *Man. Bot.* (ed. 5) 329, Fig. 738 Ovule of the Mistletoe..consisting of a naked nucellus.

Nu·ceous, *a. rare*⁻⁰. [ad. L. *nucens*, f. *nuc-*, *nux* nut.] 'Of or pertaining to a nut.'

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* (Hence in later Dicts.)

‖ **Nucha** (niū·kă). *Anat.* Also 5 **nuca.** [a. med.L. *nucha*, a. Arab. نخاع *nukhāʿ* spinal marrow. Hence also It., Sp., and Pg. *nuca*, F. *nuque* NUQUE: see also NUCHE, NUKE.] † a. The spinal cord. *Obs.* b. The nape of the neck.

c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 24 Alle þe cordis þat comen of þe brayn & nucha [*v.r.* nuca]. *Ibid.* 29 þe senewe þat comeþ fro þe brayn & þe nucha [*v.r.* nuca]. 1576 NEWTON *Lemnie's Complex.* (1633) 194 They doe very well, which keepe their Nucha and nape of their neckes warme. 1661 LOVELL *Anim. & Min.* 50 The decoction of a Fox.., used as an embrocation to the nucha and paralytick part, helpeth the same. 1726 FREIND *Hist. Physick* II. 315 Those from the 6th and 7th pair, which arise from the brain and the *Nucha*, serve for its voluntary motion. 1768 PENNANT *Brit. Zool.* (1776) I. 139 Nucha, the hind part of the head. 1878 HAMILTON *Nerv. Dis.* 211 Rollet has used the cautery even in the last stages, applying it from the nucha to the sacrum, and with good effect.

Nuchal (niū·kăl), *a. Anat.* [f. prec. + -AL. Cf. F., Sp., and Pg. *nucal*.] Of, belonging or pertaining to, the nucha or nape of the neck.

1835 KIRBY *Hab. & Inst. Anim.* I. x. 303 The wheel-animals in which Ehrenberg detected..a nuchal nervous collar. 1855 OWEN *Skel. & Teeth* 31 The nuchal ligament in the mole. 1888 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* 468 The structure of the eyes on the nuchal tentacles.

† **Nuche.** *Obs. rare.* Also 7 nouch. [a. obs. F. *nuche*, or ad. med.L. *nucha*.] = NUCHA.

1528 PAYNELL *Salerne's Regim.* B ij, The membres of flematike complexion, as the brayne and nuche. 1541 COPLAND *Guydon's Quest.* E ij, Demaunde. Is yᵉ nuche any party of yᵉ brayne? Answere. It semeth to be a party therof. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 395 A liniment made of earth-wormes, if the nouch or chine of the necke and the shoulder blades bee anpointed therewith [etc.].

Nuche, obs. form of OUCH, clasp.

Nuchthemerinal, *a. rare*⁻¹. [f. Gr. νυχθημέρινος: see NYCHTHEMER(ON.] Lasting a night and a day; completed in twenty-four hours.

1677 R. CARY *Palæol. Chron.* I. i. 2 They came to hit upon the number of 360 Days in the first place, concluding ..that in so many Nuchthemerinal Revolutions, the Sun came to the same τροπή,..where he was the Year before.

Nuci- (niū·si), combining form of L. *nux*, *nucis*, nut, as in **Nuci·ferous** *a.*, bearing nuts. **Nu·ciform** *a.* [= F. and Sp. *nuciforme*], nut-shaped. **Nu·cifrage,** the Nutcracker (*Cent. Dict.* 1890). **Nuci·fragous** *a.*, given to cracking nuts (*ibid.*). † **Nu·ciprune,** a fruit having the character of nut and plum; hence † **Nucipruni·ferous** *a.*, bearing fruit of this kind. **Nucita·nnic** *a.*, in *n. acid*, = **Nucita·nnin** (see quot.). **Nuci·vorous** *a.* [= F. *nucivore*, Sp. *nucivoro*], nut-eating.

1668 WILKINS *Real Char.* II. 116 *Nuciferous trees, may be distinguished into such as are Europæan; conteining in one common husk One Nut [etc.]. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* II. 119/1 Nuciferous Trees..bear Fruit in hard husks. 1755 *Gentl. Mag.* XXV. 450 It is different from ours, being of the nuciferous kind. 1857 ASA GRAY *First Less. Bot.* (1866) 223 **Nuciform*, nut-shaped or nut-like. [Hence in 1864 WEBSTER and later Dicts.] 1677 GREW *Anat. Fruits* iii. § 8. 185 A Walnut, is a **Nuciprune*; or betwixt a Plum and a Nut. 1693 *Phil. Trans.* XVII. 621 That **Nucipruniferous*, which in Barbados they call the Mastick-Tree. 1892 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, **Nucitannic*, relating to a nut and to tannin. 1894 FOSTER *Med. Dict.*, *Nucitannic Acid*, a glucoside occurring in the episperm of walnuts. 1892 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, **Nucitannin*, a peculiar form of tannin found by Phipson, along with gallic and ellagic acids, in the outer layer of the episperm of the walnut. 1835 KIRBY *Hab. & Inst. Anim.* II. xxiv. 514 The great majority [of Mammalians] are said to be granivorous, or *nucivorous, or even graminivorous.

Nucin (niū·sin). *Chem.* [f. L. *nuc-*, *nux* nut + -IN.] A crystalline substance obtained from green walnut-shells.

1885 in CASSELL. 1892 THORPE *Dict. Appl. Chem.* III. 100 Juglone.., Nucin, Regianin.

Nuck. *rare*⁻¹. (See quot.)

1663 BAXTER *Div. Life* 83 The wants in the wheels of your watch are as useful to the motion as the nucks or solid parts.

Nuckelt, Nuckle, variants of NEWCAL(D.

Nuckle, obs. variant of KNUCKLE.

Nuckler, variant of KNUCKLER, pickpocket.

1801 COL. HANGER *Life* I. 181 *note*, An adept in the art of frisking a ken, trapping a scamp, or hobbling a nuckler.

Nucleal (niū·klĭăl), *a.* [f. NUCLE-US + -AL: cf. F. *nucléal*, Pg. *nucleal*.] Pertaining to, having the form or position of, a nucleus.

1840 in SMART. 1863 DANA *Man. Geol.* Introd. 1 The crystal ..begins in a nucleal molecule. 1876 CHASE in *Philos. Mag.* I. 316 The upper nebular or vector radii vary as the ⅔ powers of the orbital times; the lower nebular or nucleal radii, as the ½ powers of the times. *Ibid.* 318 In the earliest stages of nucleal aggregation.

Nuclear (niū·klĭăr), *a.* [f. NUCLE-US + -AR: cf. F. *nucléaire*, Pg. *nuclear*.]

1. Having the character or position of a nucleus; like a nucleus; constituting or forming a nucleus. Chiefly in *Biol.* and *Astron.*

(*a.*) 1846 *Dubl. Q. Jrnl. Med. Sci.* II. 93 In place of a molecule of bone restored for one removed, we find cytoblasts, a nucleolated nuclear cell. 1861 H. MACMILLAN *Footn. fr. Nature* 31 Cells, containing granular matter arranged around a bright red nuclear body. 1888 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* Introd. p. xxii, The nuclear membrane is dissolved in mitosis.

(*b.*) 1851 NICHOL *Archit. Heav.* (ed. 9) 106 Who has well defined it generally as a nuclear centre. 1877 STARK in G. F. Chambers *Astron.* 57 There appeared a black, well-defined nuclear spot,..as large as Mercury. 1881 PROCTOR *Poet. Astron.* i. 40 Inferring that the nuclear parts of the sun are exceedingly dense.

(*c.*) 1865 MANSFIELD *Salts* 120 The hydrocarbon is conjugated to the Oxygen of the nuclear or prostylobasic water. 1891 *Edin. Rev.* Oct. 336 A shaft was, at some remote epoch, sunk downward towards the expected nuclear hoard.

b. *Nuclear cataract*: (see quot.).

1878 T. BRYANT *Pract. Surg.* I. 365 Nuclear cataract..is characterised by the presence of a hard yellowish central portion or nucleus of varying size and density.

2. Of or belonging to a nucleus.

1880 PROCTOR *Rough Ways* 94 One of the first and most obvious effects of this more rapid nuclear contraction would be [etc.]. 1882 VINES tr. *Sachs' Bot.* 582 They [the synergidæ] are the product of a nuclear division and cell-formation. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 811 Nuclear palsy is characterised by bilateral..atrophy of the tongue. *Ibid.* VII. 237 The diagnosis of acute nuclear from acute infra-nuclear lesions.

Nucleary (niū·klĭări), *a.* [f. NUCLE-US + -ARY.] Of the nature of a nucleus.

1847–9 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* IV. 663/2 The so-called metacarpal bone of the thumb corresponds as to nucleary deposit with the first phalanx of the finger. 1881 *Nature* XXIV. 73 A slightly yellow, hyaline jelly, absolutely deprived of nucleary elements.

Nucleate (niū·klĭĕt), *a.* [ad. L. *nucleātus*, pa. pple. of *nucleāre* (see next): cf. F. *nucléé*, Pg. *nucleado*.] Having a nucleus; nucleated.

1864 in WEBSTER and later Dicts.

Nucleate (niū·klĭe·it), *v.* [f. L. *nucleāt-*, ppl. stem of *nucleāre* to become kernelly or hard, f. *nucleus* kernel, NUCLEUS.]

1. *trans.* To form (anything) into, to bring together as, a nucleus.

1864 WEBSTER, *Nucleate*, to gather, as about a nucleus or center. 1870 *Daily Tel.* 20 Aug., No doubt the plan of nucleating a second Grand Army at Châlons was a good one. 1871 FARRAR *Witn. Hist.* i. 36 Even then he must account for the intervention which nucleated the first particle of protoplasm.

2. *intr.* To form a nucleus; to gather or collect about a nucleus. Hence **Nu·cleating** *ppl. a.*

1883 *American* VII. 152 Irresolvable nebulæ of nucleating and nucleated or resolvable nebulæ.

Nucleated (niū·klĭe·itĕd), *a.* [f. prec.]

1. Having a nucleus. (Chiefly *Biol.*; common from 1845, esp. in *nucleated cell*.)

1845 *Zoologist* III. 955 The nucleated vesicle, the fundamental form of all organization. 1855 OWEN *Skel. & Teeth* 6 The appearance in it of numerous minute nucleated cells. 1880 BASTIAN *Brain* 40 The cell in this case is only a nucleated expansion of the fibre.

2. Clustered together.

1897 *Eng. Hist. Rev.* Apr. 314 The Germanic nucleated village is distinguished from the isolated homestead. *Ibid.* Oct. 769 He draws a sharp distinction between the 'nucleated' villages of eastern and central England, and the 'hamletted' villages of the south-west.

Nuclea·tion. *rare*⁻¹. [f. NUCLEATE *v.*] The formation of nuclei.

1861 H. MACMILLAN *Footn. fr. Nature* 243 Giving rise either by gemmation or nucleation to new plants.

Nuclei, pl. of NUCLEUS.

Nu·cleic, *a. Chem.* [f. NUCLE-US + -IC.] *Nucleic acid*, an acid occurring in some nuclei, either by itself or combined with a proteid.

1893 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* Mar. 573/1 Nucleic acid contains carbon [etc.]. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 165 Nuclein, which consists of an organic phosphorus-containing acid, termed nucleic acid, in combination with proteid.

Nuclei·ferous, *a. Bot.* [See -FEROUS.] Bearing a nucleus or nuclei.

1857 M. J. BERKELEY *Introd. Cryptogamic Bot.* 389 Apothecia closed or nucleiferous.

Nu·cleiform, *a.* [See -FORM.] Having the form of a nucleus; of a rounded shape; esp. of the apothecia and spermogones of certain lichens.

1840 in SMART. 1882 *Encycl. Brit.* XIV. 554/1 It may be here observed that young disciform apothecia are more or less nucleiform. *Ibid.* 555/1 In form they [the spermogones] are nucleiform, round, or oblong.

Nuclein (niū·klĭin). *Chem.* Also -ine. [f. NUCLE-US + -IN [1], after G. *nuklein* or F. *nucléine*.] The principal constituent of cell-nuclei.

α. 1878 KINGZETT *Anim. Chem.* 278 Jaksch discovered in the brain the substance termed by Miescher 'nuclein'. 1888 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* p. xxii, The nucleus of a cell..consists principally of a substance termed nuclein..or chromatin. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 491 These chromatin particles are almost certainly identical with nuclein.

β. 1880 *Libr. Univ. Knowl.* VIII. 488 Glutine, elastine, and nucleine. 1887 A. M. BROWN *Anim. Alkaloids* 114 The Nucleine of the unhatched fecundated egg.

Hence **Nuclei·nic** *a.*, in *nucleinic acid*, an organic acid rich in phosphorus which is a constituent of nuclein.

1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 90 From blood-serum a nuclein (or nucleinic acid) can be separated.

Nucleo- (niū·klĭo), modern combining form of L. *nucleus*, used in a number of compounds, chiefly biological, as *nucleo-albumin*, *-albuminous*, *-chylema*, *-chyme*, *-hyaloplasm*, *-idioplasm*, *-phosphoric*, *-proteid*, etc. (See quots. and the second element.)

1892 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, **Nucleo-albumins*, compounds of nuclein and proteids, chiefly globulin, found in the protoplasm of cells and in bile. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 526 Gamaleia extracted poisonous substances from the bodies of the dead bacteria, which he classified as nucleins and nucleo-albumins. *Ibid.* I. 174 A *nucleo-albuminous substance, which rapidly brings about coagulation of blood or lymph. 1889 *Q. Jrnl. Microsc. Sci.* XXX. 211 To the nuclear sap which fills the spaces in the Nucleohyaloplasm he [Strasburger] gives the name *Nucleochylema. 1894 FOSTER *Med. Dict.*, **Nucleochyme*.., the more fluid, hyaline substance of a cell-nucleus. 1888 *Nature* 1 Nov. 5/1 The author prefers to speak of the *nucleo-hyaloplasm with Schwarz, as Linin. 1892 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Nucleohyaloplasm .., applied by Strasburger to the hyaline ground substance in which chromatin spherules are embedded. *Ibid.*, **Nucleo-idioplasm*, the part of the nucleus which consists of Idioplasm. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 647 By some observers, other substances—gluten, leucin, *nucleo-phosphoric acid, guanin—have been found as abnormal bodies. 1894 MORLEY & MUIR *Watt's Dict. Chem.* IV. 341 Merck calls *nucleo-proteids substances which, when boiled with water under pressure or treated with acids, alkalis, or ferments, are resolved into nuclein and albumin.

Nu·cleobranch. *Zool.* Also -branche. [ad. F. *nucléobranche*: cf. prec. and BRANCHIÆ.] A mollusc of the order *Nucleobranchiata*; a Heteropod.

Some recent Dicts. also give the form as an *adj.*

1851 WOODWARD *Mollusca* I. 11 The nucleobranches and pteropods swim in the open sea. *Ibid.* 97 The nucleobranches are 'aberrant' gasteropods, having the foot thin and vertical. 1861 CARPENTER in *Rep. Smithsonian Instit.* 172 The Nucleobranchs have the gills in a tuft at the lower part of the back, sometimes protected by a shell.

So **Nucleobra·nchiate** *a.* (Cf. BRANCHIATE.)

1854 WOODWARD *Mollusca* II. 198 There are two families of nucleobranchiate mollusks.

Nucleoid (niū·klĭoid), *a.* [f. NUCLE-US + -OID.] Like a nucleus in form or appearance.

1855 in OGILVIE *Suppl.* 1880 BASTIAN *Brain* xxiii. 465 These are either mere nucleoid bodies or small angular cells.

Nucleolar (niūklī·ŏlăr), *a.* [f. NUCLEOL-US.] Of the nature of, pertaining to, a nucleolus.

1861 HULME tr. *Moquin-Tandon* II. vii. 407 One or two very small corpuscles, or nucleolar bodies, may sometimes be seen in the interior. 1899 *Spectator* 10 May, From every ovum, before metamorphosis begins, one or more masses of nucleolar matter, the so-called 'polar bodies', are extruded.

Nu·cleolate, *a.* [f. NUCLEOL-US + -ATE [2]: cf. F. *nucléolé*.] = next. (*Cent. Dict.* 1890.)

Nucleolated (niū·klĭōlātĕd), *a. Biol.* [f. as prec. + -ED [1].] Furnished with a nucleolus.

1846 [see NUCLEAR *a.* 1]. 1870 ROLLESTON *Anim. Life* 257 Showing..its nucleolated nucleus. 1879 *St. George's Hosp. Rep.* IX. 339 Their nuclei were large, oval, and nucleolated.

Nucleole (niū·klĭoul). *Biol.* [ad. L. *nucleolus*: cf. F. *nucléole*, Pg. *nucleolo*.] = NUCLEOLUS.

1864 WEBSTER, *Nucleole*, the nucleus within a nucleus; nucleolus. *Dana.* 1875 tr. *Schmidt's Desc. & Darwinism* 44 The nucleus is termed the germinal vesicle, and the nucleole the germinal spot.

Nu·cleolid. *Biol.* [-ID.] (See quot.)

1886 *Jrnl. R. Microsc. Soc.* Apr. 232 The typical nuclear network..is frequently exhibited: often complicated, however, by the presence of nucleolids or nucleolus-like bodies.

Nu·cleolin(e, *sb.* and *a. Biol.* [Cf. next.] **a.** *sb.* =next. **b.** *adj.* Pertaining to, connected with, a nucleolinus.

1890 in *Cent. Dict.* 1905 MCCABE tr. *Haeckel's Evol. Man* I. 112 We find in many ova..a still further point within the germinal spot, a 'nucleolin', which goes by the name of the germinal point.

‖ **Nucleolinus** (niūklĭŏlai·nŭs). *Biol.* [mod.L., f. *nucleolus*.] The germinal point of a nucleolus.

1879 tr. *Haeckel's Evol. Man* I. 133 Within this germinal spot [nucleolus] is found yet another little point, a nucleolinus, which may be called the germinal point. 1895 *Atlantic Monthly* Feb. 192 The nucleus contains a nucleolinus within a nucleolus.

Nucleolo- (niuklī·ŏlo), modern combining form of L. *nucleolus* (dim. of *nucleus*) a little nut; used in some biological compounds, as *nucleolo-centrosome*, *-nucleated*, *-nucleolus*, *-nucleus*.

1892 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Nucleolo-nucleated*, Erasmus Wilson's term for a cell, the nucleus of which contains one or more nucleoli. *Ibid.*, *Nucleolo-nucleus*, term applied by Mr. J. M. Macfarlane to a small body existing within the nucleolus of a cell. 1900 B. D. JACKSON *Gloss. Bot. Terms* 171/1 Nucleolo-Nucleolus, = Endonucleus. 1900 E. B. WILSON *The Cell* (ed. 2) 34 The nucleolus is shown..to be comparable with an attraction sphere or centrosome (nucleolo-centrosome).

Nu·cleolule. *Biol.* [f. NUCLEOLE + -ULE: cf. F. *nucléolule*.] 'A minute granule in the centre of a nucleolus' (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1892).

‖ **Nucleolus** (niuklī·ŏlŭs). *Biol.* Pl. **-oli** (-ŏlai). [L. *nucleolus*, dim. of *nucleus*.] A small nucleus; *esp.* a minute rounded body within the nucleus of a cell in animal or vegetable substance; also, a paranucleus. Also *Comb.*

1845 TODD & BOWMAN *Phys. Anat.* I. 158 They usually contain some central granules or nucleoli. 1846 DAY tr. *Simon's Anim. Chem.* II. 449 It contains a nucleus about the size of a nut,..and in the centre of this is a nucleolus of the size of a large pea. 1870 H. A. NICHOLSON *Man. Zool.* 41 No differentiated organs of any kind beyond the nucleus and nucleolus exist. 1886 [see NUCLEOLID].

Nucleo·petal, *a. rare* [−1]. [f. NUCLEO-, after *centripetal*.] Towards the nucleus.

1887 *Jrnl. Morphol.* I. 236 The change from a centripetal to a nucleopetal direction.

Nu·cleoplasm. *Biol.* [f. NUCLEO- + PLASM.] Nuclear protoplasm.

The precise application of the term has varied.

1889 MIVART in *Dubl. Rev.* Oct. 290 The first polar body extruded, he believes to consist of this superfluous nucleoplasm. 1893 A. M. MARSHALL *Vertebr. Embryol.* 4 The nucleus..consists of an outer nuclear membrane, enclosing a clear coagulable fluid, the nucleoplasm.

Hence **Nucleopla·smic** *a.*

1890 in *Cent. Dict.* 1894 FOSTER *Med. Dict.* s.v. *Nucleolus*, Fine protoplasmic or nucleoplasmic fibrils.

Nu·cleoplast. *Biol.* [f. NUCLEO- + -PLAST.] A nucleoplasmic body.

1876 *Q. Jrnl. Microsc. Sci.* XVI. 154 The nucleoplast with the pseudo-nucleoli are thrown off.

Hence **Nucleopla·stic** *a.* 1894 FOSTER *Med. Dict.*

Nucleus (niū·klĭŭs), *sb.* Pl. **nuclei** (niū·klĭai) and **nucleuses.** [a. L. *nucleus* (*nuculeus*) kernel, inner part, f. *nucula* or *nuc-*, *nux* nut. So F. *nucleus*, It., Sp., and Pg. *nucleo*.]

I. 1. *Astr.* The more condensed portion of the head of a comet.

[1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I. *Nucleus*..is by Hevelius and others used for the Head of a Comet.]

1708 WHISTON *The. Earth* (ed. 2) II. 76 The lowest part next the Nucleus, or Dense Body, seems to be Opake. 1766 *Phil. Trans.* LV. 310, I compared the nucleus of the comet with two new stars that were just by. 1837 J. F. COOPER *Europe* II. v. 99 The astronomers tell us that some of these comets have no visible nucleuses. 1868 LOCKYER *Elem. Astron.* § 291 The brighter part of the comet is called the head, or coma, and sometimes the head contains a brighter portion still, called the nucleus.

fig. 1759 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* II. ix, Would not such a phenomenon..have been a subject of juster apprehension.. than the worst of Whiston's comets?—To say nothing of the Nucleus; that is, of Ohadiah and the coach-horse.

† 2. A supposed interior crust of the earth. *Obs.*

1715 tr. *Gregory's Astron.* I. I. § 69. 144 He [Kepler] found it necessary to suppose an interior Crust (which might be like a Nucleus, in regard of the exterior). *Ibid.* 145 And within this Nucleus, or rather Crust, he is forced to suppose again another interior Nucleus. 1727 POPE *Mem. Mart. Scriblerus* I. xiv, A Proposal..to pierce the first crust or Nucleus of this our Earth, quite through, to the next Concentrical Sphere.

3. A central part or thing around which other parts or things are grouped, collected, or compacted; that which forms the centre or kernel of some aggregate or mass.

a. Of material (esp. more or less solid) things.

1762a *Phil. Trans.* LII. 470 The nucleus of the nearest light will appear whitest and brightest. 1764 *Ibid.* LIV. 42 The conical cavity and its nucleus are always proportioned to the bulk of the Belemnite. 1797 M. BAILLIE *Morbid Anat.* (1807) 306 Some extraneous body, which becomes the nucleus of the calculus. *Ibid.*, The nuclei which I have seen. 1826 S. COOPER *First Lines Surg.* (ed. 5) 66 Every portion of the gangrenous cellular membrane, nucleus, or core, [should be] extracted. 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem., Org.* ii. § 1 (1862) 90 Small pieces of wood are then introduced to act as nuclei upon which the crystals of lactose are deposited. 1878 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* xxi. 366 There may sometimes be detected a yet darker part [of a sun-spot] which is called the nucleus.

b. Of communities or groups of persons.

1798 W. HUTTON *Life* 120 About 700 individuals..were the nucleus of his colony of Georgia. 1853 MERIVALE *Rom. Repub.* v. (1867) 150 The few hundred families, which formed the original nucleus of her citizenship. 1868 BLUNT *Ref. Ch. Eng.* II. 95 A Protestant party which crystallized around the nucleus of antisacerdotalists.

attrib. 1904 *Westm. Gaz.* 10 Dec. 11/1 They will have a nucleus crew of two-fifths of their war complement.

c. Of immaterial things.

1820 *Edin. Rev.* XXXIII. 314 The *nucleus* of fine thought is there. 1835 THIRLWALL *Greece* I. vi. 248 They manifestly formed the basis or nucleus of the epic cycle. 1876 GEO. ELIOT *Dan. Der.* li, Each nucleus of pain or pleasure.

d. Of places, buildings, etc.

1839 JAMES *Louis XIV*, I. 266 A town was the nucleus round which a province, a kingdom, an empire was gathered together. 1865 LECKY *Ration.* II. vi. 261 When a monastery was planted, it soon became the nucleus around which the inhabitants of the neighbourhood clustered. 1872 BAKER *Nile Trib.* v. 73 It formed a nucleus for the general gathering of the people with their flocks.

e. Of collections of things.

1866 *Cornh. Mag.* Nov. 575 There are little nuclei of future collections. 1875 J. H. BENNET *Shores Medit.* I. vii. 200 There is already a very fair collection of modern books in hand, as the nucleus of a library. *a* 1878 SCOTT *Lect. Archit.* (1879) I. 149 These may in their turn be made the nucleus round which detached..shafts may be grouped.

4. *Archæol.* A block of flint or other stone from which early implements have been made.

1869 LUBBOCK *Preh. Times* iv. 87 These 'livres de beurre' appear to have been the blocks or nuclei from which they were obtained. 1899 R. MUNRO *Preh. Scotl.* v. 143 Nuclei of obsidian have also been found in Greece.

II. 5. *Bot.* **a.** The kernel of a nut. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Nucleus* is the Edible part of the Kernel of any Nut, which is contained within the Skin of the Kernel; and in a larger sense is by Botanists used for any Fruit or Seed contained within an Husk or Shell. 1727-38 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Nut*, An hard cortex, or shell; which contains a softer edible nucleus, or kernel. 1785 MARTYN tr. *Rousseau's Bot.* (1794) 439 The fruit is a drupe containing a nut, with a furrowed shell, within which is a four-lobed irregularly furrowed nucleus. 1846-50 A. WOOD *Class-bk. Bot.* 490 White Walnut..; nucleus oblong, acuminate, deeply..furrowed.

b. The kernel of a seed (see quots.).

1829 CLINTON tr. *Richard's Elem. Bot.* (ed. 4) 387 The kernel or nucleus is the whole of the ripe and perfect seed contained in the cavity of the episperm. 1849 BALFOUR *Man. Bot.* § 577 The seed..consists of a nucleus or kernel, and integuments. 1861 BENTLEY *Man. Bot.* 343 The nucleus of the seed may either consist of the embryo alone, ..or of the embryo enclosed in albumen or perisperm.

c. The central part of an ovule.

1829 CLINTON tr. *Richard's Elem. Bot.* (ed. 4) 383 The nucleus contained within both the integuments of the ovule is a cellular body. 1832 LINDLEY *Introd. Bot.* I. ii. 155 The central part is a fleshy, pointed, pulpy mass, called the *nucleus* or *nucelle*. 1861 BENTLEY *Man. Bot.* 330 As development proceeds, a cavity is formed at or near the apex of the nucleus..in which the embryo..is developed.

d. The denser rounded body of protoplasm in a plant-cell; a cytoblast.

1831 R. BROWN in *Trans. Linn. Soc.* (1833) XVI. 710 This areola, or nucleus of the cell as perhaps it might be termed. 1849 BALFOUR *Man. Bot.* § 16 Each cell is found to contain, at some period of its existence, a small body, called a nucleus. 1861 BENTLEY *Man. Bot.* 18 Almost all young cells contain one or more bodies called Nuclei or Cytoblasts. ..In cells of the higher classes of plants the nucleus consists of a rounded or lenticular granular-looking body. 1882 VINES tr. *Sachs' Bot.* 551 In most Monocotyledons the large central nucleus divides, and two fresh nuclei make their appearance.

e. In Lichens: (see quot. 1832).

1832 LINDLEY *Introd. Bot.* I. iii. 206 *Nucleus*, is the disk of the shield which contains the sporules and their cases. *Asci*, are tubes, in which the sporules are contained while in the nucleus. 1882 *Encycl. Brit.* XIV. 554/2 When the pyrenium quite covers the nucleus it is said to be entire.

f. In Fungi: (see quots.).

1832 LINDLEY *Introd. Bot.* I. iii. 209 *Nucleus*, is the central part of a perithecium. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* II, *Nucleus*,..the gelatinous mass of asci or spores which is found in the perithecia of *Sphæriæ* or the analogous fungi. 1875 COOKE & BERKELEY *Fungi* 79 Fruit consisting of sporidia,..contained in asci,..forming a hymenium or nucleus = Ascomycetes.

g. The hilum of a starch-granule.

1861 BENTLEY *Man. Bot.* 23 Starch granules, when fully formed, usually present a small rounded spot, which is commonly situated at one end..; this is called the *hilum* or *nucleus*.

6. *Zool.* **a.** The denser central portion of an animal cell.

1842 CARPENTER *Hum. Phys.* § 735. 618 At first having but one nucleus and afterwards presenting several; these nuclei..it is probable..are to be regarded as cytoblasts. 1857 *G. Bird's Urin. Deposits* (ed. 5) 362 A regularly organized body, consisting of a granular membrane enveloping transparent nuclei; being in fact a nucleated cell. 1880 BASTIAN *Brain* 35 Nerve cells are more or less granular bodies, each of which contains a large nucleus. 1888 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* Introd. p. xxii, The nucleus is limited externally by a nuclear membrane.

attrib. 1847-9 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* IV. 120/2 No cell, or nucleus-stage having pre-existed.

b. The rudiments of the shell in certain mollusca.

1851 WOODWARD *Mollusca* I. 36 A rudimental shell..which becomes the nucleus of the adult shell. 1866 R. TATE *British Mollusks* iii. 64 The operculum is horny with the nucleus lateral. 1889 NICHOLSON *Palæont.* (ed. 3) I. 682 In the Spiral Gastropods the embryonic shell, or 'nucleus', is placed at the apex of the permanent shell.

c. A portion of medullary substance from which a nerve or set of nerves arises.

1881 Mivart *Cat* 271 The third pair of nerves..arise deeply from a grey nucleus..close to the origin of the fourth nerve. 1896 Cleland & Mackay *Anat.* 614 The superior peduncles ..turn down..and reach the red nucleus.

Hence **Nu·cleus** *v. trans.*, to make into a nucleus, to concentrate.

1899 Kipling *Stalky* 252 They'd withdrawn all the troops they could, but I nucleused about forty Pathans.

Nucoline (niū·kŏlīn). [f. L. *nuc-*, *nux* nut + *ol-eum* oil + -INE 5.] A kind of butter made from nuts; nut-butter.

1898 Lewkowitsch *Anal. Oils*, etc. (ed. 2) 541 'Vegetable butter,' 'Lactine,'..'Nucoline' is therefore practically neutral cocoa nut oil. 1906 *Westm. Gaz.* 18 May 4/2 'Nutter,' 'Nucoline,' and 'Nuttene'—all representing butter made from nuts.

† **Nucquedah,** obs. variant of Nakhoda.

1698 Fryer *Acc. India & P.* 107 The Captain is called Nucquedah, the Boatswain Tindal.

‖ **Nuculanium** (niūkiulē·niŭm). *Bot.* [mod. L., irreg. f. L. *nucula* Nucule.]

1. (See quots.)

1819 Lindley tr. *Richard's Fruits & Seeds* 86 *Nuculanium*; fruit whose fleshy pericarp forms several distinct nuts. 1829 Clinton tr. *Richard's Elem. Bot.* (ed. 4) 430 The nuculanium is a fleshy fruit proceeding from a free ovary,.. containing within it several small nuts, which bear the name nuculæ. 1887 Bentley *Man. Bot.* (ed. 5) 318 The Nuculanium..does not differ in any important characters from the berry, except in being superior.

2. A hard nut-like case in the interior of a fleshy fruit, enclosing several seeds.

1849 Balfour *Man. Bot.* § 553 The covering of the cells [of the endocarp] is sometimes stony, as in the Medlar.. and the Holly, forming what has been called a Nuculanium (*nucula*, a nut). 1876 *Encycl. Brit.* IV. 152/2 Some apply the term nuculanium to the Medlar.

Nucule (niū·kiul). *Bot.* [a. F. *nucule*, ad. L. *nucula*, dim. of *nuc-*, *nux* nut.]

1. One of the seeds of a nuculanium; a nutlet; a small hard seed-like or nut-like fruit; a small stone or seed.

1819 Lindley tr. *Richard's Fruits & Seeds* 86 *Nucule*; each nut of a nuculanium. 1847 W. E. Steele *Field Bot.* 137 Fruit a capsule or berry of 2 or 4 adhering nucules. 1879 A. Gray *Struct. Bot.* (ed. 6) 298 Pyrenæ are not uncommonly in English descriptions called nutlets or nucules.

2. The female organ of reproduction in the cryptogamic tribe *Chara*.

1830 Lindley *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 325 Axillary nucules, formed of a few short tubes, twisted spirally around a centre. 1858 Carpenter *Veg. Phys.* § 776 The fructification of the Characeæ is of two kinds, nucules, and globules. 1884 *Trans. Victoria Instit.* 86 The organ known as the nucule consists of an axial row of cells, which form a kind of crown at the summit.

Nud, *v. rare.* [Of obscure origin: cf. Nuddle *v.*] (See quots.)

1688 Holme *Armoury* II. 176/2 Lamb bossing the Ewe, when it Nuds the Dug. 1887 *Chesh. Gloss., Nud*, to butt with the head...The forward jerking motion with the head which calves make in sucking is called *nuddin'*.

Nud, obs. form of Nude.

† **Nuda·te,** *v. Obs. rare.* [f. ppl. stem of L. *nūdāre*.] *trans.* 'To make bare or naked' (Bailey, 1721). Hence **Nuda·ted** *ppl. a.*

1688 Holme *Armoury* II. 119/1 Such [trees] as are covered with thick or thin husks..are of three sorts, as..Nudated, or smooth thin husks.

† **Nuda·tion.** *Obs.*—° [ad. L. *nūdātio.*] 'A making bare' (Blount *Glossogr.*, 1656).

Nuddle (nŭ·d'l), *v.* Now *dial.* [Related to Nud *v.*: see -le 3. Connexion with G. *nudeln*, to press, is very doubtful.]

1. *intr.* † a. To push with the nose; to press close to the ground in this way; to grovel. *Obs.*

1650 H. More *Enthus. Tri., Obs.* (1656) 111 A pig in a poke, that grunting and nudling to get out, drove the yielding bag out at this corner and that corner. 1653 — *Antid. Ath.* III. xi. (1662) 123 A thing in the shape of a Weasel came .., nudling along in the grass. *a* 1661 Fuller *Worthies, Hertfordsh.* II. (1662) 18 The People in this County,..taxed for covetousness, and their constant nudling on the Earth.

b. *dial.* To hang the head; to stoop in walking.

1828– in various dial. glossaries (Yks., Nhp., E. Anglia).

c. To nestle, to press close.

1854 Miss Baker *Northampton Gloss.*

2. *trans.* † a. To beat, pummel. *Obs. rare.*

1640 Rawlins *Rebellion* IV. i, I, I, Meder; the Divill Meder him, he has so nudled me.

b. To squeeze, press.

1875 *Whitby Gloss., Nuddled*, as a parcel carried in the hand is apt to be squeezed out of shape. 1888 *Sheffield Gloss., Nuddle*, to press wheat into the earth with a roller.

c. To rub with the nose.

1898 *Speaker* 5 Feb. 181 The mother nuddles him [*sc.* a lamb] with her nose.

Hence **Nu·ddling** *ppl. a.* (Cf. Nud, Nudgel.)

1640 J. Gower *Ovids Festivalls* II. 34 She stands and fawns upon the nuddling twins And with her tongue licks o're their tender skins.

Nuddock, obs. variant of Niddick.

Nude (niūd), *a.* and *sb.* Also 8 **nud.** [ad. L. *nūd-us*, whence also It. and Sp. *nudo*, Pg. and F. *nu.* In sense B. 2 the immediate source is the obs. F. form *nud.*]

A. *adj.* 1. *Law.* a. Of statements, promises, etc.: Not formally attested or recorded.

1531 *Dial. on Laws Eng.* I. xii. 21 b, That euery man by a nude parol and by a bare auerment shulde auoyde an oblygacyon. 1532 *Ibid.* II. xxiii. 48 If a man seased of landes make a gyfte therof or graunte by a nude promyse. 1594 West *2nd Pt. Symbol., Chancerie* § 37 If by such nude averrments matters of record should be avoided. 1607 Cowell *Interpreter* s.v. *Mater*, Kitchin..saith, that nude mater is not of so high nature, as either a mater of Record or a Speciality. 1634 *Irish Act* 10 *Chas. I* Sess. II. c. 1 Preamble, Wills and testaments..made by nude parolx and words.

b. *Nude contract* or *pact* (see quots.).

1532 *Dial. on Laws Eng.* II. xxiv. 49 A nude contracte is when a man maketh a bargayn, or a sale of his goodes or landes without any recompence appoynted for it. 1658 Phillips, *Nude contract*, in Common-law, is a bare contract, or promise of any thing without assigning, or agreeing what another shall give. 1766 Blackstone *Comm.* II. xxx. 445 Any degree of reciprocity will prevent the pact from being nude. 1875 Poste *Gaius* III. (ed. 2) 361 A nude pact creates no (civil) obligation, but creates a defence.

c. Of persons, esp. *nude executor* (see quots.).

1590 Swinburne *Testaments* 176 If the testator giue his goods to one person, and make another executor: this executor is called Nude executor, for that he reapeth no commoditie by the testament. 1726 Ayliffe *Parergon* 269 A nude Executor here mention'd is no more than an Executor in Trust. 1875 Poste *Gaius* III. (ed. 2) 422 Including the nude or nominal proprietor.

† 2. Naked, bare, mere, plain. *Obs.*

1551 Cranmer *Answ. Gardner* (1580) 10 Is therfore the whole vse of the bread..but a naked or nude and bare token? 1654 H. L'Estrange *Chas. I* (1655) 89 Yet this could be .. but a nude conjecture. 1667 Waterhouse *Fire London* 34 A bare accident and a nude casualty.

3. Naked, bare; without covering or investment; devoid of furniture or decorations.

Given by Blount *Glossogr.* (1656), partly from Cotgrave, but app. not in actual use before the 19th c.

1866 *Treas. Bot., Nude*,..bald from the total absence of hairs, or uncovered in consequence of the absence of any investing organs. 1867 Lady Herbert *Cradle L.* iii. 85 A nude modern octagonal room. 1879 Stevenson *Trav. Donkey* (1886) 74 A broad nude valley in Vivarais. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 1124 The bladders may..remain entirely nude and free in the peritoneal cavity.

Comb. 1881 *Gard. Chron.* XVI. 725 A west wall against which had been planted the nude-flowered Jasminum.

b. Of the human figure, or those parts of it which are usually clothed: Naked, unclothed, undraped. Also *fig.*

1873 Symonds *Grk. Poets* viii. 237 Of all the Greeks, essentially a nude nation, Aristophanes is the most naked. 1879 H. Phillips *Notes Coins* 1 The medals..bear..on their obverse the nude bust of that Empress. 1880 'Ouida' *Moths* I. 73 He was so used to seeing pretty nude feet at Trouville.

B. *sb.* 1. A nude figure in painting or sculpture.

1708 *New View Lond.* II. 824/2 A *Nude* or *Nudity*, is a naked Figure painted or sculpted, without Drapery (or Cloathing). *a* 1849 H. Coleridge *Ess.* (1851) I. 205 Are not the greatest masters almost as much celebrated for their draperies as for their nudes? 1889 *Pall Mall G.* 9 May 3/2 We went round the Academy noticing the..pictures, and dismissing..a certain number of nudes, babies, and portraits of nobodies.

b. A woman given to wearing very low-necked dresses. *rare* —¹.

1816 *Spirit Public Jrnls.* XIII. 273 As a link-boy was showing a certain fashionable nude, in Baker Street, out of her carriage [etc.].

2. With *the*. The undraped human figure; the representation of this in drawing, painting, or sculpture.

1760 D. Webb *Enq. Beauties Painting* iv. 51 The result of this habit is evident, when our first artists come to design the nud. 1782 R. Cumberland *Anecd. Painters* I. 56 Being most in the *nude*, their crime will in some people's judgment appear their recommendation. 1868 Browning *Ring & Bk.* I. 58 Modern chalk drawings, studies from the nude. 1887 F. M. Crawford *Saracinesca* i, The French school had not [yet] demonstrated the startling distinction between the nude and the naked.

b. The condition of being undraped.

1856 Mrs. Browning *Aur. Leigh* III. 710 Stands sublimely in the nude, as chaste As Medicean Venus. 1882 *Globe* 14 Dec. 5/5 They had seen him modelling..from Miss Felden, who stood in the nude as a model.

Hence **Nu·dely** *adv.*, barely, simply, plainly; **Nu·deness,** the state of being nude or undraped.

1627 Donne *Serm.* lxxxi. Wks. 1839 IV. 10 Being crudely and nudely taken, not decocted and boiled up. 1882 Ogilvie, *Nudeness*. 1895 *Cent. Mag.* Aug. 494/2 Whether the nudeness itself outraged his sense of propriety.

Nude, *v. rare.* [ad. L. *nūd-āre*, or f. Nude *a.*]

† 1. *trans.* To denude; to deprive or strip (one) *of* something. *Obs.*

1551–2 *Burgh Rec. Prestwick* (Maitl. Cl.) 62 The inquest ..ordains hym to be nwdyt of his fredome.

2. To strip, unclothe, make naked.

1845 T. Cooper *Purgat. Suicides* Wks. (1877) 30 They clothe with prudent mask The image from whose worship Man might swerve If nuded.

Nudge (nŭdʒ), *sb.* [f. the vb.] A slight push or poke given to another with the elbow.

1836 Marryat *Midsh. Easy* xxii, Gascoigne gave Jack a nudge. 1847 Alb. Smith *Chr. Tadpole* i, One of those pleasant nudges which funny men will inflict upon you. 1871 B. Taylor *Faust* (1875) II. I. iii. 25 Though with one [thou] wast wont to dance, Gav'st another nudge and glance. *fig.* 1865 Lowell *Thoreau* Prose Wks. 1890 I. 366 The mental and moral nudge which he received from the writings of his..brave-spirited countryman.

Nudge (nŭdʒ), *v.* [Of obscure origin: perh. related to Norw. dial. *nugga*, *nyggja*, to push, rub.]

1. *trans.* To touch or push (one) slightly with the elbow for the purpose of attracting attention.

1675 Hobbes *Odyssey* (1677) 177 When a third part of the night was gone, I nudg'd Ulysses, who did next me lie. 1838 Dickens *Nich. Nick.* vii, Squeers then nudged Mrs. Squeers to bring away the brandy bottle. 1860 Holland *Miss Gilbert's Career* i, What wonder that Mrs. Bloomer and Mrs. Witton nudged each other? 1880 Jefferies *Hodge & M.* II. 28 She is partly deaf, and until nudged by her neighbours did not hear her husband's name.

fig. 1850 Carlyle *Latter-d. Pamph.* i. 19 The inexorable Icebergs..will nudge you with most chaotic 'admonition'.

2. *intr.* To give a push or thrust.

1825 Brockett *N. C. Gloss.* s.v., What are ye nudging at? 1888 Goode *Amer. Fishes* 109 In the surf the Drum nudges like the sheepshead when he first takes the bait.

Hence **Nu·dging** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1858 R. S. Surtees *Ask Mamma* iii, Amid the nudging of outsiders, and staring of street-loungers. 1880 H. Conway *Called Back* 60 There were no nudgings and sly glances among our fellow passengers. 1889 Farrar *Lives Fathers* II. xiv. 100 A gaping and nudging crowd.

† **Nu·dgel,** *v. Obs. rare*—¹. [Cf. Nud *v.* and Nuddling *ppl. a.*] *intr.* To press, squeeze.

1603 Holland *Plutarch's Mor.* 220 A nipple..ready for the little babe's mouth, about which to nuzzle and nudgell with its prety lips it taketh pleasure.

Nudi- (niū·di), combining form of L. *nūd-us* Nude *a.*, used in a number of compounds of which the more important are given below. Some others are given in recent Dictionaries, as *nudicaudate*, having a hairless tail; *nudicaul(ous*, having leafless stems; *nudifolious*, having bare or smooth leaves; *nudiped*, having naked feet; *nudirostrate*, having a naked beak; etc.

Nudibra·chiate, *a. Zool.* [f. Nudi- + Brachiate.] Of polyps: Having arms or tentacles which are not covered with cilia.

1847–9 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* IV. 50/1 The Bryozoa..exhibiting a much higher phase of organisation than any of the nudibrachiate races. *Ibid.*, In the nudibrachiate polypes.

Nudibranch (niū·dibræŋk). *Zool.* Also **-branche.** [ad. F. *nudibranche* (Cuvier): see Nudi- and Branchiæ.] A mollusc of the order *Nudibranchiata*, having naked gills and no shell.

1844 Allman in *Ann. & Mag. Nat. Hist.* (1845) XVI. 154 A small Nudibranchiate Gasteropod, which this naturalist [M. de Quatrefages] conceives himself justified in separating ..from all previously characterized genera of Nudibranchs. 1851 Woodward *Mollusca* I. 36 The rudimentary shell of the nudibranchs is shed at an early age. 1862 Kearley *Links in Chain* vi. 136 One beautiful little Nudibranch common on our northern coasts.

b. *attrib.* or as *adj.* = Nudibranchiate.

1871 Darwin *Desc. Man* II. ix. I. 32 Many of the nudibranch mollusca, or sea-slugs, are as brightly coloured as any shells. 1896 tr. *Boas' Text-Bk. Zool.* 303 The nudibranch larva is furnished with shell and operculum.

So **Nudibra·nchial** *a.*; **Nudibra·nchian.**

1839 *Penny Cycl.* XIV. 322/1 The third class, Gastropods, are divided into the following orders and suborders:— 1. Nudibranchians. 1841 *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* I. No. 9. 249 The naked nudibranchial mollusk alluded to.

Nudibra·nchiate, *a.* and *sb. Zool.* [See Nudi- and Branchiate.] a. *adj.* Of molluscs: Having naked gills or branchiæ; belonging to the *Nudibranchiata*. b. *sb.* A mollusc of this order (Ogilvie, 1882).

1836–9 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* II. 393/2 It is in the Nudibranchiate division..that the nervous centres exist in their most concentrated form. 1855 *Orr's Circ. Sci., Org. Nature* II. 441 The Nudibranchiate Mollusks are distributed into three families. 1877 Thomson *Voy. Challenger* I. iii. 194 Several of the nudibranchiate mollusca characteristic of the gulf-weed fauna.

Nudifica·tion. *rare*—°. [See Nudi- and -fication.] 'A making naked' (Ogilvie, 1855).

† **Nudifi·dian.** *Obs. rare.* [f. Nudi- after *nullifidian.*] One who holds that faith alone is sufficient for salvation.

1648 Symmons *Vindic.* 84 Saint James tells us of nudifidians..who say they have faith... The bare beleeving sort of Protestants perhaps they are. *a* 1653 T. Adams *Wks.* (1862) II. 280 A Christian must work; for no nudifidian, as well as no nullifidian, shall be admitted into heaven.

Nu·difier. *rare*—¹. [See Nudi- and -fy.] One who strips himself of his clothes.

1880 *22nd Rep. Scotch Commiss. Lunacy* 129 One was a chronic maniac and a determined nudifier.

Nu·diflor. *rare*—¹. [ad. L. type **nūdiflōrus*, f. Nudi- + *flōs*, *flōris* flower.] (See quot.)

1885 *Pall Mall Budget* 19 June 17/2 The original azalea was a nudiflor.., its flowers came out before its leaves.

† **Nudil,** erroneous form of Nodule 1.

1657 Tomlinson *Renou's Disp.* 180 Of Nudils or Penicils. [Hence in the *Physical Dict.* (1657), compiled mainly from this work.]

Nu·dish, *a.* [-ish.] Somewhat nude.

1880 *Academy* 18 Dec. 447/2 The presence..of the nudish damsels, ill-drawn and foolishly smirking.

Nudita·rian, *a. rare.* [f. Nudit-y + *-arian.*] Advocating the study of the nude.

1867 *Contemp. Rev.* VI. 387 The high aim and motive.. enable the Nuditarian school to quote Cellini's dictum with emphatic confidence.

Nudity (niū·dĭti). [a. F. *nudité* (=It. *nudità*), or ad. L. *nūditāt-em*, f. *nūd-us* NUDE : see -ITY.]

1. The condition or fact of being naked or nude; a nude or naked state. a. Of persons.

1611 COTGR., *Nudité*, nuditie, nakednesse. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Nudity*, bareness, nakedness, want of any thing, poverty.

1807 tr. *Goede's Trav.* II. 106 Two elegant Cyprians..in all the fashionable nudity of French freedom. 1856 KANE *Arct. Expl.* II. i. 24 To bend forward exposes the back to partial nudity. 1872 SHIPLEY *Gloss. Eccl. Terms* 360 Picard, who..attempted to introduce nudity and other shameful practices.

fig. 1872 GEO. ELIOT *Middlem.* II. xx, Many souls in their young nudity are tumbled out among incongruities. 1892 *Athenæum* 4 June 739/2 The whole, if indiscreet in nudity of soul, is at least admirable in art.

b. Of things or places.

c 1890 H. JAMES *Little Tour* xxix, It may appear that I insist too much upon the nudity of the Provençal horizon... But it is an exquisite bareness. 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 20 Mar. 4/3 In another [plate] the august nudity of Downing-street is made interesting.

2. A nude figure, *esp.* as represented in painting or sculpture.

1662 EVELYN *Chalcogr.* 45 Divers Nudities, and Clad Figures. 1682 SHADWELL *Medal Bayes* Epist., And a good Drawer, in that time, may observe enough to make a Nuditie of him. 1756–7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) II. 40, I think the church is of all places the least proper for nudities. 1758 H. WALPOLE *Let. to Mann* 14 Apr. (1846) III. 349 He had, besides, a fine collection of drawings after nudities. 1858 HAWTHORNE *Fr. & It. Note-bks.* II. 5 Fat Graces and other plump nudities by Ruhens. 1894 *Athenæum* 5 May 583/3 The charming nudity who forms the leading element..of this picture.

†3. *pl.* The privy parts when exposed. *Obs.*

1686 BURNET *Trav.* III. 174, I was much scandalized to see Statues with nudities here. 1703 MAUNDRELL *Journ. Jerus.* (1721) 95 They took Men with their heels upward, and hurry'd them about in such an undecent manner, as to expose their Nudities. 1769 E. BANCROFT *Guiana* 264 Pieces of India Salempores, with which they cover their nudities.

fig. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* VIII. 333 The man who shows his heart, Is hooted for his nudities, and scorn'd.

†**Nudiustertian,** *a. Obs. rare*—1. [f. L. *nudius tertius*.] Of the day before yesterday.

1647 WARD *Simp. Cobler* 26 When I heare a..Gentledame inquire..what [is] the nudiustertian fashion of the Court; I mean the very newest.

Nue, obs. form of NEW *a.*

†**Nuel,** *a. Obs.* [OE. *niwol*, *neowol*, *nifol*, of obscure etym.] Prone, prostrate.

c 888 K. ÆLFRED *Boeth.* i. § 1 He ȝefeoll niwol ofdune on þa flor. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Josh.* vii. 10 Hwi list þu neowel on eorðan? *c* 1275 LAY. 16777 Octa..nuel feol to grunde bi-vore þis kinges fote.

Nuel(l, obs. forms of NEWEL.

Nuellry : see NEWELRY.

†**Nug**[1]. *Obs.* [Perh. the south-western dial. *nug* lump.] *Nugs of Balm*, some distilled liquor.

1609 *Pimlyco* C iv b, Waters drawne by Distillations With medicinable Operations, As Rosa Solis, Aqua Vitæ, And Nugs of Balme, so quicke, and sprighty.

†**Nug**[2]. *Obs. Cant.* (See quot.)

a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew*, *Nug*, a Word of Love, as, my Dear Nug, my Dear Love.

Nugacious (niugē·ʃəs), *a.* Now *rare.* [f. L. *nūgāci-s*, *nūgax* trifling + -OUS.] Trivial, trifling, of no moment or importance.

1652 GAULE *Magastrom.* 57 On purpose to vend their nugacious fables and prestigious impostures with more esteem. *Ibid.* 189 These nugacious kinds of men. 1661 GLANVILL *Van. Dogm.* 165 'Tis these nugacious Disputations, that have been the great hinderance to..Learning. 1829 SOUTHEY *Sir T. More* II. 61 Things as nugacious as the colour of a habit, or the shape of a cowl.

Hence **Nuga·ciousness** (Bailey, vol. II, 1727).

Nugacity (niugæ·sĭti). [ad. late L. *nūgācitas*, f. *nūgāci-s*, *nūgax*: see prec. and -ITY.]

1. Trifling, triviality, futility.

1593 BILSON *Govt. Christ's Ch.* 278 Ful of follie, nugacitie, error. 1607 HARINGTON in *Nugæ Ant.* (1804) II. 262 He knows such nugacitie becomes not his place. 1662 STILLINGFLEET *Orig. Sacræ* I. iv. § 10 Strabo seems to accuse Herodotus much of nugacity. 1676 H. MORE *Remarks* 189 There is no nugacity at all in this.

1862 *Sat. Rev.* XIII. 719 Parr's general nugacity as an exegetical and polemical divine.

2. A trifling or frivolous idea.

1653 H. MORE *Conject. Cabbal.* (1713) 82 Such Arithmetical nugacities as are ordinarily recorded for his. 1668 — *Div. Dial.* II. ii. (1713) 90 Such Nugacities as are exploded even by the Theologers themselves.

1818 COLERIDGE *Lit. Rem.* (1838) III. 179 To confute the whims and superstitious nugacities of these Sermons. 1829 SOUTHEY in *Q. Rev.* XXXIX. 111 Throat-choking..nugacities of hyper-grammatical..absurdity.

‖ **Nugæ** (niū·dʒī). [L.] *pl.* Trifles.

1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) IV. 15 In all these attempts..there is a great deal that cannot but be regarded as philosophical nugæ.

Nu·gal, *a. rare*—0. [ad. L. *nūgāl-is*.]

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Nugal*, trifling, vain, of no force.

†**Nuga·lity.** *Obs. rare*—1. [ad. L. *nūgālitas* : cf. prec.] Frivolity, trifling.

1676 H. MORE *Remarks* 188 *Difficiles Nugæ*,..there may be some difficulty, yet there is no Nugality at all.

†**Nu·gament.** *Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *nūgāmenta* (neut. pl.).] A trifle, trifling opinion.

1623 COCKERAM *Eng. Dict.* I, *Nugament*, a bable, toy, or lie. 1716 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* II. 431 Nothing but such quisquilian Nugaments.

†**Nuga·tion.** *Obs.* [ad. med.L. *nūgātio*, f. L. *nūgārī* to trifle. Cf. obs. F. *nugacion*, It. *nugazione*.] Trifling; speaking or acting in trifling manner; an instance of this.

1581 LAMBARDE *Eiren.* III. i. (1588) 318 Conveighing the Riotters unto the gaole: without which the arrest were but nugation. 1583 FULKE *Defence* i. (1843) 144 Then followeth that vain nugation which I have noted against Saunder. 1602 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* Epit. 350 Many impertinent digressions, and some meere nugations. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 836 As for the Received Opinion,..it is but Nugation. 1664 H. MORE *Myst. Iniq.* 309 If it were not determined to this sense it would rather be a Nugation..then an Interpretation.

Nuga·tor. *rare*—0. [ad. L. *nūgātor*.]

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Nugator*, a trifler.

Nu·gatoriness. The fact of being nugatory.

1856 RUSKIN *Mod. Paint.* III. IV. xviii. § 26. 328 An incapacity..quite unequalled, as far as I know, in human nugatoriness.

†**Nugato·rious,** *a. Obs.*—1 [-OUS.] = next.

1646 R. BAILLIE *Anabaptism* (1647) 44 The tenet of the Catholick Church concerning Angels and Devils .. is nugatorious.

Nugatory (niū·gătəri), *a.* [ad. L. *nūgātōrius*, f. ppl. stem of *nūgārī* to trifle. Cf. It. and Sp. *nugatorio*, F. *nugatoire*.]

1. Trifling, of no value or importance, worthless.

1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 1156 That we may not range too farre, nor use any superfluous and nugatory words. 1674 JEAKE *Arith. Surv.* (1696) 613 The Equation is either Nugatory or Impossible. 1692 BENTLEY *Boyle Lect.* iii. 106 Too much addicted to this nugatory Art. 1786 JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1859) I. 520, I have been obliged..to a nugatory interference, merely to prevent the affairs of the United States from standing still. 1791 W. MAXWELL in Boswell *Johnson* an. 1770, Lord Lyttelton's Dialogues he deemed a nugatory performance. 1841 D'ISRAELI *Amen. Lit.* (1867) 299 The diligence of the editor has not been wasted on trivial researches or nugatory commentaries. 1879 THOMSON & TAIT *Nat. Phil.* I. I. § 81 Therefore the construction fails..and the theorem becomes nugatory.

2. Of no force, invalid; useless, futile, of no avail, inoperative.

1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* II. vii. § 5 Which assignation ..may seem to be nugatory and void. 1648 PRYNNE *Plea for Lords* 27 Which Act will be..void and nugatory. 1772 *Junius Lett.* Pref. (1788) 19 As the fact is usually admitted,..the office of the petty jury is nugatory. 1786 tr. *Beckford's Vathek* (1868) 9 His reiterated attempts were all of them nugatory. 1838 PRESCOTT *Ferd. & Isab.* (1846) II. xvii. 128 Those provisions of the edict..were contrived so artfully as to be nearly nugatory. 1878 LECKY *Eng. in 18th C.* I. ii. 306 The law, .was evaded and made almost nugatory.

Nuggar (nu·gär). Also nugger, -ur, noggur, ?negger. [Native name.] A large boat, of very broad beam, used on the upper Nile for the transport of cargo, troops, etc.

1870 BAKER *Ismailia* (1874) I. 173 We were hailed..within the Bahr Giraffe, by two noggurs (vessels) in distress. 1875 GORDON in *G. in Centr. Africa* (1881) 91 We have taken nuggars down the Western Passage. 1884 COLBORNE *With Hicks Pasha in Soudan* 109 We brought two battalions up with us in nuggurs.

Nugget (nu·gĕt), *sb.* [App. a derivative of south-western dial. *nug*, a lump, a block, a rough unshapen mass, etc.]

1. A rough lump of native gold.

1852 MUNOY *Antipodes* III. 322 Gold was not so plentiful as was anticipated,..nor were nuggets to be dug up..by the bushel. 1853 *Ann. Reg.*, *Chron.* 86 Crawcour came on board, and asked me for the nuggets of gold. 1871 CARLYLE in Mrs. Carlyle *Lett.* I. 162 Californian nuggets versus jewels of Heaven itself. 1880 SUTHERLAND *Tales Goldfields* 86 When the nugget had been deposited on the floor of the banker's room, it was weighed.

transf. 1859 JEPHSON *Brittany* xx. 344 Here and there a nugget of true poetry glitters among the clay. 1870 LOWELL *Study Wind.* 209 His quotations are always nuggets of the purest ore.

b. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *nugget-fashion*; *-hunter*, *-hunting*, *-testing*.

1857 RUSKIN *Pol. Econ. Art* 30 You dig him out as he lies nugget-fashion in the mountain stream. 1880 SUTHERLAND *Tales Goldfields* 80 That [occupation] which gold miners call nugget-hunting...To the nugget-hunter [etc.]. 1894 H. NISBET *Bush Girl's Romance* 9 Those fingers of yours are too sticky for nugget-testing in the dark.

2. A lump of anything.

1860 TENNENT *Story Guns* (1864) 244 Cast iron was found to crumble into harmless nuggets. 1891 PEARCE *Esther Pentreath* IV. i, Casy.., taking out the nugget of cake, held it timidly out to his rivals.

3. *Austral.* (See quot. 1852.)

1852 MUNOY *Antipodes* III. 322 The word nugget among farmers, signifies a small compact beast or runt. 1888 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Robbery under Arms* 14 We branded the little red heifer calf first—a fine fat six-months-old nugget.

Nu·gget, *v. Austral.* [f. prec.] *trans.* To appropriate (an unbranded calf).

1885 MRS. C. PRAED *Head Station* 239 Nobody would go there except after calves to nugget. 1893 — *Outlaw & Lawmaker* II. 19 In the days of their nefarious practices, [they] probably 'nuggeted' a good many..calves up here.

Nu·ggeting, *vbl. sb.* [f. as prec.] The occupation of searching for nuggets.

1880 SILVER *Handbk. Austral.* 163 Nuggeting is a pleasant and profitable occupation,..when..the lumps are found a few feet only from the surface.

Nu·gget(t)y, *a.* [f. NUGGET *sb.* + -Y.]

1. Having the form of nuggets.

1859 *Chamb. Jrnl.* XI. 290 If the gold should turn out to be 'nuggety'. 1890 *Nature* 20 Mar. 465 The origin of nuggetty gold.

2. Rich in nuggets.

1870 *Pall Mall G.* 26 Aug. 4 A district which..has earned for itself the proud title of the 'Nuggety Diggings'.

3. *Austral.* Of horses or cattle: Stout, compact, thick-set.

1893 *Pall Mall G.* 28 Jan. 3/1 The light spring waggon, drawn by a pair of sleek, nuggetty cobs.

†**Nu·gging-dress.** *Obs. Cant.* (See quot.)

a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew*, *Nugging-Dress*, an odd or particular way, out of the Fashion.

Nughtsom: see MIGHTSOME.

Nugi- (niū·dʒi), combining form of L. *nūgæ*, occurring in a few words which have not obtained any currency, as **Nugifri·volous** *a.*, free for frivolous trifling; **Nu·gifying** *ppl. a.*, productive of mere trifling; **Nugige·rulous** *a.* [L. *nūgigerulus*], 'carrying trifles, toys, etc.' (Bailey, vol. II, 1727); **Nu·gilogue,** trifling talk; **Nugi·perous** *a.*, ?inventing trifles.

1589 NASHE *Martin Marprelate* IV. Wks. (Grosart) I. 201 And now pretie youthes,..we shal haue some *nugifriuolous leasure to talke with you. 1818 COLERIDGE *Lit. Rem.* (1838) III. 183 The stultifying, *nugifying effect of a blind and uncritical study of the Fathers. 1649 DANIEL *Trinarch.*, *Hen. V* CXXXVIII, How ere the heapes Who Crowd to see, in Expectation fall To the Sweet *Nugilogues of Jacke, and Hall. 1647 WARD *Simpl. Cobler* 26 When I heare a *nugiperous Gentledame inquire What dresse the Queen is in [etc.].

Nuik, Sc. form of NOOK *sb.*

†**Nui·sable,** *a. Obs. rare*—1. [a. OF. *nuys-*, *nuisable*.] = NUISIBLE.

1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 439/2 Ryght so is the body of our lord Jhesu cryste nuysable and lettyng to the synnars.

Nuisance (niū·sâns). Forms: *α.* 5, 7–8 nusance, 5 -aunce, 7 -ans, -anze, nuzance; 6 newsance. *β.* 5 nuisaunce, nuysance, 7– nuisance. [a. OF. *nuisance*, *nusance*, etc., f. *nuis-*, *nuire* to hurt, harm: see -ANCE.]

1. Injury, hurt, harm, annoyance. (In later use only as implying sense 2 or 2 b.)

c 1410 HOCCLEVE *Mother of God* 21 Helpe me to weye Ageyn the feend!..Keepe vs from his nusance. *c* 1412 — *De Reg. Princ.* 810 To me thus longe walke, it doth nusance Vnto my crookid feeble lymes olde. 1512 *Nottingham Rec.* III. 339 To the gret hurtte of owre medo and newsance to vs all.

1776 E. TOPHAM *Lett. Edinb.* 9 The herb-women throw about the stalks of the bad vegetables to the great nuisance of the passengers. 1862 BURTON *Bk. Hunter* (1863) 106 Actions of damages for nuisance, trespass, or assault. 1888 *19th Cent.* Jan. 6 Declaring that cremation is a legal procedure, provided it be effected without nuisance to others.

2. Anything injurious or obnoxious to the community, or to the individual as a member of it (esp. as an owner or occupier of property), for which some legal remedy may be found.

α. 1464 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 569/2 That if eny such nusaunce were made, that it shuld be beten down. 1495 *Act* 11 *Hen. VII*, c. 26 Preamble, Many greate nusances and offences [are] not presented. 1641 *Commons Rem.* in Chas. I. Wks. 1662 II. 60 The sale of pretended Nusanzes, as Buildings in and about London. 1691 T. H[ALE] *Acc. New Invent.* p. lxxxi, I find that a Nusance once erected may be abated by any Body. 1710 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4768/1 All such Lotteries are..declared to be Common Nusances. 1721 *Modern Rep.* X. 336 The keeping of a gaming-house is an offence indictable at common law as a nusance. 1817 W. SELWYN *Law Nisi Prius* (ed. 4) II. 1044 If A. build an house so as to hang over the land of B., whereby the rain falls upon B.'s land, and injures it, B. may maintain an action against A. for this nusance.

β. 1638 POTTER in Chillingw. *Relig. Prot.* I. iv. § 67. 228 Shall it bee a fault to straiten and encumber the Kings high way with publique nuisances? 1773 *Obs. State Poor* 59 In vain is there a power..in the magistrate, of removing in great measure a nuisance so flagrantly pernicious to the community. 1853 T. J. WHARTON *Pennsylv. Digest* (ed. 6) II. 361 Some actions which would otherwise be nuisances may be justified by necessity. 1896 *Law Times* C. 488/1 Calling upon him to repair the drain so as to abate the nuisance complained of.

Comb. 1853 URE *Dict. Arts* (ed. 4) II. 799 They..would not again return to the nuisance-creating system.

b. In more general use: Anything obnoxious or annoying to the community or individual by offensiveness of smell or appearance, by causing obstruction or damage, etc.

1661 EVELYN *Diary* 1 Oct., My book inveighing against the nuisance of the smoke of London. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 430 ¶ 1 Whatsoever looks ill, and is offensive to the Sight; the worst Nusance of which kind [etc.]. 1756–7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) II. 396 The lumber, old cloaths,.. and the herb-stalls, are a great nusance. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) VI. 328 The annual inundation of these fish is so great, that they cover the shores in such quantities as to become a nuisance. 1807 SOUTHEY *Espriella's Lett.* (1814) II. 225 It is so frequent as to be quite a nuisance along the road. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* I. 312 The fox..was considered as a mere nuisance. 1864 C. GEIKIE *Life in Woods* iii. 54 But the pigs were not the only nuisance.

c. Applied to persons.

1695 CONGREVE *Love for L.* II. iii, I'll swear you are a nuisance to the neighbourhood.—What a bustle did you keep against the last invisible eclipse! *a* 1732 SWIFT *Serm.* Wks.

1841 II. 143/2 A wise man who does not assist with his counsels,..and a poor man with his labour, are perfect nuisances in a commonwealth. 1781 COWPER *Truth* 508 Seest thou yon harlot,..The worn-out nuisance of the public streets. 1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* iv, But here..he is a sort of privileged nuisance. 1859 SALA *Tw. round Clock* (1861) 154, I am an intolerable little nuisance. 1880 HAUGHTON *Phys. Geogr.* iv. 171 The Syrian highlanders..were a perpetual nuisance to the more powerful countries that surrounded them.

d. A highly obnoxious or troublesome practice, institution, state of things, etc.

1820 *Edin. Rev.* XXXIII. 350 The nuisance of monopoly completely put down. 1828 CARLYLE *Misc.* (1857) I. 163 In the eyes of Voltaire and his disciples, Religion was a superfluity, indeed a nuisance. 1865 MILL in *Morn. Star* 6 July, Of all the political nuisances of the day this is one which it most behoves everyone to make a stand against.

e. A source of annoyance; something personally unpleasant or disagreeable.

1831 LYTTON *Godolphin* viii, The other set,..who go little into parties, and vote balls a nuisance. 1865 TROLLOPE *Belton Est.* vii, The journey..was always a nuisance, and was more so now than usual. 1897 MARY KINGSLEY *W. Africa* 363 Neither de Ballay nor the steamer had arrived, and a very bitter nuisance this must have been.

Hence **Nui·sancer**, one who causes a nuisance.

1769 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* IV. xvi. 223 The animadversion of the law upon eaves-droppers, nusancers, and incendiaries.

† **Nui·sant,** *a. Obs. rare.* In 5, 7 nusant. [a. OF. *nuisant*, pres. pple. of *nuire*.] Harmful, hurtful; of the nature of a nuisance.

c 1400 tr. *Secreta Secret., Gov. Lordsh.* 86 Whenne þe nusant sterres loke noght aʒeyn. *Ibid.*, His remuynge fro nusant sterrys. 1676 *Grant of Ballastage to Trinity Ho.* 41 Anything that shall be prejudicial, nusant, or obnoxious, to any of our Palaces, Houses, or Buildings.

† **Nuise,** *v. Obs. rare.* In 4 nusy. [a. OF. *nuisir.*] *intr.* To do injury.

c 1315 SHOREHAM i. 530 Þe fend hym-self him maky mey Wel dyuerse liknynges..To nusy [*rime* vsy]. *Ibid.* 936 Senne ony-schryue wanne he uor-ʒet, Hys senne þer-be doubleþ To nusy [*rime* acusy].

† **Nui·sible,** *a. Obs. rare.* [a. OF. *nuisible*, f. *nuisir* or *nuire* to harm.] Harmful, hurtful.

1490 CAXTON *Eneydos* xxi. 76 Neuer of me came euyll vnto them, nor no thyng that was to theym nuysible. *Ibid.* xxiv. 89 All thynges that ben cruell and nuysyble.

† **Nui·some,** *a. Obs. rare* −1. [var. of NOISOME, after *nuisance*.] Annoying.

1738 BOLINGBROKE *Patriot King* ii. 152 Whole swarms of little, nuisome, nameless insects will hum and buzz in every corner of the court.

Nuk(e, obs. forms of NOOK.

† **Nuke.** *Obs.* Also 6 newke. [var. of NUCHE and NUQUE.]

1. The spinal cord.

1541 COPLAND *Guydon's Quest. Chirurg.* Div b, Holes..by the whiche descendeth the nuke of the brayne..tyll vnto the ende of the backe. 1543 TRAHERON *Vigo's Chirurg.* i. i. 2 The Nuke which is the mary of the backe bone..is as it were a streame descendynge from the said partie. 1547 BOORDE *Brev. Health* cclxvii. 118 The synewes doth procede from the newke which is the mary of the backe.

2. The nape of the neck.

1562 BULLEIN *Bulwarke, Dial. Sorenes & Chir.* 22 b, Cold is an enemie to the..braine, and nuke of the necke. 1634 T. JOHNSON tr. *Parey's Chirurg.* III. i. (1678) 55 The back-part of the neck called..the nuke or nape. 1676 WISEMAN *Surg. Treat.* IV. iv. 282 Those on the left side were then swelled from the Nuke down that side of the Neck.

So † **Nuke-bone.** *Obs. rare* −0.

1611 COTGR., *Os basilaire*, the Nape, or Nuke-bone.

Nul(e, will not, **Nulde**, would not: see NILL *v.*

† **Null,** *sb.*1 *Obs. rare.* [a. F. *nulle*, It. *nulla*, fem. of F. *nul*, It. *nullo*: see NULL *a.* So G. *null*(*e*, † *nulla*, Sw. *nolla*; G. *null*, Du., Da. *nul*, Sw. *nol.*] A cipher; a nought.

1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* II. xvi. § 6 The kinds of Cyphars (besides the simple cyphars with Changes, and intermixtures of Nulles and Nonsignificants) are many. *a* 1626 — *War with Spain* (1629) 5 If part of the People or Estate be somewhat in the Election, you cannot make them Nulls or Cyphers in the..Translation. 1691 T. H[ALE] *Acc. New Invent.* p. ix, An Unite was too much, and a Null too little.

Null *sb.*2, variant of KNURR.

1816 *Sporting Mag.* XLVIII. 178 The games most common at Newmarket were fives, spell and null, marbles [and] chuck-farthing.

Null *sb.*3, variant of KNUBL *sb.* 1.

1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 1535/2 By moving the lever up and down, the carriage is..advanced the proper distance and the nulls or beads formed by the cutter.

Null (nʌl), *a.* [a. OF. *nul* masc., *nulle* fem., = It. *nullo*, *nulla*, Sp. *nulo*, *nula*, or ad. L. *nullus*, f. *ne* not + *ullus* any. So G. *null*, Du. *nul.*]

1. Void, of no legal or binding force; of no efficacy, invalid.

1563–7 BUCHANAN *Reform. St. Andros* Vernac. Writ. (S.T.S.) 16 Al thayr votis that tendis to continuation, to be nul. 1569 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* II. 7 In caise the same titillis of the law be reduceable or may be declarit null. 1639 SIR T. STAFFORD in *Lismore Papers* Ser. II. (1888) IV. 66 There Late assemblie to be held null, the Kinge to appoint a new one. 1657 W. MORICE *Coena quasi Koivη* § 23. 231 To say expressly that all is Null which was done at Pyworthy. 1714 R. FIDDES *Pract. Disc.* II. 35 Their commands are originally null and of no force. 1765 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* I. xv. 425 If such consent from the father was wanting, the marriage was null. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* v. I. 582 The act of attainder..would become superfluous at the very moment at which it ceased to be null. 1888 BRYCE *Amer. Commonw.* I. xxxiv. 524 The tribunal is disposed rather to support than to treat as null the act done.

b. In phrase *null and void.*

1669 MARVELL *Corr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 297 Prorogation makes all Bills, Votes, and Proceedings of this Session null and voyd. 1769 *Junius Lett.* xvi. (1788) 95 Any votes given to him are null and void. 1803 WELLINGTON in Gurw. *Desp.* (1835) II. 610, I yesterday gave notice..that I should consider it null and void from the 27th instant. 1871 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1876) IV. xvii. 27 That all acts done by the authority of the usurper Harold were held to be null and void.

2. Of no value or importance; insignificant, ineffective.

1790 BURKE *French Rev.* Sel. Wks. II. 208 Here the principle of contribution .. is reprobated as null, and destructive to equality. 1803 MALTHUS *Popul.* (1817) III. 185 We take all possible pains to weaken and render null the ties of nature. 1842 KINGSLEY *Lett.* (1878) I. 79 Truth made practically null by modifying it to suit circumstances. 1880 KINGLAKE *Crimea* VI. ix. 304 Upon grounds thus weak, or, to speak more exactly, thus null he founded his charges.

b. Devoid of character, expression, or distinctive personality.

a 1850 MARG. FULLER *At Home & Abroad* (1860) 343 As to character, so null that everybody laughed. 1855 TENNYSON *Maud* I. II. 6 Faultily faultless, icily regular, splendidly null. 1889 H. F. WOOD *Englishm. Rue Cain* i, The ordeal of lighting up that terribly null countenance.

3. Nothing; nil; non-existent.

1761 *Phil. Trans.* LII. 277 The effect of the other planets is either null or known. 1792 *Ibid.* LXXXII. 242 Atmospheric electricity has been..variable..; sometimes quite null, then weak, or strong by turns. 1811 PINKERTON *Petral.* II. 486 Its influence on that element was absolutely null. 1834 MCMURTRIE *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 384 The internal lobe of the maxillæ null or very small. 1866 R. M. FERGUSON *Electr.* (1870) 15 The combined effect of the two terrestrial poles..is thus null.

4. *spec.* in *null belt, method, point* (see quots.).

1809–10 COLERIDGE *Friend* (1818) III. 150 That confusion and formality are but the opposite poles of the same null-point? 1851 NICHOL *Archit. Heav.* (ed. 9) 208 The centre of gravity and motion, being the mere point where all opposite tendencies find their balance—the system's null point. 1860 MAURY *Phys. Geogr.* xv. § 640 This calm zone ..may be considered as a thermal adjustment—the dynamical null-belt—between the trade-winds of the two hemispheres. 1873 MAXWELL *Electr. & Magn.* (1881) I. 301 Methods of this kind, in which the thing to be observed is the non-existence of some phenomenon, are called *null* or *zero* methods.

Null (nʌl), *v.*1 [f. NULL *a.*, after *annul.* Cf. also OF. *nuller*, med.L. *nullare* (rare).]

† **1.** *trans.* To negative; to make negative. *Obs.*

c 1620 A. HUME *Brit. Tongue* (1865) 33 Not is an adverb, ..and in our tong followes the verb that it nulleth.

† **2.** To reduce to nothing; to destroy or efface completely. *Obs.* (freq. in 17th c.)

c 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* (1650) I. 384, I believe [not]..that she was able to null and extinguish the native languages she found in those places. *a* 1691 BOYLE *Hist. Air* (1692) 69 These objections..do not really null or take away the possibility of the thing. 1702 S. PARKER tr. *Cicero De Finibus* v. 356 In a manner to null and erase their very Being. 1722 DE FOE *Col. Jack* (1840) 342 He does all he can to null or quash the story.

† **b.** To deny the validity of. *Obs. rare* −1.

1656 BAXTER *Reformed Partn.* 338, I speak not this against any Bishops that acknowledge the Presbyters to be true Pastors..but of them that null the Presbyters office.

3. To annul, cancel, make void.

1643 *Richlieu's Epit.* in *Harl. Misc.* (Malh.) V. 333 Lest he should spare her, when she was dead, he nulled her last will. 1663–4 MARVELL *Corr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 139 They affirm that his..Royal majesty..desired that the Privileges might be nulled. 1693 NORRIS *Pract. Disc.* (1711) III. 90 God forbid that such a Law should ever be null'd or made void. *a* 1716 BLACKALL *Wks.* (1723) I. 294 Because these Marriages had been made before the Law against them was given,..it was not reasonable that they would be nulled. 1757 BURKE *Abridgm. Eng. Hist.* Wks. 1842 II. 584 The first election he nulled, because its irregularity was glaring. 1869 DORAN *Table Traits* 384 A particular act of their worships..nulled the proclamation.

Hence **Nu·lling** *vbl. sb.*

1654 H. L'ESTRANGE *Chas. I* (1655) 78 The unbilleting of Souldiers and nulling of Martiall Law in times of Peace. *a* 1687 H. MORE *Cont. Remark. Stories* 446 Which is a perfect dissolution or nulling of the True..Religion.

Null, *v.*2 [var. of *nurl*, KNURL *v.*] *intr.* a. To make knurls. b. Of a line: To kink.

1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

Nulla, variant of NULLAH.

Nu·lla. Also nullah. = NULLA-NULLA.

1881 *Gentl. Mag.* Jan. 69 The birds are so tame that the natives knock them down by hurling their nullahs. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col.-Reformer* (1891) 204 Hutkeeper at once seized his nulla in one hand.

Nu·llable, *a. rare* −1. [f. NULL *v.* + -ABLE.] Capable of being annulled.

a 1718 W. PENN *Tracts* Wks. 1727 I. 683 If that Fundamental which gives to the People a Power of Legislation be not nullable.

‖ **Nulla bona** (nʌ·lă bōa·nă). [L., 'no goods'.] The return made by a sheriff upon an execution when the party has no goods to be distrained.

[1713 ARBUTHNOT *John Bull* II. xvi, For a Return of a *Non est invent.*, and *Nulla habet bona.*]

1807 *Amer. State P.* Misc. (1834) I. 675 (Stanf.), For return of nulla bona 25 cents. 1829 W. H. MAXWELL *Stories Waterloo* (1856) 63 The sheriff returned a *non est inventus*... I ran him to execution, and got *nulla bona* on my return. 1885 *Law Times* LXXVIII. 109/1 The sheriff made a return of *nulla bona*, Cramond's execution..having swept all the goods away.

Nullafidian, variant of NULLIFIDIAN.

‖ **Nullah** (nʌ·lă). *Anglo-Indian.* Also nulla. [Hindī *nālā* brook, rivulet, ravine.] A river or stream; a watercourse, river-bed, ravine.

1776 HALHED *Code Gentoo Laws* 52 When the water fails in all the *Nullahs.* 1793 HODGES *Trav. India* 20 This road is crossed by several nullahs, some of which have ferry boats stationed at them. 1834 MEDWIN *Angler in Wales* II. 16 A nullah, broader and swifter than usual, cut off my communication with the budgerow. 1859 R. F. BURTON *Centr. Afr.* in *Jrnl. Geogr. Soc.* XXIX. 206 Here and there are nullahs, with high stiff earthbanks for the passage of rain torrents. 1883 F. M. CRAWFORD *Mr. Isaacs* x, We had just crossed a nullah in the forest, full from the recent rains.

attrib. 1869 E. A. PARKES *Pract. Hygiene* (ed. 3) 71 Marsh or nullah water full of vegetable debris.

‖ **Nu·lla-nu·lla,** Also gnulla-, nullah-, nolla-. [Native Australian.] A club of hard wood used as a weapon by the aborigines of Australia.

1838 T. L. MITCHELL *Exped. E. Austral.* I. 350 Striking him on the back of the head with a nulla-nulla. 1863 BEVERIDGE *Gatherings* 10 Wherein lay his Nullah-nullah. 1885 MRS. C. PRAED *Head Station* 176 The elder men beat their nulla-nullas, and waved their spears. 1890 LUMHOLTZ *Cannibals* 72 The nolla-nolla or club, the warlike weapon of the Australian native most commonly in use.

Nulle, will not: see NILL *v.*

Nulled, variant of KNURLED *ppl. a.*

1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 1535/1 *Nulled-work*, turned work resembling a series of beads strung on a rod.

† **Nu·ller.** *Obs. rare* −1. [f. NULL *v.*1 + -ER 1.] One who annuls; a nullifier.

1650–87 H. MORE *Conject. Cabbal.* (1713) 240 Gross Idolaters, bold Nullers or Abrogators of the indispensable Laws of Christ.

Nullibi·city. *rare* −1. [f. L. *nullibi* nowhere.] The condition of being nowhere existent. So **Nullibi·ety, Nullibi·lity.** Also **Nullibi·quitous** *a.*, nowhere existing.

1822 MRS. E. NATHAN *Langreath* III. 290 They have succeeded so far as to render her [*sc.* Liberty] in a state of *nullibicity. 1668 WILKINS *Real Char.* II. vii. § 2. 188 Ubiquity, omnipresence, *Nullibiety. 1896 COMMON *Nietzsche's Wks.* XI. 38 Wagner's ubiquity and nullibiety. 1832 *Fraser's Mag.* VI. 483 Our mock-modest rulers .. have almost persuaded themselves of the *nullibility of these houses. 1820 *Examiner* 632/2 Mr. Dadikey's *nullibiquitous hat and waistcoat.

† **Nu·llibism.** *Obs. rare.* [See next and -ISM.] The doctrine of the nullibists.

1681 GLANVILL *Sadducismus* 111 Dost thou hear, my Nullibist, what one of the..Symmists of that stupendious secret of Nullibism plainly professes?

Nu·llibist. Now *rare* or *Obs.* [f. L. *nullibi* nowhere + -IST.] One who affirms that a spirit or incorporeal being nowhere exists.

1662 H. MORE *Philos. Writ.* Pref. Gen., Scholia xxvii. (1712) 28 For what relates to the opinion of the Nullibists, I have abundantly demonstrated how wild a notion it is. 1681 GLANVILL *Sadducismus* 100 Those other therefore because they so boldly affirm that a Spirit is Nullibi..have deservedly purchased to themselves the Name or Title of Nullibists. *a* 1763 DODDRIDGE *Wks.* (1803) IV. 408 We must go into the scheme of the Nullibists, and affirm that God is no where. 1803 W. TAYLOR in *Monthly Mag.* XIV. 490 He may, consequentially, with respect to external beings, be a nullibist.

Nullification (nʌlifikē·ʃən). [ad. late L. *nullificātio*, f. *nullificāre*: see NULLIFY and -ATION.]

† **1.** Reduction to nothing. *Obs. rare.*

1630 DONNE *Serm.* clviii. Wks. 1839 VI. 288 This is..the most deadly and peremptory Nullification of Man that we can consider.

2. The action of rendering null or of no effect.

1808 BENTHAM *Sc. Reform* 18 Principle of nullification; decision on grounds avowedly foreign to the merits. 1810 — *Packing* (1821) 7 The most efficient instrument of injustice may be seen in the principle and practice of nullification. 1839 JAMES *Louis XIV*, I. 66 His accession to the throne was ushered in by the nullification of his father's will. 1886 *Manch. Exam.* 17 Feb. 5/4 The nullification of elections by a partisan majority.

b. *U. S.* The action, on the part of a State legislature, of refusing to allow a general law to be enforced within the State. Also *attrib.*

The term app. originated with Jefferson in 1798.

1838 HT. MARTINEAU *Western Trav.* I. 244 Mr. Calhoun is as full as ever of his Nullification doctrines. 1859 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer.* (ed. 2) 298 Nullification, in the case of South Carolina, was simply an act, or at least a threat of open rebellion. 1894 FISKE *Hist. Amer.* 270 The government of the United States has never acknowledged the right of nullification, or permitted any state to exercise it.

Hence **Nullifica·tionist; Nu·llifica·tor.**

1862 LUDLOW *Hist. U. S.* 135 The President .. seemed almost a natural ally to the Nullificationists. 1833 *New Monthly Mag.* XXXVII. 358 The little distracted band of nullificators, as some of your journals call them.

Nullifidian (nʌlifi·diăn), *sb.* and *a.* Also 6 nulla-; 7 -fidean. [f. L. *nulli-*, comb. form of *nullus* no + *fidēs* faith.]

A. *sb.* **1.** One of no faith or religion; a sceptic in matters of religion.

1564–78 BULLEIN *Dial. agst. Pest.* (1888) 14 To be plain, I am a Nullafidian, and there are many of our secte. 1596 HARINGTON *Metam. Apol.* Dd ij b, Then all sayd they would condemne mee as a neuter, or *nulli fidian*, except I gaue a better answere. 1637 GILLESPIE *Eng. Pop. Cerem.* Epist.

A 2 The Atheisticall Nullifidian nothing regardeth the assoyling of Ecclesiasticall controversies. 1668 Howe *Bless. Righteous* (1825) 157 Sure to be so a Solifidian is to be a nullifidian. 1775 Howie *Scots Worthies* Pref. (1871) p. xxx, Some sceptical nullifidian or other may be ready to object. 1816 Scott *Old Mort.* xxxi, In their eyes, a lukewarm Presbyterian was little better than a Prelatist, an anti-Covenanter, and a Nullifidian. 1826 — *Woodst.* xv, In case thou shouldst bolla for assistance, as yonder Nullifidian hath it.

2. *transf.* One who lacks faith; a disbeliever.

1668 Kirkman *Eng. Rogue* (1871) II. 57 The very Alehouse-keeper..was now grown such a Nullifidian that he would not believe us for small-beer. 1830 *Blackw. Mag.* XXVII. 533 Sir John Moore was professedly a nullifidian in Spanish energy and patriotism. 1872 Geo. Eliot *Middlem.* I. iv, Celia was no longer the eternal cherub, but..a pink-and-white nullifidian.

B. *adj.* Having no faith or belief.

1627 Feltham *Resolves* II. xlvii. (1677) 253 A Solifidean-Christian is a Nullifidean-Pagan. 1816 Scott *Old Mort.* xxxi, I fear treachery to the host from this nullifidian Achan. 1885 Swinburne *Misc.* (1886) 175 The sceptic, or in the phrase of Wither's time the nullifidian Nott.

Nullifier (nʌ·lifəiəɹ). [f. Nullify *v.* + -er 1.]

1. One who nullifies; *spec.* in *U. S. Hist.*, one who maintained the right of any State to annul, within its own boundaries, laws passed in Congress.

1832 W. Irving *Life & Lett.* (1866) III. 44 A member of the legislature, and one of the leaders of the nullifiers. 1844 Emerson *New Eng. Reformers* Wks. (Bohn) I. 260 So the country is frequently affording .. examples of .. solitary nullifiers, who throw themselves on their reserved rights. 1894 Fiske *Hist. Amer.* 312 To the mixture of threat with persuasion the nullifiers yielded.

2. *transf.* (See quot.)

1859 Bartlett *Dict. Amer.* (ed. 2) 298 *Nullifier*..was also applied to a sort of shoe, made like a decapitated boot, brought into fashion in the 'nullification' times.

†**Nu·lliform,** *a. Obs. rare* −1. [f. L. *nulli-, nullus* no + -form.] Having no proper form. Hence †**Nullifo·rmity.** *Obs. rare* −1.

c 1581 in *Grindal's Rem.* (Parker Soc.) 471 It was like that religion .. would against his nature have proved milliform, yea, in continuance nulliform. 1644 Hardwick in *Toleration Disapproved & Condemned* (1670) 26 We have undertaken..the establishment of Uniformity, and how can that stand with this Omniformitie, indeed Nulliformity, I understand not.

Nullify (nʌ·lifəi), *v.* [ad. late L. *nullificāre* (Tertullian), f. *nulli-, nullus* Null *a.*: see -fy. So F. *nullifier*.]

1. *trans.* To render legally null and void; to annul, cancel.

1595 Daniel *Civ. Wars* III. lxxxix, Which accusation was th' occasion, that His successour by order nullifies Many his Patents. 1607 R. C[arew] tr. *Estienne's World of Wonders* 353 He nullified all the indulgences granted to the French. 1643 Marshall *Lett.* 22 The judgements of all other Courts are ratified or nullified by a Parliament. 1775 Johnson *Tax. no Tyr.* 38 By crossing the Atlantick he has not nullified his right. 1817 Cobbett *Wks.* XXXII. 360 Seeing that the act nullifies their previous engagement. 1825 *Gentl. Mag.* XCV. i. 501 This bequest being to the poor indefinitely, nullified his will. 1880 E. Kirke *Life Garfield* 43 It was that act which South Carolina nullified and refused to allow to be executed within her borders.

absol. 1837 Calhoun *Wks.* III. 57 The State of South Carolina..declared the act to be unconstitutional, and as such null and void. In a word, we nullified.

2. To make of no value, use, or efficacy; to reduce to nothingness; to efface completely.

1609 Sir E. Hoby *Let. to T. Higgons*] 56 If Aërius..doe ioyne with the Primitiue Church, in nullifying oblations for the dead. 1642 J. Eaton *Honey-c. Free Justif.* 373 If it heale not these,..is not Justification nullified, and made of no use? 1675 Brooks *Gold. Key* Wks. 1867 V. 218 He hath weakened, yea, nullified and taken away sin. 1781 S. Peters *Hist. Connecticut* 26 Enough, surely, has been said to nullify the Colonists' plea of having bought their lands of the Indians. 1809 *Med. Jrnl.* XXI. 509 These facts .. could by no means subvert and nullify the very obvious and evident advantages. 1850 Grote *Greece* II. lx. (1862) V. 288 The narrow dimensions of the harbour would have nullified her superiority at all times. 1876 Farrar *St. Paul* (1883) 47 They had long learnt to nullify what they professed to defend.

b. With personal object.

1603 J. Davies *Microcos.* Wks. (Grosart) I. 43/1 If otherwise he should with them abide, They would through glory be quite nullified. 1625 B. Jonson *Staple of N.* iv. Interm. iv, I would haue..her Graces Herald to..nullifie him for no Gentleman. 1642 Rogers *Naaman* 311 Absolutely unsubsisting in themselves, meerly nullified. 1702 C. Mather *Magn. Chr.* III. i. (1852) 343 Thus content was he to be nullified, that the Lord might be magnified. 1849–50 Alison *Hist. Europe* I. i. § 63. 106 He not only brought the nobility to Paris, but he nullified them when there.

Hence **Nu·llifying** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1647 Ward *Simp. Cobler* 50 Such usurpations are the Neronian nullifyings of Kingdomes. 1651 Baxter *Inf. Bapt.* 226 The violating of the Covenant is not fitly called a nullifying of it. 1681 — *Answ. Dodwell* iii. 22 Against even the Nullifying Canons. 1832 W. Irving *Life & Lett.* (1866) III. 44, I dined with him at Governor Hamilton's, the nullifying Governor. 1852 Hanna *Mem. Dr. Chalmers* IV. xiii. 203 A nullifying edict..from the Civil Court.

‖ **Nullipara** (nʌli·pără). [mod.L., f. *nulli-* (cf. prec.) + *-para*, fem. of *-parus*: see -parous.] A female who has never given birth to a child.

1872 T. G. Thomas *Dis. Women* (ed. 3) 76 In a nullipara, or virgin, this is often produced. 1904 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 3 Dec. 83 The patient was a nullipara.

Hence **Nullipa·rity; Nulli·parous** *a.*

1859 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* V. 624/2 The average dimensions of the virgin or nulliparous uterus. 1872 T. G. Thomas *Dis. Women* (ed. 3) 127 Parturition is almost never met with in nulliparous women, except after removal of large tumors per vaginam. 1878 *Obstet. Trans.* (1879) XX. 173 Circumstances..in which proof of parity or nulliparity may turn out to be proof of innocence or guilt.

Nullipore (nʌ·lipōəɹ). [f. L. *nulli-, nullus* no + Pore *sb.*1] A form of marine vegetation having the power of secreting lime like the coral polyp.

1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVI. 363/1 In his system, the Nullipores are rejected from the place so long assigned them. 1860 Maury *Phys. Geogr.* xiii. § 560 Brilliant, rosy, or peach coloured Nullipores overgrow the decaying masses. 1882 Geikie *Geol. Sketches* 34 We pick up..broken whelks, nullipores, and corallines.

attrib. 1888 H. W. Parker *Spirit Beauty* (1889) 20 Gorgon corals and nullipore sea-weeds.

Nu·llism. *rare* −1. [f. Null *a.* + -ism.] Absence of distinctive character.

1831 Carlyle in *Fraser's Mag.* III. 130 All critical guild-brethren now working diligently..in the calmer sphere of Vapidism or even Nullism.

Nullity (nʌ·liti). [a. F. *nullité* (= It. *nullita*, Sp. *nulidad*), or med.L. *nullitas*: see Null *a.* and -ity.]

1. The fact of being legally null and void; invalidity. Also (with *a* and *pl.*), an instance of this; a fact or circumstance causing invalidity.

a. With reference to marriage. Also *attrib.*

1570 Foxe *A. & M.* (ed. 2) 1222/1 The Pope beyng minded ..to gene sentence for the innaliditie and nullitie of the kyngs first pretensed matrimonie. 1613 Sir R. Naunton in *Buccleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 140 The nullity in the case of my Lord of Essex and his Lady. 1645 Milton (title-p.), Tetrachordon, Expositions upon the four chief places in Scripture which treat of Marriage or Nullities in Marriage. 1707 tr. *Wks. C'tess D'Anois* (1715) 114 Omitting nothing that was necessary to be done, to prevent the starting of any Nullities in my Wedlock. 1765 Blackstone *Comm.* I. 434 These disabilities..only make the marriage voidable, and not *ipso facto* void, until sentence of nullity be obtained. 1845 Campbell *Chancellors* xxxiv. (1857) II. 85 They..introduced into it words respecting the original nullity of the King's first marriage. 1865 *Morn. Star* 3 Feb., This was a petition for nullity of marriage on the ground of imperfect publication of the banns. 1894 *Daily News* 26 July 9/1 The respondent not having entered an appearance or put in any defence in the nullity suit.

b. In general use.

1608 Willet *Hexapla Exod.* 675 Notwithstanding this negligence there was no nullitie of Aarons consecration. 1637–50 Row *Hist. Kirk* (Wodrow Soc.) 111 The nullitie of the former gift to be discussed als well by way of exception as action. *a* 1683 Owen *Holy Sp.* (1693) 222 There would have been a Nullity in what they did. *a* 1715 Burnet *Own Time* (1766) I. 84 Which inferred a nullity on all their proceedings. 1776 J. Adams *Wks.* (1854) IX. 390 You have my hearty concurrence in telling the jury the nullity of acts of parliament. 1875 Stubbs *Const. Hist.* II. xiv. 142 The nullity of all proceedings taken in contravention of them.

†**2.** Nullification. *Obs. rare.*

1597 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* v. lxii. § 13 Dissolutions and Nullities of things done are not onely not fauoured, but hated. *Ibid.* v. lxxxi. § 3 A nullitie or frustration of all such acts. 1654 H. L'Estrange *Chas. I* (1655) 155 The next day a Declinator and Protestation was presented.. against the Assembly and containing a Nullity of it.

3. An act or thing which is null or invalid.

1624 Gee *New Shreds Old Snare* 17 The Consistories of our Bishops can doe no Acts but nullities against any of these. 1652 N. Culverwel *Treat.* I. vii. (1661) 49 They are not onely irregularities, but meer nullities. 1768 Blackstone *Comm.* III. 246 This the temporal courts pay no regard to, and look upon a caveat as a mere nullity. 1818 Cruise *Digest* (ed. 2) IV. 281 The last execution shall stand; the first being a mere nullity. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* ii. I. 178 The national sales, not having been confirmed by parliament, were regarded by the tribunals as nullities. 1891 *Law Times* XC. 462/1 The Court declared the deed a nullity.

4. The condition of being null or nought; a state of nothingness.

1589 G. Harvey *Pierces Super.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 176 Euerlasting infamie, horrible damnation, & a most hideous nullity. 1620 T. Granger *Div. Logike* 112 For where there is no essence, or a thing deprined of essence, there is negation, or nullitie. 1649 Jer. Taylor *Gt. Exemp.* Disc. ii. § 11 Sometimes such .. smaller indecencies are therefore pardoned and lessened almost to a nullity. 1715 Bentley *Serm.* xi. 376 The whole system of Nature must immediately..vanish into its primitive Nullity. 1791 Cowper *Yardley Oak* 88 Thy growth From almost nullity into a state Of matchless grandeur. 1848 W. H. Kelly tr. *L. Blanc's Hist. Ten Y.* I. 39 Had not the hundred days afforded proof of the political nullity of the elder Bourbons? 1873 M. Arnold *Lit. & Dogma* 285 The nullity of its deliverances, where..to bring it manifestly to book is impossible.

5. †**a.** A nought, a cipher. *Obs.*

1587 Fleming *Cont. Holinshed* III. 1371/1 The cipher with the nullities and marks for names of princes and councillors. 1624 Bedell *Lett.* xii. 161 If..you finde you haue taken manie nullities for signifying numbers,..correct the totall.

b. A mere nothing.

a 1591 H. Smith *Wks.* (1867) II. 448 The error..is great, but yet not such as doth make a nullity of our church. 1596 Nashe *Saffron Walden* Wks. (Grosart) III. 69 What the plausibilitie of Martin? A Nullitie; yea and a wofull Nullitie, and a piteous Nullitie. 1642 H. More *Song of Soul* II. i. iv. i, [I] them nigh blame of deep idolatrie That give so much to that slight nullitie. 1791 Cowper *Wks.* (1837) XV. 226 Such a mere nullity is time, to a creature to whom God gives a feeling heart. 1828 D'Israeli *Chas. I*, I. x. 287 Like many similar attempts..this predatory attack concluded in a nullity. 1860 Motley *Netherl.* v. (1868) I. 137 His army was shrinking to a nullity.

c. Of persons: A nonentity.

1657 J. Trapp *Comm. Job* xxx. 2 These Sanniones, in the text were, through idleness, mear nullities in the world. 1846 Browning *Lett.* (1899) I. 394 Such a miserable nullity, and husk of a man. 1874 Blackie *Self-Cult.* 30 In society the most accomplished man of mere professional skill is often a nullity.

Nu·lliverse. [f. L. *nulli-, nullus* no, in contrast to *universe*.] A world devoid of any unifying principle or plan.

1847 Wilkinson tr. *Swedenborg's Outl. Infinite* Introd. 17 [He] made of the universe an incoherent nulliverse, a whirl of fleeting sequences, and a delirious 'chase of Pan'. 1882 W. James in *Mind* 192 The world..is pure incoherence, a chaos, a nulliverse, to whose haphazard sway I will not truckle.

†**Nullize,** *v. Obs. rare* −1. [f. Null *a.* + -ize.] *trans.* To bring to nothing.

a 1618 Sylvester *Honour's Farewell* 82 Wks. (Grosart) II. 287 A lowly Fortune is of all despised: A lofty one, oft, of it selfe, nullized.

Nu·llo. Now *Typog.* [a. It. *nullo*: see Null *a.*] A nought, a cipher.

1598 Florio, *Cero*, Zero, a sipher of naught, a nullo. *a* 1640 Jackson *Creed* x. Notes, Wks. IX. 271 To reckon it [*sc.* pleasure] not only as a nullo or cypher,..but as a mere vacuum or nothing. 1680 W. de Britaine *Hum. Prud.* vi. (1686) 29, I am not much concerned if the Plebeian Heads take me for the Image of a Fly, a Nullo, a Cypher. 1824 J. Johnson *Typogr.* II. iv. 71 The nullo..may be used as a degree in geometrical works.

Nullubist, variant of Nullibist.

1668 *H. More's Div. Dial.* Publisher's Pref. A 3 That new fond Opinion of the Nullubists,..that God is no-where.

†**Num,** abbreviation of Numskull.

1807 W. Irving *Salmag.* (1811) I. 67 *Mem.* All the New-Jersey lawyers *nums.*

†**Num,** variant of *nome* Name *v.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 9823 þe stalworth godd man sal him num, Godd fader o werld es for to cum.

Num, obs. pa. pple. of Nim *v.*

Numb (nʌm), *a.* (and *sb.*). Forms: (5 nomyn,) 5–6 nome, 6–8 num, 6–7 numme, numbe, 7 numne, 7– numb. [pa. pple. of Nim *v.*]

A. *adj.* **1.** Deprived of feeling, or of the power of movement, *esp.* through excessive cold.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 358/1 Nomyn, or take wythe þe palsye, *paraliticus*. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xxx. 111 There chachid I the crumpe, yit held I my grounde halfe nome. 1551 Turner *Herbal* I. (1568) 9 Leopardes bayne layd to a scorpione maketh hyr utterly amased and num. 1577–82 Breton *Toys of Idle Head* ix, My harte it selfe, is bitten so with frost, That all my sences now are waxed nome. 1607 Rowlands *Diogines Lanth.* D 2, I make them warme, That are both colde and numme. 1626 Bacon *Sylva* §735 Leaning long upon any Part maketh it Numme, and as we call it, Asleep. 1674 N. Fairfax *Bulk & Selv.* 47 Were all seeing things sightless, there would be no colours..; all feelers numb, nothing handlesom. 1820 Keats *Eve of St. Agnes* i, Numb were the Beadsman's fingers, while he told His rosary. 1882 'Ouida' *Maremma* I. 209 Just now I grew blind and numb.

fig. *a* 1568 Ascham *Scholem.* (Arb.) 148 That their feete: be feete without ioyntes, that is to say, not distinct by trew quantitie of sillabes: And so, soch feete, be but numme..feete. 1610 *Histrio-mastix* I. 33 Musick shall feast the bounteous eares of Peace, Whil'st she inspires her numme conceipt with life. 1869 *Speaker* 7 Feb. 453/2 To foster that sense of history which is as active in that country as it is numb in our own.

b. Helpless, incapable. *Numb hand*, an inexpert or clumsy person. *slang.*

1802 Paley *Nat. Theol.* xix. (1819) 302 A snail, as it should seem, is the most numb and unprovided of all artificers. 1853 R. S. Surtees *Sponge's Sp. Tour* xxxviii. 212 The fact is, that ladies'-maids are only numb hands in all that relates to hunting. 1866 *Punch* 27 Oct. 177 The Bradford writer is a 'numb hand'.

c. *Comb.*, as *numb-cold, -footed, -handed.*

1605 *Tryall Chevalry* III. ii, But death hath layd his numcold hand vpon me. 1853 R. S. Surtees *Sponge's Sp. Tour* xxiii. 123 You scandalous, hypocritical, rusty-booted, numb-handed son of a puffing corn-cutter. 1866 Carlyle *Remin.* (1881) I. 272 A heavy, shortish, numb-footed man.

2. Of the nature of numbness.

1641 Milton *Ch. Govt.* vi. Wks. 1851 III. 124 If to bring a num and chil stupidity of soul..be to keep away schisme, they keep away schisme indeed. 1836 Sir W. Hamilton *Discuss.* (1852) 269 To induce that numb rigidity into our intellectual life. 1879 *St. George's Hosp. Rep.* IX. 795 The note on that day shows that there had been some smarting pain in the ear, and also a 'numb' feeling in it occasionally.

†**b.** *Numb palsy*, paralysis. *Obs.*

1642 Rogers *Naaman* 35 What a numbe palsey, what a Laodicean temper..hath covered us over. 1709 Strype *Ann. Ref.* I. xliii. 434 He was taken with the numb palsy on one side. 1772 *Boston Gaz.* 2 Mar. 3/1 Last Friday died very sudden of the Numb-Palsey, Mrs. Mary Sigourney.

3. Causing numbness. *rare* −1.

1594 Shaks. *Rich. III*, II. i. 117 He..did giue himselfe (All thin and naked) to the numbe cold night.

B. *sb.* A cold which numbs fish.

1888 Armstrong in Goode *Amer. Fishes* 119 When we have extremely cold and cloudy weather,..the Trout at the mouth of New River are benumbed...When these 'numbs' occur, it is generally known through this and the adjoining counties. *Ibid.*, There was a 'numb' in January, 1877, and another in the winter of 1879.

Numb (nʌm), *v.* Also 7 numme, numn, num. [f. prec., or back-formation from next: cf. the earlier *benumb*.] *trans.* To make numb.

1602 Marston *Antonio's Rev.* iv. iv, I will live, Onely to numme some others cursed bloode With the dead palsie of

like misery. 1645 N. Drake *Sieges Pontefract Castle* (Surtees) 27 The bullitt grased upon Captin Fluddes legg, and numned it a little. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* I. 401 Plough naked, Swain, and naked sow the Land, For lazy Winter nums the lab'ring Hand. 1742 Gray *Eton* 89 Lo, Poverty,..That numbs the soul with icy hand. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) VI. 266 The people..perceived, that the torpedo had actually numbed the dead fishes into life again. 1813 Scott *Rokeby* III. xxi, A silent mood Hath numb'd the current of his blood. 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 413 Age numbs the sense of both worlds.

absol. 1610 Markham *Masterp.* II. clxxiii. 487 Cicuta which wee call hemlocke..numbeth and astonieth.

Numbed (nʌmd), *ppl. a.* Also 6–7 numd, 6–8 nummed, 7 nu m)m'd; 6 nombde, 8 numb'd. [f. Numb *a.*; cf. prec. and *benumbed*.]

1. Deprived of feeling or power of movement, *esp.* through cold. Also *fig.* a. In predicative use. Also with *up*.

1553 Brende *Q. Curtius* S j, They were streighte wayes so nummed for colde, that they could not ryse agayne. 1577 Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* II. (1586) 68 b, You must shake of the Caterpillers in the morning,..when they be numbed. *a* 1601 ? Marston *Pasquil & Kath.* II. 235, I am almost dead, numb'd vp with feare. 1655 Gurnall *Chr. in Arm.* v. 195/1 Finding his hands nummed with cold he goes first to the fire. 1727 A. Hamilton *New Acc. E. Indies* II. xxxix. 89 It grew first red by Inflammation, and then blue and nummed. 1768 Sir W. Jones *Solima* Poems (1777) 3 To warm the traveller, numb'd with winter's cold. 1860 Tyndall *Glac.* I. xxv. 190, I was too intent upon my work to heed the cold much, but I was numbed. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 586 The tip of the tongue and the lips felt numbed during cold weather.

b. In attributive use.

1596 Spenser *F. Q.* VI. xi. 45 Like lyfull heat to nummed senses brought, And life to feele that long for death had sought. 1602 Marston *Antonio's Rev.* Prol., Drizling sleete Chilleth the wan bleak cheek of the numd earth. *a* 1659 Lovelace *Poems* 50 I'm Ice; A nummed speaking clod, and mine own show, My Self congeal'd, a Man cut out in Snow. 1716 Pope *Iliad* VIII. 396 The Tendon burst beneath the pondrous Blow, And his numb'd Hand dismiss'd the useless Bow. 1842 Manning *Serm.* (1848) I. 195 We are slowly recovering, anxiously chafing our numbed limbs to life. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 4 June 5/2 The reform agitation first stirred his numbed faculties into the energies of a free and active manhood.

absol. *a* 1659 Lovelace *Poems* 72 Fearing we Numm'd fear'd no Flagration. [He] Hath curled all his Fires in this one One.

† 2. *Numbed palsy* (see Numb *a.* 2 b). *Obs.*—1

1655 Moufet & Bennet *Health's Improv.* 224 They cast ..Sophia Queen of Poland into a numb'd Palsie.

†Numbedness. *Obs.* Also 7 nummed-, numbd-. [f. prec. + -ness.] Numbness.

1600 Holland *Livy* IX. iii. 313 Their bodies also were possessed as it were with a strange and extraordinarie nummednesse in their limmes. 1657 Rand tr. *Gassendi's Life Peiresc* II. 57 He could not rise..., by reason of the like numbedness of his thigh and foot. 1676 Wiseman *Surgery* (J.), If the nerve be quite divided, the pain is little, only a kind of stupor or numbedness.

Number (nʌ·mbəɹ), *sb.* Forms: *α.* 3–5 noumbre (4–6 -ber, 5 -bur), 5 nounbre; 4–5 nowmbre (5 -ber, 5–6 -bur); 3–6 nombre (5–6 -bur, -byr, 5–7 -ber); 4 numbur (-bir, -bere), 4–6 numbre, 4– number. *β.* 4–5 nowmyre, 4 -mir, 5–6 -mer(e, 5 noumer; 4 nomir (6 -er, 6 *Sc.* -mer); 5–6 nummer (6 -meir, 6 *Sc.* -mir). [f. OF. *nombre, nonbre, numbre, numere*:—L. *numerum*, acc. sing. of *numerus*, a number. Cf. Du. *nommer*, G., Dan., Sw., Norw. *nummer*.]

I. 1. The precise sum or aggregate *of* any collection of individual things or persons.

α. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 1397 As wel..Vor loue of þe panes as to wite þe noumbre of eche manne [*v.r.* þe menne]. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 503 þe numbre þat out of heuen fell þo can na tung in erth noght tell. *c* 1340 Hampole *Pr. Consc.* 7436 þe noumbre of payns þat þare griefes Passes þe mens witt þat here liefes. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Serm.* Sel. Wks. II. 139 þis noumbre of fishis þat here weren taken, bitokeneþ þe noumbre of seintis. 1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 129 Xerses, kynge of Inde,..strongly gederid huge hostis of whych no man couth tell the nombyr. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* e ij, The moore nombur than ywis, the gretter the beuy is. 1529 More *Suppl. Souls* Wks. 307/2 He sayth that then shall the nomber of sore and sick beggers decreace. 1593 Shaks. *Rich. II*, I. iii. 210 Thy sad aspect, Hath from the number of his banish'd yeares Pluck'd foure away. 1667 Milton *P. L.* III. 706 What created mind can comprehend Thir number. 1700 Dryden *Pref. Fables*, I found, by the number of my verses, that they began to swell into a little volume. 1796 Southey *Lett. fr. Spain* (1799) 441 The number of fools is infinite. *a* 1844 in Stephens *Bk. Farm* II. 71 The number of hurdles required for feeding sheep on turnips is [etc.]. 1891 E. Peacock *Narcissa Brendon* I. 114 The number of books was very large.

pl. 1597 Shaks. 2 *Hen. IV*, IV. i. 4 Send discouerers forth, To know the numbers of our Enemies. *a* 1719 Addison (J.), There is but one gate for strangers to enter at, that it may be known what numbers of them are in the town. 1815 Elphinstone *Acc. Caubul* (1842) II. 98 Their numbers are not less than thirty thousand families.

β. *c* 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) vi. 18 þare was sum tyme fyue sowdanes after þe noumer of þe fyue kyngdomes. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* XI. vii. 77 Of thar schippis the nummeir and maner. 1552 Lyndesay *Monarche* 6229 Thow knew the nomer of predestinat, Quhome thow did call.

b. *pl.* The title of the fourth book in the Bible, the earlier part of which contains a census of the Israelites. † Also in *sing.*

c 1400 Bible (Wycl.) *Num.* Prol., This book clepid Numeri, that is to seie, the book of Noumbre. 1502 *Ord. Crysten Men* (W. de W. 1506) IV. xxi. X j b, The auncyent testament in the .xxv. chapitre of nombres. 1563 *Homilies* II. *Idolatry* iii. (1859) 175 As it is written in the book of Numbers, the twenty-third chapter, that there was *no idol in Jacob*. 1589 Cooper *Admon.* 127 In the Nombers, he that brake the Sabbath day, was stoned to death. 1649 Roberts *Clavis Bibl.* 52 Numbers,..so called because a great part of the Book, especially at the beginning, is spent in Numbring of the Tribes and Families of Israel. 1727–38 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v. *Pentateuch*, The five books of Moses..; viz. Genesis,..Numbers, and Deuteronomy. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVII. 426/2 The book of Deuteronomy supposes the previous composition of Exodus, Leviticus, and Numbers. 1875 *Encycl. Brit.* III. 638/1 The Levitico-Elohistic document, which embraces most of the laws in Leviticus with large parts of Exodus and Numbers.

c. A census or enumeration *of* persons. *rare*—1.

1831 Buttrick *Voy.* 33 Two gentlemen undertook to take a number of these people, and found it to be about twelve hundred.

2. A particular sum or aggregate of units, of a kind specified or implied in the context.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 423 þis numbre þat he ordend þan Suld be bath of angel and man. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl.* C. xxiii. 255 In mesure god made alle maniere þynges, And sette hit at a sertayn and at a syker numbre. 1595 Shaks. *John* II. i. 347 Wee'l put thee downe, gainst whom these Armes wee beare, Or adde a royall number to the dead. 1822 Shelley *Faust* ii. 408 Quite a new piece, the last of seven, for 'tis The custom now to represent that number. 1861 F. Metcalfe *Oxonian in Iceland* (1867) 166, 1200 people were invited to the Grave-ale, the greatest number that ever came to such a ceremony in Iceland.

b. In phr. *the number of* (so many).

1426 *Catal. Deeds P. R. O.* IV. 547 [He may] send who that he will undir the nowmbre of a dozen persons. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* XII. vii. 601 Whanne this crye was made vnto Ioyous yle drewe knyghtes to the nomber of fyue honderd. *c* 1530 Ld. Berners *Arth. Lyt. Bryt.* 481 Al thys company were to the numbre of xv. thousande Knightes. 1582 N. Lichefield tr. *Castanheda's Conq. E. Ind.* I. viii. 18 b, Where also then were in sight the number of twentie Moores skirmishing with their dartes.

3. A sum or total of abstract units.

Golden number: see Golden *a.* 6.

13.. *Cursor M.* 419 (Gött.), þat suld be a numbre hale, And mani thousand to haue in tale. *a* 1380 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1878) 63/1 Of þe mesures ol figures and musek, And of alle þe noumbres ek. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* XIX. cxviii. (1495) 922 The seconde odde nombre, that is the nombre of fiue and hyghte Quinarius. *c* 1420 *York Myst.* xliv. 9 For parfite noumbre it is none, Off elleuen for to lere. 1570 Billingsley *Euclid* VII. def. 17. 186 When two numbers multiplying them selues..produce an other: the number produced is called a plaine or superficiall number. 1598 Shaks. *Merry W.* v. i. 3, I hope good lucke lies in odde numbers. 1608 D. T. *Ess. Pol. & Mor.* 46 Themselues alone will be thought the Numbers, that giue a substantiall existence to the being of them all. 1667 Milton *P. L.* VIII. 114 Distance inexpressible By Numbers that have name. 1753 Chambers *Cycl. Suppl.* App. s.v., The figurate Numbers of any order may be found without computing those of the preceding orders. 1820 Shelley *Œd. Tyr.* I. 128 If you were to dream Of a particular number in the Lottery, You would not buy the ticket? 1859 B. Smith *Arith. & Alg.* (ed. 6) 35 A Mixed Number is composed of a whole number and a fraction.

b. In *pl.* as a subject of study or science.

1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. XIX. 234 Some to dyuyne and diuide, noumbres to kenne. *c* 1391 Chaucer *Astrol.* Prol., I haue perceiued well by certeyne euidences thine abilite to lerne sciencez touchinge noumbres & proporciouns. 1693 Pepys *Let. to Newton* 22 Nov., The late project..has almost extinguished..at all places of public conversation in this town, especially among men of numbers, every other talk. 1711 Steele *Spect.* No. 174 ₱ 5 None of all these Things could be done by him without the Exercise of his Skill in Numbers. 1776 Johnson in *Boswell* 16 Mar., We may instance the science of numbers, which all minds are equally capable of attaining.

c. *Line of Numbers*, Gunter's Line.

1667 Leybourn (*title*), The Line of Proportion or Numbers, commonly called Gunter's Line, made easie. By which may be measured all manner of Superficies and Solids. 1688– [see Gunter]. 1828 Moore *Pract. Navig.* 91 The diff. of long. 419 on the line of numbers.

d. A symbol or figure, or collection of these, which represents graphically an arithmetical total; a ticket or label bearing such signs.

1837 Dickens *Pickw.* ii, A strange specimen of the human race..with a brass label and number round his neck. 1854 *Orr's Circ. Sci., Math. Sci.* 5 Figures thus have..a value depending upon the places they occupy in a number. 1864 J. Donaldson *Chr. Lit.* I. 214 The appeal to the Greek letters as numbers, is conclusive proof of the writer's habitual use of the Greek Scriptures.

4. The particular mark or symbol, having an arithmetical value, by which anything has a place assigned to it in a series.

c 1391 Chaucer *Astrol.* I. § 8 The nombres of the degres of tho signes ben writen in Augrim aboue. 1830 Marryat *King's Own* xxxix, A strange sail, who had not..shown her number. 1837 Dickens *Pickw.* ii, Would any body believe as an informer 'ud go about in a man's cab, not only takin' down his number, but ev'ry word he says into the bargain? 1850 — *Dav. Copp.* xix, Where does he sleep? What's his number? 1880 *Standard* 17 Dec., If anybody imagines that it is easy to 'take' a Policeman's 'number' he had better try the experiment.

b. *Naut.* Of a ship: *To make her number*, (*a*) to communicate by signal the figure by which she is registered; (*b*) to obtain a good place on the shipping register.

1836 Marryat *Pirate* xvii, The Enterprise had made her number. 1880 *Daily Tel.* 14 Apr. 5/5 The good ship had a first-rate captain, a skilled crew, was well found and fitted, and she may 'make her number' yet.

c. *To lose the number of one's mess*, to die, to perish. So *to settle* etc., to cause one's death.

1834 Marryat *P. Simple* xxxiii, I have an idea that some of us will lose the number of our mess. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.* 501 *Losing the number of the mess* is a phrase for dying suddenly; being killed or drowned. 1881 J. F. Keane *Six Mths. in Meccah* 60 Fetching me one on the skull, that would have 'settled the number of my mess', but for the thickness of my too attractive head-dress.

5. Prefixed to a numeral, as *number two* or *No.* 2 (see No.), for the purpose of designating things or persons by the place assigned to them in an arithmetical series.

1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 125 Of Signes in the nombre ellevene Aquarius hath take his place.

1677 Moxon *Mech. Exerc.* II. 20 The true square..as you were taught [in] Numb. 1.. is a great ornament. 1707 Mortimer *Husb.* (1721) I. 162 Sometimes the best Madder is worth eight or nine Pounds a hundred, and the Number *O* six Pound Ten Shillings. 1710 Swift *Jrnl. to Stella* 15 Sept., I forgot to mark my two former letters; but I remember this is number 3. 1836 Dickens *Pickw.* x, Number twenty-two wants his boots. 1867 *Mabel's Progress* III. 5 It is hard to say..why this especial house should have been Number Nine at all, seeing there were to be but six houses in the row. 1890 'R. Bolorewood' *Col.-Reformer* (1892) 288 [We] are having a glass of champagne; will you join us?—it is 'number two'.

b. *Number one*, one's self, one's own person and interests; esp. in *to look after*, or *take care of, number one.* (Cf. One 6 d.)

1704–5 T. Pitt in Hedges *Diary* (Hakl. Soc.) III. 99 The Knight I doubt not, but 'tis very careful of number one, and looks no further. 1794 *Times* 21 Mar. in Ashton *Old Times* (1885) 306 Long had it [a cat] lived upon the fat of the land, in Charlotte St.,..where it took great care of Number one! 1829 Marryat *F. Mildmay* xix, We always take care of number one. 1830– [see One 6 d]. 1850 Thackeray *Pendennis* lvi, Almost every person,..as it seems to us, is occupied about Number One. 1892 *Newcastle Even. Chron.* 11 Jan. 4/4 They.. were going to look after 'number one' in the future.

6. A single (numbered) part or issue of a book or periodical. *In numbers*, in a series of separate parts published at intervals.

1757 Foote *Author* I. Wks. 1799 I. 132 Master Clench.. has a folio a coming out in numbers. 1795 *Gentl. Mag.* 540/1 A good-natured friend, who shewed me the last number of the Critical Review. 1851 Mayhew *London Lab.* I. 290/1 He used to buy up all the old back numbers of the cheap periodicals. 1853 Mrs. Gaskell *Cranford* i, I consider it vulgar, and below the dignity of literature, to publish in numbers. 1884 *Athenæum* Dec. 773 In our number for December 27th we shall give a series of articles on the Continental Literature of the Year.

attrib. 1813 in *N. & Q.* 10th Ser. III. (1905) 66 Those subscribers..who choose to be accommodated with the Apocrypha may now be supplied by giving orders to the.. Number-men. 1827 Mackenzie *Hist. Newcastle* II. 729 Mr. M. Brown carried on the number business with great spirit. 1864 *Glasgow Her.* 11 Apr., Messrs. J. & J. Forsyth ..beg to inform Dealers, Canvassers, and all others connected with the 'Number Trade', that they [etc.].

b. A person designated by a certain number.

1859 F. A. Griffiths *Artil. Man.* (1862) 196 The first seven numbers run up. *c* 1860 H. Stuart *Seaman's Catech.* 14 Order any two numbers to draw it out.

c. One of a collection of songs or poems.

1878 Stevenson *Inland Voy.* 119 There was a number in the hawker's collection called *Conscrits Français*, which may rank among the most dissuasive war-lyrics on record. 1894 *Westm. Gaz.* 21 Feb. 3/1 There are only 28 numbers in the little book, but none of them is quite insignificant, while many contain really memorable lines and stanzas.

d. A part or division of an opera, oratorio, etc.

1881 *Athenæum* 347/2 The best numbers of the work are, in our opinion, the duet for soprano and tenor..and the final chorus. 1891 *Guardian* 23 Sept. 1531 The names of the singers of all the solo numbers. 1897 *Yorksh. Post* 8 Mar. 4/5 A drawing-room recital of some of its numbers was given on Thursday.

II. 7. The full tale or count of a collection, company, or class of persons. Also *pl.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 9416 þat þis oxspring war o þat tale þat moght fulfill þe numbre hale..o þam þat fell. 1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 276 The nombre of Angles which was lore..He thoghte to restore. 1483 *Anc. Cal. Rec. Dubl.* (1889) 364 Suche persones as they thynketh lyable to fullfill the nombre of the xlviii. demi jures. *c* 1520 M. Nisbet *N. T., Acts* Prol., The novmer of the apostilis war fulfillit. 1597 Shaks. 2 *Hen. IV*, III. ii. 201 There is two more called then your number: You must haue but foure heere sir. 1667 Milton *P. L.* III. 332 Hell, her numbers full, Thenceforth shall be for ever shut. 1859 Tennyson *Guinevere* 494 How sad it were for Arthur..To..miss the wonted number of my knights.

b. In contexts denoting inclusion in the particular company or collection of persons (or things) specified. Usu. *of, in*, or *to the number of* (etc.).

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 23875 He has us in his numbur tald, Als his scepe of his aun fald. *c* 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 56 If I were..of þe noumbre of bischoppis, I were of þe noumbre of men to be dampnid. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* Pref. 1 Admytted..in to the nombre of the ix beste & worthy of whome was fyrst the noble Arthur. 1533 Bellenden *Livy* I. i. (S. T. S.) I. 15 He was haldin be þe pepil for Iupiter Indiges, and ekit to þe nowmer of goddis. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 197 So that men also of theyr religion might be admitted to be of that nombre. 1611 Bible 2 *Cor.* x. 12 For we dare not make our selues of the number. 1667 Milton *P. L.* V. 840 But more illustrious made, since he the Head One of our number thus reduc't becomes. 1754 Chatham *Lett. to Nephew* iv. 25 Is gratitude in the number of a man's

virtues? 1821 SHELLEY *Hellas* 17 Whose lover was of the number Who now keep That calm sleep Whence none may wake. 1852 GLADSTONE *Glean.* (1879) IV. 100 They would ..rank as enemies of order, and be added to the number of those who are the unfortunate subjects of the Return.

†c. (As in prec.) The class or category *of* something. *Obs.*

1577 GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* I. (1586) 35 Columella countes it rather in the number of Fodder for cattell, then of Pulse for man. 1638 R. BAKER tr. *Balzac's Lett.* (vol. III.) 103, I count not Amazons in the Number of women, but of Monsters and prodigees. 1690 TEMPLE *Ess., Learning* Wks. 1720 I. 298 There are three, which I do not conceive well, how they can be brought into the Number of Sciences; which are, Chymistry, Philology, and Divinity. 1757 A. COOPER *Distiller* III. lxiv. (1760) 261 Universally allowed to be a mineral Production of the Number of Bitumens.

d. The body or aggregate of persons specified.

1529 MORE *Dyalogue* III. Wks. 205/2 Ye church that is to witte the nombre & congregacion of good and right beleuyng folke. *a* 1562 G. CAVENDISH *Wolsey* (Ellis) 74 The Kyng..havyng abouyt his person,..beside the wonderfull nomber of nobyll men and gentilmen, iii great gards. 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* v. iv. 178 Euery of this happie number That haue endur'd shrew'd daies, and nights with vs.

†e. Those forming a specified class; also, the multitude, the common herd. *Obs. rare.*

1578 BANISTER *Hist. Man* VII. 92 Casula;..the barbarous number, by the addition of one letter pronounce it Capsula. 1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* III. i. 72 By mingling them with vs, the honor'd Number. 1738 POPE *Epil. Sat.* ii. 111 The Number may be hang'd, but not be crown'd.

8. A (large, small, etc.) collection or company *of* persons or things.

c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 2300 A brem numbre of bestes. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xiii. 55 A grete noumer of þe childer of Israel ware slayne. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1173 A noumbur hoge Of Grekes were gedret. *c* 1475 *Partenay* 37 Ther was A Erle..Which of children had A huge noumbre gret. 1533 MORE *Debell. Salem* Wks. 1036/2 There is no smal nomber of suche erronions englishe bokes prynted. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 192 b, An infinite nombre of grassehoppers came flieng into Germany. 1638 JUNIUS *Paint. Ancients* 28 Among such a number of rich and artificiall monuments. 1678 J. PHILLIPS tr. *Tavernier's Trav.* II. ii. xxiv. 202 The Java Lords,.. drawing their poyson'd Daggers, cry'd *a Mocca* upon the English, killing a great number of them. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 53 There arose an innumerable Number of Fowls of many Sorts. 1743 J. MORRIS *Serm.* vii. 191 There is a great number of other passages of scripture, in which they must be understood of children. 1897 F. HALL in *Nation* LXIV. 396/2 A good number of them were, doubtless, brought across the ocean by British immigrants.

b. Without dependent genitive.

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 8212 Agamynon the grete..With a noyus nowmbur, nait men of strenght. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* xx. xx. 834 The noble knyghtes came oute of the Cyte by a grete nombre. 1535 COVERDALE *Gen.* xxxiv. 30, I am but a small nombre: Yf they gather them selues now together against me, they shal slaye me. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 130 Therfore were bookes brought thether in a wonderfull numbre. 1589 COOPER *Admon.* 120 Which dealing..cannot be without great offence of an infinite nomber. 1833 CAUSE tr. *Eusebius* IV. iii. 130 This work is also preserved by a great number. 1895 *Pall Mall Mag.* Nov. 459 A considerable number are employed in..workshops.

9. A certain (usu. a large or considerable) company, collection, or aggregate *of* persons or things, not precisely reckoned or counted.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Serm.* Sel. Wks. II. 309 In þe Chirche above in heven is a noumbre of greete seintis. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1147 Nestor with a nombur of noble men all. 1535 COVERDALE *Acts* v. 36 There cleued vnto him a nombre of men, aboute a foure hundreth. 1580 FULKE *Retentive, Disc. Dang. Rock* 164 A number more of such principall heades of Christian learning. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 567 Water-Lilly..hath a Root in the Ground; And so have a Number of other Herbs that grow in Ponds. 1795 SOUTHEY *Lett. fr. Spain* (1799) 8 A number of little forts are erected about the adjoining coast. 1807 G. CHALMERS *Caledonia* I. II. vi. 282 The dates of both agree..in a number of their notices. 1860 S. WILBERFORCE *Sp. Missions* (1874) 338 He.. kept himself by keeping a number of bees.

b. Without dependent genitive. Freq. = many persons (cf. 10 b).

1565 *Cott. Libr. Cal.* B 10 fol. 372 In this mean time there rose a nombre in the Court. 1594 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* I. i. § 2 Much..may seem to a number perhaps tedious, perhaps obscure. *Ibid.* x. § 2 After men began to grow to a number, the first thing we read they gave themselves unto was the tilling of the earth. 1833–6 J. H. NEWMAN *Hist. Sk.* (1873) II. iv. ii. 382 The testimony of a number is more cogent than the testimony of two or three.

†c. Const. without *of*. *Obs. rare.*

1583 BABINGTON *Commandm.* 245 With a number such mockes and diuelish tauntes. *Ibid.* 252 Vnto which and a number such other perswasions in the word the prophane writers..haue agreed. 1623 BRETON *Souls Love* xxiii, A number plagues the Lord did further threaten.

10. *pl.* A (great, infinite, etc.) multitude or aggregate of persons or things.

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 11139 What fortherit the fight of þo fell maidyns, Syn the grekes on hom gedrit in so gret nowmbers? *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* VII. 1104 He chargyt thaim, with nowmeris mony ane Rycht weill beseyn, in Scotland for to ryd. 1573 L. LLOYD *Marrow of Hist.* (1653) 21 Xerxes,..whose infinite numbers of Navies covered the Ocean seas. 1600 PORY tr. *Leo's Africa* VI. 271 Here are infinite numbers of scorpions, but no flies at all. 1813 WELLINGTON in Gurw. *Desp.* (1838) XI. 21 The French have lost immense numbers of men. 1847–9 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* IV. 2/2 The numbers in which these creatures abound baffles all expression.

b. Many (persons, etc.).

1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* v. lxviii. § 6 Whereas none of them which were in the one could perish, numbers in the other are cast away. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* XI. 480 A Lazarhouse it seemd, wherein were laid Numbers of all diseas'd. 1709 SWIFT *Adv. Relig.* Wks. 1751 IV. 124 They might.. be raised to as high a Perfection as Numbers are capable of receiving. 1760–2 GOLDSM. *Cit. W.* lxxv, There are numbers in this city who live by writing new books. 1802 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Moral T.* (1816) I. viii. 57 Able to speak.. before numbers. 1861 F. METCALFE *Oxonian in Iceland* (1867) 182 Numbers of fish kept rising at my grilse flies. 1866 S. WILBERFORCE *Sp. Missions* (1874) 261 It was a time when sermons were read by numbers, and admired by multitudes.

c. In contexts denoting superiority or power derived from numerical preponderance.

1638 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (ed. 2) 289, 1000 Persians were slaine and 20000 Turks; but by their numbers the Persians were forced to leave the field. 1761 CHURCHILL *Night* 359 Can numbers then change Nature's stated laws? Can numbers make the worse the better cause? 1823 J. MARSHALL *Const. Opin.* (1839) 276 European policy, numbers and skill prevailed. 1861 F. METCALFE *Oxonian in Iceland* (1867) 176 Coming to close quarters, they overpowered the foreigners by force of numbers. 1888 BRYCE *Amer. Commw.* III. xcv. 325 This is in fact the essence of..popular government, and the justification for vesting powers in numbers.

III. 11. That aspect of things which is involved in considering them as separate units of which one or more may be taken or distinguished.

c 1305 *St. Edmund* 225 in *E.E.P.* (1862) 77 Arsmetrike is a lore þat of figours al is..& in [*read* of] numbre iwis. 1388 WYCLIF *Pref. Ep. Jerome* vii, The mysteries of al the hool crafte of noumbre. *c* 1400 tr. *Secreta Secret., Gov. Lordsh.* 60 He hauys ordeyned by his wyt alle þinges yn euyn weight and certeyn nombre and ordre. *c* 1440 *Alph. Tales* 482 A chanon at was so symple & so vnconnyng þat he cuthe nott tell no maner of nowmer, nor tell whilk was od whilk was evyn. 1570 BILLINGSLEY *Euclid* VII. 183 Nomber compaseth all thinges, and is..the being and very essence of all thinges. 1623 MASSINGER *Dk. Milan* I. iii, This present journey, From whence it is all number to a cipher, I ne'er return with honour. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VIII. 38 Speed, to describe whose swiftness Number failes. 1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* II. xvi. (1695) 107 Our Idea of Infinity ..seems to be nothing, but the infinity of Number. 1762 KAMES *Elem. Crit.* (1774) II. 535 A child..perceives a difference between many and few; and that difference it is taught to call number. 1867 DK. ARGYLL *Reign of Law* ii. 75 These laws of number and proportion pervade all Nature. 1884 tr. *Lotze's Logic* 189 That other saying.., that God has ordered everything by measure and number.

Comb. 1610 HEYWOOD *Gold. Age* II. i, Shall I sweet Lady, adde vnto your grace, And but for number-sake supply that place?

fig. 1773 FOOTE *Bankrupt* II. Wks. 1799 II. 115, I..call'd him a citizen in the London Gazette,..Pass'd a few necessary notes to get him number and value, white-wash'd him, and sent him home.

†b. Geometrical figure. *Obs. rare.*

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XIX. CXXVI. (1495) 926 The nombre lineall begynnyth fro one and is wryte arowe and lyne vnto endlesse. *Ibid.*, The nombre superficiall is wryten not oonly in lengthe but also in brede as thre cornerde nombre and four cornerde and fyue cornerde and rounde.

†c. Proportion or comparison. *Obs. rare* $^{-1}$.

1387–8 T. USK *Test. Love* I. viii. (Skeat) I. 119 It is a fayr lykenesse, a pees or oon grayn of whete, to a thousand shippes ful of corne charged! What nombre is betwene the oon and th' other?

d. *Phren.* The faculty of numbering or calculating.

1835 *Brit. Cycl., Arts & Sci.* II. 218/1 The organ of calculation or number (as it is sometimes called) is marked 28. 1865 *Chambers's Encycl.* VII. 516/2 *Number.*—The organ of this faculty is placed at the outer extremity of the eyebrows. 1885 *Encycl. Brit.* XVIII. 845/2 Number, on the external angular process of the frontal bone.

12. In phrases denoting that persons, things, etc., have not been, or cannot be, counted.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 8161 Folc of arabie, So muche þat þer nas non noumbre of hor compainye. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. XXIII. 269 3e wexeþ oute of numbre. *c* 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 5 He lediþ wiþ him self going bifore to helle peple wiþoutun nowmbre. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 1554 With prestis & with prelatis a pake out of nombre. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 366 b/1 The holy poure ladyes whiche [thou] hast drawen to penaunce without nombre. 1534 WHITINTON *Tullyes Offices* I. (1540) 28 Marathon, Salamyne, Plate,.. and other out of nombre. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* III. 346 A shout Loud as from numbers without number. 1751 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 36 ¶ 5 The sense of this universal pleasure has invited numbers without number to try their skill in pastoral performances. 1810 BENTHAM *Packing* (1821) 92 Persons out of number are amusing themselves with rendering what, I hope, appears to themselves, at least, good service to the country. 1892 *Law Times* XCII. 147/1 Times without number the courts in bankruptcy have been called upon to decide the question.

13. *In number*: a. In sum total; altogether. (Also † *by number*.)

c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 2289 Kene men of armes, twenty hundered & tvo trewli in numbre. 1382 WYCLIF 2 *Sam.* ii. 15 Thanne rysen and wenten twelue bi noumbre of Beniamyn. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 5259 For tweyn in nombre is bet than three In every counsel and secree. 1423 JAS. I *Kingis Q.* xix, Goddis and sistris all, In nowmer ix., as bokis specifye. 1538 STARKEY *England* II. i. 150 We schold not only haue the pepul incresyd in nombur, but also [etc.]. 1573 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 107 These toppingly gests be in number but ten. 1615 SANDYS *Trav.* 50 In number about thirtie or fortie thousand. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VI. 49 Equal in number to that Godless crew. 1789 COWPER *Catharina* 26 Though the pleasures of London exceed In number the days of the year. 1886 *Law Times* LXXXII. 94/1 A mortgage of the stock of sheep, about 6500 in number, on an Australian run.

†b. In numerical place or order. *Obs.*

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xii. (*Matthias*) 3 þe apostil sancte mathy, þat In nowmyr þe laste ves, In stad of þe tratour Iudas. 1561 WINJET *Cert. Tractates* Wks. (S.T.S.) I. 2 Thre Questionis,..quhilkis ar in noumbre the xxxiii. xxxiiii. and xxxv. of The Four Score Thre Questionis.

† c. Together or along *with* others. *Obs.*—[1]

c 1470 HENRY *Wallace* IX. 874 Off this dispyt amendys I think to haiff, Or de thar for in nowmyr with the laiff.

†14. A (great) collection, etc. = sense 8. Also without *adj.* = sense 9. *Obs.*

a 1352 MINOT *Poems* (ed. Hall) iii. 82 With grete noumber of smale botes. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 215 þe mode kynge of Messedone with mekill nounbre .. farne out of toune. 1456 SIR G. HAVE *Law Armis* (S.T.S.) 53 He sawdit grete nowmer of men of armys. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) B ij, There is greatte nombre of parcialities. 1601 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* III. iii. 29 Belike you slew great number of his people. 1663 GERBIER *Counsel* f 1, Clovis..did coate number of Flour-de-lis. *Ibid.* g 2 b, Nor is this present Age void of number of Authors, who have written more on Architecture.

b. = sense 10. *rare*

c 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xviii. 83 In bathe þir citez dwellez Cristen men .. in grete noumer. 1485 *Surtees Misc.* (1888) 43 Wt othre in grete nombre assembled ther. 1819 SHELLEY *Mask of Anarchy* XXXVIII, Rise like Lions after slumber, In unvanquishable number.

c. = sense 10 c. *rare.*

1612 BACON *Ess., Greatn. Kingd.* (Arb.) 472 Walled Towns, .. Masse of treasure, Number in Armies..,are all but a Sheep in a Lions skin, except the..disposition of the people be militarie. 1625 *Ibid.* 473 Many are the Examples, of the great odds between Number and Courage. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* V. 899 Nor number, nor example with him wrought To swerve from truth.

IV. †15. Quantity, amount. *Obs. rare.*

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1283 þe golde of þe gazafylace to swyþe gret noumbre. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 277 So þes worldly clerkis and religiouse taken huge noumbre of temperal goodis. 1477 CAXTON *Jason* 76 b, And [they] promised them grete nombre of money if they might come and obteyn their entent. 1534 WHITINTON *Tullyes Offices* III. (1540) 135 An honest man hath..brought a great nombre of wheate in the derth tyme. *a* 1670 SPALDING *Troub. Chas. I* (1850) I. 347 The cordineris of both Abirdeins wes commandit..to give wp..the number of thair ledder, and to mak wp..thair portion of 20,000 pair of schois. 1720 *Humourist* 185, I have seen..one Man plowing with one Horse; which..saves a Number of Money.

16. *Gram.* The property in words of denoting that one, two, or more persons or things are spoken of; the special form of a word by which this is expressed.

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. x. 237 Three propre persones ac nou3t in plurel noumbre, For al is but on god. 1393 *Ibid.* C. IV. 349 In kynde and in case and in cours of noumbre. 1523 FITZHERB. *Surv.* 9b, Where he sayth de molendinis, ye whiche is in the plurell nombre. 1530 PALSGR. *Introd.* 26 Of the gendre and nombre of the substantyve. 1591 PERCIVALL *Sp. Dict.* B iij, There are two numbers, the singular speaking of one, the plurall of moe. 1636 B. JONSON *Eng. Gram.* vii, Of number that word is termed to be, which signifieth a number singular, or plural. 1738 *Gentl. Mag.* VIII. 182/2 The Plural Number of ὕδωρ is often made use of where a large Quantity of Water is designed to be expressed. ? 1751 CHATHAM *Lett. to his Nephew* i. 3, I will desire you..to write smoaks in the plural number, in the last fine but one. 1824 L. MURRAY *Gram.* (ed. 5) I. 80 The singular number expresses but one object. 1872 MORRIS *Eng. Accidence* 93 The oldest English had the dual number only in the personal pronouns, which we no longer preserve.

17. Conformity, in verse or music, to a certain regular beat or measure; rhythm.

1477 NORTON *Ord. Alch.* v. in Ashm. (1652) 81 Without true Number no Man trulie maie sing. 1553 T. WILSON *Rhet.* (1580) 163 He maie appere to keepe an uniformitie, and (as I might saie) a nomber in the vttering of his sentence. 1641 HINDE *J. Bruen* iii. 11 Mixt dancing of men and women, with light and lascivious gestures and actions, framed in number and measure to please a wanton eye. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IV. 687 With Heav'nly touch of instrumental sounds In full harmonic number joind.

18. *pl.* a. Musical periods or groups of notes.

1579 E. K. *Gloss. Spenser's Sheph. Cal.* Oct. 27 Plato and Pythagoras, held for opinion, that the mynd was made of a certaine harmonie and musicall nombers. 1598 DRAYTON *Heroic. Ep.* xv. 93 In Musickes Numbers my Voyce rose and fell. 1671 MILTON *P. R.* IV. 255 The secret power Of harmony in tones and numbers hit By voice or hand. *c* 1690 PRIOR *To C'less of Exeter Playing on Lute*, That with Your Numbers You our Zeal might raise. 1702 ROWE *Tamerl.* I. i, When some skilful Artist strikes the Strings The magick Numbers rouze our sleeping Passions. 1762 SIR W. JONES *Arcadia* Poems (1777) 117 Now on the flute with equal grace he play'd, And his soft numbers died along the shade. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* I. Introd., Harp of the North! that..down the fitful breeze thy numbers flung. *a* 1839 PRAED *Poems* (1864) II. 354 Pour again those holy numbers, Which thou warblest there alone.

b. Metrical periods or feet; hence, lines, verses.

1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* IV. iii. 57, I feare these stubborn lines lack power to moue... These numbers will I teare, and write in prose. 1629 DAVENANT *Albovine* Ded., My Numbers I do not shew unto the publick Eye, with an ambition to be quickly known. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* III. 38 Then feed on thoughts, that voluntarie move Harmonious numbers. 1709 POPE *Ess. Crit.* 337 But most by Numbers judge a Poet's song; And smooth or rough, with them is right or wrong. 1773 MRS. CHAPONE *Improv. Mind* (1774) II. 167 Numbers and rhymes..being so easily learn'd by heart. 1824 L. MURRAY *Eng. Gram.* (ed. 5) I. 479 Our translators of the Bible, have often been happy in suiting their numbers to the subject. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* vii. II. 202 Men were in no humour to be charmed by the transparent style and melodious numbers of the apostate.

† **c.** A subdivision of a line. *Obs. rare* —¹.

1797 *Monthly Mag.* III. 258 *note*, Whatever exceeded two times (a short syllable being estimated as half a time) was termed not a foot but a number.

Number (nʌ·mbəɹ), *v.* Forms: *α.* 3 noumbri (4 -bir, 5–6 -bre), 4–5 nowmbre (5 -ber, -byr, -bur), 4–6 nombre (5 -brye, 6 -ber), 6–8 numbre (6 *Sc.* -bir), 6– number. *β.* 4 nomer, 5 (6 *Sc.*) nowmer (5 -on), 5 *Sc.* noumer, 6 *Sc.* novmer, nummer. [ad. OF. *nombrer* :—L. *numerāre* (cf. NUMERATE), f. *numerus* number.]

1. *trans.* To count, to ascertain the number of (individual things or persons).

α. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 1399 Aboute ierusalem þis noumbringe he bigan As in þe middel of þe world to noumbri eche man. *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* xxi. 17 þai noumbird..all my banes. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 218 It mihte noght be nombred, The folk which after was encombred Thurgh him. 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 19338 Thousandis mo than I kan nowmbre. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* XIII. xv. 633 Syr Galahad..sawe soo moche peple in the stretes that he myghte not nombre them. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 254 His ioyntes were dissolued and losed, so that his bones myght be nombred. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* III. xlii. 290 The Principall Person of the Assembly, whose office was to number the Votes. 1671 MILTON *P. R.* III. 410 When thou stood'st up his Tempter to the pride Of numbring Israel. 1709 STEELE & ADDISON *Tatler* No. 81 ¶ 2 Prodigious Multitudes of People, which no Man could number. 1820 SHELLEY *Prometh. Unb.* IV. 420 Like a flock of sheep They pass before his eye, are numbered, and roll on! *a* 1862 BUCKLE *Misc. Wks.* (1872) I. 527 Mussulmans consider every attempt to number the people as a mark of great impiety. *absol. c* 1430 *Freemasonry* (ed. Halliw. 1840) 571 Astronomy nombreth, my dere brother, Arsmetyk scheweth woo thyng that ys another.

β. c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xliii. (*Cecilia*) 404 þai ma nocht nomeryt be, þat resawit þis halynes. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 360/1 Nowmeron, *numero*. *c* 1440 *Alph. Tales* 293, I am þe aungell off God sent for to nowmer þi fute-steppis.

b. To ascertain the amount or quantity of (something). *rare.*

c 1420 LYDG. *Commend. Our Lady* 100 Whan that Gabriel With joy thee grette that may not be nombred. 1535 COVERDALE *Gen.* xli. 49 He left of nombrynge of it (corn), for it coude not be nombred. 1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* III. ii. 17 Scribes, Bards, Poets, cannot Thinke, speake, cast, write, sing, number: hoo, His loue to Anthony.

† **c.** To compute, calculate, reckon, measure.

c 1394 *P. Pl. Crede* 178 Merkes of marchauntes y-medled bytwene, Mo þan twenty and two twyes y-noumbred. 1530 PALSGR. 644/2, I nombre, as an astronomer doth his thing by aulgorisme, *je calcule*. *Ibid.*, Have you nombred the distaunce bytwene the sonne and the moone? 1579 DIGGES *Stratiot.* I To number anye summe nothing else it is, but to declare the value of everie Figure placed. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* IV. viii. 218 The half of the deg. and min. thus numbred together, will be the Elevation of the Pole. 1794 T. TAYLOR *Pausanias's Descr. Greece* III. 7, I was desirous of accurately numbering the interval of time from one Daedal festival to another.

2. To enumerate, to reckon *up*. Also *absol.*

? *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 2658 They are nowmerde fulle neghe, and namede in rollez, Sexty thowsande and tene. 1435 MISYN *Fire of Love* 97, I hope no þinge emonge all oþer þat may be nowmbyrde of clarkis þat may vs socur so mikyll..als feruent lufe of þe godhede. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* XVIII. xviii. 757 Thenne syr Bors de ganys came.. and he was nombred that he smote doune twenty knyghtes. 1590 MARLOWE *2nd Pt. Tamburl.* III. v, So from Arabia Desert..Came forty thousand warlike foot and horse, Since last we number'd to your majesty. 1601 R. JOHNSON *Kingd. & Commw.* (1603) 26 The quantities of ladders, bridges, shot, powder, and other furnitures following so royall an armie, what pen can number? 1686 tr. *Chardin's Trav. Persia* 252 Relicks..among which they number up the Veronique. 1871 R. H. HUTTON *Ess.* (1877) I. 4 If..you numbered up the acts of trust.

† **b.** In *passive.* To be of a certain number; to amount *to*, or be equal *to*, in number. *Obs.*

14.. *Tundale's Vis.* 2220 He mad colagys and chyrchys mony That nomburd wer to foure and fourty. *c* 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 227 Thay drive on the da deir be dalis and doun, And of the nobillest be-name, noumerit of nyne. 1628 GAULE *Pract. The.* 43 Had I..Tongues and Lips numbred to those Hands of the Poets Briareus.

c. To fix the number of; to reduce to a definite number; to make few in number; to bring near to a close. (Chiefly in *passive.*)

1382 WYCLIF *Dan.* v. 26 God hath noumbride thi rewme, and fulfilled it. 1584 R. SCOT *Discov. Witcher.* v. v. (1886) 79 Man..hath his daies numbred. 1593 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI*, I. iv. 25 The Sands are numbred, that makes vp my Life. 1847 C. BRONTE *J. Eyre* XXV, The month of courtship had wasted, its very last hours were being numbered. 1869 TROLLOPE *He Knew*, etc. li. (1878) 281 The opinion became general that Miss Stanbury's days were numbered. 1883 *Daily Tel.* 10 Nov. 5/3 We are told by croakers that the days of fox-hunting are numbered in these sporting islands.

† **d.** To collect, up to a certain number. *Obs.*

1382 WYCLIF 2 *Chron.* ii. 2 And he noumbrede seuenty thousand of men berynge in schulderis. 1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* II. xvii. (S. T. S.) I. 195 Quhen þir consulis war nowmerand þare legiouns,..Comperit afore þame ane huge pepill desiring peace. 1611 BIBLE 1 *Kings* XX. 25 Number thee an armie, like the armie that thou hast lost.

3. To check, control, or verify the number of; to count or tell *over*. Also *absol.*

1535 COVERDALE 1 *Sam.* xiv. 17 And whan they nombred, beholde, Ionathas & his wapen bearer was not there. 1632 MASSINGER *City Madam* v. iii, Let my brother number His beads deuoutly! 1692 DRYDEN *Eleonora* 198 Anchises looked not with so pleased a face In numbering o'er his future Roman race. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* XIII. 262 Then on the sands he rang'd his wealthy store, The gold, the vests, the tripods, number'd o'er. 1784 COWPER *Task* V. 425 To wear out time in numb'ring to and fro The studs that thick emboss his iron door. 1813 SHELLEY *Q. Mab* IV. 241 Or thou delight'st In numbering o'er the myriads of thy slain.

† **b.** To count out or pay *down* (money). *Obs.*

1502 *Will of Heed* (Somerset Ho.), II^b in Redy money nombred. 1671 MILTON *Samson* 1478 His ransom..shall willingly be paid And numberd down. 1725 *Portland Papers* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) VI. 140 The seller carries home to the merchant's house what goods they had bargained for, where he has immediately his money numbered down

c. To apportion (one's days) with care.

1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* lxxxix. 5 O teach vs to nombre oure dayes, that we maye applie our hertes vnto wyszdome. 1665 BRATHWAIT *Comment. Two Tales* (1901) 97 The Remainder of his Hours henceforth was to number his Daies. 1860 WARTER *Sea-board* II. 133 Days of this life's pilgrimage spared to me in mercy to number wisely.

† **d.** To appoint or allot *to* some fate. *Obs.*

1611 BIBLE *Isa.* lxv. 12 Therefore will I number you to the sword.

e. To portion out, to divide.

1887 MORRIS *Odyss.* x. 203 Then my well-greaved fellows I numbered into two companies.

4. To count, reckon, or class among certain persons or things. Chiefly const. *among*, *in*, or *with*.

1382 WYCLIF *Acts* i. 17 The which was noumbrid in vs, and gat the sort of this mynysterie. 1493 *Petronilla* 27 (Pynson), She was acceptyd so in the lordys sight To be noumbryd one of the maydyns fyue. 1548–9 (Mar.) *Bk. Com. Prayer, Te Deum*, Make them to be noumbred with thy saincte. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* III. ii. 67 Henceforth be neuer numbred among men. 1624 MASSINGER *Bondman* IV. ii, Happy those times When lords..number'd Their servants almost equal with their sons. 1652 GAULE *Magastrom.* xxvi, To these dreamers we may number those who give a faith of divinity to the vaticinations of madmen. 1719 SWIFT *Let. Yng. Clergym.* Wks. 1751 V. 9 If..he be any where too obscure..it ought to be numbred among his Omissions. 1753 SMOLLETT *Cnt. Fathom* (1784) 12/1 An Englishwoman, who, after having been five times a widow in one campaign, was..numbered among the baggage of the allied army. 1817 SHELLEY *Rev. Islam* IX. xxix, Let sense and thought..be numbered not Among the things that are. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 20 Feb. 4/7 The nation which is proud to number him among her sons.

b. *intr.* To rank or be included *with* (others).

1864 TENNYSON *Aylmer's Field* 663 And tho' thou numberest with the followers Of One who cried, 'Leave all and follow me'.

5. To assign or attach a number to (a thing); *spec.* to mark or distinguish by a numerical symbol.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 122 Among the Signes upon heighte The Signe which is nombred eighte Is Scorpio. 1593 FALE *Art Dialling* 12 Number the residue of the lines in their place as they follow in order. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* IV. xlvi. 374 Men divide a Body in their thought, by numbring parts of it, and in numbring those parts number also the parts of the Place it filled. 1678 MOXON *Mech. Exer.* vi. § 31. 100 These Inches are numbred from one end of the Rule to the other. 1836–7 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Scenes* vii, Hackney-coaches .. were .. plated and numbered by the wisdom of Parliament. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* iii. I. 360 The houses were not numbered. There would indeed have been little advantage in numbering them. 1877 *Act* 40 & 41 *Vict.* c. 60 § 3 Every canal boat..shall be lettered, marked, and numbered in some conspicuous manner.

b. To set down in a numerical series.

1846 GROTE *Greece* I. xviii. (1862) I. 424 Kodrus is numbered as the last king of Athens.

6. To have lived, or to live (so many years).

1590 PEELE *Polyhymnia* 9 Thirty-three [years] she numbereth, in her throne, That long..I pray May number many to these thirty-three. 1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* IV. v. 86 Of as able bodie as when he number'd thirty. 1604 — *Oth.* III. iv. 70 A Sybill that had numbred in the world The Sun to course two hundred compasses. 1791 COWPER *Yardley Oak* 3 My birth (Since which I number threescore winters past). 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* Concl. 9, Tho' I since then have number'd o'er Some thrice three years.

7. To include or comprise in a number; to have or comprise (so many things or persons).

c 1645 MILTON *Sonn.* xi, It walk'd the Town a while, Numbring good intellects; now seldom por'd on.

1867 THIRLWALL *Rem.* III. 450 It would show not only that the Anglican Communion numbered so many Bishops. 1872 YEATS *Growth Comm.* 91 Kafsah numbered in its environs..200 castles. 1881 FREEMAN *Venice* 323 It is said that..Otranto numbered twenty-two thousand inhabitants.

b. To equal, amount to (a specified sum).

1842 TENNYSON *Talking Oak* 80 When The maiden blossoms of her teens Could number five from ten. 1881 TYLOR *Anthropol.* i. 7 It appears that the distinct languages known number about a thousand. 1883 *Manch. Guard.* 22 Oct. 5/5 The crew and passengers numbered 33.

c. *intr.* To be equal in number *with*.

1833 TENNYSON *Two Voices* 330 A wife..Whose troubles number with his days.

8. To issue (a book) in numbers. *rare* —¹.

1781 CRABBE *Library* 192 A folio-Number once a week; Bibles, with cuts and comments, thus go down; E'en light Voltaire is number'd through the town.

Nu·mberable, *a. rare.* Also 4 noumberabile. [f. NUMBER *v.* + -ABLE: cf. NUMBRABLE *a.*]

1. Capable of being numbered; numerable.

a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* xxi. 17 þai made noumberabile all my banes. 1611 COTGR., *Nombrable*, numberable, numerable. 1839 J. ROGERS *Antipopopr.* xvi. § 3. 331 The blessings and graces of Holy Orders..are fully numberable..by none but priestly penetration.

† **2.** Numerous. *Obs. rare* —¹.

1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* x. 427 The Quene gatherit ane hoste numberable anuich with preparatione anuich to the weiris scho sent into scotland.

Numbered (nʌ·mbəɹd), *ppl. a.* [f. NUMBER *v.* + -ED.] **a.** Reckoned by number; enumerated, counted. **b.** Marked with a number.

1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* I. vi. 36 The twinn'd Stones Vpon the number'd Beach. 1628 GAULE *Pract. The.* (1629) 402 This numbred while Christ passed not ouer idly. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VIII. 19 An Atom, with the Firmament compar'd And all her numberd Starrs. *Ibid.* x. 576 To undergo This annual humbling certain number'd days. 1771 *Antiq. Sarisb., Lives Bps.* 149 They..pillaged his house of every thing, and took 10,000 marks in numbered money. 1839 *Lett. fr. Madras* (1843) 281 In future I will keep numbered duplicates. 1895 *Trans. Bibl. Soc.* II. II. 112 The first use of numbered leaves..by Arnold ter Hoernen.

Nu·mberer. [f. NUMBER *v.* + -ER¹.] One who, or that which, numbers.

1594 BLUNDEVIL *Exerc.* I. vii. (1636) 21 The Numerator is as much to say as the numberer. 1611 BIBLE *Dan.* viii. 13 That certaine Saint [*marg.*, the numberer of secrets] which spake. 1693 J. EDWARDS *Author. O. & N. Test.* 52 Those transcribers of the Bible were called by the Jews Sopherim, i. e. numberers. 1848 L. HUNT *Town* iii. 115 He was numberer at Drury Lane Theatre, that is to say, the person who counted the number of people in the house. 1883 E. A. ABBOTT *Hints on Home Teaching* 98 Since the upper figure [*sc.* of a fraction] represents the number of the parts taken together it may be called the Numberer.

† **Nu·mberful,** *a. Obs. rare.* [f. NUMBER *sb.* + -FUL.] Numerous, multitudinous.

1594 CAREW *Huarte's Exam. Wits* XIV. (1596) 239 Salomon was chosen king and head of so great and numberfull a people, as that of Israell. 1653 WATERHOUSE *Apol. Learning* 50 About the year 700 great was the company of learned men of the English race; yea, so numberfull, that they upon the point excelled all Nations in learning.

Nu·mbering, *vbl. sb.* [f. NUMBER *v.* + -ING¹.] The action of the verb, in various senses.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 1398 Aboute ierusalem þis noumbringe he bigan. 1382 WYCLIF 2 *Chron.* ii. 17 Than Salomon noumbride alle the men comlyngis..after the noumbrynge that Dauid, his fadir, noumbred. *c* 1430 *Art Nombryng* 1 And þis boke tretys þe Craft of Nombrynge, þe quych crafte is called also Algorym. 1497 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 83 Without other noumbryng or weying of the stuffes. 1557 RECORDE *Whetst.* b ij b, Measure is but the nombrying of the partes of lengthe, bredthe, or depthe. 1570 J. DEE *Math. Pref.* *j b, His Continuall Numbryng, of all thinges, is the Conseruation of them in being. 1638 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (ed. 2) 150 Dancing wenches, Hocus Pocusses, and other Anticks past my numbring inobled the ceremony. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* II. vi. 65 At every 5 Parts make a Point, for the ready numbering of the Divisions. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* II. x. 280 The numbering of the stakes..commenced from the Chapeau-side of the glacier. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 6 Mar. 5/4 The scientific thoroughness which marks the numbering of the people in European countries.

attrib. 1683 MOXON *Mech. Exerc., Printing* 267 The Numbring Rods of the Right Honourable John Lord Nepeer. 1860 *Knight's Eng. Cycl., Arts & Sci.* V. 995 *Numbering Machines*... Their work is that of numbering, or enumerating, and registering the results in some conspicuous way. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 1536/1 The numbering-apparatus. *Ibid.*, Adjacent to the numbering-wheels.

So **Nu·mbering** *ppl. a.*

1576 GASCOIGNE *Steele Gl.* (Arb.) 77 That Numbring men, in all their euens and odds Dn not forget, that only Vnitie. 1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II*, V. v. 50 For now hath Time made me his numbring clocke.

Nu·mberless, *a.* [f. NUMBER *sb.* + -LESS.]

1. Innumerable, conntless, beyond computation.

1573 TWYNE *Æneid* XI. (1584) R b, The hugie heape of such as there lay slaine, Both numbrelesse, and honourlesse they burne. 1590 GREENE *Never too late* (1600) 68 Then should..the furrowes in my face be numberlesse. 1624 GATAKER *Transubst.* 68 To bee in heaven, and in numberlesse places of the Earth. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VII. 197 About his Chariot numberless were pour'd Cherub and Seraph. 1736 BUTLER *Anal.* Introd., Wks. 1874 I. 3 Numberless instances might be mentioned. 1782 PRIESTLEY *Corrupt. Chr.* II. IX. 189 The clergy exercised numberless cruelties. 1819 SHELLEY *Cyclops* 175 The cavern has recesses numberless. 1879 R. K. DOUGLAS *Confucianism* iii. 79 The 'Book of History' contains numberless references to them.

b. Used with *number(s)*. (Freq. in 17th cent.)

1594 PEELE *Alcazar* IV. i, A number almost numberless. 1612 J. DAVIES *Muses Sacr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 26/1 Cast, if thou canst, a Number numberlesse. 1638 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (ed. 2) 181 Of all the trees I saw, none exceeded the Mulberies, for numberlesse numbers. *a* 1716 SOUTH *Serm.* (1744) VII. 60 What then will become of those numberless numbers of men?

2. Devoid of metrical numbers. *rare* —¹.

a 1658 CLEVELAND *Agst. Ale* iv, Saltless and galless be thy Curse, Numberless, rugged.

† **Nu·mberous,** *a. Obs.* [f. NUMBER *sb.* + -OUS: cf. NUMBROUS *a.*] Numerous.

1566 DRANT *Horace, Sat.* I. vii. D vij, So these same two, tongue puisaunte knyghts, with scoulding ginn the fyghte. The auditorye numberouse. *Ibid.* II. iii. F vij, This rule makes mad a noumberouse swarme Of subiects and of kinges. 1592 WYRLEY *Armorie* 156 Fore passed life I ouer canvassing Found my great sins exceeding numberous. *a* 1603 T. CARTWRIGHT *Confut. Rhem. N. T.* (1618) 26 A more honorable or more numberous senate.

† **Nu·mbersome,** *a. Obs.* [f. as prec. + -SOME.] Numerous.

a 1617 BAYNE *On Eph.* (1658) 109 The Church in Jerusalem did grow numbersome. 1628 PEMBLE *Salomons Recant.* 17 Numbersome heards of Cattell.

† **Nu·mbery,** *a. Obs.* [f. NUMBER *sb.* + -Y.]

1. Numerous, rich in numbers.

1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. *Ivry* 25 So many, and so numb'ry Armies scatter'd. 1605 *Ibid.* II. *Lawe* 1320 Thy numbry Flocks in part shall barren be.

2. Poetical, metrical.

1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. i. iv. *Handicrafts* 542 The tunes that his sweet numbery soule..learn'd of the warbling Pole. *Ibid.*, *Columnes* 719 Sacred Harmony, And Numb'ry Law, which did accompany Th' Almighty-most.

Numb-fish. [f. NUMB *a.*] The Electric Ray or Torpedo, so called from the effect of the electric shocks emitted by it.

1711 *Brit. Apollo* No. 123. 1/2 A Fish called by Name a Nummfish. 1738 F. MOORE *Trav. Africa* 176 By this time I understood it was a Torpedo or Numbfish. 1774 *Phil. Trans.* LXIV. 467 The Torpedo, or Numb-fish, is by no means plenty in these parts. 1854 BADHAM *Halieut.* 78 The numb-fisb (*narke*) applied alive over the temples in headache is mentioned by Galen as a specific for that complaint. 1867 *Chambers's Encycl.* IX. 488/2 The popular names Numb-fish, Cramp-fish, and Cramp Ray are given to torpedos by English fisbermen.

Nu·mbing, *vbl. sb.* [f. NUMB *v.* + -ING 1.] The action of making numb.

1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. i. iv. *Handicrafts* 191 A flock of Muttons..(Whose freez-clad bodies feele not Winter's numming). 1875 WHITNEY *Life Lang.* xiv. 292 By the numbing of the single nerve of audition.

Nu·mbing, *ppl. a.* [f. NUMB *v.* + -ING 2.]

1. That numbs, or induces numbness. Also *fig.*

1634 MILTON *Comus* 853 She can unlock The clasping charm, and thaw the numming spell. 1699 GARTH *Dispens.* I. (1706) 6 The Poppy and each numming Plant dispense Their drowzy Virtue. 1716 POPE *Iliad* VII. 324 His slacken'd knees received the numbing stroke. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) VI. 267 The numbing quality, which has acquired them the name of the torpedo. 1801 SOUTHEY *Thalaba* XII. xxi, Thalaba, with numbing force, Smites his raised arm, and rushes by. 1885 *Athenæum* 23 May 658/3 The numbing effect of sixth forms and university honours.

2. *Numbing-fish* or *-eel*, = NUMB-FISH.

1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. xii. 362 We here..met with that extraordinary fish called the Torpedo, or numbing fish. 1794 WOLCOT (P. Pindar) *Celebration* Wks. 1816 III. 8 Th' electric shock..a man upon the black-brow'd rock Has oft experienc'd from the numbing eel.

Hence **Nu·mbingly** *adv.*

1768 *Woman of Honor* III. 108 Hardly possible to conceive any thing more..numbingly stupid than their assembly-nights.

Numbles (nu·mb'lz). Now only *arch.* Forms: *α.* 4 noubles (?), 4–6 noumbles (5 -buls, nownbils), 5 nowm(b)elys, 6 *Sc.* nowmyllis. *β.* 4, 6–7, 9 numbles. *γ.* 6–7 noombles, 5–6, 9 nombles. [a. OF. *numbles* (1239 in Du Cange), *nombles* pl. (Latinized as *numbli, numbuli*, and *numbilia*), loin of veal, fillet of beef or venison, chine of pork, app. for **lomble(s)* and repr. L. *lumbulus* (Pliny), dim. of *lumbus* loin. In Norman dial., *nombles* has the same sense as that usual in English. Variant forms are UMBLES and HUMBLE.] Certain of the inward parts of an animal (chiefly those of a deer) as used for food. Also, in early use, part of the back and loins of a hart.

α. *c* 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 491 Þe wombe oway he bare, Þe noubles he 3af to mede. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1347 So ryde Þay of by resoun bi Þe rygge bonez, Euenden to Þe haunche,..& hwen hit of Þere, & Þat Þay neme for Þe noumbles, bi nome as I trowe. *c* 1420 *Liber Cocorum* (1862) 10 Take Þe noumbuls of Þe veneson, In water and salt Þo wasshe hom sone. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 360/1 Nowmelys of a beest (*K.* nowmbelys), *burbalia.* 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 256/2 Þe Nownbils of a dere, .. *pepinum.* 1508 *Burgh Rec. Edin.* (1869) I. 114 At thai sell nocht oppinly .. thair nolt heids, nowmyllis, nor interallis of thair flesche. 1530 PALSGR. 248/2 Noumbles of a dere or beest, *entrailles.*

β. 1333–4 *Durh. Acct. Rolls* 21 In ..iij paribus de Numbles. *c* 1500 *Wyl Bucke's Test.* (Halliw.) 60 Take the numbleis, and loke that they be clene. 1531 ELYOT *Gov.* III. vii. (1880) II. 253 His glorious harte, as it were numbles chopped in peaces. 1575 in Brand *Newcastle* (1789) II. 721 Of every purpose [=porpoise] to have the fynnes and the head and the numbles. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* IV. vii. 371 Some, it is reported, lay a part of the Numbles on the fire. 1857 *Fraser's Mag.* LVI. 217 Commend us to a venison pudding, composed of the numbles and trimmings from the joints and breast.

attrib. 1822 T. L. PEACOCK *Maid Marian* 241 Robin helped him largely to numble-pie..and the other dainties of his table.

γ. 14.. *Lat.-Eng. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 569 *Burbillium*, nombles. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 10 Take Þe Nombles of Venysoun, an cutte hem smal whyle Þey ben raw. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans, Hawking* e vij b, The man to his mayster spekyth..Off the nomblys of the hert that he wolde hym kith How mony endys ther shall be hem with inne. 1575 TURBERV. *Venerie* 129 You shall take the harts heart..and rayse the Noombles from his fillets. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* II. 188/1 Noombles, or Umbles; the Hart or Bucks plucks, as Heart, Lights, Liver, with other appendices. 1820 SCOTT *Monast.* xvii, If you be so heavy, I will content me with the best.., and that's the haunch and the nombles.

Nu·mbly, *adv.* [f. NUMB *a.*] In a numb or torpid manner.

1895 'H. S. MERRIMAN' *Grey Lady* II. iv, Agatha was puzzling vaguely and numbly over the contradictions that come into human existence. 1897 CROCKETT *Lads' Love* xxiv, Her fingers fumbled numbly with the string.

Numbness (nu·mnės). Also 6 nomme-, 6–8 num-, 7 numm-. [f. NUMB *a.* + -NESS.] The state or condition of being numb. Also *fig.*

1571 GOLDING *Calvin on Ps.* lxxi. 15 If the innumerable multitude amend not both our nommenes and our coldnes. 1586 A. DAY *Eng. Secretary* I. (1625) 45 The man somewhat before his sicknesse grew into an extreame numnesse. 1643 MILTON *Divorce* I. ix. Wks. 1851 IV. 46 Disproportion, contrariety, or nummesse of mind may justly be divorc't. 1673 O. WALKER *Educ.* (1677) 71 A stagnation of humors, nummes of the joints, and dulnes in the brain. 1701 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3714/4 Bruises, Strains, Numbness of any Part. 1753 *Scots Mag.* July 315/1 The nation sinks into the..abyss of numbness, supineness, and indifference. 1820 KEATS *Ode to Nightingale* I My heart aches, and a drowsy numbness pains My sense. 1883 H. DRUMMOND *Nat. Law in Spir. W.* (ed. 2) 160 What is the creed of the Agnostic, but the confession of the spiritual numbness of humanity?

† **Nu·mbrable,** *a. Obs. rare.* In 4–5 noumb-. [a. OF. *nomb-, numbrable.*] = NUMBERABLE.

1382 WYCLIF *Ps.* xxi. 18 Thei dolue myn hondis and my feet; and ful noumbrable maden alle my bones. *c* 1400 tr. *Secreta Secret., Gov. Lordsh.* 104 No best, no thynge vegetable, no originale, no noumbrable,..no non oþer þinge.

So **Nu·mbrableness.** *rare* −1.

c 1705 BERKELEY in Fraser *Life* (1871) 427 The multitude of points, or feet, inches, &c., hinders not their numbrableness (i. e. hinders not their being numerable) in the least.

† **Nu·mbrary.** *Obs.* Also noumb-, nomb-. [Prob. ad. late L. *numerāria, -ārium*, fem. and neut. of *numerārius* NUMERARY.] Number; numeration, reckoning.

13.. *Cursor M.* 423 (Gött.), Þis numbrari [*Trin.* noumbrary] he ordained Þan, Suld he bath of angel and man. 1382 WYCLIF *Pref. Ep. Jerome* vii, Numeri forsothe, whether thei conteynen not the mysteries of al the hole craft of noumbrarie. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 11 And Arsmetryk, be castyng of nombrary, Chees Pyktegoras for her parte. 1430–40 — *Bochas* II. xxv. (1554) 61 The numbrary Of thy reigning and of thy great substaunce.

† **Nu·mbrer.** *Obs. rare* −1. In 4 noumbrere. [a. OF. *nombrere*, f. *nombrer.*] = NUMBERER.

1382 WYCLIF *Jer.* xxxiii. 13 3it shul passe flockes, at the hond of the noumbrere, seith the Lord.

† **Nu·mbrous,** *a. Obs.* [f. NUMBER *sb.* + -OUS: cf. F. *nombreux* (1564) and NUMEROUS.]

1. = NUMEROUS *a.*

a 1586 SIDNEY *Ps.* III. i, How many ones there he That all against poor me Their numbrous strength redouble? 1607 S. COLLINS *Serm.* (1608) 40 They need not, because so obuious; and they could not, because so numbrous. 1628 SIR W. MURE *Domesday* 869 Wks. (S. T. S.) I. 190 What Joyes (to view this numbrous host).

2. Exhibiting poetic numbers; rhythmical.

1581 SIDNEY *Apol. Poetrie* (Arb.) 28 The greatest part of Poets have apparelled their poeticall inuentions in that numbrous kinde of writing which is called verse. *c* 1615 SIR W. ALEXANDER in Drumm. of Hawth. *Wks.* (1711) 150 He numbrous Notes with measur'd Fury frames, Each Accent weigh'd; no Jarr in Sense, or Sound.

Numbry, variant of NUMBERY *a. Obs.*

Numbskull, obs. form of NUMSKULL.

Nu·mby, *a. rare.* In 7–8 nummie, -y. [f. NUMB *a.* + -Y.] Numbed; somewhat numb.

1603 FLORIO *Montaigne* II. xvii. (1632) 363 My hands are so stiffe and nummie, that I can hardly write for my selfe. *a* 1780 POTT *Chirurg. Wks.* (1790) III. 430 His legs and thighs were cold, and what he called nummy.

† **Numcorn,** app. for *mun-*, MONGCORN.

1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 172 Numcorne, *trimestre hordeum.*

‖ **Numdah** (nu·mda). *Anglo-Ind.* [a. Urdū نمدا *namdā*, f. Pers. نمد *namad* carpet, rug.] A kind of felt or coarse woollen cloth; a saddle-cloth or pad made of this. (See also NUMNAH.)

1876 VOYLE & STEVENSON *Milit. Dict.* 272/2. 1879 E. ARNOLD *Lt. Asia* IV. 105 On the steed he laid the numdah square, Fitted the saddle-cloth across, and set the saddle fair. 1903 *Blackw. Mag.* Sept. 374/2 The costume is completed by long riding boots of red and white numdah.

Nume, obs. pa. t. of NIM *v.*

Numelarien: see NUMMULARIAN.

Numen (niū·mĕn). [a. L. *nūmen* divine will, divinity, related to *nuĕre* to nod (assent).] Deity, divinity; divine or presiding power or spirit.

1628 FELTHAM *Resolves* II. xvi. 50 As if allowing them the name, they would conserue the Numen to themselues. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 193 That what they first meet.. they make their Numen and tutelary God for that day. 1662 H. MORE *Philos. Writ.* Pref. Gen. (1712) 9 For it is the same Numen in us that moves all things in some sort or other. 1711 SHAFTESB. *Charac.* (1737) III. Misc. II. ii. 65 They madly dote upon Matter, and devoutly worship it, as the only Numen. 1788 *Antiq.* in *Ann. Reg.* 120/2 Any local one whose numen and worship..was already established as local. 1874 J. FERGUSSON in *Contemp. Rev.* Oct. 765 In a cathedral town where all unite..in..adoring the sacred and historical numen of the place.

Numen, obs. pa. pple. of NIM *v.*

Numerable (niū·mĕrăb'l), *a.* [ad. L. *numerābilis*, f. *numerāre* to number. So It. *numerabile*, Sp. *-able*, Pg. *-avel.*]

1. Capable of being numbered.

1570 J. DEE *Math. Pref.* *j, The Glas of Creation, the Forme of Formes, the Exemplar Number of all thinges Numerable. 1629 J. COLE *Of Death* 107 That hee must dye, and that his dayes were numerable, nature taught him. 1665 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (1677) 58 So numerous in Islands as they are scarce numerable. 1710 BERKELEY *Princ. Hum. Knowl.* § 122 Particular numerable things. 1829 JAS. MILL *Hum. Mind* (1869) II. 137 Aristotle defines Time as..Continuous Motion, considered as numerable and successive. 1865 GROTE *Plato* I. i. 10 By this..he did not mean simply that all things were numerable.

† 2. Numerous. *Obs. rare* −1.

1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 14 A certane toune copious in citizenis and verie numerable.

Hence **Numerableness,** 'capableness of being numbred' (Bailey, vol. II, 1727).

Numeral (niū·mĕrăl), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. late L. *numerālis* (Priscian), f. *numerus* number. So F. *numéral* (1474), Sp. and Pg. *numeral*, It. *-ale.*]

A. *adj.* 1. Expressing or denoting number. a. Of words, or parts of speech.

1530 PALSGR. 73 Adjectyves somtyme be formed..of theyr nownes numeralles. 1651 HOBBES *Gov. & Soc.* xviii. § 4. 346 By calling to minde the order of those numerall words. 1824 L. MURRAY *Eng. Gram.* (ed. 5) I. 342 *One* is a numeral adjective, agreeing with its substantive 'remove'.

b. Of letters, figures, or other characters.

1577 T. KENDALL *Flowers of Epigr., Trifles* 17 b, A verse wherein the numerall letters shewe the yere of the Lorde. 1594 BLUNDEVIL *Exerc.* III. i. liv. (1636) 372 The houres of the night written..in common numerall letters. 1636 *Camden's Rem.* 355 Hee which set downe the nine numerall figures. 1690 LEYBOURN *Curs. Math.* 334 The Digits on the Left Side in Numeral Letters shew the several Roots. 1727–38 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Character*, Numeral characters are either letters; or figures, otherwise called digits. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVI. 366/2 Distinct numeral characters are found to have existed..among the Chinese, Indians, and Arabs.

2. Belonging or appertaining to number.

1607 *Schol. Disc. agst. Antichr.* I. i. 29 The first difference (forsooth) in our new Crosse is Numerall. .. It is not the same in number. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* 377 Surely the conceit is numerall, and..relateth unto the number of ten. 1685 H. MORE *Illustr.* 293 Those letters, in their numeral value, make just 666. 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Numeral Algebra*, is that which makes use of Numbers instead of Letters of the Alphabet.

† 3. Measured, rhythmic. *Obs. rare* −1.

1610 HEALEY *St. Aug. Citie of God* (1620) 51 In the feasts of Cybele was much of this numerall musicke.

B. *sb.* 1. A word expressing a number.

1530 PALSGR. 367 Annotacyons to knowe all maner sortes of numeralles in the Frenche tonge. 1591 PERCIVALL *Sp. Dict.* B iij, Of Primitiues the numerals are especially worth the noting. 1678 PHILLIPS s.v., Cardinal numerals, are those which express the number of things. 1872 MORRIS *Eng. Accid.* 110 Numbers may be considered under their divisions—Cardinal, Ordinal, and Indefinite Numerals.

2. A figure or character (or a group of these) denoting a number.

1686 R. H. *Obs. conc. Chinese Charac.* in *Misc. Curiosa* (1708) III. 219 Marks methodically disposed like Letters in a literal, or like Numbers in a Numeral. 1741 *Wilford's Mem. & Charac.* App. 43 The Figures direct to the Pages of the Book. The Numerals to those of the Appendix. 1758 *Gentl. Mag.* XXVIII. 56 The Roman numerals..are yet retained in use in some cases. 1842 DICKENS *Amer. Notes* (1850) 34/1 These boys are divided into four classes, each denoted by a numeral, worn on a badge upon the arm. 1884 *Encycl. Brit.* XVII. 625/2 The letters of the alphabet themselves came to be used as numerals.

transf. 1874 WHYTE-MELVILLE *Uncle John* xxi, It is hardly possible..to conceive how a man loses his own identity [in prison] when he becomes a numeral.

3. *Eccl.* (See quot.)

1853 ROCK *Ch. of Fathers* III. II. ii. 19 The 'numeral' was a calendar or directory which told the variations in the canonical hours and in the mass, caused by saints'-days and festivals.

† **Numera·lity.** *Obs. rare.* [f. prec. + -ITY.] The quality of being numerical.

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* IV. xii. 214 Yet are they not appliable vnto precise numerality, nor strictly to be drawne vnto the rigid test of numbers. *a* 1687 H. MORE *Answ. Psychopyrist* (1689) 134 There being Metaphysical Extension as well as Metaphysical Numerality.

† **Nu·merally,** *adv. Obs. rare.* [f. as prec. + -LY 2.] Numerically.

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* 377 Yet doe the blasts.. maintaine no certainty in their course: nor are they numerally feared by Navigators. 1691 BAXTER *Nat. Ch.* viii. 30 And no doubt but they may and must be divided Numerally and Notionally.

† **Nu·merant.** *Obs. rare* −1. [ad. pres. pple. of L. *numerāre.*] One who numbers.

1655–60 T. STANLEY *Hist. Phil.* (1701) 249/2 Time being a numerate number, exists not without a numerant, which is the Soul.

Numerary (niū·mĕrări), *a.* [ad. med.L. *numerārius* (in class. L. as sb.), f. *numerus* number: see -ARY. So It., Sp., and Pg. *numerario*, F. *numéraire* (1752).]

1. *Eccl.* Of a canon: Forming one of the regular number. (After med.L. *numerarius canonicus.*)

1726 AYLIFFE *Parergon* 139 A supernumerary Canon when he obtains a Prebend, ceases to be a supernumerary, and becomes a numerary Canon.

2. Of or pertaining to a number or numbers.

1742 HUME *Ess., Money* (1817) I. 285 It was always found, that the augmenting of the numerary value did not produce a proportional rise of the prices. 1788 PRIESTLEY *Lect. Hist.* III. xvi. 140 The numerary pound in the time of Charlemagne was twelve ounces of silver. 1818 R. P. KNIGHT *Inq. Symbolical Lang.* 9 In Greece and Macedonia..the numerary division seems to have regulated the scale of coinage. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* 502 *Numerary* or *Marryat's Signals*, a useful code used by the mercantile marine, by an arrangement of flags from a cypher to units, and thence to thousands.

† **Nu·merate,** *pa. pple.* and *ppl. a. Obs.* [ad. L. *numerāt-us*, pa. pple. of *numerāre* to number.] Numbered; counted.

1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) III. 115 In the tyme of whom [807,000] citesynnes..were numerate in the cite of Rome. *a* 1560 ROLLAND *Crt. Venus* IV. 226 Ten Mulzeoun Of fine reid gold in hand weill numerait. 1580 *Exch. Rolls Scotl.* XXI. 545 In numerat money..the sowme of tua hundreth fourscoir aucht pundis. 1623 *Disposition Ratified* in Macfarlane *Genealog. Collect.* (1900) 114 The saids Earles paying

in numerate Money..the Sum [etc.]. 1655-60 T. STANLEY *Hist. Phil.* (1701) 523/2 If the Monads are equal in number to all numerate things.

Nu·merate, *v. rare.* [f. ppl. stem of L. *numerāre*: see prec.] *trans.* To number, reckon. Also *absol.* Hence **Nu·merated** *ppl. a.*

1721 in BAILEY 1751 *Gentl. Mag.* XXI. 61/2 In this manner he numerates his long series of numbers. 1788 T. TAYLOR *Proclus* I. 15 (Disser.), So far as by a discursive operation of the soul, we numerate, we effect a particular quantum. 1862 LEWIS *Astron. Ancients* 240 The simple mode of numerating them in one series from the beginning to the end of the month. 1866 J. B. ROSE tr. *Ovid's Met.* 4 No brazen tables then affrighted swains With numerated penalties and pains.

Numeration (niūmĕrē·ʃən). Also 5 numeracion, 6 noumeracioun. [ad. L. *numerātiōn-em*, n. of action f. *numerāre* to number. So F. *numération* (1484), Sp. *numeracion*, It. *-azione*.]

1. a. A method or process of numbering, reckoning, or computing.

1432-50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 271 Men of the londe of Grece, that founde..a numeracion of yeres callede Olimpias. 1653 JER. TAYLOR *Serm. for Year* I. xi. 144 Every day of sorrow is a thousand years of comfort, multiplied with a never ceasing numeration. *a* 1695 J. SCOTT *Chr. Life* (1747) III. 663 The intellectual Numerations do eternally testify the Trinity of the King. 1727-38 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v., It being the law of the common numeration, that when you are arrived at ten, you begin again. 1837 WHEWELL *Hist. Induct. Sci.* (1857) I. 35 If..time is a numeration of motion.

b. Without article: Calculation; assignation of number to things.

1596 NASHE *Saffron Walden* Wks. III. 178 Lying by Addition and Numeration, making frayes..by Diuision. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* VI. iii. 285 That starre is the terme of numeration, or point from whence we commence the account. 1648 T. BEAUMONT *Psyche* VII. xciii, In Seed Which past the shores of Numeration flows. 1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* II. xvi. § 5 All Numeration being but still the adding of one Unit more, and giving to the whole.. a new or distinct Name or Sign. 1831 CARLYLE *Sartor Res.* I. x, That progress of Science, which is to destroy Wonder, and in its stead substitute Mensuration and Numeration. 1867 G. MUSGRAVE *Nooks & Corners Old France* I. i. 34 The system of decimal numeration..facilitates this head-work.

2. The action, process, or result of ascertaining the number *of* people, etc.

1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* III. viii. (S.T.S.) I. 278 Þe nowmeration of pepill..was endit in þis 3ere. *a* 1676 HALE *Prim. Orig. Man.* (1677) 231, I do not remember any Numeration of the People from this time till the time of King David. 1733 BERKELEY in Fraser *Life* (1871) vi. 207, I long for the numeration of Protestant and Popish families, which you tell me has been taken by the collectors. 1795 BURKE *Corr.* (1844) IV. 322 To make an exact numeration of the inhabitants of Ireland, distinguishing their religion. 1902 *Bible Student* Oct. 216 The twofold numeration of the people.

3. *Arith.* (See quots.)

1542 RECORDE *Gr. Artes* (1575) 42 Numeration, is that Arithmeticall skill, whereby we may..value, expresse and reade any Number or summe propounded. 1594 BLUNDEVIL *Exerc.* I. i. (1636) 1 What belongeth to Numeration? Two things, to know the shapes of the figures, and signification of their places. 1679 MOXON *Math. Dict.* 107 *Numeration*, the first of the five Vulgar Rules of Arithmetick, teaching to read truly any Sum or Number. 1798 HUTTON *Course Math.* (1806) I. 8 Numeration is the reading of any number in words that is proposed or set down in figures. 1859 B. SMITH *Arith. & Alg.* (ed. 6) 3 Numeration is the converse of Notation, being the art of expressing any number in words which is already given in figures.

b. *Numeration table*, a table showing the value of figures according to their place in a system of notation.

1803 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Belinda* xx, His thousands and tens of thousands..pass the comprehension of the numeration table. 1854 *Orr's Circ. Sci., Math. Sci.* 5 When the local values of these figures are written against them, it supplies what is..called the numeration table.

†**4.** Number. *Obs. rare.*

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* III. v. 115 If we survey the totall set of animals, we may in their legs..observe an equality of length, and parity of numeration. 1674 JEAKE *Arith.* (1696) 172 When Division is said to make a Sum less in numeration..: It is to be understood of Integers.

5. Enumeration *of* things. *rare* —¹.

1801 STRUTT *Sports & Past.* III. ii. 145 The numeration of the dresses appropriated to one of these plays.

Nu·merative, *a.* and *sb.* [f. NUMERATE *v.*]

A. *adj.* Pertaining to numeration or numbering.

1788 T. TAYLOR *Proclus* I. 17 (Disser.), The numerative soul..gives form and subsistence to all her inherent numbers. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVI. 368/1 Our present numerative system is stated by writers to employ the words unit, ten, hundred [etc.]. 1889 R. K. DOUGLAS *Chinese Man.* 40 The indefinite article is, when necessary, expressed by the first numeral.., with, in the case of persons or things, a numerative noun interposed between it and the substantive.

B. *sb. Gram.* (See quots.)

1863 SUMMERS *Hdbk. Chinese* 47 Under the appositional relation we must also consider the very large class of nouns formed by the use of what have been called numeratives or classifiers...The Chinese, in conversation, extend the use of such words to every object; they say..'one handle fan' for *a fan*, 'one length road' for *a road*. 1889 R. K. DOUGLAS *Chinese Man.* 64 These numeratives correspond to a certain extent to the use of such words as 'head', 'sail'.

Numerator (niūmĕrē·itŏɹ). [ad. late L. *numerātor*, agent-n. f. *numerāre* to number. So F. *numérateur* (1515), It. *numeratore*, Sp. *-ador*.]

1. *Arith.* †a. The word(s) or figure(s) by which the number of things or persons in question is denoted. *Obs.*

1542 RECORDE *Gr. Artes* C j b, *Scholar.* What shall I call .CCiii. ioined before the myllions? *Master.* That is called the numeratour or valewer. 1674 JEAKE *Arith.* (1696) 15 Thirty Men, here Men is the Contract Denominator, and Thirty the Numerator, or Valuer.

b. The number written above the line in a vulgar fraction, which shows how many of the specified parts of a unit are taken.

1575 *Recorde's Gr. Artes* II. X ij b, Those two numbers whiche expresse a fraction, haue seuerall names. The ouermost which is aboue the line, is called the Numerator. 1594 BLUNDEVIL *Exerc.* I. vii. (1636) 20 Of how many parts doth a Fraction consist? Of two, that is the Numerator, and the Denominator. 1655 BRAMHALL *Agst. Hobbes* III. Wks. 1844 IV. 385 Their rules of algebra and helcataim, their integers, and numerators. 1674 JEAKE *Arith.* (1696) 41 As in 3/5 the Numerator is 3. 1706 W. JONES *Syn. Palmar. Matheseos* 84 To multiply the Numerator is to multiply the Fraction. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) II. 297/2 The division is completed by a vulgar fraction, whose numerator is the remainder. 1838 DE MORGAN *Ess. Probab.* 40 The process for finding the greatest common measure of the numerator and denominator. 1864 BOWEN *Logic* xii. 406 The resulting fractions fall into a series, any one of which has for its numerator the sum of the two preceding numerators.

fig. 1763 tr. *Rousseau's Emilius* I. 7 Civilized man is only a relative unit, the numerator of a fraction, that depends on its denominator. 1831, 1893 [see DENOMINATOR].

2. One who or that which numbers.

1675 G. R. tr. *Le Grand's Man without Passion* 202 It becomes the numerator of expected Treasures, but cares not to cast up what it hath in possession. 1739 TONKIN *Carew's Cornwall* (1811) 45 *note*, There is .. a Numerator, whose business it is to set down the number of blocks coined every coinage. 1902 *Bible Student* Oct. 216 Here numerators are set apart to superintend the numeration in the different tribes.

Numeric (niume·rik), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. mod.L. *numeric-us*, f. *numerus* number. So F. *numérique* (1697), It., Sp., and Pg. *numerico*.]

†A. *adj.* Identical. *Obs.*

1663 BUTLER *Hud.* I. iii. 461 This is the same numerick Crew Which we so lately did subdue. 1727 SWIFT *To Delany* Wks. 1751 VII. 236 Shew me the same numerick Flea, That bit your Neck but yesterday.

B. *sb.* (See quot. 1879.)

1879 THOMSON & TAIT *Nat. Phil.* I. i. § 345 The term numeric has been recently introduced by Professor James Thomson to denote a number, or a proper fraction, or an improper fraction, or an incommensurable ratio. 1888 *Jrnl. Educ.* Dec. 573/2 When two numerics multiplied together give unity.., each is said to be the 'reciprocal' of the other.

Numerical (niume·rikăl), *a.* (and *sb.*). [f. as prec. + -AL.]

1. Pertaining or relating to number; of the nature of, according to, number; etc.

1628 SPENCER *Logick* 112 Vnequals..cannot be one in numericall quantitie. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* s.v. *Numerical*, As when we say a numerical difference, that is to say, the last difference, by which one individual thing is distinguished from one another. 1700 GREGORY in *Collect.* (O.H.S.) I. 323 He supposeth one is pretty well acquainted with the numerical arithmetick. 1712 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4952/4 An exact Table of the..Tickets in a Numerical Order.. will be publish'd. 1782 PRIESTLEY *Corrupt. Chr.* I. i. 127 Joachim..denied that..nothing but a numerical or moral union was left. 1837 WHEWELL *Hist. Induct. Sci.* (1857) I. 47 He confounded..a numerical unit with a geometrical point. 1867 DK. ARGYLL *Reign of Law* ii. (ed. 4) 73 All that we ever know is some numerical rule or measure according to which some unknown forces operate. 1881 LUBBOCK in *Nature* XXIV. 410/2 He obtained a numerical value of the mechanical equivalent of heat.

b. Of figures, etc.: Denoting a number.

1706 A. BEDFORD *Temple Mus.* vii. 153 The Numbers.. might have been writ in Numerical Letters. 1800 *Naval Chron.* III. 295 Jackson hoisted the horary and numerical signal. 1816 BENTHAM *Chrestom.* 184 A quantity, for the designation of which no more than one numerical figure..is employed. 1863 MAX MÜLLER *Chips* (1880) II. xxvi. 289 The Brahmans were the original inventors of those numerical symbols.

c. In respect of numbers.

1812 *Examiner* 24 Aug. 539/2 He would .. state the numerical force of his own and the enemy's army. 1849 GROTE *Greece* II. i. (1862) IV. 379 Nikostratus .. was not afraid of this numerical superiority. 1881 WESTCOTT & HORT *Grk. N. T.* Introd. § 53 The numerical authority of the two supposed witnesses against the third.

d. Of playing-cards: Bearing a certain number of distinguishing marks or 'pips'.

1816 SINGER *Hist. Cards* 45 The numerical cards in each suit appear to have been ten in number.

e. Characterized by the use of ordinary figures expressive of number.

1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVI. 369/1 Numerical, as opposed to literal, in algebra, applies to an expression in which the coefficients of a letter are all numbers, and not letters. 1881 BURNSIDE & PANTON *The. Equations* (1886) 2 An equation is numerical or algebraical according as its coefficients are numbers or algebraical symbols.

f. Designated by a number instead of a name.

1872 HOWELLS *Wedd. Journ.* (1892) 29 They turned into one of the numerical streets to cross to Broadway.

2. †a. Particular, individual. *Obs. rare.*

1643 SIR T. BROWNE *Relig. Med.* I. § 33, I beleeve..that they [spirits] have knowledge not only of the specificall, but numericall formes of individuals. 1674 HICKMAN *Quinquart. Hist.* Ep. (ed. 2) A 3 b, I cannot comprehend..how three Persons subsist in one numerical nature. 1699 BENTLEY *Phal.* 419 Every such Couple were the Numerical Halves, that made up one compleat Person in the former State.

†b. With *this* or *that* (passing into next). *Obs.*

1644 BULWER *Chiron.* 89 Many of these Numericall postures of the Fingers are found in the statues of the Ancients. 1660 BOYLE *New Exp. Phys. Mech.* xxix. 222 Though it be now divers years since this Numerical Liquor was prepared. 1702 STEELE *Funeral* I. (1734) 25 Am I really Alive? Am I that Identical, that Numerical, that very same Lord Brumpton? 1720-21 *Lett. fr. Mist's Jrnl.* (1722) II. 248, I would gladly be informed if..Mr. William Tong..be that numerical Will Tong, who formerly kept a canting School in this City.

†**3.** With *same*: Individual, identical. *Obs.*

In common use from 1650 to 1700: see also NUMERIC *a.*

1624 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* I. iii. I. ii. (ed. 2) 165 As in a Riuer we swimme in the same place, though not in the same numericall water. 1662 HIBBERT *Body Divinity* II. 62 It was the very same numerical body which he had before. 1710 NORRIS *Chr. Prud.* vii. 305 The same Numerical Act cannot be well conceiv'd to govern itself.

†b. Similarly with *very*. *Obs.*

1650 FULLER *Pisgah* v. xix. 179 The Law of the Jews; probably that very numericall book..kept in the Temple. 1673 DRYDEN *Marr. à la Mode* II. i, I may tell you,..this is that very numerical Lady, with whom I am in love. 1699 BENTLEY *Phal.* 213 The Writer of the Epistle has the very numerical words of Euripides. 1716 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* II. 175 All the several Manuscripts of the Policraticon ..are the very Numerical Book describ'd by Bale and Pitts.

†**4.** Metrical, rhythmical. *Obs. rare* —¹.

1749 *Power Numbers in Poet. Compositions* 4 What I intend then is a particular Examination of the numerical Structure both in Verse and Prose.

†**5.** *sb.* A number. *Obs. rare* —¹.

1766 HOLWELL *Princ. Anc. Bramins* vi. (1779) 121 The cause of the superstitious veneration paid by the Gentoos to the numericals one and three.

Nume·rically, *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY 2.]

1. As regards number; with respect to number.

1628 T. SPENCER *Logick* 66 Both of them are one numerically, because each of them haue a bodie, flesh, and bones. 1691 BAXTER *Nat. Ch.* viii. 30 When the Subjects are various and really divided Numerically, there the Accidents are divers and divided. 1748 HARTLEY *Observ. Man* II. i. § 5. 30 We suppose other Beings generically the same and yet numerically different. 1794 G. ADAMS *Nat. & Exp. Philos.* III. xxv. 76 Something that is numerically one and undivided. 1850 'BAT' *Cricket. Man.* 86 Numerically speaking, these rivals are upon a par. 1881 *19th Cent.* IX. 564 The community has never increased numerically except within itself.

†b. Used with *same* (or *one*) to emphasize the idea of identity. (Cf. prec. 3.) *Obs.*

1648 JENKYN *Blind Guide* 58 May not the same thing numerically be the subject of accidents specifically different? 1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* 46 According to this Hypothesis, the Souls of Animals could not be numerically the same throughout the whole space of their lives. 1710 [BEDFORD] *Vindic. Ch. Eng.* 64 If both those Subscriptions were made to numerically the same Articles. 1714 R. FIDDES *Pract. Disc.* II. 79 The attributes of God..are numerically and entirely one with his essence.

2. By means of numbers.

1728 EARBERY tr. *Burnet's St. Dead* II. 42 If it measures or divides space numerically, it cannot be a Spirit. 1774 *Phil. Trans.* LXIV. 386 These Indians cannot reckon numerically beyond six. 1802 *Ibid.* XCII. 96 Which value of π may be numerically computed. 1859 DARWIN *Orig. Species* ii. (1873) 46 I have endeavoured to test this numerically by averages.

Nume·ricalness. *rare* —⁰. 'Individualness' (Bailey, vol. II, 1727).

†**Numerica·tion.** *Obs. rare.* [f. NUMERIC *a.* + -ATION.] The action of making individual.

1694 R. BURTHOGGE *Reason* 167 Since all Individuation.. is Numerication, and all Numerication arises from Division.

Nu·merist. *rare.* [f. L. *numer-us* number + -IST. Cf. Sp. *numerista*.] One who attaches importance to, or concerns himself with, numbers.

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* 217 We..should rather assigne a respective fatality unto each: which is concordant unto the doctrine of the numerists. 1658—*Garden Cyrus* Wks. (Bohn) II. 557 Which ancient Numerists made out by two and three, the first parity and imparity. 1827 POLLOK *Course T.* II. (1828) 55 The numerist, in calculations deep Grew gray.

†**Nu·mero.** *Obs.* [L., abl. sing. of *numerus* number. So It., Sp., and Pg. *numero*, F. *numéro*.]

1. A copy of a book.

1604 *Petit. Apol. Lay Cathol. to Jas. I* 17 The very originall Bible, the selfe same *numero* which S. Gregory sent in with our Apostle S. Augustine.

2. A numbered thing or article.

1649 SIR W. DUGDALE in *Lett. Lit. Men* (Camden) 175 You shall herewith receive the 23 first numero's of the Bundell Chart. Antiq. 1727-38 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Book*, Book of Numero's or Wares.

†**Numerose,** *a. Obs. rare* —¹. [ad. L. *numerōsus*.] = NUMEROUS *a.* 5.

1704 HEARNE *Ductor Hist.* (1714) I. 421 All the Nations where Literature was early propagated have made use of numerose Style and chiming Rhimes.

Numerosity (niūmĕrŏ·sĭti). [ad. late L. *numerōsitas*: see NUMEROUS and -ITY. So It. *numerosita*, Sp. *-idad*, Pg. *-idade*.]

1. The state of being numerous; condition in respect of number.

1611 SPEED *Hist. Gt. Brit.* IX. xx. § 61. 971 Those Fences, which the possession of Majestie and numerositie of issue had for sundry nges cast about it. 1658 J. ROBINSON *Endoxa* V. 144 The variety and numerosity of these Characters,

and Lineaments. *a* 1687 H. More *Answ. Psychopyrist* (1689) 126 The Vigour of the Body must be increased, according to the Numerosity of these actuating Spirits in it. 1812 G. Chalmers *Dom. Econ. Gt. Brit.* 404 Inhabited by people of various principles, and of dissimilar numerosity. 1870 Lowell *Study Wind.* 33 Marching in a circle with the cheap numerosity of a stage-army.

2. Rhythmic quality.

1589 Puttenham *Eng. Poesie* II. vii. (Arb.) 91 This is called *rithmos* or numerositie, that is to say, a certaine flowing vtteraunce by slipper words and sillables. 1656 Cowley *Misc.* Pref., Almost all their Sweetness and Numerosity.. lies in a manner wholly at the Mercy of the Reader. 1774 Mitford *Ess. Harmony Lang.* 89 Those..who in considering the numerosity of writings attend to quantity alone. *c* 1790 Parr *Educ.* Wks. 1828 II. 107 The numerosity of the sentence pleased the ear. 1869 Wadham *Eng. Versification* 114 Melody is rather numerosity, a blending murmur, than one full concordance.

Numerous (niū·mĕrəs), *a.* [ad. L. *numerōsus*, f. *numerus* number: see -ous. So F. *numereux*, It., Sp., and Pg. *numeroso*.]

1. Plentiful, abundant, copious; comprising many units, items, or separate things.

c 1586 C'tess Pembroke *Ps.* lxxii. vii, Men shall passe The numerous grasse, Such store each town shall have. *a* 1634 Randolph *Poems* (1638) 99 Two that have horns, that while they butting stand, Strike from their feet a cloud of numerous sand. 1665 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* (1677) 58 It abounds with Inhabitants...So numerous in Islands as they are scarce numerable. *a* 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. xlix. 398 This is a numerous Herb. 1711 Steele *Spect.* No. 88 ¶ 1, I have contracted a numerous Acquaintance among the best Sort of People. 1792-3 Gibbon *Autobiogr.* (1897) 63 The free use of a numerous and learned library. 1796 Southey *Lett. fr. Spain* (1799) 416 In the colonies.. the evil is, if possible, still more numerous. 1827 Pollok *Course T.* vi. 36 Now behold the fair inhabitants..from numerous business turn. 1894 G. Moore *Esther Waters* 125 That testy and perplexed look that comes of numerous business and many interruptions.

b. Consisting of many individuals.

1647 Clarendon *Hist. Reb.* I. § 18 He..exalted allmost all of his own numerous Family. 1667 Milton *P. L.* I. 675 Thither wing'd with speed A numerous Brigad hasten'd. 1700 Dryden *Cymon & Iph.* 47 A Cyprian lord..with a numerous issue blest. 1778 Johnson in *Boswell* 11 Apr., Garrick had under him a numerous body of people. 1797 Earl Malmesbury *Diaries & Corr.* III. 596 There is a numerous and safe army. 1829 Southey *Sir T. More* (1831) II. 297 That very numerous class who are left without instruction in their childhood. 1855 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xv. III. 595 The commoners who had been summoned ..formed a numerous assembly.

† c. Composed of many parts; extensive. *Obs.*

a 1661 Fuller *Worthies* (1840) III. 269 So numerous is the church, with its appendences,..that he can accommodate one clergyman, of all dignities and degrees,.. in several chapels or vestries by themselves.

d. Coming from, pertaining to, large numbers.

1832 L. Hunt *Poems* 207 With thousand tiny hushings, like a swarm of atom bees..Or noise of numerous bliss from distant sphere. 1841 D'Israeli *Amen. Lit.* (1867) 368 How long has existed that numerous voice which we designate as 'Public Opinion'?

2. Many; of great number.

1622 Massinger & Dekker *Virg. Mart.* II. iii, To be parted in their numerous shares. 1666 Pepys *Diary* 23 July, Contriving presses to put my books up in; they now growing numerous. 1713 Steele *Englishm.* No. 8. 48 Letters from Correspondents begin to be very numerous. 1781 Cowper *Hope* 546 Deem life a blessing with its numerous woes. 1826 Southey *Vind. Eccl. Angl.* 449 They are greatly more numerous, and much more frequented. 1860 Tyndall *Glac.* II. xxv. 363 These sbafts..are very numerous in the Unteraar glacier.

3. Containing or including many individuals; thronged, crowded, well-filled, etc. Also const. *of*.

c 1611 Chapman *Iliad* To Rdr. p. liii, In his porch to his numerous fane Hear ancient oracles speak. 1681 H. Nevile *Plato Rediv.* 61 Though every Tribe was very numerous of Inhabitants that lived in the City. 1704 N. N. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* I. 149 A Colony thrust out of the fruitful Loyns of some numerous Country. 1829 Southey *Sir T. More* (1831) II. 140 Both Universities are already sufficiently numerous. 1831 Moore *Mem.* (1856) VI. 214 The dinner.., from being so numerous, had all the ease of a *table d'hôte*.

† b. Copious, liberal. *Obs. rare* —1.

1655 Fuller *Ch. Hist.* XI. 152 He delighted more to be numerous with many then ponderous with select quotations.

† **4.** That can be numbered; numerable. *Obs.*—1

1638 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* (ed. 2) 160 Xerxes viewd the innumerable Army he had...At Salamys..his huge Armie melted away, and quickly became numerous.

5. Measured, rhythmic, harmonious, musical.

1589 Puttenham *Eng. Poesie* I. iv. (Arb.) 24 The vtterance in prose is..nothing numerous, nor contriued into measures. 1611 J. Davies (Heref.) *Sco. Folly* Wks. (Grosart) II. 23 Or else would offer in Homerean fire, An heccatombe of numerous-plaints therefore. 1667 Milton *P. L.* v. 150 Such prompt eloquence Flowd from thir lips, in Prose or numerous Verse. 1749 *Power & Harm. Prosaic Numbers* 4 Men grew excessively fond of the numerous Stile, and readily sacrificed the Strength and Energy of their Discourse to the Harmony and Cadence of their Language. 1778 Harris in *Boswell* 9 Apr., In my opinion, the chief excellence of our language is numerous prose. 1839 Hallam *Hist. Lit.* II. vi. § 28. 270 Blank verse..falling occasionally almost into numerous prose.

transf. 1613 Campion *Lord's Masque* Wks. 203 Their numerous feet May aptly in just measures meet. 1648 G. Daniel *Eclog* v. 107 Jonson's numerous Soule (Now great as Pindar's) might these Gests enroll. 1661 Boyle *Style of Script.* 244 Bays and laurel which his successful sword and numerous pen..gained him from victory and the muses.

Nu·merously, *adv.* [f. prec. + -ly 2.]

1. In or by great numbers; abundantly.

1611 Tourneur *Ath. Trag.* I. i, They..may as numerously be multiplied. 1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* 79 The Atomes or small particles will ascend most numerously unto it. 1673-4 Grew *Anat. Pl., Anat. Trunks* II. § 8 In standing, most numerously, in or near, the inner Margin of the Barque. 1779 H. Walpole *Wks.* (1846) VI. 47 You, who keep yourself so warm and so numerously clothed. 18zz-34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) IV. 502 The box is numerously perforated at the bottom. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* vii. II. 225 Nor is there any reason to believe that any of these addresses was numerously signed. 1870 Rogers *Hist. Glean.* Ser. II. 17 So numerously did students throng to the medieval university.

Comb. 1829 Bentham *Justice & Cod. Petit., Abr. Petit. Justice* 37 Another and more numerously-seated Westminster Hall judicatory. 1887 *Pall Mall G.* 6 Sept. 2/1 The same case of a numerously-daughtered paterfamilias.

2. Harmoniously, rhythmically. *rare* —1.

1656 Cowley *Misc.*, *Elegie upon Anacreon*, The Smoothpac'd Hours of ev'ry day Glided numerously away.

Nu·merousness. [f. as prec. + -ness.]

I. The state of being numerous; the condition of being many in number.

1631 T. Powell *Tom of All Trades* 142 Numerousnes spoiles all. 1659 Hammond *On Ps.* lxxxvii. 1 In respect of the numerousness of eminent persons. 1741 Berkeley *Wks.* (1871) IV. 274 You seem to think the numerousness of her sons an argument of her truth. 1782 Miss Burney *Cecilia* II. iv, The numerousness of splendid engagements, of which..every one was proud to boast. 1841 L. Hunt *Seer* II. (1864) 42 There are times when the numerousness may scatter the individual gusto. 1887 T. A. Trollope *What I remember* I. xv. 311 English wanderers at that time earned the privilege since accorded to their numerousness.

2. Measured or rhythmic quality; regularity in measure or rhythm.

1712 Addison *Spect.* No. 357 ¶ 4 He has rather chosen to neglect the Numerousness of his Verse. 1727-38 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v. *Numbers*, It contributes greatly to the numerousness of a period, to have it closed by magnificent and well-sounding words. 1839 *Blackw. Mag.* XLV. 135 The richness and numerousness of the harmony. 1893 *Nat. Obs.* 17 June 115/2 His own gorgeous appreciation of quality and numerousness in instrumentation.

† **Nu·mery.** *Obs.* Also -ye, -ie. [ad. L. *Numeri*, pl. of *numerus* number.] The book of Numbers.

c 1400 *Wyclif Bible* (1850) I. 363 Here endith Leuyticus, and here bigynneth Numery [*v.r.* Numeri]. 1534 More *Treat. Passion* Wks. 1301/1 As it appeareth in the .xi. chapiter of Numerye. 1562 Legh *Armory* (1597) 52 This is a strong beast, as appeareth by that is spoken in Numery. 1574 J. Jones *Nat. Begin. Growing Things* 34 The booke of Exodus, of Numery, and of Iosua.

† **Nu·minal,** *a. Obs. rare* —1. [f. L. *nūmin-*, stem of *nūmen* Numen + -al.] Divine.

1652 Feltham *Low Countries* (1677) 56 Their wisdom is not indeed Heroic or Numinal,..but rather narrow and restrictive.

So † **Nu·minous** *a.*; † **Nu·minously** *adv.*

1647 Ward *Simp. Cobler* 66 The Will of a King is very numinous; it hath a kinde of vast universality in it. 1650 B. *Discollim.* 26 They shall prove such Jupiters as to fall a thundring and lightning so numinously over our heads.

† **Numisma·rian,** *a. Obs.* = Numismatic.

1716 M. Davies *Athen. Brit.* III. 74 The same Medal-Pyramids were presently prop'd up and enlarg'd by the following Numismarian-Pioneers in chief.

Numismatic (niūmizmæ·tik), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. F. *numismatique* (1579), = It., Sp., and Pg. *numismatico*, f. L. *numismat-*, stem of *numisma*, *nomisma*, a. Gr. *νόμισμα* current coin, f. *νομίζειν* to have in use.] **A.** *adj.*

1. Of, pertaining or relating to, coins or coinage.

1792 *Gentl. Mag.* LXII. I. 51 A numismatic History of France was among the *desiderata* of her national history. 1804 *Ibid.* LXXIV. II. 1102 In order to settle these numismatic difficulties. 1839 James *Louis XIV*, III. 196 Under their care the numismatic art was carried to a very high degree of perfection. 1882 A. J. C. Hare in *Gd. Words* Mar. 185 She lives only by numismatic record.

2. Consisting of coins.

1851 D. Wilson *Preh. Ann.* III. ii. (1863) II. 62 The numismatic treasures including an almost unbroken series of imperial coins from Augustus to Diocletian. 1868 Stephens *Runic Mon.* II. 879 A meaning in harmony with a whole class of numismatic remains.

B. *sb. pl.* The study of coins and medals, esp. from an archæological or historical standpoint.

1829-32 in Webster. 1850 Leitch tr. *C. O. Müller's Anc. Art* § 317 (ed. 2) 366 Numismatics..is, in the main, an auxiliary to the knowledge of the trade and mutual intercourse of the ancients. 1876 Mathews *Coinage* Introd. p. iii, Numismatics..might be considered as a branch of Archæology, were its inquiries confined to the coins of bygone days.

So † **Numisma·tical** *a.*, numismatic. *Obs.*—1 **Numisma·tically** *adv.*, as regards numismatics. **Numismati·cian,** a numismatist.

1716 M. Davies *Athen. Brit.* III. 73 Of all the Sorts and Kinds of Writers and Writings, Great Britain has produc'd the fewest of Medal-Tracts and Numismatical Collectors. 1881 *Daily Tel.* 8 Mar., The national money of Britain is neither clipped, nor unduly worn, nor debased in value. It is numismatically splendid. 1883 *St. James's Gaz.* 20 Feb. 5 About the last place where a numismatician would expect to find a valuable gold coin.

Numismatist (niumi·zmætist). [ad. F. *numismatiste*: see prec. and -ist.] One who has a special interest in numismatics; a student of coins.

1799 *Gentl. Mag.* LXIX. II. 1172 A deception attempted to be played off upon numismatists. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XV. 52/2 Numismatists have usually given the name of medals to those coins that have been struck..for particular purposes. 1879 C. R. Low *Jrnl. Gen. Abbott* II. 164 Captain Abbott, who was a keen numismatist, and had an excellent collection of coins.

Numismato·graphy. *rare.* [= F. *numismatographie*, Sp. *-grafia*, Pg. and mod.L. *-graphia*: see -graphy.] The systematic description of coins; the descriptive part of numismatics.

1853 Humphrey *Coin Coll. Man.* xvi. 180 Our term numismatics, numismatography, &c., &c., by which the science of the study of coins is known, we also receive from the Romans.

Numismato·logist. [Cf. next and -ologist.] A numismatist.

1835 Burnes *Trav. Bokhara* (ed. 2) III. 379 Taking impressions and drawings of it..for the..satisfaction of numismatologists. 1859 W. H. Gregory *Egypt* II. 130 Naturalist, archæologist, numismatologist; in short, something of everything.

Numismato·logy. [-ology.] The science of numismatics.

1815 Southey in *Q. Rev.* XII. 519 At a very early age, Barré had formed a taste for numismatology. 1839 *Gentl. Mag.* Sept. 316/2 The General..turned his attention to numismatology. 1856 Smyth *Roman Fam. Coins* 276 The numismatology of Europe has been so bitterly degraded.

† **Numm.** *Obs. rare* —1. [a. F. *numme*, ad. L. *nummus*.] A coin.

1694 Motteux *Rabelais* v. Ep. Pantagruel's Lymosin, Large heaps of Numms to fill your largest Coffers.

Nummary (nv·mări), *a.* [ad. L. *nummārius*, f. *nummus* a coin.]

1. Pertaining or relating to money or coinage.

1660 Waterhouse *Arms & Arm.* 31 They allowed none participants with them on ordinary and nummary accounts. 1740 W. Douglass *Disc. Curr. Brit. Plant. Amer.* 5 All over Europe for many Ages preceding the 14th Century, the nummary Pound, and the Ponderal or Pound Weight of Silver were the same. 1810 G. Chalmers *Caledonia* II. I. 37 Alexander III followed the nummary example of Alexander I. 1817 Ruding *Ann. Coinage* (1840) I. 112 He is of opinion that they borrowed their money pound from the Greeks, and their nummary language from the Romans. 1837 *Penny Cycl.* VII. 329/2 It was then, as it still is, the 240th part of the nummary pound.

2. Dealing with, occupied with, coins or money.

1695 Kennett *Par. Antiq.* iv. 12 Nummary Authors observe, that a Castle or wall'd City was the pourtraicture of a Roman Colony. 1807-8 Syd. Smyth *P. Plymley's Lett.* Wks. 1859 II. 168/2 Indignity to George Rose would be felt by the smallest nummary gentleman in the king's employ.

Numme, obs. f. Numb. **Nummen,** pa. pple. of Nim to take. *Obs.* **Nummer,** obs. f. Number.

Nummet (nv·mĕt). *dial.* Also nommit, -et. [Corruption of Noonmeat; cf. Nammet and Nummock]. A light meal or luncheon.

1825 Jennings *Obs. Dial. W. Eng.*, *Nummet*, a short meal between breakfast and dinner; nunchion. 1850 Collins *Gower Dial.* in *Trans. Phil. Soc.* IV. 222 *Nommet*, a luncheon of bread, cheese, &c.—not a regular meal. 1892 O'Neill *Devonshire Idyls* 110 Fore-bit and Breakfast, Rear-bit and Dinner; Nummit and Crummit, And a bit after Supper.

Nummi-, combining form of L. *nummus* coin, as † **Nummi-amorous** *a.*, fond of or loving money. **Nummi-cultivate** *v.*, to encourage or assist with money or payment; so **Nummi-cultivated** *ppl. a.* and **Nummi-culture. Nummiform** *a.*, shaped like a coin (*Cent. Dict.* 1890).

1650 B. *Discollim.* 28, I could demonstrate it to be..Versipellous, Centireligious, Nummiamorous. 1860 Reade *8th Commandm.* 250 The dagger stroke that slew Marloe in his twenty-ninth year, struck down a heaven born and nummicultivated genius. *Ibid.* 265 If this Anglo-Saxon [Shakespeare] had not been nummicultivated by the theatre. *Ibid.*, Under example, stimulus, and nummi-culture.

Nummie, Numming: see Numby, Numbing.

† **Nu·mmist.** *Obs. rare* —1. [f. L. *numm-us* + -ist.] Numismatist.

1703 Hickes in *Thoresby Corr.* II. 36 This gentleman,.. so particularly a great nummist, as famous as any..for his knowledge of coins.

Nummock, variant of Nummet.

1875 *Sat. Rev.* 3 Aug. 140/1 Our whortle-gatherers..sit down for their 'nummock' of bread and whortleberries, washed down by..water.

† **Nummus.** *Obs. Cant.* (See quots.)

a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew*, *Nummus*, a Sham, or Collar Shirt, to hide the t'other when Dirty. 1755 Deane Swift *Ess. on Swift* 273 The wearing of nummus, or scraps of linen to cover dirty shirts,

Nummular (nv·miŭlăr), *a.* [f. L. *nummul-us*, dim. of *nummus* coin, piece of money + -ar 2.]

1. Of or pertaining to money.

1731 in Bailey (vol. II). Hence in Johnson, etc.

2. *Path.* Coin-shaped, *esp.* of sputa.

1846 Brittan tr. *Malgaigne's Man. Oper. Surg.* 15 All these [cauteries] may be very well reduced to three. The oval, octagonal, and nummular. 1879 *St. George's Hosp. Rep.* IX. 166 The sputum was frothy on admission, but subsequently became nummular. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 553 Spots intermediate in size between the guttate and nummular.

† **Nummula·rian.** *Obs. rare* —1. [f. L. *nummulārius*, f. *nummulus*.] A money-changer.

c 1450 *Mirour Saluacioun* (Roxb.) 58 He ouerthrewe the bordes & shedde the monee of the Numelariens.

Nummulary (nʊ·miŭlări), *a.* [See NUMMULAR *a.* and -ARY 1.] Nummary.

1767 W. CLARKE *Connexion Coins* 283 The Romans applied all their nummulary language to such real coins as were struck within that empire. *Ibid.* 483 The Roman nummulary pound was one quarter less than that by which this payment was adjusted. 1817 RUDING *Ann. Coinage* (1840) I. 205 The nummulary Talent, which was in common use by the Greeks, and according to which the Anglo-Saxons rated their greater fines, that is, by multiples of sixty Pounds. 1838 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 7) XVI. 514/2 The twelfth part of the nummulary Saxon pound, and the fifteenth of the commercial. 1871 C. DAVIES *Metric Syst.* III. 92 The identity of the nummulary weight and of the standard silver coin..was first defaced by Edward I himself.

Nu·mmulated, *ppl. a. Path.* [f. L. *nummul-us.*] Coin-shaped, nummular.

1873 F. T. ROBERTS *Handbk. Med.* 419 Sometimes they [*sc.* sputa] are very tenacious..and may form distinct 'nummulated' masses. 1876 BRISTOWE *Th. & Pract. Med.* (1878) 367 The sputa which yield this odour are generally distinctly purulent, occasionally nummulated.

Nummuline (nʊ·miŭlәin), *a.* and *sb. Geol.* [f. as prec. + -INE 1.] **A.** *adj.* Nummulitic.

1865 CARPENTER in *Intellect. Obs.* May 291 These tubuli, as in the existing representatives of the Nummuline series, usually run parallel to each other. 1875 DAWSON *Dawn of Life* vii. 185 The nummuline-layer..unmistakably occurs in cracks or fissures, both in Canadian and Connemara ophite.

B. *sb.* A nummulite.

1879 CARPENTER in *Encycl. Brit.* IX. 384/2 The same irregularities in the grouping of the tubuli that..we find in recent Nummulines.

Nummulite (nʊ·miŭlәit). *Zool.* [f. L. *nummul-us*, dim. of *nummus* coin + -ITE 1 2.] A genus of fossil foraminiferous cephalopods belonging to the order *Polythalamia*, found abundantly in the Tertiary strata; an individual of this genus.

1811 PINKERTON *Petral.* I. 453 The nummulites, or porpites, occur in the limestone of Egypt and of France. 1839 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* II. 148/2 In the freshwater rocks of the Isle of Wight we find the nummulite. 1868 W. S. O. tr. *Figuier's Ocean World* iv. 79 The greater part of the Egyptian pyramids is only an aggregation of Nummulites. 1884 *Leisure Hour* Apr. 236/2 Immense numbers of disc-like shells of protozoa, the Nummulites.

attrib. 1873 DAWSON *Earth & Man* x. 241 The Nummulite Limestone was undoubtedly oceanic.

Nummulitic (nʊmiŭli·tik), *a. Geol.* [f. prec. + -IC.] Containing, or formed of, nummulites.

1833 LYELL *Princ. Geol.* III. 185 Secondary rocks, composed in great part of grey and greenish sandstone and conglomerate, with some thick beds of nummulitic limestone. 1863 DANA *Man. Geol.* 523 They [the pyramids] are largely Nummulitic, many beds consisting almost wholly of..Nummulites. 1882 GEIKIE *Text-bk. Geol.* VI. IV. 837 The early Tertiary or nummulitic sea was upheaved into a succession of giant mountains.

Numnah (nʊ·mna). [var. of NUMDAH.] A thick cloth or felt; a saddle-cloth; a pad placed under a saddle to prevent soreness.

1859 F. A. GRIFFITHS *Artil. Man.* (1862) 157 The bridles are laid over the cantles,..numnah or blanket over all. 1873 in Champion & Wilton *Saddles & Sore Backs* 31 Far superior to the numnah at present in use, or the leather numnah or pad. 1891 *Field* 7 Mar. p. xiv/3 Sponge-lined patent numnahs for the prevention of sore backs.

attrib. 1893 *Baily's Mag.* May 261/2, I crept into my numnah bag, where I was soon quite snug.

Numness, obs. form of NUMBNESS.

† Nump(s. *Obs.* Also 8 **numphs.** [Of obscure origin.] A silly or stupid person. (Used chiefly in jocular address.)

1611 BEAUM. & FL. *Kt. Burning P.* II. ii, *Hum.* What do you think I am? *Jasp.* An arrant noddy... *Luce.* Farewel, my pretty Nump, I am very sorry I cannot bear thee company. 1673 BP. S. PARKER *Repr. Reh. Transp.* 85 These are villainous Engines indeed; but take heart, Numps! 1709 *Brit. Apollo* No. 56. 3/1 Alas! poor Numphs, thy Jobbernole Seems scarce informed by a Soul. ? 1730 *Royal Remarks* 37 Many Fools.., poetical Numpses.

Numparel(l, obs. or dial. ff. NONPAREIL.

Nu·mquid. *rare* −1. [L. *numquid*, used to introduce a question.] An inquisitive person.

1833 *Blackw. Mag.* XXXIV. 675 The barber's shop is the everlasting resort and solace of the numquids of the turban.

Numskull (nʊ·mskʊl). Forms: *α.* 8–9 **numb-skull; numpscull, -skull.** *β.* 8-9 **numscull** (8 **-scul, -scal**), 8– **numskull** (8 **-skul**). [f. NUMB *a.* + SKULL *sb.*]

1. A dull-witted or stupid person; a blockhead, thickhead, dolt.

α. 1724 SWIFT *Let. to Wood* Wks. 1841 II. 50, I remember not to have known a greater numbskull than thou art. 1773 GOLDSM. *Stoops to Conq.* II. i, You numbskulls! and so while..you are quarrelling for places the guests must be starved. 1800 *Sporting Mag.* XVI. 284 I'm not so great a fool..as that great numpscull Jack! 1834 M. SCOTT *Tom Cringle* xvi, Why will not the numbskulls confine their infernal dullness to them. 1839 LANDOR *Andrea of Hungary* 84 I've swum two nights And days together upon Baian wine..; 'twould swamp that leaky nump-skull.

β. 1728 VANBR. & CIB. *Prov. Husb.* I. ii, Thou art a numscul I see already. 1756 *Gentl. Mag.* XXVI. 490 If he's a fool, and like a numskul chuses To consort with those weedling jades, the Muses. 1807–8 W. IRVING *Salmag.* (1824) 130 Every modern numskull, who takes hold of a subject he knows nothing about. 1867 TROLLOPE *Chron. Barset* II. lxxiii. 295 He considered them to be numskulls, and little better than idiots.

attrib. and *Comb.* 1814 HILL *Let. to Carlyle* 9 May, Ever varying the scene with wit and mirth, while honest Peter must hold on in one numskull track to all eternity. 1828 SOUTHEY *Ep. to A. Cunningham*, An honest fellow of the numskull race;..a very goose.

2. The head, pate, noddle, *esp.* that of a dull or stupid person.

1717 PRIOR *Alma* I. 127 Or Toes, or Fingers, in this Case, Of Num-scull's Self shon'd take the Place. 1738 *Gentl. Mag.* VIII. 197/2 Their Children..having at their Birth Numsculls, like those obtain'd by Art by their Parents. 1742 FIELDING *J. Andrews* III. xii, The nonsensical dictates of his own numscull. *a* 1818 M. G. LEWIS *Jrnl. W. Ind.* (1834) 37 He never could squeeze his great numskull into it. 1842 LOVER *Handy Andy* iii, Confound your numskull! I didn't say a word about ink. 1850 T. A. TROLLOPE *Impress. Waud.* xiii. 210 Tell them what you will, they shake their wise numskulls when you have done.

Hence **Nu·mskullism,** stupidity.

1806 ANNA SEWARD *Lett.* (1811) VI. 268 His reminiscences familiarize us with the interior of the court of George the First and Second, and display, in full light, the numskullism of both those regal personages.

Numskulled (nʊ·mskʊld), *a.* [f. prec. + -ED 2.] Dull- or slow-witted; stupid.

1706 E. WARD *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 12 His Proxy, some numb-skull'd Officer, whom he most esteems. 1712 ARBUTHNOT *John Bull* I. xii, That Clod-pated, Numskull'd, Ninny-hammer of yours. 1881 DUFFIELD *Don Quixote* II. 361 Is it possible that your worship is so numskulled and so lacking in brains?

Hence **Numsku·lledness.**

1885 *Sat. Rev.* 28 Nov. 717 The practitioners of this black art..carried it out with at least a heroic consistency of numskulledness.

† Nu·mskully, *adv. Obs.* [f. as prec. + -LY 2.] In the manner of a numskull; stupidly.

1708 *Brit. Apollo* No. 88. 3/2 You answer Questions so Numscully.

Nun (nʌn), *sb.*1 Forms: *α.* 1–7 **uunne,** 5 **nune,** 4– **nun** (5 **nunn,** *Sc.* **nwn**). *β.* 3–6 **nonne,** 5–6 **none** (5 **nonn,** 6 **noone**). [OE. *nunne*, = OHG. *nunna* (MHG. and mod.G. dial. *nunne*), ON. and (M)Sw. *nunna*; also ME. *nonne* (prob. a. OFr. *nonne*), = MDu. *nonne* (Du. *non*), MSw. *nonna*, Da. and G. *nonne*. The ultimate source is eccl. L. *nonna*, fem. of *nonnus* monk (in late Gr. *νόννα*, *νόννος*), originally a title given to elderly persons, whence It. *nonno*, *nonna* grandfather, grandmother, Sicilian *nunnu*, *nunna* father, mother, Sard. *nonnu*, *nonna* godfather, godmother.]

1. A woman devoted to a religious life under certain vows; usually, one who has vowed poverty, chastity, and obedience, and who lives in a convent under a certain rule, as in the Roman Catholic and Greek Churches.

a. *c* 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* IV. xxiii. (1890) 340 Wæs in þæm seolfan mynstre sumu haligu nunne. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC in Assmann *Ags. Hom.* (1889) III. 368 Synd swa þeah þa wudewan..to nunnan gehadode. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 963, He macode þær twa abbotrice, an of muneca, oðer of nunna. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 316 Ich am on ancre, a nunne,..a meiden. *c* 1275 *Sinners beware* 169 in *O. E. Misc.* 77 Mvnekes and Nunnen þat heom wyte ne kunnen From sucche lecherye Heo schule to helle cume. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 29284 Qua smites..munk, or frer, nun, or chanun,..he is cursd. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 62 Saue nunnes slo3 he sykerly þe relygyous þat þar war. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 200 Rympled liche a nunnys veylle. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 360/2 Nune, womann of relygione, *monialis, monacha.* 1538 STARKEY *England* II. i. 148 Monkys, frerys,..and nunnys, of the wych..ther ys no smal nombur. 1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III*, IV. iv. 201 For my Daughters..They shall be praying Nunnes, not weeping Queenes. 1613 MAY *Decl. Est. Clothing* iv. 19 Then do they punish the clothier for that fault as the Frier whipt the Nun with a Fox taile. 1671 WOODHEAD *St. Teresa* II. xxvi. 166 There was no perswading her to be a Quire-Nun, but a Lay-Sister. 1715 DE FOE *Fam. Instruct.* I. iv. (1841) I. 78 Does my mother think to make a nun of me? 1797 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Italian* xi, Vivaldi perceived a procession of nuns approaching from a distant aisle. 1838 LYTTON *Calderon* iii, You may well look surprised, when actresses turn nuns. 1880 'OUIDA' *Moths* I. 107 It seems to me you are shut up like a nun.

β. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 18 A Nonne þare was of on Abbeie. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 8029 Scho ys nonne of relygion At Seint Petres kirke of þis toun. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. v. 153, I haue an aunte to nonne and an abbesse bothe. 1420 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 54, I will þat þe nonne þat kepid me in my seknes haue ij nobles. 1481 CAXTON *Reynard* (Arb.) 28 A lytel besyde the waye..stode a cloyster of black nonnes. 1491 — *Vitas Patr.* (W. de W. 1495) II. 305 She is my nonne & yours & he named her so; bycause they named in lyke wyse the denoute virgynes in that regyon. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. clv. 187 Noones, hanynge no reuenewes aboue x.li. shall pay nothynge. *c* 1550 BALE *K. Johan* (Camden) 2 Monkes, Chanons & nonnes in dyvers coloure and shappe. 1594 WILLOBIE *Avisa* xlii, She is no Saynt, She is no Nonne.

b. A priestess or votaress of some pagan deity.

c 893 K. ÆLFRED *Oros.* IV. iv. 162 On ðære ilcan tide Caperronie wæs hatenu heora goda nunne. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 2179 (Dubl.), Zacora hym sayd, a semlych Nonn, þar was none oþer answer. *a* 1547 SURREY *Æneid* IV. 389 And whisketh through the town like Bachus nunne. 1598 DRAYTON *Heroic. Ep.* xiii. 175 Like one of Bacchus raging frantike Nunnes. 1608 TOPSELL *Serpents* (1658) 765 The Nuns that keep the fire of Vesta as their lives. 1647 CLARENDON *Hist. Rebell.* VI. § 42 How much more Christian was that Athenian Nun in Plutarch. 1698 HOUGHTON *Husb.* (ed. Bradley, 1727) II. 365 The law of the twelve tables prohibited all but the Emperor and Vestal Nuns to be bury'd within the city [Rome].

c. *transf.* A courtesan.

1770 FOOTE *Lame Lover* I. Wks. 1799 II. 60 An abbess, well known about town, with a smart little nun in her suite. 1825 C. WESTMACOTT *Eng. Spy* I. 167 The nuns of St. Clements.

2. The name of various birds: **a.** The Blue Titmouse, *Parus cæruleus.*

1589 HIGINS tr. *Junius' Nomenclator* 60 *Parus minor*, a litle titmouse, called a Nunne, because his heade is filletted as it were Nunlike. 1678 RAY *Willughby's Ornith.* 262 The blue Titmouse or Nun: *Parus cæruleus.* 1774 G. WHITE *Selborne* xli, The blue titmouse, or nun, is a great frequenter of houses, and a general devourer. 1843 *Zoologist* I. 215 Looking cautiously through a crevice, I saw a nun actively engaged in ferreting out the small white grub. 1903 *Daily Graphic* 31 Jan. 11/1 During the winter you generally see the tomtit..in his character of 'the nun'.

b. The Smew, *Mergus albellus.* [So G. *nonne.*]

1666 MERRETT *Pinax* 183 *Nun* est avis aquatica querquedula paulo minor, Rostrum ei rotundum [etc.]. 1674 RAY *Coll. Words, Water Fowl* 95 This hath no English name known to me, unless it be that which Dr. Merret in his *Pinax* calls by the name of Nun: The Germans call it the White Nun. 1709 *Phil. Trans.* XXVI. 466 *Mergus major cirratus*, the Smew, or White Nun. 1768 PENNANT *Brit. Zool.* II. 438. 1817 T. FORSTER *Nat. Hist. Swallow-tribe* (ed. 6) 93 *Mergus albellus*, Smew..; white Nun, Lough-diver. 1894 NEWTON *Dict. Birds* 646 *Nun*.., the adult male Smew, from his delicate white and black plumage.

c. A variety of the domestic pigeon.

1725 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Pigeon*, There are indeed many sorts of pigeons such as Helmets, Nuns, Tumblers, Barbs. 1735 J. MOORE *Columbarium* 48 The Nun..is a bird somewhat larger than a Jacobine, her Plumage is very particular, and she seems to take her Name from it. 1868 *Boy's Own Bk.* 359 The Nun..attracts notice from the pleasing contrast in its feathers; its head is almost covered with a veil of white feathers, which gives it its name.

d. = NUN-BIRD. (*Cent. Dict.* 1890.)

3. A species of Venus-shell. *rare* −1.

1681 GREW *Museum* I. vi. i. 138 Many of this sort, striated, are found, saith Mr. Lyster, near Hartle-pool in the County of Durham, where the People call them Nuns.

4. A species of moth.

1832 RENNIE *Butterfl. & M.* 96 The Nun...Wings one inch one-twelfth. 1890 *Pall Mall G.* 14 Aug. 4/3 The devastating moth, known as the 'nun', has made its appearance in north and west Germany.

† 5. (See DAMSEL 4.) *Obs.*

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.* **a.** Appositive, as ***nun-novice, -portress, -princess, -sister,*** etc.

c 900 WÆRFERTH tr. *Gregory's Dial.* 30 Be þære nunfæmnan, þe hat þone leahtric. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (Prose) 147 Efter þis sal þat nun nouece stand stil befor þe anter. 1768 BARETTI *Mann. & Customs Italy* II. 21 To get out of the convent at night by the connivance of the nun-portress. 1879 J. D. LONG *Æneid* I. 304 Till the nun-princess Ilia Bear unto Mars two children at a birth. 1892 *Daily News* 20 Oct. 5/7 To crown their sorrows, another nun-sister.. had sunk under an attack of typhus.

b. Miscellaneous, as ***nun-looking, -nature,*** etc.

1817 J. SCOTT *Paris Revisit.* (ed. 4) 90 These black eyes.. took additional charms from the nun-looking wimple. 1824 SCOTT *Redgauntlet* ch. xvi, The place they live in was some sort of nun-shop long ago. 1863 KINGSLEY in *Reader* Oct. 507 Theirs is the true nun-nature. 1872 HOWELLS *Wedd. Journ.* (1892) 268 Soft nun-voices speaking French through grated doors.

c. In genitive combs., as **nun's cloth,** a thin woollen stuff; **nun's cotton,** = ***nun's thread***; **nun's fiddle** (see quot.); **† nun's flesh,** a cold or ascetic temperament; **nun's thread,** a fine white sewing-cotton, such as is used by nuns; **nun's veiling,** a thin dress-stuff.

1884 *Cassell's Mag.* Mar. 246/1 *Nun's cloths are also now printed in chintz patterns. 1903 HUGHES *Mus. Guide* 213 *Nun's-fiddle*, marine trumpet. 1672 DRYDEN *Assignation* I. i, They that look for *Nuns flesh in me shall be mistaken. 1731–8 SWIFT *Polite Conv.* i, I'll be sworn Miss has not an Inch of Nun's Flesh about her. 1796 WINDHAM *Sp.* (1812) I. 304 With no..baste to privation of their own comforts, with not one bit of Nun's flesh about them. 1815 *Zeluca* III. 234 Lady Floray couldn't have been much of a girl when she did marry—if she was engaged eight years, she must have had a little nun's flesh about her. 1766 W. GORDON *Gen. Counting-ho.* 322, 1 small box *nuns thread. 1844 G. DODD *Textile Manuf.* iv. 140 The making of sewing-thread, known by the names of 'ounce-thread' and 'nun's-thread'. 1883 *Truth* 31 May 747/1 Lady Florence Maxwell's toilette was of cream *nun's veiling.

† Nun, *sb.*2 *Obs. rare.* [Perh. the same as prec.] A child's top. Also **nun-gig.**

1598 FLORIO, *Turbine*, a toppe, gigge or nunne that children plaie with, a whirlegigge. 1611 COTGR., *Sabot*, a Top, Gig, or Nunne to whip, or play with. 1615 MARKHAM *Country Contentm.* I. (1635) II. 11 There be other Anglers which make their Corks [for floats] in the fashion of a Nun-gigge, small at both ends, and bigge in the middest.

Nun, *v. rare* −1. [f. NUN *sb.*1] *trans.* To confine or shut *up* as in a nunnery.

1753–4 RICHARDSON *Grandison* (1766) V. 45, I will have you to town, and nun you up with Aunt Nell.

‖ Nu·natak. [Eskimo: introduced by Nordenskiöld.] A peak of rock appearing above the surface of the inland ice in Greenland.

The Swedish plural *nunatakker* has sometimes been used in English works.

1882 J. D. WHITNEY *Climatic Changes* 303 Camp was made..at the foot of a nunatak, the summit of which was 4,960 feet above the sea-level. 1888 *Times* 20 Nov. 9/5 The 'nunataks' which rise like skeletons above the frozen waste. 1900 *Nation* 15 Nov. 391/3 The visible land is in the form of nunataks, or of sea-cliffs, with talus beaches here and there.

Nun-bird. *Ornith.* [f. NUN *sb.*[1]] A South American puff-bird of the genus *Monacha*.

1881 SCLATER *Jacamars & Puff-birds* 146 The White-winged Nunbird [*Monacha nigra*] was one of the first South American birds known to scientific naturalists. *Ibid.* 153 The Peruvian White-faced Nunbird seems to be an abundant and generally distributed species in Upper Amazonia. *Ibid.* 158 *Monacha pallescens*, the Pale Nunbird.

Nun-buoy. *Naut.* [Cf. NUN *sb.*[2], quot. 1615.] A buoy of circular shape in the middle and tapering towards each end.

1703 DAMPIER *Voy.* III. I. 149 The Tide..runs very swift here, so that our Nun-buoy would not bear above the Water to be seen. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1780) s.v. *Buoy, Nun-Buoys*, are shaped like the middle frustum of two cones, abutting upon one common base. 1816 *Specif. Foulerton's Patent* No. 4040, The term nun buoy is applied generally to that description of buoy which is fastened by a rope to a ship's anchor by which you may know where the anchor lies. 1875 BEDFORD *Sailor's Pkt.-Bk.* v. (ed. 2) 136 Wrecks will still continue to be marked by green nun-buoys.

‖ **Nunc dimittis.** [L., the first words of the Song of Simeon in Luke ii. 29.]

1. The canticle beginning with these words.

1552 *Bk. Com. Prayer, Evening Pr.* Rubric, After that, (*Nunc dimittis*) in Englishe, as foloweth. 1625 BACON *Ess., On Death*, The sweetest Canticle is, *Nunc dimittis*; when a Man hath obtained worthy Ends, and Expectations. 1872 A. DE VERE *Leg. St. Patrick, St. P. & Impostor*, Those Elders twain With hands upraised .. sang the 'Nunc Dimittis'.

b. Hence *to sing* (*one's*) *nunc dimittis*, to declare oneself willing or delighted to depart from life or from some occupation.

1642 NETHERSOLE *Consid. upon Affairs* 8, I should.. cheerfully sing my *Nunc dimittis*. 1776 J. ADAMS *Wks.* (1854) IX. 391 When these things are once completed, I shall..sing my *nunc dimittis*, return to my farm [etc.]. 1825 HAN. MORE in W. Roberts *Mem.* (1834) IV. 257 If I could see the abolition of the slavery..in the West Indies.. I could sing my *nunc dimittis* with joy. 1859 DARWIN *Life & Lett.* (1887) II. 232, I am now contented, and can sing my 'nunc dimittis'.

2. Permission to depart; departure, dismissal.

1654 *Wotton's Lett.* I. 120 (Stanf.), Yet my good Lord, at least procure me of my Lord the King a *Nunc dimittis*, leave to depart. 1699 'MISAUAUS' *Honour of Gout* in *Harl. Misc.* (1809) II. 44 He tells the decumbent a long story of the pains and misery of life, in order to make his *nunc dimittis* go down the easier. 1829 *Edin. Rev.* XLIX. 218 We shall now bow our heads to the *nunc dimittis*, come when it may.

† Nunce. *Obs.* Also 7 nonce. [Anglicized form of NUNCIO or *nuncius* NUNTIUS, or a. F. *nonce*.] = NUNCIO.

1566 in Keith *Hist. Ch. Scot.* App. II. 135 Hir Majestie can nocht be empeschit with ony Besines concerning the Nunce. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* x. 420 Pelleuæi..was the Papes nunce. 1611 SPEED *Hist. Gt. Brit.* IX. viii. § 44. 498 Two Nunces from the Pope..meete him at Northampton. 1686 WAKE *Expos. Doctr. Ch. Eng.* p. xxxv, The Faculty of Divinity, at the Command of the Nonce,..censured his Propositions.

Nuncheon (nʌ·nʃən). Now *dial.* Forms: *α.* 4 nonechenche, nonschonches, 5 -senches; *Sc.* 4 noynsankys, 5–6 none-, nunschank(i)s. *β.* 5 noonchyns, -shyns, nonsiens, 6 nunchings, 6–7 nuncions (7 -chions), -tions. *γ.* 5 noneshyne, 8–9 noonchin(e; 7, 9 noonshun. *δ.* 6–7 (9) nonchion; 6 nuntion, 7 -cian; 6– nunchion, 7– nuncheon, 9 *dial.* nunchen, -chin(g), -chun, -shon. [ME. *nōn(e)shench*, f. *nōn(e* NOON + *shench* (OE. *scenc*) draught, cup. Until the 17th cent. usually in forms with final *s*. In mod. western and south-western dialect the shorter form *nunch* is also current: cf. *luncheon* and *lunch*.] A slight refreshment of liquor, etc., originally taken in the afternoon; a light refreshment taken between meals; a lunch.

α. 1353 in Riley *Mem. London* 265 Nonechenche. 1375–6 *Abingdon Abbey Acc.* (1892) 28 Vnde liberantur Conuentui, pro eorum nonschonches,..j panis et j lagena cerusie. 1394 *Reg. Nigrum Aberbrothoc* (Bann. Club) 43 That day that he wyrkis he sal haf a penny til his noynsankys. 1422–3 in *Gentl. Mag.* (1830) C. II. 592 It'm to ij Carpenters be j day to eche of hem, with her Nonsenches. 1491 *St. Giles Charters* (1859) p. xx, To haif bot thair nonescbanks allanerly afternone. 1529 *Burgh Rec. Stirling* (1887) I. 35 Haiffand ilk werk day ane half hour afor nyne houris afor none to his disjone, and ane othir half hour afor four houris eftyr none to his nunschankis. 1536 in Jervise *Mem. Angus & Mearns* (1885) I. 298 Na tyme of license of dennar nor noneshankis.

β. 1422–3 in *Gentl. Mag.* (1830) C. II. 592 It'm to on Robert Dawber for his dawbyng be vij dayes,..with his noonchyns. 1426–7 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* (1904) 64, ij carpenters with her nonsiens. 1591 PERCIVALL *Sp. Dict., Merenda*,..an afternoones nuncions or drinking, a beuer. 1592 NASHE *P. Penilesse* (1842) 57 Then a set breakfast, then dinner, then afternoones nunchings, a supper, and a rere supper. 1622 MABBE tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* 276 Which being both put together would not make up together a reasonable nunchions. 1649 *Wandering Jew* in Halliw. *Bk. Charac.* (1857) 24 In one of these pipes is my mornings draught,..in a third, my after-noons nuntions.

γ. *a* 1500 *Egerton MS.* 2108 lf. 57 b, To vij. other laborers .., every man, iij.*d.* and for noneshyne, iv.*d.* 1613–16 W. BROWNE *Brit. Past.* II. i, Harvest-folkes..On sheafes of corne were at their noonshuns close. 1772 GRAVES *Spir. Quix.* (1783) III. 14 They took a comfortable noonchine together. 1808 JANE AUSTEN *Lett.* (1884) I. 353 Immediately after the noonshine which succeeded their arrival a party set off for Buckwell. 1875 *Whitby Gloss.* s.v., It was n't a dinner, it was only a bit of a noonshun. 1880 MISS YONGE *Love & Life* I. 30, I will give you some bread and cheese and gingerbread for noonchin.

δ. 1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong, Le Gouster*,..an afternoones banket, an onchion. *a* 1591 H. SMITH *Wks.* (1867) I. 56 Is there nothing in the sacrament but bread and wine, like an hungry nuncion? 1603 HARSNET *Pop. Impost.* xxiii. 158 Perverting the Nature of the Holy Communion, to a private Nunchion for a priest alone. 1611 COTGR., *Collation de Moyne*, a Monks nuncheon; as much as another man eats at a large meale. 1694 *Urquhart's Rabelais* IV. xlvi, Some say there is..no Dinner like a Lawyer's, no Afternoon's Nunchion like a Vintner's. 1734 FIELDING *Old Man taught Wisd.* Wks. 1784 III. 126, I don't eat a great deal, unless it be at breakfast..and afternoon's nunchion. 1790 T. PRYCE *Voc. Cornish, Croust*, an afternoon's nuncheon. 1822 SCOTT *Nigel* ii, I came to get my four-hours' nunchion from you. 1858 HUGHES *Scour. White Horse* 61 A long table was laid out for luncheon, or nunching as the boots..called it. 1893 *Wiltsh. Gloss.* App. 198 About Salisbury Nuncheon is between 10 and 10.30 a.m., and again at 4 p.m., and is a very small meal.

Nunciate (nʌ·nʃi·eit), *sb.*[1] [Irreg. f. L. *nuncius* or *nunciāre*, perh. after *legate*.] One who or that which announces; a messenger, nuntius.

1595 W. SMITH *Chloris* (1877) 4 Vouchsafe to reade these lines.., Nuntiates of wo with sorrow being clad. 1762 HOOLE *Tasso* XI. viii, All the nunciates of th' ethereal reign, Who testified the glorious death to man. 1851 C. L. SMITH tr. *Tasso* I. lxix, Do thou, my nunciate,..Dispose him in my name to what imparts vantage to us and him.

Nu·nciate, *sb.*[2] [ad. It. *nunziato*, † *nuntiato*: see NUNCIO and -ATE[1] a.] Nunciature.

1882–3 SCHAFF *Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* 2273 Carlo Borromeo ..established a nunciate in Switzerland.

† **Nu·nciate,** *v. Obs. rare*[−1]. (See quot.)

1708 *Brit. Apollo* No. 7. 3/1 This Court had resolv'd to send thither Monsieur Aldobrandin without being Nunciated, or having a Brief for Nuncio.

† **Nuncia·tion.** *Obs.* [ad. L. *nunciātiōn-em*, n. of action f. *nunciāre*, *nuntiāre* to announce. So Sp. *nunciacion*, It. *nunziazione*.] The action of announcing; announciation.

c 1450 *Cursor M.* 11001 (Laud), The nunciacion Of Cryst that broght vs alle pardoun. 1620 T. GRANGER *Div. Logike* 3 Nunciation, that is, telling, or reporting. 1633 T. ADAMS *Exp. 2 Pet.* i. 13 There is no nunciation of the Gospel, howsoever there may be a proclamation of Judgment. 1649 *Argts. upon Writ of Habeas Corpus* 19 Our case is by the Nunciation of many.

Nunciative (nʌ·nʃiătiv), *a. rare.* [f. L. *nunciāt-*, ppl. stem of *nunciāre* (see prec.) + -IVE.] Conveying a message or messages; making announcements.

1653 BAXTER *Chr. Concord* xviii. B 2, The Ministerial power being not compulsive,..but Nunciative, Swasory, and directive. *a* 1901 F. W. H. MYERS *Hum. Personality* (1903) II. 88 They are all of them message-bearing or nunciative automatisms.

So † **Nu·nciatory** *a. Obs. rare.*

1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* To Rdr., For of letters there be sundrie sortes [*Marg.* Nunciatorie, Lamentatorie, Consolatorie]. 1586 A. DAY *Eng. Secretary* II. (1625) 59 A Letter Nunciatorie from a sonne to his father or friends touching his being in service.

Nunciature (nʌ·nʃi·ătiūə). Also 7 nuntiature. [ad. It. *nunziatura* (= Sp. and Pg. *nunciatura*, F. *nonciature*), f. *nunzio* NUNCIO.]

1. The representation of the Pope at a foreign court by his nuncio; the office of nuncio.

1652 EARL MONM. tr. *Bentivoglio's Hist. Relat.* 51 All Affairs of Religion which occur in those Kingdoms, fall likewise under the same Nuntiature. 1670–98 LASSELS *Voy. Italy* I. 12 They are good for Nunciatures, Embassies, and State employments. 1710 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4775/2 The Pope's Nuncio was lodged in the palace of the nunciature. 1768 *Ann. Reg., Hist. Europe* 9/1 It was also resolved..to suppress the jurisdiction of the Nunciature. 1858 tr. *Life Xavier* 44 Xavier replied that however vile such services might appear they would not degrade the dignity of the Nunciature. 1887 *Pall Mall G.* 11 July 7/1 The time has not arrived..for establishing anything resembling a nunciature or apostolic delegation in London.

2. The period during which a given person holds the office of papal nuncio.

1662a J. BARGRAVE *Pope Alex. VII* (1867) 106 Some [churches] remaining without pastors all the time of his nuntiature. 1670 G. H. *Hist. Cardinals* II. III. 186 He had been..pleas'd with his proceedings during his Nuntiature. 1706 tr. *Dupin's Eccl. Hist. 16th C.* II. v. 121 A History..which he wrote during his Nunciature in Spain. 1818 *Gentl. Mag.* LXXXVIII. II. 127 The Pope..sent him to the Court of Spain, during which Nunciature he was promoted to the purple. 1896 VIZETELLY tr. *Zola's Rome* 28 First Leo's religious education at Rome, then his brief nunciature at Brussels.

Nuncio (nʌ·nʃio). Also 6– nuntio. [a. earlier It. *nuncio*, *nuntio* (now *nunzio*), = Sp. and Pg. *nuncio* :—L. *nuncius*, *nuntius* messenger.]

1. A permanent official representative of the Roman See at a foreign court.

α. 1528 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. III. II. 103 His Holines morover sent to his Nuncio a Copie of a lettre sent from the Nuncio in Hungaria. 1577 HARRISON *Descr. Eng.* II. in *Holinshed* I. 143 The pope understanding what he was by his Nuncio here in England. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* III. 63 A Nuncio differed from a Legate, almost as a Lieger from an extraordinary Ambassadour. 1700 TYRRELL *Hist. Eng.* II. 858 The Pope had sent his Nuncios all over Europe. 1759 ROBERTSON *Hist. Scot.* I. IV. 293 She now resolved to allow a nuncio from the pope publicly to enter her dominions. 1827 HALLAM *Const. Hist.* iii. (1876) I. 115 The nuncio received a message at Brussels, that he must not enter the kingdom. 1866 ROGERS *Agric. & Prices* I. ix. 155 Contributions for the maintenance of cardinals, foreign bishops, and nuncios.

β. 1586 J. HOOKER *Hist. Irel.* in *Holinshed* II. 169/1 Two friers, whose gownes were too long for them to follow the earle and the popes nuntio. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 81 The Inquisitors of Religion..: namely the Popes Nuntio, and the Patriarke. *a* 1648 LD. HERBERT *Autobiog.* (1886) 236 The Pope's nuntio, the Emperor's ambassador,..and others. *a* 1715 BURNET *Own Time* (1766) II. 57 In dangerous practices with the Pope's Nuntio. 1762–71 H. WALPOLE *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1786) III. 216 In the service of cardinal Dada, the pope's nuntio. 1823 LINGARD *Hist. Eng.* VI. 139 Leo sent to the court, as nuntio for religious matters, Girolamo Aleandri, prefect of the Vatican library.

2. One who bears a message; a messenger.

1601 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* I. iv. 28 She will attend it better in thy youth, Then in a Nuntio's of more graue aspect. 1644 *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. IV. 70 Having so opportune a nuncio I could not let pass without presenting a few lines unto you. 1710 *Pol. Ballads* (1860) II. 95 The godly Lay-Five..By me their sure nuncio do send you this greeting.

fig. 1617 WITHER *Fidelia, Juvenilia* (1633) 447, I had not now been forced to have sent Those lines for Nuncios of my discontent. 1672 SIR T. BROWNE *Let. Friend* § 2 Some secret sense or intimation by dreams,..airy nuncios [etc.]. 1777 BRAND *Pop. Antiq.* 92 Swallows..were honoured antiently as the Nuncios of the Spring.

3. A member of the Polish diet.

1684 *Scanderbeg Redivivus* ii. 22 Now this distinct Body of Nuntio's,..is a Ballance to the Senators. 1753 *Scots Mag.* Jan. 3/1 The nuncios of a general diet of Poland were chosen in August last. 1773 *Ann. Reg.* 39 Fifty of the Nuncios still opposing it to fifty-two who voted for it. 1831 SIR J. SINCLAIR *Corr.* II. 293 About two-thirds of the Nuncios wore the Polish dress. 1848 W. H. KELLY tr. *L. Blanc's Hist. Ten Y.* I. 482 All the nuncios rose as one man, and shouted, 'To the ramparts!'

Hence † **Nu·ncioship,** † **Nu·nciotist.**

1652 EARL MONM. tr. *Bentivoglio's Hist. Relat.* 51 For that the Church-men which are in those parts are under the same Nuntioship. 1673 *Conf. betw. Protestants & Papist* 25 Many Nunciotist Provincials of Regular Orders, and Abbots also.

Nuncion, obs. form of NUNCHEON.

Nuncius (nʌ·nʃiəs). *rare.* [a. L. *nuncius*: cf. NUNTIUS.] A messenger.

1613–16 W. BROWNE *Brit. Past.* I. i, The Nuncius of peace, the seely Dove. ?1633 COWLEY *Dream of Elysium* 89 Th' watchfull Bird, true Nuncius of the Light, Straight crow'd. 1848 LYTTON *Harold* III. ii, He stretched forth his sceptre, and motioning to his chamberlain, bade him introduce the nuncius.

Nuncle, variant of UNCLE with transferred *n* (see N 3 b). Now *dial.* Cf. NUNKY.)

c 1589 *Theses Martinianæ* 2 To my nunckle Canturburie. 1599 PORTER *Angry Wom. Abingd.* (Percy Soc.) 138, I should be glad To haue myselfe called nunckle, and thou dad. 1605 SHAKS. *Lear* I. iv. 170 Nuncle, giue me an egge. 1663 DRYDEN *Wild Gallant* III. i, Alas, alas, poor nuncle! 1710 *Brit. Apollo* No. 89, 3/2 Why Nuncle Hermes, this is very odd. 1760 FOOTE *Minor* II. Wks. 1799 I. 252 Oh, a proof of my respect, dear nuncle. 1838– in *Eng. Dial. Dict.*

Hence † **Nu·ncle** *v. Obs. rare*[−1].

a 1676 *Roxb. Ball.* (1895) VIII. 203 She still'd her mother's tongue,..Nuncl'd her Mam.

† **Nu·ncupate,** *pa. pple. Obs. rare*[−1]. In 6 num-. [ad. L. *nuncupāt-us*: see next.] Called.

a 1548 HALL *Chron. Edw. IV* 248 b, We beyng called reasonable creatures,..be more worthy to be numcupate, and demed persones vnreasonable.

Nuncupate (nʌ·nkiupeit), *v.* [f. ppl. stem of L. *nuncupāre* to name, declare.]

† 1. *trans.* To name, designate. *Obs. rare.*

1609 HOLLAND *Amm. Marcell.* XXII. ii. 189 By the last words he spake he nuncupated him successor in his imperiall throne. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr., Nuncupate*, to name, to call by some name; also to pronounce, tell by name or rehearse.

† 2. To express (a vow) in words. *Obs.*

1606 HOLLAND *Sueton.* 83 The vowes..he commanded his colleague Tiberivs to nuncupate and pronounce. 1635 JACKSON *Creed* VIII. XXII. Wks. VIII. 69 They nuncupate this their solemn vow unto the Lord our God. 1788 BURKE *Sp. agst. W. Hastings* Wks. XV. 32 They do here..make this solemn declaration, and nuncupate this deliberate vow.

3. To declare (a will) orally.

a 1677 BARROW *Pope's Supremacy* v. § 7 But how doth that Will appear?..in what Registers is it extant? in whose presence did he nuncupate it? 1880 MUIRHEAD *Gaius* II. 109 Although they may neither have provided the number of witnesses.., nor nuncupated their will, they do not the less test validly.

† 4. To dedicate (a work) *to* some one. *Obs.*

1550 VERON tr. *Zwinglius' Short Pathw.* Ded., Which small worke I doo moste humblye dedicate, offer, and nuncupate vnto your ryghte worshipfull maistershippe. 1637 BASTWICK *Litany* I. 1 [It] was one of the principall causes of this nuncupating my Letany to your Ladiship. 1656 EVELYN *Mem.* (1857) III. 82 You should on my advice have nuncupated this handsome monument of your skill and dexterity to some great one.

Hence **Nu·ncupating** *vbl. sb.*

1679 PULLER *Moder. Ch. Eng.* (1843) 152 Our Church.. nowhere..alloweth nuncupating of vows, or offering sacrifices to Saints.

Nuncupation (nʌnkiupē·ʃən). Also 4 -acion. [ad. L. *nuncupātiōn-em*, n. of action f. *nuncupāre*: see prec. and -ATION. So F. *nuncupation* (16th c.), Sp. *nuncupacion*.]

† 1. The action of naming or designating. *Obs.*

1387–8 T. USK *Test. Love* I. ix. (Skeat) I. 119 But images ben goddes by nuncupacion.

1616 Bullokar *Eng. Expos.*, *Nuncupation*, a naming. 1619 Sir J. Sempill *Sacrilege Handl.* 84 Heere then was but a Nuncupation, a Fundation of Priest-hood. *a* 1670 Hacket *Cent. Serm.* (1675) 102 What they have, it is by entitling and nuncupation.

† 2. The solemn expression *of* a vow. *Obs.*

1615 Jackson *Creed* v. xxxi. Wks. IV. 276 Of this internal adoration..they make intercession or nuncupation of vows essential parts. 1678 Cudworth *Intell. Syst.* I. iv. § 14. 259 He being frequently thus stiled in their solemn Nuncupations of Vows..Jupiter Father.

3. The oral declaration of a will.

1726 Ayliffe *Parergon* 520 When a Codicil is not made by Nuncupation, but solemnly and in writing. 1880 Muirhead *Ulpian* xx. § 9 The mancipation of the *familia* or estate, and the nuncupation of the testament.

Nuncupative (nv·nkiu·pātiv, nvakiū·pătiv), *a.* (and *sb.*). [ad. late and med.L. *nuncupātīv-us*: see Nuncupate *v.* and -ive. So F. *nuncupatif* (1354); It., Sp., and Pg. *nuncupativo*.]

1. Of wills: Oral, not written.

After med.L. *testamentum nuncupativum* (Du Cange).

1546 *Knaresb. Wills* (Surtees) I. 50 John Oxennarde of Bramley made his nuncupatyve will before Ric. Pullen, sen^r. 1590 Swinburne *Testaments* 23 The appointing of an executor, (without the which there can be no testament at all, neither written nor nuncupative). 1634 C. Downing *State Eccl. Kingd.* 51 By the Nuncupative will of his sacred predecessour, who then adopted him. 1651 G. W. tr. *Cowell's Inst.* 118 Lands cannot be given by a Nuncupative will. 1726 Ayliffe *Parergon* 142 This Cancelling..is suppos'd to be extended to those Testaments Nuncupative, that are afterwards reduced to Writing. 1754 Erskine *Princ. Sc. Law* (1809) 473 Probation by witnesses is admitted to the extent of L. 100 Scots, in payments, nuncupative legacies, and verbal agreements. 1818 Cruise *Digest* (ed. 2) VI. 60 It is not sufficient that it be put into writing after his death, being first declared by words only; for then it is but a nuncupative will. 1883 *American* VI. 270 Soldiers and sailors, however, when on service may make nuncupative wills.

transf. 1660 Jer. Taylor *Duct. Dubit.* II. iii. rule 14 § 32 Nuncupative records are like diagrams in sand, and figures efformed in air.

† b. *sb.* An oral decree. *Obs. rare*$^{-1}$.

1698 Fryer *Acc. E. India & P.* 367 As in Nuncupatives the irrevocable Decrees and Commands of the Emperor stand firm, so his Determinations in the Written Law are as Authentick.

† 2. Nominal; so-called. *Obs. rare.*

a 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VII* 39 b, He determined rather to retourne with his assured gaine then to tary the nuncupative dukes.. uncerteine victory. *a* 1670 Hacket *Cent. Serm.* (1675) 101 The princes of the people are Nuncupative Gods in Scripture.

3. Denoting nuncupation; designative. *rare.*

a 1619 Fotherby *Atheom.* I. vi. § 2 (1622) 41 That nuncupatiue tittle, wherewith both Heathens and Christians haue honoured their Oathes. 1817 G. S. Faber *Eight Dissert.* (1845) II. 275 We may..anticipate, among the Pelasgi also, a similar nuncupative reference to the same ancient city of Nimrod. 1828 Middleton *Grk. Article* 43 Nouns preceded by Verbs or Participles Substantive or Nuncupative.

Hence **Nuncupatively** *adv.*

1657 W. Morice *Coena quasi* Κοινή vi. 312 The Idols of the Gentiles were called Gods, nuncupatively or ironically. 1767 tr. *Voltaire's Ignorant Philosopher* xxiii. 46 He [God] exists essentially, participatively and nuncupatively.

† **Nuncupatory**, *a. Obs.* [Cf. prec. and -ory. So Sp. and Pg. *nuncupatorio*, obs. F. *-atoire*.]

1. Nuncupative, oral, verbal.

a 1603 T. Cartwright *Confut. Rhem. N. T.* (1618) 463 Lest they should here cavill at the word *Testament*,..to make it as well nuncupatory and unwritten, as written. 1638 Featly *Strict. Lyndom.* II. 121 They refuse the triall, pretending I know not what nuncupatory will by word of mouth. 1691 Wood *Ath. Oxon.* I. 485 By his nuncupatory Will, which he spake on the 14. day of the same month. 1704 Swift *T. Tub* II. Wks. 1751 I. 55 You are to be informed, that of Wills *duo sunt genera*, Nuncupatory and Scriptory.

2. Dedicatory.

1654 Jer. Taylor *Real Pres.* 76 As the Archbishop of Cæsarea..hath enumerated them in his nuncupatory Epistle to Pope Sixtus Quintus. 1679 Evelyn *Sylva* (ed. 3) To Rdr., The many Nuncupatory Epistles to be seen in the fronts of so many learned Volumes.

Nundinal (nv·ndinăl), *a.* (and *sb.*). [ad. L. *nundināl-is*, f. *nundinæ* Nundine. So F. *nundinal.*] Pertaining to a fair or market; connected with the Roman nundines.

Nundinal letter, a letter of the alphabet (A to H) attached to each day of the Roman nundinal period.

1656 in Blount *Glossogr.* 1721 in Bailey. 1727–38 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v., The letter D will be the nundinal letter of the year following. 1839 J. Taylor *Poems & Transl.* 183 Nundinal or Market Days. 1862 Lewis *Astron. of Ancients* 56 The nundinal or eight-day period of Rome.

b. *sb.* A nundinal letter.

1727–38 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v., These nundinals bear a very great resemblance to the dominical letters, which return every eight days, as the nundinals did every nine.

So † **Nundiuary** *a.* [L. *nundinārius.*] *Obs.*

1656 in Blount *Glossogr.* 1762 tr. *Busching's Syst. Geogr.* I. Pref. p. xviii, The commercial or nundinary measures being, for the most part, less than the mean.

† **Nundinate**, *v.* [L. *nundinārī.*] (See quot.)

1623 Cockeram I, *Nundinate*, to buy and sell, as at faires.

Nundina·tion. [ad. L. *nundinātiōn-em*, n. of action f. *nundinārī*, f. *nundinæ* Nundine.] Traffic, trade, buying and selling; sale.

1623 Cockeram I, *Nundination*, a buying and selling. 1635 Swan *Spec. M.* ii. § 3 (1643) 33 In regard that the nundinations and things of that nature appertained to the Jubilee. 1642 Drumm. of Hawth. *Skiamachia* Wks. (1711) 199 Ye are..approvers of purgatory, of..transubstantiation, nundination of pardons. 1684 H. More *Answ.* 282 This Vision of the Prince of Tyre is taken Notice of in *Synopsis Prophetica*, for a Prediction of Ecclesiastical Nundinations. 1840 I. Taylor *Ancient Chr.* (1842) II. vi. 141 The nundination of indulgences and the oecumenic authority of the pope..are the characteristics of popery.

† **Nundinative,** *a. Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. [See next and -ative.] Nundinal.

1631 R. Byfield *Doctr. Sabb.* 81 Macrobius saith, there are foure kindes of publike holy-dayes.., Stative, Conceptive, Imperative, and nundinative.

Nundine (nv·ndəin). Also *pl.* [ad. L. *nundinæ* fem. pl., f. *novem* nine + *diēs* day.] Among the ancient Romans, a market-day held every eighth (by Roman reckoning, ninth) day.

1533 Bellenden *Livy* III. xi. (S.T.S.) I. 292 Now war þe commites proclamit to be haldin þe thrid day eftir þe nundinis for creatioun of þir ten men. 1853 *Fraser's Mag.* XLVII. 289 The præfect.. had threatened to bring the case, on the next Nundines, before the sitting ædile. 1891 Farrar *Dark & Dawn* (1893) 249 The meeting was fixed to take place on the next nundine.

b. A recurring period of eight days.

1860 Hessey *Sunday* 385 Even after Constantine's time nundines as well as weeks were in use.

Nune, Sc. form of Noon.

Nunefar, obs. variant of Nenuphar.

† **Nun-fish.** *Obs.* A kind of shell-fish.

1661 Lovell *Hist. Anim. & Min.* 234 *Nun-fishes*..are a wholesome and delicate meate, as any periwinckle. ..Their face is white, their head covered with a black vaile like the nuns of Saint Bridgets Order, so had the name.

Nun-gig: see Nun *sb.*^{2}

Nu·nhood. [f. Nun *sb.*^{1} + -hood.] The state of being a nun.

1812 Coleridge in *Lit. Rem.* (1839) IV. 69 She at length resolved on nunhood because she thought it could not be much worse than Purgatory. 1890 *Eng. Illustr. Mag.* Dec. 261 Her fifty-two years' nunhood.

† **Nu·nka.** *Obs.* Also nuncka. = next.

1589 [? Lyly] *Pappe w. Hatchet* C iij, The babie comes in with Nunka, Neame, and Dad. 1589 Nashe *Mart. Marprelate* IV. Wks. (Grosart) I. 173 He requireth in scorne, of his Nunkaes.., whether they haue not closelie murdered the Gentleman.

Nunky (nv·ŋki), variant of Nuncle.

1798 Charlotte Smith *Ymg. Philos.* I. 101, I only repeat what I have heard, that old nunky looks upon you as still belonging to him. 1815 *Zeluca* III. 232 Nunky pays for all. 1840 Hood *Up Rhine* 4 When the qualm is over,.. Nunky, Nevy and Watch go on as usual. 1870 Miss Bridgman *R. Lynne* II. v. 102, I saw..how rich your dutiful old nunky had cut up.

Nu·nlet. *Ornith.* [f. Nun *sb.*^{1} + -let.] A South American puff-bird of the genus *Nonnula*.

1899 A. H. Evans *Birds* 447 The Nunlets..are distributed from Panama to Peru and Brazil; they are brown above and ferruginous beneath, with a little white.

Nu·n-like, *adv.* and *a.* [f. Nun *sb.*^{1}]

A. *adv.* After the fashion of a nun.

1589 [see Nun *sb.*^{1} 2 a]. 1755 in Dodsley *Coll. Poems* III. 275 She..Most nun-like mourns.

B. *adj.* Resembling (that of) a nun.

1611 Cotgr. s.v. *Nonnette*, She seemes to weare a Nunne-like fillet about her head. 1626 Purchas *Pilgrimage* v. i. (ed. 4) 480 The like was done by their Nun-like women. 1865 Allingham 50 *Mod. Poems, Southwell Park* II. 118 The well-fended nunlike child. 1870 Miss Bridgman *R. Lynne* II. xii. 255 The usual nunlike simplicity of her dress.

Nunmor: see etym. note to No more.

Nunnated, *a.* (See quot. and next.)

1841 Lady Egerton in C. Forster *Mon. Assyria* (1859) 339 Being the very title nunnated (that is marked with the final n) now borne by the Chief of the Sheraunee Affghans.

Nunnation (nvnē·ɪ·ʃən). Also nunation. [ad. mod.L. *nunnātiōn-em*, f. *nūn* the Arabic name of the letter *n*.]

1. The addition of a final *n* in the declension of Arabic nouns, denoted by doubling the vowel sign.

1776 J. Richardson *Arab. Gram.* 2 The nunnation is seldom sounded, excepting in the pompous or solemn style of reading. *Ibid.* 12 The final ا adds nothing to the sound when the nunnation is pronounced. 1874 Sayce *Compar. Philol.* v. 187 The natives of Harar..use a postfixed '-n', which seems a relic of a primitive nunnation. 1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XV. 473/1 The *on* in Madabron apparently represents the Arabic nunation.

2. A similar addition of *n* in Middle English nouns, etc.

1838 Guest *Hist. Eng. Rhythms* II. 111 One of its [the language of Layamon] most striking peculiarities is its nunnation, if we may be allowed to use a term already familiar to the scholar. 1844 *Proc. Philol. Soc.* I. 261 Nouns of the *n* declension often took the nunnation in the nominative in place of the usual vowel-ending. 1866 G. Stephens *Runic Mon.* I. 26 This Northumbrian form .. is clearly a separately developt local dialectic 'nunnation'.

Nunnery (nv·nĕri). Forms: α. 3–7 nonnerie, 3–5 -erye, 4, 6 nonery, 6 noonery. β. 4, 7 nunnerie, 5 nvnnerye, 6– nunnery (7 nunery). [Prob. ad. AF. **nonnerie*, f. *nonne* Nun *sb.*^{1}: see -ery. Cf. F. *nonnerie* (Littré).]

1. A place of residence for a body or community of nuns; a building in which nuns live under religious rule and discipline; a convent.

α. *c* 1275 Lay. 15642 Nou was Merlyn his moder..in one nonnerie munechene ihoded. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 91/148 And al þis compaygnie I-burede weren in Coloyne, in one Nonnerie. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 14225 Scheo ȝald hure til þat nonnerye, & tok þe veil for hure folye. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Reeve's T.* 48 For hir kynreed and hir nortelrye, That sche had lerned in a nonnerye. *c* 1425 *Hampole's Psalter* Metr. Pref. 28 Þar it lyȝt in cheyn bondes in þe same nonery. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* xxi. ix. 854 Atte last he cam to a nonnerye. 1523 Ld. Berners *Froiss.* I. cxxv. 151 The kyng of Englande was at Poissoy, and lay in the nonery there. *c* 1612 *Women Saints* 55 Her sister St. Etheldred..founder of that Nonnerie.

β. *c* 1305 *Land Cokayne* 147 An oþer abbei is þerbi For soth a gret fair nunnerie. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 257/1 A Nvnnerye, *cenobium*. 1571 A. Jenkinson *Voy. & Trav.* (Hakl. Soc.) I. 137 Not farre from the said Castle was a Nunnery of sumptuous building. 1602 Shaks. *Ham.* III. i. 122 Get thee to a Nunnerie. *Ibid.* 132 Goe thy wayes to a Nunnery. 1648 Gage *West Ind.* 58 This man alone built a Nunery of Franciscan Nuns. *a* 1699 Lady Halkett *Autobiog.* (Camden) 15 That there was a nunery in Holland for those of the Protestant religion. 1707 Lady M. W. Montagu *Lett.* II. xlvii. 43 Her relations..would certainly confine her to a nunnery for the rest of her days. 1756–7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) II. 229 There are boards placed before most of the windows, like those in a great many nunneries. 1841 Elphinstone *Hist. Ind.* I. 201 Nunneries for women seem also, at one time, to have been general. 1886 *Pall Mall G.* 17 July 5/2 To the south-east we may see the ruins of Sopwell nunnery.

fig. 1634 Habington *Castara* I. (Arb.) 18 Vee blushing Virgins [*sc.* roses] happie are In the chaste Nunn'ry of her brests. 1652 Crashaw *Elegy Mr. Stanninow*, Whose nest Was in the modest Nunnery of his brest.

attrib. 1859 Tennyson *Guinev.* 225 O little maid, shut in by nunnery walls. 1884 J. Hall *Christian Home* 113 When no safety could be hoped for California girls but in nunnery schools.

b. *transf.* A house of ill fame.

1593 Nashe *Christ's T.* 79 b, [To] some one Gentleman generally acquainted, they giue..free priuiledge thenceforward in theyr Nunnery, to procure them frequentance. 1617 Fletcher *Mad Lover* IV. ii, Theres an old Nunnerie at hand. What's that? A bawdy-house. 17.. (*title-p.*), The Complete London Spy, or Disclosures of the Transactions in and around London and Westminster Coffee houses, Nunneries, Night Houses, Taverns, Bagnios, etc.

† 2. The institution of conventual life for women; nunship. *Obs.*

1650 Fuller *Pisgah* II. iii. § 11. 95 *marg.*, Nicolas Lyra *in locum*, with most Roman commentators since his time, in hope to found Nunnery thereupon. 1679 Prance *Add. Narrative* 11 English Gentlewomen,..who have a mind to take the Vail of Nunnery upon them.

† b. Nun-like chastity. *Obs. rare*$^{-1}$.

1654 Gayton *Pleas. Notes* II. vi. 60 Marcelas speech is a pure defence of resolv'd virginity, vow'd Nunnery (etc.).

3. A company of nnns. (In quots. *fig.*)

1651 Cleveland *Poems* 1 Not the fair Abbess of the skies, With all her Nunnery of eyes. 1715 Addison *Freeholder* No. 15 (1751) 88 A Fan which has on it a Nunnery of lively black-ey'd Vestals.

† **Nu·nnify,** *v. Obs. rare.* [f. Nun *sb.*^{1}] *trans.* To make a nnn of (one).

1624 J. Gee *New Shreds of Old Snare* 7 They determined to set her packing beyond the Seas, there to be Nunnified. 1640 Shirley *Imposture* I. ii, Do not you find it? They Have nunnified her.

Nu·nnish, *a.* [f. Nun *sb.*^{1}] Pertaining to, characteristic of, a nnn; nun-like.

1570 Foxe *A. & M.* (ed. 2) 178/2 Three daughters of Merwaldus..entred the profession and vow of Nunnish virginitie. 1654 Whitlock *Zootomia* 203 The Nunnish, or Monastick life. 1891 Tuckley *Under the Queen* 242 These women have a nunnish look.

Hence † **Nu·nnishness.** *Obs.*$^{-1}$

1570 Foxe *A. & M.* (ed. 2) 319 Elysabeth the nonne, who for her holy nonnyshenes was canonised of the..church.

† **Nunon,** *adv. Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. [app. f. *nu* Now + Anon.] In a short time; presently.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 270 Ich chulle gon nu slepen & arisen nunon, & don cwicluker þen nu þet ich schulde don nu.

† **Nu·nry.** *Obs.* Forms: α. 5 nonrie, 5–6 nonry, 6 nonnrye, nondry. β. 4–6 nunrye, 5–7 nunry (5 nvn-), 6 -ri(e. [f. Nun *sb.*^{1} Cf. Nunnery and -ry.] A nunnery. Also *attrib.*

α. *c* 1440 *Alph. Tales* 320 On a day sho come vnto þe nonrie yate. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 8139 Thare he made an Nonry. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VIII* 258 b, Hadington toune with the Friers and Nonry. 1550 Bale *Eng. Votaries* I. 42 Both men and women dwellyng togyther sell by sell (as the maner was than of all Nondryes in England).

β. 1389 *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 43 To ye nunrye of Carrowe. *c* 1425 *Hampole's Psalter* Metr. Pref. 29 In ȝork shyre þis nvnry ys. 1538–9 Wriothesley *Chron.* (Camden) I. 93 In this moneth the nunrye of St. Helins..was suppressed. 1577–87 Holinshed *Chron.* III. 963/1 The same daie was Haddington burnt, with a great nunrie and house of friers there. 1629 Maxwell tr. *Herodian* (1635) 299 He violently tooke out of Vestaes sacred nunry at Rome a Vestall Virgin. 1639 Drumm. of Hawth. *Consid. to Parl.* Wks. (1711) 186 That all Bishops Houses, Concierges, Abbays, and Nunries, be made Places to entertain Souldiers.

Nu·nship. [f. Nun *sb.*^{1}] The condition of being a nun.

1624 J. Gee *Foot out of Snare* 61 There appeared in her some passion incompatible with Nunship. 1672 Dryden *Assignation* III. i, Lay by your Nun-ship for an Hour or two, and come amongst us in Disguise. 1904 F. Harrison *Theophano* ix. 82 The two younger princesses..would not accept the obligation of nunship.

Nu·nter. In carriage-building: (see quot.).

1794 W. Felton *Carriages* (1801) I. 49 The nunters are two pieces of timber fixed under the block, and tenoned in the Axletree bed.

Nu·nting, *a. dial.* [Of obscure origin.] Awkward, ungainly, stunted.

1836 W. D. Cooper *Sussex Gloss., Nunting,* awkward looking. 1848 J. H. Newman *Loss & Gain* (1853) 78 The dilapidated deformed church with..its uncouth pews, its low nunting table, its forlorn vestry. 1854 Miss Baker *Northampt. Gloss.* s.v., A small unbecoming bonnet would be called 'a nunting little thing'.

Nuntio, variant of Nuncio.

Nuntion, obs. form of Nuncheon.

‖ **Nuntius** (nʊ·nʃɪʊs). Pl. nuntii (-ʃiəi). [L.; cf. Nuncius.] A messenger; a member of the Polish diet; a papal nuncio.

1605 Bacon *Adv. Learn.* II. xii. § 1 The imagination is an Agent or Nuntius. 1606 Marston *Fawne* I. ii, An excellent nuntius. 1713 *Loud. Gaz.* No. 5093/2 The Chamber of the Nuntii or Deputies, sat upon that Matter. 1885 *Encycl. Brit.* XIX. 288/1 The nuntii .. were the deputies returned by the various districts of the palatinates. 1903 *Contemp. Rev.* Mar. 410 The papal nuntius presses every lever and turns every screw.

† **Nup.** *Obs. rare* −1. (Cf. Nupson.)

1607 *Lingua* II. i, Tis he [Phantastes] indeede, the vilest nup; yet the foole loues mee exceedinglie.

Nuphar (niū·fāɪ). [a. med. or mod.L. *nuphar,* ad. Arab.-Pers. نوفر *nūfar,* a reduced form of *nīlūfar* or *nīnūfar* Nenuphar.] The yellow water-lily (*Nymphæa lutea*).

1845 Faber *Rosary* 33 Stripes of yellow nuphar drawn In random lines across the lawn. 1857 — *Sir Lancelot* (ed. 2) 7 With yellow flag-flowers..And dimpling globes of nuphar netted o'er. 1897 *Outing* XXIX. 562/2 The idyllic little streams, carpeted with nuphars, swathed in reeds.

† **Nu·pson.** *Obs.* A simpleton, a fool.

1598 B. Jonson *Ev. Man in Hum.* IV. vi, O that I were so happy, as to light on a nupson, now, of this Justice's novice. 1607 *Lingua* v. xviii, Phantastes is a foolish transparent gull, a miere fanatick nupson, in my immagination not worthie to sit as a Iudges assistant. 1616 B. Jonson *Devil an Ass* II. ii, Who hauing match'd with such a Nupson.., will yet..defraud the poore Gentleman.

Nuptial (nʊ·pʃāl), *a.* and *sb.* Also 5 nupcyalle. [a. F. *nuptial* († *nupcial,* = Sp. and Pg. *nupcial,* It. *nuziale*), or ad. L. *nuptiālis,* f. *nuptiæ* wedding, f. *nupt-, nubĕre* to wed.]

A. *adj.* **1.** Of or pertaining to marriage or the marriage ceremony. Also *fig.*

1490 Caxton *Eneydos* xv. 56 The goddesse Iuno, quene and patronesse of the commocyons nupcyalle. 1581 E. Campion in *Conferences* II. (1584) L ij, He that had not the nuptial garment, maketh this claime to be the sonne of God. 1589 Puttenham *Eng. Poesie* I. xxiii. (Arb.) 61 Those to celebrate marriages were called songs nuptiall or Epithalamies. 1632 Lithgow *Trav.* IV. 154 Now I come to their nuptiall rites, their custome and manner of marriage is thus. 1671 Milton *Samson* 1194, I chose a Wife,..And in your City held my Nuptial Feast. 1751 Johnson *Rambler* No. 182 ¶ 9 She .. at last fixed the nuptial day. 1796 Morse *Amer. Geogr.* II. 44 The priest chants the nuptial benediction. 1836 Thirlwall *Greece* II. 125 The nuptial ceremony, the feast, and the funeral, would have appeared spiritless .. without this accompaniment. 1891 J. Adam (*title*), The Nuptial Number of Plato.

† **b.** *Nuptial father,* one who represents the bride's father at a wedding. *Obs.*

1748 Richardson *Clarissa* IV. l. 306 My letter of invitation to my Lord M. to be her Nuptial-father. 1802 Mrs. J. West *Infidel Father* II. 52 He officiated as the nuptial father. 1804 Eugenia de Acton *Tale without Title* III. 135 Mr. and Miss Webster, her intended nuptial father and bride-maid.

c. *Nuptial plumage,* the special plumage of birds during the breeding season.

1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVIII. 280/1 Old Male and Female [Plover] in summer or nuptial plumage.

† **2.** Married, wedded. *Obs. rare.*

1615 Chapman *Odyss.* I. 664 Love's equal flame To her he felt, as to his nuptial dame. 1642 C. Vernon *Consid. Exch.* 52 The nuptiall Queens of this Realme, participating so much in the Regality of the Crowne.

B. *sb.* **1.** Marriage, wedding. (Usually in *pl.*)

pl. c 1555 Harpsfield *Divorce Hen. VIII* (Camden) 245 St. Hierome & St. Gregorie that will not call our ladie's marriage nuptialls. 1599 B. Jonson *Cynthia's Rev.* v. ii, Accommodate to the nuptials of my scholar's 'haviour to the lady Courtship. 1624 Heywood *Gunaik.* VI. 282 Shee was by her father compelled to a second nuptialls with King Cephordus. 1709 Steele *Tatler* No. 82 ¶ 3 Soon after their Nuptials, the Bridegroom was obliged to go into a Foreign Country. 1791 Mrs. Radcliffe *Rom. Forest* I Their nuptials had been celebrated under the auspices of an approving..world. 1840 Thirlwall *Greece* IV. VII. 77 The nuptials were solemnised according to Persian usage. 1876 Gladstone *Glean.* (1879) II. 325 The nuptials of women of rank with clergymen of average station.

sing. 1590 Shaks. *Mids. N.* I. i. 125, I must imploy you in some businesse against our nuptiall. 1611 — *Wint. T.* IV. iv. 406 Me-thinkes a Father Is, at the Nuptiall of his sonne, a guest That best becomes the Table. 1654–66 Earl Orrery *Parthen.* (1676) 614 The Nuptial was no sooner celebrated, than he repented it. 1721 Ramsay *Content* 214 Rare she appears, unless on some fine day She grace a nuptial, but soon hastes away. 1891 Merivale & Marzials *Thackeray* 27 Her own paltering..has brought about that ill-omened nuptial.

† **2.** Matrimony. *Obs. rare* −1.

c 1620 Z. Boyd *Zion's Flowers* (1855) 84 Who in chast nuptialls shall lead their life.

Hence **Nu·ptial** *v.,* to speak of (a wedding); to marry. Also **Nu·ptialist.** (See quot.) *rare* −0.

1656 Blount *Glossogr., Nuptialist,* a Bride or Wife; or a Bridegroom or Husband; Also one that makes Marriages.

Nu·ptiality (nʊpʃiæ·lĭti). [f. Nuptial.]

1. *pl.* A couple about to be married. *rare* −1.

1759 Walpole *Let. to G. Montague* 26 Apr., My Nuptialities dined here yesterday. The wedding is fixed for the 15th.

2. *pl.* Nuptial ceremonies.

1863 Cowden Clarke *Shaks. Char.* iv. 96 The classic stateliness of Theseus and Hypolita, with their sedate and lofty nuptialities, form..a splendid frame to the picture.

3. Conjugal virtues or character.

1789 Walpole *Let. to Miss M. Berry* 19 July, In France, where nuptiality is not the virtue most in request. 1879 Meredith *Egoist* II. ii. 34 Innocent of the Bacchic nuptiality of the allusion.

Nu·ptialize, *v. rare* −1. [f. as prec. + -ize.] *refl.* To get married.

1857 *Gambler's Dream* III. 255 Hunchback cannot, I am sure, have yet nuptialized himself, for no woman would have him without the money.

Nu·ptialling. *rare* −1. [f. as prec. + -ing 1.] *pl.* Nuptials.

1600 *Newe Metamorphosis* XII. 249 b, The Catalogue of ancient Brittish Kinges: Prince Henries deathe: Elizas Nuptiallinges.

Nuptially (nʊ·pʃāli), *adv.* [-ly 2.] As regards marriage; with respect to marriage or the marriage ceremony. (*Cent. Dict.* 1890.)

Nuque (nūk). *rare.* [a. F. *nuque*: see Nuke and Nuche.]

1. The nape of the neck.

1578 Lyte *Dodoens* 310 If it be applied to the nuque or nape of the necke, it restoreth the speache. 1886 Guillemard *Cruise Marchesa* II. 186 The latter is a fine bird,..a curious tawny patch upon the nuque.

2. (See quot.)

1884 *Western Daily Press* 29 May 3/7 A new device of the hairdresser, called a nuque.

Nuragh (nūə·rag). Forms: *α. pl.* nuraggi(s), noraghe, nuraghe. *β.* nurhag, n(o)uragh. [Sardinian dialect.] A massive stone tower of ancient date, of a type peculiar to Sardinia.

α. 1828 Capt. Smyth *Pres. St. Sardinia* 4 The very singular remains strewed over Sardinia..called Nuraggis... They are strong buildings, in the form of a truncated cone, composed of masses of stone..arranged in layers. 1866 Brande & Cox *Dict. Sci.,* etc. II. 679/2 The noraghe are generally built upon a circular or elliptical plan. 1889 C. Edwardes *Sardinia & Sardes* 175, I have already described the nuraghe as a number of circular towers. 1905 *Athenæum* 29 July 137/3 The dolmens, nuraghe, beehive tombs, &c., all round the basin of the Mediterranean.

β. 1875 *Encycl. Brit.* II. 384/1 The design of the 'nurhags' ..has greatly puzzled archæologists. 1893 *Athenæum* 2 Sept. 328/1 Like the Sardinian nuragh, the talayot is essentially a vaulted tower of extra-massive proportions.

Nurce, -ling, -ry, obs. ff. Nurse, Nursling, Nursery. **Nure-,** obs. Sc. f. New-year. **Nureis, -ice, -is,** obs. ff. Nourice. **Nuris(ch, -ishe,** obs. ff. Nourish. **Nurling,** var. of Knurling.

Nu·rly, *a.* [var. of Knurly *a.*] (See quots.)

1806 Fessenden *Orig. Poems* 136 He's tall, like swamp cedar,..But shrub-oak was never so nurly. *Note,* A yankeyism for knotty, or gnarled. 1859 Bartlett *Dict. Amer.* (ed. 2) 298 *Nurly,* a corrupt pronunciation and orthography of gnarly, *i. e.* gnarled. 1871 De Vere *Americanisms* 620 Persons..are said to be nurly when they are ill-tempered and cross-grained.

† **Nurn,** *v. Obs.* Also no(u)rne. [Of obscure origin; peculiar to the Gawain poet.]

1. a. *trans.* To utter, say.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 65 An oþer nayed also & nurned ȝis cawse. *Ibid.* 669 'Now innoghe hit is not so' þenne nurned þe dryȝtyn. 13.. *St. Erkenwolde* 101 in Horstin. *Alteugl. Leg.* (1881) 152 Þer is no lede opone lyfe..may..his nome ne his note nourne of one speche.

b. *intr.* To speak, discourse.

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1661 He nolde not for his nurture nurne hir a-ȝaynez. *Ibid.* 1669 Þer þay dronken, & dalten, & demed eft nwe, To norne on þe same note.

2. *trans.* To ask or request; to urge or press.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 803, I norne yow bot for on nyȝt neȝe me to lenge. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1771 Þat prynce of pris.. Nurned hym so neȝe þe þred, þat nede hym bi-houed [etc.].

3. To offer, proffer.

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1823, I wil no giftez for gode..; I hat none yow to norne, ne noȝt wyl I take.

Nurr, variant of Knur(r.

Nurrice, obs. form of Nourice.

† **Nu·rrior.** *Obs. rare* −1. [f. OF. *nurr-ir* to nourish: cf. next.] Foster-father.

1487 *Rolls of Parli.* VI. 406/2 Our old Servaunt and well beloved nurriour.

† **Nu·rry.** *Obs.* Also nurrye, nurri, nurre(e; nury(e. [a. OF. *nurri,* pa. pple. of *nurrir*: cf. Norry and Nourry.]

1. Foster-child, nursling.

a 1374 Chaucer *Boeth.* III. pr. ix. (1868) 86 O my nurry, quod she, by þis oppinioun .. I seye þat þou art hlisful. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 139 Sche putte hir nurri, whiche sche bad brouȝt with hir out of Engelond, for to fiȝte ayenst þe accuser. ? *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 689 Thowe arte my neuewe fulle nere, my nurree of olde. ? *a* 1500 *Chester Pl.* (E.E.T.S.) IV. 154, I have noe childe, fowle ne fayre, Safe my Nurry, to be my heyre.

2. Fosterer, upbringer.

c 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 605 þe bischop cuthbert nurry, When he saw þat he suld dy,..Betaght cuthbert to his cuyr.

Nurse (nəːs), *sb.*[1] Forms: *α.* 4–6 nors(e, 5–6 norce, 6 norsse. *β.* 4– nurse, 6 nurs(se, 6–7 nurce. *γ.* 6 nourse, 6–7 nource. [Reduced form of ME. *norice, nurice* Nourice.]

1. A woman employed to suckle, and otherwise attend to, an infant; also, one who has general care and charge of a young child or children.

The two applications of the word are more precisely expressed by Wet nurse and Dry nurse. In ordinary use the latter is now the more usual sense.

α. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 401 þanne þe norse [*v.r.* nors] brouȝt forþ þe childe. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 8484 Two sonnes hade þat semly,..þat were bothe at the brest of the bright norse. 1470 *Anc. Cal. Rec. Dubl.* (1889) 339 Noo Irisshe hostler, Irisshe nors, Irisshe hokester. 1529 More *Dyalogue* I. Wks. 124/2 For possible it wer that..a riche mannes norce bringe home her owne chylde for her maisters. 1551 Bible (Mathew) *Gen.* xxiv. 59 So they let Rebecca their syster go with her norse.

transf. c 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* I. 658 But xxx daies olde, They [peafowl] with their norce into the feld be tolde.

β. a 1420 Bible (Wycl.) *Gen.* xxiv. 59 Therfor they delyueriden hir, and hir nurse. 1535 Coverdale *Exod.* ii. 7 Shal I go, and call the a nurse of the Hebrues wemen, to nurse yᵉ childe? 1587 Golding *De Mornay* xi. (1592) 158 Thou playest the babe, who thinkes his Nurce does him wrong when she kemes his head. 1607 S. Hieron *Wks.* I. 179 The loue of fathers toward their children,..of nurces to the sucklings. 1700 Dryden *Cock & Fox* 335 The nurse's legends are for truths receiv'd. 1781 Cowper *Conversat.* 242 What neither yields us profit nor delight Is like a nurse's lullaby at night. 1818 Shelley *Rosal. & Helen* 347 A sleep more deep..Than a baby's rocked on its nurse's knee. 1878 Meredith *Teeth* 15 The nurse's age should not be far from that of the mother, and her confinement should have taken place at about the same time.

γ. 1546 Phaer *Bk. Childr.* (1553) T ij, Ye must be well aduised in taking of a nource. *a* 1553 Udall *Royster D.* I. iii, Nourse, medle you with your spyndle and your whirle. 1606 Holland *Sueton.* 80 Being by his nource laide in the evening within a Cradell in swadling bands, beneath uppon a lowe floure. 1642 [see Nursery 1 c].

b. *transf.* One who takes care of, looks after, or advises another.

c 1425 *Cast. Persev.* 862 in *Macro Plays* 103 What..art þou þe wers þow þou brekyste Goddys heste? Do after me! I am þi nors. 1613 G. Abbot *Expos. Jonah* 3 That woman, who was..a nurce to that reuerend man Elias, in the time of bitter famine. 1812 *Ann. Reg., Gen. Hist.* 6 He 'ridiculed the idea of such a man..being sent on an expedition with a nurse to superintend him'. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.* 502 *Nurse,* an able first lieutenant, who in former times had charge of a young boy-captain of interest, but possessing no knowledge for command.

c. That which supplies nutriment to something.

c 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* IV. 35 Mold anoon on euery side hit bepith. This roote & molde as nors & moder kepeth. 1650 Charleton tr. *Van Helmont's Paradoxes* 114 But red French Wines, unlesse nourisht by their Lees, (which for this effect, Vintners call, the Mother, or Nurse of Claret) dissolve their owne Tincture.

d. *fig.* That which nourishes or fosters some quality, condition, etc.

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 81 b, Obedyence..is the helth of faythfull soules, the nurse of all vertue. 1591 Shaks. *Two Gent.* III. i. 243 Time is the Nurse, and breeder of all good. 1610 Guillim *Heraldry* IV. vi. 201 Agriculture.. being the chiefe Nourice of mans life. 1642 Gauden *Three Serm.* 66 Truth and justice the mother and nurse of Peace. 1764 Goldsm. *Trav.* 356 The land of scholars, and the nurse of arms. 1817 Shelley *Rev. Islam* IX. xiii, Fear, The nurse of Vengeance, bade him wait the event. 1873 Tristram *Moab* xvi. 300 Gently sloping valleys, the mothers and nurses of the ravines which plough the bowels of the rocks.

2. *At nurse,* in the care or charge of a nurse. Also with *take* (cf. next).

1557 *Order of Hospitalls* F v, Whether the same Childe be ..in the House, or at Nurse. 1570 Foxe *A. & M.* (ed. 2) 930/2 This Richard Hune had a child at nourse in Midlesex. 1711 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4929/4 An Infant then at Nurse. 1796 *Hist. Ned Evans* I. 66 A new born son, who was said to have also died at nurse. *a* 1845 [see Nurtureship]. 1866 W. Collins *Armadale* III. xv. II. 110 A woman who took in children at nurse.

b. *To put to nurse,* to commit to the care of a nurse. Usually with *out,* denoting removal of the child from its proper home. Also *fig.*

1593 Shaks. 2 *Hen. VI,* IV. ii. 150 The elder of them being put to nurse, Was..stolne away. 1602 Marston *Antonio's Rev.* IV. ii, As some weake breasted dame Giveth her infant, puts it out to nurse. *a* 1658 Cleveland *Wks.* (1687) 18 Can Wedlock know so great a Curse, As putting Husbands out To nurse? 1776 Johnson in *Boswell* 26 Mar., There is nothing against which an old man should be so much upon his guard as putting himself to nurse. 1837 Dickens *Pickw.* xxii, I should very much like to see your mother-in-law born again. Wouldn't I put her out to nurse! 1847 C. Bronte *J. Eyre* xxi, He would send for the baby, though I entreated him rather to put it out to nurse and pay for its maintenance.

c. *fig.* Of estates in the hands of trustees.

1771 Smollett *Humph. Cl.* I. 5 May, He has..put his estate to nurse. 1800 Mrs. Hervey *Mourtray Fam.* III. 134 His estate of 1200*l.* a year went to nurse; and a small allowance from his creditors..remained for the maintenance of his family. 1824 *Hist. Gaming* 10 In trust for H.R.H., as the lawyers have it, but which the fashionable world call 'being at nurse'. 1875 J. Grant *One of the '600'* viii. 65 His father..died in time to let the estates go to nurse during the present man's minority.

3. A person, generally a woman, who attends or waits upon the sick; now *esp.* one properly trained for this purpose.

1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* v. i. 98, I will attend my husband, be his nurse, Diet his sicknesse, for it is my Office. 1766 ENTICK *London* IV. 382, 19 sisters, 19 nurses. 1784 COWPER *Task* I. 89 The nurse sleeps sweetly, hired to watch the sick. 1809 *Med. Jrnl.* XXI. 183 He returned the vessel to the nurse, after he had swallowed some of the fluid. 1843 ABDY *Water Cure* 178 A young man, delirious in the small pox, when his nurse was asleep, jumped out of bed. 1876 BRISTOWE *Th. & Pract. Med.* (1878) 232 Nurses and medical attendants seldom..take the disease from patients under their charge.

4. *Forestry.* A tree set in a plantation to protect smaller or newly planted ones from wind or cold.

1788 *Trans. Soc. Arts* VI. 10, I only consider them [Scotch firs] as nurses to my other trees. 1827 STEUART *Planter's G.* (1828) 224 These had been introduced merely as nurses to the deciduous Trees. 1833 HT. MARTINEAU *Brooke Farm* v. 62 Half the larches are to remain for timber trees; the other half are nurses, and will be thinned out.

5. *Entom.* A sexually imperfect member of a community of bees, ants, etc., upon whom devolves the care of the young brood; a worker.

1818 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* xxvii. (ed. 2) II. 500 The workers, termed by Huber *nourrices*, or *petites abeilles* (nurses), upon whom..the principal labours of the hive devolve. 1835 *Penny Cycl.* IV. 155/2 The large-sized workers ..make cells of a larger diameter than those made by the nurses. 1860 *Chambers's Encycl.* I. 801/2 It is supposed by many naturalists, that some of the working-bees are exclusively wax-workers, some nurses, &c.

attrib. 1818 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* xv. (ed. 3) I. 493 The nurse-bees..do secrete wax, but in very small quantities. 1831 *Insect Misc.* (L. E. K.) x. 239 The males [of aphides] being..excluded from the nurse-boxes in which the females were isolated. 1834 *Penny Cycl.* II. 60/1 A sort of barren females,..variously termed neuters, workers, or nurse-ants.

6. *Zool.* An individual in the asexual stage of metagenesis.

1845 BUSK tr. *Steenstrup's Altern. Generations* 24, I shall ..designate them by the short name of *Ammen* (*altrices, nurses* or *foster-parents*). *Ibid.*, All of which become.. polypiform 'nurses', which nourish the Medusæ-larvæ from their bodies. 1871 T. R. JONES *Anim. Kingd.* (ed. 4) 160 The stomach, for instance, in the full-grown 'parent nurses' is longer and wider than in any even of the youngest 'nurses'. 1888 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* 446 The ovum in both Salpa and Doliolum produces the nurse.

attrib. 1845 BUSK tr. *Steenstrup's Altern. Generations* 89 *note*, A confounding of 'nurse'-germs and Cercaria-germs may occur very readily. 1888 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* 445 Sexual organs are absent, or at least atrophied, in the nurse forms of Salpa and Doliolum.

7. *Brewing.* (See quot.)

1880 *Spon's Encycl. Manuf.* II. 407 The somewhat clumsy expedient of immersing in the wort casks filled with hot or cold water was employed for the purpose of accelerating or retarding the fermentation. The casks so used were termed 'nurses', and are still used in some breweries.

8. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *nurse-book, -clout, -girl, -like*, etc.; also **nurse-frog**, the obstetrical toad, the male of which carries the eggs till hatched.

1557 *Order of Hospitalls* F v, You shall kepe a Booke of all the Nurses which keep any of the said Children..and the same shall yow call the *Nurse-Booke; thereby to shew how many children every Nurse hath. 1596 NASHE *Saffron Walden* Ep. Ded., To rush in bluntly with thy washing-bowle and thy *nurse-cloutes vnder thy cloake. 1871 MRS. H. WOOD *Dene Hollow* xii, They have a fresh *nursegirl, too. Polly had to send away the other. 1896 *Edin. Rev.* Apr. 480 To make himself personally acquainted with the *nurse-land of the poet. 1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* v. v. 88 Neuer Master had A Page..So feate, so *Nurse-like. 1845 BUSK tr. *Steenstrup's Altern. Generations* 89 *note*, They are developed from germ-granules in other 'nurse'-like animals. 1605 CAMDEN *Rem.* 114 From Nicknames or *Nursenames came these..Bill for William, Clem for Clement. 1664 WALTON *Angler* xx. (ed. 4) 243 If you put them..into a *nurse-pond, or feeding pond, ..then no care is to be taken whether there be most Male or Female Carps. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 382 Sir Thomas Bodley..a most worthy *Nource-sonne of this University. 1878 BROWNING *Poets Croisic* iii, That old *nurse-taught game.

Nurse (nɜːs), *sb.*[2] Also 5 nusse, 6 ?nuse. [Perh. a variant of HUSS, with *n* from the article (see N 3); the later form is assimilated to prec.] A dog-fish or shark (of various species).

1499 *Promp. Parv.* (Pynson) 361/1 Nusse fisshe. 1598 HAKLUYT *Voy.* I. 283 There we gate a great Nuse, which Nuses were there [near Nova Zembla] so plentie, that they would scarcely suffer any other fish to come neere the hookes. 1699 DAMPIER *Voy.* II. ii. 25 The Fish near the Island are Sharks, Sword Fishes and Nurses...The Nurse is just like a Shark, only its skin is rougher. 1711 C. LOCKYER *Acct. Trade India* 279 Small parcels of sherk's fins, nurses skins and tariands very reasonable. 1782 P. H. BRUCE *Mem.* 424 They make plenty of oil from the nurses, ..and a beneficial whale fishery might be established here. 1851 P. H. GOSSE *Nat. in Jamaica* 243 The Nurse is of a dull brown hue on the upper parts, without spots.

b. So *Nurse-fish, -hound, -shark.*

c 1682 J. COLLINS *Salt & Fishery* 83 Their [*sc.* the Icelanders'] Bread is also another sort of Fish, called Hokettle, or the *Nurse-Fish, which hath a sharp Ridge on his Back that cuts asunder Fishery-Tackle. 1848 *Zoologist* VI. 1973 Larger Spotted Dog, *S[cyllium] catulus*,..commonly called '*nurse-hound'. 1877 *Encycl. Brit.* VII. 332/1 The Small-spotted Dog-fish..and the Large-spotted or Nurse Hound ..are also known as ground-sharks. 1851 P. H. GOSSE *Nat. in Jamaica* 241 The *nurse shark. 1879 GOODE *Anim. Res. & Fish. U.S.* 69 *Ginglymostoma cirratum* .. Nurse Shark.—Tropical Atlantic.

Nurse (nɜːs), *v.* Forms: 6–7 nource, -se, 6– nurse (7 -ce). [Later form of NURSH *v.*, by assimilation to NURSE *sb.*[1]]

1. Of a woman: To suckle, and otherwise attend to, or simply to take care or charge of (an infant). Cf. NURSE *sb.*[1]

1535 COVERDALE *Exod.* ii. 9 Take this childe, and nurse it for me...The woman toke the childe, and nursed it. 1546 PHAER *Bk. Childr.* T ij, So is it..comly for the own mother to nource her own childe. 1600 PORY tr. *Leo's Africa* 55 The women would not willingly nurse their owne children, but caused them to be suckled by goates. *c* 1620 MORYSON *Itin.* IV. v. i. 458 The mothers..nurse not their owne Children, but send them forth (as in England) to be nursed in the Country. *c* 1670 WOOD *Life* (O. H. S.) I. 44 As she nursed his 3 elder brothers, so she nursed him. 1717 ADDISON tr. *Ovid's Met.* III. Wks. 1721 I. 206 The Niseans, in their dark abode, Nurs'd secretly with milk the thriving God. 1756–7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) II. 51 His parents..sent their son to be nursed in the village of Settignano. 1827 *Perils & Captivity* (Constable's Misc.) 19 My mother was then nursing my youngest sister. 1864 TENNYSON *En. Ard.* 150 Annie .. Nursing the sickly babe, her latest-born. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 413 So many mothers are unable to nurse their babies that a large proportion of infants have to be brought up by other means.

b. *intr.* To give suck; to act as wet-nurse.

1789 W. BUCHAN *Dom. Med.* (1790) 34 One of the most common faults of those who nurse for hire, is to dose children with stupefactives. 1843 R. J. GRAVES *Syst. Clin. Med.* xxiii. 290 When such persons begin to nurse, you should watch the effect of this new drain on the system. 1851 CARPENTER *Man. Phys.* (ed. 2) 316 That which may be superfluous is..eliminated by the Liver, the Sebaceous follicles of the Skin, and, in the female when nursing, by the Mammary glands.

c. *intr.* To take the breast.

1897 *Trans. Amer. Pediatric Soc.* IX. 40 The child seemed languid, and would not nurse.

2. In *passive.* a. To be reared or brought up in a certain place.

1526 TINDALE *Luke* iv. 16 He cam to nazareth where he was nourshed. 1566 PAINTER *Pal. Pleas.* Ded. I. 5 A man.. rather fostred in the bosome of Bellona, than nourced in Kentish soile. 1590 NASHE *Pasquil's Apol.* I. C, Manie excellent learned wits, and religious mindes, are nursed there. 1637 MILTON *Lycidas* 23 For we were nurst upon the self-same hill, Fed the same flock. 1820 SHELLEY *Prometh. Unb.* III. iii. 99 Like sister-antelopes .. Nursed among lilies near a brimming stream. 1830 TENNYSON *Ode to Memory* iv, Thou wert not nursed by the waterfall Which ever sounds and shines.

b. To be brought up under certain conditions, *in* a certain environment, etc.

1601 B. JONSON *Poetaster* v. i, True borne and nurst with all the Sciences. 1634 MILTON *Comus* 34 His fair off-spring nurs't in Princely lore, Are coming to attend their Fathers state. 1775 SHERIDAN *Duenna* III. iii, There is a chilling air around poverty, that often kills affection, that was not nursed in it. 1796 COLERIDGE *Sibyl. Leaves, Ode to Georgiana*, O Lady, nursed in pomp and pleasure! Whence learnt you that heroic measure? 1818 SHELLEY *Rosal. & Helen* 869 The fierce savage, nursed in hate.

3. To foster, tend, cherish, take care of (a thing); to promote the growth or development of.

a 1542 WYATT in *Tottel's Misc.* (Arb.) 62 Why shoulde such spite he nursed then in thy thought! 1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 70 God graunt the head and bodie both twoo To nourse eche other, better then they doo. 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* III. i. 15 All th' accommodations that thou bearst, Are nurst by basenesse. 1679 *Establ. Test* 15 Our Neighbors may..Nurse this Mitre till it shall devour the Crown. 1704 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4068/3 Your Majesty so carefully Nurses our Establish'd Church. 1781 COWPER *Table-T.* 69 To nurse with tender care the thriving arts. 1784 — *Task* IV. 383 The few small embers left she nurses well. 1834 LYTTON *Pompeii* III. ii, The land we live in yet nurses mysterious terror. 1859 GEN. P. THOMPSON *Audi Alt.* xcviii. II. 86 The version of their telegraphic message..is just such as a man would use who wanted to nurse a duel.

b. To supply (plants) with warmth or moisture; to tend or cultivate carefully.

1594 KYD *Cornelia* III. iii, Let fayre Nylus (wont to nurse your Corne) Couer your Land with Toades and Crocadils. 1633 MILTON *Arcades* 46, I..live in Oak'n bowr, To nurse the Saplings tall. 1655 T. MOUFET & BENNET *Health's Improv.* (1746) 325 The Bohemians have Turneps as red outwardly as Blood..; they are counted so restorative and dainty, that the Emperor himself nurseth them in his Garden. 1781 COWPER *Charity* 573 True charity, a plant divinely nurs'd,..Thrives against hope. 1794 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Myst. Udolpho* viii, Her favourite plants, St. Aubert had taught her to nurse. 1813 MARSHALL *Gardening* xiv. (ed. 5) 190 The pots are to be nursed and preserved moderately warm. 1871 R. ELLIS tr. *Catullus* lxii. 41 A flower.. Strok'd by the breeze, by the sun nurs'd sturdily.

c. To manage (land) carefully or economically.

1745 *Season. Adv. Protestants* 17 Protestants, who..have swarmed into many Stocks, built Houses,..and nursed the Land. 1790 *Bystander* 346 The young lord's estate was what they call nursed by his steward, during the time his lordship was a minor. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* ii, He nursed what property was yet left to him.

d. To foster or cherish (a feeling, etc.) in one's own heart.

a 1763 SHENSTONE *Elegies* xiii. 23 Say, shall we nurse the rage, assist the storm? 1791 BURKE *Th. French Aff.* Wks. 1842 I. 573 Very great discontents every where prevail. But they only produce misery to those who nurse them at home. 1827 SCOTT *Jrnl.* 10 July, I had nursed the idea that he had been hasty in his resignation. 1866 ALGER *Solit. Nat. & Man* IV. 225 In this profound retreat..he nursed and sang his love for Laura. 1879 DIXON *Windsor* II. 82 He could nurse his injuries for many years.

e. To assist or cause (a thing) to develop *into* a certain form, or *to* a certain size.

1775 JOHNSON *Tax. no Tyr.* 4 Whose kindness was employed to nurse them into mischief. 1800 T. MOORE *Anacreon* xlvi. 22 Little infant fruits we see Nursing into luxury! 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* II. xxiv. 353 In this way crystals can be nursed to an enormous size. 1868 E. EDWARDS *Ralegh* I. xiii. 248 Men..who fancied it to be their interest..to nurse the embers of the old enmity into a flame.

4. To bring or rear *up* with care.

1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* IV. ii. 134 *Duke.* What is that Barnardine..? *Pro.* A Bohemian borne: But here nurst vp & bred. 1629 PARKINSON (*title*), Paradisi ..; or a Garden of all sorts of pleasant flowers which our English ayre will permitt to be noursed vp. 1676 MARVELL *Mr. Smirke* I iij b, No Christian Emperor did more make it his business to Nurse up the Church. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 164, I was loth..to have them all [*sc.* goats] to nurse up over again. 1790 *Trans. Soc. Arts* VIII. 5 One row of Scotch firs, in order to nurse up the Oaks.

5. To wait upon, attend to (a person who is ill).

1736 SWIFT *Let. to Pope* 22 Apr., Nothing..could hinder me from waiting on you at Twickenham, and nursing you to Paris. 1782 JOHNSON in *Boswell* 21 Mar., This season I have been almost wholly employed in nursing myself. 1837 HT. MARTINEAU *Soc. Amer.* 154 They will utterly neglect a sick parent or husband; while they will nurse a white mistress with much ostentation. 1881 *Encycl. Brit.* XII. 305/2 The arrangements for nursing the sick have greatly improved in recent times.

b. To try to cure (an illness) by taking care of oneself. Also, to take or drive *away* by nursing.

1785 in T. Hutchinson *Diary* II. 417 Tell her it is of great importance to her to nurse her cold. 1813 LADY BURGHERSH *Lett.* (1893) 26 My cold..has returned, and I am nursing it before I sail again. 1854 MONCKTON MILNES *Life* (1891) I. xi. 497, I am nursing an influenza which came on the evening I got here. 1885–94 R. BRIDGES *Eros & Psyche* Oct. 17 But sleep, the gracious pursuivant of toil, Came swiftly down, and nursed away her care.

c. *intr.* To perform the duties of a sick-nurse.

1861 FLOR. NIGHTINGALE *Nursing* (ed. 2) 5 Other bad arrangements often make it impossible to nurse.

6. To clasp (the knee, etc.) in one's hands.

1849 C. BRONTE *Shirley* xxvii, With nonchalant air, and left foot nursed on his right knee. 1873 BLACK *Pr. Thule* vi. 86 A gentleman..was sitting on the grass, nursing his knees.

b. To hold caressingly or carefully, as a nurse does a child, *esp.* in the arms or on the lap.

1850 HT. MARTINEAU *Hist. Peace* v. viii. II. 338 The Premier might now have less leisure..for blowing feathers, and nursing sofa cushions. 1852 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* xxx, Then Caddy hung upon her father, and nursed his cheek against hers as if he were some poor dull child in pain. 1887 'EDNA LYALL' *Knt. Errant* xi, They..drove home again, Francesca nursing a Dying Gladiator in terra-cotta.

c. To sit close to, as if taking care of.

1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* iv, And there he found his father nursing a bright fire.

7. *slang.* a. (See quots.) *rare*—°.

1796 *Grose's Dict. Vulg. Tongue* (ed. 3), *Nurse*, to cheat; as, They nursed him out of it. 1859 *Slang Dict.* 69 *Nurse*, to cheat, or swindle; trustees are said to nurse property, i. e. gradually eat it up themselves.

b. To keep close to (a rival omnibus) in such a way as to prevent it from getting a fair share of passengers (esp. as in quot. 1859).

1858 *Morning Chron.* 8 Mar. (Cassell), The cause of the delay was that the defendant was waiting to nurse one of their omnibuses. 1859 *Slang Dict.* 69 Two omnibuses are placed on the road to nurse, or oppose each opposition 'buss', one before, the other behind. 1882 *Standard* 28 Feb. 3/8 The Defendant had 'nursed' one of the Company's cars from Chancery-lane to Charing Cross.

c. To impede (a horse) in a race, by surrounding it with other and slower ones.

1893 P. H. EMERSON *Signor Lippo* xvi. 75 Some of 'em wanted to 'aurse' me, but I managed to give the mare a touch of the spur, and she flew out.

8. a. To keep in touch with or influence (a constituency) in order to obtain votes.

1869 *Latest News* 17 Oct., To 'nurse' the borough cost him £500 a year at least. 1888 BRYCE *Amer. Commw.* (1890) I. xix. 262 An ambitious congressman is therefore forced to think..of his re-nomination, and to secure it..by sedulously 'nursing' the constituency during the vacations.

b. To assist (a business house) so as to prevent its bankruptcy.

1890 *Daily News* 29 Dec. 2/2 The tendency to 'nurse' financial houses has grown to a striking extent.

9. *Billiards.* To keep (the balls) close to one another in order to enable a prolonged series of cannons to be made.

1869 BUCK *Roberts on Billiards* 27 When Tieman was 200 points ahead, and sure of a great break, he 'nursed' the balls until 70 had been scored. 1896 BROADFOOT *Billiards* 28 His [Cook's] beautiful delicacy of touch was more striking than ever, and he 'nursed' the balls with even more than his old skill.

Hence **Nu'rsed** *ppl. a.*

1859 *Slang Dict.* 69 The central or nursed buss has very little chance, unless it happens to be a favourite with the public. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 667 In carefully nursed children it is generally observed in the first two months.

Nu'rse-child. [NURSE *sb.*[1]] A child in relation to its nurse; a foster-child.

1560 BECON *New Catech.* Wks. 1564 I. 537 b, Can the nurses instill any goodnes into the tender brestes of their nurse children, when they themselues haue learned none? 1587 GOLDING *De Mornay* xii. (1592) 184 After the same maner dealeth the Nurce with her Nurcechild. 1626 T. H[AWKINS] tr. *Caussin's Holy Crt.* 70 She..made her litle Nurse-child superlatiuely inheritour of her vices. 1681 W. ROBERTSON *Phraseol. Gen.* (1693) 329 A nurse-child; or one that sucketh the same milk. 1769 JOHNSON in *Croker's*

Boswell (1831) II. 94 If we had..given her a nurse-child to tend, her life would have been saved. 1815 *Paris Chit-Chat* (1816) II. 18 Each nurse has her bed placed between two cradles, one for her own, and the other for the nurse-child. 1866 *Routledge's Mag. for Boys* July 408 Norwood was a dreadful place for nurse-children never being called for at one time.

fig. 1622 J. DAVIES *Hymns* vii, Sweet Nurse-child of the Springs young Hours. 1821 LAMB *Elia, Witches & other Night-fears*, From his little midnight pillow this nurse-child of optimism will start at shapes.

Nu·rsedom. [NURSE *sb.*1] An organized system of nurses; the ways of nurses.

1881 in Ld. Tennyson *Mem. Tennyson* (1897) II. 499 *note*, Another of the London hospitals is in danger of entering upon a career of rampant nursedom. 1883 *Pall Mall G.* 26 Sept. 3/2 A pernicious device of antiquated nursedom.

†Nu·rse-father. *Obs.* [f. NURSE *sb.*1 or *v.* Cf. *nursing-father.*] A foster-father. Chiefly *fig.*

1564 *Brief Exam.* ** iiij, Kynges shalbe thy Nursefathers. 1608 JAS. I in *3rd Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* 414/1 We doe acknowledge ourselves in duty to God bound to be a nurse-father of his Church. 1644 MAXWELL *Prerog. Chr. Kings* 11, I pray you consider what encouragement is it for Kings and Monarchs to become Nurse-fathers of the Reformed Church. 1714 FORTESCUE-ALAND *Fortescue's Abs. & Lim. Mon.* 123 The verb *bajulando*, to carry in one's arms, as the Nurse-Fathers used to do the children that were put to them to nurse.

†Nu·rse-fellow. *Obs. rare.* A foster-brother.

1526 TINDALE *Acts* xiii. 1 Menahen Herode the tetrarkes norsfelowe. [Also in Coverdale.]

†Nu·rse-garden. *Obs.* [f. NURSE *sb.*1 or *v.*] A nursery for plants. Also *fig.*

1565 COOPER *Thesaurus, Seminarium*, a place where plantes be set to be removed; a nourse garden. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 510 Concerning seminaries and nourse-gardens, Nature hath shewed vs the reason and maner thereof. 1610 — *Camden's Brit.* I. 429 Queene Elizabeth converted it .. into a Seminary and nurse-garden of the Church. 1657 AUSTEN *Fruit Trees* I. 66.

Nurse-hound: see NURSE *sb.*2 b.

†Nu·rse-keeper. A sick-nurse. Also *fig.*

1602 HERRING *Anat.* 4 Chattering Char-women and Nurs-keepers. 1653 JER. TAYLOR *Serm. for Year* I. viii. 101 When the heart of Man is..tended by those Nurse-Keepers of the Soul, it is not easie for a man to wander. 1656 W. COLES *Art of Simpling* 92 Democritus, when he lay a dying, heard his Nurse-keeper complaine. 1724 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 6250/11 Mary Easton,..Widow and Nursekeeper. 1781 C. JOHNSTON *Hist. J. Juniper* II. 243, I was turned out in the condition you see by my nurse-keeper.

Nu·rsekin, -let. [NURSE *sb.*1] A little nurse.

1862 THACKERAY *Adventures of Philip* xxxiv, Mrs. Char went down Thornhaugh Street..with Betsy the nursekin and baby in the new cloak. 1894 *Argosy* Jan. 39 She had in occasionally a nurselet who had not yet flowered into full dignity.

Nu·rse-maid. [NURSE *sb.*1] A young woman employed as maid to attend to little children.

1657 *Rutland MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) IV. 539 To Lord Burley for the nurse maids 7*s.* 6*d.* 1785 MRS. FLETCHER in Wesley *Serm.* lvii. Wks. 1811 IX. 28 He was reproved by his nurse maid. 1801 *Med. Jrnl.* V. 109 The nurse-maid, and two children of my friend,..were inoculated for the Cow-pox. 1836–7 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Tales* iv, Nurse-maids displayed their charms to the greatest possible advantage; and their sweet little charges ran up and down. 1885 *Harper's Mag.* Mar. 566/2 This bright girl who had at present eclipsed..the prettiest nurse-maids.

Nu·rse-mother. Now *rare.* [f. NURSE *sb.*1 or *v.* Cf. *nursing-mother.*] A foster-mother.

1579 TOMSON *Calvin's Serm. Tim.* 137/2 When Iesus Christe shall be come, Princes must be protectours of Christianitie, and Queenes must be nurse mothers. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 383 Thus much briefely of my deare nourse-mother, Oxford.

1896 *Daily News* 8 Jan. 2/4 The Coroner expressed great surprise that the..authorities should send these children to 'nurse mothers' who were not duly registered.

Nu·rse-plant. [NURSE *sb.*1 or *v.*]

†1. A seedling plant. *Obs. rare*—1.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 523 The Broom loueth to be set of Nource-plants, comming of seed, in dry and light grounds.

2. A plant which nourishes a parasite.

1857 HENFREY *Bot.* § 40 When the radicle sprouts, it drives its way through the rind of the nurse-plant until it reaches the cambium-layer. *Ibid.*, Beneath the bark of the nurse-plant. 1882 *Gard. Chron.* XVII. 20 They cannot be very exacting as to the species of nurse-plant.

Nu·rser. [f. NURSE *v.* + -ER 1.] One who or that which nurses, fosters, or encourages.

1388 WYCLIF *Isa.* xlix. 23 And kingis schulen be thi nurseris, and quenys schulen be thi nursis. 1591 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. VI*, IV. vii. 46 See where he lyes inberced in the armes Of the most bloody Nursser of his harmes. 1651 FEATLY in Fuller *Abel Rediv.* 485 Colledges..ought to be as nursers for choyce plants to be set and nourished there for a while. 1719 D'URFEY *Pills* (1872) III. 7 The Nurser of Subjects, bold Britain's chief Meat. 1825 HONE *Every-day Bk.* I. 1138 The early nursers and improvers of our art. 1888 CUSHING *Blacksmith of Voe* III. 34 If old Abel was..a nurser of wrath, he would probably object.

Nursery (nō·ɹsĕri). Forms: 4–5 norcery, 5 norserye (6 -ie), 6–7 nourcery; nurcery (6 -ie); 6–7 nursserye (-ie), 5– nursery (6 -ye, 6–7 -ie). [prob. ad. AF. **noricerie*, f. *norice* NOURICE: see -ERY, and cf. NOURICERY.]

†1. Fosterage, upbringing, breeding; nursing. *At nursery*, at nurse. *Obs.*

a 1400 *Chron. R. Glouc.* (MS. C) 8938 Vor þis Mold was þe wule heo was ȝong to norcery ido In þe abbeye of rameseye. 1430–40 LYDG. *Bochas* VII. ii. (1554) 166 One of his children, being at norcery,..Of aventure, or they could it espye, His Knightes slough. *a* 1460 *Lybeaus Disc.* (Kaluza) 960 Elene, þe messengere, Semeþ but a lavendere Of her norserie. 1605 SHAKS. *Lear* I. i. 126, I lou'd her most, and thought to set my rest On her kind nursery. 1653 H. WHISTLER *Upshot Inf. Baptisme* 69 Allaying the tedious nights, and carefull daies of Nursery. *a* 1671 CASAUBON *Treat. Spirits* (1672) 199 Two brothers preserved by the milk and nursery of a she-wolf.

†b. Relationship by having acted as nurse or foster-mother to one. *Obs. rare*—1.

c 1613 *Cond. People Anglesey* (1860) 17 An old impudent drabb..that can alleadge either kindred, alliance, nurserie, or some affinity or other, with all men.

†c. That which is nursed; a nursling. *Obs. rare.*

1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* II. xv. 106 The thriving of the nourcery is the best argument to prove the skill and care of the nource. 1650 — *Pisgah* II. viii. 177 A jolly dame.., as appears by the well battling of the plump boy her nursery.

2. The place or apartment which is given up to infants and young children with their nurse.

1499 *Promp. Parv.* (Pynson), Norcery, where yonge children be kepte, *brephotropheum*. 1532 HERVET tr. *Xenophon's Œconomy* (1768) 40, I shewed her the nourcery and the womens lodgyng, diuided from the mens lodgyng. 1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* (1592) 156 For there is mention made of nourceries for children. 1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* I. i. 59 He had two Sonnes..[who] from their Nursery Were stolne. 1641 J. JACKSON *True Evang. T.* II. 162 Are wee the Lambs and Kids of Gods fold,..the Babes of his Nursery? 1720 SWIFT *Mod. Educ.* Wks. 1751 V. 52 He is taught from the Nursery, that he must inherit a great Estate. 1784 COWPER *Tiroc.* 117 Our parents..wisely store the nurs'ry by degrees With wholesome learning. 1803 *Med. Jrnl.* IX. 529 Female domestics, and the inhabitants of the nursery, seldom escaped its influence. 1882 MISS BRADDON *Mt. Royal* III. i. 17 Christabel carried him back to the nursery.

†b. (See quot.) *Obs. rare*—0.

1611 COTGR., *Chambre des femmes*, a Nurserie, or priuat roome onely for women.

3. A practice, institution, etc., in or by which something is fostered or developed.

1509 BARCLAY *Shyp of Folys* (1570) 115 What els is daunsing but euen a nurcery..to purchase and mayntayne In yonge heartes the vile sinne of ribawdry? 1583 BABINGTON *Commandm.* 193 [Cloisters] became as we wel know dens of drones, and nurceries of vngodlinesse. 1604 T. WRIGHT *Passions* I. iv. 19 Passions..be the nurcery of vices, and pathway to all wickednesse. 1654 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 235 The Press..is Truths Armory, The Bank of Knowledge, and Nursery of Religion. 1725 BERKELEY *Proposal* Wks. 1871 III. 217 Until a nursery of learning for the education of the natives be founded. 1780 BURKE *Œcon. Reform* Wks. 1842 I. 234 That all subordinate treasuries, as the nurseries of mismanagement,..ought to be dissolved. 1846 KEBLE *Serm.* xiii. (1848) 322 The other calamities..have been a great field and nursery for saintly hope. 1894 H. DRUMMOND *Ascent Man* 383 Family Life, the first and last nursery of the higher sympathies.

b. A place, sphere, etc., in which people are trained or educated; a school *of*, or *for*, certain professions, etc.

1581 MULCASTER *Positions* xli. (1887) 255 This colledge for teachers, might proue an excellent nurserie for good schoolemaisters. 1596 SPENSER *State Irel.* Wks. (Globe) 678/1 This keeping of cowes is of it selfe a verye idle life, and a fitt nurseryе of a theefe. *a* 1618 RALEIGH *Remains* (1661) 198 A continual Nursery for breeding and encreasing our Mariners. 1654 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 95 In this Nursery.. of Charlatans, or Mountebanks (as Doctor Primrose justly calleth England). 1701 W. WOTTON *Hist. Rome* 455 The Equestrian Order was the proper Nursery of the Senate. 1715 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* I. 18 The College of St. Mary the Virgin, a Nursery belonging then unto the Canon Regulars of the Order of St. Austin at Oxford. 1777 PRIESTLEY *Phil. Necess.* Ded. p. ix, This world, we see, is an admirable nursery for great minds. 1839 THIRLWALL *Greece* li. VI. 258 His little kingdom was now chiefly valuable to him as a nursery of soldiers. 1876 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* V. 135 Under William Rufus the Chancery became a nursery of clever and unscrupulous churchmen.

†c. A theatre established in London for the training of young players. *Obs.*

1664 PEPYS *Diary* 2 Aug., Tom Killigrew..is setting up a nursery; that is, is going to build a bouse in Moorefields, wherein he will have common plays acted. 1672 VILLIERS (Dk. Buckm.) *Rehearsal* II. ii. (Arb.) 55, I am resolv'd, hereafter, to bend all my thoughts for the service of the Nursery, and mump your proud Players, I gad. *a* 1683 OLDHAM *Satyr* Poems (1684) 179 Then slighted by the very Nursery, May'st thou at last be forc'd to starve, like me.

4. A plot or piece of ground in which young plants or trees are reared until fit for transplantation; †a collection of such plants. Now usually a piece of ground of considerable extent in which the plants or trees are reared for sale; a nursery-garden.

1565 COOPER *Thesaurus, Nutrix*, a nourcerie or place where men plante and graffe trees or hearbes, to thende afterward to remoue them. 1568 WITHALS *Dict.* 24 b/1 A norserie, or place wherein groweth, or be kepte to increase yonge vines or trees, *seminarium*. 1622 BONOEIL *Art Making Silke* 34 How to prepare the seed of Mulbery trees to make a Nurcery. 1664 EVELYN *Kal. Hort.* (1729) 191 Set up your Traps for Vermine; especially in your Nurseries of Kernels and Stones. 1712 J. JAMES tr. *Le Blond's Gardening* 178 The Seed and young Plants you set in a Nursery. 1751 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 112 ¶ 3 A plant transplanted to northern nurseries. 1808 *Phil. Trans.* XCVIII. 315 A nursery of apple trees. 1860 HOGG *Fruit Man.* Pref., A Manual of Fruits which..included most of the varieties found in nurseries and private gardens.

transf. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) III. 549/2 Whoever has a turn for making experiments..will find it much easier ..to preserve and raise nurseries of the common ones [sorts of yeast], than to devise mixtures of others.

b. In figurative context.

1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* I. iii. 319 The seeded Pride That hath to this maturity blowne vp..must or now be cropt, Or shedding breed a Nursery of like euil. 1653 BAXTER *Peace Consc.* Ep. Ded., When Satan hath a design to burn up those Nurseries, you are watering God's plants. 1719–20 SWIFT *Let. to Yng. Clergym.* Wks. 1751 V. 22 Extracts of Theological and Moral Sentences..intended for Materials, or Nurseries to stock future Sermons. 1820 WORDSW. *Misc. Sonn.* III. ii, Ye sacred Nurseries of blooming Youth! 1877 SPARROW *Serm.* xvi. 207 This world was meant to be only a nursery for the garden of the Lord of heaven.

c. Grass-land left uncut in summer, to serve as winter feed. *rare*—1.

1780 A. YOUNG *Tour Irel.* II. 86 The winter food..is to keep bottom lands through the summer, which they call a nursery, to which they bring the cattle down from the mountains when the weather becomes severe.

5. A place which breeds or supports animals.

1661 HICKERINGILL *Jamaica* 13 Nor are the Woods a more Plentiful Nursery for the Hoggs then the Savana's are for the Beeves and wild Cattel. 1689 LOCKE *Govt.* I. vi. (Rtldg.) 56 The dens of lions and nurseries of wolves.

b. In pisciculture, a pond or place in which the young fry are reared.

1771 *Phil. Trans.* LXI. 320 The nurseries are the second kind of ponds intended for the bringing up the young fry. 1837 DONOVAN *Dom. Econ.* II. 197 There ought in fact to be three ponds, a spawning pond, a nursery, and a pond for adult fish. 1868 PEARD *Water-farm.* v. 61 The instinct which carries the fish to the highest tributaries teaches us the importance of improving and creating such nurseries.

c. Of ants, etc.: The cells or chambers in which the larval and nymphal insects attain maturity.

1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVIII. 387/1 The most striking parts of these structures are, the royal apartments, the nurseries. 1816 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* xvii. (1818) II. 33 The office of..conveying the eggs when laid to what Smeathman calls the nurseries. 1830 *Insect Architecture* (L.E.K.) xvi. 296 When the nest [of ants] is in the infant state, the nurseries are close to the royal chambers.

d. A place or part in which any form of animal life is developed.

1871 T. R. JONES *Anim. Kingd.* (ed. 5) 93 The swimming-bell is converted into a chamber or nursery in which the embryo passes through its early stages of development. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 762 The persistence of dry seborrhœa on the scalp appears to convert that part into a nursery of various kinds of microbes.

6. A race for two-year-old horses.

1883 *Daily Tel.* 26 Oct. (Cassell), Winning three nurseries off the reel.

7. *Billiards.* (See quots.) Also *attrib.*

1869 BUCK *Roberts on Billiards* 135 *Nursery*, when the three balls are within an inch or two of one another, and a long score is likely. 1885 *Billiards Simplified* (1889) 125 To play for a series of cannons, moving the balls as little as possible, such series being called 'a nursery of cannons'. 1893 *Westm. Gaz.* 17 May 5/2 He seems to depend almost entirely on nursery cannons, with little taste for hazards.

8. *attrib.* and *Comb.* a. In sense 2, as *nursery-book, -door, -governess, -rhyme, -tale*, etc.

1870 EMERSON *Soc. & Solit.* x. 205 The very *nursery-books, the ballads which delight boys. 1739 G. OGLE *Gualtherus & Griselda* 106 Vain talk for Children! *Nursery Cant of Sprites! 1875 TENNYSON *Q. Mary* II. ii, The *nursery-cocker'd child will jeer at aught That may seem strange beyond his nursery. 1718 PRIOR *Hans Carvel* vii, The Devil..stands before the *Nurs'ry Doors, To take the naughty Boy that roars. 1796 BP. WATSON *Apol. Bible* x. (1799) 379 They presently get rid of their *nursery faith, and are seldom sedulous in the acquisition of another. 1835 ELIZ. NAPIER (*title*), The *Nursery Governess. 1884 J. HALL *Christ. Home* 58 Family arrangements will have to be different where nursery-governesses and tutors are called in. 1742 RICHARDSON *Pamela* IV. 320 What *Nursery Impertinencies are these, to trouble a Man with! 1677 *Compl. Servant-Maid* Title-p., Chamber-maid, Cook-maid, *Nursery-maid, Dairy-maid. 1799 UNDERWOOD *Diseases Children* (ed. 4) III. 102 Nursery-maids are often indiscreet in keeping them too long in the air at a time. 1869 CLARIDGE *Cold Water Cure* 39 At a spring the nursery-maid asked me if she might give the child water. 1841 HALLIWELL *Nursery Rhymes* (1843) 1 The traditional *Nursery Rhymes of England commence with a legendary satire on King Cole. *c* 1820 S. ROGERS *Italy* (1839) 201 Singing the *nursery-song he learnt so soon. 1822 SCOTT in *Lockhart* (1839) VII. 7 It was to me a *nursery-tale, often told by Mrs. Margaret Swinton. 1871 FROUDE in *Devon Assoc. Trans.* IV. 21 Legends grew as nursery tales grow now. 1790 COWPER *Mother's Picture* 30, I,.. turning from my *nurs'ry window, drew A long, long sigh. 1828 MISS MITFORD *Village* Ser. III. (1863) 31 A certain..Sophy, who died ..by falling out of the nursery-window.

b. In sense 4, as *nursery-bed, -garden, -gardener, -ground, -monger, -tree.*

1719 LONDON & WISE *Compl. Gard.* 215 To place them near together afterward in another *Nursery-Bed, and cover them up with long Litter. 1880 C. R. MARKHAM *Peruv. Bark* x. 398 A large number of seedlings were raised in nursery-beds and in the propagating-house during 1872. 1757 *Phil. Trans.* L. 434 Most of the plants in the *nursery-gardens about London. 1887 MOLONEY *Forest. W. Afr.* 70 The establishment of Botanic Stations, Model Farms, or Nursery-gardens. 1766 *Compl. Farmer* s.v. *Nursery* 5 R 3/2 All good *nursery-gardeners shift and change their land, from time to time. 1859 *Edin. Rev.* CIX. 302/1 There are the florists and nursery-gardeners,—not infrequently quakers. 1789 MRS. PIOZZI *Journ. France* I. 335 They were watering.., just as we do in a *nursery-ground about London. 1868 *Rep. U. S. Commissioner Agric.* (1869) 252 Suitable for vegetable and flower gardens, and nursery grounds. 1693 EVELYN *De La Quint. Compl. Gard.* I. 139

With the hazard of incurring the displeasure of a great many of our *Nursery Mongers. 1707 Mortimer *Husb.* (1721) II. 40 They are manag'd like other *Nursery Trees, and may, when they are big enough, be planted out for Walks or other occasions.

Hence **Nu·rsery** *v.*, to rear or tend with care. **Nu·rserydom,** nurseries taken collectively. **Nu·rseryful,** the fill of a nursery.

1885–94 R. Bridges *Eros & Psyche* Mar. i, The land.. Where grave Demeter nurseried her wheat. 1886 H. F. Lester *Under two Fig Trees* 195 He was multitudinously a married man having a nurseryful of children. 1892 *Daily News* 14 May 2/1 They are little suited to the ways of English nurserydom.

Nu·rseryman. [f. prec.] One who owns, or works in, a nursery for plants.

1672 *Phil. Trans.* VII. 5050 A peculiar way of grafting, much used by some of the best Nursery-men about London. 1719 London & Wise *Compt. Gard.* p. v, Gentlemen who send for the best Sorts of Fruit-Trees from a Nursery-man, or Gardener. 1793 *Trans. Soc. Arts* V. 163 Three modes of raising Mulberry-trees, to which we are directed by Nursery-men. 1824 Loudon *Encycl. Gard.* (ed. 2) 890 Ample lists..may be had from all the principal nurserymen. 1856 Delamer *Fl. Gard.* (1861) 2 You may order to any reasonable extent of the country nurserymen.

Nu·rse-tend, *v.* [Back-formation on Nurse-tender or -tending.]

1. *trans.* To tend (a person) as a sick-nurse does.

1792 *Elvina* II. 85 They would not have any violent objection to nurse-tend each other. 1858 Morris *Welland River* 230, I pray you, nurse-tend me, my knight, Whiles that I have my breath.

2. *intr.* To act or serve as a sick-nurse.

1863 Mrs. Gaskell *Sylvia's Lovers* (ed. 2) I. 233 Sylvie shall go play hersen; she's been nurse-tending long enough. 1888 *Quiver* May 492/1 She has done nothing but nurse-tend ever since she married that old man.

Nu·rse-tender. [Nurse *sb.*[1]] One who tends a sick person; a sick-nurse.

Still current in Ireland, and in south-western dial.

1789 Charlotte Smith *Ethelinde* (1814) IV. 181 Mr. Montgomery was glad of an excuse to play the nurse-tender. 1842 Lover *Handy Andy* ii, Mrs. O'Grady was near the bed of the sick man as the nurse-tender entered. 1855 Thackeray *Newcomes* lix, The world is full of Miss Nightingales, and we sick and wounded in our private Scutaris, have countless nurse-tenders. 1872 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* 4/2 She was a born nurse tender, as they call sick-room attendants in..Ireland.

So **Nu·rse-tending** *vbl. sb.*, the tending or nursing of the sick. (Cf. Nurse-tend *v.*)

1771 Mrs. Griffith *Hist. Lady Barton* II. 264, I..am therefore inclined to elevate the office of nurse-tending, by placing it amongst our rational pleasures. 1792 *Elvina* II. 85 Her talents for nurse-tending. 1888 *Quiver* May 492/1 All the nurse-tending Annette has done.

Nu·rse-tree. [Nurse *sb.*[1]]

1. A tree planted to protect others.

1805 R. W. Dickson *Pract. Agric.* II. 1089 In mixed plantations the nurse trees should be first gradually thinned out. 1891 Fernow *What is Forestry?* 17 Where..the mother or nurse trees are removed, a thicket of young beeches has replaced the old growth.

2. A tree supporting a parasitic plant.

1857 Henfrey *Bot.* § 40 The full-grown plant appears rootless, and like a branch or graft upon the nurse-tree.

Nu·rsey, a child's pet-form of Nurse *sb.*[1] 1.

a 1814 *Way to win her* I. ii. in *New Brit. Theatre* II. 407 Nursey, did you see the fine dancing-master who called to give me a lesson yesterday. 1889 *Pall Mall G.* 17 Dec. 3/2 Nursey, you will not take Dorothy away when it is quite dark, will you?

†Nursh, *sb. Obs. rare* $^{-1}$. [Reduced form of Nourish *sb.* Cf. next and Norsh *sb.*] A nurse.

a 1420 Bible (Wycl.) *Hos.* xi. 3 And Y as a nursche of Effraym bare hem in myn armes.

†Nursh, *v. Obs.* Also **nursch, nurch.** [Reduced form of *nurish* Nourish *v.* Cf. Norsh *v.*] *trans.* To nurse, rear, nourish.

c 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 421 Stronge & idil men, þat ben nurschid in þe fendis nest to be an oost aȝenus crist. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 195 A chowȝe þat sche hadde nursched delicatly, chatered more lowde þan it was wonte. 1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 245 Good Swete wyne ..nurshyth the body.

So **†Nu·rsher; Nu·rshing; Nu·rshment.**

1382 Wyclif *Isa.* xxx. 33 His nursbemens [1388 the nursebyngis therof] deep and spred, fyr and myche wode. *Ibid.* xlix. 23 And kingis shul be thi nursheres, and queenes thi nurses. 1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 248 Lytill mette that is not nurshynge.

Nu·rsing, *vbl. sb.* [f. Nurse *v.* + -ing[1].]

1. The action of the verb, in various senses.

c 1532 Du Wes *Introd. Fr.* in *Palsgr.* 1061 Nother more nor lesse may nat the soule..contynewe without her propre norsinge. 1579 Lyly *Euphues* (Arb.) 128 Neither can [she] conceive the like pleasure in noursing as the mother doth. 1611 Shaks. *Cymb.* v. v. 322 First pay me for the Nursing of thy Sonnes. 1671 J. Webster *Metallogr.* i. 7 Moses after his nursing was brought to Pharaoh's daughter. 1727 *Philip Quarll* (1816) 27 With careful nursing, I quite recovered him. 1770–4 A. Hunter *Georg. Ess.* (1803) I. 510 Nursing causes a luxuriant growth in this hardy mountainous tree. 1867 Baker *Nile Trib.* iii. 64 This most necessary ammunition required much nursing during a long exploration. 1883 *Athenæum* 27 Jan. 119/1 A money-lender's 'nursing' of a small seaside constituency.

2. *attrib.*, as *nursing-chair, -home,* etc.

1827 Hone *Every-day Bk.* 16 Nov. II. 1546 'Aunt Shakerly' ..placed Mr. Hood's baby cousin in the nursing-chair. 1837 *Penny Cycl.* VII. 26/2 Females for the most part with nursing pouches. 1839 *Saturday Mag.* Feb. 70, 3000 bees..will be enough to do the nursing-work of the hive. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 681 He was removed to a nursing-home. 1897 P. Warung *Tales Old Regime* 148 Appointment to a nursing post would be an indulgence the woman does not merit.

Nu·rsing, *ppl. a.* [f. Nurse *v.* + -ing[2].]

1. That nurses, or tends like a nurse.

a. *Nursing-father,* a foster-father.

1535 Coverdale *Isa.* xlix. 23 For kinges shalbe thy noursinge fathers, and Quenes shalbe thy noursinge mothers. 1611 Bible *Transl. Pref.* ¶ 1 Those noursing fathers and mothers that withdraw..linelyhood and support. 1641 Hinde *J. Bruen* xxviii. 89 So that this Parish hath cause for ever, to acknowledge him a nursing father of Religion amongst them. 1703 Kelsey *Serm.* 246 The Empire turned Christian, and became a Nursing-Father to the Infancy of the Church. 1827 Keble *Chr. Y., St. Barnabas,* 'Twixt Prayer and watchful Love his heart dividing; A nursing-father day and night. 1889 Jessopp *Coming of Friars* vi. 274 The friars were to some extent nursing fathers of the University.

b. *Nursing-mother,* a foster-mother.

1535, 1611 [see above]. 1728 Pope *Dunc.* I. 256 A Nursing-mother born to rock the throne! 1731 *Pol. Ballads* (1860) II. 230 Of Arian and of Orthodox Alike the nursing-mother. 1855 Winthrop *Sargent Braddock's Exped.* 19 Under its ancient lords, this nursing-mother of privateers would be powerful..in that part of the world. 1873 Hamerton *Intell. Life* I. iii. 16 In the lands of the vine—the plant is looked upon as a nursing-mother.

c. In general use.

1671 Milton *Samson* 924 My redoubl'd love and care With nursing diligence..May ever tend about thee to old age. 1708 J. Philips *Cyder* II. 62 Ev'n afflictive Birch..distills A limpid Current from her wounded Bark, Profuse of nursing Sap. 1785 Burke *Nabob of Arcot's Debts* Wks. IV. 264 Does any one of you think that England..would, under such a nursing attendance, so rapidly..recover? 1812 *Examiner* 4 May 282/2 The figures of a nursing and a waiting girl. 1840 F. Marryatt *Olla Podr.* III. 4 He would soon have him in command of a fine frigate, with a good nursing first lieutenant. 1866 Shuckard *Brit. Bees* 356 They are nurtured by nursing-workers just like them. 1887 Bentley *Man. Bot.* (ed. 5) 146 The first leaves which are developed are called cotyledons..or nursing leaves.

2. That is being nursed. *rare* $^{-1}$.

1860 J. Brown *Rab & F., Let. to J. Cairns* (1906) 246 One woman..had a nursing baby in her arms.

Hence **Nu·rsingly** *adv.*

1865 Ruskin *Sesame* I. 69 Whether it ought not piously to save, and nursingly cherish, the lives of its murderers.

Nursle (nē·ɹs'l), *v.* Also 6, 8 **noursle.** [var. of *nousle* Nuzzle *v.*[2], assimilated to Nurse *v.*

In modernized reprints of 16th century works *nursle* is sometimes substituted for *nusle, nousle,* etc.]

1. *trans.* = Nuzzle *v.*[2] 2.

1596 Spenser *F. Q.* VI. iv. 35 Whether ye list him traine in chevalry, Or noursle up in lore of learn'd Philosophy. *a* 1656 Bp. Hall *Rem. Wks.* (1660) 30 The poor seduced souls of forraign subjects, that have been invincibly noursled up in ignorance and superstition. 1860 Motley *Netherl.* II. x. 77 The lewd sinner, nursled in revolutions, had detected the secret policy. 1899 Gardiner *Cromwell* 48 Nursled as we are under a regime of religious liberty.

2. To nurse, foster, cherish.

a 1652 Brome *Eng. Moor* III. iii, To have a Bastard of so many years Nursled i' th' Countrey. 1746 W. Thompson *Hymn to May* xxxi. 4 Whose bosom..Flows out to noursle innocence distrest. 1829 Poe *Al Aaraaf,* The wave that sparkled there, And nursled the young mountain in its lair.

Nursling, nurseling (nē·ɹslin). Also 6–7 **nurce-,** 6, 8 **nours-,** and 6 **-lynge.** [f. Nurse *sb.* + -ling.]

1. The object of a nurse's care; an infant or child in relation to its nurse.

1607 Earl Stirling *J. Cæsar* v. Chor., The nurceling of a Wolfe o're men did raigne. 1671 Milton *Samson* 633, I was his nursling once and choice delight. 1693 Dryden *Persius* II. 75 A Body made of Brass the Crone demands For her lov'd Nursling. 1784 Cowper *Task* II. 771 Now, blame we most the nurslings or the nurse? 1814 Scott *Ld. of Isles* I. vii, She..knew her nursling's heart In the vain pomp took little part. 1858 Carlyle *Fredk. Gt.* IV. i. I. (1865) 275 She saw now her little nurseling grown to be a brilliant man and King. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 872 Mothers and wet-nurses suffering from the disease.. infecting their nurslings.

b. *transf.* of persons, in various applications.

1557 *More's Wks.* 1456, I haue been now almost this fourtie yeares, not a geaste, but a continuall nurslynge in maister Bonuice house. 1601 Holland *Pliny* I. 159 Thou that standest so much vpon Fortunes fauors,..taking thy self not to be a foster-child and nurceling of hers, but a naturall son. 1664 H. More *Myst. Iniq., Apol.* 542 A limited indulgence..to their weak but sincere Nurselings [in religion]. 1733 Tickell *Her Majesty's Rebuilding* 23 Thy Nurslings, ancient Dome! to virtue form'd. 1748 Thomson *Cast. Indol.* II. xxi, Where Isis many a famous noursling breeds. 1817 Coleridge *Biog. Lit.* I. (Bohn) 6 These nurslings of improved pedagogy are taught to dispute and decide. 1845 S. Austin *Ranke's Hist. Ref.* I. 515 Charles V was the child and nursling of that Burgundian court. 1872 A. de Vere *Legends St. Patrick, St. Patrick & Armagh Cathedral,* Men of might, Fierce men, the battle's nurslings.

c. *transf.* of things.

1591 Spenser *Virg. Gnat* 282 A litle noursling of the humid ayre, A Gnat. 1608 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. *Colonies* 256 Each Hive supplying new-com Colonies (Heav'n's tender Nurcelings) to those fragrant mountains. 1656 Culpepper *Eng. Physic. Enlarged* 116 The last [*sc.* garden Gromel] is a Nursling in the Gardens of the curious. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* II. 500 Upward while they shoot in open Air, Indulge their Childhood, and the Nurselings spare. 1750 Johnson *Rambler* No. 74 ¶ 12 Peevishness..is much oftener..the child of vanity, and nursling of ignorance. 1835 I. Taylor *Spir. Despot.* IV. 174 The inevitable product of evil times—the child of oppression, and the nurseling of persecution. 1874 Geo. Eliot *Coll. Breakf.-P.* 44 The daily nurslings of creative light.

2. *attrib.*, as *nursling babe, boat, child, imp.*

1793 Wordsw. *Descrip. Sketches* 176 A nursling babe her only comforter. 1818 Shelley *Rosal. & Helen* 590, I am weak like a nursling child. 1860 Holmes *Prof. Breakf.-t.* xi, Nursling imps addict themselves..to these little excrescences. 1884 *Daily News* 6 Sept. 5/7 Many sailors still argue for the old system of the nurseling boat carried by the great ship.

Nursrow-tree. [f. dial. *nurs-, nuss-, noss-row* the harvest-shrew.] A tree vulgarly supposed to be efficacious in curing swollen cattle, through having one or more shrew-mice confined in it.

1686 Plot *Staffordsh.* 222 To make any tree..a Nursrow-tree, they catch one or more of these mice,..and having bored a hole.., they put the mice in [etc.].

†Nurt, *v. Obs.* Also 6 **nourt, 7 nort.** [Of obscure origin; given by Ray as *note.*] *intr.* To push or butt with the horns.

1555 W. Watreman *Fardle Facions* App. 341 The Neate that nourteth with the horne shall the owner kille. 1573 Tusser *Husb.* (1878) 55 Curst cattel that nurteth, poore wennel soon hurteth. 1601 Holland *Pliny* I. 206 One while [he sets his hornes] streight forward to offend, other whiles bending byas, as he hath reason to nort or push toward, or avoid his enemie.

†Nurth. *Obs.* In 3 **nurð, nurhð.** [Of obscure origin.] Noise, din.

a 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 140 Ha iherde a swuch nurð towart te awariede maumetes temple. *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* 31 His laðliche nurð & his untohe bere makeð þe to agrisen. *a* 1240 *Sawles Warde* in *O.E. Hom.* I. 247 We mahen ifelen hare nurhð [*v.r.* nurð] & hare untohe bere.

†Nu·rturable, *a. Obs. rare* $^{-1}$. [f. Nurture *v.* + -able.] Capable of nourishing.

1579 W. Wilkinson *Confut. Fam. Love* B iiij, Blaspheminge the Catholique Church of Rome, and rentyng the consent and nurturable sustenance of the same.

Nurture (nē·ɹtiŭ), *sb.* Forms: 4–6 **nortour**(e, **-tur**(e, 5–6 **norter**; 5–7 **nourtoure,** 6–7 **-ture**; 4– **nurture** (5 *Sc.* **nwr-**), 5–6 **-tur, -tour**(e. [a. OF. *nourture, nurture,* var. of *noure-, nourriture*: see Nourriture.]

1. Breeding, upbringing, training, education (received or possessed by one). Now *rare.*

c 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 4295 Vs wondreþ at ȝowre nurture of pris. ? *a* 1366 Chaucer *Rom. Rose* 179 Ful foule and cherlysshe semed she,..And litel coude of norture. 1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 122 He was of hey nourtoure, wel prowed and l-lernyd of al Sciencis. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* VIII. iii. 276 He sente yonge Trystram..in to Fraunce to lerne the langage and nurture and dedes of armes. *a* 1533 Ld. Berners *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) C iij b, His father in his youthe had taught him good nurture. 1573 Tusser *Husb.* (1878) 26 The greatest preferment that childe we can gine, is learning and nurture, to traine him to liue. 1607 *Statute* in *Hist. Wakefield School* (1892) 60 The general course of Religion and good nurture in the scollers of this schole. 1644 Milton *Educ.* 3 To drive our dullest and laziest youth..from the infinite desire of such a happy nurture. 1813 Scott *Rokeby* VI. xv, He bred him in their nurture wild. 1867 Parkman *Jesuits in N. Amer.* ix. (1875) 99 Both were of noble birth and gentle nurture.

†b. Moral training or discipline. *Obs.*

1526 Tindale *Eph.* vi. 4 Brynge them vppe with the norter and informacion off the Lorde. 1535 Coverdale *Ecclus.* xviii. Contents, God suffreth longe, rebuketh and teacheth all soch as wil receaue nurtoure. 1611 Bible *Wisd.* iii. 11 Who so despiseth wisedome, and nurture, he is miserable. 1637 Rutherford *Lett.* (1862) I. xcviii. 251 Yet I get my meat from Christ with nurture.

2. That which nourishes; nourishment, food.

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* XIX. xxxii. (Bodl. MS.), Swetnes is þe propre sauour & norture ȝif it is stedefaste.. in þe membres. *c* 1407 Lydg. *Reson & Sens.* 1630 Iuno.. bisyly dide hir cure To yive him mylke to hys norture. 1596 Spenser *Hymn Hon. Love* 39 Your lovers feeble eyes you feed, But sterve their barts that needeth nourture most. 1671 Milton *Samson* 362 For this did the Angel twice descend? for this Ordain'd thy nurture holy, as of a Plant? 1818 Byron *Ch. Har.* IV. cxlix, Where..from the heart we took Our first and sweetest nurture. 1880 Blackmore *Mary Anerley* xl, He fed him well, and nourished himself, and took nurture for the road.

Comb. 1777 Potter *Æschylus* 319 These crisped locks, Once sacred to the nurture-giving stream Of Inachus.

3. The bringing-up or rearing *of* some one; tutelage; fostering care.

1676 W. Allen *Addr. Nonconf.* 44 Whom God put under the nurture of believing Parents, or Tutors. 1727 Pope, etc. *Art of Sinking* xvi, That to prevent unmarried Actresses making away with their Infants, a competent Provision be allowed for the Nurture of them. *c* 1775 Burke *Addr. Colonists N. Amer.* Wks. IX. 213 Under the paternal care and nurture of a protecting Parliament. 1784 Cowper *Task* II. 779 Things so sacred as a nation's trust, The nurture of her youth, her dearest pledge. 1818 Cruise *Digest* (ed. 2) III. 372 If guardian by nurture make a lease by indenture to one, being under the title of the infant. 1875 Manning *Mission H. Ghost* IX. 230 Even in the lower animals there is a certain love, and care, a nurture in the parent towards its offspring.

Nurture (nē·ɹtiŭɹ), *v.* Also 5, 7 **norture,** 5–6 **nurtur** (6 **-ter, -tor, -tour**), 6–7 **nourture** (6 **-ter, -toure**). [f. prec.]

1. *trans.* To feed or nourish; to support and bring up to maturity; to rear. Also *fig.* (cf. 2).

c 1430 Lydg. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 41 But also pleyne

was his bedde at the morwe, As at even so was he nortured wele. *c* 1440 *Alph. Tales* 437 He knew it & had compassion þeroff, & garte name it & nurtur it. *c* 1450 Lovelich *Grail* xxxv. 216 His Eldest sone...was put into thike partye For to Norture. 1575 Turberv. *Trag. Tales* (1837) 161 By his Grandsyre nourisht up And nurtred from a boye. 1715 Bentley *Serm.* (J.), They suppose mother earth to be a great animal, and to have nurtured up her young offspring with a conscious tenderness. 1815 Shelley *Alastor* 68 By solemn vision, and bright silver dream, His infancy was nurtured. 1828 Lytton *Disowned* iii, The woman who nurtured me as my mother was rather capricious than kind. 1872 O. W. Holmes *Poet Breakf.-t.* viii, He was not nurtured by the best of mothers.

refl. *c* 1511 *1st Eng. Bk. Amer.* Introd. (Arb.) 32/2 All the other byrdes..gyue them mete & drinke to the tyme that the[y] can flee & nurter them selfe. 1820 Shelley *Œd. Tyr.* i. 356 That very Rat, who, like the Pontic tyrant, Nurtures himself on poison.

b. *transf.* To foster, cherish.

1828 Macaulay *Ess., Hallam* (1851) I. 57 Sprung from brutal passion, nurtured by selfish policy, the Reformation in England [etc.]. 1847 H. Miller *Test. Rocks* iii. (1857) 115 It has been said that they nurture infidel propensities. 1872 Black *Adv. Phaeton* xxi. 298 The Lieutenant began to nurture a secret affection for Scotland.

2. To bring up, train, educate.

1526 Tindale *Titus* ii. 4 That they nurter the yonge wemen for to love their husbandes. 1579 Northbrooke *Dicing* (1843) 11 A child..In tender yeares brought vp In vertues schoole, and nurtred wel. 1639 Rouse *Heav. Univ.* viii. (1702) 106 He will delight to teach and nurture thee. 1652 Bp. Hall *Eloquence* p. xiv, We ought to nurture our souls to greatnesse. 1774 Burke *Sp. Amer. Tax.* Wks. 1842 I. 164 Persons who are nurtured in office do admirably well as long as things go on in their common order. 1784 Cowper *Task* II. 532 My man of morals, nurtur'd in the shades Of Academus—is this false or true? 1817 Shelley *Rev. Islam* I. xxxvii, Before A woman's heart beat in my virgin breast, It had been nurtured in divinest lore. 1863 Geo. Eliot *Romola* I. xi, He had been nurtured in contempt for the tales of priests.

† **b.** To discipline, chasten. *Obs.*

1528 Tindale *Doctr. Treat.* (Parker Soc.) 136 God laid him where he could neither see sun nor moon..,to nurture him,..and to teach him God's ways. 1535 Coverdale 1 *Kings* xii. 11. *a* 1564 Becon *Commpl. H. Script.* Wks. II. 111. 93 They verely for a fewe daies nurtred vs after their own pleasure; But he nurtreth vs for our profit. 1609 Bible (Douay) *Prov.* xiii. 24 He that spareth the rod, bateth his childe; but he that loveth him doth instantly nurture him. 1636 Rutherford *Lett.* (1862) I. lxx. 182 You have had your own large share of troubles..; but it saith your Father counteth you not a bastard; full-begotten bairns are nurtured.

† **c.** To wean (one) *from* something. *Obs. rare*—[1].

1621 Sanderson *Serm.* I. 172 As a fatherly correction and chastisement, to nurture us from some past sin.

Nu·rtured, *ppl. a.* [f. prec. + -ED [1].] Trained, educated. Chiefly in *evil-, ill-, well-nurtured.*

a 1400–50 *Alexander* 3177 A ix score of new geere of nurtrid maydens. *c* 1475 *Babees Bk.* 119 Als to the worlde better [boon] in noo degre Mihte yee desire thanne nurtred forto be. 1599 *George-a-Greene* Greene's Wks. (Grosart) 1229 Nay, good my Liege, ill nurtur'd we were, then. 1611 Bible *Ecclus.* xxii. 3 An euill nurtured sonne is the dishonour of his father. *Ibid.* xxxi. 19 A very little is sufficient for a man well nurtured. 1612 Dekker *If it be not Good* Wks. 1873 II. 281 How dar'st thou mock vs, thou ill nurtur'd slaue? 1781 Cowper *Table-T.* 634 A well-nurtur'd train Of abler votaries. 1854 G. Greenwood *Haps & Mishaps* 60 Revealing the..hell of ferocity in their blood-nurtured natures. 1887 *Murray's Mag.* I. 558 His India-nurtured blood felt comforted by the warmth.

Nu·rtureless. *rare*—[1]. [f. Nurture *sb.* + -less.] Without nurture or nourishment.

1835 Talfourd *Ion* II. i, Who perish not alone, but in their fall Break the far-spreading tendrils that they feed, And leave them nurtureless.

Nu·rturer. [f. Nurture *v.* + -er [1].] One who nurtures or trains.

1796 *Hist. Ned Evans* II. 253 Mrs. Waldron could not behold the nurturers of her grandson without the tenderest emotions. 1826 *Blackw. Mag.* XX. 491 These are under the conduct of the great Nurturer. 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) III. 62 Subjects who in other States are termed slaves, are by us termed nurturers and paymasters.

Nu·rtureship. [-ship.] Upbringing.

a 1845 Hood *The Desert-Born* 95 Like an infant changed at nurse By fairies, you have undergone a nurtureship perverse.

Nu·rturing, *vbl. sb.* [f. Nurture *v.* + -ing [1].] The action of the verb, in various senses.

1535 Coverdale *Job* xxxvi. 10 He with punyshinge and nurturinge off them..,warneth them to leaue of from their wickednesse. 1578 *Chr. Prayers, Priv. Pr.* (Parker Soc.) 534 We acknowledge thy fatherly nurturing of us. 1629 Wadsworth *Pilgr.* vii. 74 The Iesuites haue a Colledge.. for the nurturing of their young Iesuites. 1843 Lytton *Last Bar.* iv. v, Well-a-day, my lord, my nurturing was somewhat neglected in the province.

Nu·rturing, *ppl. a.* [-ing [2].] That nurtures.

1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) III. 664 Blood, being the nurturing principle of the flesh. 1883 Swinburne *Cent. Roundels* 47 Each mother's nurturing breast Feeds a flower of bliss.

† **Nurvil.** *Obs. rare*—[0]. [var. of Nyrvyl, agreeing in vowel with Norw. dial. *nurv* masc., *nurva* fem.; perhaps represented by mod. dial. *knurl.*] A dwarfish person.

1499 *Promp. Parv.* (Pynson), Nuruyll, dwerfe.

Nurye, variant of Nurry *Obs.* **Nurysch,** obs. f. Nourish *v.* **Nusance, -anze, -auns,** obs. ff. Nuisance. **Nuse,** obs. f. Nurse *sb.*[2]

Nushed, *pa. pple. dial.* (See quot.)

1674–91 Ray *S. & E. C. Words, Nush'd,* starved, in the bringing up.

Nusle, nussel, nussle, varr. of Nuzzle *v.*[2]

Nusse, obs. form of Nurse *sb.*[2]

Nu·ssierite. *Min.* [See first quot.] A variety of pyromorphite.

1836–41 Brande *Chem.* (ed. 5) 843 Baruel has described a double phosphate of lead and lime from the mine of Nussiere, near Beaujeu, in the department of Rhone: he has called it Nussierite. 1846 *Penny Cycl.* Suppl. II. 308/2 *Nussierite,* Occurs in crystals, which are almost lenticular. ..Colour yellow, greyish or greenish.

Nuste, var. of Nist *v. Obs.* **Nustle,** obs. f. Nuzzle *v.*[1] **Nusy:** see Nuise *v.*

Nut (nʌt), *sb.*[1] Forms: α. 1 hnutu (*pl.* hnyte, hnite, nyte), 2–4, 6 nute (3 nouthe). β. 3–5 note (4 nhote), 5 noote. γ. 4–6 nott(e, 5–6 not. δ. 4–6 nutte, 5–8 nutt, 6– nut (8–9 *Sc.* nit). [Common Teut.: OE. *hnutu* fem. = MDu. *note, nuete* (Du. *noot, neut*), and *not,* MLG. *note, not,* ON. *hnot* (Norw. *not,* Sw. *nöt,* Da. *nød*), OHG. (*h*)*nuz* (G. *nuss*). The stem **hnut-* :— pre-Teut. **knud-,* is related to that of OIr. *cnū,* Gael. *cnù, cnò,* Welsh *cneuen* (pl. *cnau*) nut.]

I. 1. A fruit which consists of a hard or leathery (indehiscent) shell enclosing an edible kernel; the kernel itself.

For the many specific names of nuts, and of other fruits or vegetable products to which the name is loosely applied (as *earth-nut, pea-nut*), see the distinguishing word.

α. *c* 875 *Erfurt Gloss.* 15 *Abilina,* hnutu. *c* 975 *Rushw. Gosp.* Matt. vii. 16 Ah he sonnigaþ..of gorstum ficos *vel* nyte? *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* III. 134 Pinhnutena cyrnles, & amigdalas, & oþera hnutena cyrnlu. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 79 Me breked þe nute for to habbene þene curnel. *c* 1265 *Voc. Plants* in Wr.-Wülcker 557 *Auellane, petite noiz,* litel nute. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 18833 His hare [was] like to þe nute brun, Quen it for ripnes fals dun. *c* 1590 Montgomerie *Soun.* xlvi. 8 Lat sie vho first my wedfie wins; For I will wed ane apple and a nute [*rime* shute].

β. *c* 1290 *Beket* 1191 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 140 Deintebes to him brouȝte, Applene, & peoren, and notes also. 13.. *K. Alis.* 5193 It wil al fruyt ete, Applen, noten, reisyns, and whete. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 129 þe duke bouȝte notes wiþ þe whiche he sebe his mete and vitailles. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* lvi. 373 þe ape wil gladly Ete the kyrnell of the note, for it is swete. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* b iij b, Wete a morcell of flesh therin, the mowntenaunce of a Note.

γ. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 12 A fewe peris, appelis or nottis. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xvii. cviii. (Bodl. MS.), The nutte tre hatte Nux & so þe notte also. *c* 1425 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 647 *Hec nux,..*notte. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* c v, Pellettis of the grettenes of a Not. *Ibid.* f vij, A Chistre of Nottis. *c* 1532 Du Wes *Introd. Fr.* in *Palsgr.* 912 Small nottes, *noisettes.*

δ. *c* 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) xxix. 131 Treesse berand garioflez and nute mugez and grete nuttez of Inde. *c* 1450 *Mirour Saluacioun* (Roxb.) 59 Thai callid figes, Razines and Nuttes and apples collibies. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 5 b, As the shale of the nut to be broken that he may fede of the cornell. 1594 Carew *Huarte's Exam. Wits* xiv. (1596) 258 He hath his haire coloured like a nut full ripe. 1642 Fuller *Holy & Prof. St.* III. xvii. 196 Worldly riches, like nuts, teare many clothes in getting them. 1671 Salmon *Syn. Med.* III. xxii. 413 *Haslenut tree,* the nut is pectoral. 1732 Arbuthnot *Rules of Diet* in *Aliments,* etc. I. 257 Such as abound with a soft Oil,..as most sorts of Nuts. 1784 Cowper *Task* I. 315 The beech of oily nuts Prolific. 1828 Scott *F. M. Perth* xiii, My Lord of Rothsay, who..was cracking nuts with a strolling musician. 1864 Tennyson *En. Ard.* 556 Soft fruitage, mighty nuts, and nourishing roots.

b. As a symbol of something of trifling value.

c 1300 *Havelok* 419 He ne yaf a note of his oþes. *Ibid.* 1332 Nouth þe worth of one nouthe [=nute]. 1340 *Ayenb.* 143 Ne prosperite ne aduersete of þe wordle hi ne prazeþ ane nhote.

† **c.** One of the seeds in a pine-cone. *Obs.*

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 250 Ȝenim..cyrnlu of pintrywenum hnutum. 1611 Cotgr., *Noix de pin,..*the nut, or fruit of the Pine-apple. 1727 Bradley *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Fir tree,* The Kernels and Nuts, which may be got out of their Cones and Clogs.

† **d.** The stone of a peach or date. *Obs. rare.*

1600 Porv tr. *Leo's Africa* III. 207 Their peaches they cut into fower quarters, and casting away the nuts or stones, they drie them in the sunne. *Ibid.* VI. 269 They feede their goates with the nuts or stones of their dates beaten to powder, whereby they grow exceeding fat.

† **e.** The fruit of the cocoa-tree. *Obs.*

1707 Funnell *Voy.* v. 89 The Nut or Kernel..ripens in a great Husk, wherein are sometimes 30, nay 40 cocoas. 1711 *Spect.* Advt. (1891) 903 Chocolate all Nut 2*s.* 6*d.* and 3*s.* with sugar 1*s.* 8*d.*

† **2.** A cup formed from the shell of a coco-nut mounted in metal; also, one made of other materials to resemble this. *Obs.* (See also 4 c.)

1337 in Riley *Mem. Lond.* (1868) 200 One cup called 'note', with a foot and cover of silver, value 30*s.* 1427 *Will of Esturmy* (Somerset Ho.), Vnum note de dogean cum coopertario. 1479 *Paston Lett.* III. 272 A blak notte standing of silver and gilt, with a kover to the same. 1520 Sir R. Elyot *Will* in Elyot *Gov.* (1883) App. A, ii playn bolles of silver.., ii nuttes garnyssbed with silver and gilt. *c* 1580 in *Archæol.* (1840) XXVIII. 132 A drynkinge nutte of sylver, worth about twentie pounds. [1828 Scott *F. M. Perth* xvi, Tender him the nut once more.]

3. In various proverbial and allusive contexts. (For *deaf nut* see Deaf *a.* 6 b.)

1562 J. Heywood *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 20 She is lost with an apple, and woon with a nut. 1647 Cowley *Mistr., The Tree* ii, With Art as strange, as Homer in the Nut, Love in my Heart has Volumes put. 1660 Howell *Eng. Prov.* 15 He may be gott by an Apple, and lost by a Nutt. 1722 Wollaston *Relig. Nat.* viii. 161 They, who are not, or but lately, past their nuts, cannot be supposed to have any extent of knowledge. 1843 Longf. *Sp. Stud.* I. iv, Very little meat and a great deal of tablecloth...And more noise than nuts. 1899 *Times* 25 Oct. 5/3 They can't shoot for nuts; go ahead.

4. In allusions to the difficulty of cracking hard-shelled nuts: **a.** A question difficult to answer, or a problem hard to solve.

1545 Elyot *Def. Gd. Wom.* B iv b, Nowe knacke me that nut, maister Candidus. 1589 *Hay any Work* (1844) 33 Like you any of these Nuts, John Canterbury? 1655 Fuller *Hist. Cambr.* (1840) 95 Why was this Hall first visited?.. But the nut is not worth the cracking. 1705 Hickeringill *Priest-cr.* IV. (1721) 236 Here's Nuts enough to employ their Teeth,..but..before they crack them they will break their Brains. 1801 Huntington *God the Guard. of Poor* Ded. p. iii, Those providences which appear rather out of the common line are hard nuts in the mouth of a weak believer. 1858–61 J. Brown *Horæ Subs.* (1863) 17 He especially liked his mental nuts. 1886 Stevenson *Dr. Jekyll* i, It was a nut to crack for many, what these two could see in each other.

b. A matter or undertaking difficult to accomplish; a person hard to deal with or conciliate.

1662–7 Cowley *Of Plants* Wks. (Grosart) II. 276/1 'Tis time that you these childish Sports forsake, Hymen for you has other Nuts to crack. 1745 Franklin *Lett.* Wks. 1887 II. 16 Fortified towns are hard nuts to crack; and your teeth have not been accustomed to it. 1866 *Illustr. Lond. N.* 9 June 549 Spain has..got some of her teeth broken in the attempt to crack a nut that was too hard for them. 1888 J. Payn *Myst. Mirbridge* xxi, You will find Robert Morris a hard nut to crack.

c. (See quots. and sense 2.)

1828 Scott *F. M. Perth* xvi, A huge calabash full of sack was offered to the lips of the supplicant, while this prince of revellers exhorted him,—'Crack me this nut, and do it handsomely'. 1889 *N. & Q.* 7th Ser. VIII. 437 When a fresh guest arrived he was met by the laird, who made him 'crack a nut', that is, drink a silver-mounted cocoanut-shell full of claret.

5. a. *Nuts to* (a person): A source of pleasure or delight to one. Now *slang.*

1617 Fletcher *Mad Lover* v. iv, But they are needful mischiefs, And such are Nuts to me. 1672 Marvell *Reh. Transp.* I. 56 This story would have been Nuts to Mother Midnight. 1705 in W. S. Perry *Hist. Coll. Amer. Col. Ch.* I. 147 Pray remember that our divisions will be nuts to the adversaries of the Church. 1768–74 Tucker *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 484 Mischief is said to be nuts to some folks. 1805 *Naval Chron.* XIII. 11 This was Nuts to many of them whose purses could afford it. 1840 R. H. Dana *Bef. Mast* xxv, This was nuts to us, for we liked to have a Spaniard wet with salt water. 1891 F. R. Stockton *House Martha* 208 To see me here would be simply nuts to her.

b. (See Nut *v.* 2, quot. 1812.)

6. *To be* (*dead*) *nuts on* or *upon,* to set great store upon, to be devoted to, fond of, or delighted with (a person or thing). *slang.*

1785 Grose *Dict. Vulgar T.* s.v. *Well-hung,* The blowen was nuts upon the Kiddey because he is well-hung. 1812 J. H. Vaux *Flash Dict.* s.v., A man who is much gratified with any bargain he has made,..will express his self-satisfaction..by declaring that he is, or was, quite nuts upon himself. 1862 *Punch* 29 Mar. 127/1 Johnny and Georgy were nuts on their pet.., and tabled their money freely. 1873 W. Black *Pr. Thule* xi. 168 My aunt is awful nuts on Marcus Aurelius. 1894 Astley 50 *Yrs. Life* I. 152 He wasn't dead nuts on meeting with them.

7. *slang.* The head (of a person).

1858 Mayhew *Paved w. Gold* II. xii. 189 The first round was soon terminated, for Jack got a 'cracker on his nut'. 1894 Clark Russell *Good Ship Mohock* II. 19 Let that chap there be ready with his cutlass to job me over the nut on my showing myself.

b. *Off one's nut,* out of one's mind, insane. (See also quot. 1860.)

1860 *Slang Dict.* (ed. 2) 182 To be 'off one's nut', to be in liquor. 1873 Miss Braddon *Str. & Pilgr.* II. iii. 178 There are the men who go off their nuts by the time they're worth a million or so. 1893 *Fam. Herald* 68/2 But is the master off his nut that he has her down here to stay?

8. Applied disparagingly to persons.

1887 Fenn *Master of Ceremonies* vii, He is a close old nut. 1896 *Harper's Mag.* XCIII. 150/2 'Who's the old nut walking with your father-in-law?' 'He's my clerk'.

b. A certain type of Australian (see quots.).

1882 A. J. Boyd *Old Colonials* 60 What is a Nut?.. Imagine a long, lank, lantern-jawed, whiskerless, colonial youth. *Ibid.* 65 He is a bully, a low, coarse, blasphemous blackguard—what is termed a regular colonial Nut.

II. 9. A small metal projection upon a spindle (of a clock, etc.) furnished with teeth, and engaging in a cog-wheel; a small spur-wheel.

1426–7 in *Archæologia* (1857) XXXVII. 25 Thomas Clockmaker received 7*s.* for amending of the note and spindle. 1567 in *Antiquary* (1888) Apr. 169 For makyng a nutte for the dyall, iiij*d.* 1648 Wilkins *Math. Magic* I. xx. (1707) 82 Let us imagine every Wheel in this following Figure to have a hundred Teeth in it, and every Nut ten. 1677 Moxon *Mech. Exerc.* iii. 45 Before a revolution of the Wheel be perform'd, it would go off from the length of the Teeth of the Nut. 1775 Ash, *Nut,* a small protuberance with indentures answering to the teeth of a wheel. 1825 J. Nicholson *Operat. Mechanic* 130 A spur nut *a,* and a bevelled nut *b*;..the nut *a* works into the spur-wheel.

† **10.** A projection from the lock of a cross-bow, serving to detain the string until released by the trigger. *Obs.*

1528 Paynell *Salerne's Regim.* Q ij b, The iij nutte, that is, the nutte of the crosse bowe, is dethe, for the crosse bowe

sleethe men. 1578 *Lanc. Wills* (Chetham Soc.) II. 59 My crossebowe wᵗʰout the nutte. 1611 COTGR., *La noix d'vne arbaleste*, the nut of a crossebow. 1674 tr. *Scheffer's Lapland* 98 They..draw the string up to the nut made of bone in the handle, with an iron hook they wear at their girdle.

11. A small block of wood, iron, etc., pierced, and wormed with a female screw; used to make a bolt fast, or to allow of its adjustment.

Cf. *nottes..et escruues* in a Lille document of 1597 cited by Godefroi, s.v. *Nottet.*

1611 COTGR., *Couplot de bois*, a woodden sole, or Nut for a Scrue; the foot of a Scrue. 1677 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* i. 5 The Nut or Screw Box hath also a square Worm, and is brazed into the round Box. 1735 J. PRICE *Stone-Br. Thames* 7 Iron Hooks should be let into their Flanks, and screw'd into Nuts. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* I. 62 A screw with a button head, tightened at the back with a nut. 1894 BOTTONE *Electr. Instr.* 173 The nut, of course, works against the springs...When the nut is loosened the spring causes G to rise.

b. The portion of a wooden printing-press in which the screw plays.

1642 *Ordin. Lords & Comm. Prohib. Print.* 6 The Printers Nuts and Spindles which they find so employed. 1683 MOXON *Mech. Exerc., Printing* xi. P 1 To preserve the Worms of the Spindle and Nut from wearing each other out the faster. 1824 J. JOHNSON *Typogr.* II. 507 The brass nut in which the screw of the spindle works. 1841 *Penny Cycl.* XXI. 111/1 In the upper cross-bar or head..a nut is firmly secured. The screw works up and down in this nut.

c. The contrivance at the lower end of a violin-bow, or any similar instrument, by which the horse-hair may be relaxed or tightened.

1662 PLAYFORD *Skill Mus.* II. (1674) 101 Hold the Bow betwixt the ends of your Thumb and your Forefinger, an Inch below the Nut. 1836 DUBOURG *Violin* ix. (1878) 280 So regulated as to cause the nearest approach made by the stick to the hair to be exactly in the middle, between the head and the nut. 1884 HERON-ALLEN *Violin-making* 93 A bow..with a properly constructed head and nut to receive the hair.

12. *Naut.* A part of a ship's anchor (see quots.).

1627 CAPT. SMITH *Seaman's Gram.* vii. 29 At the head of the Shanke there is a hole.., and in it a Ring, wherein is the Nut to which there is fast fixed a Stocke of wood crossing the Flookes. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. xv. (Roxb.) 29/1 The nutt, the round part under the eye, to which the stock is fixt. 1769 FALCONER *Dict Marine* (1780), *Nuts of the anchor*, two little prominencies, appearing like short square bars of iron, fixed across the upper part of the anchor-shank, to secure the stock thereof in it's place. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* 502 *Nuts*, two projections either raised or welded on the square part of the shank [etc.].

13. (See quot. 1876.)

1698 *Phil. Trans.* XX. 80 The Frets are nearer to one another toward the Bridge, and wider toward the Nut or Head of a Viol. 1771 *Encycl. Brit.* III. 323/2 An equal division of a string between either the nut and bridge, or stop and bridge. 1876 STAINER & BARRETT *Dict. Mus. Terms* 316 *Nut*, the fixed bridge formed by a slight prominence or ridge at the upper end of the strings of instruments of the violin and guitar family.

b. *To make the nut* : (see quot.).

1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 12 The violoncello players ..who seek to get high-pitched notes from their instruments by shortening the strings by violent pressure with the outside of the phalangeal joint of the left thumb, while the fingers are engaged in stopping the string lower down (a manœuvre known as 'making the nut').

14. The central part of a potter's wheel.

1735 *Dict. Polygraph.* s.v. *Pottery*, The potters wheel consists principally in the nut, which is a beam or axis, whose foot or pivot plays perpendicularly on a free-stone sole or bottom.

III. †15. The glans penis. *Obs.*

1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* (1592) 358 There is a skinne which doth..couer..the nut or foreparte of a mannes yarde. 1611 COTGR., *Pennache de mer*..at one end resembles a feather, and th' vncouered nut of a mans yard at th' other. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 42 After they have cut off the fore-skin, [they] slit with their nails the skin also that covers the nut. 1758 J. S. tr. *Le Dran's Observ. Surg.* (1771) Dictionary, *Balanus*, the Glands or Nut of the Yard.

†16. = POPE'S EYE. *Obs.*

1611 COTGR., *Oeil de Iudas*, the Nut, or Fryers peece of a Leg of Mutton. 1682 GIBSON *Anat.* IV. (1697) App., A gland which we..call in sheep the Nut or Pope's eye.

†b. A small knob (of meat). *Obs. rare*⁻¹.

1769 J. SKEAT *Art Cookery* 12 A sham Tortoise...is made of a calf's liver. There is a small nut of liver that hangs to it, which serves for the head.

c. *dial.* The pancreas; also, part of the caul.

c 1816 *Yng. Woman's Companion* 2 The liver, lights, heart, nut, and milt. 1893 P. H. EMERSON *Eng. Lagoons* xvii. 76 Jim..had bought a pig's fry...I ate of all parts—the 'nut' and the 'mint'..were really good. *Ibid.*, The apron (omentum), that's nice..; but the kell, that's the thing, and the nut of that is the sweetest part of all.

17. *pl.* Coal in small lumps.

1870 *Eng. Mech.* 18 Feb. 563/3 We have been using silkstone nuts. 1883 GRESLEY *Gloss. Coal-mining* 175 *Nuts*, small lumps of coal which will pass through a screen the bars of which vary in width apart between ½ inch and 2½ inches.

18. A small rounded biscuit or cake. Only in *doughnut*, *gingerbread* or *spice nut*, q.v.

IV. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

19. Attributive: a. In sense 1, as *nut-bunch*, *-bush*, *-cake*, *-flower*, *-fruit*, *-garden*, *-grove*, etc.

1877 HORTON in Moloney *Forestry W. Afr.* (1887) 38 The *nut bunches are cut down from the trees. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 257/2 A *Nutte buske, *corvletum*. 1823 J. F. COOPER *Pioneers* ix, The four corners were garnished with plates of cake. On one was piled certain curiously twisted and complicated figures called '*nut-cakes'. 1648 HEXHAM II, *Noteboomen*, *Nut-flowers. 1850 MRS. BROWNING *Poems* II. 262 They listen For..*nut-fruit falling from the trees. 1535 COVERDALE *Song. Sol* vi. 11, I wente downe in to the *nutt garden, to se what grew by the brokes. 1872 CALVERLEY *Fly Leaves* (1903) 27 In the *nutgroves of Morocco. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 34 Ȝenim *hnutcyrnla & hwæte corn. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. cviii. (Bodl. MS.), Wiin is þe notte curnel þᵗ is sauorie & ful swete. 1460-70 *Bk. Quintessence* 23 Putte þerine..note-kirnelis, fyn triacle, radisch. 1530 PALSGR. 254/1 Pyll of a nutte curnell. 1681 GREW *Museum* II. § i. i. 200 A small Orbicular Fruit, as it seems, of the *Nut-kind. 1816 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* XXV. (1818) II. 416 The beetle to which the *nut-maggot is transformed. 1765 *Museum Rust.* III. 285 In the *nut season fences are pulled in pieces for the fruit by all the boys and girls in the neighbourhood. 1648 HEXHAM II, *Een Note-booste*, a *Nut-skin or Husk. 1845 DISRAELI *Sybil* (1863) 135 He cut my eyelid open once with a *nut-stick. 1886 W. J. TUCKER *E. Europe* 367 The fourth course was a *nut tart, very large, very rich, very sweet. 1496 *Fysshynge w. Angle* (1883) 29 The hayte that bredith on an oke, and the *notworme.

b. In sense 11, as *nut-frame*, *-iron*, *-key*, *-sling*.

1711 W. SUTHERLAND *Shipbuilder's Assist.* 153 Nut-slings of the Guns. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 443 The nut-frame should carry three flat pieces of wood or iron. *Ibid.* 338 Scrap or nut-iron, consisting of old nails, screws, nuts, and pieces of that description. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* I. 425 The head and handle are forged in one piece.., the latter part being formed into a nut-key.

c. In sense 17, as *nut-coal*, *-slack*.

1869 MRS. WHITNEY *We Girls* vi. (1873) 129 A sprinkle of small, shiny nut-coal. 1870 *Eng. Mech.* 18 Mar. 661/2 Coke (made..of nut-slack riddled).

20. Objective and obj. genitive, as *nut-catcher*, *-eater*, *-gathering*, *-seller*. Also *nut-grown*.

1746 MRS. CARTER in Pennington *Life* (1808) I. 105 My fellow *nut-catcher and I have another wood in reserve where we hope for better success. 1883 D. COOK *P. Foster's Daughter* i, He seeks the *nut-eater. 1876 H. H. THOMAS *Mem. D. Thomas* i. 4 Delighting in country rambles, in *nut-gathering and bathing. 1809 CAMPBELL *Gert. Wyom.* I. iii, And playful squirrel on his *nut-grown tree. 1648 HEXHAM II, *Een note-menger*, a *Nut-seller.

b. Similative, as *nut-deaf*, *-grey*, *-like*, *-sweet*.

1828 *Blackw. Mag.* XXIII. 806 Old men are our aversion, so *nut-deaf are they, so sand-blind. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) VI. 220/2 To give an example of the manner of producing these colours we shall take the *nut-grey. 1830 LINDLEY *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 181 Seeds *nut-like. 1874 A. GRAY *Less. Bot.* 469 The 2 nut-like seeds partly sunk in excavations at the base of the scale. 1586 BRIGHT *Melanch.* xviii. 110 For of it selfe [the blood] being *nutsweete or milke-sweete, by this heate becommeth sugar or hony sweete.

21. Special combs.: †nut-beam, a nut-tree; †nut-boy, a boy who gathers nuts; †nut-breaker, = NUT-CRACKER 3 b; nut-cut, *slang* (see quot.); †nut-head, the plant Tormentil, which has nut-like sceds; †nut-housing, a nutshell; Nut-Monday, the first Monday in August, locally observed as a holiday; †nut-mouse, the dormouse; †nut-mussel (?); nut-palm, an Australian palm (*Cycas media*) which bears edible nuts; †nut-penny (cf. *nut-silver*); nut-pine, a species of pine (*Pinus sabiniana*) indigenous to N. America; †nut-plum (see quot.); nut-rush, a kind of sedge with nut-like seeds; †nut-silver, a yearly payment formerly customary in Northumberland; nut-wood, ? walnut wood.

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 42 *Hnutheames rinde seaw.. drype on eare. 1412-13 *Abingdon Rolls* (Camden) 75 Et de vs de j notebem vendito in Gardino hoc anno. 1653 DOROTHY OSBORNE *Lett.* (1903) 29 She wears twenty strung upon a ribbon, like the *nut boys play withal. 1778 PENNANT *Tour Wales* (1883) I. 29 Excepting the Caryocatactes or *nut-hreaker, I do not recollect any very uncommon bird to have visited this parish. 1874 *Slang Dict.* 239 **Nut-cut*, roguish, mischievous. *c* 1265 *Voc. Plants* in Wr.-Wülcker 557 *Turmentine*, i. *nutehede. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 257/2 A *Nutte husynge, *nucleus*. 1867 *Q. Rev.* CXXII. 380 '*Nut-Monday' is still a great occasion in Kendal. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 423 Of the *Nut-mouse, Hasel-mouse, or Filbird-mouse. 1705 PETIVER in *Phil. Trans.* XXV. 1954 *Chama Carolina*...This Shell resembles our *Nut-Muscle. 1889 J. H. MAIDEN *Usef. Native Pl.* 21 '*Nut Palm.'.. Employed by the aborigines as food. An excellent farina is obtained from it. 1702 in J. C. Hodgson *Hist. Northumbld.* (1904) VII. 316 The rent called *Nutt pennys. 1851 MAYNE REID *Scalp Hunt.* XXVI. 190 We cached them [the horses] in a thicket of *nut-pine. 1872 RAYMOND *Mines & Mining* 11 The Cuyanne Mountain is thickly covered with nut-pine timber. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 437 Those plums..that are graffed in Nut-tree stocks..retain the face and forme still of the mother graffe, but they get the taste of the stock wherein they are set..: of them both they carry the name, and are called *nut-plums. 1611 FLORIO, *Nocipruna*, the Nut-plumbe. 1874 A. GRAY *Less. Bot.* 570 *Scleria*, *Nut-Rush. 1569 in J. C. Hodgson *Hist. Northumbld.* (1904) VII. 306 All the tenants pay yearly by ancient custom..*Nutsylver. 1701 WOLLEY *Jrnl. New York* (1860) 52 They had Needles of Wood, for which *Nut-wood was esteemed best. 1898 *Daily News* 15 Feb. 9/6 Tenders are also invited..for the delivery of 6,000 rough nut-wood stocks for carbines.

†**Nut**, *sb.*² *Obs.* [OE. *nyt.*] Use, worth.

c 1205 LAY. 13428 A he seide þat Bruttes neoren noht to nuttes, ah he seide þat þa Peohtes weoren gode cnihtes.

†**Nut**, *a. Obs.* Also 4 neȝt. [OE. *nyt.* The form *neȝt* is for *net*, riming with *pet*, pit.] Useful.

c 1205 LAY. 9470 Wel is þe man nut þe sæhtnesse wurcheð. *c* 1315 SHOREHAM IV. 136 Ine felþe þou schelt lygge, þou ert nauȝt elles neȝt.

Nut, *v.* [f. NUT *sb.*¹]

1. *intr.* To seek for, or gather, nuts; *esp.* in phr. *to go* (*a*) *nutting*.

1604 DEKKER *Honest Wh.* Wks. 1873 II. 84 Whither gad you? A nutting forsooth. *c* 1670 WOOD *Life* (O.H.S.) I. 176 A. W. went to angle with William Staine of Mert. coll. to Wheately bridge and nutted in Shotover by the way. 1693 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) III. 197 Last week 3 clippers were taken in the very act in a wood.., being discovered by a boy a nutting. 1824 MRS. CAMERON *Marten & his Scholars* vii. 45 A set of wild chaps ticed me..to go a-nutting with them. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xxi. IV. 624 A schoolboy who goes nutting in the wood of a neighbour. 1879 'E. GARRETT' *House by Works* I. 47 When he and I used to go nutting in Culstead.

2. *trans.* To curry favour with, to court (a person). *slang.* (Cf. NUT *sb.*¹ 6.)

1812 J. H. VAUX *Flash Dict.*, *Nut*, to please a person by any little act of assiduity, by a present, or by flattering words, is called *nutting* him; as the present, &c., by which you have gratified them is termed a *nut*. 1823 *Grose's Dict. Vulgar T.* (Egan) s.v. *Nuts*, The cove's nutting the blowen; the man is trying to please the girl.

Nutant (nīū·tănt), *a.* [ad. L. *nūtant-em*, pres. pple. of *nūtāre* to nod. So F. *nutant*, Sp. and Pg. *nutante*.] Drooping, pendent. Also *Comb.*

1751 J. HILL *Hist. Plants* 371 The great nutant-flowered Lilium, called the great Martagon. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) III. 442/1 *Nutant*, nodding, having the point turned outward. 1819 SAMOUELLE *Entomol. Compend.* 212 Head nutant, forming an obtuse angle with the thorax. 1853 G. JOHNSTON *Nat. Hist. E. Bord.* I. 42 The ripe capsules are generally erect, but sometimes nutant.

Nuta·te, *v. rare.* [f. ppl. stem of L. *nūtāre*: cf. prec.] *intr.* To droop or bend downwards. Hence **Nuta·ting** *ppl. a.*

1880 C. & F. DARWIN *Movem. Pl.* 99 He has shewn in the case of certain seedlings, whose tips are bent downwards (or which nutate), that [etc.]. 1881 *Spectator* 8 Jan. 51 That side of the nutating stem..faces the north throughout the movement. 1897 WILLIS *Fl. Pl. & Ferns* I. 174 The nutating tip of a twining stem.

Nutation (nīūtē·ʃən). [ad. L. *nūtātiōn-em*, noun of action f. *nūtāre* to nod. So F. *nutation*, It. *nutazione*, Sp. *nutacion*.]

1. The action of nodding the head; an instance of this. Also *transf.*

1612 COTTA *Disc. Dang. Pract. Phys.* I. v. 42 The nutation and staggering of nature doth make warie proceeding. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Nutation*, nodding, as one doth when he sits sleeping. 1728 POPE *Dunc.* II. 409 So from the mid-most the nutation spreads Round, and more round, o'er all the sea of heads. 1859 J. G. SAXE *Poems*, *Richard of Gloster*, Ugly relations Who'll be very apt to disturb your nutations By unpleasant allusions, and rude observations! 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 78 The cervical vertebræ are usually attacked first; a difficulty is felt in rotation and nutation.

2. *Astr.* A slight oscillation of the earth's axis; now *spec.* that by which the pole of the equator would describe a small ellipse in about 19 years, and which actually renders its motion round the pole of the ecliptic (see PRECESSION) wavy instead of purely circular.

1715 tr. *Gregory's Astron.* (1726) I. 502 Another Nutation arising from another Cause may produce all this diversity in the distance of the Pole-Star from the Pole. 1748 BRADLEY in *Phil. Trans.* XLV. 13 This apparent Motion, in both those Stars, might proceed from a Nutation in the Earth's Axis. *Ibid.* 15 The Changes which I had observed, both in the annual Precession and Nutation. 1789 E. DARWIN *Bot. Gard.* II. (1791) 63 Marking her solar and sidereal day, Her slow nutation, and her varying clime. 1842 *Penny Cycl.* XXII. 448/1 A large number of stars.. have a slight apparent motion not attributable either to precession or nutation. 1882 R. PROCTOR in *Knowledge* 220 A more perfect method of illustrating the precession of the equinoxes or the earth's reeling, and also the nutation (or nodding, still to be described).

b. The oscillation of a top in spinning.

1879 THOMSON & TAIT *Nat. Phil.* I. i. § 107 If a Trought-ton's top be placed on its pivot in any inclined position, and then spun off with very great angular velocity about its axis of figure, the nutation will be insensible.

3. Curvature in the stem of a growing plant.

1789 E. DARWIN *Bot. Gard.* II. (1791) 19 The sun flower follows the course of the sun by nutation, not by twisting its stem. 1816 KEITH *Phys. Bot.* II. 447 Such flowers are designated by the appellation of Heliotropes, on account of their following the course of the sun; and the movement they thus exhibit is denominated their nutation. 1880 C. & F. DARWIN *Movem. Pl.* 1 The stem of a climbing plant, which bends successively to all points of the compass, so that the tip revolves. This movement has been called by Sachs 'revolving nutation'.

Nu·t-bone. Now *rare.* [f. NUT *sb.*¹] One of the sesamoid bones in the foot of a horse. Also applied to the navicular bone.

1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* 973 Pliny calles them *ossa orbiculata* round or nut-bones. 1766 *Compl. Farmer* s.v. *Shoeing*, Thus the cannon-bone presses on the pastern, this on the coronary, the coronary upon the coffin, or foot-bone, and upon the nut-bone. 1816 BLAINE *Vet. Art* 74 Anterior extremities. *Z.* Navicular or nutbone.

Nu·t-brown, *a.* (and *sb.*). [f. NUT *sb.*¹ Cf. Sw. *nötbrun*, Da. *nöddebrun*, G. *nussbraun*.]

1. Of the colour of a ripe hazel-nut; brown as a nut; of a warm reddish-brown colour.

a. Of hair or complexion, or of animals.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 18846 Berd and hefd of a heu ware, Nute brun als i tald yow are. 1575 GASCOIGNE *Herbes* Wks. (Grosart) I. 356 A louely nutbrowne face is best of all. 1723

Lond. Gaz. No. 6154/4 One Nut-brown Mare. **1823** Byron *Island* II. vii, The sun-born blood..threw O'er her clear nut-brown skin a lucid hue. **1823** — *Juan* XIII. lxxv, Ah, nut-brown partridges! *a* **1855** C. Bronte *Professor* ix, Her hair was nut-brown.

b. Of girls, in respect of complexion.

a **1500** *Nutbrowne Maide* viii. in *Arnolde's Chron.* (1502) fol. 75 b, Shal neuer be sayd the Nutbrowne mayd was to her loue vnkind. **1579** Lyly *Euphues* (Arb.) 115 If she be well sette, then call hir a Bosse,..if Nut broune, as blacke as a coale. **1611** Cotgr., s.v. *Fille*, The nut-browne lasse for mirth and neatnesse doth surpasse. **1637** Massinger *Guardian* I. i, My tenants' nut-brown daughters, wholesome girls. **1728** Pope *Dunc.* II. 337 Shown him by the Nut-brown maids, A branch of Styx here rises from the Shades. **1820** Scott *Monast.* xv, The attention which was paid to every word that he uttered by the nut-brown Mysie. **1895** *Daily News* 20 Mar. 7/1 For the nut-brown maids, who strike the happy medium between dark and fair, there is a large choice of gentle tints.

absol. **1800** Mrs. Hervey *Mourtray Fam.* I. 228 Well, and what of that, my pretty nut-brown?

c. Of things, *esp.* ale.

1586 A. Day *Eng. Secretary* I. (1625) 110 The nut-broun Colour of Seller-Ale in a frosty morning. **1608** Dekker *Belman of Lond.* Wks. (Grosart) III. 78 Nut-browne round trenchers lay in good order. *a* **1668** Davenant *News fr. Plimouth* III. i, Good Nutbrowne-Ale and Tost. **1770** Golosm. *Des. Vill.* 221 Low lies that house where nut-brown draughts inspir'd.

† **d.** Of a sword. (Cf. Brown *a.* 4.) *Obs.*

16.. *Robin Hood and Beggar* in Child *Ballads* III. 157/1 The beggar he had a mickle long staffe, And Robin had a nut-brown sword. **1674** Butler *Hud.* I. ii. 797 When his nut-brown sword was out, Courageously he laid about.

† **e.** *fig.* Rustic. *Obs. rare* —1.

1648 Herrick *Hesp., Sweet Country Life* 60 Thy Nut-browne mirth, thy Russet wit.

2. *absol.* as *sb.* **a.** Ale. (Cf. 1 c.)

1828 Scott *F. M. Perth* ii, Thou shalt have a cup of the nut-brown for thyself, my boy. **1867** Brierley *Marlocks* 121, I began to have doubts whether the parson would have cared to leave the 'nut-brown'.

b. A brown colour like that of nuts.

1883 *Harper's Mag.* Apr. 772 Her hair was of a soft nut-brown. **1896** *Daily News* 12 Sept. 6/2 Deep nutbrowns and the red of the robin's breast are skilfully combined.

Nu·t-crack. [f. Nut *sb.*1]

1. = Nut-cracker 1. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1570 Levins *Manip.* 5 Nutcracke, *nucifrangium.* **1681** *Reply to 'Mischief of Impositions'* 4 They can find in their hearts to play with Nut-cracks and Hobby-horses. **1682** Southerne *Loyal Brother* v. Wks. 1721 I. 59 Indeed a nutcrack, or some such conceited Hyroglyphical Engine does well in the hand of a magistrate. **1793** Anna Seward *Lett.* (1811) III. 266 A mouth that will be nut-cracks at 60. **1806** J. Tomlinson *Doncaster* (1887) 257 For 16 pairs of nut-cracks to mansion house.

2. *Nut-crack Night*, Hallowe'en.

1777 Brand *Pop. Antiq.* App. 344 From the Custom of flinging [nuts]..into the Fire, it has doubtless had its vulgar Name of Nutcrack-Night. **1825** Brockett *N. C. Gloss.*

Nu·t-cracker. Also **nutcracker** (esp. in sense 3 b). [f. Nut *sb.*1 Cf. Du. *note(n)kraker.*]

1. An instrument used for the purpose of breaking the shells of nuts. Also, and now usually, (*a pair of*) *nut-crackers.*

sing. **1548** Elyot *Nucifrangibulum*,..a nut cracker. **1650** B. *Discolliminium* 14 He was fain at length to make a Nutcracker of it. **1673** *S'too him Bayes* 16 A sword.. which was as like a nut-cracker for it crack'd men clad in steel. **1710** Steele *Tatler* No. 115 ¶ 1 He had once actually laid aside his [Punch's] Head for a Nut-cracker. **1844** Dickens *Mart. Chuz.* ii, After the manner of a toy nut-cracker.

pl. **1634** Massinger *Very Woman* III. ii, A thousand iron mills Can be heard no further than a pair of nut-crackers. **1736** Swift *Corr.* Wks. 1841 II. 779, I shall send..a fine pair of Cavan nut-crackers to save her white teeth. **1772** Foote *Nabob* III. Wks. 1799 II. 314 A pair of nut-crackers presented by Harry the Eighth to Anna Bullen. **1815** J. Smith *Panorama Sci. & Art* I. 298 A pair of bellows, nut-crackers, &c. are composed of two levers of the second kind. **1879** F. W. Robinson *Coward Conscience* I. viii, You need not hammer away on the table with the nut-crackers any longer.

† **b.** *Cant.* (See quot.) *Obs.*

a **1700** B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Nut-crackers*, a Pillory. The Cull lookt through the Nut-crackers.

c. Used *attrib.* and *Comb.* to describe the appearance of nose and chin which is produced by the want of teeth.

c **1700** T. Brown *Wks.* (1708) III. 22 Hollow cheeks,.. nut-cracker chin that almost meets her nose. **1818** W. Wilberforce in S. Wilberforce *Life* xxiii. (1868) 380 She is a toothless, nutcracker jawed old woman, but quite upright and active. **1859** Lo. Lytton *Wanderer* (ed. 2) 292 That gin-drinking hag, with her nut-cracker face. **1891** 'J. S. Winter' *Mrs. Bob* 272 A..bunch of bones, with a nut-cracker nose and chin.

† **2.** One who cracks nuts; a common spectator at the theatre. *Obs.*

1601 B. Jonson *Poetaster* I. ii, Sirrah, you, nut-cracker, goe your waies to him againe, and tell him I must ha' money, I. **1625** — *Staple of N.* Prol. Crt., Schollers, that can iudge, and faire report The sense they heare, aboue the vulgar sort Of Nut-crackers, that onely come for sight.

3. † **a.** The cardinal grosbeak. *Obs. rare.*

1688 Holme *Armoury* II. 242/2 The Virginian Nightingale ..is called the Nut-craker, because it loves to feed on Kernels.

b. A brown corvine bird (*Nucifraga caryocatactes*), common in various parts of Europe, but rarely seen in Britain.

The English and Latin names are translations of G. *nussbrecher.*

1758 G. Edwards *Glean. Nat. Hist.* I. 63 The Nut-Cracker. This bird..is about the size of our jack-daw. **1768** Pennant *Brit. Zool.* (1776) II. 531 Nutcracker; the specimen we took our description from is the only one we ever heard was shot in these kingdoms. **1802** Montagu *Ornith. Dict.* (1831) 339 The Nutcracker is said to lay up a store of acorns and nuts for winter. **1840** *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 204 The Nutcrackers..have both mandibles equally pointed, straight, and without curvature. **1894** Newton *Dict. Birds* 646 The Nutcracker breeds very early in the year, long before the snows are melted.

Comb. **1853** Wood *Nat. Hist.* 270 The Nutcracker Crow ..is about the size of a jackdaw, but its form is more slender.

4. As a book-title. (Cf. Nut *sb.*1 4 a.)

1751 'F. Foot' (*title*), The Nut-Cracker: Containing an agreeable Variety of well-season'd Jests, Epigrams, Epitaphs, &c.

Hence **Nu·tcracker** *v.*; **Nu·tcrackery** *a.*

1861 Dickens *Gt. Expect.* xxxiii, Are infants to be nut-crackered into their tombs? *Ibid.*, Babies are to be nut-crackered dead. **1868** Miss Braddon *Birds of Prey* I. i, An old lady who had been seen to arrive in a brougham, especially weird and nutcrackery of aspect.

Nu·t-cracking, *ppl. a.* [f. Nut *sb.*1] That cracks nuts; constructed so as to crack nuts.

1828 *Lights & Shades* I. 203 Nut-cracking human heads, and wax dolls with moveable eyes. **1842** *Penny Cycl.* XXII. 399/2 The type..intermediate between the tree-nesting and nut-cracking squirrels on the one hand and the burrowing and frugivorous *Tamias* on the other.

† **Nute** (also **nuten, -eth**), for *ne wite* know not: cf. Nete, Niten, and Not *v.*2 *Obs.*

c **950** *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xxi. 27 [Hia] ȝeonduеardon ðæm hælende [and] cuedon, 'nutu we' [*c* **1000** we nyton, *Hatton* nyten]. *c* **1175** *Lamb. Hom.* 75 Alle ȝe kunnen.. ower credo, þeh ȝe nuten nawilt alle hwat hit seið. *a* **1225** *Ancr. R.* 194 Þe oðre, þauh we habben ham ofte, we nuteð ham nout. *a* **1250** *Owl & Night.* 1010 Hi drinkeþ milc and wei þar to Hi nute elles wat hi do. *c* **1300** *St. Brandan* 286 This bred that we eteth nou we Nuteth whanne hit is.

† **Nu·telness.** *Obs. rare* —1. [repr. OE. **nytolnesse*, f. *ne* Ne + *witol* knowing.] Ignorance.

c **1200** *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 73 Nutelnesse leteð þe mannes shrifte þe ne wot neure hwanne he sineȝeð, and swiche ben alle þo þe ne wilen listen forspel.

Nu·t-gall. [f. Nut *sb.*1 + Gall *sb.*3] A gall produced upon the Dyer's Oak (*Quercus infectoria*), used especially as a dye-stuff.

1595 Duncan *App. Etymol.* (E. D. S.) 69 *Galla*, a nutgall, or a sowters last. **1646** Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* 336 In this composition wee use only Nut-galles, that is an excrescence from the Oake. **1670–1** Narborough *Jrnl.* in *Acc. Sev. Late Voy.* I. (1694) 40 Small Nut-galls growing on the Bushes. **1716** Cheyne *Phil. Princ. Nat. Relig.* I. 250 This we evidently see in Nutgals, and the other Excrescences of the Leaves of Vegetables. **1807** T. Thomson *Chem.* (ed. 3) II. 351 Deyeux found, that a French pound of nutgalls required 96 French pints of water. **1870** Yeats *Nat. Hist. Comm.* 236 We receive nut-galls from Turkey, Greece,.. Hungary, and Sclavonia.

Nu·t-grass. [f. Nut *sb.*1 + Grass *sb.*] A variety of sedge (*Cyperus Hydra*, also *C. phymatodes*), so called from its tuberous roots.

1830 Lindley *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 306 Cyperus Hydra is said by Dr. Hamilton to be a pest to the sugar-cane plantations of the West India Islands...The planters call it Nut Grass. **1857** A. Gray *First Less. Bot.* (1866) 43 Tubers are produced, like those of the Nut-grass of the Southern States.. and of the Jerusalem Artichoke. **1860** Darlington *Amer. Weeds*, etc. 359 *C. phymatodes*, 'Nut Grass' of Florida. *Ibid.* 360 *Hydra Cyperus*, 'Nut-grass' of S. Carolina.

Nuthatch (nʌ·tˌhætʃ). Forms: 4–5 note-, 5–6 not-; 5 nutte-, 5– nut-. Also 4 -hache, 5 -hach, 7 -hatch (9 hatchet); 5 -hak(e, -hage, 6 -hagge. [f. Nut *sb.*1 The second element is connected with Hack *v.*1, Hag *v.*1, and Hatch *v.*2, but the precise development of the forms is obscure.] A small creeping bird belonging to the genus *Sitta*, so named from the peculiar way in which it breaks nuts in order to feed on the kernel. The common British species is *S. cæsia.*

c **1340** *Nominale* (Skeat) 796 Wyldegos and notehache. **14**.. *Lat.-Eng. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 598 *Nucifragus*, a notehach. **14**.. *Nom.* ibid. 702 *Hic ficedula*, a nuthatche. *c* **1440** *Promp. Parv.* 359/1 Nothak, byrde, *picus.* ?*c* **1475** *Sqr. lowe Degre* 55 The nuthake with her notes newe. **1530** Palsgr. 248/2 Nothagge, a byrde, *jaye.*

1668 Wilkins *Real Char.* II. v. § 4. 147 To the second sort of the Woodpecker kind, those other Birds may be reduced, which are..called Nuthatch. **1678** Ray *Willughby's Ornith.* 142 The Nuthatch or Nutjobber. **1752** Hill *Hist. Anim.* 503 *Sitta*, the Nuthatch; it is frequent with us. **1768** Pennant *Brit. Zool.* I. 185 The nuthatch weighs near an ounce. **1799** Southey *The Filbert* Wks. (1845) 164/1 Him may the Nut-hatch, piercing with strong bill, Unwittingly destroy. **1802** Montagu *Ornith. Dict.* (1831) 341 The Nuthatch is more expert in climbing than the woodpecker. **1854** *Orr's Circ. Sci., Org. Nat.* I. 150 The nuthatch utters a loud call, which may be heard at a considerable distance, resembling *grew, deck, deck.* **1894** Newton *Dict. Birds* 648 Corsica has a Nuthatch peculiar to itself and remarkable for its black crown.

† **Nu·then,** *adv. Obs. rare.* In 3 nuþen, nuðen. [f. *nu* Now + Then. Cf. Nowthe.] Now.

a **1225** *St. Marher.* 21 For þi deorewurðe nome ich habbe idrohen nowcin ant nume deað nuðen. *c* **1275** *Wom. Samaria* 56 in *O.E. Misc.* 85 Þe king þat wurþ, and nuþen is, and euer yete was.

Nuther, dial. varlant of Nother *conj.*

Nu·t-hook. Also 4 nutthocke. [f. Nut *sb.*1 + Hook *sb.*] A hooked stick used by persons when nutting, in order to pull down the branches of the trees. Also *fig.*

? *a* **1500** *Chester Pl., Adoration Sheph.* (E.E.T.S.) 157 To pull downe peares, appells, and plomes..I geue thie here my nvtthocke. **1618** Holyday *Marriages Arts* III. vi, I will make this Verse like a Nut-hooke, like a Nut-hooke—and then pull downe—pull down the Moone with it. **1631** Dekker *Match me in Lond.* I. C 2 b, She's the Kings nut-hooke.., that when any Filbert-tree is ripe, puls down the branest bowes to his hand. **1724** Stukely in Hone *Every-day Bk.* (1825) I. 717 The family reaching them victuals with the nut-hook.

† **b.** Applied to a beadle, constable, etc. *Obs.*

1597 Shaks. 2 *Hen. IV*, v. iv. 8 Nut-hooke, nut-hooke, you Lye. **1598** — *Merry W.* I. i. 171, I will say marry trap with you, if you runne the nut-hooks humor on me. *a* **1658** Cleveland *Count. Com. Man* Poems (1677) 99 A Sequestratour! He is the Devil's Nut-hook, the Sign with him is always in the Clutches.

Nu·tjobber. Now *dial.* [f. Nut *sb.*1 + Jobber *sb.*1] = Nuthatch.

1544 Turner *Avium Præcip.* I 3, *Sitta, Anglicè* a nut iobber. **1580** Hollyband *Treas. Fr. Tong, Grimpereau*, a little bird making warre against the Egle, as Robin red brest, some do call that birde a nut iobber. **1655** Moufet & Bennet *Health's Improv.* (1746) 185 The little Pyet, which we call a Nutjobber. **1678** [see Nuthatch]. **1713** *Phil. Trans.* XXVIII. 170 The Nut-hatch, or Nut-jobber, is not frequently to be met with in the South. **1840** *Penny Cycl.* XVI. 372/1 *Sitta Europæa*, the Common Nuthatch, or Nutjobber. **1885** Swainson *Prov. Names Birds* 35 Nut-hatch,..Nutjobber (Berks).

Nu·tlet. [f. Nut *sb.*1 + -let.] A small nut.

1856 A. Gray *Man. Bot.* (1860) 319 A deeply 4-lobed ovary.., which forms in fruit 4 little seed-like nutlets. **1873** Moggeridge *Harvesting Ants*, etc. 18 In this manner.. entire calyces, containing the nutlets of Calaminth, are gathered. **1899** C. Reid *Orig. Brit. Flora* 135 The small size of its nutlets having caused it to be overlooked till specially searched for.

Nutmeg (nʌ·tmeg). Forms: *a.* 4 note-mugge (5 not-), 4–5 -mug(e (4 notte-), 5 noot-, notmoge; 4–5 nutemug(e, 5 nutmuge, -muke, 9 *dial.* -mug, *Sc.* netmug. *β.* 5 not(e)mygge, notmyg; 6 nutmygge, -migge (nutte-), -mig. *γ.* 6 not(e)meg; nutte-, nutmegge, nutmege, 6– nutmeg, 9 *Sc.* nitmeg. [A partial translation of OF. or AF. **nois mugue* or *muge* (f. *nois* nut, and *mugue, muge* musk), an unrecorded variant of the common OF. *nois mug(u)ede, mug(u)ete, muguette, musguette*, also *muscade, muscate* (mod. F. *noix muscade*), = Prov. *notz muscada*, Sp. *nuez moscada*, It. *noce moscada*, med.L. *nux muscāta*, f. late L. *muscus* Musk. The common Romanic type is directly represented by MDu. *note muscate* (Du. *muskaatnoot*), MHG. *muscâtnuʒ* (G. *-nuss*), Sw. *muskotnöt*, Da. *muskatnöd.*]

1. A hard aromatic seed, of spheroidal form and about an inch in length, obtained from the fruit of an evergreen tree (*Myristica fragrans* or *officinalis*) indigenous to the Molucca and other East Indian islands, and largely used as a spice and in medicine.

Inferior kinds are also obtained from other species of *Myristicaceæ* in various parts of the world; and with distinguishing epithets, as *American, Brazilian, Peruvian*, the name is occasionally applied to the produce of trees belonging to other genera.

a. 13.. *K. Alis.* 6792 Notemugge, and the sedewale, On heom smullith. *c* **1386** Chaucer *Sir Thopas* 52 The licorys and the cetewale, And many a clow gilofre, And notemuge to put in ale. *c* **1400** Maundev. (Roxb.) xxi. 94 Clowes, canell, notemuges, macez...þe macez er þe huskes of þe nutemug. *c* **1440** *Anc. Cookery* in *Househ. Ordin.* (1790) 473 Take clowes, maces, spikenarde, nutmukes. **1483** *Cath. Angl.* 257/2 A Nut muge, *nux muscata.* **1877** *Holderness Gloss., Nutmug*, a nutmeg.

β. ? *a* **1366** Chaucer *Rom. Rose* 1361 Trees there were gret foisoun, That baren notes in her sesoun, Such as men notemygges calle. *c* **1440** *Promp. Parv.* 359/2 Notemygge, *nux muscata.* **1481** Caxton *Myrr.* II. x. 90 Other trees there growe..that bere notemygges. **1541** Elyot *Cast. Helthe* 27 b, Nutmigges with their swete odour comforte and dissolue. **1544** Phaer *Regim. Lyfe* (1553) B viij b, Ve must vse euery daye to eate Nuttemigges. **1570** Levins *Manip.* 119 A Nutmig, *nux myristica.*

γ. *c* **1515** *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) V. 68 For notmegys j*d.* **1542** Boorde *Dyetary* xxii. (1870) 287 Nutmeges be good for them the whiche haue colde in theyr hed. **1578** Lyte *Dodoens* 221 The rootes are like a couple of Nutmegges. **1620** Venner *Via Recta* ii. 44 Take..of Nutmegs and Cynamon of each halfe an ounce. **1688** Holme *Armoury* II. 77/2 The Nutmeg hath the middle broad, the ends sharp and bending like a waved leaf. **1731–8** Swift *Pol. Conversat.* 97 If you carry a Nutmeg in your Pocket, you'll certainly be marry'd to an old Man. **1768** *Med. Observ. & Inq.* (ed. 2) IV. 3 The bigness of a nutmeg of a digestive.. was mixed with the former poultice. **1849** Balfour *Man. Bot.* § 996 It is said that a single tree will yield on an average about six pounds of nutmegs. **1870** Yeats *Nat. Hist. Comm.* 144 The mace and the nutmeg are both valuable spices.

b. *Wooden nutmeg*, anything false or fraudulent; a fraud, cheat, deception. *U. S.*

The story to which the phrase alludes is related by Haliburton ('Sam Slick') in the *Clockmaker* (1836) Ser. I. viii. See also *Nutmeg State* in 5 below.

1830 Galt *Lawrie T.* II. i, 'I reckon, Squire Lawrie,' said he [a Vermont farmer], 'is a puffing of a parley voo, but I sells no wooden nutmegs'. **1871** De Vere *American-*

isms 620 In the press and Congress wooden nutmegs have to answer for forged telegrams, political tricks, and falsified election-returns.

2. a. *Nutmeg-tree*, the tree (see above) which produces the nutmeg.

1594 Blundevil *Exerc.* v. xi. (1636) 554 The Nutmegge tree groweth in the Ile of Bada, and differeth not much from the Peach tree. 1681 Grew *Musæum* iv. § iii. 376 The Nutmeg-Tree: Together with a Branch of the same after the life. 1712 tr. *Pomet's Hist. Drugs* I. 127 These Isles are so stock'd with Nutmeg-Trees, that it is almost incredible. 1779 Forrest *Voy. N. Guinea* 106 Went again to Long Island, in quest of the nutmeg tree. 1861 Bentley *Man. Bot.* 633 The Nutmeg tree bears pear-shaped fruits, commonly about the size of an ordinary peach.

b. *Nutmeg-grater* (see Grater [1] 1).

1695 Congreve *Love for L.* II. iii, About a little nutmeg-grater, which she had forgot in the caudlecup. 1705 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4154/4 Stolen.., a Nutmeg-Grater. 1806-7 J. Beresford *Miseries Hum. Life* ix. lvii, Just as if you were swallowing a nutmeg-grater three and a half yards long. 1847 *Nat. Cycl.* II. 882 Plates of iron perforated..so as to resemble a nutmeg-grater.

Comb. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 664 Conical projections, which give almost a nutmeg-grater-like sensation to the hand when passed over it.

3. Employed as a distinguishing name for varieties of apples, pears, peaches, etc.

1664 Evelyn *Kal. Hort.* July 70 Fruits in Prime,.. Peaches, Nutmeg, Isabella, Persian. *Ibid.* Aug. 72 Plums, .. White Nutmeg, late Pear-plum. 1731 Miller *Gard. Dict.* s.v. *Persica*, The White Nutmeg..is the first ripe Peach. *Ibid.*, The Red Nutmeg is..somewhat larger than the white. 1766 *Compl. Farmer* s.v. *Peach-tree* 5 Y 1/1 The white nutmeg peach, this is ripe in July. 2. The red nutmeg, this ripens about the beginning of August. 1860 Hogg *Fruit Man.* 5 Cockle Pippin (Nutmeg Pippin). *Ibid.* 168 Bezi de Caissoy..(Nutmeg;..Winter Poplin).

4. Used to denote colour or appearance.

c 1610 Middleton, etc. *Widow* II. i, He in the nutmeg-colour'd band. 1687 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2218/4 A new fashionable Suit near a Nutmeg colour. 1689 *Ibid.* No. 2422/4 Stolen.., a well shaped Nutmeg grey Stone Nag. 1745 *Daily Advertiser* 28 Sept. 4/1 Two Mares, one a Roan or Nutmeg colour'd Mare. 1865 *Morn. Star* 22 Feb., Liver very large and of nutmeg appearance. 1876 Bristowe *Th. & Pract. Med.* (1878) 797 The liver may consequently present something of the nutmeg character.

b. *Nutmeg liver*, a diseased condition of the liver, also called *red atrophy*. (Cf. Nutmeggy.)

1876 Bristowe *Th. & Pract. Med.* (1878) 742 The simple induration and congestion which constitute the 'nutmeg liver' may have the same effect. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV. 121 Sometimes the liver was nutmeg.

5. Misc. combs., as *nutmeg boletus, butter, oil, plantation, rock, trade, tribe*; **nutmeg-apple**, the fruit of the nutmeg-tree, containing the mace and nutmeg; **nutmeg-bird, -cowrie, -finch, -flower, -pigeon, State, -wood** (see quots.).

1871 Kingsley *At Last* v, Here and there a *nutmeg-apple has split, and shows within the delicate crimson caul of mace. 1888 Newton in *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 463 *Nutmeg-birds. 1894 — *Dict. Birds* 648 *Nutmeg bird*, the dealers' name in common use for *Munia punctulata*, but apparently of somewhat recent origin. 1899 A. H. Evans *Birds* 577 *M[unia] punctulata*, the Cowry- or Nutmeg-bird, is brown with white streaks above and spots below. 1819 *Pantologia* VIII. s.v. *Myristica*, The soil on which any large quantity of this is deposited shoots forth very speedily a *nutmeg-boletus, or mushroom. 1857 Miller *Elem. Chem., Org.* (1862) 260 Palm oil, *nutmeg butter, and cocoa-nut oil, each contain a different solid fatty acid. 1884 *Encycl. Brit.* XVII. 666/2 Nutmeg butter is a solid fatty substance of a reddish-brown colour, obtained by grinding the refuse nutmegs to a fine powder. 1815 Burrow *Conchol.* 198 *Cypræa Arabica*, *Nutmeg Cowry. 1881 *Proc. Zool. Soc.* 1002 *Nutmeg-Finch (Munia undulata). 1846-50 A. Wood *Class-bk. Bot.* 149 *Nigella*] *Sativa*, *Nutmeg Flower.., From Egypt. 1849 tr. *Mulder's Chem. Veg. & Anim. Phys.* 818 The greater number of fats..may therefore in this respect be compared with the stearopt of *nutmeg oil, C^{16} H^{16} O^2. 1891 Thorpe *Dict. Appl. Chem.* II. 712 Nutmeg-oil (syn. Oil of Mace)..is extracted by bruising the fruit and submitting the paste to the action of steam. 1895 Lydekker *Royal Nat. Hist.* IV. 368 The *Nutmeg-pigeon (*Carpophaga ænea*) common in the Indo-Burmese countries, Ceylon, and the Andamans. This bird ..lives on fruit, especially the wild nutmeg. *Ibid.* 369 The white nutmeg pigeon..is a handsome species found in the Philippine Islands [etc.]. 1800 *Asiat. Ann. Reg.* 217/2 The general idleness, and consequent neglect of the *nutmeg plantations. 1864 Tennyson *Voyage* 40 Where those long swells of breaker sweep The *nutmeg rocks and isles of clove. 1859 Bartlett *Dict. Amer.* (ed. 2) 298 **Nutmeg State*, a nickname given to the State of Connecticut, in allusion to the story that wooden nutmegs are there manufactured for exportation. 1819 *Pantologia* VIII. s.v. *Myristica*, The chief *nutmeg trade lies at Ceylon. 1830 Lindley *Introd. Bot.* 23 *Myristiceæ*, the *Nutmeg Tribe. 1866 *Treas. Bot.*, **Nutmeg-wood*, the wood of the Palmyra palm, *Borassus flabelliformis*.

Nu·tmegged, *a.* [f. prec. + -ed [2].]

1. Flavoured with nutmeg.

1743 *Lond. & Country Brew.* iv. (ed. 2) 305 Bake a Rye Loaf well nutmegg'd of two pence price. 1770 Warton *Oxford Newsman's Verses*, Your hospitable board With cold sirloin is amply stor'd, And old October, nutmeg'd nice.

2. *Path.* Affected with red atrophy.

1879 *St. George's Hosp. Rep.* IX. 149 Liver nutmegged. Apoplectic patches in the lungs.

So **Nu·tmeggy** *a.*

1843 Sir T. Watson *Princ. & Pract. Physic* II. lxxv. 519 Again and again have I met with the nutmeggy liver, strongly marked. 1871 *Ibid.* (ed. 5) II. lxix. 670 What used to be called the 'nutmeggy' liver, is simply the result of congestion of its blood-vessels.

Nu·t-oil. [Cf. Du. *nootolie* (MDu. *noit-*), Sw. *nötolja*, G. *nussöl*.] Oil obtained from nut-kernels, esp. those of the hazel and walnut, largely used in the manufacture of paints, varnishes, etc.

1664 Evelyn *Sylva* 95 For this [polishing] Lin-seed, or the sweeter Nut-oyl does the effect best. 1807 T. Thomson *Chem.* (ed. 3) II. 445 Nut-oil has been found preferable to all other oils for printers ink. 1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 897 *Nut oil*, is at first greenish coloured, but becomes pale yellow by time. 1873 Spon *Workshop Rec.* Ser. I. 102/1 Nut oil is more uncertain in its qualities than either linseed or poppy oil.

† **Nutrate.** *Obs. rare.* = Nutrative b.

The form may orig. be due to copying from a French text which had *nutratis* for *nutratifs*.

1548-77 Vicary *Anat.* viii. (1888) 62 The Midriffe was ordeyned..[to] diuide the spirituals from the nutrates. *Ibid.*, The malicious fumes reared vp from the nutrates.

† **Nu·trative,** obs. variant of Nutritive *a.*

1536 Bellenden *Chron. Scot., Vertue & Vice* vii, Ane plesand meid, Quhaire flora maid the tender blewmys to speid Throw kindlie dew and humouris nutratiue. 1562 Bullein *Bulwarke, Bk. Simples* 14 b, If they be swete thei be partly nutrative, and warme the bodie.

b. *sb.* in *pl.* The organs which supply nourishment to the body. (Cf. Nutrate.)

1548-77 Vicary *Anat.* viii. (1888) 64 They were ordeyned ..that they shuld defend y^e^ nutratiues outwardly.

Nutria (niū·triă). [a. Sp. *nutria* otter, also *lutria* = F. *loutre*, It. *lontra* :—L. *lutra*.] The skin or fur of the coypu of South America.

1836 W. Irving *Astoria* III. 278 Nutria, Vicunia, Chinchilla and a few deer skins. 1837 *Penny Cycl.* VIII. 125/2 The skins..are imported into Great Britain..under the name of Neutria or Nutria skins. 1902 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 377 The shorter finer hairs in the fur of the rabbit, hare, musk rat, nutria [etc.].

Nutribi·lity. *rare.* [See next and -ity.] Capacity of receiving nutriment.

1684 T. Burnet *The. Earth* II. iv. 206 That disposition whereby they are capable of receiving nourishment, which we may call Nutribility. *Ibid.* 207 The Nutribility of the Body depends upon a certain temperament in the parts.

† **Nu·trible,** *a. rare* [−1]. [ad. late L. *nūtrībilis*, f. *nūtrīre* : see -ible.] Nutritious.

1607 Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 525 Swines flesh also is lesse excrementall..., and therefore more nutrible.

† **Nutrica·tion.** *Obs. rare.* [ad. late L. *nūtrīcātiōn-em*, noun of action f. *nūtrīcāre* to nourish.] Nourishment.

1623 Cockeram I, *Nutrication*, nourishing. 1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* 158 Beside the teeth, the tongue of this animall is a second argument to overthrow this airie nutrication. 1657 Tomlinson *Renou's Disp.* 494 Animals..tend ..to the nutrication of our bodies.

Nutrice. *rare.* [ad. L. *nūtrīcem*, *nūtrix*: see Nourice.] Nurse.

1547 J. Harrison *Exhort. Scottes* 232 Of me your mother, your nutryce, and your bringer vp. 1880 *Times* 19 Aug. 4 Indicative of the character of the goddess as the nutrice of all the created nature.

Nutricious, obs. form of Nutritious.

Nutrient (niū·triĕnt), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. L. *nūtrient-em*, pres. pple. of *nūtrīre* to nourish.]

A. *adj.* **1.** Serving as nourishment; possessing nutrimental qualities.

1661 Lovell *Hist. Anim. & Min.* 374 A tumour..caused by humours carried out with the nutrient bloud. 1825 *Blackw. Mag.* XVII. 532 They both did hang On the same breast, and drew the nutrient stream From the same fount. 1844 *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* II. No. 12. 108 The old tree [is] thus bereft of its few remaining drops of nutrient aliment. 1876 Bristowe *Th. & Pract. Med.* (1878) 79 Do the decaying tissues attract them to themselves from the blood or extra-vascular nutrient fluid?

2. Conveying or providing nourishment.

1650 Bulwer *Anthropomet.* 171 By how much the Practique intellect is more noble then the Nutrient soul. 1798 Abernethy in *Phil. Trans.* LXXXVIII. 106 The plethoric state of the nutrient vessels of the heart. 1804 — *Surg. Obs.* 28 Some principal nutrient artery will afterwards be met with. 1861 J. R. Greene *Man. Anim. Kingd., Cœlent.* 222 The little yet known of the development of the nutrient apparatus in the *Ctenophora*.

B. *sb.* A nutritious substance.

1828-32 in Webster. 1880 *Med. Temp. Jrnl.* July 174 It is not always that nutrients can be taken in sufficient quantity.

Nutrify (niū·trifəi), *v.* [f. L. *nūtr-īre* to nourish + -(i)fy.] **a.** *trans.* To nourish. Also *fig.* **b.** *intr.* To supply nutriment.

1509 Hawes *Past. Pleas.* xvi. (Percy Soc.) 73 In which the golde is truely nutryfyde. *Ibid.* xx. 95 His propre death him selfe he nutrifyed. 1542 Boorde *Dyetary* xi. (1870) 259 The whiche haue ben nourisshed or nutryfyde with suche breade. 1595 Chapman *Banq. Sence* (1639) 3 And with fit foode her Plants did nutrifie. *c* 1645 Howell *Lett.* (1655) II. lv. 71 The wine..doth not only breed good bloud, but it nutrifieth also. 1879 *Expositor* IX. 83 That which in one quietly and pleasantly nutrifies, in another deranges and defiles.

Nutriment (niū·trimĕnt). [ad. L. *nūtrīment-um*, f. *nūtrīre* to nourish : see -ment. So F. *nutriment*, It. and Sp. *nutri-*, *nudrimento*.]

1. That which nourishes; food, nourishment; nourishing food.

1541 Elyot *Cast. Helthe* 38 b, Than must be withdrawen and minished some parte of that nutriment. 1558 Bp. Watson *Sev. Sacram.* vii. 36 Our dayly and special nutrimentes of breade and wyne. *a* 1610 Healey *Cebes* (1636) 134 Now hee..purgeth away the causes and nutriment of the maladie. 1667 Milton *P. L.* v. 496 From these corporal nutriments perhaps Your bodies may at last turn all to Spirit. 1724-5 Swift *Rec. to restore Stella's Youth*, The Nutriment will from within Round all your Body plump your Skin. 1795 Burke *On Scarcity* Wks. VII. 384 It is impossible that he should continue that abundant nutriment. 1855 Bain *Senses & Int.* I. ii. § 24 The action of the nutriment supplied to the body.

b. Without article.

1607 Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 358 All hard things which are dissolved with difficulty, do retain their force of nutriment longer. 1667 Milton *P. L.* VII. 408 Or in thir Pearlie shells at ease, attend Moist nutriment. 1751 Johnson *Rambler* No. 85 ¶ 5 Observing the proportion between nutriment and labour, and keeping the body in a healthy state. 1821 Byron *Sardanap.* I. ii, They banqueted upon your gods, And died for lack of further nutriment. 1881 Mivart *Cat* 22 It..both helps to keep the body warm and serves as a store of nutriment.

c. In figurative applications.

1612 Rowlands *Knave of Harts* (Hunterian Cl.) 29, I feede on eails, they are my nutriment. 1624 Gataker *Transubst.* 160 The bread and wine themselves are signes of spirituall nutriment, not nutrition. 1726 Swift *Stella's Birthday*, Is not Virtue in Mankind The Nutriment, that feeds the Mind? 1791 Cowper *Four Ages* 36 Myst'ries are food for angels; they digest With ease, and find them nutriment. 1849 Robertson *Serm.* Ser. I. ii. (1866) 22 In the soil of the heart is found all the nutriment of spiritual life. 1873 Dixon *Two Queens* I. i. I. 2 To feel that Homer and Thucydides might yield them richer nutriment than any of their Lives of Saints.

† **2.** The act of nourishing or fostering. *Obs.*—[1]

1535 Cromwell in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) I. 437 The contynuance and nutryment of discorde and trouble amonge the kings subiectts.

Nutrimental (niūtrime·ntăl), *a.* [ad. late L. *nūtrīmentāl-is* : see prec. and -al.] Having the qualities of nutriment or food; nutritious, nourishing; also, conveying nourishment.

1483 Caxton *Gold. Leg.* 231/3 Thre thynges ben founden in seed germynyng, that is to wete, natural hete, humour nutrimental, and reson of seed. 1495 *Trevisa's Barth. De P. R.* xvii. xx, The humoure nutrimentall of boxe is full gleymy and cleuynge togyders. 1548-77 Vicary *Anat.* ii. (1888) 21 The Veyne is a vessel of blood nutrimental. 1578 Banister *Hist. Man* I. 22 Their holes likewise..give entraunce..to the nutrimentall vesselles. 1656 Ridgley *Pract. Physick* 301 It may be made from nutrimental Juyce, thickned and hardned. *c* 1682 J. Collins *Salt & Fishery* 68 It..consumes the goodness or nutrimental part of the Meat. 1747 Hanvey *Medit. & Contemp.* (1818) 367 His bounty covers the fields with a profusion of nutrimental treasure. 1828 *Blackw. Mag.* XXIII. 589 Mutton broth, that exquisite, assuaging, nutrimental luxury. 1901 *Law Jrnl.* 15 June 314/1 Certain nutrimental combinations have to be plainly labelled..by the seller.

† **Nutrimented,** *a. Obs. rare.* [Cf. prec. and -ed [1].] With *well* : Well-bred.

1590 Greene *Orl. Fur.* (1599) 13 Come hither my well nutrimented knaue, whom takest thou me to be? 1594 ? Greene *Selimus* Wks. (Grosart) XIV. 267 A good well nutrimented lad.

† **Nutrimentive,** *a. Obs.* [f. Nutriment + -ive.] = Nutrimental.

1610 W. Folkingham *Art of Survey* I. x. 24 It pinguifies the soyle, and imparts to the seede some secret nutrimentiue power. 1633 T. Nash *Quaternio* 45 The chyle, and what part thereof is nutrimentiue. 1683 Tavon *Way to Health* 197 It must be confessed that the Nutrimentive Quality is contained in the fine Flour.

† **Nutrite,** *v. Obs. rare* [−1]. [f. ppl. stem of L. *nūtrīre*.] *trans.* (See Nutrition 1 c.)

1657 Tomlinson *Renou's Disp.* 703 Lithargie should be levigated in Oyl, and nutrited on a slow fire.

† **Nutri·tial,** *a. Obs. rare.* [f. L. *nūtrīti-us*: see -al.] Connected with nursing or rearing.

1616 Chapman *Homer's Hymn Diana* 2 Diana..had nutritiall rights With her borne-Brother, the farr-shooting Sunn. 1650 Bulwer *Anthropomet.* 83 These Nutritial Eunuches did conform the Nose..with Leaden Plates.

Nutrition (niutri·ʃən). [ad. L. type **nūtrītiōn-em*, noun of action f. *nūtrīre* to nourish. So F. *nutrition*, Sp. *nutricion*, It. *nutrizione*.]

1. The action or process of supplying, or of receiving, nourishment.

1615 Crooke *Body of Man* 727 The bowels are mostwhat alike in all, both for Nutrition, Generation, Life and Sense. 1682 Grew *Anat. Pl.* Introd. 3 All these being formed, by continual Nutrition still to be increased. 1704 F. Fullea *Med. Gymn.* (1711) 24 That the Spirits..are concern'd in Nutrition is plain enough. 1803 Malthus *Popul.* iv. i. (1806) II. 304 The kind of food, and the mode of preparing it, best suited to the purposes of nutrition. 1845 Dav tr. *Simon's Anim. Chem.* I. 161 The metamorphosis of the plasma during the nutrition of every form of tissue. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 178 Nutrition and functional activity are interdependent, the two falling off together.

b. In figurative uses.

1551 Cranmer *Answ. Gardiner* 42 Our spiritual generation and our spiritual nutrition be..obscure and hyd vnto vs. 1624 Gataker *Transubst.* 160 The spirituall nutrition of soules living by grace. 1651 Hobbes *Leviath.* II. xxiv. 127 The Nutrition of a Common-wealth consisteth, in the Plenty, and Distribution of Materials conducing to Life. 1879 *Fortn. Rev.* Nov. 687 The self-preservative instinct of humanity rejects such art as does not contribute to its intellectual nutrition and moral sustenance.

† **c.** (See quot., and cf. Nutrite *v.*) *Obs. rare.*

1612 Woodall *Surg. Mate* Wks. (1653) 273 *Nutrition* is the permistion of humidity by little and little, for the alteration of the quality of the medicament. 1727-38 [see Nutritum].

2. That which nourishes; food, nutriment.

1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 671 Any thing that hath the nature of the superfluity or excrement of nutrition. *c* 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* XIII. 298 Aiax..to none alive will yeeld..whose life takes Ceres nutritions. 1732 POPE *Ess. Man* II. 64 Fix'd like a plant on his peculiar spot, To draw nutrition, propagate, and rot. 1758 J. WOOD *Suppl. to Treat. Farriery* 25 A Putrefaction of the stagnated Juices, whence the Parts are essentially deprived of all manner of Nutrition. 1868 PEARD *Water-farm.* ix. 97 These articles of nutrition materially assist the growth of the infant brood. 1894 H. DRUMMOND *Ascent Man* 272 Chemistry is devoting itself to the experiment of manufacturing nutrition.

Hence **Nutri·tional** *a.*, **Nutri·tionary** *a.*

a 1852 MACGILLIVRAY *Nat. Hist. of Dee Side* (1855) 462 That general condition of nutritionary activity, which is produced by the development of the reproductive powers of the system. 1869 E. A. PARKES *Pract. Hygiene* (ed. 3) 493 That these acids are most important nutritional agents no one can doubt. 1878 T. BRYANT *Pract. Surg.* I. 558 Incapable of further growth or nutritional change.

Nutritious (niŭtri·ʃəs), *a.* Also 8–9 **nutricious** (*rare*), 8 -ceous. [ad. L. *nūtrītius, nūtrīcius*, f. *nūtrīc-, nūtrīx* nurse: see -ITIOUS [1]. So It., Sp., and Pg. *nutricio.*]

1. Serving as nourishment; capable of supplying nutriment.

1665 *Phil. Trans.* I. 75 Whether there be a Nervous and Nutritious Juice? 1679 RUSDEN *Further Discov. Bees* 51 They gather nutritious or augmentative matter. 1708 J. PHILIPS *Cyder* II. 192 O, may'st thou often see Thy furrows whiten'd by the woolly rain Nutriceous. 1781 COWPER *Retirem.* 43 Draining its nutritious pow'rs to feed Their noxious growth. 1819 BYRON *Juan* II. xcix, Which..to their mind Proved even still a more nutritious matter. 1841 LANE *Arab. Nts.* I. 58 As dates are very nutritious,..they are an excellent article of provision for travellers. 1871 NAPHEYS *Prev. & Cure Dis.* I. ii. 60 Salt meat is one-third less nutritious than fresh.

b. *transf.* Of taste.

1862 DARWIN *Orchids* v. 220 This cavity does not secrete nectar, but its walls are thick and fleshy, and have a slightly sweet nutritious taste.

2. Conveying nourishment. *rare.*

1741 MONRO *Anat. Nerves* (ed. 3) 130 The Holes for the Passage of the nutritious Vessels of these Bones are very conspicuous. 1831 R. KNOX *Cloquet's Anat.* 688 One of them..enters the nutritious canal of that bone.

Hence **Nutri·tiously** *adv.*; **Nutri·tiousness**, 'nourishing quality' (Bailey, vol. II, 1727).

1753 TORRIANO *Midwifery* 12 As if it was designed nutritiously by Nature to assist the Child. 1831 *Fraser's Mag.* III. 406 How generous must he the vegetation of the affections when nutritiously manured by..hospitality! 1877 *Encycl. Brit.* VII. 201 The nutritiousness of food depends on digestibility and concentration.

Nutritive (niŭ·trĭtiv), *a.* and *sb.* Also 5–6 **nutrytive** (5 -tiff, -tyf), 5 **nutritiff**, -tyf; 6–7 **nutritiue.** [a. F. *nutritif, -ive*, = Sp., Pg., and It. *nutritivo*, ad. med.L. *nūtrītīv-us*, f. ppl. stem of *nūtrīre* to nourish: see -IVE.]

A. *adj.* 1. Having the property of nourishing; nutritious, nutrimental.

c 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 195 Which sesoun is to flewme nutritiff. *c* 1440 — *Hors, Shepe & G.* 376 Holsom is moton:..Ful nutritiff aftir a gret accesse. 1491 CAXTON *Vitas Patr.* (W. de W. 1495) I. xl. 60 The physycyens counseylled her that she sholde ete metes more nutrytyf. 1566 DRANT *Horace, Sat.* I. iv. G viij, Egges longe and whyte be nutritiue muche better then the rounde. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 567 The broth of Limpins, Muscles, Cockles and Wilkes, is verie nutritive, and maketh them fat that use it. 1667 *Phil. Trans.* II. 513 The Humours..in all Animals are Nutritive. 1704 F. FULLER *Med. Gymn.* (1711) 85, I had reason to believe it did in some Measure prove Nutritive. 1748 HARTLEY *Observ. Man* I. iii. § 2. 342 We infer that the Bread before us is nutritive and wholesome. 1842 COMBE *Digestion* 63 Both the chyle and the venous blood are converted into red, arterial, or nutritive blood. 1881 TYNDALL *Ess. Floating Matter Air* 215 In the case of very nutritive infusions..the interval ought to be shorter.

fig. 1654 JER. TAYLOR *Real Pres.* 61 He is nutritive in all the ways of spiritual manducation. 1868 BROWNING *Ring & Bk.* IX. 19 Throughout our city nutritive of arts.

2. Of, pertaining to, or concerned in, nutrition.

c 1400 tr. *Secreta Secret., Gov. Lordsh.* 96 Of strengthe nutrityf, and infirmatyf, and sustantyf. 1546 LANGLEY tr. *Pol. Verg. de Invent.* I. iii. 5 The Riuer Nilus..hath in it selfe naturally a certain power nutrytiue. 1650 BULWER *Anthropomet.* 171 Admonishing us of alition, and the work of the Nutritive Faculty. 1658 MANTON *Expos. Jude* ii, Life hath a nutritive appetite joined with it. *a* 1716 SOUTH *Serm.* (1744) IX. ii. 44 The hidden nutritive power of the Divine Benediction being withheld. 1756 BURKE *Subl. & B.* Introd., The qualities which they possess for nutritive or medicinal purposes. 1849 BALFOUR *Man. Bot.* § 43 These Compound Organs may be divided into Nutritive, or those concerned in the nourishment of the plant. 1871 T. R. JONES *Anim. Kingd.* (ed. 4) 79 The circular marginal canal into which the nutritive tubes, radiating from the stomach, empty themselves. 1894 H. DRUMMOND *Ascent Man* 326 Defective nutritive conditions produce males.

3. Giving or providing nourishment.

a 1548 HALL *Chron., Rich. III* 55 b, Suche as made warre for the welthe and tuycyon of ther awne naturall and nutritive countrey. 1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 1304 The Stoicks..holde that the generative and nutritive Spirit, is Bacchus. 1667 FLAVEL *Saint Indeed* (1754) 40 He was pitied by a Lord of Italy, who..wished him to be more careful and nutritive of his person. 1881 LANKESTER in *Encycl. Brit.* XII. 554/2 In the *Siphonophora*, in addition to nutritive (hydriform) persons and generative (medusiform) persons, there may be rows of swimming-bells.

B. *sb.* A nourishing article of food.

a 1440 BURGH *Cato* 617 Reffressheth you with this holsom diete...To your persone me thynkith it ful meete For to receyue such a nutrytiue. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. Index. 1638 RAWLEY tr. *Bacon's Life & Death* (1650) 50 Things alike in Substance, to the Body of Man, are, Nutritives; Fat Fleshes. 1699 BURNET 39 *Art.* XXV. 283 An abstinence which is made up with other delicious and inflaming Nutritives. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 414 All are found in some respects to be faulty as nutritives.

Hence **Nu·tritively** *adv.*; **Nu·tritiveness.**

1727 BAILEY (vol. II.), Nutritiveness. 1847 in WEBSTER. 1856 *Orr's Circ. Sci., Pract. Chem.* 341 Pigeons and fowls, however, surpass beef in nutritiveness. 1889 *Harper's Mag.* June 60/2 He had been eating nutritively of the tree of artistic knowledge.

† **Nutritor.** *Obs. rare* [−1]. [a. L. *nūtrītor*, agent-noun f. *nūtrīre.*] Nourisher.

1677 GALE *Crt. Gentiles* IV. 449 Creator and Vivificator and Nutritor of althings that are under him.

Nu·tritory, *a.* [ad. late L. *nūtrītōri-us*: see -ORY.] Concerned in or pertaining to nutrition.

1883 *Harper's Mag.* June 125/1 A class of ailments which may be described as general nutritory perversions.

† **Nutri·tum.** *Obs. rare.* [L. *nūtrītum*, neut. pa. pple. of *nūtrīre.*] (See quots.)

1727–38 CHAMBERS *Cycl., Nutritum*, in pharmacy, is a denomination given to a desiccative, cooling unguent, prepared by the agitation and nutrition of litharge of gold with oil and vinegar, or the juice of solanum, in a mortar. 1741 *Compl. Fam. Piece* I. i. 81 Add..as much Oil of Elder as will serve to reduce the Mixture into the Form of a Nutritum or Ointment.

† **Nu·trituре.** *Obs.* [ad. late L. *nūtrītūra*, f. ppl. stem of *nūtrīre*: see -URE. So It. *nut-, nud-, nodritura.*]

1. Nourishment, nutrition.

1557 NORTH *Gueuara's Diall Pr.* (1619) 698/2 [The trees] instead of meate receave into them for nutriture the heate of the Sunne. 1567 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 515 Na thing requisite for his nutriture..and preservatioun salbe foryot. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XVIII. xvii, The root is contented with lesse nutriture. 1666 G. HARVEY *Morb. Ang.* XX. (1672) 243 Nature..rather hungers for a greater supply of nutriture. 1740 CHEYNE *Regimen* p. ii, The Supply and Nutriture of the Fluids and Solids must pass..through them.

b. Condition as to nourishment. *rare* [−1].

1620 VENNER *Via Recta* iii. 51 If it be of the age betweene one and two moneths, and competently fat, then it is of an excellent temperament, and nutriture.

2. Fostering; careful rearing or bringing up.

1577 HARRISON *Desc. Brit.* II. xx. in *Holinshed* 210 Their continuall nutriture and cherishing of such homeborne and forren simples. 1671 PANTON *Spec. Juv.* 282 Leave them a stock of Vertue and good Nutriture to set up withall in the World. 1684 BUNYAN *Pilgr.* II. 158 Besides, here they shall be sure to haue good Nutriture and Admonition.

† **Nu·trix.** *Obs. rare.* [L.] Nurse, rearer.

1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) I. 147 Cappadocia is a region nutrix of horses. *Ibid.* 273 The cite callede Parisius floryschethe there, the nutrix of vertu.

† **Nutrure.** *Obs. rare* [−1]. = NUTRITURE.

a 1400 *Stockholm Med. MS.* ii. 960 in *Anglia* XVIII. 330 It drywyth awey fowle nutrures, And distroith venym.

Nu·tshell. Forms: 3 **nutescale, -scell**; 4 **noteschale, -schell, notscel**; 6 **nut**(te)**shale**, 5 **nutschell**, 6 **-shel**; 6 **nutte-**, 6–7 **nutt-**, 7– **nutshell.** [f. NUT *sb.*[1] + SHALE *sb.*, SHELL *sb.* Cf. MDu. *noot-, notescale, no*(*o*)*tscael* (Kilian *notschaele*), MSw. *notskal* (Sw. *nötskal*; Da. *nöddeskal*), MHG. *nuȝschal* (G. *nussschale*).]

1. The hard exterior covering within which the kernel of a nut is enclosed.

c 1205 LAY. 29265 Þa bi-sohte he nute-scalen and lette þe curneles ut draȝen. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 141 He wroot alle þe gestes of Troye sotelliche, as it myȝte be closed in a note schale. *c* 1450 HOLLAND *Howlat* 788 [He could make] Nobillis of nut schellis, and siluer of sand. 1562 TURNER *Herbal* (1568) 133 Vf nutt shelles be burnt and made lyke asshes. 1577 *F. de Lisle's Legendarie* Iviij, His sonne Henrie, yet more meete to play with nutshales, then to handle a sword. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* I. ii. 50 I'le warrant him for drowning, though the Ship were no stronger then a Nutt-shell. 1687 SETTLE *Refl. Dryden* 6 For who believes that one Magot waits for the Nutshel another has left. 1771 SMOLLETT *Humph. Cl.* (1815) 110 We embarked..in a wherry, so light and slender, that we looked like so many fairies sailing in a nut-shell. 1832 MARRYAT *N. Forster* iii, He swam nut-shells in a puddle. 1870 MISS BRIDGMAN *R. Lynne* I. iv. 47 Miniature fleets of nutshells.

† b. = NUT *sb.* 2. *Obs. rare* [−1].

c 1530 in Gutch *Coll. Cur.* II. 299 Item twoo Nutte Shells wheche I dyd receive amongst the Plate that came from Sent Albonnes, poiss. vij oz.

2. As an example of something without value.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 23828 Þair spede es noght a nute-scell [*Edinb.* Þam sped noht worþe a not-scel]. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 20 Bot al nys worth a note schale. *a* 1529 SKELTON *Agst. Venemous Tongues* Wks. 1843 I. 135 All is not worth a couple of nut shalis. *a* 1618 RALEIGH *Apology* 21 Mr. Candish.., when he was without hope,..met a ship.., a thousand pounds to a Nutshell. 1687 R. L'ESTRANGE *Answ. Dissenter* 26 'Tis the World to a Nut-shell, if he be one of That Party, that he is likewise One of Those Managers. 1697 COLLIER *Ess. Mor. Subj.* I. (1703) 115 Dont stake your life against a nutshell.

b. As an example of something extremely small in size or scanty in amount.

1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* II. ii. 260 O God, I could be bounded in a nutshell, and count my selfe a King of infinite space. 1675 TRAHERNE *Chr. Ethics* 442 A magnanimous soul is alwaies awake. The whole globe of the earth is but a nutshell in comparison of its enjoyments. 1786 COWPER *Priv. Corresp.* (1824) II. 72 As soon as breakfast is over, I retire to my nutshell of a summer-house. 1822 SCOTT *Nigel* xxiii, Sufficient single beer, old Pillory—and, as I take it, brewed at the rate of a nutshell of malt to a butt of Thames. 1846 DICKENS *Cricket on Hearth* ii, A little cracked nutshell of a wooden house. 1861 ALEXANDER *Gosp. Jesus Christ* xv. 202 Seeing..the world reduced to a nutshell and our own house or village swelled into a world.

3. In allusions to the copy of Homer's *Iliad* mentioned by Pliny (*Nat. Hist.* VII. xxi) which was small enough to be enclosed in the shell of a nut.

1579 GOSSON *Sch. Abuse* (Arb.) 16 The whole worlde is drawen in a mappe; Homers Iliades in a nutte shel. 1704 SWIFT *T. Tub* vii, I have sometimes heard of an Iliad in a Nut-shell. 1843 CARLYLE *Past & Pres.* (1858) 137 It is an Iliad in a nutshell. 1865 *Times* 29 Apr., A whole Iliad of finance in a comparative nutshell. 1881 *Dr. Gheist, An Autobiog. fr. Midlands* 143 In short, it is the iliad of the controversy in a nutshell.

4. In phrases denoting great condensation, brevity, or limitation.

1693 W. FREKE *Sel. Ess.* i. 8 Can we reduce the schoolmen to a Nut-shell? 1760 *Phil. Trans.* LII. 67 The groundwork I present would lie in a nut-shell. 1840 DICKENS *Barn. Rudge* xxix, The simplest thing in the world. It lies in a nut-shell. 1852 MISS YONGE *Cameos* (1877) I. xxi. 149 The difference was said to lie in a nutshell, but..Becket was inflexible. 1870 J. H. NEWMAN *Gram. Assent.* II. viii. 300 A great complex argument, which..cannot by any ingenuity..be packed into a nutshell.

b. With *in.* In a few words; in a brief or condensed statement.

1831 T. L. PEACOCK *Crotchet Castle* ii, There, sir, is political economy in a nutshell. 1841 THACKERAY *Sec. Funeral Napoleon* ii, In a nutshell, you have the whole matter. 1879 BROWNING *Ned Bratts* 210 You have my history in a nutshell.

5. *attrib.*, as *nutshell brain, sort, truth.*

1704 *New Pract. Piety* 38 Metaphysical Speculations of Nutshell Brains. 1852 J. H. NEWMAN *Scope Univ. Educ.* Pref. p. xxvi, Extemporizing his lucid views, leading ideas, and nutshell truths for the breakfast-table. 1872 BLACK *Adv. Phaeton* xxiii, The padded uniform may enclose a nutshell sort of heart.

Hence **Nu·tshell** *v.*, to sum up in a few words; to state concisely.

1892 *Nat. Observer* 17 Dec. 107/2 To add that the hour-glass or Victorian type of figures vies with the high-waisted or Empire is to nutshell the extreme ideals of the moment. 1900 *Speaker* 14 Apr. 45/1 He thus nutshells the tragic fate of the Stuarts.

Nu·ttallite. *Min.* [See quot. 1824.] A white or brown silicate of aluminium and calcium, occurring in Massachusetts.

1824 BROOKE in *Ann. Phil.* VII. 367, I have therefore named it Nuttallite, out of respect to the gentleman who first brought it to this country. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVI. 374/2 *Nuttalite*, a mineral which occurs crystallized. Primary form a square prism. 1896 CHESTER *Dict. Min.* 191.

† **Nutte,** *v. Obs.* [OE. *nyttian*, = OHG. *nuzzôn* (G. *nutzen*); cf. OHG. *nuzzan* (G. *nützen*), MDu. *nutten*, MSw. *nytja* (Sw. *nyttja*, Da. *nytte*) to use, be of use, ON. *nytja* to milk.] *trans.* To use, make use of. (See also NITTE.)

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 184 Þises þu nytta ge on æfenne ge on underne. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 23 He binam him alle þe mihte þe he hadde nutted fram þe biginninge of þe worelde. *a* 1225 *St. Marher.* 1 Alle cristene men..swa ȝef ha nutteð hare nome baueð yernet þe lif þe echeliche ilesteð. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 370 Bute þe on was iwuned, uor his kolde mawe uorto nutten hote spices.

Nu·tted, *a.* [f. NUT *sb.*[1] + -ED [2].]

1. Provided with, fastened by, a nut. Also *fig.*

1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. xv. (Roxb.) 30/2 An anchor reuersed, sans stock, the Arme nutted and edged. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 563 The ends of the abutments are also made of iron, screwed, or nutted, at each of the ends. 1830 *Examiner* 308/2 All her feelings..seem to have been screwed down and nutted. 1885 *Bazaar* 30 Mar. 1272/3 Bicycle, U rim, nutted spokes.

2. Abounding in, prolific of, nuts. *rare* [−1].

1859 WHITTIER *Kenoza Lake* 14 The nutted woods we wandered through.

Nutter (nv·tər). [f. NUT *sb.*[1] or *v.* + -ER [1].] One who gathers nuts.

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 257/2 A Nutter, *nuclearius.* 1826 in Cobbett *Rur. Rides* (1885) II. 95, I had some talk with some of these nutters. 1864 TENNYSON *En. Ard.* 8 And a hazlewood, By autumn nutters haunted.

Nuttery (nv·tĕri). [f. NUT *sb.*[1] + -ERY.]

1. A place in which nut-trees grow.

1824 MISS MITFORD *Village* Ser. I. (1863) 50 In another moment he has mounted the bank, and is in the midst of the nuttery.

2. A place in which nuts are stored.

1881 *Graphic* 15 Oct. 402/1 Busy rats, who carry off and also establish a nuttery. 1882 *Cent. Mag.* XXV. 300 They [mice] generally have a well-filled granary or nuttery.

† **Nutting,** *sb. Obs. rare* [−1]. (See quot.)

1606 *Wily Beguiled* C iv b, Sweet Pegge.., comely Pegge, my nutting, my sweeting, my Love, my Doue.

Nu·tting, *vbl. sb.* [f. NUT *v.* + -ING [1].]

1. The action of gathering nuts.

1824 MISS MITFORD *Village* Ser. I. (1863) 50 Manage it how you may, nutting is scrambling work. 1861 GEO. ELIOT *Silas M.* i. 2 Who would often leave off their nutting or bird's-nesting to peep in at the window of the stone cottage. 1884 *Harper's Mag.* Sept. 615/2 Ozias found Prudy doing anything but nutting.

2. *attrib.*, as *nutting-crook, -stick, -time*, etc.

1723 *Case of Edw. Collins* 8 In nutting-time..he spent the Sundays..in his woods. 1799 WORDSW. *Nutting* 7 A nutting-crook in hand. *a* 1849 H. COLERIDGE *Ess.* (1851)

II. 350 Let no one make his nutting-stick like a pastoral staff. 1867 *Englishwom. Dom. Mag.* Sept. 475 Nutting day is still kept up as a rural holiday in September. 1873 'Susan Coolidge' *What Katy Did at Sch.* x. 174 The other day we had a nutting picnic.

Nu·tting, *ppl. a.* [Cf. prec.] Nut-gathering. 1821 Clare *Vill. Minstr.* I. 88 Now a scene of rural glee, With many a nutting swain and maid.

Nu·ttish, *a.* [f. Nut *sb.*[1]] Nut-like. 1893 *Sat. Rev.* 11 Mar. 258/1 They ought to live entirely upon nuts, or, failing nuts, such food as is most nuttish in its nature.

Nu·t-tree. [f. Nut *sb.*[1] + Tree *sb.*] A tree that bears nuts; *esp.* the hazel (*Corylus Avellana*). 1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 30 Phillis in the same throwe Was schape into a Notetre. *c* 1400 Maundev. (1839) xxviii. 289 There ben Note Trees, that beren Notes all grete as a Mannes Hed. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 257/2 Nuttre, *corulus*. 1567 Maplet *Gr. Forest* 53 b, The Nut tree may be called and that very aptlie, an iniurious and vnquiet neighbour. 1598 W. Phillip tr. *Linschoten* 8 Therein growe many Indian palmes or nut trees. 1662 J. Davies tr. *Mandelslo's Trav.* (1669) 119 The Mangas grow on Trees not much unlike our Nut-trees. 1726 Leoni *Alberti's Archit.* I. 27/1 The Nut Tree..is extremely tractable, and good for.. Boards or Planks. 1839-40 W. Irving *Wolfert's Roost* (1855) 35 The squirrel, from his nut-tree, would gaze at me for an instant, with sparkling eye.

attrib. 1601 Holland *Pliny* I. 437 Those plums..that are graffed in Nut-tree stocks. 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Nuciprunum*, a Plum grafted on a Nut-tree Stock. 1882 W. F. Kirby *Europ. Butterflies & M.* (1903) Plate lv, *Nepticula Microtheriella*—Nut-tree Pigmy.

Nutty (nv·ti), *a.* [f. Nut *sb.*[1] + -y [1].]

1. Abounding in, or productive of, nuts. 1662–7 Cowley *Of Plants* Wks. (Grosart) II. 276/1 The Hazel.., upon whose nutty Top A Squirrel sits. 1859 Sala *Tw. Round Clock* (1861) 271 Barcelona (which nutty seaport I have never visited). 1870 Miss Broughton *Red as Rose* I. 268 The nutty, briary hedgerows.

2. Nut-like; having a taste like nuts. 1836–41 Brande *Chem.* (ed. 5) 1132 Fine olive oil is extremely bland and tasteless, or at least has only a slight nutty flavour. 1853 Wolff *Pict. Sp. Life* 38 Next comes *orchata de chufas*, white creamy nutty liquid, soothing the soul. 1879 Jefferies *Wild Life in S. Co.* 211 Their flavour when taken from the bush is sweet, juicy, 'nutty'.

b. Pleasant, rich, full of zest or flavour. 1823 *New Monthly Mag.* VIII. 498 Supper, drink, and nutty mirth succeeded. 1894 *Current Hist.* IV. 475 It has, too, Mr. Blackmore's characteristic, leisurely, nutty humor in abundance.

c. *slang.* Spicy or piquant in interest. 1894 Sala *London up to Date* 329 The case, he incidentally adds, promises to be a 'nutty' one.

3. *slang.* **a.** Amorous, fond; enthusiastic. Usu. const. *upon* (a person). 1821 Egan *Life in London* I. 223 The Hon. Tom Dashall ..was getting..rather nutty in that quarter of the globe. 1823 *Grose's Dict. Vulgar T.* (Egan) s.v. *Nuts*, A person who conceives a strong inclination for another of the opposite sex, is said to be quite nutty, or nuts upon him or her. 1828 *Sporting Mag.* XXII. 174 The Strand-lane and Lambeth men became quite nutty upon their brethren, and offered to back them at any odds. 1840 *Fraser's Mag.* XXII. 583 Being so nutty upon one another.

b. Queer; not right in the head. 1901 *Pall Mall G.* 27 May 6/2 Patterson declared that Philbrook was 'nutty' in regard to the question of fraud, and that he was crazy over the idea that everybody opposed to him was dishonest.

4. *slang.* Smart, spruce. 1823 Byron *Juan* XI. xix, Black-eyed Sal (his blowing), So prime, so swell, so nutty, and so knowing. 1834 Ainsworth *Rookwood* III. v. II. 346 But my nuttiest blowen, one fine day,..To the beaks did her fancy man betray. 1839 Reynolds *Pickw. Abroad* xxvi. 224 And the beak wore his nuttiest wig.

5. *Comb.*, as *nutty-brown, -flavoured, -looking.* 1828 *Sporting Mag.* XXIII. 33 Master Tommy, who by the bye is a devilish nutty looking lad. 1861 Thackeray *Four Georges* iv. (1862) 185 One of Truefitt's best nutty-brown wigs. 1874 Garrod & Baxter *Mat. Med.* 251 With a clear cinnamon-brown seed-coat, and a bland, sweetish, nutty-flavoured kernel.

†Nu·tual, *a. Obs. rare.* [f. L. *nūtus* nod, gesture.] Expressed merely by a gesture. 1607 *Scholast. Disc. agst. Antichrist* I. iii. 160 Bellarmine ..teacheth that besides mentall and vocall prayer, the Crosse is a Nutuall prayer by him selfe. *Ibid.* 161 So then the nutuall prayer of the Crosse wanteth inward deuotion.

Nu·t-weevil. *Ent.* [f. Nut *sb.*[1] + Weevil. Cf. Sw. *nötvifvel.*] A small beetle (*Balaninus nucum*), which deposits its eggs in green hazel- and filbert-nuts. 1802 Bingley *Anim. Biogr.* (1813) III. 134 The Nut Weevil..is produced from the white grub that we often find living in the interior of the hazel nut. 1838 *Penny Cycl.* X. 269/2 Great quantities of filberts are rendered useless by being attacked by the nut-weevil. 1863 J. G. Wood *Illustr. Nat. Hist.* III. 475 The maggots that are so frequently found in nuts..are the larvæ of the Nut weevil.

Nuwa(u)b, variants of Nawab, nabob.

Nuwe, obs. form of New *a.*

‖ Nux vomica (nʌks vǫ·mikă). [med.L., f. *nux* nut + fem. of **vomicus*, f. *vomĕre* to vomit.]

1. The seed contained in the pulpy fruit of an East Indian tree (*Strychnos Nux-vomica*), from which the poison strychnia is obtained. 1578 Langham *Gard. Health* 437 Nvx vomica either alone or with salt, causeth a strong vomite. 1584 R. Scot *Discov. Witchcr.* xiii. xiii. (1886) 252 Into whom he had thrust a dramme of *Nux vomica*, or some other such poison. 1656 Earl Monm. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* II. xc. (1674) 244 The Arsnick, and Nux Vomica of those torturing plaisters. 1693 *Phil. Trans.* XVII. 763 The Publisher gives us 4 sorts of *Caniram*, all a-kin to the *Nux Vomica* of our Shops. 1711 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4845/4, 2 Bales qt. each 5 C. of Nux Vomica. 1778 *R. James' Diss. Fevers* (ed. 8) 48 Cutting in small pieces some of the crow fig, commonly called *nux vomica*. 1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) I. 627 The nux vomica and Ignatius's bean..combine, with an intense bitter, a most active narcotic virtue. 1860 Piesse *Lab. Chem. Wonders* 63 The fearful and fatal powers of nux-vomica have rendered it well known throughout the world. 1879 *St. George's Hosp. Rep.* IX. 157 She was in hospital for eleven weeks, under treatment by nux vomica and valerian.

attrib. 1861 Bentley *Man. Bot.* 591 The Koochla tree produces Nux Vomica seeds, so well known for their powerfully poisonous effects. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 1106/1 The alkaloid..had been derived from nux-vomica bark. *Ibid.*, The wood of the nux-vomica tree is hard and very bitter.

2. The tree producing the nux-vomica seeds. 1876 Harley *Mat. Med.* (ed. 6) 511 Nux-vomica, is a small tree, with a crooked stem, and corymbs of greenish white flowers. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* II. 66 Strychnine..is procured from the bruised seeds of the *nux vomica*, which are imported from..Ceylon.

Hence **Nux-vo·micize** *v.*, to adulterate by infusing nux vomica. 1866 Blackmore *Cradock Nowell* xlviii, Stuff..which the publicans nux vomicize up to proof.

†Nuȝe, nuȝu, *adv. Obs. rare.* [Cf. OE. *nú gén(a.]* Now, even now. *c* 1200 Ormin 9961 Forr nuȝu wat he well all hu He shall all mannkinn demenn. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1328 Abrahain ðat swerd ut-droȝ, And was redi to slon him nuȝe.

Nuysible, -yble, obs. forms of Nuisible.

‖ Nuzzer (nv·zəɹ). Also 8 **nuzr,** *pl.* **nuzzies,** 9 **nuz(z)ur, nazur.** [Urdū (Pers., Arab.) نذر *nazr* gift, f. Arab. *nazara* he vowed.] In India, a present made by an inferior to a superior. 1776 *Trial Joseph Fowke*, etc. 3/1 You have given.. 15,000 rupees in nuzzies to the Governor. 1785 H. T. Colebrooke in *Life* (1873) 16 Presents of ceremony, called nuzzers, were to many a great portion of their subsistence. 1828 J. B. Fraser *Kuzzilbash* I. ix. 119 A young Eersanee whelp as an offering—as a nuzzer from my servant to his master's daughter. 1857 Sir F. Palgrave *Norm. & Eng.* II. 617 Notwithstanding this nuzur, Otho decided in favour of France. 1870 Kaye *Hist. Sepoy War* II. App. 662, I.. presented my nuzzur to his Majesty to accept.

So **Nuzzera·na.** [Urdū نذرانه *nazrânah.*] 1788 Burke *Sp. agst. W. Hastings* Wks. XIII. 432 The Nuzzer or Nuzzeranah, which is a tribute of acknowledgement from an inferiour to a superiour. 1858 J. B. Norton *Topics* 85 The native state..also took its occasional nuzzerana...Nuzzerana is not required, because it is not included in our regular system.

Nu·zzing, *vbl. sb.* [Imitative.] The noise made by the camel. *a* 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. xiii, The barking of currs, bawling of Mastiffs,..nuzzing of Camels.

Nu·zzle, *sb. rare.* [f. next.] An act of nuzzling; a rub with the nose. *a* 1890 *Mind in Nature* I. 142 (Cent.), Horses, cows, deer, and dogs even, nuzzle each other; but then a nuzzle, being performed with the nose, is not a kiss.

Nuzzle (nv·zl), *v.*[1] Forms: *α.* 5 **nosele,** 6 **nosyll,** 6, 8 **nosle,** 9 **nozzle.** *β.* 6–7 **nousle.** *γ.* 6–7 **nusle,** 7–8 **nussle** (6 **nuszle**), 7 **nuzzel,** 7–8 **nuzle,** 6– **nuzzle.** [f. Nose *sb.* + -le 3; perh. originally suggested by the adv. Noseling, but cf. Du. *neuzelen* (Kilian *neuselen*), G. *nus(s)eln, nüs(s)eln, nös(s)eln,* Sw. dial. *nössla* to poke with the nose, to snuffle, to speak through the nose. For the variation in the forms cf. next.]

I. *intr.* **†1.** To bring the nose towards the ground; to grovel. *Obs. rare.* *c* 1425 *St. Elizabeth of Spalbeck* in *Anglia* VIII. 109/2 Sche noseles downe forwarde and wonderly crokes her body.

2. To burrow or dig with the nose; to thrust the nose into the ground or anything lying on it. 1530 Palsgr. 645/1, I nosyll, as a swyne dothe in the yerth with her groyne, *je fouille du museau.* 1575 Turberv. *Venerie* 156 The male pigges..will nouzle and turne up the grounde tenne or twelve paces further of..than the females do. 1595 Spenser *Col. Clout* 763 In pleasures wastefull well ..like moldwarps nousling still they lurke. 1600 Surflet *Countrie Farme* VII. xxviii. 854 The wilde bore..willingly followeth one furrowe, nusling all along the ridge vntill he come to the ende of it. 1622 Mabbe tr. *Aleman's Guzman d' Alf.* II. 51 This Bore one of the Groomes found Nuzzling in the litter,.. turning it all topsie-turvy. 1707 tr. *Wks. C'tess D'Anois* (1715) 440 She trotted away grunting and nuzling with her Snout. 1790 Burke *Fr. Rev.* 347 It was not made to entice the smell of a mole, nuzzling and burying himself in his mother earth. 1814 Scott *Wav.* lxiv, Davie all this while lay with his nose almost in the fire, nuzzling among the ashes. 1866 J. B. Rose tr. *Ovid's Met.* 61 Mingling with steers and nuzzling in the grass. 1889 T. Hardy *Mayor Casterbr.* v, Like sows nuzzling for acorns.

b. In *fig.* use, with *along.* 1713 Arbuthnot *John Bull* II[1]. vii, Sir Roger shook his Ears, and nuzled along, well-satisfied within himself that he was doing a charitable Work.

3. To poke or push with the nose *in* or *into* something. Also *fig.* 1592 Shaks. *Ven. & Ad.* 1115 And nousling in his flanke the louing swine Sheath'd vnaware the tuske in his soft groine. 1682 N. O. *Boileau's Lutrin* IV. 305 A heavy Abbey Lubber! Whose Head was always nuzzling in the Cubber'd! 1750 Soame Jenyns *Mod. Fine Lady* Wks. 1790 I. 73 Th' embroider'd colonel flatters with a sneer, And the cropt ensign nuzzles in her ear. 1812 W. Tennant *Anster F.* II. viii, The bev'rage wherein fiddlers like to nuzzle. 1847 Youatt *Horse* VII. 150 If a pail of good gruel is placed within his reach, how will he nuzzle in it. 1899 *Pall Mall Mag.* Feb. 262 'Hut, you beast!' he added,..when the mare nuzzled into his neck.

b. To keep the nose pressing *at* or *about,* to press or rub the nose *against,* something. With *against* the sense approximates to 4 b. 1603 [see Nudge *v.*]. 1657 G. Thornley *Daphnis & Chloe* 125 The Lambs riggle and nussle at their dugs. 1726 Swift *Gulliver* IV. ii, Carrying them on their Backs, nuzzling with their Face against the Mother's Shoulders. 1855 Stephens *Bk. Farm* (ed. 2) I. 654/1 Every pig takes its own place, and nuzzles at the udder with the teat held in the mouth. 1855 Kingsley *Westw. Ho!* xviii, [The sharks] are nuzzling already at my toes! 1892 Kipling *Barrack-r. Ballads, East & West* 65 The red mare ran to the Colonel's son, and nuzzled against his breast. *transf.* 1894 R. Le Gallienne *Prose Fancies* 188, I could see the boat nuzzling up against the pier.

c. Of dogs: To snuff or poke with the nose. 1806–7 J. Beresford *Miseries Hum. Life* II. xix, A large bulldog..who keeps up a stifled growl with his muzzle nuzzling about your calf. 1834 Sir H. Taylor *Artevelde* II. iv. iv, Sanxere Came nuzzling like a dog to find some flesh Whereon to fix. 1879 Browning *Ivan Ivanovitch* 183 Nuzzling now with snout, Now ripping, tooth and claw.

d. To poke with the fingers. *rare.* 1806–7 J. Beresford *Miseries Hum. Life* XII. xxvii, The dull..sound..in your ears..which all your tweaking, nuzzling, and rummaging at them, serves only to increase. 1860 O. W. Holmes *Prof. Breakf.-t.* viii, [The Professor] feels thorax and arm, and nuzzles round among muscles as those horrid old women poke their fingers into the salt-meat on the provision-stalls.

4. To nestle, to lie snug in bed, etc. 1601 Weever *Mirr. Mart.* B iij b, Twixt the sheete and pillow I nuzled in, joyn'd knees and chin together. 1654 Gayton *Pleas. Notes* IV. viii. 217 At Cock-crowing he takes his bed, and there nuzzles till Hesperus cramps him by the toes. 1685 Cotton tr. *Montaigne* III. 450 Was not this to nustle and settle himself to sleep at greater ease? 1878 Jefferies *Gamekeeper at H.* 2 The ferret is a shivery creature, and likes nothing so well as to nozzle down in a coat-pocket with a little hay.

fig. 1597 J. Payne *Royal Exch.* 14 The Lord saw cowldnes and backwardnes in religion, by nuszling to depely in the world. 1648 J. Beaumont *Psyche* XX. CCX, Th' abstrusest things Which in the Mind's dark Temper nuzling lie, By you exposed are to every eye. *a* 1658 Cleveland *The Times* 48 Wks. (1687) 240 Thus Tyranny's a stately Palace, where Ambition sweats to climb and nustle there.

b. To nestle on or close to some part of a person. Also *refl.* 1611 A. Stafford *Niobe dissolv'd* 199 [Wisdom] nuzzleth her selfe in his bosom, cherisheth his soule. 1637 Heywood *Pleas. Dial.* v. Wks. 1874 VI. 201 Will your rest Seeme sweeter, if I nuzzle on your brest? *a* 1652 Brome *Novella* III. i, To Kisse the hand,..and then embrace, Then nuzzle in the Elizium of your bosome! 17.. Henley *Mirope* in Galt *Rothelan* (1824) III. iv, That artless bomage, Which the fond infant to his mother paid, Smiling and nuzzling, hanging to her bosom. 1752 F. Coventry *Pompey the Little* (ed. 3) 135 In this agreeable situation nuzzling behind the back of a lousy drab. *a* 1849 H. Coleridge *Poems* (1850) II. 270 Free to nuzzle and to nest In the sweet valley of her breast. 1894 Hall Caine *Manxman* 14 Pete nuzzled up to Philip's side.

c. To lie, or otherwise associate, close *together,* or *with* another. Also *fig.* 1708 *Brit. Apollo* No. 104. 3/1 He was nuzzled together with a Doxy. 1719 D'Urfey *Pills* (1872) IV. 322 No Pigs in a Stye..E'er nussled so close, Or more amourous together. 1742 Jarvis *Don Quix.* I. IV. xlvi, If she were so, she would not be nuzzling at every turn and in every corner with a certain person in the company. 1883 *Sat. Review* 15 Dec. 752 The theory which bids the greatest of all kingdoms huddle and nuzzle with the trumpery republics of yesterday.

II. *trans.* **5. a.** To root *up* with the nose or snout; to push *aside* with the nose. *rare.* 1613 *Answ. Uncasing of Machiavel* G j b, Swine eats the flowres, then nusles vp the roote. 1628 Wither *Brit. Rememb.* VIII. 1105 Gods herbs of grace To nouzle up; his Vineyard to deface. 1764 *Nat. Hist.* in *Ann. Reg.* 87/2 The sheep industriously nosled it aside to bite a blade.

b. To touch or rub with the nose. 1812 W. Tennant *Anster F.* III. xxxvii, Nuzzling the nasty ground obsequiously. 1883 *Longman's Mag.* Dec. 200 The vicious animal..began to 'nuzzle' me with his nose and prehensile upper lip. 1891 Kipling *Light that Failed* (1900) 16 Twenty whale-boats were nuzzling a sand-bank.

6. To thrust in (the nose or head). 1594 Nashe *Unfort. Trav.* 59 The Dogge nusling his nose vnder the necke of the Deare. 1683 *Phil. Trans.* XIII. 133 It nuzzles its head so deep in the coats of the intestines. 1860 *All Year Round* No. 37. 258 Some of the wretches were nuzzling their gory heads in the scooped-out stomach. 1892 Symonds *Life in Swiss Highl.* VI. 132 Six stalwart horses..nuzzling their noses to the brimful stalls.

7. 'To put a ring into the nose, as of a hog' (Ogilvie, 1850).

Hence **Nu·zzling** *ppl. a.* 1596 Spenser *F. Q.* IV. xi. 32 Mole, that like a nousling Mole doth make His way still under ground, till Thamis he overtake.

Nuzzle (nv·z'l), *v.*[2] Now *rare.* Forms: *α.* 6 **nosyll, -el** (6–7 **-ell**), **nossel, noz(z)el, nozle.** *β.* 6 **nowsel, nousel**(l, 6–7 **nousle, nouzle, nouzel**(l. *γ.* 6 **noosell** (6–7 **-el**), **noozel, noozle.** *δ.* 6 **nusell,** 6–7 **nussel, nus(s)le.** *ε.* 6–7 **nuz(z)el, -ell, nuzle,** 6– **nuzzle.** [Of obscure origin. The identity of the forms with

those of the prec. verb make it possible that this also is f. NOSE *sb.*, but the connexion of sense is not clear. In sense 2 the word had great vogue from about 1530 to 1650.]

†**1.** *trans.* To accustom (a dog or hawk) to attack other animals or birds. *Obs.*

1530 PALSGR. 645/1, I nosyll a yonge thing, I bolden it fyrst to do, or enterprise a thynge, where afore it wanteth boldnesse, *Je apprime*. I have nosylled my yonge dogge to daye at a beare, he is made for ever. 1575 TURBERV. *Faulconrie* 126 If you woulde nousel or entera haggarde, then do not enter hir or sette hir in bloude upon a yong praye or inure hir thereto. 1618 LATHAM *Falconry* (1633) 96 Let her kill some two or three more..; it will so nuzzell her, as that shee wil not after misse the wilde Rooke or any other thing. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* II. xi. 239/2 *Nousell*, to entize or inure the Hawk to love to fly at her Prey.

†**2.** To train, educate, nurture (a person) *in* some opinion, habit, etc. Freq. with *up*. *Obs.*

a. 1519 HORMAN *Vulg.* 86 It were more a vauntage.. that yonge childrens wyttis were other wyse sette a warke than nossel them in suche errour. 1545 BRINKLOW *Compl.* 60 Thus for lukers sake the greasy canonistes nosel the peple in idolatory. *a* 1600 HOOKER *Answ. Travers' Suppl.* § 26, I take no ioy in striuing, I haue not beene nozled or trayned vp in it.

β. 1532 MORE *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 587/1 Some be so sore nowseled in the false heresies, .. yᵗ finally thei die therin. 1579 J. STUBBES *Gaping Gulf* D j, Her father will nousell her in hys own religion. 1612 T. JAMES *Corrupt. Script.* IV. 98 To humor their Nouices, and nousle them vp in this fond conceit. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* VII. 374 The infirmities of people, long nouzled in ignorance and superstition, and incapable of a sudden..alteration.

γ. *c* 1540 tr. *Pol. Verg. Eng. Hist.* (Camden) I. 214 The Danes..weare all readie nooseled in the sweetenesse of the soyle. 1591 SAVILE *Tacitus, Hist.* IV. lxxii. 225 To noosell his souldiers in licentiousness and cruelty. 1606 J. CARPENTER *Solomon's Solace* xxviii. 118 The man which hath beene long nooseled vp in vices, will..onely with much adoe leaue them.

δ. 1553 BALE *Vocacyon* in *Harl. Misc.* (Malh.) I. 337 Thus were the people nusled vp from their yowth, in calling vpon dead men, and ymages. 1583 STUBBES *Anat. Abus.* I. (1879) 54 Thei must needs be a nice and curious people who are thus nusseled up in such daintie attyre. 1652-62 HEYLIN *Cosmogr.* III. (1682) 202 Natural Indians, nusled in Paganism. 1686 W. DE BRITAINE *Hum. Prud.* iii. 12 The ends of the Common People, if nusled up in Factious Liberty, are much different from the Designs of Soveraign Princes.

ε. 1587 HOLINSHED *Chron.* III. 1225/2 Being an Englishman by birth, and from his infancie..nuzled in papistrie. 1598 BARRET *Theor. Warres* v. i. 169 One that had bene nuzled vp in warre euen from a child. 1642 J. BALL *Answ. to Can* ii. 18 The ordaining of ignorant ministers ..the meanes to nuzzle people in ignorance. 1669 W. SIMPSON *Hydrol. Chym.* 213 The people may no longer be nuzzled up in the expectation.

†**b.** *refl.* (Const. as prec.) *Obs.*

1548 UDALL, etc. *Erasm. Par. John* xi. 79 Wherein we haue long tyme nusseled our selues. 1579 TOMSON *Calvin's Serm. Tim.* 88/1 He that will cherishe and nousell vp him selfe in wickednesse. 1607 HIERON *Wks.* I. 80 The diuell helping them forward with many shifts to nonzell themselues in ignorance. 1642 ROGERS *Naaman* 49 Doubtlesse he meanes they shall nuzzle up themselves in a dead senselesse estate. *Ibid.* 140 That they might nonzle up themselves the more unsuspectedly in their secret uncleannesse.

†**c.** With other constructions (esp. *with*). *Obs.*

1530 TINDALE *Pract. Prelates* H ij, His mynde was to.. kepe him without a wife that..he might haue bene nosselled and entangled with hores. 1548 PATTEN *Exped. Scot.* C vij b, Nooseld of my nurce neuer too be spare of spech. *a* 1591 H. SMITH *Serm.* (1637) 228 They are so nousled to the world and acquainted with sinne. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* III. i. 1. ii. (1651) 655 Possessed with blinde zeal, and nusled with superstition. 1689 HICKERINGILL *Modest Inquiries* II. 11 Bigotted and Nuzled to maintain Priest-Craft. 1692 WAGSTAFFE *Vindiciæ Carol.* x. 74 The London and Westminster Pulpits..nuzzled the People into a resisting the King.

†**3.** To bring up, rear, train, educate. *Obs.*

1558 WARDE tr. *Alexis' Secr.* To Rdr., Yet haue I alwaies been noseled vp by a certaine ambition and vainglorie. 1568 SKINNER tr. *Montanus' Inquisit.* 82 b, So that hauing such store both of bookes and maisters to instruct them, they began to nosell their whole couent. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* III. lii. 123 To flesh the Commons, and to nuzzle them up, and acquaint them with exercising crueltie upon the Nobles. 1615 BRATHWAIT *Strappado* (1878) 150 What Saint is she, That .. Nusles my damned Atheist, makes bim curse Nature and fortune? 1645 *Procl. conc. Bk. Com. Pr.* 5 The Common-Prayer was a meanes to nuzzle up a non-preaching and ignorant Ministry.

†**b.** To impose upon, deceive. *Obs. rare.*

c 1680 HICKERINGILL *Whiggism* I. Wks. 1716 I. 23 Can a few Renegadoes, or Papists think to nuzzle the most glorious Isle and City of the Universe? 1705 — *Priest-cr.* IV. (1721) 205 Therefore you are a Pack of nonsensical Bigots, to be nuzled so easily by Priest-craft.

4. To nurse, to cherish fondly; to provide with a snug place of rest (cf. NUZZLE *v.*[1] 4).

1581 MULCASTER *Positions* vi. (1887) 47 All those offices, wherunto our bodie serueth naturally,..must be cherished and nusled. 1602 MARSTON *Antonio's Rev.* Prol., Being hugged in the armes, And nuzzled twixt the breastes of happinesse. 1607 WALKINGTON *Opt. Glass* iv. 46 We nusle Serpents in our own bosom..till they sting us to death. 1652 CRASHAW *Mary Magdalene* Wks. (1904) 260 The deaw no more will sleep Nuzzel'd in the lilly's neck.

1854 *Fraser's Mag.* XLIX. 212 As thirsty bees that sup Nuzzled within a noonday lily's cup. 1891 HALL CAINE *Scapegoat* xi, Why had he been..fondling and nuzzling and coddling them [= fancies]?

Hence **Nu·zzled** *ppl. a.*; **Nu·zzling** *vbl. sb.*; also †**Nu·zzling** *sb.*, nursling.

1586 LEICESTER *Corresp.* (Camden) 338 The count Morrice was there..and young Mr. Hatton, for his first nuselinge. 1593 *Bacchus Bountie* in *Harl. Misc.* (1809) II. 264 Fragrantlie fuming vp..into the nosetrills of all his nosled nonises. 1638 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Irene* Wks. (1711) 164 These few Miles of Ground, which bred and intertain'd thy Nuslings young.

Nwyn, variant of NEW *v.* *Obs.*

Ny, variant of NYE; obs. f. NIGH *a.*

†**Ny,** obs. variant of NE *conj.*[1], nor.

c 1425 *Cursor M.* 7361 (Trin.), Nor his sones ny him I knowe. *a* 1450 MYRC 48 In honeste clothes thow moste gon, Baselard ny bawdryke were þow non.

†**Ny,** variant of NE *conj.*[2], than. *Obs.*

c 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 4140 Of hurre hurt he toke nomore hede Ny þaw he hadde y-hade no harme.

†**Nyas,** *sb.* (and *a.*) *Obs.* Forms: 5 nyesse, 6 niesse, niass(e, nyasse, 6–7 nias, 7 niaise, nias, nyas. [See EYAS.]

1. A young hawk, an EYAS.

1495 *Act* 11 *Hen. VII*, c. 17 Any Hauke of the brede of Englond called Nyesse, gossehanke, tassel,..or faucon. 1575 TURBERV. *Faulconrie* 103 Whither they bee sorehawkes mowed or Nyesse, yet are they of sundrye natures.

b. *attrib.* or as *adj.* Also *transf.*

1611 COTGR. s.v. *Niard, Faulcon niard*, a Nias Faulcon. 1617 MINSHEU *Doctor*, A Nias Hawke. 1636 *Fasciculus Florum* 48, I on my Table set..Capons, Lamb, Veal, and daintiest Fowl,..Then like a Nyas-dragon on them fly.

2. Applied allusively to persons.

1576 PETTIE *Pallace* 82 If they .. knowe him to be a Niesse, which wyl neuer away, then they make hym flee. 1581 — *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* III. (1586) 136 Ther is no man such a Niasse, but that continuall bobbes and repulses wil make him soare away. 1589 GREENE *Tullies Love* Wks. (Grosart) VII. 167 If shee be so ramage let hir flye, and seeke for a Niess that may proone more gentle. 1616 B. JONSON *Devil an Ass* I. vi, Laught at, sweet bird? is that the scruple? Come, come, Thon art a Niaise [*marg.* A Niaise is a yonng Hawke, tane crying out of the nest].

Nyce, obs. form of NIECE, NICE *a.* **Nyce-becetur, -byceter:** see NICEBECETUR. **Nyceling:** see NICELING.

†**Nycette.** *Obs. rare.* Also 5 **nyzett,** 6 **nysett,** ? **nieed.** [Of obscure origin.] 'A breast-cloth; a light wrapper for the bosom, or neck' (Halliwell, s.v. *Nieed*).

1499 in *Somerset Med. Wills* (1901) 385 [My best kerchief called a] 'Nyzett'. 1508 *Will of Hampton* (Somerset Ho.), ij newe aprons, ij kercheffes & ij nycettes. 1530 *Wilts. Wills* (1890) 155 My best carchyve, my best apron, my best nycette.

Nycholaite, -ayte: see NICOLAITE *Obs.*

†**Nychomet.** *Obs.*[−1] [ad. *onichimata* of the Latin text.] Onyx.

a 1400–50 *Alexander* 3671 Sum was smeth smaragdyns & opire small gemmes, And new nychometis nemellus endentid.

Nycht(e, obs. Sc. forms of NIGH *v.*, NIGHT.

Nychtbur, -bour, obs. Sc. ff. NEIGHBOUR.

Nychtertaill, Sc. var. of NIGHTERTALE *Obs.*

Ny·chthemer, anglicized form of next.

1837 WHEWELL *Hist. Induct. Sci.* (1857) I. 150 The solar days (or rather the *nycthemers*, compounded of a night and a day), would be unequal.

‖**Nychthemeron** (nikþī·mĕrŏn). Also **nyeth-.** [a. Gr. *νυχθήμερον*, neut. of *νυχθήμερος* lasting for a day and a night, f. *νύξ, νυκτ-* night + *ἡμέρα* day.] A period of twenty-four hours, consisting of a day and a night.

1682 H. MORE *Annot. Glanvill's Lux O.* 115 Onely the shadowy Vale of the Night will be cast over them once in a Nycthemeron. 1727–38 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Gout*, About two or three o'clock in the morning (the space of a nychthemeron from its access). 1882 MORTON *Heroes Sci., Astron.* 51 Tables of the prosthapheresis and nychthemeron are given. 1882 *Nature* XXVI. 79/2 The year was regarded by them as an extended nycthemeron.

Nychtingale, obs. Sc. form of NIGHTINGALE. **Nycitee,** obs. form of NICETY. **Nycker,** obs. form of NICKER *sb.*[1] **Nycolait,** variant of NICOLAITE *Obs.* **Nyceromancye, -mansy,** obs. forms of NECROMANCY.

Nyctalope (nĭ·ktălōup), *sb.* and *a.* [ad. Gr. *νυκτάλωψ, -ἀλωπος* NYCTALOPS. Cf. F. and Pg. *nyctalope*, Sp. *nictalope*.]

A. *sb.* One affected with nyctalopia.

Found only in the plural, which may be intended for the classical plural (niktălō·ūpīz) of NYCTALOPS.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XXVIII. xi, Such as be dim-sighted and see little or nothing toward night (whome the Greeks call Nyctalopes). 1754 *Med. Observ. & Inq.* (1776) I. xiii. 119 Of the Nyctalopes of the Ancients. 1764 *W. India Dis.* 61 Neither do any of the Nyctalopes complain of head-achs. 1838 *Penny Cycl.* XII. 114/2 In the 2nd book of his 'Prædicta', he [Hippocrates] says, 'We call those nyctalopes who see by night'.

B. *adj.* Having the power of seeing by night.

1847–9 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* IV. 219/1 This great development in a nyctalope animal is an interesting fact.

‖**Nyctalopia** (niktălō·ūpiă). *Path.* Also 9 **nycht-.** [late L. *nyctalopia* (Isidore, with variant *nyctalmos*), a. Gr. **νυκταλωπία*, f. *νυκτάλωψ*, f. *νύξ, νυκτ-* night + *ἀλα-ός* blind + *ὤψ* eye: cf. the rare forms *ἀλαωπός* and *ἀλαῶπις* blind. So Sp. *nictalopia*, F. *nyctalopie*.

The term *νυκτάλωψ* was used by Galen and other writers in its proper sense of 'blind by night', but was afterwards erroneously taken to mean 'seeing by night' (as if simply from *νύξ* and *ὤψ*). The confusion resulting from this mistake has also extended to the converse term HEMERALOPIA.]

a. Night-blindness; recurrent dimness or loss of vision after sunset, generally produced by exposure to a strong light. b. Inability to see clearly except by night; night-vision, day-blindness.

1684 BRIGGS in *Phil. Trans.* XIV. 563 The case now mention'd..is call'd by later Writers *Nyctalopia*. 1693 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Nyctalopia*, Two-fold; the first is a Dimness of Sight in the Night, or in dark Places, without any Impediment in the Light: The other is a Dimness in the Light, and clear Sight in the Night, or in Shades. 1764 *W. India Dis.* 60 Of the Nyctalopia. I never saw the Hemeralopia in the West-Indies; but the night-blindness I have seen there. 1803 W. HEBERDEN *Comment.* lxvi. (1806) 328 A blindness will also come and go ..unlike the nychtalopia, which returns every night. 1814- [see HEMERALOPIA]. 1880 J. W. LEGG *Bile* 379 Xanthopsy and nyctalopia are thought by some to be very bad signs. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 708 Nystagmus, nyctalopia, and nictitation also, are always present.

transf. 1841 LATHAM *Engl. Lang.* I. vii. 98 To those writers ..I apply the term Nyctalopia (the power of seeing best in the dark), applied by a writer in one of the periodicals to similar Etymologists.

Nyctalo·pic, *a.* *Path.* [See prec. and -IC. So F. *nyctalopique*.] Of the nature of, affected with, nyctalopia.

1868 COLLINGWOOD *Rambles Naturalist* xviii. 310 This singular nyctalopic affection [*sc.* moon-blindness]. 1880 *Libr. Univ. Knowl.* X. 757 Albinos are frequently nyctalopic. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 597 If one eye of a nyctalopic patient be bandaged this eye will recover.

‖**Nyctalops** (nĭ·ktălŏps). *rare.* Also 7 **nycti-.** [L. *nyctalops* (Pliny), a. Gr. *νυκτάλωψ*: see NYCTALOPIA and NYCTALOPE.]

†**1.** Nyctalopia. *Obs.*

1661 LOVELL *Hist. Anim. & Min.* 105 The gall cureth the weft in the eye, and nyctalops. *Ibid.* 169 Some use the parts dissected to weake joynts, others against the nyctilops. 1727–38 CHAMBERS *Cycl.*, *Nyctalopia*, or *Nyctalops*, a disease which prevents the seeing by day, not by night.

2. One affected with nyctalopia.

1818 TODD, *Nyctalops*, one who sees best in the night. 1828–32 WEBSTER, *Nyctalops*, one who loses his sight as night comes on, and remains blind until morning.

Nyctalopy (nĭ·ktălōupi). Also 7 **-ie.** [Anglicized form of NYCTALOPIA.] Nyctalopia.

1661 LOVELL *Hist. Anim. & Min.* 110 The liver cureth the nyctalopie, the eyes being washed with the decoction. 1818 TODD, *Nyctalopy*, a disease or indisposition of the eye, in which a person sees better by night than by day. 1879 LEWIS & SHORT *Lat. Dict.*, *Nyctalopia*, the disease of one who cannot see in the twilight, nyctalopy.

Ny·cterin(e, *sb.* and *a.* *Zool.* [f. mod.L. *Nycter-is* + -INE.] a. *sb.* A bat of the genus *Nycteris*. b. *adj.* Belonging or related to the genus *Nycteris*.

1840 *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 73 The Nycterins have the forehead furrowed by a longitudinal groove.

Nycthemer(on, variant of NYCTHEMER(ON.

Nycti- (nĭ·kti), repr. Gr. *νυκτι-*, a combining form (properly locative) of *νυκτ-, νύξ* night, used in a few scientific terms, chiefly zoological, as *Nyctiardea*, the nycticorax; *Nycticebus*, a genus including the slow-paced lemur; *Nyctipithecus*, a night-monkey; *Nyctisaura*, a nocturnal lizard. Adjectival derivatives from these, as *nycticebine, nyctipithecine, nyctisaurian*, are given in some recent Dictionaries.

‖**Nycticorax** (nikti·kŏræks). *Ornith.* [L. *nycticorax*, a. Gr. *νυκτικόραξ*, f. *νύξ, νυκτι-* night + *κόραξ* raven.] The night-heron (formerly also called the night-raven).

1688 HOLME *Armoury* II. 255/1 He beareth Argent, a Nycticorax his Head couped Sable. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Suppl.*, *Nycticorax*, in zoology, the name of a bird called in English the night raven. It is of the heron kind. 1838 BP. M. RUSSELL *Hist. Anc. & Mod. Egypt* (1853) V. 148 The image..of a nycticorax..[became] the sign of *M*.

Nyctilops: see NYCTALOPS.

Nyctitropic (niktitrǫ·pik), *a.* *Bot.* [f. NYCTI- + Gr. *τρόπος* turn; cf. *geotropic, heliotropic*.] Turning in a certain direction at night. So **Nyctitropism.** (See quots.)

1880 C. & F. DARWIN *Movem. Pl.* 281 Nyctitropism and nyctitropic, i. e. night-turning, may be applied both to leaves and flowers,..but it would be best to confine the term to leaves. *Ibid.* 298 No movement deserves to be called nyctitropic, unless it has been acquired for the sake of lessening radiation. 1885 GOODALL *Physiol. Bot.* (1892) 411 When leaves which naturally assume nyctitropic positions are pinned.., serious injuries result.

Nycto- (nĭ·ktǫ), repr. Gr. *νυκτο-*, combining form of *νυκτ-, νύξ* night, used in a few scientific terms, as *Nyctophilus*, a genus of bats (hence *Nyctophilet*, a bat of this genus); *nyctophobia*, fear of the night or of darkness; *nyctophonia*, loss of voice during the day; *nyctotyphlosis*, night-blindness.

1840 *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 73 The Nyctophilets..are, according to Temminck, somewhat intermediate to the Rhinol[o]phines and the next genus of Nycterins.

Nycy, obs. form of NICE *a.*

†**Nyd-bedrip.** *Obs. rare.* (See NEED *sb.* 15 and BEDRIP.)

a 1300 in Spelman *Gloss.* (1664) s.v., Alicia Frere..debet.. cariare fenam ad 3 Nydbedripes in autumpno... Jo. Iverton debet..invenire 1 hominem per 3 dies ad Nydbedripes ad metendum.

Nydder, obs. Sc. variant of NITHER *v.*

Nydeote, nydyote, variants of NIDIOT.

Nye. Now *dial.* Also 5 **neye,** 7 **ny,** 9 **ni.** [ad. OF. *ni, ny* (mod.F. *nid*):—L. *nīdus* nest.] A brood (of pheasants). Cf. EYE *sb.*[2]

c 1470 *Hors, Shepe, & G.* (Roxb.) 30 A neye of fesantes. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* f vj, A Nye of Fesaunttys. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* II. 310/2. 1818 TODD, *Nye of pheasants,* a brood of pheasants: So an eye is sometimes called. 1853– in various dial. glossaries (Essex, Sussex, Hants, Berks, Warw., Worc., etc.).

† **Nye,** variant of NEYE, eye. *Obs.*

1602 DEKKER *Satirom.* G 2 b, And there stucke a nose and two nyes in his pate. 1624 DAVENPORT *City Night-c.* I. ii, Sweet chick, I come to take leave of thee: finger in nye already! 1681 T. FLATMAN *Heraclitus Ridens* No. 39 (1713) I. 255 As like one of your Smithfield Lions, as ever he can peke out of his Nyes.

Nye, obs. f. NEIGH, NIGH, NINE; var. of NOY *v. Obs.* **Nyef(f)e,** obs. ff. NEIF. **Nyegh, nyeȝ,** obs. ff. NIGH. **Nyen,** obs. f. NINE. **Nyend,** obs. f. NINTH. **Nyentene, -tethe,** obs. ff. NINETEEN(TH. **Nyesse,** variant of NYAS *Obs.* **Nyeþe,** obs. f. NINTH.

† **Nyf,** var. NIF, for *ne if,* if not, unless. *Obs.*

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 424 Nyf oure lorde hade hen her lodez-mon, hem had lumpen harde.

Nyfel, -fil, -fle, -fyl, obs. ff. NIFLE. **Nyfte,** var. of NIFT *Obs.* **Nygard(e, -art, -erd(e, nyggard(e,** etc., obs. ff. NIGGARD. **Nyggish, -yshe,** varr. of NIGGISH *a. Obs.* **Nyggoun,** var. of NIGON *Obs.* **Nyghbur,** obs. f. NEIGHBOUR.

† **Nyȝe,** variant of NY = *ne,* nor. *Obs.*

c 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 1834 In..bode, flessh, nyȝe bone.

Nyȝe, obs. f. NIGH, NINE. **Nyȝeþe,** obs. f. NINTH. **Nygghe, nyȝghe,** obs. ff. NIGH. **Nyght e,** obs. ff. NIGH, NIGHT; var. of NIFT *Obs.* **Nyghtertale,** etc., **Nyghtyngale,** obs. ff. NIGHTERTALE, NIGHTINGALE. **Nygo(u)n,** varr. of NIGON *Obs.*

† **Nygot,** error for *yngot,* INGOT.

1579-80 NORTH *Plutarch* 458 In his triumphe were caried ..of siluer nygots, fiue thowsand..pounde weight.

Nygramancy, etc., obs. ff. NECROMANCY. **Nygro,** variant of NIGRO *Obs.* **Nygromancer,** etc., obs. ff. NECROMANCER. **Nyght,** obs. f. NIGHT. **Nygun,** variant of NIGON *Obs.* **Nygyshe,** variant of NIGGISH *a. Obs.* **Nyhe,** obs. f. NIGH. **Nyht,** obs. f. NIGHT. **Nyhtingale,** obs. f. NIGHTINGALE.

† **Ny·ing,** *vbl. sb. Obs.*—[1] [Cf. NE *v.*] Denial.

c 1450 *Mirour Saluacioun* (Roxh.) 106 The threfald nying he Petere.

Nyit, var. of NITE *v. Obs.* **Nyk,** var. of NICK *v.*[1] *Obs.* **Nyke,** obs. f. NICK *sb.*[1] **Nyker,** obs. f. NICKER *sb.*[1]

† **Nykin.** *Obs.* [Of obscure origin.] A term of endearment.

1693 CONGREVE *Old Bach.* IV. i, *Lætitia,* I hope my dearest Jewel is not going to leave me. Are you Nykin? *Fondlewife,* Go naughty Nykin, you don't love me. *Ibid.* iv, Now my dear Nyken.

Nykke, variant of NICK *v.*[1] *Obs.*

† **Nykle,** variant (see N 3) of ICKLE, icicle. *Obs.*

a 1450 *Medulla* in *Promp. Parv.* 259 *note, Stiria est gutta fluens, vel cadens congelata,* a nykle.

Nykyr, obs. f. NICKER *sb.*[1] **Nyld,** obs. var. of NEEDLE. **Nyl(e,** obs. ff. NILL *v.*

† **Nyle.** *Obs.*—[1] [a. F. *nielle*:—L. *nebula.*] A fog or mist.

1481 CAXTON *Godfrey* xlv. 85 This londe..is ful..of lakes and mareys that a grete nyle sourdeth euery day.

† **Nylet.** *Obs. rare*—[1]. (Of uncertain meaning.) Printed *niset* (cf. NVSOT) in Hazlitt's *Dodsley* II. 22.

1554 *Interlude of Youth* B iij, A lytell pretye nylet, Ve be well pise, God wote; Ve be a lytell prety pye.

Nylghau (ni·lgô). Forms: 8 **nyl-gau,** 8–9 **nyl-ghau,** 9 **nyl ghau, nylghau;** 8 **neel-gaw, 9 neelghau; nilgau, nilghau.** [a. Pers. نیلگاو *nīlgāw,* f. *nīl* blue + *gāw* ox, cow. See also NILGAI.] A large short-horned Indian antelope, the adult male of which is of a bluish- or iron-grey colour, and has a tuft of hair on the throat.

1770 HUNTER in *Phil. Trans.* LXI. 171 The male Nylghau struck my imagination with being of a middle stature, between black cattle and deer. 1794 *Sporting Mag.* III. 121 The nyl-ghau, with the quickness of lightning, darted against the wood work. 1800 *Asiatic Ann. Reg.* 285/2 His activity and courage in the attack of the boar, the neel-gaw ..and of the tiger. 1824 HEBER *Jrnl.* xv. (1844) I. 214/1 There are not only neelghaus,..but some noble red-deer in this park. 1855 *Orr's Circ. Sci., Org. Nat.* III. 442 The Nyl Ghau has frequently been brought to this country, and breeds pretty freely in confinement. 1887 L. OLIPHANT *Episodes Adventure* 163, I shot my first and only blue bull or nylgau.

† **Nyll,** obs. form (see N 3) of ILL *a.*

1575 LANEHAM *Let.* (1871) 130 Haue ye..slaunderd any man or woman, & browght them in a nyll name?

Nyll(e, obs. ff. NILL *sb.*[1], *sb.*[2], and *v.* **Nylt:** see NILL *v.* **Nym,** var. of NIM *v.* **Nymbil, nymble, nymill,** obs. ff. NIMBLE *a.* **Nym(m)e,** variants of NIM *v.*

Nymph (nimf). Forms: 4–7 **nimphe,** 6–7 **nymphe,** 7 **nimph,** 6– **nymph.** [a. F. *nymphe* (OF. *nimphe*), ad. L. *nympha*: see next.]

1. *Myth.* One of a numerous class of semi-divine beings, imagined as beautiful maidens inhabiting the sea, rivers, fountains, hills, woods, or trees, and frequently introduced by the poets as attendants on a superior deity.

Special names for the various kinds of nymphs existed in Greek, and most of these have been employed in English, as *Dryad, Hamadryad, Naiad, Nereid, Oceanid, Oread.*

1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 306, I rede Of thilke Nimphe which Laar hihte. *Ibid.* II. 336 With the Nimphes ek also Upon the spring of freisshe welles Sche schop to duelle. 1412–20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* II. 2580 With hir nimphes, Iuno cam be-hynde. *c* 1500 *Melusine* 15 Ye shuld shortly haue hen out of the handes of the Nymphes & of the fairees. 1567 MAPLET *Gr. Forest* 54 Neptunes Daughter a Nymph, fleeing from Priapus, was turned into this tree. 1634 MILTON *Comus* 824 There is a gentle Nymph not farr from hence, That with moist curb sways the smooth Severn stream. 1717 LADY M. W. MONTAGU *Lett.* I. xxxvii. 145 Her fair maids..put me in mind of the pictures of the ancient nymphs. 1791 COWPER *Iliad* XVIII. 63 Nor alone Came these, but every ocean-nymph beside. 1835 THIRLWALL *Greece* vi. I. 200 Where flocks and herds of the Sun were tended by the nymphs. 1869 TOZER *Highl. Turkey* II. 308 By night they appear, and, like all the nymphs of ancient times, amuse themselves with graceful dances.

b. *transf.* A stream, river.

1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. vi. 656 Kennet,..Her Silver Nymphs (almost) directly leading To meet her Mistress (the great Thames) at Reading. *a* 1649 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Fam. Ep.* Wks. (1711) 156 Having to these Seas of Joy.. added this small Brook or Nymph of mine. 1889 GRETTON *Memory's Harkback* 291 If the wandering nymph, Vaga, instead of flowing zigzag from Hereford to Ross, would but have meandered down this valley.

c. A ship.

1876 R. F. BURTON *Gorilla L.* II. 15, I transferred myself on board H.M. Steamship 'Zebra', one of the nymphs of the British navy.

2. *poet.* A young and beautiful woman; hence, a maiden, damsel.

1584 LODGE *Forbonius & Prisceria* 32 O Nimph of beauties train, The onely cause and easer of my paine. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* IV. i. 124 But soft, what nimphs are these? *Egeus.* My Lord, this is my daughter heere asleepe. *c* 1616 SIR W. MURE *Miscell. Poems* XV. 19 Then happie nimph, quhoise spreit in peace repoises. 1682 DRYDEN *To Duchess York* 12 But now the illustrious nymph, returned again, Brings every grace triumphant in her train. 1703 ROWE *Fair Penit.* I. i, I hastily took leave and left the Nymph. 1768–74 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 574 They expect to find a faithful nymph or swain in whatever their fancy sets upon. 1821 BYRON *Sardanap.* I. ii, Fair nymphs, who deign To share the soft hours of Sardanapalus. *a* 1839 PRAED *Poems* (1864) I. 326 And when the little Nymph had done, Said 'Thank you, Love;—I'll write another!'

b. In euphemistic or jocular use. (Chiefly in phrases.)

1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* I. 27 These vermillion Nymphs.. would oft runne races, skipping like wanton Lambes. 1751 F. COVENTRY *Pompey the Little* 96 His Master..sold him a second time to a Nymph of Billingsgate for a Pennyworth of Oysters. 1859 *Slang Dict.* 69 *Nymph of the Pave,* a girl of the town.

c. A type of fashionable woman under the Directory in France.

1898 LADY M. LOVD tr. *O. Uzanne's Fashion in Paris* I. 14 The Nymph and the Merveilleuse—those types of a period of deep corruption and open libertinage.

3. An insect in that stage of development which intervenes between the larva and the imago; a pupa.

1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* IV. (1586) 185 b, The other common sort, when they begin to haue fashion, are called nimphes. 1609 C. BUTLER *Fem. Mon.* (1634) 28 The young weak nymphs falling in those shady places.. are in danger to be chilled. 1658 ROWLAND tr. *Moufet's Theat. Ins.* 898 At length they grow to be Nymphs, *i.e.* little Bees, but without wings. 1747 GOULD *Eng. Ants* 44 They are called Nymphs in allusion to Brides, because when they leave this State, they are often arrayed in Gayety and Splendour. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) III. 123/1 The hive is cleared of every egg, maggot, or nymph. 1834 MCMURTRIE *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 415 The nymphs of the large species leave the water altogether. 1895 D. SHARP *Insects* I. 420 The mouth of the nymph bears a remarkable structure called the mask.

attrib. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Suppl.* s.v., This is properly the nymph state.

† 4. *pl. Anat.* = NYMPHA 2. *Obs. rare.*

1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* 239 The two smaller clefts.. between the Nymphes, the two Nymphes themselues.

5. *Conch.* = NYMPHA 3.

1839 *Penny Cycl.* XIV. 319/1 Shell often gaping a little at the lateral extremities..Nympbs..gaping outwards.

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.,* as *nymph-land, -mother, -queen; nymph-pink, -prompted, -strong* adjs.

1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. ii. *Babylon* 71 The rowling ridges Of Nymph-strong floods. 1605 *Ibid.* iii. *Lawe* 982 Nymph-prompted Numa, or the Spartan's Lord. 1812 BYRON *Ch. Har.* II. xxix, While thus of both bereft, the nymph-queen [Calypso] doubly sigh'd. 1835 WILLIS *Pencillings* xxxviii. I. 257 The lovely nymph-mother of Ganymede. 1887 BOWEN *Virg. Ecl.* ix. 19 Who was to chant to us stories of Nymph-land, blossom and flower. 1891 *Bazaar* 20 Feb. 264/3 Ivory-white, nymph-pink, blue, and heliotrope.

‖ **Nympha** (ni·mfă). Pl. **nymphæ** (ni·mfī); 7 **nympha's.** [L., a. Gr. *νύμφη* bride, nymph.]

1. = NYMPH 3.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 318 The rest of the multitude, when they begin to take some shape, are called Nymphæ. 1670 *Phil. Trans.* V. 2100 All nine being of a late Hatch, and none of them yet turned into *Nympha's* (which is the word of Art for the *Aurelia* of a Bee). 1740 CHEYNE *Regimen* 155 The different Shapes of seminal Animalculs, Eggs, Nymphæ and young Insects. 1816 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* iii. (1818) I. 66 To these Aristotle originally gave the name of *nymphæ.* 1875 HOUGHTON *Brit. Insects* 56 When the nympha is ready to undergo its transformation, it creeps up the stem of some water plant.

attrib. 1713 DERHAM *Phys.-Theol.* IV. xiv. (1714) 251 Sufficient Food and Nourishment in all their Nympha-State, in which they need Food. 1816 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* xvi. (1818) II. 16 They arrived at their full growth, and threw off their nympha-state by casting their outward skin.

2. *pl. Anat.* The labia minora of the vulva, situated within the labia majora.

1693 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Nymphæ,* little pieces of Flesh in a Woman's Secrets. 1754 SMELLIE *Midwifery* (1764) I. 92 From the lower part of the Clitoris the Nymphæ rising spread outwards and downwards. 1843 R. J. GRAVES *Clin. Med.* XXVI. 329 The internal wall of the nymphæ. 1863 tr. *Waitz' Introd. Anthropol.* I. 106 Adams reports that in Dahomey the nymphæ are artificially elongated.

3. *pl. Conch.* (See quot.)

1835–6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 710/1 There are other parts ..destined for the implantation of the ligament when it is external; to these parts the name of *nymphæ* is given. These form two callosities more or less prominent, which are seen along the posterior and superior edge of the shell.

‖ **Nymphæa** (nimfī·ă). Also **nymphea.** [L., ad. Gr. *νυμφαία,* fem. of *νυμφαῖος* sacred to the nymphs. So F. *nymphæa, nymphéa,* Sp. and It. *ninfea.*] The common white or yellow water-lily; a genus of aquatic plants including these and other species.

1562 TURNER *Herbal* II. (1568) 66 The roote of the whyte Nymphea is black,..of the yelow..whyte. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 222 Nenuphar is called in Greeke Nymphæa. 1673 RAY *Journ. Low C.* (1693) II. 97 Their Alterative Physick consists of Coolers, and Anodyns, as Nymphæa, Poppy, Endive. 1741 *Compl. Fam.-Piece* II. iii. 374 In the Water Tubs, the yellow Nymphea or Water Lilly. 1796 H. HUNTER tr. *St.-Pierre's Stud. Nat.* (1799) II. 113 The yellow roses of the nymphæa, which float on lakes. 1851 MADDEN *Shrines & Sepul.* I. 178 Pools of water covered with nymphæas. 1882 *Garden* 14 Jan. 20/2 In many of the stagnant ponds was a small yellow Nymphæa, the leaves of which are used as a pickle by the Japanese.

Comb. 1855 MISS PRATT *Flower. Pl.* IV. 13 Nymphæa-like Villarsia...This is a most elegant water-plant.

‖ **Nymphæum, -eum** (nimfī·ŭm). *Archæol.* Pl. **-æa, -ea.** [L. *nymphæum, -ēum,* ad. Gr. *νυμφαῖον, -εῖον* temple or shrine of the nymphs, neut. of *νυμφαῖος, -εῖος* sacred to the nymphs, f. *νύμφη* NYMPH. So F. *nymphéum.*] A grotto or shrine of the nymphs; a building, or part of one, designed to represent this.

1770 tr. *Mme. du Bocage Leti.* II. 203 The temple, the spring, the nympheum, the bason of the Romans. 1850 LEITCH tr. *C. O. Müller's Anc. Art* § 150 (ed. 2) 125 The mass of the population in the great cities was cared for by the erection of theatres, probably also thermæ and nymphæa. *c* 1890 H. JAMES *Little Tour* XXVIII. (1900) 189 A small Roman ruin, which is known as a temple of Diana, but was more apparently a *nymphæum.*

† **Nymphal,** *sb.*[1] *Obs.* Also **nimphall.** [ad. L. *nymphāl-is* belonging to nymphs: see NYMPH and -AL.] a. A meeting or gathering of nymphs. b. Used by Drayton as the name of each division of his *Muses' Elysium.*

1622 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* XX. 4 He that doth of sea the powerful trident weld, His Tritons made proclaim, a Nymphall to be held In honour of himself. 1630 — *Muses' Elys.,* Nymphal i, This Nimphall of delight doth treat, Choice beauties, and proportions meet.

Nymphal (ni·mfăl), *a.* (and *sb.*[2]). [f. as prec.]

A. *adj.* 1. Belonging to a nymph; consisting of nymphs.

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr., Nymphal,* of or belonging to a Nymph or Bride; Nymph-like. 1842 *Fraser's Mag.* XXVI. 79 Thou glory of the Nymphal train.

2. Of the nature of, pertaining to, a pupa.

1864 HOUGHTON in *Intellect. Observ.* Oct. 150 Not a particle of food has she [a may-fly] tasted since she left her nymphal state. 1884 MICHAEL *Brit. Oribatidæ* 22 Whether it was a mature or simply a nymphal form.

3. Including or belonging to the water-plants related to *Nymphæa.*

Lindley's *Nymphal alliance* included the natural orders *Nymphæaceæ, Cabombaceæ,* and *Nelumbiaceæ.*

1846 LINDLEY *Veget. Kingd.* 408 *Nymphales.* The Nymphal Alliance. *Ibid.* 409 Nymphal Exogens, with a many-celled fruit and dissepimental placentæ.

B. *sb.*[2] 1. [ad. F. *nymphale.*] A name for a class of butterflies.

1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XIII. 721/1 Mr. Barbut has divided them [*sc.* butterflies] into four sections...4. The nymphals, whose wings are denticulated.

2. A plant belonging to the nymphal alliance.

1846 LINDLEY *Veget. Kingd.* 408 To distinguish Nymphals with certainty from all those Orders with which they are here associated.

Nymphalid (ni·mfălid), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. mod. L. *nymphalis, -idis,* f. *nympha* NYMPH.] a. *adj.*

Belonging to the family *Nymphalidæ*. b. *sb.* A butterfly belonging to this family.

1895 *Athenæum* 23 Nov. 722/1 He showed the changes in mimetic forms in a single genus of nymphalid butterflies. 1897 Bles tr. *Brunner's Coloration Ins.* 2/2 Very striking is the appearance of..a Nymphalid from Mexico.

Nymphean (nimfī·ăn), *a.* [f. Gr. *νυμφαῖ-ος* of or belonging to a nymph + -AN. Cf. F. *nymphéen.*] Of or belonging to a nymph or nymphs; nymph-like.

a 1758 DYER *Ruins of Rome* Poems (1761) 42 Flow'ry bow'rs they seek,..Or cool Nymphean grots. 1816 G. S. FABER *Orig. Pagan Idol.* III. 219 The description of the cavern is taken from the nymphean grotto and its subterraneous stream. 1874 T. HARDY *Far fr. Mad. Crowd* I. iii. 27 Without throwing a Nymphean tissue over a milk-maid. 1881 CABLE *Mme. Delphine* ii, The cultivation of.. nymphean grace and beauty.

Nymphet (ni·mfĕt). [f. NYMPH + -ET.] A young or little nymph.

1612 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* xi. Argt., Of the Nymphets sporting there In Wyrrall, and in Delamere. 1616 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Poems* 2 Whose names shall now make ring The echoes? of whom shall the nymphets sing? 1855 SINGLETON *Virgil* I. 60 Who could the nymphets sing?

Nymphic (ni·mfik), *a. rare*—°. [f. NYMPH + -IC.] Of or belonging to (the) nymphs.

1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

Ny·mphical, *a. rare.* [f. as prec. + -AL.] Characteristic of or belonging to nymphs.

1793 T. TAYLOR *Orat. Julian* 93 *note*, The sun produces angelical, dæmoniacal, heroical, and nymphical powers. 1822 — *Apuleius* I. 320 *note*, Many essences, different from each other, such as dæmoniacal, heroical, nymphical.

Nymphid (ni·mfid). *rare.* [-ID.] A nymph. 1866 J. B. ROSE tr. *Ovid's Met.* 127 Born was he Of Ganges, and the nymphid Lymnatè. *Ibid.* 264 Thither Dryope..To offer garlands to the nymphids went.

Nymphine (ni·mfəin), *a.* [f. NYMPH + -INE 1.] Nymphal.

1806 tr. *Huber's New Obs. Bees* (1808) 87 The worms [bees]..died before passing into their nympbine state.

Nymphiparous (nimfi·părəs), *a. Ent.* [f. NYMPH + -(I)PAROUS.] Of insects: Producing nymphæ or pupæ.

1835 KIRBY *Hab. & Inst. Anim.* II. xx. 324 Those two-winged insects called pupiparous or nymphiparous. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* III. 874 This peculiarity has caused the Hippoboscidæ to be termed nymphiparous or pupiparous insects.

Nymphish (ni·mfiʃ), *a.* [f. NYMPH + -ISH 1.]

1. Of or belonging to, consisting of, nymphs.

1578 T. PROCTER *Gorg. Gallery* Pij b, Embouldned with your Nimphish ayde. 1605 DRAYTON *Man in the Moone* 428 He followes Phœbe, that him safely brings..unto the nymphish Bowres. 1630 — *Muses' Elys.*, Nymphal ix, The nymphish crew Thrust in amongst them thronging.

2. Nymph-like, bewitching.

1789 MRS. PIOZZI *Journ. France* I. 306 A pretty perking air, which is infinitely nymphish and smart.

Nymph-like, *a.* and *adv.* [f. NYMPH + -LIKE.]

A. *adj.* Resembling (that of) a nymph; graceful, beautiful.

a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* (1622) 51 Young Philoclea appeared in her nimph-like apparell. 1621 QUARLES *Argalus & P.* I. Wks. (Grosart) III. 248/1, I saw..thy Nymph-like haire Loosely disshevel'd. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IX. 452 If chance with Nymphlike step fair Virgin pass. 1718 *Free-thinker* No. 94 P 183 There were, amongst them, a great Number of Nymph-like Genies. 1791 CHARLOTTE SMITH *Celestina* (ed. 2) I. 126 Her nymphlike and graceful form. 1822 W. IRVING *Bracebr. Hall* (1890) 136 Contemplating the door half open, and the nymph-like form within. 1886 BRET HARTE *Snowbound* 134 There was a quaint nymph-like contour to her figure.

B. *adv.* In the manner of a nymph. *rare.*

1611 FLORIO, *Nimfarsi*,..to spruce or Nimph-like dresse himselfe.

Ny·mphlin. *rare*—1. [f. NYMPH + *-lin* for -LING 1.] A little nymph.

1773 R. GRAVES *Euphrosyne* (1776) 38 Well-pleas'd she sees her infant train Of nympblins sporting on the plain.

Ny·mphly, *adv. rare*—1. [f. NYMPH + -LY 2.] In the manner of nymphs.

1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* x. 440 Diana; and her Allabaster Nymphly-portrayed trayne.

Nymphoi·dal, *a. rare.* [f. NYMPH-ÆA + -OIDAL.] Resembling those of the Nymphæa.

1819 LINDLEY tr. *Richard's Fruits & Seeds* 63 In considering..the nymphoidal characters of *Nelumbium.*

Nympholepsy (ni·mfŏlepsi). [f. next, after *epilepsy.*] A state of rapture supposed to be inspired in men by nymphs; hence, an ecstasy or frenzy of emotion, esp. that inspired by something unattainable.

1775 R. CHANDLER *Trav. Greece* (1825) II. 191 Nympholepsy is characterised as a phrensy, which arose from having bebeld them [the nymphs]. 1818 BYRON *Ch. Har.* IV. cxv, A young Aurora of the air, The nympholepsy of some fond despair. 1831 LYTTON *Godolphin* XX, The most common disease to genius is nympholepsy—the saddening for a spirit that the world knows not. 1839 DE QUINCEY *Recoll. Lakes* Wks. 1862 II. 32 He languished with a sort of despairing nympholepsy after intellectual pleasures. 1888 *Times* 21 Aug. 8/4, I have not been reduced to a state of nympholepsy by any of the beauty that I have been privileged to behold.

So ‖ **Nymphole·psia.**

1885 F. B. VAN VOORST *Without a Compass* 13 The poor dreamer hurried on by the nympholepsia of the ideal.

Nympholept (ni·mfŏlept), *sb.* and *a.* [ad. Gr. *νυμφόληπτ-os* caught by nymphs, f. *νύμφη* nymph + *λαμβάνειν* to take.]

A. *sb.* One who is inspired by a violent enthusiasm, especially by a passion for an unattainable ideal.

1813 J. C. HOBHOUSE *Journey* (ed. 2) 405 He became a nympholept; and furnished another tale, to be..adorned by the fancy of the poet. 1855 MRS. BROWNING *Lett.* (1897) II. 201 We are all nympholepts in running after our ideals —and none more than yourself, indeed! 1884 A. BIRRELL *Obiter Dicta* Ser. I. 117 Those who pursue Truth as by a divine compulsion, and who can be likened only to the nympholepts of old.

b. Const. *of.*

1835 LYTTON *Rienzi* VII. v, The very nympholept of Freedom, yet of Power—of Knowledge, yet of Religion! 1884 A. BIRRELL *Obiter Dicta* Ser. I. 118 The nympholepts of Truth are profoundly interesting figures in..history.

B. *adj.* Inspired by such enthusiasm.

1902 *Athenæum* 19 July 91/1 The lyric cry of nympholept modernity.

Nymphole·ptic, *a.* [f. prec. + -IC.]

1. Relating to or dealing with nympholepsy.

1818 SHELLEY *Lett.* (1882) 38, I hope your nympholeptic tale is not abandoned. 1895 *Athenæum* 21 Sept. 382/1 Writers and publishers of nympholeptic stories.

2. Affected by nympholepsy; enraptured, entranced.

1844 MRS. BROWNING *Lady Geraldine's Courtship* viii, Nymphs of mountain, not of valley, we are wont to call the Muses, And in nympholeptic climbing, poets pass from mount to star. 1881 *Heptalogia* 45 To the skirts of contemplation, cramped with nympholeptic weight.

Nympho·logy. *rare*—1. [f. NYMPH + -(O)LOGY.] That branch of knowledge which treats of nymphs.

1836 *New Monthly Mag.* XLVII. 96 Egle (brightness) is a celebrated name in nymphology.

‖ **Nymphomania** (nimfŏmē·niă). *Path.* [f. Gr. *νύμφη* bride, NYMPH + *μανία* madness.] A feminine disease characterized by morbid and uncontrollable sexual desire.

1800 tr. *Cullen's Nosology* (1820) 230 Melancholia..(c) With vehement love, without satyriasis or nymphomania. 1860 TANNER *Pregnancy* xi. 435 In a few rare cases, the attack has degenerated into nymphomania. 1876 D. FERRIER *Functions Brain* 122 The girl..in whom the cerebellum was absent suffered from nymphomania.

Hence **Nymphoma·niac** (and **-manic**) *a.*, of or belonging to nymphomania; *sb.*, one suffering from nymphomania.

1861 J. MILLAR *Hints on Insanity* 40 Though nymphomanic symptoms are constantly present when young females are insane. 1867 MAUDSLEY *Physiol. Mind* 285 She,..though ultimately married, was a regular nymphomaniac. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 279 The furious nymphomaniac who embraces every man she can get at. 1900 *Lancet* 24 Mar. 866/2 It is practised upon mares..which have nymphomaniac tendencies.

‖ **Nymphon** (ni·mfŏn). *Zool.* [a. Gr. *νυμφών* bride-chamber, f. *νύμφη* bride, NYMPH.] A species of sea-spider.

1855 *Orr's Circ. Sci., Org. Nat.* II. 317 Podosomata..are all marine; some of them, like the *Nymphon*, being found amongst stones and sea-weeds on the beach. 1855 KINGSLEY *Glaucus* (1878) 80 A little black sea-spider, a Nymphon, who ..carries his needful stomach in long branches, packed inside his legs.

Nymphotomy (nimfŏ·tŏmi). *Surg.* [a. mod. L. *nymphotomia*, f. Gr. *νύμφη* (see NYMPHA 2) + *-τομία*, f. *τεμνεῖν* to cut.] Excision of the nymphæ.

1704 in J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I. 1892 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

Nymyl, obs. f. NIMBLE *a.* **Nymyos,** obs f. NIMIOUS *a.* **Nyn,** obs. f. NINE.

† **Nyn,** variant of NY = *ne*, nor. *Obs. rare.*

c 1425 *Cast. Persev.* 875 in *Macro Plays* 103, I schal neuere begger bede mete nyn drynke. *c* 1450 *Cov. Myst.* (Shaks. Soc.) 84 My herte is not hevyed on lofte, Nyn myn Eyn be not lokynge abowte.

Nyncetie: see NINCETY-FINCETY.

† **Nynche,** obs. form (see N 3) of INCH.

a 1400-50 *Alexander* 3675 And þe thinnest was a nynche thicke quen þai ware þurȝe persed.

Nynde, obs. f. NINTH. **Nyne,** etc., obs. f. NINE, etc. **Nyngkiling,** obs. f. INKLING. **Nyn-murder,** obs. f. NINE-MURDER.

† **Nynnat,** for *ne nat*, know not. *Obs.*

1553 *Respublica* v. vii. 28 (Brandl), Masse, but I nynnat. *Ibid.* V. x. 10 Marye, but I ninnat.

Nynt(e, Nynten(e, Nyntie, obs. ff. NINTH, NINETEEN, NINETY.

† **Nyny,** obs. variant of NINNY 1 or 2.

1687 COTTON *Poet. Wks.* (1765) 55 This Cupid was a little Tiny Cogging, Lying, Peevish Nyny.

Nypa, nyper, obs. ff. NIPA. **Nype,** to nip: see NIPE *v.*2 **Nypil,** obs. f. NIPPLE. **Nypt(e,** varr. of NIFT *Obs.*

† **Nyrvyl.** *Obs. rare*—°. [Of Scand. origin, agreeing in sense with Norw. dial. *nyrv(e* neut., *nyrva* masc., and in form with Icel. *nyrfill* miser: see also NURVIL. In mod. dial. represented by *nirl.*] A dwarfish person.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 357/1 Nyrvyl, or lytyl manne, *pusillus, nanus.*

Nys, obs. form of NICE *a.*; variant of NIS *sb.*

† **Nys,** variant of NIS, is not. *Obs.*

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Saints' Lives* XXVI. 273 Hit nan wundor nys. *c* 1160 *Hatton Gosp.* John v. 10 Hit ys reste-dæȝ; nys þe alyfed þæt þu þin bed bere. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 465 Vor he nys noþer yep ne wis. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 951 Ierusalem..nys to yow no more to mene, Bot cete of god. *?a* 1366 CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 333 In world nys wight so hard of herte..That nolde have had of hir pite. *c* 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 3184 Bot ȝyff seynt Woltrude hurre þe rather holpe he nys bot dedde. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Blanchardyn* XXXV. 133 Ther nys so grete sorowe, but that it may be forgoton at the laste. *a* 1529 SKELTON *Balettys* Wks. 1843 I. 26 There nys thynge that I couet so fayne. 1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* May 144 Thou findest faulte where nys to be found.

Nyse, obs. f. NEEZE *v.*, NICE *a.* **Nysebecetur:** see NICEBECETUR. **Nysete(e,** obs. ff. NICETY. **Nysett,** var. of NYCETTE *Obs.* **Nysing,** obs. f. NEEZING.

† **Nysot.** *Obs. rare.* [? ad. OF. *nicet* (fem. *nicette*), a dim. form of NICE *a.*] A wanton girl.

1526 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 1244 Where I spy a nysot gay, That wyll syt ydyll all the day [etc.].

Nyss, obs. Sc. f. NICE *a.* **Nyssete,** obs. Sc. f. NICETY. **Nyst,** obs. f. NEST; var. of NIST.

Nystagmic nistæ·gmik), *a.* [f. NYSTAGM-US. Cf. F. *nystagmique.*] Of the nature of nystagmus. So **Nysta·gmiform** *a.*, **Nysta·gmoid** *a.*

1878 A. M. HAMILTON *Nerv. Dis.* 85 The eyeballs may be sometimes slightly agitated by a feeble movement of a nystagmic character. 1899 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* May 1077 Nystagmiform movements of the eyes. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 68 Such phenomena we are in the habit of calling 'nystagmoid' jerks or movements.

‖ **Nystagmus** (nistæ·gmŭs). *Path.* [mod.L., ad. Gr. *νυσταγμός* nodding, drowsiness, f. *νυστάζειν* to nod, to be sleepy.]

† **1.** (See quot.) *Obs.*

1822 GOOD *Study Med.* III. 238 Habitual squinting... The first of these varieties constitutes the Nystagmus of Dr. Plenck.

2. An involuntary oscillation of the eyeball, usually lateral, but sometimes rotatory or vertical, especially common among miners. Also *Comb.*

1869 *Eng. Mech.* 10 Dec. 294/3 One very curious affection of the muscles of the eye..deserves notice,..—Nystagmus. ..The motion of the ball..is ceaseless, as if the eye was making vain endeavours to glimpse the light. 1879 HARLAN *Eyesight* viii. 111 An affection noticed in miners, and called 'miner's nystagmus', in which .. the eyes continually oscillate. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 89 In addition to tremors, there may be nystagmus-like twitchings of the eyeball.

† **Nyster,** for *ne ys þer*, there is not. *Obs.*

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 15723 No lond nyster ferrere west, þer þe sonne goþ to rest.

Nyt, obs. f. NET, NIT; variant of NITE *v. Obs.*

Nyte, obs. f. NIT; variant of NITE *v. Obs.*

† **Nyte,** *a.* or *adv.* (Meaning uncertain.)

a 1560 ROLLAND *Crt. Venus* III. 229 The May Thisbe wald tine hir self sa nyte, Caus Pyramus away and deid was quite.

† **Nytel,** *v. Obs. rare*—1. [Of obscure origin.] *intr.* ? To be busy in a trifling manner.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 888 þay lest [= failed] of lotez logging any lysoun [= trace] to fynde, Bot nyteled þer alle the ny3t for noȝt at þe last.

Nyth, obs. f. NIGHT; var. of NITH(E. **Nype,** obs. f. NINTH; var. of NITH(E. **Nype-, nythemest,** varr. of NETHEMEST *Obs.* **Nyper(e, nyðer(e:** see NETHER *a.* and *adv.*; NITHER *v.* **Nythertale,** var. of NIGHTERTALE *Obs.* **Nythyng(e,** obs. ff. NITHING. **Nytte,** obs. f. NIT. **Nytyngale,** obs. f. NIGHTINGALE. **Nyuel,** var. of NIVEL *v. Obs.* **Nywe,** obs. f. NEW *a.*

END OF VOLUME VI.

C. O. P.

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